
ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOLUTIONS LTD

LAND AT OLD HALL KENNELS, GREEN LANE,
MISTLEY, ESSEX

ARCHAEOLOGICAL TRIAL TRENCH EVALUATION

| | |
|---|---------------------|
| Authors: Gareth Barlow (Fieldwork and report) | |
| NGR: TM 1132 3136 | Report No: 5270 |
| District: Tendring | Site Code: MIOH16 |
| Approved: Claire Halpin MfA | Project No: 6983 |
| Signed: | Date: December 2016 |

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OASIS SUMMARY SHEET

| | | | |
|--|--|--|---------------------------|
| Project details | | | |
| Project name | | Old Hall Kennels, Green Lane, Mistley, Essex | |
| <p>In December 2016 Archaeological Solutions (AS) carried out an archaeological trial trench evaluation on land at Old Hall Kennels, Green Lane, Mistley, Essex CO11 2NL (NGR TM 1132 3136). The evaluation was carried out in compliance with a planning appeal condition attached to planning permission for external hard and soft landscaping, revision of previously approved storage building and swimming pool, addition of an equestrian arena and stables, tennis court and associated fencing and works to existing entrance (Tendring Council Planning Ref. 16/00152/FUL), based on the advice of Historic Environment Advisor of Essex County Council (ECC HEA).</p> <p>The site is within the area of a historic manorial site recorded at Domesday (EHER 3206), and 16th century sale documents for the manor also record a chapel. Mistley Hall was acquired by the Rigby family in 1703 with a new mansion built by Richard Rigby Senior, who also had built numerous other structures such as a new wharf, as well as brick and lime kilns. Elaborate formal gardens were mentioned by Horace Walpole after a visit in 1745, while Mistley Hall was improved by Adam in 1774. The existing buildings at the site form a house and kennels, formerly the stables to the old hall and are listed as 18th century in date, being constructed of gault and red brick with both plain-tile and pan-tile clad roofs. The estate was sold in 1844 and the main house was demolished soon after.</p> <p>Only Trench 1 contained features. The longest trench (3) and Trench 2 contained no archaeological features or finds. The features in Trench 1 comprised pits of varying sizes, gullies and a ditch, and they contained post-medieval (17th – 18th century) CBM.</p> <p>The CBM is of homogenous character with peg tile and wall brick associated with one another in almost all features. Technological traits suggest it was manufactured in the 17th to 18th centuries, but reduced to rubble by subsequent depositional and post-depositional processes (CBM Report Appendix 2). This evidence, when considered with the documented history of the estate, suggests these materials originate either from 17th century buildings replaced during campaigns of work in the early 18th century, or from the demolition of 18th century structures built utilising the products of a brick kiln documented as present in the early 18th century.</p> | | | |
| Project dates (fieldwork) | | December 2016 | |
| Previous work (Y/N/?) | | N | Future work (Y/N/?) |
| P. number | | 6983 | Monitoring of groundworks |
| Type of project | | Archaeological Evaluation | |
| Site status | | Within the area of a historic manorial site (EHER 3206) | |
| Current land use | | The grounds of Old Hall Kennels | |
| Planned development | | Swimming pool, equestrian arena, tennis court and landscaping | |
| Main features (+dates) | | Pits, gullies, ditch | |
| Significant finds (+dates) | | None | |
| Project location | | | |
| County/ District/ Parish | | Essex | Tendring |
| HER/ SMR for area | | Mistley | |
| Post code (if known) | | Essex Historic Environment Record | |
| Area of site | | | |
| NGR | | 0.ha | |
| Height AOD (min/max) | | TM 1132 3136 | |
| Project creators | | c.23 m AOD | |
| Brief issued by | | Project creators | |
| Project supervisor/s (PO) | | Essex County Council | |
| Funded by | | Archaeological Solutions Ltd | |
| Full title | | Ms Rachel Andrew | |
| Authors | | Old Hall Kennels, Green Lane, Mistley, Essex. An Archaeological Evaluation | |
| Report no. | | Barlow, G. | |
| Date (of report) | | 5270 | |
| | | December 2016 | |

LAND AT OLD HALL KENNELS, GREEN LANE, MISTLEY, ESSEX

ARCHAEOLOGICAL TRIAL TRENCH EVALUATION

SUMMARY

In December 2016 Archaeological Solutions (AS) carried out an archaeological trial trench evaluation on land at Old Hall Kennels, Green Lane, Mistley, Essex CO11 2NL (NGR TM 1132 3136). The evaluation was carried out in compliance with a planning appeal condition attached to planning permission for external hard and soft landscaping, revision of previously approved storage building and swimming pool, addition of an equestrian arena and stables, tennis court and associated fencing and works to existing entrance (Tendring Council Planning Ref. 16/00152/FUL), based on the advice of Historic Environment Advisor of Essex County Council (ECC HEA).

