

---

**ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOLUTIONS LTD**

**5 RAYNE ROAD, BRAINTREE,  
ESSEX, CM7 2QH**

**ARCHAEOLOGICAL MONITORING AND RECORDING**

Authors: Gareth Barlow (Fieldwork & report) Kate Higgs MA (Oxon.) (Research)	
NGR: TL 75630 23193	Report No: 5993
District: Braintree	Site Code: BT54
Approved: Claire Halpin MCIfA	Project No: 8239
	Date: 5 February 2020

This report is confidential to the client. Archaeological Solutions Ltd accepts no responsibility or liability to any third party to whom this report, or any part of it, is made known. Any such party relies upon this report entirely at their own risk. No part of this report may be reproduced by any means without permission.

Archaeological Solutions is an independent archaeological contractor providing the services which satisfy all archaeological requirements of planning applications, including:

*Desk-based assessments and environmental impact assessments*  
*Historic building recording and appraisals*  
*Trial trench evaluations*  
*Geophysical surveys*  
*Archaeological monitoring and recording*  
*Archaeological excavations*  
*Post excavation analysis*  
*Promotion and outreach*  
*Specialist analysis*

## **ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOLUTIONS LTD**

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

**P I House, Rear of 23 Clifton Road, Shefford,  
Bedfordshire, SG17 5AF  
Tel: 01462 850483**

**e-mail: [info@ascontracts.co.uk](mailto:info@ascontracts.co.uk)  
[www.archaeologicalsolutions.co.uk](http://www.archaeologicalsolutions.co.uk)**



 [twitter.com/ArchaeologicalS](https://twitter.com/ArchaeologicalS)

 [www.facebook.com/ArchaeologicalSolutions](https://www.facebook.com/ArchaeologicalSolutions)

## **CONTENTS**

### ***PROJECT SUMMARY SHEET***

#### ***SUMMARY***

- 1     *INTRODUCTION***
- 2     *DESCRIPTION OF THE SITE***
- 3     *TOPOGRAPHY, GEOLOGY AND SOILS***
- 4     *ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND***
- 5     *METHODOLOGY***
- 6     *DESCRIPTION OF RESULTS***
- 7     *CONFIDENCE RATING***
- 8     *DEPOSIT MODEL***
- 9     *DISCUSSION***

#### ***DEPOSITION OF THE ARCHIVE***

#### ***ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS***

#### ***BIBLIOGRAPHY***

- APPENDIX 1     CONCORDANCE OF FINDS***  
***APPENDIX 2     SPECIALIST REPORTS***

**OASIS SUMMARY SHEET**

<b>Project details</b>			
Project name	5 Rayne Road, Braintree, Essex, CM7 2QH		
<p><i>In December 2019 and January 2020, Archaeological Solutions Ltd (AS) carried out a programme of archaeological monitoring and potential excavation on land at No. 5 Rayne Road, Braintree, Essex, CM7 2QH (NGR TL 75630 23193; Figs. 1 &amp; 2). The monitoring was carried out as a requirement of a planning condition attached to planning approval for the proposed conversion of a first floor store room within the building to two flats including demolition of workshop side addition and construction of a part single/part 2-storey extension to contain an access stairwell to the flats (Braintree Council Planning Ref. 19/00839/FUL). The monitoring was required by the LPA based on advice from the Historic Environment Advisor of Essex County Council.</i></p> <p><i>The monitoring of the groundworks revealed modern (19<sup>th</sup> – 20<sup>th</sup> century) made ground layers and a modern (19<sup>th</sup> – 20<sup>th</sup> century) pit.</i></p>			
Project dates (fieldwork)	11 <sup>th</sup> December 2019, 7 <sup>th</sup> & 9 <sup>th</sup> January 2020		
Previous work (Y/N/?)	N	Future work	N
P. number	8239	Site code	BT54
Type of project	Archaeological monitoring & recording		
Site status	Conservation Area (CA)		
Current land use	Building		
Planned development	Residential conversion		
Main features (+dates)	Modern made ground layers, modern (19 <sup>th</sup> - 20 <sup>th</sup> century) pit		
Significant finds (+dates)	None		
<b>Project location</b>			
County/ District/ Parish	Essex	Braintree	Braintree
HER/ SMR for area	Essex County Council Historic Environment Record		
Post code (if known)	CM7 2QH		
Area of site	c. 200m <sup>2</sup>		
NGR	TL 75630 21193		
Height AOD (min/max)	c. 70m AOD		
<b>Project creators</b>			
Brief issued by	Historic Environment Advisor of Essex County Council (ECC HEA)		
Project supervisor/s (PO)	Barlow, G.		
Funded by	East Anglian Facilities Romford Ltd		
Full title	5 Rayne Road, Braintree, Essex, CM7 2QH. Archaeological Monitoring & Recording		
Authors	Barlow, G. & Higgs, K.		
Report no.	5993		
Date (of report)	February 2020		

# 5 RAYNE ROAD, BRAINTREE, ESSEX, CM7 2QH ARCHAEOLOGICAL MONITORING AND RECORDING

## SUMMARY

*In December 2019 and January 2020, Archaeological Solutions Ltd (AS) carried out a programme of archaeological monitoring and potential excavation on land at No. 5 Rayne Road, Braintree, Essex, CM7 2QH (NGR TL 75630 23193; Figs. 1 & 2). The monitoring was carried out as a requirement of a planning condition attached to planning approval for the proposed conversion of a first floor store room within the building to two flats including demolition of workshop side addition and construction of a part single/part 2-storey extension to contain an access stairwell to the flats (Braintree Council Planning Ref. 19/00839/FUL). The monitoring was required by the LPA based on advice from the Historic Environment Advisor of Essex County Council.*

*The Essex Historic Environment Record notes that the site lies within the area or the Roman town at Braintree, and also in an area where the town developed in the medieval and post-medieval periods. Late Iron Age activity has also been recorded to the rear of Bank Street close by. The site, thus, had potential for remains of the Iron Age, Roman, medieval, and post-medieval periods.*

*The monitoring of the groundworks revealed modern (19<sup>th</sup> – 20<sup>th</sup> century) made ground layers and a modern (19<sup>th</sup> – 20<sup>th</sup> century) pit.*

## 1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 In December 2019 and January 2020, Archaeological Solutions Ltd (AS) carried out a programme of archaeological monitoring and potential excavation on land at No. 5 Rayne Road, Braintree, Essex, CM7 2QH (NGR TL 75630 23193; Figs. 1 & 2). The monitoring was carried out as a requirement of a planning condition attached to planning approval for the proposed conversion of a first floor store room within the building to two flats including demolition of workshop side addition and construction of a part single/part 2-storey extension to contain an access stairwell to the flats (Braintree Council Planning Ref. 19/00839/FUL). The monitoring was required by the LPA based on advice from the Historic Environment Advisor of Essex County Council.

