

Archaeological building recording and trial trenching at the rear of the former Sugar Loaves pub, 175 Swan Street, Sible Hedingham, Essex

May 2015



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1. Summary

Two trenches were excavated within the footprint of proposed new buildings behind the former Sugar Loaves pub, Sible Hedingham. Three pits and two ditches were discovered, as well as the burial of a pig. Of interest was the discovery of heavily truncated inverted pot complete with animal bones from several species, dating from the mid 15th to the mid 16th century. All other features were post medieval.

2. Introduction (Fig 1)

This is the report on the building recording and trial-trenching carried out by Colchester Archaeological Trust (CAT) on land to the rear of the former Sugar Loaves Pub, 175 Swan Street, Sible Hedingham, Essex (TL 7796 3450), on the 13th May 2015. The work was commissioned by Highlands Construction Company Ltd following the direction of a brief prepared by Teresa O'Connor, Historic Environment Advisor for Essex County Council (March 2015). The brief was issued in response to a planning application for the proposed development of the site, comprising the demolition of an outbuilding and the construction of a dwelling and garage with associated access and landscaping (Planning Ref: 13/01369/FUL). Work proceeded in accordance with a WSI prepared by CAT (2015) in response to the above brief.

In addition to the WSI, all fieldwork and reporting was done in accordance with local and national standards as detailed in CAT 2014, ClfA 2008a, ClfA 2008b, MoRPHE, EAA 8, EAA 14, and EAA 24.

3. Archaeological background

The Essex Historic Environment (HER) Record shows that the proposed development has potential to affect a site of archaeological interest.

The former Sugar Loaves Public House at Sible Hedingham is a Grade II listed building (HER 29217). The building was built in the 16th century or earlier and is thought to have originated as a coaching inn. The historic maps show a number of outbuildings associated with the public house that were built, extended and removed over time. The current outbuilding is thought to be a remnant of an earlier building that has been replaced.

The land adjacent to the public house is shown as a separate parcel on the historic maps and it may have a historic use that pre-dates the public house or it may have been associated with the adjacent pub or chapel and burial ground to the north. Having a street frontage it could have been an earlier settlement site and lies close to a possible Roman road running through Sible Hedingham.

4. Aim

The aim of the evaluation was to record and establish the character, extent, date, significance and condition of any remains and deposits likely to be disturbed by the proposed works, in particular with reference to any potential archaeological deposits relatable to the information provided in Section 3 above.

5. Trial-trenching methodology and results (Fig 2-3)

This section provides an archaeological summary of the excavation of two trial trenches, including features, finds encountered and dating information. The trial-trenches were 12.5m and 5.5m long, and located within the footprints of the proposed dwelling and garage (Fig 2).

The trial-trenches were excavated under archaeological supervision using a tracked excavator with a toothless ditching bucket. Four layers and seven features were encountered across the site:

Context	Description	Finds	Date
L1	laid tarmac and crush overlaying T2, about 180mm deep.	-	modern
L2	dark brown sandy silt topsoil, covered by L1 in T2. 300mm deep in T2, 550mm deep in T1.	pot sherds, clay pipe stems	modern
L3	medium brown/grey sandy silt subsoil, underlying L2. 200mm thick in T2, 450mm thick in T1.	pot sherds	post-medieval/modern
L4	light yellow soft clay. natural subsoil underlying whole site. encountered at depth of 1m in T1 and 650mm in T2.	-	post-glacial
F1	purposely dug hole in T1 for a heavily truncated inverted pot (only rim remaining).	animal bone, pot sherds, brick	late medieval/early post-medieval
F2	round pit with soft medium grey brown clayey silt fill in T1. depth of 340mm with steep sides and rounded base.	pot sherds, clay pipe stems, peg tile	post-medieval
F3	sub-adult pig burial with medium grey/brown silty clayey silt fill. only partially within T2, so not fully excavated.	peg-tile, brick, animal bone	post-medieval
F4	east-west aligned linear running across T2. medium grey/brown clayey silt fill. approximately 500mm wide, with depth of 170mm.	animal bone	?
F5	large pit with diameter of 1.6m in south of T1. only excavated to 300mm, not fully dug due to depth of trench and safety concerns.	pot sherds, clay pipe fragments, peg-tiles, brick fragments, stone mortar	post-medieval
F6	shallow linear only just observed obliquely in north of T1, with dark brown clayey silt fill. aligned north-east/south-west. depth of 60mm.	-	?
F7	small pit with dark brown clayey silt fill, with rare flecks of charcoal in T1. 250mm diameter and depth of 150mm.	-	?

Trench 1 (Plate II)

Trench 1 (T1) was 12.5m long and positioned within the footprint of the proposed dwelling. T1's stratigraphy (Plate I) consisted of 550mm of topsoil (L2) and 450mm of subsoil (L3) before encountering natural clay at 1m (L4).

Five features were excavated in T1: three pits (F2, F5 and F7), one ditch (F6), and an inverted pot (F1). Two features were undated, ie. the shallow ditch F6 and the small pit F7. Large pits F2 and F5 were both post-medieval in date, although both contained residual medieval pottery (see Finds below).

The final feature in T1 was a curious one – it was an inverted storage jar that had been heavily

truncated, leaving only the rim and a few small shoulder and body sherds. It appears to have been deposited within a purpose dug hole (Fig 4). The storage jar dates from the 15th-16th century, so is late medieval or early post-medieval in date. Within this pot was a small quantity of animal bones, mostly sheep, but also a cow tibia and a rib from a small animal (possibly a rabbit).

A selection of unstratified modern and post-medieval finds were recovered during machining of T1. These including clay pipe stems and pot sherds. One find of note is a possible sherd of Roman greyware (see Finds below).



Plate I T1 stratigraphy. Shot taken facing north-east.



Plate II T1. Shot taken facing south-west.

