
ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOLUTIONS LTD

28 GEORGE STREET, HADLEIGH, SUFFOLK

ARCHAEOLOGICAL MONITORING & RECORDING

Authors: Matthew Adams BA (fieldwork and Report) Adam Dyson BA (report)	
NGR: TM 0283 4238	Report No.3498
Parish: Hadleigh	Site Code:
Approved: C Halpin MIFA	Project No. P3388
Signed:	Date: Feb 2010

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Archaeological Solutions Ltd, 98-100 Fore Street, Hertford, SG14 1AB.
Tel: 01992 558170 Fax: 01992 553359 E-mail: info@ascontracts.co.uk
Web: www.archaeologicalsolutions.co.uk
Registered Number: 4702122

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OASIS SUMMARY SHEET

Project details			
Project name	28 George Street, Hadleigh, Suffolk: Monitoring and Recording		
<p>Summary:</p> <p><i>In May 2009 and in February 2010, Archaeological Solutions Ltd (AS) carried out a programme of detailed archaeological monitoring and recording at 28 George Street, Hadleigh, Suffolk (NGR TM 0283 4238), during internal alterations to the residential property. The alterations consisted of new drainage and the lowering of the floor levels in the N-S range of the building (Planning Ref: 07/00281/LBC/MC).</i></p> <p><i>The site had a moderate to high potential for Saxon burial activity and high potential for medieval activity predating and contemporary with the 15th century AD building. There was also a high potential for post-medieval remains. Four features were recorded during the monitoring. Pits F1002 and F2006, Trench F2004 and a brick-lined well, M2010. A possible rammed earth floor, L2003 (=L1007) was also present. Pits F1002 and F2006 both contained a layer of Fe slag and exhibited evidence of in situ burning. The pits cut the possible rammed earth floor surface L2003 (=L1007) which was post-medieval. Trench F2004 contained large quantities of post-medieval CBM. Its purpose was unclear. Well F2010 was only partially exposed and was capped. It was post-medieval or modern. The monitoring revealed no Saxon or medieval features. During a site visit prior to the monitoring and recording four abraded early post-medieval sherds and three pieces of slag were collected.</i></p>			
Project dates (fieldwork)	16 th and 18 th February 2010		
Previous work (Y/N/?)	N	Future work (Y/N/?)	N
P. number	3388	Site code	
Type of project	Monitoring & Recording		
Site status	Grade II* listed timber-framed building		
Current land use	Residential		
Planned development	Under floor heating		
Main features (+dates)	Two post-medieval small metal working pits. Post-medieval rammed earth floor surface. Post-medieval or modern well.		
Significant finds+dates	Early post-medieval pottery, post-medieval & modern CBM. Slag		
Project location			
County/ District/ Parish	Suffolk	Badergh	Hadleigh
HER/ SMR for area	Suffolk HER		
Post code (if known)	-		
Area of site	25m ²		
NGR	TM 0283 4238		
Height AOD (max/ min)	c.24 m AOD		
Project creators			
Brief issued by	Suffolk County Council Archaeological Service Conservation Team (SCC AS-CT)		
Project supervisor/s PO	Matt Adams		
Funded by	Mr & Mrs Scott		
Full title	28 George Street, Hadleigh, Suffolk		
Authors	Adams, M. and Dyson, A		
Report no.	3498		
Date (of report)	Feb 2010		

28 GEORGE STREET, HADLEIGH, SUFFOLK ARCHAEOLOGICAL MONITORING & RECORDING

SUMMARY

In May 2009 and in February 2010, Archaeological Solutions Ltd (AS) carried out a programme of detailed archaeological monitoring and recording at 28 George Street, Hadleigh, Suffolk (NGR TM 0283 4238), during internal alterations to the residential property. The alterations consisted of new drainage and the lowering of the floor levels in the N-S range of the building (Planning Ref: 07/00281/LBC/MC).

