

**An Archaeological Excavation and Watching Brief
at 56 High Street, Odiham, Hampshire**

**NGR: 474129 151192
(SU 7412 5119)**

Planning Ref: 12/02303/MAJOR

**ASE Project No: 6295
Site Code: HOH13**

**ASE Report No: 2013262
OASIS id: archaeol6-162985**



**By Hayley Nicholls
With contributions by
Luke Barber, Elke Raemen, and Susan Pringle
Illustrations by Justin Russell**

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Abstract

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 CgMs Consulting Limited on behalf of their client Linden Homes to undertake an archaeological excavation and watching brief in advance of redevelopment of land at 56 High Street, Odiham, Hampshire. This report presents the results of the works along with the results of an enhanced historic background search.

The first phase of the watching brief demonstrated that the construction of the houses fronting onto the High Street, Odiham had truncated the natural geological deposits. A single course brick-built foundation supported the east walls of 58, 60 and 62 High Street, Odiham and directly overlay the natural deposits along the west edge of the site. The west wall of 54 High Street, Odiham was constructed directly onto the natural deposits.

The excavation phase of the project revealed four linear features of which two yielded medieval or early post-medieval surface finds. No investigation of the features was possible due to the degree of petrochemical contamination. A further linear feature, located along the west of the excavation area, is likely to represent a removed medieval burgage plot boundary first illustrated on a 1739 estate map and again on the 1843 Odiham tithe map.

The watching brief phase of the investigation identified heavy contamination and truncation towards the centre and southern boundary of the site. A single possible well identified in the southern area of the watching brief is likely to correspond with a pump illustrated on the Ordnance Survey (OS) map of 1896.

The enhanced historic background element of this project identified no other relationships between features in these phases, the earlier evaluation (ASE 2013) and those illustrated on historic maps.

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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 CgMs Consulting Limited on behalf of their clients Linden Homes to undertake an archaeological excavation and watching brief in advance of redevelopment of land at 56 High Street, Odiham, Hampshire (Figure 1; NGR SU 7412 5119).

1.2 Geology and Topography

1.2.1 According to the British Geological Survey (BGS 2013), the site lies on the boundary of two bedrock geologies. Lambeth Group clay silt and sand lies to the north-east and Lewes Nodular Chalk lies to the south-west. Superficial deposits have not been recorded in this area.

1.2.2 The site is situated on flat ground at an altitude of between 93.88m and 110m AOD. The course of the River Whitewater runs approximately 1.5km to the west of the site. The Basingstoke Canal runs through the former Deer Park approximately 1km to the north of the site.

1.3 Planning Background

1.3.1 A planning application was submitted for the construction of 23 residential units and one retail unit on the site (Planning Ref. 12/02303/MAJOR). In support of this application a *Desk Based Assessment* (DBA) was prepared (CgMs 2012) and an archaeological evaluation undertaken in advance of the determination of the planning application in order to further inform on the archaeological potential of the site. (ASE 2013a)

1.3.2 Having considered the results of the report on the evaluation, the archaeology advisors to East Hampshire District Council recommended that a further programme of archaeological mitigation work be undertaken on the site in advance of development.

1.3.3 Accordingly, a Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) for archaeological excavation and watching brief was prepared prior to the commencement of fieldwork (ASE, 2013b). The document outlined the research aims and objectives of the current project and the methodology to be followed. It was submitted to and approved by East Hampshire District Council.

1.4 Research Aims and Objectives

1.4.1 The general aims of the project, as set out in the WSI (ASE, 2013b) were:

- To determine as far as reasonably possible, the location, extent, date, character, condition, significance and quality of any surviving archaeological remains likely to be threatened by the proposed new development.

- 1.4.2 Specifically, the following research aims were proposed, with reference to the Solent – Thames Historic Environment Research framework (Massey 2006)
- Was there any evidence for early medieval and medieval activity on the site? If so, could this help refine understanding of the origins of nucleated village settlement during the medieval period?
 - Were there any surviving remains of buildings fronting the High Street on the site?
 - Could the results of this excavation help refine chronology and development within the historic core of Odiham?
 - Could the results of this excavation help refine ceramic and other artefactual sequences for the period and region?
- 1.4.3 The final aim was to make public the results of the work, subject to any confidentiality restrictions.

1.5 Scope of Report

- 1.5.1 This report details the findings of the archaeological excavation and watching brief which was undertaken over multiple phases by Simon Stevens (Senior Archaeologist) and Hayley Nicholls (Archaeologist) between the 21st and 23rd August 2013, and the 30th September to the 10th October 2013. The report also details the findings of an enhanced historic background, the search for which was undertaken at the Hampshire Records Office on the 15th October 2013.
- 1.5.2 The project was managed by Andy Leonard and Paul Mason (Project Managers, fieldwork), and by Jim Stevenson (Project Manager, post-excavation).

2.0 ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND

2.1 Introduction

2.1.1 A summary of the historic background detailed in the DBA (CgMs 2012), and in the evaluation report (ASE 2013a), is given below with due acknowledgement.

2.2 Early Prehistoric

2.2.1 The Hampshire ABHR contains no evidence for the Palaeolithic in the vicinity of the study site

2.3 Late Prehistoric

2.3.1 During his study of 1799, Wymer recorded his chance find of an early Mesolithic tranchet axe in Odiham (AHBR 28861). No Neolithic finds are recorded on the AHBR as discovered within the vicinity of the site.

2.3.2 A chance find of a Bronze Age socket axe is the only evidence of the period recorded in the vicinity of the site by the AHBR.

2.3.3 An evaluation (AHBR 62806) and excavation (AHBR 63347) undertaken to the southeast of the site, on land to the rear of 23 High Street by Thames Valley Archaeological Services identified some residual sherds of Iron Age pottery, as well as an undated pit that was cut by an early Roman ditch and is therefore tentatively dated to the Iron Age.

2.4 Roman

2.4.1 The site lies 15 miles or more from the Roman town and regional capital at Silchester, and is remote from the network of Roman roads connecting Silchester with other main centres of commerce and administration. There is a known Roman Villa 2.5km to the north of the site at Lodge Farm, North Warnborough.

2.4.2 A gold fibula brooch was found in a garden in Odiham in the 19th century. No further circumstances are known about the find. Work undertaken at 23 High Street identified a series of ditches and pits representing early Roman (1st century) land division and occupation activity, the latter focussed at the south end of the site (AHBR 62806 and 63347).

2.5 Saxon and Medieval

2.5.1 The character, extent and location of post-Roman/Saxon settlement of the wider area is almost completely unknown.

2.5.2 Odiham is first recorded in the Domesday Survey of 1086, referred to as Odiham, meaning 'wooded homestead or enclosure' (Mills 1998). Prior to this there has been suggestion that a royal residence existed at Odiham in the Saxon period, although no archaeological evidence has ever been found to support this (VCH 1913).

- 2.5.4 Located centrally between Winchester and Windsor, Odiham was ideally placed for travel between Royal residences and King John built a castle here in 1200 which is located 2km to the northwest of the town. The Royal connection is also apparent to the north of the town and immediately north of the site, where a large Deer Park is shown on the GLHER. The Deer Park is considered to date to the tenth or eleventh century.
- 2.5.6 Until recently few archaeological remains from the medieval periods have actually been found in Odiham. Two sherds of early medieval pottery were found at the cemetery next to Kings Street, to the southwest of the site along with further sherds from the medieval period. Finds of slag, quernstone and animal bone have also been received from the area of the modern cemetery.
- 2.5.7 It is apparent that Odiham had its origins in the early medieval period and that the town prospered through much of the medieval period. The sites position within the historic core of the town and situated off the main thoroughfare, makes it highly likely that both early medieval and medieval activity was taking place in the immediate vicinity. The excavation undertaken at 23 High Street (AHBR 63347) also identified a small amount of Middle Saxon activity.

