



## **DARNLEY ARCHAEOLOGICAL SERVICES**

### **REPORT FOR AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION AT THE ORB, 243 RAMSGATE ROAD, MARGATE, KENT CT9 4EU**

Planning Reference: F/TH/19/1025

NGR: TR 3594 6917

DAS Site Code: ORB20-EVAL

OASIS Reference Number: TBC



Report prepared for 33 Group & Grifo Development Ltd (Client)

By Darnley Archaeological Services Ltd Company, No 12320658

Report Number DAS 007/20/ORB20-EV – Version 1.2

February 2021

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## Document Control

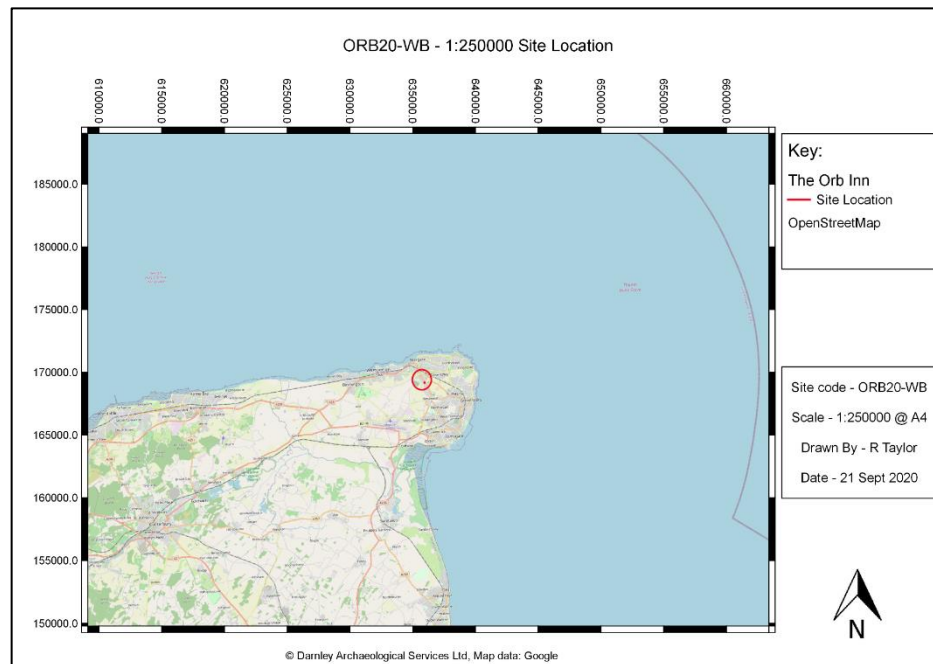
Component:	Name:	Date:
Report prepared by:	Richard Taylor	02 Feb 2021
Illustrations prepared by:	Darnley Archaeological Services	
Report edited by:	Fred Birkbeck	03 Feb 2021
Report reviewed by:	n/a	
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## **1. Summary**

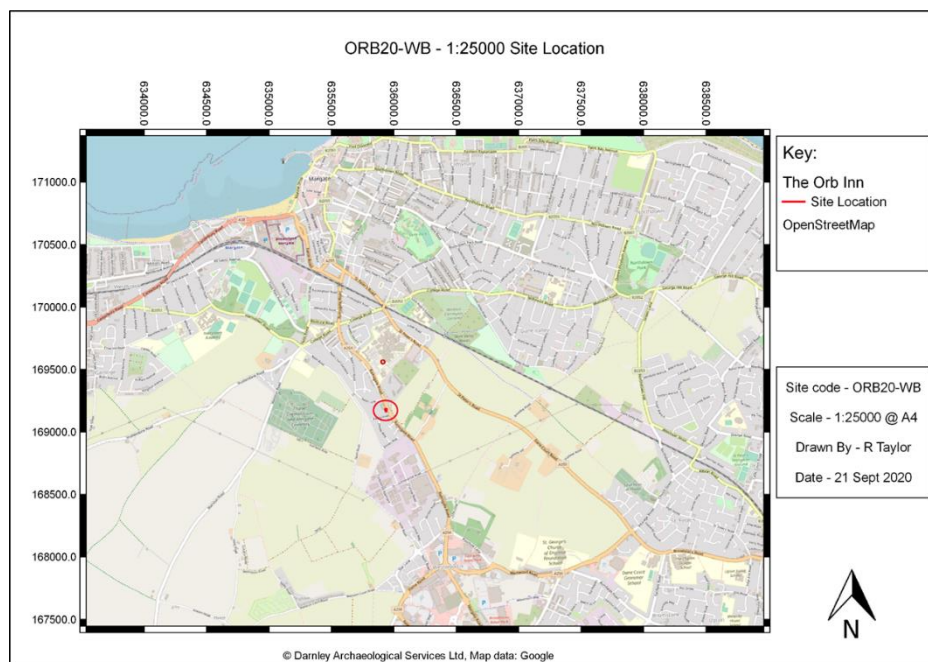
- 1.1. An archaeological evaluation consisting of three trenches has been carried out at the site of the Orb Inn public house and the surrounding land on Ramsgate Road, Margate.
- 1.2. The archaeological features identified during the archaeological work were ditches sealed by colluvium (silty clay). These survived as features at depths of c. 0.5m (21.8m AOD) below the existing ground level in the north part of the site (Trench 1) and at c.1.3m (22.6m AOD) in the southeast (Trench 3).
- 1.3. Beyond the layers associated with the Orb Inn, no earlier occupation layers, structures including walls, floors or human burials were identified on site. These may have had greater archaeological significance if found.
- 1.4. The ditch features associated with Trenches 1 & 3 are a likely continuation of known Prehistoric activity to the immediate north of Ramsgate Road and mentioned in our Written Scheme of Investigation.
- 1.5. These archaeological features will only be at risk by the proposed development if associated groundworks, including the excavation of foundation and service trenches impact on the archaeological resource. This can be satisfactorily mitigated through an agreed archaeological condition for a watching brief.

## 2. Introduction

- 2.1. Archaeological investigations have been carried out on behalf of 33Group Limited on land south of Ramsgate Road, Margate, the former site of The Orb Inn Public House, to obtain information on the potential archaeological resource present on the site. The site has planning permission for residential development with an archaeological condition for an evaluation before construction works.
- 2.2. The site of some 0.14 hectares is centre on TR 3594 6917 and lies to the south of Ramsgate Road, Margate (see Figures 1 & 2).



(Figure 1 – 1:250000 ORB20-EV Site Location)



(Figure 2 – 1:25000 ORB20-EV Site Location)

- 2.3. The archaeological investigations consisted of a Level 3 Buildings Survey and the excavation of three trial trenches to evaluate the potential for archaeological remains on the proposed site. This work followed the methodologies outlined by Kent County Council and the guidelines laid down in *Planning Policy Guidance on Archaeology and Planning (PPG 16)*, *Planning Policy Guidance on Planning and the Historic Environment (PPG 15)*. It was carried out following the Institute of Field Archaeologists' *Standard and Guidance for Field Evaluation (2014)*
- 2.4. This report presents the key results of this evaluation work. The work was commissioned by 33 Group Limited and carried out by Darnley Archaeological Services Limited over three days in January 2021.

### **3. Aims and Objectives**

- 3.1. The general aim of the archaeological investigations was to undertake evaluation work to determine the significance and importance of potential archaeological remains that may survive on the proposed site.
- 3.2. The evaluation aimed to establish the date, phasing, extent, character, state of preservation and depth of any such remains and to investigate their potential for any previously unknown archaeological activity within site. These may represent a potential constraint on the construction work associated with the development.
- 3.3. Under the Written Scheme of Investigation produced by Darnley Archaeological Services Limited, several aims were identified for the evaluation work. These aims were to:
  - 3.3.1.** Determine the nature and character of any potential archaeological remains.
  - 3.3.2.** Identify the profile of the natural deposits across the site.
- 3.4. The results of the evaluation work will help determine the appropriate level of archaeological recording work during any archaeological watching brief implemented at the construction stage.

#### **4. Methodology**

- 4.1. The archaeological evaluation work comprised the excavation of three trenches.
- 4.2. The 2 per cent sampling strategy for the trenching work comprised the excavation of three trenches (Figure 4) on the site. These were opened by machine with a toothless bucket; the demolition spread from Orb Inn and associated buildings were removed, and until the first significant archaeological deposits, natural subsoils or natural bedrock were identified.
- 4.3. Exposed archaeological deposits were cleaned by hand, photographed and recorded according to ClfA guidelines. All layers, features and fills were given a unique number and described on proforma context sheets. These were drawn in plan and section. Heights for layers and features were recorded using GNSS.
- 4.4. Artefacts observed were retained from the identified features, deposits and spoil heaps.
- 4.5. The trenches were backfilled on completion of the excavations.
- 4.6. Finds recovered from the evaluation trenches were bagged according to their stratigraphic context, washed and analysed. These were spot dated and assessed by relevant specialists.
- 4.7. An individual site code has been assigned by Darnley Archaeological Services Limited (ORB20-EV). This has been used on all the written material, drawings and finds bags. On completion of the project, the site archive will be handed over to 33Group Limited.



