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**PENNY FERRY PUBLIC HOUSE, 110 WATER STREET,
CAMBRIDGE**

AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION

CHER No. ECB 4130

Authors: Steve Quinn (Fieldwork and report) Peter Thompson (Background)	
NGR: TL 4692 5998	Report No: 4524
District: Cambridge	Site Code: AS 1668
Approved: C Halpin MIfA	Project No: P5619
Signed:	Date: 11 March 2014

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OASIS SUMMARY SHEET			
Project name	<i>Penny Ferry Public House, 110 Water Street, Cambridge</i>		
<p><i>In March 2014 Archaeological Solutions Limited (AS) carried out an archaeological trial trench evaluation at Penny Ferry Public House, 110 Water Street, Cambridge (NGR TL 4859 9659). The evaluation was required by Cambridgeshire County Council Historic Environment Team (CCC HET), in advance of the proposed construction of a residential development of five 4-bedroom houses and ancillary works, as advisors to the Local Planning Authority (Planning Ref. 09/1200/FUL).</i></p> <p><i>The site averages 5m AOD and is located on river terrace gravels bordering the River Cam. Two Anglo-Saxon scramasaxes have been dredged from the river opposite the Pike & Eel Public House, now the Penny Ferry (CHER 05223, 04697). Belgic pottery consisting of a cordoned globular urn and a globular beaker were found on Stourbridge Common across the river from the site, which was also the location of a medieval fair (CHER 04699, 10176). A Roman coin was found 150m to the north-west of the development site (CHER 05578).</i></p> <p><i>In the event the evaluation revealed a modern ditch.</i></p>			
Project dates (fieldwork)	<i>March 2014</i>		
Previous work (Y/N/?)	<i>N</i>	Future work (Y/N/?)	<i>N</i>
P. number	<i>5619</i>	Site code	<i>AS 1668</i>
Type of project	<i>Archaeological Evaluation</i>		
Site status	<i>None</i>		
Current land use	<i>Former public house</i>		
Planned development	<i>Residential development of 5 houses and ancillary works</i>		
Main features (+dates)	<i>None</i>		
Significant finds (+dates)	<i>None</i>		
Project location			
County/ District/ Parish	<i>Cambridgeshire</i>	<i>Cambridge</i>	<i>Chesterton</i>
HER for area	<i>Cambridge Historic Environment Record (CHER)</i>		
Post code (if known)	<i>CB4 1PB</i>		
Area of site	<i>-</i>		
NGR	<i>TL4692 5998</i>		
Height AOD (min/max)	<i>c.5m AOD</i>		
Project creators			
Brief issued by	<i>Cambridgeshire County Council Historic Environment Team</i>		
Project supervisor/s (PO)	<i>Archaeological Solutions Ltd</i>		
Funded by	<i>H C Moss (Builders) Ltd</i>		
Full title	<i>Penny Ferry Public House, 110 Water Street, Cambridge Archaeological Evaluation.</i>		
Authors	<i>Peter Thompson</i>		
Report no.	<i>4524</i>		
Date (of report)	<i>March 2014</i>		

**PENNY FERRY PUBLIC HOUSE, 110 WATER STREET, CAMBRIDGE CB4
1PB**

AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION

SUMMARY

In March 2014 Archaeological Solutions Limited (AS) carried out an archaeological trial trench evaluation at Penny Ferry Public House, 110 Water Street, Cambridge (NGR TL 4859 9659). The evaluation was required by Cambridgeshire County Council Historic Environment Team (CCC HET), in advance of the proposed construction of a residential development of five 4-bedroom houses and ancillary works, as advisors to the Local Planning Authority (Planning Ref. 09/1200/FUL).

The site averages 5m AOD and is located on river terrace gravels bordering the River Cam. Two Anglo-Saxon scramasaxes have been dredged from the river opposite the Pike & Eel Public House, now the Penny Ferry (CHER 05223, 04697). Belgic pottery consisting of a cordoned globular urn and a globular beaker were found on Stourbridge Common across the river from the site, which was also the location of a medieval fair (CHER 04699, 10176). A Roman coin was found 150m to the north-west of the development site (CHER 05578).

In the event the evaluation revealed a modern ditch.

