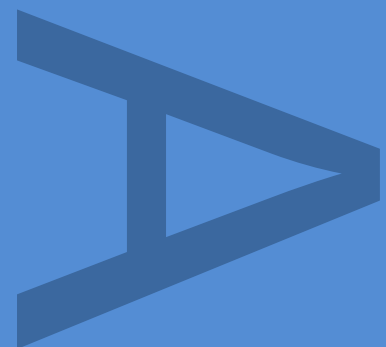


**Radlett SRFI, St Albans,  
Hertfordshire: An  
Archaeological Evaluation**

**September 2016**



**PRE-CONSTRUCT ARCHAEOLOGY  
RAD16  
REPORT NUMBER: R12623**

# RADLETT SRFI, ST ALBANS, HERTFORDSHIRE

## AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL TRIAL TRENCH EVALUATION

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## **Radlett SRFI, St Albans, Hertfordshire:**

### **An Archaeological Evaluation**

**Local Planning Authority:** St Albans District Council

**Planning Reference:** APP/B1930/A/07/2045747/NWF

**Central National Grid Reference:** TL 1558 0388

**Site Code/Event Number:** RAD16

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## ABSTRACT

*This report describes the results of an Archaeological Trial Trench Evaluation carried out by Pre-Construct Archaeology on land adjacent to the A414 at Radlett, St Albans, Hertfordshire (NGR TL 1558 0388). Three areas, A, B and C, comprising a total of 46 trenches were evaluated.*

*Archaeological features were encountered in 7 of the 21 trenches in Area A. Archaeological features included 7 ditches [7, 9, 12, 15, 18, 20, 22] and a probable Romano British pond [26]. Two ditches in Trench 6 are modern, associated with a trackway dating to the c.1940s. Ditches in Trench 12 were undated but might have formed part of a rectangular feature or have been part of a field system. Of the 3 remaining ditches, [18], [20] and [22], dating evidence was retrieved only from Ditch [18], which dates to the 1<sup>st</sup> century A.D.*

*Evidence for archaeological remains in Area B was limited to 2 undated postholes, [33] and [34], excavated in Trenches 28 and 26 respectively.*

*No archaeological features were present in Area C. In general Area C seems to have been subject to significant modern (i.e. 20<sup>th</sup> century) disturbance relating to the former history of the site as an airfield and then a quarry. Made ground near the western edge of the site (as seen in Trench 44) contains significant quantities of 20<sup>th</sup> century demolition rubble resulting from the demolition of peripheral airfield buildings formerly situated nearby.*

## **1 INTRODUCTION**

- 1.1.1 Planning permission (Ref: APP/B1930/A/07/2045747/NWF) has been granted for an SRFI on land adjacent to the A414 at Radlett, St Albans, Hertfordshire (NGR TL 1558 0388) (Fig. 1). Pre-Construct Archaeology Ltd (PCA) was commissioned by CgMs Consulting Ltd to undertake an Archaeological Trial Trench Evaluation to comply with an archaeological condition. The work detailed in this report comprises Phase 1 of a larger programme of archaeological evaluation (see Clarke 2015).
- 1.1.2 PCA conducted the work between the 22nd August and 9th September 2016.
- 1.1.3 The evaluation was carried out in accordance with a Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) prepared by Chris Clarke of CgMs (Clarke 2015).
- 1.1.4 The evaluation comprised 3 areas of trenching designated Areas A, B and C (Figure 2). A total of 46 Archaeological Trial Trenches were proposed (Figure 2). 43 of these trenches were excavated. Three of the trenches (Trench 21, Trench 43 & Trench 46) were abandoned due to site specific constraints.
- 1.1.5 Area A comprised 21 trenches. 19 of these trenches were located at Hedges Farm, immediately to the south of the A414 and approximately 1 km to the east of Park Street Station. Two trenches (15 & 21) were positioned further south. Area A is situated within the northern part of Plot 1 detailed in the WSI (Clarke 2015). Area A was centred at NGR TL 15697 04422.
- 1.1.6 Area B comprised 14 trenches located on land immediately to the east of the Bedford to St Pancras railway. These trenches lay within the northern half of Plot 2 detailed in the WSI (Clarke 2015). Area B was centred at NGR TL16034 03337.
- 1.1.7 Area C was located just to the north of the M25 and to the east of the A5183. These trenches occupied the southwest corner of Plot 1 detailed in the WSI (Clarke 2015). Area C was centred at NGR TL1545202855.

1.1.8 The aim of the evaluation was to determine the location, date, extent, character, condition and quality of any archaeological remains on the site, to assess the significance of any such remains in a local, regional, or national context, as appropriate, and to assess the potential impact of the proposed SRFI on the site's archaeology.



## **2 GEOLOGY AND TOPOGRAPHY**

### **2.1 Geology**

2.1.1 The solid geology encountered across the entire site was Lewes Nodular Chalk Formation And Seaford Chalk Formation (undifferentiated). These chalks were formed approximately 84 to 94 million years ago in the Cretaceous Period when the local environment previously dominated by warm chalk seas.

2.1.2 The superficial geology in the northern part of Area A was Lowestoft Formation giving way to Kesgrave Catchment Subgroup sand and gravels further south in Areas B and C.

### **2.2 Topography**

2.2.1 The majority of the site lies on a relatively flat plateau overlooking the River Ver to the north and west. At its northern end beside A414, the site lies at c. 89 m OD dropping to c. 73 m OD at the southern end beside the M25. The north-western corner of the site drops quite sharply from c. 85 m OD to c.68 m OD beside the River Ver. However, the topography of the majority of the site to the west of the railway has been altered following gravel extraction and therefore has been artificially lowered in the area of the Airfield.

2.2.2 The River Ver runs north-east/south-west through the north-western part of the study site continuing southwards close to the western boundary. The River Colne passes c300m to the south of the site on a north-east/south-west alignment. Within the study site groundwater has collected within the quarry pits. The western and northern parts of the study site therefore drains westwards into the River Ver and the south-eastern part of the study site drains south-eastwards into the River Colne.

### **3 HISTORICAL AND ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND**

#### **3.1 Introduction**

3.1.1 The following background has been reproduced from the WSI (Clarke 2015). The WSI provides a synthesis of archaeological and historic information from the Historic Landscape Assessment (CgMs 2004) and Archaeological Desk-Based Assessment (CgMs 2007) for the site. For Plot locations see Fig. 1 in Clarke (2015).

#### **3.2 Prehistoric**

3.2.1 A number of Palaeolithic artefacts have been recorded within the study area. These are a worked flint found during gravel extraction within Site 5 (Site 1 – Heritage Environment Record (HER) 405) (Fig. 2). An assemblage of two axes, one implement and some perforated stones have been recorded immediately to the west of Plot 3 and 4 (Site 2 – HER 592). Single hand axes have also been recorded from the Old Parkbury gravel pit (Site 3 – HER 692, 693 & 1882) and to the west of Plot 5 (Site 4 – HER 9750, Site 5 – HER 9752, Site 6 – HER 9764). These are all casual finds of artefacts and while they are indicative of surviving gravels underlying the sites having some limited potential, most of the 8 development sites (except for 3 and 4) have been subject to extraction and therefore have zero potential. Sites 3 and 4 have potential for artefacts lying at some considerable depth below ground level.

3.2.2 From the evidence contained in the Hertfordshire HER, the area was occupied during the early Prehistoric periods. However, the dating and/or the provenance of many of the recorded artefacts is vague. A number of early Prehistoric finds have been recorded within Site 5, an assemblage of residual Mesolithic and Neolithic artefacts (1 scraper, 19 blades and 8 flakes) were recovered with Iron Age finds during the excavation of a Roman villa ahead of gravel extraction on the west side of the River Ver c. 500m within Plot 5 (Site 7 – HER 2928, 4548, 9755). The same HER record notes a further 30 flint artefacts of Mesolithic-Neolithic date from 'Park Street' but there is no record of their exact location or the circumstances of their discovery. Two assemblages of undated, but probable Mesolithic-Bronze

Age date were discovered on the edge, and within, the river valley in Plot 3. The finds at Site 8 comprise 4 flint implements (HER 4547) and the finds at Site 9 comprise of 24 scrapers, 7 knives, 4 awls, 2 burins, 5 retouched flakes and blades and a single core (HER 4546). The Site 9 assemblage is quite substantial and was found on a spur overlooking the River Ver which may have been a focus for settlement/occupation.

3.2.3 Excavations at Old Parkbury, to the south Site 1 and the M25 revealed an early Neolithic boat burial containing a skeleton in a wooden box and remains of two other wooden containers. Adjacent were six post-hole built Neolithic round houses and associated rubbish pits containing Grooved Ware sherds (Site 10 – HER 6977).

3.2.4 A single pit with two associated post holes of Bronze Age date were recorded during the excavation of the Park Street Roman villa c. 500m to the west of the site (Site 11 – HER 603). When the records of the excavation were reassessed in the 1980s it was suggested that an adjacent scatter of post holes were probably contemporary with the pit and therefore, there are hints that the western bank of the River Ver was occupied at this time. A Bronze Age palstave has been recorded in Park Street (Site 12 – HER 9756) which was probably a votive offering in the river. A gold torc was reported to have been found at Parkbury in 1744 and a second one was reported to also have been found in 1748 (Site 10 – HER 2927).

### **3.3 Iron Age**

3.3.1 During the late Iron Age, the area shows increasing contact between the local tribes and continental Europe. Recognizable settlements usually took the form of farmsteads, often in groups and surrounded by field systems and sometimes with associated cemeteries nearby. Coinage begins to appear in the southeast of England particularly in the area controlled by the Catuvellauni. Coin inscriptions show that “Verlamion” had a royal mint in the period from roughly 20 BC to 10 AD, producing coins on behalf of the king Tasciovanus, which implies that it was the tribal centre of the area.

3.3.2 During the early 1930s, a series of excavations were undertaken in the area

to the south of the later Roman city, as well as within the City itself, particularly around the modern Prae Wood area to the north of the study site, where complexes of ditches and settlement enclosures and hearths were discovered. This was identified as being the Iron Age “oppidum” of Verlamion, with a habitation area in the north separated by a palisade or fence from an area to the south designated for livestock.

- 3.3.3 More recent work suggests that this interpretation was rather too simple, as it is now known that Verlamion covered a much larger area including under the later Roman city and to the south and west of the 1930s excavations. Current thinking visualizes the oppidum as a complex of open spaces, fields and trackways, interspersed with farmsteads, small settlements and cemeteries. The focal point may have been a royal building in the centre of what later became the Roman town, where significant amounts of coin-moulding debris have been found. The type of settlement can be described as an “unenclosed nucleated settlement” carrying out the functions of a town, such as trade, administration and the like but with a particularly heavy bias towards farming.
- 3.3.4 The study site lies c. 3km to the south west of the oppidum within what is likely to have been a relatively densely populated and intensively occupied landscape. Evidence of Iron Age settlement in the vicinity of the study site was recorded during the excavation of the Park Street villa (Site 7 – HER 198). Hints of early Iron Age occupation comprised a number of early and Middle Iron Age pottery sherds were recovered as residual finds in later Roman features as well as from a ‘general Belgic level’. The implication of the ‘Belgic level’ deposits is that there may have been long-lived occupation on or near the site during the earlier Iron Age. The excavation revealed a late Iron Age settlement comprising at least two rectangular buildings which produced pottery, a ‘slave chain’ and three Iron Age coins. Occupation appears to have dated from the early 1st century AD and while it appears that the occupation may have been widespread, the majority of the deposits of this date were destroyed by gravel extraction with no archaeological investigation. A single late Iron Age coin (c. 40BC) has been recorded at 24

Branch Road, Park Street c. 100m to the west of the study site (Site 13 – HER 9763).

3.3.5 An Iron Age roundhouse has been recorded during a watching brief in Colney Park (within area 7) (Site 14 – HER 7313).

3.3.6 Late Iron Age settlement has also been recorded at Old Parkbury to the south of the M25 (Site 10 – HER 4819 & 9707).

3.3.7 The area to the east of the railway and within the grounds of Napsbury Hospital is occupied by a series of undated cropmarks of presumed Prehistoric and/or Roman date (Site 15 – HER 6013 & 6014). These cropmarks have been designated as an Area of Archaeological Significance and extend into the northern portion of the study to the east of the railway. Further features of a presumed Prehistoric date were recorded during an evaluation on the northern side of the hospital which are likely to be associated with the cropmarks (Site 16 – HER 9671). The presence of these cropmarks is evidence of an extensive area of occupation and associated activity both within and to the east of the plot.

3.3.8 Although there are no records of such features to the west of the railway, it is considered possible that similar remains may have been present prior to gravel extraction.

### **3.4 Roman**

3.4.1 The study site lies c2.3 km to the south east of the Roman town of Verulamium. Although the development of the town will have influenced the surrounding landscape, the details of the town do not have direct bearing on the study site and will not be repeated here. Watling Street, the principal Roman road from London to Verulamium, runs north south just to the west of the site and forms its western boundary at the southern tip beside the M25 (Site 17 – HER 4576). The road would have been a major focus point of settlement throughout the period. However, with the exception of the south-eastern corner, it is considered unlikely that the study site contains any remains directly associated with Watling Street itself. It is conceivable that remains associated with the road may be present within the site margins.

- 3.4.2 Excavations ahead of gravel extraction to the west of the River Ver c. 400m to the west of the study site revealed the remains of a corridor villa comprising 5 rooms and a cellar facing east toward the River and Watling Street (Site 7 – HER149, 1469, 9796 & 9797). The villa also possessed a separate bath building, various outbuildings, a timber wharf along a palaeochannel of the River Ver and possibly an aqueduct. The date of the villa is a little uncertain but it has produced 1st – 2nd century occupation debris. However, two 4th century burials in lead lined coffins laid within flint walled enclosures have been recorded 75m to the north east of the villa, thereby implying that the villa was occupied until at least the 4th century.
- 3.4.3 There has been a report of a Roman villa within the northern end of Plot 1 (Site 18). This is based on parch marks that have been noted on aerial photographs. The origins of these marks are not clear and supporting evidence has yet to be presented.
- 3.4.4 Excavations at Old Parkbury to the south of the M25 have revealed a Roman tile kiln and works (Site 10 - HER 2929 & 4838).
- 3.4.5 The cropmarks recorded to the east of the railway, partially within Plot 2 are undated (Site 5). However, it is possible that these are Roman in date and may represent a settlement that may have Iron Age origins but was also occupied during the Roman period.

### **3.5 Anglo-Saxon & Medieval**

- 3.5.1 There are no records of any sites or features of Anglo-Saxon date within the study area. The site is beyond the nearby settlements that may have Anglo-Saxon origins and therefore, it is considered to have low potential for Anglo-Saxon remains. There is a supposed deserted Medieval village at Napsbury (Site 19 – HER 1829). Its existence is only known through documentary sources and its location is actually unknown. It is possible that it consisted of scattered houses or possibly could have been at Broad Colney. Whatever is correct, it is unlikely to have extended into any of the proposed development sites. The remains of the 12th century St John's the Baptist Church lies immediately to the east of Plot 7 (Site 20 – HER 4267). However, it is

unlikely that remains associated with this extend into Plot 7.

3.5.2 The Park Street Pest House was supposedly constructed in the 14th century to quarantine Black Death victims (Site 21 – HER 7309). However, there is no evidence to validate this and it is considered more likely that it did not exist before the 16th/17th century. 61-63 Park Street is a late Medieval hall house (Site 22 – HER 9500). The only other record of Medieval finds is a hoard of 221 gold coins of largely Medieval date found hidden in Medieval cottages opposite Park Street Mill in 1886 and it has been suggested that this was related to a resting place for pilgrims visiting the Abbey at St. Albans (Site 23 – HER 9703). A forge associated with Park Mill since the 14th century is recorded within Park Street (Site 24 – HER 9701). The implication of the presence of these Medieval structures is that there was at least some sort of Medieval settlement at Park Street but this is likely to be quite small and would not have extended into Plot 1 or 5.

3.5.3 To the south of the M25, Old Parkbury was a Manorial house (Site 25 – HER 9704, 9705 & 0706). Remains associated with this site are will not have extended into any of the proposed development sites.

### **3.6 Post-Medieval & Modern**

3.6.1 The northern part of the study site lies within the parish of St. Peter's and the central and southern parts of the study site within the St. Stephen's Parish, both parishes are part of St. Albans rural district, Hertfordshire. Hedges Farm, which is depicted on the Bryant's Map of 1822 and is the only evidence of occupation within the study site during the Post-Medieval period. Bryant's map also depicts a lane running from Park Street in the west to Hedges Farm in the east.

3.6.2 There are no pre-enclosure or enclosure maps for the study site, suggesting that the land was enclosed at a late date.

