

2021

REPORT FOR AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF OF SIX GEOTECHNICAL TEST PITS AT 27-28 HIGH STREET, GRAVESEND, KENT DA11 0AZ



DARNLEY ARCHAEOLOGICAL SERVICES

27-28 High Street, Gravesend, Kent DA11
0AZ

Archaeological Watching Brief

Report reference: # DAS 0022-21

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Planning Reference: 20200412

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DAS Site Code: HSG21-WB



Report prepared for Jaipal Singh (Client)

By Darnley Archaeological Services Ltd Company, No 12320658

Report Number DAS 0021-21





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1. SUMMARY

- 1.1. An archaeological Watching Brief reporting on the findings of geotechnical test-pits carried out at 27-28 High Street, Gravesend, Kent DA11 0AZ, as part of Gravesham Borough Council planning application 20200412.
- 1.2. Evidence for a cellar below the present ground level of the retail shop floor is likely probable given the internal brickwork visible to a depth of c.1.0m as a continuation of the property's south wall, alongside the presence of backfill material to the same depth.

2. INTRODUCTION

- 2.1. An archaeological Watching Brief has been carried out on behalf of Jaipal Singh (client) on land at 27-28 High Street, Gravesend, Kent DA11 0AZ. The Watching Brief aimed to record the presence of any potential archaeological resource present on the site and an improved understanding of the below-ground stratigraphy. The site has planning permission (2020041) to demolish the existing building and the erection of a three-storey and four-storey building on the same footprint, to create one retail unit on the ground floor and five residential units above (3 x two bedroom and 2 x one bedroom).
- 2.2. The site is approximately 225m² and lies in Gravesend town centre adjacent to the Borough Market and the area known as the Heritage Quarter. High Street, Gravesend is the oldest part of the town centre and was the main road linking the old A2 to Gravesend Pier.
- 2.3. Post-Medieval archaeology associated with the building's earliest incarnation as commercial premises and other earlier Post-Medieval/Medieval archaeology is considered at potential risk by the proposed development.
- 2.4. The Watching Brief consisted of six geotechnical test pits, each measuring approximately 0.5m x 0.5m and to a depth where the natural bedrock was encountered¹. The Watching Brief aimed to record the presence of any potential archaeological resource present on the site. This work followed the Kent County Council's methodologies and guidelines 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).

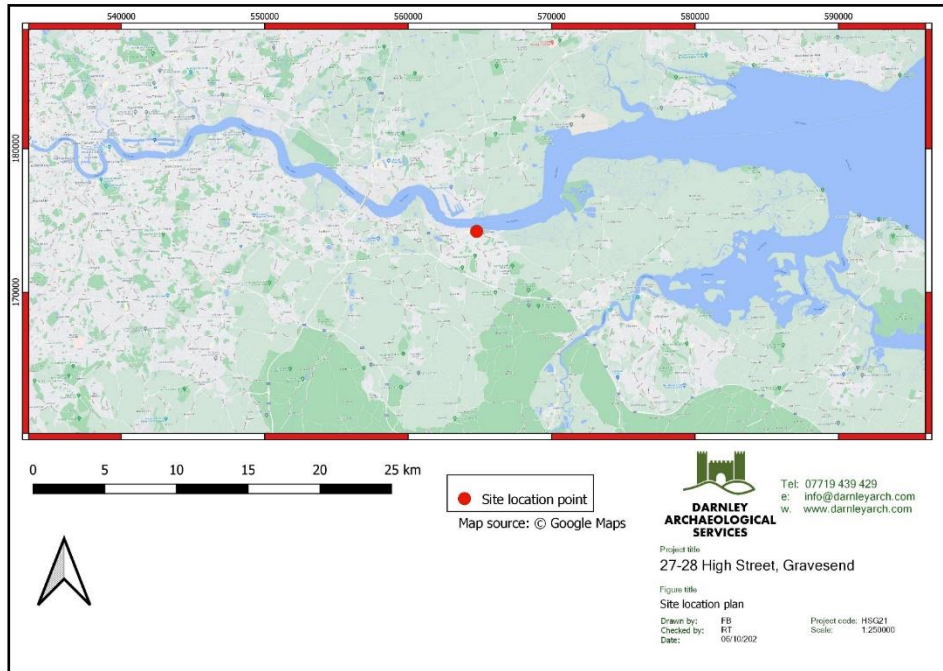
¹ Test Pit 2 did not encounter bedrock due to the presence of backfill material, believed to have filled a cellar when the present concrete floor was established.



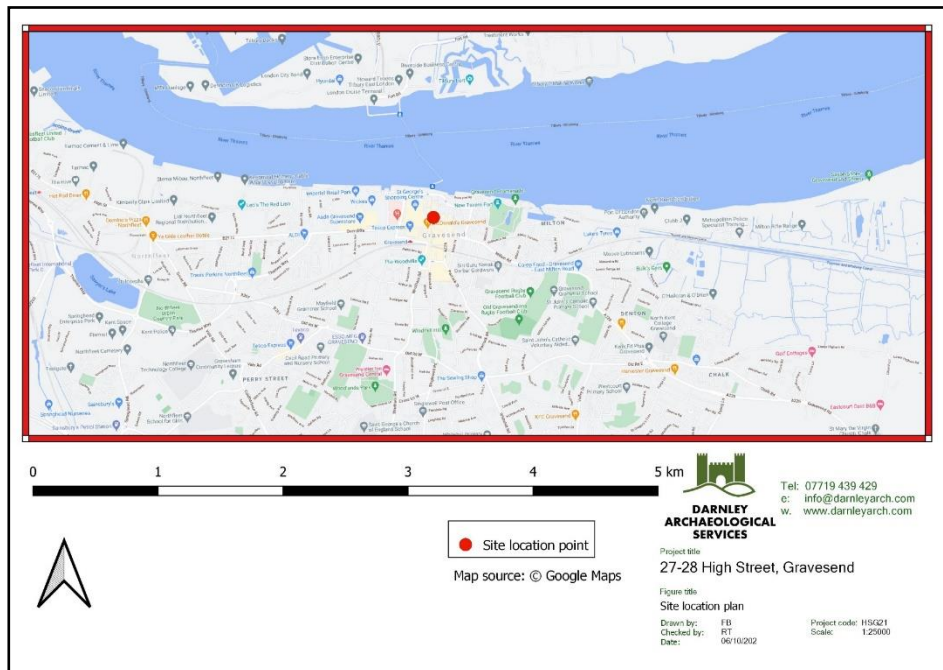


3. ARCHAEOLOGICAL & HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

3.1. The site is located on the east side of High Street, Gravesend, 300m northeast of Gravesend Railway Station, 130m southeast of St George's Church, 400m southwest of the Royal Terrace Pier and 650m northwest the Guru Nanak Darba Gurdwara (Figs 1 & 2).



