

HERITAGE NETWORK



‘MARANELLO’ Walden Road, Thaxted, Essex

HN968

ARCHAEOLOGICAL ASSESSMENT REPORT

THE HERITAGE NETWORK LTD

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Archaeological Director: David Hillelson, BA MIFA

‘MARANELLO’ Walden Road, Thaxted, Essex

Heritage Network ref.: HN968

LPA ref: UTT/1368/11

OASIS ref.: heritage1-115504

Site Code: TX22

Archaeological Assessment Report

Prepared on behalf of Zero Three Care Homes LLP

by

James Snee, BSC (HONS) AIFA

Report no. 710

February 2012

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Acknowledgements

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Summary

Site name and address:	‘Maranello’, Walden Road, Thaxted, Essex, CM6 2RE		
County:	Essex	District:	Uttlesford
Village/town:	Thaxted	Parish:	Thaxted
Planning reference:	UTT/1368/11	NGR:	TL 61093 31690
Client name and address:	Zero Three Care Homes LLP, Suite 1, The Exchange Court, London Road, Feering, Colchester, Essex, C05 9FB		
Nature of work:	Landscape Gardening	Former land use:	Garden
Site status:	None	Reason for investigation:	Direction of local planning authority (PPS5)
Position in planning process:	Post Determination (as a condition)	Project brief originator:	Local authority
Size of affected area:	c.540m ²	Size of area investigated:	c.160m ²
Site Code:	TX22	Museum accession no.:	SAFWM: 2011.95
Organisation:	Heritage Network	Site Director:	David Hillelson
Project type, methods etc.:	Excavation	Archive recipient:	Saffron Walden Museum
Start of work	15/12/2011	Finish of work	08/02/2012
Related SMR Nos:	HER 1515-1516	Periods represented:	Medieval; post-medieval
Oasis UID	heritage1-119952	Significant finds:	Pottery; daub; animal bone; ceramic building material
Monument types:	Mill mound		
Physical archive:	Pottery; daub; animal bone; ceramic building material		
Previous summaries/reports:	n/a		

Synopsis:

As the result of a condition on the planning permission for the proposed development at ‘Maranello’, Walden Road, Thaxted, Essex, the Heritage Network was commissioned by the developer to undertake a programme of archaeological investigation. The property is the site of a windmill mound, known to have been present in the post-medieval period and thought to have existed in the medieval period.

Stage 1 of the investigation comprised a detailed contour survey of the mound in its existing form. This was followed by the recording of an exposed section on the northern face of the mound. The subsequent stages comprised the reduction of the entire mound to natural, under close archaeological supervision.

The investigations, supplemented by map and documentary evidence, indicate that the mound was of single phase construction, dating to the post-medieval period. It was constructed at some point in the 17th or 18th century and supported a post windmill that remained in use until the late 19th century, being demolished in the late 19th century or early 20th century. It is possible that the footprint of the mound was reduced in size at this time.

No evidence for structures or artefacts relating to the known post-medieval mill was encountered during the present project. No evidence for a medieval mill on the site was identified, or for activity during the Roman period.

1. Introduction

1.1 This report has been prepared at the request of Zero Three Care Homes LLP, as part of an archaeological investigation associated with the removal and re-landscaping of a former windmill mound at ‘Maranello’, Walden Road, Thaxted, Essex.

1.2 The work has been undertaken as a requirement of Condition 6 of the planning consent for the development (ref. UTT/1368/11) granted by Uttlesford District Council (UDC), under the provisions set out in the Department of Communities and Local Government’s *Planning Policy Statement 5* (PPS5). The extent of the present work was defined in a brief for *Archaeological Survey and Excavation of a Windmill Mound at Maranello, Walden Road, Thaxted* produced by the Historic Environment Management Team (HEMT) of Essex County Council, acting as archaeological advisers to UDC (ref: RH 10/2011). A full specification for the investigation was contained in the Heritage Network’s approved *Project Design*, dated December 2011.

1.3 The area of investigation, centred on NGR TL 6110 3169, lies within the grounds of a property called ‘Maranello’, which was variously known previously as Boyton Mill Place, Thaxted Hall and The Fox and Hounds Public House (Figure 1). ‘Maranello’ lies on the southeast corner of the junction of Walden Road (B184) and the B1051 Sampford Road. To the north and west of the site is agricultural land, to the east is a new residential estate centred on Bellrope Meadow and to the south are playing fields.

1.4 The study area lies to the north of the medieval town of Thaxted, which was a centre for the cutlery industry in the medieval period. It is thought that a mill stood on the site in the medieval period, being later replaced by a known post-medieval mill (HER 1515-1516). Pottery of 12th to 13th century date was recovered during the removal of trees and shrubs from the mound (R. Havis, pers. com.).

1.1 The aims of the investigation have been to establish the location, depth, extent, date, character and condition of any remains that were liable to be threatened by the development, and to consider the local and regional archaeological and historical context of such remains, and their significance and quality, in relation to the current published regional research agenda (Brown and Glazebrook 2000, Medlycott 2011). It was considered that the investigation had the potential to contribute to an understanding the origins and development of Romano-British rural settlement; an understanding of the relationship of the infrastructure and industries of town and country in the medieval period, specifically the form and nature of the medieval mill believed to have existed on the site; and an understanding of continuity and change in rural industry from the medieval to post-medieval periods, specifically if the post medieval mill was built on the foundations of an earlier medieval mill.

1.5 The present report represents an assessment of the data collected in the course of the survey and excavation of the mound, in accordance with the post-excavation methodology for the project contained in the approved Project Design. It includes proposals for publication of the results of the investigation and for the deposition of the archive with Saffron Walden Museum.

2. Background

SITE TOPOGRAPHY AND GEOLOGY

2.1 Thaxted lies in the valley of the River Chelmer, a tributary of the River Blackwater. The solid geology of the area consists of clay, silt and sand of the Thanet Sand Formation and Lambeth Group (Undifferentiated), below chalky till, with lenses of sand and gravel, of the Lowestoft Formation (www.bgs.ac.uk/geologyofbritain/home.html).

2.2 Local soils are derived from the Hanslope Association (411d) described as *Slowly permeable calcareous clayey soils*. Some slowly permeable non-calcareous clayey soils (SSEW 1983).

ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL CONTEXT

2.3 The proposed development site lies to the north of the medieval town of Thaxted in an archaeological landscape that dates from the Iron Age onwards.

2.4 Investigations ahead of the development of the Bellrope Meadow housing estate, immediately to the east of the present site, revealed enclosure ditches of late Iron Age or early Roman date, together with a small Roman cemetery (HER 46184). Late medieval and early post-medieval building material was also recovered from the site, indicating the presence of a structure of this date in the vicinity (HER 47540). The line of the Roman road between Thaxted and Radwinter (HER 1452), lies further to the east.

2.5 Thaxted was an established settlement by the Anglo-Saxon period, with documentary evidence of a church established by 981 AD (Medlycott 1999). The Domesday survey of 1086 records that it answered for 9½ hides (approximately 1140 acres) with 111 households on the manor (Rumble, 1983).

2.6 Thaxted was granted a market in 1205 and the town expanded throughout the medieval period. It also became an important centre for the cutlery trade (Medlycott 1999). Finds of coins and tokens in the area of Park Farm, to the south of the town, suggest that this may have been the site of an annual fair (ibid.).

SITE SPECIFIC

2.7 The study area was the location of a post windmill (HER 1515). It is thought that there may have been a mill on the site in the medieval period, although the first record of a mill is in 1623 (Unprovenanced source: www.wikipedia.org/wiki/list_of_windmills_in_Essex). It appears on maps from 1675 (ibid.). The windmill seems to have had several names, being called Newbiggin mill, Boyton End mill and Fox and Hounds mill (ibid.).

2.8 By the 1830s the mill mound formed part of the land associated with the Fox and Hounds public house. Valuers’ and Auctioneers’ notebooks of 1834-35 (ERO D/F 35/2/73; D/F 35/3/73) record that the property comprised the public house, the post windmill, and land belonging to the late James Guyver. The HER record states that the mill was demolished in 1893, a fact supported by the OS map of 1897 from which the mill is missing.

2.9 Pottery of 12th to 13th century has recently been recovered from the site during tree clearance works (R. Havis, pers. com.).

Map Evidence

The earliest available map showing a mill at the site was John Chapman and Peter André’s large scale map of Essex, dated 1777 (Figure 2). The map shows a post windmill located at the junction of Walden Road and the road to Great Sampford. A building is marked within a square enclosure to the west of the mill.

2.10 The Tithe map of 1844 (D/CT 348A) shows the mill in a sub-circular enclosure, which may represent the mound, with an access road extending west to Walden Road (Figure 3). An elongated pond is marked to the north and northwest. These features correspond to the description in the Apportionment:

- The Thaxted Tithe Apportionment (D/P 111/27/1), gives details of the two plots on the site. Plot 382 is described as a post windmill with a yard and moat and Plot 383 is The Fox Public House and garden. Both properties are owned by Richard and William Randall, and occupied by Daniel Britton

2.11 The 1st edition Ordnance Survey map of 1876, shows the site in detail (Figure 4). The pond is marked on the corner of Walden Road and the road to Great Sampford, to the south of this is an approximately oval enclosure or mound with a rectangular structure in the centre. This enclosure is labelled “Windmill (Corn)”.

2.12 The 2nd edition Ordnance Survey map, dated 1897, shows the enclosure or mound, pond and access, but the mill is no longer present (Figure 5).

2.13 The 1921 Ordnance Survey map, and later maps up to 1981, show the pond and a roughly triangular mound (defined by hachures) on the site (Figures 6 & 7). The mound occupies the western half of the former enclosure and does not lie directly below where the windmill was located in the 1876 map. A smithy is marked to the south of the mound in 1921.

