

Archaeological monitoring at Westways, Spicers Lane, Long Melford, Sudbury, Suffolk CO10 9JJ

May 2018



by Dr Elliott Hicks

figures by Ben Holloway and Emma Holloway

fieldwork by Ben Holloway

on behalf of Mr & Mrs Sheldon

NGR: TL 863 457 (centre)

Planning ref: DC/18/00634

CAT project ref.: 18/04I

Suffolk Parish Number: LMD 272

OASIS ref: colchest3-315598



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CAT Report 1274

May 2018

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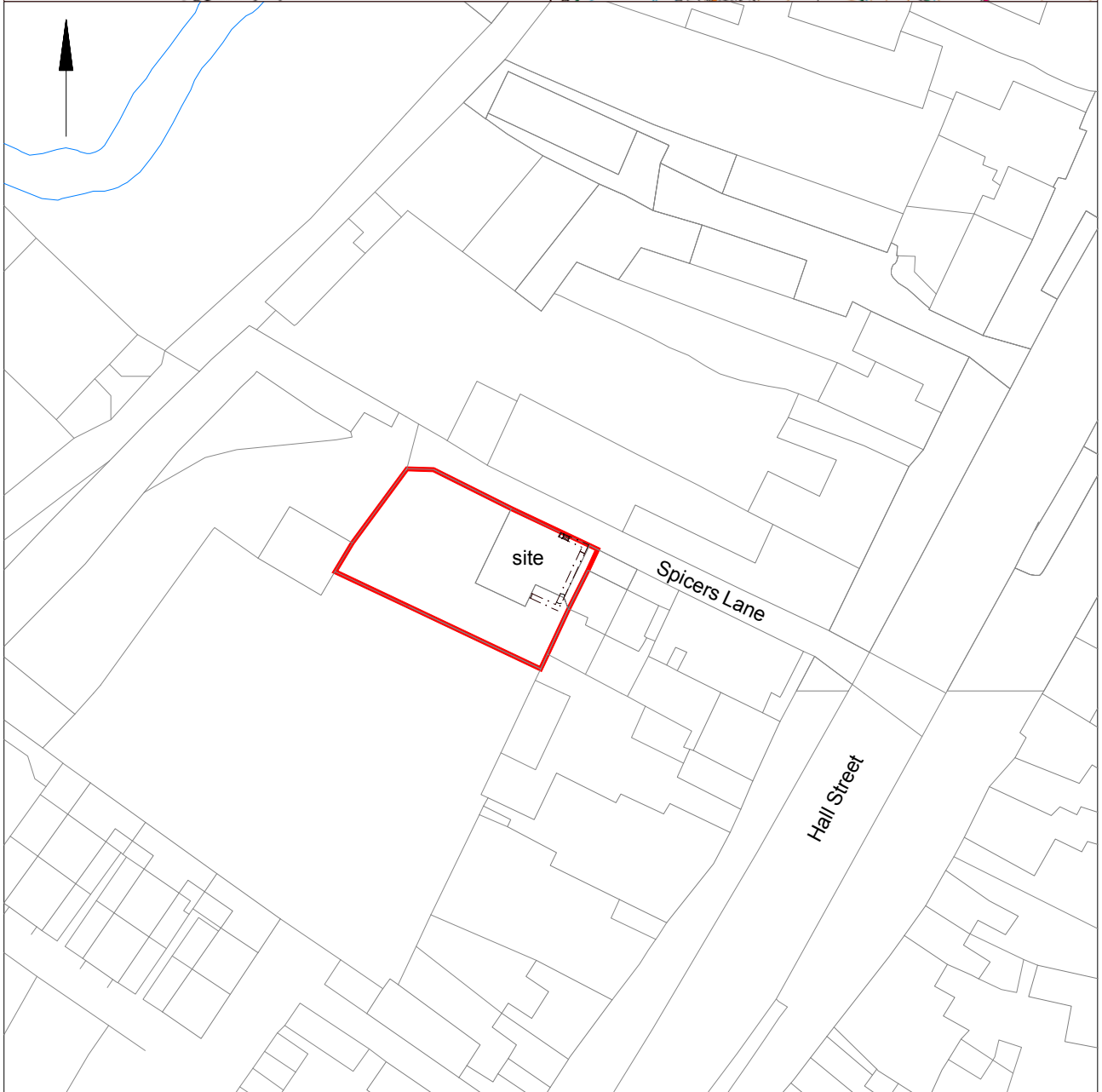
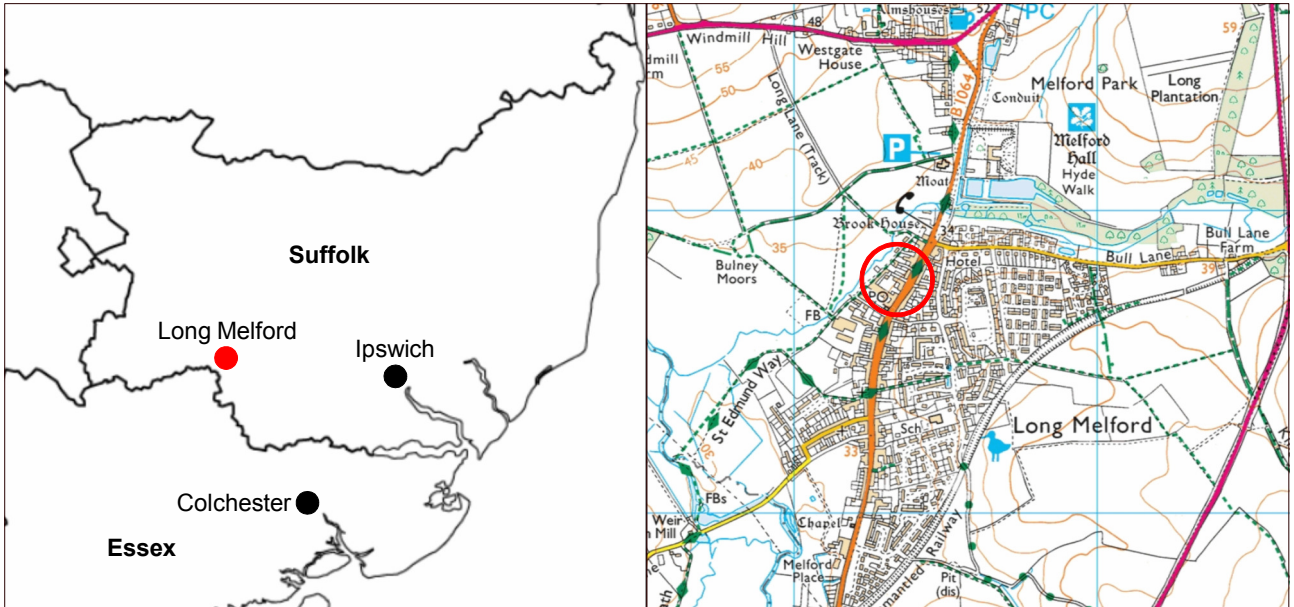
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Summary of archaeological monitoring at Westways, Spicers Lane, Long Melford, Sudbury, Suffolk, CO10 9JJ

