

**Archaeological Watching Brief Report  
Lynton House, 9 Northbridge Street  
Robertsbridge, East Sussex**

**NGR 573976 124193  
(TQ 739 241)**

**Rother District Council  
Planning Consent: RR/2011/1891/P**

**ASE Project No: NSR 11  
Site Code: 5264**

**ASE Report No. 2012038  
OASIS id: archaeol6-118780**

**By Gary Webster  
With contributions by  
Trista Clifford and Sarah Porteus**

**February 2012**

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**Abstract**

*Archaeology South-East was commissioned by Mrs Patricia Tompkins to undertake an archaeological watching brief during ground works associated with the erection of a single story extension to the rear of Lynton House, 9 Northbridge Street, Robertsbridge, East Sussex. Monitored groundworks include an area measuring 5.5m by 2.2m.*

*The watching brief has demonstrated that the monitored construction work has not impacted on any significant archaeology. No evidence of medieval activity associated with the listed buildings in the vicinity, or the larger medieval landscape as the whole was uncovered and the results of the watching brief suggest that the archaeological potential of the site is low.*

*Two 18<sup>th</sup> to 19<sup>th</sup> century post holes were recorded; these follow the line of the fence that is currently erected and no doubt delineate an earlier fence line marking the property boundary. Natural geology was seen over some of the surface exposed particularly in a footing trench, with exception of the south-west of the area, where the construction cut for the present house had previously disturbed the area.*

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## **1.0 INTRODUCTION**

### **1.1 Site Background**

1.1.1 Archaeology South-East (ASE), the contracting division of the Centre for Applied Archaeology (CAA), Institute of Archaeology (IoA), University College London (UCL), was commissioned by Mrs Patricia Tompkins to undertake an archaeological watching brief during ground works associated with the erection of a single story extension to the rear of Lynton House, 9 Northbridge Street, Robertsbridge, East Sussex, centred on NGR 573976 124193 -hereafter referred to as 'the site' (Figure 1).

### **1.2 Geology and Topography**

1.2.1 The British Geological Survey website has the geology of the site as consisting of fine sandstones and silts of the cretaceous Ashdown Beds. A broad alluvial plain lies immediately south of the site and defines the valley and flood plain of the River Rother and associated tributaries. A small pocket of river terrace deposits (sand and gravel) lies c. 50m northwest of the site.

1.2.2 The site lies just to the west of the A21. It lies to the north-east of the village of Robertsbridge. The surrounding area is mainly farmland which is currently in use.

### **1.3 Planning Background**

1.3.1 The work itself consists of an extension to the current house, which will measure approximately 5.5m by 2.2m. This is at the back of the house, at the north-east corner.

1.3.2 The site lies in an Archaeological Notification Area defining the historic core of Northbridge, a suburb of Robertsbridge with origins in the late medieval period. In view of the site's archaeological potential Greg Chuter, Assistant County Archaeologist, East Sussex County Council (ESCC) in his capacity as archaeological advisor to Rother District Council advised the Head of Planning, Rother District Council in a letter dated 23<sup>rd</sup> September 2011 that an archaeological planning condition be applied to any planning permission granted in respect of the application (ASE 2011). Accordingly Condition 2 states:

*No development shall take place until the applicant, or their agents or successors in title, has secured the implementation of a programme of archaeological work in accordance with a written scheme of investigation, which has been submitted by the applicant and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority and the works shall be undertaken in accordance with the approved details.*

*Reason - To enable the recording of any items of historical or archaeological interest, as the development is likely to disturb remains of archaeological interest, in accordance with requirements within PPS5 Planning for the Historic Environment and Policy GD1 (viii) of the Rother District Local Plan.*

1.3.3 Accordingly, a Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI; ASE 2011) for monitoring the groundworks in an archaeological watching brief was produced and approved by Greg Chuter. All work was carried out in accordance with this document, with the Recommended Standard Conditions for Archaeological Fieldwork, Recording, and Post-Excavation Work (Development Control) in East Sussex (ESCC 2008) and with the relevant standards and guidance of the Institute for Archaeologists (IfA 2008).

## **1.4 Aims and Objectives**

1.4.1 The general aims (ASE 2011) of the watching brief were:

- *Establish the presence/absence of archaeological remains within the proposed development area*
- *Determine the extent, condition, nature, character, quality and date of any archaeological remains present*
- *Establish the ecofactually/environmental potential of archaeological features*
- *Appraise the likely impact of the development proposals on any archaeology located*
- *Prepare a mitigation strategy which states how the archaeology of the site is to be accommodated within the proposed development, either by preservation in situ or by record (i.e. through excavation, recording and publication) if this is considered necessary or appropriate*

1.4.2 Specifically, the focus of the watching brief was to find and record any evidence of medieval activity associated with the listed buildings in the vicinity, or the larger medieval landscape as the whole.

