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MAYNARDS, MAYNARDS LANE, LITTLE SAMPFORD, ESSEX CB10 2QP AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION

Authors: John Haygreen (Fieldwork and report) Liam Podbury (Report)					
NGR: TL 65718 35145 Report No: 5853					
District: Uttlesford	Site Code: LSMD19				
Approved: Claire Halpin MClfA	Project No: 7798				
Date: 27 June 2019					

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PI House, 23 Clifton Road, Shefford, Bedfordshire SG17 5AF 01462 850483

Unit 6, Brunel Business Court, Eastern Way, Bury St Edmunds IP32 7AJ 01284 765210

e-mail info@ascontracts.co.uk www.archaeologicalsolutions.co.uk







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Project details	
Project name	Maynards, Maynards Lane, Little Sampford, Essex CB10 2QP

In June 2019 Archaeological Solutions (AS) carried out an archaeological evaluation Maynards, Maynards Lane, Little Sampford, Essex CB10 2QP (NGR TL 65718 35145; Figs.1 - 2). The evaluation was undertaken prior to the proposed conversion of the existing agricultural barn into a residential dwelling; the extension of the porch for the house and a new cart lodge following demolition of existing stables; and the creation of a new separate vehicular access to the property Planning Refs UTT/18/2158/HHF, UTT/18/2159/LB. UTT/18/1936/HHF UTT/18/1937/LB), based on the advice of the Historic Environment Advisor of Essex County Council. The site lies within a medieval moated enclosure associated with the family of Simon Maynard (c.1327), recorded on the Essex Historic Environment Record (EHER) and Scheduled as an Ancient Monument (SAM 14361). Within the boundaries of the site is a significant group of farm buildings of 17th century or earlier date (EHER 1385; 36230; 36232; 36233). Even though the site itself lies within an area of archaeological potential, evidence of activity in the surrounding landscape is relatively limited.

Trench 1 contained six archaeological features which comprised depressions (2), post holes (2) and ditches (2). The dated features were of post-medieval or modern date. Depression F1007 contained sherds of both glazed red earthenware (22g) and westerwald stoneware (22g) which date from the 18th to 19th century. In addition to the late post-medieval pottery, Depression F1007 contained fragments of peg tile common in Essex in the 18th and 19th centuries, and a floor brick typical of the 19th century. The feature also contained a residual fragment of medieval peg tile dating to the late 12th to 14th centuries. Depression F1009, and Post Holes F1011 and F1013 all contained highly fragmented post-medieval CBM, likely from the 19th century. The post holes do not correspond with any structures shown on the historic maps, which date from the late 19th century onwards and record the site as relatively open (Figs. 4 - 5).

The trench did not extend quite far enough southwards to traverse the area of the possible moat ditch but the latter may be observed during archaeological monitoring.

Project dates (fieldwork)	13 th June 2	2019			
Previous work (Y/N/?)	N	Future work	Υ		
P. number	7898	Site code	LSME	019	
Type of project	Archaeolo	gical evaluation			
Site status	Scheduled	Ancient Monument (S	SAM 143	861)	
Current land use	Garden				
Planned development	New acces	ss road			
Main features (+dates)		n, posthole and ditch			
Significant finds (+dates)	18 th to 19 th	century pottery			
Project location	Essex	Uttlesford		Little Sampford	
HER/ SMR for area	Essex Historic Environment Record				
Post code (if known)	CB10 2QP				
Area of site	$c.7200m^2$				
NGR	TL 65718 35145				
Height AOD (min/max)	c.94m AO	D			
Project creators					
Brief issued by	Essex Cou	unty Council			
Project supervisor/s (PO)	Archaeological Solutions Ltd				
Funded by	Ms Daisy Gibbs				
Full title	Maynards, Maynards Lane, Little Sampford, Essex CB10 2QP. An Archaeological Evaluation				
Authors	Podbury, L.				
Report no.	5853				
Date (of report)	June 2019				