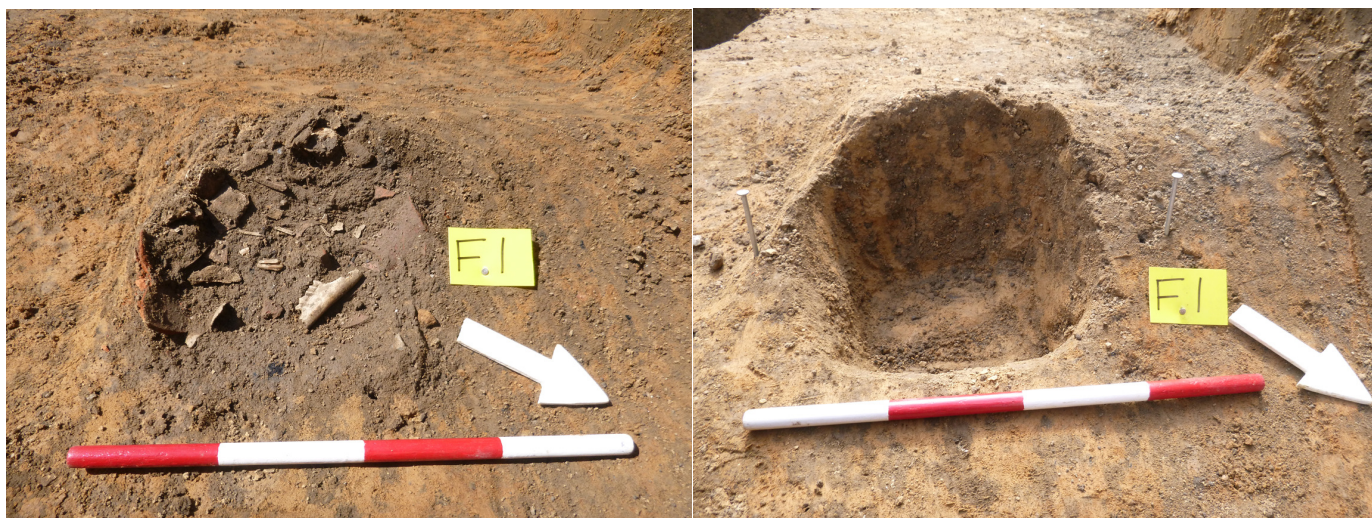


Plate III Detailed pre-excitation shot and fully excavated shot of F1. Shots taken facing south-west.

Trench 2 (Plate V)

Trench 2 (T2) was 5.5m long and positioned within the footprint of the garage. T2's stratigraphy (Plate II) consisted of 180mm of modern tarmac and crush (L1), sealing 300mm of covered topsoil (L2) and 200mm of subsoil (L3) before encountering natural clay at 680mm (L4).

Two features were excavated in T2, one shallow linear aligned north-east/south-west (F4), and one animal burial containing a sub-adult pig (F3). F4 was 600mm wide and 210mm deep and came out of the southern baulk before disappearing under the western baulk. The only find recovered was a horse ulna from the upper fill. F3 was only partially within the trench and disappeared under the baulk to the north. At the base of the feature was the articulated remains of the hind quarters of a sub-adult pig (see Finds below). Also within the feature was fragments of brick and peg tile, dating the burial as post-medieval.



Plate IV T2 stratigraphy. Shot taken facing north-west.



Plate V T2. Shot taken facing south-west.

6. Finds

Stephen Benfield with Adam Wightman

Introduction

Bulk finds consisting of pottery, ceramic building material (CBM), clay pipe and animal bone were recovered from fill of several pits and machined soil. The finds range in date from medieval to post-medieval with some modern (19th-20th century) pieces, although the bulk of the finds can be dated to the medieval and post-medieval period. A small assemblage of animal bone is reported separately. All of the bulk finds, including the animal bone, are listed Table 2 and where appropriate a spot date is provided.

In addition to the bulk finds there is one individually numbered small find (SF 1). This is a piece from a medieval stone mortar, which is described and reported separately.

The pottery was recorded using the Essex post-Roman fabric series (Cunningham 1985 & *CAR 7*) and the fabrics recorded are listed in Table 1 below. The dating of brick and peg-tiles follows Ryan & Andrews 1993 and Ryan 1996.

Fabric code	Fabric description
20	Medieval sandy greywares (general)
21	Medieval sandy orange ware (general)
40	Post-medieval red earthenwares
40A	Metropolitan slipwares
45	Stoneware
48D	Staffordshire-type white earthenwares
51B	Flowerpot (modern)

Table 1 Pottery fabrics

Feature	Find no	Ctxt type	Find type	Fabric	no	wt/g	Form/ description	Period	spot date
U/S	4	spoil heap	pot	51B	1	9	rim sherd from a flower pot	modern	L19-20C
U/S	4	spoil heap	pot	40A	2	56	sherds of probable slipware (metropolitan slipware) with small areas of yellow coloured glaze, one sherd is the base edge of a dish	post-med	17-18C
U/S	4	spoil heap	pot	20(?)	1	5	pale greyware sherd, sandy fabric, probably medieval but might possibly be Roman (Fabric GX)	med	L12-14C
U/S	4	spoil heap	C pipe		2	4	short stem pieces	p-med	p-med
U/S	4	spoil heap	animal bone		7	32.2	2 med mammal rib frags (cut marks), 2 med mammal skull frags, 1 med/lrg mam mandible frag, 2 lrg mammal long bone frags from a juvenile.	-	-
F001	1	pit	animal bone		34	133	1 cattle unfused distal tibia (pos burnt) (2 frags), 1 med mammal carpal/tarsal (pos burnt), 1 sheep scapula (2 frags), 1 sheep pelvis frag (pos chop mark), 2 sheep mandibles (4 frags), 18 sheep skull/maxilla frags, 1 small/med mammal rib (2 frags), 3 unidentified mammal frags	-	-
F001	2	pit	pot	21	20	471	SV, top of a storage jar, complete rim in sherds, joining section of handle and other small body/shoulder sherds representing most of upper area (rim & shoulder) of the pot, slight collar to rim giving cornice-like profile, similar to CAR 7 fig 89 no.103, orange fabric, clear splash glaze over surface	L med-p.med	M15-M16C
F001	2	pit	CBM		1	256	piece of brick in coarse, orange coloured sandy fabric, occasional small stones, thickness 43 mm	p-med	15-E17C
F002	8	pit	pot	20	3	44	joining sherds from the rim of a cooking pot	med	L12-14C
F002	8	pit	C pipe		1	7	stem piece	p-med	p-med
F002	8	pit	CBM PT		1	54	piece from a peg-tile in red sandy fabric	med-p.med	(14C+)
F003	5	pig burial	animal bone		20	355	2 pig pelvis (6 frags) 1 left & 1 right, 2 pig femurs 1 left & 1 right unfused proximal & distal epiphysis on each (6 pieces total), 2 pig tibia 1 left & 1 right with unfused proximal epiphysis (absent), 2 medium mammal vertebrae, 1 pig calcaneus, 2 small/med mammal axial frags (?pelvis), 1 med mammal fibula	-	-
F003	6	pig burial	CBM PT		2	152	two pieces from peg-tiles in red sandy fabric, one is rather thick	Med-p.med	(14C+)

