# LAND AT THE REAR OF 118<sup>A</sup> HIGH STREET INGATESTONE ESSEX

# AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF



**May 2011** 



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PLANNING APPLICATION REF: BRW/262/2009 NGR: TQ 64863 99554 (Site centre) SITE CODE: INHS 10

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#### Abstract

An archaeological watching brief was undertaken on land to the rear of 118a High Street, Ingatestone, between 31<sup>st</sup> March and 1<sup>st</sup> April 2011. The site lies on the north-western side of the High Street, bounded to the south-west by properties that front Norton Road at NGR: TQ 64863 99554 (Site centre) and is to the rear of a range (Nos. 112-118) of 17<sup>th</sup> century Grade II listed buildings that front the High Street.

A planning application BRW/262/09 for the erection of eight residential units comprising 4 x two bedroom houses and a two storey block containing 4 x two bedroom flats together with associated bin store and parking areas was submitted to Brentwood Borough Council on 22/04/2009. As a result of this a watching brief was required for the area of the four new houses only, the new flats did not require monitoring as the area had been previously truncated by a large gymnasium building.

The watching brief of the footprint of the new build covered an area of 12m north to south by 18m east to west. It was apparent that the topsoil and subsoil strata within the footprint of the building had been previously truncated. However, a sequence for the removed levels survived in a small area at the northwest corner of the trench and was recorded in section. It would appear that there had originally been up to 0.60 metres of mid greyish brown sandy clay topsoil overlying a mid greyish brown sandy clay subsoil up to 0.30 metres deep. Within the footprint this had been replaced with a layer of grey sandy clay and rubble between 0.30-0.40 metres deep overlying the mid reddish yellow clay natural.

A clear profile of the site stratigraphy also survived in a test pit measuring  $2.2m \times 1.6m$  to the northwest of the larger piling trench, which revealed a similar profile.

The top of the natural clay was exposed at a general height of circa +19m to +20m OD, but no archaeological features were observed and no finds were recovered from this watching brief.

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#### 1. Introduction

- 1.1 This report details the results of an archaeological watching brief undertaken on land to the rear of 118<sup>A</sup> Ingatestone High Street, on the north-western side of the High Street, Ingatestone, bounded to the south-west by properties that front Norton Road at NGR: TQ 64863 99554 (Site centre). The works took place on the 31<sup>st</sup> March 2011 and 1<sup>st</sup> April 2011. The site lies to the rear of 118 High Street, part of a range (Nos. 112-118) of 17<sup>th</sup> century Grade II listed buildings which front the High Street, and included a former gymnasium and areas of car parking. The proposed development lies within the Ingatestone Conservation Area (*cf.* Figs 1-2).
- 1.2 A planning application BRW/262/09 for the erection of eight residential units comprising 4 x two bedroom houses and a two storey block containing 4 x two bedroom flats together with associated bin store and parking areas was submitted to Brentwood Borough Council on 22/04/2009. As the proposed development lies within an area of archaeological sensitivity a recommendation for archaeological monitoring of groundworks was made to the District Council by the HEM Team of Essex County Council. The monitoring (watching brief) was required for the area of the four new houses only, the new flats did not require monitoring as the area had been previously disturbed by the construction of a gymnasium. This follows the guidelines provided in Planning Policy Guidance 16: Archaeology and Planning and the wording of the condition states:

'No development or preliminary groundworks of any kind shall take place until the applicant has secured the implementation of a programme of archaeological work in accordance with a written scheme of investigation which has been submitted by the applicant and approved by the local planning authority'.

1.3 The foundation design for the new houses comprised *circa* 20 piles of 450mm diameter on foundations for ground beams measuring 600mm wide x 600mm deep with associated works (*cf.* Fig 3).

#### 2. Acknowledgements

The archaeological watching brief was commissioned by Matthew Hart of M.L Hart Builders Ltd. in response to a brief by Adam Garwood of the Historic Environment Management Team, Essex County Council.

Compass Archaeology is particularly grateful to Sally Gale, Essex Archaeological Records Officer for her assistance with the archaeological background research for this project.

M.J Miles carried out the on-site work with overall management of the project undertaken by Geoff Potter (Compass Archaeology).

