

**ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF REPORT:  
138 SPRINGVALE ROAD, KINGS WORTHY, HAMPSHIRE**

Planning Reference: 11/02543/FUL

NGR: SU 48870 33584

Oasis Reference: allenarc1-138252

AAL Site Code: KWSR 12

Winchester Museum Archive Code: WINCM: AY 496



Report prepared for  
Bargate Homes Limited

By  
Allen Archaeology Limited  
Report Number 2012114

December 2012



Allenarchaeology



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### Document Control

Element	Name	Date
Report prepared by:	Maria Piirainen	7/12/2012
Illustrations prepared by:	Maria Piirainen	7/12/2012
Report edited by:	Chris Clay	10/12/2012
Report produced by:	AAL 2012114	10/12/2012

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### **Executive Summary**

- Allen Archaeology Limited was commissioned by Bargate Homes Limited to undertake an archaeological watching brief on land at 138 Springvale Road in Kings Worthy, Hampshire. The work was undertaken in response to a condition attached to a planning permission for a residential development.
- The site lies within an area of significant archaeological potential, with evidence of prehistoric and Romano British activity in the vicinity of the site.
- No features or deposits of archaeological significance were identified during the monitoring. The sequence exposed comprised modern topsoil, overlying a probable colluvium and natural chalk.

## 1.0 Introduction

- 1.1 Allen Archaeology Limited (hereafter AAL) was commissioned by Bargate Homes Limited to undertake an archaeological watching brief during the groundworks for a residential development on land at 138 Springvale Road in Kings Worthy, Hampshire.
- 1.2 The fieldwork, recording and reporting was consistent with current national guidelines, as set out in the Institute for Archaeologists '*Standard and guidance for an archaeological watching brief*' (IfA 1994, revised 2001 and 2008), English Heritage documents '*Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment*' (English Heritage 2006) and '*Management of Archaeological Projects*' (English Heritage 1991). All appropriate English Heritage guidelines on archaeological practice were also followed ([www.helm.org/server/show/nav.7740](http://www.helm.org/server/show/nav.7740)) as well as a specification prepared by this company (AAL 2012).
- 1.3 The documentary archive will be submitted to Winchester Museum within twelve months of the completion of the project and stored under the museum archive code WINCM: AY 496.

## 2.0 Site Location and Description

- 2.1 The development area is situated to the north of the village of Kings Worthy and approximately 4km to the north-northeast of the centre of Winchester. The site is bounded to the east by Springvale Road, which runs through the west side of the village, and by housing and gardens to the north and south. To the west lies scrub and open land. The site is centred on NGR SU 48870 33584 and rises from east to west from c.50m to c.60m above Ordnance Datum.
- 2.2 The solid geology of the area consists of Seaford Chalk Formation with no superficial geology recorded (<http://www.bgs.ac.uk/opengeoscience/home.html?Accordion1=1#maps>).

## 3.0 Planning Background

- 3.1 Full planning permission was granted for the construction of '*5 no. dwellings with associated garaging, parking, access and landscaping*' (Planning Application 11/02543/FUL). Permission was granted subject to conditions that included the archaeological monitoring and recording of any groundworks for the scheme.
- 3.2 The approach adopted is consistent with the guidelines set out in National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) (Department for Communities and Local Government 2012).

## 4.0 Archaeological and Historical Background

- 4.1 The site lies within an area of known archaeological potential with a number of archaeological sites listed on the Winchester Historic Environment Record (hereafter WHER) in the vicinity.
- 4.2 Prehistoric activity is attested by several findspots of worked flint in the wider area, including Palaeolithic, Neolithic and Bronze Age flints from Woodhams Farm (WHER no. MWC2899) to the southwest of the proposed development. Evidence from the same excavation and cropmark evidence has revealed the remains of a possible Bronze Age ring ditch (WHER no.

MWC6052), two possible Iron Age banjo enclosures (WHER no. MWC2923) and a Roman villa (WHER no. MWC2911) with an associated field system (WHER no. MWC6047). The banjo enclosures, villa and field system are a Scheduled Monument (List entry no. 1013269), the scheduled area extending from a point 250m east of Woodhams Farm as far north as the disused railway line, 140m to the south of the proposed development.

