



Archaeological Desk-Based Assessment

On behalf of

Avison Young

Concerning

**Land at Campfield Road and
New Garrison Road,
Shoeburyness, Essex**

June 2019



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Cover: View looking SW towards site from the junction of Campfield Road and New Garrison Road

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1 Non-Technical Summary

Avison Young has commissioned Border Archaeology (BA) to carry out an Archaeological Desk-Based Assessment (ADBA) in advance of a proposed development scheme at the land at Campfield Road and New Garrison Road, Shoeburyness, Essex. The scheme comprises the removal of the existing spoil heap and the construction of a supermarket with associated car parking and access road and part culverting of an existing drainage ditch.

This Archaeological Desk Based Assessment examines the impact of the proposed development on buried heritage assets (archaeological remains) that may be present within the site. Although above ground heritage assets are not discussed in detail, they have been noted where they assist in the archaeological interpretation of the site.

Buried archaeological assets that may be affected by the proposals comprise:

- **Palaeoenvironmental remains.** Borehole data shows that the site lies within an area of estuarine alluvium derived from the River Thames Estuary, which has the potential to contain microfossils and floral and faunal macrofossils which could shed light on past environmental changes. These would be of **Low to Medium** significance.
- **There is a Moderate to High potential for Prehistoric remains.** The site lies on alluvial floodplain at the edge of River Terrace gravels. This would have been a suitable location for prehistoric settlement, on dry land but with easy access to predictable resources of the River Thames Estuary and the floodplain marsh. This is attested to by the high number of prehistoric finds and features listed on the Southend Borough Council Historic Environment Record. The Scheduled remains of a defended promontory enclosure of late prehistoric date are located to the east of the site in the vicinity of the Shoebury Garrison complex; excavations in this area during the late 1990s revealed evidence of activity ranging in date from the Mesolithic to the Iron Age. Evidence of prehistoric activity, if encountered, may thus be assessed as being of at least **Medium** (i.e. regional) significance depending upon its nature and extent.

The potential for all other periods is considered to be **Low**, this is due mainly to the fact that in later periods, owing to rising water levels, the site would have lain within an area of estuarine marsh susceptible to flooding and unsuitable for settlement. It is likely that the site would have been reclaimed for pasture or arable cultivation during the Romano-British, Medieval and Post-Medieval periods.

In view of the significant potential to encounter prehistoric and palaeoenvironmental remains, it is recommended that archaeological monitoring take place on any proposed preliminary geotechnical investigations on the site. The purpose of this would be to inform, at a preliminary stage, the potential nature, extent and depth of any palaeoenvironmental or archaeological deposits, if present.

Based on the results, further investigation may be required, possibly in the form of an archaeological evaluation to clarify the nature, date and significance of any remains identified. The remains would inform an appropriate mitigation strategy which might comprise targeted archaeological excavation in advance of construction and/or a watching brief during ground works for remains of lesser significance, in order to ensure that archaeological assets are not removed without record.

2 Introduction

Avison Young has commissioned Border Archaeology (BA) to carry out an Archaeological Desk Based Assessment (ADBA) in advance of proposed development at the land at Campfield Road and New Garrison Road, Shoeburyness, Essex (NGR: TQ 93260 84866: *see fig. 1*). The scheme comprises the removal of the existing spoil heap and the construction of a supermarket with associated car parking and access road and part culverting of an existing drainage ditch. The planning application reference for this development is 19/00834/FULM.

This ADBA assesses the impact of the proposed works on buried heritage assets (archaeological remains). It forms an initial stage of investigation of the area of proposed development ('the site') and may be required in relation to the planning process in order that the local planning authority (LPA) can draw up an appropriate mitigation plan in accordance with any impacts the proposed scheme may have upon potential or known buried heritage assets.

Note: proposed plans referenced in this document were received 10th June 2019 and are, to the best knowledge of the author and Border Archaeology, the most recent at the time of writing. Further investigation or more detailed proposals for development or updated plans/ red line boundaries may require changes to the document.

2.1 Site Description

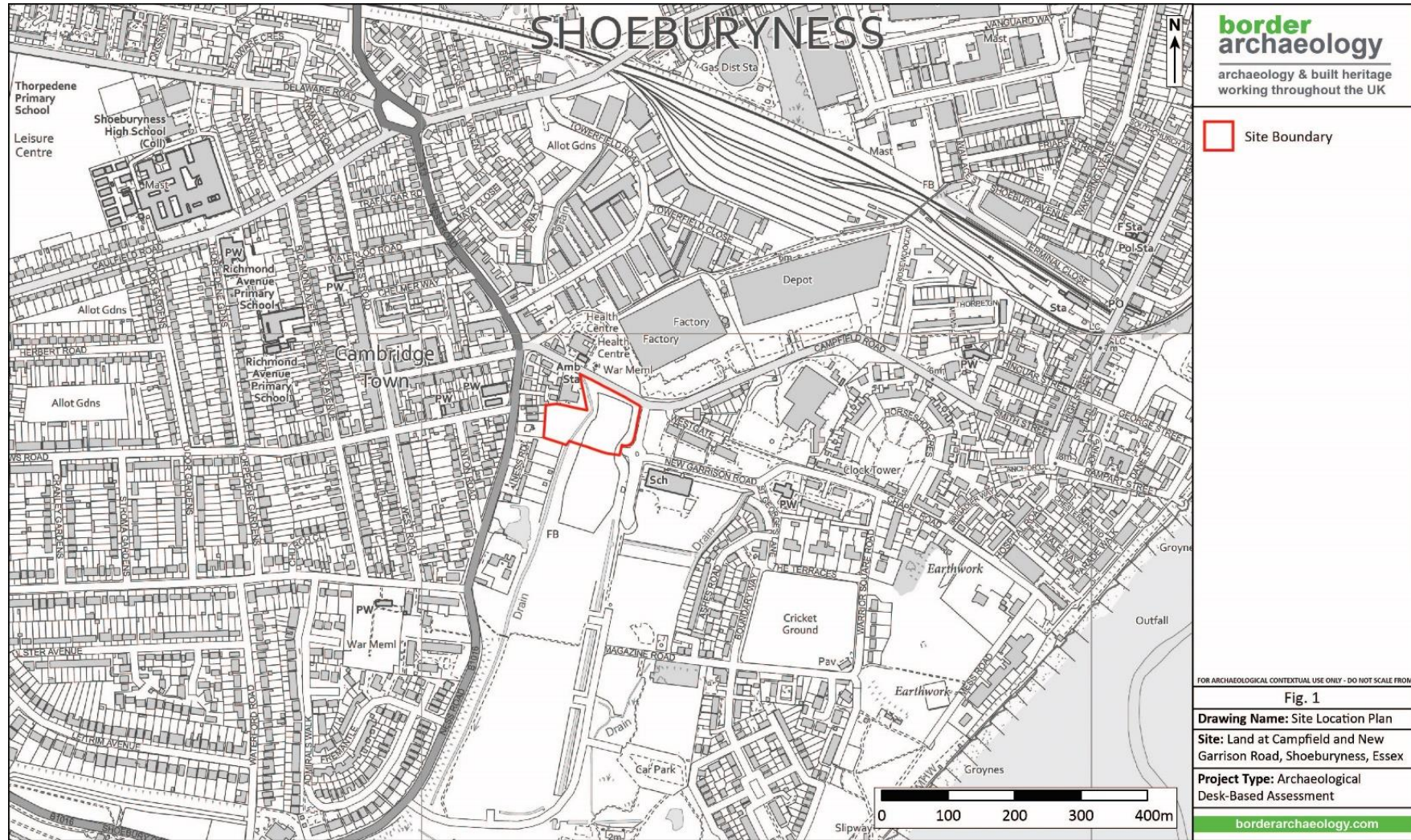
The site is an irregular shaped parcel of undeveloped land on the southwestern outskirts of the town of Shoeburyness, approximately 0.97 hectares in size. To the north, it is bordered by Campfield Road and to the east by New Garrison Road. The southern border of the site is bounded by an open field and to the west it is demarcated by modern housing and a telephone exchange. The site contains a substantial, deep drainage ditch which runs north-south across the western and central parts of the site and a large spoil heap to the east of the drainage ditch.

