

DAINTREY HOUSE, EAST STREET, PETWORTH, WEST SUSSEX

NGR 497805 121723

Archaeological Trial Holes

Site Code: DHP06

OASIS ID: archaeol6-20502



Project No. 2675

By Paul Riccoboni BA (Hons)

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Archaeology South-East

Archaeology South-East is a division of the University College London Centre for Applied Archaeology. The Institute of Archaeology at UCL is one of the largest groupings of academic archaeologists in the country. Consequently, Archaeology South-East has access to the conservation, computing and environmental backup of the college, as well as a range of other archaeological services.

The Field Archaeology Unit and South Eastern Archaeological Services (which became Archaeology South-East in 1996) were established in 1974 and 1991 respectively. Although field projects have been conducted worldwide, Archaeology South-East retains a special interest in south-east England with the majority of our contract and consultancy work concentrated in Sussex, Kent, Greater London and Essex.

Drawing on experience of the countryside and towns of the south east of England Archaeology South-East can give advice and carry out surveys at an early stage in the planning process. By working closely with developers and planning authorities it is possible to incorporate archaeological work into developments with little inconvenience.

Archaeology South-East, as part of the Field Archaeology Unit, is a registered organisation with the Institute of Field Archaeologists and, as such, is required to meet IFA standards.

Abstract

Archaeology South East were commissioned by Gifford to undertake the excavation of three archaeological trial holes as part of investigative ground works associated with the construction of a new extension at Daintrey House, East Street, Petworth, West Sussex (NGR 497805 121723). The excavations were carried out between the 18th-20th October 2006. The trial holes established the depths of the existing wall foundations of the present house. Post-medieval deposits were recorded and finds collected. Four inspection holes were also monitored in the garden of the house. As a result a possible well was located with water present at c. 3m below existing ground level.

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OASIS FORM

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1. Introduction

- 1.1 Archaeology South East (ASE), a division of University College London Centre for Applied Archaeology (UCLCAA), were commissioned by Gifford to undertake the excavation of three trial holes at Daintrey House, East Street, Petworth (NGR 497805 121723), hereafter referred to as 'the site' (Figs 1 and 2).
- 1.2 The aims of the trial holes were to assess the form and depth of existing footings of the present building (comprising a timber-framed building, later remodelled and extended in the Georgian period and incorporating a 19th-century extension) and to inform the design of a proposed extension to the property.
- 1.3 A Method Statement (Specification) outlining the requirements was prepared by Jon Sygrave of Archaeology South-East and submitted to Gifford and West Sussex County Council for approval.
- 1.4 The British and Geological Survey Sheet (1: 50 000 map) shows the site lies on Lower Greensand.
- 1.5 The fieldwork was undertaken by Paul Riccoboni (Senior Archaeologist) and Andrew Margetts (Assistant Archaeologist). The project was managed by Neil Griffin (Project Manager) and Louise Rayner (Post-excavation Manager).
- 1.6 All work was carried out in accordance with the Specification (Sygrave 2006), and also to the IFA Standards and Guidance.

2. Methodology

- 2.1 The methodology comprised investigation by trial pits. These were positioned to target the three main phases of development of the property (i.e. Trial Pit 3, timber-framed; Trial pit 2, Georgian and Trial pit 1, 19th-century elements). Observations were also made on four window sample inspection holes undertaken by another contractor.
- 2.2 The field work comprised the excavation by hand of three trial holes, undertaken by ASE staff (1m²). This involved removal of the current hard standing and excavation through made ground deposits, to a depth of 1m. Archaeological excavation did not exceed the depths of the wall footings of the existing house. Backfilling was undertaken by hand, but there was no reinstatement to existing condition.
- 2.3 The hand excavation of three small inspection pits to a depth of c. 100mm was undertaken by another contractor (Fig. 2). This work was monitored by ASE staff prior to window sampling at the three locations.
- 2.4 Once trial pits had reached archaeological deposits detailed recording and finds collection was carried out. All features and finds were recorded according to accepted professional standards in accordance with the Specification using standard Archaeology South-East Context record sheets.
- 2.5 A full photographic record of the work was produced (*black and white prints, colour slides and digital*) and will form part of the site archive. The archive is presently held at the Archaeology South-East offices at Ditchling and will be offered to a suitable local museum.
- 2.6 An overall site plan was maintained at a scale of 1:50, sections were drawn at 1:10. All features were planned at 1:20. All drawings were undertaken on plastic draughting film.
- 2.7 All the trial holes were levelled with respect to TBM/spot heights obtained from a site plan provided by Gifford.
- 2.8 It was not appropriate for environmental samples to be taken during these limited investigations.