3.6.3 The earliest map which clearly illustrates the study site is the Tithe map of 1840. Hedge's Farm is shown in detail on the St. Peters Tithe Map. The fields surrounding the farm are recorded in the St. Peters parish Tithe Award as being in a variety of uses including arable and pasture. The lane depicted on

the Bryant's map appears to have been reduced to a farm track following field boundaries. Further to the west on the slopes of the Ver Valley, the St. Stephen's Tithe Award generally records fields as meadow. Within the central and southern parts of the study site, fields are generally recorded as being in arable use.

- 3.6.4 The land was purchased in 1929 by Handley Page Ltd and by 1930 Radlett Aerodrome was opened for the assembly and testing of aircraft (HERR 9905 at TL 1561 0330). At Radlett Aerodrome hangars were built along Watlington Street at Colney Street to the south of the study site. In 1941 flight sheds were built at Park Street (to the west of the study site) and the airfield was extended north which required Stroud Wood to be felled and levelled. In the late 1950s and early 1960s new factories were built at Colney Street (south of the study site).
- 3.6.5 For Plots 1, 2, 5, 6, 7 and 8, the modern period is characterised by mineral extraction undertaken since WWII. Between 1970 and 1990 the airfield remained unused and by the mid 1990's large areas of the airfield were quarried for gravel. The majority of the structures, including the airstrips have been demolished or dug up and therefore, there is little remaining off the airfield within Plot 1.
- 3.6.6 The recent land use of Plots 1, 2, 5, 6, 7, and 8 will be considered in turn demonstrating the extent of the gravels workings.
- 3.6.7 Gravel extraction at Plot 1 commenced after the closure of the Radlett Airfield. However, it is only on the 1999 OS map that the pit is depicted at which time it occupied the majority of the eastern half of the area. Aerial photographs taken in 2003 show that the majority of the rest of the site had been extracted by that time and reinstated. On later aerial photographs the south western corner of the site is shown as having been subject to extraction as there is a visible drop round the edges of the site with small bodies of water within the main part of the site that were not visible on previous photographs. Therefore, with the exception of a small portion of the site at the northern end, any archaeological remains formerly located within



Plot 1 will have been destroyed or badly damaged.

3.6.8 Gravel extraction within Area 2 commenced after WWII and by 1960 the southern-most end of the site was occupied by a gravel pit. By the time the 1972-8 OS map was published the majority of the southern end of the site had been extracted and the central portion was an active gravel pit.

3.6.9 The extent of gravel extraction is documented with the Desk-Based Assessment (CgMs 2007) and summarised on Figure 1 in the WSI (Clarke 2015)

### **3.7 Previous Archaeological Investigation**

3.7.1 In 2007, a programme of targeted geophysical survey was undertaken within Plots 1, 2 and 4. In general, the results of the survey were very limited, with the only anomalies considered to be of archaeological interest being identified in the central area of Plot 4. These anomalies were interpreted as representing possible former ridge and furrow cultivation and a possible former field boundary or ditch (see Clarke 2015).

## **4 METHODOLOGY**

### **4.1 Evaluation Trenching**

- 4.1.1 A Phase 1 trial trenching plan was prepared following discussions with the Archaeological Officer at St. Albans District Council, consisting of 46 evaluation trenches located in Plots 1 and 2 (Areas A, B & C) (Clarke 2015). The trenches were 1.8 m wide and were all 30 m long, except Trenches 1, 2 and 3 which were 20 m long. Trench 2 was split into 2 x 10 m long sections to avoid working under an overhead power cable. Two trenches were moved (Trenches 4 and 5) due to on site circumstances. Three of the trenches (Trench 21, Trench 43 & Trench 46) were abandoned due to site specific constraints.
- 4.1.2 Ground reduction was carried out under archaeological supervision using a 14 ton tracked mechanical excavator fitted with a 1.8 m-wide toothless ditching bucket. Topsoil and subsoil deposits were removed in spits down to the level of the undisturbed natural geological deposits where potential archaeological features could be observed and recorded. Exposed surfaces were cleaned by trowel and hoe as appropriate and all further excavation was undertaken manually using hand tools. Overburden deposits were set aside beside each trench and examined visually and with a metal-detector for finds retrieval.
- 4.1.3 Metal-detecting was carried out during the topsoil and subsoil stripping and throughout the excavation process. Archaeological features and spoil heaps were scanned by metal-detector as they were encountered/ created.
- 4.1.4 Field excavation techniques and recording methods are detailed in the PCA Fieldwork Induction Manual (Operations Manual I) by Joanna Taylor and Gary Brown (2009).
- 4.1.5 All features were investigated and recorded in order to properly understand the date and nature of the archaeological remains on the site and to recover sufficient finds assemblages to assess the chronological development and socio-economic character of the site over time.

4.1.6 Discrete features such as pits and postholes were at least 50% excavated and, where considered appropriate, 100% excavated.

## **4.2 Recording Methodology**

4.2.1 The limits of excavations, heights above Ordnance Datum (m OD) and the locations of archaeological features and interventions were recorded using a Leica 1200 GPS rover unit with RTK differential correction, giving three-dimensional accuracy of 20mm or better.

4.2.2 Manual plans and section drawings of archaeological features and deposits were drawn at an appropriate scale (1:10, 1:20 or 1:50).

4.2.3 Deposits or the removal of deposits judged by the excavating archaeologist to constitute individual events were each assigned a unique record number (often referred to within British archaeology as 'context numbers') and recorded on individual pre-printed forms (Taylor and Brown 2009). Archaeological processes recognised by the deposition of material are signified in this report by round brackets (thus), while events constituting the removal of deposits are referred to here as 'cuts' and signified by square brackets [thus]. The record numbers assigned to cuts and deposits are entirely arbitrary and in no way reflect the chronological order in which events took place. All features and deposits recorded during the evaluation are listed in Appendix 2. Artefacts recovered during excavation were assigned to the record number of the deposit from which they were retrieved.

4.2.4 High-resolution digital photographs were taken at all stages of the evaluation process. Digital Photographs were taken of all archaeological features and deposits and black and white film photographs were taken when considered appropriate by the excavator and supervisor.

4.2.5 Artefacts and ecofacts were collected by hand and assigned to the record number of the deposit from which they were retrieved, receiving appropriate care prior to removal from the site (ClfA 2001; Walker 1990; Watkinson 1981).

## 5 ARCHAEOLOGICAL SEQUENCE

### 5.1 Area A (Trenches 1 to 21 Fig. 3).

5.1.1 The trenches are described below in numerical order, with technical data tabulated. Features and deposits are subdivided into feature type, before being described in numeric cut order within the trench. Archaeological features and deposits were sealed by the subsoil, unless otherwise stated. Trench 21 could not be excavated or repositioned due to the presence of thick undergrowth.

5.1.2 The natural ground (3) across Area A was composed of a mixture of yellow clay, sands, silts and gravels. A belt of predominantly stiff yellow clay was apparent in the more northerly trenches (Trenches 1 to 4). The natural (3) was overlain by a grey-brown gravelly-silt subsoil (2) which in turn was overlain by a greyish-brown silt topsoil (1) which supported pasture for grazing sheep and cattle.

### 5.2 Trench 1

5.2.1 No archaeological features or finds were present in Trench 1.

TRENCH 1	Figures 3 & 6	Plate -	
Trench Alignment: E-W	Length: 20 m	Max Machine Depth (m OD): 84.73 Level of Natural (m OD): 84.93	
Deposit	Context No.	Thickness / Depth (m)	
		E End	W End
Topsoil (thickness)	(1)	0.10	0.12
Subsoil (thickness)	(2)	0.23	0.18
Natural (max machined depth)	(3)	0.22	0.11
<b>Summary</b>			
No archaeological features or finds were present. Natural (3) stiff yellow clay.			

### 5.3 Trench 2A

5.3.1 No archaeological features or finds were present in Trench 2.

TRENCH 2	Figures 3 & 6	Plate
Trench Alignment: N-S	Length: 10 m	Max Machine Depth (m OD): 86.64

		Level of Natural (m OD): 86.84	
Deposit	Context No.	Thickness / Depth (m)	
		N End	S End
Topsoil (thickness)	(1)	0.10	0.10
Subsoil (thickness)	(2)	0.30	0.30
Natural (max machined depth)	(3)	0.52	0.52
<b>Summary</b>			
No archaeological features or finds were present. Natural (3) stiff yellow clay.			

## 5.4 Trench 2B

5.4.1 No archaeological features or finds were present in Trench 2B.

TRENCH 2B	Figures 3 & 6	Plate	
Trench Alignment: N-S	Length: 10 m	Max Machine Depth (m OD): 86.62 Level of Natural (m OD): 86.72	
Deposit	Context No.	Thickness / Depth (m)	
		N End	S End
Topsoil (thickness)	(1)	0.10	0.10
Subsoil (thickness)	(2)	0.30	0.30
Natural (max machined depth)	(3)	0.50	0.50
<b>Summary</b>			
No archaeological features or finds were present. Natural (3) stiff yellow clay.			

## 5.5 Trench 3

5.5.1 No archaeological features or finds were present in Trench 3.

TRENCH 1	Figures 3 & 6	Plate	
Trench Alignment: NW-SE	Length: 20 m	Max Machine Depth (m OD): 86.32 Level of Natural (m OD): 86.52	
Deposit	Context No.	Thickness / Depth (m)	
		NW End	SE End
Topsoil (thickness)	(1)	0.10	0.10
Subsoil (thickness)	(2)	0.30	0.30
Natural (max machined depth)	(3)	0.50	0.50
<b>Summary</b>			

No archaeological features or finds were present. Natural (3) stiff yellow clay.

## 5.6 Trench 4

5.6.1 No archaeological features or finds were present in Trench 4.

TRENCH 4	Figures 3 & 6	Plate	
Trench Alignment: NNE-SSW	Length: 30 m	Max Machine Depth (m OD): 87.65 Level of Natural (m OD): 87.80	
Deposit	Context No.	Thickness / Depth (m)	
		NNE End	SSW End
Topsoil (thickness)	(1)	0.10	0.10
Subsoil (thickness)	(2)	0.20	0.20
Natural (max machined depth)	(3)	0.50	0.50
<b>Summary</b>			
No archaeological features or finds were present. Natural (3) stiff yellow clay.			

## 5.7 Trench 5

5.7.1 No archaeological features or finds were present in Trench 5.

TRENCH 5	Figures 3 & 6	Plate	
Trench Alignment: NW-SE	Length: 30 m	Max Machine Depth (m OD): 88.13 Level of Natural (m OD): 88.18	
Deposit	Context No.	Thickness / Depth (m)	
		NW End	SE End
Topsoil (thickness)	(1)	0.25	0.25
Subsoil (thickness)	(2)	0.10	0.10
Natural (max machined depth)	(3)	0.40	0.40
<b>Summary</b>			
No archaeological features or finds were present. Variable natural (3) composed of sands, gravels and clay.			

## 5.8 Trench 6

5.8.1 Two parallel northwest to southeast oriented ditches, [7] and [9], were recorded towards the northern end of Trench 6. These features define a

trackway (11) across the site. The landowner recalls this track was constructed in the 1940s for the airfield. A natural feature/tree throw [5] was excavated and recorded. No finds were recovered from this feature.

5.8.2 Ditch [7] was 0.35 m wide and 0.20 m deep and was filled by (8), a greyish brown sandy gravel containing 20th century glass and brick fragments.

5.8.3 Ditch [9] was 0.50 m wide and 0.20 m deep and was filled by (10), a greyish brown sandy gravel containing 20th century glass and brick fragments.

5.8.4 Layer (11) which formed made up ground for the c. 1940s track overlay ditches [7] and [9]. The top of this track surface seems to have been disturbed or truncated.

5.8.5 Natural feature/tree throw [05] was 1.20 m long, 0.90 m wide and 0.25 m deep. It had irregular sides and edges. No finds were recovered from this feature. Another tree feature was tested at the southern end of the trench.

TRENCH 6	Figures 3 & 6	Plate	
Trench Alignment: NE-SW	Length: 30 m	Max Machine Depth (m OD): 88.37 Level of Natural (m OD): 88.37	
Deposit	Context No.	Thickness / Depth (m)	
		NE End	SW End
Topsoil (thickness)	(1)	0.15	0.15
Subsoil (thickness)	(2)	0.15	0.15
Natural (max machined depth)	(3)	0.30	0.30
<b>Summary</b>			
A 1940s trackway and a natural tree feature was excavated in this trench. A natural tree feature [5] was excavated and recorded. No finds were recovered from this tree feature. Variable natural (3) consisting of sands, gravels and clay.			

## 5.9 Trench 7

5.9.1 No archaeological features or finds were present in Trench 7.

TRENCH 7	Figures 3 & 6	Plate	
Trench Alignment: NNW-SSE	Length: 30 m	Max Machine Depth (m OD): 87.81 Level of Natural (m OD): 87.81	
Deposit	Context No.	Thickness / Depth (m)	

		<b>SSE End</b>	<b>NNW End</b>
Topsoil (thickness)	(1)	0.15	0.15
Subsoil (thickness)	(2)	0.15	0.15
Natural (max machined depth)	(3)	0.30	0.30
<b>Summary</b>			
No archaeological features or finds were present. Variable natural (3) composed of sands, gravels and clay.			

## 5.10 Trench 8

5.10.1 No archaeological features or finds were present in Trench 8.

<b>TRENCH 8</b>	<b>Figures 3 &amp; 6</b>	<b>Plate</b>	
Trench Alignment: NNE-SSW	Length: 30 m	Max Machine Depth (m OD): 87.26 Level of Natural (m OD): 87.26	
<b>Deposit</b>	<b>Context No.</b>	<b>Thickness / Depth (m)</b>	
		<b>NNE End</b>	<b>SSW End</b>
Topsoil (thickness)	(1)	0.20	0.20
Subsoil (thickness)	(2)	0.10	0.10
Natural (max machined depth)	(3)	0.30	0.30
<b>Summary</b>			
No archaeological features or finds were present. Variable natural (3) composed of sands, gravels and clay.			

## 5.11 Trench 9

5.11.1 No archaeological features or finds were present in Trench 9.

<b>TRENCH 9</b>	<b>Figures 3 &amp; 6</b>	<b>Plate</b>	
Trench Alignment: E-W	Length: 30 m	Max Machine Depth (m OD): 86.72 Level of Natural (m OD): 86.72	
<b>Deposit</b>	<b>Context No.</b>	<b>Thickness / Depth (m)</b>	
		<b>E End</b>	<b>W End</b>
Topsoil (thickness)	(1)	0.16	0.15
Subsoil (thickness)	(2)	0.15	0.15
Natural (max machined depth)	(3)	0.31	0.30
<b>Summary</b>			



No archaeological features or finds were present. Variable natural (3) composed of sands, gravels and clay.

## 5.12 Trench 10

5.12.1 No archaeological features or finds were present in Trench 10.

<b>TRENCH 10</b>	<b>Figures 3 &amp; 6</b>	<b>Plate</b>	
Trench Alignment: WNW-ESE	Length: 30 m	Max Machine Depth (m OD): 85.90 Level of Natural (m OD): 85.90	
<b>Deposit</b>	<b>Context No.</b>	<b>Thickness / Depth (m)</b>	
		<b>WNW End</b>	<b>ESE End</b>
Topsoil (thickness)	(1)	0.20	0.20
Subsoil (thickness)	(2)	0.17	0.16
Natural (max machined depth)	(3)	0.37	0.36
<b>Summary</b>			
No archaeological features or finds were present. Variable natural (3) composed of sands, gravels and clay.			

## 5.13 Trench 11

5.13.1 No archaeological features or finds were present in Trench 11.

<b>TRENCH 11</b>	<b>Figures 3 &amp; 6</b>	<b>Plate</b>	
Trench Alignment: WNW-ESE	Length: 30 m	Max Machine Depth (m OD): 85.34 Level of Natural (m OD): 85.34	
<b>Deposit</b>	<b>Context No.</b>	<b>Thickness / Depth (m)</b>	
		<b>WNW End</b>	<b>ESE End</b>
Topsoil (thickness)	(1)	0.15	0.20
Subsoil (thickness)	(2)	0.30	0.29
Natural (max machined depth)	(3)	0.37	0.49
<b>Summary</b>			
No archaeological features or finds were present. Variable natural (3) composed of sands, gravels and clay.			

## 5.14 Trench 12

5.14.1 Two shallow ditches [12] and [15] aligned perpendicularly to each other were recorded in this trench. These features probably join to form part of a rectilinear enclosure or have formed part of a field system. No datable material was recovered from either of these ditches.

5.14.2 Ditch [12] was oriented NNW-SSE. It was 0.48 m wide and 0.13 m deep. It was filled by (13) a light brownish grey silt. No finds were recovered from this feature.

