

**An Archaeological Watching Brief
At 26 Week Street, Maidstone, ME14 1RN**

NGR: 576088 155848



By Steve Price

**An Archaeological Watching Brief
At 26 Week Street, Maidstone, ME14 1RN**

NGR: 576088 155848

Planning Ref: 16/502916/FUL

**ASE Project No: 160983
Site Code: WEE16**

**ASE Report No: 2017524
OASIS id: archaeo16-303935**

**By Steve Price
With contributions by Isa Benedetti-Whitton and Luke Barber**

Illustrations by Lauren Gibson

Prepared by:	Steve Price	Archaeologist	
Reviewed and approved by:	Lucy Sibun	Senior Archaeologist	
Date of Issue:	January 2018		
Version:			

**Archaeology South-East
Units 1 & 2
2 Chapel Place
Portslade
East Sussex
BN41 1DR**

**Tel: 01273 426830
Fax: 01273 420866
Email: fau@ucl.ac.uk**

Abstract

This report presents the results of an archaeological evaluation carried out by Archaeology South-East at 26 Week Street, Maidstone, ME14 1RN between 14th March - 2nd May and the 5th October 2017. The fieldwork was commissioned by Killultagh Estates Ltd.

The stratigraphic sequence on site consisted of various modern made ground deposits overlying natural sand and chalk geology. These made ground deposits varied in different areas of the site, but there were no intact buried subsoil horizons encountered anywhere.

The watching brief uncovered evidence of 14 walls that were part of an old cellar, since backfilled with various made ground and demolition deposits. Based on brick samples recovered from site, these walls generally dated to the 19th and 20th centuries. One brick sample recovered was dated potentially to the 17th century but these bricks may have been used in later construction.

Three of the walls encountered were constructed from Kentish Ragstone, although samples taken from these did not reveal any information regarding dating. No associated finds were encountered.

CONTENTS

- 1.0 Introduction**
- 2.0 Archaeological Background**
- 3.0 Archaeological Methodology**
- 4.0 Results**
- 5.0 The Finds**
- 6.0 Discussion and Conclusions**

Bibliography
Acknowledgements

HER Summary
OASIS Form

TABLES

- Table 1: Quantification of site paper archive
- Table 2: Quantification of artefact and environmental samples
- Table 3: List of recorded contexts Area 1
- Table 4: List of recorded contexts Area 2
- Table 5: Finds quantification
- Table 6: Fabric descriptions for ceramic building material

FIGURES

- Figure 1: Site location
- Figure 2: Site plan showing areas of excavation
- Figure 3: Detailed plan of excavated areas
- Figure 4: Selected sections and photographs
- Figure 5: Selected photographs

1.0 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Site Background

1.1.1 Archaeology South-East was commissioned by Killultagh Estates Ltd to carry out an Archaeological Watching brief at 26 Week Street, Maidstone, ME14 1RN.

1.1.2 The site is located in the centre of Maidstone and was formerly occupied by a retail unit fronting a pedestrianised street. The River Medway lies c.300m to the west. The site is centred at NGR 576088 155848 (Figure 1).

1.2 Geology and Topography

1.2.1 The site lies on Hythe Formation Sandstone and Limestone overlain. Superficial deposits are not mapped (BGS 2016).

1.3 Planning Background

1.3.1 The proposed works involve the construction of a three-storey building for retail use and accommodation. Planning permission has been granted by Maidstone Borough Council subject to conditions (16/502916/FUL). The archaeological condition is as follows:

(5) No development shall take place until the applicant, or their agents or successors in title, has secured the implementation of a watching brief to be undertaken by an archaeologist approved by the Local Planning Authority so that the excavation is observed and items of interest and finds are recorded. The watching brief shall be in accordance with a written programme and specification which has been submitted to and approved by the Local Planning Authority.

Reason: To ensure that features of archaeological interest are properly examined and recorded.

1.4 Aims and Objectives

1.4.1 The aim of the watching brief was to establish whether Roman, medieval or remains of any other period were present.

1.5 Scope of Report

1.5.1 This report presents the results of the archaeological watching brief undertaken by ASE at various intervals between the 14th March - 2nd May and the 5th October 2017. The fieldwork was directed by Steve Price and Naomi Humphries. The fieldwork was managed by Paul Mason, and the post excavation work was managed by Jim Stevenson and Dan Swift.

2.0 ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND

- 2.1 The Historic Environment record (HER) data lists over 200 records of finds spots, monuments and listed buildings in the vicinity of the site. This provides evidence for activity dating from Iron Age/Roman through to the post-medieval period.
- 2.2 The site itself lies in alignment with the Rochester to Hastings Roman Road, which is considered to have been a major route between Rochester and central and east Kent and the coast. There are numerous Roman finds from the town, suggesting that this was an area of significant Roman-British activity.

