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ARBURY ROAD GARAGE CAMBRIDGE, CAMBRIDGESHIRE CB4 2JB ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION

CHER NO. ECB 4131

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NGR: TL 4547 6033	Report No: 5639
District: Cambridge	Site Code: ECB 4131
Approved: Claire Halpin MIfA	Project No: 5639
Signed:	Date: 4 June 2014

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OASIS SUMMARY SHEET

Project details	
Project name	Arbury Road Garage, Cambridge, Cambridgeshire CB4 2JB

In May 2014 Archaeological Solution Ltd (AS) carried out an archaeological evaluation Arbury Road Garage, Cambridge, Cambridgeshire CB4 2JB (NGR TL 4574 6033). The evaluation was commissioned by the Enterprise Property Group in compliance with a condition attached to planning approval to construct five dwellings with garages (13/1363/FUL).

The site lies in an area of archaeological potential. The Cambridgeshire Historic Environment record office notes significant Roman activity to the north in Arbury, with settlement evidence at Alex Wood Road and the boundary ditches recorded at Manor School. Contemporary burials are also known from the area, including an inhumation cemetery and cremation burials (HER 05425 & 05429)

The evaluation revealed an undated gully, F1026, modern layers and a modern pit, F1006. The site was much disturbed with deep layers of modern overburden.

Project dates (fieldwork)	May 2014				
Previous work (Y/N/?)	N	Future	e work	N	
P. number	5639	Site c	ode	ECB4	131
Type of project	Archaeolo	gical E	valuation		
Site status	Vacant				
Current land use	Garages,	sheds,	hardstanding and	d trees	
Planned development	5 dwelling	s and g	arages		
Main features (+dates)	Modern la	yers an	d services, one ι	undated	gully
Significant finds (+dates)	None				
Project location					
County/ District/ Parish	Cambridge	eshire	Cambridge		Cambridge
HER/ SMR for area	Cambridgeshire Historic Environment Record (CCC HER)				
Post code (if known)	CB4 2JB				
Area of site	c.1000m2				
Height AOD (max/ min)	c.12m AOD				
Project creators					
Brief issued by	Cambridgeshire County Council Historic Environment Team (Andy Thomas)				
Project supervisor/s (PO)	Gareth Barlow				
Funded by	Enterprise Property Group				
Full title	Arbury Road Garage, Cambridge, Cambridgeshire CB4 2JB. An				
	Archaeological Evaluation				
Authors	Barlow, G. and Waring, W.				
Report no.	4596				
Date (of report)	June 2014				

ARBURY ROAD GARAGE, CAMBRIDGESHIRE, CAMBRIDGE, CAMBRIDGESHIRE CB4 2JB

ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION

SUMMARY

In May 2014 Archaeological Solution Ltd (AS) carried out an archaeological evaluation Arbury Road Garage, Cambridge, Cambridgeshire CB4 2JB (NGR TL 4574 6033). The evaluation was commissioned by the Enterprise Property Group in compliance with a condition attached to planning approval to construct five dwellings with garages (13/1363/FUL).

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1 INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 In May 2014 Archaeological Solution Ltd (AS) carried out an archaeological evaluation at Arbury Road Garage, Cambridge, Cambridgeshire CB4 2JB (NGR TL 4574 6033; Figs. 1 & 2). The evaluation was commissioned by the Enterprise Property Group in compliance with a condition attached to planning approval to construct five dwellings with garages (13/1363/FUL; Fig.9).
- 1.2 The evaluation was carried out in accordance with a brief issued by Cambridgeshire County Council Historic Environment Team (CCC HET) (Andy Thomas 05/02/2024), and a specification compiled by AS (12/02/2014), and approved by CCC HET. The documents *Standards for Field Archaeology in the East of England*, East Anglian Archaeology Occasional Paper 14 (Gurney 2003) and the Institute for Archaeologists' (IFA) *Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Evaluations* (1994, revised 2008) were used for guidance.
- 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 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 SITE DESCRIPTION

2.1 The site comprises land at the former Arbury Road Garage site in Chesterton, northern Cambridge. The site is *c*.1.5km south of the A14 (running east/west), *c*.3km east of the M11 (running north/south), and *c*.1km north of the River Cam. The garage buildings and areas of hardstanding were still present at the time of the evaluation. Infilled fuel tanks are present close to the eastern Arbury Road street frontage.

