Blackley Quarry, Essex: Extension Phases 1 and 2

An Archaeological Evaluation

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Planning Ref. ESS/16/15/CHL

University of Cambridge
Division of Archaeology

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NON-TECHNICAL SUMMARY

700m of archaeological trenching was conducted as a condition to the extension (Phases 1 and 2) of Blackley Quarry over an area of 3.5ha. The investigation area was centred upon a landfall with minimal archaeological activity composed mainly of linears of a post-Medieval enclosed woodland and later arable landscape. At the base of the landfall were an infilled pond and a trackway, both sealed by colluvium probably accelerated after the 1970s following the area's inclusion into the broader arable landscape. No earlier features or deposits were encountered.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

We are grateful to Ted Clover of Clover Planning and to Tony Pearman, FLPS operations manager, for their help throughout the project. The CAU Project Manager was Emma Beadsmoore, and the site trenching was directed by Marcus Brittain with the assistance of Louisa Cunningham and Jonathan Rampling. The site was surveyed by Jonathan Moller.

1. INTRODUCTION

The Cambridge Archaeological Unit (CAU) was commissioned by Blackley Quarry to undertake an archaeological evaluation in an area of 3.5ha proposed for the quarry's eastern extension (Planning Ref. ESS/16/15/CHL; Figures 1 and 2). This was carried out over four days (3-6 May 2016) following a brief issued by the Essex County Council Historic Environment Team (Bennett 2016) and a Written Scheme of Investigation outlined by the CAU (Beadsmoore 2016). The aim was to characterise the significance of archaeological remains within the PDA and to ascertain the potential impact upon these by the proposed quarry extension.

The project returned only a small number of post-Medieval features which correspond with cartographic and aerial photographic evidence; archaeology was otherwise absent across the centre of the proposed development area (PDA) and the overall impact is deemed to be low.

Topographic and Geological Context

The PDA is centred upon National Grid Reference TL 7311 1954 and comprised a north-south landfall of 78-72m OD bounded to the north by Blackley Lane, by enclosed woodland to the south, arable fields to the east and the existing quarry works immediately to the west. The Chelmsford Racecourse also lies immediately south of the PDA. Prior to the project's commencement the PDA was ploughzone arable land. The investigation area is located upon diamicton deposits of the Lowestoft Formation comprised of gluciofluvial drift (a mixture of sand, gravel and brickearth) overlying London Clay bedrock (clay, silt and sand). The nearest main watercourse – the River Ter – follows a southeast course *c*. 2.5km south of the PDA; the River Brain is similarly aligned *c*. 4.0km to the north.

Methodology

Fourteen trenches totalling 700m were excavated. A 360° machine excavator was used to open the trenches to a level where archaeological features were visible using a 2.0m-wide toothless ditching bucket under the supervision of an experienced archaeologist. Data sheets were completed for all of the trenches to record deposit profiles and geological variances and were accompanied by plans of all archaeological features at a scale of at 1:50. These were investigated by manual excavation and recorded by drawn sections at a scale of 1:10 or 1:20, complimented by digital photography. All excavated stratigraphic events were assigned feature numbers (F.#) and all contexts assigned individual numbers ([context #]). The trenches and the outline of the PDA were fixed to the Ordnance Survey (OS) grid with a Global Positioning System (GPS), during which a contour survey was undertaken. The spoil from each trench was scanned by a metal detector, with finds being collected and recorded by trench number. Information detailing the character of the trenches (e.g. data sheets, digital photography and survey record) has been catalogued together within an archive following procedures outlined in MoRPHE (English Heritage 2006). This is being stored with the processed material record at the CAU offices, under the site code DYBQ16.

Archaeological and Historic Background

A detailed desk-based assessment of the PDA and its surrounding environs has previously been compiled by the CAU (Brittain 2014). This identified potential archaeological horizons within 2-3km of the PDA, but stated that potential within the PDA itself was low – there being few instances of detected archaeological resources in previous fieldwalking and trench-based investigations within a 1-2km radius. There have been no previous investigations within the PDA itself.

The nearest prehistoric evidence is at Youngs End on the southern fringe of Great Notley where a small number of surface finds of worked flint are documented. Subsequent geophysical survey and trenching failed to identify any corresponding archaeological features. Roman activity is evinced by the line of the A131 'London Road' that broadly follows the course of a Roman network linking settlements at Chelmsford and Braintree. Later prehistoric activity at these 'centres' could suggest an earlier antecedent for the routeway. Limited (pottery) finds of a Roman date have been recorded from within Little and Great Leighs, along with a small rectangular enclosure in Great Notley (with a brief Late Iron Age phase), but there have been few signs of settlement extending beyond these locations into fields currently bordering onto the Roman course. This has led to suggestions that settlement was confined to the areas demarcating the nuclei of these villages, with adjoining fields lying open as either common land or woodland (Lavender 2004). This marginal status of the PDA may have continued into and throughout the Medieval period until widespread clearances and enclosure in the 18th and 19th centuries. The degree to which these events impacted upon the PDA remains an open question.

2. RESULTS

Trenching

Features were encountered in the extreme north and south of the PDA – the highest and lowest areas of the site's footprint – with its centre and main landfall being devoid of any archaeology. The north, centre and south areas are described separately below.

