Historic building recording of a cellar at Bentfield Green Farmhouse, Bentfield Green, Stansted Mountfitchet, CM24 8TH

February 2022



report prepared by Sarah Veasey

fieldwork by Sarah Veasey

commissioned by
David Jones (Alun Design Consultancy)
on behalf of
The homeowner

CAT project ref.: 2022/02a NGR: TL 50458 25433 (c) Planning reference: UTT/21/1102/LB Museum accession code: SAFWM:2022.7 ECC code: BGSM22

OASIS project id: colchest3-504313



Colchester Archaeological Trust

Roman Circus House, Roman Circus Walk, Colchester, Essex, CO2 7GZ

tel.: 01206 501785 email: sv@catuk.org

CAT Report 1790 March 2022

Contents

1	Summary	1
2	Introduction	1
3	Aims	1
4	Methodology	2
5	Historical background	2
6	Building recording descriptive record	3
7	Discussion	7
8	Acknowledgements	8
9	References	8
10	Abbreviations and glossary	9
11	Archive deposition	9
12	Contents of archive	9

Appendix 1: Full digital photographic record 11

Figures after p11

OASIS Data Collection Form

List of maps			
Map 1	Extract of the 1777 Chapman and André map. Site location highlighted in green.	2	
Map 2	Extract of the 1881 OS map. Bentfield Green Farmhouse highlighted in green.	3	
Мар 3	Extract of the 1896 OS map. Bentfield Green Farmhouse highlighted in green.	3	
Map 4	Extract of the 1920 OS map. Bentfield Green Farmhouse highlighted in green.	3	
Map 5	Extract of the 1951 OS map. Bentfield Green Farmhouse highlighted in green	3	

List of figures

Fig 1 Site location.
Fig 2 Floor plan. Location and direction of photographs reproduced in text shown.

List of photographs reproduced in text pg			
Cover	Exterior of Bentfield Green Farmhouse. Photograph taken facing south-east.		
Photograph 1	Interior of cellar. Photograph taken facing east.	4	
Photograph 2	Interior shot of cellar. Photograph taken facing south-west.	4	
Photograph 3	Detail of arch. Photograph taken facing north. 5		
Photograph 4	Detail of interior stairs. Photograph taken facing north.	5	
Photograph 5	Detail of window. Photograph taken facing south.	6	
Photograph 6	Detail of original bridging beam. Photograph taken facing		
	south-west.	6	
Photograph 7	Detail of eastern door. Photograph taken facing east.	7	

1 Summary

A programme of historic building recording was carried out by Colchester Archaeological Trust on a cellar at Bentfield Green Farmhouse, Bentfield Green, Stansted Mountfitchet, Essex. Bentfield Green Farmhouse is Grade II listed and dated to the 18th century. The cellar is brick built and contains a brick arch supported on piers against the northern wall. An original bridging beam survives in the centre of the ceiling.

2 Introduction (Fig 1)

This is the archive report of a historic building recording carried out on the cellar of Benfield Green Farmhouse, Bentfield Green, Stansted Mountfitchet, Essex. The recording work was commissioned by the homeowner and was carried out by Colchester Archaeological Trust (CAT) in February 2022. The site is located on an area of common land in the village of Stansted Mountfitchet at NGR TL 50458 25433 (Fig 1).

A planning application (planning ref. UTT/21/1102/LB) was submitted to Uttlesford District Council in March 2021 for *proposed cellar alterations to form a recreation room.*

In response to this application, the Place Services Historic Environment Advisor (HEA) recommended to the council that a Historic England building recording be made of the cellar prior to the conversion works (ECC 2022). This recommendation was given based on the main house's Historic England grade II listed status. The recommendation was based on the National Planning Policy Framework (MHCLG 2019).

A Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) for the building recording was prepared by Colchester Archaeological Trust (CAT 2022) and agreed with the HEA. All work was carried out in accordance with this WSI.

All work was carried out according to standards and practices contained in the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists' Standard and guidance for the collection, documentation, conservation and research of archaeological materials (2014a), Standard and guidance for archaeological investigation and recording of standing buildings or structures (2014b), Management of research projects in the historic environment (Historic England 2015), Standards for field archaeology in the East of England (EAA 14) and Research and Archaeology Revised: A Revised Framework for the East of England (EAA 24). In addition, the guidelines contained in Understanding Historic Buildings: A guide to good recording practice (Historic England 2016) were followed.

