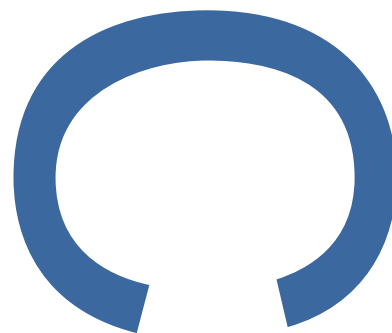


**LAND ADJACENT TO HILL  
COTTAGE, WENDENS AMBO,  
ESSEX: AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL  
EVALUATION**



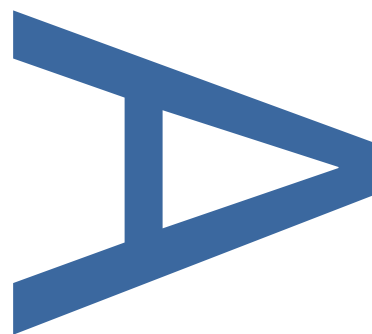
**LOCAL PLANNING AUTHORITY:  
UTTLESFORD DISTRICT COUNCIL**



**PLANNING APPLICATION:  
UTT/17/2572/FUL**

**SITE CODE: WEADC18**

**JUNE 2018**



**PRE-CONSTRUCT ARCHAEOLOGY**

# LAND ADJACENT TO HILL COTTAGE, WENDENS AMBO, ESSEX:

## AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION

### Quality Control

Pre-Construct Archaeology Ltd	
Project Number	K5571
Report Number	R 13302

	Name & Title	Signature	Date
Text Prepared by:	Antonio Pavez		June 2018
Graphics Prepared by:	Mark Roughly		June 2018
Graphics Checked by:	Josephine Brown		June 2018
Project Manager Sign-off:	Peter Crawley		June 2018

Revision No.	Date	Checked	Approved

Pre-Construct Archaeology Limited  
The Granary  
Rectory Farm  
Brewery Road  
Pampisford  
Cambridgeshire  
CB22 3EN

## **Land Adjacent to Hill Cottage, Wendens Ambo, Essex: An Archaeological Evaluation**

**Local Planning Authority:** Uttlesford District Council

**Planning Reference:** UTT/17/2572/FUL

**Central National Grid Reference:** TL 51214 36433

**Site Code:** WEADC18

**Report No.** R 13302

**Written and researched by:** Antonio Pavez  
Pre-Construct Archaeology Ltd

**Project Manager:** Peter Crawley

**Commissioning Client:** Jason Frost (Bloomhall)

**Contractor:** Pre-Construct Archaeology Ltd  
Central Office  
The Granary Rectory Farm  
Brewery Road  
Pampisford  
Cambridgeshire  
CB22 3EN

**Tel:** 01223 845522

**E-mail:** PCrawley@pre-construct.com

**Website:** [www.pre-construct.com](http://www.pre-construct.com)

**©Pre-Construct Archaeology Ltd**  
**June 2018**

*The material contained herein is and remains the sole property of Pre-Construct Archaeology Ltd and is not for publication to third parties without prior consent. Whilst every effort has been made to provide detailed and accurate information, Pre-Construct Archaeology Ltd cannot be held responsible for errors or inaccuracies herein contained.*

## CONTENTS

CONTENTS .....	2
ABSTRACT .....	4
1 INTRODUCTION .....	5
2 GEOLOGY AND TOPOGRAPHY .....	6
3 ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND .....	7
4 METHODOLOGY .....	9
5 QUANTIFICATION OF ARCHIVE .....	12
6 RESULTS .....	13
7 THE FINDS AND ENVIRONMENTAL EVIDENCE .....	17
8 CONCLUSIONS .....	29
9 ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS .....	30
10 BIBLIOGRAPHY .....	31
11 APPENDIX 1: PLATES .....	38
12 APPENDIX 2: CONTENTS INDEX .....	46
13 APPENDIX 3 ENVIRONMENTAL .....	47
14 APPENDIX 6: OASIS FORM .....	50
FIGURE 1 SITE LOCATION .....	34
FIGURE 2 DETAILED TRENCH LOCATION .....	35
PLATE 1. MACHINE OPENING TRENCH 2 .....	38
PLATE 2. TRENCH 1; VIEW NORTH .....	39
PLATE 3. TRENCH 2; VIEW NORTH .....	39
PLATE 4. PROFILE TRENCH 1; VIEW WEST .....	40
PLATE 5. PROFILE TRENCH 2; VIEW WEST .....	40
PLATE 6. TRENCH 1 DITCH [107]; VIEW NORTHWEST .....	41
PLATE 7. TRENCH 1 PIT [115]; VIEW SOUTHWEST .....	41
PLATE 8. TRENCH 2 DITCH [106]; VIEW WEST .....	42
PLATE 9. TRENCH 2 DITCH [106] AND DITCH [104]; VIEW NORTHWEST .....	42

PLATE 10. TRENCH 2 DITCH [104]; VIEW WEST .....	43
PLATE 11. TRENCH 2 DITCH [104] AND DITCH [106]; VIEW SOUTHWEST .....	43
PLATE 12. TRENCH 1 WALL [116] AND CHALK SURFACE (117) OVER DITCH [107]; VIEW EAST .....	44
PLATE 13. TRENCH 1 WALL [116] AND SURFACE (117) OVER DITCH [107]; VIEW SOUTHEAST .....	44

## ABSTRACT

*An archaeological evaluation was undertaken in late spring 2018 by Pre-construct Archaeology on Land Adjacent to Hill Cottage, Wendens Ambo, Essex (NRG TL 51214 36433) in response to an archaeological brief written by Richard Havis of Essex County Council Historic Environment Team (ECCHM).*

*The proposed development was for the construction of a single residential property with associated driveway and infrastructure. A full archaeological condition was attached to the planning consent due to the high archaeological potential of the proposed development (Planning Reference: UTT/17/2572/FULL).*

*The evaluation identified two parallel ditches, almost certainly former plot boundaries, and a 1.3m width circular pit, all of which were dated to the medieval period and infilled from the later medieval to post-medieval period. It is possible that the ditches, which appeared contemporary, may have existed either side of a pathway, as a similarly narrow plot is depicted opposite the ditches on the eastern side of Royston Road.*

*A small segment of chalk preparation supporting a narrow stone wall was constructed upon a fully infilled ditch, although the small scale of these structures (wall, 0.30m x 0.20m) suggested that they were garden features, rather than being linked with a post-medieval dwelling. The final infilling of the plot boundaries thereby widening the plot and the construction of the garden features dated to first half of the post-medieval period and ties in with period of Wendens Ambo gentrification, which saw the construction of several large properties across the village.*

## **1 INTRODUCTION**

- 1.1 A programme of archaeological trial trench evaluation was undertaken by Pre-Construct Archaeology Ltd (PCA) on Land Adjacent to Hill cottage, Wendens Ambo, CB11 4JX. NGR: TL 51214 36433 from the 04/06/2018 to 06/06/2018 (Figure 1, Plate 1).
- 1.2 The archaeological work was commissioned by Jason Frost of Bloomhall in response to an archaeological planning condition attached to the proposed residential development, (Planning Reference: UTT/17/2572/FULL). This project was undertaken due to the high archaeological significance of the proposed development area (PDA).
- 1.3 The evaluation was carried out in accordance with a Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) prepared by Peter Crawley of PCA (Crawley 2018) in response to a Brief for archaeological evaluation issued by Richard Havis (Havis 2018) of Essex County Council Historic Environment Team (ECCHM).
- 1.4 The aim of the evaluation was to determine the location, date, extent, character, condition and quality of any archaeological remains on the site, to assess the significance of any such remains in a local, regional, or national context, as appropriate, and to assess the potential impact of the development proposals on the site's archaeology.
- 1.5 A total of two evaluation trenches, one measuring 20m x 1.80m, excavated within the footprint of the new house and a further trench measuring 10m x 1.80m in the area of the garage and driveway, were excavated in order to give an approximate 5% sample of the site. (Figure 2).
- 1.6 This report describes the results of the evaluation and aims to inform the design of an appropriate archaeological mitigation strategy. The site archive will be deposited at Colchester Museum.

## **2 GEOLOGY AND TOPOGRAPHY**

### **2.1 Geology**

- 2.1.1 The underlying bedrock is comprised of Lewes Nodular Chalk Formation and Seaford Chalk Formation (undifferentiated) - Chalk. This sedimentary bedrock formed approximately 84 to 94 million years ago in the Cretaceous Period in a local environment previously dominated by warm chalk seas. (Website 1)
- 2.1.2 There are no Superficial Deposits recorded by the British Geological Survey.

### **2.2 Topography**

- 2.2.1 The site is located on land which slopes down steeply and dramatically to the south, towards an east - west flowing tributary stream of the River Wendene, which joins the main River to the east of Wendens Ambo.
- 2.2.2 The centre of the site is located at c.70m Over Datum (OD).



