

## Archaeological Desk-Based Assessment



**Canfield Moat  
High Cross Lane West  
Little Canfield Essex  
CM6 1TD**

On behalf of

**Mr Andrew Smith**

**September 2022**

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## REPORT REFERENCE

BA2287CME

## GRID REFERENCE

NGR: TL 59443 20931

## OS LICENCE NUMBER

100055758

## DATE

September 2022

*Cover: View looking north across lawn towards Canfield Moat*

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## 1 Executive Summary

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Border Archaeology was instructed to carry out an Archaeological Desk-Based Assessment with regard to the proposed erection of 15 dwellings on land at Canfield Moat, High Cross Lane West, Little Canfield, Essex, CM6 1TD. The results of this Assessment can be briefly summarized thus:

**Prehistoric:** The potential for encountering evidence of buried remains of prehistoric date has been assessed as **Low to Moderate**. This assessment reflects the fact that no significant evidence of prehistoric remains has been recorded in close proximity to the site, although prehistoric remains have been identified in the surrounding locality (particularly to the north of the site) and a discrete area of superficial Head deposits has been identified to the immediate east of the site, which suggests potential for early prehistoric remains.

**Romano-British:** The potential for encountering evidence of Romano-British activity within the site has been assessed as **Low to Moderate**. This assessment reflects the paucity of recorded evidence from this period in the immediate vicinity of the site whilst acknowledging that the site lies about 530m south of the important Roman road of Stane Street and evidence of roadside settlement and farmsteads of Romano-British date have been identified on the northern periphery of the study area.

**Medieval:** The potential for encountering remains associated with medieval activity has been assessed as **Moderate to High**. This assessment reflects the fact that the site lies within the bounds of a sub-rectangular moated enclosure of medieval date; there is significant potential for groundworks associated with the proposed development to encounter evidence of the defensive ditch surrounding the enclosure as well as the buried remains of buildings and associated occupation features and deposits of medieval date within the moated enclosure itself.

**Post-Medieval/Modern:** The potential for encountering buried archaeological assets of a post-medieval or modern date has been assessed as **Moderate to High**. Historic mapping shows that the moated site remained in use as a parsonage/rectory surrounded by fields and parkland during the 18<sup>th</sup>/19<sup>th</sup> centuries, with the existing house built by the Reverend Charles Lesingham Smith during the mid-19<sup>th</sup> century. There is good potential to encounter evidence of buildings, occupation and landscaping features of post-medieval date within the site.

**Overall Conclusion:** The archaeological potential of the site has been assessed in overall terms as **Moderate to High**, with particular reference to encountering archaeological medieval and post-medieval remains associated with the medieval moated enclosure which occupies the western portion of the proposal site. However, the results of previous investigations in 2009-10 suggest there is potential for sub-surface features and deposits to have been disturbed by 19<sup>th</sup>/20<sup>th</sup> century building activity and landscaping works. The potential to encounter evidence of prehistoric and Romano-British remains has been assessed as **Low to Moderate**.

**Recommendations:** It is BA's considered opinion that, *prima facie*, the archaeological potential of the site does **not** present an impediment to the proposed development. Given the overall **Moderate to High** potential of the site in archaeological terms, it is recommended that an appropriate programme of archaeological work, the details of which to be agreed with Essex Historic Environment Service (Place Services), will be necessary to determine the extent, depth and significance of buried archaeological features and deposits across the site.

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## 2 Introduction

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Border Archaeology has been instructed by Mr J. Cann on behalf of Mr Andrew Smith to undertake an Archaeological Desk Based Assessment with regards to a planning application for the proposed erection of 15 new dwellings on land at Canfield Moat High Cross Lane West Little Canfield Essex, CM6 1TD (NGR TL 59114 20940).

This ADBA assesses the impact of the proposed development on buried heritage assets (archaeological remains) and forms an initial stage of investigation of the proposed development site and may be required in relation to the planning process, so that the local planning authority can formulate an appropriate response in the light of the impact upon any known or potential heritage assets, defined as parts of the historic environment considered significant because of their historic, evidential or aesthetic and/or communal interest.

## 3 Site Description

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The site at Canfield Moat, which stands at an approximate height of 26.5m AOD and covers an approximate area of 34,348 sq. m., is located to the E of High Cross Lane within the parish of Little Canfield, near Great Dunmow (Essex). It comprises a substantial 19<sup>th</sup> century house, a detached coach house (converted to a dwelling), outbuildings and a swimming pool and pool house to the E of the main residence. The house lies within the earthworks of a medieval moat, remains of which survive to the S of the site (converted to a duckpond). To the N, S and E of the house is an extensive lawned garden with an enclosed tract of woodland within the NE corner of the site. The grid reference for the site is NGR TL 59443 20931.

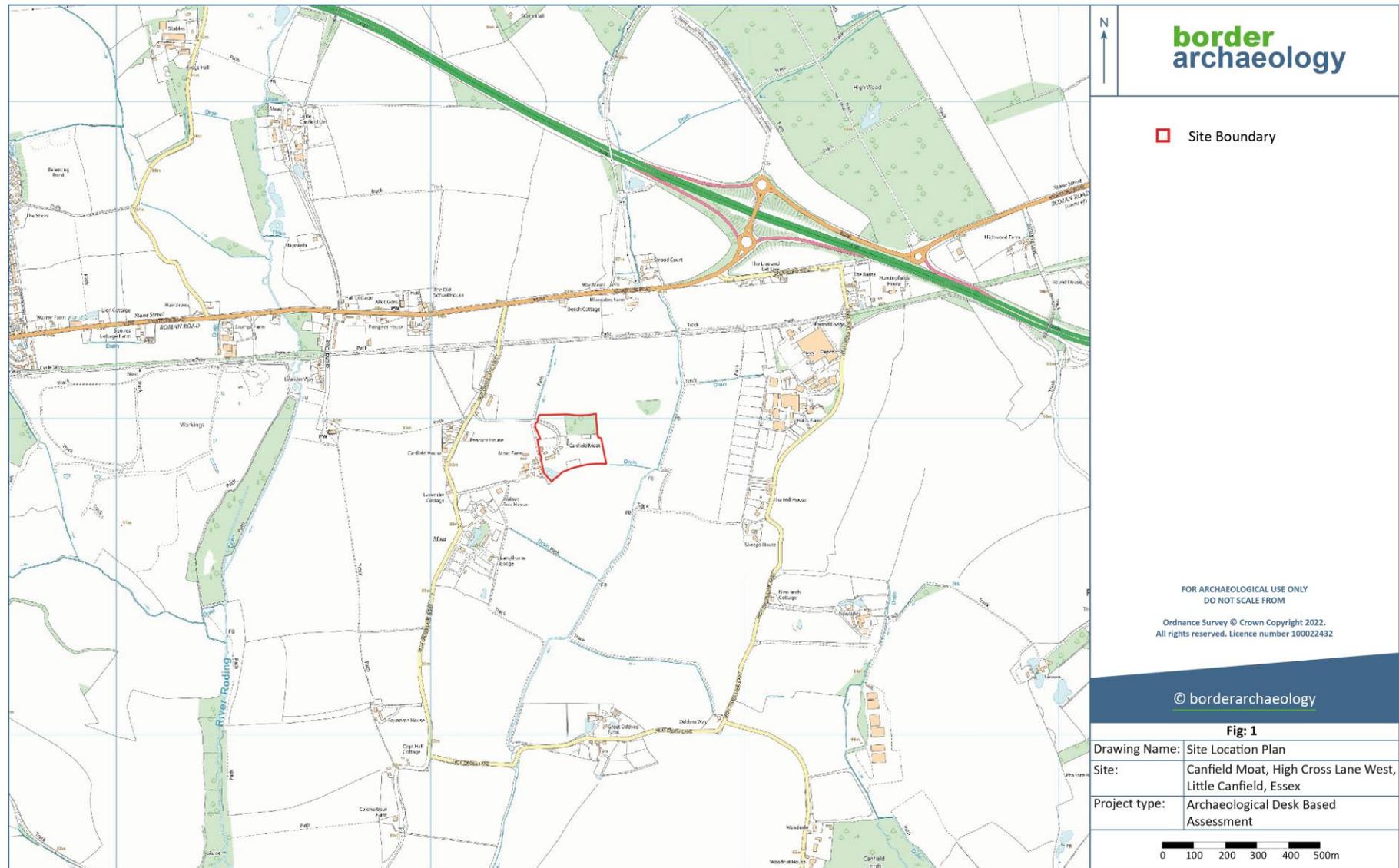
### 3.1 Soils & Geology

The British Geological Survey (BGS) records solid geology of the London Clay Formation comprising sedimentary bedrock formed approximately 48 to 56 million years ago during the Palaeogene period within a local environment previously dominated by deep seas (BGS 2022).

