WATER MAINS REPLACEMENT WORKS, SHOREHAM, KENT, TN14

AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF

COMPASS ARCHAEOLOGY

JANUARY 2019

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COMPASS ARCHAEOLOGY LIMITED
250 YORK ROAD
LONDON SW11 3SJ
TEL: 020 7801 9444
Author: Miranda Fulbright

Email: mail@compassarchaeology.co.uk

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Abstract

Compass Archaeology were commissioned to undertake an archaeological watching brief between the 13th March and the 27th September 2018 on Thames Water water mains rehabilitation works throughout the village of Shoreham, Kent, TN14. The watching brief was commissioned by Claire Hallybone on behalf of Thames Water Ltd. based on the findings of a Desk-Based Assessment (DBA; Compass Archaeology 2017) and recommendations from the Kent County Council Senior Archaeological Officer due to the historically sensitive character of Shoreham and its medieval origins.

The watching brief covered the excavation of 92 launch and receptor pits to facilitate the directional drilling installation method. An additional section of open cut trenching was excavated and observed. The pits were various sizes, but all measured no more than 5m long by 2m wide and up to 1.5m deep. The open cut measured 0.45m wide and up to 1m deep, its length was approximately 60m.

The stratigraphy recorded varied across the village, but generally comprised of modern road make up (usually tarmac) overlying varying instances of post-medieval made ground, reworked natural and natural deposits. No archaeological features were recorded and only limited post-medieval finds were retrieved, comprising pot sherds and a glass vessel base.

One area of groundworks took place on the housing estate that covered the area once occupied by Shoreham Place, a manor house and grounds. The groundworks were located in the driveway and gardens of the house, avoiding the main buildings. Here a layer of red and yellow brick rubble was observed underlying the tarmac, samples taken indicate that they were mid- to late 19th century. This indicates that they were not related to the original construction of Shoreham Place (1838), but might be associated with later additional features to the grounds. It is possible that the fountain that once sat in the driveway of the house was constructed later than the house itself, but this cannot be verified.

Overall, the piecemeal nature of the groundworks means that a complete overview of the archaeological record of Shoreham could not be established. What has been made clear throughout the watching brief is that the archaeological potential of Shoreham lies outside of the developed areas of the village, where modern development has not occurred.

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Front cover: View of the Darent River and bridge, looking W

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 This document forms a summary of the results of an archaeological watching brief carried out during water main replacement works in the village of Shoreham, Kent, carried out between the 13th March and the 27th September 2018 (fig. 1).

Figure 1: Site location marked in green. Reproduced from OS data with the permission of Ordnance Survey on behalf of The Controller of HMSO ©Crown Copyright 2014. All rights reserved. Compass Archaeology Ltd, licence no. AL 1000313

1.2 The watching brief was commissioned by Claire Hallybone on behalf of Thames Water Ltd. based on the findings of a Desk-Based Assessment (DBA; Compass Archaeology 2017) and recommendations from the Kent County Council Senior Archaeological Officer due to the historically sensitive character of Shoreham, and its medieval origins.

2 ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

2.1 Compass Archaeology would like to thank Claire Hallybone and Thames Water Ltd. for commissioning the watching brief. Thanks also to Steve Harding and his team (Balfour Beatty) and the drilling team from P McCormack & Sons Ltd for their patience and support on site.

3 SITE LOCATION, GEOLOGY AND TOPOGRAPHY

3.1 The study site is concentrated on the main highways running through Shoreham, Kent and several smaller cul-de-sac offshoots. The proposed groundworks will comprise the replacement of water mains running underneath these roadways, running approximately 2,382m long in total.

3.2 According to the British Geological Survey (Sheet 271: Dartford), the site lies mainly over varying types of chalk, with a band of alluvium passing through the centre, either side of the River Darent. A small area of Head deposits lie to the east of the site (fig. 2).

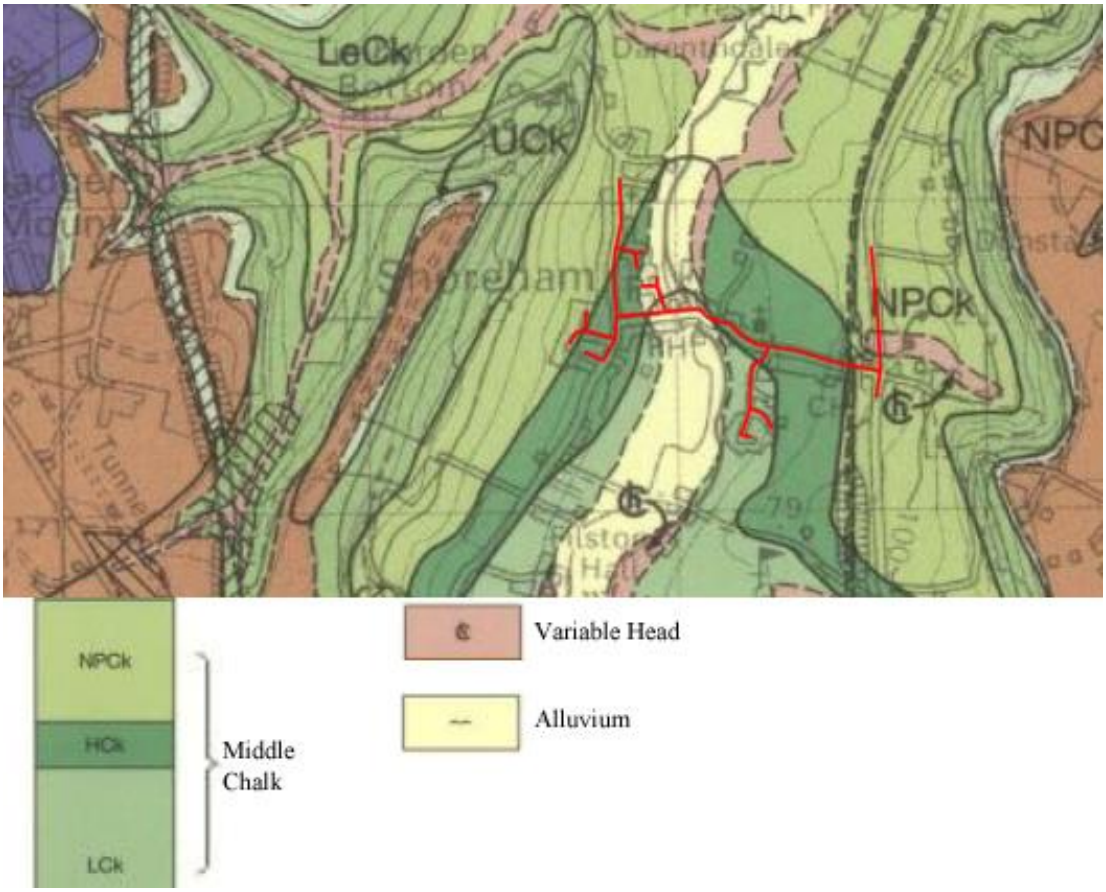

Figure 2: Extract from the British Geological Survey Sheet 271: Dartford, with site marked in red.

3.3 The site lies over the Darenth Valley and as such the ground level undulates somewhat. The western portion of the site, the works aligned N-S down High Street is relatively level at c.56-58mOD. The works along E-W aligned Church Street show a downward slope towards the river from 56.2mOD at the western end, to 52mOD just before the Darent. The ground level then rises again continuing east, to 76.8mOD at the junction with the A225, the N-S aligned easternmost part of the site. To the north of the junction, the road gradually rises to 78.2mOD. South of the junction is a moderate rise to 85.5mOD.

4 ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

4.1 The archaeological and historical background of the site has been thoroughly covered in the preceding DBA (Compass Archaeology, 2017) and therefore will not be discussed at length here. Instead, a short summary of the background of the site will be presented chronologically by period below. The results were drawn from a search of the Kent Historic Environment Record (KHER) within a 1.5km radius of the site centre.

4.2 Prehistoric

4.2.1 Kent as a whole was exploited for its natural resources during the prehistoric period, with the earliest evidence for the occupation of the area coming from gravel quarries in Swanscombe; the 'Swanscombe Man' represented by skull fragments. Prehistoric settlements have been identified across Kent, including barrows, grain storage pits and pottery, indicating a fair amount of activity across the county. No significant archaeological remains have been found within the vicinity of the site. The Darent Valley would have created a natural route from the Thames estuary, leading south, intersecting with Pilgrims Way (a prehistoric track running c.2km south at Otford), perhaps leading to the random scatter of finds seen around Shoreham as lost detritus from travellers. The poor geology of chalk and flints would not lend itself to permanent farming settlements, instead more likely attracting seasonally temporary, or overnight camps which have left little impact on the landscape.

4.2.2 Prehistoric finds from the area around Shoreham are fairly plentiful indicating some level of prehistoric activity, though the rate of dispersal does not indicate the existence of any sort of settlement or centre of activity. The majority of the entries relate to isolated findspots of worked flints and other tools, many of which are antiquarian finds where no exact record was made and therefore have not been dated. One Iron Age silver coin and two copper alloy brooches indicate long-term activity within the area, and are most likely indicative of accidental loss. The Iron Age pit (TQ56 SW108) was fairly large and contained sherds from approximately seven pottery vessels. They ranged in date from mid-4th century to early 1st century BC, again indicating long-term activity. It is possible that the wide range in dates could indicate ritual deposition of the vessels within the same pit. The pit could also represent a midden, used by a temporary settlement periodically over the period of time indicated by the pottery. A cache of Mesolithic flint implements (TQ56 SW61) was a deliberate deposition, perhaps for safe-keeping or another ritual deposit, or simply for storage until the people next passed that way.

4.3 Roman

4.3.1 Roman rule was not established in Britain until 43AD under the Emperor Claudius. Troops landed on the southeast coast of Kent around Richborough and advanced west and north through Kent towards London. The nature of Roman settlement in Kent has been mostly rural farmsteads set in proximity to the major routes (like Watling Street), and larger urban settlements through which these roads passed. Roman villas and agricultural estates have been found all along the Darent Valley, numbering at least seven in total. The villa at Lullingstone (just north of Shoreham) is one of the finest examples in the area. The presence of another villa at Otford, south of Shoreham would indicate a high potential for the existence of a road or track to link the villas, along with

associated activity often seen along the roads such as shrines, burials and general rubbish; broken pottery, metal fittings etc.

4.3.2 The most significant KHER entry relates to the discovery of a probable Roman villa site (TQ56 SW4), north of Shoreham in 1947-48. This find comprised a hypocaust with flint and chalk foundations, as well as a quantity of pottery. Further investigation in 1982 revealed a heavily robbed structure, consisting of three rooms, one of which had a hypocaust. A grave cut through the middle of one room contained the burial of two adults, though very poorly preserved. These rooms are thought to have been the bath-house of the villa, but the area has never been fully investigated. Pottery found in the excavations date from the late 1st to the early 3rd centuries.

4.3.3 Other archaeological evidence of Roman activity in the area comes from spot-finds; five coins, one copper alloy brooch and a partial quern stone with some 1st century pottery. It is clear that the villa was probably occupied from the 1st century to the 3rd, deduced from the dates of the coins as well as pottery found within the villa itself. There is a fairly high potential for other Roman remains to exist within and around Shoreham from the ancillary buildings that would have surrounded the villa.

4.4 Saxon

4.4.1 The name Shoreham comes from the Saxon word *scor,* meaning slope, therefore Shoreham can be translated as 'estate at the foot of a steep slope'. Whilst there are no entries in the KHER evidencing Saxon activity in the vicinity of the site, this does not mean that Shoreham was abandoned. There is no mention of Shoreham in Domesday, but that is likely due to the fact that it was part of the demesne land of the Otford Manor. It is fairly likely that Saxons settled the areas abandoned by the Romans and therefore occupied Shoreham.

4.4.2 The Anglo Saxon Chronicle records a battle between King Offra of Mercia and the populations of Kent and Sussex which took place in Otford, just over 2km south of Shoreham in 776. Two centuries later in 1016, another battle was fought in Otford, indicating the existence of a sizable population in the surrounding areas that could muster for war.

4.5 Medieval

4.5.1 It is apparent from the KHER entries that Shoreham grew into a significant town in the medieval period. Beginning as a farmstead recorded in the 5th century, Shoreham can be translated as 'Farmstead at steep slope/rock'. The Church of St Peter and St Paul (TQ56 SW137) was probably one of the first and most significant buildings in the village, it was listed in the *Textus Roffensis* (The Tome of Rochester), written in 1122. Shoreham was one of four deaneries in the Diocese of Rochester throughout the medieval period, and possibly the most eminent. Archaeological evidence from the KHER relating to the church indicates its early Norman roots, the remains of which were discovered during works in the nave of the church. The church has undergone significant refurbishment and repair since the medieval period, obscuring many of the original features though some are still apparent.

4.5.2 The earliest residential structure is most likely Reed Beds (TQ56 SW171), one of 19 Grade II Listed structures in the village dating to the medieval period. This number includes the aforementioned church and the bridge over the River Darent. The rest comprises houses that were originally constructed in the late medieval period, the majority becoming altered and refurbished throughout the 17th, 18th and 19th centuries. The current 19th century bridge was built over the site of the original medieval crossing. The Mill was thought to have originally been a corn-grinding mill, possibly listed in Domesday in the Otford entry in 1086. The Mill would have been an important part of village life, as indicated by the row of Mill cottages that would have housed the workers from the 16th century.