## **5. Geological and Topographical Background**

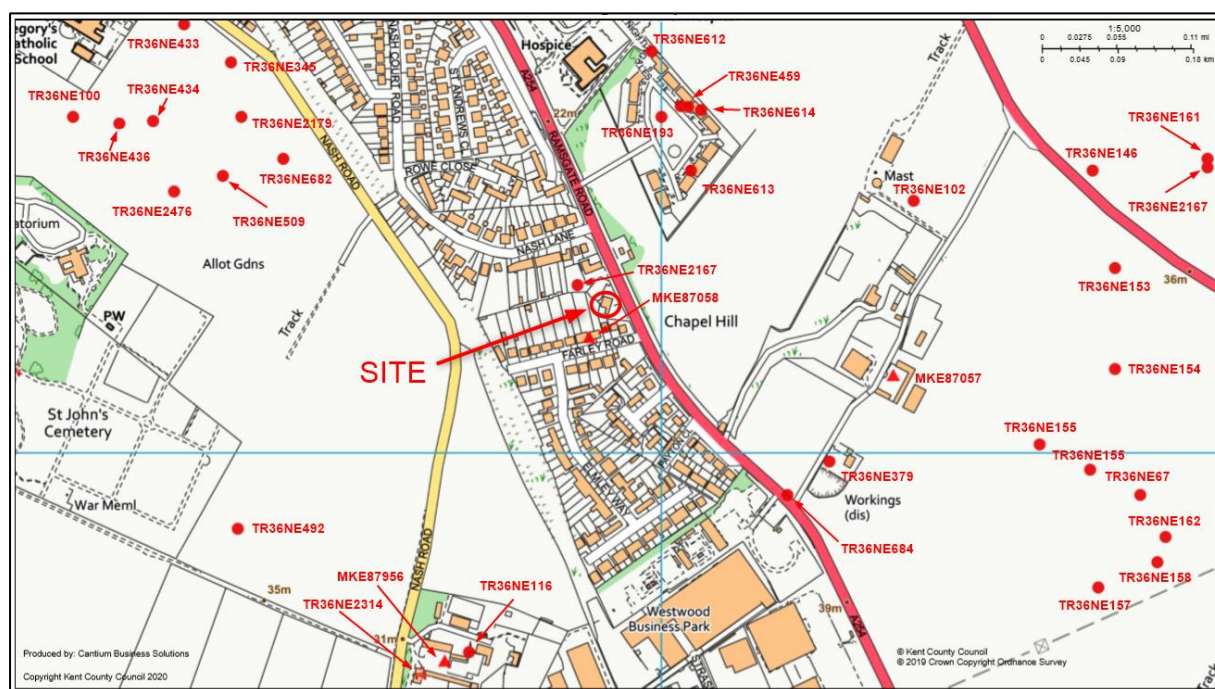
- 5.1. The bedrock geology of the site is the Margate Chalk Member.
- 5.2. Superficial deposits of clay and silt overlie the bedrock geology.<sup>1</sup>
- 5.3. The site (centred on TR 3594 6917) of some 0.15 hectares is located on the now-demolished Orb Inn public house at 243 Ramsgate Road in Margate and the District of Thanet, Kent. The site is located on the west side of Ramsgate Road, 0.5km south of Queen Elizabeth Queen Mother Hospital, 0.9km east of the Manston Road, 0.75km east of St Peters Road (A255) and 0.7km south southeast of the current Hornby factory on the west side of the A254.
- 5.4. The ground on the site exhibits a slight slope from 24.0m AOD in the east to 21.4m AOD in the west.
- 5.5. The site currently comprises a large area of tarmac hardstanding to the southeast, demolition bunds at the centre and the north of the site, two large trees to with TPOs to the west. Residential properties and their gardens surround the site to the north, west and south, and the Ramsgate Road bounds the site to the east.

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<sup>1</sup> [www.bgs.ac.uk](http://www.bgs.ac.uk)

## 6. Archaeological and Historical Background

6.1. Margate's earliest history and archaeology show occupation from the Prehistoric Period. Archaeological evidence ranges from Later Prehistoric, Roman, Saxon and Medieval settlers. There are also several extant World War I & II defensive structures present in the nearby area. A detailed study of the Kent Historic Environment Record database<sup>2</sup> was undertaken to assist the written scheme of investigation (Figure 3). The following provides nearby entries on the HER with a brief description:



(Figure 3 – 1:2500 Nearby Heritage Assets to ORB20-EV Site – courtesy of KCC)

**Modern** – the immediate area and the presence of pillboxes and roadblocks demonstrate the strategic importance of Thanet's role in defensive and counter-invasion strategies during World War 2:

TR 36 NE 2167	Pillbox. (Modern - 1939 AD to 1945 AD).
TR 36 NE 684	A Second World War roadblock manned by the Margate Home Guard.
TR 36 NE 682	A Second World War roadblock manned by the Margate Home Guard.
TR 36 NE 2179	Pillbox. (Modern - 1939 AD to 1945 AD).

**Post-Medieval** – demonstrates continued habitation and occupation, based mainly around agriculture and chalk extraction in the immediate area:

MKE 87058	Outfarm adjacent to Crown and Sceptre public house (Post Medieval - 1800 AD to 1800 AD)
MKE 87057	A regular courtyard farmstead with buildings to three sides of the yard incorporating an L-plan element.

<sup>2</sup> <https://webapps.kent.gov.uk/KCC.ExploringKentsPast.Web.Sites.Public>

TR 36 NE 379	A chalk pit was once in use at Updown Farm. It is marked on the Ordnance Survey 1st and 2nd edition maps (c.1858-1898) as 'Old Chalk Pit'. The boundary is marked on the later editions and is still visible at the site.
TR 36 NE 2314	Grade II listed building. Main construction periods 1700 to 1799.

**Medieval** - demonstrates evidence for settlement from several medieval features including pits, ditches and trackways associated with chalk extraction, occupation and habitation and occupation-based around nearby manorial complexes involved in agriculture, and early medieval burials:

TR 36 NE 434	Three graves were recorded during evaluation work southeast of Salmestone Grange, Margate and interpreted as either part of a single burial plot or perhaps a larger cemetery. The reports suggest they may be Anglo-Saxon in date. Only one grave was excavated, and no grave goods were recorded
TR 36 NE 2476	Two probably medieval chalk quarries, a ditched trackway, a pit containing medieval pottery and several gullies and field boundaries were discovered during evaluation trenching in 2004, undoubtedly related to the chalk quarries (TR 36 NE 435) and medieval settlement activity (TR 36 NE 433) located in 2000.
TR 36 NE 433	Several medieval features were recorded during evaluation work in the fields east of St. Gregory's RC Primary School. The foundations of two buildings were observed during trenching, along with a few ditches; one of which may have been a boundary ditch or another a palisade trench.
TR 36 NE 116	Remains of Nash Court Medieval manor house.
MKE87056	A loose courtyard plan farmstead with buildings to four sides of the yard.

**Anglo-Saxon** – demonstrates Anglo-Saxon presence, likely associated with habitation and agriculture.

TR 36 NE 614	In 2005 the Trust for Thanet Archaeology carried out an excavation. A sunken featured building was found. It consisted of a rectangular pit 3m x 2.5m with a post hole at either end. Sherds of organic tempered pottery were found in the backfill of the feature. The building is thought to date to the period AD 550-700.
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**Iron Age** – demonstrates evidence for settlement and chalk extraction:

TR 36 NE 612	In 2005 the Trust for Thanet Archaeology excavated the feature. The quarry consisted of many intercutting pits, possibly dug to obtain flints from the chalk. The only find from the feature came from the plough soil over the quarry, a copper alloy annular brooch. It is thought that the quarry is probably of Iron Age or Roman date as flint was utilised as a building material in these periods.
TR 36 NE 613	In 2005 the Trust for Thanet Archaeology excavated the feature. The ditch was found to contain Late Bronze Age and Early Iron Age pottery. This is probably residual material, and the ditch was thought to be Late Iron Age in date.

**Bronze Age** – demonstrates evidence for widespread settlement including ring ditches, pits, enclosure ditches, burials and possible barrows.

