

**An archaeological evaluation at
Bocking Hall, Bocking Churchstreet,
Bocking, Essex
August 2004**

**report prepared by
Carl Crossan**

**on behalf of
Mr and Mrs Pickford**

CAT project ref.: 04/7g

NGR: TL 7568 2578

HAMP site code: BOCBH 04

Braintree Museum accession code: BRNTM 2004.41

Planning application nos: BTE/104/04 and BTE/LB/109/04



Colchester Archaeological Trust

12 Lexden Road,
Colchester,
Essex CO3 3NF

tel.: (01206) 541051

tel./fax: (01206) 500124

email: cc@catuk.org

CAT Report 278

November 2004

Contents

1	Summary	1
2	Introduction	1
3	Archaeological background	1
4	Aims	1
5	Methods	1
6	Results	2
7	Finds	3
8	Discussion	3
9	Acknowledgements	3
10	References	4
11	Archive deposition	4

Figures

Appendix: WSI

EHCR summary sheet

List of figures

- Fig 1 Site location.
- Fig 2 Trench locations.
- Fig 3 Trench sections.

1 Summary

The present Bocking Hall was built in the late 16th century on the probable site of its medieval predecessor which, with the adjacent church, lies in an area believed to have been the original focus of Bocking's medieval settlement. Evaluation trenches were dug to the north-west of the hall on the line of foundations for a new extension and detached garage. The excavation of the trenches revealed widespread deposits of post-medieval to early modern rubble laid to form a terrace on the naturally sloping ground. The levelling lay on an earlier topsoil which merged with underlying subsoil. No archaeologically significant structural remains were recorded during the investigation.

2 Introduction

- 2.1** This is the archive report on an archaeological evaluation which took place on the 2nd and 3rd August 2004 at Bocking Hall, Bocking Churchstreet, Bocking, Essex (Fig 1; NGR TL 7568 2578).
- 2.2** The 16th-century hall stands in grounds adjoining the Church of St Mary the Virgin near the junction of Bovingdon Road and Church Street, Bocking Churchstreet, Bocking, Essex.
- 2.3** The investigation was prompted by the proposed construction of an extension and detached garage/studio in the garden to the north-west of the hall (planning application nos BTE/104/04 and BTE/LB/109/04).
- 2.4** The fieldwork and report follows a brief written by the Essex County Council Heritage Advice, Management and Promotion (HAMP) group and a Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) produced by the Colchester Archaeological Trust (CAT).
- 2.5** The fieldwork and report preparation were carried out in accordance with the relevant standards set out in the Institute of Field Archaeologists' *Standards and guidance for archaeological field evaluation* (1999).

3 Archaeological background

The archaeological significance of the site and its probable place in the early development of Bocking is set out in detail in Medlycott 1998. In summary, the present Bocking Hall was built in the late 16th century and incorporates 17th-century additions and 18th-century alterations. It stands on the probable site of its medieval predecessor which, with the adjacent church, lies in an area believed to have been the original focus of Bocking's medieval settlement.

4 Aims

The aims of the fieldwork were to establish and record the character, extent, date, significance and condition of any archaeological remains likely to be affected by the proposed development.

5 Methods

Foundation trenches for the four walls of the garage/studio (Trenches 1, 3, 4 and 5) and the north-east wall of the extension (Trench 2) were progressively excavated under archaeological supervision using a mechanical digger equipped with a 450mm-wide toothless bucket. The results were recorded using methods set out in the WSI dated 30th July 2004, a copy of which is included as the appendix to this report.

6 Results (Figs 2-3)

6.1 Figure 2 shows the trench locations and the positions of the sections illustrated in Figure 3.

6.2 Trenches 1, 3, 4 and 5

The soil sequence was as follows:

Context table 1.

layer no	trench nos	description	interpretation and comment	period
L1	1, 3, 4, 5	Dark greyish brown sandy loam with a low to medium content of small brick, tile and mortar fragments	Dumped garden topsoil with a variable content of inclusions; same as L7 in Trench 2.	modern
L2	1	Mainly soft white mortar	Localised and erratic patch, dumped rather than a laid surface.	post-medieval or modern
L3	1, 3, 4, 5	Mixed: mainly greyish brown sandy loam with a generally high content of small red brick and tile fragments	Make-up; similar to L8 in Trench 2.	post-medieval
L4	1, 3, 4, 5	Brown sandy silt loam	Earlier topsoil accumulation. Becomes paler and sandier with depth - merged with underlying subsoil L5; similar to L9 in Trench 2.	post-medieval and earlier
L5	1, 3, 4, 5	Fine silty sand, brown with a very slight olive tinge in places	Subsoil; same as L10 in Trench 2.	-
L6	1, 3, 4, 5	Reddish brown stoney sand	Natural; same as L11 in Trench 2.	-

The excavation of this group of trenches revealed two drains, both leading from the direction of the house toward the lower-lying ground to the north-west.

Drain F1/F4

This drain run was represented by a brick-lined square inspection pit (Feature or F1 in Trench 1) and a pipe trench (F4) which was cut by Trench 3. The inspection pit F1 was constructed of unfrogged red brick typically measuring 22cm x 6cm x 11cm and was covered by a stone slab. The slab was laid at the level of the interface between Layer or L3 and L4 and appeared to be sealed by L3, although the continuity of this layer could not be established with certainty at this point due to heavy local root disturbance. The mortar adhering to the bricks varied from a lime-rich white to sandy yellowish brown, indicating either a very poor mix or possible re-use of the bricks. To the north-west, the associated pipe trench (F4 in Trench 3) contained a brown salt-glazed earthenware drainpipe of probable 19th- to 20th-century date.

Drain F2/F3

The excavation of foundation Trench 1 revealed the cut for this drain (F2) which was more fully exposed by the deeper excavation in Trench 2 (F3). Here, the bottom of the trench contained a brick-floored drain with sides built from several courses of red brick laid lengthways in line with the course of the drain. The roof construction was not discernible as safety considerations prevented closer inspection of the drain, which lay at a depth of 2.1m. Bricks excavated from this feature were unfrogged and measured 20cm x 5cm x 11cm. The trench was sealed by L3.

6.3 Trench 2

The soil sequence in this foundation trench for an extension to the house was similar to that noted in Trenches 1, 3, 4 and 5.