(Fig 1 – 1:250000 HSG21-WB Site Location)



(Fig 2 – 1:25000 HSG21-WB Site Location)



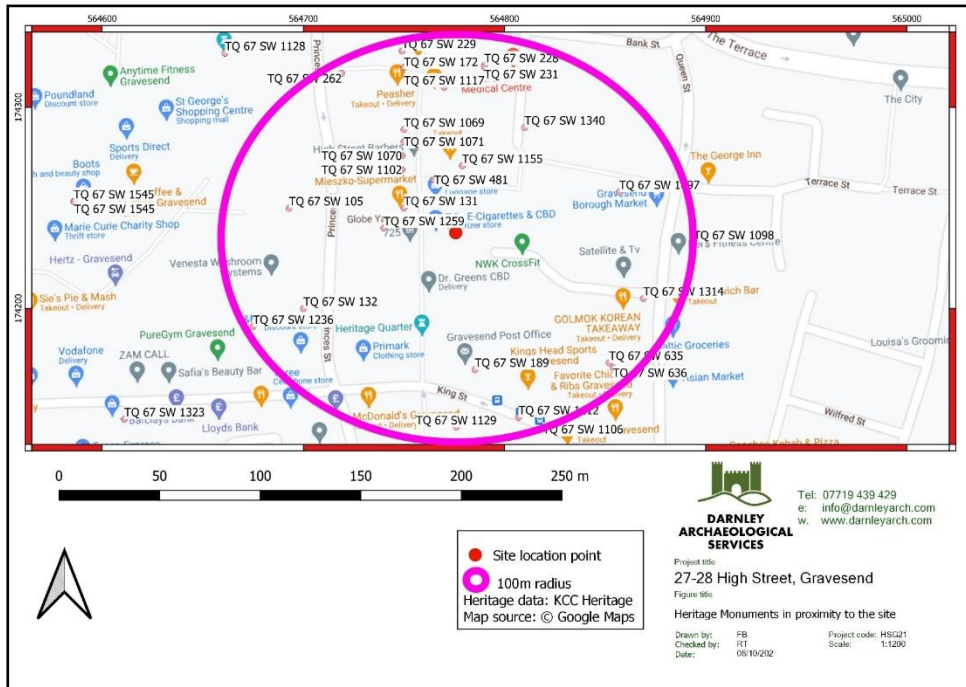
- 3.2. The site sits atop of bedrock of Lewes Nodular Chalk Formation, Seaford Chalk Formation and Newhaven Chalk Formation (undifferentiated) - Chalk. Sedimentary Bedrock formed approximately 72 to 94 million years ago in the Cretaceous Period. Local environment previously dominated by warm chalk seas.
- 3.3. The site is relatively level, with the site boundary at a consistent 17m (+/- 1m) aOD.
- 3.4. There are no known archaeological disturbances on site.
- 3.5. The archaeological Watching Brief aimed to undertake observation work of the six geotechnical test pits to better understand the ground's stratigraphic make-up and the presence of potential archaeological remains.
- 3.6. Under guidance from the Local Authority, the Watching Brief aimed to:
 - 3.6.1. Observe the stratigraphic make-up of the excavated ground within the six test pits;
 - 3.6.2. Determine the nature of any archaeological remains.
- 3.7. There were no constraints on the archaeological monitoring.
- 3.8. High Street Gravesend lies within the Conservation Area High Street and Queen Street, Gravesend (designated 16/01/1970) detailed study of the Kent Historic Environment Record database was undertaken to assist the written scheme of investigation (Figure 3). The following provides nearby entries on the HER with a brief description within a 100m radius assessment area:²

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





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(Fig 3 – 1:1200 HSG21-Nearby Heritage Assets)

Medieval/Post Medieval - the assessment area demonstrates several heritage assets associated with urban settlement. Remains of demolished buildings, cellars and post holes associated with earlier structures have been recorded along with many listed buildings. Excavation of buildings on the High Street has resulted in a better understanding of an older Gravesend.

TQ 67 SW 229	Four storey early 19th-century building. Fragments of earlier brickwork is visible in the basement cut into the natural chalk. The front comprises possible 18th-century brickwork with 2 1/4 inch bricks. At the rear, the fabric is of perhaps 17th century with 2-inch red bricks. The south wall of cellar is carved out of natural chalk of which a baulk survives at the rear. Long rectangular brick-lined basement. Now demolished.
TQ 67 SW 172	Gravesend Town. Medieval - 1066 AD to 1539 AD
TQ 67 SW 228	Observation on geotechnical test pits and boreholes recorded the presence of two cellars of 18th/19th century in date. Both were around 2.9m in depth and one still retained its barrel-vaulted ceiling aligned east to west. A distillery is shown on the 1st Ed OS map of the site.
TQ 67 SW 231	Site of distillery shown on the 1st Ed OS map. Cellars found during groundwork date to the 18th - 19th century were associated with buildings linked to the distillery: three deep-cut cellars, two brick-lined 19th-century cellars and one earlier cut directly into the natural chalk. Ceramic inclusions within the rubble backfill of the