## **1.5 Scope of Report**

This report details the results of the archaeological watching brief undertaken during groundworks on the site which was undertaken on the 12<sup>th</sup> of January 2012 by Gary Webster (Archaeologist). The fieldwork was managed by Neil Griffin (Project Manager) and the post-excavation analysis was managed by Jim Stevenson (Project Manager).

## **2.0 ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND**

- 2.1 The following summary is derived from the Rape of Hastings Architectural Survey (draft; Martin & Martin 2010).
- 2.2 Northbridge Street lies c. 350m north of Robertsbridge on the north side of the River Rother. Northbridge Street lies within the historic parish of Salehurst (now mostly forming Salehurst Civil Parish, together with a substantial part of Hurst Green Civil Parish and a very small part of Etchingham Civil Parish). Although detached from Robertsbridge by the Rother flood plain and separately administered until modern times, in effect Northbridge Street served as a suburb of Robertsbridge.
- 2.3 Probably as a result of the decline of the market centre at Salehurst and the rise in importance of Robertsbridge, Northbridge Street seems to have developed as a craft centre within the estates of the Etchingham family. Being located on this increasingly important north-south route at the point where it entered the manor after crossing the Rother flood-plain from Robertsbridge. It appears originally to have formed part of the Etchingham's adjacent manor of 'Ockham' (later merged with Etchingham cum Salehurst) and may already have existed as a settlement before the collapse of Salehurst market. Whether or not this was so, Northbridge Street now developed in its new role.
- 2.4 Northbridge Street occupies a short section of level road, set slightly above the flood-plain. Although the community was never large, the six surviving medieval buildings suggest that during the 15th century it enjoyed a level of prosperity at least equal to that of Robertsbridge, and documentary sources indicate that the tanning industry played an important role from the late 14<sup>th</sup> century through to at least the 17<sup>th</sup> century.
- 2.5 The first clear indication as to the size and structure of the street occurs in 1597 when a survey was undertaken of the manor of Etchingham cum Salehurst. By this time it was already showing signs of decline, for although it contained 18 messuages, a further two had by then been converted to agricultural use, one on the north being utilized as an oasthouse and another on the south as a barn. Superficially, 60 years later, in 1658, the picture remained similar, there still being 18 messuages. However, references in Lord's tithe book indicate that two of the houses (Foxes and Sneps Barn) had by this time been subdivided into two tenancies, a feature which has also been noted in Robertsbridge.
- 2.6 It is for the period 1597-1658, mainly through Lord's tithe book and the 1597 survey that a clear indication can be gained of the occupations present. In the mid-17th century agriculture played but a minor role with only a father and son listed as obtaining a full-time living from farming. Their farm consisted of several blocks of rented lands and had at that time only recently been created. There were, in addition, two other farms of 39 and c. 70 acres, though these were run by dual-economists in conjunction with a tannery and corn mill respectively. In addition to tanning and milling, the street is known to have housed a shoemaker, hosier, glover, butcher, blacksmith, mason,

labourer and two carpenters: the occupations of the remaining households are unknown.