3.0 ARCHAEOLOGICAL METHODOLOGY

3.1 Fieldwork Methodology

- 3.1.1 The archaeological watching brief was conducted within the footprint of the proposed new building, where intrusive groundworks were carried out (Figure 2).
- 3.1.2 The surface concrete had to be broken out using a hydraulic pecker attachment, fitted to a 360° mechanical excavator. Underlying made ground deposits were then removed, using a smooth grading bucket where practical. Care was taken to ensure that archaeological deposits were not damaged due to over machining.
- 3.1.3 Excavation strategy was in accordance with KCC Manual of Specification for an Archaeological Watching Brief (2007) and the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists Standards and Guidance (ClfA 2014a, b).
- 3.1.4 Archaeological deposits/features were cleaned, recorded and excavated sufficiently to characterise their nature. All archaeological features and deposits were recorded using the standard context record sheets used by Archaeology South-East. Post-excavation plans were hand-drawn at a scale of 1:20. Sections were drawn at a scale of 1:10. A digital photographic record was maintained throughout the work.

3.2 Fieldwork Constraints

- 3.2.1 Due to the surrounding buildings in Maidstone town centre, it was not possible to use a GPS unit to properly survey features on site. Section and spot heights were recorded using GPS where the signal was strong enough, and hand-drawn plans were produced.

3.3 The Site Archive

- 3.3.1 The site archive is currently held at the offices of ASE and will be deposited at a local museum in due course. The contents of the archive are tabulated below (Table 1).

Context sheets	32
Section sheets	3
Plans sheets	3
Colour photographs	0
B&W photos	0
Digital photos	137
Context register	1
Drawing register	1
Watching brief forms	13
Trench Record forms	0

Table 1: Quantification of site paper archive

Bulk finds (quantity e.g. 1 bag, 1 box, 0.5 box 0.5 of a box)	5 brick samples, 4 stone samples
Registered finds (number of)	0
Flots and environmental remains from bulk samples	0
Palaeoenvironmental specialists sample samples (e.g. columns, prepared slides)	0
Waterlogged wood	0
Wet sieved environmental remains from bulk samples	0

Table 2: Quantification of artefact and environmental samples

3.3.2 The finds and environmental samples ultimately deposited as part of the archive are dependent on specialist recommendations and regional archive requirements.

4.0 RESULTS (Figures 2-5)

4.1 Area 1 – monitored 27-29/03/17 & 2/05/17

- 4.1.1 The excavations carried out in Area 1 (at the west end of the site) revealed various made ground deposits overlying the old cellar walls. Contexts [001] to [004] refer to the concrete paved surface of Week Street and its associated make-up layers, visible in the east facing section of the excavated area. Make up layer [004] consisted of moderately compacted, mid brownish-grey silty sand with frequent crushed stone inclusions. It measured 0.14m thick. It was overlain by [003], firmly compacted mid brownish-yellow coarse sand that measured 0.03m thick. This was overlain by [002], consisting of firmly compacted light greyish-brown sand, with frequent crushed stone inclusions, measuring 0.05m thick. It was capped by the concrete street surface [001], measuring 0.08m thick.
- 4.1.2 At the base of the excavations was natural [022], which consisted of a firmly compacted, light yellowish-green/ off-white mix of fine sand (60%) and chalk (40%). In most of the area, this was overlain by a demolition deposit [006], which had been used to backfill the disused cellar. Deposit [006] consisted of bricks (frogged and unfrogged), brick rubble, concrete slabs, metal, old plastic pipes, cement bags and sand. At the northern end of the Area 1 excavation, [006] was found to be overlying another deliberate backfill deposit [015]. This consisted of firmly compacted, mid brownish-yellow coarse silty sand, with inclusions of frequent crushed stones and moderate brick rubble. It measured 0.36m thick, and was directly overlying the natural [022].
- 4.1.3 Overlying [006] was make-up deposit [005], consisting of moderately compacted, light grey/ off-white coarse sand. This contained inclusions of moderate small angular stones, crushed stones and brick rubble. Deposit [005] was overlain by [004] to the west towards Week Street, and by two layers of concrete to the east, [017] measuring 0.05m thick, and [016] measuring 0.10-0.15m thick.
- 4.1.4 Cellar walls [007], [008], [009] and [010] were located in the south of Area 1 and were possibly contemporary, constructed from the same type of mid orange-red, unfrogged brick with header and stretcher coursing. Wall [007] was oriented east-west and measured 0.22m wide, surviving to a height of 0.85m and 0.70m in length. Wall [008] appeared to be an end wall, perpendicular to, and abutting by [007]. It measured 1.10m long and was visible for a height of 0.85m.
- 4.1.5 Wall [009] was oriented east-west, and was visible for a length of 0.83m. It measured 0.37m wide, and ran perpendicular to what looked to be an earlier stone wall construction [030].
- 4.1.6 Wall [010] was oriented east-west, and was visible for a length of 1.60m. It measured 0.24m wide and 1.24m high. Of interest is the narrow gap of only 0.30m between walls [007] and [010] as if contemporary, this gap appears too narrow to be a passageway or corridor.
- 4.1.7 The brick sample recovered from wall [007] was identified as fabric 3033. The dimensions of the bricks recorded in these walls as 220-225mm x 110mm x

60-62mm, combined with the level of firing may indicate a date within the 17th century but the amount of light greenish-grey limestone mortar covering the brick made it difficult to assess. Disused electric cables were found running through the walls, indicating later re-use.