3 TOPOGRAPHY, GEOLOGY AND SOILS

3.1 The site is located c.12m AOD, on a flat plain north of the River Cam. The soil formation of the site is currently unsurveyed, as much of the Cambridge

urban area; and the site is situated over the Cretaceous Gault formation of blue clay.

4 ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

Romano-British

4.1 The earliest significant settlement of the area is seen in the Roman fort of Duroliponte, which was sited in the area of Castle Hill c.1km south west of the site and archaeological evidence observed in the immediate vicinity of the site attests to a significant settlement near to the fort of Duroliponte. This is evidenced by the presence of Roman inhumations and structural remains, in addition to features suggesting a substantial infrastructure such as roads and wells.

Medieval

- 4.2 Limited medieval archaeology is known within the immediate vicinity of the site. Whilst Anglo-Saxon occupation of Cambridge after the Roman period is known, archaeology within the area surrounding the site is limited to isolated find spots and features including the site of several inhumations *c*.0.8km south west of the site (CHER 04551).
- 4.3 Later medieval archaeology from the area is also fairly restricted, although the site of a Carmellite friary (CHER 05332a) is known to have existed *c*.1km south east of the site from documentary sources at around 1249 AD.

Post-Medieval & later

- 4.4 Quarrying activity is known to have taken place during the post-medieval period *c*.1km south east of the site (CHER MCB16928), and a substantial number of buildings in the surrounding area are listed.
- 4.5 Several features relating to the Second World War are present within close proximity to the site, including a military headquarters at Saint Regis House *c*.1.5km south of the site, and the site of an anti-aircraft search light, *c*.500m north west of the site.

5 CARTOGRAPHIC EVIDENCE (Figs. 3 - 7)

c.1840 Tithe Map

5.1 The Tithe map allows us to infer very little about the site and its surrounding area as it depicts little detail, however it is possible to discern that the size and shape of land plots is subject to much change before the publication of the 1880 Ordnance Survey Map. Very little is shown of the area of the site, other than it was part of a larger plot of land.

1888 Ordnance Survey Map (25")

5.2 The earliest map to depict the site in detail is the Ordnance Survey map of 1888, showing the site as an open field immediately north of a plot depicted as a brick works; adjacent land plots most likely house open fields. This map clearly depicts the cross roads of what is now Milton road and Arbury road. A comparison with modern maps of the area shows that relict land boundaries depicted in 1888 are still traceable today, dictating the shape and extent of some modern developments.

1903 Ordnance Survey Map (25")

5.3 The 1903 Ordnance Survey map depicts little change occurring in the area since the 1888 map; land plots remain largely the same and the area is still seemingly dominated by open fields.

1906 Ordnance Survey Map (25")

5.4 This map depicts a major change occurring in the area of the site since the publication of the previous map, with considerable development taking place. The site is now occupied by residential properties and tennis grounds are depicted immediately south. Leys road to the north of the site is now also depicted.

1954 Ordnance Survey Map (25")

5.5 This edition of the Ordnance Survey map presents largely the same picture as the previous edition with the site still occupied by residential properties.

6 METHODOLOGY

6.1 Four trial trenches were excavated (Fig.2). Trench 1 was 10m long, Trench 2a was 12.5m long, Trench 2b was 7.5m long and Trench 3 was 20m long. All the trenches were 1.6m wide.

6.2 Undifferentiated overburden was removed under close archaeological supervision using a 360° tracked mechanical excavator fitted with a wide 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.

7 DESCRIPTION OF RESULTS

Individual trench descriptions are presented below:

Trench 1 (Figs. 2 & 8)

11elicii 1 (1 igs. 2 & 0)		
Sample section 1A: North end, east facing.		
0.00 = 12.56m A	1OD	
0.00 - 0.10m	L1000	Yard Surface. Black Tarmac
0.10 - 0.20m	L1001	Made Ground. Compact layer of pale yellow brick fragments.
0.20 - 0.40m	L1002	Made Ground. Firm, mid bluish grey clay silt with occasional
		small and medium angular and sub-angular flint.
0.40 - 0.48m	L1003	Buried Soil. Firm, mid yellow brown sandy clay silt with very
		occasional small angular and sub-angular flint.
0.48 - 0.56m	L1004	Alluvium. Firm, pale orange brown sandy silt with very
		occasional small angular and sub-angular flint.
0.56m+	L1005	Natural. Firm pale brown orange clay silt with occasional
		small angular and sub-angular flint, occasional patches of
		pale yellow grey silty clay with occasional small rounded
		chalk