3 Aims

The aim of the building recording was to provide a detailed record and assessment of the outbuilding prior to its conversion. The building recording was carried out to Level 2 (Historic England 2016) which is defined as:

"...a descriptive record, made in similar circumstances to Level 1 but when more information is needed. It may be made of a building which is judged not to require a more detailed record, or it may serve to gather data for a wider project. Both the exterior and interior of the building will be seen, described and photographed. The examination of the building will produce an analysis of its development and use and the record will include the conclusions reached, but it will not discuss in detail the evidence on which this analysis is based. A plan and sometimes other drawings may be made but the drawn record will normally not be comprehensive and may be tailored to the scope of a wider project."

In particular the record considered the:

- Plan form of the site.
- · Materials and method of construction.
- Date(s) of the structure.
- · Original function and layout.
- Original and later fixtures and fittings.
- Significance of the site in its immediate local context.

4 Methodology

The following are included in this report:

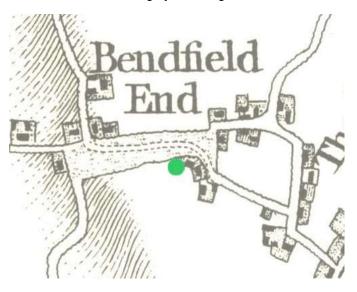
- A documentary, cartographic and pictorial survey of the evidence pertaining to the history and evolution of the site.
- A large-scale block plan of the site.
- Annotated and phased floor-plan of the building at a scale of 1:50.
- A description of the building. The description addresses features such as materials, dimensions, method of construction and phasing.
- A photographic record, comprising digital photographs of both general shots and individual features. Selected examples of the photographic record are clearly tied into the drawn record and reproduced as fully annotated photographic plates supporting the text. The photographic record is accompanied by a photographic register detailing location and direction of shot (Appendix 1).

5 Historical background (Fig 1)

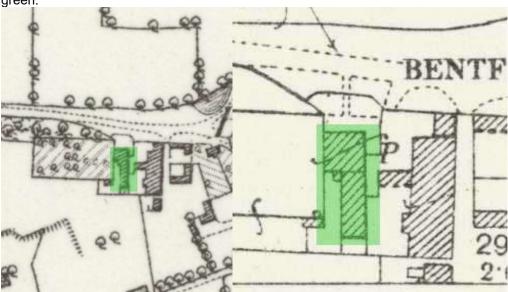
The following background includes extracts of the Essex Historic Environment Records (EHER) held at Essex County Council, County Hall, Chelmsford, Essex (accessed via http://www.heritagegateway.org.uk).

Bentfield Green Farmhouse is a Grade II listed building (NHLE 1221309) situated within the Bentfield Green Conservation Area. It is an eighteenth-century two-storey red brick house with parapet and modern additions. It has a symmetrical façade of three bays with 6/6 vertical sliding sash windows with a central doorway. The double-pitched roof is covered with plain tiles. A wing extends to the south, which also has a plain tile roof.

While there are buildings present in the sites location on the 1777 Chapman and André map it is unclear whether these represent Bentfield Farmhouse (Map 1). The house is present on the 1875 OS map (Map 2). The size and shape of Bentfield Green Farmhouse remains largely unchanged until a modern extension was added in 2015.

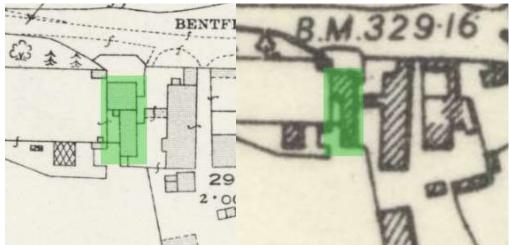


Map 1 Extract of the 1777 Chapman and André map. Site location highlighted in green.



Map 2 Extract of the 1881 OS map. Bentfield Green Farmhouse highlighted in green.

Map 3 Extract of the 1896 OS map. Bentfield Green Farmhouse highlighted in green.



Map 4 Extract of the 1920. Bentfield Green Farmhouse highlighted in green.

Map 5 Extract of the 1951 OS Map. Bentfield Green Farmhouse highlighted in green.