MAYNARDS, MAYNARDS LANE, LITTLE SAMPFORD, ESSEX CB10 2QP

AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION

SUMMARY

In June 2019 Archaeological Solutions (AS) carried out an archaeological evaluation Maynards, Maynards Lane, Little Sampford, Essex CB10 2QP (NGR TL 65718 35145; Figs.1 - 2). The evaluation was undertaken prior to the proposed conversion of the existing agricultural barn into a residential dwelling; the extension of the porch for the house and a new cart lodge following demolition of existing stables; and the creation of a new separate vehicular access to the property (Uttlesford Planning Refs UTT/18/2158/HHF, UTT/18/2159/LB, UTT/18/1936/HHF & UTT/18/1937/LB), based on the advice of the Historic Environment Advisor of Essex County Council.

The site lies within a medieval moated enclosure associated with the family of Simon Maynard (c.1327), recorded on the Essex Historic Environment Record (EHER) and Scheduled as an Ancient Monument (SAM 14361). Within the boundaries of the site is a significant group of farm buildings of 17th century or earlier date (EHER 1385; 36230; 36232; 36233). Even though the site itself lies within an area of archaeological potential, evidence of activity in the surrounding landscape is relatively limited.

Trench 1 contained six archaeological features which comprised depressions (2), post holes (2) and ditches (2). The dated features were of post-medieval or modern date. Depression F1007 contained sherds of both glazed red earthenware (22g) and westerwald stoneware (22g) which date from the 18th to 19th century. In addition to the late post-medieval pottery, Depression F1007 contained fragments of peg tile common in Essex in the 18th and 19th centuries, and a floor brick typical of the 19th century. The feature also contained a residual fragment of medieval peg tile dating to the late 12th to 14th centuries. Depression F1009, and Post Holes F1011 and F1013 all contained highly fragmented post-medieval CBM, likely from the 19th century. The post holes do not correspond with any structures shown on the historic maps, which date from the late 19th century onwards and record the site as relatively open (Figs. 4 - 5).

The trench did not extend quite far enough southwards to traverse the area of the possible moat ditch but the latter may be observed during archaeological monitoring.

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 In June 2019 Archaeological Solutions (AS) carried out an archaeological evaluation Maynards, Maynards Lane, Little Sampford, Essex CB10 2QP (NGR TL 65718 35145; Figs.1 - 2). The evaluation was undertaken prior to the proposed conversion of the existing agricultural barn into a residential dwelling; the extension of the porch for the house and a new cart lodge following demolition of existing stables; and the creation of a new separate vehicular access to the property (Uttlesford Planning Refs UTT/18/2158/HHF, UTT/18/2159/LB, UTT/18/1936/HHF &

UTT/18/1937/LB), based on the advice of the Historic Environment Advisor of Essex County Council. The site also lies within a Scheduled Ancient Monument and the works were also required as a condition of Scheduled Monument Consent.

- 1.2 The evaluation was undertaken in accordance with a brief issued by Historic Environment Advisor of Essex County Council (Richard Havis, dated 20th November 2018), and a Written Scheme of Investigation prepared by AS (dated 21st December 2018) and approved by ECC/Historic England. It followed the procedures outlined in the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists' *Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Evaluation* (2014). It also adhered to the relevant sections of *Standards for Field Archaeology in the East of England* (Gurney 2003).
- 1.3 The WSI provides for a trial trench evaluation of the new access and then for archaeological monitoring and recording during groundworks for the remainder of the scheme. It does not provide for a programme of historic building recording; this recording will be undertaken by the purchaser of the barn. This report describes the results of the evaluation.
- 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. Specific aims were to identify any evidence of medieval/post-medieval occupation of the moated enclosure.