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 In March 2014 Archaeological Solutions Limited (AS) carried out an archaeological trial trench evaluation at Penny Ferry Public House, 110 Water Street, Cambridge (NGR TL 4859 9659; Figs. 1 - 2). The evaluation was required by Cambridgeshire County Council Historic Environment Team (CCC HET), in advance of the proposed construction of a residential development of five 4-bedroom houses and ancillary works, as advisors to the Local Planning Authority (Planning Ref. 09/1200/FUL; Fig.8).

1.2 The evaluation was carried out in accordance with a brief issued by CCC HET (Dan McConnell dated 23/01/2014) and a specification prepared by AS (dated 27/01/2014), approved by CCC HET. The project adhered to appropriate sections of Gurney (2003) 'Standards for Field Archaeology in the East of England', *East Anglian Archaeology Occasional Paper 14*, and the Institute for Archaeologists' *Code of Conduct and Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Field Evaluation* (revised 2008).

1.3 The aim of the archaeological evaluation was to determine, as far as was possible, the location, extent, date, character, condition, significance and quality of any surviving archaeological remains liable to be threatened by the proposed development. In addition it was hoped to clarify the nature and extent of existing disturbance and intrusions and hence assess the degree of survival of buried deposits and surviving structures of archaeological significance.

Planning policy context

1.4 The National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF 2012) states that those parts of the historic environment that have significance because of their historic, archaeological, architectural or artistic interest are heritage assets. The NPPF aims to deliver sustainable development by ensuring that policies and decisions that concern the historic environment recognise that heritage assets are a non-renewable resource, take account of the wider social, cultural, economic and environmental benefits of heritage conservation, and recognise that intelligently managed change may sometimes be necessary if heritage assets are to be maintained for the long term. The NPPF requires applications to describe the significance of any heritage asset, including its setting that may be affected in proportion to the asset's importance and the potential impact of the proposal.

1.5 The NPPF aims to conserve England's heritage assets in a manner appropriate to their significance, with substantial harm to designated heritage assets (i.e. listed buildings, scheduled monuments) only permitted in exceptional circumstances when the public benefit of a proposal outweighs the conservation of the asset. The effect of proposals on non-designated heritage assets must be balanced against the scale of loss and significance of the asset, but non-designated heritage assets of demonstrably equivalent significance may be considered subject to the same policies as those that are designated. The NPPF states that opportunities to capture evidence from the historic environment, to record and advance the understanding of heritage assets and to make this publicly available is a requirement of development management. This opportunity should be taken in a manner proportionate to the significance of a heritage asset and to impact of the proposal, particularly where a heritage asset is to be lost.

2 DESCRIPTION OF THE SITE

2.1 Chesterton is a suburb situated on the northern side of Cambridge. The development site comprises the Penny Ferry Public House and another building, with a carpark and garden in between. The site is bordered by Water Lane to the north and the River Cam to the south.

3 ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

3.1 The site averages 5m AOD and is located on river terrace gravels bordering the River Cam. Two Anglo-Saxon scramasaxes have been dredged from the river opposite the Pike & Eel Public House, now the Penny Ferry (CHER 05223, 04697). Belgic pottery consisting of a cordoned globular urn and a globular beaker were found on Stourbridge Common across the river from the site, which was also the location of a medieval fair (CHER 04699, 10176). A Roman coin was found 150m to the north-west of the development site (CHER 05578).

3.2 Approximately 270m to the north-west of the proposed development site an archaeological evaluation identified a number of Saxo-Norman occupation features dominated by a slot running NNW-SSE, that may have represented a substantial building (CHER 13018). In the same location another evaluation revealed the remains of a post-medieval clunch-built cellar backfilled in the 18th century. The deposits sitting above and to the west of the cellar were 18th and 19th century in date, and associated with the building of the Butchers Arms Public House (CHER MCB 15910).

3.3 Trial trenching approximately 185m north of the proposed development site revealed that the locality had been subject to intensive gravel quarrying. These areas of quarrying contained sherds of Medieval and post-Medieval pottery, 19th century glass and a single stem fragment from a clay tobacco pipe (CHER MB 19557).

