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Archaeological Services Ltd

**Heritage Statement
for
Broadford Bridge,
West Sussex**

by
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June 2012

Summary

This Heritage Statement has been prepared for a site at Broadford Bridge, West Sussex in order to establish the likely presence and importance of any archaeological remains that may be affected by the proposed development.

The report has established that there is no evidence to suggest that human activity occurred within the vicinity of the site prior to the Saxon period. In the medieval period, the site was part of a wood. It is possible that the site produced wood for the blast furnaces of an early Post Medieval glassworks sited nearby, prior to being cut down sometime in the 16th century. Evidence for this phase of use may take the form of visible earthworks, such as saw pits, charcoal burning platforms and the banks and ditches of wood partitions, as well as any buried archaeology. Since it was cleared of trees, the site is likely to have been used for pasture. The Ordnance Survey maps have revealed that the site has remained largely unchanged since 1876.

The proposed development is likely to have an impact upon any archaeology surviving within the site and its access track. However as the walkover survey did not locate any potential archaeological features, and the Heritage Statement has shown that the likelihood of any archaeological remains being present is low in most periods, it is recommended that no further archaeological evaluation work is required, although a watching brief during the development may be prudent.

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1. Introduction

- 1.1** Chris Butler Archaeological Services Ltd has been commissioned by Celtique Energie Petroleum Ltd to prepare a Heritage Statement on land at Broadford Bridge, West Sussex, in order to establish the likely presence and importance of any archaeological remains that may be affected by the proposed development of an onshore exploratory well. This Heritage Statement meets the requirements of the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF).
- 1.2** The proposed site lies in the southwest end of a field adjacent to Pocock's Wood, to the immediate west of Broadford Bridge, centred at TQ 09015 21747 (Fig. 1). It is located within the Low Weald, on gentle sloping land that lies between 25m and 30m OD. Both the site and its access track, which leads southwest off the B2133 Adversane Lane, have a combined area of 2.12 hectares.
- 1.3** There are no Scheduled Monuments, Conservation Areas or Archaeologically Sensitive Areas within a 1km radius of the site centre, and the nearest Listed Building has no inter-visibility with the site. Two Ancient Woodlands stand close to the site with Prince's Wood located to its east, and Gatewick Copse one field to its south (only the western third of Gatewick Copse is designated, however). The third Ancient Woodland recorded within the immediate vicinity of the site is Steepwood Copse, located just under 1km to the north of the site centre. Ancient Woodlands may preserve archaeological remains that are related to woodland management, or are indicative of a landscape in use prior to being wooded.
- 1.4** The geology of the site, according to the British Geological Survey¹, comprises mudstone of the Weald Clay Formation. The soil at the site is described as moderately fertile loamy soil with impeded drainage².
- 1.5** This report initially covers the objectives and scope of the Heritage Statement, then discusses the methodology used in the survey, followed by a review of the archaeological and historical assets in the area. Before a conclusion is drawn together, former impacts upon any potential archaeology on the site are assessed, as is the possible archaeological impact of the proposed scheme.

¹ http://maps.bgs.ac.uk/geologyviewer_google/googleviewer.html

² <http://www.landis.org.uk/soilscapes/>

2. Objectives & Scope of Report

- 2.1** The objective of this Heritage Statement is to gain information about the known or potential archaeological resource of the site and its immediate area. This will include information relating to the presence or absence of any archaeology, its character and extent, date, integrity, state of preservation, and the relative quality of the potential archaeological resource. This report meets the requirements of the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF).
- 2.2** This information will allow an assessment of the merits of the archaeology in context to be made, leading to the formulation of a strategy for the recording, preservation and management of the resource or, where necessary, the formulation of a strategy for further investigation where the character and value of the resource is not sufficiently defined to permit a mitigation strategy or other response to be defined.
- 2.3** The report will consider the archaeological resource within a radius of 1km around the site, whilst also taking into account sites further afield where these may be considered to have an impact on or relevance to the site in its landscape setting.
- 2.4** It should be noted that this report can only take into account the existing known archaeology, and by its nature cannot provide a complete record of the archaeological resource of the site. Its intention is to provide an overview of the known archaeology in the area of the site, from which judgements can be made about the potential archaeological resource of the site itself.

3. Methodology

3.1 This Heritage Statement has been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the *National Planning Policy Framework* (NPPF), the *Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Desk-based Assessment* (Institute for Archaeologists 2011), and West Sussex County Council's *Recommended Standard Conditions for Archaeological Fieldwork, Recording and Post Excavation Work* (version dated February 2007).

3.2 The research for this Heritage Statement has included an analysis of the following resources:

- WSCC Historic Environment Record (HER)
- WSCC Historic Landscape Characterisation (HLC) Programme
- Historic mapping
- PastScape (formerly part of the National Monuments Record)
- The National Heritage List For England
- British Geological Survey
- Personal library resources
- Online resources

3.3 The following maps were used:

- Speed (1610; uninformative)
- Morden (1695; uninformative)
- Kitchin (1750 and 1763; uninformative)
- Emmanuel Bowen (1756; uninformative)
- Cooper (1808; uninformative)
- Cole (1808; uninformative)
- Moule (1837; uninformative)
- Dugdale (1840; uninformative)
- 1st Edition OS Map (1876)
- 2nd Edition OS Map (1897)
- 3rd Edition OS Map (1911)
- Later OS Maps (1961-1962, 1977 and 1982)

Information gained from the map regression exercise is contained in the Post Medieval section below.

3.4 The Archaeological Sites and Listed Buildings recorded on the HER are listed in Appendix 1 to this report and shown on Figs. 3 and 4. They are mentioned in the text where relevant. Historical and other sources are given as footnotes as appropriate.

4. Archaeological & Historical Background

- 4.0.1 This section considers each archaeological period in turn, reviewing the known archaeological resource of the area, briefly defining its location and extent, character, date, integrity, state of preservation, and quality.
- 4.0.2 No archaeological fieldwork has been undertaken within the immediate vicinity of the site, presumably because development in this rural area is at such a modest level. There have only been two intrusive archaeological investigations within a 2.5km radius of the site centre (i.e. the wider area of the site). Both interventions were watching briefs (MWS6709) that took place at Beedings House, off Nutbourne Lane, approximately 2.05km to the southwest of the site. The first watching brief excavated Late Iron Age / Romano-British pits and ditches, whilst the second exposed an additional pit, believed to date to the Middle to Late Bronze Age. Mesolithic and early Neolithic flints were also recovered from the watching briefs.
- 4.0.3 As there is little archaeological evidence known locally, the review of each period has had to bring in evidence from a wider area, extending up to at least 2.5km from the site centre. This will enable a more accurate judgement to be made about the archaeological potential for the site. This evidence will include that taken from similar landscapes and geologies.