TR 36 NE 459	In 2005 the Trust for Thanet Archaeology carried out an excavation. Two Early Bronze Age burials were found. The first was in a large pit and may have been in a coffin or a hollowed log. The burial was of an adult male aged around 45 in a crouched position. Adjacent to the head was a comb decorated Beaker vessel. The Beaker is an early type, equating to Clarke's Wessex/Mid Rhine Group or step 3 of the Lanting and van der Waals scheme thought to date to around 2300 BC. The skeleton though was radiocarbon dated to 1902 (+/- 33) BC. This conforms to a recognised local pattern of late dates for apparently early Beaker styles. Other grave goods found with the burial were three barbed and tanged flint arrowheads found near the lower back, an angular flint in the chest area and a tiny fragment of amber near the head. The second grave truncated the north-eastern corner of the first. The burial was of a woman aged around 30 in a very tightly crouched position. A barbed and tanged arrowhead (of Sutton 'B' type) was recovered from the soil filling the skull. The upper fill of the grave pit contained many sherds, mainly of Beaker fabrics. It, therefore, may relate to feasting or other rituals carried out as part of the funeral. Worked flints were also found in this deposit.
TR 36 NE 193	Linear Cropmarks are suggesting large enclosures are visible on aerial photographs. The situation is somewhat confused by a display of periglacial markings. Parts of 2 ring ditches, a possible pit feature and part of a rectangular enclosure, centred on TR 3601 6935. Visible on aerial photographs.
TR 36 NE 146	Cropmarks of possible Bronze Age barrows near Updown House, Margate. Identified from aerial photographs.
TR 36 NE 161	Group of ring ditches - possible barrow crop mark complex. Identified from aerial photographs.
TR 36 NE 153	Possible Bronze Age barrow near Updown Farm, Margate. Identified from aerial photographs.
TR 36 NE 155	The remains of three possible barrow crop marks were recorded near Updown Farm, identified from aerial photographs.
TR 36 NE 156	A possible barrow surviving as a ring ditch crop mark at Updown Farm. Identified from aerial photographs.
TR 36 NE 162	Cropmark of a possible barrow feature. Identified from aerial photographs.
TR 36 NE 158	Possible barrow crop mark. Identified from aerial photographs.
TR 36 NE 157	Possible barrow crop mark. Identified from aerial photographs.
TR 36 NE 154	Cropmarks of a possible barrow and a single-ditched ring ditch at Updown Farm. Identified from aerial photographs.
TR 36 NE 67	The crop marks of several ring ditches thought to be Bronze Age barrows and rectangular enclosures superimposed upon these. The suggestions of pits at the site may be indicative of plough damage. Neolithic flint tools such as scrapers have been found after ploughing. Cropmarks identified from aerial photographs.
TR 36 NE 102	Cropmark of two sub-rectangular crop mark features with internal pit features. Possibly the remains of ploughed out round barrows.

**Later Prehistoric** – likely evidence for habitation or settlement.

TR 36 NE 507	A curvilinear enclosure, visible as a crop mark in the 2009 Google Earth image, to the south of Margate. It was partially excavated in 2004 as part of evaluation trenching on land adjacent to Salmestone Grange.
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**Unknown Date** - likely evidence for habitation or settlement.

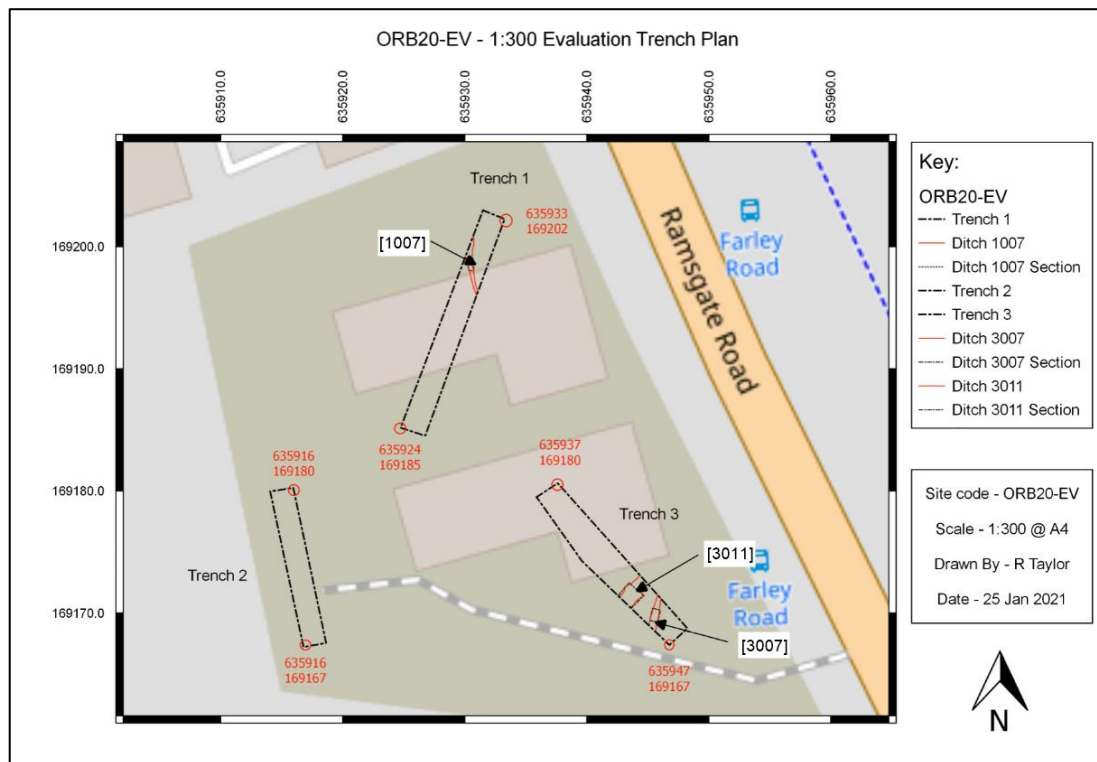
TR 36 NE 345	Two possible chalk quarry pit features were found during an archaeological evaluation. Both features were deep and contained no finds in the sections dug through them. The evaluation work could not determine the size of each feature.
TR 36 NE 436	Two geophysical surveys identified several archaeological features in the field between Salmestone Grange and the cemetery, Margate. The field contained elements already identified by aerial photography and archaeological evaluation.
TR 36 NE 492	A rectilinear enclosure, visible as crop marks on the 1990 aerial photos, to the south of Margate.
TR 36 NE 100	Rectilinear enclosures and tracer crop marks. Identified from aerial photographs.

## 7. Archaeological Results

- 7.1. This section presents the results of the trial trenching work carried out on the site. A collection of site images are presented in Appendix A; a collection of finds images are shown in Appendix B, and a context summary table for the trenching listing the category, dimensions and description of the individual contexts are presented in Appendix C. The locations of the trenches on the site, plans and sections for the deposits and features identified are shown throughout this section of the report. Context numbers referred to in the text, on plan and section drawings are circled. Square brackets [x] denote cuts, round brackets or circles (x) layers, deposits and fills.

### Summary of results

- 7.2. A total of 24 contexts were recorded: 21 were allocated to layers, 3 to cut features in the three trenches.



- 7.3. The archaeological features were identified at depths of 0.9m (21.86m AOD) below the existing ground surface at the northern part of Trench 1 and 1.2m (22.88m AOD) below the original ground surface at the southeast part of Trench 3.
- 7.4. The securely dated features identified during the archaeological work were likely Later Prehistoric, probably Bronze Age or Iron Age in date. The features were ditches or gullies with fine, silty fills. Finds relating to the Post-Medieval occupation of the site, likely connected to the Orb Inn public house, were evident throughout the subsoils or Trench 2.
- 7.5. The ditches in Trenches 1 and 3 follow a roughly north-south alignment, following the gentle topographical gradient, implying they were likely drainage ditches or gullies. The

