

Archaeological evaluation on land opposite The Drove, Lower Green Lane, Wimbish, Essex, CB10 2XH

July 2020



by Dr Elliott Hicks

figures by Chris Lister, Ben Holloway and Emma Holloway

fieldwork by Ben Holloway with Ziya Eksen and Matthew Perou

**commissioned by Peter Purkiss
on behalf of Guillermo Marquez**

NGR: TL 60224 34880 (centre)

Planning ref.: UTT/20/0868/DFO

CAT project ref.: 20/06g

ECC code: DLGW20

Saffron Walden Museum accession code: SAFWM: 2020.54

OASIS ref.: colchest3-397073



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CAT Report 1574

August 2020

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1 Summary

An archaeological evaluation (three trial-trenches) was carried out on land opposite The Drove, Lower Green Lane, Wimbish, Essex, in advance of the construction of a cottage-style dwelling with detached cartlodge. The site lies within a possible medieval moated settlement. Despite being located in an archaeologically-sensitive area, however, only a post-medieval or modern ditch or pit and a modern pit were uncovered.

2 Introduction (Fig 1)

This is the report for an archaeological evaluation by trial-trenching on land opposite The Drove, Lower Green Lane, Wimbish, Essex which was carried out on 14th July 2020. The work was commissioned by Peter Purkiss on behalf of Guillermo Marquez in advance of the construction of a cottage-style dwelling with detached cartlodge, and was undertaken by Colchester Archaeological Trust (CAT).

In response to consultation with Essex County Council Place Services (ECCPS), Historic Environment Advisor Katie Lee-Smith advised that in order to establish the archaeological implications of this application, the applicant should be required to commission a scheme of archaeological investigation in accordance with the *National Planning Policy Framework* (MHCLG 2019).

All archaeological work was carried out in accordance with a *Brief for Trial Trenching and Excavation*, detailing the required archaeological work, written by Katie Lee-Smith (ECCPS 2020), and a written scheme of investigation (WSI) prepared by CAT in response to the brief and agreed with ECCPS (CAT 2020).

In addition to the brief and WSI, all fieldwork and reporting was done in accordance with English Heritage's *Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment (MoRPHE)* (English Heritage 2006), and with *Standards for field archaeology in the East of England* (EAA 14 and 24). This report mirrors standards and practices contained in the Institute for Archaeologists' *Standard and guidance for archaeological field evaluation* (ClfA 2014a) and *Standard and guidance for the collection, documentation, conservation and research of archaeological materials* (ClfA 2014b).

3 Archaeological background

The following archaeological background draws on the Essex Historic Environment Record (EHER) held at Essex County Council, County Hall, Chelmsford, Essex.

The site abuts a protected lane which appears to be an old access route to the farm which lies to the west. Historical cartographic evidence indicates that the boundaries of the site correspond to an older boundary defined by four ponds, which is depicted on the first edition Ordnance Survey map of the area. It is possible these ponds, with their rectangular arrangement around the site, are the remains of a moated site (see Map 1 below). It is therefore possible that archaeological remains lie within the development area, and these may provide some indication of the original site of the nearby farmstead and of land use during the medieval period.

The site lies adjacent to a small settlement of dwellings and other buildings arranged around a central green. The adjoining property to the southwest, Stock Cottage, dates to the 17th or 18th century (EHER 36979). Lower House Farm, to the west, dates to the 16th or 17th century (EHER 36977).

During the Second World War, an emergency landing strip associated with RAF Great Sampford, was located directly opposite the site. It was used during the war by the USAAF as a dormitory site and contained six barrack blocks for airmen and separate quarters for officers and senior NCOs (EHER 16569).



Map 1 Extract of the 1880 6-inch OS map of England and Wales showing site location

4 Aim

The aim of the archaeological evaluation was to record the extent of any surviving archaeological deposits, and to assess the archaeological potential of the site to allow the ECCHEA to determine if further investigation is required.

5 Results (Figs 2-3)

Three trial-trenches were machine-excavated under the supervision of a CAT archaeologist. Trench T1 was 8m long and 1.8m wide, T2 was 12m long and 1.8m wide, and T3, a cross-shaped trench, was 22m long and 1.8m wide.

The trenching was excavated through modern topsoil (L1, c 0.07-0.19m thick, soft, dry dark brown silty-loam) and subsoil (L2, c 0.04-0.33m thick, firm, dry medium grey/brown silty-sandy-clay with occasional chalk flecks and small stones) onto natural (L3, firm, dry medium brown clay with occasional chalk flecks, encountered at a depth of 0.21-0.47m below current ground level).

There were no archaeological remains in trench T3.

Trench 1 (T1): 8m long by 1.8m wide

Modern pit F2 lay at the western end of the trench. The feature extended beyond the limit of excavation and so its full dimensions could not be ascertained, but its exposed extent was 1.28m wide and 0.2m deep.



Photograph 1 T1 trench shot – looking southeast

Trench 2 (T2): 12m long by 1.8m wide

Post-medieval or modern ditch or pit F1 passed through the trench on a NW-SE alignment. It was approximately 4m wide. The feature was not excavated as it clearly represented the remains of an old trackway depicted on late 19th-century OS mapping.



Photograph 2 T2 trench shot – looking south

6 Finds

by Dr Matthew Loughton

The evaluation produced eight fragments of unfroged brick dating to the 18th-20th centuries with a weight of 4.632kg. This material came from the following contexts: F1, F2 and L1. Pit F2 (2) produced a complete (3.63kg) unfroged brick with dimensions of 205 mm x 110 mm x 80 mm. This is stamped STEIN and is from the Stein Manuel Firebricks & Refracting Works at Whitecross, Stirlingshire (Scotland), which operated

from 1928 to 2001. This brick is dense, with a bright yellow coloured fabric with pink to red coloured surfaces and dark inclusions (ore?). This is possibly a refractory brick, one edge is dark and covered with a dark glassy like deposit, from a fireplace, kiln or furnace.

7 Conclusion

Despite being located within an archaeologically-sensitive area, only a post-medieval or modern ditch or pit and a modern pit were uncovered.

8 Acknowledgements

CAT thanks Peter Purkiss and Guillermo Marquez for commissioning and funding the work. The project was managed by C Lister, fieldwork was carried out by B Holloway with M Perou and Z Eksen. Figures are by C Lister, B Holloway and E Holloway. The project was monitored for ECCPS by Katie Lee-Smith.

9 References

Note: all CAT reports, except for DBAs, are available online in PDF format at <http://cat.essex.ac.uk>

- | | | |
|--------------------------|-------|---|
| Brown, N & Glazebrook, J | 2000 | <i>Research and Archaeology: A Framework for the Eastern Counties 2. Research agenda and strategy.</i> East Anglian Archaeology Occasional Paper 8 (EAA 8) |
| CAT | 2019 | <i>Health & Safety Policy</i> |
| CAT | 2020 | <i>Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) for an archaeological evaluation by trial trenching and an excavation on land opposite The Drove, Lower Green Lane, Wimbish, Essex, CB10 2XH</i> |
| ClfA | 2014a | <i>Standard and Guidance for archaeological evaluation</i> |
| ClfA | 2014b | <i>Standard and guidance for the collection, documentation, conservation and research of archaeological materials</i> |
| ECCPS | 2020 | <i>Brief for Trial Trenching & Excavation at Land Opposite The Drove, Lower Green Lane, Wimbish,</i> by Katie Lee-Smith |
| Gurney, D | 2003 | <i>Standards for field archaeology in the East of England.</i> East Anglian Archaeology Occasional Papers 14 (EAA 14) |
| Historic England | 2016 | <i>Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment (MoRPHE)</i> |
| Historic England | 2018 | <i>The Role of the Human Osteologist in an Archaeological Fieldwork Project,</i> by S Mays, M Brickley and J Sidell |
| Medlycott, M | 2011 | <i>Research and archaeology revisited: A revised framework for the East of England.</i> East Anglian Archaeology Occasional Papers 24 (EAA 24) |
| MHCLG | 2019 | <i>National Planning Policy Framework.</i> Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government. |