1.2 The archaeological monitoring and recording was carried out in accordance with a brief issued by ECC HEA, *Brief for Archaeological Monitoring at 5 Rayne Road, Braintree*, Ms. Teresa O'Connor (dated 20<sup>th</sup> November 2019), and a specification compiled by AS (dated 22<sup>nd</sup> November 2019). It followed the procedures outlined in the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists' *Standards and Guidance for an Archaeological Watching Brief* (2014). It also adhered to the relevant sections of *Standards for Field Archaeology in the East of England* (Gurney 2003).

## *Planning Policy Context*

1.3 The National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF 2019) 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.

1.4 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 within the town and district of Braintree, which lies within the county of Essex (Fig. 1). Braintree is situated 13km to the east of Great Dunmow, 10km to the north-west of Witham, and 9km to the west of Coggeshall. It also lies at the convergence of two Roman roads; the west to east aligned Stane Street, which runs between *Verulamium* (St Albans) and *Camulodunum* (Colchester), and the south-west to north-east aligned Peddars Way running from *Caeraromagus* (Chelmsford) to Ixworth. The routes of the Roman roads are now roughly followed by the course of the B1417 Rayne Road, along which the site lies, and the B1053 London Road/Broad Road.

2.2 The site lies within the historic core of Braintree (Essex County Council 1999) and within its Conservation Area (CA). It lies along the southern frontage of Rayne Road, towards its eastern extent and junction with Bank Street.

2.3 The site is currently occupied by No. 5 Rayne Road, which comprises an extant Victorian building in use as a commercial premise, with a small workshop side addition to the shop on its eastern side. It is proposed to demolish the workshop and add a new side extension to contain a new stairwell to access the proposed two flats to be formed in the first floor store room of the main building.

### **3 TOPOGRAPHY, GEOLOGY AND SOILS**

3.1 The town of Braintree is situated within a varied and undulating landscape, which characterised much of the Uttlesford district (Fig. 1). The topography of the site is dominated by its urban location, yet it also stands at a height of 70m AOD. The surrounding relief slopes down to the south-east towards the River Brain, which is located 750m to the south-south-east of the site. Braintree is located upon a solid geology of London Clay, which is overlain by a drift geology of Lowestoft Formation chalky till (BGS 2015). Soils of the Braintree area remain unsurveyed (SSEW 1983).

### **4 ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND**

#### *Prehistoric*

4.1 The site lies in an area of known archaeological significance, as recorded in the Essex Historic Environment Record (HER). Given the proximity of the River Brain, the Braintree area is likely to have been conducive to early exploitation and settlement, which both favoured the low-lying, fertile river valleys and floodplains. Within the vicinity of the site, which lies on higher ground, the prehistoric period is represented by two flint flakes found in medieval contexts on Bank Street (HER 6373 - MEX21412) and a single end scraper from Sandpit Lane, which lies 200m to the south (HER 7487 - MEX24173). A scatter of abraded sherds and a few waste flint flakes was recorded along Rayne Road and only 30m to the north of the site (HER 17496 - MEX52206) (the HER database records the address as No. 2 Rayne Road, this is incorrect and the record has been revoked).

#### *Iron Age & Romano-British*

4.2 There is extensive evidence for Iron Age and Romano-British settlement and occupation within the vicinity of the site, and the wider town of Braintree as a whole. The site is known to lie within the extent of the late Iron Age settlement at Braintree, which lay to the immediate south of Rayne Road (ECC 1999). Within the vicinity of the site, the Iron Age is represented by a probable early Iron Age potsherd found on Bank Street (HER 6347 - MEX21351), a pit containing late Iron Age or early 1<sup>st</sup> century pottery excavated on Sandpit Lane (HER 16366 - MEX41205), and a silver late Iron Age coin found in the wider area (HER 45490 - MEX1036679). 'Belgic' burials were also recorded in the 19<sup>th</sup> century in the southern section of the town, near Mill Hill.

4.3 The site is also judged to lie at the northern extent of the Roman town (HER 6287 - MEX21149, which within a triangular area between the main Roman roads of Stane Street (Rayne Road; HER 1226 - MEX4497) and Peddars Way (London Road/Broad Road; HER 6253 - MEX21031) (ECC 1999). The 1<sup>st</sup> century Roman town was concentrated around Pierrefitte Way, which lies to the south-west, and there is some evidence of deliberate planning in the initial layout of the town with the minor roads and major boundaries at right angles to form blocks of land parallel to London Road. In the 2<sup>nd</sup> - 3<sup>rd</sup> centuries, the town expanded into the Rayne Road and George Yard area and there appears to have been reorganisation of the road layout.

4.4 The archaeological record suggests that archaeological investigations at No. 2 Rayne Road, which lies 30m to the north of the site, have revealed evidence for the roadside ditch as well as buildings which would have fronted onto Stane Street (HER 17497 - MEX52210). The investigation revealed a sequence of Romano-British features, comprising a road ditch dug in the mid 1<sup>st</sup> century and replaced by another parallel ditch in the early 2<sup>nd</sup> century. Large irregular pits were dug between the road ditch and the road. The first structure, provisionally 2<sup>nd</sup> century, was a timbered building on a gravel platform 14m x 10m, with associated drains and tanks. By the late 3<sup>rd</sup> century, two buildings stood on the site, the eastern building having a corridor on the side and the western building being of post hole construction with a floor of clay and gravel. Occupation into the mid 4<sup>th</sup> century is indicated, whilst post Roman use was agricultural into the 19<sup>th</sup> century. However, the HER database once again states that the address given as No. 2 Rayne Road is incorrect and the record has been revoked.