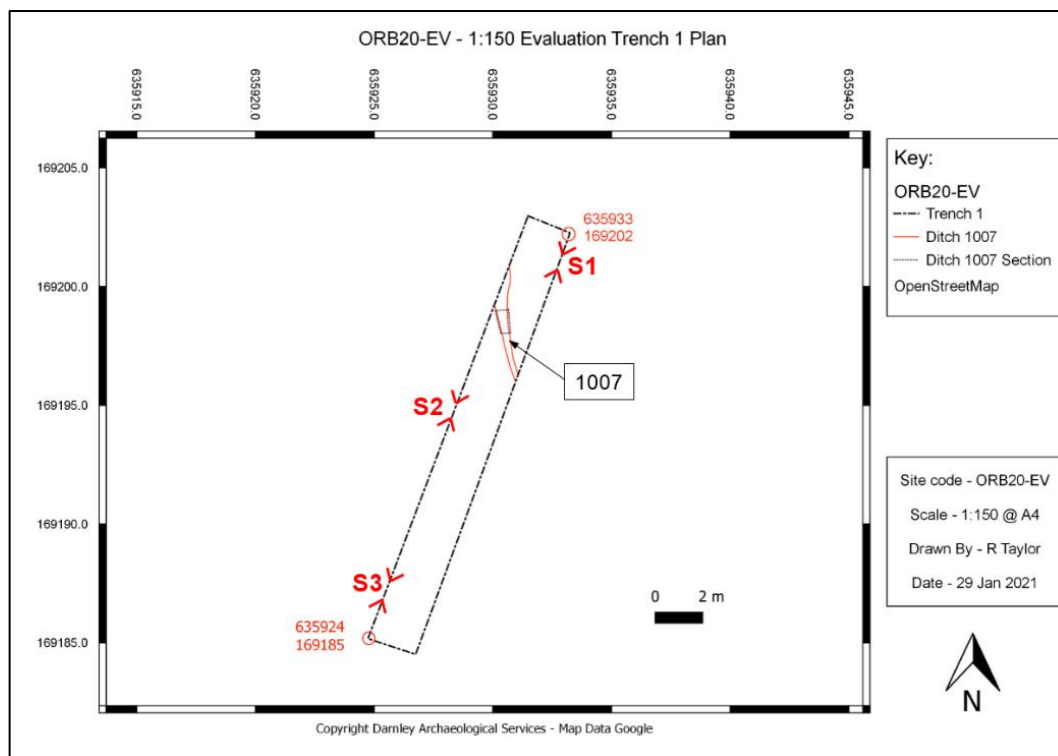
fine silty fills of the ditched in Trench 3 suggest they were for drainage, though the fill of the ditch in Trench 1 is composed clay with chalk flecks.

- 7.6. No associated Later Prehistoric pits were identified on the site.
- 7.7. No grave cuts or human remains were identified on the site.
- 7.8. The water table was not encountered in the trenches. Slight water seepage present in Trench 3 was thought to be from surface sources.
- 7.9. The quantity of artefactual material obtained from the site was relatively low. This consisted of pottery, worked flint and one coin. Samples were taken from the ditch fill deposits, but these elicited no further artefactual material or relevant information.
- 7.10. The natural subsoil was identified in all the trenches. This consisted of silty clays and generally dropped from 20.44m AOD in the southwest of the site in Trench 2 to 21.70m AOD to the north of the site in Trench 1.

## Trench Summary

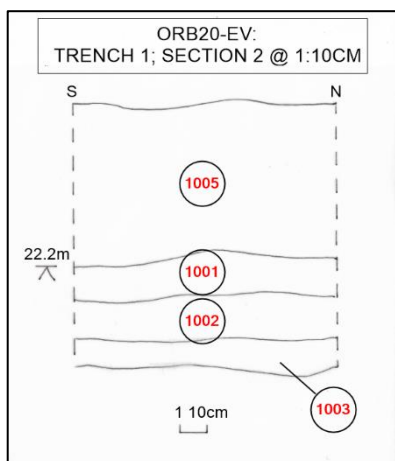
### Trench 1

- 7.11. A total of 9 contexts were allocated to deposits, a feature and the fills recorded in the trench. The one feature identified was a ditch running north-south, probably Later Prehistoric (Bronze Age or Iron Age) in date.



(Figure 5 – 1:150 ORB20-EV Trench 1 Plan)

- 7.12. The removal of the demolition overburden (1005) exposed a deposit of humic topsoil (1001) across much of the trench and interpreted as the most recent land surface prior to the Orb Inn's demolition, and the deposition of recent demolition overburden from late 2020. Below (1001) lay (1002), a bark brown sand clay subsoil which extended throughout the length of the trench. Below (1002) lay (1003), an orange/brown clayey silt, believed to be the natural colluvial subsoil that extends across the trench (See Figures 7 & 9).

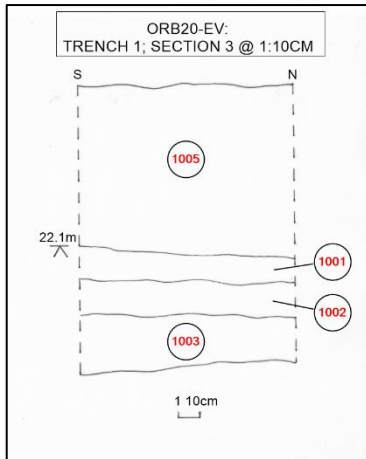


(Figure 6 – 1:10 Section 2)



(Figure 7 – Section 2 looking northwest)



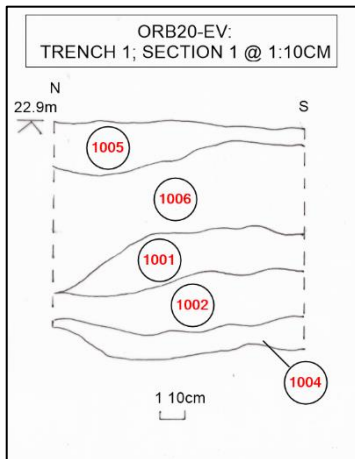


(Figure 8 – 1:10 Section 3)



(Figure 9 – Section 3 looking northwest)

- 7.13. Toward the north end of Trench 1, under a thin demolition spread (1005) a mulch layer (1006) is seen in section, above the humic topsoil (1001) and believed to be the recent remnant of a bedding area of the Orb Inn public house.

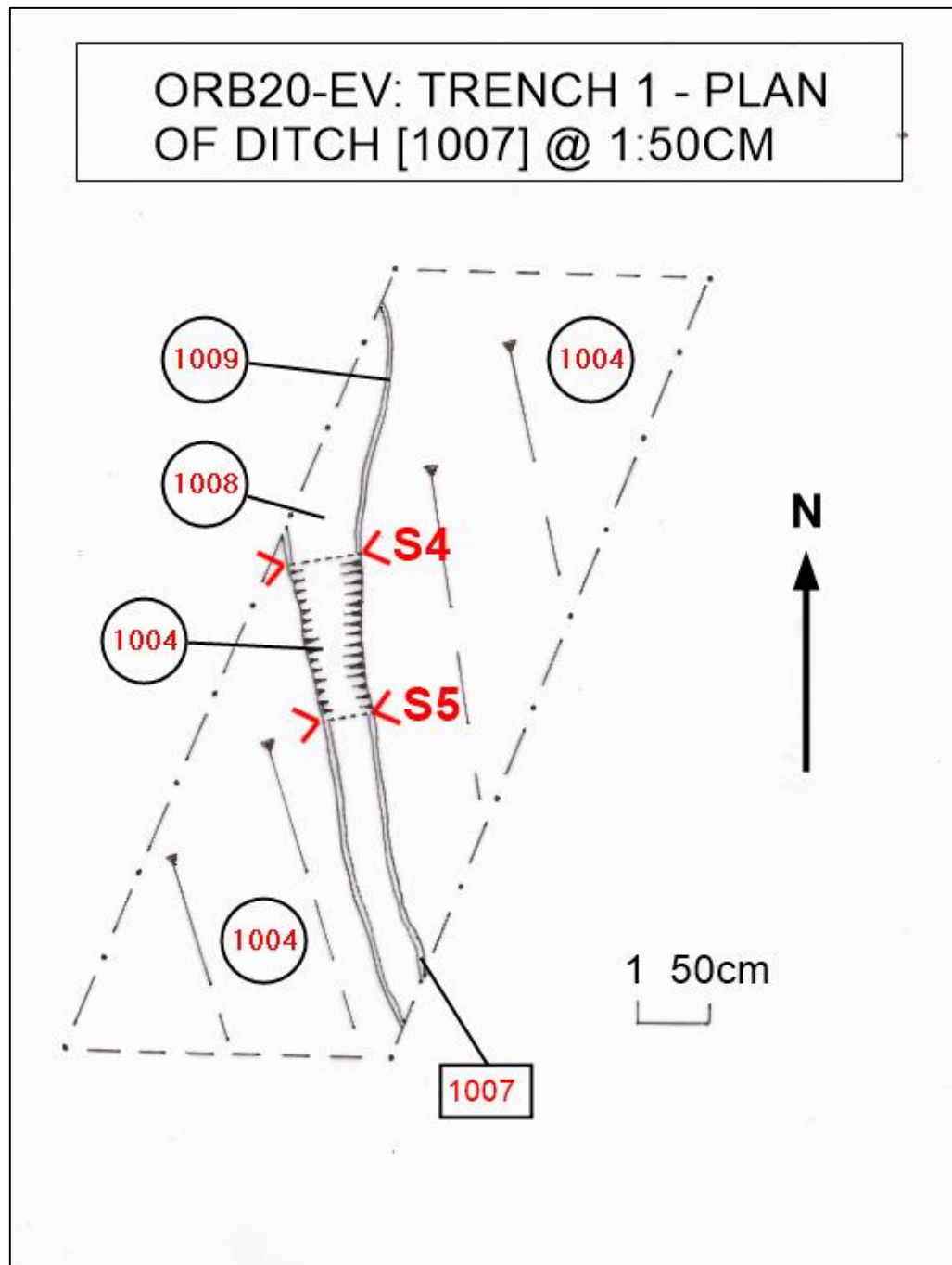


(Figure 10 – 1:10 Section 1)