The site is within the area of a historic manorial site recorded at Domesday (EHER 3206), and 16th century sale documents for the manor also record a chapel. Mistley Hall was acquired by the Rigby family in 1703 with a new mansion built by Richard Rigby Senior, who also had built numerous other structures such as a new wharf, as well as brick and lime kilns. Elaborate formal gardens were mentioned by Horace Walpole after a visit in 1745, while Mistley Hall was improved by Adam in 1774. The existing buildings at the site form a house and kennels, formerly the stables to the old hall and are listed as 18th century in date, being constructed of gault and red brick with both plain-tile and pan-tile clad roofs. The estate was sold in 1844 and the main house was demolished soon after.

Only Trench 1 contained features. The longest trench (3) and Trench 2 contained no archaeological features or finds. The features in Trench 1 comprised pits of varying sizes, gullies and a ditch, and they contained post-medieval (17th – 18th century) CBM.

The CBM is of homogenous character with peg tile and wall brick associated with one another in almost all features. Technological traits suggest it was manufactured in the 17th to 18th centuries, but reduced to rubble by subsequent depositional and post-depositional processes (CBM Report Appendix 2). This evidence, when considered with the documented history of the estate, suggests these materials originate either from 17th century buildings replaced during campaigns of work in the early 18th century, or from the demolition of 18th century structures built utilising the products of a brick kiln documented as present in the early 18th century.

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 In December 2016 Archaeological Solutions (AS) carried out an archaeological trial trench evaluation on land at Old Hall Kennels, Green Lane, Mistley, Essex CO11 2NL (NGR TM 1132 3136; Figs. 1 – 2). The evaluation was carried out in compliance with a planning appeal condition attached to planning

permission for external hard and soft landscaping, revision of previously approved storage building and swimming pool, addition of an equestrian arena and stables, tennis court and associated fencing and works to existing entrance (Tendring Council Planning Ref. 16/00152/FUL), based on the advice of Historic Environment Advisor of Essex County Council (ECC HEA).

1.2 Archaeological monitoring and recording of the groundworks associated with the development is also required.

1.3 The evaluation was undertaken in accordance to a brief prepared by the Historic Environment Advisor of Essex County Council (ECC HEA), *Brief for Archaeological Evaluation on Land at Old Hall Kennels, Green Lane, Mistley*, dated 16th November 2016), and a written scheme of investigation (specification) prepared by AS (dated 29th November 2016), and approved by ECC HEA. The project conformed to the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (CIfA) *Standard and Guidance for an Archaeological Evaluation* (2014), as well as the document *Standards for Field Archaeology in the East of England* (Gurney 2003).

1.4 The objectives of the evaluation were to determine the location, date, extent, character, condition significance and quality of any archaeological remains liable to be threatened by the proposed development.

Planning policy context

1.5 The National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF 2012) states that those parts of the historic environment that have significance because of their historic, archaeological, architectural or artistic interest are heritage assets. The NPPF aims to deliver sustainable development by ensuring that policies and decisions that concern the historic environment recognise that heritage assets are a non-renewable resource, take account of the wider social, cultural, economic and environmental benefits of heritage conservation, and recognise that intelligently managed change may sometimes be necessary if heritage assets are to be maintained for the long term. The NPPF requires applications to describe the significance of any heritage asset, including its setting that may be affected in proportion to the asset's importance and the potential impact of the proposal.

1.6 The NPPF aims to conserve England's heritage assets in a manner appropriate to their significance, with substantial harm to designated heritage assets (i.e. listed buildings, scheduled monuments) only permitted in exceptional circumstances when the public benefit of a proposal outweighs the conservation of the asset. The effect of proposals on non-designated heritage assets must be balanced against the scale of loss and significance of the asset, but non-designated heritage assets of demonstrably equivalent significance may be considered subject to the same policies as those that are designated. The NPPF states that opportunities to capture evidence from the historic environment, to record and advance the understanding of heritage assets and to make this publicly available is a requirement of development management. This opportunity should be taken in a manner proportionate to the significance of a heritage asset and to impact of the proposal, particularly where a heritage asset is to be lost.

2 DESCRIPTION OF THE SITE

2.1 The site lies in a rural location on the northern side of Green Lane at Mistley. It comprises the residential property of Old Hall Kennels, set in a mature plot to the north of Laundry Wood.

3 ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

3.1 The Essex Historic Environment Record (EHER) notes the site is within the area of a historic manorial site recorded at Domesday (EHER 3206), and 16th century sale documents for the manor also record a chapel.

3.2 The history of the estate saw change in the period from the late 17th century into the 18th century beginning in 1680 when Edward Rigby, a linen draper of London, bought an interest in the Estate of the Earl of Oxford. After a dispute over the late Earl's affairs in 1703, Mistley Estate was passed to Edward Rigby following an Act of Parliament and the lands at this time included a number of halls and farms. Ribby's son Richard subsequently built a new mansion, a new wharf, brick kiln, lime kiln etc and bought additional property all before his death in 1730 (National Heritage List entry, see Appendix 1). Elaborate formal gardens were mentioned by Horace Walpole after a visit in 1745, and the hall was improved by Adam in 1774.

