

Medieval remains at Zone C Beaulieu, Chelmsford Essex



Archaeological Evaluation Report



November 2016

**Client: Countryside Zest
(Beaulieu Park) LLP**

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Medieval remains at Zone C, Beaulieu, Chelmsford, Essex

Archaeological Evaluation

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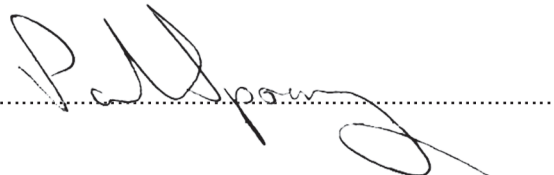
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Table of Contents

Summary.....	5
1 Introduction.....	7
1.1 Location and scope of work.....	7
1.2 Geology and topography.....	7
1.3 Archaeological and historical background.....	7
1.4 Acknowledgements.....	13
2 Aims and Methodology.....	14
2.1 Aims.....	14
2.2 Methodology.....	14
3 Results.....	15
3.1 Introduction.....	15
3.2 Trenches in Field 36.....	15
3.3 Finds Summary.....	15
4 Discussion and Conclusions.....	16
4.1 Introduction.....	16
4.2 Medieval.....	16
4.3 Post-medieval.....	16
4.4 Recommendations.....	16
Appendix A. Trench Descriptions and Context Inventory.....	17
Appendix B. Finds Reports.....	19
B.1 Medieval Pottery.....	19
Appendix C. Bibliography.....	20
Appendix D. OASIS Report Form.....	23

List of Figures

- Fig. 1 Site location showing archaeological trenches (black) in evaluation area (red)
- Fig. 2 Plan of evaluation trenches

List of Plates

- Plate 1 Ditch **6617** looking from north-west

List of Tables

- Table 1: Pottery Catalogue

Summary

An archaeological evaluation, comprising four trenches, was carried out at Belstead Hall Farm (Field 36) within the Zone C residential housing area, Beaulieu, Chelmsford, Essex. The fieldwork took place between the 1/11/16 and the 3/11/16. The work took place in the vicinity of the medieval manor of Belstead farm.

Three ditches were found that may represent either drainage or boundary ditches. One was likely of medieval date and the others of probable post-medieval date.

Due to the presence of underground cables, a trench that targeted the location of the moat which surrounded the medieval manor could not be fully excavated. Consequently the moat's position and character remained unverified.

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Location and scope of work

- 1.1.1 Outline planning permission for the construction of a new neighbourhood for North-East Chelmsford, known as Beaulieu, has been granted by Chelmsford City Council (ref: 09/01314/EIA). The new neighbourhood, will comprise up to 3,600 new homes and up to 62,300m² of mixed use development including new schools, leisure and community facilities, employment areas, new highways and associated ancillary development, including roundabout access from Essex Regiment Way and a priority junction from White Hart Lane. The development area is located on land to the east of Essex Regiment Way and north of White Hart Lane, Chelmsford.
- 1.1.2 Archaeological investigation is required to assist in defining the character and extent of any archaeological remains within the proposed redevelopment area, in accordance with the guidelines set out in *National Planning Policy Framework* (Department for Communities and Local Government March 2012). The results will enable decisions to be made by ECC, on behalf of the Local Planning Authority, with regard to the treatment of any archaeological remains found.
- 1.1.3 The evaluation detailed in this report is one of a number of archaeological investigations that have and will take place in the wider development area. This report details only the results of a four trench evaluation at Belstead Hall Farm (Grid Reference TL 7242 1018) within the Zone C residential housing area. The fieldwork took place between the 1st November and 3rd November 2016 and was undertaken by Oxford Archaeology East (Fig. 1).
- 1.1.4 This archaeological evaluation was undertaken in accordance with the Archaeological Investigation and Mitigation Strategy (URS 2013) prepared for the Beaulieu scheme in consultation with Richard Havis of the Historic Environment Branch, ECC (Planning Application 09/01314/EIA), and supplemented by a Method Statement prepared by OA East.
- 1.1.5 The site archive is currently held by OA East and will be deposited with the appropriate county stores in due course.