## **5.0 Methodology**

- 5.1 The groundworks were carried out between 5<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> November 2012 and were monitored at all times by Barry Hennessey of AAL. Prior to commencement of the site works, the existing dwelling on the site was demolished and the area cleared of surface vegetation. Subsequent groundworks entailed stripping of an access road from Springvale Road, followed by ground reduction and landscaping. The higher part of the site to the west was reduced by c.1.4m, with the remainder of the site being raised with excavated spoil and imported material. As such, it was determined that the foundations for the new dwellings would have no further impact upon the potential archaeological resource and in agreement with the Winchester City Archaeologist the monitoring condition was terminated at this stage.
- 5.2 A full written record of the deposits was made on standard AAL context recording sheets. Photography formed an integral part of the recording strategy and a selection of these images has been included in Appendix 1.
- 5.3 Each deposit or layer was allocated a three digit unique identifier (context number), and accorded a written description, a summary of these are included in Appendix 2.

## **6.0 Results (Figures 2 and 3)**

- 6.1 The uppermost deposit across the site, 100 was a soft dark greyish brown humic silty clay topsoil with moderate flint fragments measuring approximately 0.1 – 0.25m thick. It sealed a moderately soft dark yellowish brown silty clay with frequent natural flint fragments, interpreted as colluvium or hillwash, washed down slope from the higher ground to the west. This was in excess of 1m thick at the west end of the site, becoming gradually shallower to the east. At the east end of the site, the topsoil sealed the natural chalk 102.

## **7.0 Discussion and Conclusions**

- 7.1 The watching brief did not identify any features or deposits of archaeological significance. The sequence comprised a modern topsoil, overlying a probable colluvium, and natural chalk. The colluvium was much shallower or completely absent towards the east end of the site, probably as a result of landscaping of the area for the former dwelling that was demolished prior to the current development.

## **8.0 Effectiveness of Methodology**

- 8.1 The archaeological watching brief methodology was appropriate to the nature and extent of the proposed development. It has demonstrated that the development has had no impact upon the archaeological resource of the area.

## **9.0 Acknowledgements**

- 9.1 Allen Archaeology Limited would like to thank Bargate Homes Limited for this commission, and for their cooperation during the groundworks.

## **10.0 References**

AAL 2012, *Specification for an archaeological watching brief: 138 Springvale Road, Kings Worthy, Hampshire*, Allen Archaeology Limited unpublished project document

Department for Communities and Local Government, 2012, *National Planning Policy Framework*. London, Department for Communities and Local Government

English Heritage, 1991, *Management of Archaeological Projects*. Historic Buildings and Monuments Commission for England. London

English Heritage, 2006, *Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment*. Historic Buildings and Monuments Commission for England. London

IfA, 1999, *Standard and guidance for an archaeological watching brief*, Institute for Archaeologists, Reading

**Appendix 1: Colour Plates**



**Plate 1:** General site shot before groundworks, looking east-northeast from the west end of the site



**Plate 2:** General view of access road strip along southern half of site, looking east-northeast. Note extent of ground reduction shown by section to right of shot

