

Colchester Archaeological Trust



**CAT Report 1873
issued December 2022**

**Archaeological evaluation at Porters Hall,
Porters Hall Road, Stebbing, Essex
CM6 3TB: November 2022**



**CAT project ref.: 2022/051
ECC code: STPH22
Scheduled monument consent: S00240340**

**Archaeological evaluation at Porters Hall,
Porters Hall Road, Stebbing, Essex
CM6 3TB: November 2022**

NGR: TL 67781 23644

Planning ref.: UTT/21/1479/FUL

**CAT project ref.: 2022/05I
CAT Report 1873**

**Scheduled monument consent: S00240340
ECC code: STPH22
OASIS id: colchest3-507590**

**report prepared by
Ben Holloway**

fieldwork by Ben Holloway with Chloe Hill

**commissioned by Jonathan Bell,
Design & Conservation Ltd
on behalf of the landowner**

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Issued:	14/12/2022	

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1 Summary

An archaeological evaluation (three trial-trenches) was carried out at Porters Hall, Porters Hall Road, Stebbing, Essex in advance of the construction of a new driveway, associated parking and loading area. The site lies within the boundary of the scheduled Porters Hall moated site and in an area containing numerous listed buildings dating from the 15th to the 17th century. No archaeological remains were encountered during the evaluation but, as excavation ceased at formation level and natural was not exposed, archaeological deposits may still be preserved on the site.

2 Introduction (Fig 1)

This is the report for an archaeological evaluation carried out by Colchester Archaeological Trust (CAT) at Porters Hall, Porters Hall Road, Stebbing, Essex on 15th November 2022. The work was commissioned by Jonathan Bell on behalf of the landowner, and took place in advance of the construction of a new driveway with associated parking and a loading area.

As the site lies within a Scheduled Ancient Monument (NHLE 1008701), the Historic England Inspector of Ancient Monuments (HEIAM) and the Historic Environment Advisor (HEA) at Essex County Council Place Services recommended 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 2021).

All archaeological work was carried out in accordance with the scheduled monument consent (no. S00240340) and a *Brief for programme of archaeological investigation at Porters Hall, Porters Hall Road, Stebbing* written by Katie Lee-Smith and detailing the required archaeological work (ECCPS 2022), and a written scheme of investigation (WSI) prepared by CAT (2022b) in response to the brief and agreed with ECCPS in advance of the work.

In addition to the brief and WSI, all fieldwork and reporting was done in accordance with *Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment (MoRPHE)* (Historic England 2016), 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* (CIfA 2014a) and *Standard and guidance for the collection, documentation, conservation and research of archaeological materials* (CIfA 2014b).

3 Archaeological background

The following archaeological background 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 development site is located within an area of known sensitive archaeological deposits and heritage assets at Porters Hall and within its associated grounds (EHER 1236). Porters Hall is part of an important medieval moated complex with an associated farmstead which is a Scheduled Monument (NHLE 1008701). As stated in the list entry, the site includes a rectangular moated area which measures 110m NW-SE by 65m NE-SW. The arms are between 12m and 6m in width and are water-filled, except to the south-west where they have dried out. The eastern corner has an irregular extension which measures 30m NE-SW by 20m NW-SE. The southern corner has also been extended along the same line as the south-western arm for a further 32m. Along the southern edge of this arm is a slight bank, 3.5m in width and about 0.4m high which is considered to have been used as a garden terrace. An outlet channel leads from the southern corner of the moat to the road. Access to the island is across a modern brick-built bridge on the north-eastern arm which replaced a wooden drawbridge. This section of the arm was in-filled during the construction of the brick bridge.

The complex contains four listed buildings, 1) Grade II* listed 16th-century Porters Hall (NHLE 1322338), 2) Grade II listed 17th-century Porters Hall Barn to the north of the scheduled area (NHLE 1112730), 3) Grade II 16th-/17th-century Porters Hall outbuilding to the east of the hall (NHLE 1306802), and 4) Grade II 15th-/16th century Porters Hall outbuilding at the rear and to the west of Porters Hall (NHLE 1112731). This last structure, the northernmost of the two outbuildings, has been used as a dovecote but was originally a dwelling which probably incorporated a small section of an earlier hall.

The earthworks and undulations of the island indicate the presence of surviving below-ground features, particularly to the north-west where the foundations of the original house are located.

Porter's Hall moated site is considered to be associated with the family of Henry Le Portir in 1284 and is recorded in historical sources from 1398 (EHER 1236). Additional buildings no longer extant on the site are shown on the Chapman & André map of 1777 (Map 1).



Map 1 Extract of the 1777 Chapman & André map

4 Aims

The aims of the archaeological evaluation were 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, each 10m long and 1.8m wide, were machine-excavated under the supervision of a CAT archaeologist to a depth of c 0.35-0.4m, which is the formation level required for the new driveway and parking area.

Trenches 1 and 2 were cut through modern topsoil (L1, 0.15-0.25m thick, a firm, moist dark grey/brown silty-loam with occasional CBM fragments and 1% stones) and into a layer of sub-soil (L2, 0.15-0.2m thick, firm, moist medium grey/brown clayey-silt with 1% stones). Natural geology (L3) was only observed in the south of T1 because elsewhere excavation did not penetrate L2.

Trench 3 was excavated through a modern hardstanding (L3, modern tarmac and its associated sand and hoggin sub-base 0.1-0.15m thick) and two layers of made-ground (L4, a compact grey

silt which contained fragments of crushed brick and peg-tile, 0.15m thick, and L5 compact orange/grey hoggin, 0.15m thick).



Photograph 1 Trench 3 showing well, looking south-east



Photograph 2 Trench 1, looking south-west

At the western end of T3 was a concrete-lined well with brick-built manhole access (see foreground of Photograph 1). The size of the well could not be determined but was at least 2.8m across with the manhole 0.7m by 0.5m. A modern drain with brick silt trap was also encountered in T3 (see background of Photograph 1), likely associated with a wash down area in front of the old stable block.

No archaeological remains were encountered in any of the trenches but excavation did stop at formation level and archaeological remains could still be preserved beneath this level.

6 Finds

A few fragments of bottle glass, modern brick and peg-tile were found in topsoil L1 and in made-ground L4. None of this material was retained.

7 Conclusion

No archaeological remains were encountered during the evaluation but, as excavation ceased at formation level and natural was not exposed, archaeological deposits may still be preserved on the site. Interestingly, the 1:2500 Epoch 1 (143-93) OS Map shows a pump (P.) in roughly the same location at the well in Trench 3.

8 Acknowledgements

CAT would like to thank Jonathan Bell and the landowner for commissioning and funding the work. The project was managed by C Lister, A Wightman and L Pooley, with fieldwork carried out by B Holloway with C Hill. Figures were compiled by B Holloway and E Holloway. The project was monitored for ECCPS by Katie Lee-Smith and Historic England by Dr Jess Tipper.

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	2022a	<i>Health & Safety Policy</i>
CAT	2022b	<i>Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) for an archaeological evaluation by trial-trenching and monitoring at Porters Hall, Porters Hall Road, Stebbing, Essex, CM6 3TB</i>
CifA	2014a	<i>Standard and Guidance for archaeological evaluation.</i> Revised October 2020.
CifA	2014b	<i>Standard and guidance for the collection, documentation, conservation and research of archaeological materials.</i> Revised October 2020.
CifA	2014c	<i>Code of Conduct.</i> Revised October 2021 .
ECCPS	2022	<i>Brief for programme of archaeological investigation at Porters Hall, Porters Hall Road, Stebbing,</i> by K 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 Medlycott, M	2015 2011	<i>Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment (MoRPHE)</i> <i>Research and archaeology revisited: A revised framework for the East of England.</i> East Anglian Archaeology Occasional Papers 24 (EAA 24)
MHCLG	2021	<i>National Planning Policy Framework.</i> Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government.

