

**ARCHAEOLOGICAL EXCAVATIONS AT DANBURY PALACE  
MAIN ROAD, DANBURY, ESSEX**

**REPORT AND UPDATED PROJECT DESIGN**

**NGR: TL 76587 04884**

**Site Code: DYDP14  
ASE Project No: 8229  
ASE Report No: 2015023**



**February 2015**

**Archaeological Excavation at Danbury Palace  
Main Road, Danbury, Essex**

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**Planning Reference: (13/000816/FUL and 13/00817/LBC)**

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## **Abstract**

*Archaeology South-East (ASE) was commissioned by Chase Green Developments Limited to undertake an archaeological excavation on land at Danbury Palace, Main Road, Danbury, in advance of the residential redevelopment of the site. The existing early 19th century house was built close to or on top of an earlier, 16th-18th century, mansion. This in turn is thought to have succeeded an earlier medieval house, possibly moated.*

*The excavation was preceded by a trial trenching evaluation which revealed the remains of brick-built ancillary buildings to the south and south-west of the existing 19th house. It also exposed ditches and pits from an earlier phase of land use predating 1800. The excavation was carried out across this northern part of the development. It revealed a pit underlying a 19th century yard surface. This pit, along with other features found during the evaluation stage, is conjectured to be associated with the 16th to 18th mansion, the predecessor of Danbury Palace.*

*The excavation also revealed more of the demolished 19th century brick-built ancillary buildings of Danbury Palace, including parts of two walled yards with stables, storerooms and greenhouses arranged around their edges. Modification and development of these buildings during the later 19th and 20th centuries was apparent.*

*Evidence of the later use of the outbuildings was revealed in the form of a boiler house and chimney as well as concrete foundations. These structures represent the conversion of the house to a maternity hospital in the Second World War, or directly afterwards when the County Council used it as a civil defence training centre.*

*Most of the ancillary buildings were demolished in the 1970s when the Anglia Polytechnic University Hall of Residence was constructed, but a Coach House and buildings to the south and west of it survive.*

*The overall potential of these findings for further research is limited and no further analysis is proposed. Publication of the results of this investigation as a short note in the Transactions of the Essex Society for Archaeology and History is recommended.*

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## **1.0 INTRODUCTION**

### **1.1 Site Background**

Archaeology South-East (ASE), the contracting division of the Centre for Applied Archaeology (CAA), Institute of Archaeology (IoA), University College London (UCL) were commissioned by Chase Green Developments Limited to undertake an archaeological excavation on land at Danbury Palace, Main Road, Danbury, Essex in advance of the redevelopment. The work was carried out between the 4th and 19th of August 2014 and followed on from an evaluation carried out in May and June 2014. The site is centred on National Grid Reference (NGR) TL 76587 04884.

### **1.2 Geology and Topography**

1.2.1 The superficial geology of the site is mapped by the British Geological Survey (BGS) as 'Glaciofluvial' Deposits of sand and gravel, overlying London Clay (BGS Geology of Britain Viewer website, accessed 19/03/2014). The site is relatively flat and natural ground is at a level of 50m AOD across the excavation site.

1.2.2 The site is located on the western edge of the village of Danbury, which is c.6km east of the centre of Chelmsford, and is accessed via a lane which runs southwards off the A414 (Fig.1). Danbury Palace comprises a Grade II listed early nineteenth century, red-brick country house, used until recently as a conference centre. To its south and south-east were, until very recently, 1970s buildings which formerly functioned as a Hall of Residence belonging to the Anglia Polytechnic University. To the south-west are converted Victorian outbuildings.

1.2.3 The c.1ha new housing development area includes the former 1970s Hall of Residence, part of the Victorian outbuilding complex and adjacent areas of grass bordered by trees and hardstanding, across the east and western halves of the site respectively (Fig.1). The archaeological excavation covered an area of approximately 1070 sq m within the new development area.

### **1.3 Planning Background**

1.3.1 A series of planning applications (13/000816/FUL, 13/00817/LBC) were submitted to Chelmsford City Council in June 2013 for large scale development at Danbury Palace. Alongside proposals for the subdivision and conversion of the Palace to residential use, the application included the construction of 27 four bedroom terrace houses with associated car parking, cycle and bin storage and landscaping in the former Palace House grounds.

1.3.2 As the development lies in an area of significant archaeological potential and affects a building of national importance, ECC Place Services, in their capacity as archaeological advisor to the local planning authority, recommended that a phased archaeological condition be attached to any planning consent.

1.3.3 The recommended archaeological condition subsequently attached to the consent of outline planning permission is based upon guidance contained in the National Planning Policy Framework (DCLG 2012) and states that:

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

- 1.3.4 As a first stage of work an archaeological trial trenching evaluation was carried out by ASE in May and June 2014 (Chew 2014). Having considered the results of the evaluation, ECC Place Services agreed a mitigation strategy encompassing the archaeological excavation of an area covering part of the site allocated for residential development and car parking. The ECC Place Services' Historic Environment team issued a Brief of Works (ECC Place Services 2014). ASE subsequently produced a Written Scheme of Investigation in response, which was approved by the ECC Historic Environment officer prior to the commencement of site works (Archaeology South-East 2014).

#### **1.4 Aims and Objectives**

- 1.4.1 The aims and objectives of the field excavation were as set out in the Written Scheme of Investigation (ASE 2014).
- 1.4.2 The specific research aim was to identify any evidence for the pre-Victorian use of the site, including the 16th century and medieval houses understood to have formally occupied this location.
- 1.4.3 In the event that significant remains were located the report was to seek to identify appropriate research objectives for any further work, in line with *Research and Archaeology: a framework for the Eastern Counties, 2. Research agenda and strategy* (Brown and Glazebrook, 2000) and *Research and Archaeology Revisited: a revised framework for the East of England* (Medlycott 2011).
- 1.4.4 The regional study of moated sites, incorporating excavated, documentary and cartographic evidence, is highlighted as a research topic for the medieval period (Medlycott 2011, 70). Any evidence for the postulated moated house thought to have first occupied the site would have the potential to contribute towards this research objective.

#### **1.5 Scope of Report**

- 1.5.1 This report details the results of the archaeological excavation carried out on the site between the 4th and 29th August 2014 and has been prepared in accordance with the Written Scheme of Investigation (Archaeology South-East 2014). The work was carried out by Kate Clover (Project Supervisor) and managed by Adrian Scruby on behalf of Archaeology South East.
- 1.5.2 The results of this excavation will be disseminated to the client, LPA and ECC Place Services and are intended to inform decision making on the need for further archaeological work before or during the development.

## **2.0 HISTORICAL AND ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND**

- 2.1 Danbury Palace is an impressive, early 19th century red-brick mansion constructed in 1832 and now Grade II Listed (HER 30319). It was designed by Thomas Hopper and Susan Costantia Round, wife of the owner, and from 1845 to 1890 was occupied by the Bishops of Rochester and later by the Bishops of St Albans.
- 2.2 The existing Palace was built close to or on top of an earlier, 16th century, mansion. In 1589, Sir Walter Mildmay, brother of Catherine Parr, the sixth wife of Henry VIII, purchased the Danbury estate and built a new house set within a Deer Park and called it Danbury Place. It is thought that this building may have succeeded an earlier medieval house which may have been moated (HER 5741).
- 2.3 Danbury Country Park, A Grade II Registered Park and Garden, was created from the lakeside ornament gardens of Danbury Palace together with adjoining woodland and grassland (EHER 8567). The formal garden is divided from the park by two ha-ha's. A 1758 survey shows woodland and pools as they now remain but also numerous rides and avenues that have now been mostly removed or lost.
- 2.4 The former Danbury Place is shown on Chapman and Andre's 1777 map, but lacks detail. Historic OS mapping from the 1870s onwards depicts the area of the site south of the extant main house as occupied by a complex of ancillary buildings mostly arranged around a series of yards or gardens. These probably comprised stables, coach house, stores and perhaps even some accommodation for staff and servants. A number of glasshouses are clearly shown, so at least some of the enclosed areas were likely horticultural gardens. Further to the south and east are landscaped gardens and grounds with paths, tree-lined avenues and ponds.
- 2.5 During the Second World War Danbury Palace was used as a Maternity Hospital. The house was sold in 1946 to Essex County Council and it was used as a Civil Defence Training Centre (The Danbury Society website, accessed January 2015). The site's latest use was as a Hall of Residence for Anglia Polytechnic University. At that the time of the Hall's construction the area to the south-west of The Palace was cleared of buildings and converted to carparking and areas of landscaping.
- 2.6 Before the trial trenching evaluation in 2014, no archaeological investigations had taken place at Danbury Palace and no sites or findspots are recorded on the HER to be present in the immediate vicinity.
- 2.7 The 2014 evaluation comprised four trial trenches across the northern part of the development area (Chew 2014 and Fig. 2). In Trench 3, which was at the north-eastern corner of the site, just south of Danbury Palace, three gullies, two pits and a posthole were revealed. The gullies, the posthole and one of the pits are conjectured to predate the Palace and may relate to the 16th to 18th century house. In Trench 2, which was located in the centre of the current excavation area, various ditch and pit-like features were also found in the north end of trench, sealed by gravel yard surface. These could also pre-date the 19th century building. In the south end of Trench 2 the foundations of a brick built glass house were revealed which had been replaced by a building with concrete and brick footings. At the north of this trench the corner of another brick built building was revealed. These buildings are part of the complex of ancillary buildings to the south of Danbury Palace, now partially demolished, but shown on mapping from the 1870s to the 1960s. Trenches 4 and 5

