

**An Archaeological Evaluation and Watching Brief at
Cornfoots Furniture Store,
Sea Street, Herne Bay, Kent.**

**NGR 616844, 167890
(TR 16844, 67890)**

**Project No: 4749
Site Code: CFH 10**

**ASE Report No. 2011027
OASIS id: archaeol6-93119**

Nick Garland MA

**With contributions by
Luke Barber, Karine Le Hégarat, Sarah Porteus,
Elke Raemen, Justin Russell and Lucy Sibun**

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Abstract

A programme of archaeological evaluation and watching brief was undertaken by Archaeology South-East at Land at Cornfoots Furniture Store, Sea Street, Herne Bay, Kent, in advance of the proposed development of the site for residential properties. The work was commissioned by CgMs Consulting on behalf of their client, McCarthy and Stone (Developments) Ltd.

The work was undertaken between the 18th and 20th January 2011. Four evaluation trenches, each, measuring 10 metres in length, sampled the archaeology across the site as well as targeting the remains of the 19th century Sea Street Farm. Two areas of watching brief were monitored during the demolition phase of the onsite works.

The evaluation revealed ditches, pits, a posthole and a wall which were cut into the natural head deposit. Apart from a few, residual, earlier post-medieval finds (CBM), all of the remains uncovered during the evaluation are of 18th century or later date. Most of the remains correspond to several phases of activity in this area in the 20th century as illustrated by historic OS mapping. The natural horizon varied in height from 11.852m OD to the east of the site and 11.238m OD in the west of the site.

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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 at the Institute of Archaeology, University College London, were commissioned by CgMs Consulting on behalf of their client McCarthy and Stone (Developments) Ltd to undertake an archaeological evaluation and watching brief at Land at Cornfoots Furniture store, Sea Street, Herne Bay, Kent (Fig 1, NGR 616844 167890).

1.2 Geology and Topography

- 1.2.1 The site is situated within the town of Herne Bay and is surrounded by residential properties. The site itself is bounded by Albany Drive to the south, Sea Street to the west, Western Avenue to the north and Minster Drive to the east. The site was previously occupied by Cornfoots furniture store comprising several buildings as well as some open space.
- 1.2.2 The British Geological Survey (BGS,) shows that the site lies on London Clay overlain by Head deposit (Faversham, sheet 273).

1.3 Planning Background

- 1.3.1 The proposed development will involve redevelopment of the site from its previous function as a furniture store into residential properties. As part of the planning permission for this redevelopment, an archaeological planning condition (21) was placed on the consent.
- 1.3.2 A specification for an archaeological evaluation and monitoring exercise was produced by CgMs in January 2011 and was submitted to the Canterbury City Councils Archaeological Officer, Richard Cross, for approval prior to the commencement of work (CgMs 2011). The documentation consisted of aims and objectives to fulfil during the work as well as the methods to be used during the archaeological evaluation of the site.

1.4 Aims and Objectives

- 1.4.1 The aims of this work were outlined in the specification and are summarised below (CgMs 2011).
- To establish the presence or absence of any elements of the archaeological resource
 - To ensure preservation by record of any elements of the buried archaeological resource

1.5 Scope of Report

- 1.5.1 This summary report details the findings of an archaeological evaluation and watching brief undertaken by Nick Garland, Lesley Davidson, Ben Sharp and Chris Killeen between the 18th and 20th January 2011. The project was managed by Andy Leonard (Project Manager) and Jim Stevenson (Project

Manager, post-excavation).

2.0 ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND

2.1 Introduction to background

- 2.1.1 A Desk Based Assessment of 1 km radius of the proposed development area was undertaken by CgMs Consulting in 2010 and is summarised below with due acknowledgment (CgMs 2010).

2.2 Pre-post medieval

- 2.2.1 Evidence for archaeology dating before the post-medieval period has previously been sparse, however, more recent work and chance finds suggest that this area may have been occupied from the Neolithic period onwards. The lack of archaeological recording in advance of previous development in the 19th and 20th centuries has left the nature of these early remains uncertain within the study area.

2.3 Post-medieval

- 2.3.1 A map regression exercise revealed that the site lay within the predominantly agricultural hamlet of Sea Street, as shown on the Halsted map of 1797. The Tithe map of 1840 and 1st edition OS map of 1872, show that part of this hamlet was Sea Street Farm, which lay across the location of the site itself. This part of the farm probably consisted on ancillary farm buildings such as stable blocks.
- 2.3.2 The subsequent destruction of this farm led to the construction of Cornfoots Furniture store. The company was founded in 1922 and its premises were shown on the OS map of 1933 as well as subsequent expansions in the OS maps of 1946, 1958 and major construction by the 1958 and 1973 versions.

2.4 Conclusions

- 2.4.1 The desk based assessment concluded that evidence for periods proceeding the post medieval period were uncertain and that the presence of potential post medieval remains were limited, although evidence for Sea Street Farm may be represented.

3.0 ARCHAEOLOGICAL METHODOLOGY

- 3.1** Four trial trenches, measuring 10m x 1.8m, were machine excavated across the area of proposed development under archaeological supervision (Fig. 2). The trenches were located in areas that had not been truncated by the presence of modern buildings and were aligned to test the potential location of structures associated with Sea Street Farm.
- 3.2** The trial trenches were scanned prior to excavation using a Cable Avoidance Tool (CAT). All of the trenches were excavated under constant archaeological supervision, using a 13 ton 360° excavator, fitted with a toothless ditching bucket. Revealed surfaces were manually cleaned in an attempt to identify any archaeological deposits or features. The sections of the trenches were selectively cleaned to observe and record their stratigraphy. All spoil removed from the trenches was scanned visually and also scanned with a metal detector for the presence of any stray, unstratified artefacts.
- 3.3** All encountered archaeological deposits, features and finds were recorded according to accepted professional standards in accordance with the approved ASE Written Scheme of Investigation using pro-forma context record sheets. Archaeological features and deposits were planned at a scale of 1:20 and sections generally drawn at a scale of 1:10. Deposit colours were verified by visual inspection.
- 3.4** A full photographic record of the trenches and associated deposits and features was kept (including monochrome 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 Portslade, East Sussex, and will in due course be offered to a suitable local museum.
- 3.5** Only undifferentiated topsoil, subsoil and overburden of recent origin was removed by machine and kept separately. The excavation was taken, in spits of no more than 0.1m for the top and sub soil, down to the top of the first significant archaeological horizon or the maximum depth of construction levels.

Number of Contexts	41 contexts
No. of files/paper record	1 folder
Plan and sections sheets	1 sheets
Bulk Samples	8 samples
Photographs	9 colour slides, 9 B+W, 41 digital

Table 1: Quantification of site archive

4.0 ARCHAEOLOGICAL RESULTS

4.1 Four trenches were excavated under archaeological supervision, each measuring 10 m ion length. Trenches 1, 2 and 3 were orientated in a north-east to south-west direction and Trench 4 was orientated in an east to west direction.

