

**THE FOX INN
RIVENHALL END
ESSEX**

ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION



**Essex County Council
Field Archaeology Unit**

AUGUST 2011

ESSEX HISTORIC ENVIRONMENT RECORD

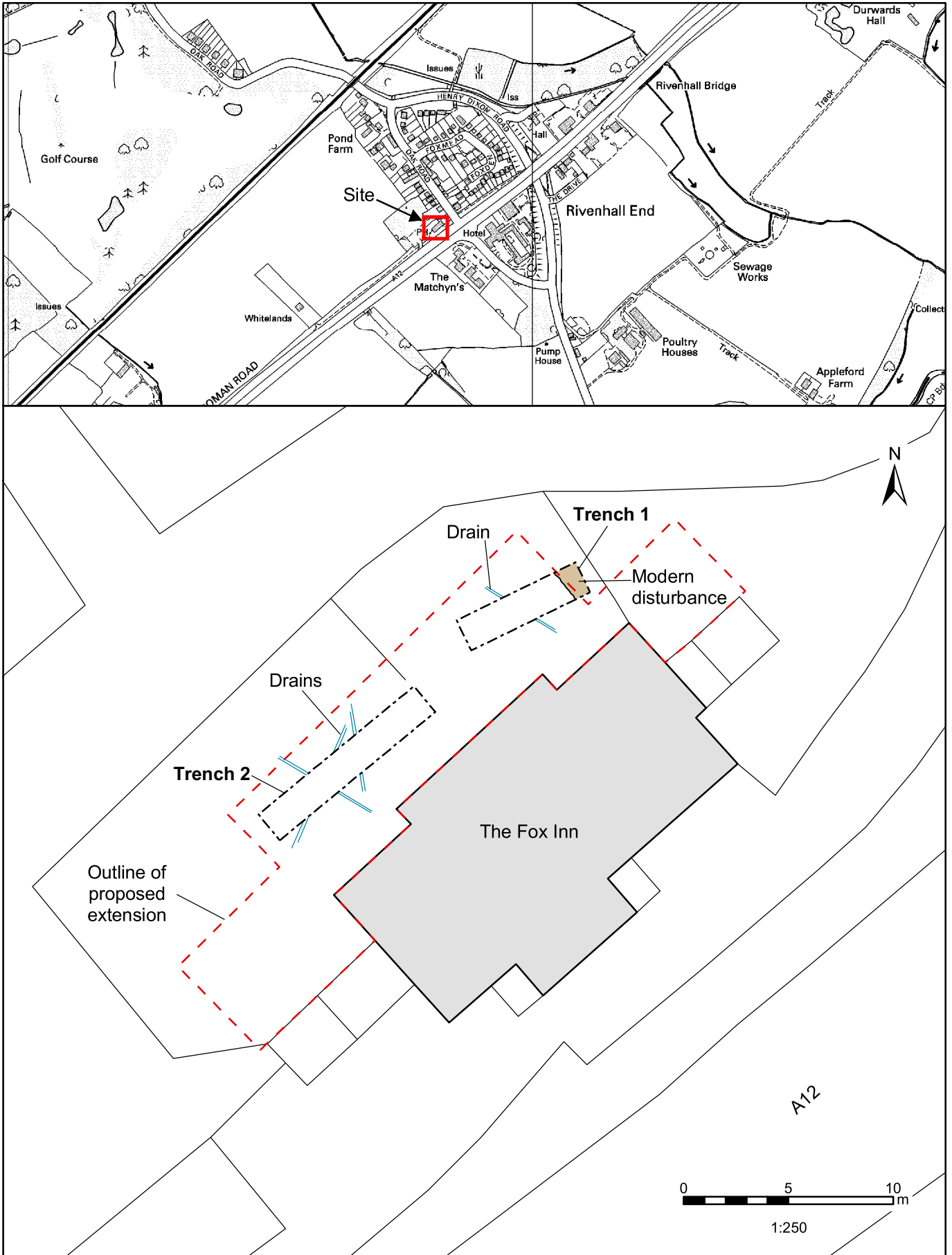
Site name/Address: The Fox Inn, London Road, Rivehall End	
Parish: Rivenhall	District: Braintree
NGR: TL 83819 16473	Site Code: RHFI 11
Type of Work: Archaeological evaluation	Site Director/Group: Lukasz Miciak, Essex County Council Field Archaeology Unit
Date of Work: 10/08/2011	Size of Area Investigated: c. 25.36 sq. m
Location of Finds/Curating Museum: Braintree	Client: Vailski Ltd.
Further Seasons Anticipated?: No	Related HER Nos:
Final Report: HER summary	Oasis No.: essexcou1-107579
Periods represented: Modern	
<p>SUMMARY OF FIELDWORK RESULTS:</p> <p>Archaeological evaluation was carried out on the land to the rear of The Fox Inn, Rivenhall End in advance of the construction of an extension to the existing building (Fig.1). The evaluation was undertaken as a part of a condition placed on planning consent by Braintree District Council (11/00152/FUL) on the advice of Essex County Council Historic Environment Management team (ECC HEM).</p> <p>The site is located by the Roman road to Colchester (A12) within the historic settlement at Rivenhall End. Immediately to the west lies the Burgate Field enclosure which has not been excavated although landscape analysis suggests that it is dated to the late Roman or early Medieval period (HER 14045). Vast quantities of Mesolithic worked flint were discovered during fieldwalking over Colemans and Appleford Farm 1km to the south-west of the site (HER 8850). A cropmark of an enclosure and ring ditch of possibly Neolithic or Bronze Age date has been identified to the north of the Appleford Farm (HER 8429). The public house is depicted on the 1875 1st Edition OS Essex map and the later editions chart alterations to the building over the centuries.</p> <p>Two north-east/south-west aligned trenches were excavated by a machine fitted with a toothless bucket, under the supervision of an archaeologist. Their position was limited by existing soakaway tanks and service pipes. Trench 1 measured 6.2m by 1.6m by 0.7m deep (Plate 1). The 0.2m overburden comprised a layer of concrete and hardcore, overlaying 0.5m of greyish brown clayey silt subsoil that in turn sealed natural deposits, which consisted of gravel with patches of orangey-brown clay silt. Measuring 9.65m by 1.6m by 0.65m deep, trench 2 (Plate 2) was located in the south-west part of the proposed extension and the sequence of the deposits was the same as in trench 1, with the exceptions of the overburden consisting of 0.3m dark brownish-grey silt with turf and the thickness of subsoil which was 0.15m thinner.</p> <p>The north-east end of trench 1 revealed the corner of a modern brick structure and a modern rubbish pit. Both trenches were cut by multiple rain water drains buried at the depths from 0.3 to 0.7m. No other archaeological remains were identified.</p> <p>The evaluation suggests that the proposed development will not have any impact upon the</p>	

archaeological record.

Previous Summaries/Reports: None

Author of Summary: Lukasz Miciak

Date of Summary: August 2011



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Fig.1. Location of archaeological evaluation trenches



Plate 1: Trench 1 (2m scale)



Plate 2: Trench 2 (2m scale)