- 4.1.8 Wall [011] was a later build on top of wall [010]. It consisted of dark pinkish-red brick measuring 220mm x 100mm x 67mm in a stretcher coursing, bonded by mid greyish-brown concrete mortar. It was visible for 0.79m in length, and measured 0.25m wide and 0.65m high. This wall may have been added to the top of wall [010] in order to help support the overlying concrete layers [016] and [017]. Disused electric cables were also visible running through wall [011].
- 4.1.9 To the north were walls [012] and [030], constructed from irregular, roughly hewn Ragstone. The stones were bonded by a pale yellow, fine sandy mortar. Wall [012] was oriented east-west, and measured 4.88m long, 0.58m wide and 1.23m high. Wall [030] was oriented north-south, and measured 1.20m long, 0.66m wide and 1.28m high. This wall had a metal water tap incorporated into it. Two stone samples were taken from wall [012], but did not yield any useful information, and there were no associated finds with either of these two walls.
- 4.1.10 As noted in 4.1.5, wall [009] was found to run perpendicular to wall [030] and wall [013] was built directly on top of it. It was constructed from dark reddish-purple bricks measuring 226-230mm x 107-110mm x 62-65mm and measured 1.06m long, 0.68m wide and 0.28m high. A brick sample was retained, identified as 3032 fabric with the brick most likely dated to the 19th century, although the cement mortar suggested re-use during the 20th century. A drainpipe was incorporated into wall [013].
- 4.1.11 Wall [014] was directly overlying wall [012], and ran perpendicular to wall [013]. This wall measured 5.28m long, 0.68m wide, and survived to a height of 0.31m. The coursing of this wall consisted of header and stretcher bricks, bonded by cement mortar. The bricks themselves were mid orange-red fabric 3033, and the cement suggested they had most recently been used during the 19th or 20th century.
- 4.1.12 In the eastern half of Area 1, Walls [031] and [032] were constructed using the same 3032 fabric brick as wall [013], as well as some yellow London stock bricks. The use of cement mortar suggested construction during the 19th or 20th century. Wall [031] was oriented north-south, measured 1.16m long, 0.40m wide and 0.85m high. Wall [032] was oriented east-west, measured 2.28m long, 0.52m wide and 0.75m high.

Context	Type	Interpretation	Max. Length m	Max. Width m	Deposit Thickness m
001	Layer	Made ground	>6.00	>1.40	0.08
002	Layer	Made ground			0.05
003	Layer	Made ground			0.03
004	Layer	Made ground			0.14
005	Deposit	Dump			0.25
006	Deposit	Backfill	>6.00	>2.00	0.60-0.75
007	Masonry	Wall	0.70	0.22	0.85
008	Masonry	Wall	1.10		0.85
009	Masonry	Wall	0.83	0.37	
010	Masonry	Wall	1.60	0.24	
011	Masonry	Wall	0.79	0.25	0.65
012	Masonry	Wall	4.88	0.58	1.23
013	Masonry	Wall	1.06	0.68	0.28
014	Masonry	Wall	5.28	0.68	0.31
015	Deposit	Backfill			0.36
016	Masonry	Concrete surface			0.10-0.15
017	Masonry	Concrete			0.05
022	Layer	Natural			
030	Masonry	Wall	1.20	0.66	1.28
031	Masonry	Wall	1.16	0.40	0.85
032	Masonry	Wall	2.28	0.52	0.75

Table 3: List of recorded contexts Area 1

4.2 Area 2 – monitored 04/04 – 07/04/17

- 4.2.1 The stratigraphic make-up of Area 2 was different to that of Area 1, but still consisted mainly of made ground deposits. The west facing section of Area 2 showed the compact natural [022] overlain by 0.2m of made ground deposit [020], that consisted of firmly compacted, mid brownish-green coarse sand, with frequent angular stones, crushed stones, and occasional brick rubble. This was overlain by 0.71m of another made ground deposit [021], firmly compacted dark brown silty sand, with inclusions of frequent brick rubble, concrete, angular stones, rounded stones and crushed stones. In turn, this was overlain by the concrete surface [016].
- 4.2.2 The east facing section of Area 2 revealed a thick concrete block [018] overlying the natural. It measured approximately 3.35m long, was 0.90m thick and was directly overlain by surface [016]. It appeared to have been set in some time after the construction of cellar wall [019], visible at the northern end of the area. This consisted of mid orange-red and pinkish-red bricks measuring 240mm x 110mm x 62mm. The presence of mid grey/ off-white concrete suggested 19th or 20th century construction.
- 4.2.3 The south end of the excavation area extended further west than the rest of Area 2 and again revealed a different stratigraphical make-up. Here, two walls were visible, cut into the natural [022]. Wall [027] appeared to be the earlier of the two, and was constructed of the same irregular, roughly hewn Ragstone recorded in walls [012] and [030] in Area 1, bonded by the same pale yellow,

fine sandy mortar. The wall measured 1.06m long, 0.44m wide and 1.14m high, and was oriented north-south. Two samples of the stone were taken, but no useful information could be obtained, and no associated finds were present.

