

# Archaeological monitoring at White House Farm Barns, Mill Green Road, Mill Green, Essex, CM4 0HY

November 2017 – March 2018



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**commissioned by P A Scott Associates  
on behalf of Mr Paul Mayhew**

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**CAT Report 1262**

May 2018

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Appendix 1 OASIS Summary

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## 1 Summary

*Archaeological monitoring was carried out at White House Farm Barns, Mill Green Road, Mill Green during the conversion of three historic barns and some modern outbuildings. No archaeological remains were uncovered.*

## 2 Introduction (Fig 1)

This report presents the results of archaeological monitoring at White House Farm Barns, Mill Green Road, Mill Green, which was carried out during November 2017 to March 2018. The work was commissioned by P A Scott Associates on behalf of Mr Paul Mayhew during the conversion of a three historic barns and some modern outbuildings and was undertaken by Colchester Archaeological Trust (CAT).

In response to consultation, Essex County Council Historic Environment Advisor (ECCHEA) Helen Saunders advised that in order to establish the archaeological implications of this application, the applicant should be required to commission a scheme of archaeological investigation in accordance with the *National Planning Policy Framework* (DCLG 2012).

All archaeological work was carried out in accordance with the *Brief for building recording archaeological monitoring at White House Farm Barns, Mill Green Road, Mill Green* detailing the required archaeological work, written by Helen Saunders (ECCPS 2017), and a Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) prepared by CAT in response to the brief and agreed with ECCHEA (CAT 2017).

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

## 3 Archaeological background

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

The EHER shows that the timber-framed barn buildings that are proposed for conversion are potentially of historic and archaeological interest as they form part of a historic farm complex and are located within the historic settlement of Ingatestone and Fryerning (EHER 19219). The farm complex is recorded on the 1777 Chapman and André map, and on the 1st edition OS map (1870s). As the buildings form part of a farm complex there are likely to be below ground archaeological deposits. It is possible that the site preserves evidence of earlier settlement and possible precursors to the existing settlement site. This evidence may be damaged or destroyed by the groundworks associated with the development.

## 4 Aims

Archaeological monitoring was primarily undertaken to accumulate evidence regarding the origins and development of the historic farmstead and of activity and occupation occurring at this site prior to its establishment.

## 5 Results (Figs 2-3)

Work at this site occurred over a four-month period. These groundworks were supervised by a CAT archaeologist. During this period, 193m of drainage trenching,

measuring 0.4m in width and 1-1.1m in depth, was excavated on the site. One section of this drainage trenching, located within Plot 1, was only excavated to a depth of 0.2m as the ground level will be raised in this area. A further 73m of foundation trenching, measuring 0.45-0.6m in width and 0.9-1m in depth, was also carried out on the site. An additional 7.6m of foundation trenching undertaken in Plot 1 was not monitored, as these groundworks occurred through a backfilled septic tank. A strip of land along the southern boundary of Plots 2-3 was also reduced by between 0.3m at the northern end of the area and 0.75m at the southern end.

Across Plot 1, groundworks occurred through a layer of humic topsoil (L3, 0.2-0.3m thick, friable, dry/moist medium/dark brown/black silty-clay with >9% stone piece inclusions) onto natural (L2, soft/friable moist medium grey/brown silty-clay with >4% stone piece inclusions). Outside of Plot 1, excavations penetrated a modern yard surface (L1, c 0.15m thick, friable, dry medium grey/brown silty-clay with CBM fleck inclusions and >20% gravel and >20% CBM piece inclusions) and L2.

No archaeological features or material were encountered.



**Photograph 1** Drainage ditch south of plot 1



**Photograph 2** Foundation trenching in southern part of plot 2

## 6 Finds

No finds were recovered.

## 7 Conclusion

Archaeological monitoring was undertaken at this site with the intention of accumulating information regarding the origins and development of the historic farmstead. No archaeological remains or finds were uncovered. The thinness of the topsoil overlying the site, and the absence of subsoil, do indicate that extensive ground reduction has been undertaken here, and it is possible that archaeological deposits might have been destroyed in the process.