6 Building recording descriptive record (Fig 2)

The cellar is approximately 6m by 5m and is located below the lounge and hall of the house. The walls are constructed of red brick (brick measurement: $230 \times 60 \times 100$ mm) laid in English-bond and are covered in a thick coat of white paint. There is a modern concrete skim on the lower 0.92m of the walls, also painted white. The floor is modern concrete.

A brick arch is located on the northern wall. The arch is supported on straight brick piers. While it is clear the bricks used to construct the arch are not incorporated into the cellar wall, it is unclear if the rest of the structure is built into the wall or not. The arch also has a concrete skim on the outer surfaces, similar to the rest of the cellar walls. There is damage to the eastern side of the structure and at the top of the arch.



Photograph 1 Interior of cellar. Photograph taken facing east.



Photograph 2 Interior shot of cellar. Photograph taken facing south-west.

To the west of the arch is a modern staircase, which leads up into the kitchen of the house. The stairs are constructed from modern red brick with a timber tread. A modern cupboard is located in the north-west corner.

The eastern wall has a single timber door, which opens onto a set of external concrete steps. A modern sump pump is also present the south-west corner.

The southern wall has a single-light fixed inserted window with a timber lintel. The majority of the rest of this wall is obscured by modern cupboards. The western wall is a plain brick wall.

One original north-south bridging beam is present, which is supported by a modern post. A later bridging beam is located to the west of the original beam, and is supported by two modern posts. This beam does not extend to the full width of the room due to the staircase and cellar entrance.



Photograph 3 Detail of the arch. Photograph taken facing north.



Photograph 4 Detail of interior stairs. Photograph taken facing north.



Photograph 5 Detail of window. Photograph taken facing south.



Photograph 6 Detail of original bridging beam. Photograph taken facing south-west.



Photograph 7 Detail of eastern door. Photograph taken facing east.

7 Discussion

The 18th century saw the meeting of the medieval and modern worlds, where the majority of people still lived and worked on the land but improvements in agriculture and industry were bringing new benefits, mainly to the aristocracy who lavished their wealth upon country houses and urban properties (Yorke, 2008).

Georgian houses are typically large with an elegant, symmetrical façade. The layout of the domestic house changed subtly over the Georgian period, with homeowners looking to keep a more respectable distance between the family and the servants. This meant many houses were built with a kitchen and/or scullery in a full depth cellar. Rather than entering through the main door, the staff could climb down the main steps in the area at the front or side which permitted light and air to enter these subterranean spaces (Yorke, 2012).

To build a house with a cellar it is necessary to find a well-drained piece of land. After digging down to depth the cellar walls would have been constructed using brick or stone. The floors may have then been built-up and levelled using crushed stone or sand and then paved with flagstones or bricks (Maybank, 2008).

The exterior of Bentfield Green Farmhouse is very typically Georgian, with a large symmetrical frontage with a plain parapet. The layout of the house is conventional for a Georgian house – with large reception rooms on the ground floor and a number of bedrooms on the first floor. In comparison the cellar is relatively small in size, perhaps indicating that its original purpose was merely for storage. However, due to the access

from both inside the house and outside the house use as a small kitchen area cannot be ruled out.

From the exterior it can be seen that the chimney has four chimney pots, an indication that there would have been four working fireplaces as part of this chimney. Typically, the fireplaces would have been located back-to-back on an interior wall. Two fireplaces are still open today, in the kitchen and in the bedroom above the kitchen (Homeowner, pers comm). It is likely that the other two fireplaces would have been located in the rooms adjacent to the kitchen and bedroom. It seems likely, then, that the arch in the cellar has never been used as a fireplace.

It is unclear whether the structure of the arch is incorporated into the walls of the cellar. If the cellar is original to the building, then it was simply built to provide strength to the chimney breast and fireplaces on the ground and first floors. If the cellar is a later addition, then the piers and arch were inserted to prevent the collapse of the existing chimney stack. Intrusive work to the existing brickwork and the removal of the many layers of white paint would be needed to answer this question definitively.

8 Acknowledgements

Colchester Archaeological Trust would like to thank David Jones (Alun Design Consultancy) for commissioning and the homeowner for funding the historic building recording. The recording was carried out by Sarah Veasey. Figures are by Sarah Veasey, based on original architects drawings by Alun Design Consultancy Ltd. The project was monitored by Katie Lee-Smith for Essex County Council. The text was reviewed by Philip Crummy, director of CAT.

