

**Asheldham Grange, Rushes Lane,  
Asheldham, Essex**

**Planning application: MAL/00203/13**

**Site code: AMAG 13**

**Archaeological Watching Brief Report**

(© John Newman BA MIFA, 2 Pearsons Place, Henley, Ipswich, IP6 0RA)

(August 2013)

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## **Site details for HER**

Name: Asheldham Grange, Rushes Lane, Asheldham, Essex

Client: Mr N Kelly

Local planning authority: Maldon D C

Planning application ref: MAL/00203/13

Development: Erection of new dwelling to be built as traditional type of Essex barn replacing existing barn

Date of fieldwork: 19 August, 2013

Site HER code: ADAG 13

OASIS Ref: johnnewm1-157966

Grid ref: TL 96928 02213

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*Summary: Ashledham Grange, Rushes Lane, Asheldham (ADAG 13, TL 96928 02213) Monitoring of foundation trenches for a new dwelling to the west of Asheldham Grange did not reveal any archaeological finds or features at a site that proved to have a thin layer of topsoil over a very hard natural sand and gravel concreted layer which in turn lay over the locally occurring stiff London Clay deposit (John Newman Archaeological Service for Mr N Kelly).*

# John Newman Archaeological Services

## ESSEX HISTORIC ENVIRONMENT RECORD/ESSEX ARCHAEOLOGY AND HISTORY

### SUMMARY SHEET

<b>Site name/Address:</b> Asheldham Grange, Rushes Lane, Asheldham	
<b>Planning application:</b> MAL/00203/13	
<b>Parish:</b> Asheldham	<b>District:</b> Maldon DC
<b>NGR:</b> TL 96928 02213	<b>Site Code:</b> ADAG 13 (OASIS- johnnewm1-157966)
<b>Type of Work:</b> Watching brief on mechanical excavation of foundation trenches	<b>Site Director/Group:</b> John Newman Archaeological Services
<b>Date of Work:</b> 19 August, 2013	<b>Size of Area Investigated:</b> 150m <sup>2</sup>
<b>Location of Finds/Curating Museum:</b> NA	<b>Funding source:</b> Mr N Kelly
<b>Further Seasons Anticipated?:</b> No	<b>Related HER No's:</b> 13435- to the east cropmark evidence including linear features, enclosures & ring-ditches, also 550m NW of Asheldham Camp (SM 1014142/HER 12051)
<b>Final Report:</b> The site for the new dwelling is some 65m south-west of Asheldham Grange and c230m east of the Asheldham Brook and it has a gentle westerly aspect at c15m OD. Continuous observation of the excavation of 600mm wide and 1000mm to 1200mm deep foundation trenches for a new dwelling did not reveal any archaeological features save a field drain of 19 <sup>th</sup> /E20 <sup>th</sup> date with the only finds noted in the upcast spoil being one pottery sherd of later 19 <sup>th</sup> /earlier 20 <sup>th</sup> century date and a few small fragments of later Post medieval brick and tile (no finds were retained). The depth of top soil across the site was between 200mm and 250mm and this lay directly over a naturally occurring 300mm to 400mm thick very hard orange concreted silty sand and gravel layer which in turn lay over very stiff pale brown stone-free London Clay. With the combination of a very hard concreted layer above stiff and impervious clay it seems likely that the area of the site was peripheral to nearby areas where past activity is evidenced and it has seen little arable activity. Local information indicates that until relatively recently this area was part of an apple orchard (an early to mid 20 <sup>th</sup> century brick built structure 30m to the east of the site is a purpose built insulated apple store).	
<b>Periods Represented:</b> 19 <sup>th</sup> & 20 <sup>th</sup> century (one ceramic field drain and one pottery sherd and a few small brick and tile fragments).	
<b>SUMMARY OF FIELDWORK RESULTS:</b> Monitoring of footing trenches for a new dwelling did not reveal any evidence of pre 19 <sup>th</sup> century activity in an area of very heavy clay.	
<b>Previous Summaries/Reports:</b> NA	
<b>Author of Summary:</b> John Newman	<b>Date of Summary:</b> 28 August, 2013