The site had a moderate to high potential for Saxon burial activity and high potential for medieval activity predating and contemporary with the 15th century AD building. There was also a high potential for post-medieval remains. Four features were recorded during the monitoring. Pits F1002 and F2006, Trench F2004 and a brick-lined well, M2010. A possible rammed earth floor, L2003 (=L1007) was also present. Pits F1002 and F2006 both contained a layer of Fe slag and exhibited evidence of in situ burning. The pits cut the possible rammed earth floor surface L2003 (=L1007) which was post-medieval. Trench F2004 contained large quantities of post-medieval CBM. Its purpose was unclear. Well F2010 was only partially exposed and was capped. It was post-medieval or modern. The monitoring revealed no Saxon or medieval features.

During a site visit prior to the monitoring and recording four abraded early post-medieval sherds and three pieces of slag were collected.

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 In May 2009 and in February 2010, Archaeological Solutions Ltd (AS) carried out a programme of detailed archaeological monitoring and recording at 28 George Street, Hadleigh, Suffolk (NGR TM 0285 4260), during internal alterations to the residential property. The alterations consisted of new drainage and the lowering of the floor levels in the N-S range of the building. The site was visited at the request of the client on the 27th May 2009, when areas of the floor were exposed in a drainage run. Following the commencement of the full groundworks for the project, the lowering by hand of the floor level was monitored on the 16th and 18th February 2010.

1.2 The monitoring and recording was conducted in accordance with a brief issued by Suffolk County Council Archaeological Service Conservation Team (SCC AS-CT) (Wade; 2nd January 2009), and a specification prepared by AS (dated 20th January 2010). It was carried out according to the requirements of a planning/listed building consent condition attached to the approval for the alterations (Babergh DC Planning Ref. 07/00281/LBC/MC). The recording conformed to the Institute for Archaeologists' (IfA) *Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Watching Briefs* (revised 2001) and *Standards for Field Archaeology in the East of England*, Gurney (2003).

1.3 The objectives of the project were:

- To determine the location, extent, date, character, condition, significance and quantity of any surviving archaeological remains and geological deposits that are threatened by the proposed development;
- To ensure the archaeological monitoring of all aspects of the development programme likely to affect archaeological remains;
- To secure the adequate recording of any archaeological remains revealed by the development programme;
- To secure the full analysis and interpretation of the site archive and the publication of the project results, if appropriate; and
- To secure the conservation and long-term storage of any artefactual/ecofactual material recovered from the site.

Planning policy context

1.4 The relevant planning policies which apply to the effect of development with regard to cultural heritage are Planning Policy Guidance Note 15 'Planning and the Historic Environment' (PPG15) and Planning Policy Guidance Note 16 'Archaeology and Planning' (PPG16) (Department of the Environment).

1.5 PPG16 (1990) is the national Planning Policy Guidance Note which applies to archaeology. It states that there should always be a presumption in favour of preserving nationally important archaeological remains *in situ*. However, when there is no overriding case for preservation, developers are required to fund opportunities for the recording and, where necessary, the excavation of the site. This condition is widely applied by local authorities.

1.6 PPG15 (1994) is the national Planning Policy Guidance Note which applies to conservation of the historic environment by protecting the character and appearance of Conservation Areas and protecting listed buildings (of architectural or historical interest) from demolition and unsympathetic change and safeguarding their settings as far as is possible. This condition is also widely applied by local authorities.

2 ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND

2.1 The site lies on the south-eastern side of George Street, Hadleigh, in the historic core of the town. It lies within an area of archaeological importance as identified on the Suffolk Historic Environment Record, encompassing the late Saxon and medieval town. The discovery of an early Anglo-Saxon cremation urn, indicative of the presence of a contemporary cemetery, is recorded on the Suffolk HER, found in the gardens of East House which lies adjacent to the east of 28 George Street. The latter is a Grade II* listed timber-framed building, with a 15th century rear N/S range.

2.2 The 15th -century building occupies a rectangular parcel of land which was almost certainly a medieval burgage plot (Fig. 2), many of which appear retained on

George Street. Given the Saxon finds in the adjacent plot, it is possible that the plot can be traced further back to a Saxon *landgable* or *hawgable*.