1.2 Geology and topography

- 1.2.1 Zone C is located within the Beaulieu development Site which is approximately 4km to the north-east of Chelmsford (centred on TL 7242 1018; Fig. 1), and is bounded to the west by Essex Regiment Way. The Site encompasses an area of high ground surrounded on three sides by river valleys. To the west and south is the River Chelmer, and to the east is Boreham Brook. North of the Site the ground rises towards the village of Terling. From the southern part of the Site there are views south towards the Chelmer Valley and Danbury Hill.
- 1.2.2 The superficial geology consists of boulder clay of the Lowestoft Till formation underlain by London Clays. To the south of the area lay a mixture of head deposits and sand and gravels (British Geological Survey).

1.3 Archaeological and historical background

Neolithic

- 1.3.1 Essex has some of the earliest surviving evidence of settlement, mainly concentrated to the north-east along the River Crouch at Lawford and Lemarsh (Hedges, 1984). Evidence for possible domestic settlement within the vicinity of Beaulieu was recorded

at Court Road, 1km to the north-west, in the form of several pits with Neolithic pottery within their fills (SMR 6142).

Bronze Age

- 1.3.2 Settlement continued to be concentrated along the river valleys of the Chelmer and Crouch, however during the Bronze Age the landscape was enclosed by field systems for the first time, such as those found at Great Waking (Kemble, 2001). These enclosed field systems would have continued in use through into the early Iron Age. It has been suggested that these Bronze Age field systems form the basis for the modern landscape in the Chelmer Valley (Drury & Rodwell, 1980).
- 1.3.3 Several crop-marks have been recorded by aerial photography to the south of Belstead Hall and interpreted as part of a Bronze Age settlement (SMR 16888), with further domestic dwellings excavated at Springfield Lyons, 2.5km to the south-west. Further occupation sites are attested to by the recovery of artefacts, such as at New Hall School, to the south-east and Pratt's Farm, to the north.

Iron Age

- 1.3.4 The settlement pattern during the Iron Age would have been of nucleated settlements within a larger farming landscape. Evidence of this, within the vicinity of the development area, was seen to the south of Belstead Hall (SMR 17438). This comprised a large enclosure with associated pits and smaller ditches (Drury, 1978).
- 1.3.5 The Later Iron Age witnessed an expansion of settlement onto the heavier clay soils and the continued occupation of the estuaries. These estuarine sites become more complex over time, with higher population density and sustained occupation, such as has been found at Little Waltham (Drury 1980).
- 1.3.6 By the end of the Iron Age sites such as Gosbecks oppida show that portions of the population were highly structured and of high status. These sites would have relied on farming communities scattered around the environs to supply agricultural commodities. (Crummy 1997).

Roman

- 1.3.7 During the Roman period a *mansio* (an imperial post station or inn) was established 5km west of Beaulieu at Moulsham Street. Around this a small market town developed with the surrounding area forming an agricultural hinterland to supply produce to the town.
- 1.3.8 This agricultural landscape would have comprised large farms and villa complexes, such as those at Great Holts Farm and Bulls Farm Lodge. Smaller domestic sites would also have formed part of the landscape. Evidence for these has been recorded during evaluation work at Greater Beaulieu (Pocock 2008). Evidence for pottery making, associated with domestic use was also recorded.

Anglo-Saxon

- 1.3.9 In the immediate post-Roman period, the Roman town at Chelmsford was abandoned and much of the surrounding landscape reverted to rough pasture or woodland (Hunter, 2003). No known remains of Anglo-Saxon date are recorded within the application site although this is more likely to reflect the relatively poor archaeological visibility of Anglo-Saxon settlement sites rather than a lack of activity during the period.

- 1.3.10 Two records dating to the Anglo-Saxon period are held by the EHER; both of which are documentary records for Late Saxon manors, Belestedam (Belstead Hall) is recorded in the Domesday survey of AD 1086 (Reaney, 1935).

