

Archaeological Services & Consultancy Ltd

**WATCHING BRIEF:
OLD EAST END HOUSE
EAST END
FURNEUX PELHAM
HERTFORDSHIRE**

NGR: TL 4483 2783

on behalf of Jane Crossley



Calli Rouse BA PIFA

April 2008

ASC: 985/FPE/2

Letchworth House
Chesney Wold, Bleak Hall,
Milton Keynes MK6 1NE
Tel: 01908 608989 Fax: 01908 605700
Email: office@archaeological-services.co.uk
Website: www.archaeological-services.co.uk



Site Data

<i>ASC project code:</i>	FPE	<i>ASC Project No:</i>	985
<i>OASIS ref:</i>		<i>Event/Accession no:</i>	
<i>County:</i>	Hertfordshire		
<i>Village/Town:</i>	Furneux Pelham		
<i>Civil Parish:</i>	Furneaux Pelham		
<i>NGR (to 8 figs):</i>	TL 4483 2783		
<i>Extent of site:</i>	c.400 sq.m		
<i>Present use:</i>	Residence		
<i>Planning proposal:</i>	Extension to existing dwelling		
<i>Planning application ref/date:</i>	3/06/2027		
<i>Local Planning Authority:</i>	East Hertfordshire District Council		
<i>Date of fieldwork:</i>	06/02/08, 07/02/08, 08/04/08		
<i>Client:</i>	Jane Crossley Old East End House East End Furneux Pelham Hertfordshire		
<i>Contact name:</i>	Jane Crossley		

Internal Quality Check

<i>Primary Author:</i>	Calli Rouse	<i>Date:</i>	10/04/08
<i>Revisions:</i>		<i>Date:</i>	
<i>Edited/Checked By:</i>		<i>Date:</i>	

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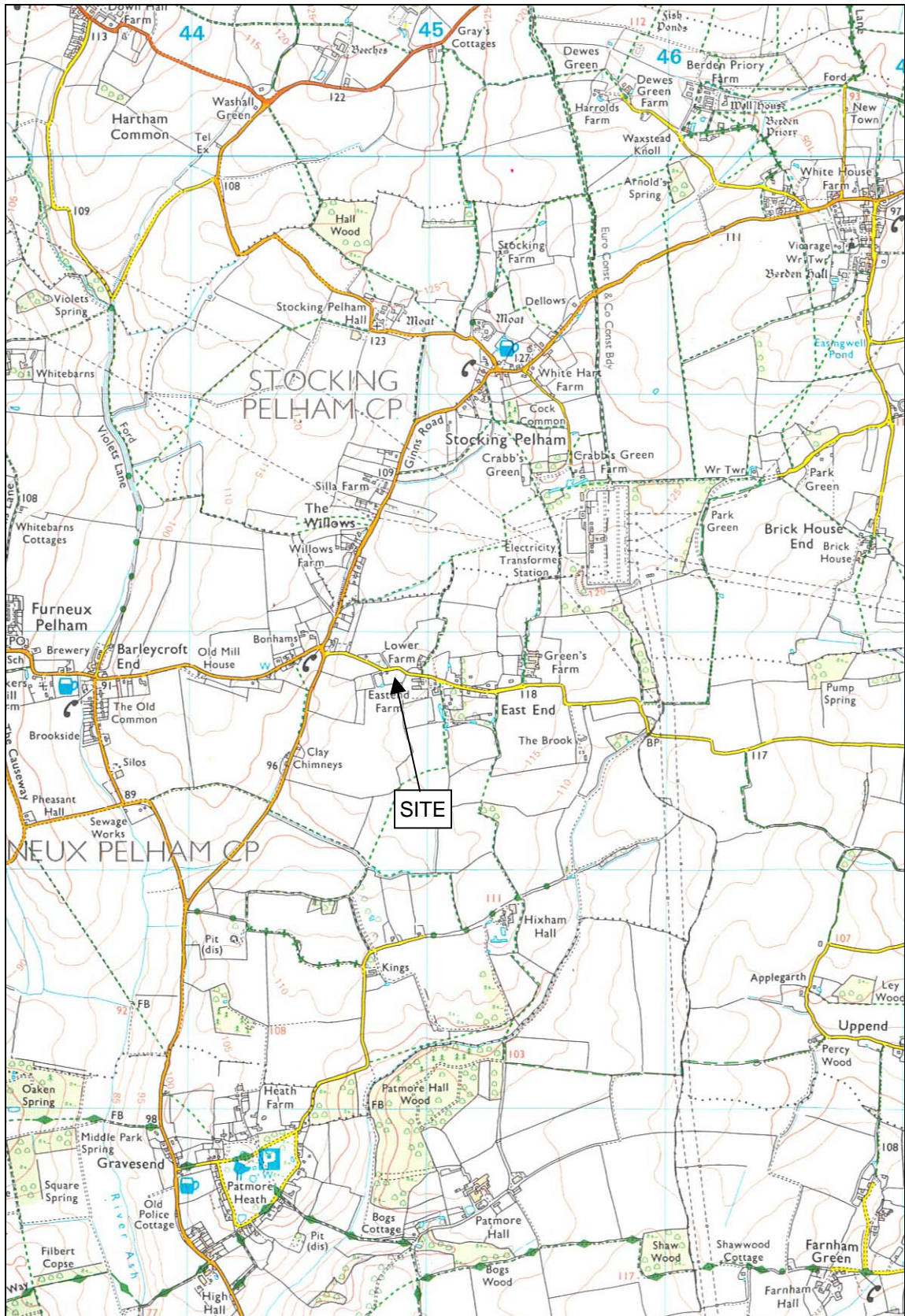


Figure 1: General location (scale 1:25,000)

Summary

During early 2008, an archaeological watching brief was carried out at Old East End House, East End, Furneux Pelham, Hertfordshire, as a condition of planning permission for the development of the site. No archaeological finds or features were observed during the watching brief, and it is unlikely that the development will have a significant affect on archaeological remains.

