

Archaeological Services & Consultancy Ltd

**WATCHING BRIEF:
FOSSE HOUSE
ERMINE CLOSE
ST ALBANS
HERTFORDSHIRE**

NGR: TL 1327 0650

on behalf of Hertfordshire County Council



Carina Summerfield-Hill MSc

December 2011

ASC: 1104/SAF/2



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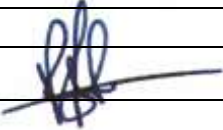
Site Data

<i>ASC project code:</i>	SAF	<i>ASC Project No:</i>	1104
<i>OASIS ref:</i>	archaeol2-49700	<i>Event/Accession no:</i>	FEC11
<i>County:</i>	Hertfordshire		
<i>Village/Town:</i>	St Albans		
<i>Civil Parish:</i>	St Albans		
<i>NGR (to 8 figs):</i>	TL 1327 0650		
<i>Extent of site:</i>	c.2,160 sq m		
<i>Present use:</i>	Care home		
<i>Planning proposal:</i>	Care home extension		
<i>Planning application ref/date:</i>	Not known		
<i>Local Planning Authority:</i>	St Albans District Council		
<i>Date of fieldwork:</i>	21/09/11-28/11/11		
<i>Commissioned by:</i>	Tropus & Spicer 128 Buckingham Palace Road London SW1W 9SA		
<i>Client:</i>	Hertfordshire Property Hertfordshire County Council County Hall Hertford SG13 8DN		
<i>Contact name:</i>	Andrew Winter (Tropus & Spicer)		

Internal Quality Check

<i>Primary Author:</i>	Carina Summerfield-Hill	<i>Date:</i>	01/12/11
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<i>Revisions:</i>		<i>Date:</i>	
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<i>Edited/Checked By:</i>		<i>Date:</i>	01/12/11
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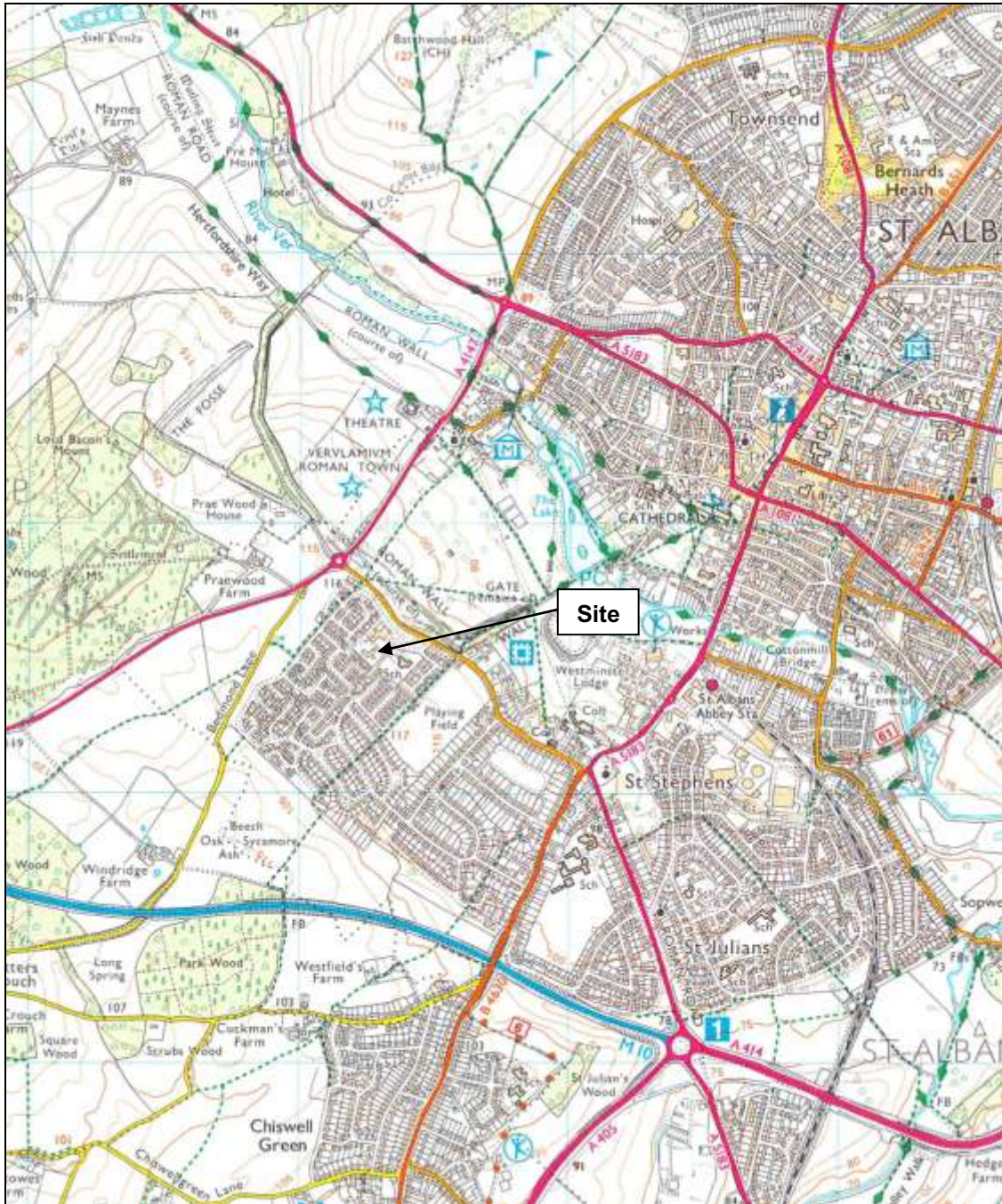


Figure 1: General location (scale 1:25,000)

Summary

In September-November 2011 a watching brief was carried out at Fosse House, Ermine Close, St Albans, Hertfordshire during the construction of two extensions to the southeast side of Fosse House. The works revealed that the natural soils of the site were truncated and that the site is now largely built-up with made-ground. This is thought to have occurred during the initial construction of Fosse House. No significant archaeological finds, features or deposits were observed.