3. Results

3.1 Test Pit 1

3.1.1 Test pit 1 (Figs 2 and 3) was excavated to a total depth of 0.9m from the current ground surface. During the excavation of this test pit 10 contexts were recorded. In the west-facing section (Fig 3; Section 2) the following contexts from latest to earliest were recorded. Context 1/001 was a 0.16m thick deposit of garden soil, a dark blackish grey in colour and of a sandy silt texture. It contained crushed building materials (15%) (CBM). Directly beneath Context 1/001 was Context 1/004. This was a 0.35m thick deposit of a mid yellowish brown colour, loose consistency and a silty sand texture. It contained CBM (25%) and greensand nodules (5%; <50mm) throughout. This deposit was securely dated to the 19th-century by an English stoneware cooking pot. Context 1/005 was a 0.20m thick deposit of silty sand, mid greyish brown in colour and of a friable consistency. It contained c. 10% CBM and occasional greensand nodules (<50mm). This deposit was interpreted as a made-ground layer containing 17th – to 18th - century finds. Context 1/010 was a 100mm thick deposit, dark blackish brown colour and a silty sand texture. It contained c. 35% of CBM and occasional greensand nodules (<50%). This deposit contained finds dating from the 17th- to mid 18th - century. Directly beneath Context 1/010 a firm greensand (Context 1/006), interpreted as natural ground, was encountered.

3.1.2 Truncating Contexts 1/004, 1/005 & 1/006 was Cut 1/002. This cut was 0.40m wide and 0.50m in depth, and straight sided with a flat base. It contained a large ceramic drain, which was assumed to be a foul drain. This cut was filled by Context 1/003. It was a dark greyish brown colour of a silty sand consistency. It contained building material throughout (<30% <0.20m). Large pieces of stone were also included within this fill, used to protect the pipe.

3.1.3 In the north-facing section of Test Pit 1 (Fig 3; Section 1) the following contexts were recorded (latest to earliest). Context 1/007 represented the below-ground level existing wall of the present building. This wall was constructed of red bricks (190mm x 70mm) and was 6 courses thick (beneath ground level). This wall was probably Victorian or early 20th -century in date. Context 1/008 lay directly beneath and formed part of the wall footing for wall 1/007. It was constructed of mostly square bricks (120mm x 180mm x 110mm). These blocks were bonded with a cement mortar and laid directly onto a levelling course of tiles (laid flat). Beneath the tiles was Context 1/009. This was a 100mm thick deposit of dark greyish black, silty clay. It was composed mainly of tile fragments (20%) and broken bricks (20%). This deposit was also interpreted as part of the wall footing for the existant wall of the building. Context 1/010 was seen as a thin layer beneath 1/009 in

places not completely truncated by Cut 1/002. The natural greensand was located at the base of the test pit.

3.2 Test Pit 2

3.2.1 Test pit 2 (Figs 2 and 3) was excavated to a total depth of 0.60m. The east facing section (Fig 3; Section 4) showed the following contexts (latest to earliest). Context 2/005 represented a small stone post-pad with the latest part of wall footing 2/003 directly beneath this. It was constructed of red bricks (70mm x 200mm) in English bond and was 0.24m in depth/3 courses. Beneath 2/003, a wall footing 2/006 (5 courses thick) was composed of red hand-made bricks (50mm x 150mm x 180mm). The bottom three courses progressively stepped out from those above. Beneath this footing was a c. 0.12m thick layer of lime/sand (Context 2/007). This was an off white grey colour and was very firm, interpreted as the primary deposit of the wall footing.

