

**Desk Based Assessment  
on the site of Plummers Road, Fordham, Essex,  
CO6 3NP**

NGR: TL 93155 29126

Site Code: PRF2018



**Touchstone  
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February 2017

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### Appendix I

## **Archaeological Desk-Based Assessment in Advance of the proposed development at the site of Plummers Road, Fordham, Essex CO6 3NP**

NGR: TL 93155 29126

### **1. SUMMARY**

**1.1** *Touchstone Archaeology has been commissioned by Stanfords to carry out an archaeological desk-based assessment on the site of Plummers Road, Fordham, Essex CO6 3NP.*

**1.2** *The proposed development comprises of a residential development of 20 dwellings on land to the east of Plummers Road.*

**1.3** *The proposed development area (PDA) is located in the south east of England, the north of the county of Essex, the District of Colchester and the village and civil parish of Fordham. The PDA (NGR: TL 93155 29126) is located to the north of the village in a rural area between Rams Farm Road and No.1 Plummers Road. The site comprises of an open field of c.1.35 Hectares, bounded to the north by low density housing, to the east by rectilinear fields, to the south by a recently constructed small row of houses and east by Plummers Road (Fig.1-3).*

**1.4** *This Desk Based Assessment has examined the wide variety of archaeological data held by EHER and other sources (section 10.2). Based on this data the potential for archaeological sites either on or in the near vicinity of the proposed development can be summarized as:*

- *Prehistoric: low*
- *Iron Age: low*
- *Romano-British: moderate*
- *Anglo-Saxon: low*
- *Medieval: high*
- *Post-medieval: low*
- *Modern: low*

*The Desk Based Assessment concludes that the site has a **low** potential for archaeological discoveries.*

## **2. INTRODUCTION**

**2.1** The PDA is centered on the National Grid Reference: TL 93155 29126

The report has accessed various sources of information to identify any known heritage assets, which may be located within a c.1km vicinity of the Proposed Development Area.

**2.2** Archaeological investigations, both recent and historic have been studied and the information from these investigations has been incorporated into the assessment.

**2.3** This report is a desk-based appraisal from known cartographic, photographic and Archaeological sources and is a research led statement on the archaeological potential of the proposed development.

**2.4** It may be that intrusive investigations, such as a Geophysical Survey and/or an Archaeological Evaluation, with machine cut trial trenching, may be requested by the Local Planning Authority (LPA) as a Planning Condition.

### **3. GEOLOGY AND TOPOGRAPHY**

#### **3.1 Geology**

**3.1.1** The Geological Survey of Great Britain (1:50,000) shows that the PDA is set on London Clay Formation – Clay, silt and sand, formed approximately 48 to 56 million years ago in the Palaeogene Period in a local environment previously dominated by Deep seas. These deposits are of marine origin; detrital material of coarse to fine grain slurries of debris from the continental shelf.

**3.1.2** Superficial deposits are Lowestoft Formation – diamicton, formed approximately 2 million years ago during the Quaternary period in ice age conditions. They are glaciogenic in origin, created by the action of ice and melt water and form a wide range of deposits and geomorphologies.

#### **3.2 Topography**

**3.2.1** The PDA sits at an average height of 55m AOD. It is located on a ridge of higher ground between the valleys of the Rivers Colne and Stour, in the village of Fordham, 1.5km north of the Colne River, 6km northwest of Colchester and 10km southeast of Halstead. The village of Wakes Colne is 3km to the west and West Bergholt 3.5 km southeast. Fordham Heath is situated just north of the Colchester to Halstead Road and from here the Heath Road leads east to Fiddlers Hill and then north across the River Colne at Fordham Bridge, from which the village took its name. The road continues north to the village centre, which developed around the All Saints parish church on Symonds Green and Quilters Green, now a medium density housing estate. From here the village spread northwards ribbon style along Plummers Road to Plummers Green. The PDA is found c.250m north of the village centre to the east of Plummers Road (Fig.1-3).



### **3.3 Historic Hedgerows**

The PDA is surrounded to the north, south and west by a hedgerow and tree boundary. The east is open to the adjoining fields. The northern boundary was created when Thrifts Cottage was constructed between 1923 and 1961 and the southern boundary was created between 2006 and 2009 with the new development of housing. The western boundary is along Plummers Road, which, cartographic resources suggest may have undergone some changes in the 20<sup>th</sup> century. Therefore it is unlikely that the site has vegetation that qualifies as 'important' as defined by Schedule 1 of the Hedgerows Regulations 1997 (Plate 2-9).

The proposed development may have some impact on the vegetation.

## **4. PLANNING BACKGROUND**

### **4.1 The Proposed Development**

The proposed development area comprises of c.1.35 hectares of open field with a planning application for 20 new dwellings with associated access routes and landscaping.

### **4.2 The National Planning Policy Framework (March 2012) Policy 12**

The NPPF (2012) paragraphs 126 – 141 is the relevant policy for the historic environment, particularly paragraphs 126 and 128:

#### **4.2.1 Conserving and Enhancing the Historic Environment**

Paragraph 126. Local planning authorities should set out in their Local Plan a positive strategy for the conservation and enjoyment of the historic environment, including heritage assets most at risk through neglect, decay or other threats. In doing so, they should recognise that heritage assets are an irreplaceable resource and conserve them in a manner appropriate to their significance. In developing this strategy, local planning authorities should take into account:

- the desirability of sustaining and enhancing the significance of heritage assets and putting them to viable uses consistent with their conservation;
- the wider social, cultural, economic and environmental benefits that conservation of the historic environment can bring;
- the desirability of new development making a positive contribution to local character and distinctiveness; and opportunities to draw on the contribution made by the historic environment to the character of a place.

**4.2.2** Paragraph 128. In determining applications, local planning authorities should require an applicant to describe the significance of any heritage assets affected, including any contribution made by their setting. The level of detail should be proportionate to the assets' importance and no more than is sufficient to understand the potential impact of the proposal on their significant.

As a minimum, the relevant historic environment record should have been consulted and the heritage assets assessed using appropriate expertise where necessary. Where a site on which development is proposed includes or has the potential to include heritage assets with archaeological interest, local planning authorities should require developers to submit an appropriate desk-based assessment and, where necessary, a field evaluation (NPPF 2012).

### **4.3 Planning Policy Guidance**

Planning Policy Guidance that help to preserve the built and archaeological heritage are:

- PPG15 Planning and the Historic Environment
- PPG16 Archaeology and Planning

#### **4.4 Statutory Protection**

Both above and below ground archaeological remains that are considered Nationally can be identified and protected under the Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Areas Act 1979.

Any works affecting a scheduled Monument should be preceded by an application to the Secretary of State for Scheduled Monument Consent (SMC). Geophysical investigation or the use of a metal detector requires advance permission from Historic England.

The legal requirements on control of development and alterations affecting buildings, including those which are listed or in conservation areas (which are protected by law), is set out in the Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act 1990.

#### **4.5 Regional Policies**

**4.5.1** Colchester's Archaeology and Development Strategy (Adopted 2015) recognises that Heritage is a key priority in Colchester Borough's Strategic Plan 2015/2018.

Colchester's Heritage Strategy defines the following themes relating to archaeology:

*Promote best practice in terms of conservation and stewardship of Colchester's heritage assets, supported by key stakeholders and national and local government policy and guidance.*

*Promote positive initiatives that secure the conservation, beneficial management and enhancement of Colchester's assets and maximise the contribution of heritage to sustainable development.*

*Promote high quality design in new development that respects and enhances heritage assessments, local distinctiveness and the character of Colchester Borough's townscape and rural landscape*

*Promote Colchester Borough's rich heritage at local regional and international levels showing the borough as a good place to visit, live, work and invest in.*

*Identify opportunities to support the council's ambitious regeneration agenda through positive intervention initiatives within the historic environment.*

*Identify opportunities presented by new development to promote greater understanding and local heritage within local communities.*

*Identify opportunities for residents and visitors to participate in heritage initiatives, maximising its contribution to health, wellbeing and learning.*

*Identify opportunities to display new heritage discoveries in a range of appropriate community settings.*

*Maintain, enhance and promote the historic environment record, which is a key resource and the evidence base for all heritage assets, for the whole Borough.*

*Promote the long-term curation of important archaeological archives and collections and make them available for display and study.*

*Promote an integrated approach between different services, organisations and sectors to increase the impact and audience of Colchester's Heritage assets.*

**4.5.2** The South-East Research Framework (SERF) is on-going with groups of researchers producing a Resource Assessment, which will identify research questions and topics in order to form a Research Agenda for the future.

**4.6** This Archaeological Desk-Based Assessment has been prepared in accordance with the guidance in the National Planning Policy Framework and the Good Practice Advice notes 1, 2 and 3, which now supersede the PPS 5 Practice Guide, which has been withdrawn by the Government.

The Good Practice Advice notes emphasizes the need for assessments of the significance of any heritage assets, which are likely to be changed, so the assessment can inform the decision process.

Significance is defined in the NPPF Guidance in the Glossary as “the value of the heritage asset to this and future generations because of its heritage interest. That interest may be archaeological, architectural, artistic, or historical. Significance derives not only from a heritage asset’s physical presence, but also it’s setting”. The setting of the heritage asset is also clarified in the Glossary as “the surroundings in which a heritage asset is experienced. Its extent is not fixed and may change as the asset and its surroundings evolve”.

This Desk-Based Assessment therefore forms the initial stage of the archaeological investigation and is intended to inform and assist in decisions regarding archaeological mitigation for the proposed development and associated planning applications.

## **5. PROJECT CONSTRAINTS**

No project constraints were encountered during the data collection for this assessment.

## **6. AIMS AND OBJECTIVES**

**6.1** The Desk-Based Assessment was commissioned by Stanfords, in order to supplement a planning application for a proposed development of 20 new dwellings with associated access roads and landscaping, to establish the potential for archeological features and deposits.

### **6.2 Desktop Study – Institute for Archaeologists (revised 2011)**

This desktop study has been produced in line with archaeological standards, as defined by the Institute for Archaeologists (2014). A desktop, or desk-based assessment, is defined as being:

*“a programme of study of the historic environment within a specified area or site on land, the inter-tidal zone or underwater that addresses agreed research and/or conservation objectives. It consists of an analysis of existing written, graphic, photographic and electronic*

*information in order to identify the likely heritage assets, their interests and significance and the character of the study area, including appropriate consideration of the settings of heritage assets and, in England, the nature, extent and quality of the known or potential archaeological, historic, architectural and artistic interest. Significance is to be judged in a local, regional, national or international context as appropriate” (CiFA 2014).*

## **7. METHODOLOGY**

### **7.1 Desk-Based Assessment**

#### **7.1.1 Archaeological Databases**

The Essex Historic Environment Record (HER) provides an accurate insight into catalogued sites and finds within both the proposed development area (PDA) and the surrounding environs of Fordham. The Archaeology Data Service Online Catalogue (ADS) was also used. The search was carried out within a 1km radius of the proposed development site and relevant HER data is included in the report. The Portable Antiquities Scheme Database (PAS) was also searched as an additional source as the information contained within is not always transferred to the local HER.

#### **7.1.2 Historical Documents**

Historical documents, such as charters, registers, wills and deeds etc., were considered not relevant to this specific study.

#### **7.1.3 Cartographic and Pictorial Documents**

A cartographic and pictorial document search was undertaken during this assessment. Research was carried out using resources offered by Essex County Council, the Internet and Ordnance Survey Historical mapping (Figs. 4-12).

#### **7.1.4 Aerial Photographs**

The study of the collection of aerial photographs held by Google Earth was undertaken (Plates 1).

### **7.1.5 Geotechnical Information**

To date, no known geotechnical investigations have been carried out at the site.

### **7.1.6 Secondary and statutory resources**

Secondary and statutory sources, such as regional and periodic archaeological Studies are considered appropriate to this type of study and have been included within this assessment where necessary.

## **8. RECENT ARCHAEOLOGICAL INVESTIGATIONS**

**8.1** The report has accessed various sources of information to identify any known heritage assets, which may be located within the vicinity of the Proposed Development Area. Archaeological investigations, both recent and historic have been studied and the information from these investigations has been incorporated into the assessment.

### **8.2 Archaeology**

**8.2.1** The land is characterised as ‘Enclosed land – 20<sup>th</sup> century agriculture - Boundary loss (TEF-bl)’ representing an area that has suffered field boundary loss since the 1950’s due to mechanisation and changes in agricultural practice; the original field boundaries remain of historic importance. The field is bounded to the north, south and west by ‘Settlement - Built-up areas – Historic (BUH-bh) and Urban development (BUM-ba)’, relict layers of modern and historic built up areas which have a historic core and to the north, south and east by ‘Pre-18<sup>th</sup> Century unenclosed common arable (AEF-ca)’, former areas of arable land which were held in common and farmed in strips with multi-ownership or a rotational tenancy system. These fields may be of medieval origin and associated with nucleated settlement and are very rare (ECC, HLC).