3.3 The existing buildings at the site form a house and kennels, formerly the stables to the old hall and are listed as 18th century in date, being constructed of gault and red brick with both plain-tile and pan-tile clad roofs. The estate was sold in 1844 and the main house was demolished soon after. Apart from the existing buildings at the site, other listed structures associated with the estate include 18th century garden walls to the east of the site (National Heritage List Entry 1240276).

3.4 Earlier activity in the immediate area is attested by the route of the main Roman Colchester-Manningtree Road close by to the south of the site (EHER 2770).

3.5 The site therefore has a potential for evidence of activity associated with the medieval manorial site and 18th century house and gardens, and for earlier roadside remains of Roman activity along the Roman road.

4 METHODOLOGY

4.1 The brief and advice from ECC HEA required a sample of the proposed development site to be investigated by trial trenching, with a trench overlying the footprint of the proposed new swimming pool (Trench 1); a trench (Trench 3) along the edge of the proposed new equestrian arena and extending to the west where a proposed tennis court may be located; and a trench (Trench 2) across the footprint of the proposed building adjacent to the stables.

4.2 The topsoil/subsoil was mechanically excavated under close archaeological supervision. Exposed surfaces were cleaned by hand and examined for archaeological features. Deposits were recorded using *pro forma* recording sheets,

drawn to scale, and photographed as appropriate. Excavated spoil was searched for finds and the trenches were scanned by a metal detector.

5 DESCRIPTION OF RESULTS

5.1 The individual trench descriptions are presented below:

Trench 1 (Figs. 2 & 3)

| | | |
|--------------------------|-------|---|
| <i>Sample section 1A</i> | | |
| <i>0.00 = 25.31m AOD</i> | | |
| 0.00 – 0.31m | L1000 | Topsoil. Firm, dark grey brown silt sand with occasional flint. |
| 0.31 – 0.62m | L1001 | Subsoil. Firm, mid orange brown silt sand with moderate flint. |
| 0.62m + | L1011 | Natural. Friable, dark yellow orange gravel. |

| | | |
|--------------------------|-------|---|
| <i>Sample section 1B</i> | | |
| <i>0.00 = 24.79m AOD</i> | | |
| 0.00 – 0.33m | L1000 | Topsoil. As above. |
| 0.33 – 0.42m | L1012 | Made Ground. Friable, dark blue black sandy silt with occasional small, sub-rounded stones. |
| 0.42 - 0.70m | L1001 | Subsoil. As above. |
| 0.70m + | L1011 | Natural. As above |

Description: Trench 1 contained Gullies F1013 and F1022, Pits F1016, F1020 and F1024, Ditch F1018, and modern features. All features were post-medieval or later.

Gully F1013 was linear in plan (1.00+ x 0.94 x 0.24m), orientated north-west / south-east. It had moderately steep sides and a concave base. Its fill, L1014, was a firm, dark grey brown clay silt. It contained CBM (1409g), animal bone (10g), oyster shell (8g) and glass (21g). F1013 cut Layer L1015.

Pit F2024 was sub circular in plan (1.00+ x 1.00+ x 0.11m), It had shallow sides. Its fill, L1015, was a firm, light grey brown sandy silt. It contained glass (5g) and CBM (127g). L1015 was cut by Gully F1013.

Pit F1016 was very large and could not be defined in plan (4.00+ x 1.50+ x 0.17m). It had gently sloping sides and a flattish base. Its fill, L1017, was a firm, mid grey brown sand silt. It contained CBM (2978g).

Ditch F1018 was linear in plan (2.00+ x 2.18 x 0.14m), orientated north / south. It had moderately steep sides and a flattish base. Its fill, L1019, was a firm, light grey brown sand silt with occasional medium sub-rounded and sub-angular flint. It contained CBM (3g).

Pit F1020 was sub-circular in plan (0.50+ x 0.50 x 0.21m). It had moderately steep sides and a concave base. Its fill, L1021, was a firm, mid grey brown sand silt. It contained no finds and was cut by Gully F1022

Gully F1022 was curvilinear in plan (1.50+ x 1.60 x 0.52m). It had moderately steep sides and a concave base. Its fill, L1023, was a firm, dark grey brown sand silt. It contained post-medieval pottery CBM (928g), animal bone (10g), and Fe. fragment (17g) and shale (3g). F1022 cut Pit F1020

Modern features containing glass bottles and hard plastic were also present in the central area of the trench.

Trench 2 (Figs. 2 & 3)

| <i>Sample section 2A</i> | | |
|--------------------------|-------|---|
| <i>0.00 = 23.73m AOD</i> | | |
| 0.00 – 0.18m | L1003 | Made Ground. Friable, mid grey brown silt sand with frequent building rubble. |
| 0.18 – 0.18m | L1004 | Terram. Layer of Terram sheeting. |
| 0.18 – 0.26m | L1005 | Made Ground. Friable, pale yellow grey coarse sand. |
| 0.23 – 0.52m | L1006 | Buried Soil. Firm, mid blue brown sandy silt with flint. |
| 0.52m + | L1007 | Natural. Friable, mottle pale blue grey and pale yellow grey sand and silty sand with occasional flint. |

| <i>Sample section 2B</i> | | |
|--------------------------|-------|---|
| <i>0.00 = 23.00m AOD</i> | | |
| 0.00 – 0.10m | L1003 | Made Ground. As above. |
| 0.10 – 0.10m | L1004 | Terram. As above. |
| 0.10 – 0.13m | L1008 | Made Ground. Friable, pale brown orange coarse sand. |
| 0.13 – 0.25m | L1009 | Buried Soil. Firm, dark grey brown silt sand with occasional medium and large, sub-rounded and sub-angular flint. |
| 0.25 – 0.42m | L1010 | Subsoil. Firm, mid orange brown silt sand with occasional medium and large, sub-rounded and sub-angular flint. |
| 0.42m + | L1007 | Natural. As above |

Description: Trench 2 contained no archaeological features or finds. Modern services were present.