North Area

Three features were encountered in trenches 7-9 at the interface between the edge of the landfall and a capping plateau at a height of *c*. 78m OD. These comprised at least two linear ditches and a possible terminus to a third linear. The largest of these, F.7 (1.95m width, 0.43m depth), was oriented northwest-southeast in the north end of trench 7. This was filled with a single deposit of mid-brown silty clay [17] within a shallow flat-based cut along the centre of which was a shallow groove. No finds were recovered from F.7, but aerial photographs (Figure 5) show this to correspond with one of two parallel linear anomalies that pass along a southeast course from an axial point of multiple boundaries (including Blackley Lane to the north) to the northwest of the PDA. These pass through Phases 3 and 4 of the proposed quarry expansion and meet with another linear or boundary ditch turning southwest which is likely to be F.1 in trenches 3 and 14 (see below). Feature 4 was observed in trenches 8 and 9 on a

northeast-southwest alignment, and may bear some relation with F.7. In trench 8 this displayed a narrow cut ([10]; 0.6m wide, 0.26m deep; Figure 3) with straight sides tapering towards a rounded base, but was considerably shallower in trench 9 with a comparatively flattened base ([12]; 0.42m wide, 0.12m deep); this reduction is partly owed to the landfall of almost 1.0m between the trenches. A 10cm-thick washed deposit of mid-brown clayey silt [9] covered the base of F.7 and was capped by firm mid-brown stone-infused clayey silt [8]. The possibility of a third linear also oriented northeast-southwest was observed in trench 8 by a rounded linear hollow (F.5) filled with dark grey and gravelly clayey silt [13]. The shallow and irregular profile of this anomalous feature (to a depth of 0.12m) and the nature of its fill (which contrasts with F.4 and F.7) lends doubt to its status as a cut feature; it may instead be the result of rooting disturbance or a tree-bowl.

The geology in this north area was a combination of solid coarse sandy gravel with occasional pockets of brickearth. In trenches 7 and 9 this changed downslope towards a greater concentration of brickearth and loose gravel; compared with the solid platform above, this coincided with the central area devoid of any archaeology.

Central Area

Comprising of trenches 4-6 and 10-13, the PDA's central area covered the main southerly landfall dropping some 5.0m at 78-73m OD. The solid geology was uneven in profile and, as noted above, mixed in its composition. Within a number of trenches were the traces of plough marks on a north-northeast orientation; the extant plough alignment is northwest-southeast. Excepting for these and a number of ceramic field drains, no archaeology was observed in these trenches.

South Area

On the lowest flank of the landfall where it began to even out to 73-72m OD, five distinct features were encountered in trenches 1-3 and 14: three linears, a hollow and a pond or quarry.

All three linears were broadly oriented northeast-southwest, but were not aligned in parallel and most likely correspond with separate phases of field boundary. All are post-Medieval. Feature 1 crossed trenches 3 and 14 and was filled to a depth of 0.42m with charcoal-rich silt [1] over a layer of basal silting [2] from which an iron plough-turn was recovered. The line of F.1 corresponds with a boundary depicted in the 1880s-1970s OS maps, but which is absent in later issues. Feature 3 (width 1.6m, depth 0.4m) was identified in trenches 2 and 14 and followed a slightly more southerly course that F.1. It was filled with a firm deposit of yellowish brown silty clay [29] capped with stone-rich orangey brown silty clay [6], and no finds were recovered during its excavation. Extension of the linear would conjoin with current wooded field boundaries to the east and west. To the south and parallel to this, F.2 was of similar dimensions and profile; this displaying moderately sloping sides to a near flat base. A single fill of compact mid-greyish brown silty clay [4] contained a fragment of post-Medieval tile. Features 2 and 3 are visible as cropmarks (Figure 5) and in Chapman and Andre's map of Essex (sheet VIII) for 1777 are likely to represent the southern boundary of a diamond-shaped tract of land enclosed between Fair Wood Common

and Youngs End (Figure 6). F.2 was only registered in trench 2 but may nonetheless have demarcated the course of a trackway that passed between this and F.3.

Positioned at the lowest point of the landfall, trench 1 delivered a contrasting set of features compared with those found to its north (Figure 4); these features may best be described as a modified hollow and a pond. The hollow (F.8) occupied a level platform *c*. 13.0m width at the base of a marked drop (*c*. 1.0m) in the landfall. Feature 8 was sealed by a 0.3m-thick deposit of yellow silty clay colluvium [19] that may be of fairly recent origin and a combined result of the efficiency of modern ploughing and the infilling of the F.1 boundary sometime in or after the 1970s which allowed for sediment transport downslope. A rubbly deposit of hillwash [20] overlay the north edge of the hollow beneath the colluvium, and together these concealed a 0.3m-thick buried land surface comprising two layers. The uppermost layer [21] was a dark-grey sandy silt or A-horizon, from which an iron link-chain was recovered. This overlay a B- or B/C horizon defined by friable light grey sandy silt [22]. Although the northern and most defined edge of the hollow against the landfall broadly corresponded with a transition from sandy brickearth to gravelly sand, the abruptness of the drop and its return to a slight raise on the hollow's south edge may indicate that the hollow was either deliberately cut into the hillside as a form of terracing or, for example, that it developed during use as a hollow-way (thereby perhaps relating to Fs. 2 and 3).

Approximately 4.0m to the south of the hollow was a pond (Fs. 6 and 9) over a width of 12.0m and into which a 0.5m-wide slot was opened on its north edge to a length of 4.5m. The depth of the pond could not be ascertained on account of the high water table at a depth of 0.75m – the pond clearly acting as a catchment to the hillside run-off. The sides of the pond comprised a gentle and uneven undulation inclined at *c*. 45^{o} in which five deposits were exposed. The lowest of these, where saturation was at its greatest, was a soft deposit of sandy silt [27] capped by three coarse gravel-filled layers [24-26] of differing shades of grey and brown to a thickness of 0.3m. The uppermost void left by the inward sloping profile of these deposits was filled with mid yellowish-grey silt with occasional small rounded stones [23]; this may be a combination of colluvium and coarse hillwash. Feature 6 was simply a part of the diffuse south edge of F.9. Modern OS maps indicate ponds within the line of a wooded zone east of the PDA (abutting the west side of the quarry's proposed Phase 10 expansion); this wooded zone is also indicated on the 1880s OS maps. The full extent of the F.6/9 pond probably extends to the southeast where in the line of the low ground a localised pool of water was trapped within a functioning ditched boundary. It may in part be on account of the ponds that this southern area was demarcated from the fields to the north by Fs. 2 and 3. There was no sign that the pond had been managed in any way other than by its sealing by gravel, and it is likely to be one of a number of natural phenomena across a perched watertable; it is possible, moreover, that the ponds are arranged upon the course of a relict palaeochannel, but there was no sign of any prehistoric or other activity associated with this and their archaeological potential is low.