3.2.2 The north-facing section (Fig 3; Section 3). The following contexts (from latest to earliest) were observed. Context 2/001 was a 100mm thick light greyish brown, of a silty sand composition and loose consistency. It contained brick rubble (50%; <100mm), lime/sand and sandstone fragments (5%; <60mm). This layer was interpreted as a rubble spread, possibly representing the remains of a demolished brick floor. Beneath this Context 2/002 consisted of a mid yellowish brown silty sand. It contained frequent stone fragments (<150mm) and occasional lime/sand fragments (<60mm). This layer was interpreted as a probable packed earth floor. The natural greensand was encountered directly beneath this context.

3.3 Test Pit 3

3.3.1 Test pit 3 was excavated to a total depth of 0.50m. During the excavation twelve contexts were identified. The west-facing section recorded the following contexts (latest to earliest). 3/001 was a 40mm thick tiled floor. This was found beneath the current floor surface and was constructed entirely of red rectangular shaped tiles, bonded with a cement-based mortar. Context 3/002 was a 10mm thick deposit of gritty sand. This was an off-white yellow colour and was laid down as bedding beneath the red tiles. Context 3/003 comprised a 100mm thick dark greyish black silty clay. This deposit had a friable consistency and contained tiles, 17th-century clay pipe stem and some lime/sand fragments throughout and possibly represented a buried topsoil. Context 3/004 was a 0.12m thick deposit and was a light white grey colour. It contained occasional tile fragments throughout. This deposit was interpreted as a layer of made ground or possible subsoil.

3.3.2 Cut 3/010 was 250mm in depth and 300mm in width, with concave sides and a roughly flat base. This was interpreted as a linear trench excavated for the construction of the existing wall. It was filled by

Context 3/011, a mid white grey coloured fill with silty clay texture and a friable consistency. It contained stone fragments (likely from natural greensand) and occasional tile fragments. Early post medieval mortar was recovered from this fill.

3.3.3 In the north-facing section contexts were observed. Context 3/005 was 0.16m in depth. This part of the wall was constructed of large limestone rectangular blocks. It was two courses thick and had a mortar mix as a bonding material. Beneath Context 3/005 was Context 3/006. This was a 10mm thick layer of horizontal tiles, one course in thickness. Directly beneath 3/006 was 3/007, a 60mm thick deposit of a mid greenish yellow silty sand. It was interpreted as a possible layer of degraded stone, which was laid down as foundation material for the existing wall. 3/008 was a 50mm thick layer of red bricks. The bricks were hand-made and rectangular in shape. They were bonded with a lime/sand. 3/009 was an 80mm thick layer of firm lime/sand bedding, interpreted as the primary foundation laid down for the wall. Directly beneath this the natural greensand was encountered.

3.4 Inspection Holes

3.4.1 The inspection four small hand-dug holes (excavated by another contractor to a depth of c. 100mm prior to window sampling) did not reveal any archaeological finds. However, a void thought to represent a well shaft was encountered at two window sample locations c. 1m apart (Fig 2). The void reached a depth in excess 3m, at which point water was encountered.

