
ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOLUTIONS LTD

317 HILLS ROAD, CAMBRIDGE

AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION

Authors: Tom McDonald & Zbigniew Pozorski	
NGR: TL 4686 5529	Report No: 5231
District: Cambridge City	Site Code: ECB 4820
Approved:	Project No: 6922
Claire Halpin MCIfA	Date: 20 October 2016

This report is confidential to the client. Archaeological Solutions Ltd accepts no responsibility or liability to any third party to whom this report, or any part of it, is made known. Any such party relies upon this report entirely at their own risk. No part of this report may be reproduced by any means without permission.

Archaeological Solutions is an independent archaeological contractor providing the services which satisfy all archaeological requirements of planning applications, including:

Desk-based assessments and environmental impact assessments
Historic building recording and appraisals
Trial trench evaluations
Geophysical surveys
Archaeological monitoring and recording
Archaeological excavations
Post excavation analysis
Promotion and outreach
Specialist analysis

ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOLUTIONS LTD

**Unit 6, Brunel Business Court, Eastern Way,
Bury St Edmunds IP32 7AJ
Tel 01284 765210**

**P I House, Rear of 23 Clifton Road, Shefford,
Bedfordshire, SG17 5AF
Tel: 01462 850483**

**e-mail info@ascontracts.co.uk
www.archaeologicalsolutions.co.uk**



twitter.com/ArchaeologicalS



www.facebook.com/ArchaeologicalSolutions



CONTENTS

OASIS SUMMARY SHEET

SUMMARY

- 1 *INTRODUCTION***
- 2 *DESCRIPTION OF THE SITE***
- 3 *TOPOGRAPHY, GEOLOGY AND SOILS***
- 4 *ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND***
- 5 *METHODOLOGY***
- 6 *DESCRIPTION OF RESULTS***
- 7 *CONFIDENCE RATING***
- 8 *DEPOSIT MODEL***
- 9 *DISCUSSION***
- 10 *CONCLUSION***
- 11 *DEPOSITION OF THE ARCHIVE***

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

BIBLIOGRAPHY

OASIS SUMMARY SHEET

Project details			
Project name	317 Hills Road, Cambridge		
<p><i>In October 2016 Archaeological Solutions (AS) carried out an archaeological evaluation of land at 317 Hills Road, Cambridge (NGR TL 4686 5529). The evaluation was commissioned by Mr Colin Crickmore and was undertaken in compliance with a planning condition attached to planning permission for the erection of eight flats following the demolition of the existing dwelling.</i></p> <p><i>The site lies within an area of archaeological potential where extensive multi-period remains have been recorded during the development of Addenbrooke's Hospital and other sites. Evidence of late Bronze Age, Iron Age and early Roman activity is known from the area including an Iron Age enclosure system and the Roman road of Via Devana.</i></p> <p><i>The evaluation revealed no archaeological features or finds. Alluvium (0.60 - 0.63m thick) overlay the solid geology. Except modern foundations there was little evidence that the site was truncated and therefore had archaeological features been present, they would have been preserved.</i></p>			
Project dates (fieldwork)	October 2016		
Previous work (Y/N/?)	N	Future work (Y/N/?)	N
P. number	6922	Site code	ECB 4820
Type of project	An Archaeological Evaluation		
Site status	-		
Current land use	Single dwelling		
Planned development	Construction of 8 flats		
Main features (+dates)	-		
Significant finds (+dates)	-		
Project location			
County/ District/ Parish	Cambridgeshire	Cambridge City	Cambridge
HER/ SMR for area	Cambridgeshire HER		
Post code (if known)	CB2 0QT		
Area of site	c.700m ²		
NGR	TL 4686 5529		
Height AOD (min/max)	c.13.00m		
Project creators			
Brief issued by	HCC HEU		
Project supervisor/s (PO)	Zbigniew Pozorski		
Funded by	Crickmore Developments Ltd		
Full title	317 Hills Road, Cambridge. An Archaeological Evaluation		
Authors	Pozorski, Z.		
Report no.	5231		
Date (of report)	October 2016		

317 HILLS ROAD, CAMBRIDGE

AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION

SUMMARY

In October 2016 Archaeological Solutions (AS) carried out an archaeological evaluation of land at 317 Hills Road, Cambridge (NGR TL 4686 5529). The evaluation was commissioned by Mr Colin Crickmore and was undertaken in compliance with a planning condition attached to planning permission for the erection of eight flats following the demolition of the existing dwelling.

