
ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOLUTIONS LTD

**4 SUNNYSIDE, CAMBRIDGE,
CAMBRIDGESHIRE**

AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION

CHER ECB 4324

| | |
|--|---------------------------------|
| Author: Gareth Barlow (Fieldwork & Report) Lauren Wilson (Research) | |
| NGR: TL 4815 5892 | Report No: 4841 |
| District: Cambridge City | Site Code: ECB 4324 |
| Approved: Claire Halpin Signed: | Project No: P6005 |
| | Date: 11 th May 2015 |

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OASIS SUMMARY SHEET

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| Project name | 4 Sunnyside, Cambridge, Cambridgeshire | | |
| <p><i>In May 2015 Archaeological Solutions Ltd (AS) carried out an archaeological evaluation on the land at 4 Sunnyside, Cambridge, Cambridgeshire (NGR: TL 4815 5892). The evaluation was commissioned David Reed Homes Ltd and was undertaken in compliance with a planning condition attached to planning approval for the construction of 7 residential units (Cambridge City Council Ref. 14/0466/FUL); based on advice from Cambridgeshire County Council Historic Environment Team requiring a programme of archaeological work.</i></p> <p><i>The site lies within an area of archaeological potential, on the river terrace gravels of the Cam at a height of c.14m AOD. To the east is an area of Roman and Saxon settlement (Cambridgeshire Historic Environment Record entries CB14647-8, CB14634 and ECB508). In addition, an undated human burial was found to the north of the proposed development site (HER 04631). The site thus had a potential for Roman and Saxon archaeology.</i></p> <p><i>In the event Trench 1 contained Pits F1004 and F1010, Post Hole F1006 and Ditch F1008. All the features contained post-medieval and modern finds (coal, clay pipe stem fragments). No archaeological features or finds were present in Trench 2. No residual finds were present.</i></p> | | | |
| Project dates (fieldwork) | May 2015 | | |
| Previous work (Y/N/?) | N | Future work | TBC |
| P. number | 6127 | Site code | ECB 4324 |
| Type of project | Archaeological Evaluation | | |
| Site status | None | | |
| Current land use | Residential | | |
| Planned development | Residential | | |
| Main features (+dates) | Pits, Post Hole, Ditch | | |
| Significant finds (+dates) | Post-medieval - modern | | |
| Project location | | | |
| County/ District/ Parish | Cambridgeshire | Cambridge City | Cambridge |
| HER/ SMR for area | Cambridgeshire Historic Environment Record (CCC HER) | | |
| Post code (if known) | CB5 8SG | | |
| Area of site | 850m ² | | |
| NGR | TL 4815 5892 | | |
| Height AOD (max/ min) | c.14m AOD | | |
| Project creators | | | |
| Brief issued by | Cambridgeshire County Council Historic Environment Team | | |
| Project supervisor/s (PO) | Gareth Barlow | | |
| Funded by | David Reed Homes Ltd | | |
| | | | |
| Full title | 4 Sunnyside, Cambridge, Cambridgeshire, An Archaeological Evaluation | | |
| Authors | Wilson, L. & Barlow, G. | | |
| Report no. | 4841 | | |
| Date (of report) | May 2015 | | |

4 SUNNYSIDE, CAMBRIDGE, CAMBRIDGESHIRE

ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION

SUMMARY

In February 2015 Archaeological Solutions Ltd (AS) carried out an archaeological evaluation on the land at 4 Sunnyside, Cambridge, Cambridgeshire (NGR: TL 4815 5892; Figs. 1 and 2). The evaluation was commissioned David Reed Homes Ltd and was undertaken in compliance with a planning condition attached to planning approval for the construction of 7 residential units (Cambridge City Council Ref. 14/0466/FUL); based on advice from Cambridgeshire County Council Historic Environment Team requiring a programme of archaeological work.