10 Abbreviations and glossary

CAT	Colchester Archaeological Trust
ClfA	Chartered Institute for Archaeologists
context	specific location of finds on an archaeological site
ECC	Essex County Council
ECCHEA	Essex County Council Historic Environment Advisor
ECCPS	Essex County Council Place Services
EHHER	Essex Historic Environment Record
feature (F)	an identifiable thing like a pit, a wall, a drain: can contain 'contexts'
layer (L)	distinct or distinguishable deposit (layer) of material
medieval	period from AD 1066 to c 1500
modern	period from c AD 1800 to the present
natural	geological deposit undisturbed by human activity
NGR	National Grid Reference

OASIS	Online Access to the Index of Archaeological Investigations, http://oasis.ac.uk/pages/wiki/Main
post-medieval residual section wsi	from c AD 1500 to c 1800 something out of its original context, eg a Roman coin in a modern pit (abbreviation sx or Sx) vertical slice through feature/s or layer/s written scheme of investigation

11 Contents of archive

Finds: none retained

Paper record

One A4 document wallet containing:

The report (CAT Report 1574)

ECC evaluation brief, CAT written scheme of investigation

Original site record (trench sheets, sections)

Site digital photos and log

Inked sections

Digital record

The report (CAT Report 1574)

ECC evaluation brief, CAT written scheme of investigation

Site digital photographs, thumbnails and log

Graphic files

Survey data

12 Archive deposition

The paper and digital archive is currently held by the Colchester Archaeological Trust at Roman Circus House, Roman Circus Walk, Colchester, Essex CO2 7GZ, but will be permanently deposited with Saffron Walden Museum under accession code SAFWM: 2020.54

Distribution list:

Peter Purkiss

Guillermo Marquez

ECC Place Services Historic Environment Advisor

Essex Historic Environment Record, Essex County Council



Colchester Archaeological Trust

Roman Circus House,

Roman Circus Walk,

Colchester,

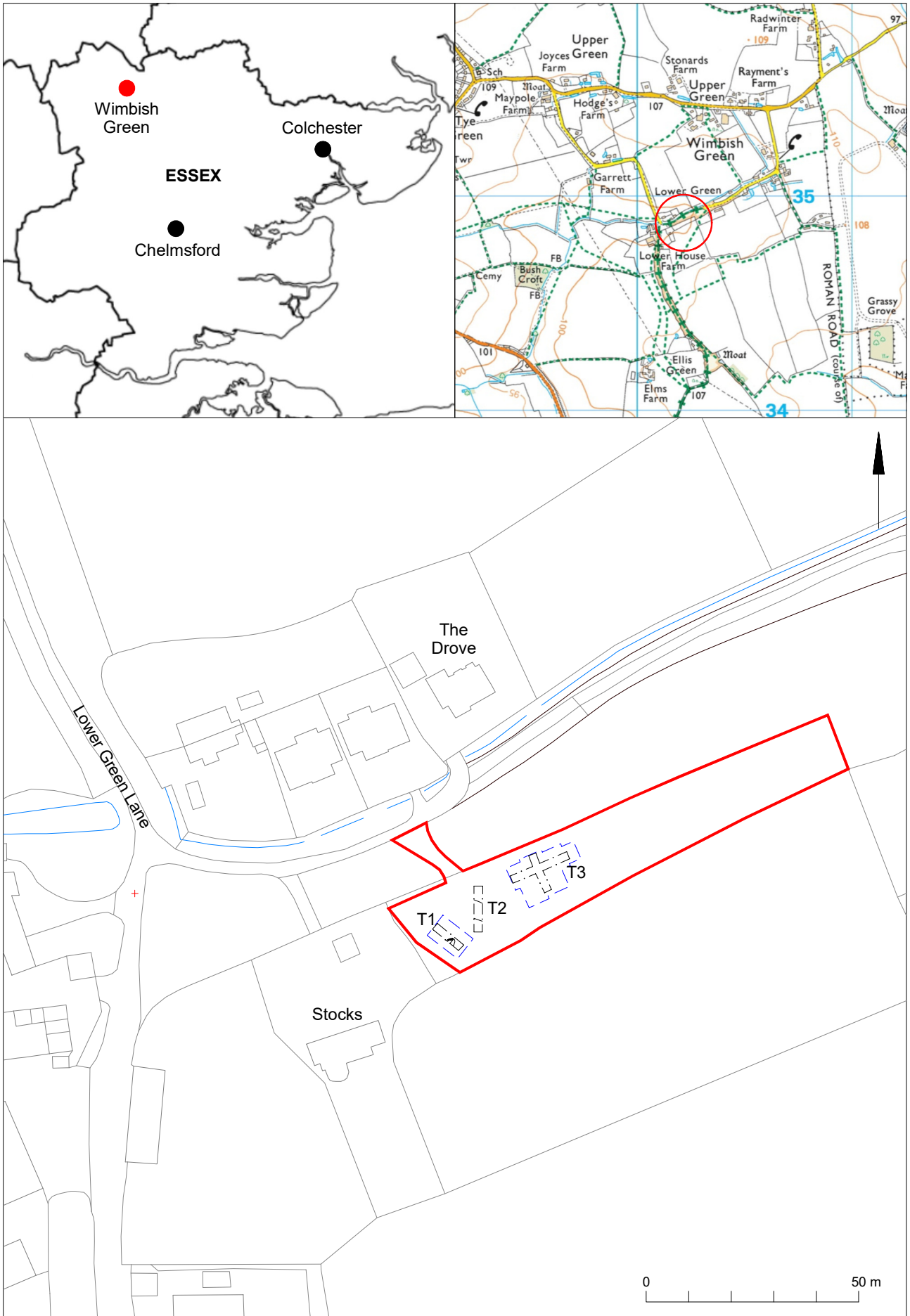
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Checked by: Philip Crummy

Date: 13.08.2020



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Fig 1 Site location and trench layout in relation to proposed development (indicated by the dashed blue lines).