1. Introduction

1.1 In September-November 2011 *Archaeological Services and Consultancy Ltd* (ASC) carried out a watching brief at Fosse House, Ermine Close, St Albans, Hertfordshire. The project was commissioned by *Hertfordshire County Council*, and was carried out according to a brief (West 2008) prepared on behalf of the local planning authority (LPA), *St Albans District Council*, by their archaeological officer (AO), and a project design prepared by ASC (Fell 2009). The original requirement, for a trial trench evaluation, was changed to a watching brief following discussion with the AO.

1.2 *Planning Background*

This watching brief was required under the terms of *Planning Policy Statement 5* (PPS5), as a condition of planning permission for the development of the site.

1.3 *Archaeological Services & Consultancy Ltd*

ASC is an independent archaeological practice providing a full range of archaeological services including consultancy, field evaluation, mitigation and post-excavation studies, historic building recording and analysis. ASC is recognised as a *Registered Organisation* by the Institute for Archaeologists and is also accredited ISO 9001, in recognition of its high standards and working practices.

1.4 *The Site*

1.4.1 *Location & Description*

The site is situated in the administrative district of St Albans, Hertfordshire (Fig. 1). It lies to the southwest of the town centre, off Ermine Close and is centred on Ordnance Survey National Grid Reference TL 134 065 (Fig. 2).

The site comprises a sub-rectangular area of land, the majority of which is occupied by Fosse House. The building is set in landscaped grounds, with a car parking area to the north (Fig. 3).

1.4.2 *Geology & Topography*

The soils of the area are of the *Marlow Association*, and are characterised as *well drained fine loamy over clayey and clayey soils. Some coarse and fine loamy over clayey soils with slowly permeable subsoils and slight seasonal waterlogging.* The underlying geology comprises *plateau and river terrace drift* (Soil Survey, 1983, 581e). The site lies at an elevation of c.110m AOD.

1.4.3 Proposed Development

The development proposal comprises the construction of extensions to the southeast side of the existing care home (Fig. 3)

