

**RECTORY MEADOW
SIBLE HEDINGHAM
ESSEX**

**ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION
BY TRIAL TRENCHING**

JUNE 2005

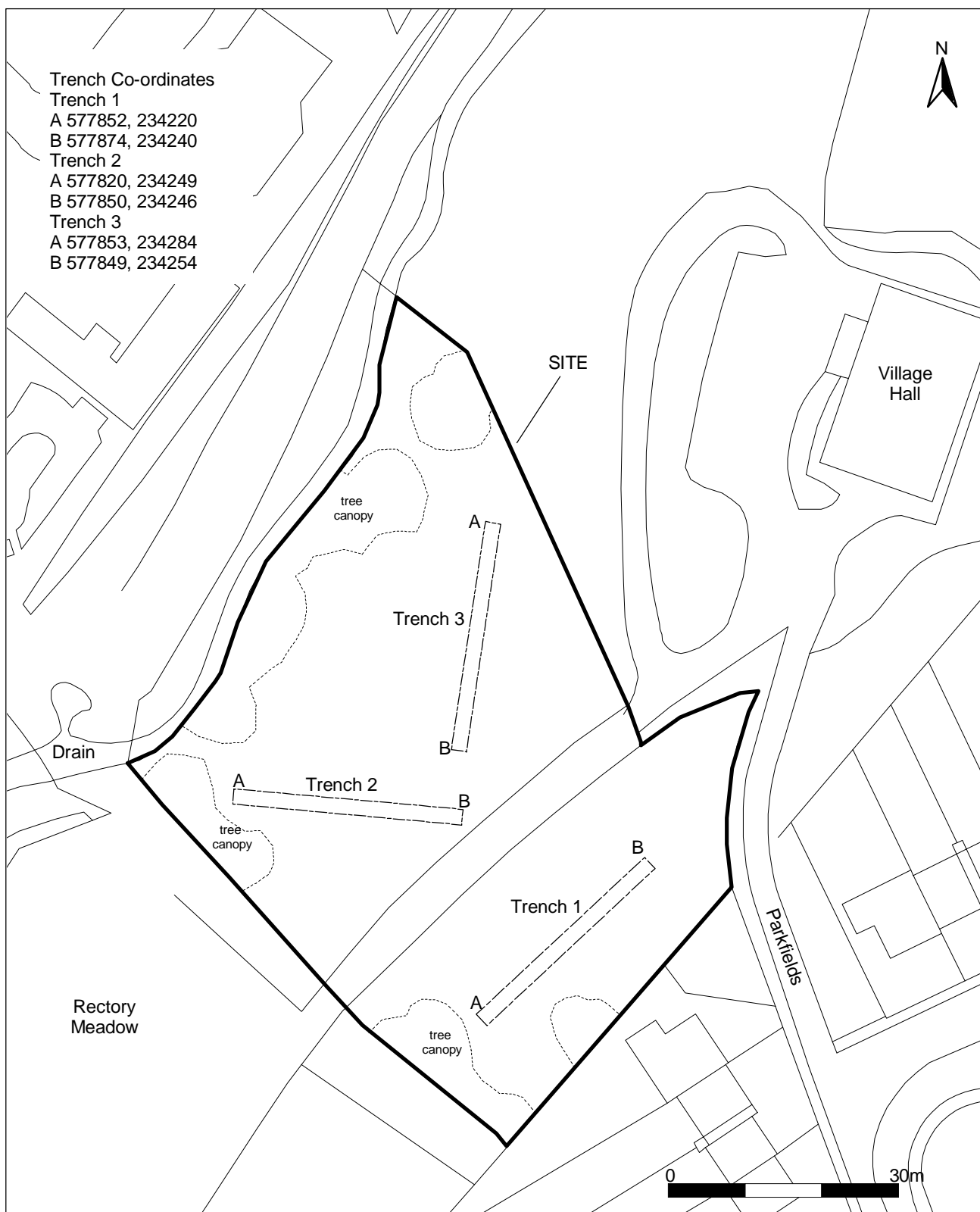


**Essex County Council
Planning**

Field Archaeology Unit

EHER SUMMARY SHEET

Site name/Address: Rectory Meadow, St Peter's View, Off Alexandra Road, Sible Hedingham, Halstead, Essex.	
Parish: Sible Hedingham	District: Braintree
NGR: TL 77850 34246	Site Code: SHRM'05
Type of Work: Archaeological Evaluation	Site Director/Group: T. Ennis, ECC Field Archaeology Unit
Date of Work: 20 and 21 June 2005	Size of Area Investigated: 0.44ha
Location of Curating Museum: Braintree	Funding source: Stanfield Developments Ltd
Further Seasons Anticipated?: No	Related HER Nos.: 6793, 6837, 6941
Final Report: June 2005	
Periods Represented: Modern	
<p>SUMMARY OF FIELDWORK RESULTS:</p> <p><i>Archaeological evaluation by trial trenching was carried out on land proposed for residential development at Rectory Meadow, Sible Hedingham, Essex.</i></p> <p><i>Three 30m x 1.65m trenches were excavated (see attached plan). Modern disturbance was noted in Trenches 1 and 2 and the north end of Trench 3 was crossed by a (dry) ceramic drain pipe. No archaeological features were identified or artefacts collected.</i></p> <p><i>No archaeological evidence was found for activity associated with the medieval moated enclosure to the north of the site or the medieval kiln to the west. The site sloped from south-east to north-west and the shallowness of the topsoil suggested it had been subject to previous truncation.</i></p> <p><u>Trench Descriptions</u></p> <p>Trench 1 <i>Topsoil - mid grey brown silty sandy loam</i> <i>Subsoil - variable from grey brown silty clayey sand to orange clayey sand</i> <i>Trench depth 0.12m – 0.4m, orientation NE/SW</i></p> <p>Trench 2 <i>Topsoil - mid grey brown silty sandy loam</i> <i>Subsoil – yellowish brown silty sand</i> <i>Trench depth 0.25m – 0.8m, orientation E/W</i> <i>Overburden deepest at west-end where recent deposits overlay buried topsoil containing an iron stake and sealing a metal water pipe</i></p> <p>Trench 3 <i>Topsoil - grey brown silty sandy loam</i> <i>Subsoil – yellowish brown clayey silty sand</i> <i>Trench depth 0.55m – 0.9m, orientation N/S</i> <i>Natural orange sand and gravel overlain by a dull yellowish brown clayey silty sand hill-wash deposit, deepest at north-end</i></p>	
Previous Summaries/Reports: -	
Author of Summary: T. Ennis	Date of Summary: June 2005



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Fig.1. Trench location plan