4.5 Extensive Roman evidence is also recorded only 100m to the east of the site along Bank Street, including antiquarian Roman-British remains found '2ft below Bank Street' (HER 6330 - MEX21325) and a coin of Constantine the Great from the Cock Inn, now 50 Bank Street (HER 6332 - MEX21328). In April 1971, a Roman well was exposed during construction of a rear extension on Bank Street (HER 6348 - MEX21352), along with 'Belgic' pottery (HER 6374 - MEX21416) and an old plough soil containing Roman pottery (HER 6375 - MEX21418). A second bronze coin of Constantine the Great was also found behind the Wesleyan Chapel in Rayne Road (HER 6334 - MEX21331).

4.6 Further Romano-British evidence is known from No. 47 High Street, where a test excavation revealed fragmentary traces of a timber building, with possible floor levels and an associated external cobbled surface, as well as four distinct phases of activity were identified within the late 3<sup>rd</sup> - mid 4<sup>th</sup> century (HER 6298 - MEX21203). A Roman vessel was found along The Causeway (HER 6319 - MEX21291) and a bone object and Roman pottery were found along the Coggeshall Road (HER 6400 - MEX21481). Sandpit Lane revealed two Roman pits, a sterile, possibly Roman, post hole, and a gully with 28 Roman sherds (HER 7484 - MEX24165), as well as a residual sherd of Belgic pottery found in the top fill of a Roman pit (HER 7488 - MEX24174).



### *Anglo-Saxon*

4.7 No Anglo-Saxon remains are recorded in the vicinity of the site, but a sunken-floored building is known in the wider area, and Roman features recorded further westwards at No. 69 Rayne Road were sealed by a thick black loamy deposit, relating to agricultural activity and dating to the Saxon period (Jones 2015). In the later Saxon period, the Braintree area formed part of the estates of a Saxon thegn, Aetheric, who willed his Braintree lands to the Bishops of London in 991 (ECC 1999).

### *Medieval*

4.8 The site lies within the medieval town of Braintree (HER 6289 - MEX21151), which was established by the Bishop of London, who owned the manor of Great Rayne in which pre-conquest settlement at Braintree was sited. In 1199, a grant was made to the Bishop of London of a weekly market and annual fair. The town was thus focussed around St Michael's Church, the Bishop's manor house and St John's Chapel at Chapel Hill. Within the vicinity of the site, the medieval period is represented by a sherd from a 13<sup>th</sup> - 14<sup>th</sup> century bowl found under the cellar floor of the London and County Bank on the High Street (HER 6329 - MEX21324), the rim of a 13<sup>th</sup> century cooking pot from Coggeshall Road (HER 6399 - MEX21480), and a cess pit recorded in a trench at No. 47 High Street (HER 16355 - MEX41175).

4.9 Extensive medieval evidence is also recorded along Bank Street, including the Grade II listed Nos. 3 and 9 Bank Street, which are a 15<sup>th</sup> century timber framed building with a late 18<sup>th</sup> - early 19<sup>th</sup> century front (HER 27909 - MEX1003289). Following the discovery of the aforementioned Roman well on Bank Street, further investigations revealed a medieval timber sill below a later wall foundation made of peg tile, a medieval cess-pit covered by post medieval layers, and a medieval well, as well as 13<sup>th</sup> - 14<sup>th</sup> century pottery sherds (HER 6349 - MEX21353). Further trial excavations along Bank Street revealed old ploughsoil containing finds including an 11<sup>th</sup> -12<sup>th</sup> century sherd, a 13<sup>th</sup> century rectangular, possibly timber-lined pit and a curved timber-slot bounding an area of gravel metalling (possibly the floor of a building) (HER 6376 - MEX21420).

### *Post-medieval and later*

4.10 Braintree was an important cloth town at the beginning of the post-medieval period, specializing in the manufacture of bays and says by the 16<sup>th</sup> century (ECC 1999). However, this industry fell into decline by the 18<sup>th</sup> century, with the 19<sup>th</sup> century witnessing the rise of the silk industry, which saw large-scale expansion of workers housing in Braintree.

4.11 The area surrounding the site also contains a large number of post-medieval and early modern standing buildings, many of which are listed buildings. They include the Grade II\* listed Swan Inn and The Old Manor House, which are both late 16<sup>th</sup> century timber framed buildings (HERs 27914 - MEX1003294 & 28050 - MEX1003430). Only 30m to the north of the site

stand the Grade II listed Nos. 6 and 8 Rayne Road, which comprise 18<sup>th</sup> century timber framed houses (HER 28087 - MEX1003467), whilst to the north-west stands the Grade II listed Horse and Groom Inn, which is an 18<sup>th</sup> century timber framed building (28088 - MEX1003468). Nos. 31, 33 and 34 Bank Street, as well as The White Hart Hotel, are also Grade II listed timber framed structures.

*The site*

4.12 The site lies within the extent of the historic town and within Braintree Conservation Area (CA). It also lies within the Iron Age, Roman, medieval and post-medieval settlement at Braintree, specifically to the immediate south of Rayne Road, which follows the course of Roman Stane Street.

4.13 The *Historic Towns in Essex* report for Braintree (ECC 1999) also suggests that the site lies just beyond the northern extent of the Roman town, given that the course of Stane Street (HER 1226 - MEX4497) ran directly west to eastwards rather than following the present bend in road formed by the eastern extent of Rayne Road and Bank Street.

4.14 Historic Ordnance Survey maps dating from 1898 onwards consistently depict the site as occupied by the same extant Victorian building fronting Rayne Road, as now.

**5 METHODOLOGY**

5.1 The monitoring observed the excavation of three trial pits and the foundation trenches for the new extension (Figs. 2 - 3).

5.2 The archaeological investigation comprised the observation of the groundworks likely to affect archaeological remains, 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. Excavated spoil was checked for finds.

**6 DESCRIPTION OF RESULTS**

6.1 The encountered stratigraphy was recorded in sample sections presented below:

Test Pit 1 0.00 = 70.24m AOD		
0.00 – 0.05m	L1000	Gravel drive. Loose, very pale grey gravel.
0.05 – 0.85m	L1001	Made Ground. Firm, dark grey brown silty clay with frequent modern brick and tile fragments, and occasional 19 <sup>th</sup> - 20 <sup>th</sup> century pottery, coal, and animal bone.
0.85m+	L1002	Natural Deposits. Firm, pale reddish yellow clay.

