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**FLINT HOUSE, BURY ROAD,
KENTFORD, SUFFOLK CB8 7PZ**

ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION

Authors: Vincent Monahan (Fieldwork & report) Kate Higgs MA (Oxon.) (Research)	
NGR: TL 712 266	Report No: 6183
District: Forest Heath	Site Code: KTD041
Approved: Claire Halpin MCIfA	Project No: 8377
	Date: 19 February 2021

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OASIS SUMMARY SHEET

Project details			
Project name	<i>Flint House, Bury Road, Kentford, Suffolk, CB8 7PZ</i>		
<p><i>In September 2020, Archaeological Solutions Ltd (AS) carried out an archaeological evaluation of land at Flint House, Bury Road, Kentford, Suffolk, CB8 7PZ (NGR TL 712 266; Figs. 1 & 2). The evaluation was undertaken in compliance with the initial requirement of a planning condition attached to planning approval for the proposed construction of two dwellings with detached garages (Forest Heath Council Approval Ref. DC/17/1114/OUT). It was required by the local planning authority based on the advice of Suffolk County Council Archaeological Service (SCC AS)</i></p> <p><i>Despite the proximity of prehistoric funerary monuments and evidence of Anglo-Saxon settlement the trial trench evaluation revealed no archaeological features or finds.</i></p>			
Project dates (fieldwork)	15 th February 2021		
Previous work (Y/N/?)	<i>N</i>	Future work	<i>TBC</i>
P. number	<i>8377</i>	Site code	<i>KTD041</i>
Type of project	<i>Archaeological evaluation</i>		
Site status	<i>Area of archaeological potential</i>		
Current land use	<i>Residential</i>		
Planned development	<i>Residential</i>		
Main features (+dates)	<i>-</i>		
Significant finds (+dates)	<i>-</i>		
Project location			
County/ District/ Parish	<i>Suffolk</i>	<i>Forest Heath</i>	<i>Kentford</i>
HER/ SMR for area	<i>Suffolk Historic Environment Record</i>		
Post code (if known)	<i>CB8 7PZ</i>		
Area of site	<i>c. 2,000m²</i>		
NGR	<i>TL 712 266</i>		
Height AOD (min/max)	<i>c. 35m AOD</i>		
Project creators			
Brief issued by	<i>Suffolk County Council Archaeological Service Conservation Team</i>		
Project supervisor/s (PO)	<i>Monahan, V.</i>		
Funded by	<i>AJP Builders Ltd</i>		
Full title	<i>Flint House, Bury Road, Kentford, Suffolk, CB8 7PZ. An Archaeological evaluation</i>		
Authors	<i>Monahan, V. & Higgs, K.</i>		
Report no.	<i>6183</i>		
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**FLINT HOUSE, BURY ROAD, KENTFORD,
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ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION

SUMMARY

In September 2020, Archaeological Solutions Ltd (AS) carried out an archaeological evaluation of land at Flint House, Bury Road, Kentford, Suffolk, CB8 7PZ (NGR TL 712 266; Figs. 1 & 2). The evaluation was undertaken in compliance with the initial requirement of a planning condition attached to planning approval for the proposed construction of two dwellings with detached garages (Forest Heath Council Approval Ref. DC/17/1114/OUT). It was required by the local planning authority based on the advice of Suffolk County Council Archaeological Service (SCC AS)

The site lies within an area of archaeological potential recorded on the Suffolk Historic Environment Record, on the eastern edge of the medieval settlement of Kentford (HER KDT 017) and on the line of the major prehistoric and later routeway of the Ickniel Way. Funerary monuments of prehistoric date are well known along the Ickniel Way, and the proposed development site lies close to the remains of a Bronze Age burial mound on the opposite side of Bury Road to the north east (HER KTD 002) and also the sites of two further destroyed burial mounds (HER KTD 003 & 004) to the south east.

Despite the proximity of prehistoric funerary monuments and evidence of Anglo-Saxon settlement the trial trench evaluation revealed no archaeological features or finds.

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 In September 2020, Archaeological Solutions Ltd (AS) carried out an archaeological evaluation of land at Flint House, Bury Road, Kentford, Suffolk, CB8 7PZ (NGR TL 712 266; Figs. 1 & 2). The evaluation was undertaken in compliance with the initial requirement of a planning condition attached to planning approval for the proposed construction of two dwellings with detached garages (Forest Heath Council Approval Ref. DC/17/1114/OUT). It was required by the local planning authority based on the advice of Suffolk County Council Archaeological Service (SCC AS)

1.2 The archaeological evaluation was carried out in accordance with a brief issued by SCC AS (*Brief for a Trenched Archaeological Evaluation at Flint House, Bury Road, Kentford*, James Rolfe, dated 2 April 2020), and a specification compiled by AS (dated 3 April 2020). It followed the procedures outlined in the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists' *Standards and Guidance for an Archaeological Evaluation* (2020). It also adhered to the relevant sections of *Standards for Field Archaeology in the East of England* (Gurney

2003), and the requirements of the SCC document *Requirements for a Trenched Evaluation* 2019.

1.3 The principal objectives for the evaluation included:

- 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; and
- 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.

