Archaeology South-East

ASE

Archaeological Evaluation
The Former Roche Buildings, Bell Lane, Lewes, East Sussex
NGR TQ 40500 09600
NGR 540500 109600

Planning Ref: LW/08/1140

Project No. 3991
Site Code: FRB 10

ASE Report No. 2010071
Oasis No. archaeol6-77829

Dylan Hopkinson MA

with additional material by Gemma Ayton, Luke Barber, Sarah Porteus, Elke Raemen, and Justin Russell

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Abstract

An archaeological evaluation was conducted on land at the former Roche Buildings, Bell Lane, Lewes, East Sussex (NGR 540500 109600). The work was carried out between 10th and 11th May 2010 by Archaeology South-East on behalf of the client Enplan prior to redevelopment. Two 10 metre trenches were excavated in order to assess the archaeological potential of the site and record any remains that were likely to be disturbed by the development. The site lies partially within an Archaeologically Sensitive Area and borders a Conservation Area.

The natural geology comprised undivided Upper and Middle Chalk, indicated on British Geological Survey Sheet 319. The topography of the natural within the trenches showed a slope from the south (8.50m AOD – Trench 2) down towards the north (8.04m AOD – Trench 1).

Three small pit cut features were identified associated with pottery from the 17th to 19th centuries and sealed by up to 1.40 metres of made ground.

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1.0 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Site background

1.1.1 Archaeology South-East (ASE) a division of The Centre for Applied Archaeology at the Institute of Archaeology, University College London has been commissioned by Enplan to undertake an archaeological evaluation at The Former Roche Buildings, Bell Lane, Lewes, East Sussex in advance of development (NGR 540500 109600; Figure 1).

1.2 Planning background

1.2.1 A planning application for demolition of warehouse building (part of former Roche complex), erection of B1 (office) floor space, fourteen residential units, additional on-site parking and ancillary landscaping (Planning reference LW/08/1140). Condition 5 of the planning decision notice states the following:

"No development shall take place within the area indicated (this would be the area of archaeological interest) until the applicant, or their agents or successors in title, has/have secured the implementation of a programme of archaeological works in accordance with a written scheme of investigation which has been submitted to and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority and carried out in accordance with that approval.

Reason: To facilitate the recording of finds of archaeological interest having regard to Policy H11of the Lewes District Local Plan".

1.2.2 ASE consulted Greg Chuter, Assistant County Archaeologist, East Sussex County Council (ESCC) in his capacity as advisor to Lewes District Council on archaeological planning matters in order to establish the scope of works required. He outlined that archaeological investigation should consist of an archaeological field evaluation of two 10 metre by 1.80 metre trenches (Figure 2).

1.2.3 A *Written Scheme of Investigation* (ASE; WSI 2010) for the evaluation was prepared for and approved by ESCC, and referenced a meeting held at the site between Enplan, ASE and ESCC on 19th January 2010.

1.2.4 All work was carried out in accordance the WSI and the relevant Standards and Guidance of the Institute of Field Archaeologists (IFA).

1.3 Scope of the report

1.3.1 This report details the results of the archaeological monitoring of works on the site in order to facilitate compliance with Condition 5 of the approved planning application. The work was undertaken between 10th and 11th May 2010 by Dylan Hopkinson (Archaeologist), and Gary Webster (Assistant Archaeologist).

1.3.2 The project was managed by Neil Griffin, Jim Stevenson and Dan Swift.

2.0 ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND

2.1 Location and geology

2.1.1 According to the British Geological Survey 1:50,000 map (Sheet 319, Lewes) the natural geology of the site comprises undivided Upper and Middle Chalk, typified in field observations as commonly being sealed by thick chalk 'head' deposits.

2.1.2 The site lies on a prominent north-facing slope down to the Winterbourne Stream. The topography of the underlying natural reflects this slope and was observed at 8.50 mAOD in the south of the site (Trench 2) and 8.04 mAOD in the north (Trench 1).

2.2 Archaeological and historical potential

2.2.1 It is not understood to what degree the construction of Bell Lane and the former Roche Buildings have truncated the natural land surface, and this should form a central theme to understand during the evaluation process.

2.2.2 The archaeology of Lewes is generally thought to commence in the Anglo-Saxon period and continue on seamlessly to the present day, however, recent excavations at Lewes House, School Hill have highlighted the potential for Middle and Late Iron Age activity in Lewes. The potential for features of this date within the Winterbourne valley should not be discounted.

2.2.3 There have been very few archaeological excavations close to the site and it should be noted that archaeology of any period could be present.

2.2.4 Notably, an Anglo-Saxon cemetery was found in 1891 when a house subsequently named 'Saxonbury' was being constructed on Juggs Road c. 120m southwest of the current site (NGR 540727 109509). A total of 33 inhumation burials were found over a period of seven months during these works (Craddock 1977, pp85-102). Further limited excavations immediately to the south of this cemetery by Owen Bedwin in 1975 failed to reveal any further graves (Harris 2005) and subsequent monitoring by Archaeology South-East in the 1990s failed to find any archaeological features. An area encompassing the presumed extent of the cemetery is now afforded legal protection as a Conservation Area (SMR No. ES477; Figure 1). Contemporary settlement activity in cl ose proximity to this cemetery is expected.

2.2.5 The current development site lies near to the junction of Southover High Street, a route of some considerable antiquity and Bell Lane itself which dates back to at least the late 18th century and appears on James Edwards' map of Lewes of 1799. The older antiquity of Bell Lane is testified by map 12 of the Historic Character Assessment Report (Harris 2005) which shows that from c 1600 the site immediately to the south of the development site was occupied by town defences at the junction of Bell Lane and Southover High Street.