### **3      ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND**

- 3.1      The archaeological background detailed below has been taken from the archaeological brief (Havis 2018), and a search of the Essex HER (EHER).
- 3.2      The proposed development lies at the centre of the historic settlement of Wendens Ambo, situated in the Wendene river valley, from which the settlement took its name, and to the north west of the Grade I listed church of St Mary the Virgin which was founded in the 11th century (EHER 36775). Cartographic sources show the site as located directly opposite a large farm complex and mapping indicates that there is potential for there to be an earlier building on the site.
- 3.3      The parish of Wendens Ambo has a long archaeological history, with evidence of occupation from the prehistoric period onwards. There is evidence that the village may have had a Roman-British origin, and remains of this date are located on the south side of the village (EHER 1952). An archaeological evaluation by M. Atkinson approximately 700m to the southwest of the site (Atkinson 1993) established the presence of a likely Roman Villa estate as indicated by ditches, pits and postholes.
- 3.4      Further evidence was observed on land to the west of the junction between Duke Street and Rookery Lane (about 500m southwest of the site) where a trial trench evaluation made by T. Ennis (Ennis 2006) followed by an archaeological excavation made by A. Wightman (Wightman 2009) uncovered evidence for sporadic prehistoric activity but predominantly from the Roman period (along with medieval evidence).
- 3.5      To the north of the proposed site, a small excavation revealed evidence for Late Saxon settlement (EHER17339) taking the form of two slots, the beds for sleeper planks and two post holes suggesting a structure.
- 3.6      The name Wendens probably derives from winding valley and Wendena is first recorded in Domesday Book (1086). There were two separate settlements Wendena Magna owned by Robert Gernon and Wendena Parva owned by

William de Warren, which together totalled 1, 044 acres. The larger village church of St Mary the Virgin was built in stone in the late 11th century, parts of the nave and tower still surviving, with subsequent modification and rebuilding in the 13th, 14th, 15th and 19th centuries (EHER 217). Documentary evidence suggests the church of Little Wenden was located approximately 400 metres north-west of St Mary's (EHER 162 & 167) where the evidence for late Saxon settlement was found (EHER 163 & 17339). The Duck Street evaluation uncovered evidence of medieval occupation; two ditches were dated by pottery to the 12th/early 13th century and another ditch and pit were 14th-early 15th with a metalled road dating to the 15th-16th centuries (EHER 46001).

- 3.7 There are many historic properties within the centre of Wendens Ambo. The closest and most relevant for the present work include a 17th century timber framed barn, The Stables (EHER 36805 Grade (II) 1273633) at Wenden Place, a short distance to the south west, and the Old Post Office, a 16th century timber framed building (EHER 36799 Grade (II) 1238173) to the south. A further timber-framed house, is recorded to the south east at 3 Church Path (EHER 36779 Grade (II) 1238159).
- 3.8 In the 17th century a programme of rebuilding work was undertaken within the village, with several houses of this period surviving today. In 1662 the two parishes were amalgamated into one named Wendens Ambo. In the 19th century the area was industrialised with the railway, mills and brick works appearing. Tile and undefined building debris have been noted at the corner of Duck Street and Rookery Lane (EHER 260).
- 3.9 During the 20th century substantial World War II defences were erected around the village. Pillboxes, tank traps and mortar positions were set up, the nearest being a mortar position c.120 metres to the south-west (EHER 10385) with others close to St Mary's Church (EHER 10386 & 10387).

## **4 METHODOLOGY**

### **4.1 General**

- 4.1.1 The archaeological evaluation comprised two trial trenches, one 10m x 1.80m (Trench 1) excavated in the area of the garage and driveway and a second one 20m x 1.80m (Trench 2) within the footprint of the proposed new house, a total of 30m of trial trenching. These were distributed evenly across the site to provide a representative sample of the development area, but also to target the areas that were more likely to be disturbed by the proposed development. (Plates 2 and 3).
- 4.1.2 Due to a high bank at the eastern edge of the site and the steep topography of this part of Wendens Ambo, a small 1.5 ton machine had to be lowered into the site prior to the commencement of machining, as access was limited.

### **4.2 Excavation methodology**

- 4.2.1 Ground reduction during the evaluation was carried out using a Daewoo 1.5 ton 360° tracked mechanical excavator was used to strip the excavation area (Plate 1). Topsoil and other overburden of low archaeological value was removed in spits down to the level of the undisturbed natural geological deposits where potential archaeological features could be observed and recorded.
- 4.2.2 Exposed surfaces were cleaned by trowel and hoe as appropriate and all further excavation was undertaken manually using hand tools.

### **4.3 Recording and Finds Recovery**

- 4.3.1 The limits of excavations, heights above Ordnance Datum (c70m OD) and the locations of archaeological features and interventions were recorded using a Leica 1200 GPS rover unit with RTK differential correction, giving three-dimensional accuracy of 20mm or better.
- 4.3.2 Deposits or the removal of deposits judged by the excavating archaeologist to constitute individual events were each assigned a unique record number (often referred to within British archaeology as 'context numbers') and recorded on individual pre-printed forms (Taylor and Brown 2009). Archaeological

processes recognised by the deposition of material are signified in this report by round brackets (thus), while events constituting the removal of deposits are referred to here as 'cuts' and signified by square brackets [thus]. Where more than one slot was excavated through an individual feature, each intervention was assigned additional numbers for the cutting event and for the deposits it contained (these deposits within cut features being referred to here as 'fills'). The record numbers assigned to cuts, deposits and groups are entirely arbitrary and in no way reflect the chronological order in which events took place. All features and deposits excavated during the evaluation and excavation are listed in Appendix 1. Artefacts recovered during excavation were assigned to the record number of the deposit from which they were retrieved.

4.3.3 Metal-detecting was carried out during the topsoil and subsoil stripping and throughout the excavation process. Archaeological features and spoil heaps were scanned by metal-detector periodically. Only objects of modern date were found and were not retained for accession.

4.3.4 High-resolution digital photographs were taken of all relevant features and deposits, and were used to keep a record of the excavation process. In addition, monochrome photographs were taken of significant features.

#### **4.4 Sampling Strategy**

4.4.1 Discrete features were half-sectioned, photographed and recorded by a cross-section scaled drawing at an appropriate scale (either 1:10 or 1:20). Where large or significant finds assemblages were present, features were subsequently 100% excavated for finds recovery.

4.4.2 Linear features were investigated by means of regularly-spaced slots amounting to 25% of their lengths. Where stratigraphic relationships between features could not be discerned in plan, relationship slots were also excavated and these were recorded as part of the GPS survey and noted on the relevant context sheets.

#### **4.5 Environmental Sampling**

4.5.1 A total of four bulk samples (generally 20-40 litres in volume) were taken to

extract and identify micro- and macro-botanical remains. The aim of this sampling was to investigate the past environment and economy of the site, the diet of the ancient inhabitants and the agricultural basis of the settlement. An additional aim of the sampling was to recover small objects that are not readily recovered by hand-collection, such as metalworking debris and bones of fish and small animals. These samples were taken from sealed deposits.

## 5 QUANTIFICATION OF ARCHIVE

### 5.1 Paper Archive

Context register sheets	1
Context sheets	19
Plan registers	0 (GPS)
Plans at 1:50, 1:20 and 1:10	0
Section register sheets	1
Sections at 1:10 & 1:20	7
Trench record sheets	2
Photo register sheets	2
Small finds register sheets	0
Environmental register sheets	1

### 5.2 Digital Archive

Digital photos	78
GPS survey files	2
Digital plans	1
GIS project	0
Access database	1

### 5.3 Physical Archive

Struck flint	4
Burnt flint	0
Pottery	299g
Ceramic building material (CBM)	0
Glass	0
Briquetage	0
Small Finds	0
Slag	0
Animal bone	24
Shell	0
Environmental bulk samples	4
Monolith samples	0
Other samples (specify)	0
Black and white films	1
Colour slides	0

## **6 RESULTS**

- 6.1.1 The earliest activity recovered from the site was that of two fragments of residually deposited Roman tile, one of which was a fragment of tegula. These were found within the medieval to post-medieval ditch fills.
- 6.1.2 The earliest evidence of archaeological features on the site was a 1.3m circular pit and two east to west parallel ditches ([107]=[106], [104]), believed to be former plot boundaries. These appeared to have gone out of use in the later medieval to post-medieval period and were filled by a combination of natural infilling, with some waste items as a by-product of life in the village. The final infilling of the ditches appears to have dated to somewhere within the range of 1550 to 1700.
- 6.1.3 Following the final infilling of the ditch [107], a small segment of chalk surface/preparation (117) supporting a narrow segment of stone wall (116) was constructed (the narrowness of the structure suggesting a garden feature rather than a structural wall).
- 6.1.4 A layer of flints and rubble make-up levelling (111) was recorded in Trench 1. The topsoil (100) in the development area as recorded in Trench 1 and Trench 2 was presumably of recent origin and consisted of dark/black grey silty sand and organic material (garden soil) which varied in depth between 0.14m and 0.19m. Beneath the topsoil was a layer of dark brown to mid brown silty sand subsoil (101)=(118) which varied in depth between 0.31m and 0.46m. The uneven nature of these deposits suggested that there had been a degree of landscaping within the plot. Several 19th-century pot sherds were recovered from the subsoil. (Plates 4 and 5).
- 6.1.5 The features were cut into natural chalk (102) which was mostly white to light yellow-brown in colour.

### **6.2 Medieval: 1066 – 1550AD**

- 6.2.1 The two ditches ([106]=[107] and [104]) and pit [115] appear to have started their life in the mid/late medieval period, before going out of use in the post-medieval period.

## Trench 1

- 6.2.2 An approximately aligned east to west ditch [107] was located at the southern end of trench 1. The ditch almost certainly represented a continuation of ditch [106] in trench 2. The ditch traversed the width of the trench and extended beyond the limit of the trench. It measured 1.20m wide by 0.80m deep, with steep sides and concave base. The feature produced animal bone, one fragment of later medieval to post-medieval roofing tile and pottery (a fragment of Roman tegula tile was also found residually deposited within fill (109)). The pottery assemblage from this feature consisted of one rim sherd of a medieval coarse ware jar dated to approximately 1175 to 1400, one sherd from a medieval orange sandy ware jug dated approximately 1200 to 1550 and two body sherds of post-medieval red earthenware (Harlow Ware). These were dated 1550 to 1700, and were found in the mid fill deposit (109), family sherds were found in contexts (101) and (114). Thirteen fragments of cattle, horse and sheep/goat were recovered from fill (109) No more finds were collected from upper and lower deposits of this ditch (110) and (108). Environmental sample <3> contained modern insects, small animal bone, insect larvae, woody plant fragments and roots, all of which were abundant, which suggested there had been a degree of landscaping and mixing/adulteration of the deposits on the site to a degree that they became a habitat for recent species. (Fig. 3, Plates 6).
- 6.2.3 A short distance to the north, pit [115] was observed. It was circular in shape, 1.3m wide by 0.80m deep with steep sides and concave base. Located towards the middle of the trench and north of ditch [107], the pit did line up with ditch [104] to the west (in Trench 2), but did not appear to represent a termination of that ditch as first thought. The pit extended beyond the western limit of Trench 1 and contained a single fill (114). Fill (114) produced a sherd derived from a jug of post-medieval red earthenware (Harlow Ware), dated to approximately 1550 to 1700, and fragments of post-medieval peg tiles. Three fragments of cattle and sheep/goat bone was also unearthed from fill (114). Environmental sample <4> contained evidence for bioturbation which was evident in the form of a large collection of modern roots and woody plant material, grasses, insect



remains and insect eggs. (Plate 7)

