

67 NEWBIGGEN STREET

THAXTED

ESSEX

ARCHAEOLOGICAL MONITORING AND EXCAVATION



**Essex County Council
Field Archaeology Unit**

SEPTEMBER 2010

.67 NEWBIGGEN STREET

THAXTED

ESSEX

ARCHAEOLOGICAL MONITORING AND EXCAVATION

| | |
|----------------------------|------------|
| Prepared By: Trevor Ennis | Signature: |
| Position: Project Officer | Date: |
| Approved By: Adrian Scruby | Signature: |
| Position: Project Manager | Date: |

| | |
|--------------------|----------------|
| Document Ref.: | 2213 Rep |
| Report Issue Date: | September 2010 |
| Circulation: | Damian Quinn |
| | ECC HEM |
| | Essex HER |

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. Please contact the Archaeological Fieldwork Manager, at the

Field Archaeology Unit,
Fairfield Court, Fairfield Road, Braintree, Essex CM7 3YQ.
fieldarch@essexcc.gov.uk
Tel: 01376 331470
Fax: 01376 331428

© **Field Archaeology Unit**, Essex County Council, c/o County Hall, Chelmsford, Essex CM1 1QH

.CONTENTS

| | Page No. |
|------------------------------------------------------|----------|
| SUMMARY | 1 |
| 1.0 INTRODUCTION | 3 |
| 2.0 BACKGROUND | 3 |
| 2.1 Topography and Geology | |
| 2.2 Archaeology and History | |
| 3.0 AIMS AND OBJECTIVES | 5 |
| 3.1 Aims | |
| 3.2 Objectives | |
| 4.0 METHOD | 5 |
| 5.0 FIELDWORK RESULTS | 6 |
| 6.0 FINDS | 7 |
| 6.1 Pottery | |
| 6.2 Brick and tile | |
| 6.3 Flint artefact | |
| 6.4 Worked bone | |
| 6.5 Animal bone and shell | |
| 6.6 Other finds | |
| 6.7 Comments on the assemblage | |
| 7.0 DISCUSSION | 9 |
| 8.0 ASSESSMENT OF RESULTS | 10 |
| ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS | 10 |
| BIBLIOGRAPHY | 11 |
| APPENDICES | |
| APPENDIX 1 Context Data | |
| APPENDIX 2 Finds Data | |
| APPENDIX 3 Pottery | |
| APPENDIX 4 Contents of Archive | |
| APPENDIX 5 EHER Summary | |
| FIGURES | |
| Fig. 1 Location of area of archaeological monitoring | |
| Fig. 2 Excavated features | |
| Fig. 3 Sections | |
| PLATES | |
| Plate 1 Pit 2 | |
| Plate 2 Pit 4 | |

67 NEWBIGGEN STREET

THAXTED

ESSEX

ARCHAEOLOGICAL MONITORING AND EXCAVATION

Client: Damian Quinn

NGR: TL 6098 3129

Site Code: TX 21

Planning Ref: UTT/1715/09

Oasis No.: essexcou1- 76884

Date of Fieldwork: 27th and 28th April 2010

SUMMARY

Archaeological monitoring and excavation was carried out at 67 Newbiggen Street, Thaxted during groundworks for an extension to the rear of the house. The footprint of the new extension covered approximately 26 square metres.

No remains of Prehistoric, Roman or Saxon date were identified. One sherd of medieval pottery and one fragment of worked bone of possible medieval date were recovered, both of which were residual in later contexts. No features were found to indicate that this area, on the northern edge of Thaxted, was actively involved in the medieval cutlery industry.

Three archaeological features were investigated. Two probable pits contained pottery dating from the 15th to 16th century while a third feature, possibly a boundary ditch, was undated. The features suggest that activity was taking place on site prior to the construction of the current house in the 17th century.

A flint cobble garden path of comparatively modern date (19th or 20th century) was recorded running westwards from the house at the southern edge of the extension footprint.

1.0 INTRODUCTION

This report describes the results of archaeological monitoring and excavation carried out on land at 67 Newbiggen Street, Thaxted, Essex, during groundworks for the construction of a new house extension. The archaeological work was undertaken by the Essex County Council Field Archaeology Unit (ECC FAU) on behalf of Damian Quinn.

As the site is located within an area of archaeological potential, a condition was placed on planning consent (planning application ref: UTT/1715/09) requiring that a programme of archaeological works be undertaken in advance of development, following advice given by the Essex County Council Historic Environment Management team (ECC HEM), based on guidance contained in Planning Policy Guidance note 16 (now replaced by PPS 5: Planning for the Historic Environment).

The investigation was carried out in accordance with an archaeological Design Brief issued by ECC HEM (2009) and a Written Scheme of Investigation prepared by the ECC FAU (2010).

Copies of this report will be supplied to Damian Quinn, ECC HEM and the Essex Historic Environment Record. A digital version of this report will be submitted, along with a project summary, to the Online Access to the Index of Archaeological Investigations (OASIS) (<http://ads.ahds.ac.uk/project/oasis>). The site archive and copies of the report will be deposited at Saffron Walden Museum.

2.0 BACKGROUND

2.1 Topography and Geology (Fig. 1)

No. 67 Newbiggen Street is a 17th century Grade II listed timber-framed house located on the edge of the historic town of Thaxted, at NGR TL 6098 3129. The house is semi-detached and comprises the southern half of a building originally constructed as a terrace of three cottages. The house fronts onto the street and is surrounded by residential property. A path runs along the west side of the house with garden beyond.