METHODOLOGY*General*

2.14 All work was carried out in accordance with the approved Project Design, current health and safety legislation, and both IFA and ALGAO standards.

2.15 The controlled dismantling of the supposed windmill mound was divided into stages to allow the work to be halted at any time, if appropriate, and any surviving elements to be preserved in situ.

2.16 Stage 1 comprised a detailed contour survey of the mound in its current form. The survey was carried out on 15th December 2011, using a Trimble S6 total station and ancillary equipment. Measurements were taken at intervals appropriate to the local topography. The grid and height datum was then related to the OS National Grid using professional GPS, and to OS Orthometric height by reference to OS Smartnet. Data collected in the field was processed using Sokkia SDRmap survey/mapping software to create a plan showing contours at 0.25m vertical separation.

2.17 Stage 2 comprised the cleaning of the previously exposed cut face of the mound, which fronted the Sampford road, to allow an assessment of the sequence of deposits in order to ascertain their nature, depth, date and quality of preservation. The work included the creation of a section drawing of the exposed face at a scale of 1:10. The position of the section was added to the base plan produced in Stage 1. The datum height of the section was measured from a bench mark established from the Stage 1 survey.

2.18 Stage 3 consisted of the controlled removal of the topsoil to the first significant archaeological horizon. This was undertaken using a tracked mechanical excavator fitted with a 1.6m wide toothless ditching bucket and under close archaeological supervision.

2.19 The HEMT was consulted following the removal of the topsoil and the recording of the exposed surface, and it was agreed to continue with Stage 4, which comprised the controlled removal, by machine, of the dumped boulder clay layer. This revealed the lower makeup layers to the mound, but no structural elements or discrete features. It was agreed with the HEMT that controlled machining would continue until archaeological features were either revealed, or shown to be absent.

2.20 Spoil from the machining was inspected for archaeological artefacts.

2.21 All identified contexts were photographed and recorded using the appropriate *pro forma*. Scaled plans and sections were drawn on drafting film, at scales of 1:20 and 1:10.

Artefacts

2.22 Where not considered detrimental to their condition, bulk finds such as pottery and bone have been carefully washed in clean water to remove the soil, and quantified. All pottery has been marked with the site code and context number.

Documentary Archive

2.23 The documentary archive, comprising the excavation records, has been quantified, ordered, indexed, cross-referenced and checked for internal consistency. An overall site summary, and a summary of the artefactual and ecofactual data has also been prepared.

Material Archive

2.24 The material archive will be prepared in accordance with UKIC guidelines and with the published guidelines for preparing archaeological archives for deposition with registered museums in Essex. It will be deposited with Saffron Walden Museum under accession no. SAFWM: 2011.95.

3. Assessment

ARCHIVE QUANTIFICATION

Documentary Archive

3.1 The documentary archive incorporates the written, drawn and photographic records from the fieldwork on the present site. The various elements of the documentary archive have been quantified in the table below:

Record Type		Items
Contexts		8
Survey record sheets		2
Level record sheets		1
Field Drawings	A2 sheets	2
Photographs	Colour Images	42
	Monochrome negatives	15

Material Archive

3.2 The material archive normally incorporates artefacts, faunal remains and environmental samples collected during the project, including both stratified and unstratified material. The material archive for the present project is limited to the following:

Type	Items	Weight (g)
Pottery	7	62
Tile	2	25
Animal bone	2	5
Daub	1	15

RECORDED DATA

Stage 1

3.3 The contour survey (Figure 8) revealed that the extant mound was approximately semi circular in form with the convex edge, which faced southeast, rising to a height of 2.7m above the northern ground level. The northwest face of the mound had a steep batter, but the southern and eastern sides of the mound sloped more gently. The western corner of the mound had been substantially damaged by the partial removal of a tree root. A section of the northwest face had also been damaged by the removal of tree roots.

3.4 The mound appears to have been truncated along the southern side, possibly to create an access to the existing buildings. A modern concrete block retaining wall has also been constructed along the southern edge of the mound.

3.5 A smaller mound, to the west of the supposed mill mound, was included in the contour survey. This consisted of loose spoil and is likely to have been created recently when the mill mound was damaged during the removal of the trees.

Stage 2

3.6 The exposed section of the northwest face of the mound (Figure 9, Plate 1) revealed a series of deposits. The lowest deposit identified, (008), was a firm brownish yellow (10YR 6/8) very slightly silty clay, with occasional small chalk fragments, over 0.15m in depth. This was interpreted as the natural substrate. Above this was (007), a firm brown (10YR 4/3) very silty clay, with frequent roots, charcoal, and pebbles, 0.40m in depth. Previous investigation of the section had revealed that this layer contained medieval pottery and the deposit was initially interpreted as the makeup for a medieval mill mound.

3.7 Overlying (007) was (006), which comprised brownish yellow (10YR 6/8), firm, slightly silty clay with moderate small stones, 0.20m in depth. Above this was (005), a yellowish brown (10YR 5/6), firm, silty clay with occasional stones, chalk fragments and signs of root damage, 0.17m in depth. This was covered by (002), a yellow (10YR 7/6), firm, sandy silt, with frequent chalk fragments and occasional pebbles, 0.85m in depth.

3.8 Layer (002) contained two lenses of material. Context (004), comprised a greyish brown (10YR 5/2) firm, silty clay, with occasional chalk fragments, 0.08m in depth. Context (003) comprised yellowish brown (10YR 5/6) firm, silty gritty clay, with occasional chalk fragments, 0.07m in depth.

3.9 The uppermost layer, (001), was up to 0.67m in depth and comprised greyish brown (10YR 5/2) firm, gritty silty clay with frequent roots and occasional pebbles. This layer formed the topsoil that covered the entire mound.

Stage 2 data:

Context	Type	Description	Dimensions (m)		
			Length	Width	Depth
001	Layer	10YR 5/2 greyish brown firm, gritty silty clay with frequent roots and occasional pebbles.	-	>1.5	0.67
002	Layer	10YR 7/6 yellow, firm, sandy silt with frequent chalk fragments and occasional pebbles.	-	>1.5	0.85
003	Layer	10YR 5/6 yellowish brown, firm, silty gritty clay, with occasional chalk fragments.	-	>1.5	0.07
004	Layer	10YR 5/2 greyish brown, firm, silty clay, with occasional chalk fragments.	-	>1.5	0.08
005	Layer	10YR 5/6 yellowish brown, firm, silty clay, with occasional stones, chalk fragments and signs of root damage.	-	>1.5	0.17
006	Layer	10YR 6/8 brownish yellow, firm, slightly silty clay, with moderate small stones.	-	>1.5	0.20
007	Layer	10YR 4/3 brown, firm, very silty clay, with frequent roots, charcoal, and pebbles.	-	>1.5	0.40
008	Layer	10YR 6/8 brownish yellow, firm, very slightly silty clay, with occasional small chalk fragments.	-	>1.5	>0.15

Stage 3

3.10 Stage 3 comprised the removal of the topsoil layer (001) from the whole of the mound (Figure 10, Plate 2). This revealed the irregular nature of the lower edge of the layer, largely caused by the root action of trees and shrubs that formerly grew on the mound.

3.11 The removal of the topsoil revealed a single modern feature occupying the east side of the mound. The cut, [010], was semi-circular in form, and subsequent machining revealed that it was as deep as the mound with sloping sides and a flattish base. The fill, (009), consisted of black (10YR 2/1) friable, sandy clayey silt, with frequent ash, brick fragments and modern metalwork, including wire and severely corroded fragments of a possible late 19th century, early 20th century paraffin can. These were noted on site but not collected.

Stage 3 data:

Context	Type	Description	Dimensions (m)		
			Length	Width	Depth
009	Fill	10YR 2/1 Black, friable, sandy clayey silt, with frequent ash, brick fragments and modern metalwork (wire, possible fragments of paraffin can).	7.5	3.5	1.1
010	Cut	Semi-circular cut with sloping sides and a flattish base	7.5	3.5	1.1

Stage 4

3.12 Following the removal of topsoil (001) and in consultation with the HEMT, the dumped clay layer (002) was removed by machine under archaeological control (Figure 11, Plate 3). This revealed that (002) was a general layer covering the majority of the mound, with its greatest thickness in the centre of the mound and thinning out to the south and west. To the east, (002) has been substantially truncated by cut [010].

3.13 Lenses (003) and (004) were shown to be quite localised, extending no more than 2m south from the recorded section edge.

3.14 No further archaeological features or deposits were revealed at this stage.

Stage 5

3.15 As no additional archaeological features or deposits had been revealed during Stage 4, and after consultation with the HEMT, it was decided to continue the machine excavation of the mound.

3.16 Layer (005) had originally been interpreted as a buried topsoil horizon that had formed in situ. However, during machining, it became apparent that it was too patchy and inconsistent to be an in situ formation, and, as it thinned towards the southern and eastern edges, it was re-interpreted as a layer of up cast that had been deposited during the creation of the mound.

3.17 Following the removal and re-interpretation of layer (005) it became clear that the material in layer (006) (Plate 4) was derived from the same source as (002). This indicates that, although there were several layers apparent in the section, these represent a single phase of mound building.

3.18 The removal of layer (006) revealed the upper surface of a buried soil, (007), which was comparatively flat and level (Figure 12, Plate 5). A slight depression was observed in the centre of the area of investigation, corresponding to the highest point of the mound. The removal of (007) revealed the top of the natural (008) (Plate 6). No discrete features or structural elements were revealed. Finds collected from buried soil (007) included pottery with a broad medieval and post-medieval date range.