2.6 Post Medieval/Modern

- 2.6.1 A study of cartographic sources in addition to the AHBR shows that the site has been developed on the High Street frontage for at least 220 years.

2.7 The Archaeological Evaluation

- 2.7.1 The archaeological evaluation undertaken by ASE in May 2013 comprised the excavation of six 30m trenches across the site. A number of post medieval ditches were identified, interpreted as either drainage ditches or land boundary ditches, along with a few post-medieval pits. Three of the ditches in the south of the site were seen to respect the north-east to south-west alignment of the High Street which lies 50 - 70m to the south.

3.0 ARCHAEOLOGICAL METHODOLOGY

3.1 Written Scheme of Investigation

3.1.1 The archaeological methodology was initially set out in the Written Scheme of Investigation (ASE 2013b). All work was carried out in accordance with this document and in line with professional standards and guidelines.

3.2 Watching Brief Phase 1

3.2.1 An initial phase of works was required to monitor the underpinning of the west wall of 54 High Street, Odiham and the east walls of 58, 60 and 62 High Street, Odiham, prior to the demolition of a garage located within the site area (Figure 2).

3.3 Excavation Area

3.3.1 An area of excavation focussing on the east half of the site was deemed necessary following the results of the archaeological evaluation (ASE 2013a). The area of excavation was reduced from 1,116 square meters to 156 square meters, as shown in Figure 2 (blue shading), due to on site constraints.

3.3.2 Once the excavation area had been scanned using a CAT scanner, it was excavated under archaeological supervision using a mechanical tracked excavator fitted with a toothless ditching bucket.

3.3.3 The mechanical excavator was used to remove overburden deposits (topsoil and made ground) in spits of no more than 0.20m until archaeological deposits were encountered or the top of the underlying natural sediments was reached.

3.3.4 Due to petrochemical contamination within the excavation area, a pre-excavation plan was drawn at 1:20, a photographic record was created, and surface finds were retrieved, but no further investigation was possible.

3.3.5 The southwest corner of the excavation area was not fully excavated to the top of the archaeological deposits as fragments of buried asbestos were encountered (Figures 2 and 3).

3.4 Watching Brief Phase 2

3.4.1 A later watching brief phase monitored the removal of a series of hydrocarbon interceptor tanks close to the centre of the site and the remediation of petrochemical contaminated ground close to the southern site boundary, following the removal of three large fuel tanks (Figure 2, Watching brief phase 2, areas 1 and 2).

3.4.2 The monitoring of the remediation was limited to observing the removal of contaminated deposits from behind Heras fencing at a distance of between 5m to 10m. This was as a result of the depth of excavation exceeding 3m. As such, it was not deemed safe to monitor from a closer position.

3.4.3 Hannah Fluck, Archaeological advisor for East Hampshire District Council was informed of progress of works on site and provided additional direction and comments.

3.5 Enhanced Historic Background

3.5.1 An enhanced historic background search for the site was undertaken, which included a day spent at Hampshire Records Office in Winchester, searching the online catalogue for relevant maps and material.

3.5.2 Plans of the areas evaluated, excavated and monitored as part of watching brief phases 1 and 2 were overlaid onto the available historic maps in order to identify any correlation between the features identified as part of this project and those recorded on the maps.

3.5.3 The site archive is currently held at the offices of ASE. The archive will be offered to Hampshire County Museum, Winchester in due course. The contents of the archive are tabulated below (Table 1).

Number of Contexts	24
No. of files/paper record	1 file
Plan and sections sheets	1
Bulk Samples	0
Photographs	50
Bulk finds	1 box
Registered finds	0
Environmental flots/residue	0

Table 1: Quantification of site archive

4.0 RESULTS

4.1 Summary of results

- 4.1.1 The enhanced historic background search found that none of the features identified during the course of the archaeological evaluation at 56 High Street, Odiham (ASE 2013a) appeared to correspond with the medieval burgage plot boundaries, later field system or post-medieval buildings illustrated on historic mapping. A single north-north-west to south-south-east aligned linear feature, [209], identified close to the west edge of the excavation area is likely to represent a removed medieval burgage plot boundary first illustrated on a 1739 estate map and again on the 1843 Odiham Tithe map. A possible well identified in phase 2 of the watching brief is likely to correspond with a pump illustrated on the Ordnance Survey (OS) map of 1896.
- 4.1.2 The first phase of the watching brief identified no archaeological finds or features because the construction of the houses fronting onto the High Street, Odiham had cut into the natural deposits. A single course brick-built foundation supported the east walls of 58, 60 and 62 High Street, Odiham and directly overlay the natural deposits along the west edge of the site. The west wall of 54 High Street, Odiham was constructed directly onto the natural deposits. Made-ground deposits of post-medieval date also directly overlay the natural geology.
- 4.1.3 The excavation identified a series of linear features, two of which yielded surface finds of medieval or early post-medieval ceramic building material (CBM). Petrochemical contamination prevented excavation of all identified features.
- 4.1.4 The second phase of the watching brief identified a brick-built well in the southern half of the site. The area monitored towards the centre of the site revealed no archaeological finds or features.

4.2 Enhanced Historic Background

- 4.2.1 The Odiham Conservation Area Character Appraisal (2007) states that the town of Odiham in north Hampshire contains one of most outstanding collections of historic buildings in the county. The High Street is lined on both sides with a largely continuous group of listed buildings, mainly Georgian in appearance but often concealing much earlier buildings behind. The development of the town from the 12th century onwards is reflected in the surviving medieval burgage plots, the long thin strips of land which stretch back from the High Street and which provide such a distinctive plot layout.
- 4.2.2 A photocopy of a map of Odiham Park and estate by W Godson (Figure 4), dating from 1739 illustrates the burgage plot layout mentioned above and also represents the earliest available detailed map of the site area. The frontage of the site is shown developed, as it was on the Milne map of 1791, as noted in the DBA (CgMs 2012). The remainder of the site comprised narrow north-north-west to south-south-east aligned burgage plots.