No other features were identified within the south area, except for disturbance by rooting or a treebowl located between the hollow and the pond in trench 1.

Material Culture

Tile

A single hand-made post-Medieval ceramic tile (219g) was found within linear F.2 [4]. Investigations at Youngs End in advance of the A131 bypass observed 'large quantities' of post-Medieval tile within the fields, and which were 'thought to be the result of manure spreading' (Lavender 2004, 203).

Metalwork

Two metal items were recovered from two post-Medieval features:

F.1 [2] Large post-Medieval/modern plough turn, Fe (1168g)

F.8 [21] Large post-Medieval/modern loop-fitting conjoined with oval link-chain (x4 links), Fe, (768g)

The following are items collected during metal-detecting of the trench spoil; all are post-Medieval:

Trench 1
- Blade (Fe, 187g), post-Medieval
- Rivett (Fe, 42.5g), post-Medieval
- Hand-made nail (Fe, 15.5g)
- Hand-made nail (Fe, 6g)

Trench 2
- Plough turn fragment (Fe, 62.5g), post-Medieval
- Canvass/tent peg (Fe, 14g), post-Medieval
- Canvass fastener ring (brass, 7g), modern

Trench 3
- Plough turn (Fe, 728g), post-Medieval
- Plough claw (Fe, 84g), post-Medieval
- Hand-made nail (Fe, 52g)

Trench 4
- Plough turn fragment (Fe, 243g), post-Medieval
- Blade with handle rivet (Fe, 110), post-Medieval
- Hand-made nail (Fe, 7.5g)
- Hand-made nail (Fe, 5g)

Trench 5
- Oval fitting; sheet with square hole at centre (Fe, 1850mm length, 205g)
- L-shaped pin, point at one end (Fe, 130mm length, 160g)
- L-shaped pin, flat ends (Fe, 150mm length, 89g)
- x3 metal strips (Fe, 77g)
- Hand-made nail (Fe, 7g)
- Hand-made nail (Fe, 2g)

Trench 6 – no finds

Trench 7
- Screw hook (Fe, 11.5g), modern
- Bent rod (Fe, 53.5g), post-Medieval
- Hand-made nail (Fe, 5g)
- Hand-made nail (Fe, 5.5g)

Hand-made nail (Fe, 7g)

Trench 8 – no finds

Trench 9
Chain link/bolt (Fe, 207.5g), post-Medieval
Hand-made nail (Fe, 6g)
Tube (Steel, 45g), modern

Trench 10
Lump (Fe, 32.5g)
Horseshoe fragment (Fe, 22g)

Trench 11
Ring fitting with extended point (Fe, 198g), post-Medieval
Hand-made nail (Fe, 78g)
Hand-made nail (Fe, 16g)
Hand-made nail (Fe, 5g)
Lump (Fe, 28g)

Trench 12
x4 fragments of metal sheet (Fe, 5mm thickness, 223g)
Hand-made nail (Fe, 17g)
Hand-made nail (Fe, 7.5g)
Hand-made nail (Fe, 5.5g)
Hand-made nail (Fe, 1.5g)

Trench 13
Metal strip, triangular fragment (Fe, 41.5g), post-Medieval
Bolt (Fe, 106.5g)
Hand-made nail (Fe, 9.5g)
Hand-made nail (Fe, 5.5g)

Trench 14 – no finds

3. DISCUSSION

The absence of prehistoric archaeology within the PDA has similarly been commented upon with regards to the wider environs where previous investigations have been carried out. Trial trenching and field walking have each returned little or no evidence for prehistoric activity in areas away from the core of the villages of Great and Little Leighs, including around Youngs End (surface finds of worked flint) to the east of the PDA and at the former Essex Showground to the west (Lavender 2004). Occupation is more likely to have been attracted towards watercourses and valley bases, such as the terraces of the Straw Brook (see Hickling and Cooper-Read 2002) and River Ter.

As a major route between the Roman settlements at Chelsmford and Braintree the A131 'London Road' might have been expected to act as a magnet for settlement. Thus far the evidence suggests that this did not occur away from areas that combined well-drained soils with access to a primary water source, and the settlements at Great and Little Leighs – established at least by the Late Saxon period – also appear to have restricted their spread beyond their nuclei. The PDA is likely, therefore, to have lain within wooded or common land from an early period.

The cartographic and aerial photographic sources illustrate successive stages of post-Medieval land use within the PDA. The Chapman and Andre map for 1777 show the area to be enclosed woodland, and it is possible that linears Fs. 2, 3 and 7 relate to the demarcation of this zone; rooting or treebowl disturbance in trenches 1 and 8 (F.5?) further attest to the extent of the woodland, the majority of which by 1880 had been converted to arable farmland. Continuation of the post-Medieval woodland zone is likely to be encountered within the quarry's expansion Phases 3 and 4, and perhaps also into Phases 5 and 6.

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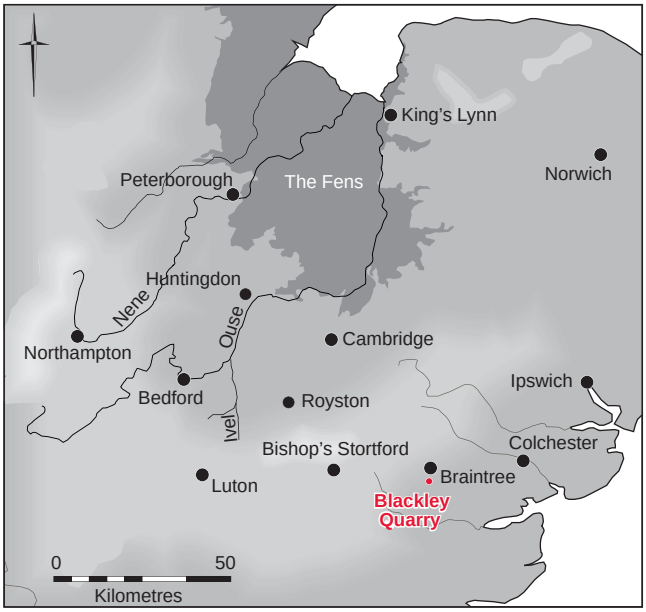
5. FIGURES



