

NEACC COMPLEX, SPINKS LANE, WITHAM, ESSEX

PHASE 1

**ARCHAEOLOGICAL MONITORING
AND EXCAVATION**



Essex County Council

Field Archaeology Unit

December 2005

NEACC COMPLEX, SPINKS LANE WITHAM, ESSEX

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ARCHAEOLOGICAL MONITORING AND EXCAVATION

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As part of our desire to provide a quality service, we would welcome any comments you may have on the content or the presentation of this report.

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NEACC COMPLEX, SPINKS LANE, WITHAM, ESSEX

ARCHAEOLOGICAL MONITORING AND EXCAVATION

SUMMARY

Client: Bryant Harvey Partnership for Essex County Council and Braintree District Council

NGR: TL 813 143

Planning Application No.: CC/BTE/73/05

FAU Project No.: 1529

Site Code: WH22

Date of Fieldwork: 16/11/05 to 06/12/05

Archaeological monitoring and excavation was carried out during groundworks within the initial phase of development of the North Essex Adult Community College (NEACC) complex, Spinks Lane, Witham. Phase 1 encompassed construction of the NEACC building, the southern half of car-park and water storage/ holding cells. The monitoring was carried out by the Essex CC Field Archaeology Unit on behalf of Bryant Harvey Partnerships as part of the condition on planning consent. The site is located to the SW of the River Brain and Witham town centre and situated within the postulated extent of an Iron Age settlement enclosure, the Witham Lodge Earthwork.

Monitoring was carried out on four distinct aspects of the groundworks; reduction of ground surface of the NEACC building footprints, the water storage cells and site accesses coupled with monitoring of all service and drainage trench excavations.

It has been established that that archaeological potential is limited to a strip alongside Spinks Lane, where the raising of ground surface rather than reduction has occurred as a consequence of levelling for the former all-weather pitch. It was in this area that during construction of the water storage/ holding cells archaeological significant features and deposits were exposed. Subsequent excavation revealed the presence of Middle Iron Age features denoting an area of potential occupation. The results further inform and supplement previous archaeological works carried out in close proximity and provide partial

insight into the interior components of the posited enclosure and extent of the Iron Age activity in the general area.

There is greater potential for preservation of archaeological remains as Phase 2 development moves closer to Ivy Chimneys and it is anticipated that continuing archaeological monitoring and excavation of the sports pavilion, associated service trenches, and the new all-weather pitch will encounter further evidence of Iron Age land-use, occupation and perhaps of subsequent historic periods, extending our understanding of landscape origins and development for the Witham area.

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Planning Background

Archaeological monitoring and recording was carried out under an archaeological condition placed on the planning application (CC/BTE/73/05) because of its siting in close proximity to an area of known archaeological remains.

The development includes two phases; construction of a North Essex Adult Community College (NEACC) building (Phase1), an associated Braintree District Council (BDC) sports pavilion, new all-weather pitch (Phase 2), and car parking fronting onto Spinks Lane (Fig 2).

The work was carried out by the Essex County Council Field Archaeology Unit (ECC FAU) on behalf of Bryant Harvey Partnership in accordance with Planning Policy Guidance note 16 (PPG16). The condition was placed by Braintree District Council following specialist advice from Essex County Council Historic Environment Management (ECC HEM), as the development site lies in an area of high archaeological potential (Medlycott 1998). The archaeological work followed the archaeological brief produced by ECC HEM (2005) and the written scheme of investigation prepared by ECC FAU (2005).

1.2 Report and Archive

This report provides an assessment of the results of archaeological monitoring of phase 1 of the development. Copies of this report will be supplied to Bryant Harvey Partnership (including a copy to be forwarded to Braintree District Council), the Essex CC Historic Environment Management (HEM), and Record (HER) sections. A version will be uploaded to the Online Access Index of Archaeological Investigations (OASIS) (<http://ads.ahds.ac.uk/project/oasis>). The project archive (Appendix 3) will be deposited at Braintree Museum.

1.3 Abbreviations used in the report

ALGAO (Association of Local Government Archaeological Officers), **BDC** Braintree District Council, **ECC** (Essex County Council), **EAH** (Essex Archaeology and History), **EHER** (Essex Historic Environment Record), **ERO** (Essex Record Office), **FAU** (Field Archaeology Unit), **HEM** (Historic Environment Management), **IFA** (Institute of Field Archaeologists), **NEACC** North Essex Adult Community College, **NGR** (National Grid Reference), **OS** (Ordnance Survey), **OD** (Ordnance datum). **PRO** (Public Record Office), **RCHM** (Royal

Commission on Historical Monuments), **SMR** (Sites and Monuments Record), **WSI** (Written Scheme of Investigation).

2 BACKGROUND

2.1 Location, Geology and Topography

Witham is located on the Roman London to Colchester road on a river crossing on the confluence of the Rivers Brain and Blackwater. The proposed c.1.8ha development area is located immediately to the west of Spinks Lane on the south-west of Witham town centre TL813143 (Fig 1). It is bounded to the north and southeast by residential housing (on Stevens Road and Epping Way, respectively).