were south of the current excavation area, in an area latterly used as car parking, and only contained deposits relating to the modification of the landscape in the Victorian and modern periods.



### **3.0 ARCHAEOLOGICAL METHODOLOGY**

#### **3.1 Fieldwork**

- 3.1.1 An area of c.1070 sq m was stripped by machine, encompassing housing plots 5-9 and 26 and an area of car parking of the redevelopment scheme (Figs 2 and 3). Originally it was intended to excavate the site as a single area as per the WSI but it was subsequently dug as two areas, with the consent of ECC Place Services. Area 1 consisted of 955 sq m, and was east of the access road and south of Danbury Palace. After Area 1 was recorded a second smaller area of 115 sq m (Area 2) was stripped, to the west of the current access road.
- 3.1.2 The site was scanned using a CAT cable avoidance tool prior to excavation. The site area was stripped using a mechanical excavator equipped with a toothless bucket, under the supervision of an experienced archaeologist. Removal of overburden deposits was undertaken to the top of the archaeological deposits (i.e. foundations, floors or yard surfaces) or else to the top of the natural gravel. A mini-digger was then used to dig down next to the foundations and to define them and to expose any floors.
- 3.1.3 Exposed deposits were inspected for archaeological remains. Where appropriate, archaeological remains were investigated by means of manual excavation and recorded. The exposed wall foundations, floors and drains were cleaned by hand. The base of the foundations were exposed and any intersections with other foundations were investigated.
- 3.1.4 All identified archaeological remains were recorded using standard ASE methodologies. Written records comprising individual masonry and context recording sheets were created. Section drawings were not made of wall foundations but detailed sketches and photographs were used instead. Section drawings were made of cut features at a scale of 1:10. A GPS with map-based software was used to locate site boundaries, all wall foundations, floors and other archaeological features and relate them to the Ordnance Survey. Colour digital photographs were taken of the wall foundations and other features, and of work in progress.
- 3.1.5 Finds were collected from all excavated deposits, including sample bricks from walls and foundations. No bulk soil samples were collected for environmental analysis.
- 3.1.6 The work was carried out in accordance with regional standards in field archaeology (Gurney 2003), and the by-laws and guidelines of the Institute for Archaeologists (IFA 2013).

## **4.0 RESULTS**

### **4.1 Introduction**

4.1.1 Context numbering started at [100] to follow on from the evaluation. A new set of numbers [200, 300 etc] were started according to each new area of the site, so for example, all the contexts in Area 2 are [600+]. In this report individual contexts are referred to in square brackets thus [\*\*\*]. Where a context was recorded in both the excavation and in the evaluation, the evaluation context number is given second, for example [502/51]. Walls and foundations have been grouped together during post-excavation analysis and are generally referred to by their structure number (Structure\*). In this way buildings are discussed as single entities. Registered finds are referred to thus: RF<\*>. References to sections within this report are referred to thus (3.1).

### **4.2 Summary of results**

4.2.1 The features and building remains were covered by modern overburden. Topsoil was only in evidence at the northern edge of Area 1; an area which had been subject to less disturbance than the rest of the site. Natural gravel was only reached on the south-eastern and southern sides of the site and in between the foundations of Structures 2, 3 and 5. In other areas there were floor surfaces (in Structures 7 and 8 and the southern part of Structure 5) or metalling that were left in situ, or there were modern concrete features in the way. Natural gravel was sealed by between 0.6m and 0.8m of modern overburden.

4.2.2 Generally the structures survived to the top of their foundation level. Their walls did not generally survive, or if they did only one or two course of brick survived above floor level.

4.2.3 The excavation revealed extensive remains, mainly relating to a complex of ancillary buildings associated with the current Danbury Palace. One pit relating to an earlier post-medieval phase of use was revealed. The building remains consisted of footings and floors as well as an extensive gravelled yard surface, drains and areas of demolition. The only area that was devoid of archaeological remains was the south-eastern edge of Area 1 where only the concrete footings to the 1970s Hall of Residence were revealed.

4.2.4 The building remains correspond with the map evidence from the 1870s onwards with a high degree of accuracy. The OS maps have been used to help give an estimation of the form and phasing of the buildings. However further detail on the phasing was obtained by studying the stratigraphic relationships of the foundations, the use of mortar and concrete and the finish of the bricks. The dating of the bricks proved to be more useful than that of the pottery, as the retrieved pottery mainly derived from demolition layers that sealed the foundations and floor surfaces. Where the dating evidence is contradictory or insufficient, the text attempts to make clear the rationale behind the phasing and to highlight any particular areas of ambiguity.

4.2.5 The remains appear to relate to six phases of use of the site which are summarised below and described in detail in Section 4.2. A phased plan is presented on Fig. 3.

- Phase 1: 18th century – features predating the 1832 construction of the current Danbury Palace and gardens

- Phase 2: 1832 – outbuilding remains contemporary with the construction of Danbury Palace
- Phase 3: 1830s-c.1850 – early additions and adaptations to the outbuilding complex
- Phase 4: Pre-1870s – later additions and adaptations to the outbuilding complex
- Phase 5: 1940s – WW2 and later conversion or replacement of parts of the outbuilding complex
- Phase 6: 1970s – removal of outbuildings and construction of modern Halls of Residence

#### 4.3 Phase 1: 18th century

4.3.1 A narrow machine-dug trench was cut through the gravelled yard surface in Area 1 in order to see if the yard surface sealed earlier features. A single pit [506] was exposed which was 0.8m wide and contained bottle glass dated 1700-1750. The feature pre-dates the 1832 (Phase 2) building and may relate to the 16th to 18th century house known as 'Danbury Place'.

4.3.2 Pit [506] may well be contemporary with features found in evaluation Trench 2. Here, when the gravel yard surface was removed, a posthole [42], two pits [44], [48] and a ditch [40] were exposed which also contained cultural material pre-dating 1800.

#### 4.4 Phase 2: 1832

4.4.1 The earliest remains of brick buildings and wall foundations relate to the current, 19th century, Danbury Palace and were likely to have been constructed at the same time as the main house; i.e. 1832, or shortly afterwards. The buildings all appear on the OS 1st Edition map of the 1870s which gives a useful *terminus ante quem* for their construction. The buildings are also shown on the OS 2nd Edition map of the 1890s (Fig.4). The recorded foundations were all 'stepped', did not contain any concrete and were of uniform construction. All the bricks were unfrogged, a feature which supports a date for construction in the first half of the 19th century. The remains of three structures were identified.

##### Structure 1

4.4.2 As exposed within the excavation area, Structure 1 consisted of three sides of a wall foundation [100, 200, 307 and 400] enclosing a gravelled yard. The gravelled yard surface was also encountered in evaluation Trench 2 and recorded as [37] and [38]. The yard wall foundation stood up to 0.7m in height and featured integral, regularly-spaced, brick pillars along its course. These featured chamfered corners (Figs 3.1 and 3.3) which were similar in appearance to pillars in the construction of the extant Victorian Coach House to the west. Also integral to the east side of the wall was a small rectangular building [401] made of similar bricks and having a stepped foundation (Fig. 3.2). Its function is unknown but it could have perhaps functioned as a store, seemingly accessed from outside the yard. This small structure showed signs of having been partially rebuilt using Fletton bricks. No floor or any interior features of this building survived. Part of the southern yard wall [307] had been largely destroyed by the later concrete footing [300] of Structure 8. The yard wall remains correspond neatly with the enclosed yard depicted on the historic mapping and was likely to be an integral part of the ancillary complex (Fig. 4).