Planning Policy Context

- 1.5 The National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF 2018) 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 on the northern side of Maynards Lane in a rural location to the north of Little Sampford. It comprises the farmhouse and ancillary former farm buildings of Maynards, within a medieval moated enclosure, recorded on the Essex Historic Environment Record (EHER) and Scheduled as an Ancient Monument (SAM 14361). The site is a significant group of farm buildings of 17th century or earlier date. It contains a Grade II listed 17th century barn (EHER 36233). The house and farm buildings lies within a moated enclosure of some 90m x 80m.

3 TOPOGRAPHY, GEOLOGY AND SOILS

- 3.1 The site lies at *c*.92m AOD on an area of relative high ground. To the east the land gently slopes downwards towards Sampford Hall Wood, while to the west the land sloped downwards towards the River Pant, which lies *c*.900m from the development site.
- 3.2 The solid geology in the area comprises of Lewes Nodular Chalk Formation and Seaford Chalk Formation (undifferentiated) chalk; formed in the Cretaceous Period. Superficial deposits in the area comprise of Lowestoft Formation diamicton; formed in the Quaternary Period. Overlying this is a lime-rich loamy and clayey soil with slightly impeded drainage.

4 ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

Prehistoric

4.1 Evidence of prehistoric activity in the area surrounding the development site is limited, with only a single Neolithic polished axe recorded, located north of Little Sampford (EHER 1382).

Romano-British

4.2 Evidence of Roman activity is similarly limited in the Little Sampford area. The inferred course of the Roman road between Great Sampford and Steeple Bumpstead lies north-west of the site (EHER 7336), while a single Roman bronze snake bracelet was recovered c.1.35km to the west (EHER 1396).

Medieval

4.3 The site lies within the medieval Maynard's Farm Moat (EHER 1467; SAM 14361). The moat is a single, complete rectangular entrance causeway and likely associated with the family of Simon Maynard (*c*.1327). It is 6m wide and 1.25m deep, and has a fish pond. Within the enclosure, approximately 10m north of the post-medieval Maynards Farmhouse (EHER 36232) discussed below, lies a 16th century or earlier timber framed outbuilding (EHER 36230).

4.4 A further moat and another possible moat also lie within the surrounding landscape. Hawkes Farm Moat (EHER 1466), located approximately 530m northwest of the site, was likely associated with the family of William le Hauleke (*c*.1280). The possible moat, which is in poor condition, lies some 1km to the north-east (EHER 1559). A medieval jug of brown glaze ware has also been recorded c.1.4km west of Maynard's Farm (EHER 1385).

Post-medieval

- 4.5 Evidence of post-medieval activity is similarly substantial within the Little Sampford area and the site. Within the moated enclosure lies Maynard's Farm which consists of post-medieval buildings, a 17th century barn (EHER 36233), a 17th century farmhouse (EHER 36232) and 19th century outbuildings (EHER 1468). The farmhouse was constructed of timber-framing in an H-plan with cross-wings on the south west and north east, while the barn is constructed of timber and has a thatched roof.
- 4.6 A number of NHLE listed post-medieval buildings are recorded in the surrounding the site. These structures include 17th century (EHER 1560; 36218; 36219; 36235; 36236; 36237), 18th century (EHER 36216; 36217) and 19th century (EHER 36231) vernacular buildings, in addition to a 18th century windmill and a 19th century brick water tower (EHER 40431).
- 4.7 A 18th century glazed jug was also recorded c.1.4km west of Maynard's Farm (EHER 1387)

5 METHODOLOGY

- 5.1 The ECC HEA advice required a trial trench within the course of the new vehicular access. One trench of $35m \times 1.8m$ was excavated across the length of the proposed new access drive to house (Figs. 2 3).
- 5.2 The archaeological evaluation comprised the inspection of the subsoil and natural deposits for archaeological features, the examination of spoil heaps and the recording of soil profiles. Encountered features and deposits were cleaned by hand and recorded using *pro forma* recording sheets, drawn to scale and photographed as appropriate. The excavated spoil was checked for finds.