The immediate underlying geological strata consists of mixed deposits of clay, silt, sand and gravel of the Lowestoft Formation.

2.2 Archaeology and History (Fig. 1)

This archaeological and historical background is based on the Essex Historic Environment Record (EHER) held by Essex County Council at County Hall, Chelmsford and the Historic Towns Project Assessment Report for Thaxted (Medlycott 1999).

Archaeological investigations and chance finds have identified limited prehistoric activity within the town. An archaeological trial trench evaluation at Thaxted Windmill revealed a late Bronze Age to early Iron Age feature as well as residual prehistoric pottery from other contexts (Rozwadowski and Williams 2009). An Iron Age cremation was found in the graveyard of the Church of St John the Baptist, St Mary and St Laurence to the rear of Church Cottage (HER 16202). A small number of prehistoric pottery sherds and struck flints have also been recovered around the town (HER 14672, 14666).

A section of Roman road has been identified in a field behind Thaxted Primary School, though no further evidence of Roman activity was identified (HER 9967). The Church of St John the Baptist, St Mary and St Laurence is thought to have its origins in the Saxon period, though there is no record of a church in Domesday Book. The church would have formed the focus for settlement from this period to the present day. Domesday Book records Thaxted as held by Richard (son of Count Gilbert) with 52 villagers, woodland for 800 pigs, 120 acres of meadow, two mills, 36 cattle, 128 pigs, 320 sheep and 16 beehives (Rumble 1983).

The development area lies on the edge of the medieval town of Thaxted, which was granted a market in 1205. Although the town was not in a prominent location, within a hundred years it had become a major centre of the cutlery industry. Documentary evidence shows the town's rapid expansion in the fourteenth century. In a list of trades carried on by tenants of the Manor of Thaxted seventy nine people, over one-third of the adult male population, were cutlers (Medlycott 1999).

Excavations in the garden of 23 Town Street, prior to the construction of the Brew House revealed late medieval features containing bone working waste, indicating the area was probably in the rear garden of a cutler's premises (HER 14675). A number of garden features were also identified.

3.0 AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

3.1 Aims

The specific aim of the archaeological monitoring and excavation was to preserve by record any archaeological deposits that would be destroyed by the development.

3.2 Objectives

The specific objectives of the investigation were to:

- Establish the date and nature of the initial and subsequent settlements of this part of Thaxted, paying particular attention to the layout of plots/tenements and whether industrial, domestic or commercial occupation was present.
- Pay specific attention to evidence for cutlery production in the late medieval period. To this end all animal bone, both stratified and in topsoil, was to be retained for specialist analysis.

4.0 METHOD (Fig. 1)

The new extension was located on the west side of the existing house. The footprint of the new building covered 26 square metres and measured approximately 8m by 4.3m at its widest point. Initial groundworks involved the removal of a small amount (0.15-0.25m) of modern overburden and topsoil from the interior of the building footprint. Archaeological monitoring was then undertaken on the complete machine excavation of the foundation trench around the edge of the footprint. This trench was 0.5-0.6m wide and up to 1.4m deep, when measured from the exterior ground level.

Potential archaeological features were cleaned and hand excavated where practical. Standard ECC FAU excavation, artefact collection and recording methodologies were employed throughout. ECC FAU is a Registered Archaeological Organisation with the Institute for Archaeologists (IfA) and all work was carried out in accordance with IfA by-laws and guidelines (IfA 1997; 2001) and complied with Standards for Field Archaeology in the East of England (Gurney 2003).

5.0 FIELDWORK RESULTS

A small number of archaeological features and deposits of post-medieval date were present within the foundation trench, along with areas of disturbance and deposits of more recent date. Detailed context information is presented in Appendix 2.

The overburden to the west and south consisted of turf overlying mixed layers of dark grey topsoil containing varying amounts of chalk, mortar, charcoal flecks and fragments of brick and tile. To the east and adjacent to the house the overburden was more mixed, with brown and grey clay with inclusions of brick, tile, concrete and sand. The northern part of the trench was heavily disturbed by modern drainage runs. The underlying natural consisted of chalk-flecked buff to light yellow coloured silty clay and orange brown clay.

In the north of the trench was a well-defined feature (10) that had been truncated by modern drainage runs. It was 1.10m wide by over 0.50m deep (Fig. 3, Section 1) and continued below the base of the trench. The feature was visible in both sections of the trench and had a V-shaped profile suggesting that it was more likely to be a ditch rather than a pit. No finds were recovered from the exposed fill, a mid greyish brown clay (9).

Located in roughly in the centre of the trench was a probable pit (2), measuring 0.9m wide by 0.80m deep with steep sides and a concave base (Fig. 3, Section 2) (Plate 1). This was present in both sides of the trench but not visible in the opposing length of foundation trench further south. The pit was filled with mid brownish grey silty clay (1). Finds included 27 sherds of 15th to 16th century pottery, 32 fragments of post-medieval roof tile and a residual flint artefact possibly dating to the Late Neolithic period. The top of the pit was sealed by mixed grey brown silty clay containing flecks of chalk and tile which, in the drawn section, was truncated by a modern steep-sided intrusion.