10 Abbreviations and glossary

CAT	Colchester Archaeological Trust
CifA	Chartered Institute for Archaeologists
ECC	Essex County Council
ECCHEA	Essex County Council Historic Environment Advisor
ECCPS	Essex County Council Place Services
EHER	Essex Historic Environment Record
layer (L)	distinct or distinguishable deposit (layer) of material
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>
section (abbreviation sx or Sx) vertical slice through feature/s or layer/s
wsi written scheme of investigation

11 Archive deposition

This project falls within the ClfA definition of a sterile project (<https://www.archaeologists.net/selection-toolkit/sterile-projects>) and therefore the preserved archive will take the form of a single digital document that incorporates all the relevant elements from the project. This document will be uploaded to OASIS and released into the Archaeological Data Service (ADS) library, from where it will be curated by the ADS. The single digital document will include the report, brief, WSI, photographs, and original site data (eg context sheets, section drawings).

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Distribution list:

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Essex Historic Environment Record, Essex County Council

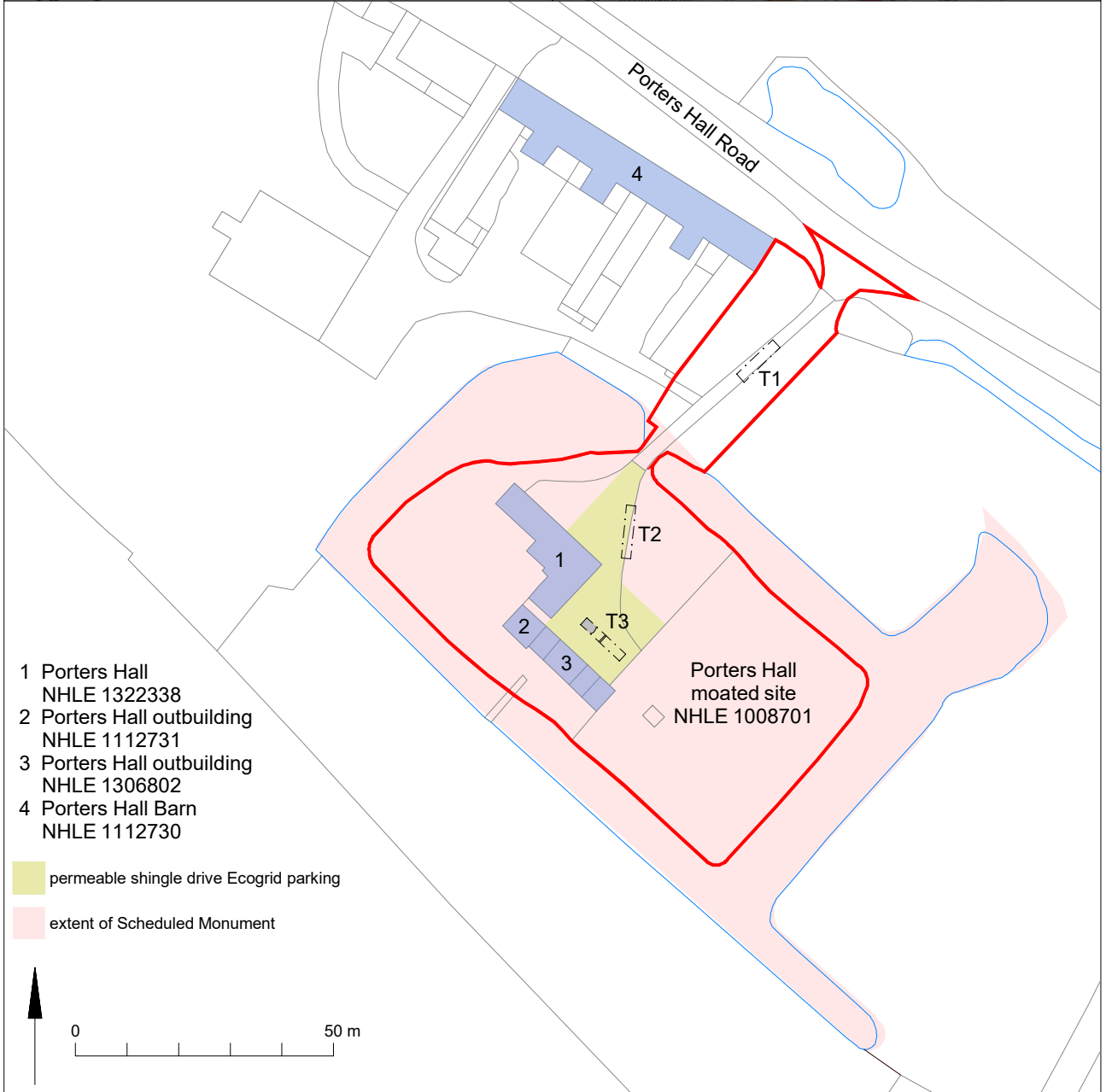
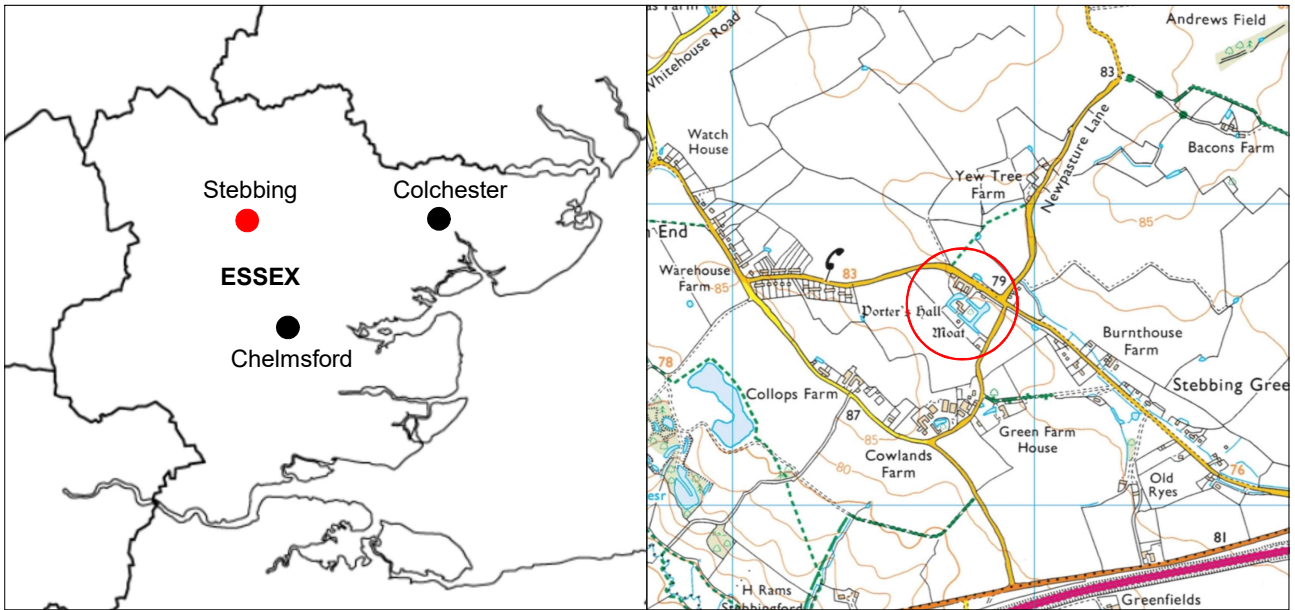


Fig 1 Site location.