4.1 *Palaeolithic Period (750,000BC – 10,000BC)*

- 4.1.1 This period covered a huge expanse of time, during which early hominid occupation of Southern Britain was intermittent. The period is divided into warm and cold periods, with the evidence suggesting that hominid occupation occurred during some of the warm periods. Apart from a small number of exceptional sites (e.g. Boxgrove), most of the evidence for human activity in this period comes from isolated finds of stone tools, often in secondary deposits.
- 4.1.2 There are only a handful of Palaeolithic finds known to have a provenance in the Weald³, with there being no discoveries from Broadford Bridge or its immediate surroundings. A number of Palaeolithic finds have been found further to the south of Broadford Bridge, at Fittleworth, Coldwaltham, Pulborough, West Chiltington and Storrington⁴. The West Chiltington findspot is the closest to the site and comprised a handaxe (MWS5592) that was found behind Woods Hill House, off the Broadford Bridge Road, and beyond a 1km radius of the site centre; other early Prehistoric material was recovered from this area over the years but information is vague (MWS2946 and MWS2957).

³ Pope, M. 2003 'The Earliest Occupation of Sussex: Recent Research and Future Objectives', in Rudling, D. (Ed) *The Archaeology of Sussex to AD2000*, Kings Lynn, Heritage Marketing & Publications Ltd, 17-28, Fig. 2.8.

⁴ Roe, D.A. 1968. *A Gazetteer of British Lower and Middle Palaeolithic Sites*. CBA Research Report 8.

4.1.3 As all the above mentioned places are located at or near where the Western Rother meets the Arun, and in the Wealden Greensand and Gault Clay Vale, rather than the Weald, the likelihood of in-situ Palaeolithic artefacts being present on the site is considered to be low.

4.2 *Mesolithic Period (10,000BC – 4,000BC)*

4.2.1 The start of the Mesolithic period saw Britain largely covered by pine and birch woodland, which was gradually replaced by a mixed deciduous woodland that provided an ideal environment for the bands of hunter-gatherers who exploited the resources on a seasonal basis⁵.

4.2.2 In contrast to the High Weald, with its multiple rock shelters and its considerably more numerous flint scatters, the Low Weald has little evidence of the Mesolithic period⁶. Flint scatters have been recorded in the parish of West Chiltington (the parish containing the site) and also the neighbouring parishes of Billingshurst, Pulborough, Storrington, and Thakeham⁷. As with the latter two parishes, West Chiltington only produced the one findspot and this was an assemblage of two axes, a scrapper, and one unretouched blade / flake from West Chiltington village (NMR No. 975867).

4.2.3 The parishes of Pulborough and Billingshurst, to the west and north of West Chiltington respectively, have a greater number of Mesolithic findspots⁸. The closest findspots to the site are from Billingshurst parish and comprise: two findspots (including MWS6612) from Little Platt's Nursery beside Adversane Lane, and a concentration of findspots found over the years in the nearby fields beside the railway line at Adversane, which are suggestive of occupation (MWS3954, MWS3920, MWS5259 and MWS6610). One assemblage from the nursery included six cores, six scrapers and 73 unretouched blades and flakes.

4.2.4 Further afield, to the southwest of the site and the hamlet of Gay Street, an extensive assemblage of Mesolithic flints was discovered off Nutbourne Lane during the quarrying of stone for the nearby house of Beedings in the late 19th century (MWS5822).

⁵ Holgate, R. 2003 'Late Glacial and Post-glacial Hunter-gatherers in Sussex', in Rudling, D. (Ed) *The Archaeology of Sussex to AD2000*, Kings Lynn, Heritage Marketing & Publications Ltd, 29-38.

⁶ Drewett, P. 1999. 'Later Hunters and Gatherers' in Leslie, K. and Short, B. (eds), *An Historical Atlas of Sussex*. Chichester: Phillimore & Co. Ltd.

⁷ Wymer, J.J. (ed.) 1977. *Gazetteer of Mesolithic sites in England and Wales*. CBA Research Report 22. Norwich: Geo Abstracts and The Council for British Archaeology.

⁸ Wymer, J.J. (ed.) 1977. *Gazetteer of Mesolithic sites in England and Wales*. CBA Research Report 22. Norwich: Geo Abstracts and The Council for British Archaeology.

4.2.5 All these findspots may have been restricted to outcrops of sandstone, with the Beedings findspot having been found on the sandstone of the Hythe Formation and the Adversane findspots having been recovered further to the north in an area of Weald Clay Formation, predominantly of mudstone but also heavily veined with sandstone. The site lies on the mudstone of the Weald Clay Formation and so it may be less likely to have Mesolithic activity present on the site in the form of artefacts and features.

4.3 *Neolithic Period (4,000BC to 2,500BC)*

4.3.1 A number of changes occurred during the Neolithic, some of which may have had an impact on the local area. Environmental evidence suggests that some of the woodland was being cleared and small-scale agricultural activities are likely to have started. However, it is likely that hunting and gathering will have continued in the Weald where the woodland probably remained dominant⁹.

4.3.2 Other changes in the earlier part of the Neolithic period included the construction of large-scale monuments and the first industrial activity. However, all of these sites are located on the South Downs, which suggests that they had little influence over this area¹⁰.

4.3.3 A number of scatters of flintwork and individual finds of Neolithic axes have been recorded in the Low Weald¹¹. The Mesolithic site beside the railway line at Adversane continued in use into the Neolithic, as finds from there also included Neolithic flintwork (MWS3954, MWS6609 and MWS7794).

4.3.4 It is possible that Neolithic artefacts could be present on the site and if so may indicate the presence of underlying Neolithic features, although evidence for Neolithic settlement is very rare in the Weald and the likelihood of finding Neolithic artefacts is considered to be low.