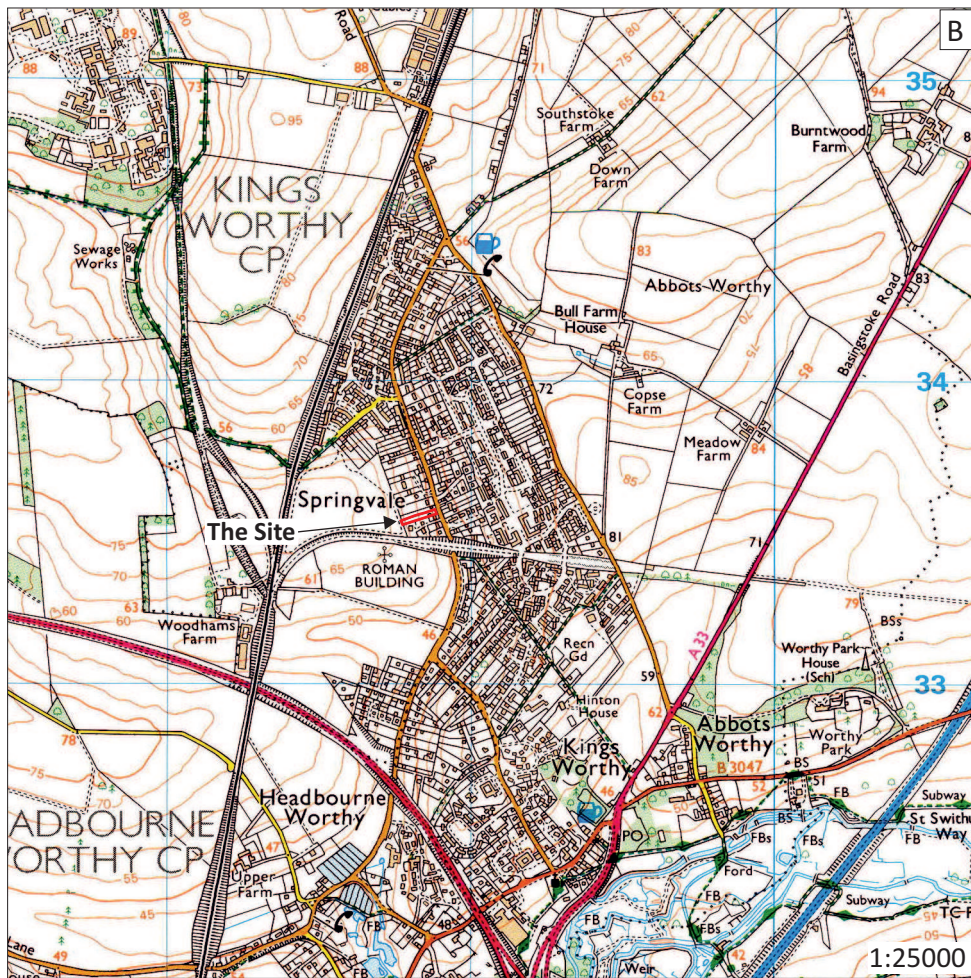
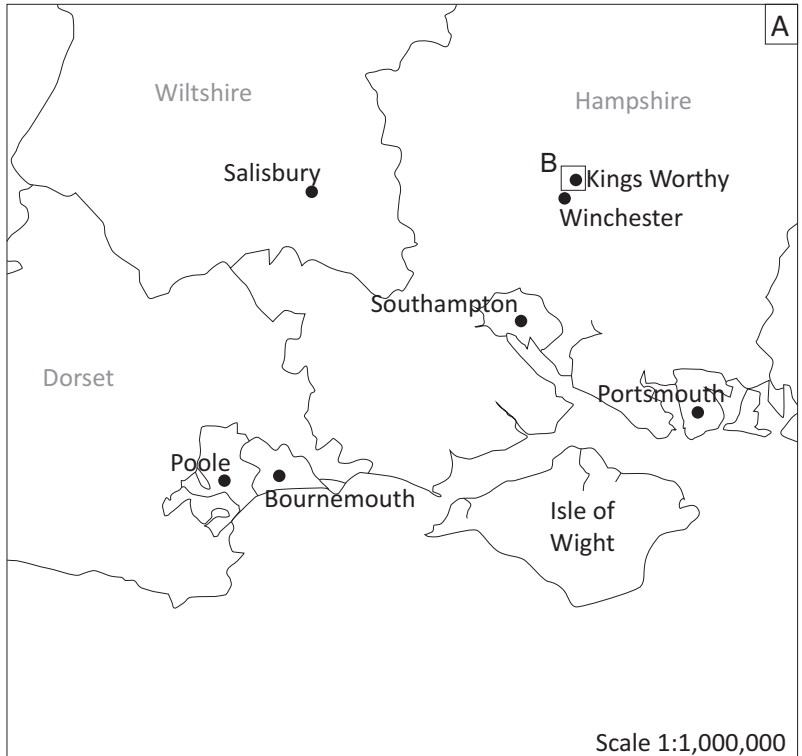
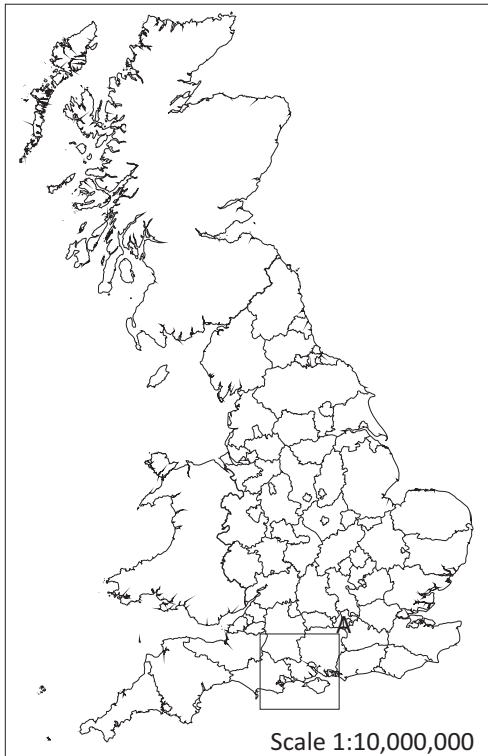


