

2021

REPORT FOR AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF AT THE GEORGE INN, CHURCH STREET, SHOREHAM, KENT



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George Inn, Church Street, Kent
Archaeological Watching Brief
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Planning Reference: 20/03465 & 20/03466

NGR: TQ 5218 6158

DAS Site Code: TGS21-WB



Report prepared for Simon Greenwood (Client)

By Darnley Archaeological Services Ltd Company, No 12320658

Report Number DAS 0016-21



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Component:	Name:	Date:
Report prepared by:	Richard Taylor	14 May 2021
Illustrations prepared by:	Darnley Archaeological Services	
Report edited by:	Fred Birkbeck	31 May 2021
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1. SUMMARY

- 1.1. An archaeological watching brief reporting on the demolition of modern buildings attached to the George Inn, Church Street, Shoreham, followed by the stripping of c.0.5m of site build-up, enabling the excavation of an L-shaped linear trench and post pad pits in preparation for the erection of an extension building.
- 1.2. Archaeological features were identified during the archaeological work. The majority of which related to the building's past as a public house (c.1832 – 2020 AD) and further evidence revealing artefacts of an earlier phase of medieval activity on the site.

2. INTRODUCTION

- 2.1. An archaeological watching brief has been carried out on behalf of Simon Greenwood (client) on land occupied by the George Inn, a Grade II public house on Church Street, Shoreham. The George Inn comprises a large, two-storey detached building, which serves as a pub. The ancillary to the pub building is a large, single-storey outbuilding, an enclosed yard and a seating area to the front of the building.
- 2.2. The watching brief aimed to record the presence of any potential archaeological resource present on the site. The site has planning permission for the refurbishment and alteration of the pub includes (though not exclusively) the following:
 - demolition of the existing toilet block
 - relocation of the kitchen to the existing outbuilding
 - formation of a new covered dining area within the rear yard with direct connection to the existing pub and new kitchen facilities
 - use of yard as garden / outdoor customer area
 - conversion of the outbuilding to a small external bar
- 2.3. The groundworks site is approximately 220 metres squared, centred on TQ 5218 6158 and lies to the south of Church Street, Shoreham.
- 2.4. The archaeological watching brief consisted of the demolition of an existing toilet block, stripping approximately 0.5m of site build-up away to enable the excavation of an L-shaped trench and post pad pits in preparation for the erection of a covered dining area, which was observed to evaluate the potential for archaeological remains. This work followed the Kent County Council's methodologies 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).
- 2.5. No archaeology is considered at risk by the proposed development. It is the view of this report that, whilst there is artefact evidence for earlier Medieval occupation of the site, no in-situ structural remains from this period are evident.



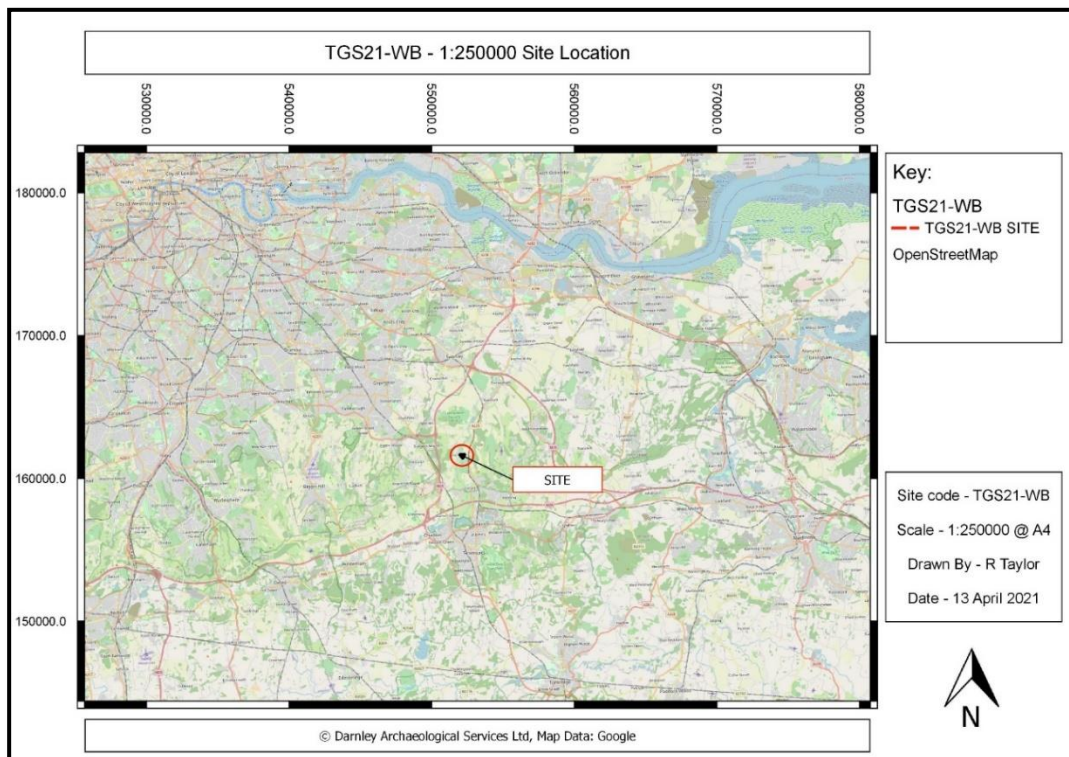
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- 2.6. This report represents the results of this watching brief. The work was commissioned by Simon Greenwood and carried out by Darnley Archaeological Services Ltd over three days in May 2021.



3. ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND

- 3.1. The George Inn site is a Grade II listed building and grounds, most recently used as a public house located at Church Street in the village of Shoreham and the Sevenoaks District and lies within the Shoreham Conservation Area (Fig 4). The site is 2.4km due north of the village of Otford, approximately 1.7km due east of the M25 motorway, about 3.6km south of the village of Eynsford and approximately 5.3km west of the village of West Kingsdown (Figs 1 & 2).



(Fig 1 – TGS21-WB 1:250000 Site Location)



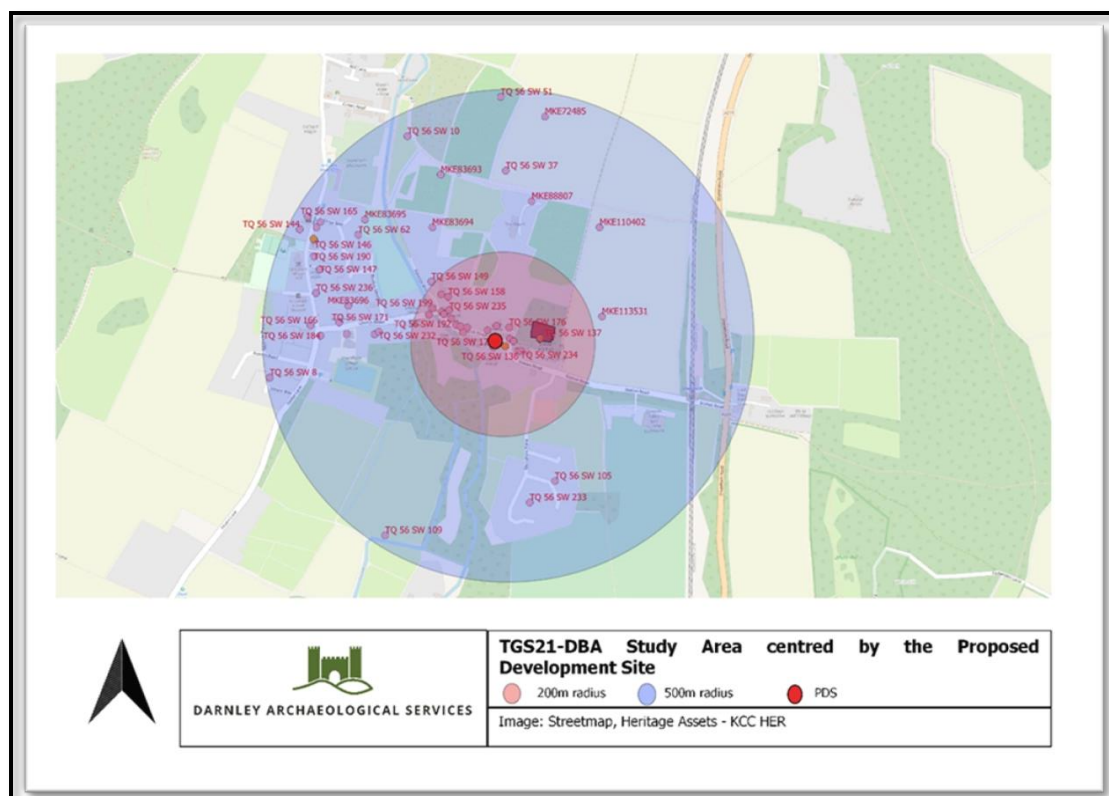
(Fig 2 – MP21-WB 1:25000 Site Location)

- 3.2. The site is on top of alluvium of clay, silt, sand, and gravel. These superficial deposits formed up to 2 million years ago sit on top of the Holywell Nodular Chalk Formation - Chalk. Sedimentary Bedrock formed approximately 90 to 101 million years ago in the Cretaceous Period. Local environment previously dominated by warm chalk seas (British Geological Survey, 2021).¹
- 3.3. The site is relatively level at a consistent 56m (+/- 1m) aOD with the site boundary.
- 3.4. There are no known archaeological disturbances on the site.
- 3.5. The archaeological watching brief aimed to undertake observation work to determine the presence of potential archaeological remains that may survive on the site.
- 3.6. Under guidance from the Local Authority, the aim for the watching brief was:
- 3.6.1. **Ensure that the planned excavations at the site are observed and that features of archaeological interest are correctly examined and recorded, as per planning applications 20/03465 & 20/03466.**