In the south-west corner of the foundation trench was a large pit or ditch (4), over 2.4m long by 1.65m wide and in excess of 1m deep (Fig. 3, Sections 3 & 4) (Plate 2). The lowest excavated pit fill (5) comprised mid greyish brown silty clay with chalk and charcoal flecks. The fill (3) above had similar inclusions but was lighter and more yellowish brown in colour, and may have included an element of re-deposited natural material. In Section 3 the very top of the pit was in-filled/overlain by light greyish brown silty clay (6) that also contained chalk and charcoal flecks but which had a more speckled appearance than the other fills. In total twelve sherds of 15th to 16th century pottery were recovered from the possible pit along with a single residual sherd of 13th to 14th century pottery. Also only apparent in Section 3

was a layer of light greyish yellow-brown silty clay (8) that appeared to be cut by the pit but which may be a contemporary soil deposit as it contained a sherd of 15th to 16th century pottery.

The top fills of pit 4 were partly sealed by an undated mixed layer of greyish brown clay silt (11) (Fig. 3, Sections 3 & 4). Above this silt was a probable east-west aligned path surface (7) comprised of large rounded flint cobbles, smaller pebbles and fragments of brick, roof tile and oyster shell. Finds included nine sherds of 15th to 16th century pottery, some of which were broken and abraded, and a fragment of worked bone. The presence of modern brick and glass indicated that the path was of probable 19th or 20th century date. Purple coloured ash visible in Section 3 and observed overlying the pebbles within the footprint of the new building probably represents later repair or resurfacing of the path.

6.0 FINDS by Joyce Compton

Finds were recovered from a total of four contexts. All of the finds have been recorded by count and weight, in grams, by context. Full quantification details can be found in Appendix 2. The finds are described by category below.

6.1 Pottery by Helen Walker

A total of fifty-one sherds weighing 566g (Appendix 3), was excavated from four contexts; most is datable to the 15th to 16th centuries and largely consists of late medieval sandy orange ware. The earliest pottery comprises single sherds of grey-firing medieval coarse ware from pits 2 and 4, dating to the 13th to 14th centuries, although that from pit 2 appears to be wheel-thrown, making a 14th century date most likely. The sandy orange ware sherds are rather fragmented but a number of vessel forms can be identified, comprising fragments from a drinking vessel, a jug, hollowed everted jar rims, fragments from possible pipkins or skillets (handled cooking vessels) and a lid probably from a jar.

Two sandy orange ware sherds are decorated; one with slip-painting and the other with *sgraffito* decoration (where a design is incised through a white slip-coating to reveal the colour of the pot body beneath). The latter has been classified as Cambridgeshire Sgraffito ware, as this is where it was first recorded (Bushnell and Hurst 1952, 21-6). However, as it is common in north-west Essex and has a fabric similar to that of the plain sandy orange ware, an Essex rather than a Cambridgeshire origin is possible. Bushnell and Hurst date this ware to the 14th to early 15th century, but evidence from excavations at Chelmsford, Colchester and elsewhere in Thaxted (Cunningham 1985, 64; Cotter 2000, 170; Walker 1996, 333-4)

suggest that Sgraffito ware persisted into the 15th and 16th centuries, making it contemporary with the rest of the assemblage. Joining sherds from a Raeren stoneware jug is the only other pottery present, this was a common import from Rhineland Germany during the late 15th to mid-16th centuries, and thus contemporary with the sandy orange wares.

The pottery from all four contexts is of a similar date, although the presence of modern glass and building material in layer 7 suggests that this pottery is residual. The possible pipkin is fire-blackened externally and two sherds have internal limescale deposits, most likely due to domestic activity. The assemblage is similar to those from other excavations in the town in that it dates to the 15th-16th centuries and principally comprises a sandy orange ware fabric peculiar to this part of the county.

6.2 Brick and tile

Roof tiles were collected from three contexts and two brick fragments were found in layer 7. The brick fragments have mortar adhering and their dimensions suggest a 19th or 20th century-date. Forty-two pieces of roof tile, weighing 2290g, were recorded, unfortunately not closely datable.

6.3 Flint artefact by Hazel Martingell

A single flint artefact was found in the fill of pit 2. This is a flake with a polished dorsal surface, probably dating to the Late Neolithic onwards. The polish could be due to riverine action or from use in hide preparation.

6.4 Worked bone

A piece of trimmed and shaped bone came from layer 7. The piece is 70mm long and has a near-rectangular cross-section. Fine striations can be seen on the three squared-off sides. The fourth side carries a shallow 'groove' which represents the internal surface of the bone. This is undoubtedly an offcut from a metapodial and a by-product of the late medieval Thaxted cutlery industry. Worked bone has been found elsewhere in Thaxted; a diagram showing how a metapodial was trimmed and how bone plates were attached to knife handles is provided in Andrews (1989, fig.7). The piece from Newbiggen Street is residual.

6.5 Animal bone and shell

Three contexts produced small amounts of animal bone and shell. The animal bone, 10 pieces, weighing 112g, mainly comprises small indeterminate fragments, except for part of a large mammal radius in layer 7. All of the shell is oyster and comprises five small valves, weighing a total of 26g.

6.6 Other finds

A small piece of baked clay was found in the fill of pit 2. Colourless modern window glass sherds came from layer 7, along with a piece of recent cement/render.

