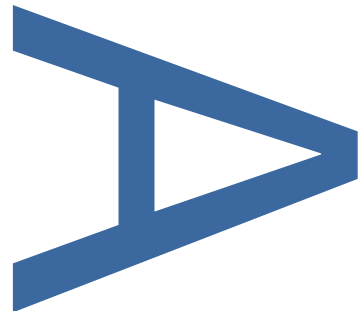
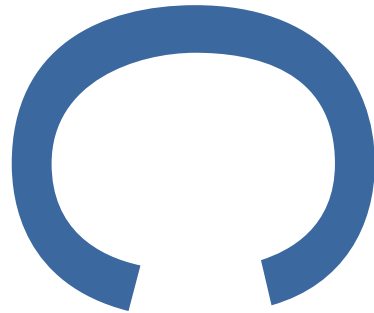


**Land at Redrose Farm, Redrose Lane,  
Blackmore, Essex, CM4 0SA**



**An Archaeological Watching Brief on  
Geotechnical Site Investigation**



<b><i>Planning reference</i></b>	<b>19/01013/FUL</b>		
<b><i>Local planning authority</i></b>	<b>Brentwood Borough Council</b>		
<b><i>PCA report no.</i></b>	<b>R13891</b>	<b><i>Site Code</i></b>	<b>BLARRF19</b>
<b><i>PCA project no</i></b>	<b>K6362</b>	<b><i>Date</i></b>	<b>October 19</b>

**PRE-CONSTRUCT ARCHAEOLOGY LIMITED**

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

Project Information	
Site name	Land at Redrose Farm, Redrose Lane, Blackmore, Essex, CM4 0SA
Project type	An Archaeological Watching Brief on Geotechnical Site Investigation
Site address	Redrose Lane, Blackmore, Essex, CM4 0SA
NGR	TL 60604 02174
Local planning authority	Brentwood Borough Council
Planning reference	19/01013/FUL
Commissioning client	Archaeology Collective
Project dates	30 September 2019
Archive site code	BLARRF19

PCA Information			
PCA project code	K6362	PCA report number	R13891
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Project Manager approval:	Zbigniew Pozorski	October 19
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Reason for reissue:		
Project Manager approval:		



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## **1 ABSTRACT**

- 1.1 This report details the results of an archaeological watching brief on geotechnical site investigation undertaken by Pre-Construct Archaeology Limited (PCA) at Redrose Farm, Redrose Lane, Blackmore, Essex, CM4 0SA. The site is located within the farm complex and is centred at National Grid Reference TL 60604 02174.
- 1.2 The archaeological investigation was conducted on the 30<sup>th</sup> September 2019 and comprised the inspection and recording of a single borehole out of four to be carried out on the site by the geotechnical contractor.
- 1.3 The investigation recorded natural clay at c. 1.00m below existing ground level. Above the clay were deposits of modern made ground.

## 2 INTRODUCTION

- 2.1 This report details the results of an archaeological watching brief on geotechnical site investigation undertaken by Pre-Construct Archaeology Limited (PCA) at Redrose Farm, Redrose Lane, Blackmore, Essex, CM4 0SA (Figure 1). The site comprises a mixture of agricultural buildings and structures and is centred at National Grid Reference TL 60604 02174.
- 2.2 An Archaeological Desk-Based Assessment was prepared for the site (RPS 2019). It concluded that the site has a moderate potential for archaeological remains relating to the medieval agricultural activity and a high potential for finds or features relating to earlier buildings, in particular the earlier barn located in the south-eastern part of the site.
- 2.3 This report on the results of the watching brief is to further inform the archaeological evaluation strategy which has been requested by the Essex County Council (ECC).
- 2.4 The investigation was conducted by PCAQ on 30 September 2019 under the supervision of Ryszard Molenda, and the project management of Zbigniew Pozorski. The archaeological work was commissioned by Archaeology Collective on behalf of the overall client.
- 2.5 The site was allocated the unique site code BLARRF19. The complete archive comprising written, drawn, and photographic records and artefacts will be deposited with the Brentwood Museum.
- 2.6 All works were undertaken in accordance with the following documents:
- *Fieldwork Induction Manual: Operations Manual*, (Pre-Construct Archaeology Limited; Taylor, J & Brown, G. 2009, updated 2018).
  - *Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment (MoRPHE)* (Historic England 2015)
  - *Standard and guidance for an archaeological watching brief* (Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (CIfA) 2014).
  - *Standards for Field Archaeology in the East of England* (Gurney 2003).

