Cotswold Archaeology

Monk's Walk School, Knightsfield, Welwyn Garden City, Hertfordshire

Archaeological Watching Brief

for
Spatial Initiative Ltd

CA Project: MK0046
CA Report: MK0046_1

January 2021

Andover Cirencester Exeter Milton Keynes Suffolk

Monk's Walk School, Knightsfield, Welwyn Garden City, Hertfordshire

Archaeological Watching Brief

CA PROJECT: MK0046
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LIST OF ILLUSTRATIONS

SUMMARY

Project Name:	Monk's Walk School, Knightsfield, Welwyn Garden City, Hertfordshire, AL8 7NL
Location:	Monk's Walk School, Knightsfield
NGR:	523379 214984
Type:	Watching Brief
Date:	23 October to 07 November 2019
Planning Reference:	6/2019/0035/MAJ
Location of Archive:	**Museum TBC**
Accession Number:	TBC
Site Code:	WGC19

An archaeological watching brief was undertaken by Cotswold Archaeology during groundworks associated with demolition of a single storey teaching block, and garages, the erection of a two-storey teaching block and re-provision of hard surfaced tennis courts with associated hard and soft landscaping at Monk's Walk School, Knightsfield, Welwyn Garden City, Hertfordshire.

A large sub-circular pit of unknown date and function was identified and recorded within Trench 31. With this exception no archaeological remains were recorded within the site.

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1. In the period from October 23 and November 7 2019, Cotswold Archaeology (CA) carried out an archaeological watching brief for Spatial Initiative Ltd at Monk's Walk School, Knightsfield, Welwyn Garden City, Hertfordshire (centred at NGR: 523379 214984; Fig. 1). The watching brief was undertaken to support a planning application for demolition of a single storey teaching block, and garages, the erection of a two-storey teaching block and re-provision of hard surfaced tennis courts with associated hard and soft landscaping (6/2019/0035/MAJ).

1.2. The watching brief was carried out in accordance with a brief (Wood 2019), prepared by Simon Wood, Hertfordshire County Council's Historic Environment Advisor (HCCHEA), the archaeological advisor to the Welwyn Hatfield District Council WHDC, and with a subsequent detailed *Written Scheme of Investigation* (WSI) produced by CA (2019) and approved by WHDC acting on the advice of Simon Wood. The fieldwork also followed S*tandard and guidance: Archaeological watching brief* (CIfA 2014). It was monitored remotely by Simon Wood and no site visits were made.

The site

1.3. The proposed development area is approximately 2.2ha and comprises modern school buildings with associated landscaping and infrastructure. It lies to the north west of Welwyn Garden City and the south-east of Welwyn. The site is bounded to the north by buildings and playing fields associated with the school, to the east by Knightsfield Road and residential buildings, to the south with residential buildings and patches of woodland and is bounded to the west by a large playing field, beyond which lies the A1(M).

1.4. The site slopes gently downwards moving northwards, ranging in elevation from approximately 89m above Ordnance Datum (aOD) in the south to approximately 82m aOD in the north, although it is likely that the site was substantially levelled during construction of the original school buildings.

1.5. The underlying bedrock geology of the area is mapped as Lewes Nodular Chalk formation and Seaford Chalk formation, sedimentary bedrock formed approximately 84 to 94 million years ago in the Cretaceous Period in an environment dominated by warm chalk seas. Superficial deposits of sand and gravel of the Kesgrave Catchment Subgroup are also recorded. Such deposits are fluvial in origin (BGS, 2019).

2. ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND

2.1. The site is located within a rich archaeological landscape, although there is no known archaeological finds or features known within the site. The information presented below is a summary, compiled from the brief written by Simon Wood, HCCHEA (2019) and readily available online sources.

Prehistoric period (Pre-AD 43)

2.2. Palaeolithic worked flints including a hand-axe, flakes and cores were found in 1914 during construction of a new road in Welwyn (Heritage Gateway 2019, Pastscape 2019).

2.3. Flint blades, scrapers and flakes of probable Bronze Age date along with bronze axe heads and a spear head were found at Oakhills and Welwyn North Station to the north east of the site. Within the wider site environs, cropmarks appearing to indicate the buried remains of ring ditches are evident (The Heritage Network 2005). These are likely to represent the infilled remains of circular ditches which once surrounded now ploughed out Bronze Age burial mounds (barrows).

2.4. An evaluation to the east of Welwyn Garden City demonstrated the presence of ditches, pits and postholes and Late Bronze Age to Early Iron Age date within the wider landscape of the site (Headland Archaeology 2012). Pottery of Iron Age date is recorded from a small excavation at Pentley Close south east of the site, which also recorded the presence of a probable hearth (Pastscape 2019). Other findspots of Iron Age pot sherds are recorded within the landscape surrounding the site and there are a number of other sites in the wider region where Iron Age activity has been identified (The Heritage Network 2005).

2.5. Fieldwalking in advance of the widening of the A1(M) immediately west of the site recovered extensive scatters of worked and burnt flint of Prehistoric date (Murray 1993).

Roman period (AD 43 – AD 410)

2.6. The site lies less than 1km from the known Roman settlement of the nationally significant Roman settlement of Welwyn, where several cemeteries and at least one villa have been identified, which included a bathhouse. Cremation urn cemeteries have been recorded as lying both to the west and south of the site (Wood 2019; Pastscape 2019).

2.7. The site is therefore located within the agricultural hinterland of the settlement within which the full extent of the farms and field systems that occupied the landscape are at present, poorly understood (Wood, 2019). Various individual findspots of Roman coins are also recorded from within the vicinity of the site, some of which are recorded on the PAS database (PAS 2019).