#### 6.2.4 Trench 2

6.2.5 An approximately aligned east to west ditch [106] was recorded and located at the southern end of trench 2. The ditch almost certainly represented a continuation of ditch [107] in trench 1 and extended across the width of the trench. It measured 1.73m wide by 0.80m deep, with steep sides and flattish base. It was infilled by two deposits (105) and (113). The upper fill (105), a mid-grey brown silty sand which contained frequent small chalk flecks, CBM fragments, a fragment of pig bone and a fragment of clay pipe (from 113) which indicated that the infilling in this ditch extended into the post-medieval period subsequently levelled above. The fill (113) consisted of a mid brown silty sand with small to medium size chalk fleck inclusions probably collapsed from the sides of the feature after abandonment. It contained animal bone, CBM, a body sherd and a basal sherd, each of Harlow ware, (fabric 21D), approximately 1200–1500 in date. Environmental sample <1> indicated that contamination was significant; with burrowing snails, roots, insect eggs and modern insect remains present amongst present within the deposit. (Fig. 4, Plates 8 and 9).

6.2.6 A further east to west aligned ditch [104], 1m north and parallel to ditch [106] was observed towards the southern end of the trench. The ditch extended beyond the limits of excavation and was 1.01m wide by 0.61m deep, with steep sides becoming almost vertical in places and with a slightly concave base. The upper fill (103) and the lower fill (112), were similar in colour and composition to the two fills (105) and (113) recorded in the parallel ditch [106]. Fill (103) contained a fragment of post-medieval peg tile. Fill (112) contained a fragment of residual Roman tile, a fragment of animal bone and a fragment of burnt, but natural stone. Environmental sample <2> indicated that contamination of this deposit was significant; with burrowing snails, roots, insect eggs and modern insect remains. (Fig.5, Plates 10 and 11).

### **6.3 Post-Medieval: 1550-1900**

#### **6.3.1 Trench 1**

6.3.2 Post-medieval remains comprised of a levelling layer of flint nodules and small fragments of rubble recorded on section 3 overlaying ditch [107]. It measured 2.20m wide by 0.20m deep and had perhaps been deposited to counteract the slumping of the ground surface in the vicinity of the ditch and/ may indicate the use of the site as a waste dumping area during the construction of neighbouring buildings in the post-medieval period. (Fig. 3)

6.3.3 A small segment of chalk surface/preparation (117) was also identified in trench 1. It was 0.99m long by 0.60m wide by 0.10m deep and extended beyond the east limit of the trench. Constructed as the levelling-bed to support the small segment of stone wall (116) which measured 0.45m long by 0.30m wide by 0.11m high. It also extended beyond the trench limit. Both features were likely to be garden features of post-medieval date. (Fig. 6, Plate 12 and 13)

## **7 THE FINDS AND ENVIRONMENTAL EVIDENCE**

### **7.1 Post-Roman Pottery Assessment (WEADC18)**

**Chris Jarret**

#### Introduction

- 7.1.1 A total of fifteen sherds/12 estimated number of vessels (ENV)/299g of post-Roman pottery were recovered from the archaeological work, none of which is unstratified. The pottery dates to the medieval (five sherds/5 ENV/90g) and post-medieval periods (five sherds/5 ENV/90g). The pottery is in a very fragmentary state, although most of the material could be assigned to a vessel type. The pottery shows no evidence of either abrasion or lamination and was therefore deposited mostly under secondary conditions. The pottery was quantified by sherd count (SC), estimated number of vessels (ENV) and weight. Pottery was recovered from four contexts as small sized groups (fewer than 30 sherds).
- 7.1.2 The assemblage was examined macroscopically and microscopically using a binocular microscope (x20), and recorded in a database format file by fabric, form and decoration. The classification of the fabrics follows that of the Essex post-Roman pottery codes and are according to Cunningham (1985), Davey and Walker (2009) and Cotter (2000). The pottery is discussed as an index ordered by trench and context.

#### Index

##### Trench 1

Context [101], top soil, spot date: late 19th/early 20th century

- 7.1.3 Modern English stoneware (fabric 45M), 19th-20th century, 4 sherds, 2 ENV, 64g, form: Jar, cylindrical. Base sherds of jam etc. jars. One example with a plain wall and another with widely spaced external panels. Bristol-glazed. The glazing colour on the form post-dates c. 1850.
- 7.1.4 Staffordshire-type white earthenware, (fabric 48d), c. 1780–1900 1 sherd, 1 ENV, 6g, form: plate. Refined white earthenware with transfer-printed decoration, dated from c. 1805. Base sherd with probably the Asiatic pheasant

design in production c. 1830–1910.

Context [109], plot boundary ditch [107], spot date: c. 1550–1700

- 7.1.5 Medieval coarse ware, (fabric 20), c. 1175–1400, 1 sherd, 1 ENV, 26g, form: Jar, rounded. Rim sherd, everted, internal lid-seated rim
- 7.1.6 Medieval sandy orange wares (general) (fabric 21), c. 1200–1550, 1 sherd, 1 ENV, 52g, form: jug, baluster. Splayed base. Fully oxidised (a dull red) colour, a hard, sandy, 'pasty' fabric
- 7.1.7 Post-medieval red earthenwares (general), (fabric 40), 2 sherds, 1 ENV, 54g, form: unidentified. Body sherd. A large vessel. Oxidised. Hard fired slightly sandy fabric, very sparse calcareous material. Similar to the transitional red earthenwares produced at Harlow (Davey and Walker 2009, 27–44), although probably of a post c. 1550 date). Family sherds noted in contexts [101] and [114].

Context [114], fill of pit [115], spot date: c. 1550–1700

- 7.1.8 Harlow ware, (fabric 21D), c. 1200–1500, 1 sherd, 1 ENV, 7g, form: jug. Rilled body sherd with external white slip vertical ?runs and an external glaze
- 7.1.9 Post-medieval red earthenwares (general), (fabric 40), c. 1550–1900, 1 sherd, 1 ENV, 12g, form: unidentified. Body sherd. A large unglazed vessel. Family sherds found in contexts [101] and [109]
- 7.1.10 Trenches 1 and 2 (no trench location is noted on the finds label)

Context [101], top soil, spot date: c. 1550–1700

- 7.1.11 Post-medieval red earthenwares (general), (fabric 40), c. 1550–1900, 1 sherd, 1 ENV, 71g, form: unidentified. Body sherd, external clear glaze drips. A large vessel. Family sherds noted in contexts [109] and [114]
- 7.1.12 Post-medieval red earthenwares (general), (fabric 40), c. 1550–1900, 1 sherd, 1 ENV, 2g, form: ?cup. Simple inturned rim, 'orange-fired' internal and external glaze. ?Late 16th-17th century.

- 7.1.13 Trench 2

Context [113], fill of plot boundary ditch [106], spot date: c. 1200–1500

7.1.14 Harlow ware, (fabric 21D), c. 1200–1500, 1 sherd, 1 ENV, 3g, form: Jug, baluster. Splayed base with an external red wash, ?late medieval.

7.1.15 Harlow ware, (fabric 21D), c. 1200–1500, 1 sherd, 1 ENV, 2g, form: unidentified. Body sherd, coarse variant fabric with oxidised surfaces

7.1.16 Significance, potential and recommendations for further work

7.1.17 The assemblage is of some significance for indicating medieval and post-medieval activity on the study area. However, as the material is small in quantity and fragmentary it is therefore difficult to assign any meaning to. The assemblage has both a regional and a national ceramic profile, i.e. the pottery encompasses types that were made both locally and also at major ceramic production centres, such as The Potteries, Staffordshire and marketed across the breadth of the British Isles. The pottery has the potential to date the deposits it was recovered from and indicates medieval and post-medieval activity on the site. The pottery also informs upon what ceramics were being marketed to this area of North Essex during the medieval and post-medieval periods. There are no recommendations for further work on the material at this stage, although if further archaeological work is undertaken on the study area then its importance should be revaluated in the light of new ceramic finds being excavated.

## **7.2 Animal Bone**

**Karen Deighton**

### **Introduction**

7.2.1 A small amount of animal bone was collected from two ditches and a medieval pit during the course of a two trench evaluation.

### **Method**

7.2.2 Bone was analysed using standard zooarchaeological methods (see references) and data was placed on an access database.

### **Preservation**

7.2.3 Fragmentation was fairly heavy with only three whole long bones present.

Surface condition was reasonable in most instances with severe root erosion being limited to material from the topsoil. Canid gnawing was noted on one bone only. Butchery, entirely in the form of chopping, was seen on 6 bones and an example of sawing was seen from the topsoil only.

#### The taxa present

Context	Cut	Trench	Feature	Cattle	Cattle Size	Horse	Sheep/Goat	Pig	Total
100		both	topsoil	3	2				5
101		both	subsoil	1					1
105	106	2	ditch					1	1
109	107	1	ditch	6	1	3	3		13
112	104	2	ditch	1					1
114	115	1	pit	1	1		1		3
Total				12	4	3	4	1	24

Table: taxa by context

- 7.2.4 The assemblage is limited the major domesticates. Some ageing data were available from epiphyseal fusion and tooth eruption and wear analysis. This suggested the presence of largely adult individuals although three neonatal cattle elements were observed

#### Recommendations

- 7.2.5 Animal bone should be collected from suitable contexts and analysed should any subsequent work take place.

#### Conclusion

- 7.2.6 Little can be said of the assemblage due to the paucity of material.