The site lies within an area of archaeological potential where extensive multi-period remains have been recorded during the development of Addenbrooke's Hospital and other sites. Evidence of late Bronze Age, Iron Age and early Roman activity is known from the area including an Iron Age enclosure system and the Roman road of Via Devana.

The evaluation revealed no archaeological features or finds. Alluvium (0.60 - 0.70m thick) overlay the solid geology. Excepting modern foundations there was little evidence that the site was truncated and therefore had archaeological features been present, they would have been preserved.

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 In October 2016 Archaeological Solutions (AS) carried out an archaeological evaluation of land at 317 Hills Road, Cambridge (NGR TL 4686 5529; Figs. 1 & 2). The evaluation was commissioned by Mr Colin Crickmore of Crickmore Developments Ltd and was undertaken in compliance with a planning condition attached to planning permission for the erection of eight flats following the demolition of the existing dwelling (Cambridge City Planning Ref. 5/1865/FUL).

1.2 The evaluation was undertaken in accordance with a brief issued by Cambridgeshire County Council Historic Environment Team (HET; dated 09/05/2016) and a written scheme of investigation (specification) prepared by AS (dated 29/09/2016) and approved by HET. The project conformed to the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (CIfA) *Code of Conduct and Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Field Evaluation* (2014), and the document *Standards for Field Archaeology in the East of England* (Gurney 2003).

1.3 The evaluation aimed to determine the location, extent, date, character, condition, significance and quality of any surviving archaeological remains liable to be threatened by the proposed 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 DESCRIPTION OF THE SITE

2.1 The site is located on the north-eastern side of Hills Road, at its junction with Fendon Road, in the southern part of Cambridge near Addenbrooke's Hospital. Until recently the plot was occupied by a single detached dwelling with adjacent garage and a rear garden.

3 TOPOGRAPHY, GEOLOGY AND SOILS

3.1 The site is situated on relatively flat land at c.13m AOD. The solid geology of the area is of chalk of the Grey Chalk Subgroup (British Geological Survey 1978). Soils in the area are those of the Swaffham prior association, described as well drained calcareous coarse and fine loamy soils over chalk rubble (Soil Survey of England and Wales 1983).

4 ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

4.1 The site lies in an area that has revealed significant evidence of Bronze Age, Iron Age and Roman archaeology, in particular a large enclosure system of Iron Age date.

4.2 Prehistoric flint artefacts have been found at several locations in the vicinity of the site (CHER 05000; 05106; 08707; MCB17843). A pit containing Neolithic grooved ware was recorded during the cutting of an anti-tank ditch on Hills Road during the Second World War (CHER 04452).

4.3 Evidence for Bronze Age settlement is represented by a cropmark enclosure of probable Bronze Age date recorded at Gonville Farm (CHER 08338), settlement features and deposits at the Hutchison site, Addenbrooke's (CHER CB15770), a late Bronze Age/early Iron Age settlement and Roman field system to the south-west of Addenbrooke's (CHER MCB16078), Bronze Age boundary ditches recorded at Addenbrooke's multi-storey car park (CHER MCB20120), as well as small-scale remains recorded at sites of later date.

4.4 The area in which the current site lies contains much evidence of Iron Age activity representing a landscape of settlement and agriculture. An extensive Iron Age settlement was discovered during the construction of Stage 2 of the New Addenbrooke's Hospital, Hills Road, Cambridge in 1967 (CHER 04800). To the west of Addenbrooke's, a cropmark complex including a double-ditched enclosure, and considered to be of Iron Age date has been recorded (CHER 08339). An Iron Age field system has been recorded at Trumpington (CHER 09591). Long Road is the site of a complex of boundary ditches, roundhouse remains (CHER CB15010) and a field system (CHER CB15270). The Bronze Age activity at the Hutchison site, Addenbrooke's extends into the early Iron Age (CHER CB15770). A late Iron Age to early Roman settlement complex lies to the west of Addenbrooke's (CHER MCB17845).