Sample section 1B: South end, west facing. 0.00 = 12.52m AOD		
0.00 - 0.13m	L1000	Yard Surface. As above
0.13 - 0.39m	L1014	Made Ground. As Trench 3a
0.39 – 0.58m	L1015	Made Ground. As Trench 3a
0.58 - 0.65m	L1003	Buried Soil. As above.
0.65 - 0.77m	L1004	Alluvium. As above.
0.77m+	L1005	Natural. As above.

Description: Trench 1 contained an undated gully, F1026, and two modern services.

Gully F1026 was linear (4.00m + x 0.60m x 0.17m), orientated NE/SW. It had moderately sloping side sides and a uneven base. Its fill, L1027, was a firm mid greyish orange brown silty clay with no inclusions. It contained no finds

Trench 2A (Figs. 2 & 10)

TICHON ZA (1195. Z & 10)			
Sample section2A.1: West end, south facing.			
0.00 = 12.54m A	0.00 = 12.54m AOD		
0.00 - 0.02m	L1020	Yard surface. Friable mid grey brown silty sand and gravel	
0.02 – 0.18m	L1021	Previous yard surface. Friable black crushed tarmac.	
0.18 – 0.26m	L1022	Made ground. Firm patches of mid brown grey/mid grey	
		brown sandy clay silt with occasional small and medium	
		angular and sub angular flint.	
0.26 - 0.38m	L1023	Buried soil. Firm mid yellow brown sandy silt with very	
		occasional small angular and sub-angular flint.	
0.38 - 0.49m	L1024	Alluvium. Firm pale orange brown sandy silt with very	
		occasional small angular and sub- angular flint	
0.49m+	L1005	Natural. As above Trench 1	

Sample section2A.2: Northeast end, southeast facing 0.00 = 12.54m AOD		
	1	
0.00 - 0.02m	L1020	Yard surface. As Above.
0.02 - 0.13m	L1021	Previous yard surface. As above.
0.13 – 0.28m	L1025	Made ground. Firm pale yellow brick rubble.
0.28 - 0.47m	L1024	Alluvium. As Above.
0.47m+	L1005	Natural. As Above Trench 1.

Description: Trench 2A contained no archaeological features and a modern land drain.

Trench 2B (Figs. 2 & 10)

Sample section2B.1: West end, south facing.			
brown			
grey			
It with			

Sample section2B.2: Northeast end, southeast facing			
0.00 = 12.53m A	0.00 = 12.53m AOD		
0.00 - 0.07m	L1008	Yard surface. As Above.	
0.07 – 0.13m	L1009	Made ground. As above.	
0.13 – 0.17m	L1010	Previous yard surface. As Above	
0.17 – 0.26m	L1016	Made ground. Compact mixed patches of dark grey brown/	
		mid brown orange silty course sand with frequent small sub-	

		angular flints.
0.26 – 0.32m	L1017	Made ground. Compact dark bluish grey brown sandy clay silt
		with occasional small and medium angular flint
0.32 - 0.44m	L1012	Made ground. As Above
0.44 - 0.57m	L1018	Alluvium. Firm pale orange brown sandy silt with very
		occasional angular and sub-angular flint.
0.57m +	L1005	Natural. As Above Trench 1.

Description: Trench 2B contained a modern service. No archaeological features or finds were present.

Trench 3 (Figs. 2 & 10)

110110110 (1.1901 = 0.110)				
Sample section 3A: West end, south facing				
0.00 = 12.53m AOD				
0.00 - 0.12m	L1000	Yard surface. As Above.		
0.12 – 0.36m	L1014	Made ground. Pale yellow/mid red orange brick rubble in mid		
		yellow brown and mid red brown silty clay.		
0.36 - 0.62m	L1015	Made ground. Firm mid grey brown silty clay.		
0.62 – 0.71m	L1004	Alluvium. As Above Trench 1.		
0.71m+	L1005	Natural. As above Trench 1.		