6.7 Comments on the assemblage

A range of late medieval and more recent material was recorded, albeit in small quantities. It is worth noting the presence of the bone offcut, which is a reminder of the late-medieval Thaxted cutlery industry. No further work is required on any of the finds. Most of the brick, tile, animal bone and shell has been discarded following recording. The glass and cement have also been discarded. The remainder of the finds should be retained, although further discard of the roof tile could be made at the archiving stage.

7.0 DISCUSSION

No features dating to the Roman, Saxon or medieval periods were identified. The only recovered finds of this date were a single sherd of 13th to 14th century pottery and a fragment of worked bone, both residual in later contexts..

Two probable pits of 15th to 16th century date were excavated along with a third undated feature, possibly a boundary ditch, running at right angles to Newbiggen Street, while a flint cobble garden path of comparatively modern date (19th or 20th century) was recorded running westwards from the house at the southern edge of the extension footprint. A number of more recent deposits were noted and the northern part of the footprint in particular was heavily disturbed by modern service trenches.

8.0 ASSESSMENT OF RESULTS

The monitoring of the groundworks has successfully preserved by record a number of features that otherwise would have been destroyed by the development. The 15th to 16th century pits suggest that activity, possibly of a domestic nature, was taking place on the site prior to the construction of the current house in the 17th century. It is possible that the undated boundary ditch also predates the house and may be evidence for an earlier pattern of land division. However, it is also possible that the ditch is a post-medieval plot boundary dating to when the building (including 69 Newbiggen Street) was divided into three separate cottages.

As only one fragment of worked bone was recovered, and this was residual in a later context, there was little evidence to suggest that this peripheral northern area of Thaxted was actively involved in the medieval cutlery industry.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

ECC FAU would like to thank Damian Quinn for commissioning the work. The archaeological monitoring and excavation was undertaken by Trevor Ennis of the ECC Field Archaeology Unit. Finds were analysed by Joyce Compton, Hazel Martingell and Helen Walker. The report was prepared by Trevor Ennis with illustrations by Andrew Lewsey. The project was managed by Adrian Scruby and monitored on behalf of the Local Planning Authority by Richard Havis of ECC HEM.

BIBLIOGRAPHY

- Andrews, D. 1989 'A late medieval cutlery manufacturing site at Weaverhead Lane, Thaxted', *Essex Archaeol. Hist.* **20**, 110-19
- Brown N. & Glazebrook J. 2000 *Research and Archaeology: a Framework for the Eastern Counties, 2. research agenda and strategy*, E. Anglian Archaeol. Occ. Paper **8**
- Bushnell, G. H. 1952 'Some further examples of Sgraffito ware from Cambridge' *Proc. Cambridge Antiq. Soc.* **46**, 21-6
- S. and Hurst, J. G.
- Cotter, J. 2000 The post-Roman pottery from excavations in Colchester 1971-85, *Colchester Archaeol. Rep.* **7**
- Cunningham, C. M. 1985b 'The pottery', in Cunningham, C. M. and Drury, P. J., Post-medieval sites and their pottery: Moulsham Street, Chelmsford, *Chelmsford Archaeol. Trust Rep.* **5**, *Counc. Brit. Archaeol. Res. Rep.* **54**, 63-78
- DoE 1990 *Planning Policy Guidance 16: Archaeology and Planning*. HMSO
- ECC FAU 2010 *Written Scheme of Investigation for Archaeological Monitoring and Excavation at 67 Newbiggen Street, Thaxted, Essex*. ECC FAU project design
- ECC HEM 2010 *Brief for Archaeological Monitoring and Excavation at 67 Newbiggen Street, Thaxted, Essex*. ECC HEM brief.
- Gurney D. 2003 *Standards for Field Archaeology in the East of England*, E. Anglian Archaeol. Occ. Paper **14**
- IfA 1997 *Code of Conduct*. Institute for Archaeologists
- IfA 2001 *Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Evaluation (revised)*. Institute for Archaeologists
- Medlycott, M. 1999 *Thaxted: Historic Towns Project Assessment Report*. ECC
- Roswadowski, M. & Williams, M. 2009 *Proposed Extension to the Burial Ground, Land north of Thaxted Windmill, Thaxted, Essex*. Archaeological Solutions Unpublished report no. 3226. 2009
- Rumble, A. 1983 *Domesday Book: A Survey of the Counties of England*. Essex Phillimore: Chichester
- Walker, H. 1996 'The medieval pottery', 332-5, in Medlycott, M., 'Medieval and post-medieval remains from Thaxted: excavations at the rear of 23 Town Street, 1992', *Essex Archaeol. Hist.* **27**, 331-6

APPENDIX 1: CONTEXT DATA

All dimensions given in metres

| Context | Type | Description | Period |
|---------|--------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------|
| 1 | Fill of 2 | Mid brownish grey silty clay, chalk & charcoal flecks, rare small pebbles | Post-medieval |
| 2 | Pit | 0.45m+ x 0.90m x 0.80m, 80-90° sides, concave base | Post-medieval |
| 3 | Fill of 4 (middle) | Mid-light greyish brown/yellowish brown silty clay, chalk & charcoal flecks (All finds in 3) | Post-medieval |
| 4 | Pit | 2.40m+ x 1.65m x 1m+ deep, 30-60° sides (not bottomed) | Post-medieval |
| 5 | Fill of 4 (lower) | Mid greyish brown silty clay. Chalk & charcoal flecks | Post-medieval |
| 6 | Fill of 4 (upper) | Light greyish brown silty clay, Chalk & charcoal flecks | Post-medieval |
| 7 | Layer | Mid greyish brown silty clay, occasional charcoal flecks, large rounded cobbles, small pebbles | Modern |
| 8 | Layer | Light greyish yellowish brown silty clay, occasional chalk & charcoal flecks | Post-medieval |
| 9 | Fill of 10 | Mid greyish brown silty clay, occasional charcoal flecks | Undated |
| 10 | Ditch/pit | 0.45m+ x 1.10m x 0.50m + deep, 45-55° sides | Undated |
| 11 | Layer | Mid greyish brown clay silt, charcoal flecks | Post-medieval+ |

