AREA 4

HALSTEAD FLOOD ALLEVIATION SCHEME

HALSTEAD

ESSEX

ARCHAEOLOGICAL

WATCHING BRIEF

Essex County Council

FIELD ARCHAEOLOGY UNIT

September 2005

HALSTEAD FLOOD ALLEVIATION SCHEME,

HALSTEAD

ESSEX

ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF

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Doc. Ref.	1458Rep2.doc
Report Issue Date	28/9/05
Circulation	Environment Agency (x2)
	Halcrow Group Ltd (x1)
	Mr M. Hunnable (x1)
	ECC HEM (x1)
	ECC HCR (x1)
	Braintree Museum (x2)

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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Front cover illustration: Bronze Age flaked flint axe (context 1)

HALSTEAD FLOOD ALLEVIATION SCHEME
ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF, AREA 4

Client: Halcrow Group Limited
ECC FAU project number: 1458
NGR: TL 8090 3147
Site code: HSFA 05
Date of fieldwork: 19/4/05 to 19/5/05, and 13/6/05

SUMMARY

This report contains the results of an archaeological watching brief undertaken, on behalf of Environment Agency, on part of the construction of a flood alleviation scheme in the Colne Valley north-west of Halstead. The work was preceded by a trial trenching evaluation carried out in 2003, which identified an area of archaeological potential in the south-east corner of the scheme.

The watching brief has confirmed that beneath the topsoil along the west-facing slope of the river valley are two layers of subsoil containing infrequent pieces of Mesolithic and Neolithic worked flint, but no other finds. The presence of the worked flint in the layers suggests that they and the topsoil are colluvial deposits brought about by soil erosion following the introduction of agriculture and an associated loss of tree cover in the Early Neolithic. The watching brief has found no significant archaeological features, apart from five undatable pits and a post-medieval/modern field ditch. Infrequent small sherds of Roman and post-medieval pottery in the topsoil are interpreted as indirect evidence for settlement within the vicinity of the site during those periods.

The presence of Mesolithic and Neolithic artefacts at this location is of significance. It is recommended that the worked flint forms the basis for a short article in the county journal Essex Archaeology and History.

1.0 INTRODUCTION

1.1 An archaeological watching brief was carried out by Essex County Council Field Archaeology Unit (ECC FAU) on part of the construction of a flood alleviation scheme north-west of Halstead (Fig. 1). The work was contracted to ECC FAU by Jackson Civil Engineering, for the Environment Agency, and was undertaken in accordance with a written scheme of investigation (ECC FAU 2005), and an archaeological brief (ECC HEM 2004). The archaeological brief was produced by Essex County Council Historic Environment Management, who also monitored the work.

1.2 The main components of the construction of the flood alleviation scheme were:

- The construction of a flood storage embankment (area 5)
- The raising and realignment of the A1124 at Doe's Corner (area 1)
- The sourcing of embankment fill material from a local borrow area (area 4) and its associated temporary haul road (area 2)
- Minor works including the construction of a flood defence embankment at the Anglian Water groundwater abstraction station and the realignment of the water supply main into Halstead (area 3)

Essex County Council Field Archaeology Unit trial trenched all five areas in September 2003 (ECC FAU 2003). The watching brief was based on the results of that work and stipulated that it should be confined to area 4 (ECC HEM 2004).

1.3 Copies of this report will be supplied to the client, the land owner, ECC HEM and the Essex Historic Environment Record (EHER). The site archive will be held at Braintree Museum. A copy of this report will form part of the OASIS online record (http://ads.ahds.ac.uk/project/oasis).

2.0 BACKGROUND

2.1 Location and topography

2.1.1 The flood alleviation scheme lies north-west of Halstead, in a rural setting in the valley of the river Colne (Fig. 1). The east and north sides of the development area are bordered by the A1124 from Halstead to Sible Hedingham. Area 4 of the scheme lies in the south-east corner and covers 5ha of arable land.

2.1.2 The river runs in a gentle-sided valley. The river channel is narrow and steep sided and meanders across the flood plain.

2.2 Geology

2.2.1 Kesgrave Sands and Gravels above London Clay comprise the underlying drift geology. It undulates and is very uneven, and holds large natural depressions up to *c*.1.2m deep. Within these depressions are glacial deposits consisting of clay, silt and sand. Chalky Boulder Clay caps the Kesgrave Sands and Gravels close to the A1124.

2.2.2 Two layers of subsoil overlie the Kesgrave Sands and Gravels, and the glacial deposits in the depressions. Each layer comprises mixed brownish orange/greyish brown silt clay and is up to *c*. 0.35m thick. The uppermost layer contains infrequent flecks of carbonised wood and is slightly darker.

2.2.3 The topsoil covering the subsoil and the Chalky Boulder Clay is brown silt clay with infrequent gravel, 0.2m to 0.25m thick.

2.3 Archaeology

2.3.1 Gravel extraction in the mid 1920s exposed Mesolithic flint artefacts (8500 to 4000 BC) in the flood plain of the Colne Valley at White Colne, south of Halstead. The artefacts comprise microlithic equipment, a dozen core adzes, a sharpening flake and retouched and truncated blades (Jacobi 1980).

2.3.2 Cropmark evidence suggests that there are two prehistoric sites close to the Halstead flood alleviation scheme (Fig. 3, EHCR 9464 and 9463). A small, rectangular enclosure present within EHCR 9464 is possibly a Neolithic (4000 to 2000 BC) long barrow or mortuary enclosure, and three or more circular features within EHCR 9463 Bronze Age (2000 to 700 BC) barrows.