Medieval

- 1.3.11 The medieval town of Chelmsford was founded at the end of the 12th century, by the Bishop of London, to the north of the earlier Roman settlement at Moulsham. Throughout the medieval period the site was located within the rural hinterland of Chelmsford in a landscape populated by scattered farmsteads and manors.
- 1.3.12 To the south-east lay the manor of New Hall on the site of the current New Hall School. It is first mentioned by name (as 'Nova Aula') in documents dating to AD1301 when the site formed part of the lands owned by the Canons of Waltham Abbey and was used as the summer residence of the Abbott. It was later transferred to the Regular Canons under Henry II (Burgess & Rance, 1988).
- 1.3.13 A deer park surrounding New Hall was created during the medieval period with the manor at its centre (Tuckwell, 2006). Under Henry VII, New Hall was granted to Thomas Boteler, Earl of Ormond, who received a licence to crenellate (fortify) it in AD1481 (E41/420) and who, in all likelihood, rebuilt or remodelled the original medieval hall in the latest architectural style. The new structure came to the attention of Henry VIII who visited New Hall in 1510 and 1515, shortly before Ormond's death. Subsequently, the property passed to Thomas' daughter and thus into the Boleyn family through her husband Sir Thomas Boleyn, from whom Henry VIII acquired the hall in 1516, changing its name to the 'Palace of Beaulieu'. Shortly after 1518 he rebuilt the Ormond's medieval hall on a quadrangular plan with gatehouse in the south range, great hall in the east and chapel in the west ranges. Mary Tudor took residency at New Hall intermittently between 1532 and her ascendancy to the crown in 1553.
- 1.3.14 Evidence for another moated manor is recorded at Belstead Hall Farm. This manor was occupied throughout the medieval period. By 1325 it was called Belestede, in 1354 it was recorded as Belestede Hall and by 1504 it was known as Belested Hall. The name is thought to derive from 'the site of the bell house' (P.H Reaney 1935).
- 1.3.15 Analysis of aerial photographs and geophysical survey identified a number of features which, when investigated by trial trench evaluation, were found to comprise a possible enclosure ditch or moat. A cobbled surface (possibly representing a house platform or yard surface), pit and several more ditches were recorded within the enclosure. Pottery recovered from the features suggests an occupation date of the 12-13th century (ECC FAU 2009). These remains have been interpreted as paddocks and an agricultural processing area associated with the manorial site at Belstead Hall c.160m to the north-east of Site 7 within Zone A of the Beaulieu development.

Post-medieval

- 1.3.16 The development of New Hall and its deer park dominated the landscape of the application site and the surrounding area until the park contracted in size and the fields were enclosed for agriculture in the early 18th century. As the deer park was reduced in size the former medieval manors or lodges developed into farms, creating an essentially agricultural landscape.
- 1.3.17 Since the medieval period, New Hall had been set within the largest deer park in Essex; once totalling some 1,500 acres. The EHER records that the enclosed area actually comprised four separate parks surrounding New Hall and its gardens. Within the Great or Old Park located to the north of New Hall. The remaining parks were

known as the Red Deer Park located to east of New Hall, the Dukes Park (located further east beyond the study area; EHER 47226) and the New or Little Park situated to the south and west of New Hall within which the application site is located.

Previous Archaeological Investigations

Geophysical Surveys

- 1.3.18 Geophysical magnetic susceptibility and detailed magnetometer surveys were carried out to evaluate the potential for important archaeological remains that may be buried within the Site. The magnetic susceptibility survey provided a rapid assessment of likely areas for previous settlement and industrial activity. The survey identified six areas of high potential, ten areas of medium potential and seven areas of low potential (Scott Wilson 2008). The magnetic susceptibility survey was followed by a detailed magnetometer survey of c.50% of the Beaulieu scheme. This survey provided a greater level of detail and identified individual features such as pits and ditches, field boundaries, buildings and structures, kilns or hearths and buried iron objects. The detailed magnetometer survey identified ten areas of high archaeological potential; six of medium potential and 19 of low potential (Scott Wilson 2008).

Trial trench Evaluation (2008)

- 1.3.19 A limited programme of targeted trial trench evaluation was undertaken between June and August 2008 to support the Environmental Impact Assessment for the Beaulieu development. The purpose of the trial trenching was to confirm the presence/absence and significance of archaeological remains at eight sites identified by an assessment of the combined results of the desk-based studies and non-intrusive surveys (Scott Wilson 2007).
- 1.3.20 The trial trenching confirmed the presence of archaeological remains dating from the late prehistoric to post-medieval periods. This included a Late Iron Age and Early Romano-British settlement (Site 8); an Iron Age ditch (Site 5); medieval rural settlement possibly indicative of a precursor to Belstead Hall (Site 7); a possible medieval/transitional medieval warrener's lodge associated with the former deer park (Site 10); transitional medieval moated enclosure (Site 11); Tudor fishpond and associated earthwork dam (Site 2); a brick making site comprising two scove or clamp kilns of possible Tudor date (Site 3) and evidence for associated quarrying activity (Site 4).