Trench 3 (Fig. 2)

| <i>Sample section 3A</i> | | |
|--------------------------|-------|---|
| <i>0.00 = 22.08m AOD</i> | | |
| 0.00 – 0.29m | L1000 | Topsoil. As above, Trench 1. |
| 0.29 – 0.48m | L1001 | Subsoil. As above, Trench 1. |
| 0.48m + | L1002 | Natural. Firm, mid orange brown silt with patches of mid yellow brown sandy silt and coarse sand. |

| | | |
|--------------------------|-------|------------------------------|
| <i>Sample section 3B</i> | | |
| <i>0.00 = 21.91m AOD</i> | | |
| 0.00 – 0.19m | L1000 | Topsoil. As above, Trench 1. |
| 0.19 – 0.33m | L1001 | Subsoil. As above, Trench 1. |
| 0.33m + | L1002 | Natural. As above |

Description: Trench 3 contained no archaeological features or finds.

6 CONFIDENCE RATING

6.1 It is not felt that any factors inhibited the recognition of archaeological features or finds.

7 DEPOSIT MODEL

7.1 Uppermost was Topsoil L1000, a firm, dark grey brown silt sand with occasional flint. It overlay Subsoil L1001, a firm, mid orange brown silt sand with moderate flint. Below L1001 were natural deposits which varied from trench to trench. In Trench 1, L1011 was a friable, dark yellow orange gravel (0.62 – 0.70m below the present day ground level). In Trench 2, L1007 was a friable, mottle pale blue grey and pale yellow grey sand and silty sand with occasional flint (0.42 – 0.52m below the present day ground level). In Trench 3, L1002 was a firm, mid orange brown silt with patches of mid yellow brown sandy silt and coarse sand (0.33 – 0.48m below the present day ground level).

7.2 Areas of modern, made ground layers were also present in Trenches 1 and 2.

8 DISCUSSION

8.1 The site is within the area of a historic manorial site recorded at Domesday (EHER 3206), and 16th century sale documents for the manor also record a chapel. Mistley Hall was acquired by the Rigby family in 1703 with a new mansion built by Richard Rigby Senior, who also had built numerous other structures such as a new wharf, as well as brick and lime kilns. Elaborate formal gardens are mentioned by Horace Walpole after a visit in 1745, while Mistley Hall was improved by Adam in 1774. The existing buildings at the site form a house and kennels, formerly the stables to the old hall and are listed as 18th century in date, being constructed of gault and red brick with both plain-tile and pan-tile clad roofs. The estate was sold in 1844 and the main house was demolished soon after.

8.2 Earlier activity in the immediate area is attested by the route of the main Roman Colchester-Manningtree Road close by to the south of the site (EHER 2770).

8.3 The site therefore had a potential for evidence of activity associated with the medieval manorial site and 18th century house and gardens, and for earlier roadside remains of Roman activity along the Roman road.

8.4 The recorded features are tabulated:

| Trench | Context | Description | Finds |
|--------|---------|-------------|-------|
| 1 | F1013 | Gully | CBM |
| | F1016 | Pit | CBM |
| | F1018 | Ditch | CBM |
| | F1020 | Pit | - |
| | F1022 | Gully | CBM |
| | F1024 | Pit | CBM |

8.5 Only Trench 1 contained features. The longest trench (3) and Trench 2 contained no archaeological features or finds. The features in Trench 1 comprised pits of varying sizes, gullies and a ditch, and they contained post-medieval (17th – 18th century) CBM.

8.6 The CBM is of homogenous character with peg tile and wall brick associated with one another in almost all features. It exhibits technological traits that suggest it was manufactured in the 17th to 18th centuries, but reduced to rubble by subsequent depositional and post-depositional processes (CBM Report Appendix 2).

8.9 The CBM report demonstrates a 17th or 18th century date for the tile and brick and suggests the fabric is typical of local brick works in Essex. This evidence, taken with the documented history of the estate, suggests these materials originate either from 17th century buildings replaced during campaigns of work in the early 18th century, or from the demolition of 18th century structures built utilising the products of a brick kiln documented as present in the early 18th century. As such these finds are typical of activity at the estate which saw multiple campaigns of work from the medieval period through to 1844 and the demolition of the mansion.