Feature	Find no	Ctxt type	Find type	Fabric	no	wt/g	Form/ description	Period	spot date
							(15 mm) but is a tile corner and appears very likely to be peg-tile		
F003	6	pig burial	CBM BR		1	591	corner from a brick in brownish-red sandy fabric, no other obvious inclusions, thickness 50 mm	p-med	15/16-17C
F004	7	linear	animal bone		1	54.4	1 horse ulna (right)	-	-
F005	9	pit	pot	45	6	1016	Stoneware – upper part (mostly one large piece) of a large, globular jug, pale grey fabric with some pale pink colouration toward the inner surface, rilled neck, handle in joining sherds with decorated triangular applied strip(s) below the handle base, form appears common to Westerwald (see CAR 7 fig 196 no. 5)	post-med	M/L17-18C
F005	9	pit	pot	40	2	45	sherds, prob from 2 pots in black speckled orange brown glaze on red sandy fabric, part internal glaze	post-med	L17-18/19C
F005	9	pit	pot	48D	1	19	part of a small, domed lid with blue glaze decoration	post-med/mod	18-19/20C
F005	9	pit	pot	21	1	3	small sandy sherd in orange-red fabric with thin glazed surface and internal burnt residue or tar-like deposit	med	13/14-15C
F005	9	pit	c pipe		3	29	bowl and 2 stem piece, bowl and larger stem join, possibly all part of one pipe, CAR 5 -Type 9 (c 1700-1740)	post-med	E-M18C
F005	9	pit	CBM PT		2	247	two pieces from peg-tiles in red sandy fabric	med-p.med	(14C+)
F005	9	pit	CBM BR		4	1824	pieces of brick in coarse, orange coloured sandy fabric, occasional small stones, thickness 55 mm, width 100 mm	p-med	15/16-17C
F005	9	pit	CBM BR		2	862	dark brownish-red sandy fabric, thickness 50 mm	p-med	L17-E18C
F005	9	pit	CBM BR		1	192	dark brownish-red sandy fabric, thickness 60 mm	p-med	L17-E18C
F005	9	pit	animal bone		13	253	1 cattle metacarpal (distal portion, fused) numerous large chop marks, 2 lrg mammal skull frags, 1 cattle astragalus chopped distal end, 3 cattle tibia frags copped from bone, 1 med mam mandible frag, 1 sheep scapula frag, 1 med/lrg mam scapula frag, 2 sheep teeth (molar & premolar), 1 mem mammal humerus frag.	-	-

Table 2 Bulk finds by context (SV=same vessel; BR=brick; PT=peg-tile)

Bulk finds (other than animal bone)

Medieval-early post-medieval

A number of finds can be dated to the medieval and medieval to early post-medieval period, but are residual, or appear to be residual, in the contexts from which they were recovered.

There are pottery sherds of both medieval greyware (Fabric 20) and medieval sandy orange wares (Fabric 21). The earliest closely-dated pottery is a rim from a greyware cooking pot, dated to the late 12/13th-14th century which was recovered from F2(8). There is also a small unstratified sherd in pale, sandy greyware (4) which is probably medieval and of similar date, although this might possibly be a stray Roman sherd. A complete but broken rim and shoulder sherds from a handled storage jar in a sandy orange/red fabric were recovered from F1(2 – Fig 4.1). The pot (which appears of similar form to CAR 7, fig 89 no 103) can be dated to the late medieval or early post-medieval period of the late 15th-16th century. A single sherd of medieval sandy red ware was also recovered from F5(9).

Of interest is part of a stone mortar (SF1), which is of medieval or early post-medieval date (c 13-16th century). The mortar is made from Purbeck stone and was recovered from F5(9).

Post-medieval to modern

Finds that can be dated as post-medieval were recovered from most of contexts; there are also a few finds of modern (late 18th/19th-20th century) date. The finds consist of pottery sherds, clay pipe pieces and CBM – mostly brick.

The pottery includes sherds of red earthenwares (Fabric 40) and metropolitan slipware (Fabric 40A) dated to the period of the 17th-18th or 17th-18th/19th century. A singular find in the upper part of a large, globular, stoneware jug (Fabric 45) that was recovered from pit F5(9). The form appears most closely associated with Westerwald (see CAR 7 fig 196 no. 5) and probably dates to the period of the mid/late 17th- early/mid 18th century. Of later (modern) date are a sherd from a lid, recovered from pit F5(9) and which almost certainly dates to after the late 18th century and an unstratified rim sherd from a flowerpot (4) of 19th-20th century date.

A bowl from a clay pipe was recovered from F5(9) and this can be closely dated to the early-mid 18th century. Other pieces of clay pipe stem, broadly dated as post-medieval, come from F2(8) and from spoil (4).

Pieces of ceramic building material (CBM) were recovered from all of the features. These consist of pieces from peg-tiles and bricks. Of themselves the peg-tile pieces are not closely dated other than as medieval to post-medieval. However, they probably date to after the 14th century as they were probably relatively rare outside of churches or manorial buildings in Essex prior to that date (Ryan 1993). The brick pieces are more closely dated to the 15th/16th-17th century (F1, F3 & F5) and late 17th-18th century (F5).

Animal bone

Adam Wightman

Animal bone was recovered from four archaeological contexts (F1, F3, F4 and F5) and from the spoil heap.

The bone fragments from context F1 were notably small in size and mostly derived from sheep/goat, although the distal portion of an unfused cattle tibia and a rib fragment from a small mammal were also present (the minimum number of individuals for each species is 1). The cattle tibia fragment and the medium mammal carpal/tarsal both have small blackened areas which may be from burning. All of the sheep/goat bones come from the axial region of the body. One small sheep/goat pelvis fragment may exhibit evidence of butchery in the form of a chop mark. The majority of the sheep/goat bones are heavily fragmented pieces of skull including maxilla and mandible fragments. The fragmentation of the sheep/goat bones appears to have occurred prior to burial but after the bone had been defleshed. Although there is possible evidence of burning and butchery in this small assemblage, the dominance of skull fragments (primary butchery waste) suggests this is not necessarily table waste.

The hindquarters of a sub-adult (2-3.5yrs old) pig were recovered from F3. The bones were articulated and exhibited no evidence of butchery marks. It is likely that the bones come from a complete pig burial and that the animal died from a disease and was not considered to be fit for human consumption.

The proximal portion of a horse ulna was recovered from F4 and cattle and sheep bones were identified in the small assemblage from F5. The cattle bones from F5 either exhibited deep, wide chop marks (the metapodial) or had large flat areas where bone had been detached using a large sharp implement such as a cleaver (the astragalus and the tibia).

A small quantity of animal bone was collected from the spoil heap (find no 4). This includes juvenile large mammal bones and medium mammal ribs with cut marks.

Small finds

A small section from the base edge of a stone mortar (SF1) of medieval to early post-medieval date was recovered from F5(9). The stone from which it is made is a greyish-white, fossiliferous limestone and can be identified as Purbeck marble. It can be noted that the mortar is broken away along the line of the junction with the base and breakage at this point has been noted on stone mortars from Colchester (*CAR 5*, 40). The context from which the mortar was recovered includes a pottery (lid) sherd which is probably of late 18th-19th or 20th century date and a bowl from a clay pipe of early 18th century date.

The mortar is clearly residual in this context, but is not closely dated other than as c 1250-1600. A Roman date is felt to be extremely unlikely given the absence of any other clear Roman material from the site. The long life of stone mortars and their frequent reuse makes close dating difficult (Dunning 1977, 321). Medieval stone mortars have been recovered from contexts dated to the 13th to early 14th century at Kings Lynn (Dunning 1977, 320) and finds of stone mortars are recorded associated with medieval and later house sites in Colchester (*CAR 5*, 40).

SF 1, Stone mortar F5(9). Base edge piece from a stone mortar in grey fossiliferous limestone (Purbeck stone), smooth interior, pecked surface with smoothed band around lower base external edge 10 mm broad, (base thickness 25 mm, surviving wall thickness 27 mm, weight 480 g). Dated c 1250-1600 AD.