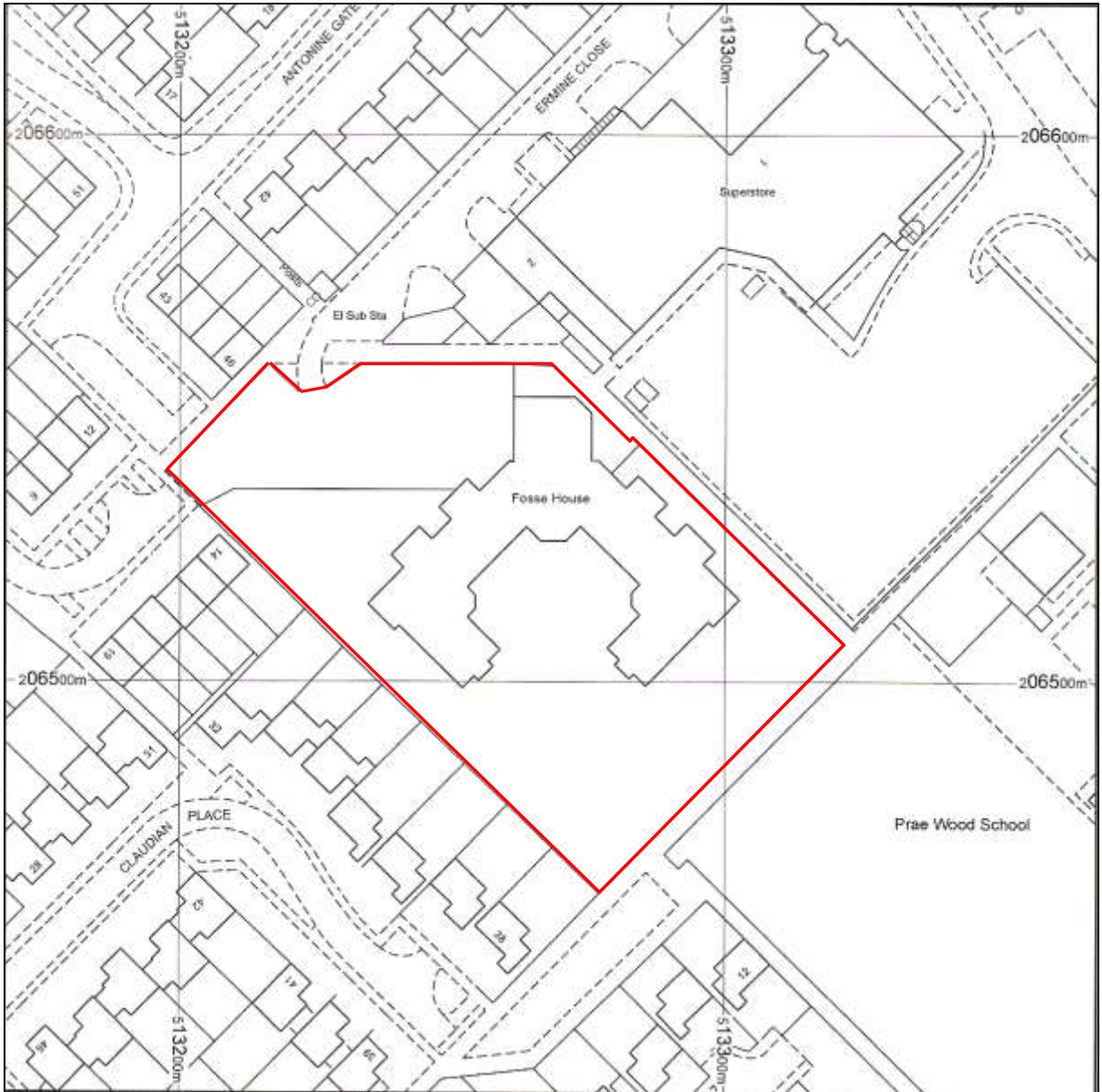


Figure 2: Site plan (scale 1: 1250)

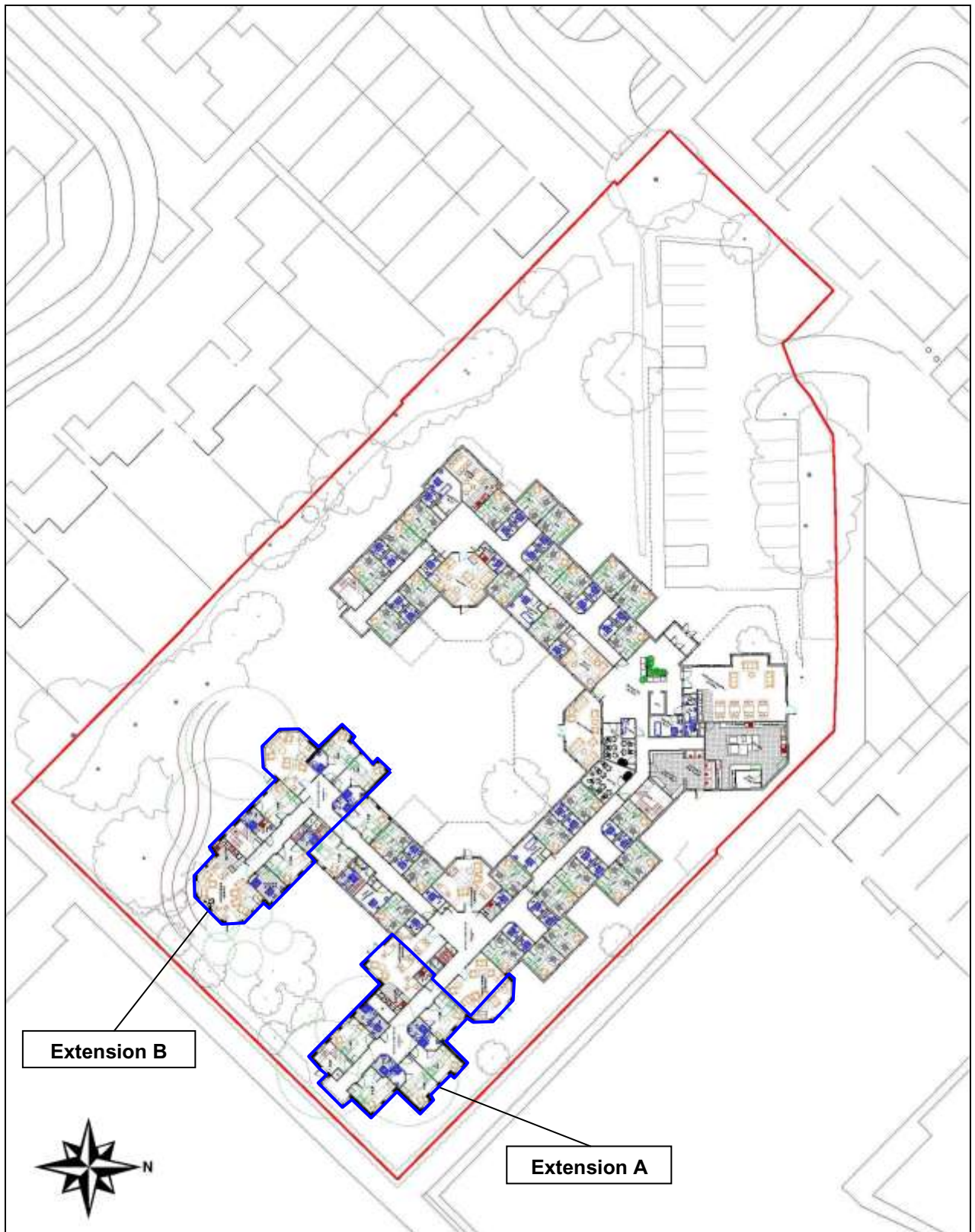


Figure 3: Proposed development plan (*not to scale*)

2. Aims & Methods

2.1 *Aims*

As described in the project design (Section 3), the aims of the watching brief were:

- To determine the location, extent, date, character, condition, significance and quality of any surviving archaeological remains liable to be threatened by the proposed development

2.2 *Standards*

The work conformed to the requirements of the AO, to the relevant sections of the Institute for Archaeologists' *Code of Conduct* (IFA 2000) and *Standard & Guidance Notes* (IFA 2001), to the Association of Local Government Archaeological Officers East of England Region *Standards for Field Archaeology in the East of England* (ALGAO 2003), and to the relevant sections of ASC's own *Operations Manual*.