### **3 PLANNING BACKGROUND**

- 3.1 Planning permission is sought for the demolition of existing buildings; and erection of 12 dwellings (to include 4 affordable dwellings), associated infrastructure including landscaping, utilities and drainage infrastructure (Brentwood Borough Council Ref. 19/01013/FUL).
- 3.2 During the discussions between Archaeology Collective and Essex County Council (ECC) ahead of the decision on the planning application for the site it was agreed that a watching brief on the geotechnical site investigation will be required to closer establish potential of the site. A one day monitoring visit during the on-site work has been subsequently agreed.

## **4 GEOLOGY AND TOPOGRAPHY**

- 4.1 According to the British Geological Survey (BGS) of England and Wales, the local solid geology is London Clay Formation, defined as mainly sand, silt and clay. Superficial deposits of Diamicton are recorded within the site ([www.bgs.ac.uk](http://www.bgs.ac.uk)).
- 4.2 The site lies on a land generally level at c. 74m above Ordnance Datum (OD). The site is located approximately 125m west of tributary stream of the River Wid.

## **5 ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND**

- 5.1 An archaeological desk-based assessment (DBA) has been prepared for the site (RPS 2019).  
In summary:
- 5.1.1 Roman evidence is concentrated to the south-west and south-east of the site with some distance and the DBA indicated a low potential for the Roman remains to be found on the site.
- 5.1.2 The site may have formed part of medieval settlement of Blackmore and the farm can date back to that period. The settlement is believed to originated close to Jericho Priory c. 500m south of the site. The site was part of the medieval agricultural landscape and may contain related archaeological remains.
- 5.1.3 The farm has occupied the site at least since the 18<sup>th</sup> century. The farmhouse was located to the immediate east of the current site and the complex saw multiple changes in the layout of the buildings and other structures.



## **6 METHODOLOGY**

- 6.1 The proposed methodology of the archaeological work comprised the archaeological monitoring of geotechnical boreholes (Figure 2). A one day monitoring visit was agreed by Archaeology Collective and ECC.
- 6.2 One geotechnical borehole was monitored (BH1). The borehole was located on the southern portion of the site (Figure 2).
- 6.3 The investigation of the potential archaeological features and deposits was restricted due to a nature of borehole.
- 6.4 All recording systems adopted during the investigation were fully compatible with those most widely used elsewhere in Essex; presented in PCAs Operations Manual 1 (Taylor & Brown 2009, updated 2018). A series of digital photographs recording the encountered deposits a written record of each deposit was also produced. The boreholes were located by offsetting from the internal walls and plotted onto OS mapping data by CAD.

## **7 RESULTS AND CONCLUSIONS**

- 7.1 A sequence of two made ground deposits was revealed beneath thick concrete slab (0.30m). The upper layer [1] was a compacted demolition layer containing CBM rubble and contaminated by fuel. It was 0.30m thick). Below was [2], a dark silt with frequent CBM and also contaminated. Layer [2] was 0.40m thick.
- 7.2 The natural geology was present at 1.00m below ground level and comprised a compact greyish blue clay.
- 7.3 No archaeological remains could be identified within Borehole 1. The nature of the borehole allowed only a very limited observation but in the extent of BH1 no deposits other than modern were recorded.
- 7.4 It is possible that another form of investigation might reveal deposits and remains of archaeological value.

## **8 ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS**

- 8.1 Pre-Construct Archaeology Ltd would like to thank Archaeology Collective for commissioning the work on behalf of the overall client. We also thank Essex County Council Place Services for their input and advice to the project.
- 8.2 The author would also like to thank Zbigniew Pozorski for his project management and editing this report, and Ray Murphy for the illustrations.