3.4 The c.1840 Tithe map shows the area of the proposed development site consists of several plots of land located between the road and the river, with a building fronting the road on the east side, and a pond to its east (Fig. 3). The 1888 OS map shows several buildings on the development site lining the road, including the Pike & Eel Public House, and another small building to the west (Fig. 4). The remainder of the site to the west contains trees and a track or path. The 1903 OS map indicates that a larger building is now located on the west side of the site, with the buildings fronting the road remaining as they were (Fig. 5). The 1938 and 1950 OS maps show significant no change to the 1903 map (Fig. 6 & 7).

4 METHODOLOGY

4.1 The brief required trial trenching to comprise a c.5% sample of the site. The trenching was carried out prior to the demolition of the public house and focussed on the accessible areas of the pub car park (one trench 15m x 1.60m) and the eastern garden area (one trench 10m x 1.6m).

4.2 Undifferentiated overburden was removed under close archaeological supervision using a mechanical excavator fitted with a toothless ditching bucket. Thereafter, all further investigation was undertaken by hand. Exposed surfaces were cleaned as appropriate and examined for archaeological features and finds. Deposits were recorded using *pro forma* recording sheets, drawn to scale and photographed. Excavated spoil was checked for finds and the trenches were scanned by metal detector.

5 DESCRIPTION OF RESULTS

Individual trench descriptions are presented below:

Trench 1 (Figs. 2 & 9)

Sample Section 1A

0.00= 5.27m AOD		
0.00 – 0.20m	L1010	Ashphalt and Hardcore.
0.20 – 0.46m	L1004	Made Ground. Dark greyish brown, compact, silty clay with frequent gravel.
0.46 – 0.90m	L1005	Made Ground. Light grey brown, compact, silty clay with frequent small gravel.
0.90m+	L1006	Natural. Alluvium. Mid blue grey, compact, silt.

Sample Section 1B 0.00= 5.11m AOD		
0.00 – 0.26m	L1000	Topsoil. Dark orange brown, silty clay.
0.26 – 0.50m	L1004	Made Ground. As above
0.50 – 1.01m	L1005	Made Ground. As above
1.01m +	L1006	Natural. As above

Description: No archaeological features or finds were present in Trench 1.

Trench 2 (Figs. 2 & 9)

Sample Section 2A 0.00 = 5.14m AOD		
0.00 – 0.25m	L1000	Topsoil. As above
0.25 – 0.49m	L1001	Subsoil/Made Ground. Dark greyish brown, compact, silty clay with frequent gravel
0.49 – 0.85m	L1002	Buried Soil. Dark greyish brown, compact, silty clay with frequent gravel.
0.85m+	L1009	Natural. Orange yellow, compact, sandy gravel.

Sample Section 2B 0.00 = 4.90m AOD		
0.00 – 0.12m	L1010	Ashphalt and Hardcore.
0.12 – 0.36m	L1000	Topsoil. As above
0.36 – 0.82m	L1001	Subsoil/Made Ground. As above
0.82 – 1.26m	L1002	Buried Soil. As above
1.26m+	L1003	Alluvium. Mid blue grey, compact, silt.

Description: Modern Ditch F1007 was recorded in Trench 2.

Ditch F1007 was linear (1.10m+ x 2.10m x 0.80m), orientated NNW/SSE. It had moderately sloping sides and a concave base. Its fill, L1008, was a dark grey brown, compact, silty clay with frequent gravel. It contained modern CBM. It cut L1002.

6 CONFIDENCE RATING

6.1 It is not felt that any factors inhibited the recognition of archaeological features or finds during the evaluation.

7 DEPOSIT MODEL

7.1 The site was commonly overlain by modern made ground deposits (Trench 1 L1004 and L1005; Trench 2 L1000 and L1001). In Trench 1 these deposits directly overlay the natural, and in Trench 2 they overlay a preserved buried soil, L1002.

7.2 The natural deposits L1006 (Trench 1) and L1103 (Trench 2) were (0.85 – 1.26m below the current ground level).

8 DISCUSSION

8.1 The site averages 5m AOD and is located on river terrace gravels bordering the River Cam. Two Anglo-Saxon scramasaxes have been dredged from the river opposite the Pike & Eel Public House, now the Penny Ferry (CHER 05223, 04697). Belgic pottery consisting of a cordoned globular urn and a globular beaker were found on Stourbridge Common across the river from the site, which was also the location of a medieval fair (CHER 04699, 10176). A Roman coin was found 150m to the north-west of the development site (CHER 05578).