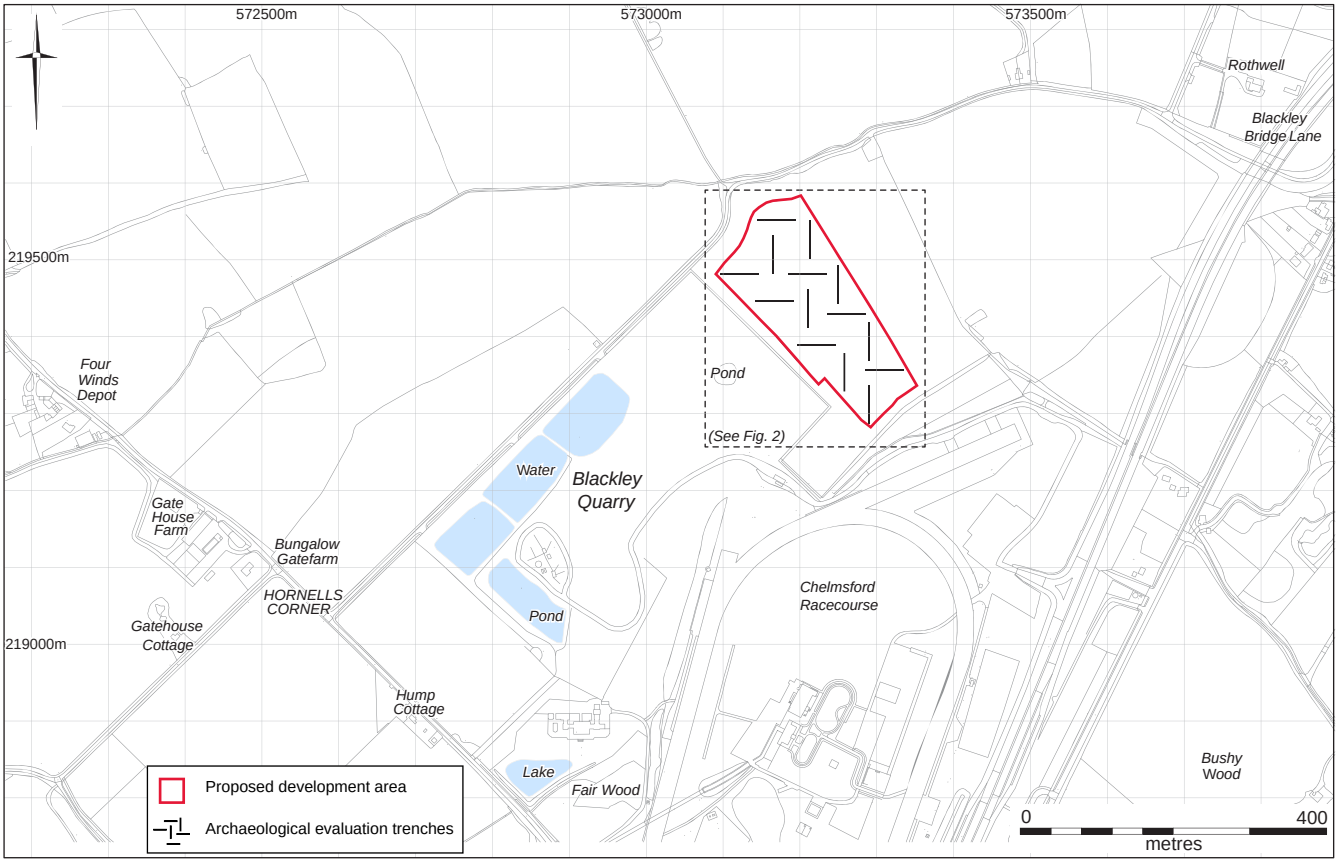


Figure 1. Location plan

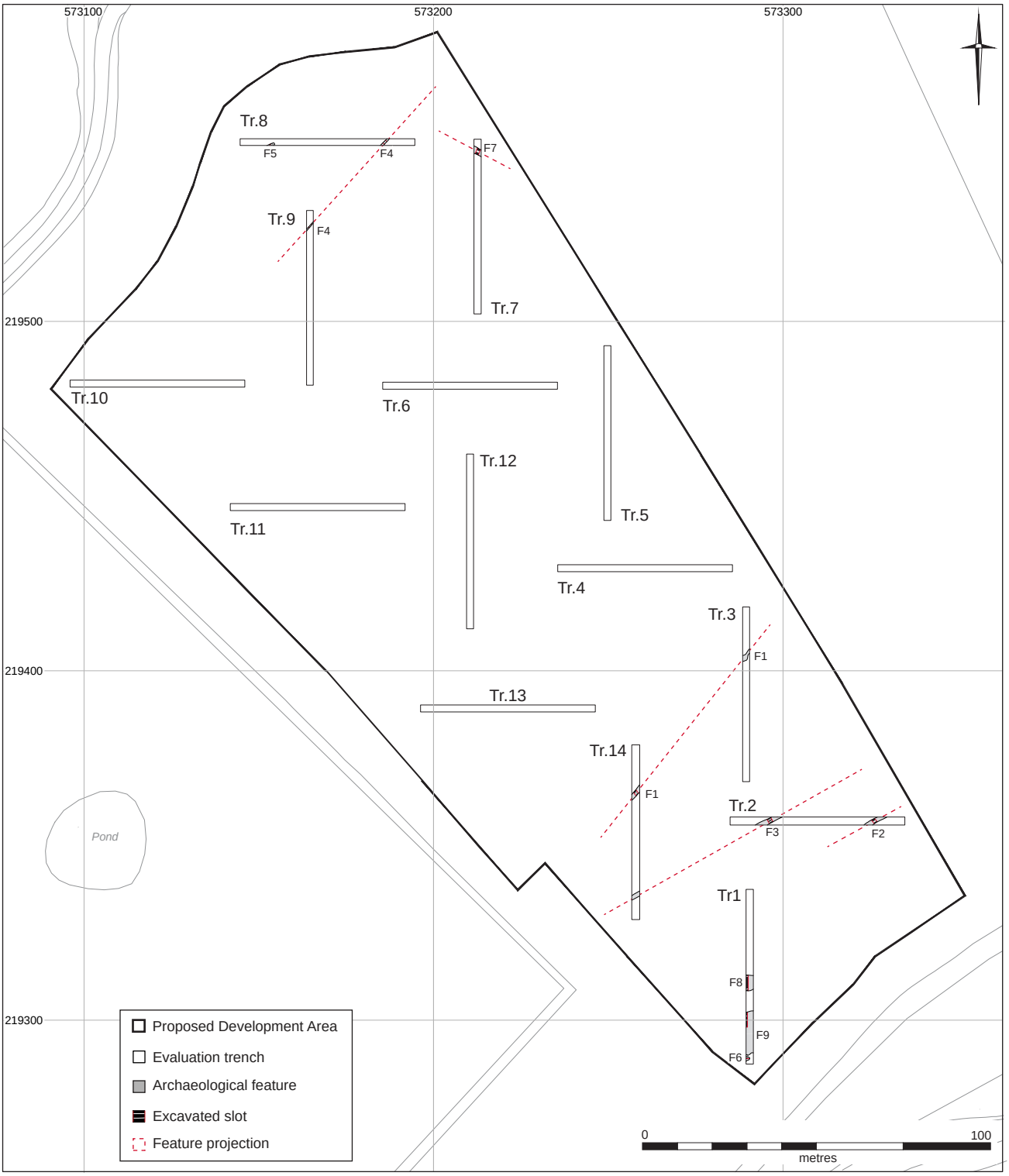


Figure 2. Trench plan

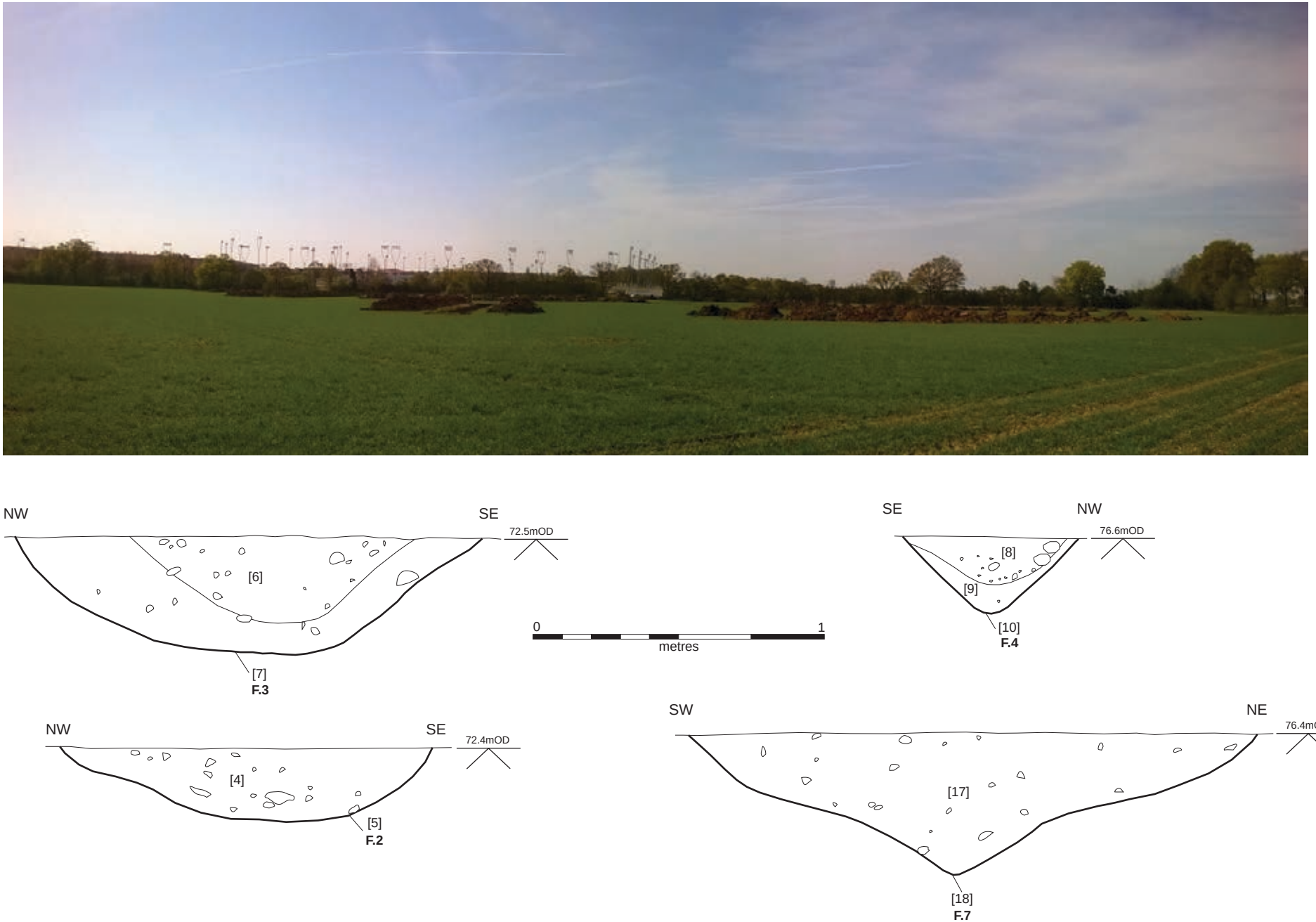


Figure 3. Panorama looking south and feature sections

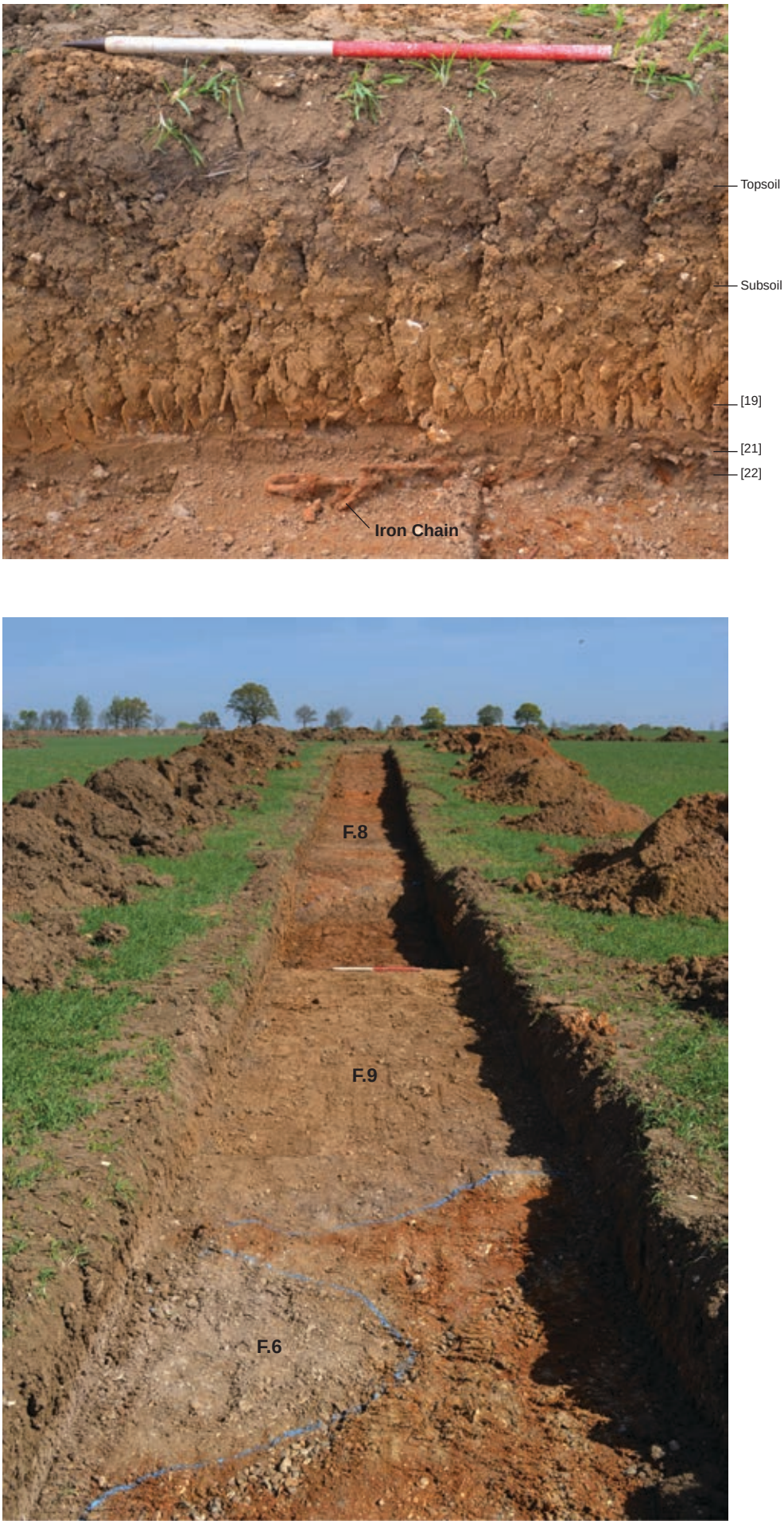


Figure 4. Trench 1 section and photographs

c.2000

Proposed development area

Evaluation trenches

c.2005

Figure 5. Aerial photographs and interpretation

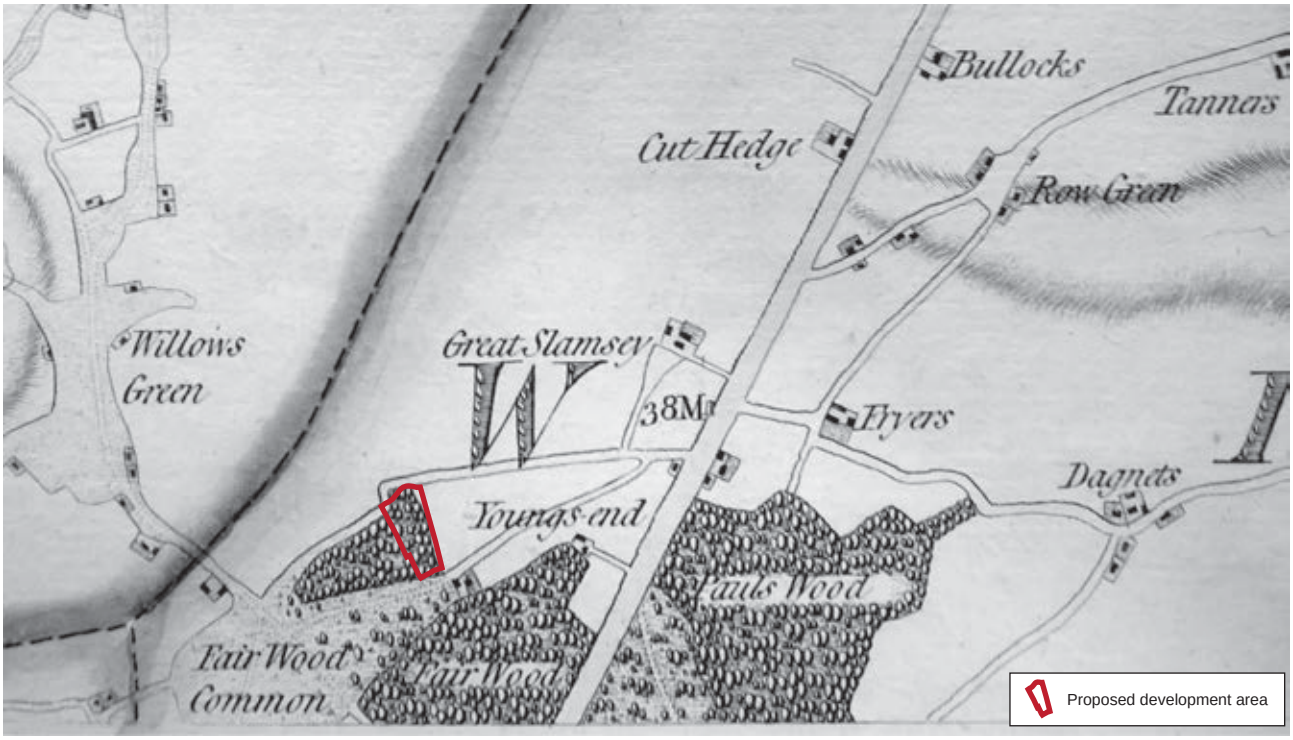


Figure 6. Chapman and Andre's 1777 map of Essex, sheet VIII

6. APPENDICES

Trench and Context Summary

Trench 1

	Summary description
Avg. Topsoil Depth (m)	0.35
Avg. Subsoil Depth (m)	0.3
Orientation of Trench	N-S
Width of Trench (m)	2.0
Length of Trench (m)	50.0

Situated at the project's lowest topographic level. Two features: a possible terrace or hollow with land surface (post-Med) sealed by colluvium and hillwash; a pond or palaeochannel also sealed by colluvium.

Contexts

F.No.	F.Type	Context	Cut/Fill	Dimensions (m)	Description	Comments
6	Channel or pond	15	L	Depth 0.24	Loose mid grey sandy gravel	No Date
		16	C		Undulating profile – diffuse edge of F.9	
