THE CHASE ELMSTEAD MARKET ESSEX

ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION BY TRIAL-TRENCHING (PHASE 2A)





FIELD ARCHAEOLOGY UNIT

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THE CHASE, ELMSTEAD MARKET, ESSEX ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION BY TRIAL TRENCHING (PHASE 2A)

Client: The Woodland Trust

Gird reference: TM 607279 225078 **Date of fieldwork:** 17/3/09 to 24/3/09

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SUMMARY

Archaeological trial-trenching undertaken in advance of a second phase of tree-planting at Lodge Farm Elmstead Market has uncovered mostly undatable features and a small quantity of worked flint and prehistoric pottery. Most of the remains are situated within an area of light, well-drained soil overlooking the valley of the Tenpenny Brook. It is conjectured that some of the remains represent an Early to Middle Iron Age farmstead. Other remains probably represent post-medieval and modern field ditches. The majority of the prehistoric pot sherds are not closely datable because they are small and abraded, although two of the sherds date to the Early to Middle Iron Age. The worked flint comprises flakes and waste pieces. The only piece of worked flint to be closely datable dates to the Late Bronze Age or later.

1.0 INTRODUCTION

An archaeological evaluation by trial-trenching was carried out in advance of a second phase of tree planting (Phase 2a) at The Chase, Elmstead Market, Essex. The trial-trenching was undertaken by the Essex County Council Field Archaeology Unit and was commissioned by The Woodland Trust. It was monitored by and carried out on the recommendation of the Historic Environment Management team and was undertaken in accordance with a Written Scheme of Investigation (ECC FAU 2009). The tree planting is part of a continuing scheme to create an extensive new area of woodland on the north-eastern edge of Elmstead Market.

Copies of this report will be sent to The Woodland Trust, the Historic Environment Management team and the Historic Environment Record. The site archive will be stored at Colchester Museum. A digital copy of the report will be made accessible via the OASIS online web-site (www.oasis.ac.uk/).

2.0 BACKGROUND

2.1 Location, topography and geology

The new woodland is being created across arable land to either side of The Chase, a private road leading off Bromley Road to the immediate south (Fig. 1).

Phase 2a of the tree planting scheme covers 5.5ha and is located immediately north-east of Lodge Farm. The western and northern sides of the phase are defined by a farm track. The southern and western sides fall towards the Tenpenny Brook and one of its tributaries. The southern tributary feeds into a small reservoir.

The topsoil overlies glacial deposits and is c. 0.3m thick. The topsoil across the western half of the site overlies a glacial deposit of brownish orange loose sand and gravel with pockets of pale brown sand and is consequently light and free draining. By contrast, the topsoil across the eastern half of the site sits on top of a glacial deposit of pale brownish yellow clay and clay silt and is consequently wetter, heavier and more difficult to plough.

2.2 Archaeology and history

The following information is derived from the Essex County Council Historic Environment Record (EHER), the results of a desk-based assessment and geophysical survey undertaken by the developer as a whole, and an earlier phase (1a and 1b) of trial-trenching (Wall 2008; Germany 2009).

Aerial photography has recorded cropmarks of a small rectangular enclosure and a prehistoric ring-ditch to the south-west and immediate north of the site respectively (Fig. 1, EHER 2596 and 'cropmark enclosure'). Groundworks within the grounds of Lodge Farm during the mid 19th century revealed a small Bronze Age axe head made from poor quality gold (Fig. 1, EHER 2482). The trial-trenching for phases 1a and 1b took place alongside Bromley Road and discovered undatable ditches and a widespread scatter of burnt flint, the latter being a possible indication of prehistoric activity. The geophysical survey detected numerous linear features, some of which are likely to be the remains of former ditches, three of which lay within the south-western corner of the phase 2a area.

Local place names 'The Chase' and 'Lodge Farm' and a reference in a deed of 1464 to the site as 'Elmstede Park' suggest the area surrounding Lodge Farm as having been used as a deer park during the medieval period. An old map of the area records the site as having being disemparked and converted to an agricultural estate, with a mixture of pasture and arable fields, by the mid 17th century.

3.0 AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

The general aim of the archaeological evaluation was to determine the location, extent, date, character, condition and significance of any surviving archaeological remains within the phase 2a area.