2.2.6 The site lies just beyond Harris' HUCA 8 (Southover High St; Harris 2005) and therefore research questions pertaining to that area may be pertinent to

the site.

2.2.7 The Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI 2010) presented the results of a map regression exercise, the main points of which are summarised below.

2.2.8 The earliest studied map of sufficient detail dates from 1775 and shows Bell Lane as an established route leading down from Southover to the Winterbourne Stream, possibly to a fording point. The northeast area of the site falls within a small field on the floodplain of the Winterbourne Stream.

2.2.9 James Edward's map of 1799 shows no significant changes within the boundary of the site with the exception of the addition of a small L-shaped building within the plot associated with modern-day 32 Southover High Street and which now lies beneath the existing office development.

2.2.10 William Figg's map and John Marchant's map both from 1824 show changes to the plot boundaries falling within the development site. On both of these maps two small square buildings are shown fronting Bell Lane rather than a single rectangular building.

2.2.11 The Southover Tithe Map (c. 1845) shows a different arrangement of building fronting Bell Lane and also shows that development has extended further westwards with some further development within the grounds of 32 Southover High Street.

2.2.12 The first edition Ordnance Survey (OS) (c. 1865) effectively shows an identical arrangement of buildings within the current development site. These buildings are annotated 'Brewery' and presumably represent an extension to Southover Brewery which fronts Southover High Street immediately to the southeast.

2.2.13 The 2nd edition OS (c. 1885) no longer shows the most westerly building on Bell Lane but shows a significant enlargement of the buildings to the rear of 32 Southover High Street. Further expansion of Southover Brewery within the current site is evident on the 3rd edition OS (c. 1905) and the premises may now also be accessed from the north via Spring Gardens. The site of the main brewery complex on Southover High Street has now been developed into a row of six houses indicating that the business has now been relocated to within the current development site. A small isolated structure is depicted within the current development site, set back from the road.

2.2.14 The 4th edition OS (c. 1925) shows yet more additions to the brewery buildings. Structures once more extend further westwards along the Bell Lane street frontage with infilling and additions noted elsewhere within the site.

2.2.15 The ESCC Historic Environment Record (HER) records eight entries within 250m of the site. These are summarised below (Table 1) and their locations depicted on Figure 1.

HER No.	OS Grid Ref. (TQ)	Description Period	
MES1668 EES9025	40740 09500	Anglo Saxon Cemetery (see 2.3 above)	Anglo-Saxon
MES10242	40900 09600	Coin found at 24 Southover High Street	AD 0-1720
MES16134 EES14594	40753 09561 40776 09578	Site of former chalk quarry	Post-medieval
EES13938	41000 09500	Watching brief at 36 Southover High Street revealed evidence of long-term domestic occupation	Medieval – post-medieval
EES14121 EES9548	40750 09510 40720 09520	Watching brief in grounds of Saxonbury House revealed no further archaeological features	N/A

Table 1: ESCC HER data within 250m of the development site

3.0 ARCHAEOLOGICAL METHODOLOGY

3.1 Methodology

3.1.1 The archaeological work was carried out in accordance with the WSI (ASE; WSI 2010) and the relevant Standards and Guidance of the Institute for Archaeologists (IFA).

3.1.2 Two 10 metre evaluation trenches were excavated using a 1.80 metre wide toothless ditching bucket (Figure 2) and were recorded over two days by archaeologists to assess the level of archaeological survival.

3.1.3 All deposits were recorded using ASE standard context sheets, with colours recorded by visual inspection. Sections were drawn at appropriate scales on plastic drafting film.

3.1.4 A full photographic record was made recording all features and contexts.

3.1.5 All features were drawn in plan at a scale of 1:20 on multi-context trench drawings and section drawings of the excavated profiles were drawn at a scale of 1:10, sample section drawings of the overlying deposits were also drawn at 1:10 scale.

3.2 Excavation aims and objectives

3.2.1 The aim of the archaeological work was to assess with a greater degree of certainty the presence or absence of any archaeological features at the site.

3.2.2 To assess whether archaeological remains extend across the development site, particularly those associated with the Southover Brewery and to better

understand the phase, form and function of buildings recorded on historic mapping.

3.2.3 To assess such factors as the character, extent, preservation, significance, date and quality of remains and deposits and the degree of truncation of the natural hillside.

3.2.4 To assess how the remains and deposits might be affected by the development of the site.

3.2.5 To assess what options should be considered for mitigation.

3.2.6 Specifically the evaluation sought to consider Research Questions 1, 5-8, 10 and 19 of the Historic Character report (Harris 2005):

RQ1: What was the nature of the palaeoenvironment (ancient environment), and the prehistoric, Roman, and early Anglo-Saxon human activity in the Area? [of particular relevance with respect to colluvial potential of the Winterbourne valley and the use of this landscape feature as a routeway/resourse]

RQ5: What evidence is there for Anglo-Saxon secular settlement (and its economy), both within and without the burh?

RQ6: What was the road layout, how did this evolve, and how did it relate to east-west routes, river crossings, a transhumant Downland-Wealden economy, and the burh?

RQ7: What was the extent of the town and its suburbs in the 11th and 12th centuries, and to what degree did it change over this period?

RQ8: What evidence is there for the evolution of the street plan during this period, especially in relation to the expanding settlement and the development of suburbs?

RQ10: What different zones (especially with reference to the suburbs) were there during this period, and how did they change (assessing the value of the Domesday Book evidence for late 11th-century change)?

RQ19: What documentary and archaeological evidence is there for late medieval decline?