4.5 Evidence for the continuation and development of the Iron Age landscape into the Roman period has been recorded. This is represented by the late Iron Age/Conquest period settlement recorded at the Hutchison site (CHER MCB17888), a cropmark complex at Trumpington (CHER 09591), and settlement activity to the west of Addenbrooke's (CHER MCB17845), and other sites. Early Roman settlement has been recorded at a location to the south of Addenbrooke's (CHER MCB17846) and mid Roman settlement activity has been recorded in advance of the construction of an Elective Care Facility at Addenbrooke's Hospital (CHER CB15713) and during construction of the guided busway route in this part of Cambridge (CHER CB15768). In addition, Roman field boundaries have been recorded during the construction of the Cambridge Southern Relief Road (CHER 11294), at the site of the Strangeways Laboratory (CHER CB15296), and a field system has been identified to the south-west of Addenbrooke's (CHER MCB16078). The area also contains evidence for Roman roads (CHER 04819; 05146; 07970; MCB17897), funerary activity (CHER 04820; 07864) and a variety of spot

finds of Roman date have been recorded (CHER 04735; 04821; 04824; 08706; 08709).

4.6 Early Saxon activity has been recorded at Addenbrooke's (CHER MCB17800) and forms part of an early to middle Anglo-Saxon settlement in the area which straddles the Roman Road, passing through the Long Road College playing field and the southern end of the Hutchinson site (CHER MCB17890). A *grubenhaus* has been recorded alongside Robinson Way (CHER MCB19863).

4.7 Medieval activity in the vicinity of the site comprises evidence for agricultural activity at the Hutchison site (CHER MCB17896) as well as ditches (CHER 11294) and ridge and furrow (CHER MCB17847). Medieval finds have been recorded in the area (CHER 05000A; 05106A; 08112) and the area contains the site of a medieval cross (CHER 04774).

4.8 The post-medieval period is represented by field boundaries (CHER MCB20120) and spot finds (CHER 05000B; 05106B; 08708; MCB17844). An 18th century milestone is recorded at Worts Causeway (CHER MCB18041).

5 METHODOLOGY

5.1 One trench was excavated using a mechanical 360° excavator fitted with a toothless ditching bucket (Fig. 2). The trench was located in the southernmost available part of the site and measured 12.90 x 2.25m.

5.2 Made ground and alluvium were mechanically excavated under close archaeological supervision. Exposed surfaces 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 finds and the trenches were scanned by a metal detector.

6 DESCRIPTION OF RESULTS

Trench 1 (Figs. 2 - 5, DP 2-3)

<i>Sample section 1A (DP 4): north-west end, south-west facing</i>		
<i>0.00 = 12.87m AOD</i>		
0.00 – 0.12m	L1000	Made ground. Light grey, loose, silty sand, CBM rubble and debris.
0.12 – 0.40m	L1001	Made ground. Mid to dark brownish grey, friable, sandy silt with occasional CBM fragments.
0.40 – 1.00m	L1002	Alluvium. Mid greenish brown, compact, clayey silt.
1.00m +	L1003	Natural light yellowish grey, compact, silty and chalky clay.

<i>Sample section 1B (DP 5): south-east end, north-east facing</i>		
<i>0.00 = 13.06m AOD</i>		
0.00 – 0.13m	L1000	Made ground. As above.
0.13 – 0.29m	L1004	Made ground. Mid yellow and grey, loose, silty sand and gravel with ceramic pipe fragments and CBM.
0.29 – 0.34m	L1005	White, compact, chalk with CBM fragments.
0.34 – 0.47m	L1001	Made ground. As above.
0.47 – 1.10m	L1002	Alluvium. As above.
1.10m +	L1003	Natural clay. As above.

Description: No archaeological features or finds were present. The modern foundations of the former house were revealed.

7 CONFIDENCE RATING

7.1 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 relatively thin deposits of made ground (0.30 – 0.50m thick). Below was L1002, an alluvial deposit consisting of a mid greenish brown, compact, clayey silt (0.60 - .63m thick).

8.2 The natural clay, L1003, was present at 1.00m+ below the existing ground level and comprised a light yellowish grey, compact, silty and chalky clay.