4.4 *The Bronze Age (2500BC to 800BC)*

4.4.1 The Bronze Age saw continued clearance of the woodland in the Low Weald although there is little evidence for complete clearance or widespread agriculture. The period of greatest exploitation appears to have been in the Late Neolithic and Early Bronze Age, which may suggest that the soils became exhausted and settlement retreated subsequently.

⁹ Drewett, P. 2003. 'Taming the Wild: The first farming communities in Sussex, in Rudling, D. (Ed). *The Archaeology of Sussex to AD2000*. Kings Lynn: Heritage Marketing & Publications Ltd, 39-46.

¹⁰ Oswald et al. 2001. *The Creation of Monuments*. Swindon: English Heritage.

¹¹ Drewett, P. 1999. 'First Farming Communities and Communal Monuments', in Leslie, K. and Short, B. (eds), *An Historical Atlas of Sussex*. Chichester: Phillimore & Co. Ltd.

- 4.4.2 Elsewhere in Sussex, such as the South Downs and Coastal Plain, there is extensive evidence for the landscape being densely populated by small farming settlements in the Middle and Late Bronze Age. Although there is growing evidence for agriculture in the Weald during the Bronze Age, hunting presumably continued in parallel with farming¹².
- 4.4.3 Another feature of the Bronze Age landscape is the burial mound (or barrow). The closest barrows to Broadford Bridge may have been the two that were once sited in West Chiltington Common prior to a housing development sometime prior to 1970 (NMR Nos. 392971 and 976594).
- 4.4.4 The Neolithic site beside Adversane railway may have continued in use into the Bronze Age (MWS3954). Further afield, a hoard of five Bronze Age palstaves was uncovered at a farm in Billingshurst in c.1877 (HER No. 393321).
- 4.4.5 There are no known Bronze Age features or finds from the immediate vicinity of the site. Given the small amount of evidence for Bronze Age activity in the wider area, there is a low probability that remains from this period will be found during work at the site.

4.5 *The Iron Age (800BC to 43AD)*

- 4.5.1 During the Early Iron Age it seems likely that the pattern of settlement and agriculture seen in the Late Bronze Age continued. A number of field systems and enclosures in the Weald are known from the Iron Age, such as at Kings Standing in Ashdown Forest¹³. These suggest that the area was used for agriculture (perhaps for grazing rather than for growing crops) with the enclosures being farms.
- 4.5.2 One major feature of the Iron Age is the hillfort, of which 25 are known from Sussex. Many of these appear to have originated in the Late Bronze Age and became important central places for control and redistribution in the Middle and Late Iron Age. The nearest hillfort to the site is Chanctonbury, located some 10km to the south of Broadford Bridge. Chanctonbury is an Early Iron Age hillfort sited on the South Downs, with commanding views over the Weald and possibly even the site, which it may have dominated. A Middle Iron Age site at Piper's Copse, Northchapel in West Sussex is the only possible hillfort sited in the Low Weald itself¹⁴. The River Arun physically separates it from the site.

¹² Gardiner, M. 1990. 'The Archaeology of the Weald - A Survey and a Review', *Sussex Archaeological Collections* **128**, 33-53.

¹³ Margary, I.D. 1946. 'War Damage to Antiquities on Ashdown Forest', *Sussex Notes & Queries* **11**, 1-3.

¹⁴ Hamilton, S. & Manley, J. 1999. 'Regional Traditions c.1000-100BC', in Leslie, K. and Short, B. (eds), *An Historical Atlas of Sussex*. Chichester: Phillimore & Co. Ltd.

- 4.5.3 There is evidence to suggest the presence of a Late Iron Age / Romano-British settlement within close vicinity to Beedings House, off Nutbourne Lane. Two Late Iron Age coins - one gold (MWS199) and the other silver (MWS3206) - were discovered on a hilltop near to the house in 1976 and 1983 respectively. The gold coin was found in a ploughed field whilst the silver coin was recovered, along with Iron Age / Romano-British pottery, during landscaping immediately to the northeast of the house. A watching brief at this latter location in 2002, undertaken during groundworks for a car barn and storage area, recorded Late Iron Age / Romano-British pits and ditches (MWS6709).
- 4.5.4 There are no finds or features from the immediate vicinity of the site that date to the Iron Age, and Iron Age activity in the wider area of the site is restricted to Beedings House. Therefore, there is a low likelihood of discovering artefacts or evidence for Iron Age settlement at the site.

4.6 *The Roman Period (43AD to 410AD)*

- 4.6.1 The Roman invasion of Britain in 43AD resulted in dramatic alterations to this island's social and economic environments¹⁵. It is likely that many of the rural farmsteads and associated field systems that were in existence in the Late Iron Age continued throughout the Roman period. Where they have been excavated elsewhere, they provide evidence for a mixed farming economy of crops and animal husbandry.
- 4.6.2 Villa's are unknown in the Weald, being almost entirely concentrated on the Sussex Coastal Plain and immediately to the north of the South Downs, or in North Kent. There is also little evidence for any larger settlements. The nearest Roman villa to the site is that at Borough Farm, located c.2.6km to the southwest of the site and approximately 1km to the east of the Chichester to London Roman road of Stane Street.
- 4.6.3 Closer to the site, are the Romano-British settlement sites at Oldhouse Farm, Coolham (MWS6655) and Beedings House. The Oldhouse Farm site is located approximately 1.2km to the northeast of the site, and is indicated by the presence of surface finds including Samian ware and tesserae. It is sited beside a small stream. Beedings House is situated on the same hill as Borough Farm villa. Excavation of the foundations for the house in 1899 uncovered a Romano-British cremation burial and pottery that included fine ware (MWS6629), whilst Late Iron Age / Romano-British pits and ditches were excavated at the house during a watching brief in 2002 (MWS6709). Roman bricks and pottery have been frequently discovered in this area (MWS6629).

¹⁵ Rudling, D. 2003. 'Roman Rural Settlement in Sussex: Continuity and Change', in Rudling, D. (Ed), *The Archaeology of Sussex to AD2000*. Kings Lynn: Heritage Marketing & Publications Ltd.