3.3 Status of site archive

3.3.1 The site archive is currently held at the offices of ASE and will be deposited at the local museum in due course. The contents of the archive are tabulated below (Table 2).

3.3.2

Number of Contexts	14
Context Register Sheets	1
Photographic Record Sheets	1
No. of files/paper record	1
Levels Record Sheets	1
Photographs 9	
Bulk Sample Register Sheets	1
Bulk Sample Forms	1
Trial Trench Record Sheets	2

Table 2: Quantification of site archive

4.0 RESULTS

4.1 Natural Geology and Overburden

4.1.1 The natural geology across the site was chalk head deposits [012]. This was encountered in the southern part of the site at 8.50m AOD (Trench 2), and sloped down towards the north at a height of 8.22m AOD (Trench 1).

4.1.2 There was a thick covering of overburden across both the trenches which consisted of layers of made ground between 1.15m deep (Trench 1; Contexts [013; 014]) and 0.85m deep (Trench 2; Contexts [003; 004; 005]).

4.1.3 Overlying the made ground was a finished concrete surface that consisted of a 0.30m thick layer of reinforced concrete [001] overlying a 0.20m levelling deposit of course gravels [002].

4.1.4 Context [003] contained a body sherd from a large bottle in Bristol glazed English stoneware, dating to between 1850 and 1925.

4.1.5 A single abraded fragment of peg tile was recovered from context [005] the lowest context in trench 2 with a fabric dating to 15th to 17th century. This fragment was the earliest in the assemblage and was residual to the context. The majority of brick from context [005] was in fabric B3. The largest of the brick fragments in fabric B3 were frogged with a probable date of mid 18th to 19th century. A single piece of brick in fabric B4 from context [005] is of 17th to 19th century date.

4.1.6 The lowest layer of overburden in trench 1 [Context 014] contained peg tile of 17th to 19th century date and a sherd from a Staffordshire combed slipware plate which probably dates to between 1680 and 1780, and a fragment of an acorn type clay tobacco pipe, with an oak leaf decorated steam which dated to between 1850 and 1880. Context [013] which sealed this deposit contained a large piece of salt glazed stoneware pipe or chimney pot of 19th or 20th century date and a fragment of 20th century brick and 17th to 19th century peg tile in a silty fabric.

4.2 Archaeology (Figure 3)

4.2.1 **Trench 1**
Length: 10 metres **Width:** 1.80 metres **Depth:** 1.70 metres
Aligned: North – South

4.2.2 Trench 1 was excavated after trench 2, and at around 1.40 metres depth it was evident that the made ground was deeper than the first trench. After consultation with Greg Chuter (ESCC Archaeologist) it was decided to expose the natural only in the north and south of the trench to provide a profile of the underlying geology. Due to the presence of services in the north of the trench this sounding had to be made 1.80 metres from the northern end of the trench.

4.2.3 At the request of the ESCC Archaeologist, a bulk sample was taken from the basal deposit of this trench [014].

Number	Type	Description	Max. Length	Max. Width	Deposit Depth	Height m.AOD
001	Layer	Concrete	Tr.	Tr.	0.40 m	9.81
002	Layer	Make-up Tr.		Tr.	0.20 m	9.41
012	Layer	Natural	Tr.	Tr.	- 8.17	
013	Layer	Made Ground	Tr.	Tr.	0.30 m	9.21
014	Layer	Made Ground	Tr.	Tr.	0.85 m	8.91

Table 3: Contexts identified in trench 1

4.2.1 **Trench 2**
Length: 10 metres **Width:** 1.80 metres **Depth:** 1.40 metres
Aligned: East - West

4.2.2 Three features were observed cutting into the chalk head deposits and sealed by the overburden. Due to the depth of the excavations it was not possible to enter the trench for health and safety concerns. After reviewing the exposed anomalies with Greg Chuter (ESCC Archaeologist) the features were not considered substantial enough to warrant widening the trench to enable full excavation, where possible finds were recovered from the surface of their fills. The features are discussed here from east to west.

4.2.3 In the eastern end of the trench, a feature was identified 1.00 metres in length and 0.40 metres in width extending southwards into the edge of the excavation [008]. This was filled with firm mid brown sandy silt containing peg tile fragments dating to the 17th to 19th centuries [009].

4.2.4 At a distance of 3.50 metres from the western end of the trench was a small round feature [010] measuring 0.40 metres in diameter which extended into the southern edge of the excavation. This was filled with firm mid brown sandy silt [011].

4.2.5 A final feature was observed 2.30 metres from the north-western corner of the trench. This was a small sub circular pit with a diameter of 0.35 metres

[006]. This was also filled with firm mid brown sandy silt containing peg tile fragments dating to the 17th to 19th centuries [007].

Number	Type	Description	Max. Length	Max. Width	Deposit Depth	Height m.AOD
001	Layer	Concrete	Tr.	Tr.	0.32 m	9.85
002	Layer	Make-up Tr.		Tr.	0.41 m	9.53
003	Layer	Made Ground	Tr.	Tr.	0.40 m	9.33
004	Layer	Made Ground	Tr.	Tr.	0.25 m	9.13
005	Layer	Made Ground	Tr.	Tr.	0.30 m	8.82
006	Cut	Small Pit?	0.35 m	0.40 m	0.10 m	8.44
007	Fill	Pit Fill	0.35 m	0.40 m	0.10 m	8.44
008	Cut	Small Pit?	1.00 m	<0.40 m	-	8.50
009	Fill	Pit Fill	1.00 m	<0.40 m	-	8.50
010	Cut	Small Pit?	0.40 m	0.40 m	-	8.50
011	Fill	Pit Fill	0.40 m	0.40 m	-	8.50
012	Layer	Natural	Tr.	Tr.	- 8.50	

Table 4: Contexts identified in trench 2

5.0 THE FINDS

5.1 A small assemblage of finds was recovered during the archaeological work. An overview can be found in Table 5. In addition to these, the environmental residue contained a decorated clay tobacco pipe bowl fragment which was assigned a Registered Finds number (RF <1>).