3 METHODOLOGY

3.1 The archaeological monitoring comprised the observation of all groundworks, inspection of subsoil and natural deposits for archaeological features, the examination of spoil heaps and the recording of soil profiles. Deposits were excavated by hand and recorded by means of *pro forma* recording sheets, drawn to scale and photographed as appropriate. Excavated spoil was searched for archaeological finds.

3.2 The monitoring and recording focused on all intrusive activity associated with the ground works including ground reduction, the digging of service trenches. The site was visited in May 2009 and February 2010.

4 RESULTS

4.1 Site Visit

4.1.1 During a site visit prior to the monitoring and recording four abraded early post-medieval sherds and three pieces of slag were collected (Appendices 1A and 1B)

4.2 Monitoring visit 27/05/2009 (Fig. 3)

4.2.1 The monitoring visit was to view an exposed service trench through the existing floor surface. The trench was orientated north-east to south-west measuring 4.50 x 0.30 x 0.55m (Fig.3).

Sample section located within the new service trench:

Sample Section, facing W (DP4) 0.00 = 24.18m AOD	
0.00 – 0.04m	L1000. Floor surface. Brick.
0.04 – 0.07m	L1001. Bedding layer. Light whitish yellow, friable sand.
0.07 – 0.22m	L1007. Surface/Layer. Mid yellow/grey brown compact clay sand with lenses of brown clay and sand, flecks of charcoal and small CBM fragments.
0.22 – 0.33m	L1008. Made-ground. Light orange, coarse sandy clay and gravel.
0.33m+	L1009. Possible Natural or Made Ground. Mid brownish orange, firm sand and gravel.

Description: A single Pit F1002 was recorded in section.

Pit F1002 was sub circular in plan (1.20 x 1.20 x 0.55m+). It had steep, vertical sides and an unexcavated base. It contained four fills tabulated below. It cut layer L1007, Made Ground L1008 and Layer L1009, and was sealed by the bedding layer L1001. Towards the base the surrounding layer, L1009, showed evidence of *in situ* burning with pink discolouration of the sand.

Context	Fill (width x depth)	Comments
L1003	Mid grey brown loose sandy/lime gravel with CBM fragments	-
L1004	Light orange, loose coarse sand	-
L1005	Dark, compact slag residue	<i>In situ</i> burning evident from pink discolouration of L1009
L1006	Mid red brown, friable clayey sand with lenses of yellow sand	<i>In situ</i> burning evident from pink discolouration of L1009

Fills of Pit F1002

4.3 Monitoring visits 16/02/2010 and 18/02/2010 (Fig. 3)

4.3.1 The site was visited to monitor the reduction by hand of the internal floor area. The floor surface was reduced by c.0.40-0.45m, the maximum required for the proposed development. Two sample sections were recorded and are tabulated below.

Sample Section 1 (Fig. 3)

Sample Section 1 was located at the N end of the excavated area, immediately below the stairs.

Sample Section 1 (DP5) Facing SSE 0.22M = 24.06m AOD	
0.00 – 0.03m	L2000. Floor surface. Mid to dark grey, Brick.
0.03 – 0.07m	L2001. Bedding layer. Pale grey, friable sandy lime.
0.07 – 0.11m	L2002. Bedding layer. Light whitish yellow, friable sand.
0.11m+	L2003. Surface/Layer. Mid yellowish brown, firm sandy clay with occasional post-medieval CBM, slag and charcoal.

Sample Section 2 (Fig. 3)

Sample Section 2 was located against the baulk left in the centre of the excavated area.

Sample Section 2 (DP6) Facing SSE 0.00 = 24.12m AOD	
0.00 – 0.04m	L2001. Bedding layer. As above
0.04 – 0.10m	L2002. Bedding layer. As above
0.10m+	L2003. Surface/Layer. As above

Description: Two features were recorded during the monitoring: a small trench, F2004, and a small pit. F2006. Both cut L2003 and were sealed by the existing brick floor bedding layer L2002. In addition, the brick-lining of a known well was revealed (Construction Cut F2011 and Lining M2010) The well had been previously capped at the existing floor level.

