

**Archaeological Watching Brief Report
Land to rear of
32-34, High Street, Shoreham
West Sussex**

**NGR 521515 105031
(TQ 215 050)**



**ASE Project No: 4938
Site Code: HSW11**

**ASE Report No: 2012094
OASIS ID: archaeol6-124144**

By Diccon Hart

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Abstract

Archaeology South-East was commissioned by Darren Baker and Tracey Scott to undertake an archaeological watching brief during intrusive groundworks associated with the redevelopment of land to the rear of 32-34, High Street, Shoreham, West Sussex.

Two trenches were machine excavated across the site to reveal the underlying natural geology between 5.29m and 4.96m AOD. The earliest activity identified dated to the late medieval period and represented activity to the rear of properties fronting the High Street, including a number of pits, a well and two hearths as well as an associated buried soil horizon. Post-medieval activity on the site included two phases of buildings on the western half of the site, with associated external features to the east, including rubbish pits and a masonry lined cess pit

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1.0 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Introduction

1.1.1 Archaeology South-East (ASE), the contracting division of the Centre for Applied Archaeology (CAA) at the Institute of Archaeology (IoA), University College London (UCL) was commissioned by Mr Darren Baker and Ms. Tracey Scott to undertake an archaeological watching brief during groundworks associated with the development of land to the rear of 32-34, High Street, Shoreham, West Sussex. The site is centred on National Grid Reference (NGR) 521515 105031 and its location is shown in Figure 1.

1.2 Geology and Topography

1.2.1 According to current data from the British Geological Survey, the site lies on head deposits (BGS 2012), though field observation has demonstrated the presence of brickearth on the site. The site is situated at around 6.00m OD and, until the current development, comprised tarmac hard-standing. The site is bounded to the north, east and south by commercial properties and to the west by Middle Street.

1.3 Planning Background

1.3.1 Planning permission has been granted for the construction of two 2 bedroom flats on the site, subject to conditions. Due to the archaeological potential of the site, Condition 7 of the permission states that:

“No development shall take place until the applicant 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 Planning Authority.”

REASON: The site is of archaeological significance and it is important that it is recorded by excavation and to comply with policy AB1 of the Adur District Local Plan and CH7 of the West Sussex Structure Plan.

1.3.2 A *Written Scheme of Investigation* outlining the scope of the archaeological work was subsequently produced (ASE 2011a). All work was carried out in accordance with this document and with the relevant standards and guidance of the Institute for Archaeologists (IfA 2008) and the West Sussex Country Council's, *Recommended Standard Archaeological Conditions* (WSCC 2007).

1.4 Scope of Report

1.4.1 This report details the results of the archaeological watching brief, undertaken between 13th and 19th March 2012, by Diccon Hart (Senior Archaeologist), and Nicki Bettley, Chris Russell and Gary Webster (Archaeologists). The fieldwork was managed by Jon Sygrave (Project Manager) and the post-excavation analysis by Dan Swift (Project Manager).

2.0 ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND

- 2.1 The archaeological background to the site was summarised in the *Written Scheme of Investigation* (ASE 2011a) and is reproduced below.
- 2.2 The site lies within the historic core of New Shoreham, which was founded shortly after the Norman Conquest at the mouth of the River Adur. The name Shoreham originates from the Saxon *scora ham* and relates to the local steep slope of the downland. West Street forms part of the original Norman grid-pattern for the planned town, running south to north from the High Street. Following a period of economic prosperity in the 12th century New Shoreham fell into decline due to the silting up of the harbour and the destruction of the southern part of the port by sea in 1401.
- 2.3 A Carmelite Priory was founded in 1316 and two hospitals were also built during the medieval period. Medieval remains that survive above ground to this day include the church of St Mary de Haura and The Marlipins building (now a museum) which fronts onto High Street, opposite the proposed development.
- 2.4 John Street, to the east of West Street was originally known as St John Street, thought to derive from the Knights of St John (the Knights Hospitallers) who had some form of establishment in the town during the 12th century. It is therefore considered likely that a religious community was located in this area.
- 2.5 In 2001 an archaeological evaluation and excavation was undertaken at 5 John Street. The excavations revealed a series of cess and rubbish pits, typical of medieval occupation, and spanning the 12th – early 16th centuries, with a couple of later features. Only one feature was investigated that was thought to be structural, a right-angled robbed-out foundation trench.
- 2.6 Excavations undertaken at Ropetackle, to the west revealed surviving archaeological deposits despite extensive truncation by recent development. A range of features were recorded, dating from the Late Iron Age to the post-medieval period, mostly comprising rubbish and cess pits. However, at the Ropetackle site there was also evidence of earlier activity, with a scatter of prehistoric struck and fire-cracked flint and a solitary sherd of Late Bronze Age/Early Iron Age pottery.
- 2.7 Recent archaeological investigations undertaken by ASE at 19-21 West Street to the west of the site revealed evidence of medieval domestic activity in the form of a number of rubbish pits (ASE project ref. 4784, report forthcoming).
- 2.8 The most recent investigations undertaken in Shoreham by ASE were at Ship Street, Shoreham (ASE 2011b) and comprised the excavation of a single 'L' shaped trench. Evidence for possible prehistoric to early Roman ditches were encountered, along with medieval remains dating to between the 12th and 14th centuries (including a possible structure), and the remains of post-medieval houses dating to between the 18th and 19th centuries.

3.0 ARCHAEOLOGICAL METHODOLOGY

3.1 Methodology

- 3.1.1 All machine excavation was undertaken under archaeological supervision using a mechanical excavator fitted with a toothless grading bucket. All spoil from the machine excavations was scanned for the presence of any artefacts, both visually and using a metal detector.
- 3.1.2 All encountered archaeological deposits were recorded in accordance with the WSI (ASE 2011a) and with the relevant Standards and Guidance of the Institute of Archaeologists (IfA 2008), using *pro-forma* recording sheets.
- 3.1.3 A photographic record of the work was kept and forms part of the site archive. The archive (quantified in Table 2) is presently held at Archaeology South-East offices in Portslade and will be submitted to Marlipins Museum in due course.

3.2 Aims and Objectives

- 3.2.1 The general objective of the archaeological work was to monitor all excavations associated with the proposed redevelopment.

3.3 Quantification of Archive

Number of Contexts	77
No. of files/paper record	1 file
Plan and sections sheets	5
Bulk Samples	1
Photographs	55 Digital
Bulk finds	1 box
Registered finds	none
Environmental flots/residue	1 box

Table 1: Site archive quantification

4.0 RESULTS (Figures 2-7)

4.1 Introduction

4.1.1 The groundworks monitored during the course of the fieldwork consisted of the machine excavation of two foundation trenches measuring approximately 1.20m wide and 1.20m deep, extending the full length of the site (Figure 2). Unfortunately, these foundation trenches were excavated through a complex archaeological sequence representing multi-period activity from the medieval period onwards including pits, quarries, wells and cess pits, as well as evidence for buildings.

4.1.2 It has proved possible to provisionally reconstruct the basic archaeological sequence through careful examination of the foundation trench sections, augmented by limited hand-excavation where possible. However, the mechanical excavation of the trenches has resulted in an inevitable loss of archaeological data; some key stratigraphic relationships have been lost and dating evidence is largely confined to occasional finds retrieved from section. The resultant phasing of the archaeological sequence is, therefore, necessarily very broad.

4.1.3 The archaeological sequence has been arranged into subgroups (SGs), groups (GPs) and landuse entities (Open Areas and Buildings) as an aid to interpretation and description of the sequence.

4.2 Natural geology and topography

Open Area 1: natural geology and topography

4.2.1 The underlying natural geology of the site consisted of a combination of gravel head deposits and brickearth (GP1), recorded between 5.29m AOD in the northwest corner of the site (Trench 2) and 4.96m AOD in the southeast corner (Trench 1).

4.3 Period 1: Late Medieval c. AD1375/1400-1540 (Figures 3-5)

4.3.1 The earliest activity identified on the site dates to the late medieval period, from c. 1375/1400 onwards and includes a variety of pits, hearths and a well. There is no evidence of any buildings on the site during the period and it is probable that the site lay to the rear of properties fronting the High Street to the south at this time.