5.14.3 Ditch [15] was oriented WSW-ENE. It was 0.46 m wide and 0.10 m deep. No finds were recovered from this feature.

<b>TRENCH 12</b>	<b>Figures 3 &amp; 6</b>	<b>Plate 2, 5 &amp; 6</b>	
Trench Alignment: WNW-ESE	Length: 30 m	Max Machine Depth (m OD): 84.20 Level of Natural (m OD): 84.20	
<b>Deposit</b>	<b>Context No.</b>	<b>Thickness / Depth (m)</b>	
		<b>WNW End</b>	<b>ESE End</b>
Topsoil (thickness)	(1)	0.18	0.20
Subsoil (thickness)	(2)	0.20	0.20
Natural (max machined depth)	(3)	0.38	0.40
<b>Summary</b>			
Undated ditches [12] and [15] forming part of a probable rectilinear enclosure. Variable mixed natural (3) composed of sands, gravels and clay.			

## 5.15 Trench 13

5.15.1 No archaeological features or finds were present in Trench 13.

<b>TRENCH 13</b>	<b>Figures 3 &amp; 6</b>	<b>Plate</b>	
Trench Alignment: E-W	Length: 30 m	Max Machine Depth (m OD): 85.37 Level of Natural (m OD): 85.37	
<b>Deposit</b>	<b>Context No.</b>	<b>Thickness / Depth (m)</b>	
		<b>E End</b>	<b>W End</b>
Topsoil (thickness)	(1)	0.20	0.20
Subsoil (thickness)	(2)	0.15	0.25
Natural (max machined depth)	(3)	0.35	0.45

**Summary**

No archaeological features or finds were present. Variable natural (3) composed of sands, gravels and clay.

**5.16 Trench 14**

- 5.16.1 A large feature [26] was identified at the northern end of Trench 14. It was not possible to fully characterise this feature by hand digging in the available time frame. During an inspection by Simon West, St Albans Archaeologist it was agreed that prior to backfilling the feature could be investigated using the machine.
- 5.16.2 Two separate features [24] and [26] were identified in the machined section.
- 5.16.3 Feature [24] was 1.0 m + long and 1.20 m + wide. It was filled by (25). It contained no finds. Feature [24] was filled by (25), an orange brown clay silt. No finds were recovered from this feature. It is thought that this feature was formed naturally (e.g. as a result of a tree throw). In section, [024] was clearly overlain by [026].
- 5.16.4 [26] was a large shallow sided feature thought to be a dew pond probably for watering livestock. The profile of this feature (i.e. wide with gradually sloping sides) is consistent with this interpretation. The entirely clay natural encountered in this area would favour the location of such a feature. Despite extending the trench northwards by several metres with a machine, the northern edge of this feature was not observed. This feature as recorded was at least 8 m across and 1.60 m deep. The feature contained several fills (38, 28, 29, 27). Fill 28 was characterised by the presence of chalk pebbles and was overlain by 38 a greyish-brown gravelly silt possibly representing deliberate backfilling. The lower fills tended to contain few stone inclusions and may indicate gradual natural silting of the pond. The northern edge of this feature was not observed. The overall shape of this feature was impossible to discern within the confines of the evaluation trench. The base of this feature was 1.60 m below the modern ground surface. Occasional abraded Roman pot sherds and CBM were recovered from this feature.

<b>TRENCH 14</b>	<b>Figures 3 &amp; 6</b>	<b>Plate 11 &amp; 12</b>	
Trench Alignment: N-S	Length: 32 m	Max Machine Depth (m OD): 83.00 Level of Natural (m OD): 84.16	
<b>Deposit</b>	<b>Context No.</b>	<b>Thickness / Depth (m)</b>	
		<b>N End</b>	<b>S End</b>
Topsoil (thickness)	(1)	0.24	0.20
Subsoil (thickness)	(2)	0.20	0.20
Natural (max machined depth)	(3)	1.5	0.60
<b>Summary</b>			
A Roman dew pond [26] and a probable natural feature [24]. The natural (3) was a light reddish brown clay.			

### 5.17 Trench 15

5.17.1 No archaeological features or finds were present in Trench 15. The WSI indicates that this Trench is situated in an area of truncation relating to former quarry extraction. The ground truncation may in fact have resulted from levelling related to the construction of airfield buildings, the remains of which survive at ground level nearby.

5.17.2 The natural ground (3) in this trench is formed of bright red and orange sands and gravels.

<b>TRENCH 15</b>	<b>Figures 3 &amp; 6</b>	<b>Plate 1</b>	
Trench Alignment: N-S	Length: 30 m	Max Machine Depth (m OD): 80.76 Level of Natural (m OD): 80.76	
<b>Deposit</b>	<b>Context No.</b>	<b>Thickness / Depth (m)</b>	
		<b>N End</b>	<b>S End</b>
Topsoil (thickness)	(1)	0.20	0.25
Natural (max machined depth)	(3)	0.20	0.25
<b>Summary</b>			
No archaeological features or finds were present. Natural (3) composed of bright red and orange sands and gravels. Ground level clearly truncated by several meters – probably levelling for airfield infrastructure.			

## 5.18 Trench 16

5.18.1 Trench 16 contained an E-W oriented ditch [20]. The ditch was 0.95 m wide and 0.18 m deep. No finds were retrieved from this feature.

5.18.2 Two N-S oriented plough scars were recorded at the NE end of the trench. A tree feature was test excavated near the middle of the trench.

TRENCH 16	Figures 3 & 6		Plate	
Trench Alignment: NE-SW	Length: 30 m	Max Machine Depth (m OD): 85.59 Level of Natural (m OD): 85.59		
Deposit	Context No.	Thickness / Depth (m)		
		NE End	SW End	
Topsoil (thickness)	(1)	0.20	0.20	
Subsoil (thickness)	(2)	0.10	0.10	
Natural (max machined depth)	(3)	0.30	0.30	
<b>Summary</b>				
Undated ditch [20]. Variable mixed natural (3) composed of sands, gravels and clay.				

## 5.19 Trench 17

5.19.1 Trench 17 contained a NW-SE oriented ditch [18]. The ditch was 0.60m wide and 0.15 m deep. The fill of this ditch (19), was a greyish-brown sandy-silt containing frequent fragments of grog-tempered late Pre-Roman Iron Age pottery dating to the 1st century A.D. (Plates 7-10). This pottery showed little sign of abrasion.

5.19.2 Two plough scars were recorded at the northern end of the trench. These are thought to be modern.

TRENCH 17	Figures 3 & 6		Plate 7, 8 & 9	
Trench Alignment: NE-SW	Length: 30 m	Max Machine Depth (m OD): 84.91 Level of Natural (m OD): 84.91		
Deposit	Context No.	Thickness / Depth (m)		
		NE End	SW End	
Topsoil (thickness)	(1)	0.20	0.15	

Subsoil (thickness)	(2)	0.10	0.10
Natural (max machined depth)	(3)	0.30	0.25
<b>Summary</b>			
This trench contained a Late Iron Age ditch [18]. Variable natural (3) composed of sands, gravels and clay.			

## 5.20 Trench 18

5.20.1 A N-S oriented ditch [22] was recorded in Trench 18. Ditch [22] was 0.62 m wide and 0.20 m deep. It was filled by (23), a light greyish brown sandy silt. No finds were recovered from this feature.

5.20.2 3 NW-SE oriented plough scars were recorded at the southwest of Trench 18. These are probably modern.

<b>TRENCH 18</b>	<b>Figures 3 &amp; 6</b>	<b>Plate</b>	
Trench Alignment: NE-SW	Length: 30 m	Max Machine Depth (m OD): 83.98 Level of Natural (m OD): 83.98	
<b>Deposit</b>	<b>Context No.</b>	<b>Thickness / Depth (m)</b>	
		<b>NE End</b>	<b>SW End</b>
Topsoil (thickness)	(1)	0.15	0.20
Subsoil (thickness)	(2)	0.15	0.20
Natural (max machined depth)	(3)	0.30	0.40
<b>Summary</b>			
An undated ditch and three plough marks were recorded in this trench. Variable natural (3) composed of sands, gravels and clay.			

## 5.21 Trench 19

5.21.1 No archaeological features or finds were present in Trench 19.

<b>TRENCH 19</b>	<b>Figures 3 &amp; 6</b>	<b>Plate</b>	
Trench Alignment: NE-SW	Length: 30 m	Max Machine Depth (m OD): 83.82 Level of Natural (m OD): 83.82	
<b>Deposit</b>	<b>Context No.</b>	<b>Thickness / Depth (m)</b>	
		<b>NE End</b>	<b>SW End</b>
Topsoil (thickness)	(1)	0.15	0.20

Subsoil (thickness)	(2)	0.20	0.14
Natural (max machined depth)	(3)	0.35	0.34
<b>Summary</b>			
No archaeological features or finds were present. Variable mixed natural (3) composed of sands, gravel and clay.			

## 5.22 Trench 20

5.22.1 No archaeological features or finds were present in Trench 20.

<b>TRENCH 20</b>	<b>Figures 3 &amp; 6</b>	<b>Plate 1</b>	
Trench Alignment: NE-SW	Length: 30 m	Max Machine Depth (m OD): 83.56 Level of Natural (m OD): 83.56	
<b>Deposit</b>	<b>Context No.</b>	<b>Thickness / Depth (m)</b>	
		<b>NE End</b>	<b>SW End</b>
Topsoil (thickness)	(1)	0.20	0.20
Subsoil (thickness)	(2)	0.15	0.18
Natural (max machined depth)	(3)	0.35	0.38
<b>Summary</b>			
No archaeological features or finds were present. Variable mixed natural (3) composed of sands, gravel and clay.			

## 5.23 Trench 21

5.23.1 Trench 21 was not excavated as it was located in a thickly wooded area.

## 5.24 Introduction: Area B (Trenches 22 to 35 Fig. 4)

5.24.1 The trenches are described below in numerical order, with technical data tabulated. Features and deposits are subdivided into feature type, before being described in numeric cut order within the trench. Archaeological features and deposits were sealed by the subsoil, unless otherwise stated.

## 5.25 Trench 22

5.25.1 No archaeological features or finds were present in Trench 22.

<b>TRENCH 22</b>	<b>Figures 4 &amp; 6</b>	<b>Plate -</b>	
Trench Alignment: NW-SE	Length: 30 m	Max Machine Depth (m OD): 71.53	

		Level of Natural (m OD): 71.53	
Deposit	Context No.	Thickness / Depth (m)	
		NW End	SE End
Topsoil (thickness)	(39)	0.30	0.30
Subsoil (thickness)	(40)	0.15	0.13
Natural (max machined depth)	(41)	0.45	0.43
<b>Summary</b>			
No archaeological features or finds were present. Variable natural (3) composed of sands, gravel and clay. Concentrations of manganese staining.			

## 5.26 Trench 23

5.26.1 No archaeological features or finds were present in Trench 23.

<b>TRENCH 23</b>	<b>Figures 4 &amp; 6</b>	<b>Plate -</b>	
Trench Alignment: NW-SE	Length: 30 m	Max Machine Depth (m OD): 71.39 Level of Natural (m OD): 71.39	
Deposit	Context No.	Thickness / Depth (m)	
		NW End	SE End
Topsoil (thickness)	(39)	0.25	0.30
Subsoil (thickness)	(40)	0.35	0.25
Natural (max machined depth)	(41)	0.60	0.55
<b>Summary</b>			
No archaeological features or finds were present. Variable mixed natural (3) composed of sands, gravel and clay. Concentrations of manganese staining.			

## 5.27 Trench 24

5.27.1 No archaeological features or finds were present in Trench 24.

<b>TRENCH 24</b>	<b>Figures 4 &amp; 6</b>	<b>Plate -</b>	
Trench Alignment: N-S	Length: 30 m	Max Machine Depth (m OD): 72.26 Level of Natural (m OD): 72.26	
Deposit	Context No.	Thickness / Depth (m)	
		N End	S End
Topsoil (thickness)	(39)	0.30	0.30
Subsoil (thickness)	(40)	0.18	0.19



Natural (max machined depth)	(41)	0.48	0.49
<b>Summary</b>			
No archaeological features or finds were present. Variable mixed natural (3) composed of sands, gravel and clay. Concentrations of manganese staining.			

## 5.28 Trench 25

5.28.1 No archaeological features or finds were present in Trench 25.

<b>TRENCH 25</b>	<b>Figures 4 &amp; 6</b>	<b>Plate -</b>	
Trench Alignment: NE-SW	Length: 30 m	Max Machine Depth (m OD): 72.38 Level of Natural (m OD): 72.48	
<b>Deposit</b>	<b>Context No.</b>	<b>Thickness / Depth (m)</b>	
		<b>NE End</b>	<b>SW End</b>
Topsoil (thickness)	(39)	0.15	0.30
Subsoil (thickness)	(40)	0.10	0.15
Natural (max machined depth)	(41)	0.35	0.45
<b>Summary</b>			
No archaeological features or finds were present. Variable mixed natural (3) composed of sands, gravel and clay. Concentrations of manganese staining.			

## 5.29 Trench 26

5.29.1 Posthole [34] measured 0.50 m long by 0.40 m wide. It was 0.20 m deep. It was filled by a greyish brown silty sand (35) with frequent gravel inclusions.

5.29.2 A modern ditch [36] was partially excavated at the southern end of Trench 26. This feature was excavated to 0.40 m below the machined level of the trench before being abandoned. The fill (37) of this feature was a poorly consolidated brown clay silt containing modern inclusions of wire and metal.

<b>TRENCH 26</b>	<b>Figures 4 &amp; 6</b>	<b>Plate -</b>	
Trench Alignment: NW-SE	Length: 30 m	Max Machine Depth (m OD): 72.71 Level of Natural (m OD): 72.81	
<b>Deposit</b>	<b>Context No.</b>	<b>Thickness / Depth (m)</b>	
		<b>NW End</b>	<b>SE End</b>
Topsoil (thickness)	(39)	0.30	0.30

Subsoil (thickness)	(40)	0.18	0.10
Natural (max machined depth)	(41)	0.48	0.50
<b>Summary</b>			
An undated posthole [34] and a modern ditch [36] were recorded in this trench. Variable natural (3) composed of sands, gravel and clay. Concentrations of manganese staining.			

### 5.30 Trench 27

5.30.1 No archaeological features or finds were present in Trench 27.

<b>TRENCH 27</b>	<b>Figures 4 &amp; 6</b>	<b>Plate -</b>	
Trench Alignment: E-W	Length: 30 m	Max Machine Depth (m OD): 72.85 Level of Natural (m OD): 72.85	
<b>Deposit</b>	<b>Context No.</b>	<b>Thickness / Depth (m)</b>	
		<b>E End</b>	<b>W End</b>
Topsoil (thickness)	(39)	0.25	0.25
Subsoil (thickness)	(40)	0.15	0.30
Natural (max machined depth)	(41)	0.40	0.55
<b>Summary</b>			
No archaeological features or finds were present. Variable natural (3) composed of sands, gravel and clay. Concentrations of manganese staining.			

### 5.31 Trench 28

5.31.1 A posthole was recorded in Trench 28. It was 0.42 m long, 0.30 m wide and 0.23 m deep. It was filled by (31), a greyish brown silty clay and (32), a yellowish brown sandy-silt. No finds were retrieved from this feature.

<b>TRENCH 28</b>	<b>Figures 4 &amp; 6</b>	<b>Plate 13 -</b>	
Trench Alignment: NW-SE	Length: 30 m	Max Machine Depth (m OD): 72.44 Level of Natural (m OD): 72.44	
<b>Deposit</b>	<b>Context No.</b>	<b>Thickness / Depth (m)</b>	
		<b>NW End</b>	<b>SE End</b>
Topsoil (thickness)	(39)	0.30	0.30
Subsoil (thickness)	(40)	0.16	0.10
Natural (max machined depth)	(41)	0.46	0.40
<b>Summary</b>			

An undated posthole [33] was recorded. Variable natural (3) composed of sands, gravel and clay. Concentrations of manganese staining.

### 5.32 Trench 29

5.32.1 No archaeological features or finds were present in Trench 29.

<b>TRENCH 29</b>	<b>Figures 4 &amp; 6</b>		<b>Plate -</b>	
Trench Alignment: E-W	Length: 30 m	Max Machine Depth (m OD): 72.44 Level of Natural (m OD): 72.44		
<b>Deposit</b>	<b>Context No.</b>	<b>Thickness / Depth (m)</b>		
		<b>E End</b>	<b>W End</b>	
Topsoil (thickness)	(39)	0.20	0.20	
Subsoil (thickness)	(40)	0.10	0.10	
Natural (max machined depth)	(41)	0.30	0.30	
<b>Summary</b>				
No archaeological features or finds were present. Variable mixed natural (3) composed of sands, gravel and clay. Concentrations of manganese staining.				