- 4.6.4 Stane Street runs through Adversane. Five coins of Constantine I, minted in 331 AD, were found at Adversane (MWS198); no other information is known about this findspot. Roman finds were recovered from a field to the immediate east of the railway line at Adversane in the late 1930's (MWS3908). Close by, on the other side of the railway line beside Adversane Lane, excavations for water mains in the 1930's exposed bricks and drains dated from the daggers, jewellery, coins and other finds to the Roman period (MWS3921).
- 4.6.5 Although ironworking became a major industry during the Roman period, with large numbers of ironworking sites having operated across the Weald¹⁶, the nearest known Roman bloomer to the site is located 22km away at Crawley (TQ 2580 3530)¹⁷. An undated mine pit (MWS5595) is recorded at Whillets Farm on Broadford Bridge Road, approximately 1.3km to the south of the junction between this road and Harboletts Road.
- 4.6.6 Evidence for the Romano-British period is all located within the wider area around the site. The Roman road has probably influenced the activity recorded at Adversane, whilst the settlements at Borough Farm, Beedings House and Oldhouse Farm may have been determined by topography and access to water. Therefore, it is unlikely that Roman material will be found during any fieldwork at the site.

4.7 *The Saxon Period (410AD to 1066AD)*

- 4.7.1 In the early Post-Roman period there was a change in the economy and land-usage with many areas that had been previously cultivated reverting to woodland, although the Weald remained an important area of grazing for pigs and other animals¹⁸.
- 4.7.2 Immediately before the Norman invasion, West Chiltington was held by Azor and assessed at six hides¹⁹. The name West Chiltington may have derived from the Saxon for a farm or settlement connected with a person called Cilla or Cilta²⁰. During the Saxon period, land was being farmed within a 1km radius of the site centre as the West Sussex Historic Landscape Characterization (HLC) has identified a belt of land running northeast-wards up to Adversane Lane as being an 'Early Medieval' (i.e. Saxon) fieldscape.
- 4.7.3 On considering the absence of Saxon finds and features from the immediate vicinity of the site and the wider area beyond, there is a low possibility that evidence for Saxon activity will be encountered at the site.

¹⁶ Cleere, H. et al. 1995. *The Iron Industry in the Weald*, Cardiff, Merton Priory Press.

¹⁷ <http://www.wirgdata.org/>

¹⁸ Gardiner, M. 1990. 'The Archaeology of the Weald - A Survey and a Review', *Sussex Archaeological Collections* **128**, 33-53.

¹⁹ Morris, J. 1986. *Domesday Book: Sussex*, Chichester, Phillimore.

²⁰ <http://www.nottingham.ac.uk/ins/key.aspx>

4.8 *The Medieval Period (1066AD to 1500AD)*

- 4.8.1 In 1086, East Easwirth hundred allegedly included Chiltington, when West Chiltington was held by Roger, Earl of Shrewsbury²¹. The village of West Chiltington had a church by this time²²; St Mary's Church (NMR No. 392981; Grade I Listed) has a chancel and nave walls that date to the late 11th century, and an aisle to the late 12th century. By 1248, East Easwirth was a half-hundred and included the tithing of Chiltington²³. It belonged to John de Braose in 1229.
- 4.8.2 The West Sussex HLC has revealed that the site was part of a wood in the medieval period, which would have included Pocock's Wood, Prince's Wood and Gatewick Wood. This wood abutted medieval fields to its east, the remnants of which survive in today's landscape. One medieval settlement that has lasted through to the present is Steepwood farmhouse, located approximately 0.85km to the northwest of the site. A reference dates the farmhouse to 1402.
- 4.8.3 Any medieval features present within the site are likely to relate to the management and use of the wood. These features may take the form of visible earthworks, such as saw pits, charcoal burning platforms and the ditches and banks of wood partitions, as well as any buried archaeology.

4.9 *The Post Medieval Period (1500AD to the Present Day)*

- 4.9.1 According to the HLC, the site was assarted in the 16th century, along with the rest of the wood, to make way for fields.
- 4.9.2 In around 1966, lumps of glass and fragments of crucible were recovered from a ploughed field on Steepwood Farm, to the northwest of the site (HER No. MWS6613). Four years later, the farmer confirmed that he had noticed much glass waste on the slope of this site, although his son had dug there and found no furnace debris.
- 4.9.3 The finds may indicate the close proximity of the glasshouse of Isaac Bungard, which was in use in the early 17th century. Bungard had stopped making glass in the Weald by 1618 because there was a prohibition in place by this time against the use of wood to heat the furnaces, and another glassmaker had patented coal as the alternative fuel.

²¹ Salzman. L.F. (ed.) 1953. A History of the County of Sussex: Voume 6 Part 2: Bramber Rape, pp. 5-6. URL: <http://www.british-history.ac.uk/report.aspx?compid=18279>

²² Morris, J. 1986 *Domesday Book: Sussex*, Chichester, Phillimore.

²³ Salzman. L.F. (ed.) 1953. A History of the County of Sussex: Voume 6 Part 2: Bramber Rape, pp. 5-6. URL: <http://www.british-history.ac.uk/report.aspx?compid=18279>

This probable glass furnace site would extend the distribution of such sites, exclusive to the Low Weald, further to the east and south²⁴.

- 4.9.4 In the 17th and 18th centuries, as shown by the HLC, settlement was established at the junction between Adversane Lane and West Chiltington Lane, and further along both West Chiltington Lane and Harbolets Road, as well as at Gay Street to the west. Buildings constructed at this time included Broadford Bridge Farmhouse, Brook House Farmhouse, Horelands, Holders Cottage, Gaystreet Farmhouse, Jessamine Cottage and Sand Pond Cottage (HER Nos. DWS6015, DWS5252, DWS6029, DWS5232, DWS6025, DWS5261 and DWS6464 respectively). The HLC has not included Clayes Farmhouse and Gatewick Farmhouse (HER Nos. DWS6014 and DWS5251 respectively), although English Heritage has dated both to the 17th century or earlier. All nine buildings are Grade II Listed.
- 4.9.5 There was little settlement extension between 1800 and 1913; the HLC has only dated Gatewick Farm, to the south of Gatewick Copse, to this phase. Only one field was created in this period, between settlements on Harbolets Road. The park of Highfure (HER No. MWS15) was laid out in the late 19th century to the north of Broadford Bridge and to the immediate east of Adversane Lane.
- 4.9.6 It is the interpretation of the HLC that between 1800 and 1913, Pocock's Wood, Prince's Wood and Gatewick Copse were planted whilst Steepwood Rough was regenerated further to the north, beside Adversane Lane; however, a recent revision of the Ancient Woodland inventory of West Sussex²⁵ has identified all except Pocock's Wood as comprising or partly comprising Ancient Woodland and if correct, these four woods must have existed in 1600 or before, as this is what defines an Ancient Woodland.
- 4.9.7 In 1876, as shown on the 1st Edition Ordnance Survey map (Fig. 4), the site is largely the same as it is today. A field boundary existed at that time between Pockock's Wood and Prince's Wood, whereas today only the remnants of this hedgerow survive. Pockock's Wood had two tracks running through it. Whilst one track ran the length of the wood towards a pond in the field to its southwest, the other ended within the wood perhaps suggesting the presence of a feature, such as a pond, quarry pit or tip. Prince's Wood also had a pond lying partly across its southern boundary, again implying that the land in the area was pasture. A narrow plot of land extended southwest from the pond in Prince's Wood. There was no change to this situation by 1897 (the 2nd Edition Ordnance Survey map is, therefore, not reproduced in this report).

