Tarrant Street, Rear of 51 High Street, Arundel West Sussex

NGR: TQ 0183 0710

Archaeological Watching Brief Written Scheme of Investigation Planning Application Ref.: AB/44/10

ASE Project no. 5726

Site Code: TSA 12

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1.0 Introduction

1.1 Archaeology South-East (ASE), the contracting division of the Centre for Applied Archaeology at the UCL Institute of Archaeology, have been commissioned by Counterpoint Properties Ltd to undertake an archaeological watching brief during the installation of a drain and construction of a new building at Tarrant Street, Arundel, West Sussex (centred NGR TQ 0183 0710), (Figs 1 and 2).

1.2 Arun District Council have granted planning permission (AB/44/10) to Counterpoint Properties Ltd for the renewal of an unimplemented planning consent (original ref.: AB/32/05) for the construction of two new shops with two self-contained maisonettes. Due to the known archaeological potential of the site a condition has been attached to planning consent AB/44/10 for a programme of archaeological work; Condition 6 states:

"*An archaeological investigation of the site shall be carried out at the expense of the developer in accordance with a specification to be submitted to and agreed by the Local Planning Authority in writing before the commencement of any building works.*

REASON: The site is of archaeological significance and it is important that it is recorded by excavation before it is destroyed by development in accordance with policy AREA17 of Arun District Local Plan

1.3 This document is a Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) prepared with reference to the communication with WSCC, and their *Recommended Standard Archaeological Conditions* (version 2b), henceforth "the Standard Conditions". All work will be carried out in accordance with these documents (unless otherwise specified below), and the relevant *Standards and Guidance* of the Institute for Archaeologists (IfA).

1.4 Further detailed work may be required if the work reveals significant archaeological remains and will be covered under a separate (WSI).

1.5 The site fronting Tarrant Street, lies within the medieval historical centre of Arundel, the High Street, Tarrant Street and Maltravers Street being thought to have been the earliest streets planned and laid out in the town, after the building of Arundel Castle *c*. 1070.

1.6 The British Geological Survey Sheet 317/332 shows the site lies on Upper chalk.

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2.0 Archaeological Background

2.1 A 500m radial search of the HER database identified over 50 sites and a selection of the more significant are listed below. A more complete background can be found in the Sussex Extensive Urban Survey for Arundel (Harris 2009).

2.2 No archaeological features dating to the prehistoric period have been found during numerous, albeit small-scale archaeological interventions in Arundel. However, 'background noise' comprising worked and fired-cracked flints of Palaeolithic and Mesolithic date have been found.

2.3 Tarrant Street Roman Villa was first discovered in 1896 at the west end of Tarrant Street. Excavations over the years have found a Roman pavement and tiles, traces of a heated room, a well and a floor. Excavations at 54-6 Tarrant Street in 1995 also found a probable Roman chalk and flint wall footing.

2.4 *Arundel* derives from the Old English *Hahune Dell* ('horehound valley') and predates the castle and settlement. The church of St Nicholas is first recorded in the Domesday Book of 1086, which cites the clergy as having six hides of land in Harting (and had done so pre-Conquest). A market had also been established by this point.

2.5 Throughout the first half of the medieval period Arundel's wealth and importance grew, supported by two markets and the port, which provided a route to Normandy. From 1295 the importance of the town was such that it sent two representatives to Parliament, and it was ranked above Steyning and Bramber combined in terms of its economic status.

2.2 The site's potential and the reason for this investigation lies primarily within its location in the general geography of the historic town, as well as the known archaeological remains that exist on the site, as outlined below (2.3).

2.3 The previous evaluation trench (MWS6739) on the site revealed part of a sub-rectangular pit containing 13th-century pottery, two pits containing 14th-century pottery, an undated, but probably medieval cut feature and the remains of an inserted and later infilled post-medieval cellar.

2.4 Soil samples from one of the medieval features contained seeds, shells, small animal bones, fish bones and scales, and possible fruit pips; another pit of 13th century date contained numerous fish scales.