APPENDIX 2: FINDS DATA

All weights in grams

| Context | Feature | Count | Weight | Description | Date |
|---------|---------|-------|--------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------|
| 1 | 2 | 1 | 4 | Animal bone; fragment (Discarded) | - |
| | | 2 | 10 | Shell; oyster, two valves (Discarded) | - |
| | | 1 | 4 | Flint artefact | - |
| | | 1 | 14 | Baked clay | - |
| | | 32 | 1790 | Roof tile fragments (26/1305g discarded) | Post med. |
| | | 28 | 244 | Pottery; rim, handle and body sherds | Med/post med |
| 3 | 4 | 2 | 4 | Animal bone; fragments (Discarded) | - |
| | | 2 | 10 | Shell; oyster, two valves (Discarded) | - |
| | | 7 | 256 | Roof tile fragments (3/52g discarded) | Post med. |
| | | 13 | 132 | Pottery; rim and body sherds | Late med. |
| 7 | Layer | 7 | 104 | Animal bone; radius, proximal end, and long bone fragments, large mammal | - |
| | | 1 | 6 | Shell; oyster, one valve (Discarded) | - |
| | | 1 | 8 | Worked bone, trimmed and shaped, length 70mm | - |
| | | 1 | 36 | Cement/render (Discarded) | ?Modern |
| | | 3 | 8 | Glass, colourless window sherds (Discarded) | Modern |
| | | 2 | 1265 | Brick fragments, mortar adhering, width 105mm, depth 60mm (Discarded) | Post med. |
| | | 3 | 244 | Roof tile fragments | Post med. |
| | | 9 | 164 | Pottery; body sherds and lid knob | Med/post med |
| | | 8 | Layer | 1 | 26 |

APPENDIX 3: POTTERY

All weights in grams

| Context | Feature | Count | Weight | Description | Date |
|---------|---------|-----------|------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| 1 | 2 | 1 | 5 | Medieval coarse ware body sherd, appears wheel-thrown | 14th C |
| | | 27 | 239 | Late medieval sandy orange ware, mainly unglazed, featured sherds include a sherd with a thin internal glaze from a bowl or jar, a slip-painted sherd, a handle from a drinking vessel, an upright jug rim with a squared bead, two hollowed everted jar rims, and a possible skillet handle with an internal glaze | 15th to 16th C |
| 3 | 4 | 1 | 4 | Medieval coarse ware body sherd | 13th to 14th C |
| | | 12 | 128 | Late medieval Sandy orange ware including several sherds, some joining, from a possible pipkin (there is a handle attachment scar), has a long everted neck and flat-topped rim, fire-blackened externally and shows occasional splashes of glaze internally, there is also an internally glazed body sherd with patches of internal limescale | 15th to 16th C |
| 7 | Layer | 4 | 140 | Late medieval sandy orange ware, including two joining sherds from a domed lid with a round knob, abraded but showing a plain lead glaze, probably for a jar or cistern, also present is a thick-walled sherd with internal limescale deposits | 15th to 16th C |
| | | 1 | 11 | Sgraffito ware body sherd, fragment only but shows pattern of loops perhaps forming a foliage pattern | 14th to 16th C |
| | | 4 | 13 | Raeren stoneware, joining body sherds from jug | Late 15th to first half 16th C |
| 8 | Layer | 1 | 26 | Late medieval sandy orange ware with pale grey surfaces and orange cores | 15th to 16th C |
| | | 51 | 566 | | |

APPENDIX 4: CONTENTS OF ARCHIVE

Site Name: 67 Newbiggen Street, Thaxted

Site Code: TX21

Index to Archive:

1. Introduction

- 1.1 Brief
- 1.2 Written Scheme of Investigation

2. Research Archive

- 2.1 Client Report
- 2.2 Finds Reports

3. Site Archive

- 3.1 Context Record Register
- 3.2 Context Records (1 to 11)
- 3.3 Plan Register
- 3.4 Section Register
- 3.5 1 x A4 plan/section sheet
- 3.6 Trench location plan
- 3.7 Photographic Register
- 3.8 Site Photographic Record (1 set of B/W and colour prints + 1 set of digital images on disk)
- 3.9 Miscellaneous notes/plans

