

Excavations at Butts Piece, Stanton Harcourt

Possible Saxon settlement

Anglo-Saxon settlement

During the stripping of overburden, numerous lines of post-holes were observed forming rectangular ground plans. These distinctive ground plans represent post-built Anglo-Saxon houses (halls). These were an unexpected discovery and at least 14 are so far recorded.

One characteristic of many Anglo-Saxon settlements is their sporadic layout and tendency for houses, to sprawl across large tracts of land with few other infrastructure features such as ditched paddock or pens. This is true of this excavation with the structures spread widely across the site with a variety of different orientations.

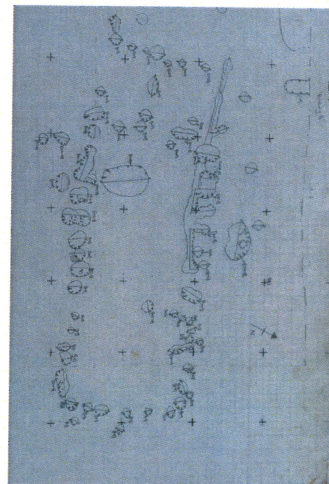
Surprisingly, the other widespread form of Anglo-Saxon house - sunken-floored buildings, are absent from Stanton Harcourt.



Aerial view of building "B" pre-excitation



Building "B" excavated (Scales- 1m and 2m)



Drawn plan of Building "B"



Reconstruction of an Anglo-Saxon hall house at Weald and Downland living museum based on archaeological evidence from a site in Steyning, West Sussex from 950AD



Aerial view of a structure with an annex (to the right)