FINDS CONCORDANCE

Context	Pottery		Tile		Daub		Animal bone		Comments
	No	Wt	No	Wt	No	Wt	No	Wt	
u/s	1	25							
007	6	37	2	25	1	15	2	5	1 frag. small horn core; pottery range in date from early med – 17th
Total	7	62	2	25	1	15	2	5	

FINDS ASSESSMENT - Artefacts

Pottery

3.19 A total of 7 sherds of pottery, weighing 62g, was recovered from 2 contexts, 1 of which was stratified, deposit (007). The pottery sherds, which ranged in date from the early medieval period to the early post-medieval period, comprised abraded bodysherds, suggesting they were not in their place of primary deposition. No diagnostic sherds were present.

3.20 The bulk of the assemblage (6 sherds weighing 37g) was recovered from deposit (007) and consists of two sherds of black-surfaced sand-and-grog tempered wares of probable early medieval date (10th-11th century); 1 sherd of medieval sandy grey ware of 12th – 14th century date; 2 sherds of late medieval green-glazed ware; and 1 sherd of post-medieval brown glazed earthenware, possibly of 17th century date. The unstratified sherd is in a medieval sandy grey ware of 12th – 14th century date.

3.21 The condition of the pottery and the wide date range suggests that this material had been imported on to the site, possibly as agricultural manuring. No material post-dating the 17th century was recovered, suggesting that this layer was sealed by the mill mound in the early post-medieval period.

Recommendations

3.22 The wide date range, and the poor condition of the sherds, suggests that this material is likely to have been imported on to the site, rather than reflecting occupation in the vicinity of the site. On this basis no further work is proposed on this assemblage.

Tile

3.23 Two fragments of roofing tile, weighing 25g, were recovered from context (007). The fragments are in a sandy red ware and are likely to be late medieval or post-medieval in date. Like the pottery they were probably imported on to the site as manuring.

Recommendations

3.24 Given the small size and abraded nature of this material no further work is proposed on the assemblage.

Daub

3.25 One fragment of daub, weighing 15g, was recovered from deposit (007). The fragment, which measures approximately 15mm in depth, has a buff exterior surface, a grey core and a reddish

brown interior. It is tempered with chalk and small pebbles. No wattle impressions are visible. Like the pottery it has probably been imported on to the site.

Recommendations

3.26 Given the small size and abraded nature of this material no further work is proposed on the assemblage.

FINDS ASSESSMENT - Ecofacts

Animal Bone

3.27 Two fragments of animal bone, weighing 5g, were recovered from deposit (007). One piece is part of a small horn core, the other may be part of a rib from a large mammal.

Recommendations

3.28 Given the small size and abraded nature of this material no further work is proposed on the assemblage.

4. Further Research

RESEARCH AIMS

4.1 The defined aims of the present investigation have been to identify and record any archaeological features and deposits which may be uncovered and to retrieve artefactual and ecofactual elements which would allow the date, character, and significance of the site to be assessed in accordance with current regional research agenda (Brown and Glazebrook, 2000).

4.2 It was considered that the investigation had the potential to contribute to a number of regional research topics, including:

- an understanding of the origins and development of Romano-British rural settlement in Thaxted;
- an understanding of the relationship of the infrastructure and industries of town and country in the medieval period, specifically the form and nature of the medieval mill believed to have existed on the site;
- an understanding of continuity and change in rural industry from the medieval to post-medieval periods, specifically if the post medieval mill was built on the foundations of an earlier medieval mill.

Collected Data

4.3 No remains of Romano-British date were recovered in the course of the project, which might have contributed to a better understanding of Romano-British rural settlement.

4.4 No evidence for the presence of a medieval mill was recovered in the course of the project.

4.5 Extensive evidence for the construction of a post-medieval mound on the site was recovered, which, taken with documentary evidence, has allowed a sequence of events in its development and decline to be proposed:

4.5.1 The mound was built over soil layer (007), identified as a buried plough soil. The finds from this layer cover a broad date range and were in an abraded condition, suggesting that they derived from manuring of agricultural land. This is consistent with results from excavations at Bellope Meadows to the east, where possible plough furrows were recorded, one containing late medieval pottery. It is significant, however, that the latest pottery recovered from the deposit was dated to the 17th century. This would suggest that the mound was originally constructed during the 17th or 18th century.

4.5.2 It appears to have been constructed in a single phase formed of a series of identifiable layers of clay, (006) and (005), capped off with a firm sandy silt subsoil (002), which incorporated lenses of clay (003) and (004), and a topsoil layer (001). It is likely that the mound was constructed around the post and cross-trees that supported the windmill, and late 19th century mapping suggests that the mound originally extended further eastwards to at least double its existing size.

4.5.3 The only significant feature revealed during the reduction of the mound, was a modern cut [010] and its ash rich fill (009) at its eastern extent. The mapping evidence indicates that the mound was halved in size between 1897 and 1921, leaving the present mound at the western end of the previously defined enclosure. Feature [010] stands in the approximate centre of the footprint of the original mound and, by extrapolation, in the approximate location of the windmill. It is tempting to suggest, therefore, that the removal of the eastern half of the mound formed part of the demolition of the mill in the late 19th century, and that cut [010] represents the void where the post and cross-trees were located within the body of the mound. The presence of late 19th to early 20th century debris in fill (009) is consistent with this.

Conclusions

4.6 The cartographic and documentary evidence indicates the presence of a mill on the site by the early 18th century. Chapman and Andre’s map of 1777 shows that there was a post mill on a mound, which stood on the site until at least 1876. A public house and a flour shop were included on the property in the mid 19th century. The 2nd edition OS map of 1897 shows that the mill had been demolished by this time. The mill mound and the pond are marked on OS maps until 1977, the pond being filled in at some point after this date.

4.7 The present project revealed that the mill mound was constructed in one phase, on top of an existing soil horizon, probably during the late 17th or early 18th century. Later mapping suggests that the mound may originally have occupied a much larger footprint, and that the mill was removed between 1876 and 1897. A large cut feature or void was recorded at the eastern extent of the existing mound, which extended from its top to its bottom, and may mark the location of the mill’s post and cross-trees. The removal of these elements would have required the partial demolition of the mound, which would explain its reduction in size between 1897 and 1921. The southern side of the mound appears to have truncated more recently, and a retaining wall constructed. Recent tree clearance has also disturbed the western side of the mound.

4.8 No evidence for structures or artefacts relating to the known post-medieval mill was encountered during the present project. No evidence for a medieval mill on the site was identified, or for activity during the Roman period.

UPDATED RESEARCH DESIGN

4.9 The data collected from the present site has provided new information regarding activity in the area in the medieval and post-medieval periods. The results from the various stages of work have been assessed according to their significance and their potential for more detailed analysis.

4.9.1 The Stage 1 survey, the Stage 2 section record, and the systematic reduction of the mound in Stages 3 to 5, have provided a detailed stratigraphic sequence for its construction and decline and no further stratigraphic analysis is proposed.

4.9.2 Although the pottery assemblage reflects a wide date range across the medieval and post-medieval periods, this material is likely to have been imported on to the site. On this basis, it is not considered that anything would be gained by its further specialist study.

4.9.3 The remaining artefact assemblages recovered from the site are all extremely small. Their abraded and undiagnostic nature means that they have very little potential to contribute significantly to the identified research aims. On this basis, it is not considered that anything would be gained by its further specialist study.

4.10 As no potential for further research on the collected data has been identified, it is proposed to publish it as a note in Essex Archaeology and History, with the full report being uploaded to OASIS. A web article, summarising the findings of the project, will also be provided for inclusion on the SEAX website.

Provisional Synopsis

Section	Content	Words	Pages	
Introduction	Project background	250		
Narrative and discussion	Features and deposits	500		
Artefacts	By type	100		
Ecofacts	By type	100		
Bibliography		100		
Total words:		1050		1
Line drawings	Plans		0.25	
	Sections		0.25	
	Artefacts		0	
Tables	Ecofacts		0	
Total Pages:			1.5	

ARCHIVE

4.11 The documentary and material archives are currently held by The Heritage Network Ltd at its premises at 11 Furnston Court, Icknield Way, Letchworth, Herts.

4.12 In its final form the archive will conform to UKIC guidelines for the preparation of excavation archives for long-term storage, and the specific requirements for the deposition of archaeological archives in registered Essex museums. All post-excavation documentation will be filed, ordered, and indexed as part of the research archive.