The settlement of the area was historically dispersed with small farmsteads and moated sites, the fieldscape irregular and probably medieval in origin. Village greens and common

areas have largely been swallowed up by modern ribbon development along the Fordham to Bures Road, although the church or chapels relating to these areas survive.

There has been scant intrusive archaeological work carried out within the village.

There is evidence of Bronze Age occupation in the form of a bronze axe, ring ditches and cropmark indications of a burial mound at a distance of c.3km south and arrowheads found within 1.5km north and south; Iron Age enclosures and pottery have been found within the same vicinity.

In 1984 a metal detectorist discovered a Roman burial 3km southwest of the PDA. A crushed inhumation in a lead coffin was revealed to be a female adolescent buried with her arms crossed. Two bone hairpins were found close to the skull and at her feet were glass vessels. The lead coffin was contained within a wooden coffin from which only the nails survived and the grave may have been lined with timber shuttering. The second burial was an inhumation of a child and met the first burial at a right angle.

In 2002 Colchester Archaeological Trust carried out a field walking evaluation over an area of 87 hectares at Fordham Hall Farm. Large quantities of peg-tile were noted along with a Neolithic polished axe, piercers, borers, scrapers, blades, flakes and cores of struck flints and burnt flint (prehistoric) to the southern side of the survey area, which may suggest prehistoric occupation along the north bank of the River Colne. Roman brick, tile and pottery were found within close distance of a possible Roman villa site. It is notable that Fordham parish church also contains Roman material within its fabric. Medieval and post medieval pottery was also recovered in small quantities (CAT report 218, December 2002). In 2003 Fordham Local History Society carried out an archaeological field walking survey in which they recovered Roman brick and tile, tesserae and flue tiles and one piece of amphora and three pieces of mortaria. Worked and burnt flint was also recovered (ECC3684).

In 2013 and 2014, a geophysical survey was carried out locating a number of linear features suggesting ditch enclosures and a substantial rectilinear or 'L' shaped feature and several large pit-like features.

In 2015 sixteen trenches were opened concluding that the site contained a villa, bathhouse and tile kiln (CAG, Fordham Phase One Report, 2016). Roman building material and pottery has been found c.1.5m northeast.



### **8.2.2 0-100m Radius:**

There are no events recorded within the assessment area.

### **8.2.3 100-200m Radius:**

There are no events recorded within the assessment area.

### **8.2.4 200-300m Radius:**

In 2002 an archaeological field walking evaluation of 87 hectares at Fordham Hall by Colchester Archaeological Trust produced large quantities of peg tile, struck flints and burnt flint from the prehistoric period and Roman brick and tile (ECC3684).

In 1998 rescue excavations and monitoring were carried out over a linear area of 21.6km, by Essex County Council Field Archaeology Unit, in advance of a water pipeline from Cressing to Great Horkesley. A large timber building and a palisaded and ditched enclosure were uncovered south of Chapell Road along with a relatively large pottery assemblage, which dated to the 12<sup>th</sup> Century and suggested a disuse of this settlement at this point. A later use of the site in the 13<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup> Century was represented by a ploughed disturbed surfaces and boundary ditch that replaced the original enclosure. High status Rouen and Colchester ware pottery were recovered suggesting that this could be the original manorial site of Archendines. The site was situated c.200m east of the present Archendines farm. The Manor was first documented in the 13<sup>th</sup> Century but the archaeological evidence suggests that it may have originated in the 12<sup>th</sup> Century. Roman pottery was also recovered (MCC52423).

### **8.2.5 300-400m Radius:**

In 2010 trial trench evaluation was carried out over a linear area of c.17.5km to site two Abberton to Wormingford Pipeline by Birmingham Archaeology across the Colne Valley. Fordham was one of the focused areas for the evaluation. Twenty 50m by 2m trenches were excavated and archaeological features were identified in trenches sixteen, eighteen, nineteen, twenty, twenty one, twenty three and twenty four and comprised of ditches with flint tempered pottery of prehistoric date possibly early Neolithic (ECC3661 and ECC3651).

### 8.2.6 400-500m Radius:

In 2015 Heritage impact assessment of land at Wormingford Airfield by Archaeological Solutions. Desk based assessment (ECC2965).

### 8.2.7 Established stratigraphy

There is no established stratigraphy on the site.

## 9. ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL DEVELOPMENT

### 9.1 Table of Historical Periods

Paleolithic	c. 500,000 BC – c.10,000 BC
Mesolithic	c.10,000 BC – c. 4,300 BC
Neolithic	c. 4.300 BC – c. 2,300 BC
Bronze Age	c. 2,300 BC – c. 600 BC
Iron Age	c. 600 BC – c. AD 43
Romano-British	AD 43 – c. AD 410
Anglo-Saxon	AD 410 – AD 1066
Medieval	AD 1066 – AD 1485
Post-medieval	AD 1485 – AD 1900
Modern	AD 1901 – present day

*Table 1 Classification of Archaeological Periods*

**9.2** This section of the assessment will focus on the archaeological and historical development of this area, placing it within a local context. Each period classification will provide a brief introduction to the wider landscape (1km radius centered on each site of the PDA), followed by a full record of archaeological sites, monuments and records within the site's immediate vicinity. Time scales for archaeological periods represented in the report are listed on page 14 in **Table 1**.

### **9.3 Introduction**

The Archaeological record within the assessment area is diverse and should comprise possible activity dating from one of the earliest human period in Britain through to the modern period. The geographic and topographic location of Fordham is within a landscape that has been the focus of trade, travel, settlement, industry and communication since the Paleolithic.

### **9.4 History of the Locality**

9.4.1 The surrounding landscape of Fordham has been occupied from the prehistoric period. Evidence of Bronze age settlement in the form of a bronze axe, arrow heads, ring ditches and cropmark indications of a burial mound have been found within a distance of 3km; Iron Age enclosures and pottery have been found within the same vicinity (MCC8236).

9.4.2 In 1984 a metal detectorist discovered a Roman burial 3km southwest of the PDA. A crushed inhumation in a lead coffin was revealed to be a female adolescent buried with arms crossed. Two bone hairpins were found close to the skull and at her feet were glass vessels. The lead coffin was contained within a wooden coffin from which only the nails survived and the grave may have been lined with timber shuttering. The second burial was an inhumation of a child and met the first burial at a right angle. Further investigations within the area uncovered a roman building with bathhouse and archaeological work at the site is ongoing (ECC3684).

9.4.3 The village of Fordham takes its name from the ford crossing over the Colne River at the location of Hammonds Bridge. The place, church and water mill are first recorded in the Domesday survey of 1086 when the Manor, held by Hugh de Gurnai and William de Warenne, was made up of woodland and heath enough for 100 swine and the population was 23. In 1087 William the conqueror gave the church to Bec Abbey in Normandy and in 1191 the manor passed to Cecily of Hereford.

The medieval period was a time of expansion in farming when settlements became dispersed and new farms and houses were built away from the manorial centre. Moats in

this part of Essex are by no means unusual, the natural geology being well suited to water holding and there are several moated properties in the village. The moat, a deep broad ditch that was dry or filled with water surrounding a building, was a typical medieval feature, which could provide a variety of functions ranging from a preliminary line of defence, a display of wealth and status, an ornamental feature, water or sewage management – providing drainage or creating a dry building site, containing livestock or providing water in times of drought, fishponds, firebreaks or simply convention. The use of moats peaked between c.1200 and c.1350, the earliest moats being circular and the later rectangular. The size of the moat and the area it occupies is suggestive of its function and importance; manorial or monastic moats generally occupy over an acre, parsonages or ancient free tenements half an acre and smaller moats are usually farms that are ditched. A moat that is wider than 5m is considered to be a truly moated site. Moat Hall, probably the home of William de la Mote, located within c.100m southwest of the PDA (MCC7052/7053) and Houd's Farm c.450m north-north-west (MCC7574) have the remains of a later rectangular moat and Fossetts Lane c.900m east-south-east bears cropmarks of a probable moated site (MCC8753). A site at Chappell Road c.600m west (MCC5243) has produced evidence of a large medieval building with palisaded and ditched enclosure. The pottery suggests that the site was in use in the 12<sup>th</sup> century and may have been the location of the original Archendines Manorial property. These sites probably form part of the medieval origins of the village located at some distance from the parish church.

The village would have undoubtedly been affected by the Black Death in 1348-1349 and the Peasants Revolt in 1381. In 1391, Roger Walden acted briefly as rector and was also secretary to Richard II, Treasurer of England in 1395, Archbishop of Canterbury in 1398 and Bishop of London in 1405. The water mill recorded in c.1340 and was probably Hammonds Water Mill located on the River Colne. The manor had passed to William of Munchensy in the 12<sup>th</sup> century and continued through that family until 1411 when it passed with the Barony of Bergavenny, to Sir Edward Nevill through his marriage to Elizabeth Beauchamp.

The All Saints Church is a Grade I listed Anglican Church is located in the south of the Parish and constructed from flint and pebble rubble with some Roman and later brick and dressings of barnack and soft limestone with a tiled and lead roof. The Chancel, nave, north

and south aisles, south porch and lower part of the west tower were rebuilt in the 14<sup>th</sup> Century. The Church has retained much of its 14<sup>th</sup> Century architecture and stained glass and piscinai and some 15<sup>th</sup> Century features and graffiti survive.

9.4.4 Henry VIII beheaded the Lord of the Manor Sir Edward Nevill for high treason in 1538 and the King gave the Manor known as Fordham Hall, the neighbouring Manor of Archendines and the Fordham Frith meadow to Thomas Culpepper. Within three years Thomas Culpepper was also beheaded for adultery with Queen Catherine Howard and the King gave the Manor to Sir Anthony Wingfield, who divided it and sold it in the same year; John Lucas purchased Fordham Hall and Archendines and John Abell, Great Fordham and the Frith estate.

In 1554 the Rector of the parish church Simon Baghot was imprisoned in Colchester for heresy but later recanted, while his companion Thomas Hawkes of Coggeshall was burnt at the stake for refusing to follow Roman Catholic practices. In the 16<sup>th</sup> century, the south aisle, porch and part of the north aisle were refaced or rebuilt, Miles Graye was commissioned to cast a bell and Alice Creffield who is buried in the parish church left her silver girdle to be made into a chalice.

The Shoulder of Mutton public house began life as a 15<sup>th</sup> Century medieval hall house and may have been an inn by 1575 when an ale house worker is recorded in the village. Quilters Green and Symons Green (MCC9136) are recorded in 1569 and would have originated as early woodland clearings and along with the church become areas of clustered development. Plummers Farmhouse (MCC4148) and Plummers Cottage (MCC4147) c.50m north, both date to the 15<sup>th</sup> century and several houses date to the late 15<sup>th</sup> to early 16<sup>th</sup> century; Fordham Hall, the moated properties of Howds Farm (MCC7574), Moat Hall (MCC7052/7053) and the Rectory house that recorded 8 hearths in 1662, Marks Gate c.100m north-north-west (MCC4151), Idols Cottage (MCC4161) and Ram's farmhouse (MCC4158), however, a barn to the east of Rams Farmhouse dates to the 14<sup>th</sup> century (MCC4159) and suggests that the site predates the farmhouse.

As the woodland was cleared, arable farming grew. In the 15<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup> century the pattern of landholding in the village was largely tenant farmers renting from absentee lords of the manor. They grew small quantities of wheat and grain and kept small groups of livestock. Beyond farming industry was based around the necessities for daily life and the occupations recorded are weavers, bricklayers, tillers, charcoal burners and tailors. Orchards and hop growing are recorded and the mill had become a fulling mill. At this time there were four night watchmen in the village.

In the 17<sup>th</sup> century, Fordham Hall was greatly altered. The village was the scene of religious turmoil. The new rector, Robert Cotton, was a staunch Puritan, known to be disagreeable and was protected by a man of questionable character with a pistol. Sir John Lucas objected to the behavior of the rector and complained that the pulpit was blocking the view from his pew and accused him of refusing to give communion to the wife of one of his tenants. The case went to the church court and the villagers removed the church pulpit during the night in protest against the rector.

The year of 1628 was very wet, the sheep diseased and the land flooded. The civil war broke out in 1648 and it is alleged that the Royalists took the lead from the church roof to make into bullets. The army marched through Ford Street to Colchester and the brother of Sir John Lucas, Lord of the Manor of Fordham Hall was executed at Colchester Castle for his part in the siege. Evidence of Quakers in the village is confirmed by incidents of disruption in the parish church during communion, when a butcher shouted, swore and tried to prevent communion taking place. In 1666 the plague arrived killing 13 of the inhabitants.

9.4.5 In 1723 the village was home to 70 families. Plummers Green (MCC9135) just north of the PDA was recorded in 1748 and the Shoulder of Mutton was operating as an Inn and had beds for five guests and stabling for twelve horses. The cattle plague (Rinderpest) reached Fordham in 1754 causing severe losses of livestock and great hardship to the farmers. The Lords of Fordham hall and Great Fordham Manors built a narrow timber bridge known as Hammonds bridge, over the River Colne in 1777.