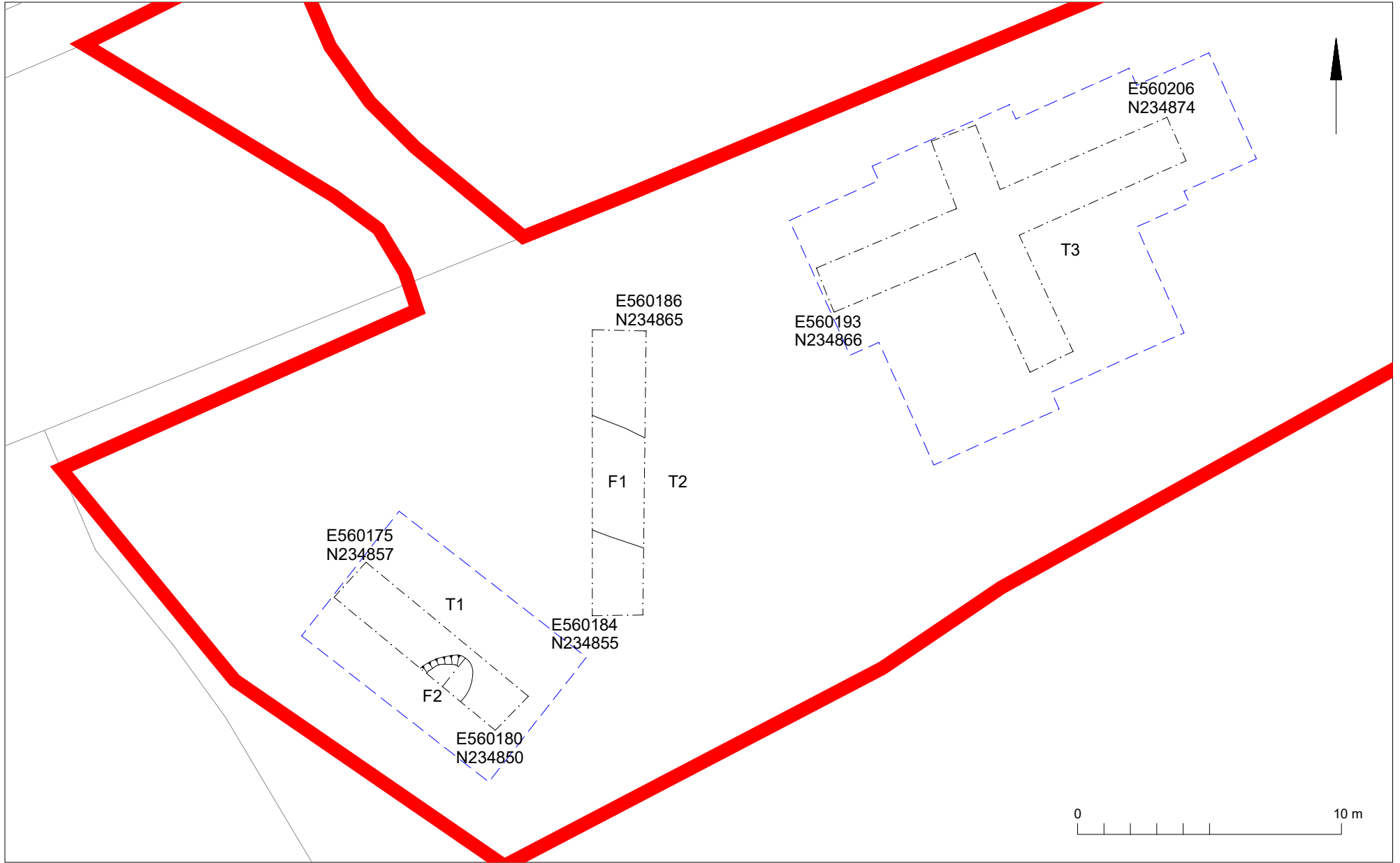


Fig 2 Evaluation results.

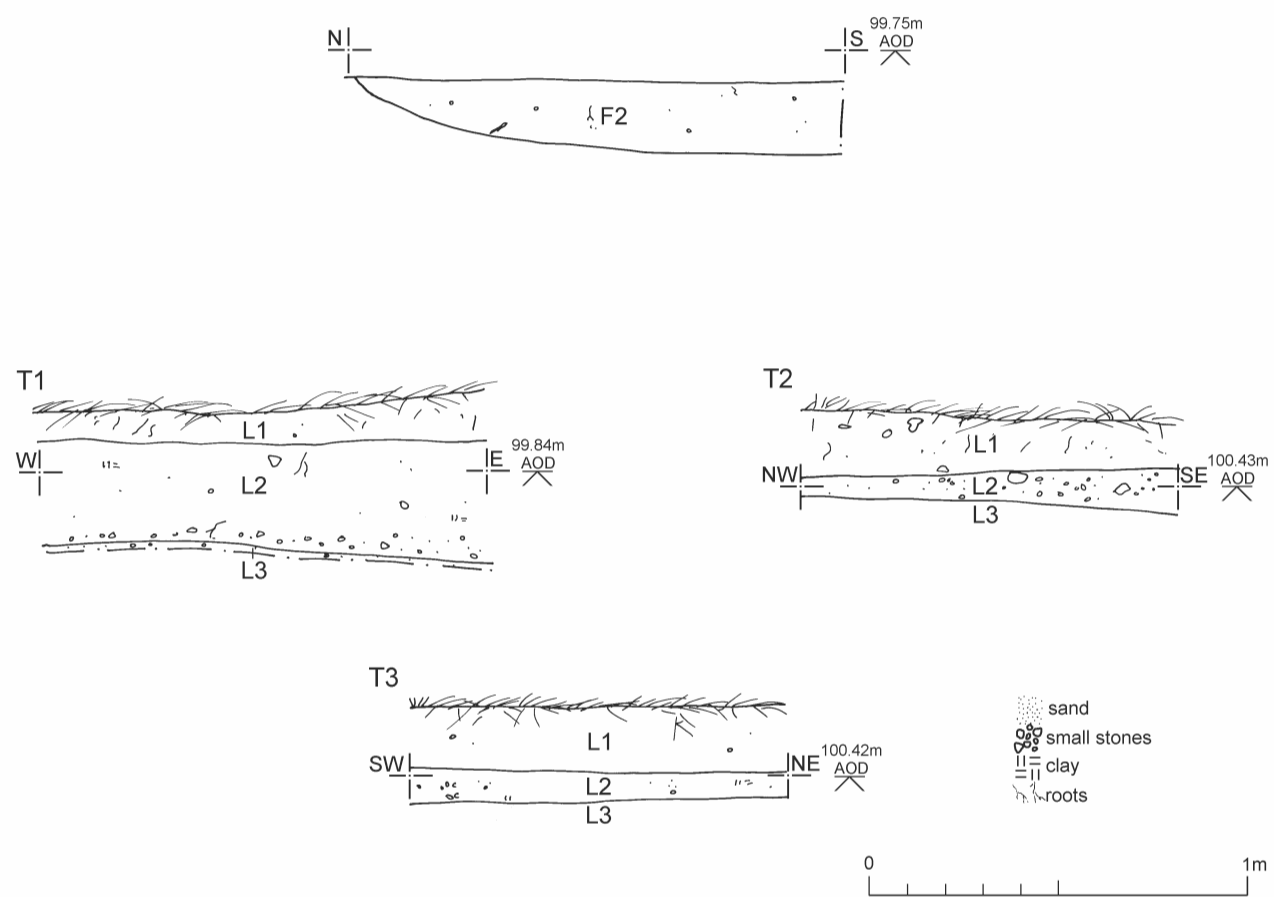


Fig 3 Feature and representative sections.