Planning Policy Context

1.4 The National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF 2019) 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 lies within the village and parish of Kentford, which is located within the district of Forest Heath in the county of Suffolk (Fig. 1). Historic landscape characterisation describes the site as part of Suffolk's post-1950 agricultural landscape.

2.2 The site comprises an irregularly shaped plot of land, which covers an area of 2,000m² (Fig. 2). It lies on the eastern edge of Kentford and along the southern frontage of the B1085 Bury Road. The site is currently occupied by the detached dwelling of Flint House and its garden.

3 TOPOGRAPHY, GEOLOGY AND SOILS

3.1 The village of Kentford lies within the valley of the River Kennett, which flows roughly northwards 700m to the west of the site. The surrounding relief is therefore variable, rising to the south and east of the site. The site is located at c.30m AOD, with its relief increasing slightly towards its southern boundary.

3.2 Kentford lies on a solid geology of Holywell Chalk, which is overlain by glacio-fluvial drift deposits (BGS 2015). Soils of the area comprise those of the Newport 4 Association, which are described as deep well drained loamy soils (SSEW 1983).

4 ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

Prehistoric & Romano-British

4.1 The area of Kentford would have been conducive to prehistoric settlement due to its fertile soils and proximity to the River Kennett. This is attested by the quantity of prehistoric finds discovered in the area, including a significant Palaeolithic site at Kentford Railway Pit and 200m to the north-east of the site, which revealed varied fauna and possible hippo remains (HER KTD 006). The Neolithic period is represented by a large polished flint axe found at the Meddler Stud to the south-east (HER KTD 008) and a Neolithic sectioned stone axe (HER KTD 024). An evaluation at Gazeley Road also revealed Neolithic and Bronze Age flint and pottery (HER KTD 018).

4.2 Extensive Bronze Age activity is recorded in the Kentford area, including three clusters of Bronze Age ring ditches. They include three scheduled bowl barrows to the south-west of Pin Farm and 220m to the east of the site, which are located on a north facing slope immediately to the east of an Icknield Way path (HERs GAZ 002, GAZ 003 & GAZ 008; SAM 31110).

Four further Bronze Age ring ditches are also recorded to the east (HERs KTD 001, KTD 002, KTD 003 & KTD 004), including one on the northern frontage of Bury Road and only 30m to the north-east of the site (HER KTD 002). The location of the burial mounds correlates with the line of chalk soils and the prehistoric Icknield Way, now Bury Road. The site therefore lies within an area of archaeological potential on the line of the major prehistoric and later routeway of the Icknield Way. In contrast, no Roman remains are recorded in the vicinity.

Anglo-Saxon

4.3 Place-name evidence suggests a Saxon origin for Kentford, which denotes a ford over the River Kennett (Mills 1998). Extensive early Anglo-Saxon settlement evidence was revealed during the aforementioned evaluation at Kentford Lodge and to the north-west of the site (HER KTD 019; Brooks 2013). The work revealed 21 sunken feature buildings (SFB), two posthole halls, a post in trench building, a number of flint-filled pits and other associated pits, post holes and spreads. Early Anglo-Saxon finds included hand-made pottery, a loom weight and a glass bead from sunken featured building (SFB) associated features. The animal bone assemblage appeared to be derived from butchering and food waste, whilst possible Anglo-Saxon burials were also recorded (*ibid.*).

Medieval

4.4 A settlement at Kentford was not mentioned at Domesday, although Kennet, to the north of the village, is recorded (Williams & Martin 2003). Kennett was already established at the time of the Norman Conquest with Nicholas of Kennet owning the manor in 1086. In contrast, Kentford was established as a settlement in the later medieval period, with its historic settlement core incorporating the site at its eastern extent (HER KTD 017). The Grade II* listed Church of St Mary was built in the 14th century and still holds several good examples of medieval artwork (HERs KTD 011 & 275611). Undated house plots and gardens recorded 250m to the west of the site may also be medieval in date (HER KTD 007), whilst the Icknield Way through the village was utilised by pilgrims in the medieval period.

Post-medieval and later

4.5 The post-medieval period saw slight expansion and development in Kentford, but the village remained dominated by its agricultural character. Only two post-medieval and early modern listing building are recorded in Kentford, including the Grade II listed Regal Cottage to the west on Bury Road, which is an 18th century house with 19th century alterations (HER 275610). The Grade II listed The Cock public house, also to the west on Bury Road, originated in the late 15th or early 16th century coaching house (HER 275609). Further early modern structures comprise the 19th century Cock and Bull Farm and Chain Farm (HERs KTD 034 & KTD 035), whilst the Bury St Edmunds to Newmarket railway line opened to the north of Kentford in 1854 (HER SUF 071).

The site

4.6 Historic cartographic sources suggest that the existing Flint House is only modern in date, post-dating 1952 and was constructed within the site as a replacement for an earlier structure situated further northwards along the road-side frontage of the site. The parish of Kentford tithe map, which dates to 1843 (Ref. IR 30/33/251), records that a dwelling stood within the site, with two smaller outbuildings to its rear (#57). The accompanying tithe apportionment suggests that in 1843, the site was occupied by Stephen Howard, his wife, five children and two lodgers; Elijah and Susan Wilson. Stephen Howard rented the property from John Wellsman, who also employed him as a labourer at *Bull Farm* (now Kentford House).