Beaulieu Minerals trial trench evaluation

- 1.3.21 A trial trench evaluation was undertaken in September/October 2011 to inform and support the planning application for the Beaulieu Minerals Extraction scheme. The evaluation identified a concentration of archaeological remains to the north-west of New Hall School. These remains appear to represent a rural settlement and possible metalworking activity dating from the Late Bronze Age through to the end of the Roman period. Metal detecting of the plough soil revealed several Early Roman coins and fragments of Early Roman brooches within the main area of activity.

Beaulieu Phase 1 infrastructure evaluation and excavations 2013

- 1.3.22 Archaeological trial trench evaluation of the proposed Essex Regiment Way roundabout, White Hart Lane junction and connecting access road identified four locations of significant archaeological remains (Stocks-Morgan, 2013).
- 1.3.23 Site 5, located within the footprint of the proposed Essex Regiments Way roundabout, identified part of a Middle Iron Age settlement comprising a single roundhouse,

surviving only as the remains of an eaves-drip gully. Several small pits and postholes were identified outside the roundhouse and were likely to be associated with domestic activity contemporary with the building. This settlement was surrounded by a large oval enclosure.

- 1.3.24 In Area A1 a single east to west aligned field boundary ditch of possibly Late Iron Age date attests to a wider agricultural landscape of field systems. A second, probably medieval, ditch was encountered on a north-west to south-east alignment (Stocks-Morgan, 2013a).
- 1.3.25 In Zone D of the development Site 11 and Area D1 identified evidence of two High medieval house platforms and their surrounding enclosures. Thought to be a medieval settlement associated with Belstead Manor estate (Stocks-Morgan, 2013b).

Beaulieu Zone A Housing Evaluation and Excavations, 2014

- 1.3.26 Trial trench evaluation and subsequent open area excavation within the Zone A housing area to the south of Belstead Hall Farm revealed remains dating from the Middle Bronze Age to the post-medieval period (Stocks-Morgan 2014a),
- 1.3.27 A Middle Bronze Age boundary ditch, aligned north-east to south-west, evidence for Early Iron Age open settlement comprising ten pits containing a large assemblage of pottery and fired clay, and a medieval, possible retting pit and enclosures were also recorded at Site 7. Sparse domestic activity is suggested by Late Iron Age pits that were revealed in Areas A3 and A4 along the side of a brook to the south of Zone A. In contrast Area A2 revealed the presence of a Late Iron Age/Roman enclosure ditch and later medieval ditch.

Zone B and E Trench Evaluation, 2014

- 1.3.28 Four areas of significant archaeological remains were identified in Zone E (Stocks-Morgan 2014b). No significant archaeological remains were recorded in Zone B.
- 1.3.29 Two small open area excavations were undertaken in the western part of Zone E, which encountered Late Bronze Age / Early Iron Age open settlement, comprising five four-poster structures and several pits. A further area to the north of the site encountered a small undated gully.
- 1.3.30 A large open area excavation (Site 8) was undertaken towards the south-eastern corner of Zone E, which identified occupation spanning a period from the Late Iron Age into the Early Roman period. These settlement remains consisted of an enclosure surrounding a roundhouse and associated occupation features. In the Early Roman period this enclosure was reconfigured and the roundhouse was replaced. This phase of settlement also produced an associated midden deposits and an ancillary roundhouse (Stocks-Morgan, in prep).

Beaulieu Phase 2a Infrastructure mitigation evaluation and excavations 2015

- 1.3.31 A small open area excavation was carried out ahead of the construction of drainage ponds and swales that form part of the Phase 2a infrastructure works. The archaeology encountered comprised a prehistoric trackway and a Late Iron Age nucleated settlement (Stocks-Morgan, 2016a).

CZ1 / Site 10

- 1.3.32 A 14th / 15th century pit was encountered with two associated ditches during excavation of Zone G / Site 10. This pit is thought to be a retting pit, based upon its shape and the recovery of pollen/seeds from the waterlogged deposits. A later medieval ditched enclosure was also recorded. Inside the enclosure were the remains of a 16th century house, represented by the remains of two brick built fireplaces, and a possible brick built staircase. Two further brick built ancillary structures were evident, one being a cellar and the second a probable toilet block (Stocks-Morgan, 2016b).

Beaulieu Gas Diversion

- 1.3.33 A total of six trenches were excavated across two separate fields, within the proposed development area.
- 1.3.34 No significant archaeological finds, features or deposits were present in the evaluation trenches (Stocks-Morgan, 2016c).