7. Building recording (Fig 6)

The outbuilding to the west of the pub had been partially demolished before the beginning of this investigation, with only a section to the north-west left standing. The remaining building is wooden framed structure, built from entirely machine cut timbers and standing on a brick plinth consisting of eight courses of unfrosted bricks.

As specified in the brief (O'Connor, 2015), a full photographic survey of the outbuilding was carried out on all elevations and the interior, a sample of which are shown below (see Plates VI-XIII). The complete collection of photos will be deposited on a disc in the archive along with a photo log.

There is a building in the vicinity of the current structure on the 1840 tithe map, but the first edition 1876 OS map shows no outbuilding present. A building does not re-appear on the site until the 1897 second edition OS map. A building schematic from 1932, attached to a request for planning permission for the installation of two petrol pumps at the Sugar Loaves, shows the outbuilding and lists it as "Garages" and "Gents" (ERO D/RH P61/291).

All the evidence suggests that the outbuilding is of late 19th-century date and might be a replacement for the previous outbuilding shown in the 1840 tithe map.

The north-west elevation of the structure is currently weatherboarded (Plate VII), and until recently the other elevations were as well, judging from the nail holes visible on the exposed timbers (see Plates below).



Plate VI South-west elevation of outbuilding. Shot taken facing north-east.



Plate VII South-east elevation of outbuilding. Shot taken facing north-west.



Plate VIII North-east elevation of outbuilding. Shot taken facing west.



Plate IX North-west elevation of outbuilding. Shot taken facing south-east.



Plate X Interior shot of outbuilding. Shot taken facing west.



Plate XI Interior shot of outbuilding. Shot taken facing north-west.



Plate XII Interior shot of outbuilding. Shot taken facing north-west.



Plate XIII Interior shot of outbuilding. Shot taken facing south-west.

8. Discussion

All the datable features uncovered in this investigation appear to be 15th century in date at earliest, with some being considerably later. There was no evidence uncovered for any activity before this period on the site, with the exception of a sherd of residual Roman greyware from the machining of T1.

Historic OS maps show no buildings present on the site, although the 1876 OS map shows it as being divided by a boundary from east to west (Plate XV). Also of note is that the site appears as a separate parcel of land on historic maps and is not shown as associated with the Sugar Loaves until the 1955 OS map (Plate XVII).

T1 was of significantly deeper depth than T2, due to terracing of the site in the post-medieval/modern period. At some point, a large amount of topsoil has been built up on the south of the site to create a flat surface behind the pub, leaving an abrupt drop onto the street frontage. Originally the sites incline to the south would have been much steeper – this may account for the lack of settlement on the site in the past.

The earliest and most intriguing feature is the heavily-truncated inverted pot in T1 (F1). The pot itself appears to be deliberately deposited within a purpose dug hole and is of a mid-15th to mid-16th century date. The heavy truncation makes interpretation difficult. The bones present within the remains of the pot are from several different species, with at least three distinct individual animals. The high percentage of skull fragments and small amount of butchery marks seem to rule out the bone being table waste. It may have been a deliberate deposition of animal bone, but the relatively small number and the large amount of soil within the pot make this unlikely. It is possible the pot was filled with soil that happened to have a portion of animal bone within it, either before or after its truncation. However, this all fails to explain the reason for the pots initial burial.

A series of late medieval to early post-medieval buried pots were uncovered in 1978 during excavations at Middleborough, Colchester. Although they were not inverted when buried they are closest comparison to F1 in the immediate area and are detailed below.

During the excavations of two medieval buildings, seven buried pots were uncovered both within the buildings and in their backyards. They varied in date from late 14th to 17th century, although they all appear to have been deposited at the same time (mid 17th century). Several functions for the buried pots were suggested, including domestic fuel holders, sumps, urinals and coolers – although ultimately, no definite conclusion was reached (CAR 7, 219). Hopefully further archaeological work concerning this period uncovers new evidence that sheds light on the phenomena of buried pots.

Of the features that remain, the two rubbish pits in T1 (F2 and F5) are consistent with the interpretation of the site as an open field, with both containing large amounts of post-medieval waste as well as residual medieval pot sherds. The pig burial of F3 in T2 likewise fits into the interpretation of a pasture or open field. The usual explanation for an isolated animal burial is the slaughter of an individual that has contracted an infectious disease, that the farmer would not want affecting the rest of his livestock.

The linear in T1 (F6) could not be dated, but presumably is a post-medieval field boundary and may relate to the division of the site seen in the 1876 OS map (Plate XV). The other two undated features (the linear F4 in T2 and the small pit F7 in T1) are of unknown purpose and date, although they are likely to be post-medieval given the rest of the site.

Although various features were encountered during this investigation, there is no evidence that indicates this site has ever been the location of a settlement. The rubbish pits, potential field boundaries and animal remains suggest this site has been used for the keeping of animals and pasture from the late medieval period onwards, before becoming part of the same parcel of land as the Sugar Loaves pub around 1955.



Plate XIV Tithe map of 1840. Site marked in red (ERO D/CT 174).

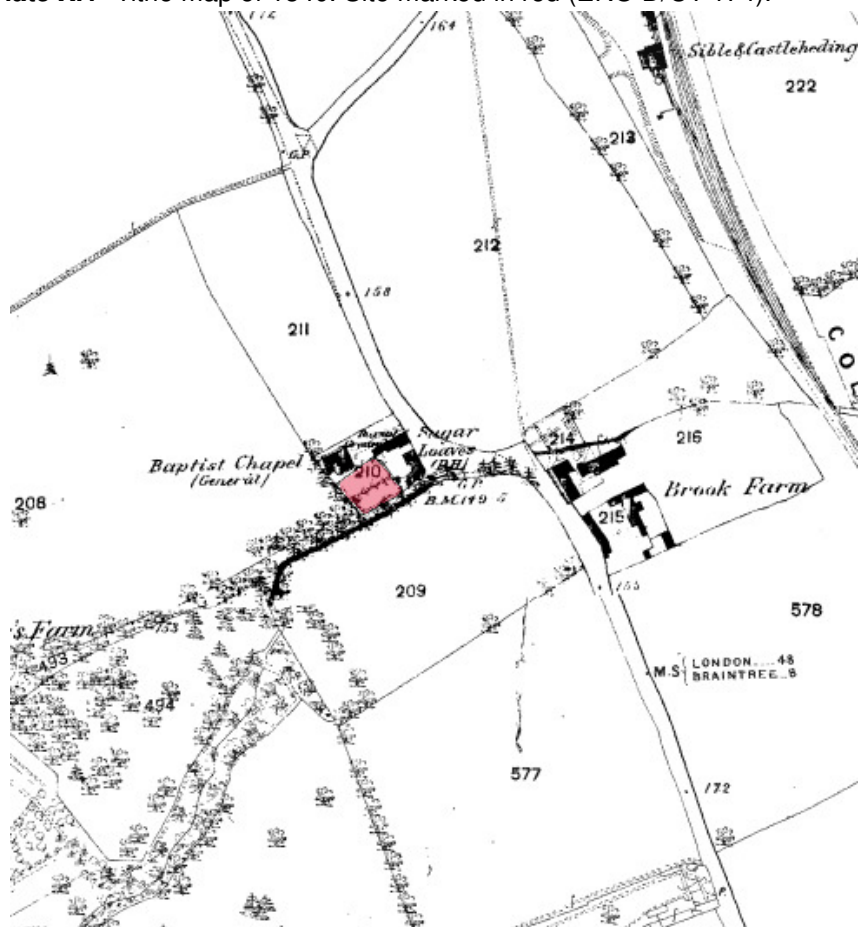


Plate XV 1876 OS map. Site marked in red.