4.9 The 2nd edition Ordnance Survey map, which dates to 1903 (Fig. 3), is consistent with the previous cartographic evidence. In 1903, the site lay at the eastern extent of the village and was occupied by a structure located along its road-side frontage, again with two smaller outbuildings to its rear (#591). In 1903 the structure appeared to consist of two adjoining cottages, rather than a single dwelling. Similarly, the 1952 Ordnance Survey map once again depicted the site as occupied by a structure located along its road-side frontage, with two smaller outbuildings to its rear (Fig. 4). The existing Flint House was therefore constructed after 1952.

5 METHODOLOGY

5.1 SCC AS advice required the excavation of initial trial trenches to evaluate the presence of any archaeological remains within the area of proposed development. Three trenches, each equivalent to 10m x 1.8m, were excavated and they targeted the area of the new build (Fig. 5). Trench 1 was divided because of the presence of a fence. Trench 3 was rotated to avoid a septic tank and the trench was shortened by a metre due to the presence of trees. The trenches were mechanically excavated using a mechanical 360° excavator with a toothless ditching bucket.

5.2 The archaeological evaluation comprised the inspection of the subsoil and natural deposits for archaeological features, the examination of spoil heaps and the recording of soil profiles. Encountered features and deposits were cleaned by hand and recorded using *pro forma* recording sheets, drawn to scale and photographed as appropriate. The excavated spoil was checked for finds.

6 DESCRIPTION OF RESULTS

Individual trench descriptions are presented below:

Trench 1 Fig. 5

Sample section 1A 0.00 = 36.08m AOD		
0.00 – 0.30m	L1000	Topsoil. Friable, dark red brown silty sand.
0.30 – 0.85m	L1001	Sub-soil. Friable, pale red brown very silty sand with occasional small and medium sub-angular flints.
0.85m +	L1002	Natural Deposits. Friable, pale red yellow sand with frequent small, medium, and large sub-angular flints.

Sample section 1B 0.00 = 36.16m AOD		
0.00 – 0.31m	L1000	Topsoil. As Sample Section 1A.
0.31 – 1.02m	L1001	Subsoil. As Sample Section 1A.
1.02m +	L1002	Natural Deposits. As Sample Section 1A.

Description: Trench 1 contained no archaeological features or finds.

Trench 2 Fig. 5

Sample section 2 0.00 = 35.96m AOD		
0.00 – 0.38m	L1000	Topsoil. As Sample Section 1A.
0.38 – 0.86m	L1001	Subsoil. As Sample Section 1A.
0.86m +	L1002	Natural Deposits. As Sample Section 1A.

Description: Trench 2 contained a modern pit (not excavated). No archaeological features or finds were present.

Trench 3 Fig. 5

Sample section 3 0.00 = 36.17m AOD		
0.00 – 0.31m	L1000	Topsoil. As Sample Section 1A.
0.31 – 0.51m	L1001	Subsoil. As Sample Section 1A.
0.51m+	L1002	Natural Deposits. As Sample Section 1A.

Description: Trench 3 contained a modern service. No archaeological features or finds were present.

8 DEPOSIT MODEL

8.1 The site was commonly overlain by a 0.30m – 0.38m thick topsoil layer (L1000) comprising a friable, dark red brown silty sand. Below L1000 was a subsoil layer (L1001) comprising a friable, pale red brown very silty sand with

occasional small and medium sub-angular flints. In the northern half of the site (Trench 1) L1001 was between 0.48m and 0.71m thick, and in the southern half (Trench 3) it was only 0.20m thick. The natural deposits (L1002), comprising friable, pale red yellow sand with frequent small, medium, and large sub-angular flints, were encountered between 0.85m and 1.02m below the current ground surface in the north (Trench 1) and 0.51m in the south (Trench 3).

9 DISCUSSION

9.1 The site lies within an area of archaeological potential recorded on the Suffolk Historic Environment Record, on the eastern edge of the medieval settlement of Kentford (HER KDT 017) and on the line of the major prehistoric and later routeway of the Icknield Way. Funerary monuments of prehistoric date are well known along the Icknield Way, and the proposed development site lies close to the remains of a Bronze Age burial mound on the opposite side of Bury Road to the north east (HER KTD 002) and also the sites of two further destroyed burial mounds (HER KTD 003 & 004) to the south east.

9.2 Place-name evidence suggests a Saxon origin for Kentford, which denotes a ford over the River Kennett (Mills 1998). A significant evaluation at Kentford Lodge and 120m to the west of the site (HER ESF19341; Brooks 2013) revealed evidence of early Anglo-Saxon occupation, with 21 sunken feature buildings (SFB), two posthole halls, a post in trench building, a number of flint filled pits and other associated pits, postholes and spreads, possible Anglo-Saxon burials were also recorded (*ibid.*).

9.3 A settlement at Kentford was not mentioned at Domesday, although Kennet, to the north of the village, is recorded (Williams & Martin 2003). Kentford was only established as a settlement in the later medieval period.

9.4 Despite the proximity of prehistoric funerary monuments, and evidence of Anglo-Saxon settlement the trial trenches revealed no archaeological features or finds. This would suggest that the site lies beyond the Saxon and medieval occupation to the west. A subsoil was present and therefore the site stratigraphy was intact and archaeological features would have been preserved.