The overall site is a large grassed sports ground accessed from Stevens Road, alongside which there are a pavilion and changing facilities. Phase 1 of the development is situated in the northeast corner of the site, alongside Spinks Lane itself, and is currently occupied by a 'redgra' all-weather sports pitch some 0.6ha in area. The site generally inclines gently from east to west, but phase 1 and parts of phase 2 have been levelled to facilitate the pitch. Levels range between c.21 and 22m OD. The natural geology comprises glacial clays and gravels between c.20 and 22m OD.

2.2 Historical and Archaeological Background

The archaeological background for this and other parts of Witham has been discussed in detail by Rodwell (1993) and summarised/reviewed by Medlycott (1998). In view of this, only a summary of the most pertinent information is presented here.

Archaeological evidence is focused within two main areas of the town, bisected by the River Brain. To the north-east of the development is Chipping Hill, a hill fort with evidence of activity in the Late Bronze Age and Middle Iron Age (Fig 1). There is some evidence of Roman and early Saxon occupation before it becomes a focus of the Late Saxon and Norman town and market before these moved towards Witham's current centre shortly before 1212.

The most pertinent excavations encompass the nearby areas of Ivy Chimneys/Witham Lodge and Maltings Lane (Fig 3). These are situated to the south-west of the development and each comprised multi-period features and deposits. From these, and smaller investigations from around the town, evidence shows that occupation of the landscape in Witham began in earnest between the Late Bronze Age and Middle Iron Age with residual artefacts and materials recovered dating as far back as the Palaeolithic. Specific

archaeological implications are indicated by the location of the site within the postulated extent of the Witham Lodge Earthwork dated to between the Mid-Late Iron Age.

Evidence suggests high potential for late Bronze Age, Iron Age, and Roman remains being present within the development area. Significant archaeological remains comprising later periods are unlikely to form part of the archaeological record.

2.2.1 Late Neolithic and Bronze Age

Field boundary ditches, pits and structural evidence totalling four round houses comprise the late Bronze Age settlement activity at Maltings Lane (EHER 19752) (Robertson 2004).

2.2.2 Iron Age

The substantial earthworks discovered during excavations at Chipping Hill comprise an area situated to take full advantage of topography during the Iron Age but activity is equally well represented within the Ivy Chimney/ Witham Lodge investigations where from 1970-72 and 1979-80 an early or middle Iron Age enclosure known as the Witham Lodge Earthwork was excavated comprising approximately six round houses and a number of four-post structures. (EHER 14040, 14043). The postulated NE boundary of the earthwork may run along the edge of Spinks Lane, placing the development area within the enclosure. Excavations at Maltings Lane in 2004 comprised further evidence of Iron Age settlement activity in the area with the exposure of two small enclosures, associated field systems, and post alignments that completely disregarded the previous late Bronze Age activity on the site.

2.2.3 Roman

From the 1st century onwards, the area of Ivy Chimneys/ Witham Lodge becomes the primary focus of Roman activity as a direct result of the natural springs at Ivy Chimneys. Landscape use changed from the settlement activity seen in the Iron Age, replaced by a temple complex including timber structures, pottery kiln and a man-made pond containing votive offerings. This was supplemented during the 4th and 5th centuries with construction of a stone building and a hexagonal tile-lined pool. Both Ivy Chimneys and Maltings lane straddle the London to Colchester road on the SW bank of the River Brain. Coupled with the fresh water spring that the temple complex was built around, the area was ideally sited to become one of the lesser posting stations on one of the principle routes through Roman Britain (Rodwell 1993). To facilitate this complex, settlement spread and re-focused to the south in the area of Maltings Lane. Here occupation peaked during to the second and third centuries, tailing off in the fourth, but continuing through to the seventh century.

2.2.4 *Saxon and Medieval*

Activity continued to be focused in and around Maltings Lane. Saxon features dating from the fifth to the seventh centuries were exposed and excavated in both 1997 and 2004. Excavations by Wade, 1997, indicated the presence of two sunken floored buildings, a well, and a single cremation. In 2004, excavations by Robertson comprised six sunken-featured buildings, grouped in three pairs, and a scatter of pits and post-holes. Evidence for occupation during this period in the area of Ivy Chimneys is slight inferring low potential at Spinks lane.

At Maltings Lane Saxon presence decreases towards the end of the sixth century and the main focus of activity shifts to the north-west side of the River Brain where Witham continued to develop. Agricultural use of the landscape on this south-west side of the river is suggested by the re-establishment of settlement at Maltings lane in the medieval period on a small scale with a farmstead fronting the old roman road (Robertson 2004). There is no evidence for Saxon, Medieval, or Post-medieval remains in the vicinity of Spinks Lane but features may be present relating to the farming of the area. Recent years have witnessed the encroachment of modern housing upon the area and this is likely to have impacted upon its archaeological remains.

3.0 AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

The archaeological work was carried out to determine the location, extent, date, character, condition, significance, and quality of any surviving archaeological remains threatened by the development.

