COURT HILL
WEST SUSSEX

Alastair Oswald and Carolyn Dyer

Archaeological Field Survey Report

COURT HILL, WEST SUSSEX

by Alastair Oswald
and Carolyn Dyer

ROYAL COMMISSION ON THE HISTORICAL MONUMENTS OF ENGLAND

COURT HILL, SINGLETON, WEST SUSSEX

NMR NUMBER SU 81 SE 5

ENCLOSURE AND INDUSTRY IN THE NEOLITHIC

DECEMBER 1995

RCHM
ENGLAND

RCHME (CAMBRIDGE)
Brooklands
24 Brooklands Avenue,
CAMBRIDGE, CB2 2BU

RCHM
ENGLAND

CONTENTS

LIST OF FIGURES

RCHM
ENGLAND

1. INTRODUCTION

In mid-December 1995 the Royal Commission on the Historical Monuments of England carried out an earthwork survey of an enclosure on Court Hill, as part of a national project to record Industry and Enclosure in the Neolithic Period. The Neolithic date of the site has been established previously by radio-carbon dating. In April 1996, an air photographic analysis of the enclosure was undertaken, to record in greater detail those features which have been degraded by ploughing.

The site lies north of the village of East Dean in the parish of Singleton, in the Chichester district of West Sussex (National Grid Reference SU 8977 1375). Court Hill forms the end of a chalk spur extending south-westwards from the South Downs. The enclosure occupies the tip of the spur, lying slightly below its highest point at a height of 181m above OD. The site commands broad views over the surrounding landscape and is intervisible with St Roche's Hill 3.5kms to the south-west, on the summit of which lies the well-known Neolithic causewayed enclosure (and later Iron Age hillfort) known as The Trundle.

Court Hill is in private ownership and is farmed as part of the Goodwood Estate. A plantation covers much of the top of the spur and within this, a section of the eastern side of the enclosure is well-preserved as an earthwork. On the other three sides, ploughing, both ancient and modern, has affected the preservation of the remains. The enclosure is protected as a Scheduled Ancient Monument (W SUSX 438) and is recorded in the National Monuments Record as SU 81 SE 5.

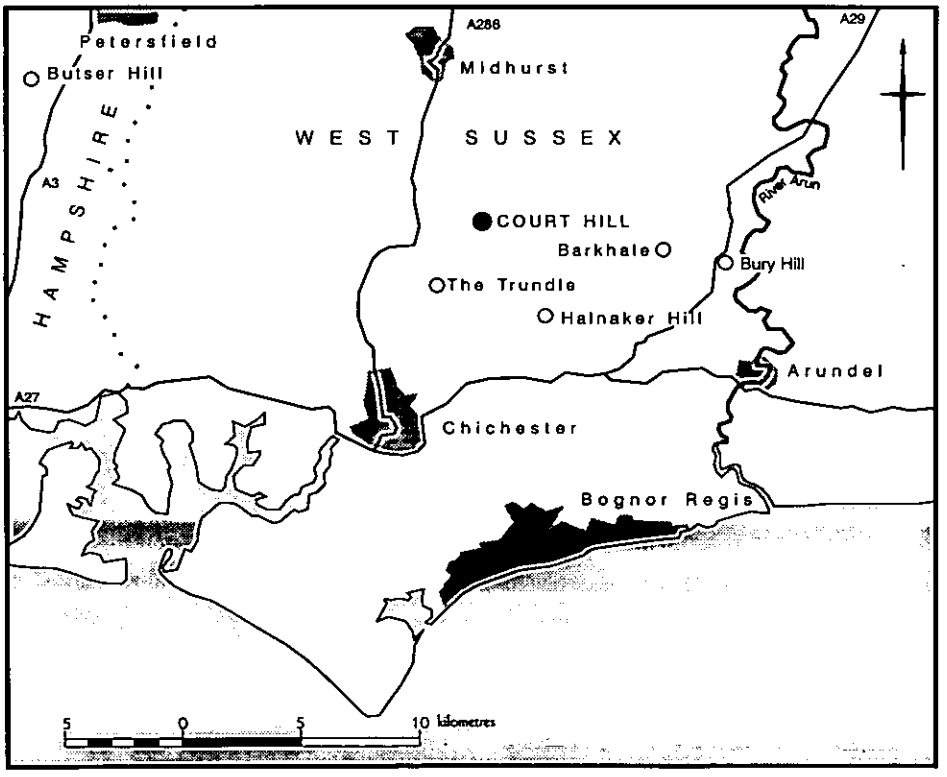

Figure 1
Location map

2. ARCHAEOLOGICAL HISTORY

The enclosure

There is extensive aerial photographic coverage of the site, and the enclosure can first be seen clearly as an earthwork on Ministry of Defence vertical photographs taken in September 1946 (CPE/UK.1751). In 1951, following an examination of these, EW Holden first identified and described the enclosure, (Holden 1951). The morphology of the earthwork and a number of sherds of pottery recovered from the surface led him to interpret it as an early Iron Age hillfort or pastoral enclosure. Significantly, however, he also noted several slight interruptions in the circuit, though he was unable to identify an entrance.