The specific objectives of the evaluation were:

- To verify and date the linear features detected in the south-western corner of the phase 2a area by the geophysical survey
- To look for further indications of prehistoric activity

The research objectives for the project are based on the regional framework and agenda for archaeological research set out in *Research and Archaeology: a Framework for the Eastern Counties, 1. Resource Assessment* and *2. Research Agenda and Strategy* (Glazebrook 1997; Brown and Glazebrook 2000). An important research aim is the development of farming and the attendant development and integration of monuments, fields and settlements.

4.0 METHOD

The trial-trenching was undertaken in accordance with the *Institute of Field Archaeologists Standards and Guidance for Archaeological Field Evaluation* and the Association of Local Government Officers' *Standards for Field Archaeology in the East of England* (IFA 1999; Gurney 2003). The ECC FAU is a registered archaeological organisation with the Institute of Field Archaeologists. The ECC FAU uses its own recording system to record all archaeological deposits and features (ECC FAU 2006).

The phase 2a area was sampled by nine trenches, each measuring 1.8m wide and 40m long (Figs 1 and 2, trenches 1 to 9). The topsoil within each trench was removed under archaeological supervision using a tracked excavator with a broad toothless bucket. The location of each trench was established in advance by using a directional GPS with on-board map-based software. The error margin of the GPS varies, but is always less than 0.2m. A list of the co-ordinates of each trench can be found in Appendix 1.

5.0 TRIAL-TRENCHING RESULTS

Six of the nine trenches contained archaeological remains. Most of the remains occurred in trenches 3, 4 and 5, where the topsoil is light and free draining. There were no archaeological remains in trenches 1, 7 and 8. The remains consisted of ditches, post-holes and pits. There were no upstanding remains such as banks or layers as ploughing had truncated all of the archaeological features by c. 0.3m. The majority of the features proved impossible to date because they contained no finds. The contents of each trench are summarised below, while detailed feature and deposit descriptions can be found in Appendix 2.

5.1 Trench 2

Trench 2 contained the remains of a small ditch (102) on a north-west south-east alignment, containing no finds.

5.2 Trench 3 (Fig. 3 and Plate 1)

Trench 3 revealed the highest density of archaeological features: ditch 122, depression or natural feature 136, gully 119, post-holes 126, 141 and 143 and pits 109, 125 and 128.

Ditch 122 in the middle of the trench was broad and moderately deep. It contained two fills, but no finds. Depression or natural feature 136 lay to its immediate north.

Gully 119 extended in a slight arc across the southern half of the trench and appeared to consist of a chain of four post-holes or pits. The presence of the 'post-holes' suggested that it may have served as a foundation trench for a wall.

Post-holes 126, 141 and 143 lay at the ends of the trench. Post-hole 141 showed signs of burning in the form of scorched sand and frequent pieces of charcoal. Post-hole 143 cut post-hole 141 and was small and deep, with vertical sides and a pointed base. Post-hole 126 was small and insubstantial. None of the post-holes contained any finds.

The pits were located in the southern half of the trench. Pit 125 was rounded and steep sided and *c*. 0.5m deep. Pit 122 possibly represented a small group of intercutting pits because it had an irregular shape. Pit 128 was the only feature in trench 3 to contain any finds - a single small sherd of undiagnostic prehistoric pottery.

5.3 Trench 4 (Fig. 3 and Plates 2 to 4)

Two ditches (104 and 105), three pits (112, 118 and 138) and two post-holes (113 and 131) lay entirely within or extended into trench 4.

Ditch 105 ran across the middle of the trench at a slightly oblique angle. It contained a small quantity of worked flint, three pieces of undiagnostic prehistoric pottery, and two undatable sherds of pottery, which are speculated to be of medieval date. The latest of the ditch's three deposits held all of the finds.

Ditch 104 ran in a north-east direction across the eastern end of the trench. It contained a single fill, which produced a fragment of burnt flint and three small sherds of prehistoric pottery. Two of the prehistoric sherds are likely to be of Early to Middle Iron Age date. The other sherd was undiagnostic and therefore not closely datable.

Post-holes 113 and 131 lay near the western end of the trench and were probably related. Both features held sub-rectangular post-pipes, containing occasional flecks and pieces of charcoal (115 and 135). There were no finds.

Pits 112, 118 and 138 lay scattered along the length of the trench. They contained single fills, but no finds. All three were fairly shallow and produced no evidence as to what they may have been used for.

5.4 Trench 5 (Fig. 5)

The features present in trench 5 comprised two ditches (146 and 148), three pits (150, 152 and 157), and a small root hole containing fragments of semi-decayed wood (156). None of the features produced any finds.

The two ditches ran side-by-side and were closely spaced. Ditch 148 was broad and shallow and ditch 146 steep-sided and deep.