2.3.3 Essex County Council Field Archaeology Unit undertook an archaeological evaluation by trial trenching of scheme areas 1 to 5 in September 2003 (Clarke 2003). The evaluation found pieces of Mesolithic and Neolithic worked flint, and a small number of archaeological features. Much of the Mesolithic and Neolithic worked flint occurred in the spoil heaps derived from the layers of subsoil from the trenches closest to the

river, in areas 4 and 5. The evidence suggested that the subsoil was a prehistoric deposit, and that it contained evidence for Mesolithic and Neolithic activity.

3.0 AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

3.1 The main aim of the watching brief was to locate, investigate and record archaeological finds and features in scheme area 4. The specific objectives of the watching brief were:

- to look for prehistoric features and Mesolithic flint scatters within or beneath the layers of subsoil
- to date and investigate the formation of the layers of subsoil

4.0 METHOD

4.1 The watching brief observed the stripping of the topsoil from the whole of area 4, and the removal of the deposits between the topsoil and the Kesgrave Sands and Gravels across a *c*.60m by 100m area in the north-west corner (Fig. 2, A), and in a *c*.75m by 6m section of key trench beneath the footprint of the proposed flood storage embankment (Fig. 2, B). The work was carried out by tracked excavators with broad toothless buckets. The groundworks contractor removed the layers of subsoil and the glacial deposits in the underlying depressions as a 'single deposit'. The key trench (B) was *c*. 1.3m deep, and had *c*. 45 degree sides and a flat base.

4.2 The surface of the uppermost subsoil layer, the top of the sand and gravel, and the working face of the subsoil strip were inspected for archaeological deposits, finds and features. Spoil-heaps were examined for archaeological finds.

4.3 All archaeological features were dug by hand. The minimum sample sizes were 10% and 50% respectively for linear and self-contained features.

4.4 Essex County Council Field Archaeology Unit used their own recording system to record the archaeological deposits and features (ECC FAU 2002). The plans were

drawn at a scale or 1:20 or 1:50, and the sections at 1:10. Photographs (colour transparencies and black and white prints) were taken of work in progress. All archaeological work was carried out in accordance with the by-laws and guidelines of the Institute of Field Archaeologists.

4.5 No soil samples were taken because no deposits were closely datable, apart from those in a post-medieval/modern field ditch.

4.6 A directional GPS with map-based software onboard was used to locate the area 4 boundary and archaeological features.

5.0 FIELDWORK RESULTS

5.1 Summary (Fig. 4)

5.1.1 The watching brief discovered prehistoric worked flint, Roman and post-medieval pottery, a post-medieval/modern field ditch and five undatable pits. The majority of the finds were unstratified (context 1) and were retrieved from the topsoil and the exposed surface of the underlying topmost layer of subsoil. There were no apparent concentrations, although few finds seemed to be present across the Chalky Boulder Clay in the far south-east corner. The excavation discovered three pieces of worked flint in spoil-heaps derived from the two layers of subsoil from subsoil strip area A (context 6). There were no other finds in the layers of subsoil apart from intrusive pieces of ceramic land drain. No worked flint was found during the excavation of the key trench (B). Further context details are presented in Appendix 1 and additional finds information in Appendix 2.

5.2 Post-medieval

5.2.1 Ditch 36, in subsoil strip area A, cut the uppermost deposit of subsoil, but was not seen in plan until after the subsoil strip (Fig. 4). It ran roughly NE-SW across the north-west corner of area 4 and was traced for a distance of 50m. It was sampled in five locations (segments 7, 9, 12, 16 and 19), but contained no finds apart from a mole drain. The mole drain occurred approximately halfway up the fill sequence and appeared to have been placed in the ditch immediately prior to it having been backfilled.

5.3 Undated

5.3.1 Five small pits were discovered in subsoil strip area A (Fig. 4; features 14, 23, 25, 27 and 29), all immediately to the south of ditch 36. The pits were very shallow; it is possible that they cut the topmost layer of subsoil, but were not seen until after the subsoil strip. Pit 23 contained a small flint flake, and pit 25 two very small sherds of undiagnostic prehistoric pottery. There were no other finds. While these artefacts could indicate a tentative prehistoric date for some or all of these features, their close proximity to the post-medieval ditch may equally suggest that the material is residual in much later contexts.

6.0 FINDS

6.1 Finds Summary, by Joyce Compton

6.1.1 The watching brief produced finds, mainly flints, from four contexts. The material has been recorded by count and weight, in grams, by context. Full details by context can be found in Appendix 2

6.1.2 As noted above, flints form the bulk of the assemblage, amounting to 374 pieces weighing a total of 4484g, and comprising a mixture of blades, scrapers, cores and working waste. Nearly all of this assemblage was recovered from context 1, representing the topsoil and surface of the subsoil. Further flints were recovered from the subsoil itself (context 6). The flint assemblage forms the subject of a separate report (see below).

6.1.3 A small quantity of pottery was also recovered from context 1, mainly comprising a range of medieval and post-medieval types, amounting to fifty-five sherds, weighing 610g. These have been examined briefly by Helen Walker, details as follows:- post-medieval red earthenware dish rim with incised zigzag around rim flange, bowl rims, base of tripod pipkin and jar rim; tin-glazed earthenware, glaze missing; Frechen stoneware from jugs; Surrey-Hampshire white ware; black-glazed ware from drinking vessels and jar; Metropolitan slipware rim of small dish; Staffordshire-type slipware, base of hollow ware; English stoneware from jug or tavern mug; Westerwald

stoneware including manganese glazed sherd; Nottingham/Derby stoneware. The post-medieval pottery has a date range of 17th to mid 18th centuries. The medieval pottery comprises a single small sherd of medieval coarse ware, probably Hedingham (12th to 14th century). There are also two sherds of late medieval sandy orange ware with the remains of slip-painting (14th to 16th century). Five sherds (62g) of undiagnostic Roman coarse pottery were also recovered.