The earliest specialist aerial photographic sorties were flown by John Boyden in the early 1960s. These oblique photographs, taken when the hillsides were under plough and the earthworks showed up well as soil marks, are perhaps the best images of the enclosure. The course of the earthwork through the plantation is also clearly visible, despite the tree cover.

In 1970, the plan of the enclosure was first recorded by the Ordnance Survey Archaeology Division, who followed Holden's interpretation as to its date (NMR a). The Ordnance Survey investigators observed that modern ploughing had already degraded some of the earthworks mentioned by Holden; this is also evident from vertical photographs taken for mapping purposes in 1973 (OS/73286). Further sorties were flown by RCHME's Aerial Photographic Unit between 1976 and 1983, the latest of these being the most recent aerial photographic record of the site. The enclosure is visible on all the resulting photographs as a soil mark. In 1979, the section of the enclosure in the plantation was fully exposed for the first time in the course of woodland clearance.

In 1982, Owen Bedwin surveyed the site on Court Hill and carried out a series of small-scale excavations as part of an assessment of a number of sites in Sussex then being damaged by ploughing (Bedwin 1984). Two trenches (see Figure 2) sampled the ditch on the north-eastern side of the enclosure, and a third (at e on Figure 2) near the eastern corner fortuitously revealed a ditch terminal. The ditch was iregular in depth and profile, and the fill was interpreted as having been formed through natural silting without any indication of re-cutting. The ditch terminal at e was sterile in terms of finds, but the two trenches on the north-east side recovered forty-three flint flakes (four retouched), a plano-convex knife and eleven small sherds of pottery, pointing generally to the earlier prehistoric period. Animal bones from the primary silt included cattle, sheep and pig, and provided a radio-carbon determination of 3470 ±180 bc (sample number I-12,893). This date was compatible with the artefactual evidence and indicated that the enclosure was constructed in the early Neolithic period. Molluscan analysis from soil samples taken from the primary silts indicated that the ditch was dug in a relatively small clearing in woodland, re-inforcing the theory that the enclosure is of Neolithic origin. Since Bedwin's revision of the dating of the site, Court Hill has been widely regarded as being unusual among Neolithic enclosures

in being a fairly continuous earthwork, rather than comprising a series of ditch segments separated by causeways.

In the course of the RCHME survey, a small number of worked flints were noted scattered across the surface of the ploughed field on the north of the enclosure. Two flints were collected and will be deposited in Lewes Museum: a retouched flake from the north-western side of the enclosure, and a roughly worked scraper from the surface of the track on the south side.

Crescent-shaped earthwork

On the north-western flank of the spur, some 25m to the north of the main enclosure, Holden recorded a crescent-shaped earthwork, with the bank downhill of the ditch. It is visible on all the aerial photographs mentioned above. Within the earthwork (ie downhill to its north-west), he noted shallow depressions over a wide area, which he interpreted as house platforms; field-walking recovered a surface scatter of pot-boilers (fire-cracked flints), including one dense concentration containing 'many hundreds', and some forty sherds of undiagnostic flint-gritted pottery which he dated provisionally to the late Bronze Age. This evidence led Holden to term the area an occupation site, and to interpret the enigmatic earthwork as some sort of settlement boundary.

In 1982, Bedwin excavated a trench across the southern end of the earthwork, which by then had been levelled by ploughing. The trench recovered only nine undiagnostic flint flakes, but its profile and fills were so similar to those of the main enclosure that it too was interpreted as being of Neolithic date. Bedwin added that the 'occupation' evidence observed by Holden had been entirely removed by ploughing, but speculated that the earthwork may have been some kind of boundary as Holden suggested.

Field system

Holden also recorded lynchets on all three sides of the spur, which he suggested might range in date from the late Bronze Age to the Romano-British period. In addition, he identified three possible Bronze Age round barrows, and a number of other 'flinty mounds', for which he did not give precise locations. In 1982, Bedwin commented that none of these features was visible on the ground.

3. DESCRIPTION OF THE SITE

For names and letters which appear in bold in the text, see RCHME earthwork plan surveyed at 1:1000 scale (Figure 2) and RCHME aerial photographic transcription at the same scale (Figure 3). The field to the north of the enclosure was under crop at the time of the RCHME survey, and a brief investigation the C-shaped earthwork suggested that aerial photographic transcription was a more appropriate survey technique.