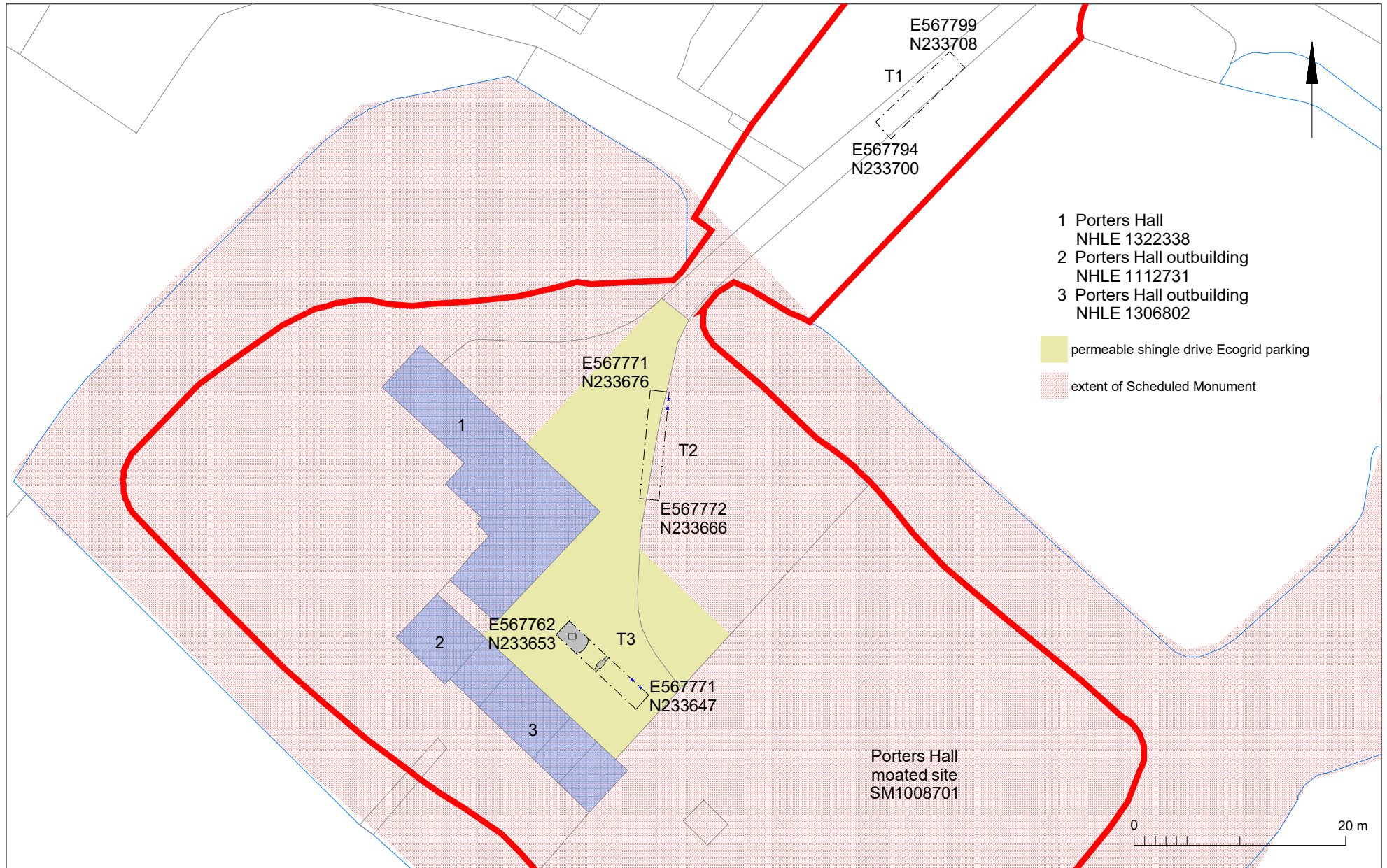


Fig 2 Evaluation results.

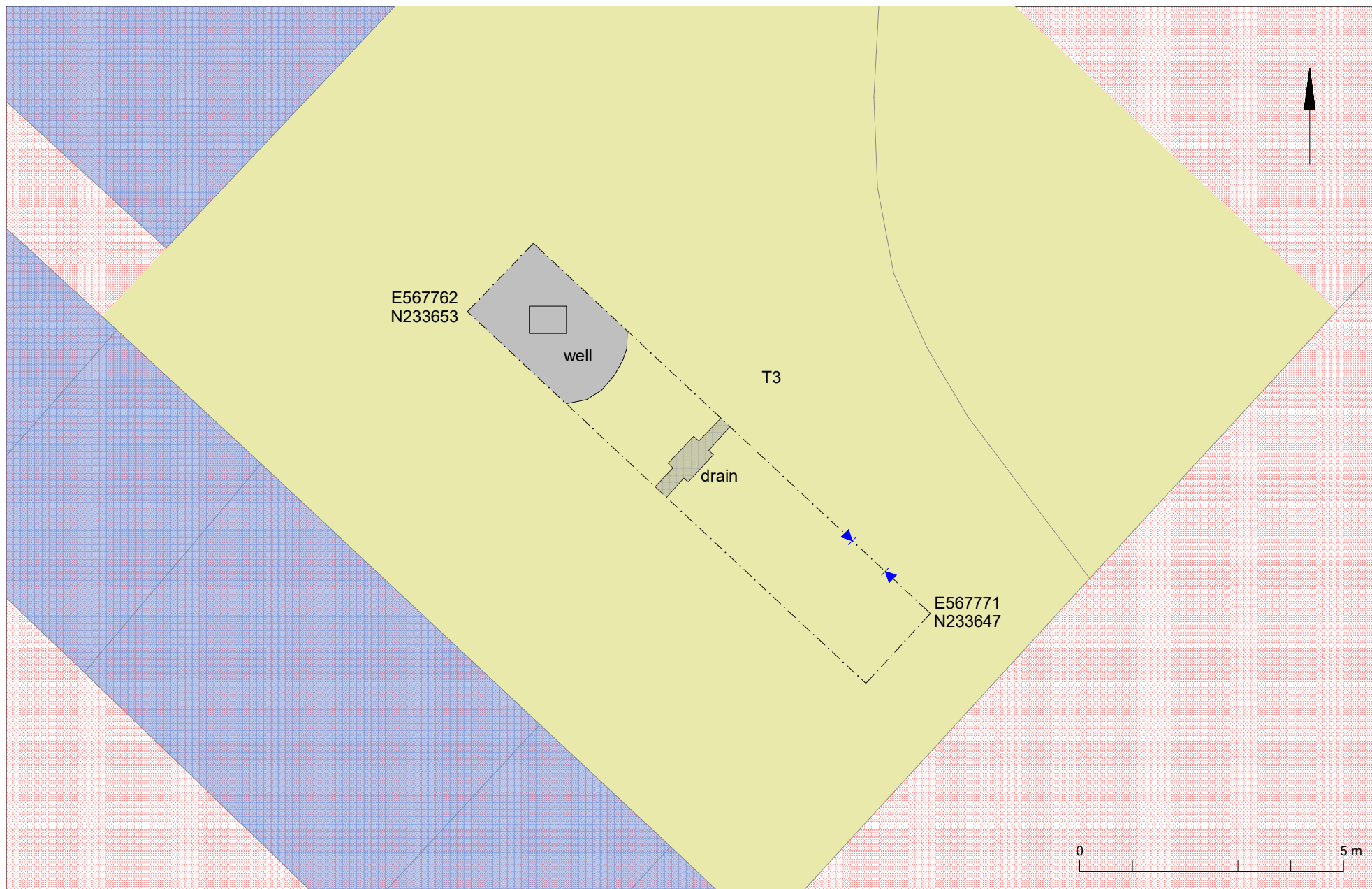


Fig 3 Trench 3 results.

