

**CAR PARK CONSTRUCTION SITE
SOUTHEND AIRPORT
ROCHFORD
ESSEX**

ARCHAEOLOGICAL MONITORING



**Essex County Council
Field Archaeology Unit**

JUNE 2010

**ESSEX HISTORIC ENVIRONMENT RECORD/ESSEX ARCHAEOLOGY AND HISTORY
SUMMARY SHEET**

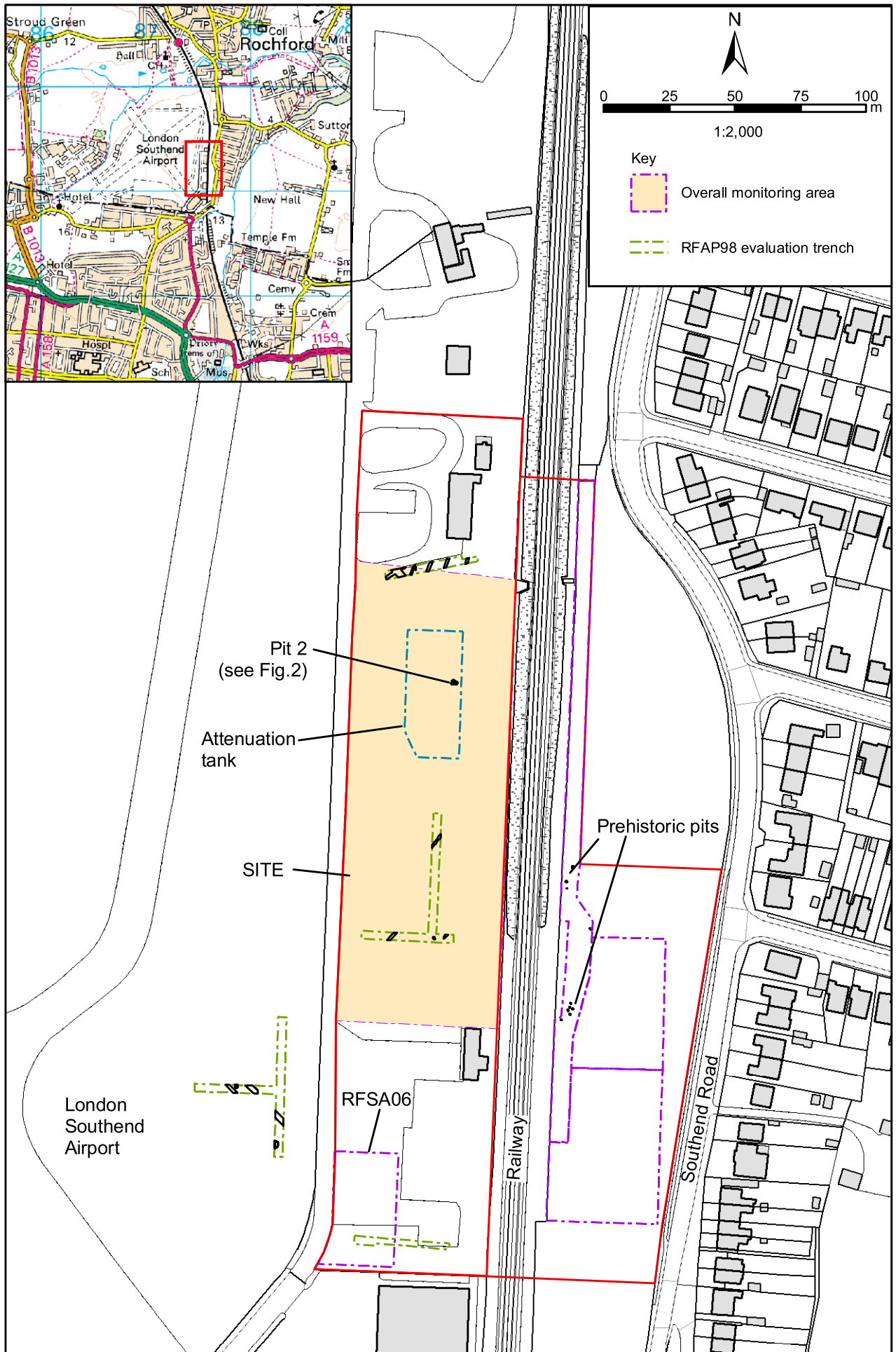
Site name/Address: Car Park Construction Site, London Southend Airport, Rochford, Essex	
Parish:	District: Rochford
NGR: TQ 8760 8905	Site Code: RFSA 06
Type of Work: Monitoring & recording	Site Director/Group: M. Atkinson, ECC FAU
Date of Work: 28/04/10 - 05/05/10	Size of Area Investigated: approx 1000sq m
Location of Finds/Curating Museum: Southend	Funding source: Client / developer
Further Seasons Anticipated?: No	Related HER Nos: 18227, 18228
Final Report: EAH annual round-up	Oasis ref: 20664
Periods Represented: Prehistoric, modern	
SUMMARY OF FIELDWORK RESULTS:	
<p>Monitoring and recording was carried-out during the construction of a car park immediately west of the Southend Victoria to London Liverpool Street railway line at Southend Airport. This was effectively a continuation of initial monitoring works undertaken in 2006, under the same site code. Of the total car park area of c.1.08ha, the southern third was judged to have been disturbed by previous airfield structures and their clearance and was not monitored. At the northern end, the excavation of a rainwater attenuation tank of c.1000sq m area was observed. The remainder of the car park site was judged not to be significantly impacted upon by construction works due to the presence of a c.0.7m depth of overburden and was not monitored.</p> <p>Within the area of the water tank excavations, a number of modern intrusions and petrol contamination were observed, all probably 20th century and associated with a WW2 airfield building that formerly sited at this location. Whether the bland 0.7m-thick deposit of yellow-brown ?brickearth-type material through which these modern features cut constituted a true overburden deposit is uncertain. However, it contained no artefacts of any date and no pre-modern features could be discerned within it. The only archaeologically-significant feature was the base of an elongated oval pit (Pit 002) that was identified 'below' this dubious overburden deposit.</p> <p>The shallow pit remains measured 2.35 x 1.45m and contained a yellowy mid-brown fill from which two pieces of worked flint debitage was retrieved. A prehistoric date for the pit is probable, as is its association with Bronze Age remains found by trenching and monitoring in the surrounding vicinity (EHER 16956, 18227, 46224).</p>	
Previous Summaries/Reports:	
<p><i>London Southend Airport: Archaeological Evaluation and Building Survey Report</i>, ECC FAU rep. 475, August 1998</p> <p><i>New Car Park, Southend Airport, Southend-on-Sea, Essex</i>, EHER summary, January 2007</p>	
Author of Summary: M. Atkinson	Date of Summary: 18/06/2010