### 7.3 Building Materials

#### Amparo Valcarcel

##### Introduction and Methods

- 7.3.1 This small building material assemblage (22 examples 1.1 kg) from the evaluation WEADC18, at the centre of the historic settlement of Wendens Ambo, situated in the Wendene river valley, was reviewed to determine its overall character, and to provide a list of spot dates.
- 7.3.2 The application of a 1kg masons hammer and sharp chisel to each example ensured that a small fresh fabric surface was exposed. The fabric was

examined at x20 magnification using a long arm stereomicroscope or hand lens (Gowland x10). Where the stone or ceramic fabric matched with the Museum of London series, it was designated the appropriate MoL 4digit code. Where the stone fabric had no exact match, the fabric was prefixed by the generic 3120. New tile and brick fabric were prefixed by WEA1 followed by 1; thus WEA1; WEA2 etc.

#### Fabrics and Forms

- 7.3.3 The assemblage is dominated in its entirety by post medieval peg tile and brick, with less quantities of Roman material. Common late post medieval peg tile fragments with fine and course moulding sand are found throughout the site. The fragmentary condition suggests that the material has been dumped.

#### Roman

- 7.3.4 Two small examples of common London local sandy red group 2815 were recovered from the site. The fragments are abraded suggesting dumped material. One tegula fragment was found in [109] and a chipped fragment from [113].

Late medieval and post medieval (1450-1800) 20 examples 1.01 kg

- 7.3.5 Roofing tiles (18 fragments, 873 g.)
- 7.3.6 2276 type: Hard, well fired fine texture with abundant quartz (peg tile)
- 7.3.7 WEA1: hard, well fired, very course with abundant quartz, occasional calcium carbonate and red iron oxide.
- 7.3.8 Peg tiles made of a sandy abundant-coarse opaque quartz fabric (WEA1), have a course grade moulding sand suggesting perhaps that they were post medieval peg tiles. With no existing reference collection of peg tile fabrics one cannot pinpoint more accurate dates for manufacture, but keeping a 1450-1800 date, seems probable. Peg tiles made of 2276 have medium moulding sand. It is comparable to the common London sandy 2276 fabric (1480-1900), but having the occasional glassy and quartz inclusions.
- 7.3.9 Floor tile 2 fragment, 137 g.

7.3.10 WEA2: well fired, sandy fabric with white silty pellets, abundant red iron oxide and occasional black iron oxide intrusions (floor tile)

7.3.11 As no reference collection in Brockley for local fabrics from Essex, two floor tiles examples made of local fabric WEA2 are dating 1300-1800.

#### Stone

7.3.12 A fragment of fine laminated sandstone (Cretaceous) from underlying glacial till deposits was recovered from [112]. The stone has not been worked but is burnt.

#### Distribution

Context	Fabric	Form	Size	Date range of material	Latest material	dated	Spot date	Spot date with mortar	
100	WEA1;2276	Early medieval tiles	post peg 3	1450	1900	1450	1900	1480-1800	No mortar
101	WEA2;2276	Late medieval tiles; medieval tiles	early post floor post peg 6	1300	1900	1450	1900	1480-1800	No mortar
109	2459a; WEA1	Early tegula; post medieval tile	Roman post peg 5	50	1800	1450	1800	1450-1800	No mortar
112	2276;3120	Post medieval peg tile; natural sandstone	1	1480	1900	1480	1900	1480-1800	No mortar
113	2452	Roman fragment;	1	55	160	55	160	55-160+	No mortar
114	WEA1; 2276	Post medieval peg tiles	6	1450	1900	1480	1900	1480-1800	No mortar

#### Review

7.3.13 The value of this small building material assemblage lies with a sizeable group of post medieval peg tiles and a small size of Roman material. Probably, these materials came from the Roman villa site 700 m to the southwest of the site. The post medieval assemblage is reduced to peg and floor tiles.



## Recommendations

7.3.14 The building material assemblage very much reflects post medieval builds somewhere in the vicinity of Wendens Ambo. It seems probable, given the poor condition of the Roman ceramic building material assemblage that much of it was reclaimed from dumps episodes from an occupation nearby. The stone is burnt, but it seems natural. Most of this group should be discarded as full recording was undertaken, except the Roman examples. No further work recommended.

## 7.4 Environmental Results

### Kate Turner

#### Introduction

7.4.1 This report summarises the findings of the rapid assessment of the environmental remains found in four bulk soil samples taken during the archaeological evaluation of land at the village of Wendens Ambo, Essex. These samples were taken from three boundary ditch cuts and a pit, the context information for which is given in table 1.

7.4.2 The aim of this assessment is to:

1. Give an overview of the contents of the assessed samples;
2. Determine the environmental potential of these samples;
3. Establish whether any further analysis is necessary.

Table 1: Context information for environmental samples, WEADC18

Context No.	Cut	Context type	Context category	Trench number	Interpretation
108	107	Fill	Ditch	1	Fill of cut [107] from east-southeast aligned boundary ditch
112	104	Fill	Ditch	2	Fill of cut [104] from east-west aligned boundary ditch
113	106	Fill	Ditch	2	Fill of cut [106] from east-west aligned boundary ditch
114	115	Fill	Pit	1	Fill of possible medieval pit [115]

## Methodology

- 7.4.3 Four environmental bulk samples, of between nine and sixteen litres in volume, were processed using the flotation method; material was collected using a 300 µm mesh for the light fraction and a 1 mm mesh for the heavy residue. The heavy residue was then dried, sieved at 1, 2 and 4 mm and sorted to extract artefacts and ecofacts. The abundance of each category of material was recorded using a non-linear scale where '1' indicates occasional occurrence (1-10 items), '2' indicates occurrence is fairly frequent (11-30 items), '3' indicates presence is frequent (31-100 items) and '4' indicates an abundance of material (>100 items).
- 7.4.4 The light residue (>300 µm), once dried, was scanned under a low-power binocular microscope to quantify the level of environmental material, such as seeds, chaff, charred grains, molluscs and charcoal. Abundance was recorded as above. A note was also made of any other significant inclusions, for example roots and modern plant material.

## Results and discussion

- 7.4.5 For the purposes of this report the assessed samples will be discussed individually to establish environmental potential. Cultural material collected from the heavy residues has been catalogued and passed to the relevant specialists for further assessment. A full account of the sample contents is given in table 2.

### Sample <1>

- 7.4.6 Sample <1> was taken from cut [106], the fill of an east-west aligned boundary ditch. Preservation of environmental remains in this ditch was mixed; wood charcoal was abundant; however, fragment size was generally small, with less than five pieces of a size suitable for species identification observed (>4 mm in length/width). Weed seeds were scarce; a single un-burnt seed of fumitory (*Fumaria officinalis*) was recovered, along with a low concentration of charred goosefoot (*Chenopodium* sp.) and medick/melilot (*Medicago/Melilotus* sp.). A small number of carbonised cereals were also identified, including specimens of indeterminate wheat (*Triticum* sp.), and several grains that were too heavily

damaged for species to be recognised. Terrestrial mollusc shell was recorded throughout this deposit; a wide variety of taxa were recognised, with the greatest concentrations being of the genus *Vallonia*. A substantial juvenile assemblage was also observed, along with a moderate number of snail eggs.

- 7.4.7 Evidence of contamination was significant, in the form of modern roots, grasses, leaves and insect remains. A large number of shells of the non-native subterranean snail species *Cecilioides acicula* were also recognised, which, when found in archaeological deposits, are often seen as a sign of bioturbation.

#### Sample <2>

- 7.4.8 Sample <2> was collected from an east-west aligned boundary ditch, [104], running parallel to feature [106]. Wood charcoal was, again, abundant in this feature, though the density of sizeable examples was still low, with less than fifteen viable fragments recovered. A small number of weed seeds including specimens of medick/melilot, elder (*Sambucus* sp.) and fumitory were reported, the majority of which appear to be modern contamination. Charred seeds of pea (*Fabaceae* sp.) and grasses (*Poaceae* sp.) were also recognised, along with carbonised grains of spelt/emmer wheat (*Triticum spelta/dicoccum*) and bread wheat (*Triticum aestivum/durum*). Snails were common, with *Vallonia* sp. and *Cecilioides acicula* being the most frequently observed.
- 7.4.9 As with sample <1>, contamination was significant; as well as burrowing snails, roots, insect eggs and modern insect remains were found, along with many snail eggs.

#### Sample <3>

- 7.4.10 The contents of sample <3>, taken from the fill of an east-southeast aligned ditch, were very similar to that of samples <1> and <2>. Archaeobotanical remains were best preserved in the wood charcoal assemblage, which was abundant, though, as previously observed, with few significantly sized pieces. Modern examples of medick/melilot, fumitory, elder, nettle (*Urtica* sp.) and nightshade (*Solanum* sp.) were all present, as was a single charred specimen of goosefoot and a low concentration of charred grain that was too damaged to be identified. As with the other samples, the mollusc assemblage was

significant, with *Vallonia* sp. and *Cecilioides acicula* being the dominant species.

- 7.4.11 Modern insects, small animal bone, insect larvae, woody plant fragments and roots were abundant.

Sample <4>

- 7.4.12 Sample <4>, the fill of a possibly medieval pit, was the poorest in terms of environmental recovery. Wood charcoal was reported; however, this material was heavily fragmented, and no identifiable specimens were found. A single seed of fumitory, likely modern, and several unrecognizable carbonized grains were recovered, along with a sizeable mollusc assemblage, like that found in previous samples. A small amount of fish vertebrae was also recognised.
- 7.4.13 Bioturbation was evident in the form of a large collection of modern roots and woody plant material, grasses, insect remains and insect eggs.

Conclusions and recommendations for further work

- 7.4.14 To summarise, recovery of environmental remains from the Wendens Ambo samples was universally poor. Wood charcoal was identified throughout, which may be the waste from small scale burning for domestic or industrial purposes, however sizeable fragments were scarce, meaning that this assemblage is of limited diagnostic value. Carbonised cereals were also present in low concentrations in all the assessed deposits, including several specimens of wheat, possibly an indication that such crops were being cultivated or consumed in the locality. As the sample size is small however, and the majority of grains too damaged to be identified, no further work is recommended on this material.
- 7.4.15 Evidence for bioturbation and contamination, in the form of modern seeds, burrowing snails, grasses, insect remains and/or plant material and roots is substantial, suggesting that smaller ecofacts may not be in situ. Due to this, and the limited size of the environmental assemblage, no further work is recommended on these samples, and they may be discarded.