- 4.2.3 The Odiham Tithe map (Figure 4) from 1843 was the next available piece of detailed cartographic evidence for the site area. A structure was again illustrated along the southern site boundary, fronting on to Odiham High Street. To the rear of this a complex of structures, likely to be tenements, had been added, built around a central small structure, (later illustrated as a well on the 1st edition OS map from 1871). The entire complex was described in the tithe award of c.1840 as 'houses and yard', occupied by Rhoda Crop and Others, and owned by William Goodchild.
- 4.2.4 An amalgamation of the burgage plots to the north of Odiham High Street had begun to occur by 1843 resulting in fewer, larger fields within the site area and immediately east and west of the site boundaries.
- 4.2.5 A plan of the old common fields in the parish of Odiham (Figure 4), dating from 1858 was the next available map of the site area. The maps' scale and lack of detail made it hard to be certain, but no significant changes within the site area appear to have occurred.
- 4.2.6 The 1st edition OS map of 1871 (Figure 5) illustrated the houses and yard complex remained much the same as in 1858, however, considerable change in land use had occurred elsewhere within the site area.
- 4.2.7 Immediately north of the tenement complex, an area of ground had been set aside as orchard and two small structures within a small enclosure occupied the orchards' west boundary. A third structure lay immediately north of this enclosure. A second area of orchard was also illustrated within the northeast corner of the site area.
- 4.2.8 Further structures were illustrated within the site area. An L-shaped structure lay to the west of the first area of orchard, close to the sites' west boundary. Three small possible enclosures or pig pens lay along the east-north-east to west-south-west aligned leg of this building. A further possible structure lay on an east-north-east to west-south-west alignment immediately to the north.
- 4.2.9 A further three small structures had been added in the northwest corner of the site along the western boundary. These structures lay within an area illustrated as formal gardens associated with a 'Mechanics Institute'. The map conventions would suggest footpaths and organised deciduous and evergreen planting within this area.
- 4.2.10 The OS map of 1896 (Figure 6) illustrates a circular structure, labelled 'P' within the site area immediately to the rear of the High Street frontage. There are numerous possible meanings for this convention in historic and modern mapping but the most likely is a 'pump'. This pump was located in the same position as the possible well identified in phase 2 of the watching brief (see section 4.5, below) , and it is therefore very likely to represent the same structure. No significant change was shown within the site area on the OS maps of 1896 or 1911 (Figure 7).
- 4.2.11 By the early 1930's more buildings had been added to the central area of the site, as noted in the DBA (CgMs 2012), replacing the L-shaped building and possible pig pens. The map conventions suggest that the northeast corner of

the site remained as orchard up to the 1930's but that the land use of the area of orchard immediately to the north of the houses and yard complex had changed (Figure 8).

- 4.2.12 No development occurred within the site area for the next 50 years (Figures 9 – 11) and the changes which post-date 1972 are detailed within the DBA (CgMs 2012).

4.3 Watching Brief Phase 1 (Figures 2 and 12)

- 4.3.1 Phase 1 of the watching brief comprised the monitoring of seven underpinning pits in the southern half of the site close to Odiham High Street. The first three pits were located along the eastern site boundary underpinning the west wall of 54 High Street, Odiham. The later four pits were located along the western site boundary underpinning the east walls of 58, 60 and 62 High Street, Odiham.

- 4.3.2 The first three pits all demonstrated a consistent stratigraphic sequence. The underlying natural geology comprised a firm, mottled brown-orange/ yellow-orange/ grey slightly silty clay with rare patches of flint gravel. The natural deposit was directly overlaid by the west wall of 54 High Street Odiham [103] and a made-ground layer of mid brown silty clay with frequent brick and concrete rubble inclusions [101]. Made-ground layer [101] was overlaid by a thin layer of tarmac [100] which formed the last part of the stratigraphic sequence.

- 4.3.3 The later four pits also demonstrated a similar stratigraphic sequence. The underlying natural comprised a firm, mottled brown-orange/ yellow-orange/ grey slightly silty clay with rare patches of flint gravel. The natural deposit was directly overlaid by a single course brick foundation [107], an intermittent made-ground layer of mid brown silty clay with abundant brick and concrete rubble inclusions [105] and in some areas directly overlaid by concrete floor layer [104], which formed the last part of the stratigraphic sequence.

- 4.3.4 Made-ground layer [105] contained a small quantity of late post-medieval finds, comprising pottery and clay tobacco pipe.

Context	Type	Description	Max. Length m	Max. Width m	Deposit Thickness m
100	LAYER	Tarmac	NA	NA	0.05
101	LAYER	Made-ground	NA	NA	0.51
102	LAYER	Natural	NA	NA	NA
103	WALL	West wall of 54 High Street, Odiham	NA	NA	NA
104	LAYER	Reinforced concrete floor	NA	NA	0.3 – 0.55
105	LAYER	Made-ground	NA	NA	0.21
106	LAYER	Natural	NA	NA	NA
107	WALL	Brick foundation along east side of 58, 60 and 62 High Street, Odiham	NA	NA	0.06

Table 2: Watching Brief Phase 1 list of recorded contexts

4.4 Excavation Area (Figure 3)

- 4.4.1 The area excavated was located close to the centre of the site, at the northern limits of the area initially identified for excavation. The area was 15.5m in length and 10m wide and was excavated to the top of natural sediments which were encountered at a depth of between 92.90m and 93.28m AOD.
- 4.4.2 The natural sediments comprised mottled mid brown-orange/ light grey silt clay heavily contaminated in areas by petrochemicals. The overlying deposits varied across the excavation area.
- 4.4.3 A north-north-east to south-south-west aligned linear feature, [215], cut the natural deposits in the north-east corner of the excavation area. No dating evidence was retrieved from the surface of the fill, [216].
- 4.4.4 A layer of dark brown-black heavily contaminated silt-clay, [203], with brick and concrete inclusions immediately overlay feature, [215], and the natural silt clay deposits. This layer was in turn overlaid by a made-ground layer, [202], and a layer of tarmac [201].
- 4.4.5 In the south-west corner of the excavation area the natural deposits were cut by a large modern feature [205] (not shown on plan, visible in section only) which was filled with a heavily contaminated gritty silt with abundant gravel, concrete and brick inclusions [206]. This feature was overlaid by made-ground [202] and a recently deposited layer of demolition rubble [204].
- 4.4.6 A north-north-west to south-south-east aligned linear ditch [209] cut the natural deposits along the west edge of the excavation area. The ditch was filled with a heavily rooted mid grey-brown clay silt, [210], which was overlaid by a dark brown-grey silt clay layer [208] with frequent brick, lime mortar and coal inclusions which was in turn overlaid by a heavily rooted humus-rich topsoil layer, [207].

- 4.4.7 Ditch [209] was situated in line with, and orientated on the same alignment as an existing boundary to the south. This boundary and the location of [209] correspond with medieval burgage plot boundaries illustrated on historic maps as early as 1739, and as such is likely to represent a removed burgage plot boundary ditch. Two fragments of medieval or early post-medieval probable peg tile were removed from ditch fill [210].
- 4.4.8 Two further linear features were identified in the centre of the northern part of the excavation area, [211] and [213].
- 4.4.9 Narrow linear feature, [211], was orientated on a north-north-west to south-south east alignment immediately east of ditch [209] and a further two fragments of medieval or early post-medieval CBM were retrieved from the surface of its fill, [212].
- 4.4.10 Linear feature [213] was orientated on a west-north-west to east-south-east alignment and was perpendicular to and of similar dimensions to feature [215].
- 4.4.11 Both linear features [211] and [213] were sealed by dark brown-grey silt clay layer [208] and topsoil layer [207].