Test Pit 2 0.00 = 70.13m AOD		
0.00 – 0.05m	L1000	Gravel drive. As Test Pit 1.
0.05 – 0.80m	L1001	Made Ground. As Test Pit 1.
0.80m+	L1002	Natural deposits. As Test Pit 1.

Test Pit 3 0.00 = 70.10m AOD		
0.00 – 0.08m	L1000	Gravel drive. As Test Pit 1.
0.08 – 0.80m	L1001	Made Ground. As Test Pit 1.
0.80m+	L1002	Natural deposits. As Test Pit 1.

Sample Section 1 0.00 = 70.14m AOD		
0.00 – 0.05m	L1000	Gravel drive. As Trial Pit 1.
0.05 – 0.14m	L1009	Made Ground. Friable, pale yellow grey silt with frequent small angular gravel.
0.14 – 0.80m	L1001	Made Ground. As Trial Pit 1.
0.80m+	L1002	Natural deposits. As Trial Pit 1.

Sample Section 2 0.00 = 70.11m AOD		
0.00 – 0.06m	L1000	Gravel drive. As Test Pit 1.
0.06 – 0.11m	L1010	Old drive. Black asphalt.
0.11 – 0.90m	L1001	Made Ground. As Test Pit 1.
0.90m+	L1002	Natural deposits. As Test Pit 1.

Sample Section 3 0.00 = 70.15m AOD		
0.00 – 0.05m	L1000	Gravel drive. As Test Pit 1.
0.05 – 0.16m	L1011	Made Ground. Firm, pale reddish yellow clay with frequent small CBM fragments, and moderate small angular gravel.
0.16 – 0.91m	L1001	Made Ground. As Test Pit 1.
0.91m+	L1002	Natural deposits. As Test Pit 1.

Sample Section 4 0.00 = 70.29m AOD		
0.00 – 0.06m	L1000	Gravel drive. As Test Pit 1.
0.06 – 0.53m	L1001	Made Ground. As Trial Pit 1.
0.53m+	L1002	Natural deposits. As Trial Pit 1.

Sample Section 5 0.00 = 70.24m AOD		
0.00 – 0.04m	L1014	Tarmac surface.
0.04 – 0.08m	L1000	Gravel drive. As Test Pit 1.
0.08 – 0.13m	L1015	Levelling layer. Friable, dark grey clay silt with moderate small and medium sub-angular and sub-rounded gravel.
0.13 – 0.49m	L1016	Made Ground. Firm, mid yellow grey silty clay with occasional small and medium sub-angular and sub-rounded gravel, and CBM fragments.
0.49m+	L1002	Natural deposits. As Trial Pit 1.

Description: The monitoring revealed a modern (19<sup>th</sup> – 20<sup>th</sup> century) pit and a service.

Pit F1006 was not defined in plan (0.70 x 0.50+ x 0.14m). It had near vertical sides and a flattish base. Its upper fill (L1007) was a friable, dark grey brown clay silt with moderate small gravel. It contained CBM (699g). Its lower fill (L1008) was a friable, pale reddish yellow clay with moderate CBM fragments.

F1012 was a modern service trench (10.00+ x 0.60 x 0.65m) containing gas and water services, and a drain. It had steep sides and a concave base. Its fill (L1013) was a friable, mid yellow grey silt with moderate small and medium sub-angular and sub-rounded flints, and CBM.

## 8 DEPOSIT MODEL

8.1 The sample sections suggest that the ground has been reduced, and then made back up again, with made ground layers directly overlying the natural deposits.

8.2 In the area of the extension a 0.05m thick gravel layer (L1000) overlay a made ground layer (L1001) of firm, dark grey brown silty clay with frequent modern brick and tile fragments, and occasional 19<sup>th</sup> - 20<sup>th</sup> century pottery and coal, between 0.47m and 0.80m thick. The natural deposits (L1002) of firm, pale reddish yellow clay were encountered between 0.91m and 0.49m below the current ground surface.

8.3 At the front of the site a new 0.04m thick Tarmac surface had been laid over the gravel (L1000). Below the gravel was a 0.05m thick layer (L1015) of friable, dark grey clay silt with moderate small and medium sub-angular and sub-rounded gravel. Below this was a 0.36m thick made ground layer (L1016) of firm, mid yellow grey silty clay with occasional small and medium sub-angular and sub-rounded gravel, and CBM fragments. The natural deposits were encountered 0.49m below the current ground surface.

8.4 Within the building (Trial Pit 3) was a 0.08m thick pale grey concrete floor (L1004) overlying a 0.72m thick made ground layer of compact, mid brownish red crushed brick and concrete. The natural deposits were encountered at a depth of 0.80m.

## 9 DISCUSSION

9.1 The Essex Historic Environment Record notes that the site lies within the area of the Roman town at Braintree, and also in an area where the town developed in the medieval and post medieval periods. Late Iron Age activity has also been recorded to the rear of Bank Street close by. The site, thus, had potential for remains of the Iron Age, Roman, medieval, and post medieval periods. However, monitoring of the groundworks associated with this development revealed no archaeological features or finds.

9.2 The absence of any archaeology might be accounted for by the fact that modern made ground layers directly overly the natural deposits suggesting that the ground has previously been reduced. This may have removed any archaeology that may have been present.

### DEPOSITION OF THE ARCHIVE

Archive records, with an inventory, will be deposited with Braintree Museum. The archive will be quantified, ordered, indexed, cross referenced and checked for internal consistency.

### ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Archaeological Solutions would like to thank Mr Colin Iszatt of East Anglian Facilities Romford Ltd for commissioning and funding the programme of archaeological monitoring and recording, Ms Sue Bell, Mr Mark Halliday and Mr Perry Darling for assistance.

AS is also pleased to acknowledge the staff of the Essex Historic Environment Record. AS would also like to thank the staff of the Essex Record Office (ERO), based in Chelmsford.

AS would like to thank the ECC Historic Environment Officer Ms Teresa O Connor for her input and advice.

