

# HERITAGE NETWORK



## **THE FRYTHE Welwyn, Hertfordshire**

HN955

## ***ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION REPORT***



# *THE HERITAGE NETWORK LTD*

*Registered with the Institute of Field Archaeologists as an Archaeological Organisation*

Archaeological Director: David Hillelson, BA MIFA

## THE FRYTHE, Welwyn, Hertfordshire

Project ref.: HN955  
LPA ref.: N6/2011/0602/EI  
HER Consultation: 61/11

### *Archaeological Evaluation*

*Prepared on behalf of Lands Improvement Holdings*

by

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Report no.705

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*The cover illustration shows Trench 14, looking south-east*

## Acknowledgements

The fieldwork for this project was carried out by Greg Jones, James Snee, Robin Densem and Daniel Phillips. The report text and illustrations were prepared by Greg Jones and edited by David Hillelson.

The Heritage Network would like to express its thanks to: Kate Turner and Paul Jeal, Lands Improvement Holdings Luxembourg SARL; Andy Instone and Isobel Thompson, Historic Environment Unit, Hertfordshire County Council; for their co-operation and assistance in the execution of this project.

## Summary

<b>Site name and address:</b>	The Frythe, Digswell Hill, Welwyn, Hertfordshire, AL6 9AL		
<b>County:</b>	Hertfordshire	<b>District:</b>	Welwyn Hatfield
<b>Village/town:</b>	Welwyn	<b>Parish:</b>	Welwyn
<b>Planning reference:</b>	N6/2011/0602/EI	<b>NGR:</b>	TL 22522 15102
<b>Client name and address:</b>	Lands Improvement Holdings, 2-8 ave Charles de Gaulle, Luxembourg, L-1653		
<b>Nature of work:</b>	Field evaluation	<b>Current land use:</b>	Industrial
<b>Site Status:</b>	AAS	<b>Reason for investigation:</b>	Residential development
<b>Position in planning process:</b>	Awaiting determination	<b>Project brief originator:</b>	Local authority
<b>Size of affected area:</b>	c.100,000m <sup>2</sup>	<b>Size of area investigated:</b>	c.1360m <sup>2</sup>
<b>Site code:</b>	HN953	<b>Other reference</b>	n/a
<b>Organisation:</b>	Heritage Network	<b>Site Director:</b>	David Hillelson
<b>Project type, methods etc.:</b>	Field evaluation	<b>Archive Recipient:</b>	Welwyn Hatfield Museums
<b>Start of work:</b>	17/01/12	<b>Finish of work:</b>	08/02/12
<b>Related HER nos:</b>	HER 2807	<b>Periods represented</b>	Modern
<b>OASIS UID:</b>	heritage1-113121	<b>Significant finds:</b>	None
<b>Monument types:</b>	n/a	<b>Physical archive:</b>	n/a
<b>Previous summaries/reports:</b>	The Frythe, Digswell Hill, Welwyn, Herts.: Archaeological & Historic Building Impact Assessment. Heritage Network report no.672 (August 2011)		

### Synopsis:

In anticipation of a standard archaeological condition being placed on planning consent for redevelopment at The Frythe, Digswell Hill, Welwyn, Hertfordshire, the Heritage Network was commissioned by the owners to carry out an archaeological evaluation.

The development site lies within an Area of Archaeological Significance as defined in the District Local Plan, which notes that a number of Iron Age or Roman cremations have been found at the site, and that it has been associated with the Wilshere family since the 14th century. During the Second World War it housed Station IX, part of the Special Operations Executive.

It was considered that the evaluation had the potential to contribute to the further understanding of activity during the Prehistoric, Iron Age, Roman and Medieval periods, but no significant archaeological features or deposits were revealed. A solitary Late Bronze Age/Early Iron Age base sherd, recovered unstratified from the northern end of the site, does provide limited evidence for occupation at this period, however.

The 34 evaluation trenches clearly demonstrated the level of modern disturbance that had taken place across the site from the 19th century onwards, with evidence for major landscaping in the form of dumped deposits and make-up layers, construction of buildings in the form of strip footings and concrete hard-standing, and the presence service ducts and intrusive services. This supports the cartographic and documentary evidence, and the evidence from the geotechnical test-pitting programme, illustrated in the earlier Archaeological Impact Assessment.

The trial trenching programme has allowed the previously assessed risk that development of the site would encounter archaeological features, deposits and finds to be characterised, and reassessed. On this basis the risk that the development might disturb significant archaeological remains predating the Post-medieval and Modern periods, is considered to be *Low*.

# 1. Introduction

**1.1** This report has been prepared at the request of Lands Improvement Holdings, to cover a programme of archaeological work to be carried out as part of the proposed redevelopment of The Frythe, Digswell Hill, Welwyn, Hertfordshire.

**1.2** A planning application for the proposed development (ref: N6/2011/0602/EI) has been submitted to Welwyn Hatfield District Council (WHDC), but this had not been determined at the time that the present fieldwork was undertaken. Following discussions with the clients and with the Historic Environment Unit (HEU) of Hertfordshire County Council, as advisers to the WHDC, it was agreed that the programme of archaeological works should be commenced in advance of the proposed demolition and remediation programme. The archaeological work anticipates a standard archaeological condition, to be issued in accordance with the provisions set out in the Department of Communities and Local Government's *Planning Policy Statement 5: Planning for the Historic Environment* (PPS5), being attached to any planning consent granted for the development.

**1.3** The Frythe lies on the southern edge of Welwyn, on the west side of Digswell Hill, centred on NGR TL 22522 15102. It lies within an *Area of Archaeological Significance* as defined in the District Local Plan. The county Historic Environment Record (HER) notes that a number of Iron Age or Roman cremations (HER 2807) have been found at the site, which has been associated with the Wilshere family since the 14<sup>th</sup> century. During the Second World War it housed Station IX, part of the Special Operations Executive (Figure 1).

**1.4** The proposed development entails the demolition of existing modern industrial structures, the demolition of two magazines of Second World War date, the conversion of the country house to residential purposes, and the development of the site for residential use, with associated services and landscaping.

**1.5** An archaeological and historic building impact assessment (Ashworth & Hillelson 2011) has previously been prepared, and this has informed the Archaeology and Cultural Heritage chapter of the Environmental Statement that has been submitted by the clients to WHDC in support of their planning application. The assessment report included data from the archaeological monitoring of a programme of geotechnical test pitting across the site. The results of this work have allowed the identification of areas of high, moderate, low and negligible archaeological potential on the site.

## 2. Fieldwork

### TOPOGRAPHY AND GEOLOGY

**2.1** The study area is located on the southern edge of Welwyn, on an east facing slope above a shallow dry valley which feeds into the valley of the River Mimram to the north-east.

**2.2** Locally the soils belong to the Hornbeam 3 Association (582d) described as *Deep fine loamy over clayey and clayey soils with slowly permeable subsoils and slight seasonal water logging. Some slowly permeable seasonally waterlogged fine loamy over clayey soils. Calcareous subsoils in places* (SSEW 1983).

**2.3** The solid geology across most of the study area comprises clay, silt and sands of the Lambeth Group, overlain by chalky till of the Lowestoft Formation (British Geological Society website). This is characterised by its chalk and flint content. At the northern edge of the site the solid geology changes to Chalk of the Lewes Nodular Formation and Seaford Formation, overlain by sands and gravels of the Kesgrave Catchment Subgroup which were deposited by the pre-diversionary Thames (ibid).

### METHODOLOGY

**2.4** All fieldwork was carried out in accordance with the approved Project Design, current health and safety legislation, and the appropriate IFA and ALGAO guidance documents.

**2.5** Prior to excavation all of the trench locations were scanned for live services using a CAT scanner and signal generator.

**2.6** All trenches were located by triangulation from known points using fibreglass tape measures. They were opened using a 180° wheeled excavator, with a 1.6m wide toothless ditching bucket fitted to its back actor, and machined to the first significant archaeological horizon, or to the natural geological horizon, as appropriate. Spoil from the machining was inspected for archaeological artefacts. A sondage was cut in each trench to confirm that natural deposits had been reached.

**2.7** The trenches were cleaned by hand, and any potential archaeological features and deposits were sampled to ascertain their nature, depth, date, and quality of preservation.

**2.8** All identified contexts were photographed and recorded using the appropriate proforma. Scaled plans and sections were drawn on drafting film at scales of 1:10 and 1:20.

### RESULTS

**2.9** Thirty-four trenches were planned across the proposed development areas, each measuring approximately 25m by 1.6m. Due to circumstances encountered on the site, such as existing services or the proximity of protected trees, some of the planned trenches were reduced in size, or were split into smaller trenches that were labelled 'A' & 'B'.

**Trench 1**

**2.10** Trench 1 was located at the northern end of the site (Figure 2). It was orientated northwest - southeast and measured 25m in length, 1.6m in width and was excavated to a depth of up to 0.85m.

**Trench 1 data:**

<b>Length (m):</b>	25	<b>Width (m):</b>	1.5	<b>Maximum Depth (m):</b>	0.85	<b>Orientation</b>	NW-SE
<b>Level at NW End (mOD)</b>		<b>Top</b>	c.116	<b>Level at SE End (mOD)</b>		<b>Top</b>	c.116
		<b>Base</b>	c.115.15			<b>Base</b>	c.115.15
<b>Context</b>	<b>Type</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Dimensions (m)</b>				
			<b>Length</b>	<b>Width</b>	<b>Depth</b>		
-	Layer	Dark brown (10YR 3/3), occ. brick and gravel, loose, clay silt topsoil.	25+	1.6+	0.40		
-	Layer	Dark greyish brown (10YR 4/2), silty clay frequent gravel subsoil.	25+	1.6+	0.30		
-	Natural	Light yellowish brown (10YR 6/4) sticky clay. Very clean.	25+	1.6+	-		

**2.11** The stratigraphy in the trench consisted of 0.40m dark brown (10YR 3/3), loose, clay silt overburden with occasional inclusions of gravel and 20<sup>th</sup> century brick and debris, over dark greyish brown (10YR 4/2), silty clay subsoil with frequent inclusions of gravel. Beneath this was the light yellowish brown (10YR 6/4), clean sticky clay natural.

**2.12** No archaeological features, deposits or finds were present in this trench.

**Trench 2**

**2.13** Trench 2 was located immediately to the north west of Trench 1 at the north end of the site (Figure 2). It formed an L-shape in order to skirt a landscaped mound of earlier spoil, the two arms being orientated SW-NE and NW-SE. The total length of the trench was 25m, it was 1.6m wide and machined to a depth of c.0.8m.

**Trench 2 data:**

<b>Length (m):</b>	25	<b>Width (m):</b>	1.6	<b>Maximum Depth (m):</b>	0.8	<b>Orientation</b>	NW-SE/NE-SW
<b>Level at NE-SW End (mOD)</b>		<b>Top</b>	c.116	<b>Level at NE -SW End (mOD)</b>		<b>Top</b>	c.116
		<b>Base</b>	c.115.2			<b>Base</b>	c.115.2
<b>Context</b>	<b>Type</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Dimensions (m)</b>				
			<b>Length</b>	<b>Width</b>	<b>Depth</b>		
-	Layer	Dark greyish brown (10YR 4/2) clay/silt with sand and frequent gravel overburden. Contained Late Bronze Age/ Early Iron Age base sherds.	25+	1.6+	0.8		
-	Natural	Very pale brown (10YR 7/4) clean clay with sand.	25+	1.6+	-		

**2.14** The stratigraphy in the trench consisted of an 0.7m overburden of dark greyish brown (10YR 4/2) clay/silt with sand and frequent gravel. This layer was derived from the adjacent spoil heap, apparently created when the nearby Building 18 was constructed. Beneath this

layer was the natural substratum which consisted of very pale brown (10YR 7/4) clean clay with sand.

**2.15** One virtually complete base sherd of Late Bronze Age/Early Iron Age (LBA/AIA) flint tempered pottery was uncovered unstratified from the overburden.

**2.16** No other archaeological features, deposits or finds were present in this trench.

### Trench 3

**2.17** Trench 3 was located to the south west of Trench 2 at the northern end of the site (Figure 2). It was orientated east-west and measured 25m in length, 1.6m in width and was excavated to a depth of *c.*0.5m.

#### Trench 3 data:

Length (m):	25	Width (m):	1.6	Maximum Depth (m):	0.5	Orientation	W-E
Context	Type	Description	Dimensions (m)				
			Length	Width	Depth		
-	Layer	Dark greyish brown (10YR 3/2) silty clay, occasional pebbles.	25+	1.6+	0.4		
-	Natural	Very pale brown (10YR 7/4) clean sandy clay with gravel.	25+	25+	-		

**2.18** The stratigraphy in the trench consisted of *c.*0.4m of dark greyish brown (10YR 3/2) silty clay overburden overlying the natural substratum, which consisted of very pale brown (10YR 7/4) clean sandy clay with gravel.

**2.19** No archaeological features, deposits or finds were present in this trench.

### Trench 4

**2.20** Trench 4 was located to the south west of Trench 3 and was orientated northeast-northwest (Figure 2). It measured 25m in length, 1.6m wide and was machined to a depth of *c.*0.6m.

#### Trench 4 data:

Length (m):	25	Width (m):	1.6	Maximum Depth (m):	0.6	Orientation	NE-SW
Context	Type	Description	Dimensions (m)				
			Length	Width	Depth		
-	Layer	Weak red (10YR 5/3) crushed stone make up layer	25+	1.6+	0.4		
-	Natural	Reddish yellow (7.5YR 6/8) sandy gravel.	25+	1.6+	-		

**2.21** The stratigraphy in the trench consisted of *c.*0.4m of weak red (10YR 5/3) crushed stone make-up material overlying the natural substratum, which consisted of reddish yellow (7.5YR 6/8) sandy gravel.