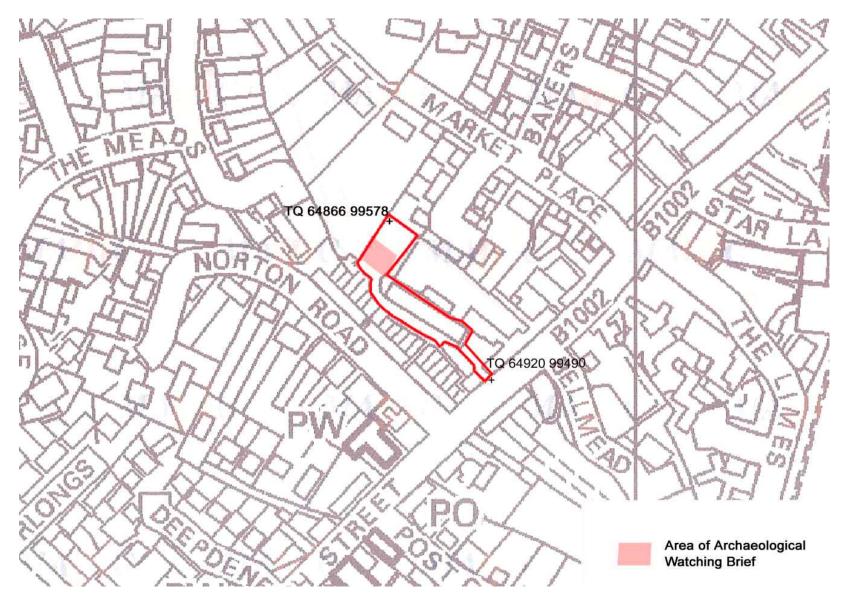


Figure 1: Site Location Plan, showing the site outlined in red and the area of the archaeological watching brief (shaded), based on the Ordnance Survey 1:2500 map. Reproduced from the digital map with the permission of the Ordnance Survey on behalf of the Controller of Her Majesty's Stationery Office, © Crown Copyright (Compass Archaeology Ltd., licence no. AL 100031317)

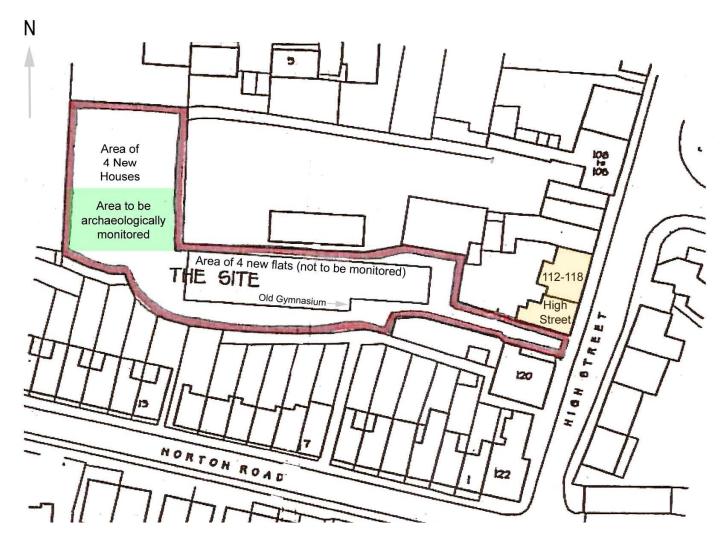


Figure 2 Detail of the site layout of 118a High Street, Ingatestone, showing the watching brief area in relation to the proposed new flats and houses. © T.R. Colliers & Associates (*cf.* Figure 3 for detail of the monitored areas).

#### 3. REQUIREMENT FOR THE WATCHING BRIEF

- An archaeological watching brief was required as part of the Essex County Council's consideration of the proposed residential redevelopment scheme. The specific requirements of the watching brief were set out in a brief from Adam Garwood of the Historic Environment Management Team, Essex County Council<sup>1</sup>. The brief required that the archaeological investigation would consist of detailed monitoring, rapid excavation and recording by Compass Archaeology of the groundworks associated with the construction of the four new houses situated at the rear (western) end of the development. The work was only directed at the four new houses and not the four two bedroom flats, as the latter occupies the site of a former (gymnasium) building. The brief stated that 'the archaeological work should aim to record the location, extent, date, character, condition, significance and quality of any surviving archaeological remains' and that 'particular attention is required when assessing:
  - The presence and nature of medieval and post medieval settlement activity
  - The presence and nature of medieval and post medieval back land settlement
  - *Medieval and post-medieval property boundaries*
  - Evidence of Roman roadside activity'.
- 3.2 The brief advised consultation with Essex Historic Environment Record (HER) held at Essex County Council, County Hall, Chelmsford, and this was carried out on 19<sup>th</sup> October 2010. Information from the HER is outlined below in Section 4. This report also incorporates data from the 'Ingatestone Historic Village Assessment Report', by Maria Medleycott for the Heritage Conservation Branch of Essex County Council at the request of Brentwood Borough Council in September 2002<sup>2</sup>. Medleycott gives a very detailed analysis of the history of the village, which cannot be improved on and is therefore often repeated here for ease of reference, copyright remains with the author. The brief required that a written scheme of investigation (WSI) be prepared for the work; this was carried out and submitted on 22<sup>nd</sup> October 2010. The brief also required that one of the aims of the watching brief should be to hopefully contribute data to Medleycott's 2002 research and Brown and Glazebrook's 'Research and Archaeology: A framework for the Eastern counties 2- Research Agenda and Strategy (East Anglian Archaeology)'

<sup>1</sup> Garwood, A (reissued 1<sup>st</sup> May 2011) Archaeological monitoring on land to the rear of 118a High Street, Ingatestone

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Medleycott, M. September 2002 'Ingatestone Historic Village Assessment Report', Heritage Conservation Branch of Essex County Council for Brentwood Borough Council. Much of the background data for this report is extracted directly from either Medleycott's 2002 work, the project brief (cf. Footnote 1), the relevant supporting text for the HER database entries or from the Listed Building Schedules. As the watching brief revealed no archaeological finds or features much of the data is simply re-presented here by Compass Archaeology and copyright remains with the original authors.

document of 2000<sup>3</sup>. Adam Garwood approved the WSI on 3<sup>rd</sup> November 2010 and the site code INHS 10 was issued.