8.2 In the event the evaluation recorded a modern ditch (Trench 2 F1007).

9 DEPOSITION OF THE ARCHIVE

Archive records, with an inventory, will be deposited with any donated finds from the site at the Cambridgeshire County Store. The archive will be quantified, ordered, indexed, cross-referenced and checked for internal consistency. In addition to the overall site summary, it will be necessary to produce a summary of the artefactual and ecofactual data.

10 ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Archaeological Solutions Limited would like to thank H C Moss (Builders) Ltd for commissioning the work (in particular Mr Paul Ursell for assistance), and Mr Nick Phillips of DPA Architects for this assistance.

AS is pleased to acknowledge the advice and input of Mr Dan McConnell of Cambridgeshire County Council Historic Environment Team, and the staff of the Cambridgeshire Historic Environment Record.

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APPENDIX 1 - CONCORDANCE OF FINDS

AS1668, Penny Ferry Public House, Water Street, Cambridge

Concordance of finds by feature

Feature	Context	Segment	Trench	Description	Spot Date	Pottery	CBM (g)	A. Bone (g)
1002			2	Buried Soil	17th-18th C	(2) 368g		
1003			2	Clay Layer			382	
1005			1	Made Ground	Late 18th-Early 20th C	(7) 236g		
1006			1	Clay Layer	Late 18th-Early 20th C	(1) 273g		
1007	1008		2	Fill of Ditch	Modern		1216	

APPENDIX 2 - SPECIALIST REPORTS

The Pottery

by Peter Thompson

The evaluation recovered 11 moderately abraded fragments of pottery weighing 865g representing five vessels. Buried soil L1002 contained two pieces of glazed post-medieval red earthenware, including a base with trailed slip decoration which are probably of 18th century date. Layers L1005 and L1006 contained mocha type ware and English stoneware representing three further vessels.

Feature	Context	Quantity	Date	Comment
Buried soil	1002	3x363g PMRE	17 th - 18 th	PMRE 2 vessels. X1 jar base with internal olive green glaze and trailed slip; x1 jar wall sherd with internal olive glaze
Made ground	1005	6x203g MOCH 1x28g ENGS	Late 18 th -early 20 th	MOCH: all one ?jug with decorated bands of white and brown, base 14cm diameter ENGS: bowl rim 16cm diameter
Clay layer	1006	1x271g MOCH	Late 18 th to early 20 th	MOCH: jar or jug base 16cm diameter

The Ceramic Building Materials

Andrew Peachey

The evaluation recovered a total of 11 fragments (1598g) of post-medieval CBM in a fragmentary condition; the bulk of which comprised mid 18th-19th century white brick, although a single fabric of peg tile was also present.

Ditch F1007 (L1008) contained ten fragments (1216g) of white brick, derived from at least three individual bricks. The fragmentary bricks had a thickness of 60mm with a flat base, fairly regular arrises and faces. They were manufactured in a pale yellow-brown fabric with inclusions of abundant fine quartz (<0.1mm, typically fused), sparse red iron rich grains (<0.25mm), occasional flint and burnt out straw

(<5mm). One example exhibits the remnants of lead glaze on its header and upper face. Bricks such as these were manufactured in the mid 18th to 19th century, notably at Burwell but also widely in Suffolk. Clay Layer L1003 contained a single fragment (382g) of peg tile in a very hard-fired fabric that is likely contemporary with the white brick.