9 DISCUSSION

9.1 The site lies within an area of archaeological potential where extensive multi-period remains have been recorded during the development of Addenbrooke's Hospital and other sites. Evidence of late Bronze Age, Iron Age and early Roman activity is known from the area including an Iron Age enclosure system and the Roman road of Via Devana.

9.2 The evaluation revealed no archaeological features or finds. Alluvium overlay the solid geology.

10 DISCUSSION

10.1 The evaluation revealed no archaeological features or finds. Alluvium (0.60 - .63m thick) overlay the solid geology. Except modern foundations there was little evidence that the site was truncated and therefore had archaeological features been present, they would have been preserved.

10 DEPOSITION OF THE ARCHIVE

10.1 Archive records, with an inventory, will be deposited with any donated finds from the site at Cambridge County Archaeological Store. The archive will be quantified, ordered, indexed, cross-referenced and checked for internal consistency.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Archaeological Solutions would like to thank Mr Colin Crickmore of Crickmore Developments Ltd for funding the project and for his 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. Mansfield

Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (CIfA), 2014, *Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Field Evaluation*. IfA, Reading

Gurney, D., 2003, *Standards for Field Archaeology in the East of England*, East Anglian Archaeology Occasional Papers 14/ALGAO

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

PHOTOGRAPHIC INDEX



DP 1. The site. Looking north-north-east.



DP 2. Trench 1. Looking north.



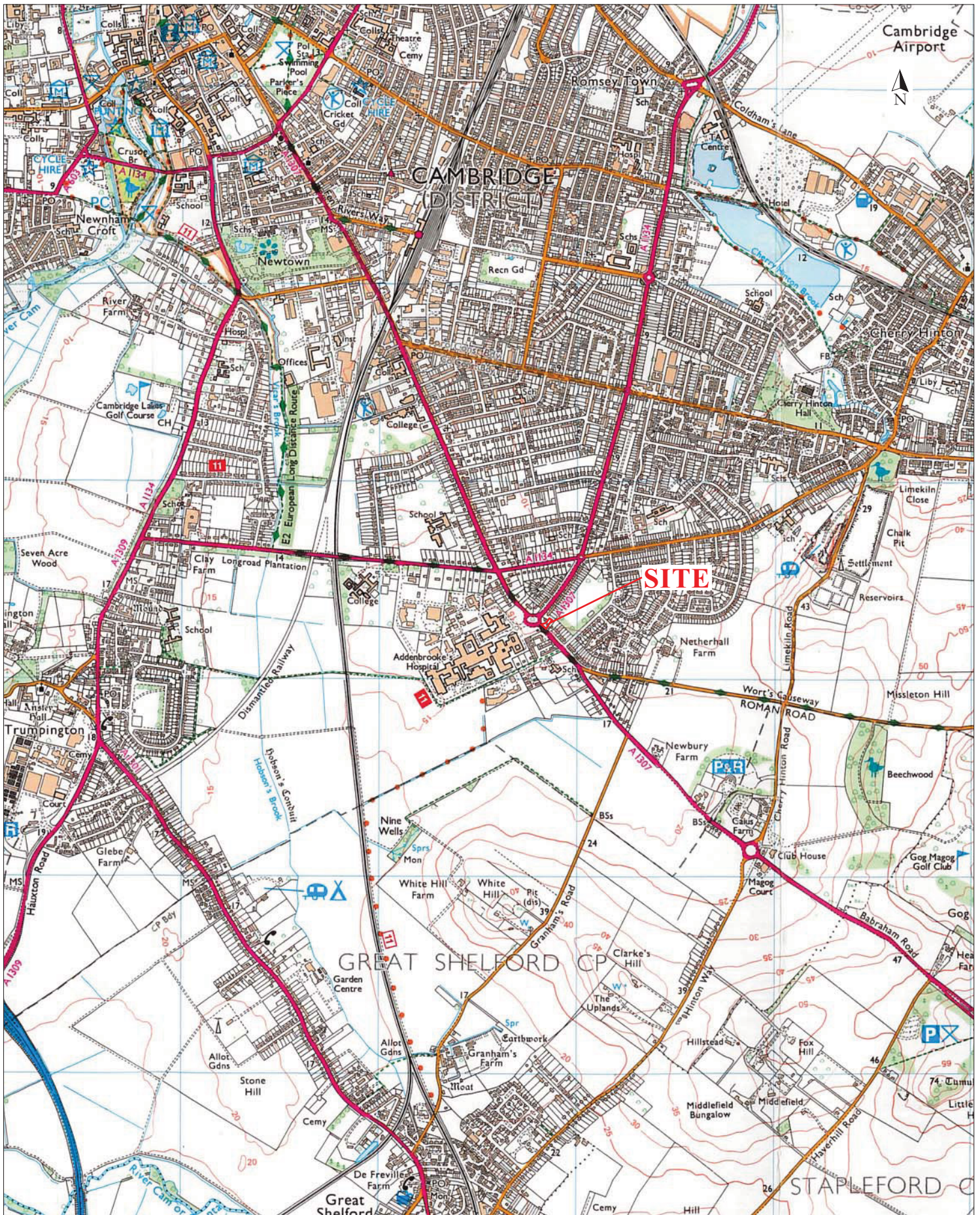
DP 3. Trench 1. Looking north-west.