4.2 Trench 1 (Fig.3)

Number	Type	Description	Max. Length	Max. Width	Deposit Thickness	Height m.AOD
1/001	Layer	Topsoil	N/A	N/A	0.25 m	12.322
1/002	Layer	Made Ground	N/A	N/A	0.29 m	12.072
1/003	Layer	Natural	N/A	N/A	N/A	11.782
1/004	Masonry	Wall	Tr.	0.95 m	N/A	11.930
1/005	Cut	Cut of linear terminus	4.82 m	0.89 m	0.19 m	11.829
1/006	Fill	Fill of linear terminus	4.82 m	0.89 m	0.19 m	11.829
1/007	Cut	Cut of pit	0.8 m	0.56 m	0.18 m	11.919
1/008	Fill	Fill of pit	0.8 m	0.56 m	0.18 m	11.919
1/009	Cut	Cut of linear terminus	4.82 m	0.71 m	0.07 m	11.766
1/010	Fill	Fill of linear terminus	4.82 m	0.71 m	0.07 m	11.766
1/011	Cut	Cut of linear terminus	2.65 m	0.95 m	0.2 m	11.703
1/012	Fill	Fill of linear terminus	2.65 m	0.95 m	0.2 m	11.703
1/013	Cut	Cut of posthole	0.13 m	0.13 m	0.27 m	11.919
1/014	Fill	Fill of posthole	0.13 m	0.13 m	0.27 m	11.919

Table 2: Recorded contexts within Trench 1

Summary

4.2.1 The natural, [1/003], a light orangish brown silty clay with occasional small sub-rounded stone inclusions, was observed between 11.742 OD in the south-west of the trench and 12.060 OD in the north-east of the trench. A layer of made ground, [1/002], a mixed dark brown clay and light grey silt, lay over the natural and underneath a layer of topsoil [1/001]. Five archaeological features were present within this trench

4.2.2 A wall, [1/004] was observed running across the north-eastern end of the trench. It was constructed from a combination of mortared stone and fragmented brick, of post-medieval date and likely to represent part of a 20th century building built over a previous 19th century stable block (see 7.4). This feature appears to have been slightly truncated on the western extent.

4.2.3 A linear feature, [1/005]/[1/009] was oriented in a north-east to south-west direction and had smooth sides and a concave profile. It was filled by a mid grey clay, [1/006] and [1/010] respectively, which contained occasional sub-rounded small stone and chalk inclusions as well as post-medieval ceramic

building material (CBM), animal bone and shell. This feature may represent a shallow boundary or drainage ditch.

- 4.2.4 A second linear feature, [1/011], also orientated in a north-east to south-west direction, and possibly continued from linear feature [1/005]. It had steep sides and a flat base and was filled by a dark grey silty clay, [1/012] that contained occasional sub-rounded stones and post-medieval CBM, animal bone and iron nails. This may represent a continuation of the boundary or drainage ditch [1/005].
- 4.2.5 A small pit [1/007], was truncated by a posthole [1/013], both with near vertical sides and a flat base. The fill of the pit was a mixed orange and light grey clay with occasional sub-angular stones and chalk inclusions, [1/008]. The fill of the posthole was a dark brown silty clay with occasional sub-angular stone inclusions, [1/014]. No dating evidence was recovered from this feature.

4.3 Trench 2 (Fig. 4)

Number	Type	Description	Max. Length	Max. Width	Deposit Thickness	Height m.AOD
2/001	Layer	Topsoil	N/A	N/A	0.23 m	12.602
2/002	Layer	Made Ground	N/A	N/A	0.52 m	12.372
2/003	Layer	Natural	N/A	N/A	N/A	11.852
2/004	Layer	Clay layer	4.15 m	Tr.	N/A	12.114
2/005	Layer	Chalk layer	1.47 m	1.27 m	0.1 m	11.999
2/006	Cut	Cut of linear feature	Tr.	1.89 m	N/A	12.037
2/007	Fill	Fill of linear feature	Tr.	1.89 m	N/A	12.037

Table 3: Recorded contexts within Trench 2

Summary

- 4.3.1 The natural [2/003], a light orangish brown silty clay with occasional small sub-rounded stone inclusions, was observed between 12.165 OD in the south-west of the trench and 12.213 OD in the north-east of the trench. A layer of made ground, [2/002], a mixed dark brown clay and light grey silt, lay over the natural and underneath a layer of topsoil [2/001].
- 4.3.2 There was some water ingress in this trench, however, sufficient investigation was possible in order to characterise the deposits present.
- 4.3.3 A possible layer of clay, [2/004], was present at the far south-western end of the trench. It was a firm dark greyish blue clay which contained occasional sub-rounded stones. A layer of compacted chalk, [2/005], was present in the centre of the trench. No finds were recovered from these deposits.
- 4.3.4 A linear feature, [2/006], ran across the north-east end of the trench in an east to west direction which contained post-medieval CBM (not retained).

4.4 Trench 3 (Fig. 3)

Number	Type	Description	Max. Length	Max. Width	Deposit Thickness	Height m.AOD
3/001	Layer	Topsoil	N/A	N/A	0.22 m	11.912
3/002	Layer	Made Ground	N/A	N/A	0.6 m	11.692
3/003	Layer	Natural	N/A	N/A	N/A	11.092
3/004	Cut	Cut of linear feature	Tr.	1.22 m	N/A	11.238
3/005	Fill	Fill of linear feature	Tr.	1.22 m	N/A	11.238
3/006	Cut	Cut of linear feature	Tr.	0.62 m	N/A	11.165
3/007	Fill	Fill of linear feature	Tr.	0.62 m	N/A	11.165
3/008	Cut	Cut of pit	1.25 m	0.72 m	N/A	11.142
3/009	Fill	Fill of pit	1.25 m	0.72 m	N/A	11.142
3/010	Cut	Cut of pit	2.26 m	Tr.	N/A	11.197
3/011	Fill	Fill of pit	2.26 m	Tr.	N/A	11.197

Table 4: Recorded contexts within Trench 3

Summary

- 4.4.1 The natural [3/003], a light orangish brown silty clay with occasional small sub-rounded stone inclusions, was observed between 11.317 OD in the south-west of the trench and 11.211 OD in the north-east of the trench. A layer of made ground, [3/002], a mixed dark brown clay and light grey silt, lay over the natural and underneath a layer of topsoil [3/001].
- 4.4.2 There was some water ingress in this trench, however, the location of the features was recorded and sufficient investigation was undertaken in order, as far as possible to characterise them.
- 4.4.3 Two parallel linear features, [3/004] and [3/006] were visible to the south-west of the trench, both orientated in an east to west direction. The fills were a light brown silty clay, [3/005] and [3/007] respectively, containing post-medieval (18th-19th century) pottery, CBM and animal bone. A small pit, [3/008], was truncated by linear feature [3/006] and was filled by a dark grey silty clay containing charcoal inclusions, [3/009].
- 4.4.4 A large possible pit, [3/010], was located to the north-eastern end of the trench. It was filled by dark grey silty clay with moderate charcoal inclusions, [3/011].

4.5 Trench 4 (Fig. 5)

Number	Type	Description	Max. Length	Max. Width	Deposit Thickness	Height m.AOD
4/001	Layer	Topsoil	N/A	N/A	0.2 m	11.958
4/002	Layer	Made Ground	N/A	N/A	0.19 m	11.758
4/003	Layer	Natural	N/A	N/A	N/A	11.568
4/004	Cut	Cut of small pit	0.48 m	0.48 m	0.25 m	11.531
4/005	Fill	Fill of small pit	0.48 m	0.48 m	0.25 m	11.531

Number	Type	Description	Max. Length	Max. Width	Deposit Thickness	Height m.AOD
4/006	Cut	Cut of large pit	0.9m	0.85 m	0.3 m	11.595
4/007	Fill	Fill of large pit	0.9m	0.85 m	0.3 m	11.595
4/008	Cut	Cut of posthole	0.85 m	0.85 m	0.42 m	11.602
4/009	Fill	Fill of posthole	0.85 m	0.85 m	0.42 m	11.602

Table 5: Recorded contexts within Trench 4

Summary

4.5.1 The natural [4/003], a light orangish brown silty clay with occasional small sub-rounded stone inclusions, was observed between 11.710 OD in the east of the trench and 11.578 OD in the west of the trench. A layer of made ground, [4/002], a mixed dark brown clay and light grey silt, lay over the natural and underneath a layer of topsoil [4/001]. Three features were uncovered within this trench.