The London Clay is recorded as being overlain by superficial deposits of Diamicton of the Lowestoft Formation, formed between 480 and 423 thousand years ago during the Quaternary period, with a discrete area of Head deposits (Clay, silt, sand and gravel) associated with a watercourse (a tributary of the River Roding) lying to the immediate E of the site, formed between 2.588 million years ago and the present during the Quaternary period (BGS 2022). A geotechnical borehole previously excavated to the immediate SW of the site (NGR TQ 27610 65850) for sewage drainage purposes at recorded a topsoil composed of clay, sand and gravel to a depth of 0-1.22m underlain by orange-brown occasionally grey fine-to-medium sand to 3.55m with a firm stiff-to-fissured grey silty clay recorded to the base of borehole at 13.71m.

An archaeological watching brief undertaken in 2009-10 during the construction of a pool house and garage on the site identified natural geology at a depth of between 0.2 and 0.5m below present ground level (Letch 2010).

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## 4 Methodology

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### 4.1 Aims and Objectives

This ADBA seeks to identify any known or potential archaeological and built-heritage assets (both designated and undesignated) in the vicinity of the specific study area and to establish the importance of these archaeological and built heritage assets (including an assessment of their character, extent and quality) within a local, regional and national context.

### 4.2 Criteria for Assessment of Potential and Importance of Heritage Assets

- Potential

This assessment contains a record of the known and potential archaeological and built-heritage assets in the vicinity of the proposed development. The potential for encountering a particular resource in the vicinity of the site has been assessed according to the following scale:

**Low** – Very unlikely to be encountered;

**Moderate** – Possibility that features may be encountered in the vicinity of the site;

**High** – Remains highly likely to survive in the vicinity of the site.

- Importance (Value)

The criteria used to determine the importance of archaeological and built heritage assets in the vicinity of the proposed development (*Table 1*) has been informed by guidelines for assessing cultural heritage assets contained in *Design Manual for Roads and Bridges (DMRB) Sustainability and Environment Appraisal LA 106: Cultural Heritage Assessment* (revised January 2020) and informed by relevant Historic England guidance regarding the assessment of archaeological assets, including: *The Setting of Heritage Assets Historic Environment Good Practice Advice in Planning Note 3 2<sup>nd</sup> Edition* (Historic England 2017), *Statements of Heritage Significance: Analysing Significance in Heritage Assets Historic England Advice Note 12* (Historic England 2019) and *Preserving Archaeological Remains* (Historic England 2016).

BA is also cognisant of general guidelines on the assessment of heritage assets within the *National Policy Planning Framework* Chapter 16, in particular paragraph 194 stating that *...in determining applications, local planning authorities should require an applicant to describe the significance of any heritage assets affected, including any contribution made by their setting. The level of detail should be proportionate to the assets' importance and no more than is sufficient to understand the potential impact of the proposal on their significance* (Ministry of Housing, Communities & Local Government 2021).

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This ADBA also reflects local and regional planning policy guidance regarding the assessment of archaeological assets contained in the *Uttlesford Local Plan (Adopted 2005)*, with particular reference to Policy ENV4 Ancient Monuments and Sites of Archaeological Importance, which reads as follows:

*‘Where nationally important archaeological remains, whether scheduled or not, and their settings, are affected by proposed development there will be a presumption in favour of their physical preservation in situ. The preservation in situ of locally important archaeological remains will be sought unless the need for the development outweighs the importance of the archaeology. In situations where there are grounds for believing that sites, monuments or their settings would be affected developers will be required to arrange for an archaeological field assessment to be carried out before the planning application can be determined thus enabling an informed and reasonable planning decision to be made. In circumstances where preservation is not possible or feasible, then development will not be permitted until satisfactory provision has been made for a programme of archaeological investigation and recording prior to commencement of the development’.*

**Table 1: Factors for assessing the importance of archaeological and built heritage assets**

<b>Very High</b>	World Heritage Sites (including nominated sites). Assets of acknowledged international importance. Assets that can contribute significantly to acknowledged international research objectives.
<b>High</b>	Scheduled Monuments (including proposed sites). Undesignated assets of schedulable quality and importance. Assets that can contribute significantly to acknowledged national research objectives.
<b>Medium</b>	Designated or undesignated assets that contribute to regional research objectives.
<b>Low</b>	Designated and undesignated assets of local importance. Assets compromised by poor preservation and/or poor survival of contextual associations. Assets of limited value, but with potential to contribute to local research objectives.
<b>Negligible</b>	Assets with very little or no surviving archaeological interest.
<b>Unknown</b>	The importance of the resource has not been ascertained.

### 4.3 Consultation of Archaeological Records

In order to understand the full archaeological and historical context of the site, information was collected on the known cultural heritage features within a 1km radius, the results of which are shown on a series of maps and tables (*figs. 2-4; Tables 2-4*). These maps show the location of known archaeological and built heritage features (including archaeological events and monuments) and previous archaeological interventions within the study area, which are listed in the gazetteer and referenced in the text.

The research carried out for this ADBA consists of the following elements:

- Essex Historic Environment Record (HER): Information from past investigations, findspots, documentary & cartographic sources etc. A total of 51 archaeological monuments, five archaeological events and 21 Listed Buildings was recorded within a 1km radius of the site;
- Historic England: Information on statutory designations including SAMs, Registered Parks and Gardens and Listed Buildings along with identified Heritage at Risk;
- British Geological Survey (BGS): Solid and drift geology mapping and geological borehole record data;

- Essex Record Office, the National Archives and the Cambridge University Centre for Aerial Photography: Historic maps, illustrations (including aerial photographs) and relevant primary & secondary sources;
- Internet sources: Including the Local Planning Authority Local Plan and information on Conservation Areas, Archaeological Priority Areas and locally listed buildings.
- Photographs of the site and its setting were obtained to determine the presence of archaeological remains in the vicinity.

## 5 Archaeological Assessment

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This section analyses the information available from historical sources and records of archaeological work carried out in the vicinity of the specific study area and discusses its implications with regard to the nature and significance of the archaeological resource and the potential impact on archaeological features and deposits within the Site.

### 5.1 Previous Archaeological Investigations

The 19<sup>th</sup> century house at Canfield Moat occupies an earlier moated site and archaeological monitoring of foundation trenches for the construction of two buildings in 2009-10 revealed the northern edge of the moat beneath 0.30m of topsoil. The moat was observed to cut the natural chalky boulder clay and extended to a maximum depth of 2m; it was backfilled with a sequence of silty clay deposits containing pottery and other artefacts of late 19<sup>th</sup> or early 20<sup>th</sup> century date. Both the northern and eastern arms of the moat underlay c. 0.20m of topsoil and part of the western arm lay beneath an existing building; additionally, a spur was observed continuing to the N of the moat, which was probably connected with the original entrance track. It was established that part of the eastern arm of the moat had been disturbed by the construction of a modern swimming pool, which probably aligned with it. No medieval remains associated with the moat were observed during the course of the monitoring programme (Letch 2010).

### 5.2 Prehistoric

Although evidence for early prehistoric activity in the vicinity of the site is minimal, the British Geological Survey records a discrete area of superficial Head deposits (sand and gravel) to the E of the site, associated with a tributary stream of the River Roding. These deposits have been identified elsewhere as having potential to conceal and preserve earlier land surfaces and to contain unstratified or reworked artefactual remains of Palaeolithic date.

The earliest evidence for prehistoric activity in the area was identified during a watching brief at Priors Green Takeley, about 1km NW of the site, where Late Neolithic or Early Bronze Age flints and two Iron Age cremations were recorded (MEX 1038797; Fitzsimons & Moore 2007). A Late Bronze Age pit with domestic finds has also been recorded (MEX 1036214) approximately 780m to the NE of the site, with evidence for Bronze Age and Iron Age occupation and associated agricultural activity (including field systems) identified in the wider surrounding locality. Approximately 450m NW of the site, evidence for Iron Age activity was recorded during archaeological investigations at Site 10 of the Cambridge to Matching Green gas pipeline scheme, where evidence of an Iron Age

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routeway was identified, following the line of the Roman road of Stane Street (MEX 1039514; Network Archaeology 2002, 2004).

