

Archaeological monitoring at Great Nunty's Farm, Nunty's Lane, Pattiswick, Essex, CO9 1RJ

March 2018



by Laura Pooley and Adam Tuffey

with contributions by Stephen Benfield
figures by Sarah Carter, Laura Pooley and Adam Tuffey

fieldwork by Adam Tuffey

**commissioned by Scott Andrews (Edward Parsley Associates Ltd)
on behalf of Mr Louis Mc'Namee**

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CAT Report 1252

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1 Summary

Archaeological monitoring and recording was carried out at Great Nunty's Farm, Nunty's lane, Pattiswick during groundworks for a new outbuilding. The development site is located within part of a large farmstead built in the late 18th century, which incorporated earlier structures contemporary with the 16th/17th-century listed farmstead and early farmhouse to the north. Monitoring revealed a post-medieval/modern pit.

2 Introduction (Fig 1-2)

This archive report presents the results of archaeological monitoring at Great Nunty's Farm, Nunty's lane, Pattiswick, Braintree, Essex, which was carried out 27th-28th March 2018. The work was commissioned by Mr Scott Andrews on behalf of Mr Louis Mc'Namee as part of Braintree planning application 15/00370/FUL for the erection of new outbuildings, the conversion of a barn, the relocation and reconstruction of another barn, and the construction of a link between the two barns.

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

All archaeological work was carried out in accordance with a *Brief for Archaeological Monitoring*, detailing the required archaeological work, written by Teresa O'Connor (ECCPS 2016), and a Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) prepared by CAT in response to the brief and agreed with ECCPS (CAT 2017).

This report deals solely with groundworks for one of the new outbuildings (for location see Fig 2). Foundation trenches for the two other outbuildings were excavated approximately 2 years ago (landowner pers comm) and the concrete poured, but they currently have not been built (highlighted in brown on Fig 2). All other groundworks associated with the conversion, relocation and reconstruction of the barns have been postponed. Monitoring was undertaken by Colchester Archaeological Trust (CAT).

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

3 Archaeological background

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

The development site contains the barns of Great Nunty's Farm. They were part of a large farmstead built in the late 18th century, incorporating earlier structures contemporary with the 16th/17th-century farmstead and early farmhouse (Grade II listed, LBS 116190) to the north. The barns have been subject to a historic building record as part of the condition on a previous application for change of use (ECC FAU 2008). The following barns were recorded: a possible 16th-century byre rebuilt in the 18th century; a main barn with cattle stalls; a threshing barn incorporating elements of two earlier buildings; 18th-century stables, part of which had been refurbished in the late 19th century as a feeding shed; and dilapidated Victorian brick structures (*ibid*). By March 2018 all of these barns, except for the threshing barn, had been demolished.

The foundations for the new outbuilding to be monitored as part of this current project, were partially located within the footprint of the demolished 18th-century stables and late 19th-century feeding shed (for location see Fig 3).

4 Aims

Archaeological monitoring and recording was undertaken to identify any surviving archaeological remains that exist on the site, particularly those associated with the earlier structures relating to the post-medieval farmstead.

5 Results (Figs 2-3)

A CAT archaeologist supervised the excavation of c 35.3m of foundation trenches measuring 0.6m wide and 0.7-0.8m deep.

The trenches cut through four layers. Modern topsoil (L1, c 0.15m thick, medium to dark brown silty-clay containing modern CBM fragments) overlaid a disturbed subsoil (L2, c 0.19m thick, reddish-brown silty-clay). Where present, layer L2 sealed natural clay (L3), although in some places L2 was absent and topsoil sealed natural.

Towards the northern edge of the new foundations, a thick layer of medium yellow/brown silty-clay (L4, c 0.56m thick) is associated with a build-up of soil on the edge of a drainage ditch located immediately to the north of the development.



Photograph 1 Representative section showing layers L1-L3, looking NE

Post-medieval/modern pit F1 measured approximately 3.9m wide, although the full dimensions of the feature could not be determined as it extended beyond the excavation area. The upper extent of the feature was also difficult to determine and may have cut through L2.