Charles Onley, a non-resident rector at the parish church, was one of the founders of the Essex Agricultural Society predated by the Essex Society for the Encouragement of Agriculture and Industry, which came into existence in 1793. The effects of the industrial revolution were being felt and several such organisations were becoming prominent in the county of Essex. Some £3000 was raised for The Royal Agricultural Exhibition in 1856 held at Chelmsford and of the £540 left over £336 was devoted to the advancement of agriculture. A committee was devised for this purpose and the decision was taken to invest the money in the formation of a County Agricultural Association and the Society was born and went on to encourage agricultural progress and the enlargement of farms.

Thomas Twining, a member of the famous tea merchant family and intended for the family business, grew to hold a distaste for commerce but a love of music and study and after taking orders was employed by the absentee rector as curate from 1763 until his death in 1804. In 1796 the west side of the tower was damaged by a great storm and the fall of a spire; the tower was rebuilt in brick but the spire was not replaced.

It was the time of the French revolution and the country was changing. Many parishes shared their rector or had an absentee rector. Fordham had proved to have a strong dislike of puritanism and Charles Onley complained to the Archdeacon of Colchester of the poor attendance due to "lack of time, lack of interest or disapproval of the clergy".

The parish church was the main point of worship until 1789 when Robert Spark registered his barn at Houds Farm as a place of worship for independents. In 1790 he built a chapel with seating for 300 people opposite the Rectory House. The chapel, which was taken over by the Countess of Huntingdon's Connexion, was three bays by five bays, weather boarded, with a hipped roof, sash windows and a gabled porch. In the same year a Manse was constructed and a burial ground opened, which continued in use until 1990. His brother in law, William Ellis, left £1000 in his will and as trustee Robert purchased Houd's Farm and land nearby, which in addition to £700 from his own estate was left for the use of the minister to upkeep the church and educate five poor boys and five poor girls.

Due to differences between the congregation and the previous minister Lady Huntingdon sent John Harris to act as the new minister and peacemaker.

The Countess of Huntingdon, second daughter of Washington Shirley, second Earl Ferrers joined the Methodist Society in 1739. Following the death of her husband in 1746 she

became associated with George Whitefield (1740-1770) a follower of the Calvinist movement and one of the founders of Methodism and the Evangelical movement. She played a prominent part in the religious revival in the 18<sup>th</sup> Century and the Methodist movement in England and Wales leaving churches throughout England and Sierra Leone. Fordham was one of the 64 of the small society of Evangelical Churches she founded. She also founded a minister's college in Trefeca, Wales becoming the first female principal of a men's college that grew to become part of Cambridge University and training college of the Presbyterian Church of England. She corresponded throughout her life with George Whitfield and John Lesley funding missionary work in colonial America and is best remembered for her adversarial relationships with other Methodists who objected to a woman having power. It is claimed she spent almost £100,000 on her religious cause.

9.4.6 By 1800 the population had grown to 539 and the village was seeing social developments. The friendly society met at the Countess of Huntingdon's Connexion chapel from 1805 and the chapel joined the Essex Congregational Union in 1819. In 1825 John Bigg's House was registered as a place of worship.

In 1818 the school had 15 pupils and continued to grow in numbers so that in 1859 it was rebuilt as a British mixed school. In between this period three private schools and two Sunday schools had started up and a Church of England school and teachers house were built in Mill Road on land given by Earl de Grey.

A new square house of some 36 ft. built from lath and plaster replaced the rectory house and a new wing and 'pretty pleasure gardens' were added.

The parish was by now ninety percent arable, the main crop being grown on a four-course system of wheat, oats, barley and turnips or beans and agriculture the main form of employment. The agricultural depression began c.1873 bringing with it great changes. Some of the larger estates were divided up and farmland sold for development; Houds farm in 1891 was unlet, uncultivated and in need of repairs. There was a trend towards mixed farming, with movement into livestock and dairy farming. Two branches of the National Agricultural Labourer's Union were located within the village and in 1892 they were responsible for securing improved harvest terms, however, the population that had relied so



heavily on farming for its occupation decreased and technical instruction classes were held to help farm labourers to find alternative employment.

Field names indicate that there were kilns to the southeast and southwest of the parish and that gravel and sand was extracted to the south of Fletchers farm and Idol cottage. Women were employed as housekeepers, dressmakers, laundresses, a tailor and a schoolmistress. A daily carrier service ran from Fordham to Colchester and a new inn, the Three Horseshoes was recorded in 1866. The inn was a blacksmiths and the owner may have taken advantage of a change in law that allowed an ordinary house to become a licensed beer house.

At Fordham Place there were more than twenty Willow trees, which provided the wood for the cricket bats for which Fordham had become renowned.

Fordham parish council was established in 1894 with seven members, including one woman, responsible for allotments, footpaths, footbridges, and the administration of Love's charity and in 1910 Hammonds bridge, in need of repair, was replaced with a wider iron bridge.

9.4.7 The modern era brought many changes. The village had a police constable in 1912 and Wormingford Airfield was built at the onset of the First World War. In 1920 the family of the Rector, William Harvey Herring, donated the money to build the parish hall, which became the location of many church fetes, horticultural shows, socials, whist drives, dances and concerts. Two blocks of five cottages were built in Plummers Road for agricultural workers in 1922. The village had two general stores, an undertakers and a bakers and received electricity in 1935, the water that had until now been obtained from shallow wells came via a mains service from 1937 and by 1957 the village had street lighting. During the Second World War an invasion sub-committee was established to record all tractors and motors, to inform the public of anti-gas measures and to deal with the home guard, emergency food rations and any casualties. The Rectory was used as an air raid shelter and along with the church, suffered some bomb damage. The Manse belonging to the Countess of Huntingdon Connexion Chapel was demolished in 1970. Congregations became smaller and the chapel was disused from 1978. In 1983 it was converted to a house.

## **9.5 Regression 1869 – 1992**

### **9.5.1 Historic maps**

**9.5.1.1** In an extract from the Map of the County of Essex by J Chapman and P André 1777 (23 x 19 inches), the village of Fordham is found on the northern edge of the Colne valley, some 4 miles northwest of the town of Colchester, just west of the village of Bergholt and north of the Colne River at Hammonds Bridge, on the road that runs from Lexden to Wormingford. The PDA is located on the outskirts of the village on Plumers Green. To the south is the road that leads to Bergholt and to the north are the Parsonage and Thrift Farm. A second green, Symonds Green, is found to the south, closer to the village (Fig.4).

### **9.5.2 The Ordnance Survey Maps**

#### **9.5.2.1 Historic OS map 1876 1:2500**

The PDA is located in the northern outskirts of Fordham village, set in a rural area, populated by sporadic smallholdings and farms. It forms an L-shaped portion of field 110 to the east side of Plummers Road. It is bounded to the east by field 109, to the south by a line of houses that front Rams Farm Road and to the north by the dwellings 'Thrifts Cottage' and 'Threshers'. 'Fordham Lodge' is found opposite on the west side of the road. To the north at the point where the road forks right for 'Thrift Farm' and left for Wormingford is the Chapel and burial ground, endowed and marked as 'Huntingdon Connexion', the school, Rectory and Rectory wood and 'Houd's farm'. To the southern road fork is 'Moat Hall', 'Fletcher's Farm' and 'Dean's Farm'. To the east is 'Archendine's Farm' and to the west 'Fordham Place' (Fig.5).

#### **9.5.2.2 Historic OS map 1897 1:2500**

The PDA is within field 110 (6.473). The chapel to the north is marked as 'Countess of Huntingdon's Connexion' and the school is no longer mentioned (Fig.6).

#### **9.5.2.3 Historic OS map 1923 1:2500**

The Chapel is now known as the 'Congregational Church' (Fig.7).

#### **9.5.2.4 Historic OS map 1961 1:2500**

An automatic telephone exchange is located to the west of Plummers Road. The church buildings have become 'The Manse' and the church is now known as 'Fordham Congregational Church' (Fig.8).

#### **9.5.2.5 Historic OS map 1963 1:2500**

The village and PDA remain unchanged (Fig.9).

#### **9.5.2.6 Historic OS map 1970-73 1:2500**

A new house named 'Brierside' has been built to the north of 'Threshers.' Three cottages have replaced 'The Manse', two of which are named 'Columbine' and 'Mulberries' (Fig.10).

#### **9.5.2.7 Historic OS map 1981 1:2500**

Several new dwellings have been built along the west frontage of Plummers Road (Fig.11).

#### **9.5.2.8 Historic OS map 1994 1:2500**

The village and PDA remain unchanged (Fig.12).

### **9.6 Aerial photographs**

#### **9.6.1 2000**

Plummers Road is an area of ribbon development at some distance from the centre of the village to the north. Development is almost entirely reserved for the west side of the road with the historic moat house at the crossroads to the southwest and Fletchers Farm to the south. The PDA is a strip of farmland that adjoins a series of fields bounded to the north by a large dwelling, to the south by Rams Farm Road and to the west by Plummers Road. To the southeast corner of the field is Fletchers Cottage.

**9.6.2** 2005

By 2005 Fletchers Farm has expanded.

**9.6.3** 2006

By 2006 the lower half of the PDA has been left to scrubland.

**9.6.4** 2009

By 2009 the area sectioned off as scrubland has now been developed into medium density residential and the remaining part of the PDA has been sectioned off into rectangular fields possibly for grazing.

**9.6.5** 2011

By 2011 there has been little change.

**9.6.6** 2012

The field has been returned to a single agricultural produce.

**9.6.7** 2013

There has been little change.

**9.6.8** 2017

The PDA has been divided yet again into square and rectilinear areas (Plate 1).

## **9.7 Scheduled Monuments; Listed Buildings; Historic Parks & Gardens and Conservation Areas**

**9.7.1** There are no Historic Environment Records within the confines of the proposed development area (PDA). There are twenty listed buildings, twenty one monuments and five find spots recorded within the assessment area (Appendix I).

### **9.8 Setting of Listed Buildings**

**9.8.1** One of the tasks of the site visit was aimed to identify any designated heritage assets within the wider context of the PDA in accordance with The Setting of Heritage Assets – English Heritage Guidance (English Heritage 2011).

This guidance states that “setting embraces all of the surroundings (land, sea, structures, features and skyline) from which the heritage asset can be experienced or that can be experienced from or with the asset” (The Setting of Heritage Assets, English Heritage 2011).

**9.8.2** There are twenty listed buildings within the assessment area.

The PDA is surrounded by buildings that date from the 14<sup>th</sup> through to the 19<sup>th</sup> Century. It is bound to the north by the 15<sup>th</sup> Century properties of Plummers Cottage (MCC4147/LB1267750) and Threshers (MCC4149/LB1267751) and the 19<sup>th</sup> Century Plummers Farmhouse (MCC4148/LB1239831) to the west side of Plummers Road. Moat Hall probably originated as the home of William de la Mote in the 14<sup>th</sup> century and is the site of an incomplete rectangular moat. The current building is an L-shaped 18<sup>th</sup> century with 16<sup>th</sup> century elements and a five bayed east range, a northwest service wing and a later dairy range (MCC7052/MCC7053) located c.100m south west of the PDA. Marks Gate (MCC4151/ LB1267752), dates to the 16<sup>th</sup> Century and is found c.100m north northwest. Congregational Chapel (MCC4146/LB1239830) of Lady Huntingdon connexion dates to the 18<sup>th</sup> Century and is found c.100m north. Kenmore Fruit Farmhouse (MCC4145/LB1239829) is a 17<sup>th</sup> Century timber framed house located c.150m north.

Between c.300m and c.400m are the properties of Rams Farmhouse (MCC4158/LB1239837) dating to the 16<sup>th</sup> Century and Fletchers Farmhouse (MCC4162/LB1222603) and Barn to the west (MCC4163/LB1222605), dating to the late 17th to early 18th Century and a 14<sup>th</sup> Century Barn to the east (MCC4159/LB1239876).

Houd's Farmhouse is also the site of an incomplete rectangular moat. The current building is an L-shaped 17<sup>th</sup> Century house owned by Robert Spark, built on an older site that was recorded as Howdes in 1573. It is located c.450m north northwest of the PDA (MCC7575 and MCC7574).

The Rectory (MCC4144/LB1239828) is located nearby and is a late 18th and early 19th Century house on square plan with rendered elevations and front porch in regency style. The Rectory house stood on a moated site in 1610 and recorded 8 hearths in 1662. In the 17<sup>th</sup> century a glebe of 29 acres which consisted of three fields, a wood and meadow. In 1893 pleasure gardens were added. It was replaced in 1810 by a new lath and plaster square house and a new wing in 1868

Idols Cottage (MCC4161/LB1267711) is a late 16th to early 17th Century timber framed house found c.600m south southeast.