## 8 Acknowledgements

CAT thanks P A Scott Associates and Mr Paul Mayhew for commissioning and funding the work. The project was managed by C Lister and carried out by B Holloway and A

Tuffey. Figures were prepared by BH and S Carter. The project was monitored for Essex County Council by Helen Sauders.

## 9 References

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

Brown and Glazenbrook	2000	<i>Research and Archaeology: A Framework for the Eastern Counties 2 – Research Agenda and Strategy</i> . East Anglian Archaeology
CAT	2017	<i>Health &amp; Safety Policy</i>
CAT	2017	<i>Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) for archaeological monitoring at White House Farm Barns, Mill Green Road, Mill Green, Essex, CM4 0HY</i>
Cifa	2014a	<i>Standard and Guidance for archaeological watching briefs</i>
Cifa	2014b	<i>Standard and guidance for the collection, documentation, conservation and research of archaeological materials</i>
DCLG	2012	<i>National Planning Policy Framework</i>
ECCPS	2017	<i>Brief for Building Recording and Archaeological Monitoring at White House Farm Barns, Mill Green Road, Mill Green</i>
English Heritage	2006	<i>Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment (MoRPHE)</i>
Gurney, D	2003	<i>Standards for Field Archaeology in the East of England</i> . East Anglian Archaeology Occasional Papers 14 (EAA 14).
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)

## 10 Abbreviations and glossary

CAT	Colchester Archaeological Trust
CBM	ceramic building material, ie brick/tile
Cifa	Chartered Institute for Archaeologists
context	specific location of finds on an archaeological site
ECCHEA	Essex County Council Historic Environment Advisor
ECCPS	Essex County Council Place Services
EHHER	Essex Historic Environment Record
feature (F)	an identifiable thing like a pit, a wall, a drain: can contain 'contexts'
layer (L)	distinct or distinguishable deposit (layer) of material
modern	period from c AD 1800 to the present
natural	geological deposit undisturbed by human activity
NGR	National Grid Reference
OASIS	<b>O</b> nline <b>A</b> ccess to the <b>I</b> ndex of <b>A</b> rchaeological <b>I</b> nvestigations, <a href="http://oasis.ac.uk/pages/wiki/Main">http://oasis.ac.uk/pages/wiki/Main</a>
peg-tile	rectangular thin tile with peg-hole(s) used mainly for roofing, first appeared c AD1200 and continued in use to present day, but commonly post-medieval to modern
post-medieval	period from c AD 1500 to c 1800
ws	written scheme of investigation

## 11 Contents of archive

**Finds:** n/a

### **Paper and digital record**

One A4 document wallet containing:

The report (CAT Report 1262)

Original site record (feature and layer sheets, finds record, plans)

Site digital photos and log, architectural plans, attendance register, risk assessment

## 12 Archive deposition

The paper and digital archive is currently held by the Colchester Archaeological Trust at Roman Circus House, Roman Circus Walk, Colchester, Essex, CO2 7GZ, but will be permanently deposited with Chelmsford Museum under accession code CHMRE 2017.130.

