

ARCHAEOLOGICAL TRIAL TRENCHING AND EXCAVATION LAND AT BRAINTREE ROAD, FELSTED, ESSEX

POST-EXCAVATION ASSESSMENT AND UPDATED PROJECT DESIGN

ASE Project No: 8139 Site Code: FLBR14

ASE Report No: 2015439



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Planning Reference: UTT/13/0989/OP

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Abstract

Archaeological evaluation and subsequent open-area excavation preceded residential development of 2.2ha green-field site alongside Braintree Road, Watch House Green, Felsted. Both stages of archaeological work were recommended and monitored by Essex County Council Place Services and were undertaken by Archaeology South-East, commissioned by CgMs Consulting. Reputed to be the site of an enclosed medieval homestead, the surviving remnants of a substantial ditch or moat run across the east-central part of the development area.

A total of ten trenches were positioned in the available parts of the site. The three most south-eastern trenches were blank. Remains of ditches, postholes and spreads of gravel, cobbles and tile were recorded in the remainder. Trench 4, in the northeast of the site, contained the greatest density and range of archaeological features and was subsequently enlarged into an open excavation area of c.12m x 30.5m.

The earliest remains comprised three residual pieces of prehistoric struck flint, and an early Roman ditch in Trench 6, containing small quantities of mid to late 1st century AD ceramic building material and pottery. The ditch and its contents possibly imply that site is situated near a Roman farmstead, the location of which is unknown.

Late Saxon remains comprise c.100 sherds of 11th century pottery most, if not all, residual items from later contexts. The presence of this material presumably indicates the date of foundation of the medieval occupation activity here.

The excavation area contained a number of parallel ditches and gullies of 12th to 14th century date. The majority ran parallel with Braintree Road, 80m to their west, perhaps marking the rear of the enclosed occupation area and defining a trackway. A small number of medieval pits generally predated the ditches. A quantity of postholes and possible structural slots lacked any patterning but could have denoted the presence of buildings. A pit or structural cut in the base of one ditch contained a carved antler chess piece of medieval date. Gravel, cobble and tile spreads in the evaluation trenches closer to Braintree Road may relate to occupation activity. However, no further parts of the medieval moated enclosure were identified in either the trenches or excavation area.

Recovered medieval artefacts comprise pottery and roof tile, fired clay, animal bone, oyster shell, iron nails, and the chess piece. These presumably derive from the putative occupation enclosure, perhaps containing a manor house complex located nearer the road.

Although buildings are shown on the 1777 Chapman and Andre map, recorded post-medieval ditches seem to relate to agricultural fields and were infilled in the 19th to 20th centuries. These correlate with boundaries on the 1837 tithe map which shows the site to be occupied by fields.

The report is written and structured so as to conform to the standards required of post-excavation analysis work as set out in the National Planning Policy Framework and older documents Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment (MoRPHE), Project Planning Notes 3: Archaeological Excavation. Interim analysis of the stratigraphic, finds and environmental material has indicated a provisional chronology, and assessed the potential of the site archive to address the original research agenda, as well as assessing the significance of those findings. This has

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identified what further analysis work is required in order to enable suitable dissemination of the results in a final publication.

It is proposed that this should take the form of short article in the county journal, Essex Archaeology and History, presenting a concise account of the stratigraphic and principal artefactual remains in order to provide context to the relatively rare discovery of the medieval chess piece.

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1.0 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Site Location (Fig. 1)

- 1.1.1 The site occupies a rural location, on the north edge of Watch House Green, a hamlet north-west of Felsted and north-east of Bannister Green. Its 2.2ha extents are defined by Braintree Road to the west, arable fields to the north and east, and residential gardens and properties to the south. The area immediately south of the site is occupied by houses, but was formerly part of Watch House Farm.
- 1.1.2 The nearest towns comprise Dunmow, c.8km to the west and Braintree, c.7.5km to the east. Both of these settlements overlie Roman antecedents and are linked by the B1256, formerly the Roman road (Stane Street) running between Colchester and Braughing, via Dunmow and Braintree.
- 1.1.3 The River Chelmer flows southwards, *c*.4.5km to the west, and is joined by Stebbing Brook immediately west of Felsted.
- 1.1.4 At the time of archaeological fieldwork, various parts of the site were occupied by a site compound and car park, a large ditch or part of a moat, extensive dense trees and vegetation, and a modern long bank of earth, and crossed by overhead electricity cables (Fig.2).

1.2 Geology and Topography

- 1.2.1 Felsted lies within an agrarian landscape of moderate slopes and hills, *c*.80 to 90m high above mean sea level. Steeper slopes flank the valley floor of the nearby River Chelmer. The site itself slopes gradually down to the west.
- 1.2.2 The geology of the site and most of its surrounding area comprises Lowestoft Formation Diamicton, consisting of an extensive sheet of chalky till, together with outwash sands and gravels, silts and clays, resting on London Clay. Alluvial deposits rest within the valley floor of the River Chelmer (bgs.ac.uk/geologyofbritain).

1.3 Scope of the Project

- 1.3.1 The archaeological work preceded construction of twenty-five dwellings, related infrastructure and road access from Braintree Road. The planning permission for the development work was granted by Uttlesford District Council in 2013 (Planning application reference UTT/13/0989/OP).
- 1.3.2 An archaeological desk-based assessment formed part of the application (CgMs Consulting 2013) and Essex County Council Place Services (ECC PS), acting as the archaeological advisor to the local planning authority, subsequently recommended that the development of the site should be preceded by an archaeological evaluation by trial-trenching. A further requirement was that if any significant archaeological remains were found to be present, then further excavation would be necessitated in order to

- mitigate the impact of construction and to investigate those remains more extensively and in more detail.
- 1.3.3 Mitigation in the form of the open area excavation of part of the site was duly required by the ECC Place Services Historic Environment Advisor and was carried out shortly after completion of the evaluation fieldwork.
- 1.3.4 All archaeological work was undertaken in accordance with a Written Scheme of Investigation produced by Archaeology South-East and approved by ECC Place Services (ASE 2014).
- 1.3.5 CgMs Consulting commissioned Archaeology South-East to undertake both stages of archaeological work. The trenching was undertaken from the 15th to 19th June 2015, and the open area excavation from the 20th to 30th July 2015. Both were managed by Adrian Scruby and directed by Mark Germany.
- 1.3.6 This report presents the results of both the evaluation and area excavation stages of work on this site. Their collective results are described and interpreted, their significance and potential explored, any additional analysis and reporting required to understand and disseminate this information identified and a suitable publication format proposed.

1.4 Archaeological Methodology (Fig. 2)

- 1.4.1 The archaeological evaluation by trial-trenching was designed to comprise fifteen, roughly evenly spaced trenches, each measuring 2m wide and 20m long, across the site (ASE 2014). However, this was subsequently reduced to ten 2m-wide trenches of varying lengths after the site was found to contain numerous obstacles and constraints (1.1.4 and Fig.2), including a need to maintain vehicular access. Two of the trenches were supplementary (16 and 17) and two of the existing trenches (4 and 9) were subsequently slightly enlarged in order to better understand the archaeological remains encountered within them. ECC PS consent was obtained for all of these changes. The trenches which were unable to be stripped comprised 1, 3, 5, 8, 10, 12 and 14 (not illustrated on Figure 2).
- 1.4.2 The excavated trenches comprised 2, 4, 6, 7, 9, 11, 13, 15, 16 and 17. Of which seven contained archaeological remains (Trenches 2, 4, 6, 7, 9, 16 and 17). The majority of the excavated trenches (2, 4, 6, 7, 16 and 17) were located towards the site's north-west end, partly due to it having fewer constraints and partly to it being quickly established that it contained most of the site's archaeological deposits and features. Trench 9 lay outside that area and was situated in the site's central south-west.
- 1.4.3 Trench 4 was enlarged to form the site of an open area archaeological excavation at the request of ECC PS after it was found to contain a concentration of archaeological remains.
- 1.4.4 Both the trenches and the open area excavation were stripped of their overlying topsoil and any subsoil using a large 360° tracked excavator, equipped with a broad toothless ditching bucket, under constant

- archaeological supervision. Resulting surfaces were hand cleaned as required.
- 1.4.5 Deposits and features were generally investigated within at least one handdug section. Discrete features such as pits and postholes were halfsectioned, while a minimum of 1m-long segments were excavated across linears.
- 1.4.6 The archaeological deposits and features were photographed and recorded on ASE pro-forma trench and context sheets as appropriate. Each context was individually numbered. Those of the trenching each began with their trench number followed by a forward slash and a three digit context number, e.g. [4/005] and [16/012]; those of the excavation ran sequentially from [1000] onwards.
- 1.4.7 Sections of each feature were drawn by hand at a scale of 1:10. A Leica GNSS GPS was used to take spot heights, to position each trench, and to record plans of surface spreads and archaeological features.
- 1.4.8 Bulk soil samples were collected from deposits judged to have potential for the survival of small artefacts and carbonised macrofossils. The general aim of the sampling was to obtain information about the site's past use and environment.
- 1.4.8 The archaeological fieldwork was undertaken in accordance with a Written Scheme of Investigation, the relevant *Standards and Guidance* of the Institute for Archaeologists, and the document *Standards for Field Archaeology in the East of England* (ASE 2014; ClfA 2014; Gurney 2003).
- 1.4.9 All finds from excavated deposits were collected and retained in line with the ASE artefact collection policy. No finds covered by the Treasure act were discovered. The excavation area was metal detected for artefact recovery, but no artefacts were recovered.

1.5 Organisation of the Report

- 1.5.1 This post-excavation assessment (PXA) and updated project design (UPD) has been prepared in accordance with guidelines presented by Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment (MoRPHE), Project Planning Notes 3 (PPN3): Archaeological Excavation (English Heritage 2008).
- 1.5.2 The purposes of this PXA and UPD are:
 - To quantify and summarise the results of the archaeological work
 - To place them within their archaeological and historical setting
 - To specify their significance and potential
 - To establish their capacity to address the original research aims
 - To identify new research criteria
 - To state what further analysis work is required to enable their final dissemination, and the form this should take

2.0 HISTORICAL AND ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND

2.1 Introduction

- 2.1.1 The following archaeological and historical background information derives from a number of sources, primarily the Archaeological Desk-Based Assessment (CgMs Consulting 2013), the results of the archaeological investigation of the Stansted Airport to Rayne section of the A120 Trunk Road (Timby *et al* 2007), 1.5km to the north, and the Essex Historic Environment Record (HER), held at County Hall, Chelmsford.
- 2.1.2 Results of four large archaeological investigations undertaken within central-west Essex within the last thirty years (i.e. Stansted Airport, A120 Trunk Road, Priors Green Takeley) suggest this part of the county to have been exploited since the Late Mesolithic period at least, and to have been occupied by dispersed farms and farmsteads and their associated field systems and trackways from at least the Middle Bronze Age period onwards. Farming and settlement intensified during the Roman period, but declined from the mid- 4th century onwards, perhaps leaving it only sparsely exploited and populated during much of the Saxon period. Its recent landscape, prior to modern development, consisted of market towns, surrounded by mostly non-nucleated farms and hamlets, often associated with small greens, former deer parks, areas of woodland and small common fields, most of the formation of which is likely to have taken place during the Late Saxon to early medieval period (Havis and Brooks 2004; Timby et al. 2007; Cooke et al. 2008; Germany et al. in prep.).

2.2 Prehistoric

- 2.2.1 Prehistoric flint artefacts were discovered at Broadfield Farm, Rayne, to the north-east during fieldwalking in 2001 (HER 46659). The flints were widely dispersed and there were no concentrations evident. A Palaeolithic flint implement was discovered near Bannister Green (HER 6221).
- 2.2.2 No prehistoric remains were discovered along the Gransmore Green to Rayne section of the archaeological investigation of the A120. Prehistoric remains were mainly found further west, on the other side of the river Chelmer. These included Middle Bronze Age pits, later prehistoric enclosures, and Iron Age round-house remains, implying rural settlement and farming activity. Middle Bronze Age remains at Greenfields Site 28 were the nearest found to this site, comprising a hollow and pit containing pottery, with a surrounding scatter of Late Bronze Age and Iron Age pits (Timby et al 2007, 24-6).

2.3 Roman

2.3.1 Roman remains within the wider area of the site include Stane Street (the old A120, to the north) and those of the Roman towns at Dunmow to the west and Braintree to the east. Much Roman landscape development was seemingly founded upon the pre-existing Late Iron Age infrastructure (Going 1988).

- 2.3.2 The A120 archaeological works identified the presence of frequent Roman sites along its route. Near the Braintree Road site, Rayne Roundabout Sites 33 and 34 comprised complexes of ditches, pits and an occupation spread that were probably remnants of enclosure systems associated with a Roman farm.
- 2.3.3 Roman farmsteads appear to have been located in relation to roads. Roadside structures interpreted as a malt house have been recorded at Stebbing Green (Bedwin and Bedwin 1999; HER 8001) alongside Stane Street, to the north of Watch House Green. Remains of a farm have been excavated at Lowleys Farm, Great Leighs, close to the Roman road between Braintree and Chelmsford (Dyson 2013).

2.4 Saxon

- 2.4.1 The archaeological evidence for Saxon period activity in central-west Essex is sparse. Along the route of the A120 Trunk Road a post-built building found at Takeley (Site 1), near Stansted, is possibly Middle Saxon, although its dating evidence is insecure, as it mainly comprises a C14 date obtained from a single piece of wood charcoal which could have been residual (Timby et al. 2007, 153-4). Footings for another Late Saxon timber building were revealed by the MTCP site at Stansted Airport. Pits and strip fields lay within their near vicinity and were accompanied by sherds of early 11th to 12th century pottery (Cooke et al. 2008). Early Saxon pottery has been found at Great Dunmow, but there are no known sites within the vicinity of the Watch House Green site.
- 2.4.2 The Domesday Book records Felsted to have been part of the estates of three different lords, one major (Earl Algar) and two minor (Wulfsi and an unnamed freeman), during the late 11th century, and to have largely comprised a comparatively large population of villagers, small holders, slaves and freemen, present within a wider landscape, containing areas of woodland, plough land and meadow. Animals kept by its inhabitants included a cob, cattle, sheep, goats and numerous pigs. The main impact of the coming of the Normans appears to have been forced change of 'landlords', with Earl Algar, Wulfsi and the unnamed freeman being replaced by Caen Abbey, Roger God-Save-Ladies, and Gilbert son of Solomon respectively (opendomesday.org).

2.5 Medieval and Post-Medieval (Figs 10 and 11)

- 2.5.1 A moat formerly occupied the site, according to the HER (HER 9562). The 1837 tithe map of the site and its locality is used to support this, although most of the linear features it shows are more likely to be field ditches, defining small enclosures.
- 2.5.2 The existing, partly infilled, large ditch, runs south-west/north-east across the middle of the development area and can be traced for c.25m (Fig. 2). It has the appearance of having formed one side of an enclosing moat, but the remainder of such an enclosure is not apparent on the ground. No other large, moat-like earthworks became apparent after much of the site had been cleared of its dense vegetation.

- 2.5.3 Cartographic records and existing earthworks suggest moated sites and moated homesteads to have been fairly common within wider area of Felsted during the past. Definite and possible examples of such have been identified at Cock Green and Bannister Green to the south-east, Gransmore Green to the north-east, and Felsted to the south-west (Fig. 2; HER 7073, 1257, 1274 and 1252).
- 2.5.4 Construction of moats around farms and houses became fashionable from the late medieval period onwards, firstly amongst the rich, but later on with people of lesser status. The functions of moats probably included drainage, defence, status symbols, fish ponds, water storage and aesthetic enhancement (Clarke 1984, 55-58).
- 2.5.5 According to maps of the late 18th century onwards, the site extends across an area formerly occupied by small field enclosures. The Chapman and André map of 1777 records the presence of three buildings within a small rectangular roadside enclosure. During the second quarter of the 19th century, the site extended across four small, enclosures, as recorded by the tithe map of 1837 (Fig. 10, A-D). It is possible that one or more these correspond with the roadside enclosure recorded by Chapman and André, although their map is of little assistance because it is too imprecise. The extant ditch/moat remains can be identified as the separating boundary between enclosures B and C. The tithe map is ambiguous as to whether enclosures A to D were occupied by buildings during the early 19th century.
- 2.5.6 Ordnance Survey maps dating from 1875 onwards suggest the site to have been unoccupied by buildings since at least the late 19th century. They also record a process of field enlargement and boundary loss, creating fewer and larger enclosures in the process. The maps indicate that enclosures A and C were no longer present by 1875, and that enclosure B remained unchanged until at least 1955, with its south side still present in 1983.

2.6 Undated

2.6.1 Many of the fields surrounding the site contain archaeological cropmarks, although most of these are linear, with many probably representing former post-medieval/modern field boundaries.

3.0 ORIGINAL RESEARCH AIMS

3.1 Aims and objectives

- 3.1.1 The general aims of the archaeological work, as presented by the Written Scheme of Investigation for the archaeological trial-trenching, were firstly to determine as far as reasonably practicable, the location, extent, date, character, condition, significance and quality of any surviving archaeological remains, and secondly, to enable the Essex County Council's Historic Environment Management Team to make an informed decision as to whether the site required further investigation in order to satisfy the archaeological condition (ASE 2014).
- 3.1.2 The Written Scheme of Investigation identified no specific archaeological research objectives, although particular consideration was to be given to the following subjects, as previously identified by Brown and Glazebrook (2000):
- OR 1 "More research on the Roman road network is needed, particularly in the later Roman period and beyond. Why did the course of some strategic Roman roads survive and not others?"
- OR2 "The development of the farmstead, 1750-1914"

4.0 ARCHAEOLOGICAL RESULTS

4.1 Introduction

- 4.1.1 The subsequent text employs the following conventions: [***] for context numbers, SG*** and G*** for sub-group and group numbers, RF<***> for registered finds numbers, and <***> for environmental sample numbers; e.g. [57], G5, RF<2>, <3>. Sub-group and group numbers are a means of combining related contexts; e.g. the disuse deposits within a single pit or the archaeological interventions across a single ditch.
- 4.1.2 Subsoil and topsoil overlay the natural deposit and sealed any archaeological features within the site area. These generally comprised brownish orange / grey firm sandy silt clay, and brownish grey friable to firm sandy silt clay, respectively. Both contained occasional stones of varying sizes and infrequent flecks of chalk. The average recorded thickness of the subsoil was 0.16m and topsoil was 0.21m, both becoming less substantial towards the north towards and Braintree Road.
- 4.1.3 The evaluation established the presence of below-ground archaeological remains in all trenches within the north and west of the site. Trenches 11, 13 and 15 in the south and east of the site contained no archaeological remains and are not further considered. Feature clarity was good, while density was modest, mostly comprising ditches, gullies and postholes displaying little intercut complexity.
- 4.1.4 On the basis of the results of the evaluation, a roughly rectangular open area excavation of c.385sq m was positioned to further investigate the remains found in Trench 4. This exposed further ditches, gullies, pits and postholes, with a modest degree of intercutting demonstrating their multiphase development.
- 4.1.5 The recorded remains are described by broad chronological phase in sections 4.4 to 4.11, below. Additional context information is presented in Appendix 1.

4.2 Site Phasing

4.2.1 Pottery dating and both stratigraphic and spatial relationships have been used to separate the results of the archaeological trial-trenching and excavation into five different phases (not including undated remains) (Table 1).

Phase	Date	Represented by
1	Prehistoric and Roman	Worked flint. Roman ditch, pottery and CBM
2	Late Saxon	Residual pot sherds
3	12th to late 13th C.	Ditches. Gullies, Pits. Pottery. CBM. Oyster shells. Animal bones
4	Mid to late 14th C.	Ditch. Pottery. CBM. Oyster shell. Animal bone
5	17th C. to present	Ditch. Pottery. CBM

Table 1: Site Phasing

4.3 Summary

Phase 1:

4.3.1 Three, broadly-prehistoric, residual struck flints, and an Early Roman ditch containing small quantities of early Roman pottery and ceramic building material evidence the site's early use.