At a further distance of c.800m – c.1Km are a 17th Century Cattles Barn (MCC4130/LB1239788) and a Barn (MCC4143/ LB1267748) to the southwest of Houds Farmhouse; the 18th Century Archendines Farmhouse (MCC4129/ LB1267737) and Fordham Place (MCC4160/ LB1222602); Fordham Hall dates to the 15<sup>th</sup> century with cross wings at both the north and south ends and a plaster fragment with foliage and the date 1586 is preserved. It was greatly altered in 17<sup>th</sup> century and has a 17<sup>th</sup> century barn of 7 bays.

The properties that bound the PDA to the north and south and those on Plummers Road and Rams Farm Road share direct intervisibility with the PDA.

## **10. ARCHAEOLOGICAL POTENTIAL**

### **10.1 Walkover Survey**

**10.1.1** The walkover survey is for the purpose of:

1. Identifying any historic landscape features not shown on maps
2. Conducting a rapid survey for archaeological features
3. Making a note of any surface scatters of archaeological material
4. Constraints or areas of disturbance that may affect archaeological investigation

**10.1.2** The walkover survey is not intended as a detailed survey but the rapid identification of archaeological features and any evidence for buried archaeology in the form of surface scatters of lithic or pottery artifacts.

**10.1.3** The site has historically been an open field.

**10.1.4** The PDA consists of an open field laid to grass (Plates 2-9).

### **10.2 Essex Historic Environment Record**

See Appendix I & Fig.13-15

#### **10.2.1 Palaeolithic, Mesolithic, Neolithic and Bronze Age**

The Palaeolithic period represents the earliest phases of human activity in the British Isles, up to the end of the last Ice Age. The Essex HER has no record from this period within the assessment area, therefore, the potential for finding remains that date to this period within the confines of the development site is considered **low**.

The Mesolithic period reflects a society of hunter-gatherers active after the last Ice Age. The Essex HER has no record from this period within the assessment area, therefore, the

potential for finding remains that date to this period within the confines of the development site is considered **low**.

The Neolithic period was the beginning of a sedentary lifestyle based on agriculture and animal husbandry. The Essex HER has one record dating to this period within the assessment area; in 2010 trial trench evaluation to site two Abberton to Wormingford Pipeline by Birmingham Archaeology uncovered ditches with flint tempered pottery of prehistoric date possibly early Neolithic, c.400m south of the PDA (ECC3661), therefore, the potential for finding remains that date to this period within the confines of the development site is considered **low**.

The Bronze Age was a period of large migrations from the continent and more complex social developments on a domestic, industrial and ceremonial level. The Essex HER has three records dating to this period within the assessment area; at Fordham Place Farm a stone rubber and four potboilers from the Prehistoric period were recovered (MCC8235). In 1950 a Bronze age barbed and tanged flint arrowhead was found in the garden of The Bungalow c1.2km east northeast of the PDA (MCC8236), an archaeological field walking evaluation at Fordham Hall produced struck flint and burnt flint from the prehistoric period, c.250m north of the PDA (ECC3684), therefore, the potential for finding remains that date to this period within the confines of the development site is considered **low**.

### **10.2.2 Iron Age**

The Iron Age is, by definition a period of established rural farming communities with extensive field systems and large 'urban' centres (Camulodunon or Colchester was the Iron Age 'Tribal capital' or civitas of the Trinovantes). The Essex HER has one record dating to this period within the assessment area; A Roman coin from the late Iron age (silver denarius 76 to 75 BC) (MCC6702) was found c.1.1km north of the PDA, therefore, the potential for finding remains that date to this period within the confines of the development site is considered **low**.



### 10.2.3 Romano-British

The Romano-British period is the term given to the Romanised culture of Britain under the rule of the Roman Empire, following the Claudian invasion in AD 43, Britain then formed part of the Roman Empire for nearly 400 years. Colchester or Camulodonum was the capital of Roman Britain. There are three Essex HER record from this period within the assessment area; an archaeological field walking evaluation at Fordham Hall produced Roman brick and tile, c.250m north of the PDA (ECC3684). During a rescue excavation in advance of a water pipeline from Cressing to Great Horkesley, Essex County Council Field Archaeology found a Roman crop processing enclosure and evidence of Roman occupation, c.250m north of the PDA (ECC3864). A Vessel of unknown period likely to be Roman to Post Medieval (Record number PAS-E0CE14) was found c.400m south of the PDA (MCC6840)

Therefore, the potential for finding archaeological features or deposits from this period is considered **moderate**.

### 10.2.4 Anglo-Saxon

There is no Essex HER record from this period within the assessment area; therefore, it is reasonable to conclude that the potential for finding remains dating to the Anglo-Saxon period in the PDA is considered **low**.

### 10.2.5 Medieval

There are thirteen Essex HER records from this period within the assessment area; of these six are listed buildings previously listed in section 9.8.2.

Moat Hall Earthwork is an incomplete rectangular moat and was probably the home of William de la Mote, c.100m southwest (MCC7052). Plummers Green is a linear section of historic green of common land shown on the 1777 Chapman and Andre map, c.250m North (MCC9135). Houd's Farm moat is also an incomplete rectangular moat, c.450m north northwest (MCC7574). Symonds Green is a triangular section of common land shown on the 1777 Chapman and Andre map, c.550m southwest (MCC9136). The Fordham Cressing to Great Horkesley trunk main uncovered medieval settlement features represented by the corner of a timber building and one side of a palisaded and ditched enclosure and large pottery assemblage including a fragment of a Rouen wear jug imported from Normandy dating to the late 12th to mid 13th Century, c.600m west (MCC5243). An early medieval

coin (Merovingian Tremissis ESS-3263B5) was found c.750m northeast (MCC5857). Fossetts Lane is the location of crop marks of a probable moated site, c.900m east southeast (MCC8753). Therefore, it is reasonable to conclude that the potential for finding remains dating to the medieval period in the PDA is considered **high**.

### 10.2.6 Post Medieval

There are fifteen records held at the Essex HER from this period within the assessment area, fourteen of which are listed buildings previously listed in section 9.8.2.

The congregational church was a non-conformist chapel built on 1789, timber framed, rendered and lined to represent stonework and associated with Lady Huntingdon, c.350m north (MCC7760).

### 10.2.7 Modern

There are eleven records in the Essex HER within the assessment area from this period. A cast iron signpost from 1920's – 30's, at the junction of Chappell and Plummers Road, c.20m southwest, is probably the product of Stanton of Derbyshire, (MCC5565).

A disbursed ancillary site associated with Great Dunmow WWII Airfield and no longer extant is located, c.100m southwest, (MCC4983) and the site of a destroyed Anderson ammunition shelter is recorded near the Post Office, (MCC5501), c.500m southwest. A cast iron signpost from 1920's – 30's in Ford Road at the junction of Moat Road and Church Road and manufactured by Maldon Ironworks is located c.550m south southwest (MCC5562).

Several sights related to Wormingford WWII Airfield (MCC4986), an American airfield circa 1943-47 opened for the US 9th Air force 362nd Fighter Group and subsequently the 55th Fighter Group flying bomber escort missions and low level attacks are recorded at a distance of c.600m - c.1.2Km; Number 2 disbursed sight ancillary site with possible buildings still extant (MCC4987), Number 3 quarters site ancillary sight no longer extant (MCC4994), Number 6 quarters sight ancillary site no longer extant (MCC4995), Number 7 quarters site ancillary site no longer extant (MCC4996), Mess sight possible buildings still extant (MCC4984). Sick quarters ancillary site with possible buildings still extant (MCC4741).

Therefore, the potential for finding remains dating to this period is considered **low**.

### **10.2.8 Farmsteads**

There are no Farmstead records within the assessment area.

### **10.2.9 Undated Records**

There is one undated record within the assessment area. A gold sword fitting (MCC6914) was found c.400m east southeast. To the east of Fordham crop marks of ring ditches and a linear feature have been identified c.900m south (MCC7733). Crop marks are reordered south west of Kings Farm and represent the former parish boundary between Fordham and West Bergholt c.1.2km east northeast (MCC8641). Therefore, the potential for finding remains dating to this period is considered **low**.

## **10.3 Summary of Potential**

**10.3.1** The PDA is located to the north of the village within 250m of Plummers Green and in an area populated by medieval moated sites and buildings, and the post medieval congregational chapel and buildings. It is situated to the east side of Plummers Road, the ribbon development that spread north towards Bures. The medieval period has the highest potential and due to recent finds with the vicinity the Roman period is considered moderate. There is no evidence that the site itself has been the subject of occupation and has probably been agriculture in nature.

**10.3.8** The desk-based assessment has considered the archaeological potential of the site. Archaeological investigations in the vicinity, map research, the historical environment record results and recent archaeological investigations have shown that the PDA may contain archaeological sites and these can be summarised as:

- Prehistoric: **low**
- Iron Age: **low**
- Roman: **moderate**
- Anglo-Saxon: **low**
- Medieval: **high**
- Post-Medieval: **low**
- Modern: **low**

## 11. IMPACT ASSESSMENT

### 11.1 Introduction

Cartographic Regression, Topographical Analysis, and Historic Research have provided evidence for the historic use of the site. By collating this information, we have assessed the impact on previous archaeological remains through the following method of categorisation:

- **Total Impact** - Where the area has undergone a destructive process to a depth that would in all probability have destroyed any archaeological remains e.g. construction, mining, quarrying, archaeological evaluations etc.
- **High Impact** – Where the ground level has been reduced to below natural geographical levels that would leave archaeological remains partly in situ either in plan or section e.g. the construction of roads, railways, buildings, strip foundations etc.
- **Medium Impact** – Where there has been low level or random disturbance of the ground that would result in the survival of archaeological remains in areas undisturbed e.g. the installation of services, pad-stone or piled foundations, temporary structures etc.
- **Low Impact** – Where the ground has been penetrated to a very low level e.g. farming, landscaping, slab foundation etc.

## 11.2 Historic Impacts

**11.2.1** Cartographic regression (8.5), Topographic analysis (3.2) and Historical research (8.4) indicate that the PDA was open fields, therefore, previous impacts to archaeological remains from construction are considered to be **low**.

**11.2.2** Agriculture became gradually more intense over time and by the modern era it was mechanised. Although the farming process rarely penetrates below the upper layers of the ground, plough truncation can have a significant impact on preserved shallow deposits. The PDA may have been cultivated, therefore, the damage to archaeological remains from the agricultural process is considered to be **low**.

## 11.3 Summary of Impacts Both Historic and Proposed

**11.3.1** There is no evidence that there has been any construction within the PDA and it has probably been agricultural in nature, therefore the historic impact is **low**.

**11.3.2** The geology on site is unconfirmed.

## 12. MITIGATION

The purpose of this archaeological desk-based assessment was to provide an assessment of the contextual archaeological record in order to determine the potential survival of archaeological deposits that may be impacted upon during any proposed construction works.

The assessment has generally shown that the area to be developed is within an area of **high** archaeological potential for the medieval period and **moderate** for the Roman period.

### **13. OTHER CONSIDERATIONS**

#### **13.1 Archive**

Subject to any contractual requirements on confidentiality, two copies of this desk-based assessment will be submitted to Colchester Borough Council within 6 months of completion.

#### **13.2 Reliability/Limitations of Sources**

The sources that were used in this assessment were, in general, of high quality. The majority of the information provided herewith has been gained from either published texts or archaeological 'grey' literature held at EHER, and therefore considered as being reliable.