**2.22** No archaeological features, deposits or finds were present in this trench.

### Trench 5

**2.23** Trench 5 was located to the southwest of Trench 4 and was orientated roughly northwest-southeast (Figure 2). It measured 25m in length, 1.6m wide and was machined to a depth of c.0.8m

#### Trench 5 data:

Length (m):	25	Width (m):	1.6	Maximum Depth (m):	0.7	Orientation	NW-SE
Context	Type	Description	Dimensions (m)				
			Length	Width	Depth		
-	Layer	Weak red (10YR 5/3) crushed red stone under tarmac.	25+	1.6+	0.4		
-	Natural	Yellowish brown (10YR 6/6) banded clay & sand and gravel.	25+	1.6+	-		

**2.24** The stratigraphy in the trench consisted of c.0.4m of weak red (10YR 5/3) crushed stone make-up material overlying the natural substratum, which consisted of yellowish brown (10YR 6/6) banded clay and sandy gravel.

**2.25** No archaeological features, deposits or finds were present in this trench.

### Trench 6

**2.26** Trench 6 was located to the south of Trench 5 and was orientated roughly east-west (Figure 2). It measured 25m in length, 1.6m wide and was machined to a depth of c.0.7m.

Length (m):	25	Width (m):	1.6	Maximum Depth (m):	0.7	Orientation	E-W
Context	Type	Description	Dimensions (m)				
			Length	Width	Depth		
-	Layer	Dark brown (10YR 3/3) clay silt with sand topsoil overburden with moderate gravel.	25+	1.6+	0.2		
-	Layer	Yellowish brown (10YR 5/4) silty sand & gravel subsoil.	25+	1.6+	0.4		
-	Natural	Brownish yellow (10YR 6/6) clean silty clay natural with sand.	25+	1.6+	-		

**2.27** The stratigraphy in the trench consisted of c.0.2m of topsoil/overburden of dark brown (10YR 3/3) clay silt with sand, overlying yellowish brown (10YR 5/4) silty sand & gravel subsoil that sealed the natural substratum, which consisted of brownish yellow (10YR 6/6) clean silty clay natural with sand.

**2.28** Excavation encountered water main services running along the length of the trench. Great care was taken during machining to ensure that these were not damaged.

**2.29** No archaeological features, deposits or finds were present in this trench.

**Trench 7A**

**2.30** Trench 7A was located to the northeast of Trench 6 and was orientated northwest-southeast (Figure 2). Because of the proximity of protected trees, the trench was reduced to 20m in length; it was 1.6m in width and was excavated to a depth of 0.9m.

**2.31** The stratigraphy in the trench consisted of a topsoil of dark greyish brown (10YR 4/2) clay silt with sand, with frequent gravel, overlying brownish yellow (10YR 6/6) clean silty clay with sand natural.

**Trench 7A data:**

<b>Length (m):</b>	20	<b>Width (m):</b>	1.6	<b>Maximum Depth (m):</b>	0.9	<b>Orientation</b>	NW-SE
<b>Context</b>	<b>Type</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Dimensions (m)</b>				
			<b>Length</b>	<b>Width</b>	<b>Depth</b>		
-	Layer	Dark greyish brown (10YR 4/2) clay silt with sand topsoil overburden with frequent gravel.	20+	1.6+	0.9		
-	Natural	Brownish yellow (10YR 6/6) clean silty clay natural with sand.	20+	1.6+	-		

**2.1** No archaeological features, deposits or finds were present in this trench.

**Trench 7B**

**2.2** Trench 7B was located to the east of Trench 7A and was orientated north-south (Figure 2). Due to nearby services the trench was reduced to 23m in length; it was 1.6m wide and was excavated to a depth of 1.35m.

<b>Length (m):</b>	23	<b>Width (m):</b>	1.6	<b>Maximum Depth (m):</b>	1.35	<b>Orientation</b>	N-S
<b>Level at N End (mOD)</b>		<b>Top</b>	115.96	<b>Level at S End (mOD)</b>		<b>Top</b>	115.76
		<b>Base</b>	114.61			<b>Base</b>	114.41
<b>Context</b>	<b>Type</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Dimensions (m)</b>				
			<b>Length</b>	<b>Width</b>	<b>Depth</b>		
(701)	Layer	Weak red (10YR 5/3) crushed red stone under tarmac.	23+	1.6+	0.35		
(702)	Layer	Dark greyish brown (2.5Y 4/2) gritty sand & clay silt make up.	23+	1.6+	0.3		
(703)	Layer	Yellowish brown (10YR 5/4) clay silt make up.	23+	1.6+	0.45		
-	Natural	Brownish yellow (10YR 6/6) clean silty clay natural with sand.	23+	1.6+	-		

**2.3** The stratigraphy in Trench 7B consisted of weak red (10YR 5/3) crushed red stone make-up material under tarmac (701), over a dark greyish brown (2.5Y 4/2) gritty sand & clay silt make-up layer (702), over a yellowish brown (10YR 5/4) clay silt make-up layer (703), which sealed the natural substratum of brownish yellow (10YR 6/6) clean silty clay with sand.

**2.4** No archaeological features, deposits or finds were present in this trench

### Trench 8

2.5 Trench 8 was located to the south of Trench 7B and was orientated northwest-southeast (Figure 2). Due to the presence of electrical services and water mains, Trench 8 was reduced to 17.5m in length; it was 1.6m in width and was excavated to a depth of 0.8m.

#### Trench 8 data:

<b>Length (m):</b>	17.5	<b>Width (m):</b>	1.6	<b>Maximum Depth (m):</b>	0.8	<b>Orientation</b>	NW-SE
<b>Context</b>	<b>Type</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Dimensions (m)</b>				
			<b>Length</b>	<b>Width</b>	<b>Depth</b>		
-	Layer	Dark greyish brown (10YR 4/2) clay silt with sand topsoil overburden with moderate gravel.	17.5+	1.6+	0.45		
-	Layer	Yellowish brown (10YR 4/4) clean clay silt with sand subsoil.	17.5+	1.6+	0.35		
-	Natural?	Brownish yellow (10YR 6/4) sand with clay silt .	17.5+	1.6+	-		

2.6 The stratigraphy in Trench 8 consisted of a topsoil of dark greyish brown (10YR 4/2) clay silt with sand with moderate gravel, over a yellowish brown (10YR 4/4) clean clay silt with sand subsoil, which sealed the brownish yellow (10YR 6/4) sand with clay silt natural.

2.7 Trench 8 was heavily disturbed by modern services and previous landscaping, and revealed no archaeological features, deposits or finds.

### Trench 9

2.8 Trench 9 was located directly to the east of Trench 7B and was orientated northeast-southwest (Figure 2). The trench was reduced to 13m in length because of its location on a slope; it was 1.6m in width and was excavated to a depth of 1.7m.

<b>Length (m):</b>	13	<b>Width (m):</b>	1.6	<b>Maximum Depth (m):</b>	1.7	<b>Orientation</b>	NE-SW	
<b>Level at NE End (mOD)</b>			<b>Top</b>	113.86	<b>Level at SW End (mOD)</b>		<b>Top</b>	114.65
			<b>Base</b>	112.16			<b>Base</b>	113.05
<b>Context</b>	<b>Type</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Dimensions (m)</b>					
			<b>Length</b>	<b>Width</b>	<b>Depth</b>			
-	Layer	Brown (10YR 4/3) clay silt with sand overburden.	13+	1.6+	0.2			
(901)	Layer	Yellowish brown (10YR 4/4) clay silt with sand and frequent brick fragments. Infill/dumping layer.	13+	1.6+	1.3			
(902)	Layer	Yellow (10YR 7/6) sand with clay silt and frequent brick fragments. Infill/dumping layer.	13+	1.6+	0.2			

2.9 The stratigraphy of Trench 9 consisted of two layers of dumped material beneath the overburden, dated to the 1970s by a mackerel tin and a crisp packet in Layer (902). The natural substratum was not reached in Trench 9.

2.10 No archaeological features, deposits or finds were present in this trench.

**Trench 10A**

**2.11** Trench 10, to the south of Trench 9, was divided into two parts, 10A & 10B, because of the presence of services. Trench 10A was orientated northwest-southeast (Figure 2), measured 15m in length, 1.6m in width, and was excavated to a depth of 1.1m.

<b>Length (m):</b>	15	<b>Width (m):</b>	1.6	<b>Maximum Depth (m):</b>	1.1	<b>Orientation</b>	NW-SE
<b>Level at NW End (mOD)</b>		<b>Top</b>	111.53	<b>Level at SE End (mOD)</b>		<b>Top</b>	113.00
		<b>Base</b>	110.43			<b>Base</b>	111.90
<b>Context</b>	<b>Type</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Dimensions (m)</b>				
			<b>Length</b>	<b>Width</b>	<b>Depth</b>		
-	Layer	Dark brown (10YR 3/3) clay silt with sand overburden with occ. chalk and occ. gravel.	15+	1.6+	0.6		
-	Layer	Yellowish brown (10YR 6/6) clean clay silt gravel natural.	15+	1.6+	0.5		

**2.12** The stratigraphy in Trench 10A consisted of dark brown (10YR 3/3) clay silt with sand overburden with occasional chalk and gravel, overlying yellowish brown (10YR 6/6) clean clay silty gravel natural. A service trench containing an electrical cable bisected the trench on a diagonal alignment along its full length.

**2.13** No archaeological features, deposits or finds were present in this trench.

**Trench 10B**

**2.14** Trench 10B was orientated northwest-southeast (Figure 2), measured 6m in length, 1.6m in width, and was excavated to a depth of 1.2m.

**Trench 10B data:**

<b>Length (m):</b>	6	<b>Width (m):</b>	1.6	<b>Maximum Depth (m):</b>	1.2	<b>Orientation</b>	NW-SE
<b>Level at NW End (mOD)</b>		<b>Top</b>	114	<b>Level at SE End (mOD)</b>		<b>Top</b>	111.85
		<b>Base</b>	112.80			<b>Base</b>	110.65
<b>Context</b>	<b>Type</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Dimensions (m)</b>				
			<b>Length</b>	<b>Width</b>	<b>Depth</b>		
-	Layer	Dark greyish brown (10YR 4/2) clay silt with sand overburden with occ. gravel.	6+	1.6+	0.2		
(1001)	Layer	Very pale brown (10YR 7/4) clay silt gravel with plastic bag/polystyrene fragments. Dumping layer.	6+	1.6+	1		

**2.15** The stratigraphy in Trench 10B consisted of dark greyish brown (10YR 4/2) clay silt with sand overburden with occasional gravel, overlying a very pale brown (10YR 7/4) modern clay silt gravel dump (1001), which contained a plastic bag and polystyrene fragments.

**2.16** No archaeological features, deposits or finds were present in this trench.

**Trench 11**

**2.17** Trench 11 was located to the east of Trenches 10A & B and was orientated roughly north-south (Figure 2). The trench measured 24m in length, 1.6m in width and was excavated to a depth of 0.9m.

**Trench 11 data:**

<b>Length (m):</b>	24	<b>Width (m):</b>	1.6	<b>Maximum Depth (m):</b>	0.9	<b>Orientation</b>	N-S
<b>Level at N End (mOD)</b>		<b>Top</b>	109.33	<b>Level at S End (mOD)</b>		<b>Top</b>	109.32
		<b>Base</b>	108.43			<b>Base</b>	109.42
<b>Context</b>	<b>Type</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Dimensions (m)</b>				
			<b>Length</b>	<b>Width</b>	<b>Depth</b>		
-	Layer	Tarmac overlying concrete. Car park surface.	24+	1.6+	0.4		
-	Layer	Red frogged brick rubble, make up/levelling layer.	24+	1.6+	0.6		
(1101)	Layer	Yellowish brown (10YR 6/6) clay silt with sand. Dumped/redeposited layer with diesel staining, above (1102).	6+	1.6+	0.2		
(1102)	Layer	Dark yellowish brown (10YR 4/4) sticky clay	2+	1.6+	0.5		
(1103)	Layer	Brown (10YR 4/3) clay with sand above (1104), equivalent to (1101).	2+	1.6+	0.1		
(1104)	Layer	Light olive brown (2.5YR 5/4) sand with clay silt, equivalent to (1102).	6+	1.6+	0.5		

**2.18** The stratigraphy in Trench 11 consisted of tarmac and concrete overlying a crushed brick rubble levelling layer. The trench was bisected by an electrical main encased in concrete. At the southern end of the trench, this sealed a layer of dumped/redeposited yellowish brown (10YR 6/6) sandy clay silt with diesel staining (1101), above a dark yellowish brown (10YR 6/6) sticky clay layer (1102). At the northern end of the trench, the levelling layer sealed a brown (10YR 4/3) clay with sand make-up layer (1103), above a light olive brown (2.5YR 5/4) sand with clay silt (1104). Layers (1101) and (1103) have been interpreted as the same, as have layers (1102) and (1104).

**2.19** No other archaeological features, deposits or finds were present in this trench.

**Trench 12**

**2.20** The location proposed for Trench 12 proved to be inaccessible and it was abandoned.

**Trench 13**

**2.21** Trench 13 was located to the south of the gatehouse and was orientated east-west (Figure 2). It measured 23m in length, 1.6m in width and was excavated to a depth of 1.3m.