4.5.2 A small sub-circular pit, [4/004], had steeply sloping sides and a concave base. It was filled by a mid grey clay containing sub-angular stones as well as post-medieval pottery (18th-19th century), CBM, nails and animal bone.

4.5.3 A larger pit [4/006] was sub-circular in shape, had moderately steep sloping sides and a concave base. It was filled by a mid orangish brown silty clay containing post-medieval CBM and nails. It was cut by a later posthole [4/008]. This feature has vertical sides and a flat base and was filled by a dark brown silty clay that containing root inclusions.

4.6 The watching brief

4.6.1 Two areas of watching brief were undertaken during the demolition phase of the onsite works. After the demolition of the above ground structures, archaeological monitoring was undertaken on the slab removal and the foundation removal of any buildings on the site (Fig 2).

Number	Type	Description	Max. Length	Max. Width	Deposit Thickness	Height m.AOD
001	Layer	Concrete Slab	N/A	N/A	0.25 – 0.4 m	Various
002	Layer	Made Ground	N/A	N/A	0.6 - 0.75 m	Various
003	Layer	Natural	N/A	N/A	N/A	Various

Table 6: Recorded contexts within watching brief

4.6.2 Slab Removal

The removal of the concrete slab [001] revealed a layer of made ground underneath, similar to that encountered in the overburden of the trenches within the evaluation phase of works. The made ground layer was a mixed dark brown clay and light grey silt [002]. No archaeological features or deposits were encountered at this level.

4.6.3. Foundation removal

Archaeological monitoring was undertaken for the removal of concrete foundations for the footprints of the building in the centre of the site (Fig 2). This revealed made ground to a depth of approximately 1 metre, only revealing the natural head deposits [003] in isolated places. Where the natural head deposits were encountered they appeared to have been truncated by the placement of the building foundations. No archaeological finds, deposits or features were uncovered through this process.

5.0 THE FINDS

5.1 A small assemblage of finds, mainly consisting of ceramic building material (CBM), was recovered during the evaluation. An overview can be found in Table 7. Finds were all washed and dried or air dried as appropriate. They were counted, weighed and bagged by context and by material and are stored according to IFA guidelines. None of the finds require further conservation.

Context	Pot	Wt (g)	CBM	Wt (g)	Bone	Wt (g)	Shell	Wt (g)	Fe	Wt (g)	Glass	Wt (g)
us			3	1124								
1/006			5	1122	1	126	1	22				
1/012			12	3132	1	50			2	62		
1/014	1	256	2	52	1	<2	4	16				
2/005			1	262								
2/007			10	992								
3/005	2	10	5	310	1	24					1	4
3/007	3	60	7	856	1	184						
3/009	3	14	2	70							1	<2
4/005	1	14	4	158	2	<2			2	16		
4/007			24	606					3	26		
Total	10	354	75	8684	7	384	5	38	7	104	2	4

Table 7. Quantification of the Finds

5.2 The post-Roman pottery by Luke Barber

5.2.1 The evaluation recovered a small assemblage of post-Roman pottery, all of which is of late post-medieval date. Trench 3 produced most sherds including fragments from at least two different creamware plates of later 18th- to very early 19th- century date (contexts [3/005] and [3/009]). The vessel from [3/005] carries a simple maker's stamp of wheel design. Context [3/007] produced three conjoining sherds from a well made bowl in slightly sandy glazed red earthenware of probable mid 18th- to mid 19th- century date. Another sherd of glazed red earthenware, possibly from a dish/bowl, was recovered from [4/005]. This vessel is slightly large and could date to anywhere between the mid 18th and later 19th centuries. The only other sherd recovered consists of the large part of a refined white earthenware preserve jar from [1/014], stamped B & Co MALING on its base. A late 19th- to early 20th- century date is probable.

5.3 The Ceramic Building Material by Sarah Porteus

5.3.1 A total of 76 fragments of ceramic building material (CBM) with a combined weight of 9404g were recovered from the evaluation. The assemblage consisted of brick and peg tile of post-medieval date.

5.3.2 The peg tile was all in a fine silty orange fabric with fine micaceous speckles

and very sparse calcareous inclusions. The tile is of probable 17th to 19th century date and has crudely formed diamond peg holes. Peg tile was recovered from contexts [1/012], [1/014], [3/007], [3/007]. [3/009], [3/009], [2/007] and [3/009].

- 5.3.3 Brick in fabric B1, a reddish orange fabric with abundant fine calcareous inclusions, was unfrogged with thickness of 40mm. The date of the brick is most likely between 16th and mid 18th century in date and was recovered from contexts [1/012], [1/006], [4/007], [1/014], [3/007], [U/S] (floor brick), [4/005], [2/005] and [3/005]. A second brick fabric B2, cream silt marbled fabric with moderate voids and iron rich inclusion is of probable 17th to mid 18th century date and was recovered from context [1/012], [1/006] and [4/005].

5.4 The Glass by Elke Raemen

- 5.4.1 A green glass beer or wine bottle body fragment was recovered from [3/005]. The piece dates to the late 19th to mid 20th century. A second glass piece was recovered from [3/009] and consists of a pale blue bottle body fragment, undiagnostic of form and dating to the 19th century.

5.5 The Ironwork by Elke Raemen

- 5.5.1 An assemblage of seven nails was recovered during the archaeological work. Context [1/012] contained two heavy duty nails, including a complete example with rectangular head (20 by 12mm; total length 80mm) which retained some traces of mineralised wood along the shank. Contexts [4/005] and [4/007] both contained general purpose nail fragments. None of the nails are diagnostic of date.

5.6 The Animal Bone by Lucy Sibun

- 5.6.1 Six contexts produced animal bone in a good state of preservation ([1/006], [1/012], [1/014], [3/005], [3/007] and [4/005]. With the exception of [1/014] and [4/005] which produced small unidentifiable fragments, all contexts produced single fragments, identified as cattle. These comprised fragments of innominate ([1/006]), ulna ([1/012]), rib ([3/005]) and an immature femur ([3/007]). The rib shaft displayed a single knife mark. No other information was available. The small assemblage has no potential for further analysis.

5.7 The Marine Shell by Elke Raemen

- 5.7.1 A small assemblage consisting of five oysters (*Ostrea edulis*) was recovered from two individually numbered contexts. Context [1/006] contained a right valve. The four pieces from [1/014] (MNI 3) are all immature and include an undiagnostic fragment as well as two right valves, one of which is infested, and a left valve. The latter is distorted and displays a low level of infestation.

6.0 THE ENVIRONMENTAL SAMPLES By Karine Le Hégarat

6.1 Introduction

- 6.1.1 Eight soil bulk samples were taken during evaluation work at the site of Cornfoots Furniture Store to establish evidence for environmental remains such as charred macrobotanicals, charcoal, bone and shell. Samples were taken from two postholes, two linear features, two pit fill deposits as well as two layers. All these archaeological features and deposits contained post-medieval artefactual remains.

6.2 Methods

- 6.2.1 The samples were processed in their entirety in a flotation tank and the flots and residues were retained on 250 and 500µm meshes respectively and were air dried prior to sorting. Residues were sieved through 2mm and 4mm geological sieves and each fraction sorted for artefact and environmental remains (Appendix A). The flots were scanned under a stereozoom microscope at x7-45 magnifications and an overview of their contents recorded (Appendix B). Preliminary identifications have been made for the macrobotanical remains through comparison with reference material and manuals (Cappers *et al.* 2006, Jacomet 2006, NIAB 2004). Nomenclature used follows Stace (1997).