#### **13.3 Copyright**

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**Zoe Schofield**

**Touchstone Archaeology**

#### **14. REFERENCES & BIBLIOGRAPHY**

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National Planning Policy Framework 2012

Data provided by Essex HER

<http://www.fordhamchurch.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2016/09/Fordham-Rectors.pdf>

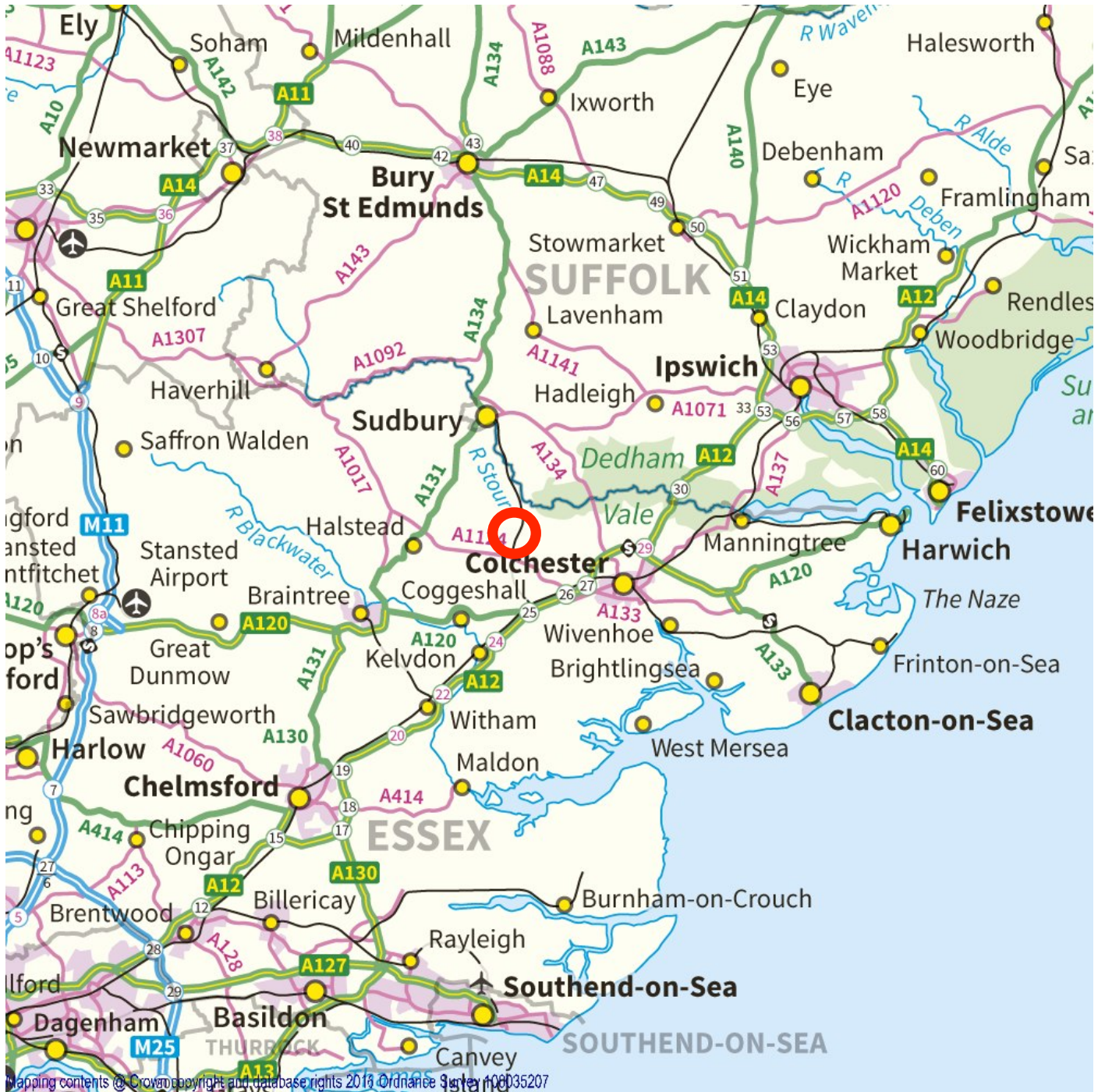


Fig.1. Site Location Map 1:1,000,000



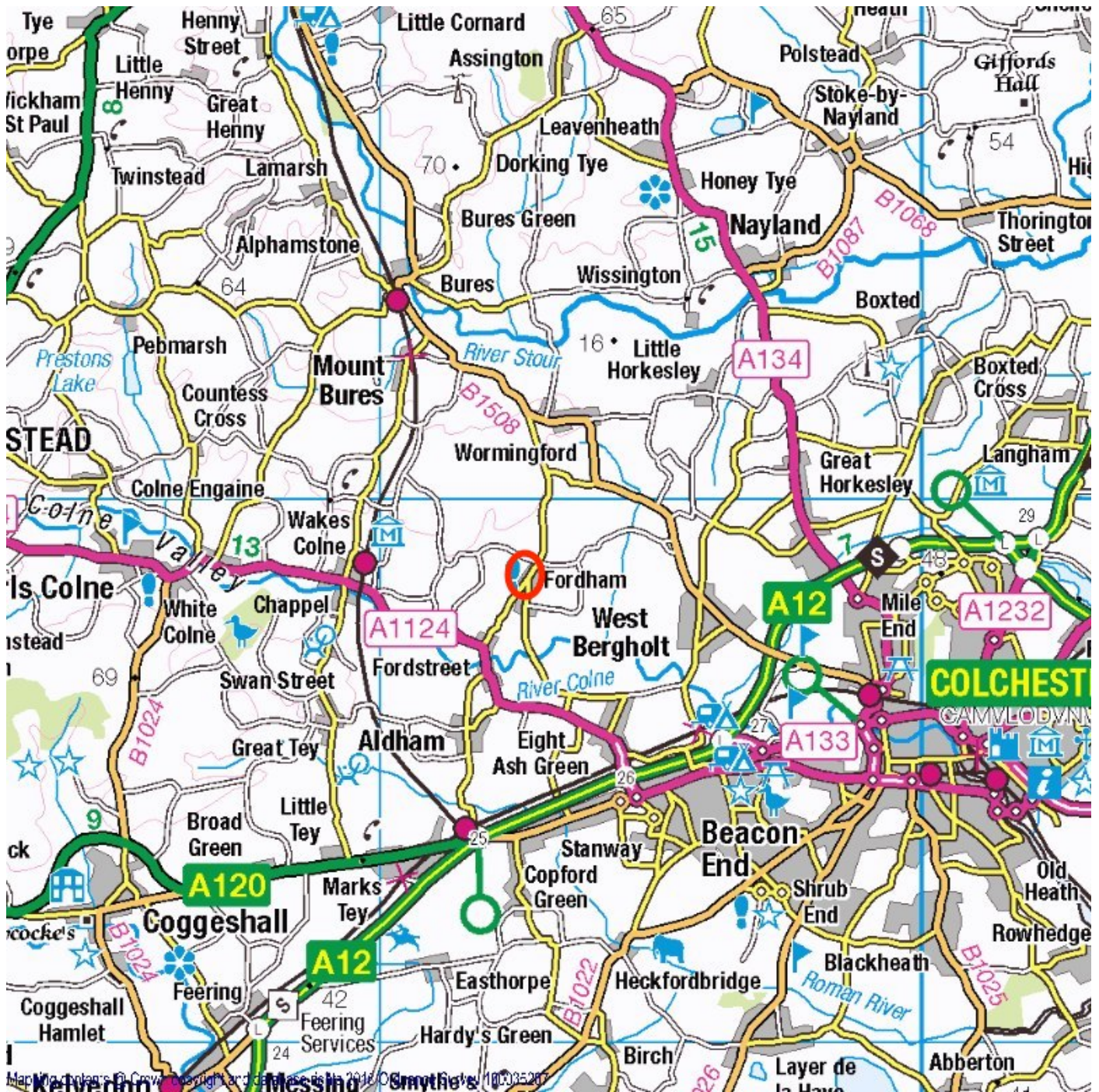


Fig.2. Site Location Map 1:250,000



Scale: 1:2500 | Area 16Ha | Grid Reference: 593143,229086 | Paper Size: A4

Fig.3. Site Location Plan 1:2500

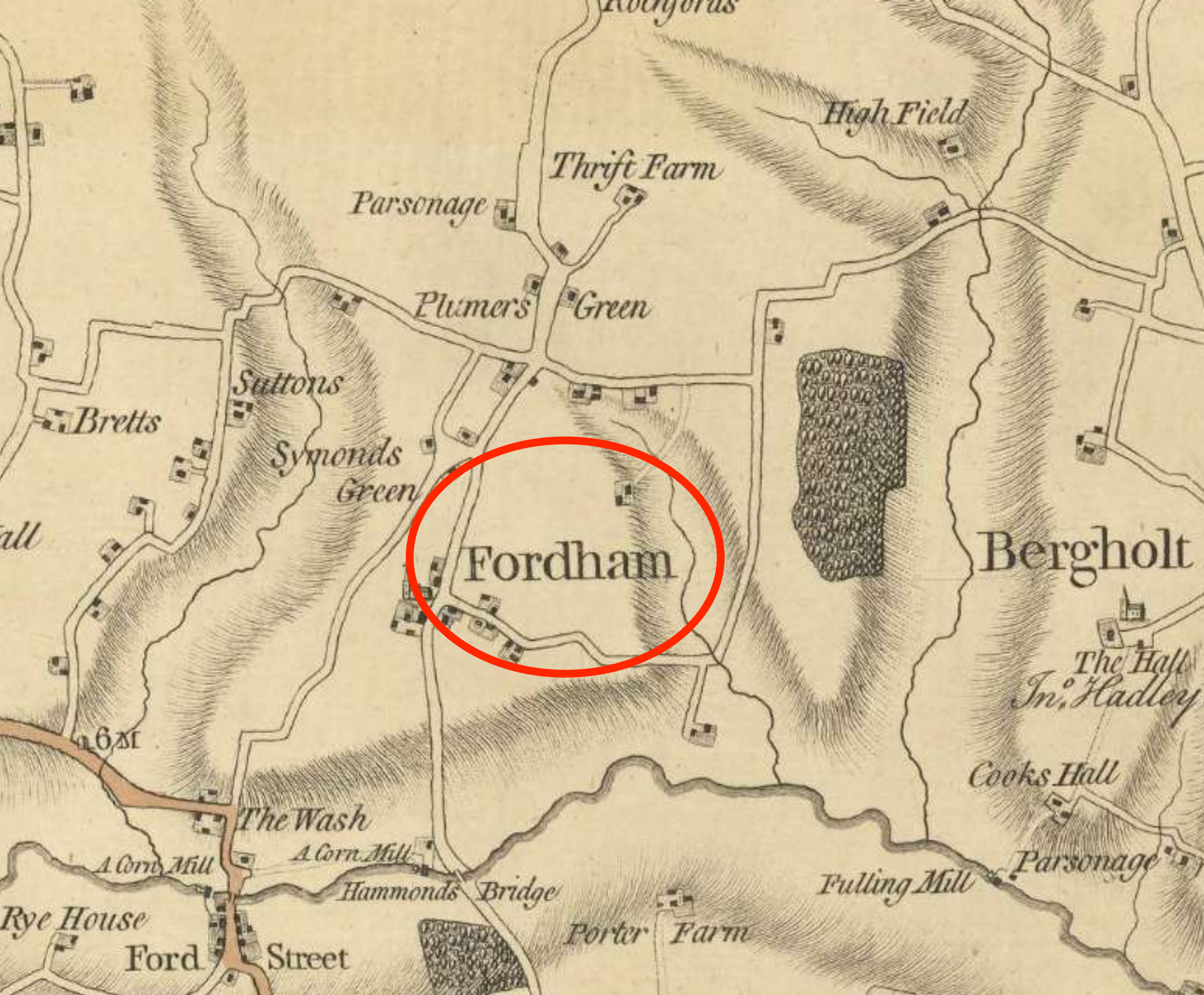


Fig.4. A Map of the County of Essex by John Chapman & Peter André 1777

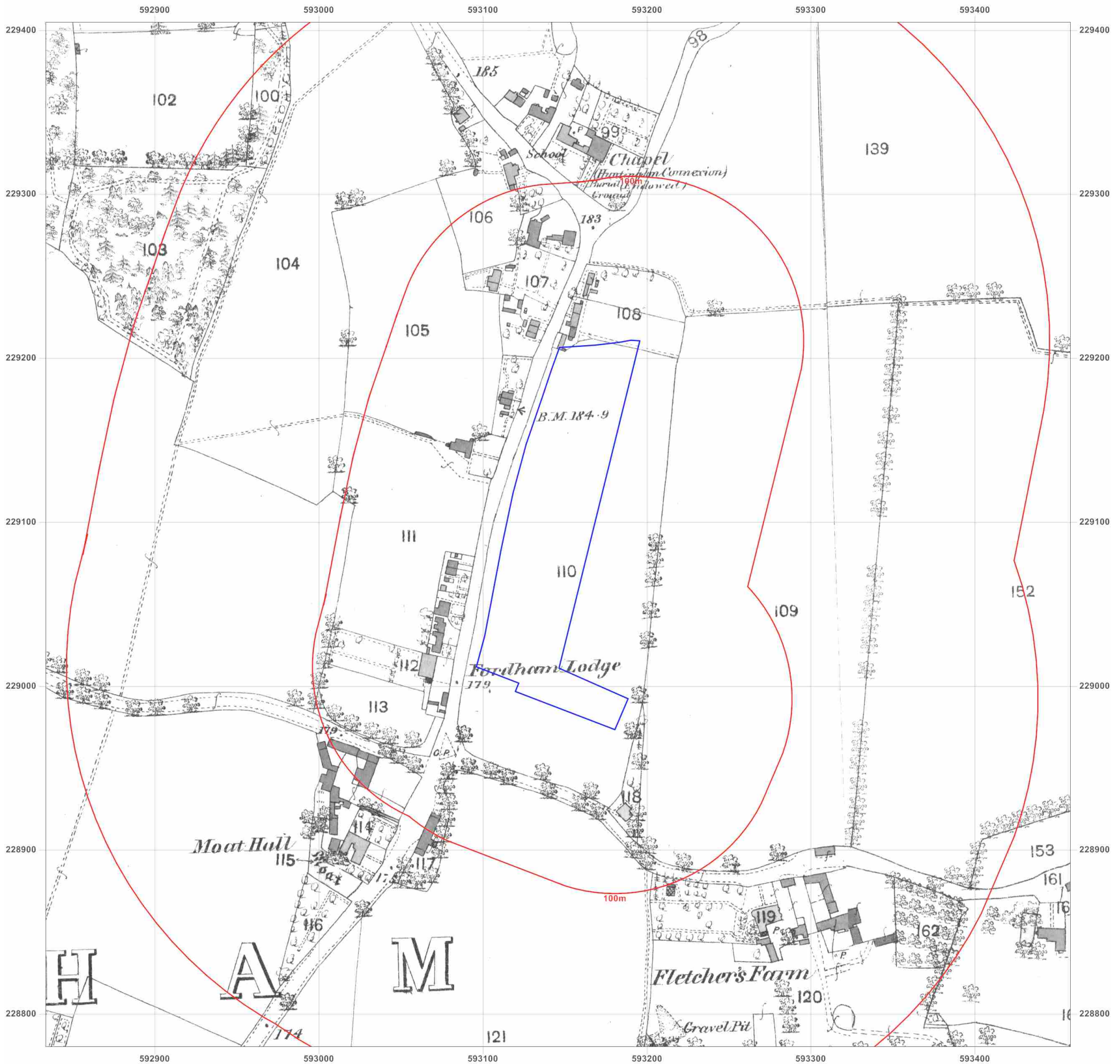