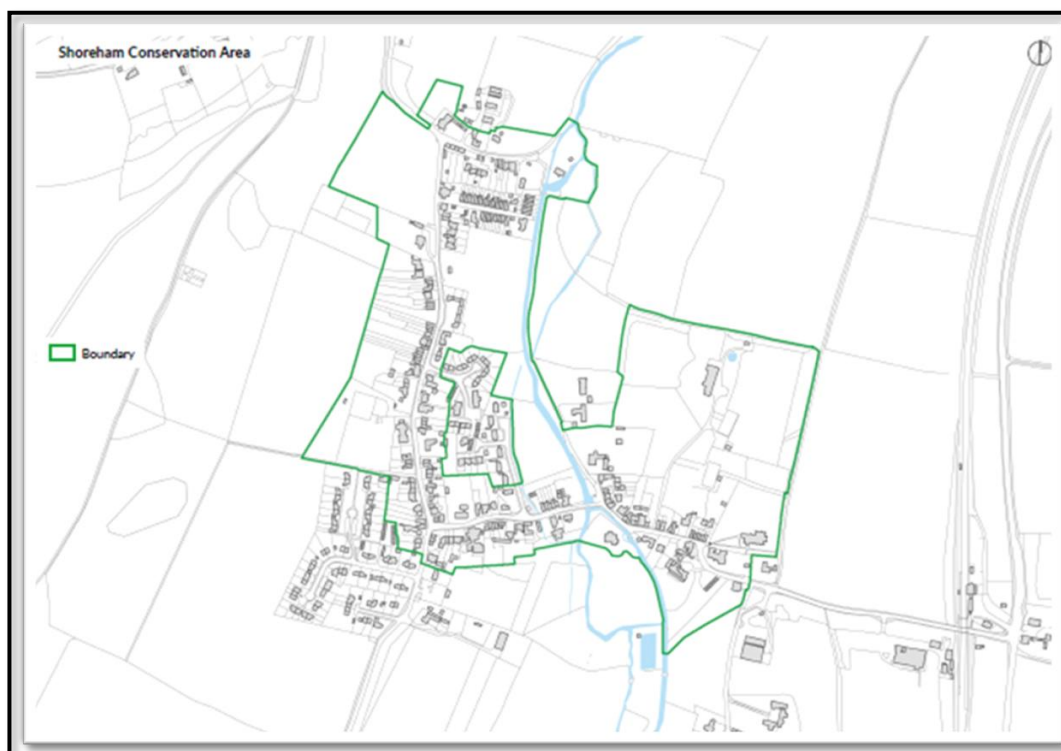
¹ www.bgs.ac.uk



- 3.7. The Old George Inn is a grade II listed building. It is, therefore, a designated heritage asset under the NPPF. The property lies within the Shoreham Conservation Area, and there are several listed buildings within the study area. The Shoreham Conservation Area was designated in April 2006. Additions to the conservation area have been made, and combining two separate conservation areas to create a unified area has facilitated the inclusion of houses in the High Street and includes Crown Fields to the northwest of the village on Mill Lane (Shoreham Conservation Area Design), which were not previously included. The conservation area as defined on the HER has been superseded by the most recent Shoreham Conservation Area Design boundary map (July 2019) (Fig 4).
- 3.8. There are no Scheduled Monuments, Registered Parks and Gardens, or Protected military Remains such as Registered Battlefields in or near the site.
- 3.9. Shoreham's earliest history and archaeology show occupation from the Prehistoric period. Occupants have included Iron Age farmers, Romans, Saxons and Medieval settlers. The potential development site lies within the Conservation Area of Shoreham, designated in April 2006. Prehistoric activity is not well presented within the area, with discrete lithic artefacts the only evidence of activity in this period. Romano-British activity is better represented by the excavation of the Roman villa to the north, whilst extant medieval structures remain in the village of Shoreham, particularly around the area of the church, indicating a possible earlier Medieval settlement around the existing Church Street.



(Fig 3 – 1:5000 TGS21-WB Nearby Heritage Assets)



(Fig 4 – Shoreham Conservation Area – Courtesy of Sevenoaks District Council conservation Area Appraisal Ordnance Survey Data which is © Crown Copyright)

- 3.10. A detailed study of the Kent Historic Environment Record (HER) database was undertaken to assist the Desk-Based Assessment (DBA)² and Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI). The following provides nearby entries on the HER with a brief description within a 500m radius assessment area:

Post Medieval - the assessment area demonstrates several heritage assets associated with Shoreham's continued growth as a thriving village.

TQ 56 SW 105	This site is no longer identified on recent OS maps, but the icehouse is known to have existed.
TQ 56 SW 233	Shoreham Place was used as a Voluntary Aid Detachment (VAD) Hospital by Kent/114 from May 1915 until July 1916 in World War 1. The original house has been demolished to make way for housing.
TQ 56 SW 188	Listed Building (II) 1272684: GARDEN WALL OF SHOREHAM HOUSE. Long early C19 brick wall running from a stream in the village's centre near the bridge as far as the Olde George Inn. This

² Birkbeck, F., & Taylor, R., George Inn Shoreham – Archaeological Desk Based Assessment (2020 Darnley Archaeological Services)



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	is file garden boundary wall of Shoreham House with greenhouses to the rear and ornamental arched opening at the end with weir.
TQ 56 SW 232	Myrtle Cottage, formerly Myrtle House, was used as a Voluntary Aid Detachment (VAD) Hospital by Kent/114 VAD from May 1915 until July 1916. The building still in use.
TQ 56 SW 174	Listed Building (II) 1272741: OLD DARENT COTTAGE. Late Medieval timber-framed cottage. Two storeys, two windows. Hipped, tiled roof with small ridge gables and projecting end stacks. Tile hung 1st floor, visible framing, with painted brick filling on the ground floor. C19 casements. Modern wide glazed front porch with hipped tiled roof.
TQ 56 SW 239	The former National School for boys and girls in Shoreham is shown on the 1862-75map. As shown on 1897-1900, 1907-23, 1929-52 and current O/S maps, the building continued to be used as a school. It is now Shoreham Village School.
TQ 56 SW 160	The Mill, disused paper mill. Elevations of painted brick and weatherboarding. 2 storeys. Projecting boarded eaves. Hip tiled roof. Various C18 and C19 sash windows with bars intact. One small C18 hip tiled dormer, The Mill, which incorporates the mill house, is irregular in shape and part of the building facing the river on the 1st floor. Very obviously incorporating a medieval framed structure. Elevations late C18 and early C19 in character. Pleasant interior of about 1820.
TQ 56 SW 185	Listed Building (II) 1243736: BRIDGE OVER THE RIVER DARENT. The bridge consists of 3 low brick arches with stone buttressing and a solid balustrade of red brick and flint rubble. The old ford still exists at the side of the bridge. The present structure is probably C19, although there was a bridge here in the late C18 dating from medieval times.
TQ 56 SW 149	Listed Building (II) 1243739: WATERHOUSE. Early C19 symmetrical stucco elevation of 2 storeys with moulded cornice and parapet masking older structure. Hip Welsh slate roof with two flat-roofed leaded dormers. Centre C19 panelled door with rectangular light over. Square panelled pilasters on either side of the door with projecting moulded flat hood over supported on heavy console brackets ornamented with foliage. 2 sash windows on either side of the door with closely spaced glazing bars and with stucco architrave moulded surrounds and projecting sills. Five similar sash windows on the 1st floor. Bracketed cornice over the centre window. A plaque commemorates Samuel Palmer's staying here between 1827 and 1835.
TQ 56 SW 176	Listed Building (II) 1272738: CHURCH COTTAGES. Small C18 farmhouse later subdivided. Two storeys, two windows. Flint rubble with red brick quoins and dressings to windows on the ground floor. Redbrick on the 1st floor. C18 sash windows with glazing bars in exposed frames. One small dormer. Half hip tiled



	roof. Plain boarded door with a flat projecting moulded hood over. One storey addition to the left of flint rubble.
TQ 56 SW 134	Listed Building (II) 1243738: FLINT COTTAGE. Ornamental late C18 or early C19 elevation of 2 storeys with flint rubble set in red brick panels with red brick dressings to windows and quoins. Corbelled brick eaves and gutter. Hip tiled roof. Inserted moulded stone entablature over doorway and brick panel above holding ornamental stone bust. Another recessed panel to the left. Various C18 and C19 square paned casements and plain boarded door in the centre with C18 stone threshold. Like Vicarage Cottage in Church Street, this unusual elevation probably masks an earlier framed structure.
TQ 56 SW 158	Listed Building (II) 1243838: CHAPEL ALLEY COTTAGES. C16 or earlier timber-framed range of buildings with C18 facade and additions. 1753 on datestone. Elevation of red brick with blue headers, partly flint rubble with red brick dressings and quoins to the left. Tile hung on the 1st floor to the left with moulded eaves and gutter. Hip ridge tiled roof with returned hipped end to left. Various C18 and C19 sash windows and casements panelled doors. Some moulded beams visible.
TQ 56 SW 170	Listed Building (II) 1272739: RISING SUN. Early C19 front to much older house. Relatively high-pitched tiled roof with long hip at right. Painted brick elevation of 2 storeys with projecting boarded eaves and gutter. 4 sash windows with bars. Glazed and panelled centre door. Inn sign bracket on 1st floor. Waterfall Cottage, Ivy Cottage, Riverside House, Rising Sun and Bridge Cottage form a group.
TQ 56 SW 196	Listed Building (II) 1272700: BRIDGE COTTAGE. C18 symmetrical rendered elevation of 2 storeys with projecting eaves and gutter and slate roof. 4 sash windows with glazing bars in exposed frames. Centre C19 panelled door. Waterfall Cottage, Ivy Cottage, Riverside House, Rising Sun and Bridge Cottage form a group.
TQ 56 SW 192	Listed Building (II) 1272699: RIVERSIDE HOUSE. Dated 1774. 2 storeys, five bays. Hipped tiled roof with modillioned eaves cornice. Red brick with blue headers. Gauged flat red brick arches to restored sash windows with glazing bars. Sun assurance sign in the blank 1st-floor centre panel. Top glazed central door. Fanlight over. Rounded pilasters on either side with reed moulded capitals supporting open pediment with dentilled soffit. 2 moulded stone steps to the front door. Waterfall Cottage, Ivy Cottage, Riverside House, Rising Sun and Bridge Cottage form a group.
TQ 56 SW 186	Listed Building (II) 1243735: IVY COTTAGE AND WATERFALL COTTAGE. Pair of late C18 cottages. Brick with blue headers. 2 storeys. Modillioned eaves and gutter. Hip Welsh slate roof. Six sash windows with glazing bars in recessed frames. 2 plain boarded doors. Waterfall Cottage, Ivy Cottage, Riverside House, Rising Sun and Bridge Cottage form a group.



TQ 56 SW 194	Listed Building (II) 1243734: RECORD AND LITTLE RECORD ADJOINING. Late C18 building. 2 storeys, four windows in all. Hipped tiled roof with moulded eaves cornice. Painted brick. On the ground floor, C19 glazed triple shop front with elliptical heads to lights. Other windows sashes with glazing bars, some tripartite. Record, Little Record, Waterfall Cottage Tea Room, and Waterfall Cottage Studio form a group.
TQ 56 SW 191	Listed Building (II) 1272698: WATERFALL COTTAGE STUDIO AND WATERFALL COTTAGE TEA ROOM. Early C19 front but house behind probably older. 2 storeys, three windows in all Tiled roof. Painted brick. Sash windows with glazing bars. Plain panelled doors. Record and Little Record and Nos 1 and 2 (Waterfall Cottages) form a group. Nos 1 and 2 (Waterfall Cottages) shall be amended to read Waterfall Cottage Tea Room and Waterfall Cottage Studio. The group value note should now read Record, Little Record, Waterfall Cottage Tea Room and Waterfall Cottage Studio form a group.
TQ 56 SW 231	Church House was used as a Voluntary Aid Detachment (VAD) Hospital by Kent/114 VAD from Oct 1914 until May 1915. The building still in use.
TQ 56 SW 138	Listed Building (II) 1243751: TWO URNS FLANKING DRIVE TO DUNSTALL PRIORY. Pair of stone urns on pedestals flanking driveway about 20 ft from the main road entrance.
TQ 56 SW 181	Listed Building (II) 1243731: YEW TREE COTTAGE. Probably C16 timber-framed cottage. 2 storeys, two windows. Tiled roof with returned gable end behind. C19 lattice casements and one older casement. Modern projecting tiled porch. Tile hung 1st floor, brick ground floor.
TQ 56 SW 140	Listed Building (II*) 1243841: FILSTON HALL FARMHOUSE. Date of C16 in stone over the entrance, but much of the interior is early C17, with a late mediaeval timber-framed part. A large manor farmhouse, irregular in shape and surrounded by a medieval moat, approached the west side over the old medieval bridge. Tile main elevation faces south with a recently restored brick facade of 3 storeys with masked brick gable ends and half basement lights: restored mullioned and transomed windows with square paned and lattice casements. Tudor brick coupled stacks. Elevation facing west of 2 storeys with ridge tile roof and tiled gable end to left. The interior contains some very fine panelling and an exceptionally fine staircase. The general character of the house is Jacobean throughout, although the kitchen wing is very much older. Some original mullioned and transomed windows with old iron casements. C17 cellar. Crown post roof complete in the north wing.
TQ 56 SW 175	Listed Building (II) 1272742: OLD COTTAGE. C17 or earlier timber-framed building. 2 storeys, two windows. Half hipped tiled roof extended as lean-to behind. Projecting end stacks. Tile hung 1st