2.8. Fieldwalking undertaken prior to the widening of the A1(M) also recovered pottery of Roman date (Murray 1993). The evaluation to the east of Welwyn Garden City recorded ditches and pits for early Roman date (Headland Archaeology 2012).

Early medieval and medieval periods (AD 410 – 1539)

2.9. Findspots of Saxon coins are recorded within the general vicinity of the site (Pastscape 2019).

2.10. Approximately 300m to the south-east of the site are the remains of Digswell Manor House, a medieval hall house dated to 1414, along with possible remains associated with a potential deserted medieval village, proposed by the Medieval Village Research Group in the 1960s. The nearby parish church of St John was first documented in c.1140 and contains 13th century structural elements (Wood, 2019). Digswell is mentioned in two entries in the Domesday Book of 1086 and is recorded as having a total of 37 households, 11.5 plough teams, woodland for 150 pigs and 2 mills (Open Domesday, 2019).

Post-medieval and Modern periods (AD 1540 – present)

2.11. The post-medieval landscape of the landscape within which the site is located can be clearly traced through historic mapping during which time the site remained under agricultural use. The Digswell Parish Tithe Map of 1841 records the site as under a mixture of pasture and wood (The Genealogist, 2019) The landscape was entirely transformed in 1920 when construction of the planned town Welwyn Garden City, began.

3. AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

3.1. The objectives of the archaeological works were:

- to monitor groundworks, and to identify, investigate and record all significant buried archaeological deposits revealed on the site during the course of the development groundworks; and,
- at the conclusion of the project, to produce an integrated archive for the project work and a report setting out the results of the project and the archaeological conclusions that can be drawn from the recorded data.

3.2. Should significant archaeological remains have been identified, reference would have been made to the Regional Research Rramework - *Research and Archaeology*: *A Framework for the Eastern Counties* (Brown & Glazebrook, 2000) so that the remains can, if possible, be placed within their local and regional context.

4. METHODOLOGY

4.1. The fieldwork followed the methodology set out within the WSI (CA 2019). An archaeologist was present during intrusive groundworks, which comprised the machine-strip of existing surfaces for a haul route and for the excavation of foundations and service trenches (Figs 2 - 3).

4.2. Where archaeological deposits were encountered written, graphic and photographic records were compiled in accordance with CA *Technical Manual 1: Fieldwork Recording Manual*.

4.3. The complete archive generated by the watching brief is currently held by CA at its office in Milton Keynes; no artefacts were recovered. Subject to the agreement of the legal landowner the site archive will be deposited with the relevant museum under accession number (**TBC**). A summary of information from this project, set out within Appendix B, will be entered onto the OASIS online database of archaeological projects in Britain.

5. RESULTS (FIGS 2 - 5)

5.1. The natural geological substrate consisting of a loose mid brown orange clay sand and gravels, was revealed across the site at an average depth of 0.4m below present ground level. This was overlain by two layers of 'made ground' averaging 0.35m in thickness, which extended across most of site. This typically comprised levelling layers of sandy silt, overlain by brick rubble, which was in turn overlain by sandy gravel deposits. Topsoil was only recorded in Area 53 and measured 0.15m in thickness. A full description of the contexts in provided in Appendix A.

5.2. Pit 3104 was located in the eastern half of Trench 31. Because of the depth of the trench, this feature was not fully excavated. It was sub-circular in plan. It measured 1.14m in length, 2.7m in width, and more than 1m in depth. The pit had moderately steep sides with no perceptible breaks of slope. It contained a friable dark orange brown silty clay fill (3105) with occasional rounded stone and no finds.

6. DISCUSSION

6.1. Despite the archaeological potential of the application area (see archaeological background above), the watching brief identified only one large pit of uncertain chronology and function. No further archaeological remains were encountered within the area of observed groundworks.

6.2. The almost complete absence of subsoil and topsoil and the substantial depth of the 'made ground' across the site, show that the ground level has been significantly reduced. Shallow archaeological deposits, had they existed, would have been removed by this truncation. However, the truncation did completely remove the more substantial archaeological deposits as indicated by the presence of the large pit found in Trench 31.

7. CA PROJECT TEAM

7.1. Fieldwork was undertaken over the course of the project by Ralph Brown, Eilidh Barr, and Daniel Firth, assisted by Rob Falvey. The report was written by Daniele Pirisino and Ralph Brown, reviewed by Dr Mark Hewson; and the project managed for CA by

Michelle Collings. The illustrations were prepared by Ryan Wilson. The archive has been compiled and prepared for deposition by Hazel O'Neill.

8. REFERENCES

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APPENDIX A: CONTEXT DESCRIPTIONS