Context table 2.

layer no	trench nos	description	interpretation and comment	period
L7	2	Same as L1	Topsoil; same as L1.	modern
L8	2	Similar to L3	Make-up; similar to L3.	post-medieval
L9	2	Similar to L4	Earlier topsoil accumulation; similar to L4.	post-medieval and earlier
L10	2	Same as L5	Subsoil; same as L5.	-
L11	2	Same as L6	Natural; same as L6.	-

Trench 2 butted against the north-west wall of the present hall, exposing its brick footing (F5) which is shown here in profile in Figure 3. The footing projected 5-6cm from the face of the standing wall and was constructed of red brick, typically 23cm x 6cm x 11cm, laid in five alternating courses of headers and stretchers (English bond).

7 Finds

7.1 Brick and tile

Brick and tile inclusions in the make-up layers L3 and L8 were generally too small for dating purposes. However, cambered peg-tile was noted in L3 and this is normally considered to be post-1600 in date.

7.2 Pottery (identification by Howard Brooks)

One small sherd (8 grams) of Fabric 35 Mill Green ware was found in the lowest 10cm of L3. This dates to the late 13th or 14th century and is assumed to be residual.

7.3 Clay tobacco pipe

A fragment of clay tobacco pipe stem (17th-19th century) lay at the interface between L8 and L9.

8 Discussion

No remains of early buildings were found in this part of the grounds. The site of the development lies to the north-west of the present house in an area where the land naturally slopes downwards in a westerly direction. This area has been made up to form a terrace more or less level with the house. The make-up, represented by layers L3 and L8, is probably of more than one phase, originating in the post-medieval period and augmented by early modern deposits. It is composed mainly of building debris, and extends from the house as far as the present north-west boundary of the garden, a distance of 20m. Beyond this boundary, open grassland falls away into a fold which reaches its lowest point approximately 50m from the house. Spot levels taken during the fieldwork indicate that the natural downward incline is in the region of 3.4m over a distance of 50m, or approximately 1 in 14.

9 Acknowledgements

The CAT is grateful to the following individuals and organisations for their help in the course of the investigation:

Mr and Mrs Pickford of Bocking Hall

Andrew Stevenson Associates, Architects

David Whiffen Builders (Tony Whiffen)

R P Bareham Groundworks

Essex County Council Heritage Advice, Management and Promotion group (Vanessa Clarke and Richard Havis)

Braintree District Museum (Robert Rose)

10 References

- Medlycott, M 1998 Bocking: historic town project assessment report, ECC
internal document

11 Archive deposition

The evaluation archive, consisting of the site context records, section drawings, plans, digital photographs and selected finds are currently held by CAT but will be deposited with Braintree District Museum for permanent storage under cover of museum accession code BRNTM 2004.41.

© Colchester Archaeological Trust 2004

Distribution:

Mr and Mrs Pickford, Bocking Hall
Vanessa Clarke, Essex County Council, HAMP group
Essex Heritage Conservation Record, Essex County Council



Colchester Archaeological Trust

12 Lexden Road,
Colchester,
Essex CO3 3NF

tel.: (01206) 541051
tel./fax: (01206) 500124
email: archaeologists@catuk.org

Checked by: Philip Crummy
Date: 05.11.04

Adams c:/reports04/bocking hall/report278.doc



© Crown copyright. All rights reserved. Licence number 100039294.

0 500
metres

Fig 1 Site location.

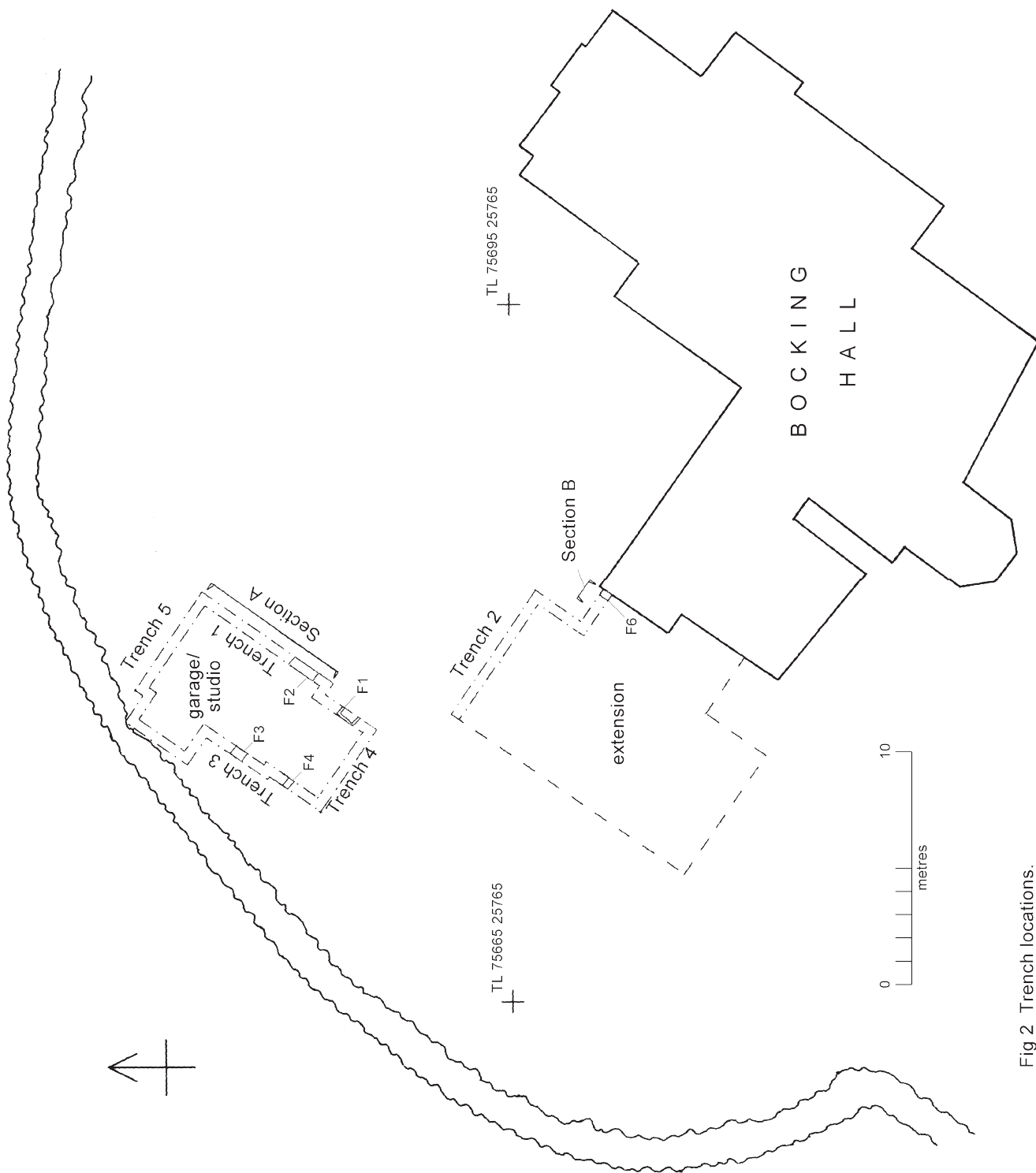
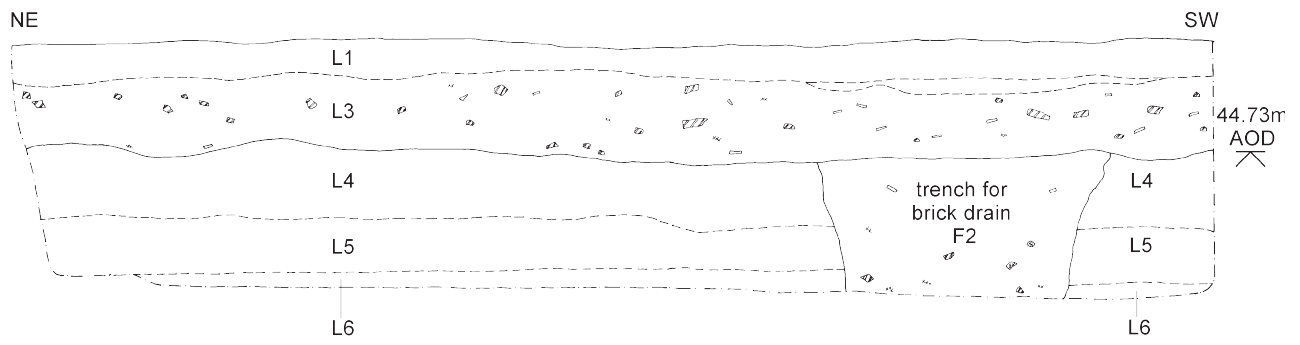
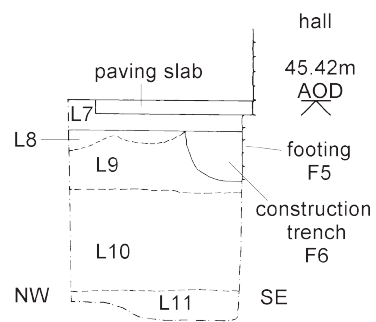