Phases 2 and 3:

4.3.2 Most of the site's findings, however, were post-Roman and located in its northern part. A broadly agricultural land use, potentially from the 11th century onwards, was indicated by a cluster of gullies, pits and ditches, containing Late Saxon to medieval pottery sherds, with most features dating to the 12th to late 13th century. The finds from these features include domestic pottery, roof tile, and a bone chess piece, from which it is conjectured that the site was located near a medieval homestead, perhaps a manor house, the precise location of which is undetermined.

Phase 4

4.3.4 The site continued in, or was re-instated for, agriculture from the mid- 14th century onwards, as implied by the mid to late 14th imposition of a ditch that follows and potentially reinvigorates the Phase 3 field enclosure system.

Phase 5:

4.3.5 Late 18th to 20th century ditches (Phases 5-7) denote a field enclosure system that seemingly extends across the site. All medieval occupation and land divisions appear to have been removed.

4.4 Phase 1: Prehistoric and Roman

- 4.4.1 The earliest remains found comprised three pieces of worked flint and a Roman ditch [6/004].
- 4.4.2 The flint items were retrieved from the open excavation area and were residual in Phase 3 ditches G2, G4 and G6, being recovered from the fills of ditch segments [1021], [1036] and [1055].
- 4.4.3 Ditch [6/004] ran the length of Trench 6 and perpendicular to Braintree Road (Figs 2 and 4). It had moderate to steep sides and a broad concave base. It contained three fills that comprised primary fill [6/005] which looked similar to the surrounding natural, and brownish-grey/greyish-brown secondary and latest fills [6/006 and 6/007], probably originating from the surrounding topsoil. Artefacts recovered from the secondary and latest fills of the feature consisted of seven small sherds of Roman pottery from the second half of the 1st century AD, and a small amount of Roman brick or tile. The ditch possibly turned or terminated beyond Trench 6, since no evidence for it was encountered in Trenches 2 and 7 to the near north-west or south-east.

4.5 Phase 2: Late Saxon

4.5.1 The recovery of c.100 sherds of 10th/11th to early 13th century pottery, most of which on balance is likely to have been in use during the 11th century, indicates Late Saxon land use activity at this location. The pottery

consists of sherds of St Neots-type ware, shell tempered ware, shell-and-sand tempered ware, early medieval ware and grog tempered ware, and is mainly or completely present as residual items in medieval and later features, including Phase 3 pits [1044 and 1084] and gully G8. Two post-holes [1029 and 1094] in the central east parts of the excavation area are possibly Late Saxon period as well, but contained too few sherds of Late Saxon pottery to confirm this (Fig. 7). No other identifiably Late Saxon remains were found in the evaluation trenches.

4.6 Phase 3: 12th to late 13th century

- 4.6.1 The majority of the features, and most of the recovered pottery, date to the 12th to late 13th century, making it likely that the site was part of, or situated near, a place of human occupation at this time. All but one of the identified Phase 3 features were encountered in the excavation area, with ditch [7/004] in Trench 7 being the single exception. The Phase 3 features dispay a degree of intercutting and replacement, but it is likely that they all belong to one broad episode of land use.
- 4.6.2 Phase 3 ditches and gullies G1, G2/3, G4, G6, G7, G8 and G9 extended into the excavation area and shared a broadly common alignment, running south-west to north-east, roughly parallel with Braintree Road, c.80m to the west (Fig. 7). These features may mark the eastern limit of a roadside occupation area, possibly enclosed. Discrete features were also present, consisting of four pits [1044, 1072 and 1084] and five post-holes [1015, 1029, 1063, 1065 and 1074]. The linear features were probably remains of enclosure boundaries, although a trackway curving northwards is perhaps represented by (G1) and (G2/G3 and G9). The linears varied in size and form, both within and between features.
- 4.6.3 Ditch G1 ran across the excavation area's north-west corner. Where investigated within segments [1006] and [1017] the ditch had moderate sloping sides and a slightly uneven to flat base, and was 0.38m to 0.41m deep. Potentially running parallel with the other Phase 3 ditches to its south, it curved away northwards and also narrowed perhaps to a terminal just beyond the north edge of the excavation area. Containing one and two fills per segment (Figs 7 and 8.2), segment [1017] yielded a small quantity of 10th/11th to later 12th/early 13th century pottery, 2.7kg of ceramic roof tile, and small amounts of animal bone, oyster shell and fired clay fragments.
- 4.6.4 Ditch G2 and its recuts G3 and G12 ran parallel with the southern part of G1, c.6m to its north-west. Ditch G2 was fragmentary, being largely truncated and obscured by successive recutting. Part of its rounded north-eastern terminal was investigated in segment [1053]. Ditch G3 had removed much of its western side, though their stratigraphic relationship could only be discerned in section (Figs 7 and 8.7). Its relationship with pit [1084] is unknown. It contained a single fill which included small amounts of later 12th to 14th century pottery, pieces of fired clay and ceramic building material, and fragments of oyster shell and animal bone.
- 4.6.5 Ditch G3, a replacement of G2, extended further north-east across the excavation area, curving and tapering slightly to a narrower and rounded terminal. Where investigated within segments [1055], [1061] and [1090] it

had a moderate to steep sided concave profile, and undulating base, ranging in depth from 0.28m to 0.45m. It contained a single fill that included further small quantities of later 12th to 14th century pottery, fired clay and ceramic building material. A piece of clay tobacco pipe was also retrieved from the fill of segment [1090], but was almost certainly intrusive. It is conjectured that the north-east end of G3 might mirror the curve of ditch G1, suggesting that these ditches perhaps delineated two sides of a splayed trackway.

- 4.6.6 Ditch G12 is postulated to be a further recut or replacement of the boundary delineated by G2 and G3. The profile of this ditch was recognised in section, as segment [1092], and a bulbous protrusion beyond the west edge of G3 is interpreted as its broad, rounded, northwest terminal (Figs 7 and 8.9). Its edges were not discerned in plan within the fill of G3 or across the top of pit [1084].
- 4.6.7 Ditch G4 ran alongside ditch G2/3 and was separated from it by only a c.1m wide gap. It had a broad, shallow profile, measuring 0.32m to 0.36m deep, decreasing to 0.05m by the time it reached its tapering north-east end (Figs 7 and 8, section 8.4). Deposits of brownish grey friable to firm silt clay formed the single fills within two of its three excavated segments, [1036 and 1043], and incorporated numerous large nodules of flint, alongside smaller amounts of large lumps of chalk (Fig. 9, photos 2 and 7). None of the stones showed signs of having been worked or mortared, although some were very large, measuring up to 0.25m square. Segment [1023] at the north-east end of the ditch, by contrast, was very different. It had a broad flat base and was only 0.05m deep. Its fill of orange brown firm silt clay, [1024], contained occasional gravel, but no large lumps of chalk or flint. The artefactual content of ditch G4 included numerous pieces of pottery, including decorated pieces of Hedingham Ware cooking pots and storage iars. The latest sherds from the ditch date its infilling to the late 13th to 14th century. Ceramic building material, fired clay, oyster shells and animal bones were also retrieved. Ditch G4 also displays a slight bend at its south which mirrors that of G1. Instead of G2/3/12, this might be a better counterpart, defining parallel sides of a c.7m-wide trackway.
- 4.6.8 The south-east corner of the site exposed a SW-NE running linear feature which upon investigation was found to consist of two intercutting gullies [1010 and 1012] that seemingly merged into bulging ditch G6, increasing in depth from 0.36m to 0.5m as it headed south-westwards (Figs 7 and 8.1). Gully [1012] cut gully [1010] and measured 0.23m and 0.18m deep respectively. The relationship between them and G6 was not established, although it is possible that the purpose of G6 was to clear out, enlarge and perhaps lengthen the south-west end of gully [1012]. Gully [1010] contained 12th to 14th century pottery, indicating it to have been dug during or after that period. Overlying both gullies, but not ditch G6, was a thin spread of brown soil [1014] containing medieval or later ceramic building material and residual 10th/11th to 13th century pottery. This spread was amorphous in plan, and its limits were left undetermined and therefore unrecorded.
- 4.6.9 Gullies G7, G8 and G9 extended into the central-east part of the excavation area, their rounded terminals stopping short of, or avoiding, ditches G2/3, G4 and G6 (Fig. 7). All were relatively narrow and shallow,

measuring 0.09m to 0.13m deep, with each of their excavated segments containing single fills consisting of brownish grey/greyish brown silt clay (e.g. Fig. 8.3). Gully G9 segment [1033] included pieces of 12th-century early medieval ware thin-walled cooking-pot. Gullies G7 and G8, by contrast, are perhaps likely to have been infilled slightly later, since sherds of 13th century pottery were recovered from segments [1027], [1082] and [1025]. Gully G8 was the only one to include ceramic building material.

- 4.6.10 Ditch [7/004], in Trench 7 was broad and deep and more than 1.5m wide (Fig. 5). Seemingly aligned east-west, its continuation beyond the trench was not established. It contained five fills. Deposit [7/006], the second of its four deposits, was positioned centrally in the cut and had a mound-like form, making it likely that it had been deliberately dumped. The other four fills by contrast sloped from the south [7/005] and north [7/007 to 7/009] respectively and therefore may have accrued through natural processes. As with most of the site's features containing more than one fill, orange/yellow fills akin to natural lay beneath brownish grey/greyish brown fills akin to topsoil. Dating evidence for the feature was mainly provided by its latest fill, which contained two sherds of pottery from a Hedingham ware jug. Other finds from the ditch composed pieces of undiagnostic medieval/post-medieval roof tile.
- 4.6.11 The other dated Phase 3 features comprised pits, some of them either dug within or truncated by the Phase 3 ditches. These comprised pit [1019] beneath ditch G1, pit [1044] beneath ditch G4, pit [1084] beneath ditches G2 and G3 and pit [1072], clipped by Phase 4 ditch G5. They also included a small pit or post-hole [1094] near gully G9.
- 4.6.12 Pit [1019] cut the base of ditch G1 and was probably dug whilst the ditch was still open. It consisted of a c.0.2m wide, sub-rectangular, vertical-sided shaft or slot, c. 0.55m deep (dug as deep as a person's arm could reach?). (Figs. 7 and 8.2) Its single fill of redeposited topsoil contained a medieval chess piece RF<1>, but no other finds. The chess piece was discovered half way down the hole. No other structural cuts were identified elsewhere along the investigated parts of the G1 ditch. It is unknown if [pit/slot [1019] constitutes a single post or part of a more extensive structure such as a palisade.
- 4.6.13 Pits [1044] and [1084] were more substantial and both were cut by medieval period ditches G3, G2 and G4 (Figs 7 and 8, sections 8.4 and 8.9; Fig. 9, photos 2 and 8). Possibly square-ish pit [1084], the larger, was not bottomed. It had steep, near-vertical sides and was more than 1.09m deep. Its latest or only fill [1089] consisted of redeposited natural and patches of topsoil and was therefore probably a deliberate backfill. Retrieved finds included nine large sherds of pottery dating to c.1200 AD. some of which came from a cooking pot, a lump of fired clay, and small amounts of animal bone and oyster shell. Pit [1044], beneath the southeast side of adjacent ditch G4 to the south-east, was smaller in size probably of rounded plan form. It had very steep sides and a slightly concave base, which after truncation by ditch G4, survived to a depth of only 0.38m deep. Its deposit sequence comprised consisted of a primary fill of dark brownish grey silt clay [1038], beneath a probable backfill of intermingled redeposited topsoil and natural [1037]. Late Saxon pottery was recovered from its primary fill and 12th to 14th century pottery from the

later fill, making it possible that the pit was open during the Late Saxon period, but was not fully infilled until the 12th to 14th century.

- 4.6.14 Further pit [1072], in the excavation site's southwest corner, was only partly extant, since its south-west and north-east sides had been cut away by later features G5 and G11 (Fig. 7). Possibly square in plan, it measured 0.39m deep with moderately sloping sides leading down to a broad, slightly concave, base. Three deposits [1069 - 71] filled it and had corresponding slightly concave profiles. They were mainly grey or greyish brown in colour, and as such were probably derived from the surrounding topsoil. Their contents included small amounts of pottery and these dated to the 11th and 10th/11th to early 13th centuries for the primary fill, and the late 12th to 14th century for both the intermediate and latest fills. The latest fill included pieces of medieval or later ceramic building material and was the only one of the three fills to do so. Accompanying finds included small amounts of animal bone and oyster shells, and a large lump of fired clay. The dating sequence for the pit possibly indicates that the pit was dug during the Late Saxon period, and was subsequently infilled during the 12th to late 13th century, perhaps after settling.
- 4.6.15 The last of the Phase 3 pits, [1094] lay alongside gully G9. Roughly circular and 0.28m deep, its moderate to steep sloping sides led downwards towards a small slightly concave base. Brownish-grey silt clay [1095] formed its single fill and contained nine fairly large 12th-century pot sherds, including several cooking pot rims.

4.7 Phase 4: Mid to Late 14th century

- 4.7.1 From the excavated evidence, it appears that all the Phase 3 features passed out of use and were not replaced by any tangible land use activity in this part of the site until at least the mid or perhaps late 14th century.
- 4.7.2 NE-SW aligned ditch G5 cut across infilled Phase 3 pit [1072]. Where investigated within segments [1051] and [1077] it was 0.35m deep, with splayed sides and a flat base (Figs 7 and 8.6). Segment 1051 contained a single fill. Both segments yielded pottery, including sherds of Kingston-type ware, dated to the second half of the 14th century. The presence of CBM and animal bone may indicate domestic occupation in the near vicinity.
- 4.7.3 The imposition of this ditch, on the same alignment as the preceding Phase 3 ditches, suggests the likely maintenance or re-establishment of the same enclosure system. As such, the perceived hiatus in land use may not be real.

4.8 Phase 5: 18th century to present

- 4.8.1 There is no direct evidence for activity within the site during the 15th and 16th centuries, other than presumably residual pottery in one of the phase 5 features described below.
- 4.8.2 The final phase of post-medieval to modern land use was represented by two ditches, one of which extended across the north end of Trench 2

[2/006], and the other (G11) across the south-east corner of the excavation area.

- 4.8.3 Ditch [2/006] ran perpendicular to Braintree Road (Figs 2 and 3). It measured 1m wide and 0.45m deep and was found to have irregular, but otherwise moderately sloping sides, leading down towards a centrally located v-shaped base. Its north side began with a broad shallow step. Two topsoil-like fills [2/004 and 2/005] formed its deposit sequence, and appeared to have accumulated from the north side, presumably from a bank alongside. Finds recovered from these fills comprised a residual Roman sherd, two small sherds of modern pottery, and a small quantity of post-medieval/modern ceramic building material, with one of the modern sherds originating from the primary fill. It would therefore appear that this ditch was infilled in the 19th and/or 20th century.
- 4.8.4 NW-SE aligned ditch G11 cut across Phase 3 and 4 ditches G2, G3, G4 and G5, and across pit [1072]. Investigation within segments [1041 and 1068] revealed two fills in each and a consistent profile, 0.43m to 0.49m deep, consisting of a broad, slightly concave base below moderate sloping sides (Figs 7 and 8.5 & 8.8; Fig. 9, photos 4 and 6). Present within both fills were numerous artefacts, with ceramic roof tiles being the most common item, together with pottery, 18th-19th century bottle and window glass, oyster shell and animal bone. The pottery consists of century pottery sherds with a 18th-20th century date range, along with residual medieval and 17th century sherds.
- 4.8.5 Both Phase 5 ditches correspond with the positions of boundary shown on the 1837 tithe map. In fact, they could be regarded as parts of the same boundary ditch which according to the mapping turns an angle just to the west of the excavation area (Fig. 10). Presumably still functioning as an open ditch (though not necessarily so if accompanied by a bank, hedge or fenceline), a 19th-20th century infill date would seem reasonable.

4.9 Unphased and undated features

- 4.9.1 Many features were unable to be allocated to a specific phase because they provided no, or only very broad, dating evidence and/or they had no diagnostic stratigraphic and/or spatial relationships. However, the majority are almost certainly of medieval to post-medieval date.
- 4.9.2 A small spread of medieval or later ceramic building material, [2/008], was recorded in the south end of Trench 2 (Fig. 3).
- 4.9.3 In trench 6, a 7m-wide, 0.15m thick, spread of flint gravel, flint nodules and medieval or later ceramic building material, [6/008], partly overlay Roman ditch [6/004] (Figs 4 and 9, photo 1).
- 4.9.4 Two small spreads of large flint nodules and medieval or later ceramic building material [9/004 and 9/006] were investigated in the extended north-east end of Trench 9 (Fig. 6). Spread [9/006] included a large sherd of 13th-14th century Mill Green ware from the base of a jug.

- 4.9.5 Undated north-south running gully [16/004] was recorded to underlie a 1.9m wide, 0.17m thick layer of occasional pieces of medieval or later ceramic roof tile and small to moderate fragments of unworked flint in the middle of Trench 16 (Fig. 4).
- 4.9.6 Two gullies [17/004 and 17/006] on different, apparently unrelated alignments ran across Trench 17. Gully [17/006] contained no artefacts while [17/004] was medieval or later.
- 4.9.7 In Trench 4 and its related excavation area a number of postholes [4/004, 4/006, 4/008, 4/010 and 4/013] and [1000, 1002, 1015, 1029, 1031, 1063, 1065, 1074, 1086, 1088, 1099, 1102 and 1104] were all undated (Fig. 7). Mostly clustered toward the northern end of the excavation area, between ditch G1 and ditches G2/3 and G9, they display no convincing patterning to denote building remains. However, undated gullies [1004], [1047] and [1049] all run either parallel with or perpendicular to the Phase 3-4 ditches and could constitute structural foundation cuts for earthfast timber buildings. Gully [1049] appeared to be cut by Phase 3 pit [1072] and was therefore of probable medieval or earlier date. Indeed, the alignments of all three gullies suggest that they were contemporary with the medieval occupation at this site.
- 4.9.8 Lastly, undated probable large pit [1045] extended beyond the south limit of the excavation area. Underlying possible structural slot [1047] and having an uncertain intercut relationship with gully/slot [1049], this too may have been a medieval or earlier feature.

5.0 FINDS AND ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENTS

5.1 Introduction

5.1.1 A small assemblage of finds was recovered during the combined evaluation and excavation phases of work. These were washed and dried or air dried as appropriate, quantified by count and weight and bagged by material and context (Appendix 2). The finds have been packed and stored following ClfA guidelines (2014). None require further conservation.

5.2 Flintwork by Karine Le Hégarat

- 5.2.1 Three flakes considered to be humanly struck, weighing 7g, and two fragments (20g) of unworked burnt flint were recovered during the excavation phase. Two of the struck items come from single fill [1005] (sample <01>) of undated pit [1004], and single fill [1022] of Phase 3 ditch G6 segment [1021]. The third piece [1059] is an unstratified item from Phase 3 ditch G2, segment [1055]. The struck items consist of fragmentary flakes, manufactured from light to dark brown flint, with one of them displaying a winged platform. The two pieces of unworked burnt flint were retrieved from undated pit [1004].
- 5.2.2 The flint assemblage implies light use of the site for human activity during the earlier and/or later prehistoric periods, but little else. None of the flint items are closely datable.
- 5.2.3 The assemblage is too small to have any potential for further analysis. It requires no further work.

5.3 Roman Pottery by Anna Doherty

- 5.3.1 The very small assemblage of Roman pottery retrieved from the site amounts to eight sherds, weighing 46g, all but one of which come from secondary fill [6/006] of Phase 1 ditch [6/004]. The only rim sherd in this group comes from a fairly crudely-made collared flagon, broadly similar to Going (1987) J1 types, in a sandy black-surfaced ware fabric. This form together with other bodysherds in fabrics including early Hadham grey wares, other coarse black-surfaced wares and unsourced buff and red oxidised wares, are probably in keeping with an early Roman date range of c.AD50 100.
- 5.3.2 The other stratified Roman pot sherd is a residual item from Phase 5 ditch, [2/006]. Interestingly, it cross-fits with the flagon rim from Phase 1 ditch [6/004].
- 5.3.3 The assemblage is too small to be of local, regional or national significance. It has no potential for further analysis and therefore requires no further work.