- 2.7 The last quarter of the 17th century saw major changes within the settlement, most of which were caused (either directly or indirectly) by the growing importance of the local tannery run by the Chambers family. Robert Chambers, who appears in Salehurst for the first time in the 1640s, lived at Lutwicks and operated a tannery adjacent to it. During the 1660s and early 1670s both he and his son, John, were acquiring property in the Northbridge Street area. The farm lands involved were not excessive and appear to have merely comprised those which, in any case, they had already been renting for some time. However, they were also acquiring houses along the southern side of the street, adjacent to Lutwicks. Their sole aim appears to have been to expand their increasingly important tannery, for when John Chambers and his son, John, took out a mortgage in 1707, their property on the south side of the street was described as 'a messuage wherein J. Chambers junior lives' (i.e. Lutwicks), a barn, mill-house and mill (presumably a bark mill) with the tanyard tuns and other materials, being one acre. In 1658 this same area had been occupied by a barn and four houses, only two of which had then been owned by the Chambers family. In addition to this property, in 1671/2 John Chambers, senior, acquired the house of John Hays called Wardes on the opposite of the street, and this was the house in which he appears to have been living in 1707.
- 2.8 Although it could be argued that the acquisition and subsequent demolition of the houses on the southern side of the street was nothing more than a business venture, it does indicate a contraction in the size of the community, similar to that experienced during the same period at Robertsbridge in the area of George Hill. It was not only the activities of the Chambers family that indicate the decline of the southern side of the street. In 1681 Swans was described as lately pulled down. Thus, only three houses were left standing on this section of street frontage where in 1658 there had been seven. In contrast, the northern side appears to have remained very much as earlier. In fact, by 1671 Frenedes, which had then been an oasthouse for nigh on a hundred years, was once again in use as a dwelling.
- 2.9 During the 18th century Wingfield at the north-eastern end of the street appears to have been demolished, though by 1725 the Chambers family had constructed a new dwelling (or more likely converted the mill-house) on the site of Landes (present-day Salisbury Villa), and in 1743/4 they built Marlowes (Quaker Cottage). Further east, in the early 18<sup>th</sup> century No. 9 Northbridge Street was constructed on a plot divided off from Snepes (see 2.17 below). Although the number of messuages thus remained at about the late-17th-century level, there was an increase in households, for by the mid-18th century four houses were in dual-tenancy, compared with only two a century earlier. Furthermore, Bakers had been in use as the poor-house since 1730, when it appears to have been divided into six tenancies. Thus, Northbridge Street was catering for the natural increase in the population at this period, not by additional housing, but by the further subdivision of existing property. In this it followed the trends found in Robertsbridge. As at Robertsbridge, this could not continue, and from the last decades of the 18<sup>th</sup> century onwards some new houses were constructed, these being especially



concentrated between Lutwicks and Marlowes. Ironically, these were built on the sites of the houses which had been destroyed by the Chambers family in the late 17th century. By 1841 the street comprised 21 messuages housing at least 34 separate households, approximately double the number in 1597.

- 2.10 Six medieval houses survive in Northbridge Street, a seventh — Foxes survived until c.1900 and is shown in an early 19th-century watercolour as a four-bay house with a two-bay open hall. It seems to have been one of the largest buildings in the street. In contrast to surviving medieval hall houses in Robertsbridge which are of very similar proportions, Northbridge Street's are diverse in their size, ranging from Wardes and Lutwicks down to the small house added onto the eastern end of Cowbix Foxes. As in Robertsbridge, none of the buildings is known to predate c.1400, the only possible exception being Frenedes which is so plain as to be impossible to date closely.
- 2.11 Although the economy of Robertsbridge and Northbridge Street seems to have been slowing down by the end of the medieval period, the general absence of reconstruction work during the half-century or so which marks the transition from the medieval to post-medieval period is unlikely to indicate a marked reduction in the town's prosperity. Rather, it probably reflects the high-quality and adaptability of the existing building stock. Certainly, the existing houses were being upgraded at this time by the insertion of first floors into the halls and the addition of chimneys —mostly one- or two-flue stacks sited backing onto across-passage.
- 2.12 The building work undertaken at the close of the 16th century, extending through the first two-thirds of the following century, seems to reflect an increasing level of poverty at both Robertsbridge and Northbridge Street. Contraction of the built-up area during this period, and the conversion of some houses to multiple occupancy has already been referred to. Following the construction of Bakers in c.1590, only two new houses can be identified which were built before 1660, both of which in Robertsbridge.
- 2.13 Other identifiable new work of the period in Northbridge Street is restricted to the addition of a rear range at Bakers[66] and Lutwicks. An additional chimney was built at Lutwicks, whilst at Cowbix Foxes (immediately east of the site) the interior was re-configured soon after 1665 so as to form two near-identical two-cell cottages which shared a new four-flue axial chimney.
- 2.14 The 1662 Hearth Tax return for Northbridge Street records 69% of the houses assessed at one or two flues and only one — Bakers (5 flues) — assessed at more than four. Lutwicks — the house of the tanner, Robert Chamber — was assessed at four flues.
- 2.15 After a particularly stagnant period during the first two-thirds of the 17<sup>th</sup> century, building started to pick up once more from about 1675 onwards, although at first the recovery was slow. In Northbridge Street, Frenedes was converted back into a dwelling in 1731, but the only new house in the street which survives from this period is a small two-cell weather boarded cottage built on Marlowes in, or shortly before 1744. Houses continued to be subdivided to form tenements, the most significant of these being the subdivision of Bakers to serve as a poorhouse.