The three pits were unremarkable and produced no evidence as to their possible function. Pit 150 contained occasional flecks and pieces of charcoal.

5.5 Trench 6

The centre of trench 6 was crossed by a large ditch (160), corresponding with a former field boundary marked on the first three editions of the Ordnance Survey (1872 to 1925). The ditch contained a single fill and a modern ceramic drain.

5.6 Trench 9

The stripping of trench 9 revealed a small, shallow pit (161), containing occasional flecks and pieces of charcoal, but no finds.

6.0 FINDS by Joyce Compton

Small groups of finds were recovered from three contexts, across two of the excavated trenches. All of the finds have been recorded by count and weight, in grams, by context; full quantification details can be found in Appendix 3. The finds are described by category below.

6.1 Pottery

Nine sherds of pottery, weighing 50g, were recovered from three contexts. The pottery is in poor condition, probably due to adverse soil conditions. Almost all of the assemblage is prehistoric, although two coarse ware body sherds were also recovered from ditch 105 (Trench 4). These are small and undiagnostic and have been dated tentatively to the medieval period, but a Late Iron Age or Roman date cannot be ruled out. Recent work to the south of Lodge Farm (Germany 2009) also produced a single sherd of medieval date.

Prehistoric pottery by NJ Lavender

Seven sherds, 48g, of prehistoric pottery were examined. These comprise base and body sherds in flint, flint-and-sand and grog-tempered fabrics, mostly abraded and generally not closely datable. There is a single sherd from a flat base in fill 106 of ditch 105. Two sherds from fill 103 of ditch 104 (Trench 4) are sandy and are likely to date to the Early-Middle Iron Age.

Flints by Hazel Martingell

Three worked flints were recovered from fill 106 of ditch 105; a catalogue is presented in Appendix 3. There is a thick-sectioned flake on grey flint with inclusions and a wide platform. This indicates later prehistoric (Late Bronze Age and later) flint-knapping, probably associated with the nearby Tenpenny brook. A single piece of burnt flint came from fill 103 of ditch 104.

6.2 Comments on the assemblage

Very few finds were recovered overall. Most of the assemblage is prehistoric and the two later sherds in ditch 105 are likely to be intrusive. It should be noted, however, that none of the pottery is in good condition and thus all may be residual. No further work is required and all of the finds should be retained.

7.0 CONCLUSIONS

The trial-trenching has revealed archaeological remains in the form of ditches, pits, a gully and post-holes in trenches 2 to 6 and 9. The majority of the features remain undated as the investigation resulted in very few finds. The only securely-dated feature is modern ditch 160 in trench 6.

Some of the features in trenches 3 and 4 possibly represent the site of a prehistoric farmstead, although the investigation has found no firm evidence in the form of well-dated features to support this. The area of high ground indicated by trenches 3 and 4 is likely to have been attractive to prehistoric farmers because of its light soil, which is easy to plough, and because of its extensive view of the valley of the Tenpenny Brook. This is borne out by the distribution of the archaeological remains as most of the features and all of the prehistoric finds were found in those two trenches. The putative farmstead may have been in use during the Early to Middle Iron Age because both of the datable prehistoric sherds date from that period. Activity in the surrounding area during the prehistoric period is implied by the cropmark ring-ditch to the south-west (EHER 2596), the Bronze Age gold axe head found at

Lodge Farm in the mid 19th century (EHER 2482), and the scatter of burnt flint from the previous phase of trial-trenching alongside Bromley Road (Germany 2009). Structures related to the possible prehistoric farmstead are perhaps implied by post-holes 113, 133, 141 and 143 and possibly gully 119. It is surmised that post-holes 113 and 131 in trench 4 represent two sides of a four-post Iron Age granary.

Ditches 146 and 148 in trench 5 run parallel with modern ditch 160 in trench 6 and are conjectured to be part of the remains of a post-medieval/modern field boundary, forming one side of a small narrow field running across the central section of the phase 2a site. Ditch 104 in trench 4 heads towards the two ditches and is possibly part of the same boundary. A further post-medieval/modern field boundary is postulated to be represented by ditches 102 and 105 in trenches 2 and 4. Both ditches head towards each other and form a near-right angle with the conjectured boundary defined by ditches 104, 146 and 148. This is supported by the two small sherds from ditch 105 which might be of medieval date. If this interpretation of the ditches is correct, then the existing field must have originally consisted of many small fields.