6.3 Results

- 6.3.1 On the whole, samples contained small to moderate quantities of environmental remains including infrequent charcoal and charred macroplant remains, a small amount of unburnt mammal and fish bones, uncommon land snail shells as well as a moderate amount of marine mollusca.
- 6.3.2 With the exception of sample <7>, sampling produced mainly small flots, which consisted almost entirely of uncharred material (seven flots contained >90% of uncharred vegetation). This included an amalgam of broken down plant matter but also some small woody debris (stems and roots) and uncharred seeds such as nettle (*Urtica* sp.), blackberry/raspberry (*Rubus fruticosus/idaeus*), elder (*Sambucus nigra*), knotgrass/dock (*Polygonum/Rumex* sp.), thistles (*Carduus/Cirsium* sp.) as well as seeds from the daisy, goosefoot, dead-nettle and pink (Asteraceae, Chenopodiaceae, Lamiaceae and Caryophyllaceae) families. The presence of uncharred vegetation suggests the possibility of vertical movement within the deposits with potential contamination by later intrusive elements.
- 6.3.3 Wood charcoal fragments were uncommon in the residues and the flots. The small assemblage included mainly small fragments which were often vitrified. This could be the result of burning at high temperature or it might also indicate the presence of natural coal. Due to their small size, condition and low frequency no identifications have been undertaken.
- 6.3.4 Charred macroplants were present only in samples <3> and <4>. Although sample <3>, [1/006] produced only a small quantity of charred cereal remains, it indicated the presence of bread wheat (*Triticum aestivum*). Indeterminate grains (Cerealia) were also recovered. The grains of bread

wheat were distorted and puffed up. A possible wild/weed seed of orache (cf. *Atriplex* sp.) and a grass seed were also present in the flots from sample <3>. Sample <4> produced only two poorly preserved grains (Cerealina).

6.3.5 A small amount of unburnt bone, including mammal and fish bones, were also evident in the residues and flots. Mollusca were also recorded and although the number of land snail shells was low, marine mollusca were more abundant, including oysters (*Ostrea edulis*).

6.3.6 A small amount of pottery, fired clay, building material as well as occasional pieces of slag, pieces of glass and fired cracked flints were encountered in the residues. Iron nails present in samples <6> and <7> and a single copper pin found in sample <6> are included in the finds report.

6.4 Discussion

6.4.1 Sampling has confirmed the presence of a small to moderate quantity of environmental remains including wood charcoal fragments, charred macrobotanicals, bones and shells. The charred plant remains are very limited and could represent general waste materials derived from a range of domestic and agricultural activities. The assemblage of charred plant remains is too limited to provide any meaningful information regarding the function of the features, the local vegetation or fuel use at the site.

7.0 DISCUSSION

- 7.1** The archaeological features uncovered during these works were sealed by a layer of overburden consisting of made ground and topsoil, which varied in depth between 0.49 and 0.82 metres. The features appeared to be fairly well preserved with some disturbance in areas, probably caused by modern services.
- 7.2** The evaluation has revealed evidence for the post-medieval activity in the form of a wall, pits, linear ditches and postholes. The assemblage recovered from these features represents a date range from the 16th to 19th century. Due to the mixture of finds within these features, it suggests that the earlier material is probably residual within the fills and therefore the features are likely to date to the late 19th or perhaps early 20th centuries.
- 7.3** The date and location of these post medieval features in comparison to the historic maps of the buildings of Sea Street Farm suggest that they do not correlate with this earlier settlement (Fig 6).
- 7.4** The location of Trench 1 lies over a rectangular building that appears on the historic mapping continuously from 1872 to 1946, after which the building has been demolished. While the original building may have represented the stable block of Sea Street Farm, the evidence found within the Trench suggest the features were associated with a later building, probably rebuilt over the 19th century stable block. The features in this trench; the wall [1/004], the possible linear drains [1/005], [1/009] and [1/011], the pit [1/007] and posthole [1/013], probably originated from the construction of this second building or were associated with its use.
- 7.5** Trench 2 is located within an area which since the late 19th century has been unoccupied. However, following the demolition of the Sea Street farm building before 1902, a second building, later labelled 'the bakery', was erected to the west of this location by 1933 (Fig 7). This building continued in this area until its recent demolition. The layers of material in Trench 2, [2/004] and [2/005], may represent demolition of the original building and levelling of the area prior to the new construction. Linear ditch [2/006] may represent late 19th or early 20th drainage associated with this later building.
- 7.6** Trenches 3 and 4 are located within an area the south of the site that has been open almost continuously since the late 19th century (Fig 8). Accordingly to the historic mapping no buildings are shown to have existed on the location of either of these trenches and therefore the features within them may have been associated with temporary structures, seen by the postholes / pits in Trench 4, or possibly drainage features, such as the linear features [3/005] and [3/006] from Trench 3. The large pit [3/010] at the end of Trench 3 may have been associated with rubbish dumping associated with the structures to the north.
- 7.7** In conclusion, apart from a few, residual, earlier post-medieval finds (CBM), all of the remains uncovered during the evaluation are of 18th century or later date and most relate to the 19th and 20th century development of the site.

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ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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SMR Summary Form

Site Code	CFH 10					
Identification Name and Address	Cornfoots Furniture Store, Sea Street					
County, District &/or Borough	Herne Bay, Kent					
OS Grid Refs.	616844, 167890					
Geology	London Clay (BGS Sheet 273)					
Arch. South-East Project Number	4749					
Type of Fieldwork	Eval. X	Excav.	Watching Brief X	Standing Structure	Survey	Other
Type of Site	Green Field	Shallow Urban X	Deep Urban	Other		
Dates of Fieldwork	Eval. 18/1/11 to 20/1/11	Excav.	WB.	Other		
Sponsor/Client	CgMs Consulting					
Project Manager	Andy Leonard					
Project Supervisor	Nick Garland					
Period Summary	Palaeo.	Meso.	Neo.	BA	IA	RB
	AS	MED	PM X	Other		
100 Word Summary.						
Abstract						
<p><i>A programme of archaeological evaluation and watching brief was undertaken by Archaeology South-East at Land at Cornfoots Furniture Store, Sea Street, Herne Bay, Kent, in advance of the proposed development of the site for residential properties. The work was commissioned by CgMs Consulting on behalf of their client, McCarthy and Stone (Developments) Ltd.</i></p> <p><i>The work was undertaken between the 18th and 20th January 2011. Four evaluation trenches, each, measuring 10 metres in length, sampled the archaeology across the site as well as targeting the remains of the 19th century Sea Street Farm. Two areas of watching brief were monitored during the demolition phase of the onsite works.</i></p> <p><i>The evaluation revealed ditches, pits, a posthole and a wall which were cut into the natural head deposit. Apart from a few, residual, earlier post-medieval finds (CBM), all of the remains uncovered during the evaluation are of 18th century or later date. Most of the remains correspond to several phases of activity in this area in the 20th century as illustrated by historic OS mapping. The natural horizon varied in height from 11.852m OD to the east of the site and 11.238m OD in the west of the site.</i></p>						

OASIS ID: archaeol6-93119

Project details

Project name Cornfoots, Herne Bay

A programme of archaeological evaluation and watching brief was undertaken by Archaeology South-East at Land at Cornfoots Furniture Store, Sea Street, Herne Bay, Kent, in advance of the proposed development of the site for residential properties. The work was commissioned by CgMs Consulting on behalf of their client, McCarthy and Stone (Developments) Ltd.

Short description of the project

The work was undertaken between the 18th and 20th January 2011. Four evaluation trenches, each, measuring 10 metres in length, sampled the archaeology across the site as well as targeting the remains of the 19th century Sea Street Farm. Two areas of watching brief were monitored during the demolition phase of the onsite works.