- 2.16 The following places the site into context by describing what is known of its historic development (Martin & Martin, gazetteer):
- 2.17 The site was divided from the adjacent plot to the west (Snepes comprising an existing four-bay hall-house dating to c.1450±50) between 1680 and 1734. This new plot is described in the parish rate book in 1734 as a house, owned by John Adams. The Adams family continued as owner-occupiers until after 1805. Thus it can be demonstrated that the site is flanked by late medieval buildings (that to the east having been constructed as a small three-bay hall-house in c.1450±25).
- 2.18 A house is shown within the site on the 1841 Salehurst tithe map (ASE 2011; Figure 5) attached to the eastern end of Snepes, from which it projects slightly forward with its front wall hard against the pavement. This projection is also apparent on a photograph of c.1900 where the former gable end is visible behind a telegraph pole in the centre of the image (*ibid.* Figure 6). It has since been rebuilt around the turn of the 20<sup>th</sup> century as Lynton House, 9 Northbridge Street which is set back from the street frontage. The proposed rear extension to this property is therefore not likely to encounter substantial structural remains associated with the demolished building, but domestic rubbish pits from the late medieval period or evidence of insubstantial structures may be revealed during intrusive ground works.
- 2.19 The 1<sup>st</sup> edition Ordnance Survey (OS) dated 1873 and 2<sup>nd</sup> edition OS dated 1898 (*ibid.* Figures 7 and 8) closely resemble the general layout of dwellings and boundaries in and around the site as depicted on the Salehurst tithe map and shows the location of a well set back from the dwelling in the rear garden. By the time of the 3<sup>rd</sup> edition OS dated 1909 (*ibid.* Figure 9) the current property within the site has replaced the earlier building and the western boundary has been formalised. The 1930, 1975 and 1990 OS maps (*ibid.* Figures 10, 11 and 12) all show a small extension to the rear of 9 Northbridge Street not present in 1909. No other significant changes to boundaries or structures are depicted.
- 2.20 A total of 13 listed buildings are present on Northbridge Street in close proximity to the site (see Table 1). The site itself (9 Northbridge Street) is not listed.

Address	NGR	Grade	Brief description
3, Northbridge Street	TQ7400324211	II	C18 century cottage
5 and 7, Northbridge Street	TQ7399424202	II	C15 century timber-framed building, refaced with weather-boarding in the early C19
11, 13 and 15, Northbridge Street	TQ7397424191	II	C17 or earlier, re-fronted in the C18 with red brick on ground floor and tile-hung above
19, Northbridge Street	TQ7391924168	II	C18 century cottage
Merry Cottage, 21b, Northbridge Street	TQ7390224161	II	Medieval timber-framed building, refaced with tile-hanging and much altered.
12, Northbridge Street	TQ7395224156	II	C18 century cottage
Monk's Cottage, Northbridge Street	TQ7387024117	II*	C15 timber-framed and close-studded building with plaster infilling, altered in the C16. There is a long C16 L-wing behind of which the timber-framing is partly exposed and partly refaced with tarred weather-boarding.
Bayham, 17, Northbridge Street	TQ7392824174	II	C15 timber-framed building, refaced in the C18 with red brick on ground floor and tile-hung above.
Quaker Cottage, Northbridge Street	TQ7394024151	II	Timber-framed cottage of about 1725.
Keston Cottage, 28, Northbridge Street	TQ7390224138	II	Early C19 cottage
1-5, School Terrace, Northbridge Street	TQ7402324219	II	L-shaped block, one building. C18 or earlier.
16, 18 and 20, Northbridge Street, Robertsbridge	TQ7392224149	II	Early C19 cottage
Western part of the former oasthouse to Mill Farm, Northbridge Street	TQ7367224114	II	Probably stowage building for an oasthouse. Late C18 with a few later C20 modifications. Timber framed building clad in weatherboarding (part still tarred) with gabled peg tiled roof sweeping to ground floor to the south west. This was the western range of an oasthouse to Mill Farm which adjoined Hodson's Mill. Old photographs of the mill taken after the mill fire of 1902 show the farmhouse with a Georgian exterior to the south of this building but it has since been demolished and this is the only farm building of Mill Farm surviving.