Map No.	SMR Number	Monument Type	National Grid Reference	Comments
1	MWS2689	Historic Town of Arundel	TQ 01659 07312	

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2	MWS2695	Augustinian Priory and Hospital	TQ 02470 06330	
3	MWS3446	St Nicholas Church and Fitzalan Chapel	TQ 01654 07228	
4	MWS3514	Arundel Castle	TQ 01850 07350	
5	MWS3515	Arundel Town Defences	TQ 01970 07080	
6	MWS3732	Holy Trinity Hospital	TQ 01600 07270	
7	MWS3733	Alleged Dominican Priory	TQ 01570 07040	
8	MWS3854	Tarrant street	TQ 01550 06940	Roman pottery find spot
9	MWS4221	Blackfriars	TQ 0197 0709	Evaluation trench; some medieval pottery and some building material recovered
10	MWS4360	Town Quay Steps	TQ 01922 07006	Post-medieval quay
11	MWS4364	St Mary's Gate	TQ 01550 07330	Medieval gate
12	MWS4365	Archaeological Intervention, 6 Queen Street	TQ 02030 06930	Negative results
13	MWS4437	Wall footing, Tarrant Street	TQ 01550 06940	Roman
14	MWS4765	Blackfriars, formerly Maison Dieu	TQ 01971 07094	Medieval monastery
15	MWS5396	Roman Villa	TQ 01539 06924	
16	MWS5716	Malthouse	TQ 02000 06800	19th century
17	MWS6372	Archaeological Evaluation, Arundel Castle, North Bailey	TQ 01810 07400	
18	MWS6504	33 High St	TQ 01879 07061	17th century house
19	MWS6739	Tarrant Street, r/o 51 High Street	TQ 0183 0710	Evaluation; see below
20	MWS6741	Watching Brief Rear of Old Poorhouse, Mount Pleasant	TQ 0142 0708	Medieval pottery finds
21	MWS7058	18th Century Steps, Arundel Castle	TQ 01781 07471	
22	MWS7066	The Slipe, Surrey Street	TQ 01468 06878	
23	MWS7553	Archaeological Investigations, 46 Tarrant Street	TQ 01586 06963	Negative
24	MWS7579	WWII Infantry Post	TQ 019 074	
25	MWS7580	WWII Infantry Post	TQ 018 075	
26	MWS7582	WWII Infantry Post	TQ 019 073	
27	MWS8563	41 High Street	TQ 01878 07083	Medieval building
28	MWS9027	War Memorial	TQ 0188 0709	
29	MWS9028	War Memorial	TQ 0195 0706	

3.0 Aims

3.1 The aims of the archaeological watching brief are, in summary, are to ascertain:

a) whether archaeological remains survive within the pipe trench or within the footprint of the new building
b) the character date and quality of the archaeological remains and deposits
c) how they might be affected by the development of the site
d) whether particularly important remains should be preserved *in situ*
e) what options should be considered for mitigation

3.2 With reference to the Sussex EUS for Arundel (Harris 2009) and the known archaeological remains on the site the following specific Research Framework queries shall be considered:

RQ19: How have tenements/burgage plots developed from the first built-up street frontages to the plots that survive today? Have the latter been subdivided as a result of commercial pressure between 1250 and 1350, and did the High Street expand by means of an advancing river frontage?

RQ20: What different zones (e.g. social differentiation, or tupes of activity: especially consider industry, the relocation of the market, the extent of the built-up area within the walls, the development of the religious houses, and the Queen Street suburb) were there during this period, and how did they change?

3.3 In the event that archaeological remains of other periods are identified during the work the Research Framework for those periods will be consulted.

4.0 Methodology

4.1 The proposed pipe trench and foundation for the new building will be excavated by mini-digger and hand.

4.2 Should archaeological remains be encountered, machine and groundworker excavation must cease and they will be hand dug by the attendant archaeologist.

4.3 All ground works will be monitored by an archaeologist, unless the deposits have been proven to be undisturbed natural geology.

4.4 In the event of significant archaeological remains being discovered, an on-site meeting between ASE, John Mills, WSCC Senior Archaeologist and the client, will be convened to decide the best method.

5.0 Excavation and Recording Techniques

5.1 Excavation strategy will be in accordance with Annexe A of the Standard Conditions.

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5.2 One of the key objectives of this investigation is to further excavate and sample the artefact-rich pit found during the evaluation, in the event that it is exposed by the proposed groundworks. If this is so care will be taken to ensure that groundwork excavations only go to the top of the feature. Careful hand excavation and sampling thereafter will undertaken by an experienced archaeologist where the feature is to be removed by the proposed impact. Consideration for the degree of sampling should further medieval and/or post-medieval pits/ditches be found will be undertaken in consultation with WSCC's archaeologist.