6.1.4 The topsoil also produced a copper-alloy token or jetton with remains of gilding. These tokens were commonly used in the medieval and post-medieval periods as reckoning counters.

6.1.5 Two very small sherds of undiagnostic prehistoric pottery came from fill 26 of pit 25, and a further flint chip from fill 24 of pit 23.

6.2 Worked Flints, by Hazel Martingell

6.2.1 From a total collection of 374 pieces of flint, 364 were humanly worked. They all came from area 4, in the topsoil (context 1), the subsoil (context 6) and one flake fragment from fill 24 of pit 23. The assemblage is quantified by broad type in Appendix 3.

6.2.2 Of the worked pieces, 260 were plain/unmodified flakes, four of which were patinated (having a milky white surface, usually the result of lying in a chalky deposit, but may also suggest an early date for their manufacture -for example, patination often occurs on Mesolithic artefacts). Thirty-one of these were unmodified blades (blades are worked flints whose length is at least twice their width), six of which were patinated. In addition, there were nineteen cores from which flakes and blades had been removed.

6.2.3 One of the interesting aspects of this collection is the representation of the various stages involved in the production of knapped flint tools. Every stage from core to completed artefact is present and it is therefore possible to say that all the artefacts, with the exception of three pieces, were knapped on site from the local gravels. The raw material is very typical of the Essex gravels; a rich mixture of cobbles and pebbles, consisting of glossy black nodules with white cortex (the outer skin of the nodule), various shades of grey flint with inclusions, some stained brown to red-

brown, and a few pieces of chert. Of these 364 knapped pieces, fifty-three (15%) have retouch or secondary flaking.

6.2.4 All periods from the Mesolithic to the Bronze Age, and probably later, are represented.

Mesolithic (8500 – 4000BC)

Most importantly, during the 2003 evaluation (ECC FAU 2003), a typical Mesolithic artefact, a micro burin miss-hit, was recovered from area 4, along with eleven patinated blades and four flakes. In 2005, a further thirty-one blades, six of which were patinated, and a good patinated core were found, along with a good patinated scraper and an unpatinated notched blade to add to the earlier Mesolithic finds.

Neolithic (c. 4000 – 2000BC)

It is possible that the thirty-one unpatinated blades and some of the finer retouched flakes, a scraper, the good rod/fabricator, two fine piercers, four edge retouched blades and the small denticulate could belong to the earlier Neolithic. The later Neolithic may be represented by the rougher scrapers, piercers and notched pieces.

Bronze Age (c. 2000 – 700BC)

It is always difficult to distinguish smaller Bronze Age artefacts from their Neolithic counterparts. The only artefact really likely to be of this period is a fine flaked axe made on a thermally-fractured piece of flint.

Iron Age and later (From 700 BC onwards)

Amongst the flakes are sixteen that have the criteria for Iron Age and later pieces (Young and Humphrey 1999).

6.2.5 The total collection of worked flint artefacts from both the evaluation (ECC FAU 2003) and watching brief amounts to 428. Of these, twenty-eight are likely to be of Mesolithic date. It suggests that Mesolithic people stopped to knap flint, probably to make microliths for their arrowheads. The earlier Neolithic material is more indicative of a small homestead on the bank of the River Colne. There are no recognisably typical artefacts from the middle and later Neolithic. When we come to the Bronze Age, the evidence is more positive. It includes the flint dagger, and the probable remains of three round barrows to the north of area 4. This suggests a positive

Bronze Age presence to which the fine flaked axe, and much of the remaining smaller flint artefacts of coarse character termed 'tools of convenience', could belong.

6.3 Recommendations for further work

6.3.1 Selected flints, including those from the evaluation, warrant publishing in full, but the remaining finds are too few and in too small a quantity to produce any useful results from further study. Six of the flint artefacts from Halstead require illustration for publication. All of the finds should be retained in the archive, except for the post-medieval pottery.

7.0 CONCLUSIONS

7.1 Prehistoric

7.1.1 The pieces of Mesolithic flint indicate human activity in the river valley prior to the introduction of farming. It is likely that hunter-gatherers were drawn to the river valley and its immediate environs because it would have been a productive location for flora and fauna. The evidence from the flood alleviation scheme supplements that from White Colne south-east of Halstead (Jacobi 1980), and starts to imply that hunter gatherers were active along the length the river.

7.1.2 The two layers of subsoil and the overlying layer of topsoil are colluvial deposits ('hillwash') formed through soil erosion following the loss of tree cover brought about by the introduction of farming. The absence of finds in the subsoil other than pieces of worked flint may imply that it accumulated during the prehistoric period, possibly shortly after the introduction of farming to Britain during the Early Neolithic. Tillage and artificial improvement are likely to be responsible for the darker colour of the topmost layer of hillwash (*i.e*. the topsoil) and the more recent finds that it contains. The nearby possible long barrow/mortuary enclosure and the Bronze Age burial mounds (Fig. 3, EHCR 9463 and 9464) are two further pieces of indirect evidence for the use of the river valley at Halstead for farming and a settled existence from the Early Neolithic onwards.

7.1.3 The present-day channel-like appearance and form of the river are due to embanking and dredging and the surrounding accumulations of hillwash. A lowland river in its

natural (*i.e*. pre-farming) state has broad gentle-sides, a wide flood plain and a braided course (Evans 1975).

7.2 Roman and later

7.2.1 The pieces of flint recovered from the topsoil and the surface of the uppermost layer of subsoil are prehistoric finds disturbed by ploughing from their original context. The presence of Roman and post-medieval pottery across the field is perhaps due to the scattering of farmyard waste during manuring. The finds are indirect evidence for nearby settlement.