Context	Type	Description	Max. Length m	Max. Width m	Deposit Thickness m
201	LAYER	Tarmac	NA	NA	0.1
202	LAYER	Made-ground	NA	NA	0.2
203	LAYER	Petrochemical contaminated silt clay	NA	NA	0.5
204	LAYER	Demolition rubble	NA	NA	0.1 – 0.3
205	CUT	Large modern cut	>14.0	>5.5	0.65
206	FILL	Fill of [205]	>14.0	>5.5	0.65
207	LAYER	Heavily rooted humus-rich topsoil layer	NA	>15.0	0.25 – 0.3
208	LAYER	Petrochemical contaminated silt clay	NA	>15.0	0.3
209	CUT	Possible removed burgage plot boundary ditch	>10.0	1.3	NA
210	FILL	Fill of [209]	>10.0	1.3	NA
211	CUT	Small possible gully	>3.2	0.3 – 0.4	NA
212	FILL	Fill of [211]	>3.2	0.3 – 0.4	NA
213	CUT	Linear possible ditch cut	>8.8	1.0	NA
214	FILL	Fill of [213]	>8.8	1.0	NA
215	CUT	Linear possible ditch cut	>5.4	1.0	NA
216	FILL	Fill of [215]	>5.4	1.0	NA

Table 3: Excavation Area list of recorded contexts

4.5 Watching Brief Phase 2, area 1 (Figures 2 and 3)

4.5.1 The second phase of the watching brief monitored the removal of a series of interception pits close to the centre of the site and immediately south-east of the excavation area. The interception pits had truncated the contaminated natural deposits for a depth of between 1m and 3m, were encased in concrete and overlaid by a layer of tarmac. No archaeological finds or features were identified.

4.6 Watching Brief Phase 2, area 2 (Figure 2)

4.6.2 An area of contaminated ground remediation was also monitored as part of this watching brief phase. No detailed description of deposits or their depth and extent was possible due to the distance at which monitoring occurred. The natural deposits appeared to have been heavily contaminated and truncated by three large fuel tanks and the previously existing garage. A possible brick-built well was identified in the centre of the remediation area but no recording of the structure was possible. The well had previously been backfilled with concrete.

5.0 THE FINDS

5.1 Summary

5.1.1 A small assemblage of post-medieval finds was recovered (Table 4). Finds were all washed and dried or air dried as appropriate. They were quantified by count and weight and finds were bagged by material and context. They were packed and stored following IFA guidelines (2008). No further conservation is required.

Context	Pottery	Wt (g)	CTP	Wt (g)	CBM	Wt(g)
105	13	498	1	12		
210					2	136
212					2	135
TOTALS	13	498	1	12	4	271

Table 4: Quantification of the finds

5.2 The Post Roman pottery by Luke Barber

5.2.1 A small assemblage of fresh conjoining sherds was recovered from context [105]. These include five pieces (198g) from an early transfer-printed pearlware plate with 'Hospitality' pattern in blue. There are also seven sherds (210g) from an agate ware money box, probably of local manufacture and six pieces (88g) from at least two different English porcelain saucers with hand-painted floral/foilage designs. Taken as a group a deposition date between 1790 and 1820 is probable.

5.3 The clay tobacco pipe by Elke Raemen

5.3.1 A complete bowl was recovered from [105]. It comprises a fluted type AO28 (dated c. 1820-60) with leaf-decorated seams. Maker's marks "JN" or "DN" are moulded in relief on the sides of the spur. There are no known makers with these initials in the immediate area, although there is a Digby Nicholson, who was noted on the census of 1841 as working in Fareham (Oswald 1975, 172).

5.4 The Ceramic Building Material by Susan Pringle

5.4.1 A total of four fragments of medieval or early post-medieval ceramic building materials weighing 0.270 kg was examined from two contexts, [210] and [212]. The identifiable material consisted of medieval or early post-medieval roofing tile. The total weight and number of fragments in each category are set out in Table 5.

Material	No. of items	Weight kg.
Medieval/early post-medieval roof tile	3	0.198
Medieval/early post-medieval ridge tile	1	0.072
Total	4	0.270

Table 5: Summary of building materials

5.4.2 Methodology

All the ceramic building material was recorded on a standard recording form. Tile was quantified by fabric, form, weight and fragment count and the data were entered onto an Excel database. All the material was retained.

5.4.3 Dating

The broad date ranges for each context are summarised below in Table 6.

Context	Date range (approx.)	Material
210	1300-1600	medieval/early post-medieval roof tile, probably peg tile
212	1300-1600	medieval/early post-medieval roof tile, ?peg and ridge tiles

Table 6: Dating table with context date (approximate) and contents

5.4.4 The material: medieval and early post-medieval peg tile [210], [212]

The majority of the assemblage consisted of flat roof tiles, probably peg tile, all of which were in an orange fabric which contained common fine quartz, fine red inclusions and white calcareous material (fabric T1). No complete tiles were present. All the tiles were in the range 14-19 mm thick. The date range of the material was unclear; no glazed tiles were present, suggesting the tile was not earlier than the 15th century.

5.4.5 The material: ridge tile [212]

A fragment of unglazed ridge tile 21mm thick was recorded in fabric T1.

5.5 Summary

5.5.1 The assemblage consisted of roof tile fragments, probably peg and ridge tile of late medieval or early post-medieval date.

5.6 Overview of finds assemblage

5.6.1 Context [105] contained a small quantity of late post-medieval finds, comprising pottery, clay tobacco pipe (CTP) and ceramic building material. Other than providing dating evidence, the finds assemblage is of little significance, being too small and lacking inherently interesting finds. As it stands, it has no potential for further analysis.

6.0 DISCUSSION AND CONCLUSIONS

6.1 Watching Brief Phase 1

6.1.1 Watching Brief phase 1 demonstrated that the construction of the houses fronting onto the High Street, Odiham had truncated the natural deposits. A single course brick-built foundation supported the east walls of 58, 60 and 62 High Street, Odiham and directly overlay the natural deposits along the west edge of the site. The west wall of 54 High Street, Odiham was constructed directly onto the natural deposits.

6.2 The Excavation

6.2.1 The excavation phase of the project revealed four linear features of which two yielded medieval or early post-medieval surface finds. No investigation of the features was possible due to the degree of petrochemical contamination. Linear feature [209] located along the west of the excavation area is likely to represent a removed medieval burgage plot boundary first illustrated on a 1739 estate map and again on the 1843 Odiham tithe map.

6.3 Watching Brief Phase 2

6.3.1 The second phase of the watching brief identified heavy contamination and truncation towards the centre and southern boundary of the site. A single possible well identified in the southern area of the watching brief is likely to correspond with a pump illustrated on the Ordnance Survey (OS) map of 1896.

6.4 Enhanced Historic Background

6.4.1 The enhanced historic background element of this project identified no other relationships between features identified as part of this project and the earlier evaluation (ASE 2013) and those illustrated on historic maps. Consideration of the historic mapping, did, however, allow for the interpretation of one of the linear features identified as a possible removed medieval burgage plot

6.5 Consideration of Research Aims

6.5.1 In general terms, the archaeological investigations have succeeded in characterising the extent, character and condition of the archaeological remains. In terms of character and condition, it is very clear that previous disturbances on site have truncated or entirely removed most of the archaeological remains that may have once been present. Additionally, the high degree of contamination across the site, as illustrated in Figure 12, prevented detailed archaeological investigation in undisturbed areas and only surface recording was possible.

6.5.2 Given these site limitations, it is not possible to address most of the specific research aims in detail. However, the additional historic / cartographic research completed as part of this project, does, when applied to the fieldwork results, enable some aims to be partly addressed:

- Was there any evidence for early medieval and medieval activity on the site? If so, could this help refine understanding of the origins of nucleated village settlement during the medieval period?

There was no direct evidence of medieval activity on the site; however given the orientation and location of linear feature [209] it is likely to represent a removed burgage plot boundary.

- Were there any surviving remains of buildings fronting the High Street on the site?

There was no direct evidence of surviving remains of buildings fronting the High Street in the areas monitored. A possible post-medieval well or pump was identified to the rear of the frontage.