Plate XVI 1897 OS map. Site marked in red.

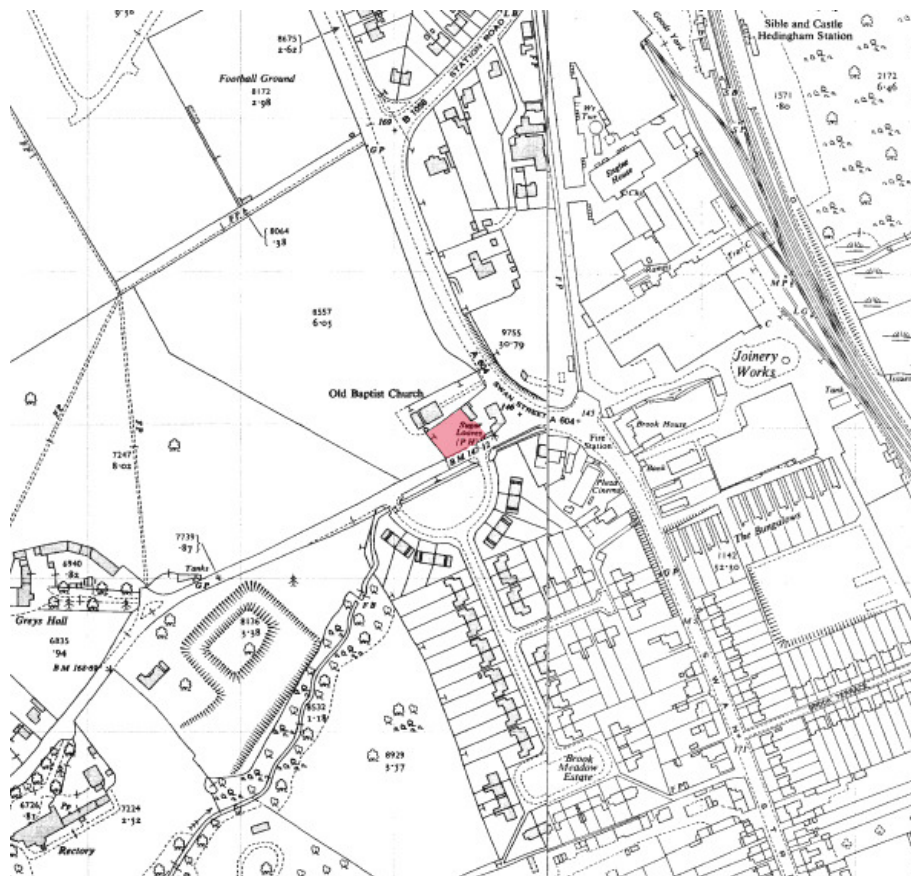


Plate XVII 1955 OS map. Site marked in red.

9. Acknowledgements

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10. References

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<i>EAA 8</i>	2000	Research and Archaeology: a frame work for the Eastern Counties 2 Research agenda and strategy, East Anglian Archaeological Occasional Papers 8, ed. by Brown, N. and Glazenbrook, J.
<i>EAA 14</i>	2003	Standards for Field Archaeology in the East of England. East Anglian Archaeology, Occasional Paper 14, ed. by David Gurney
<i>EAA 24</i>	2011	Research and archaeology revisited: A revised framework for the East of England, East Anglian Archaeology Occasional Paper 24, ed. by Maria Medlycott
MoRPHE	2006	Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment (English Heritage)
O'Connor, T.	2015	Brief for historic building-recording and archaeological trial-trenching and excavation to the rear of the former Sugar Loaves, 175 Swan Street, Sible Hedingham. March 2015
Ryan, P.	1993	'Roof tile' in: Andrews, D., (ed) <i>Crissing Temple. A Templar and Hospitaller manor in Essex</i> , Essex County Council, 93-103
Ryan, P.	1996	<i>Brick in Essex, from the Conquest to the Reformation</i>

11. Abbreviations and glossary

CAT	Colchester Archaeological Trust
CBM	ceramic building material (brick, tile, tessera).
context	specific location of finds on an archaeological site
ECC	Essex County Council
EHHER	Essex Historic Environment Record, held by Essex County Council
ERO	Essex Records Office
feature	an identifiable thing like a pit, a wall, a floor; can contain 'contexts'
fill	the soil filling up a hole such as a pit or ditch
HEA	Historic Environment Advisor
ClfA	Chartered Institute for Archaeologists
layer	an accumulation or deposition of archaeological material
post-medieval	the period from AD 1500 to AD 1800
Roman	the period from AD 43 to AD c410
medieval	the period from AD 1066 to AD 1500
modern	the period from AD 1800 to present day
natural	geological deposit undisturbed by human activity
NGR	National Grid Reference
OS	Ordnance Survey

12. Contents of the archive

Finds archive

1 Museum box containing all finds.

Paper archive

1 A4 wallet containing:
this report
original site record (context and finds sheets)
section drawings
digital photo log
attendance record
sundry papers
digital photos on disc

13. Archive deposition

The paper and digital archive are currently held by CAT at Roman Circus House, Roman Circus Walk, Colchester, Essex, C02 7GZ, but will be permanently deposited with Braintree Museum (an accession code has been requested).

Distribution list:

Hylands Construction Company Limited
Teresa O'Connor (ECC Historic Environment Advisor)
EHER