#### Structure 2

- 4.4.3 Structure 2 lay at the north end of the yard and, in the excavation area, was represented by a short stretch of approximately east to west aligned foundation which was recorded in evaluation Trench 2 as [54]. The spread of mortar alongside this wall [502/51] and the large cut filled with brick rubble [56] to the north (Fig. 3.2) are likely to have derived from this demolished building. The wall foundation was seen to have been partially robbed. The building debris and footing correspond to the south end of a large service building of unknown function shown on the historic mapping at the north-eastern corner of the yard (Fig. 4). The return on wall [54] suggests an entrance into the building or perhaps an internal wall, however the historic mapping does not show such fine detail; depicting Structure 2 merging with possible storeroom [401].

#### Structure 3

- 4.4.4 Remains of Structure 3 extended across Areas 1 and 2. It was a rectangular building located to the south-east of the Coach House. In Area 2, two east-west wall foundation [600] and a north-south foundation [603] formed its western end. East-west wall foundation [601] may have formed an internal wall to the building. Much of the building's western wall had been destroyed by the 1970s building (see Phase 6). A north-south foundation [602] was probably the linking wall between Structure 3 and the Coach House. On the other side of the access road, in Area 1, north-south foundation [215] formed the structure's eastern end and east-west foundation [214] formed its southern extent. Foundation [214] extended to the east but had been cut through by a modern manhole and services. It is not clear if this possible eastern extension of [214] was part of the same structure. It was constructed of unfrosted bricks like the other foundations in this phase, however it was in a bad condition and the bricks were damaged. It may have been an exterior yard wall rather than a part of the Structure 3 wall.
- 4.4.5 Structure 3 corresponds with an L-shaped building shown on historic mapping (Fig. 4). This building, the Coach House and Structure 7 are shown on the 1870s and later OS maps arranged around another yard. No evidence of a yard surface survived north of foundation [601]. However, there was evidence of a yard surface to the east of foundation [215]. Structure 3's location next to the Coach House indicates a likely function as a stable block.

#### Other structures

- 4.4.6 A short stretch of east-west foundation [217] was recorded adjoining yard wall [200] at the northern limit of the excavation. It formed part of a separate structure showing on the historic mapping as located in between the two yards. The foundation had been cut by a concrete manhole and too little of it remained to make a confident assessment as to its phasing, however the unfrosted bricks indicate an early 19th century date. It has not been given its own Structure number as so little of the structure was exposed. However, it may be part of the building that was later subdivided in Phase 4 (Structure 7).

### 4.5 Phase 3: c.1830s – c.1850

#### Structure 4

- 4.5.1 This phase is represented by brick foundations to a single structure – a rectangular building built onto the Phase 2 yard wall [307]. Its foundations [102] and [302] were both stepped and formed of five courses of unfrosted bricks with no concrete. Foundation [102] was recorded as [27] in Trench 2 of the evaluation. The bricks

were of a size typical of 18th or early 19th century bricks in Essex (Ryan 1996, cited in Chew 2014). This building is thus thought to be an early addition and probably not much later than the yard wall that it abuts. Foundation [105/26] was probably also part of the same structure.

- 4.5.2 Structure 4's function is uncertain but one interpretation is a store room. It was later incorporated into Structure 5 (Phase 4, Section 4.6.2). This is corroborated by the 1870s OS map which does not show Structure 4 but does show the larger Structure 5.

#### **4.6 Phase 4: Pre1870s**

- 4.6.1 These are brick footings belonging to two greenhouses and a probable stable - Structures 5, 6 and 7 - which are depicted on the 1870s map surrounding two yards. They are demonstrably later than Structures 1 to 4, thus could date anywhere between the 1830s and c.1870. They represent insertions of further structures into the original basic layout of the ancillary complex.

##### Structure 5

- 4.6.2 Structure 5 corresponds to an L-shaped building shown on the 1870s and 1890s mapping (Fig.4). The maps show the east-west arm as a glass-roofed building, presumably a greenhouse. The north-south arm of the building may have functioned as an orangery. There was no evidence for the building's eastern wall foundation which had presumably been destroyed at a later date by the concrete footings to Structure 8. Structure 5 appears to have incorporated earlier Structure 4 into its layout.

- 4.6.3 This structure had been built onto the Phase 2 yard wall [100] and [307]. The western and southern wall foundations were recorded as context [101] (Fig. 3.3). These were formed of unfrogged, possibly re-used, bricks bonded with mortar. They were unlike the earlier foundations, being un-stepped and having a concrete base. The concrete base and the clear abutment with foundation [302] of Structure 4 is evidence of their later phasing. The southern end of the north-south arm of the building was denoted by wall foundations [304] which were similar to [101], being of unfrogged, possibly reused, bricks laid on concrete. They had been truncated by the foundations [305] of later Structure 8. Interpretation of this part of the building as a possible orangery is suggested by its ornate tiled floor [306] (Fig. 3.4). It is not clear from the 1870s map if this north-south arm of Structure 5 had a glass roof or not at this time but certainly by the time the 1890s map was surveyed it is shown as not glassed. The 'Orangery' part of Structure 5 appears to have been demolished and replaced by a wider structure by the time the 1920s OS map was surveyed.

- 4.6.4 The other elements that form Structure 5 are two internal wall foundations [106] and [107/22], an underfloor brick drain [103/21] and four internal brick pillars [104]. The brick pillars were made of red and yellow bricks bonded and underpinned with concrete. They may have been a later addition to support the floor. The underfloor brick drain [103/21] was formed of a row of individual arched drain-housing bricks set on top of concrete. It extended from the western part of Area 1 and had been built through foundation [101] which it was contemporary with (Fig 3.3). It extended under the floor level of Structure 5 on an east-west alignment, cutting the western foundation [102] of subsumed Structure 4. It ran underneath its eastern foundation [302]. At this point it turned south to run underneath the tiled floor of the 'Orangery'. The drain-housing bricks of drain [103] are of a type that could date from the late

19th century to the early 20th century. This suggests that this structure was constructed not long before the 1870s map was surveyed.

- 4.6.5 A group of external brick-lined drainage features [213] to the west of wall foundation [101] may well have been related to Structure 5. These consisted of a square drain at the foot of the wall, which presumably drained water from a down pipe; an oval sump next to it; a smaller square drain with a metal grill and a channel for draining water away from the building. The curving channel extended westwards beyond the limit of excavation, presumably to a sump in the yard here.

#### Structure 6

- 4.6.6 The foundations to a second greenhouse were revealed to the south of Structure 3. These correspond with a narrow glass-roofed structure on the historic mapping inserted into the angle of Structure 3 and built against wall foundation [214]. Wall foundation [216] formed the south-eastern corner of Structure 6. It was constructed of three courses of unfrosted bricks. Two cast iron pipes encased in concrete ran into the structure through a break in its eastern end foundation. These hot water pipes were used to create the right temperature for the plants in the greenhouse and their presence hints at the cultivation of tropical fruit and vegetables within. Outside the structure, these pipes diverged south and south-east, possibly towards a boiler room lying outside the excavation area.

- 4.6.7 Structure 6 relates to part of a horticultural area south of the two main enclosed yards. Other free-standing greenhouses are shown on the historic maps, outside the excavation area in between Structure 6 and the walled garden.

#### Structure 7

- 4.6.8 Brick footings to a row of three piers/bases [202], [205] and [206]/[207] were recorded to the west of yard wall [200], on the western edge of Area 1 (Fig. 3.1). Each pier/base was approximately 1.5m wide and they were 1m apart. These piers were constructed of shallow-frosted bricks and were bonded with concrete, indicating a later date than yard wall [200]. A hard pebble and cement floor surface [203] had been laid around them, which was several centimetres higher than the gravelled yard surface to the east of the yard wall [200]. These piers appear to represent subdivisions inserted into a rectangular building (Structure 7) depicted on maps from the 1870s onwards. The subdivisions may have been for stalls of a stable or dog kennel. They correspond to such a subdivided structure shown on the 1870s mapping which was insubstantial enough to not be deemed worth including on the 2nd edition OS map of the 1890s. The higher ground surface implies that the structure was not accessed from the yard to the east but served another yard to the west, which is largely outside the excavation area.