Small trench F2004 was rectangular in plan (1.95 x 0.70 x 0.15m) and located towards the NNE corner of the room aligned SE/NW (Fig.3, DP7). It had steep sides and a flat base. Its fill, L2005, was a mid to light yellow and brownish red, loose silty and sandy mix of CBM and rubble. It contained late 17th to 18th century brick (879g; CBM report below).

Pit F2006 was sub-circular in plan (0.40 x 0.34 x 0.34m) and located in Sample Section 2 (Fig.3, DP6). It had steep near vertical sides and a flat base. It contained three fills. The upper principal fill, L2007, was a light yellowish white, friable silty sand with lenses of light white chalk and occasional charcoal flecks. It contained no finds. Its middle fill, L2008, was a dark black loose charcoal and contained no finds. The basal fill, L2009 was a light yellowish red, friable burnt sand and contained no finds. The pit showed evidence of *in situ* burning.

Well Construction Cut F2011 was circular in plan (1.75 x 1.70m) and located in the SSW corner of the room. It had vertical sides, and its base was not revealed. Its brick lining (DP8), M2010, comprised red bricks (130 x 130 x 50mm) with two courses of regularly-finished stretcher coursing. The bonding material was cement. The brickwork was late post-medieval or modern.

5 CONFIDENCE RATING

5.1 It is not felt that any further factors inhibited the recognition of archaeological features or finds during the programme of monitoring and recording.

6 DEPOSIT MODEL

6.1 The existing floor surface, L2000 (=L1000), was a mid to dark grey brick (0.03 - 0.04m thick). Below L2000 were two bedding layers; L2001 (=L1001), was a pale grey friable sandy lime (0.04m thick), and L2002 was a light whitish yellow friable sand (0.04m thick).

6.2 Below the bedding layers was L2003 (=L1007), a mid yellowish brown, firm sandy clay with occasional post-medieval CBM, slag and charcoal. This was either a former rammed earth floor or possibly a make-up layer. It contained post-medieval CBM (27g), and Fe Slag (186g). The groundworks ceased at approximately 0.30 – 0.40m into this layer, with the exception of the service trench.

6.3 The surface trench revealed two additional layers below L2003 (=L1007). The first made ground L1008 was a light orange, coarse sandy clay and gravel. It overlay the ?natural drift geology or additional made ground layer, L1009, which was a mid brownish orange, firm sand and gravel.

7 DISCUSSION

7.1 Four features were recorded during the monitoring. Pits F1002 and F2006, Trench F2004 and a brick-lined well, M2010. A possible rammed earth floor, L2003 (=L1007) was also present. Pits F1002 and F2006 both contained a layer of Fe slag and exhibited evidence of *in situ* burning. The pits cut the possible rammed earth floor surface L2003 (=L1007) which post-medieval. Trench F2004 also cut the possible rammed earth floor surface L2003 (=L1007). It contained large quantities of post-medieval CBM. Its purpose was unclear. Well F2011 and M2010 was only partially exposed and was capped. It was post-medieval or modern.

7.2 The site had a moderate to high potential for Saxon burial activity and high potential for medieval activity predating and contemporary with the 15th century AD building. There was also a high potential for post-medieval remains. The monitoring revealed no Saxon or medieval features, but some small scale, late post-medieval, metal working activity was present. The low metal content of the slag suggests an efficient smelting process (Slag Report below). A possible post-medieval earth floor surface and layers associated with the current floor level were also present.

7.3 During a site visit prior to the monitoring and recording four abraded early post-medieval sherds and three pieces of slag were collected.

DEPOSITION OF THE ARCHIVE

Archive records, with an inventory, will be deposited with any donated finds from the site with Suffolk County Council Archaeological Service. 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.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Archaeological Solutions would like to thank Mr & Mrs Scott for funding the archaeological monitoring.

AS is also pleased to acknowledge the advice and input of Mr Keith Wade of Suffolk County Council Archaeological Service Conservation Team.