8	Hollow or Terrace	19	L	Depth 0.2-1.0	Colluvium. Firm mid yellow silty clay with occasional small sub-angular stones.	Post-Med
		20	L		Hillwash. Compact mid yellowish brown clayey silt with frequent small to medium sub-angular stones.	
		21	L		A-Horizon. Soft/friable dark grey sandy silt with occasional dark orange staining and rare small sub-angular stones. Find of iron link chain and fitting.	
		22	L		B/Bc-Horizon. Soft/friable light grey sandy silt with occasional dark orange staining and very rare small sub-angular stones.	
9	Channel or pond	23	F	Width 12.0+ Depth 0.75+	Colluvium? Firm yellowish mid grey clay silt with mottled orange sand staining and occasional small sub-angular stones.	No Date
		24	F		Compact coarse sandy gravel (slightly indurated).	
		25	F		Moderately compact mid orangey brown silty coarse sand with occasional small rounded stones.	
		26	F		Moderately compact dark greyish brown sandy clay silt with iron staining and frequent rounded and sub-angular stones.	
		27	F		Soft and loose (saturated) mid grey sandy silt with rare to moderate small sub-angular stones.	
		28	C		Undulating inverted sides oriented E-W.	

Trench 2

Summary description	
Avg. Topsoil Depth (m)	0.2
Avg. Subsoil Depth (m)	0.3
Orientation of Trench	E-W
Width of Trench (m)	2.0
Length of Trench (m)	50.0

Two post-Medieval linears oriented NE-SW

Contexts

F.No.	F.Type	Context	Cut/Fill	Dimensions (m)	Description	Comments
2	Linear	4	F	Width 1.28 Depth 0.25	Compact mid greyish brown silty clay with frequent small to moderate rounded and sub-angular stones. Find of tile fragment.	Post-Med
		5	C		Linear oriented NE-SW with moderately sloping sides and concave base.	
3	Linear	6	F	Width 1.6 Depth 0.4	Compact mid orangey brown silty clay with frequent small to moderate rounded and sub-angular stones.	Post-Med
		29	F		Firm mid yellowish brown silty clay with rare small rounded stones.	
		7	C		Linear oriented NE-SW with moderately sloping sides and flat base.	

Trench 3

	Summary description
Avg. Topsoil Depth (m)	0.3
Avg. Subsoil Depth (m)	0.25
Orientation of Trench	N-S
Width of Trench (m)	2.0
Length of Trench (m)	50.0

One feature: a linear oriented NE-SW and continuing into TR.14. Two ceramic drains.

Contexts

F.No.	F.Type	Context	Cut/Fill	Dimensions (m)	Description	Comments