4.5.3 The presence of these medieval buildings, many of which face directly onto the roads indicate that the current road pattern through the village has remained unchanged since the medieval period, and possibly earlier.

4.5.4 Several small finds of coins, brooches and a highly decorated possible dog leash indicate the presence of a sizeable population. One of the coins was a mid-15th century, French silver coin of Charles the Bold (MKE72896), possibly brought to the village by traders. The majority of these finds however were recovered by metal detectorists and therefore have no archaeological context, nor are their find locations an accurate representation of their deposition distribution.

4.6 Post-medieval

4.6.1 Shoreham continued its growth into the post-medieval period, with a further 24 Grade II Listed structures being constructed over the period, currently mostly private residences. Several farmsteads, most no longer present are also recorded, indicating that farming had become one of the principle activities in the area despite the unforgiving terrain and geology. It is partially due to these limitations that the growth of Shoreham was comparatively slow before the 19th century. This slow development might also be due to the fact that the majority of the land and buildings in the village were owned by large estates which controlled the growth and progress of the village.

4.6.2 The earliest of the estates was called New House. New House was built by John Borrett esq., a prothonotary of the Court of Common Pleas, in the late 17th or early 18th century. The house was located to the west of Shoreham Place, between the road and the river and therefore outside the proposed groundworks (fig.3). The Borrett's were a notable family, who gradually bought up the majority of the large estates in the area, beginning with Preston and Shoreham Castle in 1715. The Borrett family remained influential in Shoreham for many generations, an impressive memorial to John and his second wife Elisabeth was even erected in the church c.1740. The second large estate was constructed in 1838, close to the location of by then demolished, New House, as the home of the Mildmay Family. The Mildmay's were large land-owners in the village occupying Shoreham Place/Court until 1939 (fig. 4). Shoreham Place was demolished after the Second World War, replaced by a housing estate of the same name in the 1960s.

Figure 3: Extract from Andrew's map, 1796 showing approximate site in red.

4.6.3 A scatter of coins, jewellery and a horseshoe are recorded in the KHER, though since they were recovered by metal detectorists, they have no archaeological context. The quality of the finds however might indicate that at least a portion of the village population was fairly wealthy. The majority of the village however were most likely working people, employed as farmers or workers in the mill or smithy. The mill was converted to a paper mill in the 1690s and remained in operation until 1926. The arrival of the railway in 1862 enabled its products, and the produce from local agriculture to reach a wider area, benefitting both the owners and workers alike.

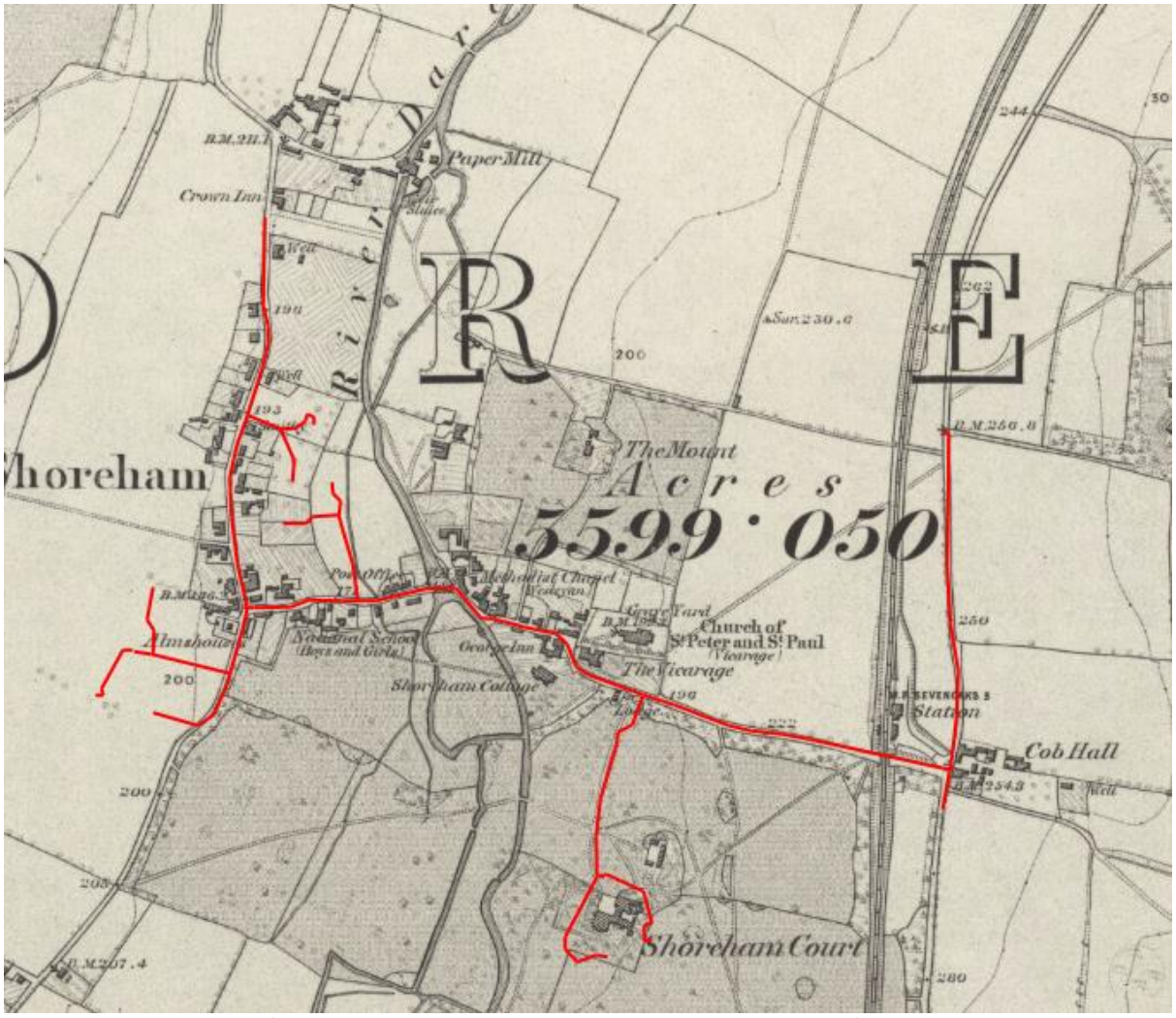

Figure 4: Extract from OS map 1871 showing the site in red, and the evolution of Shoreham.

4.6.4 The street pattern of Shoreham has stayed the same since it was first recorded on maps, and the designation of two adjoining conservation areas in 1972 have limited modern developments that would be detrimental to the village's character. Three small housing estates were constructed on the outskirts of the village, outside the conservation areas. They were built over what historically was open ground, apart from Shoreham Place/Court where the estate was built over the site of the demolished mansion.

4.6.5 Four entries in the KHER relate to the use of several of the larger houses as Voluntary Aid Detachment Hospitals during the First World War. These hospitals were set up and run by volunteer nurses, a system founded in 1909. Two war memorials, both originally commemorating the First World War are also listed in the KHER. One is Grade II Listed and commemorates the dead soldiers from both Wars, as well as the civilians who died during the bombing of the Second World War. Shoreham is reputed to have been the most heavily bombed village in the UK, though the majority of the centre of the village escaped unscathed. Bomb craters from the area around Preston Hill Farm are still visible in the landscape today.

5 OBJECTIVES

5.1 The objectives of the archaeological watching brief were to contribute to heritage knowledge of the area through the recording of the archaeological remains exposed as a result of excavations in connection with the groundworks.

6 METHODOLOGY

6.1 Standards

6.1.1 The field and post-excavation work was carried out in accordance with Historic England guidelines (*Greater London Archaeology Advisory Service: Standards for Archaeological Work, 2015*). Works also conformed to the standards of the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (*Standard and guidance for an archaeological watching brief 2015)*. Overall management of the project was undertaken by a full member of the Chartered Institute.

6.1.2 Fieldwork was carried out in accordance with the Construction (Health, Safety & Welfare) Regulations. All members of the fieldwork team held valid CSCS (Construction Skills Certificate Scheme) cards, and wore hi-vis jackets, hard-hats, steel-toe-capped boots, etc., as required. All members of the fieldwork team also followed the contractors' health and safety guidelines.

6.1.3 The Client and Kent County Council's Archaeological Officer were kept informed of the progress of fieldwork.

6.2 Fieldwork

6.2.1 The fieldwork entailed the monitoring of c.92 launch and receptor pits excavated to facilitate the installation of new water mains across Shoreham via directional drilling. A short area of open cut trenching was also excavated and recorded.

6.2.2 The works were undertaken via a mechanical excavator fitted with a toothless grading bucket to clear the extant road surface, followed by hand excavation where necessary to excavate around existing utilities.

6.2.3 Adequate time was given for investigation recording of the trenches, although every effort was made not to disrupt the development programme.

6.2.4 Observations were recorded as appropriate on *pro-forma* Trench sheets by written and measured description, and a sample drawn in plan or section. The investigations were recorded on a general site plan and related to the Ordnance Survey grid. The fieldwork record was supplemented by digital photography, in .jpeg and RAW formats.

6.2.5 The recording system followed the procedures set out in the Museum of London recording manual. By agreement the recording sheets used are directly compatible with those developed by the Museum.

6.3 Post-excavation

6.3.1 The fieldwork was followed by off-site assessment and compilation of a report, and by ordering and deposition of the site archive.

6.3.2 Assessment of finds was undertaken by appropriately qualified staff. Finds and samples were treated in accordance with the appropriate guidelines, including the Museum of London's *Standards for the Preparation of Finds to be permanently retained by the Museum of London*. All identified finds and artefacts were retained and bagged with unique numbers related to the context record, although certain classes of material (slag, CBM) will be discarded after an appropriate record has been made.

6.4 Report procedure

6.4.1 This report contains a description of the fieldwork plus details of any archaeological remains or finds, and an interpretation of the associated deposits. Illustrations have been included as appropriate, including a site plan located to the OS grid. A short summary of the project has been appended using both the OASIS Data Collection Form and Kent County Historic Environment Record Report Form.

6.4.2 Copies of this report will be supplied to the Client and The Archaeological Officer at Kent County Council.

6.4.3 There is no provision for further analysis or publication of significant findings. Should these be made the requirements would need to be discussed and agreed with the Client.

6.5 The site archive

Assuming that no further work is required, an ordered indexed and internally consistent archive of the evaluation will be compiled in line with CIfA standards and guidance (CIfA 2014), and will be deposited in the Sevenoaks Museum under site code SHO18.

7 RESULTS

7.1 The following forms a written description of observations made during the watching brief conducted in the village of Shoreham. The results will be presented by road, moving through Shoreham from Shoreham Road to the east to High Street in the west. The pits recorded have been numbered in the order that they were seen, please refer to figures 5, 10, 13 and 19 for the locations of the pits. Deposits are shown as (x), while cuts are presented as [x]. The text is supplemented with illustrative photographs and sample section drawings.

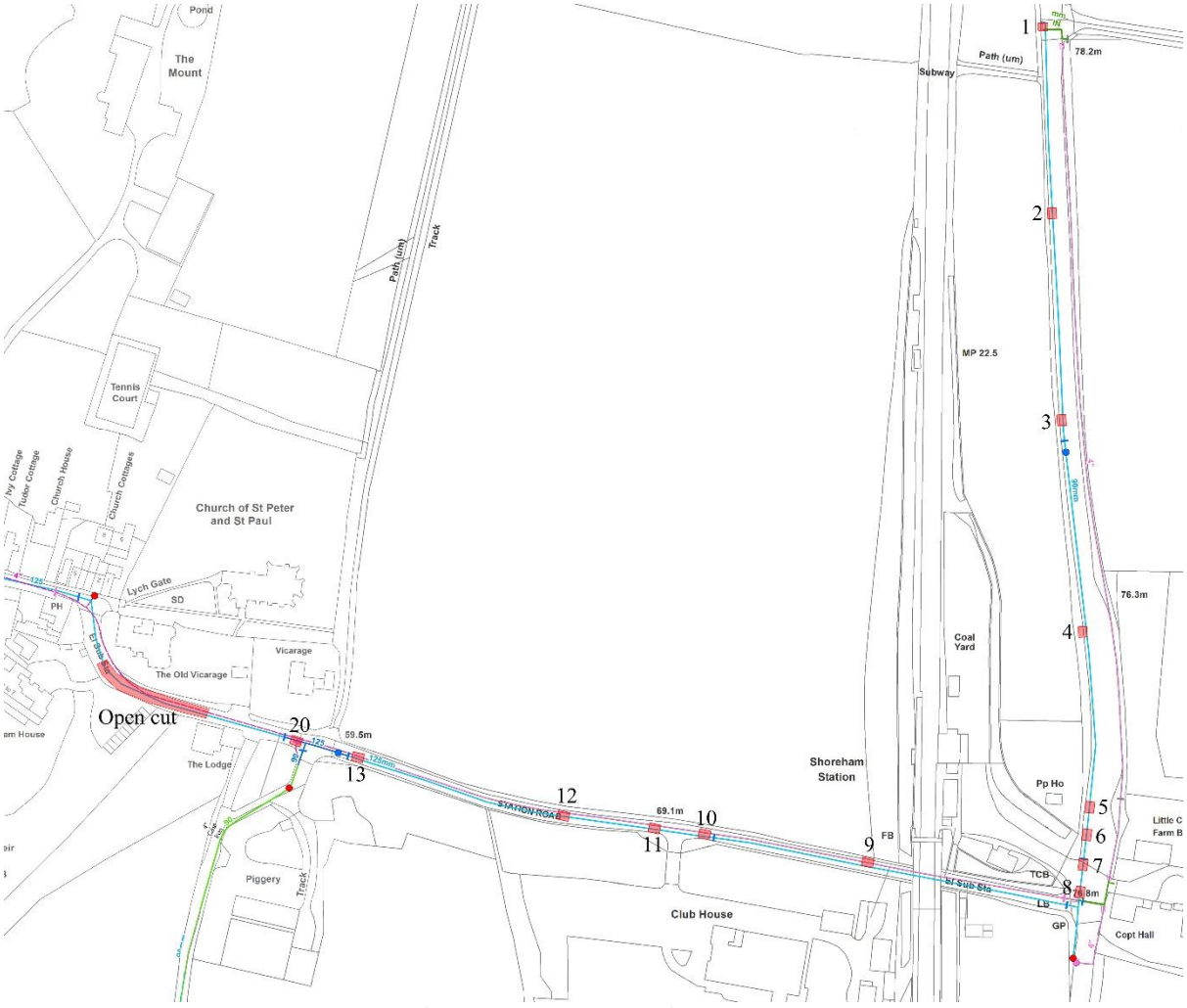

Figure 5: Showing the locations of pits 1-13 and a section of open cut trenching along Shoreham Road and Station Road.