5.4 Post-Roman Pottery by Helen Walker

5.4.1 A total of 676 sherds weighing 7148g was excavated from forty-four contexts and has been catalogued according to Cunningham's typology of post-Roman pottery in Essex (Cunningham 1985, 1-16). Some of

Cunningham's rim form codes are quoted in this report. The quantification of the pottery is summarised in Table 2 and recorded in greater detail in Appendix 2.

Ware	Sherd	Wt
	Nos	(g)
St Neots-type ware	3	6
Shell-tempered ware	7	31
Shell-and-sand-tempered ware	73	656
Early medieval grog-tempered ware	3	18
Early medieval ware	199	2075
Medieval coarseware	268	2238
Hedingham coarseware	91	1711
Hedingham fineware	9	145
Mill Green fineware	2	27
Mill Green-type ware	1	12
Sandy orange ware	7	27
Kingston-type ware	2	21
Post-medieval red earthenware	2	112
Metropolitan slipware	1	5
English salt-glazed stoneware	1	4
Yellow ware	6	52
Modern earthenware	1	8
	676	7148

Table 2: Medieval pottery quantification (summary)

Phases 2 and 3

- 5.4.2 The majority of pottery comes from Phases 2 and 3 accounting for 73% of the total assemblage (by weight). The earliest pottery comprises three small sherds of Late Saxon St Neots-type ware, which occur in the primary fills [1038] and [1071] of pits [1044] and [1072] and in fill [1028] of gully 1027]. St Neots-type ware has the overall date range of 10th to 12th century, but at the ports of London and Colchester is largely confined to the 11th (Cotter 2000, 33; Vince and Jenner 1991, 56). In pit [1044], the St Neots-type ware is accompanied by shell-tempered ware, shell-and-sandtempered ware and early medieval ware and all could have been current during the 11th century. However, sherds of medieval coarseware in pit [1072] and gully [1027] preclude a date before the mid to late 12th century. although the medieval coarseware from pit [1072] could be contamination from the upper fills, both of which contained medieval coarseware. In addition to these features, ditch [1080], which was adjacent to pit [1072], produced a sherd of fine shelly ware, which could be St Neots-type ware but no inclusions of the fossil Bryozoa characteristic of that ware were detected. This sherd was accompanied by a piece of early medieval ware. which shows flashing on the surfaces where the pot has come into direct contact with the flames of the kiln, and this was noted on several other early medieval ware sherds from this excavation.
- 5.4.3 Although St Neots-type ware is very sparse, a number of features contained early medieval pottery, which could be contemporary with St Neots-type ware. These comprise early medieval ware, shell-tempered ware and shell-and-sand-tempered ware, with the addition of sherds of early medieval grog-tempered ware, which contain grog (crushed fired clay) and well as coarse sand-tempering. There are several examples of simple everted rims in these wares which would be consistent with an 11th

century date, the most likely period for the St Neots-type ware. However, in nearly all cases, this early medieval pottery is accompanied by small amounts of medieval coarseware (including Hedingham coarseware) which precludes a date before the mid-to late 12th century. Some features also contained examples of early medieval vessels with beaded rims, which are datable to the 12th century and the more developed B2 rim datable to c.1200. Features and deposits containing this combination of wares and rim types that are perhaps datable to the 11th to end of the 12th centuries comprise, post-holes [1029 and 1094], the upper fill of pit [1044], pit [1084], ditch [1017], ditch G3 segments [1061,1063, 1055 and 1065], ditch G7, gully G9, pit [1004] and spread [1014].

- 5.4.4 Some features contained later pottery dating to the 13th to 14th centuries. including an example of Hedingham fineware showing Rouen-style decoration with a second example from a stamped strip jug, dating to the early to mid-13th century and the early 13th to early 14th centuries respectively. There is also an example of slip-painted Mill Green fineware dating to the mid-13th to 14th centuries. Later rim types occur in medieval coarseware and Hedingham coarseware, comprising H2 rims datable to the early to mid-13th century, H1 rims current throughout the 13th and perhaps into the 14th century, and a single example of the flanged cooking-pot rim dating from the late 13th to 14th centuries. Features belonging to the 13th to 14th centuries comprise ditch [1092]. G4 ditch interventions [1023, 1036 and 1043], and G6 and G8 segments [1010 and 1082]. Unfeatured sherds of sandy orange ware from [1010] and the latest fill [7/009] of ditch [7/004] from the evaluation are likely to be of 13th to 14th century date.
- Most features contained only small amounts of pottery and the only features to contain more than 250g were segment [1033] across gully G9, which produced 368g, and adjacent G4 ditch segments [1036 and 1023], which produced 1570g and 1659g respectively. These G4 segments also produced the latest assemblages and it is possible that the differences in dating outlined above are more apparent than real and that the larger groups appear later because they contained a larger number datable rim types providing a more accurate date. No horizontal sherd links between features were noted although sherds perhaps from the same early medieval ware vessel occur in the fills of gully segment [1033] and pit [1044].
- Most of the rim sherds described above are too fragmented to assign a vessel type, but many are likely to be from cooking-pots, normally the most frequent vessel form in medieval assemblages. These include the simple everted rims, sometimes with a flattened top or externally bevelled edge, which occur in shell-and-sand-tempered ware and early medieval ware. There are also beaded rims and examples of B2 rims in these wares. Of the rim fragments that were large enough to be positively identified as cooking-pots, it was noted that some are quite small, and of these, some are thick-walled and some are thin-walled. Decoration is sparse, but the shoulder of a probable cooking-pot in shell-and-sand-tempered ware shows multiple horizontal grooves.
- 5.4.7 As well as the typical fire-blackening around the rim and external surface of the cooking-pot, it is noticeable that on some examples there is fire-

blackening on the inside edge of the rim and on one of the more complete examples it can be seen that there is a narrow, dense band of fire-blackening around the inside edge which might indicate that the vessel was heated with a lid in place or possibly that it was heated in an inverted position. Other examples show a band of fire-blackening around the outside of the neck, which might indicate that a lid that covered the entire rim was in place, rather than one that sat in the mouth of the pot (Moorhouse 1986, 108-10). H2 rims occur in medieval coarseware with single examples in early medieval ware and Hedingham coarseware, the latter showing concentric grooves around the rim. H1 rims occur in Hedingham coarseware and medieval coarseware and the single example of E5 rim is in Hedingham coarseware. None of these later types show unusual patterns of fire-blackening.

- 5.4.8 There are a number of wide rims that are either from large cooking-pots or from storage jars. These occur in medieval coarseware and Hedingham coarseware and have either H2 or H1 rims, with the addition of a B2 rim from a possible storage jar in shell-and-sand-tempered ware. One of the more convincing examples of a storage jar, in Hedingham coarseware, shows a thumbed applied cordon around the neck and there are also body sherds with a flat profile and thumbed applied strips in this ware that may be from a storage jar.
- A small number of bowls have been identified; the most interesting is an upright beaded rim from a small shell-and-sand-tempered ware bowl (from context [1037], the upper fill of pit [1044]) showing very unusual freehand incised decoration just below the rim comprising lozenge shapes and triangles probably forming part of a band of decoration going all the way around the vessel. Further research is needed to find parallels, but the bowl may be as early as 11th century. Other bowl forms comprise a fragment of large necked bowl with a squared rim in early medieval ware and a large bowl with rounded sides and a flanged rim in medieval coarseware. No coarseware jugs were identified but a small number of sherds from fineware jugs were in Hedingham fineware and Mill Green fineware, which are described above. Up to four fineware jugs are represented.
- 5.4.10 Worth noting are examples of flat base in early medieval ware and early medieval grog-tempered ware. Flat bases are unusual as medieval bases are nearly always sagging, and they may be from some kind of specialised vessel form. Decoration, other than that already noted, comprises wavy line combing on medieval coarseware and Hedingham coarseware body sherds.
- 5.4.11 Features containing 14th century pottery included post-hole [1000] at the northern edge of the excavation and ditch [7/004] in Trench 7. That from post-hole [1000] comprises a single undiagnostic sherd of Mill Green-type ware, which may be 14th century or later. The pottery from the ditch includes part of a large flared bowl in medieval coarseware showing pricked-combing around the rim flange which is datable to the 13th century. Also present are fragments from a Hedingham ware stamped strip jug datable to the early 13th to early 14th centuries, which may be current in this phase.

Phase 4

5.4.12 Only a single ditch, G5, at the south-west corner of the site has been assigned to this phase and small amounts of pottery were excavated from segments [1051 and 1077]. Much of the pottery is residual from Phase 3, but the primary fill of ditch [1077] produced the upper part of a Kingston-type ware jug, most likely from a rounded or baluster jug showing a green glaze and horizontal reeding around the neck characteristic of Kingston-type ware jugs dating to the mid to late 14th century (Pearce and Vince 1988, 28).

Phase 5

- 5.4.13 Very little pottery is datable to the 16th and 17th centuries; post-hole [1099] in the northern half of the excavation site produced a small sherd of metropolitan slipware from a flatware, most likely from a flanged dish as this is the most common form in this ware. It spans the period *c*.1625 to earlier 18th century. The only other sherd is an internally glazed sherd of post-medieval red earthenware dating from the late 16th century onwards. Both are likely to be residual in the context in which they occur.
- 5.4.14 A few sherds of pottery dating from the 18th to 20th centuries were excavated from the fills of segment [1041] across ditch G11, at the south-western corner of the site. Its primary fill [1040] produced an internally glazed thick-walled base in post-medieval red earthenware from a jar or deep bowl, dating to the 17th century or later, and a rilled sherd in English salt-glazed stoneware, probably from the neck of a rounded jug datable to the 18th century. The top fill [1039] produced sherds of yellow ware dating from the late 18th to 20th centuries. A further sherd of yellow ware accompanied by a sherd of modern white earthenware were excavated from the latest fill of ditch [2/006], well to the west of the excavated area.

Discussion

- 5.4.15 The bulk of the pottery belongs to Phases 2 and 3 and spans the 11th to late 13th/14th centuries, although the earliest pottery is present in only small quantities and may be residual. Looking at the later phases, a little pottery dates to the mid- to late 14th centuries and to the 17th century and beyond, but there is not enough to indicate significant activity or settlement during these later periods.
- 5.4.16 The dearth of finewares in Phase 2 suggests the medieval pottery is from a service rather than a living area. The composition of the assemblage is largely typical of a domestic medieval site although the small size of some of the cooking-pots and the fact that that they have unusual sooting patterns suggest that some kind of specialised activity was taking place.
- 5.4.17 St Neots-type ware, made in Cambridgeshire, was traded along the coast as it is often found at east coast ports. Otherwise it is mainly confined to the north-west corner of Essex and would have been transported from Cambridgeshire by road. At Felsted, St Neots-type ware is therefore occurring outside its main area of distribution, but could have easily arrived, from either direction, via the east-west road of Stane Street, just to the north of the site. The only other traded ware is Kingston-type ware, made in Surrey; this occurs sparsely but widely throughout Essex including rural sites, although may be more common at high status rural sites. Otherwise, the remaining pottery is of local manufacture, although worth

noting is the relative preponderance of shelly wares relative to the amount of early medieval ware. This contrasts with nearby sites at Stansted to the north-west, where very little shelly ware is present; although just to the east, unpublished excavations at Cressing Temple produced large amounts of shelly wares.

Significance and potential

5.4.18 This assemblage, although small, is of some significance because of the presence of probable 11th century pottery, as this must be one of the earliest medieval rural sites in the area and somewhat earlier than the neighbouring sites at Stansted, most of which did not start until well into the 12th century. This site adds to a number of rural sites situated close to Stane Street and will help to build-up a picture of the pattern of settlement along this road.

Research aims

5.4.19 The post-Roman pottery assemblage has some potential to increase understanding of rural medieval settlement within north Essex during the Late Saxon and medieval periods, and the role of Stane Street for occupation, communication and trade during that era. The ability of the pottery assemblage to inform understanding of development of farms and farmsteads between 1750-1914 (Brown and Glazebrook 2000, 42), by contrast, is slight, since most of the pottery and the majority of the site's datable features predate the 15th century.

5.5 Ceramic Building Material by Isa Benedetti-Whitton

5.5.1 A total of 514 fragments of ceramic building materials (CBM) weighing 24811g (24kg) was recovered from thirteen evaluation and thirty-five excavation contexts. This includes the CBM from environmental sample <3>. All the material has been treated as a single assemblage; a breakdown of material by type is displayed in Table 3. More detailed information can be found in Appendix 3.

Form	No.	% of total	Weight (g)	% of total weight
Tile	422	82.1	21028	84.8
Brick	6	1.2	960	3.9
Spall	83	16.1	539	2.2
Other	3	0.6	2284	9.2
Total	514	100%	24811g	100%

Table 3: Quantities and weights of CBM forms

Methodology

5.5.2 All the CBM has been recorded on standard recording forms and quantified by fabric, form, weight and quantity. Examination of fabrics was conducted using a x20 binocular microscope, and fabric descriptions were defined using the following conventions: frequency of inclusions (sparse, moderate, common, abundant); the size of inclusions, fine (up to 0.25mm), medium (0.25 to 0.5mm), coarse (0.5-1.0mm) and very coarse (larger than 1.0mm). A large quantity of the CBM collected was too fragmentary to allow either form or fabric to be determined ('spall'), and in these instances the material

was simply weighed and counted prior to discard. Likewise when the fragments were seen to be vitrified the same action was followed.

5.5.3 The information on the recording sheets has been entered into an Excel database. Samples of the fabrics and items of interest have been retained, forming roughly 5% of the overall total.

Fabrics

- The CBM is fairly homogenous in terms of fabric types, and can be split into two general groups: group one which is composed of T1, T1A and T1C; all dense but fine orange fabrics with varying quantities of coarse and very coarse rounded quartz (see Table 4 This group consisted of 149 tiles. Group two includes T2 and T2A, both of which are finely gritty and silty fabrics with occasional grey and cream streaking; 216 tiles fell into this category. A single and highly abraded fragment of tile was in T3.
- Only a very small quantity of brick was found and much of it was vitrified. All the non-vitrified examples were of the same fabric B1.

Fabric code	Description
T1	Dense orange fabric with common coarse rounded quartz up to 1mm (occasional abundant clusters); sparse-moderate dark red Fe-rich material; sparse very coarse calcareous material.
T1A	Less sandy, more micaceous version of T1; moderate fine sand; sparse-moderate medium and coarse quartz. Sparse very coarse calcareous material up to 1mm.
T1C	Very quartz-rich dense orange fabric with common sub-rounded quartz up to 1mm and common fine-medium quartz. Fe-rich and oxide inclusions up to 3mm (similar to T2 but with a tighter less 'gritty' matrix). Rare.
T2	Sandy and silty fabric with fine 'gritty' texture and occasional cream and grey silty streaking and deposits. Common fine-medium quartz; moderate-common coarse-very coarse unsorted quartz; sparse dark red and black Fe-rich inclusions.
T2A	Fine, denser version of T2. Similar streaking but significantly less quartz. Sparse-moderate Re-rich inclusions up to 2mm. Rare.
Т3	Fine pale pink fabric with moderate medium and coarse quartz and sparse dark red Fe-rich material.
B1	Well-fired fabric with sparse coarse quartz and Fe-rich deposits up to 4mm.

Table 4: CBM fabric descriptions

Tile

5.5.6 The vast bulk of the CBM recovered was roof tile (82.1%), which varied approximately in form according to fabric. Those tiles in T1-T1C ranged from 10-15mm in thickness; those in T2-T2A from 11-18mm, and were generally visibly thicker. A total of 152 tile fragments were recorded as having whole or partial round peg-holes, fifty-nine of which were in group one fabrics, eighty-six in T2, and seven of which were too vitrified to assess fabric. Across all fabric types the peg holes ranged in size from 11-15mm. The contexts from which tile was recovered are listed in Appendix 3.

- 5.5.7 Peg tiles started to be widely used in London during the 13th century, with their form remaining largely unchanged during the succeeding 14th to 18th centuries. The earliest peg tiles have been described as 'quite thick [with] circular nail or peg holes near the top' (Smith 1999, 66). The thicker and slightly cruder T2 and T2A tiles are therefore possibly earlier than their thinner counterparts in T1-T1C, although the evidence for this is slight and questioned by examples of 12th to 13th century tiles, with approximate thickness' of 11-15mm but dating *c*.12th-13th century, having been found elsewhere within Essex (Ryan 2011, 156).
- 5.5.8 An attempt to standardise tile sizes to a thickness of 15mm (c.0.5 inches) was made in 1477, but the success of this decree is unknown. Certainly if beyond this time there was an attempt to create thinner tiles this would support the notion that the thinner tiles from this site could be later; in general they did appear slightly better formed than their T2 and T2A counterparts.

Brick

5.5.9 Of the six pieces of brick taken from site only one was large enough to measure as 50mm thick. This fragment was recovered from [1039], a latest fill of Phase 5 ditch G11; further fragments were retrieved from [1087] (vitrified) and [1091], fills of undated pit [1088] and Phase 3 ditch G3 respectively. The pieces from [1039] and [1087] had remnants of either a blue-grey glaze or vitrified mortar. Blue-grey glazed bricks of this type have been found as Tudor diaperwork in a number of late-Tudor to early-post medieval high status buildings in Essex, including Panfield Hall and Layer Marney Tower, both of which were probably constructed between the late 15th and early 16th centuries (Ryan 1996, 77 and 79).

Miscellaneous

- 5.5.10 One piece of very thick, probable floor tile was found during the evaluation in [7/008], the penultimate fill of Phase 3 ditch [7/004]. Although this piece of tile was too fragmentary for length or width measurements to be taken, at 24mm it was significantly thicker than any other tile retrieved from site. The one intact edge surface looked smooth and slightly bevelled, as if it had been shaped or cut by a knife.
- 5.5.11 A fragment of thin and curved ridge tile in T1 was found during the excavation in context [1067].

Mortar

5.5.12 A single loose fragment of lime mortar was taken from evaluation context [9/005], a spread of flint nodules and tile in Trench 9. Like the mortar remnants found in situ on tile pieces in was a lime mortar tempered with coarse and very coarse quartz. However, unlike the in situ mortar, fine flecks of charcoal were also visible, although not enough to believe this was an intentional inclusion.

Discussion

5.5.13 Most of the CBM lacks any characteristics that would enable specific dating, and none of it was found in contexts directly relating to standing structures. However, the large quantity of tile and fragments of other architectural CBM would suggest that this is an assemblage associated with a high-status building. Recorded examples of high status medieval

buildings in the locality include a *c*.15th century building within a moated enclosure at Great Greenfield, roughly 1.6km from the site (Wightman and Lister 2009).

5.5.14 The pottery found in conjunction with the roof tile of all fabrics suggests a late medieval to early post-medieval date, with the most precisely dateable pottery dating to the 13th to 14th century. As the only possible dateable CBM is the Tudor-style partially glazed brick, there is nothing in the CBM to contradict the pottery dates, although they would suggest a slightly later c.15th century date. Tile fragments were also found in later features, alongside artefacts dated to the late 18th to 20th centuries and, in these instances, are probably residual material.

Significance

5.5.15 The CBM, suggests the presence of a high status structure of late medieval to early post-medieval date and may be of some local significance, particularly if it could be linked to a particular building in the Felsted area. Otherwise, it is of no national significance.

Potential

5.5.16 Beyond the somewhat vague evidence for a standing structure provided by the CBM assemblage, it is of no further research potential.

Further Work

5.5.17 The CBM assemblage requires no further work.

5.6 Fired Clay by Isa Benedetti-Whitton

5.6.1 A total of ninety-one pieces of fired clay weighing 91g were taken from sixteen excavation contexts. Fired clay from environmental samples <1>, <2> and <3> are included this report and account for approximately 70% of its total amount.