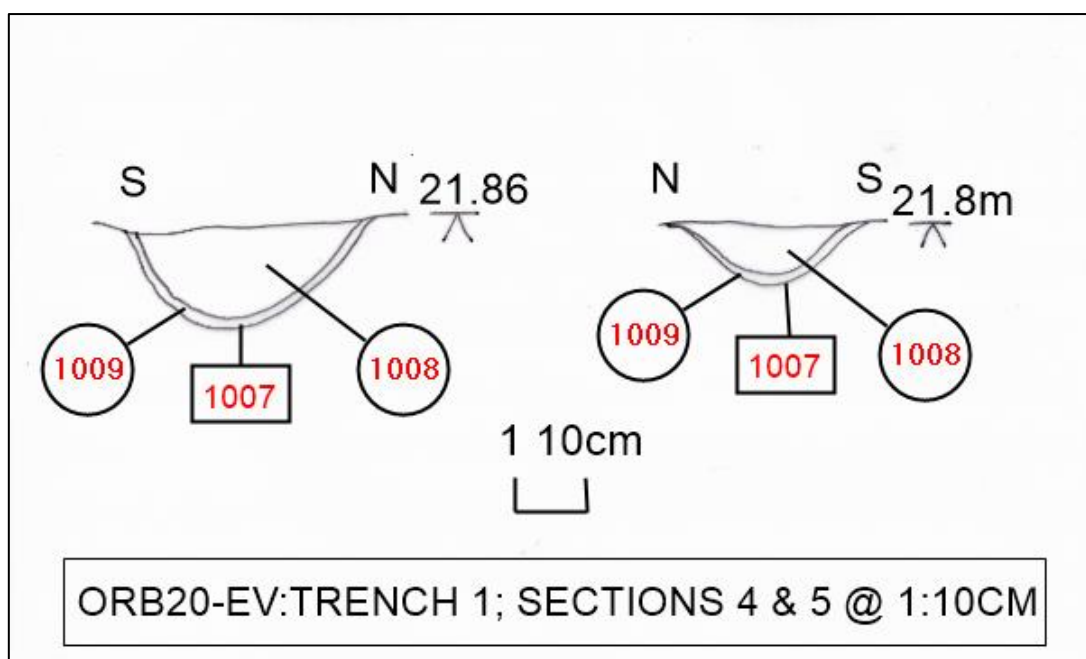


(Figure 11 – Section 1 looking southeast)

- 7.14. The removal of deposit (1003) exposed a linear ditch [1007] at the north end of the trench, cut into (1003) and, at its base, into the natural chalk bedrock (1004). [1007] contained two distinct fills: (1009) is a thin, dark silty clay and likely primary fill of the ditch; (1008) is a later fill composed of a brown silty clay containing chalk flecks and pieces. (1008) contained a small number of crudely struck flint (see 11.2).



(Figure 12 – 1:50 ORB20-EV Trench 1 Plan showing [1007])



(Figure 13 – 1:10 ORB20-EV Section 4 [1007] on left and Section 5 [1007] on right)



(Figure 14 – Section 4 looking north)



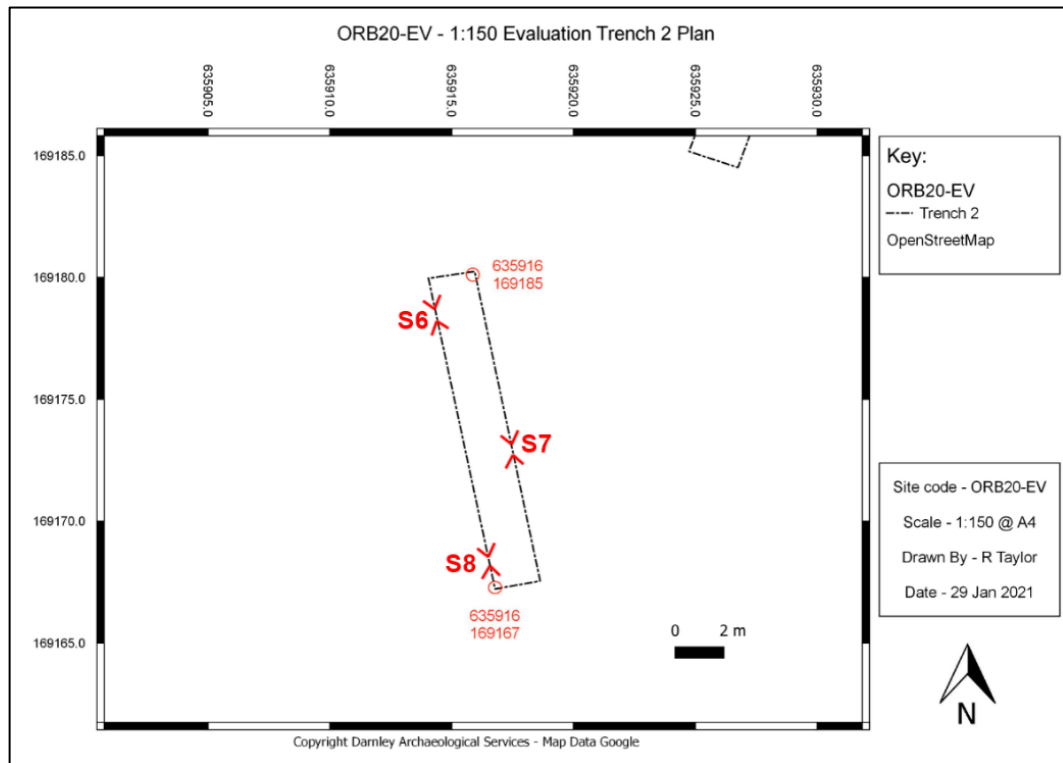
(Figure 15 – [1007] in Plan)

- 7.15. The natural subsoils deposits consisted of orange clayey silt (1003) recorded at c. 21.95m AOD in the southern end of the Trench 1 and c.21.80m AOD in the middle; the natural bedrock deposits consisted of the Margate Chalk members (1004) recorded at c.22.20m AOD at the northern end of the Trench 1, but not visible at the southern end.



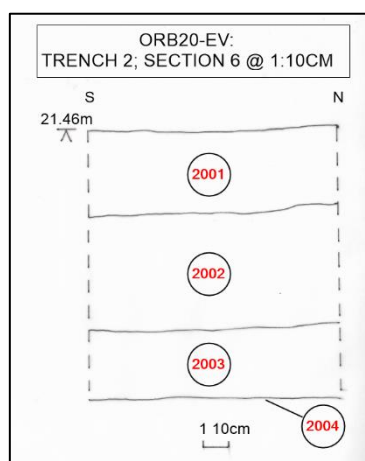
## Trench 2

- 7.16. A total of four contexts were allocated to deposits. No features viewed in the trench.



(Figure 16 – 1:150 ORB20-EV Trench 2 Plan)

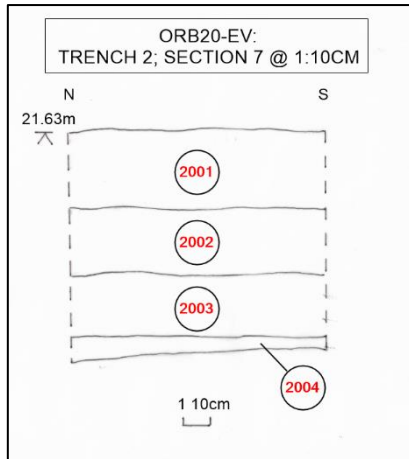
- 7.17. The removal of the humic topsoil (2001) exposed deposit of a bark brown sand clay subsoil (2002) which extended throughout the trench's length. Below (2002) lay (2003), an orange/brown clayey silt, believed to be the natural colluvial subsoil that extends throughout the trench. The removal of (2003) exposed the chalk bedrock (2004) (See Figures 18 & 20).