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	floor. C19 lattice casements; and 2 boarded doors in tiled porches. Visible timber framing with brick filling on left return. Modern lean-to addition, in sympathetic style, below.
TQ 56 SW 143	Listed Building (II) 1243745: OXBOURNE FARMHOUSE. C16 or earlier timber-framed farmhouse. 2 storeys, three windows. High pitched tiled roof with end stacks. Tile hung 1st floor, brick ground floor. C19 casement windows. Plain boarded door under the hipped tiled hood. Much exposed timber inside.
TQ 56 SW 145	Listed Building (II) 1243743: THE CROWN INN. C17 or earlier timber-framed building, with painted brick elevations of 2 storeys with exposed framing facing the street with 1st floor oversailing and supported on exposed timber joists. Ridge tile roof half-hipped at ends. Projecting Inn sign on 1st floor. Side elevation facing Crown Road with large C19 projecting bay of 1 storey with public house front and windows. Various odd C19 casements on the 1st floor and facing High Street. Much heavy exposed timber inside. Inglenook with old beam but renewed brickwork.
TQ 56 SW 165	Listed Building (II) 1243851: 35 AND 37 HIGH STREET. Early C18 house, formerly two dwellings. Two storeys and attic three windows. [Extra window replaces 2nd door on the ground floor]. Tiled roof with two flat leaded dormers. Dentilled and moulded eaves cornice. Sash windows with glazing bars in exposed frames. Panelled door in a moulded frame under flat hood on carved brackets. At left 2-storey, 1-window rendered extension of early-mid C19. Hipped tiled roof. C19 sash windows. Altered shop front on the ground floor.
TQ 56 SW 144	Listed Building (II) 1243744: 29-33 HIGH STREET. No 29 is a C16, or earlier timber-framed house with early C19 left addition and front of a similar period in red brick. Nos 31 and 33 are C18. Although tiled roofs vary considerably, all form a continuous front, No 29 showing a hipped end to the road with ridges at sides; one has C16 or early C17 compound stack. Boarded eaves. Various C19 sashes and casements. Some panelled and some boarded doors. No 29 shows part of a jettied end and framing visible. Beyond this, a late C17 or early C18 half-hipped extension. Inside No 29, much heavy exposed timber and collar-purlin roof. Small one storey left extension.
TQ 56 SW 163	Listed Building (II) 1244198: K6 TELEPHONE KIOSK BESIDE FORGE (OTFORD 2141). K6 Telephone Kiosk Village Centre (Beside Forge) Otford 2141 G.V. II. Designed 1935 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.
TQ 56 SW 146	Listed Building (II) 1243742: WINSLADE COTTAGE. Pair of early C18 cottages now converted into one house. Ground floor of flint rubble with red brick dressings to windows and quoins. 1st-floor red brick. 2 storeys, and ridge tile roof with eaves and gutter. End



	stacks. Six sets of C19 casements (ground floor windows under flat segmental brick arches). 2 C19 glazed and panelled doors with painted panels over in stucco frames with entablature moulding ornamental keystones with plaster embossed heads.
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Medieval – the assessment area demonstrates Shoreham's growth as a village, primarily around the church to the east of the river and both Church Street and the High Street to the west.

TQ 56 SW 137	Listed Building (I) 1243786: CHURCH OF ST PETER AND ST PAUL. Church sited on the edge of a village rich in historic buildings. The foundations of the Norman chancel were found under the nave in 1956-7. C14 N wall; N chapel early Perp; other features mostly late Perp; c.1775 W tower, rebuilt after a fire. Chancel rebuilt and the northeast vestry/organ chamber added in the 1860s restoration by Woodye; restoration in the 1950s. Main construction periods 1327 to 1775.
TQ 56 SW 136	Listed Building (II) 1243808. The irregular shaped building of varying dates, incorporating a C16 timber-framed structure. The main east elevation has two storeys, three window centre part of C18 appearance but with later rendering: moulded eaves cornice and tiled roof. At right, a 2-storey canted bay of yellow brick and at left a similar bay of random rubble, both early C19 and with hipped tiled roofs. Various sash windows, some with glazing bars. Inside a good C16 beamed ceiling. Link on the south side to Vicarage Cottage, a 2-storey, the two-window building of flint rubble with red brick dressings, incorporating stabling on the ground floor. Brick dentil eaves cornice and tiled roof. Lean-to right extension. Various C19 casements and stable doors. Ornamental bust set in flint rubble panel at 1st-floor centre. Timber-framed core, possible C16.
TQ 56 SW 171	Listed Building (II) 1272740: REED BEDS AND THE SAMUEL PALMER SCHOOL OF FINE ART. Private house, at one time four cottages. C16 framed structure with two storey elevations facing east with exposed framing and brick infilling on the ground floor and plaster infilling above. South elevation facing the street of C18 painted brick with moulded eaves and gutter and hip ridge tiled roof brought down as lean-to at the side. Various modern square paned lattice windows and modern restoration. This house is probably the oldest in the village and was initially 2 "Hall Houses". Interior attic with King post.
TQ 56 SW 135	Listed Building (II) 1243819: IVY COTTAGE AND TUDOR COTTAGE. C16 framed structure, L-shaped in plan, with weatherboarded elevation facing the street with an external projecting brick chimney stack and rendered plinth, east elevation with 1st floor oversailing and ground floor of flint rubble with red brick dressing



	and red brick above. West elevation with exposed framing and plaster infilling. Various C19 casements. 2 storeys with half dormer at the side. Tiled roof hipped at right, on left return two tiny, paired gables. The building may be part of a hall house, some of which has disappeared.
TQ 56 SW 195	Listed Building (II) 1243733: CHURCH COTTAGES. Timber-framed range, of 2 builds, probably of C16 but with C18 brick fronts. Nos 1 and 2 red brick, the others yellow brick. High pitched tiled roofs hipped at the right end. Various C18 and C19 casements. Five plain boarded doors under bracketed hoods.
TQ 56 SW 182	Listed Building (II) 1243732: KENNEL COTTAGE. C16 timber-framed building with the renewed front. 2 storeys, three windows. Hipped tiled roof with later centre stack. C19 casements in old frames. Tile hung 1st floor, brick ground floor. Plain boarded door in projecting tiled porch.
TQ 56 SW 167	Listed Building (II) 1243847: SMITHY BUILDING ADJOINING NO 38 AND THE OLD FORGE. C16 or C17 timber-framed building. Tiled roof with tiled gable end facing the road and projecting chimney stack on the corner. Exposed timber framing with painted brick filling except on 1st floor right, which is tile-hung. Various C19 casements. Weather-boarded smithy buildings, with tiled roof, at right and running back.

Romano-British - the assessment area demonstrates a Romano-British presence, likely associated with a nearby agricultural/villa settlement.

TQ 56 SW 8	COIN (Roman - 43 AD to 409 AD): A dupondius of Vespasian in the possession of Darent Valley Arch. Research was found on the council house estate at the south end of Shoreham village. The coin was brought in for identification only. Nothing further is known about it.
TQ 56 SW 10	Part of a Roman quern stone, Samian and 1st C. pottery have been found by Hore, and R.I. Little, at Shoreham. (1) No further information. A rotary quern stone was found in the riverbed by the side of Shoreham Villa (TQ 56 SW 4) by K.D. Hore and R.I. Little on the 30th September 1956. The stone is the upper half of the quern, and only approximately one-third of the whole was found. The socket left by a handle, possibly of wood, is evident on one side.

Prehistoric - the assessment area demonstrates human or hominid activity during the Prehistoric or Later Prehistoric period.

TQ 56 SW 37	LITHIC IMPLEMENT: Flint axe and flake, some of the many 'worked' flints found in the Darent valley. Few of the implements have been preserved. Col. Meates holds a few classifiable examples found by Greenfield and himself, but no exact record to
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	relate their provenance has been kept. No field action. (1) TQ 520610 (sited to place name only). One Mesolithic blade or flake from the Shoreham area is in Dartford Museum. Located approximately 350 metres to the northeast of the PDS. There are no associated archaeological features known in the immediate area.
TQ 56 SW 51	LITHIC IMPLEMENT: Flint flake, one of many 'worked' flints found in the Darent Valley. Few of the implements have been preserved. Col. Meates holds a few classifiable examples found by Greenfield and himself, but no exact record to relate their provenance has been kept. No field action.

- 3.11. There are no previous phases of archaeological investigation at the site.
- 3.12. There were no constraints on the archaeological monitoring.



4. METHODOLOGY

- 4.1. All work was undertaken following the methods set out within this WSI, according to best practice as set out by ClfA. Any significant variation on these methods will be agreed upon with the Client, Sevenoaks District Council and KCC before excavation.
- 4.2. The archaeological watching brief consisted of the demolition of an existing toilet block, stripping approximately 0.5m of site build-up away to enable the excavation of an L-shaped trench and post pad pits in preparation for the erection of a covered dining area, which was observed to evaluate the potential for archaeological remains., which were observed to assess the potential for archaeological remains.
- 4.3. Given the site's location within a recognised Conservation Area and medieval village, the probability of locating buried archaeology or associated artefacts is considered **high** in the WSI.
- 4.4. The Watching Brief aimed to:
 - **Ensure that the planned excavations at the site are observed and that features of archaeological interest are correctly examined and recorded, as per planning applications 20/03465 & 20/03466**
- 4.5. The objectives of this development project are to:
 - **View & record excavation of groundworks for the new building(s) & drains and assess any building demolition results.**



Setting out the excavation areas

- 4.6. Excavation areas were set out according to the plans (Fig 5). Locations were recorded using GNSS.



(Fig 5 – TGS21-WB 1:150 Trench Locations)

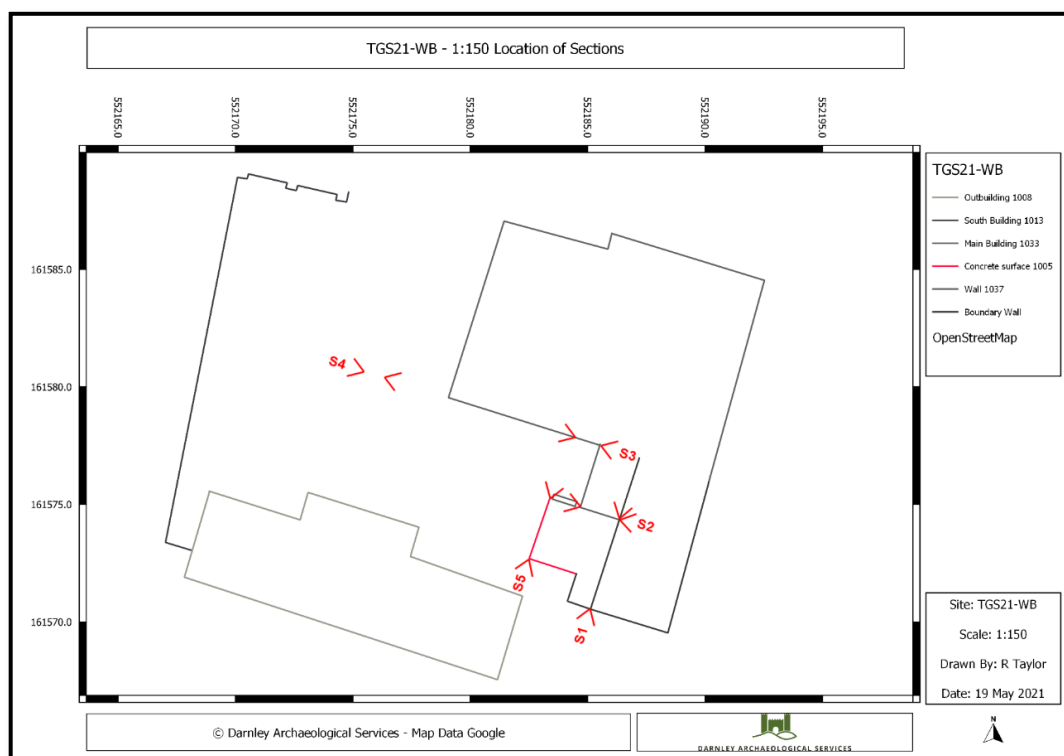
Excavation

- 4.7. All groundworks were excavated using a machine and bucket. However, any contexts or features of archaeological interest were further excavated by hand by the archaeologist present.