More specific objectives included:

- To record evidence of Iron Age and Roman occupation and field systems.
- To identify evidence for the Witham Lodge Earthwork enclosure and/or any activity within it.

4.0 METHODOLOGY

The programme of archaeological work consisted of intermittent attendance on site by an archaeologist to monitor groundworks and record any archaeological remains exposed in them. Observations were carried out on phase 1 of the development; comprising reduction of ground surface of the NEACC building footprints, the water storage cells and site accesses coupled with monitoring of all service and drainage trench excavations.

Reduction of the ground surface resulted in open areas of exposed natural with potential to comprise archaeological features and deposits. On exposure of archaeological remains during reduction of the ground surface for the water storage/ holding cells in the north-east corner of the development the excavation contingency was employed and features sampled to determine their extent, date, and characteristics.

The work was carried out according to regional standards in field archaeology (Gurney 2003). Standard Essex CC FAU recording and excavation methods were used. All fieldwork methods and recording conformed to the codes of practice and guidance issued by the IFA and adhered to ALGAO guidelines (EAA Occasional paper 14, 2003).

5.0 FIELDWORK RESULTS

The fieldwork results have been subdivided into stages of work within phase 1 of the development giving account of the presence/ absence archaeologically significant materials and deposits. Those stages represented include investigation of; the water storage/ holding cells, the NEACC building footprints, service and drainage trenches and the site access and entrance. Where encountered the archaeological remains are described by context. This is followed by a summary of the finds retrieved. Context information can be found in Appendix 1 with finds data in Appendix 2.

5.1 Water storage/ holding cells - area excavation

The water storage/ holding cells form part of the sites drainage and control the flow of water into the mains. These required excavation of a small area, c.20x10m, and c.4m in depth. Reduction of the ground surface proceeded under archaeological supervision with topsoil/ overburden/ made-ground cleared using a mechanical excavator fitted with a toothless bucket. On exposure of the archaeological remains machining stopped, client consent was sought and on approval hand excavation was carried out to determine the extent, date, and condition of the archaeologically significant materials and deposits encountered.

The archaeological features exposed comprised four ditches, 13, 29, 30 and 31, a small gully, 17, an elongated pit, 19, and two stake holes 23 and 25. These were located towards the north-west end of the stripped area (Fig 2). 29 included excavated segments of the ditch represented by context 2 and 8, 30 included 4 and 6 while ditch 31 comprises segments 10 and 27. Previous development involving the reduction and subsequent levelling of the area prior to construction of the all weather surface appears to have truncated all features which were found at an average of 0.70m below current ground surface heights. The general depth of the surviving features ranged between 0.06 and 0.25m.

The four ditches represent two or three successive phases of boundary within the landscape. Ditch 13 stands alone while 29, 30, and 31 inter-cut (Fig 2). 29 represented the earliest phase and contained 9 sherds of middle Iron Age pottery. 30 and 31 replaced the boundary and comprised small quantities of pottery of a similar date. 13 cannot be related to the sequence but is likely to have had a similar function.

The ditches indicate activity in the Middle Iron Age with changes in position and length revealing a continual re-definition of access to and from the area with which they enclose.

Materials within them do not indicate intensive activity or cultivation but the deposition of sizeable pottery fragments within 29 suggests limited occupation in close proximity.

A general presence of archaeological features on the north-west side of the boundary and absence on the other, suggests an internal and external space. The internal area contained several non archaeological anomalies plus features 17, 19. On the south-east side of the boundary were 23 and 25. A single sherd of Iron Age pottery was retrieved from 25 potentially dating to the Late Iron Age.

5.2 NEACC building footprints

The groundworks consisted of two stages, both of which required removal of deposits below the potential archaeological horizon (Fig 1).

Concrete pads - involved the excavation of twenty-eight 1m squared holes for concrete pads to providing fixture for the NEACC structures steel frame. These penetrated to a depth not exceeding 2.5m. No archaeologically significant deposits were encountered.

Topsoil stripping - required reduction of the area encompassing the NEACC buildings footprint. Excavation proceeded under supervision with topsoil/ overburden/ made-ground cleared using a mechanical excavator fitted with a toothless bucket. No archaeologically significant materials or deposits were encountered.

5.3 Service and drainage trenches

Works involved the excavation of 0.5m wide trenches with a toothed bucket at depths exceeding the archaeological horizon. Unstable overburden comprising the all-weather pitch surface and underlying hardcore was removed 0.5m either side of the proposed service line to provide increased stability of the trenches that generally were over 2m in depth.

Observations were made at several stages of the trenching incorporating those areas not exposed by archaeological works carried out elsewhere on the development. No archaeologically significant deposits were encountered.

5.4 Access and site entrance

Construction consisted of the reduction of the ground surface to form an incline for the initial site access prior to commencement of major groundworks. This was located in the northern corner of the development area and was of insufficient depth to expose archaeological

remains. In addition, the reduction of the site entrance/ proposed car-parking access, situated centrally alongside the development boundary with Spinks Lane, was undertaken under archaeological supervision using a mechanical excavator fitted with a toothless bucket.