1. Introduction

1.1 In early 2008 *Archaeological Services and Consultancy Ltd* (ASC) carried out a watching brief at Old East End House, East End, Furneux Pelham, Hertfordshire. The project was commissioned by *Jane Crossley*, and was carried out according to a brief (Tinniswood 2007) prepared on behalf of the local planning authority (LPA), *East Hertfordshire District Council*, by their archaeological advisor (AA), *Hertfordshire County Council Historic Environment Unit*, and a project design prepared by ASC (Barclay 2007). The relevant planning application reference is 3/06/2027.

1.2 *Planning Background*

This watching brief was required under the terms of *Planning Policy Guidance Note 16* (PPG16), as a condition of planning permission for the development of the site.

1.3 *Archaeological Services & Consultancy Ltd*

Archaeological Services & Consultancy Ltd (ASC) is an independent archaeological practice providing a full range of archaeological services including consultancy, field evaluation, mitigation and post-excavation studies, historic building recording and analysis. ASC is recognised as a *Registered Archaeological Organisation* by the Institute of Field Archaeologists, in recognition of its high standards and working practices.

1.4 *Management*

The assessment was managed by **Karin Semmelmann** BA MA AIFA, and was carried out under the overall direction of **Bob Zeepvat** BA MIFA.

1.5 *The Site*

1.5.1 *Location & Description*

The site is situated in the civil parish of Furneux Pelham in the county of Hertfordshire. It is located to the west of Furneux Peham and to the south of Stocking Pelham, at NGR TL 4483 2783 (Fig. 1). Access to the site will be from the road to the north of the house. Services plans have not been provided.

1.5.2 *Geology & Topography*

The soils of the area comprise the Hanslope Association, which consists of “*Slowly permeable calcareous clayey soils. Some slowly permeable non-calcareous clayey soils. Slight risk of soil erosion.*” This overlies a geological base of chalky till (Soil Survey 1983; 411d). The site lies at a height of c.115m OD.

1.5.3 *Proposed Development*

The proposed development is an extension to two sides of the house (Fig. 3).