OASIS DATA COLLECTION FORM: England

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OASIS ID: colchest3-397073

Project details

Project name	Archaeological evaluation by trial trenching and an excavation on land opposite The Drove, Lower Green Lane, Wimbish,
Short description of the project	An archaeological evaluation (three trial-trenches) was carried out on land opposite The Drove, Lower Green Lane, Wimbish, Essex, in advance of the construction of a cottage-style dwelling with detached cartlodge. The site lies within a possible medieval moated settlement. Despite being located in an archaeologically-sensitive area, however, only a post-medieval or modern ditch or pit and a modern pit were uncovered.
Project dates	Start: 14-07-2020 End: 14-07-2020
Previous/future work	No / Not known
Any associated project reference codes	UTT/20/0868/DFO - Planning Application No.
Any associated project reference codes	2020/06g - Contracting Unit No.
Any associated project reference codes	DLGW20 - HER event no.
Type of project	Field evaluation
Site status	None
Current Land use	Vacant Land 2 - Vacant land not previously developed
Monument type	PIT Post Medieval
Monument type	PIT Modern
Monument type	DITCH Post Medieval
Monument type	DITCH Modern
Significant Finds	CBM Post Medieval
Significant Finds	CBM Modern
Methods & techniques	""Targeted Trenches""
Development type	Small-scale (e.g. single house, etc.)
Prompt	National Planning Policy Framework - NPPF
Position in the planning process	After full determination (eg. As a condition)

Project location

Country	England
Site location	ESSEX UTTLESFORD WIMBISH land opposite The Drove, Lower Green Lane, Wimbish, Essex
Postcode	CB10 2XH
Study area	0.2 Hectares
Site coordinates	TL 60224 34880 51.988767141777 0.333705726309 51 59 19 N 000 20 01 E Point
Height OD / Depth	Min: 99.41m Max: 100.4m

Project creators

Name of Organisation	Colchester Archaeological Trust
Project brief originator	HEM Team Officer, ECC
Project design originator	Emma Holloway

Project director/manager Chris Lister
 Project supervisor Ben Holloway
 Type of sponsor/funding body Owner
 Name of sponsor/funding body Guillermo Marquez

Project archives

Physical Archive Exists? No
 Digital Archive recipient Saffron Walden Museum
 Digital Archive ID SAFWM: 2020.54
 Digital Media available "Images raster / digital photography", "Text"
 Paper Archive recipient Saffron Walden Museum
 Paper Archive ID SAFWM: 2020.54
 Paper Media available "Context sheet", "Miscellaneous Material", "Photograph", "Report", "Section"

Project bibliography 1

Publication type Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)
 Title Archaeological evaluation on land opposite The Drove, Lower Green Lane, Wimbish, Essex, CB10 2XH: July 2020
 Author(s)/Editor(s) Hicks, E.
 Other bibliographic details CAT Report 1574
 Date 2020
 Issuer or publisher Colchester Archaeological Trust
 Place of issue or publication Colchester
 Description A4 loose-leaf brass-stapled
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Brief for Trial Trenching & Excavation At Land Opposite The Drove, Lower Green Lane, Wimbish



Date:
24 April 2020



Title: Archaeological Brief for Trial Trenching and excavation at Land Opposite The Lower Green Lane, Wimbish



Agent: Chris Lister cl@catuk.org

Planning Reference: UTT/20/0868/DFO

Date issued: 24/04/20

Historic Environment Advisor: Katie Lee-Smith | katie.lee-smith@essex.gov.uk |

03330 133338

Museum: Saffron Walden 01799 510333

This archaeological brief is only valid for six months. After this period the Historic Environment Advisor should be contacted to assess whether changes are required to the brief. Any written scheme of investigation resulting from this brief shall only be considered for the same period.

The contractor is strongly advised to visit the site before completing their written scheme of investigation as there may be implications for accurately costing the project.

1. Introduction

The Historic Environment Advisor has prepared this brief for archaeological trial trenching and excavation in advance of the construction of a single dwelling. The archaeological trial trenching will target the proposed building footprint, the proposed garage and the proposed tarmacked driveway. The trial trenching will form the first stage of the archaeological work with excavation to follow if archaeological deposits are identified.

2. Site Location and Description

The proposed development site lies within an area of potentially extensive archaeological remains to the south of Wimbish Green (TL6022434880). The development comprises the erection of a single dwelling, parking and cartlodge garage. Plans of the proposed development can be obtained from Uttlesford District Council web site under the planning application number.

3. Planning Background

A full planning application was validated by Uttlesford District Council in April 2020 for the erection of 1 no. dwelling - details of scale, appearance, layout and landscape. These details followed the former application UTT/18/2285/OP with all matters reserved except for access for 1 no. dwelling with detached cart-lodge garage. The planning application was identified as being located within a potentially archaeologically sensitive area. Therefore, a full archaeological condition was recommended to the local Planning Authority.

The archaeological condition that was recommended is based on the guidance given in the National Planning Policy Framework and states:

RECOMMENDATION: An Archaeological Programme of Trial Trenching followed by Open Area Excavation

No development or preliminary groundworks can commence until a programme of archaeological trial trenching and excavation has been secured in accordance with a written scheme of investigation which has been submitted by the applicant, and approved by the planning authority.

4. Archaeological Background

The following archaeological background utilises the Essex Historic Environment Record (HER) held at Essex County Council, County Hall, Chelmsford. Prospective archaeological contractors should obtain the HER prior to the completion of their WSI.

The Historic Environment Record indicates that the proposed development lies within an area of known archaeological sensitivity. The proposed site abuts, and is likely to truncate, a protected lane which appears to be a former access route for the farm to the west of the development area. The boundaries of the Site itself, from cartographic evidence, follow a former boundary with four ponds evident on the first edition Ordnance Survey map for the area. It is possible these ponds, visible from their rectangular arrangement around the site, are the remains of a moated site. The area for development therefore has the potential for archaeological remains which may indicate the original site of the nearby farmstead and medieval land use in the area.

5. Requirement for Work

The archaeological programme will initially comprise the excavation of a cross-shaped trial trench which spans the width and length of the proposed building, a trench to span the length of the cart lodge and one to span the proposed tarmac driveway. A trench plan will be provided with the WSI.

Specific areas of interest will be evidence for:

- The potential moated site and other land use of this date

The initial work will comprise the trial trenching which will be followed by a summary report. This will lead to further archaeological work, comprising open area excavation of those significant deposits identified. If no archaeological deposits are identified a report on the trial trenching alone will be required.

6. General Methodology

- 6.1 A professional team of field archaeologists shall undertake the archaeological work.
- 6.2 The number of staff involved and the structure of the team shall be stated in the written scheme of investigation. Notification of the supervisor/project manager's name for the project shall be provided to the Historic Environment Advisor one week in advance of commencement of work.
- 6.3 The archaeological contractor is expected to follow the Code of Conduct of the Institute of Field Archaeologists.
- 6.4 The contractor shall ensure detailed study of all mains' service locations and avoid damage to these.
- 6.5 All Health and Safety guidelines must be followed on site.
- 6.6 At the start of work (immediately before fieldwork commences) an OASIS online record <http://ads.ahds.ac.uk/project/oasis/> must be initiated and key fields completed on Details, Location and Creators forms. At the end of the project all parts of the OASIS online form must be completed for submission to the HER. This should include an uploaded .PDF version of the entire report.

7. Trial Trenching Methodology

- 7.1 Machine stripping shall be undertaken to an agreed standard, using a toothless ditching bucket, and under the supervision and to the satisfaction of a professional archaeologist. The exposed sub-soil or archaeological horizon will be cleaned by hand immediately after machine stripping, if required and any archaeological deposits or negative features planned.
- 7.2 Machine stripping will only be undertaken to the top of the archaeological horizon unless agreement is obtained from the Historic Environment Advisor to deepen the trenches by this method.
- 7.3 The contractor shall provide details of the site surveying, excavation and finds recovery policy in the written scheme of investigation. The site grid shall be tied into the National Grid.