Fig 2 Trench locations.



Section A Trench 1



Section B Trench 2

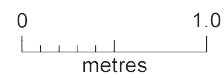


Fig 3 Trench sections.

Essex Heritage Conservation Record/ *Essex Archaeology and History*

Summary sheet

Site name/address: Bocking Hall, Bocking Churchstreet, Bocking, Essex	
Parish: Bocking	District: Braintree and Bocking
NGR: TL 7568 2578	Site code: CAT site code: 04/7g HAMP code: BOCBH 04 Braintree Museum code: BRNTM 2004.41
Type of work: Evaluation	Site director/group: Colchester Archaeological Trust
Date of work: August 2004	Size of area investigated: approx 200 sq m
Location of finds/curating museum: Braintree District Museum	Funding source: Developer
Further seasons anticipated? No	Related EHCR nos: 18416, 27991
Final report: CAT Report 278 and summary in EAH	
Periods represented: post-medieval to modern	
Summary of fieldwork results: <i>The present Bocking Hall was built in the late 16th century on the probable site of its medieval predecessor which, with the adjacent church, lies in an area believed to have been the original focus of Bocking's medieval settlement. Evaluation trenches were dug to the north-west of the hall on the line of foundations for a new extension and detached garage. The excavation of the trenches revealed widespread deposits of post-medieval to early modern rubble laid to form a terrace on the naturally sloping ground. The levelling lay on an earlier topsoil which merged with underlying subsoil. No archaeologically significant structural remains were recorded during the investigation.</i>	
Previous summaries/reports: None	
Author of summary: Carl Crossan	Date of summary: November 2004

ARCHAEOLOGICAL INVESTIGATION AT
BOCKING HALL AND BOCKING COTTAGE
CHURCH STREET
BOCKING

JULY 2004



Essex County Council

HISTORIC ENVIRONMENT BRANCH

Site: Bocking Hall and Bocking Cottage, Church Street, Bocking

Agent: Andrew Stevens Associates, 21A High Street, Great Dunmow, Essex CM6 1AB

Application no.: BTE/104/04 & BTE/LB/109/04

Planning Officer: A Kittle (01376 551414 Ext. 2512)

HAMP Team Officer: Vanessa Clarke (01245 437638)

Museum: Braintree (01376 325266)

This archaeological brief is only valid for six months. After this period the Heritage Advice, Management and Promotion Team (HAMP) should be contacted to assess if any changes need to be made. Any Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) resulting from this brief shall only be considered for the same period.

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

1. Introduction

This brief for detailed monitoring and excavation has been prepared by the HAMP Team of Essex County Council Historic Environment Branch. The brief forms the basis for a Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) and sets out the requirements for archaeological work to be undertaken prior to the construction of a proposed extension and detached garage/ studio building at Bocking Hall and Cottage. The proposed development lies within a highly sensitive archaeological area, located within the extent of the original focus of settlement at Bocking, centred on the church and manorhouse.

2. Site Location and Description

The development site lies to the rear of Bovingdon Rd and Church Street, Bocking, adjacent to the Parish Church of St Mary the Virgin (TL 7568 2578). The site is currently occupied by the 16th century Bocking Hall and its gardens.