	earlier cellar provided the only significant archaeological evidence and possible founding date, c.1660-1680, for the distillery.
TQ 67 SW 1117	The Kent Public House Listed Building (II) – 1089053: Early C19. 4 storeys stock brick. Two sashes with glazing bars intact. Late C19 bar front with panelled risers and left side passageway.
TQ 67 SW 1069	The Albion Public House Listed Building (II) – 1089056: C18. Three storeys painted brick. Parapet. 2 sashes with glazing bars intact. Contemporary bar front with pilasters and panelled risers. The rear elevation is weatherboarded and has a half-hipped tiled gable and two sashes with glazing bars intact. Nos 55 to 59 and 55A form a group
TQ 67 SW 1340	Old Town Hall National Fire Service Station Second World War National Fire Service Station in the Market Place area north of the Old Town Hall in Gravesend. This originated pre-war as a municipal fire station. It consisted of brick buildings to store a fire appliance, a hose drying tower and a temporary hut, and an open area to store sections of water pipe. This was, for a time, the parent site for other National Fire Service Action Stations across the district. The war service use originated in 1939 and lasted until 1945. Peacetime fire services were provided from a new fire station built in Windmill Street in 1942. The Market Place fire station was demolished post-war and has left no known traces.
TQ 67 SW 1071	Listed Building (II) – 1089055: Nos. 57 and 58 High Street, C18. Three storeys stuccoed. Parapet. One dormer. 2 sashes with glazing bars intact to 2nd floor only set in moulded architraves with cornice and brackets to 1st floor. Modern shopfront. This was formerly part of the Albion Public House. Nos 55 to 59 and 55A form a group.
TQ 67 SW 1070	Listed Building (II) - 1367124: No. 56 High Street, C18. Three storeys painted brick. Parapet and dropped moulded eaves cornice. 2 sashes with glazing bars intact. Modern shopfront. This was formerly part of the Albion Public House.
TQ 67 SW 1155	Listed Building (II*) – 1054761: The Town Hall, Main construction periods 1836 to 1883. Townhall (19thc). Second World War air-raid siren on the roof of the Old Town Hall, High Street, Gravesend. This was part of the arrangements to warn the community of an impending air raid and give the all-clear. It was probably installed in 1939 and would have been decommissioned in 1945. The siren was removed post-war, perhaps by 1946. Summary from record TQ 67 SW 1320: Second World War Civil Defence Control Centre at the former early 19th century Police Station in a suite of rooms at the Old Town Hall in the High Street, Gravesend. This was for the coordination of rescue and other emergency services within Gravesend in the event of an air raid. It appears to have been established by around May 1939 and to have continued until



	<p>1941. The nature of any adaptation to the premises is unknown. There is nothing obvious to be seen today. The premises are now used as a local history museum.</p> <p>Description from record TQ 67 SW 1301: Second World War air raid siren mounted on the roof of the Old Town Hall, High Street in Gravesend. This was part of the arrangements to warn the community of an impending air raid and give the all-clear once the raiders had passed. There was a control unit on the ground floor of the Town Hall. The siren was probably installed in 1939 and appeared to have been placed behind the top of the classical pediment of the Town Hall. It would have been decommissioned by the end of the Second World War in Europe in 1945. The siren was subsequently removed at an uncertain date post-war but perhaps in 1946. It is not known whether its fixings survive.</p>
TQ 67 SW 1102	<p>Listed Building (II) – 1089054: Nos. 55 and 55A High Street, An early to mid C19 corner building. 4 storeys stuccoed. Parapet. Long and short quoins. 2 sashes with verticals only set in Italianate surrounds. 2nd-floor windows have cambered heads, 1st-floor windows have cornices above. A similar window is set in the rounded corner—a modern shopfront. The Jury Street elevation also has two sashes and a two-storey extension matching style with a round-headed doorcase, No 55A. Nos 55 to 59 and 55A form a group.</p>
TQ 67 SW 481	<p>Listed Building (II) – 1393707: Two k6 telephone kiosks outside the old Town Hall. The K6 is a standardised design made of cast iron, painted red overall with long horizontal glazing in door and sides and with the crowns situated on the top panels being applied not perforated. There are rectangular white display signs reading TELEPHONE beneath the shallow curved roof. These kiosks have modernised internal equipment.</p> <p>The kiosks are in good condition, situated within the immediate vicinity of the Grade II* listed Old Town Hall. One is located to the far right of the front elevation, acting as a focal point terminating the view east along Jury Street, and the other is located under the portico of the Old Town Hall.</p>
TQ 67 SW 1097	<p>Listed Building (II) – 1089035: Statue of Queen Victoria in Borough Market House. Dated 1698 (sic). J Broad was the sculptor. A standing stone statue with full imperial regalia on a stone plinth.</p>
TQ 67 SW 105	<p>Congregational Church, Princes Street, Gravesend. Built in 1717 and closed in 1953, the building was demolished in 1961. Shown on the Ordnance Survey maps; 1862-1875, 1897-1900, 1907-1923, 1929-1952.</p>
TQ 67 SW 131	<p>No. 43 High Street – Excavated Feature: Pits containing Medieval and Post Medieval pottery and metalware. (1) Excavations at No.43 High Street, Gravesend, in 1963 uncovered five pits of varying depth in an area behind a cobbler's shop. The pits</p>





	<p>produced many vessels, from storage vessels to jugs and tankards ranging from the thirteenth to the eighteenth century in date. From the evidence, it would appear that the site had been in continuous occupation from the thirteenth century, with very extensive occupation in the seventeenth century until the present day. From the pottery evidence, it was possible to approximately date the rubbish pits as Pit No.1 c.1590 - c.1770 No.2 c.1790 - c.1830 No.3 c.1790 and finally filled c.1850 No.4? and filled c.1860 No.5? and filled when the basement was dug c.1845.</p>
TQ 67 SW 1259	<p>High Street Second World War public air raid shelter, 49/50 High Street. Second World War public air raid shelter in shop premises at 49/50 High Street, Gravesend, probably established in 1939/40 and decommissioned by the end of the war in Europe, in 1945. Design and form are unknown. The shop survives.</p>
TQ 67 SW 132	<p>Post-medieval rubbish pits. Excavations at the premises of Messers Chiesman in 1961 -1962. Several post-medieval rubbish pits were found. One of which contained a complete George III chamber pot.</p>
TQ 67 SW 1314	<p>Brewhouse Yard Second World War air-raid shelter, Gravesend. Second World War air-raid shelter at 1 Brewhouse Yard, Gravesend. This was probably in the basement and would have originated c. 1939/40, decommissioned by 1945. The basement is thought still to exist.</p>
TQ 67 SW 1236	<p>British Home Stores Second World War air-raid shelter, New Road, Gravesend. Second World War public air raid shelter, established in 1939 in the basement of British Home Stores, 5-10 New Road, Gravesend. Details of this are unknown. The basement is thought still to exist but is not accessible to visitors.</p>
TQ 67 SW 635	<p>Post holes at 3-5 Queen Street, Gravesend. Three post holes were observed during an evaluation at 3-5 Queen Street, Gravesend by SWAT Archaeology in June 2011, on land designated for a small block of flats.</p>
TQ 67 SW 189	<p>Site of the National School, King Street, Gravesend. Location of the National School, King Street. The Free School, founded in 1580, was united with the National School. In 1835 a new building was erected on the site in King Street.</p>
TQ 67 SW 1112	<p>Listed Building (II) – 1240061: K2 Telephone Kiosk outside Crown Courts. Designed 1927 by Sir Giles Gilbert Scott. Made by various contractors. Cast iron. Square kiosk with a domed roof. Unperforated crowns to top panels and margin glazing to windows and door.</p>
TQ 67 SW 1129	<p>Listed Building (II) – 1366592: No. 30 King Street. Grade II listed building. Main construction periods 1889 to 1889</p>