Table 1: Listed buildings in North Street

**3.0 ARCHAEOLOGICAL METHODOLOGY** (Figures 2 and 3)

- 3.1 An area 5.5m by 2.2m was hand dug by contractors to a depth of 0.35m. Footings were then excavated in the north-west of this area. These were 0.5m wide and had a total length of approximately 7m and were dug to a depth of 0.57m below the current floor level.
- 3.2 All intrusive ground works associated with the development were monitored by an archaeologist.
- 3.3 An opportunity was made for careful hand excavation and the collection of samples by the archaeologist in attendance taking site health and safety into account. Adequate time was made available for appropriate archaeological excavation by hand to identify and record the remains as far as possible within the limits of the works in order to extract archaeological and environmental information.
- 3.4 The spoil from the excavations was inspected by archaeologists to recover artefacts or ecofacts of archaeological interest and was routinely scanned with a metal detector.
- 3.5 The ESCC Archaeologist was kept informed of progress so that he may monitor the archaeological work.
- 3.6 All archaeological features were recorded according to standard ASE practice and planned at 1:20 with section drawings at 1:10 on plastic drafting film. Features and deposits were described on standard ASE *pro-forma* recording sheets. All remains were levelled with respect to Ordnance Survey datum. A photographic record of the work was kept.
- 3.7 ASE informed Hastings Museum prior to the commencement of fieldwork that a site archive would be generated. The site archive is currently held at the offices of ASE and will be deposited at Hastings Museum in due course. The contents of the archive are tabulated below (Table 2).

Number of Contexts	9
No. of files/paper record	1
Plan and sections sheets	1
Bulk Samples	1
Photographs	11

Table 2: Quantification of site archive

#### 4.0 RESULTS (Figures 3 – 6)

4.1 Demolition rubble [001] was removed to expose subsoil [002] beneath. This was approximately 0.4m thick. Natural geology, a yellowy-orange brick earth [003] lay beneath this. A footing trench for the new construction was dug into the brickearth.

Number	Type	Description	Max. Length	Max. Width	Deposit Thickness	Height m.AOD
001	Layer	Demolition Rubble	Site	Site	-	-
002	Layer	Subsoil	Site	Site	0.4m	12.06
003	Layer	Natural	Site	Site	--	11.76
004	Cut	Building construction cut	5.3m	1.12m	-	11.62
005	Fill	Backfill of building construction cut	5.3m	1.12m	-	-
006	Cut	Cut of post hole	0.5m	0.5m		11.76
007	Fill	Fill of post hole	0.5m	0.5m	0.25m	-
008	Cut	Cut post hole	0.75m	0.26m		11.48
009	Fill	Fill of post hole	0.75m	0.26m	0.25m	

Table 3: List of recorded contexts

#### 4.2 Summary

4.2.1 The construction cut [004] for the present house was identified in the north-east of the site and ran down the length of the monitored area, adjacent to the existing wall. This was cut into both the subsoil [002] and the natural [003]. It was filled by [005], a soft mid greenish brown silty clay containing recent broken bricks and CBM, and blue and white transfer ware pottery.

4.2.2 Post hole [006] was identified toward the south-east of the site, cut into the subsoil [002]. It was circular in plan, with steep concave sides turning into a concave base. It contained soft mid-brownish grey silty clay [007]. The fill was quite sterile and no finds were recovered from it.

4.2.3 Post hole [008] was identified to the north of [006], at the east side of the site, cut into the subsoil [002] and the natural [003]. It was rectilinear in plan, but was not fully seen as it extends beyond the limit of excavation. It had vertical sides the gradual led to a flat base. This contained soft dark brown silty clay [009]. The section contained some degraded wood –probably remains of the actual post, which was not recovered. Brick, CBM and a clay pipe stem were recovered from this fill.

## 5.0 THE FINDS

Context	CBM	wt (g)	CTP	wt (g)
009	3	2154	1	6

Table 4: Finds quantification

### 5.1 The Ceramic Building Material by Sarah Porteus

5.1.2 Three fragments of ceramic building material (CBM) were recovered from context [009]. An unfroged piece of brick measuring 115mm breadth by 53mm thickness with sharp arises and evenly vitrified upper face and another smaller fragment were both in a hard fired, fine sandy red fabric with moderate black iron rich and coarse clay pellet inclusions. The brick is of later 18<sup>th</sup> to 19<sup>th</sup> century date. Also recovered was a large fragment of hard, coarse, yellowish sandy lime mortar with coarse flint inclusions on the underside, the mortar is probably later post-medieval based upon hardness.

5.1.3 The assemblage has been recorded on *pro-forma* record form for archive and discarded as it holds no potential for further research.

### 5.2 Clay tobacco pipe by Trista Clifford

5.2.1 A single stem fragment weighing 6g was recovered from context [009] during the watching brief at Northridge Street, Robertsbridge. The fragment is of late 18<sup>th</sup>-19<sup>th</sup> century date.