7.2 Shoreham Road

7.2.1 Pits 1-8 were excavated along Shoreham Road from the driveway of Dunstall Priory to the junction with Station Road (fig. 5). All the pits measured between 1.6-3.2m long by 0.95-1.1m wide and 1.1-1.25m deep. The dimensions of pits 7 and 8 were not recorded due to inaccessibility.

7.2.2 The stratigraphy seen in all eight pits was roughly similar, comprising a top layer of black tarmac, (1), 0.43-0.65m thick, overlying a pale grey-brown silty chalk, (2), with frequent flint gravel inclusions measuring 0.14-0.47m thick. Underlying this was (3), a

mid-brown silty chalk with occasional flint gravel inclusions extending beyond the base of the pits (fig. 6).

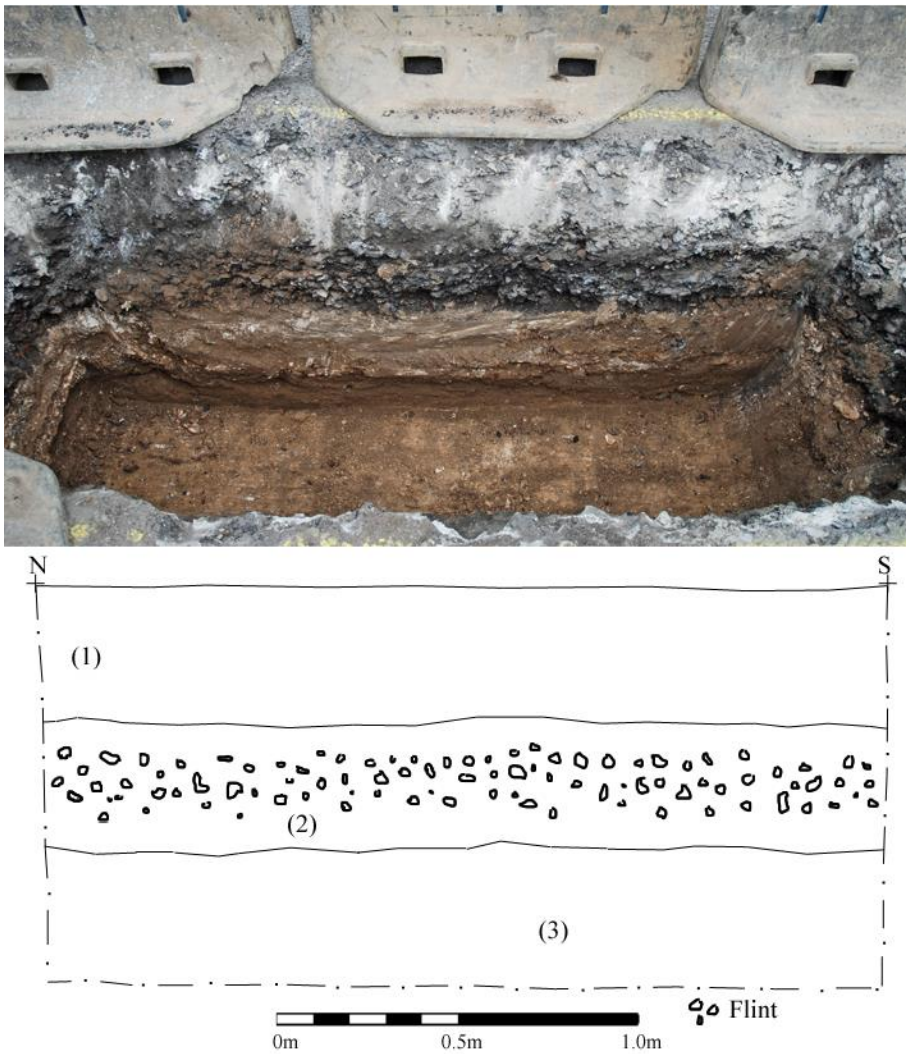

Figure 6: W facing section of pit 2, Top: photograph, looking E, no scale. Bottom: sample section. Original drawn at 1:10

7.2.3 The archaeological sequence here comprised a modern road surface overlying reworked natural and natural chalk. No finds or features of an archaeological nature were recorded in pits 1-8.

7.3 Station Road

7.3.1 Pits 9-13, pit 20 and a section of open cut trenching were excavated along the length of Station Road (fig. 5). The dimensions of pit 9 were not recorded due to flooding, but the remainder of the pits along station road were similarly sized, measuring 1.54-3m long by 0.43-1.5m wide and between 0.66 and 1.1m deep.

7.3.2 The stratigraphy seen in all six pits was roughly similar, comprising a top layer of tarmac, (1), 0.14-0.19m thick. Underneath the tarmac was a pale brown silty chalk, (2) with frequent flint gravel inclusions, measuring 0.12-0.2m thick. This layer overlay white chalk, (5), with no inclusions, seen extending beyond the base of the trench. (5) was presumed to be natural geology (fig. 7).

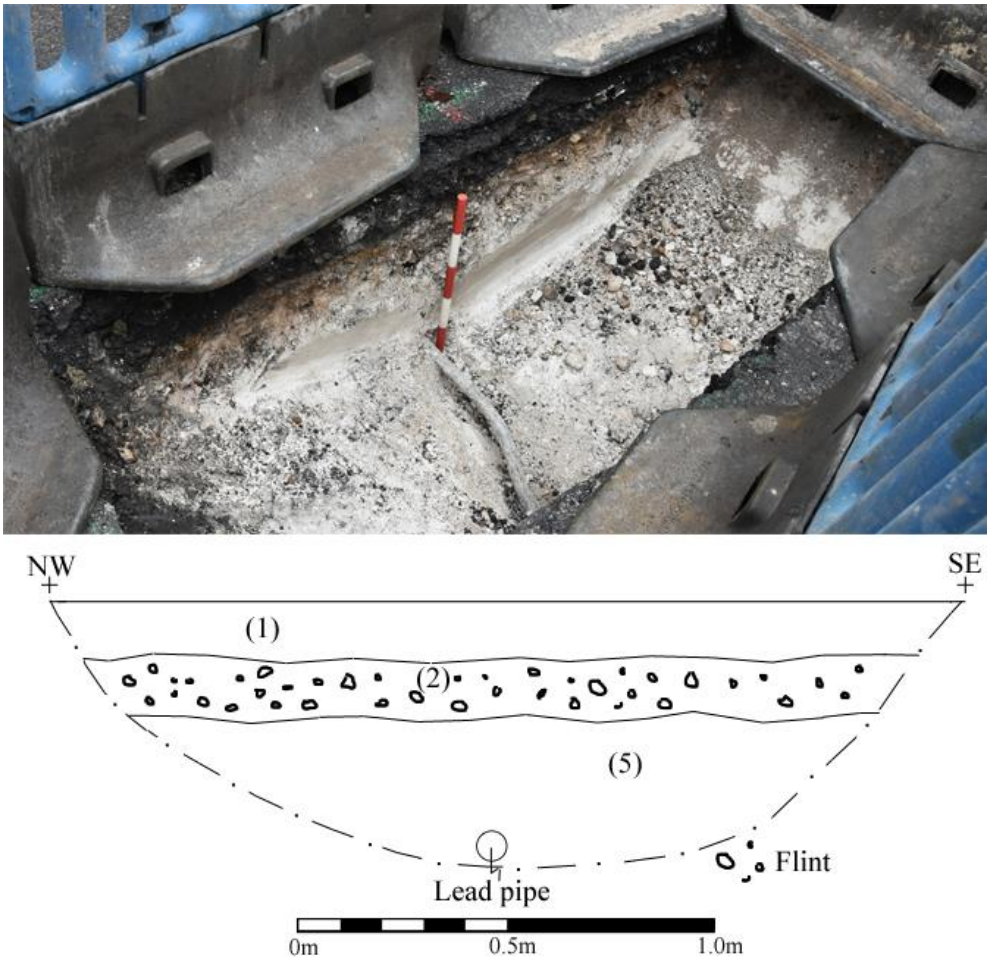

Figure 7: NE facing section, pit 12. Top: photograph, looking W, 0.5m scale. Bottom: sample section, original drawn at 1:10

7.3.3 The archaeological sequence here again comprised a modern road surface over reworked natural and natural geology. No archaeological finds or features were recorded from pits 9-13 or 20.

7.3.4 The section of open cut trenching ran from The Lodge in the east to the Ye Old George Inn to the west (fig. 5), and was excavated along the south side of the carriageway. It measured up to 0.45m wide and 1m deep; the full length was approximately 60m.

7.3.5 The stratigraphy seen here comprised tarmac, (1), 0.12m thick overlying a natural well-compacted, light grey flint gravel, (10), seen extending beyond the base of the trench (fig. 8). A small section of red and yellow brick fragments set in concrete were seen in the southern section of the trench in front of The Lodge (fig. 9). As the bricks were set in concrete retrieving a sample was not possible, and no other finds or features were recorded.

Figure 8: Open cut section of trench, facing SE, scale 1m

Figure 9: Bricks in S section of open cut trench. Looking SSW, scale 0.5m

7.4 Shoreham Place

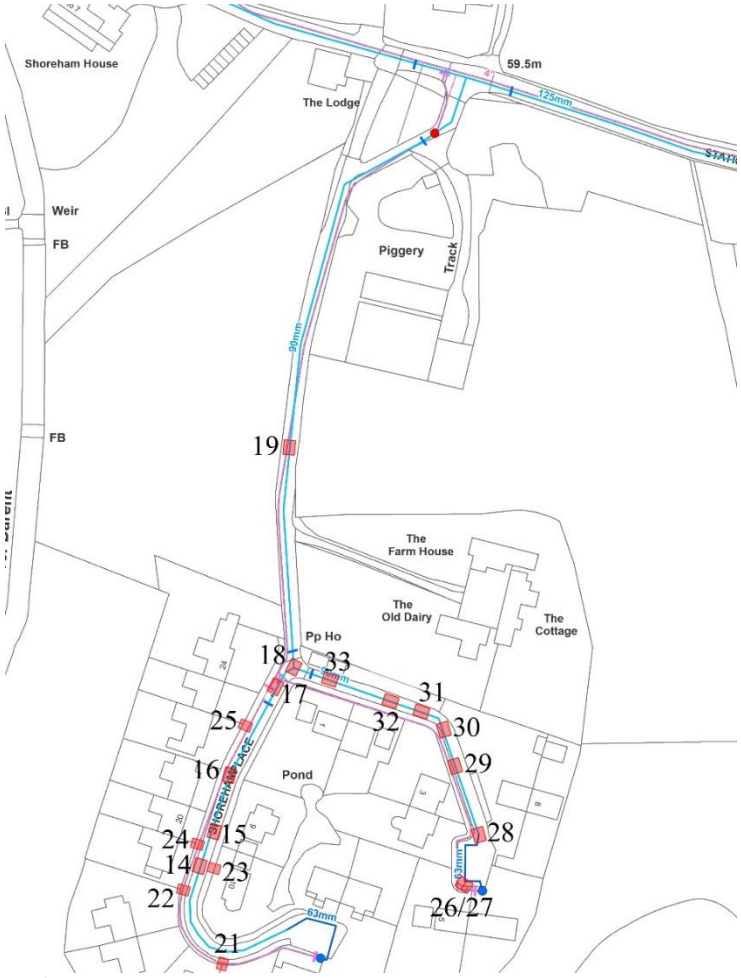

Figure 10: Plan of pits 14-19 & 21-33 excavated on Shoreham Place

7.4.1 Pits 14-19 and 21-33 were excavated along the length of Shoreham Place and on both forks to the south and east. The dimensions of pits 17 and 18 were not recorded due to flooding. The pits varied in size from 0.5-2.3m long by 0.48-0.87m wide and between 0.5-1.1m deep.

