

**HOE STREET FARMHOUSE**

**ROXWELL**

**ESSEX**

**ARCHAEOLOGICAL MONITORING**



**Essex County Council  
Field Archaeology Unit**

DECEMBER 2011

## ESSEX HISTORIC ENVIRONMENT RECORD SUMMARY SHEET

<b>Site name/Address:</b> Hoe Street Farmhouse, Roxwell, Essex	
<b>Parishes:</b> Roxwell	<b>District:</b> Chelmsford
<b>NGR:</b> TL 65389 07630	<b>Site Code:</b> RXHF 11
<b>Type of Work:</b> Archaeological Monitoring	<b>Site Director/Group:</b> T. Ennis, ECC Field Archaeology Unit
<b>Dates of Work:</b> 28th November 2011	<b>Size of Area Investigated:</b> c. 72 sq. m.
<b>Location of Finds/Curating Museum:</b> Chelmsford	<b>Funding source:</b> Client
<b>Further Seasons Anticipated?:</b> No	<b>Related HER Nos.:</b> 784, 785
<b>Final Report:</b> EAH summary	<b>Oasis No.:</b> 115145
<b>Periods Represented:</b> Medieval?	
<b>SUMMARY OF FIELDWORK RESULTS:</b>	
<p>Archaeological monitoring was carried out at Hoe Street Farmhouse, Roxwell in advance of the construction of a new cartlodge. The new building will cover an area of c. 72 sq m and is located approximately 15m south-south-west of the existing farmhouse (Fig. 1). The monitoring was undertaken as part of a condition placed on planning consent by Chelmsford Borough Council (11/00743/FUL) on the advice of the Essex CC Historic Environment Management team (ECC HEM).</p> <p>The present Hoe Street Farmhouse dates to the early 17th century (EHER 785) and is listed Grade II, and sits within the partially surviving remains of a medieval moated enclosure encompassing an area approximately 42m square. Only the northwest arm and north angle of the moat are still water-filled although the southwest arm is traceable as a depression c. 04m deep in the garden (EHER 784).</p> <p>The site of the new cartlodge was cleared of shrubbery and levelled with a machine fitted with a flat bladed bucket. Up to 0.20m of loose root-disturbed topsoil and organic overburden (leaf mould etc) was removed. Initially it was planned to remove 0.45m of overburden but because the new building was located within a noticeable hollow this was deemed no longer necessary and there was a possibility that the ground may need to be raised slightly. The cartlodge is to be constructed upon a concrete raft (with no additional foundations) which now will be mostly above ground and formed with the aid of wooden shuttering.</p> <p>A small amount of turf and topsoil (c. 0.15m) was still to be removed from the area of new drive, which passes to the west of a large tree and links the cartlodge with a gravelled area in front of the farmhouse. However, part of this lowering was to be undertaken by hand, so as not to damage the roots of the tree, and is unlikely to disturb the archaeological horizon.</p>	

**Site name/Address:** Hoe Street Farmhouse, Roxwell, Essex

The northern edge of the hollow was visible on the ground as a slight slope with two large trees on it. This slope is depicted on Ordnance Survey mapping and almost certainly marks the former edge of the moat, whilst the hollow is clearly the backfilled moat depression referred to in the EHER entry. It therefore appears that most, if not all, of the new cartlodge will be located above the backfilled moat and is unlikely to disturb any archaeological deposits given the now limited extent of the groundworks.