9 References

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

CAT	2022	Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) for an historic building recording of a cellar at Bentfield Green Farmhouse, Bentfield Green, Stansted Mountfitchet, Essex, CM24 8TH by S Veasey
CIfA	2014a (updated 2019)	Standard and guidance for the collection, documentation, conservation and research of archaeological materials
CIfA	2014b (updated 2019)	Standard and guidance for archaeological investigation and recording of standing buildings or structures
MHCLG	2019	National planning policy framework
EAA 14	2003	Standards for field archaeology in the East of England East Anglian Archaeological occasional papers 14 by D. Gurney
EAA 24	2011	Research and Archaeology Revisited: A Revised Framework for the East of England, East Anglian Archaeological occasional papers 24 by M Medlycott
ECCPS	2022	Brief for Historic Building Recording at Bentfield Green farm, Stansted By K Lee-Smith
Historic England	2015	MoRPHE: Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment
Historic England	2016	Understanding Historic Buildings. A guide to good recording practice
Maybank, G	2008	'Damp Below Ground' in <i>The Building Conservation Directory</i> 2008
T Yorke	2008	British Architectural Styles: An Easy Reference Guide
T Yorke	2012	British Interior House Styles: An Easy Reference Guide

10 Abbreviations and glossary

binding-beam a large timber running from post-to-post and providing intermediate

support to floor-joists

CAT Colchester Archaeological Trust
CIfA Chartered Institute for Archaeologists

EHER Essex Historic Environment Record, held by the ECC

ERO Essex Records Office

English-bond a brickwork bond created from alternate courses of headers and

stretchers

Georgian the reigns of kings George I - IV and William IV, from 1714 to 1837

HE Historic Environment

header a brick laid at right-angles to the face of the wall, i.e widthways joist a horizontal timber that supports floorboards above. Will sometimes

carry boarded or plastered ceilings

modern period from the 19th century onwards to the present

NGR National Grid Reference

OASIS Online AccesS to the Index of Archaeological InvestigationS,

http://oasis.ac.uk/pages/wiki/Main

post in wall frames vertical members which rise the full height of the

frame, being either principal posts at the bay divisions or

intermediate posts within the bay

stretcher a brick laid parallel to the face of the wall, i.e. lengthways

11 Archive deposition

The 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 Waldon museum under accession code SAFWM:2022.7.

12 Contents of archive

Paper record

One A4 document wallet containing: The report (CAT Report 1790) Original site record (plans and notes) Site digital photos and log

Digital record

The CAT WSI The report (CAT Report 1790) Digital plans Site digital photos and log

© Colchester Archaeological Trust 2022

Distribution list Homeowner Katie Lee-Smith, ECCHEA EHER



Colchester Archaeological Trust

Roman Circus House Circular Road North, Colchester, Essex CO2 7GZ

tel.: 01206 501785 email: sv@catuk.org

checked by: Philip Crummy

Appendix 1:

Full digital photographic record

SAFWM2022.7_BGSM22_Photograph_001.JPG Interior shot of cellar. Photograph taken facing south-SAFWM2022.7 BGSM22 Photograph 002.JPG Interior shot of cellar. Photograph taken facing south south-west SAFWM2022.7 BGSM22 Photograph 003.JPG Interior shot of cellar. Photograph taken facing north-SAFWM2022.7 BGSM22 Photograph 004.JPG Interior shot of cellar. Photograph taken facing north north-east. SAFWM2022.7 BGSM22 Photograph 005.JPG Detail shot of damage to fireplace. Photograph taken facing north-west. SAFWM2022.7 BGSM22 Photograph 006.JPG Detail of bricks in damaged area of fireplace arch. Photograph taken facing north-west. SAFWM2022.7_BGSM22_Photograph_007.JPG Detail of arch. Photograph taken facing north. SAFWM2022.7 BGSM22 Photograph 008.JPG Detail of arch. Photograph taken facing north. SAFWM2022.7 BGSM22 Photograph 009.JPG Detail of arch. Photograph taken facing north-east. SAFWM2022.7_BGSM22_Photograph_010.JPG Detail of arch. Photograph taken facing north-east. SAFWM2022.7_BGSM22_Photograph_011.JPG Detail of arch. Photograph taken facing north-east. SAFWM2022.7_BGSM22_Photograph_012.JPG Interior shot of cellar. Photograph taken facing east. SAFWM2022.7_BGSM22_Photograph_013.JPG Detail of interior stairs. Photograph taken facing north. SAFWM2022.7_BGSM22_Photograph 014.JPG Detail of interior stairs. Photograph taken facing north. SAFWM2022.7 BGSM22 Photograph 015.JPG Detail of window. Photograph taken facing south. SAFWM2022.7_BGSM22_Photograph_016.JPG Detail of fireplace. Photograph taken facing north-SAFWM2022.7 BGSM22 Photograph 017.JPG Detail of fireplace. Photograph taken facing north. SAFWM2022.7 BGSM22 Photograph 018.JPG Detail of timber lintel above window. Photograph taken facing south. SAFWM2022.7_BGSM22_Photograph_019.JPG Detail of original bridging beam. Photograph taken facing south-west. SAFWM2022.7 BGSM22 Photograph 020.JPG Interior entrance to cellar. Photograph taken facing south. SAFWM2022.7_BGSM22_Photograph_021.JPG Detail of mortices in door frame. Photograph taken north. SAFWM2022.7_BGSM22_Photograph_022.JPG Detail of modern sump pump area. Photograph