### BIBLIOGRAPHY

British Geological Survey (BGS) 2015 *British Geological Survey, Geology of Britain Viewer*, <http://mapapps.bgs.ac.uk/geologyofbritain/home.html>

Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (CIfA) 2014 *Standards and Guidance for an Archaeological Watching Brief*. CIfA, Reading

Essex County Council (ECC) 1999 *Historic Towns in Essex. Braintree*. Essex County Council/English Heritage

Gurney, D. 2003 *Standards for Field Archaeology in the East of England*. East Anglian Archaeology Occasional Paper 14

Jones, M. 2015 *Land at Land at No. 271 - 275 Rayne Road, Braintree, Essex, CM7 2QF. An Archaeological Evaluation.* Pre-Construct Archaeology Limited unpublished report No. R11946

Soil Survey of England and Wales (SSEW) 1983 *Soils of South East England (sheet 4).* SSEW, Harpenden

Soil Survey of England and Wales (SSEW) 1983 *Soil Survey of England and Wales: Legend for the 1:250,000 Soil Map of England and Wales.* SSEW, Harpenden

**Appendix 1 - Concordance of Finds**

**BT54 - P8239, 5 Rayne Road, Braintree**

<b>Feature</b>	<b>Context</b>	<b>Segment</b>	<b>Trench</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Spot Date (Pot Only)</b>	<b>Pot Qty</b>	<b>Pottery (g)</b>	<b>CBM (g)</b>	<b>A.Bone (g)</b>	<b>Other Material</b>	<b>Other Qty</b>	<b>Other (g)</b>
	1001			Made Ground	18th-19th C	2	100	447				
1006	1007			Fill of Pit				699				
1015	1016			Made Ground				557				

## APPENDIX 2 SPECIALIST REPORTS

### The Pottery Report

Peter Thompson

The archaeological monitoring recovered two rim sherds of late post-medieval red earthenware from Made Ground L1001.

### Methodology

The sherds were examined and recorded according to the Medieval Pottery Research Group Guidelines (Barclay et al 2016). Fabric codes (in brackets) are those used for the Essex County Council pottery type series (Cotter 2000).

Feature	Context	Quantity	Date	Comment
Made Ground	1001	1x50g PMRE (40) 1x50g GRE (40)	18 <sup>th</sup> -19 <sup>th</sup>	PMRE: upper profile to open bowl or deep dish GRE: bowl rim with internal and external brown glaze

Table 1: Quantification of pottery by context

### Bibliography

Barclay, A., Knight, D., Booth, P., Evans, J., Brown, D. & Wood, I. 2016 *A Standard for Pottery Studies in Archaeology*. Prehistoric Ceramics Research Group/Study group for Roman Pottery/Medieval Pottery Research Group/Historic England

Cotter, J. P., 2000 Colchester Archaeological Report 7: Post-Roman pottery from excavations in Colchester, 1971-85 *English Heritage*

### The Ceramic Building Materials

Andrew Peachey

The archaeological monitoring recovered a total of 12 fragments (1703g) of early modern to modern CBM; formed of homogenous but highly fragmented brick and tile contained in Made Ground L1001 and L1016, and Pit F1006. The brick is 65mm thick red brick with an angular frog, associated with very highly fired peg tile with diamond-shape nail holes, consistent with types utilized in the mid-late 19<sup>th</sup> century and possibly into the 20<sup>th</sup> century.



# OASIS DATA COLLECTION FORM: England

[List of Projects](#) | [Manage Projects](#) | [Search Projects](#) | [New project](#) | [Change your details](#) | [HER coverage](#) | [Change country](#) | [Log out](#)

## Printable version

**OASIS ID: archaeol7-384946**

### Project details

Project name	5 Rayne Road, Braintree, Essex, CM7 2QH (WB)
Short description of the project	In December 2019 and January 2020, Archaeological Solutions Ltd (AS) carried out a programme of archaeological monitoring and potential excavation on land at No. 5 Rayne Road, Braintree, Essex, CM7 2QH (NGR TL 75630 23193; Figs. 1 and 2). The monitoring was carried out as a requirement of a planning condition attached to planning approval for the proposed conversion of a first floor store room within the building to two flats including demolition of workshop side addition and construction of a part single/part 2-storey extension to contain an access stairwell to the flats (Braintree Council Planning Ref. 19/00839/FUL). The monitoring was required by the LPA based on advice from the Historic Environment Advisor of Essex County Council. The monitoring of the groundworks revealed modern (19th - 20th century) made ground layers and a modern (19th - 20th century) pit.
Project dates	Start: 11-12-2019 End: 09-01-2020
Previous/future work	No / Not known
Any associated project reference codes	P8239 - Contracting Unit No.
Any associated project reference codes	BT54 - Sitecode
Type of project	Recording project
Site status	None
Current Land use	Other 15 - Other
Monument type	PIT Modern
Monument type	LAYERS Modern
Significant Finds	NONE None
Investigation type	"Watching Brief"
Prompt	Planning condition

### Project location

Country	England
Site location	ESSEX BRAINTREE BRAINTREE 5 Rayne Road, Braintree, Essex, CM7 2QH
Postcode	CM7 2QH
Study area	200 Square metres
Site coordinates	TL 75630 21193 51.861145316514 0.550884210175 51 51 40 N 000 33 03 E Point
Height OD / Depth	Min: 70m Max: 70m

**Project creators**

Name of Organisation Archaeological Solutions Ltd

Project brief originator Essex County Council Historic Environment Team

Project design originator Jon Murray

Project director/manager Jon Murray

Project supervisor Archaeological Solutions Ltd

**Project archives**

Physical Archive recipient Braintree Museum

Physical Contents "Ceramics"

Digital Archive recipient Braintree Museum

Digital Contents "Ceramics"

Digital Media available "Database","Images raster / digital photography","Spreadsheets","Text"

Paper Archive recipient Braintree Museum

Paper Contents "Ceramics"

Paper Media available "Context sheet","Drawing","Map","Photograph","Plan","Report","Section","Survey "

**Project bibliography 1**

Publication type Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)

Title 5 Rayne Road, Braintree, Essex, CM7 2QH. Archaeological Monitoring and Recording