DP 4. Trench 1, north-west end. Sample section 1A. Looking north-east.

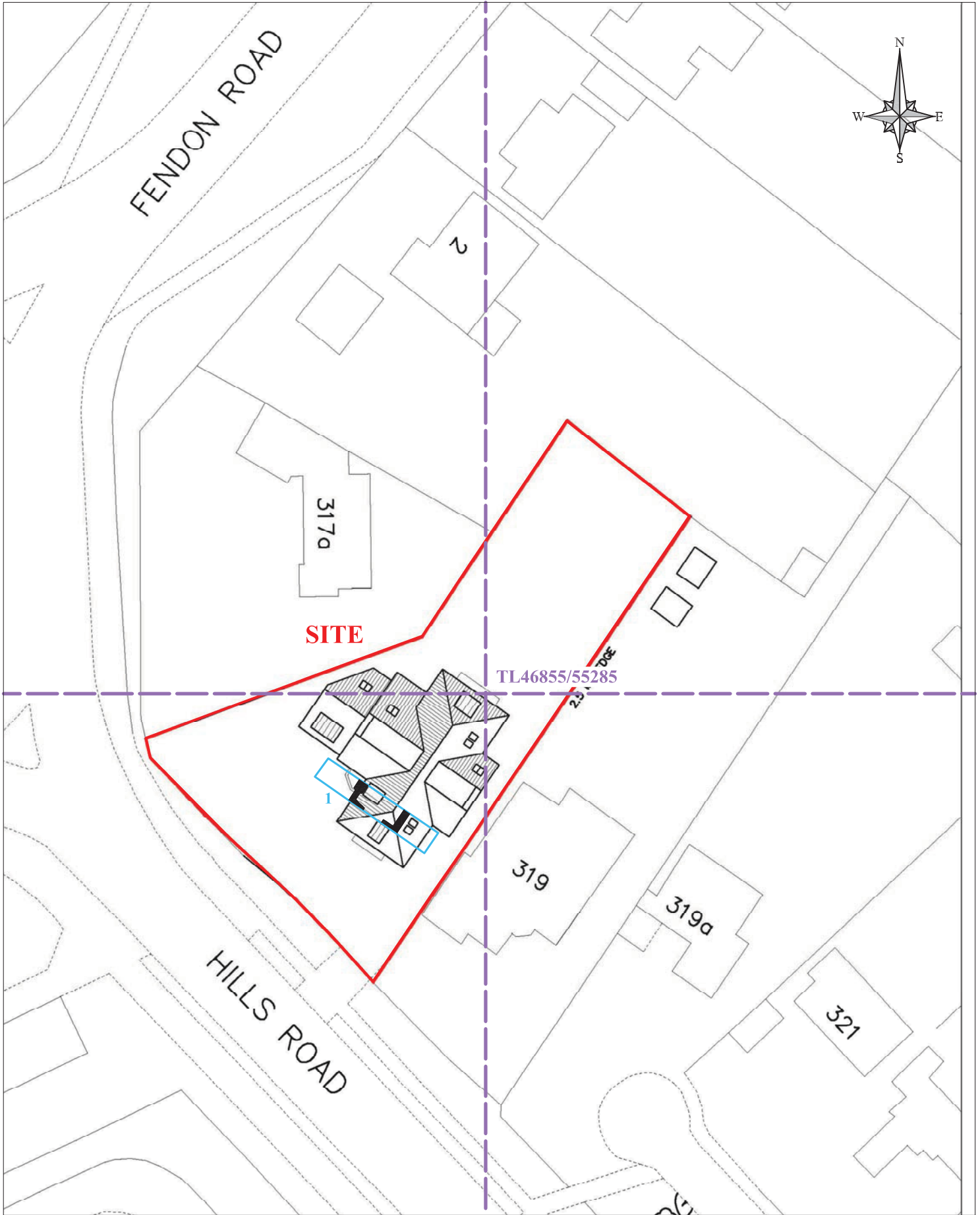


DP 5. Trench 1, south-east end. Sample section 1B. Looking south-west.