The evaluation revealed ditches, pits, a posthole and a wall which were cut into the natural head deposit. Apart from a few, residual, earlier post-medieval finds (CBM), all of the remains uncovered during the evaluation are of 18th century or later date. Most of the remains correspond to several phases of activity in this area in the 20th century as illustrated by historic OS mapping. The natural horizon varied in height from 11.852m OD to the east of the site and 11.238m OD in the west of the site.

Project dates Start: 18-01-2011 End: 20-01-2011

Previous/future work Yes / No

Any associated project reference codes CFH10 - Sitecode

Type of project Field evaluation

Site status None

Current Land use Industry and Commerce 3 - Retailing

Monument type STRUCTURE Post Medieval

Significant Finds NONE None

Methods & techniques 'Targeted Trenches'

Development type Urban residential (e.g. flats, houses, etc.)

Prompt Planning condition

Position in the planning process After full determination (eg. As a condition)

Project location

Country	England
Site location	KENT CANTERBURY HERNE BAY Land At Cornfoots Furniture Store, Sea Street
Postcode	CT6 8PY
Study area	616829.00 Square metres
Site coordinates	TR 16844 67890 51.3679915861 1.115635796140 51 22 04 N 001 06 56 E Point
Height OD / Depth	Min: 11.24m Max: 11.85m
Project creators	
Name of Organisation	Archaeology South East
Project brief originator	CgMs Consulting
Project design originator	CgMs Consulting
Project director/manager	Andy Leonard
Project supervisor	Nick Garland
Type of sponsor/funding body	Developer
Project archives	
Physical Archive recipient	Local Museum
Physical Contents	'Animal Bones','Ceramics','Glass','other'
Digital Archive recipient	Local Museum
Digital Contents	'Animal Bones','Ceramics','Environmental','Glass','Stratigraphic','Survey','other'
Digital Media available	'Database','Images raster / digital photography','Survey','Text'
Paper Archive recipient	Local Museum
Paper Contents	'Animal Bones','Ceramics','Environmental','Glass','Stratigraphic','Survey','other'
Paper Media available	'Context sheet','Drawing','Map','Notebook - Excavation',' Research',' General Notes','Photograph','Plan','Report','Section','Survey '
Project bibliography 1	
Publication type	Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)
Title	An Archaeological Evaluation and Watching Brief at Cornfoots Furniture Store, Sea Street, Herne Bay, Kent.
Author(s)/Editor(s)	Garland, N
Other	2011027

bibliographic
details

Date	2011
Issuer or publisher	Archaeology South East
Place of issue or publication	Portslade
Entered by	Nick Garland (n.garland@ucl.ac.uk)
Entered on	10 February 2011

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

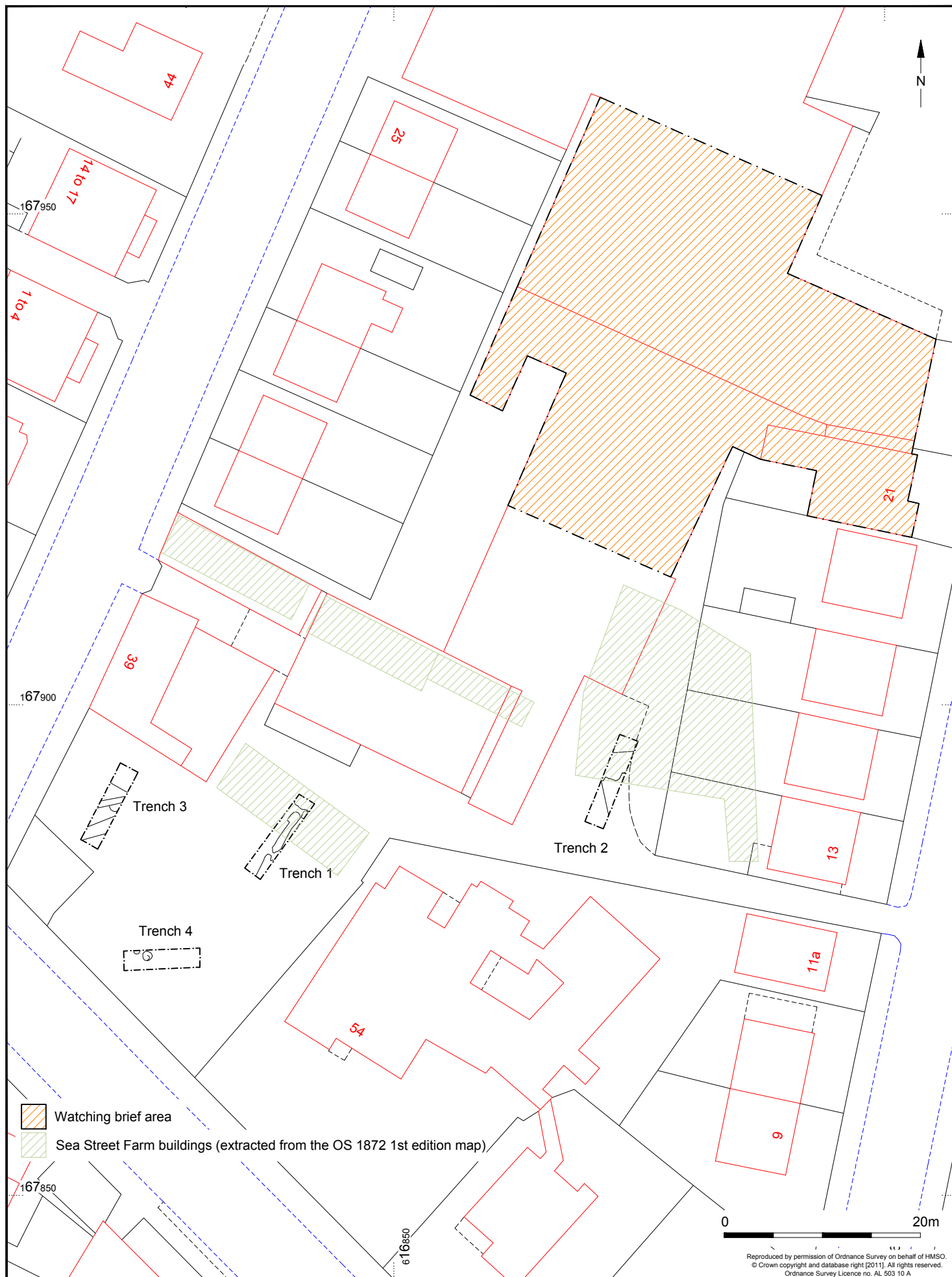
Sample Number	Context	Context / deposit type	Sample Volume litres	sub-Sample Volume litres	Charcoal >4mm	Weight (g)	Charcoal <4mm	Weight (g)	Bone and Teeth	Weight (g)	Fishbone and microfauna	Weight (g)	Marine Molluscs	Weight (g)	Other (eg ind, pot, cbm)
1	4/005	Fill of posthole [4/004]	10	10					*	<2					Pot */<2g - Slag */<2g
2	4/007	Fill of pit [4/006]	10	10									*	<2	Glass */<2g - Pot */<2g - B. Clay */2g
3	1/006	Fill of linear terminus [1/005]	20	20	**	<2	**	<2	*	26	*	<2	***	342	Pot */6g
4	1/008	Fill of pit [1/007]	20	10	*	<2					*	<2	**	44	BM */106g
5	1/014	Fill of posthole [1/015]	5	5									**	2	B. Clay */4g
6	1/012	Fill of linear [1/011]	20	20	*	<2	*	<2	*	4	*	<2	***	230	Pot */8g - Nails */16g - B. Clay **/176g - Slag */6g - FCF */36g - Copper pin */<2g - Glass */<2g
7	2/004	Layer [2/004]	20	20											FCF */46g - B. Clay */<2g - Slag */<2g - Nail */6g
8	2/005	Layer [2/005]	20	20											B. Clay */6g