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### Distribution list

P A Scott Associates

Mr Paul Mayhew

Helen Saunders, Essex County Council Place Services

Essex Historic Environment Record



### Colchester Archaeological Trust

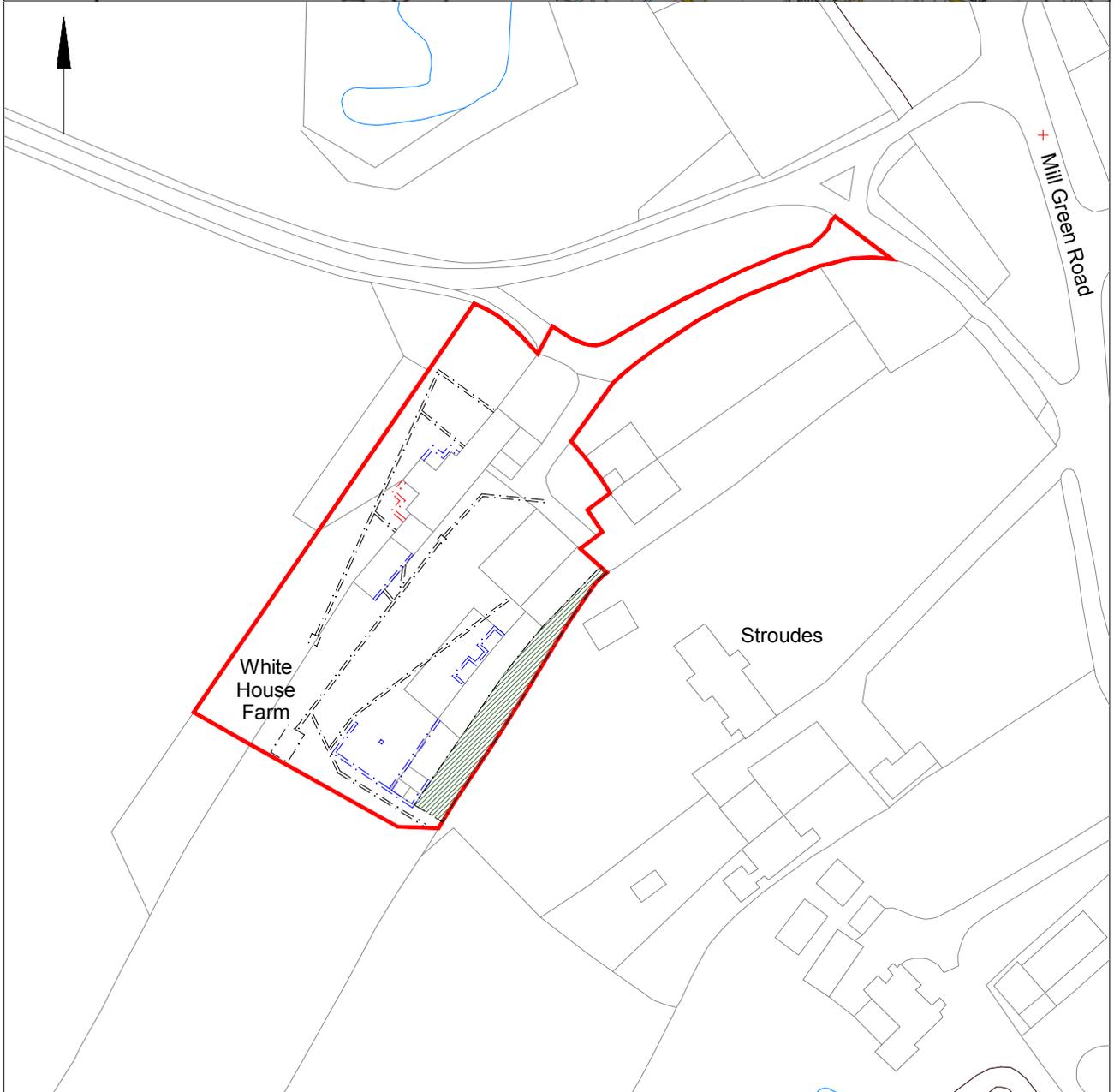
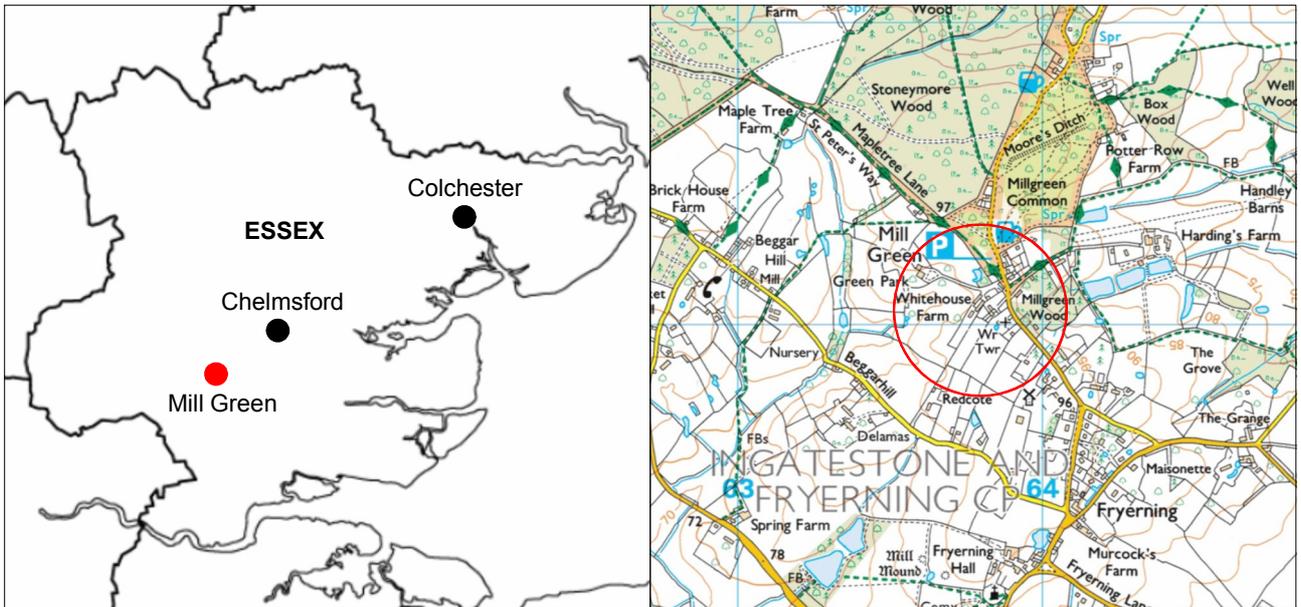
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Checked by: Philip Crummy