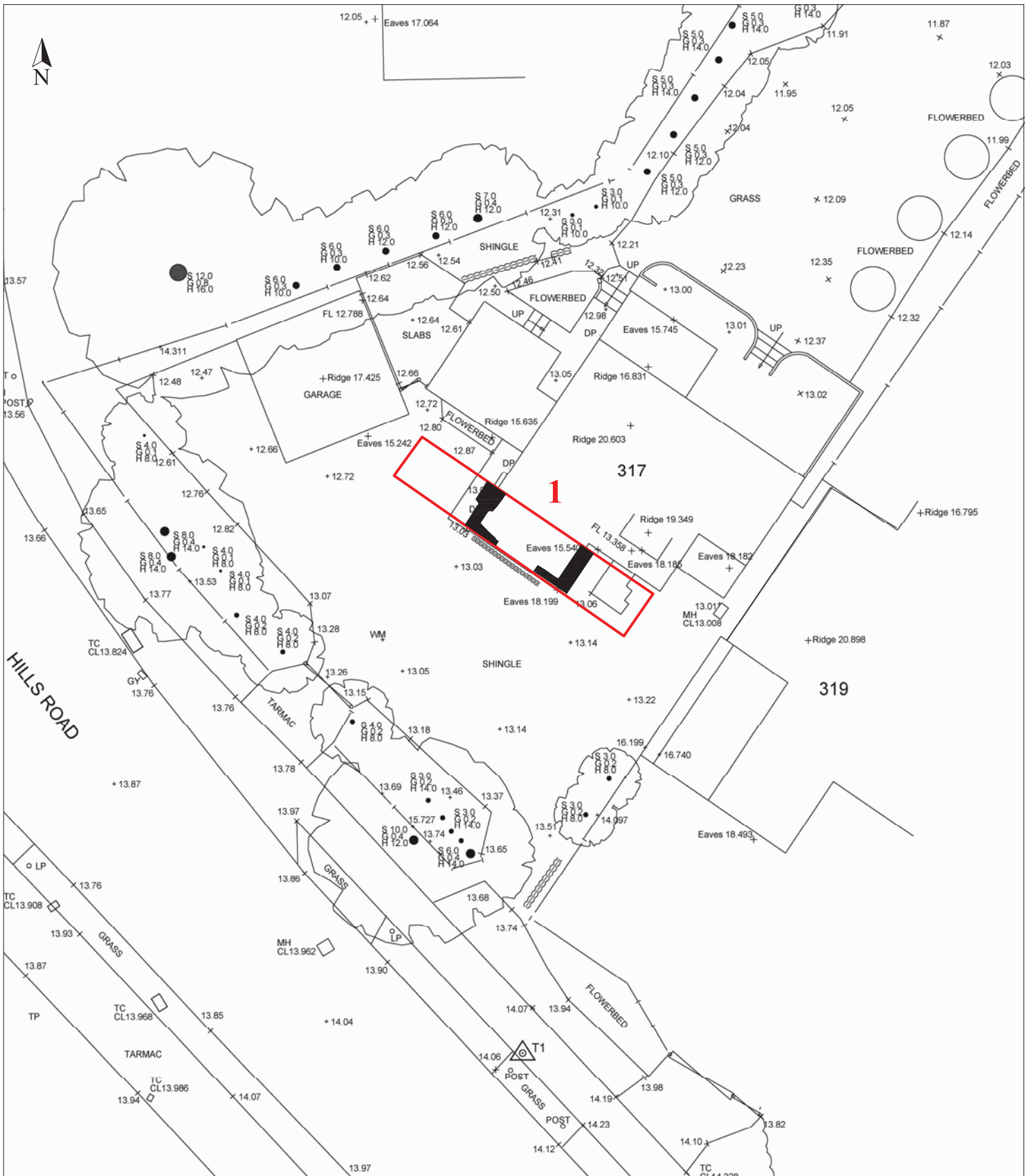
Reproduced from the 2006 Ordnance Survey 1:25000 map with the permission of Her Majesty's Stationery Office. © Crown copyright Archaeological Solutions Ltd Licence number 100036680