2.2 Designated Heritage Assets

The site does not contain any designated (protected) heritage assets such as listed buildings, scheduled monuments or registered parks and gardens. The site does not lie in an Archaeological Priority Area or Conservation Area. The site does lie just outside, and to the west of, the Shoebury Garrison Conservation Area. Located about 470m east of the site are the remains of a defended prehistoric settlement at 'Danish Camp' Shoeburyness which are designated as a Scheduled Ancient Monument (List Entry No. 29444).

2.3 Topography & Geology

The site lies about 980m north of the mouth of the River Thames estuary, with the area around the site being fairly flat. Street level is recorded at c.3m AOD along Campfield Road directly north of the site. Within the site there is a fairly substantial spoil heap, and aligned approximately north-south, a drainage ditch positioned to the centre-west of the site. Ground level for within the site is currently unknown. The site is situated on a strip of Tidal Flat Deposits (organic rich clay and silt), derived from the River Thames Estuary, which overlies London Clay Formation comprising clay, silt and sand. Surrounding the site to the north, west and east lie River Terrace Gravel deposits of the Boyn Hill Series. Historic boreholes taken just north-west of the site at the neighbouring telephone exchange record 0.3m of topsoil overlying between 0.6 – 1.8m of sandy clay. Silt was also encountered at depths of 1.2-1.8m below ground level (bgl) overlying grey and brown clay and silt, at deeper levels with laminations (BGS 2019).



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3 Methodology

3.1 Aims and Objectives

The purpose of this ADBA is to identify any buried archaeological assets in the immediate vicinity of the site, to establish the importance of these archaeological assets (including an assessment of their character, extent and quality) within a local, regional and national context and to determine the potential impacts of the proposed development on these heritage assets.

3.2 Criteria for Assessment of Potential and Importance of Heritage Assets

3.2.1 Potential

This Assessment contains a record of the known and potential archaeological assets in the vicinity of the site. The potential for encountering a particular resource in the vicinity of the site has been assessed according to the following scale:

Low – Very unlikely to be encountered.

Moderate – Possibility that features may be encountered in the vicinity of the site.

High – Remains highly likely to survive in the vicinity of the site.

3.2.2 Importance

The criteria used to determine the importance of archaeological assets in the vicinity of the proposed development site (*Table 1*) has been informed by guidelines for assessing cultural heritage assets contained in the *Design Manual for Roads and Bridges* Vol. 11 Section 3 part 2 (Highways Agency 2009).

BA is also fully cognisant of general guidelines on the assessment of heritage assets contained in the *National Policy Planning Framework* Chapter 16, in particular paragraph 189 which states that ‘In determining applications, local planning authorities should require an applicant to describe the significance of any heritage assets affected, including any contribution made by their setting. The level of detail should be proportionate to the assets’ importance and no more than is sufficient to understand the potential impact of the proposal on their significance (MCHLG 2019).’

This report also reflects guidance regarding the assessment of archaeological assets contained in the *Southend-on-Sea Core Strategy, Policy DM5 – Historic Environment*, in particular section 3.66 ‘Archaeology and Scheduled Ancient Monuments’.

Table 1: Factors for assessing the importance of archaeological and built heritage assets

Very High	World Heritage Sites (including nominated sites). Assets of acknowledged international importance. Assets that can contribute significantly to acknowledged international research objectives.
High	Scheduled Monuments (including proposed sites). Undesignated assets of schedulable quality and importance. Assets that can contribute significantly to acknowledged national research objectives.
Medium	Designated or undesignated assets that contribute to regional research objectives.
Low	Designated and undesignated assets of local importance. Assets compromised by poor preservation and/or poor survival of contextual associations. Assets of limited value, but with potential to contribute to local research objectives.
Negligible	Assets with very little or no surviving archaeological interest.
Unknown	The importance of the resource has not been ascertained.

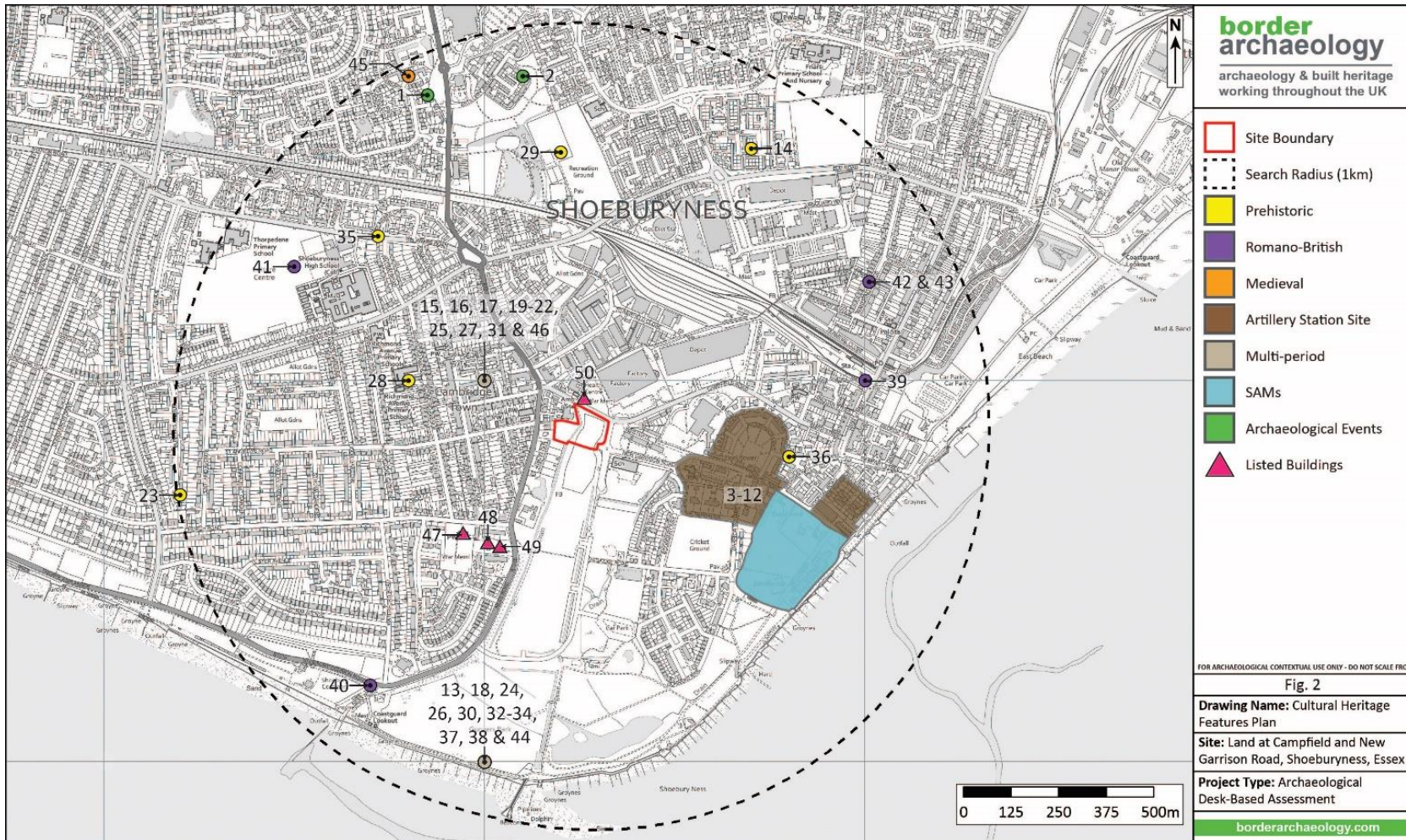
3.3 Consultation of Archaeological Records

For the purposes of this ADBA, information was collected on the known archaeological assets within a 1km study area around the area of proposed development. The map shows the location of known archaeological monuments, events and designated heritage assets within the study area and these have been assigned a unique reference number (**BA 1, 2, 3**, etc.), which are listed in the gazetteers below (*fig. 2; Tables 2*).