7.2.2 Ditch 36 in the north-west part of area 4 is a post-medieval/modern field ditch. The ditch runs parallel with a post-medieval/modern ditch, which was uncovered during the evaluation and is present on the 1874 Ordnance Survey first edition (Fig. 5).

8.0 ASSESSMENT OF RESULTS

8.1 No significant archaeological features were located that contribute to the understanding of land-use in the upper Colne valley in the Prehistoric to Medieval periods. It appears that this valley-side location has always been subject to low-intensity, presumably agricultural, activity. However, although not particularly tangible, the incidence of Mesolithic to Bronze Age period worked flints in the colluvium is of considerable significance. The destruction of the deposits by the flood alleviation scheme has been mitigated by the archaeological recording, retrieval and study of this evidence. However, there remains an implication for similar sub-soil deposits, and potentially features in association, elsewhere in the upper Colne valley should further development occur.

8.2 Academic publication

8.2.1 The prehistoric worked flints from the 2003 evaluation and 2005 watching brief merit combined publication as a short article in the local journal *Essex Archaeological and History*. The article will focus on the worked flint and will be preceded by a short introduction. It is envisaged that the article will consist of approximately two pages of text, one location plan, and one illustration showing six pieces of worked flint. The contributions of all parties concerned will be acknowledged and publicised.

8.2.2 The publication of the worked flint is thought to be merited for the following reasons:

- The valley of the River Colne is one of the identified areas of potential significance for further understanding of the Mesolithic within Essex and within East Anglia in general (Austin 1997). The discovery of the worked flint at Halstead gives further credence to this, and extends the range of known Mesolithic sites within the county, the majority of the more significant ones of which are currently concentrated along the Lea Valley (Jacobi 1996).

- The existence of layers of prehistoric, possibly Neolithic, hillwash along the valley sides of the River Colne permit the right conditions for the sealing and therefore survival of undisturbed Mesolithic and Neolithic occupation layers and environmental evidence. Mesolithic/Neolithic occupation layers are recognised as a high priority (Jacobi 1996; Austin 1997; Austin 2000) and are exceptionally rare and are a rich source of information for both periods in general and for the Mesolithic/Neolithic transition in particular. Although the work at Halstead has been unable to identify a Mesolithic/Neolithic horizon for certain, the potential for the existence of such layers in the Colne valley remains high, and requires to be made more widely known.

- Understanding of the adjacent cropmarks sites - the possible long barrow/mortuary enclosure, and Bronze Age ring-ditches – and the river valley in general is supplemented by the pieces of Neolithic and Bronze Age flint. The worked flint gives further support to the hypothesis that the River Colne north of Halstead was formerly a focal point for funerary monuments and ritual activity.

Acknowledgements

The watching brief was funded by the Environment Agency and commissioned by their contractor Jackson Civil Engineering. Essex County Council Field Archaeology Unit would like to thank both them and Halcrow Group Limited, Whitnell Contracts Limited, and Martin Hunnable of Hepworth Hall, Halstead for their help and co-operation. Mark Germany undertook the fieldwork with the assistance of Adrian Turner and Joanne Archer. Joyce Compton, Hazel Martingell and Helen Walker identified and analysed the finds, which were processed by Phil McMichael. The figure drawings are by Andrew Lewsey. The project was monitored by Vanessa Clarke of ECC HEM.

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Appendix 1: Context information

No.	Category	Dimensions (m) L x W x D	Above	Below
1	Unstratified finds from 2 and surface of 31			
2	Topsoil	0.2 thick	31	
3	Same as 31			
4	Same as 5			
5	Boulder clay	?	35	32
6	Unstratified finds from 31 and 32			
7	Segment across ditch 36	2.2 x 0.62 x 0.2		8
8	Fill		7	
9	Segment across ditch 36	1.41 x 1 x 0.25		10
10	Fill		9	11
11	Fill		10	
12	Segment across ditch 36	1.1 x 1.3 x 0.28		13
13	Fill		12	
14	Pit	1.04 x 0.8 x 0.21		15
15	Fill		14	
16	Segment across ditch 36	1 x 0.9 x 0.29		18
17	Fill		18	
18	Fill		16	17
19	Segment across ditch 36	0.44 x 3.10 x 0.78		20
20	Fill		19	21
21	Fill		20	22
22	Fill		21	
23	Pit	0.77 x 0.34 x 0.12		24
24	Fill		23	
25	Pit	0.99 x 0.8 x 0.14		26
26	Fill		25	
27	Pit	1.65 x 0.72 x 0.17		28
28	Fill		27	
29	Pit	1.4 x 0.72 x 0.08		30
30	Fill		29	
31	Subsoil	*c*. 0.25 thick	32	2
32	Subsoil	*c*. 0.15 thick	5	31
33	Natural orange brown clay silt. Part of 35	*c*. 0.2 thick		
34	Natural pale orange brown silt. Part of 35	*c*. 0.46 thick		
35	Natural orange/reddish brown silt sand and gravel (Kesgrave Sands and Gravels). Includes 33 and 34	?		5
36	Ditch	>50 x 3.1 x 0.78	31	2
37	Subsoil	*c*. 0.35 thick	38	2
38	Subsoil	*c*. 0.2 thick	39	37
39	Natural brownish yellow sand. Part of 44	*c*. 0.3 thick	40	38
40	Natural orange brown sand silt clay. Part of 44	*c*. 0.3 thick	41	39
41	Natural orange brown sand. Part of 44	0.25 +	42	40
42	Natural orange brown sand clay . Part of 44	0.25 +	43	41
43	Natural pale yellowish brown clay. Part of 44	?	44	42
44	Same as 35. Includes 39 to 43			43