- Could the results of this excavation help refine chronology and development within the historic core of Odiham?

The limited finds retrieval and site constraints prevent further refinement of the chronology and development of Odiham's historic core.

- Could the results of this excavation help refine ceramic and other artefactual sequences for the period and region?

The analysis of the finds suggested that 'other than providing dating evidence, the finds assemblage is of little significance, being too small and lacking inherently interesting finds.' Therefore, the excavation was not able to address this research aim.

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ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

ASE would like to thank Duncan Hawkins of CgMs Consulting for commissioning the work and for his assistance throughout the project, and Dr. Hannah Fluck Archaeological Advisor to East Hampshire District Council for her guidance and monitoring.

HER Summary Form

Site Code	HOH 13					
Identification Name and Address	56 High Street, Odiham, Hampshire					
County, District &/or Borough	Hampshire					
OS Grid Refs.	NGR 474129 151192					
Geology	Lambeth Group clay silt and sand and Lewes Nodular Chalk					
Arch. South-East Project Number	6295					
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. 30/09/13 - 01/10/13	WB. 21/08/13 - 23/08/13 + 10/10/13	Other 15/10/13		
Sponsor/Client	CgMs					
Project Managers	Andy Leonard and Paul Mason					
Project Supervisor	Simon Stevens and Hayley Nicholls					
Period Summary	Palaeo.	Meso.	Neo.	BA	IA	RB
	AS	MED ✓	PM ✓	Other Modern ✓		
<p>Summary</p> <p><i>Archaeology South-East (ASE) was commissioned by CgMs Consulting Limited on behalf of their client Linden Homes to undertake an archaeological excavation and watching brief in advance of redevelopment of land at 56 High Street, Odiham, Hampshire. An enhanced historic background search was also undertaken.</i></p> <p><i>The first phase of the watching brief demonstrated that the construction of the houses fronting onto the High Street, Odiham had truncated the natural geological deposits. A single course brick-built foundation supported the east walls of 58, 60 and 62 High Street, Odiham and directly overlay the natural deposits along the west edge of the site. The west wall of 54 High Street, Odiham was constructed directly onto the natural deposits.</i></p> <p><i>The excavation phase of the project revealed four linear features of which two yielded Medieval or early Post-Medieval surface finds. No investigation of the features was possible due to the degree of petrochemical contamination. Linear feature [209], located along the west of the excavation area, is likely to represent a removed Medieval burgage plot boundary first illustrated on a 1739 estate map and again on the 1843 Odiham tithe map.</i></p> <p><i>The second phase of the watching brief identified heavy contamination and truncation towards the centre and southern boundary of the site. A single possible well identified in the southern area of the watching brief is likely to correspond with a pump illustrated on the Ordnance Survey (OS) map of 1896.</i></p>						

OASIS Form

OASIS ID: archaeol6-162985

Project details

Project name	56 High Street, Odiham
Short description of the project	Archaeology South-East (ASE) was commissioned by CgMs Consulting Limited on behalf of their client Linden Homes to undertake an archaeological excavation and watching brief in advance of redevelopment of land at 56 High Street, Odiham, Hampshire. An enhanced historic background search was also undertaken. The first phase of the watching brief demonstrated that the construction of the houses fronting onto the High Street, Odiham had truncated the natural geological deposits. A single course brick-built foundation supported the east walls of 58, 60 and 62 High Street, Odiham and directly overlay the natural deposits along the west edge of the site. The west wall of 54 High Street, Odiham was constructed directly onto the natural deposits. The excavation phase of the project revealed four linear features of which two yielded Medieval or early Post-Medieval surface finds. No investigation of the features was possible due to the degree of petrochemical contamination. Linear feature [209], located along the west of the excavation area, is likely to represent a removed Medieval burgage plot boundary first illustrated on a 1739 estate map and again on the 1843 Odiham tithe map. The second phase of the watching brief identified heavy contamination and truncation towards the centre and southern boundary of the site. A single possible well identified in the southern area of the watching brief is likely to correspond with a pump illustrated on the Ordnance Survey (OS) map of 1896.
Project dates	Start: 30-09-2013 End: 15-10-2013
Previous/future work	Yes / Not known
Any associated project reference codes	12/02303/MAJOR - Planning Application No.
Any associated project reference codes	HOH13 - Sitecode
Type of project	Recording project
Site status	Conservation Area
Current Land use	Industry and Commerce 3 - Retailing
Monument type	DITCH Medieval
Monument type	DITCH Post Medieval
Significant Finds	ROOF TILE Medieval
Significant Finds	ROOF TILE Post Medieval
Significant Finds	CLAY PIPE Post Medieval

Investigation type "Part Excavation","Watching Brief"

Prompt Planning condition

Project location

Country England

Site location HAMPSHIRE HART ODIHAM 56 High Street, Odiham

Postcode RG29 1LN

Study area 0.30 Hectares

Site coordinates SU 7412 5119 51 0 51 15 16 N 000 56 15 W Point

Lat/Long Datum Unknown

Height OD / Depth Min: 92.90m Max: 93.28m

Project creators

Name of Organisation Archaeology South-East

Project brief originator CgMs Consulting

Project design originator ASE

Project director/manager Paul Mason

Project supervisor Hayley Nicholls

Type of sponsor/funding body CgMs Consulting

Name of sponsor/funding body CgMs Consulting

Project archives

Physical Archive recipient Hampshire County Council Museums Service

Physical Contents "Ceramics"

Digital Archive recipient Hampshire County Council Museums Service

Digital Contents "Survey"

Digital Media available "GIS","Images raster / digital photography","Survey","Text"

Paper Archive recipient	Hampshire County Council Museums Service
Paper Contents	"none"
Paper Media available	"Context sheet", "Correspondence", "Drawing", "Map", "Plan", "Report", "Unpublished Text"