**Conclusion:** The potential for encountering evidence of buried remains of prehistoric date has been assessed as **Low to Moderate**. This assessment reflects the fact that only limited evidence for prehistoric activity has been recorded within the study area and the it is likely that any prehistoric remains recovered would consist primarily of residual finds of worked flint. However, it is noted that superficial Head gravel deposits overlying the London Clay have been recorded in the vicinity of the site, suggesting some potential for encountering preserved early land surfaces containing unstratified or reworked artefactual remains (ie. flints) dating back to the Palaeolithic. It is evident that areas of the highest early prehistoric (Palaeolithic and Mesolithic) archaeological potential in Southern England occur within the principal gravel terraces (Wymer 1996, 1999). Any prehistoric remains encountered may be regarded as being of **High** significance in archaeological terms, as they could potentially add to the existing body of knowledge regarding the extent and nature of prehistoric activity and habitation in the surrounding locality.

### 5.3 Romano-British

The proposal site at Canfield Moat lies about 530m to the S of the course of the Roman road of Stane Street (MEX1226) now represented by the line of the present-day Stortford Road (B1256) running from Braughing (Herts) to the Roman *colonia* of Colchester (*Camulodunum*) (Margary 1973, 253). Traces of road metaling and associated pottery of Romano-British date were recorded in the vicinity of the Stortford Road near Little Canfield, on the northern periphery of the study area, interpreted as evidence for the Roman road of Stane Street, which probably aligned with the course of an earlier Iron Age routeway (MEX 4497 Powell 1963, 26).

Evidence of Romano-British roadside occupation and possible burial activity has been identified in the immediate vicinity of Stane Street, as well as remains associated with rural settlement activity in the wider surrounding area, although it must be admitted that little evidence of Romano-British remains has been identified in close proximity to the proposal site.

An archaeological survey and small-scale excavation of a mound carried out at Mill Hill on the N side of Stane Street at Little Canfield, approximately 540m to the NW of the site, prior to construction works recorded natural deposits at a depth of c. 1.25m with finds of medieval pottery and a roof tile of the same period recovered from stratified deposits revealed during the excavation of a segment of the mound. It was suggested the mound itself may have represented a possible Roman round barrow which had been later reused to site a mill during the medieval/post-medieval periods (MEX 16254; Milton 1982).

During a fieldwalking project along the course of the A120 trunk road scheme, about 1km to the NE of the site, a concentration of Roman pottery and tile was found (MEX 39532; Medlycott 1991). Archaeological trial trenching undertaken in 2001 followed by excavation in 2002 at Sites 9 and 44 (Strood Hall) of the A120 Trunk Road Stanstead to Braintree scheme, c. 900m to the NE of the site, revealed evidence for a Romano-British farmstead and a small cemetery with 26 cremations and one inhumation burial (MEX 1033960; OAU & Wessex Archaeology 2003).

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**Conclusion:** The potential for encountering evidence of Roman activity within the site has been assessed as **Low to Moderate**. This assessment reflects the paucity of recorded evidence from this period in the immediate vicinity of the site, while acknowledging that evidence of Romano-British roadside occupation and possible burials (associated with the line of Stane Street, running from Braughing to Colchester) and several rural settlement sites of Romano-British date have been identified in the wider locality, particularly to the N of the proposal site at Little Canfield, Strood Hall and Takeley. Should groundworks reveal evidence of Romano-British occupation or field systems, this would be considered to be of **High** importance as the nature and extent of Roman rural settlement in this particular area remain poorly understood.

## 5.4 Medieval

The proposal site lies within the parish of Little Canfield, a settlement of early medieval origin first recorded as 'Canefeldā' (a place name of Old English origin denoting 'open field of a man named Cana') in the Domesday Survey of 1086. In 1086, Little Canfield appears to have been divided into three separate landholdings; the principal landholding being in the possession of William I de Warenne earl of Surrey while two smaller estates were held by Geoffrey de Mandeville. It is possible that the main focus of medieval settlement at Little Canfield may have been centred on the parish church of All Saints (listed as Grade II), located about 670m W of the site, which appears to have been granted by William I de Warenne to the Cluniac Benedictine house of Lewes Priory in about 1087-88 (MEX 16158, MEX 16159; Clay & Farrer 1949. 36-7).

The rectory estate of Little Canfield was held by Lewes Priory throughout the medieval period and appears to have had a close historic connection with the moated site at Canfield Moat (which was variously known as The Parsonage or Old Rectory). It is possible that the moated site may have been built by Lewes Priory as a grange manor for the administration of their rectorial estate; another possibility is that it was constructed by the Blancmoster family who were the Warennes' tenants in Little Canfield during the 12<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup> centuries (Farrer 1925, 373-4).

The moated enclosure at Canfield Moat (MEX16099) is sub-rectangular in form, measuring overall about 100.0m N-S by 60.0m E-W with arms approximately 8.0m width. Part of the W arm of the moat is extant as a grassy hollow, but the NW and NE angles have been filled in. The S arm of the moat remains partially intact and has been converted into a pond. The archaeological monitoring of foundation trenches in the garden at Canfield Moat in 2009 established that the ditch was between 5-6m wide on the W side and extended to a maximum depth of 2m where it cut the natural chalk (Letch 2010).

The extent of the moated site (the marked as 'The Parsonage' is shown on Chapman and Andre's county map of 1777 (*Fig. 7*) and the Little Canfield tithe map of 1839 (*Fig. 8*). Later 19<sup>th</sup> and early 20<sup>th</sup> century OS maps appear to indicate an internal ditch extending E-W across the middle of the enclosure, suggesting that the site may originally have consisted of a double-moat. The presence of a spur continuing N of the moat was interpreted as the possible remnant of an original entrance track (MEX 16099; Letch 2010).

Other nearby moated sites of medieval date are recorded at Langthorns, c. 400m to the SW, a rectangular feature measuring 18m wide and 5m deep, part of which is a pond (MEX 16104; Waterman CPM Limited 2008), and at

Hodings, approximately 775m to the S of the proposed development, where the earthworks of an irregular enclosure surrounded by a moat measuring c.5-7m wide and 1.5m deep are recorded (MEX 16307). Additional evidence of medieval activity within the designated study area includes a possible windmill mound of medieval or early post-medieval date at Mill Hill on the N side of the Stortford Road, about 550m NW of the site, where survey and a small-scale excavation established this to be a feature of possible Romano-British date which had been reused in the medieval period to site a mill (MEX 16264; Milton 1982).

Archaeological investigations in the wider surrounding area have revealed further evidence of medieval settlement foci. A watching brief undertaken at Priors Green Takeley on the NW periphery of the study area recorded evidence of a small (12<sup>th</sup>-13<sup>th</sup> centuries) medieval settlement (MEX 1038797; Fitzsimons & Moore 2007). Additionally, at Crumps Farm Little Canfield, c. 900m to the W of the site, an archaeological evaluation revealed features that might represent a small-sized medieval settlement or agricultural activity (MEX 1039328; Ennis 2008). No evidence of medieval occupation was recorded during fieldwalking at Site 13 of the Cambridge–Epping gas pipeline, c. 185 to the NW of the site, but four residual pottery sherds and five peg-tile fragments of late medieval or early post-medieval date were recovered (MEX 1034318; Network Archaeology 2001).

**Conclusion:** The potential for encountering remains associated with medieval activity has been assessed as **Moderate to High**. The western portion of the proposal site lies directly within the sub-rectangular moated site at Canfield Moat and consequently there is potential to encounter evidence of the moat itself (and associated deposits relating to its active use and subsequent infilling during the post-medieval period) as well as buried remains of buildings which may have stood within the enclosure. Evidence of the moat itself, or buildings within the enclosure and associated occupation features and deposits of medieval date, if encountered, would probably be regarded as being of **Medium to High** importance in archaeological terms.