Phase 1a

Open Area 2: Late medieval pits and hearth (Figures 3 and 4)

4.3.2 The earliest activity identified on the site dates to the late medieval period and includes several pits, a probable hearth base and chalk-filled feature of uncertain function recorded in section. Four pits are assigned to Open Area 1, including a sub-rectangular pit [040] and a circular pit [005] in Trench 1 to the south of the site (GP2) and a large sub-rectangular pit [011] and a smaller circular pit [018] to the north in Trench 2 (GP4). Finds recovered from these features were few but include a small assemblage of later 14th to 15th century pottery from pit [011] (context [014], SG31) and a fragment of peg tile from pit [005] (context [006], SG3).

- 4.3.3 A probable hearth base was also excavated to the north of the site in Trench 2 (GP3), consisting of a thin layer of burnt clay [017] within a shallow cut [016]. The interpretation as a hearth is supported by an environmental sample retrieved from this feature yielded frequent charcoal fragments dominated by beechwood, a wood that is eminently suitable as fuel. The final feature assigned to Open Area 1 comprised a shallow cut [038] filled with chalk [037] (Fig. 3; section 2). Unfortunately, the feature was only recorded in section and thus its shape extent and function remains unknown, though it is possible that the chalk fill represents either capping within a small rubbish pit or a small foundation.

Phase 1b

Open Area 3: A buried late medieval soil horizon and associated pitting (Figs. 3 and 5)

- 4.3.4 The features described above were sealed by a buried soil horizon of mid yellowish brown silty clay (GP3; contexts [031], [046], [075]; Fig. 3) that may represent a garden soil or similar. Several late medieval features were cut through this soil horizon. These include a large pit to the southeast of the site that has been interpreted as a small quarry (GP7; pit [043]), as well as a series of intercutting rubbish pits distributed across the northern half of the site (GP10; pits [020], [022]; Fig. 5 [048], [050] and [056]; Fig. 3) that suggests fairly intensive activity. Other features assigned to this phase of land use include a chalk-lined well recorded in section (GP9; Fig. 5) in Trench 2 and a further hearth base recorded in section to the south (GP8), consisting of a layer of burnt clay [035], complete with what appears to be a layer of associated rake-out of charcoal [036] (Fig. 3; section 2).
- 4.3.5 Finds recovered from these features include a range of domestic and industrial refuse from pit [022], including animal bone (sheep/goat), oyster shell, peg tile and daub, a fragment of slag and a sherd of residual 13th-14th century pottery and fragment of cattle bone from pit [042].

4.4 Period 2: Post-medieval c. AD1540-present (Figures 3, 6 and 7)

- 4.4.1 The advent of the post-medieval period sees the development of the site with the construction of buildings on the western side of the site, against Middle Street. From the available evidence, however, it is impossible to determine whether these buildings represent infilling of the back plot of properties fronting the High Street to the south, or the development of a separate plot with a building fronting Middle Street to the west.
- 4.4.2 The period may be divided into two phases, based on the stratigraphy and available dating evidence. Phase 2a dates from the start of the period, c. AD1540 to c. AD1800. Phase 2b spans the period c. AD1800 to the present day.

Phase 2a (AD1540-1800)

Building 1

- 4.4.3 The evidence for Building 1 consists of an east-west foundation of coursed flint (GP12, wall [077]), with a later north-south aligned robber trench (Phase 2b, GP 14) marking the position of the eastern wall of the building (Figs. 3 and 6). Unfortunately, wall [077] lay beyond the limits of excavation of Trench 2 and appears only in section,

although enough was visible to determine its construction and alignment. It is also unfortunate that a complete lack of dating means it is impossible to establish the construction date for this building, although the presence of at least one feature dated to the 17th century in the associated Open Area 4 to the east suggests the possibility that Building 1 dates to the earlier part of the period.

Open Area 4: Land to east of Building 1

- 4.4.4 Open Area 4 lay to the east of Building 1 and includes a pit in the northeast of the site (GP13, context [012]; Fig. 6) and two intercutting features in the far southeast of the site (GP11). The earlier of these two features comprised a large, ill-defined cut recorded in section only (pit [026]; Fig. 3; section 2), tentatively dated to the 17th century on the basis of a sherd of later 16th-17th century German stoneware and several fragments of 17th-18th century peg tile recovered from its fill. The later feature is much better dated and consisted of a sub-circular pit [009] (Fig. 6) that produced a large assemblage of finds including pottery from at least seven vessels, two shaft and globe wine bottles and clay pipe; an early 18th century date for the feature is probable. A layer of cobbles [010] in the base of this feature is difficult to interpret but may represent some form of capping over a refuse deposit.

Phase 2b: (AD1800+)

Open Area 5: site clearance and pitting.

- 4.4.5 The demolition and partial clearance of Building 1 is represented by the robbing of its eastern wall (GP 14, robber trench [058], Fig. 3; section 2). The presence of two pits in the south of the site (GP 15, pits [003] and [007]; Fig. 7) indicates that the site lay undeveloped for a period prior to the construction of Building 2. Finds recovered from the GP 15 pits include a few sherds of 19th stoneware and blue transfer printed ware and fragments of 17th-19th century brick and tile.

Building 2

- 4.4.6 Building 2 (GP16; Fig. 3; sections 1 and 2 and Fig. 7) appears to have been built largely within the footprint of Building 1, occupying the western side of the site. The evidence for this building includes a north-south aligned wall, comprising a trench built foundation of chalk and flint, supporting a superstructure wall of brick and dressed flint (SG15 and SG33). Internally, the building was floored with brick, laid on a mortar bed over a levelling layer of imported soils (SG14; [28], [30]; Fig. 3; section 2 and SG 34; [68]; Fig. 3; section 1).

Open Area 6: land to east of Building 2

- 4.4.7 A thick layer of dark greyish brown garden soil (SG 36, context [074]; Fig. 3; section 1) abutted the external face of the wall of Building 2 and presumably represents landscaping or cultivation of the open ground to the east of the building. The only feature identified within this open area comprised a masonry lined cess pit (GP 18; Fig. 7) situated in the far northeast corner of the site. A large assemblage of early 19th century pottery was recovered from the backfill of this feature (Context [063]; SG37), including, appropriately, a near complete creamware chamber pot, as well as several complete and near complete clay tobacco pipes (RFs <1> to <5>).

5.0 THE FINDS AND ENVIRONMENTAL EVIDENCE

5.1 Introduction

5.1.1 A small collection of finds was recovered during the watching brief at 32-34 Shoreham High Street.

Context	Pottery	Wt (g)	CBM	Wt (g)	Bone	Wt (g)	Shell	Wt (g)	Flint	Wt (g)	Stone	Wt (g)	Glass	Wt (g)	F Clay	Wt (g)	Slag	Wt (g)	CTP	Wt (g)
1	1	212																		
4	1	4			1	4									1	8				
6			3	682																
8	2	6	3	216																
14	3	222																		
15	2	26	5	358	3	108	1	26			2	42								
23			3	178	6	16	4	184	1	220	9	660			1	48	1	52		
24	10	444	1	114	1	12							6	1588					1	32
25	1	25	3	354																
42	1	8			1	22														
63	23	2014					1	0											10	94
u/s													1	42						
Total	44	2961	18	1902	12	162	6	210	1	220	11	702	7	1630	2	56	1	52	11	126

Table 2 Quantification of the finds from Shoreham High Street

5.2 The Pottery by Luke Barber

5.2.1 The archaeological work recovered a relatively small assemblage of pottery from the site. Despite its modest size the ceramics span some 700 years. Virtually all of the pottery is in fresh unabraded condition, frequently consisting of large sherds (to in excess of 200mm across) and with conjoining sherds in a number of deposits. As such it would appear that the assemblage, regardless of period, has not been subjected to any significant reworking.

5.2.2 The earliest sherd was recovered from context [42]. This deposit produced a single small but fresh reduced cooking pot bodysherd in a well-fired medium sand tempered ware of later 13th- to 14th- century date. The sherd is extensively sooted on its exterior surface.

5.2.3 Context [14] produced three large fresh sherds from two vessels of later 14th- to 15th- century date. Both are in a buff fine sand tempered ware with some larger quartz grains (similar to the classic painted wares of the 15th and early 16th centuries). The jar has a typical flaring lid-seated rim of 15th- to early 16th- century type and green glazing externally and on the rim interior. The jug is of High Medieval type with external green glaze and weakly thumbled base. The full chronological range of West Sussex ware-type jugs is not known but it is suspected they continue well into the first half of the 15th century. The ceramics of the period between 1350/75 and 1450 are not well understood in many parts of Sussex (including Shoreham) and it is a great shame this deposit did not produce a large, more reliable, group.