The research carried out for this ADBA consists of the following elements:

- Consultation of the Southend Borough Council Historic Environment Record (HER). The Historic Environment Record includes information from past investigations, find spots and documentary and cartographic sources. A total of 138 entries were recorded within a 1km radius of the site (Southend Borough Council HER, 17th June 2019).
- Historic England – Information on statutory designations, including Scheduled Ancient Monuments, registered parks and gardens and listed buildings, along with identified Heritage at Risk sites;
- The National Record of the Historic Environment database (<https://pastscape.org.uk>);
- British Geological Survey (BGS) – Solid and drift geology digital map; BGS geological borehole record data;
- The British Library, Essex Record Office and the National Archives – Historic documents and maps and relevant secondary sources;
- Aerial photographs dating back to 1931 were consulted using the Cambridge University Centre for Aerial Photography, the Essex Record Office, Chelmsford the Historic England Archive and Google Earth imagery.
- A site visit was carried out on 12th June 2019, which determined the topography of the site and existing land use and provided further information on the setting of heritage assets and possible past ground-disturbance within the site. Observations made during this site visit have been incorporated into this report.

4 Historic Environment Record Map and Gazetteer



BA Ref.	SMR Ref.	Description	Related finds	NGR
1	ESS30877	Worked flint found during observation of road straightening in 1978	11162 - MSS32536	TQ 9285 8575
2	ESS52913	Cropmarks: rectangular enclosure and trackway	11080 - MSS32335	TQ 9310 8580
3	11054 - MSS32266	South Shoebury - Danish Camp	ESS52931, ESS32267, ESS32275, ESS32268, ESS32276, ESS32277, ESS52901	TQ 9380 8450
4	11055 - MSS32281	South Shoebury - Danish Camp	11056, 11057, 11058, 11059, ESS23382	TQ 9400 8470
5	11056 - MSS32283	Iron Age Burial - Danish Camp	23019	TQ 9380 8450
6	11057 - MSS32284	Roman pottery and 2 coins found 1930	FSS8788, FSS8789	TQ 9373 8457
7	11059 - MSS32289	Bronze Axe	FSS8792	TQ 9380 8450
8	34832 - MSS1010235	Powder magazine post-med		TQ 9371 8442
9	34833 - MSS1010236	Powder magazine post-med		TQ 9369 8443
10	34838 - MSS10102	Gunnery Drill Shed		TQ 9390 8465
11	34839 - MSS1010242	Long course officer's quarters		TQ 9394 8461
12	34840 - MSS10102	Garrison Church of St Peter		TQ 9354 8476
13	11007 - MSS32155	A greenstone (Jadeite) axe found 1908. Thin butted stone axehead.	FSS8738	TQ 9300 8400
14	11119 - MSS32419	Polished jadeite axe found in 1952	FSS8872	TQ 9370 8561
15	11040 - MSS32237	Palaeolithic axe head found in sand pit near waterworks	FSS8772	TQ 9300 8500
16	11041 - MSS32241	Oval stone implement, possibly Palaeolithic from Shoebury	FSS8774	TQ 9300 8500
17	11023 - MSS32181	Mesolithic Thames pick found at Shoebury	FSS8753	TQ 9300 8500
18	11148 - MSS32509	Two medium Mesolithic tranchet axes	FSS8940	TQ 9300 8400

BA Ref.	SMR Ref.	Description	Related finds	NGR
19	11000 - MSS32143	Important collection of Neolithic implements which includes axes from Hillyer and other collections	FSS8732	TQ 9300 8500
20	11035 - MSS32219	Neolithic implements including scrapers, borers, knife and arrowhead from Shoebury. Also one chipped and three polished axes from Laver collection.	FSS8766, FSS15966, FSS15967, FSS15968, FSS15969, FSS15970	TQ 9300 8500
21	11051 - MSS32263	Part of a Neolithic skull	FSS8784	TQ 9300 8500
22	11052 - MSS32264	Neolithic tools including axes, scrapers and borers	FSS8785	TQ 9300 8500
23	11150 - MSS32514	Neolithic scraper, possibly reject, from Thorpe Bay		TQ 9220 8470
24	11149 - MSS32512	One hand-axe	FSS8942	TQ 9300 8400
25	11033 - MSS3221	Six flint arrowheads, three of them leaf-shaped, one lozenge and two barbed and tanged. Also c. 90 scrapers in the gravel screened from the brickearth.	FSS8764, FSS8765	TQ 9300 8500
26	11063 - MSS32305	Ground flint axe from River Thames c.1889	FSS8796	TQ 9300 8400
27	11032 - MSS32208	Bronze Age finds from Shoebury including a palstave, two socketed axes and a looped spearhead, also a very worn socketed gouge.	FSS8760, FSS8761, FSS8762, FSS8763	TQ 9300 8500
28	11142 - MSS32486	Bronze Age founders hoard. The hoard included two socketed axes, a spearhead, a winged adze, part of a harness fitting and two pieces of copper ingot.	FSS8930, FS8931, FSS8932, FSS8933, FS8934, FSS20205, FSS20206, FSS20207, FSS20208, FSS20209	TQ 9280 8500
29	11155 - MSS32524	Bronze flat axe or palstave, found in brickearth extraction during the 1930s	FSS8946, FSS8947	TQ 9320 8560
30	11022 - MSS32177	Bronze Celt found within earthworks at Shoebury Barracks	FSS8752	TQ 9300 8400
31	11034 - MSS32213	Eight fragmentary beakers found in clay or gravel digging at Shoebury. The group included 'rusticated ware of Arminghall type together with sherds from a number of B Beakers'	FSS20356	TQ 9300 8500
32	11009 - MSS32158	Ardleigh group urn - Benton collection		TQ 9300 8400

BA Ref.	SMR Ref.	Description	Related finds	NGR
33	11018 - MSS32169	Thin butted axe head in ground flint	FSS8748	TQ 9300 8400
34	11026 - MSS32192	Three Belgic pedestal urns and a small cup found in connection with cremation at North Shoebury. Also discovered with urns was a bronze tankard and a flint blade.	FSS8754, FSS8755, FSS16624	TQ 9300 8400
35	11165 - MSS32542	Late Iron Age Gold stater	FSS8951, 11195 - MSS32598	TQ 9272 8538
36	11185 - MSS32585	Quarter stater, probably Ambiani	FSS8994, FSS9008	TQ 9380 8480
37	11008 - MSS32156	Roman pottery lamp (African type) described with labels saying Shoebury and Sparhorn	FSS8739	TQ 9300 8400
38	11017 - MSS32168	Coin of Maximianus I found in brickyard of Elm Road.	FSS8747	TQ 9300 8400
39	11029 - MSS32201	Three Roman urns found near Dr Knapping's House 'Suttons' c.1866	FSS8757	TQ 9400 8500
40	11152 - MSS32519	Roman coin of Agrippa/ Tiberius	FSS8944	TQ 9270 8420
41	11175 - MSS32556	Coin of Antoninianus of Victorinus	FSS8967	TQ 9250 8530
42	11181 - MSS32573	Roman pottery kiln found 1 mile from the station		TQ 9401 8526
43	11182 - MSS32578	Roman pottery kiln in 1895. The furnace and oven contained many black and white wheel made vessels and platters, similar to finds from Aylesford, late Iron age		TQ 9401 8526
44	11001 - MSS32144	Graves found at Shoeburyness prior to 1903 thought to be Saxon. In two cases bodies were arranged radially with feet towards the centre. No significant grave goods recovered		TQ 9300 8400
45	11062 - MSS32296	North Shoebury Moathouse - 16th century gatehouse - two storey timber framed. Earthworks for moat remain.		TQ 9280 8580
46	11024 - MSS32186	Loom weight from Shoebury	FSS15732	TQ 9300 8500
47	1322327	Church of St Andrew (GII*)		TQ 9294 8459
48	1112708	South Shoebury Hall Farmhouse (GII)		TQ 9300 8457
49	1322328	Garden Room to South Shoebury Hall Farmhouse (GII)		TQ 93039 84562
50	1459808	Shoeburyness War Memorial (GII)		TQ 9326 8495