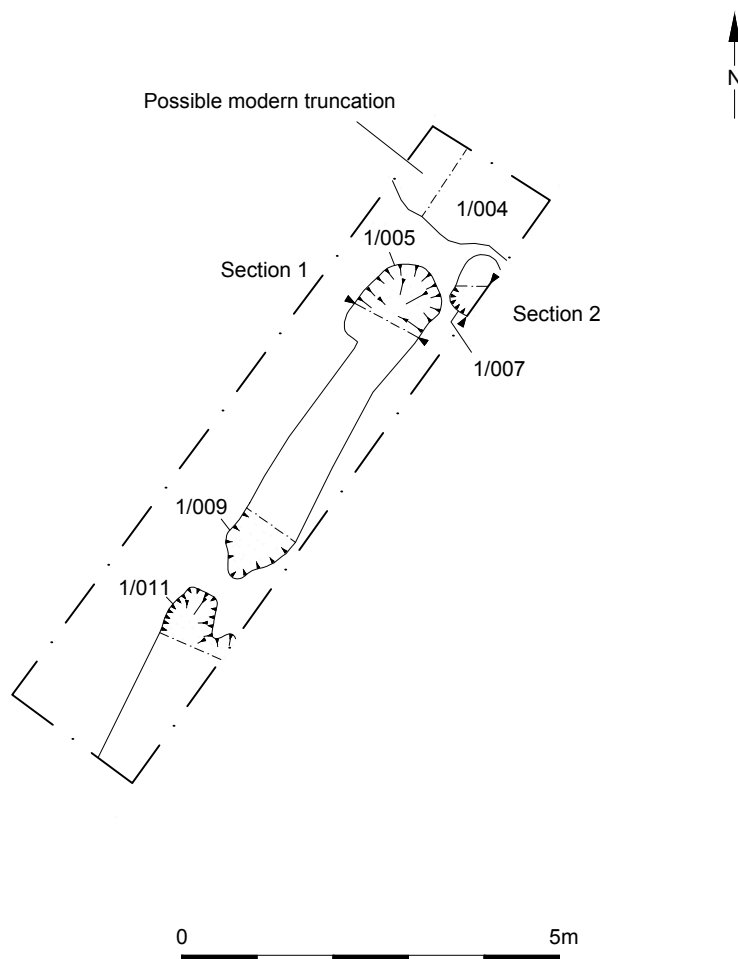
Appendix B: Flot quantification (*=1-10, ** = 11-50, *** = 51-250, **** = >250) and preservation (+ = poor, ++ = moderate, +++ = good)

Sample Number	Context	Weight g	Flot volume ml	Uncharred %	Sediment %	Seeds/Fruits uncharred	Charcoal >4mm	Charcoal <4mm	Charcoal <2mm	crop seeds charred	Identifications	Preservation	weed seeds charred	Identifications	Preservation	fish, amphibian, small mammal bone	Land Snail Shells
1	4/005	2	18	98	1	* <i>Rubus</i> sp., <i>Sambucus nigra</i>		*	*								*
2	4/007	6	50	98	1	* <i>Sambucus nigra</i>	*	*	*							*	*
3	1/006	4	9	50	30	** Asteraceae	*	*	**	*	<i>Triticum aestivum</i> , <i>Triticum</i> sp.	++	*	cf <i>Atriplex</i> sp., Poaceae	+ to ++		
4	1/008	2	3	95	4	* <i>Urtica</i> sp., Chenopodiaceae, <i>Sambucus nigra</i>				*	Cerealina	+					*
5	1/014	<2	<2	99	1	** <i>Urtica</i> sp., <i>Sambucus nigra</i> , Chenopodiaceae											*
6	1/012	2	8	91	5	** <i>Sambucus nigra</i> , <i>Rubus</i> sp.		*	*								*
7	2/004	20	90	95	5	*** cf. <i>Atriplex</i> sp., Chenopodiaceae, <i>Rubus</i> sp., <i>Polygonum/Rumex</i> sp., <i>Carduus/Cirsium</i> sp.											*
8	2/005	2	4	98	2	*** <i>Urtica</i> sp., <i>Polygonum/Rumex</i> sp., Lamiaceae											



© Archaeology South-East		Cornfoots Site, Herne Bay	Fig. 1
Project Ref: 4749	Feb 2011	Site location	
Report Ref: 2011027	Drawn by: JLR		





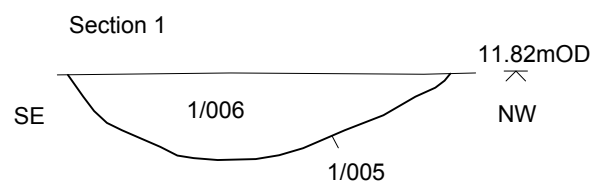
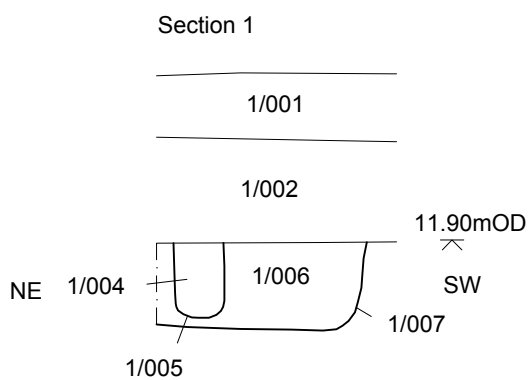
Linear terminus 1/011 facing southwest