- 5.2.4 The early post-medieval period is well represented in the assemblage. Although a number of sherds could be from as early as the mid 16th century most can be fitted within a mid 17th- to mid 18th- century date bracket. Context [1] produced a large base sherd from a tripod pipkin in green glazed earthenware while [15] contained the rim of a dish in local slipware dish with two concentric white slip trails around its club rim. A mid 17th- to mid 18th- century date is likely for this vessel. The largest early post-medieval group, probably dating to the early years of the 18th century, was recovered from [24]. This produced sherds from seven different vessels. Two local green glazed red earthenware sherds represent a jar base and plate with hammer-head rim. Three London tin-glazed vessels are present – the base of a charger with blue painted design, three sherds from a small plate with blue line and sponged decoration and a sherd from a similarly sized plate with blue line and purple sponged decoration. This form of decoration on tin-glazed wares is quite typical for the first half of the 18th century. The remaining two vessels consist of a probable Derby stoneware tankard and the rim from an uncoloured ribbed tankard in German Westerwald stoneware. Context [25] also produced a sherd of German stoneware, though this is from Frechen and could have been made anywhere between the mid 16th and 17th centuries.
- 5.2.5 Late post-medieval pottery is also well represented in the assemblage. The largest and best preserved group is from [63] where fragments of eight different vessels were recovered. These consist of a near complete small (200mm diameter by 124mm tall) creamware chamber pot, the rim from a 310mm diameter creamware bowl, a pink lustre decorated small creamware commemorative jug of the Wear bridge, a complete shouldered English stoneware bottle (163mm tall with a 69mm diameter base) and fragments of four pearlware plates. The latter include a blue shell-edged example and three transfer-printed vessels (including willow pattern, ivy and foliage designs). A date between c. 1800 and 1830 is likely for the group. Context [8] produced single sherds of London stoneware (bottle) and pearlware (industrially slipped bowl) of a generally similar date to [63]. The latest sherd from the site consists of a small piece from a blue transfer-printed vessel of post 1830 date (context [4]).

5.3 The Ceramic Building Material by Sarah Porteus

- 5.3.1 A total of 16 fragments of ceramic building material (CBM) with a combined weight of 1568g were recovered during the watching brief. The assemblage was examined with the aid of a x10 binocular microscope and a provisional fabric series was drawn up. The assemblage has been retained with the exception of a single piece of 20th century cement mortar.
- 5.3.2 Context [4] contained a small brick fragment in a fine orange fabric with sparse rounded quartz inclusions.
- 5.3.3 Context [6] contained a large piece of peg tile in fabric T1; an orange coarse fabric with abundant coarse quartz and inclusions of pale cream silt. The peg tile is warped and may be of medieval, or possibly early post-medieval date. A fragment of burned tile, or fine sandstone was also recovered from context [6].
- 5.3.4 Context [8] contained a fragment of peg tile in fabric T2; a fine orange fabric with sparse coarse quartz and white chalk inclusions. The peg tile is of broad 17th to 19th century date.

5.3.5 Also recovered from context [8] was a large piece of cement mortar of probable 20th century date. Peg tile in fabric T1 of later medieval or early post-medieval date was also recovered from context [15] and [23]. Context [24] contained a fragment of peg tile in fabric T3; a chunky orange silt fabric of 16th to 18th century date. Context [25] contained a fragment of post-medieval peg tile in fabric T2 of 17th to 18th century date.

5.4 The Fired Clay by Trista Clifford

5.4.1 A single fragment of structural daub in a fairly course, abundant fine sand tempered fabric with frequent organic temper was recovered from [23]. Environmental sample <1> context [17] contained several pieces of fired clay in a much softer fabric with occasional chalk inclusions, with smoothed, buff coloured flat surfaces. This too is likely to be structural in nature.

5.5 The Clay Tobacco Pipe by Elke Raemen

5.5.1 A small assemblage consisting of six bowls, four stem fragments and a mouthpiece was recovered from two individually numbered contexts. The pieces are all large, unabraded and the bowls complete, suggesting they are in their primary deposit. One of the stem fragments conjoins with bowl RF <1>; another conjoins with the straight cut mouthpiece.

5.5.2 Bowls were classified according to the London 'Chronology of Bowl Types' (prefix AO) by Atkinson and Oswald (1969, 177-180).

5.5.3 Included is a type AO25 (1700-1770) recovered from [24]. The bowl is likely to date towards the early part of the 18th century. The remaining bowls are all from [63] and are spur variants of AO27 (1780-1820). All five exhibit moulded leaf decoration on the seams. RF <1> and <2>, although very similar, are from different moulds, with RF <1> in addition poorly finished. RF <3> retains maker's marks "EC" or "FC" in addition to the leaf decoration. No local makers are known with these initials, although a Francis Coates was apprenticed in Guildford in 1768 (Oswald 1975, 195). However, RF <5>, with leaf-decorated seams, flutes and maker's mark "?C", appears to have been made by the same maker as RF <4>.

5.5.4 Multiple pipes of one maker are usually indicative of a fairly local manufacturer. A third pipe with maker's mark (RF <5>) exhibits rosettes on either side of the spur, with leaf-decorated seams and grapes in moulded relief. Such symbols cannot generally be traced back to an individual maker.

5.6 The Glass by Elke Raemen

5.6.1 Eight pieces of glass were recovered from the site, including one complete and one near complete vessel. The former consists of a cylindrical phial in clear glass of late 18th- to 19th-century date from the topsoil.

5.6.2 The remainder were all found in [24] and include an uncorroded near complete shaft and globe wine bottle of late 17th- to early 18th- century type (full height 155mm, girth di 130mm) as well as five fragments from another shaft and globe wine bottle, this time of larger proportion i.e. base 150mm diameter, and dating to the early 18th century.

5.6.3 In addition, the context contained the base of a late 17th- to 18th-century colourless glass phial.

5.7 The Shell by Elke Raemen

5.7.1 A small assemblage, consisting of five mature oyster shells (*Ostrea edulis*) and one periwinkle (*Littorina littorea*), was recovered from three different contexts. Included are two right valves from oyster shells (contexts [15] and [23]) and three left valves, the latter all from [23] and displaying some parasitic activity. The periwinkle was found in [63].

5.8 Metallurgical Remains by Luke Barber

5.8.1 A single piece of undiagnostic iron slag was recovered from [23]. The piece most likely relates to smithing but more would be needed to prove this.

5.9 Geological Material by Trista Clifford

5.9.1 Roofing slate was hand collected from two separate contexts, [15] and [23] and retrieved from environmental sample <1> [17]. A West Country source is most likely.

5.10 Flintwork by Karine Le Hégarat

5.10.1 A single struck flint weighing 220g was recovered from context [023]. The artefact consists of a secondary irregular long and relatively thick flake. The artefact was crudely worked. It was manufactured from mottled dark grey flint with a thin abraded cortex.

5.10.2 The piece of flint débitage is chronologically undiagnostic and could even represent an accidental flake from building stone. Two flint pebbles were retained from the site (contexts [15] and [63]). These are quite natural for the area.

5.11 The Animal Bone by Gemma Ayton

5.11.1 The animal bone assemblage contains eleven fragments from five contexts and has been hand-collected during excavation. The fragments are small and no complete bones recovered. No evidence of butchery, burning, gnawing or pathology has been noted.

5.11.2 The identifiable assemblage includes a sheep/goat axis from context [24]. Context [015] contains the proximal end of a cattle metacarpal and a fragment of sheep/goat tibia. A fragment of bird bone was recovered from context [23] though it has not been possible to identify either the species or the element. Context [42] contains a small fragment of cattle maxilla. The remaining assemblage is comprised of cattle and sheep-sized rib fragments from contexts [15] and [4].