PHOTOGRAPHIC INDEX



1
Trench 1 post-excavation looking east



2
Sample section 1A looking north-east



3
Trench 2 post-excavation looking north-east



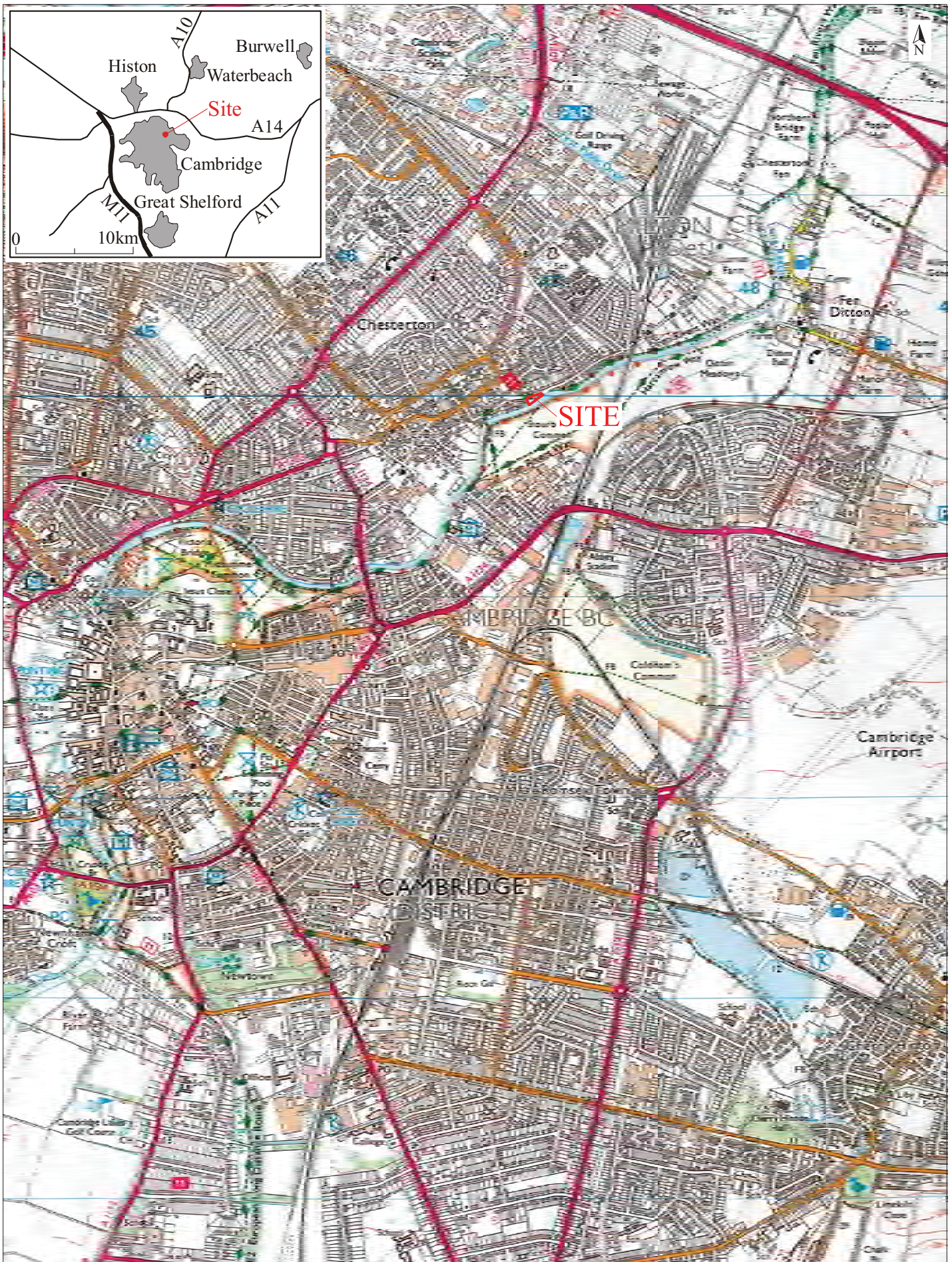
4
Sample section 1B looking north