4. METHODOLOGY

- 4.1. All work was undertaken following the methods set out within the WSI³, according to best practice as set out by ClfA.
- 4.2. The archaeological Watching Brief work comprised six test-pits to understand the stratigraphic make-up of the ground better and for the presence of potential archaeological remains during the test-pit excavations.
- 4.3. The assessment area demonstrates several Medieval and Post Medieval heritage assets associated with urban settlement. Remains of demolished buildings, cellars and post holes associated with earlier structures have been recorded along with many listed buildings. Excavation of buildings on the High Street has resulted in a better understanding of an older Gravesend. Therefore, the probability of locating Medieval or Post Medieval buried archaeology or associated artefacts were considered **medium-high** in the WSI.
- 4.4. The Watching Brief aimed to:
 - **Ensure that the geotechnical test-pit excavations are observed and that features of archaeological interest are correctly examined and recorded.**
- 4.5. The objectives of this development project are to:
 - **View & record excavation of the test-pits stratigraphic make-up.**
- 4.6. Excavation areas were set out according to the plans (Figs 5 & 6).

³ Birkbeck, F. & Taylor, R., 2021, *Written Scheme of Investigation for an Archaeological Watching Brief at 27-28 High Street, Gravesend DA11 0AZ* (Darnley Archaeological Services Ltd)





(Fig 4 – 1:500 HSG21-WB Site Location)

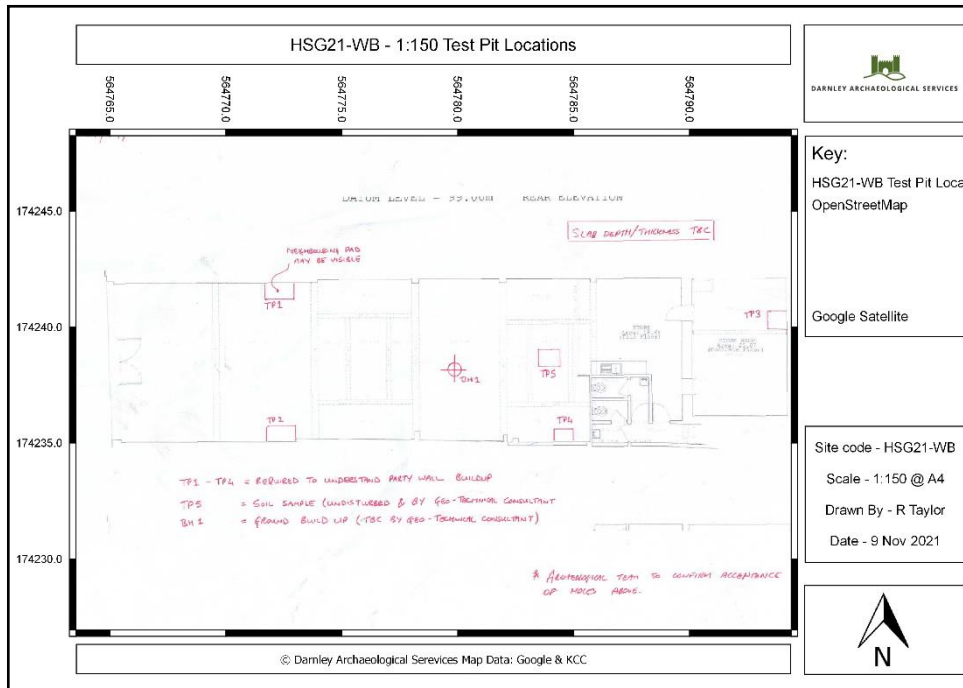
Excavation

- 4.7. All test-pits were excavated using a pneumatic drill to break the surface concrete and, for the ground below, hand tools were used, with an archaeologist present.

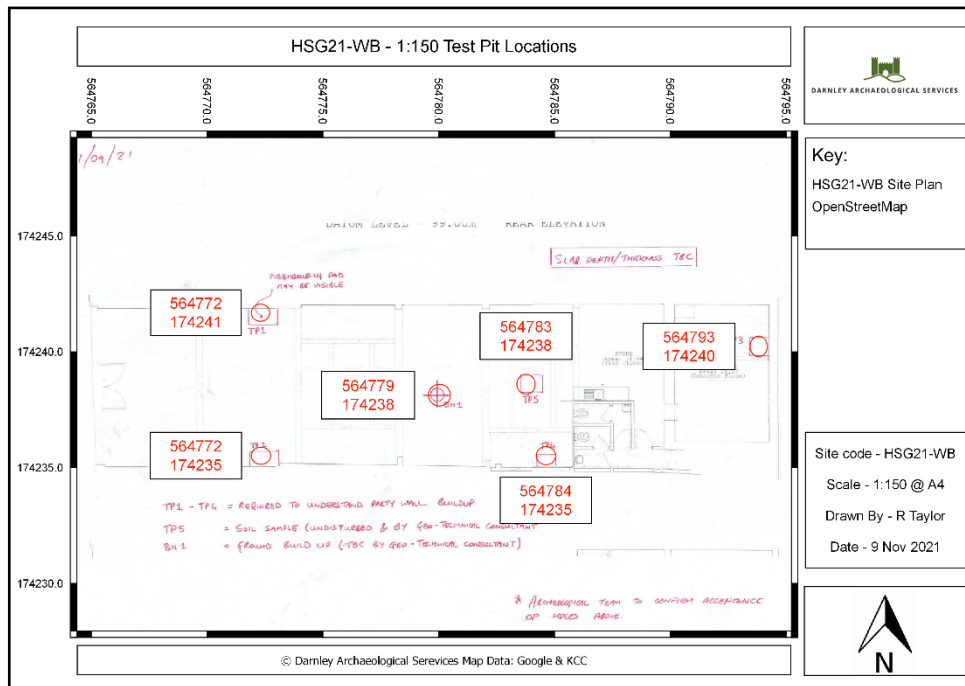


5. RESULTS

5.1. The observations comprised a series of geotechnical test-pits excavated to understand the ground's stratigraphic make-up and the presence of potential archaeological remains during the excavations. The site area is approximately 225m², of which 1.5m² was excavated as the test pits. A better understanding of the below-ground stratigraphy was realized, along with the likelihood of a backfilled cellar, which probably formed part of the original eighteenth-century building.