Beaulieu Primary and Secondary Schools Site

- 1.3.35 A total of sixty-one trenches were excavated within the proposed development area, across three separate fields.
- 1.3.36 Two phases of medieval field boundaries were present within the southern field, one of which was on a north-west to south-east alignment and the second phase aligned on a north to south axis. One further undated ditch was encountered in the northern part of the development area (Stocks-Morgan, 2016d).

Beaulieu Land parcels CZ 1 and CZ 2 and Zones M and N

- 1.3.37 This evaluation comprised thirty-three trenches across three separate fields, within the proposed development area.
- 1.3.38 A possible prehistoric posthole was recorded to the north of the site and a transitional medieval ditch and two quarry pits were encountered towards the eastern side of the development area. A further undated ditch was present (Stocks-Morgan, 2016e).

Beaulieu LS1, CZ5 and the Primary School site (Zone P)

- 1.3.39 A total of forty-five trenches were excavated across two separate fields, within the proposed development area.
- 1.3.40 Evidence of Early Iron Age open settlement was encountered, comprising a fire pit and two small pits. A Middle Iron Age ditch, thought to be part of either a field system or trackway was seen in the eastern field.
- 1.3.41 Transitional medieval remains comprising several brick filled linear features associated with the deer park were recorded in the eastern field. These may be evidence for a deer course. A post-medieval ring ditch was evident in the north-western part of the site along with a field boundary (Stocks-Morgan, 2016f).

Beaulieu CZ 6 and CZ 7

- 1.3.42 Forty-one trenches were excavated across two separate fields, within the proposed development area.
- 1.3.43 This evaluation recorded the remains of early prehistoric dispersed settlement in the form of a fire pit and a rectangular pit which contained frequent charcoal. In the northern part of the development area a putative late medieval structure comprising four potential wall foundations and two ditches thought to be part of an enclosure.
- 1.3.44 Several brick filled linear features in both fields may be evidence for a deer course associated with the deer park (Stocks-Morgan, 2016g).

Beaulieu land parcel CZ 7

- 1.3.45 A total of eighteen trenches were excavated in this area. The remains of two linear, brick filled features may be evidence for a deer course. A further three post-medieval field boundaries were found, along with two undated ditches and an undated posthole (Stocks-Morgan, 2016h).

1.4 Acknowledgements

- 1.4.1 The author would like thank Iain Williamson of AECOM and Countryside Zest (Beaulieu Park) LLP who respectively commissioned and funded the archaeological work. The project was managed by Richard Mortimer and the illustrators were Charlotte Walton. Thanks are also extended to Ed Cole who helped with the fieldwork. The project was monitored by Alison Bennett of Essex County Council. The machining was undertaken by Aubrey Hunt of Danbury Plant Hire.

2 AIMS AND METHODOLOGY

2.1 Aims

- 2.1.1 The objective of this evaluation was to determine as far as reasonably possible the presence/absence, location, nature, extent, date, quality, condition and significance of any surviving archaeological deposits within the development area.

2.2 Methodology

- 2.2.1 Four trenches (Fig. 2) were excavated to evaluate Zone C (Field 36). All archaeological remains were excavated where appropriate and possible.
- 2.2.2 Machine excavation was carried out with a tracked 15 ton machine fitted with a toothless ditching bucket, under constant archaeological supervision.
- 2.2.3 The site survey was carried out using a Leica GPS fitted with *Smartnet* technology.
- 2.2.4 Spoil, exposed surfaces and features were scanned with a metal detector. All metal-detected and hand-collected finds were retained for inspection, other than those which were obviously modern.
- 2.2.5 All archaeological features and deposits were recorded using OA East's *pro-forma* sheets. Trench locations, plans and sections were recorded at appropriate scales and colour and monochrome photographs were taken of all relevant features and deposits.
- 2.2.6 No bulk samples were taken, as no deposits were considered appropriate for environmental sampling
- 2.2.7 The site conditions were dry and sunny.

3 RESULTS

3.1 Introduction

- 3.1.1 The trenches are presented below by field and then in numerical order (see Fig. 2 for trench locations).

3.2 Trenches in Field 36

- 3.2.1 Four trenches were excavated within this field. The natural geology was an orange clay. A subsoil layer (7220) approximately 0.3m thick was recorded underlying a 0.26m thick topsoil (7219).

Trenches 640 - 641

- 3.2.2 No archaeology was recorded in these trenches.