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APPENDIX 1A CONCORDANCE OF FINDS MONITORING AND RECORDING

28 George Street, Hadleigh, Suffolk Concordance of finds by feature

Feature	Context	Description	Spot Date	CBM (g)	Other
2003		Sand/Clay Layer		27	Slag (5) 186g
2004	2005	Trench Fill	Late 17 th to 18 th C	879	

APPENDIX 1B SPECIALIST REPORTS MONITORING AND RECORDING

The Ceramic Building Materials

Andrew Peachey

The monitoring recovered six fragments (906g) of slightly abraded, post-medieval CBM. The bulk of the CBM (5 fragments, 879g) is derived from a single brick in Trench F2004 (L2005). It occurs in an oxidised orange fabric with inclusions of common quartz sand (0.1-0.5mm) and sparse red iron rich grains/clay pellets (0.5-10mm). The brick is 50mm thick with a sanded base, with no other dimensions extant and probably dates to the late 17th to 18th centuries. The remaining fragment (27g) of CBM comprises a small fragment of peg tile in a comparable fabric contained in layer L2003.

The Slag

Andrew A. S. Newton

Introduction

A total of 181g (5 pieces) of slag, originating from one context, was recovered during archaeological monitoring at George St, Hadleigh. The slag was identified on morphological grounds by visual examination.

Results

L2003 1 piece (66g). Mid grey to purple-grey. Dense, slightly porous, very slight metallic content. Upper surface morphology: smooth, rounded 'lava-like' indicating highly viscous substance when molten. Fragment possibly broken from run or prill of tap slag.

L2003 4 pieces (114g). Very dark grey to purple-grey. Light porous material with small stones (quartzite, flint) adhering to and imbedded in surfaces. Little or no metallic content but probably undiagnostic Fe slag.

This material was recovered from a context also containing post-medieval CBM. The low metallic content indicates that it was produced during an efficient Fe smelting process, which would accord with the date of the context.

APPENDIX 2A CONCORDANCE OF FINDS SITE VISIT

28 George Street, Hadleigh
Concordance of finds from Site Visit

	Spot Date	Pottery	Slag
	16th - Early 17th C	(4) 183g	(3) 458g

APPENDIX 2B SPECIALIST REPORTS SITE VISIT

The Pottery
by Peter Thompson

The site visit recovered 4, slight to moderately abraded, early post-medieval sherds, weighing 178g. Two sherds, weighing 127g, comprise a strap handle in quartz tempered fabric with oxidised surfaces and dark grey cores. A late medieval/transitional red earthenware rim sherd weighing 26g has dark green copper speckled glaze on the outside and on the inside of the c.18 cm diameter rim. The rim is from a small cauldron or cooking pot. The fourth sherd is a post-medieval red earthenware with internal and external brown glaze. The assemblage would suit a 16th to early 17th century date.

The Slag
Andrew A. S. Newton

Introduction

Three pieces of slag recovered during a site visit The slag was identified on morphological grounds by visual examination.

Results

1 piece (82g). Black to dark purple with occasional glassy/vitrified dark green surfaces. Light in weight in comparison to its size, broken surfaces reveal it to have been a frothy, aerated substance when molten. Striated/layered material at one edge may be coal fused to the slag. Small to medium white stones within and adhering to the fragment are of an identical type (?burnt flint) to those adhering to the other pieces in this assemblage, suggesting that they came from the same furnace and possibly the same smelt but are clearly not of the same type. Low metallic content suggesting efficient smelting process. This material may be regarded as undiagnostic Fe slag.

2 pieces (364g) very dark grey to dark purple. Dense material. Minimal magnetic response indicating low metallic content and therefore efficient smelting process. Lava-like appearance on upper surface. Probable tap slag.