**Trench 13 data:**

<b>Length (m):</b>	23	<b>Width (m):</b>	1.6	<b>Maximum Depth (m):</b>	1.3	<b>Orientation</b>	E-W	
<b>Level at E (mOD)</b>			<b>Top</b>	114.69	<b>Level at W End (mOD)</b>		<b>Top</b>	115.77
			<b>Base</b>	113.39			<b>Base</b>	114.47
<b>Context</b>	<b>Type</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Dimensions (m)</b>					
			<b>Length</b>	<b>Width</b>	<b>Depth</b>			
-	Layer	Brown (10YR 4/3) clay silt with sand overburden with redeposited chalk.	23+	1.6+	0.4			
-	Layer	Yellowish brown (10YR 5/4) silty clay sand with frequent gravel subsoil.	23+	1.6+	0.2			
-	Natural	Yellow (10YR 7/6) clean clayey sand natural.	23+	1.6+	0.7			
[1302]	Structure	Poured grey concrete block. Probable service within (1304).	1.8	0.4	0.3+			
[1303]	Cut	Irregular steep sided cut contained concrete [1302] and fill (1304).	8.5	1.6+	1.3			
(1304)	Fill	Yellowish brown (10YR 5/4) sandy clay silt with occ. brick fragments. Dumped backfill of [1303].	8.5	1.6+	1.3			
[1305]	Cut	Irregular steep sided cut contained fill (1306).	13.5+	1.6+	1.3			
(1306)	Fill	Light bluish grey (Gley 2 8/5PW) and yellowish brown (10YR 5/4) silty clay with occ. brick frags. Dumped backfill of [1305].	13.5+	1.6+	1.3			

**2.22** The stratigraphy in Trench 13 consisted of brown (10YR 4/3) clay silt with sand overburden with redeposited chalk, overlying yellowish brown (10YR 5/4) silty clay sand with frequent gravel subsoil, below which was yellow (10YR 7/6) clean clay sand natural.

**2.23** Located at the western end of the trench and measuring more than 13.5m long and 1.6m wide, was cut [1305] which contained a fill of light bluish grey (Gley 2 8/5PW) and yellowish brown (10YR 5/4) silty clay, with occasional brick fragments.

**2.24** Located at the eastern end of the trench was an irregular cut [1303] which measured 8.5m (excavated length) by 1.6m (excavated length) and contained concrete structure [1303] and modern fill (1304). [1303] consisted of a single block of poured grey concrete which probably housed a service. Fill (1304) consisted of yellowish brown (10YR 5/4) sandy clay silt with occasional brick fragments.

**2.25** No other archaeological features, deposits or finds were present in this trench.

**Trench 14**

**2.26** Trench 14 was located to the northeast of the main house and was orientated northeast-southwest (Figure 2). The trench measured 24m in length, 1.6m in width and was excavated to a depth of 0.75m.



**Trench 14 data:**

<b>Length (m):</b>	24	<b>Width (m):</b>	1.6	<b>Maximum Depth (m):</b>	0.75	<b>Orientation</b>	NE-SW
<b>Context</b>	<b>Type</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Dimensions (m)</b>				
			<b>Length</b>	<b>Width</b>	<b>Depth</b>		
-	Layer	Very dark greyish brown (10YR 3/2) clay silt with sand overburden with moderate gravel and topped with turf.	24+	1.6+	0.2		
-	Layer	Yellowish brown (10YR 5/4) sandy clay silt with occasional gravel.	24+	1.6+	0.15		
-	Natural	Brownish yellow (10YR 6/8 ) sticky clay with sand.	24+	1.6+	0.4		

**2.27** The stratigraphy in Trench 14 consisted of very dark greyish brown (10YR 3/2) clay silt with sand topsoil with moderate gravel, topped with turf. Below this was a yellowish brown (10YR 5/4) sandy clay silt with occasional gravel, above a brownish yellow (10YR 6/8) sticky sandy clay natural.

**2.28** No archaeological features, deposits or finds were present in this trench.

**Trench 15**

**2.29** Trench 15 was located to the east of Trench 14, in a car park area to the east of the main house, and was orientated northwest-southeast (Figure 2). The trench measured 24m in length, 1.6m in width and was excavated to a depth of 0.9m.

**Trench 15 data:**

<b>Length (m):</b>	24	<b>Width (m):</b>	1.6	<b>Maximum Depth (m):</b>	0.9	<b>Orientation</b>	NW-SE
<b>Level at NW End (mOD)</b>		<b>Top</b>	116.81	<b>Level at SE End (mOD)</b>		<b>Top</b>	115.93
		<b>Base</b>	116.41			<b>Base</b>	115.30
<b>Context</b>	<b>Type</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Dimensions (m)</b>				
			<b>Length</b>	<b>Width</b>	<b>Depth</b>		
-	Layer	Red brick rubble and yellow (2.5Y 7/6) sand, below tarmac surface.	24+	1.6+	0.45		
-	Layer	Yellowish brown (10YR 5/4) sandy clay silt with occasional gravel.	24+	1.6+	0.15		
[1501]	Structure	Concrete and brick structure with cement mortar.	4+	1.6	0.6+		
[1502]	Structure	Concrete and brick structure with cement mortar.	0.75	0.4	0.1		
(1503)	Layer	Very dark greyish brown (10YR 3/1) clay silt with sand construction deposit?	7	1.6	0.2		
(1504)	Fill	Greenish grey (Gley 1 6/10Y) clay silt with sand construction fill.	1.6	1	0.35		
[1505]	Cut	Vertical cut containing (1501) & (1506).	1.6+	0.08	0.3		
(1506)	Fill	Light grey (10YR 7/1) Fill of construction cut [1505].	1.6+	0.08	0.3		
-	Natural	Light grey (10YR 7/1) clay silt with sand and frequent gravel.	24+	1.6+	0.4		

**2.30** The stratigraphy in Trench 15 consisted of red brick rubble and yellow (2.5Y 7/6) sand, below a tarmac surface. Below this layer was the natural substratum, which consisted of yellowish brown (10YR 5/4) sandy clay silt with occasional gravel (Figure 5).

**2.31** Located 4m from the northern end of the trench, within construction cut [1505] and fills (1504) & (1506), was a concrete and brick structure [1501], at a depth of 0.45m from the surface of the car park (Figure 3, Plates 1-3). It measured >4m (N-S), 1.6m (E-W) and at least 0.6m in height, although the base was not reached. It was composed of two brick and concrete walls with a concrete capping, which formed a service duct. The bricks and concrete were bonded with a cement mortar and, attached to the internal concrete wall was a scrap of newspaper. This was identified as coming from a copy of the *Daily Post* dated 13<sup>th</sup> August 1952.

**2.32** At 2m from the northern end of the trench another concrete structure [1502] was uncovered, at right angles to [1501]. It measured 0.75m in length and 0.4m in width but its full height was not investigated. It is likely to link up with [1501] but the junction between the two lay outside the limits of the trench.

**2.33** These structures appear to be service ducts, probably dating to the use of the site by ICI in the 1950s, but possibly earlier.

### Trench 16

**2.34** Trench 16 was located immediately to the south of Trench 15 and was orientated east-west (Figure 2). It measured 25m in length, 1.6m wide and was excavated to depth of 1.2m.

#### Trench 16 data:

Length (m):	25	Width (m):	1.6	Maximum Depth (m):	1.2	Orientation	E-W
Context	Type	Description	Dimensions (m)				
			Length	Width	Depth		
-	Layer	Tarmac and brick rubble.	25+	1.6+	0.40		
-	Layer	Yellowish brown (10YR 5/4) sand & clay silt make up.	25+	1.6+	0.1		
-	Natural	Pale yellow (2.5Y 8/3) banded sand natural.	25+	1.6+	-		

**2.35** The stratigraphy in Trench 16 consisted of tarmac and brick rubble above yellowish brown (10YR 5/4) sand & clay silt make-up, overlying pale yellow (2.5Y 8/3) banded sand natural.

**2.36** No archaeological features, deposits or finds were present in this trench.

### Trench 17

**2.37** Trench 17 was located to the south-east of Trench 16 and was orientated northwest-southeast (Figure 2). It measured 25.5m in length and 1.6m in width, and was excavated to a depth of 0.65m.

<b>Length (m):</b>	25.5	<b>Width (m):</b>	1.6	<b>Maximum Depth (m):</b>	0.65	<b>Orientation</b>	NW-SE		
<b>Level at NW End (mOD)</b>			<b>Top</b>	114.66	<b>Level at SE End (mOD)</b>			<b>Top</b>	113.37
			<b>Base</b>	113.86				<b>Base</b>	112.74
<b>Context</b>	<b>Type</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Dimensions (m)</b>						
			<b>Length</b>	<b>Width</b>	<b>Depth</b>				
-	Layer	Concrete below tarmac.	25.5+	1.6+	0.2				
-	Layer	Dark yellowish brown (10YR 4/6) sand, with occ. gravel.	25.5+	1.6+	0.10				
-	Layer	(1.5YR 6/3) Red frogged bricks rubble. Demolition layer.							
[1701]	Structure	Cast concrete wall foundation. Orientation E-W.	2.4+	0.6+	0.07+				
[1702]	Structure	Cast concrete wall foundation. Perpendicular to [1701].	2+	0.6+	0.07+				
-	Natural	Very dark grey (5Y 3/1 – 5Y 4/1) silty clay with occ. pebbles.	25.5+	1.6+	0.35+				

**2.38** The stratigraphy in Trench 17 consisted of concrete below tarmac, over dark yellowish brown (10YR 4/6) sand, with occasional gravel, overlying red brick demolition rubble over very dark grey (5Y 3/1- 5Y 4/1) silty clay natural (Figure 5).

**2.39** Located at approximately 7m from the northwest end of the trench, below the red brick demolition layer and cutting natural, was a cast concrete wall foundation, made up of two perpendicular structural elements [1701] and [1702], orientated E-W and N-S respectively (Figure 3, Plate 7). [1701] measured >2.4m in length by 0.6m in width, full depth unknown, and [1702] measured >2m by in length by 0.6m in width, full depth unknown.

### Trench 18

**2.40** Trench 18 was located to the southeast of Trench 17 and was orientated northeast-southwest (Figure 2). It measured 25m in length by 1.6m in width and was excavated to a depth of 1m.

### Trench 18 data:

<b>Length (m):</b>	25	<b>Width (m):</b>	1.6	<b>Maximum Depth (m):</b>	1	<b>Orientation</b>	NE-SW
<b>Context</b>	<b>Type</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Dimensions (m)</b>				
			<b>Length</b>	<b>Width</b>	<b>Depth</b>		
-	Layer	Black Tarmac surface.	25.5+	1.6+	0.2		
-	Layer	Crushed red stone levelling layer.	25.5+	1.6+	0.10		
-	Natural	Brownish yellow (10YR 6/6) clean silty clay with occasional pebbles.	25.5+	1.6+	0.35+		

**2.41** The stratigraphy in Trench 18 consisted of a crushed red stone levelling layer below a black Tarmac surface, overlying brownish yellow (10YR 6/6) clean silty clay with occasional pebbles.

**2.42** No archaeological features, deposits or finds were present in this trench.

**Trench 19**

2.43 Trench 19 was located to the southwest of Trench 18 and was orientated north-south (Figure 2). It measured 25m in length, 1.6m in width and was excavated to a depth of 1.25m.

**Trench 19 data:**

<b>Length (m):</b>	25	<b>Width (m):</b>	1.6	<b>Maximum Depth (m):</b>	1.25	<b>Orientation</b>	NE-SW
<b>Level at NE End (mOD)</b>		<b>Top</b>	113	<b>Level at SW End (mOD)</b>		<b>Top</b>	109.79
		<b>Base</b>	111.75			<b>Base</b>	108.54
<b>Context</b>	<b>Type</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Dimensions (m)</b>				
			<b>Length</b>	<b>Width</b>	<b>Depth</b>		
-	Layer	Very dark greyish brown (10YR 3/2) clay silt dumped layer.	25.5+	1.6+	0.1		
-	Layer	Brown (7.5YR 4/3) sandy clay silt dumped layer.	25.5+	1.6+	0.25		
	Layer	White (Gley1 8/N) crushed chalk dumped layer.	25.5+	1.6+	0.1		
	Layer	(10YR 5/8) sticky clay silt dumped layer.	25.5+	1.6+	0.1		
	Layer	Very dark grey (5YR 3/1) sticky sandy silt clay.	25.5+	1.6+	0.1		
(1901)	Layer	Buried brick fragments.	0.8	0.1+	0.1		
	Layer	Reddish brown sticky sandy clay silt dumped layer.	25.5+	1.6+	0.1		
	Layer	Dark yellowish brown (10YR 4/4) Sticky sand with clay/silt subsoil.	25.5+	1.6+	0.25		
-	Natural	Light yellowish brown (10YR 6/4) sterile sand with clay silt.	25.5+	1.6+	0.02+		

2.44 The stratigraphy in Trench 19 (Figure 5, Plate 6), consisted of a series of dumped layers, including a layer of brick rubble (1901), sealing the natural substratum which consisted of light yellowish brown (10YR 6/4) sterile sand with clay silt.

2.45 No other archaeological features, deposits or finds were present in this trench.

**Trench 20**

2.46 Trench 20 was located to the south of 19 and was orientated northeast-southwest. It measured 24m long by 1.6m wide and was excavated to a depth of 1.2m.

**Trench 20 data:**

<b>Length (m):</b>	24	<b>Width (m):</b>	1.6	<b>Maximum Depth (m):</b>	1	<b>Orientation</b>	NE-SW
<b>Level at NE End (mOD)</b>		<b>Top</b>	107.92	<b>Level at SW End (mOD)</b>		<b>Top</b>	106
		<b>Base</b>	106.92			<b>Base</b>	105
<b>Context</b>	<b>Type</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Dimensions (m)</b>				
			<b>Length</b>	<b>Width</b>	<b>Depth</b>		
-	Layer	Dark yellowish brown (10YR 4/4) clay silt with sand overburden.	24+	1.6+	0.2		
	Layer	Brown (10YR 5/3) clay silt dumped overburden.	24+				
	Layer	Very dark grey (10YR 3/1) clay silt with sand, dumped layer.	24+				
-	Layer	Black (Gley 1 8/N) charcoal layer.	24+	1.6+	0.10		
(2001)	Layer	Brown (10YR 4/3) sandy clay silt with frequent brick fragments.	0.8	0.1+	0.05		
-	Natural	Reddish yellow (7.5YR) clean clay silt.	25.5+	1.6+	0.35+		

**2.47** The stratigraphy in Trench 20 consisted of a dark yellowish brown (10YR 4/4) clay silt with sand overburden, over a series of dumped layers and a brown (10YR 4/3) sandy clay silt layer with frequent brick fragments (2001). Beneath this was the natural substratum, which consisted of a reddish yellow (7.5YR) clean clay.