6 DESCRIPTION OF RESULTS

Individual trench description is presented below:

Trench 1 (Figs. 2, 3 & 6)

Sample section	1A					
0.00 = 92.76m AOD						
NNW End / SW	Facing					
0.00 – 0.25m	L1000	Topsoil. Firm, dark grey brown organic clayey silt with occasional small to medium sub-angular flints.				
0.25 – 0.36m	L1001	Subsoil. Very firm, mid grey brown clayey silt with occasional small to medium sub-angular/sub-rounded flint and occasional small to medium sub-rounded chalk.				
0.36 - 0.54m	L1002	Made Ground. Very firm, mid brown grey clayey silt with occasional small to medium sub-rounded flint and frequent red CBM rubble (781g).				
0.54m+	L1003	Natural Deposit. Firm, very pale yellow brown silty clay and occasional patches of mid brown orange silty sand with occasional small to medium sub-rounded chalk, and occasional large rounded chalk and flint nodules.				

Sample section	1B				
0.00 = 92.31m AOD					
SSW End / NE	Facing				
0.00 - 0.26m	L1000	Topsoil. As above.			
0.26 - 0.46m	L1001	Subsoil. As above.			
0.46m+	L1003	Natural Deposit. As above.			

Description: Trench 1 contained Depressions F1007 and F1009; Post Holes F1011 and F1013; and Ditches F1015 and F1018. Depression F1007 contained 18th to 19th century pottery, post-medieval (19th century) CBM, and a fragment of residual medieval CBM. Post Hole F1011 contained post-medieval (19th century) CBM. The other features contained no finds. The post holes contained timber posts and were of relatively recent date.

Ditch F1018 was linear in plan (1.80m+ x 1.00m+ x 0.10m), orientated NE/SW. Its fill, L1006, was a firm, mid grey brown silty clay with frequent medium to large subangular flint. It was cut by a modern drain and cut Post Hole F1011.

Depression F1007 was irregular in plan ($8.00 \text{m} \times 0.80 \text{m} + \times 0.09 \text{m}$). It had very gently sloping sides and a flattish base. Its fill, L1008, was a firm, pale to mid brown grey silty clay with frequent large sub-rounded flint and stones. It contained $18^{\text{th}} - 19^{\text{th}}$ century pottery (2; 44g), post-medieval (19^{th} century) CBM and a fragment of medieval CBM (1231g) and animal bone (26g).

Depression F1009 was irregular in plan (4.15m+ x 1.80m+ x 0.18m). It had shallow moderately sloping sides and a flattish base. Its fill, L1010, was a compact, mid brown grey clayey silt with frequent medium to large sub-angular flint. It was cut by Ditch F1015 and overlay Post Hole F1013.

Post Hole F1011 was sub-circular in plan (0.90m x 0.65m+ x 0.52m+). It had steep sides and a flattish base. Its fill, L1012, was a firm, mid yellow brown/grey silty clay with occasional large sub-angular flints. It contained post-medieval (19th century) CBM (1515g) and large pieces of timber. It was cut by Ditch F1018.

Post Hole F1013 was sub-circular in plan (1.00m x 0.65m+ x 0.92m). It had near vertical sloping sides and a flattish base. Its primary fill, L1014, was a firm, mid yellow brown silty clay with occasional large sub-angular flint. It contained CBM. Its secondary fill, L1017, was a firm, mid brown grey silty clay. It contained an upright timber post. It was overlain by Depression F1009.

Ditch F1015 was linear in plan ($1.80m + x 0.65m \times 0.19m$), orientated NE/SW. It had moderately sloping sides and a concave base. Its fill, L1016, was a friable, dark brownish grey clayey silt. Ditch F1015 cut Depression F1009.