- 4.6.9 Although Structure 7 does not show on the 1890s map, something like it with less internal detail is shown on maps from the 1920s and 1960s. Some of the bricks used in pier [202] are marked 'RD' like those from certain of the Phase 5 buildings (section 4.6). This suggests that the structure implied by these interior piers carried on in use and was perhaps repaired at a later date using more modern bricks.

#### Other structures

- 4.6.10 In Area 2 was a fragment of wall foundation corner [604] constructed of two courses of unfrosted bricks on top of concrete. This may have been a later addition to stable block Structure 3. It is truncated by Phase 6 concrete footings [605] and

[606].

#### 4.7 Phase 5: Second World War/1940s

4.7.1 Phase 5 constitutes a significant change of use of part of the complex of ancillary buildings. The physical remains of this change mainly comprise one large building, the construction of which necessitated the demolition of the 'Orangery'. This large inserted building – Structure 8 – may have been built earlier than the 1940s and may actually correspond to the building shown in this location on the 1920s OS map. However, it appears to have been hastily built and it incorporates some very utilitarian features which accord better with the site's function as a wartime maternity hospital than with its earlier use as a bishop's residence.

##### Structure 8

4.7.2 Somewhat unconventionally, the foundations of this large two-roomed rectangular building were formed by girders encased in concrete - [300/28] and [305] - which had been laid on crushed brick and gravel. These cut through earlier foundations, and obliterated the 'Orangery' end of Structure 5, cutting through its ornate tiled floor (Fig.3.4). Structure 8 was inserted onto a section of the Phase 1 yard wall [307], removing some of it in the process. In some places the concrete foundation was capped by one or two courses of re-used red bricks, which suggests that the new building was brick-built, perhaps re-using bricks from the demolished 'Orangery' itself. Structure 8 is probably better seen as an insertion into the existing complex rather than a complete rebuild, as the western end of Structure 5 still carried on in use as a greenhouse and the yard wall and other elements of the earlier Phases remained in place.

4.7.3 Vestiges of a cement floor were recorded in the northern end of Structure 8 and recorded as [29] in evaluation Trench 2. Two substantial concrete blocks [303/30] had been incorporated into the floor, the eastern-most of which had an iron rod protruding from it. The presence of the iron rod, together with the oil-contaminated soil around these concrete blocks, indicates that they formerly held engines or boilers. A group of external features consisting of a stepped brick pier, some low brick walls and two small concrete bases [309] abutted the east wall of Structure 8, just to the east of the eastern-most engine base. There was a gap in the wall here which suggests that [309] was connected to the boilers/engine. It may represent a shed where fuel was stored or may have been where the flue was located.

4.7.4 Integral to Structure 8 on its northern side were two rectangular protrusions [308] made of brick foundations and featuring concrete floors. One of these was recorded in evaluation Trench 2 as [31/32/34/36]. The bricks were frogged and were stamped with the letters 'RD' like those of pier/base [202] and boiler house [301]. The purpose of these structures is unclear. To the north of and separate to the concrete protrusions [308] were two small square brick-lined features made of frogged bricks. These may be drains or sumps associated with Structure 8; however, there were no connecting drains.

4.7.5 Structure 8 reflects a change in use from a dwelling to an institution (a maternity hospital and later a civil defence training centre) and is likely to have been a purpose-built service building, perhaps incorporating a laundry. The engines may have been for powering plant or a heating system or hot water supply. The structure appears to have been erected quickly using whatever materials were available, judging by the original use of girders in the foundations. The nature of its above-

ground construction is unclear.

#### Other structures

- 4.7.6 Two other structures were in evidence on the ground but are not depicted on any of the historic maps. The base of a small cellared building [301] constructed of frogged bricks was recorded to the north of yard wall [100] and near the north-west end of Structure 8. It contained demolition rubble including iron rods, an engine part and brick rubble and probably functioned as a boiler house. The bricks were stamped 'RD' and had become blackened with soot. To the west was the square brick base of a chimney [212]. The two structures were connected by two salt-glazed pipes, suggesting that building [301] housed a pair of hearths and boilers. The fact that neither structure appears on any of maps from the 1870s, 1890s, 1920 or 1960s suggests that they were temporary structures, only erected when the house was used as a maternity hospital in the Second World War and presumably removed before the 1960s map was surveyed.
- 4.7.7 A thick layer of concrete [204] was observed to the west of yard wall [200], abutting and partly overlaying earlier brick pier/base [202]. It may have been a later floor, laid after the subdivided structure (Structure 7) went out of use.

#### **4.8 Phase 6: 1970s Anglia Polytechnic University Hall of Residence buildings**

- 4.8.1 Structures 1, 2, 3, 6, 7 and the greenhouse element of Structure 5 were knocked down in the 1970s when the site was cleared to make way for the Polytechnic's Hall of Residence, and were partly built over. As mentioned above, Structure 4 and the Orangery element of Structure 5 had already been knocked down or subsumed into later buildings.
- 4.8.2 Various features dating from this modern phase of use of the site were recorded including pits, drains, concrete manholes and the Hall of Residence building (itself demolished by the time of the excavation).
- 4.8.3 Pit [504/50] had a dark fill which contained coal, brick and tile. Next to it was pit [500] with a dark fill, containing brick and tile. Both pits cut through Phase 2 mortar layer [502/51]. Various drains of clearly modern date were also recorded in this northern part of the site.
- 4.8.4 Relating to the Hall of Residence building itself, concrete manholes were recorded along the eastern edge of Area 1. One manhole clearly encroached upon the interior of Structure 8.
- 4.8.5 In Area 2 a brick wall foundation with concrete floor [605] was found. This and the adjoining concrete wall footing [606] are structures which can be seen on recent aerial views of the site on Google Earth. Wall [606] clearly linked building [605] to the extant Coach House – the only surviving Victorian outbuilding remaining within the development area.



## 5.0 FINDS

### 5.1 Summary

5.1.1 Apart from brick samples, the excavation produced few finds (Table 1). Most of the material dates from the 19th or 20th century and consists of pottery, bricks, floor tiles, clay pipe, some miscellaneous metal finds and a stone object.

5.1.2 The non-brick finds came mainly from demolition layers but also from the fill of a pit [506] and from inside a group of brick-lined features which included a yard drain, sump and drain or well [213].

Context	Pottery	Wt (g)	CBM	Wt (g)	Bone	Wt (g)	Stone	Wt (g)	Mortar	Wt (g)	Glass	Wt (g)	Modern	Wt (g)	CTP	Wt (g)	Regd Finds	Wt (g)
U/S	1	90	2	660							4	978						
100			2	5620														
101			2	3873														
102			1	3046														
103			1	7720														
200			2	6065														
201/ 202			2	6102														
211	3	64									2	32	1	64				
213	3	462							1	302	1	306			2	10	2	22
301			2	5627														
302			4	6170														
304			2	5106														
311			1	354							7	26					2	50
400			2	4336														
506/ 507					1	12					2	99						
601			1	2492														
602			1	3144														
603			2	3245														
604			1	2688														
607	9	394	13	9324			1	3950			2	146	13	14				
605			2	2854														
<i>Total</i>	<i>16</i>	<i>1010</i>	<i>45</i>	<i>78426</i>	<i>1</i>	<i>12</i>	<i>1</i>	<i>3950</i>	<i>1</i>	<i>302</i>	<i>18</i>	<i>1587</i>	<i>14</i>	<i>78</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>10</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>72</i>

Table 1. Finds Quantification

### 5.2 Post-Roman Pottery by Luke Barber

5.2.1 The excavation recovered a small assemblage of pottery, all of which is of late post-medieval date. On the whole the assemblage consists of large sherds with no or minimal signs of abrasion. As such it would appear the material has not been subjected to any significant reworking.