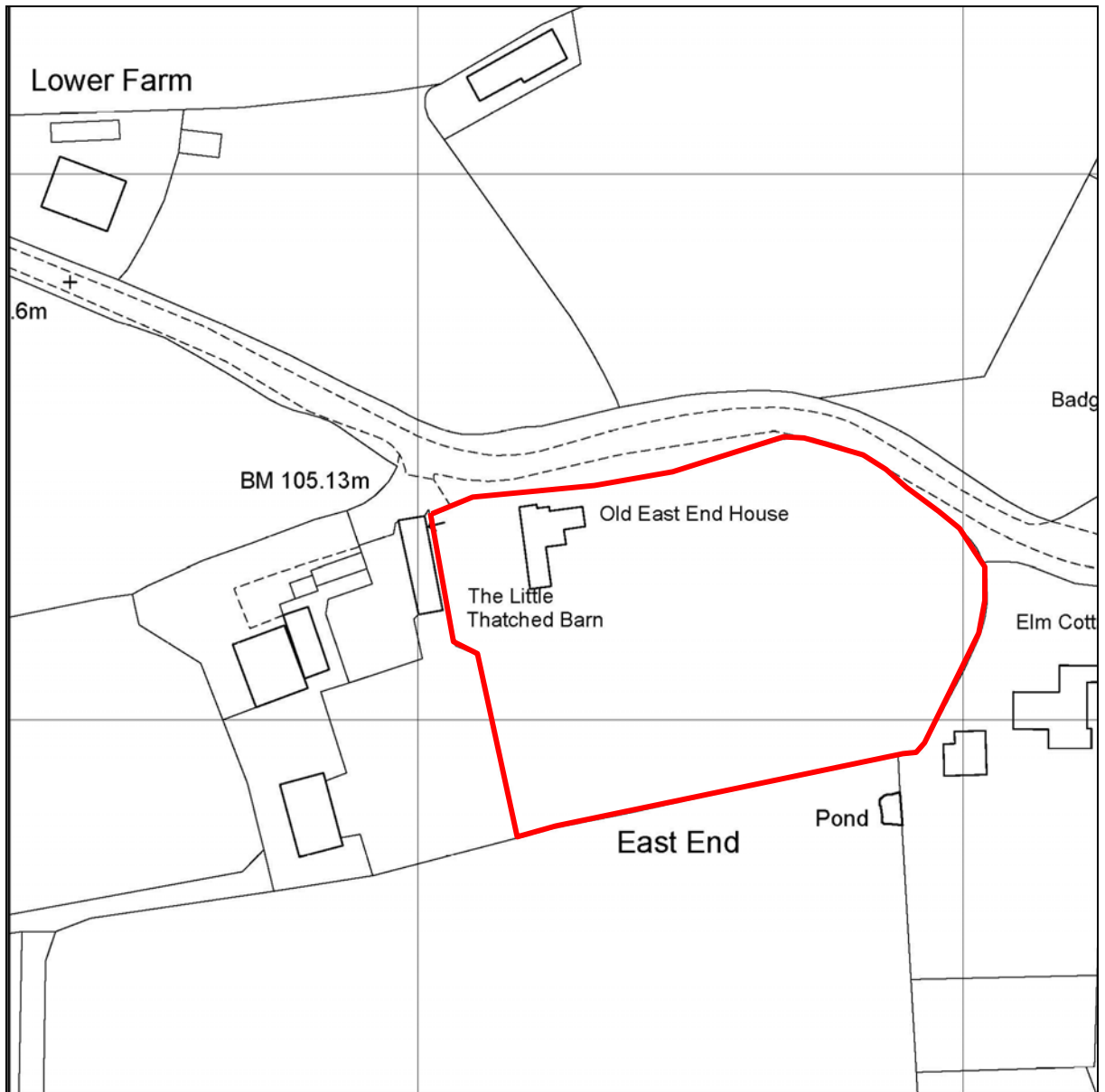


Figure 2: Site plan (scale 1:1250)

2. Aims & Methods

2.1 *Aims*

As described in the brief (Section 3), the aims of the watching brief were:

- To ensure the archaeological monitoring of all aspects of the development programme likely to affect archaeological remains
- To secure the adequate recording of any archaeological remains revealed by the development programme
- To secure the analysis, conservation and long-term storage of any artefactual/ecofactual material recovered from the site
- To provide an adequately detailed project report that will place the findings of the monitoring and recording of the development programme in their local and regional context.

2.2 *Standards*

The work conformed to the project design, to the relevant sections of the Institute of Archaeologists' *Code of Conduct* (IFA 2000) and *Standard & Guidance Notes* (IFA 2001), to the Association of Local Government Archaeological Officers East of England Region *Standards for Field Archaeology in the East of England* (ALGAO 2003), and to the relevant sections of ASC's own *Operations Manual*.

2.3 *Methods*

The work was carried out according to the brief (Section 4), which required:

- Soil and overburden stripping under archaeological supervision
- The inspection of the sub-soil for archaeological features, deposits and artefacts
- The rapid investigation and recording of any archaeological features or deposits
- Sub-soil stripping under archaeological supervision
- The examination of foundation trenches, etc., and the subsequent recording of any exposed archaeological remains
- Rapid examination of spoil heaps for archaeological material
- A programme of post-fieldwork analysis, archiving and publication.

2.4 *Constraints*

The footing trench along the northern side of the house was excavated without archaeological supervision, and was shored up with wooden boards before it could be properly photographed due to the risk of subsidence.

3. Archaeological & Historical Background

- 3.1 The following section provides a summary of the readily available archaeological and historical background to the development site and its environs. The site lies within an area of archaeological and historical interest, and has the potential to reveal evidence of a range of periods.
- 3.2 The site is situated within an area of considerable historical significance, and also lies within the designated Area of Archaeological Significance 411. This area includes the historic hamlet of East End. The house itself is a Grade II listed building of 17th century date.
- 3.3 Evidence of prehistoric activity has been found in the area, with the discovery of a bronze hoard at Furneux Pelham. This could be an indication of Bronze Age settlers in the area (Munby 1977).
- 3.4 The village of Furneux Pelham goes back several centuries. The church of St Mary has 13th century origins, and Furneux Pelham Hall is a 16th century building (Pevsner & Cherry 1977).

4. Results

- 4.1 Apart from the footing trenches located to the north of the house (Section 2.4), all the footing trenches were excavated under archaeological supervision. All the footings for the main building were between 0.4m and 0.6m wide, and between 1.7m and 1.9m deep. The footing trench for the new conservatory was also 0.4m wide and 1m deep.

- 4.2 The stratigraphy was the same throughout the site. Before the excavation of the footing trenches began, the area was reduced by a uniform 0.75m, leaving *c.*0.3m of subsoil *in situ*. The stratigraphy within the footing trenches across the site comprised *c.*0.3m of mid brown subsoil over *c.*0.6m of natural yellow chalky clay, which in turn overlay *c.*1m of reddy orange sand (Plates 1 and 2). In the area of the new conservatory, the footing trench just reached the top of the sandy layer (Plate 3).