4.13 The documentary and material archive will be deposited at Saffron Walden Museum under accession no. SAFWM: 2011.95

TASK LIST TO PUBLICATION AND ARCHIVE DEPOSITION

Task	Description	Undertaken by
1	Compile publication text	James Snee, Heritage Network
2	Prepare publication illustrations	James Snee, Heritage Network
3	Editing	David Hillelson, Heritage Network
4	Final archive	Helen Ashworth, Heritage Network
5	Archive deposition	Helen Ashworth, Heritage Network

5. Sources Consulted

ESSEX COUNTY RECORD OFFICE

ECRO ref	Date	Title
D/DU 1573/2/4	1844	Copy of Thaxted tithe map
D/P 111/27/1	1847-8	Thaxted tithe apportionment
D/F 35/2/73	1834-5	Valuers notebook
D/F 35/3/73	1835	Auctioneers notebook
OS Sheet XIV.8	1897	2 nd edition, 25” scale
OS Sheet XIV.8	1921	25” scale
OS sheet TL 61 31	1977	1:2500 scale
Chapman & Andre	1777	Map of Essex

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Institute for Archaeologists 2008 *Standard and Guidance for Field Evaluation*. (IfA)

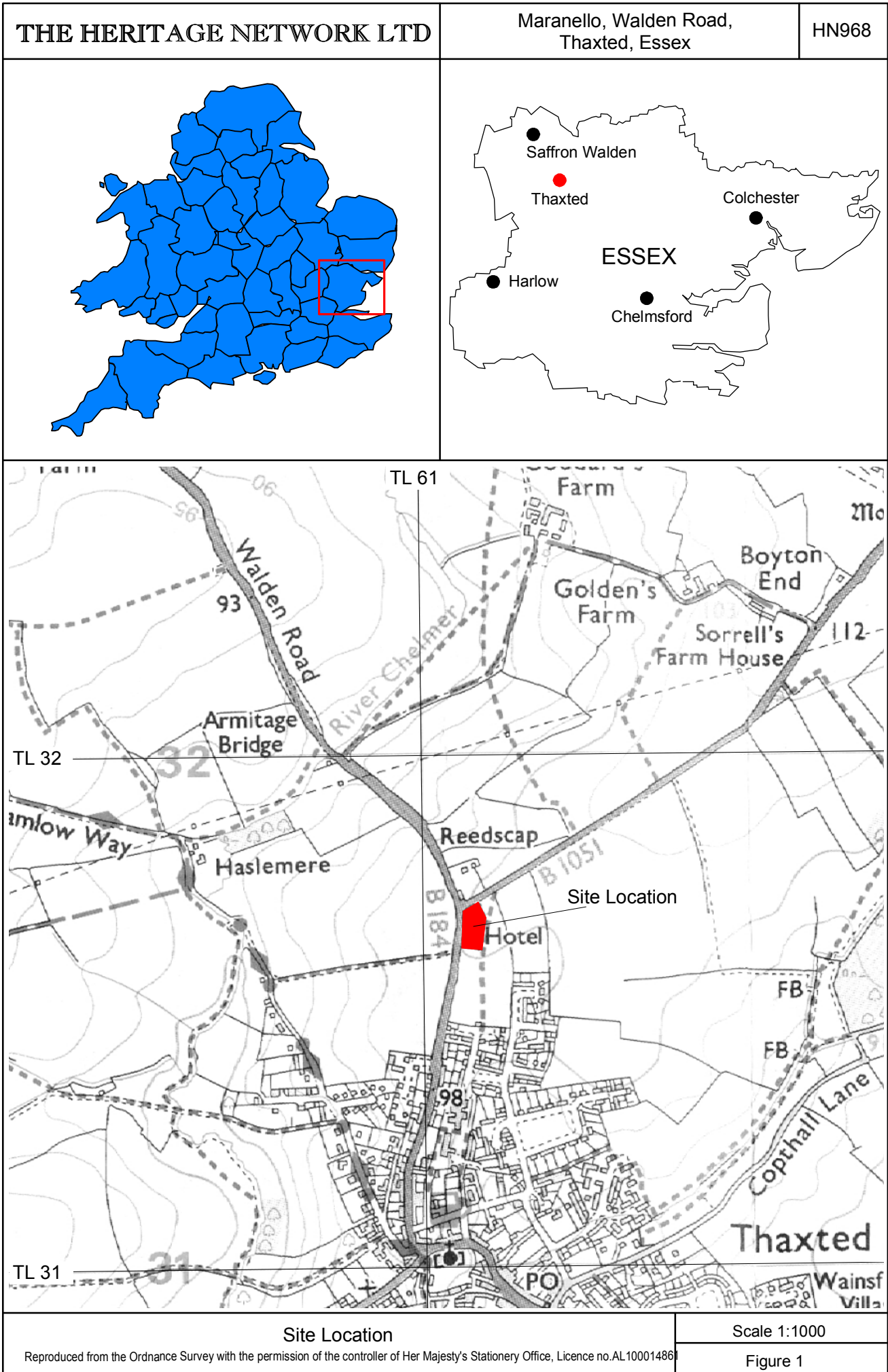
Medlycott, M. 1999 *Historic Towns in Essex, Thaxted; Historic Towns Assessment report*.

Medlycott, M. 2011 *Research and Archaeology Revisited: a revised framework for the East of England*. EAA OP24.

Rumble, A. 1983 *Domesday Book: Essex*. Phillimore

6. Illustrations

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Figure 4	Ordnance Survey Map, 1st Edition, 1876
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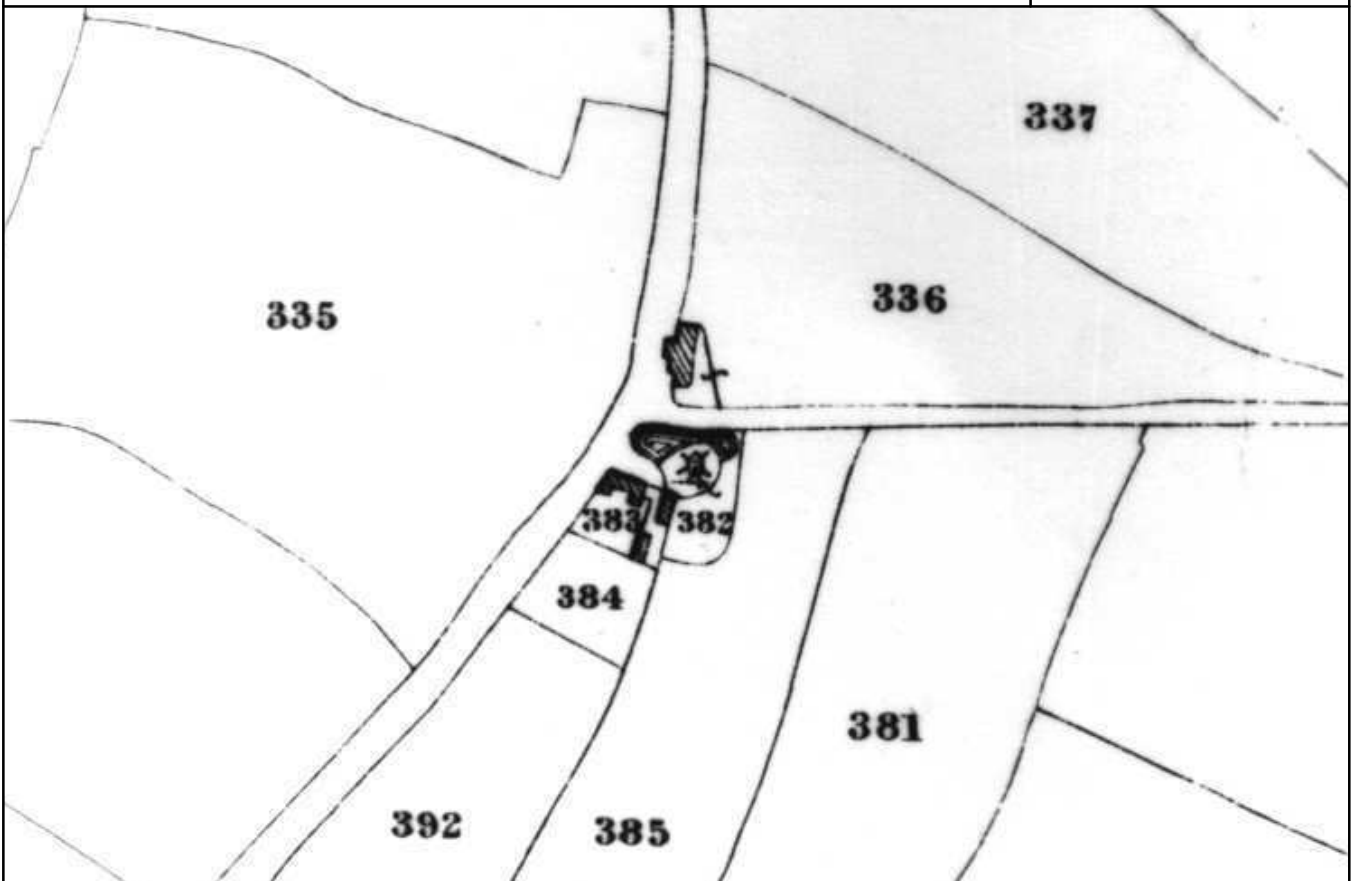




John Chapman and Peter Andre, large scale map of Essex, 1777

Scale 1:12500

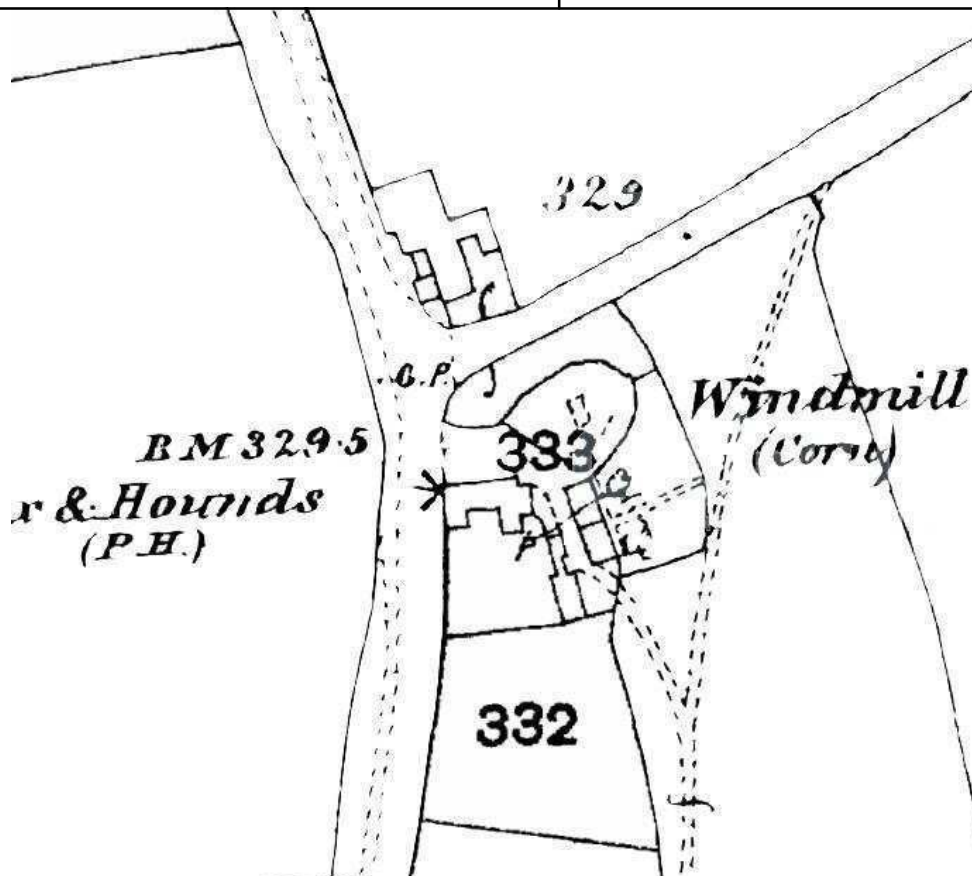
Figure 2



Tithe map of 1844 (D/CT 348A)