Fig.5. Historic Mapping OS 1:2500 1876

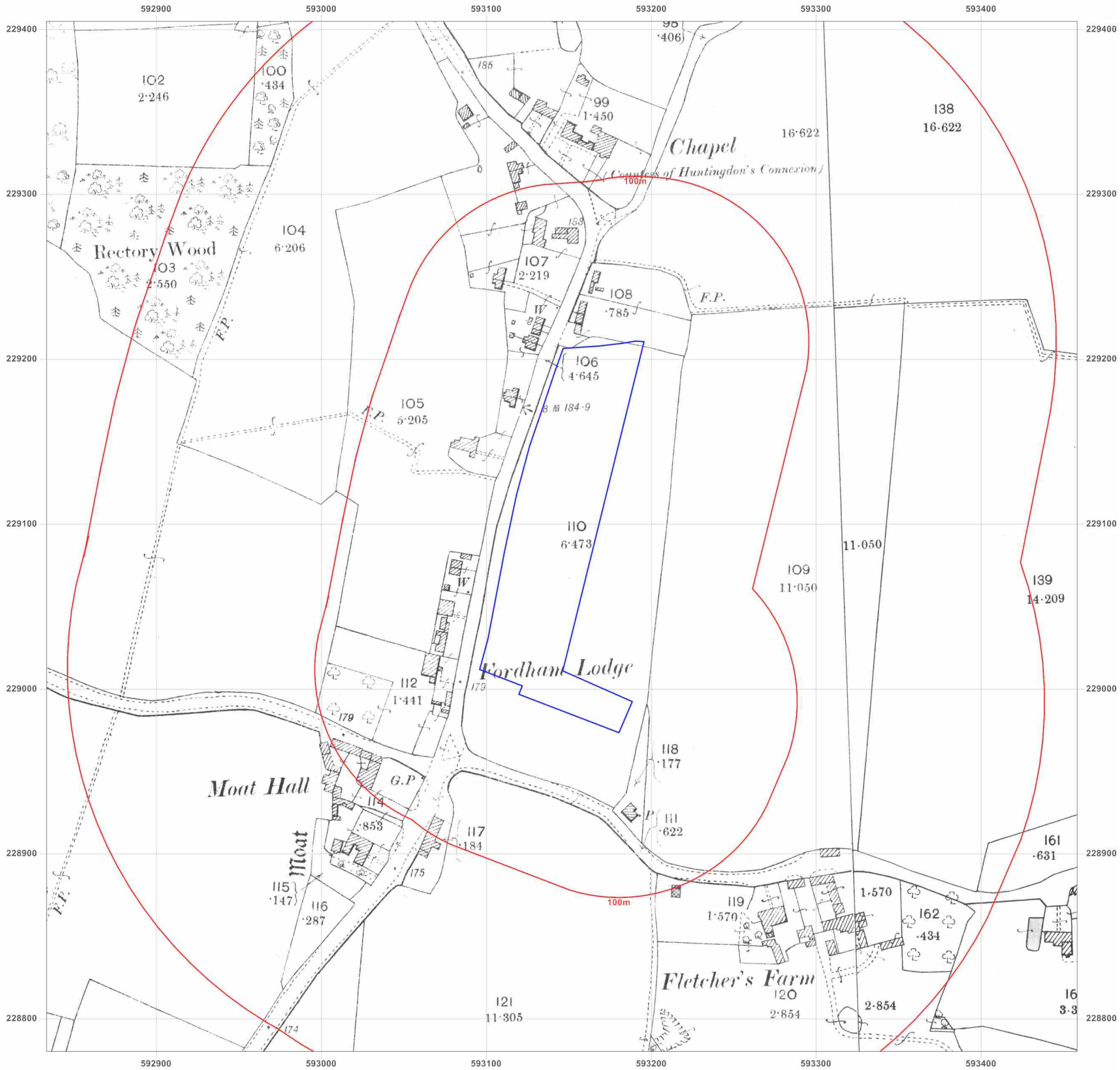


Fig.6. Historic Mapping OS 1:2500 1897

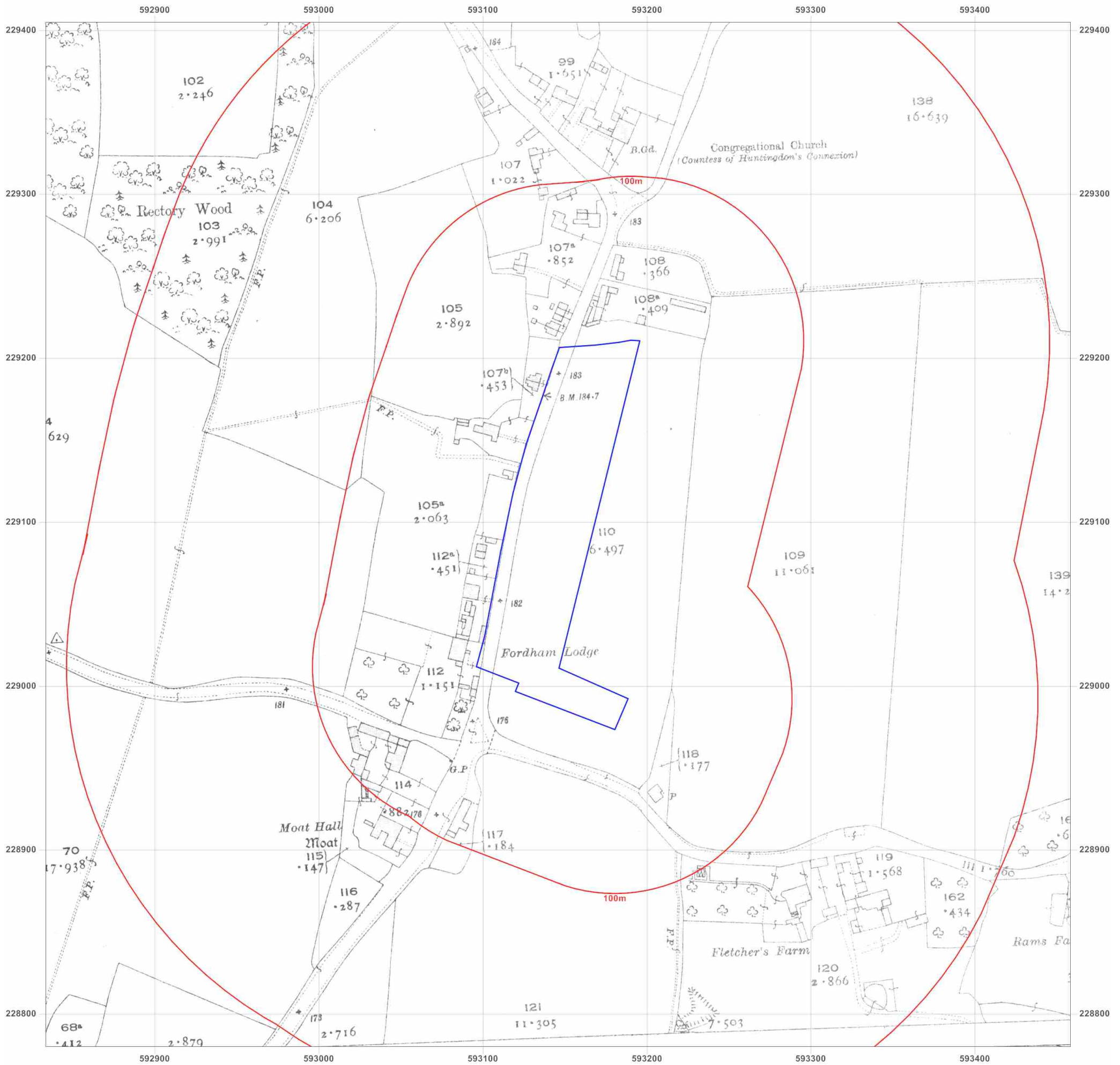


Fig.7. Historic Mapping OS 1:2500 1923



Fig.8. Historic Mapping OS 1:2500 1961

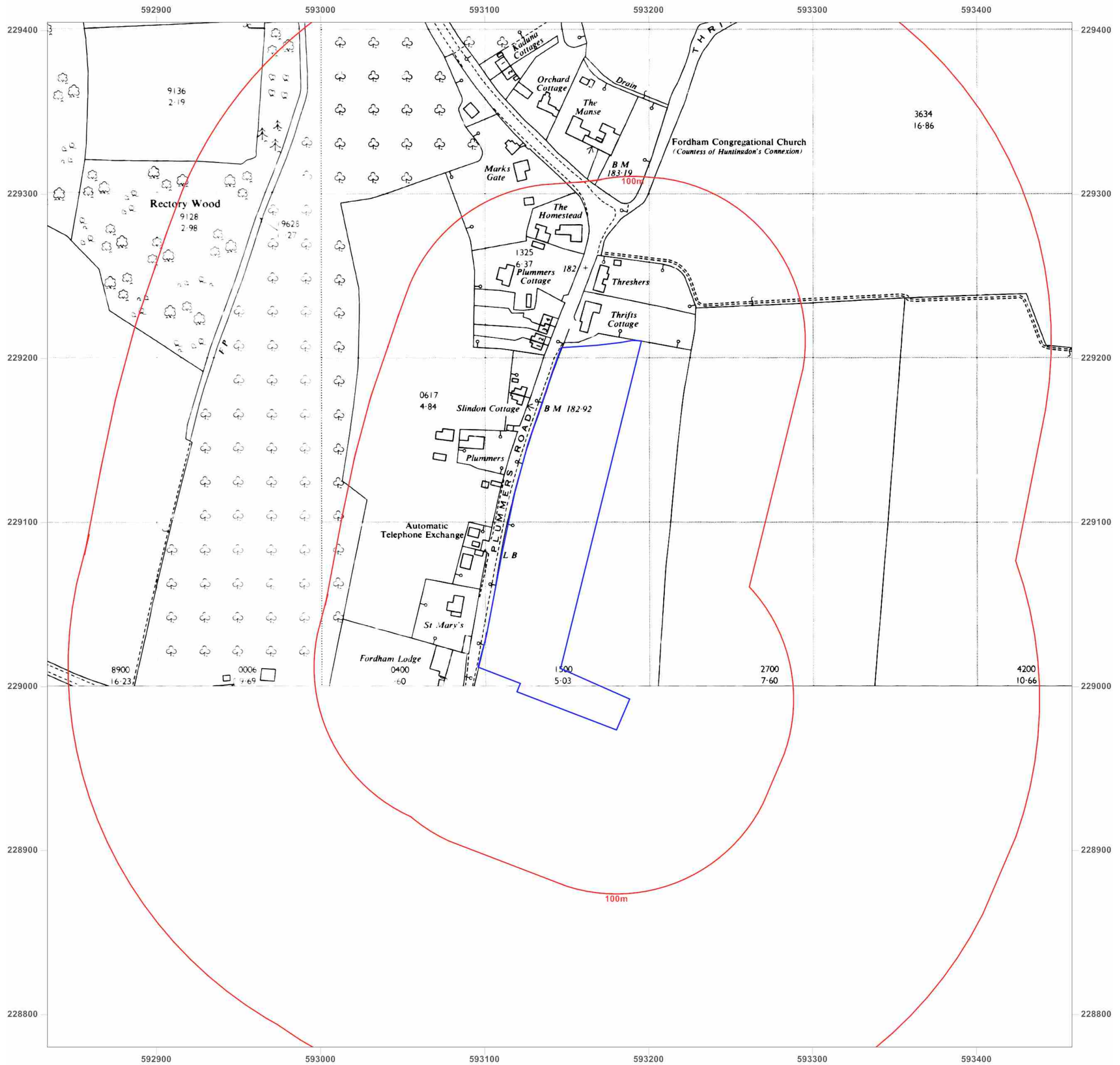


Fig.9. Historic Mapping OS 1:2500 1963





Fig.10. Historic Mapping OS 1:2500 1970-73



Fig.11. Historic Mapping OS 1:2500 1981



Fig.12. Historic Mapping OS 1:2500 1994

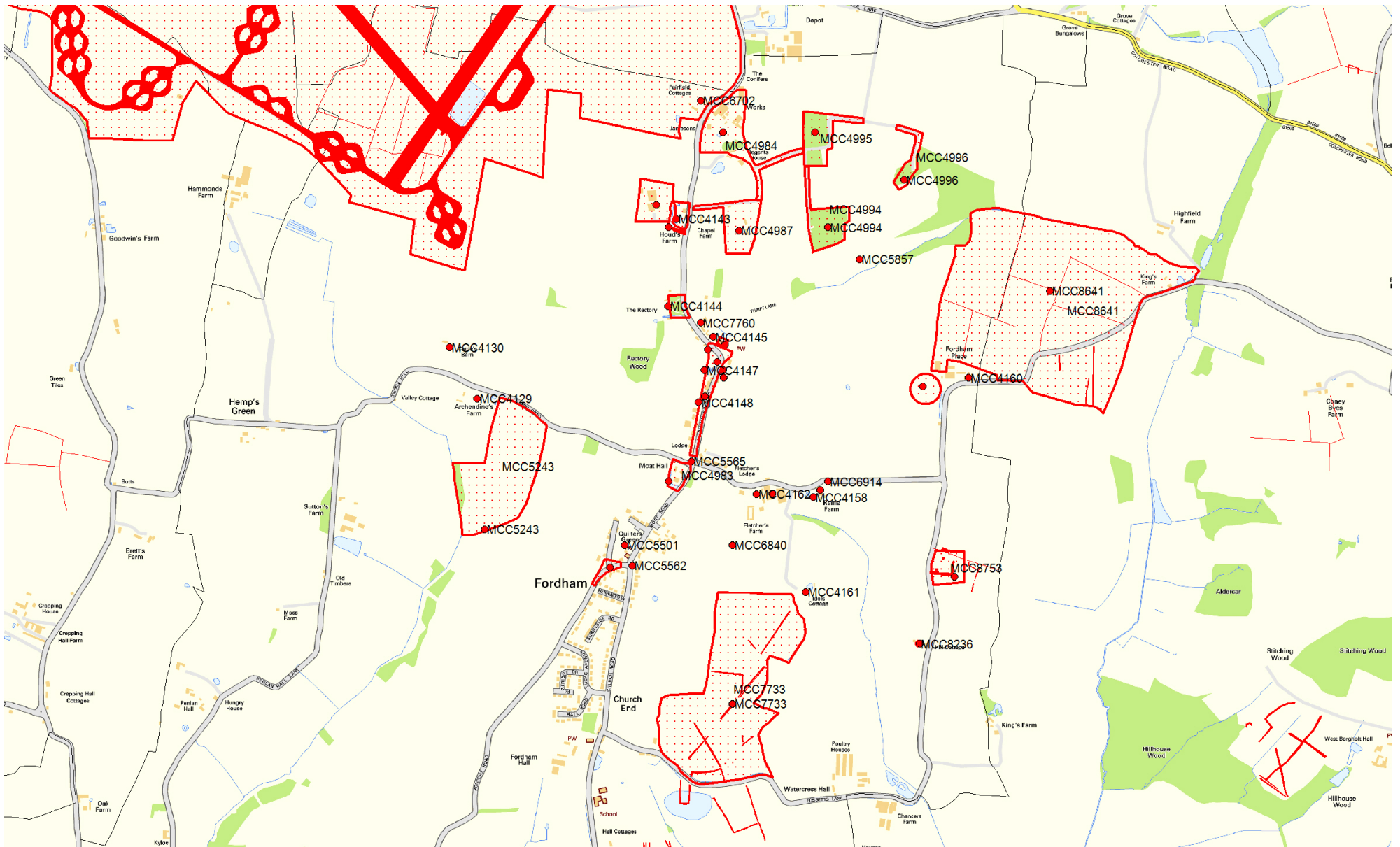


Fig.13. Essex Historic Environment Record Monuments

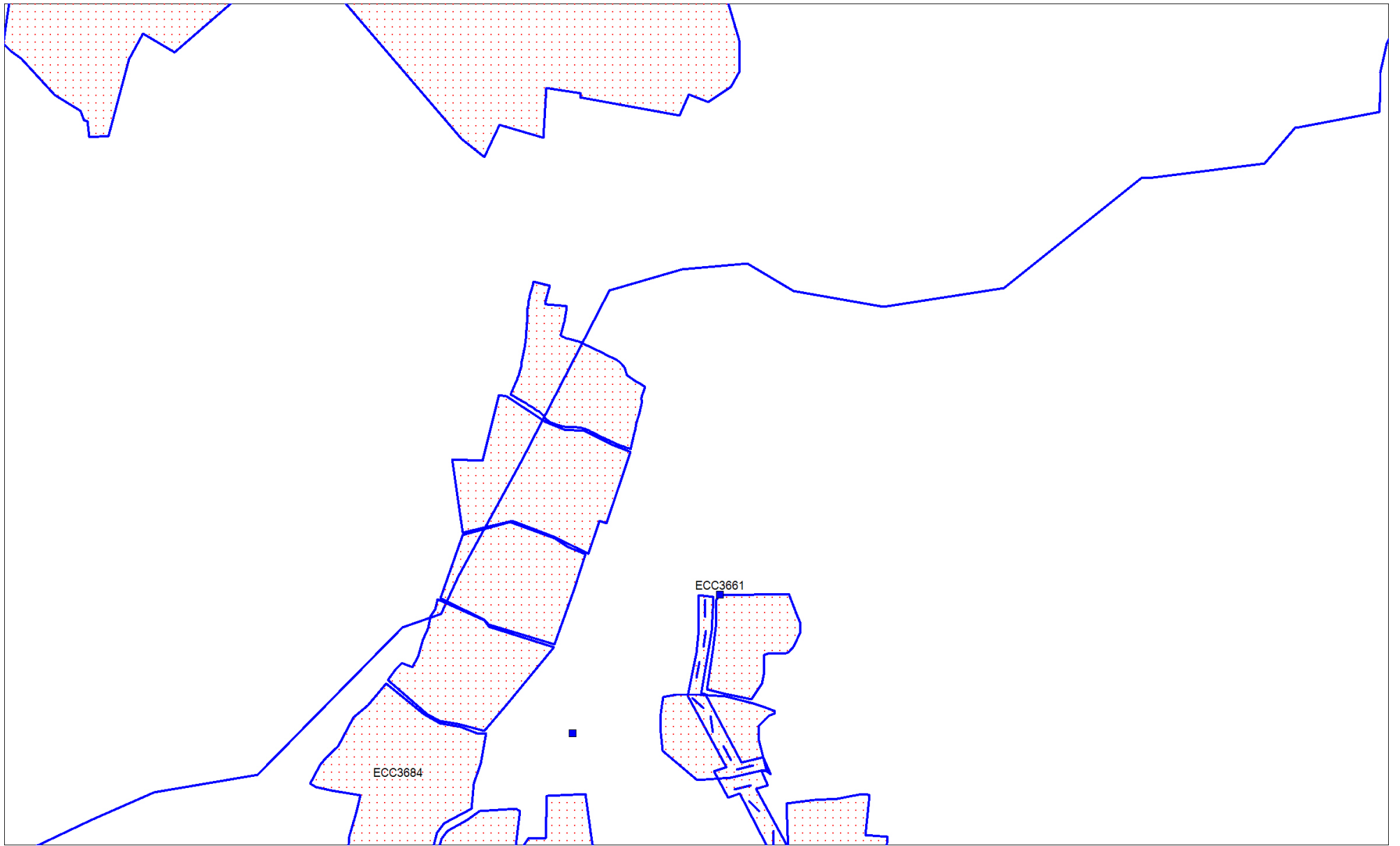
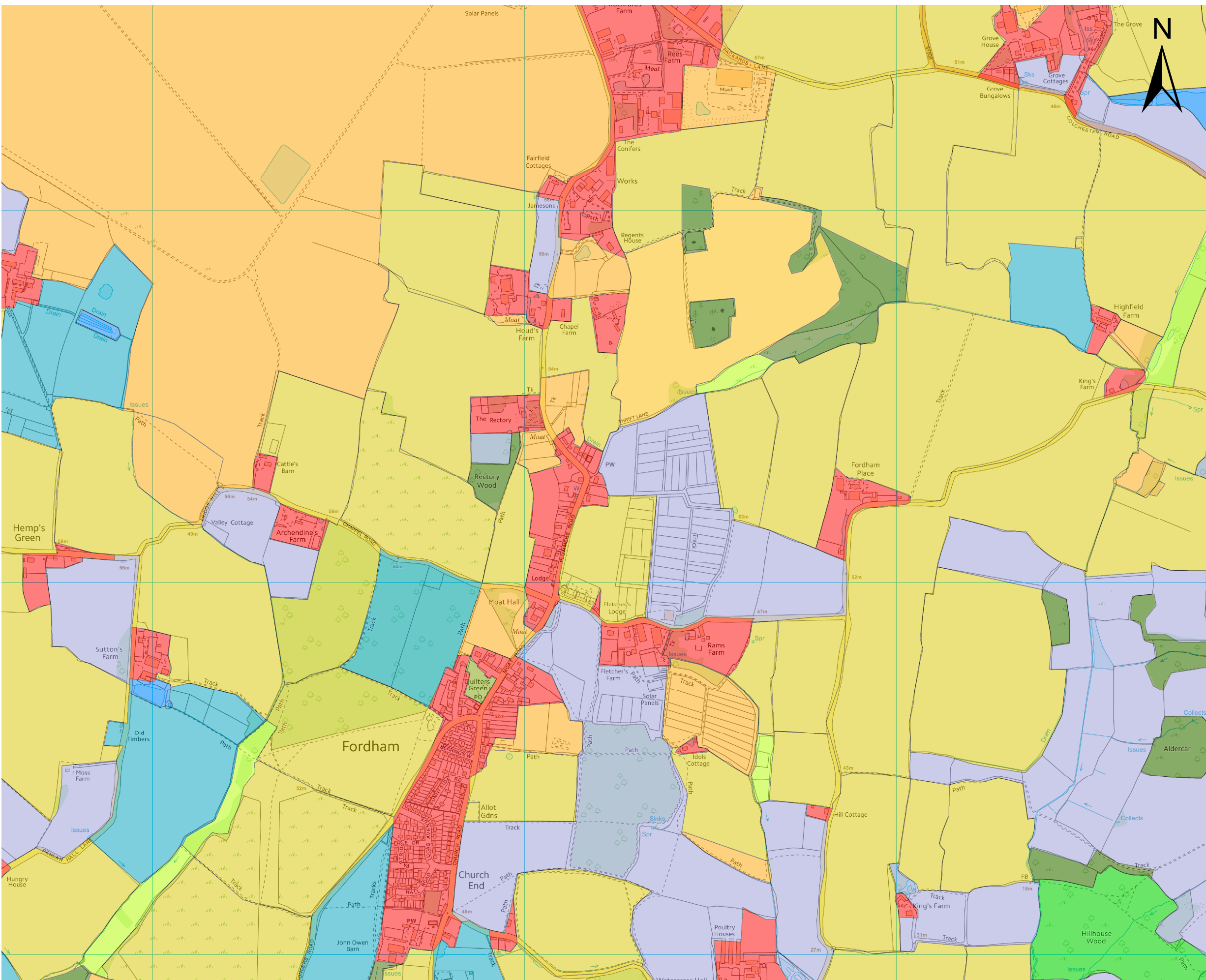


Fig.14. Essex Historic Environment Record Events



- Heath
- Pre 18th century 'irregular' enclosure
- Industrial
- Informal medieval parkland
- Later enclosure - 18th C or later
- Mineral extraction
- Unimproved marine marsh or brackish fen
- Mixed origin
- Enclosed meadow pasture
- Motorways
- Managed wetland
- Nursery with glass house
- Oyster beds
- 18th century and later enclosure
- Post 1950 boundary loss
- Plotlands
- Post-medieval military
- Post 1950 boundary loss - with relict elements
- Pre-18th century 'rectilinear' enclosure
- Religious institution
- Restored land
- Unimproved rough pasture
- Rabbit warren
- Saltings
- Sea defences
- Pre-18th century 'irregular sinuous' enclosure
- 20th century stud farm
- post 1950's enclosure
- 20th century leisure
- Unimproved intertidal
- Watercress beds
- Water meadow
- 19th-20th century plantation
- Water reservoir
- Unknown
- Medieval deer park
- Formal post-medieval parkland
- Unimproved freshwater fen
- Dual-axis sinuous co-axial
- parliamentary-style 18th C or later enclosure