SAFWM2022.7_BGSM22_Photograph 023.JPG

SAFWM2022.7_BGSM22_Photograph_024.JPG

SAFWM2022.7 BGSM22 Photograph 025.JPG

SAFWM2022.7 BGSM22 Photograph 026.JPG

SAFWM2022.7 BGSM22 Photograph 027.JPG

SAFWM2022.7 BGSM22 Photograph 028.JPG

taken facing south.

Detail of interior timber above external door.

Photograph taken facing east south-east.

Detail of interior of external door. Photograph taken facing east.

Detail of fireplace. Photograph taken facing north. Exterior of Bentfield Green Farmhouse. Photograph taken facing south.

Exterior shot of Bentfield Green Farmhouse.

Photograph taken facing south-west.

Exterior of Bentfield Green Farmhouse. Photograph

taken facing south-east.

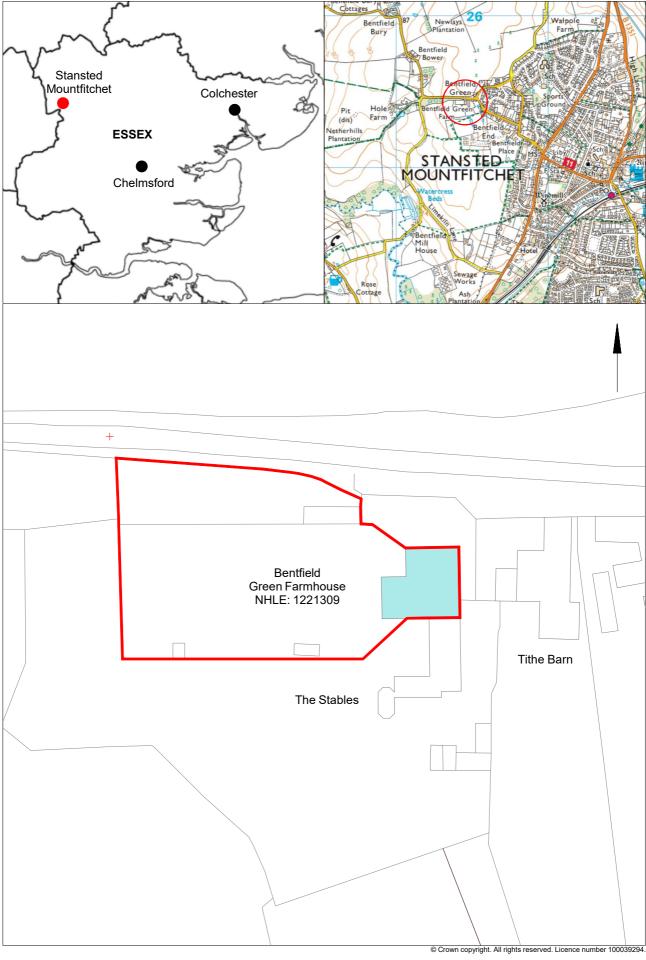


Fig 1 Site location.