- 4.2.4 Wall [023] was found to form a rectangular shape, and was constructed from dark pinkish-red brick measuring 230mm x 105mm x 65mm. The wall was visible for a length of 1.12m, measured a total of 1.08m wide and survived to a maximum height of 1.25m. It was situated directly adjacent to wall [027] but did not appear to truncate it. The construction cut of this wall [025] measured 1.28m long and 1.12m wide but the maximum depth of the cut is not known. It was backfilled with [026], firmly compacted, mottled mid yellowish-brown/ light greyish green coarse silty sand, with moderate crushed stone inclusions. A brick sample retained from wall [023] was identified as fabric 3032, but due to certain factors (inclusions, angular nature of the brick), it was believed to be 19th century or later in date.
- 4.2.5 Overlying the walls and associated contexts were a backfill/ demolition deposit [024], which was found to be the same as [006], encountered in area 1, a concrete slab [028], measuring 0.74m thick and backfill/ make-up deposit [029], consisting of firmly compacted, light brownish-grey coarse sandy silt, with inclusions of frequent angular stones, sub angular stones and moderate brick rubble. It measured 1.25m thick and was directly beneath the concrete surface.

Context	Type	Interpretation	Max. Length m	Max. Width m	Deposit Thickness m
016	Masonry	Concrete surface			0.10-0.15
018	Masonry	Concrete block	3.35		0.90
019	Masonry	Wall	0.99	0.18	1.30
020	Deposit	Backfill			0.28
021	Deposit	Backfill			0.71
022	Layer	Natural			
023	Masonry	Wall	1.12	1.08	1.25
024	Deposit	Backfill			1.25
025	Cut	Construction cut	1.28	1.12	
026	Fill	Backfill	1.28	1.12	
027	Masonry	Wall	1.06	0.44	1.14
028	Masonry	Concrete			0.74
029	Deposit	Backfill			

Table 4: List of recorded contexts Area 2

5.0 THE FINDS

5.1 Summary

5.1.1 A small assemblage of building material was recovered during the watching brief at 26 Week Street. All finds were washed and dried or air dried as appropriate. They were subsequently quantified by count and weight and were bagged by material and context (Table 5). All finds have been packed and stored following ClfA guidelines (2014c).

Context	CBM	Weight (g)	Stone	Weight (g)
7	1	2507		
12			2	14433
13	1	5846		
14	1	2554		
23	1	2707		
27			2	5224
Total	4	13614	4	19657

Table 5: Finds quantification

5.2 The Ceramic Building Material by Isa Benedetti-Whitton

5.2.1 Five bricks were sampled from four standing masonry contexts: [007], [013], [014] and [023]. All the material was examined using a x20 binocular microscope and quantified by form, weight and fabric and recorded on standard recording forms. This information was then entered into a digital Excel database. All the fabrics were identified according to the standardised codes developed by Museum of London Archaeology (MOLA) and are listed below in Table 6.

5.2.2 The presence of cement on the 3032 brick from [013] and the 3033 brick from [014] indicate these bricks were most recently used during the 20th century. Fabric 3032 is a post-1666 brick fabric that was most popular throughout the 18th century. Nineteenth century examples generally have a lesser range of inclusions, limited to sand and calcareous speckle with rarer burnt ash, and the bricks from this site were made from this version of 3032.

5.2.3 Fabric 3033 can date as early as the Tudor period, although the dimensions (220-225 x 100-110 x 55-65) and levelling of firing on the bricks recovered from this site suggest a later date for these bricks, maybe 17th century. However, the quantity of mortars covering both examples made these bricks difficult to assess and date. Examples of 3033 brick were collected from [007] and [014]; the brick from [007] was covered in hard lime mortar rather than the cement mortar found on the brick from [014].

5.2.4 None of the bricks were believed to be of any further archaeological value and have therefore been discarded

Fabric	Description
3032	Dark red-purple fabric; parts of the surface are often discoloured by fine yellow speckling. Common burnt black ash and flint inclusions (up to 6mm) with varying amounts of quartz (up to 0.8mm). Clay pipe stems in some bricks.
3033	Fine fabric with scatter of quartz (up to 0.8mm), calcareous/calcium carbonate inclusions (up to 1.5mm) and black iron oxide (up to 1.5mm). Occasional flint fragments and small pebbles (up to 7mm).

Table 6: Fabric descriptions for ceramic building material

5.3 The Stone by Luke Barber

- 5.3.1 Four stone samples were taken from two different walls at the site. The two stones from wall [012] both consisted of irregular pieces of notably pale grey Kentish Ragstone (8kg and 4.4kg), set within a dull pale yellow fine sandy mortar. The two stones from wall [017] (3kg and 2kg) are equally irregular and covered in a very similar mortar. However, these two are the more characteristic mid grey type of Kentish Ragstone.
- 5.3.2 The stone is not considered to hold any potential for further analysis and has been discarded.

6.0 DISCUSSION AND CONCLUSIONS

6.1 Overview of stratigraphic sequence

- 6.1.1 The stratigraphic sequence on site consisted of various modern made ground deposits overlying natural sand and chalk geology. These made ground deposits varied in different areas of the site, but there were no intact buried subsoil horizons encountered anywhere. The natural, at the base of excavations appeared to have been compacted into a floor surface.
- 6.1.2 A total of 14 walls were found on site. No associated finds were recovered, but brick samples taken from the walls suggest they mostly dated to the 19th and 20th centuries and they are therefore believed to be associated with the old cellar. The brick sample taken from wall [007], possibly contemporary with walls [008], [009], and [010], has been dated to the 17th century, however the presence of disused electric cables running through the walls suggests later re-use.
- 6.1.3 Three walls or foundations constructed from Kent ragstone were also found, although no associated finds were recovered and the samples taken did not reveal any information regarding dating.