The site lies within an area of archaeological potential, on river terrace gravels of the Cam at a height of c.14m AOD. To the east is an area of Roman and Saxon settlement (Cambridgeshire Historic Environment Record entries CB14647-8, CB14634 and ECB508). In addition, an undated human burial was found to the north of the proposed development site (HER 04631). The site thus had a potential for further remains of Roman and Saxon settlement.

In the event Trench 1 contained Pits F1004 and F1010, Post Hole F1006 and Ditch F1008. All the features contained post-medieval and modern finds (coal, clay pipe stem fragments). No archaeological features or finds were present in Trench 2. No residual finds were present.

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 In February 2015 Archaeological Solutions Ltd (AS) carried out an archaeological evaluation on the land at 4 Sunnyside, Cambridge, Cambridgeshire (NGR: TL 4815 5892; Figs. 1 and 2). The evaluation was commissioned David Reed Homes Ltd and was undertaken in compliance with a planning condition attached to planning approval for the construction of 7 residential units (Cambridge City Council Ref. 14/0466/FUL); based on advice from Cambridgeshire County Council Historic Environment Team requiring a programme of archaeological work.

1.2 The project was carried out in accordance with a brief issued by Cambridgeshire County Council Historic Environment Team (CCC HET) (Dan McConnell, dated 10th September 2014 and a specification compiled by AS (dated 28th November 2014). It followed the procedures outlined in the Institute of Field Archaeologists' *Code of Conduct, Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Field Evaluation* (revised

2008). It also adhered to the relevant sections of *Standards for Field Archaeology in the East of England* (Gurney 2003).

1.3 The principal objectives of the evaluation were:

- To establish whether any archaeological deposit exists in the area, with particular regard to any which are of sufficient importance to merit preservation *in situ*;
- To identify the date, approximate form and purpose of any archaeological deposit within the application area, together with its likely extent, localised depth and quality of preservation;
- To evaluate the likely impact of past land uses, and the possible presence of masking colluvial/alluvial deposits, along with the potential for the survival of environmental evidence;
- To provide sufficient information to construct an archaeological conservation strategy dealing with preservation, the recording of archaeological deposits, working practices, timetables and orders of cost; and
- Establish the potential for waterlogged organic deposits in the proposal area, their location and level and vulnerability to damage by development.

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 SITE DESCRIPTION

2.1 The site is located in the eastern part of the City of Cambridge, and comprises a plot on the south-western side of Sunnyside. It was until recently occupied by the dwelling of No.4 Sunnyside set in a mature garden plot.

3 TOPOGRAPHY AND GEOLOGY

3.1 The site is on the outskirts of Cambridge. The area is relatively flat at 14m AOD and the surrounding area reflects this with Cambridge Airport directly to the south at 10m AOD.

3.2 The underlying geology of the area comprises the West Melbury Chalk Formation; sedimentary chalk bedrock formed in the Cretaceous. The overlying soil type is a shallow lime-rich soil of loamy texture and freely draining.

4 ARCHAEOLOGICAL & HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

Prehistoric

4.1 Notable finds include Palaeolithic flints and animal remains (CHER 04691) and a Neolithic flint axe (CHER 04633) c.500m to the north-west. To the east an Iron Age settlement has been recorded including finds of pottery, metal objects and bone (CHER 05151, 05156 & 05155). This site is judged to cover an area of at least 6ha and is thought to be one of the largest in the region (CHER CB 15298).

Roman

4.2 Roman remains have been recorded c.700m to the north-east at a former allotment site. Beam-slots and post holes are indicative of settlement, whilst pottery, animal bone and tile suggest domestic occupation (CHER CB 14647). Spot finds in the area include a Roman coin from the 4th century AD (CHER 04693) and pottery sherds (CHER 04632).

Medieval

4.3 Saxon finds have been recorded c.200m to the north-east (CHER 05338), a spear head of probable Saxon date c.300m to the north (CHER 04510) and burials c.400m to the north probably dating from the conversion period in the 6th-8th century (CHER MCB 16936).