The enclosure

The enclosure occupies the tip of the spur and is aligned in relation to it, from south-west to north-east. The bank and ditch approximately follow the natural contours, except on the north-east, where the earthwork crosses the level top of the spur in a manner similar to a cross-ridge dyke. In plan, the enclosure is almost square, with slightly convex sides and rounded corners, and some minor irregularities in its outline. It measures 170m across both axes and encloses an area of 2.30ha. On the north-western side of the enclosure, a possible outer bank is clearly visible on aerial photographs, its extent coinciding fairly closely with the bifurcation of the earthwork. In addition to the interruption or causeway discovered by Bedwin, a further five possible causeways were identified by RCHME, only one of which can be identified on the ground as an earthwork.

Within the plantation on top of the spur, a length of the bank and ditch some 100m long has escaped modern plough damage and is relatively well-preserved as an earthwork: the bank has a maximum height of 0.4m and basal width of 6.0m, and the ditch a maximum depth of 0.3m and width of 5.0m; the two features may have been separated by a slight berm. A complete interruption (a) in the earthwork was identified on the highest point of the spur, some 40m north of the eastern corner of the enclosure. This survives on the ground, and was subseqently confirmed on oblique aerial photographs taken between 1979 and 1983, when much of the plantation had been cleared.

Elsewhere, the bank generally survives as a broad degraded scarp up to 0.5m high, accentuated partly by positive build-up on its interior, which is visible as a darkline on aerial photographs (not shown on Figure 3). At the southern corner of the enclosure, a minimal remnant of the ditch survives for a distance of some 20m, but elsewhere, all trace has been ploughed away. Bedwin's excavations of the plough-damaged sections revealed that its depth ranged from 0.6m to 1.1m below the ploughsoil.

Though little hint of any causeways can be identified on the ground, five more interruptions were identified from the aerial photographs. On the north-western side of the enclosure, the gap at b, which is most apparent on the photographs taken in 1976, appears to have been slightly out-turned, while the form of that at c, which is clearest on photographs taken in 1965 and 1979, is less clear. On the south-eastern side of the enclosure the gaps at d and e (the latter being the terminal excavated by Bedwin), are only visible on the photographs taken by Boyden in 1965. In addition, several irregularities noted along the enclosure circuit