3. Planning Background

Planning application BTE/104/04 was submitted to Braintree District Council in January 2004 for the erection of a single storey link extension, landscaping works and the construction of a detached garage and studio. As the development area was identified as being within a potentially sensitive area of

archaeological deposits, a recommendation was made to the District Council by the HAMP Team of Essex County Council for a full condition to be attached to any future planning consent. This follows the guidelines provided in Planning Policy Guidance 16: Archaeology and Planning and the wording states:

"No development or preliminary groundworks of any kind shall take place until the applicant has secured the implementation of a programme of archaeological work in accordance with a written scheme of investigation which has been submitted by the applicant, and approved by the local planning authority"

4. Archaeological Background

The following archaeological background utilises the Essex Heritage Conservation Record (EHCR) held at Essex County Council, County Hall, Chelmsford. Prospective contractors are advised to visit the EHCR prior to the completion of any archaeological WSI (To make an appointment contact Ms A. Bennett, 01245 437637).

The proposed development is identified on the Essex Heritage Conservation Record as lying within an archaeologically sensitive area of Bocking, highlighted in the Historic Town Survey as falling within the area of original settlement (Medlycott 1999; EHCR 18416).

Medieval Bocking was a bi-focal settlement linked by Church Lane and the River Pant/Blackwater. The original focus of settlement was around the existing late Saxon church and manorhouse in Bocking Church Street, where the Saxon settlement is presumed to have been located. Bradford Street developed later in response to its position of the main road and proximity to Braintree Market.

Bocking Hall was the manorhouse for the Manor of Christchurch Canterbury (EHCR 27991). In an Extent of 1309 it was described as 'well and sufficiently built', on a five acre site with a courtyard, garden, meadow, dovecote and two mills, one of which was used for fulling (Hoffman, 1976). The manorhouse itself was rebuilt in the second half of the sixteenth century, but is thought to occupy much the same site as its predecessor. Thirty metres to the east of the Hall is an early fourteenth century single aisled building (EHCR 5140).

5. Requirement for Work

The monitoring and excavation will take place over the entire footprints of the new extension and detached garage. The archaeological work should aim to record the location, extent, date, character, condition, significance and quality of any surviving archaeological remains. Particular attention is required on assessing:

- The date and nature of the initial and subsequent occupation of this part of the site.
- Special attention shall be given to structural elements of medieval and post-medieval date.

The top-soil shall be removed from the full footprints of the extension and detached garage under archaeological control with all features of pre-modern date excavated (see 7.2).

6. General Methodology

- 6.1 The monitoring and excavation shall be undertaken by a professional team of field archaeologists. 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 HAMP Team one week in advance of commencement of work.
- 6.2 The archaeological contractor is expected to follow the Code of Conduct of the Institute of Field Archaeologists.
- 6.3 The contractor shall ensure detailed study of all mains' service locations and avoid damage to these.
- 6.4 All Health and Safety guidelines must be followed on site.
- 6.5 A site code shall be obtained from the HAMP Team officer of Essex County Council.

7. Monitoring Methodology

- 7.1 The contractor shall provide details of the site surveying, excavation and finds recovery policy in the written scheme of investigation. The site grid shall be tied into the National Grid.
- 7.2 Masonry walls shall be carefully cleaned and planned. No sections shall be excavated through surviving walls without prior agreement from HAMP.
- 7.3 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.

- 7.4 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.
- 7.5 Details of the photographic record shall be given in the WSI. This shall include both general and feature specific photographs, a photographic scale (including north arrow) shall be included in the case of detailed photographs. The photographic record shall be accompanied by a photographic register detailing as a minimum feature number, location, and direction of shot.
- 7.6 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 by the contractor from P.Murphy, English Heritage Regional Adviser in Archaeological Science (East of England). Procedures outlined in 'Working Papers of the Association for Environmental Archaeology, No. 2: Environmental archaeology and archaeological evaluations (1995)' should form the basis for the proposed strategies. A guide to sampling archaeological deposits (Murphy and Wiltshire 1994) is available from the HAMP Team of Essex County Council.
- 7.7 The site and spoil heaps shall be checked by metal detector, with any finds recovered.
- 7.8 The IFA's *Standards and Guidance for Archaeological Watching Briefs and Field Excavations*, and the document *Standards for Field Archaeology in the East of England* (Gurney/EAA, 2003), 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.

8. Finds

- 8.1 All finds, where appropriate, shall be washed.
- 8.2 All pottery and other finds where appropriate, shall be marked with the site code and context number.
- 8.3 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.
- 8.4 The requirements for conservation and storage shall be agreed with the appropriate museum (Braintree 01376 325266) prior to the start of work, and confirmed in writing to the HAMP Team.

9. Results

9.1 The report shall be submitted within a length of time (but not exceeding 12 months from the end of the fieldwork), to be agreed between the developer and archaeological contractor, with a copy supplied to the EHCR. Where possible a single hard copy with a full digital copy shall be supplied to the HAMP team. If a digital version cannot be produced two hard copies shall be provided.

9.2 This report must contain:

- The aims and methods adopted in the course of the archaeological work.
- Location plan of excavated areas in relation to the proposed development. At least two corners of each of the excavated area shall be given 10 figure grid references.
- A section/s drawing showing depth of deposits including present ground level with Ordnance Datum, vertical and horizontal scale.
- Excavation methodology and detailed results
- A concise non-technical summary of the project results.
- Appropriate discussion and result section assessing the site in relation to the Regional Research Frameworks (Brown and Glazebrook 2000).

9.3 An EHCR summary sheet shall also be completed within four weeks (copy attached with brief) and supplied to the HAMP Team officer. Where possible this will be completed in digital form (copy can be emailed). This shall include a plan showing the area of monitoring and excavation.

9.4 Publication of the results at least to a summary level (i.e. round up of archaeology in Essex in *Essex Archaeology and History*) shall be undertaken in the year following the archaeological fieldwork. An allowance shall be made within the costs for full publication in an appropriate journal. This will probably be *Essex Archaeology and History*. The publication draft will be submitted within 1 month of the full report.

10. Archive Deposition

10.1 The requirements for archive storage shall be agreed with the appropriate museum (Braintree 01376 325266), and confirmed in writing to the HAMP Team.

- 10.2 If the finds are to remain with the landowner a full copy of the archive shall be housed with the appropriate museum.
- 10.3 The full archive shall be deposited with the appropriate museum within 2 months of the completion of the report and confirmed with the HAMP Team.
- 10.4 A summary of the contents of the archive shall be supplied to the HAMP Team at the time of deposition to the museum.