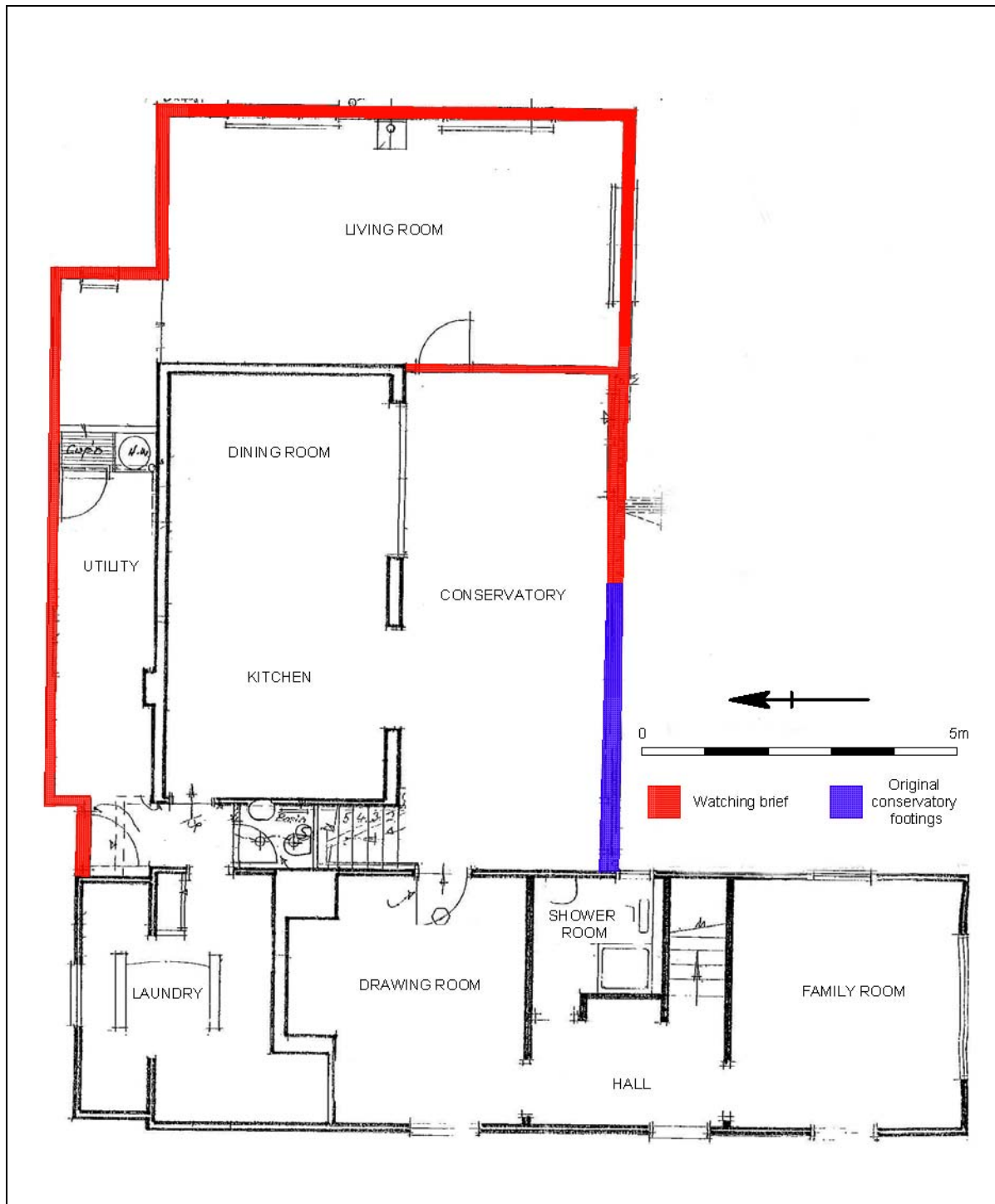


Figure 2: Proposed development plan (scale 1:100)



Plate 1: Footing trench, looking north, 2m scale



Plate 2: Footing trench, looking west, 2m scale



Plate 3: Conservatory footing trench, looking north, 1m scale

5. Conclusions

- 5.1 No archaeological finds or features were observed within any of the footing trenches. The topsoil and subsoil on the site were largely free of any manmade inclusions, suggesting that the existing development may have been the first on the site.
- 5.2 Although significant archaeological features were not observed in the trenches, the existence of individual isolated archaeological features away from the trenches cannot be specifically excluded. Given the rural location of the dwelling, it is possible that a former cesspit or soakaway exists in the vicinity, but the findings of this watching brief indicate that they are likely to be positioned some distance from the house. It is unlikely that the proposed development will have a significant impact on archaeological remains.
- 5.3 *Confidence Rating*
The watching brief was undertaken in generally clear, dry conditions, and full co-operation was received from all parties involved. The only departure from the requirements has been outlined above (Section 2.4).

6. Acknowledgements

The evaluation was commissioned by Jane Crossley, and the writer is grateful to her for her assistance. The project was monitored by Alison Tinniswood on behalf of the local planning authority. Thanks are also due to Bob Bayford, the building contractor.

The project was managed for ASC by Karin Semmelmann BA MA AIFA. Fieldwork was carried out by Karin Semmelmann and Calli Rouse BA PIFA, assisted by Fanny Martin and Gregory Fox. The report was prepared by Calli Rouse and edited by Bob Zeepvat BA MIFA.

7. Archive

7.1 The project archive will comprise:

1. Brief
2. Project Design
3. Initial Report
4. Clients site plans
5. Site Monitoring Sheets
6. Site record drawings
7. List of photographs
8. B/W prints & negatives
9. CDROM with copies of all digital files.