4.4 Evidence of Medieval occupation is lacking within the immediate vicinity of the site. An area of common land lies c.700m to the south-west (CHER MCB 19521) and ridge and furrow has been recorded at Cambridge Airport to the south-east (CHER 05116). This could indicate the site lay within agricultural land at this time beyond the larger settlement of Cambridge.

Post-Medieval and Modern

4.5 The site lay outside the boundaries of Cambridge until the suburban development of the 1960s (www.old-maps.co.uk). During the modern period the airport has been used for military and general use (CHER CB 15129).

5 METHODOLOGY

5.1 Two trenches of 25m x 1.8m were excavated (Fig. 2)

5.2 Exposed sections were cleaned by hand and examined for archaeological features. Deposits were recorded using pro forma recording sheets, drawn to scale and photographed as appropriate. Excavated spoil was searched for archaeological finds.

6 DESCRIPTION OF RESULTS

The site had been partially stripped of topsoil prior to the evaluation and this is reflected in the Sample Sections (1 – 2). Individual trench descriptions are presented below:

Trench 1 (Figs. 2 - 3)

| Sample section 1A 0.00 = 13.78m AOD | | |
|--|-------|--|
| 0.00 – 0.08m | L1001 | Subsoil. Firm, medium orange brown clay silt with sparse small and medium flint. |
| 0.08m+ | L1002 | Natural. Firm, patches of mottled white, yellow, orange and grey brown chalky clay with sparse small flints. |

| | | |
|--|-------|-------------------|
| Sample section 1B 0.00 = 13.81m AOD | | |
| 0.00 – 0.04m | L1001 | Subsoil. As above |
| 0.04m+ | L1002 | Natural. As above |

Description: Trench 1 contained Pits F1004 and F1010, Post Hole F1006 and Ditch F1008. All the features contained post-medieval and modern finds (coal, clay pipe stem fragments).

The features are tabulated below:

| Context | Profile/Plan (dimensions) | Fill | Relationships | Finds |
|---------|---|---|---------------|-------------------|
| F1004 | Rectangular in plan (0.80 x 0.33 x 0.08m) with gentle sloping sides and a concave base. | L1005: Firm, dark grey brown clay silt with sparse medium flint. | NA | Coal |
| F1006 | Square in plan (0.28 x 0.28 x 0.15m) with steep sides and a flat base. | L1007: firm mid grey brown clay silt with sparse small flint and chalk. | NA | Clay Pipe |
| F1008 | Linear in plan (2.00+ x 1.15 x 0.13m) with gently sloping sides and a concave base. | L1009: Firm, pale orange brown clay silt with sparse small and medium flint. | NA | Coal Clay Pipe |
| F1010 | Sub-circular in plan (0.33 x 0.18 x 0.05m) with steep sides and a flat base. | L1011: Firm, dark grey brown pale orange brown clay silt with sparse small flint. | NA | Clay Pipe |

Trench 2 (Figs. 2 - 3)

| | | |
|--|-------|---|
| Sample section 2A 0.00 = 13.41m AOD | | |
| 0.00 – 0.05m | L1000 | Topsoil. Firm dark grey brown, sandy silt with sparse small and medium flint. |
| 0.05 – 0.12m | L1001 | Subsoil. As above, Trench 1 |
| 0.12m + | L1002 | Natural. As above Trench.1 |

| | | |
|--|-------|--|
| Sample section 2B 0.00 = 13.62m AOD | | |
| 0.00 – 0.26m | L1000 | Demolition Layer. Friable patches of pale grey sand and dark grey silty sand with frequent modern building rubble. |
| 0.26m + | L1002 | Natural. As above Trench.1 |

Description: No archaeological features or finds were present in Trench 2.

7 CONFIDENCE RATING

7.1 Though the site had been partially reduced of topsoil, it is not felt that any factors inhibited the recognition of archaeological features or finds.