### 5.33 Trench 30

5.33.1 No archaeological features or finds were present in Trench 30.

<b>TRENCH 30</b>	<b>Figures 4 &amp; 6</b>		<b>Plate -</b>	
Trench Alignment: NW-SE	Length: 30 m	Max Machine Depth (m OD): 72.72 Level of Natural (m OD): 72.72		
<b>Deposit</b>	<b>Context No.</b>	<b>Thickness / Depth (m)</b>		
		<b>NW End</b>	<b>SE End</b>	
Topsoil (thickness)	(39)	0.28	0.28	
Subsoil (thickness)	(40)	0.19	0.15	
Natural (max machined depth)	(41)	0.47	0.43	
<b>Summary</b>				
No archaeological features or finds were present. Variable mixed natural (3) composed of sands, gravel and clay. Concentrations of manganese staining.				

### 5.34 Trench 31

5.34.1 No archaeological features or finds were present in Trench 31.

TRENCH 31	Figures 4 & 6		Plate -	
Trench Alignment: NE-SW	Length: 30 m	Max Machine Depth (m OD): 71.40 Level of Natural (m OD): 71.40		
Deposit	Context No.	Thickness / Depth (m)		
		NE End	SW End	
Topsoil (thickness)	(39)	0.20	0.35	
Subsoil (thickness)	(40)	0.15	0.20	
Natural (max machined depth)	(41)	0.35	0.55	
<b>Summary</b>				
No archaeological features or finds were present. Variable mixed natural (3) composed of sands, gravel and clay. Concentrations of manganese staining.				

### 5.35 Trench 32

5.35.1 No archaeological features or finds were present in Trench 32.

TRENCH 32	Figures 4 & 6		Plate -	
Trench Alignment: N-S	Length: 30 m	Max Machine Depth (m OD): 70.75 Level of Natural (m OD): 70.75		
Deposit	Context No.	Thickness / Depth (m)		
		N End	S End	
Topsoil (thickness)	(39)	0.20	0.30	
Subsoil (thickness)	(40)	0.15	0.20	
Natural (max machined depth)	(41)	0.35	0.50	
<b>Summary</b>				
No archaeological features or finds were present. Variable mixed natural (3) composed of sands, gravel and clay. Concentrations of manganese staining.				

### 5.36 Trench 33

5.36.1 No archaeological features or finds were present in Trench 33.

<b>TRENCH 33</b>	<b>Figures 4 &amp; 6</b>	<b>Plate -</b>	
Trench Alignment: NW-SE	Length: 30 m	Max Machine Depth (m OD): 72.25 Level of Natural (m OD): 72.25	
<b>Deposit</b>	<b>Context No.</b>	<b>Thickness / Depth (m)</b>	
		<b>NW End</b>	<b>SE End</b>
Topsoil (thickness)	(39)	0.20	0.25
Subsoil (thickness)	(40)	0.10	0.10
Natural (max machined depth)	(41)	0.30	0.35
<b>Summary</b>			
No archaeological features or finds were present. Variable mixed natural (3) composed of sands, gravel and clay. Concentrations of manganese staining.			

### 5.37 Trench 34

5.37.1 No archaeological features or finds were present in Trench 34.

<b>TRENCH 34</b>	<b>Figures 4 &amp; 6</b>	<b>Plate -</b>	
Trench Alignment: NW-SE	Length: 30 m	Max Machine Depth (m OD): 72.90 Level of Natural (m OD): 72.90	
<b>Deposit</b>	<b>Context No.</b>	<b>Thickness / Depth (m)</b>	
		<b>NW End</b>	<b>SE End</b>
Topsoil (thickness)	(39)	0.20	0.30
Subsoil (thickness)	(40)	0.05	0.13
Natural (max machined depth)	(41)	0.25	0.43
<b>Summary</b>			
No archaeological features or finds were present. Variable mixed natural (3) composed of sands, gravel and clay. Concentrations of manganese staining.			

### 5.38 Trench 35

5.38.1 No archaeological features or finds were present in Trench 35.

<b>TRENCH 35</b>	<b>Figures 4 &amp; 6</b>	<b>Plate -</b>	
Trench Alignment: NE-SW	Length: 30 m	Max Machine Depth (m OD): 72.92 Level of Natural (m OD): 72.92	
<b>Deposit</b>	<b>Context No.</b>	<b>Thickness / Depth (m)</b>	
		<b>NE End</b>	<b>SW End</b>

Topsoil (thickness)	(39)	0.20	0.22
Subsoil (thickness)	(40)	0.10	0.10
Natural (max machined depth)	(41)	0.30	0.32
<b>Summary</b>			
No archaeological features or finds were present. Variable mixed natural (3) composed of sands, gravel and clay. Concentrations of manganese staining.			

### 5.39 Introduction: Area C (Trenches 36 to 46 Fig.5)

5.39.1 The trenches are described below in numerical order, with technical data tabulated. Trench 43 was abandoned because of its position below the large earth bank towards the western perimeter of the site. Trench 46 was not excavated due to site specific conditions. Modern made ground in Area C was given the generic context number (45).

### 5.40 Trench 36

5.40.1 No archaeological features or finds were present in Trench 36. Natural ground was encountered at a depth of 0.70 m below ground level. Above this gravelly deposits (45) contained modern yellow brick fragments. (45) was overlain directly by topsoil.

<b>TRENCH 36</b>	<b>Figure 5</b>	<b>Plate -</b>	
Trench Alignment: N-S	Length: 30 m	Max Machine Depth (m OD): 72.80 Level of Natural (m OD): 72.80	
<b>Deposit</b>	<b>Context No.</b>	<b>Thickness / Depth (m)</b>	
		<b>N End</b>	<b>S End</b>
Topsoil (thickness)	(42)	0.10	0.10
Modern made ground	(45)	0.60	0.60
Natural (Max Machined Depth)	(44)	0.70	0.70
<b>Summary</b>			
Subsoil absent. Made ground (45) overlying natural (44). No archaeological features or finds were present. Machine test sondage made into made ground at south of trench.			

### 5.41 Trench 37

5.41.1 No archaeological features or finds were present in Trench 37. Underlying

the topsoil (42) gravelly deposits contained modern brick inclusions. A machine test pit at the end of this trench confirmed that made ground (45) continued to a depth of at least 1 m below ground level.

<b>TRENCH 37</b>	<b>Figure 5</b>		<b>Plate 14</b>	
Trench Alignment: N-S	Length: 30 m	Max Machine Depth (m OD): 72.99 Level of Natural (m OD): Not seen		
<b>Deposit</b>	<b>Context No.</b>	<b>Thickness / Depth (m)</b>		
		<b>N End</b>	<b>S End</b>	
Topsoil (thickness)	(42)	0.10 m	0.10 m	
Modern made ground	(45)	0.40 m +	1.0 m +	
<b>Summary</b>				
Trench consisted of topsoil (42) overlying made ground (45) to a depth of at least 1 m. No archaeological features or finds were present. Machine sondage into made ground at south of trench.				

## 5.42 Trench 38

5.42.1 No archaeological features or finds were present in Trench 38. A sondage at the southern end of Trench 38 confirmed that this trench contained made ground (45) to a depth of at least 1.0 m.

<b>TRENCH 38</b>	<b>Figure 5</b>		<b>Plate -</b>	
Trench Alignment: N-S	Length: 30 m	Max Machine Depth (m OD): 73.10 Level of Natural (m OD): Not seen		
<b>Deposit</b>	<b>Context No.</b>	<b>Thickness / Depth (m)</b>		
		<b>N End</b>	<b>S End</b>	
Topsoil (thickness)	(42)	0.18	0.10	
Modern made ground	(45)	0.30 +	1.0 m +	
<b>Summary</b>				
No archaeological features or finds were present.				

## 5.43 Trench 39

5.43.1 No archaeological features or finds were present in Trench 39. Undisturbed natural ground (44) seemed to be present at a depth of c. 0.35 m along the length of this trench.

<b>TRENCH 39</b>	<b>Figure 5</b>	<b>Plate 16</b>	
Trench Alignment: WSW-ENE	Length: 30 m	Max Machine Depth (m OD): 73.44 Level of Natural (m OD): 73.44	
<b>Deposit</b>	<b>Context No.</b>	<b>Thickness / Depth (m)</b>	
		<b>WSW End</b>	<b>ENE End</b>
Topsoil (thickness)	(42)	0.15	0.15
Subsoil (thickness)	(43)	0.10	0.10
Natural (max machined depth)	(44)	0.50	0.25
<b>Summary</b>			
No archaeological features or finds were present.			

#### 5.44 Trench 40

5.44.1 No archaeological features or finds were present in Trench 40. The edge of an area previously extracted for quarrying was clearly seen running north to south through the middle of this trench. Natural ground was present at a depth of 0.60 m on the western side of the trench. On the eastern half of the natural ground had been truncated. Here made ground (45), presumably quarry backfill was observed.

<b>TRENCH 40</b>	<b>Figure 5</b>	<b>Plate 15</b>	
Trench Alignment: WNW-ESE	Length: 30 m	Max Machine Depth (m OD): 71.53 Level of Natural (m OD): 71.97	
<b>Deposit</b>	<b>Context No.</b>	<b>Thickness / Depth (m)</b>	
		<b>WNW End</b>	<b>ESE End</b>
Topsoil (thickness)	(42)	0.22	0.22
Modern Made Ground	(45)	No present	1.0 +
Subsoil (thickness)	(43)	0.20	Not present
Natural (max machined depth)	(44)	0.60	Not seen
<b>Summary</b>			
The edge of an area of quarrying was identified. No archaeological features or finds were present.			

#### 5.45 Trench 41

5.45.1 Trench 41 was positioned in an area truncated by quarrying. Underlying the



topsoil was made ground consisting of silty gravels with frequent modern inclusions of modern brick, concrete and plastic. No archaeological features or finds were present in Trench 41.

<b>TRENCH 41</b>	<b>Figure 5</b>	<b>Plate -</b>	
Trench Alignment: WNW-ESE	Length: 30 m	Max Machine Depth (m OD): 71.01 Level of Natural (m OD): not seen	
<b>Deposit</b>	<b>Context No.</b>	<b>Thickness / Depth (m)</b>	
		<b>WNW End</b>	<b>ESE End</b>
Topsoil (thickness)	(42)	0.22	0.22
Modern made ground	Not assigned	0.62 +	0.62 +
<b>Summary</b>			
Ground truncated by quarrying. No archaeological features or finds were present.			

#### 5.46 Trench 42

5.46.1 No archaeological features or finds were present in Trench 42. The absence of subsoil may indicate truncation of the natural ground level.

<b>TRENCH 42</b>	<b>Figure 5</b>	<b>Plate -</b>	
Trench Alignment: WNW-ESE	Length: 30 m	Max Machine Depth (m OD): 74.00 Level of Natural (m OD): 74.00	
<b>Deposit</b>	<b>Context No.</b>	<b>Thickness / Depth (m)</b>	
		<b>WNW End</b>	<b>ESE End</b>
Topsoil (thickness)	(42)	0.20	0.20
Natural (max machined depth)	(44)	0.32	0.32
<b>Summary</b>			
No archaeological features or finds were present.			

#### 5.47 Trench 43

5.47.1 Trench 43 was not excavated as it was sited under the large earth bank/bund situated near the western perimeter of the site.

#### 5.48 Trench 44

5.48.1 No archaeological features or finds were present in Trench 44. Made ground formed of 20th century demolition rubble was recorded to a depth of at least

1.80 m.

<b>TRENCH 44</b>	<b>Figure 5</b>	<b>Plate</b>	
Trench Alignment: WNW-ESE	Length: 30 m	Max Machine Depth (m OD): 73.88 Level of Natural (m OD): not seen	
<b>Deposit</b>	<b>Context No.</b>	<b>Thickness / Depth (m)</b>	
		<b>WNW End</b>	<b>ESE End</b>
Topsoil (thickness)	(42)	0.20	0.20
Modern made ground	Not assigned	0.55 +	1.80 +
<b>Summary</b>			
No archaeological features or finds were present. Machine sondage made into ground at ESE end of trench.			

#### 5.49 Trench 45

5.49.1 No archaeological features or finds were present in Trench 45. The absence of a subsoil is indicative of truncation of the natural (44). Made ground contained a lot of 20th century demolition rubble.

<b>TRENCH 45</b>	<b>Figure 5</b>	<b>Plate</b>	
Trench Alignment: NNE-SSW	Length: 30 m	Max Machine Depth (m OD): 74.51 Level of Natural (m OD): 74.51	
<b>Deposit</b>	<b>Context No.</b>	<b>Thickness / Depth (m)</b>	
		<b>NNE End</b>	<b>SSW End</b>
Topsoil (thickness)	(42)	0.20	0.20
Modern made ground	Not assigned	0.40	0.40
Natural (max machined depth)	(44)	0.60	0.60
<b>Summary</b>			
No archaeological features or finds were present.			

#### 5.50 Trench 46

5.50.1 Trench 46 was abandoned due to site specific circumstances.

## 6 THE FINDS AND ENVIRONMENTAL EVIDENCE

### 6.1 The Romano-British Pottery and Ceramic Building Material by Eniko Hudak

6.1.1 The evaluation at Radlett SRFI, St Albans, Hertfordshire (RAD16) yielded a small amount of Romano-British pottery and ceramic building material. The assemblages were fully quantified and catalogued using the standard measures of sherd count, weight, and Estimated Vessel Equivalents (EVEs) for the pottery, and fragment count and weight for the CBM into an MS Access database.

6.1.2 The Roman pottery assemblage was recovered from two trenches (Trench 14 and 17) totalling at 72 sherds weighing 367g (0.58 EVEs) representing a minimum of three different vessels. All sherds, but one, are in a soft, soapy, grog-tempered fabric, which compares well to the 'Belgic' grog-tempered wares as described by Thompson (1982) and SOB GT in the National Roman Fabric Reference Collection (Tomber and Dore 1998: 214). The forms represented are the Thompson C6-1 type storage jars with everted rims (see Plates 7-10), which were in production from the late 1st century BC/early 1st century AD to the end of the 1st century AD (Thompson 1982: 295).

Trench	Context	Fabric	SC	Wt(g)	EVEs
14	27	GREY	1	8	0.07
14	27	SOB GT	1	7	0.06
17	19	SOB GT	70	352	0.45
TOTAL			72	367	0.58

Table 1 – RB pottery quantification

6.1.3 The CBM assemblage was recovered from a single context (27) in Trench 14, 13 fragments weighing 483g in total. The assemblage includes abraded fragments of brick, a tile with diagonal ridging and a tegula corner, as well as a single fragment of tessera with bluish-grey surface.

Trench	Context	Fabric	SC	Wt(g)
14	27	CBM	12	477
14	27	TESSERA	1	6
TOTAL			13	483

Table 2 – CBM quantification

6.1.4 The small size of the assemblages limit discussion beyond dating, but in case further mitigation is required it is recommended to consider the Romano-British pottery in its local and regional context including comparison to other local pottery assemblages.

## 6.2 Environmental Results

**By Alex Coogan**

### Introduction

6.2.1 This report summarises the findings of the rapid assessment of 2 bulk samples taken during excavations on land at Radlett SRFI St Albans, Hertfordshire. These samples were taken from the fill of a Roman Dew Pond and a Late Iron Age ditch (context information given in Table 3).

6.2.2 The aim of the assessment is to:

- a) Give an overview of the contents of the assessed samples;
- b) Determine the environmental potential of these samples.

### Methodology

6.2.3 2 bulk samples were processed using the flotation method; material was collected using a 300µm mesh for the light fraction and a 1mm mesh for the heavy residue. The heavy residue was then dried, sieved at 1, 2 and 4mm and sorted to extract artefacts and ecofacts. The abundance of each category of material was recorded using a non-linear scale where '1' indicates occasional occurrence (1-10 items), '2' indicates occurrence is fairly frequent (11-30 items), '3' indicates presence is frequent (31-100 items) and '4' indicates an abundance of material (>100 items). The results

for this stage of the assessment are presented in Table 3.

6.2.4 The light residue (>300 µm), once dried, was scanned under a low-power binocular microscope in order to quantify the level of environmental material, such as seeds, chaff, charred grains, molluscs and charcoal. Abundance was recorded as above. A note was also made of any other significant inclusions, for example roots and modern plant material. The results of this assessment are shown in Table 4.

#### Residue Results

6.2.5 The heavy residues from sample <2> were sterile and no archaeobotanical remains were present. Some wood charcoal was present in sample <3>, however none was suitable for species identification.

Sample number	Context number	Cut	Feature Type	Number of buckets	Residue			
					Charcoal	Seeds/grain	Mollusca	Other
2	19	18	Late Iron Age ditch	1				
3	27	26	Roman Dew Pond	3	2			

Table 3- Assessment of environmental residues

Key: 1- Occasional, 2- fairly frequent, 3- frequent, 4- abundant

#### Flot Results

6.2.6 Both of the processed samples produced flots, ranging in volume from 5ml to 50ml. Wood charcoal was present throughout the assemblage; sample <2> produced the highest concentration of material, and one fragment of a viable size for species identification was found in this sample. Due to the small amount of suitable material it is not, however, recommended that any further assessment be carried out at this stage.