8.0 ASSESSMENT OF RESULTS

The results of the trial-trenching complement the existing information held by the EHER, and the results of the earlier trial-trenching carried out alongside Bromley Road in November 2008. The growing body of evidence is perhaps starting to indicate that the proposed area of tree-planting contains former post-medieval/modern field boundaries and a thin scatter of prehistoric remains, perhaps relating to Late Neolithic/Bronze Age barrows and Iron Age farmsteads. The archaeological features are proving difficult to date because they contain no or very few finds. The results of the geophysical survey appear largely unreliable, as the trenching has yet to discover a clear correlation between the features identified by the survey and those identified by the trial-trenching, with geological variation appearing to account for many of the anomalies.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Essex County Council Field Archaeology Unit thanks The Woodland Trust for its help and cooperation.

The archaeological fieldwork was carried out by Trevor Ennis, Mark Germany and Andy Letch. The finds were processed by Phil McMichael and were analysed by Joyce Compton and Nick Lavender. The surveying and illustrating were undertaken by Andy Lewsey, who also assisted with the archaeological fieldwork. The project was managed by Adrian Scruby, and was monitored by Adrian Gascoyne of ECC HEM.

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APPENDIX 1: TRENCH LOCATIONS

The co-ordinates refer to each end of the longitudinal central axis. The trenches are all 1.8m wide and $\it c$. 40m long.

Trench 1 : X = 607189.3 : X = 607229.3	Y = 225168.0 Y = 225167.9	Z = 0.0 Z = 0.0
Trench 2 : X = 607131.8 : X = 607171.8	Y = 225107.7 Y = 225107.7	Z = 0.0 Z = 0.0
Trench 3 : X = 607171.2 : X = 607179.0	Y = 225039.9 Y = 225078.2	Z = 0.0 Z = 0.0
Trench 4 : X = 607179.0 : X = 607217.3	Y = 225078.2 Y = 225070.4	Z = 0.0 Z = 0.0
Trench 5 : X = 607243.1 : X = 607283.1	Y = 225129.1 Y = 225129.1	Z = 0.0 Z = 0.0
Trench 6 : X = 607279.5 : X = 607312.2	Y = 225078.1 Y = 225055.0	Z = 0.0 Z = 0.0
Trench 7 : X = 607354.3 : X = 607394.3	Y = 225078.9 Y = 225078.9	Z = 0.0 Z = 0.0
Trench 8 : X = 607318.0 : X = 607290.9	Y = 225020.4 Y = 224991.0	Z = 0.0 Z = 0.0
Trench 9 : X = 607378.4 : X = 607378.4	Y = 225033.5 Y = 224993.5	Z = 0.0 Z = 0.0