5.3 All archaeological features and deposits will be recorded using the standard context record sheets used by Archaeology South-East.

5.4 All spoil derived from archaeological features and deposits will be scanned by a member of ASE's staff using a metal detector.

5.5 Archaeological structures, features and deposits exposed or excavated will be planned in relation to the trench and the trench planned onto a copy of the Ordnance Survey map not smaller than 1:2500 scale.

5.6 A full photographic record (colour slide and black & white) will be maintained throughout the duration of the evaluation. Digital colour images of work in progress, significant features, will be included in the report.

5.7 The WSCC Archaeologist will be informed at the earliest opportunity of any archaeological features or deposits worthy of preservation.

5.8 Environmental sampling will be in accordance with section 7 of the WSCC Standard Conditions, and Section 7.3 below.

6.0 Treatment of Human Remains

6.1 If human remains are found, work will cease and all necessary statutory provisions followed. ASE will inform the Coroners office, the client and the WSCC Senior Archaeologist.

7.0 Treatment of Artefacts and Ecofacts other than Human Remains

7.1 Pottery, worked flint, metal and other finds of archaeological significance will be retained and treated according to standard Archaeology South-East procedures. Identification of retained finds will be undertaken by staff of, and specialists contracted by, Archaeology-South East as necessary.

7.2 In carrying out post-excavation work and analysis of ceramics from the Site, Archaeology South-East will liaise with the Research Officer of the Sussex Archaeological Society (currently Mr Luke Barber, Research

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Officer, Sussex Archaeological Society, Barbican House, 169 High Street, Lewes, East Sussex BN7 1YE) with a view to ensuring a concordance between fabric type descriptions of ceramics from this site and those employed on other recently excavated sites in the area and those commonly employed elsewhere in Sussex. The reason for such liaison is to ensure against a proliferation of different systems of ceramic fabric type descriptions and nomenclature in the area of the relevant site. **NB.** Example sherds of each identified ceramic fabric type, with context information, to be sent by post to the Research Officer (address above) for comment, with stamps for return.

7.3 Bulk samples will be processed using tank flotation unless considered detrimental to the samples or recovery rate (such as for waterlogged samples). Bulk samples will target recovery of plant remains (charcoal and macrobotanicals), fish, bird, small mammal and amphibian bone, and small artefacts. Waterlogged samples will be wet sieved through nested sieves and stored in wet, cool conditions or dried if considered an appropriate form of conservation for the remains. Specialist samples may also be taken from dry or waterlogged contexts. Such samples will target recovery of pollen (using monolith tins), molluscs, foraminifera, parasites and insects. Larger samples (80-100 litres) will be extracted wholesale from deposits rich in marine molluscs and large mammal bones. As a general rule waterlogged wood specimens will be recorded in detail in their original location. If removed they will be cleaned, photographed and a thin section sample will be taken for identification. Specimens will either be stored in wet cool conditions or dried if considered appropriate for the material. In all instances deposits with clear intrusive material shall be avoided.

8.0 Post-Excavation Analysis, Reporting and Archive

8.1 This will follow the requirements of the Standard Conditions.

8.2 A summary report will be produced within one week of completion of fieldwork and supplied to the client and the archaeological officers of West Sussex County Council. A full written report, including plans, digital photographs and drawings, will be completed within four weeks of the completion of the on-site fieldwork; this will be dependant on the prompt production of any necessary specialist reports. The report will include on the front page and/or within the first page of text the planning application reference (s), District and Civil Parish, and OS map reference 9min. 8-figure). The report will include at the front of the text an Abstract summarising the findings, including 8- or 10- figure OS map reference, District and Civil parish, planning application reference (s), and finds site code.

8.3 A draft copy of the report will be sent to the County Archaeologist, West Sussex County Council in the first instance for his comments and approval. Once the report has been accepted further copies and one

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electronic copy in PDF format will be sent to WSCC and the client as appropriate.

8.4 Upon completion of the fieldwork an OASIS (Online Access to the Index of Archaeological Investigations) form will be completed for the project. A print-out of the form will be included as an appendix to the final report.

8.5 Permission will be sought for the deposition of finds at Arundel Museum.

9.0 Project Management

The fieldwork will be managed by Andy Leonard (Project Manager) and the post-excavation reporting by Louise Rayner (Assistant Director).