Date: 08.05.2018



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Fig 1 Site location.



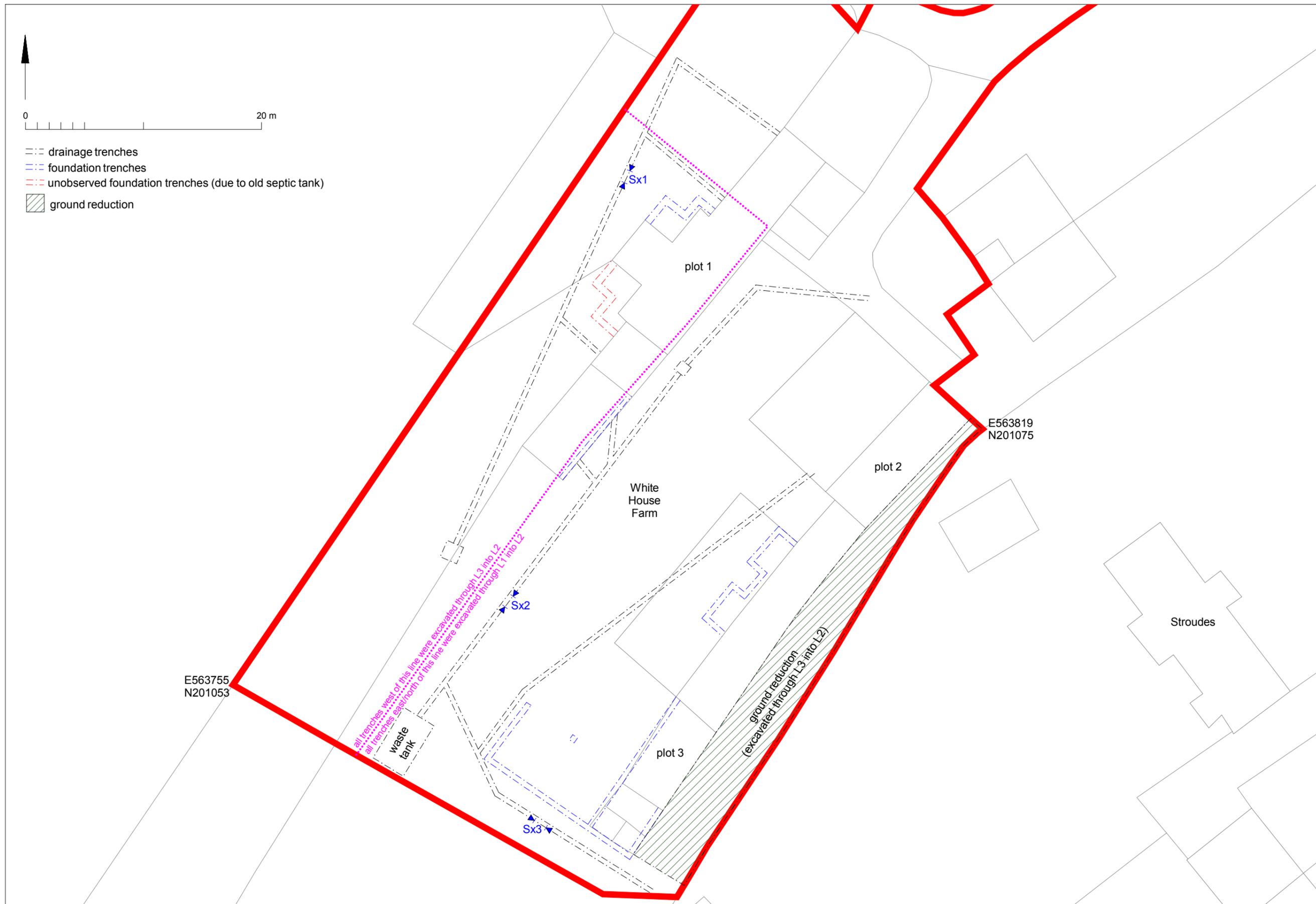


Fig 2 Monitoring results.