11. Monitoring

- 11.1 The HAMP Team of the Historic Environment Branch will be responsible for monitoring progress and standards throughout the project. This will include the fieldwork, post-excavation and publication stages.
- 11.2 Notification of the start of work shall be given to the HAMP Team one week in advance of its commencement.
- 11.3 All excavated areas must be inspected by the HAMP Team prior to their backfilling.
- 11.4 Any variations of the written scheme of investigation shall be agreed with the HAMP Team prior to them being carried out.

12. Contractors Written Scheme of Investigation

- 12.1 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.
- 12.2 Archaeological contractors shall forward a written scheme of investigation to the HAMP Team of Essex County Council for validation **before** any work is undertaken on site. This validation is undertaken on behalf of the Planning Authority.
- 12.3 The involvement of the HAMP Team shall be acknowledged in any report or publication generated by this project.

13. References

- | | | |
|---------------------------------|------|---|
| Brown, N. and
Glazebrook, J. | 2000 | Research and Archaeology: A Framework for the Eastern Counties
2- Research Agenda and Strategy (East Anglian Archaeology) |
| Gurney, D. | 2003 | Standards for Field Archaeology in the East of England (EAA Occas.
Paper 18) |
| Hoffman | 1976 | (draft) English Heritage limited circulation document <i>Bocking
Deanery: The Story of an Essex Peculiar</i> , Phillimore: London and
Chichester |
| Medlycott, M. | 1998 | Bocking: Historic Town Project, Assessment Report ECC internal
document |

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.

Vanessa Clarke
Heritage Advice, Management and Promotion Team
Historic Environment Branch
County Hall
Chelmsford
CM1 1QH

Tel (01245) 437638
Fax (01245) 258353
Email Vanessa.clarke@essexcc.gov.uk

HAMP Ref
BOCBH 04

SUMMARY SHEET

Site name/Address:	
Parish:	District:
NGR:	Site Code:
Type of Work:	Site Director/Group:
Date of Work:	Size of Area Investigated:
Location of Finds/Curating Museum:	Funding source:
Further Seasons Anticipated?:	Related EHCR No.s:
Final Report:	
Periods Represented:	
SUMMARY OF FIELDWORK RESULTS:	
Previous Summaries/Reports:	
Author of Summary:	Date of Summary:

ARCHAEOLOGICAL CONTRACTORS WHO HAVE WORKED IN ESSEX

The following are archaeological contract teams that have worked in Essex:

Essex County Council Field Archaeology Unit	Fairfield Court South Street Braintree CM7 3YQ 01376 331470/331431 Fax 01376 331428 Enquiries to Mr Mark Atkinson
Colchester Archaeological Trust	12 Lexden Road Colchester Essex CO3 3NF 01206 541051 Fax 01206 500124 Enquiries to Mr P. Crummy
Wessex Archaeology	Unit 701 The Chandlery 50 Westminster Bridge Rd London SE1 7QY
Oxford Archaeology	Janus House Osney Mead Oxford OX2 0ES 01865 263800 Fax 01865 793496 Enquiries to Mr B. Williams
AOC Archaeology Ltd	Unit 7 St Margaret's Business Centre Moor Mead Rd Twickenham London TW1 1JS 02088 437380 Fax. 0208 8920549 Enquiries to Mr J. Maloney

NOTE: The list is supplied on the strict basis that it sets out Archaeological Contractors who have undertaken fieldwork in Essex. It is not an approved list nor intended to be so. The list may be amended where a particular scheme is likely to require input of a highly specialist nature.

Essex County Council its servants or agents accept no responsibility in any form whatsoever, whether direct or indirect for any loss or damage however caused in using the services of any of the contractors listed.

Archaeology South East

1 West Street
Ditchling
Hassocks
Sussex
BN6 8TS
01273, 845497
Fax 01273 844187
Enquiries to Ian Greig

Archaeological Solutions

The Seed Warehouse
Maidenhead Yard
The Wash
Hertford
SG14 1PX
01992 558170
Fax 01992 553 359

Heritage Network

The Heritage Network Ltd
11 Furmston Court
Icknield Way
Letchworth Garden City
SG6 1UG
01462 685991
Fax 01462 685998
Enquiries to David Hillelson

Cotswold Archaeology

Building 11
Kemble Enterprise Park
Kemble
Cirencester
GL7 6BQ
Tel: 01285 771022
Fax: 01285 771033
E-mail: info@cotswoldarch.org.uk
Enquiries to Mr N. Holbrook

NOTE: The list is supplied on the strict basis that it sets out Archaeological Contractors who have undertaken fieldwork in Essex. It is not an approved list nor intended to be so. The list may be amended where a particular scheme is likely to require input of a highly specialist nature.

Essex County Council its servants or agents accept no responsibility in any form whatsoever, whether direct or indirect for any loss or damage however caused in using the services of any of the contractors listed.

Written Scheme of Investigation
for an
archaeological evaluation at

Bocking Hall and Bocking Cottage
Church Street
Essex

Planning application no.
BTE/104/04 and BTE/LB/109/04

July 2004



COLCHESTER ARCHAEOLOGICAL TRUST,
12 LEXDEN ROAD,
COLCHESTER,
ESSEX C03 3NF
tel: (01206) 541051
tel/fax: (01206) 500124
email: archaeologists@catuk.org

Written Scheme of Investigation for archaeological evaluation at Bocking Hall and Bocking Cottage, Church Street, Bocking, Essex

1 Introduction

- 1.1 This is a Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) for an archaeological evaluation by excavation at Bocking Hall and Bocking Cottage, Church Street, Bocking, Essex (NGR: TL 7568 2578)
- 1.2 This WSI has been written by Colchester Archaeological Trust (CAT) to fulfil the requirements of Essex County Council Heritage Advice, Management and Promotions Section (HAMP).
- 1.3 The proposed development involves the construction of a single-storey extension together with a detached garage and studio in the grounds adjoining the north-western side of Bocking Hall.
- 1.4 This WSI sets out proposals for the conduct of an evaluation in the area to be affected by the proposed development. The scope of the evaluation covers on-site excavation, followed by post-excavation work, the production of an archive and (if necessary) publication texts.
- 1.5 Any variations in this WSI will be agreed beforehand with HAMP.