Appendix 2: Finds data

Context	Feature	Count	Weight	Description	Date
1	Finds	1 360 55 5	- 4430 610 62	Copper alloy token/jetton, with remains of gilding Worked flints Pottery; rim, base and body sherds, various types, including three sherds medieval/late medieval Pottery; small ?flange sherd GRS; body sherds STOR, RED, BUF and GRF	Post med. - Post med/med Roman
6	Finds	3	52	Flints, including core	-
24	23	1	2	Flint chip	-
26	25	2	2	Pottery; body sherds	Prehistoric

Appendix 3: Worked Flint data

Type	Quantity
Flaked axe	1
Rod/Fabricator	1
Scrapers (one patinated)	9
Piercers and borers	10
Denticulate	1
Notched flakes	3
Notched blade	1
Retouched flakes	24
Retouched blades	4
Blades (six patinated)	31
Flakes (four patinated)	260
Cores (one patinated)	19
Total worked flints	*364*

Appendix 4: Contents of Archive

Contained within one A4 file:

Research Archive

2	Client reports
1	Written scheme of investigation
1	Archaeological brief
1	Worked flint report and catalogue
1	Miscellaneous finds report
1	Medieval pottery report

Site Archive

2	Context record register sheets
44	Context recording sheets
1	Plan register sheet
1	Section register sheet
2	Photographic register sheets
26	Black and white prints and negatives
28	Colour transparencies

Not in file:

1	Roll of plans and section drawings
1	Box of finds

Appendix 5: Essex Historic Environment Record Summary Sheet

Site Name & Address: Halstead Flood Alleviation Scheme, Hedingham Road, Halstead	
Parish: Halstead	***District:*** Braintree
NGR: TL 8090 3147	***Site Code:*** HSFA 05
Type of Work: Watching brief	***Site Director/Group:*** Mark Germany, Essex County Council Field Archaeology Unit
Date of Work: 19/5/05 to 19/5/05, and 13/6/05	***Size of Area Investigated:*** Development area: 5 ha
Location of Finds/Curating Museum: Braintree	***Funding Source:*** Environment Agency
Further Work Anticipated? No	***Related HCR Nos:***
Final Report: Essex Archaeology and History	
Periods Represented: Prehistoric Roman Post-medieval Modern	
SUMMARY OF FIELDWORK RESULTS: The watching brief observed part of the construction of a flood alleviation scheme and followed up the results of an earlier evaluation by trial trenching (Clarke 2003). The watching brief established that two layers of subsoil containing infrequent pieces of Mesolithic and Neolithic worked flint, but no other finds, are present beneath the topsoil along the west-facing slope of the river valley. It is postulated that the topsoil and two layers of subsoil are colluvial deposits brought about by soil erosion following the introduction of farming and an associated reduction in tree cover in the Early Neolithic. The watching brief found no significant archaeological features apart from five undated pits and a post-medieval/modern field ditch. Infrequent small sherds of Roman and post-medieval pottery provided indirect evidence for settlement and land-use within the vicinity of the site during those periods.	
Previous Summaries/Reports: Clarke, R. 2003 *Halstead Flood Alleviation Scheme, Halstead, Essex. Archaeological Evaluation by Trial Trenching*. Client Report, Essex County Council Field Archaeology Unit.	
Author of Summary: Mark Germany	***Date of Summary:*** June 2005