- 7.4 Details of the site planning policy shall be given in the written scheme of investigation. The normal preferred policy for the scale of archaeological site plans is 1:20 and sections at 1:10, unless circumstances indicate that other scales would be more appropriate.
- 7.5 The contractor shall provide details of the sampling strategies for retrieving artefacts, biological remains (for palaeoenvironmental and palaeoeconomic investigations), and samples of sediments and/or soils (for micromorphological and other pedological/sedimentological analyses). Advice on the appropriateness of the proposed strategies will be sought from the Historic England Regional Adviser in Archaeological Science (East of England).
- 7.6 Should human remains be discovered the coroner will be informed and a licence from the Home Office sought immediately; both the client and the monitoring officer will also be informed. Human remains must be left *in situ* except in those cases where damage or desecration are anticipated, or where analysis of the remains is considered to be a necessary requirement for satisfactory evaluation of the site.
- 7.7 The photographic record shall include both general and feature specific photographs, a photographic scale (including north arrow) shall be included in the case of detailed photographs. The photographic record shall be accompanied by a photographic register detailing as a minimum feature number, location, and direction of shot.
- 7.8 The site and spoil heaps shall be checked by metal detector, with any finds recovered.
- 7.9 The IFA's *Standards and Guidance for Archaeological Field Evaluations*, and the *EAA Standards for Field Archaeology in the Eastern Region* document should be used for additional guidance in the production of the written scheme of investigation, the content of the report, and the general execution of the project.
- 7.10 A meeting will be held on site once the trial trenching has been completed to discuss requirements for further open area excavation. A summary of the results and a plan of the findings with a completed spot-dating report of all finds will be available at the meeting.**

8. Post Excavation Assessment

- 8.1 An updated post excavation assessment shall be submitted within 2 months or at an alternatively agreed time to the Historic Environment Advisor.
- 8.2 Where archaeological results do not warrant a post excavation assessment then agreement will be sought from the Historic Environment Advisor to proceed straight to grey literature /publication.

9. Finds

- 9.1 All finds, where appropriate, shall be washed.
- 9.2 All pottery and other finds where appropriate, shall be marked with the site code and context number.
- 9.3 The written scheme of investigation shall include an agreed list of specialist consultants, who might be required to conserve and/or report on finds, and advise or report on other aspects of the investigation.
- 9.4 The requirements for conservation and storage shall be agreed with the appropriate museum prior to the start of work, and confirmed to the Historic Environment Advisor.

10. Results

- 10.1 The report shall be submitted within a length of time (but not exceeding 6 months) from the end of the fieldwork, to be agreed between the developer and archaeological contractor, with a copy supplied to the Historic Environment Advisor as a single PDF.
- 10.2 This report must contain:
- The aims and methods adopted in the course of the trial trenching and any further excavation.
 - Location plan of excavated areas in relation to the proposed development. At least two corners of each of the excavated area shall be given 10 figure grid references.
 - A section/s drawing showing depth of deposits including present ground level with Ordnance Datum, vertical and horizontal scale.
 - Archaeological methodology and detailed results including a suitable conclusion and discussion. Appropriate discussion and result section assessing the site in relation to the Regional Research Frameworks (Brown and Glazebrook 2000, Medlycott 2011).
 - All specialist reports
 - A concise non-technical summary of the project results.

- 10.3 An OASIS sheet shall be completed at the end of the project and supplied to the Historic Environment Advisor (in lieu of the previous HER summary sheet). This will be completed in digital form. A copy should also be e-mailed to the Hon. Editor of the Essex Archaeology and History Journal for inclusion in the annual round-up of projects in the Journal paul.gilman@me.com
- 10.4 Publication of the results, at least to a summary level (i.e. round up of archaeology in Essex in *Essex Archaeology and History*) shall be undertaken in the year following the archaeological field work. An allowance shall be made within the costs for the report to be published in an adequately peer reviewed journal or monograph series.

11. Archive Deposition

- 11.1 The requirements for archive storage shall be agreed with the appropriate museum.
- 11.2 If the finds are to remain with the landowner a full copy of the archive shall be housed with the appropriate museum.
- 11.3 The archive shall be deposited with the appropriate museum within 1 months of the completion of the final publication report with a summary of the contents of the archive supplied to the Historic Environment Advisor

12. Monitoring

- 12.1 The Historic Environment Advisor will be responsible for monitoring progress and standards throughout the project. This will include the fieldwork, post-excavation and publication stages.
- 12.2 Notification of the start of work shall be given to the Historic Environment Advisor one week in advance of its commencement.
- 12.3 All trial trenches must be inspected by the Historic Environment Advisor prior to their backfilling.
- 12.4 Any variations of the written scheme of investigation shall be agreed with the Historic Environment Advisor prior to them being carried out.

13. Contractors Written Scheme of Investigation

- 13.1 In accordance with Standards and Guidance produced by the IFA this design brief should not be considered sufficient to enable the total execution of the project. A

WSI is required therefore in order to provide *the basis for a measurable standard* and for submission by the developer to the Local Planning Authority for approval.

- 13.2 Archaeological contractors shall forward a WSI to the Historic Environment Advisor of Essex County Council for validation prior to fieldwork commencing.
- 13.3 The involvement of the Historic Environment Advisor shall be acknowledged in any report or publication generated by this project.

References

- Brown, N. and Glazebrook, J. 2000 *Research and Archaeology: A Framework for the Eastern Counties* 2. Research agenda and strategy East Anglian. Archaeol. Occ. Pap.
- Gurney, D. 2003 *Standards for Field Archaeology in the East of England* East Anglian. Archaeol. Occ. Pap. 14
- Medlycott, M. 2011 *Research and Archaeology Revisited: A Revised Framework for the East of England* East Anglian. Archaeol. Occ. Pap. 24

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Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) for an archaeological evaluation by trial trenching and an excavation on land opposite The Drove, Lower Green Lane, Wimbish, Essex, CB10 2XH.

NGR: TL 60224 34880 (centre)

District: Uttlesford

Parish: Wimbish

Planning reference: UTT/20/0868/DFO

Commissioned by: Peter Purkiss

Client: Guillermo Marquez

Curating museum: Saffron Walden

Museum accession number: [tbc](#)

ECC project code: [tbc](#)

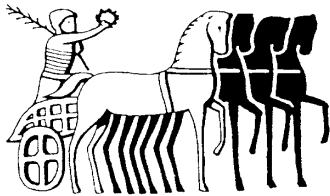
CAT project code: 2020/06g

Oasis project ID: colchest3-397073

Site manager: Chris Lister

ECC monitor: Katie Lee-Smith

This WSI written: 19/06/2020



COLCHESTER ARCHAEOLOGICAL TRUST,
Roman Circus House,
Roman Circus Walk,
Colchester,
Essex, CO2 7GZ

tel: 01206 501785

email: eh@catuk.org

Site location and description

The proposed development site is located on land opposite The Drove, Lower Green Lane, Wimbish, Essex, CB10 3XH (Fig 1). The site is a grass paddock enclosed by mature trees and hedgerow located off a byway to the east of Lower House Farm Lane. Site is centred at National grid reference (NGR) TL 60224 34880.

Proposed work

The planning application proposes the construction a single cottage style dwelling with detached cartlodge, access, and any associated groundworks.

Archaeological background

The following archaeological includes extracts of the ECC brief and the Essex Historic Environment Records (EHER) held at Essex County Council, County Hall, Chelmsford, Essex (accessed via <http://www.heritagegateway.org.uk>).

The proposed site abuts, and is likely to truncate, a protected lane which appears to be a former access route for the farm to the west of the development area. The boundaries of the Site itself, from cartographic evidence, follow a former boundary with four ponds evident on the first edition Ordnance Survey map for the area. It is possible these ponds, visible from their rectangular arrangement around the site, are the remains of a moated site (see Map 1 below). The area for development therefore has the potential for archaeological remains which may indicate the original site of the nearby farmstead and medieval land use in the area.