6.2 Deposit survival and existing impacts

- 6.2.1 There was clearly a great deal of truncation on site, as evidenced by the generally modern cellar walls and various made ground/ demolition deposits overlying them. The height of the cellar walls (in some cases over 1m) and lack of any intact subsoil horizon suggested the natural geology had also been substantially truncated.

6.3 Discussion of archaeological remains by period

Prehistoric to medieval

- 6.3.1 No deposits or features from the prehistoric through to the medieval period were uncovered during the works and no finds of this date were found.

Post-medieval

- 6.3.2 The earliest dateable remains uncovered on site comprised walls dating to the 19th and 20th centuries, thought to represent the remains of the recently demolished building.
- 6.3.3 Beneath 19th to 20th century walls [013] and [014] in Area 1 were walls constructed from Kentish Ragstone. The evidence suggests that these were foundations for the overlying walls and are therefore also of 19th to 20th century date. An additional Ragstone wall/foundation [027] was located in Area 2, running parallel with [030].
- 6.3.4 The 17th century bricks used for the construction of walls [007-010] in Area 1 possibly represent re-use of the earlier material rather than in situ 17th century construction. Although the relationship is not clear, wall [009] appears to be

later than Ragstone foundation [030], the foundation for 19th to 20th century wall [013]. The fact that the same 17th century bricks were also used in the construction of 19th to 20th century wall [014] supports this idea but the distinct mortar used in each suggests two distinct building phases.

- 6.3.5 Three further areas of 19th to 20th century construction were recorded; walls [031] and [032] in Area 1, wall [019] in the north of Area 2 and [023] in the south. The bricks comprising wall [023] are likely to be of 19th century or later date and given the dimensions and shape of the structure, as well as its location towards the back of the property, it is possible it represents the remains of a cess pit.

6.4 Consideration of research aims

- 6.4.1 The aim of the watching brief was to establish whether Roman, medieval or remains of any other period were present. No deposits or features predating the post-medieval period were revealed during the work and no finds of any date were recovered.
- 6.4.2 The work did reveal the remains of 19th and 20th century foundations and walls, likely to be associated with the recently demolished building. The evidence suggests the re-use of earlier 17th century materials in some of the construction and it is possible that several building phases were represented.

6.5 Updated Research Agenda

- 6.5.1 Although most of the remains uncovered appear to date to the later post-medieval period, there is evidence of possible 17th century brickwork on site. Some has clearly been re-used in later construction, but the evidence is not clear for every context. Historic map regression may provide information with regards to the existence or layout of earlier buildings on site. If the 17th century bricks are all re-used in later construction, can the source of this material, evidence of an earlier building of this date, be found on site?

6.6 Conclusions

- 6.6.1 The watching brief was successful in identifying 19th to 20th century building remains on site, as well as evidence of a possible 17th century building, indicated by the presence of re-used 17th century bricks. Unfortunately, due to the nature of watching briefs and their inherent limitations, full understanding and interpretation of the stratigraphic relationships was not possible.

BIBLIOGRAPHY

ASE, 2016. *26 Week Street, Maidstone, ME14 1RN: Specification for Archaeological Watching Brief*. Unpublished document.

BGS 2016, <http://mapapps.bgs.ac.uk/geologyofbritain/home.html>
Accessed 11/2016

ClfA 2014a, *Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Watching Brief*

ClfA 2014b, *Code of Conduct*

ClfA, 2014c. *Standard and Guidance for the Collection, Documentation, Conservation and Research of Archaeological Materials*.

Kent County Council, 2007 *Standard Specification for an Archaeological Watching Brief/evaluation/excavation*

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

ASE would like to thank Killultagh Estates Ltd for commissioning the work and for their assistance throughout the project, and Wendy Rodgers, County Archaeologist Kent County Council for her guidance and monitoring.

HER Summary

HER enquiry no.									
Site code	WEE16								
Project code	160983								
Planning reference	16/502916/FUL								
Site address	26 Week Street, Maidstone, ME14 1RN								
District/Borough	Maidstone								
NGR (12 figures)	576088 155848								
Geology	Hythe Formation Sandstone and Limestone								
Fieldwork type	<table border="1" style="width: 100%;"><tr><td style="width: 25%;"></td><td style="width: 25%;"></td><td style="width: 25%; text-align: center;">WB</td><td style="width: 25%;"></td></tr></table>			WB					
		WB							
Date of fieldwork	14th March - 2nd May and the 5th October 2017								
Sponsor/client	Killultagh Estates Ltd								
Project manager	Paul Mason								
Project supervisor	Steve Price, Naomi Humphries								
Period summary	<table border="1" style="width: 100%;"><tr><td style="width: 25%;"></td><td style="width: 25%;"></td><td style="width: 25%;"></td><td style="width: 25%;"></td></tr><tr><td></td><td></td><td></td><td style="text-align: center;">Post-Medieval</td></tr></table>								Post-Medieval
			Post-Medieval						
Project summary (100 word max)	<i>A watching brief was undertaken by Archaeology South-East at 26 Week Street, Maidstone, ME14 1RN. 14 walls were encountered that were part of an old cellar, since backfilled with various made ground and demolition deposits. Based on brick samples recovered from site, these walls generally date to the 19th/ 20th centuries. One brick sample was dated potentially to the 17th century, however the presence of disused electric cables running through the walls suggests later re-use. Three of the walls encountered were constructed from Kent Ragstone. Samples taken from these did not provide dating information.</i>								
Museum/Accession No.									