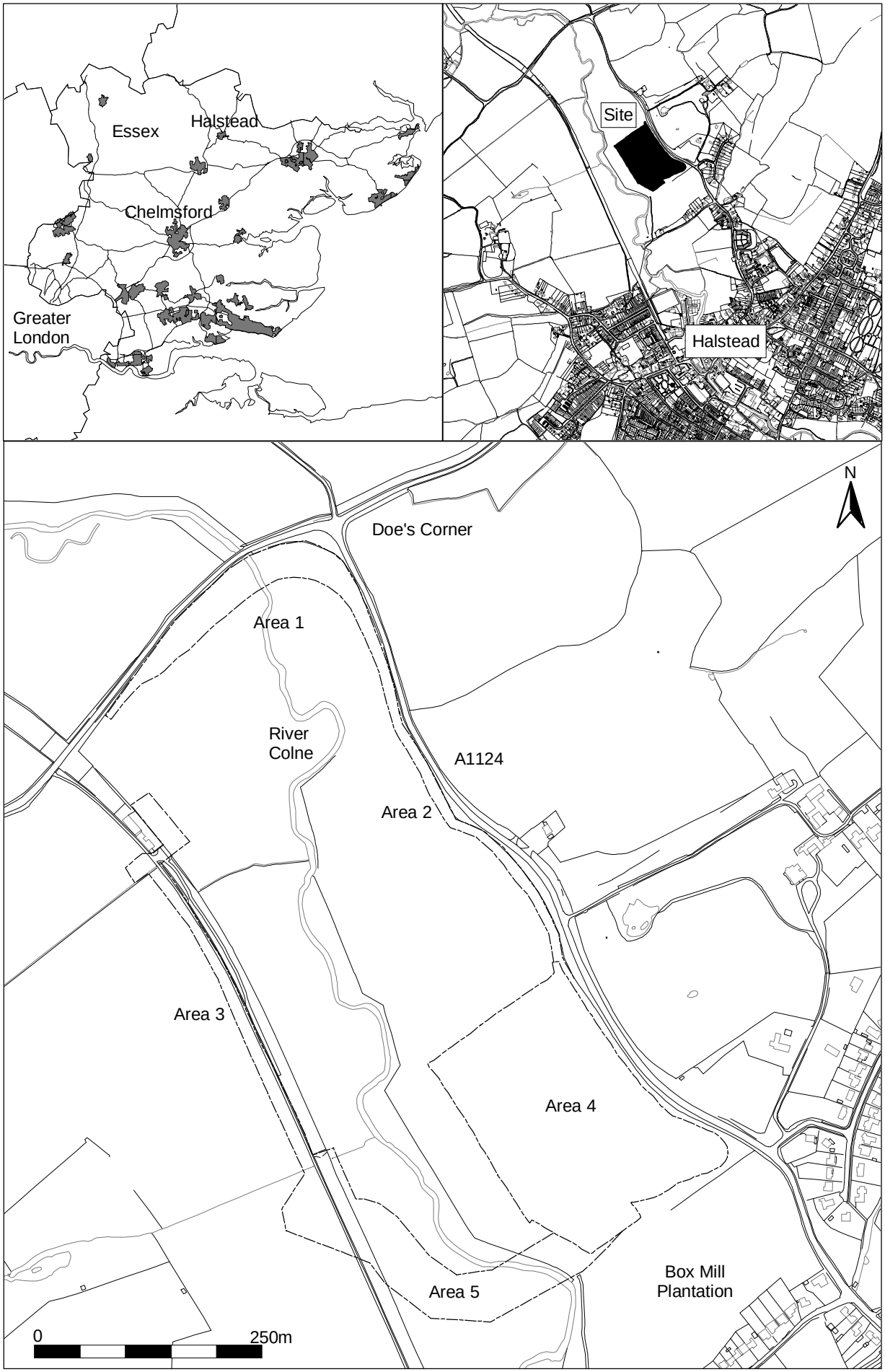

Fig.1. Site Location

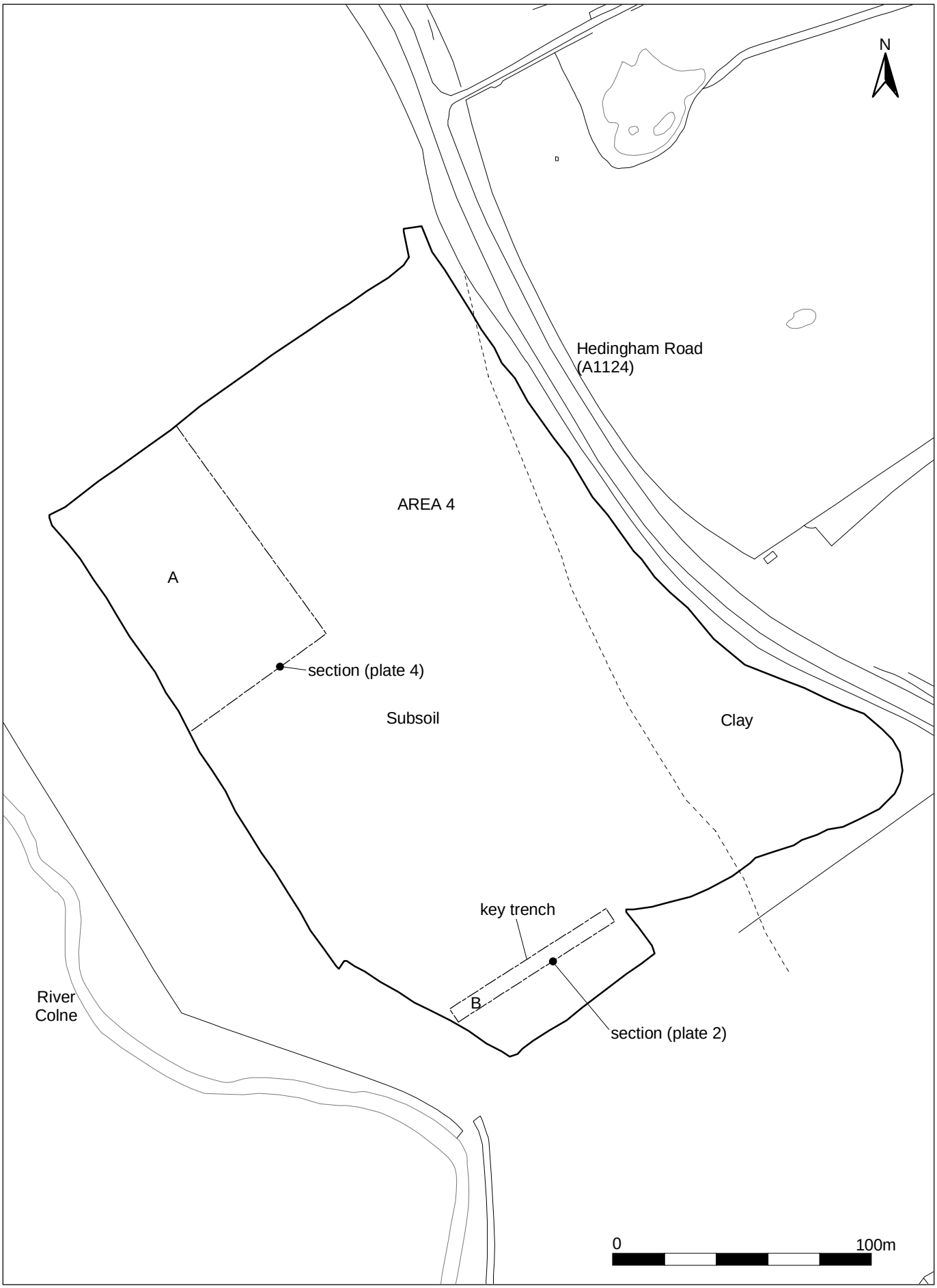

