

**THE HALL
GREAT CANFIELD
ESSEX**

ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF



Essex County Council

FIELD ARCHAEOLOGY UNIT

April 2006

ESSEX HERITAGE ENVIRONMENT RECORD SUMMARY

Site Name & Address: The Hall, Great Canfield, Essex	
Parish: Great Canfield	District: Uttlesford
NGR: TL 5825 1785	Site Code: GCACH 06
Type of Work: Watching brief	Site Director/Group: Mark Germany, Essex County Council Field Archaeology Unit
Date of Work: 15/3/06	Size of Area Investigated: Development area: 25m ²
Location of Finds/Curating Museum: Saffron Walden	Funding Source: Developer
Further Work Anticipated? No	Related HER Nos: 4299, 37243
Final Report: Essex Archaeology and History (Summary)	
Periods Represented: Medieval Post-medieval Modern	
SUMMARY OF FIELDWORK RESULTS:	
<p>The watching brief monitored the excavation of groundworks for a new conservatory. The work occurred in response to advice from English Heritage and the Essex County Council Historic Environment Management team. The Hall is a timber-framed manor house. It was built in the late 16th century and is a listed building. Adjacent to The Hall is a medieval motte-and-bailey castle.</p>	
<p>The groundworks occurred between The Hall and a stable block and measured 5.4m long, 4.6m wide and 0.35m and 0.65m deep (Figs 1 and 2). The developer excavated the groundworks with a small tracked excavator with a broad toothless bucket. Beneath 300mm of topsoil (Fig. 2, context 1) were six brick-built pads and a post-medieval/modern layer of brown silt clay (Fig. 2, contexts 2 and 3). The pads occurred within the post-medieval/modern deposit and stood at least four courses high. They measured approximately 600mm square and were constructed from un-frogged red-orange bricks (220mm x 110mm x 60mm) in an irregular bond. Old photographs seen by the site owner suggest that the pads were formerly part of a granary (Michael Knight, site owner, pers. comm.).</p>	
<p>The topsoil and post-medieval/modern layer contained fragments of brick, tile, glass and flower pot. An early to mid 13th-century rim sherd from a type H2 coarse ware cooking pot was found in the topsoil.</p>	
Previous Summaries/Reports: None	
Author of Summary: Mark Germany	Date of Summary: April 2006

