

**28 NORTH ROAD,
CLACTON-ON-SEA,
ESSEX**

ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION



**Essex County Council
Field Archaeology Unit**

April 2010

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ESSEX**

ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION

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	ECC Historic Environment Management
	Essex Historic Environment Record
	Colchester and Ipswich Museum

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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EHER SUMMARY SHEET

Site Name/Address: 28 North Street, Clacton-on-Sea, Essex	
Parish: Great Clacton	District: Tendring
NGR: TM 1768 1654	Site Code: CSCH10
Type of Work: Archaeological Evaluation	Site Director/Team: Phillippa Sparrow ECC FAU
Dates of Work: 24th March 2010	Size of Area Investigated: one 10m x 1.8m x 0.6m trench
Curating Museum: Colchester and Ipswich Museum	Funding Source: Mr. S. Sivakumar (the client)
Further Work Anticipated? No	Related HER Nos. 2486, 34722
Final Report: Summary in EAH	OASIS Ref: essexcou1-74684
Periods Represented: Post-medieval	
<p>SUMMARY OF FIELDWORK RESULTS: This report presents the results of archaeological trial trenching at 28 North Street, Clacton-on-Sea in advance of the construction of a new extension to an existing building (09/01137/FUL) (Fig. 1). The site is located 30m north of the 12th-century Church of St John the Baptist and to the west of the former Great Clacton Hall, dated to the 18th century but replacing an earlier hall immediately to the north of the church. There is also evidence of limited Roman and Saxon activity at Great Clacton.</p> <p>The original aims of the archaeological evaluation were to determine the presence or absence of archaeological deposits within the development area and to record any surviving remains that would be destroyed by the construction of the new extension. The more specific objectives were to investigate evidence for Roman or Saxon activity and any features relating to the medieval and post-medieval church and hall complex. The evaluation trench was to be extended over the entire extension were any significant archaeological remains found.</p> <p>The trench was excavated to a depth of 0.6m, whereupon the sand and gravel drift geology of the area was exposed (Plate 1). Two layers of made ground were revealed. Layer 1 comprised a sand levelling layer present to a depth of 0.07m beneath the tarmac which covered the whole of the site. An older pebble and sandy silt made ground (layer 7) was present beneath levelling layer 1 to a depth of 0.2m. This overlay a former topsoil (deposit 2) which contained modern artefacts (discarded). The eastern end of the trench contained three modern drains.</p> <p>Two archaeological features were present, sealed by the topsoil and cut into the sand and</p>	

gravel. Gully 3 was aligned east to west in the western end of the trench (Plate 2). It was 0.08m deep and extended beyond the trench edges to the west and south. Finds recovered from the fill (4) comprise two pieces of peg tile and a partial oyster shell (See Appendix 1). Posthole 5 was present in the centre of the trench close to the westernmost drain (Plate 3). It was 0.14m deep and oval in plan, with its west-north-western edge displaying signs of disturbance, perhaps indicative of post removal. A small piece of abraded brick was recovered from its fill (6). Both features may relate to the historic house present on the site and shown on the 19th century maps.

The evidence indicates that the site was not occupied prior to the post-medieval period and given the high proportion of the trench disturbed by modern services it is highly probable that any surviving archaeological features within the remainder of the site will be truncated or extremely disturbed.