8 DEPOSIT MODEL

8.1 The site was commonly overlain by Topsoil L1000, a firm, dark grey brown sandy silt with sparse small and medium rounded and sub-angular flint (c.0.30 – 0.34m thick). This had been partially stripped from site prior to archaeological investigation.

8.2 On the eastern side of the site (Trench 2) a demolition layer was present, L1004, a friable pale grey sand and dark grey silty sand with frequent modern building rubble (c.0.26m thick).

8.3 Subsoil L1001 was present across the site and comprised a firm, medium orange brown clay silt with sparse small and medium flint inclusions (c.0.04 – 0.08m thick).

8.4 The natural geology, L1002, consisted of patches of mottled white, yellow, orange and grey brown chalky clay with sparse small flints (0.04 – 0.26m below the present day ground surface).

9 DISCUSSION

9.1 The recorded features are tabulated:

| Trench | Context | Description | Spot date |
|--------|---------|-------------|------------------------|
| 1 | F1004 | Pit | Post-medieval - modern |
| | F1006 | Post Hole | Post-medieval - modern |
| | F1008 | Ditch | Post-medieval - modern |
| | F1010 | Pit | Post-medieval - modern |

9.2 The site lies within an area of archaeological potential, on the river terrace gravels of the Cam at a height of c.14m AOD. To the east is an area of Roman and Saxon settlement (Cambridgeshire Historic Environment Record entries CB14647-8, CB14634 and ECB508). In addition, an undated human burial was found to the north of the proposed development site (HER 04631). The site thus had a potential for Roman and Saxon archaeology.

9.3 In the event Trench 1 contained Pits F1004 and F1010, Post Hole F1006 and Ditch F1008. All the features contained post-medieval and modern finds (coal, clay pipe stem fragments). No archaeological features or finds were present in Trench 2. No residual finds were present.

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 David Reed Homes Ltd for their cooperation and funding of the project, in particular Ms Justine Stanford and Mr Nick Rust for assistance.

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

BIBLIOGRAPHY

British Geological Survey (BGS) 1978 *Legend for the 1:625,000 Geological map of the United Kingdom (solid geology)*; London. BGS, Mansfield

Institute for Archaeologists (IFA) 1994 (revised 2008) *Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Evaluation*. IFA, Reading

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

APPENDIX 1 CONCORDANCE OF FINDS

ECB4324, P6005, Sunnyside, Cambridge

Concordance of finds by feature

| Feature | Context | Segment | Trench | Description | Spot Date (Pot Only) | Pot Qty | Pottery (g) | CBM (g) | A.Bone (g) | Other Material | Other Qty | Other (g) |
|---------|---------|---------|--------|-------------------|-------------------------|------------|----------------|------------|---------------|----------------------------|--------------|--------------|
| 1004 | 1005 | | | Fill of Pit | | | | | | Coal | 1 | 2 |
| 1006 | 1007 | | | Fill of Post Hole | | | | | | clay pipe stem fragment | 1 | 3 |
| 1008 | 1009 | | | Fill of Ditch | | | | | | Coal | 1 | 2 |
| | | | | | | | | | | clay pipe stem fragment | 1 | 3 |
| 1010 | 1011 | | | Fill of Post Hole | | | | | | Coal | 1 | 2 |