## **6.0 DISCUSSION**

- 6.1 No evidence of medieval activity associated with the listed buildings in the vicinity, or the larger medieval landscape as the whole was uncovered and the results of the watching brief suggest that the archaeological potential of the site is low.
- 6.2 All of the recorded features were cut into subsoil [002] at between 11.48m AOD and 11.76m AOD. Natural geology was seen over some of the surface exposed particularly the footings, with exception of the south-west of the area, where the construction cut of a modern extension has previously disturbed the area.
- 6.3 Post holes [008] and [006] follow the line of the fence that is currently erected and no doubt delineate an earlier (18<sup>th</sup> to 19<sup>th</sup> century) fence line marking the property boundary.
- 6.3 Cut [004] clearly relates to the construction of the present house.
- 6.4 The watching brief has demonstrated that the monitored construction work has not impacted on any significant archaeology.

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## **ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS**

ASE would like to thank Patricia Tompkins for commissioning the work and Greg Chuter of ESCC for his continued guidance throughout the project. The author would like to thank Cliff for his assistance during fieldwork. Illustrations for this report were by Justin Russell.



**HER Summary Form**

Site Code	NSR 11					
Identification Name and Address	Lynton house, 9 Northbridge Street, Robertsbridge					
County, District &/or Borough	Rother District Council					
OS Grid Refs.	TQ 739 241					
Geology	Ashdown Beds					
Arch. South-East Project Number	2012038					
Type of Fieldwork	Eval.	Excav.	Watching Brief <b>X</b>	Standing Structure	Survey	Other
Type of Site	Green Field	Shallow Urban	Deep Urban	Other <b>Garden</b>		
Dates of Fieldwork	Eval.	Excav.	WB. <b>12/01/2012</b>	Other		
Sponsor/Client	Patricia Tompkins					
Project Manager	Neil Griffin					
Project Supervisor	Gary Webster					
Period Summary	Palaeo.	Meso.	Neo.	BA	IA	RB
	AS	MED	PM <b>X</b>	Other Modern		
<p>Archaeology South-East was commissioned by Mrs Patricia Tompkins to undertake an archaeological watching brief during ground works associated with the erection of a single story extension to the rear of Lynton House, 9 Northbridge Street, Robertsbridge, East Sussex. Monitored groundworks include an area measuring 5.5m by 2.2m.</p> <p>The watching brief has demonstrated that the monitored construction work has not impacted on any significant archaeology. No evidence of medieval activity associated with the listed buildings in the vicinity, or the larger medieval landscape as the whole was uncovered and the results of the watching brief suggest that the archaeological potential of the site is low.</p> <p>Two 18<sup>th</sup> to 19<sup>th</sup> century post holes were recorded; these follow the line of the fence that is currently erected and no doubt delineate an earlier fence line marking the property boundary. Natural geology was seen over some of the surface exposed particularly in a footing trench, with exception of the south-west of the area, where the construction cut for the present house had previously disturbed the area.</p>						

## OASIS Form

Project name	An Archaeological Watching Brief at Lynton House, 9 Northbridge Street, Robertsbridge
Short description of the project	Archaeology South-East was commissioned by Mrs Patricia Tompkins to undertake an archaeological watching brief during ground works associated with the erection of a single story extension to the rear of Lynton House, 9 Northbridge Street, Robertsbridge, East Sussex. Monitored groundworks include an area measuring 5.5m by 2.2m. The watching brief has demonstrated that the monitored construction work has not impacted on any significant archaeology. No evidence of medieval activity associated with the listed buildings in the vicinity, or the larger medieval landscape as the whole was uncovered and the results of the watching brief suggest that the archaeological potential of the site is low. Two 18th to 19th century post holes were recorded; these follow the line of the fence that is currently erected and no doubt delineate an earlier fence line marking the property boundary. Natural geology was seen over some of the surface exposed particularly in a footing trench, with exception of the south-west of the area, where the construction cut for the present house had previously disturbed the area.
Project dates	Start: 12-01-2012 End: 12-01-2012
Previous/future work	No / No
Type of project	Field evaluation
Site status	Area of Archaeological Importance (AAI)
Current Land use	Other 5 - Garden
<b>Project location</b>	
Country	England
Site location	EAST SUSSEX ROTHER SALEHURST Lynton House, 9 Northbridge Street, Robertsbridge
Postcode	TN32
Study area	12.00 Square metres
Site coordinates	TQ 739 241 50.9894059485 0.478118031101 50 59 21 N 000 28 41 E Point
Height OD / Depth	Min: 11.17m Max: 11.86m
<b>Project creators</b>	
Project director/manager	Neil Griffin/Jim Stevenson

Project supervisor Gary Webster

Type of sponsor/funding body client

**Project bibliography 1**

Publication type Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)

Title Written Scheme of Investigation for an Archaeological Watching Brief: Lynton House, 9 Northbridge Street, Robertsbridge

Author(s)/Editor(s) Neil Griffin

Date 2011

**Project bibliography 2**

Publication type An article/chapter in published monograph

Title Robertsbridge Historic Character Assessment Report

Author(s)/Editor(s) R Harris

Date 2009

**Project bibliography 3**

Publication type A forthcoming report

Title Rape of Hastings Architectural Survey.

