

Contents

List of Figures	xiii
List of Tables	xx
Abstract	xxii
1. Project introduction	1
2. Highdown in context	5
2.1. Site location, topography and geology.....	5
2.2. Earlier usage of the site.....	6
2.2.1. Bronze Age.....	6
2.2.2. Roman period.....	8
2.3. Late Roman and fifth- to seventh-century finds in the vicinity of Highdown.....	8
2.4. Parish boundaries and place-name evidence.....	9
2.5. Historical setting.....	11
3. Archaeological interventions and history of the archive pre-1988	13
3.1. Introduction.....	13
3.2. 1857 excavations.....	13
3.3. 1867 excavations.....	13
3.4. 1892–6 excavations overview.....	14
3.4.1. 1892 excavations.....	15
3.4.2. 1893 excavations.....	15
3.4.3. 1894 excavations.....	16
3.4.4. 1896 excavations.....	16
3.5. 1897 excavations.....	16
3.6. 1939 excavations.....	18
3.7. 1940–3 finds.....	18
3.8. 1947 excavations.....	18
3.9. 1965 excavations.....	19
3.10. Summary of the pre-1988 excavations.....	19
3.11. History of the archive and publications.....	20
3.11.1. Introduction.....	20
3.11.2. Accessions history.....	21
3.11.3. Publication of the pre-1988 archive.....	22
3.11.4. Drawn and photographic archive.....	22
4. Excavations in 1988	23
4.1. Introduction.....	23
4.2. Excavation methods.....	23
4.3. Wartime activity.....	24
4.4. Evidence of the excavations by Read and Henty.....	24
4.5. Excavation of burials.....	25
4.6. The penannular ditch.....	26
4.7. Site recording and the excavation archive.....	26
4.7.1. Site levels.....	29
4.7.2. Plans and drawings.....	29
4.7.3. Small finds recording.....	29
4.7.4. Soil sampling.....	29
4.7.5. Photographic record.....	30
4.7.6. Other photographic resources.....	30
4.7.7. X-rays.....	30
4.8. Problems and solutions.....	30
4.9. Reconstructing the site plan.....	31
4.10. Accessioning and archiving issues.....	31

5. Grave and artefact catalogues	35
5.1. Introduction	35
5.2. 1867 excavations	36
5.3. 1892 excavations	36
5.4. 1893 excavations	43
5.5. 1894 excavations	65
5.6. 1896 excavations	87
5.7. 1897 excavations	92
5.8. 1939 excavations	92
5.9. 1940–3 finds	95
5.10. 1947 excavations	96
5.11. 1965 excavation	97
5.12. 1988 excavations	97
6. Unassociated artefacts from all excavations	123
6.1. Introduction	123
6.2. Dress fitments	123
6.2.1. Brooches	123
6.2.2. Buckles and belt fittings	130
6.2.3. Pins	139
6.3. Personal effects	141
6.3.1. Bags/purses	141
6.3.2. Beads	141
6.3.3. Bone artefacts	143
6.3.4. Finger rings	148
6.3.5. Firesteel/purse-mount	150
6.3.6. Knives	150
6.3.7. Pendant	151
6.3.8. Ring ferrule	151
6.3.9. Suspension and belt rings	151
6.3.10. Toiletry items	151
6.4. Tools	155
6.4.1. Awl	155
6.4.2. Iron staples/joiner's dogs	155
6.4.3. Iron rove/diamond	155
6.4.4. Shears	155
6.5. Non-pottery containers	155
6.5.1. Glass vessels	155
6.5.2. Bound wooden vessels: buckets, cups and boxes	156
6.5.3. Copper alloy vessels	162
6.6. Weaponry	166
6.6.1. Shield bosses, grips and mount	166
6.6.2. Spearheads	166
6.6.3. Swords pommels	170
6.7. Grave equipment	170
6.8. Unassociated non-vessel-related copper alloy, iron and other material fragments	170
6.8.1. Unidentified artefacts in copper alloy	170
6.8.2. Unidentified and unassociated fragments in iron	171
6.8.3. Unassociated fragments in other materials	173
6.9. Unassociated material from cremations	174
6.9.1. Glass beads	174
6.9.2. Identifiable burned artefacts	174
6.9.3. Unidentifiable burned artefacts of uncertain original form	175
6.10. Roman coins	176
6.11. Artefacts identified from other periods	177
6.11.1. From Wilson excavations	177
6.11.2. From Henty and Read excavations	178
6.11.3. From 1988 excavations	178