7.2 The archive will be deposited with Hertford Museum.

8. References

Standards & Specifications

- ALGAO 2003 *Standards for Field Archaeology in the East of England*. East Anglian Archaeology Occasional Paper 14.
- Barclay C 2007 *Project Design for a Watching Brief at Old East End House, East End, Furneux Pelham, Hertfordshire* ASC/985/FPE/1
- EH 1991 *The Management of Archaeological Projects*, 2nd edition. English Heritage (London).
- IFA 2000a Institute of Field Archaeologists' *Code of Conduct*.
- IFA 2000b Institute of Field Archaeologists' *Code of Approved Practice for the Regulation of Contractual Arrangements in Field Archaeology*.
- IFA 2001 Institute of Field Archaeologists' *Standard & Guidance documents (Desk-Based Assessments, Watching Briefs, Evaluations, Excavations, Investigation and Recording of Standing Buildings, Finds)*.
- Tinniswood A 2007 *Design Brief for Archaeological Monitoring and Recording* Historic Environment Unit Hertfordshire County Council

Secondary Sources

- BGS *British Geological Survey 1:50,000 Series, Solid & Drift Geology*.
- Munby L 1977 *The Hertfordshire Landscape* Hodder & Staughton London
- Pevsner N & Cherry B 1977 *The Buildings of England: Hertfordshire* Yale University Press London
- Soil Survey 1983 *1:250,000 Soil Map of England and Wales, and accompanying legend* (Harpenden).

Appendix 1: Monitoring Sheets



A.S.C. LTD

ARCHAEOLOGICAL FIELD MONITORING RECORD

Project: <i>Old East End House</i>		Project No/Code: <i>985 / FPE</i>		Sheet: <i>1 of 4</i>	
		Date of visit: <i>04-02-08</i>			
Client/Developer <i>Jane</i>					
Contact:			Phone:		
Duration of Visit (inc. travel):	Start: <i>8⁰⁰</i>			Finish: <i>10³⁰</i>	
Completed by: <i>KL</i>					
Development Type:					
Footings	Services	Roads	Levelling	Quarrying	Pipelines
					Other (specify): <i>Initial visit</i>
Site & weather conditions: <i>Dry + bright</i>					
Observations:					
<i>Initial site meeting with builder + client.</i>					
<i>Ground reduction in 2 phases - topsoil strip and</i>					
<i>subsoil reduction to site level. Topsoil strip</i>					
<i>starting today, trenches being dug Wednesday.</i>					
<i>Call to pop in tomorrow on her way to or from</i>					
<i>Brent Pelham to inspect ground reduction and</i>					
<i>someone needed Wednesday lunchtime</i>					
Comments:					

For sketch plan, use separate sheet

©ASC 2007



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ARCHAEOLOGICAL FIELD MONITORING RECORD

Project: East End Farm		Project No/Code: 985 1	Sheet: 2 of 4
FURNEUX PELHAM		Date of visit: 06/02/08	
Client/Developer			
Contact:		Phone:	
Duration of Visit (inc. travel):	Start: 10.00 10.50	Finish: 17.15	
Completed by: CR			
Development Type:			
Footings <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Services	Roads	Levelling
			Quarrying
			Pipelines
			Other (specify):
Site & weather conditions: Sunny, cold			
Observations: Footings trench directly at side of house had already been boarded up when on arrival due to risk of subsidence. 1.7m deep x 0.6 wide Observed corner run of footings (see sketch). at C.O. 3m top soil over light brown yellow Chalky Clay (Nat) over orange sand. No archaeology			
Comments: Will continue with dig tomorrow from 8-8.30			

For sketch plan, use reverse

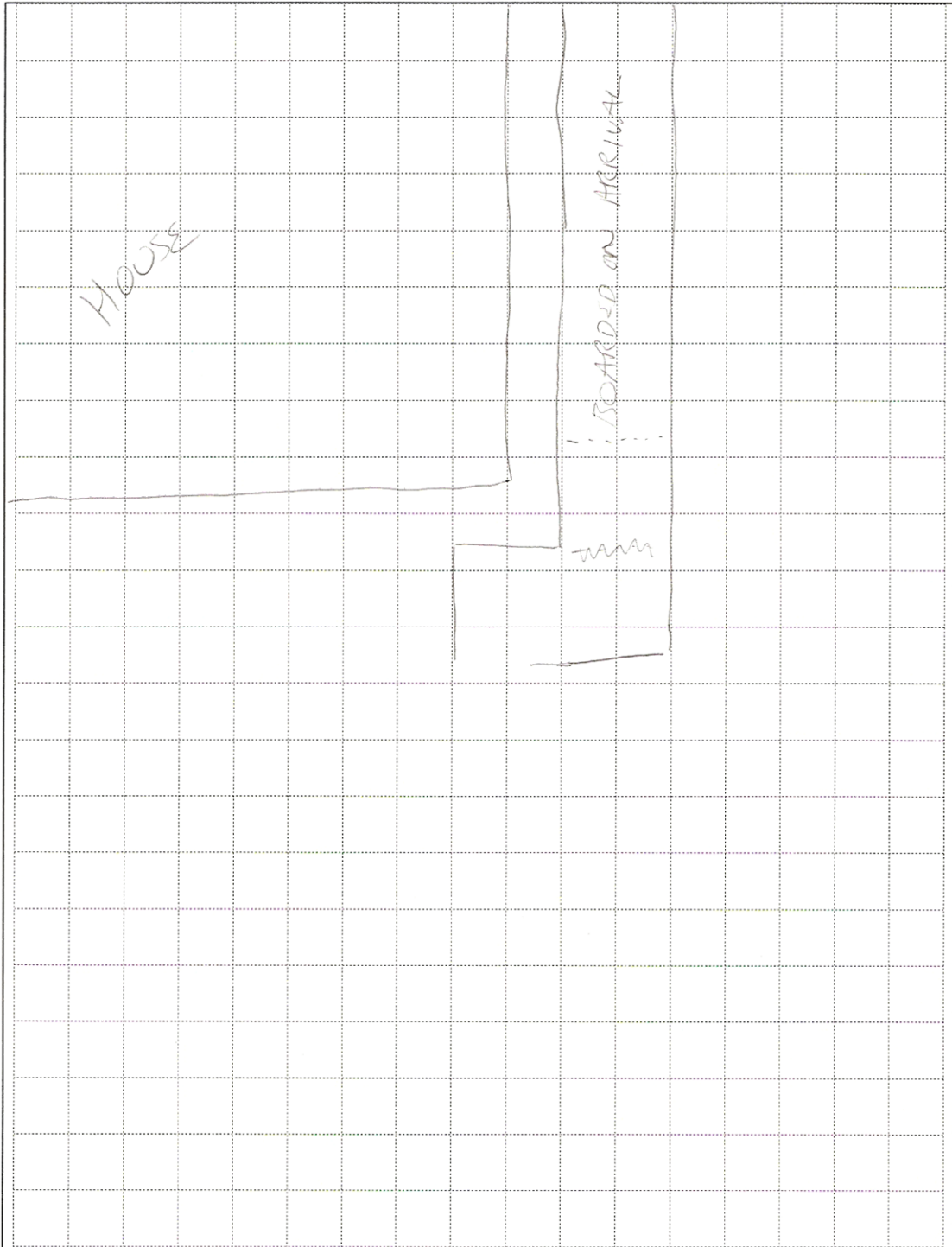
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SKETCH SHEET