Fig.2. Geology

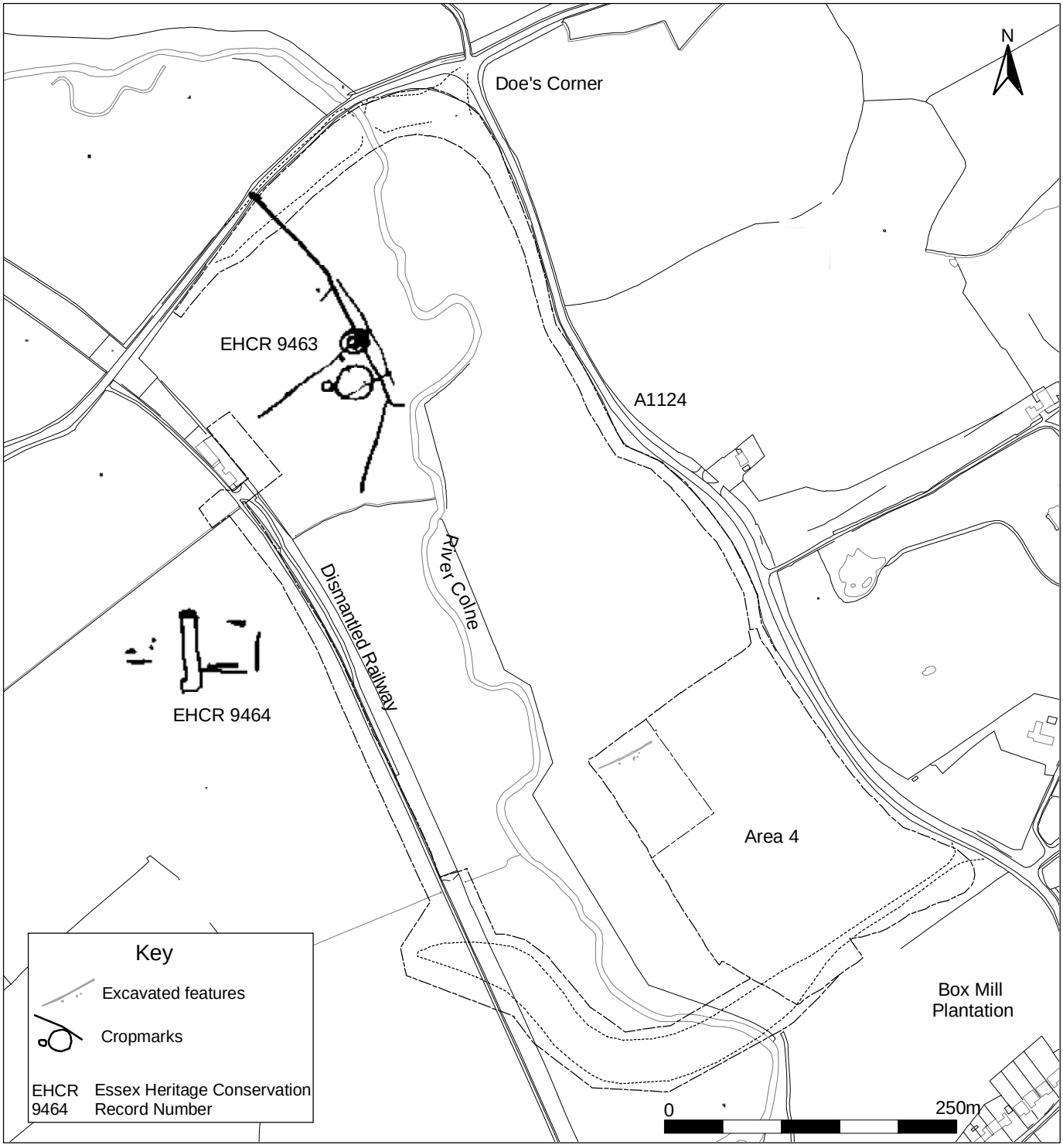

Fig.3. Cropmarks

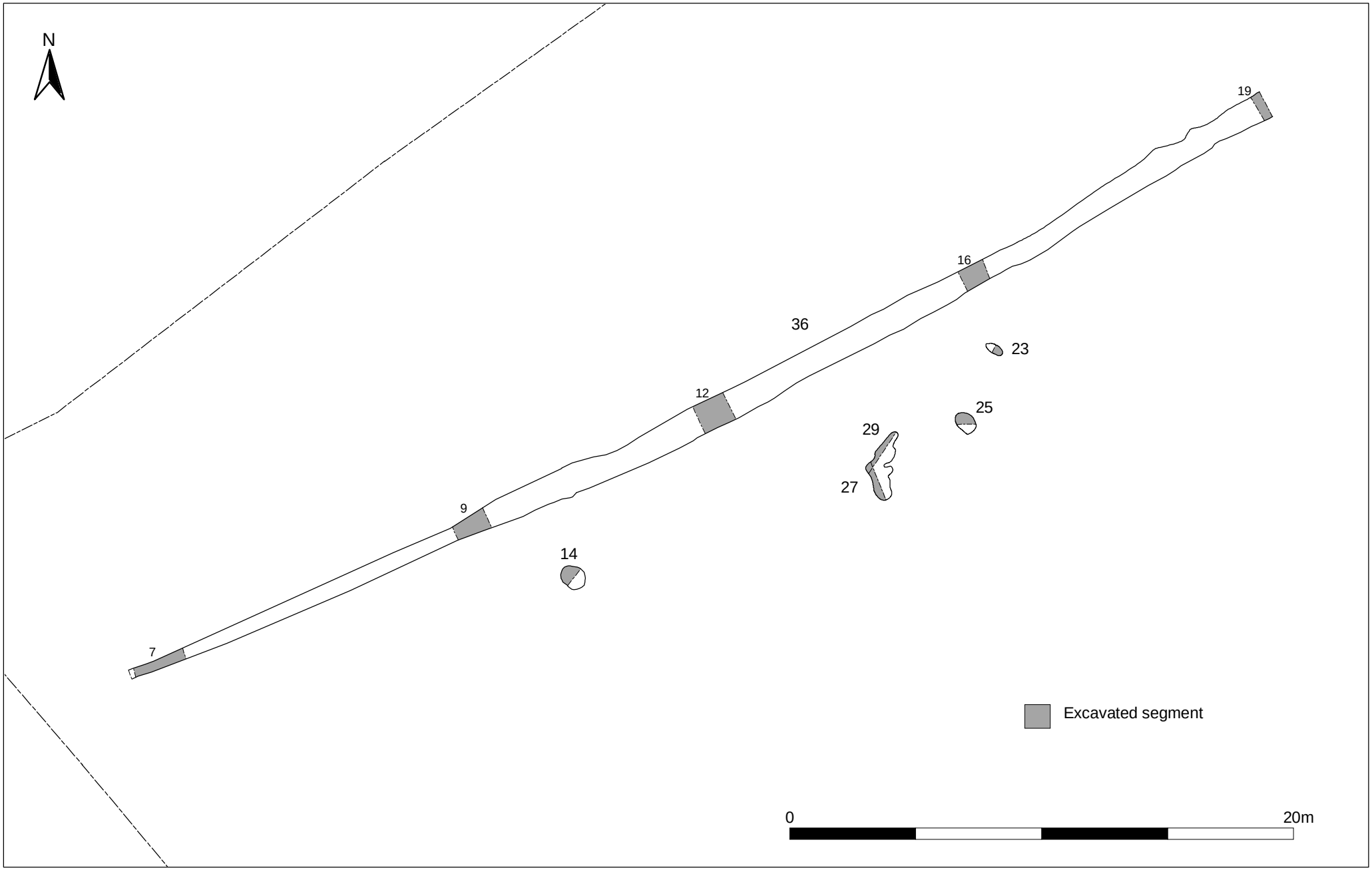