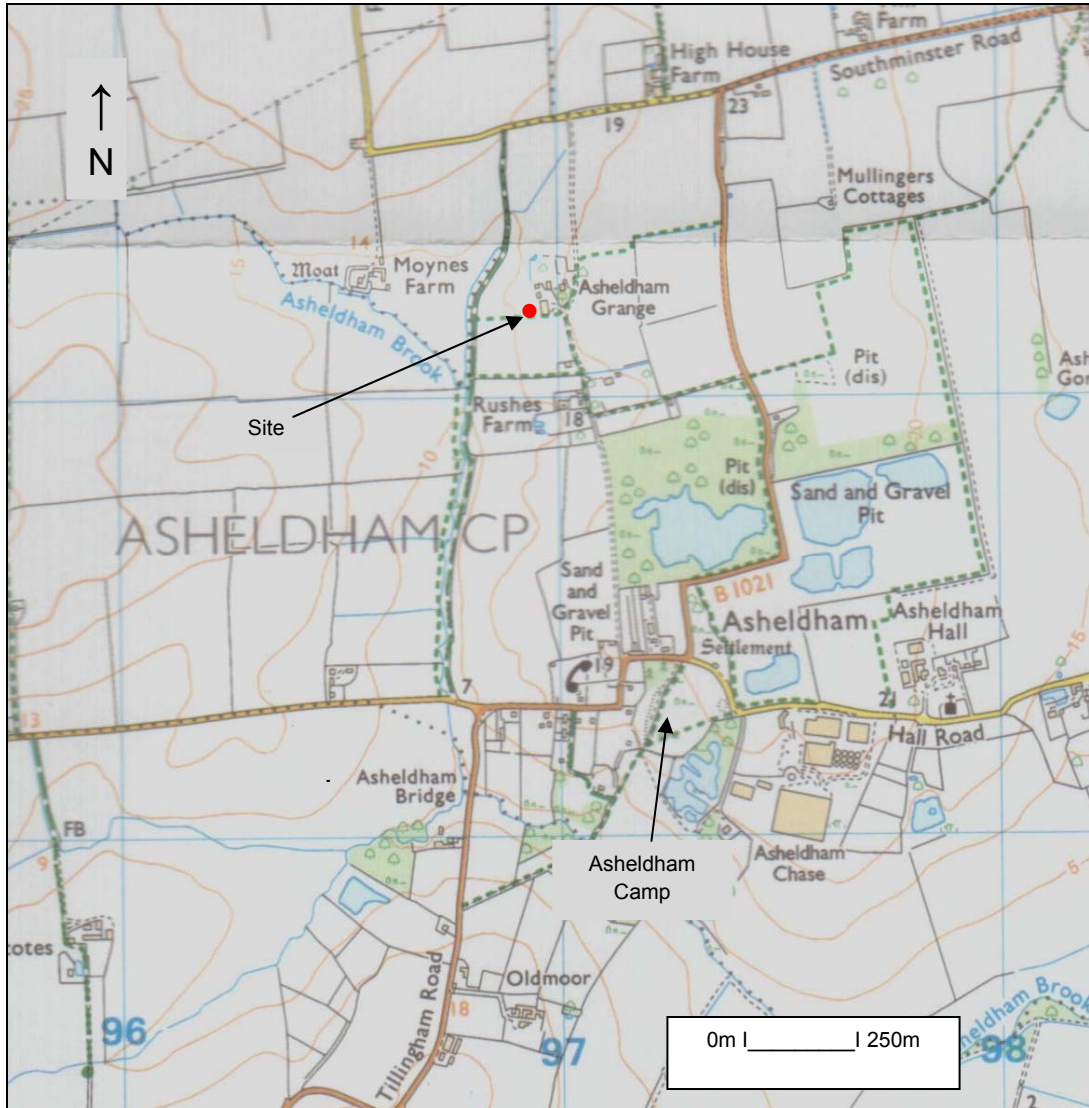
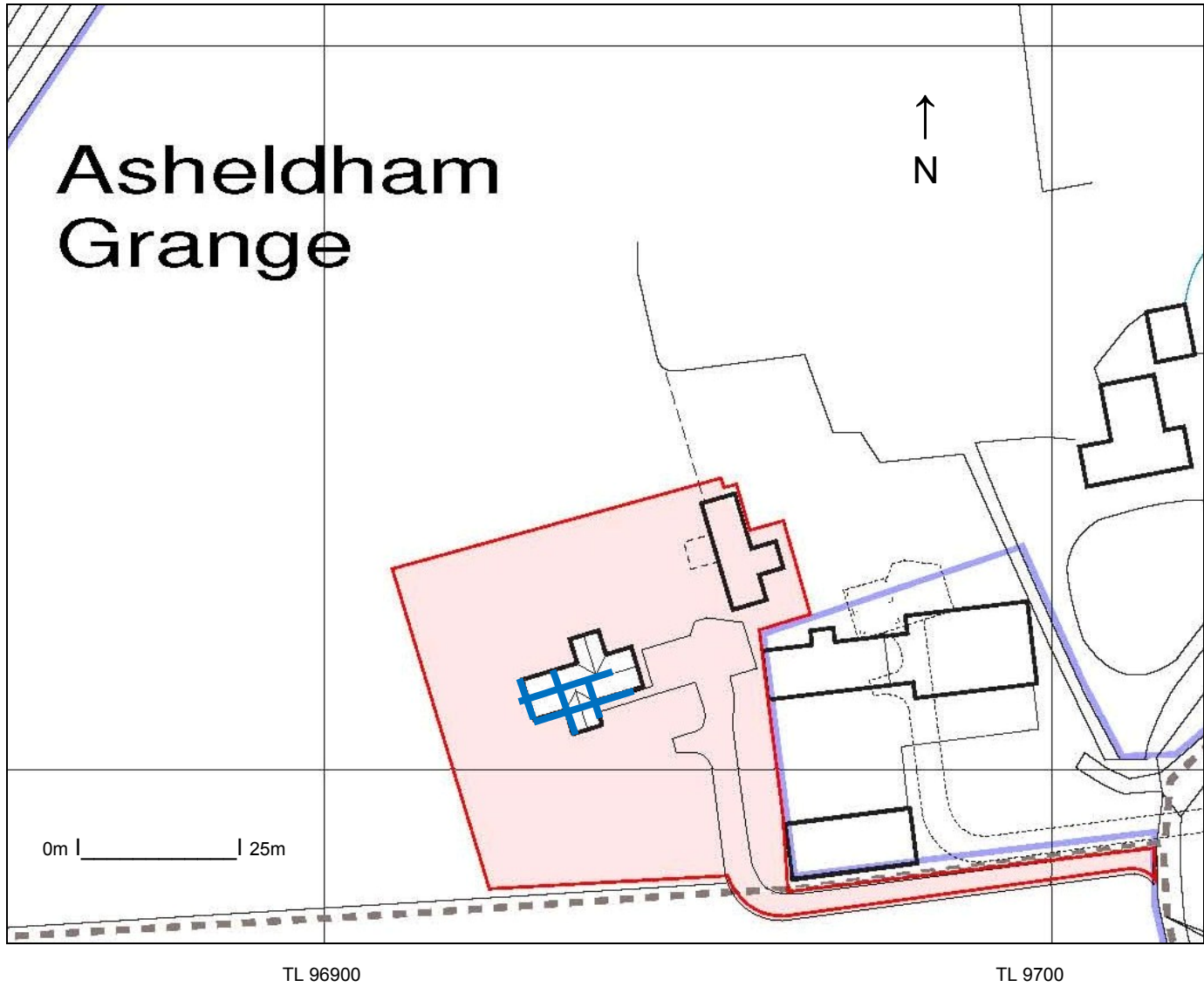


