

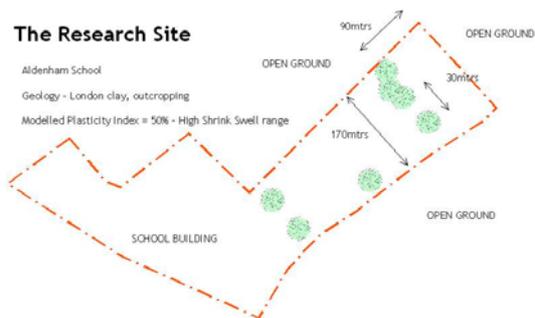


The Research Site

Here it is - our research site at Aldenham School, North London. It really couldn't be better, situated on outcropping London clay with several mature, isolated (within their own root zone) trees. It is easily accessible from the motorway network, and secure.



We see from our database of historic investigations that the typical plasticity index is 55% - slightly above average for this series. When we take samples we can see how close the modelled answer is to this value. John Clark acts as the consultant surveyor to the school and recalls previous investigations where London clay was proven to a depth of 15mtrs, overlying chalk.



Everyone working on the project will be meeting at the school on the 28th February. We will be setting in place precise levelling stations (courtesy of our friends at Monitoring Services) and Keele will take their initial 'equilibrium' readings for the ERT.

Cyril Nazareth has kindly agreed to act as the project co-ordinator and MatLab will be carrying out the extensive soils investigations.

We hope to have a detailed site plan in the next edition, showing the location of the trees and position of the instrumentation.

Funding

John Parvin and Neil Curling presented our application for funding to the Property Claims Forum in London in February and despite a sterling delivery by all accounts, they couldn't persuade their colleagues to part with any money. Many thanks to John and Neil. It isn't easy getting hold of cash these days as we all know.

Fortunately, and thanks to our colleagues at InFront Solutions, Crawford, GAB, MatLab, Aldenham School and Monitoring Services we can continue with the work - it is very much 'business as usual'.

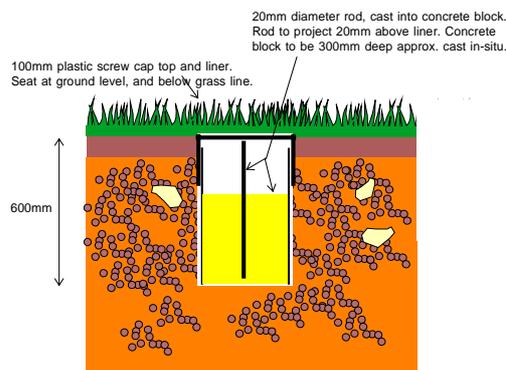
Trees

These are the trees we will be working with. An Oak and a Willow - at least we hope they are. Tree identification isn't our strong point and particularly when they aren't in leaf. We may change the species as leaves appear and if any of you are experts, let us know!



Levelling Stations

We are planning an array of precise levelling stations and they will look a little like this.



Readings are being taken every month through the year