Archaeological Solutions Ltd
Fig. 1 Site location plan
 Scale 1:25,000 at A4
 317 Hills Road, Cambridge, Cambridgeshire (P6922)



0 25m

<i>Archaeological Solutions Ltd</i>
Fig. 2 Detailed site location plan
Scale 1:500 at A4
317 Hills Road, Cambridge, Cambridgeshire (P6922)

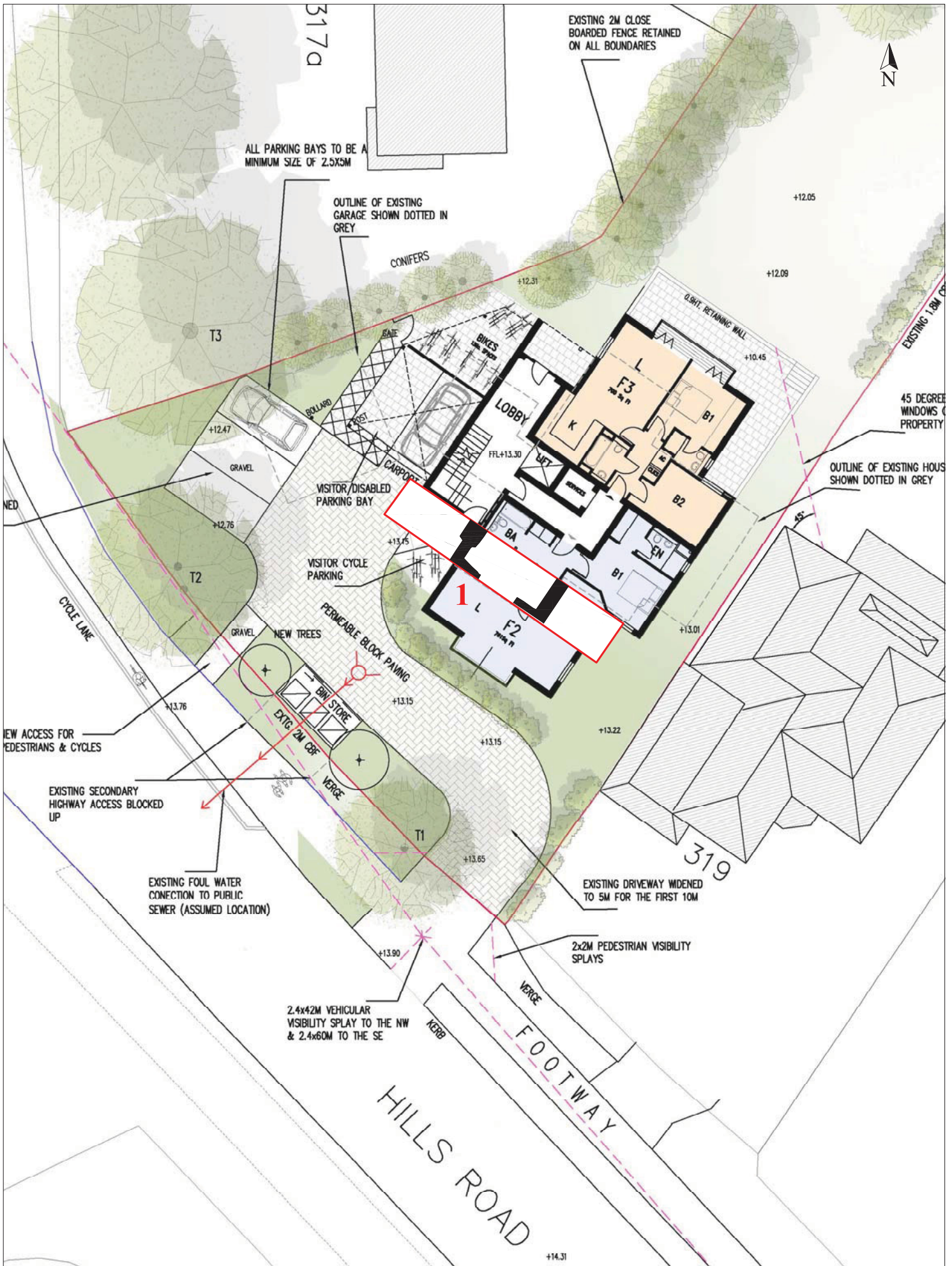


Archaeological Solutions Ltd

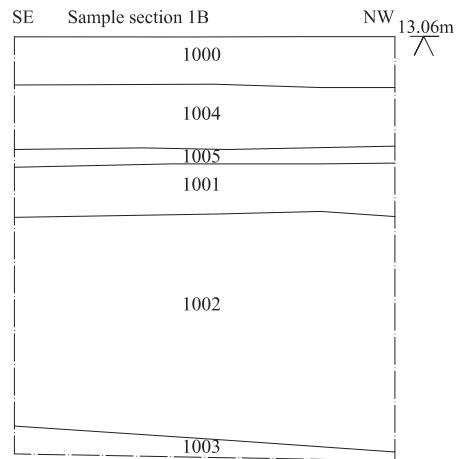
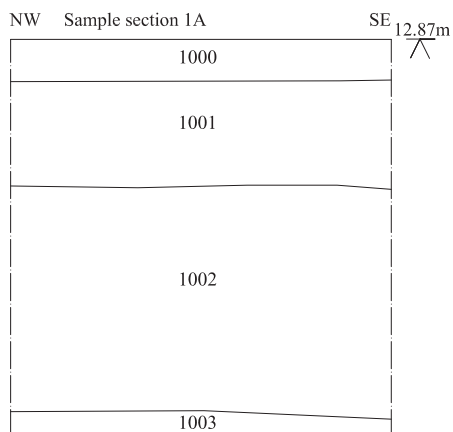