²⁴ Crossley, D. 1999. 'Iron and Glass Industries, in Leslie, K. and Short, B. (eds), *An Historical Atlas of Sussex*. Chichester: Phillimore & Co. Ltd.

²⁵ <http://sxbrc.org.uk/projects/revised-ancient-woodland-inventory>

- 4.9.8 The 1st Edition Ordnance Survey map shows a Post Medieval limekiln at Steepwood Farm (HER No. MWS200).
- 4.9.9 The 3rd Edition Ordnance Survey map (Fig. 5) reveals that the site had not changed by 1911. Pockock's Wood, however, contained a greater number of interconnected tracks with the earlier dead-end track having been extended but still seemingly going nowhere. To the immediate north of the site, a separate track connected the field to the southwest of Pockock's Wood with that to its northeast. It hence, exits onto the access track of the proposed development. By 1911, Prince's Wood was also criss-crossed with tracks. The pond to its south may have then fed two other ponds at its northeast corner.
- 4.9.10 The HLC reveals that in the early 20th century, the construction of Brookdale Farm extended settlement further north along West Chiltington Lane. Most of Beeding's Copse was planted to the west during this period. In the late 20th century, settlement extended south along Broadford Bridge Road, with infilling having occurred along Harbolets Road and West Chiltington Road. Homefield Farm, with its three large poultry houses, was built to the north of Broadford Bridge Farmhouse (HER No. DWS6015). In addition, further fields were created to either side of Broadford Bridge Road, and a nursery was opened between Adversane Lane and West Chiltington Lane.
- 4.9.11 The site remained unchanged by 1982 (the OS maps of 1961-1962, 1977 and 1982 are not reproduced). The narrow plot attached to Prince's Wood had become wooded by 1961-1962. By 1977, the track in Pockock's Wood that led to the pond had gone, whilst most of the tracks in Prince's Wood had disappeared. A satellite image of the site from 2012 shows one, possibly two, animal feeders to be located within the site, and a hedgerow to have been partly grubbed out between Pockock's Wood and Prince's Wood.

5. Walkover Survey

- 5.1** On the 11th of July 2012 a walk-over survey of the site was carried out by Keith Butler PIfA. The weather conditions on the day of the walk-over survey were overcast with light rain. The ground conditions were very wet with areas of the field, especially adjacent to the south-eastern boundary, were waterlogged.
- 5.2** The boundaries of the field were first walked and the field was inspected for any signs of visible earthworks. The ground was also inspected for any artefacts. Particular attention was paid to the areas of the proposed development, the access track, and the main part of the proposed site at the south-western end of the field which was walked over. A selection of digital photographs was also taken.
- 5.3** The field has mature woodlands on its south-eastern and north-western boundaries, with the eastern boundary adjacent to Adversane Lane (B2133) bounded by a high hedge. The field has a covering of grass which is higher at the south-western end of the field. At the present time it appears to be used for the grazing cattle, although no animals were present during the survey. The field has also been sub-divided with electric fencing. The north-eastern end of the field slopes down to the north-eastern boundary, with the central part of the field being level (Plate 1). The south-western end of the field where the main part of the proposed development is to take place slopes down to the south (Plate 2).



Plate 1 The north-eastern end of the field.



Plate 2: The south-eastern end of the field

- 5.4** During the course of the walk-over survey no earthworks, such as banks or ditches, or other discrete features were noted. The only feature noted was the field boundary shown on the 1st Edition OS map (Fig. 4), which is now represented by a row of five Oak trees (Plate 3), and a very discrete earthwork remnant of the boundary. The wooded areas immediately outside the site were also briefly looked at, although not entered, but due to them being very overgrown no earthworks or features could be seen.



Plate 3: The remain of field boundary shown on the 1st Edition OS Map

- 5.5** No artefacts were seen or recovered, but this could possibly be due to the ground conditions which were very wet with standing water in many places on the site. The ground also had a covering of thick grass and the underlying soil had been trampled by the cattle in many places, although all areas of exposed earth were inspected.

6. Impact of the Development

- 6.1** Given the location of the site within the Low Weald, away from the River Arun, the immediate vicinity of the site may not have witnessed any human activity until the Mesolithic period. This activity may, however, have been restricted to outcrops of sandstone, which the site does not lie on. In the wider area of the site, it would appear that Mesolithic sites continued in use into the Neolithic period and even into the Bronze Age, with no obvious expansion into lands any nearer to the site. At the Beedings site, there may have been continuous occupation into the Romano-British period. The Romano-British settlement site at Oldhouse Farm is closer to the site but still over 1km away.
- 6.2** West Sussex HLC has interpreted the existing landscape within the immediate vicinity of the site and decided that only the land to either side of Gay Street is a remnant of the Saxon landscape, with it having remained a fieldscape from that time. The use of the site in this period is unknown, although the HLC suggests that it was woodland in the following medieval period and subsequently cut down sometime in the 16th century. Wood from the site may have been used to fuel the furnaces of the glassworks sited nearby, somewhere near Beedings Copse. Although the immediate vicinity of the site saw some industrial activity, this was set in a rural landscape, as clearly evidenced by the number of existing farmsteads that originated in the 17th century or earlier. Since its clearance, the site may have been used solely for pasture, which would have helped to preserve any archaeological remains present within it. A hedgerow was grubbed out within the site sometime between 1982 and 2012.
- 6.3** Given the evidence accumulated during this Heritage Statement, the probability of finding remains from each of the different archaeological periods is shown in Table 1 below:

Table 1

Period	Probability
Palaeolithic	Low
Mesolithic	Low
Neolithic	Low
Bronze Age	Low
Iron Age	Low
Roman	Low
Saxon	Low
Medieval	Medium
Post Medieval	High

- 6.4** The proposed development of the exploratory well site (Fig. 6) will involve, amongst other works, the topsoil stripping of the proposed site and its access track; erection of fencing around the proposed site and its access track; and excavation within the proposed site of a perimeter ditch, cellar and flare pit.