(Figure 17 – 1:10 Section 6)



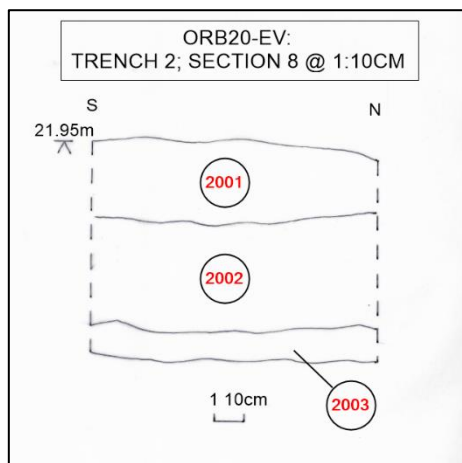
(Figure 18 – Section 6 looking west)



(Figure 19 – 1:10 Section 7)



(Figure 20 – Section 7 looking east)



(Figure 21 – 1:10 Section 8)

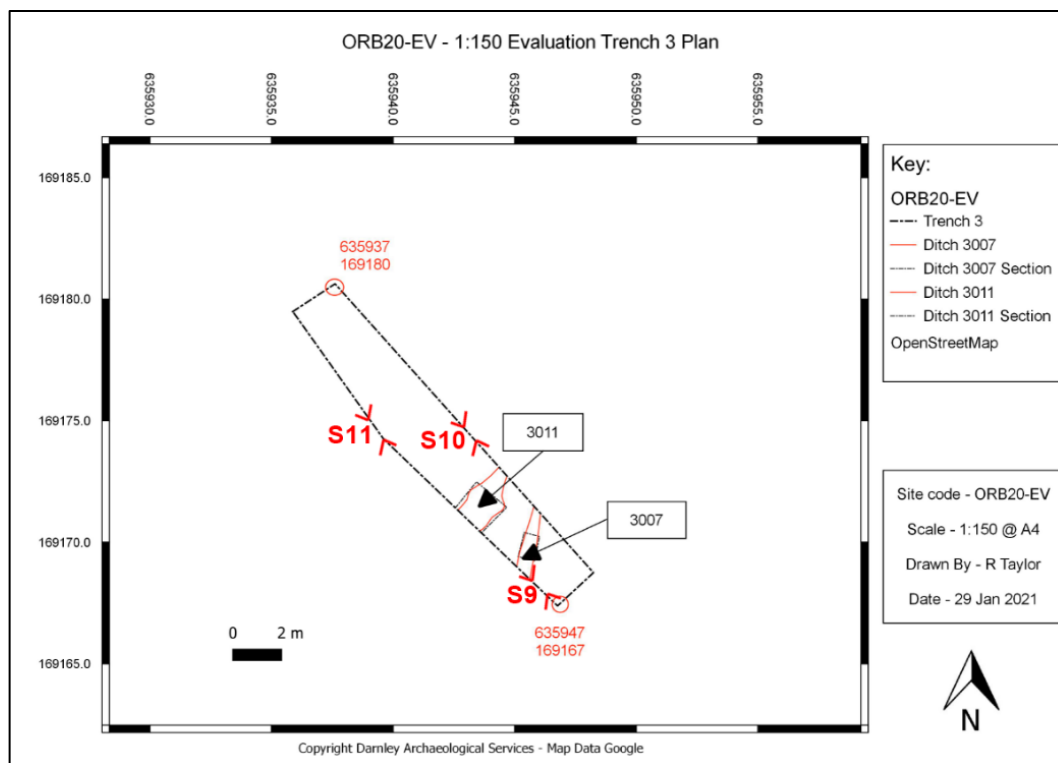


(Figure 22 – Section 8 looking west)

- 7.18. The natural subsoils deposits consisted of orange clayey silt (2003) recorded at c. 20.44m AOD in the northern end of the Trench 2 and c.21.30m AOD in the southern end; the natural bedrock deposits consisted of the Margate Chalk members (2004) recorded at c.21.80m AOD at the northern end of the Trench 2, but not visible at the southern end.

### Trench 3

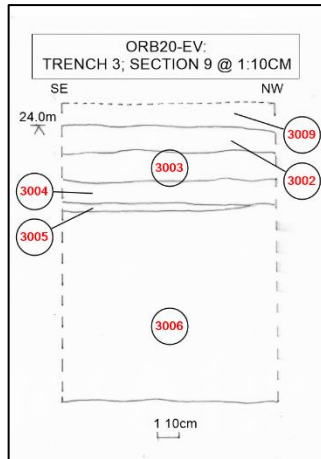
- 7.19. A total of 12 contexts were allocated to deposits, features and their fills recorded in the trench. Two features identified were linear ditches running approximately north-south, probably Later Prehistoric (Bronze Age or Iron Age) in date.



(Figure 23 – 1:150 ORB20-EV Trench 3 Plan)

- 7.20. The removal of the demolition overburden (3009) exposed modern tarmac (3001) which sealed a layer of large pebbles, hardcore and sand (3002), thought to be modern. At the northern end of Trench 3, a spread of grey sandy silt lies (3010) lies above (3002). (3002) sealed a dense layer of concrete and rubble (3003) which covered a layer of clinker material (3004). It is thought that (3003) may be contemporary with the rear extension's construction to the Orb Inn c.1900 AD<sup>3</sup>.
- 7.21. The removal of (3004) revealed a thin layer of grey sand and crushed chalk (3005). It is believed this layer is probably contemporary with the initial construction of the Orb Inn in c.1850 AD. (3005) seals the natural subsoil deposits consisted of orange clayey silt (3006).

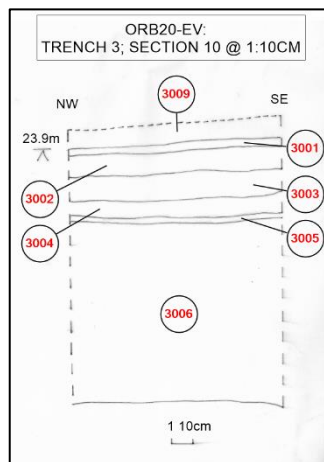
<sup>3</sup> Birkbeck, F. & Taylor, R. *The Orb, 243 Ramsgate Road, Margate, Kent CT9 4EU Level 3 Building Recording Survey*, pp16-17 (2020, Darnley Archaeological Services).



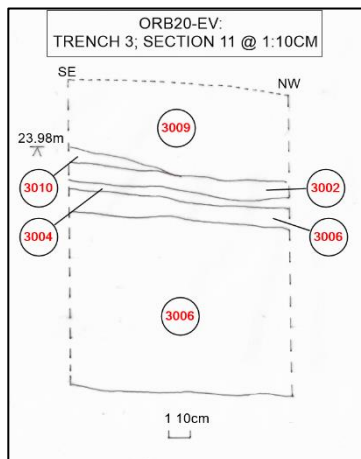
(Figure 24 – 1:10 Section 9)



(Figure 25 – Section 9 looking southwest)



(Figure 26 – 1:10 Section 10)



(Figure 27 – 1:10 Section 11)

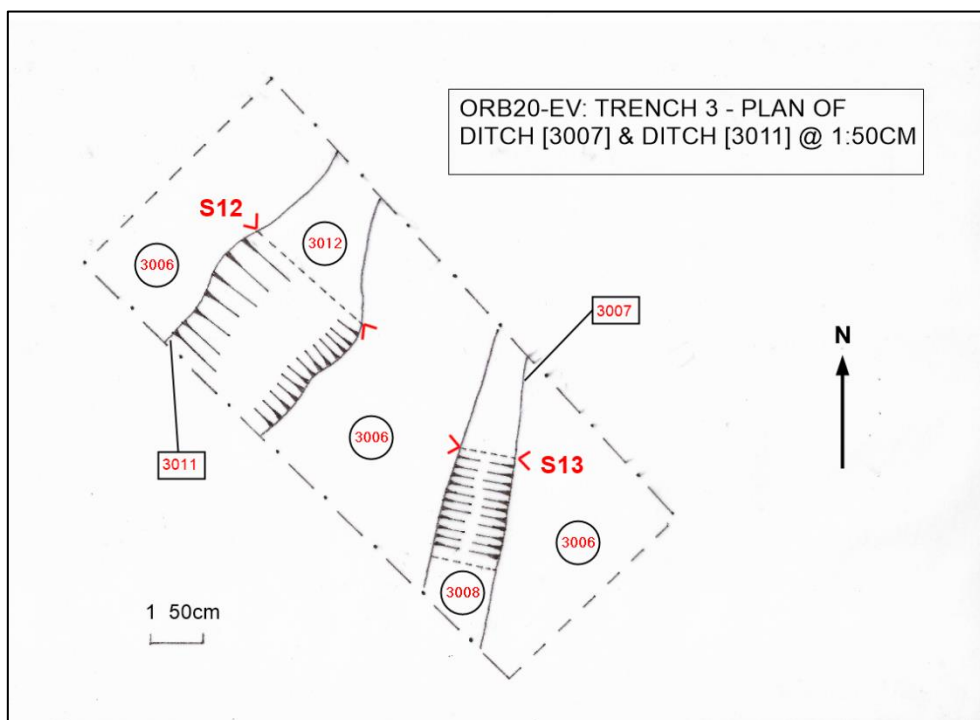


(Figure 28 – Section 11 looking southwest)