APPENDIX 2: CONTEXT DATA

All dimensions (length x width x depth) are in metres

Tr.	Category	Description	
			Date
2	Topsoil	Dark brownish grey friable sand clay silt with frequent small stones. 0.38 thick	Modern
2	Fill	Greyish brown friable sand clay silt with occasional small stones. Single fill of 102	?Post-med
2	Ditch	Moderately-sloping sides, gradual breaks of slope, flat to concave base. 1.8+ x 1.2 x 0.23. Filled by 101	?Post-med
4	Fill	Mid to dark greyish brown sand clay slit with occasional small stones. Single fill of 104	?Post-med
4	Ditch	Moderately-sloping sides, gradual breaks of slope, concave base. 1.8+ x 1.02 x 0.22. Filled by 103	?Post-med
4	Ditch	Moderately-steep-sloping sides, gradual breaks of slope, concave base. 2+ x 1.8 x 0.41. Filled by 106, 107 and 108	?Post-med
4	Fill	Dark brown friable sand silt with frequent small stones and infrequent flecks of charcoal. Top fill of 105	?Post-med
4	Fill	Light greyish brown friable silt clay with frequent small stones. Secondary fill of 105	?Post-med
4	Fill	Orange brown friable sand silt with no natural inclusions. Primary fill of 105	?Post-med
3	Pit	Irregular-shape, moderately-steep-sloping sides, gradual breaks of slope, concave base. 2.2+ x 1.35 x 0.4. Filled by 110	Undated
3	Fill	Pale brown friable sand silt with frequent small stones. Single fill of 109	Undated
4	Fill	Greyish brown friable sand silt with occasional small stones. Single fill of 112	Undated
4	Pit	Oval shape, gradually sloping sides, flat base. 0.9+ x 1.3 x 0.24. Filled by 111	Undated
4	Post-hole	Oval shape, steeply-sloping sides, rounded breaks of slope, flat base. 0.8 x 0.75 x 0.2. Filled by 114. Contains post-pipe 115	Undated
4	Fill	Dark brown friable silt clay with occasional small stones. Single fill of 113	Undated
4	Post-pipe	Sub-rectangular shape, steeply-sloping sides, flat base. 0.35+ x 0.35 x 0.35. Filled by 116. Within 113	Undated
4	Fill	Very dark brown friable silt clay with occasional small stones and frequent flecks of charcoal. Single fill of 115	
4	Fill	Mid to dark greyish brown friable sand silt with occasional small stones. Single fill of 118	
4	Pit	Pear shape, steeply-sloping sides, concave base. 0.54 x 0.44 x 0.21. Filled by 117	Undated
3	Gully	Irregular and slightly curved, steeply-sloping sides, concave base. Possibly consists of four end-to-end pits or post-holes. 2.2+ x 0.58 x 0.35. Filled by 120	Undated
	2 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4	2 Ditch 4 Fill 4 Ditch 4 Fill 4 Fill 3 Pit 3 Fill 4 Pit 4 Post-hole 4 Fill 4 Post-pipe 4 Fill 4 Fill	2 Fill Greyish brown friable sand clay silt with occasional small stones. Single fill of 102 2 Ditch Moderately-sloping sides, gradual breaks of slope, flat to concave base. 1.8+ x 1.2 x 0.23. Filled by 101 4 Fill Mid to dark greyish brown sand clay slit with occasional small stones. Single fill of 104 4 Ditch Moderately-sloping sides, gradual breaks of slope, concave base. 1.8+ x 1.02 x 0.22. Filled by 103 4 Ditch Moderately-steep-sloping sides gradual breaks of slope, concave base. 2+ x 1.8 x 0.41. Filled by 106, 107 and 108 4 Fill Dark brown friable sand silt with frequent small stones and infrequent flecks of charcoal. Top fill of 105 4 Fill Light greyish brown friable silt clay with frequent small stones. Secondary fill of 105 5 Crange brown friable sand silt with no natural inclusions. Primary fill of 105 6 Pit Irregular-shape, moderately-steep-sloping sides, gradual breaks of slope, concave base. 2.2+ x 1.35 x 0.4. Filled by 110 6 Fill Greyish brown friable sand silt with no natural inclusions. Single fill of 109 6 Fill Greyish brown friable sand silt with occasional small stones. Single fill of 112 6 Pit Oval shape, gradually sloping sides, flat base. 0.9+ x 1.3 x 0.24. Filled by 111 7 Post-hole Oval shape, steeply-sloping sides, rounded breaks of slope, flat base. 0.8 x 0.75 x 0.2. Filled by 114. Contains post-pipe 115 7 Post-pipe Sub-rectangular shape, steeply-sloping sides, flat base. 0.35+ x 0.35 x 0.35. Filled by 116. Within 113 7 Pit Very dark brown friable silt clay with occasional small stones and frequent flecks of charcoal. Single fill of 115 7 Post-pipe Sub-rectangular shape, steeply-sloping sides, flat base. 0.35+ x 0.35 x 0.35. Filled by 116. Within 113 8 Pit Pear shape, steeply-sloping sides, concave base. 0.54 x 0.44 x 0.21. Filled by 117 8 Pit Pear shape, steeply-sloping sides, concave base. 0.54 x 0.44 x 0.21. Filled by 117