Author(s)/Editor(s) Barlow, G

Author(s)/Editor(s) Higgs, K

Other bibliographic details 5993

Date 2020

Issuer or publisher Archaeological Solutions

Place of issue or publication Bury St Edmunds

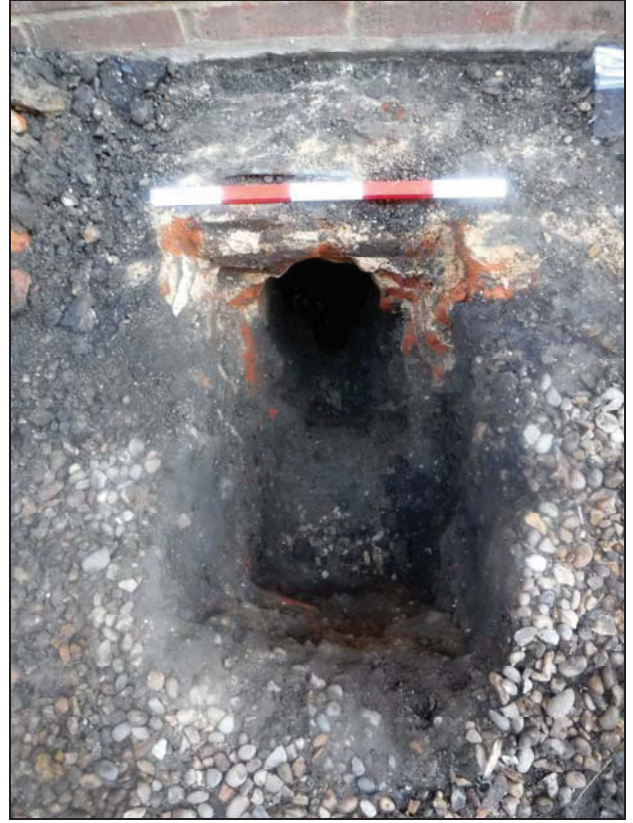
Entered by Hollie Wesson (info@ascontracts.co.uk)