7 CONFIDENCE RATING

7.1 Within the confines of the evaluation it is not felt that any factors restricted the identification of archaeological features or finds

8 DEPOSIT MODEL

- 8.1 Uppermost was Topsoil L1000, a firm, dark grey brown clayey silt with occasional small to medium sub-angular flints (0.25m 0.26m thick). L1000 overlay Subsoil L1001, a very firm, mid grey brown clayey silt with occasional small to medium sub-angular/sub-rounded flint and occasional small to medium sub-rounded chalk (0.11m 0.20m thick). Underlying Subsoil L1001 within the north-north-western section of the trench was Made Ground L1002, a very firm, mid brown grey clayey silt with occasional small to medium sub-rounded flint and frequent red CBM rubble (0.18m thick).
- 8.2 At the base of the sequence Natural Deposit L1002, was a firm, very pale yellow brown silty clay and occasional patches of mid brown orange silty sand with occasional small to medium sub-rounded chalk, and occasional large rounded chalk and flint nodules (0.46m+ 0.54m+)

9 DISCUSSION

9.1 The recorded features are tabulated:

Trench	Context	Description	Spot Date
1	F1007	Depression	18 th – 19 th Century
	F1009	Depression	-
	F1011	Post Hole	Post-medieval CBM
	F1013	Post Hole	Timber upright post
	F1015	Ditch	-
	F1018	Ditch	-

9.2 The site lies within a medieval moated enclosure associated with the family of Simon Maynard (c.1327), recorded on the Essex Historic Environment Record (EHER) and Scheduled as an Ancient Monument (SAM 14361). Within the

boundaries of the site is a significant group of farm buildings of 17th century or earlier date (EHER 1385; 36230; 36232; 36233). Even though the site itself lies within an area of archaeological potential, evidence of activity in the surrounding landscape is relatively limited.

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- 9.5 Depression F1009, and Post Holes F1011 and F1013 all contained highly fragmented post-medieval CBM, likely from the 19th century. The postholes do not correspond with any structures shown on the historic maps, which date from the late 19th century onwards and record the site as relatively open (Fig. 5 6).
- 9.6 The trench did not extend quite far enough southwards to traverse the area of the possible moat ditch. The latter may be observed during archaeological monitoring.

DEPOSITION OF THE ARCHIVE

Archive records, with an inventory, will be deposited with any donated finds from the site at Saffron Walden Museum. The archive will be quantified, ordered, indexed, cross-referenced and checked for internal consistency.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Archaeological Solutions would like to thank Ms Daisy Gibbs for commissioning the work and for all her assistance.

AS would also like to acknowledge the input and advice of Mr Richard Havis of Essex County Council Place Services, and Ms Deborah Priddy of Historic England.

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SSEW 1983 Soil Survey of England and Wales: Legend for the 1:250,000 Soil Map of England and Wales Harpenden, Rothamsted Experimental Station/Lawes Agricultural Trust

Appendix 1 - Concordance of Finds

LSMD19 - P7898 Maynards, Maynards Lane, Little Sampford

Feature	Context	Segment	Trench	Description	Spot Date	Pot	Pottery	CBM	A.Bone	Other Material	Other	Other
					(Pot Only)	Qty	(g)	(g)	(g)		Qty	(g)
	1002		1	Made Ground				781				
1007	1008		1	Fill of Depression	18th-19th C	2	44	1231	26			
1011	1012		1	Fill of Post Hole				1515				

APPENDIX 2 SPECIALIST REPORTS

The Pottery

Peter Thompson

The archaeological evaluation recovered two sherds of late post-medieval pottery (18th-19th centuries) from Hollow F1007.

Methodology

The sherds were examined under x35 binocular microscope and recorded according to the Medieval Pottery Research Group Guidelines (Slowikowski et al 2001). Fabric codes are those used for the MoLA pottery type series.

Key:

GRE: Glaze red earthenware mid 16th+ WEST: Westerwald stoneware late 16th+

Feature	Context	Quantity	Date	Comment
Depression 1007	1008	1x22g GRE 1x22g WEST	18 th -19 th	WEST: purple and blue decoration so not earlier
				than late 17 th

Table 1: Quantification of pottery by context

Bibliography

Slowikowski, A., Nenk, B. and Pearce, J. 2001 *Minimum Standards for the Processing, Recording, Analysis and Publication of Post-Roman Ceramics*, Medieval Pottery Research Group Occasional Paper 2

The Ceramic Building Materials

Andrew Peachey

The evaluation recovered a total of 34 fragments (3527g) of CBM in a highly fragmented condition, including a single fragment of medieval origin, with the remainder of post-medieval date, likely in the 19th century (Table 2).