5.11.3 Due to the size of the assemblage, it holds no potential for further analysis and no further work is required.

5.12 The Environmental Sample

- 5.12.1 A single 40L sample was taken during investigation work at the site to establish the presence of environmental remains such as charcoal, charred macroplant remains, fauna and mollusca as well as to assist finds recovery. The sample which came from the fill [017] of pit [016] was processed in a flotation tank and the residue and flot were retained on 500µm and 250µm meshes and air dried. The residue was passed through graded sieves (8, 4 and 2mm) and each fraction sorted for environmental and artefact remains (Table 3). The small flot (<2ml) was scanned under a stereozoom microscope at x7-45 magnifications and its content recorded (Table 4).
- 5.12.2 The flot from this sample was dominated by very small wood charcoal flecks and the residue produced a relatively large assemblage of charcoal comprising large fragments >25mm in size. Although several fragments were poorly preserved as a result of sediment percolation the majority were sufficiently well preserved for identification. Beech (*Fagus sylvatica*) dominated the assemblage and this wood is eminently suitable for use as fuel or structural timber.
- 5.12.3 Other environmental remains were sparse in this sample. They were limited to infrequent charred macroplant remains and three marine shell fragments. The small assemblage of charred macroplants included scarce grains of possible free-threshing wheat (*Triticum* cf. *aestivum*) and barley (cf. *Hordeum* sp.) as well as some infrequent grass caryopses (Poaceae). The remains were moderately well to well preserved. A small amount of burnt clay, slate, CBM, metal and a single sherd of pottery were also recorded in the pit feature.
- 5.12.4 Sampling has confirmed the presence of a small amount of environmental remains including a moderate assemblage of charcoal and a smaller quantity of charred macroplants. It is likely that the assemblage of environmental and artefact remains recovered from the sample represents general domestic debris which has accumulated within the pit feature over time.

Sample Number	Context	Context / deposit type	Sample Volume litres	Sub-Sample Volume litres	Charcoal >4mm	Weight (g)	Charcoal <4mm	Weight (g)	Charred botanicals (other than charcoal)	Weight (g)	Marine Molluscs	Weight (g)	Other (eg ind, pot, cbm)
1	17	Fill of pit [016]	40	40	***	40	***	4	*	<2	*	<2	B. Clay **/186g - Pottery */4g - Metal */2g - Slate */2g - CBM */20g

Table 3: Residue quantification (* = 1-10, ** = 11-50, *** = 51-250, **** = >250) and weights in grams

Sample Number	Context	Weight g	Flot volume ml	Volume scanned	Uncharred %	Sediment %	Seeds uncharred	Charcoal >4mm	Charcoal <4mm	Charcoal <2mm	Crop seeds charred	Identifications	Preservation	Weed seeds charred	Identifications	Preservation	Land Snail Shells
1	17	2	<2	<2	4	-	* <i>Sambucus nigra</i> , unid. seeds	*	*	***	*	<i>Triticum cf. aestivum</i> , <i>Hordeum</i> sp.	++ to +++	*	Poaceae	+ +	** 4 %

Table 4: Flot quantification (*=1-10, ** = 11-50, *** = 51-250, **** = >250) and preservation (+ = poor, ++ = moderate, +++ = good)

6.0 DISCUSSION AND CONCLUSIONS

6.1 Introduction

6.1.1 The archaeological fieldwork identifies a sequence spanning some 600 years, from the late-medieval period onwards and comprising a range of features, including pits, cess pits, wells and foundations. It is unfortunate that the sequence was largely excavated by machine for the loss of some key stratigraphic relationships, coupled with a general paucity of reliable dating evidence has resulted in a lack of resolution within the structure of the recorded archaeological sequence. Nevertheless, sufficient information has been gleaned from the surviving archaeological deposits to provide a fairly coherent, if sketchy, narrative for the development of a burgage plot within the historic core of New Shoreham. In addition, the location of the site directly opposite an excavated site to the rear of the Marlipin's (Thomas 2005) provides a rare opportunity to compare activity on each side of a medieval street within the town.

6.2 Period 1: Medieval

6.2.1 The lack of any definable medieval activity on the site prior to the late 14th century is, in itself, noteworthy. The site lies in immediate proximity to The Marlipins, a building known to date to the 12th century (Thomas 2005) and excavations elsewhere within the historic core of the town, such as at Ropetackle (Stevens 2011) or John Street (Stevens 2009) have succeeded in identifying activity dating to the 12th and 13th centuries that is broadly contemporary with the heyday of the newly established port town. It should be noted, however, that the archaeological evidence for Saxo-Norman occupation in the town is fairly limited; only a handful of features could be positively dated to the period at Ropetackle and John Street (*ibid.* 2009, 63; 2011, 100) and the archaeological evidence from the Marlipins excavations, directly opposite the site consists entirely of a residual assemblage of pottery from the period. Given the limitations of the current investigation, therefore, it is quite conceivable that early undated features on the subject site may be of 12th or 13th century date.

6.2.2 The late-medieval occupation of the site appears to be consistent with domestic activity associated with a burgage plot fronting the High Street, consisting of rubbish pits, a well and a possible small quarry. The presence of a buried soil horizon on the site is interesting as no comparably dated soil horizon exists opposite at The Marlipins. In fact, much of the late-medieval activity to the rear of The Marlipins appears to be quite specialised, relating to a major clearance operation presumed to be associated with a major phase of rebuilding of The Marlipins itself, with some additional evidence for a separate structure to the rear of The Marlipins that indicates early infilling of the burgage plot (Thomas 2005, 189-190). The subject site, in contrast appears to remain undeveloped during the period.

6.3 Period 2: Post-medieval

Phase 2a:

- 6.3.1 The available evidence from the subject site indicates partial infilling of the medieval burgage plot at some time during the period c. AD1550-1800, perhaps earlier, rather than later, with some associated external activity to the east. Again, a lack of dating makes it difficult to be any more precise than this and it is also impossible, on the basis of the available evidence, to determine whether this represents subdivision of the medieval plot or simply an extension to the rear of buildings fronting the High Street. Following demolition and clearance of this early building, the site appears to have lain open for a short period, prior to the construction of a further building against the street front, with a masonry cess pit to the rear.
- 6.3.2 Generally speaking the sequence of gradual infilling of the burgage plot can be considered to be fairly typical for the situation of the site within the urban core of the town and is broadly paralleled across the street at The Marlipins, where partial infilling of the plot to the rear of The Marlipins was followed by a brief phase of site clearance during the latter half of the 17th century, prior to the construction of a sequence of workshops and storehouses. Again, the evidence from the Marlipins suggests more specialised activity than that on this site but this is perhaps unsurprising given the location to the rear of an arguably unique building that fulfilled a largely commercial function.

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ASE would like to thank Mr Darren Naker and Ms Tracey Scott for commissioning the work and John Mills of WSCC for his advice and guidance throughout the project.

APPENDIX 1: CONTEXT REGISTER

CONTEXT	CONTEXT TYPE	FEATURE TYPE	PARENT CONTEXT	SUBGROUP	GROUP	LANDUSE	PERIOD NO	PHASE NO	AREA
1	L	MU	1	40	19		2		T1, T2
2	XX	XX	XX						
3	C	P	3	13	15	OA6	2	2B	T1
4	F	P	3	13	15	OA5	2	2B	T1
5	C	P	5	3	2	OA2	1	1A	T1
6	F	P	5	3	2	OA2	1	1A	T1
7	C	P	7	12	15	OA5	2	2B	T1
8	F	P	7	12	15	OA5	2	2B	T1
9	C	P	9	9	11	OA4	2	2A	T1
10	F	P	9	9	11	OA4	2	2A	T1
11	C	P	11	30	4	OA2	1	1A	T2
12	C	P	12	35	13	OA4	2	2A	T2
13	F	P	11	30	4	OA2	1	1A	T2
14	F	P	11	31	4	OA2	1	1A	T2
15	F	P	12	35	13	OA4	2	2A	T2
16	C	HE	16	38	3	OA2	1	1A	T2
17	F	HE	16	38	3	OA2	1	1A	T2
18	C	P	18	39	4	OA2	1	1A	T2
19	F	P	18	39	4	OA2	1	1A	T2
20	C	P	20	22	10	OA3	1	1B	T2
21	F	P	20	22	10	OA3	1	1B	T2
22	C	P	22	21	10	OA3	1	1B	T2
23	F	P	22	21	10	OA3	1	1B	T2
24	F	P	10	10	11	OA4	2	2A	T1
25	F	P	26	8	11	OA4	2	2A	T1
26	C	P	26	8	11	OA4	2	2A	T1
27	L	EC	27	16	17	OA6	2	2B	T1
28	L	MU	28	14	16	BLG2	2	2B	T1
29	XX	XX	XX						T1
30	L	MU	30	14	16	BLG2	2	2B	T1
31	L	NS	31	5	6	OA3	1	1B	T1
32	M	WA	32	15	16	BLG2	2	2B	T1
33	M	WA	33	15	16	BLG2	2	2B	T1
34	C	S	34	15	16	BLG2	2	2B	T1
35	L	HE	35	11	8	OA3	1	1B	T1
36	L	HE	36	11	8	OA3	1	1B	T1
37	F	WA	37	2	5	OA2	1	1A	T1
38	C	S	38	2	5	OA2	1	1A	T1
39	F	P	40	4	2	OA2	1	1A	T1
40	C	P	40	4	2	OA2	1	1A	T1