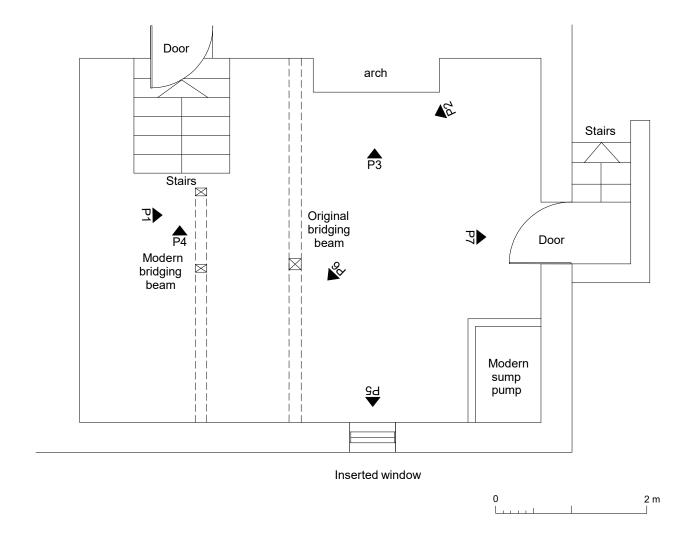


Fig 2 Cellar floor plan. Location and direction of photographs reproduced in text shown.

Summary for colchest3-504313

OASIS ID (UID)	colchest3-504313		
Project Name	Descriptive Buildings Record (Level 2) at Bentfield Green Farm, Bentfield Green, Stansted Mountfitchet		
Sitename			
Activity type	Descriptive Buildings Record (Level 2)		
Project Identifier(s)	2022/02a		
Planning Id	UTT/21/1102/LB		
Reason For Investigation	Planning: Post determination		
Organisation Responsible for work	Colchester Archaeological Trust		
Project Dates	21-Feb-2022 - 21-Feb-2022		
Location	Bentfield Green Farm, Bentfield Green, Stansted Mountfitchet NGR: TL 50458 25433		
	LL: 51.9071199912791, 0.185781727730545		
A 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1	12 Fig : 550458,225433		
Administrative Areas	Country : England		
	County: Essex		
	District: Uttlesford		
	Parish : Stansted Mountfitchet		
Project Methodology	The aim of the building recording was to provide a detailed record and assessment of the outbuilding prior to its conversion. The building recording was carried out to Level 2 (Historic England 2016) which is defined as:		
	"a descriptive record, made in similar circumstances to Level 1 but when more information is needed. It may be made of a building which is judged not to require a more detailed record, or it may serve to gather data for a wider project. Both the exterior and interior of the building will be seen, described and photographed. The examination of the building will produce an analysis of its development and use and the record will include the conclusions reached, but it will not discuss in detail the evidence on which this analysis is based. A plan and sometimes other drawings may be made but the drawn record will normally not be comprehensive and may be tailored to the scope of a wider project."		
	In particular the record considered the: • Plan form of the site. • Materials and method of construction. • Date(s) of the structure. • Original function and layout. • Original and later fixtures and fittings. • Significance of the site in its immediate local context.		
Project Results	A programme of historic building recording was carried out by Colchester Archaeological Trust on a cellar at Bentfield Green Farmhouse, Bentfield Green, Stansted Mountfitchet, Essex. Bentfield Green Farmhouse is Grade II listed and dated to the 18th century. The cellar is brick built and contains a brick arch supported on piers against the northern wall. An original bridging beam survives in the centre of the ceiling.		
Keywords	Cellar - Georgian - FISH Thesaurus of Monument Types		
Funder			

HER	Essex HER - unRev - STANDARD
Person Responsible for work	Sarah, Veasey
HER Identifiers	HER Event No - BGSM22
Archives	Documentary Archive - to be deposited with Saffron Walden Museum;

Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) for historic building recording of a cellar at Bentfield Green Farm, Bentfield Green, Stansted Mountfitchet, Essex, CM24 8TH.

NGR: TL 50458 25433 (centre)

District: Stansted **Parish:** Bentfield Green

Planning reference: UTT/21/1102/LB

Commissioned by: David Jones (Alun Design Consultancy)

Client: Homeowner

Curating museum: Saffron Walden Museum accession number: tbc ECC project code: BGSM22

CAT project code: 2022/02a

Oasis project ID: colchest3-504313

Site manager: Chris Lister

ECC monitor: Katie Lee-Smith

This WSI written: 03/02/2022



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

tel: 01206 501785

email: services@catuk.org

Site location and description

The proposed development site is located in Bentfield Green, an area of common land in the village of Stansted Mountfitchet, at Bentfield Green Farm, Bentfield Green, Stansted Mountfitchet, Essex (Fig 1). The site is centred at National grid reference (NGR) TL 504458 25433.