Site Name: FURNEUX PELHAM	Site Code:	Orientation:
Context:		



RECORDING NOTES

Recorded by: CR	Date: 6/02/08	Digitised by:	Date:	Sheet number: of
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A.S.C. LTD

ARCHAEOLOGICAL FIELD MONITORING RECORD

Project: OLD EAST END HOUSE, EAST END		Project No/Code: 985 1 FPE		Sheet: 3 of 4		
FURNEUX PELHAM		Date of visit: 07/02/08				
Client/Developer						
Contact:			Phone:			
Duration of Visit (inc. travel):		Start: 6.45		Finish: 15.30		
Completed by: CR						
Development Type:						
Footings <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Services	Roads	Levelling	Quarrying	Pipelines	Other (specify):
Site & weather conditions: Overcast, dry						
Observations: observed completion of footings for living room depth varied between 1.2m & 2m. All 0.6m wide. Ground consisted of 0 - 0.3m of ^{sub} soil over yellow Chalky clay (nat) over red braye sand No archaeological finds or features observed. overall ground level reduction 0.75m (from existing garden - not including trenches)						
Comments: They will be putting footings for conservatory next week - they will dig us.						

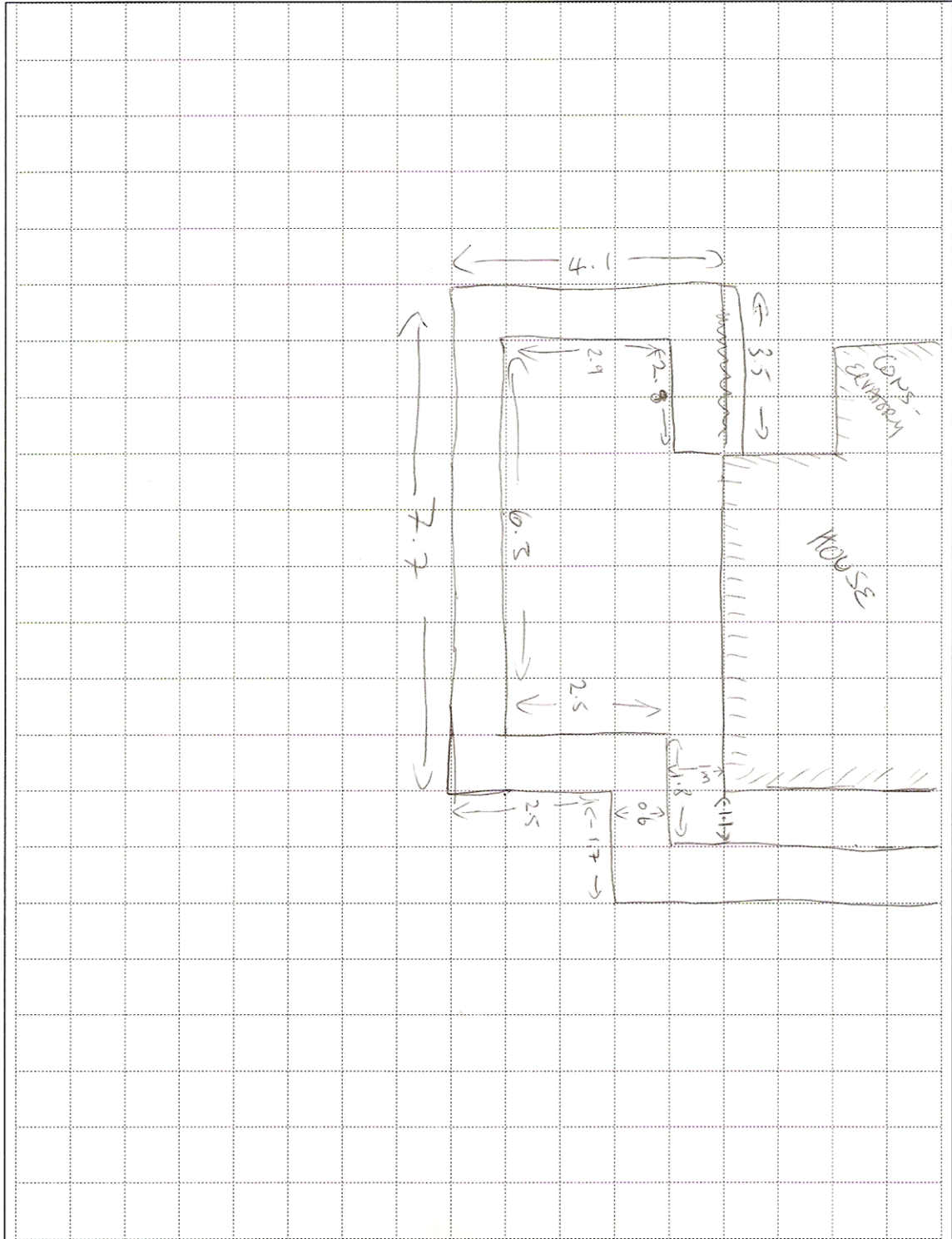
For sketch plan, use reverse

©ASC, 2003



SKETCH SHEET

Site Name: <i>East End House Furneux Pelham</i>	Site Code: <i>985/FPE</i>	Orientation: N ↓
Context:		



RECORDING NOTES

Recorded by: <i>CR</i>	Date: <i>07/02/08</i>	Digitised by:	Date:	Sheet number: <i>07</i>
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A.S.C. LTD

ARCHAEOLOGICAL FIELD MONITORING RECORD


Project: <i>OLD EAST END HOUSE</i>		Project No/Code: <i>985 1 FPE</i>	Sheet: <i>4 of 4</i>
FURNEUX PELHAM		Date of visit: <i>08/04/07</i>	
Client/Developer			
Contact: <i>Jane Crossley</i>		Phone:	
Duration of Visit (inc. travel):	Start: <i>10.55</i>	Finish: <i>3.00</i>	
Completed by: <i>CR & GF</i>			
Development Type:			
Footings <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Services	Roads	Levelling
			Quarrying
			Pipelines
			Other (specify):
Site & weather conditions: <i>Dry, Sunny</i>			
Observations: <i>Observed final part of groundworks - footings for new Conservatory. Footings will be partially within old footing trench for old Conservatory - this was not watched. watched 3.3m of new footings - see sketch. No archaeology observed</i>			
Comments: <i>Final visit, no more groundworks to be carried out.</i>			