DEPOSITION OF THE ARCHIVE

The requirements for archive storage will be agreed with the Suffolk Archaeological Archives. Archive records, with an inventory, will be deposited with the local museum. The archive will be quantified, ordered, indexed, cross referenced and checked for internal consistency.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Archaeological Solutions would like to thank AJP Builders Ltd for funding the archaeological evaluation, and to Mr Dennis Brocklesby of Lynwood Associates Ltd for all his assistance.

AS is also pleased to acknowledge the staff of the Suffolk Historic Environment Record, in particular Ms Grace Campbell.

AS is pleased to acknowledge the advice and input of Mr James Rolfe at the Suffolk County Council Archaeological Service (SCC AS).

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<https://shirleylevonfamilyhistory.co.uk>

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OASIS ID: archaeol7-415089

Project details

Project name	Flint House, Bury Road, Kentford, Suffolk (TT)
Short description of the project	In September 2020, Archaeological Solutions Ltd (AS) carried out an archaeological evaluation of land at Flint House, Bury Road, Kentford, Suffolk, CB8 7PZ (NGR TL 712 266; Figs. 1 and 2). The evaluation was undertaken in compliance with the initial requirement of a planning condition attached to planning approval for the proposed construction of two dwellings with detached garages (Forest Heath Council Approval Ref. DC/17/1114/OUT). It was required by the local planning authority based on the advice of Suffolk County Council Archaeological Service (SCC AS) Despite the proximity of prehistoric funerary monuments and evidence of Anglo-Saxon settlement the trial trench evaluation revealed no archaeological features or finds.
Project dates	Start: 15-02-2021 End: 15-02-2021
Previous/future work	No / Not known
Any associated project reference codes	P8377 - Contracting Unit No.
Any associated project reference codes	KTD041 - Sitecode
Type of project	Field evaluation
Site status	None
Site status (other)	Area of Archaeological Potential
Current Land use	Residential 1 - General Residential
Monument type	NONE None
Significant Finds	NONE None
Methods & techniques	"Targeted Trenches"
Development type	Residential
Prompt	Planning condition
Position in the planning process	After full determination (eg. As a condition)

Project location

Country	England
Site location	SUFFOLK FOREST HEATH KENTFORD Flint House, Bury Road, Kentford
Postcode	CB8 7PZ
Study area	2000 Square metres
Site coordinates	TL 712 266 51.91110028971 0.489291752737 51 54 39 N 000 29 21 E Point
Height OD / Depth	Min: 35m Max: 35m

Project creators

Name of Organisation	Archaeological Solutions Ltd
Project brief originator	Suffolk County Council Archaeological Service Conservation Team
Project design originator	Jon Murray
Project director/manager	Jon Murray
Project supervisor	Monahan, V
Name of sponsor/funding body	AJP Builders Ltd

Project archives

Physical Archive Exists?	No
Digital Archive recipient	AS Pending Deposition at Local Museum
Digital Contents	"none"
Digital Media available	"Images raster / digital photography","Spreadsheets","Survey","Text"
Paper Archive recipient	AS Pending Deposition at Local Museum
Paper Contents	"none"
Paper Media available	"Context sheet","Correspondence","Drawing","Map","Photograph","Plan","Report","Section","Survey"

Project bibliography 1

Publication type	Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)
Title	Flint House, Bury Road, Kentford, Suffolk, CB8 7PZ. An Archaeological evaluation
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Author(s)/Editor(s)	Higgs, K
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Entered on	9 March 2021

PHOTOGRAPHIC INDEX (P8377)