Sample section 3B: East end, south facing. 0.00 = 12.49m AOD		
0.00 - 0.13m	L1000	Yard surface
0.12 – 0.38m	L1014	Made ground. As Above.
0.38 - 0.49m	L1015	Made ground. As Above.
0.49 – 0.58m	L1004	Alluvium. As above Trench 1.
0.65 - 0.69m	L1003	Buried Soil. As above Trench 1
0.69m+	L1005	Natural. As Above Trench 1.

Description: Trench 3 contained a modern pit, F1006, and a modern service trench.

Pit F1006 was sub-circular (0.65m \times 0.62m \times 0.13m). It had gentle to moderately sloping sides and an uneven base. Its fill, L1007, was a compact, mid bluish grey silty clay with occasional flecks of red brick. It contained a green glass bottleneck fragment.

8 CONFIDENCE RATING

8.1 It is not felt that any factors inhibited the recognition of archaeological features of finds.

9 DEPOSIT MODEL

9.1 Made ground deposits were present in each trench to a depth of 0.28-0.65m. Below the made ground was buried soil, L1003 (= L1023 and L1013), a firm, mid yellow brown sandy clay silt with very occasional small angular and subangular flint. L1003 overlay L1004 (= L1024 and L1018), a firm, pale orange brown sandy silt with very occasional small angular and sub-angular flint. Below L1005 was the natural, L1005, Firm pale brown orange clay silt with occasional small angular and sub-angular flint, occasional patches of pale yellow grey silty clay with occasional small rounded chalk (0.47-0.77m below the present day ground surface).

10 DISCUSSION

- 10.1 The site lies in an area of archaeological potential. The Cambridgeshire Historic Environment record office notes significant Roman activity to the north in Arbury, with settlement evidence at Alex Wood Road and boundary ditches recorded at Manor School. Contemporary burials are also known from the area, including an inhumation cemetery and cremation burials (HER 05425 & 05429).
- 10.2 In the event the evaluation revealed an undated gully, modern layers and a modern pit, F1006. The site was much disturbed with deep layers of modern overburden.

DEPOSITION OF THE ARCHIVE

Archive records, with an inventory, will be deposited at the Cambridgeshire County Store. The archive will be quantified, ordered, indexed, cross referenced and checked for internal consistency.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Archaeological Solutions would like to thank the client, Enterprise Property Group for their co-operation and funding of the project, in particular Messrs Derwyn Hardwick, Peter Stocking, Keith Awbery and Asa Swain for assistance on site.

AS would also like to acknowledge the input and advice of Mr. Andy Thomas of Cambridgeshire County Council Historic Environment Team.

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Roach, J.P.C. 1959, A History of the County of Cambridge and the Isle of Ely: Volume 3: the City and University of Cambridge. The City of Cambridge.

Soil Survey of England & Wales (SSEW) 1983 Legend for the 1:250,000 Soil Map of England and Wales. SSEW, Harpenden