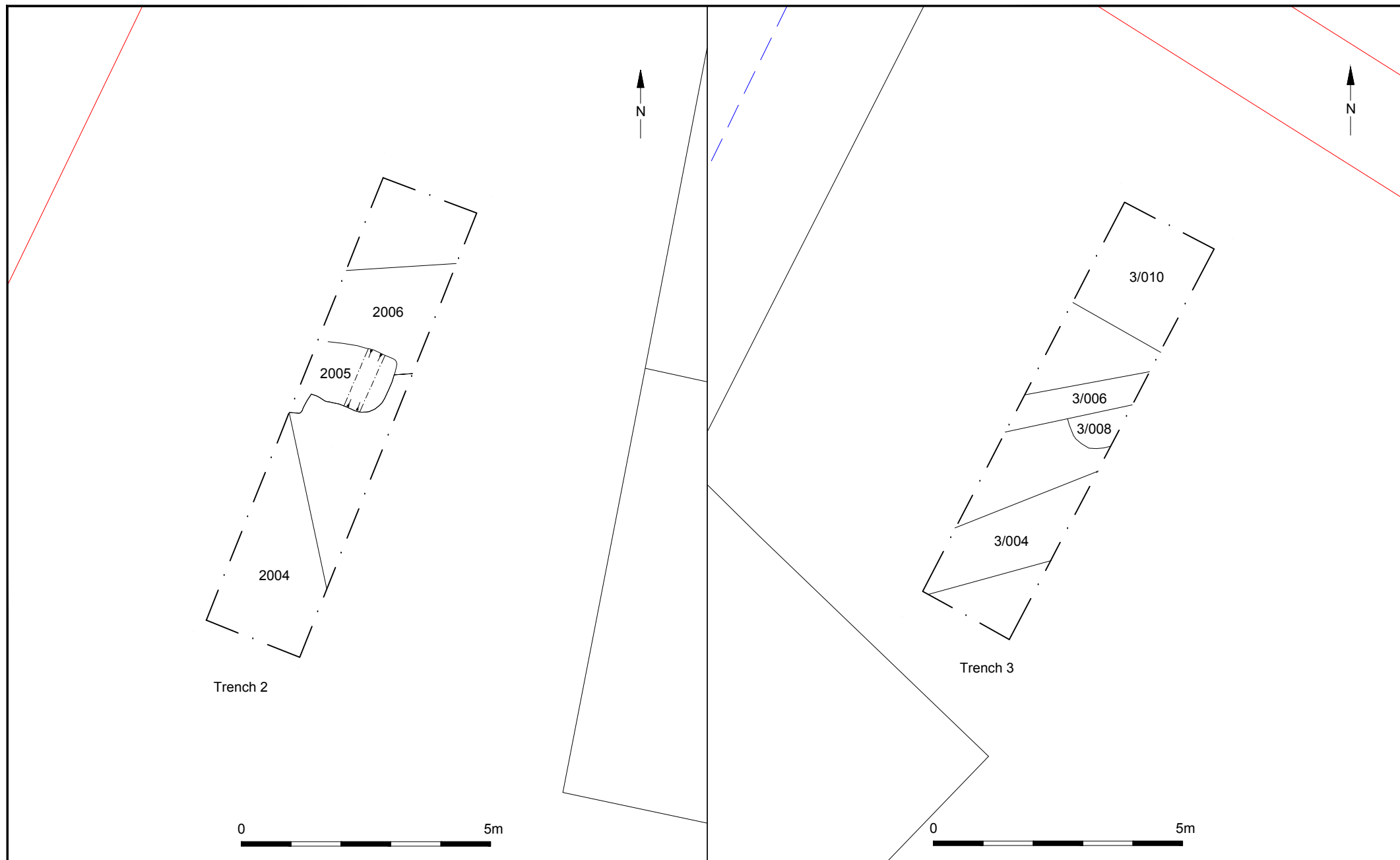


Pit 1/007 and Posthole 1/013 facing southeast

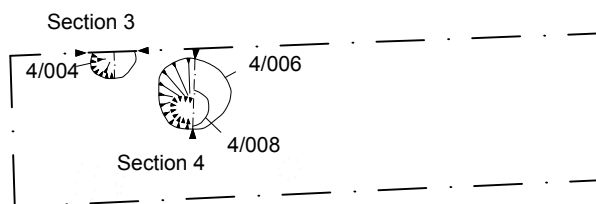


Wall 1/004 facing southeast





© Archaeology South-East		Cornfoots Site, Herne Bay	Fig. 4
Project Ref: 4759	Feb 2011	Trench plans of trenches 2 and 3	
Report Ref: 2011027	Drawn by: JLR		



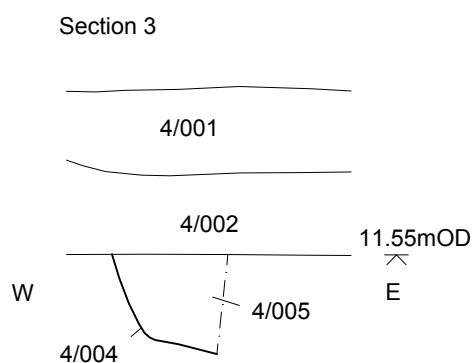
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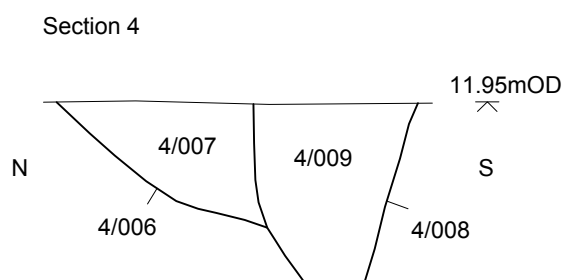
Pit 4/004 facing north