Map 1 Extract of the 1880 6-inch OS map of England and Wales showing site location (red).

The site is adjacent to a small settlement of dwellings and other buildings which lie around a central green. The adjoining property to the southwest, Stock Cottage, dates to the 17th-to 18th-century (EHER 36979). Lower House Farm to the west dates to the 16th-to 17th-century (EHER 36977).

Directly opposite the site was the location of a WWII emergency landing strip associated with RAF Great Sampford. It was used during the war by the USAAF as a dormitory site (specifically site No. 2) and comprised 6 barrack blocks designated for airmen with separate quarters for Sergeants and Officers (EHER 16569).

Planning background

The original planning application (UTT/18/2285/OP) was submitted to Uttlesford District Council in August 2018 with all matters reserved except for access *for 1 no. dwelling with detached cart-lodge garage*. Planning permission was granted on appeal in 2020 (UTT/20/0868/DFO).

As the site lies within an area highlighted by the EHER as having a high potential for archaeological remains a phased full archaeological condition was recommended. This follows the guidelines given in National Planning Policy Framework (MHCLG 2019).

Requirement for work (Fig 1)

The required archaeological work will consist of an archaeological evaluation by trial-trenching and excavation. Details are given in a Project Brief written by ECCPS (*Brief for Trial Trenching & Excavation at Land Opposite The Drove, Lower Green Lane, Wimbish – ECC 2020*).

Specifically, three linear trial-trenches will be evaluated. These will be positioned within the footprints of the proposed new dwelling, cart lodge and access road (see Fig 2). Trench 1 measures 8m long by 1.8m wide, Trench 2 12m long by 1.8m wide and Trench 3 measures 17m long by 1.8m wide in a cross-shape. This equates to 37m of trenching covering an area of 66.6m².

Aims of the archaeological evaluation is to target:

- Potential moated site and other land use of this date

Further area excavation may be required should significant archaeological deposits/features be identified that cannot be preserved *in situ*. This will be decided by the ECCHEA on completion of the trial-trenching and report.

General methodology

All work carried out by CAT will be in accordance with:

- professional standards of the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists, including its *Code of Conduct* (CIfA 2014a, b)
- Standards and Frameworks published by East Anglian Archaeology (Gurney 2003, Medlycott 2011)
- relevant Health & Safety guidelines and requirements (CAT 2019)
- the Project Brief issued by ECC Historic Environment Advisor (ECCPS 2020)

Professional CAT field archaeologists will undertake all specified archaeological work, for which they will be suitably experienced and qualified.

Notification of the supervisor/project manager's name and the start date for the project will be provided to ECCHEA one week before start of work.

Unless it is the responsibility of other site contractors, CAT will study mains service locations and avoid damage to these.

At the start of work (immediately before fieldwork commences) an OASIS online record <http://ads.ahds.ac.uk/project/oasis/> will be initiated and key fields completed on Details, Location and Creators forms. At the end of the project all parts of the OASIS online form will be completed for submission to EHER. This will include an uploaded .PDF version of the entire report.

A project or site code will be sought from ECCHEA and/or the curating museum, as appropriate to the project. This code will be used to identify the project archive when it is deposited at the curating museum.

Staffing

The number of field staff for this project is estimated as follows:

One CAT officer and two archaeologists for one day.

In charge of day-to-day site work: Ben Holloway/Mark Baister

Evaluation methodology

Where appropriate, modern overburden and any topsoil stripping/levelling will be performed using a mechanical excavator equipped with a toothless ditching bucket under the supervision and to the satisfaction of a professional archaeologist. If no archaeologically significant deposits are exposed, machine excavation will continue until natural subsoil is reached.

Where necessary, areas will be cleaned by hand to ensure the visibility of archaeological deposits.

If archaeological features or deposits are uncovered, time will be allowed for these to be excavated, planned and recorded.

There will be sufficient excavation to give clear evidence for the period, depth and nature of any archaeological deposit. For linear features 1m wide sections will be excavated across their width to a total of 10% of the overall length. Discrete features, such as pits, will have 50% of their fills excavated, although certain features may be fully excavated. Complex archaeological structures such as walls, kilns, ovens or burials will be carefully cleaned, planned and fully recorded, but where possible left *in situ*. Only if it can be demonstrated that the complex structure/feature is likely to be destroyed by groundworks, and only then after discussion with the ECCHEA, will it be removed.

Fast hand-excavation techniques involving (for instance) picks, forks and mattocks will not be used on complex stratigraphy.

The depth and nature of colluvial or other masking deposits will be established. Therefore, a sondage will be excavated in each trench to test the stratigraphy of the site. This will occur in every trench unless it can be demonstrated that a feature excavated within a particular trench has clearly penetrated into natural.

A representative section will be drawn of each trench, to include ground level, the depth of machining within the trench and the depth of any sondages.

Trained CAT staff will use a metal detector to scan all trenches both before and during excavation. All spoil heaps will also be scanned and finds recovered.

Individual records of excavated contexts, layers, features or deposits will be entered on proformarecord sheets. Registers will be compiled of finds, small finds and soil samples.

All features and layers or other significant deposits will be planned, and their profiles or sections recorded. The normal scale will be site plans at 1:20 and sections at 1:10, unless circumstances indicate that other scales would be appropriate.

The photographic record will consist of general site shots, and shots of all archaeological features and deposits. A photographic scale (including north arrow) shall be included in the case of detailed photographs. A photographic register will accompany the photographic record. This will detail as a minimum feature number, location, and direction of shot.

Trenches will not be backfilled until they have been signed off by the ECCHEA.

Site surveying

The evaluation trench and any features will be surveyed by Total Station or GPS, unless the particulars of the features indicate that manual planning techniques should be employed.

Normal scale for archaeological site plans and sections is 1:20 and 1:10 respectively, unless circumstances indicate that other scales would be more appropriate.

The site grid will be tied into the National Grid. Corners of excavation areas will be located by NGR coordinates.

Environmental sampling policy

The number and range of samples collected will be adequate to determine the potential of the site, with particular focus on palaeoenvironmental remains including both biological remains (e.g. plants, small vertebrates) and small sized artefacts (e.g. smithing debris), and to provide information for sampling strategies on any future excavation. Samples will be collected for potential micromorphical and other pedological sedimentological analysis. Environmental bulk samples will be 40 litres in size (assuming context is large enough).

Sampling strategies will address questions of:

- the range of preservation types (charred, mineral-replaced, waterlogged), and their quality
- concentrations of macro-remains
- and differences in remains from undated and dated features
- variation between different feature types and areas of site

CAT has an arrangement with Val Fryer / Lisa Gray whereby any potentially rich environmental layers or features will be appropriately sampled as a matter of course. Trained CAT staff will process the samples and the flots will be sent to Val Fryer or Lisa Gray for analysis and reporting.

Should any complex, or otherwise outstanding deposits be encountered, VF or LG will be asked onto site to advise. Waterlogged 'organic' features will always be sampled. In all cases, the advice of VF/LG and/or the Historic England Regional Advisor in Archaeological Science (East of England) on sampling strategies for complex or waterlogged deposits will be followed, including the taking of monolith samples.