Trench / Area No	Context	Type	Fill of	Context Interpretation	Context Description	L (m)	W (m)	T (m)
Area 1	A100	Layer		Topsoil	Friable mid grey brown silty loam with moderate subangular stone inclusions	>33	>9	0.26
Area 1	A101	Layer		Natural substrate	Loose mid brown orange clay sand with frequent flint/chert inclusions	>33	>9	-
1	100	Layer		Made ground	Loose mid brown yellow sand and frequent 0.01-0.05m angular to rounded gravels	>2	>1	0.05
1	101	Layer		Made ground	Brick rubble	>2	>1	0.09
1	102	Layer		Made ground	Firm dark blue grey sandy silt with frequent stone inclusions 0.01-0.04m	>2	>1	0.2
1	103	Layer		Natural substrate	Loose mid brown orange clay sand and gravels angular to rounded 0.01-0.08m	>2	>1	-
2	200	Layer		Made ground	Loose mid brown yellow sand and frequent 0.01-0.05m angular to rounded gravels	>2	>1	0.05
2	201	Layer		Made ground	Brick rubble	>2	>1	0.09
2	202	Layer		Made ground	Firm dark blue grey sandy silt with frequent stone inclusions 0.01-0.04m	>2	>1	0.2
2	203	Layer		Natural substrate	Loose mid brown orange clay sand and gravels angular to rounded 0.01-0.08m	>2	>1	-
3	300	Layer		Made ground	Loose mid brown yellow sand and frequent 0.01-0.05m angular to rounded gravels	>2.4	>1.9	0.1
3	301	Layer		Made ground	Brick rubble	>2.4	>1.9	0.15
3	302	Layer		Made ground	Firm dark blue grey sandy silt with frequent stone inclusions 0.01-0.04m	>2.4	>1.9	0.25
3	303	Layer		Natural substrate	Loose mid brown orange clay sand and gravels angular to rounded 0.01-0.08m	>2.4	>1.9	-
4	400	Layer		Made ground	Loose mid brown yellow sand and frequent 0.01-0.05m angular to rounded gravels	>2.5	>2.2	0.1
4	401	Layer		Made ground	Brick rubble	>2.5	>2.2	0.1
4	402	Layer		Made ground	Firm dark blue grey sandy silt with frequent stone inclusions 0.01-0.04m	>2.5	>2.2	0.2
4	403	Layer		Natural substrate	Loose mid brown orange clay sand and gravels angular to rounded 0.01-0.08m	>2.5	>2.2	-
5	500	Layer		Made ground	Loose mid brown yellow sand and frequent 0.01-0.05m angular to rounded gravels	>2.1	>1.4	0.09
5	501	Layer		Made ground	Brick rubble	>2.1	>1.4	0.15

5	502	Layer		Made ground	Firm dark blue grey sandy silt with frequent stone inclusions 0.01-0.04m	>2.1	>1.4	0.35
5	503	Layer		Natural substrate	Loose mid brown orange clay sand and gravels angular to rounded 0.01-0.08m	>2.1	>1.4	-
6	600	Layer		Made ground	Loose mid brown yellow sand and frequent 0.01-0.05m angular to rounded gravels	>2.1	>1.4	0.09
6	601	Layer		Made ground	Brick rubble	>2.1	>1.4	0.1
6	602	Layer		Made ground	Firm dark blue grey sandy silt with frequent stone inclusions 0.01-0.04m	>2.1	>1.4	0.25
6	603	Layer		Natural substrate	Loose mid brown orange clay sand and gravels angular to rounded 0.01-0.08m	>2.1	>1.4	-
7	700	Layer		Made ground	Loose mid brown yellow sand and frequent 0.01-0.05m angular to rounded gravels	>2.3	>1	0.09
7	701	Layer		Made ground	Brick rubble	>2.3	>1	0.15
7	702	Layer		Made ground	Firm dark blue grey sandy silt with frequent stone inclusions 0.01-0.04m	>2.3	>1	0.2
7	703	Layer		Natural	Loose mid brown orange clay sand and gravels angular to rounded 0.01-0.08m	>2.3	>1	-
8	800	Layer		Made ground	Loose mid brown yellow sand and frequent 0.01-0.05m angular to rounded gravels	>2	>1.1	0.1
8	801	Layer		Made ground	Brick rubble	>2	>1.1	0.2
8	802	Layer		Made ground	Firm dark blue grey sandy silt with frequent stone inclusions 0.01-0.04m	>2	>1.1	0.2
8	803	Layer		Natural substrate	Loose mid brown orange clay sand and gravels angular to rounded 0.01-0.08m	>2	>1.1	-
9	900	Layer		Made ground	Loose mid brown yellow sand and frequent 0.01-0.05m angular to rounded gravels	>2.1	>1.3	0.08
9	901	Layer		Made ground	Brick rubble	>2.1	>1.3	0.16
9	902	Layer		Made ground	Firm dark blue grey sandy silt with frequent stone inclusions 0.01-0.04m	>2.1	>1.3	0.16
9	903	Layer		Natural substrate	Loose mid brown orange clay sand and gravels angular to rounded 0.01-0.08m	>2.1	>1.3	-
10	1000	Layer		Made ground	Loose mid brown yellow sand and frequent 0.01-0.05m angular to rounded gravels	>2.1	>1.2	0.03
10	1001	Layer		Made ground	Brick rubble	>2.1	>1.2	0.1
10	1002	Layer		Made ground	Firm dark blue grey sandy silt with frequent stone inclusions 0.01-0.04m	>2.1	>1.2	0.2

10	1003	Layer		Natural substrate	Loose mid brown orange clay sand and gravels angular to rounded 0.01-0.08m	>2.1	>1.2	-
11	1100	Layer		Made ground	Loose mid brown yellow sand and frequent 0.01-0.05m angular to rounded gravels	>2.1	>1.1	0.1
11	1100	Layer		Made ground	Brick rubble	>2.1	>1.1	0.2
11	1100	Layer		Made ground	Firm dark blue grey sandy silt with frequent stone inclusions 0.01-0.04m	>2.1	>1.1	0.4
11	1100	Layer		Natural substrate	Loose mid brown orange clay sand and gravels angular to rounded 0.01-0.08m	>2.1	>1.1	-
12	1200	Layer		Made ground	Loose mid brown yellow sand and frequent 0.01-0.05m angular to rounded gravels	>2.1	>1	0.1
12	1201	Layer		Made ground	Brick rubble	>2.1	>1	0.1
12	1202	Layer		Made ground	Firm dark blue grey sandy silt with frequent stone inclusions 0.01-0.04m	>2.1	>1	0.2
12	1203	Layer		Natural substrate	Loose mid brown orange clay sand and gravels angular to rounded 0.01-0.08m	>2.1	>1	-
13	1300	Layer		Made ground	Loose mid brown yellow sand and frequent 0.01-0.05m angular to rounded gravels	>2.8	>1.7	0.09
13	1301	Layer		Made ground	Brick rubble	>2.8	>1.7	0.1
13	1302	Layer		Made ground	Firm dark blue grey sandy silt with frequent stone inclusions 0.01-0.04m	>2.8	>1.7	0.3
13	1303	Layer		Natural substrate	Loose mid brown orange clay sand and gravels angular to rounded 0.01-0.08m	>2.8	>1.7	-
14	1400	Layer		Made ground	Loose mid brown yellow sand and frequent 0.01-0.05m angular to rounded gravels	>2.08	>1.7	0.07
14	1401	Layer		Made ground	Brick rubble	>2.08	>1.7	0.1
14	1402	Layer		Made ground	Firm dark blue grey sandy silt with frequent stone inclusions 0.01-0.04m	>2.08	>1.7	0.15
14	1403	Layer		Natural substrate	Loose mid brown orange clay sand and gravels angular to rounded 0.01-0.08m	>2.08	>1.7	-
15	1500	Layer		Made ground	Loose mid brown yellow sand and frequent 0.01-0.05m angular to rounded gravels	>2.4	>2	0.1
15	1501	Layer		Made ground	Brick rubble	>2.4	>2	0.3
15	1502	Layer		Made ground	Firm dark blue grey sandy silt with frequent stone inclusions 0.01-0.04m	>2.4	>2	0.4
15	1503	Layer		Natural substrate	Loose mid brown orange clay sand and gravels angular to rounded 0.01-0.08m	>2.4	>2	-