Table 2: Gazetteer of Archaeological Monuments recorded in the vicinity of the site (NGR: TQ 93260 84866) based on consultation of the Southend Borough Council Historic Environment Record

5 Archaeological Assessment

5.1 Previous Archaeological Investigations

In addition to the previous archaeological investigations that have taken place c. 470m east of the site at the former Shoebury Garrison complex, there have been two further archaeological investigations within the 1km study area. These took place approximately 900m north of the site and comprised archaeological monitoring of a road straightening and the excavation of cropmark features. Both revealed evidence for prehistoric activity.

5.2 Prehistoric

The Lower (800,000 – 250,000 BC) and Middle (250,000 – 40,000 BC) Palaeolithic saw alternating warm and cold phases and intermittent, seasonal occupation. During the Upper Palaeolithic (40,000 – 10,000 BC), after the last glacial maximum, and in particular after around 13,000 BC further climate warming took place and the environment changed from steppe-tundra to birch and pine woodland. It is probably at this time that England saw continuous occupation. Erosion has removed much of the Palaeolithic land surfaces and finds are typically residual.

During the Mesolithic and later, the river valleys and coast would have been favoured for providing a predictable source of food (hunting and fishing) and water, as well as a means of transport and communication via navigable water courses. By the time of the Neolithic period, a shift in technology saw the rise of settled communities and communal monuments, with the domestication of plants and animals leading to established farming with forest clearance making use of previously marginalized land. The tidal floodplains of the area would have attracted prehistoric exploitation of local natural resources.

Within the study area there are 29 recorded finds or features dated to the prehistoric period, with a concentration of significant Palaeolithic, Mesolithic and Neolithic finds recorded to the west of the site, although the precise location of these findspots, in many cases, is difficult to specify with accuracy (**15,16,17,19-22,25,27,31 & 46**). Included in these finds was a skull fragment of possible Neolithic date (**21**).

A number of Bronze Age artefacts have also been found within the study area, in particular a Bronze Age hoard (**28**) found 700m west of the site and a Bronze Age flat axe found 700m to the north of the site.

In terms of later prehistoric activity, of particular note are the Scheduled remains of a defended promontory enclosure known as 'Danish Camp' (**3 & 4**) located c.470m east of the site within the boundaries of the former artillery barracks (Old Ranges). The enclosure was originally defined by an earthen bank and ditch, which was described in 1876 as being 12m wide and 3m deep (Spurrell 1890, 150-157), although recent work indicates a width of 4-5m. Its precise extent has not yet been established, although it appears to have originally extended north and east of the Scheduled Area, enclosing a sub-rectangular area some 450m in length (Perkins 1999; Eddisford 2005).

A programme of archaeological works undertaken in the late 1990s during the redevelopment of the Old Ranges site, including excavations within and outside the Scheduled enclosure, have demonstrated the survival of archaeological deposits beneath 0.3-0.5m of made ground associated with the 19th-20th century barracks. Within

Gunners Park (lying to the south of the site) and the area of the Scheduled enclosure, Mesolithic remains were identified, including fragments of burnt and worked flint, sealed beneath alluvial silt/clays. Evidence of Neolithic and Bronze Age activity was also recorded. Within the Scheduled enclosure, extensive settlement remains predominantly of Middle Iron Age date were identified, including evidence of four round houses, two post-built structures, several boundary ditches and numerous post holes and pits (Perkins 1999). Based on the evidence of these previous investigations at Old Ranges and Gunners Park, there would appear to be potential for encountering evidence of multi-period prehistoric activity in the vicinity of the site.

Conclusion: The site would appear to have **Moderate to High** potential for archaeological remains dating to the prehistoric period. There have been a high number of prehistoric remains recorded in the immediate vicinity of the site (including Mesolithic to Bronze Age flint scatters and a possible Neolithic skull fragment) as well as evidence for Iron Age activity to the east of the site associated with the defended promontory enclosure within the Shoeburyness Old Ranges site and Gunners Park, where investigations have revealed significant evidence of Mesolithic remains and later prehistoric (Iron Age) settlement features. Further evidence of prehistoric activity, if encountered within the site, would be considered to be of at least **Medium** (ie. regional) importance.

There is a **High** potential for palaeoenvironmental remains to survive across the site within the underlying estuarine alluvium. Alluvial deposits such as peats and organic clays, if present are likely to contain microfossils (e.g. pollen) and floral and faunal macrofossils such as molluscs and occasionally ostracods, seeds, plant fragments and pollen which can be used to reconstruct past local environments. Minerogenic deposits such as alluvial silts and clays have the potential for preservation of diatoms that can provide information on the salinity status of the depositional environments that would enhance interpretation of the sedimentary sequence. Wood and organic sediment can be dated by radiocarbon, important for establishing the chronology of the sequence. Palaeoenvironmental remains would be heritage assets of **Low** significance unless extensive layers of peat or other organic material were present, which could be of **Medium** significance. It should also be noted that there may be a **Low** potential to encounter disarticulated human remains.

5.3 Romano-British

With the arrival of the Romans in 43AD came a further shift in land use and settlement patterns across Britain, with the rise of small nucleated settlements and organised systems of larger villa estates, located along the major roads, becoming prevalent.

Evidence for Romano-British activity has been identified to the east of the site in the vicinity of the defended promontory enclosure within the Shoebury Garrison site. Excavations beneath the Officer's Mess building in the 1930s revealed pottery and coins interpreted as being associated with a Roman building nearby although a test pit evaluation undertaken on the same site in 2012 revealed no positive evidence of Roman activity (Letch 2012). More recent excavations in the vicinity of the Shoeburyness Old Ranges in the late 1990s identified a substantial Romanised structure and a saltern feature in the southwestern corner of the Scheduled enclosure (Perkins 1999).

In addition, there have been eight finds or features of Romano-British date recorded within the study area on the Southend Borough Council HER. Two Roman pottery kilns (**42 & 43**) were recorded approximately 865m north-

east of the site, one of which contained a number of black and white wheel made vessels and platters. Three Roman urns (39) were also found c. 725m north-east of the site. These finds appear to indicate a focus of Romano-British occupation somewhere to the east or northeast of the site, but probably not in especially close proximity.

Conclusion: The archaeological potential for remains dating to the Romano-British period is likely to be **Low**. Although there is known activity within the area, the significant features have been recorded at some distance from the site. Moreover, owing to the site lying on Estuarine alluvium, it is likely that the area of the site was in marshland or floodplain during this time and thus unsuitable for settlement, although the possibility of encountering evidence of marginal activities such as salt-making should not entirely be discounted in this intertidal environment. Remains dating to the Romano-British period, if present on the site, would be of **High** significance depending upon their nature and extent.