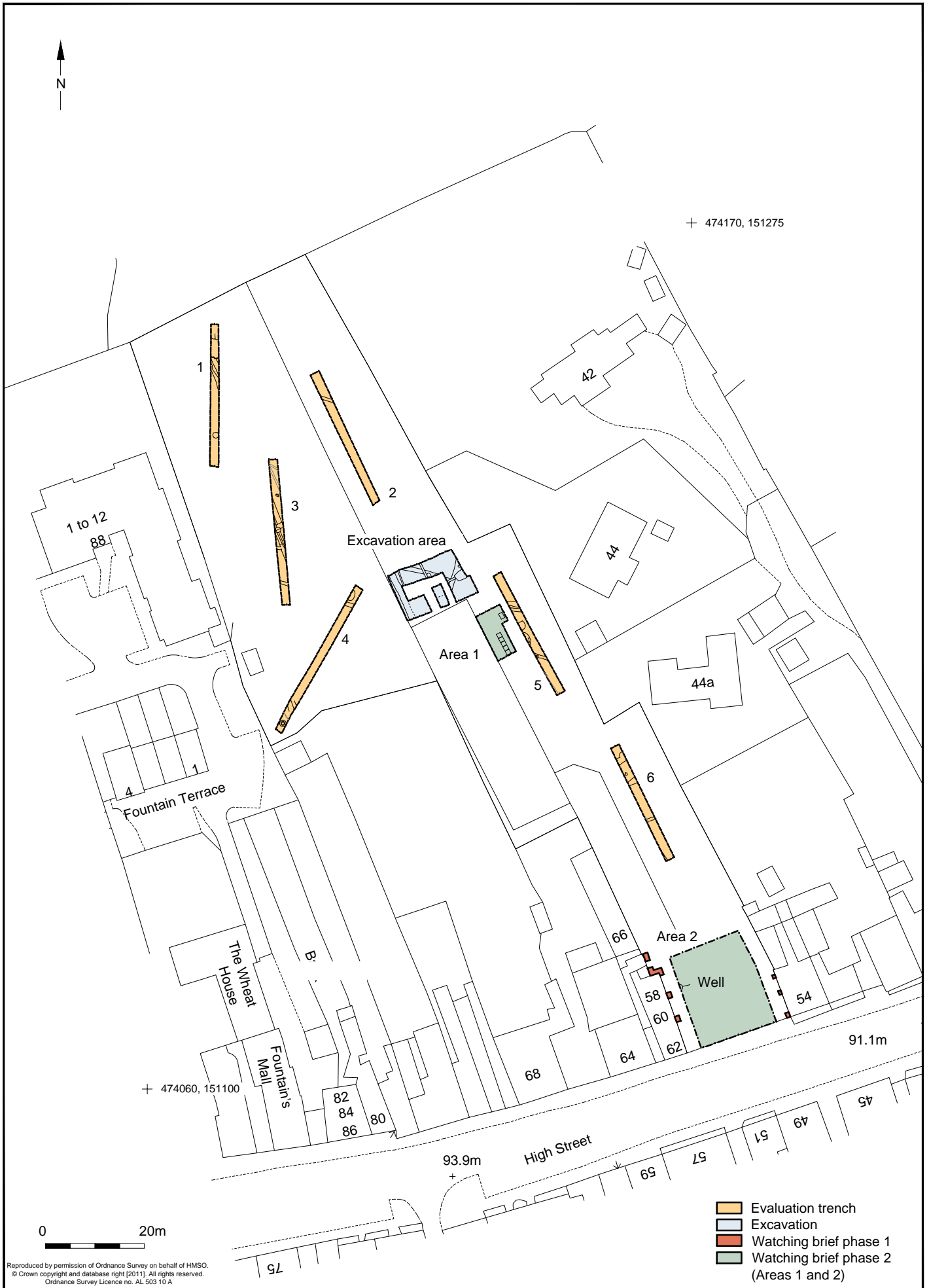
Project bibliography 1

Publication type	Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)
Title	An Archaeological Excavation and Watching Brief at 56 High Street, Odiham with an Enhanced Historic Background
Author(s)/Editor(s)	Nicholls, H.
Other bibliographic details	2013262
Date	2013
Issuer or publisher	ASE
Place of issue or publication	Portslade

Entered by	Hayley Nicholls (h.nicholls@ucl.ac.uk)
Entered on	30 October 2013



© Archaeology South-East		56 High Street, Odiham, Hampshire	Fig. 1
Project Ref: 6295	Oct 2013	Site location	
Report Ref: 2013262	Drawn by: JLR		



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© Archaeology South-East		56 High Street, Odiham		Fig. 2
Project Ref: 6295	Sept 2013	Site plan		
Report Ref: 2013262	Drawn by: JLR			



Excavation area looking south-east



Excavation area looking north-west



Tank 6 in watching brief phase 2, area 1



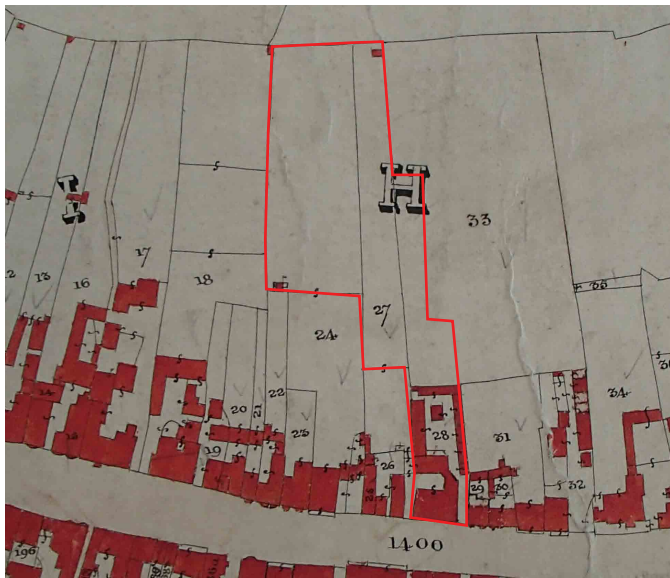
Watching brief phase 2, area 1 after removal of tank 6

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© Archaeology South-East		56 High Street, Odiham		Fig. 3
Project Ref: 6295	Oct 2013	Plan of contaminated and truncated areas		
Report Ref: 2013262	Drawn by: JLR			