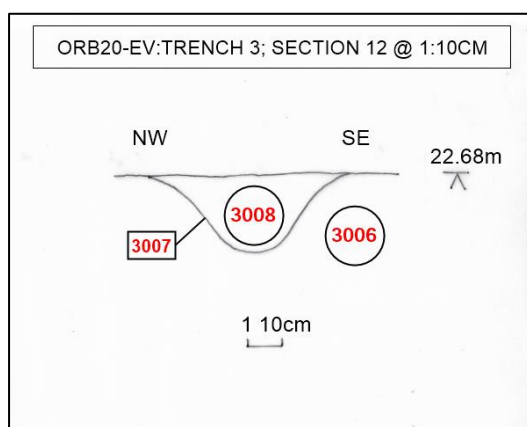
- 7.22. At a depth of 0.9m below the top of (3006), interpreted as natural colluvium subsoil deposit, two linear ditches/gullies with dark fills running approximately southwest-northeast were revealed. [3007] contained fill (3008), a grey/brown sandy silt; [3011] contained (3012), a grey/brown sandy silt. Fill (3012) contained three worked flint flakes



and a single piece of burnt flint, all of which are thought to be Late Prehistoric in date (c. 1500 BC to AD 43).



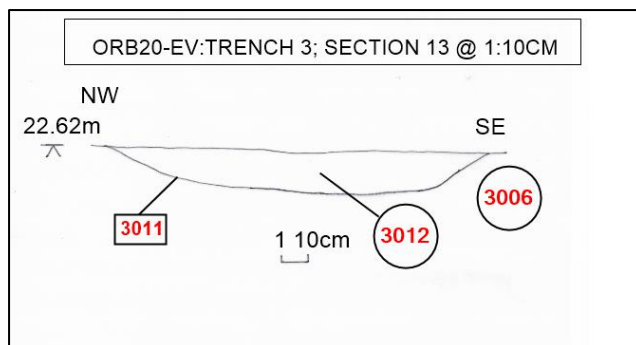
(Figure 29 – 1:50 ORB20-EV Trench 3 Plan showing [3007] and [3011])



(Figure 30 – 1:10 Section 12)



(Figure 31 – Section 12 looking north)



(Figure 32 – 1:10 Section 13)



(Figure 33 – Section 13 looking north)



- 7.23. The natural subsoils deposits consisted of orange clayey silt (3006) recorded at c. 23.5m AOD in the southeastern end of the Trench 3 and c.23.7m AOD toward the northern end; the natural bedrock deposits consisted of the Margate Chalk members was not visible in Trench 3, though the northern end of the trench was compromised by the demolition of the Orb Inn cellar structure.



(Figure 34 – ORB20-EV Drone image of Trench 3 showing excavated [3007] and [3011])

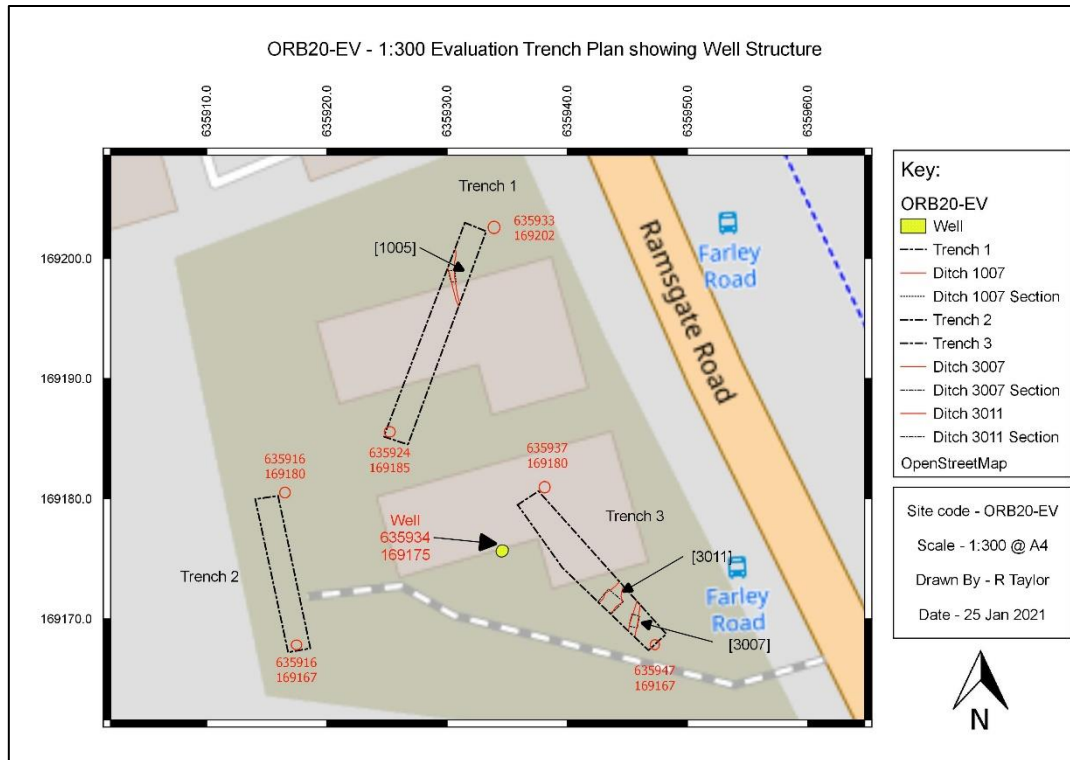


(Figure 35 – ORB20-EV Trench 3 looking east showing truncation in foreground due to building demolition)



### Addition Features – excluding trench excavations

- 7.24. During the demolition of the Orb Inn Public House, a circular brick-lined well cut into the natural chalk bedrock, mentioned in the Level 3 Building Survey<sup>4</sup>, was discovered. The Well structure was c.1.0m wide and c.11.0m deep.



(Figure 36 – ORB20-EV Trench Plan showing the location of Well)



(Figure 37 – Image of Well looking north)

<sup>4</sup> Birkbeck, F. & Taylor, R. *The Orb, 243 Ramsgate Road, Margate, Kent CT9 4EU Level 3 Building Recording Survey*, p38 (2020, Darnley Archaeological Services).

## Finds Summary

### Pottery

- 7.25. A small assemblage of Post-medieval pottery comprising a total of 6 sherds were recovered from 2 contexts on the site.

Context	No of Sherds	Date range	Description
1002	1	Late 19 <sup>th</sup> /early 20 <sup>th</sup>	(see <b>11.8</b> ) Glazed (green) stoneware jar - probably Staffordshire
2002	5	Late 19 <sup>th</sup> /early 20 <sup>th</sup>	(see <b>11.5</b> ) Range blue & white porcelain - various

(Table 1 – ORB20-EV Pottery Spot Dates and Descriptions)<sup>5</sup>

### Trench 1 – 1 sherd

- 7.26. One sherd of a green glaze stoneware jar and likely associated with the domestic/commercial activity of the Orb Inn Public House.

### Trench 2 – 5 sherds

- 7.27. Five sherds demonstrating a range of typical blue and white porcelain and likely associated with the domestic/commercial activity of the Orb Inn Public House.

### Flint

- 7.28. A small assemblage which, in the absence of any diagnostic pieces, is characterised as Late Prehistoric flintwork and burnt flint comprising a total of 10 pieces.

Context	No of Flints	Date range	Description
1008	2	Late Prehistoric	(See <b>11.2</b> – left & right) 2 flakes; blue/white with slight patination and a small amount of cortex; both exhibit striking platform and a large bulb of percussion typical of Bronze Age/Iron Age flintwork but characterised as Late Prehistoric
1008	1	Undetermined	(See <b>11.2</b> – centre) 1 flake; bullhead bed with slight patination and a small amount of cortex; heavily abraded; exhibits striking platform, bulb of percussion and bulb scar.
3006	1	Late Prehistoric	(See <b>11.1</b> – centre) 1 flake; blue/white with slight patination and a small amount of cortex; exhibits striking platform, bulb of percussion and bulb scar; further evidence of prior smaller flake removal on the dorsal side prior to removal from the core.
3006	1	Late Prehistoric	(See <b>11.1</b> – right) 1 small flake; bullhead bed white with slight patination and a small amount of cortex; exhibits striking platform and bulb of percussion.