Entered on 17 February 2020

# PHOTOGRAPHIC INDEX (P8239)



1  
View of site looking north-west



2  
Test Pit 1



3  
Test Pit 2



4  
Test Pit 3



5  
New footings looking north-west



6  
Sample Section 1



7  
Sample Section 2



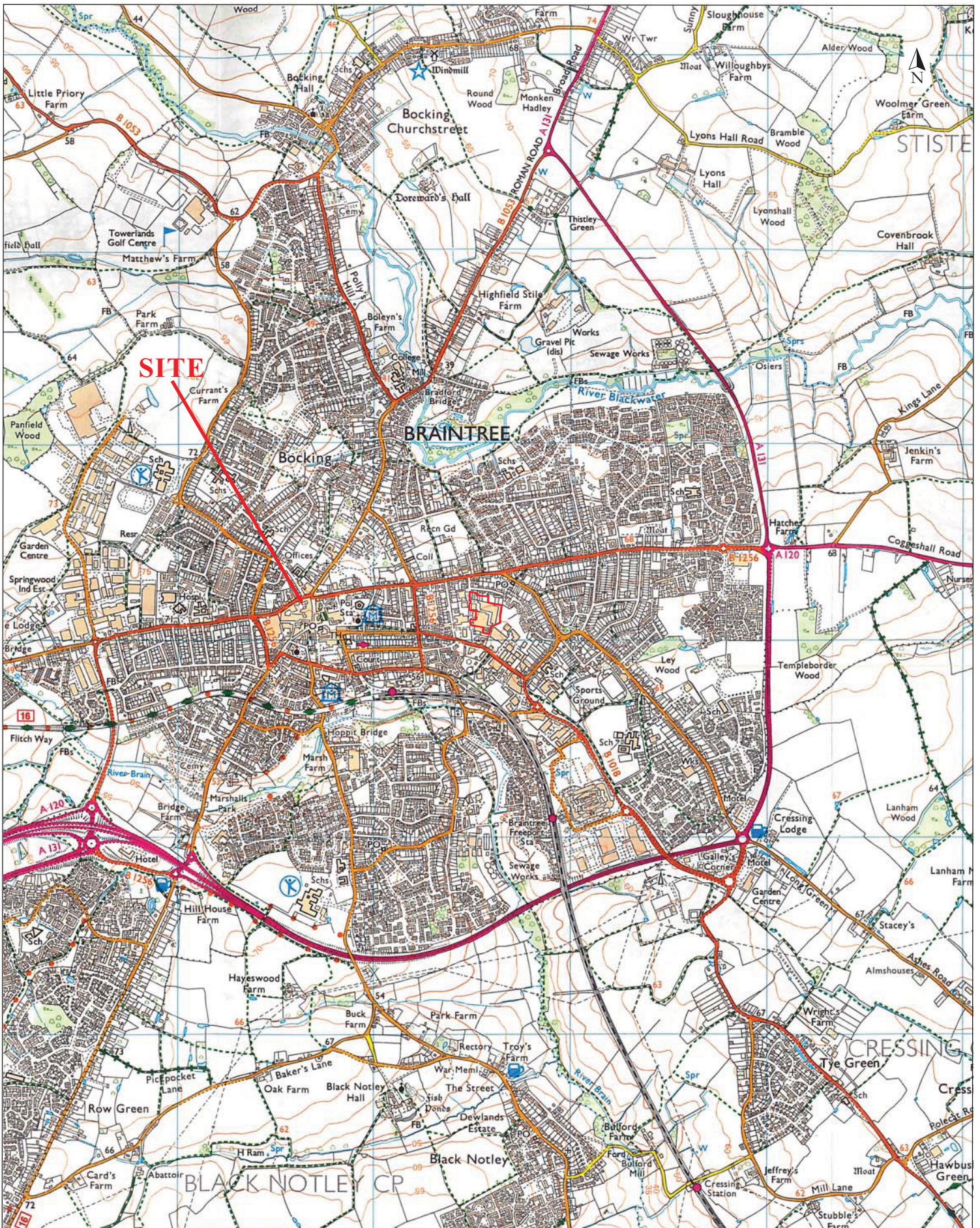
8  
Sample Section 3



9  
Sample Section 4

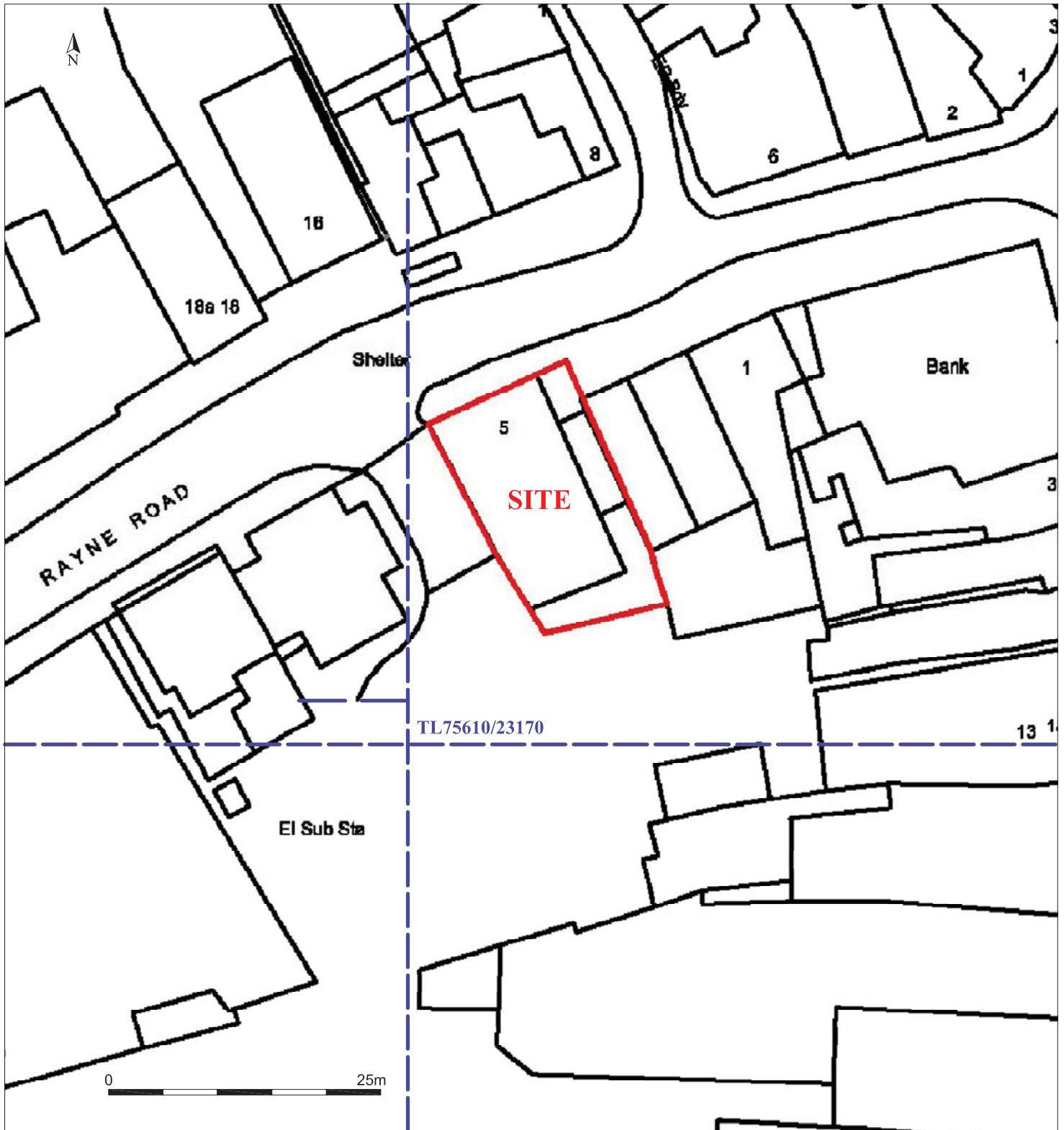


10  
Sample Section 5



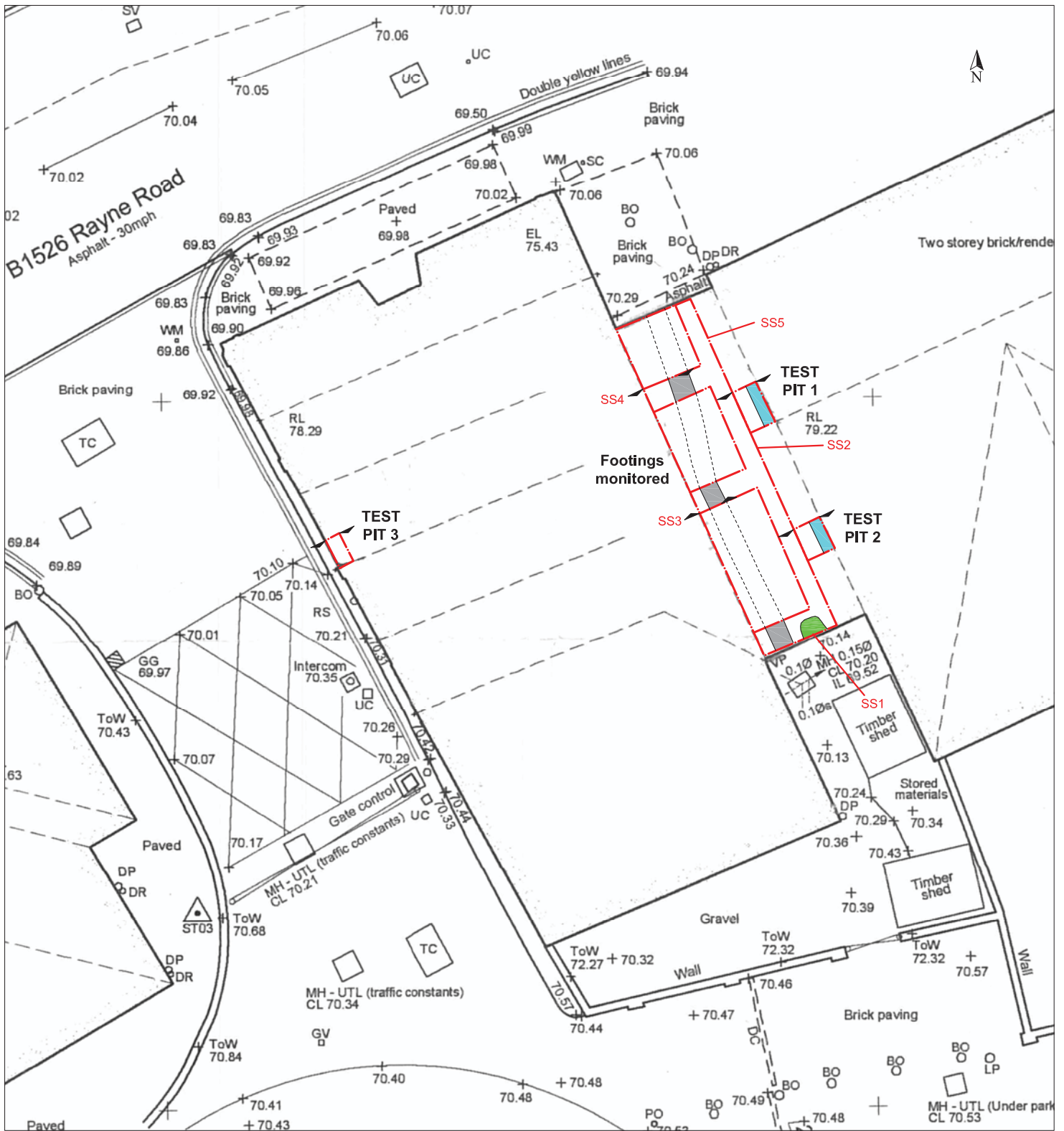
Reproduced from the 2011 Ordnance Survey 1:25000 map with the permission of Her Majesty's Stationery Office. © Crown copyright Archaeological Solutions Ltd Licence number 100036680