## 5.5 Post-Medieval/Modern

The earliest available cartographic depiction of the site is provided by Chapman & Andre's 1777 Map of Essex (*Fig. 7*), showing the site consisting of a sub-rectangular moated enclosure which is occupied by a large building marked as a 'Parsonage', consisting of a N-S aligned range and a cross-wing. Smaller detached outbuildings are marked to the NW, W and SE of the Parsonage, with an entrance on the W side of the moat leading to a track connecting the site with High Cross Lane and an adjacent orchard to the N. Chapman & Andre's map shows other moated sites within the study area including Langthorns, another moated farmstead containing a Grade II listed 17<sup>th</sup> century house about 300m SW of the proposal site (MEX 16310)

More accurate and detailed information regarding the pattern of land use, settlement and field boundaries in the vicinity of the site is provided by the Tithe Map of Little Canfield dated 1839 (*Fig. 8*). This map shows that although the form of the moat itself (Plot No. 116) remained intact, significant new building activity had taken place within the site. The Parsonage House (marked as Plot No. 115) appears to have been remodelled with three outbuildings marked to the N and NW of the house, while the outbuilding marked on the 1777 map to the SE appears to have been removed. A bridge is marked crossing the N arm of the moat and leading to a garden plot to the N (Plot No. 117) and a new road is shown in the SW part of the site leading from the Parsonage to High Cross Lane. The field

to the immediate E of the moat was under pasture (Plot No. 118 -Walnut Tree Meadow) while the field to the S is described in the tithe award as a pleasure ground (Plot No. 177). The Parsonage estate is described in the tithe award as Glebe land which was then in the ownership of Rev. Charles Lesingham Smith, who had been recently appointed as Rector of Little Canfield.

It appears that further changes to the house and its associated gardens took place during the mid-19<sup>th</sup> century during Charles Lesingham Smith's tenure as Rector (from 1839 to 1878). He appears to have substantially rebuilt the Parsonage house (known from the mid-19<sup>th</sup> century onwards as 'The Rectory') and also built the coach house to the NW and a stable range to the N as shown on the OS 1<sup>st</sup> edition map of 1881 (*Fig. 9*). The 1881 map also shows the E arm of the moat had been infilled and a tree-lined driveway established leading northwards along this infilled section of the moat to the E of the house and then curving NW towards a gate lodge on High Cross Lane. A rectangular garden plot is marked to the immediate N of the moated enclosure, while the fields to the N, E and S of the house had been amalgamated to form a landscape park associated with the house and the boundaries associated with these fields had been removed. Archaeological monitoring of works for the pool house and garage appears to confirm that there were extensive landscaping works on the site during the second half of the 19<sup>th</sup> century.

Little significant change is depicted on the Ordnance Survey 2<sup>nd</sup> edition map of 1897 (*Fig. 10*) although a discrete tract of woodland is marked to the N of the moated site and several smaller outbuildings are marked to the NW of the coach house. It may be noted that the 1897 map shows evidence of a section of ditch aligned E-W extending from the W arm of the moat immediately S of the house, which may be indicative of a double moated enclosure. Later OS maps dated 1920 and 1951 show that there had been little change in terms of land use and building activity within the site (*Figs. 11 & 12*). However, aerial photographs show that by the late 1990s, further changes had occurred within the site, with the construction of a swimming pool to the E of the house (within the E arm of the moat) and a tennis court within the gardens to the SE. In 2009-10, a garage was constructed to the N of the coach house and a pool house were also added to the NE of the swimming pool.

LiDAR 1m DTM imagery covering the site of the proposed development was also examined as part of this assessment (*Fig. 13*). The boundaries of the moated site are visible with the rectory in the interior of the moat with the modern swimming pool disturbing the eastern arm. The tennis court is indicated within the lawned gardens to the SE of the house, while the NE corner of the site is occupied by a woodland plantation which appears to be relatively recent in origin.

**Conclusion:** the potential for encountering evidence of archaeological remains of post-medieval date has been assessed as **Moderate to High**. Documentary and cartographic evidence shows that the moated site remained in occupation as a parsonage and rectory (associated with Little Canfield Church) throughout the post-medieval period and there is potential for encountering evidence of earlier post-medieval buildings predating the existing residence and coach house which were built in the mid-19<sup>th</sup> century. Within the E portion of the site, there is potential to encounter evidence of relict field boundaries marked on the 1839 tithe map which were removed when this area was landscaped in the mid-19<sup>th</sup> century to form a park associated with the Rectory. Evidence of post-medieval field boundaries and buildings if encountered, would probably be regarded as being of **Low to Medium** importance in archaeological terms.

## 6 Historic Environment Record Gazetteers and Maps

**Table 2: Gazetteer of Archaeological Monuments recorded within a 1km radius of the site on the Essex Historic Environment Record (HER)**

#	MonUID	EHCR_No	Record Type	Site Name	Mon Type	Summary	Finds	Period	NGR
1	MEX1036208	45259	MON	A120 Trunk Road, Stansted to Braintree Site 41-42 Stone Hall	CREMATIO N; POST HOLE; BOUNDARY DITCH; PIT	Site represents dispersed settlement, farming and mortuary activity of late Bronze Age date	Vessel; whetstone; pin	Bronze Age	TL 5905 2209
2	MEX1036214	45260	MON	A120 Trunk Road, Stansted to Braintree Site 43 West of Strood Hall	PIT	A single large quarry? pit of late Bronze Age date containing finds from a domestic context.	Vessel	Bronze Age	TL 5974 2175
3	MEX1036822	45601	MON	Cambridge to Matching Green pipeline-Site 118	PIT; DITCH; HOLLOW WAY	Possible Iron Age features		Iron Age	TL 5863 2053
4	MEX16441	4698	MON	Stane Street - Iron Age phase	TRACKWAY	This road may be regarded with some confidence as a British track straightened and metalled by Roman engineers.		Iron Age	TL 5750 2166
5	MEX1043290	51599	PAS	A Portable Antiquities Scheme findspot of Late Iron Age date.	FINDSPOT	A Portable Antiquities Scheme findspot of Late Iron Age date.	Coin	Late Iron Age	TL 58 20
6	MEX1039514	45237	MON	Cambridge to Matching Pipeline Site 10 - where pipeline crosses Stane Street	ROAD	Roman and earlier roadway where pipeline crosses Stane Street.		Early Iron Age - Romano-British	TL 5911 2134

**Table 2: Gazetteer of Archaeological Monuments recorded within a 1km radius of the site on the Essex Historic Environment Record (HER)**

#	MonUID	EHCR_ No	Record Type	Site Name	Mon Type	Summary	Finds	Period	NGR
7	MEX1033960	19455	MON	A120 Trunk Road Site 9 and Site 44: Strood Hall Site of Romano-British Settlement	FARMSTEAD	The features and finds suggest the site of a Romano-British Farmstead.	Vessel; vessel; animal remains	Romano-British	TL 6007 2169
8	MEX1047204	55513	PAS	A Portable Antiquities Scheme findspot of Roman date.	FINDSPOT	A Portable Antiquities Scheme findspot of Roman date.	Coin	Romano-British	TL 58 20
9	MEX16254	4626	MON	Mill Hill	BARROW	Mound, possibly round barrow re-used for a mill mound.		Romano-British	TL 5899 2135
10	MEX16440	4697	MON	Stane Street - Roman phase (4697 no longer current) see 1226 for details	ROAD	Stane Street, course of Roman road.		Romano-British	TL 5513 2137
11	MEX39532	14482	FS	Fieldwalking the new A120 Trunk-road	FINDSPOT	A fieldwalking Project was carried out along the proposed route of the new A120 trunk-road.	Vessel; tile	Romano-British	TL 6009 2165
12	MEX4497	1226	MON	Stane Street - Roman	ROAD	Line of Roman road traced from TL 62142184 to TL 63482202, where it links with existing road built on top of Roman road.		Romano-British	TL 7446 2318
13	MEX4723	1275	FS	Great Dunmow	FINDSPOT	Buff ware globular flagon.	Vessel; animal remains	Romano-British	TL 604 205
14	MEX1039020	46078	MON	Bacon End Green	FIELD BOUNDARY	Cropmarks of field boundaries		Medieval	TL 5973 1962

**Table 2: Gazetteer of Archaeological Monuments recorded within a 1km radius of the site on the Essex Historic Environment Record (HER)**

#	MonUID	EHCR_No	Record Type	Site Name	Mon Type	Summary	Finds	Period	NGR
15	MEX1039021	46457	MON	Coldharbour Farm	FIELD BOUNDARY	Cropmarks of field boundaries		Medieval	TL 5879 1968
16	MEX1039183	46568	MON	Newlands	FIELD BOUNDARY	Cropmarks of field boundaries		Medieval	TL 6053 2087
17	MEX1039328	46654	MON	Crumps Farm, Little Canfield medieval features	GULLY; PIT	An archaeological evaluation (trial trenches) on land adjacent to an existing quarry/landfill site at Crumps Farm, Little Canfield, revealed medieval ditches, gullies and pits.	Vessel	Medieval	TL 5843 2097
18	MEX16099	4578	MON	The Old Rectory	MOAT	Homestead moat at the Rectory, half a mile east of the church. Archaeological monitoring during November 2009 and January 2010 located the northern edge of the moat. <1>		Medieval	TL 593 208
19	MEX16104	4580	MON	Langthorns	MOAT	Moat		Medieval	TL 591 206
20	MEX16158	4588	MON	All Saints Church, Little Canfield	DESERTED SETTLEMENT	DMV? <1> Presumably possible DMV as church in isolated situation?		Medieval	TL 587 207
21	MEX16159	4589	MON	All Saints Church, Little Canfield	CHURCH	In the west of the parish, 400yds south of the main road.	Window	Medieval	TL 5868 2095