(Fig 5 – 1:150 HSG21-WB Test Pit Locations)



(Fig 6 – 1:1500 HSG21-WB Test Pit Co-ordinates)



(Figs 7 & 8 – HSG21-WB Test Pit 1 Location on the left, Test Pit 2 Location on the right)

5.2. The archaeological feature encountered was a cellar, likely present along the south wall and stretching the entire length of the original eighteenth-century building footprint.

5.3. A total of three phases associated with the site were established during the excavation:

Phase 1 = Geological

Phase 2 = Post-Medieval/Modern (c.1800 to 1980 AD)

Phase 3 = Modern (after c.1980 AD)

5.4. No significant archaeological remains were discovered, though the probable evidence for a cellar structure below the modern concrete floor is compelling. The final plan of the completed groundworks is shown in Fig 6.



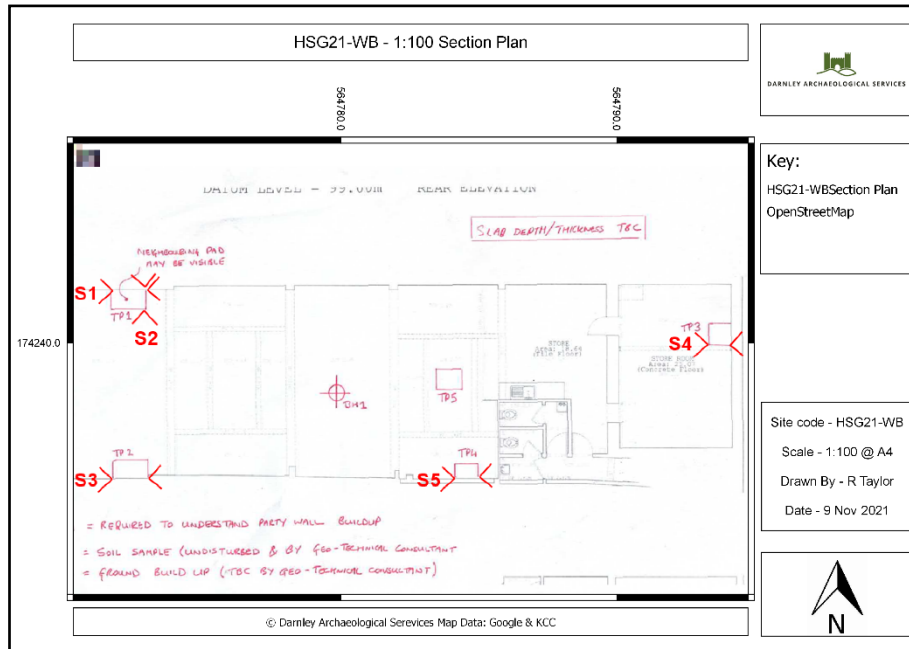
5.5. During the excavation of the six geotechnical test pits, a total of seventeen contexts over three phases were investigated and recorded (Table 1):

Context List (MPAL21-WB)				
Context No.	Test Pit	Type	Description	Phase
1001	1, 2, 4, 5 & 6	Structure	Modern tile surface	3
1002	1 & 2	Structure	Modern tile surface	3
1003	1,2,5 & 6	Structure	Concrete surface	3
1004	1, 2 & 5	Layer	Rubble backfill	3
1005	1	Structure	Concrete surface	2
1006	1,3, 4,5 & 6	Layer	Chalk bedrock	1
1007	1	Structure	Water (Pb) pipe	2
1008	2	Structure	South wall of property	2
1009	2	Structure	Electricity Cable	2
1010	2	Structure	Gas pipe	2
1011	2	Structure	Water pipe	2
1012	1	Structure	North wall of property	2
1013	3	Structure	Concrete surface	3
1014	3	Structure	Cork blocks	3
1015	3	Layer	Brown sandy clay	2
1016	4	Structure	Concrete	3
1017	4	Structure	South wall – later extension of 1008	3

(Table 1 – HSGL21-WB Context List)

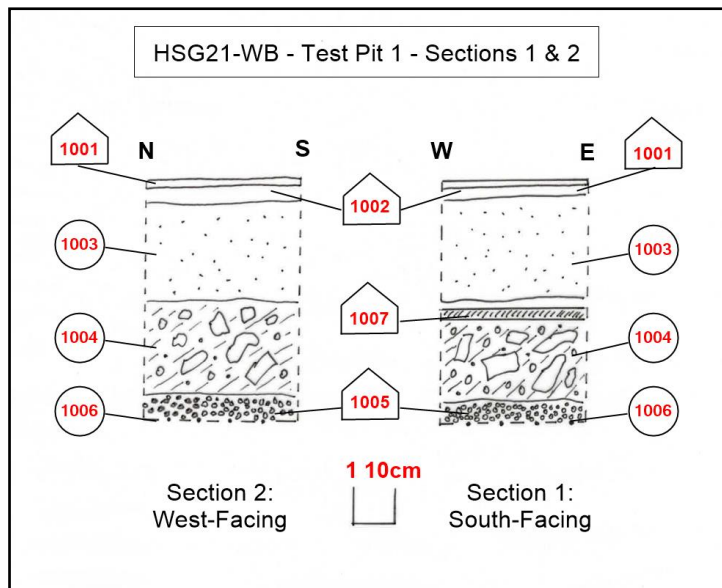
5.6. The groundworks comprised a series of test pits measuring approximately 0.5m x 0.5m to a depth where natural bedrock was encountered or, in the case of test pit 2, it was unsafe to excavate further than 1.0m depth. Sections 1-5, demonstrating the stratigraphy of the seventeen contexts, are mapped in Fig 9.