4. The Finds *by Luke Barber*

- 4.1 The archaeological work recovered a small assemblage of finds. These are quantified in Table 1.
- 4.2 The pottery from the site is generally in good condition though sherd sizes tend to be small to medium (up to 40mm across). The pottery assemblage has been analysed by visual inspection (with the assistance of a hand lens where necessary) and recorded by fabric, form and decoration on ASE *pro forma* and quantified by sherd count and weight. Two periods are represented. The earliest material is from Context 1/005 which contained two quite hard-fired glazed red earthenware jar sherds from two separate vessels of probable 17th- to early/mid 18th- century date. The remaining two sherds consist of the rim from an English stoneware blacking bottle (Context 1/001) and part of an English stoneware blacking pot (Context 1/004). Both are of mid/late 19th- century date.
- 4.3 Only two clay tobacco pipe fragments were recovered (Context 3/003). These consist of a plain stem fragment and part of a bowl of 17th- century date (probably 1650s-1660s).
- 4.4 A moderately sized assemblage of ceramic building material was recovered. Three brick fragments are present in two different contexts. The earliest consists of a low/medium fired abundant fine sand tempered brick measuring ?mm x 115mm x 48mm (Context 2/001). This piece is probably of 16th- to early 18th- century date though possibly more towards the first half of this range. The two fragments from Context 1/004 are later. They consist of well-formed and fired frog-less examples tempered with fine sand and sparse to abundant iron oxide inclusions to 5mm. One example has slag inclusions too. Although neither has a complete length surviving they are 102/103mm wide and 60 to 64mm high. An 18th- to 19th- century date is probable.
- 4.5 The remainder of the CBM assemblage consists of roof tile. With the exception of a hip tile in Context 1/005, all appear to be from peg tiles. The tiles from Contexts 1/005, 1/010 and 3/001 are all similar. They consist of quite crudely/roughly made tiles in a sparse fine sand tempered fabric with sparse iron oxide inclusions to 3mm but fired quite hard. Where present, peg holes are round and thicknesses vary between 11 and 14mm. A 17th- to early 18th- century date would appear the most likely for this material. The only other tile was from Context 1/004, where an 11mm thick hard-fired 18th/19th- century peg tile, tempered with sparse fine sand, was recovered.
- 4.6 A single piece of heavily corroded glass, either from a window pane or square-sectioned bottle, was recovered (Context 1/010). A 17th- to 18th- century date is probable.

- 4.7 Context 3/001 produced two heavily corroded iron rod fragments, one of which may be part of a heavy duty handle. Although not datable in their own right, this context did contain 17th- century material and the ironwork would not be out of place with such a date.
- 4.8 Mortar was recovered from Contexts 2/007 and 3/011. All the material consists of hard light grey/buff lime mortar mixed with either sand (3/011) or abundant chalk pellets to 4mm (2/007). Although not closely datable these mortars are certainly post-medieval.
- 4.9 The finds from the site are not considered to hold any potential for further analysis and, with the exception of the pottery from 1/005, they are not recommended for retention.

DHP06 Daintrey House, Petworth												
Context	Pottery	Weight (g)	CBM	Weight (g)	Fe	Weight (g)	Clay pipe	Weight (g)	Building Material (other)	Weight (g)	Glass	Weight (g)
1/001	1	30										
1/004	1	78	3	2904								
1/005	2	16	10	1988								
1/010			3	420							1	<1
2/001			1	666								
2/007									1	126		
3/003			2	300	2	178	2	18				
3/011									2	56		

Table 1: Quantification of finds

5. Discussion

- 5.1. The excavation of the three trial holes provided the depths of the wall foundations of the existing house which were required by Gifford.
- 5.2. Trial hole 1 revealed a 450mm thick brick foundation at c. 300mm below existing ground level that stood proud of the brick wall it supported. Trial hole 2 revealed a c. 400mm thick stepped brick foundation at c. 100mm below existing ground level beneath the brick wall it supported. Trial hole 3 revealed a c. 200mm thick vertical foundation of layered tile and brick below the limestone wall it supported. Firm greensand, interpreted as natural ground, was encountered at the base of all three trial holes.
- 5.3. The entire finds assemblage is post-medieval in date and broadly correlates with the date of Daintrey House.
- 5.4. A void in the garden of the house was located during window sampling of the area. This void may have been a well, but due to the nature of these investigations it was not possible to confirm this at this stage.