Context	Pot	Wt (g)	CBM	Wt (g)	Bone	Wt (g)
3	1	76	5	2834		
5	1	<2	6	2072		
7			1	20		
9			6	532		
13			3	1434		
14	1	18	1	148	4	310

Table 5: Quantification of the finds

5.2 The **Pottery** by Luke Barber

5.2.1 The archaeological work recovered only three sherds of pottery all of which is of post-medieval date. The earliest piece was recovered from [14] and consists of a sherd from a Staffordshire combed slipware plate which probably dates to between 1680 and 1780. Context [5] produced a small sherd from a blue transfer-printed plate with floral design probably belonging to an 1840-1900 date range while context [3] contained a body sherd from a large bottle in Bristol glazed English stoneware, dating to between 1850 and 1925.

5.3 The Clay Tobacco Pipe by Elke Raemen

5.3.1 A single bowl fragment (RF <1>; wt <2g) was recovered from environmental residue <1>. The piece is an acorn type, with an oak leaf decorated seam. Various makers are known to have produced this type. One such example has been previously recovered at Pipe Passage kiln, Lewes (Atkinson 1976: 59). The type was produced between c. 1850 and 1880.

5.4 The Animal Bone by Gemma Ayton

5.4.1 One fragment of animal bone was recovered by hand from [14]. The bone has been identified as cattle (*Bos taurus*) and is a complete right metatarsal. The bone has been measured using an osteometric board. The greatest length (GL) measures 253mm, the distal breadth (Bd) measures 63mm and the smallest breadth of the diaphysis (SD) measures 34mm. The proximal breadth (Bp) could not be measured as the bone is fractured at the proximal end. All measurements have been taken in accordance with Von Den Dreisch (1976). There is no evidence of butchery, burning, gnawing or pathology on the bone.

5.4.2 The environmental samples produced 15 small fragments of fish bone and vertebrae, 9 small fragments of mammal bone and one fragment of domestic chicken.

5.4.3 The assemblage has no potential for further analysis.

5.5 The Ceramic Building Material by Sarah Porteus

5.5.1 A total of 22 fragments of ceramic building material (CBM) with a combined weight of 7156g were recovered from six contexts. The majority of the material is of post-medieval date.

5.5.2 A single abraded fragment of peg tile from context [005] in a pale brownish orange fabric with moderate rounded quartz inclusions is of 15 th to 17 th century date. The fragment is the earliest in the assemblage but is residual to the context.

5.5.3 An undated fragment of pale brownish orange sandy fabric with moderate poorly sorted coarse to very coarse white quartz and red and cream silt inclusions was recovered from [005]. The majority of brick from context [005] which was in fabric B3, a red fabric with coarse texture and moderate bone and ash inclusions with sparse coarse flint and red iron rich inclusions. The largest of the brick fragments in fabric B3 was frogged with a probable date of mid 18th to 19th century. A single piece of brick in fabric B4, a red fine sandy fabric with black iron rich inclusions and sparse fine quartz from context [005] is of 17th to 19th century date.

5.5.4 Contexts [007], [009] and [014] contained peg tile of 17 th to 19th century date in silty fabrics with variable quartz and iron rich inclusions. Context [013] contained a large piece of salt glazed stoneware pipe or chimney pot of 19th or 20 th century date and a fragment of 20th century brick and 17 th to 19 th century peg tile in a silty fabric. The most recent material was recovered from context [003] which contained a machine made brick with 'KEYMER'

impressed in the frog. Brick with sharp arises in fabric B2 a fabric with moderate cream silt streaking with moderate very coarse red silt inclusions and a flanged peg tile in a pale orange fabric with abundant calcareous speckling were also found in context [003] and are of 20th century date.

6.0 THE ENVIRONMENTAL SAMPLES

6.1 A single bulk sample of 40 litres was taken from a made ground deposit (014) during archaeological work at the site to establish the range of finds and environmental remains present at the request of the county archaeologist. The sample was processed in its entirety in a flotation tank, the residue and flot were retained on 500µm and 250µm meshes respectively and were air dried prior to sorting. The residue was passed through graded sieves (4mm and 2mm) to aid the sorting process and environmental and artefact remains were removed (Table 1). The flot was scanned under a stereomicroscope at magnifications of x7-45 and environmental remains were recorded (Table 2). Botanical remains have been identified through comparison with modern reference material at University College London and reference texts (Cappers *et al.* 2006).

6.2 This sample contained an array of artefacts including pottery, glass, metal objects (iron nails and a copper pin) and building material. In addition the sample produced oyster (*Ostrea edulis*) shell fragments, animal bone (recorded in the finds report), and charcoal fragments. Much of the 'charcoal' assemblage was small, vitrified and probably of industrial origin. The flot was dominated by land snail shells, and vesicular and vitrified charred remains that may also be industrial. Wood charcoal fragments were infrequent and a charred cherry (*Prunus avium*) stone was the only macro botanical recorded.