9 DEPOSITION OF THE ARCHIVE

9.1 Archive records, with inventory, will be deposited at Colchester and Ipswich Museum in accordance with their requirements. The archive will be quantified, ordered, indexed, cross-referenced and checked for internal consistency. In addition to the overall site summary, it will be necessary to produce a summary of the artefactual and ecofactual data.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Archaeological Solutions would like to thank Ms Rachel Andrew for funding the evaluation and for assistance, and the assistance of Mr Bryn Jones.

AS would like to acknowledge the input and advice of Ms Teresa O'Connor of Essex County Council

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SSEW 1983 *Soil Survey of England and Wales: Soils of South East England (sheet 4)*. Harpenden, Rothamsted Experimental Station/Lawes Agricultural Trust

APPENDIX 1 CONCORDANCE OF FINDS

| Feature | Context | Segment | Trench | Description | Spot Date (Pot Only) | Pot Qty | Pottery (g) | CBM (g) | A.Bone (g) | Other Material | Other Qty | Other (g) |
|---------|---------|---------|--------|----------------|-------------------------|------------|----------------|------------|---------------|----------------|--------------|--------------|
| | 1000 | | | Topsoil | | | | | | Glass Bottles | 2 | 1168 |
| 1013 | 1014 | | 1 | Fill of Gully | | | 1409 | 10 | | O Shell | 1 | 8 |
| | | | | | | | | | | Glass | 2 | 21 |
| 1024 | 1015 | | 1 | Fill of Pit | | | 127 | | | Glass | 1 | 5 |
| 1016 | 1017 | | 1 | Fill of Pit | | | 2978 | | | | | |
| 1018 | 1019 | | 1 | Fill of Ditch | | | 3 | | | | | |
| 1022 | 1023 | | 1 | Fill of Gully | | | 928 | 10 | | Fe.Nail | 1 | 17 |
| | | | | | | | | | | Shale | 1 | 3 |
| | | | 1 | Modern Feature | Modern | 2 | 31 | 2472 | | Glass Bottle | 1 | 260 |

APPENDIX 2 SPECIALIST REPORTS

The Pottery

by Peter Thompson

The evaluation recovered two sherds of modern pottery weighing 36g from Trench 1, one of porcelain and the other a refined white earthenware plate or dish rim.

The Ceramic Building Materials

Andrew Peachey MCIfA

The trial trench evaluation recovered a total of 68 fragments (8222g) of post-medieval CBM in a highly fragmented condition (Table 1). The CBM was of homogenous character with peg tile and wall brick associated with one another in almost all features, exhibiting technological traits that suggest they were manufactured in the 17th to 18th centuries, but reduced to rubble by subsequent depositional and post-depositional processes.

The fragments were recorded by fragment count and weight per context, with all data entered into a Microsoft Excel spreadsheet that will form part of the site archive.

| CBM type | Date | Fragment Count | Weight (g) |
|--------------|---------------|----------------|------------|
| Peg tile | Post-medieval | 29 | 1922 |
| Wall Brick | | 39 | 6300 |
| <i>Total</i> | | 68 | 8222 |

Table 1: Quantification of CBM

The post-medieval CBM was entirely manufactured in a single well-fired orange fabric tempered with medium sand (and occasional flint and iron-rich grains) that is typical of early industrial local brick yards in eastern Essex. The limited extant technological traits on the brick fragments indicate they were 55mm thick with a smooth base, and relatively regular faces and arrises; characteristics of soft red bricks manufactured in the 17th and 18th centuries. The peg tile is limited to very small fragments (12mm thick) that exhibit striated upper surfaces and slightly irregular edges with sparse finger impressions, where the tiles were handled before they were dry, almost certainly contemporary with the brick. Low quantities of both CBM types were contained in Gullies F1013, F1022, Ditch F1018, Pits F1016 and F1024, as well as un-stratified material; with the low levels of preservation suggesting they do not form part of primary deposits associated with a nearby structure, but have been repeatedly re-deposited.

APPENDIX 3 NATIONAL HERITAGE LIST ENTRY

OLD HALL

List entry Summary

This building is listed under the Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act 1990 as amended for its special architectural or historic interest.

Name: OLD HALL

List entry Number: 1240275

Location: OLD HALL, GREEN LANE

The building may lie within the boundary of more than one authority.

| County | District | District Type | Parish |
|--------|----------|--------------------|---------|
| Essex | Tendring | District Authority | Mistley |

National Park: Not applicable to this List entry.

Grade: II

Date first listed: 18-Dec-1985

Date of most recent amendment: Not applicable to this List entry.

Legacy System Information

The contents of this record have been generated from a legacy data system.