Methodology

All the fired clay has been recorded on standard recording forms and quantified by fabric, form, weight and quantity. Examination of fabrics was conducted macroscopically and fabric descriptions were defined using the following conventions: frequency of inclusions (sparse, moderate, common, abundant); the size of inclusions, fine (up to 0.25mm), medium (0.25-0.5mm), coarse (0.5-1.0mm) and very coarse (larger than 1.0mm). The information on the recording sheets has been entered into an Excel database and all fired clay has been retained as per standard procedure.

Fabrics

5.6.3 All the fired clay from this site was formed from the same chalk-rich fabric with rounded chalk inclusions up to 18mm, moderate-common reddish Ferich speckle up to 0.5mm and sparse pebble and flint flakes up to 7mm.

Forms

5.6.4 Virtually all of the fired clay was undiagnostic, with the exception of those pieces retrieved from [1034], [1059], [1070] and [1081], fills of gully G9, ditch G2, pit [1072] and ditch G6 respectively. The fired clay from [1034] and [1081] included two examples with clear wattle impressions of approximately 13mm; the material from [1059] had one flat and paler

surface, with linear impressions that may be a form of local incised decoration. The clay from [1070] had one flat surface and numerous organic impressions that suggest it was used structurally.

Significance

5.6.5 The piece of fired clay with possible linear decoration may be of localised significance. Essex has a tradition of decorative daub and plaster as this may be an example of a particular style of incised clay. The material has no national significance.

Potential

5.6.6 The material has no research potential

Further Work

5.6.7 No further work is recommended.

5.7 Bulk Ironwork by Trista Clifford

- 5.7.1 A small assemblage consisting of thirteen nails and three plate fragments with a total weight of 135g was retrieved from ten contexts. The ironwork is in fairly good condition with minimal adherent corrosion, although some is mineralised.
- 5.7.2 The nail assemblage consists predominantly of general purpose nails although a small number of heavy duty nails are also present. The nails were catalogued on pro forma archive sheets using Goodhall's medieval nail typology (2011, 164). Table 5 gives an overview of identified types.

Nail type	Description	Context
G1	Flat head of square, rectangular or circular form	1003, 1075
G2	raised head of circular or sub rectangular form	1052, 1087
G3	flat head of narrow rectangular shape	1024
G6	flat rectangular head formed by flaring wedge shaped shank	1040
G8	headless	1035
HD10	heavy duty with rectangular head	1052

Table 5: Overview of the nail assemblage based on the typology of Goodhall (2011)

5.7.3 Additionally, context [2/005] contained three small iron plate fragments. Two with irregular edges are not diagnostic although one with a more regular form may be part of a larger object such as a knife blade and requires x-radiography.

Significance

5.7.4 The small assemblage contains nails of typical medieval form but is considered to be of minimal significance. One small plate fragment may be part of a knife blade.

Potential

5.7.5 The assemblage has been recorded for the archive. It is considered to have minimal potential for further analysis.

5.8 Clay Tobacco Pipe by Elke Raemen

A small assemblage of clay tobacco pipe (CTP) comprising five stems (weight 14g) was recovered from four different contexts, two of which were probably intrusive within earlier features. Apart from two fragments from [2/005], most are unabraded. None are marked or decorated. Generally, stem fragments can only be dated broadly. The earliest pieces date to c.1660-1710 ([1067]) and c.1640-1680 ([1091]). The remainder dates to c.1680-1910 ([1087]) and c.1750-1910 ([2/005]). Deposits [2/005] and [1067] are the primary fills of Phase 5 ditch [2/006] and ditch G11 respectively. The CTP fragment from fill [1091] comes from Phase 3 ditch G23 and is therefore considered intrusive, as is the fragment from fill [1087] in Phase 2 pit [1088], in the centre of the excavation area.

Significance

5.8.2 Given the assemblage comprises plain stem fragments only, it is not considered to hold any significance beyond contributing to the dating evidence.

Potential

5.8.3 The CTP assemblage is not considered to be of potential for further analysis. No further work is required.

5.9 Glass by Elke Raemen

- 5.9.1 A small assemblage consisting of eighteen fragments of glass (weight 79g) was recovered from three individually numbered contexts. All material is of post-medieval date, with the majority deriving from window panes.
- 5.9.2 The earliest vessel glass was found in [1039], consisting of a green glass wine bottle body shard dating between c.1650-1750. Fragments from another wine bottle, from ditch fill [1040], date to c.1700-1800, whereas the latest material comprises the body fragment from an aqua, cylindrical bottle dated between c.1850-1925.
- 5.9.3 Window glass was recovered from ditch fill [1040]. The majority comprises pale green fragments from small quarries (at least two different ones), thirteen in total, many of which retain one straight cut edge. A piece with two parallel edges and a width of 20 to 21mm was also included. The same context contained a small colourless pane fragment with one straight cut edge and possibly of slightly later dated, *i.e.* c.1750-1900.

Significance

5.9.4 The assemblage is of no significance beyond providing dating evidence.

Potential

5.9.5 The assemblage is of no potential for further analysis. No further work is required.

5.10 Geological Material by Luke Barber

5.10.1 Just two pieces of stone were recovered from the site. Context [1067], the primary fill of Phase 5 ditch GP11 produced a 4g fragment from a silver-grey West Country-type roofing slate, almost certainly of medieval date. The other stone was recovered from context [1024] RF <2>, a single fill of Phase 3 ditch GP4, and consists of a water-worn tabular pebble in hard grey-brown non-calcareous fine-grained sandstone (38g). Although the surface of this pebble exhibits a number of randomly orientated shallow surface striations there is no definite use-wear to show the stone to have been utilised for sharpening or polishing.

Significance

5.10.2 The assemblage is of no significance

Potential

5.10.3 The assemblage is of no potential for further analysis.

Further Work

5.10.4 No further work is required.

5.11 Animal Bone by Gemma Ayton

5.11.1 The archaeological evaluation and subsequent excavation produced a small animal bone assemblage containing 153 fragments recovered by hand-collection and from whole earth samples. The majority of the bones derive from early medieval pit and ditch fills.

Methods

5.11.2 The assemblage has been recorded onto an Excel spreadsheet in accordance with the zoning system outlined by Serjeantson (1996). Wherever possible the fragments have been identified to species and the skeletal element represented. Elements that could not be confidently identified to species, such as long-bone and vertebrae fragments, have been recorded according to their size and identified as large, medium or small mammal. The assemblage does not contain any measurable bones or recordable mandibles (those with two or more teeth in-situ).

The Assemblage

5.11.3 Most of the assemblage is in a moderate state of preservation displaying some signs of surface weathering and with few complete bones recovered (Table 6).

Phase	Total No.			% Preservation		
	Frag	NISP	Good	Moderate	Poor	
1: Pre-medieval	1	0				
2: 11thC	0	0				
3: 12th to 14thC	117	51	2	90	8	
4: Mid 14thC	25	22		100		
5: Early 18th to 20thC	10	10		100		

Table 6: The state of preservation of the animal bone assemblage including the total number of fragments and the NISP (Number of Identifiable Fragments)

5.11.4 Of the 153 fragments recovered, eighty-five were identified to taxa, though most were not identified beyond the broad categories of 'Large' and 'Medium' mammal (Table 7). The assemblage also contains bones from cattle, sheep/goat, pig, horse as well as vertebrae from flat fish and gadids (*i.e* Cod, Haddock or Pollack).

Taxa	Phase 3	Phase 4	Phase 5
Cattle	2	3	
Sheep/Goat	2	2	1
Pig	5	1	6
Horse	1		
Large Mammal	18	11	3
Medium Mammal	17	5	
Bird	1		
Flat Fish	1		
Gadid	2		

Table 7: NISP (Number of Identifiable Specimens) count by phase

Phase 3: 12th to 14th century

5.11.5 Though the bulk of the assemblage was recovered from this phase, there was no particular concentration of bones recovered, specimens were found in twenty-one contexts scattered throughout the site. Both meat-bearing and non-meat bearing bones are present and a single cattle mandible displayed multiple cut marks.

Phase 4: Mid to Late 14th century

5.11.6 Just three bones were recovered from Phase 4 including a fragment of cattle scapula which displays canid gnaw marks on the articulation.

Phase 5: Early 18th to Late 20th century

5.11.7 The Phase 5 assemblage derives primarily from a pig mandible which includes a canine from a boar. Canid gnawing was noted on three long bone specimens.

Significance

5.11.8 Due to the size and condition of the assemblage it is of minimal, local significance only

Potential

5.11.9 The assemblage is too small to warrant further analysis.

Further Work

5.11.10 No further work is required.

5.12 Shell by David Dunkin

5.12.1 The excavation produced thirty-nine contexts containing marine shell, with a combined weight of 8165g. This includes six from the residues of sampled contexts and the combined weight of these was 114g. Preliminary analysis indicates that the total assemblage by weight consists of 99%+ oyster remains (*Ostrea edulis*). The only other species identified (<1%)

being the common whelk (*Buccinum undatum*), mostly single infant/juvenile individuals present in five contexts, and traces of common cockle (*Cerastoderma edule*) in one context. Sixteen of the thirty-nine shell bearing contexts contained more than 100g of marine shells by weight (Table 9).

Context	Weight (g)	Species	Spot Dates (AD)
1011	113	Oyster	13th-14thC.
1014	201	Oyster	10th/11th- Early 13thC.
1022	198	Oyster, Cockle, Whelk	CBM: Medieval
1024	1555	Oyster, Whelk	13thC.
1026	267	Oyster	Late 12th-14thC.
1028	120	Oyster	Late 12th-14thC.
1035	1450	Oyster, Whelk	Late 13th-14thC.
1037	240	Oyster	12th-14thC.
1040	253	Oyster	17th-18thC.
1042	242	Oyster	13thC.
1052	835	Oyster	12th-14thC.
1059	163	Oyster	12th-14thC.
1067	361	Oyster	Late 12th-14thC.
1069	443	Oyster, Whelk	Late 12th-14thC.
1075	635	Oyster	10th/11th- Early 13thC.
1076	434	Oyster	14thC.

Table 8: Summary of marine molluscs by context and weight >100 g

Table 8 indicates that just four contexts contain more than 500g by weight of oyster remains. These are [1024]: 122 left/right valves; [1035]: eighty-seven left/right valves; [1052]: seventy left/right valves and [1075]: forty-three left/right valves. Oyster therefore dominates the assemblage and the quantities of whelk and cockle are statistically insignificant.

Significance and Potential

5.12.3 The spot dates indicate that the thirty-nine contexts containing marine molluscs lie within the early medieval period, principally the 11th to 14th century AD (Table 8). The assemblage almost entirely comprises infants/juveniles and small sized adult individuals. Therefore the oyster remains represent a secondary food resource. The site lies less than 1km of the middle reaches of the River Chelmer at Felsted and this debouches into the Blackwater Estuary c.25 km to the southeast, the most likely source of the oysters. The assemblage has no further potential for study.

5.13 Registered Finds by Trista Clifford

- 5.13.1 Two Registered Finds were recovered from two different contexts. Registered finds were washed and/or air dried as appropriate to their material. Objects have been packed appropriately in line with ClfA guidelines (2014). All objects have been assigned a unique registered find number (RF<00>) and recorded on the basis of material, object type and date (shown in Table 9).
- 5.13.2 All finds were assessed for conservation requirements. Unless indicated in the relevant section, no further conservation for stabilisation or analytical purposes is required. Metal work is boxed in airtight Stewart tubs with silica gel.

RF	Context	Object	Material	Period	Comments
1	1020	CHES	BONE	MED	
2	1024		STON		De- accessioned
3	1066	COIN	COPP	PMED	

Table 9: Registered Finds

- 5.13.3 A worked antler gaming piece, RF<1>, was recovered from context [1020], the single fill of Phase 3 pit or structural cut [1019] in the base of ditch G1. The piece is a chess pawn, oval in section with flat base and rounded top measuring 23 x 23 x 19.5mm (Fig. 11). Two circumferential lines are incised above the base of the piece. The top is decorated with a cross composed of two parallel lines with a ring-and-dot motif at each end of the cross. An incised oval encloses the intersection of the arms of the cross. Similar chess pieces ranging in date between the 11th to 14th century have been recovered from Luggershall Castle (MacGregor 1985, 137) London (*ibid*.) and more recently from Angel St, Northampton (MOLA 2015). They are usually considered to be objects of high status.
- 5.13.4 A second find, from context [1024], a fill of Phase 3 ditch G4 was initially suspected to be a whetstone and given the number RF<2>. It has been deaccessioned as the stone specialist did not see any clear evidence that it was humanly worked. It is discussed with the geological material above.
- 5.13.5 Lastly, Context [1066], the latest fill of Phase 5 ditch G11, segment [1068], contained a single farthing of George II dated 1754, RF<3>. The coin is in good condition and is fairly worn so is likely to have been in circulation for some time before being deposited.

Significance

5.13.6 The coin is best regarded as a casual loss and although it provides a date, its condition suggests deposition sometime after this date. The chess piece is of particular significance given its location within feature [1019].

Potential

5.13.7 The assemblage has both dating potential and an ability to elucidate the nature and status of the site occupants. The antler chess piece is a rare survival and merits publication in its own right as a medieval object of some significance.

5.14 Environmental Samples by Lucy Allott

5.14.1 During archaeological investigation at the site, three bulk soil samples were taken to recover environmental material such as charred plant macrofossils, wood charcoal, fauna and mollusca as well as to assist finds recovery. The samples were taken from the fills of two pits and an undiagnostic feature. The following report assesses the contents of the samples and the potential of the environmental remains to provide information regarding the local vegetation environment, fuel use and selection and the agricultural economy or other plant use.

- Samples were processed by flotation in their entirety. The flots and 5.14.2 residues were captured on 250µm and 500µm meshes respectively and were air dried. The dried residues were passed through graded sieves of 8, 4 and 2mm and each fraction sorted for environmental and artefactual remains (Appendix 4). Artefacts recovered from the samples were distributed to specialists, and are incorporated in the relevant sections of this volume where they add further information to the existing finds assemblage. The dry flots were scanned under a stereozoom microscope at 7- 45x magnifications and their contents recorded (Appendix 4). Identifications of macrobotanical remains have been made through comparison with published reference atlases (Cappers et al. 2006; Jacomet 2006; NIAB 2004), and nomenclature used follows Stace (1997). Given the size of flot <1>, this sample was not assessed in its entirety, but a sub-sample of 100ml was taken and its contents and volume recorded alongside those of the whole flots.
- 5.14.3 Charcoal fragments were fractured along three planes (transverse, radial and tangential) according to standardised procedures (Gale and Cutler 2000). Specimens were viewed under a stereozoom microscope for initial grouping, and an incident light microscope at magnifications up to 400x to facilitate identification of the woody taxa present. Taxonomic identifications were assigned by comparing suites of anatomical characteristics visible with those documented in reference atlases (Hather 2000; Schoch *et al.* 2004; Schweingruber 1990). Identifications have been given to species where possible, however genera, family or group names have been given where anatomical differences between taxa are not significant enough to permit satisfactory identification. Taxonomic identifications of charcoal are recorded in Appendix 4, with used nomenclature following Stace (1997).

Samples <1> [1005], <2> [1038], <3> [1071]

- 5.14.4 Sample <1> produced a large, charcoal rich flot, whereas the other two flots were small. The flot of sample <3> was dominated by uncharred vegetative material, such as twigs and rootlets, which are indicative of low level disturbance and are likely to have infiltrated the deposit through root action. Charred plant macrofossils occurred in low quantities in all the flots and included a caryopsis of possible oat (cf. *Avena* sp.), wheat (*Triticum* sp.), possible barley (cf. *Hordeum* sp) and an indeterminate large grass (Poaceae). The wheat caryopses displayed a rather round appearance, typical of free-threshing bread type wheat (*Triticum* cf. *aestivum*), although given the absence of rachis fragments, identification down to the species level cannot be confirmed.
- 5.14.5 Charcoal fragments were present both in the residues and flots of all the samples, but only samples <1> and <2> contained enough to warrant identification. The only identified woody taxon was oak (*Quercus* sp.). Oak can be used as timber, but it is also known to make a good fuel wood (Taylor 1981). Although the assemblage is small and only thirteen fragments from each sample were identified, it is possible that oak was specifically selected as fuel.

Significance

5.14.6 Overall, the samples from the site are of low significance at both the local and wider level.

Potential

5.14.7 The small amount of charred plant macrofossils indicates that this material might have reached the deposit through secondary deposition. As such, they have no potential to provide information on diet and agrarian economy at the site. Despite charcoal being present in larger quantities than the plant macro fossils, particularly in sample <1>, the presence of only one taxon and the lack of evidence for *in situ* burning hinders the potential of the charcoal assemblage to provide further information on fuel use and vegetation environment at and around the site.

Further work

5.14.8 The samples require no further work.

6.0 POTENTIAL AND SIGNIFICANCE OF RESULTS

6.1 Realisation of the original research aims

6.1.1 The archaeological work had two original research aims, the first of which was to gain further insights into the past use and continuing survival of Stane Street (OR1), and the second (OR2) to investigate how farms and farmsteads changed and developed during the post-medieval period (OR2). For these, the results of the archaeological work add little, part of the reason for which is that the majority of the site's more significant remains predate the post-medieval period. Several conclusions in relation to OR1 and OR2, however, can still be made. One of these is that Stane Street was very probably in use for communication and trade during the medieval period, since the Braintree Road Felsted site includes sherds of St Neots Ware and Kingston Ware from Cambridgeshire and Surrey, and oyster shells and gadid bones from the Essex coast, the transportation of which was no doubt facilitated by networks of roads and rivers, including Stane Street. The other is that that the Felsted site, like much of rural Essex in general, is known to have undergone field enlargement from the late Victorian period onwards. This is evidenced by historic mapping and was probably partly undertaken to facilitate increasing employment of mechanised agriculture.

6.2 Significance and potential of the individual datasets

The Stratigraphic Sequence

- 6.2.1 The earliest, Phase 1, remains comprise residual struck flints and a single Roman period ditch only exposed within Trench 6. Other than implying prehistoric and Early Roman activity in this vicinity, these remains have low significance and potential.
- 6.2.2 The majority of the recorded archaeological remains date to the 11th to 14th centuries (Phases 2 and 3) and indicate that medieval occupation activity was concentrated in the north of the site, seemingly contained by the extant ditch/moat remnant. However, the evaluation nor the subsequent area excavation have provided particularly coherent insights into the form and nature of this medieval activity. The reputed moat has not been validated or its further extents traced, and the identified medieval remains in the trenches comprise either ditches or poorly dated gravel and cobble layers that cannot be related to one another or extrapolated across the site. The majority of the excavation area remains seem to largely relate to either enclosure of agricultural land or else disposal outside an occupation area. There are some probable structural remains present, but these do not define tangible buildings. The incidence of spreads of gravel, flint cobble and tile to the west of the excavation area suggests that occupation, whether or not contained in a moated enclosure, was located further toward Braintree Road.
- 6.2.3 The presence of a significant quantity of Late Saxon pottery sherds, albeit much of it residual in later features, suggests that the occupation site had its origins in the 11th century. However, other than a few probable postholes assigned a phase 2 date, there are no features of this date from which to interpret the nature of this settlement. As such, there is no

potential to further understanding of its form or development in the stratigraphic record.