5.4 Medieval

Limited evidence of medieval activity has been identified in the immediate vicinity of the site, based on archaeological and documentary records. The earliest reference to Shoeburyness occurs in the Anglo-Saxon Chronicle, which refers in AD 893-4 to two Danish armies led by Haesten assembling at Shoebury (Sceobyrig) where they built a fort (*geweorc*) (Garmonsway 1975, 87). The fort at Shoebury was identified by 19th century antiquarians with the earthworks of the nearby late prehistoric promontory fort (located to the south-east of the site), hence why it subsequently acquired the name 'Danish Camp' (3; Spurrell 1890, 150-57; Williams 2006).

The place name 'Sceobyrig', denoting a 'fortress providing shelter' appears likely to refer to the late prehistoric promontory fort (Reaney 1935, 198; Mills 1991, 418), suggesting that the earthworks of the fort were visible in the early medieval period and could possibly have been occupied at some point either by the Saxons or the invading Danish forces, although recorded archaeological evidence for early medieval activity is slight.

The investigations carried out on the Shoeburyness Old Ranges site in 1998 revealed only two sherds of Anglo-Saxon pottery (Perkins 1999) although evidence of early medieval activity has been identified on the probable northern extent of the defended enclosure. A watching brief carried out in Rampart Street revealed evidence of a possible late Saxon ditch containing 9th century pottery (4) and an evaluation at the Shoeburyness Hotel in the High Street identified a subsoil layer containing 11th-12th century pottery sealing two earlier north-south aligned ditches of prehistoric date (Eddisford 2005).

Evidence of early medieval activity has been identified in the wider locality of the site, represented by a series of possible early Saxon inhumation burials discovered prior to 1903 (Doubleday 1903, 327-328). No diagnostic artefacts were found with the burials although in two cases the bodies were arranged in a ring, feet towards the centre (HER 11001; Meaney 1964, 83). Unfortunately, the precise location of the burial site has not been recorded.

Shoeburyness is recorded as 'Essoberia' in Domesday Book (1086) which appears then to have comprised two distinct estate *foci* at North and South Shoebury (Dodgson & Palmer 1975; Reaney 1935, 198). It is possible that there may have been a focus of medieval settlement in the vicinity of St Andrew's Church, South Shoebury (about 340m south-west of the site) which is a Grade II* listed building dating back to the 12th century (HER 34841).

Based on later cartographic and documentary evidence, it appears likely that the site was intertidal marshland which was gradually reclaimed for pasture or arable farming during the medieval and early post-medieval periods. Some evidence of later medieval occupation has been identified about 400m to the south-east of the site, revealed by archaeological investigations in 1998 at Shoeburyness Old Ranges, which identified a pit feature containing 11th-12th century pottery and midden spreads containing 13th-14th century pottery, as well as other features containing pottery of 13th-15th century date (HER 23022).

Conclusion: There appears to be **Low** potential for remains dating to the medieval period within the site. This is mainly due to the fact that the land within the site would probably have been marshland or floodplain during this period and therefore unsuitable for settlement. Early settlement would have been more suited to the well-draining higher river terrace gravels nearby. It is likely that during this period the land would have been reclaimed for pasture or arable farming and thus there is potential for encountering evidence of field boundaries, cultivation features or drainage ditches, which however would be considered of **Low** significance.

5.5 Post-Medieval

The earliest available cartographic depiction of the site is provided by the 1798 OS Surveyor's Drawing of Prittlewell and district (*fig. 3; Appendix 1*), which provides a snapshot of the landscape surrounding the site at the end of the 18th century. This map shows the site as being located within agricultural fields to the north-east of a small rural settlement surrounding the parish church of St Andrew. The road now known as Ness Road (B1016) is shown to the immediate west of the site, however Campfield Road is not present at the end of the 18th century.

Military activity at Shoeburyness is first documented in 1797, when a signal station was constructed on the coast in order to communicate with Sheerness in the event of a French invasion (Southend-on-Sea Borough Council 2004, 5). This signal station is present on the 1798 OS map but was dismantled in 1825. While the OS Surveyor's drawings provide an accurate depiction of the morphology of the roads and settlement patterns, the field boundaries recorded are often generic. The earliest accurate cartographic record of the field morphology surrounding the site is provided by the 1840 Tithe Survey (*fig. 4; Appendix 1*). Within this map the site is shown as being located across five irregularly shaped fields situated at the confluence of two watercourses, one crossing the site south-west to north-east, and the other crossing south-east to north-west. The fields recorded on the 1840 Tithe Survey appear to have consisted of a mix of pasture and arable farmland; the field names suggest reclaimed marshland.

By the 1840s, the artillery ranges near Woolwich were becoming increasingly unsuitable for more advanced, and powerful, forms of artillery, and the Board of Ordnance decided to open a new testing station at Shoeburyness, due to its isolated position and easy access from London by boat. The initial testing station was a seasonal installation surrounding the coastguard station, occupied during the summer months, until 1854 when a construction of a permanent station commenced in response to the Crimean War (Southend-on-Sea Borough Council 2004, 5-6).

A new Royal Artillery School of Gunnery was established at Shoeburyness in 1859, enlarging the site to 200 acres and extending westwards to Ness Road, taking in the site of the proposed development (Southend-on-Sea Borough Council 2004, 6). From 1865 onwards Shoeburyness was also the site of the National Artillery Association's annual

artillery contests, with 'Campfield' to the west of the Station being used as temporary accommodation for well over 1000 competitors every year.

By the 1880s Campfield Road had been laid out as a military road connecting the Station with Ness Road, and it is depicted (albeit on a slightly different alignment) on the OS 1st Edition 6-Inch map of 1880 (*fig. 5; Appendix 1*). Apart from the road forming the northern boundary of the site, the landscape depicted on the 1880 map is largely the same as that shown on the 1840 Tithe Map, with a few minor exceptions. Whilst the field boundaries recorded are largely the same as on the 1840 map, the two watercourses crossing the site appear to have been reduced to one, the south-east to north-west aligned linear ditch. The expansion of the Station is also evidenced by the construction of the chapel and various other military buildings to the east of the site of the proposed development.

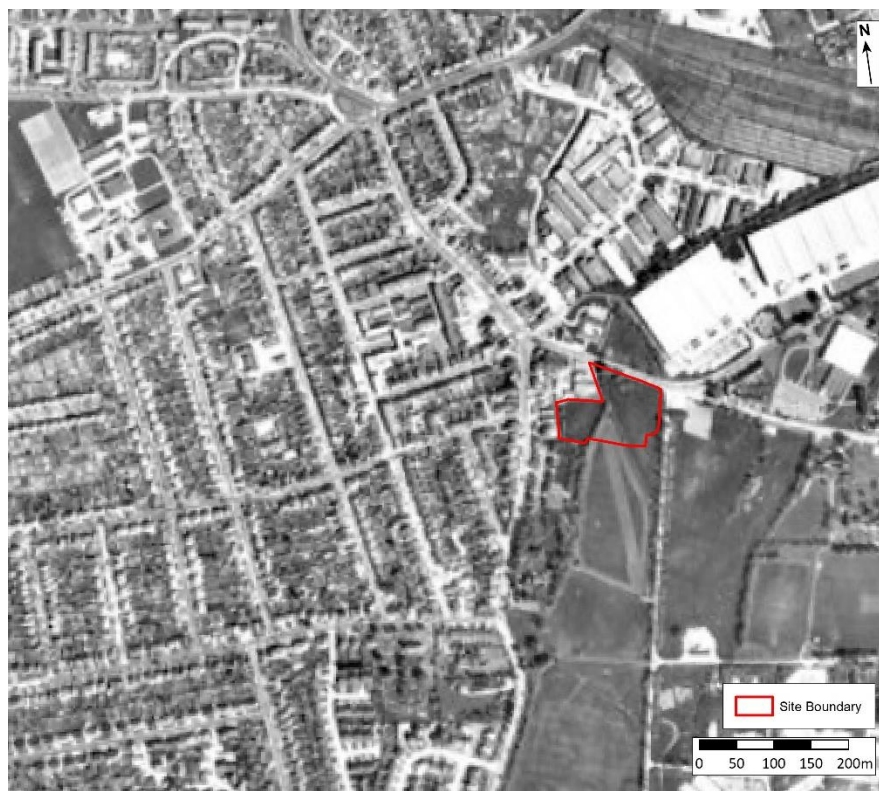
The OS 2nd edition map of 1896 (*fig. 6; Appendix 1*) shows that the pattern of land use and field boundaries within the site had remained unchanged since 1880, although a housing development is depicted to the west of the site at Cambridge Town. The site itself is still shown as largely unchanged on the OS 3rd edition map of 1923 (*fig. 7; Appendix 1*), although it was increasingly encroached upon to the north and west by residential housing.