7.4.2 The stratigraphy seen across Shoreham Place was similar, though some variation was recorded between trenches. In all instances the pits were overlain with tarmac, (1), 0.08-0.17m thick. In pits 14-18 and 25-33 the tarmac overlay a red brick and concrete rubble layer- (6), 0.2-0.5m thick (fig. 11). In pits 19 and 21-24 the tarmac overlay a mid-grey-brown gravelly silt (29), with a varying presence of modern made ground including pea gravel surrounding existing services. Underlying the sub-tarmac deposits was pale-brown reworked chalk (3), seen extending beyond the base of the pits. In pit 16 the natural white chalk, (5), was encountered at the base of the pit (fig. 12).

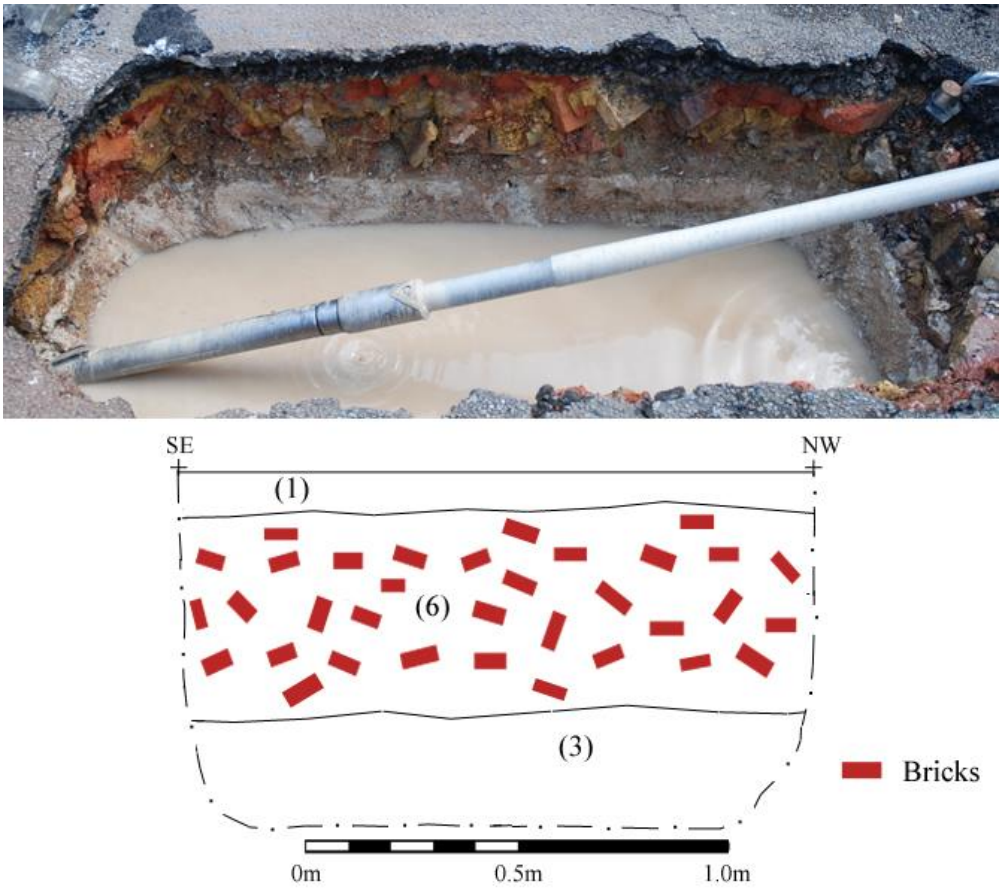

Figure 11: SW facing section, pit 28. Top: photograph, looking NE, no scale. Bottom: sample section, original drawn at 1:10.

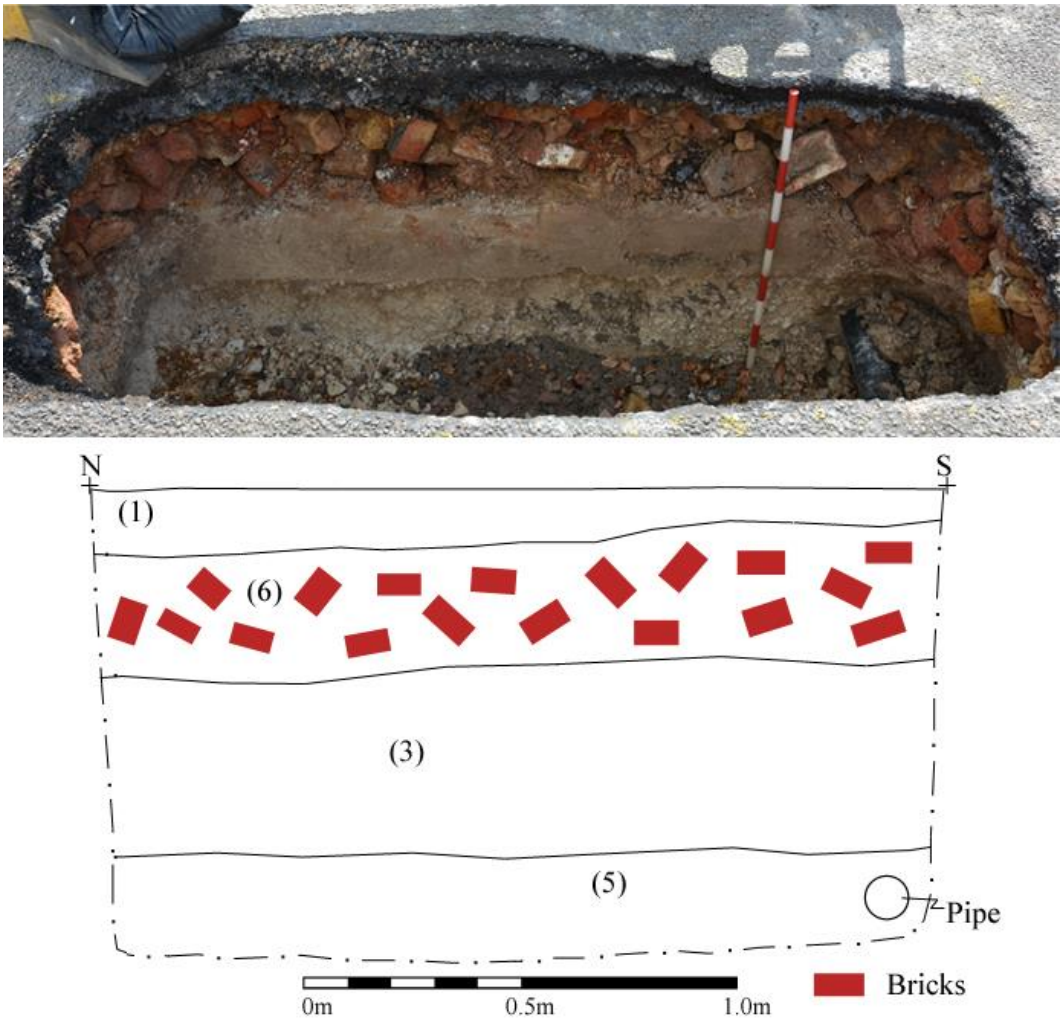

Figure 12: E facing section of pit 16. Top: Photograph, looking W, scale 1m. Bottom: sample section, original drawn at 1:10

7.4.3 The archaeological sequence here comprised a modern road surface over a post-medieval made ground layer of brick rubble, potentially related to the demolition of Shoreham Place/Court. It is possible that the bricks, some being glazed and found with glazed tiles were remnants of the fountain that stood in the driveway of the estate house. Dates provided for the brick samples retrieved are mid-late 19th century though and therefore cannot be associated with the original construction of Shoreham Place in 1838. (Appendix II). It is possible that the fountain was a later addition to the grounds as the first map it appears on was produced in 1871, but this cannot be securely determined. No other archaeological finds or features were recorded in any of the pits on Shoreham Place.

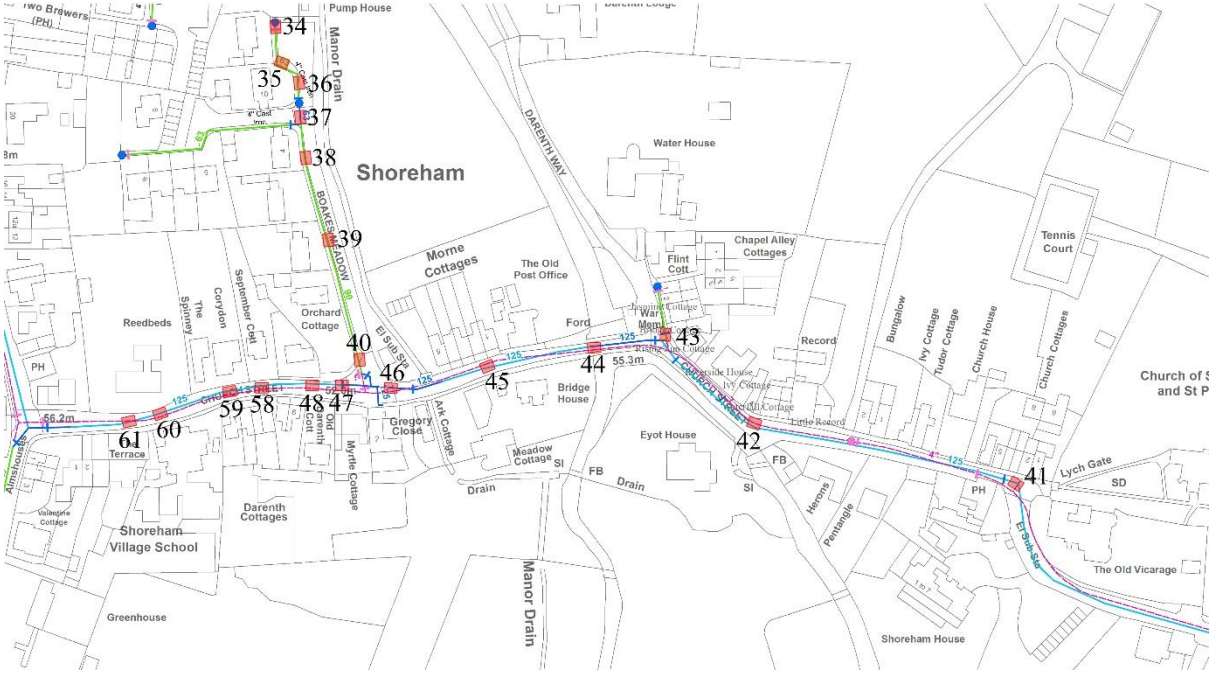

Figure 13: Plan of pits 34-48 & 58-61 excavated on Church Street and Boakes Meadow

7.5 Church Street

7.5.1 Pits 41-48 and 58-61 were excavated along the length of Church Street (fig. 13), 43 and 44 were set off the road on the banks of the River Darent (43 located on Darenth Way). The pits measured between 1.4 and 2m long by 0.65-1.5m wide and between 0.56m and 1.5m deep. The dimensions of pit 48 were not recorded as it was incomplete at the time of recording.

7.5.2 The stratigraphy recorded in the pits varied along the road, though all were overlain with black tarmac, (1), 0.09-0.26m thick. Starting at the eastern end of Church Street, (1) in pit 41 overlay a layer of grey compact flint gravel, (10), with a small dump of post-medieval tile, pot, and glass in the west and east facing sections. (10) measured 0.4m thick and overlay a red-brown gravelly clay deposit, (31), seen extending beyond the base of the trench (fig. 14).

7.5.3 Pit 42, excavated outside Waterfall Cottage also had grey, compact flint gravel, (10) underlying the tarmac. This deposit was a pale yellow towards the top, changing to grey c.0.1m down. (10) measured 0.62m thick and had occasional modern tile and CBM inclusions. This overlay a yellow silty clay, (30), seen extending beyond the base of the trench (fig. 15).