Previous Summaries/Reports: None

Author of Summary: P. Sparrow

Date of Summary: 25th March 2010

APPENDIX 1 FINDS

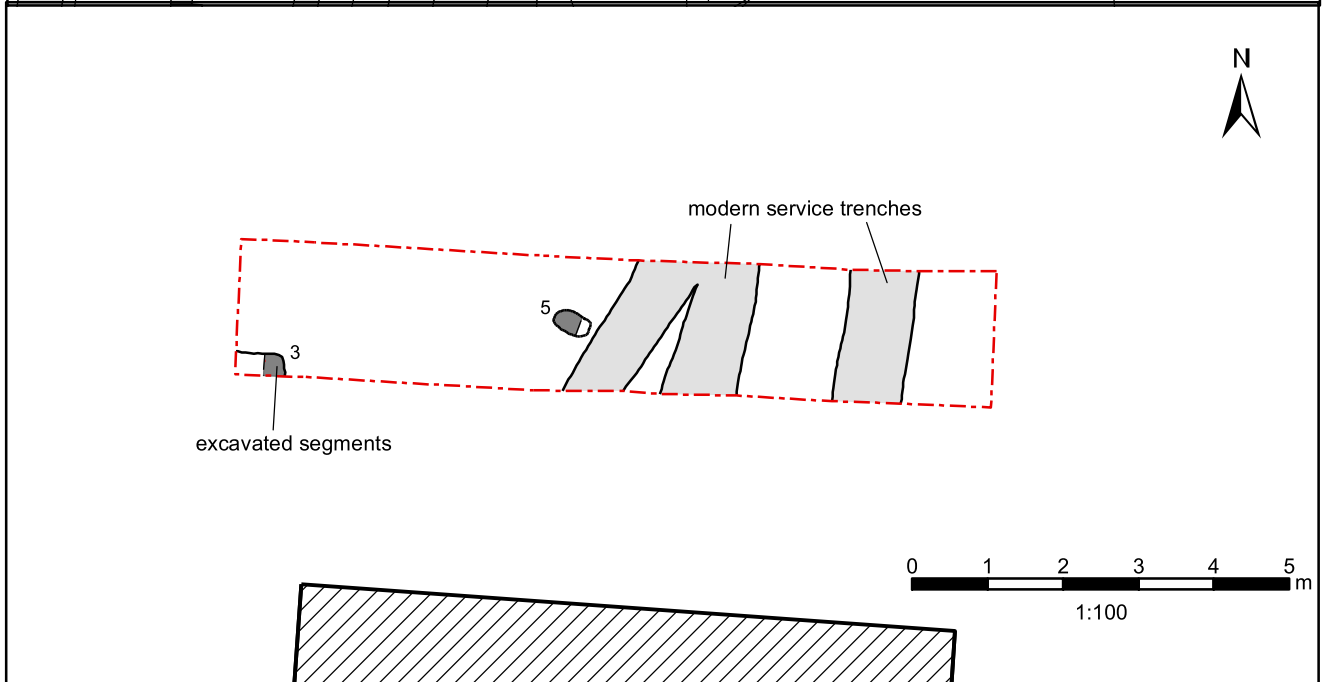
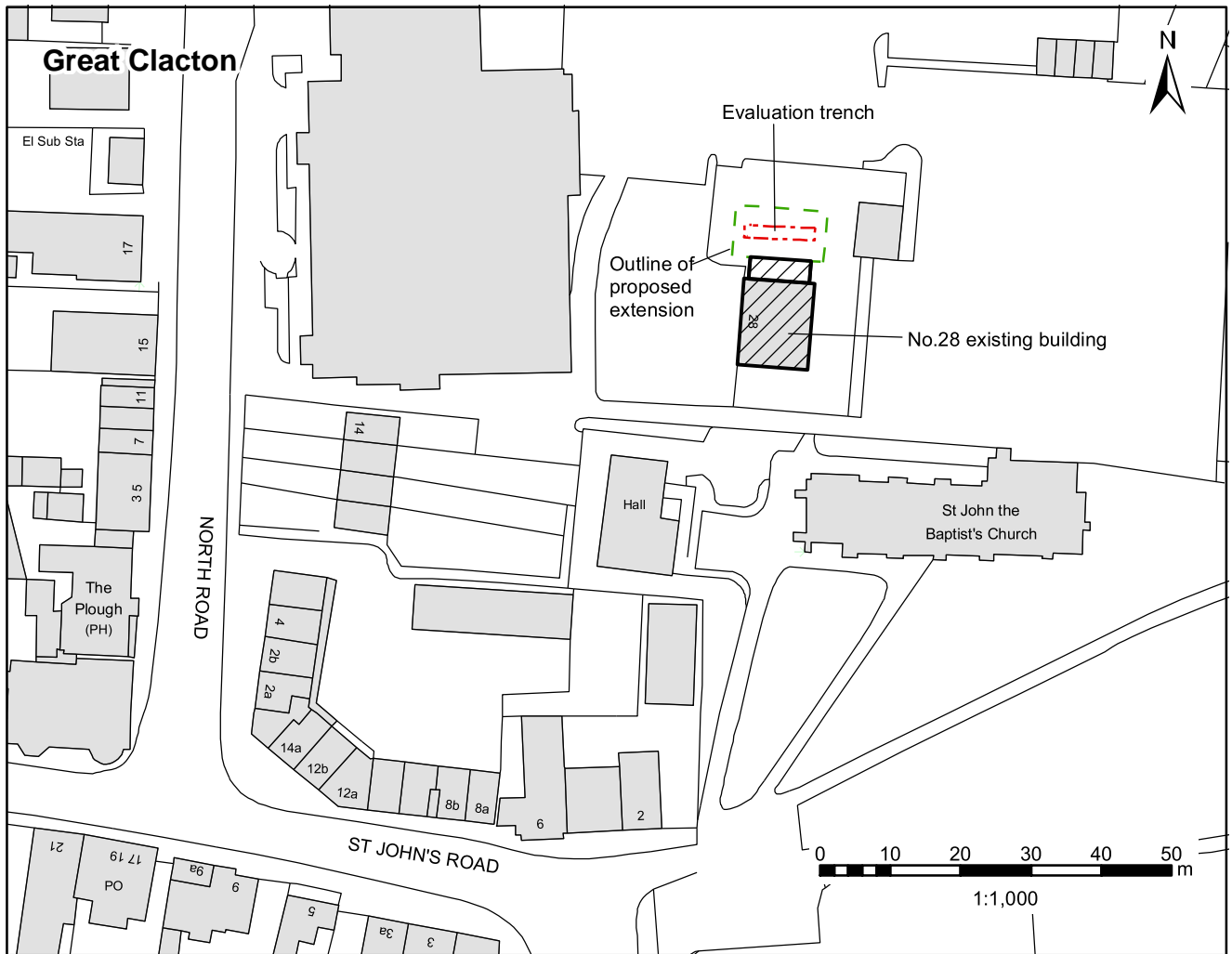
Joyce Compton

Finds were recovered from two contexts; these have been recorded by count and weight, in grams, by context. Full quantification details can be found in the table below.

The fill of gully 3 produced a small decayed fragment of oyster shell and two undiagnostic roof tile fragments. The fill of post-hole 5 contained a small piece of post-medieval brick.

Although the finds are not closely datable within the post-medieval period, a relatively recent date seems most likely.

Context	Feature	Count	Weight	Description	Date
4	3	1	2	Shell; oyster fragment	Post med.
		2	74	Roof tile fragments, one mortared	
6	5	1	26	Brick fragment	Post med.



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Fig.1. Location of archaeological evaluation trench

Plates



Plate 1. Trench, looking east



Plate 2. Gully 3, looking west.



Plate 3. Posthole 5, looking east-south-east.