1
View of site before excavation of trenches



2
View of site before excavation of trenches



3
Trench 1A looking south



4
Trench 1B looking north



5
Sample Section 1A in Trench 1A



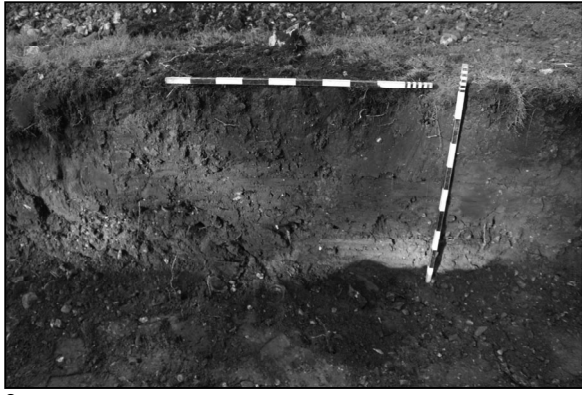
6
Sample Section 1B in Trench 1B



7
Trench 2 looking west



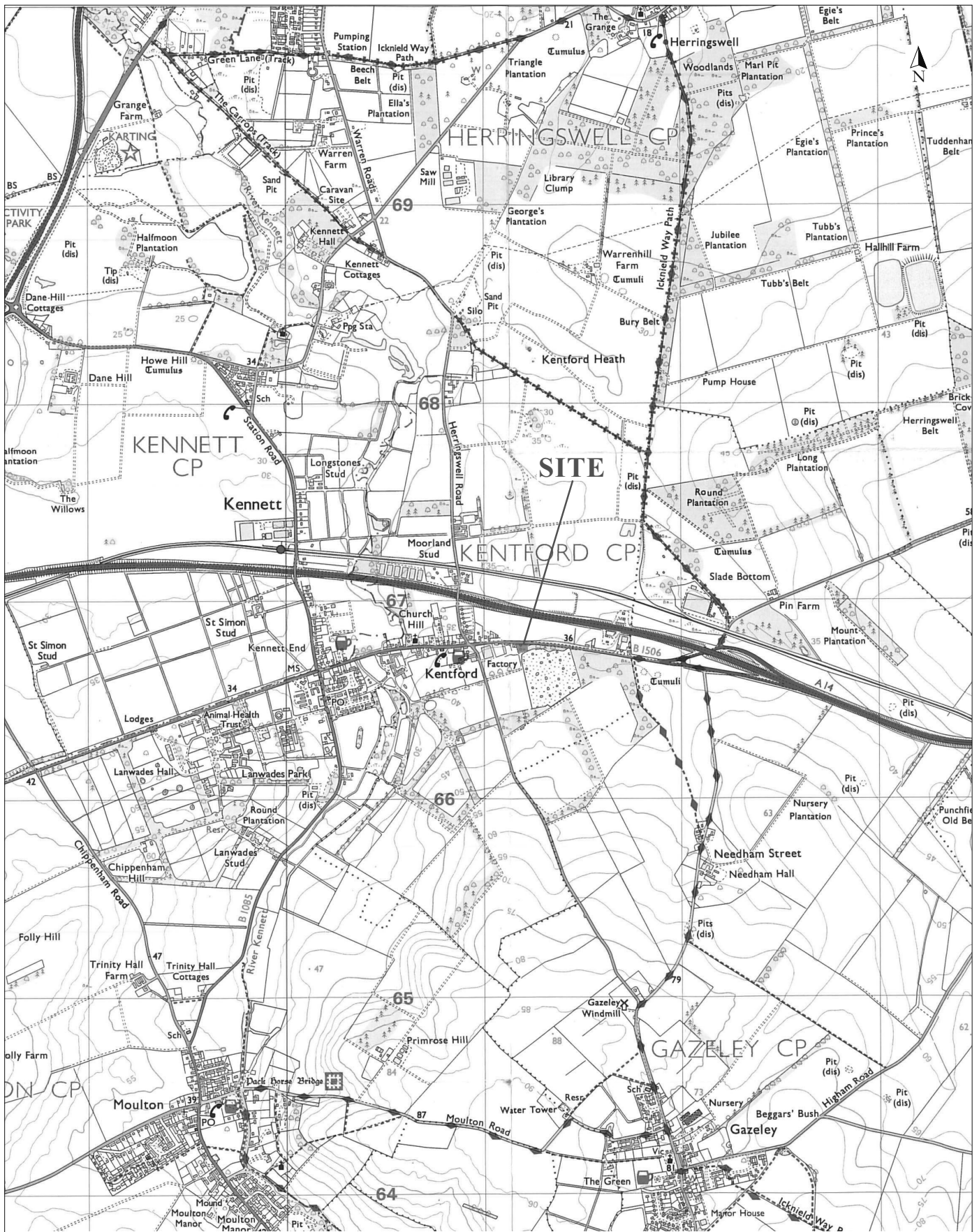
8