PHOTOGRAPHIC INDEX



1
Trench 1 looking north



2
Trench 2 looking east



3
F1006 looking north west



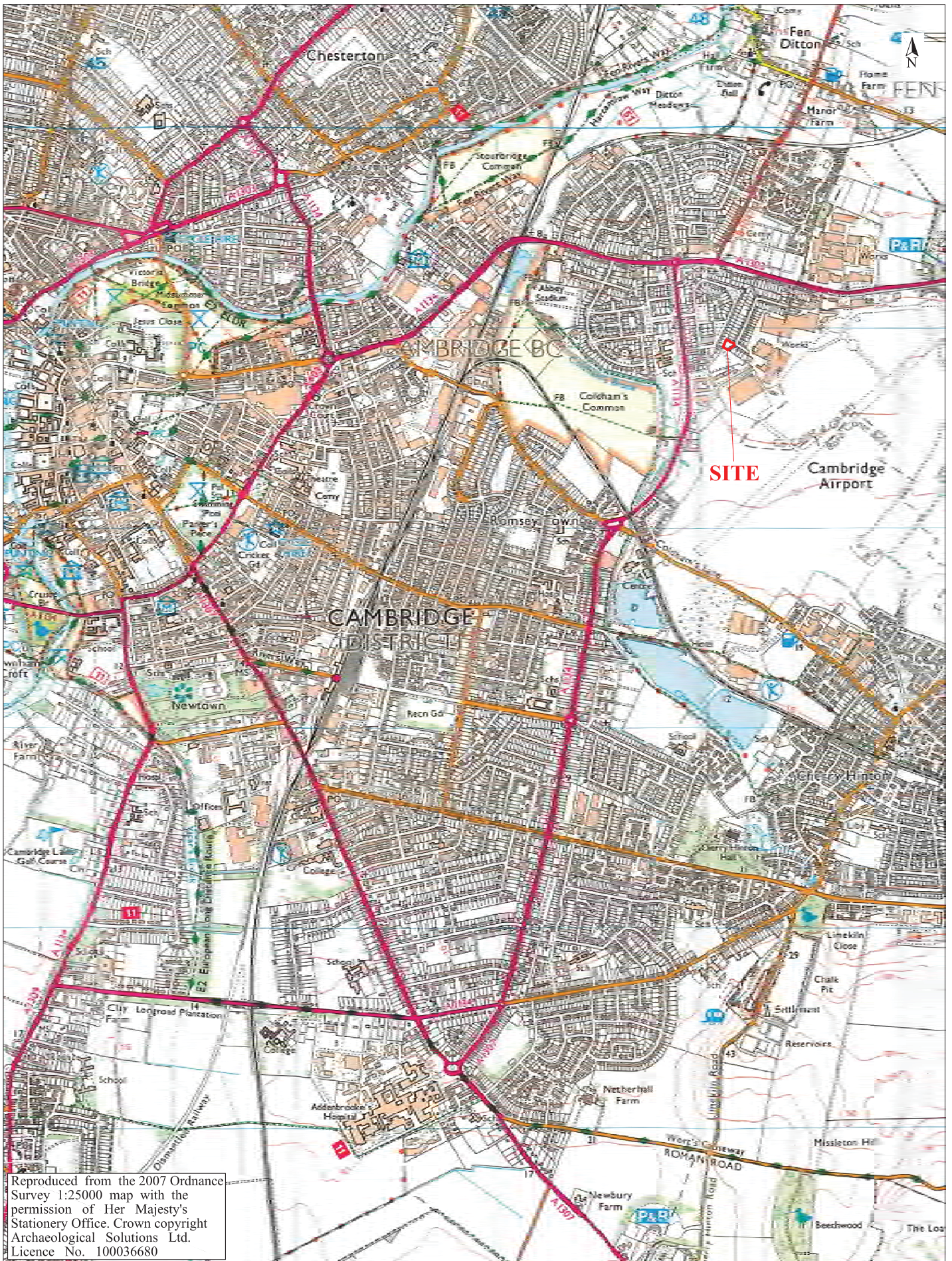