- permeable shingle drive Ecogrid parking
- extent of Scheduled Monument

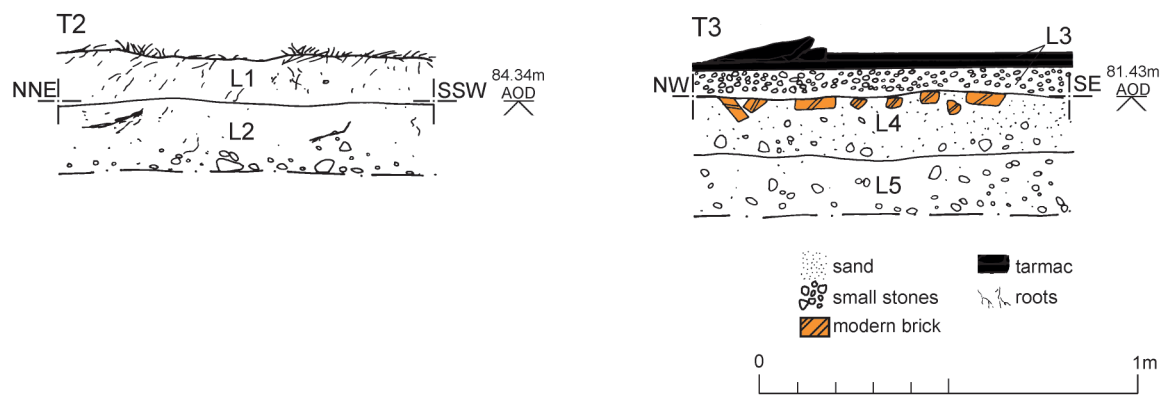


Fig 4 Representative sections.

Summary for colchest3-507590

OASIS ID (UID)	colchest3-507590
Project Name	Evaluation at Porters Hall, Porters Hall Road, Stebbing, Essex, CM6 3TB
Sitename	Porters Hall, Porters Hall Road, Stebbing, Essex, CM6 3TB
Activity type	Evaluation
Project Identifier(s)	2022/05L
Planning Id	UTT/21/1479/FUL
Reason For Investigation	Planning: Post determination
Organisation Responsible for work	Colchester Archaeological Trust
Project Dates	15-Nov-2022 - 15-Nov-2022
Location	Porters Hall, Porters Hall Road, Stebbing, Essex, CM6 3TB NGR : TL 67781 23644 LL : 51.8861067317781, 0.436500901880886 12 Fig : 567781,223644
Administrative Areas	Country : England County : Essex District : Uttlesford Parish : Stebbing
Project Methodology	Archaeological evaluation of three trial-trenches carried out as per the archaeological brief, scheduled monument consent (no. S00240340) and WSI.
Project Results	An archaeological evaluation (three trial-trenches) was carried out at Porters Hall, Porters Hall Road, Stebbing, Essex in advance of the construction of a new driveway, associated parking and loading area. The site lies within the boundary of the scheduled Porters Hall moated site and in an area containing numerous listed buildings dating from the 15th to the 17th century. No archaeological remains were encountered during the evaluation but, as excavation ceased at formation level and natural was not exposed, archaeological deposits may still be preserved on the site.
Keywords	
Funder	
HER	Scheduled Monument Casework - unRev - STANDARD Essex HER - unRev - STANDARD
Person Responsible for work	B, Holloway
HER Identifiers	HER Event No - STPH22
Archives	



Brief for Programme of Archaeological Investigation on Porters Hall, Porters Hall Road, Stebbing

Date:
16-2-22





Title: Brief for a programme of archaeological investigation at Porters Hall, Porters Hall Road, Stebbing

Planning Reference: UTT/21/1479/FUL

Date issued: 16/02/22

Historic Environment Advisor: Katie Lee-Smith

Museum: Saffron Walden

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 a programme of archaeological investigation including building recording, trial trenching and archaeological monitoring on the proposed change of use of Porters Hall and outbuildings to holiday lets. The development is being undertaken on the Scheduled Monument of Porters Hall and land adjacent (SM1008701). The site comprises of a moated site likely to be medieval in date.

2. Site Location and Description

The proposed development site lies within the boundaries of the Scheduled Monument of Porters Hall and land adjacent (TL6778123644). The site, at present, is enclosed by a moat and contains three listed buildings the Grade II* listed Porters Hall, the Grade II Porters Hall outbuilding to east of hall and Porters Hall outbuilding at rear and to west of Porters Hall (LUID 1322338, 1306802, 1112731). It is located to the north of Stebbing Green. Details of the current planning application can be found on the Uttlesford Planning Web site under the planning application number, UTT/21/1479/FUL.

3. Planning Background

A number of applications have been submitted for recent works on this site which are summarised below. The most recent application was submitted to Uttlesford District Council and was validated on the 27th May 2021 for the change of use of Porters Hall and outbuildings to holiday let with 9 no. rooms. Internal and External alterations. The site is a Scheduled Monument and the proposed works will directly impact the moated site as well as affecting a number of historic listed buildings. Revised plans and works have been submitted. The revised plans currently do not have planning consent or Scheduled Monument Consent. In discussions with Historic England in order for trial trenching of the proposed car park to commence an amendment to the current Scheduled Monument Consent for the works must be applied for.

Application	Proposed	SMC	Archaeological Condition
UTT/20/1554/LB	Conversion of buildings to the rear of Porters Hall to annexe and disabled holiday let rooms. Extension of stables to form subsidiary use rooms in connection to conversion of the house to wedding venue accommodation or holiday let.	No	Consult HE, Monitoring, HBR
UTT/20/1553/FUL	Change of use of buildings to the rear of Porters Hall to annexe and disabled holiday let rooms. Extension of stables to form subsidiary use rooms in connection to conversion of the house to wedding venue accommodation or holiday let.	No	Consult HE, Monitoring, HBR
UTT/20/1310/LB	Repair of lime plaster and lath walls and ceilings, patching areas of external render, repair of all joinery including window frames and cills. Construction of 400mm shingle drain to the perimeter of the building, installation of heating system and restoration of flooring. Removal of all modern fireplaces and stud walls. Block off existing west staircase with a new stud wall and construct en-suites to bedrooms. Conversion of attic to east wing and infill extension and alterations to ground floor lean-to including installation of wc.	No	Consult HE, Monitoring, HBR
UTT/20/1309/FUL	Proposed change of use from dwelling to wedding venue/holiday let accommodation	No	Consult HE

UTT/21/1628/LB	Internal and External alterations to Porters Hall and outbuildings to holiday let with 9no. rooms.	-	Consult HE, TT, HBR, monitoring
UTT/21/1479/FUL	Change of use of Porters Hall and outbuildings to holiday let with 9 no. rooms. Internal and External alterations	Yes	Consult HE, TT, HBR, monitoring
UTT/21/1479/FUL (revised)	Change of use of Porters Hall and outbuildings to holiday let with 9 no. rooms. Internal and External alterations	No	Consult HE, HBR, TT, monitoring

For UTT/21/1479/FUL, archaeological building recording, trial trenching and monitoring conditions were recommended to the Local Planning Authority along with consulting Historic England. The conditions recommended are based on the guidance given in the National Planning Policy Framework paragraph 205 and these state:

Recommendations applied to the various applications:

1. Archaeological Programme of Trial Trenching followed by Open Area Excavation

- 1. No development or preliminary groundworks of any kind shall take place until a programme of archaeological investigation has been secured in accordance with a written scheme of investigation which has been submitted by the applicant and approved in writing by the local planning authority.**
- 2. No development or preliminary groundworks of any kind shall take place until the completion of the programme of archaeological investigation identified in the WSI defined in 1 above.**
- 3. The applicant will submit to the local planning authority a post excavation assessment (to be submitted within six months of the completion of the fieldwork, unless otherwise agreed in advance with the Planning Authority). This will result in the completion of post excavation analysis, preparation of a full site archive and report ready for deposition at the local museum, and submission of a publication report.**

2. Archaeological Programme of Building Recording

- 1. No demolition, conversion or alterations shall commence until a programme of historic building recording has been secured in accordance with a written scheme of investigation (WSI) to be submitted by the applicant and approved in writing by the local planning authority.**

- 2. No demolition, conversion or alterations shall take place until the satisfactory completion of the recording in accordance with the WSI submitted.**
- 3. The applicant will submit to the local planning authority a report detailing the results of the recording programme and confirm the deposition of the archive to an appropriate depository as identified and agreed in the WSI.**

3. An Archaeological Programme of Monitoring

- 1. No development or preliminary groundworks can commence until a programme of archaeological monitoring has been secured and undertaken 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 (EHER) held at Essex County Council, County Hall, Chelmsford. Prospective archaeological contractors should obtain the HER data prior to the completion of any written scheme of investigation.