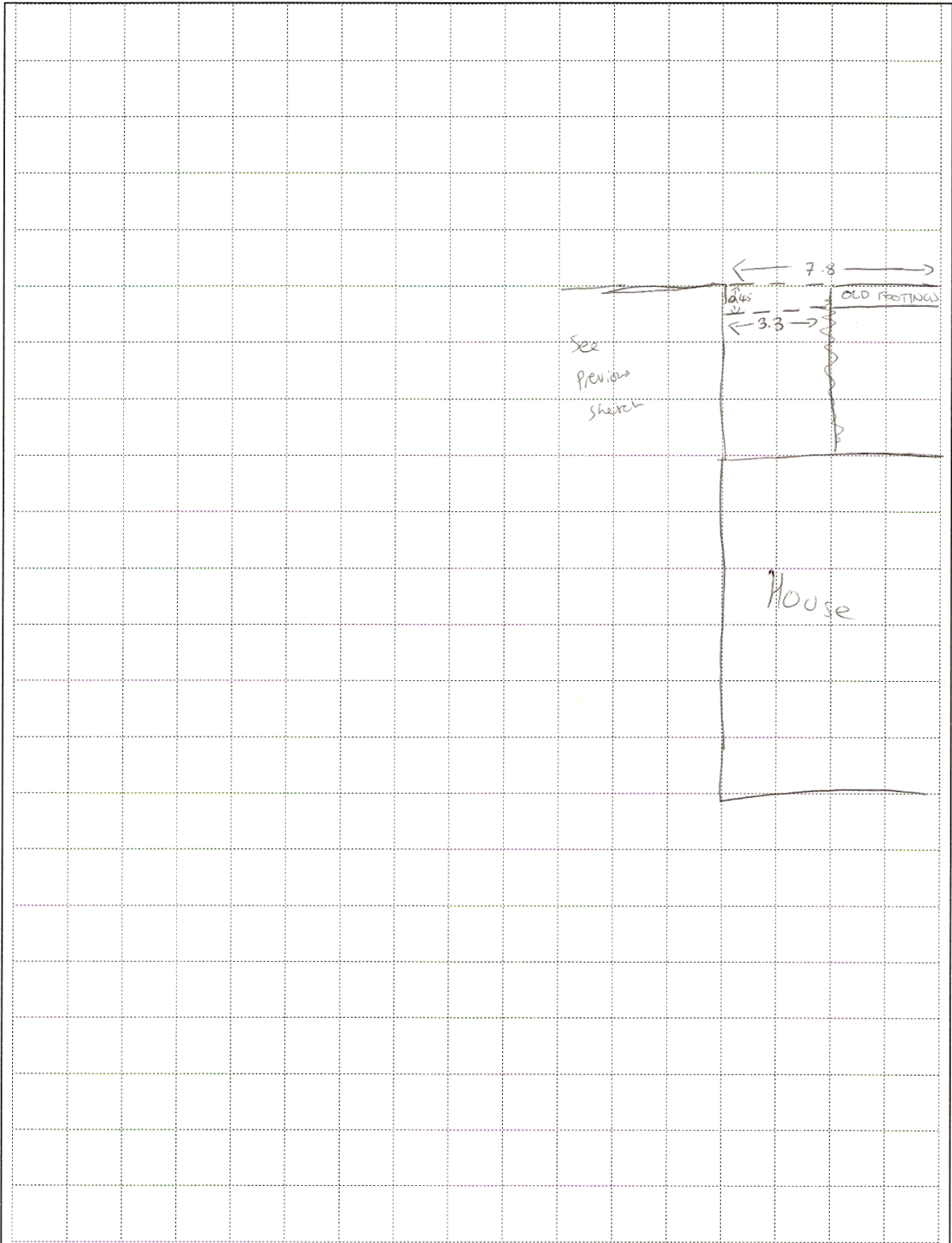
For sketch plan, use separate sheet

©ASC 2007



SKETCH SHEET

Site Name: <i>East End House, Furneux Pelham</i>	Site Code: <i>985/FPE</i>	Orientation: <i>N</i> 
Context:		



RECORDING NOTES

Recorded by: <i>CR</i>	Date: <i>08/04/08</i>	Digitised by:	Date:	Sheet number: of
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Appendix 2: List of Photographs

SITE NAME: Old East End House, Furneux Pelham, Hertfordshire			SITE NO/CODE: 985/FPE
Shot	B&W	Digital	Subject
1			Working shot, looking east
2			Boarded up footing trench, looking east
3			Working shot, looking east
4			Working shot, looking east
5			Footing trench to the north of the house, looking north, 2m scale
6			Footing trench to the east of the house, looking south west, 2m scale
7			Overview of footing trenches to east of house, looking northwest
8			Overview of footing trenches to east of house, looking northwest
9			Overview of footing trenches to east of house, looking northwest
10			Footing trench section to the east of the house, looking north, 2m scale
11			Stepped footing trench to east of the house, looking south, 2m scale
12			General shot, looking northwest
13			General shot, looking northwest
14			General shot, looking northwest
15			Footing trench butting up against the house, looking north, 2m scale
16			General shot of site and new development, looking northwest
17			General shot of new development, looking northwest
18			General shot of site and new development, looking northwest
19			Conservatory footing trench, looking east, 1m scale
20			Conservatory footing trench section, looking north, 1m scale
21			End of conservatory footing trench butting up against new development, looking east

Appendix 3: ASC OASIS Form

PROJECT DETAILS			
Project Name:	Old East End House, Furneux Pelham, Hertfordshire		