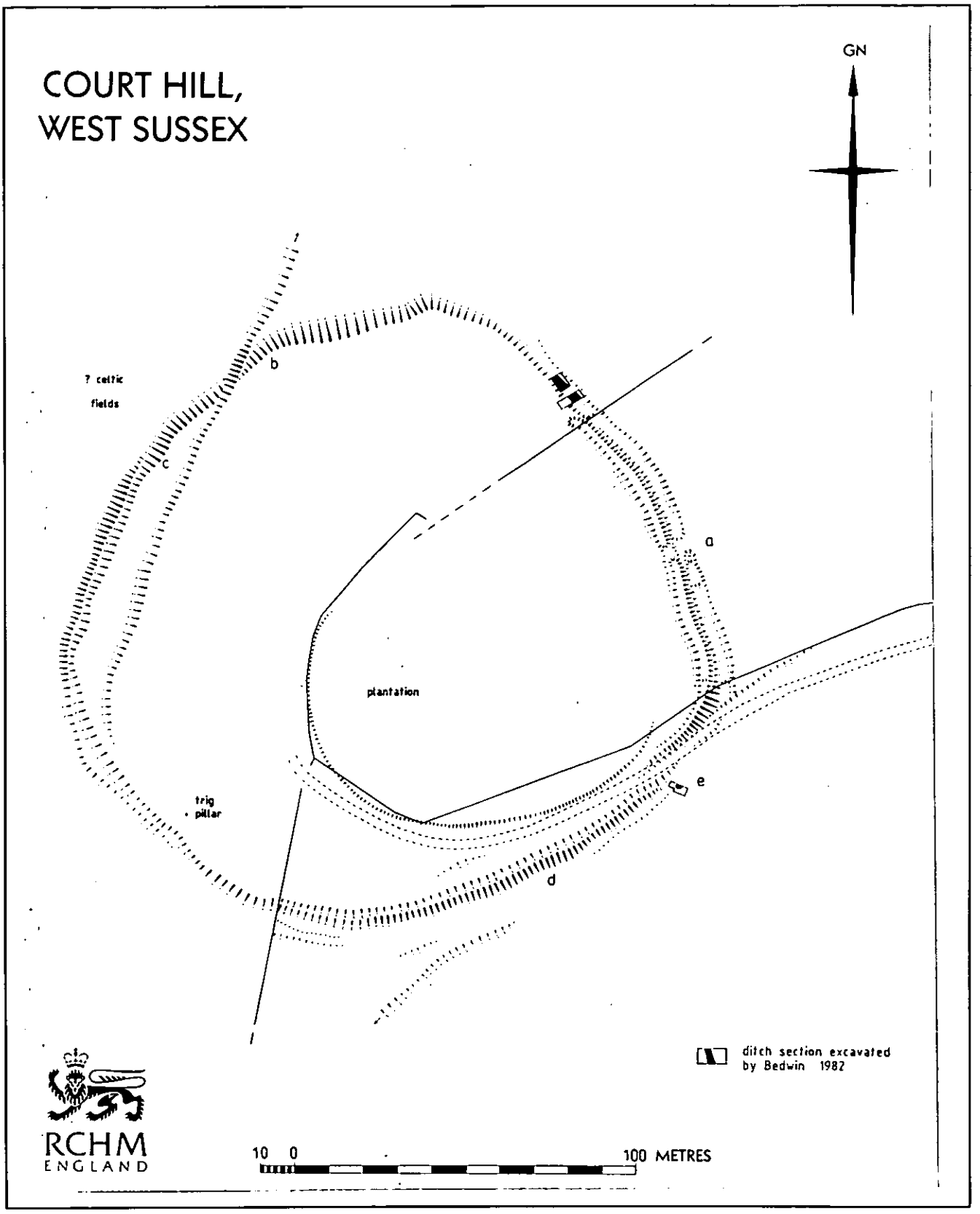

Figure 2
RCHME earthwork plan, surveyed at 1:1000 scale

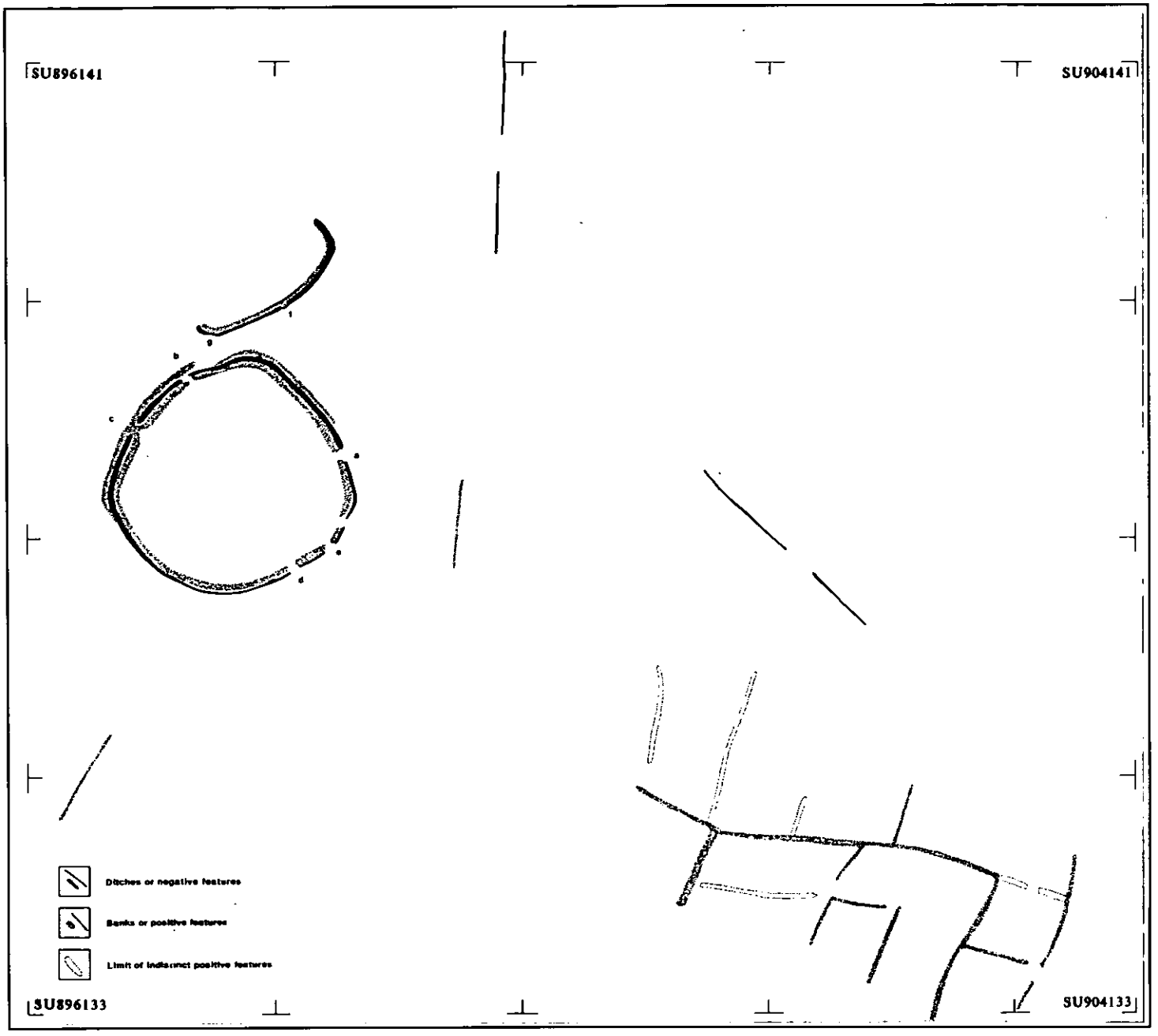

Figure 3 RCHME aerial photographic transcription

may represent narrow causeways, but the shifting ploughsoil conditions make positive identification impossible.