1	Linear				Unexcavated	Post-Med

Trench 4

No archaeology.

	Summary description
Avg. Topsoil Depth (m)	0.3
Avg. Subsoil Depth (m)	0.25
Orientation of Trench	E-W
Width of Trench (m)	2.0
Length of Trench (m)	50.0

Trench 11

No archaeology. Two ceramic drains.

	Summary description
Avg. Topsoil Depth (m)	0.3
Avg. Subsoil Depth (m)	0.15
Orientation of Trench	N-S
Width of Trench (m)	2.0
Length of Trench (m)	50.0

Trench 11

No archaeology. Four ceramic field drains.

	Summary description
Avg. Topsoil Depth (m)	0.5
Avg. Subsoil Depth (m)	0.2
Orientation of Trench	E-W
Width of Trench (m)	2.0
Length of Trench (m)	50.0

Trench 7

	Summary description
Avg. Topsoil Depth (m)	0.3
Avg. Subsoil Depth (m)	0.2
Orientation of Trench	N-S
Width of Trench (m)	2.0
Length of Trench (m)	50.0

One undated linear oriented NW-SE. One ceramic drain.

Contexts

F.No.	F.Type	Context	Cut/Fill	Dimensions (m)	Description	Comments
7	Linear	17	F	Width 1.95 Depth 0.43	Compact mid greyish brown silty clay with moderate small to medium sub-angular stones and occasional rooting.	No Date
		18	C		Linear oriented NW-SE with gentle to moderately sloping sides and slight concave base.	