No.	Tr.	Category	Description	Date
120	3	Fill	Pale brown friable sand silt with frequent small stones and infrequent flecks of charcoal. Single fill of 119	Undated
121	3	Fill	Light to mid brown friable sand silt with occasional small stones. Top fill of 122	Undated
122	3	Ditch	Moderately-sloping sides, gradual breaks of slope, flat base. 2+ x 2 x 0.5. Filled by 121 and 130	Undated
123	3	Fill	Brown friable silt sand with occasional small stones. Top fill of 125	
123	3	Fill	Yellow loose sand with no natural inclusions. Primary fill of 125	Undated
125	3	Pit	Oval shape, moderately-steep-sloping sides, sharp break of slope (top), gradual break of slope (bottom), concave base. 1.7 x 1.4 x 0.5. Filled by 123 and 124	Undated
126	3	Post-hole	Oval shape, steeply-sloping sides, concave base. 0.5 x 0.3 x 0.12. Filled by 127	Undated
127	3	Fill	Brown friable silt sand with occasional small stones. Single fill of 126	Undated
128	3	Pit	Rounded shape, moderately-steep sides, gradual breaks of slope, concave base. 0.9 x 0.4+ x 0.3. Filled by 129	Undated
129	3	Fill	Yellowish brown friable sand silt with frequent small stones. Single fill of 128	Undated
130	3	Fill	Orange brown loose sand with frequent small stones. Primary fill of 122	Undated
131	4	Post-hole	Oval shape, moderately-sloping sides, gradual breaks of slope, slightly uneven concave base. 0.98 x 0.61 x 0.13. Contains post-pipe 133	Undated
132	4	Fill	Pale brown friable silt sand with occasional small stones. Undated Single fill of 131	
133	4	Post-pipe	Sub rectangular shape, moderately-steep sides, concave base. 0.4 x 0.23 x 0.12. Filled by 134. Within 131	Undated
134	4	Fill	Yellowish brown friable silt sand with occasional small rounded stones and occasional flecks of charcoal. Single fill of 133	Undated
135	3	?Fill	Greyish brown firm clay silt with infrequent small stones. Single fill of 136	Undated
136	3	?Natural feature	Moderately-sloping sides, gradual breaks of slope, flat base. Undated 3.8+ x 2 x 0.19. Filled by 135	
137	4	Fill	Orange brown friable sand with frequent small stones. Single fill of 138	Undated
138	4	Pit	Rounded shape, gradually-sloping sides and breaks of slope, slightly concave base. 0.9+ x 2 x 0.15. Filled by 137	Undated
139	3	Fill	Black and pinkish-red friable scorched sand with occasional small stones and frequent flecks and pieces of charcoal. Top fill of post-hole 141. Cut by 143	
140	3	Fill	Orange loose sand with frequent small stones. Primary fill of 141	Undated

141	3	Post-hole	Description Rounded change gradually cloping breaks of clope and sides	11 1 1 1
			Rounded shape, gradually-sloping breaks of slope and sides, concave base. 0.19+ x 0.4 x 0.18	
142	3	Fill	Brown friable sand silt with occasional small stones. Single fill of 143	Undated
143	3	Post-hole	Rounded shape, vertical sides, sharp break of slope (top), gradual break of slope (bottom), pointed base. 0.15+ x 0.25 x 0.36. Filled by 142. Cuts 139	
144	5	Fill	Brownish grey firm clay silt with occasional small stones. Top fill of 146	?Post-med
145	5	Fill	Dark brownish grey firm clay silt with occasional small stones. Secondary fill of 146	?Post-med
146	5	Ditch	Steeply-sloping sides, sharp break of slope (top), gradual break of slope (bottom), concave base. 2.3+ x 1.8 x 0.7. Filled by 144, 145 and 149	?Post-med
147	5	Fill	Mottled brown/grey friable sand silt with occasional small stones. Single fill of 148	?Post-med
148	5	Ditch	Gradually-sloping sides, gradual breaks of slope, slightly concave base. 1.8+ x 2.6 x 0.25. Filled by 147	?Post-med
149	5	Fill	Grey firm sand clay silt with infrequent small stones. Primary fill of 146	?Post-med
150	5	Pit	Oval-shape, moderately-sloping sides, gradual breaks of slope, flat base. 1.6 x 1.05 x 0.18. Filled by 151	Undated
151	5	Fill	Brownish grey friable silt sane with frequent small stones and occasional flecks and pieces of charcoal. Single fill of 150	
152	5	Pit	Irregular-oval shape, moderately-sloping sides, gradual breaks of slope, flat base. 1.4 x 0.66 x 0.4. Filled by 153 and 154	
153	5	Fill	Dark greyish brown friable sand silt with occasional small stones and flecks of charcoal. Top fill of 152	Undated
154	5	Fill	Light grey friable sand silt with frequent small stones. Primary fill of 152	Undated
155	5	Fill	Light greyish brown sand silt with occasional small stones. Also contains small fragments of semi-decayed wood. Single fill of 156	
156	5	Tree-root disturbance	Oval shape, moderately-sloping sides, gradual breaks of slope, concave base. 1.1 x 0.55 x 0.15. Filled by 155	
157	5	Pit	Irregular-oval shape, steeply sloping sides, gradual breaks of slope, concave base. 0.9 x 0.34 x 0.54. Filled by 158	
158	5	Fill	Grey friable silt clay with frequent small stones and infrequent Undated flecks of charcoal. Single fill of 157	
159	6	Fill	Mid to light brown friable sand silt with occasional small stones. Single fill of 160. Contains modern ceramic drain pipe	
160	6	Ditch	Moderately-sloping sides, gradual breaks of slope, base not exposed. 1.8+ x 3.6 x 0.5+	Modern