**Previous Summaries/Reports:** none

**Author of Summary:** T. Ennis

**Date of Summary:** December 2011

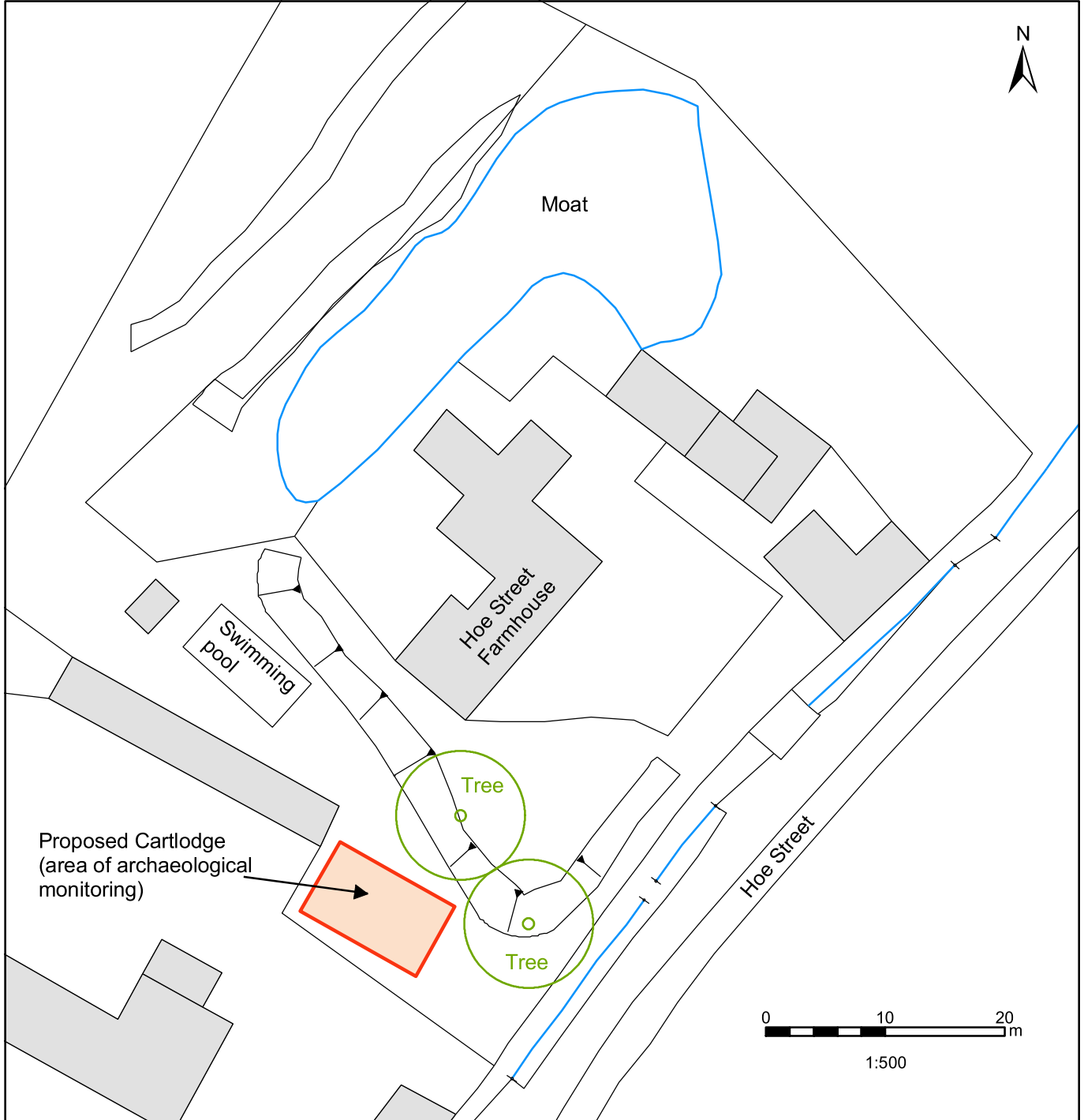
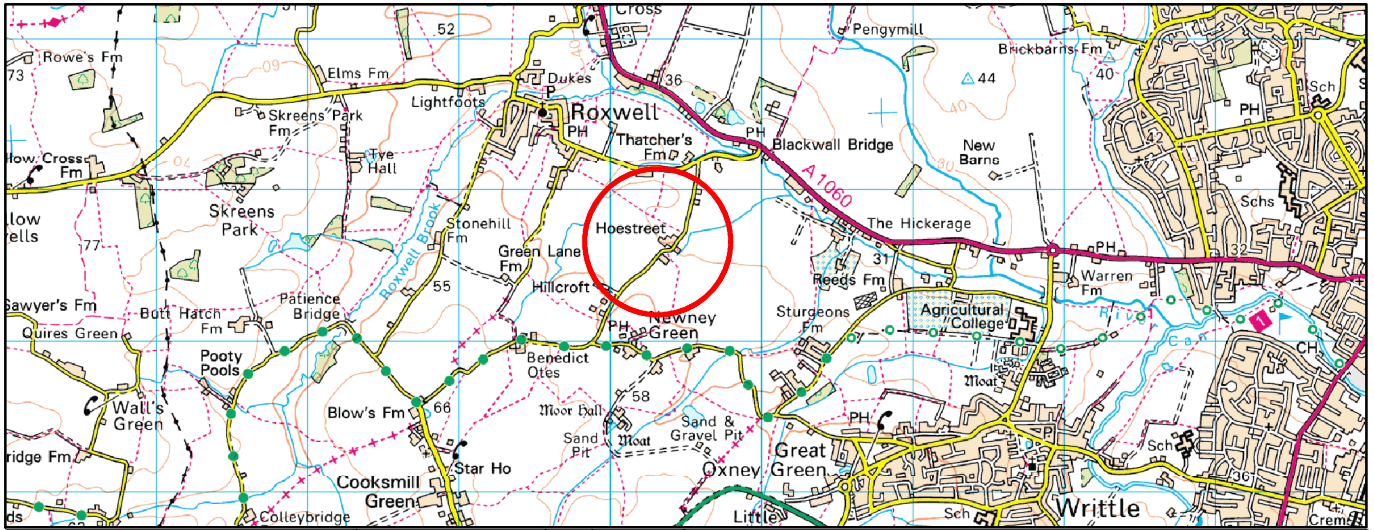


Fig.1. Location of archaeological monitoring

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