

ANCIENT IFIELD



Archaeological excavations in 2017 at a site opposite Ifield Golf club revealed Bronze Age flints and a substantial amount of Roman pottery, along with bloomery slag. In 2019, an excavation during the installation of a new sewage pipe between Rusper and Ifield discovered the remains of an Iron age roundhouse situated 300 metres east of Pound Cottage. This, along with 200 grams of Iron age Pottery sherds, was dated to between 400 & 200 BC. A further archaeological report in 2020 concluded that there is a 'probable large settlement site spanning the period between the late Bronze Age and Late Roman period' in the fields to the west of Ifield Brook and church.

With all this evidence, and taken in the context of finds in the far eastern extremities of the Parish west of Crawley High Street and those from just outside the parish, which include: a late Bronze Age settlement in the north western area of Gatwick Airport and sword in the Polesfleet Stream, Bronze Age barrows on the ridgeway south of Buchan Park and Iron Age/Romano British ironworks and settlements at Goffs Park, Southgate West & Broadfield, we are able to say with some confidence that Ifield, as a continuously inhabited settlement, probably dates back at least to the late Bronze Age.