16	1600	Layer		Made ground	Loose mid brown yellow sand and frequent 0.01-0.05m angular to rounded gravels	>2.1	>2.1	0.1
16	1601	Layer		Made ground	Brick rubble	>2.1	>2.1	0.2
16	1602	Layer		Made ground	Firm dark blue grey sandy silt with frequent stone inclusions 0.01-0.04m	>2.1	>2.1	0.2
16	1603	Layer		Natural substrate	Loose mid brown orange clay sand and gravels angular to rounded 0.01-0.08m	>2.1	>2.1	-
17	1700	Layer		Made ground	Loose mid brown yellow sand and frequent 0.01-0.05m angular to rounded gravels	>2.1	>1.9	0.12
17	1701	Layer		Made ground	Brick rubble	>2.1	>1.9	0.13
17	1702	Layer		Made ground	Firm dark blue grey sandy silt with frequent stone inclusions 0.01-0.04m	>2.1	>1.9	0.2
17	1703	Layer		Natural substrate	Loose mid brown orange clay sand and gravels angular to rounded 0.01-0.08m	>2.1	>1.9	-
18	1800	Layer		Made ground	Loose mid brown yellow sand and frequent 0.01-0.05m angular to rounded gravels	>2.1	>1.7	0.1
18	1801	Layer		Made ground	Brick rubble	>2.1	>1.7	0.15
18	1802	Layer		Made ground	Firm dark blue grey sandy silt with frequent stone inclusions 0.01-0.04m	>2.1	>1.7	0.25
18	1803	Layer		Natural substrate	Loose mid brown orange clay sand and gravels angular to rounded 0.01-0.08m	>2.1	>1.7	-
19	1900	Layer		Made ground	Loose mid brown yellow sand and frequent 0.01-0.05m angular to rounded gravels	>2.5	>2.2	0.1
19	1901	Layer		Made ground	Brick rubble	>2.5	>2.2	0.1
19	1902	Layer		Made ground	Firm dark blue grey sandy silt with frequent stone inclusions 0.01-0.04m	>2.5	>2.2	0.2
19	1903	Layer		Natural substrate	Loose mid brown orange clay sand and gravels angular to rounded 0.01-0.08m	>2.5	>2.2	-
20	2000	Layer		Made ground	Loose mid brown yellow sand and frequent 0.01-0.05m angular to rounded gravels	>3	>2.6	0.1
20	2001	Layer		Made ground	Brick rubble	>3	>2.6	0.15
20	2002	Layer		Made ground	Firm dark blue grey sandy silt with frequent stone inclusions 0.01-0.04m	>3	>2.6	0.15
20	2003	Layer		Natural substrate	Loose mid brown orange clay sand and gravels angular to rounded 0.01-0.08m	>3	>2.6	-
21	2100	Layer		Made ground	Loose mid brown yellow sand and frequent 0.01-0.05m angular to rounded gravels	>2.7	>2	0.1

21	2101	Layer		Made ground	Brick rubble	>2.7	>2	0.15
21	2102	Layer		Made ground	Firm dark blue grey sandy silt with frequent stone inclusions 0.01-0.04m	>2.7	>2	0.15
21	2103	Layer		Natural substrate	Loose mid brown orange clay sand and gravels angular to rounded 0.01-0.08m	>2.7	>2	-
22	2200	Layer		Made ground	Loose mid brown yellow sand and frequent 0.01-0.05m angular to rounded gravels	>2.5	>2	0.07
22	2201	Layer		Made ground	Brick rubble	>2.5	>2	0.11
22	2202	Layer		Made ground	Firm dark blue grey sandy silt with frequent stone inclusions 0.01-0.04m	>2.5	>2	0.2
22	2203	Layer		Natural substrate	Loose mid brown orange clay sand and gravels angular to rounded 0.01-0.08m	>2.5	>2	-
23	2300	Layer		Made ground	Loose mid brown yellow sand and frequent 0.01-0.05m angular to rounded gravels	>1.2	>1	0.1
23	2301	Layer		Made ground	Brick rubble	>1.2	>1	0.12
23	2302	Layer		Made ground	Firm dark blue grey sandy silt with frequent stone inclusions 0.01-0.04m	>1.2	>1	0.2
23	2303	Layer		Natural substrate	Loose mid brown orange clay sand and gravels angular to rounded 0.01-0.08m	>1.2	>1	-
24	2400	Layer		Made ground	Loose mid brown yellow sand and frequent 0.01-0.05m angular to rounded gravels	>2.2	>0.9	0.1
24	2401	Layer		Made ground	Brick rubble	>2.2	>0.9	0.2
24	2402	Layer		Made ground	Firm dark blue grey sandy silt with frequent stone inclusions 0.01-0.04m	>2.2	>0.9	0.2
24	2403	Layer		Natural substrate	Loose mid brown orange clay sand and gravels angular to rounded 0.01-0.08m	>2.2	>0.9	-
25	2500	Layer		Made ground	Loose mid brown yellow sand and frequent 0.01-0.05m angular to rounded gravels	>2.1	>1.7	0.1
25	2501	Layer		Made ground	Brick rubble	>2.1	>1.7	0.15
25	2502	Layer		Made ground	Firm dark blue grey sandy silt with frequent stone inclusions 0.01-0.04m	>2.1	>1.7	0.25
25	2503	Layer		Natural substrate	Loose mid brown orange clay sand and gravels angular to rounded 0.01-0.08m	>2.1	>1.7	-
26	2600	Layer		Made ground	Loose mid brown yellow sand and frequent 0.01-0.05m angular to rounded gravels	>2.8	>2	0.1
26	2601	Layer		Made ground	Brick rubble	>2.8	>2	0.12