**2.48** No other archaeological features, deposits or finds were present in this trench

### Trench 21

**2.49** Trench 21 was located to the south of Trench 20 and was orientated northwest-southeast. It measured 25m in length, 1.6m in width and was excavated to a depth of 1.2m (Figure 2).

#### Trench 21 data:

Length (m):	25	Width (m):	1.6	Maximum Depth (m):	1.2	Orientation	NW-SE
Context	Type	Description	Dimensions (m)				
			Length	Width	Depth		
-	Layer	White (Gley 1 8) mixed chalk overburden.	25+	1.6+	1.2		
-	Lens	Dark yellowish brown (10YR 4/4) clay silt.	25+	1.6+	-		
-	Lens	Brown (10YR 4/3) silty clay lens.	25+	1.6+	-		

**2.50** The stratigraphy in Trench 21 consisted of white (Gley 1 8) mixed chalk overburden with a dark yellowish brown and brown clay silt and silty clay lenses.

**2.51** No archaeological features, finds or deposits were present in this trench.

### Trench 22A

**2.52** Trench 22 was divided into two separate trenches because of the presence of services. Trench 22A was located to the west of 21 and was orientated northwest-southeast. It measured 25m in length, 1.6m in width and was excavated to a depth of 0.9m (Figure 2). **Trench 22A data:**

Length (m):	10	Width (m):	1.6	Maximum Depth (m):	0.9	Orientation	NW-SE
Context	Type	Description	Dimensions (m)				
			Length	Width	Depth		
-	Layer	Concrete, below tarmac.	10+	1.5+	0.2		
-	Layer	Dark greyish brown (10YR 4/2) silty clay overburden.	10+	1.5+	0.2		
-	Natural	Light yellowish brown (10YR 6/4) silty clay.	10+	1.5+	0.42		

**2.53** The stratigraphy in Trench 22A consisted of concrete below tarmac overlying a dark greyish brown (10YR 4/2) silty clay overburden, below which was the natural substratum consisting of light yellowish brown (10YR 6/4) silty clay.

**2.54** No archaeological features, finds or deposits were present in this trench.

**Trench 22B**

**2.55** Trench 22B was located to the northwest of Trench 22A and was orientated northwest-southeast. It measured 13m in length by 1.5m in width and excavated to a depth of 1m (Figure 2).

**Trench 22B data:**

<b>Length (m):</b>	13	<b>Width (m):</b>	1.6	<b>Maximum Depth (m):</b>	1	<b>Orientation</b>	NW-SE
<b>Context</b>	<b>Type</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Dimensions (m)</b>				
			<b>Length</b>	<b>Width</b>	<b>Depth</b>		
-	Layer	Concrete, below tarmac.	10+	1.5+	0.2		
-	Layer	Dark greyish brown (10YR 4/2) silty clay overburden.	10+	1.5+	0.2		
-	Natural	Light yellowish brown (10YR 6/4) silty clay.	10+	1.5+	0.5		

**2.56** The stratigraphy in Trench 22B consisted of concrete below tarmac, overlying dark greyish brown (10YR 4/2) silty clay overburden, below which was the natural substratum consisting of light yellowish brown (10YR 6/4) silty clay.

**2.57** No archaeological features, finds or deposits were present in this trench.

**Trench 23**

**2.58** Trench 23 was located at the southern limit of the site, to the southwest of Trench 22B, and was orientated north-south. It measured 24.3m in length and 1.5m in width, and was excavated to a depth of 0.5m (Figure 2).

**Trench 23 data:**

<b>Length (m):</b>	24.3	<b>Width (m):</b>	1.5	<b>Maximum Depth (m):</b>	0.5	<b>Orientation</b>	N-S
<b>Level at N End (mOD)</b>		<b>Top</b>	113.33	<b>Level at S End (mOD)</b>		<b>Top</b>	113.58
		<b>Base</b>	112.69			<b>Base</b>	112.92
<b>Context</b>	<b>Type</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Dimensions (m)</b>				
			<b>Length</b>	<b>Width</b>	<b>Depth</b>		
-	Layer	Very dark greyish brown (10YR 3/2) clay silt with sand overburden.	24.3	1.5+	0.4		
[2301]	Structure	Red frogged brick wall.	1.6	0.25+	0.22		
[2302]	Structure	Service structure consisting of 3 cast concrete blocks.	2.75	0.55	0.28		
[2303]	Structure	Cast concrete service structure.	0.4	0.15	-		
[2304]	Cut	Linear cut for service structures.	1.5+	0.28	0.28+		
(2305)	Fill	Light yellowish brown (10YR 6/4) clay silt backfill of cut [2304].	1.5+	0.28	0.28+		
-	Natural	Light yellowish brown (10YR 6/4) silty clay.	10+	1.5+	0.4		

**2.59** The stratigraphy of Trench 23 consisted of a very dark greyish brown (10YR 3/2) clay silt with sand overburden, the light yellowish brown (10YR 6/4) silty clay natural.



**2.60** Located 7m from the southern end of Trench 23 was a wall foundation composed of three structural elements: [2301], [2302] and [2303] (Figure 3, Plate 8). [2301] measured >1.6m in length by 0.25m in width and was 0.22m in depth. It consisted of red frogged bricks laid in an inconsistent mixture of headers and stretchers, bonded with a hard light grey cement mortar and surviving to a depth of 3 courses. The top of the feature had been truncated but it sat on concrete foundation [2303] (exposed in small hand dug slot) suggesting a former wall. Adjacent to [2301] was structure [2302], which consisted of 3 cast concrete blocks, measuring more than 2.75m long (the SW end extended into the trench edge but the NE end had been robbed out) by 0.55m wide by 0.28m deep, and also resting on foundation [2303]. All three elements sat within a construction cut [2304] and its fill (2305).

**2.61** The structure encompassing [2301], [2302], and [2303] is likely to be post-WWII in date.

### Trench 24A

**2.62** Trench 24 was split into two separate trenches, A & B, because of the presence of services (Figure 2). Trench 24A was located to the west of Trench 23 and was orientated northeast-southwest. It measured 9.4m in length, 1.6m in depth, and was excavated to a depth of 0.6m.

#### Trench 24A data:

Length (m):	9.4	Width (m):	1.6	Maximum Depth (m):	0.6	Orientation	NW-SE
Context	Type	Description	Dimensions (m)				
			Length	Width	Depth		
-	Layer	Grey crushed concrete, below tarmac.	9.4+	1.6+	0.25		
-	Natural	Yellowish brown (10YR 5/6) silty clay.	9.4+	1.6+	-		

**2.63** The stratigraphy in Trench 24A consisted of grey crushed concrete below tarmac, overlying yellowish brown (10YR 5/6) silty clay natural.

**2.64** No archaeological features, finds or deposits were present in this trench.

### Trench 24B

**2.65** Trench 24B was located to the north-west of Trench 24A and was also orientated northwest-southeast. It measured 10.2m in length, 1.6m in width and was excavated to a depth of 0.4m (Figure 2).

#### Trench 24B data:

Length (m):	10.2	Width (m):	1.6	Maximum Depth (m):	0.45	Orientation	NE-SW
Context	Type	Description	Dimensions (m)				
			Length	Width	Depth		
-	Layer	Concrete, below tarmac.	10.2+	1.6+	0.2		
-	Natural	Yellowish brown (10YR 5/6) silty clay.	10.2+	1.6+	-		

**2.66** The stratigraphy in Trench 24A consisted of grey crushed concrete below tarmac, overlying yellowish brown (10YR 5/6) silty clay natural.

**2.67** No archaeological features, finds or deposits were present in this trench.

### Trench 25

**2.68** Trench 25 was located to the north of Trenches 24 A&B and was orientated northwest-southeast. It measured 18.8m in length by 1.7m in width and was excavated to a depth of 0.65m (Figure 2).

#### Trench 25 data:

<b>Length (m):</b>	18.8	<b>Width (m):</b>	1.7	<b>Maximum Depth (m):</b>	0.65	<b>Orientation</b>	NW-SE
<b>Level at NW End (mOD)</b>		<b>Top</b>	116.77	<b>Level at SE End (mOD)</b>		<b>Top</b>	116.68
		<b>Base</b>	116.53			<b>Base</b>	116.03
<b>Context</b>	<b>Type</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Dimensions (m)</b>				
			<b>Length</b>	<b>Width</b>	<b>Depth</b>		
-	Layer	Yellow (7.5YR) sand make up layer under tarmac.	18.8+	1.7+	0.35		
[2501]	Structure	Red frogged brick wall.	1.6	0.45+	0.02		
[2502]	Cut	Construction cut for brick wall [2501] foundation containing (2503).	1.65	1.5	-		
(2503)	Fill	Very pale brown (10YR 7/4) sand construction fill within [2502].	1.65	1.5	-		
[2504]	Structure	Concrete floor.	3.75	1.5	0.15		
[2505]	Cut	Demolition cut containing (2506) excavated to remove wall [2501].	4.25	1.6	0.20		
(2506)	Fill	Grey (10YR 5/1) robber fill of cut [2505].	4.25	1.65	0.02		
[2507]	Structure	Cast concrete strip footing for foundational wall	1.65	1.5	0.05		
-	Natural	Very pale brown (10YR 7/4) sand.	18.8+	1.7+	-		

**2.69** The stratigraphy in Trench 25 consisted of reddish yellow (7.5YR) sand make up layer under tarmac, over a very pale brown (10YR 7/4) sand natural.

**2.70** Cutting the natural 4m from the NW end was linear cut [2502], which contained a concrete strip footing [2507], supporting a 0.45m wide brick wall [2501] and a trench fill of very pale brown (10YR 7/4) sand (2503) (Figure 4, Plates 4 & 5). The wall and trench were truncated by a later cut, probably for the demolition of the building, which contained a grey (10YR 5/1) sandy clay fill (2506). Adjacent to the top of the surviving wall was a concrete surface [2504] (Figures 4 & 5), although the exact physical relationship was unclear due to the truncation.

### Trench 26

**2.71** Trench 26 was located to the immediate northeast of Trench 25 and was orientated northeast-southwest. It measured 24.6m in length by 1.8m in width and was excavated to a depth of 0.55m (Figure 2).

**Trench 26 data:**

<b>Length (m):</b>	24.6	<b>Width (m):</b>	1.8	<b>Maximum Depth (m):</b>	0.55	<b>Orientation</b>	NE-SW
<b>Level at (mOD)</b>			<b>Top</b>	<b>Level at SE End of Test pit (mOD)</b>			<b>Top</b>
			<b>Base</b>				<b>Base</b>
<b>Context</b>	<b>Type</b>	<b>Description</b>			<b>Dimensions (m)</b>		
					<b>Length</b>	<b>Width</b>	<b>Depth</b>
-	Layer	Reddish yellow sand overburden (7.5YR 6/6).			24.6+	1.6+	0.4
-	Natural	Reddish yellow (10YR 5/6) clean clay.			24.6+	1.6+	-

**2.72** The stratigraphy in Trench 26 consisted of reddish yellow sand overburden (7.5YR 6/6), overlying reddish yellow (10YR 5/6) clean clay.

**2.73** No archaeological features, finds or deposits were present in this trench.

**Trench 27**

**2.74** Due to on-site restrictions, Trench 27 was excavated as two joined halves at right angles to each other. It was located to the northwest of Trench 26 (Figure 2). One branch was orientated northeast-southwest, measured 17.8m in length, 1.6m in width and was excavated to a depth of 0.7m. The other branch was orientated northwest-southeast, measured 10.7m in length, 1.6m in width and was excavated to a depth of 0.7m.

**Trench 27 data:**

<b>Length (m):</b>	28.5	<b>Width (m):</b>	1.6	<b>Maximum Depth (m):</b>	0.7	<b>Orientation</b>	SW-NE & NW-SE
<b>Level at SW End (mOD)</b>			<b>Top</b>	116.77	<b>Level at SE End of Test pit (mOD)</b>		<b>Top</b>
			<b>Base</b>	116.07			<b>Base</b>
<b>Context</b>	<b>Type</b>	<b>Description</b>			<b>Dimensions (m)</b>		
					<b>Length</b>	<b>Width</b>	<b>Depth</b>
-	Layer	Tarmac surface of car park.			28.5+	1.6+	0.15
[2701]	Structure	Cast concrete slab. Floor surface?			1.8m+	1.6m+	0.15
-	Natural	Light bluish grey (Gley 2 8/5PB), fine sandy silt.			28.5+	1.6+	-

**2.75** The stratigraphy in Trench 27 consisted of a tarmac surface overlying light bluish grey (Gley 2 8/5) fine sandy silt natural.

**2.76** Located at the southwestern end of the trench was a concrete slab surface [2701] measuring >1.8m in length, >1.6m in width and 0.15m thick. No construction cut was observed, but [2701] was very similar to [2504] from adjacent Trench 25 and both appeared to be a floor slab of a building or shed, or possibly an external surface.

**Trench 28**

**2.77** Trench 28 was located to the north east of Trench 27 and was orientated northeast-southwest (Figure 2). It measured 18.7m in length, 1.6m in width and was excavated to a depth of 0.6m.

**Trench 28 data:**

<b>Length (m):</b>	18.7	<b>Width (m):</b>	1.6	<b>Maximum Depth (m):</b>	0.6	<b>Orientation</b>	NE-SW
<b>Context</b>	<b>Type</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Dimensions (m)</b>				
			<b>Length</b>	<b>Width</b>	<b>Depth</b>		
-	Layer	Dark brown (10YR 3/3) clay silt with sand and occasional mortar flecks.	18.7+	1.6+	0.25		
-	Natural	Yellow (10YR 7/8), sterile, sticky clay silt.	18.7+	1.6+	-		

**2.78** The stratigraphy in Trench 28 consisted of dark brown (10YR 3/3) clay silt with sand overlying yellow (10YR 7/8) sticky clay/silt natural.