PHOTOGRAPHIC INDEX



General shot of site before excavation



Ditch 1026 in Trench 1 looking north



Post excavation shot of Trench 1



Pit 1006 in Trench 3 looking south-west



Sample section 1A



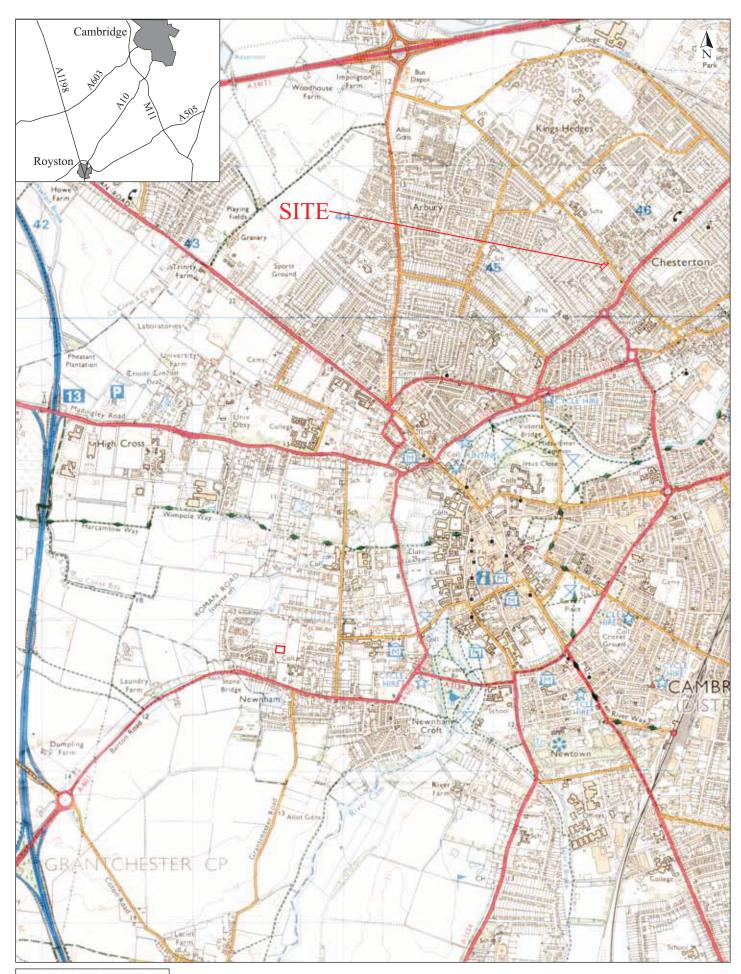
Post excavation shot of Trench 2A



Post excavation shot of Trench 2B

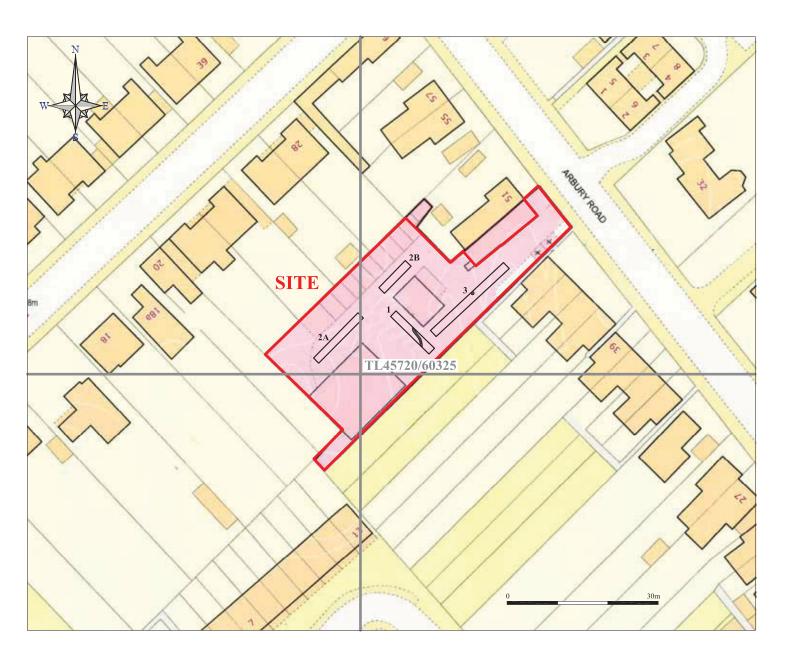


8 Post excavation shot of Trench 3