2 Archaeological background

- 2.1 The present hall was built in the late sixteenth century on the probable site of its medieval predecessor which, with the adjacent late Saxon church, lies in an area believed to be the original focus of Bocking's medieval settlement. An early fourteenth century single aisled building stands 60m to the east of the development area (EHCR 18416).

3 Aims

- 3.1 The aim of the fieldwork will be to establish and record the character, extent, date, significance and condition of any archaeological remains likely to be affected by the proposed development.

4 Methodology

- 4.1 In order to achieve the aims stated in Section 3, a two-stage approach is proposed in place of a single strip over the footprints of the buildings. The reason for the preliminary work (described in 4.2) is to test a suggestion that the site overburden is exceptionally deep to an extent that any archaeologically significant levels will not be affected by area stripping for the building footprints. If the overburden is found to be shallow then all affected pre-modern features within the building footprints will be excavated in the second stage of the work in accordance with Section 5 of the HAMP brief for archaeological investigation. Alternatively, if the overburden is as deep as has been suggested, then further archaeological excavation will focus on the wall foundation trenches, ensuring that sensitive levels unaffected by the general footprint strip are preserved in-situ.
- 4.2 Two trenches, each 450mm wide, will be excavated by machine at the locations shown on Figure 1. The trenches will be dug on the line of the proposed strip foundations for the new buildings and amount to 10.5m in length for the extension and 9.6m for the garage.
- 4.3 The digging machine will be equipped with a toothless bucket which will progressively strip the overburden down to the uppermost surviving level of archaeological significance. Any further

investigation will be carried out by hand to an extent necessary to achieve the aims set out in Section 3. Fast excavation techniques involving (for instance) picks, forks and mattocks will not be used on complex stratigraphy. If no archaeologically significant deposits are exposed, machine excavation will continue until natural subsoil is reached.

- 4.4 No further excavation will take place on the site until the results of the initial evaluation trenches have been reviewed in consultation with HAMP to determine an appropriate strategy for monitoring and excavation on the basis set out in Section 4.1. At the very least, a watching brief will be held on the contractor's excavations for foundations, soakaways and all other groundworks.
- 4.5 Individual records of excavated contexts, layers, features or deposits will be entered on CAT pro-forma record sheets. Registers will be compiled of finds and samples.
- 4.6 The normal recording scale will be feature plans at 1:20 and sections at 1:10.
- 4.7 A metal detector will be used to check spoil heaps and any suitable strata, and the finds recovered. This will not normally be done on demonstrably modern strata.
- 4.8 The photographic record will consist of general site shots, and shots of all archaeological features and deposits. Standard "record" shots of contexts will be taken on a digital camera. Colour transparencies will be used for overall site shots and *all* important contexts.

5 General

- 5.1 All works will be undertaken by professional archaeologists employed by CAT. The officer(s) will have a level of experience appropriate to the work.
- 5.2 Prior to excavation, CAT will seek information about existing service locations from the developer.
- 5.3 All the latest Health and Safety guidelines will be followed on site. CAT has a standard safety policy, which will be adhered to.
- 5.4 A site code will be obtained through HAMP. For purposes of deposition of the archive, a museum accession code will be obtained through Braintree Museum. All codes will be quoted in any reports arising from the work.
- 5.5 The *Code of Conduct* and the relevant *Standards and Guidance* note of the Institute of Field Archaeologists (IFA) will be followed.

6 Finds

- 6.1 If any human remains are exposed, HAMP and the client will be notified. All human remains will be left and recorded *in situ*. A Home Office license to remove the remains will be sought if this is the appropriate course of action. Due attention will be paid to Health and Safety.
- 6.2 All finds of archaeological relevance will be retained. Policies for later disposal of any finds will be agreed with HAMP and the site owner.
- 6.3 All finds, where appropriate, will be washed.
- 6.4 A policy of marking for pottery and other finds will be agreed with Braintree Museum. Marking will include the site code and context number.
- 6.5 The site archive will be presented to Braintree Museum in accordance with their requirements

- 6.6 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.
- 6.7 Finds work will be to accepted professional standards and adhere to the Institute of Archaeologists' published booklet *Guidelines for Finds Work*.
- 6.8 A list of specialists available for consultation is given at the end of this WSI.

7 Results

- 7.1 Notification will be given to HAMP when the fieldwork has been completed.
- 7.2 The full report, including full reports on artefacts will be submitted within a length of time not exceeding 12 months from the end of fieldwork, with two copies supplied to EHCR, and Braintree Museum.
- 7.3 This report will include:
- The aims and methods adopted in the course of the evaluation.
 - Location plan of the trenches, with 10 figure grid references at two points on the trenches.
 - A record of the depth of deposits including present ground level.
 - The evaluation methodology & results with a suitable conclusion & discussion.
 - All specialist reports and assessments.
 - A concise non-technical summary of the project results.
 - Appropriate discussion and results section assessing the site in relation to the Regional Research Frameworks (Brown and Glazebrook 2000).
- 7.4 An appropriate archive will be prepared to minimum acceptable standards outlined in *Management of Archaeological Projects: 2*.
- 7.5 Within four weeks of the end of fieldwork, HAMP will be supplied with a completed EHCR summary sheet and plan showing the area subject to fieldwork. A summary and plan will be supplied even if the project has a negative result.
- 7.6 If, after discussion with HAMP, the results are considered worthy of publication, a report (at least at a summary level), will be submitted to *Essex Archaeology & History*.

8 Archive deposition

- 8.1 The full archive will be deposited at Braintree Museum within 2 months of completion of final publication report on the project, and confirmed to HAMP. All requirements for archive storage as required by Braintree Museum.
- 8.2 Finds (and other retained materials) will be bagged and boxed in the manner recommended by Braintree Museum.
- 8.3 Plans will be presented on hanging strips to fit Braintree Museum storage systems.
- 8.4 Photographic archive is to be presented as follows: colour slides in hanging strips or in folders of archival quality, original digital data on discs, hard copies of digital photos on high quality paper, or as otherwise requested by Braintree Museum.
- 8.5 A summary of the contents of the archive shall be supplied to HAMP at the time of deposition at the museum

9 Monitoring

- 9.1 HAMP will be responsible for monitoring progress and standards throughout the project, and will be kept regularly informed during fieldwork, post-excavation and publication stages.
- 9.2 HAMP will be notified when the fieldwork is about to start, and when it is complete.
- 9.3 Any variations of the WSI shall be agreed with HAMP in writing prior to them being carried out.
- 9.4 The involvement of HAMP shall be acknowledged in any report or publication generated by this project.