Legacy System: LBS

UID: 438420

List entry Description

Details:

MISTLEY GREEN LANE TM 13 SW

3/227 Old Hall 18.12.85

GV II

House and kennels, formerly the Stable Block to Mistley Old Hall. C18. The Hall was built for the Rigby family early C18, remodelled for Rt. Hon. Richard Rigby to the design of Robert Adam circa 1777, and demolished circa 1844. Gault brick north face, red brick rear. Red pantiles and plain tiled roofs. L plan, the front wing facing north. Left external chimney stack. 2 storeys. Parapet with dentilled cornice. Parapet verges. Central band to inner bays. 3:2:2 bays, the centre breaking forward with rusticated quoins, dentilled pediment the apex above parapet, and tall, rusticated semi-circular arch with keystone. Carriageway paved with bricks and setts. Timber lantern above pediment, square plan base, open octagonal head, compass faces each with semi-circular arches and keystones, alternate faces with lower and upper lights, band between, concave pointed roof surmounted by weathervane. A C20 flat roofed porch to left of archway. The reverse, south face of the archway with no pediment, parapet band, gauged brick archway, semi-circular window above. 2 windows to right with chimney stack between. The south west (rear left) wing has a truncated gable lowered in the centre. Chimney stack to north.. Parapet and centre bands. 7 window range to courtyard face, all windows with gauged arches and vertically sliding sashes with glazing bars. 2 vertically boarded doors and 2 windows to ground floor. Edward Rigby a linen draper of London bought an interest in the Estate of the Earl of Oxford 1680, when the Earl died 1703 a dispute over the his affairs was settled by Act of Parliament and Edward Rigby received the Mistley Estate which included many local Halls and Farms. Edward Rigby was succeeded by his elder son Richard who went into finance, made a fortune out of the South Sea Company, and settled in Mistley. He built a mansion, a new wharf, brick kiln, lime kiln etc., in 1730 he bought land and property in Tendring Hundred for £4,911. In his will 1730 he directed that £300 be set aside for 6 almshouses, if possible near the new

church. Not until 1778 were 12 houses built in this area between the Thorn Inn and The Church. On his death the second Richard Rigby was only 8 years old. He went on the Grand Tour aged 21 and then launched into Society. Horace Walpole, Garrick and the Prince of Wales and many others stayed at Mistley Hall. 1745 he became MP for Castle Rising and later for Sudbury and attached himself to Frederick Prince of Wales. 1752 his Patron was the Duke of Bedford who later made him his secretary and spokesman in the Irish Parliament, he became Vice-Treasurer for Ireland 1765, and later Paymaster of the Forces 1768 under George III. In 1770 he opposed Grevills Bribery Act. He died 1788 and was buried in the family vault at Mistley. By 1783 he held property in 13 parishes and Rochefoucauld could write in 1784 that "Mistley is a very pretty place consisting of rather more than 50 houses, that are so neat and well built, that it is obvious at a glance that they all belong to one man", he also describes the harbour to which the whalers are fixed, a warehouse, shipbuilding yard and lime kiln faced with brick and made into the shape of a fort, the trade of the place wholly created by Mr. Rigby. In 1774 he asked Adam to prepare a design for a sea-bathing pavilion but these plans were never executed though a start was made with the Swan Fountain. 1776 Adam was instructed to remodel the Church. Adam also designed the Hopping Bridge. Remains of the village built by Rigby are to be seen in the High Street between Mistley Towers and Swan Fountain and The Green. Lt. Col. Francis Rigby inherited Mistley Estate, in 1801 much was sold and in 1827 Col. Frances Rigby died, leaving the estate to his daughter Frances, wife of Lord Rivers. In 1844 Mistley Hall Estate was sold in lots and the Hall demolished. Our Story, Lawford, Manningtree and Mistley Manningtree Branch W.E.A. 1954. Essex, Pevsner 1976.

Selected Sources

Our Story The History of Three Parishes Manningtree/Mistley and Lawford, (1954)
Pevsner, N, The Buildings of England: Essex, (1976)