5
F1007 looking north



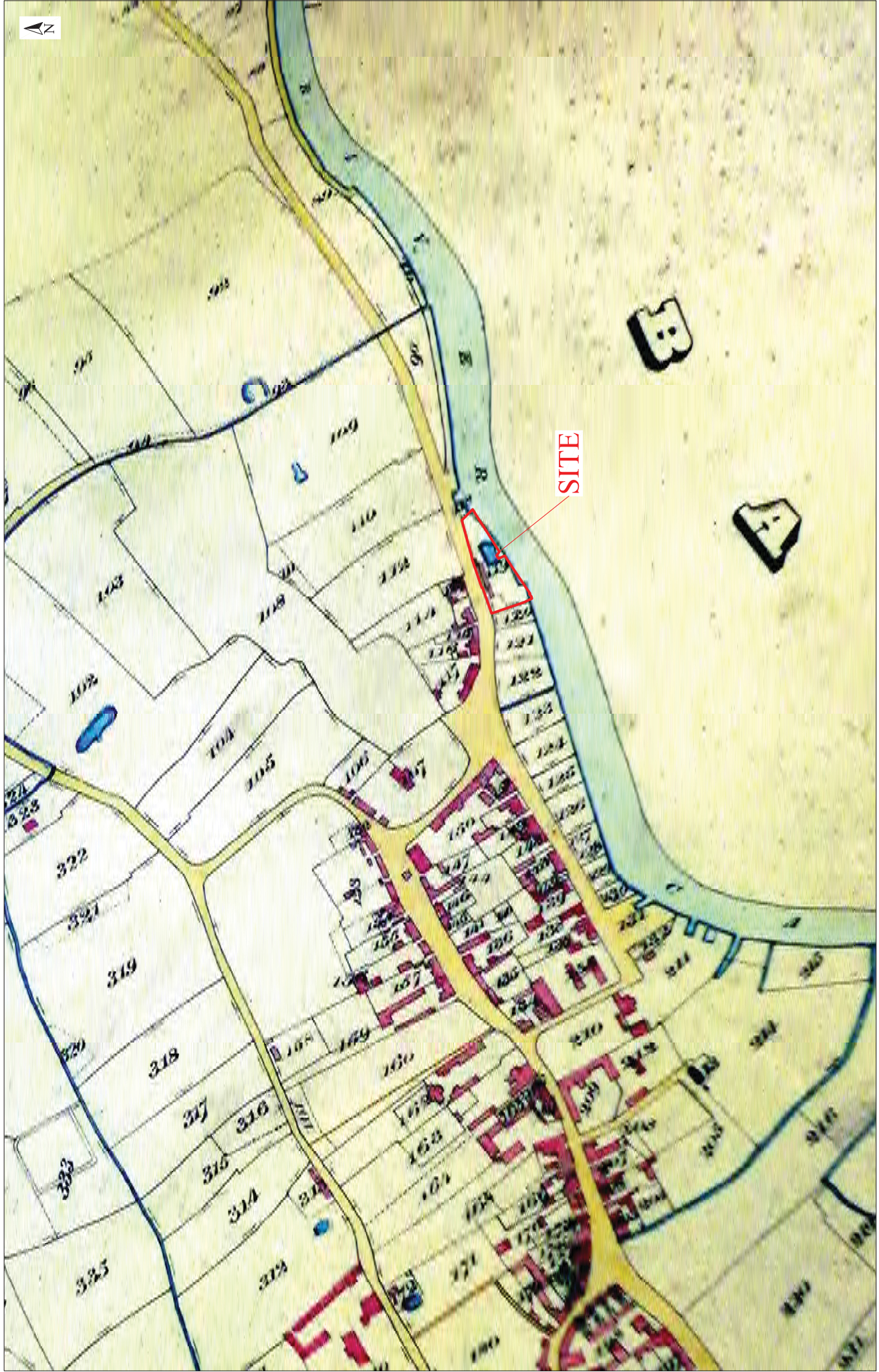
6
Sample section 2B looking north



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Fig. 1 Site location plan
 Scale 1:25000 at A4