- 6.2.4 The Phase 2 and Phase 3 remains have some significant since, within Essex, identified examples of rural settlement sites spanning the Late Saxon to Early Norman transition are remain rare, even though the Domesday Book strongly suggests Late Saxon occupation and farming within that area to have been no less common than that of the Norman period. Locally discovered sites of Middle to Late Saxon activity within north-west Essex include single Middle and Late Saxon timber-built buildings near Takeley and Stansted Airport, at latter accompanied by pits. strip fields and sherds of 11th to 12th century pottery (Timby et al. 2007; Cooke et al. 2008). A 10th to 12th century femur head bone spindle whorl was discovered as a residual item within a later feature at Brewers End, Takeley (ASE 2015). Notable examples of north-east Essex medieval settlement sites include the 'RWS' and 'MGS A to C' settlement sites at Stansted Airport (Havis and Brooks 2004, vol. 2), and the medieval farmstead which was discovered alongside a green lane at Priors Green, Takeley (Germany et al. in prep.). The farm complex at Stebbingford provides the closest excavated site for comparison (Medlycott 1996) and spans a similar mid 12th to mid 14th century date range as the majority of the remains at the Felsted site.
- The potential of the recovered artefacts for defining site status and function is somewhat limited. Low status items, such as sherds of small cooking pots and flat-based pots from specialised service areas, for example, are accompanied by roof tiles, a high status chess piece, and a small quantity of Hedingham and Mill Green fineware that might infer some degree of higher status and wealth. While this may reflect the presence of a moderately prosperous manor site, the excavated features themselves contribute negligibly to this.
- 6.2.6 Given that the historic map evidence suggests that the site continued in occupation into the late 18th century and perhaps beyond, there is little substantive stratigraphic evidence for its late medieval and post-medieval development and function. The single Phase 4 ditch identified within the excavation area serves only to indicate that the maintenance or replacement of the surrounding enclosure system persisted at least into the late 14th century. The enclosures depicted on the 1837 tithe map display some concordance with both the extant ditch/moat earthwork and the excavated ditch remains (Fig. 10). To what extent any of these mapped enclosures reflected earlier land entities of the medieval settlement site is unknown. Those found by excavation, ditches 2/006 and G11, were infilled in the 19th or 20th centuries and probably only relate to the later agricultural use of the site. The Phase 5 post-medieval and modern remains would therefore appear to have little association with the preceding medieval land use and so have low potential to contribute further to site interpretation.
- 6.2.7 In summary, the recorded stratigraphic sequence has provided insights into the chronology of the medieval and later occupation site but is not particularly informative on its form and function. As such, the overall potential of this site to address research questions regarding medieval rural settlement is relatively low.

Worked Flint

6.2.9 The significance and potential of the worked flint assemblage are both very low. The items of flint do little more than attest to a minimal amount of human activity having taken place within the area of the site during the earlier prehistoric period, the form and nature of which remain indeterminate.

Roman Pottery

6.2.10 The Roman pottery assemblage is too slight to be of regional or national significance. However, it is accompanied by a Roman ditch [6/004] and a small quantity of Roman ceramic building material, making it of local importance, in that it probably implies former existence of a Roman farm or farmstead, the focal point of which remains to be found or identified.

Post-Roman pottery

6.2.11 The post-Roman pottery has significance and potential since for Essex it is an uncommon example of an assemblage spanning the Late Saxon to Early Norman transition. Its further study in relation to the site stratigraphy may facilitate identification of additional Late Saxon features currently regarded as being Phase 3 or 4. It also has the potential to increase understanding of the site's function, status and sourcing of goods.

Ceramic Building Material

6.2.12 The ceramic material suggests that the site may have formerly contained or been situated near a high status medieval building with a tiled roof, making it of local significance. However, little else can be read from it, making its overall potential for further study low.

Fired Clay

6.2.13 The fragments fired clay are mostly small and undiagnostic, giving them only local significance. Their overall potential remains low.

Bulk Iron Work

6.2.14 The items of bulk iron work mainly comprise medieval nails. They provide minimal useful information and are therefore of low significance and potential.

Clav Tobacco Pipe

6.2.15 The pieces of clay tobacco pipe consist of stems only and provide little more than dating evidence. They therefore have minimal significance and potential.

Glass

6.2.16 The shards of window glass provide dating evidence, but nothing else other than that a glazed building probably formerly existed somewhere within the near vicinity of the site during the 18th to 20th centuries. The shards of bottle glass probably relate to domestic occupation and/or to disposal of unwanted bottles by farmhands. The potential and significance of the items of both types of glass remain low.

Geological Material

6.2.17 The geological material consists of a natural pebble and a fragment of roofing slate. It has no further significance or potential.

Animal Bone

6.2.18 The animal bone assemblage provides evidence for diet and animal husbandry, but is too small to warrant further analysis, making its potential and significance therefore low.

Shell

6.2.19 The four contexts containing more than 500g of shell apiece have potential to provide information on age/size ratios, levels of infestation and shell perforation representing either borer species or human manipulation. Inferences regarding the context of the oyster resource can also be made (e.g. natural versus farmed colonies or overcrowding).

Registered Finds

6.2.20 The medieval chess piece is a significant find and a relatively rare survival – particularly for Essex, though a bone example is known from Southchurch Hall (Gaimster 2006, 44). It has some potential to contribute to the understanding of the nature of the site and its users. The coin provides close dating evidence, but is otherwise not uncommon. Its significance and potential are therefore low.

Environmental Samples

6.2.21 The significance and potential of the charred plant macrofossil assemblages are both low. Only one taxon is present, much of the material may have accrued through secondary deposition, and the assemblages give no information on diet, agricultural/horticultural practice, and local environment.

7.0 PUBLICATION PROJECT

7.1 Revised research agenda: Aims and objectives

- 7.1.1 In the light of the results of the archaeological work, one of the original research aims can be dropped (OR2), one maintained (OR1), and three added (OR3 to OR5), to form a basis for a future research agenda.
- 7.1.2 OR2, 'the development of the farmstead 1750-1914', can be abandoned because the excavation has revealed no post-medieval archaeological remains other than a moderate number of artefacts and post-medieval to modern field ditches that are already well documented by historic mapping.
- 7.1.3 OR1, regarding the continued significance and use of the local Roman road network in the post-Roman periods, can usefully be supplemented by following research aims:
 - OR3: "Origins and development of the different settlement types and the dynamics of medieval settlement. Much of the region has primarily a dispersed settlement pattern, and more small hamlets are being discovered all the time. More data will add to our understanding of the way places appear, grow, shift and disappear" (Medlycott 2011, 70)
 - OR4: The Late Saxon period. Why are Essex Late Saxon occupation sites
 proving difficult to identify in comparison to their medieval counterparts? Is
 it a pottery dating issue or were Late Saxon settlement sites genuinely less
 common than their medieval counterparts?
 - OR5: What is the historical context of the Braintree Road, Felsted site? To which manor or religious establishment did it belong?

7.2 Preliminary Publication Synopsis

- 7.2.1 It is suggested that a summary of the main results of the archaeological work are presented as a shorter note for publication in the local journal, *Essex Archaeology and History*. In essence, the article will present a concise context account for the medieval chessman, which will provide the its main focus.
- 7.2.2 Site context will primarily comprise a summary of the stratigraphic sequence and supporting dating evidence. A short medieval pottery report will be included. All other finds will only be alluded to where pertinent. The chessman will be described in detail, appropriately illustrated and discussed with reference to national and international comparanda. The above research objectives (7.1) will be considered as part of the discussion of site significance, function, status and wealth and the chessman's contribution to site interpretation.
- 7.2.2 The working title of the article will be: 'A chessman from a medieval site at Watchhouse Green, Felsted, Essex'.

- 7.2.3 It is suggested that the publication has the following form:
 - Executive Summary
 - Introduction
 - · Background information
 - Site stratigraphic sequence
 - Late Saxon and medieval pottery
 - Medieval chess piece
 - · Collective summary of the other finds' categories
 - Discussion and conclusions
 - References
- 7.2.4 It is estimated that the article will total approximately six EAH pages; c.3000-3500 words plus figures.

7.3 Publication tasks

Stratigraphic Method Statement

7.3.1 The stratigraphic sequence and its chronology will be checked and refined where possible. Phase 3 in particular needs refinement as it currently contains numerous gullies and ditches, not all of which are likely to have been in use at the same time. Moreover, some of those ditches overlie earlier pits, making it desirable that Phase 3 is split into sub-phases, unless those pits can be proved to be Saxon. The excavation site's numerous post-holes have also received only minimal attention and this will need to be addressed. Initial inspection of them suggests most of them to be undatable, only very broadly datable, or medieval or later, with none of them presenting firm evidence for identifiable, genuine courses of fences or wall lines.

Task No.	Description of task	Estimate
1	Refine phasing and site interpretation	1 day
2	Obtain locations and names of local historical manors and/or religious institutions	1 day
3	Write text for publication and collate specialist contributions	3 days
	Total	5 days

Late Saxon, medieval and post-medieval pottery

7.3.2 The medieval and later pottery assemblage merits a short publication, quantifying the wares found and overviewing the vessel forms present and their dating, function, supply and status. Brief comparison to neighbouring sites would be made. Emphasis would be on the presence of the early, 11th century, component of the assemblage, with only passing mention of post-medieval material.

Task No.	Description of task	Estimate
1	Carry out research for comparisons	0.5 days
2	Write overview text	1 day
	Total	1.5 days

Medieval chess piece

7.3.3 Further research into the chess piece is recommended in order to more closely date the object and analyse its significance to the site interpretation and discussion. A short report and illustration of the chess piece is recommended for publication.

Task No.	Description of task	Estimate
1	Further research and parallels	1 day
2	Reporting	1 day
	Total	2 days

Other finds

7.3.4 The other finds pertinent to the description and discussion of the medieval phases of site use (CBM, fired clay, bulk ironwork, roofing slate, animal bone and oyster shell) will be briefly summarised, with any information useful to site interpretation and dating brought to attention. The bulk ironwork needs to be x-rayed in preparation for long-term curation.

Task No.	Description of task	Estimate
1	Preparation of summary text	0.5 days
2	x-ray of ironwork	0.5 days
	Total	1 day

Illustration

- 7.3.5 The publication article will provisionally require the following five illustration figures:
 - 1. Site location, including pertinent local sites mentioned in text.
 - 2. Site plan, showing locations of trial-trenches, excavation area, possible moat earthwork, and areas of constraint
 - 3. Area excavation plan, with features shaded according to phase
 - 4. Pottery drawings x5
 - 5. Medieval chess piece; photograph and drawings

Task No.	Description of task	Estimate
1	Produce plan/section figures	1 day
2	Produce finds figures and photos	1 days
	Total	2 days

Task	Estimate
Stratigraphic analysis & reporting	5 days
Medieval pottery analysis & reporting	1.5 days
Medieval chess piece analysis & reporting	2 days
Other finds summary reporting & x-ray	1 day
Illustration	2 days
Internal editing and amendment (text & figures)	1.5 days
EAH editor / readers' comments amendment	1 day
Project management	1 day
EAH page cost (6 pages)	cost
Total	15 days

Table 10: Resource summary for completion of analysis and reporting tasks

7.4 Artefacts and Archive Deposition

7.4.1 The site archive is currently held at the offices of ASE. Following completion of all post-excavation work, including any publication work, the site archive will be deposited at Saffron Walden Museum, subject to agreement with the museum and the legal landowner.

Item	Description	Quantity
Context sheets	Individual context sheets	142
Section sheets	Multi-context permatrace sheets 1:10	12
Trench sheets	Individual trench sheets	9
Plans	Multi-context DWG plans	1
	Permatrace sheets 1:10 or 1:50	0
Photos	Digital images	156
Environmental sample sheets	Individual sample sheets	3
Context register	Context register sheets	3
Environmental sample register	Environmental sample register sheets	1
Photographic register	Photograph register sheets	2
Drawing register	Section register sheets	2
Small finds register	Small finds register sheets	0

Table 11: Site archive quantification

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Appendix 1: Context Register

CONTEXT	CONTEXT TYPE	INTERPRETIVE ID	FEATURE TYPE	PARENT CONTEXT	COMMENTS	SPOT DATE	GROUP
2/001	Layer	Use			Topsoil		
2/002	Layer	Use			Subsoil		
2/003	Layer	Disuse			Natural		
2/004	Fill	Disuse		2/006	Latest fill. Dark grey firm silt clay with occasional stones	19-20	
2/005	Fill	Use		2/006	Primary fill. Light greyish brown firm silt clay with occasional stones	19-20	
2/006	Cut	Construction	Ditch			19-20	
2/007	Fill	Disuse		2/008	Single fill. Light orange brown firm clay with frequent stones	CBM Med+	
2/008	Cut	Construction			Pit	CBM Med+	
4/001	Layer	Use			Topsoil		
4/002	Layer	Use			Subsoil		
4/003	Layer	Disuse			Natural		
4/004	Cut	Construction	Post-hole			CBM Med+	
4/005	Fill	Disuse		4/004	Single fill. Brownish orange / grey firm sandy silt clay with occasional stones and infrequent flecks of charcoal	CBM Med+	
4/006	Cut	Construction	Pit			CBM Med+	
4/007	Fill	Disuse		4/006	Single fill. Brownish grey firm / plastic sandy silt clay with occasional stones and infrequent flecks of chalk and charcoal	CBM Med+	
4/008	Cut	Construction	Post-hole			CBM Med+	
4/009	Fill	Disuse		4/008	Single fill. Brownish grey firm sandy silt clay with occasional stones and Infrequent flecks of chalk and charcoal	CBM Med+	
4/010	Cut	Construction	Post-hole			CBM Med+	

CONTEXT	CONTEXT TYPE	INTERPRETIVE ID	FEATURE TYPE	PARENT CONTEXT	COMMENTS	SPOT DATE	GROUP
4/011	Fill	Disuse		4/010	Latest fill. Brownish orange firm silt clay with infrequent stones and flecks of chalk.	CBM Med+	
4/012	Fill	Use		4/010	Primary fill. Brownish grey firm sandy silt clay with infrequent stones and small pieces and flecks of chalk and charcoal.	CBM Med+	
4/013	Cut	Construction	Post-hole				
4/014	Fill	Disuse		4/013	Single fill. Brownish grey firm sandy silt clay with occasional stones		
4/015	Spread	Disuse			Light brownish grey friable sandy silt clay with occasional stones (some very large), and flecks and small pieces of chalk and charcoal. Not excavated		
6/001	Layer	Use			Topsoil		
6/002	Layer	Use			Subsoil		
6/003	Layer	Disuse			Natural		
6/004	Cut	Construction	Ditch			Roman+	
6/005	Fill	Use		6/004	Primary fill. Orange grey brown firm silt clay with occasional small pieces of chalk and infrequent flecks of charcoal	Roman+	
6/006	Fill	Disuse		6/004	Secondary fill. Greyish brown firm silt clay with occasional stones and flecks of charcoal.	Roman+	
6/007	Fill	Disuse		6/004	Latest fill. Light greyish brown silt clay with frequent pieces of chalk	Roman+	
6/008	Spread	Disuse			Brownish grey friable to firm sandy silt clay with frequent stones, some very large	L16+	
7/001	Layer	Use			Topsoil		
7/002	Layer	Use			Subsoil		
7/003	Layer	Disuse			Natural		

CONTEXT	CONTEXT TYPE	INTERPRETIVE ID	FEATURE TYPE	PARENT CONTEXT	COMMENTS	SPOT DATE	GROUP
7/004	Cut		Ditch				
7/005	Fill	Use		7/004	Primary fill. Orange brown firm silt clay with occasional stones and flecks of charcoal		
7/006	Fill	Disuse		7/004	Secondary fill. Light yellowish brown friable silt clay with frequent pieces of chalk and infrequent stones and flecks of charcoal		
7/007	Fill	Disuse		7/004	Third fill. Greyish brown firm silt clay with occasional stones, pieces of chalk and flecks of charcoal.		
7/008	Fill	Disuse		7/004	Latest fill. Yellowish brown firm silt clay with occasional stones and pieces of chalk	E13-E14	
7/009						13-15+	
9/001	Layer	Use			Topsoil		
9/002	Layer	Use			Subsoil		
9/003	Layer	Disuse			Natural		
9/004	Cut	Disuse	Cut feature			CBM Med+	
9/005	Fill	Disuse			Single fill. Light yellowish brown firm silt clay with occasional stones, some very large	CBM Med+	
9/006	Cut		Cut feature			CBM Med+	
9/007	Fill	Disuse			Single fill. Light yellowish brown firm silt clay with frequent stones, some very large	M13-14+	
16/001	Layer	Use			Topsoil		
16/002	Layer	Use			Subsoil		
16/003	Layer	Disuse			Localised deposit of stones and rubble		
16/004	Cut	Construction	Gully				

CONTEXT	CONTEXT TYPE	INTERPRETIVE ID	FEATURE TYPE	PARENT CONTEXT	COMMENTS	SPOT DATE	GROUP
16/005	Fill	Disuse		16/004	Single fill. Greyish yellowish brown firm silt clay with infrequent pieces of chalk		
16/006	Layer	Disuse			Natural		
17/001	Layer	Use			Topsoil		
17/002	Layer	Use			Subsoil		
17/003	Layer	Disuse			Natural		
17/004	Cut	Construction	Gully			CBM Med+	
17/005	Fill	Disuse		17/004	Single fill. Orange brown / grey firm sandy silt clay with occasional stones and infrequent flecks of chalk and charcoal	CBM Med+	
17/006	Cut	Construction	Gully				
17/007	Fill	Disuse		17/006	Single fill. Greyish brown silt firm silt clay with occasional stones and infrequent flecks of charcoal		
1000	Cut	Construction	Post-hole			14-16+	
1001	Fill	Disuse		1000	Single fill. Brownish grey firm silty clay with occasional stones and flecks and small pieces of chalk	14-16+	
1002	Cut	Construction	Post-hole				
1003	Fill	Disuse		1002	Single fill. Brownish grey firm silt clay with occasional stones and infrequent flecks of chalk		
1004	Cut	Construction	Cut feature				
1005	Fill	Disuse		1004	Single fill. Black friable silt clay infrequent stones and abundant flecks and small pieces of charcoal	10/11-E13	
1006	Cut	Construction	Ditch				GP1
1007	Fill	Use		1006	Primary fill. Orange brown friable silt clay with occasional stones		GP1

CONTEXT	CONTEXT TYPE	INTERPRETIVE ID	FEATURE TYPE	PARENT CONTEXT	COMMENTS	SPOT DATE	GROUP
1008	Fill	Disuse		1006	Latest fill. Brownish grey friable to firm silt clay with occasional stones and infrequent flecks of chalk and charcoal.		GP1
1009	Artefacts				Unstratified finds from surface and immediate vicinity of ditch 1023		
1010	Cut	Construction	Gully				GP6
1011	Fill	Disuse		1010	Single fill. Light greyish brown firm silt clay with occasional stones and infrequent flecks of charcoal.	M13-M14	GP6
1012	Cut	Construction	Gully				GP6
1013	Fill	Disuse		1012	Single fill. Dark greyish brown firm silt clay with occasional stones and frequent flecks of charcoal		GP6
1014	Spread	Disuse			Greyish brown firm silt clay with frequent stones	10/11-E13	
1015	Cut	Construction	Post-hole				
1016	Fill	Disuse		1015	Single fill. Greyish brown firm silt clay with occasional stones and infrequent flecks of charcoal		
1017	Cut	Construction	Ditch			L12-14	GP1
1018	Fill	Disuse		1017	Single fill. Brownish grey / orange firm silt clay with occasional stones and infrequent flecks of chalk and charcoal	L12-14	GP1
1019	Cut	Construction	Cut feature			Medieval	
1020	Fill	Disuse		1019	Single fill. Dark brownish grey friable to firm silt clay with infrequent stones and flecks of charcoal	Medieval	
1021	Cut	Construction	Ditch			CBM Med+	GP6
1022	Fill	Disuse		1021	Single fill. Grey /orange brown firm silt clay with frequent stones and occasional flecks of charcoal	CBM Med+	GP6
1023	Cut	Construction	Ditch			13	GP4