- 6.5** Topsoil stripping may damage or destroy any archaeological features through truncation and machine rutting. Excavation of the post-holes for the fencing, as well as of the ditch, cellar and flare pit, may have a similar impact upon any archaeological layers within their footprint.

7. Conclusions

- 7.1** This Heritage Statement has established that there is some evidence for prehistoric and Roman activity in the wider area of the site. Therefore, the likelihood of archaeological features from these periods being found on the site is low, as with the Saxon period.
- 7.2** The site was wooded in the medieval period but is likely to have been used as pasture since it was cleared of trees in the 16th century. Any surviving archaeological remains, found above or below the ground surface, may relate to the management and use of the wood, and could be well preserved having been under grassland.
- 7.3** It may therefore be prudent to consider an archaeological watching brief to monitor the works and to record any significant archaeological remains within the proposed site and its access track. The findings would contribute to our knowledge of an area that is poorly understood in archaeological terms. This Heritage Statement meets the requirements of the National Planning Policy Framework.

8. Acknowledgements

- 8.1** I would like to thank Celtique Energie Petroleum Ltd for commissioning this survey, and Jenny Massingham of Barton Willmore for providing information on the proposed development. Rachel Salter, the HER Officer, provided copies of the West Sussex HER. Chris Butler managed the project.



Fig. 1: Broadford Bridge: Site location map
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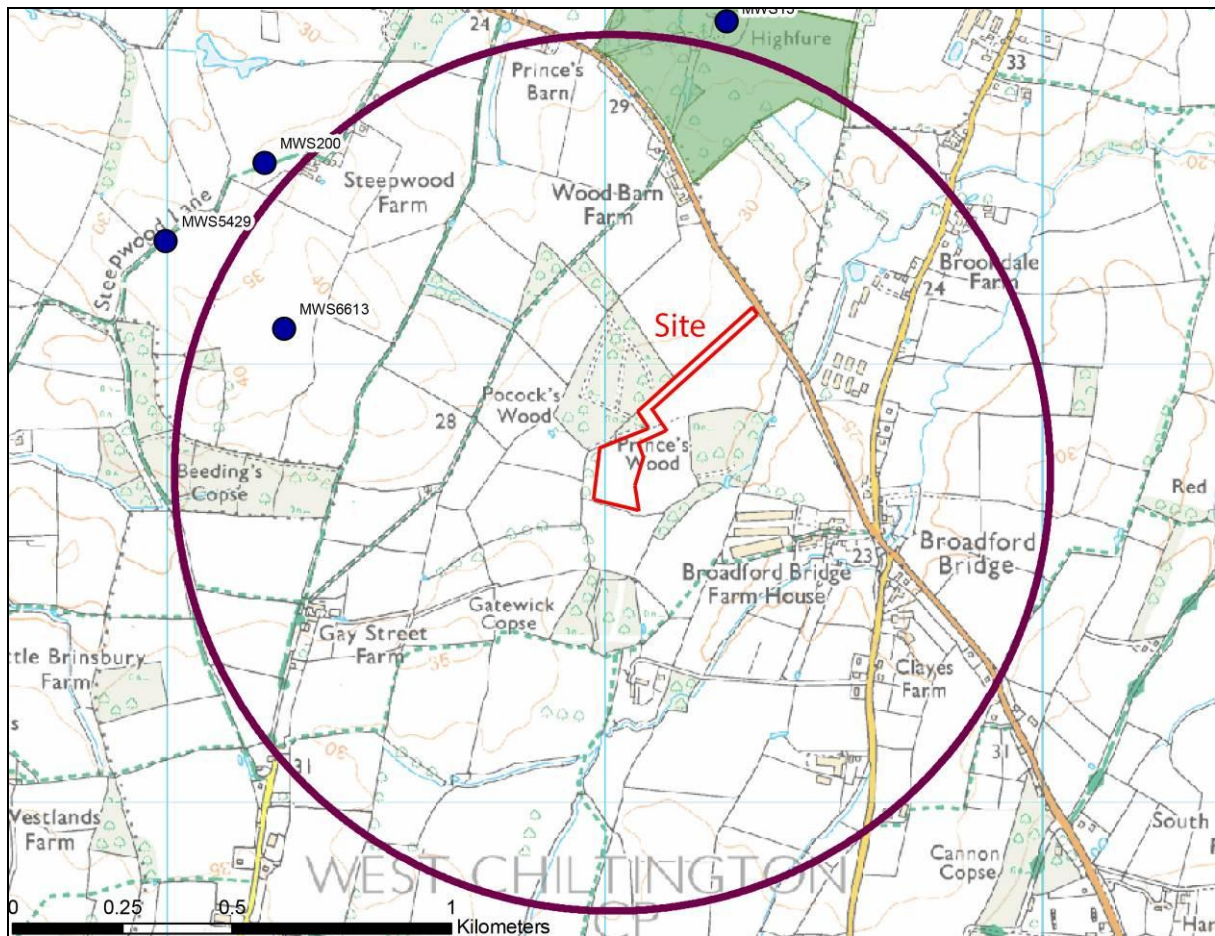