The earthworks of firing ranges associated with the Artillery School are depicted to the east of the site on the 1923 map and an oblique aerial photograph taken in 1931, which shows that the site was still undeveloped grassland at that date (*Plate 1*). By the mid-1940s, as shown on the OS 4th edition map of 1947, the northern part of the site was occupied by tennis courts while the southern part was used as a football ground (*fig.8; Appendix 1*). No evidence has been found to indicate the presence of Second World War fortifications or signal stations within the



Plate 1: Extract from oblique aerial photograph (September 1931) looking north towards the site bisected by a linear drainage ditch and bordered to the east by earthworks of firing ranges and to the west by early 20th century housing (Reproduced by courtesy of the Historic England Archive)

Examination of late 20th century OS maps and aerial photographs of the site shows that there has been some modern disturbance within the site. An aerial photograph taken in April 1987 (CUCAP Ref. RC8JH020) shows a number of tracks extending south across the central part of the site (possibly for go-karting) which seems to have ceased to be used as football pitches at that date. The substantial northwest-southeast aligned drainage ditch or watercourse shown on the earlier historic maps is shown on the 1987 aerial photograph and on later aerial imagery up to 2006. By 2006, a road had been laid out to the east of this ditch connecting Campfield Road with New Garrison Road. At some time between 2006 and 2010, this northwest-southeast aligned drainage ditch was infilled and established on a new course running along the western boundary of the site. Aerial photographs also show that between 2010 and 2013, the road to the east of the former drainage ditch was removed and the existing spoil heap was established in the eastern half of the site.



*Plate 2: Extract from an aerial photograph taken on 28th April 1987
(Reproduced by courtesy of the Cambridge University Centre for Aerial Photography)*

Conclusion: The potential for encountering post-medieval remains has been assessed as **Low**, reflecting the fact that the site appears to have remained as undeveloped fields on the western fringes of the Royal Artillery School throughout the 19th and 20th centuries, with some evidence for late 20th-early 21st century landscaping activity including the creation of the spoil heap in the eastern part of the site. There is potential to encounter buried evidence of relict post-medieval field boundaries and drainage features, as well as finds of military origin associated with the nearby Royal Artillery School, which would be of **Low** significance. There remains a possibility of encountering buried unexploded ordnance, in view of the close proximity of the site to the 19th-early 20th century artillery ranges.

6 Site Visit

The site comprises an irregularly shaped plot of undeveloped overgrown grassland on the southwestern outskirts of the town of Shoeburyness, approximately 0.97 hectares in size. To the north, it is bordered by a dense tree-lined hedge boundary along Campfield Road and to the east by New Garrison Road. The southern border of the site is bounded by an open field and to the west it is bordered by a modern residential estate (Ness Road) and a telephone exchange. The site contains a deep drainage ditch, largely concealed by undergrowth, running north-south across the western and central parts of the site and a large spoil heap to the east of this ditch (*Plates 3 & 4*). Both of these features are clearly of modern date. No visible features of archaeological interest were noted within the site itself, although it should be noted that the site is heavily obscured by dense undergrowth throughout.



Plate 3: View looking west across site from New Garrison Road



Plate 4: View northwest across site showing spoil heap and tree-lined hedge boundary along Campfield Road

7 Proposals

Details of the proposed scheme are based on the Design and Access Statement submitted for this application (John Roberts Architects June 2019).

The scheme comprises the clearance of the existing spoil heap and the construction of a single storey retail supermarket (covering an area of 1,992 sq. m.) with associated car parks on the eastern and western parts of the site and provision of an access road and associated landscaping. The existing drainage ditch extending across the central and western parts of the site will be retained and partially culverted to allow a connection between the two car parks, with the construction of pedestrian bridge across the ditch.

Details of the type and depth of the foundations of the new supermarket building and associated trenches for services were unavailable at time of writing.

8 Archaeological Survival & Impacts

Archaeological survival potential for within the site would appear to be **High** as the site was not developed during the post-medieval period, remaining as open pasture or arable farmland. There is evidence for late 20th/early 21st century disturbance within the site, including the infilling of a drainage ditch running northwest-southeast across the site, the laying out of a road across the eastern edge of the site and the creation of the existing spoil heap. However, it remains unclear to what extent these activities may have impacted on buried archaeological deposits/features within the site, as there has been no prior fieldwork in this area.

Historic local borehole data indicates that there may be in the region of 0.3m+ of topsoil overlying up to 1.8m of sandy clay which in turn overlies estuarine alluvium (silt), which also has the potential to contain archaeological deposits.

Although foundation type and depth are currently unknown for the scheme, it is likely that excavations for foundations would cut into the underlying alluvium and completely remove or severely truncate any archaeological remains within their footprint. Other works such as excavation for services trenches, or site clearance as part of initial site set up also have the potential to truncate any underlying archaeological deposits.



Fig 9: Proposed site layout plan (John Roberts Architects, Dwg. No. 7587L-16 rev. C, Jan 2019)