5.2.2 An unglazed flower pot (1/89g) with flattened collared rim was recovered from unstratified deposits. The vessel can only be generally placed in the 19th to early 20th centuries. Demolition deposit [211] produced a 44g sherd from a presumably old creamware chamber pot – the remaining two sherds being from a well-fired refined whiteware bowl of the later 19th to mid 20th century (20g). Drain [213] contained the large part of a 141mm diameter base unglazed earthenware flower pot base (448g). The underside of this vessel has accidental patches of clear glaze demonstrating it to have been fired in a kiln alongside glazed wares. The other sherds from drain [213] consist of a 12g fragment from a very late 18th- to early 19th- century transfer-printed pearlware plate with Chinese temple design and a 1g piece from a refined whiteware bowl with blue sponged decoration.

5.2.3 The largest group of sherds was recovered from demolition deposit [607]. This context produced yet another sherd of flower pot (27g) as well as three pieces (115g) of refined white earthenware from at least two different vessels and a 56g fragment with black transfer-printing from a James Keiller marmalade jar. The two sherds of stoneware (176g) consist of a large sherd from a salt-glazed blacking bottle and a tan-topped large jar with good Bristol glaze. The only other sherds consist of a blue transfer-printed bowl fragment (15g) and a green glazed refined whiteware sherd (5g). Taken together a date between 1890 and 1920 is likely for this group.

#### Significance and potential

5.2.4 The pottery is of mainly later 18<sup>th</sup> century to 20<sup>th</sup> century date and largely derives from demolition layers. As such it can only be used to date the demolition of the buildings and not their construction and use. It has no potential for further analysis.

### **5.3 Ceramic Building Material** by Trista Clifford

5.3.1 A total of 41 bricks and other ceramic building materials weighing just under 78.5kg was recovered from 16 separate contexts. Most of the material consists of red brick of 19th century date relating to the outbuildings to the current Danbury Palace.

5.3.2 The earliest example is an early unfrogged soft red brick fragment from demolition layer [607] which could be as early as c.1600 AD. The majority of bricks are unfrogged but appear to be much better made, and of later date (Appendix 1). Measurements range from 216-226mm in length and 60-68mm thick.

5.3.3 Bricks from pier [202] of Structure 7 and the boiler house [301] are stamped R D. Further stamped bricks came from wall [605] (stamped WEALDEN, produced in Horsham at the Warnham and Wealden brickworks) and demolition layer [607] stamped ADAMANTINE CLINKER REGD. The latter are paving bricks in a high fired yellow fabric produced in Lincolnshire between 1850 and c.1935. Two wall capping bricks were also recovered from this context: a large trapezoidal sectioned brick measuring 226mm in length and a red brick with curved end (length 225mm).

5.3.4 A small amount of other material was also recovered. This includes glazed and painted floor tile of probable Victorian date from demolition layer [311] and fragments of green glazed tile and white porcelain basin from demolition layer [607]. A late 19th to 20th century drain housing brick came from drain [103].

#### Significance and potential

5.3.5 The assemblage provides very broad dating for the contexts from which it was

recovered and provides some insight into the origin of the materials used in the construction of the outbuildings and stables. The assemblage has been recorded for the archive. No further work is proposed and most of the ceramic building material has been discarded.

#### **5.4 Clay Tobacco Pipe** by Elke Raemen

5.4.1 Only two stem fragments were recovered, both from inside brick sump [213]. Neither are marked or decorated nor are they burnished. One of the fragments dates to c.1680-1750, whereas the other piece dates to between 1710 and 1910.

##### Significance and potential

5.4.2 The assemblage is too small to be of potential for further analysis. Its only significance lies in its contribution to the dating evidence. No further work is required.

#### **5.5 Geological Material** by Luke Barber

5.5.1 Demolition layer [607], dated by the ceramics to the late 19th to early 20th centuries, produced a curving moulded stone potentially representing a piece from a large circular base or basin (4100g). The piece is in off-white Portland stone (an oolitic limestone from the Isle of Portland in Dorset). The piece is very well finished and is likely to be of post-medieval date.

##### Significance and potential

5.5.2 This find has no potential for further analysis and has been discarded.

#### **5.6 Glass** by Elke Raemen

5.6.1 A small assemblage of glass comprising 11 fragments weighing just over 1.5kg was recovered from five different contexts. The majority is of late post-medieval date, although a few early post-medieval bottle fragments are also included.

##### Bottles

5.6.2 Three fragments from three different green glass bulbous bottles were found inside brick sump [213] and in pit [506]. As no body fragments were recovered, no complete profiles could be reconstructed and only a broad date range can be given. A base fragment from [213] dates to c.1650-1750. Context [506] contained two neck fragments, both from bottles dating to the very late 16th to first half of the 17th-century.

5.6.3 A small, colourless (aqua) cylindrical bottle dating to the 19th century was recovered from demolition layer [211], which also contained a sauce bottle stopper of late 19th- to early 20th-century date. An unstratified complete square brown bottle is embossed "THE ONLY GENUINE DAY SON AND HEWITTS GASEOUS FLUID LONDON". The company started trading in veterinary medicines from the early 19th century and are currently still trading. However, they have only been trading under the name Day Son and Hewitts from 1856 and the bottle dates to before the mid 20th century.

##### Window Glass

5.6.4 The only window glass recovered was unstratified and comprises two conjoining heavy duty aqua pane edges dating to the mid 19th to mid 20th century.

##### Miscellaneous

- 5.6.5 The topsoil contained a moulded aqua disc (diam 69mm) with a height of 29mm and concentric depression. Reminiscent of a glass insulator, it may well have had a similar function. The object dates to the later 19th to early 20th century.

Significance and potential

- 5.6.6 The early post-medieval assemblage is small, with bottles represented by just one shard and comprising neck and base fragments only. As such, no complete profiles can be established and dating therefore cannot be refined. The late post-medieval assemblage again is very small.

- 5.6.7 The assemblage's only significance lies in its contribution to the dating evidence. Unfortunately, the small size of the assemblage makes it impossible to make any comments about rubbish disposal or the origin of feature contents (e.g. domestic, industrial, agricultural, commercial). The assemblage is of no potential for further analysis.

**5.7 Registered Finds** by Trista Clifford

- 5.7.1 Four Registered Finds were recovered during the excavation. Demolition layer [311] contained a bone button 18.87mm in diameter, RF<4>, with four attachment holes within a raised border of Victorian or later date. A copper alloy handle or hook fitting (RF<6>) of late 19th-20th century date also came from [311]. A second, black painted copper alloy button 16.51mm in diameter, RF<5>, is of modern date and came from drain [213], together with a modern copper alloy teaspoon (RF<3>).

Significance and potential

- 5.7.2 The Registered Finds assemblage consists of domestic casual losses and is of limited significance. It has been recorded for the site archive and no further work is proposed. It is recommended for discard.

**5.8 Animal Bone** by Hayley Forsyth

- 5.8.1 The excavation produced just one fragment of hand-collected animal bone, weighing 12g.

- 5.8.2 Context [506], a pit dated to pre-1830s, produced a single large mammal long bone fragment. A small amount of animal bone was retrieved from the evaluation phase which produced a single horse molar from gully fill context [14] and a fragment of bird bone identified as a wild galliform species from context [20], a ceramic drain.

Significance and potential

- 5.8.3 No evidence of burning, butchery, gnawing or pathology has been noted. Due to the size of the assemblage, it holds no potential for further analysis.

## **6.0 DISCUSSION AND CONCLUSIONS**

### **6.1 Pre-Victorian remains**

6.1.1 No features, deposits or artefacts were found that can be dated earlier than the post-medieval period. Consequently, the excavation (and evaluation) provides no evidence of the posited origins of this site as a medieval moated homestead.

6.1.2 The evaluation and excavation have, however, demonstrated that post-medieval remains which pre-date the Victorian development of the site as Danbury Palace are present within northern parts of the excavation area. However, these are of low density and related to garden use. The various ditch and pit-like features found to be present beneath the yard surface in evaluation Trench 2, appeared to be of pre-1800 date. Also, the ditches or gullies found in Trench 3 were similarly dated. The excavation only added one pit to this group of features but this served to show that the yard surface was sealing other earlier features. Outside the yard area and outside the building foundations the modern overburden was stripped off down to natural gravel but no other pre-Victorian features were revealed. This may have been due to modern disturbance and truncation of remains, or it may reflect a genuine absence of archaeology outside the gravelled yard area.