**Table 2: Gazetteer of Archaeological Monuments recorded within a 1km radius of the site on the Essex Historic Environment Record (HER)**

#	MonUID	EHCR_ No	Record Type	Site Name	Mon Type	Summary	Finds	Period	NGR
22	MEX16264	4627	MON	Mill Hill	WINDMILL MOUND; WINDMILL	Mound of doubtful antiquity, on the north side of Stane Street, 600yds north east of the church, standing on high ground.	Tile; vessel; vessel; nail	Medieval	TL 5899 2136
23	MEX16307	4641	MON	Hodings	MOAT	Moat		Medieval	TL 595 200
24	MEX1034318	19442	FS	Site 13 Cambridge - Epping gas pipeline fieldwalking 1990	FINDSPOT	Sparse tile and pottery scatter	Vessel; tile	Medieval - Post-medieval	TL 5900 2110
25	MEX1034394	19629	IND	Bishops Stortford to Braintree Railway (Flich Way)	RAILWAY	The former Bishop's Stortford, Dunmow and Braintree Branch Railway opened in 1869.		Post-medieval	TL 6292 2175
26	MEX1034994	40352	IND	Easton Lodge Halt, Flich Way	RAILWAY PLATFORM	Remains of platform buried in garden of Old Station House, on former Bishop's Stortford, Dunmow and Braintree Branch Railway.		Post-medieval	TL 6031 2132
27	MEX1035022	40353	IND	Crossing point, NW of Hales Farm, Flich Way	LEVEL CROSSING	Crossing point on former Bishop's Stortford, Dunmow and Braintree Branch Railway.		Post-medieval	TL 5998 2128

**Table 2: Gazetteer of Archaeological Monuments recorded within a 1km radius of the site on the Essex Historic Environment Record (HER)**

#	MonUID	EHCR_ No	Record Type	Site Name	Mon Type	Summary	Finds	Period	NGR
28	MEX1035023	40354	IND	Culvert, S of Strood Hall, Flitch Way	CULVERT	Mid C19 brick culvert on former Bishop's Stortford, Dunmow and Braintree Branch Railway.		Post-medieval	TL 5978 2127
29	MEX1035024	40355	IND	Crossing point, N of Moat Farm, Flitch Way	LEVEL CROSSING	Crossing point on former Bishop's Stortford, Dunmow and Braintree Branch Railway.		Post-medieval	TL 5948 2124
30	MEX1035025	40356	IND	Overbridge (site of), High Cross Lane, Flitch Way	RAILWAY BRIDGE	Former overbridge, no longer extant, on Bishop's Stortford, Dunmow and Braintree Branch Railway.		Post-medieval	TL 5922 2123
31	MEX1035026	40357	IND	Crossing point, S of The Old School House, Flitch Way	LEVEL CROSSING	Crossing point on former Bishop's Stortford, Dunmow and Braintree Branch Railway.		Post-medieval	TL 5900 2122
32	MEX1035027	40358	IND	Bridge, Church Lane, Flitch Way	RAILWAY BRIDGE; BEAM BRIDGE	C19 Steel underbridge on Bishop's Stortford, Dunmow and Braintree Branch Railway.		Post-medieval	TL 5867 2120
33	MEX1035028	40359	IND	Culvert, River Roding, Little Canfield, Flitch Way	CULVERT	Mid C19 brick culvert on former Bishop's Stortford, Dunmow and Braintree Branch Railway.		Post-medieval	TL 5858 2119

**Table 2: Gazetteer of Archaeological Monuments recorded within a 1km radius of the site on the Essex Historic Environment Record (HER)**

#	MonUID	EHCR_ No	Record Type	Site Name	Mon Type	Summary	Finds	Period	NGR
34	MEX1035029	40360	IND	Bridge E of Crumps Farm, Flitch Way	RAILWAY BRIDGE; ACCOMMODATION BRIDGE	C19 brick underbridge on former Bishop's Stortford, Dunmow and Braintree Branch Railway.		Post-medieval	TL 5857 2119
35	MEX1036188	45229	MON	Cambridge to Matching Green pipeline	PIPELINE	Pipeline Route from Cambridge to Matching Green		Post-medieval	TL 5312 2821
36	MEX1040434	47498	MON	Windmill at Little Canfield	POST MILL	Windmill at Little Canfield		Post-medieval	TL 6007 2075
37	MEX1045763	54072	PAS	A Portable Antiquities Scheme findspot of Post Medieval date.	FINDSPOT	A Portable Antiquities Scheme findspot of Post Medieval date.	Coin	Post-medieval	TL 58 20
38	MEX16103	4579	MON	The Old Rectory	HOUSE	Buildings, 1800.		Post-medieval	TL 594 209
39	MEX16161	4590	MON	All Saints Church, Little Canfield	CHURCH	North Vestry built 1757, with a vault.	Brass	Post-medieval	TL 5866 2096
40	MEX16310	4642	MON	Hodings	HOUSE	17th century buildings.		Post-medieval	TL 595 200
41	MEX1038797	46301	MON	Priors Green, Takeley	CREMATION; DITCH; POST HOLE	Early and later prehistoric activity including two Iron Age cremations with later Roman and Medieval settlement evidence	Lithic implement; cremation; vessel; vessel	Early Iron Age - Medieval	TL 5838 2137
42	MEX1031224	18293	MON	Stortford Road	LINEAR FEATURE	Linear cropmarks, possibly boundaries		Undated	TL 594 218
43	MEX1033377	18887	MON	Cropmarks of field boundaries at Long Spring Wood	FIELD BOUNDARY	Cropmarks of field boundaries.		Undated	TL 5954 2063

**Table 2: Gazetteer of Archaeological Monuments recorded within a 1km radius of the site on the Essex Historic Environment Record (HER)**

#	MonUID	EHCR_ No	Record Type	Site Name	Mon Type	Summary	Findings	Period	NGR
44	MEX1034849	18884	MON	Cropmarks in Takeley	FIELD BOUNDARY	Cropmarks of field boundaries.		Undated	TL 580 207
45	MEX1036077	45297	MON	Cambridge to Matching Green pipeline-Site 19	FEATURE	Geophysical anomalies of semi-circular features close to area of Medieval settlement (4588)		Undated	TL 5893 2108
46	MEX1036820	45599	MON	Cambridge to Matching Green pipeline-Site 116	DITCH; PIT	Undated ditches.		Undated	TL 5896 2193
47	MEX1036821	45600	MON	Cambridge to Matching Green pipeline-Site 117	PIT; DITCH	Undated pits and ditches.		Undated	TL 5879 2082
48	MEX1041191	48232	BLD	Strood Hall, Little Canfield		A programme of historic building recording was undertaken on an early 19th century barn at Strood Hall prior to conversion to residential use.		Undated	TL 5969 2148
49	MEX1049301	48875	MON	Blatches, Little Canfield		Trial trench found post medieval ditch and natural features.		Undated	TL 58647 21306

**Table 2: Gazetteer of Archaeological Monuments recorded within a 1km radius of the site on the Essex Historic Environment Record (HER)**

#	MonUID	EHCR_ No	Record Type	Site Name	Mon Type	Summary	Finds	Period	NGR
50	MEX1049483	49076	MON	Crumps Farm, Stortford Road, Little Canfield		Archaeological evaluation and monitoring of site Crumps Farm, Stortford Road, Little Canfield, Essex consisting of three trenches. Identified one archaeological feature, Medieval ditch.		Undated	TL 5842 2091
51	MEX39355	14390	MON	East of Hales Farm	FIELD BOUNDARY	Cropmarks of probable former field boundaries, some of which appear on the OS 1st ed.		Undated	TL 601 215

**Table 3: Gazetteer of Archaeological Events recorded within a 1km radius of the site on the Essex Historic Environment Record (HER)**