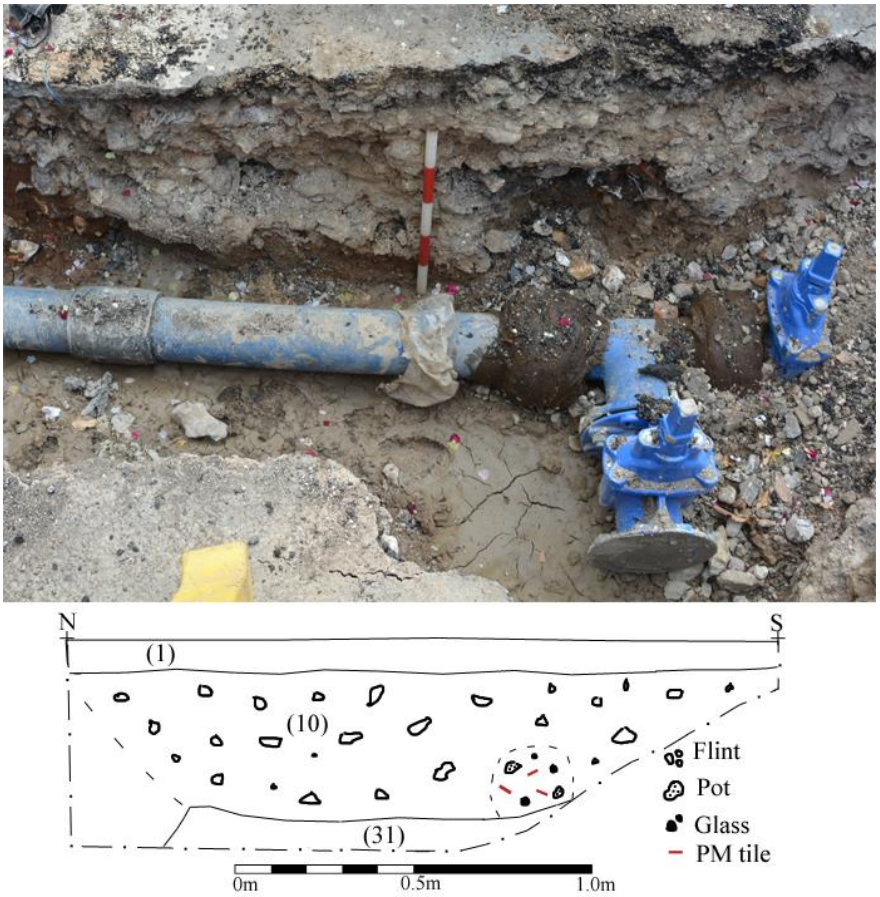

Figure 14: W facing section of pit 41. Top: Photograph looking E, scale 0.5m. Bottom: section, original drawn at 1:10.

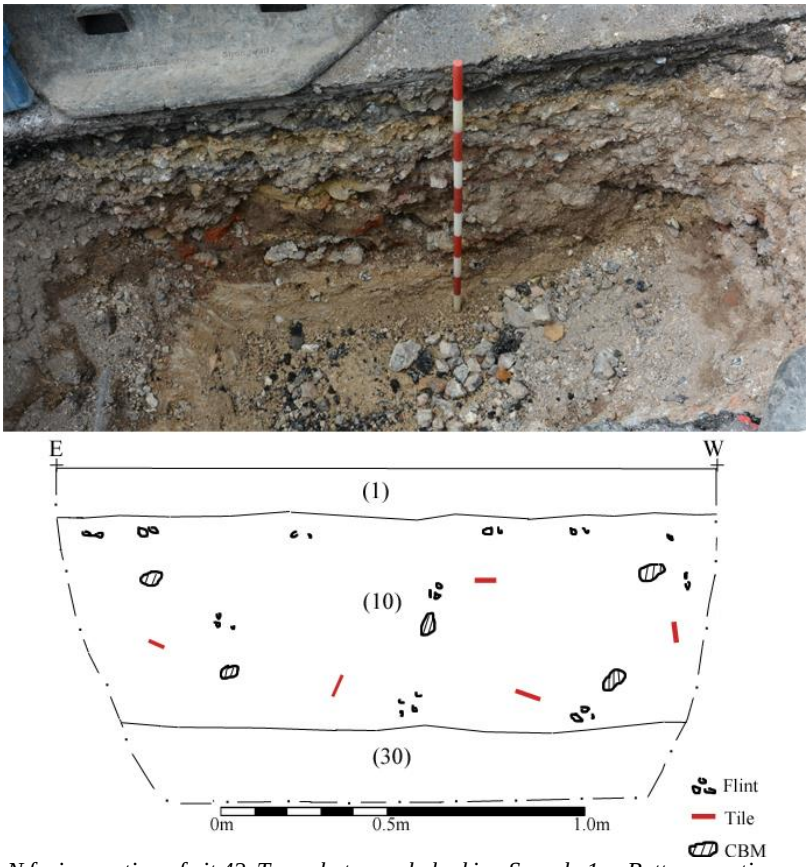

Figure 15: N facing section of pit 42. Top: photograph, looking S, scale 1m. Bottom: section, original drawn at 1:10

7.5.4 Pits 43 and 44 were excavated both sides of the River Darent and displayed a similar stratigraphy. The tarmac, (1), in both pits was underlain by a brown-grey silty flint gravel, (11), with occasional inclusions of CBM towards the top of the deposit. (11) was 0.2-0.6m thick. Underlying this was a layer of chalk, (5), c.0.1m thick, overlying a grey flint gravel, (10) extending beyond the base of the pits (fig. 16).

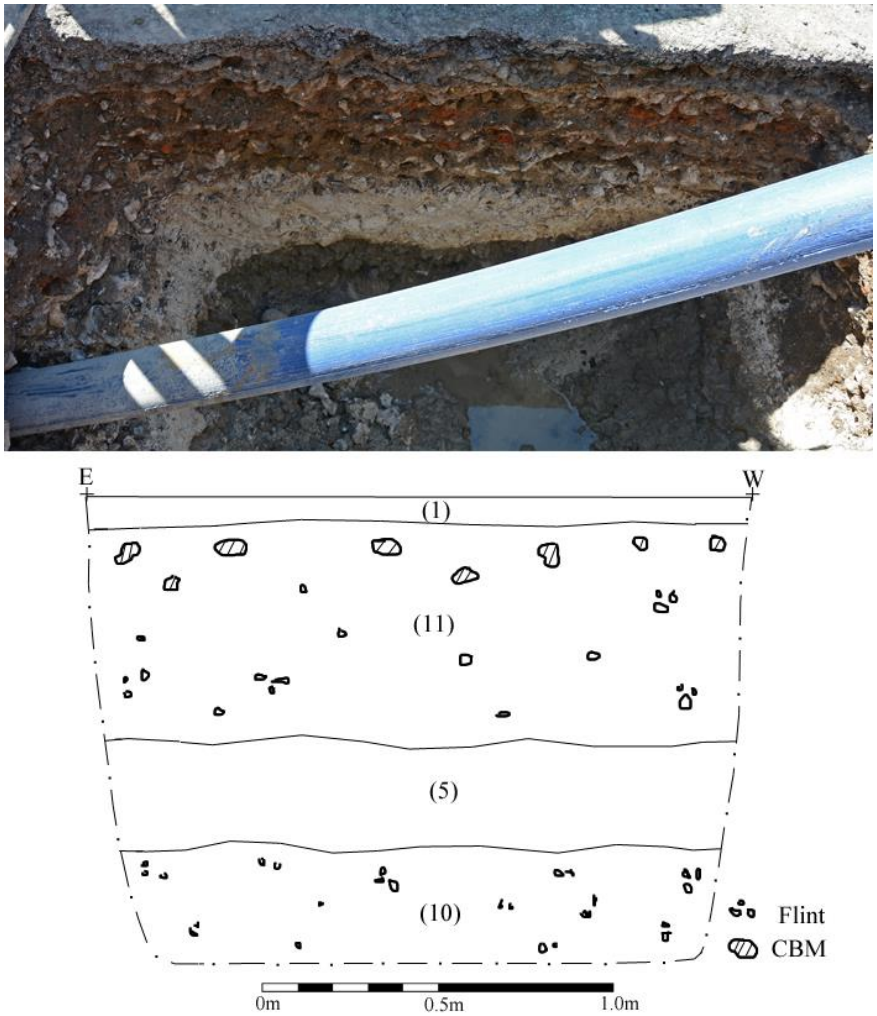

Figure 16: N facing section of Pit 44. Top: photograph, looking S, no scale. Bottom: sample section, original drawn at 1:10.

7.5.5 The stratigraphy in pit 45 was similar to that seen in pit 42, where the 0.09m thick layer of tarmac, (1) overlay compact grey flint gravel, (11), with a colour change from orange-grey for the first 0.18m to grey in the lower part of the deposit, continuing below the level of excavation (fig. 17). Pits 46 and 48 likely had the same stratigraphy but 46 was truncated below the tarmac by modern services, and 48 was incomplete at the time of recording. Pit 47 had 0.15m of reworked chalk, (17) beneath (1), underlying which was a pale brown silty clay, (13) with gravel inclusions, extending below the base of the pit.

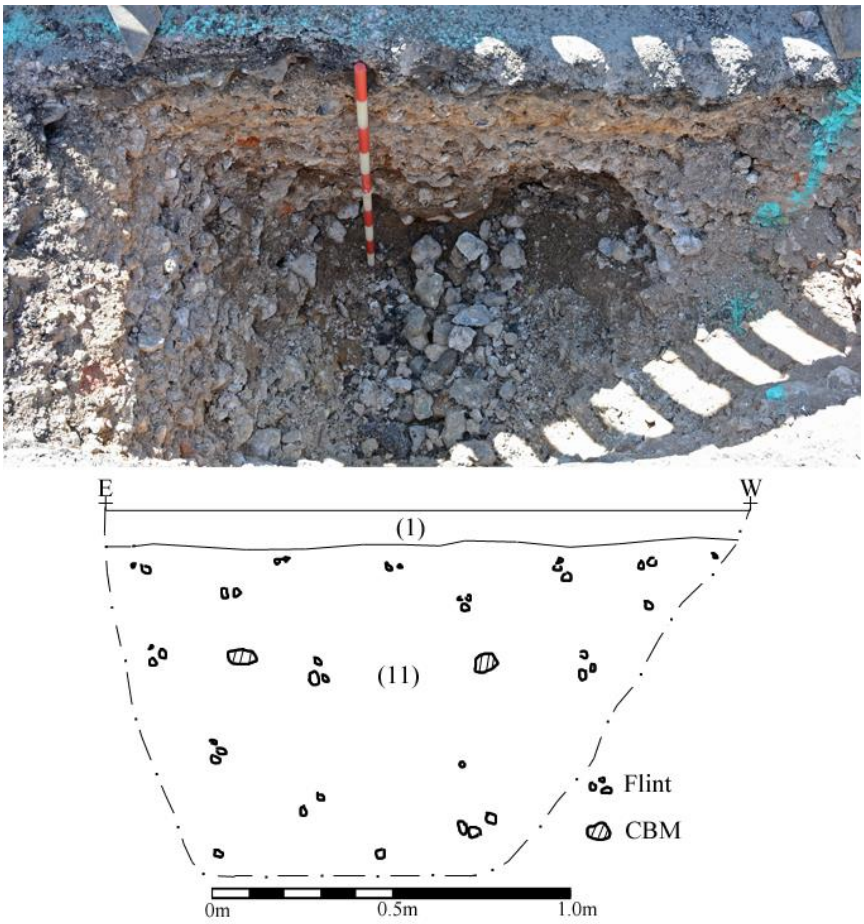

Figure 17: N facing section of pit 45. Top: Photograph, looking S, scale 1m. Bottom: section, original drawn at 1:10

7.5.6 Pit 58 was excavated outside September Cottage, and comprised 0.26m of tarmac, (1), overlying a modern backfill of red and grey sandy gravels, (18), around modern services, 0.52m thick. This overlay a red-brown sand, (19), which extended below the base of the pit. Pits 59 and 60 shared a stratigraphy, comprising tarmac, (1), overlying a layer of grey flint gravel, (10), 0.19m thick. This overlay a layer of off-white chalk, (20), 0.11-0.l6m thick. The flint gravel, (10), continues beneath the (20), extending below the limit of excavation in both pits. Pit 61 has the same stratigraphy, but (20) overlies a red brown silty sand, (18), with gravel inclusions which extends beyond the base of the pit.

7.5.7 In all instances of pits along Church Street, the archaeological sequence again comprised modern road surfacing over what appeared to be mostly natural deposits. No finds or features of an archaeological nature were recorded in any of the pits apart from 41, where a small post-medieval dump seen in (10) produced a sherd of pottery, a glass

bottle fragment and some CBM, dated to the late 19th or 20th century (Appendix II). It is possible that the layer of chalk, (20), seen in pits 59-61 sandwiched between two layers of the same grey flint gravel, was a historic surface, but since it did not produce any finds this cannot be confirmed.

7.6 Boakes Meadow

7.6.1 Pits 34-40 were excavated along Boakes Meadow (fig. 13) from the northern end south to the junction with Church Street. The pits measured 1-2.3m long by 0.7-0.9m wide and up to 1m deep. Pits 36 and 38 were flooded but their dimensions and stratigraphy were still recorded.

7.6.2 The stratigraphy seen in all pits was the same, comprising a 0.1-0.15m thick layer of tarmac, (1), overlying a yellow sandy concrete, (7), 0.11-0.56m thick. The concrete overlay an orangey sand, (9), c.0.2m thick. (9) was visible in pits 36-39. Underlying either (9); where it was present, or (7) was a light brown silty clay, (8), seen extending beyond the base of the pits (fig. 18). (8) and (9) were not visible in pits 34 and 35 as they were shallower than the rest.