Trench 642

- 3.2.3 In the centre of the trench lay an east to west aligned ditch (**6615**) which measured 1.2m wide. It had shallow sides and a flat base and was 0.16m deep. The fill comprised a dark brownish grey silty clay (6616) which contained five sherds of 16th to 18th century pottery and frequent ceramic building material.
- 3.2.4 A parallel ditch (**6667**) was recorded 8m to the north which had a similar dark greyish brown fill containing ceramic building material (not excavated).
- 3.2.5 Immediately to the south of this ditch lay a north-east to south-west aligned ditch (**6617**) which was 0.65m wide and 0.2m deep (Plate 1). This ditch had steep sides and a flattish base, it was filled by a mid greyish brown silty clay (6618) which contained 30 sherds of 13th to 14th century pottery.

Trench 643

- 3.2.6 This trench was positioned to evaluate a moat, however, underground cables were present and consequently the trench was only 6m long and could not be located over the moat. No archaeology was present in the open section of the trench.

3.3 Finds Summary

- 3.3.1 A total of 35 sherds of pottery (weight 0.362kg), comprising medieval and post-medieval wares, was recovered from this evaluation. All the pottery was recovered from Trench 642. No other finds were present and there were no deposits that had potential for providing environmental materials.

4 DISCUSSION AND CONCLUSIONS

4.1 Introduction

- 4.1.1 The discussion concentrates on features that are dated and can be grouped. It is presented chronologically to help set the findings into context within their wider landscape setting (see Fig. 2 for plan).

4.2 Medieval

- 4.2.1 These four evaluation trenches were located around the proximity of Belstead Hall Farm which was originally a medieval manor and moated site. There is little surviving evidence above ground of the early medieval and post-medieval structure as the farm was rebuilt in the Victorian period. A large ditch, now used as a field boundary / drainage ditch to the south and west of the house may trace the line of an original moat. A slight depression along the eastern side of the house is visible as an earthwork, originally intended for evaluation by Trench 643. Underground services identified prior to opening the trench prevented excavation of the full length of the trench and consequently did not reveal the earthworks.
- 4.2.2 A small north-east to south-west aligned ditch (**6617**) was encountered to the south-west of the house, in Trench 642. This ditch is characteristic of a small drainage ditch, however, the fill contained a relatively large assemblage (30 sherds) of medieval pottery given the size of the ditch. This is likely to be a reflection of the ditches proximity to the house and domestic occupation and is possibly related to a garden feature rather than a field boundary.

4.3 Post-medieval

- 4.3.1 Two further ditches (**6616**, **6667**) were evident in this trench, both of which were on an east to west alignment and date to the post-medieval period. These given their location close to the existing house are likely to be drainage or boundary ditches.
- 4.3.2 These ditches are on a similar co-axial alignment to the boundary ditch seen in a previous evaluation in Zone C (Webb, 2014) which at the time was undated but assumed to be post-medieval in date due to it being on the same alignment as modern field boundaries.

4.4 Recommendations

- 4.4.1 Recommendations for any future work based upon this report will be agreed in consultation with the ECC HEM.

APPENDIX A. TRENCH DESCRIPTIONS AND CONTEXT INVENTORY

Trench 640						
General description					Orientation	E-W
Trench contained no archaeology. Consists of subsoil and topsoil overlying a natural of clay.					Avg. depth (m)	0.55
					Width (m)	2
					Length (m)	30
Contexts						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
7220	layer	-	0.25	subsoil	-	-
7219	layer	-	0.29	topsoil	-	-
Trench 641						
General description					Orientation	E-W
Trench contained no archaeology. Consists of subsoil and topsoil overlying a natural of clay.					Avg. depth (m)	0.55
					Width (m)	2
					Length (m)	30
Contexts						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
7220	layer	-	0.24	subsoil	-	-
7219	layer	-	0.3	topsoil	-	-
Trench 642						
General description					Orientation	N-S
Trench contained two ditches. Consists of subsoil and topsoil overlying a natural of clay.					Avg. depth (m)	0.42
					Width (m)	2
					Length (m)	30
Contexts						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
6615	cut	1.2	0.16	ditch	-	post medieval
6616	fill	1.2	0.16	ditch	CBM	post medieval
6617	cut	0.65	0.21	ditch	-	early post medieval
6618	fill	0.65	0.21	ditch	pottery	early post medieval
6666	fill	0.65	-	ditch		
6667	cut	0.65	-	ditch		
7220	layer	-	0.28	subsoil	-	-
7219	layer	-	0.28	topsoil	-	-
Trench 643						
General description					Orientation	E-W

Trench contained no archaeology. Consists of subsoil and topsoil overlying a natural of clay.					Avg. depth (m)	0.6
					Width (m)	2
					Length (m)	6
Contexts						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
7220	layer	-	0.32	subsoil	-	-
7219	layer	-	0.29	topsoil	-	-

APPENDIX B. FINDS REPORTS

B.1 Medieval Pottery

by Carole Fletcher

Introduction

- B.1.1 The archaeological works produced a small pottery assemblage of 35 sherds, weighing 0.362kg, recovered from two contexts. The condition of the overall assemblage is moderately abraded, the average sherd weight from individual contexts is low at approximately 10g.