10.0 Health and Safety

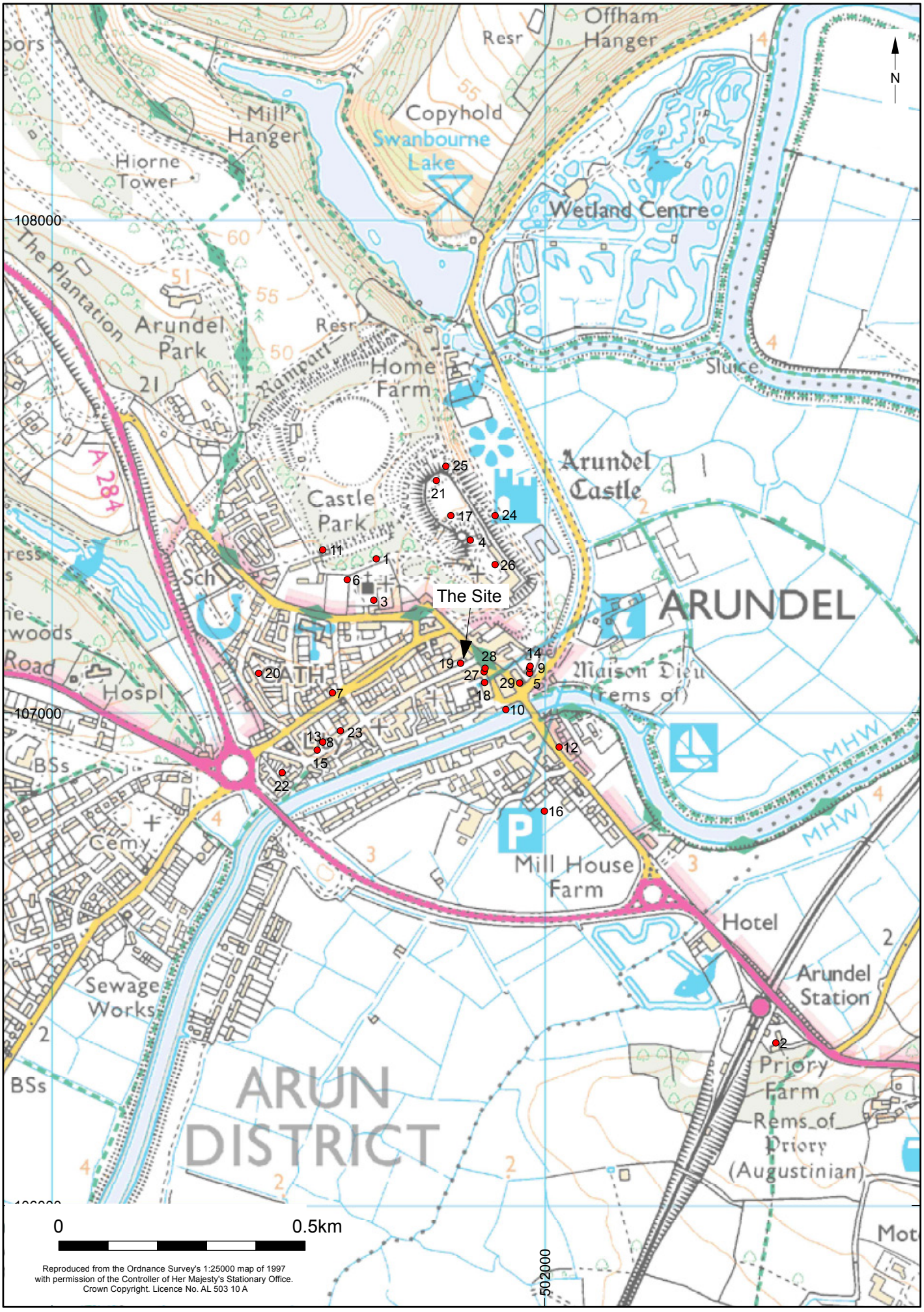
10.1 Health and Safety must take priority over archaeological requirements. It is essential that all projects be carried out in accordance with safe working practices and under a defined Health and Safety Policy. A Risk Assessment for the project will be prepared prior to the commencement of work and all relevant health and safety regulations will be adhered to.

11.0 Insurance

11.1 Archaeology South-East is insured against claims for: public liability to the value of £50,000,000 any one occurrence and in the aggregate for products liability; professional indemnity to the value of £10,000,000 any one occurrence; employer's liability to the value of £50,000,000 each and every loss.