Trench 8

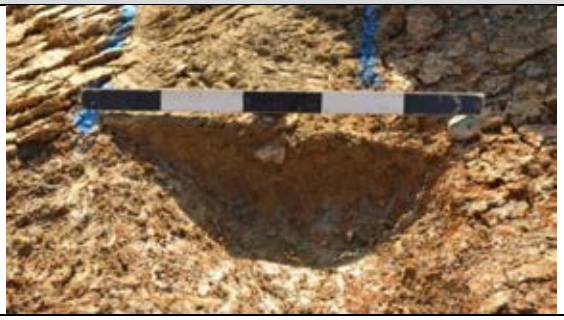
	Summary description
Avg. Topsoil Depth (m)	0.3
Avg. Subsoil Depth (m)	0.2
Orientation of Trench	E-W
Width of Trench (m)	2.0
Length of Trench (m)	50.0

Two features: a linear oriented NE-SW and a possible NE terminus or natural anomaly.

Contexts

F.No.	F.Type	Context	Cut/Fill	Dimensions (m)	Description	Comments
4	Linear	8	F	Width 0.6 Depth 0.26	Moderately firm mid brown clayey silt with occasional small to medium sub-angular stones.	No Date
		9	F		Moderately firm mid to light brown clayey silt with rare small rounded and sub-angular stones.	
		10	C		Linear oriented NE-SW with straight sides inclined at 45^{o} to a shallow concave base.	
5	Linear or Natural	13	F	Width 0.8 Length 2.2+ Depth 0.12	Friable mid dark greyish brown clayey silt with occasional gravel. Underlying natural is coarse sand mottled with clay.	No Date.
		14	C		Possible NE rounded terminus or tree-bowl. Shallow and slightly irregular sides to near flat base. Rooting disturbance on north side.	

Trench 9



	Summary description
Avg. Topsoil Depth (m)	0.3
Avg. Subsoil Depth (m)	0.3
Orientation of Trench	N-S
Width of Trench (m)	2.0
Length of Trench (m)	50.0

One linear oriented NW-SE and continuing into Tr.8

Contexts

F.No.	F.Type	Context	Cut/Fill	Dimensions (m)	Description	Comments
4	Linear	11	F	Width 0.42 Depth 0.12	Soft mid brown clayey silt with rare small to medium sub-angular stones.	No Date
		12	C		Linear oriented NE-SW with straight sides and a shallow concave base.	

Trench 10

No archaeology. One ceramic field drain.

	Summary description
Avg. Topsoil Depth (m)	0.3
Avg. Subsoil Depth (m)	0.3
Orientation of Trench	E-W
Width of Trench (m)	2.0
Length of Trench (m)	50.0

Trench 11

No archaeology. One ceramic field drain and one French drain.

	Summary description
Avg. Topsoil Depth (m)	0.25
Avg. Subsoil Depth (m)	0.3
Orientation of Trench	E-W
Width of Trench (m)	2.0
Length of Trench (m)	50.0

Trench 12

No archaeology. One ceramic field drain and one French drain.

	Summary description
Avg. Topsoil Depth (m)	0.3
Avg. Subsoil Depth (m)	0.15
Orientation of Trench	N-S
Width of Trench (m)	2.0
Length of Trench (m)	50.0

Trench 13

No archaeology.

	Summary description
Avg. Topsoil Depth (m)	0.3
Avg. Subsoil Depth (m)	0.15
Orientation of Trench	E-W
Width of Trench (m)	2.0
Length of Trench (m)	50.0

Trench 14

	Summary description
Avg. Topsoil Depth (m)	0.32
Avg. Subsoil Depth (m)	0.2
Orientation of Trench	N-S
Width of Trench (m)	2.0
Length of Trench (m)	50.0

Two post-medieval linears each oriented NE-SW.

Contexts

F.No.	F.Type	Context	Cut/Fill	Dimensions (m)	Description	Comments
1	Linear	1	F	Width 1.1 Depth 0.42	Mid brown silty clay with frequent charcoal/charred wood	Post-Med
		2	F		Mid orangey grey sandy clay. Find of Iron plough claw.	
		3	C		NE-SW oriented linear with sharp rounded profile	
3	Linear	-	-	-	Unexcavated – see Tr.2	Post-Med

Oasis Form

OASIS ID: cambridg3-253289

Project details

Project name	Blackley Quarry, Essex: Extension Phases 1 and 2 An Archaeological Evaluation
Project dates	Start: 03-05-2016 End: 06-05-2016
Previous/future work	No / Yes
Project ref. codes	DYBQ16 - Sitecode
Type of project	Field evaluation
Site status	None
Current Land use	Cultivated Land 2 - Operations to a depth less than 0.25m
Monument type	LINEARS Post Medieval; POND Post Medieval
Significant Finds	TILE Post Medieval; METAL (FE) Post Medieval
Methods & techniques	"Metal Detectors","Targeted Trenches"
Development type	Mineral extraction (e.g. sand, gravel, stone, coal, ore, etc.)
Prompt	Direction from Local Planning Authority - PPG16

Project location

Site location	ESSEX CHELMSFORD GREAT AND LITTLE LEIGHS Blackley Quarry
Postcode	CM77 8QW
Study area	3.5 Hectares
Site coordinates	TL 7311 1954 51.847086387741 0.513493540267 51 50 49 N 000 30 48 E Point
Height OD / Depth	Min: 72m Max: 78m

Project creators

Name of Organisation	Cambridge Archaeological Unit
Project brief originator	City/Nat. Park/District/Borough archaeologist
Project design originator	Emma Beadsmoore
Project director/manager	Emma Beadsmoore
Project supervisor	Marcus Brittain
Type of sponsor	Developer
Name of sponsor	Frank Lyons Plant Services

Project archives

Physical Archive Exists?	No
Digital Archive recipient	Cambridge Archaeological Unit
Digital Contents	"Survey"
Digital Media available	"Spreadsheets","Survey","Text"
Paper Archive recipient	Cambridge Archaeological Unit
Paper Contents	"Stratigraphic","Survey"
Paper Media available	"Context sheet", "Correspondence", "Photograph", "Plan", "Report", "Section"

Project bibliography

Publication type	Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)
Title	Blackley Quarry, Essex: Extension Phases 1 and 2 An Archaeological Evaluation
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