The crescent-shaped earthwork

The crescent-shaped linear earthwork interpreted by Holden and Bedwin as some form of settlement boundary lies on the north-western slope of Court Hill approximately 25m north

of the main enclosure. The bank lies on the interior of the 'C', and consequently downhill from the ditch. The earthwork as a whole appears to be almost identical to the south-eastern side of the enclosure in terms of plan, dimensions and alignment. RCHME's aerial photographic transcription recorded at least one causeway mid-way along the earthwork (f). A second possible interruption is visible close to the western terminal of the earthwork at g, where the ditch appears to narrow, although the bank remains continuous. Although this may be an original feature, it lies close to Bedwin's trench and may be associated with his excavation. On several photographs, a break was observed in the bank towards the eastern end of the earthwork, close to the bend. However, this is not depicted on Figure 3, since it is thought to result from differential ploughing on either side of the modern field boundary (now removed), which crossed the earthwork at this point.

No trace of the supposed barrows and hut platforms identified by Holden in the vicinity of the crescent-shaped earthwork could be identified by RCHME, either on the ground or the aerial photographs.

Celtic fields

The earthwork survey recorded slight lynchets running obliquely down both the southern and north-western slopes of Court Hill, on a south-west to north-east alignment. These were not visible on aerial photographs, although the possible outer bank on the north-western side of the enclosure, mentioned above, may be associated with later ploughing. The lynchets are morphologically similar to the later prehistoric fields known as 'Celtic fields'. Although it is difficult to interpret the stratigraphic relationship between the lynchets and the enclosure precisely, one of those on the north appears to overlie the enclosure, and as noted above it is possible that the enclosure bank was itself re-used as a lynchet.

On the south-eastern slopes of Court Hill, centred on SU 902 134, a Celtic field system extends over an area of approximately 8ha. This survives as earthworks, but was not surveyed on the ground. The lynchets appear slightly on the vertical aerial photographs of 1946 and were recorded as part of the aerial photographic transcription. Parts of at least eleven separate fields were observed; although the fields do not survive complete, they appear to have had a common width of between 50m and 60m, and to have been defined by lynchets up to 6m wide.

The plantation

The end of the plantation on the top of the spur terminates in a half-circle of beech trees some 90m in diameter, with an associated earthen embankment. The beech trees are approximately one hundred years old, and were presumably designed to lend the plantation an ornamental aspect when viewed from Goodwood racecourse and St Roche's Hill. The boundary has certainly remained unchanged since 1874 (Ordnance Survey 1875) and it is possible that the plantation has its origin in the eighteenth century landscaping of the Goodwood estates.

4. INTERPRETATION AND DISCUSSION

Bedwin's conclusion that the enclosure on Court Hill is of early Neolithic date relies primarily on the radio-carbon date of 3470 ±180 bc obtained from a sample of bone recovered from the ditch. The quantity of lithic material recovered is small and not firmly diagnostic, but would support an early prehistoric date. Likewise the environmental evidence that the enclosure was constructed in a small clearing in woodland adds circumstantial support for an early date. RCHME's earthwork survey suggests that the enclosure probably stratigraphically predates the 'Celtic fields' on the north-western side of the spur, and if a late Bronze Age date is accepted for that form of cultivation, this relationship would add further weight to Bedwin's conclusion.

It has generally been accepted that Court Hill is unusual amongst Neolithic enclosures in being almost continuously ditched, as opposed to comprising ditch segments separated by causeways. RCHME's survey confirms the observation of previous investigators that there were certainly fewer interruptions in the earthwork than in 'typical' Neolithic causewayed enclosures. However, Bedwin's fortuitous discovery of a ditch terminal at e, despite the tiny sample excavated, and the variable profile and depth encountered in the other trenches, together with the five more possible causeways identified by RCHME's air photographic transcription, strongly suggests that a causewayed technique may in fact have been employed in the construction of the enclosure on Court Hill. The identification of at least six possible causeways strongly supports the re-dating of the site to the early Neolithic period, since Bronze Age and Iron Age enclosures of this size seldom have more than two entrances. Given its position on the level top of the spur, the interruption at a may be tentatively interpreted as a possible entrance.

RCHME's survey supports Bedwin's suggestion that an antithesis between 'causewayed' and 'continuous' earthworks may be false, in that the more continuously ditched enclosures employ the same constructional technique, but simply to a lesser degree (Bedwin 1984, 18). In this respect, the form of the Court Hill enclosure has much in common with the putative Neolithic enclosure on Halnaker Hill, which though fairly continuously-ditched, has several possible entrances. It would be wrong to infer that sites which remained causewayed throughout relatively long periods of use were 'unfinished' or that any straightforward progression from 'causewayed' to 'continuously-ditched' enclosures was intended. It would appear that the construction technique was important in its own right and was perhaps an integral part of the purpose of the site, possibly with the monument itself symbolizing the unity of dispersed social groups (Smith 1971; Evans 1988).