26	2602	Layer		Made ground	Firm dark blue grey sandy silt with frequent stone inclusions 0.01-0.04m	>2.8	>2	0.2
26	2603	Layer		Natural substrate	Loose mid brown orange clay sand and gravels angular to rounded 0.01-0.08m	>2.8	>2	-
27	2700	Layer		Made ground	Loose mid brown yellow sand and frequent 0.01-0.05m angular to rounded gravels	>2.2	>1.2	0.1
27	2701	Layer		Made ground	Brick rubble	>2.2	>1.2	0.13
27	2702	Layer		Made ground	Firm dark blue grey sandy silt with frequent stone inclusions 0.01-0.04m	>2.2	>1.2	0.2
27	2703	Layer		Natural substrate	Loose mid brown orange clay sand and gravels angular to rounded 0.01-0.08m	>2.2	>1.2	-
28	2800	Layer		Made ground	Loose mid brown yellow sand and frequent 0.01-0.05m angular to rounded gravels	>2.2	>1.2	0.09
28	2801	Layer		Made ground	Brick rubble	>2.2	>1.2	0.12
28	2802	Layer		Made ground	Firm dark blue grey sandy silt with frequent stone inclusions 0.01-0.04m	>2.2	>1.2	0.38
28	2803	Layer		Natural substrate	Loose mid brown orange clay sand and gravels angular to rounded 0.01-0.08m	>2.2	>1.2	-
29	2900	Layer		Made ground	Loose mid brown yellow sand and frequent 0.01-0.05m angular to rounded gravels	>3.5	>2.75	0.1
29	2901	Layer		Made ground	Brick rubble	>3.5	>2.75	0.15
29	2902	Layer		Made ground	Firm dark blue grey sandy silt with frequent stone inclusions 0.01-0.04m	>3.5	>2.75	0.25
29	2903	Layer		Natural substrate	Loose mid brown orange clay sand and gravels angular to rounded 0.01-0.08m	>3.5	>2.75	-
30	3000	Layer		Made ground	Loose mid brown yellow sand and frequent 0.01-0.05m angular to rounded gravels	>2.2	>1.7	0.1
30	3001	Layer		Made ground	Brick rubble	>2.2	>1.7	0.12
30	3002	Layer		Made ground	Firm dark blue grey sandy silt with frequent stone inclusions 0.01-0.04m	>2.2	>1.7	0.28
30	3003	Layer		Natural substrate	Loose mid brown orange clay sand and gravels angular to rounded 0.01-0.08m	>2.2	>1.7	-
31	3100	Layer		Made ground	Loose mid brown yellow sand and frequent 0.01-0.05m angular to rounded gravels	>2.7	>2.2	0.09
31	3101	Layer		Made ground	Brick rubble	>2.7	>2.2	0.11
31	3102	Layer		Made ground	Firm dark blue grey sandy silt with frequent stone inclusions 0.01-0.04m	>2.7	>2.2	0.5

31	3103	Layer		Natural substrate	Loose mid brown orange clay sand and gravels angular to rounded 0.01-0.08m	>2.7	>2.2	-
31	3104	Cut		Pit	Sub-circular as seen with steep straight sides. Base not reached	>2.7	>1.14	>1.1
31	3105	Fill	3104	Pit fill	Friable mid orange brown clay sand with frequent stone inclusions	>2.7	>1.14	>1.1
32	3200	Layer		Made ground	Loose mid brown yellow sand and frequent 0.01-0.05m angular to rounded gravels	>2.7	>2	0.1
32	3201	Layer		Made ground	Brick rubble	>2.7	>2	0.1
32	3202	Layer		Made ground	Firm dark blue grey sandy silt with frequent stone inclusions 0.01-0.04m	>2.7	>2	0.25
32	3203	Layer		Natural substrate	Loose mid brown orange clay sand and gravels angular to rounded 0.01-0.08m	>2.7	>2	-
33	3300	Layer		Made ground	Loose mid brown yellow sand and frequent 0.01-0.05m angular to rounded gravels	>2.3	>1.65	0.2
33	3301	Layer		Made ground	Brick rubble	>2.3	>1.65	0.1
33	3302	Layer		Made ground	Firm dark blue grey sandy silt with frequent stone inclusions 0.01-0.04m	>2.3	>1.65	0.15
33	3303	Layer		Natural substrate	Loose mid brown orange clay sand and gravels angular to rounded 0.01-0.08m	>2.3	>1.65	-
34	3400	Layer		Made ground	Loose mid brown yellow sand and frequent 0.01-0.05m angular to rounded gravels	>1.9	>1.7	0.2
34	3401	Layer		Made ground	Brick rubble	>1.9	>1.7	0.1
34	3402	Layer		Made ground	Firm dark blue grey sandy silt with frequent stone inclusions 0.01-0.04m	>1.9	>1.7	0.15
34	3403	Layer		Natural substrate	Loose mid brown orange clay sand and gravels angular to rounded 0.01-0.08m	>1.9	>1.7	-
35	3500	Layer		Made ground	Loose mid brown yellow sand and frequent 0.01-0.05m angular to rounded gravels	>2	>1.8	0.1
35	3501	Layer		Made ground	Brick rubble	>2	>1.8	0.12
35	3502	Layer		Made ground	Firm dark blue grey sandy silt with frequent stone inclusions 0.01-0.04m	>2	>1.8	0.2
35	3503	Layer		Natural substrate	Loose mid brown orange clay sand and gravels angular to rounded 0.01-0.08m	>2	>1.8	-
36	3600	Layer		Made ground	Loose mid brown yellow sand and frequent 0.01-0.05m angular to rounded gravels	>2.1	>1.9	0.1
36	3601	Layer		Made ground	Brick rubble	>2.1	>1.9	0.12

