# FORMER DEPOT SITE MULBERRY GREEN HARLOW ESSEX

## ARCHAEOLOGICAL MONITORING AND RECORDING





June 2010

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Document Ref.	2203HERrep
Report Issue Date	28th June 2010
Circulation	James Taylor Construction Ltd (inc. copy for LPA)
	ECC Historic Environment Management
	Essex Historic Environment Record
	Harlow 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.

Please contact the Archaeological Fieldwork Manager at the

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### **EHER SUMMARY SHEET**

Site NamelAddress: Former Depot Site, Mulberry Green, Harlow, Essex		
Parish: Harlow	District: Harlow	
<b>NGR:</b> TL 47814 11413	Site Code: HAFD10	
Type of Work: Archaeological Monitoring and Recording	Site Director/Team: Phillippa Sparrow and Trevor Ennis (ECC FAU)	
Dates of Work: 14th, 22nd, 26th, 29th April, 4th May and 9th June 2010	Size of Area Investigated:	
Curating Museum: Harlow Museum	Funding Source: James Taylor Construction Ltd	
Further Work Anticipated? No	Related HER Nos. None	
Final Report: Summary in EAH	OASIS Ref: essexcou1-78796	
Periods Represented: None		

### **SUMMARY OF FIELDWORK RESULTS:**

The development site comprises a former depot located to the rear of Mulberry Green House, Mulberry Green, on the south-eastern edge of Old Harlow. The site was overgrown, with large trees and shrubs, particularly around its peripheries. The archaeological work was recommended by ECC HEM in response to planning application HW/PL/07/00395 for the construction of eight new houses, with the general aim to identify and record any surviving archaeological remains related to medieval Old Harlow.

The building footprints were stripped to varying depths measuring between 0.3m deep in the north-eastern corner of the site to 0.8m deep towards its centre, and largely reflecting the depth of the natural silty sand below the present ground level (Fig. 1; Plates 1 and 2). The north-eastern footprint revealed a high degree of root disturbance. The soil deposit sequence comprised a topsoil of pebbly silty sand containing brick rubble, glass and various other waste items, overlying the natural silty sand.

A drainage run, excavated to a depth of 1.2m in the centre and south of the site, revealed a different deposit model to that in the northern area (Plate 3). The natural brown clay (0.48m thick) and shingle were overlain by grey-brown clayey silt subsoil (0.35m thick). The topsoil (0.23m thick) was mixed with shingle and seams of organic material (Plate 4). A late 20th-century feature containing plastic bags was present at 8.8m from the north end of the trench (Plate 5).

As annotated in Fig. 1, several of the stripped areas were backfilled with rubble and hardcore prior to archaeological monitoring (Plate 6), it was therefore impossible to identify the stratigraphy or presence or absence of archaeological features and finds in these areas. However, the drainage run and the stripped areas in the north of the site were devoid of archaeological remains, though they were considerably disturbed by rooting from the large trees and shrubs present along the site peripheries and by modern activity.

Previous Summaries/Reports: None		
Author of Summary: P. Sparrow	Date of Summary: 28th June 2010	

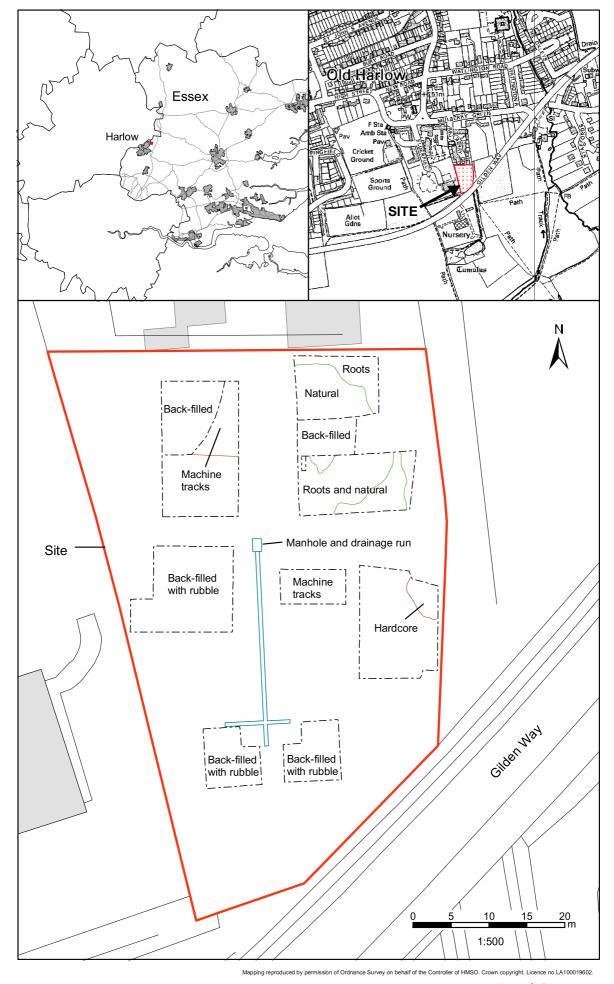


Fig.1. Site location and observed areas



## **PLATES**



Plate 1. Shallow footprint, north-eastern corner. Looking north. 2m scale.



Plate 2. Deeper central footprint. Looking southwest. 2m scale.



Plate 3. Drain run, looking north. 1m scale



Plate 4. Drain run stratigraphy. 1m scale.



Plate 5. Modern pit in drain run. 1m scale.



Plate 6. Partially backfilled footprint, looking south