Colchester Archaeological Trust

Roman Circus House,
Roman Circus Walk,
Colchester,
Essex CO2 7GZ

Tel: 01206 501785

E-mail: archaeologists@catuk.org

*checked by: Philip Crummy
date: 29/05/2015*

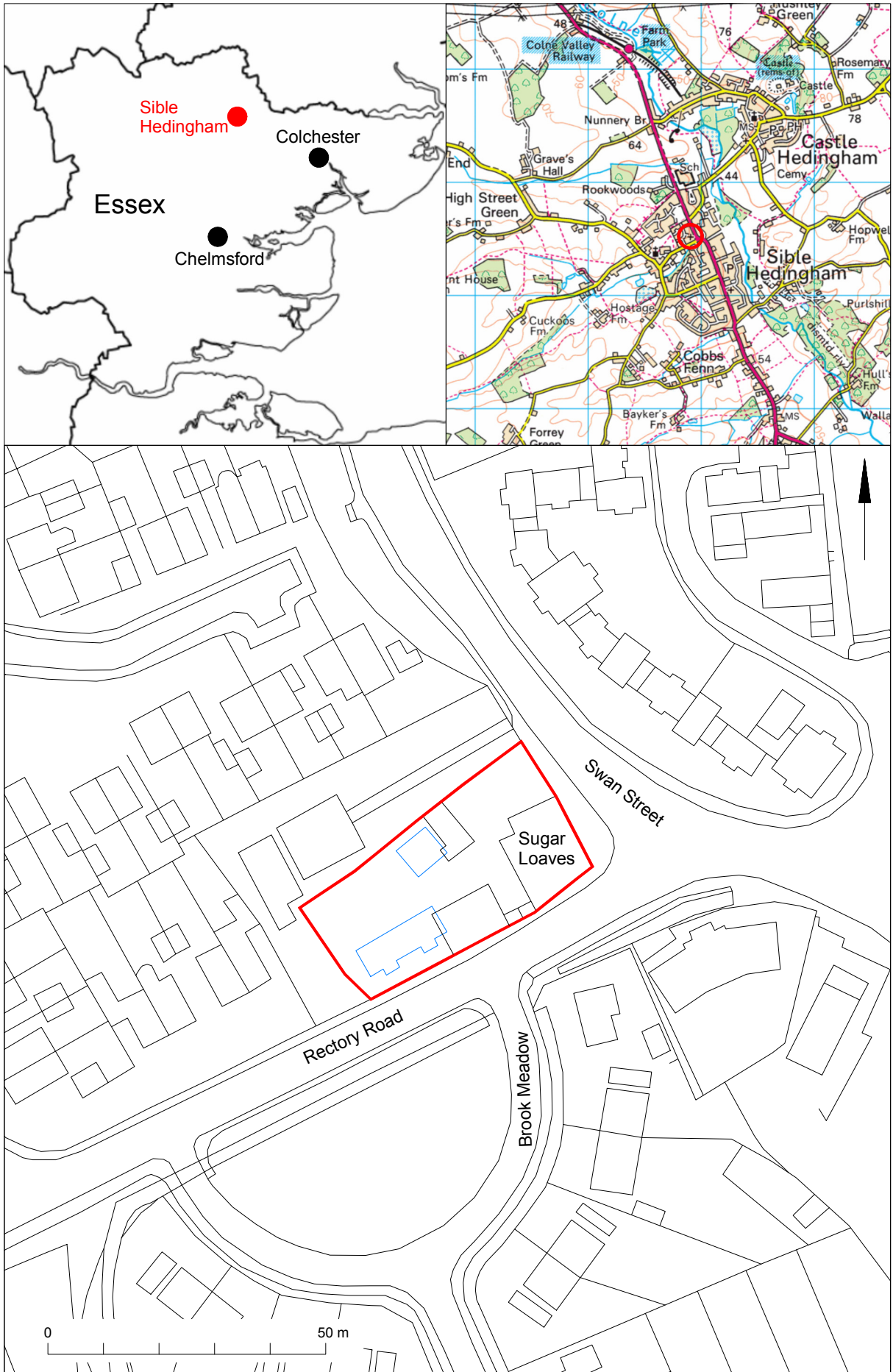
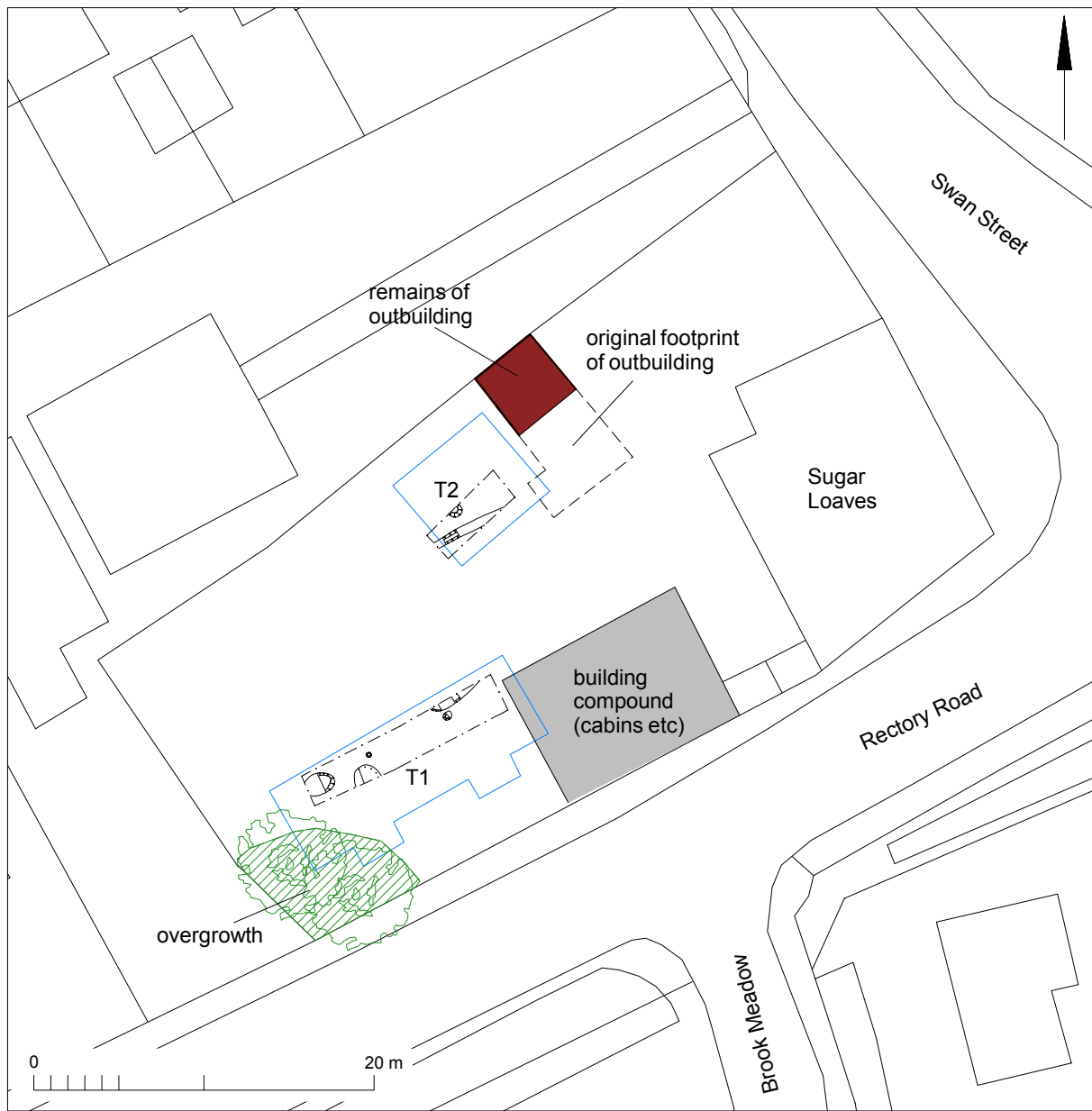


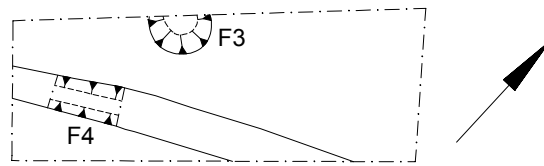
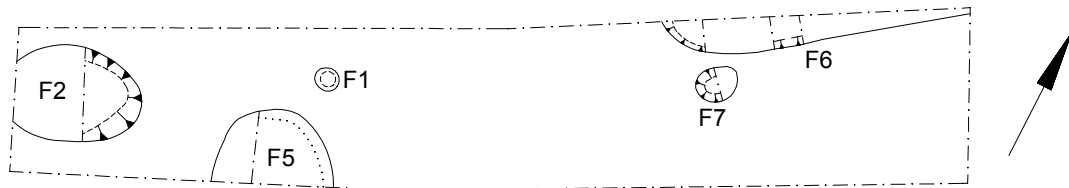
Fig 1 Site location. Proposed buildings shown in blue.