The lower portion of the incline to the site entrance did expose natural deposits. Unfortunately, truncation and disturbance caused by the roots of trees that had lined the road side seemed to have been greater in this area and no archaeologically significant deposits were encountered. The upper limits of the incline were insufficiently deep to expose archaeological remains.

6.0 FINDS by Joyce Compton

Small groups of finds were recovered from seven contexts excavated during the Phase 1 works. All of the material has been recorded by count and weight, in grams, by context; full details can be found in Appendix 2.

Pottery (24 sherds, weighing 145g) was recovered from six contexts. This has been examined briefly by Nick Lavender who has assigned a Middle Iron Age date to most of the assemblage. A large section of rim and a joining shoulder sherd, from the fill of ditch 2, provide a profile of Little Waltham type (Drury 1978). The remainder of the assemblage mainly comprises small body sherds. Those from fills 18 and 26 may date to the Late Iron Age, although they are too small for certain identification.

Baked clay and oyster shell fragments, a struck flint, animal bone and fragments from a piece of lava quern make up the remainder of the assemblage. Lava querns were current during both the Roman and medieval periods. There are no diagnostic features on the pieces examined, and the date is undetermined.

The pottery will be retained to form part of the site's full archive assemblage. The remaining finds are too small and too few for further work, although additional site work may produce more material. Small oyster shell fragments have already been discarded following recording.

7.0 CONCLUSIONS & ASSESSMENT OF RESULTS

Archaeological investigation has demonstrated the extent, date, and condition of archaeological remains within Phase 1 of the development. The results further inform and supplement previous archaeological works carried out in close proximity and provide insight into archaeological potential on those areas of the development not yet underway.

The results of the phase 1 archaeological works indicate that much of the development site has been truncated by previous landscaping and levelling during construction of the sporting facilities that currently occupy the area. It has been established that that archaeological potential in this part of the site is limited to a strip alongside Spinks Lane, where the raising of ground surface rather than reduction has occurred as a consequence of levelling for the former all-weather pitch.

While no direct evidence for the existence of Rodwell's Witham Lodge Earthwork enclosure has been identified during the Phase 1 archaeological monitoring, the discovery of Middle Iron Age (c.350-50 BC) remains within its postulated interior is of particular significance. These serve to further elucidate the prehistoric origins of settlement at Witham and, if the enclosure is real, hint that the Witham Lodge Earthwork may well have been created in the Middle Iron Age and remained in use through the Late Iron Age when occupied by the Ivy Chimneys settlement and religious complex. The recorded remains, comprising a recut boundary ditch and several other features indicative of occupation activity to its north-west, may themselves span a similar period of time. It is possible that evidence for the earthwork enclosure itself lie on or beyond the northern and eastern site limits, outside the impact of this development.

It is likely that the Iron Age remains found toward the Spinks Lane frontage were once more widespread across the site and the surrounding vicinity, but have subsequently been removed by modern development. It is possible that some limited remains may survive in that part of the Phase 2 area formerly occupied by the 'redgra' pitch. However, the greatest potential for further archaeological remains exists in that part of the site designated for the construction of a new all-weather pitch. It is this part of the development area that appears to have suffered least disturbance from its modern use as a sports facility and is the nearest to the Ivy Chimneys site.

It is anticipated that continuing archaeological monitoring and excavation of this development, primarily of the sports pavilion, associated service trenches, and the new all-

weather pitch will encounter further evidence of Iron Age land-use and occupation and perhaps that of subsequent historic periods, extending our understanding of landscape origins and development for the Witham area.

8.0 ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Thanks are due to Bryant Harvey Partnership on behalf of Essex County Council and Braintree District Council who commissioned and funded the archaeological excavation, especially to Darren, the site manager. Vanessa Clarke of the Essex CC Historic Environment Management team monitored the archaeological work, which was carried out by Matthew Pocock, with an initial site visit by Mark Germany. The project was managed by Mark Atkinson and Patrick Allen.

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- Wade, A 1997 Maltings Lane, Witham, Essex. Archaeological Evaluation, ECC Report

APPENDIX 1: FIELDWORK DATA

N.B. All measurements are given in metres unless specified.