SMR Summary Form

Site Code	DHP 06					
Identification Name and Address	Daintrey House, East Street, Petworth					
County, District &/or Borough	West Sussex					
OS Grid Refs.	NGR 497805 121723					
Geology	Lower Greensand					
Arch. South-East Project Number	2675					
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. August 06	Other		
Sponsor/Client	Gifford					
Project Manager	Neil Griffin					
Project Supervisor	Paul Riccoboni					
Period Summary	Palaeo.	Meso.	Neo.	BA	IA	RB
	AS	MED	PM ✓	Other Modern		
<p>100 Word Summary.</p> <p>Archaeology South East were commissioned by Gifford to undertake the excavation of three archaeological trial holes as part of investigative ground works associated with the construction of a new extension at Daintrey House, East Street, Petworth, West Sussex (NGR 497805 121723). The excavations were carried out between the 18th-20th October 2006. The trial holes established the depths of the existing wall foundations of the present house. Post-medieval deposits were recorded and finds collected. Four inspection holes were also monitored in the garden of the house. As a result a possible well was located with water present at c. 3m below existing ground level.</p>						

Appendix 1 – Context Index

Number	Type	Test Pit	Description
1/001	Deposit	1	Garden Soil
1/002	Cut	1	Cut of drain trench
1/003	Fill	1	Fill of drain trench
1/004	Deposit	1	Made ground
1/005	Deposit	1	Made ground
1/006	Natural	1	Greensand
1/007	Masonry	1	Brick wall
1/008	Masonry	1	Brick footings below 1/007
1/009	Masonry	1	Tile layer below 1/008
1/010	Deposit	1	Made ground
2/001	Deposit	2	Rubble layer
2/002	Deposit	2	Packed earth floor
2/003	Masonry	2	Brick wall
2/004	Natural	2	Greensand
2/005	Masonry	2	Post pad
2/006	Masonry	2	Stepped footing below wall 2/003
2/007	Masonry	2	Lime-based mortar
3/001	Masonry	3	Tile floor
3/002	Deposit	3	Lime-based mortar bedding layer
3/003	Deposit	3	(?) Topsoil
3/004	Deposit	3	Made ground
3/005	Masonry	3	Limestone wall
3/006	Deposit	3	Tile bedding layer below 3/005
3/007	Deposit	3	Sand
3/008	Masonry	3	Wall footing
3/009	Deposit	3	Mortar bedding layer
3/010	Cut	3	Foundation trench
3/011	Fill	3	Fill of foundation trench 3/010
3/012	Deposit	3	Greensand

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OASIS ID: archaeol6-20502

Project details

Project name	Archaeological Trial Holes at Daintrey House, East Street, Petworth, West Sussex
Short description of the project	Archaeology South East were commissioned by Ms Jackie Heath (of Gifford) to undertake the excavation of three archaeological trial holes prior to ground works associated with the construction of a new extension at Daintrey House, East Street, Petworth, West Sussex (NGR 497805 121723). The excavations were carried between the 18th, 19th and 20th October 2006. The trial holes established the depths of the existing wall foundations of the present house. Post medieval deposits were recorded and finds collected. Inspection holes were also monitored in the garden of the house. As a result a possible well was located with a depth of c. 3m.
Project dates	Start: 18-10-2006 End: 20-10-2006
Previous/future work	Not known / Yes
Any associated project reference codes	DHP 06 - Sitecode
Type of project	Building Recording
Site status	Listed Building
Current Land use	Community Service 2 - Leisure and recreational buildings
Monument type	HOUSE Post Medieval
Significant Finds	TILE Post Medieval
Significant Finds	POTTERY Post Medieval

Project location

Country	England
Site location	WEST SUSSEX CHICHESTER PETWORTH Daintrey House, East Street, Petworth
Postcode	GU28 0
Study area	2.00 Hectares
Site coordinates	SU 497805 121723 50.9063206321 -1.291922004890 50 54 22 N 001 17 30 W Point

Project creators

Name of Organisation	Archaeology South-East
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Project brief originator	Archaeology South East
Project design originator	Archaeology South-East
Project director/manager	Neil Griffin
Project supervisor	Paul Riccoboni
Type of sponsor/funding body	Developer
Name of sponsor/funding body	Gifford

Project archives

Physical Archive recipient	Local Museum
Physical Contents	'Ceramics'
Paper Archive recipient	Local Museum
Paper Contents	'Stratigraphic'
Paper Media available	'Plan','Report','Section','Unpublished Text'