Scale 1:2500

Figure 3

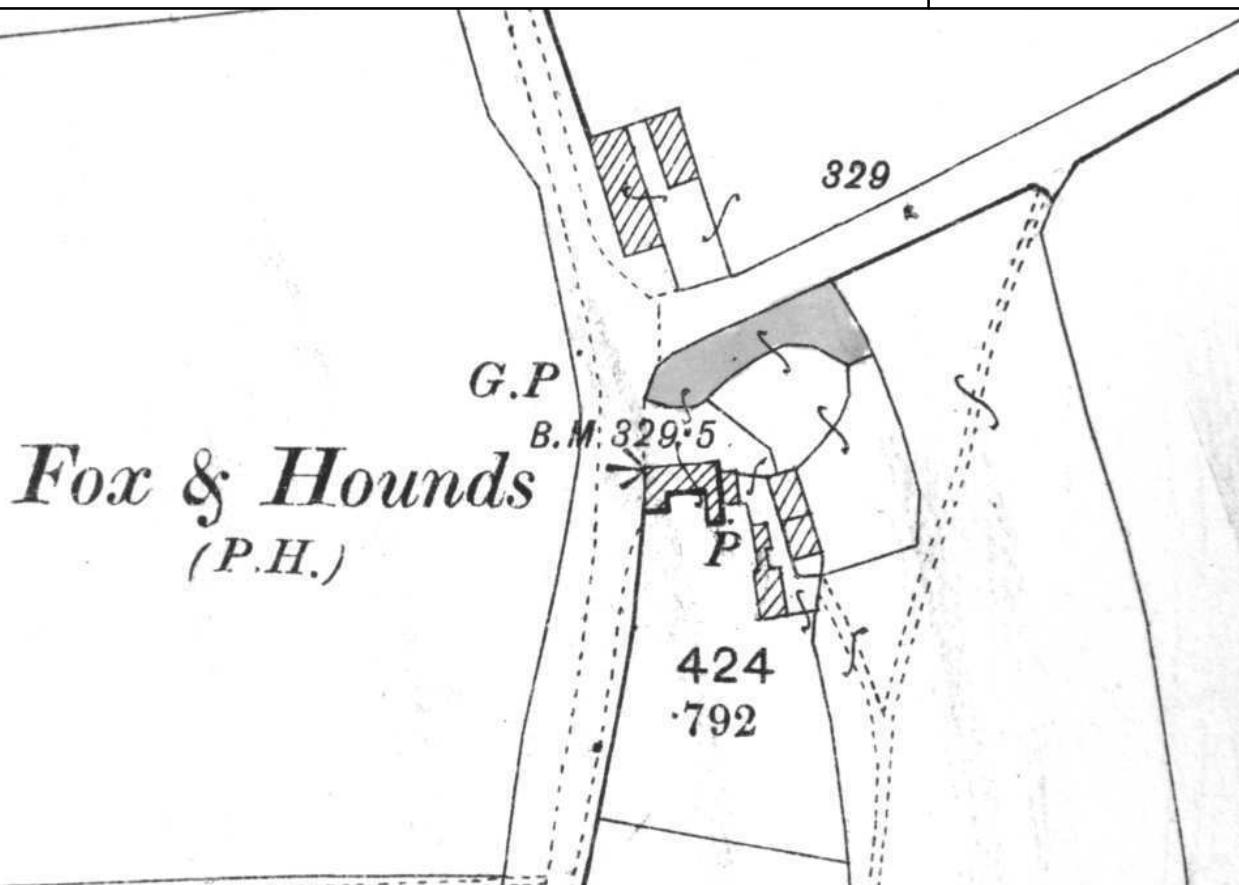


Ordnance Survey Map, 1876

Scale 1:1250

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Figure 4

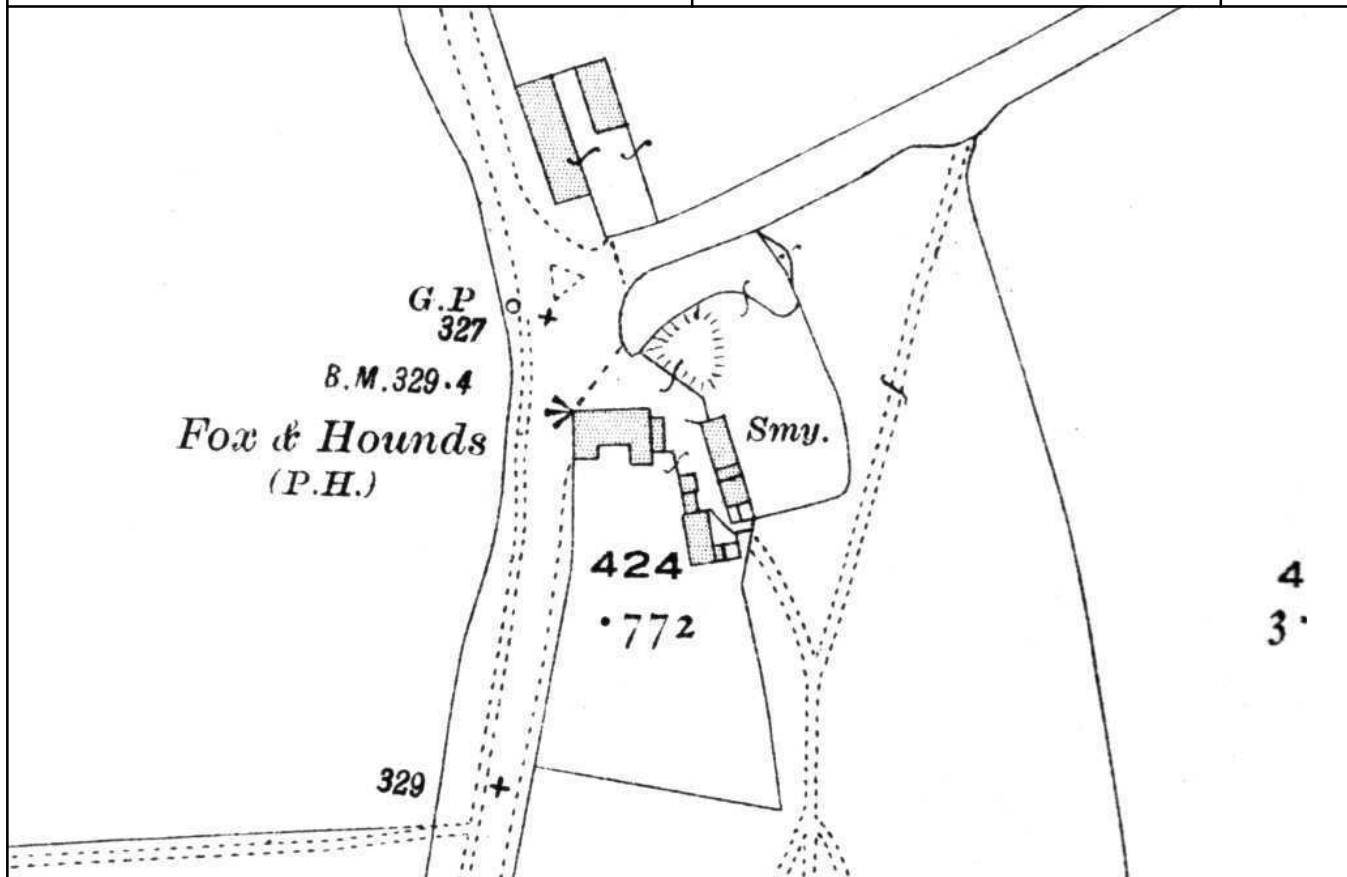


Ordnance Survey Map, 1897

Scale 1:1250

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Figure 5

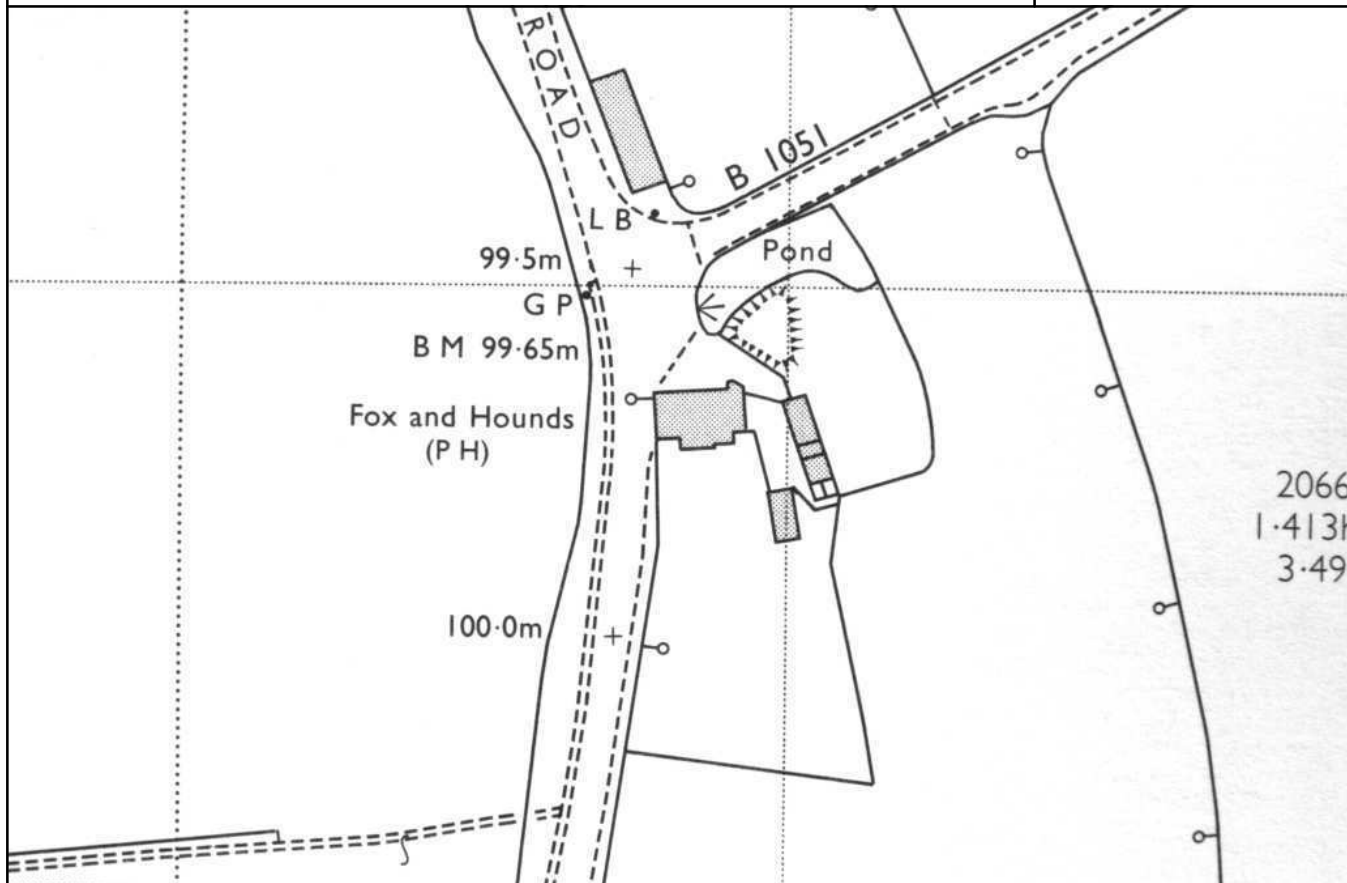


Ordnance Survey Map, 1921

Scale 1:1250

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Figure 6

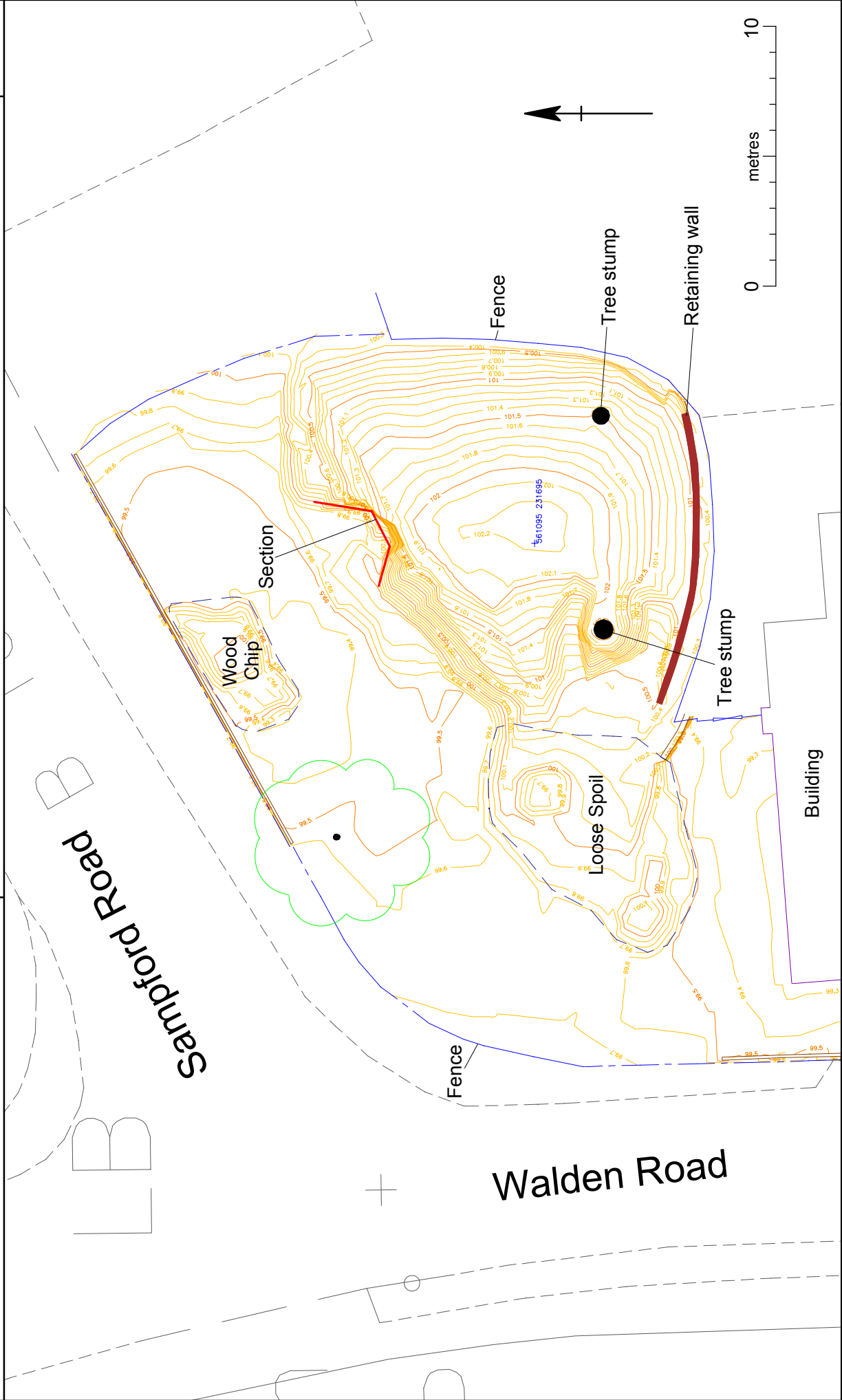


Ordnance Survey Map, 1977

Scale 1:1250

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Figure 7

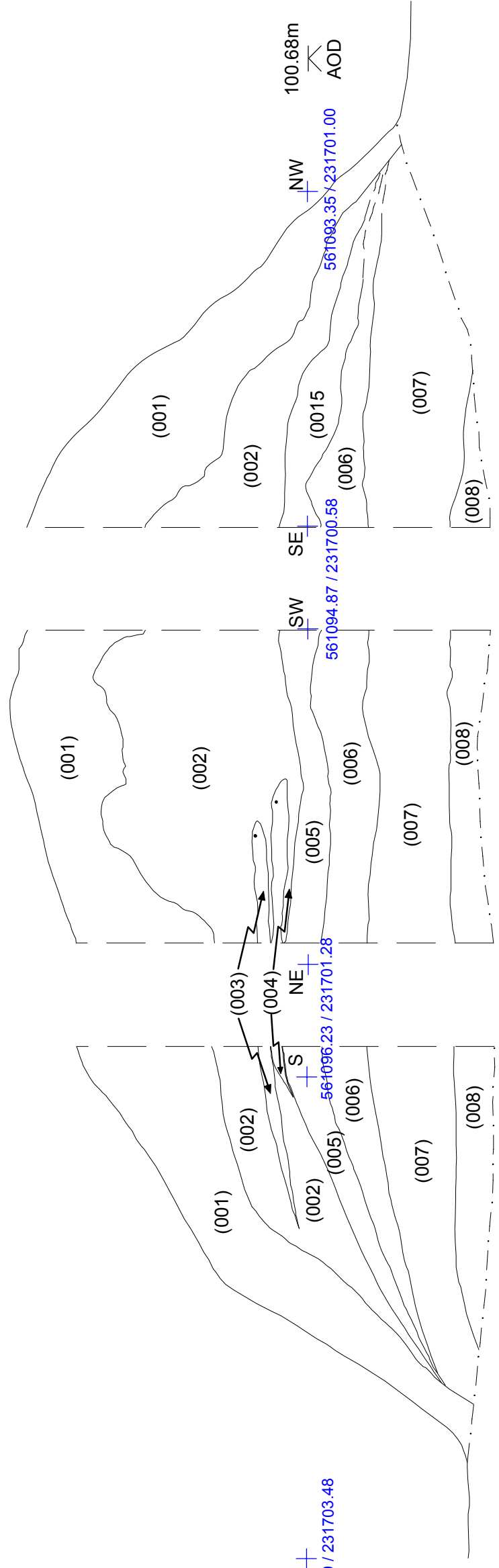


Stage 1: Survey of windmill mound

Scale 1:200

Figure 8

N +
561096.59 / 231703.48



West Facing

Northwest Facing

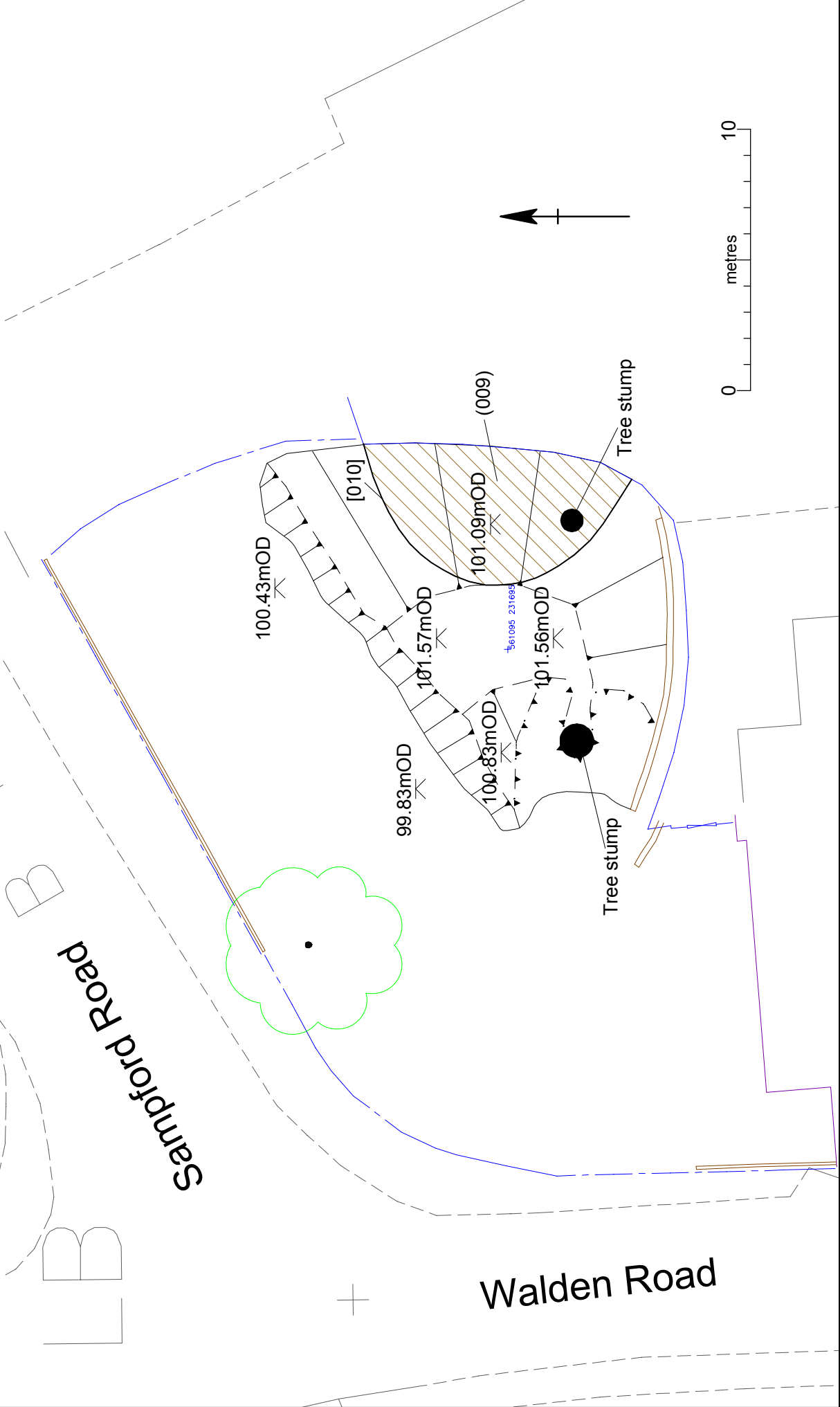
Northeast Facing



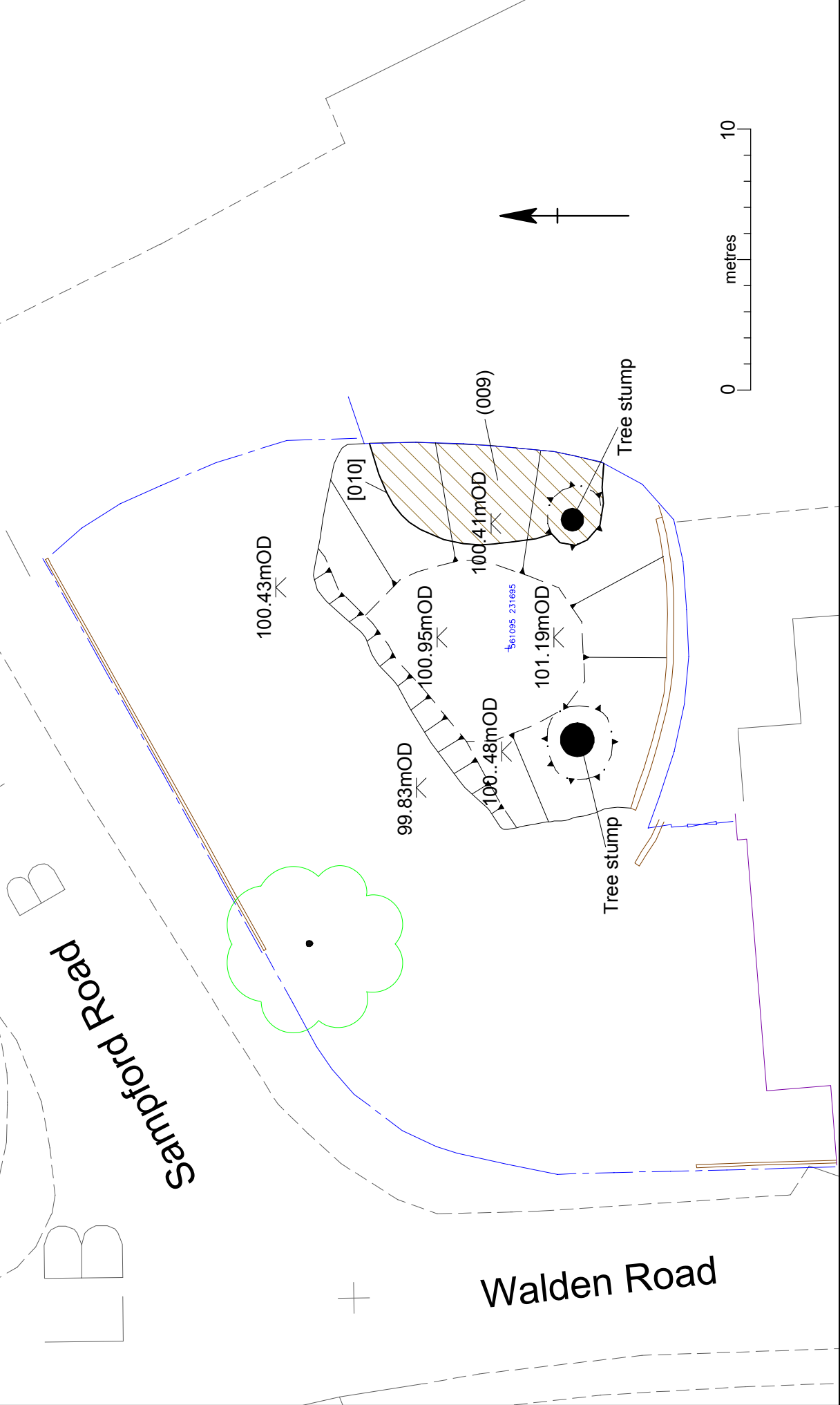
Maranello, Walden Road,
Thaxted, Essex

HN968 Scale 1:25 Figure 9

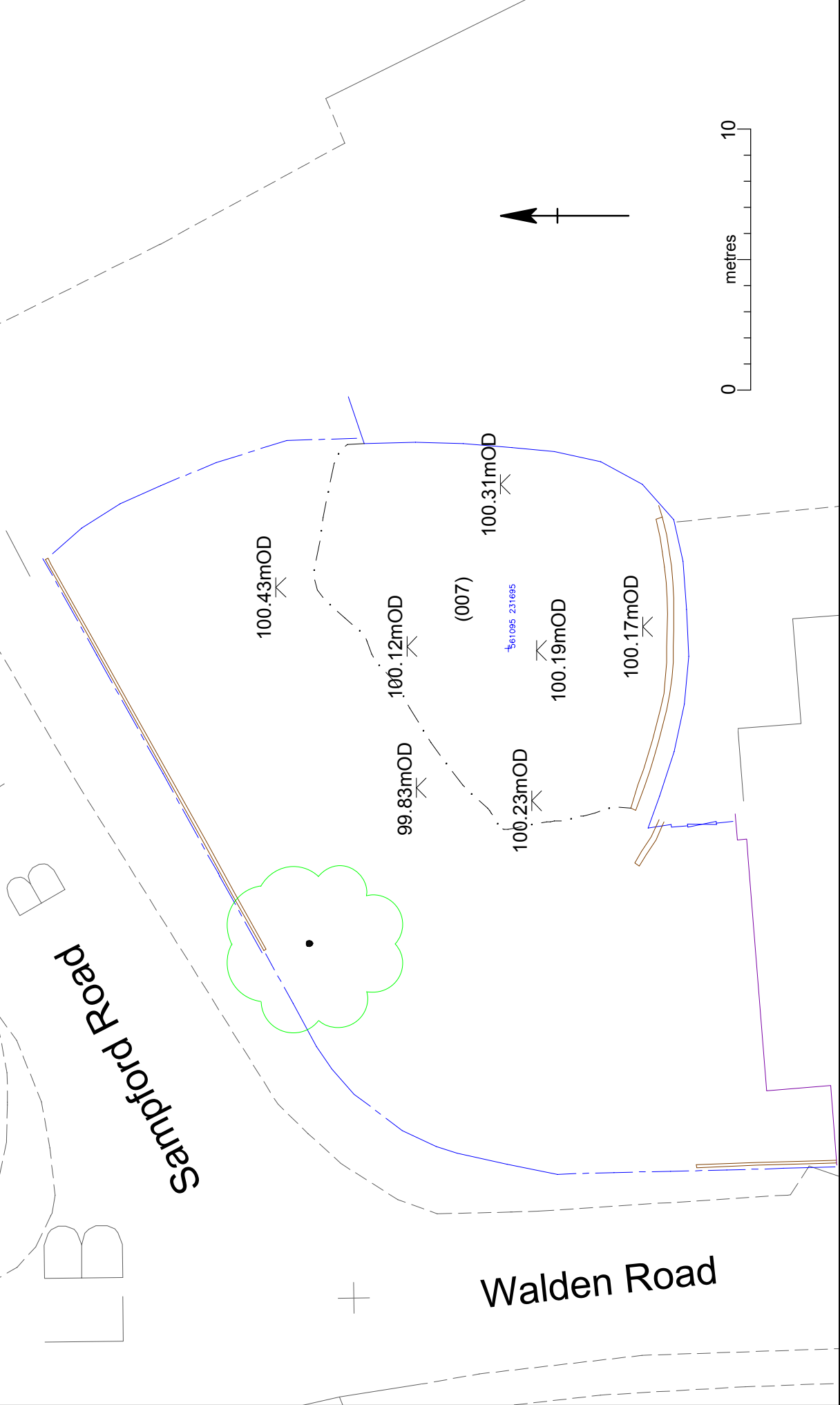
Stage 2: Section 1.



Plan of mound following removal of topsoil (001)



Plan of mound following removal of layer (002)



Plan of mound following removal of layer (006)



Plate 1: Exposed section on northern face of mound, looking south

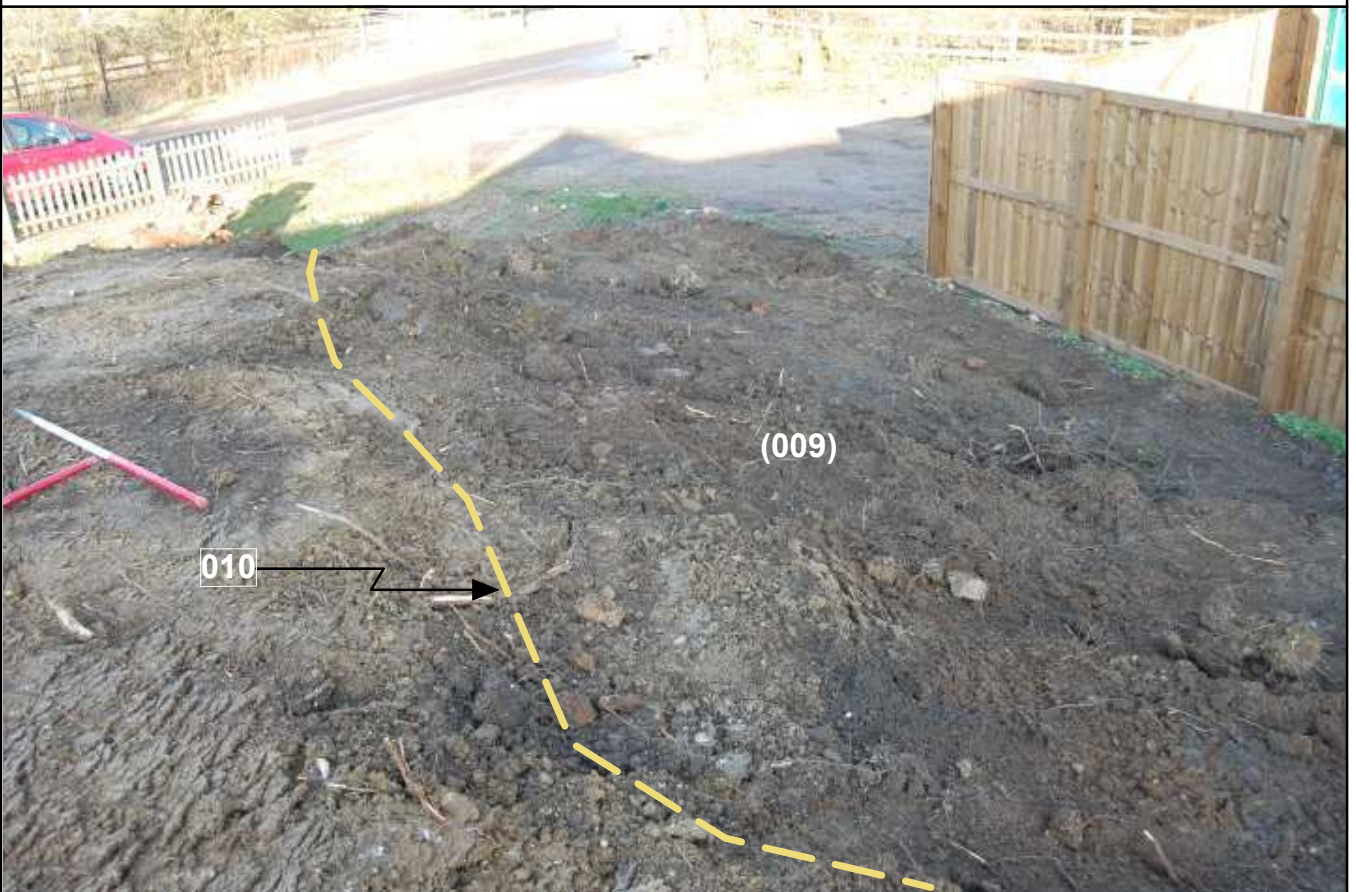