6.3 This assemblage confirms the relatively modern origin of the deposit and provides no potential for further analysis.

Table 6: Residue quantification (* = 1-10, ** = 11-50, *** = 51-250, **** = >250)

Sample Number	Context	Sample Volume litres	Charcoal >4mm	Weight (g)	Charcoal <4mm	Weight (g)	Bone and Teeth	Weight (g)	Fishbone and microfauna	Weight (g)	Land Snail shells	Weight (g)	Other (eg ind, pot, cbm)
1	14	40	**	10	***	8	**	20	*	1	**	22	Slate */6. Fe */8, Metal */52, Clay pipe */14, Glass */22, Pot */74, Building material **/132

Table 7: Flot quantification (*=1-10, ** = 11-50, *** = 51-250, **** = >250) and preservation (+ = poor, ++ = moderate, +++ = good).

Sample Number	Context	weight g	Flot volume ml	Uncharred %	sediment %	Charcoal >4mm	Charcoal <4mm	Charcoal <2mm	Crop seeds charred	Weed seeds charred	other botanical charred	Identifications	Preservation	Large animal bone	fish, amphibian, small animal bone	LSS	Ind debris hammerscale
1	14	8	40	10	30			**			1	*Prunus* cf. *avium*	+++	1	*	***	***

7.0 DISCUSSION

7.1 The evaluation trenches revealed that a substantial amount of made ground overlies the natural chalk head in the area. This material contained a variety of finds from glass and metal to ceramics consistent with an industrial or semi industrial context, such as that of the brewery shown on historical maps in the area since 1845. There is no substantial evidence of buildings or activities that front onto Bell Lane, and only three potential cut features were identified. These cut features were generally ephemeral and could not be fully investigated due to the depth of the trenches.

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ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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SMR Summary Form

Site Code	FRB 10					
Identification Name and Address	Former Roche Buildings, Bell Lane, Lewes, BN7 1JU, East Sussex					
County, District &/or Borough	Lewes					
OS Grid Refs.	NGR 540500 109600					
Geology Chalk	Head					
Arch. South-East Project Number	3991					
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.~~	**W.B.** 10-05-10 to 11-05-10	~~Other~~		
Sponsor/Client Enplan						
Project Manager	Neil Griffin					
Project Supervisor	Dylan Hopkinson					
Period Summary	~~Palaeo.~~ Mes~~—~~ ~~o.~~ Neo. ~~——~~ BA			~~—~~ IA	~~—~~ RB	~~—~~
AS	~~—~~ MED	~~——~~	**PM** ✓	~~Other Modern~~		

100 Word Summary.

An archaeological evaluation was conducted on land at the former Roche Buildings, Bell Lane, Lewes, East Sussex (NGR 540500 109600). The work was carried out between 10th and 11th May 2010 by Archaeology South-East on behalf of the client Enplan prior to redevelopment. Two 10 metre trenches were excavated in order to assess the archaeological potential of the site and record any remains that were likely to be disturbed by the development. The site lies partially within an Archaeologically Sensitive Area and borders a Conservation Area.

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Three small pit cut features were identified associated with pottery from the 17th to 19th centuries and sealed by up to 1.40 metres of made ground.

OASIS ID: archaeol6-77829

Project details

Project name	An Archaeological Evaluation at The Former Roche Buildings, Bell Lane, Lewes, East Sussex
Short description of the project	An archaeological evaluation was conducted on land at the former Roche Buildings, Bell Lane, Lewes, East Sussex (NGR 540500 109600). The work was carried out between 10th and 11th May 2010 by Archaeology South-East on behalf of the client Enplan prior to redevelopment. Two 10 metre trenches were excavated in order to assess the archaeological potential of the site and record any remains that were likely to be disturbed by the development. The site lies partially within an Archaeologically Sensitive Area and borders a Conservation Area. The natural geology comprised undivided Upper and Middle Chalk, indicated on British Geological Survey Sheet 319. The topography of the natural within the trenches showed a slope from the south (8.50m AOD - Trench 2) down towards the north (8.04m AOD - Trench 1). Three small pit cut features were identified associated with pottery from the 17th to 19th centuries and sealed by up to 1.40 metres of made ground.
Project dates	Start: 10-05-2010 End: 11-05-2010
Previous/future work	No / Yes
Any associated project reference codes	LW/08/1140 - Planning Application No.
Any associated project reference codes	FRB 10 - Sitecode
Type of project	Field evaluation
Site status	Conservation Area
Site status	Area of Archaeological Importance (AAI)
Current Land use	Industry and Commerce 2 - Offices
Monument type	PIT Post Medieval
Significant Finds	NONE None
Methods & techniques	'Documentary Search','Sample Trenches'

Development type	Urban commercial (e.g. offices, shops, banks, etc.)
Prompt	Planning condition
Position in the planning process	After full determination (eg. As a condition)

Project location

Country	England
Site location	EAST SUSSEX LEWES LEWES Former Roche Buildings, Bell Lane, Lewes
Postcode	BN7 1JU
Study area	5480.00 Square metres
Site coordinates	TQ 40500 09600 50.8682317760 -0.00308365805707 50 52 05 N 000 00 11 W Point
Lat/Long Datum	Position derived from charts
Height OD / Depth	Min: 8.04m Max: 8.50m

Project creators

Name of Organisation	Archaeology South-East
Project brief originator	Archaeology South-East
Project design originator	East Sussex County Council
Project director/manager	Neil Griffin
Project supervisor	Dylan Hopkinson
Type of sponsor/funding body	Developer
Name of sponsor/funding body	Enplan