**2.79** Trench 28 was heavily disturbed by services. No archaeological features, finds or deposits were present in this trench.

**Trench 29**

**2.80** Trench 29 was located immediately to the northeast of Trench 28, in the lawn area of the main house, and was orientated northwest – southeast (Figure 2). It measured 18.2m in length, 1.55m in width, and was excavated to a depth of 0.55m.

**Trench 29 data:**

<b>Length (m):</b>	18.2	<b>Width (m):</b>	1.55	<b>Maximum Depth (m):</b>	0.55	<b>Orientation</b>	NW-SE
<b>Context</b>	<b>Type</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Dimensions (m)</b>				
			<b>Length</b>	<b>Width</b>	<b>Depth</b>		
-	Layer	Brown (10YR 3/3). Sticky clay/silt with sand topped by turf.	18.2+	1.55+	0.15		
-	Layer	Yellowish brown (10YR 6/6) Sticky clay/silt with sand & moderate gravel to 20mm and occasional mortar flecks.	18.2+	1.55+	0.2		
-	Natural	Reddish yellow (7.5YR 6/8), sterile, sticky clay silt.	18.2+	1.55+	-		

**2.81** The stratigraphy in Trench 29 consisted of brown (10YR 3/3) sticky clay/silt with sand topped by turf, overlying yellowish brown (10YR 6/6) sticky clay/silt with sand & moderate gravel with occasional mortar flecks. Below this was a reddish yellow (7.5YR 6/8), sticky clay silt natural.

**2.82** No archaeological features, finds or deposits were present in this trench.

**Trench 30A**

**2.83** Trench 30A was located at the south-western limit of the site, between Building 2 and the boundary, and was orientated northwest-southeast (Figure 2). It measured 13.5m in length by 1.5m in width and was excavated to a depth of 1.2m.

**Trench 30A data:**

Length (m):	13.5	Width (m):	1.5	Maximum Depth (m):	1.2	Orientation	NW-SE
Context	Type	Description	Dimensions (m)				
			Length	Width	Depth		
-	Layer	Dark yellowish brown (10YR 4/4). Silty sand with clay.	13.5+	1.5+	0.4		
-	Layer	Yellowish brown (10YR 5/8) silty sand with clay frequent gravel.	13.5+	1.5+	0.25		
-	Natural	Light yellowish brown (10YR 6/4), very clean silty clay.	13.5+	1.5+	-		

**2.84** The stratigraphy in Trench 30A consisted of dark yellowish brown (10YR 4/4) silty sand with clay overburden, over a yellowish brown (10YR 5/8) silty sand with clay and frequent gravel, which overlay the natural substratum of light yellowish brown (10YR 6/4) very clean silty clay.

**2.85** No archaeological features, finds or deposits were present in this trench.

**Trench 30B**

**2.86** Trench 30B was located to the northwest of Trench 30A, immediately to the west of Building 2, and was orientated northwest-southeast (Figure 2). It measured 13.5m in length, 1.5m in width and was excavated to a depth of 0.9m.

**Trench 30B data:**

Length (m):	13.5	Width (m):	1.5	Maximum Depth (m):	0.9	Orientation	NW-SE
Context	Type	Description	Dimensions (m)				
			Length	Width	Depth		
-	Layer	Dark yellowish brown (10YR 4/4). Silty sand with clay.	13.5+	1.5+	0.3		
-	Layer	Yellowish brown (10YR 5/8) silty sand with clay frequent gravel.	13.5+	1.5+	0.25		
-	Natural	Light yellowish brown (10YR 6/4), very clean silty clay.	13.5+	1.5+	-		

**2.87** The stratigraphy in Trench 30A consisted of dark yellowish brown (10YR 4/4) silty sand with clay overburden, over a yellowish brown (10YR 5/8) silty sand with clay and frequent gravel, which overlay the natural substratum of light yellowish brown (10YR 6/4), very clean silty clay.

**2.88** No archaeological features, finds or deposits were present in this trench.

**Trench 31 A/B**

**2.89** Trench 31 was divided into two halves, A & B, to avoid buried services, but it was recorded as a single trench.

**2.90** Trench 31A/B was located close to the site boundary to the immediate northwest of Trench 30B and was orientated north-south (Figure 2). It measured 26m in length, 1.75m wide and was excavated to a depth of 0.7m.

**Trench 31A/B data:**

Length (m):	26	Width (m):	1.75	Maximum Depth (m):	0.7	Orientation	N-S
Context	Type	Description	Dimensions (m)				
			Length	Width	Depth		
-	Layer	Brown (10YR 3/3). Clay silt with sand.	26+	1.75+	0.4		
-	Layer	Brown (10YR 5/3) clay silt with sand and gravel.	26+	1.75+	0.2		
-	Natural	Brownish yellow (10YR 6/8), sticky clay natural.	26+	1.75+	-		

**2.91** The stratigraphy in Trench 31A/B consisted of a brown (10YR 3/3) clay silt with sand, over a brown (10YR 5/3) clay silt with sand and gravel, which sealed the brownish yellow (10YR 6/8), sticky clay natural.

**2.92** No archaeological features, finds or deposits were present in this trench.

**Trench 32**

**2.93** Trench 32 was located to the north of Trench 31A/B and was orientated east-west (Figure 2). It measured 21.5m in length, 1.6m in width and was excavated to a depth of 1.2m.

**Trench 32 data:**

Length (m):	21.5	Width (m):	1.6	Maximum Depth (m):	1.2	Orientation	E-W
Context	Type	Description	Dimensions (m)				
			Length	Width	Depth		
-	Layer	Very dark greyish brown (10YR 3/2). Sand with silt with frequent gravel, frequent flint.	21.5+	1.6+	1.2		

**2.94** The stratigraphy in Trench 32 consisted of very dark greyish brown (10YR 3/2) sand with silt with frequent gravel down to an excavated depth of 1.2m. The natural substratum was not reached.

**2.95** No archaeological features, finds or deposits were present in this trench.

**Trench 33**

**2.96** Trench 33 was located to the northeast of Trench 32, in the open yard between Buildings 1 and 2, and was orientated northeast-southwest (Figure 2). It measured 24m in length, varying in width between 1.5 and 1.75m, and was excavated to a depth of 1.4m.



**Trench 33 data:**

<b>Length (m):</b>	24	<b>Width (m):</b>	1.5-1.75	<b>Maximum Depth (m):</b>	0.4	<b>Orientation</b>	NE-SW		
<b>Level at NE End (mOD)</b>			<b>Top</b>	121.58	<b>Level at SW End (mOD)</b>			<b>Top</b>	121.38
			<b>Base</b>	120.56				<b>Base</b>	120.62
<b>Context</b>	<b>Type</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Dimensions (m)</b>						
			<b>Length</b>	<b>Width</b>	<b>Depth</b>				
-	Layer	Loose gravel above concrete.	24+	1.75+	0.2				
	Layer	Greyish brown (10YR 5/2) clay silt with sand and gravel overburden..	24+	1.75+	0.4				
[3301]	Structure	White (5YR 81) cast concrete tunnel.	2.25+	1.5	1.75				
-	Natural	Yellowish red (10YR 5/6), sand and gravel natural.	24+	1.75+	-				

**2.97** The stratigraphy in Trench 33 consisted of a greyish brown (10YR 5/2) clay silt with sand and gravel overburden, under a loose gravel and concrete surface. Excavation revealed the natural substratum which consisted of yellowish red (10YR 5/6) sand and gravel.

**2.98** Located 8m from the northeastern end of the trench, at a depth of 0.2m, was a cast concrete duct measuring >2.25m in length and 1.5m wide with an internal depth of 1.75m, running on an east-west alignment (Figure 4). No construction cut was visible. The duct was further inspected via an inspection hatch, which showed that it was built entirely of concrete (Figure 3, Plates 9 & 10). This duct was marked on maintenance plans for the site and is believed to be contemporary with buildings 1 and 2.

**2.99** No other archaeological features, finds or deposits were present in this trench.

**Trench 34A**

**2.100** Trench 34 was located on the western side of the site, to the south of Building 4, and was divided into two trenches, A & B, because of the presence of services. Trench 34A was orientated northeast-southwest (Figure 2). It measured 9.4m in length by 1.65 in width and was excavated to a depth of 0.7m.

**Trench 34A data:**

<b>Length (m):</b>	9.4	<b>Width (m):</b>	1.65	<b>Maximum Depth (m):</b>	0.70	<b>Orientation</b>	NE-SW
<b>Context</b>	<b>Type</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Dimensions (m)</b>				
			<b>Length</b>	<b>Width</b>	<b>Depth</b>		
-	Layer	Tarmac above concrete.	9.4+	1.75+	0.25		
	Layer	Red (2.5YR 5/6) sandy gravel overburden.	9.4+	1.75+	0.15		
-	Natural	Pale yellow (2.5YR 7/3), silt clay with sand natural.	9.4+	1.75+	-		

**2.1** The stratigraphy in Trench 34A consisted of tarmac above a concrete road surface, overlying red (2.5YR 5/6) sandy gravel overburden, which sealed the natural substratum of pale yellow (2.5YR 7/3) silt clay with sand.

**2.2** No archaeological features, finds or deposits were present in this trench.

**Trench 34B**

2.3 Trench 34B was located to the immediate north-west of Trench 34A and was orientated northeast-southwest (Figure 2). It measured 16m in length by 1.9m in width and was excavated to a depth of 0.7m.

**Trench 34B data:**

<b>Length (m):</b>	16	<b>Width (m):</b>	1.9	<b>Maximum Depth (m):</b>	0.7	<b>Orientation</b>	NE-SW
<b>Context</b>	<b>Type</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Dimensions (m)</b>				
			<b>Length</b>	<b>Width</b>	<b>Depth</b>		
-	Layer	Tarmac above concrete.	16+	1.9+	0.4		
	Layer	Red (2.5YR 5/6) sandy gravel overburden.	16+	1.9+	c.0.1		
-	Natural	Pale yellow (2.5YR 7/3), silt clay with sand natural.	16+	1.9+	-		

2.4 The stratigraphy in Trench 34B consisted of tarmac above a concrete road surface, overlying red (2.5YR 5/6) sandy gravel overburden, which sealed the natural substratum of pale yellow (2.5YR 7/3) silt clay with sand.

2.5 No archaeological features, finds or deposits were present in this trench.

**FINDS CONCORDANCE**

Context	Pottery		Brick		Tile		Concrete		Comments
	No	Wt	No	Wt	No	Wt	No	Wt	
703			1	115					
901			2	2350					2 London Bricks
902			2	30					
1102					1	40			
1501							1	3440	With attached newspaper
901			3	1550					
2001			1	290	1	5			
u/s Tr.2	1	220							Virtually complete pot base: flint-tempered LBA/EIA
<b>Totals</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>220</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>4335</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>115</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>3440</b>	

**FINDS ASSESSMENT**

2.6 The only significant find from the evaluation trenches was a single sherd of Late Bronze-Age/Early Iron Age pottery, which, although of a large size and in an unabraded state, was found in an area of redeposited spoil assumed to be associated with the construction of Building 18.

### 3. Discussion

**3.1** The present site, which is scheduled for wholesale redevelopment, is located within an *Area of Archaeological Significance* to the south of Welwyn. It lies on a ridge of higher ground above the valley of the River Mimram.

**3.2** An archaeological and historic buildings impact assessment, undertaken by the Heritage Network in August 2011, established that the study area encompasses the core of the medieval manor known as The Frythe. The country house, which lies at the centre of the estate and is to be retained, dates from at least the mid-19th century, but may incorporate an earlier structure. Documentary, cartographic and aerial photographic research demonstrated that the site lies in an area of archaeological interest, with evidence of activity from the prehistoric period onwards in the immediate vicinity. From the medieval period until the mid-19th century it lay in open fields. From the mid-19th century until the mid-20th century it formed part of a landscaped park and arboretum surrounding the country house. During World War II the site was used as a secret research station and two small magazines from this period survive. The site later became a research site for the chemical and food industries.

**3.3** Since the mid-20th century the study area has been subject to significant disturbance from the construction and demolition of buildings and access routes across the site, which was considered likely to have removed potential earlier archaeological remains. The research, supported by data gained in the course of the client's geotechnical investigation of the site, concluded that large areas of the site had been significantly disturbed by such groundworks and that, while the site as a whole might retain evidence of activity associated with the secret wartime operations, only small pockets of undisturbed ground were likely to exist, at the northern, eastern and south-western edges of the site, where earlier remains might survive. In these places, the probability of encountering features, deposits and finds during the proposed development was classified as *Low* for the prehistoric and Saxon periods; *Moderate* for the Iron Age and Roman periods, and *High* for the medieval and post-medieval periods.

**3.4** The evaluation strategy was designed to investigate a 5% sample of all the identified areas of archaeological potential, and a 2% sample of those areas identified as being of negligible potential. The strategy was modified on the basis of known constraints, which included the presence of standing buildings, known or identified services and service ducts, and protected areas of landscaping and tree planting.

#### *Discussion*

**3.5** Only one item of archaeological interest pre-dating the modern period was uncovered in the course of the evaluation. This took the form of a complete base sherd of Late Bronze Age/Early Iron Age pottery recovered in Trench 2. Unfortunately, this find was unstratified and came from a mound of spoil whose origins are uncertain, but which is likely to derive from the construction of the adjacent Building 18 in the 1980s. The size and condition of the sherd indicate that it has not been subject to much disturbance and it is possible, therefore, that it is not far from its original point of deposition.

**3.6** Evidence for the 19<sup>th</sup> century landscaping was observed in Trench 19 where make-up layers of dumped earth, clay, chalk and 19<sup>th</sup> century brick (1901) were observed.

**3.7** Trenches 17 and 25 uncovered concrete strip foundations which may represent buildings shown on the Ordnance Survey map of 1964-5. Concrete surfaces uncovered in Trenches 25 and 27 may be connected and may represent external hard standing.