OASIS Form

OASIS ID: archaeol6-303935

Project details

Project name	An Archaeological Watching Brief At 26 Week Street, Maidstone, ME14 1RN
Short description of the project	A watching brief was undertaken by Archaeology South-East at 26 Week Street, Maidstone, ME14 1RN. 14 walls were encountered that were part of an old cellar, since backfilled with various made ground and demolition deposits. Based on brick samples recovered from site, these walls generally date to the 19th/ 20th centuries. One brick sample was dated potentially to the 17th century, however the presence of disused electric cables running through the walls suggests later reuse. Three of the walls encountered were constructed from Kent Ragstone. Samples taken from these did not provide dating information.
Project dates	Start: 14-03-2017 End: 05-10-2017
Previous/future work	No / Not known
Type of project	Field evaluation
Current Land use	Vacant Land 1 - Vacant land previously developed
Monument type	WALLS Post Medieval
Monument type	WALLS Modern

Project location

Country	England
Site location	KENT MAIDSTONE MAIDSTONE 26 Week Street, Maidstone
Postcode	ME14 1RN
Study area	0 Square metres
Site coordinates	TQ 576088 160983 50.922206208059 0.242699097352 50 55 19 N 000 14 33 E Point

Project creators

Name of Organisation	Archaeology South East
Project brief originator	Killultagh Estates Ltd
Project design originator	Archaeology South-East
Project director/manager	Paul Mason
Project supervisor	Steve Price/ Naomi Humphries