No trace of the old stables/shed was identified although, as both were built on brick-pilnths (ECC FAU 2008), they are unlikely to have had much impact below ground.



Photograph 2 Section showing F1 and layers L1-L3, looking SW



Photograph 3 Overview, showing the northern extent of site and drainage ditch, looking W

6 Finds

by Stephen Benfield

A single fragment of red brick (16g) was recovered from F1. No surfaces are present the piece, which hinders close identification. Many similar pieces associated with the feature were not retained. It can be broadly dated as post-medieval/modern.

7 Conclusion

Archaeological monitoring on land at Great Nunty's Farm revealed a single post-medieval/modern pit and modern disturbance over the area, probably the result of the demolition of the old stables/shed. There were no significant archaeological remains.

8 Acknowledgements

CAT thanks Scott Andrews and Mr Louis Mc'Namee for commissioning and funding the work. The project was managed by C Lister, fieldwork was carried out by A Tuffey. Figures are by S Carter, L Pooley and A Tuffey. The project was monitored for ECCPS by Teresa O'Connor.

9 References

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

CAT	2014	<i>Health & Safety Policy</i>
CAT	2017	<i>Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) for archaeological monitoring at Great Nunty's Farm, Nunty's Lane, Pattiswick, Essex, CO9 1RJ</i>
ClfA	2014a	<i>Standard and Guidance for an archaeological watching brief</i>
ClfA	2014b	<i>Standard and guidance for the collection, documentation, conservation and research of archaeological materials</i>
DCLG	2012	<i>National Planning Policy Framework</i>
ECC	2016	<i>Brief for archaeological monitoring at Great Nunty's Farm, Nunty's Lane, Pattiswick, Essex, CO9 1RJ</i>
ECC FAU	2008	<i>Historic Building Record: Great Nunty's Farm, Nunty's Lane, Pattiswick, Essex</i>
English Heritage	2006	<i>Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment (MoRPHE)</i>
Gurney, D	2003	<i>Standards for field archaeology in the East of England. East Anglian Archaeology Occasional Papers 14 (EAA 14).</i>
Medlycott, M	2011	<i>Research and archaeology revisited: A revised framework for the East of England. East Anglian Archaeology Occasional Papers 24 (EAA 24)</i>

10 Abbreviations and glossary

CAT	Colchester Archaeological Trust
ClfA	Chartered Institute for Archaeologists
context	a single unit of excavation, which is often referred to numerically, and can be any feature, layer or find.
ECC	Essex County Council
ECC FAU	Essex County Council Field Archaeology Unit
ECCHEA	Essex County Council Historic Environment Advisor
ECCPS	Essex County Council Place Services
EHHER	Essex Historic Environment Record
feature (F)	an identifiable thing like a pit, a wall, a drain: can contain 'contexts'
layer (L)	distinct or distinguishable deposit (layer) of material
medieval	period from AD 1066 to c 1500
modern	period from c AD 1800 to the present
natural	geological deposit undisturbed by human activity

NGR	National Grid Reference
post-medieval	period from c AD 1500 to c 1800
section	(abbreviation sx or Sx) vertical slice through feature/s or layer/s
wsi	written scheme of investigation

11 Contents of archive

Finds: none retained

Paper and digital record

One A4 document wallet containing:

The report (CAT Report 1252)

ECC evaluation brief, CAT written scheme of investigation

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

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

12 Archive deposition

The paper and digital archive is currently held by the Colchester Archaeological Trust at Roman Circus House, Roman Circus Walk, Colchester, Essex CO2 7GZ, but will be permanently deposited with Braintree Museum under accession code: [requested](#)

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Distribution list:

Mr Louis Mc'Namee

Scott Andrews (Edward Parsley Associates Ltd)