General view of attenuation tank excavation. Looking south-east



Pit 002, looking east (0.5m scale)



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Fig.1. Location of monitored area

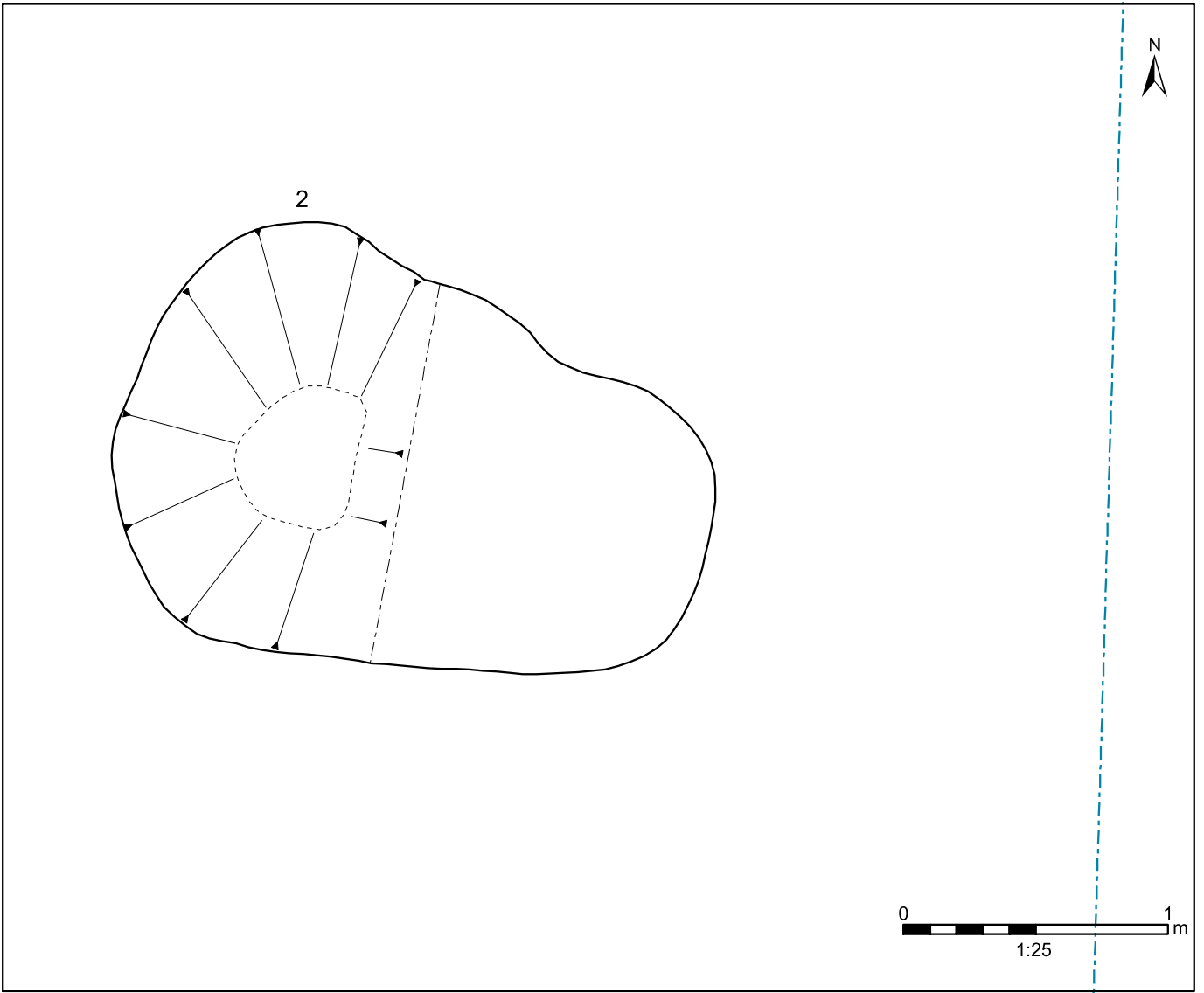


Fig.2. Plan of pit 2