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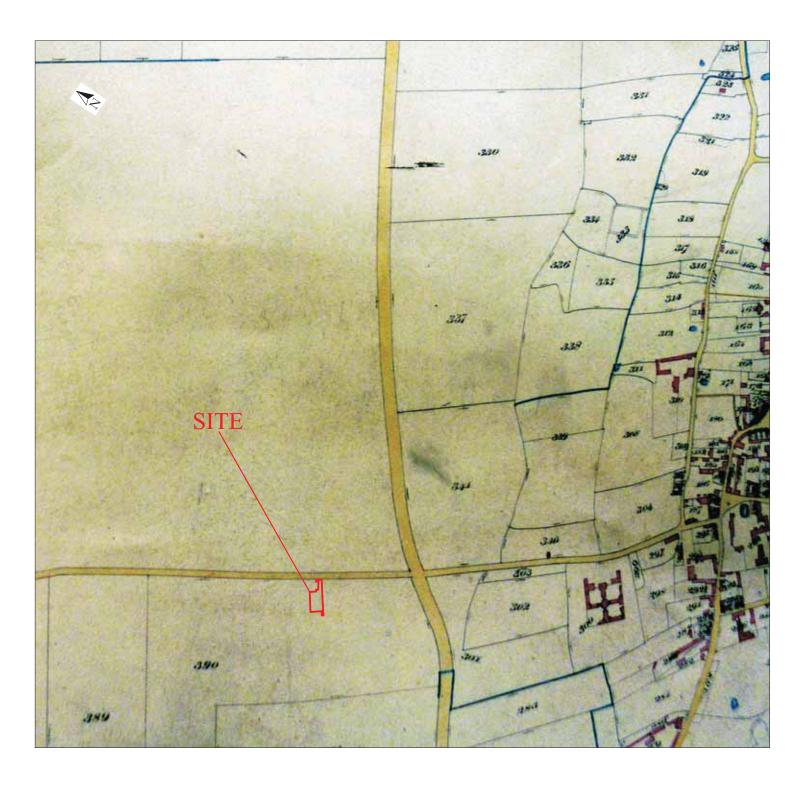
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Fig. 1 Site location plan
Scale 1:25,000 at A4



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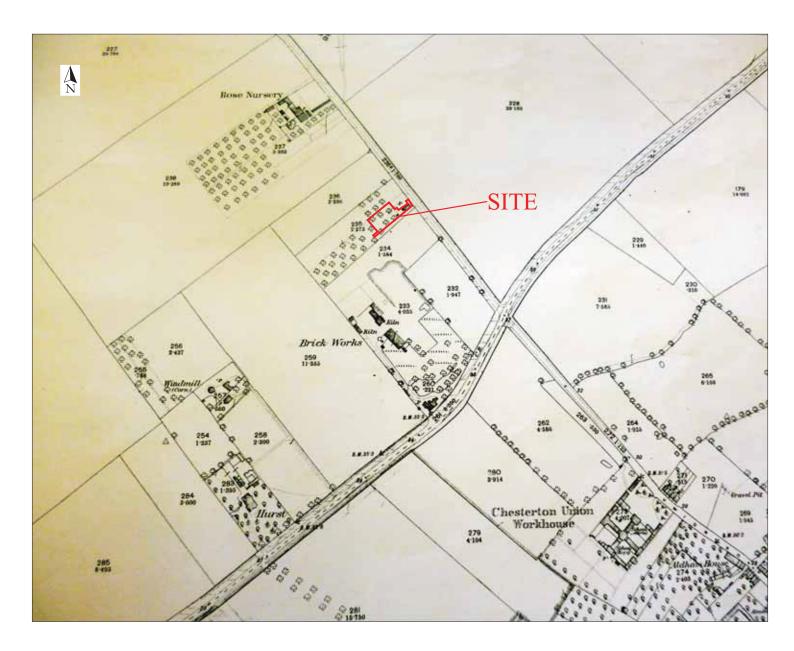
Fig. 2 Detailed site location plan

Scale 1:750 at A4



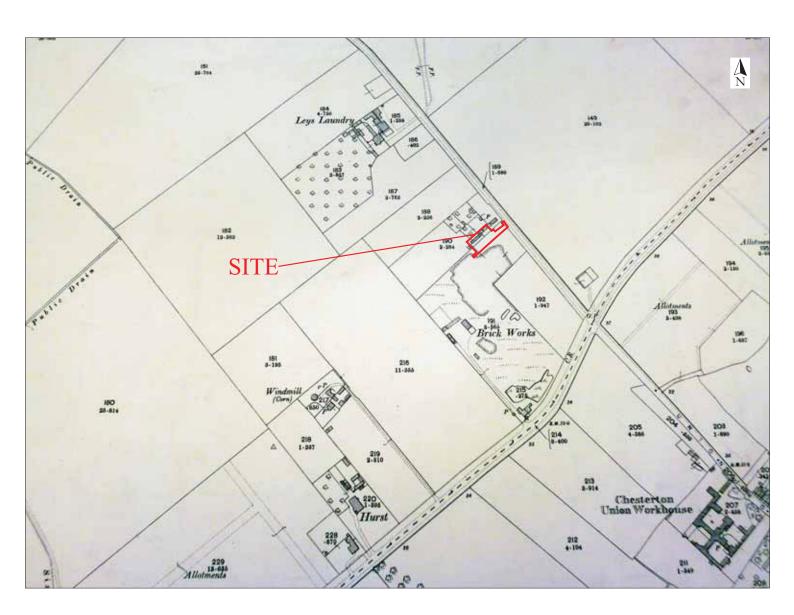
Archaeological Solutions Ltd g. 3 Tithe map, 1840 Fig. 3