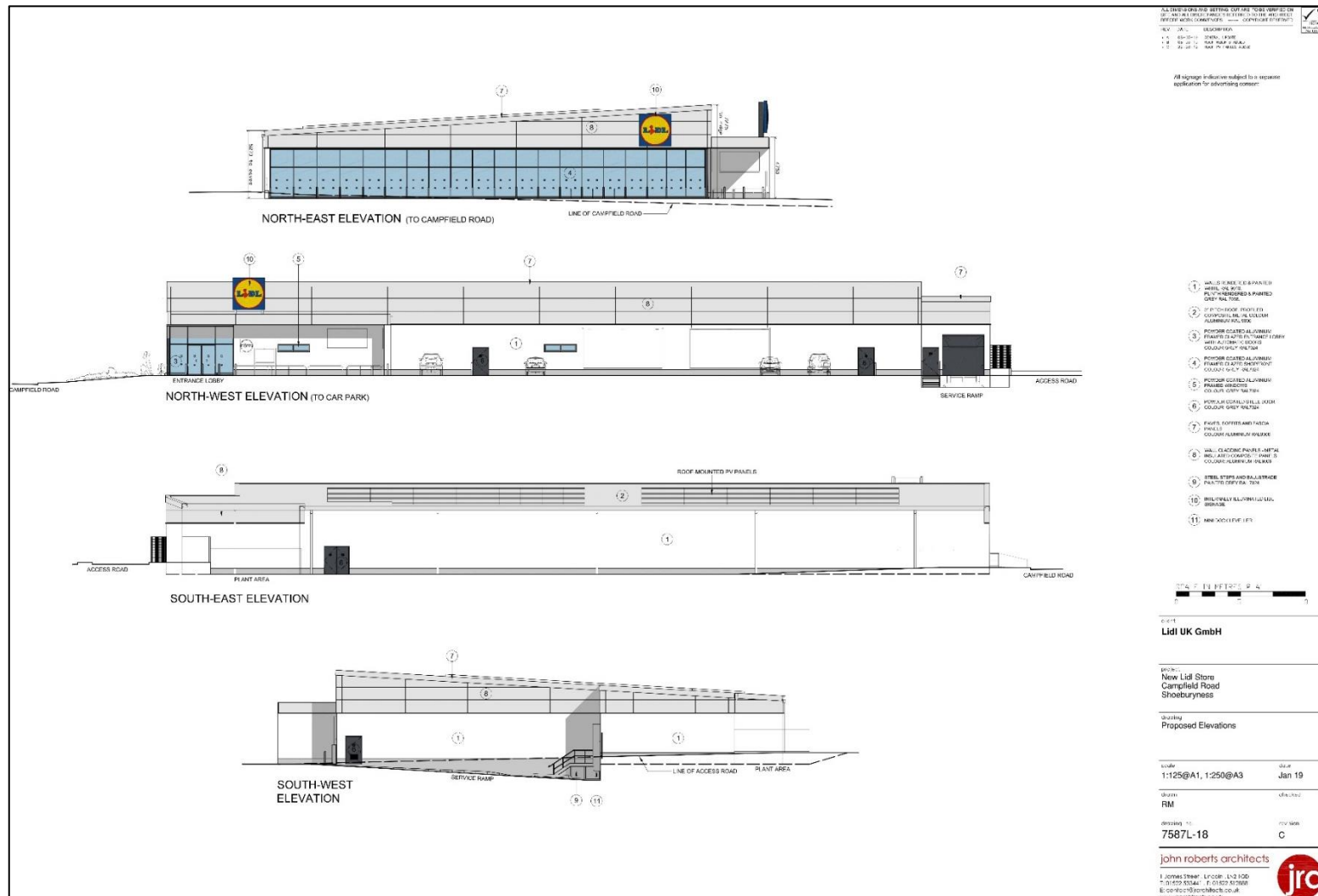


Fig 10: Proposed elevations (John Roberts Architects, Dwg. No. 7587L-18, rev. C, Jan 2019)

9 Conclusions & Recommendations

The site is considered to have a **High** potential for palaeoenvironmental remains and a **Moderate to High** potential to contain deposits, features and finds of prehistoric date. This assessment reflects the location of the site within an area of Tidal Flat Deposits derived from the River Thames Estuary with surrounding River Terrace Gravels. It would therefore have been on the edge of an area favoured for prehistoric settlement with reliable natural resources. Excavations within the vicinity of the Shoeburyness Old Ranges and Gunners Park, to the east and south of the site, have also revealed significant potential for encountering multi-period prehistoric remains ranging in date from the Mesolithic to the Iron Age.

The site has a **Low** potential for archaeological remains dating to all other periods.

The main impact upon the site would be from the excavation of foundations for the new supermarket, and associated service trenches. Topsoil clearance, landscaping and access road construction would also impact upon any archaeological deposits, if present.

Taking into account the extent of the site, along with the identified potential for prehistoric remains and features and deposits of palaeoenvironmental interest, it is recommended that archaeological monitoring take place on any proposed preliminary geotechnical investigations on the site. The purpose of this would be to establish, at a preliminary stage, the potential nature, extent and depth of any palaeoenvironmental or archaeological deposits, should they be present.

Based on the results, further investigation may be required, possibly in the form of archaeological evaluation, to clarify the nature, date and significance of any remains identified. The remains would inform an appropriate mitigation strategy which might comprise targeted archaeological excavation in advance of construction and/or a watching brief during ground works for remains of lesser significance, in order to ensure that archaeological assets are not removed without record.

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12 Cartography and Aerial Photography

12.1 Historic Mapping

Ordnance Survey Surveyors map of Prittlewell and district - 1798

Tithe Map of South Shoebury (Shoeburyness) – 1840 (NA Ref. IR 30/12/300)

Ordnance Survey First Edition 6" map - 1880

Ordnance Survey Second Edition 25" map - 1897

Ordnance Survey Third Edition 25" map - 1923

Ordnance Survey Fourth Edition 25" map - 1947

OS 1:2500 National Survey map - 1976

12.2 Aerial Photographs

Vertical and oblique aerial photographs dating back to 1931 were consulted using the Cambridge University Centre for Aerial Photography, the Historic England Archive and recent Google Earth imagery (1999 to present).

13 Appendix 1: Historic Maps



Fig 3: Extract of 1798 Ordnance Survey Surveyors map of Prittlewell with site marked in red
(Reproduced by courtesy of the British Library)



Fig 4: Extract of 1840 Tithe map of South Shoebury (Shoeburyness) with site marked in red
(Reproduced by courtesy of the National Archives)

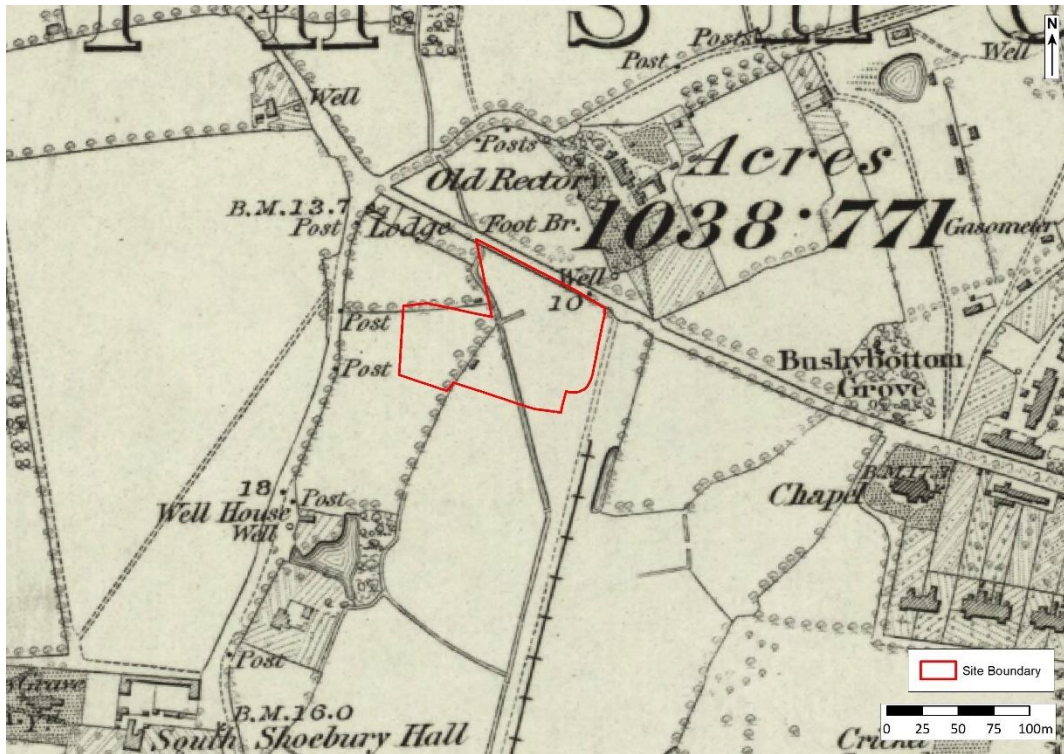


Fig 5: Extract of OS 1st edition 6" Map of 1880 with site marked in red
(Reproduced by courtesy of the National Archives)