Trench 3 looking south-west



9
Sample section 2 in Trench 2 showing modern pit

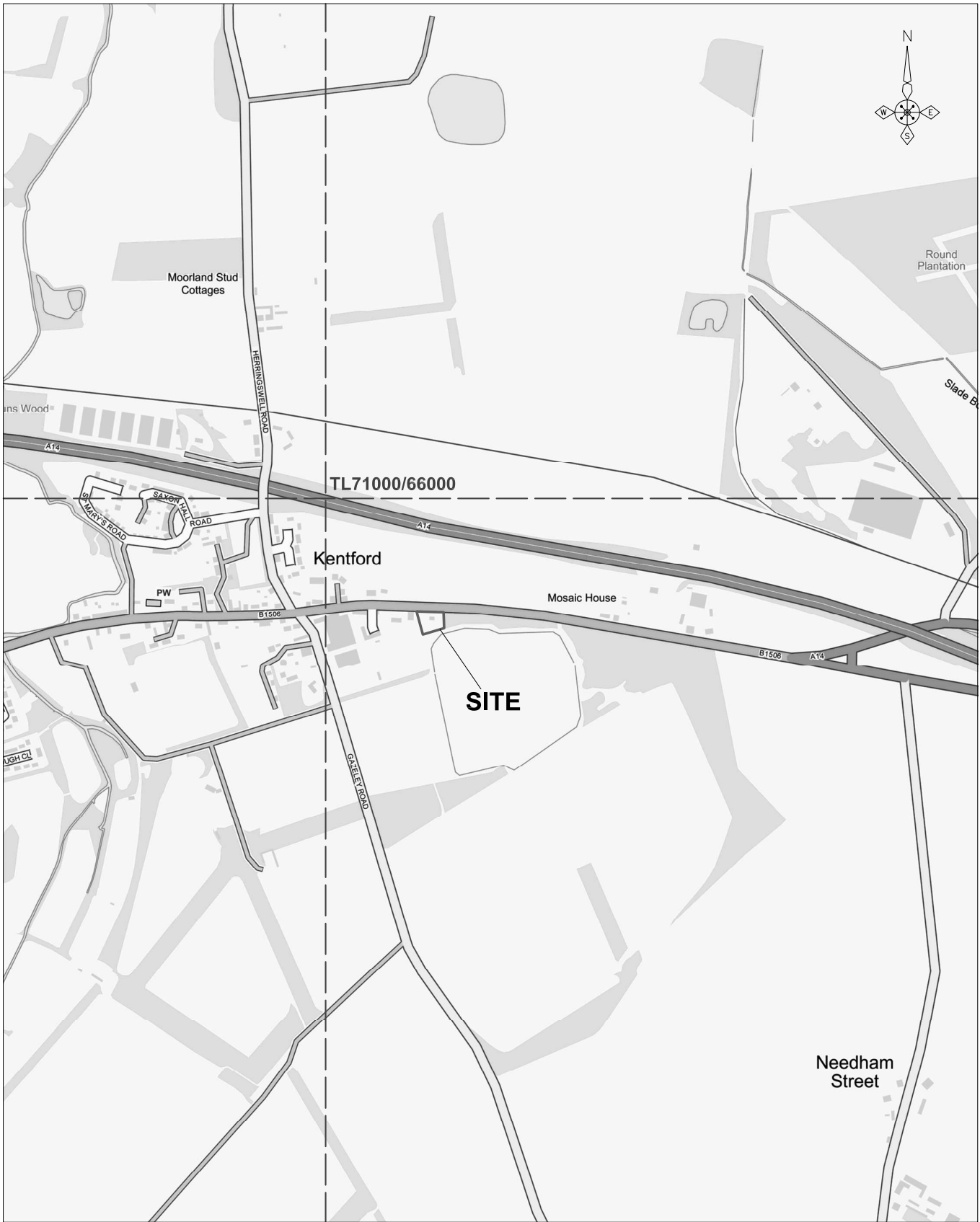


10
Sample section 3 in Trench 3



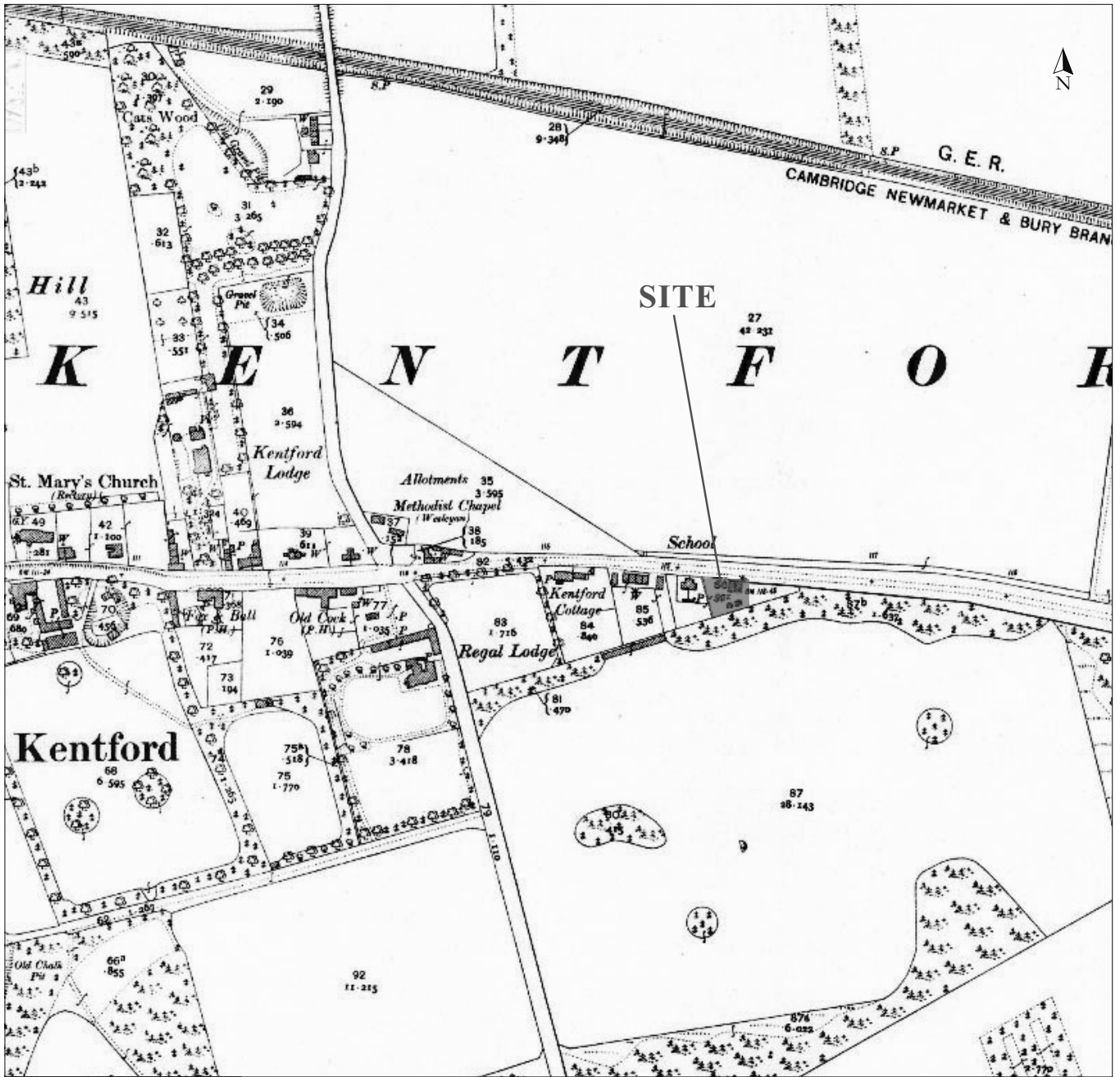
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Fig. 1 Site location plan
 Scale 1:25,000 at A4
 Flint House, Kentford near Newmarket, Suffolk (P8377)