CONTEXT	CONTEXT TYPE	FEATURE TYPE	PARENT CONTEXT	SUBGROUP	GROUP	LANDUSE	PERIOD NO	PHASE NO	AREA
41	F	PQ	43	7	7	OA3	1	1B	T1
42	F	PQ	43	6	7	OA3	1	1B	T1
43	C	PQ	43	6	7	OA3	1	1B	T1
44	L	N	44	1	1	OA1			T1
45	L	MU	45	40	19		2		T2
46	L	NS	46	18	6	OA3	1	1B	T2
47	L	N	47	17	1	OA1			T2
48	C	P	48	23	10	OA3	1	1B	T2
49	F	P	48	23	10	OA3	1	1B	T2
50	C	P	50	24	10	OA3	1	1B	T2
51	F	P	50	24	10	OA3	1	1B	T2
52	C	S	52	27	12	BLG1	2	2A	T2
53	F	S	52	27	12	BLG1	2	2A	T2
54	XX	XX	XX						T2
55	F	P	56	25	10	OA3	1	1B	T2
56	C	P	56	25	10	OA3	1	1B	T2
57	F	P	56	26	10	OA3	1	1B	T2
58	C	SN	58	28	14	OA5	2	2B	T2
59	F	SN	58	28	14	OA5	2	2B	T2
60	C	S	60	33	16	BLG2	2	2B	T2
61	M	WA	61	33	16	BLG2	2	2B	T2
62	F	S	60	33	16	BLG2	2	2B	T2
63	F	PC	64	37	18	OA6	2	2B	T2
64	M	PC	64	36	18	OA6	2	2B	T2
65	F	PC	66	36	18	OA6	2	2B	T2
66	C	PC	66	36	18	OA6	2	2B	T2
67	L	MU	67	34	16	BLG2	2	2B	T2
68	M	FL	68	34	16	BLG2	2	2B	T2
69	C	W	69	19	9	OA3	1	1B	T2
70	M	W	70	19	9	OA3	1	1B	T2
71	F	W	70	20	9	OA3	1	1B	T2
72	F	W	69	19	9	OA3	1	1B	T2
73	F	S	73	33	16	BLG2	2	2B	T2
74	L	EC	74	36	17	OA6	2	2B	T2
75	L	NS	75	32	6	OA3	1	1B	T2
76	L	N	76	29	1	OA1			T2
77	M	WA	77	27	12	BLG1	2	2A	T2

APPENDIX 2: GROUP EXPANSIONS

GROUP NO	DESCRIPTION	AREA	PERIOD NO.	PHASE	LANDUSE
1	NATURAL GEOLOGY	T1, T2	N/A		OA1
2	EARLY PITS IN S OF SITE	T1	1	1a	OA2
3	EARLY HEARTH BASE	T2	1	1a	OA2
4	EARLY PITS N OF SITE	T1	1	1a	OA2
5	CHALK FILLED PIT	T1	1	1a	OA2
6	BURIED SOIL HORIZON	T1, T2	1	1b	OA3
7	POSSIBLE QUARRY PIT	T1	1	1b	OA3
8	HEARTH BASE	T1	1	1b	OA3
9	CHALK LINED WELL	T2	1	1b	OA3
10	RUBBISH PITS	T2	2	2a	OA4
11	PITS IN SE OF SITE	T1	2	2a	OA4
12	E-W FOUNDATION BLG 1	T2	2	2a	BLG 1
13	PIT, NE OF SITE	T2	2	2a	OA4
14	ROBBING OF BLG 1	T1	2	2b	OA5
15	PITS , SW OF SITE	T1	2	2b	OA5
16	FOUNDATIONS AND FLOOR, BLG 2	T1, T2	2	2b	BLG 2
17	LEVELLING/LANDSCAPING, E OF BLG 2	T1, T2	2	2b	OA6
18	CESS PIT E OF BLG 2	T2	2	2b	OA6

APPENDIX 3: OASIS FORM

OASIS ID: archaeol6-124144

Project details

Project name	An archaeological watching brief on land to rear of 32-34, High Street, Shoreham
Short description of the project	Archaeology South-East was commissioned by Darren Baker and Tracey Scott to undertake an archaeological watching brief during intrusive groundworks associated with the redevelopment of land to the rear of 32-34, High Street, Shoreham, West Sussex. Two trenches were machine excavated across the site to reveal the underlying natural geology between 5.29m and 4.96m AOD. The earliest activity identified dated to the late medieval period and represented activity to the rear of properties fronting the High Street, including a number of pits, a well and two hearths as well as an associated buried soil horizon. Post-medieval activity on the site included two phases of buildings on the western half of the site, with associated external features to the east, including rubbish pits and a masonry lined cess pit
Project dates	Start: 13-03-2012 End: 19-03-2012
Previous/future work	No / No
Any associated project reference codes	HSW11 - Sitecode
Any associated project reference codes	4938 - Contracting Unit No.
Type of project	Recording project
Site status	None
Current Land use	Vacant Land 1 - Vacant land previously developed
Monument type	PIT Medieval
Monument type	HEARTH Medieval
Monument type	WELL Medieval
Monument type	QUARRY Medieval
Monument type	PIT Post Medieval
Monument type	FOUNDATION Post Medieval
Monument type	FLOOR Post Medieval
Monument type	CESS PIT Post Medieval
Significant Finds	POTTERY Medieval
Significant Finds	ROOF TILE Medieval
Significant Finds	ANIMAL BONE Medieval
Significant Finds	DAUB Medieval
Significant Finds	POTTERY Post Medieval
Significant Finds	ROOF TILE Post Medieval

Significant Finds	CLAY PIPE (SMOKING) Post Medieval
Significant Finds	GLASS Post Medieval
Investigation type	'Watching Brief'
Prompt	Planning condition
Project location	
Country	England
Site location	WEST SUSSEX ADUR SHOREHAM BY SEA LAND TO REAR OD 32-34, HIGH STREET, SHOREHAM
Postcode	BN43 5DA
Study area	120.00 Square metres
Site coordinates	TQ 215 050 50.8311955949 -0.274514894132 50 49 52 N 000 16 28 W Point
Height OD / Depth	Min: 4.96m Max: 5.29m
Project creators	
Name of Organisation	Archaeology South-East
Project brief originator	Archaeology South-East
Project design originator	Archaeology South-East
Project director/manager	Jon Sygrave
Project supervisor	Diccon Hart
Type of sponsor/funding body	Client
Name of sponsor/funding body	DARREN BAKER
Project archives	
Physical Archive recipient	Marlipins Museum
Physical Contents	'Animal Bones','Ceramics','Environmental','Glass','Worked stone/lithics'
Digital Archive recipient	Marlipins
Digital Contents	'Animal Bones','Ceramics','Environmental','Glass','Stratigraphic','Worked stone/lithics'
Digital Media available	'Images raster / digital photography','Images vector','Spreadsheets','Survey','Text'
Paper Archive recipient	Marlipins
Paper Contents	'Environmental','Stratigraphic'
Paper Media available	'Context sheet','Correspondence','Matrices','Report','Section','Unpublished Text'

Project
bibliography 1

Publication type Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)

Title ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF REPORT. LAND TO REAR OF
 32-34, HIGH STREET, SHOREHAM, WEST SUSSEX

Author(s)/Editor(s) Hart, D

Other bibliographic
details 2012094

Date 2012

Issuer or publisher Archaeology South-East

Place of issue or
publication Archaeology South-East

Description A4 booklet

Entered by D Hart (d.hart@ucl.ac.uk)