Plate 2: Mound after removal of topsoil (001), looking northeast



Plate 3: Layer (005) following the removal of (002), looking northeast



Plate 4: Layer (007) following the removal of (006), looking northeast



Plate 5: Layer (007) following the removal of (006), looking northeast



Plate 6: Natural (008) following the removal of (007), looking northeast

Appendix

OASIS Data Entry Form

<i>OASIS ID: heritage1-119952</i>	
Project details	
Project name	'Maranello', Walden Road, Thaxted, Essex
Short description of the project	<p>As the result of a condition on the planning permission for the proposed development at 'Maranello', Walden Road, Thaxted, Essex, the Heritage Network was commissioned by the developer to undertake a programme of archaeological investigation. The property is the site of a windmill mound, known to have been present in the post-medieval period and thought to have existed in the medieval period.</p> <p>Stage 1 of the investigation comprised a detailed contour survey of the mound in its existing form. This was followed by the recording of an exposed section on the northern face of the mound. The subsequent stages comprised the reduction of the entire mound to natural, under close archaeological supervision.</p> <p>The investigations, supplemented by map and documentary evidence, indicate that the mound was of single phase construction, dating to the post-medieval period. It was constructed at some point in the 17th or 18th century and supported a post windmill that remained in use until the late 19th century, being demolished in the late 19th century or early 20th century. It is possible that the footprint of the mound was reduced in size at this time.</p>
Project dates	Start: 15-12-2011 End: 08-08-2012
Previous/future work	No / Not known
Any associated project reference codes	TX22 - Sitecode
Any associated project reference codes	HN968 - Contracting Unit No.
Type of project	Recording project
Site status	None
Current Land use	Other 5 - Garden
Monument type	MILL MOUND Post Medieval
Significant Finds	POT Medieval
Significant Finds	POT Post Medieval
Significant Finds	TILE Medieval
Significant Finds	BONE Uncertain
Significant Finds	DAUB Uncertain
Investigation type	'Full excavation'
Prompt	Direction from Local Planning Authority - PPS
Project location	
Country	England
Site location	ESSEX UTTLESFORD THAXTED Maranello
Postcode	CM6 2RE
Study area	160.00 Square metres
Site coordinates	TL 61093 31690 51.9598553848 0.344854142433 51 57 35 N 000 20 41 E Point