7.4.16 If any further archaeological work is carried out on the site, samples should be collected from well-sealed features and deposits, to ensure that the potential for modern contamination is low.

7.4.17 A summary of these results should be included in any subsequent site publications.

## **7.5 DISCUSSION**

### **7.6 Roman (45AD-410AD)**

7.6.1 Two fragments of Roman tile were found residually deposited within later contexts. One tegula fragment was found in ditch fill (109) and a chipped tile fragment was recovered from (113). This confirms that there was Roman activity in the vicinity and may have ultimately derived from a Roman building located at the possible villa establishment within the village bounds to the south (EHER 1952).

### **7.7 Medieval (1066-1550AD)**

7.7.1 The most extensive and earliest cut features found on the site are two ditches [106]=[107] and [104] of presumed mid/late-medieval date, perhaps 14th-15th century, which appear to have finally infilled in the post-medieval period. These were almost certainly plot boundaries, marking the edge of the long thin plots, probably based on a medieval pattern of village tofts, the type of narrow plot boundaries which can still be seen depicted on mapping for the opposite side of Royston Road. The similarity of the two ditches' infilling-deposits and dating suggests that rather than one ditch being a replacement for the other, they may have been contemporary, possibly located on either side of a pathway between plots. It is noteworthy that a narrow plot on the opposite side of Royston Road has a very similar width to the area enclosed by the two ditches, indicating that the any path may once have continued either side of Royston Road, although this could not be confirmed by the present project. An approximately circular pit was also identified as medieval to late-medieval and was intentionally infilled with a combination of domestic waste arising from the domestic medieval to post-medieval activity close by and a degree of natural infilling.

## **7.8 Post-Medieval (1550AD-)**

- 7.8.1 It is likely that the plot was enlarged with the infilling of the ditches [106]=[107] and [104] at the same time in the history of the Wendens Ambo that larger properties were constructed across the village and at the site. Possibly a forerunner of High Banks House. The levelling layer (111), small chalk surface/bedding layer (117) and small wall (116) all represent landscaping/garden activities linked with the post-medieval development of the site.
- 7.8.2 A total of 18 fragments of later medieval to post-medieval roofing tile was derived from the site, implying that there was a building of this date in the vicinity. This is perhaps not surprising as the site is located close to the core of the historic village.

## **8 CONCLUSIONS**

- 8.1.1 Despite the potential for there to have been earlier archaeological remains particularly of Roman date, no archaeological cut features from this period were present, although two fragments of residual Roman tile do confirm the 'background noise' of Roman activity in the vicinity of the village. The absence of Roman or Iron Age evidence is noteworthy when viewed against the results of some of the more recent archaeological interventions in the area i.e. the excavation of a Roman/Iron Age villa in 1993 by M. Atkinson just about 700m southwest direction from site or the more recent excavation in Duck street by Wightman in 2009, approximately 500m away to the south-west This could indicate that the development area was peripheral in the Roman period, activity being focussed on the Roman villa to the south.
- 8.1.2 Although some sherds of medieval pottery were found within the infilling features, and there were some fragments of medieval and post-medieval tile, the lack of material culture combined with the apparent natural infilling does suggest strongly that the focus of the later medieval village of Wendens Ambo was elsewhere, possibly closer to Duck Street (EHER 46001). Again, this picture is typical of a peripheral area located away from the central focus of activity.
- 8.1.3 The final infilling of the disused ditches and pit, thereby widening the plot, for use by a larger property, and the likely associated garden features clearly fits with the gentrification of the village in the first half of the post-medieval period circa 1700.

## **9 ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS**

- 9.1.1 Pre-Construct Archaeology Ltd would like to thank Jason Frost for commissioning and funding the work on behalf of Bloomhall. PCA are also grateful to Richard Havis of Essex County Council Historic Environment Team (ECCHM) for monitoring the work on behalf of the Local Planning Authority. The project was managed for PCA by Peter Crawley who contributed to the report. The project was supervised by the author Antonio Pavez. The author would like to thank Gary Reid for his hard work and assistance on site. Figures accompanying this report were prepared by PCA's CAD Department.



## **10 BIBLIOGRAPHY**

### **Printed Sources**

Binford, L. 1981 *Bones ancient man and modern myths*. New York: Academy Press

Brothwell, D and Higgs, E. (eds) 1969 *Science in Archaeology* 283-302 London: Thames and Hudson

Brown, N. and Glazebrook, J. (eds.) 2000 *Research and Archaeology: a Framework for the Eastern Counties, 2. Research Agenda and Strategy*. East Anglian Archaeology Occasional Paper No. 8

Cappers, R.T., Bekker, R.M. and Jans, J.E., (2012). *Digitale Zadenatlas van Nederland/Digital seed atlas of the Netherlands* (Vol. 4). Barkhuis.

Cotter, J. P., 2000. Post-Roman pottery from excavations in Colchester, 1971 – 85, Colchester Archaeological Report, 7. English Heritage and Colchester Archaeological Trust.

Crawley, P., 2018. *Land Adjacent to Hill Cottage, Wendens Ambo, Essex: an archaeological evaluation*. Written Scheme of Investigation.

Cunningham, C. M., 1985. 'A typology for post-Roman pottery in Essex', in Cunningham, C. M., and Drury, P. J., *Post-Medieval sites and their pottery: Moulsham Street, Chelmsford*. Chelmsford Archaeological Trust, Report 5, Council for British Archaeology, 54, 1–16.

Davey, W. and Walker, H. 2009, *The Harlow pottery industries*, Medieval Pottery Research Group Occasional Paper No. 3.

Glazebrook, J. (ed.) 1997 *Research and Archaeology: a Framework for the Eastern Counties, 1. Resource Assessment*. East Anglian Archaeology Occasional Paper No. 3

Havis, R. 2018 Brief for Trial Trenching and excavation on land Adjacent Hill Cottage, Wendens Ambo

Medlycott, M. 2011b. (ed.) Research and Archaeology Revisited: A revised framework for the East of England. East Anglian Archaeology Occasional Paper 24

Ennis, T. 2006 Duck Street, Wendens Ambo, Archaeological Evaluation. Essex County Council Field Archaeology Unit.

Grant, A. 1982 The use of tooth wear as a guide to a guide to the age of domestic ungulates in Wilson, Grigson and Payne

Wightman, A. 2009 An archaeological excavation on land to the west of the junction between Duck Street and Rookery Lane, Wendens Ambo, Essex. Colchester Archaeological Trust.

Prummel, W. 1987 Atlas for the identification of foetal elements of Cattle, Horse, Sheep and pig Part 2 Archaeozoologia vol1 (2) pp11-41

Schmid, E 1972 Atlas of animal bones London: Elsevier press

Silver, I.1969 The ageing of domestic animals in D. Brothwell and E. Higgs (Eds)

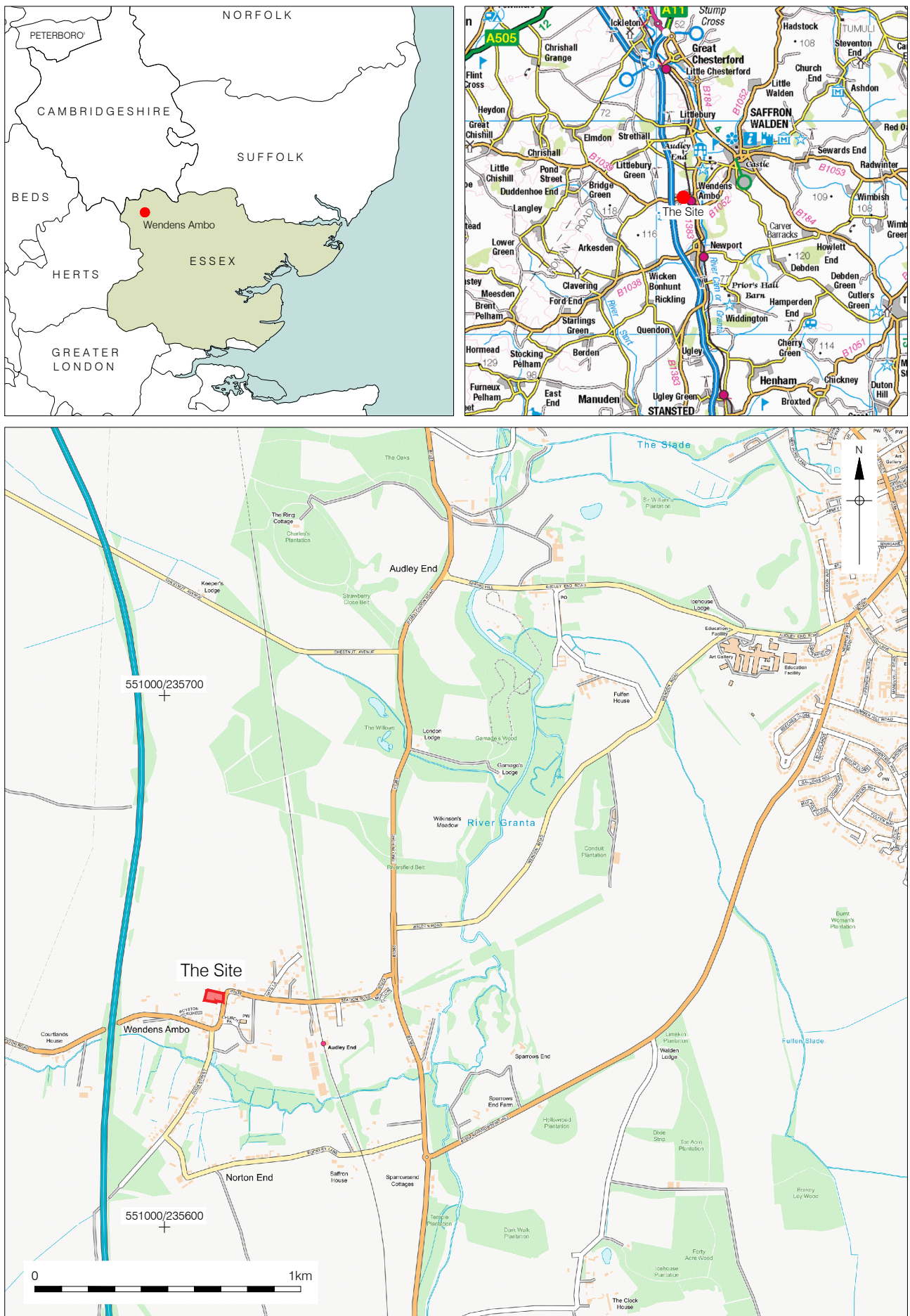
Stace, C, 1991. New flora of the British Isles. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press