**Plate 3:** General view of site strip along northern half of site, looking west-southwest from the site access off Springvale Road



**Appendix 2: Context Summary List**

<b>Context</b>	<b>Type</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Interpretation</b>
100	Layer	Soft dark greyish brown humic silty clay with moderate flint, seals 101	Topsoil
101	Layer	Moderate soft dark yellowish brown silty clay with frequent flint, sealed by 100, seals 102	Colluvial deposit
102	Layer	Moderately friable white broken chalk with flint nodules, sealed by 101	Natural bedrock geology

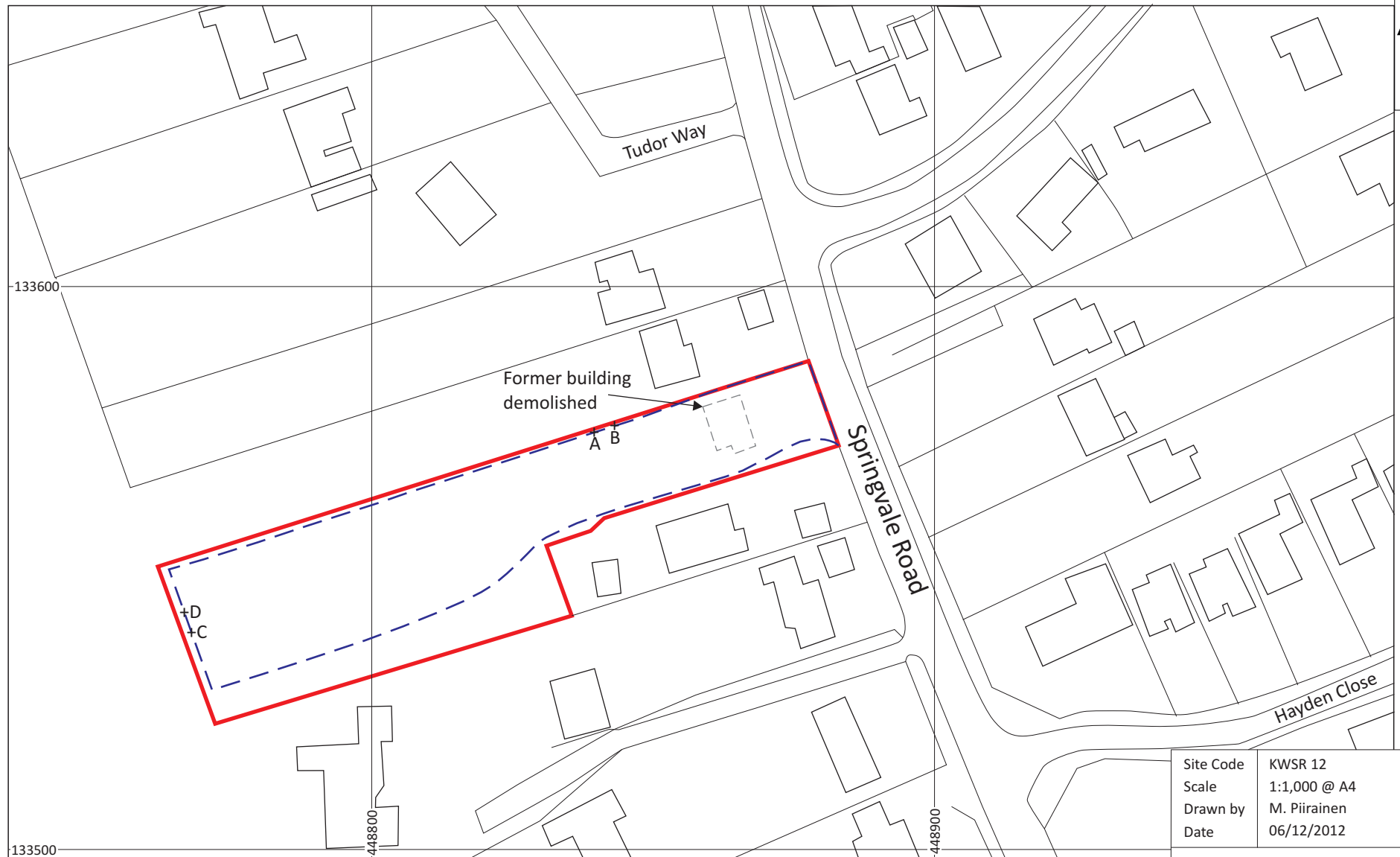


**Figure 1:** Site location outlined in red

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Site Code	KWSR 12
Scales	1:10,000,000 1:1,000,000 1:25,000 @ A4
Drawn by	M. Piirainen
Date	7/12/12