36	3602	Layer		Made ground	Firm dark blue grey sandy silt with frequent stone inclusions 0.01-0.04m	>2.1	>1.9	0.22
36	3603	Layer		Natural substrate	Loose mid brown orange clay sand and gravels angular to rounded 0.01-0.08m	>2.1	>1.9	-
37	3700	Layer		Made ground	Loose mid brown yellow sand and frequent 0.01-0.05m angular to rounded gravels	>7.7	>2.8	0.07
37	3701	Layer		Made ground	Brick rubble	>7.7	>2.8	0.11
37	3702	Layer		Made ground	Firm dark blue grey sandy silt with frequent stone inclusions 0.01-0.04m	>7.7	>2.8	0.2
37	3703	Layer		Natural substrate	Loose mid brown orange clay sand and gravels angular to rounded 0.01-0.08m	>7.7	>2.8	-
38	3800	Layer		Made ground	Loose mid brown yellow sand and frequent 0.01-0.05m angular to rounded gravels	>1.9	>1.7	0.09
38	3801	Layer		Made ground	Brick rubble	>1.9	>1.7	0.13
38	3802	Layer		Made ground	Firm dark blue grey sandy silt with frequent stone inclusions 0.01-0.04m	>1.9	>1.7	0.12
38	3803	Layer		Natural substrate	Loose mid brown orange clay sand and gravels angular to rounded 0.01-0.08m	>1.9	>1.7	-
39	3900	Layer		Made ground	Loose mid brown yellow sand and frequent 0.01-0.05m angular to rounded gravels	>2	>1	0.09
39	3901	Layer		Made ground	Brick rubble	>2	>1	0.09
39	3902	Layer		Made ground	Firm dark blue grey sandy silt with frequent stone inclusions 0.01-0.04m	>2	>1	0.2
39	3903	Layer		Natural substrate	Loose mid brown orange clay sand and gravels angular to rounded 0.01-0.08m	>2	>1	-
40	4000	Layer		Made ground	Loose mid brown yellow sand and frequent 0.01-0.05m angular to rounded gravels	>2	>1	0.09
40	4001	Layer		Made ground	Brick rubble	>2	>1	0.1
40	4002	Layer		Made ground	Firm dark blue grey sandy silt with frequent stone inclusions 0.01-0.04m	>2	>1	0.2
40	4003	Layer		Natural substrate	Loose mid brown orange clay sand and gravels angular to rounded 0.01-0.08m	>2	>1	-
41	4100	Layer		Made ground	Loose mid brown yellow sand and frequent 0.01-0.05m angular to rounded gravels	>2	>1	0.09
41	4101	Layer		Made ground	Brick rubble	>2	>1	0.11
41	4102	Layer		Made ground	Firm dark blue grey sandy silt with frequent stone inclusions 0.01-0.04m	>2	>1	0.2

41	4103	Layer		Natural substrate	Loose mid brown orange clay sand and gravels angular to rounded 0.01-0.08m	>2	>1	-
42	4200	Layer		Made ground	Loose mid brown yellow sand and frequent 0.01-0.05m angular to rounded gravels	>2.5	>2.5	0.06
42	4201	Layer		Made ground	Brick rubble	>2.5	>2.5	0.08
42	4202	Layer		Made ground	Firm dark blue grey sandy silt with frequent stone inclusions 0.01-0.04m	>2.5	>2.5	0.19
42	4203	Layer		Natural substrate	Loose mid brown orange clay sand and gravels angular to rounded 0.01-0.08m	>2.5	>2.5	-
43	4300	Layer		Made ground	Loose mid brown yellow sand and frequent 0.01-0.05m angular to rounded gravels	>3	>1.5	0.05
43	4301	Layer		Made ground	Brick rubble	>3	>1.5	0.09
43	4302	Layer		Made ground	Firm dark blue grey sandy silt with frequent stone inclusions 0.01-0.04m	>3	>1.5	0.2
43	4303	Layer		Natural substrate	Loose mid brown orange clay sand and gravels angular to rounded 0.01-0.08m	>3	>1.5	-
44	4400	Layer		Made ground	Firm mid brown grey sandy silt with frequent subangular stone inclusions 0.01-0.05m	>3	>3	0.15
44	4401	Layer		Natural substrate	Loose mid brown orange clay sand and gravels angular to rounded 0.01-0.08m	>3	>3	-
45	4500	Layer		Made ground	Firm mid brown grey sandy silt with frequent subangular stone inclusions 0.01-0.05m	>3	>2	0.4
45	4501	Layer		Natural substrate	Loose mid brown orange clay sand and gravels angular to rounded 0.01-0.08m	>3	>2	-
46	4600	Layer		Made ground	Firm mid brown grey sandy silt with frequent subangular stone inclusions 0.01-0.05m	>3	>3	0.45
46	4601	Layer		Natural substrate	Loose mid brown orange clay sand and gravels angular to rounded 0.01-0.08m	>3	>3	-
47	4700	Layer		Made ground	Firm mid brown grey sandy silt with frequent subangular stone inclusions 0.01-0.05m	>3	>3	0.09
47	4701	Layer		Natural substrate	Loose mid brown orange clay sand and gravels angular to rounded 0.01-0.08m	>3	>3	-
48	4800	Layer		Made ground	Firm mid brown grey sandy silt with frequent subangular stone inclusions 0.01-0.05m	>3	>3	0.3
48	4801	Layer		Natural substrate	Loose mid brown orange clay sand and gravels angular to rounded 0.01-0.08m	>3	>3	-
49	4900	Layer		Made ground	Firm mid brown grey sandy silt with frequent subangular stone inclusions 0.01-0.05m	>3	>1	0.15
49	4901	Layer		Natural substrate	Loose mid brown orange clay sand and gravels angular to rounded 0.01-0.08m	>3	>1	-