Period	CBM type	Sherd Count	Weight (g)
Medieval	Peg tile	1	116
Post-medieval	Peg tile	10	437
	Soft red brick	22	2152
	White floor brick	1	822
Total		34	3527

Table 2: Quantification of medieval and post-medieval CBM

Depression F1007 contained a single fragment of medieval peg tile, manufactured in a brown-red fabric tempered with abundant coarse quartz sand. The peg tile was 12mm thick with slightly uneven, creased surfaces and edges, and a rough sanded base that also exhibited extensive splashes and drips of green lead glaze. The glaze is not for decoration, but a bi-product of the firing process, where peg tiles were

stacked beneath pots or decorated floor tiles in the kiln chamber, and glaze has dripped down during the firing. Peg tile such as this became increasing common as a roofing material in the late 12th to 14th centuries.

The remaining peg tile in Depression F1007 and Made Ground L1002 was manufactured in a very regular and well-fired orange-red fabric tempered with medium, well-sorted sand. It has relatively smooth surfaces with a finely sanded base; typical of the type of peg tile common in Essex in the 18th and 19th centuries. This is supported by fragments of soft red brick in Made Ground L1002 and Post Hole F1011, which although best classified as rubble (likely used as packing material), have partial dimensions of ?x110x65mm with sharp arrises and a smooth base; traits that are consistent with a date of manufacture in the 19th century. Similarly, Depression F1007 contained a single fragment of 35mm white floor brick with a heavily worn (smooth) upper surface; also typical of the 19th century.

PHOTOGRAPHIC INDEX (P7898)