No.	Tr.	Category	Description	Date
161	9	Pit	Irregular shape, moderately-sloping sides, gradual breaks of slope, concave base. 1.15 x 0.6+ x 0.18. Filled by 162	Undated
162	9	Fill	Pale brownish grey plastic silt clay with occasional small stones and flecks and pieces of charcoal. Single fill of 161	Undated

APPENDIX 3: FINDS DATA

Finds data

Context	Feature	Count	Weight	Description	Date
103	104	1	12	Burnt flint	-
		3	10	Pottery; body sherds	Prehistoric
106	105	3	44	Flint flakes and lumps	-
		2	2	Pottery; body sherds	?Medieval
		3	28	Pottery; base and body sherds	Prehistoric
129	128	1	10	Pottery; body sherd	Prehistoric

Worked flint catalogue

Context	Feature	Description	Date
103	104	Burnt piece	
106	105	Flake, tertiary, thick platform Waste piece, secondary, good black flint Trimming/thinning flake, tertiary	Later prehistoric

APPENDIX 4: CONTENTS OF ARCHIVE

Contained in one A4 folder:

- 1 Copy of this report
- 1 Copy of the written scheme of investigation
- 1 Copy of the finds reports and tables
- 2 Context register sheets
- 62 Context record sheets
- 2 Section register sheets
- 1 Plan register sheet
- 1 Computer disk containing digital copy of this report and 29 digital photographs
- 30 Black and white prints and negatives

Held separately from A4 folder:

- 2 Sheets of section drawings
- 4 Sheets of trench plans
- 1 Box of finds

APPENDIX 5: ESSEX HISTORIC ENVIRONMENT RECORD

Site name/Address: Lodge Farm, The Chase, Elmstead Market					
Parish: Elmstead	District: Tendring				
NGR: TM 607279 225078	Site Code: ESWT 08				
Type of Work: Archaeological evaluation by trial-trenching	Site Director/Group: Mark Germany, Essex County Council Field Archaeology Unit				
Date of Work: 17/3/09 to 24/3/09	Size of Area Investigated: Nine trenches, totalling 648m ²				
Location of Finds/Curating Museum: Colchester Museum	Client: The Woodland Trust				
Further Seasons Anticipated?: Yes	Related EHR Nos.:				

Final Report: Essex Archaeology and History (summary)

Periods represented: Prehistoric

SUMMARY OF FIELDWORK RESULTS:

Archaeological trial-trenching undertaken in advance of a second phase of tree-planting at Lodge Farm Elmstead Market uncovered mostly undatable features and a small quantity of worked flint and prehistoric pottery. Most of the remains were situated within an area of light, well-drained soil overlooking the valley of the Tenpenny Brook. It was conjectured that some of the remains represented an Early to Middle Iron Age farmstead. Other remains probably represented post-medieval and modern field ditches. The majority of the prehistoric pot sherds were not closely datable because they were small and abraded, although two of the sherds dated to the Early to Middle Iron Age. The worked flint comprised flakes and waste pieces. The only piece of worked flint to be closely datable dated to the Late Bronze Age or later.