ECC Place Services Historic Environment Advisor

Essex Historic Environment Record, Essex County Council



Colchester Archaeological Trust

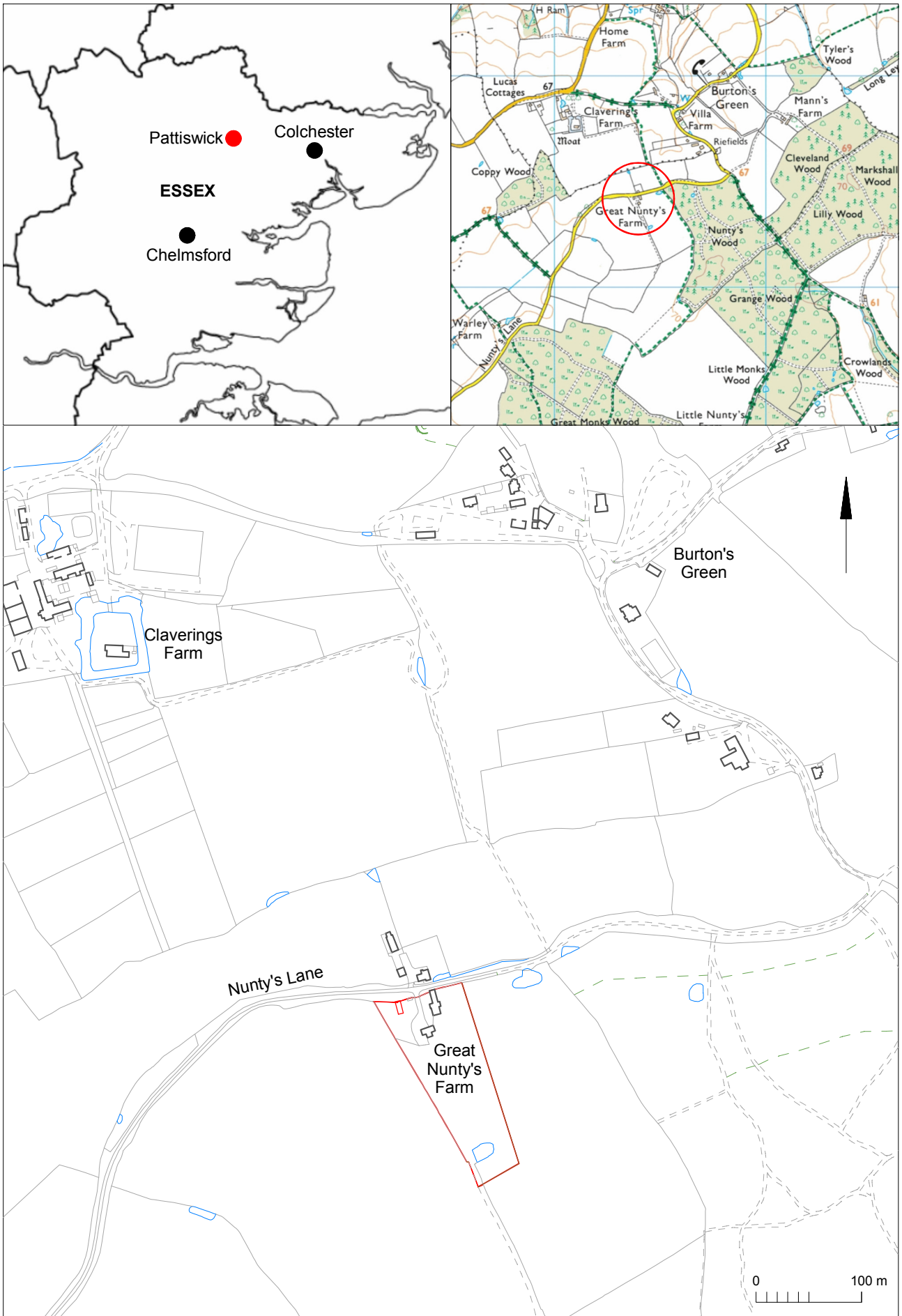
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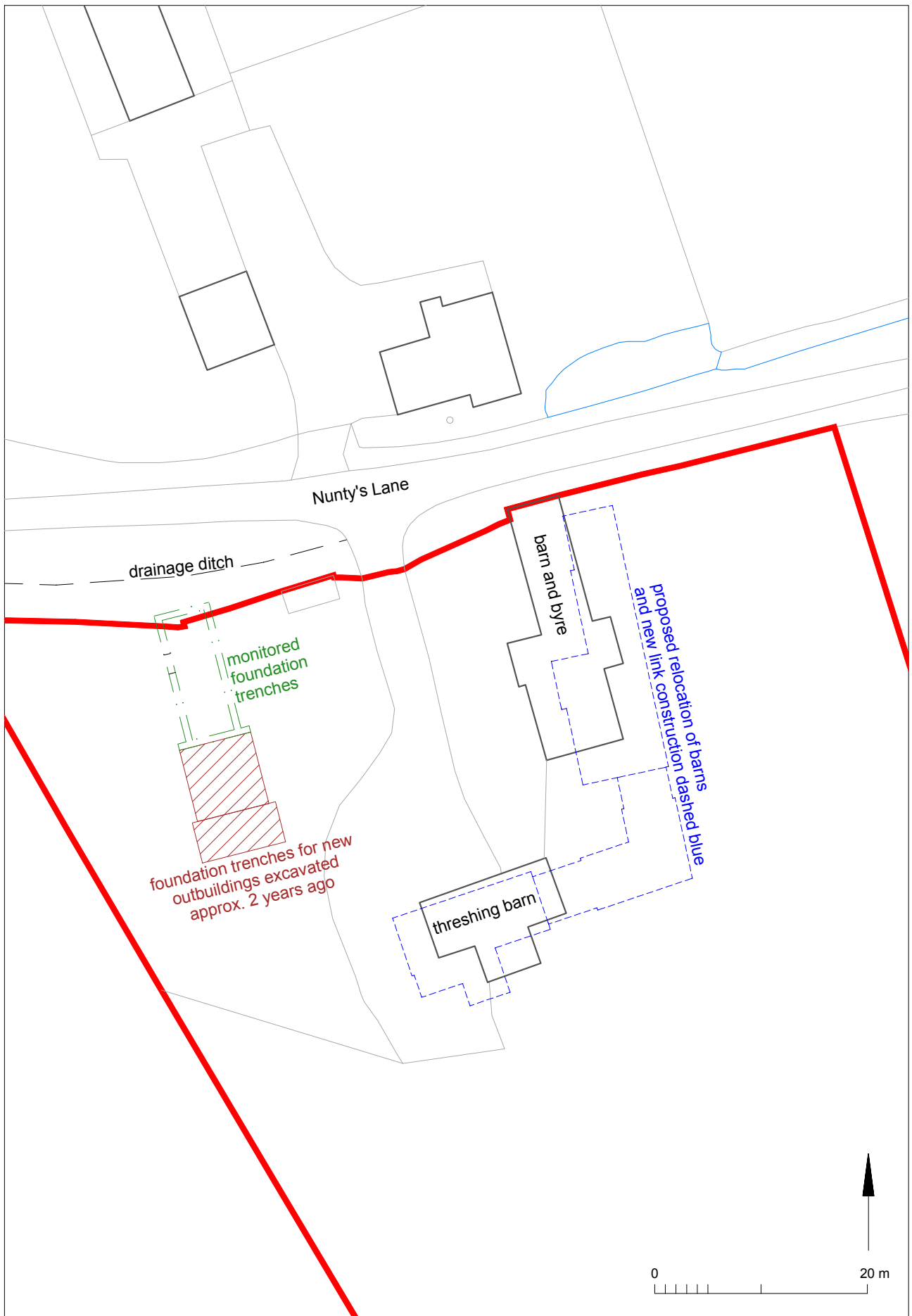
Checked by: Philip Crummy