**3.8** Concrete and brick structures uncovered in Trench 15 have been interpreted as service ducts and are likely to be associated with the use of the site in the 1950s. A surviving scrap of newspaper found attached to the interior of [1501] dated to 1952. Other concrete and brick structures in Trenches 13 and 23 are likely to be of similar date.

**3.9** The excavation of Trench 33 exposed one of the known tunnels or ducts that were constructed to link various buildings across the site in the 1970s.

### Conclusions

**3.10** The proposed development at The Frythe, Digswell Hill, Welwyn, lies within an area of archaeological significance with known Prehistoric, Iron Age, Roman and Medieval remains. It was considered that the investigation had the potential to contribute to the further understanding of this activity, but no significant archaeological features or deposits from these periods were revealed. A solitary Late Bronze Age/Early Iron Age base sherd, recovered unstratified from the northern end of the site, does provide limited evidence for occupation at this period, however.

**3.11** The evaluation trenches clearly demonstrated the level of modern disturbance that had taken place across the site from the 19<sup>th</sup> century onwards, with evidence for major landscaping in the form of dumped deposits and make-up layers, construction of buildings in the form of strip footings and concrete hard-standing, and the presence service ducts and intrusive services. This supports the cartographic and documentary evidence, and the evidence from the geotechnical test-pitting programme, illustrated in the earlier Archaeological Impact Assessment.

**3.12** The trial trenching programme has allowed the previously assessed risk that development of the site would encounter archaeological features, deposits and finds to be characterised, and reassessed. On this basis:

- the risk of encountering remains from the early prehistoric periods continues to be *Low*;
- although a single sherd of Late Bronze Age/Early Iron Age pottery was recovered, it was unstratified in an area already highly disturbed, and thus the risk of encountering remains from the later prehistoric periods continues to be *Low*;
- although a single sherd of Late Bronze Age/Early Iron Age pottery was recovered, it was unstratified in an area already highly disturbed, and thus the risk of encountering remains from the Iron Age continues to be *Low*;
- the risk of encountering remains from the Romano-British period continues to be *Low*;
- the risk of encountering remains from the Saxon period continues to be *Low*;
- the risk of encountering remains from the Medieval period changes to *Low*;

- the risk of encountering remains from the Post-medieval and Modern periods continues to be *High*.

**3.13** The potential significance of such remains, should they be encountered, continues to be as previously assessed:

- any remains of early prehistoric date within the study area should be considered to be of *Major* significance;
- any remains of later prehistoric date within the study area should be considered to be of *Major* significance;
- any remains of Iron Age date within the study area should be considered to be of *Major* significance;
- any remains of Saxon date within the study area should be considered to be of *Major* significance;
- any remains of Medieval date within the study area should be considered to be of *Moderate* significance;
- any remains relating to post-medieval agriculture within the study area is of local interest and should be considered to be of *Minor* significance;
- any remains relating to the 19<sup>th</sup> century landscape park is of local interest and should be considered to be of *Minor* significance;
- any remains relating to the site's use as an SOE station during World War II is of regional and national interest and should be considered to be of *Moderate* to *Major* significance.
- any remains relating to previous industrial buildings within the study area is of local interest and should be considered to be of *Minor* significance.

### **Confidence Rating**

**3.14** The archaeological trial trenching revealed evidence of major landscaping and large scale truncation due to modern development. The natural substratum, consisting of clay with occasional sand and gravel, was revealed in most of the trenches. The weather conditions in the course of the fieldwork were mainly good.

**3.15** On this basis, the confidence rating for the present project may be considered to be *High*.

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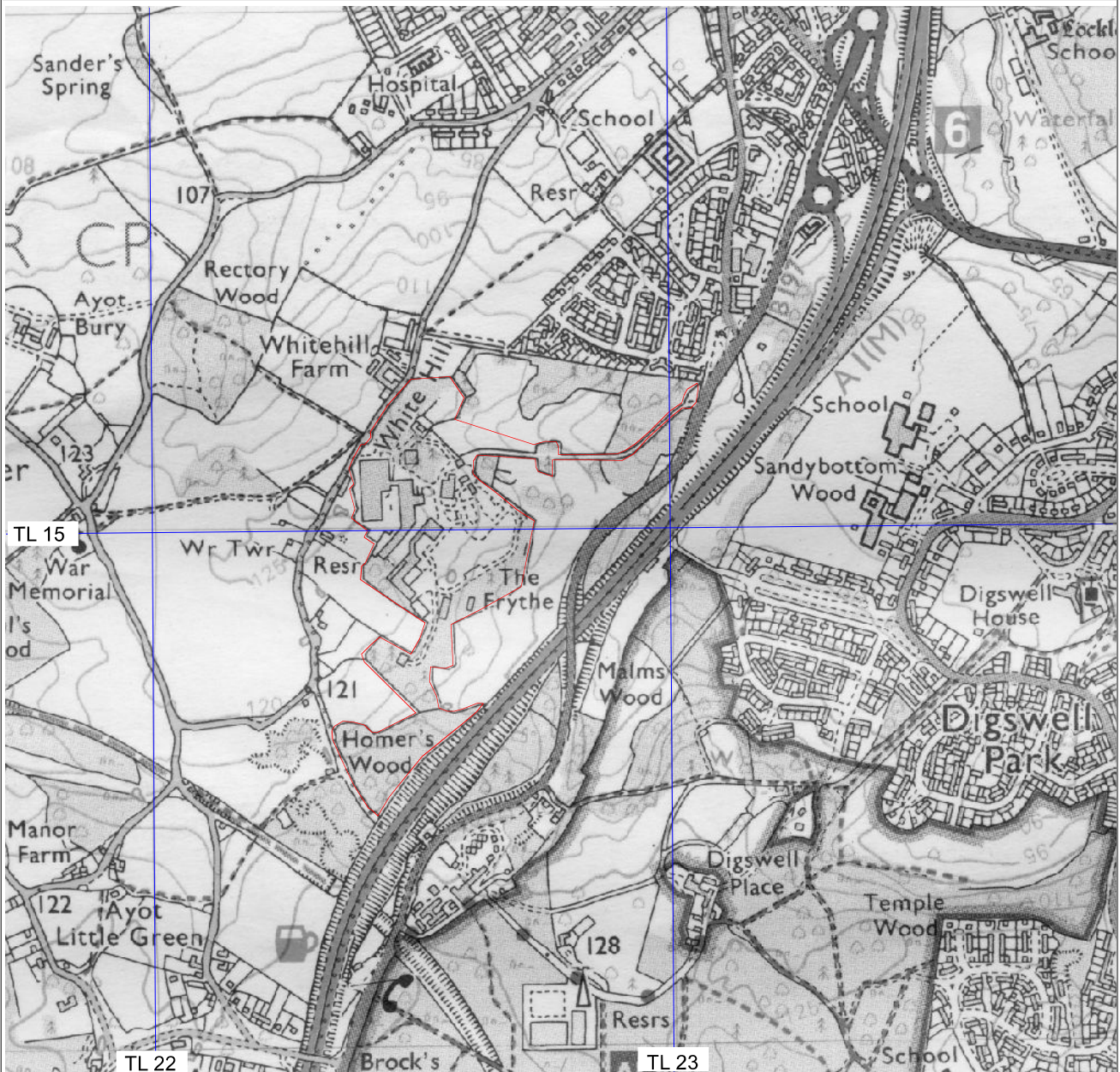
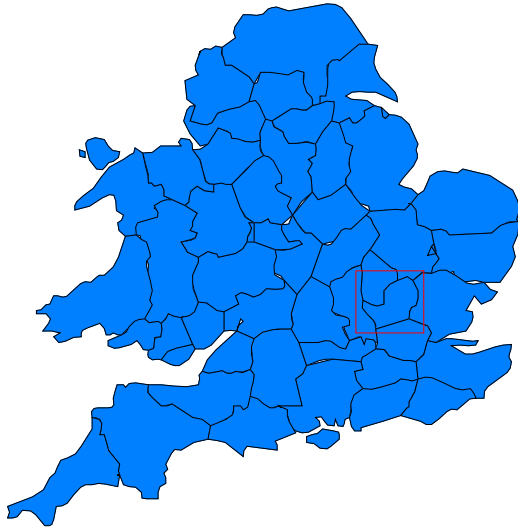
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## 5. Illustrations

Figure 1 .....	Site location
Figure 2a .....	Evaluation trench location (north)
Figure 2b .....	Evaluation trench location (south)
Figure 3 .....	Plans of Trenches 15, 17 & 23
Figure 4 .....	Plans of Trenches 25 & 33
Figure 5 .....	Trench Sections
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Plate 2 .....	[1501] Looking South
Plate 3 .....	[1501] Looking North
Plate 4 .....	[2501] Looking Southwest
Plate 5 .....	[2501] Looking West
Plate 6 .....	Trench 19 Stratigraphy
Plate 7 .....	[1701], [1702] Looking Northwest
Plate 8 .....	[2301], [2302] Looking North
Plate 9 .....	[3301] Looking Southwest
Plate 10 .....	[3301] Looking Northeast into hatch
Plate 11 .....	Late Bronze Age/Early Iron Age pottery from Trench 2 (Interior)
Plate 12 .....	Late Bronze Age/Early Iron Age pottery from Trench 2 (Exterior)



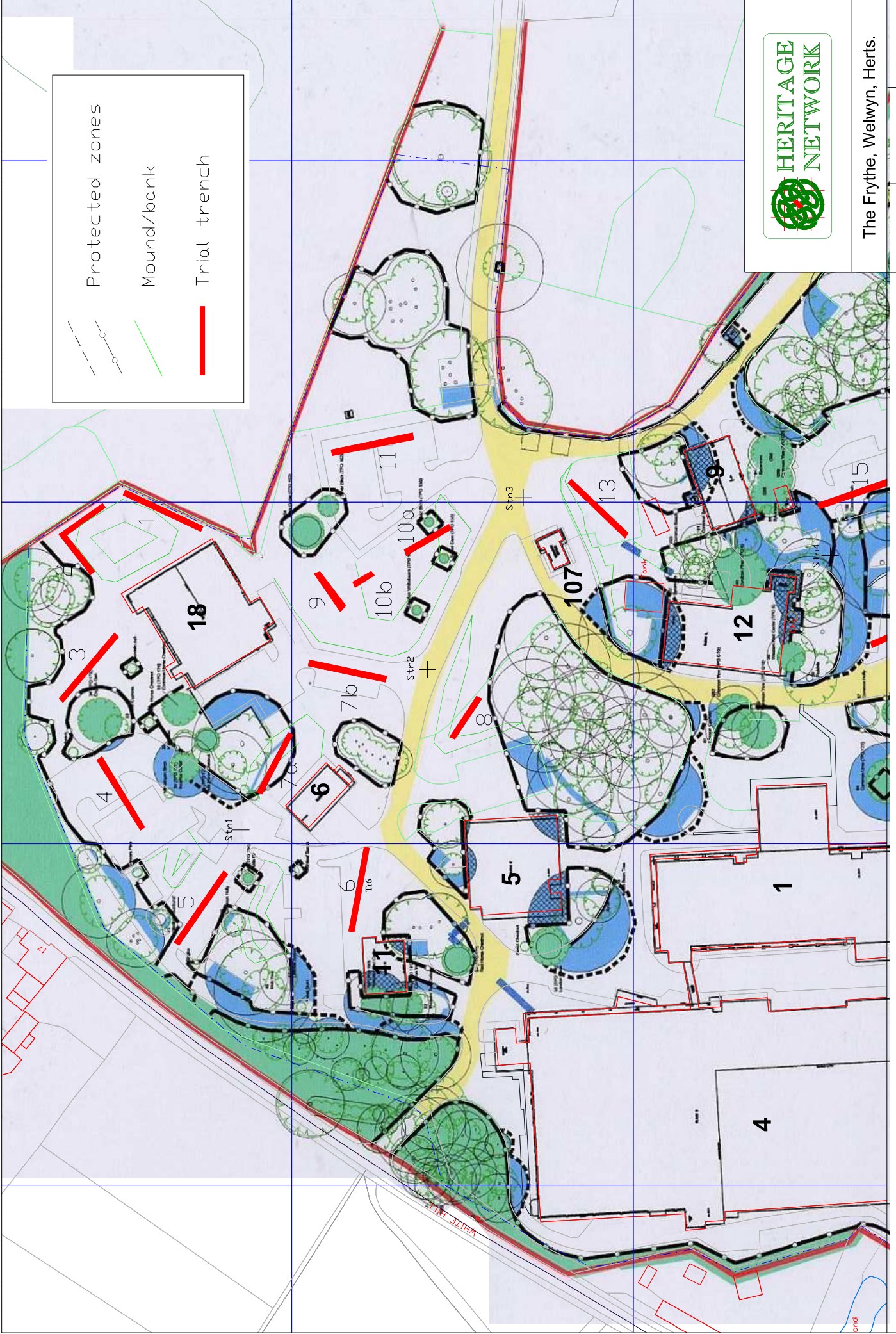
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Site Location

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Evaluation trench location (north)