The Historic Environment Record shows that the proposed applications are located within an area of known sensitive archaeological deposits and heritage assets. The proposed development is located at Porters Hall and within its associated grounds (EHER 1236). Porters Hall is part of an important medieval moated complex with associated farmstead which is a designated Scheduled Monument (SM1008701). The complex contains four listed buildings including the Grade II* listed Porters Hall, Grade II listed Porters Hall Barn (LUID1322338,1112730) and two buildings also Grade II listed (LUID112731, 1306802). The northernmost of these two buildings is probably a small section of the original house. The earthworks and undulations of the island indicate the surviving below ground features and foundations of the earlier house. The moated area is largely complete although a section of the arm was infilled during the construction of the brick bridge. Porter's Hall moated site is considered to be associated with the family of Henry Le Portir in 1284 and is recorded in historical sources from 1398 (EHER1236). Further buildings no longer extant are visible on the Chapman and Andre map of 1777. There is therefore the potential for medieval and post-medieval archaeological remains associated with the moated complex at Porters Hall and its curtilage being impacted on by the proposed development.

5. Requirement for Work

A range of work, with varying conditions, is proposed on the site comprising:

- **Change of use of Porters Hall and outbuildings to holiday let with 9 no. rooms with Internal and External alterations:**

Archaeological Building Recording of all structures proposed for alterations.

- **Two limecrete floors, Shingle french drain, Surface water drainage for a proposed conservatory and any other additional groundworks excluding the car park:**

Archaeological monitoring

- **Permeable shingle drive Ecogrid parking:**

Trial trenching (should be limited to the depth of the proposed car park)

Specifically, the archaeological programme should aim to identify:

- Any evidence associated with earlier iterations of the Hall
- The earliest date of occupation on the site

The trial trenching will potentially lead to further archaeological work, comprising open area excavation if significant deposits are identified. If no archaeological deposits are identified a report on the trial trenching alone will be required. In discussions with Historic England in order for trial trenching of the proposed car park to commence an amendment to the current Scheduled Monument Consent for the works must be applied for.

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. The contractor shall ensure detailed study of all mains' service

locations and avoid damage to these. All Health and Safety guidelines must be followed on site.

6.4 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. Building Recording

In the case of the building recording, the scheme of archaeology building recording should be commensurate with a Level 3 record as detailed in Historic England publication 'Understanding Historic Buildings' (<https://content.historicengland.org.uk/images-books/publications/understanding-historic-buildings/heag099-understanding-historic-buildings.pdf/>).

Specifically, the record needs to 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**
- **Context of buildings within their immediate contemporary landscape**
- **Comment on the significance of the site on a regional context**

8. Building Recording Methodology

8.1 A brief documentary and cartographic assessment will be made of the evidence pertaining to the history and evolution of the moated complex.

- 8.2 A large-scale block plan will be made of the site using existing architect's drawings or the current OS 2500 map extract. The position of the buildings proposed for alterations and the surrounding site will be shown, noting function and date.
- 8.3 Based on existing architect's plans/frame survey drawings and using the RCHME (1996) conventions floor plans and elevations at a scale of 1:100 will be made of each building. Doors, windows, partitions, truss positions, posts together with any surviving fixtures/fittings, carpenter's marks, main carpentry joints, surviving wall infill (wattle and daub, etc) must be shown together with any evidence of phasing.
- 8.4 Based on existing architect's drawings and using the RCHME (1996) conventions a 1:50 section of the building will be drawn. The drawing will include a truss, least impacted by modern alterations and its position must be accurately located on the plan (i.e. A, A1). The cross section should show all major components, carpentry marks, joints and evidence of phasing etc.
- 8.5 All the numbered features on 8.2 will be described. The description should seek to address materials, dimensions, method of construction including brickwork, joinery, fenestration, spatial configuration, phasing and evidence of fixtures/fittings.
- 8.6 A full photographic record must be made comprising both general and detailed shots (external and internal/features/joinery/timber marks/etc) in both colour digital and black and white print. A photographic scale should be included in the case of detailed photographs. The photographic record must be accompanied by a photographic register detailing (as a minimum) location and direction of shot; where possible, the photographic record should be tied into the drawn record.
- 8.7 Fully annotated photographic plates supporting the text should be reproduced as colour laser copies or high quality colour photocopies.

9. Monitoring Methodology

- 9.1 Machine excavation shall be 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.
- 9.2 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.

- 9.3 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.
- 9.4 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).
- 9.5 Where possible earlier walls should be left in situ, where this cannot be achieved detailed planning and excavation will be required.
- 9.6 Nineteenth century and earlier coffin furniture disturbed by the development shall be collected and reported on. Once recorded all coffin furniture is to be placed in black plastic bags and returned to the Parish for re-interment.
- 9.7 Articulated skeletons will be recorded in situ, lifted and returned to the Parish for re-interment. Unarticulated bones will be collected and returned to the Parish for re-interment.
- 9.8 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.
- 9.9 The site and spoil heaps shall be checked by metal detector, with any finds recovered.
- 9.10 The IFA's *Standards and Guidance for Archaeological Watching briefs*, 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.

10. Trial Trenching Methodology

- 10.1 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.
- 10.2 Machine stripping will only be undertaken to the depth of the proposed works in this case.
- 10.3 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.
- 10.4 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.
- 10.5 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).
- 10.6 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.
- 10.7 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. All railway features will be photographed.
- 10.8 The site and spoil heaps shall be checked by metal detector, with any finds recovered.
- 10.9 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.

10.10 A meeting will be held on site once the trial trenching has been completed. 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

11. Finds

11.1 All finds, where appropriate, shall be washed.

11.2 10.2 All pottery and other finds where appropriate, shall be marked with the site code and context number.

11.3 10.3 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.

11.4 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.

12. Results

12.1 The report shall be submitted within a length of time (but not exceeding 4 months) from the end of the fieldwork, to be agreed between the developer and archaeological contractor, with a copy supplied to the Historic England Inspector and the Historic Environment Advisor as a single PDF.

12.2 This report must contain:

- The aims and methods adopted in the course of the programme of archaeological work and building recording.
- Location plan of investigated areas in relation to the proposed development. At least two corners of each of the excavated trenches shall be given 10 figure grid references.
- A section/s drawing of every trench shall be provided 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 assessments
- A concise non-technical summary of the project results.

12.3 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

13. Archive Deposition

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

13.2 If the finds are to remain with the landowner a full copy of the archive shall be housed with the appropriate museum.

13.3 The archive shall be deposited with the appropriate museum within 1 month of the completion of the final publication report with a summary of the contents of the archive supplied to the Historic Environment Advisor

14. Monitoring

14.1 The Historic England Inspector and Historic Environment Advisor will be responsible for monitoring progress and standards throughout the project. This will include the fieldwork, post-excavation and publication stages.

14.2 Notification of the start of work shall be given to the Historic England Inspector and Historic Environment Advisor one week in advance of its commencement.

14.3 All excavated areas must be inspected by the Historic Environment Advisor prior to their development.

14.4 Any variations of the written scheme of investigation shall be agreed with the Historic England Inspector and Historic Environment Advisor prior to them being carried out.