Not to scale



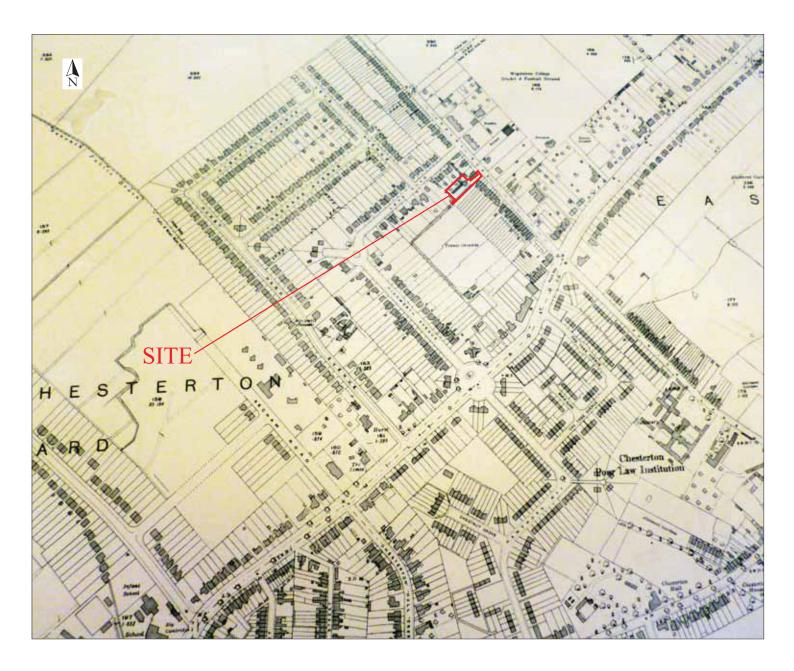
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Fig. 4 OS map, 1888

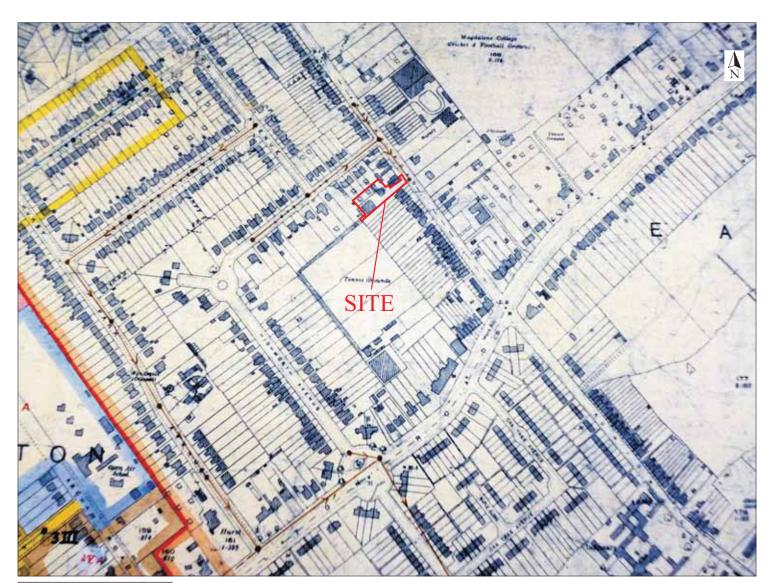


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Fig. 5
Not to scale OS map, 1903



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Fig. 6 OS map, 1926
Not to scale



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Archaeological Solutions Ltd
Fig. 7 OS map, 1954
Not to scale