Short Description:	<i>During early 2008, an archaeological watching brief was carried out at Old East End House, East End, Furneux Pelham, Hertfordshire, as a condition of planning permission for the development of the site. no archaeological finds or features were observed during the watching brief, and it is unlikely that the development will have a significant affect on archaeological remains.</i>		
Project Type: (indicate all that apply)	Watching Brief		
Site status: (eg. none, SAM, Listed)	Area of Archaeological Significance, Listed Building	Previous work: (eg. SMR refs)	-
Current land use:	Garden	Future work: (yes / no / unknown)	-
Monument type:	-	Monument period:	-
Significant finds: (artefact type & period)	-		
PROJECT LOCATION			
County:	Hertfordshire	OS reference: (8 figs min)	TL 4483 2783
District:	East Hertfordshire	Parish:	Furneux Pelham
Site address: (with postcode if known)	Old East End House, East End, Furneux Pelham, Hertfordshire, SG9 0JT		
Study area: (sq. m. or ha)	c.400 sq.m	Height OD: (metres)	c.115
PROJECT CREATORS			
Organisation:	Archaeological Services & Consultancy Ltd		
Project brief originator:	A. Tinniswood	Project design originator:	C. Barclay
Project Manager:	K. Semmelmann	Director/Supervisor:	C.Rouse
Sponsor / funding body:	Jane Crossley		
PROJECT DATE			
Start date:	04/02/08	End date:	08/04/08
PROJECT ARCHIVES			
	Location (Accession no.)	Content (eg. pottery, animal bone, files/sheets)	
Physical:	Hertford Museum	-	
Paper:		Archive Box	
Digital:		CD	
BIBLIOGRAPHY (Journal/monograph, published or forthcoming, or unpublished client report)			
Title:	Watching Brief: Old East End House, East End, Furneux Pelham, Hertfordshire		
Serial title & volume:	ASC Ltd Report ref. 985/FPE/2		
Author(s):	Calli Rouse BA PIFA		
Page nos	23	Date:	10/04/08