Fig.15. Essex Historic Landscape Characterisation

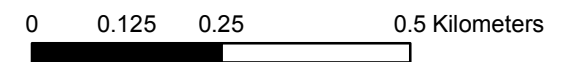




Plate.1 Aerial Image 2018



Plate 2. View of Site looking North





Plate 3. View of Site looking North West



Plate 4. View of Site looking West



Plate 5. View of Site looking South West



Plate 6. View of Site looking South



Plate 7. View of Site looking South East



Plate 8. View of Site looking East



Plate 9. View of Site looking North North East

## Appendix I

KHER	Type	Location	Period	Description
ECC2965	Event	c.1.2km+ NW	Not applicable	In 2015 Heritage impact assessment of land at Wormingford Airfield by Archaeological Solutions. Desk based assessment.
ECC3661	Event	c.400m S	Neolithic	In 2010 trial trench evaluation to site two Abberton to Wormingford Pipeline by Birmingham Archaeology across the Colne Valley c.1.75 km 50m by 2m trenches excavated features were identified in trenches sixteen, eighteen, nineteen, twenty, twenty one, twenty two, twenty three and twenty four and comprised of ditches with flint tempered pottery of prehistoric date possibly early Neolithic.
ECC3684	Field Survey	c.200m W – 1.2km+ SSW	Prehistoric to Roman	In 2002 an archaeological field walking evaluation at Fordham Hall by Colchester Archaeological Trust over 87 hectares of land large quantities of peg tile, struck flints and burnt flint from the prehistoric period and Roman brick and tile.
ECC3864	Event	c.250m N	Roman	In 1998 rescue excavations and monitoring in advance of a water pipeline from Cressing to Great Horkesley by Essex County Council Field Archaeology Unit of 21.6km Roman crop processing enclosure and Roman occupation.
MCC4129	Building	c.800m W	Post Medieval	Archendines Farmhouse, Chapel Road in Fordham 18 <sup>th</sup> Century farmhouse possibly earlier building. LB1267737
MCC4130	Building	c.900m WNW	Post Medieval	Cattles Barn, Chapel Ford, Fordham 17 <sup>th</sup> Century timber framed barn. LB1239788
MCC4143	Building	c.800 NNW	Post Medieval	Barn to south west of Houds Farmhouse, Plummers Road 17 <sup>th</sup> Century timber framed barn. LB1267748
MCC4144	Building	c.450m NNW	Post Medieval	Rectory, Plummers Lane, Fordham late 18 <sup>th</sup> and early 19 <sup>th</sup> Century house on square plan with rendered elevations and front porch in regency style. LB1239828
MCC4145	Building	c.150m N	Post Medieval	Kenmore Fruit Farmhouse, Plummers Road, Fordham 17 <sup>th</sup> Century timber framed house. LB1239829
MCC4146	Building	c.100m N	Post Medieval	Congregational Chapel, Plummers Road, Fordham late 18 <sup>th</sup> Century chapel associated with Lady Huntingdon. LB1239830
MCC4147	Building	c.50m N	Medieval	Plummers Cottage, Plummers Road, Fordham open hall house 15 <sup>th</sup> Century timber framed house. LB1267750
MCC4148	Building	c.50m NW	Medieval	Plummers Farmhouse, Plummers Road, Fordham late 15 <sup>th</sup> to early 16 <sup>th</sup> Century timber framed house. LB1239831



MCC4149	Building	c.50m N	Post Medieval	Threshers, Plummers Road, Fordham early mid 19 <sup>th</sup> Century brick house. LB1267751
MCC4150	Building	c.20m N	Post Medieval	Thrifts Cottage, Plummers Road, Fordham 17 <sup>th</sup> Century timber framed house. LB1239832
MCC4151	Building	c.100m NNW	Medieval	Marks Gate, Plummers Road, Fordham 16 <sup>th</sup> Century house. LB1267752
MCC4152	Building	c.80m N	Post Medieval	Penny Cottage, Plummers Road, Fordham early 19 <sup>th</sup> Century house. LB1239862
MCC4158	Building	c.400m SE	Medieval	Rams Farmhouse, West Bergholt Road, Fordham early 16 <sup>th</sup> Century timber framed house. LB1239837
MCC4159	Building	c.400m ESE	Medieval	Barn to east of Rams Farmhouse, West Bergholt Road, Fordham 14 <sup>th</sup> Century timber framed barn. LB1239876
MCC4160	Building	c.850m E	Post Medieval	Fordham Place, West Bergholt Lane, Fordham 18 <sup>th</sup> Century façade to earlier timber framed house. LB1222602
MCC4161	Building	c.600m SSE	Post Medieval	Idols Cottage, West Bergholt Lane, Fordham late 16 <sup>th</sup> to early 17 <sup>th</sup> Century timber framed house. LB1267711
MCC4162	Building	c.350m SSE	Post Medieval	Fletchers Farmhouse, West Bergholt Lane late 17 <sup>th</sup> to early 18 <sup>th</sup> Century house. LB1222603
MCC4163	Building	c.300m SE	Post Medieval	Barn to west of Fletchers Farmhouse, West Bergholt Lane late 17 <sup>th</sup> to early 18 <sup>th</sup> Century timber framed barn. LB1222605
MCC4741	Monument	c.1.2km+ NW	Modern	Wormingford WWII Airfield with WWI with landing ground origins. It is an American airfield circa 1943-47 opened for the US 9 <sup>th</sup> Air force 362 <sup>nd</sup> Fighter Group and subsequently the 55 <sup>th</sup> Fighter Group flying bomber escort missions and low level attacks.
MCC4983	Monument	c.100m SW	Modern	Great Dunmow WWII Airfield disbursed sight. An ancillary sight associated with the airfield and no longer extant.
MCC4984	Monument	c.1km N	Modern	Wormingford WWII Airfield mess sight possible buildings still extant.
MCC4986	Monument	c.1.2km+ NW	Modern	Wormingford WWII Airfield sick quarters ancillary sight with possible buildings still extant.
MCC4987	Monument	c.650m N	Modern	Wormingford WWII Airfield number 2 disbursed sight ancillary sight with possible buildings still extant.
MCC4994	Monument	c.750m NNE	Modern	Wormingford WWII Airfield number 3 quarters sight ancillary sight no longer extant.
MCC4995	Monument	c.1km NNE	Modern	Wormingford WWII Airfield number 6 quarters sight ancillary sight no longer extant.
MCC4996	Monument	c..1km NE	Modern	Wormingford WWII Airfield number 7 quarters sight ancillary sight no longer extant.

MCC5243	Monument	c.600m W	Medieval	Chappell Road, Fordham Crossing to Great Horkesley trunk main medieval settlement features represented by the corner of a timber building and one side of a palisaded and ditched enclosure and large pottery assemblage including a fragment of a Rouen wear jug imported from Normandy late 12 <sup>th</sup> to mid 13 <sup>th</sup> Century.
MCC5501	Monument	c.500m SW	Modern	Ammunition shelter destroyed near post office, Fordham - Anderson Shelter.
MCC5562	Monument	c.550m SSW	Modern	1920s to 1930s cast iron sign post in Ford Road at the junction of Moat Road and Church Road manufactured by Maldon Ironworks.
MCC5565	Monument	c.20m SW	Modern	1920s to 30s cast iron signpost in Fordham junction of Chappell and Plummers Roads might be the product of Stanton of Derbyshire.
MCC5857	PAS find spot	c.750m NE	Early Medieval	Early Medieval coin. It is an Merovingian Tremissis and the record number is ESS-3263B5.
MCC6702	PAS find spot	c.1.1km N	Late Iron Age	A Roman coin silver denarius 76 to 75 BC Record number ESS-6DA554.
MCC6840	PAS find spot	c.400m S	Roman to Post Medieval	A vessel of unknown period probably a jug. Record number ESS-DA8A32.
MCC6914	PAS find spot	c.400m ESE	Unknown date	A sword fitting of unknown date. Gold. Record number PAS-E0CE14.
MCC7052	Monument	c.100m SW	Medieval	Moat Hall Earthwork incomplete rectangular moat probably the home of William de la Mote.
MCC7053	Listed Building	c.100m SW	Medieval to Post Medieval	Moat Hall mid 18 <sup>th</sup> Century timber framed house with 16 <sup>th</sup> Century elements. LB1239833
MCC7574	Monument	c.450m NNW	Medieval	Houd's Farm moat incomplete rectangular moat.
MCC7575	Listed Building	c.450m NNW	Post Medieval	Houd's Farmhouse 17 <sup>th</sup> Century or earlier house timber framed on an L plan. In 1573 is also known as Howdes House. LB1239827
MCC7733	Monument	c.900m S	Unknown date	East of Fordham crop marks of ring ditches and a linear feature.
MCC7760	Monument	c.350m N	Post Medieval	Congregational church in Fordham a non conformist chapel built in 1789 timber framed rendered and lined to represent stonework associated with Lady Huntingdon.
MCC8235	Monument	c.700m ENE	Prehistoric	Fordham Place Farm a stone rubber and four pot boilers.
MCC8236	Find Spot	c.1km SE	Early Bronze Age to Late Bronze Age	The bungalow Chaucers Lane, Fordham bronze age barbed and tanged flint arrowhead from garden found 1950.
MCC8641	Monument	c.1.2km ENE	Undated	Crop marks south west of Kings Farm former parish boundary between Fordham and West Bergholt.

MCC8753	Monument	c.900m ESE	Medieval	Fossetts Lane crop marks of a probable moated site.
MCC9135	Monument	c.250m N	Medieval to Post Medieval	Plummers Green a historic green of common land shown on the 1777 Chapman and Andre map. A thin linear section in two parts an area of c.1.5 hectares north of Fordham.
MCC9136	Monument	c.550m SW	Medieval to Post Medieval	Symonds Green common land shown on the 1777 Chapman and Andre map. A triangular shape of c.0.3 hectares north of Fordham.

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**OASIS ID: zoeschof1-406661**

### Project details

Project name	Plummers Road, Fordham
Short description of the project	Desk Based Assessment on the site of Plummers Road, Fordham, Essex, CO6 3NP
Project dates	Start: 01-02-2017 End: 28-02-2017
Previous/future work	No / Not known
Any associated project reference codes	PRF2018 - Sitecode
Type of project	Desk based assessment
Current Land use	Cultivated Land 1 - Minimal cultivation
Monument type	NONE None
Significant Finds	NONE None
Methods & techniques	"Documentary Search"
Development type	Housing estate
Prompt	Planning condition

### Project location

Country	England
Site location	ESSEX COLCHESTER FORDHAM Plummers Road
Postcode	CO6 3NP
Study area	1.35 Hectares
Site coordinates	TL 93155 29126 51.926577561774 0.809549519824 51 55 35 N 000 48 34 E Point
Height OD / Depth	Min: 0m Max: 55m

### Project creators

Name of Organisation	Touchstone Archaeology Ltd
Project brief originator	Local Authority Archaeologist and/or Planning Authority/advisory body
Project design originator	Zoe Schofield MCIfA
Project director/manager	Zoe Schofield MCIfA
Project supervisor	Zoe Schofield MCIfA

Type of sponsor/funding body	Landowner
Name of sponsor/funding body	Stanfords

### Project archives

Physical Archive Exists?	No
Digital Archive recipient	CIM
Digital Contents	"none"
Digital Media available	"GIS","Images raster / digital photography","Text"
Paper Archive Exists?	No

### Project bibliography 1

Publication type	Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)
Title	HEDBA Plummers Road, Fordham
Author(s)/Editor(s)	Schofield, Z.
Date	2017
Issuer or publisher	Touchstone Archaeology Ltd
Place of issue or publication	www.touchstonearchaeology.com

Entered by	Zoe Schofield (zoe@touchstonearchaeology.com)
Entered on	26 October 2020

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Touchstone Archaeology Ltd  
 Historic Environment Record  
 Summary Sheet  
 Appendix I

Site Name/Address: Plummers Road, Fordham, Essex CO6 3NP	
Parish: Fordham	District: Colchester
NGR: TL 93155 29126 (centre)	Site Code: PRF2018
Type of Work: Archaeological Desk Based Assessment	Site Director/Group: Zoe Schofield, Touchstone Archaeology
Date of Work: February 2017	Size of Area Investigated: 1km radius
Location of Finds/Curating Museum: Colchester and Ipswich Museum	Funding source: Owner
Further Seasons Anticipated? No	Related HHER No's: -
Final Report: Schofield, Z., HEDBA, Plummers Road, Fordham, Touchstone Archaeology Ltd, 2017	OASIS number: zoeschof1 - 406661
Periods Represented: None	
Summary of Fieldwork Results:  A Desk Based Assessment at land on Plummers Road, Fordham, Essex CO6 3NP has concluded that the land most likely had agricultural use historically and the archaeological potential of finding remains is low aside from moderate for Romano-British and high for Medieval finds.	
Previous Summaries/Reports: None	
Author of Summary: Zoe Schofield	Date of Summary: February 2017