3.3 The Essex Historic Environment Record (HER) and the project brief showed that the proposed development at 118a High Street, Ingatestone lay within the medieval and post-medieval core of the village of Ingatestone (EHER 5376-7). The majority of the site occupied a back plot location to the rear of 112-118 High Street, a row of 17<sup>th</sup> century Grade II listed houses. The site is also a short distance form the course of the Roman road that runs through Ingatestone on route to Colchester via Chelmsford. It was therefore possible that the proposed development might have an impact on archaeological deposits from the Roman or medieval/post medieval periods.

#### 4 ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

#### 4.1 Location and Topography

Ingatestone village is sited on the main Roman road from London to Colchester and there is evidence to suggest the presence of at least one Roman building in the vicinity of the present village; the A12 now by-passes the village. The ground slopes from a height of 100m in the west at Woodbarns and Mill Green down to 40m in the River Wid valley, which forms the eastern boundary. The soil type generally consists of boulder clay.

# 4.2 Place-name Evidence and Domesday

The place-name evidence suggests that the area encompassing Ingatestone and the adjoining parishes in the Upper Wid valley formed a single Saxon estate. In the later Saxon and medieval period the manor of Ingatestone belonged to St Mary's Abbey, Barking, with the manor-house located on the site of the present Ingatestone Hall; a sixteenth-century rebuild located a kilometre to the southeast of the village. The Saxon name *Inga* or *Ginga* loosely interprets as 'the people of'. In the thirteenth century there is evidence for *Ginge Abbatisse* (as a possession of St Mary's Abbey), *ad Petram* or *atte-Stone* (these latter two probably refer to the three large sarsen stones [EHER 15178-9] still present on the High Street in the village). The village, until the second half of the sixteenth century, essentially consisted of linear development along the main road, with some ribbon development along Stock and Fryerning Lane. The oldest surviving building is the eleventh-century Parish Church of St Mary and St Edmund.

The Domesday manor of Ingatestone (Rumble 1983) encompassed about 400 acres, and by c.1275 an extra 930 acres had been added to the Abbey's holding in Ingatestone. The Walker maps of 1601 and 1605, commissioned by the Petre family, give a remarkably accurate representation of the village and Hall at that period. This is supplemented by further cartographic and documentary material, principally from the Petre, Hospitaller and Wadham College archives and detailed in the 2002 Assessment.

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> *Ibid.* See Conclusions Section 11 for discussion.

### 4.3 Archaeological Evidence

The modern village of Ingatestone contains within it the original street plan from the medieval period and many of the property boundaries within the historic core also date to that period. There have been archaeological investigations within Ingatestone, one of which at the Bell Inn (EHER 18041) revealed four post-medieval pits (one filled with animal bone) and a drainage ditch. An evaluation at the Star Inn, 45 High Street found only domestic late post-medieval and modern deposits<sup>4</sup>.

Medleycott notes that although archaeological investigation has been limited, it is clear that below-ground archaeology does survive within the historic core and that bone and ceramic survival is good<sup>5</sup>. Archaeological investigations in the area can also contribute to our knowledge of the important medieval pottery industry - which exported pottery in large quantities to London- and was located in the area of Mill Green 2kms northwest of Ingatestone.

#### 4.3.1 Prehistoric

Finds of prehistoric flintwork have been recorded from the Upper Wid valley, including a Mesolithic flint adze/axe (Austin 1996), indicating the presence of some form of activity in the area. It has been suggested that the Moores Ditch earthwork in Fryerning is prehistoric in origin (Christy in Wilde 1913), but this is unproven and it is more probable that it is a woodland boundary ditch.

#### 4.3.2 Roman

The medieval village is located on the route of the principal Roman road from London to Colchester (EHER 5428). A Roman coin has been found close to the road (EHER 5479) and the medieval parish church incorporates Roman brick and tile (EHER 5372, 5374) indicating the presence of at least one substantial Roman building in the area. Further Roman material is known from the Mill Green area including a Roman villa (Scheduled Ancient Monument 24862).

#### 4.3.3 **Saxon**

As noted the place-name evidence (cf. 4.2) does suggest that Ingatestone and Fryerning formed part of a large Saxon estate. Five Anglo-Saxon pennies dating to c.875-80 were recorded from the Ingatestone area in 1896 (EHER 5289). By the later Saxon period the manor of Ingatestone belonged to St Mary's Abbey, Barking. The Abbey had been founded in AD 666, however Ingatestone does not appear in the 692 survey of the Abbey's possessions and it is thought that the area may have been granted to them c.950 when King Edgar re-established the Abbey following its sacking by the Danes in 870.

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> Holloway, B. & Brooks, H. April 2009 'An archaeological evaluation on land at the rear of 45 High Street (the Star Inn), Ingatestone, Essex' Colchester Archaeological Trust Report 511.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> *Ibid* and sections 3.3.1 to 3.3.3 are extracted from Medleycott.