*Archaeological Solutions Ltd*  
**Fig. 1 Site location plan**  
 Scale 1:25,000 at A4  
 5 Rayne Road, Braintree, Essex (P8239)



Reproduced from the Ordnance Survey 1:1250 map with the permission of Her Majesty's Stationery Office. © Crown copyright Archaeological Solutions Ltd Licence number 100036680.

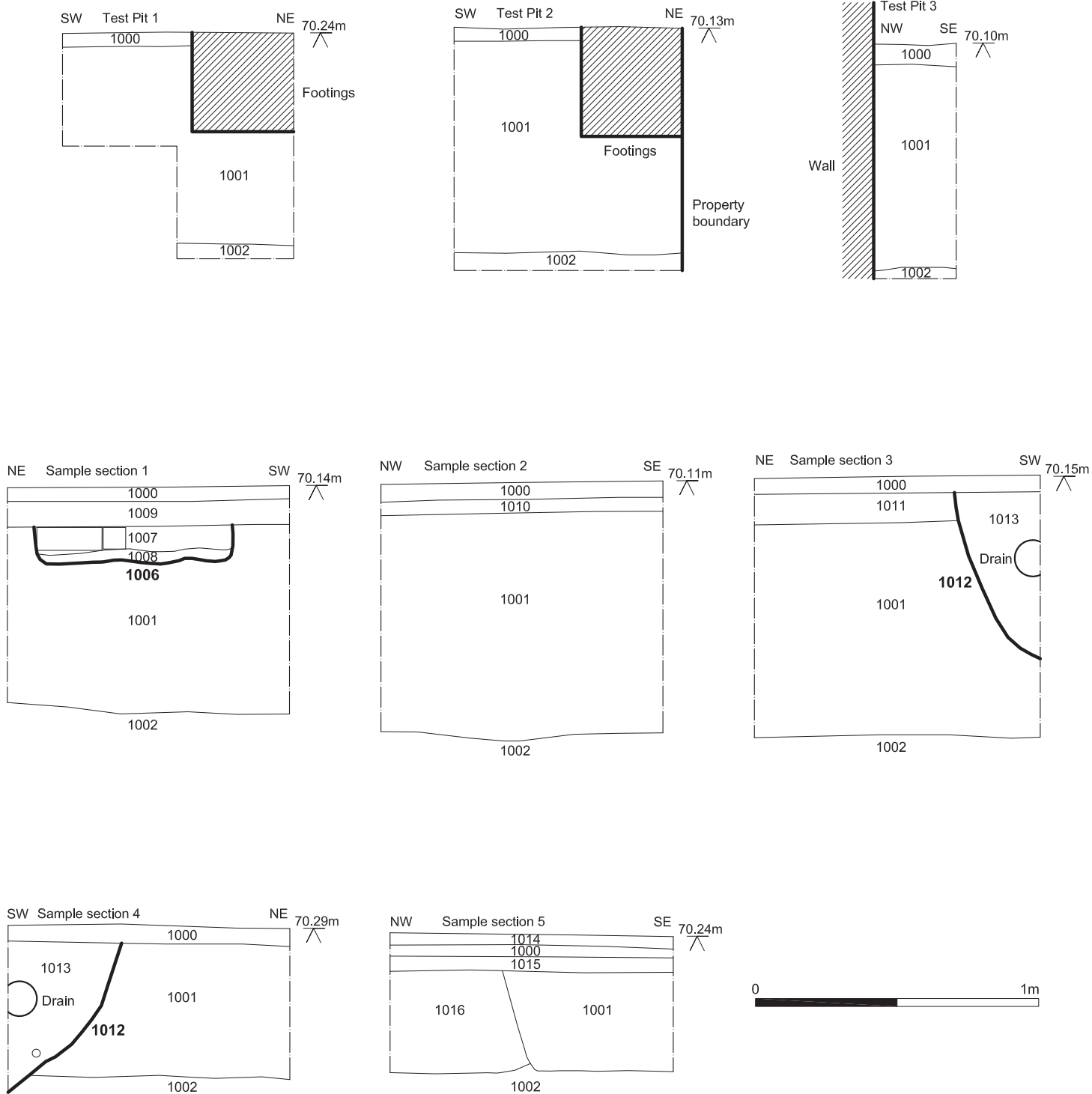
<i>Archaeological Solutions Ltd</i>
<b>Fig. 2 Detailed site location plan</b>
Scale 1:500 at A4
5 Rayne Road, Braintree, Essex (P8239)



- Archaeological feature (F1006)
- Services (F1012)
- Wall footings



*Archaeological Solutions Ltd*  
**Fig. 3 Trench location plan**  
 Scale 1:150 at A4  
 5 Rayne Road, Braintree, Essex (P8239)



<i>Archaeological Solutions Ltd</i>
<b>Fig. 4 Sample sections</b>
Scale 1:20 at A4
5 Rayne Road, Braintree, Essex (P8239)