CONTEXT	CONTEXT TYPE	INTERPRETIVE ID	FEATURE TYPE	PARENT CONTEXT	COMMENTS	SPOT DATE	GROUP
1024	Fill	Disuse		1023	Single fill. Orange brown firm silt clay with occasional stones and infrequent flecks of chalk and chalk and charcoal	13	GP4
1025	Cut	Construction	Ditch			L12-14	GP7
1026	Fill	Disuse		1025	Single fill. Dark greyish brown firm silt clay with occasional stones, fragments of chalk and flecks of charcoal	L12-14	GP7
1027	Cut	Construction	Gully			L12-14	GP8
1028	Fill	Disuse		1027	Single fill. Greyish / orange brown firm silt clay with occasional stones and infrequent flecks and small pieces of chalk	L12-14	GP8
1029	Cut	Construction	Post-hole			10/11/-E13	
1030	Fill	Disuse		1029	Single fill. Greyish brown firm silt clay with occasional stones	10/11-E13	
1031	Cut	Construction	Post-hole			CBM Med+	
1032	Fill	Disuse		1031	Single fill. Dark greyish brown firm silt clay with infrequent stones and flecks of charcoal	CBM Med+	
1033	Cut	Construction	Gully			12	GP9
1034	Fill	Disuse		1033	Single fill. Dark brownish grey firm silt clay with occasional stones and infrequent flecks of charcoal	12	GP9
1035	Fill	Disuse		1036	Latest fill. Brownish grey firm silt clay with frequent stones (some very large)	L13-14	GP4
1036	Cut	Construction	Ditch			L13-14	GP4
1037	Fill	Disuse		1044	Latest fill. Brownish orange / brownish grey firm silt clay with occasional stones and infrequent flecks of charcoal	12-14C	
1038	Fill	Disuse		1044	Primary fill. Dark brownish grey firm silt clay with occasional stones and flecks and small pieces of charcoal	10/11-E13	
1039	Fill	Disuse		1041	Latest fill. Dark black / brown firm clay silt with frequent pieces of chalk	L18-20	GP11

CONTEXT	CONTEXT TYPE	INTERPRETIVE ID	FEATURE TYPE	PARENT CONTEXT	COMMENTS	SPOT DATE	GROUP
1040	Fill	Use		1041	Primary fill. Dark orange brown firm clay silt with frequent flecks of chalk	17/18	GP11
1041	1041 Cut	Construction	Ditch				GP11
1042	Fill	Disuse		1043	Single fill. Brownish grey firm silt clay with frequent stones (some very large)	13	GP4
1043	Cut	Construction	Ditch			13	GP4
1044	Cut	Construction	Pit			12 to 14	
1045	Cut	Construction	Pit				
1046	Fill	Disuse		1045	Single fill. Brownish orange / grey firm silt clay with infrequent stones and flecks of charcoal		
1047	Cut	Construction	Pit				
1048	Fill	Disuse		1047	Single fill. Greyish white redeposited chalk		
1049	Cut	Construction	Gully				GP10
1050	Fill	Disuse		1049	Single fill. Brownish orange / grey firm silt clay with infrequent stones		GP10
1051	Cut	Construction	Ditch			12 to 14	GP5
1052	Fill	Disuse		1051	Single fill. Greyish brown friable silt clay with frequent flecks of chalk and infrequent flecks of charcoal	12 to 14	GP5
1053	Cut	Construction	Ditch				GP2
1054	Fill	Disuse		1053	Single fill. Brownish orange / grey firm silt clay with occasional stones and infrequent flecks of charcoal		GP2
1055	Cut	Construction	Ditch				GP3
1056	Fill	Use		1055	Primary fill. Dark brownish orange / grey firm silt clay with occasional stones		GP3

CONTEXT	CONTEXT TYPE	INTERPRETIVE ID	FEATURE TYPE	PARENT CONTEXT	COMMENTS	SPOT DATE	GROUP
1057	Fill	Use		1055	Secondary fill. Dark brownish grey firm silt clay with occasional stones and flecks of charcoal		GP3
1058	Fill	Disuse		1055	Latest fill. Brownish orange firm silt clay with occasional stones and infrequent flecks of charcoal		GP3
1059	Artefacts				Unstratified finds from fills 1056 to 1057	12-14C	GP2/GP3
1060	Fill	Disuse		1061	Single fill. Grey / orange firm silt clay with flecks of chalk	L12-14	
1061	Cut	Construction	Ditch			L12-14	GP3
1062	Fill	Disuse		1063	Single fill. Grey friable silt clay with flecks of charcoal	10/11-E3+	
1063	Cut	Construction	Stake-hole			10/11-E3+	
1064	Fill	Disuse		1065	Single fill. Light grey firm silt clay with flecks of chalk	L12-14	GP3
1065	Cut	Construction	Pit			L12-14	GP3
1066	Fill	Disuse		1068	Latest fill. Black / grey firm clay silt with occasional stones	CBM Med+	GP11
1067	Fill	Use		1068	Primary fill. Orange brown firm clay silt and occasional flecks and pieces of chalk and charcoal	L12-14+	GP11
1068	Cut	Construction	Ditch				GP11
1069	Fill	Disuse		1072	Latest fill. Light greyish brown firm clay silt with occasional stones	L12-14+	
1070	Fill	Disuse		1072	Secondary fill. Light bluish grey firm clay silt	L12-14+	
1071	Fill	Use		1072	Primary fill. Dark grey firm clay silt with occasional stones and frequent flecks of charcoal	L12-14	
1072	Cut	Construction	Pit			L12-14	
1073	Fill	Disuse		1074	Single fill. Greenish grey firm clay silt with occasional flecks of charcoal		
1074	Cut	Construction	Post-hole				
1075	Fill	Disuse		1077	Latest fill. Black / grey firm clay silt with occasional stones	10/11-E13+	GP5

CONTEXT	CONTEXT TYPE	INTERPRETIVE ID	FEATURE TYPE	PARENT CONTEXT	COMMENTS	SPOT DATE	GROUP
1076	Fill	Use		1077	Primary fill. Dark orange / grey firm clay silt with occasional pieces of chalk	M-L14+	GP5
1077	Cut	Construction	Ditch				GP5
1078	Fill	Disuse		1079	Single fill. Light greyish brown firm silt clay with occasional stones		
1079	Cut	Construction	Pit			10/11-E13+	
1080	Cut	Construction	Ditch			10/11-E13+	GP6
1081	Fill	Disuse		1080	Single fill. Dark brownish grey firm silt clay with occasional stones and infrequent flecks of charcoal	10/11-E13+	GP6
1082	Cut	Construction	Gully			E-M13	GP8
1083	Fill	Disuse		1082	Single fill. Brownish orange / grey firm silt clay with occasional stones and infrequent flecks of chalk	E-M13	GP8
1084	Cut	Construction	Pit				
1085	Fill	Disuse		1086	Single fill. Greyish brown firm silt clay		
1086	Cut	Construction	Post-hole				
1087	Fill	Disuse		1088	Single fill. Dark greyish brown firm silt clay	CBM Med+	
1088	Cut	Construction	Pit			CBM Med+	
1089	Fill	Disuse		1084	Single fill. Brownish orange / grey firm silt clay with infrequent stones and infrequent small flecks and pieces of chalk and charcoal	1200+	
1090	1090 Cut	Construction	Ditch			12-14+	GP3
1091	Fill	Disuse		1090	Single fill. Dark brownish orange / grey firm silt clay with occasional stones and infrequent small flecks and pieces of chalk and charcoal	12-14+	
1092	Cut	Construction	Ditch			E-M13	GP3

CONTEXT	CONTEXT TYPE	INTERPRETIVE ID	FEATURE TYPE	PARENT CONTEXT	COMMENTS	SPOT DATE	GROUP
1093	Fill	Disuse		1092	Single fill. Dark brownish orange / grey firm silt clay with occasional stones and infrequent small flecks and pieces of chalk and charcoal	E-M13	GP3
1094	Cut	Construction	Post-hole			12C	
1095	Fill	Disuse		1094	Single fill. Not recorded	12C	
1096	Fill	Disuse		1097	Single fill. Not recorded	CBM Med+	
1097	Cut	Construction	Post-hole			CBM Med+	
1098	Fill	Disuse		1099	Single fill. Greyish brown firm silt clay with infrequent flecks of charcoal	16-18+	
1099	Cut	Construction	Post-hole			16-18+	

Appendix 2: Medieval Pottery Quantification

Con- text	Feature	Sherd Nos	Wt (g)	Pottery – ware and featured sherds	Date
2/004	2/006	1	30	Yellow ware: simple rim from flat ware	Late 18th to 20th C
		1	8	Modern earthenware: buff unglazed fabric with darker surfaces	19th to 20th C
2/005	2/006	0	0	Small sherd Roman pot	Roman
6/006	6/004	0	0	7 sherds Roman	Roman
6/008	Layer	1	6	Post-medieval red earthenware: internally glazed sherd	Late 16th C onwards
7/008	7/004	2	48	Hedingham ware: twisted rod handle and body sherd with applied strips both with a mottled green glaze and probably from a stamped strip jug	Early 13th to early 14th C
		3	37	Medieval coarseware: includes flanged rim from large flared bowl showing pricked combing around edge of flange	13th C
7/009	7/004	1	9	Medieval coarseware: fragment of beaded rim, abraded	12th to 14th C
		1	5	Sandy orange ware: unglazed sherd with buff external surface	13th to 15th C
9/007	No feature listed	1	22	Mill Green ware: thumbed jug base, very abraded	Mid-13th -14th C
005	Unstrat.	1	15	Early medieval ware: borderline medieval coarse ware, flat base sherd, internal surface very abraded	12th to earlier 13th C
009	Unstrat.	1	7	Shell-tempered ware: small piece of collared rim, more likely to be from a bowl/dish than a cooking-pot	10th/11th to early 13th C
		1	4	Medieval coarseware: body sherd	Later 12th to 14th C
1000	1000	1	12	Mill Green-type ware: unglazed abraded sherd, med or late med, probably the latter as it is very hard	14th to 16th C?
1005	1004	4	8	Early medieval ware: small, misc. sherds ?from soil sample	10th/11th to early 13th C
1011	1010	2	14	Shell-and-sand-tempered ware: body sherds	10th/11th to early 13th C
		2	17	Early medieval ware: body sherds	10th/11th to early 13th C
		2	11	Medieval coarseware: body sherds	Later 12th-14th C
		1	4	Sandy orange ware: unglazed, externally fire- blackened	13th to 14th C
		1	5	Mill Green ware: sherd ?from neck of jug, unglazed and slip-painted	Mid-13th to 14th C or later
1014	Layer	1	18	Shell-and-sand-tempered ware: thick-walled base sherd	10th/11th to early 13th C
		3	17	Early medieval ware: base and body sherds	10th/11th to early 13th C
1018	1017	1	8	Shell-tempered ware: body sherd	10th/11th to early 13th C
		14	103	Shell-and-sand-tempered ware: including a simple everted rim probably from a cooking-pot, a beaded rim and a B2 rim	?later 12th C
		6	41	Early medieval ware: including an everted rim with a slight bead, probably from a cooking-pot	12th C
		4	26	Medieval coarseware: misc. sherds	Later 12th - 14th C
		1	1	Hedingham coarseware: small abraded sherd	Later 12th-14th C

Con- text	Feature	Sherd Nos	Wt (g)	Pottery – ware and featured sherds	Date
1024	1023	1	2	Hedingham ware: body sherd showing applied strips over a red slip background, probably from a stamped strip jug	Earlier 13th to earlier 14th C
		11	46	Shell-and-sand-tempered ware: misc. sherds	10th/11th to early 13th C
		45	571	Early medieval ware: includes an everted ?cooking-pot rim with a triangular bead, plus sagging base and body sherds – sagging base spalled on underside and some joining sherds although most are recent breaks	12th C
		7	122	Medieval coarseware: featured sherds: everted flanged rim from large bowl with rounded sides; H2 rim from large vessel – a bowl or storage jar; two H2 rims from cooking-pot rims, plus a third H2 rim perhaps from a small bowl; the sherd from a shoulder of a vessel showing a vertical groove coloured red-brown although the rest of the external surface is grey	13th C
		120	918	Medieval coarseware: misc. body and base sherds, some joining sherds but most are recent breaks	Later 12th-14th
1026	1025	1	8	Hedingham ware: small fragment of B3 rim, unfeatured and unglazed, creamy-orange fabric with grey core	Later 12th - 13th C
		1	14	Shell-and-sand-tempered ware: fragment of simple everted rim probably from a cooking-pot	10th/11th to early 13th C
		3	14	Early medieval ware: misc. body sherds	10th/11th to early 13th C
		20	126	Medieval coarseware: misc. body sherds	Later 12 th -14 th
1028	1027	<u>1</u>	26	St Neots-type ware: body sherd Shell-and-sand-tempered ware: misc. sherds	11th C 10th/11th to
		3	24	Early medieval ware: misc. body sherds	early 13th C
		2	7		early 13th C Later 12 th -14 th
4000	4000		-	Medieval coarseware: misc. sherds	С
1030	1029	1	6	Early medieval ware: body sherd	10th/11th to early 13th C
1034	1033	5	63	Shell-and-sand-tempered ware: includes relatively large fragment of upright beaded rim from cooking-pot or cooking-pot-shaped bowl in a reduced dark grey fabric	12th C
		14	103	Early medieval ware: joining sherds from profile of small thin-walled cooking-pot showing a rather uneven hooked beaded rim and a row of possible dimpling below the rim but this may just be random unevenness; some patches of blackening externally and a narrow band of blackening around the inside edge of the rim, unabraded	12th
		1	33	Early medieval ware: simple everted rim and part of shoulder from small thick-walled cooking-pot, reduced fabric, no definite evidence of use	10th/11th to early 13th C
		14	115	Early medieval ware: misc. sherds, includes two small fragments from everted flat-topped rims	10th/11th to early 13th C
		10	54	Medieval coarseware: misc. sherds	Later 12th - 14th C
1035	1036	1	10	Hedingham ware: body sherd showing Rouen- style decoration comprising angled applied strips in a clay paler than that used for the body of the pot and a red slip background, a green	Early to mid- 13th C

				1
			glaze has imparted a pale green colour to the strips and the background appears brown, unabraded	
	2	30	Shell-and-sand-tempered ware: body sherds	10th/11th to early 13th C
	38	445	Early medieval ware: including a beaded rim from a cooking-pot squared rim from large necked bowl and a small fragment of H2 rim, plus misc. body sherds	Latest is early to mid-13th C
	15	228	Early medieval ware: joining sherds from the upper part of a cooking-pot showing B2 rim and pronounced neck and shoulder, usual fire-blackening around rim edge and shoulder with faint band of fire-blackening also around neck	c.1200
	2	15	Medieval coarseware: oxidised fabric, borderline early medieval ware showing wavy line combing	12th to earlier 13th C
	2	17	Hedingham coarseware: flat sherds with a thumbed applied strip, from large storage jar	12th to earlier 13th C
	1	49	cooking-pot rim or storage jar	Early to mid- 13th C
	3		fire-blackened around the outside edge	13th C
				13th C
	9	104	and joining body sherds from the shoulder of a vessel probably belonging to this rim showing a	Late 13th to 14th C
	59	595	Medieval coarseware: misc. sherds includes examples of Hedingham coarseware	Later 12th - 14th C
1037 1044		12	rim from small thick-walled bowl showing very unusual freehand incised decoration just below the rim comprising lozenge shapes and triangles, probably part of a band of decoration	11th or 12th C
	2	25	Shell-and-sand-tempered ware: misc. sherds, typical	10th/11th to early 13th C
	5	48	Early medieval ware: misc. sherds including sagging base sherd and joining sherds from the shoulder of a vessel, flashing on surface, thinwalled, similar in context 1034	12th C?
	7	71	examples of Hedingham coarseware	12th-14th C
1044	1	1		11th C
	1	1		10th/11th to early 13th C
			body sherd	10th/11th to early 13th C
			sample <2>	10th/11th to early 13th C
1041			,	10th/11th to early 13th C Late 18th to
	_			20th C
1U4 I				10th/11th to early 13th C 17th C or later
-			internally glazed base from a jar or deep bowl	17th C or later
1043		_	probably from the neck of a rounded jug	10th/11th to
	1044 1044 1041	2 1 3 1 9 59 1044 1 1 1 5 6 1041 5 1041 1 1 1 1	2 15 2 17 1 49 3 60 1 17 9 104 59 595 1044 1 12 2 25 5 48 7 71 1044 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 13 5 12 6 14 1041 5 22 1041 3 29 1 106 1 4	necked bowl and a small fragment of H2 rim, plus misc. body sherds 15 228 Early medieval ware: joining sherds from the upper part of a cooking-pot showing B2 rim and pronounced neck and shoulder, usual fire-blackening around rim edge and shoulder with faint band of fire-blackening also around neck 2 15 Medieval coarseware: oxidised fabric, borderline early medieval ware showing wavy line combing 1 Hedingham coarseware: flat sherds with a thumbed applied strip, from large storage jar 1 Hedingham coarseware: H2 rim from large cooking-pot rim or storage jar 1 Hedingham coarseware: H1 cooking-pot rim fire-blackened around the outside edge 1 17 Medieval coarseware: E5 cooking-pot rim and joining body sherds from the shoulder of a vessel probably belonging to this rim showing a thick band of sootting 59 595 Medieval coarseware: misc. sherds includes examples of Hedingham coarseware 1044 1 12 Shell-and-sand-tempered ware: upright beaded rim from small thick-walled bowl showing very unusual freehand incised decoration just below the rim comprising lozenge shapes and triangles, probably part of a band of decoration going all the way around the vessel 2 25 Shell-and-sand-tempered ware: misc. sherds including sagging base sherd and joining sherds from the shoulder of a vessel, flashing on surface, thinwalled, similar in context 1034 7 71 Medieval coarseware: misc. sherds includes examples of Hedingham coarseware 1044 1 1 Shell-end-sand-tempered ware: unabraded body sherd 5 12 Shell-and-sand-tempered ware: thick-walled internally glazed base from a jar or deep bowl internally glazed base from a jar or deep bowl internal

Con- text	Feature	Sherd Nos	Wt (g)	Pottery – ware and featured sherds	Date
					early 13th C
		5	59	Medieval coarseware; includes H1 rim from	13th C
				large cooking-pot or storage jar	1011 1 1111 0
1052	1051	3	12	Sandy orange ware: includes thickened rim	13th to 14th C
			4	from a jug showing a plain lead glaze	400 1 440 0
4050	11/0	2	4	Hedingham coarseware: thin-walled sherds	12th to 14th C
1059	U/S	3	18	Early medieval grog-tempered ware: flat base sherd and body sherds probably all from the	10th/11th to early 13th C
				same vessel, abraded	early 13th C
		3	12	Shell-tempered ware: body sherds	10th/11th to
				Shell tempered ware. Body energe	early 13th C
		10	124	Shell-and-sand-tempered ware: joining sherds	12th C
				from everted, externally bevelled cooking-pot	
				rim, plus joining sherds from the shoulder of a	
				vessel showing multiple horizontal grooves, rim	
				and shoulder are probably from the same	
			20	vessel although the sherds do not join	12th C
		3	33	Shell-and-sand-tempered ware: includes everted beaded rim with internal thickening	12th C
		8	43	Early medieval ware: includes a fragment of	12th C
			70	everted, externally bevelled rim from a small	12010
				vessel and a small fragment of a beaded rim	
		1	5	Hedingham coarseware: body sherd	12th to 14th C
1060	1061	2	8	Early medieval ware: body sherds	10th/11th to
					early 13th C
		5	42	Medieval coarseware: body sherds, all but one	Later 12th -
4000	4000	4		from the same vessel	14th C
1062	1063	1	6	Early medieval ware: abraded sherd	10th/11th to
1064	1065	1	8	Shell-and-sand-tempered ware: small fragment	early 13th C 12th C
1004	1003	'	٥	of beaded rim	12010
		2	14	Early medieval ware: body sherds	10th/11th to
				, , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , ,	early 13th C
		5	43	Medieval coarseware: body and base sherds	Later 12th -
				all from the same vessel	14th C
1067	1068	2	14	Medieval coarseware: abraded body sherds	Later 12th -
1060	1072	1	4	modicyal agaragyara, bady abard	14th C Later 12th -
1069	1072	1	4	medieval coarseware: body sherd	14th C
1070	1072	2	14	Medieval coarseware: misc. body sherds	Later 12th -
10.0	10.2	_		modieval ocalognale. Thise, body chiefas	14th C
1071	1072	1	1	St Neots-type ware: from soil sample <3>	11th C
		1	22	Early medieval ware: simple everted rim with	10th/11th to
				bevelled edge, fire-blackened on inside of rim	early 13th C
		1	6	Medieval coarseware: from soil sample <3>	Later 12th -
1075	1077	1	1.1	Farly madiaval wars, thickened everted rim	14th C
1075	1077	1	14	Early medieval ware: thickened everted rim, patches of fire-blackening on both surfaces	10th/11th to early 13th C
1076	1077	2	21	Kingston-type ware: cylindrical neck from jug,	Mid-to late
1070	1077	_		most likely a rounded or baluster jug showing a	14th C
				thickened, flat-topped slightly everted rim (rim	
				form B2), a green glaze and horizontal reeding	
				around the neck – a characteristic of jugs dating	
				to the mid-to late 14 th C (Pearce and Vince	
		1	10	1988, 28), unabraded	12th to 14th C
1081	1080	1	18 3	Hedingham coarseware: body sherd Shell-tempered ware: abraded body sherd,	12th to 14th C 10th/11th to
1001	1000	'		could be St Neots-type ware but no <i>bryozoa</i>	early 13th C
				fossil fragments detected	
		1	12	Early medieval ware: unabraded body sherd,	10th/11th to
				flashing on surface	early 13th C
1083	1082	1	3	Shell-and-sand-tempered ware: body sherd	10th/11th to