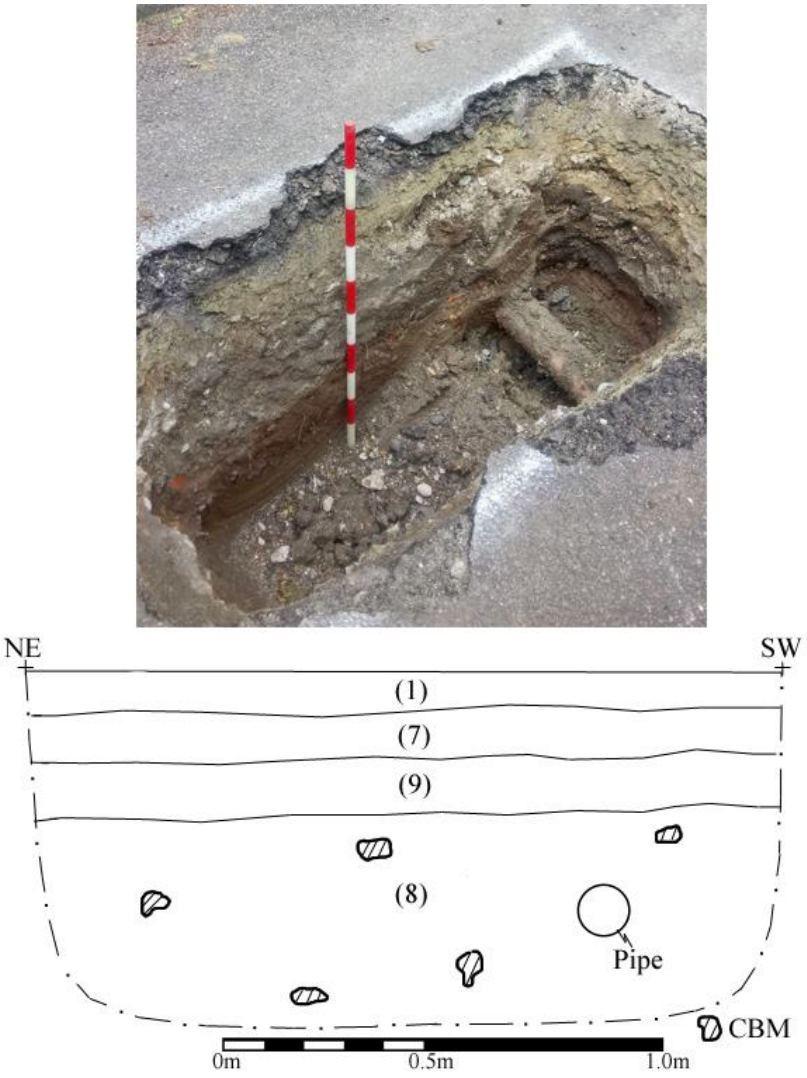

Figure 18: SE facing section of pit 39. Top: photograph, looking NE, scale 1m. Bottom: sample section, original drawn at 1:10

7.6.3 Again the archaeological sequence here consisted of a modern road surface overlying what appeared to be a previous post-medieval road surface on top of natural deposits. No archaeological finds or features were recorded in any pits along Boakes Meadow.

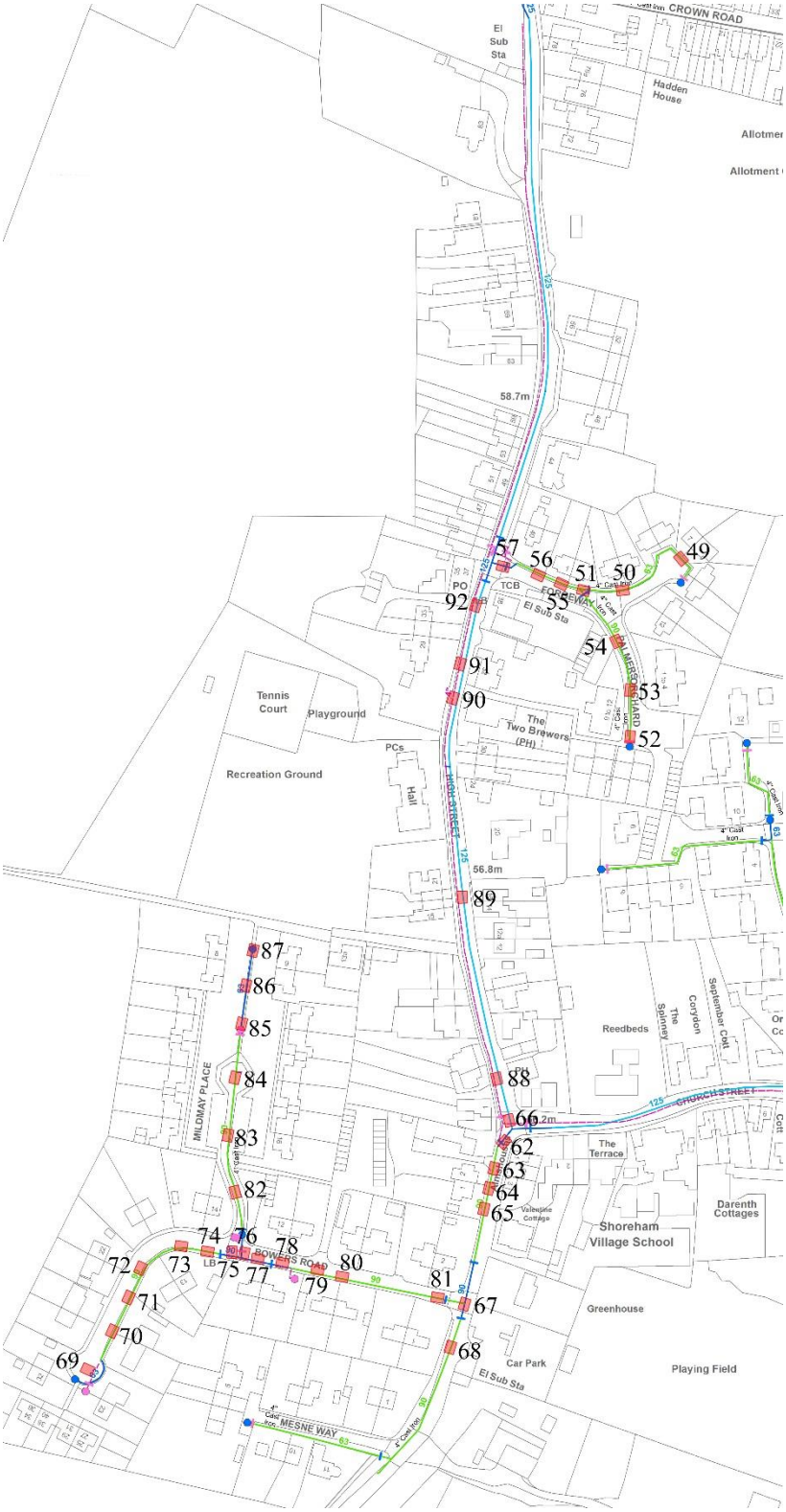

Figure 19: Plan of pits 49-57 & 62-92 excavated along Forge Way, Palmers Orchard, Filston Lane, Bowers Road, Mildmay Place and High Street

7.7 Forge Way

7.7.1 Pits 49-51 and 55-57 were excavated along the length of Forge Way (fig. 19). The pits measured between 1.62 and 2.5m long by 0.65-0.92m wide and up to 0.95m deep. Pit 56 was not recorded as it was plated over at the time of recording.

7.7.2 The stratigraphy seen in all of the pits was roughly similar, comprising tarmac, (1), 0.15-0.23m thick overlying a dark brown silty made ground, (14), 0.19-0.4m thick with inclusions of modern red and yellow brick fragments. Underlying (14) was (13), a pale brown clay with frequent small gravels and occasional larger flints, seen extending beyond the base of the pits (fig. 20). In pit 49 a 0.03m thick layer of orange sand, (9), was visible between (1) and (14).

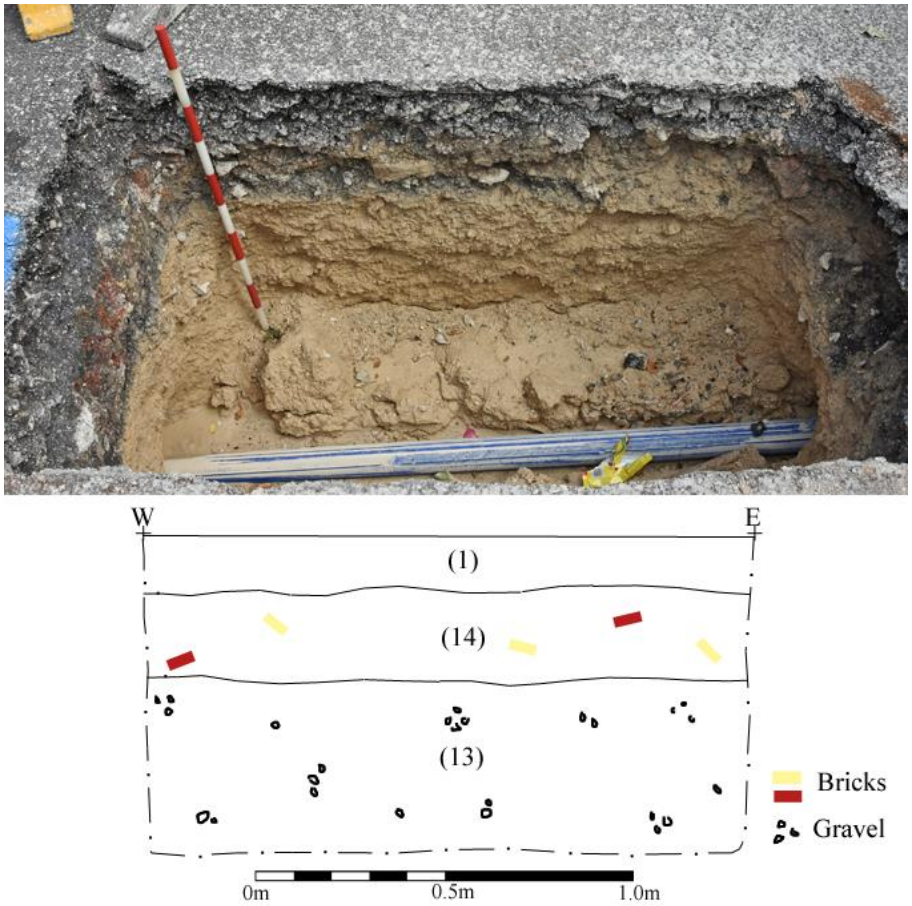

Figure 20: S facing section of pit 55. Top: photograph, looking N, scale 1m. Bottom: sample section, original drawn at 1:10.

7.7.3 The archaeological sequence comprised modern road surfacing over post-medieval made ground, possibly for levelling prior to the road construction, or a previous road surface. No archaeological finds or features were recorded within any of the pits.

7.8 Palmers Orchard

7.8.1 Pits 52-54 were excavated along Palmers Orchard (fig. 19). They measured from 1.28-2.5m long by 0.85-1.09m wide and 0.99-1.22m deep.

7.8.2 The stratigraphy seen in all three pits was similar, comprising modern road surfacing-concrete slab, (12), 0.16m thick overlying pits 52 & 53, and tarmac, (1), 0.15m thick in pit 54. In pits 52 and 53 the concrete overlay an older road surface comprising asphalt, (16), 0.15m thick. In pit 54, the tarmac overlay a dark brown layer of silty made ground, (14), 0.22-0.46m thick. Seen underlying these layers in all three pits was (15), a mid-brown clayey silt with no inclusions. (15) was seen extending below the base of the pits (fig. 21).

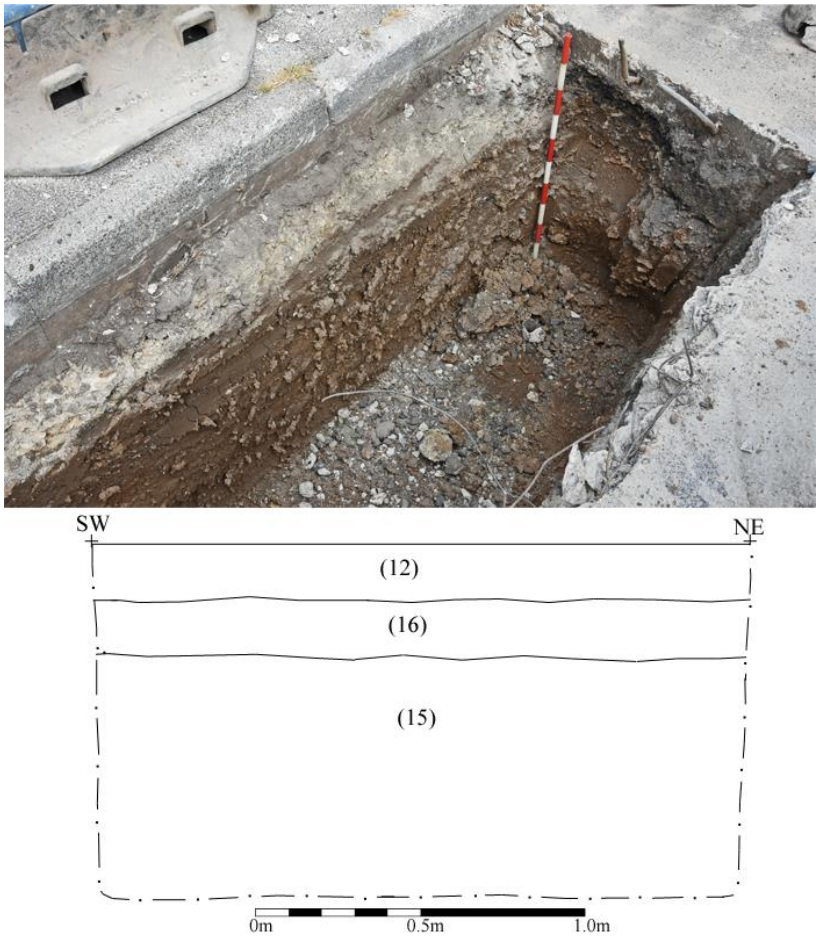

Figure 21: SE facing section of pit 52. Top: photograph, looking NW, scale 1m. Bottom sample section, original drawn at 1:10

7.8.3 The archaeological sequence on Palmers Orchard comprised modern road make-up over modern backfilling and natural deposits. It is apparent that at one time the portion of the road to the south was paved with tarmac/asphalt but this was replaced with concrete slabs at an unknown time. No finds or archaeological features were recorded in any of the pits on Palmers Orchard.