5. RESULTS

- 5.1. The observations comprised a series of groundwork trenches for new building footings and drainage. The site area is approximately 220m² and presented archaeological features, most related to the building's past as a public house (c.1832 – 2020 AD) and further evidence revealing artefacts of an earlier phase of medieval activity.



(Fig 6 – TGS21-WB 1:150 Location Map of Sections)

- 5.2. A total of five phases associated with the site were established during the excavation:

Phase 1 = Modern (c.1939 AD-Present Day)
Phase 2 = Victorian/Pre WW2 (c.1832 to 1939 AD)
Phase 3 = Later Medieval/Victorian (c.1550 – 1832 AD)
Phase 4 = Medieval (c.1150 – 1550 AD)
Phase 5 = Geological

- 5.3. The George Inn began life as a private house, thought to have been occupied by Thomas Peltley in the 16th century. The family-owned Filston Hall is southwest of Shoreham. 1832 AD is considered a key phase date because the George Inn was first mentioned as a public house in Pigot's Directory when John Day was the licensee.³

³ Birkbeck, F., & Taylor, R., George Inn Shoreham – Archaeological Desk Based Assessment (2020 Darnley Archaeological Services) p11.



- 5.4. Archaeological and documentary evidence suggests the private residence became the George Inn during Phase 2 (after c.1832 AD). However, the story goes back further; archaeological finds recovered during the watching brief suggest that an earlier Medieval building likely occupied the site (or nearby) before the present George Inn building and is represented in the archaeological record by Phase 4.
- 5.5. Archaeological features associated with Phase 1 to 3 were present. In addition, further evidence indicating artefacts from an earlier period of medieval activity (Phase 4) were recorded. The final plan of the completed groundworks is shown in (Fig 33).
- 5.6. During the excavation, a total of forty-two contexts over five phases were investigated and recorded (Table 1):

Context List (TGS21-WB)				
Context No.	Trench	Type	Description	Phase
1001	Area	Layer	Tarmac – 0.05 – 0.1m	1
1002	Area	Layer	Yellow sand	1
1003	Area	Layer	Dark brown sandy clay – chalk flecks – probable early occupation layer.	4
1004		Structure	Modern toilet block	1
1005		Structure	Concrete floor under 1004	1
1006		Structure	Brickwork block surface set into 1038 and under 1005	3
1007		Structure	Brickwork block surface set into 1038 and adjacent to 1008	3
1008		Structure	Outbuilding	3
1009		Layer	Bitumen spread over 1006 and adjacent to 1013	1
1010		Layer	Concrete skim over 1006	1
1011		Layer	Course grey gravel under 1005 to west	1
1012		Structure	Flint & mortar foundation for west wall of 1013	3
1013		Structure	South range of building	3
1014		Structure	Concrete hard standing between 1013 and 1008	1
1015		Structure	Ragstone, greensand and brick foundation for west wall of 1013	3
1016		Layer	Courtyard surface of brick pieces & chalk	2
1017		Cut	Modern drain cut	1
1018		Fill	Fill of 1017 – shingle	1
1019		Layer	Chalk spread	3
1020		Cut	Modern cut for drain	1
1021		Fill	Fill of 1020 – shingle	1
1022		Cut	Modern cut for soakaway	1
1023		Fill	Fill of 1022 – brick and tile in chalk/clay matrix	1
1024		Cut	Cut of pit	2
1025		Fill	Fill of 1024 – Flint and tile pieces in chalk/clay matrix	2
1026		Cut	Cot of posthole	2



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1027		Fill	Fill of 1026 – clay/chalk matrix containing tile and brick pieces	2
1028		Cut	Cut of posthole	3
1029		Fill	Fill of 1028 – chalk/clay matrix containing tile and brick pieces	3
1030		Layer	Buff sandy silt with pulverised chalk – probable upper Head deposits (natural)	5
1031		Cut	Modern cut for drain	1
1032		Fill	Fill of 1031 – shingle	1
1033		Structure	Main building construction	3
1034		Layer	Chalk spread over 1016 to west of 1033	2
1035		Layer	Courtyard surface of brick pieces in a thin clay and chalk matrix	2
1036		Layer	Brown sand under 1016 and over 1019	2
1037		Structure	Wall projection from 1013	3
1038		Layer	Dirty brown clay containing chalk pieces, brick and tile pieces – above 1003	3
1039		Structure	Concrete floor	1
1040		Structure	Ragstone, flint and brick foundation for south wall of 1041 (Victorian extension to 1033)	2
1041		Structure	Victorian extension to 1033 to west	2
1042		Layer	Yellow mortar around 1037	3

(Table 1 – TGS21-WB Context List)

5.7. The watching brief comprised three stages:

Stage 1 = demolition of toilet block

Stage 2 = removal of overburden to a depth of 55m AOD across the site

Stage 3 = excavation of foundation trenches and post pads



5.8. Stage 1

The initial work required removing 1001, a modern tarmac spread of 0.05-0.1m across the site.



(Fig 7 – looking northwest across the site at the removal of 1001)

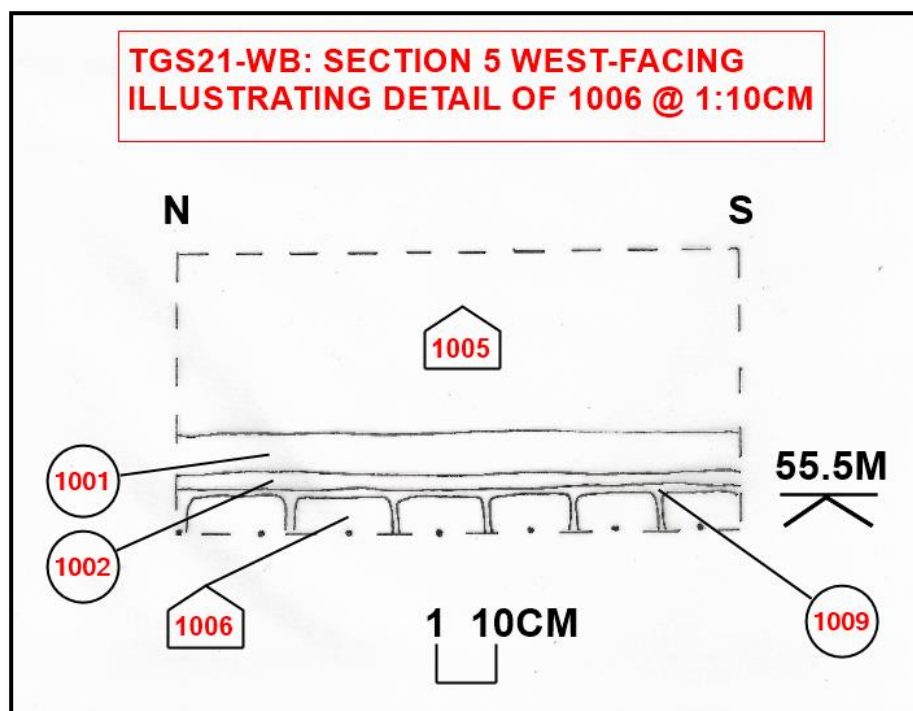
1001 abuts toilet block 1004 to the north, concrete surface 1005 and south range of main building 1013 to the east, and outbuilding 1008 to the south. Toilet block 1004 appears to have been constructed c.1980 AD, placing 1001 at a similar or after the date.

1001 was laid on top of a thin spread of yellow sand 1002 near the buildings. Removing 1002 revealed 1038, a dirty brown clay containing chalk, brick and tile pieces, containing several late-Victorian finds (pottery, clay pipes, etc.) and likely a late occupation layer that has gradually built up over time. Away from the buildings, the removal of 1001 revealed 1035, a courtyard surface of brick pieces in a thin clay and chalk matrix.

Closer to the buildings, the gradual removal of 1038 for c.0.1m toward 1005 revealed 1006, a brickwork block surface, under 1001, that appears to head west toward building 1013 and under concrete surface 1005. A thin bitumen spread, 1009, was applied to the surface of the exposed brickwork of 1006 in front of 1005 (Fig 8).



(Fig 8 – looking north at concrete surface 1005, laid atop of brickwork block surface 1006 with 1038 in the foreground)



(Fig 9 – East-facing Section 5 detailing block surface 1006)

Removal of 1001 to the south, adjacent to outbuilding 1008, revealed a similar brickwork block surface 1007, which appears to sit on 1038 and likely the same as 1006.



(Fig 10 - looking south toward 1008 and brickwork block surface 1007 with 1038 in the foreground)

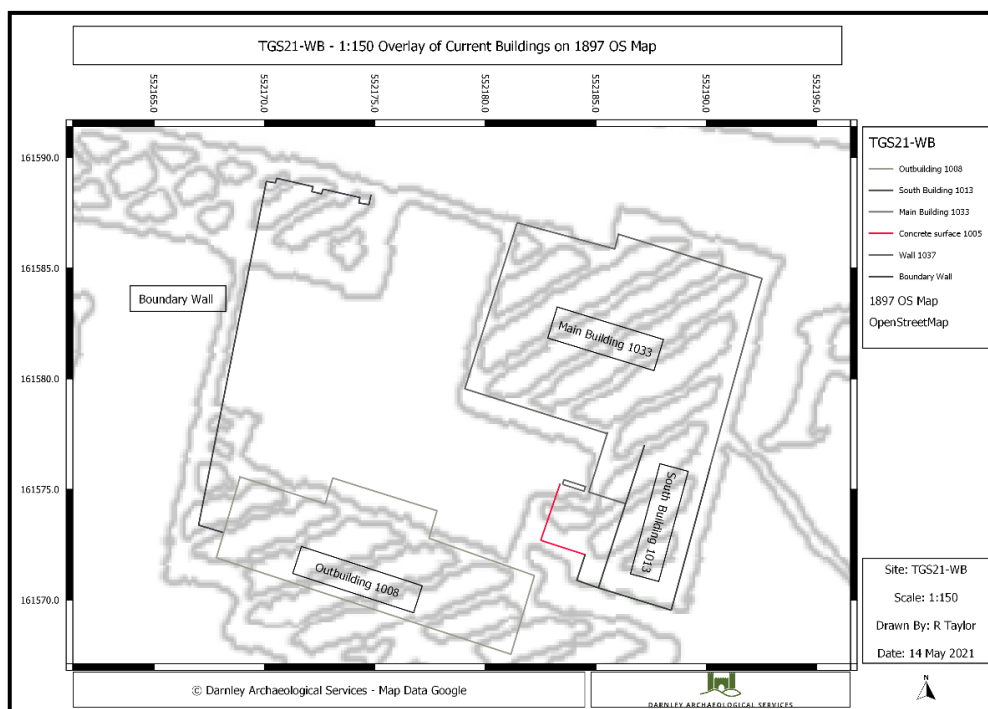
1008 has a separate listing of TQ 56 SW 173 as a Grade II Listed Building and believed to have been built as an 18th century coach building (Fig 11).