## **10.1 Websites**

1) British Geological Survey accessed online at <http://mapapps.bgs.ac.uk/geologyofbritain/home.html> on 16/05/18

2) Archaeology Data Service accessed online at

<http://archaeologydataservice.ac.uk/library/search/searchResults.xhtml> on  
13/06/2018

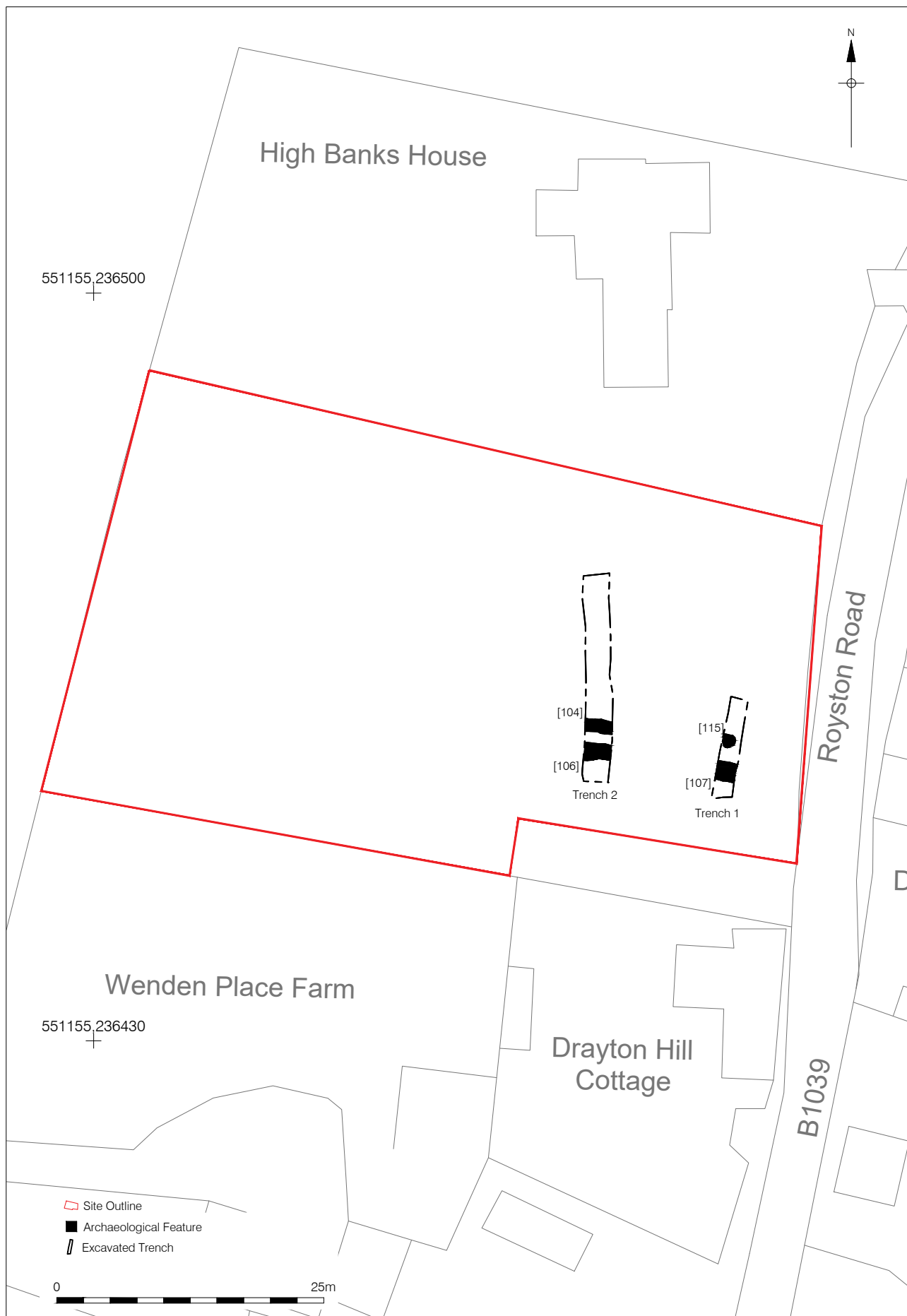


Contains Ordnance Survey data © Crown copyright and database right 2018

© Pre-Construct Archaeology Ltd 2018

19/06/18 RS

Figure 1  
Site Location  
1:2,000,000, 1:250,000 & 1:20,000 at A4

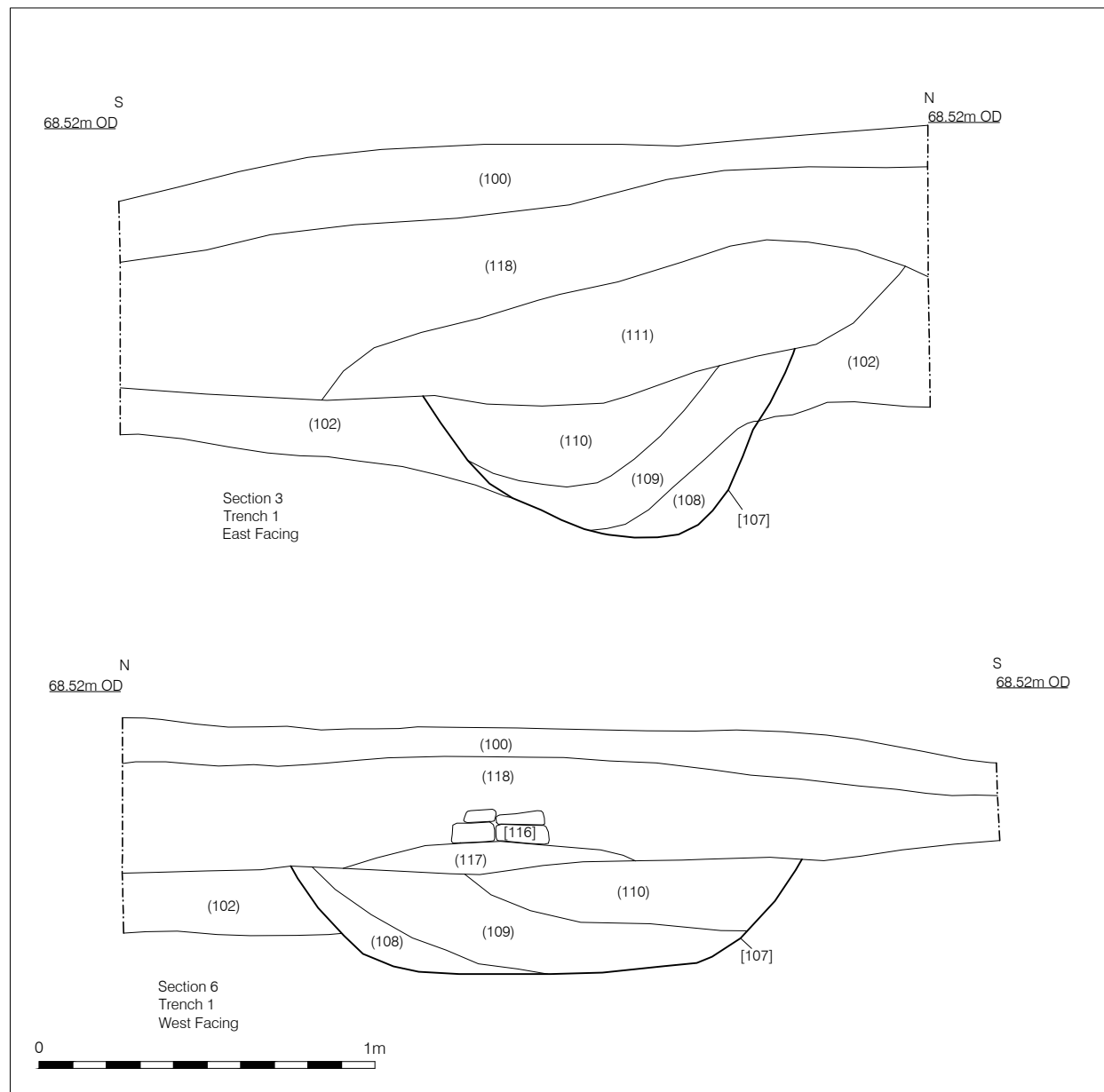
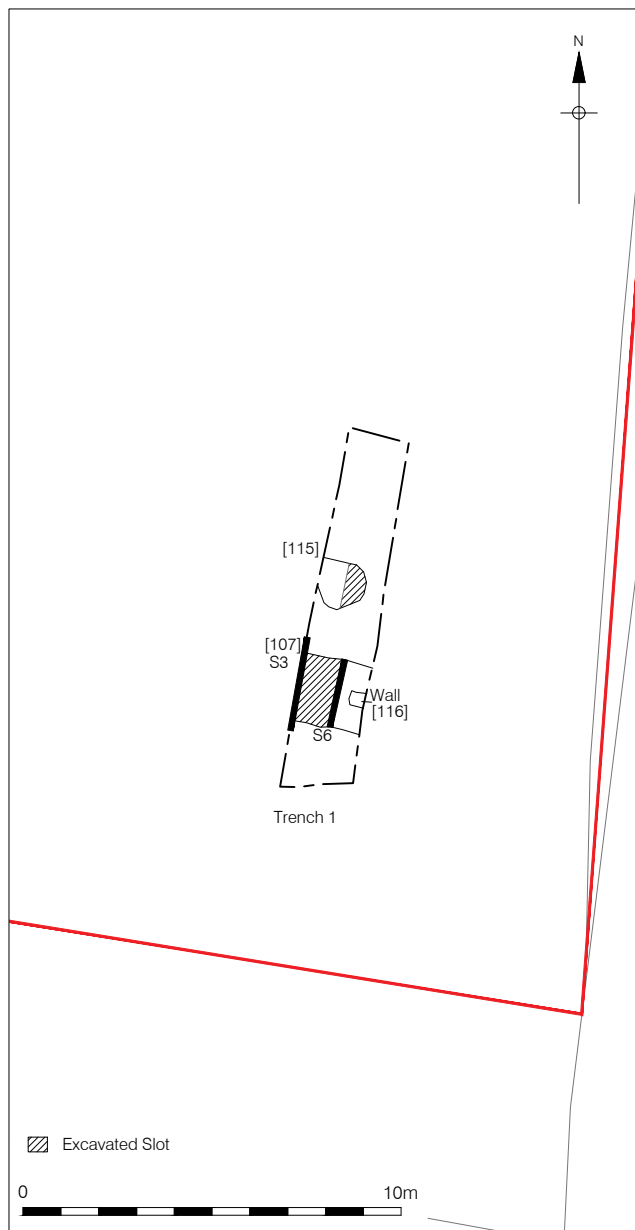