Human remains

CAT follows the policy of leaving human remains *in situ* unless there is a clear indication that the remains are in danger of being compromised as a result of their exposure or unless advised to do so by the project osteologist or ECCHEA. If circumstances indicated it were prudent or necessary to remove remains from the site during the evaluation, the following criteria would be applied; if it is clear from their position, context, depth, or other factors that the remains are ancient, then normal procedure is to apply to the Department of Justice for a licence to remove them and seek advice from the project osteologist. Following HE guidance (HE 2018) if the human remains are not to be lifted, the project osteologist should be available to record the human remain *in situ* (i.e. a site visit). Conditions laid down by the DoJ license will be followed. If it seems that the remains are not ancient, then the coroner, the client, and the ECCHEA will be informed, and any advice and/or instruction from the coroner will be followed.

Photographic record

Will include both general and feature-specific photographs, the latter with scale and north arrow. A photo register giving context number, details, and direction of shot will be prepared on site, and included in site archive.

Finds

All significant finds will be retained.

All finds, where appropriate, will be washed and marked with site code and context number. CAT may use local volunteers to assist the CAT Finds Officer with this task.

Most of our finds reports are written internally by CAT Staff under the supervision and direction of Philip Crummy (Director) and Howard Brooks (Deputy Director). This includes specialist subjects such as:

ceramic finds (pottery and ceramic building material): Matthew Loughton

animal bones: Alec Wade (or Adam Wightman, small groups only)

small finds, metalwork, coins, etc: Laura Pooley

non-ceramic bulk finds: Laura Pooley

flints: Adam Wightman

environmental processing: Robin Mathieson/Bronagh Quinn

project osteologist (human remains): Meghan Seehra

or to outside specialists:

animal and human bone: Julie Curl (*Sylvanus*)

environmental assessment and analysis: Val Fryer / Lisa Gray

radiocarbon dating: SUERC Radiocarbon Dating Laboratory, Glasgow

conservation/x-ray: Laura Ratcliffe (LR Conservation) / Norfolk Museums Service, Conservation and Design Services

Other specialists whose opinion can be sought on large or complex groups include:

flint: Hazel Martingell

prehistoric pottery: Stephen Benfield / Nigel Brown / Paul Sealey

Roman pottery: Stephen Benfield / Paul Sealey / Jo Mills / Val Rigby / Gwladys Monteil

Roman brick/tile: Ernest Black / Ian Betts (MOLA)

Roman glass: Hilary Cool

small finds: Nina Crummy

other: EH Regional Adviser in Archaeological Science (East of England).

All finds of potential treasure will be removed to a safe place, and the coroner informed immediately, in accordance with the rules of the Treasure Act 1996. The definition of treasure is given in pages 3-5 of the Code of Practice of the above act. This refers primarily to gold or silver objects.

Requirements for conservation and storage of finds will be agreed with the appropriate museum prior to the start of work, and confirmed to ECCHEA.

A contingency will be made in the budget for scientific assessment/analysis if suitable deposits are identified. This can include soil micromorphological and geochemical analysis of floors and dark earth deposits and/or absolute dating (such as archaeomagnetic and radiocarbon). The Historic England Regional Science Advisor will be consulted for advice.

Post-excavation assessment

An updated post-excavation assessment will be submitted within 2 months or at an alternatively agreed time with the ECCHEA.

Where archaeological results do not warrant a post-excavation assessment then agreement will be sought from the ECCHEA to proceed straight to grey literature / publication.

Results

Notification will be given to ECCHEA when the fieldwork has been completed.

An appropriate archive will be prepared to minimum acceptable standards outlined in *Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment* (HE 2015).

The report will be submitted within 6 months of the end of fieldwork, with a copy supplied to the Historic Environment Advisor as a single PDF.

The report will contain:

- Location plan of trenches in relation to the proposed development. At least two corners of each excavated area will be given a 10 figure grid reference.
- Section/s drawings showing depth of deposits from present ground level with Ordnance Datum, vertical and horizontal scale.
- Archaeological methodology and detailed results including a suitable conclusion and discussion. Appropriate discussion and results section assessing the site in relation to the Regional Research Frameworks (Brown and Glazebrook 2000, Medlycott 2011).
- All specialist reports or assessments
- A concise non-technical summary of the project results.

An OASIS summary sheet shall be completed at the end of the project and supplied to the ECCHEA. This will be completed in digital form with a paper copy included with the archive. A copy (with trench plan) will also be emailed to the Hon. Editor of the Essex Archaeology and History Journal for inclusion in the annual round-up of projects (paul.gilman@me.com).

Publication of the results at least a summary level (i.e. round-up in *Essex Archaeology & History*) shall be undertaken in the year following the archaeological fieldwork. An allowance will be made in the project costs for the report to be published in an adequately peer reviewed journal or monograph series.

Archive deposition

The requirements for archive storage shall be agreed with the Curating museum.

The paper archive will be deposited with the appropriate museum within two months of the completion of the final publication report and confirmed in writing to the ECCHEA.

The digital archive resulting from the work will be deposited with the Archaeology Data Service (www.archaeologydataservice.ac.uk) to safeguard the long-term curation of the digital records. The ECCHEA will be notified when the digital archive has been deposited. Prior to deposition CAT's data management plan (based on the official guidelines from the Digital Curation Centre [DCC 2013]) will ensure the integrity of the digital archive. A summary of the contents of the archives shall be supplied to the ECCHEA at the time of their deposition.

Monitoring

ECCHEA will be responsible for monitoring progress and standards throughout the project, and will be kept regularly informed during fieldwork, post-excavation and publication stages.

Notification of the start of work will be given ECCHEA one week in advance of its commencement.

Any variations in this WSI will be agreed with ECCHEA prior to them being carried out.

ECCHEA will be notified when the fieldwork is complete.

The involvement of ECCHEA shall be acknowledged in any report or publication generated by this project.

References

Note: all CAT reports, except for DBAs, are available online in PDF format at <http://cat.essex.ac.uk>

Brown, N & Glazebrook, J 2000 *Research and Archaeology: A Framework for the Eastern Counties 2. Research agenda and strategy*. East Anglian