4
F1008 looking south west



F1010 looking west

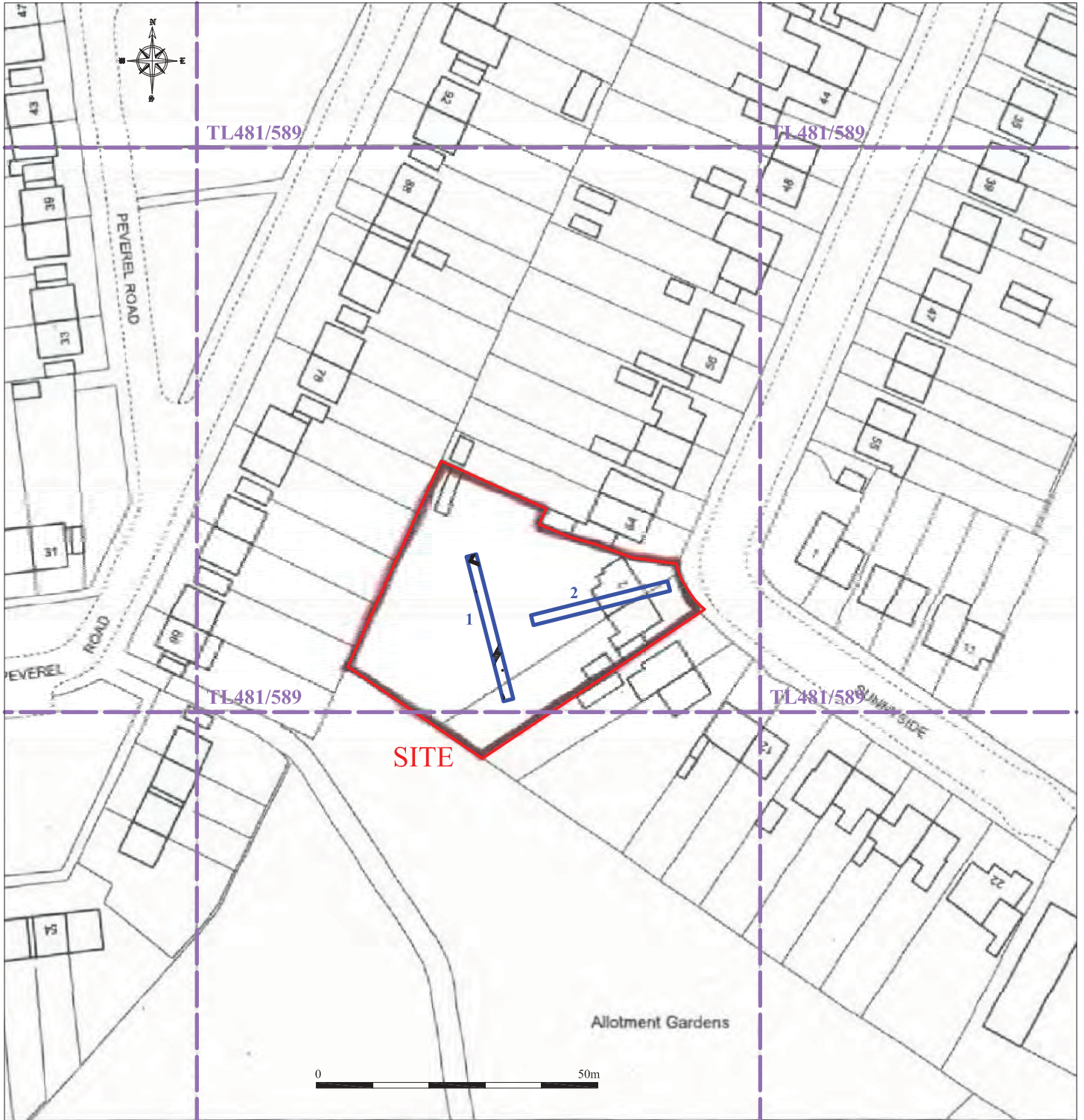


6
Sample section 2B looking south