#### 4.4 **Listed Buildings**

There are sixty-four Listed Buildings in Ingatestone of which two (the Parish Church and Ingatestone Hall) are Grade I. The barn at Ingatestone Hall is a Scheduled Ancient Monument (SAM 47). The area around Ingatestone is a designated Special Landscape Area. There are a number of significant listed buildings in close proximity to the site on the High Street and on the surrounding streets in Ingatestone.

The most significant Listed Buildings for this development site are the 17<sup>th</sup> century buildings that front the High Street adjacent to the eastern entrance to the site at nos.112-118 (Even) High Street and they are described in the English Heritage listing schedule as follows:

112-118 High Street, Ingatestone, B1002 Essex CM4 0BA Grade II Listed 20<sup>th</sup> February 1976 OS Grid Reference TQ64927 99501 OS Grid Coordinates 564927 199501 Locality: INGATESTONE AND FRYERNING Local Authority Brentwood

Nos.112-118 (Even) HIGH STREET, Ingatestone (North West side) 723-1/14/392 (Listing NGR: TQ6492799501)

Residential house, now four houses and office. 17<sup>th</sup>/18<sup>th</sup> century, altered in the 19<sup>th</sup> century. Timber-framed, plastered, roofed with handmade red clay tiles. Three bays facing SE with axial stack one bay from left end, and internal stack at right end. 18<sup>th</sup> /early 19<sup>th</sup> century extension to right, and 20<sup>th</sup> century singlestorey wing with flat roof to rear of it. Original stair tower with hipped roof to rear of right bay. Single-storey lean-to extension at left return, and small extension to rear of it, partly roofed with red clay 'Roman' tiles. Two storeys and attics. No.112 (at right) has a 20<sup>th</sup> century bow window, and on the first floor one early 19<sup>th</sup> century sash of 6+6 lights. No.114 has on the ground floor two 20<sup>th</sup> century sashes, on the first floor one early 19<sup>th</sup> century sash of 8+8 lights, and a 20<sup>th</sup> century casement in a hipped dormer. No.116 has the same. No.118 has on the ground floor one early 19<sup>th</sup> century sash of 6+6 lights and one 20<sup>th</sup> century casement, and on the first floor one similar sash. All doors are 20<sup>th</sup> century. Moulded eaves coving of plaster. In the rear elevation all groundfloor windows are 20<sup>th</sup> century casements, all first-floor windows are 19<sup>th</sup> century casements.

On the interior no.116 has an exposed axial beam and plain joists of horizontal section, either reused, or a remnant of an earlier building on the site, and a large corner hearth. Chamfered axial beams with lamb's tongue stops and plain joists of vertical section above ground and first floors. Face-halved and bladed scarfs in wallplates. Primary straight bracing. Interiors are destructively sandblasted<sup>6</sup>.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> This section is extracted from www.British Listed Buildings.co.uk 112-118 High Street, Ingatestone, see also the Heritage Gateway website.

Other significant buildings and sites in the village include the Stock Lane almshouses EHER 26617, TQ6537 9953), the Ginge Petre Almshouses (EHER 26613-5, TQ6474 9926), the Congregational/Independent Chapel (EHER18928, TQ6486 9945), the site of the Cage and stocks (EHER 18925, TQ6493 9960), Ingatestone House School (EHER 26597, TQ6484 9942), the Parish Workhouse (EHER 18929, TQ6599) the Fair Field (EHER 18926, TQ6513 9942).

## 4.5 Cartographic Evidence

The maps by the Walker family compiled in 1600-01 and 1605 give a good representation of the nature and extent of Ingatestone at the end of the medieval period and show house plans and facades; obviously many of the buildings shown predate the early 17<sup>th</sup> century. The village is shown as houses sited on either side of the main road with the church sited on the south-eastern corner of the Stock Lane (Rey Bridge Lane) and High Street junction, There were a number of dwellings on either side of Stock Lane also. The market, which consisted of a widening of the main road was sited to the south of the church. There was a row of single storey cottages located on the edges of the churchyard, between it and the main road. By 1770 a new market-place had been laid out at right-angles to the High Street, roughly opposite Star Lane. The role of the village as a staging-post is reflected by the number of inns in the town, at one stage there were twenty-seven in total, the largest of which had stabling for up to sixty horses. The OS 1st Edition 1874OS map shows further ribbon development along the High Street<sup>7</sup>.

Daniel Defoe (1724-6) noted that Ingatestone, Chelmsford and Brentwood were 'large thoroughfare towns, full of good inns, and chiefly maintained by the excessive multitude of carriers and passengers, which are constantly passing this way to London, with droves of cattle, provisions and manufactures'. In the eighteenth century Ingatestone market specialised in cattle, which were brought from as far afield as Wales to be sold to London dealers. Although the cattle market ceased in the beginning of the nineteenth century, the village still remained an important halting-point on the journey to London for both the cattle and poultry trade. The construction of the railway in the 1840s led to a decline in Ingatestone's fortunes with the loss of much through traffic, although the arrival of the motor car following World War I did much to amend this. The A12 by-pass was built in 1960. The extent of the built-up area in the post-medieval period is derived from the cartographic evidence.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> EHER 5376-7