Proposed work

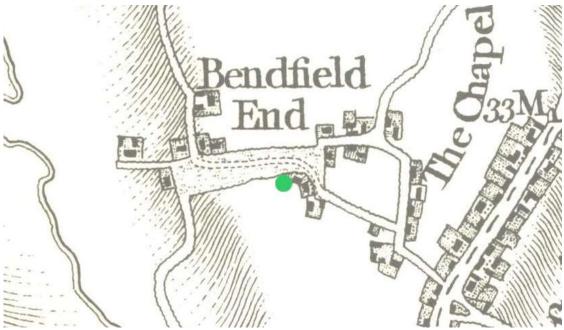
The planning application proposes the conversion of a cellar to a recreation room.

Archaeological background

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

Bentfield Green Farm is a Grade II listed building (NHLE 1221309) situated within the Bentfield Green Conservation Area. It is an eighteenth-century two-storey red brick house with parapet and modern additions. It has a symmetrical façade of three bays with 6/6 vertical sliding sash windows with a central doorway. The double-pitched roof is tiled.

While there are buildings present in the sites location on the 1777 Chapman and André map it is unclear whether these represent Bentfield Farmhouse (Map 1). The house is present on the 1875 OS map (Map 2).



Map 1 Extra of the 1777 Chapman and André map. Site highlighted in green.



Map 2 Extract of the 1875 OS map. Bentfield Farmhouse highlighted in green.

Planning background

A planning application (UTT/21/1102/LB) was submitted to Uttlesford District Council in March 2021 for *proposed basement alterations to form recreation room.*

As the site is highlighted by the EHER as being locally-listed and within an area containing important heritage assets, a full archaeological condition was recommended prior to the conversion of the cellar. This recommendation follows the guidelines given in National Planning Policy Framework (MHCLG 2019).

Requirement for work (Fig 1)

The required archaeological work consists of a Historic England Level 2 historic building recording of the barn prior to conversion.

Specially the record will consider:

- Plan form of the site.
- Materials and method of construction.
- Date(s) of the structure.
- Function and internal layout.
- Fixtures and fittings.
- Original and later phasing, additions and their effect on the internal/external fabric and the level of survival of original fabric.
- Comment on the significance of the site on a regional context.

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 2021)
- the Project Brief (ECC 2022)

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.

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 historic building recorder

In charge of day-to-day site work and historic building recording: Sarah Veasey

Historic building recording methodology

A Historic England Level 2 building survey of the interior and exterior will be carried out prior to building conversion. The resultant report will include the following.

A brief documentary, cartographic and pictorial survey of the evidence pertaining to the history and evolution of the building and the site will be made. Sources consulted will include:

- Essex Historic Environment Record.
- Essex Records Office.
- Local Studies Library
- The site owner/developer.

A large-scale block plan will be made of the site using existing architect's drawings or the current OS 1:2500 map extract. The position of the building will be shown and any adjacent buildings will be given a unique identifier noting date of construction and function (where known).

The building will be described in as much detail as possible. The description will address materials, dimensions, method of construction, joinery, fenestration, spatial configuration, phasing, and any evidence of original fixtures/fittings.

Based on existing architect's plans and using Historic England (2016a and RCHME 1996) conventions floor plans at scale 1:100 will be made of the building/s affected by the proposals. Doors, windows, internal divisions, truss positions, together with any surviving fixtures/fittings will be shown together with any evidence of phasing.

A full photographic record will be made comprising both general and detailed shots (external and internal/features/joinery/timber marks/etc). A photographic scale will be included in the case of detailed photographs. The photographic record will be accompanied by a photographic register detailing (as a minimum) location and direction of shot; where possible, the photographic record will be tied into the drawn record.

The guidelines contained in Historic England: *Understanding Historic Buildings*. A guide to good recording practice (2016b) will be adhered to. In addition, RCHME: *Descriptive Specification* 3rd Edition, ClfA's *Standard and Guidance for the Archaeological Investigation and Recording of Standing Buildings or Structures* (2014) and the appropriate sections of the *Standards for Field Archaeology* in the East of England (East Anglian Archaeology occasional paper **14**, 2003) and *Research and Archaeology Revised: A Revised Framework for the East of England* (EAA **24** 2011) and *Management of research projects in the historic environment*

(MoRPHE 2016a) will be used for additional guidance in the design of the project specification, the contents of the report, and for the general execution of the project.