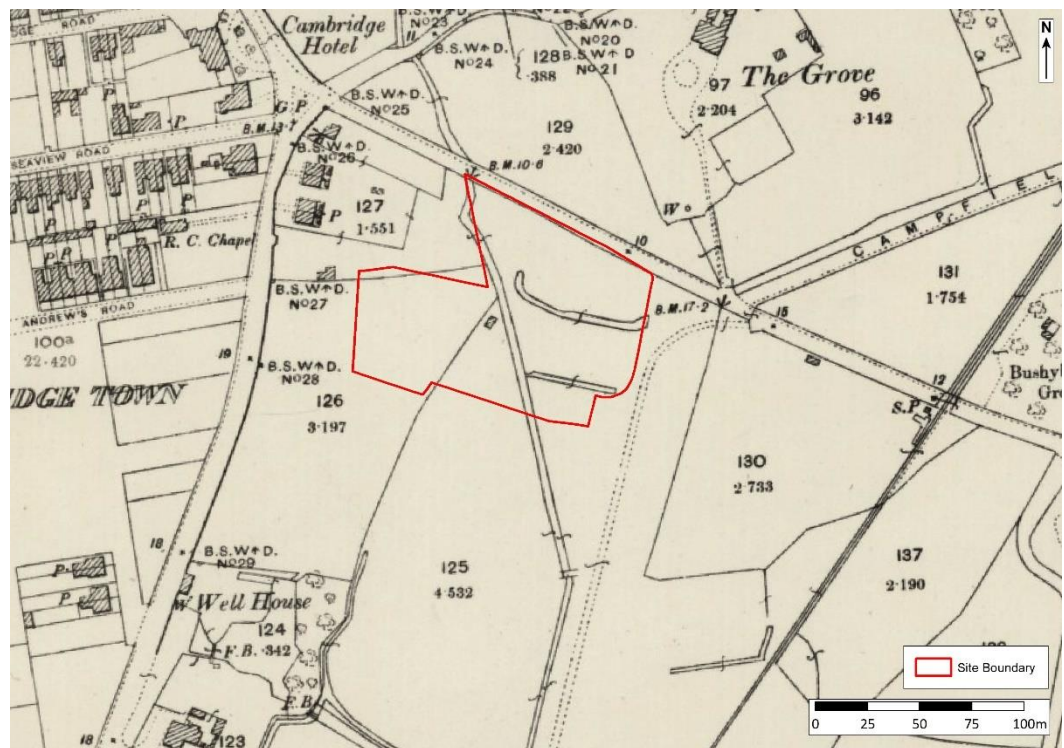


Fig 6: Extract of OS 2nd edition 25" map of 1897 with site marked in red
(Reproduced by courtesy of the National Archives)

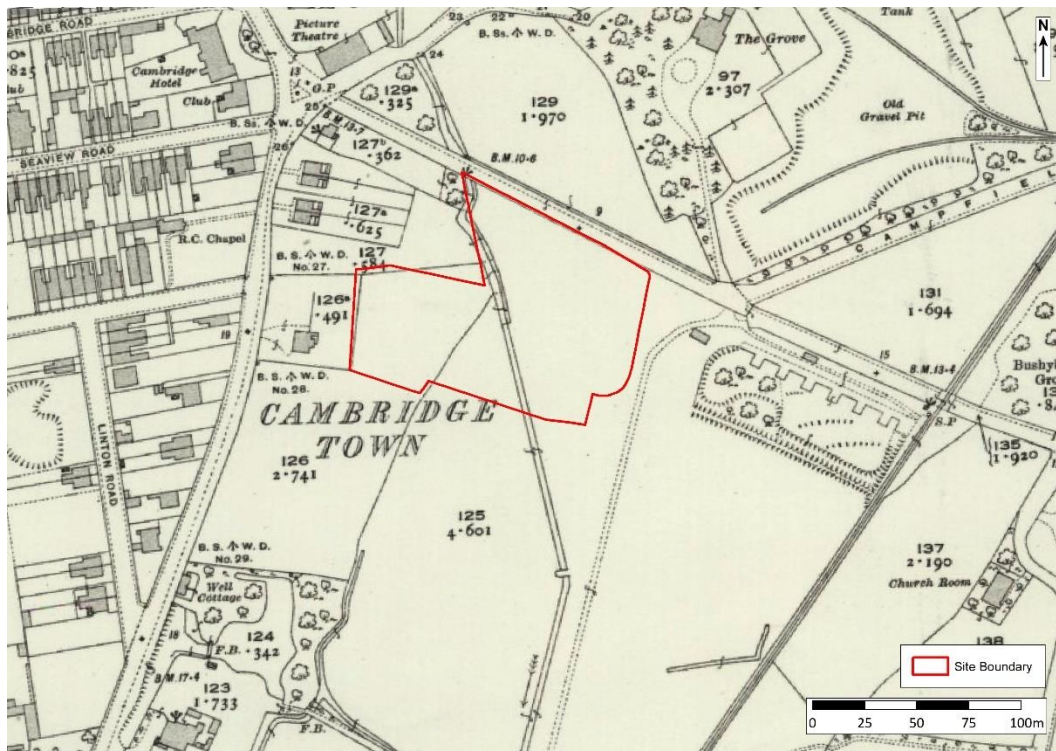


Fig 7: Extract of OS 3rd edition 25" map of 1923 with site marked in red
(Reproduced by courtesy of the National Archives)

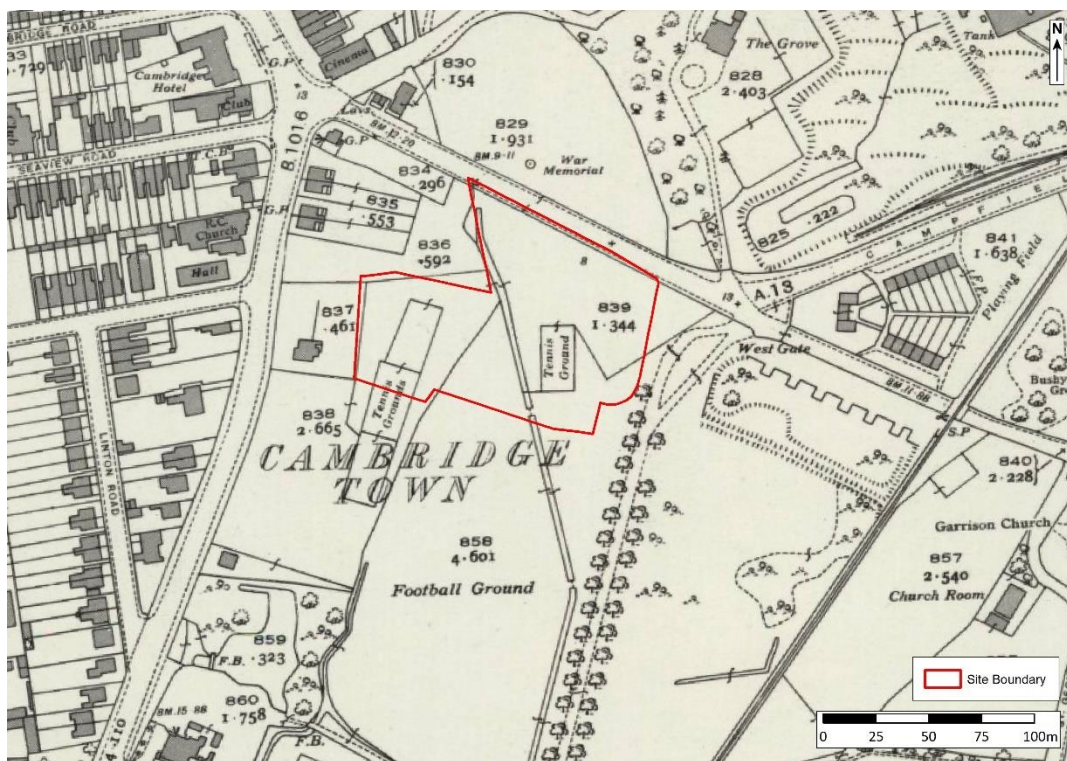


Fig 8: Extract of OS 4th edition 25" map of 1947 with site marked in red
(Reproduced by courtesy of the National Archives)

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