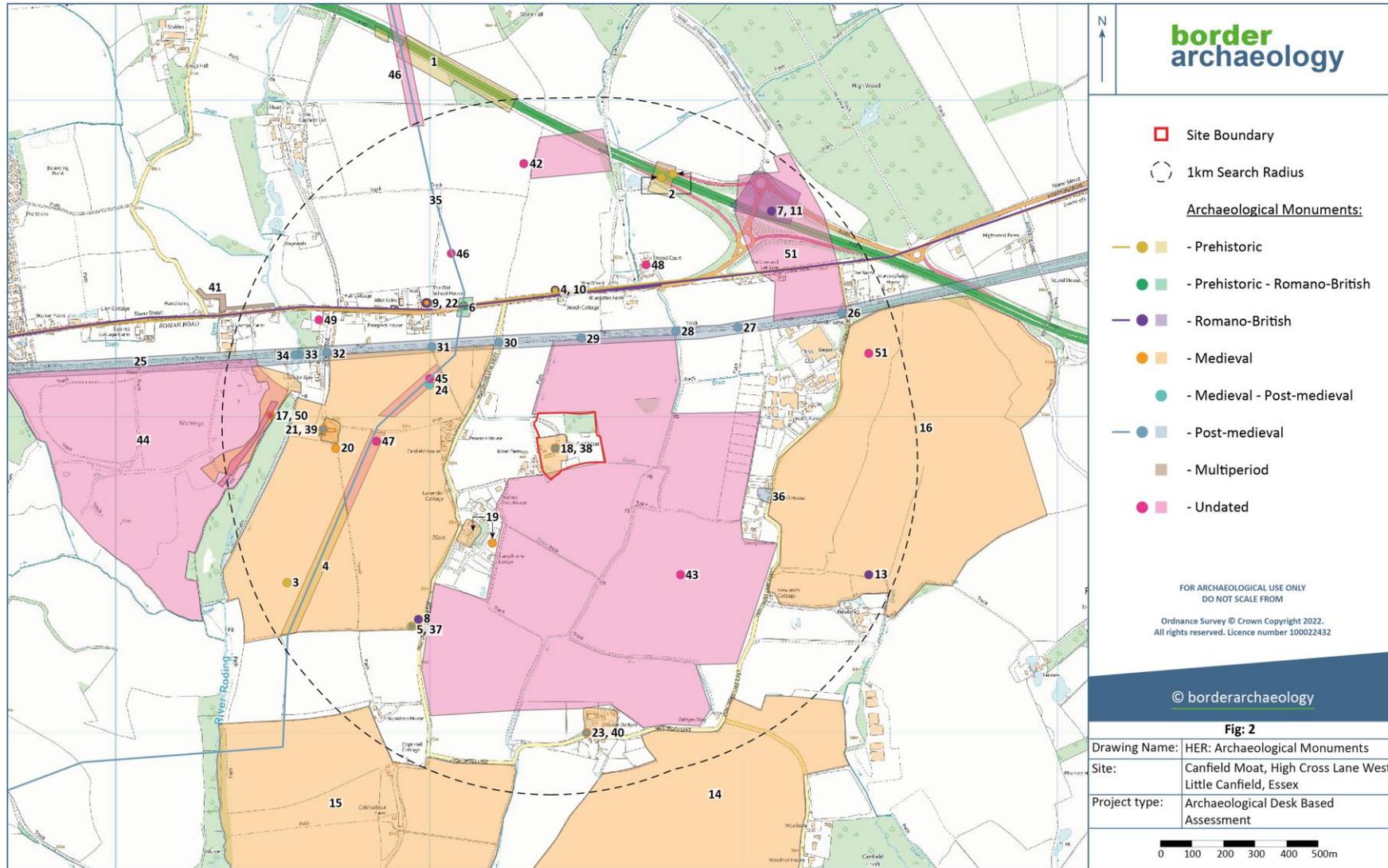
#	EvUID	Record Type	Name	Date	NGR
E1	EEX16255	AI	PART EXCAV by Milton, BH, 1982	1982	TL 58998 21366
E2	EEX16256	FSR	FULL SURVEY by Milton, BH, 1982	1982	TL 58998 21366
E3	EEX58968	AI	Blatches, Little Canfield	-	TL 58664 21316
E4	EEX59644	AI	Land East of Highwood Quarry, Easton Park, Little Easton	-	TL 60345 22364
E5	EEX56644	AI	Haul Road, Warren Farm, Priors Green, Takeley	-	TL 57745 21348

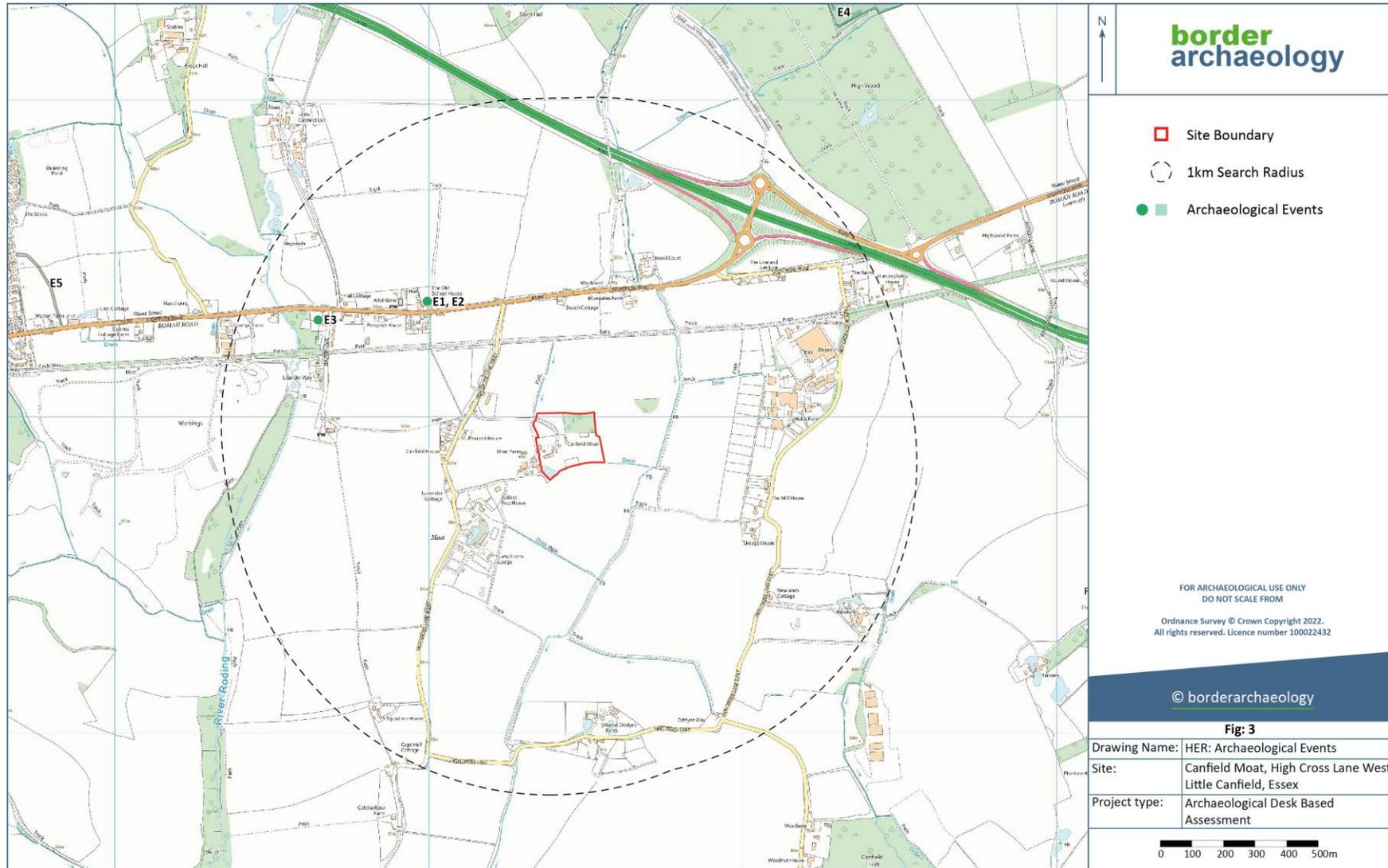
**Table 4: Gazetteer of Listed Buildings recorded within a 1km radius of the site on the Essex Historic Environment Record (HER)**