The enclosure on Court Hill does not display the 'uncomfortable' relationship with the natural topography which is often thought symptomatic of Neolithic enclosures, and this may have contributed to earlier assumptions that it might be of early Iron Age date. The north-eastern side of the enclosure, which is fairly straight with well-defined corners, is generally comparable to a cross-ridge dyke, a form of earthwork which was also used on Neolithic enclosures such as Hambledon Hill in Dorset (ST 849 122), Hembury in Devon

(ST 113 031), Dorstone Hill in Hereford and Worcester (SO 326 423) and to a lesser extent Crickley Hill in Gloucestershire (SO 928 161).

The site chosen for the enclosure on Court Hill is dominated visually by St Roche's Hill, and the earthworks of the causewayed enclosure usually known as The Trundle are clearly visible. Although the molluscan evidence from Bedwin's excavations suggests that the monument was constructed in a relatively small clearing in the woodland, it still seems probable that the two sites were intervisible in the Neolithic period. Visibility and intervisibility are generally agreed to have been of key importance in the location of Neolithic enclosures in Sussex (Drewett, Rudling and Gardiner 1988; Drewett 1995). The greater size, complexity and antiquity of The Trundle, together with its visual domination of Court Hill, may imply that in some sense the site on Court Hill was a 'satellite' of the complex on St Roche's Hill.

Bedwin was justifiably cautious in his interpretation of the function of the enclosure on Court Hill, observing that it did not appear to have been either a permanent settlement or a stock enclosure, and was by default perhaps 'ritual' in purpose. He suggested that the possible Bronze Age barrows identified by Holden might indicate continued reverence for a sacred place and perhaps imply that the enclosure had originally had some connection with death, as has been suggested on a number of causewayed enclosures. The close association with Bronze Age barrows is also evident at causewayed enclosures such as Barkhale Camp near Bignor (SU 976 126) and Combe Hill near Willingdon in East Sussex (TQ 574 021).

The relationship of the crescent-chaped bank and ditch to the main enclosure is of great interest, since Bedwin's assertion that the two were probably contemporary seems reasonable, particularly in view of RCHME's identification of two possible causeways in the ditch. The earthwork, which appears somewhat isolated and lies half way down a relatively steep slope, is almost without parallel among Neolithic monuments, but certainly seems to accord well with the curious relationship of some Neolithic earthworks to the natural topography, as discussed above. The fact that the crescent shape appears to replicate almost precisely the south-eastern side of the main enclosure in plan, dimensions and alignment, seems unlikely to be coincidental given the strange relationship of the feature to the natural topography. The contrast between Holden's surface finds of 'domestic' debris, including large numbers of pot-boilers (the alleged house platforms are more difficult to accept) and the very scarce finds produced by Bedwin's excavations may indicate that there was a functional division between the two areas, with the crescent shaped earthwork perhaps serving to emphasise the boundary between them. Since the purpose of the main enclosure remains unclear, it is still more difficult to interpret the function or meaning of the second earthwork.

5. SURVEY AND RESEARCH METHODS

The archaeological survey was carried out by Alastair Oswald and Carolyn Dyer. Control points and hard detail were surveyed using a Wild TC1610 Electronic Theodolite with integral EDM. Data was captured on a Wild GRM 10 Rec Module and plotted via computer on a Calcomp 3024 plotter. The details of the earthwork plan were supplied at 1:1000 scale with Fibron tapes using normal graphical methods.

The air photgraphic transcription was carried out by Carolyn Dyer of RCHME's Aerial Photographic Unit. The majority of the plot was produced using vertical photographs rectified on a Digicart plotter. A single stereoscopic model was set up using the 1946 MOD sortie CPE/UK/1751, for which residual errors higher than usual (±4.67m), due to one fiducial point being absent from the photograph, as well as the wide field boundaries in the area. Further information was added using AERIAL 4.20 software developed by the University of Bradford, which uses plane transformation techniques generally offering metrical precision in the region of ±0-2m. The single plot produced in this way (of the south-eastern side of the enclosure) entailed errors higher than usually accepted (±4.2m) due to the poor control and sloping topography. However, The Digicart and AERIAL plots matched reasonably well, and it is expected that most features were located within 4m of their true ground position on the final drawing.

The photographs consulted are listed in Appendix 1. Appendix 2 lists the digital files created for the transcription, with maximum residual errors for each. Also listed are the digitised photograph reference number for AERIAL files and control point information for the Digicart models.