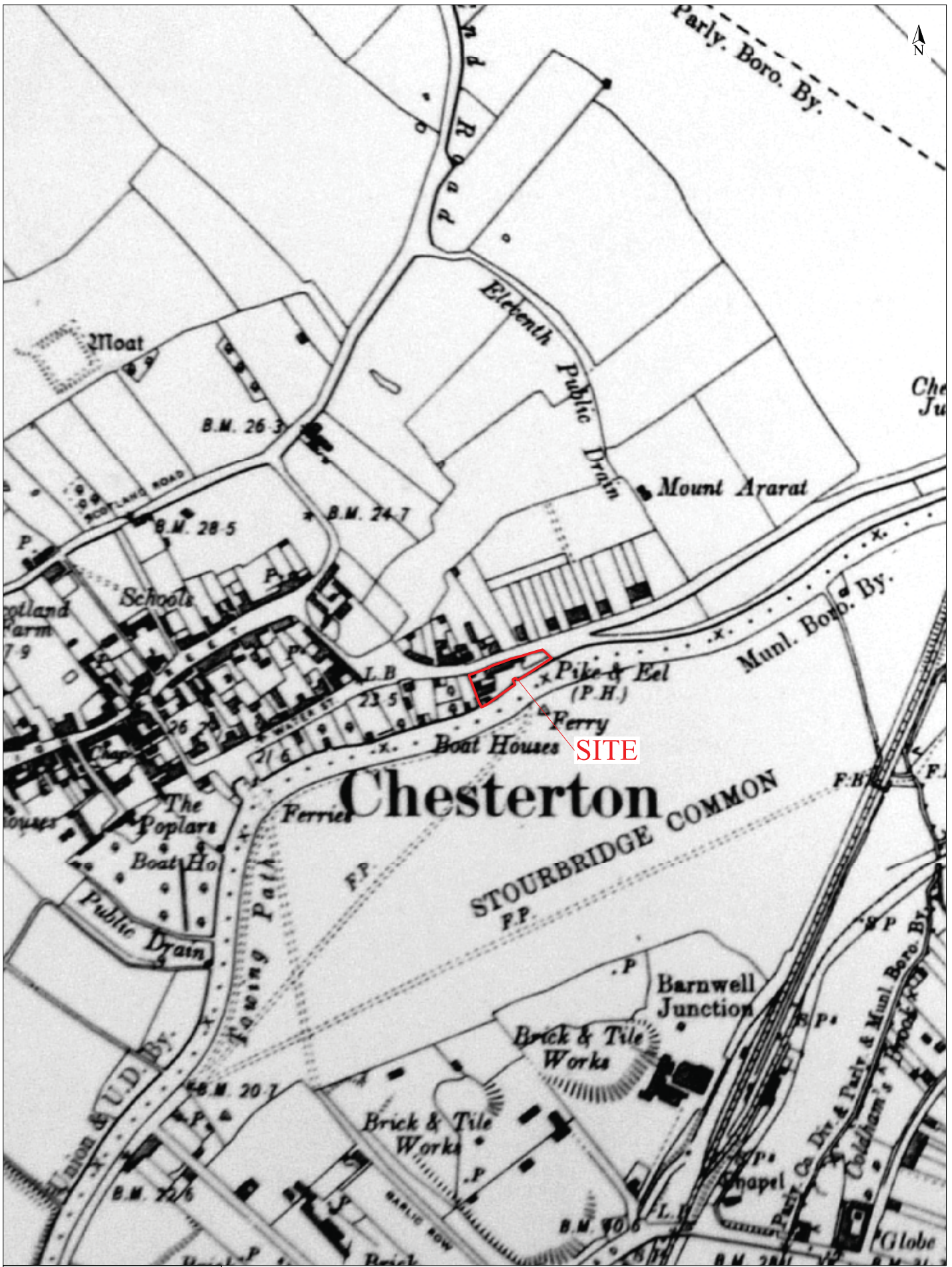


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Fig. 4 OS map, 1888

Scale 1:5000 at A4



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 Fig. 5 OS map, 1903
 Scale 1:5000 at A4