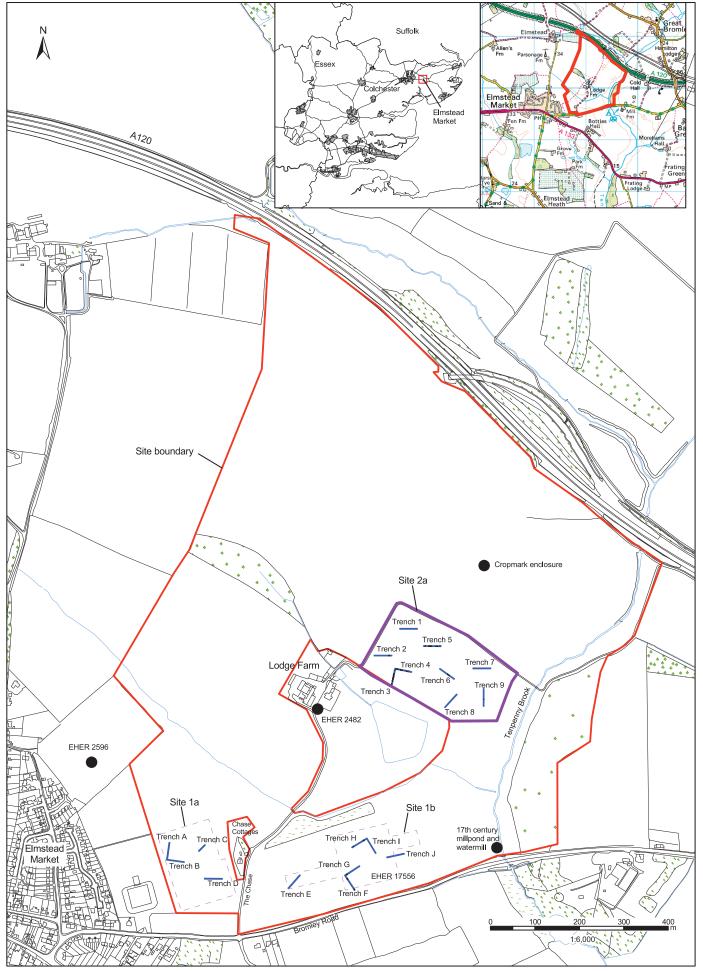
Previous Summaries/Reports:-

Germany, M. 2009a *The Chase, Elmstead Market, Essex. Archaeological Evaluation by Trial-trenching.* ECC FAU Report **2000**

Germany, N. 2009b *The Chase, Elmstead Market, Essex. Archaeological Evaluation by Trial-trenching. Phase 2a.* ECC FAU Report **2034**

Wall, W. 2008 Land near Elmstead Market, Colchester, Essex. An Archaeological Desk-based Assessment and Geophysical Survey

Author of Summary: Mark Germany	Date of Summary: June 2009



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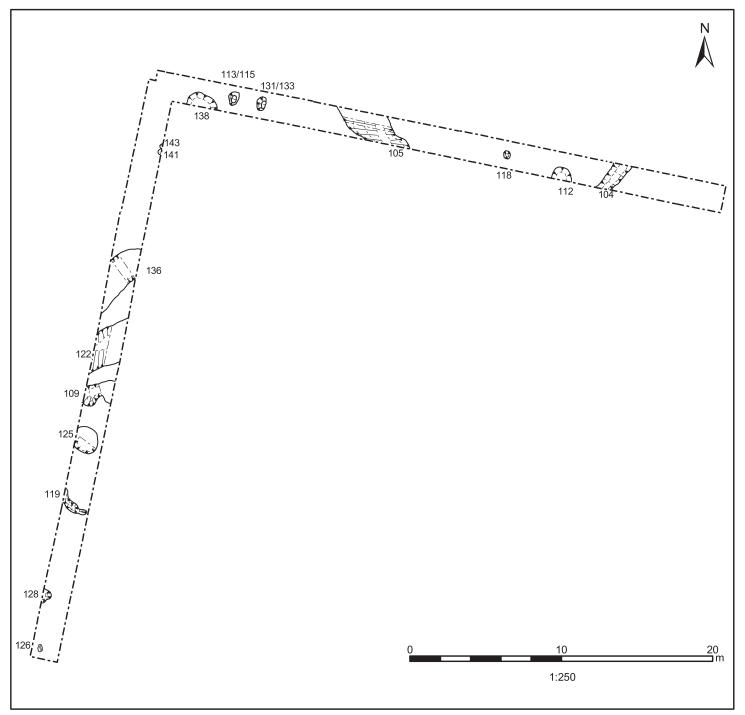


Fig.3. Trench 3 and trench 4

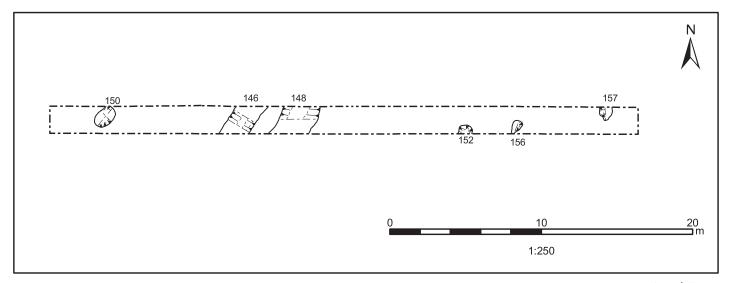


Fig.4. Trench 5



Plate 1: Trench 3, looking south-west. Pit 125 in foreground



Plate 2: Ditch 104, trench 4, looking north-east



Plate 3: Ditch 105, trench 4, looking north-west



Plate 4: Post-hole 113 and post-pipe 115, trench 4, looking north-west