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Fig 2 Evaluation results. Proposed buildings shown in blue.



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Fig 3 Detailed trench plans.

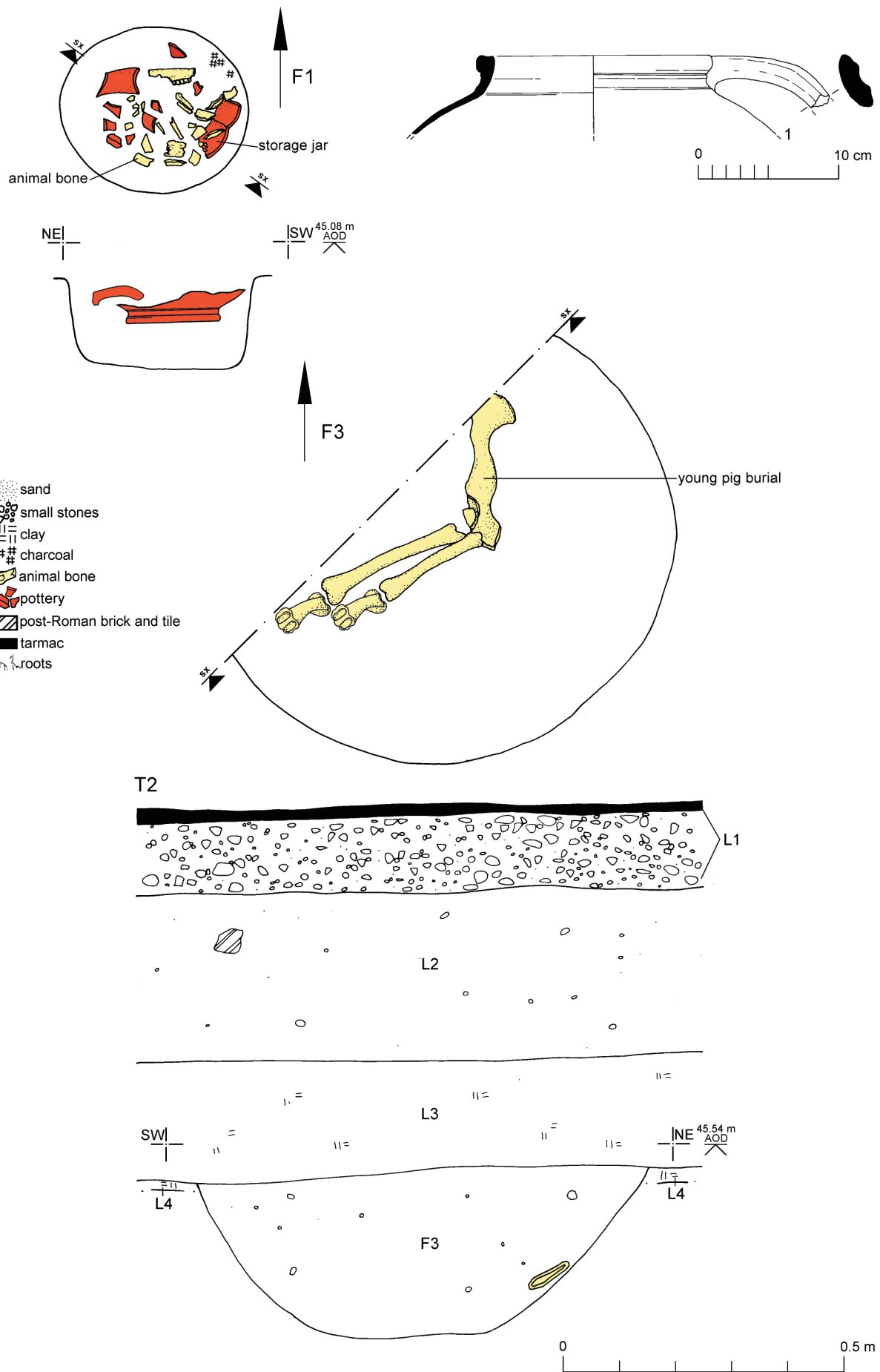


Fig 4 Pit (F1) pre-excavation plan, profile and pottery. Pig burial (F3) plan and section.