Address: Westways, Spicers Lane, Long Melford, Sudbury, Suffolk, CO10 9JJ	
Parish: Long Melford	District: Colchester
NGR: TL 863 457 (centre)	Site code: Planning application no.: DC/18/00634 CAT Project code: 18/041 OASIS ref: colchest3-315598 Suffolk Parish no.: LMD 272
Type of work: Monitoring	Site director/group: Colchester Archaeological Trust
Date of work: 1st-2nd May 2018	Size of area investigated: 0.04 ha
Location of curating museum: Suffolk County Council Archaeological Service	Funding source: Owner
Further seasons anticipated? No	Related LMD number: LMD 008, 024, 025, 026, 027, 028, 029, 032, 033, 038, 047, 067, 080, 098, 100, 101, 130, 131, 133, 137, 154, 157, 158, 160, 170, 172, 173, 174, 176, 178, 183, 186, 234, 238
Periods represented: Post-medieval, modern	
<p>Fieldwork results:</p> <p>Archaeological monitoring was carried out at Westways, Spicers Lane, Long Melford during 1-2 May 2018 during the demolition of a lean-to extension and the construction of a new extension. Monitoring was carried out due to the location of the site within the medieval core of Long Melford and its proximity to features and findspots of artefacts dating to the Roman, medieval and post-medieval periods, to a number of post-medieval listed buildings and to a complex of undated cropmarks.</p> <p>A CAT archaeologist observed the excavation of 16m of foundation trenching measuring 0.6m in width and 1-1.1m in depth. Excavations occurred through three horizons. Modern topsoil (L1, c 0.6m thick, dark grey/brown sandy-silt) lay above subsoil (L2, c 0.4m thick, medium grey/brown silt) which sealed natural (L3, firm orange/yellow sand with occasional manganese fleck inclusions and frequent gravel piece inclusions, encountered at a depth of c 1m below current ground level [bcgl]). In the northern part of the foundation trenching, L1 was overlain by modern hard top tarmac surface L4.</p> <p>Undated pit F1 measured 1.2m in width and was excavated to a depth of 1.4m whereupon excavation ceased due to concerns regarding ground stability. Modern pit F2 was excavated to a depth of 1.5m bcgl. The feature contained post-medieval and modern pottery, brick and peg-tile fragments which probably represents domestic waste associated with properties fronting Hall Street.</p>	
Previous summaries/reports: None	

SCCAS/CT monitor: Faye Minter	
Keywords: -	Significance: -
Author of summary: Dr Elliott Hicks	Date of summary: May 2018



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Fig 1 Site location.