6.2.7 No other archaeobotanical remains were found in the flots of these samples, and significant post-depositional mixing in the form of roots and 2 modern seeds (*Chenopodium album* - fat-hen) were present in sample <3>. Given this, no additional work is recommended on this material.

Sample number	Context number	Vol (ml)	Flot						
			Charcoal >1mm	Charcoal <1mm	Seeds	Seeds (charred)	Grains	Mollusca	Other
2	19	50	2*	2					Roots (4) Modern Seeds (1)
3	27	5	1	2					Roots (2)

Table 4- Assessment of the flots

Key: 1- Occasional, 2- fairly frequent, 3- frequent, 4- abundant

#### Conclusions

- 6.2.8 This assessment has confirmed that the environmental potential of the assemblage is poor. Wood charcoal was present in both samples, however in relatively low abundance. No other archaeobotanical remains were found. No additional assessment of this material is recommended.

## **7 DISCUSSION & CONCLUSIONS**

### **7.1 Area A**

- 7.1.1 Archaeological features were encountered in 7 of the 21 trenches in Area A. Archaeological features included 7 ditches [7, 9, 12, 15, 18, 20, 22] and a large feature interpreted as a possible Romano-British pond for watering livestock [26].
- 7.1.2 The ditch features were relatively narrow (c. 0.50 m) and shallow (c. 0.15 m). two ditches in Trench 6 are modern, associated with a trackway dating to the c.1940s associated with the Radlett Airfield. Undated perpendicular ditches [12] and [15] in Trench 12 might meet to form the corner of a rectilinear enclosure feature or more prosaically be the remains of a field system. Of the remaining three ditches, [18], [20] and [22], dating evidence was retrieved only from Ditch [18]. Pottery forms represented are the Thompson C6-1 type storage jars with everted rims (see Plates 7-10), which were in production from the late 1st century BC/early 1st century AD to the end of the 1st century AD (Thompson 1982: 295)(See Pottery Report by Hudak, Section 6.1).
- 7.1.3 Large pond feature [26] in Trench 14 was dated to the late 1st century BBC/early 1st century AD to the end of the 1st century AD on the basis of 2 abraded pottery sherds. Given its abraded state it is possible that this material is residual and feature [26] dates from a later period. The interpretation of this feature as a pond for watering stock seems reasonable given its probable size, profile and location on impermeable clay. Clearly other interpretations of feature [26], e.g. as a pit for clay extraction are quite plausible as we know that the area was intensively settled during this period and there must have been demand for raw materials (e.g. for producing tiles) (Bourn 2007).
- 7.1.4 4 probable tree throws were excavated. [5] and [24] only were recorded. As expected, the southern part of Area A (Trench 15) has been heavily truncated. This truncation is more likely to have arisen from the construction of the airfield than of later quarrying activity (see Bourn 2007 and figures

therein).

## **7.2 Area B**

7.2.1 Evidence for archaeological remains in Area B was limited to 2 undated postholes, [33] and [34], excavated in Trenches 28 and 26 respectively. A modern feature [36] containing wire, probably a ditch, was recorded at the southern end of Trench 2.

## **7.3 Area C**

7.3.1 No archaeological features were present in Area C. In general, Area C appears to have been subject to significant modern (i.e. 20th century) disturbance relating to the former history of the site as an airfield and then a quarry. Made ground to the west of and near the south of the large bank near the western edge of the site (as seen in Trench 44) contains significant quantities of 20th century demolition rubble. This material probably results from the in situ demolition of airfield related buildings at the edge of the runways (see Bourn 2007).

## **7.4 Conclusions**

7.4.1 The presence of locally produced late Iron Age grog tempered coarseware pottery in Ditch [18] in Area A testifies to the presence of contemporary activity at the study site during the 1st century A.D. This is unsurprising as we know that the local area would have been intensively settled during the late Iron Age and Verlamion, an important tribal centre at this time was located nearby (c. 3 km) to the northwest.

7.4.2 Ditch [18] and perhaps some of the undated ditch features in Area A are evidence of the presence of a field system attached to a probable farmstead settlement nearby. Ditches [12] and [15] may have formed part of a field system or perhaps have comprised the corner of a rectilinear enclosure. The two ditches follow a similar alignment to the modern field boundaries and although undated may relate to post medieval fields which pre-date the railway construction.

7.4.3 The large probable pond feature [26], containing abraded Roman pot and CBM (which might be residual) indicates a continuation of settlement at or



near the site into the Roman-British period. The presence of Roman CBM in feature [26], even though heavily abraded strongly implies the former existence of a Roman building on or nearby the study site. This is a reasonable suggestion given the known intensity of occupation and settlement of this area during the Roman period; Verulamium is located only c. 3 km to the northwest and Watling Street, a major focus for settlement is close to the western boundary of the site (Bourn 2007; O'Neil 1971).

- 7.4.4 The evidence for the presence of archaeological remains in Area B was restricted to 2 undated postholes. These features were widely separated from each other and contained no archaeological material. Clearly though these features were posthole shaped, it seems reasonable to be sceptical about their archaeological significance. On the evidence from this evaluation it seems clear that there is limited potential for further archaeological remains to be discovered in Area B.
- 7.4.5 The few areas of undisturbed natural in Area C were devoid of archaeology. The quarrying edge seems to have been located further to the west than shown in the WSI (see Clarke 2015). Unsurprisingly significant ground disturbance seems to have extended farther to the west than the edge of the quarry extraction area. This disturbance probably related to large scale landscaping activity relating to airfield construction and subsequent demolition or later quarrying activity. It seems reasonable to conclude that the archaeological potential of Area C is negligible.
- 7.4.6 In summary, it is considered that the discovery of the Roman ditch and pond in Area A are of local significance only. Area B contained just two isolated and undated postholes and Area C contained evidence of post-medieval landscaping and quarrying making these other two areas of little archaeological significance or interest.

## **8 ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS**

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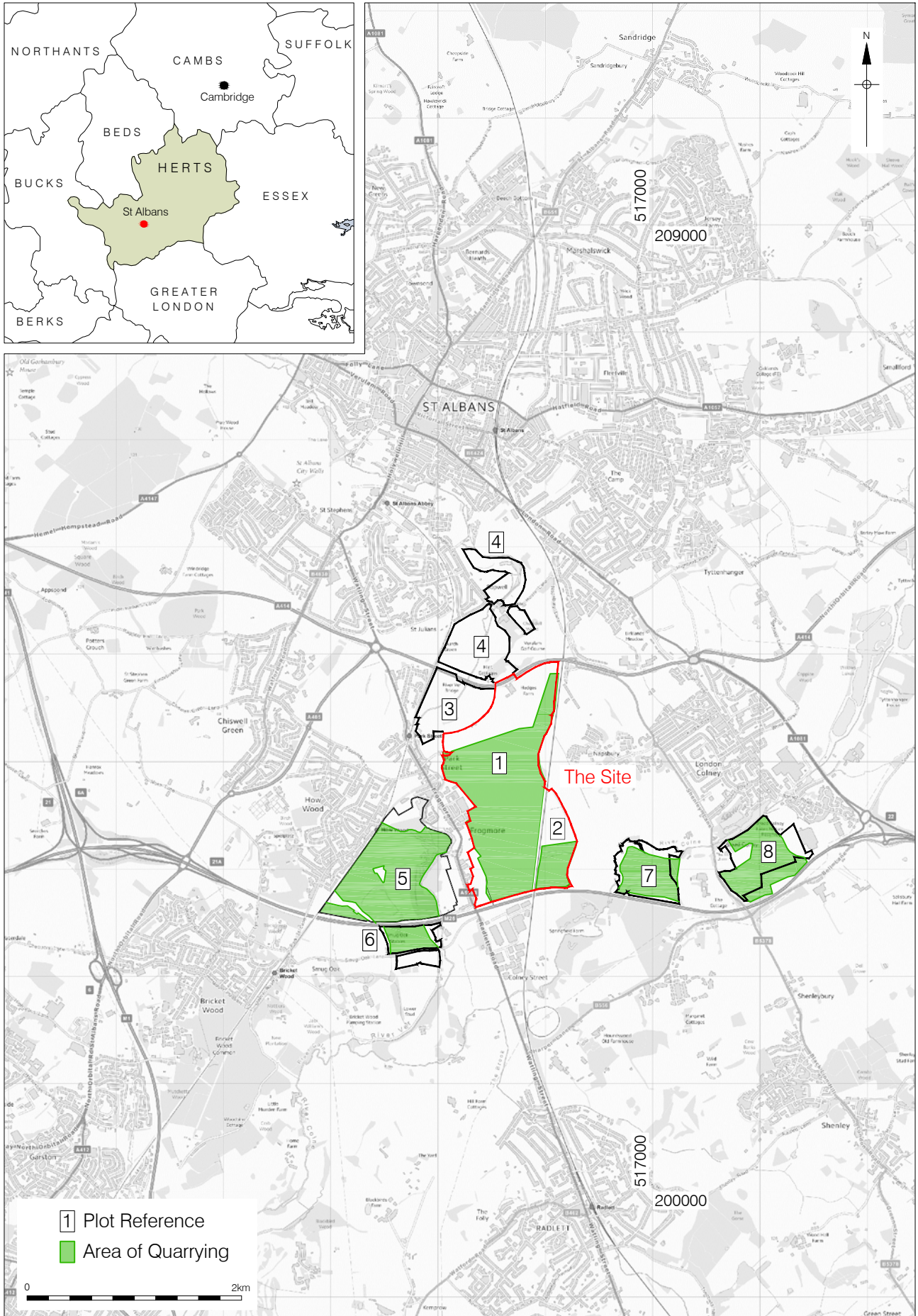
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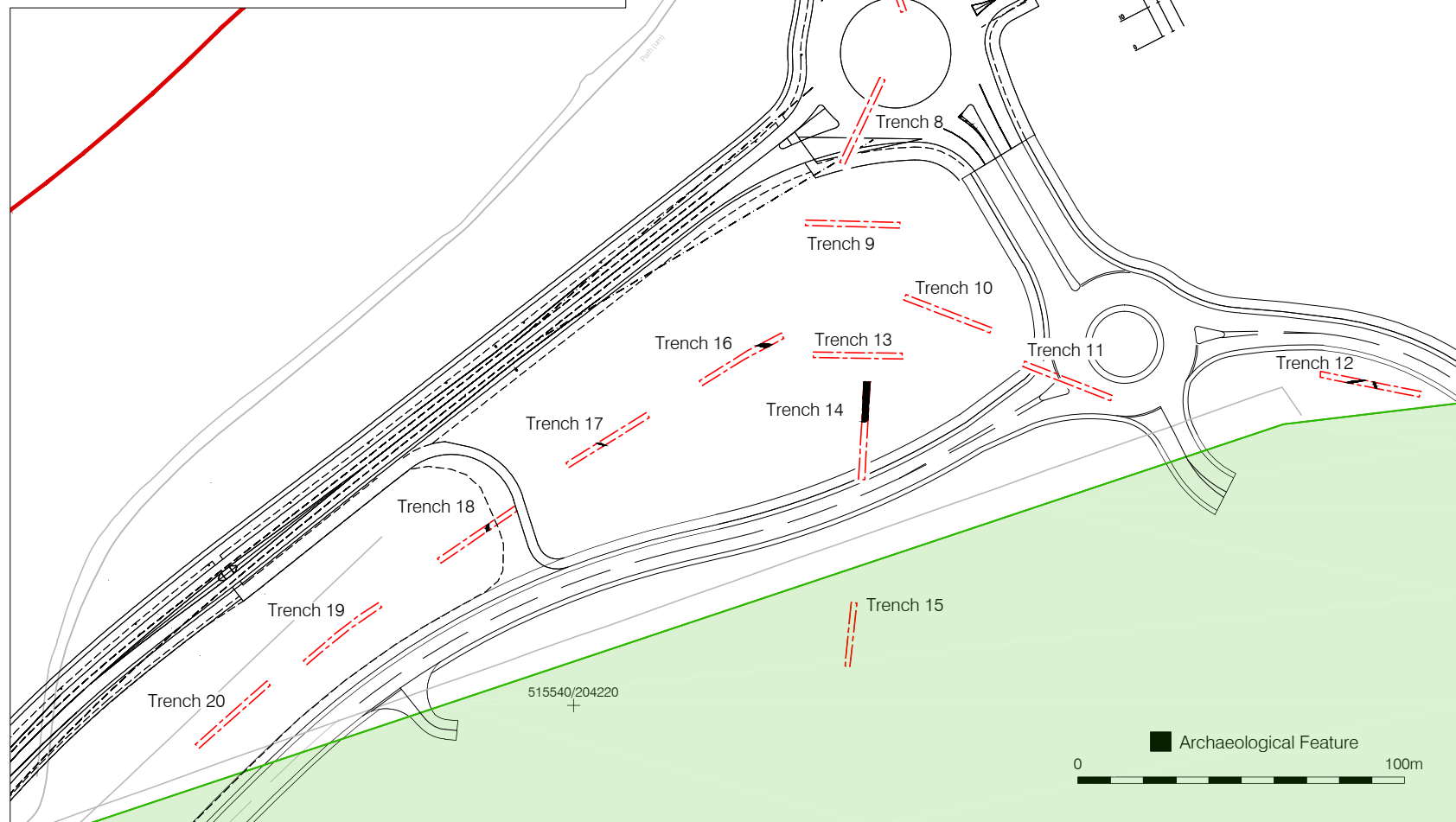
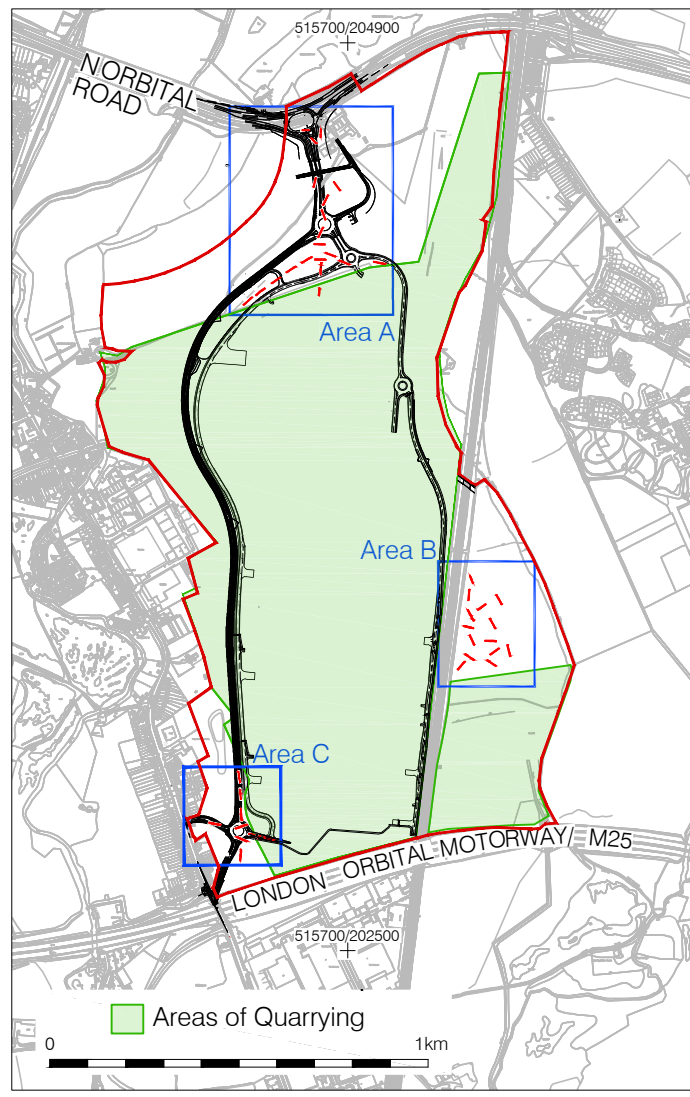