2.3 *Methods*

The work was carried out according to the requirements of the AO, who required:

- A watching brief on the groundwork's for the two extensions.

2.4 *Constraints*

The project was initially intended to be an archaeological evaluation. However the strategy was changed to a watching brief due to access restrictions.

3. Archaeological & Historical Background

3.1 The following section provides a summary of the readily available archaeological and historical background to the development site and its environs. The site lies within an area of archaeological and historical interest, and has the potential to reveal evidence of a range of periods.

This section has been compiled with information from readily available sources.

3.2 There is little evidence for early prehistoric activity in the area, with only one Palaeolithic scraper (SMR 594) being recorded in the Hertfordshire Sites and Monuments Records (Stephenson, 1999, 10), though slight traces of a Bronze Age settlement were reported from excavations on King Harry Lane to the east of the site (Stead and Rigby, 1989, 53).

3.3 The playing field c.0.5km to the east of the site was the subject of a 1930's excavation which identified the Iron Age oppidum of *Verlamion*. The oppidum probably consisted of a series of open spaces interspersed with farmsteads and small settlements linked by trackways. The focal point may have been a royal building in the centre of what later became the Roman town and from where coin moulding debris has been recovered. The type of settlement might be described as an 'enclosed, dispersed settlement' carrying out some of the functions of a town, such as trade and administration, but with a heavy bias towards farming (Branigan 1987, 14-16).

3.4 Two important cemeteries dating roughly to the first half of the first century AD have been excavated in the vicinity of the site; at Verulam Farm Fields (Anthony, 1968), and immediately to the west of the aforementioned playing field (Stead and Rigby 1989). In addition to the late Iron Age burials, Roman and Saxon graves were also identified.

3.5 After the Roman invasion in AD 43, *Verulamium* (the Romanised version of *Verlamion*) grew to become the third largest Roman town in Britain, with the status of *municipium*, which would have meant that it was a self governing chartered city, with administrative responsibility for a significant part of the surrounding countryside, probably much of the area occupied by the *Catuvellauni* tribe (Branigan 1987, 38-42). The site itself is outside the *Verulamium* city wall, which was constructed between AD 265 and 270.

3.6 To the west of the development site is the Prae Wood settlement, which is a Scheduled Ancient Monument (SAM). The site survives in the form of earthworks immediately to the west of the proposed development. It has been suggested that these earthworks were part of a communal kraal-system which began in the late Iron Age and continued to function into the Roman period, serving the needs of Verulamium (Wheeler & Wheeler 1936, Hunn 1980).

3.7 Thirty-nine Saxon graves were identified to the east of the site. This cemetery is likely to have been in use from the middle of the 7th to the early 8th century (Ager 1989, 226), and indicates the occupation of the area by Germanic settlers at that time (Niblett, 2001, 142).

4. Results

- 4.1 Two extensions (A & B) were constructed at the south-eastern end of Fosse House. The works entailed the mechanical excavation of a haul road, ground reduction and footing trenches, and associated drainage (Fig 4). A total of nine site visits were made, the details of which are presented in Appendix 1.

The general site stratigraphy comprised:

c.0.2m max thick of topsoil;

c.0.4m max thick of subsoil consisting of mid brown silty clay with moderate small-medium sub-angular stones [Note: subsoil was only partly visible at the north-eastern end of the site];

c.0.4-1m max thick of made-ground consisting of mid-dark brown, silty clay with frequent small-medium sub-angular stones, traces of brick fragments;

c.1m max BGL (below ground level) the natural strata that consisted of orange clay with small-large flint.

The majority of the site points to the natural soil profile having been truncated away, and replaced with made-ground. This is most likely to have occurred during the initial construction of Fosse House.

No archaeological finds, features or deposits were observed throughout the works.

- 4.2 **Haul Road** (Fig. 4)

The haul road was excavated along the western side of Fosse House, to a maximum depth of c.1.10m. The stratigraphy comprised c.0.8m thick of made ground overlying the natural strata.

- 4.3 **Extension A – Ground Reduction/Footing Trench** (Fig. 4; Plate 1)

The ground reduced area for Extension A measured c.216 sq m. It was excavated to a depth between c.0.4-0.9m comprising made-ground overlying the natural strata. The footing trench was then excavated into the natural clay.

- 4.4 **Associated Drainage** (Fig. 4; Plates 2-4)

A manhole was excavated at the eastern corner of the site. It measured c.3m in length, by c.3m in width and c.1.3m deep. The stratigraphy comprised c.0.2m of topsoil, c.0.4m of subsoil, and underlying which was the natural stratum.

A soakaway was also excavated adjacent to the man-hole. It measured c.3m in length, by c.2.2 in width and c.4.3m deep. The stratigraphy comprised c.0.2 of topsoil, c.0.4m of made-ground, and underlying which was the natural stratum.

A drainage trench was excavated along the north-eastern side of the site. It measured c.13m in length, by c.2.5m in width and c.2-3m deep. The stratigraphy comprised c.0.2m of topsoil and c.0.4m max of made-ground. Towards the north-western end of the trench c.0.3m max of subsoil was visible that underlay the made-ground. To the centre and north-eastern end of the trench the subsoil had been truncated away. Underlying all of the above was the natural strata.