15. Contractors Written Scheme of Investigation

15.1 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.

15.2 Archaeological contractors shall forward a WSI to the Historic England Inspector and Historic Environment Advisor of Essex County Council for validation prior to fieldwork commencing.

15.3 The involvement of the Historic England Inspector and 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. 8
- 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

For further information regarding the content of this brief and as part of our desire to provide a quality service, we would welcome any comments you may have on the

content and presentation of this archaeological brief. Please address them to the author at the address below.

Katie Lee-Smith
Historic Environment Advisor
Place Services
County Hall
Chelmsford
CM1 1QH

Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) for an archaeological evaluation by trial-trenching and monitoring at Porters Hall, Porters Hall Road, Stebbing, Essex, CM6 3TB

NGR: TL 67781 23644 (centre)

District: Uttlesford

Parish: Stebbing

Scheduled Monument number: SM 1008701

Historic England SMC reference: S00240340

Planning reference: UTT/21/1479/FUL

Client: landowner

Commissioned by: Jonathan Bell

Curating museum: Saffron Walden District Museum/ADS Archaeology

ECC project code: [tbc](#)

Museum accession code: [tbc](#)

CAT project code: EVAL:2022/05I

Monitoring: 2022/05m

Oasis project ID: EVAL: colchest3-507590

Monitoring: colchest3-507592

Contracts Manager: Chris Lister

Fieldwork Manager: Adam Wightman

Contracts Manager: Chris Lister

Historic England Inspector of Ancient Monuments: Dr Jess Tipper

Essex County Council Historic Environment Advisor: Katie Lee-Smith

This WSI written: 23/06/2022

Revised: 08/07/2022, 26/07/2022



COLCHESTER ARCHAEOLOGICAL TRUST,
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Site location and description (Fig 1)

The proposed development site lies within the boundaries of the Scheduled Monument of Porters Hall moated site (SM1008701), Porters Hall Road, Stebbing, Essex CM6 3TB (Fig 1). Site is centred at National grid reference (NGR) TL 67781 23644. The moated site is situated on a hill top overlooking and 1.25km south-east of Stebbing Brook and contains three listed buildings, the Grade II* listed Porters Hall (NHLE 1322338), the Grade II Porters Hall outbuilding to the east of the hall (NHLE 1306802) and the Grade II Porters Hall outbuilding at the rear and to the west of Porters Hall (NHLE 1112731).

Proposed work

The proposed work is for the change of use of Porters Hall and outbuildings to holiday let with 9 no. rooms with internal and external alterations. This work includes:

- the replacement of two existing concrete floors and sub-bases in Porters Hall with 150mm thick limecrete floors laid on 150mm of clay aggregate
- the replacement of the existing concrete floor and sub-base throughout the outbuildings with 150mm thick limecrete floors laid on 150mm of clay aggregate
- the installation of a shingle French drain 400mm wide by 220mm deep against the exterior of both Porters Hall and the outbuildings
- a new parking area/drive formed from a permeable shingle Ecogrid system 300mm deep with a geotextile permeable membrane lapped up to the side of the buildings
- twelve boreholes in the meadow for a ground source heat pump system (each borehole is 125mm in diameter at 125metres deep)
- surface water drainage for a proposed conservatory

Archaeological background

The following archaeological background draws on the Essex Historic Environment Record (EHER) held at Essex County Council, County Hall, Chelmsford, Essex (accessible to the public via <http://www.heritagegateway.org.uk>).

The development site is located within an area of known sensitive archaeological deposits and heritage assets at Porters Hall and within its associated grounds (EHER 1236).

Porters Hall is part of an important medieval moated complex with an associated farmstead which is a Scheduled Monument (SM 1008701). As stated in the list entry this includes a rectangular moated area which measures 110m NW-SE by 65m NE-SW. The arms are between 12m and 6m in width and are water-filled, except to the south-west where they have dried out. The eastern corner has an irregular extension which measures 30m NE-SW by 20m NW-SE. The southern corner has also been extended along the same line as the south-western arm for a further 32m. Along the southern edge of this arm is a slight bank, 3.5m in width and about 0.4m high which is considered to have been used as a garden terrace. An outlet channel leads from the southern corner of the moat to the road. Access to the island is across a modern brick-built bridge on the north-eastern arm which replaced a wooden drawbridge. This section of the arm was in-filled during the construction of the brick bridge.

The complex contains four listed buildings including the Grade II* listed Porters Hall dated to the 16th century (NHLE 1322338), the Grade II listed Porters Hall Barn to the north of the scheduled area dated to the 17th century (NHLE 1112730), the Grade II Porters Hall outbuilding to the east of the hall dated to the 16th/17th century (NHLE 1306802) and the Grade II Porters Hall outbuilding at the rear and to the west of Porters Hall dated to the 15th/16th century (NHLE 1112731). This second structure, the northernmost of the two outbuildings, has been used as a dovecote but was originally a dwelling and probably a small section of an earlier hall on the site.

The earthworks and undulations of the island indicate the presence of surviving below ground features, particularly to the north-west where the foundations of the original house are located.

Porter's Hall moated site is considered to be associated with the family of Henry Le Portir in 1284 and is recorded in historical sources from 1398 (EHER 1236).

Additional buildings no longer extant on the site are shown on Chapman and André Map of 1777 (Map 1).



Map 1 Chapman and André 1777.

Planning background

A planning application (UTT/21/1479/FUL) was submitted to Uttlesford District Council in April 2021. This application proposed *the change of use of Porters Hall and outbuildings to holiday let with 9 no. rooms with internal and external alterations.*

As the site lies within a scheduled monument the Essex County Council Historic Environment Advisor (ECCHEA) and the Historic England Inspector of Ancient Monuments (HEIAM) recommended archaeological conditions be applied to the planning consent. This follows the guidelines given in National Planning Policy Framework (MHCLG 2019) and states:

No development shall take place within the site until the implementation of a programme of archaeological work in accordance with a written scheme of investigation has been secured and has been submitted to and approved in writing by the local planning authority.

Requirement for work (Fig 1)

Details for the required work are given in a Project Brief written by ECCPS (*Brief for archaeological investigation at Porters Hall, Porters Hall Road, Stebbing – ECC 2022*). The archaeological recommendations were for:

1. An archaeological programme of Building Recording.
2. An archaeological programme of Trial-Trenching followed by Open Area Excavation.
3. An archaeological programme of Monitoring.

N.B. The Building Recording is being undertaken by a separate contractor who will be producing a separate WSI.

Specifically, the archaeological programme is being undertaken to identify and record any surviving archaeological deposits that may exist on site.

The aim is to:

- Identify any evidence associated with earlier iterations of the Hall.
- The earliest date of occupation on the site.

Scheduled monument consent has been obtained - ref. S00240340.

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 HEIAM and ECCHEA and will be carried out in accordance with a further WSI.

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-d)
- Standards and Frameworks published by East Anglian Archaeology (Gurney 2003, Medlycott 2011) and the recent review updates on <https://researchframeworks.org/eoe/>
- relevant Health & Safety guidelines and requirements (CAT 2022)
- Historic England Scheduled Monument consent

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 HEIAM and 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 the project (when the WSI is written) an OASIS online record <http://ads.ahds.ac.uk/project/oasis/> will be initiated and key fields completed (Activity type, Location and Reviewers/Admin areas). 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:

- Trial-trenching – one CAT supervisor and one archaeologist for one day
- Monitoring - one CAT archaeologist for the duration of the groundworks.

In charge of day-to-day site work: Sarah Veasey

Evaluation methodology

It is proposed that three trenches are to be excavated within the site, targeting the area of the permeable shingle driveway/Ecogrid parking. These will measure 10m long and 1.8m wide, covering a total area of 54m².