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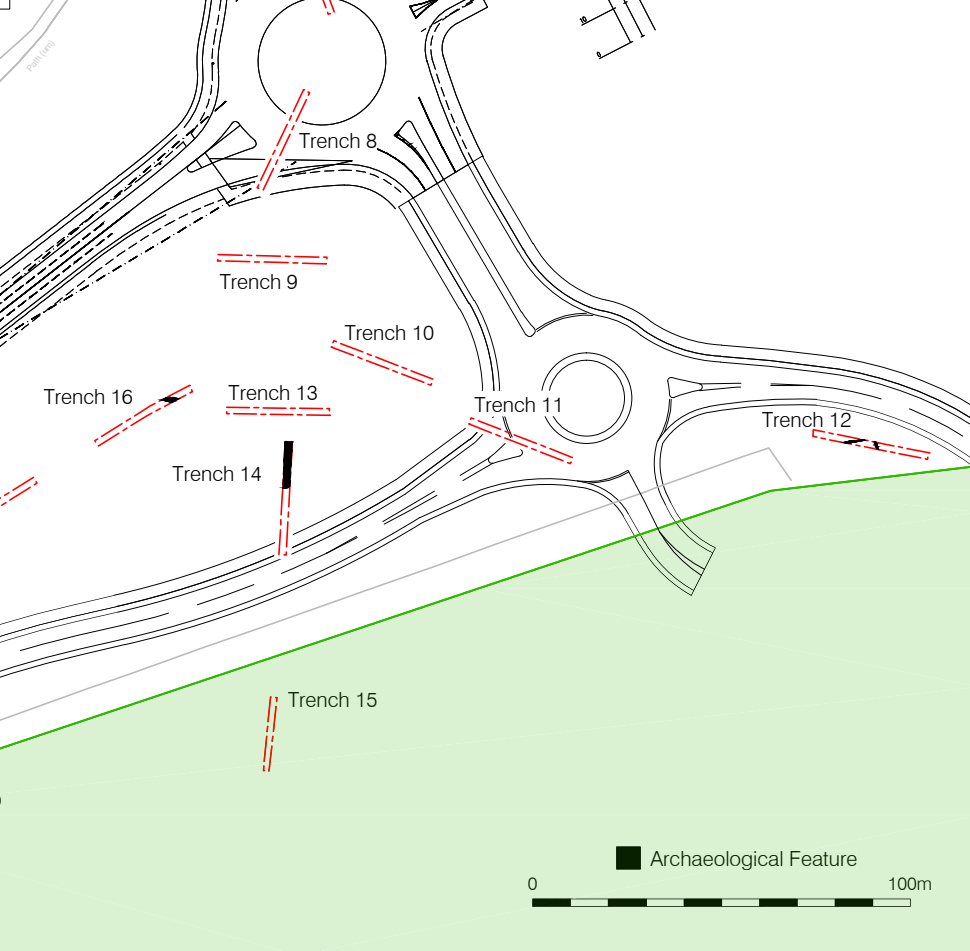
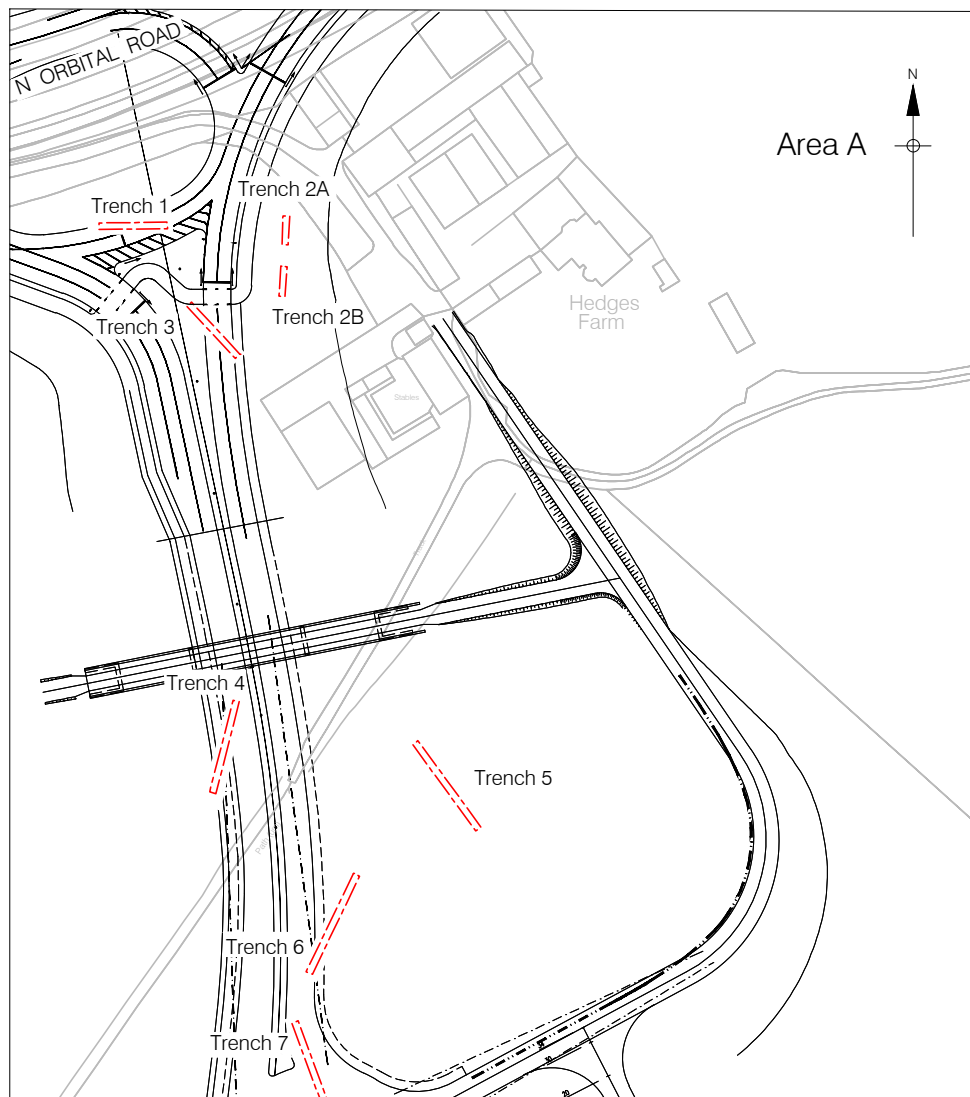
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Figure 1  
Site Location  
1:2,000,000; 1:50,000 at A4



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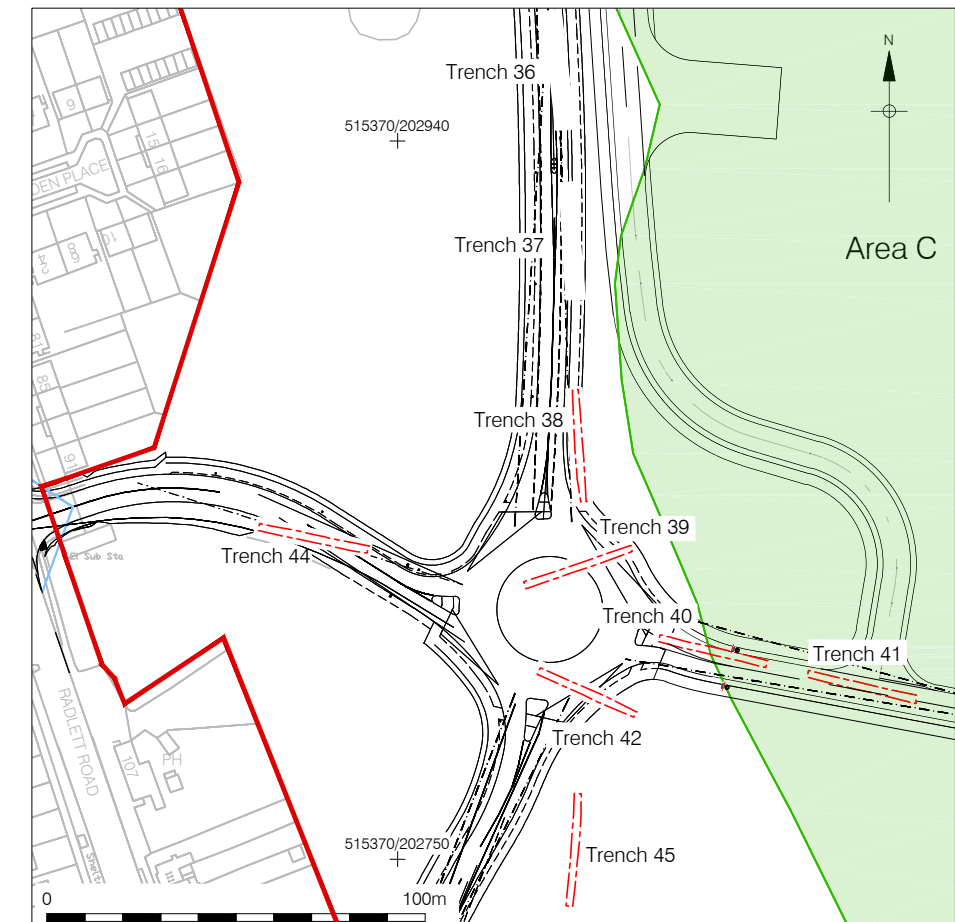