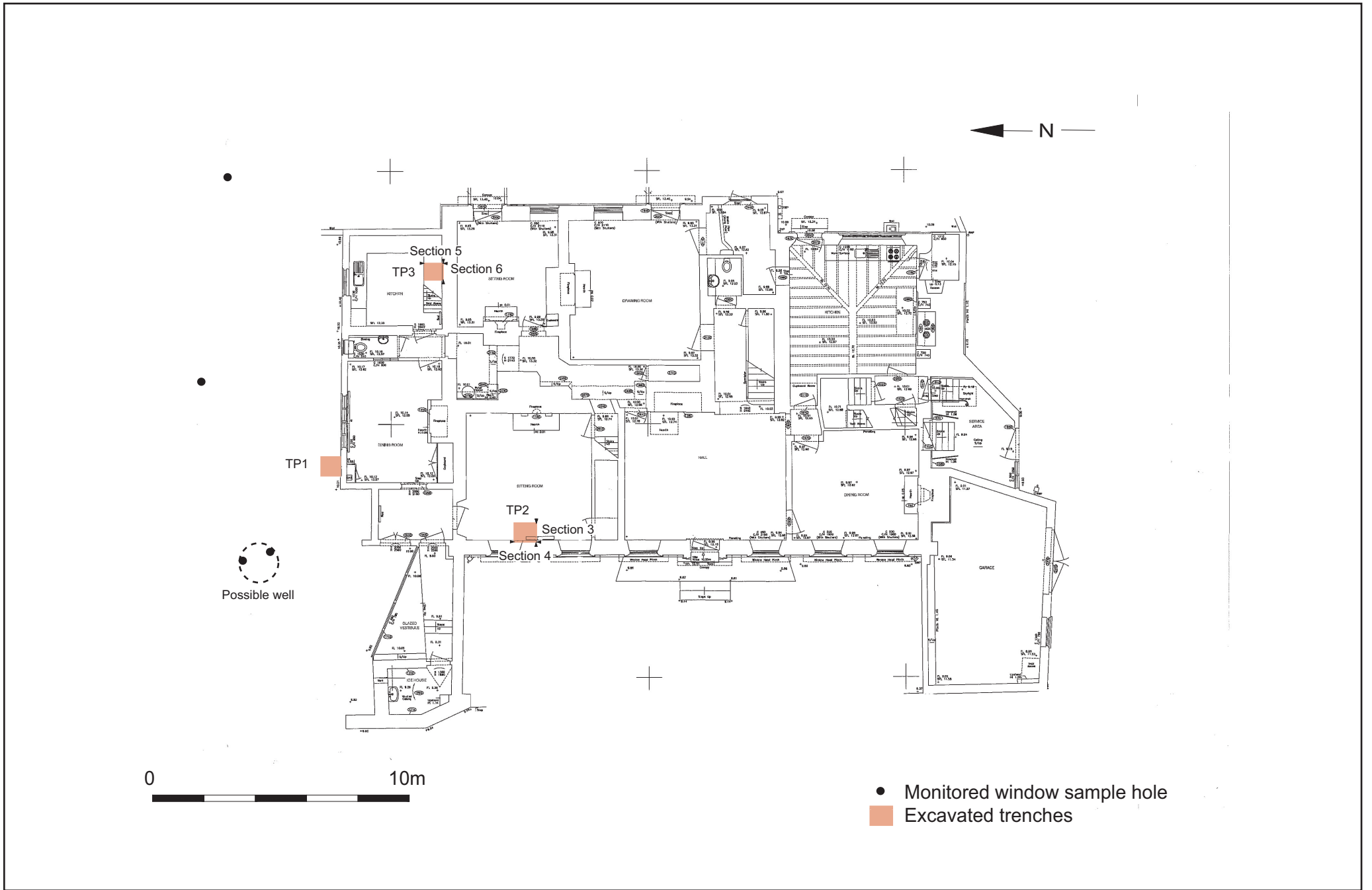
Entered by	Paul Riccoboni (Paul.Riccoboni@ucl.ac.uk)
Entered on	17 November 2006