Entered on 24 April 2012

APPENDIX 4: HER SUMMARY FORM

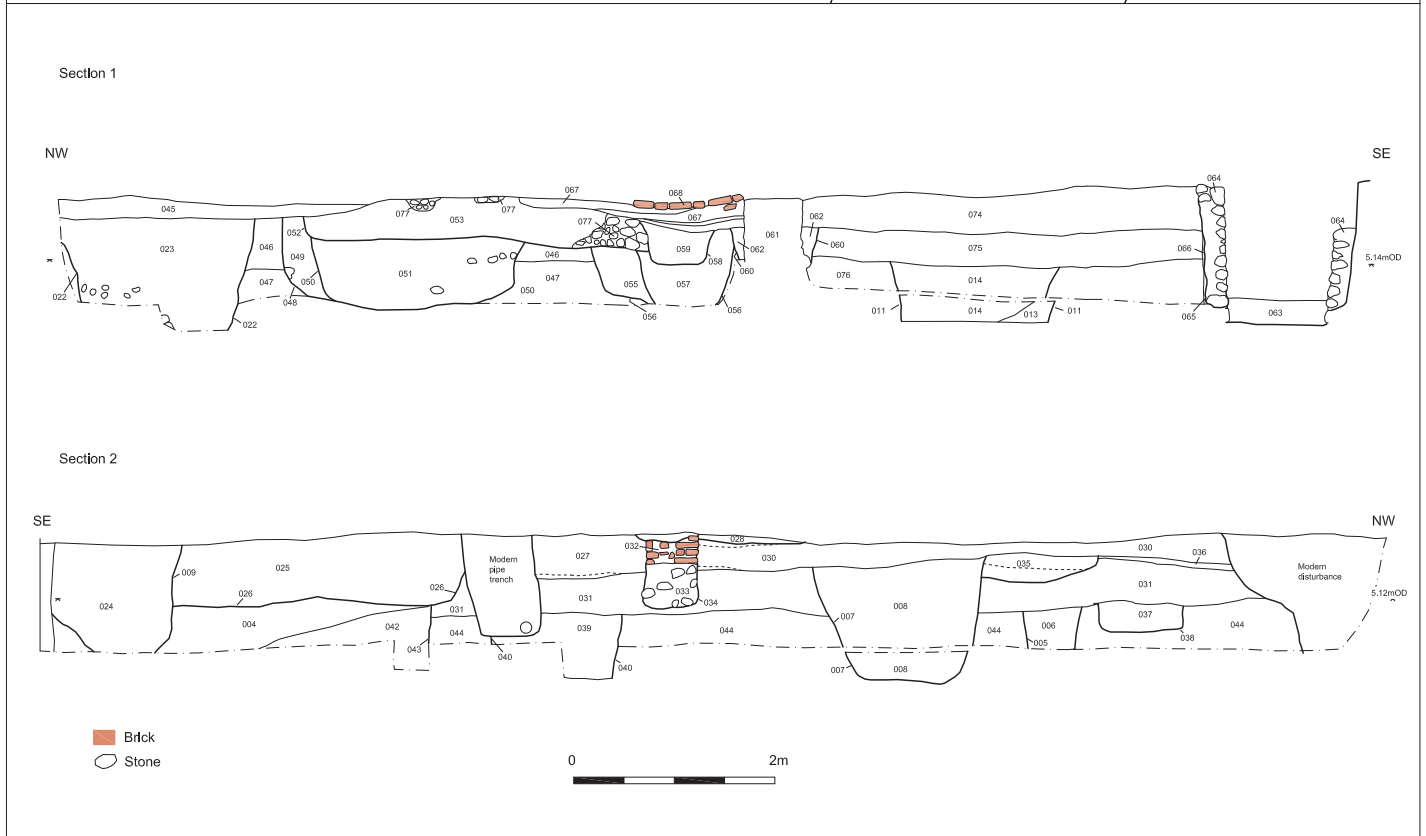
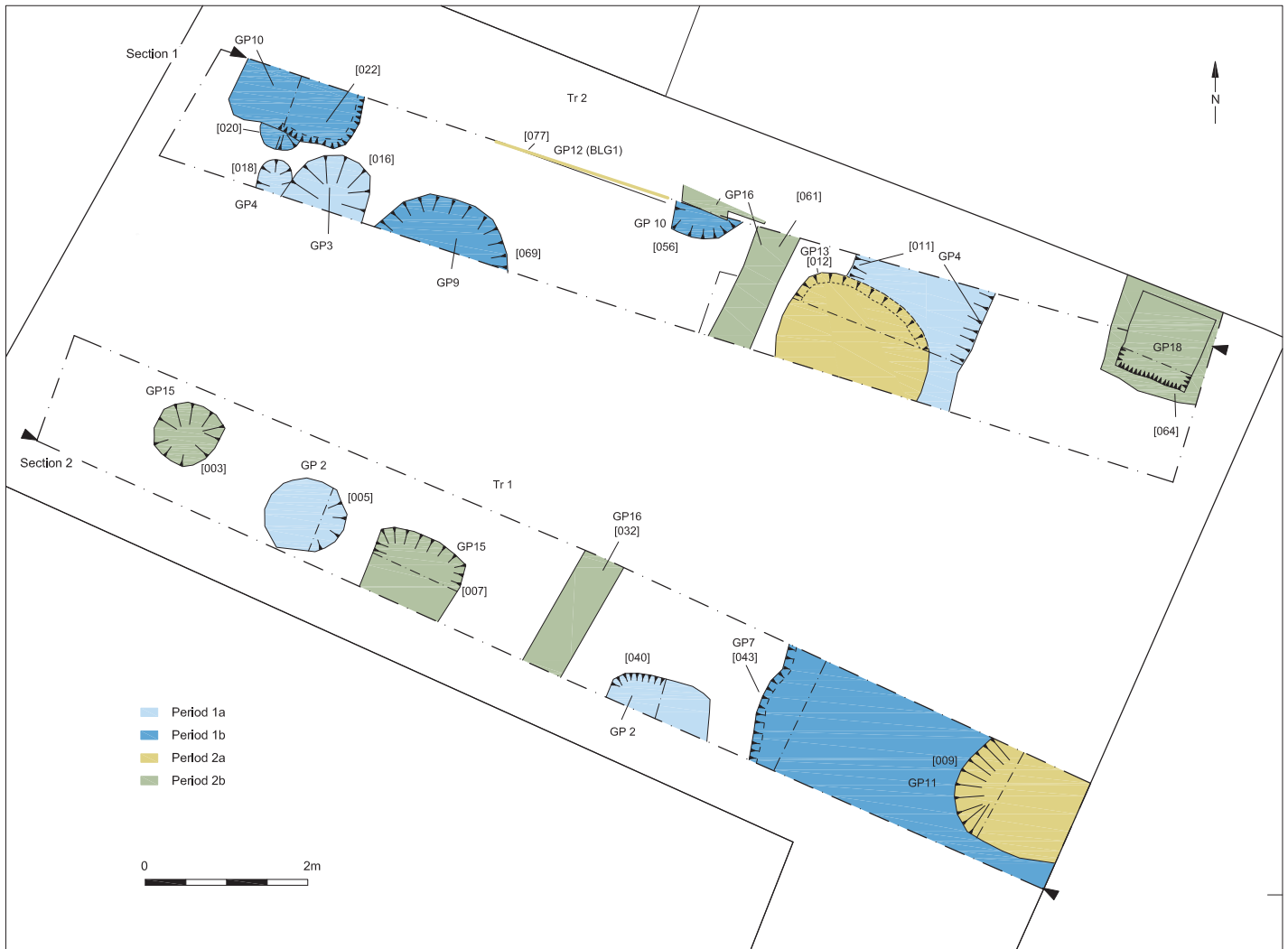
Site Code	HSW11					
Identification Name and Address	Land to rear of 32-32 High Street, Shoreham. West Sussex					
County, District &/or Borough	West Sussex, Adur					
OS Grid Refs.	521515 105031					
Geology	Head deposits					
Arch. South-East Project Number						4938
Type of Fieldwork	Eval.	Excav.	Watching Brief ✓	Standing Structure	Survey	Other
Type of Site	Green Field	Shallow Urban ✓	Deep Urban	Other		
Dates of Fieldwork	Eval.	Excav.	WB. 13-19.03.12	Other		
Sponsor/Client	Darren Baker					
Project Manager	Jon Sygrave					
Project Supervisor	Diccon Hart					
Period Summary	Palaeo.	Meso.	Neo.	BA	IA	RB
	AS	MED ✓	PM ✓	Other		
<p>Archaeology South-East was commissioned by Darren Baker and Tracey Scott to undertake an archaeological watching brief during intrusive groundworks associated with the redevelopment of land to the rear of 32-34, High Street, Shoreham, West Sussex.</p> <p>Two trenches were machine excavated across the site to reveal the underlying natural geology between 5.29m and 4.96m AOD. The earliest activity identified dated to the late medieval period and represented activity to the rear of properties fronting the High Street, including a number of pits, a well and two hearths as well as an associated buried soil horizon. Post-medieval activity on the site included two phases of buildings on the western half of the site, with associated external features to the east, including rubbish pits and a masonry lined cess pit</p>						