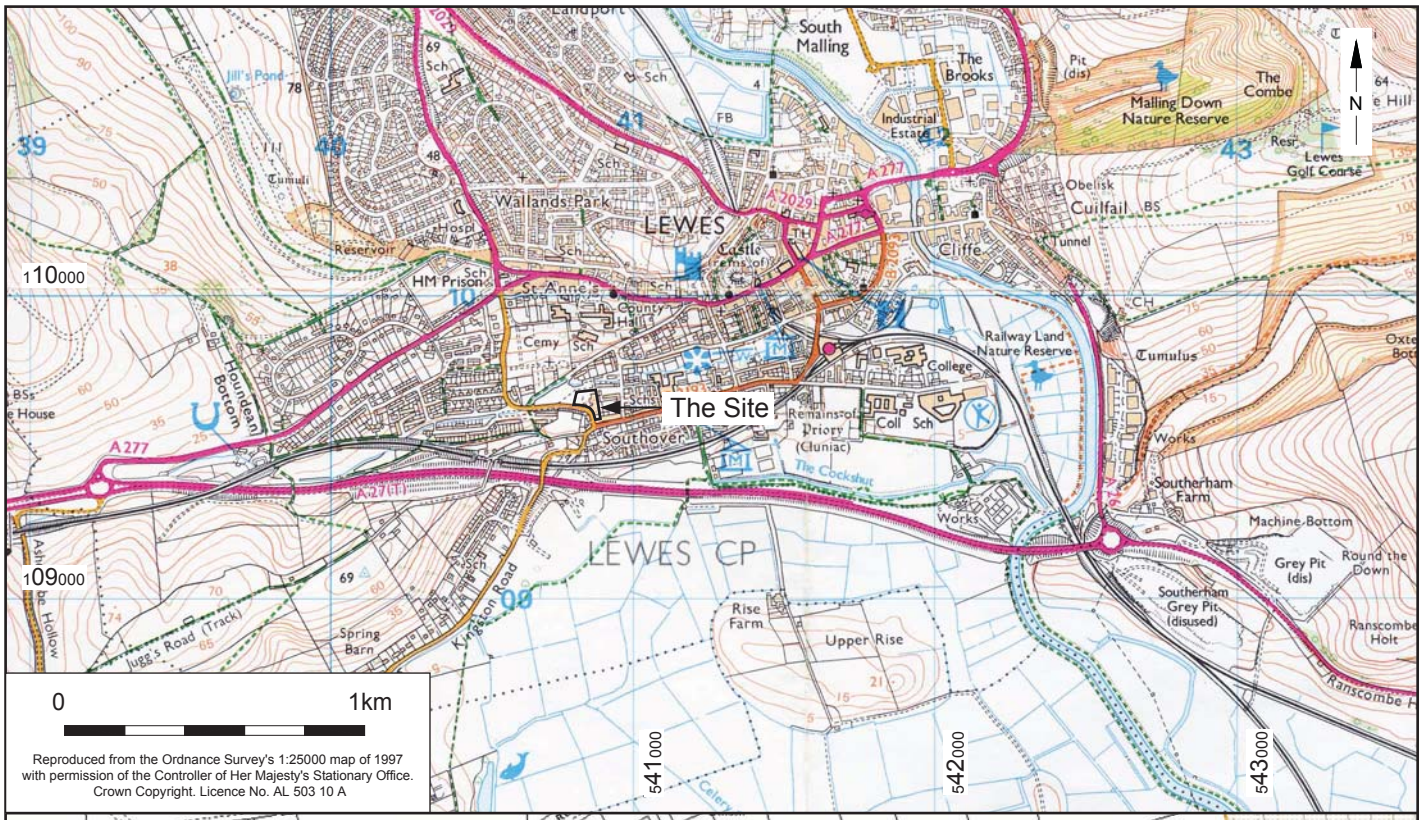
Project archives

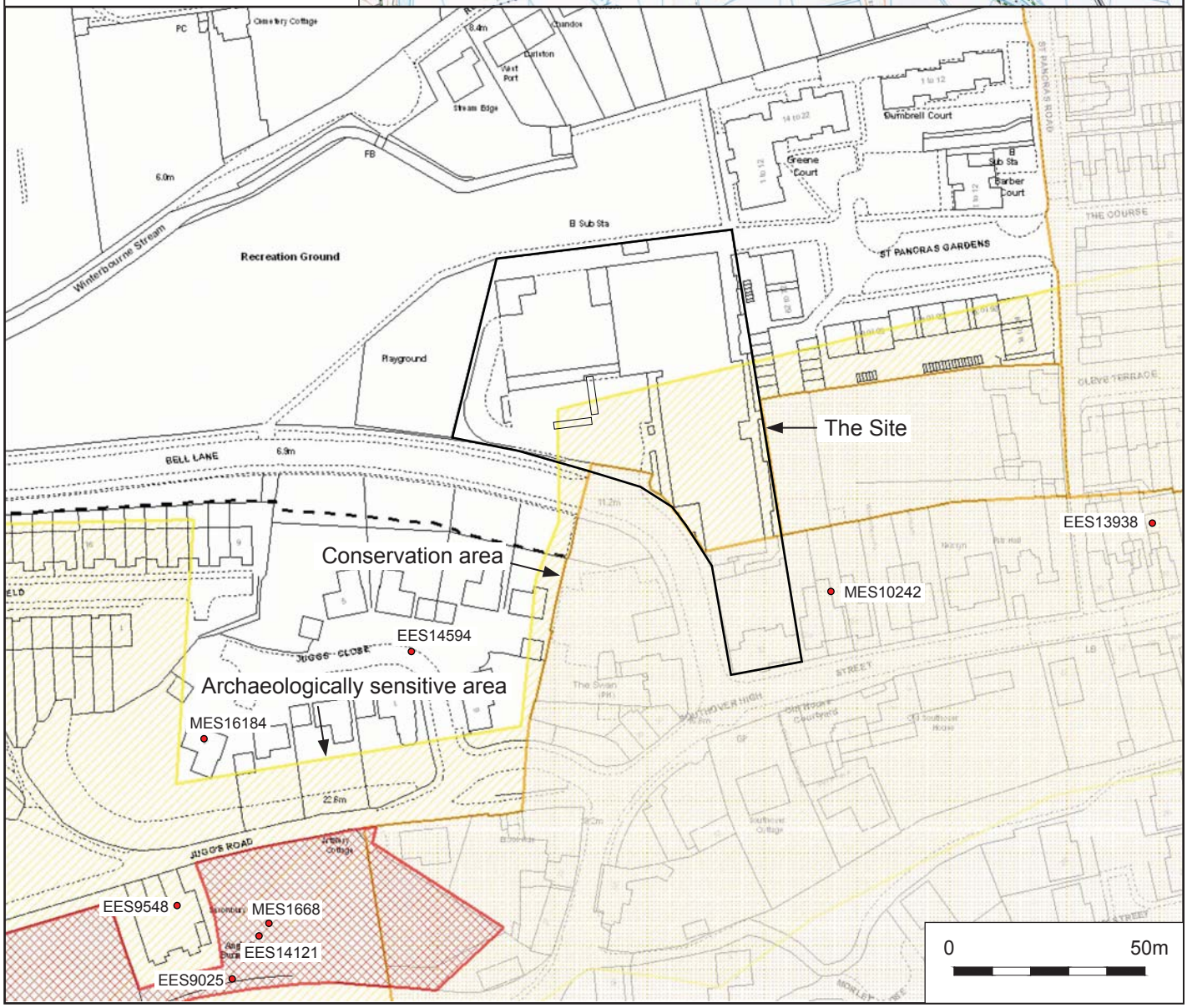
Physical Archive recipient	Local Museum
Physical Contents	'Animal Bones','Ceramics','Glass','Metal','Worked stone/lithics'
Digital Archive recipient	Local Museum
Digital Contents	'Survey'
Digital Media available	'Images raster / digital photography'
Paper Archive recipient	Local Museum
Paper Contents	'Stratigraphic'
Paper Media available	'Context sheet','Miscellaneous Material'