7. Small finds.....	179
7.1. Introduction.....	179
7.2. Roman coins.....	180
7.3. Personal equipment.....	182
7.3.1. Knives.....	182
7.3.2. Keys and girdle hangers.....	182
7.3.3. Firesteels/purse mounts.....	183
7.3.4. Suspension rings.....	184
7.3.5. Bone artefacts.....	184
7.3.6. Ferrules.....	186
7.3.7. Finger rings.....	186
7.4. Dress accessories.....	187
7.4.1. Beads.....	187
7.4.2. Jewelled items.....	187
7.4.3. Bracelets.....	188
7.4.4. Brooches.....	188
7.4.5. Buckles and belt equipment.....	193
7.5. Weaponry.....	197
7.5.1. Spearheads, ferrules and the angon.....	197
7.5.2. Shield bosses, grips and mounts.....	197
7.5.3. Swords and sword fittings.....	198
7.5.4. Seax.....	201
7.6. Containers.....	201
7.6.1. Wooden vessels and fittings.....	201
7.6.2. Glass vessels and glass fragments.....	202
7.6.3. Copper alloy vessels.....	203
7.6.4. Box fittings.....	204
7.7. Toiletry objects.....	204
7.7.1. Tweezers.....	204
7.7.2. Toilet sets.....	204
7.8. Tools.....	204
7.8.1. Shears.....	204
7.8.2. Awls.....	204
7.8.3. Spindle whorls.....	204
7.8.4. Brush holder.....	205
7.8.5. Joiner's dogs.....	205
7.8.6. Iron roves.....	205
7.9. Textiles and other organics.....	205
7.9.1. Introduction.....	205
7.9.2. Textiles.....	205
7.9.3. Wood.....	206
7.9.4. Leather/hide.....	206
7.9.5. Other organics.....	206
7.10. Artefacts from cremations.....	206
7.11. Artefacts from other periods.....	207
7.12. Metallurgy.....	207
7.12.1. Introduction.....	207
7.12.2. Methods.....	207
7.12.3. Findings.....	208
7.12.4. Analysis of the selected copper alloy objects.....	208
7.13. Chronology of the burials and conclusions.....	208
8. Human skeletal remains.....	211
8.1. Introduction.....	211
8.2. Nineteenth-century excavations.....	211
8.3. 1939 and 1947 human skeletal remains.....	214
8.4. 1988 human skeletal remains.....	214
8.4.1. Introduction.....	214
8.4.2. Material.....	214

8.4.3. Methods of study.....	215
8.4.4. Results.....	215
8.4.5. Summary.....	217
8.4.6. Acknowledgements.....	217
8.5. Human skeletal remains from the nineteenth-century excavations.....	217
8.5.1. Overview.....	217
8.5.2. Summary of the material from the nineteenth-century excavations.....	218
8.6. Work done as part of the 1000 Genomes Project.....	220
8.7. Additional notes on the 1990s human skeletal remains reports.....	221
8.8. Cremated remains.....	221
9. Animal remains.....	223
9.1. Introduction.....	223
9.2. Report on the animal bone from 1988.....	223
9.2.1. Methodology.....	223
9.2.2. Taphonomy and condition.....	223
9.2.3. Spatial analysis.....	225
9.2.4. Overview of the assemblage.....	225
9.2.5. Summary.....	225
9.2.6. Further research.....	227
10. Pottery.....	229
10.1. Introduction.....	229
10.2. Intact and reconstructed vessels.....	234
10.3. Myres's discussion of Sussex vessels and Continental comparisons.....	235
10.4. Comments on the Highdown corpus and comparison with that from Spong Hill, Norfolk.....	238
10.5. Notes on a cremation urn in Worthing Museum.....	238
10.6. A Roman New Forest Ware vessel from Grave 82.....	246
10.7. Pot stamps.....	246
10.7.1. Introduction.....	246
10.7.2. Description of pot stamps.....	247
10.8. Potsherds from the 1988 excavation.....	247
10.9. Potential for further research.....	249
11. General summary and recommendations for further work.....	251
11.1. Introduction.....	251
11.2. Date range of the cemetery.....	251
11.3. Community profile.....	251
11.4. Grave orientations.....	252
11.5. Grave features.....	252
11.6. The penannular ditch.....	253
11.7. Recommendations for further work.....	253
Appendix 1. Tabulated list of all accessioned objects.....	255
Appendix 2. Textile organics records.....	273
Appendix 3. Details on the pottery.....	277
A3.1. Introduction to the pottery from the 1988 excavation.....	277
A3.2. An assessment of the pottery from Highdown held in Worthing Museum.....	277
A3.2.1. Introduction.....	277
A3.2.2. Condition of the assemblages.....	277
A3.2.3. Methodology.....	277
A3.2.4. The Anglo-Saxon assemblage.....	278
Appendix 4. Pot stamps.....	281
Appendix 5. Transcriptions of nineteenth-century sources.....	283
Bibliography.....	287