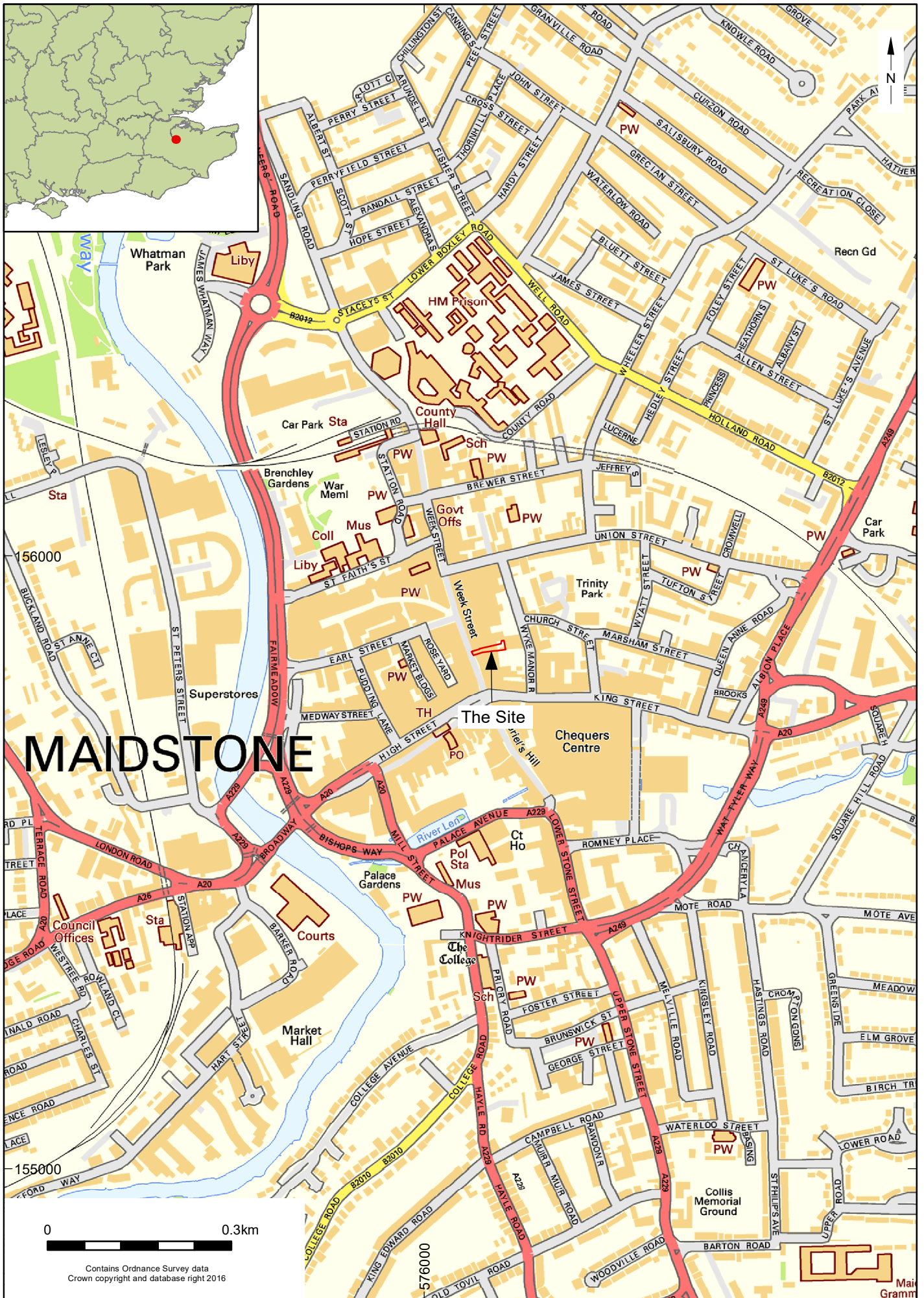
Project archives

Physical Archive recipient	Local Museum
Physical Contents	"other"
Digital Archive recipient	Local Museum
Digital Media available	"Images raster / digital photography"
Paper Archive recipient	Local Museum
Paper Media available	"Context sheet", "Drawing", "Photograph", "Plan", "Report", "Section", "Survey "

Project bibliography 1

Publication type	Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)
Title	An Archaeological Watching Brief At 26 Week Street, Maidstone, ME14 1RN
Author(s)/Editor(s)	Price, S.)

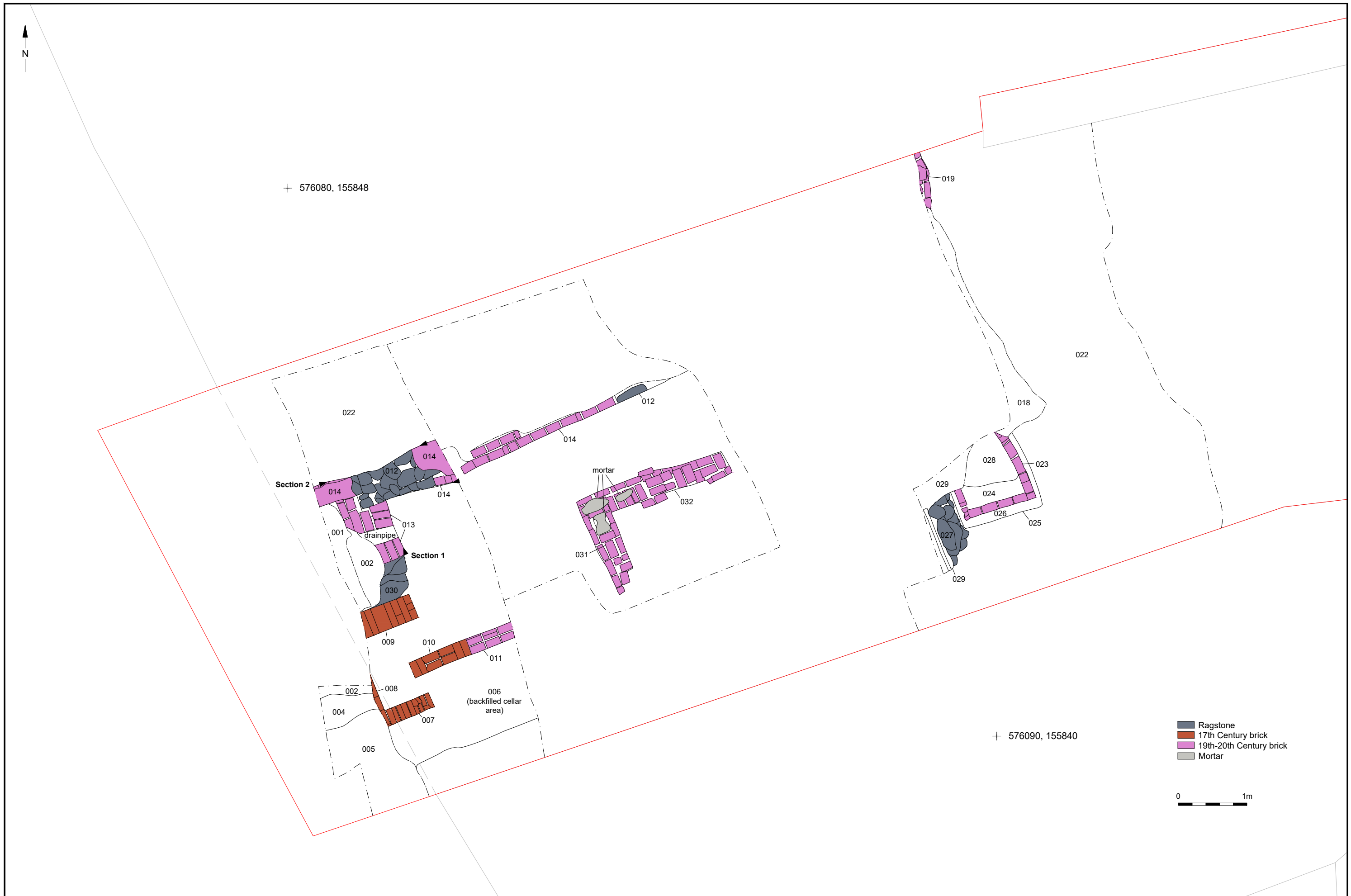
Entered by	Steve Price (steven.price@ucl.ac.uk)
Entered on	14 December 2017