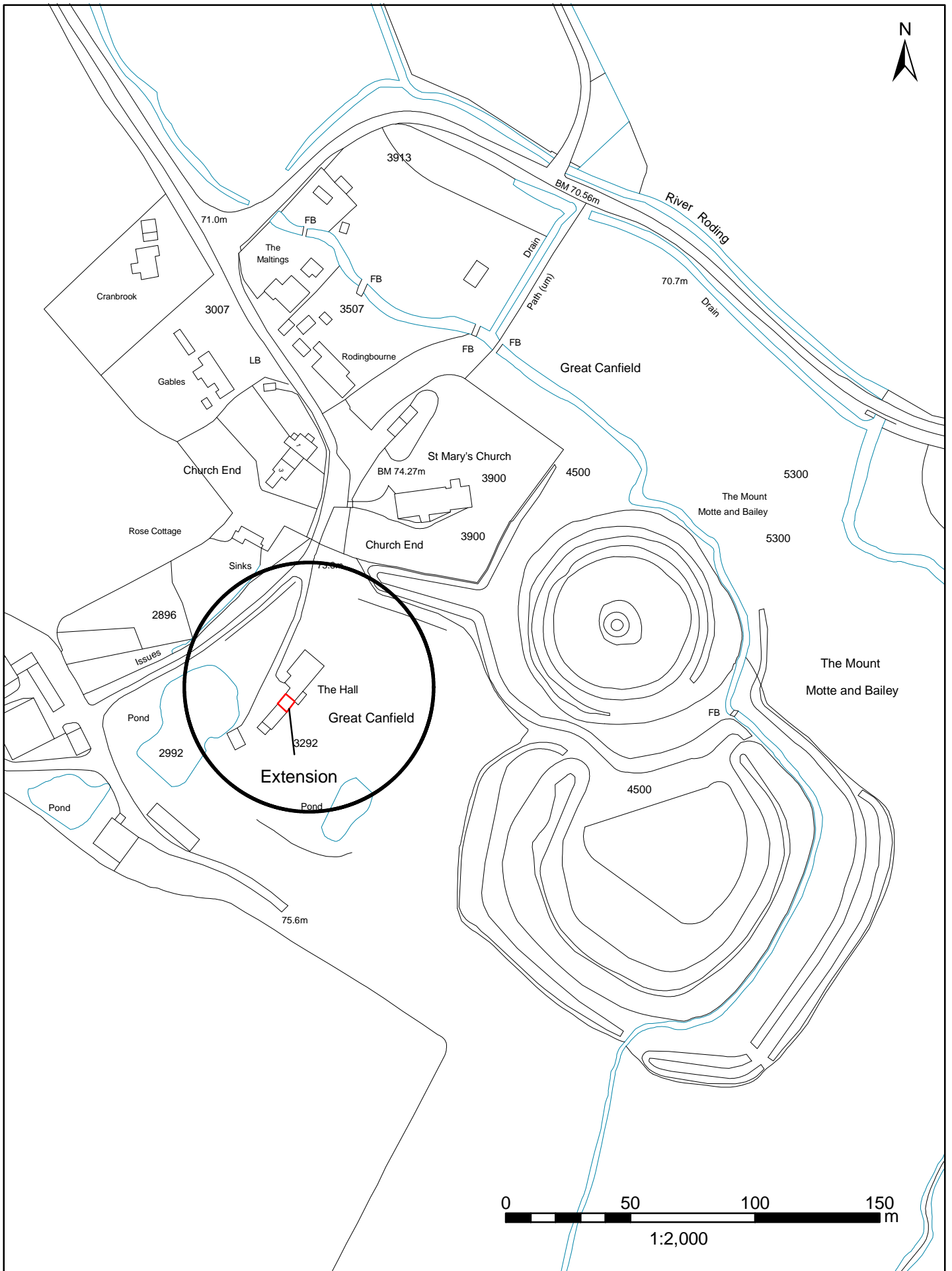


Fig.1. Location of The Hall, Great Canfield

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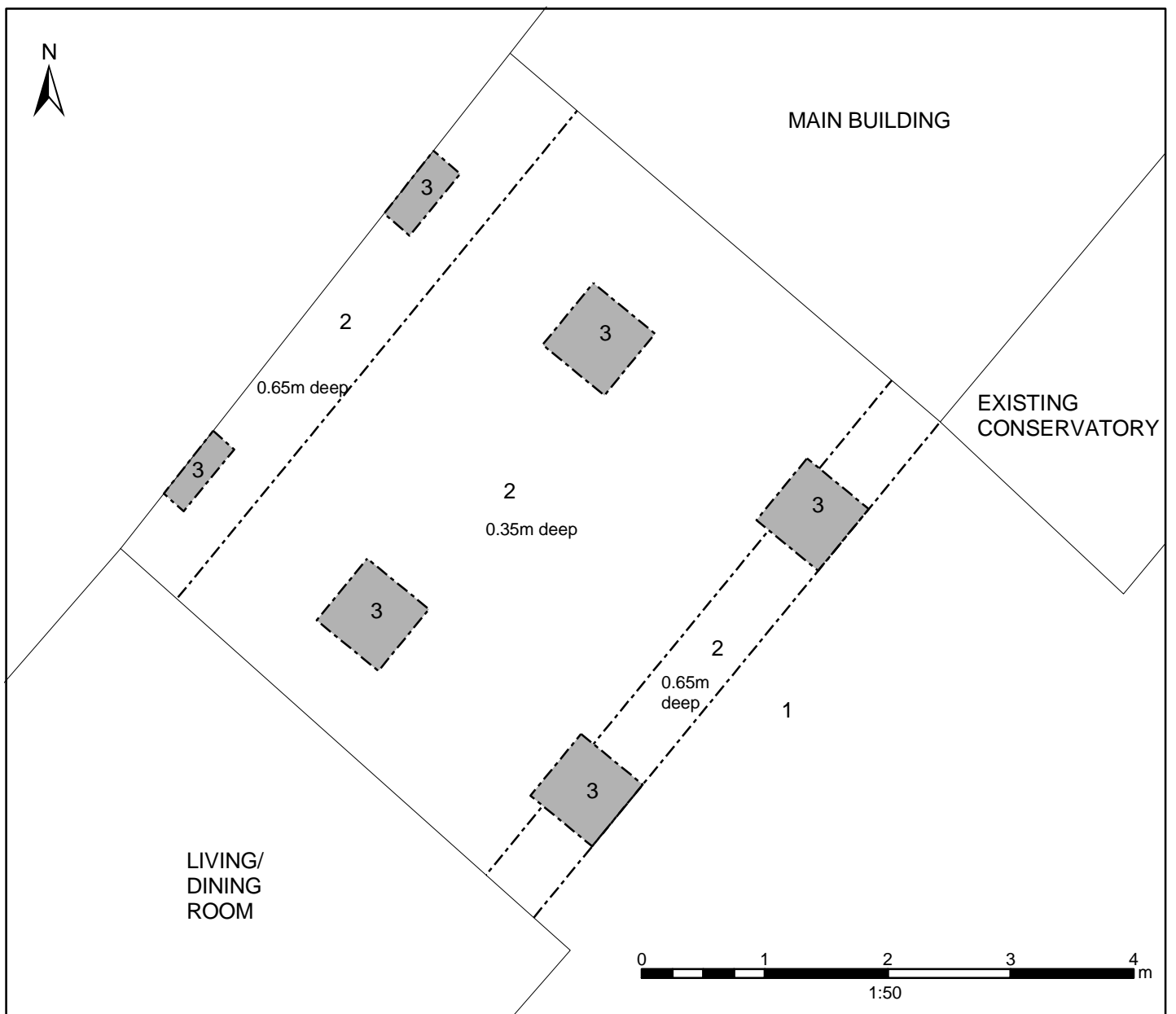


Fig.2. Detail of groundworks