(Fig 11 - looking south at outbuilding 1008)



Alterations made to 1008's north frontage occurring sometime in the early 20th century.⁴



(Fig 12 – 1897 OS Map showing flat frontage to 1008)



(Fig 13 - 1929 OS Map showing altered frontage to 1008)

⁴ Birkbeck, F., & Taylor, R., George Inn Shoreham – Archaeological Desk Based Assessment (2020 Darnley Archaeological Services) p11.



1008 has a construction date of c.1750 AD, placing the construction of 1006 and 1007 shortly after.

The next step was the demolition of toilet block 1004. The demolition exposed building fabric consistent with a dating of c.1980 AD. It revealed that 1004 was built onto a mid-Victorian extension 1041 onto the west of the original main building 1033.

1033 is the oldest part of the building, thought to have been erected c.1550 AD when the building served as a private residence. Inside 1033 shows the remains of an open hall with much heavy exposed timber throughout (See 11.1 and 11.2).



(Fig 14 – looking northwest at 1004)



(Fig 15 - internal view of 1004 looking southwest)



(Fig 16 – looking northwest at how 1004 is built onto 1041)



Fig 16 illustrates how the erection of 1004 incorporated a single course of brick (yellow) added to the exterior brick (red) of 1041. Following the demolition of 1004, concrete surface 1005 was removed. 1005 is a modern concrete floor approximately 0.1 to 0.15m in thickness. Upon removing 1005, a further concrete spread 1010 about 0.05m in thickness was revealed. 1010 appeared to cover 1006, the latter seemingly continuing east. As 1010 was removed, a sandstone slab was unveiled at a threshold of 1013. The slab and 1006 were set into 1042, a yellow sandy mortar about 0.05 to 0.1m thick.



(Fig 17 – looking north at the removal of 1005)



(Fig 18 - looking north at sandstone slab)

The revealed threshold raised questions about the age of 1013. 1013 is an aspect of the original L-shaped building erected in c.1550 AD. However, there has been conjecture about the age of 1013, mainly that it is a later addition to 1033. This appears in part true, and the newly revealed threshold indicates it predates 1006 and 1007 but maybe stratigraphically contemporary with the construction of 1008.

To better understand 1013's age, a brief survey of the internal construction methods of both 1033 and 1013 was undertaken.



An inspection of the existing internal beams and brickwork suggest a gable end to 1033, onto which 1013 was built later. Firstly, the dragon beam visibly ends at the gable end (see **11.2 & 11.4**). Secondly, there appear to be two phases of brickwork on the north-facing wall of 1013. The lower brickwork courses (presumably a platform for the gable end) is different to the more regular and orange brickwork above (Fig 19) but the same as the north-south, east-facing wall of 1033 (see **11.2**).



(Fig 19 – looking south at fireplace and brickwork in 1033)

The chimney flue is likely contemporary with 1033 (c.1550 AD). Still, it also looks to have been adapted and added to with the more regular and redder/orange-coloured, cleaner brickwork, likely when 1013 was constructed.

An examination of the beams in 1013 to the south of the chimney stack suggest an addition of some age (**11.6**). Looking north at the chimney stack (**11.5**), much of this is contemporary with 1033 (c.1550 AD) and would likely have been an external feature exposed to the elements before the construction of 1013. Notice how the chimney stack has been adapted later to make an additional open fireplace for 1013 when the extension was constructed (**11.5 & 11.6**).

The beams of 1013 are heavily carbonized on their surfaces, suggesting they were exposed to an open but controlled fire. A possible scenario to explore coincides with the construction of coach building 1008 c.1750 AD; perhaps 1013 was a farrier/smithy extension to compliment the role and operation of the new coach building 1008?



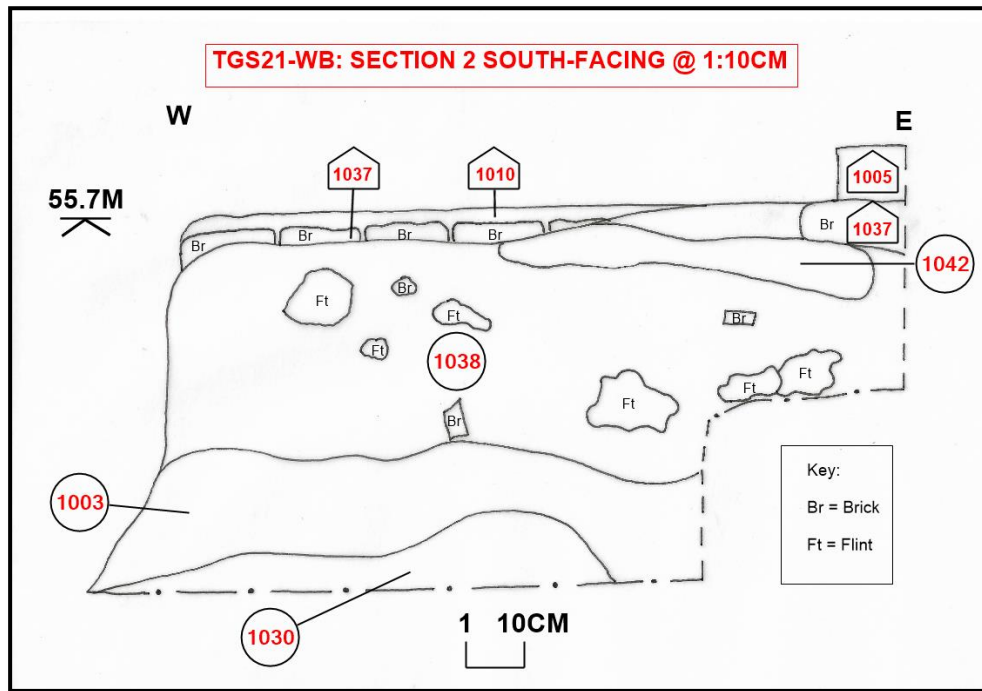
5.9. Stage 2

Once 1005, 1010 and 1006 had been removed, the underlying material was stripped away adjacent to 1013, bringing the area down to the required level.

The removal of 1005, 1010 and 1006 revealed a brick wall 1037 projecting west from 1013. This wall is thought to have turned south and returned to the southwest corner of 1013. 1006 was likely mortared to 1037 with 1042. 1042 sits atop 1038, which, in this area, was approximately 0.3m in depth. 1038 sits above 1003, a dark brown sandy clay with chalk flecks thought to be an early occupation layer. 1003 sits atop 1030, a buff sandy silt containing pulverised chalk and considered natural geology (head deposits), affirming the potential age of 1003.



(Fig 20 – Wall 1035 visible projecting west from 1013)



(Fig 21 – South-facing Section 2)

Under 1013, two distinct foundation courses were viewed. Firstly, 1012, a flint nodule and mortar foundation can be seen to the north. Abutting 1012 to the south is 1015, a series of mortared, reused stonework of varying types.

Both foundations (1012 & 1015) appear to support a continuous course of brick that makes up the west wall of 1013. 1015 is interesting as it contains faced greensand and ragstone blocks. It is unlikely that the builders of the George Inn would have worked this stone then place it in a foundation course, so it is assumed that these blocks are likely recycled from an earlier (medieval) structure. Moreover, placing large stone blocks as foundation material under the various corners of the George Inn is consistent practice (see 11.3). The placement and construction method of foundation 1012 is logical – the compaction and depth (0.2m to 0.3m) of the flint and mortar tolerates the load of 1013's west wall. Indeed, the courses of brick above remain level to this day.

Given that the foundations for 1012 and 1015 are cut into 1003 and 1030, it can be assumed that, because of a c. 16th-century construction date for the main building, 1003 can be dated to c.1550 AD and before.

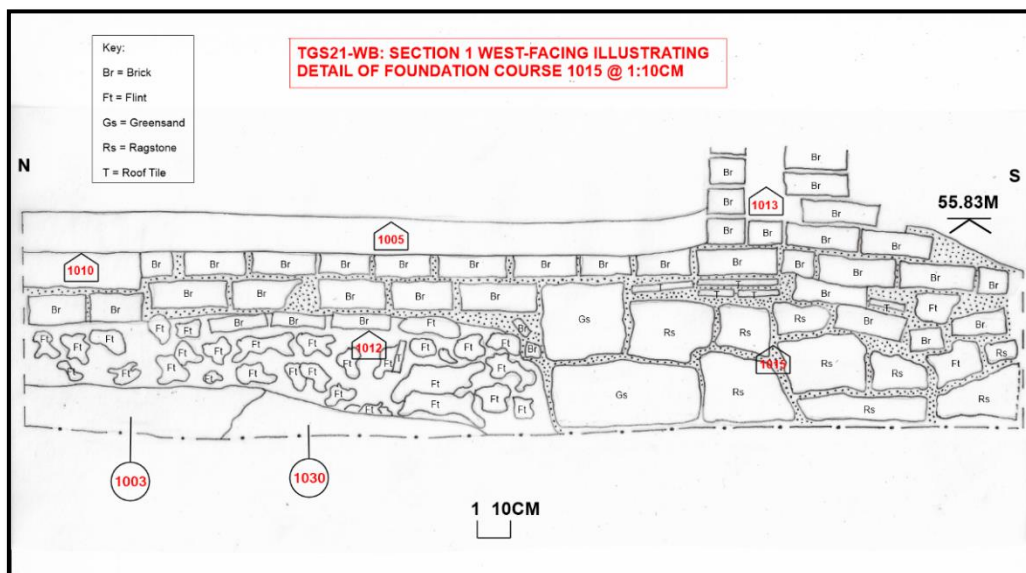
Two pieces of discarded building stone were retrieved from the interface between 1038 and 1003, close to foundation 1015. The first piece (SF1) is greensand and has a dressed side exhibiting horizontal/vertical tool markings. This dressed side is carbonised, implying the stone was salvaged/reused from a fireplace or chimney of an earlier Medieval building, likely demolished before the erection of the George Inn c.1550 AD. The second piece (SF2) is ragstone and has two dressed sides with tool markings. Although not as finely worked as SF1, one dressed side is also carbonised and likely salvaged/reused from similar circumstances.



There are several greensand and ragstone blocks evident in 1015. It seems likely that all were intended for reuse in the foundations, implying that they likely came from an earlier, probably medieval structure. Given the number of stones, it is probable that the medieval structure was nearby. It is possible that the main building of the George Inn was built in c.1550 AD on the site of a former medieval construction or building.



(Fig 22 – Looking east at foundations 1012 & 1015; brick courses can be seen above)



(Fig 23 – West-facing Section 1 showing detail of 1012 & 1015)



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(Fig 24 – transverse view of SF1)



(Fig 25 - Lateral view of SF1 showing tool markings to carbonised face)



(Fig 26 – transverse view of SF2)



(Fig 27 - Lateral view of SF2 showing tool markings to carbonised face)



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Toward the south of the main building 1033, the underlying material was removed adjacent to the Victorian extension 1041, bringing the area down to the required level.



(Fig 28 – looking north at Victorian extension 1041)

The original west-facing exterior of the c.1550 AD build can be seen in the timber framework in Figs 29 & 30.