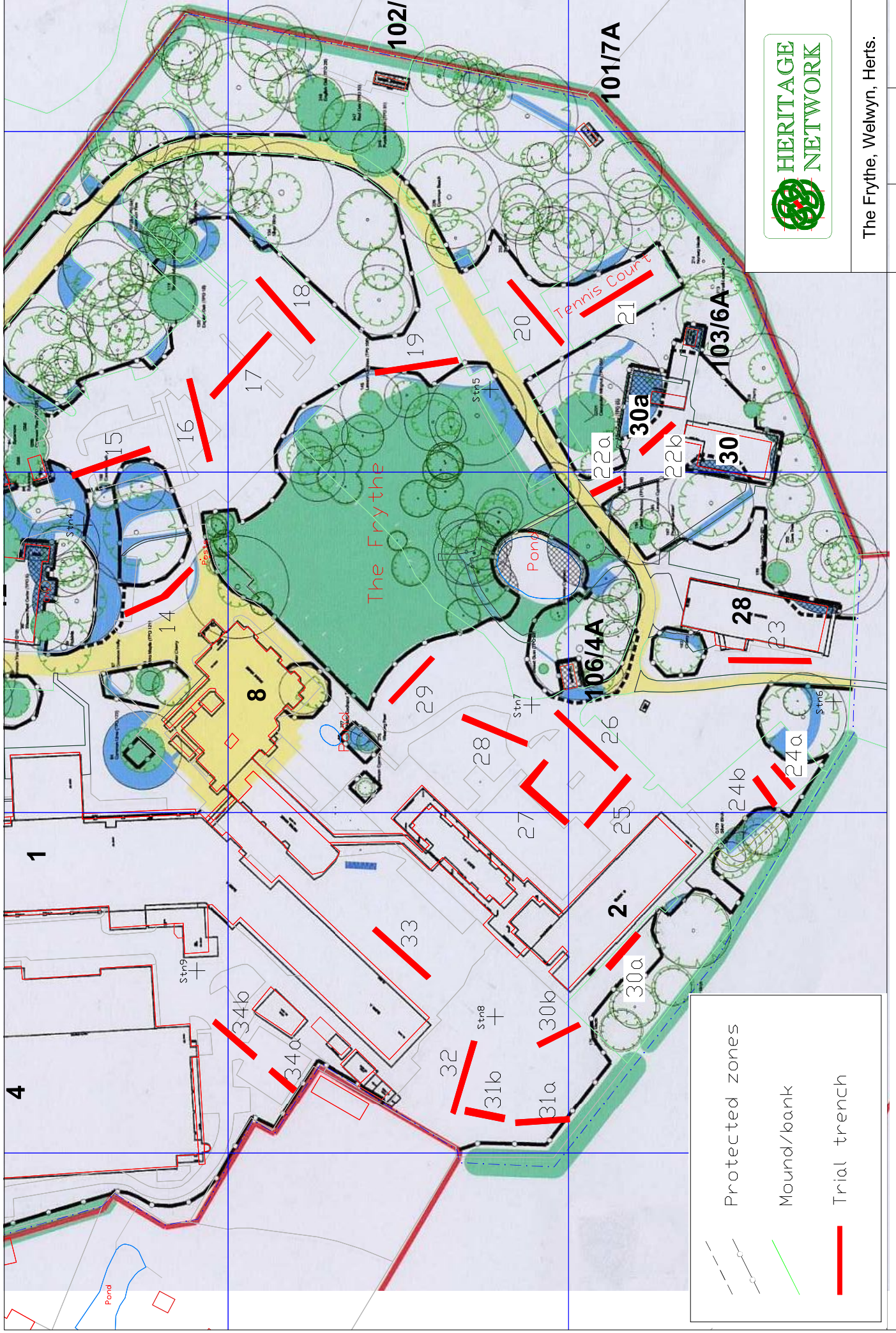
The Frythe, Welwyn, Herts.

HN955

Scale 1:1000

Figure 2a





The Frythe, Welwyn, Herts.

HN955 Scale 1:1000 Figure 2b

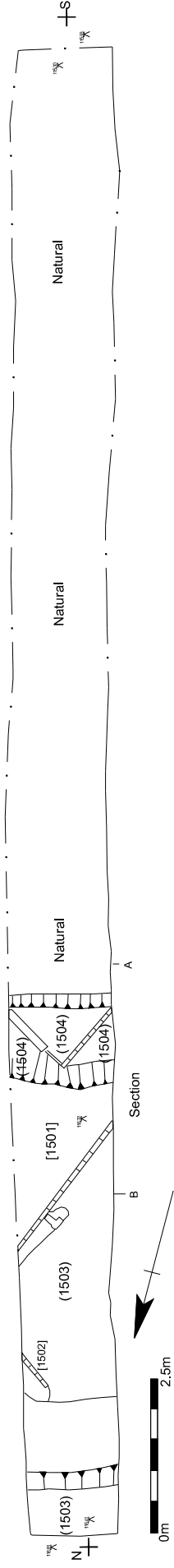
Protected zones

Mound/bank

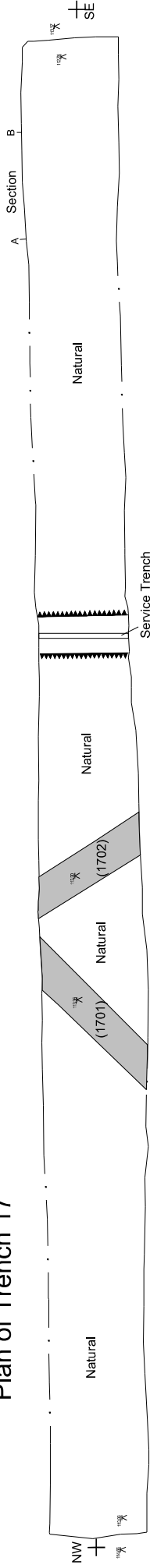
Trial trench

Evaluation trench location (south)

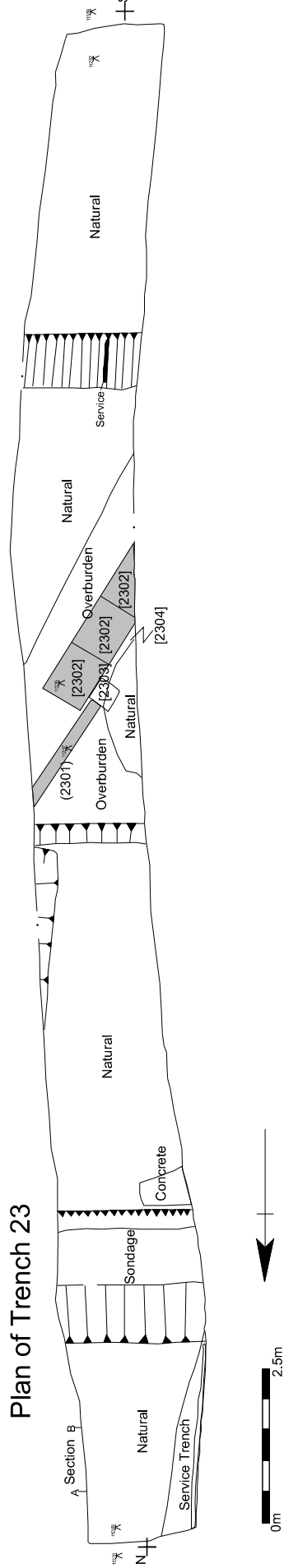
Plan of Trench 15

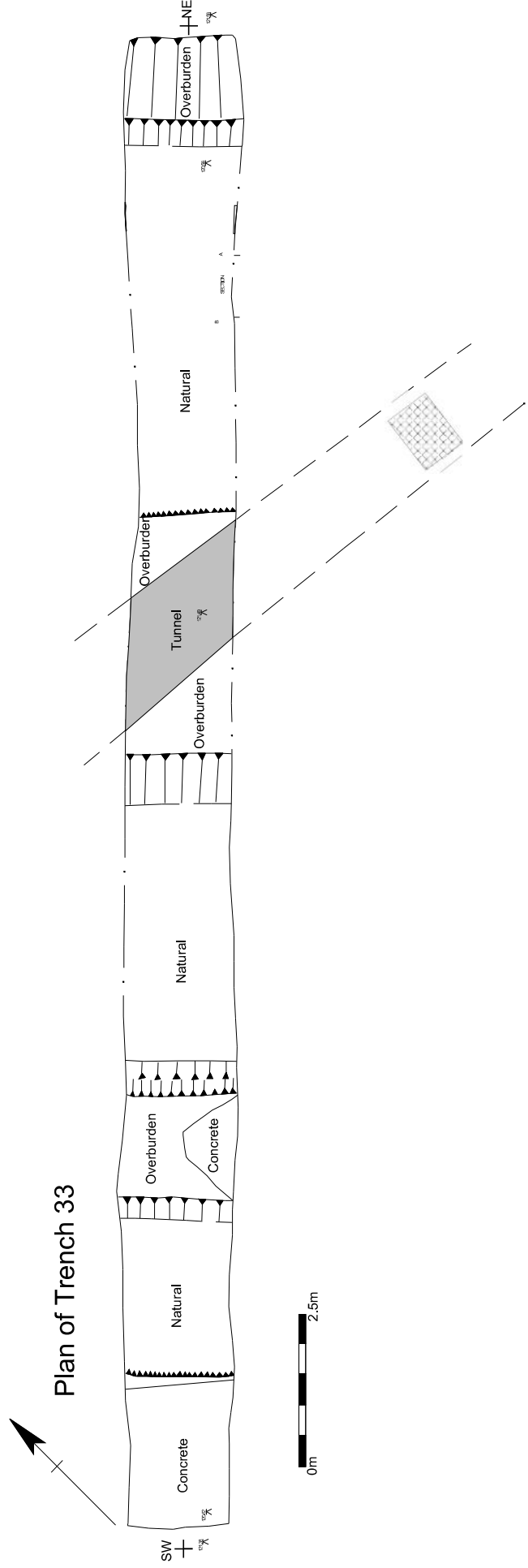
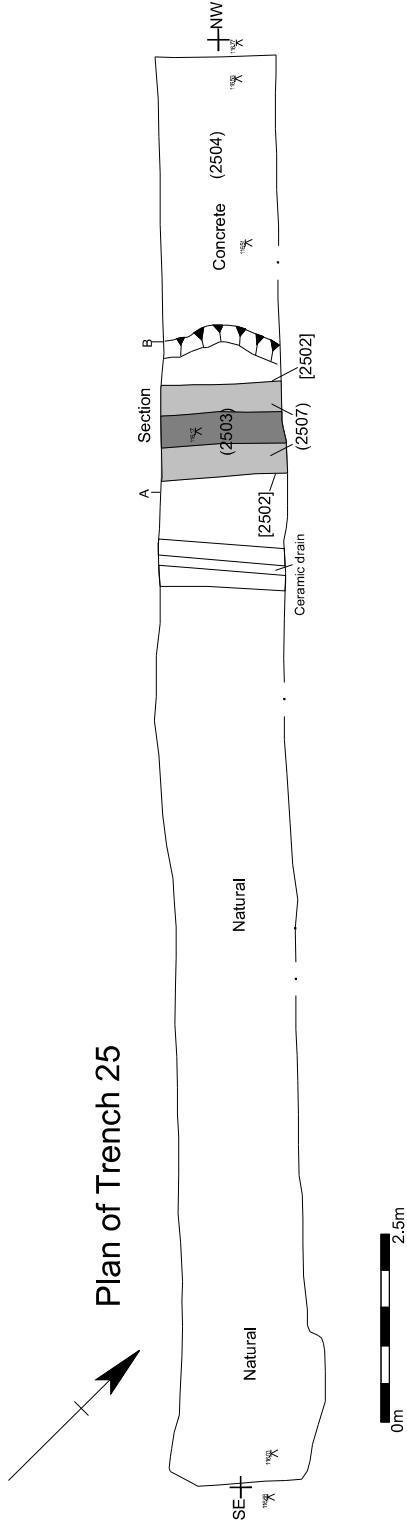


Plan of Trench 17

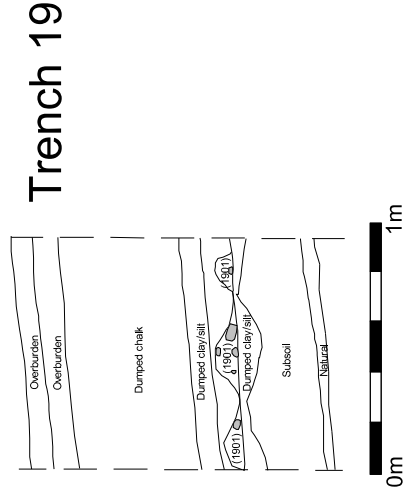
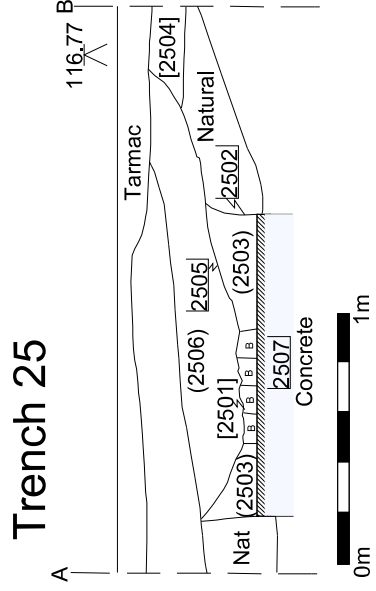
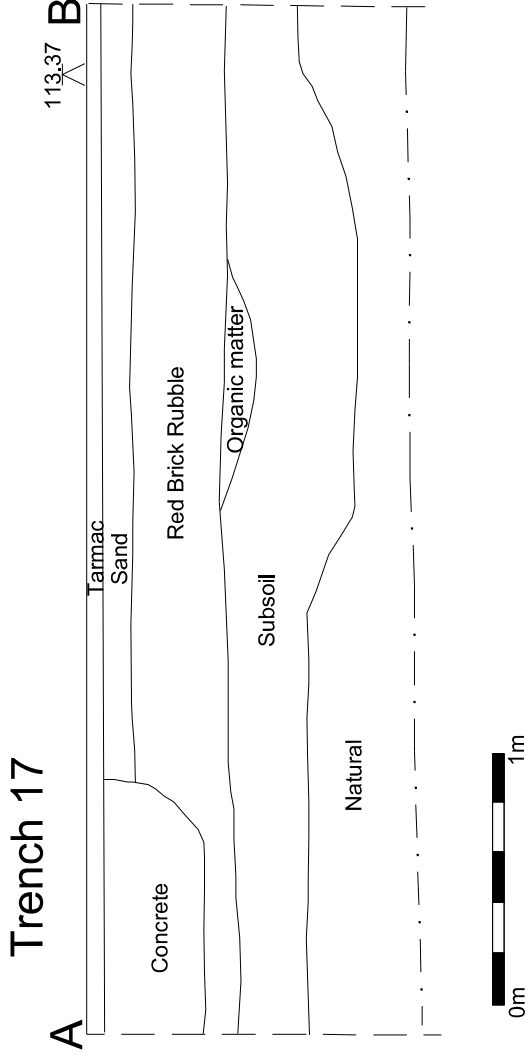
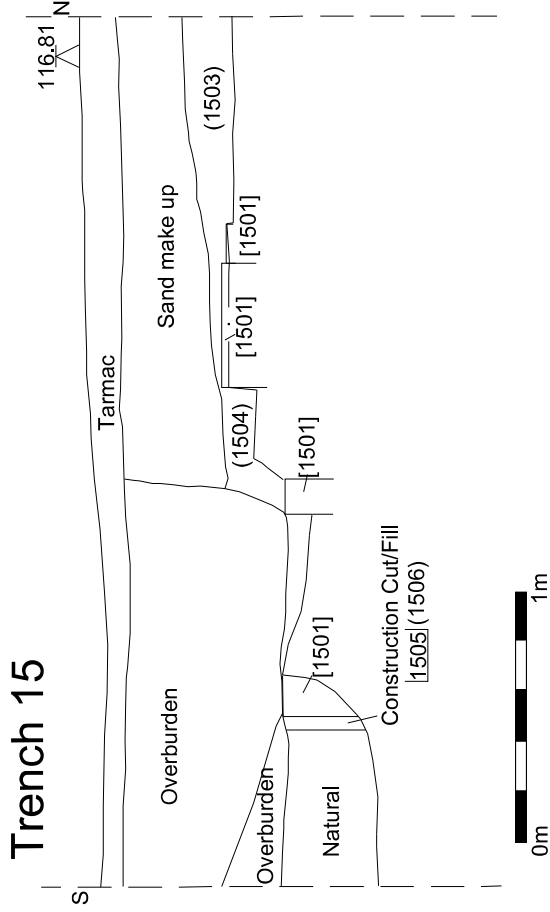


