

ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF

BIBSWORTH MANOR, 80 EAST END ROAD, FINCHLEY, N3

1 INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 The Oxford Archaeological Unit (OAU) conducted an archaeological watching brief at the north-western edge of the proposed development at 80 East End Road, Finchley, Greater London, (NGR TQ 2540 8992), on 22nd February 1993.
- 1.2 The development area is situated at the north-western arm of Bibsworth Manor, a Scheduled Ancient Monument. The history of the Medieval moated enclosure has already been outlined (eg Victoria County History 1980; Musgrove 1982; Bowsher 1991) and previous archaeological trenching has suggested that the line of the original moat may survive under the length of the proposed development (see attached plan).
- 1.3 The watching brief conducted by the OAU in February 1993 aimed to observe any archaeological material removed during the excavation of a foundation trench at the northern corner of the proposed development and to record any archaeological features disturbed during the machine stripping.

2 RESULTS

- 2.1 The machine-cut foundation trench measured 2 x 9 x 2 m in length, was 1.0 m wide and was excavated to a maximum depth of 1.0 m. Three distinct layers were recorded within the exposed section edges.

1/1 - Root sorted turf and top soil recorded to a depth of 0.15 m.

1/2 - A 0.35-0.5 m thick rubble deposit consisting of modern brick, mortar, post-medieval glass and corroded iron.

1/3 - A dense deposit of dark brown clay loam containing fragments of modern brick (20%), post-medieval glass (5%) and heavily corroded iron (2%). This layer was traced to the base of the foundation trench, but was not bottomed.

- 2.2 No archaeological features were recorded within the exposed section edges of the foundation trench.
- 2.3 All excavated topsoil was extensively examined by hand. No archaeological finds were recovered.

3. CONCLUSION

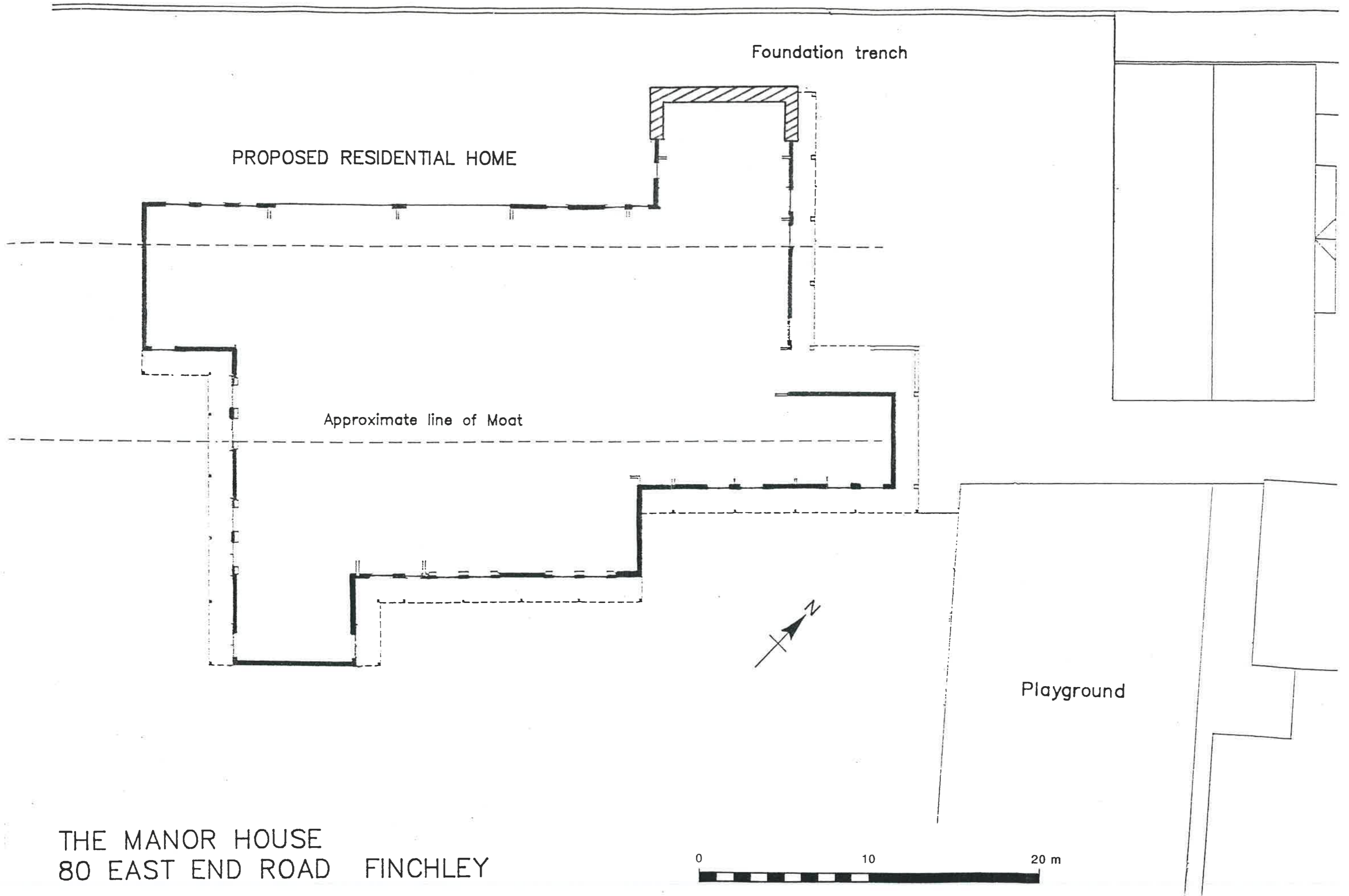
- 3.1 The area disturbed by the excavation of a foundation trench to the immediate north-west of the suggested line of Bibsworth Manor moated enclosure would appear to consist largely of made ground/modern brick rubble to a depth in excess of 1.0 m.

BIBLIOGRAPHY

Bowsher, D, 1991, *Bibsworth Manor, 80 East End Road, Finchley, N3*, Museum of London.

Musgrove, P, 1982, Clues to Finchley's Past, *Mendon and District Archaeological Society Newsletter No. 33*.

Victoria County History, Vol VI, Middlesex.



THE MANOR HOUSE
80 EAST END ROAD FINCHLEY