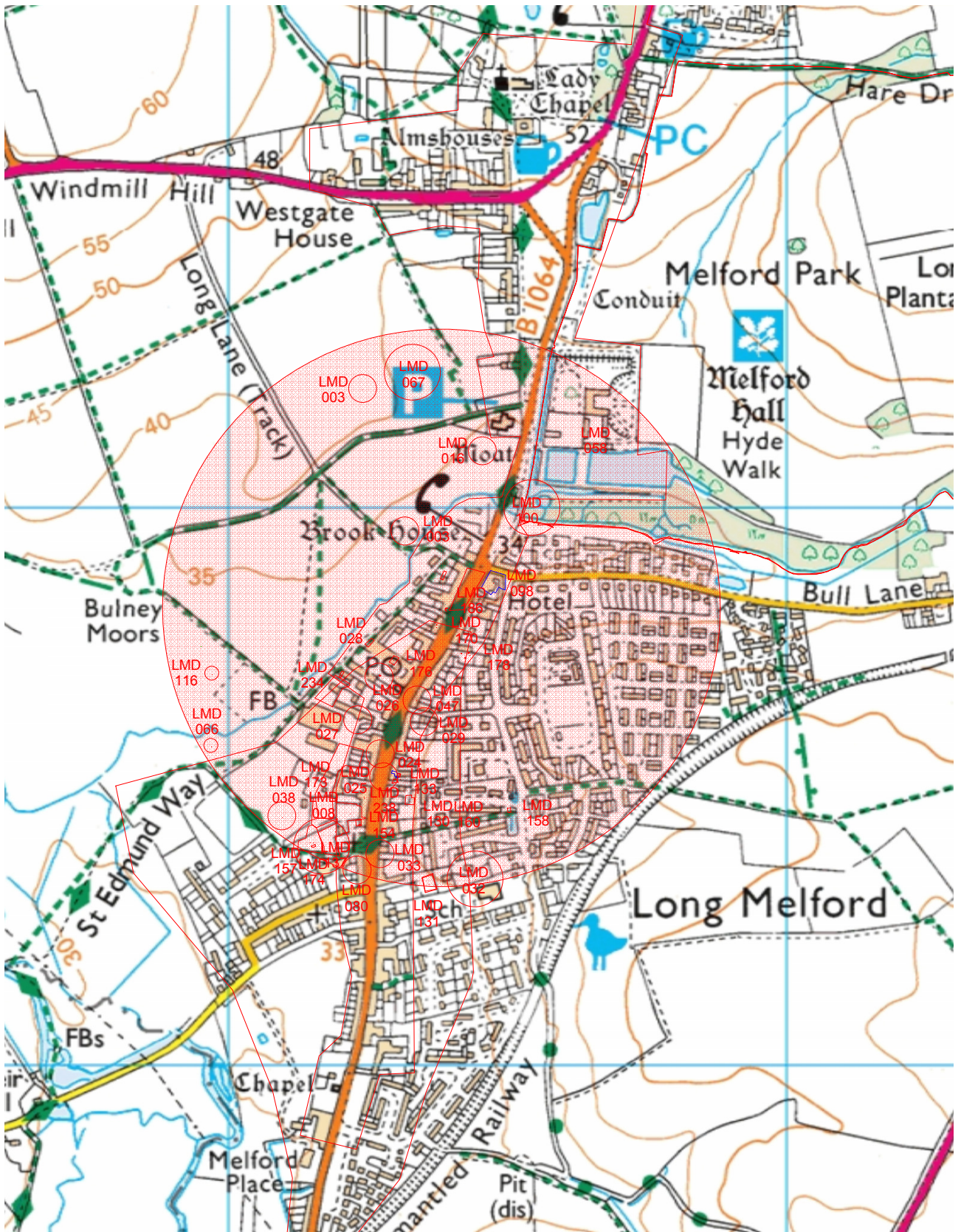
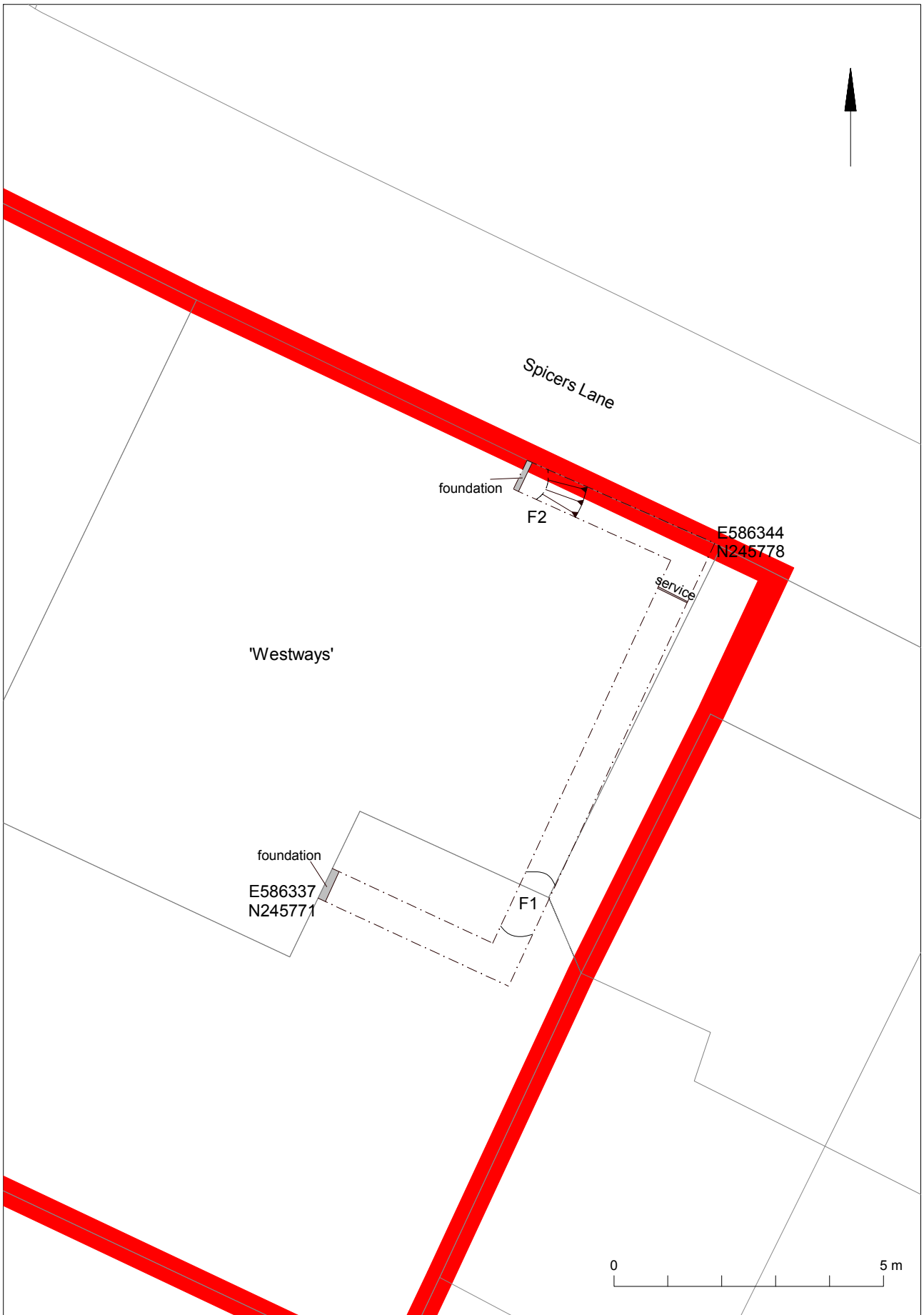


Fig 2 Site in relation to Suffolk HER data.