<sup>8</sup> ibid

#### 5. OBJECTIVES OF THE ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF

- 5.1 The basic objective of the archaeological watching brief was to sample the site in order to determine whether archaeological remains were present and if so, to assess their character, extent, date, condition and potential importance. A watching brief aims to determine, as far as is practicable and without compromising the integrity of important archaeological deposits- the full stratigraphic sequence at the site, including information on the natural substrata and soil conditions.
- **5.2** The fieldwork also presented an opportunity to address several specific research questions
  - Is there any evidence for prehistoric or Roman activity, and what is the nature of this for example, settlement, roadside activity or agriculture?
  - Is there any evidence for the line of the Roman road or for associated roadside activity (such as burial practices)?
  - Is there any evidence for Saxon or medieval activity, and what is the likely nature of this?
  - What evidence is there for post-medieval activity, and can this be related to the cartographic evidence in particular for development and occupation up to the early 18<sup>th</sup> century?
  - At what levels do any archaeological deposits survive across the area?
  - At what levels do natural deposits survive, and do these accord with the Geological Survey record?
  - How can this fieldwork contribute to current research on back land sites and the street frontage sites and inform on the existing buildings?
  - Can the site add data to our knowledge of the prehistoric and Roman landscape of the Ingatestone area?
  - Is there any evidence of medieval and post-medieval property boundaries?
  - Can this site contribute to the understanding of the development and function of the medieval and post-medieval village as identified as a National Research Objective by English Heritage 1997 and at regional and local level by Wade and Ayres in Brown and Glazebrook 2000 and Ward in Bedwin 1996?
  - Can this watching brief contribute to Medleycott's research of 2002 or Brown and Glazebrook's 'Research and Archaeology: A framework for the Eastern counties 2- Research Agenda and Strategy (East Anglian Archaeology)' work.

#### 6. FIELDWORK METHODOLOGY

6.1 The watching brief groundworks involved the machine stripping by M L Hart for the construction of the four new houses situated at the rear (western) end of the development (cf. Fig 3). Archaeological observations were carried out within the area shown highlighted on Figures 1 and 2; the level of recording was determined by the nature and extent of deposits that were exposed. The archaeological work recorded the location, extent, date, character, condition, significance and quality of all surviving deposits, where possible, no archaeological finds or deposits were recovered. If archaeological remains had been encountered additional archaeologists and specialist staff were available to work on site, however, this was not required, similarly if archaeological remains had been exposed adequate time was allowed in the programme for investigation and recording.

#### 6.2 Standards

The field and post-excavation work was carried out in accordance with current guidelines and followed the Code of Conduct of the Institute for Archaeologists (IfA)<sup>9</sup>. Details including the name, qualifications and experience, of the site director and all other project personnel (including specialist staff) was supplied to the HEM Team as part of the WSI. A full member of the Institute was responsible for overall management of the project. Notification of the supervisor and project manager's names were provided to the Mr Garwood in advance of the commencement of work

#### 6.3 Recording

All deposits were investigated and recorded in stratigraphic sequence, no archaeological finds or features requiring finds dating or environmental sampling strategies were recovered.

All stratigraphic deposits were recorded as appropriate on *pro-forma* context or trench sheets, and/or drawn in plan or section generally at scales of 1:10 or 1:20, no significant archaeological finds or features were revealed. The investigations were recorded on a general site plan and related to the Ordnance Survey grid. The fieldwork record was supplemented as appropriate by photography (digital/35mm monochrome). This included both general and feature specific photographs.

The recording system followed the procedures set out in the Museum of London recording manual. By agreement the recording and drawing sheets used were directly compatible with those developed by the Museum.

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>9</sup> Specifically the IfA Standards and Guidance for Archaeological Watching Briefs and Field Excavations and the EAA document Standards for Field Archaeology in the East of England

#### 6.4 Sampling

The appropriate sampling strategies for scientific dating and retrieving artefacts, biological remains (for palaeoenvironmental and palaeoeconomic investigations), and samples of sediments and/or soils (for micromorphological and other pedological/sedimentological analyses) were in place in accordance with current guidance, however, no features, finds or deposits requiring archaeological sampling or scientific dating were encountered.

No finds of human remains or items identified as 'treasure' under the Treasure Act (1996) or the Treasure (Designation) Order (2002) were encountered during these works

### 6.5 Monitoring

The Client and the HEM Team Officer of Essex County Council were kept advised of the progress of the fieldwork. The HEM Team Officer was invited to visit the watching brief works at any time.

#### 7 THE ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF

The Archaeological Watching brief consisted of the excavation of two areas; the foundation trenches for the footprint of the new houses and a test pit to the NNE of this. Owing to the nature of the exposed deposits and features the results of the two areas will be discussed separately below. All trenches were excavated using a 360° tracked mechanical excavator fitted for the majority of the works with a flat-bladed grading bucket; operating under constant supervision by M.L Hart Builders Limited and monitored by a suitably experienced Senior Archaeologist from Compass Archaeology.

#### 7.1 Area One: Footprint of the new houses

The watching brief areas were located by taped measurements calculated back to the site survey provided by the client. Ordnance Datum heights were also provided from fixed points, taken at the existing ground level prior to groundworks commencing. The northern boundary of the site had levels on the current ground service of *circa* +21m AOD across the whole watching brief area, falling gently to the southeast to measure *circa* 19.8m AOD at the site entrance on the High Street.