Not in File

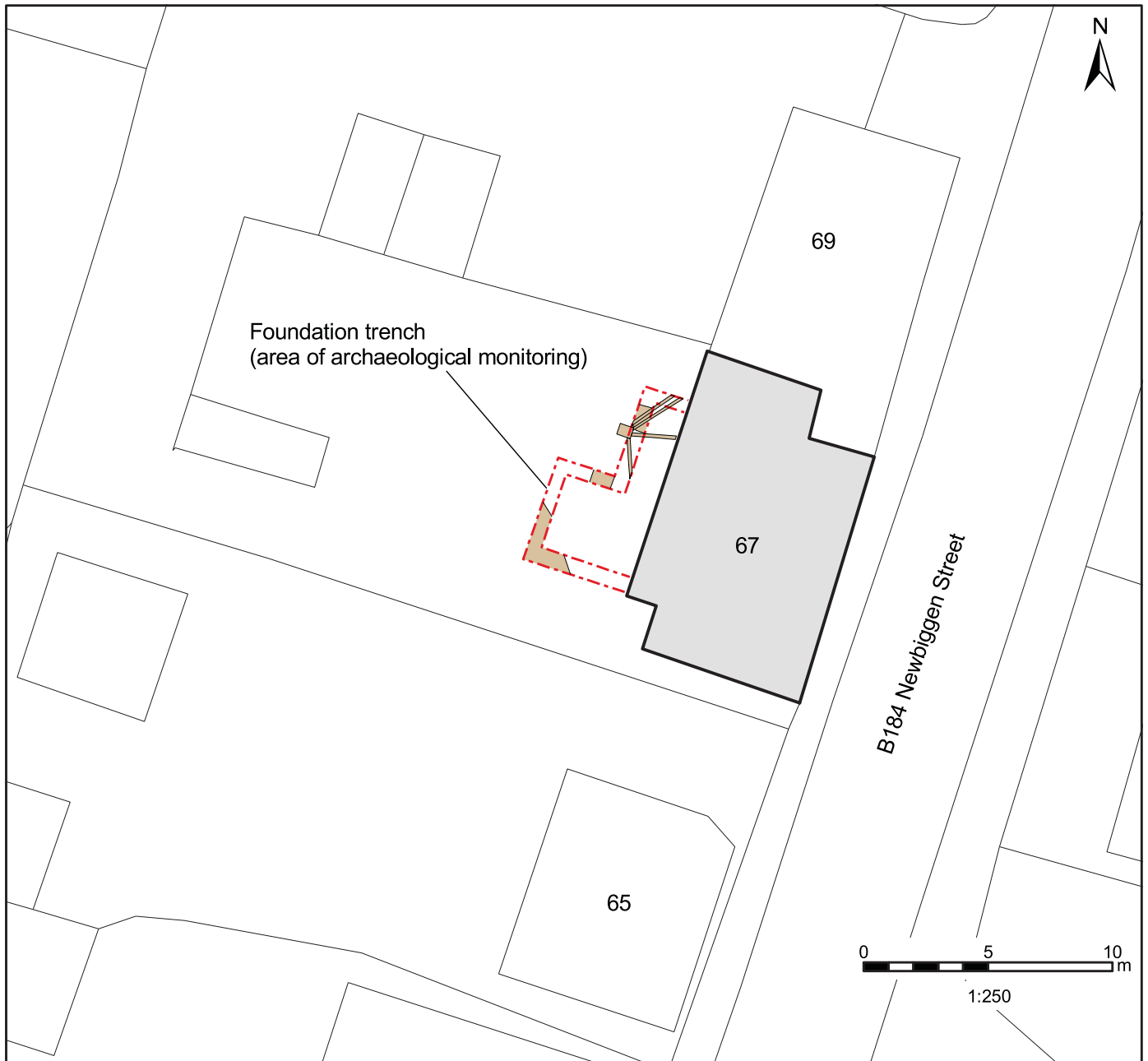
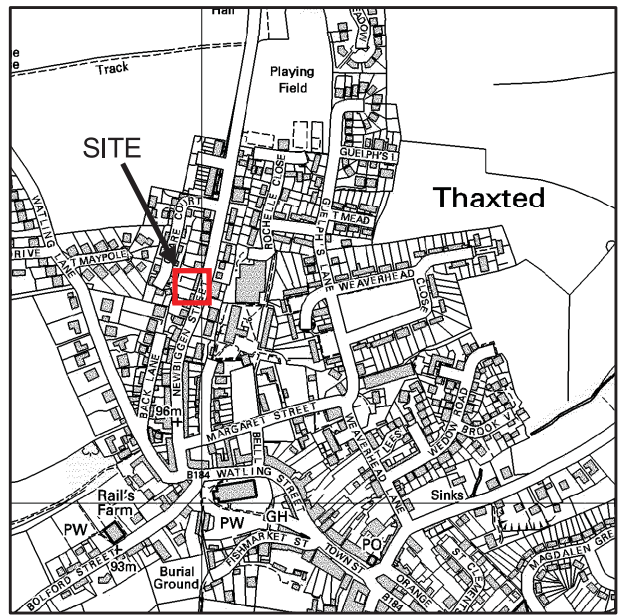
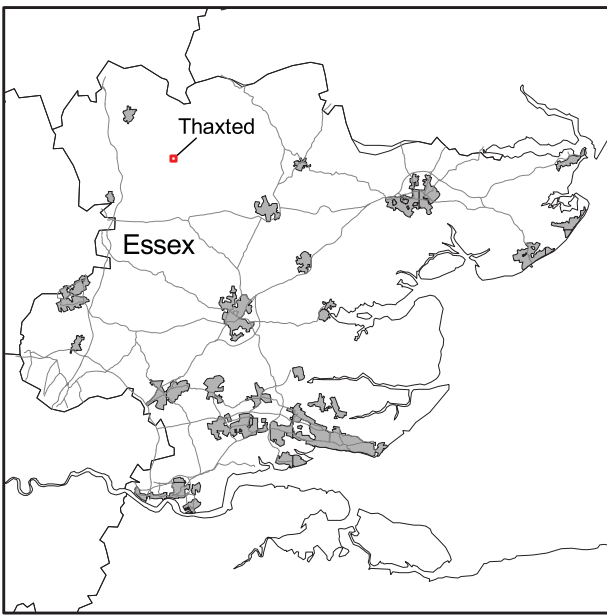
2 large plan/section sheets

Finds

The retained finds occupy less than one box.