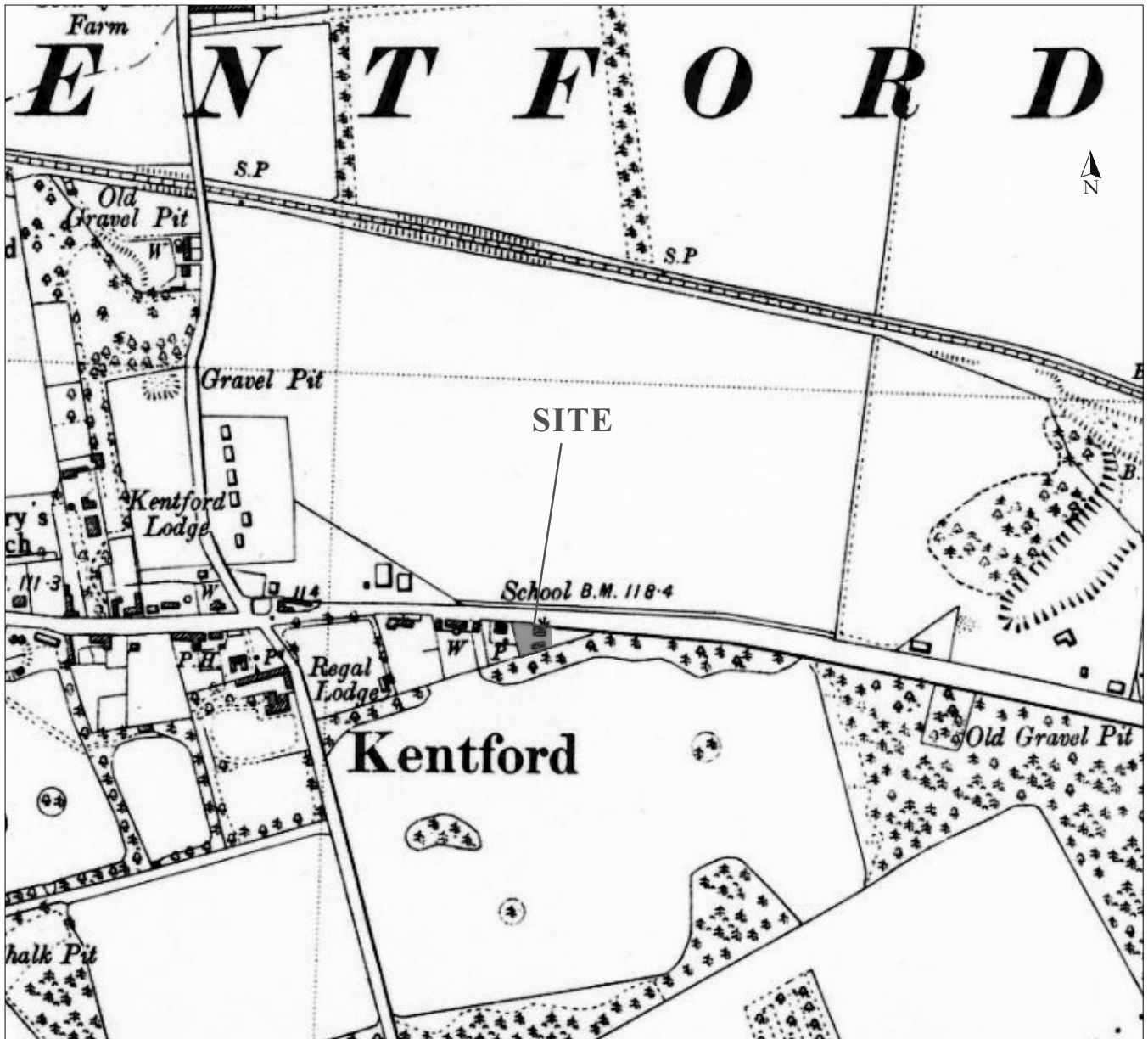
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<i>Archaeological Solutions Ltd</i>
Fig. 2 Detailed site location plan
Scale 1:12,500 at A4
Flint House, Kentford, near Newmarket, Suffolk (P8377)