(Fig 29 – looking northeast at timber framework of original west-facing exterior wall c.1550 AD)

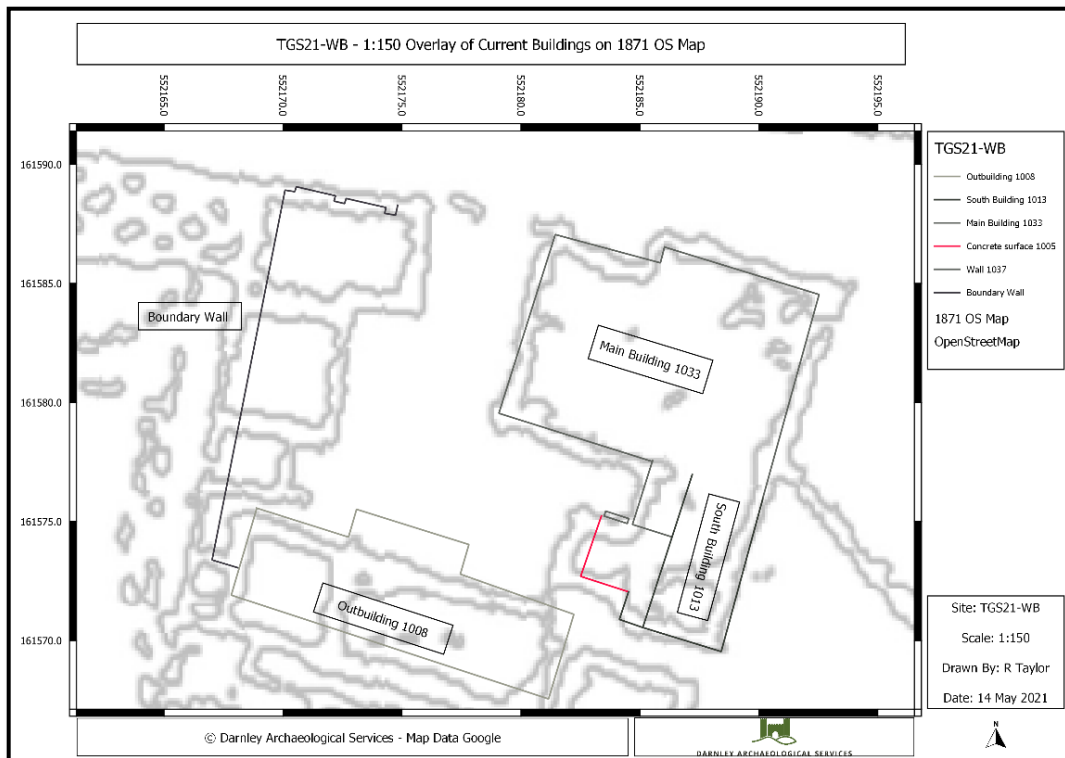


(Fig 30 – looking east at timber framework of original west-facing exterior wall c.1550 AD)

The central doorway was made by knocking through the c.1550 AD brickwork; the beam then now supported by upright timbers. A construction date for extension 1040 is not documented. However, map regression and historical sources suggest that work between c.1832 and 1871 AD.



Interestingly, a foundation course for the west wall of 1041 comprises flint nodules bonded with mortar, not dissimilar to 1012 (See 11.3).

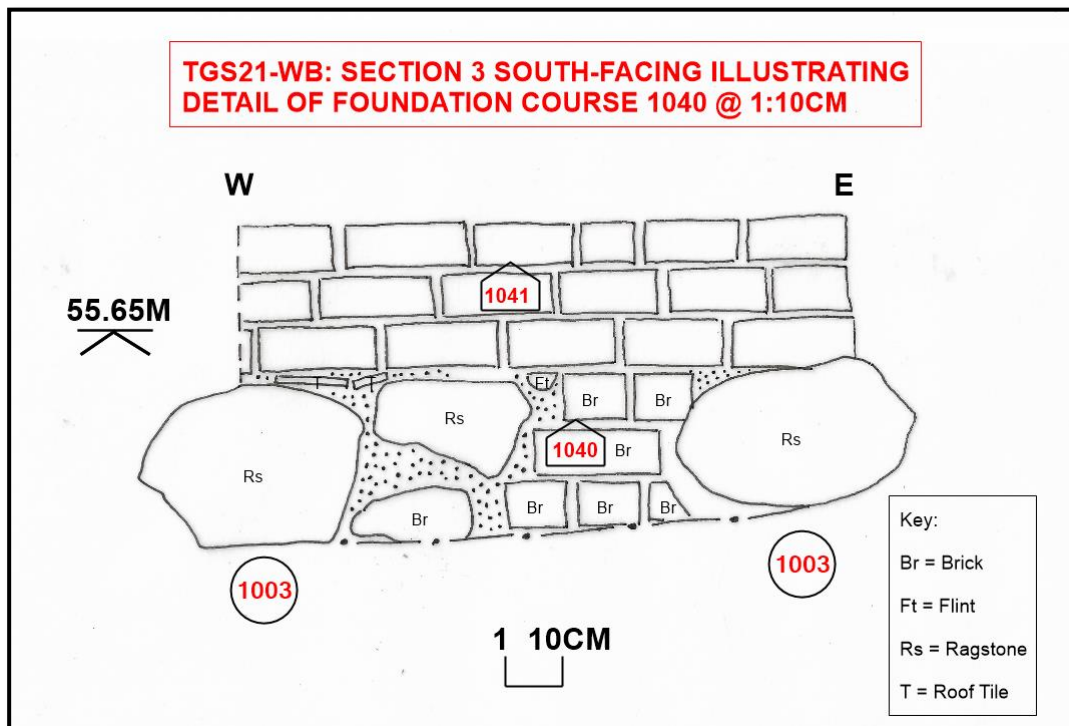


(Fig 31 – Current buildings overlain 1871 OS Map)

The first material removed from the exterior surface was 1038, then 1003, revealing the foundation 1040 for this part of the main building. Foundation 1040 is comprised of mortared brick and ragstone blocks, cut into 1003. In keeping with their role as foundation material, the ragstone blocks appear crudely shaped and not to be seen above ground. Interestingly, there is no greensand evident in the foundation course, nor is there any evidence that the ragstone is dressed or carbonised in any way. It is less likely that 1040 contains any reused material from a previous medieval structure, given these foundations were built c.300 years after foundation 1012 and 1015. However, the construction methods for both foundation courses are similar.

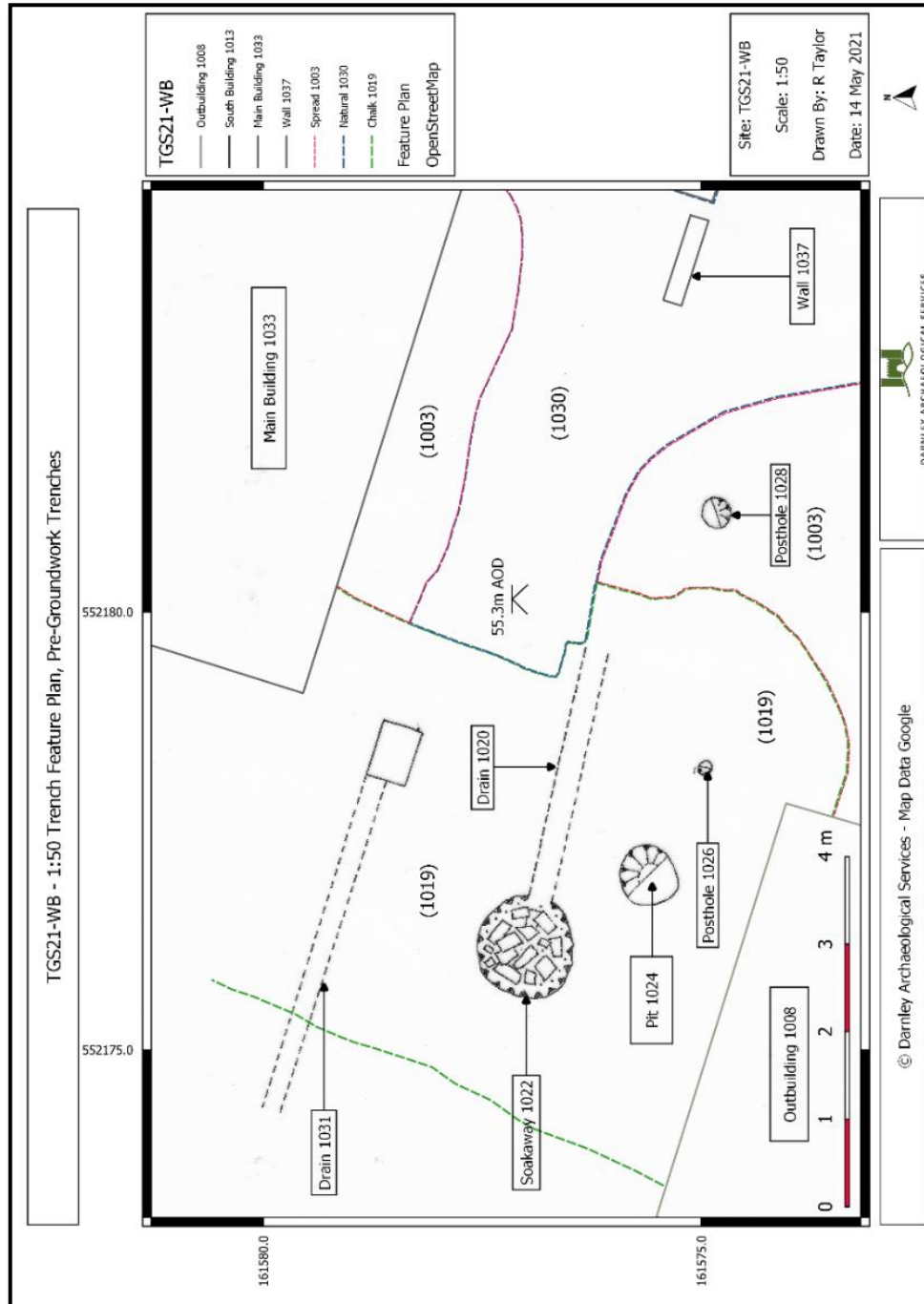


(Fig 32 – Looking north at foundation 1040)



(Fig 33 – South-facing Section 3 showing detail of 1040)

The Stage 2 excavation area revealed several features on the courtyard's surface enclosed by 1041/1033 to the north, 1013 to the east and 1008 to the south.



(Fig 34 - TGS21-WB 1:50 Trench Feature Plan)

Upon removal of 1001, the courtyard surface 1035, comprising brick pieces & chalk, was revealed across the west extent of the site.



(Fig 35 – looking northwest across courtyard surface 1035)

Removal of 1035 revealed an early surface 1019, a redeposited chalk spread, thought to be an early surface or hardstanding, possibly associated with converting the building from private residence to public house. Several features cut into 1019 were observed and recorded. Firstly, a small posthole 1026 c.0.25m in diameter was located near the northeast corner of building 1008. 1026 was filled with 1027, a clay/chalk matrix containing tile and brick pieces.

1027 contained a rim sherd of Kentish red earthenware (C. 1750 – 1800 AD), dating the pit to c.1800 – 1850 AD.



(Fig 36 – Posthole 1026 cut into 1019)

Approximately 1.0m west of 1026 is 1024, a circular pit 1.0m in diameter. 1024 is filled with 1025, a chalk/clay matrix containing flint and roof tile pieces.



(Fig 37 - Pit feature 1024 cut into 1019)



1025 contained sherds of pottery and pieces of animal bone, so likely to have been a small rubbish pit. The pottery sherds included one Staffordshire yellow ware (c.1825 – 1900 AD) and several Kentish red earthenwares (C. 1750 – 1800 AD), dating the pit to c.1825 – 1850 AD.