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 be limited to the depth of the proposed car park/drive, c. 350mm, as specified in the Brief.

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 and HEIAM, will it be removed.

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

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 proforma record 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.

The trenches will not be backfilled until they have been signed off by the ECCHEA/HEIAM.

Monitoring methodology

There will be sufficient on-site attendance by CAT staff to maintain a watch on all contractors' groundworks to record, excavate or sample (as necessary) any archaeological features or deposits.

This work will include but is not limited to:

- the replacement of two existing concrete floors and sub-bases in Porters Hall with 150mm thick limecrete floors laid on 150mm of clay aggregate
- the replacement of the existing concrete floor and sub-base throughout the outbuildings with 150mm thick limecrete floors laid on 150mm of clay aggregate
- the installation of a shingle French drain 400mm wide by 220mm deep against the exterior of both Porters Hall and the outbuildings
- a new parking area/drive formed from a permeable shingle Ecogrid system 300mm deep with a geotextile permeable membrane lapped up to the side of the buildings

- twelve boreholes in the meadow for a ground source heat pump system (each borehole is 125mm in diameter at 125metres deep)
- surface water drainage for a proposed conservatory

All topsoil removal and ground reduction will be done with a toothless bucket under the supervision and to the satisfaction of CAT staff. Where necessary, areas will be cleaned by hand to ensure the visibility of archaeological deposits.

If any features or deposits are uncovered, time will be allowed for these features to be excavated by hand, planned and recorded. This includes a 50% sample of discrete features (pits, etc), at least 10% of linear features (ditches, etc) in 1m wide sections, and 100% of complex structures/features. Complex archaeological structures such as walls, kilns, ovens or burials will be carefully cleaned, planned and fully recorded.

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

A metal detector will be used to examine spoil heaps, and the finds recovered.

Individual records of excavated contexts, layers, features or deposits will be entered on proforma record 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.

Site surveying

The site and any features will be surveyed by Total Station or GPS where possible, 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, HEIAM or ECCHEA. If circumstances indicated it were prudent or necessary to remove remains from the site during the monitoring, 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 HEIAM and 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 Laura Pooley (Post-excavation Manager). 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: Bronagh Quinn

project osteologist (human remains): Megan Seehra

or to outside specialists:

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

environmental assessment and analysis: Val Fryer / Lisa Gray

archaeometallurgy: David Dungworth

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: Tom Lawrence

prehistoric pottery: Stephen Benfield / Nigel Brown / Paul Sealey

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

Roman brick/tile: 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 HEIAM and 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 HEIAM and ECCHEA.

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

Results

Notification will be given to the HEIAM and 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* (Historic England 2015).

The report will be submitted within 6 months of the end of fieldwork, with a copy supplied to the HEIAM and ECCHEA as a single PDF.

The report will contain:

- A location plan of the groundworks 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. <https://researchframeworks.org/eoe/>).
- 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 site 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.

A PDF copy of the full report will be uploaded by CAT to the OASIS website and the Colchester Archaeological Trust's Online Report Library (<http://cat.essex.ac.uk/>), both of which are publicly accessible.

Archive deposition

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

If finds are retained from the site the full archive will be deposited with Saffron Walden Museum unless otherwise agreed in advance. (A full copy of the archive shall in any case be deposited). If there are no finds a full digital archive will be deposited with ADS Archaeology.

If the finds are to remain with the landowner, a full copy of the archive will be housed with the curating museum and provision must be made for additional recording (e.g. photography, illustration and analysis) as appropriate.

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. 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.

The archive will be deposited with the appropriate museum within 1 month of the completion of the final publication report, with a summary of the contents of the archive supplied to HEIAM and ECCHEA.

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 to the HEIAM and ECCHEA one week in advance of its commencement.

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

The HEIAM and ECCHEA will be notified when the fieldwork is complete.

The involvement of the HEIAM and 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	<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	2022	<i>Health & Safety Policy</i>
CifA	2014a	<i>Standard and Guidance for an archaeological watching brief.</i> Revised October 2020
CifA	2014b	<i>Standard and Guidance for archaeological evaluation.</i> Revised October 2020
CifA	2014c	<i>Standard and guidance for the collection, documentation, conservation and research of archaeological materials</i> Revised October 2020
CifA	2014d	<i>Code of Conduct.</i> Revised October 2021
Digital Curation	2013	<i>Checklist for Data Management Plan v. 4.0</i>

Centre (DCC) ECC	2022	<i>Brief for a programme of archaeological investigation at Porters Hall, Porters Hall Road, Stebbing.</i> By K 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 (HE)	2015	<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.</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.

C Lister



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

tel: 01206 501785
email: cl@catuk.org

Site: Stebbing Porters Hall EVAL

Site code: STPH22

Layer No.

Interpretation Topsoil

Period Modern

1

Location

SOIL DESCRIPTION

Consistence very loose soft friable firm hard dry moist wet
✓ ✓

Colour very light medium dark yellow orange green grey brown black
✓ ✓

Soil Type sand silt clay loam clay silt sand
✓

charcoal oyster daub brick tile

Inclusions: flecks

gravel % stone % tile/brick % pot %

Inclusions: pieces 10

RECORDING Rep sx drawing @ 1:10 and photo

Plan nos

Section nos

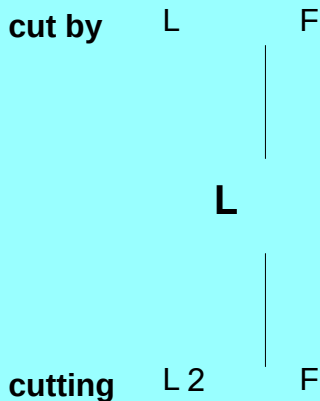
pre-exc ex post-ex

Photos taken

FINDS Modern brick, bottle glass (not retained)

Find Nos:

NOTES Modern humic topsoil, frequent animal activity and rooting observed throughout the horizon. 150-200mm in thickness



By CH Date 15/11/22

Site: Stebbing Porters Hall EVAL

Site code: STPH22

Layer No.

Interpretation Sub-soil

Period Undated

2

Location

SOIL DESCRIPTION

Consistence very loose soft friable firm hard dry moist wet
✓ ✓

Colour very light medium dark yellow orange green grey brown black
✓ ✓ ✓ ✓

Soil sand silt clay loam clay silt sand
Type ✓ ✓

charcoal oyster daub brick tile

Inclusions: flecks

gravel % stone % tile/brick % pot %

Inclusions: pieces 35

RECORDING Rep sx drawing @ 1:10 and photo

Plan nos

Section nos

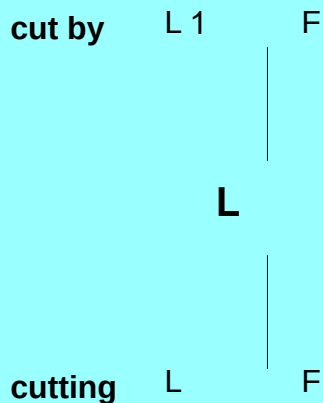
pre-exc ex post-ex

Photos taken

FINDS none

Find Nos:

NOTES Accumulated topsoil deposition.



By

Date

Site: Stebbing Porters Hall EVAL

Site code: STPH22

Layer No.