(Fig 9 – 1:100 HSG21-WB Section Plan)

5.7. Sections 1 & 2 (Figs 10 & 11) illustrates 0.07m of 1001, a cream-coloured modern floor tile and likely a previous surface of the shop floor. 1001 sits/bonded over 1002, c.0.25m of a green calcite-based decorative floor tile (12.2). Like 1001, 1002 is likely to have been a previous surface of the shop floor. Below 1002 lies 1003, 0.25m of concrete floor base. 1003 sits above 1004, c.0.2m of a dark grey backfill material composed of brick, flint and ceramic pieces in a dark sandy matrix. Visible in section, and seemingly surrounded by the deposition of 1004, is 1007, a lead water pipe, probably dating from after c.1945. Below 1004 is 1005, c.0.07m of a course concrete composed of bonded pebble, pea shingle and small flint fragments (12.1). 1005 is laid atop of 1006, the natural chalk bedrock.



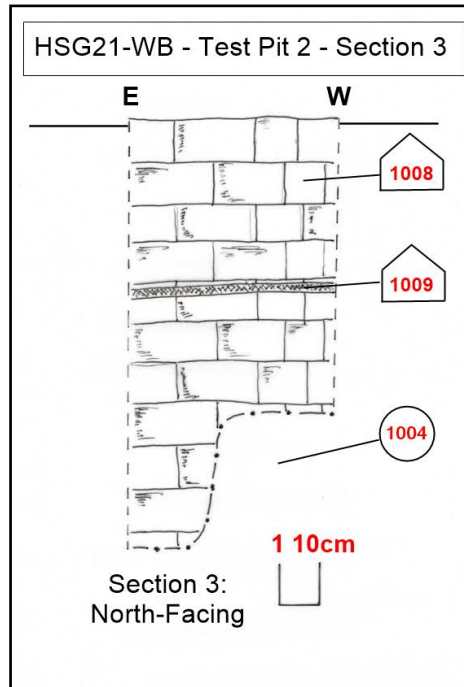
(Fig 10 – Sections 1 & 2)



(Fig 11 – Looking north at Section 2)

5.8. Section 3 illustrates 0.07m of 1001, a cream-coloured modern floor tile and likely a previous surface of the shop floor. 1001 sits/bonded over 1002, c.0.25m of a green calcite-based decorative floor tile. Like 1001, 1002 is likely to have been a previous surface of the shop floor. Below 1002 lies 1003, 0.25m of concrete floor base. 1003 sits above 1004, shown to a depth of c.1.0m, of a dark grey backfill material composed of brick, flint and ceramic pieces in a dark sandy matrix. Upon removal, 1004 exposed 1008, the south wall of the building. 1008 displayed as faced interior brickwork, which likely continues below the excavated depth of 1.0m and suggests the presence of a cellar wall (**11.4 & 11.5**). Furthermore, 1008 appears filled by 1004, onto which 1003 was laid to form a new shop floor/surface. Judging by the style of 1002, this was likely carried out c.1980 AD. An electricity cable (1009) was visible at 0.45m, below 1003 and surrounded by 1004.





(Fig 12 – Section 3)



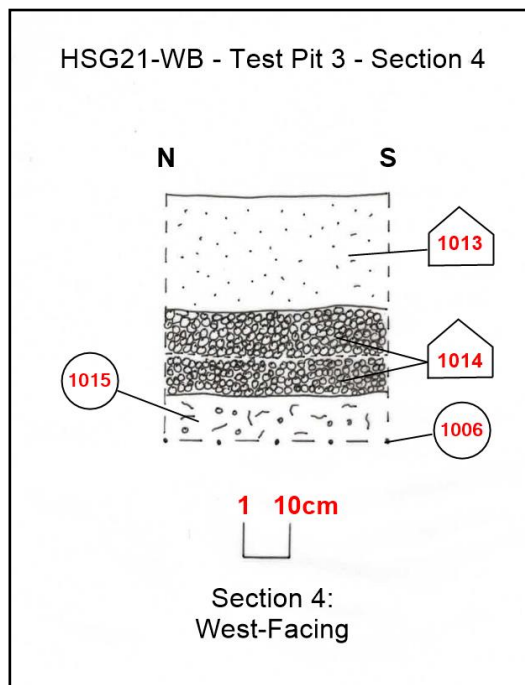
(Fig 13 – Looking south at Section 3)





(Fig 14 – Oblique view of Section 3 showing internal-faced brickwork of 1008 to a depth of c.1.0m and backfill 1004 abutting the likely cellar wall)

5.9. Section 4 illustrates 0.25m of 1013, a grey concrete, softer than 1003. 1013 sits above two layers of cork tiling (1014) coated in bitumen. Under 1014 is 1015, a friable, light brown sandy clay, 0.08m in depth. Below 1015 is the natural chalk bedrock, 1006.



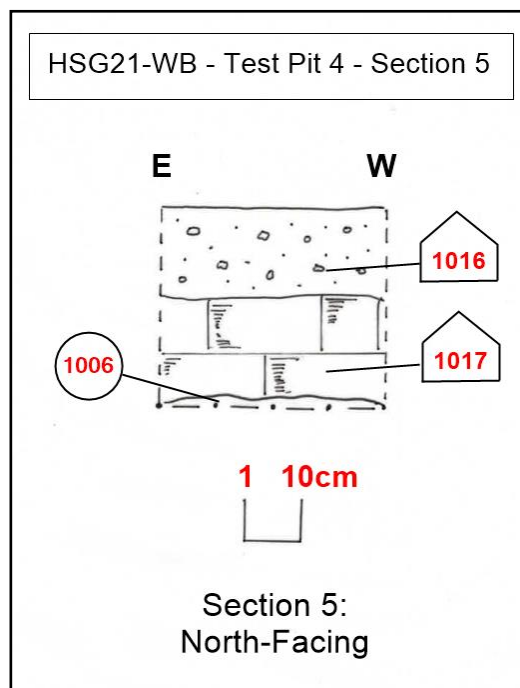
(Fig 15 – Section 4)





(Fig 16 – Looking east at Section 4)

5.10. Section 5 illustrates 0.15m of 1016, a modern concrete surface, different to 1003. 1016 abuts 1017, a brick wall, thought to be a later extension eastward of 1008. 0.2m of 1017 is visible in section and is cut into 1006 at some stage, though no foundation cut was visible in test pit 4. Chalk rubble probably provided an infill to surround the wall in the foundation cut. Therefore, the chalk visible in Fig 17 may be infill but felt firm under troweling, so catalogued as 1006.