<sup>5</sup> Draper, J. *Post-Medieval Pottery 1650-1800* (2001, Shire)

3006	1	Late Prehistoric	(See <b>11.1</b> – left) 1 flake; with slight patination and a small amount of cortex; exhibits striking platform, bulb of percussion and bulb scar; further evidence of prior smaller flake removal on the dorsal side prior to removal from the core.
3012	1	Late Prehistoric	(See <b>11.3</b> – left) 1 flake; blue/white no patination and a small amount of cortex; exhibits striking platform, bulb of percussion and bulb scar.
3012	1	Late Prehistoric	(See <b>11.3</b> – centre) 1 flake; blue/white slight patination and small amount of cortex; exhibits percussion ripples.
3012	1	Late Prehistoric	(See <b>11.3</b> – right) 1 flake; 1 flake; blue/white heavy patination; exhibits possible striking platform, bulb of percussion and bulb scar.
3012	1	Late Prehistoric	(See <b>11.4</b> ) Burnt flint.

(Table 2 – ORB20-EV Flint Descriptions)<sup>6</sup>

#### *Coins*

7.29. A single Victorian penny dated 1861 (see **11.6**) was recovered from (2002).

#### *Ceramic Building Material*

7.30. An assemblage of Kentish peg tile (see **11.7**) comprising 3 fragments were obtained from the interface between (3005) and (3006) and probably associated with the construction phase of the Orb Inn Public House.

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<sup>6</sup> Butler, C. *Prehistoric Flintwork* (2012, The History Press)

## 8. Discussion

- 8.1. It is considered that the trial trenches have identified a representative sample of the type, character, date and survival of archaeological features and deposits that exist on the site and the immediate vicinity. Generally, the standard sampling excavation techniques of digging, recording and artefact collection were effective with useful data obtained. Weather and ground conditions were good for machine work and hand excavation. However, access was compromised in areas due to the presence of demolition bunds and Tree Preservation Orders. Nevertheless, it is felt that all relevant archaeological levels, features and deposits at risk by the proposed development were satisfactorily recognised.

### *Prehistoric Evidence*

- 8.2. The earliest evidence on the site is assigned a Late Prehistoric date. This was represented by the ditch [1007] in Trench 1 and ditches [3007] and [3011] in Trench 3. Evidence for Late Prehistoric activity was represented by the probable worked flint recovered from secure fills (1008) in Trench 1 and (3012) in Trench 3, indicating that Late Prehistoric activity was present in the area.

### *Post-medieval Evidence*

- 8.3. Artefacts consistent with domestic/commercial activity of the Orb Inn Public House was evidence in all three trenches.

## **9. Conclusions**

- 9.1. The archaeological investigations have identified an archaeological resource present on the site. This includes features of Late Prehistoric date associated with what appears to be occupation. These features appear undisturbed by later activity of post-medieval date. They survive as features at depths of c.0.5m (21.8m AOD) in Trench 1 and c.1.3m (22.6m AOD) in Trench 3.
- 9.2. The archaeological policy of the planning authority is to seek to preserve at least 95% of archaeological deposits underneath a new development. These archaeological features will only be at risk by the proposed development if associated groundworks, including the excavation of foundations and service trenches impact on the archaeological resource. If impacted upon, the archaeological resource can be satisfactorily mitigated through the agreed archaeological condition for a watching brief.

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## 10. APPENDIX A – SITE IMAGES




Image	Number & Description
	<p><b>10.1</b></p> <p>Site looking northwest following demolition of the Orb Inn Public House and before trial trench excavations.</p>
	<p><b>10.2</b></p> <p>Trench 1, looking southwest at ditch [1007] in the foreground.</p>
	<p><b>10.3</b></p> <p>Trench 1, looking northeast; ditch [1007] in background.</p>









Image	Number & Description
	<p><b>10.4</b></p> <p>Trench 2 looking north with (2003) natural subsoil in the foreground and (2004) chalk bedrock in background.</p>
	<p><b>10.5</b></p> <p>Trench 2 looking south.</p>
	<p><b>10.6</b></p> <p>Trench 3, looking northwest at ditches [3007] and [3011] in the foreground.</p>

Image	Number & Description
	<p><b>10.7</b></p> <p>Trench 3, looking southeast across Orb Inn building/cellar demolition toward ditches [3007] and [3011] in background.</p>
	<p><b>10.8</b></p> <p>Drone image of Trench 1 showing excavated ditch [1007]</p>
	<p><b>10.9</b></p> <p>Drone image showing the covered location of well.</p>



## 11. APPENDIX B - FINDS IMAGES




Image	Number & Description
 <p>A photograph showing three Late Prehistoric Flint flakes from (3006) arranged horizontally. The flakes are dark grey to black with some lighter, yellowish-brown areas. Below the flakes is a scale bar with alternating black and red squares, labeled 'cm'.</p>	<p><b>11.1</b></p> <p>Late Prehistoric Flint flakes from (3006).</p>
 <p>A photograph showing three Late Prehistoric Flint flakes from (1008) arranged horizontally. The flakes are dark grey to black with some lighter, yellowish-brown areas. Below the flakes is a scale bar with alternating black and red squares, labeled 'cm'.</p>	<p><b>11.2</b></p> <p>Late Prehistoric Flint flakes from (1008).</p>
 <p>A photograph showing three Late Prehistoric Flint flakes from (3012) arranged horizontally. The flakes are dark grey to black with some lighter, yellowish-brown areas. Below the flakes is a scale bar with alternating black and red squares, labeled 'cm'.</p>	<p><b>11.3</b></p> <p>Late Prehistoric Flint flakes from (3012).</p>




Image	Number & Description
	<p><b>11.4</b></p> <p>Late Prehistoric burnt flint from (3012).</p>
	<p><b>11.5</b></p> <p>Selection of blue and white porcelain from (2002).</p>
	<p><b>11.6</b></p> <p>Victorian Penny dated 1861 from (2002).</p>

Image	Number & Description
 <p>The image shows two irregular, reddish-brown fragments of a Kentish peg tile. They are positioned above a scale bar that features alternating black and white squares, with a red section on the right labeled 'cm'.</p>	<p><b>11.7</b></p> <p>Kentish peg tile from the interface between (3005) and (3006)</p>
 <p>The image shows a single, irregular fragment of a green-glazed stoneware jar. It is positioned above a scale bar that features alternating black and white squares, with a red section on the right labeled 'cm'.</p>	<p><b>11.8</b></p> <p>Glazed (green) stoneware jar from (1002)</p>

## 12. APPENDIX C – CONTEXT REGISTER

Context No.	Trench	Type	Description	Depth
1001	1	Layer	Humic topsoil and equivalent to 1001.	100-200mm
1002	1	Layer	Subsoil – dirty brown sandy clay; numerous inclusions – brick, tile, glass and equivalent to 2002.	150-450mm
1003	1	Layer	Natural subsoil colluvium – orange/brown clayey silt and equivalent to 2003 & 3006.	250-800mm
1004	1	Layer	Bedrock – Margate Chalk Member and equivalent to 2004.	Undetermined
1005	1	Layer	Modern demolition rubble.	Undetermined
1006	1	Layer	Modern mulch – though to be a recent remnant of a bedding area of the Orb Inn public house	300-450mm
1007	1	Cut	Cut of ditch into Chalk bedrock (1004)	200mm
1008	1	Fill	Secondary fill of [1007] - brown silty clay containing chalk flecks and pieces.	175mm
1009	1	Fill	Primary fill of [1007] – grey silty clay.	25mm
2001	2	Layer	Humic topsoil and equivalent to 1001.	150-350mm
2002	2	Layer	Subsoil – dirty brown sandy clay; numerous inclusions – brick, tile, glass. Below 2001 and equivalent to 1002.	250-450mm
2003	2	Layer	Natural subsoil colluvium – orange/brown clayey silt and equivalent to 1003 & 3006.	100-250mm
3001	3	Layer	Modern tarmac	50mm
3002	3	Layer	Modern hardcore and sand	100-150mm
3003	3	Layer	Modern concrete and rubble	120mm
3004	3	Layer	Clinker spread	25-100mm
3005	3	Layer	Grey sand containing crushed chalk	30-100mm
3006	3	Layer	Natural subsoil colluvium – orange/brown clayey silt and equivalent to 1003 & 2003.	700-900mm
3007	3	Cut	Cut of ditch into 3006	230mm
3008	3	Fill	Fill of [3007] - a grey/brown sandy silt	230mm
3009	3	Layer	Modern demolition rubble and equivalent to 1005	Undetermined
3010	3	Layer	Grey sandy silt	5-80mm
3011	3	Cut	Cut of ditch into 3006	160mm
3012	3	Fill	Fill of [3011] - a grey/brown sandy silt	160mm