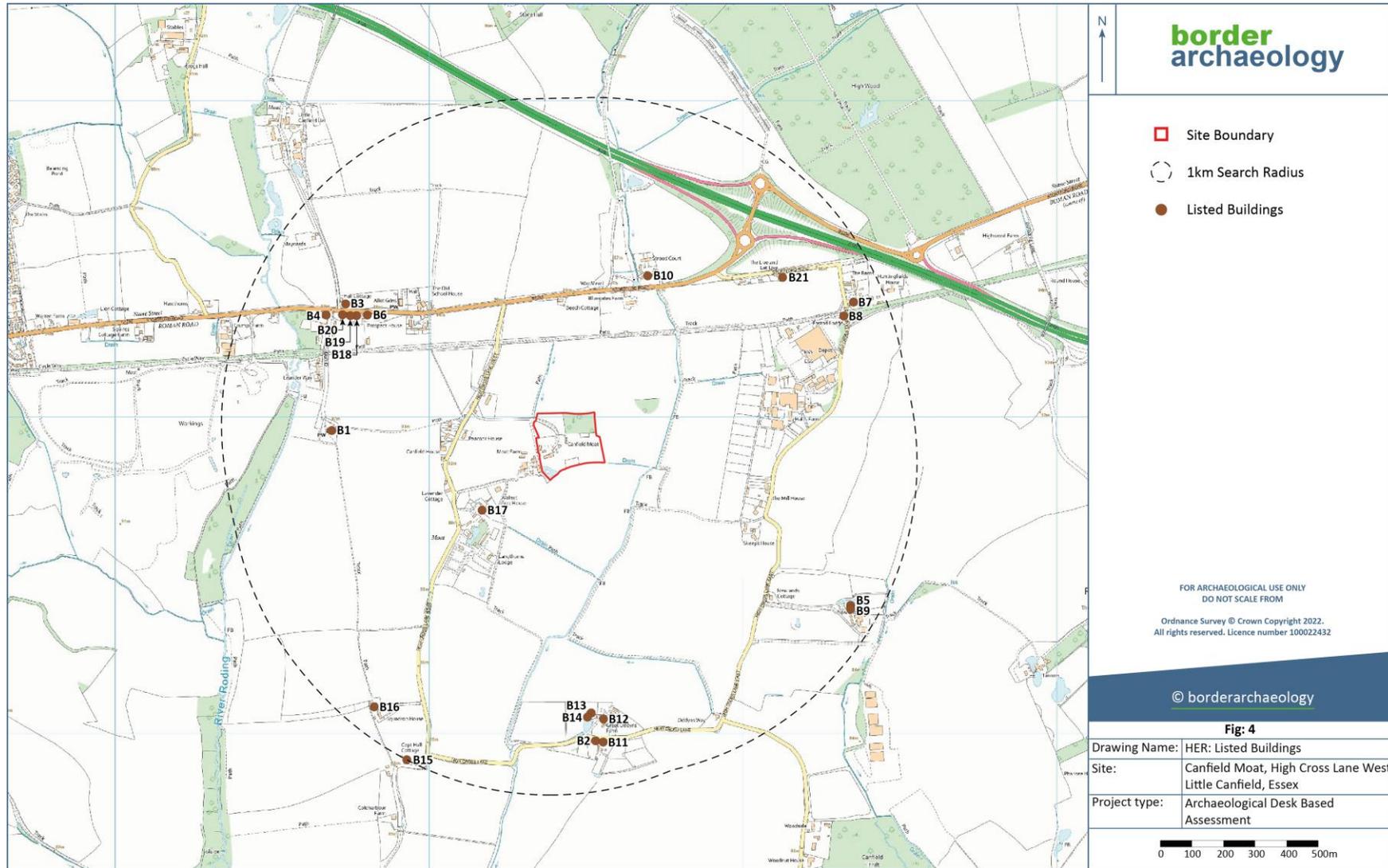
#	MonUID	EHCR No	Site Name	Grade	MonType	Summary	Period	NGR
B1	MEX1013262	37930	Church of All Saints, Little Canfield	II	PARISH CHURCH	C12 and later parish church, with tower and steeple of 1856.	Medieval	TL 5869 2095
B2	MEX1013271	37939	Little Oddyns	II	HALL HOUSE	C15 hall house.	Medieval	TL 5953 1997
B3	MEX1013291	37947	Hall Cottage	II	TIMBER FRAMED HOUSE	Mid C15 timber framed house.	Medieval	TL 5873 2135
B4	MEX1013296	37952	Blatches	II	TIMBER FRAMED HOUSE	Early C16 timber framed house.	Medieval	TL 5867 2132
B5	MEX1013267	37935	Newlands	II	TIMBER FRAMED HOUSE	C16 and earlier timber framed house.	Medieval - Post-medieval	TL 6034 2040
B6	MEX1013292	37948	The Endway	II	TIMBER FRAMED HOUSE	C16 timber framed house.	Medieval - Post-medieval	TL 5880 2132
B7	MEX1013265	37932	Greencrofts	II	TIMBER FRAMED HOUSE	C17 timber framed house.	Post-medieval	TL 6035 2136
B8	MEX1013266	37933	Old Station House, Easton Lodge Halt, Flitch Way	II	CROSSING KEEPERS COTTAGE; SIGNAL BOX	Mid C19 crossing keeper's cottage and signal hut on former Bishop's Stortford, Dunmow and Braintree Branch Railway.	Post-medieval	TL 6032 2131
B9	MEX1013269	37937	Pump at Newlands	II	WATER PUMP	C19 cast iron dome headed pump.	Post-medieval	TL 6034 2039
B10	MEX1013218	37773	Strood Hall	II	HOUSE	Early C19 red brick house.	Post-medieval	TL 5969 2144
B11	MEX1013275	37806	Barn at Little Oddyns	II	TIMBER FRAMED BARN	C17 timber framed barn.	Post-medieval	TL 5955 1997
B12	MEX1013278	37808	Oddyns	II	TIMBER FRAMED HOUSE	Early C17 and later timber framed house.	Post-medieval	TL 5955 2004
B13	MEX1013280	37810	Barn at Oddyns	II	TIMBER FRAMED BARN	Late C16 timber framed barn.	Post-medieval	TL 5951 2006
B14	MEX1013282	37812	Byre and granary at Oddyns	II	COW HOUSE; GRANARY	Late C16 granary and attached byre.	Post-medieval	TL 5950 2005

**Table 4: Gazetteer of Listed Buildings recorded within a 1km radius of the site on the Essex Historic Environment Record (HER)**

#	MonUID	EHCR No	Site Name	Grade	MonType	Summary	Period	NGR
<b>B15</b>	MEX1013283	37813	Copt Hall Cottage	II	TIMBER FRAMED HOUSE	Late C17 timber framed house.	Post-medieval	TL 5892 1991
<b>B16</b>	MEX1013285	37815	Copt Hall	II	TIMBER FRAMED HOUSE	C17 timber framed house.	Post-medieval	TL 5882 2008
<b>B17</b>	MEX1013286	37942	Langthorns	II	TIMBER FRAMED HOUSE	C17 and later timber framed house.	Post-medieval	TL 5916 2070
<b>B18</b>	MEX1013293	37949	Old Forge	II	TIMBER FRAMED HOUSE	C17 timber framed house.	Post-medieval	TL 5876 2132
<b>B19</b>	MEX1013294	37950	Cottage W of Old Forge	II	TIMBER FRAMED HOUSE	Early C17 timber framed house.	Post-medieval	TL 5874 2132
<b>B20</b>	MEX1013295	37951	The Cottage	II	TIMBER FRAMED HOUSE	Late C16 timber framed house.	Post-medieval	TL 5872 2132
<b>B21</b>	MEX1013302	37958	Cottage W of junction with High Cross Lane	II	TIMBER FRAMED HOUSE	C17 timber framed house.	Post-medieval	TL 6012 2144