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Fig 3 Monitoring results.

Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) for continuous archaeological recording at Westways, Spicers Lane, Long Melford, Sudbury, Suffolk, CO10 9JJ

NGR: TL 863 457 (centre)

Planning references: DC/18/00634

Commissioned by: Mr & Mrs Sheldon

Client: Mr & Mrs Sheldon

Curating Museum: Suffolk

CAT Project code: 18/04I

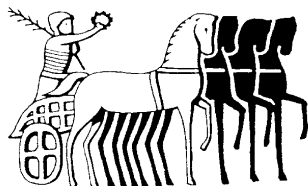
Suffolk Parish number: tbc

OASIS reference no.: colchest3-315598

Site Manager: Ben Holloway

SCCAS/CT Monitor: Faye Minter

This WSI written: 27.04.2017



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Site location and description

The development site is located at 'Westways' Spicers Lane, Long Melford, Suffolk (Fig 1). Site centre is NGR TM 863 457.

Proposed work

The development comprises the demolition of a lean-to extension and the erection of a new extension.

Archaeological background

The following archaeological background draws on information from the Suffolk Historic Environment Record (archaeology.her@suffolk.gov.uk)¹:

Geology

The British Geological Viewer (1:625,000 scale²) shows the general bedrock geology of the site area as chalk (Lewes Nodular Chalk Formation, Seaford Chalk Formation, Newhaven Chalk Formation And Culver Chalk Formation) with superficial river terrace deposits (sand and gravel).

Historic landscape

Long Melford is defined as *rolling estate farmlands* in the Suffolk Landscape Character Assessment³. Within the Suffolk Historic Landscape Characterisation Map⁴ it is defined as Landscape sub-type 10.3, built up area – village (substantial groups of houses associated with a parish church). The landscape immediately around Long Melford is mainly characterised as sub-type 1.1 (pre 18th century enclosure – random fields), sub-type 1.2 (pre 18th century enclosure – rectilinear fields), sub-type 3.1 (post-1950 agricultural landscape – boundary loss from random fields), sub-type 3.2 (post-1950 agricultural landscape – boundary loss from rectilinear fields) and sub-type 9.2 (sub-type 9.2. Post-medieval park and leisure – informal park).

Archaeology⁵ (Fig 2)

The development is located within the historic medieval core of Long Melford (LMD 183) on a side street off of Hall Street, which is fronted by listed buildings. The site is close to the Roman area of occupation in Long Melford (LMD 172), and close to the Roman road which runs through it.

Prehistoric:

- An Iron Age cremation was discovered at Chantry House, Hall Street (LMD 047).

Roman:

- Ditches, pits and associated finds have been identified at: Meeting Field (LMD 008); Hall Street and Peggs Yard (LMD 024); Cock and Bell Lane (LMD 028); 86 Hall Street (LMD 080); The Dairy, Hall Street (LMD 130); Bramertons (LMD 131); land to the rear of 'Almacks' (LMD 137 and LMD 157); The Gables (LMD 154); The Spinney (LMD 174); and at List House (LMD 176)
- Burials have been identified on east side of Hall Street (inhumation, LMD 025), behind Old Country Club (cremation urn, pottery flask and samian sherds, LMD 027), at Wollands Garden (inhumation with coffin and a number of grave goods, LMD 029), and at 14 The Limes (inhumation, LMD 160).
- Isolated Roman finds – Coin of Constantine I (LMD 026), coin of Hadrian with pottery (LMD 032), 1st century pottery sherds (LMD 033), brooch (LMD 038), pottery sherds (LMD 133).

Medieval: Medieval pits were identified at List House (LMD 176).

¹ SCC HER search invoice number - 9187549

² <http://mapapps.bgs.ac.uk/geologyofbritain/home.html?>

³ <http://www.suffolklandscape.org.uk/>

⁴ The Suffolk Historic Landscape Characterisation Map, version 3, 2008, Suffolk County Council

⁵ This is based on records held at the Suffolk County Historic Environment Record (SCHER).

Post-medieval: The Israel Amyce map of 1580 shows a building in Dyehouse Field (possibly the dyehouse itself) (LMD 101), three buildings in the centre of Hall Street (LMD 098), and 'Hall Myll' (LMD 100). Post-medieval features have also been identified at The Gables (LMD 154), 1 The Limes (LMD 158), Walcot House (LMD 170), on land behind 'Chips 'n' Chopstix' (LMD 173); Belmont House (LMD 178).

Medieval and post-medieval finds: An assortment of medieval and post-medieval finds were found to the NW (LMD 067), at Melford House (LMD 186), Magnolia Cottage (LMD 234); and at the H&T Fishbar (LMD 238).

Undated cropmarks:

- ring-ditch, c 28m diameter (LMD 003)
- ring-ditch or small circular enclosure, c 40m diameter (LMD 016)
- cropmarks/shadow mark marks of subrectangular fields/plots/garden features(?) to east of Melford Hall (LMD 058)
- small ring-ditch, c 10m diameter, beside brook into River Stour (LMD 066)
- ring-ditch, c 20m diameter, with possible causeway to NE (LMD 116).

Listed buildings⁶

Over 85 listed buildings dating from the 15th-19th century are located within a 500m radius of the development site.

Registered parks and gardens⁷

Melford Hall (LMD 058) is a Grade I listed building (NHLE no. 1033702) and registered garden (NHLE no. 100028) dating from the 16th century.