PHOTOGRAPHIC INDEX



DP 1. The medieval, wing on the left, at the rear of the house, looking north-west



DP 2. General view of the trench location at the rear of the medieval wing, looking south-east



DP 3. The eastern side of the trench, looking east

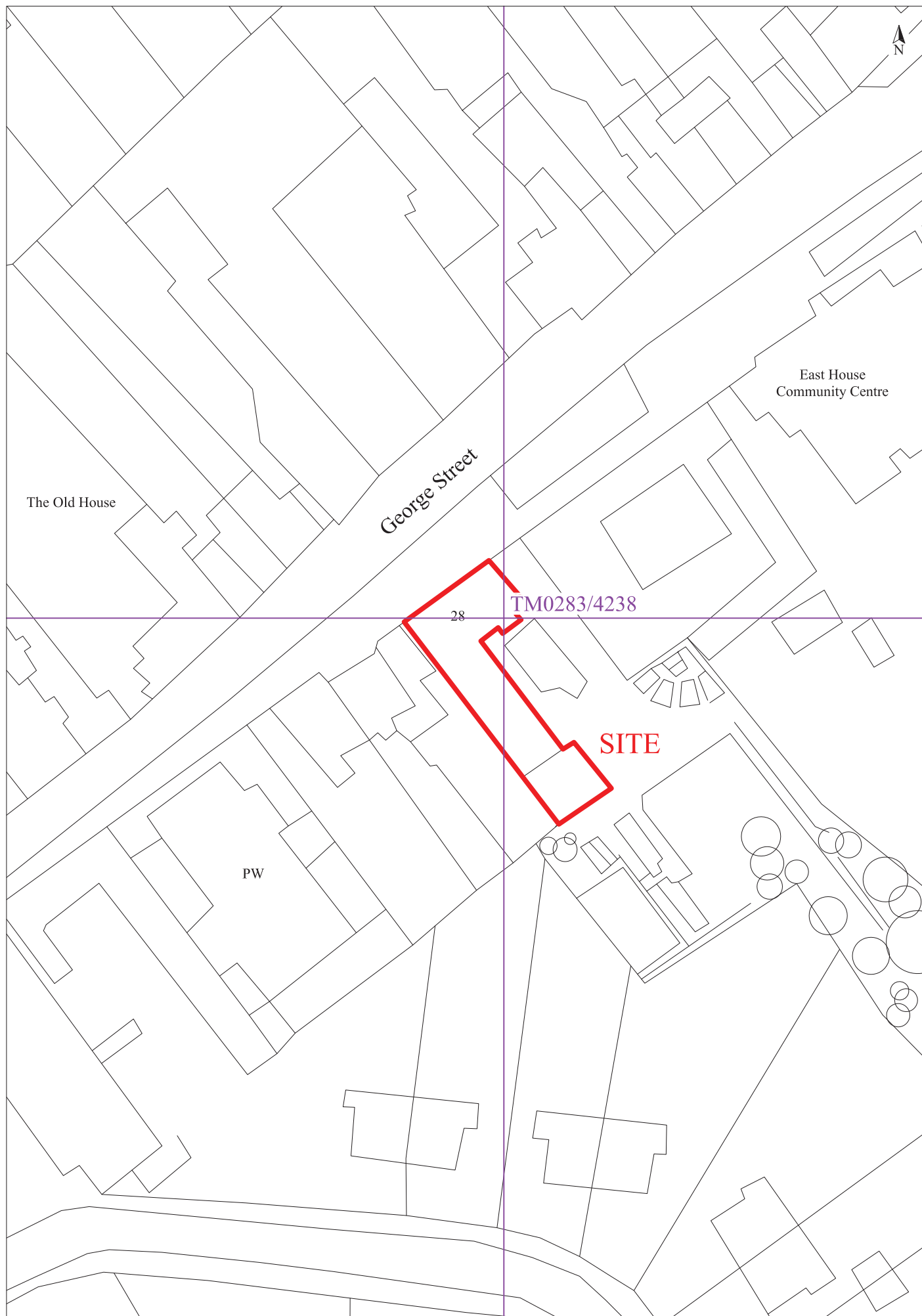


DP 4. Pit F1002, looking south-east



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



0 20m

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Fig. 2 Detailed site location plan

Scale 1:500 at A4