National Grid Reference: TM 11331 31366

PHOTOGRAPHIC INDEX



1
Post-excitation view of Trench 1 looking south-east



2
F1013 and F1024 in Trench 1 looking north-west



3
F1016 in Trench 1 looking south-west



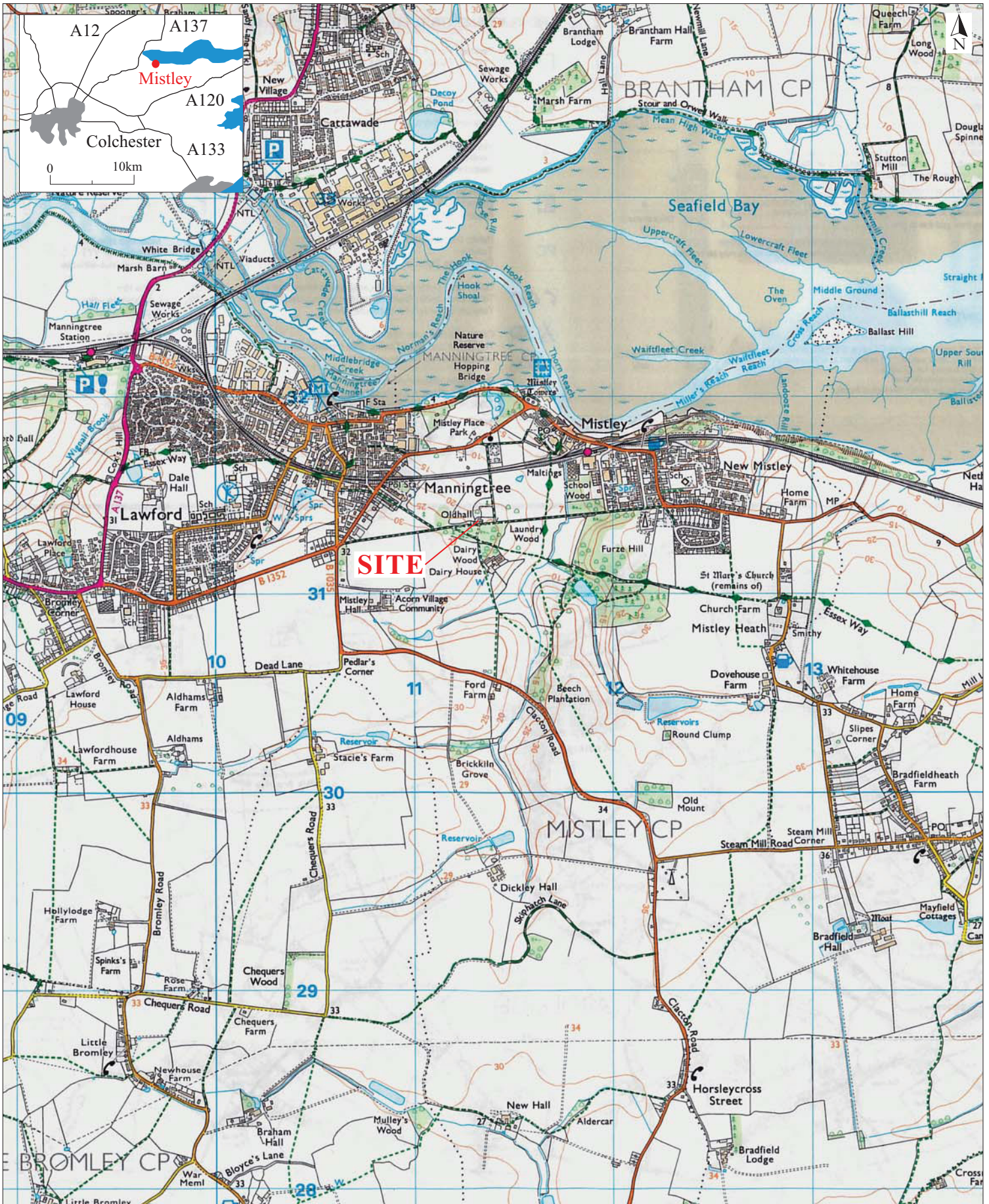
4
F1018 in Trench 1 looking south



5
F1020 and F1022 in Trench 1 looking south-east

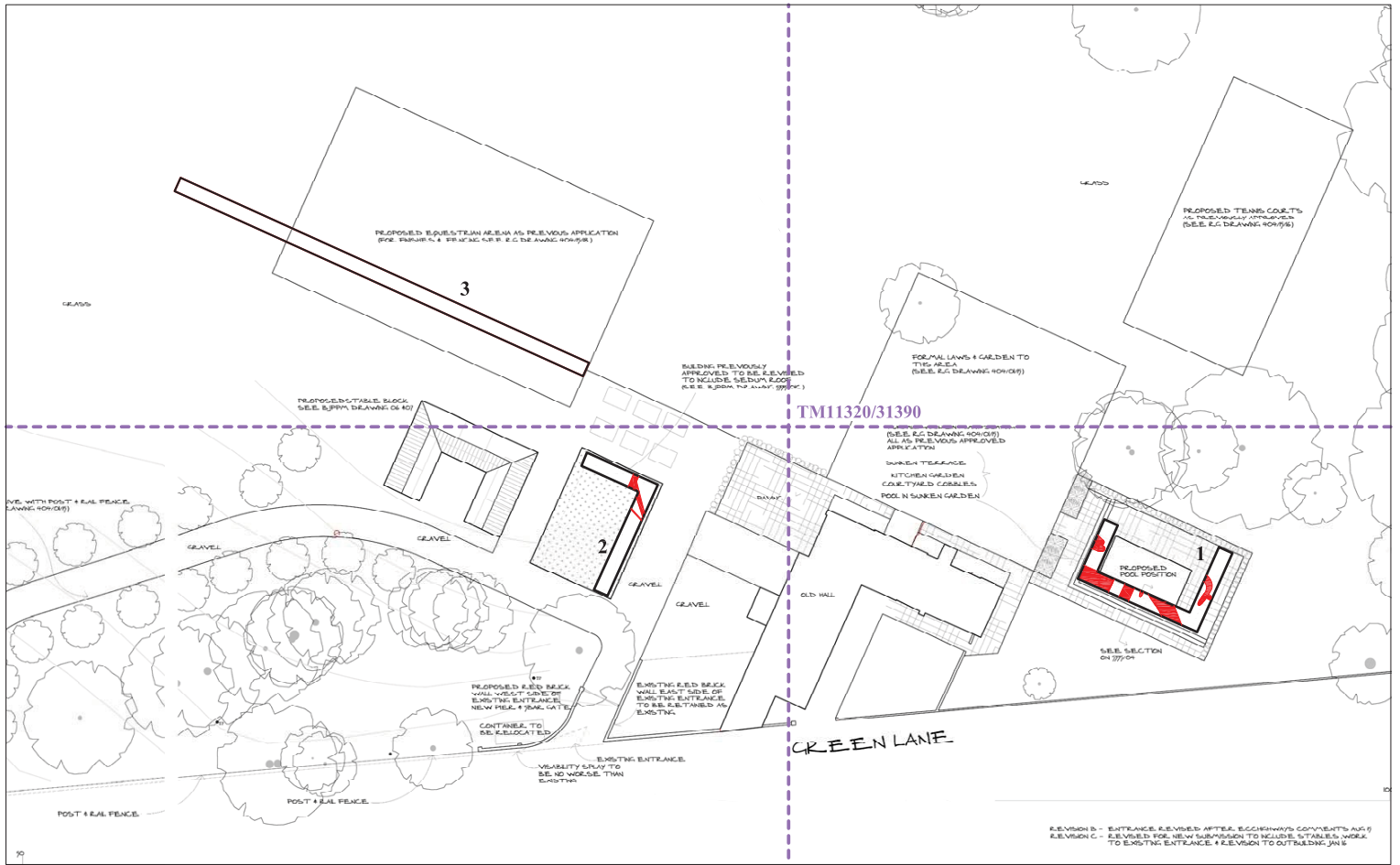


6
Sample Section 1B in Trench 1 looking south-west



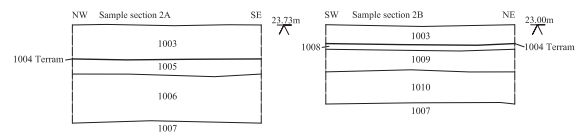
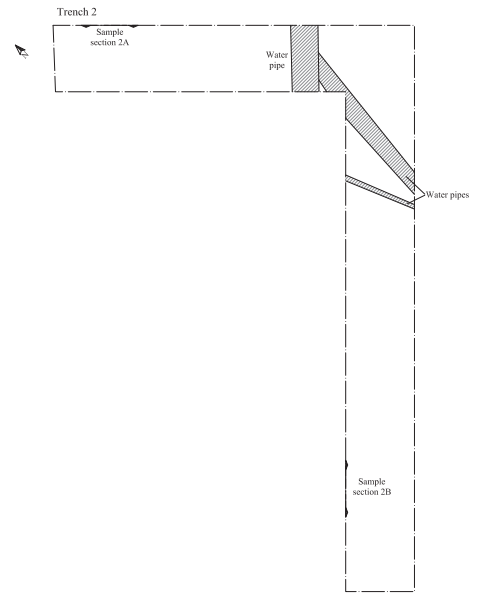