14 Reference

Brown, N. and Glazebrook, J.	2000	Research and Archaeology: A Framework for the Eastern Counties 2 – Research Agenda and Strategy (East Anglian Archaeology)
---------------------------------	------	---

cc30/7/2004

© COLCHESTER ARCHAEOLOGICAL TRUST, "CAMULODUNUM",
12 LEXDEN ROAD, COLCHESTER, ESSEX C03 3NF
Tel: (01206) 541051. Fax: (01206) 500124. E-mail: archaeologists@catuk.org

APPENDIX: TEAM STRUCTURE

List of team members

Site supervision and recording

C Crossan (CAT)

Finds consultants

Howard Brooks (CAT): Medieval and later pottery

Stephen Benfield (CAT): LIA/Roman pottery

Joanna Bird (Guildford): Samian ware

Sue Tyler (ECC): Saxon Pottery.

Ernest Black (Colchester): Roman brick/tile

Hazel Martingell: Lithics

Dr Hilary Cool (Nottingham): Roman glass

Nina Crummy (Colchester): Small finds

Sue Anderson (SCCAS): Human bone

Julie Curl (NAU): Animal bone

John Davis (Norwich Museum): Roman coins

Jacqueline McKinley (Warminster): Human osteoarchaeology

Val Fryer (UEA/Loddon): Environmental

Valerie Rigby (British Museum): LIA ceramics

Dr Paul Sealey (Colchester Museums): Roman Amphoras, prehistoric & Roman pottery

Graphics

C Crossan, M McDonald, J Adams (CAT)

Report writing

C Crossan (CAT)

plan no(s)	stratigraphical relationships	layer no
	L1 L2 L3	L3
summary interpretation MAKE UP		
provisional phase code	qual	revised phase code
description of matrix MIXED: MAINLY GREYISH BROWN SILT WITH VARYING BUT GENERALLY HIGH CONTENT RED BRICK & PECCABLE FRAGS. BRICK IS 1114 WIDE, 6744 HIGH.		
notes	THICK VERY MIXED MAKE UP, APPARENTLY FROM A SINGLE PHASE OF DUMP. EXTENDS TO 60-70 CM OTHER TRENCHES: T3. EXTENDS TO 65 CM	location T1
		profile/section nos
		sketch-book page no

Colchester Archaeological Trust, 12, Lexden Road, Colchester

Colchester Archaeological Trust, 12, Lexden Road, Colchester

plan no(s)	stratigraphical relationships	layer no
	L1 L2	L1
summary interpretation TOPSOIL (DUMPED)		
provisional phase code	qual	revised phase code
description of matrix Y. DK GREYISH BROWN SANDY LOAM WITH MED CONTENTS SMALL FRAGS RED BRICK & PECCABLE FRAGS, ALSO SMALL MORTAR FRAGS.		
notes	DUMPED TOPSOIL, V. MIXED, VARIABLE CONTENT OF INCLUSIONS. 15-20 CM. OTHER TRENCHES: IN T3 40 CM DEEP	location T1
		profile/section nos
		sketch-book page no

plan no(s)	stratigraphical relationships	layer no
	L3 L4	L4
summary interpretation EARLIER TOPSOIL PLOUGH SOIL		
provisional phase code	qual	revised phase code
description of matrix BROWN SANDY SILT LOAM, BECOMING PATELY WITH DEPTH, AND SANDIER		
notes	EXTENDS TO 1.0M TO 1.1M - EARLIER TOPSOIL PLOUGHED L MICHES WITH UNDERLYING L5. OTHER TRENCHES: T3 EXTENDS TO 1.03 IN NORTHERN PROJECTION OF TRENCH 1	location T1
		profile/section nos
		sketch-book page no

plan no(s)	stratigraphical relationships	layer no
	L1 L2 L3	L2
summary interpretation NON-PAK PATG		
provisional phase code	qual	revised phase code
description of matrix WHITE MORTAR		
notes	LOCALISED AND ERATIC, DOES DUMPED RATHER THAN LAMB SURFACE UP TO 10 CM THICK. OTHER TRENCHES: NOT PRESENT	location T1
		profile/section nos
		sketch-book page no

SITE BACKING HALL REORDER 20

DATE 2-10

PAGE 1

plan no(s)	stratigraphical relationships			layer no
	L7	L8		L7
summary interpretation				
TOPSOIL / RUBBLE				
provisional phase code	MODERN	qual	revised phase code	qual
description of matrix				
VERY MIXED, MODERN SURFACES OF TOISED WITH HIGH CONTENT SMALL AND LARGE BRICK FRAGMENTS, SOME FROM RECENT BUILDINGS CLEARANCE, OTHERS OF EARLIER ORIGIN. BK GREYISH BROWN SANDY LOAM.				
notes	SAME AS L1 IN TRENCH 1, DISTURBED BY RECENT CLEARANCE.			location T2
				profile / section nos
				sketch-book page no

plan no(s)	stratigraphical relationships			layer no
	L7	L8		L8
summary interpretation				
DUMP				
provisional phase code	POST-MED / MOD	qual	revised phase code	qual
description of matrix				
MIXED DEPOSIT OF SMALL FRACS RED BRICK MORTAR, SMALL STONES, OCCASIONAL CLAY LOAM (LOOSE & CRUMBLY) WITH SMALL MORTAR INCLUSIONS.				
notes	SIMILAR TO L3 IN TRENCH 1.			location T2
				profile / section nos
				sketch-book page no

SITE TAIL REORDER 20

DATE

PAGE 1

plan no(s)	stratigraphical relationships			layer no
	L4	L5	L6	L5
summary interpretation				
SLOPE				
provisional phase code		qual	revised phase code	qual
description of matrix				
FINE SILTY SAND. BROWN WITH SLIGHT OLIVE TINGE.				
notes	EXTENDS TO 1.3M			location T1
				profile / section nos
				sketch-book page no

plan no(s)	stratigraphical relationships			layer no
	L5	L6		L6
summary interpretation				
NATURAL				
provisional phase code		qual	revised phase code	qual
description of matrix				
REDISH BROWN STONEY SAND.				
notes	AT 1.3M.			location T1
				profile / section nos
				sketch-book page no