Date: 05.04.2018



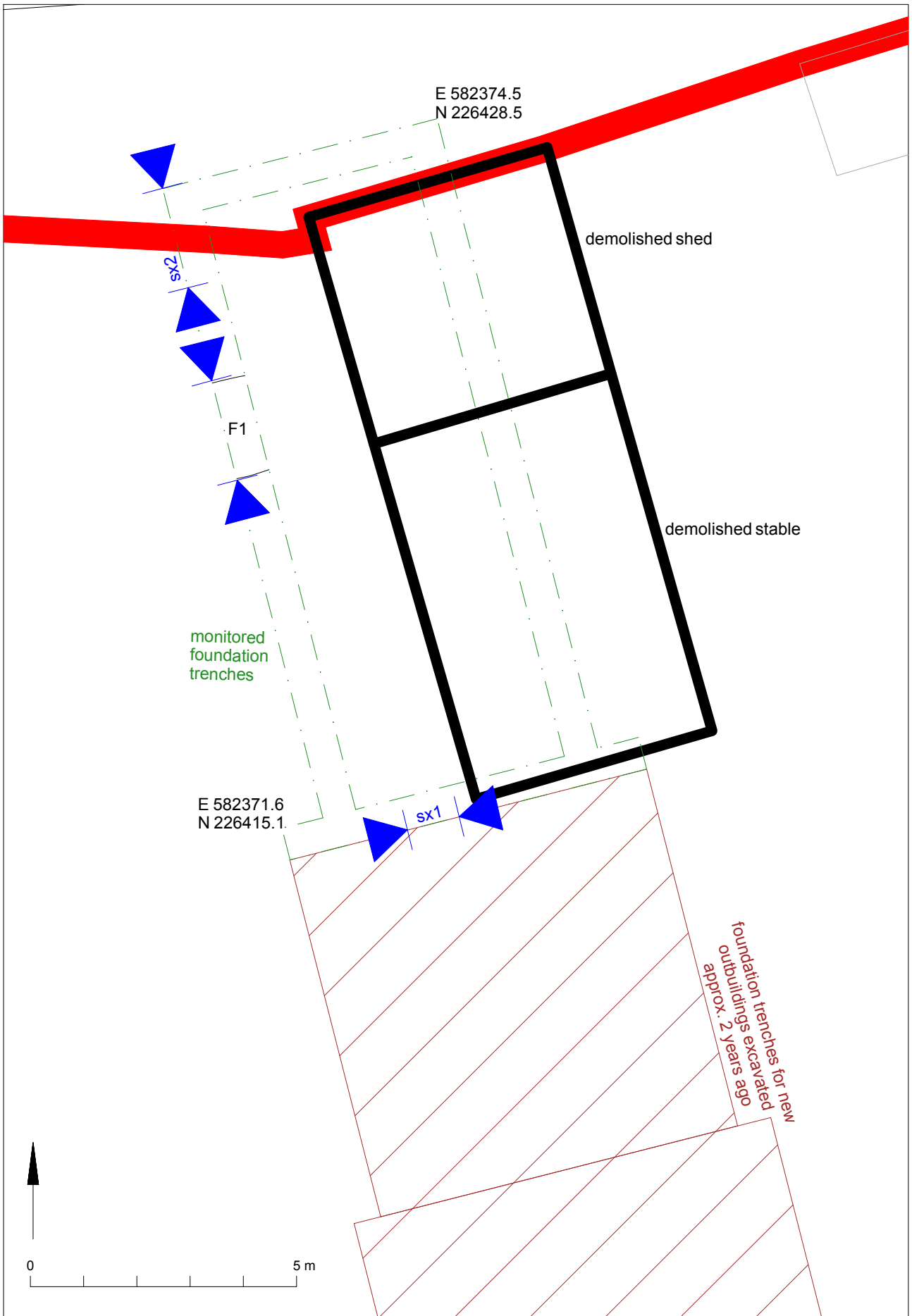
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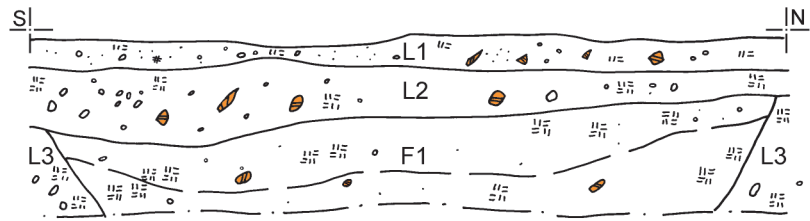
Fig 1 Site location.