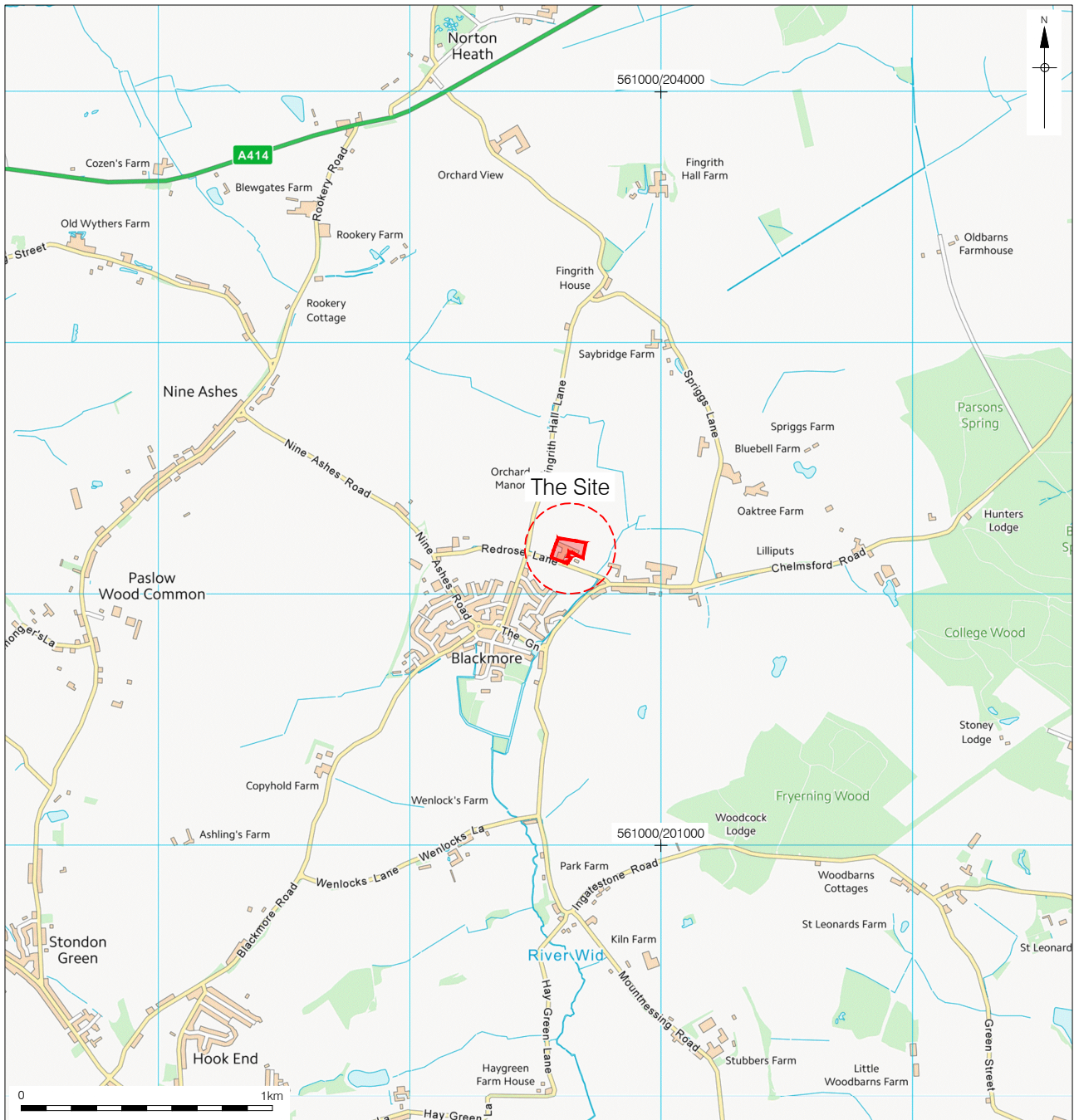
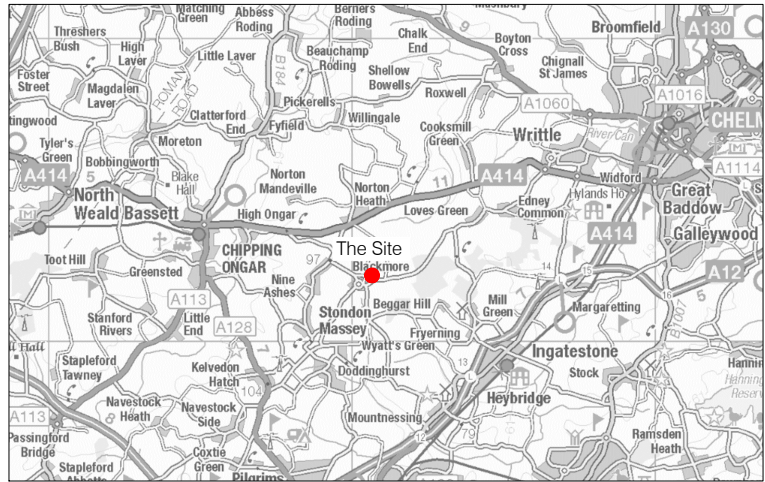
## **9 BIBLIOGRAPHY**