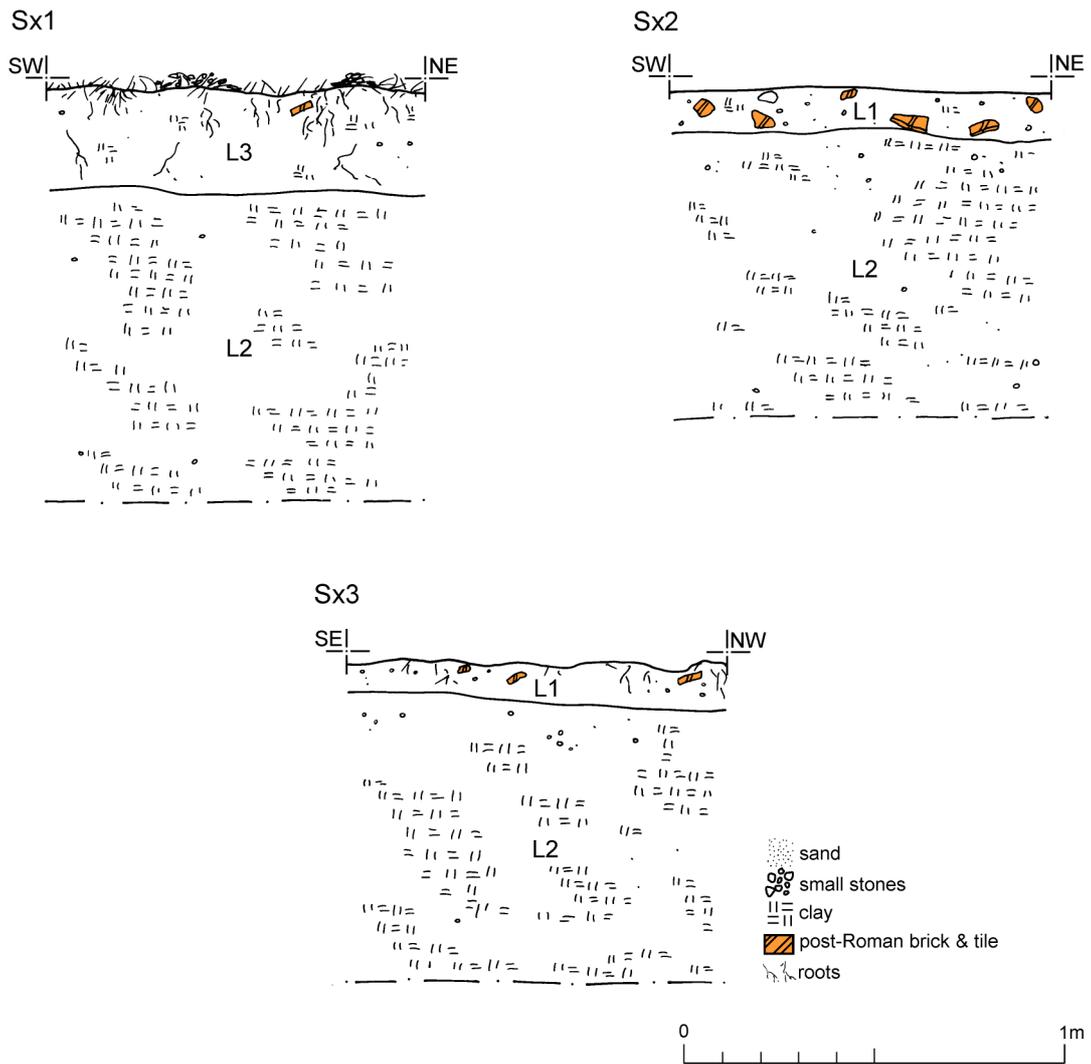


Fig 3 Representative sections.

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**OASIS ID: colchest3-301330**

### Project details

Project name	Archaeological monitoring at White House Farm Barns, Mill Green Road, Mill Green, Essex CM4 0HY
Short description of the project	Archaeological monitoring was carried out at White House Farm Barns, Mill Green Road, Mill Green during the conversion of three historic barns and some modern outbuildings. No archaeological remains were uncovered.
Project dates	Start: 23-11-2017 End: 12-03-2018
Any associated project reference codes	17/11i - Contracting Unit No.
Any associated project reference codes	16/01408/FUL - Planning Application No.
Any associated project reference codes	CHMRE 2017.130 - Museum accession ID
Any associated project reference codes	INWHF17 - HER event no.
Type of project	Recording project
Site status	None
Current Land use	Other 2 - In use as a building
Investigation type	""Watching Brief""
Prompt	Planning condition

### Project location

Country	England
Site location	ESSEX BRENTWOOD INGATESTONE AND FRYERNING White House Farm, Mill Green
Postcode	CM4 0HY
Study area	0.31 Hectares
Site coordinates	TQ 63795 01073 50.785460033748 0.323926647165 50 47 07 N 000 19 26 E Point

### Project creators

Name of Organisation	Colchester Archaeological Trust
Project brief originator	HEM Team Officer, ECC
Project design originator	Chris Lister
Project director/manager	Chris Lister
Type of sponsor/funding body	Developer
Name of sponsor/funding body	Paul Mayhew

### Project archives

Physical Archive Exists?	No
Digital Archive recipient	Chelmsford Museum
Digital Archive ID	CHMRE 2017.130
Digital Media available	"Images raster / digital photography"
Paper Archive recipient	Chelmsford Museum
Paper Archive ID	CHMRE 2017.130
Paper Media available	"Context sheet", "Drawing", "Miscellaneous Material", "Photograph", "Report"

### Project bibliography

1

Publication type	Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)
Title	Archaeological monitoring at White House Farm Barns, Mill Green Road, Mill Green, Essex, CM4 0HY
Author(s)/Editor(s)	Hicks, E.
Other bibliographic details	CAT Report 1262
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Entered by	Elliott Hicks (lp@catuk.org)
Entered on	9 May 2018

# OASIS:

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