Fig. 1: Site location

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TL 0221



TL 0220

Fig. 2: Monitored foundation trenches (blue)

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Images



General view from north-east looking towards the Asheldham Brook



General view from south-west



Southern foundation trench from east



Central trench from south



Deposit profile at north-western corner of foundations



Deposit profile mid way along southern side



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**OASIS ID: johnnewm1-157966**

### Project details

Project name	Asheldham Grange, Rushes Lane, Asheldham, Essex- Archaeological Monitoring Report
Short description of the project	Ashledham Grange, Rushes Lane, Asheldham (ADAG 13, TL 96928 02213) Monitoring of foundation trenches for a new dwelling to the west of Asheldham Grange did not reveal any archaeological finds or features at a site that proved to have a thin layer of topsoil over a very hard natural sand and gravel concreted layer which in turn lay over the locally occurring stiff London Clay deposit .
Project dates	Start: 23-08-2013 End: 23-08-2013
Previous/future work	No / No
Any associated project reference codes	AMAG 13 - HER event no.
Type of project	Recording project
Site status	None
Current Land use	Other 5 - Garden
Monument type	NONE None
Significant Finds	NONE None
Investigation type	"Watching Brief"
Prompt	Planning condition

### Project location

Country	England
Site location	ESSEX MALDON ASHELDHAM ASHELDHAM GRANGE, RUSHES LANE
Postcode	CM0 7NY
Study area	150.00 Square metres
Site coordinates	TL 96928 02213 51 0 51 41 00 N 000 50 56 E Point
Height OD / Depth	Min: 15.00m Max: 16.00m

### Project creators

Name of Organisation	John Newman Archaeological Services
Project brief originator	Local Authority Archaeologist and/or Planning Authority/advisory body
Project design originator	John Newman
Project director/manager	John Newman
Project supervisor	John Newman
Type of sponsor/funding body	Landowner

### Project archives

Physical Archive Exists?	No
Digital Archive recipient	Historic Environment Branch Essex CC
Digital Contents	"none"
Digital Media available	"Images raster / digital photography","Text"
Paper Archive Exists?	No

### Project bibliography 1

Publication type	Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)
Title	Asheldham Grange, Rushes Lane, Asheldham, Essex- Archaeological Monitoring Report
Author(s)/Editor(s)	Newman, J
Date	2013
Issuer or publisher	John Newman Archaeological Services
Place of issue or publication	Henley, Suffolk
Description	Loose bound client report
Entered by	John Newman (johnnewman2@btinternet.com)
Entered on	28 August 2013

## OASIS:

Please e-mail [English Heritage](#) for OASIS help and advice

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