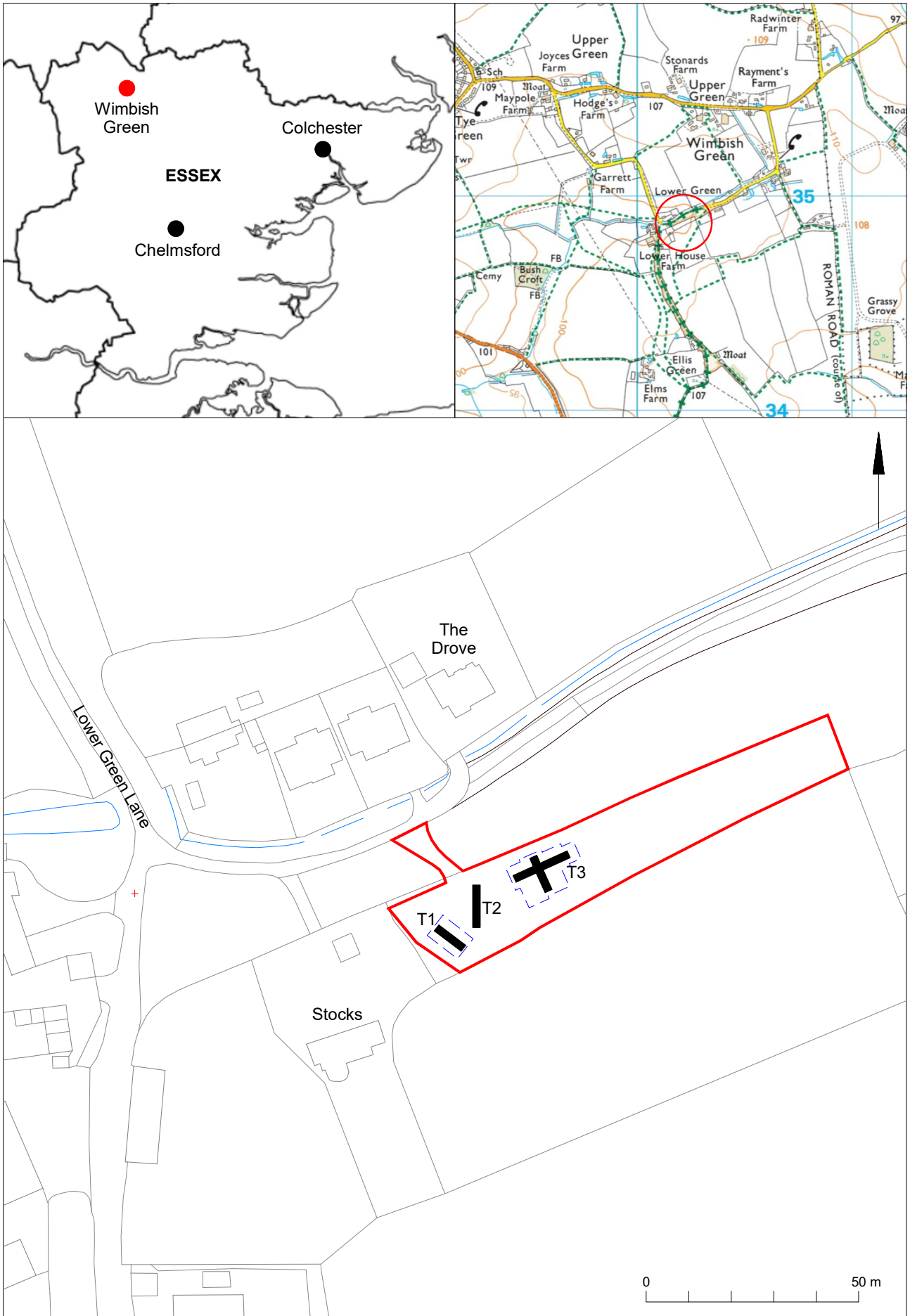
		Archaeology Occasional Paper 8 (EAA 8)
CAT	2019	<i>Health & Safety Policy</i>
CIfA	2014a	<i>Standard and Guidance for archaeological evaluation</i>
CIfA	2014b	<i>Standard and guidance for the collection, documentation, conservation and research of archaeological materials</i>
Digital Curation Centre (DCC)	2013	<i>Checklist for Data Management Plan v. 4.0</i>
ECCPS	2020	<i>Brief for Trial Trenching & Excavation at Land Opposite The Drove, Lower Green Lane, Wimbish, by Katie Lee-Smith</i>
Gurney, D	2003	<i>Standards for field archaeology in the East of England. East Anglian Archaeology Occasional Papers 14 (EAA 14).</i>
Historic England (HE)	2015	<i>Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment (MoRPHE)</i>
Historic England (HE)	2016	<i>Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment (MoRPHE)</i>
Historic England (HE)	2018	<i>The Role of the Human Osteologist in an Archaeological Fieldwork Project. By S Mays, M Brickley and J Sidell</i>
Medlycott, M	2011	<i>Research and archaeology revisited: A revised framework for the East of England. East Anglian Archaeology Occasional Papers 24 (EAA 24)</i>
MHCLG	2019	<i>National Planning Policy Framework. Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government.</i>

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Fig 1 Site location and trench layout in relation to proposed development (indicated by the dashed blue lines).



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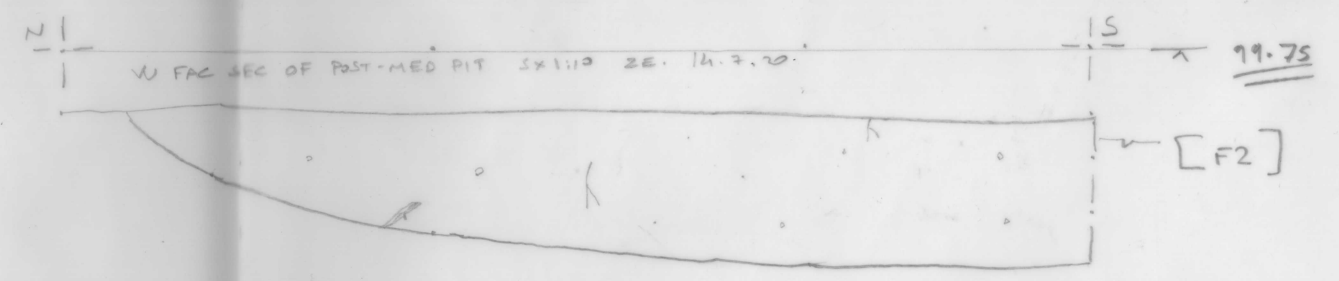
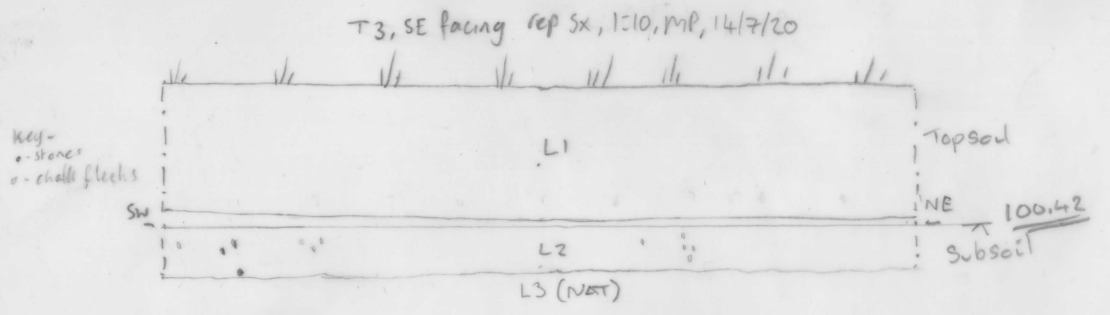
013



014



Filename	Description
DLGW20_PhotoGraph_001.jpg	Site shot
DLGW20_PhotoGraph_002.jpg	T3 rep sx - looking north-west
DLGW20_PhotoGraph_003.jpg	T3 trench shot - looking south-west
DLGW20_PhotoGraph_004.jpg	T3 trench shot - looking north-east
DLGW20_PhotoGraph_005.jpg	T3 trench shot - looking north-west
DLGW20_PhotoGraph_006.jpg	T3 trench shot - looking south-east
DLGW20_PhotoGraph_007.jpg	F2 sx - looking east
DLGW20_PhotoGraph_008.jpg	F2 - looking east
DLGW20_PhotoGraph_009.jpg	T1 rep sx - looking north-east
DLGW20_PhotoGraph_010.jpg	T1 trench shot - looking south-east (north arrow facing wrong direction)
DLGW20_PhotoGraph_011.jpg	T1 trench shot - looking north-west (north arrow facing wrong direction)
DLGW20_PhotoGraph_012.jpg	T2 trench shot - looking north (north arrow facing wrong direction)
DLGW20_PhotoGraph_013.jpg	F1 - looking north (north arrow facing wrong direction)
DLGW20_PhotoGraph_014.jpg	T2 trench shot - looking south (north arrow facing wrong direction)
DLGW20_PhotoGraph_015.jpg	T2 rep sx - looking east (north arrow facing wrong direction)



FIRM-MOIST
 MID-DARK GREYISH BROWN
 SILTY SAND. OCC. CHALK FLECKS +
 ROOTING ACTION.