Project bibliography 1

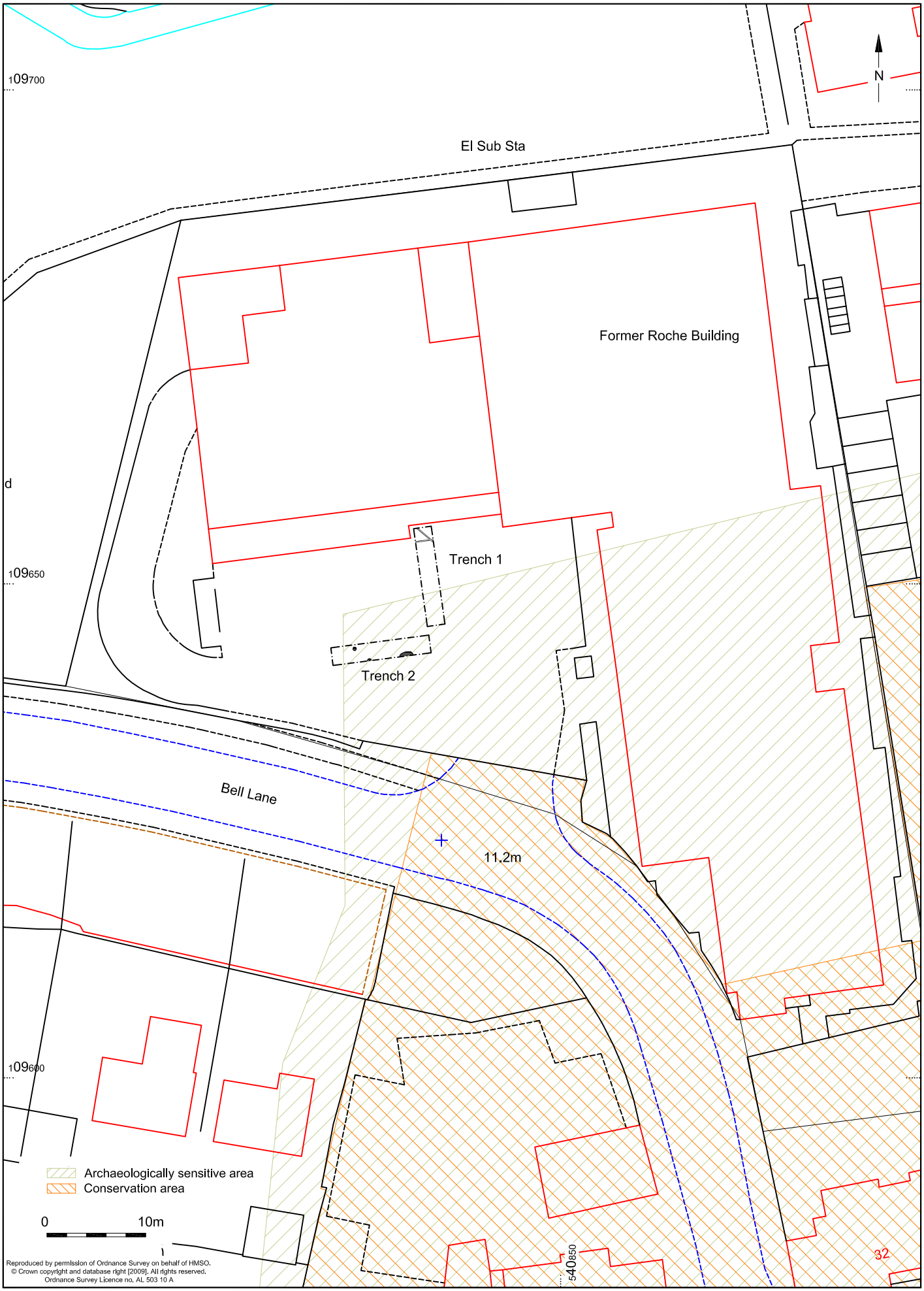
Publication type	Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)
Title	An Archaeological Evaluation at The Former Roche Buildings, Bell Lane, Lewes, East Sussex
Author(s)/Editor(s)	Hopkinson, D.
Other bibliographic details	ASE Report No. 2010071
Date	2010
Issuer or publisher	ASE
Place of issue or publication	Portslade
Description	A4 bound report, 18 pages plus illustrations