7.9 High Street

7.9.1 Pits 88 to 92 were excavated along High Street from the junction with Church Street to Forge Way (fig. 19). The precise dimensions for each pit were unrecorded, but pits 88 and 92 were c.5m long with the rest being much shorter, c.1m long, and c.1m deep.

7.9.2 The stratigraphy recorded in all five pits was similar, comprising tarmac, (1), 0.1m thick overlying a very compact, grey flint gravel, (10), which extended below the level of excavation (fig. 22).

7.9.3 The archaeological sequence comprised modern road surfacing over natural gravels, and no finds or features were recorded on High Street.

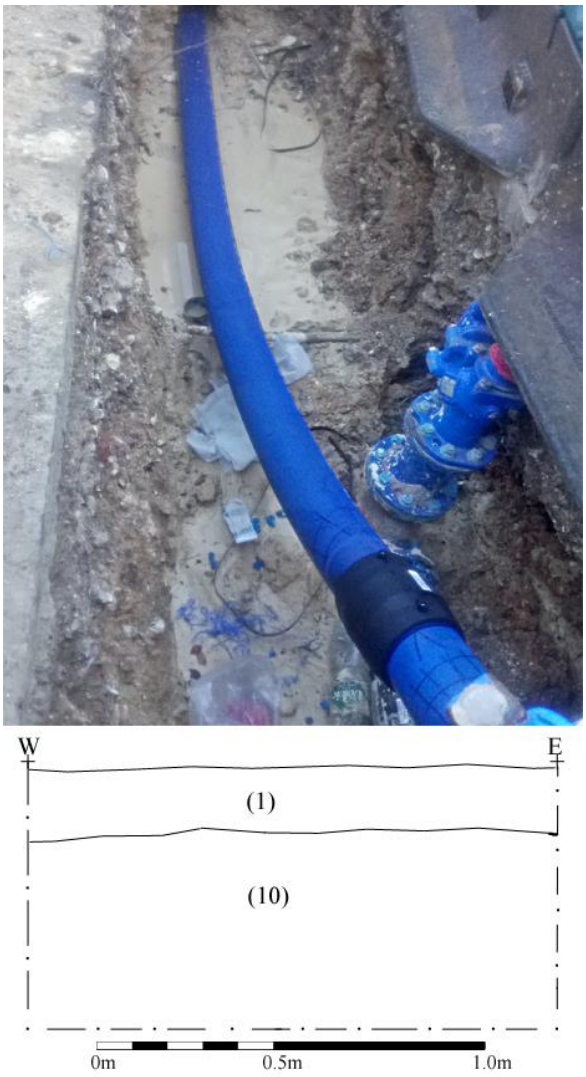

Figure 22: Top: photograph pit 90, looking N, no scale. Bottom: sample section, original drawn at 1:10

7.10 Filston Lane

7.10.1 Pits 62-68 were excavated along Filston Lane (fig. 19). The pits were all enclosed and inaccessible at the time of recording and therefore all dimensions are estimates, and the thickness of deposits were not measured. The pits measured approximately between 1 and 2m long by 0.5-1.5m wide and c.1.3m deep.

7.10.2 The stratigraphy seen across all the pits was similar, comprising tarmac, (1), overlying a modern gravel backfill with occasional modern services, (24). Seen at the base of pits 62, 65 and 68 were varying deposits. Pit 62 had a brown silty clay with occasional small gravels, (13) at the base. Pit 65 displayed a cream (fading to brown) chalk layer, (20),

at the base, (fig. 23), whilst pit 68 was filled with a very wet layer of gravel, (25) at the base.

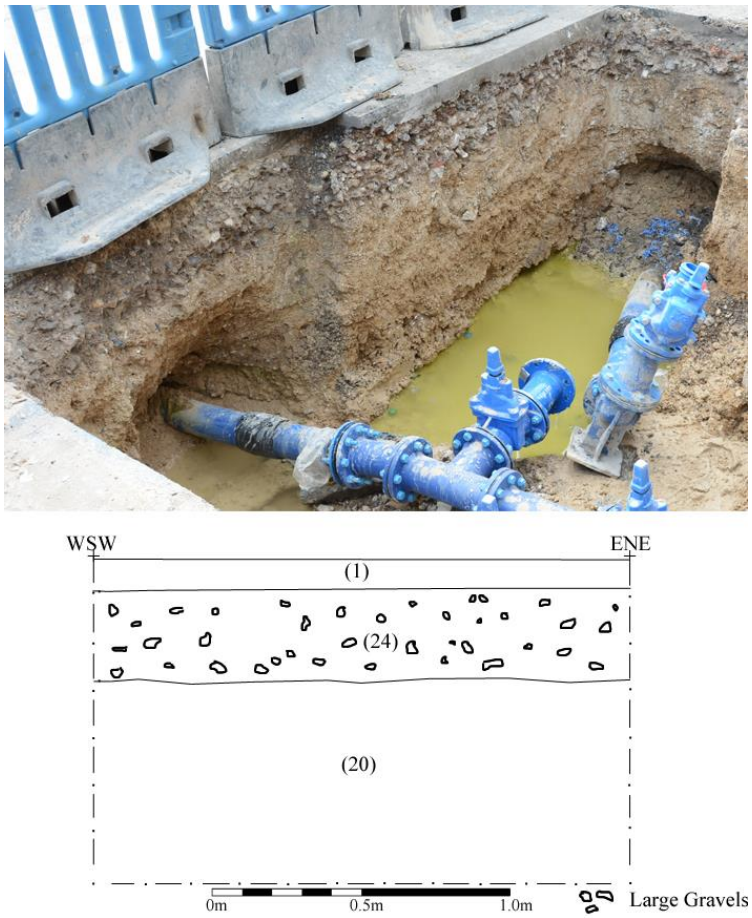

Figure 23: NNW facing section of pit 65. Top: photograph, looking SSE, no scale. Bottom: sample section, original drawn at 1:10

7.10.3 The archaeological sequence here comprised modern road surfacing overlying post-medieval made ground. At the base of some of the pits, the natural chalk was visible whilst in others a more gravelly layer was visible. No finds or features of archaeological interest were recorded in any of the pits.

7.11 Bowers Road

7.11.1 Pits 69-81 were excavated along Bowers Road (fig. 19). The pits measured from 1-2.6m long by 0.5-1m wide and between 0.8m and 1.1m deep.

7.11.2 The stratigraphy in pits 69-79 was roughly similar, comprising a c.0.9m thick layer of tarmac, (1), overlying a 0.22-0.25m thick layer of concrete rubble, (26). This overlay a light brown chalk layer, (17), interpreted as reworked natural (fig. 24). Pits 80 and 81 displayed a slightly different stratigraphy, comprising 0.1m of tarmac, (1), overlying brick rubble, (27), 0.3m thick which came down on to natural reworked chalk (17) (fig. 25).

7.11.3 The archaeological sequence on Bowers Road comprised modern road surfacing over levelling deposits and natural geology. No finds or features of archaeological significance were recorded in any of the pits.

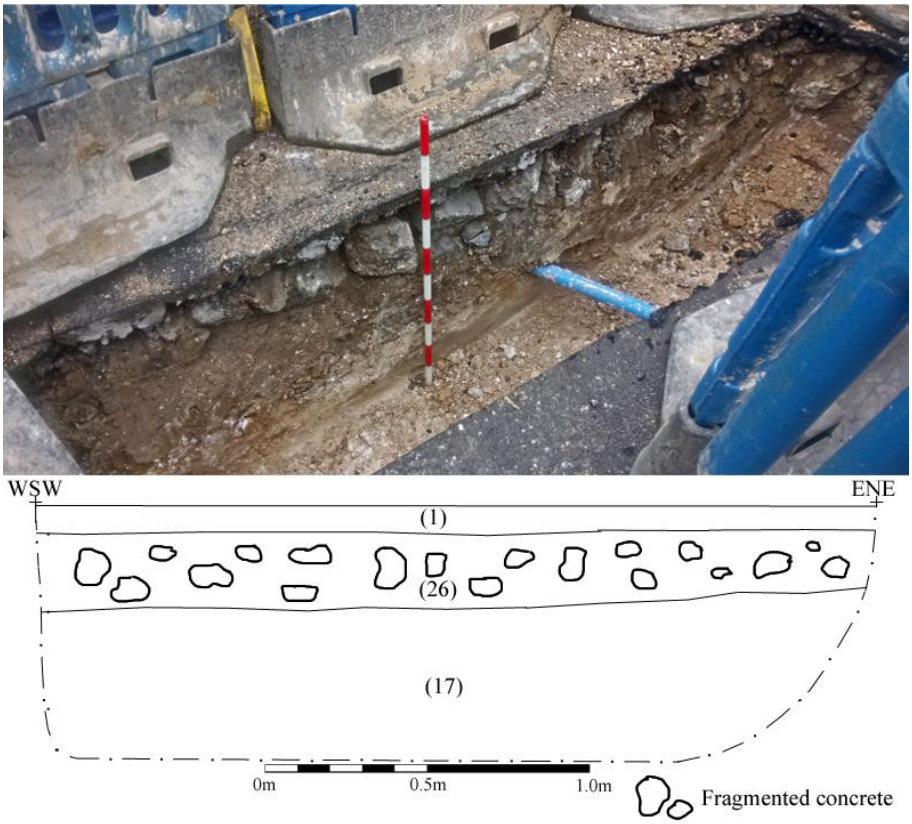

Figure 24: NNW facing section of pit 69. Top: Photograph, facing SSE, scale 1m. Bottom: sample section, original drawn at 1:10

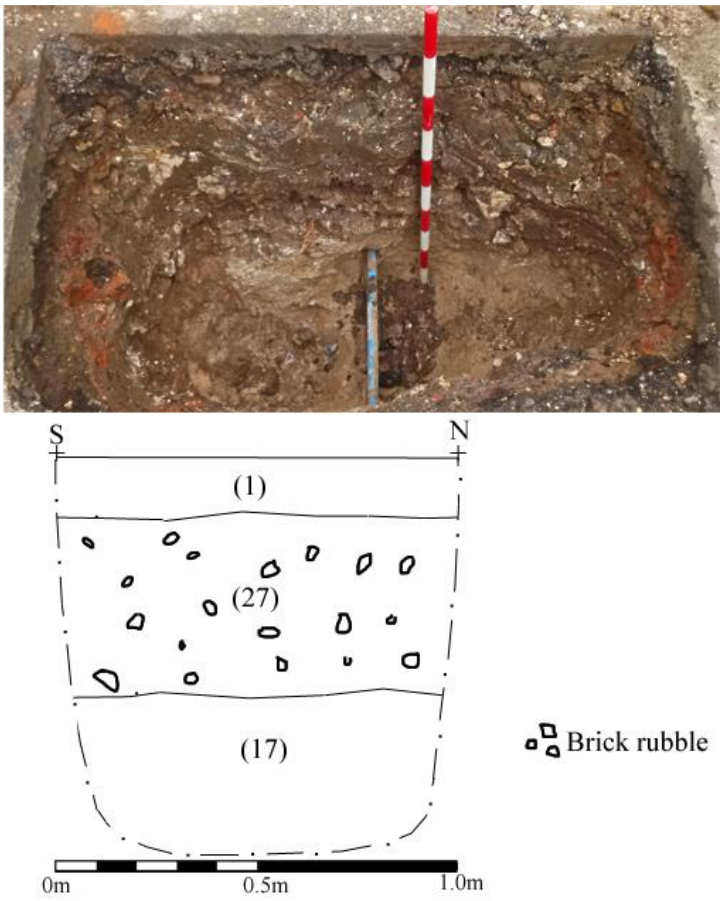

Figure 25: E facing section of pit 80. Top: photograph, looking W, scale 1m. Bottom: sample section, original drawn at 1:10

7.12 Mildmay Place

7.12.1 Pits 82 to 87 were excavated along Mildmay Place (fig. 19). At the time of recording pits 82-84 were plated over and not visible, pits 85-87 measured c.1.2m long by 0.8m wide and 1-1.2m deep.