4.5 **Extension B – Ground Reduction/Footing Trench** (Fig. 4; Plates 5-7)

The area for Extension B measured *c.*404 sq m. Prior to ground reduction, the north-western end of the footings was excavated. The stratigraphy comprised *c.*0.2m thick of made-ground, overlying the natural clay.

The south-eastern end of the area was then reduced. It was excavated to a maximum depth of *c.*3m, comprising *c.*0.7-1m thick of made-ground overlying the natural clay. After which the remaining part of the footing trench was excavated into the natural strata.



Plate 1: Extension A: ground reduction, looking SW (*scale 2m*)



Plate 2: Soakaway: stratigraphy, looking S



Plate 3: Drainage Trench, looking NW



Plate 4: Drainage Trench: stratigraphy, north-western end, looking NE



Plate 5: Extension B: footing trench, north-western end, looking NW



Plate 6: Extension B: north-western footings and ground reduction, looking E



Plate 7: Extension B: ground reduction and south-eastern footings, looking NE

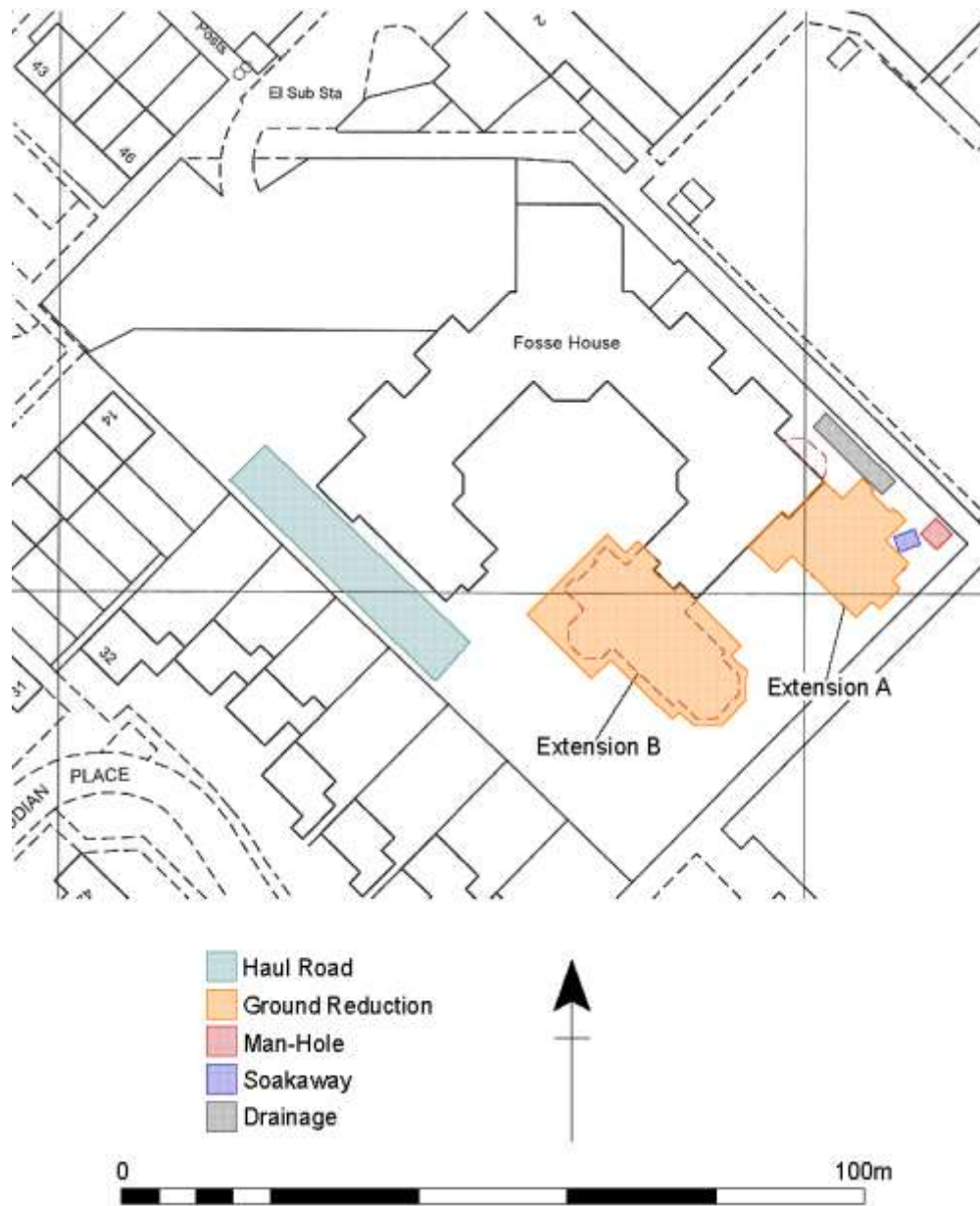


Figure 4: Plan of archaeological monitoring (scale 1:1000)

5. Conclusions

5.1 The works revealed that the natural soil profiles of the site had been truncated, and that the site is now largely built-up with made-ground. This is thought to have occurred during the initial construction of Fosse House.

5.2 Significant archaeological features were not observed. While the existence of individual isolated archaeological features away from the observed areas cannot be specifically excluded, it is unlikely that large numbers of archaeological features were present on the site. It is unlikely that the proposed development will have a significant impact on archaeological remains.

5.3 *Confidence Rating*

The works were carried out in good site conditions with full co-operation of the client. Therefore, the results are given a high confidence rating.