50	5000	Layer		Made ground	Firm mid brown grey sandy silt with frequent subangular stone inclusions 0.01-0.05m	>7	>3	0.15
50	5001	Layer		Natural substrate	Loose mid brown orange clay sand and gravels angular to rounded 0.01-0.08m	>7	>3	-
51	5100	Layer		Made ground	Loose mid brown yellow sand and frequent 0.01-0.05m angular to rounded gravels	>2.1	>1.7	0.09
51	5101	Layer		Made ground	Brick rubble	>2.1	>1.7	0.11
51	5102	Layer		Made ground	Firm dark blue grey sandy silt with frequent stone inclusions 0.01-0.04m	>2.1	>1.7	0.2
51	5103	Layer		Natural substrate	Loose mid brown orange clay sand and gravels angular to rounded 0.01-0.08m	>2.1	>1.7	-
Area 52	5200	Layer		Basketball court	Tarmac	>52.5	>31.5	0.09
Area 52	5201	Layer		Made ground	Loose mid brown yellow sand and frequent 0.01-0.05m angular to rounded gravels	>52.5	>31.5	-
Area 53	5300	Layer		Topsoil	Friable mid grey brown silty loam with moderate subangular stone inclusions	>34	>26	0.15
Area 53	5301	Layer		Made ground	Firm mid brown grey sandy silt with frequent subangular stone inclusions 0.01-0.05m	>34	>26	-

APPENDIX B: OASIS REPORT FORM

PROJECT DETAILS		
Project Name	Monk's Walk School, Knightsfield, Welwyn Garden City, Hertfordshire	
Short description	An archaeological watching brief was undertaken by Cotswold Archaeology during groundworks associated with demolition of a single storey teaching block, and garages, the erection of a two-storey teaching block and re-provision of hard surfaced tennis courts with associated hard and soft landscaping at Monk's Walk School, Knightsfield, Welwyn Garden City, Hertfordshire. A large sub-circular pit of unknown date and function was identified and recorded within Trench 31. With this exception no archaeological remains were recorded within the site.	
Project dates	23 October to 07 November 2019	
Project type	Archaeological Watching Brief	
Previous work	No previous work known within the proposed development area	
Future work	Unknown	
PROJECT LOCATION		
Site Location	Monk's Walk School, Knightsfield, Welwyn Garden City, Hertfordshire	
Study area (M^2/ha)	approximately 2.2ha	
Site co-ordinates	NGR: 523379 214984	
PROJECT CREATORS		
Name of organisation	Cotswold Archaeology	
Project Brief originator	Cotswold Archaeology	
Project Design (WSI) originator	Cotswold Archaeology	
Project Manager	Michelle Collings	
Project Supervisor	Ralph Brown, Eilidh Barr, and Daniel Firth	
MONUMENT TYPE	None	
SIGNIFICANT FINDS	None	
PROJECT ARCHIVES	**TBC**	Paper archive Digital Photos
Physical		none
Paper		Trench sheets, Context sheets and photographic register
Digital		Digital photos
BIBLIOGRAPHY		
CA (Cotswold Archaeology) 2019 *Monk's Walk School, Knightsfield, Welwyn Garden City, Hertfordshire*: *Archaeological Watching Brief.*		