The site was visited and ground works monitored over two days (31<sup>st</sup> March and 1<sup>st</sup> April 2011). It was immediately apparent that all topsoil and subsoil within the footprint of the new building had been disturbed and truncated at an earlier stage. The trench measured approximately 12m north to south x 18m east to west. A sequence through the removed levels was obtained from a small area at the northwest corner of the trench where a short section had survived (*cf.* Figure 3). It would appear that there had originally been up to 0.60 metres of mid greyish brown sandy clay subsoil up to 0.30 metres deep. Within the footprint this had

been replaced with a layer of grey sandy clay and rubble between 0.30-0.40 metres deep overlying the mid reddish yellow clay natural.

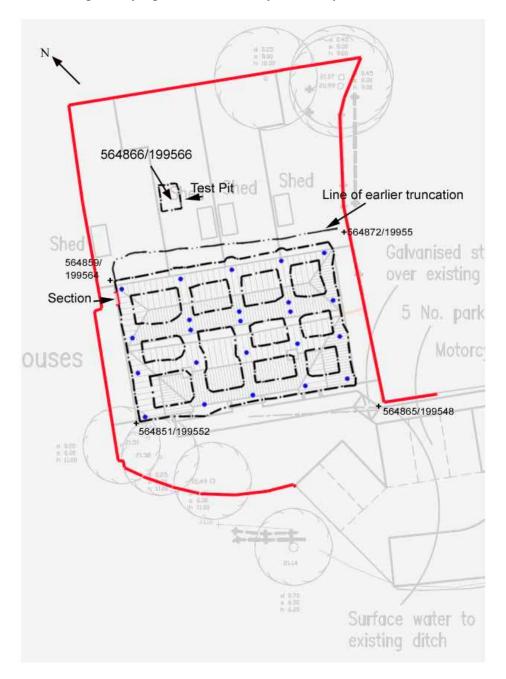


Figure 3 Detail of the watching brief areas from archaeological site records, showing the location of the piles (blue) and strip foundations and the single test pit above to the north. The location of the section discussed in 7.1 above and shown in Figs 9-11 is shown marked in red and annotated 'Section'. The site outline is also shown in red. The watching brief records are shown overlying the site survey drawing © T.R. Colliers & Associates.



Figure 4 General view of the footprint of the new houses, looking south (scale 1m).



Figure 5 Detail of the W side of the excavations, with the section (Fig 10) just visible in the right hand corner, looking SW.



Figure 6 Detail of the central area of the excavations, looking SSW.



Figure 7 Detail of the E side of the excavations, with the small brook visible in the left hand side of the image.



Fig 8 Oblique view of the excavations looking approximately west.



Figure 9 General view of the northernmost strip of the footprint looking NW and showing the scale standing against the higher surviving section (Fig 10-11).



Figure 10 Detail of the section in the NW corner of the excavations looking NW.

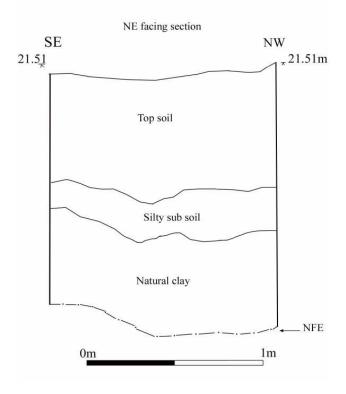


Figure 11 Scale drawing of the stratigraphic deposits visible in the section above (cf. Fig 9).

#### 7.2 Area Two: Test Pit

A test pit was also dug in the area outside the footprint to the west. This measured  $2.20 \,\mathrm{m}$  x  $1.60 \,\mathrm{m}$  and was  $2.00 \,\mathrm{m}$  deep. The test pit was rather deep, unstable and flooded so it was not safe to investigate in detail but the sequence of layers was clearly visible and very similar to the section recorded in the footprint area (cf. Fig 3). The natural clay was exposed during the work, but no archaeological features were observed and no finds were recovered. The test pit extended to a depth of  $2 \,\mathrm{m}$  to c  $18.20 \,\mathrm{m}$  AOD.



Figure 12: General view of the test pit looking approx. south(1m scale)



Figure 13: Detail of the test pit looking SE at the NW facing section.

7.3 No archaeological finds or features were exposed in the either the footprint of the test pit or section. The general stratigraphic profile was existing topsoil (600mm deep) over a mid brownish grey subsoil (c 300mm deep) overlying a mid reddish yellow clay with some sandy components, which was very wet and soft and was excavated to a general depth of 1.5m in the footprint and 2m in the test pit to *circa* +18.00m OD.

#### 8 REPORTING AND POST-EXCAVATION WORK

The fieldwork was followed by off-site assessment and the compilation of this report, and by ordering and deposition of the site archive. An HER summary sheet was also completed and will be supplied to the HEM team officer with this report. A short summary of the fieldwork is appended using the OASIS Data Collection Form, and in paragraph form suitable for publication within the 'excavation round-up' of archaeology in Essex in *Essex Archaeology and History*.