(Fig 17 – Section 5)





(Fig 18 – Looking south at Section 5)

5.11. Test pit 5 and borehole 1 was excavated to a depth that allowed mechanical core samples to be taken. This will provide detailed information of the stratigraphy to a depth of c.4.0m. Test pit 5 (borehole 2) illustrates a similar stratigraphic sequence to test pit 4: c.0.2m of a modern concrete surface, different to 1003, sits above 0.25m of 1015. 1015 sits above 1006, the chalk bedrock.



(Fig 19 – Looking overhead test pit 5 / borehole 2)

5.12. Borehole 1 proved interesting and displayed similar stratigraphy to test pit 2: 0.07m of 1001, a cream-coloured modern floor tile and likely a previous surface of the shop floor. 1001 sits/bonded over 1003, 0.25m of concrete floor base. 1003 sits above 1004, shown to





an undetermined depth once the coring had begun, suggesting borehole 1 is sited over where the cellar extends toward the rear of the original c.1800 AD building footprint.



(Fig 20 – Looking overhead borehole 1)





6. FINDS

6.1. A small number of finds were recovered during the watching brief with a probable date range of c.1800 to 1980 AD, all characteristic of the site's use as commercial premises.

6.2. A representative sample of 1002, a green calcite rich floor tile.

Context	No of pieces	Date range	Description
1002	1	Modern	Floor tile (12.2)

6.3. A representative sample of 1005, a rudimentary concrete surface or floor.

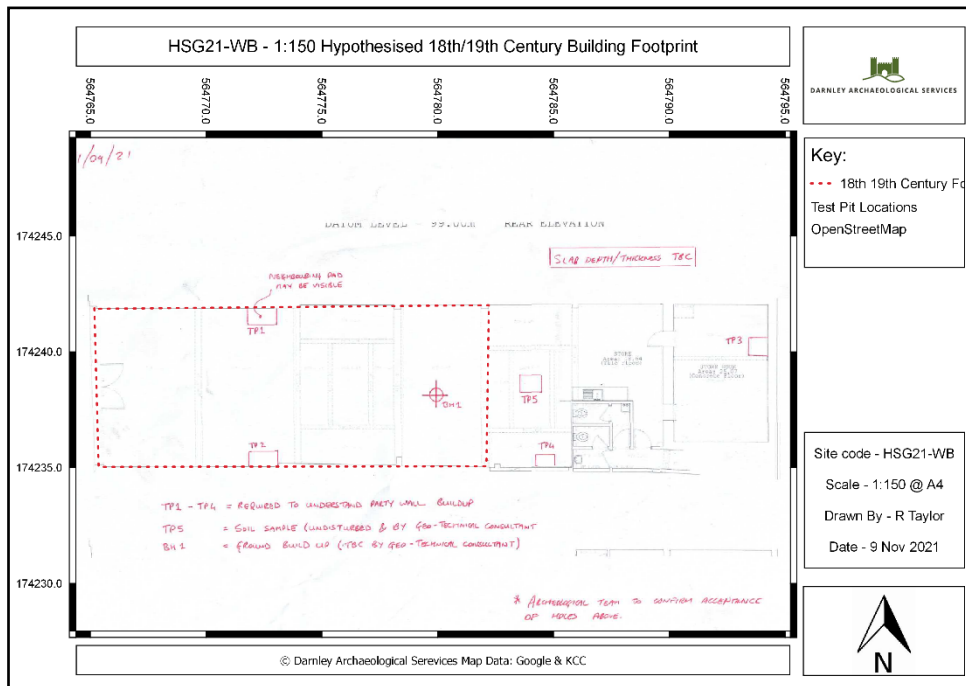
Context	No of pieces	Date range	Description
1005	1	c.1800-1850 AD	Fragment of early concrete surface (bonded pea shingle, irregular pebbles and small flint pieces) (12.1)





7. INTERPRETATION

- 7.1. The results of the watching brief for six geotechnical test pits revealed phasing and a stratigraphic sequence for the site's past from c.1800 AD to the present day, confirming use as commercial premises on Gravesend's historic High Street.
- 7.2. The test pits provided an improved understanding of the below-ground stratigraphy, along with the probable discovery of a backfilled cellar, which probably formed part of the original eighteenth/nineteenth-century building. Furthermore, test pits 3 and 4 indicated a relatively recent concrete floor overlaying a thin layer of silty clay covering the chalk bedrock, all of which imply this area was likely outside (to the rear of the early building footprint).
- 7.3. The below-ground stratigraphic sequences suggest that the building has likely been extended at the rear (east) in recent years (c.1980 AD). The original 18th/19th- century building footprint is thus hypothesized below:



(Fig 21 – Hypothesized 18th/19th Century Building Footprint)

- 7.4. In terms of remaining period features, toward the interior of the eastern end of the 18th/19th-century building, there is a deep ceiling coving constructed of lathe plasterwork, which may be contemporary with the building's construction and can be seen in Fig 22.



(Fig 22 – Lathe plasterwork exposed in-ceiling coving)

7.5. A study of HER records in Section 3 that discuss excavations along Gravesend's High Street that also mention cellars or basements indicate similar findings to the evidence observed at 27-28 Hight Street:

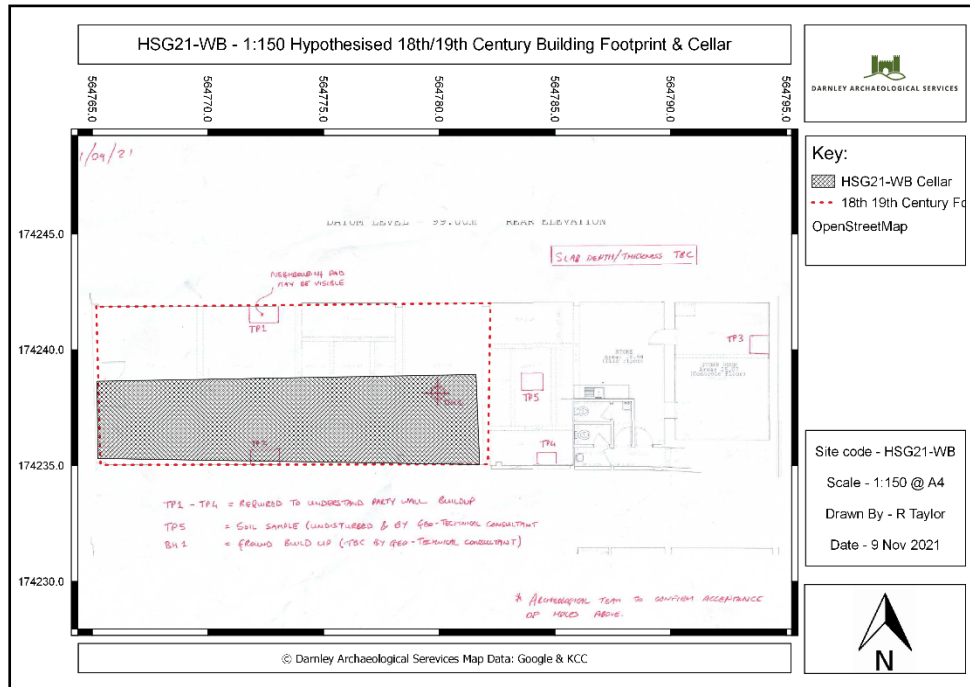
- TQ67SW229 – 67 High Street: *South wall of cellar is carved out of natural chalk of which a baulk survives at the rear...long rectangular brick-lined basement.*
- TQ67SW228 – 16-19 Hight Street: *Observation on geotechnical test pits and boreholes recorded the presence of two cellars of 18th/19th century in date. Both were around 2.9m in depth and one still retained its barrel-vaulted ceiling aligned east-west.*
- TQ67SW231 – Site of Gravesend Medical Centre: *Three deep-cut cellars, two brick-lined 19th-century cellars and one earlier cut directly into the natural chalk.*

7.6. Considering the observations mentioned in 7.3, there are obvious comparisons with similar construction methods having been employed at 27-28 High Street:

- Cellar carved out of natural chalk
- Long rectangular brick-lined cellar, based on observations from test pit 2 and borehole 1.

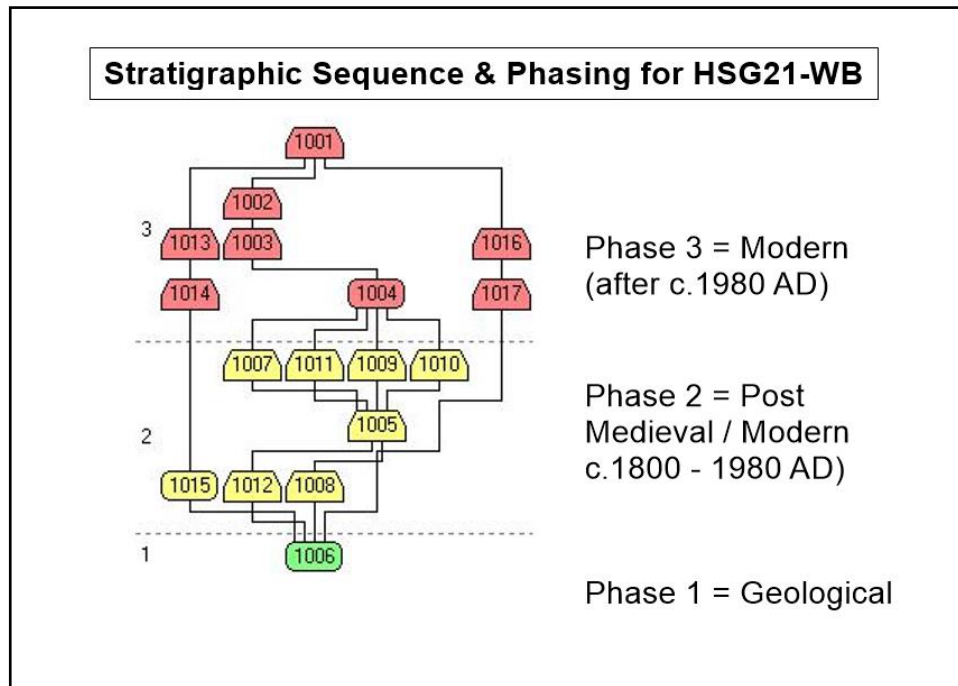
7.7. On this basis, and considering the evidence of the more recent extensions to the building, the original 18th/19th-century building footprint & cellar construction are hypothesized below:





(Fig 23 – Hypothesized 18th/19th Century Building Footprint & Cellar Projection)

7.8. The following stratigraphic sequence summarises the phasing of the site:



(Fig 24 – HSG21-WB Stratigraphic Sequence)



8. CONCLUSION

- 8.1. The Watching Brief has fulfilled the KCC Watching Brief Specification aims and objectives and the Written Scheme of Investigation. The geotechnical test pits and boreholes demonstrated a stratigraphic sequence (Fig 24), enhancing the knowledge of the site in its wider historic urban setting. A possible 18th/19th-century cellar was discovered, so the potential for further significant Post-Medieval or Medieval archaeological features to be present during field evaluation works are considered **medium to high**.
- 8.2. The proposed development may also impact any below-ground archaeological remains at the site, so the implementation of further archaeological evaluation work requires careful planning.

9. ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

- 9.1. Sincere thanks are extended to the client and groundworks crew for permission to access the site and their patience during the archaeological process.

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11. APPENDIX A – SITE IMAGES







Image	Description
	<p>11.1</p> <p>Looking east at the position of test pit 5 (background) and borehole 1 (foreground).</p>
	<p>11.2</p> <p>Looking west across the retail shop floor after test pit excavation – test pit 5 in the foreground.</p>
	<p>11.3</p> <p>Looking west at test pit 4.</p>







Image	Description
	<p>11.4</p> <p>Overhead view of test pit 2 showing three utilities covered by concrete surface 1003 and looking onto backfill 1004 below. The brick-lined cellar is visible as a continuation of the south wall (1008) in the background.</p>
	<p>11.5</p> <p>Looking south at a close-up of the brick-lined cellar with backfill (1004) on the right.</p>
	<p>11.6</p> <p>Looking south at test pit 4 before removal of excess concrete covering south wall later extension (1017).</p>





12. APPENDIX B - FINDS IMAGES

Image	Description
	<p>12.1</p> <p>Fragment of early concrete surface (1005), c.1800 – 1850 AD, composed of bonded pea shingle, irregular pebbles, and small flint pieces.</p>
	<p>12.2</p> <p>Fragment of modern green calcite rich floor tile (1002), c.1980 AD.</p>