Fig. 2: Broadford Bridge:
Map showing Monuments recorded in the HER
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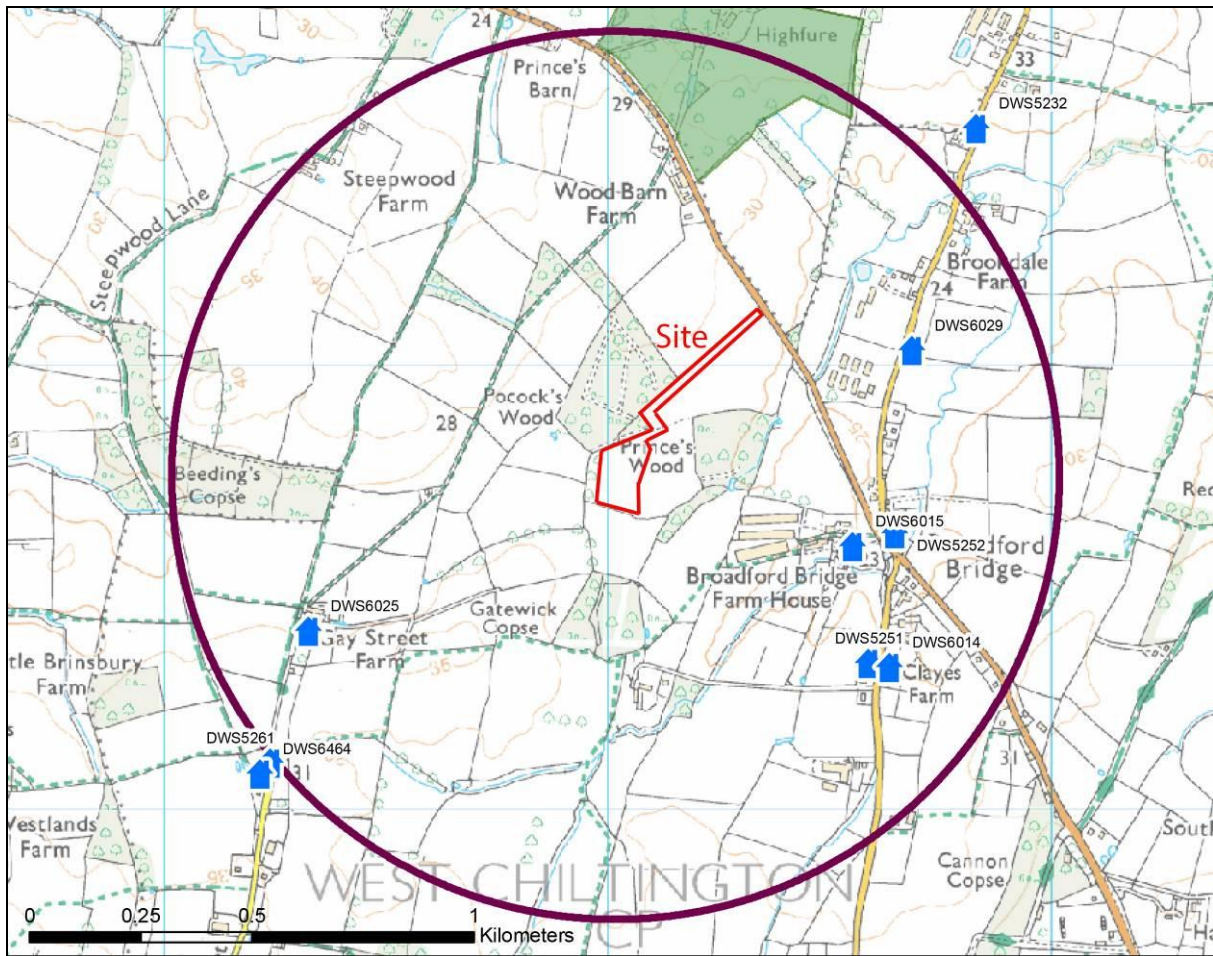


Fig. 3: Broadford Bridge:
Map showing Listed Buildings recorded on the HER
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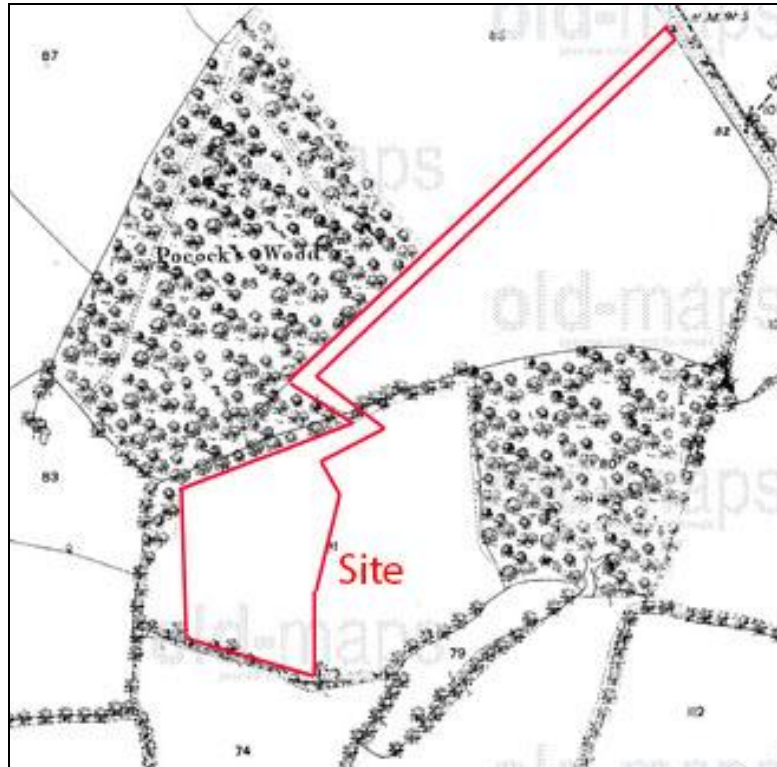


Fig. 4: Broadford Bridge: 1st Edition OS Map (1876)



Fig. 5: Broadford Bridge: 3rd Edition OS Map (1911)