APPENDIX 5: ESSEX HISTORIC ENVIRONMENT RECORD SUMMARY SHEET

| | |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Site name/Address: 67 Newbiggen Street, Thaxted, Essex | |
| Parishes: Thaxted | District: Uttlesford |
| NGR: TL 6098 3129 | Site Code: TX 21 |
| Type of Work: Archaeological Monitoring and Excavation | Site Director/Group: T. Ennis, ECC Field Archaeology Unit |
| Dates of Work: 27th and 28th April 2010 | Size of Area Investigated: c. 26 sq m |
| Location of Finds/Curating Museum: Saffron Walden | Funding source: Client |
| Further Seasons Anticipated?: No | Related HER Nos.: - |
| Final Report: EAH summary | Oasis No.: essexcou1- 76884 |
| Periods Represented: Late medieval, post-medieval | |
| SUMMARY OF FIELDWORK RESULTS: | |
| <p><i>Archaeological monitoring and excavation was carried out at 67 Newbiggen Street, Thaxted during groundworks for an extension to the rear of the house. The footprint of the new extension covered approximately 26 square metres.</i></p> <p><i>No remains of Prehistoric, Roman or Saxon date were identified. One sherd of medieval pottery and one fragment of worked bone of possible medieval date were recovered, both were residual in later contexts. No features were found to indicate that this area on the northern edge of Thaxted was actively involved in the medieval cutlery industry.</i></p> <p><i>Three archaeological features were investigated. Two probable pits contained pottery dating to the 15th to 16th century and a third feature, possibly a boundary ditch running at right angles to Newbiggen Street, was undated. The features suggest that activity was taking place on site prior to the construction of the house in the 17th century.</i></p> <p><i>A flint cobble garden path of comparatively modern date (19th or 20th century) was recorded running westwards from the house at the southern edge of the extension footprint.</i></p> | |
| Previous Summaries/Reports: none | |
| Author of Summary: T. Ennis | Date of Summary: September 2010 |



Mapping reproduced by permission of Ordnance Survey on behalf of the Controller of HMSO. Crown copyright. Licence no.LA100019602.