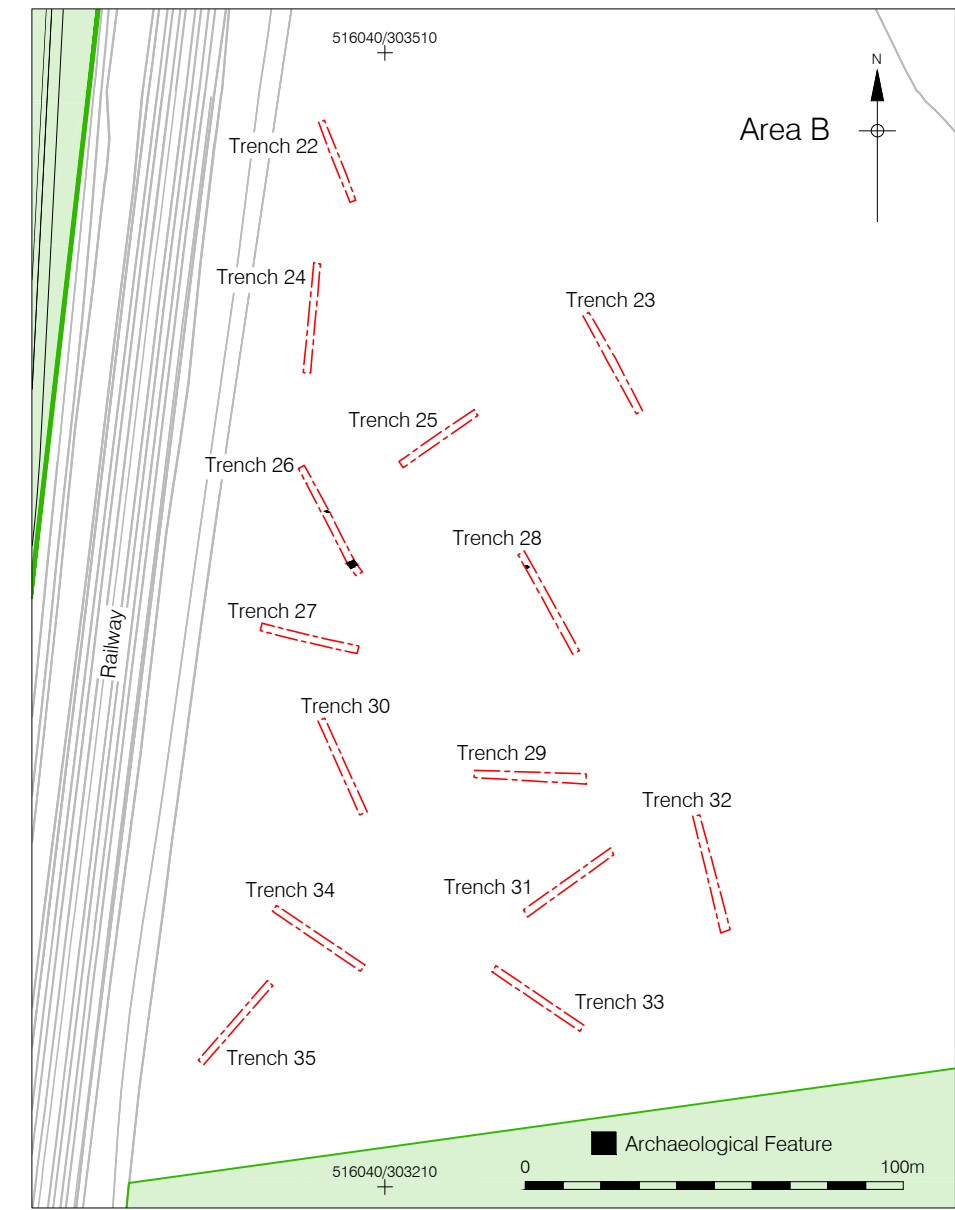
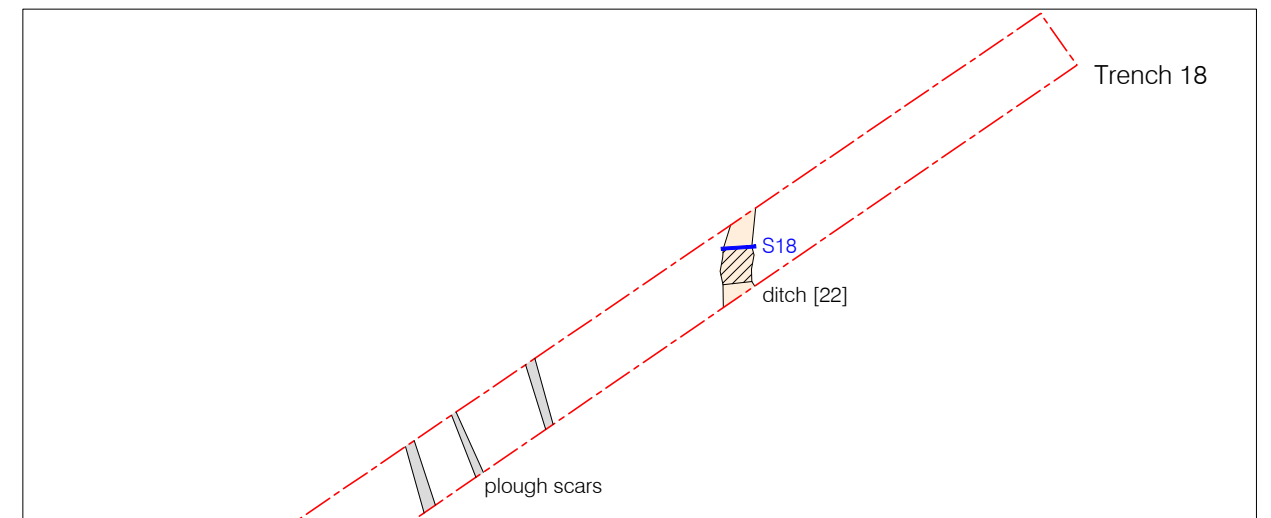
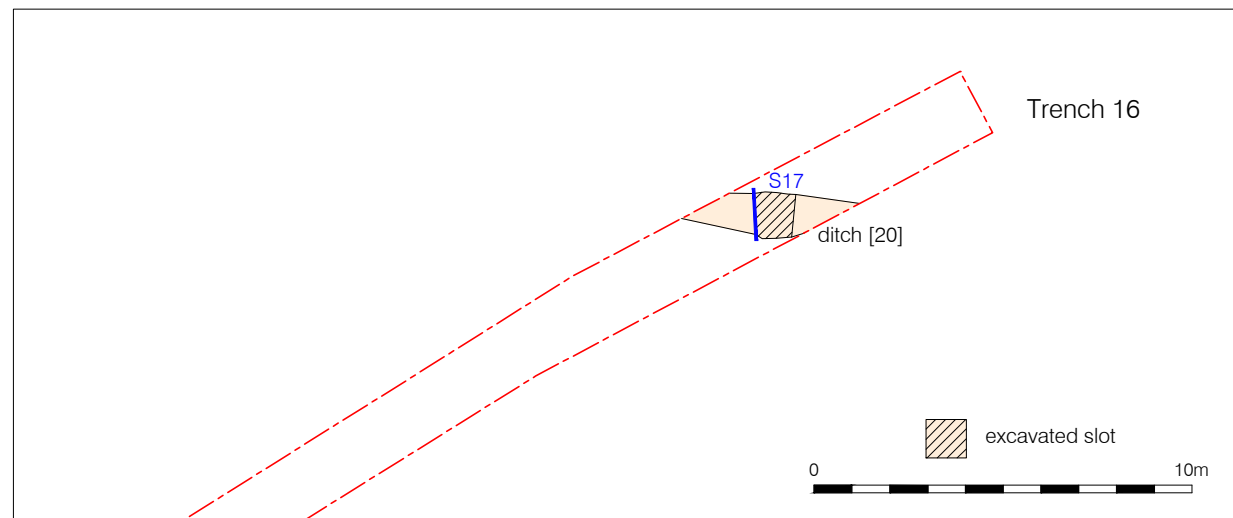
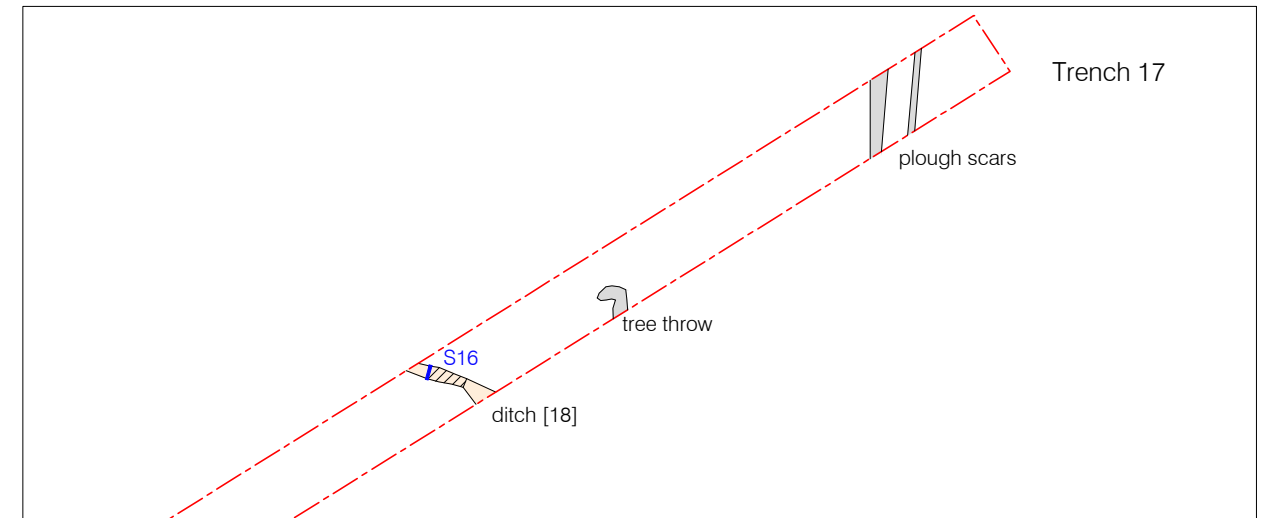
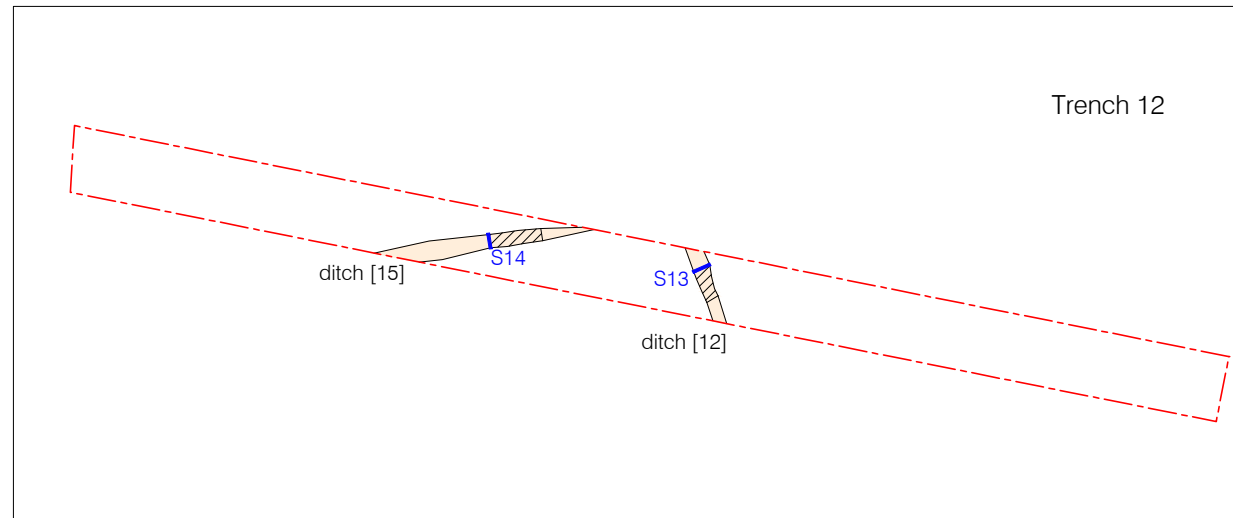
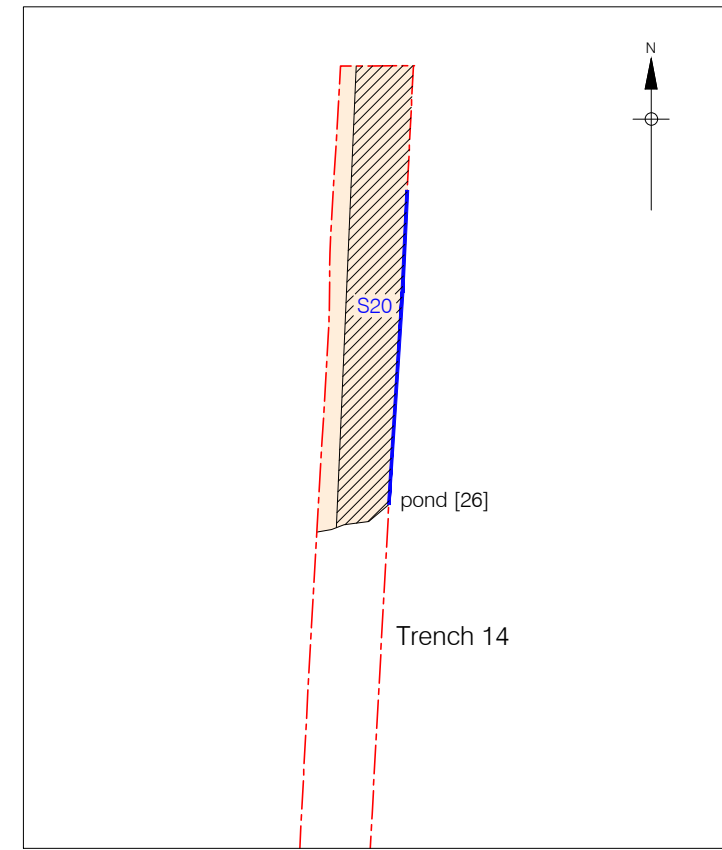
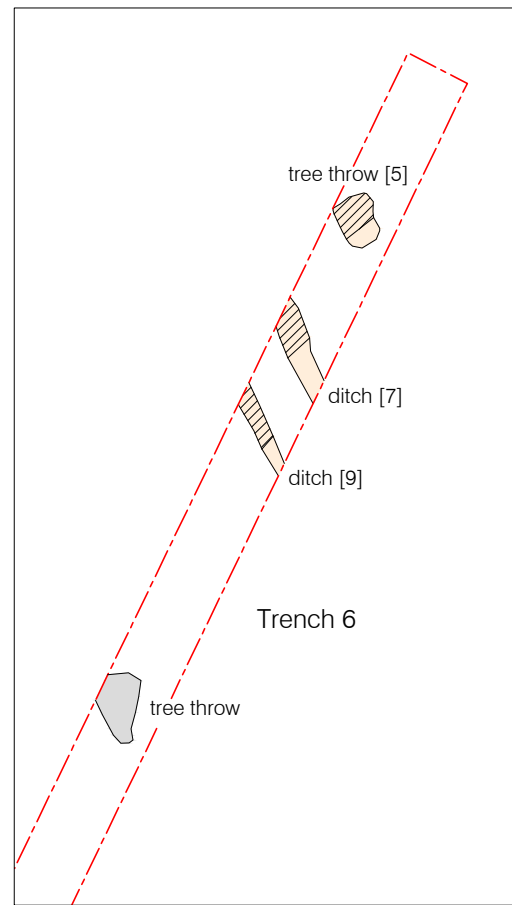
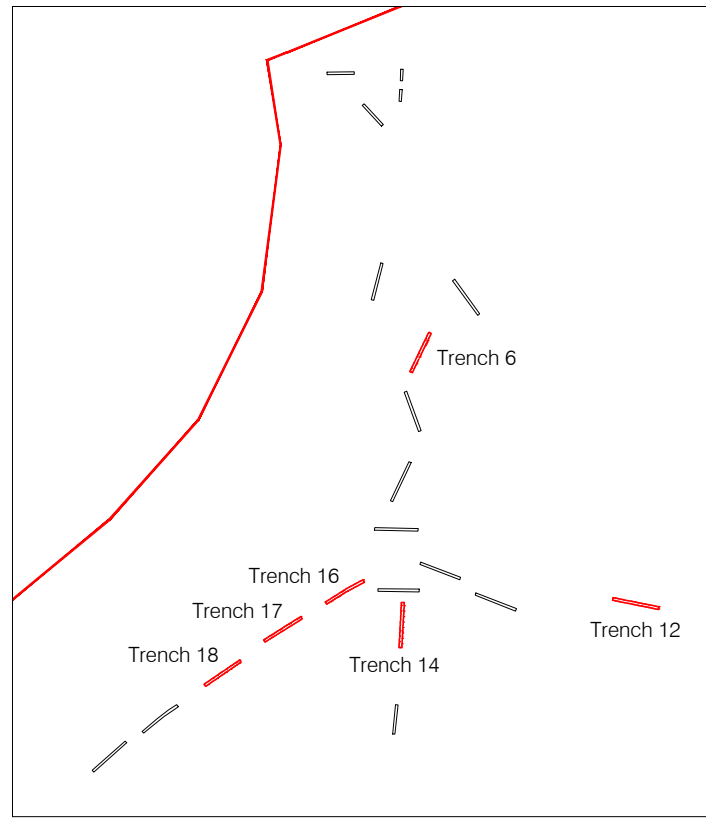