Methodology

- B.1.2 The Prehistoric Ceramics Research Group (PCRG), Study Group for Roman Pottery (SGRP), The Medieval Pottery Research Group (MPRG), 2016 *A Standard for Pottery Studies in Archaeology* and the MPRG *A guide to the classification of medieval ceramic forms* (MPRG, 1998) act as standards.
- B.1.3 All sherds have been counted, classified and weighed. All the pottery has been recorded and dated on a context-by-context basis and the summary catalogue is recorded in Table 1. The archives are curated by Oxford Archaeology East until formal deposition.

Assemblage

- B.1.4 The pottery recovered is medieval and post-medieval in date, all sherds have undergone some reworking. Vessel forms present are bowls and jugs and are domestic in nature. The material most likely represents general rubbish disposal on the site. If further work is undertaken, this material should be taken into consideration alongside any new finds, however if no further work is undertaken the following catalogue acts as a full record.

B.1.5 Pottery Catalogue

Context	Cut	Full Name	Basic Form	Count	Weight (kg)	Pottery Date
6616	6615	Post-medieval Red Earthenware (Fabric 40)	Bowl rim and base angle, internally glazed and with trailed slip decoration on the internal lip, moderately abraded	2	0.094	Mid 16th-end 18th century
			Jug rim sherd, externally and partially internally glazed, moderately abraded to abraded	1	0.006	
			Bowl body sherd, internally glazed, moderately abraded	1	0.005	
		?Post-medieval Red Earthenware (Fabric 40)	Unglazed body sherd	1	0.027	
6618	6617	East Anglian Redware (Fabric 21 types)	Base sherd, thumbled, base angle and body sherds from a thin-walled jug (?baluster jug) with thin off-white slip on upper body partial glazed (clear glaze, no added copper). Highly micaceous dull red-orange fabric with fine red pellet inclusions of ?clay. Moderately abraded	30	0.230	13th-end 14th century
Total				35	0.362	

Table B.1.1: Pottery Catalogue

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APPENDIX D. OASIS REPORT FORM

Project Details

OASIS Number	<input type="text"/>		
Project Name	<input type="text"/>		
Project Dates (fieldwork)	Start <input type="text"/>	Finish	<input type="text"/>
Previous Work (by OA East)	<input type="text"/>	Future Work	<input type="text"/>

Project Reference Codes

Site Code	<input type="text"/>	Planning App. No.	<input type="text"/>
HER No.	<input type="text"/>	Related HER/OASIS No.	<input type="text"/>

Type of Project/Techniques Used

Prompt	<input type="text"/>
Development Type	<input type="text"/>

Please select all techniques used:

<input type="checkbox"/> Aerial Photography - interpretation	<input type="checkbox"/> Grab-Sampling	<input type="checkbox"/> Remote Operated Vehicle Survey
<input type="checkbox"/> Aerial Photography - new	<input type="checkbox"/> Gravity-Core	<input type="checkbox"/> Sample Trenches
<input type="checkbox"/> Annotated Sketch	<input type="checkbox"/> Laser Scanning	<input type="checkbox"/> Survey/Recording Of Fabric/Structure
<input type="checkbox"/> Augering	<input type="checkbox"/> Measured Survey	<input type="checkbox"/> Targeted Trenches
<input type="checkbox"/> Dendrochronological Survey	<input type="checkbox"/> Metal Detectors	<input type="checkbox"/> Test Pits
<input type="checkbox"/> Documentary Search	<input type="checkbox"/> Phosphate Survey	<input type="checkbox"/> Topographic Survey
<input type="checkbox"/> Environmental Sampling	<input type="checkbox"/> Photogrammetric Survey	<input type="checkbox"/> Vibro-core
<input type="checkbox"/> Fieldwalking	<input type="checkbox"/> Photographic Survey	<input type="checkbox"/> Visual Inspection (Initial Site Visit)
<input type="checkbox"/> Geophysical Survey	<input type="checkbox"/> Rectified Photography	

Monument Types/Significant Finds & Their Periods

List feature types using the [NMR Monument Type Thesaurus](#) and significant finds using the [MDA Object type Thesaurus](#) together with their respective periods. If no features/finds were found, please state "none".