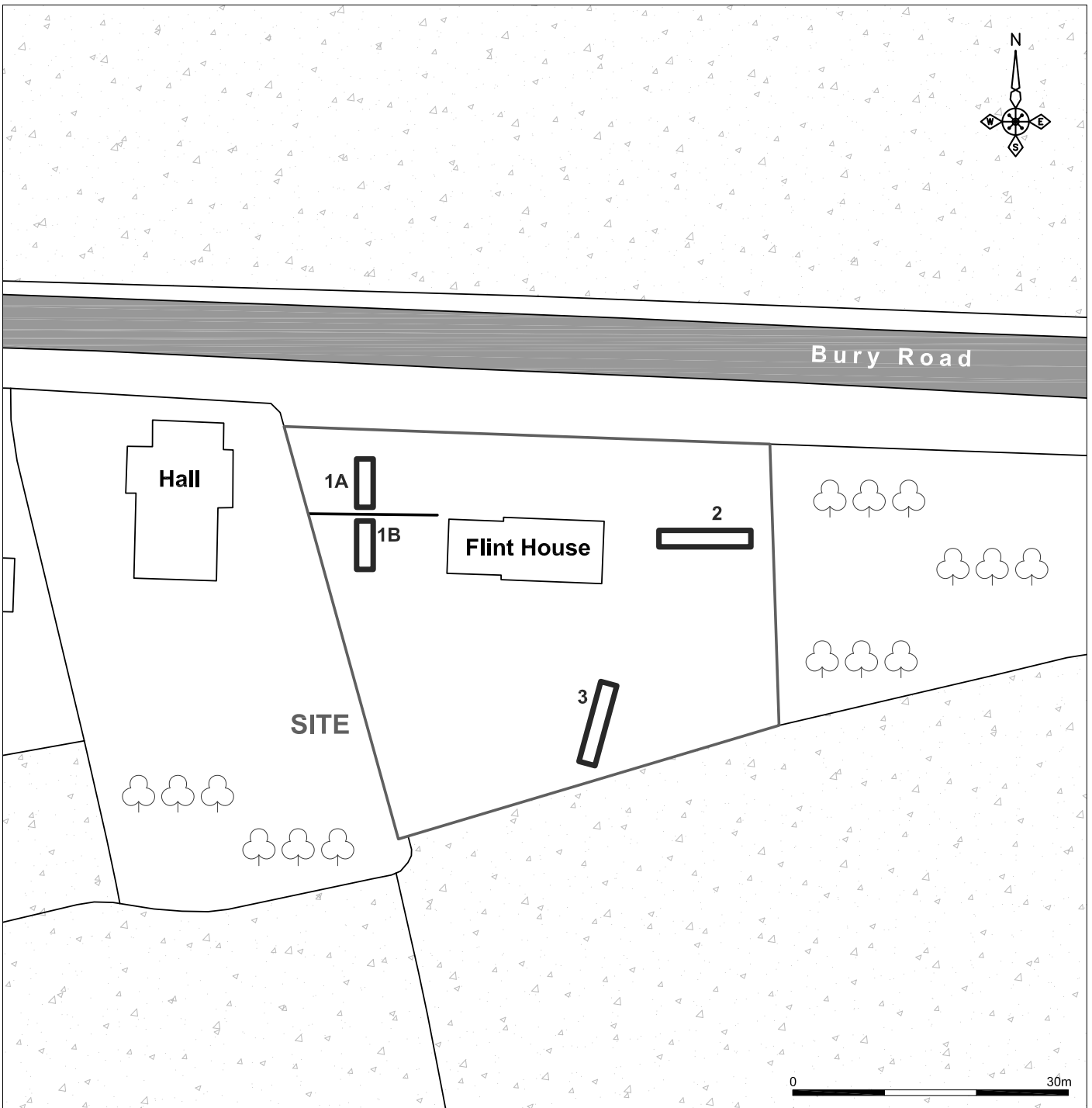
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<i>Archaeological Solutions Ltd</i>
Fig. 3 OS map, 1903
Not to scale
Flint House, Kentford near Newmarket, Suffolk (P8377)



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Fig. 4 OS map, 1952
Not to scale
Flint House, Kentford near Newmarket, Suffolk (P8377)



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Fig. 5 Trench location plan
Scale 1:600 at A4
Flint House, Kentford, near Newmarket, Suffolk (P8377)

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Project details

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Any associated project reference codes	KTD041 - Sitecode
Type of project	Field evaluation
Site status	None
Site status (other)	Area of Archaeological Potential
Current Land use	Residential 1 - General Residential
Monument type	NONE None
Significant Finds	NONE None
Methods & techniques	"Targeted Trenches"
Development type	Residential
Prompt	Planning condition
Position in the planning process	After full determination (eg. As a condition)

Project location

Country	England
Site location	SUFFOLK FOREST HEATH KENTFORD Flint House, Bury Road, Kentford
Postcode	CB8 7PZ

Study area 2000 Square metres
 Site coordinates TL 712 266 51.91110028971 0.489291752737 51 54 39 N 000 29 21 E Point
 Height OD / Depth Min: 35m Max: 35m

Project creators

Name of Organisation Archaeological Solutions Ltd
 Project brief originator Suffolk County Council Archaeological Service Conservation Team
 Project design originator Jon Murray
 Project director/manager Jon Murray
 Project supervisor Monahan, V
 Name of sponsor/funding body AJP Builders Ltd

Project archives

Physical Archive Exists? No
 Digital Contents "none"
 Digital Media available "Images raster / digital photography", "Spreadsheets", "Survey", "Text"
 Paper Contents "none"
 Paper Media available "Context sheet", "Correspondence", "Drawing", "Map", "Photograph", "Plan", "Report", "Section", "Survey"

Project bibliography 1

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