6. Acknowledgements

The project was commissioned by *Hertfordshire County Council*. The writer is grateful to Andrew Winter (Tropus & Spicer) for his assistance. The project was monitored by Simon West the St Albans DC Archaeological Officer. Thanks are also due to the on site manager Stuart.

The project was managed for ASC by Bob Zeepvat BA MIFA. Fieldwork was carried out by Martin Cuthbert BA PIFA, Carina Summerfield-Hill MSc and Calli Rouse BA PIFA. The report was prepared by Carina Summerfield-Hill and edited by Bob Zeepvat.

7. Archive

7.1 The project archive will comprise:

1. Brief
2. Project Design
3. Initial Report
4. Clients site plans
5. Site Monitoring Sheets
6. Site record drawings
7. List of photographs
8. B/W prints & negatives
9. CDROM with copies of all digital files.

7.2 The archive will be deposited with *Verulamium Museum*.

8. References

Standards & Specifications

- EH 1991 *The Management of Archaeological Projects, 2nd edition*. English Heritage (London).
- Fell, D 2009 *Project Design: Fosse Close, Ermine Close, St Albans, Hertfordshire*.
ASC:1104/SAF/1.
- IFA 2000a Institute of Field Archaeologists' *Code of Conduct*.
- IFA 2000b Institute of Field Archaeologists' *Code of Approved Practice for the Regulation of Contractual Arrangements in Field Archaeology*.
- IFA 2001 Institute of Field Archaeologists' *Standard & Guidance documents (Desk-Based Assessments, Watching Briefs, Evaluations, Excavations, Investigation and Recording of Standing Buildings, Finds)*.
- West, S 2008 *Archaeological Brief: Fosse House, Ermine Close, St Albans, Hertfordshire*. St Albans District Council.

Secondary Sources

- Ager, B. M. 1989 The Anglo-Saxon cemetery in Stead, I. M. and Rigby, 1989 *Verulamium: The King Harry Lane site*, English Heritage Archaeological Report no **12**, 219-239
- Anthony, I. E. 1968 Excavations in Verulam Hills Field, St Albans 1963-64, *Hertfordshire Archaeology*, **1**, 9-50
- BGS *British Geological Survey 1:50,000 Series, Solid & Drift Geology*.
- Branigan, K 1987 *Peoples of Roman Britain: The Catuvellauni* Alan Sutton
- Hunn, J R 1980 The Earthworks of Prae Wood in *Britannia Vol XI*, 21-30
- Neal, D S, Wardle A & Hunn J 1990 *Excavation of the Iron Age, Roman and Medieval Settlement at Gorhambury, St Albans* English Heritage
- Niblett, R. 2001 *Verulamium: The Roman city of St Albans*. Tempus, Stroud.
- Soil Survey 1983 *1:250,000 Soil Map of England and Wales, and accompanying legend* (Harpenden).
- Stead, I. M. and Rigby, 1989 *Verulamium: The King Harry Lane site*, English Heritage Archaeological Report **12**
- Stephenson, A. 1999 *Archaeological Desk Based Assessment: King Harry Lane Playing Field, St Albans, Hertfordshire*, CgMs: AS/KB/1896
- Wheeler, R.E.M. and T.V., 1936 *Verulamium, a Belgic and two Roman cities*, Reports of the Research Committee of the Society of Antiquaries of London **11** (Oxford).

Appendix 1: Monitoring Sheets



A.S.C. LTD

WATCHING BRIEF RECORD

Project: Fosse House		Project No/Code: 1104 / SAF		Sheet: 1 of 11	
S.T. Albans		Date of visit: 21/9/11			
Client/Developer S.G. Jackson					
Contact: Stuart Webber.			Phone: 07792 870876		
Duration of Visit (inc. travel):		Start: 10:00		Finish: 13:00	
Completed by: M.C.					
Development Type:					
Footings	Services	Roads <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Levelling	Quarrying	Pipelines
Other (specify):					
Site & weather conditions: dry + overcast					
Observations: excavation of haul road along west of current building. max ^{1.10m} 1.10m of ground reduction 0.80m of made ground over virgin ground - natural comp clay with flint No natural soil profile exists ground reduction occurred during construction of current building + truncated soil profile. No archaeology noted. Not deemed necessary to continuously monitor haul Road.					
Comments: Ring Stuart Thursday 22/9 or Friday 23/9 for further visit on haul road once its completed.					



A.S.C. LTD

WATCHING BRIEF RECORD

Project: Fosse House		Project No/Code: 1104 / SAF	Sheet: 2 of 11
ST Albans.		Date of visit: 22/9/11	
Client/Developer: ISG JACKSON			
Contact: Stuart. Webster - Foreman		Phone: 07792 870876	
Duration of Visit (inc. travel):	Start: 9:30	Finish: 16:00	
Completed by: M.C			
Development Type:			
Footings	Services	Roads <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Levelling <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
		Quarrying	Pipelines
Other (specify):			
Site & weather conditions: dry + overcast.			
Observations: Finished machining of haul road. made ground over natural. no natural soil profile exists. No archaeology in plan or in machined edge/section. began site reduction - Area (A) - P.T.O made ground not breached continuing deeper tomorrow so may get to natural clay.			
Comments: Continuing 2 more Friday 23/9/11			