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Project Originators

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Project Archives

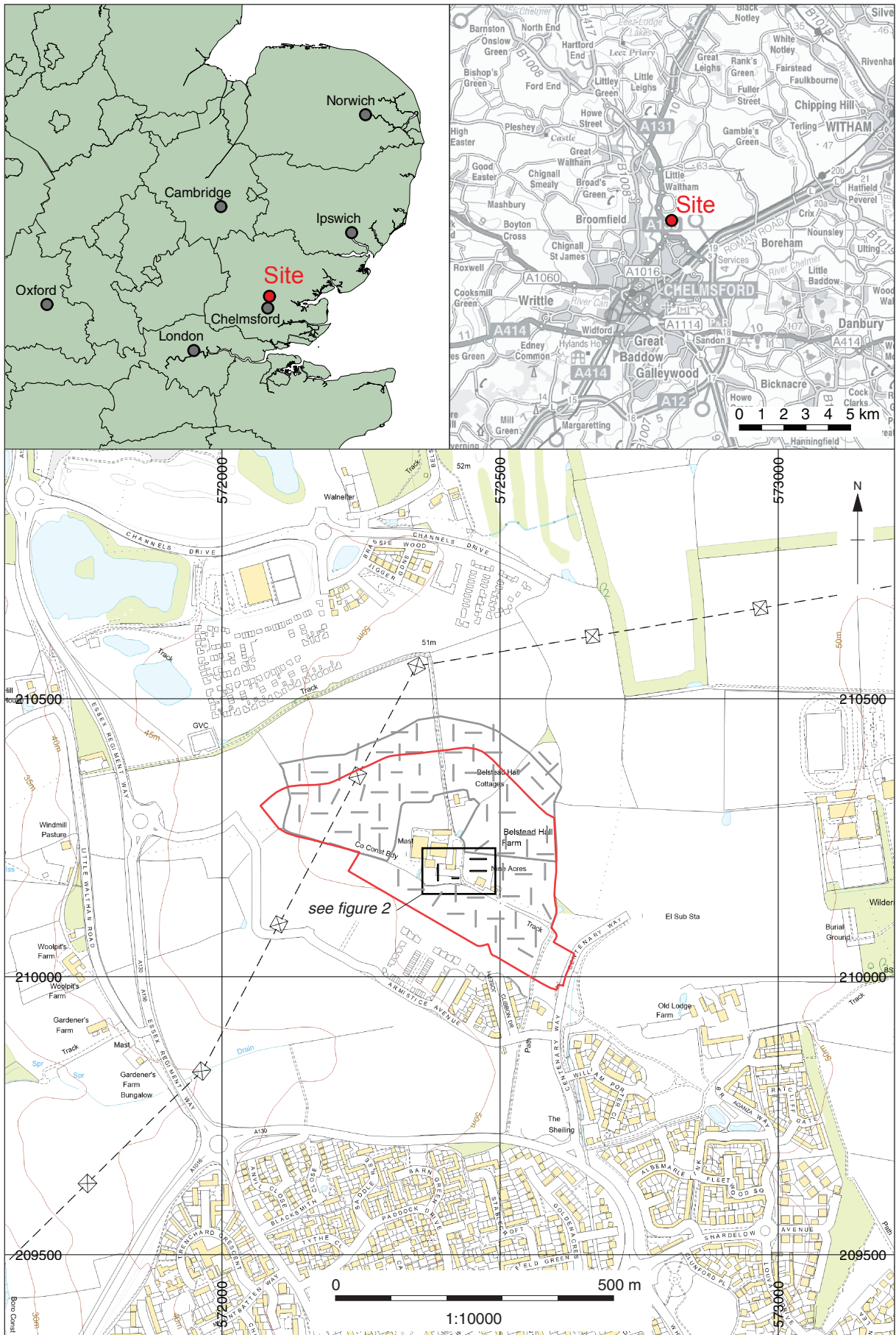
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	<input type="checkbox"/> Survey

Notes:



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Figure 1: Site location showing archaeological trenches (black) in evaluation area (red)



Figure 2: Plan of evaluation trenches



Plate 1: Ditch **6617**, looking from north-west



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