- **8.1** Copies of this watching brief report will be provided to:
  - The Client
  - The HEM Team, Essex County Council
  - The Essex Historic Environment Record
  - The Local Planning Authority
  - The OASIS database (.pdf)
  - The project archive (Chelmsford Museum).

An electronic copy (.pdf or Word) will be supplied to the HEM and elsewhere as required.

#### 9 THE SITE ARCHIVE

The archaeological records have been ordered in line with the guidance for Chelmsford Museum and will be deposited at Chelmsford Museum. The full archive shall be deposited with the appropriate museum and confirmed in writing to the HEM team. The integrity of the site archive will be maintained and a full paper copy of the archive shall be housed with the appropriate museum. There are no archaeological finds to donate to the Museum.

#### 10 CONCLUSIONS

No archaeological finds or features were observed during the course of the archaeological watching brief. It was evident that the watching brief area had been truncated or the ground surface reduced at an earlier time, however, there was nothing to indicate that significant remains had once existed here from the small areas of surviving higher stratigraphy which were recorded across the site.

Unfortunately, as the site had been truncated it cannot accurately inform on the project specific research questions raised in the original WSI for this project; except for noting the height of natural clay across the area. Similarly, as it has been truncated this site cannot really contribute much data to current research projects or to research frameworks for this area of Essex. The results of this project are negative with regard to archaeological survival here, although this may be the result of later truncation rather than definitively proving that archaeological deposits were not once present here.

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ERO Copy 1777 Chapman and André map

ERO D/DP/P31 1779 Estate map of Ingatestone by Henry Clayton ERO D/CT 192 1839 Tithe Map and award of Ingatestone ERO D/CT 147 1843 Tithe Map and award of Fryerning ERO 60.5 & 6 1874 1st Edn. OS map

#### **Essex Historic Environment Record**

EHER (previously Essex Heritage Conservation Record) 26591 100 High Street and attached steps and handrails TQ64969953 Post medieval Late C18 timber framed house

EHER 26592 102 Cranwell House TQ64969953 Post medieval Late C18/early C19 timber framed house, now offices.

EHER 26593 Le Brooke House TQ64959952 Post medieval Mid C19 house.

EHER 26594 106 and 108 High Street TQ64949951 Post medieval Early C19 timber framed house, now offices.

EHER 26595 112 to 118 High Street TQ64939950 Post medieval C17/C18 timber framed house, now four houses and office.

EHER 26596 126 Ingatestone House TQ64859943 Post medieval Early C19 timber framed house.

EHER 26597 126 Ingatestone House (SW TQ64849942 Post medieval Early C19 school, later house.

EHER 26598 Church of St Edmund and St Mary TQ65119959 Medieval Late C11 and later parish church.

EHER 26600 The Bell Inn TQ64989952 Medieval Early C15 and later timber framed public house.

EHER 26601 The Crown Inn TQ64899944 Medieval C15 timber framed public house.

#### **Appendix I: OASIS Data Collection Form**

#### OASIS ID: compassa1-100584

#### **Project details**

Project name Land to the rear of 118a High Street, Ingatestone, Essex

Short description of the project

An archaeological watching brief by Mick Miles of Compass Archaeology was undertaken on land to the rear of 118a High Street, Ingatestone. The site lies on the north-western side of the High Street, bounded to the south-west by properties that front Norton Road at NGR: TQ 64863 99554 (Site centre) and is to the rear of a range (Nos. 112-118) of 17th century Grade II listed buildings that front the High Street. A planning application BRW/262/09 for residential was submitted to Brentwood Borough Council on 22/04/2009. As a result of this a watching brief was required for part of the site. The watching brief of the footprint of the new build covered an area of 12m north to south by 18m east to west and a small additional test pit. It was apparent that the topsoil and subsoil strata within the footprint of the building had been previously truncated. However, a sequence for the removed levels survived in a small area at the northwest corner of the trench and was recorded in section. It would appear that there had originally been up to 0.60 metres of mid greyish brown sandy clay topsoil overlying a mid greyish brown sandy clay subsoil up to 0.30 metres deep. Within the footprint this had been replaced with a layer of grey sandy clay and rubble between 0.30-0.40 metres deep overlying the mid reddish yellow clay natural. The top of the natural clay was exposed at a general height of circa +19m to +20m OD, but no archaeological features were observed and no finds were recovered from this watching brief.

Project dates Start: 31-03-2011 End: 01-04-2011

Previous/future work

No / Not known

Any associated project reference codes

INHS 10 - Sitecode

Any associated project reference codes

BRW/262/2009 - Planning Application No.

Type of project Recording project
Site status Conservation Area

Current Land use Residential 1 - General Residential

Monument type NONE Significant Finds NONE

Investigation type 'Watching Brief'

Prompt Direction from Local Planning Authority - PPG15

#### **Project location**

Country England

Site location ESSEX BRENTWOOD INGATESTONE AND FRYERNING 118a High Street,

Ingatestone

Postcode CM4 0BA

Study area 220.00 Square metres

Site coordinates TQ 64863 99554 51.6700323226 0.384383551090 51 40 12 N 000 23 03 E Point

Height OD / Depth Min: 19.50m Max: 21.60m

### **Project creators**

Name of Compass Archaeology

Organisation

Project brief originator

County Planning Archaeologist

Project design originator

County Planning Archaeologist

Project

Geoff Potter

director/manager

Project supervisor M J Miles Type of sponsor Developer

Name of sponsor M L Hart Builders Ltd.