A.S.C. LTD

WATCHING BRIEF RECORD

Project: Fosse House		Project No/Code: 1104 1 SAF		Sheet: 3 of 11	
St Albans		Date of visit: 23/9/11			
Client/Developer Jacksons					
Contact: Stuart			Phone: See previous sheet		
Duration of Visit (inc. travel):		Start: 9:45		Finish: 15:00 16:00 16:00	
Completed by: M.C					
Development Type:					
Footings	Services ✓	Roads	Levelling	Quarrying	Pipelines
Other (specify):					
Site & weather conditions: dry + sunny					
Observations: Area (A) overall site reduction partially complete - see photo. 0.4m-0.9m of ground reduction cutting into the slope of site, to level the site to the same level as the current building. 0.4m-0.9m = made ground over natural orange clay with flint. natural at a consistent level. no natural soil profile exists no archaeology noted to unsure whether natural has been truncated or whether previous levelling of the site stopped at the virgin ground therefore leaving any arch intact. manhole excavation taking place ^{3m} 2m x 3m x 1.3m deep. no arch Topsoil (0.2m) - made ground (0.4m) - subsoil (0.3m) - natural clay. Comments: natural in manhole at consistent depth of 0.9m proving original ground reduction is down to natural clay + truncation hasn't taken place. Continuing Monday 26th September 9am drainager runs 1m wide!! + Finishing site reduction Area (A)					



A.S.C. LTD

WATCHING BRIEF RECORD

Project: FOSSÉ HOUSE, ERMINIE CLOSE, ST ALBANS		Project No/Code: 1104/SAF	Sheet: 4 of 11
Client/Developer JACKSONS		Date of visit: 26/09/11	
Contact: STUART		Phone:	
Duration of Visit (inc. travel):	Start: 12.45	Finish: 15.00	
Completed by: G			
Development Type:			
Footings	Services ✓	Roads	Levelling
			Quarrying
			Pipelines
			Other (specify):
Site & weather conditions: GOOD, DRY, SUNNY, WEATHER			
Observations: OBSERVED THE EXCAVATION OF A SPAKAWAY. MEASURED C. 2.2m x c. 3m TO A DEPTH OF c. 4.3m STRAT. c. a. 2m (D) TOPSOIL c. a. 4m (D) MADE-GROUND UNDERLYING WHICH WAS THE NATURAL ORANGE CLAY WITH SMALL - LARGE FLINT NO ARCHAEOLOGY OBSERVED. TRENCH EXCAVATED TOWARDS THE EASTERN CORNER OF SITE, JUST DOWN FROM MAN-HOLE			
Comments: DRAINAGE RUN TO BE EXCAVATED AND SITE REDUCTION IN AREA A NEXT WEEK.			



A.S.C. LTD

WATCHING BRIEF RECORD

Project: FOSSE HOUSE, ERMINNE		Project No/Code: 1104/SAF	Sheet: 5 of 11
CLOSE, ST ALBANS		Date of visit: 04/10/11	
Client/Developer			
Contact:		Phone:	
Duration of Visit (inc. travel):	Start: 12:45	Finish: 15:00	
Completed by:			
Development Type:			
Footings	Services ✓	Roads	Levelling ✓
		Quarrying	Pipelines
		Other (specify):	
Site & weather conditions: GOOD, DRY SUNNY SITE / UNSETTLE			
Observations: WANTED TO OBSERVE LEVELLING OF THE EASTERN AREA OF THE SITE BUT THIS HAD NOT BEEN STARTED YET. THE LEVELLED AREA SHOULD BE READY TO RECORD LATER ON IN THE WEEK. RECORDED A DRAINAGE TRENCH ALONG THE N/E BOUNDARY OF THE SITE. IT MEASURED C. 2.5 (W), C. 1.3M(L) BETWEEN 2-3M (D) STRAT - TURF/TOPSOIL C. 0.2M (D) - MADE-GROUND C. 0.4M (D) - SUB-SOIL C. 0.3M (D) - ONLY VISIBLE TOWARDS THE NORTH-WEST END OF TRENCH - NATURAL STRATA			
Comments: - MAJORITY OF SUB-SOIL HAS BEEN TRUNCATED DURING THE CONSTRUCTION OF FOSSE HOUSE			



A.S.C. LTD

WATCHING BRIEF RECORD

Project: FOSSÉ HOUSE, ST ALBANS		Project No/Code: 1104 1 SAF	Sheet: 87 of 11
		Date of visit: 12/10/11	
Client/Developer			
Contact:		Phone:	
Duration of Visit (inc. travel):	Start: 1.20	Finish: 4pm	
Completed by: CR			
Development Type:			
Footings	Services	Roads	Levelling <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
			Quarrying
			Pipelines
			Other (specify):
Site & weather conditions: OVERCAST			
Observations: OBSERVED FINAL REDUCED AREA PARTS OF AREA A. NO ARCHAEOLOGICAL FINDS OR FEATURES OBSERVED - NATURAL RED CLAY PRESENT THROUGHOUT, WITH SOME MADE GROUND.			
Comments:			



A.S.C. LTD

WATCHING BRIEF RECORD

Project: FOSSÉ HOUSE		Project No/Code: 1104/SAF	Sheet: 9 of 11
ST ALBANS		Date of visit: 20/10/11	
Client/Developer			
Contact: STUART		Phone:	
Duration of Visit (inc. travel):	Start: 10.30	Finish: 2pm	
Completed by: CR			
Development Type:			
Footings <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Services	Roads	Levelling
			Quarrying
			Pipelines
			Other (specify):
Site & weather conditions:			
SUNNY			
Observations:			
OBSERVED FOOTING TRENCHES IN AREA B.			
STRATIGRAPHY COMPLETED C. 0.2m MADE GROUND			
OVER ORANGE SANDY NATURAL. NO ARCHAEOLOGICAL			
FINDS / FEATURES OBSERVED.			
Comments:			
STUART WILL RUSH TO CONFIRM REMAINDER OF			
GROUND WORKS IN THIS AREA.			