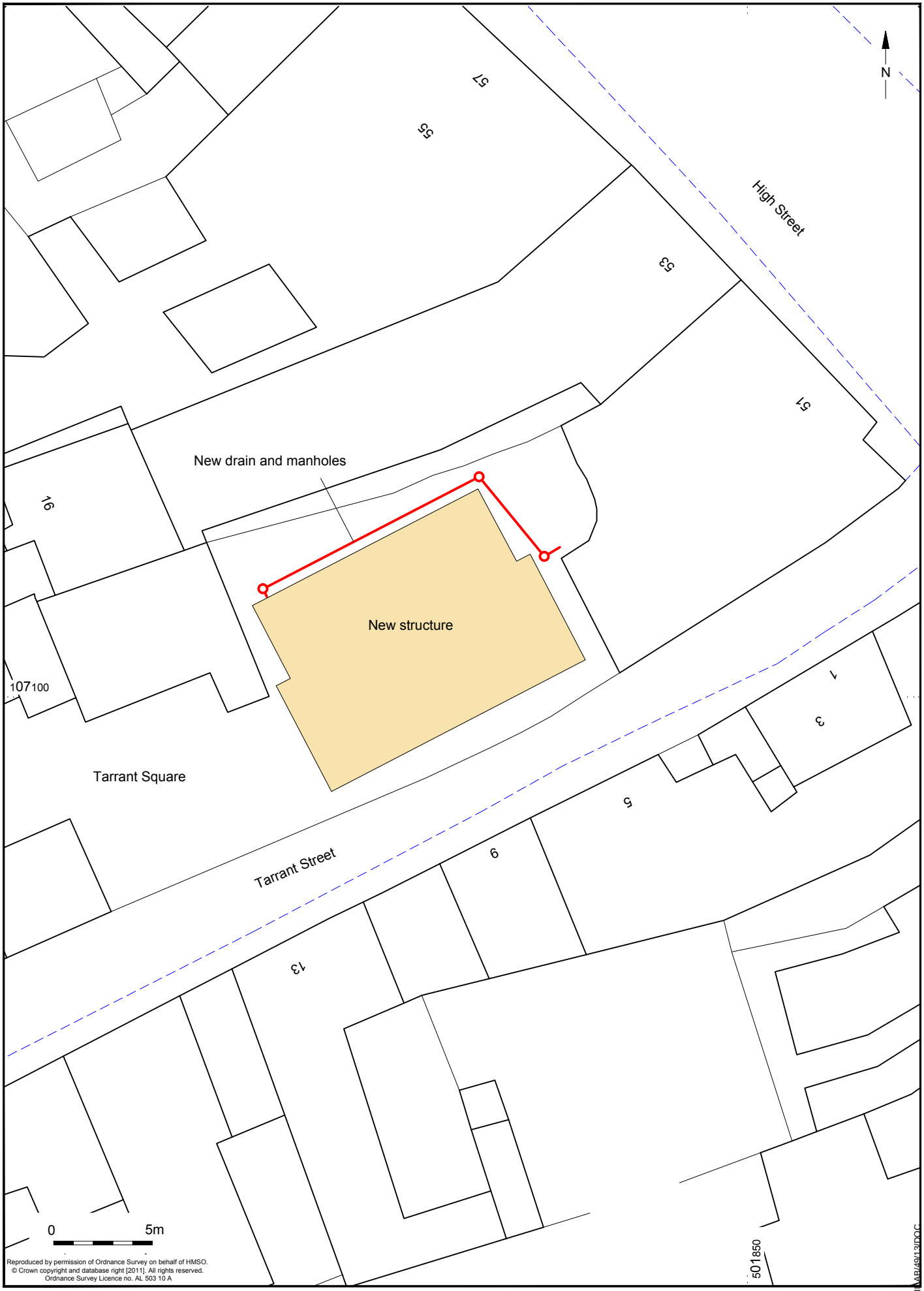
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© Archaeology South-East		Tarrant Square, Arundel	Fig. 1
Project Ref: 5726	Oct 2012	Site location	
Report Ref:	Drawn by: JLR		



© **Archaeology South-East**		Tarrant Square, Arundel	Fig. 2
Project Ref: 5726	Oct 2012	Location of watching brief	
Report Ref:	Drawn by: JLR		

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