Context Number	Feature / deposit	Width (w)/ Length (l)/ Diameter (d)	Thickness	Details	Period
1	Layer	-	-	Natural	-
2	Ditch	0.56 (w)	0.24	Orientation NE-SW	
3	Fill of 2	0.56 (w)	0.24	mid yellow silt clay	MIA
4	Ditch	1.37 (w)	0.24	Orientation NE-SW	
5	Fill of 4	1.37 (w)	0.24	mid grey silty clay	MIA
6	Ditch	0.99 (w)	0.09	Orientation NE-SW	
7	Fill of 6	0.99 (w)	0.09	mid grey silty clay	MIA
8	Ditch	0.5 (w)	0.2	Orientation NE-SW	
9	Fill of 8	0.5 (w)	0.2	yellow grey silty clay	MIA
10	Ditch	0.70 (w)	0.16	Orientation NE-SW	
11	Fill of 10	0.70 (w)	0.16	dark grey/brown silty clay	MIA
12	-	-	-	Unused	-
13	Ditch	0.85 (w) 4.9 (l)	0.19	Orientation NE-SW (terminus)	
14	Fill of 13	0.85 (w)	0.19	Brown clay silt	MIA
15	Cut/hollow	0.45 (w) 0.75 (l)	0.06	Natural hollow/ bio-turbation	
16	Fill of 15	0.45 (w)	0.06	Brown clay silt	
17	Gully	0.34 (w) 0.9 (l)	0.06	Orientation NW-SE (terminus)	
18	Fill of 17	0.34 (w) 0.9 (l)	0.06	Brown clay silt	Undated (LIA)?
19	Pit	0.58 (w) 1.2 (l)	0.2	Elongated	
20	Fill of 19	0.58 (w) 1.2 (l)	0.2	Yellow brown clay silt	
21	Cut/hollow	0.32 (w) 0.46 (l)	0.06	Natural hollow/ bio-turbation	
22	Fill of 21	0.32 (w) 0.46 (l)	0.06	Brown clay silt	
23	Stake-hole	0.15 (d)	0.05	Circular	
24	Fill of 23	0.15 (d)	0.05	light grey/white silty clay	
25	Stake-hole	0.19 (d)	0.05	Circular	
26	Fill of 25	0.19 (d)	0.06	light grey/white silty clay	Undated (LIA?)
27	Ditch	0.35 (w)	0.1	Orientation NE-SW (terminus)	
28	Fill of 27	0.35 (w)	0.1	dark grey brown silty clay	MIA
29	Ditch group	7.65 (l)		Comprises 2 and 8	MIA
30	Ditch group	6.4 (l)		Comprises 4 and 6	MIA
31	Ditch group	3.3 (l)		Comprises 10 and 27	MIA

APPENDIX 2: FINDS DATA

Context	Feature	Count	Weight	Description	Date
3	2	1	4	Baked clay	-
		9	92	Pottery; rim and body sherds, flint-tempered	Middle Iron Age
5	4	5	92	Animal bone; femur bicondyle, large mammal, probable single item	-
		1	12	Shell; oyster, one valve	-
		2	22	Pottery; body sherds	Middle Iron Age
14	13	2	1	Shell; oyster fragments (Discarded)	-
		2	2	Baked clay	-
		-	302	Stone; probable lava quern fragment	-
		9	20	Pottery; ?rim and body sherds	Middle Iron Age
18	17	1	1	Pottery; small body sherd	Undated (LIA?)
20	19	1	1	Shell; oyster fragment (Discarded)	-
		7	14	Baked clay	-
22	21	1	1	Animal bone; ?cattle tooth fragment	-
		1	4	Shell; oyster, one valve	-
26	25	2	4	Pottery; body sherd, grog-tempered (joins)	Undated (LIA?)
28	27	1	2	Struck flint	-
		1	6	Pottery; body sherd	Middle Iron Age

APPENDIX 3: ARCHIVE INDEX

NEACC COMPLEX, SPINKS LANE, WITHAM – WH22

All achieve material from phase 1, (NEACC building, Water storage./holding cells and the service trenching), will form part of the overall project archive.