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:

- The aims and methods adopted in the course of the investigation.
- A brief history of the buildings and their context, including the development of the site, its original design, the date, the form and function of the building and any significant modifications.
- Location maps, plans and annotated drawings tied into the OS Grid.
- Labelled re-productions of a representative sample of the photographs.
- Detailed results including a suitable conclusion and discussion and results referring to Regional Research Frameworks (Medlycott 2011).
- A concise non-technical summary of the project results.

An EHER summary sheet will also be completed within four weeks and supplied to the ECCHEA.

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.

Paper archives 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 recording, 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	2021	Health & Safety Policy
CIfA	2014a	Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Investigation and Recording of Standing Buildings or Structures. Updated Oct 2020
ClfA	2014b	Standard and guidance for the collection, documentation, conservation and research of archaeological materials. Updated Oct 2020
Digital Curation Centre (DCC)	2013	Checklist for Data Management Plan v. 4.0
ECCPS	2021	Brief for Historic Building Recording at Benfield Green Farm, Stansted, by K Lee-Smith
Gurney, D	2003	Standards for field archaeology in the East of England. East Anglian Archaeology Occasional Papers 14 (EAA 14).
Historic England (HE)	2015	Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment (MoRPHE)
Historic England (HE)	2016a	Understanding Historic Buildings, a guide to good recording practice. By R Lane
Historic England (HE)	2016b	Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment (MoRPHE)
Medlycott, M	2011	Research and archaeology revisited: A revised framework for the East of England. East Anglian Archaeology Occasional Papers 24 (EAA 24)
MHCLG	2019	National Planning Policy Framework. Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government.
RCHME	1996	Recording historic buildings, a descriptive specification

Sarah Veasey



Colchester Archaeological Trust, Roman Circus House, Roman Circus Walk, Colchester, Essex, CO2 2GZ

tel: 01206 501785 email: sv@catuk.org

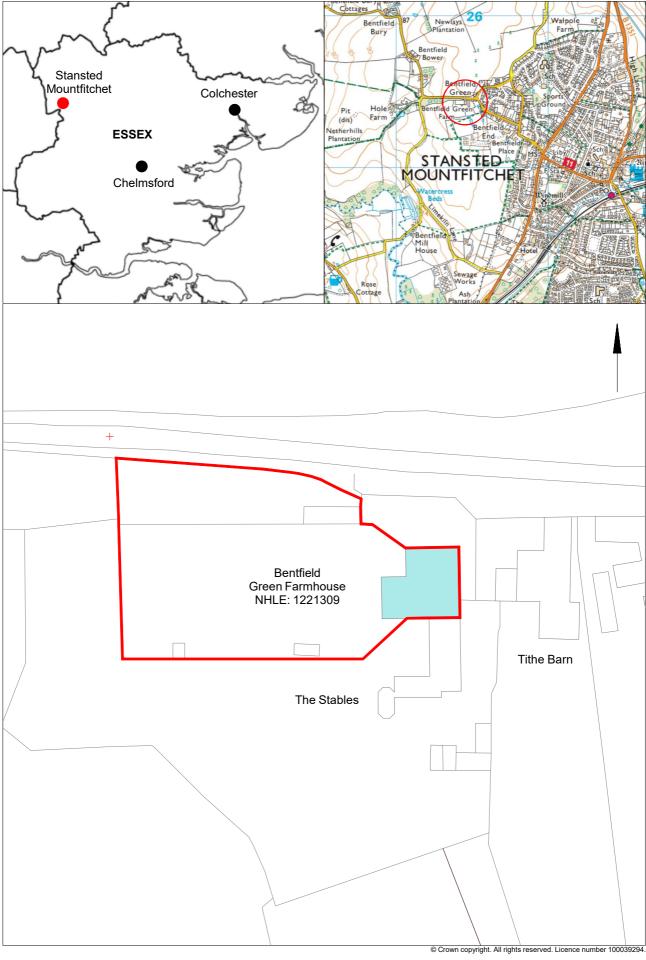


Fig 1 Site location.