© Crown copyright 2018. All rights reserved. License number PMP36110309

© Pre-Construct Archaeology Ltd 2018

18/05/18 RS

Figure 2  
Trench Location  
1:500 at A4



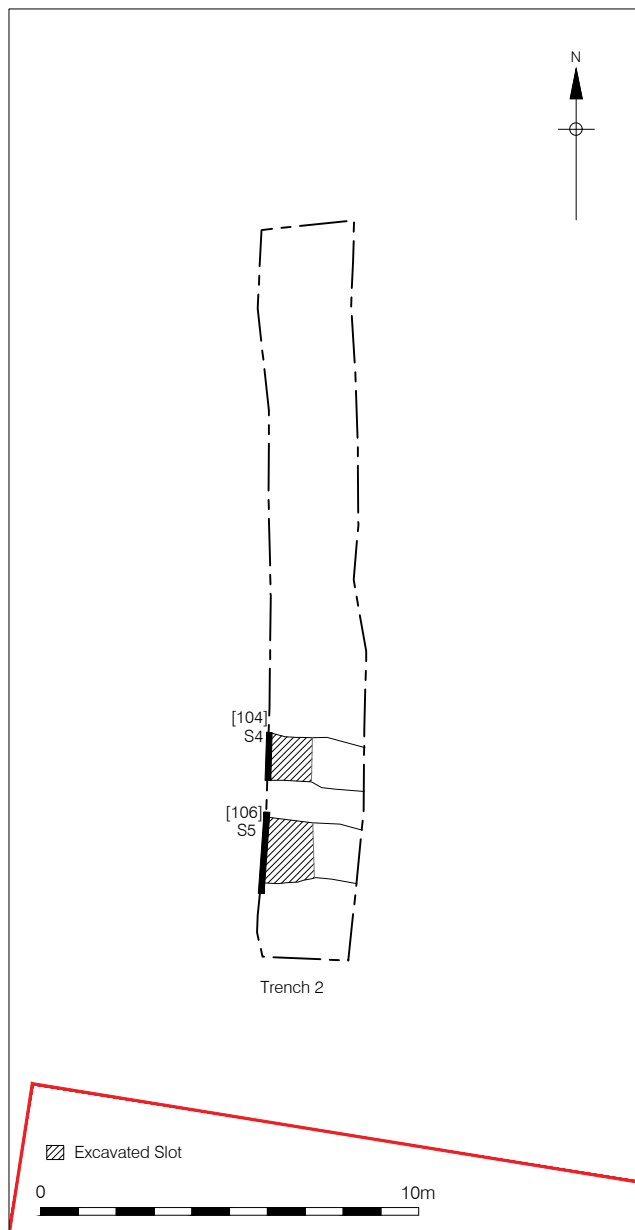
© Crown copyright 2018. All rights reserved. License number PMP36110309

© Pre-Construct Archaeology Ltd 2018

19/06/18 RS

Figure 3  
Trench 1 Plan and Sections  
Plan 1:200; Sections 1:20 at A4





© Crown copyright 2018. All rights reserved. License number PMP36110309  
 © Pre-Construct Archaeology Ltd 2018  
 19/16/18 RS

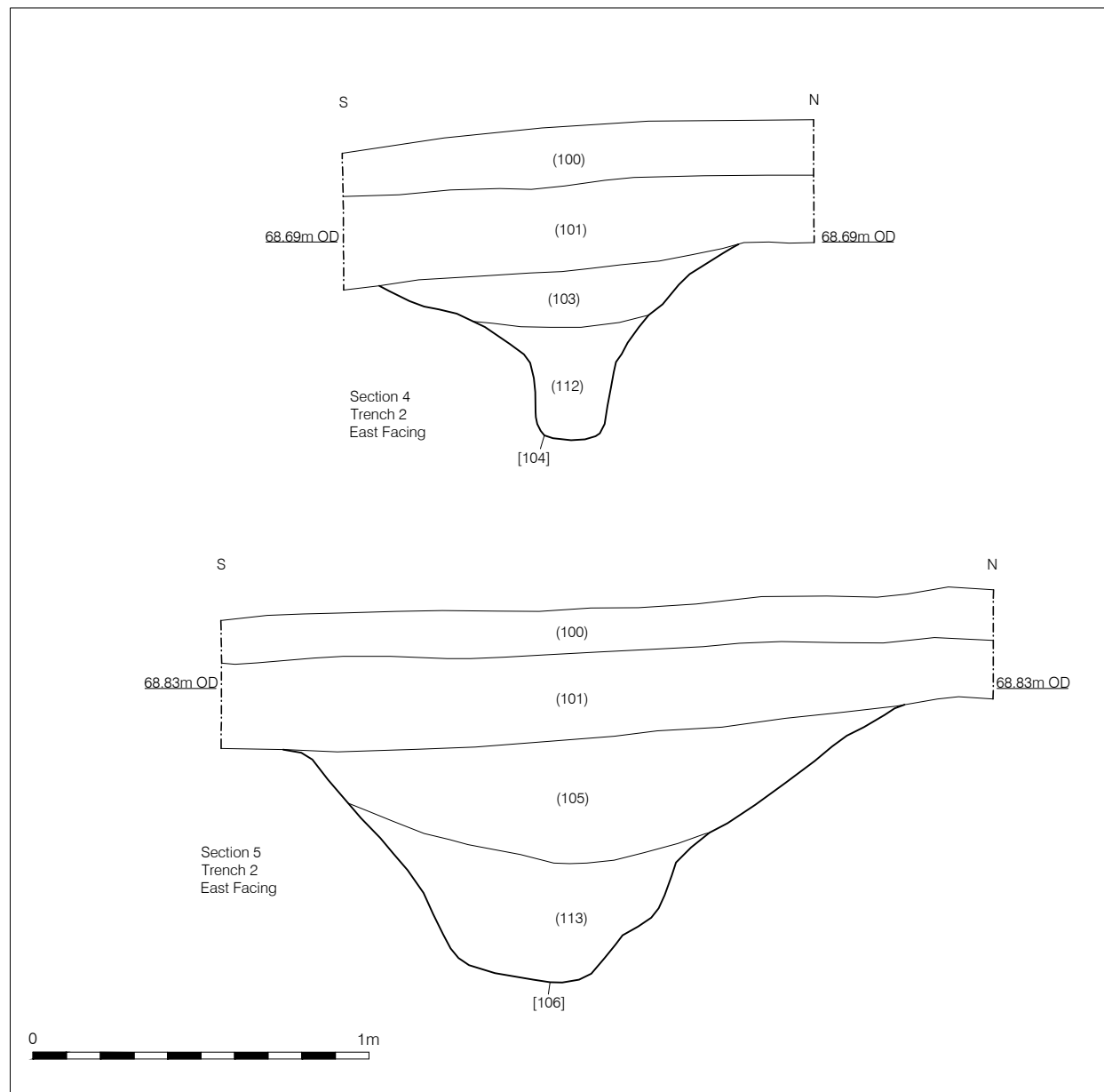


Figure 4  
 Trench 2 Plan and Sections  
 Plan 1:200; Sections 1:20 at A4

## **11 APPENDIX 1: PLATES**



Plate 1. Machine opening Trench 2





Plate 2. Trench 1; view north



Plate 3. Trench 2; view north





Plate 4. Profile Trench 1; view west



Plate 5. Profile Trench 2; view west





Plate 6. Trench 1 ditch [107]; view northwest



Plate 7. Trench 1 pit [115]; view southwest





Plate 8. Trench 2 ditch [106]; view west



Plate 9. Trench 2 ditch [106] and ditch [104]; view northwest





Plate 10. Trench 2 ditch [104]; view west



Plate 11. Trench 2 ditch [104] and ditch [106]; view southwest





Plate 12. Trench 1 wall [116] and chalk surface (117) over ditch [107]; view east