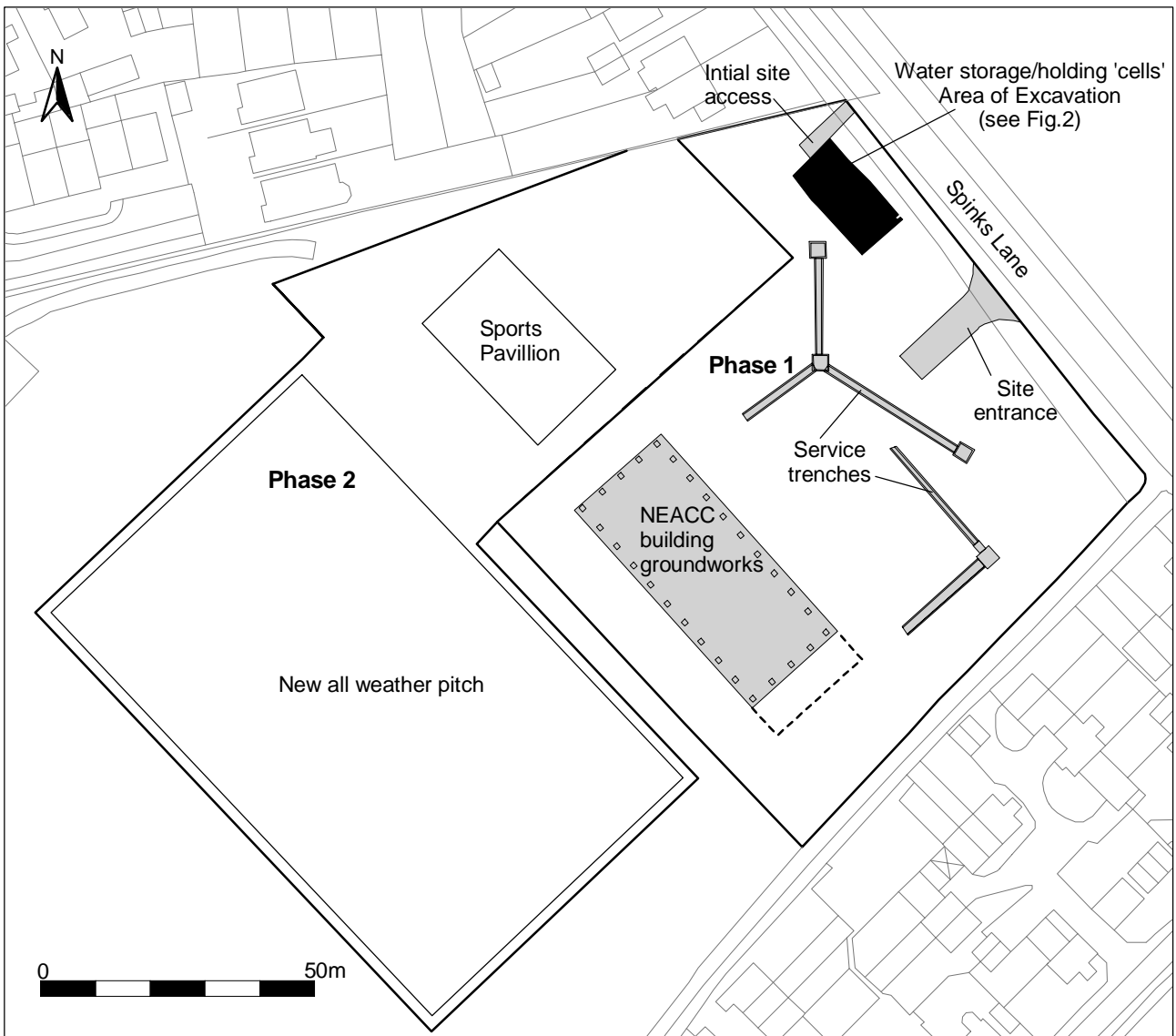
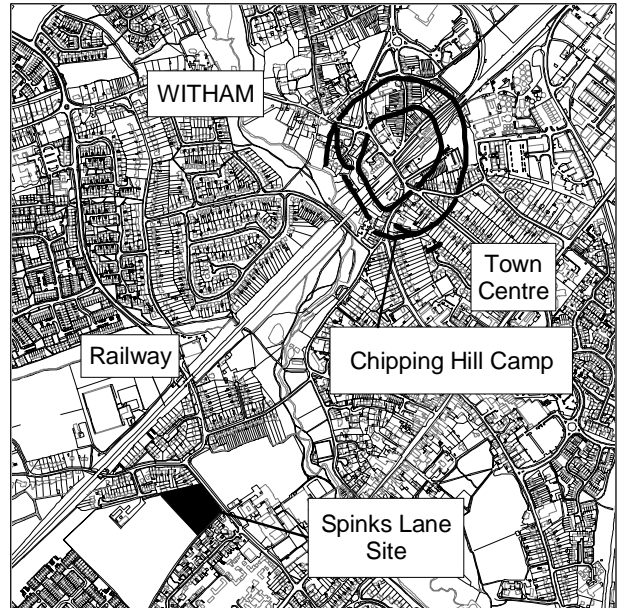
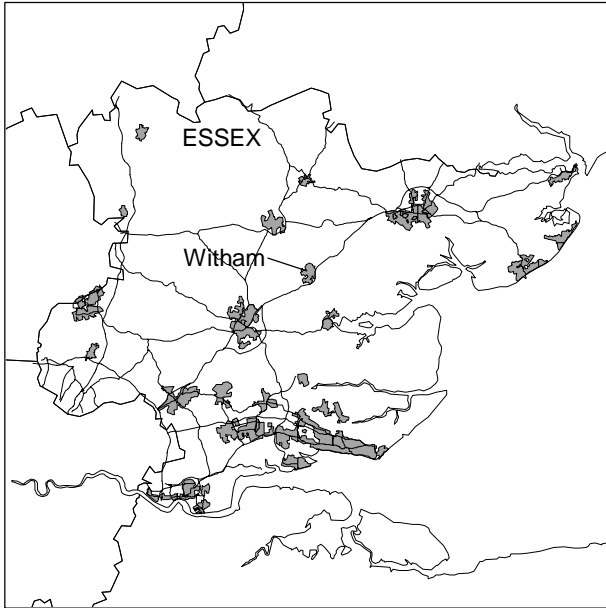
This will include:

- 1. Research Archive**
 - 1.1 Published Report (Phase 1)
 - 1.2 Analytical Reports
 - 1.3 Catalogues
 - 1.3.1 Context Finds Record
 - 1.3.2 Finds Catalogue
 - 1.4 SMR Material