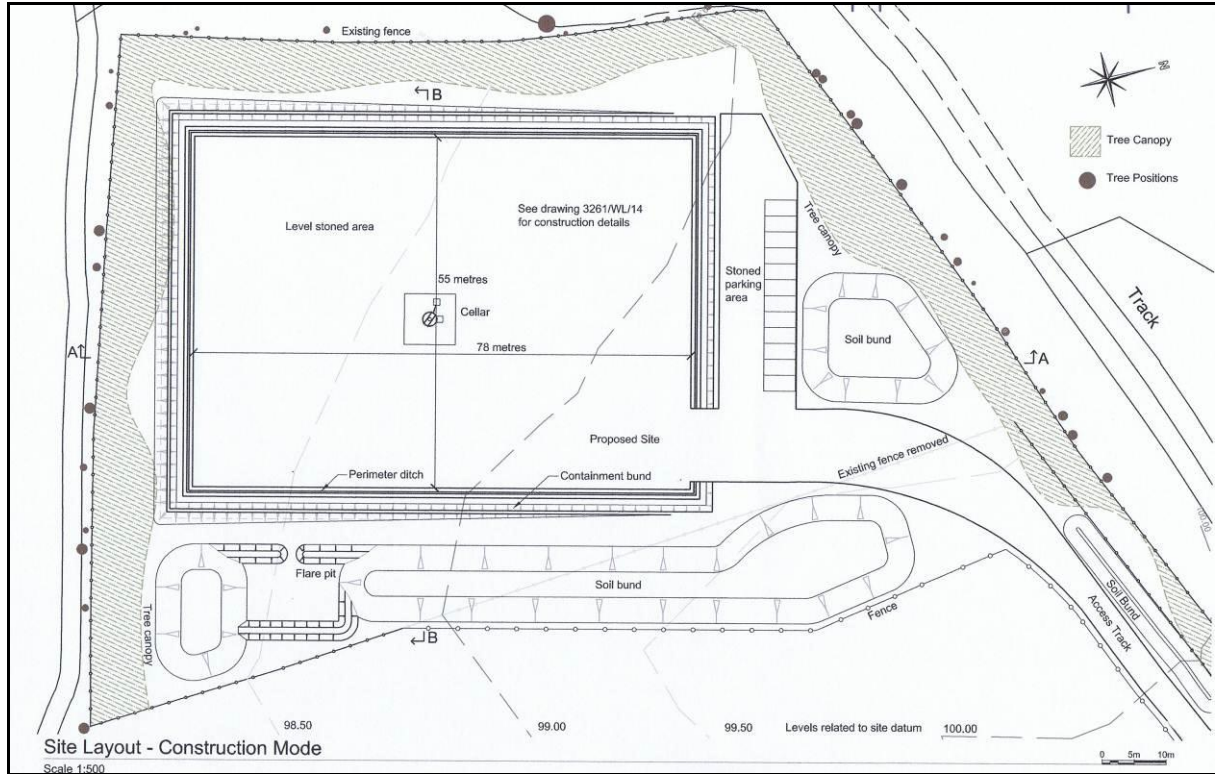


Fig. 6: Bradford Bridge: Proposed site layout: construction mode

Appendix 1: Monuments and Listed Buildings Recorded in the HER

HER No.	NGR	Period	Type of Site	Notes
MWS15	TQ 09280 22780	Post Medieval	Park	A parkscape is shown at Highfure on the 1 st edition 6" Ordnance Survey map of 1898.
MWS200	TQ 08225 22458	Post Medieval	Lime kiln	A limekiln is shown to the west of Steepwood Farm on the 1 st Edition 25" Ordnance Survey map of 1876.
MWS5429	TQ 08000 22280	Post Medieval	Glass works	A scatter of finds associated with glass working was found at the edge of an arable field.
MWS6613	TQ 0827 2208	Post Medieval	Glass working site	Lumps of glass and fragments of crucible were recovered from a ploughed field on Steepwood Farm in c. 1966. The finds may indicate the close proximity of the glasshouse of Isaac Bungard (dated 1643?).
DWS6015	TQ 09554 21591	Post Medieval	Listed Building	Broadford Bridge Farmhouse, Broadford Bridge Road. 17 th century or earlier. Grade II Listed
DWS5252	TQ 09649 21620	Post Medieval	Listed Building	Brook House Farmhouse, Broadford Bridge Road. Probably 17 th century. Grade II Listed
DWS6014	TQ 09637 21318	Post Medieval	Listed Building	Clayes Farmhouse, Broadford Bridge Road. 17 th century or earlier timber-framed building. Grade II Listed
DWS5251	TQ 09589 21328	Post Medieval	Listed Building	Gatewick Farmhouse, Broadford Bridge Road. 17 th century or earlier timber-framed house. Grade II Listed
DWS6025	TQ 08328 21400	Post Medieval	Listed Building	Gaystreet Farmhouse, Gay Street Lane. 18 th century. Grade II Listed
DWS6029	TQ 09688 22032	Post Medieval	Listed Building	Horelands, West Chiltington Lane. 17 th century or earlier timber-framed building. Grade II Listed
DWS5261	TQ 08242 21103	Post Medieval	Listed Building	Jessamine Cottage, Gay Street Lane. 17 th century or earlier timber-framed cottage. Grade II Listed
DWS6464	TQ 08220 21078	Post Medieval	Listed Building	Sand Pond Cottage, Gay Street Lane. 17 th century or earlier timber-framed cottage. Grade II Listed
DWS5232	TQ 09833 22531	Post Medieval	Listed Building	Holdings Cottage, West Chiltington Lane 17 th century or earlier timber-framed cottage. Grade II Listed

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Chris Butler has been an archaeologist since 1985, and formed the Mid Sussex Field Archaeological Team in 1987, since when it has carried out numerous fieldwork projects, and was runner up in the Pitt-Rivers Award at the British Archaeological Awards in 1996. Having previously worked as a Pensions Technical Manager and Administration Director in the financial services industry, Chris formed **Chris Butler Archaeological Services** at the beginning of 2002.

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Chris specialises in prehistoric flintwork analysis, but has directed excavations, landscape surveys, watching briefs and evaluations, including the excavation of a Beaker Bowl Barrow, a Saxon cemetery and settlement, Roman pottery kilns, and a Mesolithic hunting camp. Chris is Co-Director of the Barcomvbe Roman Villa excavations. He has also recently undertaken an archaeological survey of Ashdown Forest and Broadwater Warren.

Chris Butler Archaeological Services Ltd is available for Flintwork Analysis, Project Management, Military Archaeology, Desktop Assessments, Field Evaluations, Excavation work, Watching Briefs, Fieldwalking, Landscape & Woodland surveys, Post Excavation Services and Report Writing.

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