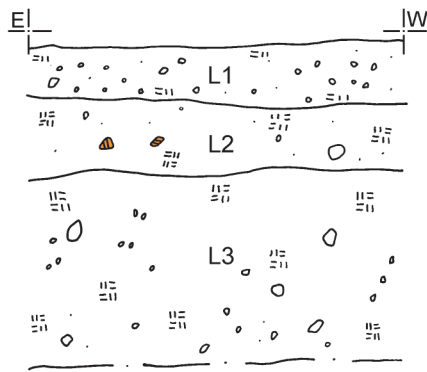
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Fig 2 Location plan of current groundworks in relation to previous (brown) and proposed (dashed blue) groundworks





sx1



- small stones
- large stones
- clay
- charcoal
- post-Roman brick

sx2

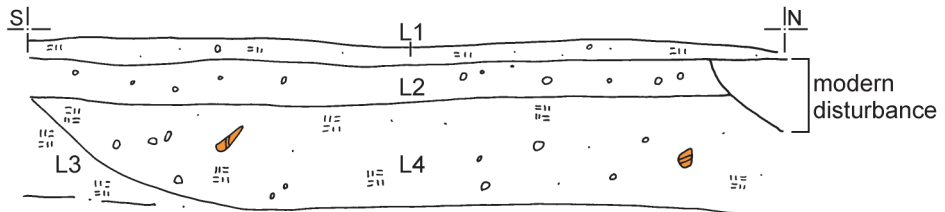


Fig 4 Feature and representative sections

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OASIS ID: colchest3-272575

Project details

Project name	Archaeological monitoring at Great Nunty's Farm, Nunty's Lane, Pattiswick, Essex, CO9 1RJ
Short description of the project	Archaeological monitoring and recording was carried out at Great Nunty's Farm, Nunty's lane, Pattiswick during groundworks for a new outbuilding. The development site is located within part of a large farmstead built in the late 18th century, which incorporated earlier structures contemporary with the 16th/17th-century listed farmstead and early farmhouse to the north. Monitoring revealed a post-medieval/modern pit.
Project dates	Start: 27-03-2018 End: 28-03-2018
Previous/future work	Yes / Not known
Any associated project reference codes	17/01a - Contracting Unit No.
Any associated project reference codes	15/00370/FUL - Planning Application No.
Any associated project reference codes	CGGN17 - HER event no.
Type of project	Recording project
Site status	None
Current Land use	Other 3 - Built over
Monument type	PIT Post Medieval
Monument type	PIT Modern
Significant Finds	N/A None
Investigation type	"Watching Brief"
Prompt	Planning condition

Project location

Country	England
Site location	ESSEX BRAINTREE BRADWELL Great Nunty's Farm, Nunty's Farm
Postcode	CO9 1RJ
Study area	1.2 Hectares
Site coordinates	TL 8238 2641 51.905831966501 0.651569135827 51 54 21 N 000 39 05 E Point

Project creators

Name of Organisation	Colchester Archaeological Trust
Project brief originator	HEM Team Officer, ECC
Project design originator	Laura Pooley
Project director/manager	Chris Lister
Project supervisor	Adam Tuffey
Type of sponsor/funding body	Developer

Project archives

Physical Archive Exists?	No
Digital Archive recipient	Braintree Museum
Digital Archive ID	CGGN17
Digital Contents	"Stratigraphic","other"
Digital Media available	"Images raster / digital photography","Text"
Paper Archive recipient	Braintree Museum
Paper Archive ID	CGGN17

Paper Contents "Stratigraphic"
Paper Media available "Context sheet","Miscellaneous Material","Photograph","Plan","Report","Section"

Project bibliography 1

Publication type Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)
Title Archaeological monitoring at Great Nunty's Garm, Nunty's Lane, Pattiswick, Essex, CO9 1RJ: March 2018
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