A.S.C. LTD

WATCHING BRIEF RECORD

Project: Fosse House		Project No/Code: 1104 / SAF		Sheet: 10 of 11	
ST Albans		Date of visit: 23/11/11			
Client/Developer					
Contact:			Phone:		
Duration of Visit (inc. travel):		Start: 10:30		Finish: 13:30	
Completed by: M. C					
Development Type:					
Footings	Services	Roads	Levelling <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Quarrying	Pipelines
Other (specify):					
Site & weather conditions: damp, cold, clear skies					
Observations: continued ground reduction of plot B no arch. made ground - 0.7m over clean orange clay - natural No arch					
Comments:					



A.S.C. LTD

WATCHING BRIEF RECORD

Project: Fosse House		Project No/Code: 1104 / SAF		Sheet: 10 of 11	
ST Albans.		Date of visit: 26/11/11			
Client/Developer ISG Jackson					
Contact:			Phone:		
Duration of Visit (Inc. travel):	Start: 10:15.			Finish: 13:00	
Completed by: M.C					
Development Type:					
Footings	Services	Roads	Levelling <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Quarrying	Pipelines
Other (specify):					
Site & weather conditions: dry.					
Observations: Area B = c.1m made ground over very clean natural. no soil profile exists. truncated. 2m of natural down to finish level. Foundation trenches then dug into clean nat. No arch. See photos very large area excavated no drawing done as area is marked on clients plan.... I hope!!					
Comments: No more visits required					

Appendix 3: List of Photographs

SITE NAME: Fosse House, Ermine Close, St Albans, Hertfordshire		SITE NO/CODE: 1104/SAF
Shot	Digital	Subject
1	√	Excavation of haul road, looking NW
2	√	Stratigraphy of haul road, looking NW
3	√	Ground reduction in Area A, looking SW (<i>scale 2m</i>)
4	√	Ground reduction in Area A, looking NW (<i>scale 2m</i>)
5	√	Ground reduction in Area A, looking S (<i>scale 2m</i>)
6	√	Man-hole, looking E
7	√	Stratigraphy of soakaway, looking SE (<i>scale 1m</i>)
8	√	Stratigraphy of soakaway, looking SE (<i>scale 1m</i>)
9	√	Excavation of soakaway, looking S
10	√	Stratigraphy of soakaway, looking SE
11	√	Drainage trench, looking E (<i>scale 1m</i>)
12	√	Drainage trench, looking SE
13	√	Drainage trench, stratigraphy, looking NE
14	√	Drainage trench, stratigraphy, looking NE
15	√	Drainage trench, looking NW
16	√	Drainage trench and Area A, looking W
17	√	Drainage trench, looking NW
18	√	Concreted footings in Area A, looking NE
19	√	Footing trench, in Area B, north-western end, looking NE
20	√	Footing trench, in Area B, north-western end, looking NW
21	√	Area B, north-western footings and ground reduced area, looking E
22	√	Area B, ground reduction and stratigraphy, looking E
23	√	Area B, ground reduction, looking W
24	√	Area B, footing trench, south-eastern end, looking NW
25	√	Area B, footing trench, south-eastern end, looking NE

Appendix 4: ASC OASIS Form

PROJECT DETAILS			
Project Name:	Fosse House, Ermine Close, St Albans, Hertfordshire	OASIS reference:	archaeol2-49700
Short Description:	In September-November 2011 a watching brief was carried out at Fosse House, Ermine Close, St Albans, Hertfordshire during the construction of two extensions to the southeast side of Fosse House. The works revealed that the natural soils of the site were truncated and that the site is now largely built-up with made-ground. This is thought to have occurred during the initial construction of Fosse House. No significant archaeological finds, features or deposits were observed.		
Project Type:	Watching Brief		
Previous work: (eg. SMR refs)	None	Site status: (eg. none, SAM, listed)	None
Current land use:	Care Home	Future work: (yes/no/unknown)	No
Monument type:	/	Monument period:	/
Significant finds: (artefact type & period)	None		
PROJECT LOCATION			
County:	Hertfordshire	OS reference: (8 figs min)	TL 1327 0650
Site address: (+ postcode if known)	Fosse House, Ermine Close, St Albans, Hertfordshire		
Study area: (sq. m. / ha)	c.2,160 sq m	Height OD: (metres)	c.110m
PROJECT CREATORS			
Organisation:	Archaeological Services & Consultancy Ltd		
Project brief originator:	Simon West	Project design originator:	David Fell MA MIFA
Project Manager:	Bob Zeepvat BA MIFA	Supervisor:	Martin Cuthbert BA PIFA
Sponsor / funding body:	Hertfordshire County Council		
PROJECT DATE			
Start date:	21/09/11	End date:	28/11/11
PROJECT ARCHIVES			
	Location (Accession no.)	Content (eg. pottery, animal bone, files/sheets)	
Physical:	Verulamium Museum	None	
Paper:		Brief, pd, report, site records	
Digital:		CD containing all digital files including digital photographs	
BIBLIOGRAPHY (Journal/monograph, published or forthcoming, or unpublished client report)			
Title:	Watching Brief: Fosse House, Ermine Close, St Albans, Hertfordshire		
Serial title & volume:	ASC Ltd Report ref. 1140/SAF/2		
Author(s):	Carina Summerfield-Hill MSc		
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