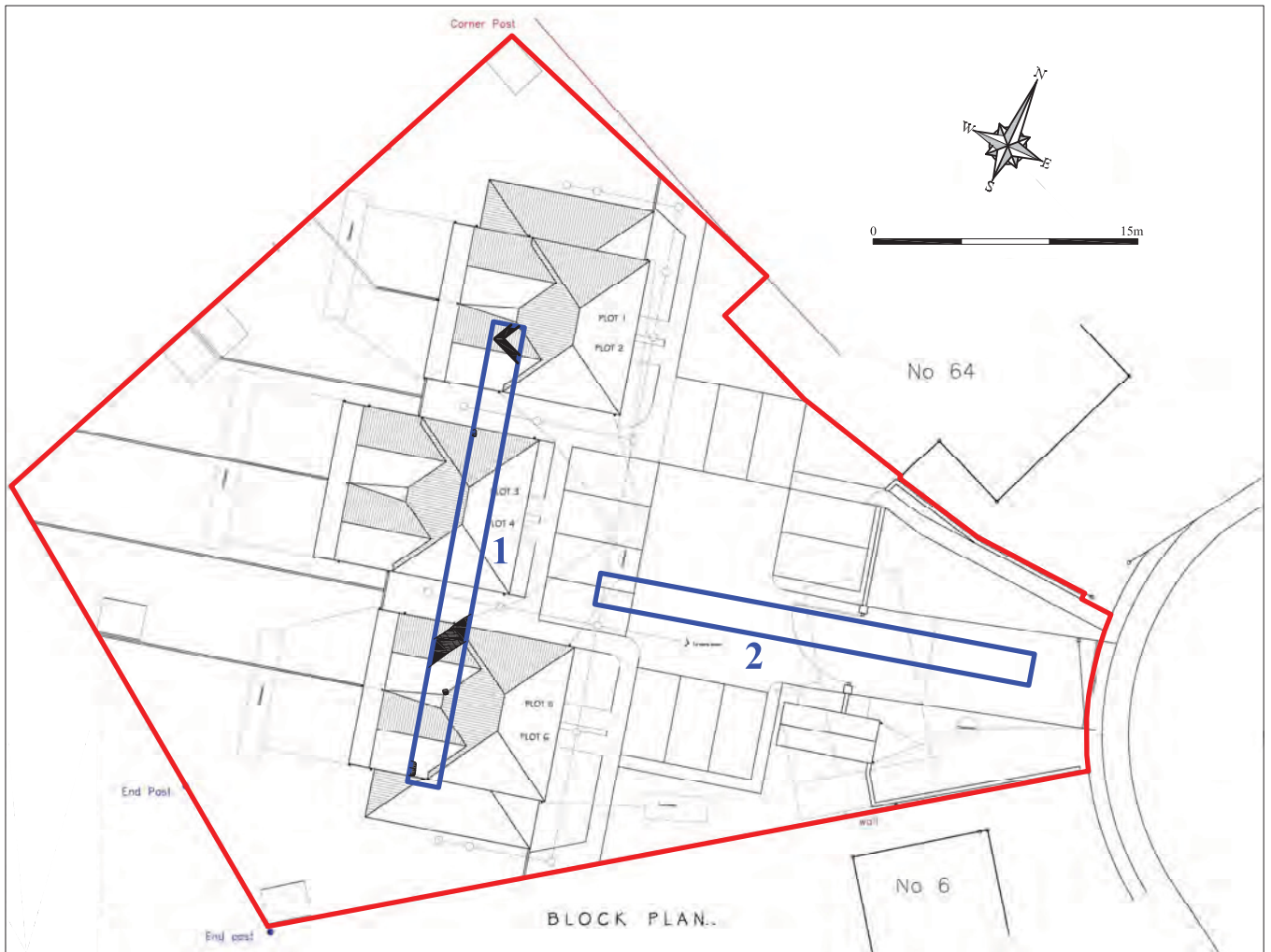
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Fig. 1 Site location plan
 Scale 1:25,000 at A4