N

0 1km

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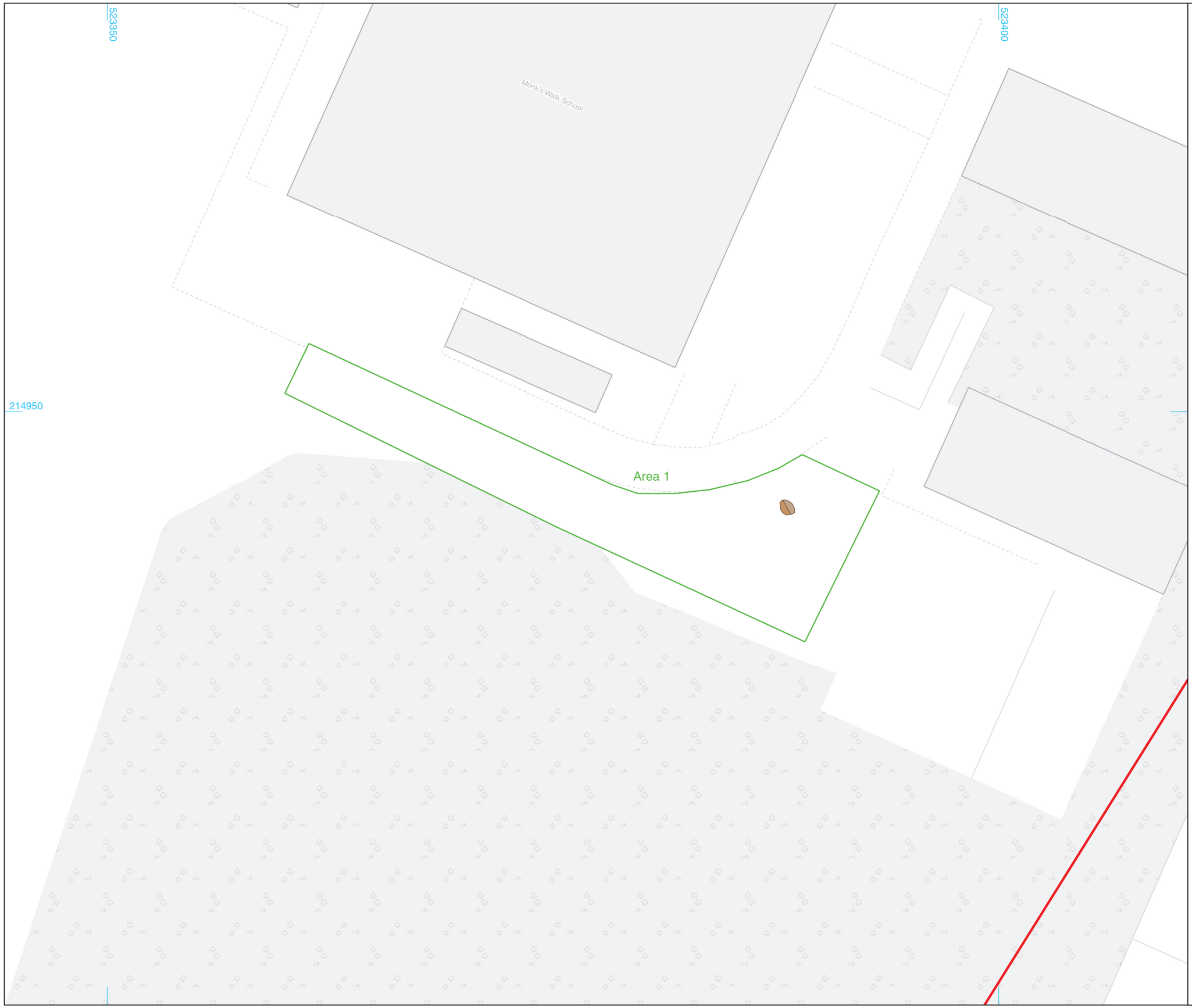
PROJECT TITLE

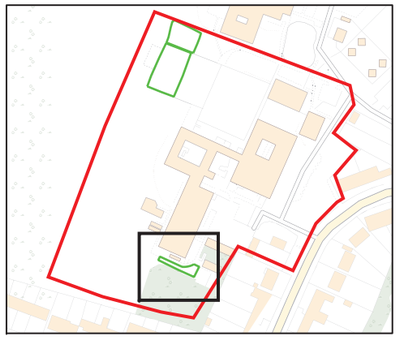
Monk's Walk School, Knightsfield, Welwyn Garden City, Hertfordshire

FIGURE TITLE

Site location plan

DRAWN BY	**RW**	*PROJECT NO.*	**MK0046**	*FIGURE NO.*
CHECKED BY	**DJB**	*DATE*	**14/01/2020**	**1**
APPROVED BY	**RB**	*SCALE@A4*	**1:25,000**	





N

Site outline

Area

Natural feature
(excavated / unexcavated)

0 1:200 10m

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PROJECT TITLE

Monk's Walk School, Knightsfield, Welwyn Garden City, Hertfordshire

FIGURE TITLE

Site plan, showing location of Area 1

DRAWN BY	**RW**	*PROJECT NO.*	**MK0046**	*FIGURE NO.*
CHECKED BY	**DJB**	*DATE*	**14/01/2020**	**2**
APPROVED BY	**RB**	*SCALE@A3*	**1:200**	

215150

523350

523400

215100

T45
T49
T48
T50
T47
T46
T44
Area 52
T36
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T29
T38
T39
T40
T41
T42
T43
T37
pit
3104
Area 53
Tennis Court
Path

N

Site outline

Area/evaluation trench

Cut feature
(excavated)

0 1:250 10m

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PROJECT TITLE

Monk's Walk School, Knightsfield, Welwyn Garden City, Hertfordshire

FIGURE TITLE

Site plan, showing location of Trenches 1 to 51, Area 52 and Area 53

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CHECKED BY	DJB	DATE	14/01/2020	3
APPROVED BY	RB	SCALE@A3	1:250	

Location of the new build pre-excavation, looking north-east

Excavation of foundation pads, looking east

Area 1 haul road, looking south-east

Area 52 initial ground reduction, looking east

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PROJECT TITLE

Monk's Walk School, Knightsfield, Welwyn Garden City, Hertfordshire

FIGURE TITLE

Photographs

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CHECKED BY	**DJB**	*DATE*	**14/01/2020**	**4**
APPROVED BY	**RB**	*SCALE@A3*	**NA**	

Trench 20 foundation pad, looking south (1m scale)

Trench 31 including pit 3104, looking north (1m scale)

Trench 46 foundation pad, looking north (1m scale)

Area 53 initial ground reduction, looking south-east

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PROJECT TITLE

Monk's Walk School, Knightsfield, Welwyn Garden City, Hertfordshire

FIGURE TITLE

Photographs

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CHECKED BY	**DJB**	*DATE*	**14/01/2020**	**5**
APPROVED BY	**RB**	*SCALE@A3*	**NA**	

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