Author(s)/Editor(s) Martin, D and Martin, B

Date 2010

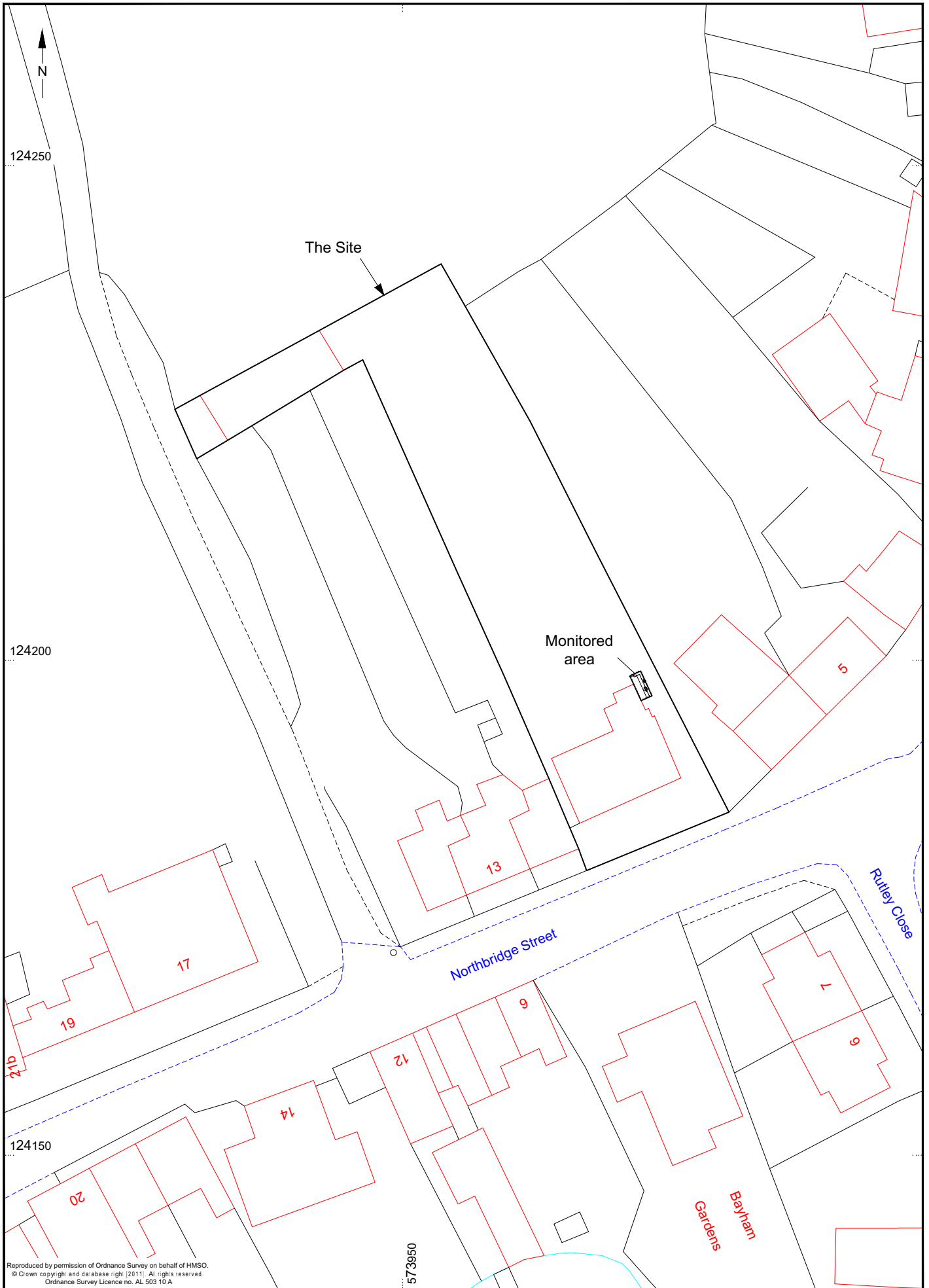
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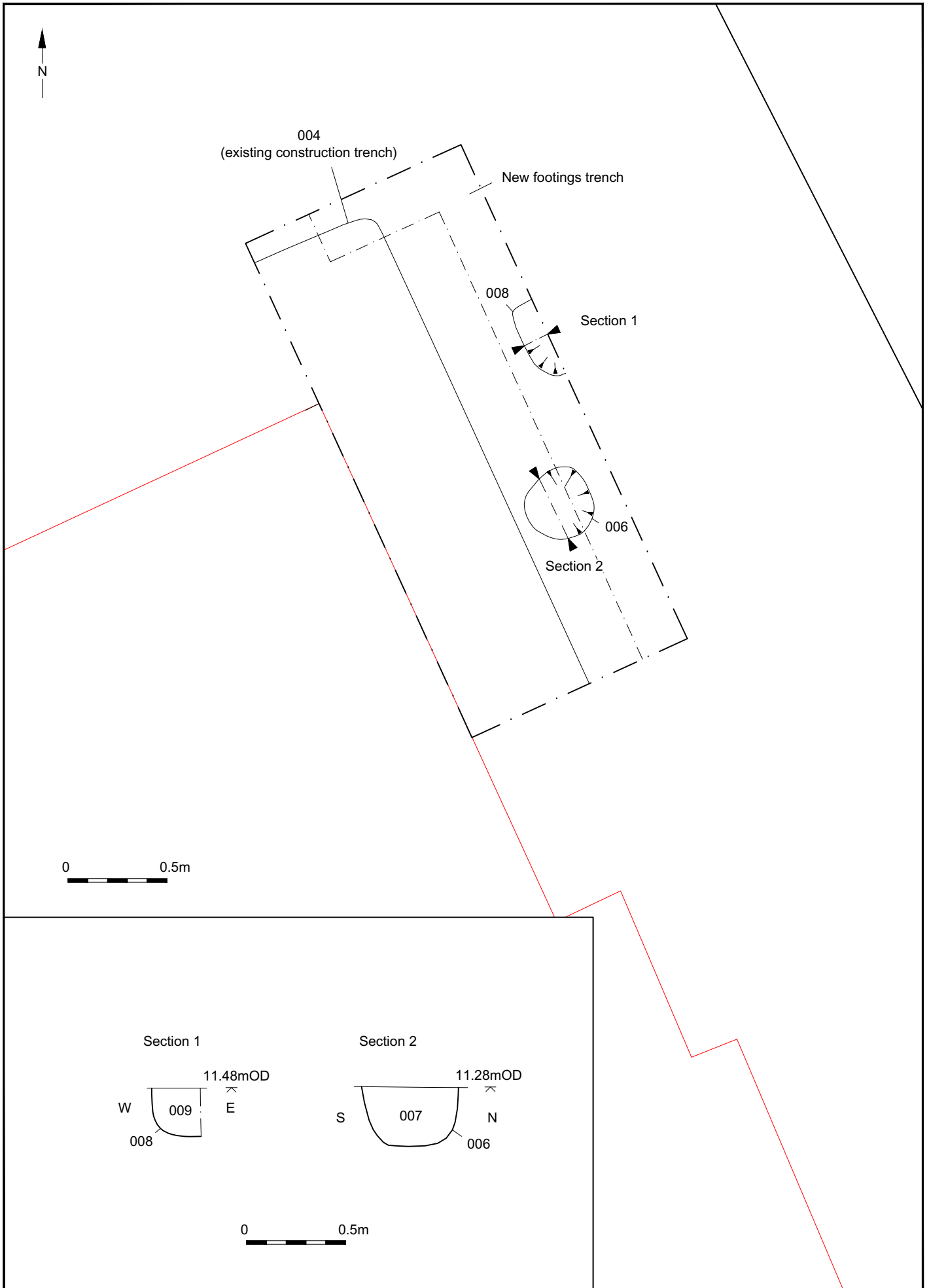
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Project Ref: 5264	Feb 2012	Site location		
Report Ref: 2012038	Drawn by: JLR			



© Archaeology South-East		Lynton House, Northbridge Street, Robertsbridge	Fig. 2
Project Ref: 5264	Feb 2011	Site plan	
Report Ref: 2012038	Drawn by: JLR		



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Project Ref: 5264	Feb 2011	Plan of monitored area	
Report Ref: 2012038	Drawn by: JLR		



Demolition rubble 001 clearance rubble viewed from the south



Subsoil horizon 002 viewed from the south

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Project Ref: 5264	Feb 2012	Photographs	
Report Ref: 2012038	Drawn by: JLR		



Posthole 006 half-sectioned



Posthole 008 half sectioned





Building construction cut 004 in footings trench



Brickearth horizon 003 and footings trench viewed from the south

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Project Ref: 5264	Feb 2012	Photographs	
Report Ref: 2012038	Drawn by: JLR		

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