Trench 1 looking north-west



Trench 1 looking south-east



3 F1011 in foreground



Depression F1007



Depression F1009 and Post Hole F1013



Depression F1009, Post Hole F1013 and Ditch F1015



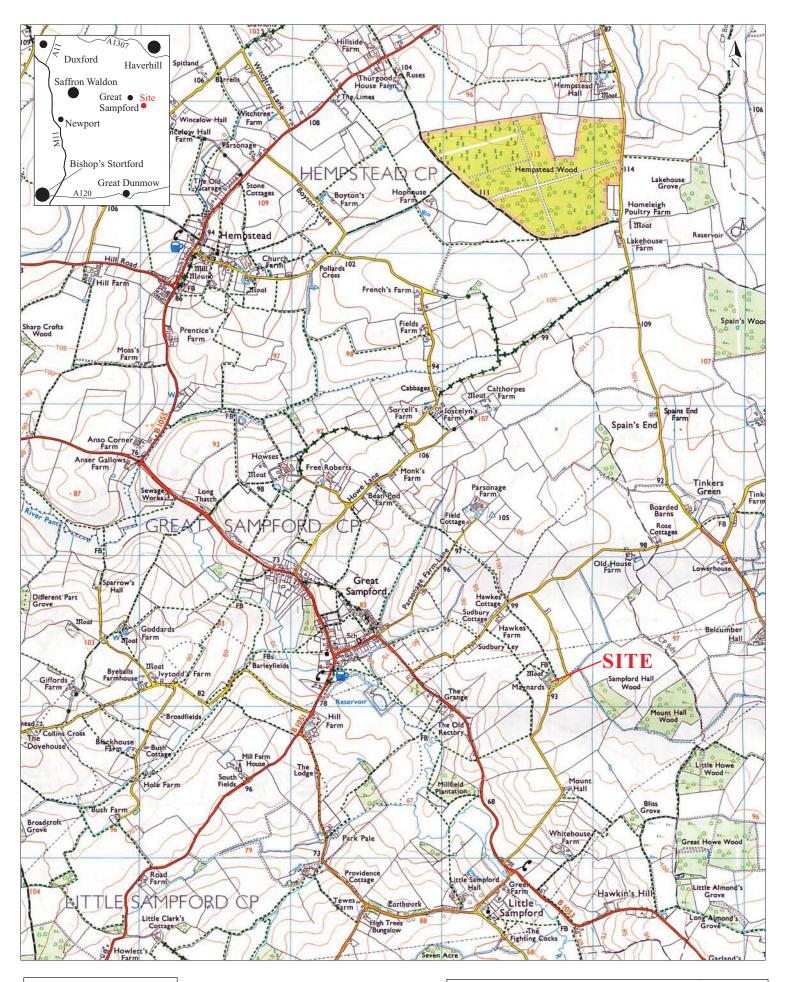
7 Ditch F1018 and Post Hole F1011



Sample section 1A



9 Sample section 1B



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Fig. 1 Site location plan

Scale 1:25,000 at A4

Maynards Farm, Little Sampford, Essex (P7898)



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Fig. 2 Detailed site location plan

Scale 1:1500 at A4

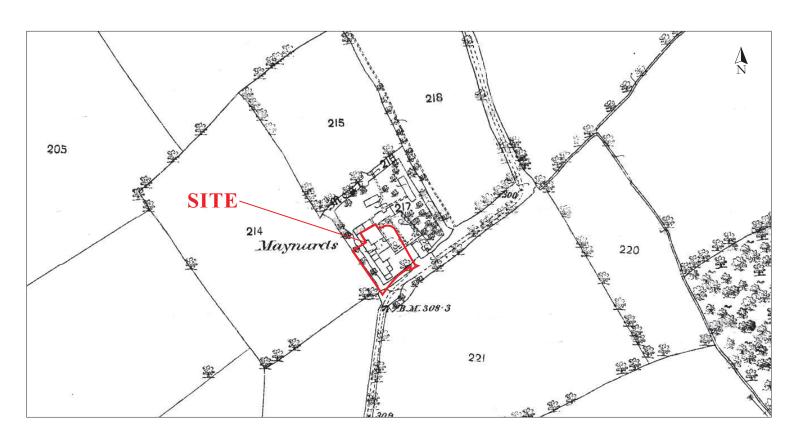
Maynards Farm, Little Sampford, Essex (P7898)



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Fig. 3 Trench location plan
Scale 1:500 at A4

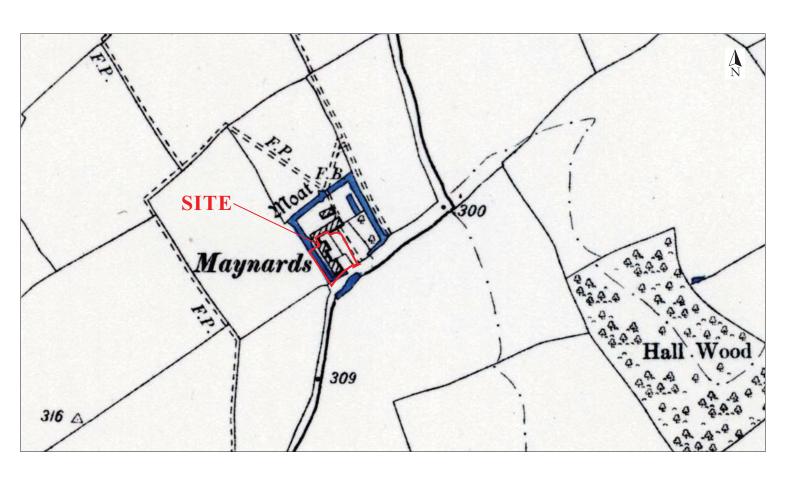
Maynards Farm, Little Sampford, Essex (P7898)



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Fig. 4
Not to Scale OS map, 1876

Maynards Farm, Little Sampford, Essex (P7898)



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Fig. 5 OS map, 1898

Not to Scale

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