#### **Project archives**

Physical Archive No

Digital Archive recipient

Chelmsford Museum

Digital Archive ID INHS 10

**Digital Contents** 'Stratigraphic','Survey'

Digital Media available

'Survey', 'Text'

Paper Archive

Chelmsford Museum

recipient

Paper Archive ID INHS 10

**Paper Contents** 'Stratigraphic', 'Survey'

Paper Media available

'Context sheet', 'Correspondence', 'Map', 'Photograph', 'Plan', 'Report', 'Section',

'Survey

#### **Project** bibliography 1

Publication type Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)

Title Land at the rear of 118a High Street, Ingatestone, Essex

Author(s)/Editor(s) King, G. Date 2011

Issuer Compass Archaeology

5-7 Southwark Street, London SE1 1RQ Place of issue

Description A4 comb bound report detailing the results of the watching brief - contains text and

images (30 pages).

**URL** mail@compassarchaeology.co.uk

Entered by Gillian King (mail@compassarchaeology.co.uk)

Entered on 9 May 2011

#### **Appendix II: HER Summary Sheet, Essex County Council**

# ESSEX HISTORIC ENVIRONMENT RECORD/ ESSEX ARCHAEOLOGY AND HISTORY

#### **SUMMARY SHEET**

Site Name/Address: 118a High Street, Ingatestone, Essex.			
Parish: Ingatestone	District: Ingatestone		
NGR: 564863 199554 (Site centre)	Site Code INHS 10		
Type of Work: Archaeological Watching brief.	Site Director/Group: Compass Archaeology		
Date of Work: 31st March-1st April 2011	Size of Area Investigated: 220 square metres		
Location of Finds/Curating Museum: Chelmsford	Funding Source: ML Hart Builders Ltd		
Further Work Anticipated?: No	Related SMR No.s:		

*Final Report:* 118<sup>A</sup> High Street, Ingatestone: An Archaeological Watching brief. Compass Archaeology.

**Periods Represented:** No archaeological finds or features

#### SUMMARY OF FIELDWORK RESULTS:

An archaeological watching brief by Compass Archaeology was undertaken on land to the rear of 118a High Street, Ingatestone, between 31st March and 1st April 2011. The site lies on the north-western side of the High Street, bounded to the south-west by properties that front Norton Road at NGR: TQ 64863 99554 (Site centre) and is to the rear of a range (Nos. 112-118) of 17th century Grade II listed buildings that front the High Street. The watching brief of the footprint of the new build covered an area of 12m north to south by 18m east to west and a small additional test pit. It was apparent that the topsoil and subsoil strata within the footprint of the building had been previously truncated. However, a sequence for the removed levels survived in a small area at the northwest corner of the trench and was recorded in section. It would appear that there had originally been up to 0.60 metres of mid greyish brown sandy clay topsoil overlying a mid greyish brown sandy clay subsoil up to 0.30 metres deep. Within the footprint this had been replaced with a layer of grey sandy clay and rubble between 0.30-0.40 metres deep overlying the mid reddish yellow clay natural. The top of the natural clay was exposed at a general height of *circa* +19m to +20m OD, but no archaeological features were observed and no finds were recovered from this watching brief.

<b>Previous Summaries/Reports:</b> N/A	
Author of Summary: Miles, M.	<b>Date of Summary:</b> 5 <sup>th</sup> May 2011

# Appendix III: Essex Archaeology and History Roundup.

Site Address: 118<sup>A</sup> High Street, Ingatestone: An Archaeological Watching

Brief. Compass Archaeology.

Project type: Archaeological Watching brief

Dates of Fieldwork: 31st March-1st April 2011

Site Code: INHS 10

Supervisor: Mick Miles

NGR: 564863 199554 (Site centre)

Funding Body: ML Hart Builders Ltd.

An archaeological watching brief by Compass Archaeology was undertaken on land to the rear of 118a High Street, Ingatestone, between 31st March and 1st April 2011. The site lies on the north-western side of the High Street, bounded to the south-west by properties that front Norton Road at NGR: TQ 64863 99554 (Site centre) and is to the rear of a range (Nos. 112-118) of 17<sup>th</sup> century Grade II listed buildings that front the High Street. The watching brief of the footprint of the new build covered an area of 12m north to south by 18m east to west and a small additional test pit. It was apparent that the topsoil and subsoil strata within the footprint of the building had been previously truncated. However, a sequence for the removed levels survived in a small area at the northwest corner of the trench and was recorded in section. It would appear that there had originally been up to 0.60 metres of mid greyish brown sandy clay topsoil overlying a mid greyish brown sandy clay subsoil up to 0.30 metres deep. Within the footprint this had been replaced with a layer of grey sandy clay and rubble between 0.30-0.40 metres deep overlying the mid reddish yellow clay natural. The top of the natural clay was exposed at a general height of circa +19m to +20m OD, but no archaeological features were observed and no finds were recovered from this watching brief.