7.12.2 The stratigraphy recorded in the visible pits was roughly similar, comprising of turf and topsoil where the pit lay in the verge, or tarmac, (1), where it was in the carriageway, overlying a mid-brown silty soil, (28) which was seen extending below the base of the pits (fig. 26).

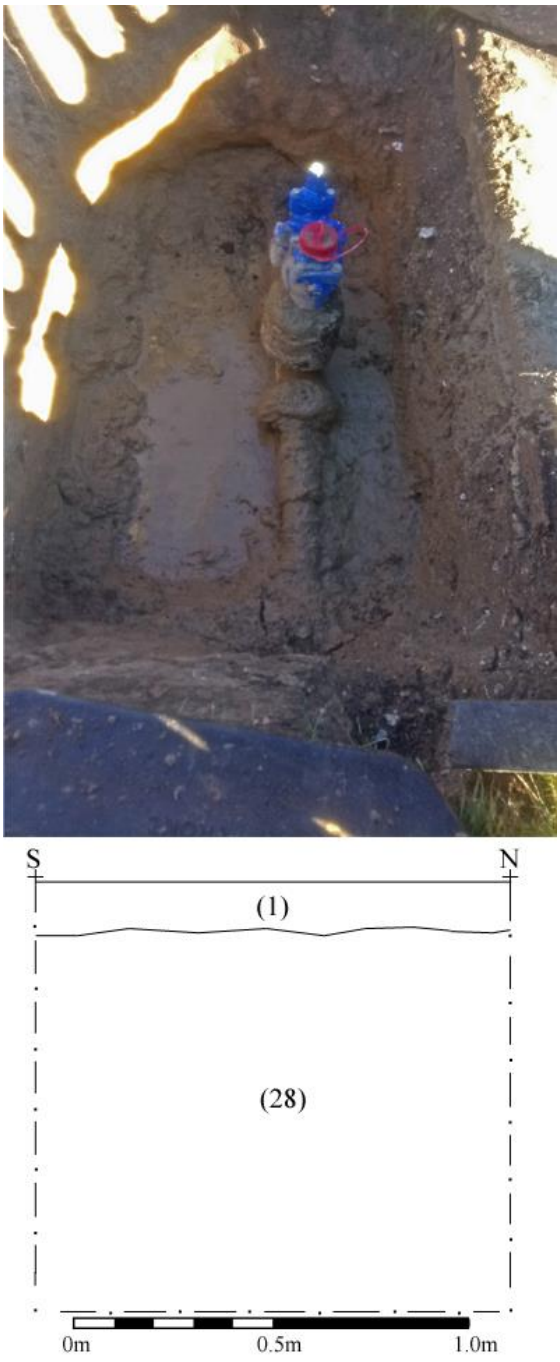

Figure 26: Top: photograph pit 85, looking N, no scale. Bottom: sample section, original drawn at 1:10.

7.12.3 The archaeological sequence here, where visible comprised modern road surfacing and soft landscaping overlying a silty soil, most likely a subsoil that was present before the road and estate were built. No finds or features of archaeological interest were recovered from any of the pits on Mildmay Place.

7.13 Mesne Way

7.13.1 Several pits were excavated along Mesne Way however at the time of recording they were plated over and therefore inaccessible. It is presumed that like the stratigraphy seen elsewhere in the area, the stratigraphy would have comprised of modern road surface overlying a silty subsoil.

8 CONCLUSION

8.1 Throughout the course of the DBA and watching brief carried out on the groundworks in Shoreham, Kent, it has become clear that whilst the village has significant historical roots, there is little to be discovered in terms of archaeology in the areas investigated. The village has remained in much the same layout since it was first recorded, and the roads have historically, always been roads (Compass Archaeology 2017). This means that modern road surfacing, heavy use and modern services installation has truncated the ground beneath the carriageways, obliterating any evidence of previous road surfaces and any other archaeological evidence. In the areas not previously acting as roads, such as the *cul-de-sacs* in the western extent of the village, the modern road surface was underlain by subsoil from when the area was open fields.

8.2 In the area around the old manor house of Shoreham Place (Compass Archaeology 2017) the picture presented was pretty much the same. The old manor was demolished after the Second World War and replaced by a housing estate in the 1960s. The main footprint of the manor now lies beneath the 1960s houses, though the road snakes around what once were the driveway and gardens. As such, no particular evidence of Shoreham Place was recovered during the watching brief. The works along Shoreham Place (road) presented a layer of red and yellow brick rubble beneath the modern tarmac that might be related to the house or the fountain that was located in the centre of the driveway. The brick samples taken have been dated to the mid- to late 19th century and early 20th century (Appendix II) and therefore are unlikely to be connected with the original construction of Shoreham Place (1838). It is possible that the fountain or other garden feature was constructed later than the house and the bricks can be associated with that feature, but this cannot be securely ascertained.

8.3 Overall, the piecemeal nature of the groundworks means that a complete overview of the archaeological record of Shoreham could not be established. What has been made clear throughout the watching brief is that the archaeological potential of Shoreham lies outside of the developed areas of the village, where modern development has not occurred.

9 SOURCES

9.1 Digital sources

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9.2 Bibliography

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APPENDIX I: CONTEXT LIST

Context	Description	Location
(1)	Black tarmac and modern road make-up	All pits
(2)	Pale grey-brown silty chalk with frequent flint inclusions	P1-8
(3)	Pale brown silty chalk with occasional flint inclusions	P1-8
(4)	Yellow sand	P3
(5)	White chalk- NATURAL	P9-13, 16, 20, 43-44
(6)	Red and yellow brick rubble	P14-18, 25, 27-33
(7)	Yellow sandy concrete	P34-40
(8)	Light brown silty clay	P34-40
(9)	Coarse orange sand	P36-39
(10)	Compact flint gravel	P41-48, 58-61, 88-92
(11)	Brown-grey compact flint gravel with CBM inclusions	P43-44
(12)	Concrete slab	P52-54
(13)	Pale brown silty clay with small flint and gravel inclusions	P49-51, 55-57
(14)	Dark brown silty made ground with CBM inclusions	P49-57
(15)	Mid-brown clayey silt	P52-54
(16)	Tarmac/asphalt	P51-53
(17)	Reworked chalk natural	P47, 69-81
(18)	Grey-red sandy gravel	P58
(19)	Red-brown sand	P58
(20)	Cream chalk-NATURAL	P59-61, 65
[21]	Cut of pit in north facing section of Pit 60	P60
(22)	Flint gravel fill of [21]	P60
(23)	Made ground- CBM rubble	P63-65
(24)	Modern gravel	P64-65
(25)	Waterlogged gravel	P68
(26)	Concrete rubble	P69-79
(27)	Mid-brown silty soil with CBM rubble inclusions	P69-79
(28)	Mid-brown silty soil	P82-87
(29)	Mid-grey brown gravelly silt and varying modern made ground	P19, 21-24
(30)	Yellow silty clay	P42
(31)	Red-brown gravelly clay	P41

APPENDIX II: FINDS

Ceramic building material *by Sue Pringle*

Three fragments of ceramic building material (CBM) were recovered from one context during the watching brief. They came from (6), which was a layer of red and yellow brick rubble and were taken as samples. The samples were brought back to the Compass Archaeology offices and examined by a specialist.

The material conformed to recognisable forms and although the fabric was unidentified for all three, a description was recorded. All the material was post-medieval in date, dating from the mid-late 19th century and later.

One brick, stamped "..RTLEY/ …EEDS" (Wortley Leeds; fig. 27) with a white slip-glazed face on one side was recovered from pit 16 (fig. 28). It was made by Ingham, William & Sons: Wortley Fireclay Works, founded in 1825 the company manufactured most fireclay products, including firebricks, blast and other furnace lumps using fireclay, coal and ironstone extracted from its own property in Wortley. As well as producing firebricks and other industrial materials, they also manufactured bricks finished with a coloured glaze, sanitary fittings and baths and terracotta for building works and garden ornaments. After 1889 they formed part of the Leeds Fireclay Co.

Figure 27: Brick from context (6), pit 16.

Figure 28: White slip-glazed face of brick from context (6), pit 16.

Context	Pit	Context date	Form	Fabric	L	B	T	Condition	Comments
(6)	15	1850-1950	Brick	Dark yellow fabric, probably Gault clay from North Kent. Harsh feel due to abundant inclusions of very fine quartz. Moderate coarse calcareous inclusions, some stained grey, from immersion.	95+	75+	65	A	Frogged. Surface very abraded but place mark visible on 1 stretcher.
(6)	15	1850-1950	Floor tile	White granular fabric	60+	54+	11	-	Compression moulded floor or wall tile. Blue glazed surface with traces of glaze on unbevelled sides.
(6)	16	1885-1889	Brick	Granular off-white fabric with common coarse rounded off-white inclusions and sparse white quartzite or felspar inclusions.	167+	112	74	Rd	Frogged base. 115x46mm, shallow flat base with part stamp "..RTLEY/ ..EEDS." 1 white slip-glazed face. Some reduced areas on surface.

Glass:

One fragment of glass was retrieved from a small dump in pit 41, context (10). It was 20th century in date.

Context	Pit	Description	Weight (g)
(10)	41	Dark brown glass, base fragment of bottle with deep push-up, thick glass. Some large bubbles, 20th century	206

Pot:

Two sherds of pot were recovered from a small dump in pit 41, context (10). They were rim sherds from the same vessel of Transfer Printed Willow Ware, dating to the 19th-20th centuries.

Context	Pit	Description	Weight (g)
(10)	41	2 rim sherds from same vessel, likely a large bowl or platter. Transfer Printed Willow Ware, probably 19th/20th century	38

APPENDIX III: OASIS DATA COLLECTION FORM

OASIS ID: compassa1-338493

Project details

Project name	Water Mains Replacement Works, Shoreham, Kent, TN14
Short description of the project	Compass Archaeology were commissioned to undertake an archaeological watching brief between 13th March and 27th September 2018 on Thames Water mains rehabilitation works throughout the village of Shoreham, Kent, TN14. The watching brief was commissioned based on the findings of a Desk-Based Assessment and recommendations due to the historically sensitive character of Shoreham, and its medieval origins. The watching brief covered the excavation of 92 launch and receptor pits to facilitate the directional drilling installation method. An additional section of open cut trenching was observed. The pits measured no more than 5m long by 2m wide and up to 1.5m deep. The open cut measured c. 60m long, 0.45m wide and up to 1m deep. The stratigraphy varied across the village, but generally comprised of modern road make up (usually tarmac) overlying varying instances of post-medieval made ground, reworked natural and natural deposits. No archaeological features were recorded and only limited post-medieval finds were retrieved. A layer of red and yellow brick rubble was observed underlying the tarmac, samples taken indicate that they were mid- to late 19th century. Indicating that it was not related to the original construction of Shoreham Place (1838), but might be associated with later additional features to the grounds. Overall, the piecemeal nature of the groundworks means that a complete overview of the archaeological record of Shoreham could not be established. What has been made clear throughout the watching brief is that the archaeological potential of Shoreham lies outside the developed areas of the village.
Project dates	Start: 17-03-2018 End: 27-09-2018
Previous/future work	No / No
Any associated project reference codes	SHO18 - Sitecode
Type of project	Recording project
Site status	Conservation Area
Current Land use	Residential 1 - General Residential
Current Land use	Transport and Utilities 1 - Highways and road transport
Monument type	NONE None
Significant Finds	CBM Post Medieval
Investigation type	"""Watching Brief"""
Prompt	Direction from Local Planning Authority - Direction 4

Project location

Country	England

Site location	KENT SEVENOAKS SHOREHAM Water Mains Replacement Works, Shoreham, Kent
Postcode	TN14
Study area	0 Square metres
Site coordinates	TQ 552199 161574 50.923386807551 0.208758515919 50 55 24 N 000 12 31 E Point

Project creators

Name of Organisation	Compass Archaeology
Project brief originator	Thames Water Utilities Ltd
Project design originator	Compass Archaeology
Project director/manager	Geoff Potter
Project supervisor	Miranda Fulbright
Type of sponsor/funding body	Thames Water Utilities

Project archives

Physical Archive Exists?	No
Digital Archive recipient	Sevenoaks Museum
Digital Contents	''none''
Digital Media available	''Database'',''Images raster / digital photography'',''Text''
Paper Archive recipient	Sevenoaks Museum
Paper Contents	''none''
Paper Media available	''Unpublished Text'',''Context sheet'',''Notebook - Excavation'','' Research'','' General Notes'',''Report''

Project bibliography 1

Publication type	Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)
Title	Water Mains Replacement Works, Shoreham, Kent, TN14
Author(s)/Editor(s)	Fulbright, M.
Date	2019
Issuer or publisher	Compass Archaeology
Place of issue or publication	250 York Road, SW11 3SJ
Description	Comprehensive report detailing the results of an archaeological watching brief including site information such as geology and location, historical and archaeological background and relevant planning policy. The results of the watching brief are supplemented by relevant photographs and section drawings.