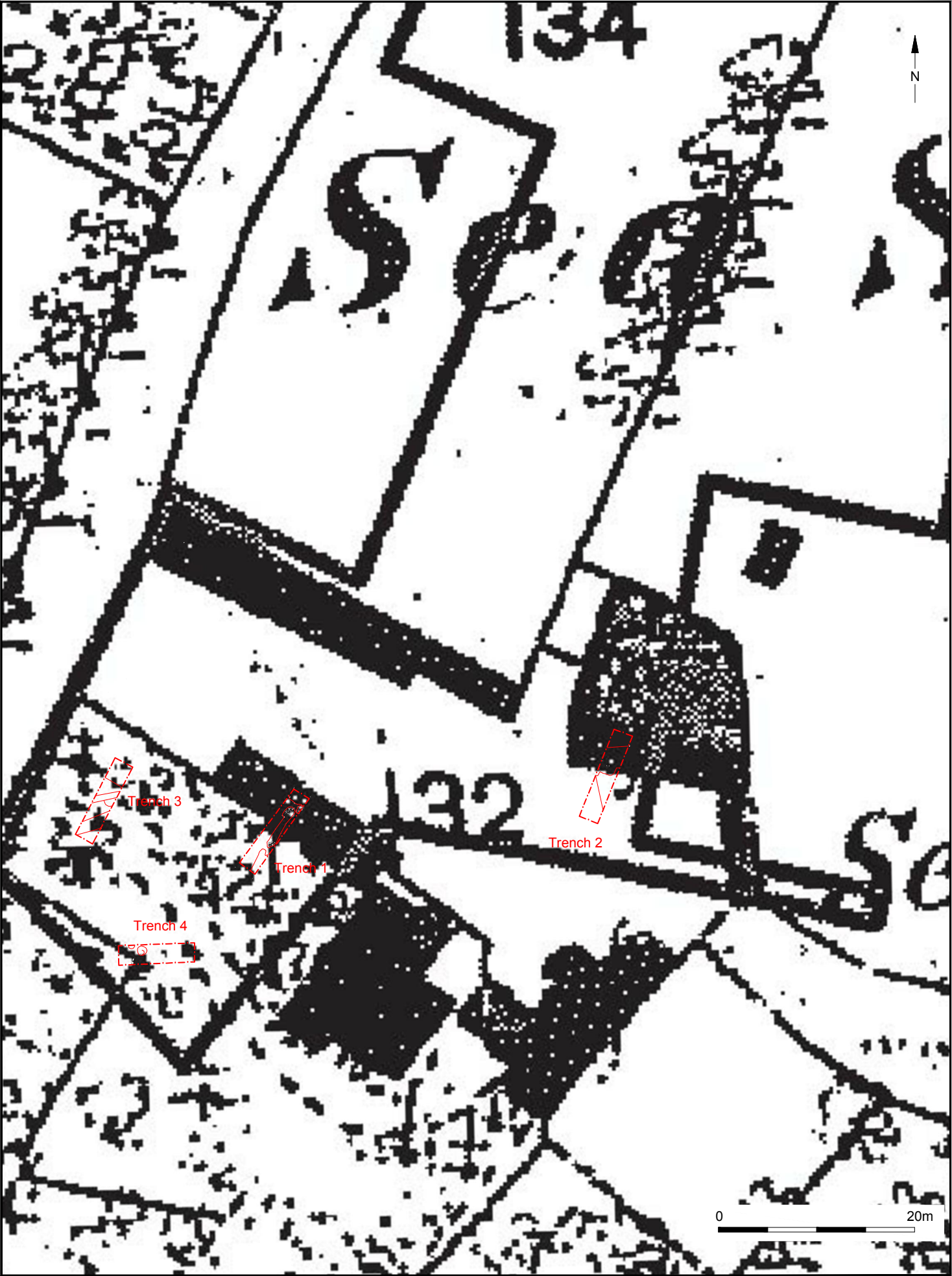


Pit 4/006 and Posthole 4/008 facing east

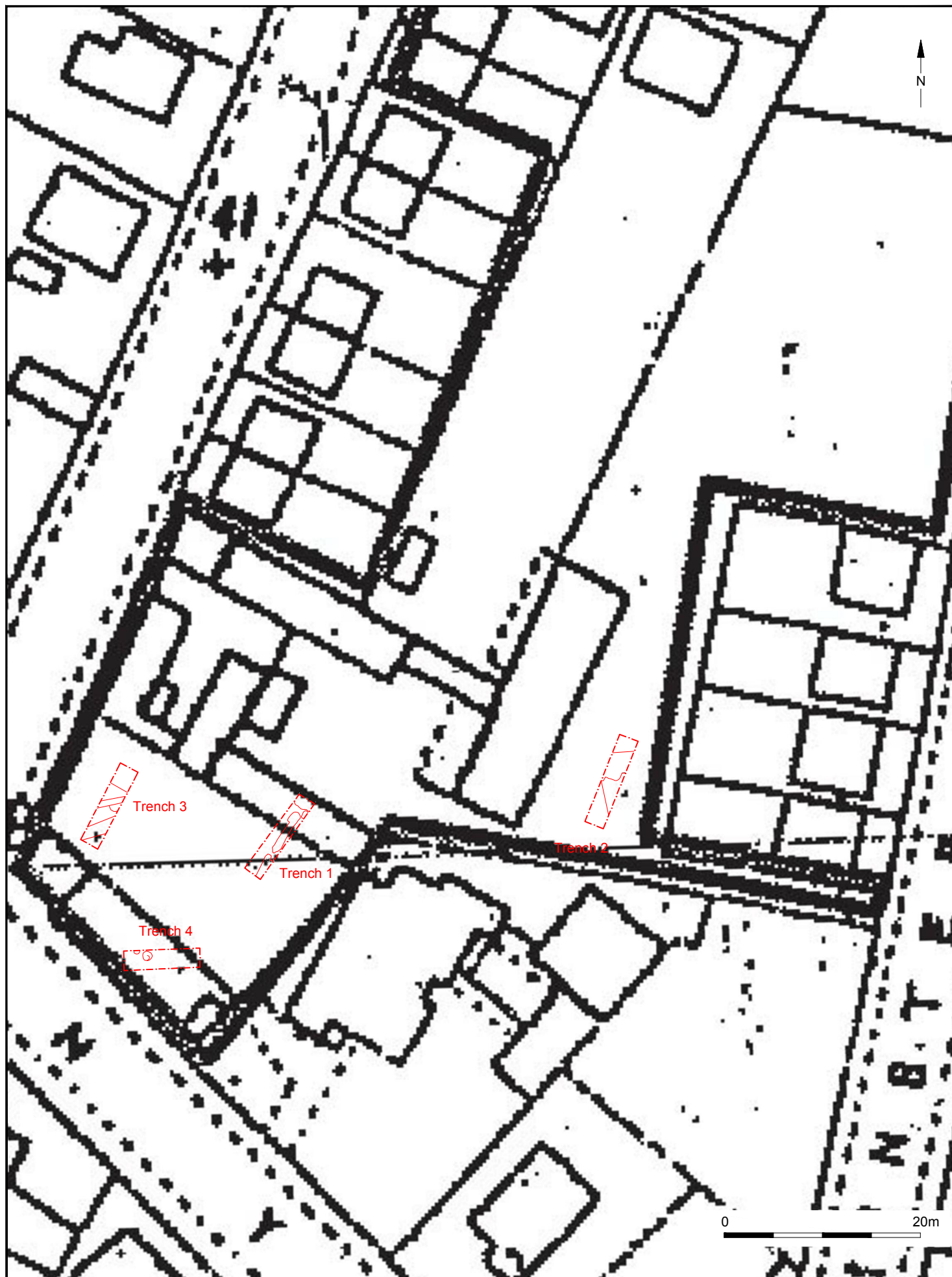


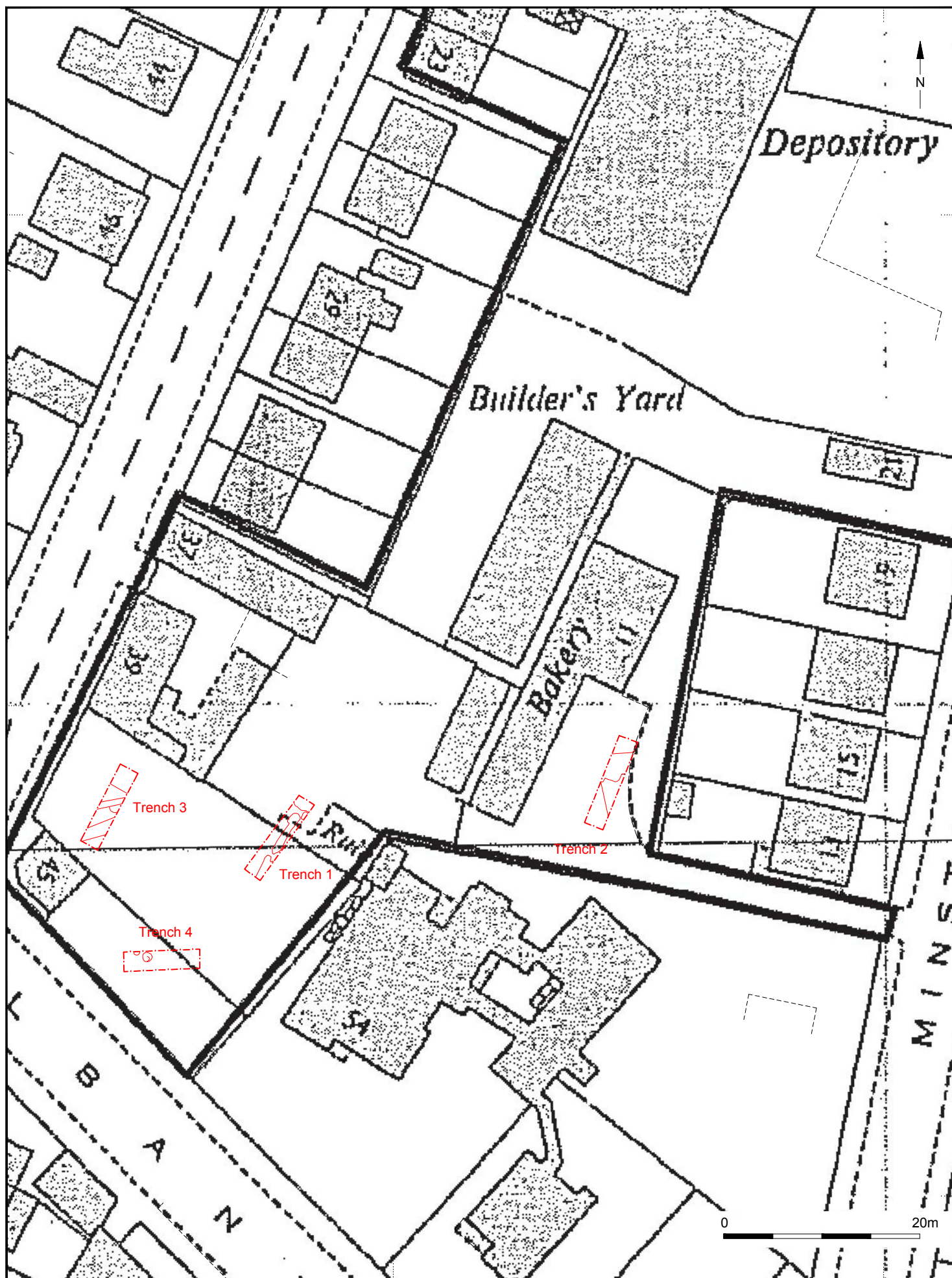
0 1m





© Archaeology South-East		Cornfoots Site, Herne Bay	Fig. 6
Project Ref: 4759	Feb 2011	Trench location and OS 1872	
Report Ref: 2011027	Drawn by: JLR		





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