Planning background

The planning application was submitted to Babergh District Council (DC/18/00634) for the demolition of a lean-to extension and the erection of a new extension. As the site lies within an area highlighted by the Suffolk HER as having a high potential for archaeological deposits, an archaeological condition was recommended by the Suffolk County Council Archaeological Service Conservation Team (SCCAS/CT). The recommended archaeological condition is based on the condition based on the guidance given in the *National Planning Policy Framework* (DCLG 2012) and in this case in section 3 of the planning permission:

" No development shall take place within the area indicated [the whole site] until the implementation of a programme of archaeological work has been secured, in accordance with a Written Scheme of Investigation which has been submitted to and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority. The scheme of investigation shall include an assessment of significance and research questions."

Requirement for work

The required archaeological work is for continuous archaeological monitoring of all groundworks. Details are given in a Project Brief written by SCCAS (*Brief for Continuous Archaeological Recording at Westways, Spicers Lane, Long Melford, Sudbury, Suffolk CO10 9JJ – SCC*, April 2018).

Specifically, the work will include the monitoring and recording of all groundworks for archaeological remains. If any unexpected remains are encountered the SCCAS/CT will be notified immediately.

Staffing

The number of field staff for this project is estimated as follows: One CAT archaeologist for the duration of the groundworks.

⁶ This is based on records held at the Suffolk County Historic Environment Record (SCHER).

⁷ This is based on records held at the Suffolk County Historic Environment Record (SCHER).

General methodology

All work carried out by CAT will be in accordance with:

- professional standards of the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists, including its *Code of Conduct* (CIfA 2008a, b)
- Standards and Frameworks published by East Anglian Archaeology (Gurney 2003, Medlycott 2011)
- relevant Health & Safety guidelines and requirements (CAT 2017)
- the Project Brief issued by SCC Historic Environment Officer (SCC 2018)
- The outline specification within *Requirements for Continuous Archaeological Recording* (SCC 2011) to be used alongside the Project Brief

Professional CAT field archaeologists will undertake all specified archaeological work, for which they will be suitably experienced and qualified.

Notification of the supervisor/project manager's name and the start date for the project will be provided to SCCAS/CT one week before start of work.

Prior to the commencement of the site a parish code and Event number will be sought from the HER team. This code will be used to identify the finds bags and boxes, and the project archive when it is deposited at the curating museum.

At the start of work (immediately before fieldwork commences) an OASIS online record <http://ads.ahds.ac.uk/project/oasis/> will be initiated and key fields completed on Details, Location and Creators forms. At the end of the project all parts of the OASIS online form will be completed for submission to EHER. This will include an uploaded .PDF version of the entire report.

Monitoring methodology

There will be continuous on-site attendance by CAT staff to maintain a watch on all contractors' ground works (reductions, footings, service trenches, landscaping, etc) to record, excavate or sample (as necessary) any archaeological features or deposits.

All topsoil removal and ground reduction will be done either by hand or with a mechanical excavator using a toothless bucket.

If archaeological features or deposits are uncovered, time will be allowed for these to be planned and recorded.

If any features or deposits uncovered are to be destroyed by the proposed development, time will be allowed for these features to be excavated by hand. This includes a 50% sample of discrete features (pits, etc) or more if this is deemed appropriate and 10% of linear features (ditches, etc) in 1m sections where possible.

Fast hand-excavation techniques involving (for instance) picks, forks and mattocks will not be used on complex stratigraphy.

A metal detector will be used by the attending archaeologist to examine the site, spoil heaps, and the finds recovered.

Individual records of excavated contexts, layers, features or deposits will be entered on pro-forma record sheets. Registers will be compiled of finds, small finds and soil samples.

All features and layers or other significant deposits will be planned, and their profiles or sections recorded. The normal scale will be site plans at 1:20 and sections at 1:10, unless circumstances indicate that other scales would be appropriate.

If exceptional or significant archaeological deposits are encountered CAT will inform SCCAS/CT and these may be reviewed on site.

Site surveying

Normal scale for archaeological site plans and sections is 1:20 and 1:10 respectively, unless circumstances indicate that other scales would be more appropriate.

The site grid will be tied into the National Grid. Corners of excavation areas and trenches will be tied into Ordnance Datum.

Environmental sampling policy

The number and range of samples collected will be adequate to determine the potential of the site, with particular focus on palaeoenvironmental remains including both biological remains (e.g. plants, small vertebrates) and small sized artefacts (e.g. smithing debris), and to provide information for sampling strategies on any future excavation. Samples will be collected for potential micromorphological and other pedological sedimentological analysis. Environmental bulk samples will be 40 litres in size (assuming context is large enough).

Sampling strategies will address questions of:

- the range of preservation types (charred, mineral-replaced, waterlogged), and their quality
- concentrations of macro-remains
- differences in remains from undated and dated features
- variation between different feature types and areas of site

CAT has an arrangement with Val Fryer (Loddon) whereby any potentially rich environmental layers or features will be appropriately sampled as a matter of course. Val Fryer will do any processing and reporting.

Should any complex, or otherwise outstanding deposits be encountered, VF will be asked onto site to advise. Waterlogged 'organic' features will always be sampled. In all cases, the advice of VF and/or the English Heritage Regional Advisor in Archaeological Science (East of England) on sampling strategies for complex or waterlogged deposits will be followed, including the taking monolith samples.

Human remains

CAT follows the policy of leaving human remains *in situ* unless there is a clear indication that the remains are in danger of being compromised as a result of their exposure. If circumstances indicated it were prudent or necessary to remove remains from the site during the monitoring, the following criteria would be applied; if it is clear from their position, context, depth, or other factors that the remains are ancient, then normal procedure is to apply to the Department of Justice for a licence to remove them. In that case, conditions laid down by the license will be followed. If it seems that the remains are not ancient, then the coroner, the client, and SCCAS/CT will be informed, and any advice and/or instruction from the coroner will be followed.

Photographic record

Will include both general and feature-specific photographs, the latter with scale and north arrow. A photo register giving context number, details, and direction of shot will be prepared on site, and included in site archive.