Plate 13. Trench 1 wall [116] and surface (117) over ditch [107]; view

southeast

## 12 APPENDIX 2: CONTENTS INDEX

Context Number	Cut	Type	Category	Trench	Interpretation	Equivalent to
100		Layer	Topsoil	Tr 1 and 2	Topsoil	
101		Layer	Subsoil	Tr 1 and 2	Subsoil	118
102		Layer	Natural	Tr 1 and 2	Natural	
103	104	Fill	Ditch	Trench 2	post-medieval infilling plot boundary ditch	
1104		Cut	Ditch	Trench 2	plot boundary ditch	
105		Fill	Ditch	Trench 2	post-medieval infilling of plot boundary ditch	110
106		Cut	Ditch	Trench 2	plot boundary ditch	107
107		Cut	Ditch	Trench 1	plot boundary ditch	106
108	107	Fill	Ditch	Trench 1	plot boundary ditch	
109	107	Fill	Ditch	Trench 1	plot boundary ditch	113
110	107	Fill	Ditch	Trench 1	plot boundary ditch	105
111			Levelling	Trench 1	post-medieval garden levelling made-up	
112	104	Fill	Ditch	Trench 2	plot boundary ditch	
113	106	Fill	Ditch	Trench 2	plot boundary ditch	109
114	115	Fill	Pit	Trench 1	pit	
115		Cut	Pit	Trench 1	pit	
116		Structure	Masonry	Trench 1	wall/foundations	
117		Layer	Surface	Trench 1	chalk surface	
118		Layer	Subsoil	Trench 1	subsoil	101



## 13 APPENDIX 3 ENVIRONMENTAL

Table 2: Assessment of environmental residues and flots, WEADC18

Sample No.		1	2	3	4
Context No.		113	112	108	114
Feature No.		106	104	107	115
Volume of bulk (litres)		16	9	11	15
Volume of flot (millilitres)		65	67	100	110
Method of processing		F	F	F	F
HEAVY RESIDUE					
Bone					
Animal bone		1	2	1	2
Molluscs					
Cepaea sp.	Terrestrial				
Cochlicopa lubrica	Terrestrial				1
Oxychilus sp.	Terrestrial		1		1
Trichia sp.	Terrestrial			1	1
Fragments				2	1
Other Material					
Hammer-scale		2	1	2	2
Pottery		1	1	1	1
FLOT RESIDUE					
Charcoal					
Charcoal >4 mm		1	2	1	1
Charcoal 2 - 4 mm		2	3	3	3
Charcoal <2 mm		4	4	4	4
Frgs. of ID size		<5	<15	<10	X
Seeds					
Atriplex sp.	Oraches		1		
Fumaria officinalis	Fumitory	1	1	1	1
Medicago/Melilotus sp.	Medicks/melilots		1	1	
Rubus sp.	Brambles		1		
Sambucus sp.	Elder		1	1	
Solanum sp.	Nightshades			1	
Urtica sp.	Nettles			1	
Burnt seeds					
Chenopodium sp.	Goosefoots	1		1	
Fabaceae sp.	Peas (indet.)		1		

Sample No.		1	2	3	4
Context No.		113	112	108	114
Feature No.		106	104	107	115
Medicago/Melilotus sp.	Medicks/melilots	1			
Poaceae sp. (large)	Grasses		2		
Cereals					
Triticum aestivum/durum	Bread/macaroni wheat		1		
Triticum dicoccum/spelta	Emmer/spelt wheat		1		
Triticum sp.	Wheat (indet.)	1	1		
Broken/distorted (No ID)		1		1	1
Other plant macrofossils					
Woody stems/twigs				3	4
Leaf fragments		1			
Roots/tubers		3	3	4	4
Modern grasses/weeds		2			1
Molluscs					
Carychium sp.	Terrestrial			1	
Cecilioides acicula	Terrestrial	4	4	4	4
Cochlicopa lubrica	Terrestrial	1	1	1	
Lauria cylindracea	Terrestrial	2	2	2	2
Oxychilus sp.	Terrestrial	1	1	1	2
Pupilla muscorum	Terrestrial	1			2
Trichia sp.	Terrestrial	2	2	2	2
Vallonia sp.	Terrestrial	3	3	3	3
Vertigo sp.	Terrestrial	1	1	1	1
Vitrea sp.	Terrestrial				1
Snail eggs		3	4	4	
Juveniles (no ID)		3	3	4	4
Bone					
Fish bone					1
Small animal bone				1	
Other remains					
Insect remains		3	4	3	3
Insect eggs/worm cases			2		3
Insect larvae				3	
Vitreous material		2	2	3	1
Coal		1		2	

Key: 1- Occasional, 2- fairly frequent, 3- frequent, 4- abundant

# OASIS DATA COLLECTION FORM: England

[List of Projects](#) | [Manage Projects](#) | [Search Projects](#) | [New project](#) | [Change your details](#) | [HER coverage](#) | [Change country](#) | [Log out](#)

**Printable version**

**OASIS ID: preconst1-320655**

## Project details

Project name	Land Adjacent to Hill Cottage at Wendens Ambo,Essex: an archaeological evaluation
Short description of the project	An archaeological evaluation was undertaken in late spring 2018 by Pre-construct Archaeology on Land Adjacent to Hill Cottage, Wendens Ambo, Essex (NRG TL 51214 36433) in response to an archaeological brief written by Richard Havis of Essex County Council Historic Environment Team (ECCHM). The proposed development was for the construction of a single residential property with associated driveway and infrastructure. A full archaeological condition was attached to the planning consent due to the high archaeological potential of the proposed development (Planning Reference: UTT/17/2572/FULL). The evaluation identified two parallel ditches, almost certainly former plot boundaries, and a 1.3m width circular pit, all of which were dated to the medieval period and infilled from the later medieval to Post-medieval period. It is possible that the ditches, which appeared contemporary, may have existed either side of a pathway, as a similarly narrow plot is depicted opposite the ditches on the eastern side of Royston Road. A small segment of chalk preparation supporting a narrow stone wall were constructed upon a fully infilled ditch, although the small scale of these structures (wall, 0.30m x 0.20m) suggested that they were garden features, rather than being linked with a post-medieval dwelling. The final infilling of the plot boundaries thereby widening the plot and the construction of the garden features dated to first half of the post-medieval period and ties in with period of Wendens Ambo gentrification, which saw the construction of several large properties across the village
Project dates	Start: 04-06-2018 End: 06-06-2018
Previous/future work	No / No
Any associated project reference codes	WEADC18 - Sitecode
Type of project	Field evaluation
Site status	None
Current Land use	Other 5 - Garden
Monument type	DITCHES Medieval

Monument type	PITS Medieval
Significant Finds	POTTERY Medieval
Significant Finds	POTTERY Post Medieval
Significant Finds	TILE Medieval
Significant Finds	TILE Post Medieval
Significant Finds	ANIMAL BONE Uncertain
Methods & techniques	"Targeted Trenches"
Development type	Urban residential (e.g. flats, houses, etc.)
Prompt	Planning condition
Position in the planning process	Pre-application

### Project location

Country	England
Site location	ESSEX UTTLESFORD WENDENS AMBO land adjacent to Hill Cottage, Wendens Ambo
Postcode	CB11 4JX
Study area	0 Hectares
Site coordinates	TL 51214 36433 52.00525458465 0.203265737286 52 00 18 N 000 12 11 E Point
Lat/Long Datum	Unknown
Height OD / Depth	Min: 68m Max: 70m

### Project creators

Name of Organisation	Pre-Construct Archaeology Limited
Project brief originator	Richard Havis
Project design originator	Peter Crawley
Project director/manager	Peter Crawley
Project supervisor	Antonio Pavez
Type of sponsor/funding body	Developer
Name of sponsor/funding body	Bloomhall

### Project archives

Colchester Museum

Physical Archive recipient	
Physical Contents	"Animal Bones","Ceramics"
Digital Archive recipient	Colchester Museum
Digital Contents	"none"
Digital Media available	"Images raster / digital photography"
Paper Archive recipient	Colchester Museum
Paper Contents	"none"
Paper Media available	"Context sheet","Drawing","Report","Section"

## Project bibliography 1

Publication type	Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)
Title	Land Adjacent to Hill Cottage, Wendens Ambo, Essex: an archaeological evaluation
Author(s)/Editor(s)	Antonio Pavez
Other bibliographic details	R 13302
Date	2018
Issuer or publisher	PCA
Place of issue or publication	Pampisford
Description	Grey Literature
Entered by	Peter Crawley (pcrawley@pre-construct)
Entered on	25 June 2018

# OASIS:

# PCA

## **PCA CAMBRIDGE**

THE GRANARY, RECTORY FARM  
BREWERY ROAD, PAMPISFORD  
CAMBRIDGESHIRE CB22 3EN  
t: 01223 845 522  
e: [cambridge@pre-construct.com](mailto:cambridge@pre-construct.com)

## **PCA DURHAM**

UNIT 19A, TURSDALE BUSINESS PARK  
TURSDALE  
DURHAM DH6 5PG  
t: 0191 377 1111  
e: [durham@pre-construct.com](mailto:durham@pre-construct.com)

## **PCA LONDON**

UNIT 54, BROCKLEY CROSS BUSINESS CENTRE  
96 ENDWELL ROAD, BROCKLEY  
LONDON SE4 2PD  
t: 020 7732 3925  
e: [london@pre-construct.com](mailto:london@pre-construct.com)

## **PCA NEWARK**

OFFICE 8, ROEWOOD COURTYARD  
WINKBURN, NEWARK  
NOTTINGHAMSHIRE NG22 8PG  
t: 01636 370410  
e: [newark@pre-construct.com](mailto:newark@pre-construct.com)

## **PCA NORWICH**

QUARRY WORKS, DEREHAM ROAD  
HONINGHAM  
NORWICH NR9 5AP  
T: 01223 845522  
e: [cambridge@pre-construct.com](mailto:cambridge@pre-construct.com)

## **PCA WARWICK**

UNIT 9, THE MILL, MILL LANE  
LITTLE SHREWLEY, WARWICK  
WARWICKSHIRE CV35 7HN  
t: 01926 485490  
e: [warwick@pre-construct.com](mailto:warwick@pre-construct.com)

## **PCA WINCHESTER**

5 RED DEER COURT, ELM ROAD  
WINCHESTER  
HAMPSHIRE SO22 5LX  
t: 01962 849 549  
e: [winchester@pre-construct.com](mailto:winchester@pre-construct.com)