The historical and archaeological background was researched by Kate Fernie of RCHME's National Monuments Record, and the report as a whole was written jointly by Alastair Oswald and Carolyn Dyer, and edited by Peter Topping. The earthwork plan was drawn up by Alastair Oswald, and the air photographic transcription by Carolyn Dyer. The site archive has been deposited in the National Monuments Record, Kemble Drive, Swindon SN2 2GZ (SU 81 SE 5).

RCHM
ENGLAND

6. BIBLIOGRAPHY

Bedwin OR 1984 ' The excavation of a small hilltop enclosure on Court Hill, Singleton, West Sussex, 1982' Sussex Archaeological Collections 122, 13-22

Drewett PL 1994 'Dr V. Seton-Williams' excavations at Combe Hill, 1962, and the role of Neolithic causewayed enclosures in Sussex' in Sussex Archaeological Collections 132, 7-24

Drewett PL & Bedwin OR 1981 'Note on Radiocarbon Dates from Neolithic Enclosures in Sussex' Proceedings of the Prehistoric Society 47, 86

Drewett PL, Rudling D & Gardiner M 1988 The South-East to AD 1000 London, Longman

Evans C 1988 'Acts of Enclosure: A Consideration of Concentrically-Organised Causewayed Enclosures' in Barrett JC and Kinnes IA eds. The Archaeology of Context in the Neolithic and Bronze Age Sheffield, University of Sheffield

Holden EW 1951 'Earthworks on Court Hill' Sussex Notes and Queries 13 1950-3), 183-5

NMR (a) Ordnance Survey record card for SU 81 SE 5

Ordnance Survey 1875 First Edition 25-inch map sheet West Sussex XLVIII.4, surveyed 1874

Smith I 1971 'Causewayed Enclosures' in DDA Simpson (ed) Economy and Settlement in Neolithic and Early Bronze Age Britain and Europe 89-111, Leicester, Leicester University Press

7. APPENDIX: AIR PHOTOGRAPHIC SOURCES

Obliques

NGR Index	*Accession number*	*Frame number*	*Date flown*	*Repository*
SU8913/1	JRB 9687	57	c.1965	NMR
SU8913/2	JRB 9687	57 A	c.1965	NMR
SU8913/3	JRB 9687	148	c.1965	NMR
SU8913/4	JRB 9687	149	c.1965	NMR
SU8913/5	JRB 9687	150	c.1965	NMR
SU8913/6	NMR 909	162-3	04-MAR-76	NMR
SU8913/7	NMR 909	164-8	04-MAR-76	NMR
SU8913/8	NMR 955	299-304	04-JUN-76	NMR
SU8913/18	NMR 2106	1019	08-MAR-82	NMR
SU8913/19	NMR 2106	1020	08-MAR-82	NMR
SU8913/20	NMR 2106	1021	08-MAR-82	NMR
SU8914/2	NMR 909	160-1	04-MAR-76	NMR
SU8914/8	NMR 1520	450-8	08-MAY-79	NMR
SU8914/11	NMR 2135	0027	26-APR-83	NMR
SU8914/14	NMR 2106	1028	08-MAR-82	NMR
SU8914/16	NMR 2135	0028	26-APR-83	NMR
SU8914/17	NMR 2135	0029	26-APR-83	NMR
SU8914/18	NMR 2135	0030	26-APR-83	NMR
SU8914/19	NMR 2135	0031	26-APR-83	NMR
SU8914/20	NMR 2135	0032	26-APR-83	NMR
SU8914/26	NMR 2106	1029	28-MAR-82	NMR
SU8914/27	NMR 2106	1030	28-MAR-82	NMR
SU8914/28	NMR 2106	1031	28-MAR-82	NMR
SU8914/29	NMR 2106	1032	28-MAR-82	NMR
SU8914/30	NMR 2106	1033	28-MAR-82	NMR
SU8914/31	NMR 2106	1034	28-MAR-82	NMR
SU8914/2	NMR 2106	1018	28-MAR-82	NMR
SU8914/3	NMR 2106	1022	28-MAR-82	NMR
SU8914/6	NMR 2106	1023	28-MAR-82	NMR
SU8914/7	NMR 2106	1024	28-MAR-82	NMR

Verticals

Library number	*Sortie number*	*Camera position*	*Frame*	*Date flown*	*Scale*	*Repository*
207	3G/TUD/UK/156	V	5461-2	19-APR-46	10400	MOD
481	CPE/UK/1751	RP	3281-2	21-SEP-46	10400	MOD
615	CPE/UK/2034	RS	4401-2	26-APR-47	9800	MOD
10482	OS/73287	V	223-4	14-JUN-73	7750	OS

8. APPENDIX 2: DIGITAL FILE INDEX

AERIAL 4.2 files

Digital file name	*Digitised photograph*	*Digital method*	*Maximum residual error*
COURT1.DIG	SU8914/8/303	AERIAL 4.2	±1.6m
COURT2.DIG	SU8914/8/458	AERIAL 4.2	±2.3m
COURT3.DIG	SU8914/18	AERIAL 4.2	±1.7m
COURT4.DIG	SU8913/5	AERIAL 4.2	±4.2m

Digicart models

Residual Errors for shut down file COURT812.SDF

Photograph CPE/UK/1751/3281-2

NB Errors are presented in centimetres, not metres.