Chartered Institute for Archaeologists, 2014, *Standard and guidance for an archaeological watching brief* ClfA 2014

Historic England, 2015, *Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment* MoRPHE

RPS, 2019, *Archaeological Desk Based Assessment. Redrose Farm, Blackmore*

Taylor, J. with Brown, G. 2009, updated 2018, *Fieldwork Induction Manual: Operations Manual 1*, PCA



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19/03/19 RM

Figure 1  
Site Location  
1:2,000,000; 1:250,000; 1:25,000 at A4



Site photographs



*Plate 1: Borehole 1 drilling, looking north*



*Plate 2: Borehole 1*

## 10 APPENDIX 1 OASIS FORM

**OASIS ID: preconst1-372004**

### Project details

Project name	Land at Redrose Farm, Redrose Lane, Blackmore, Essex
Short description of the project	Archaeological Watching Brief on Geotechnical Site Investigation (boreholes).
Project dates	Start: 30-09-2019 End: 30-09-2019
Previous/future work	No / Yes
Any associated project reference codes	BLARRF19 - Sitecode
Type of project	Recording project
Site status	None
Current Land use	Other 15 - Other
Monument type	NONE None
Monument type	NONE None
Significant Finds	NONE None
Significant Finds	NONE None
Investigation type	"Recorded Observation"
Prompt	Planning condition

---

### Project location

Country	England
Site location	ESSEX BRENTWOOD BLACKMORE Land at Redrose Farm, Redrose Lane, Blackmore, Essex
Postcode	CM4 0SA
Study area	0 Square metres
Site coordinates	TL 60604 02174 51.694810102176 0.324047169659 51 41 41 N 000 19 26 E Point
Lat/Long Datum	Unknown
Height OD / Depth	Min: 74m Max: 74m

---

### Project creators

Name of Organisation	Pre-Construct Archaeology Limited
Project brief originator	Essex County Council
Project design originator	Archaeology Collective



Project director/manager	Zbigniew Pozorski
Project supervisor	Ryszard Molenda
Type of sponsor/funding body	Consultancy
Name of sponsor/funding body	Archaeology Collective

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### Project archives

Physical Archive recipient	Brentwood Museum
Physical Contents	"other"
Digital Archive recipient	Brentwood Museum
Digital Media available	"Images raster / digital photography","Text"
Paper Archive recipient	Brentwood Museum
Paper Media available	"Context sheet","Diary"

---

### Project bibliography 1

Publication type	Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)
Title	Land at Redrose Farm, Redrose Lane, Blackmore, Essex, CM4 0SA: An Archaeological Watching Brief on Geotechnical Site Investigation
Author(s)/Editor(s)	Z Pozorski
Date	2019
Issuer or publisher	Pre-Construct Archaeology Ltd
Place of issue or publication	London

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Entered on	29 October 201

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