Approximately 3.0m east of 1026 is 1028, a posthole c.0.35m in diameter cut into 1038. 1028 is filled with 1029, a chalk/clay matrix containing tile and brick pieces. 1019 appears as an upper fill or covering. Beyond the brick and tile pieces, only a small quantity of animal bone was recovered from 1029. Unlike 1026 and 1024, which appear to be cut into 1019, 1028 is partially filled by 1019, which predates the chalk spread. Without any diagnostic finds to present an accurate date range, 1028 predates both 1024 and 1026, so a before c.1800 AD date seems appropriate in the broader context of the site and nearby features.



(Fig 38 – Posthole 1028 cut into 1019 and 1038)

Modern drains 1020, 1031 and soakaway 1022 all cut through 1035, 1016, 1019 1038, 1003 and 1030.



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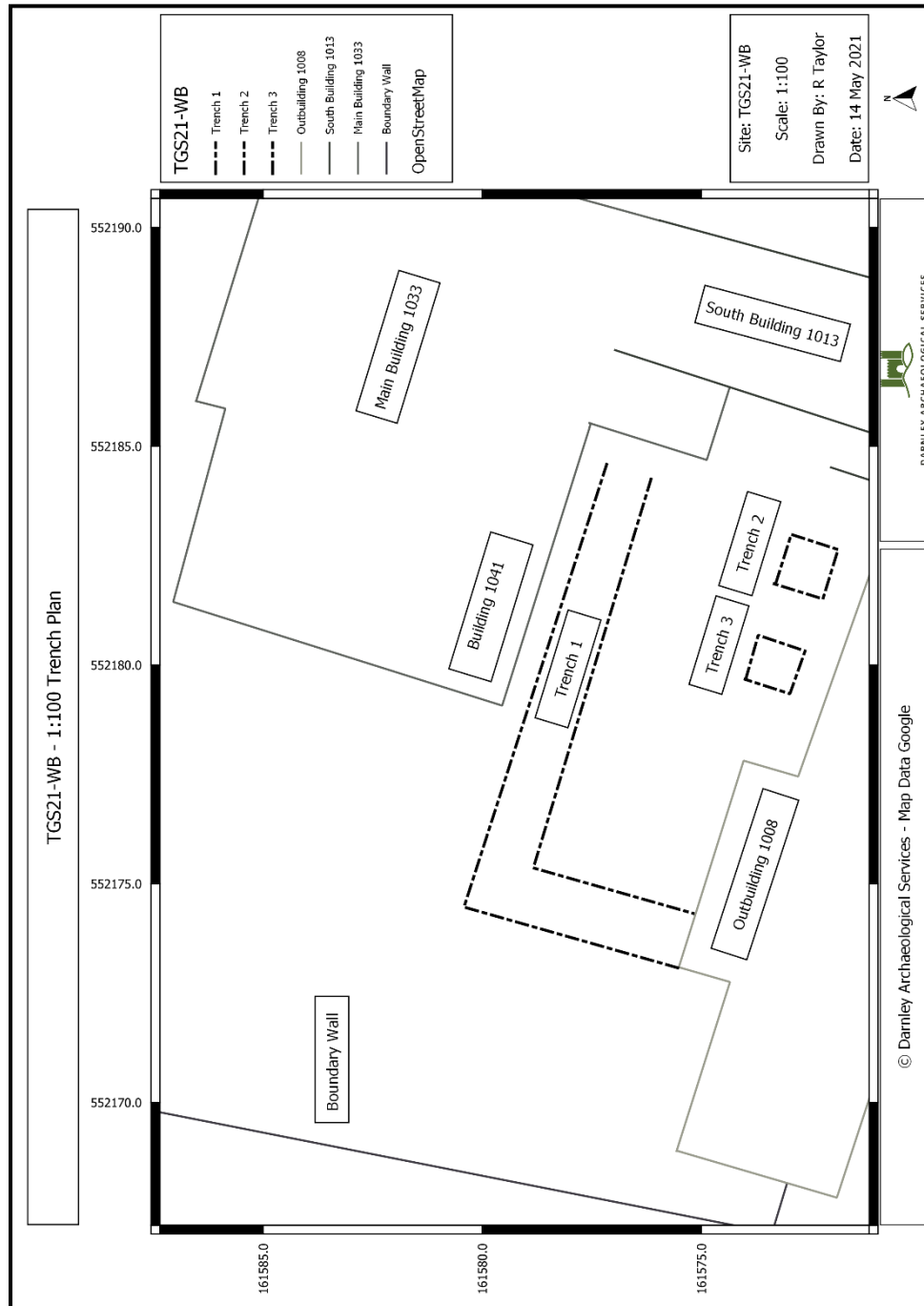


(Fig 39 – excavation area before Stage 3 showing remnants of 1019, 1003 and 1030 appearing at the surface and the darker modern drain cuts of 1020, 1031, and soakaway 1022)



5.10. Stage 3

A mechanical digger excavated three trenches: Trench 1 is an L-shaped trench measuring 5m x 11m; Trenches 2 and 3 measure 1m².



(Fig 40 - 1:100 Trench Plan)



Trench 1 was excavated 0.6m wide and to a depth of 0.6m from the new ground surface. Throughout the 11.0m segment, the remaining 1019 was removed in the west, below which was a 0.1 to 0.2m band of 1003. 1003 sat above natural 1030, which, in turn, continued to the base of the trench. A 0.1m band of 1003 was removed in the east, which also sat above 1030 and continued to the trench base. Throughout the 5.0m segment, the remaining 1019 was removed in the west, below which was a 0.1 to 0.2m band of 1003. 1003 sat above natural 1030, which, in turn, continued to the base of the trench.



(Fig 41 - looking west along Trench 1)



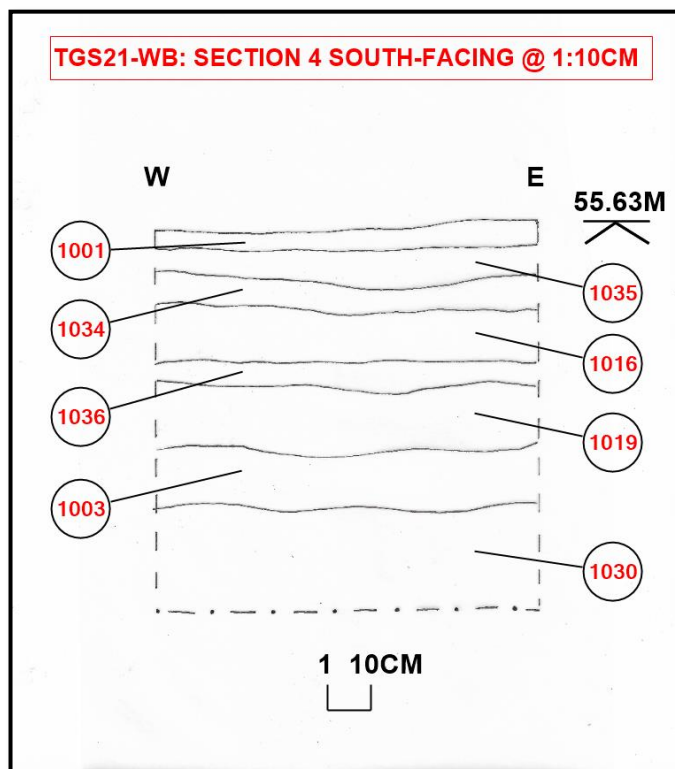
(Fig 42 - looking north along Trench 1)

No archaeological features or finds were recovered during the excavation of Trench 1. However, Trench 1 did confirm natural geology, above which is 1003, the dark brown sandy clay – chalk flecks – and, due to its stratigraphic position, further implies it is probably an early occupation layer across the site.

A complete stratigraphic sequence from 1001 to the natural geology 1030 is visible at the northeast of Trench 1. Modern tarmac 1001 sits above 0.1m of 1035, a later courtyard surface of brick pieces in a thin clay and chalk matrix. 1035 sits above 1034, 0.05m of a chalk spread. Below 1034 is 0.1 to 0.15m of 1016, an earlier courtyard surface of brick pieces and chalk. 1016 sits above 0.05m of 1036, a layer of brown sand believed to be bedding for 1016. Below 1036 is 0.1m to 0.2m of 1019, a surface of compacted chalk, and likely the earliest courtyard or hard standing associated with the George Inn. Below 1019 is 1003, a dark brown sandy clay with chalk flecks and a probable early occupation layer. Foundation courses 1012 and 1015 are cut into 1003, suggesting a date of before c.1550 AD. 1003 sits above an undetermined depth of 1030, a buff sandy silt containing pulverised chalk and probable upper Head deposits (natural).



(Fig 43 – looking north at Section 4 at a stratigraphic sequence from 1001 to natural geology)



(Fig 44 – south-facing Section 4 detailing complete stratigraphic sequence from 1001 to natural geology)



Trenches 2 and 3, both 1.0m² post pads, were excavated to a depth of 0.6m. In Trench 2, 0.2m of 1003 sat above 0.4m of 1030. Three sherds (same vessel) were recovered from 1003; they reaffirmed that 1003 is a medieval layer. All three sherds are Northwest Kent fine-moderate greyware (Dartford 'rilled' ware) c.1225-1400 AD (Fig 46 and **12.3**).



(Fig 45 - looking north at Trench 2)



(Fig 46 - Northwest Kent fine-moderate greyware (Dartford 'rilled' ware) c.1225-1400 AD from 1003)



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In Trench 3, 0.2m of 1003 sat above 0.4m of 1030. No archaeology or finds were recovered from Trench 3.



(Fig 47 - looking north at Trench 3)



6. FINDS

- 6.1. Several finds were recovered during the watching brief with a probable date range of c.1225 AD to the present day, all of which are characteristic of the site's use as a domestic/public house that further suggests the site may also have earlier medieval origins.
- 6.2. Pottery, animal bone, building stone provided accurate diagnostic dating evidence and is subject to additional photographic analysis in Appendix B.

Find Type	Quantity	Trench No.	Context No.
Pottery	4	n/a	Unstratified
Pottery	1	n/a	1012
Pottery	16	n/a	1016
Pottery	16	n/a	1025
CBM	2	n/a	1025
Pottery	3	2	1003
Pottery	1	n/a	1027
CBM	1	n/a	1027
Animal Bone	2	n/a	1038
Animal Bone	1	n/a	1025
Animal Bone	1	n/a	1029
Shell	1	n/a	1025

(Table 2 – Finds according to type, quantity, Trench No & Context No)

SF No.	Special Find Type	Quantity	Trench No.	Context No.
SF1	Dressed Building Stone (Greensand) (see Figs 24 & 25)	1	n/a	1003
SF2	Dressed Building Stone (Ragstone) (see Figs 26 & 27)	1	n/a	1003

(Table 3 – Special Finds according to type, quantity, Trench No & Context No)

Pottery

- 6.3. A small assemblage of Medieval pottery comprising three sherds was recovered from one context; a larger assemblage of Post-Medieval pottery comprising thirty-three sherds from five separate contexts was also recovered. Some of the sherds are subject to additional photographic analysis in Appendix B.