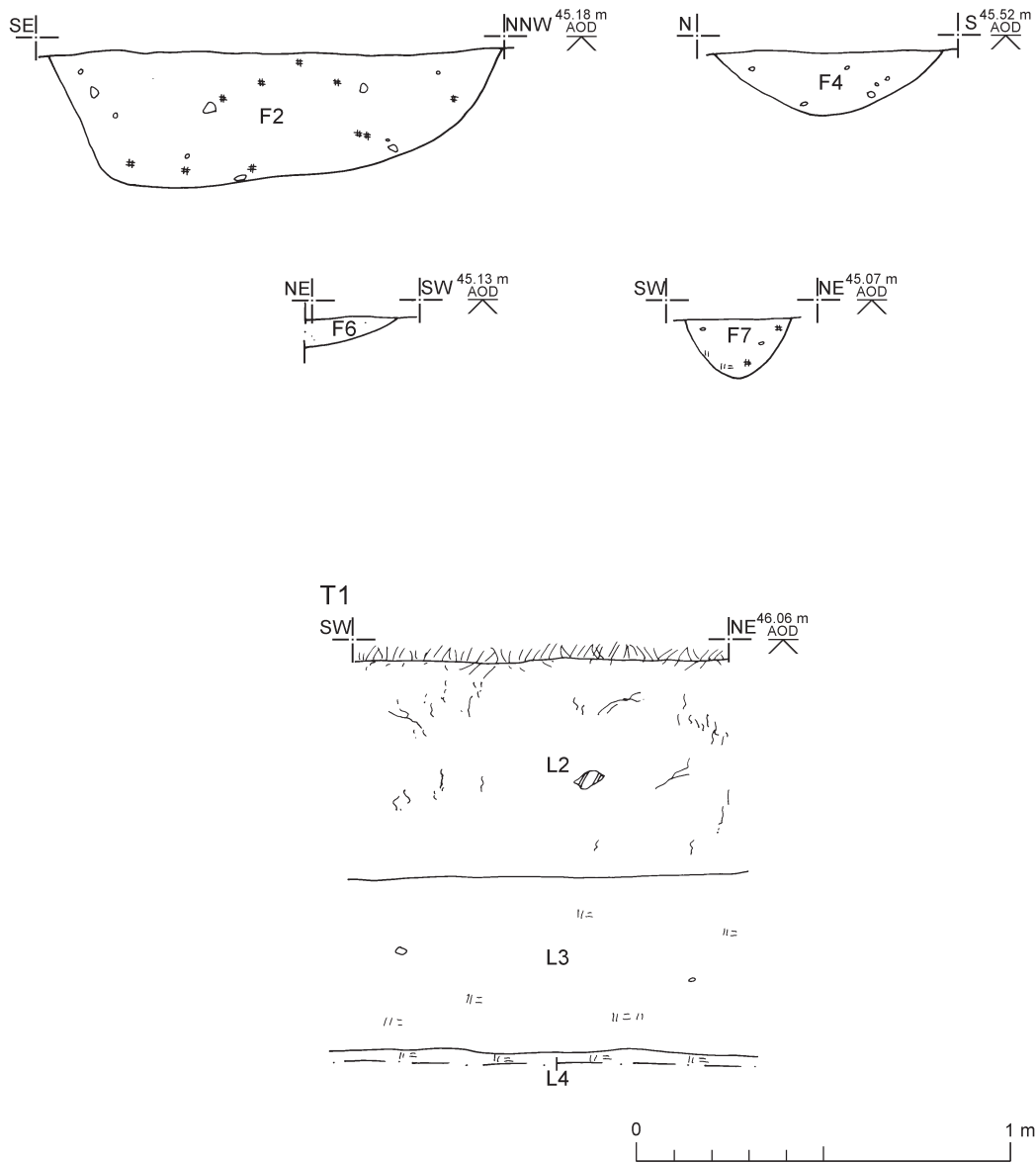
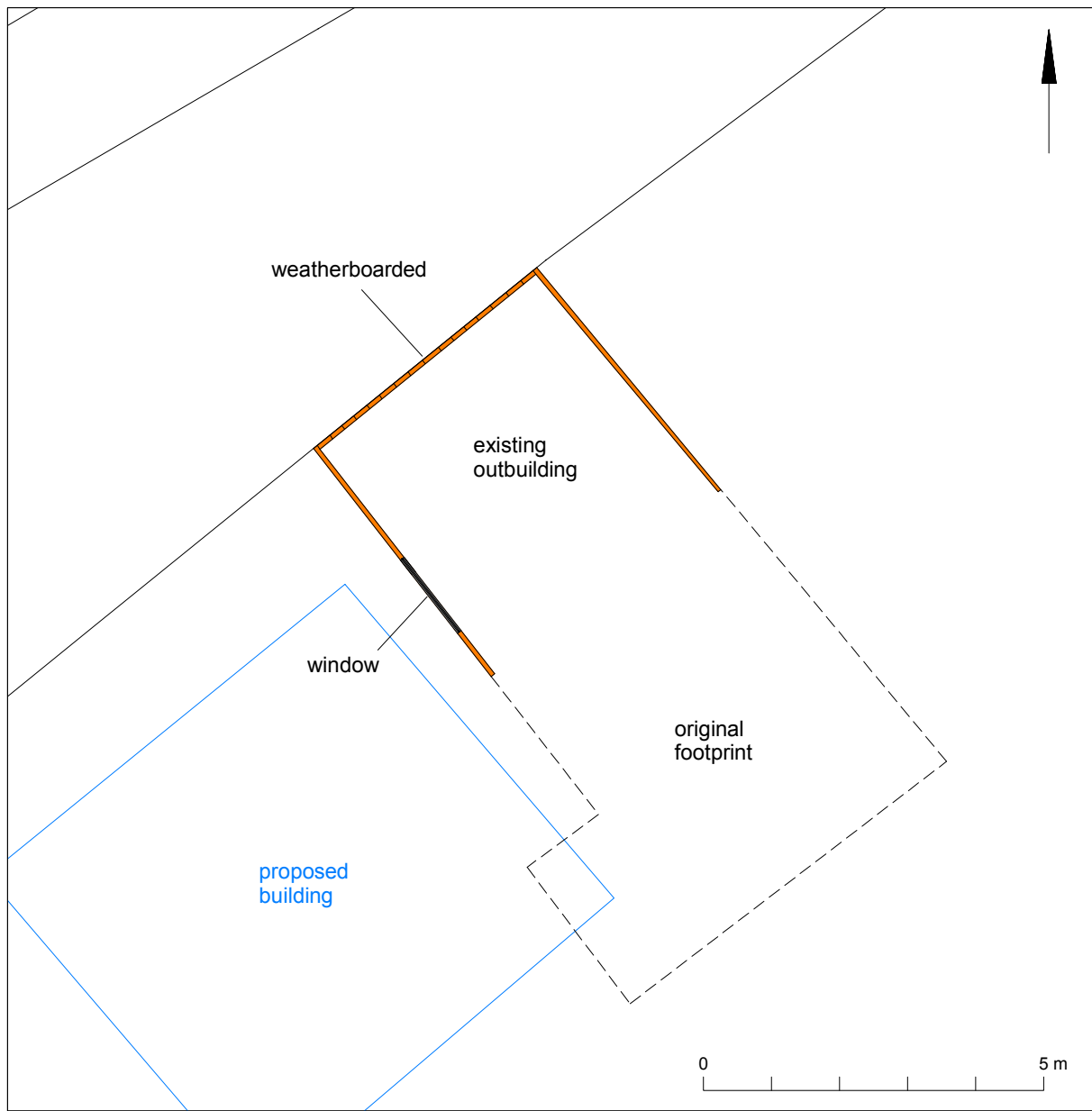


Fig 5 Feature sections (F2, F4 and F6-7) and representative trench section (T1).



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Fig 6 Plan of outbuilding.

Essex Historic Environment Record/ Essex Archaeology and History

Summary sheet

Address: rear of the former Sugar Loaves pub, 175 Swan Street, Sible Hedingham, Essex	
Parish: Sible Hedingham	District: Braintree
NGR: TL 7796 3450	Site code: CAT project code – 15/04f HEA Code – SHSS15
Type of work: Evaluation and building recording	Site director/group: Colchester Archaeological Trust
Date of work: 13th May 2015	Size of area investigated: 18m of trenching
Location of curating museum: Braintree Museum: accession code requested	Funding source: Developer
Further seasons anticipated? No	Related EHER numbers: -
Final report: CAT Report 839	
Periods represented: modern, post-medieval, medieval	
Summary of fieldwork results: <i>Two trenches were excavated within the footprint of proposed new buildings behind the former Sugar Loaves pub, Sible Hedingham. Three pits and two ditches were discovered, as well as the burial of a pig. Of interest was the discovery of heavily truncated inverted pot complete with animal bones from several species, dating from the mid 15th to the mid 16th century. All other features were post medieval.</i>	
Previous summaries/reports: None	
ECC Monitor: Teresa O'Connor	
Keywords: animal burial	Significance: *
Author of summary: Mark Baister	Date of summary: May 2015