6.1.3 The recorded features were non-structural and largely comprised gullies and pits which contained only small quantities of post-medieval cultural material. These all serve to indicate that there was a preceding phase of activity on the site that is significantly earlier than the construction of the Victorian house, its ancillary complex and its gardens. It is possible that these features relate to the previous residence, 'Danbury Place', of the 16th-18th centuries. The apparently low density of pits and gullies may represent garden features or rubbish pits. As such they constitute only a minor contribution to the knowledge and understanding of the 16th-18th century Danbury Place.

6.1.4 Apart from the occasional re-use of earlier bricks in the Victorian and 20th century building foundations, there is no substantive evidence for earlier buildings within the development site. It is highly unlikely that the earlier Danbury Place residence was itself located in this vicinity.

### **6.2 Danbury Palace ancillary buildings**

6.2.1 The excavation has provided clarity on the dating and function of the building remains and yard surface exposed in evaluation Trench 2. It has also exposed further building remains to the south and south-west of Danbury Palace, corroborated their layout as depicted on historic OS mapping, and clarified their development, modification and demise.

6.2.2 The earliest ancillary buildings exposed within the excavation area were early Victorian and are contemporary with the 1832 house that they served. They comprised two walled yards with adjacent service buildings, possibly stores. Two possible stable blocks are also thought to be early Victorian. The complex of ancillary buildings developed over time, being knocked down or added to later on in the 19th century in order to create heated greenhouses. A tiled floor at one end of one of the greenhouses may have been for an orangery. These greenhouses were located on the southern part of the site, close to what was the garden area.

6.2.3 The Palace was the residence of bishops for several decades from 1845 but the

Second World War saw its conversion to a maternity hospital. This change of use is clearly seen in the archaeological record; the 'Orangery' being replaced by something altogether more practical – a large building with concrete footings, probably an engine/boiler house and laundry. A separate boiler house and chimney were built close by but appeared to have gone out of use before the 1960s.

- 6.2.5 Most of the ancillary buildings were demolished sometime after 1960, most likely in 1974 when Danbury Palace was developed as part of Anglia Polytechnic University and the country park was established to the south. However, the excavation demonstrates that, beyond the Hall of Residence, the removed buildings were only reduced to foundation level and either landscaped and grassed or else covered with hard standing. Floor levels in some of the buildings survived and the remains were minimally disturbed by services.
- 6.2.6 The excavation has provided interesting insights into the detail of the complex's development. However, the remains are considered to be of overall low significance and have limited potential for further study. No further work is recommended but the results do merit a short article in the county journal, being of local (i.e. county-wide) interest.

## 7 PUBLICATION AND ARCHIVE

### 7.1 Preliminary Publication Synopsis

7.1.1 No further research is required to answer the research aims. The finds require no further analysis or illustration. Therefore it only remains to publish the results in an appropriate format.

7.1.2 It is proposed that the results of the excavation should be published in a short journal article in *Transactions of the Society for Essex Archaeology and History*. This would be a summary of this report presenting the Period 1-5 results, but omitting the less significant 1970s remains. It would incorporate results from the evaluation where relevant. Specialist reports would be drawn into the main text rather than appearing as standalone reports. Two or three figures, showing the site location, all features and a phased plan, would accompany the stratigraphic narrative. Approximately 8 pages total article length is anticipated.

<b>Contents</b>	<b>Text</b>	<b>Figures</b>	<b>Plates / tables</b>
<b>Executive summary</b>	0.25	0	0
<b>Introduction / background</b>			
Location, topography natural geology, environment, planning circumstance, etc.	0.5	0.5	0
<b>Site narrative</b>			
Intro, methodology, truncation, etc.	0.25	1	0.5
Phase 1: pre 1830s	0.25	1	
Phase 2: 1832 build	1		
Phase 3: 1830s-1850s additions	0.5		
Phase 4: Later additions	0.25		
Phase 5: 1940s and later use	0.25		
<b>Discussion</b>			
Overview of site layout and development	0.5	0	0
<b>Conclusions</b>	0.25	0	0
<b>Acknowledgements</b>	0.25	0	0
<b>Bibliography</b>	0.5	0	0
<b>Totals:</b>	4.75	2.5	0.5

Table 2: Article content and estimated page count

### 7.2 Artefacts and Archive Deposition

7.2.1 The site archive is currently held at the offices of Archaeology South-East. The contents of the archive are tabulated below (Table 3). The archive for both the evaluation and excavation will be deposited at Chelmsford Museum under the site code DYDP14.

Number of Contexts	67 - eval 55 - exc
No. of files/paper records	1 folder - eval 1 folder - exc
Plan and sections sheets	9- eval 1 - exc
Bulk Soil Samples	0
Digital Images	85 - eval 163 - exc
Bulk finds	1 box- eval 1 box, exc
Registers	4 - eval 7- exc

Table 3: Quantification of evaluation and excavation archive

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British Geological Survey Map Viewer- <http://mapapps.bgs.ac.uk/geologyofbritain/home.html>

Google Earth - <https://earth.google.com>

### Appendix 1: List of Recorded Contexts

Context	Area	Context type	Comments	Feature Type	Finds	Period	Phase	Structure no.
100	1	M	E-W Yard Wall and foundation. Later forming N wall of glasshouse Structure 5. Stepped foundations. Unfrogged brick. no concrete	Wall/foundation	19th-20th C brick	1832	2	1
101	1	M	2 outer wall foundations for glasshouse, brick with concrete base	Wall/foundation	16th-17th C brick	Pre-1870s	4	5
102	1	M	W Wall foundation for original outhouse later incorporated into glasshouse Structure 5. Stepped foundations and no concrete. Same as 27	Wall/foundation	19th-20th C brick	1832 –c 1850	3	4
103	1	M	Brick drain for glasshouse, built into wall 101. Continues east and south. Underlain by concrete. Same as 21	Drain	19th-20th C brick	Pre-1870s	4	5
104	1	M	Group of 3 pillars under glass house floor. 4th one came out during machining. Mixed yellow and red bricks. Possibly bonded with concrete	Wall/foundation	20th C brick	Pre-1870s Or later addition?	4	5
105	1	M	Unfrogged bricks abutting foundation 102. Same as 26?	Wall/foundation		1832 –c 1850	3	4
106	1	M	Brick foundation – internal wall to glasshouse?	Wall/foundation		Pre-1870s	4	5
107	1	M	Internal wall foundation of glasshouse, same as 22. Probably extended to the west. Concrete as base, probably contemporary with 101	Wall/foundation		Pre-1870s	4	5
108	1	group	Group no. for contexts 100 to 107- forming glass house	Group		Pre-1870s	4	5

Context	Area	Context type	Comments	Feature Type	Finds	Period	Phase	Structure no.
200	1	M	Western yard wall and foundation.N-S. Joins with 100. made of unfrogged bricks with stepped base	Wall/foundation	19th -20th C brick	1832	2	1
201	1	Group	Group no for piers/bases 202-207 to the W of yard wall 200 - forming stable or store . Bricks are frogged and some are stamped.	Group	19th-20th C brick	Pre-1870s	4	7
202	1	M	internal pier/base made from frogged bricks	Wall/foundation		Pre-1870s	4	7
203	1	FL	pebbly floor surface in between the brick walls of pier 202	Floor		Pre-1870s	4	7
204	1	FL	patch of concrete flooring/resurfacing next to 200 and 202 203	Floor		Second world war?	5	
205	1	M	internal pier/base contemporary to 202	Wall/foundation		Pre-1870s	4	7
206	1	M	internal pier/base contemporary to 202 and 205	Wall/foundation		Pre-1870s	4	7
207	1	M	Internal wall foundation adjoining pier 206, contemporary with 202, 205 and 206.	Wall/foundation		Pre-1870s	4	7
208	1	C	construction cut for 200	Wall/foundation		1832	2	1
209	1	F	fill of 208	Wall/foundation		1832	2	1
210	1	L	Made ground - light blueish grey silt, seen on both sides of wall 200. cut by foundation cut 208	Layer		1832	2	1
211	1	L	demolition layer sealing 202-207 and 210	Layer	Pottery 1875-1940. 2 pieces of glass - 19th C to early 20th C	?	?	