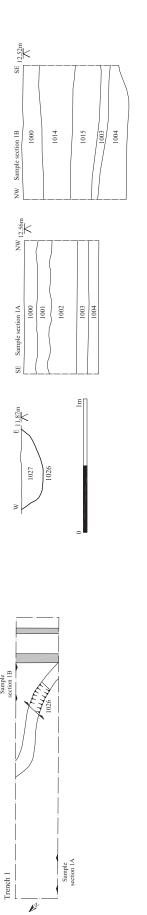
Modem services

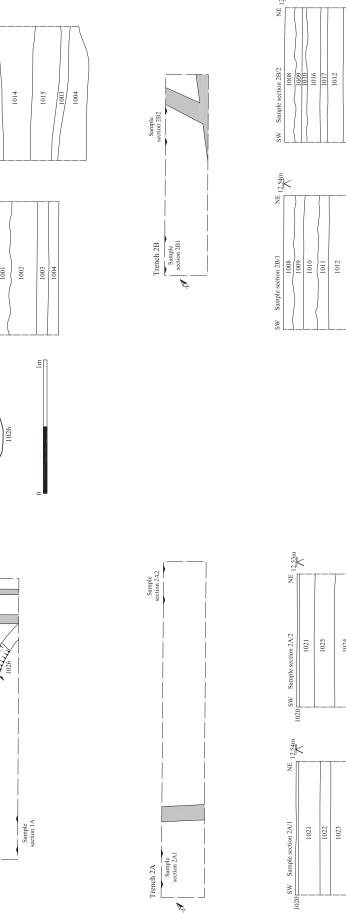
1004

1019

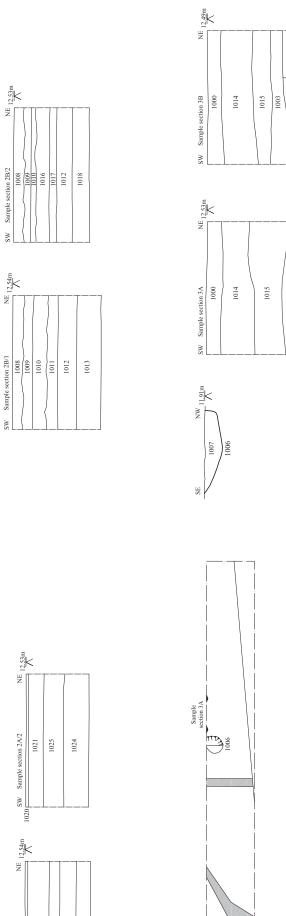
1004

1004





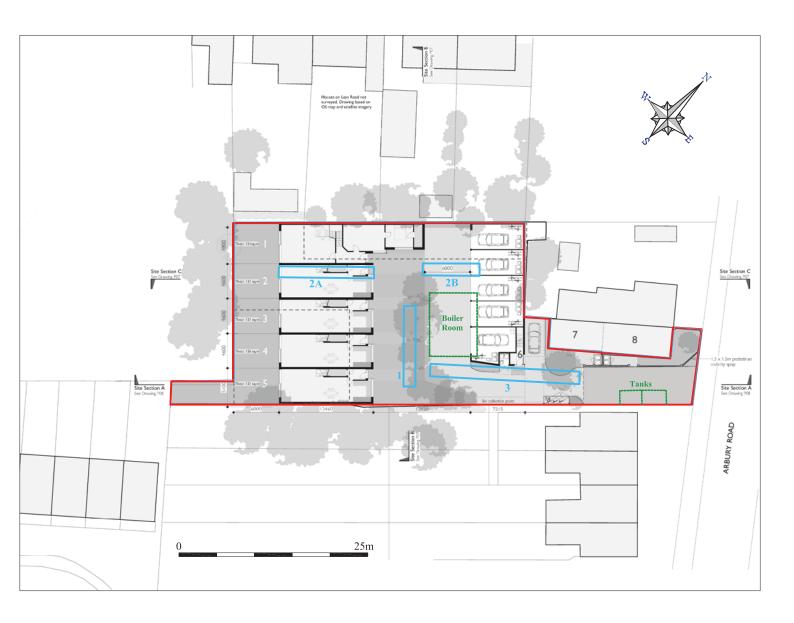
Trench 2A
Sample
Section 2A1



1024

Sample section 3B

Trench 3



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Fig. 9 Proposed development

Scale 1:500 at A4