Con- text	Feature	Sherd Nos	Wt (g)	Pottery – ware and featured sherds	Date
					early 13th C
		2	32	Early medieval ware: base and body sherd,	10th/11th to
				unabraded	early 13th C
		4	57	Hedingham coarseware: includes H2 rim most	Early to mid-
				likely from large cooking-pot or storage jar,	13th C
				showing concentric grooves around the rim;	
				also a body sherd showing a band of wavy line	
				combing	
1089	1084	9	112	Shell-and-sand-tempered ware: includes joining	c.1200
				sherds from the B2 rim of a large cooking-pot or	
1001	1000			jar	100 1 110 0
1091	1090	1	6	Medieval coarseware: body sherd	12th to 14th C
1093	1092	4	42	Early medieval ware: includes everted,	10th/11th to
				externally bevelled cooking-pot rim showing a	early 13th C
				dusting of shell inside the neck	
		1	57	Hedingham coarseware: H2 rim from storage	Early to mid-
				jar showing thumbed applied cordon around the	13th C
		7	20	neck, abraded Medieval coarseware: comprising an H1 rim	13th C
		7	38	fragment and misc. body sherds	13010
1095	1094	9	79	Early medieval ware: includes everted	12th C
1033	1094	9	19	externally bevelled cooking-pot rim, similar to	12010
				that from context 1093 but probably not from	
				the same vessel, showing a dusting of shell on	
				the shoulder, fire-blackening all over, but with a	
				narrow, dense band of fire-blackening around	
				the inside edge of the rim; small, thin-walled	
				cooking-pot rim fragment with triangular bead	
				shows band of soot around inside of neck; flat	
				base sherd and misc. body sherds	
1098	1099	2	6	Sandy orange ware: virtually unidentifiable	Med to post-
				extremely abraded sherds	med
		1	5	Metropolitan slipware: abraded sherd from	c.1625 to early
				flatware with most of slip missing, surviving	18th C
				pattern comprises curving lines	
2009	U/S	3	70	Hedingham ware: sherds from a sagging base	13th C
				and a body sherd showing a streak of pale	
				green glaze	1 -4 404- 4-
		1	7	Hedingham ware: base sherd perhaps from a	Later 13th to 14th C
				dish showing a heavily pitted yellow glaze above a thin pinky slip-coating, externally fire-	14010
				blackened, abraded, unusual	
		3	67	Early medieval ware: including smallish but	10th/11th to
			0,	thick-walled cooking-pot fragment with everted	early 13th C
				bevelled rim	Carry Tour C
		66	1339	Hedingham coarseware: large fragments from	All could be
			550	cooking-pots, several joining sherds, but these	current during
				are mainly recent breaks up to ten vessels	the earlier 13th
				represented; comprises an example with a B4	С
				rim, datable to c.1200, examples with H2 rims	
				datable to the early to mid-13 th century, one is	
				slightly hooked, another shows a vertical	
				thumbed applied strip originating at the neck;	
				examples of H1 rims produced throughout the	
				13 th century; in addition, there is a body sherd	
		0=0	7440	showing bands of wavy line combing	
		676	7148		

Appendix 3: Contexts with ceramic building material

Context	Fabric	Form	No.	Wt (g)	Comments
1022	T2	TILE	10	414	Mixed very coarse moulding sand.
005	T1	TILE	4	116	Traces of coarse sandy lime mortar
005	T1A	TILE	1	24	
005	T2	TILE	3	144	Partial round peg hole: 12mm
007	T1	TILE	2	82	Reduced core; coarse and mixed moulding sand; 1x partial peg hole: 10mm
007	T2	TILE	10	224	
009	VITR	TILE	1	34	Reduced core
009	T1	TILE	3	138	All nearly vitrified. 2x reduced core.
009	T2	TILE	15	346	
012	T1A	TILE	1	24	Reduced core; partial round peg-hole: 11mm
012	T2	TILE	3	68	Very coarse mixed moulding sand.
1000	T2	TILE	5	260	
1000	T1	TILE	1	120	Very coarse moulding sand.
1000	T1A	TILE	4	426	Medium-coarse moulding sand.
1011	VITR	TILE	2	26	Pottery?
1014	T1	TILE	3	40	All reduced core.
1014	T2	TILE	2	66	Partial round peg hole: 11mm
1018	T2	TILE	27	2374	Some burnt/near vitrification; 2x partial round peg holes: 12mm; 1x full peg hole: 10mm (round); tiles with slightly rounded corners.
1018	VITR	TILE	3	220	
1028	T2	TILE	5	182	
1035	T1	TILE	1	24	Reduced core; worn moulding sand.
1035	T1A	TILE	1	12	Abraded fragment.
1035	T2	TILE	2	56	Partial circular peg-hole.
1039	VITR	TILE	1	34	Coarse moulding sand.
1039	T1	TILE	3	214	Round peg-hole:12mm
1039	T1A	TILE	1	24	
1039	T2	TILE	11	670	Coarse moulding sand.
1039	T1	TILE	3	114	2x reduced core.
1039	T2	TILE	8	584	Very coarse moulding sand.
1039	T1A	TILE	2	302	Medium-fine moulding sand.
1041	VITR	TILE	4	150	2x reduced core.
1042	T1	TILE	3	170	2x reduced core.
1043	T2	TILE	11	572	Coarse mixed moulding sand.
1044	Т3	?TILE	1	34	
1052	T2	TILE	5	272	Slightly oblong peg-hole, approx. 11m on 1x fragment.
1052	VITR	TILE	1	26	

1052	T1	TILE	4	272	Reduced core; very coarse mixed moulding sand; traces of coarse sandy lime mortar.
1052	T1A	TILE	2	104	Coarse moulding sand.
1052	T2	TILE	4	160	
1064	VITR	TILE	1	24	
1066	VITR	TILE	1	12	
1066	T1A	TILE	2	224	
1066	T1	TILE	3	364	Coarse moulding sand; mortar one 1x fragment sandy lime mortar.
1066	T2	TILE	11	1486	1x round peg hole, slightly oblong 11mm
1067	T1	TILE	1	98	Reduced core; coarse moulding sand.
1067	T1A	TILE	2	184	Reduced core.
1067	T2	TILE	6	504	2x fragments with round peg holes, 1x very sharp edges 12mm; 1x rounded edges 14mm.
1069	T1	TILE	1	136	Reduced core
1069	T2	TILE	2	232	
1075	T1	TILE	1	16	Very hard coarse sand lime mortar.
1075	T2	TILE	1	64	
1076	VITR	TILE	1	196	Worn but coarse moulding sand; variable tile thickness: 11-15mm
1076	T1	TILE	1	76	Coarse moulding sand.
1076	T2	TILE	4	292	Coarse / pebble 'mixed' moulding sand. Thick roof tile.
1083	T2	TILE	2	44	
1087	VITR	TILE	4	92	Reduced core x3
1087	T1	TILE	6	118	Reduced core x3
1087	T1A	TILE	1	14	
1087	T2	TILE	5	158	Very thin examples of T2
1091	T1	TILE	2	54	Coarse moulding sand; partial round peg hole: 12mm
1091	T2	TILE	4	284	Very coarse mixed moulding sand. Partial peg hole: 15mm.
1093	T1	TILE	1	96	Reduced core; very coarse moulding sand.
1093	T2	TILE	3	282	1x approximately round peg hole, doesn't fully perforate. 12mm; very coarse moulding sand.
1096	T1	TILE	1	44	Reduced core.
1098	T1	TILE	4	132	
1098	T1A	TILE	2	36	Partial round peg-hole.
1098	T2	TILE	3	72	
17/005	VITR	TILE	7	250	Round peg-hole: 11mm
17/005	T1	TILE	4	76	All reduced core.
17/005	T1A	TILE	1	36	Reduced core.
17/005	T2	TILE	12	292	

2/004	T1A	TILE	5	90	Medium coarse moulding sand, near vitrification. 4x reduced core.	
2/004	T2	TILE	4	74		
2/005	T1	TILE	1	6	Spall.	
2/005	T1A	TILE	4	88	Fine/medium moulding sand.	
2/007	T1	TILE	23	1016	Several with reduced core; oblong peg hole: 14mm	
2/007	VITR	TILE	20	492		
2/007	T1A	TILE	23	1196	Some reduced core. 4x partial peg-hole: 10mm; 12mm x2; 14mm; 2x full round peg hole: 12mm; 13mm	
2/007	T2	TILE	6	186	Abraded fragments.	
2009	T2	TILE	1	10	Very thin e.g. of fabric	
2009	T2A	TILE	1	62	Very abraded fragment.	
6/006	T1C	TILE	7	206	3x with ale, patinated surfaces.	
6/006	T2	TILE	3	144		
6/007	VITR	TILE	2	98	1x reduced core. Not entirely burnt but to extent that fabrics cannot be determined.	
6/008	T1	TILE	2	58	1x reduced core; partial round peg hole: 11mm	
6/008	T1A	TILE	1	22		
6/008	T1C	TILE	2	46	Very reduced core.	
6/008	T2	TILE	7	264		
7/005	T2	TILE	18	652	Some very broken/splintered pieces. 3x partial round peghole: 14mm (x2)	
7/007	T2	TILE	4	340	Coarse sandy lime mortar on 1x fragment.	
7/008	T1	TILE	1	120	Organic impressions on upper surface. Attempted peg-hole that has not fully perforated tile.	
7/009	T2	TILE	5	178	Partial oblong peg-hole: 15mm	
9/005	T1	TILE	2	322		
9/005	T2	TILE	2	112		
9/007	?T1A	TILE	1	30	Very well-crafted tile. Reduced core; near vitrification.	

Appendix 4: Environmental Remains

Residue quantification (* = 1-10, ** = 11-50, *** = 51-250, **** = >250) and weights in grams.

Sample Number	Context	Context / deposit type	Sample Volume litres	Sub-Sample Volume litres	Charcoal >4mm	Weight (g)	Charcoal <4mm	Weight (g)	Charcoal Identifications	Bone and Teeth	Weight (g)	Burnt Bone 2-4mm	Weight (g)	Fishbone and microfauna	Weight (g)	Marine Molluscs	Weight (g)	Land Snail shells	Weight (g)	Other (eg ind, pot, cbm)
1	1005	-	20	20	**	2	**	2	Quercus sp. (13)	**	10			*	<2	*	<2			Pot */6 - F.Clay **/56 - Flint */2 - FCF */2 - Magnetised Material **/2
2	1038	Pit	15	15	***	4	**	2	Quercus sp. (12 Indet (1)	**	10	*	<2	*	<2	**	24			Pot */26 - Flint */6 - F.Clay **/26 - FCF */6 - Magnetised Material **/2
		1			1			1	·											Pot */4 - F.Clay */<2 - CBM */14 -

Flot quantification (* = 1-10, ** = 11-50, *** = 51-250, **** = >250) and weights in grams

Sample Number	Context	Weight g	Flot volume ml	Volume scanned	Uncharred %	Sediment %	Charcoal >4mm	Charcoal <4mm	Charcoal <2mm	Crop seeds charred	Identifications	Preservation	Weed seeds charred	Identifications	Preservation
1	1005	310	1100	100	20	10	***	****	****				*	cf Avena sp. (1)	+
2	1038	6	25	25	20	10	**	**	****	*	Triticum sp., cf Hordeum sp.	*/**	*	Poaceae	+
3	1071	2	30	30	50	10	*	**	***	*	Triticum sp.	*			

Appendix 6: HER Summary

Site name/Address: Land at Braintree Road, Watch House Green, Felsted								
Parish: Felsted	District: Uttlesford							
NGR: TL 569086 221335	Site Code: FLBR14							
Type of Work: Trial-trench evaluation and	Site Director/Group: Mark Germany,							
excavation	Archaeology South-East							
Date of Work : 15/6/15 -19/6/15 (eval) 20/7/15 - 30/7/15 (excav)	Size of Area Investigated: 2.2ha							
Location of Finds/Curating Museum:	Funding source: CgMs Consulting							
Saffron Walden Museum								
Further Seasons Anticipated?: No	Related HER Numbers: 9562							
Final Report: Essex Archaeology & History short article	OASIS No: 237891							

SUMMARY OF FIELDWORK RESULTS:

Archaeological trial-trenching and open-area excavation preceded residential development within a green-field site alongside Braintree Road, Felsted. The site contains remains of a ditch/moat, reputedly the remains of an enclosed medieval homestead.

Periods Represented: Prehistoric, Roman, Late Saxon, Medieval and Post-medieval

All trenches in the north of the site contained archaeological features, mostly ditches and spreads of stones and roof tile. Trench 4, in the north-east of the site, exposed numerous archaeological features and was subsequently enlarged to create an excavation area, measuring c.12m x 30.5m.

The site's earliest remains comprise three residual pieces of prehistoric struck flint and an early Roman ditch in Trench 6.

Late Saxon remains comprise c.100 sherds of 11th century pottery most, if not all, residual in later features. Two postholes are tentatively identified as Late Saxon. This material hints at the date of foundation of the settlement here.

The excavation area contained a number of parallel ditches and gullies of 12th to 14th century date. The majority of them ran parallel with Braintree Road, 80m to their west, perhaps marking the rear of the enclosed occupation area and defining a trackway. A small number of medieval pits generally predated the ditches. A quantity of postholes and possible structural slots lacked any patterning but could have denoted the presence of buildings. A pit or structural cut in the base of one ditch contained a carved antler chess piece of medieval date. Gravel, cobble and tile spreads closer to the road may relate to occupation activity within the reputed enclosure.

Although buildings are shown on the 1777 Chapman and Andre map, recorded post-medieval ditches seem to relate to agricultural fields and were infilled in the 19th to 20th centuries. These correlate with boundaries on the 1837 tithe map.

Recovered medieval artefacts comprise pottery and roof tile, fired clay, animal bone, oyster shell, iron nails, and the chess piece. These presumably derive from the occupation enclosure, perhaps a manor house complex.

Previous Summaries/Reports: CgMs Consulting 2013, Archaeological Desk Based
Assessment. Land at Braintree Road, Felsted, CM6 3JX

Author of Summary: Mark Germany

Date of Summary: January 2016

Finds summary

Find type	Material	Period	Quantity
Worked flint	Flint	Prehistoric	Three pieces
Pottery	Ceramic	Roman	Eight sherds (46g)
Pottery	Ceramic	Late Saxon, medieval and post-medieval	676 sherds (7148g)
Ceramic building material	Ceramic	Roman, medieval and post-medieval	514 pieces (24811g)
Ironwork	Iron	Undated	16 items, mostly nails
Clay tobacco pipe	Ceramic	Post-medieval and modern	5 stems
Glass	Glass	Post-medieval and modern	18 shards (79g)
Geological material	Slate	Medieval	1 fragment (4g)
Animal bone	Bone	Medieval and later	153 pieces
Shell	Shell	Medieval and later	(8165g)
Coin	Not recorded	1754	1
Chess piece	Antler or bone	Medieval	1

Appendix 7: OASIS SUMMARY

OASIS ID: 237891

Project details

Project name Braintree Road, Felsted, Essex

> Archaeological trial-trenching and excavation of a greenfield site in advance of residential development on the north edge of Felsted discovered mainly medieval features, most of which consisted of 12th to 14th century enclosure ditches. Numerous artefacts accompanied these and varied in status, making it possible that the enclosures had been part

Short description of the project

of a mid to high status site, possibly a manor, the location of which has yet to be identified or discovered. The artefacts included sherds of Late Saxon and medieval pottery, a medieval chess piece, and numerous

fragments of medieval roof tile.

Start: 15-06-2015 End: 30-07-2015 Project dates

Previous/future

work

No / No

Any associated

project reference codes

FLBR14 - Sitecode

Any associated

project reference

8139 - Contracting Unit No.

codes

Type of project Field evaluation

Site status None

Cultivated Land 3 - Operations to a depth more than 0.25m Current Land use

Monument type **ENCLOSED FIELD SYSTEM Medieval**

Significant Finds CHESS PIECE Medieval Significant Finds **POTTERY Early Medieval**

Methods & techniques

"Sample Trenches"

Development type Housing estate

Prompt Direction from Local Planning Authority - PPS

Position in the planning process

After full determination (eg. As a condition)

Project location

Country England

Site location ESSEX UTTLESFORD FELSTED Braintree Road, Felsted

Study area 2.2 Hectares

TL 569086 221335 51.875193447588 0.279644272581 51 52 30 N 000 Site coordinates

16 46 E Point

Project creators

Name of Organisation

Archaeology South East

Project brief

Essex County Council Place Services originator

Project design

originator

Archaeology South-East

Project manager Adrian Scruby
Project supervisor Mark Germany

Type of

sponsor/funding

CgMs Consulting

body

Project archives

Physical Archive

recipient

Saffron Walden Museum

Physical Contents "Animal Bones", "Ceramics", "Glass", "Metal", "Worked stone/lithics"

Digital Archive

recipient

Saffron Walden Museum

"Animal

Digital Contents Bones", "Ceramics", "Environmental", "Glass", "Metal", "Stratigraphic", "Surve

y","Worked stone/lithics"

Digital Media

available

"Images raster / digital photography", "Images vector", "Spreadsheets", "Survey", "Text"

Paper Archive

recipient

Saffron Walden Museum

"Animal

Paper Contents Bones", "Ceramics", "Environmental", "Metal", "Stratigraphic", "Survey",

"Worked stone/lithics"

Paper Media

available

"Context sheet","Map","Photograph","Plan","Report","Section","Survey "

Project bibliog.

Publication type Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)

Title Archaeological trial trenching and excavation. Land at Braintree Road,

Felsted. Post-excavation assessment and updated project design

Author(s)/Editor(s) Germany, M.