Interpretation Hardstanding

Period Modern

Location Across evaluation trench

3

SOIL DESCRIPTION

Consistence very loose soft friable firm hard dry moist wet

Colour very light medium dark yellow orange green grey brown black

Soil sand silt clay loam clay silt sand

Type

charcoal oyster daub brick tile

Inclusions: flecks

gravel % stone % tile/brick % pot %

Inclusions: pieces

RECORDING Rep sx drawing @ 1:10

Plan nos

Section nos

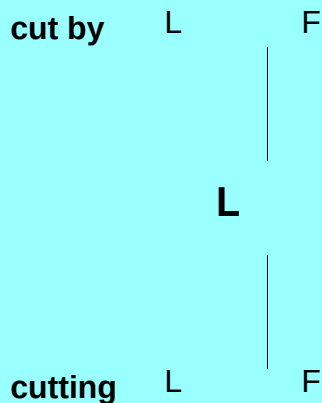
pre-exc ex post-ex

Photos taken

FINDS Crushed brick (not retained)

Find Nos:

NOTES Modern hardstanding, tarmac surface with associated hogging and sand sub-base. 100mm in thickness



By CH Date 15/11/22

Site: Stebbing Porters Hall EVAL

Site code: STPH22

Layer No.

Interpretation

Period Modern

Location Throughout T3

4

SOIL DESCRIPTION

Consistence very loose soft friable firm hard dry moist wet
✓ ✓

Colour very light medium dark yellow orange green grey brown black
✓ ✓

Soil Type sand silt clay loam clay silt sand
✓

charcoal oyster daub brick tile

Inclusions: flecks

gravel % stone % tile/brick % pot %

Inclusions: pieces 15 30

RECORDING Rep sx drawing @ 1:10

Plan nos

Section nos

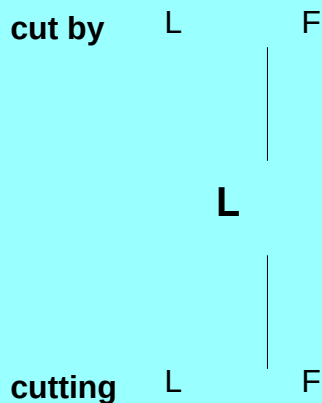
pre-exc ex post-ex

Photos taken

FINDS

Find Nos:

NOTES Made ground, modern make up/build up. Levelling deposit for hardstanding outside the stables/cart lodge? 150-200mm thick



By CH Date 15/11/22

Site: Stebbing Porters Hall EVAL

Site code: STPH22

Layer No.

Interpretation Accumulation deposit

Period Undated

Location Across evaluation trench

5

SOIL DESCRIPTION

Consistence very loose soft friable firm hard dry moist wet

Colour very light medium dark yellow orange green grey brown black

Soil sand silt clay loam clay silt sand

Type

charcoal oyster daub brick tile

Inclusions: flecks

gravel % stone % tile/brick % pot %

Inclusions: pieces

RECORDING Sx drawing @ 1:10 and photo

Plan nos

Section nos

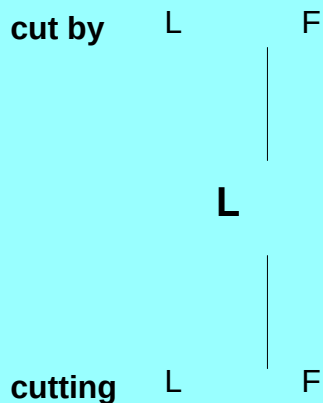
pre-exc ex post-ex

Photos taken

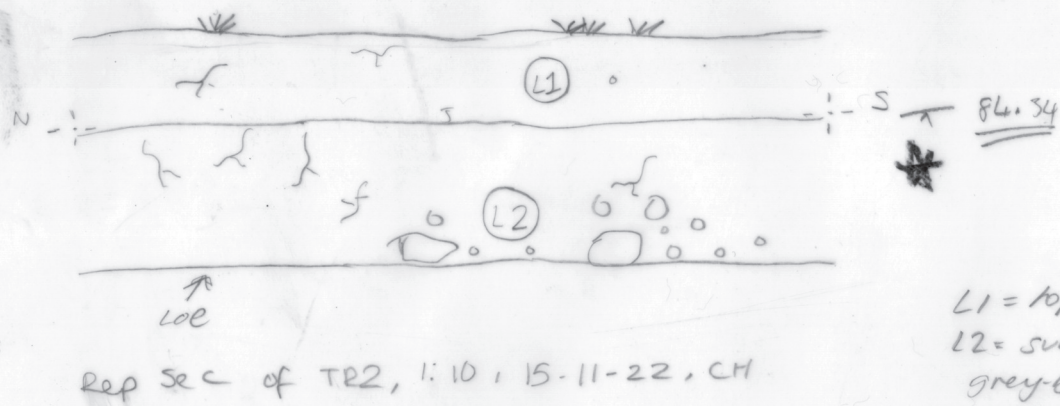
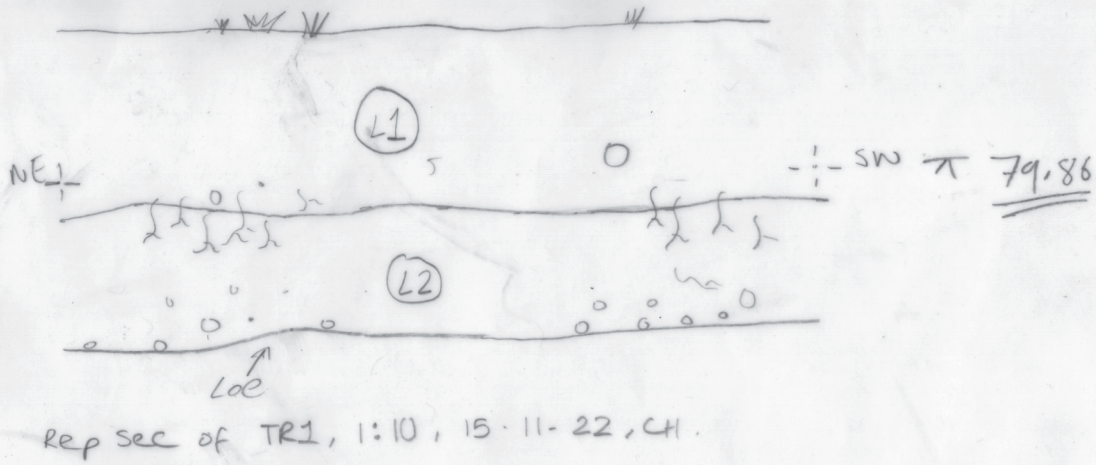
FINDS none

Find Nos:

NOTES Accumulation deposit orange/grey gravels/hogging. 100mm in thickness.

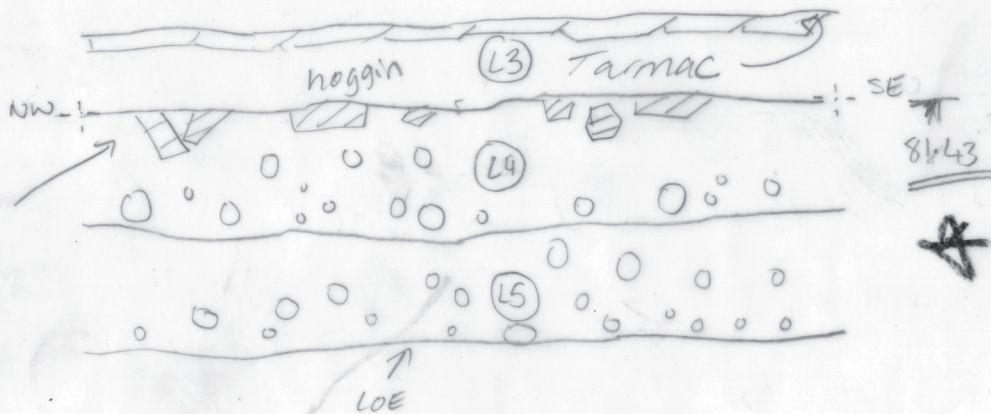


By CH Date



L1 = topsoil
 L2 = subsoil (light-med grey-brown sandy silt with occasional sm subrounded stones)

Rep sec of TR3, 1:10, 15-11-22, CH



L4 - firm mid grey silt with occasional sm stones + modern brick
 L5 - mid ^{orange/grey} brown silt with frequent sm stones