Finds

All significant finds will be retained.

All finds, where appropriate, will be washed and marked with site code and context number.

Stephen Benfield (CAT) normally writes our finds reports. Some categories of finds are automatically referred to other CAT specialists:

animal bones (small groups): Alec Wade / Adam Wightman
small finds, metalwork, coins, etc: Laura Pooley
flints: Adam Wightman

or to outside specialists:

animal bones (large groups) and human remains: Julie Curl (*Sylvanus*)
environmental processing and reporting: Val Fryer / Lisa Gray
conservation of finds: staff at Colchester Museum / Laura Ratcliffe (LR Conservation)

Other specialists whose opinion can be sought on large or complex groups include:

Roman brick/tile: Ernest Black
Roman glass: Hilary Cool
Prehistoric pottery: Paul Sealey

Other: EH Regional Adviser in Archaeological Science (East of England).

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.

Requirements for conservation and storage of finds will be agreed with the appropriate museum prior to the start of work, and confirmed to SCCAS/CT.

Results

Notification will be given to SCCAS/CT when the fieldwork has been completed.

An appropriate archive will be prepared to minimum acceptable standards outlined in *Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment* (English Heritage 2006).

The draft report will be submitted within 6 months of the end of fieldwork for approval by SCCAS/CT.

The final report will be submitted to SCCAS/CT as PDF, with a printed and bound copy sent by post.

The report will contain:

- The aims and methods adopted in the course of the archaeological project
- Location plan of the area in relation to the proposed development.
- Section/s drawings showing depth of deposits from present ground level with Ordnance Datum, vertical and horizontal scale.
- Archaeological methodology and detailed results including a suitable conclusion and discussion and results referring to Regional Research Frameworks (EAA8, EAA14 & EAA24).
- All specialist reports or assessments
- A concise non-technical summary of the project results.

A HER summary sheet will also be completed within four weeks and supplied to SCCAS/CT as an appendix to the CAT site report.

The OASIS entry will be completed at the end of the post-excavation work and the summary sheet included with the report along with a copy of the approved WSI.

Where positive results are drawn from a project, a summary report will be prepared for the *Proceedings of the Suffolk Institute of Archaeology and History*.

Archive deposition

The requirements for archive storage shall be agreed with the curating museum (Suffolk County Council Archaeological Services).

If the finds are to remain with the landowner, a full copy of the archive will be housed with the curating museum.

The archive will be deposited with the appropriate museum within 3 months of the completion of the final publication report, with a summary of the contents of the archive supplied to SCCAS/CT.

Monitoring

SCCAS/CT will be responsible for monitoring progress and standards throughout the project, and will be kept regularly informed during fieldwork, post-excavation and publication stages.

Notification of the start of work will be given SCCAS/CT one week in advance of its commencement.

Any variations in this WSI will be agreed with SCCAS/CT prior to them being carried out. SCCAS/CT will be notified when the fieldwork is complete.

The involvement of SCCAS/CT shall be acknowledged in any report or publication generated by this project.

Education and outreach

The CAT website is updated regularly with information on current sites. Copies of our reports (grey literature) can be viewed on the website and downloaded for free. An annual magazine (*The Colchester Archaeologist Vol 27* out now) summarises all our sites and staff regularly give lectures to groups, societies and schools (a fee may apply). CAT also works alongside the Colchester Archaeological Group (providing a venue for their lectures and library) and the local Young Archaeologists Club.

CAT archaeologists can be booked for lectures and information on fees can be obtained by contacting the office on archaeologists@catuk.org