1739 Odiham Park and Estate map



1843 tithe map

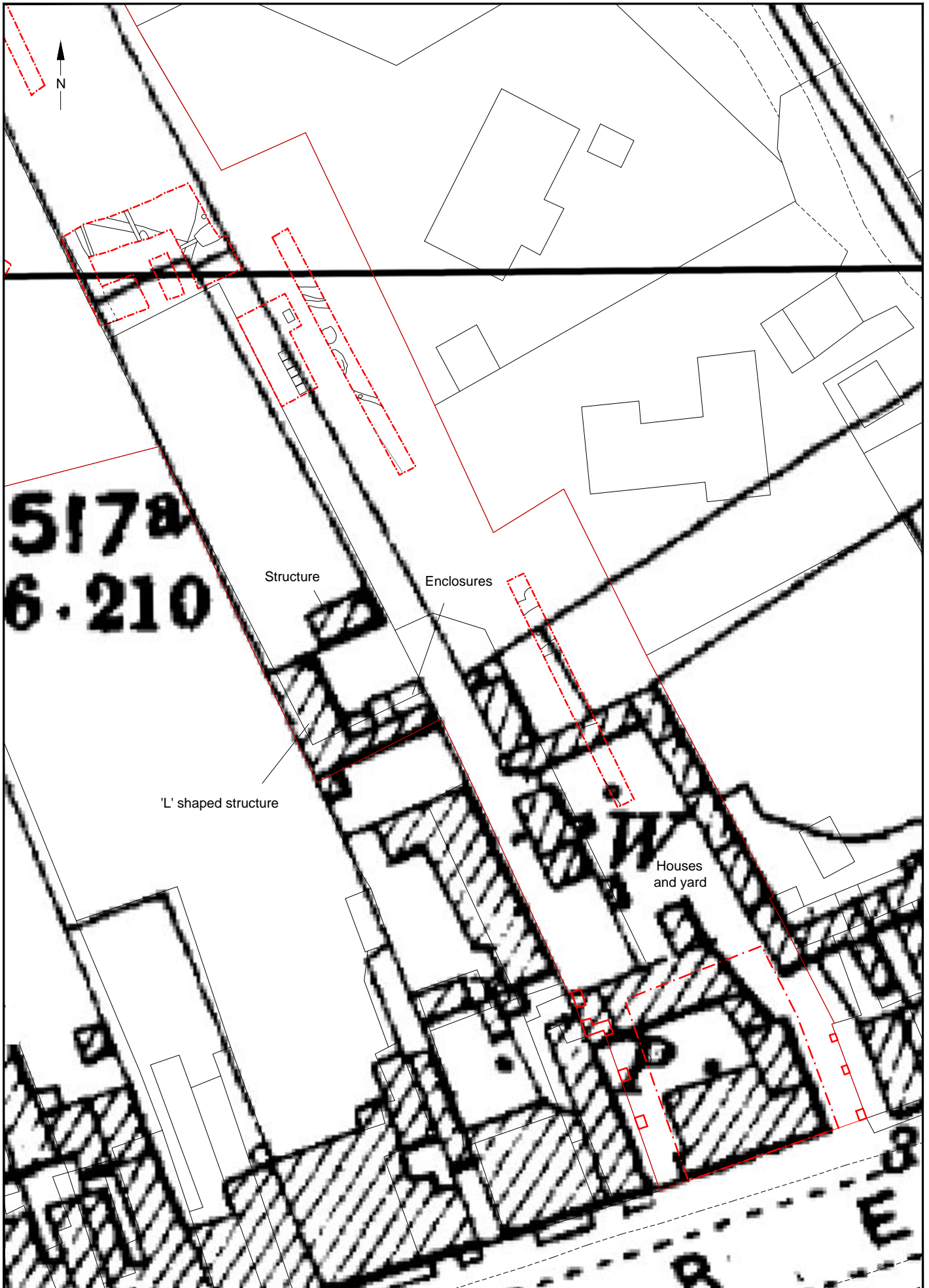


1858 map

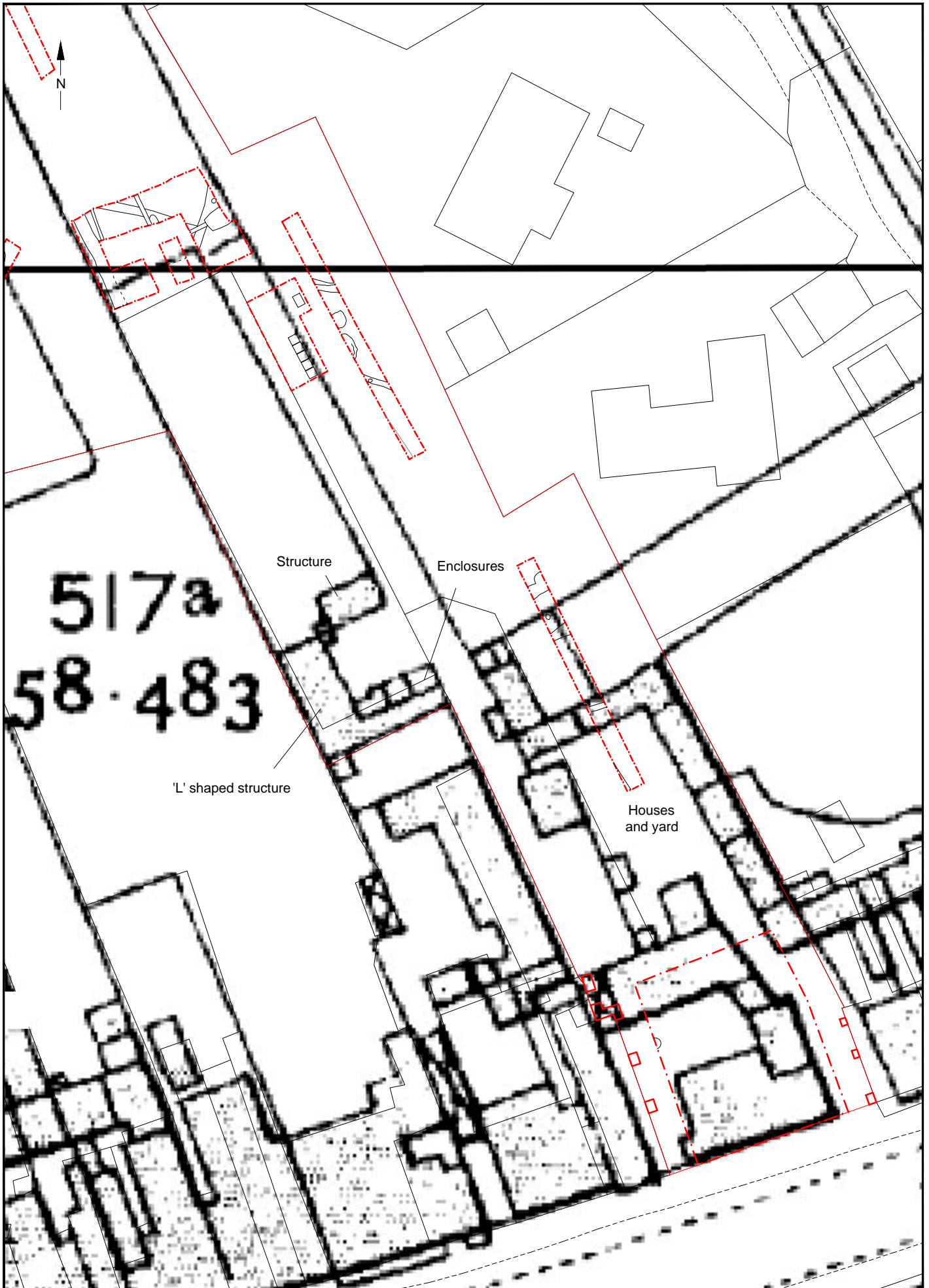
© Archaeology South-East		56 High Street, Odiham	Fig. 4
Project Ref: 6295	Oct 2013	Historic maps (showing approximate site boundary)	
Report Ref: 2013262	Drawn by: JLR		



© Archaeology South-East		56 High Street, Odiham	Fig. 5
Project Ref: 6295	Sept 2013	OS 25" 1871	
Report Ref: 2013262	Drawn by: JLR		



© Archaeology South-East		56 High Street, Odiham	Fig. 6
Project Ref: 6295	Sept 2013	OS 25" 1896	
Report Ref: 2013262	Drawn by: JLR		



© Archaeology South-East		56 High Street, Odiham	Fig. 7
Project Ref: 6295	Sept 2013	OS 25" 1911	
Report Ref: 2013262	Drawn by: JLR		