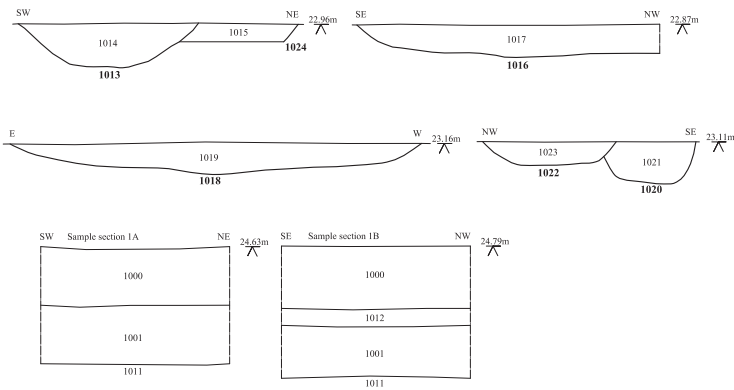
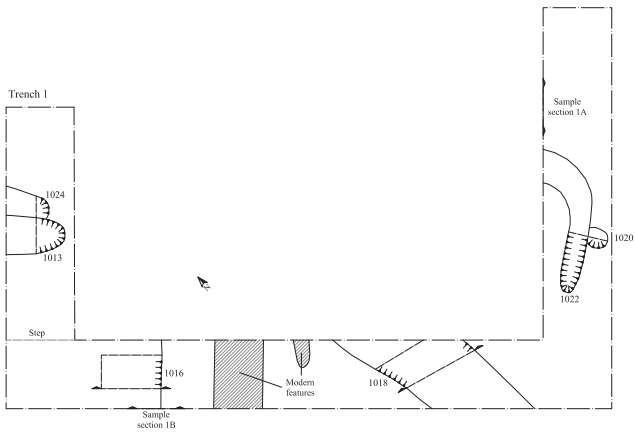
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Fig. 1 Site location plan
 Scale 1:25,000 at A4
 Old Hall, Mistley, Essex (P6983)



0 50m

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Fig. 2 Detailed site location plan
 Scale 1:600 at A4
 Old Hall, Mistley, Essex (P6983)



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Fig. 3 Trench plans and sections
 Scale 1:100 and 1:20 at A3
 Old Hall, Mistley, Essex (P6983)