Other details ASE report no: 2015439

Date 2016

Issuer or publisher Archaeology South-East

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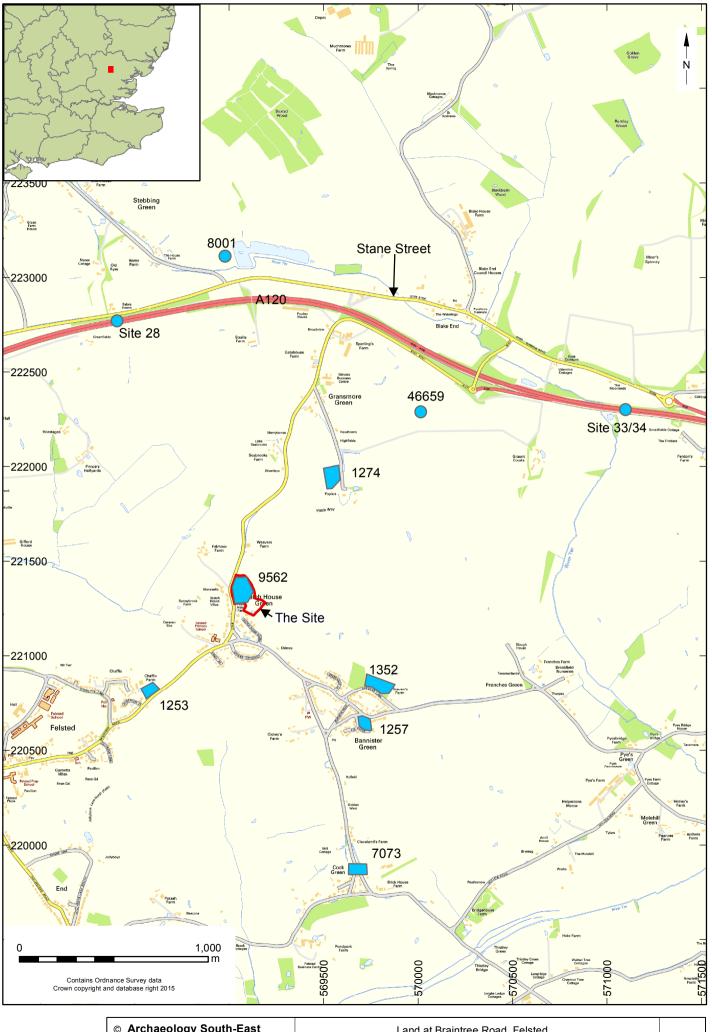
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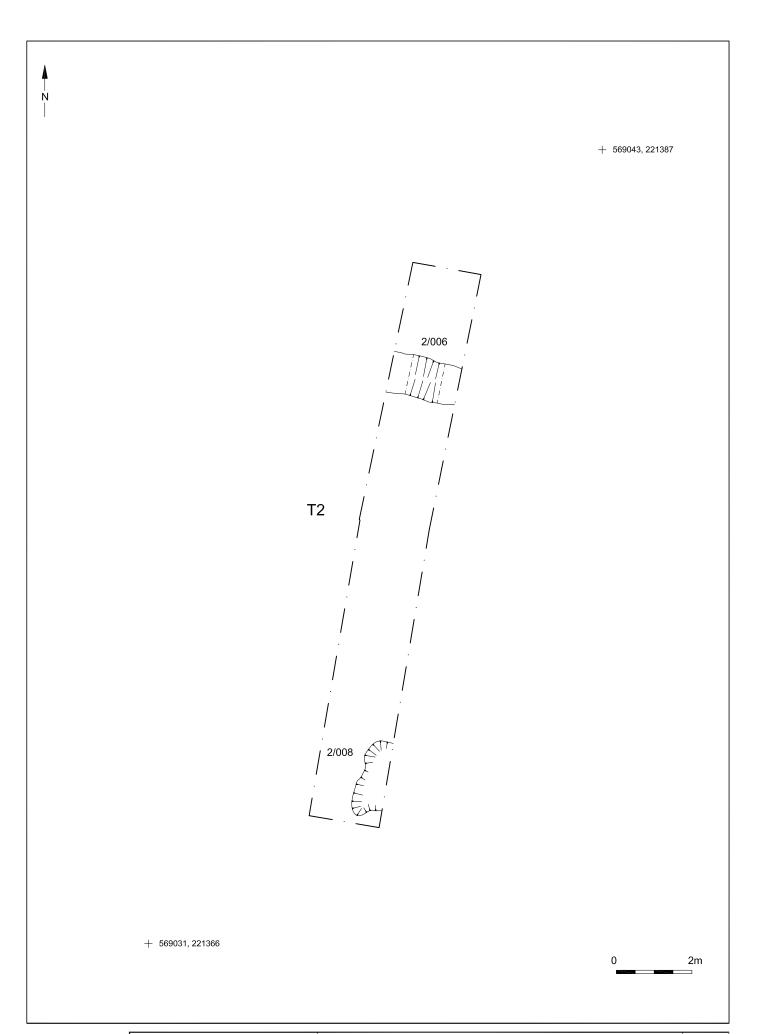
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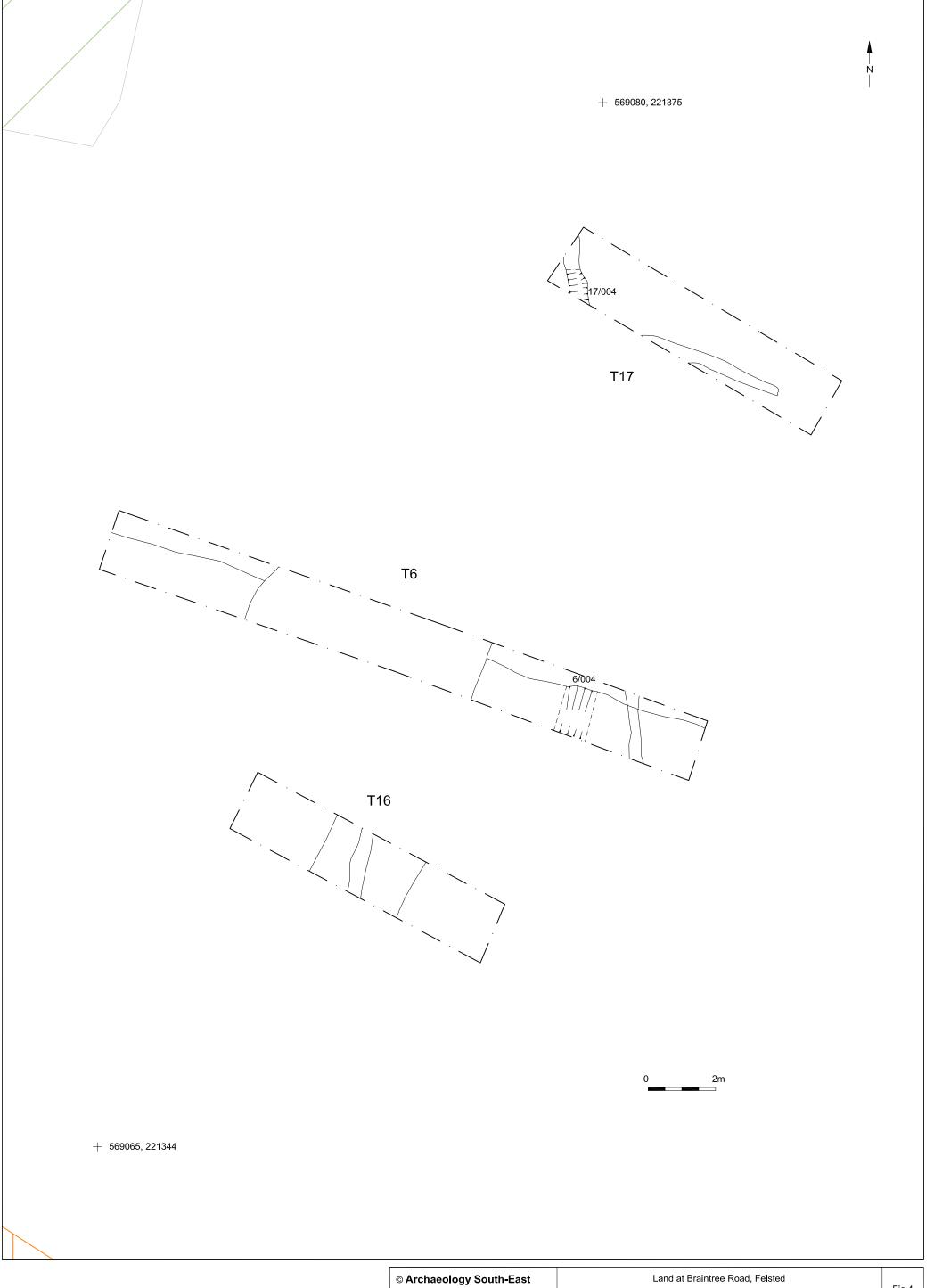
© Archaeology So	outh-East	Land at Braintree Road, Felsted	Fig. 1
Project Ref: 8139	Dec 2015	Locations of nearby moated sites	1 19. 1
Report No: 2015439	Drawn by: LM	Locations of flearby filoated sites	



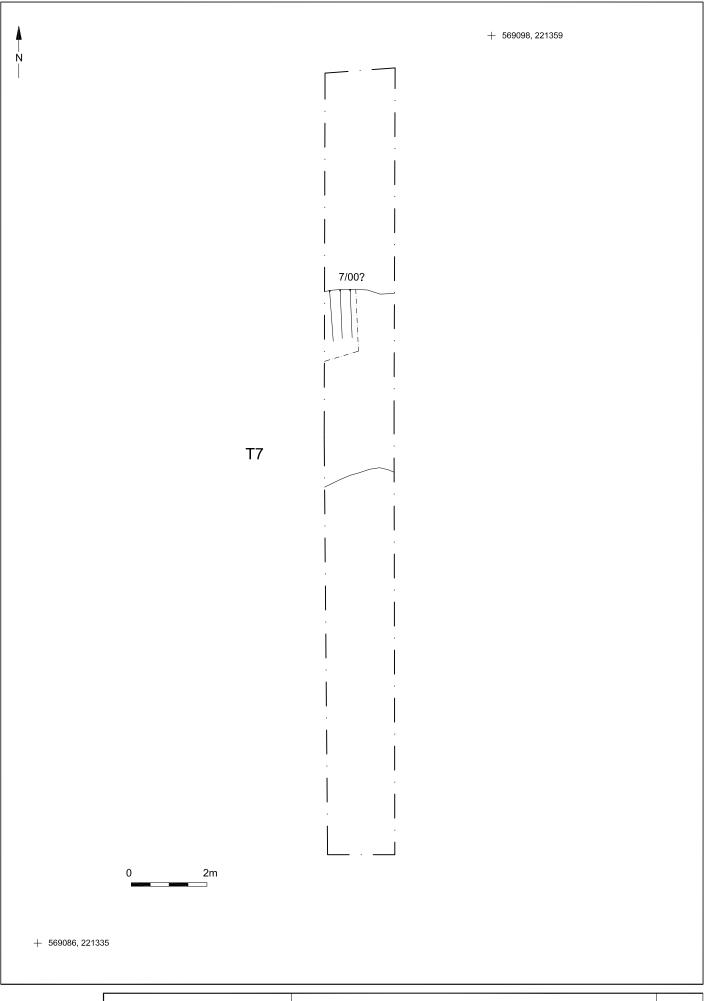
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Project Ref: 8139	Dec 2015	Site plan	1 19.2
Report Ref: 2015439	Drawn by: LM	Site plan	



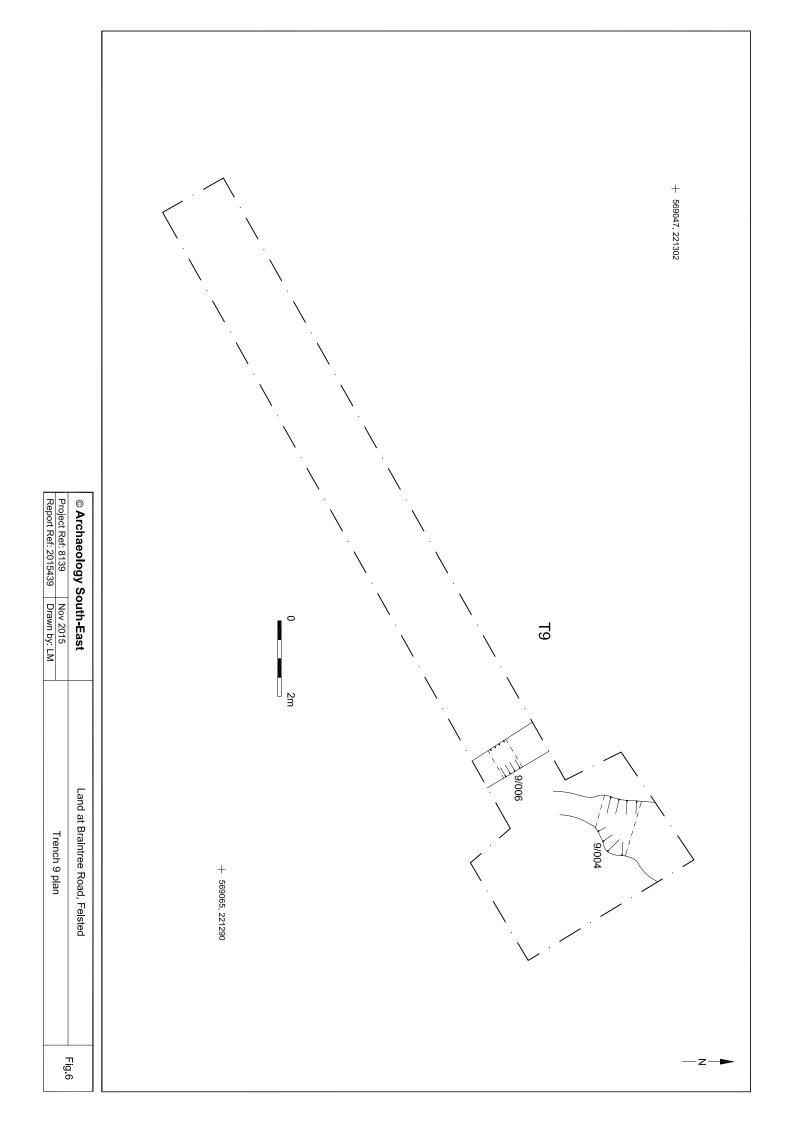
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Project Ref: 8139	Nov 2015	Trench 2 plan	1 19.5
Report Ref: 2015439	Drawn by: LM	Trenon 2 plan	

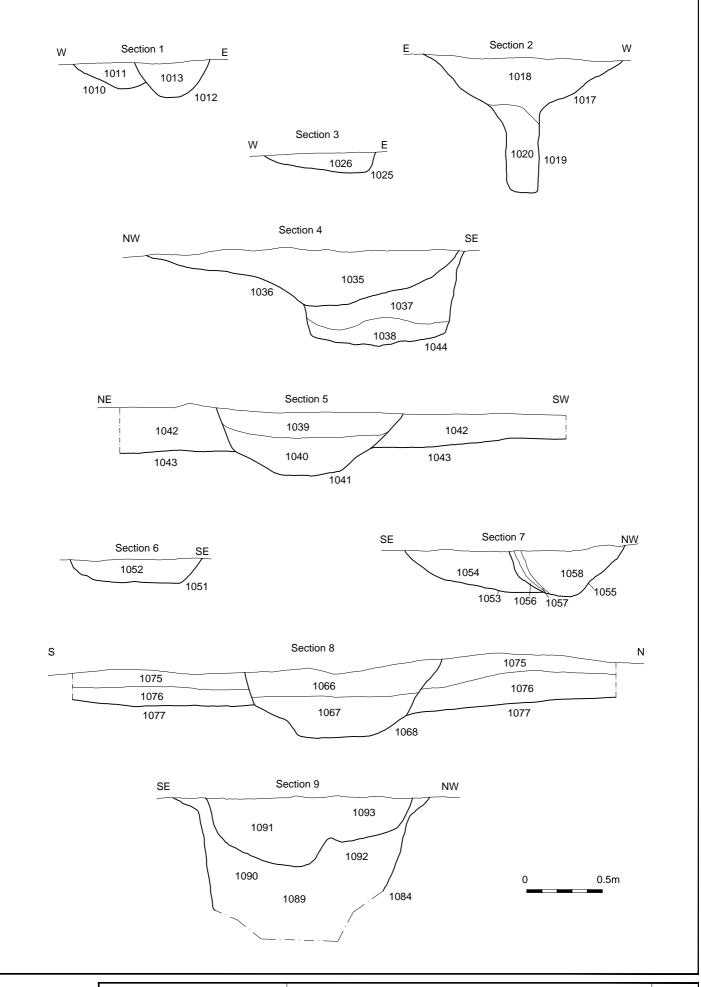


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Project Ref. 8139	Nov 2015	Plan of trenches 6, 16 and 17	119.7	
Report Ref: 2015439	Drawn by: LM	Flati of tieriches 6, To and T7		



© Archaeology So	uth-East	Land at Braintree Road, Felsted	Fig. 5	
Project Ref: 8139	Nov 2015	Trench 7 plan	1 lg. 5	l
Report Ref: 2015439	Drawn by: LM	Tienon / plan		l





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Project Ref: 8139	Dec 2015	Section drawings	1 lg. 0
Report Ref: 2015439	Drawn by: LM	Section drawings	



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Project Ref: 8139	Dec 2015	Eventuation area	1 lg. /
Report Ref: 2015439	Drawn by: LM	Excavation area	

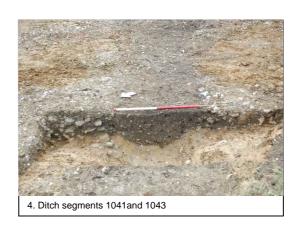


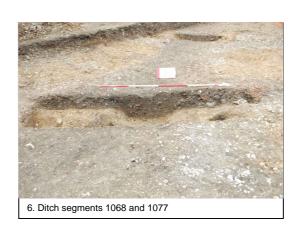




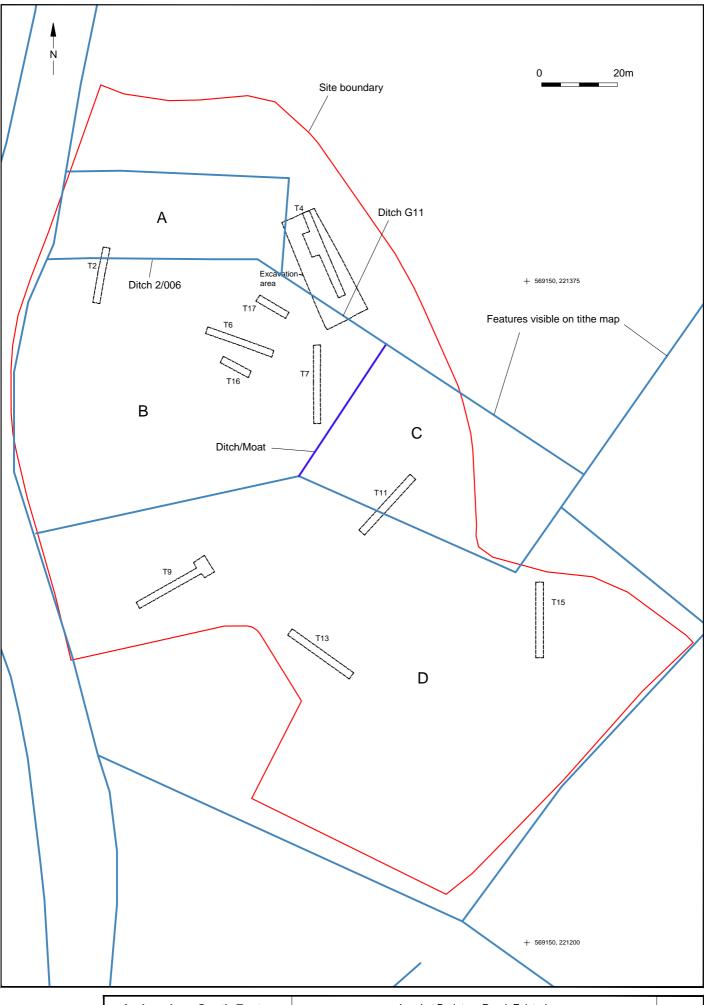












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Project Ref: 8139	Dec 2015	Ditched boundaries as recorded by the 1837 tithe map	1 19.10
Report Ref: 2015439	Drawn by: LM	Ditolied boundaries as recorded by the 1037 titlle map	









1 cm

© Archaeology South-East		Land at Braintree Road, Felsted	Fig.11
Project Ref: 8139	Dec 2015	Chess piece	1 19.11
Report Ref: 2015439	Drawn by: LM	Oness piece	

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