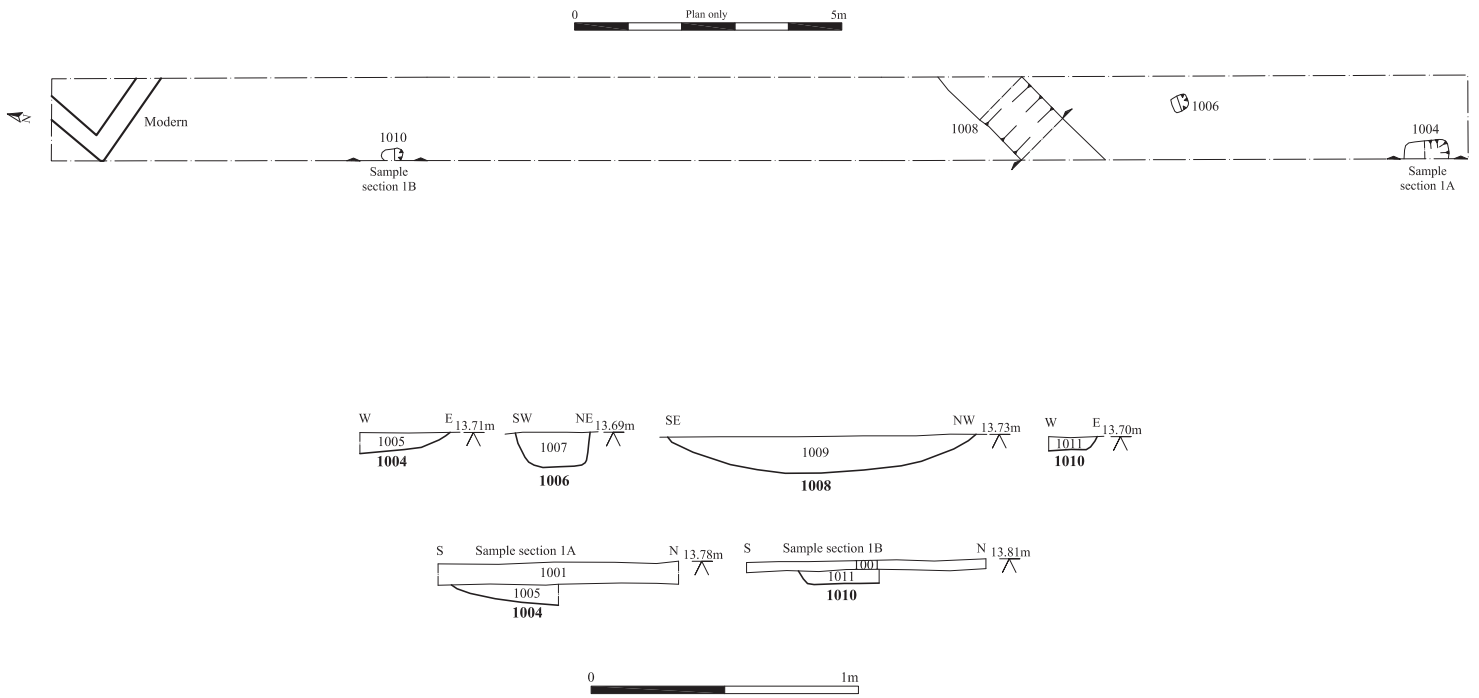


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|---|
| <i>Archaeological Solutions Ltd</i> |
| Fig. 2 Detailed site location plan |
| Scale 1:1000 at A4 |
| 4 Sunnyside, Cambridge (P6005) |



| |
|---|
| <i>Archaeological Solutions Ltd</i> |
| Fig. 3 Trenches on proposed development plan |
| Scale 1:400 at A4 |
| 4 Sunnyside, Cambridge (P6005) |



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|--|
| <i>Archaeological Solutions Ltd</i> |
| Fig. 4 Trench plan and sections |
| Scale Plan 1:100, sections 1:20 at A4 |
| 4 Sunnyside, Cambridge (P6005) |