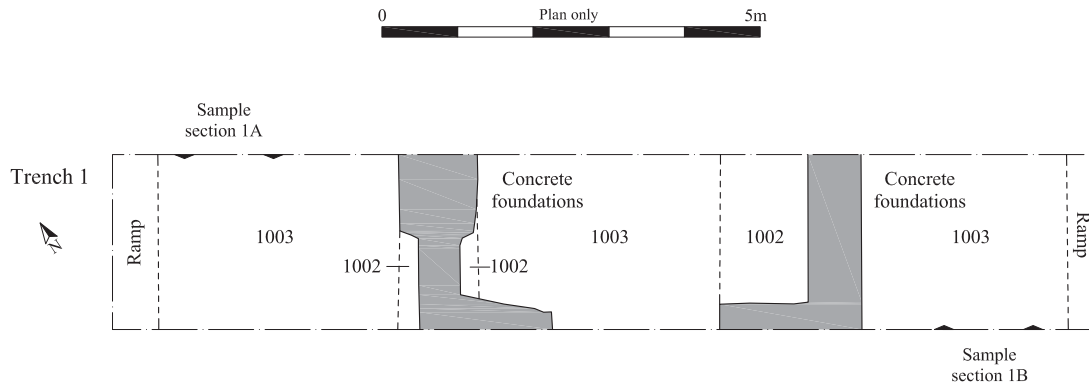
Fig. 3 Trench location plan

Scale 1:250 at A4

317 Hills Road, Cambridge, Cambridgeshire (P6922)



Archaeological Solutions Ltd
Fig. 4 Proposed development
 Scale 1:250 at A4
 317 Hills Road, Cambridge, Cambridgeshire (P6922)



Archaeological Solutions Ltd

Fig. 5 Trench plan and sections

Scale Plan 1:100, sections 1:20 at A4

317 Hills Road, Cambridge, Cambridgeshire (P6922)