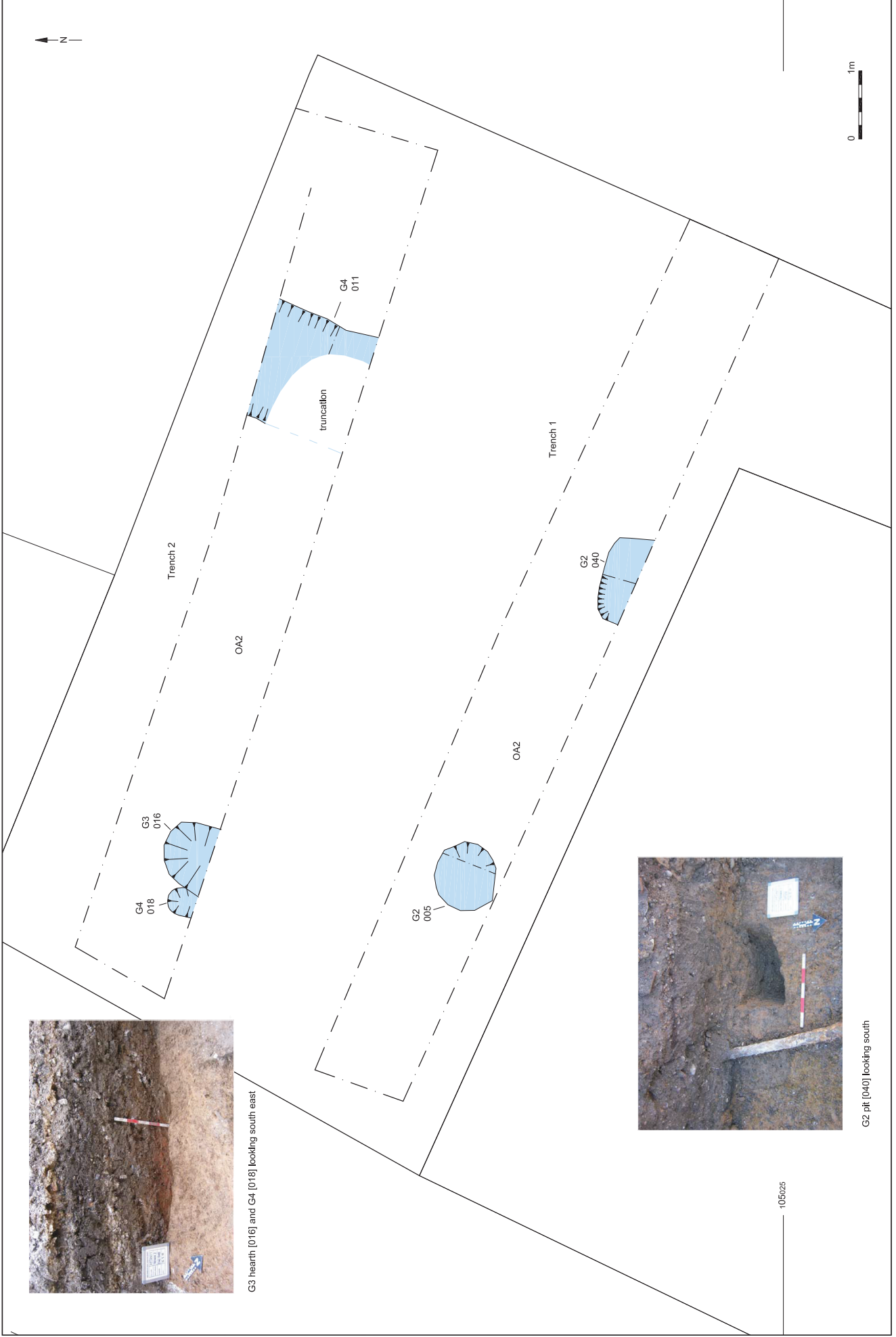


© Archaeology South-East		Land behind 32-34 High Street, Shoreham	Fig. 1
Project Ref: 4938	April 2012	Site location	
Report Ref: 2012094	Drawn by: FEG		



© Archaeology South-East		Land behind 32-34 High Street, Shoreham	Fig. 2
Project Ref: 4938	April 2012	Site plan showing area of investigation	
Report Ref: 2012094	Drawn by: JLR		