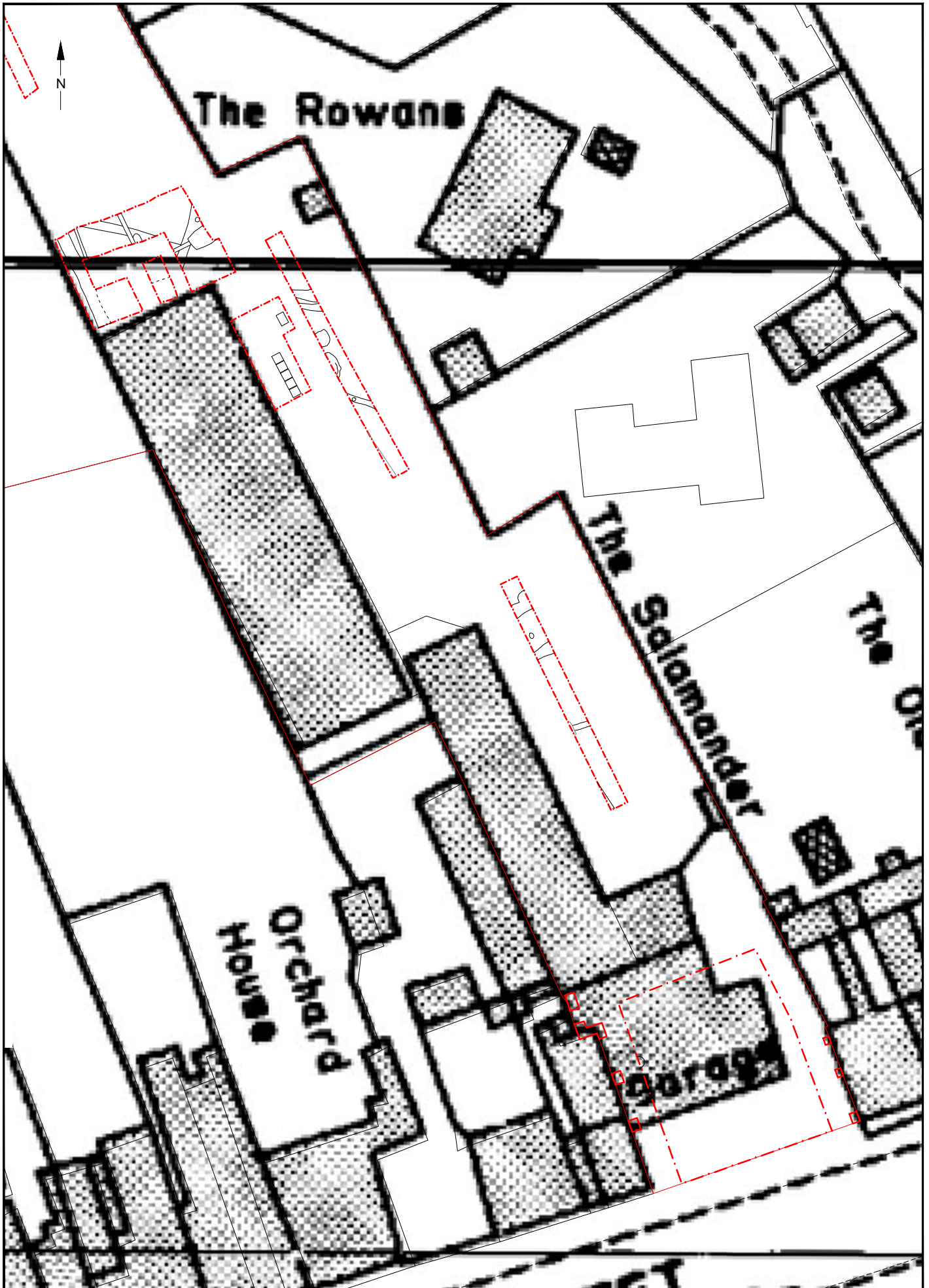
© Archaeology South-East		56 High Street, Odiham	Fig. 8
Project Ref: 6295	Sept 2013	OS 25" 1931	
Report Ref: 2013262	Drawn by: JLR		



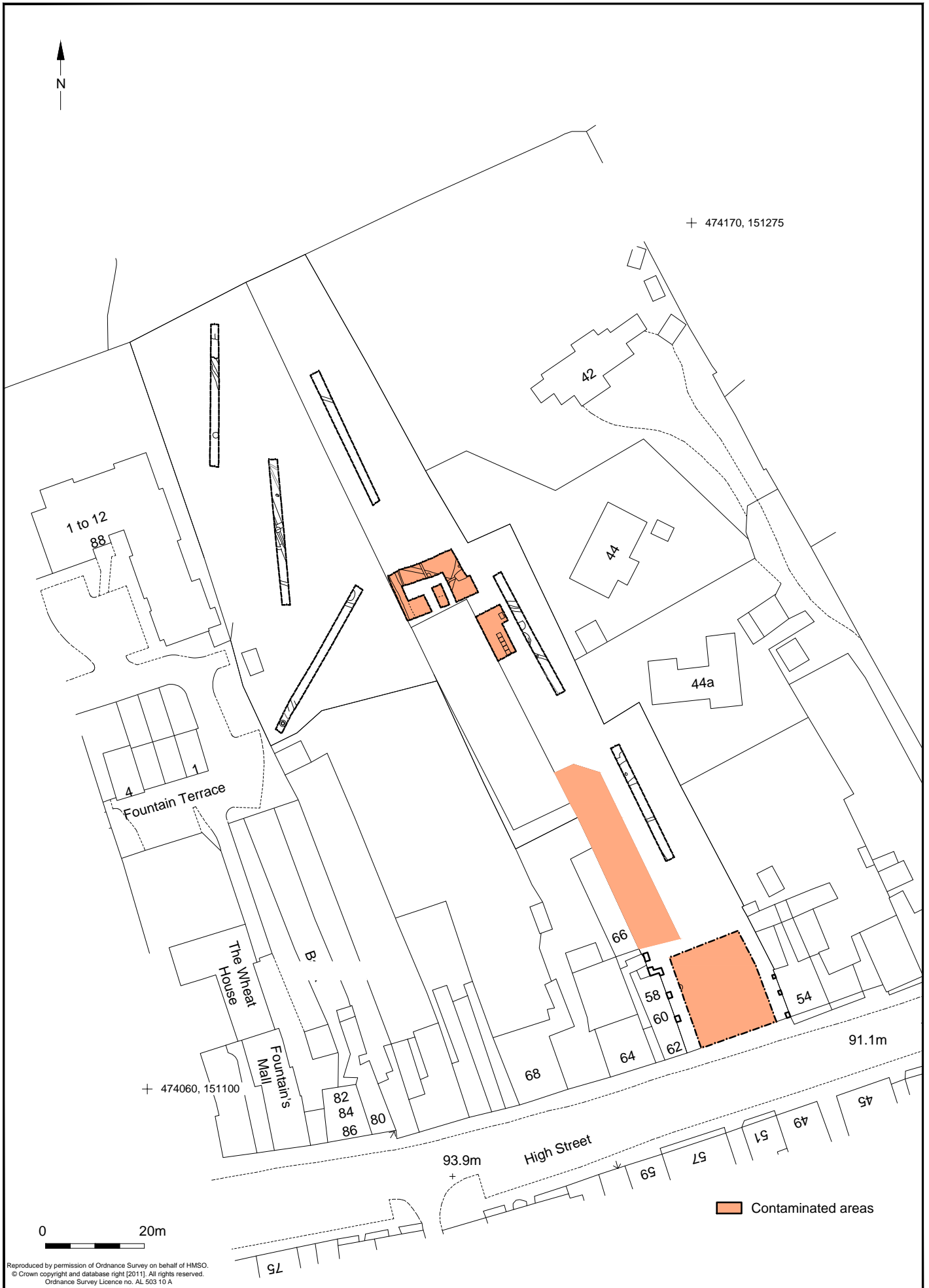
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Project Ref: 6295	Sept 2013	OS 25" 1961	
Report Ref: 2013262	Drawn by: JLR		



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Project Ref: 6295	Sept 2013	OS 25" 1972	
Report Ref: 2013262	Drawn by: JLR		



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Project Ref: 6295	Sept 2013	OS 25 ⁿ 1978	
Report Ref: 2013262	Drawn by: JLR		



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© Archaeology South-East		56 High Street, Odiham		Fig. 12
Project Ref: 6295	Oct 2013	Plan showing areas of known contamination		
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Watching brief phase 1 underpinning pits



Watching brief phase 1 underpinning pit detail



Watching brief phase 2, area 2, looking south-west



Watching brief phase 2, area 2, looking west, showing brick well

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Project Ref: 6295	Oct 2013	Watching brief phases 1 and 2 photographs	
Report Ref: 2013262	Drawn by: JLR		

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