Height OD / Depth	Min: 99.40m Max: 99.40m
Project creators	
Name of Organisation	Heritage Network
Project brief originator	Local Authority Archaeologist and/or Planning Authority/advisory body
Project design originator	Heritage Network
Project director/manager	David Hillelson
Project supervisor	James Snee
Type of sponsor/funding body	Developer
Name of sponsor/funding body	Zero Three Care Homes LLP
Project archives	
Physical Archive recipient	Saffron Waldon Museum
Physical Archive ID	SAFWM: 2011.95
Physical Contents	'Animal Bones','Ceramics'
Digital Archive recipient	Saffron Waldon Museum
Digital Archive ID	SAFWM: 2011.95
Digital Media available	'Images raster / digital photography','Survey'
Paper Archive recipient	Saffron Waldon Museum
Paper Archive ID	SAFWM: 2011.95
Paper Media available	'Context sheet','Diary','Drawing','Photograph','Report','Section','Survey'
Project bibliography	
Publication type	Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)
Title	'MARANELLO' Walden Road, Thaxted, Essex
Author(s)/Editor(s)	Snee, J.
Other bibliographic details	Heritage Network Report No: 710
Date	2012
Issuer or publisher	Heritage Network
Place of issue or publication	Letchworth Garden City
Description	A4 booklet, comb-bound, green cover, 16 pages, 12 figures, 6 plates