G3 hearth [016] and G4 [018] looking south east



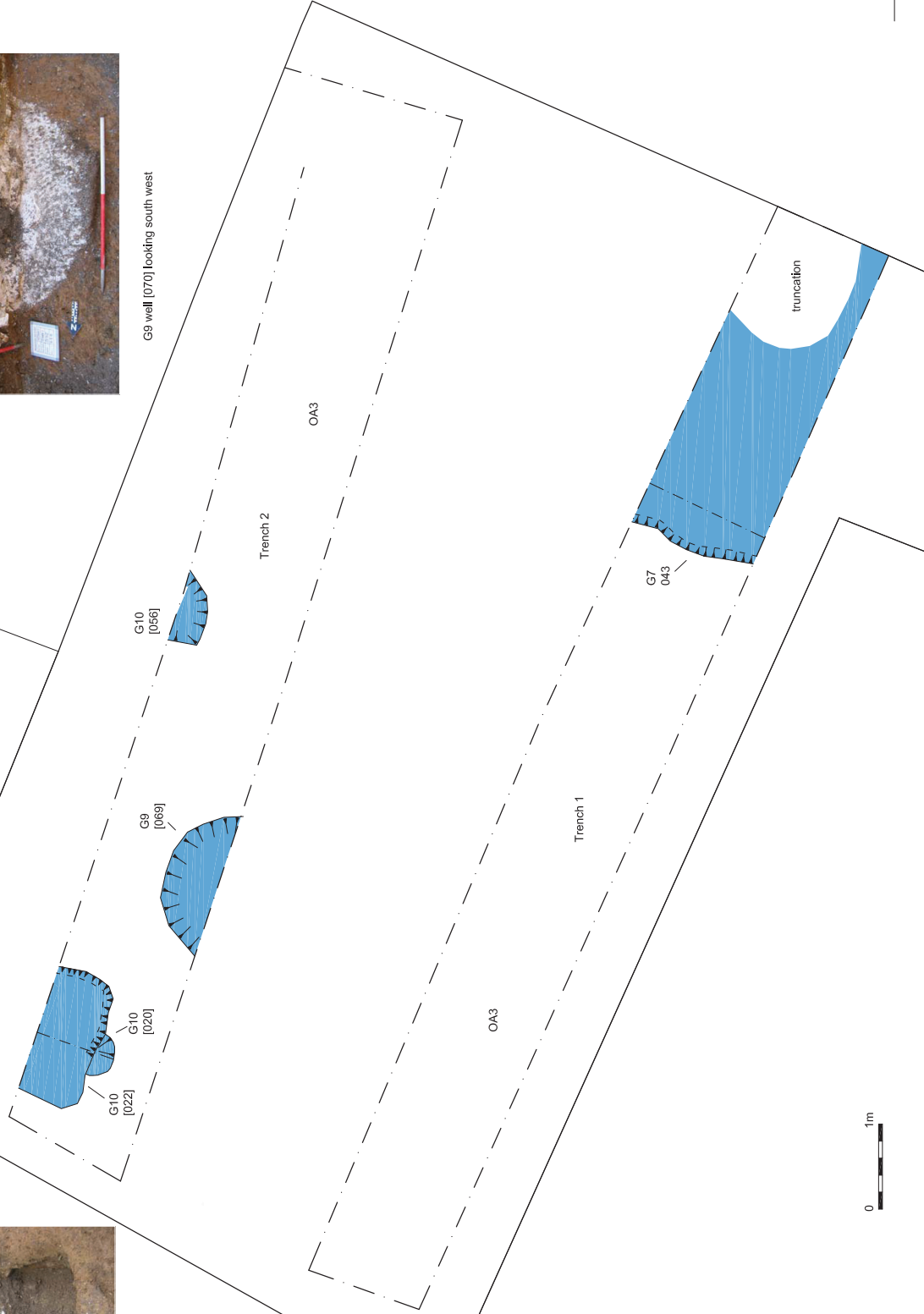
G2 pit [040] looking south



G10 pits [020] & [022] looking north east



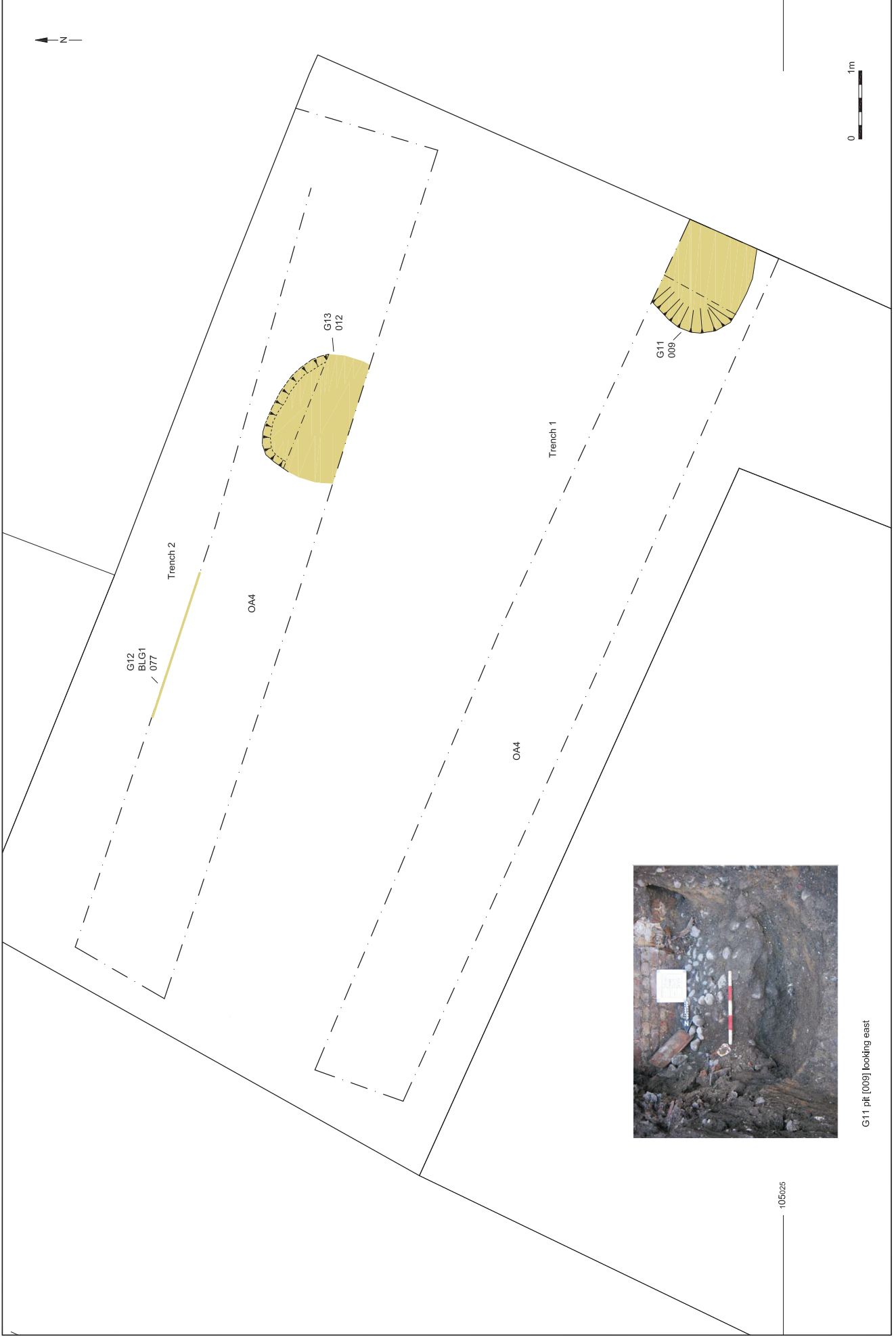
G9 well [070] looking south west



0 1m

1058025

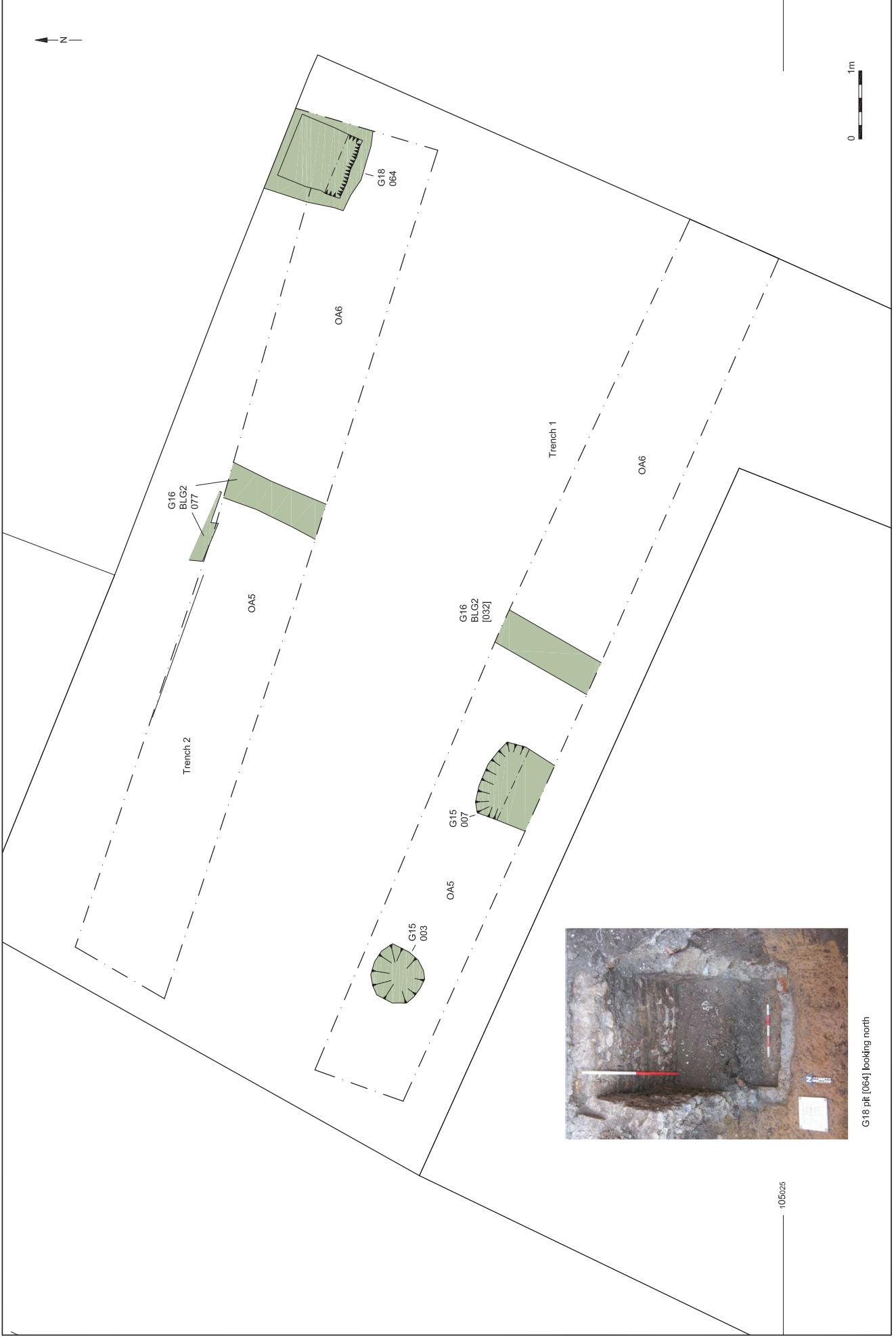
© Archaeology South-East		Land to rear of 32-34 High Street, Shoreham		Fig. 5
Project Ref: 4938	April 2012			
Report Ref: 2012094	Drawn by: FEG	Period 1: Plan of OA3		



G11 pit [009] looking east

105025

© Archaeology South-East		Land to rear of 32-34 High Street, Shoreham		Fig. 6
Project Ref: 4938	April 2012	Period 2: Plan of phase 2a features		
Report Ref: 2012094	Drawn by: FEG			



105025

G18 pit [064] looking north

© Archaeology South-East		Land to rear of 32-34 High Street, Shoreham	Fig. 7
Project Ref: 4938	April 2012	Period 2: Plan of phase 2b features	
Report Ref: 2012094	Drawn by: FEG		

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