Fig.1. Location of area of archaeological monitoring

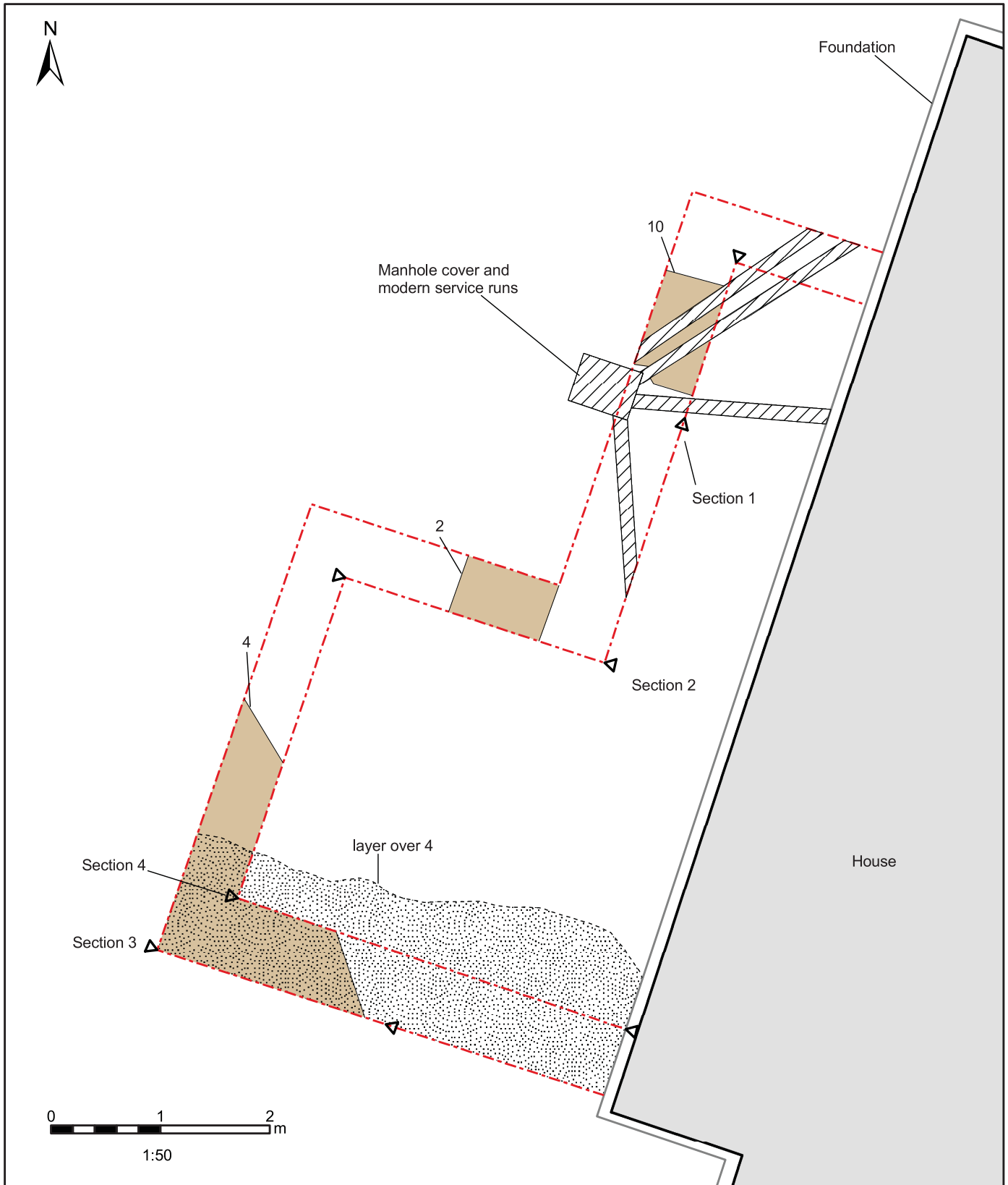


Fig.2. Excavated features

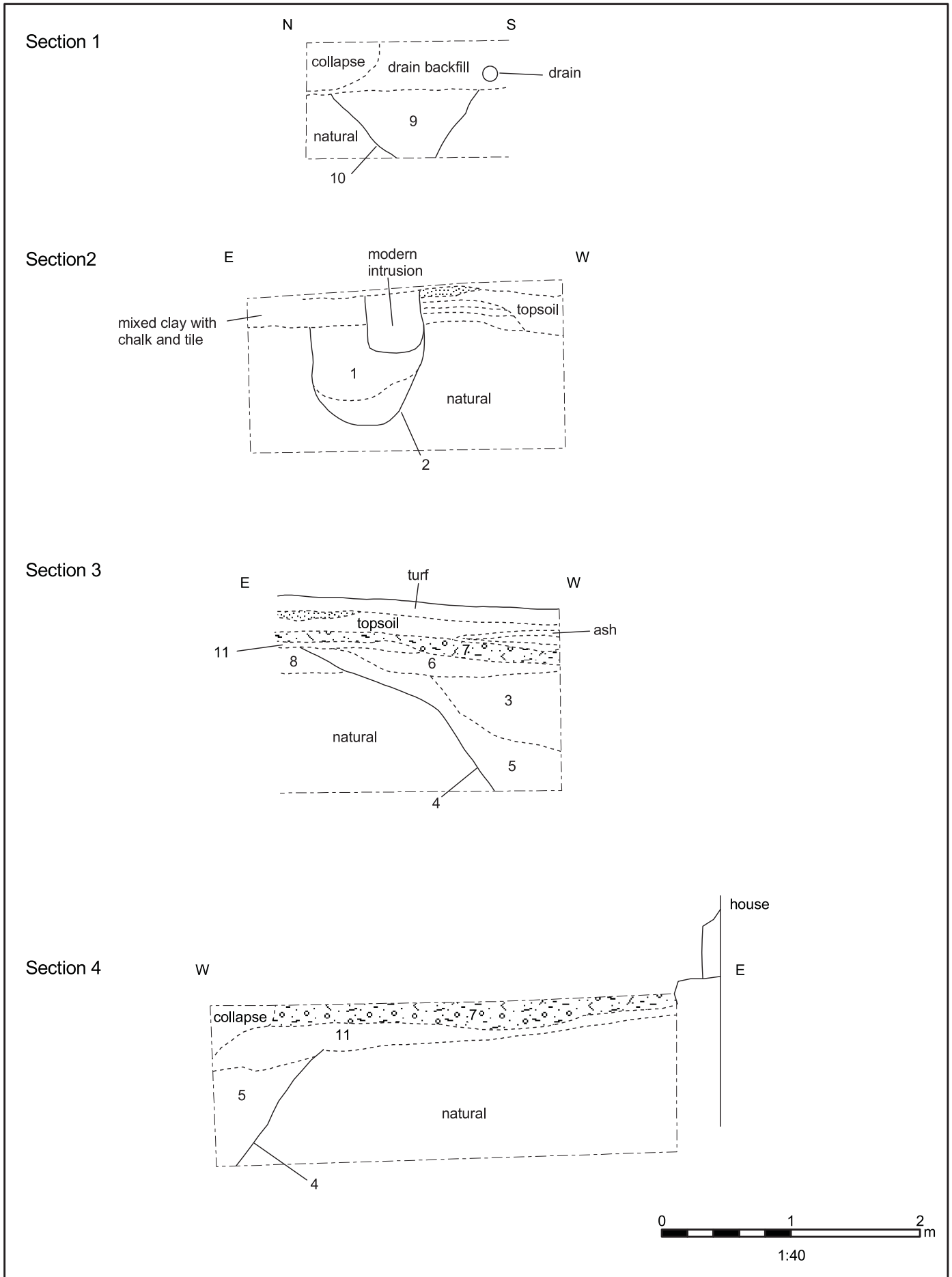


Fig.3. Sections



Plate 1. Pit 2 (1m scale)



Plate 2. Pit 4 (1m scale)