Control point	*Grid East*	*Grid North*	*Grid Height*	*Error X*	*Error Y*	*Error Z*
101	8988400	1351800	0	288	-252	0
102	8986400	1340250	0	18	415	0
103	9015200	1282800	0	233	-135	0
104	9011400	1291800	0	-77	-74	0
106	9012000	1297000	0	195	-49	0
107	8974500	1481800	0	-43	360	0
109	9046400	1421000	0	-467	-276	0
110	9037800	1295100	0	-416	-429	0
112	8983800	1296200	0	267	440	0
301	0	0	7498	0	0	3
302	0	0	9449	0	0	-3
303	0	0	17837	0	0	-6
304	0	0	10630	0	0	6

1. INTRODUCTION

In mid-December 1995 the Royal Commission on the Historical Monuments of England carried out an earthwork survey of an enclosure on Court Hill, as part of a national project to record Industry and Enclosure in the Neolithic Period. The Neolithic date of the site has been established previously by radio-carbon dating. In April 1996, an air photographic analysis of the enclosure was undertaken, to record in greater detail those features which have been degraded by ploughing.

The site lies north of the village of East Dean in the parish of Singleton, in the Chichester district of West Sussex (National Grid Reference SU 8977 1375). Court Hill forms the end of a chalk spur extending south-westwards from the South Downs. The enclosure occupies the tip of the spur, lying slightly below its highest point at a height of 181m above OD. The site commands broad views over the surrounding landscape and is intervisible with St Roche's Hill 3.5kms to the south-west, on the summit of which lies the well-known Neolithic causewayed enclosure (and later Iron Age hillfort) known as The Trundle.

Court Hill is in private ownership and is farmed as part of the Goodwood Estate. A plantation covers much of the top of the spur and within this, a section of the eastern side of the enclosure is well-preserved as an earthwork. On the other three sides, ploughing, both ancient and modern, has affected the preservation of the remains. The enclosure is protected as a Scheduled Ancient Monument (W SUSX 438) and is recorded in the National Monuments Record as SU 81 SE 5.

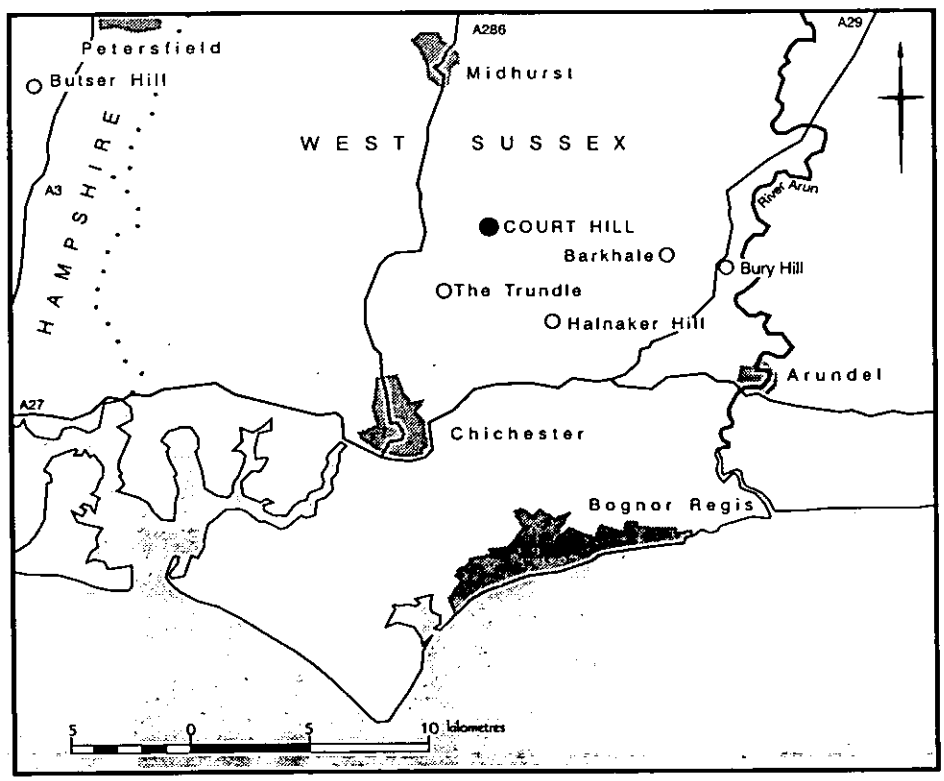

Figure 1
Location map