- 2. Site Archive**
 - 2.1 Context Index
 - 2.2 Context Record Register
 - 2.3 Original Context Records 1 to 31
 - 2.4 Drawing Registers
 - 2.4.1 Plans Register
 - 2.4.2 Sections Register
 - 2.5 Levels Register
 - 2.6 Survey Data
 - 2.7 Photographic Register
 - 2.8 Site Photographic Record
 - 2.9 Miscellaneous maps and plans

APPENDIX 4: EHER SUMMARY SHEET

Site Name/Address: NEACC Complex, Spinks Lane, Witham, Essex	
Parish: Braintree	District: Braintree
NGR: TL 813 143	Site Code: WH22
Type of Work: Monitoring & Excavation	Site Director/Group: M. Pocock, ECC FAU
Date of Work: 16/11/05 – 06/12/05	Size of Area Investigated: 0.6 ha
Location of Finds/Curating Museum: Braintree Museum	Funding Source: Bryant Harvey Partnership
Further Work Anticipated? Yes	Related EHER Nos:
Final Report:	
Periods Represented: Middle Iron Age/ (Late Iron Age?)	
<p>SUMMARY OF FIELDWORK RESULTS:</p> <p>Archaeological monitoring and excavation was carried out during groundworks within the initial development phase of the North Essex Adult Community College (NEACC) complex, Spinks Lane, Witham. Phase 1 encompassed construction of the NEACC building, southern half of car-park and water storage/ holding cells.</p> <p>It has been established that that archaeological potential is limited to a strip alongside Spinks Lane, where the raising of ground surface rather than reduction has occurred as a consequence of levelling for the former all-weather pitch. It was in this area that during construction of the water storage/ holding cells that archaeological significant materials and deposits were exposed.</p> <p>Subsequent excavation revealed the presence of Middle Iron Age/ Late Iron Age? features denoting an area of potential occupation. The archaeological features exposed comprised a boundary, denoted by four inter-cutting ditches, a small gully and elongated pit, and two stake holes. The results further inform and supplement previous archaeological works carried out in close proximity and provide insight, into the interior components of the postulated Witham Lodge Earthwork and extent of the Iron Age activity in the area.</p>	
Previous Summaries/Reports: None	
Author of Summary: Matthew Pocock	Date of Summary: 23/12/05