References

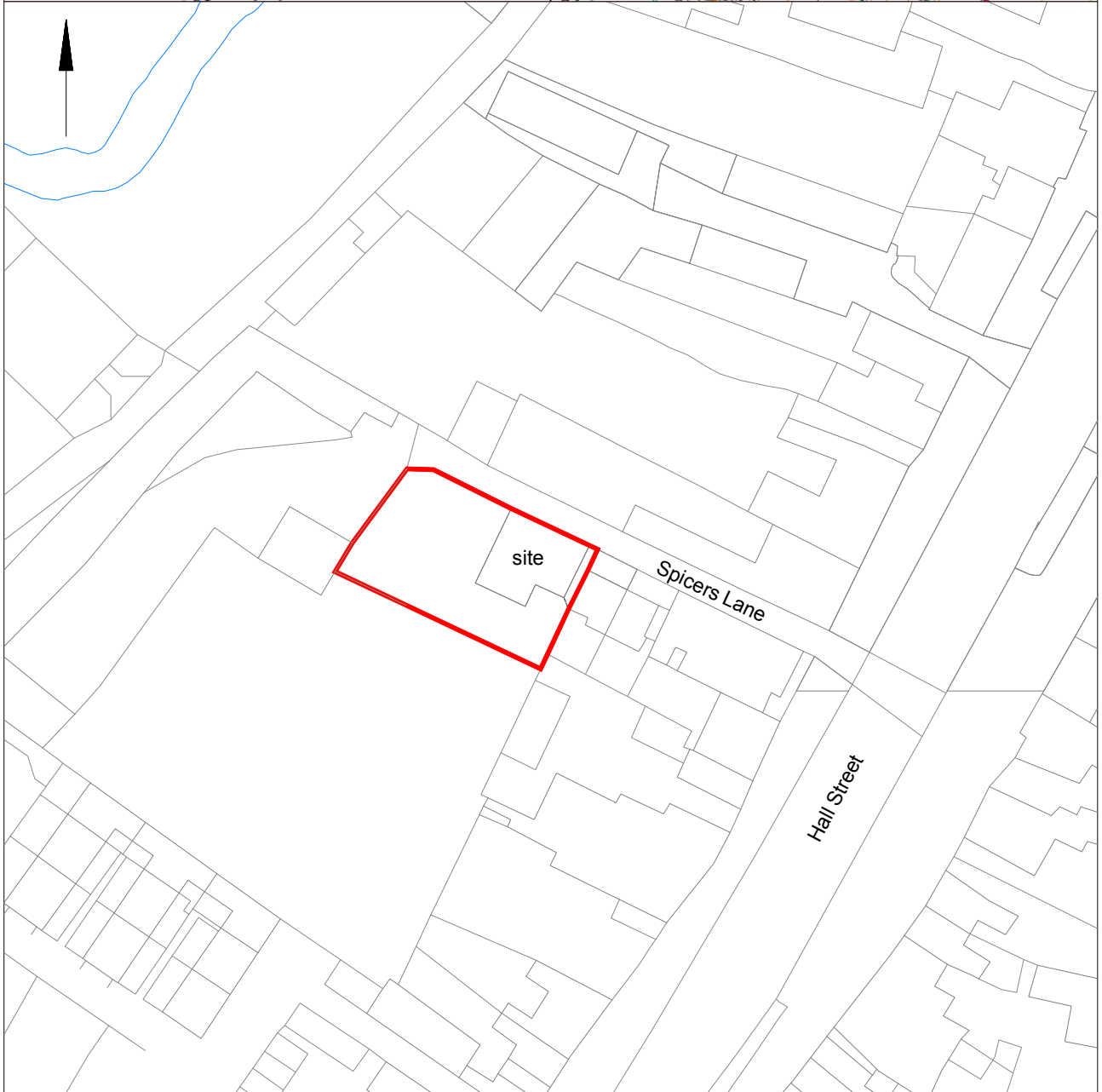
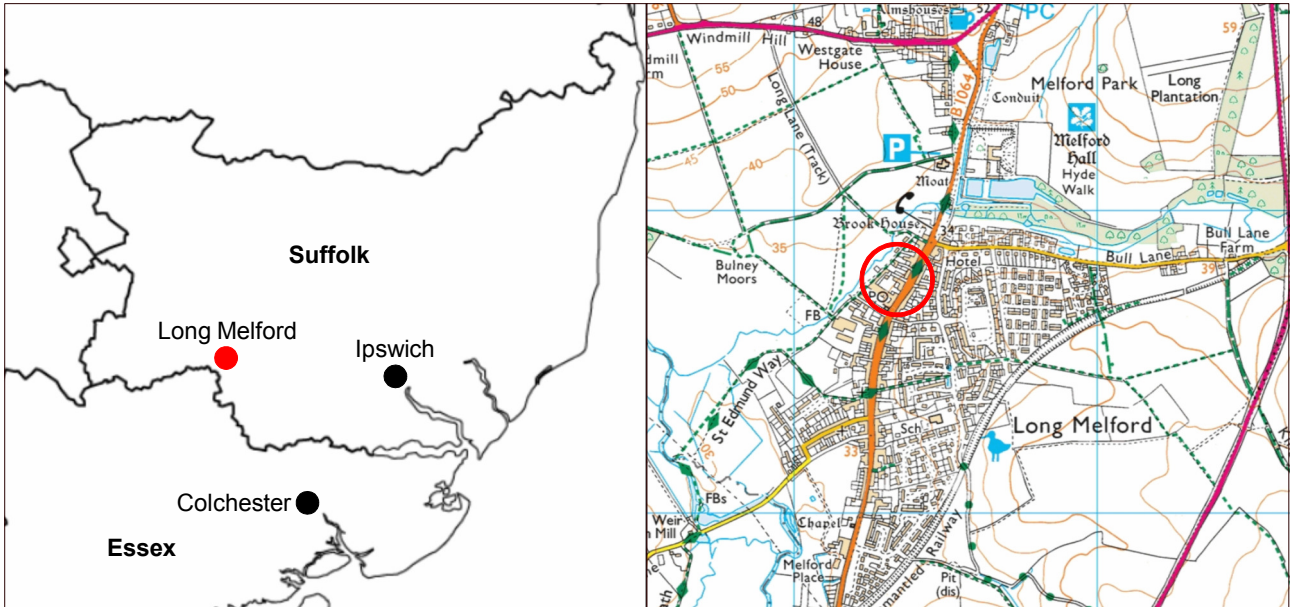
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|------------------------------|-------|--|
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| Medlycott, M | 2011 | <i>Research and archaeology revisited: A revised framework for the East of England</i> . East Anglian Archaeology Occasional Papers 24 (EAA 24) |
| SCC | 2008 | <i>The Suffolk Historic Landscape Characterisation Map, version 3</i> |
| SCCAS | 2010 | <i>Archive Guidelines</i> |
| SCCAS | 2011 | <i>Requirements for Continuous Archaeological Recording (version 1.2)</i> |
| SCCAS | 2018 | <i>Brief for Continuous Archaeological Recording at Westways, Spicers Lane, Long Melford, Sudbury, Suffolk CO10 9JJ</i> by Faye Minter |

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Fig 1 Site location.