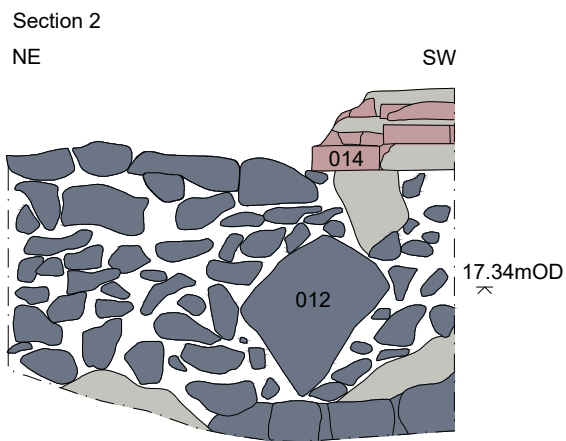
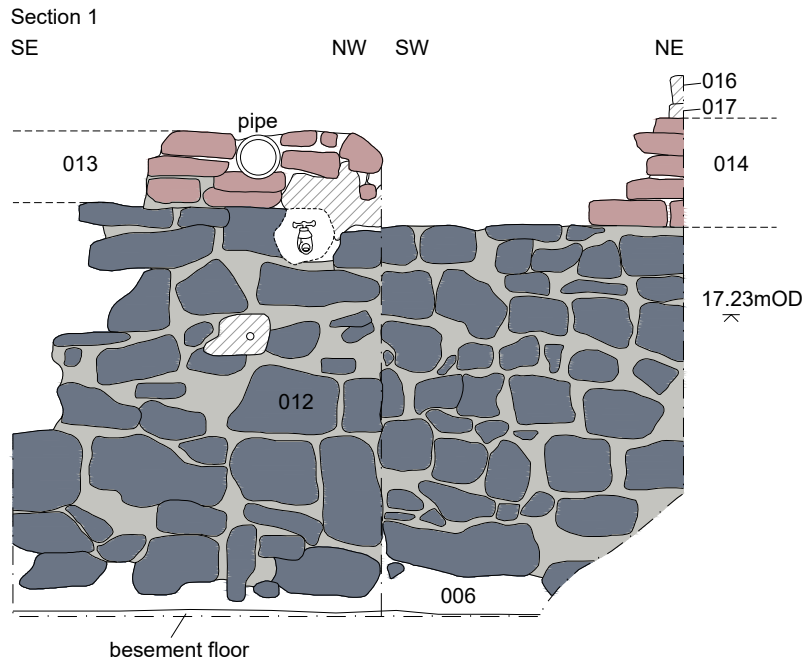


© Archaeology South-East		28 Week Street, Maidstone		Fig. 1
Project Ref: 160983	January 2018	Site location		
Report Ref: 2017524	Drawn by: LG			



© Archaeology South-East		26 Week Street, Maidstone	Fig. 2
Project Ref: 160983	January 2018	Site plan showing areas of excavation	
Report Ref: 2017524	Drawn by: LG		





- Brick
- Stone
- Mortar
- Concrete

0 0.5m



Walls 012., 013 and 014 looking south-west



Wall 012 looking north-west



Walls 014, 031 and 032 facing northwest



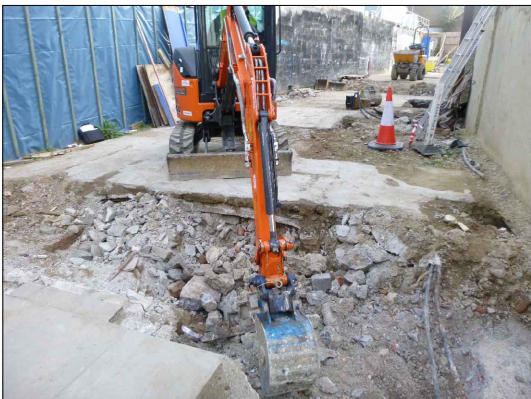
Walls 019 facing north-west



Walls 008 facing west



Walls 023 and 027 facing east



Working shot area 1



Working shot area 2

© Archaeology South-East		Week Street, Maidstone	Fig. 5
Project Ref: 160983	January 2018	Selected photographs	
Report Ref: 2017524	Drawn by: LG		

Sussex Office

Units 1 & 2
2 Chapel Place
Portslade
East Sussex BN41 1DR
tel: +44(0)1273 426830
email: fau@ucl.ac.uk
www.archaeologyse.co.uk

Essex Office

27 Eastways
Witham
Essex
CM8 3YQ
tel: +44(0)1376 331470
email: fau@ucl.ac.uk
www.archaeologyse.co.uk

London Office

Centre for Applied Archaeology
UCL Institute of Archaeology
31-34 Gordon Square
London WC1H 0PY
tel: +44(0)20 7679 4778
email: fau@ucl.ac.uk
www.ucl.ac.uk/caa