Figure 2  
 Trench Location and  
 Areas of Quarrying  
 1:20,000 and 2,000 at A3



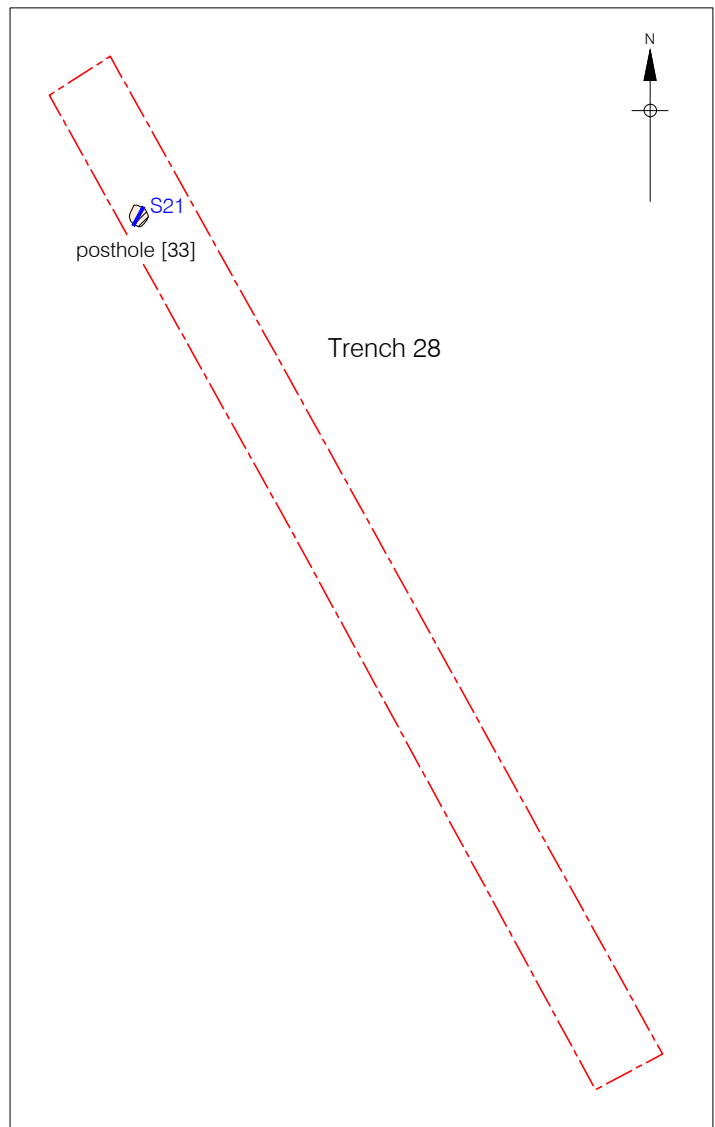
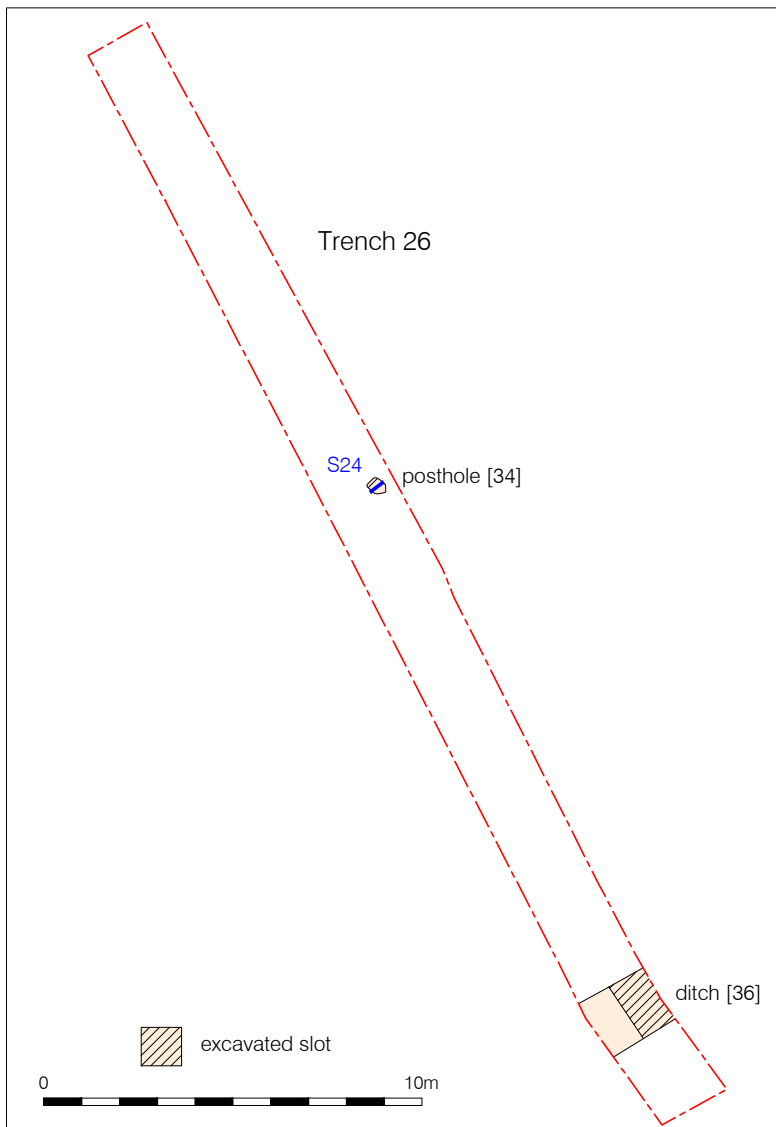
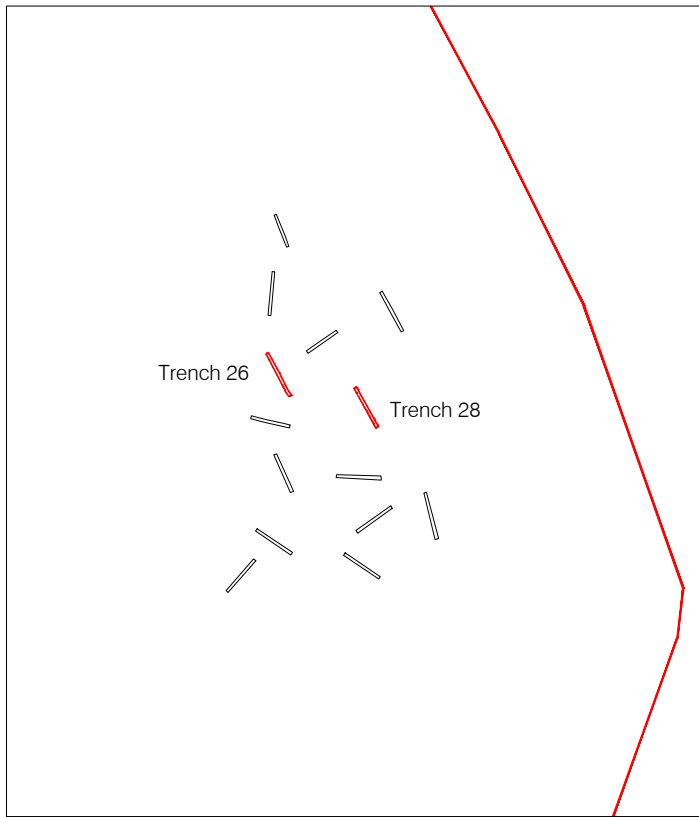
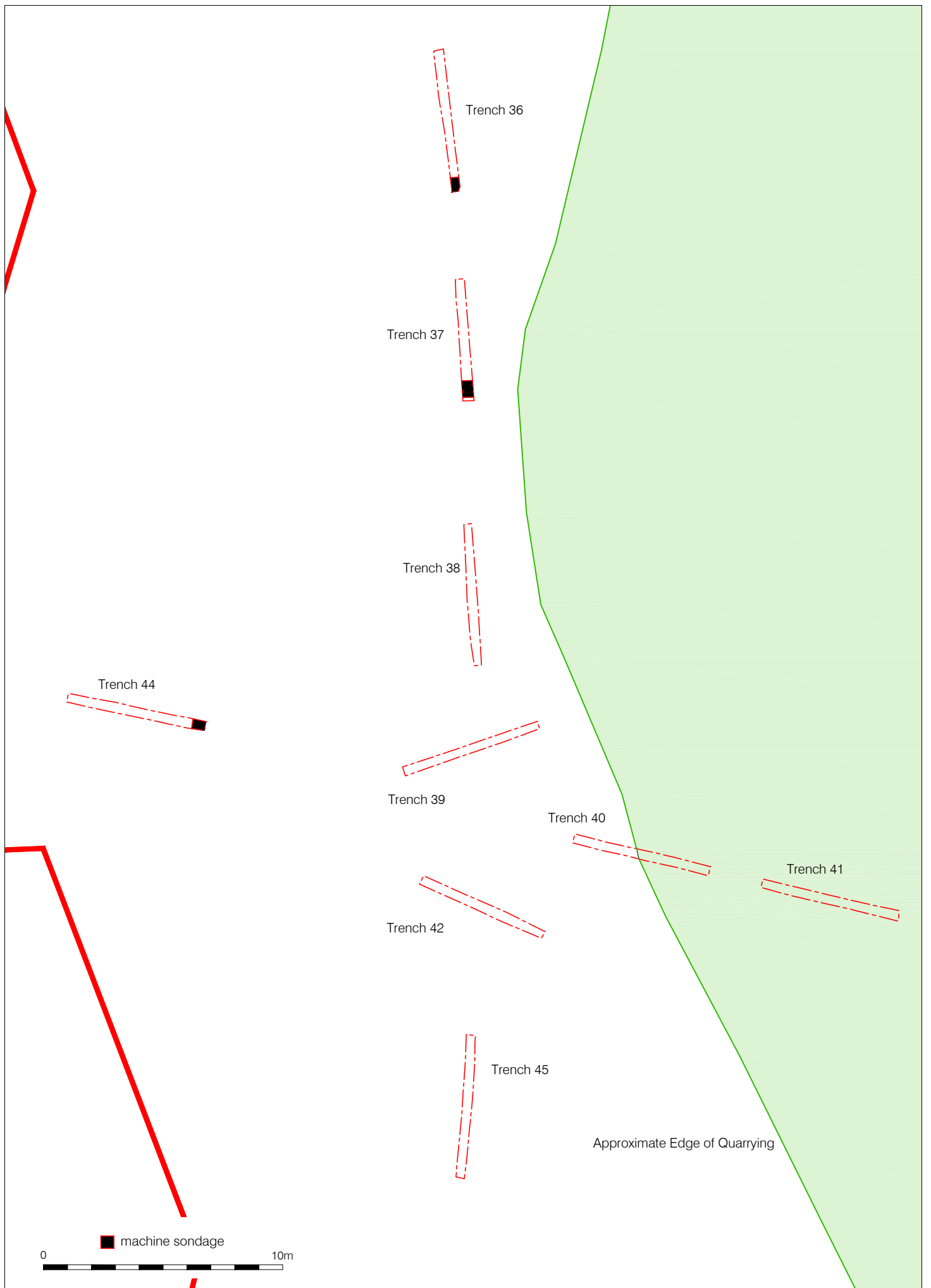
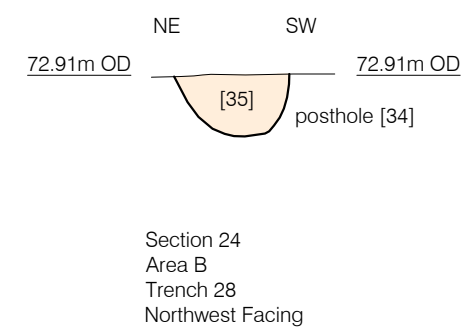
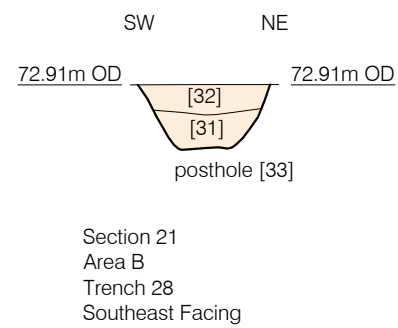
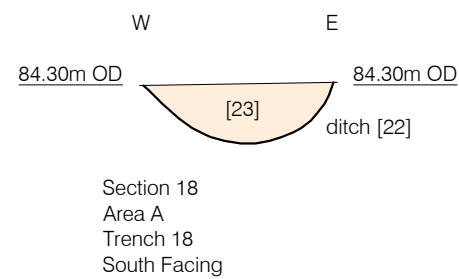
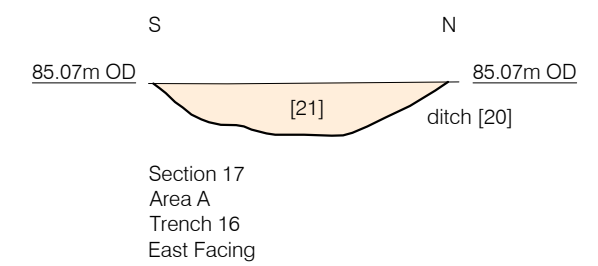
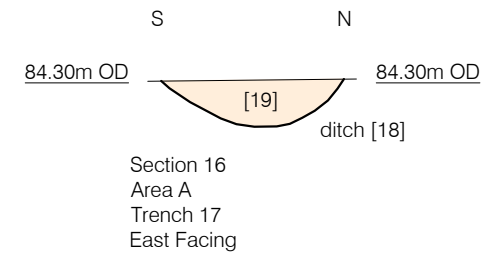
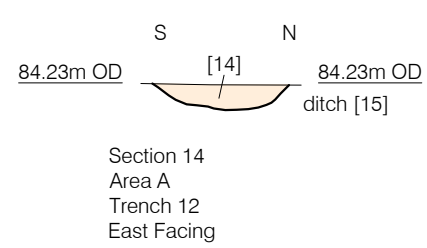
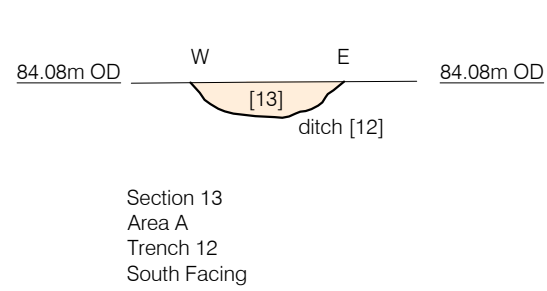
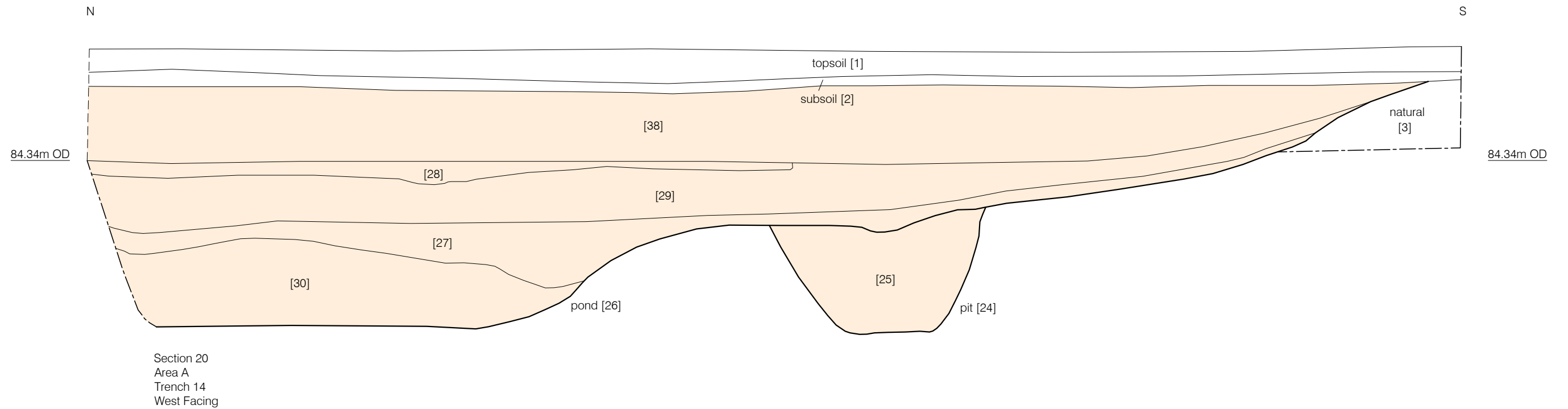


Figure 4  
Area B Plans  
1:5,000 and 1:200 at A4







0 1m  
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21/09/16 JS

Figure 6  
Sections  
1:25 at A3

## 10 APPENDIX 1: PLATES



Plate 1: Area A view east showing Trench 20 backfilled in foreground.



Plate 2: Area A view south towards Trench 12 from field entrance.



Plate 3: Area B view south. Railway line to right of picture.



Plate 4: Area C view east over area of former quarrying. Trench 39 in foreground.



Plate 5: Trench 12 Ditch [12] view north.



Plate 6: Trench 12 Ditch [15] view west.



Plate 7: Late Iron Age rim sherd from Ditch [18].



Plate 8: Late Iron Age rim sherd from Ditch [18].



Plate 9: Late Iron Age rim sherd from Ditch [18].



Plate 10: Late Iron Age pot from Ditch [18].



Plate 11: Trench 14. Chalky fill (28) of possible Romano-British dew pond [26] visible in foreground. View south.



Plate 12: Pond Feature [26] top and left, overlying tree feature [24] bottom right. View east.



Plate 13: Trench 28 Posthole [33]. View west.



Plate 14: Trench 37 modern made ground. View east.





Plate 15: Trench 40 Quarry backfill in foreground. Undisturbed natural towards far end of trench. View west.



Plate 16 Trench 39. Undisturbed natural ground [44]. View north.



Plate 15: Trench 44 modern made ground [45] to 1.80 m + view north.

## 11 APPENDIX 2: CONTEXT INDEX

Context	Cut	Type	Category	Interpretation	Trench Number
1	-	Layer	Topsoil	Overburden Area A	1-21
2	-	Layer	Subsoil	Overburden Area A	1-21
3	-	Layer	Natural	Superficial Geology Area A	1-21
4	Void	-	-	-	-
5	5	Cut	Natural feature	Tree Disturbance	6
6	5	Fill	Natural feature	Fill of [5]	6
7	7	Cut	Ditch	c.1940s Trackside Ditch	6
8	7	Fill	Ditch	Fill of [8]	6
9	9	Cut	Ditch	c. 1940s Trackside Ditch	6
10	9	Fill	Ditch	Fill of [9]	6
11	11	Layer	Track	c. 1940s Track	6
12	12	Cut	Ditch	Enclosure Ditch	12
13	12	Fill	Ditch	Fill of [12]	12
14	15	Fill	Ditch	Fill of [15]	12
15	15	Cut	Ditch	Enclosure Ditch	12
16	Void	-	-	-	-
17	Void	-	-	-	-
18	18	Cut	Ditch	Late Iron Age Ditch	17
19	18	Fill	Ditch	Fill of [18]	17
20	20	Cut	Ditch	Ditch	16
21	20	Fill	Ditch	Fill of [20]	16
22	22	Cut	Ditch	Ditch	18
23	22	Fill	Ditch	Fill of [22]	18
24	25	Cut	Natural Feature	Tree Disturbance?	14
25	24	Fill	Natural Feature	Fill of [24]	14
26	26	Cut	Pond	Roman Dew Pond	14
27	26	Fill	Pond	Fill of [26]	14
28	26	Fill	Pond	Fill of [26]	14
29	26	Fill	Pond	Fill of [26]	14
30	26	Fill	Pond	Fill of [26]	14
31	33	Fill	Posthole	Fill of [33]	28

32	33	Fill	Posthole	Fill of [33]	28
33	33	Cut	Posthole	Posthole	28
34	34	Cut	Posthole	Posthole	26
35	34	Fill	Posthole	Posthole	26
36	36	Cut	Ditch	Modern Ditch	26
37	36	Fill	Ditch	Fill of [36]	26
38	26	Fill	Pond	Fill of [26]	14
39	-	Layer	Topsoil	Overburden Area B	22-35
40	-	Layer	Subsoil	Overburden Area B	22-35
41	-	Layer	Natural	Superficial Geology Area B	22-35
42	-	Layer	Topsoil	Overburden Area C	36-46
43	-	Layer	Subsoil	Overburden Area C	36-46
44	-	Layer	Natural	Superficial Geology Area C	36-46
44	-	Layer	Natural	Superficial Geology Area C	36-46

## 12 APPENDIX 3: OASIS FORM

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**OASIS ID: preconst1-262777**

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### Project details

Project name	Radlett SRFI St Albans Hertfordshire: An Archaeological Evaluation
Short description of the project	<p>This report describes the results of an Archaeological Trial Trench Evaluation carried out by Pre-Construct Archaeology on land adjacent to the A414 at Radlett, St Albans, Hertfordshire (NGR TL 1558 0388). Three areas of archaeological trenching (A, B and C) comprising a total of 46 trenches was evaluated. Archaeological features were encountered in 7 of the 21 trenches in Area A. Archaeological features included 7 ditch features [7, 9, 12, 15, 18, 20, 22] and a probable Roman dew pond [26]. The ditch features were relatively narrow (c.0.50 m) and quite shallow (c. 0.15 m). Two ditch features in Trench 6 are modern, associated with a trackway dating to the c.1940s. Ditch features in Trench 12 were undated but seem to form part of an enclosure, possibly Prehistoric or Roman. Of the remaining 3 ditches, dating evidence was retrieved only from Ditch [18]. Two probable tree related features were excavated and recorded [5 and 24]. Evidence for archaeological remains in Area B was limited to 2 undated postholes, [33] and [34], excavated in Trenches 28 and 26 respectively. A modern feature containing wire, probably a ditch, was recorded at the southern end of Trench 2. No archaeological features were present in Area C. In general Area C seems to have been subject to significant modern (i.e. 20th century) disturbance relating to the former history of the site as an airfield and then a quarry. Made ground to the west of and near the south of the large bank near the western edge of the site (as seen in Trench 44) contains significant quantities of 20th century demolition rubble. This material probably results from the in situ demolition of airfield related buildings at the edge of the site.</p>
Project dates	Start: 22-08-2016 End: 09-09-2016
Previous/future work	Yes / Yes
Any project codes associated with reference codes	RAD16 - Sitecode
Type of project	Field evaluation
Current Land use	Cultivated Land 4 - Character Undetermined

Monument type	DITCH Late Iron Age
Monument type	POND Uncertain
Significant Finds	POTTERY Late Iron Age
Significant Finds	CBM Roman
Methods techniques	& "Targeted Trenches"
Development type	Rail links/railway-related infrastructure (including Channel Tunnel)
Prompt	Planning condition
Position in the planning process	Not known / Not recorded

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### Project location

Country	England
Site location	HERTFORDSHIRE ST ALBANS LONDON COLNEY Radlett SRFI
Postcode	AL22DD
Study area	0 Square metres
Site coordinates	TL 1558 0388 51.721249997556 -0.326556978939 51 43 16 N 000 19 35 W Point
Height OD / Depth	Min: 71.97m Max: 84.93m

---

### Project creators

Name of Organisation	PCA
Project brief originator	Hertfordshire County Council
Project design originator	CgMs Consulting Ltd.
Project director/manager	Taleyna Fletcher
Project supervisor	Alexander Pullen
Type of sponsor/funding body	Developer

---

### Project archives

Physical Archive Local museum  
recipient

Physical Contents "Ceramics"

Digital Archive Local Museum  
recipient

Digital Contents "Ceramics","Survey"

Digital Media "Survey"  
available

Paper Archive Local Museum  
recipient

Paper Contents "other"

Paper Media "Context sheet","Photograph","Section","Unpublished Text"  
available

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### Project bibliography 1

Publication type Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)

Title Radlett SRFI St Albans Hertfordshire: An Archaeological Evaluation

Author(s)/Editor(s) Pullen A G

Date 2016

Issuer or publisher Pre-Construct Archaeology

Place of issue or publication Pampisford

Description A4 Grey-Literature Report. c. 70 pages.

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Entered by Alexander Pullen (agp27@hotmail.com)

Entered on 16 September 2016

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