Fig.4. Excavated features

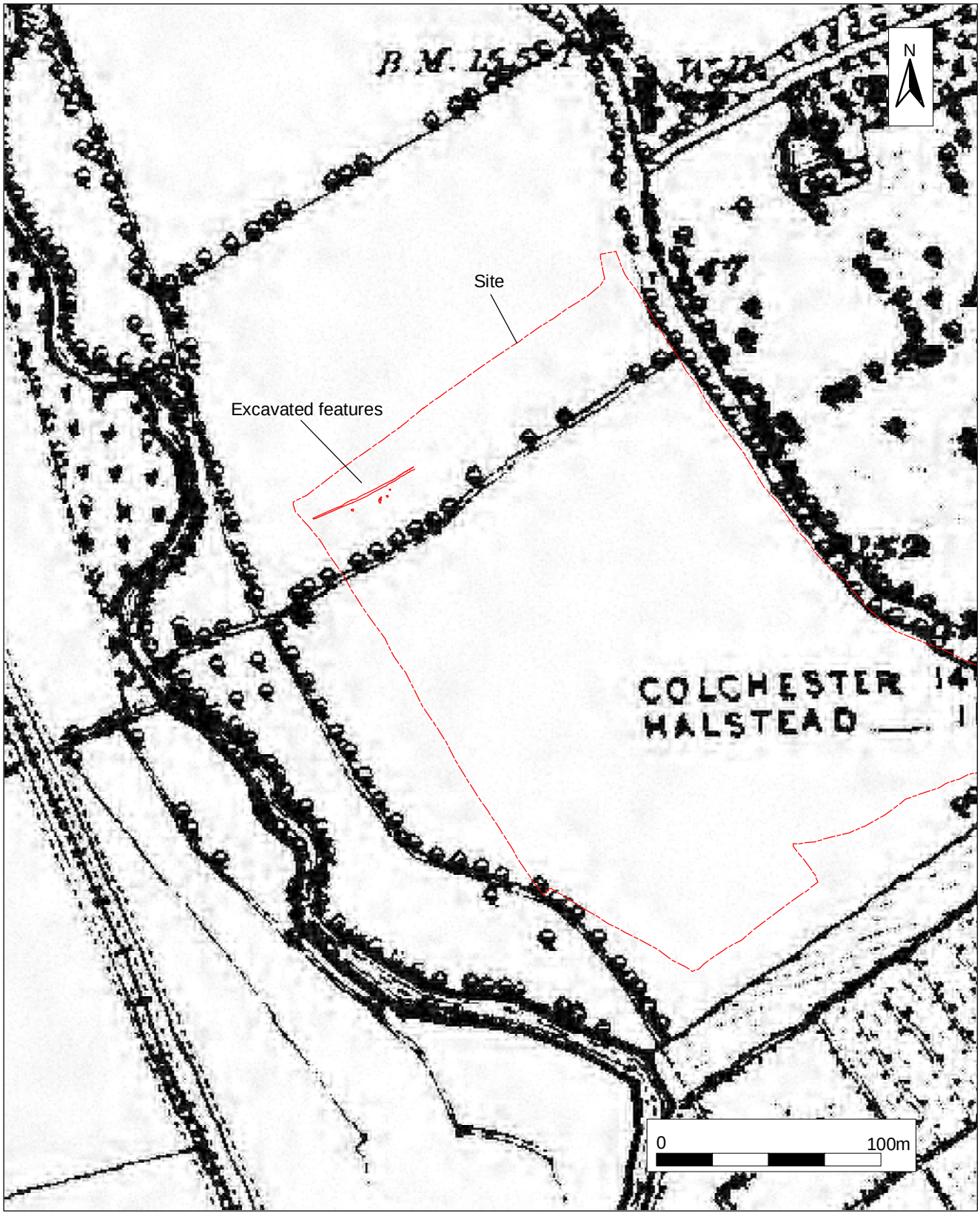

Fig.5. Area 4 overlaid on 1876 Ordnance Survey