Context	Area	Context type	Comments	Feature Type	Finds	Period	Phase	Structure no.
212	1	M	Base of chimney, connected to boiler room 310 by 2 pipes. Frogged bricks	Wall/foundation		second World War	5	
213	1	M	Group of brick built features – yard drain with grill , oval sump, channel and drain/well - next to and external to wall 101. Finds from within the features	Drainage	Late 19th-20th C button and spoon; Clay pipe stems; Glass 1650-1750; pottery 1830-1900	Pre-1870s	4	4
214	1	M	E-W wall foundation - unfrogged bricks. Adjoins wall 101 to the west	Wall/foundation		1832	2	3
215	1	M	N-S-facing wall foundation, cut by modern man hole and concrete slabs. May have joined up with 214. Brick (unfrogged?). probably joins with foundations 600 and 601 to form a stable block	Wall/foundation		1832	2	3
216	1	M	SE footing made of unfrogged bricks. Part of a second glass house (hot water pipes lead into it). Unclear relationship with footing 214	Wall/foundation		Pre-1870s	4	6
300	1	M	All 4 external sides of a foundation made of a girder encased in concrete and topped with up to 2 courses of brick. Forming a rectangular building. Cuts through earlier floors and walls. Same as 28	Wall/foundation		second world war	5	8
301	1	M	All 4 sides of a small external boiler house. Frogged bricks, some stamped	Wall/foundation	19th-20th C brick	second world war	5	
302	1	M	2 sides of a foundation for wall forming outbuilding S of yard wall. 102 is the west wall. Stepped foundations and no concrete	Wall/foundation	19th C brick	1832	3	4

Context	Area	Context type	Comments	Feature Type	Finds	Period	Phase	Structure no.
303	1	M	2 separate concrete blocks, bases for boilers or engines	Wall/foundation		second world war	5	8
304	1	M	2 wall foundations to probable orangery	Wall/foundation	Late 18th-20th C brick	Pre-1870s	4	5
305	1	M	Internal E-W foundation cutting through 304 and orangery floor. Made of concrete topped with 2 courses of bricks. part of building 300	Wall/foundation		second world war	5	8
306	1	M	3 patches of tiled floor, to orangery? Probably all originally part of one room	Floor		Pre-1870s	4	5
307	1	M	Line of original yard wall connecting with 100 and 400. All but destroyed by concrete footing 300. original pier foundation can still be seen below concrete	Wall/foundation		1832	2	1
308	1	M	2 modern additions abutting 300 to the north. Both made of frogged and imprinted brick foundations with concrete floors. Includes some reused frogged bricks. Possible laundry rooms? Same as 31 and 36	Wall/foundation		second world war	5	8
309	1	M	Group of brick and concrete foundations/bases to ancillary buildings to E of 300 and S of 400. Next to concrete base 303. Probably related to boiler or engine? E.g. flue? Or where diesel was put in?	Wall/foundation		second world war	5	8
310	1	group	void	Void			void	
311	1	L	Demolition layer sealing eastern side of drain 103, 304 and base of 300. containing finds	Layer	Late 19th -20th C brick, bone button and handle-lever	?	?	

Context	Area	Context type	Comments	Feature Type	Finds	Period	Phase	Structure no.
400	1	M	Continuation of yard wall. Turns NW. same as 100 and 200	Wall/foundation	Late 18th-19th C brick	1832	2	1
401	1	M	Addition to inside of yard on E side - adjoins 400 and looks of similar construction. Top of wall Rebuilt using frettton bricks. Might be a pond? Shows on 1870s map. Stepped base on E side	Wall/foundation		1832	2	1
500	1	C	Cut of modern pit in yard. Cuts 502/503 so probably dug after demolition of 19th C buildings. Cut by a salt-glazed pipe encased concrete	Cut		1970s?	6	
501	1	F	Fill of 500. v dark in colour	Fill	CBM	1970s?	6	
502	1	C	L-shaped mortar spread at N side of yard. Cut by 500 and 504. Associated with a large area of disturbance 56/57. Same as 51. Probably backfill of a robbed out wall to a demolished 19th C building showing on maps from 1870s to 1960s	Cut		1832	2	2
503	1	F	Fill of 502. very mortar-y	Fill		1832	2	2
504	1	C	Cut of another modern pit similar to 500. Not dug. Cuts mortar 502/503. Next to modern brick rubble 56/57	Cut		1970s?	6	
505	1	F	Dark fill of 504. not dug	Fill		1970s?	6	
506	1	C	Cut of possible pit revealed when a narrow machine trench was cut through the gravel surface of the yard. May be contemporary with 48, 46, 44, 42 and 40	Cut		Post-med	1	
507	1	F	fill of 506	Fill	glass 1700-1750	Post-med	1	

Context	Area	Context type	Comments	Feature Type	Finds	Period	Phase	Structure no.
600	2	M	E-W wall foundation probably part of stable block with 601 and 215. Unfrogged brick. Stepped base. Probably joined up with extant coach house.	Wall/foundation		1832	2	3
601	2	M	E W wall foundation north of 600. - Probably N wall of stable block with 600 and 603. Unfrogged brick. Stepped base	Wall/foundation	19th-20th C brick	1832	2	3
602	2	M	N-S wall foundation. Unfrogged brick. Stepped base. Leads to coach house. Connects stable block 601 to extant coach house. Contemporary with 601.	Wall/foundation	19th-20th C brick	1832	2	3
603	2	M	N-S wall foundation made of slightly irregularly coursed bricks. Unfrogged. W wall foundation to stable block 600/601?	Wall/foundation	19th-20th C brick	1832	2	3
604	2	M	E-W wall foundation made of concrete base with 2 courses of brick on top. Later internal division to stable block 600/601/603? Cut by 606	Wall/foundation	19th-20th C brick	Pre-1870s	4	
605	2	M	Brick wall foundation enclosing an uneven concrete floor. Frogged bricks. Building shows on Google Earth - conference centre. Goes through 600	Wall/foundation	Late 19th-20th C brick	1970s	6	
606	2	M	Concrete footing with white bricks on top. Cuts 601 and abuts 605. Part of conference centre and shows on Google Earth	Wall/foundation	Late 19th-20th C brick	1970s	6	
607	2	L	demolition layer sealing 600 to 606	Layer	13 frags of mixed 16th-20th C brick; 2 frags glass c 1872-1925; pottery 1890-1920	very modern	6	

**Appendix 2: EHER Summary Form**

<b>Site name/Address:</b> Danbury Palace, Main Road, Danbury, Essex	
<b>Parish:</b> Danbury	<b>District:</b> Chelmsford
<b>NGR:</b> TL 76587 04884	<b>Site Code:</b> DYDP14
<b>Type of Work:</b> Excavation	<b>Site Director/Group:</b> Kate Clover Archaeology South-East
<b>Date of Work:</b> 4th to 19th August 2014	<b>Size of Area Investigated:</b> 1070 Sq m
<b>Location of Finds/Curating Museum:</b> Chelmsford Museum	<b>Funding source:</b> Client
<b>Further Seasons Anticipated?:</b> No	<b>Related HER Nos:</b> 30319, 5741, 8567
<b>Final Report:</b> 2015023	<b>OASIS ref:</b> archaeol6- 201888
<b>Periods Represented:</b> Post-medieval, modern	
<p><b>SUMMARY OF FIELDWORK RESULTS:</b> Archaeology South-East (ASE) was commissioned by Chase Green Developments Limited to undertake an archaeological excavation on land at Danbury Palace, in advance of the residential redevelopment of the site. The existing early 19th century Palace was built close to or on top of an earlier, 16th-18th century, mansion. This in turn is thought to have succeeded an earlier medieval house, possibly moated.</p> <p>The excavation was preceded by a trial trenching evaluation which revealed the remains of brick-built ancillary buildings to the south and south-west of the existing 19th house. It also exposed ditches and pits from an earlier phase of land use predating 1800. The excavation was carried out across this northern part of the development. It revealed a pit underlying a 19th yard. This pit, along with other features found during the evaluation stage, is conjectured to be associated with the 16th to 18th mansion, the predecessor of Danbury Palace.</p> <p>The excavation also revealed more of the demolished 19th century brick-built ancillary buildings of Danbury Palace including parts of two walled yards with stables, storerooms and greenhouses arranged around their edges. Modification and development of these buildings during the later 19th and 20th centuries was apparent.</p> <p>Evidence of the later use of the outbuildings was revealed in the form of a boiler house and chimney as well as concrete foundations. These structures represent the conversion of the house to a maternity hospital in the Second World War, or directly afterwards when the County Council used it as a civil defence training centre.</p> <p>Most of the ancillary buildings were demolished in the 1970s when the Anglia Polytechnic University Hall of Residence was constructed, but a Coach House and buildings to the south and west of it survive.</p>	
<b>Previous Summaries/Reports:</b> Evaluation Report 2014. ASE project. No 8082	
<b>Author of Summary:</b> K. Clover	<b>Date of Summary:</b> February 2015