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Fig.1. Site location

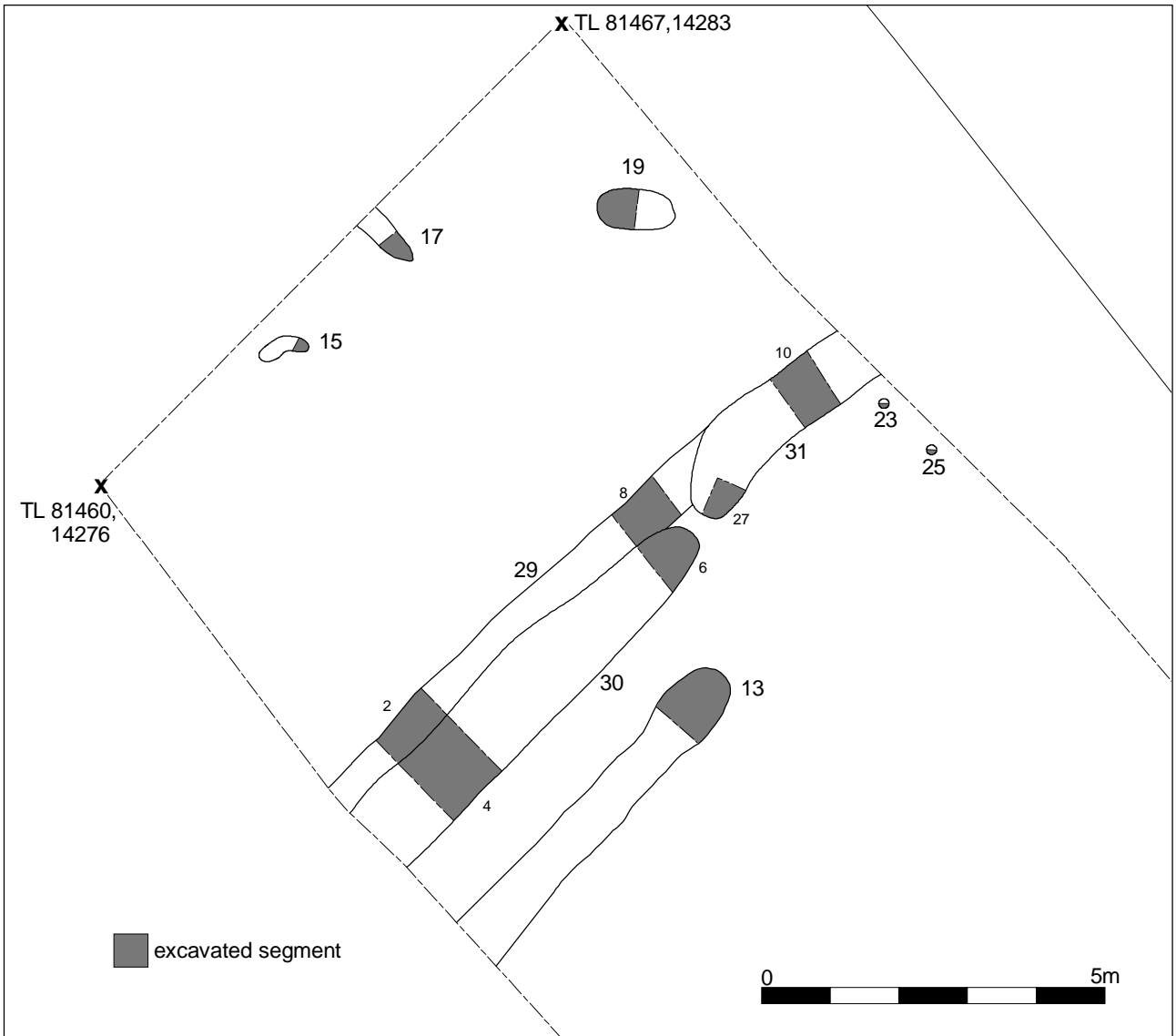
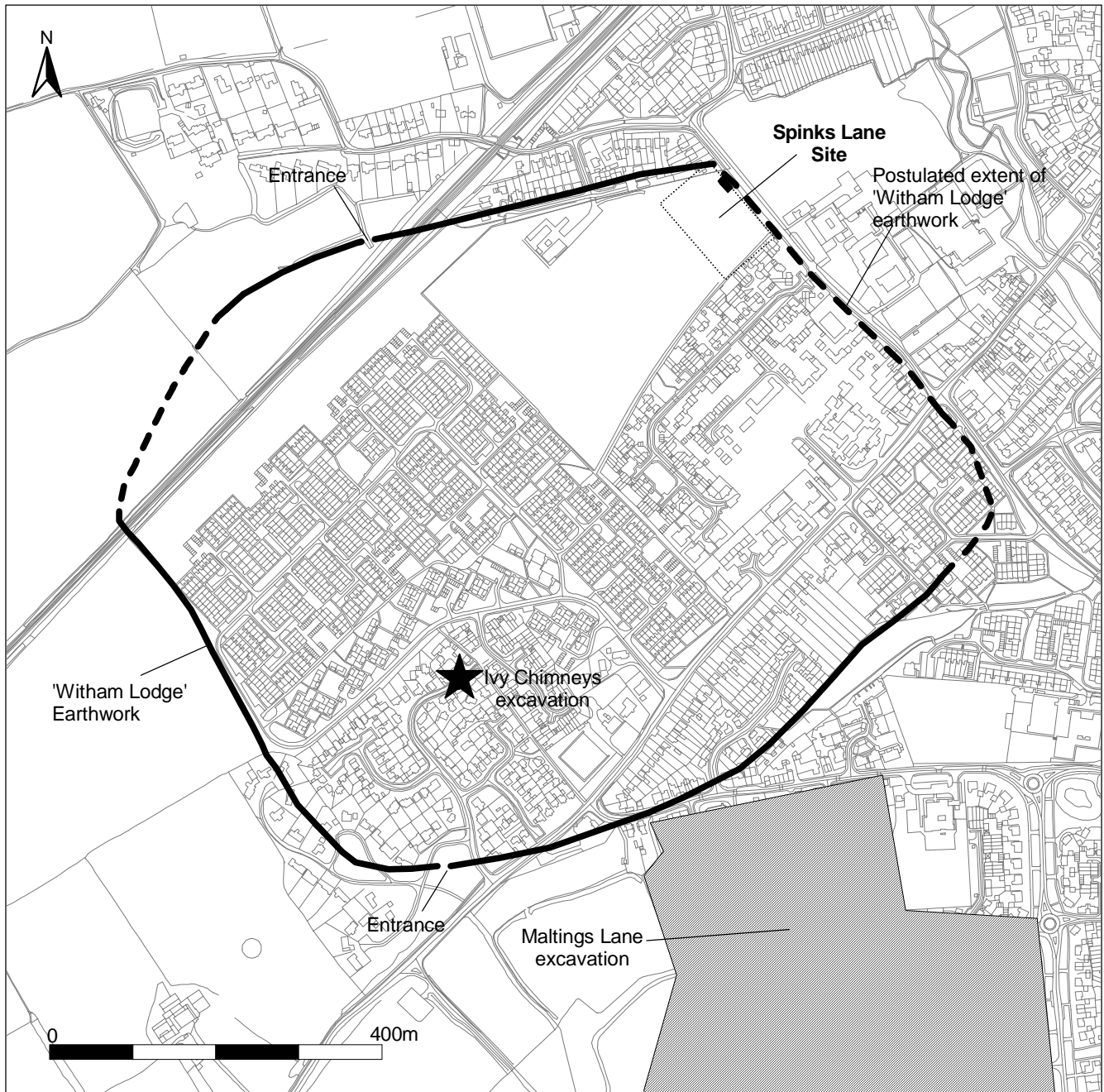


Fig.2. Excavated features



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Fig.3. The site in relation to the probable location of the Witham Lodge Earthwork (after Rodwell 1993)