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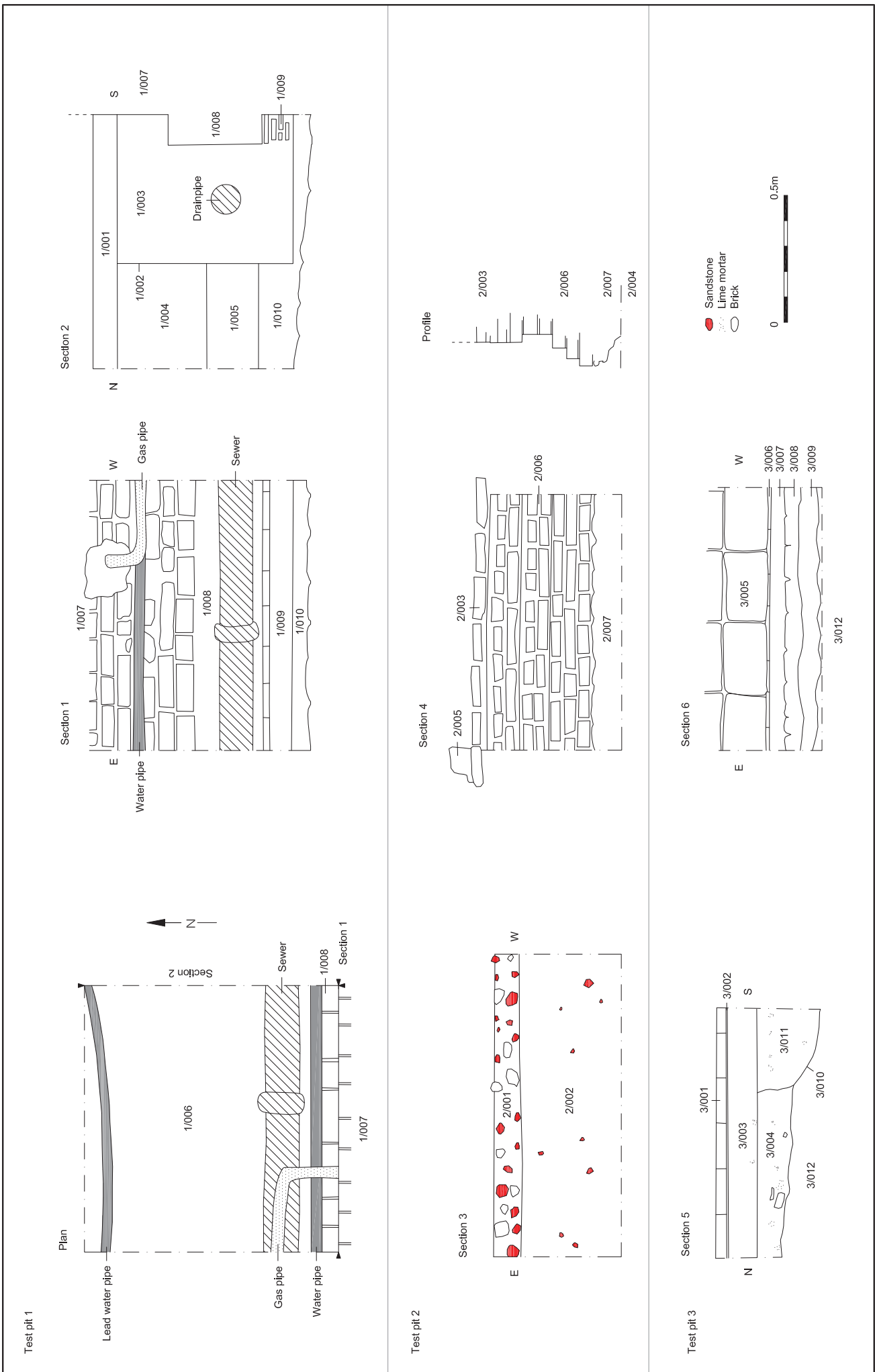


© Archaeology South-East			Daintrey House, Petworth	Fig. 1
Ref: 2675	Nov 2006	Drawn by: JLR	Site Location Plan	

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 Plan and sections

Fig. 3