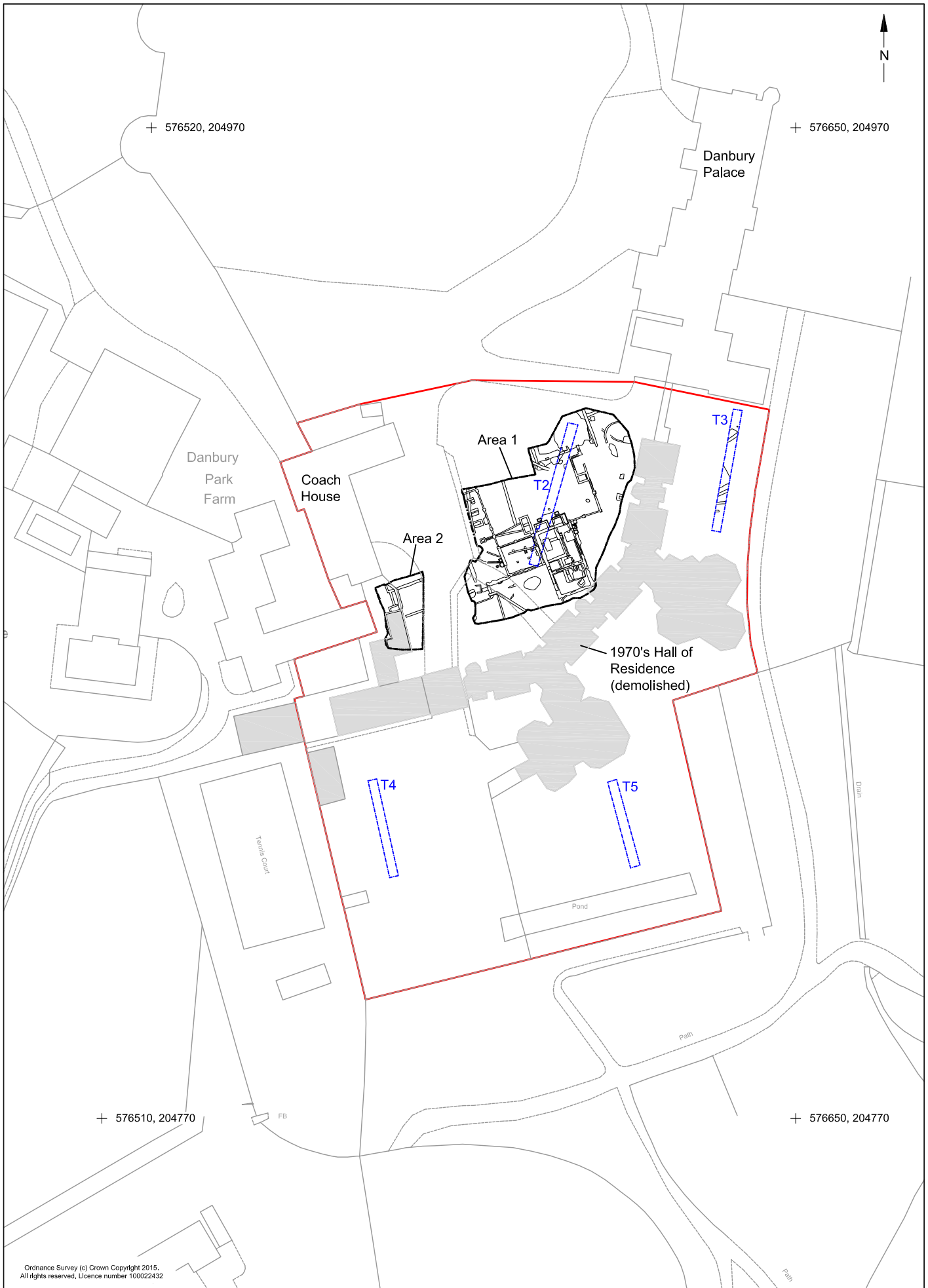
### Appendix 3: OASIS Form

<b>OASIS ID: archaeol6-201888</b>	
<b>Project details</b>	
Project name	Excavations at Danbury Palace, Main Road, Danbury, Essex
Short description of the project	Archaeology South-East (ASE) carried out an excavation on land at Danbury Palace in advance of the residential redevelopment of the site.
Project dates	Start: 04-08-2014 End: 19-08-2014
Previous/future work	Yes / No
Any associated project reference codes	DYDP14 - Sitecode
Any associated project reference codes	8229 - Contracting Unit No.
Type of project	Recording project
Site status	None
Site status (other)	Next to Danbury Palace which is listed
Current Land use	Residential 2 - Institutional and communal accommodation
Monument type	WALL FOUNDATIONS Post Medieval
Monument type	WALL FOUNDATIONS Modern
Monument type	PIT Post Medieval
Significant Finds	GLASS Post Medieval
Significant Finds	BRICKS Uncertain
Investigation type	"Part Excavation"
Prompt	Direction from Local Planning Authority - PPS
<b>Project location</b>	
Country	England
Site location	ESSEX CHELMSFORD DANBURY Danbury Palace
Postcode	CM3 4AT
Study area	1070.00 Square metres
Site coordinates	TL 76587 04884 51.7143379354 0.556467964704 51 42 51 N 000 33 23 E Point
Height OD / Depth	Min: 50.50m Max: 50.75m
<b>Project creators</b>	
Name of Organisation	Archaeology South-East
Project brief originator	Essex County Council Place Services
Project design originator	ASE
Project director/manager	Adrian Scruby
Project supervisor	Kate Clover
Type of sponsor/funding body	Client
Name of sponsor/funding body	Chase Green Developments Ltd
<b>Project archives</b>	
Physical Archive recipient	Chelmsford Museum
Physical Archive ID	DYDP14

Physical Contents	"Animal Bones", "Ceramics", "Glass", "Metal", "other"
Physical Archive notes	CBM
Digital Archive recipient	Chelmsford Museum
Digital Archive ID	DYDP14
Digital Contents	"other"
Digital Media available	"Images raster / digital photography", "Images vector", "Spreadsheets", "Survey", "Text"
Paper Archive recipient	Chelmsford Museum
Paper Archive ID	DYDP14
Paper Contents	"other"
Paper Media available	"Aerial Photograph", "Context sheet", "Correspondence", "Drawing", "Map", "Photograph", "Plan", "Report", "Section", "Unpublished Text"
<b>Project bibliography 1</b>	
Publication type	Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)
Title	Archaeological Excavation at Danbury Palace, Main Road, Danbury, Essex
Author(s)/Editor(s)	Clover, K
Other bibliographic details	Project no. 8229. Report no. 2015023
Date	2015
Issuer or publisher	ASE
Place of issue or publication	Braintree, Essex
Description	A4 bound report. Also a pdf.
Entered by	Kate Clover (k.clover@ucl.ac.uk)
Entered on	29 January 2015



© Archaeology South-East		Danbury Palace Excavation		Fig. 1
Project Ref: 8229	Jan 2015	Site location		
Report No: 2015023	Drawn by: APL			



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© Archaeology South-East		Danbury Palace excavation		Fig.2
Project Ref: 8229	2015	Location of excavation areas and evaluation trenches		
Report No: 2015023	Drawn by: APL			



3.1 Western side of Area 1 showing yard wall and pliers to structure 7. Coach house to rear. View SW.

3.2 Northern part of Area 1 showing yard wall and structure 401. Demolition rubble in foreground. View SSW.



- Phase 1 post-medieval
- Phase 2 1832
- Phase 3 1830s - c. 1850
- Phase 4 pre 1870s
- Phase 5 World War 2 / 1940s
- Phase 6 1870s Hall of Residence
- Undated
- Photograph direction of view



3.5 Foundations to stable block in Area 2 and modern concrete footings. View North.



3.3 Structure 5 (glasshouse) with drain 103. Structure 4 in foreground. View NW.



3.4 Southern part of Area 1 showing floor to orangery building and structure 8. View NW.



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