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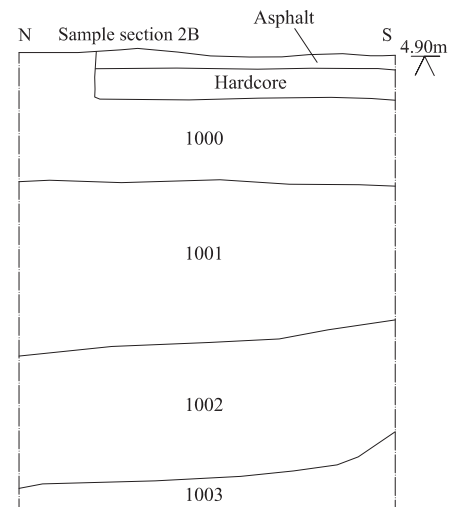
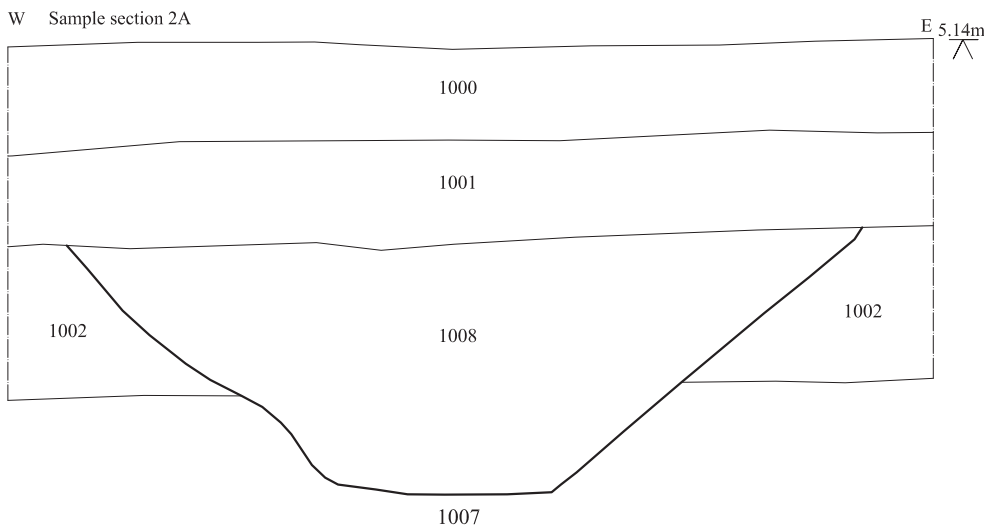
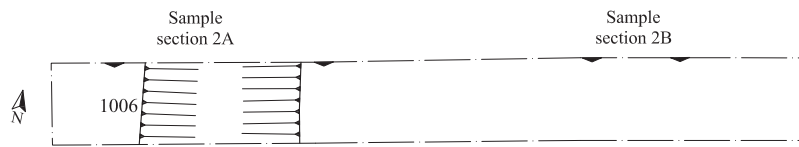
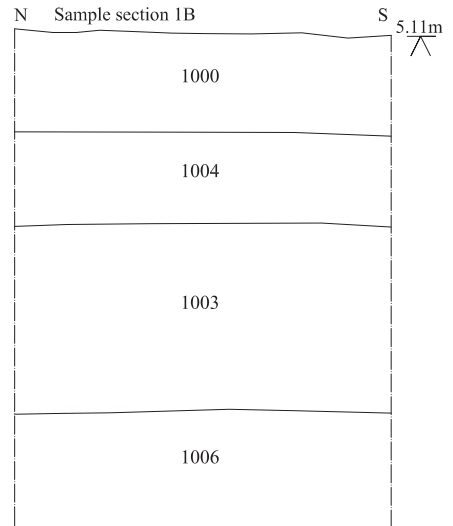
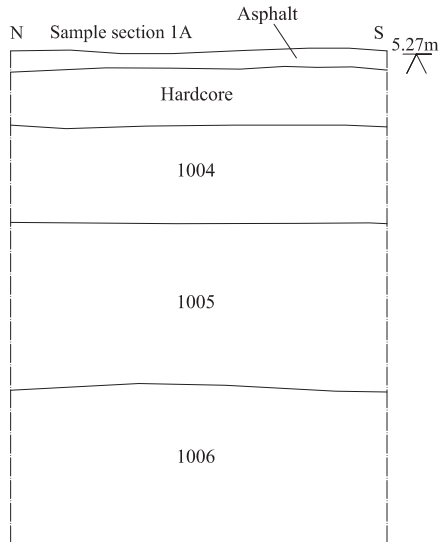
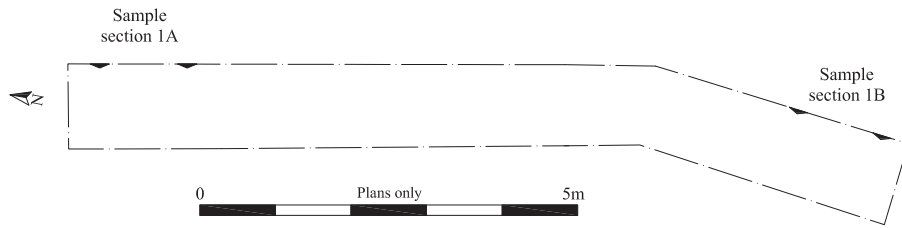
Fig. 6 OS map, 1938

Scale 1:5000 at A4



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 Fig. 7 OS map, 1950
 Scale 1:5000 at A4



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Fig. 9 Trench plans and sections
 Scale Plans 1:100, sections 1:20 at A4