Plan of Trench 23





Plans of Trenches 25 & 33



Trench Sections





Plate 1: [1501] Looking West



Plate 2: [1501] Looking South





Plate 3: [1501] Looking North



Plate 4: [2301] looking SW





Plate 5: [2501], looking west



Plate 6: Trench 19 Stratigraphy



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The Frythe, Digswell Hill, Welwyn, Herts.

HN955



Plate 7: [1701], [1702] Looking NW



Plate 8: [2301], [2302] Looking North





Plate 9: [3301] looking SW



Plate 10: [3301] looking NE into hatch





Plate 11: Late Bronze Age/Early Iron Age pottery from Trench 2 (Interior)



Plate 12: Late Bronze Age/Early Iron Age pottery from Trench 2 (Exterior)

# Appendix 1

## OASIS DATA COLLECTION FORM

<i>OASIS ID: heritage1-113121</i>	
<b>Project details</b>	
Project name	The Frythe, Digswell Hill, Welwyn, Herts.
Short description of the project	<p>The development site lies within an Area of Archaeological Significance as defined in the District Local Plan, which notes that a number of Iron Age or Roman cremations have been found at the site, and that it has been associated with the Wilshere family since the 14th century. During the Second World War it housed Station IX, part of the Special Operations Executive.</p> <p>It was considered that the evaluation had the potential to contribute to the further understanding of activity during the Prehistoric, Iron Age, Roman and Medieval periods, but no significant archaeological features or deposits were revealed. A solitary Late Bronze Age/Early Iron Age base sherd, recovered unstratified from the northern end of the site, does provide limited evidence for occupation at this period, however.</p> <p>The 34 evaluation trenches clearly demonstrated the level of modern disturbance that had taken place across the site from the 19th century onwards, with evidence for major landscaping in the form of dumped deposits and make-up layers, construction of buildings in the form of strip footings and concrete hard-standing, and the presence service ducts and intrusive services. This supports the cartographic and documentary evidence, and the evidence from the geotechnical test-pitting programme, illustrated in the earlier Archaeological Impact Assessment.</p> <p>The trial trenching programme has allowed the previously assessed risk that development of the site would encounter archaeological features, deposits and finds to be characterised, and reassessed. On this basis the risk that the development might disturb significant archaeological remains predating the Post-medieval and Modern periods, is considered to be Low.</p>
Project dates	Start: 17-01-2012 End: 08-02-2012
Previous/future work	Yes / Not known
Associated project reference codes	HN955 - Contracting Unit No.
Type of project	Field evaluation
Site status	Local Authority Designated Archaeological Area
Current Land use	Residential 1 - General Residential
Monument type	LAYER None
Methods & techniques	'Targeted Trenches'
Development type	Residential
Prompt	Direction from Local Planning Authority – PPS-5
Position in the planning process	After full determination (eg. As a condition)
<b>Project location</b>	
Country	England
Site location	HERTFORDSHIRE WELWYN DIGSWELL HILL The Frythe
Postcode	AL6 9AL
Study area	100000 Square metres
Site coordinates	TL 22522 15102
Height OD / Depth	Min: 151.58m Max: 113.3m
<b>Project creators</b>	



Name of Organisation	Heritage Network
Project brief originator	Local Authority Archaeologist and/or Planning Authority/advisory body
Project design originator	Heritage Network
Project director	David Hillelson
Project supervisor	Greg Jones
Type of funding body	Developer
Name of funding body	Land Improvement Holdings, 2-8 Avenue Charles de Gaulle, Luxembourg, L-1653
<b>Project archives</b>	
Physical Archive Exists?	No
Digital Archive recipient	Welwyn Hatfield Museums Service
Digital Contents	'none'
Digital Media available	'Images raster / digital photography'
Paper Archive recipient	Welwyn Hatfield Museum Services
Paper Contents	'none'
Paper Media available	'Context sheet','Diary','Drawing','Photograph','Plan','Report','Section','Survey'
<b>Project bibliography 1</b>	
Publication type	Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)
Title	The Frythe, Digsweil Hill, Welwyn, Hertfordshire: Archaeological Evaluation
Author(s)/Editor(s)	Jones, G.
Other bibliographic details	Report no. 705
Date	2012
Issuer or publisher	Heritage Network
Place of issue or publication	Letchworth, Hertfordshire
Description	A4 booklet, comb bound, green cover, 35 pages, 6 figures, 12 plates

## Appendix 2

## CONTEXT INDEX

Context	Element	Context type	Clarity	Description	Finds	Sampled	Period
701	TR7B	Aggregate Layer	Fair	Loose sand (5Y 6/ 3) in colour. There were 1 inclusions. 1-2 cm sized inclusions of gravel. Occurring at a frequent frequency. Make up layer	No	No	Modern
702	TR7B	Aggregate Layer	Fair	Firm sand (2.5YR 4/ 2) in colour. There were 1 inclusions. 1-2 cm sized inclusions of gravel. Occurring at a frequent frequency. Make up layer	No	No	Modern
703	TR7B	Aggregate Layer	Fair	Compact clayey silt (10YR 5/ 4) in colour. There were 1 inclusions. 20 + cm sized inclusions of modern building material. Occurring at a rare frequency. Make up layer	No	No	Modern
901	TR9	Aggregate Layer	Clear	Friable clayey silt (10YR 5/ 3) in colour. There were 1 inclusions. 1-2 cm sized inclusions of gravel. Occurring at a occasional frequency. Make up layer	No	No	Modern
902	TR9	Aggregate Layer	Clear	Loose sandy clay silt (10YR 7/ 6) in colour. There were 1 inclusions. 20 + cm sized inclusions of modern building material. Occurring at a occasional frequency. Make up layer	No	No	Modern
1101	TR11	Aggregate Layer	Clear	Loose clayey silty sand (10YR 6/ 6) in colour. No inclusions. Make up layer	No	No	Modern
1102	TR11	Aggregate Layer	Clear	Sticky clayey silt (10YR 4/ 4) in colour. There were 1 inclusions. 20 + cm sized inclusions of CBM. Occurring at a rare frequency. Make up layer	No	No	Modern
1103	TR11	Aggregate Layer	Clear	Firm clayey silty sand (10YR 4/ 3) in colour. No inclusions. Make up layer	No	No	Modern
1104	TR11	Aggregate Layer	Clear	Firm sandy clay silt (2.5YR 5/ 4) in colour. No inclusions. Make up layer	No	No	Modern
1302	TR13	Concrete	Clear	Linear in plan. The structure was constructed from Concrete. 0 course(s) survived. The overall condition was fair. Services	No	No	Modern
1303	TR13	Construction Cut	Clear	Irregular in plan, with a irregular profile. The sides were steep with a irregular base. Cut for services.	No	No	Modern
1304	TR13	Aggregate Fill	Clear	Firm clayey silt (10YR 5/ 4) in colour. There were 1 inclusions. 10-20 cm sized inclusions of modern building material. Occurring at a occasional frequency. Dumped fill	No	No	Modern
1305	TR13	Construction Cut	Clear	Irregular in plan, with a irregular profile. The sides were steep with a irregular base. Base not seen.	No	No	Modern
1306	TR13	Construction Fill	Clear	Firm clayey silt (GLE Y2 8/ 5PB) in colour. There were 1 inclusions. 10-20 cm sized inclusions of modern building material. Occurring at a occasional frequency. Dumped fill	No	No	Modern
1501	TR15	Concrete	Clear	Linear in plan. The structure was constructed from Concrete, Brick, Mortar. Yes course(s) survived. The overall condition was 0.	No	No	Modern

Context	Element	Context type	Clarity	Description	Finds	Sampled	Period
1502	TR15	Concrete	Clear	Linear in plan. The structure was constructed from Concrete, Brick, Mortar. Yes course(s) survived. The overall condition was 0.	No	No	Modern
1503	TR15	Aggregate Layer	Clear	Firm sandy clay silt, (10YR 3/ 1) in colour. There were 2 inclusions. 5-10 cm sized inclusions of modern building material. Occurring at a occasional frequency.0.5 -1 cm sized inclusions of gravel. Occurring at a occasional frequency.	No	No	Modern
1504	TR15	Aggregate Fill	Clear	Firm sandy clay silt, (GLE Y1 6/ 10Y) in colour. There were 1 inclusions. 2-5 cm sized inclusions of gravel. Occurring at a moderate frequency.	No	No	Modern
1505	TR15	Construction Cut	Clear	Linear in plan, with a square profile. The sides were vertical with a flat base. Plan shape and base not seen.	No	No	Modern
1506	TR15	Construction Fill	Clear	Loose sand, (10YR 7/ 1) in colour. There were 1 inclusions. Fleck sized inclusions of gravel. Occurring at a occasional frequency.	No	No	Modern
1701	TR17	Foundation Wall	Clear	Linear in plan. The structure was constructed from Concrete. 0 course(s) survived. The overall condition was fair. Wall foundation	No	No	Modern
1702	TR17	Foundation Wall	Clear	Linear in plan. The structure was constructed from Concrete. 0 course(s) survived. The overall condition was fair. Wall foundation	No	No	Modern
1901	TR19	Lens Layer	Clear	Loose sand, (2.5YR 5/ 8) in colour. No inclusions.	No	No	Modern
2001	TR20	Subsoil Layer	Clear	Firm sandy silty clay, (10YR 4/ 3) in colour. There were 1 inclusions. 5-10 cm sized inclusions of modern building material. Occurring at a moderate frequency.	No	No	Modern
2301	TR23	Foundation Wall	Clear	Linear in plan. The structure was constructed from Brick. Yes course(s) survived. The overall condition was 0.	No	No	Modern
2302	TR23	Concrete	Clear	Linear in plan. The structure was constructed from Concrete. 0 course(s) survived. The overall condition was fair. Services	No	No	Modern
2303	TR23	Concrete	Clear	Linear in plan. The structure was constructed from Concrete. 0 course(s) survived. The overall condition was fair. Services	No	No	Modern
2304	TR23	Construction Cut	Clear	Linear in plan, with a square profile. The sides were steep with a flat base. Base not seen.	No	No	Modern
2305	TR23	Construction Fill	Clear	Compact clayey silt, (10YR 6/ 4) in colour. There were 1 inclusions. 0.5 -1 cm sized inclusions of gravel. Occurring at a frequent frequency.	No	No	Modern
2501	TR25	Foundation Wall	Clear	Linear in plan. The structure was constructed from Brick, Mortar. Yes course(s) survived. The overall condition was 0.	No	No	Modern
2502	TR25	Construction Cut	Clear	Linear in plan, with a square profile. The sides were vertical with a flat base. Base not seen.	No	No	Modern
2503	TR25	Construction Fill	Clear	Firm sand, (10YR 7/ 4) in colour. There were 1 inclusions. 5-10 cm sized inclusions of modern	No	No	Modern

Context	Element	Context type	Clarity	Description	Finds	Sampled	Period
				building material. Occurring at a frequent frequency.			
2504	TR25	Surface	Clear	Linear in plan. The structure was constructed from Concrete. 0 course(s) survived. The overall condition was 0.	No	No	Modern
2505	TR25	Demolition Cut	Clear	Linear in plan, with a funnel profile. The sides were shallow with a irregular base. Base not seen.	No	No	Modern
2506	TR25	Demolition Fill	Clear	Firm clayey sand, (7.5YR 5/ 1) in colour. There were 1 inclusions. 0.5 -1 cm sized inclusions of modern building material. Occurring at a frequent frequency.	No	No	Modern
2507	TR25	Foundation Wall	Clear	Linear in plan. The structure was constructed from Concrete. 0 course(s) survived. The overall condition was fair. Wall foundation	No	No	Modern
2701	TR27	Surface	Clear	Linear in plan. The structure was constructed from Concrete. 0 course(s) survived. The overall condition was fair. Wall foundation	No	No	Modern
3301	TR33	Surface	Clear	Linear in plan. The structure was constructed from Concrete. 0 course(s) survived. The overall condition was very good. Concrete tunnel	No	No	Modern