SITE **BAKINGHAM** RECORDER **22** DATE **3-8** PAGE **1**

plan no(s)	stratigraphical relationships	layer no
	<div><div>L8</div><div>L9</div></div>	L9
summary interpretation EARLIER TOPSOIL		
provisional phase code	qual POST-MED+EARLY	revised phase code
description of matrix BROWN SANDY SILT LOAN BECOMING PALE AND SANDIER WITH DEPTH.		
notes	SAME AS L4 IN T1, LOWER PART MERGES WITH UNDERLYING L10	location T2
		profile / section nos
		sketch-book page no

plan no(s)	stratigraphical relationships	layer no
	<div><div>L9</div><div>L10</div></div>	L10
summary interpretation SOBBOL		
provisional phase code	qual	revised phase code
description of matrix SIMILAR TO L8 L5 BUT WITHOUT THE OLIVE TINT - MORE A PALE YELLOWISH BROWN.		
notes	SAME AS L5 IN TRENCH L.	location T2.
		profile / section nos
		sketch-book page no

Colchester Archaeological Trust, 12, Lexden Road, Colchester

SITE **BAKINGHAM** RECORDER **22** DATE **3-8** PAGE **1**

plan no(s)	stratigraphical relationships	layer no
	<div><div>L10</div><div>L11</div></div>	L11
summary interpretation NATURAL		
provisional phase code	qual	revised phase code
description of matrix SAME AS L6 IN T1.		
notes		location T2.
		profile / section nos
		sketch-book page no

plan no(s)	stratigraphical relationships	layer no
	<div><div>L10</div><div>L11</div></div>	
summary interpretation		
provisional phase code	qual	revised phase code
description of matrix		
notes		location
		profile / section nos
		sketch-book page no

Colchester Archaeological Trust, 12, Lexden Road, Colchester

plan no(s)	stratigraphical relationships			layer no
	<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px;"> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px;">F3</div> </div>			
summary interpretation				
BRICK DRAIN				
provisional phase code	qual	revised phase code	qual	
description of matrix				
FILL SAME AS F2				
notes	NW CONTINUATION OF F2. CLOSE INSPECTION NOT POSSIBLE DUE TO DEPTH OF TRENCH AT THIS POINT (2.1M) 2.1M BRICK FLOOR WITH SINGLE THICKNESS OF TO SURFACE BRICK ON SIDES. ROOF UNKNOWN BRICK SAMPLE KEPT			
	location	T3		
	profile/section nos			
	sketch-book page	no		

plan no(s)	stratigraphical relationships			layer no
	<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px;"> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px;">F4</div> </div>			
summary interpretation				
DRAIN TRENCH				
provisional phase code	qual	revised phase code	qual	
description of matrix				
MIXED MASONRY DR ENTRENCH BETWEEN SANDY LEADS WITH SMALL FRAGS RED BRICK				
notes	NW CONTINUATION OF F1, TRENCH AND PIPE ONLY			
	location	T3		
	profile/section nos			
	sketch-book page	no		

plan no(s)	stratigraphical relationships			layer no
	<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px;"> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px;">F1</div> </div>			
summary interpretation				
DRAIN INSPECTION PIT				
provisional phase code	qual	revised phase code	qual	
description of matrix				
BRICK-LINED. RED BRICKS LAYD AS STRENGTHENERS 27CM x 61CM x 10.3CM HIGH UNFROCCED 580 INTERNAL (NE-SW)				
notes	DRAIN RUNS NW-SE COVERED WITH STONE SLABS LINE OF PIPE PICKED UP IN T3. SEE FOR NOTES RELATIONSHIPS: SOIL ABOVE THIS FEATURE IS VERY POOR. L3 APPEARS TO SEAL IF BOY NOT CLEAR IN SX. HOWEVER, STONE SLABS USED TO COVER TOP OF BRICKWORK ARE LAYD AT INTERFACE BETWEEN L3 AND L4 COULD BE SEALED BY L1			
	location	T1		
	profile/section nos			
	sketch-book page	no		

plan no(s)	stratigraphical relationships			layer no
	<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px;"> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px;">F2</div> </div>			
summary interpretation				
DRAIN TRENCH				
provisional phase code	qual	revised phase code	qual	
description of matrix				
BROWN SANDY LEAD WITH GENERALLY HIGH CONTENT MERTAR LORIPS, SOME FRACS RED BRICK AND RESSLE				
notes	LINEAR FEATURE. CUTS ACROSS T1 AT RT ANGLES. IN APPEARANCE MUCH LIKE A REBBER TRENCH. CONTAINS AND AS F3 REBBER TRENCH			
	location	T1		
	profile/section nos			
	sketch-book page	no		

[illegible]

plan no(s)		stratigraphical relationships	layer no 1-5
summary interpretation FOOTING			
provisional phase code	POST-MOD	qual	revised phase code
description of matrix EXPOSED FOOTING OF EXISTING BUILDING.			
notes	location T2		
profile / section nos			
sketch-book page no			

plan no(s)		stratigraphical relationships	tayer no.
		summary interpretation construction trench:	F-6
		provisional phase code post-mixed qual revised phase code qual	
		description of matrix	
		note: MIXED GREYISH BROWN SANDY SILT WITH FINE BROWN HOTSPOTS . YOU COMMENT CALCIFIED (UNITED) SHALL STONES	
notes		CONSTRUCTION TRENCH FOR AND WALL OF EXISTING BUILDING	location TZ
			profile / section nos
			sketch-book page no



01



02



03



04



05



06



07



08



09



10

Photographic log for Bocking Hall Evaluation

Filename	Description
BOCBH04_Photograph_01.jpg	T1: F1 view north-east
BOCBH04_Photograph_02.jpg	T1: F2 view north-east
BOCBH04_Photograph_03.jpg	T1 – view north-west
BOCBH04_Photograph_04.jpg	T2 – view south-east
BOCBH04_Photograph_05.jpg	T1 – view south-west
BOCBH04_Photograph_06.jpg	T2: south-east end with existing building – view south-east
BOCBH04_Photograph_07.jpg	T2: southern end of section – view south
BOCBH04_Photograph_08.jpg	T2: northern end of section – view north
BOCBH04_Photograph_09.jpg	General shot of site – view north
BOCBH04_Photograph_10.jpg	General shot of site – view west

2/8/04