Context No.	No of Sherds	Date Range	Description
Unstrat	1	c.1830 – 1860 AD	Ribbed clay pipe bowl (See 12.1)
Unstrat	1	c.1900 – 1920 AD	Base of a ginger beer bottle (12.2)
Unstrat	1	Unknown	Clay pipe stem
Unstrat	1	C.1800 – 1900 AD	Kentish Red Earthenware – Dark streaked iron glaze



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1003	3	c.1225 – 1400 AD	Northwest Kent fine-moderate greyware (Dartford 'rilled' ware) (12.3)
1016	6	Unknown	Clay pipe stems
1016	1	c.1800 – 1900 AD	Kentish Red Earthenware – Dark streaked iron glaze
1016	1	c.1825 – 1900 AD	Staffordshire Yellow Ware
1016	1	c.1850 – 1900 AD	Blue & White Transfer Pattern
1016	3	c.1875 – 1925 AD	Selection of Tableware
1025	2	Unknown	Clay Pipe Stems
1025	1	c.1825 – 1900 AD	Staffordshire Yellow Ware (12.4)
1025	6	c.1800 – 1900 AD	Kentish Red Earthenware – Dark streaked iron glaze (12.5)
1025	3	c.1850 – 1900 AD	Stoneware Jug (1 x neck; 2 x body sherds) (12.6)
1025	1	c.1850 – 1900 AD	Blue & White Tea cup Base (12.7)
1025	2	c.1850 – 1900 AD	Selection of Tableware
1027	1	c. 1750 – 1800 AD	Kentish Red Earthenware – Rim (12.8)

(Table 4 – Analysis of pottery finds)

- 6.4. A small assemblage of Kentish peg tile **(12.9)** comprising three fragments was obtained from contexts 1016 and 1027 and probably associated with construction or repair episodes of the George Inn over time.
- 6.5. A small assemblage of animal bone **(12.10 & 12.11)** and oyster shell **(12.12)** comprising butchered animal bone (cow & sheep) from contexts 1025, 1029, and an oyster shell from context 1025.



7. INTERPRETATION

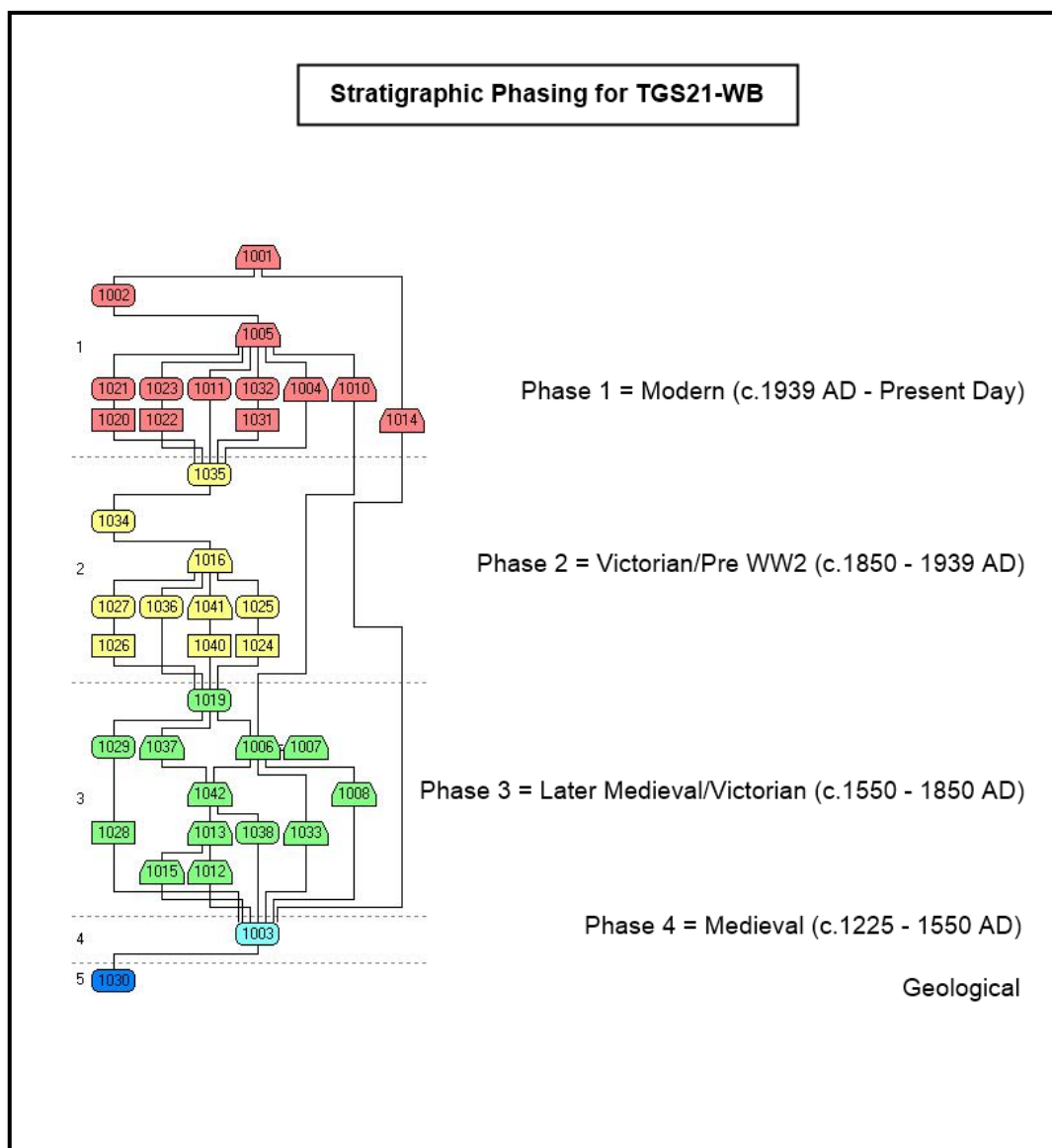
- 7.1. The results of the watching brief revealed phasing and a stratigraphic sequence for the George Inn's past from c.1550 AD to the present day, confirming use in a domestic/commercial context. Archaeological finds recovered during the watching brief also suggest that an earlier Medieval building likely occupied the site (or nearby) before the present George Inn building, which probably existed between the dates of c.1225 to 1550 AD.
- 7.2. Given the reasonably high-status stonework (SF1 and SF2), combined with the fact that the Church of St Peter and St Paul is the only remaining building/structure from this earlier Medieval period, an ecclesiastical building of some description may account for the Medieval structure on the site (or nearby) the present George Inn building. Alternatively, the high-status stonework may be discarded on account of a 16th century adaptation to the Church. Without further investigation, it is difficult to confirm either way. Therefore, the conclusion of the Watching Brief is to state that an earlier Medieval building likely occupied the site (or nearby) before the present George Inn building.
- 7.3. A general chronology for the building and associated event are given below:

DATE	EVENT
C.1225 AD	Construction of Medieval building (SF1 & 2 probably used in building fabric)
C.1550 AD	Demolition of Medieval building
C.1550 AD	Construction of private house (1033), thought to have been occupied by Thomas Peltley in the 16th century.
C.1750 AD	Construction of 1008 as coach building
C.1750 AD	Construction of 1013 (possible smithy area to serve 1008) as an addition to 1033
C.1832 AD	The first mention of the building as a public house – confirming its change from a private house.
C.1832 – 1871 AD	Construction of 1041 increasing the size of the George Inn public house
C.1980 AD	Construction of modern toilet block 1004

(Table 5 – Chronology of events associated with the George Inn)



7.4. The following stratigraphic sequence summarises the phasing of the George Inn site:



(Fig 48 – Stratigraphic sequence/phasing for TGS21-WB)



8. CONCLUSION

- 8.1. The watching brief has fulfilled the KCC Watching Brief Specification aims and objectives and the Written Scheme of Investigation. The groundworks demonstrated numerous archaeological finds and a stratigraphic sequence (Fig 48), confirming the site in a domestic/commercial context, from c.1220 AD to Present Day. Archaeological features were observed, and the site's archaeological significance is considered potentially significant in Shoreham's development as a village. The Medieval origins of the site would benefit from an investigation at some stage. From residential property to Public House, the story of the George Inn building is a vital component of the local history.

9. ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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

10. REFERENCES

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11. APPENDIX A – SITE IMAGES






Image	Description
	<p>11.1</p> <p>Interior of 1033 looking north through bar area; Church Street is behind the Chimney stack to the north. Inside 1033 shows the remains of an open hall with much heavy exposed timber throughout.</p>
	<p>11.2</p> <p>Interior of 1033 looking south through bar area; 1013 is behind the Chimney stack to the south. Inside 1033 shows the remains of an open hall with much heavy exposed timber throughout.</p>
	<p>11.3</p> <p>Interior aspect of the west wall for 1041 – note how foundation course is made up of flint nodules bonded with mortar, not dissimilar to 1012</p>



Image	Description
	<p>11.14</p> <p>Looking north at probable original gable end to building 1033. The timbers to the south appear an addition to the gable.</p>
	<p>11.5</p> <p>Looking north at chimney stack. Much of this is contemporary with 1033 (c.1550 AD) and would have been an external feature exposed to the elements before the construction of 1013.</p>
	<p>11.6</p> <p>Looking east at timber framework for 1013. Notice how the chimney stack has been adapted later to make an additional open fireplace for 1013 when the extension was constructed.</p>



12. APPENDIX B - FINDS IMAGES

Image	Description
	<p>12.1</p> <p>Ribbed clay pipe bowl, likely from the earlier period of the building's past as the George Inn c.1830 – 1860 AD.</p>
	<p>12.2</p> <p>Base of a ginger beer bottle c.1900 – 1920 AD.</p>
	<p>12.3</p> <p>Northwest Kent fine-moderate greyware (Dartford 'rilled' ware) c.1225 – 1400 AD.</p>




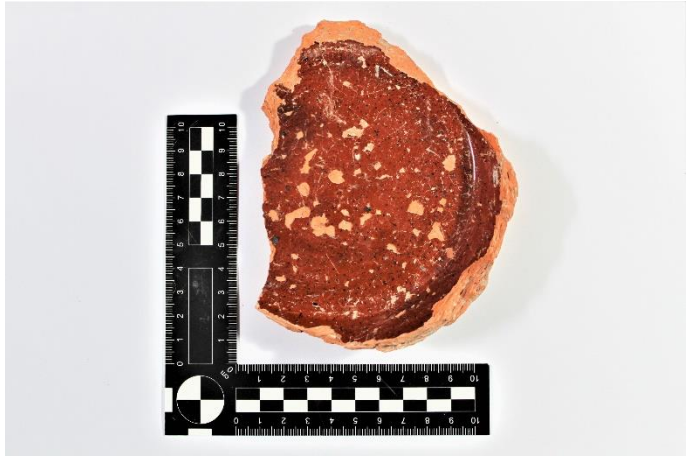

Image	Description
	<p>12.4</p> <p>Staffordshire Yellow Ware c.1825 – 1900 AD.</p>
	<p>12.5</p> <p>Kentish Red Earthenware – Dark streaked iron glaze c.1800 – 1900 AD</p>
	<p>12.6</p> <p>Stoneware Jug (1 x neck; 2 x body sherds) c.1850 – 1900 AD</p>






Image	Description
	<p>12.7</p> <p>Blue & White Teacup Base c.1850 – 1900 AD</p>
	<p>12.8</p> <p>Kentish Red Earthenware – Rim c.1750 – 1800 AD</p>
	<p>12.9</p> <p>A small assemblage of Kentish peg tile c.1800 - 1900 AD</p>



Image	Description
	<p>12.10</p> <p>Butchered animal bone (cow tibia?) from context 1025.</p>
	<p>12.11</p> <p>Animal Bone (sheep metacarpal) from context 1038.</p>
	<p>12.12</p> <p>Oyster shell from context 1025.</p>