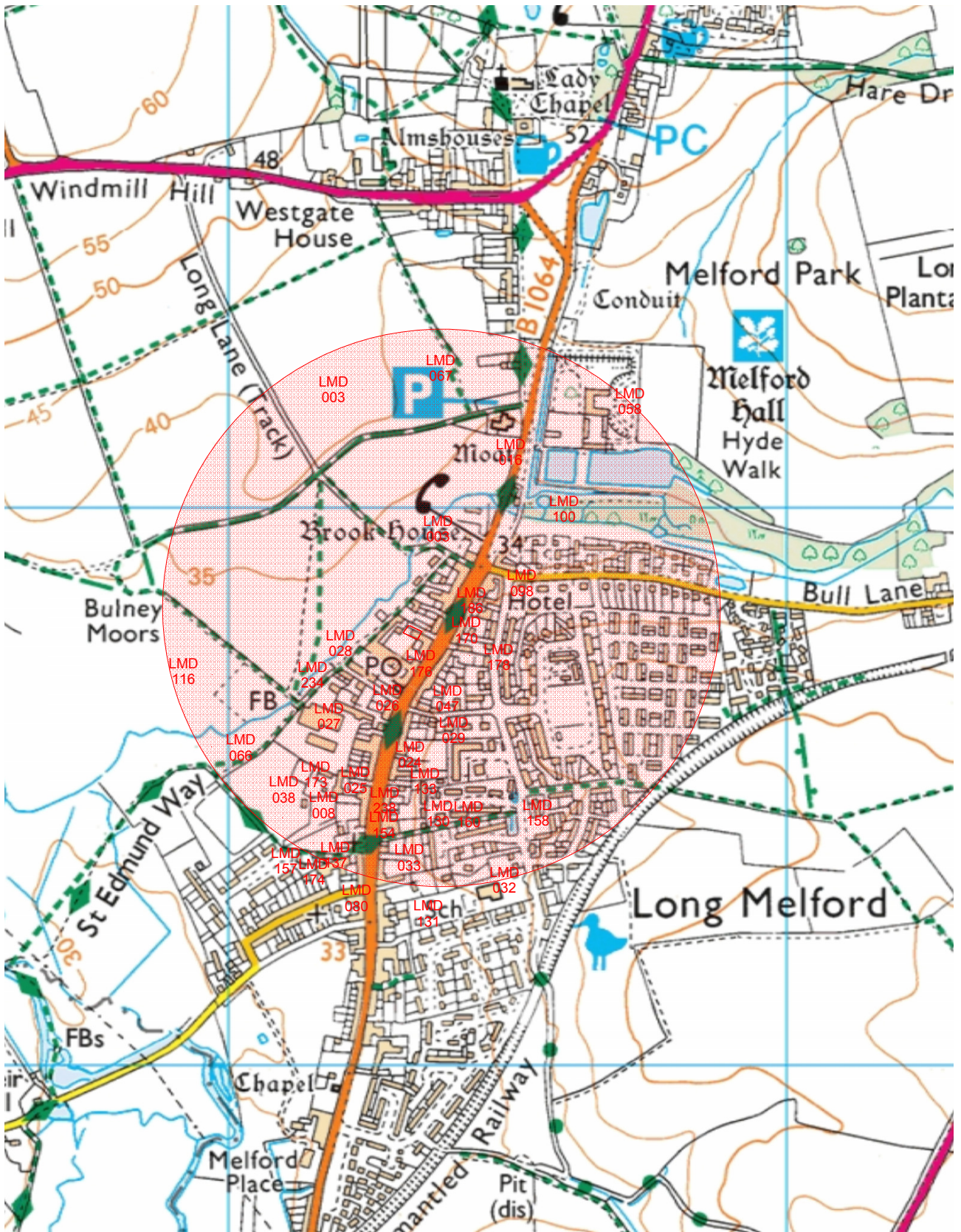


Fig 2 Site in relation to Suffolk HER data.

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OASIS ID: colchest3-315598

Project details

Project name	Continuous Archaeological Monitoring at 'Westways', Spicers Lane, Lond melford, Sudbury, Suffolk CO10 9JJ
Short description of the project	Archaeological monitoring was carried out at Westways, Spicers Lane, Long Melford during 1-2 May 2018 during the demolition of a lean-to extension and the construction of a new extension. Monitoring was carried out due to the location of the site within the medieval core of Long Melford and its proximity to features and findspots of artefacts dating to the Roman, medieval and post-medieval periods, to a number of post-medieval listed buildings and to a complex of undated cropmarks. An undated pit and a modern pit were identified during the course of the monitoring.
Project dates	Start: 01-05-2018 End: 02-05-2018
Previous/future work	No / No
Any associated project reference codes	18/04I - Contracting Unit No.
Type of project	Recording project
Site status	Conservation Area
Current Land use	Residential 1 - General Residential
Monument type	PIT Uncertain
Monument type	PIT Modern
Significant Finds	NONE None
Investigation type	"Watching Brief"
Prompt	Planning condition

Project location

Country	England
Site location	SUFFOLK BABERGH LONG MELFORD 'Westways', Spicers Lane, Long Melford
Postcode	CO10 9JJ
Study area	0.04 Hectares
Site coordinates	TL 863 457 52.077784618826 0.718974013539 52 04 40 N 000 43 08 E Point

Project creators

Name of Organisation	Colchester Archaeological Trust
Project brief originator	Suffolk County Council Archaeological Service
Project design originator	Chris Lister
Project director/manager	Ben Holloway
Project supervisor	Chris Lister
Type of sponsor/funding	Owner

body

Name of sponsor/funding body
Mr & Mrs Sheldon

Project archives

Physical Archive Exists? No

Digital Archive recipient Suffolk County Council Archaeology Service

Digital Contents "none"

Digital Media available "Images raster / digital photography"

Paper Archive recipient Suffolk County Council Archaeology Service

Paper Contents "none"

Paper Media available "Context sheet", "Plan", "Report", "Section"

Project bibliography 1

Publication type Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)

Title Summary of archaeological monitoring at Westways, Spicers Lane, Long Melford, Sudbury, Suffolk, CO10 9JJ

Author(s)/Editor(s) Hicks, E

Other bibliographic details CAT Report 1274

Date 2018

Issuer or publisher Colchester Archaeological Trust

Place of issue or publication Colchester

Description Comb-bound A4 report

URL <http://cat.essex.ac.uk/all-reports.html>

Entered by Chris Lister (cl@catuk.org)

Entered on 31 May 2018

OASIS:

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