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 Cambridge  
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 www.allenarchaeology.co.uk



**Figure 2:** Site location plan showing the development area in red and striped area outlined in blue. Sections A-B and C-D shown on Figure 3  
(Base plan provided by the client)

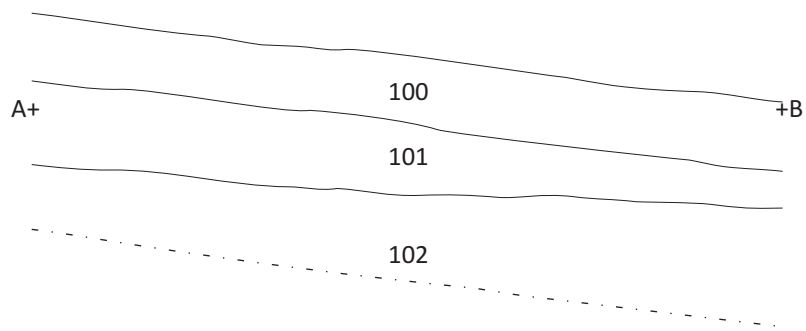
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Drawn by	M. Piirainen
Date	06/12/2012

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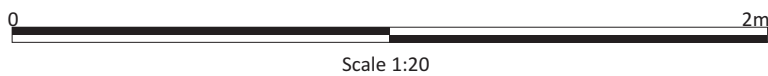
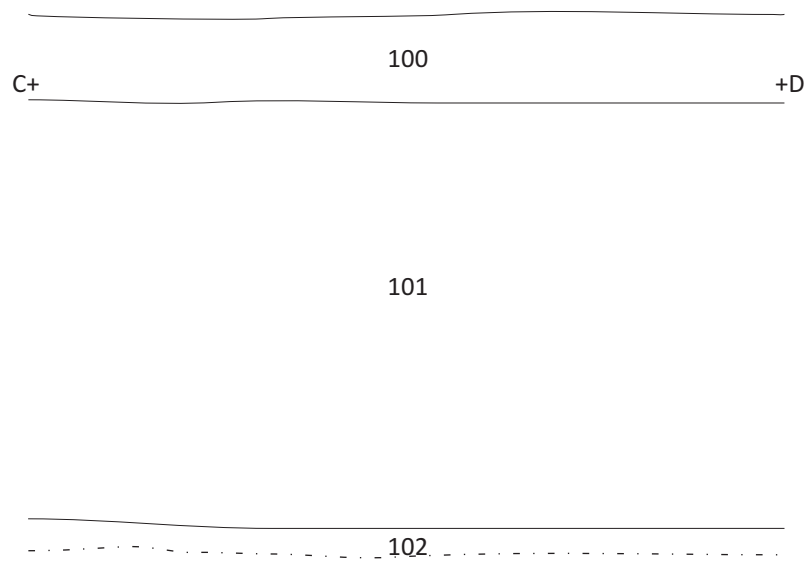
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South-Southeast Facing Section



East-Northeast Facing Section



Site Code	KWSR 12
Scale	1:100 @ A4
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Figure 3: Representative sections. Located on Figure 2



Allen Archaeology Limited  
Website: [www.allenarchaeology.co.uk](http://www.allenarchaeology.co.uk)

Company Registered in England and Wales No: 6935529

**Lincoln**  
Unit 1C  
Branston Business Park  
Lincoln Road  
Branston  
Lincolnshire LN4 1NT

**Birmingham**  
Arion Business Centre  
Harriet House  
118 High Street  
Birmingham  
B23 6BG

**Cambridge**  
Wellington House  
East Road  
Cambridge  
CB1 1BH

**Southampton**  
**International House**  
**Southampton International Business Park**  
**George Curl Way**  
**Southampton**  
**SO18 2RZ**

Tel/Fax: +44 (0) 1522 794400  
Email: [info@allenarchaeology.co.uk](mailto:info@allenarchaeology.co.uk)

Tel/Fax: +44 (0) 800 610 2545  
Email: [birmingham@allenarchaeology.co.uk](mailto:birmingham@allenarchaeology.co.uk)

Tel/Fax: +44 (0) 800 610 2550  
Email: [cambridge@allenarchaeology.co.uk](mailto:cambridge@allenarchaeology.co.uk)

Tel: +44 (0) 800 610 2555  
Email: [southampton@allenarchaeology.co.uk](mailto:southampton@allenarchaeology.co.uk)