Entered by	Dylan Hopkinson (dylan.hopkinson@btinternet.com)
Entered on	26 May 2010





© Archaeology South-East		Former Roche Building, Lewes	Fig. 1
Project Ref: 3991	May 2010	Site location and local archaeological data	
Report Ref: 2010071	Drawn by: JLR		



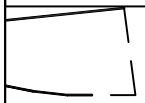
© Archaeology South-East		Former Roche Building, Lewes	Fig. 2
Project Ref: 3991	May 2010	Trench location	
Report Ref: 2010071	Drawn by: JLR		

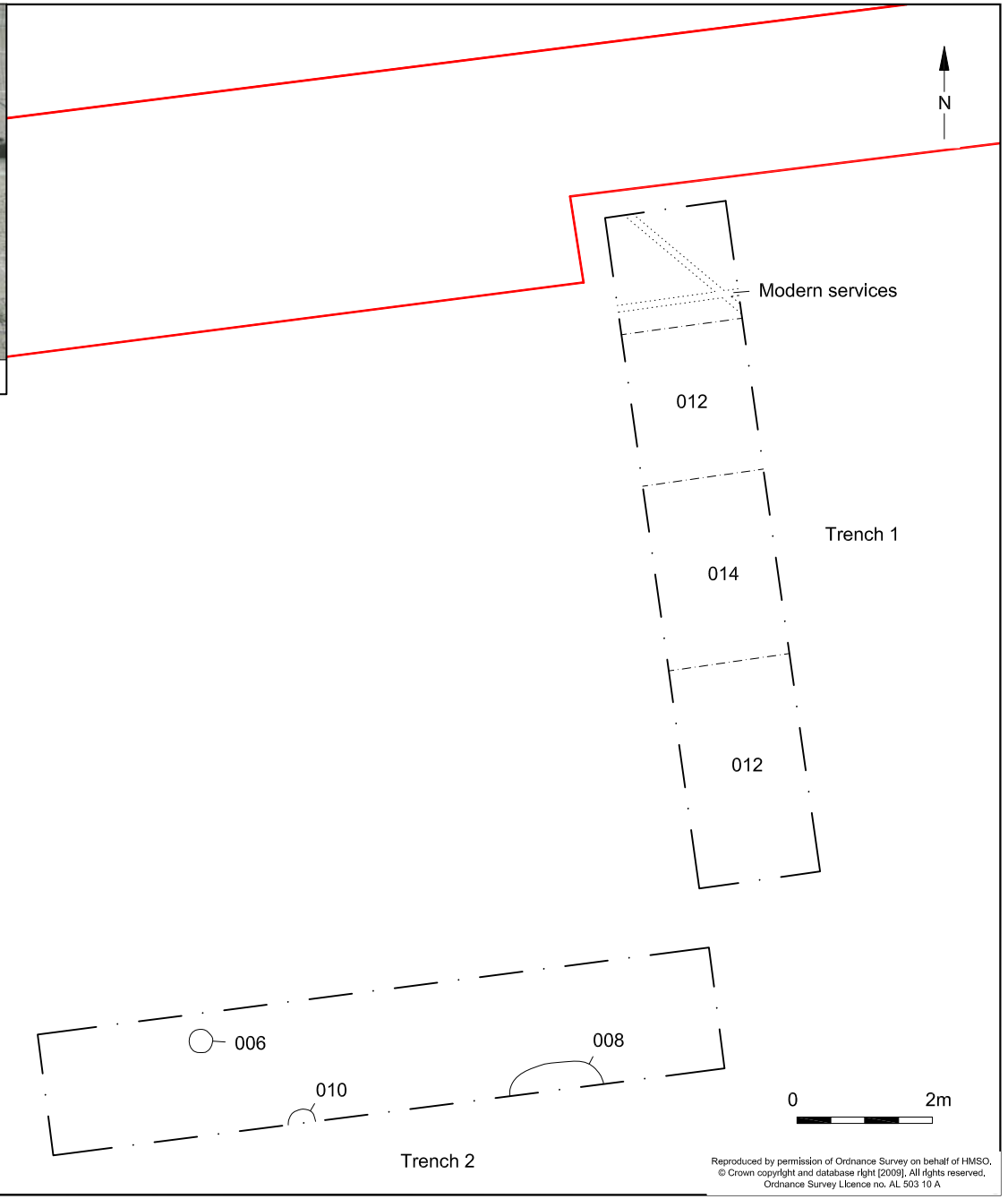
Fig. 3.1: Trench 1, looking north

Fig. 3.3: Trench 2, looking east

Fig. 3.2: Trench 1, sample section

Fig. 3.4: Trench 2, sample section





© Archaeology South-East		Former Roche Building, Lewes	Fig. 3
Project Ref: 3991	May 2010	Trench plans and photos	
Report Ref: 2010071	Drawn by: JLR		

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