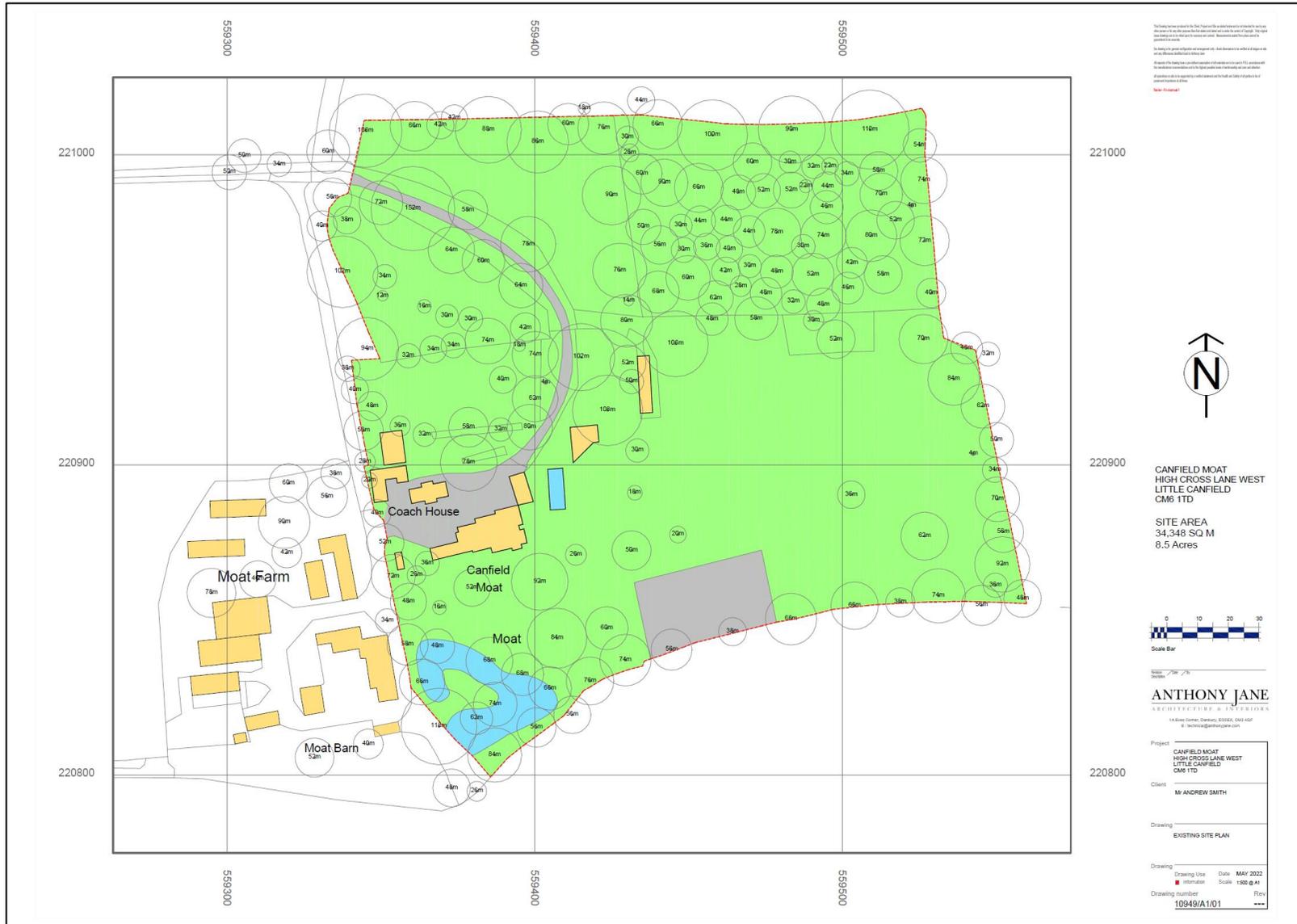


Fig. 5: Existing site plan (Reproduced by courtesy of the client)

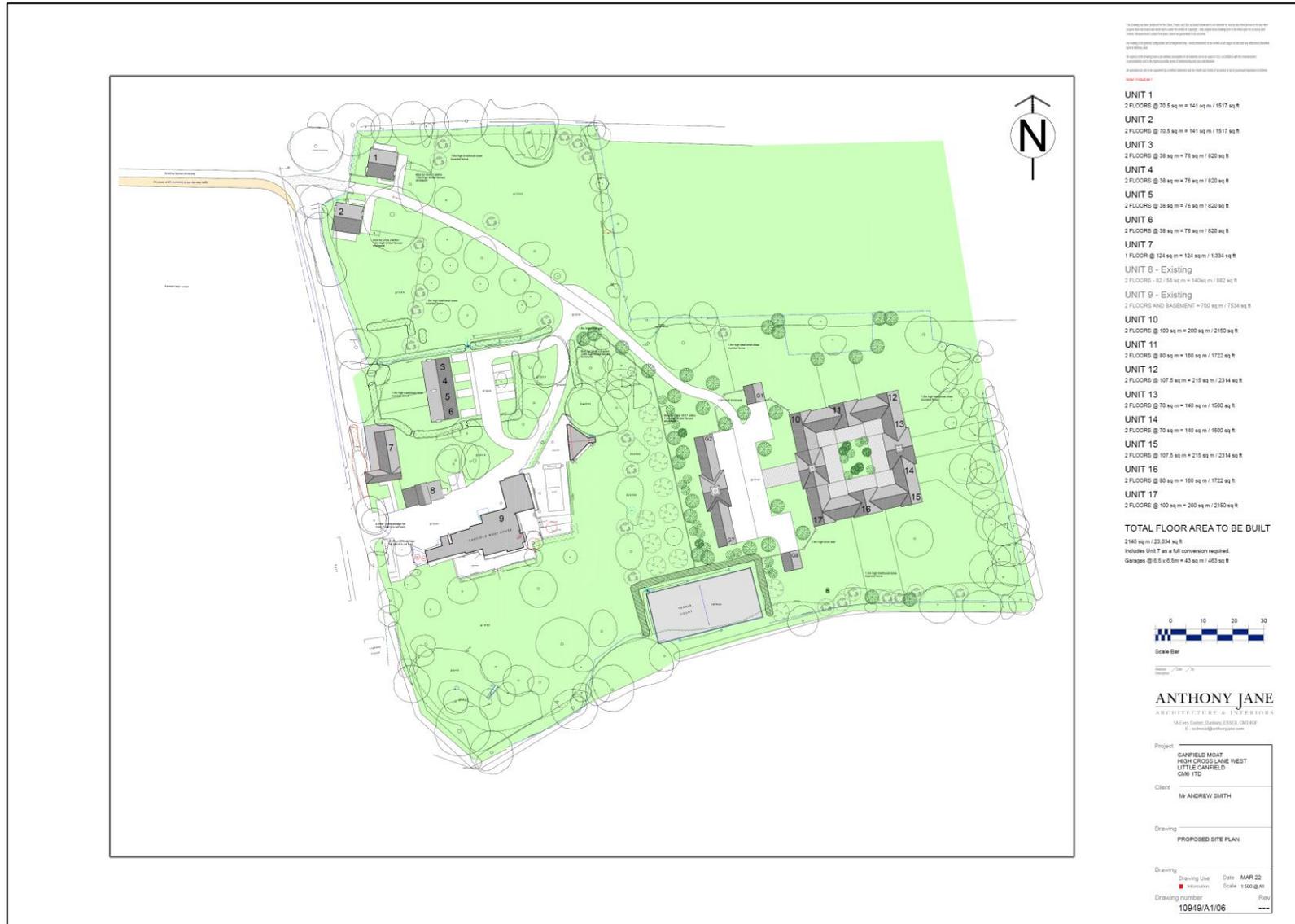


Fig. 6: Proposed site plan (Reproduced by courtesy of the client)

## 7 Site Assessment

Photos were obtained to determine the potential presence of archaeological remains within the site. The site at Canfield Moat is located about 330m E of High Cross Lane and comprises a substantial mid-19<sup>th</sup> century two storey irregular double-pile house of stock brick construction with slate and tile roofs (formerly known as the Old Rectory) occupying the centre of the medieval moated site (*Plates 1 & 2*). To the NW of the residence is a detached coach house, now converted to a dwelling (*Plate 3*), with further ranges of modern outbuildings to the N and W (*Plate 4*).

To the SE of the house, a shallow depression is visible running N-S denoting the remains of the former E arm of the moat (*Plate 5*), which has been partially truncated by a modern swimming pool (*Plate 6*). Water-filled remains of the moat survive at the S end of the enclosure, which has been converted into a duckpond (*Plate 7*). Little visible evidence of the N and W arms of the moat was noted.



*Plate 1: View looking N towards Canfield Moat (formerly the Old Rectory)*

An extensive lawned garden lies to the N, S and E of the house which appears in its present form to have been laid out in the mid-late 19<sup>th</sup> century (*Plate 8*). Within the SE corner of the garden is a modern tennis court while to the NE is a pool house, beyond which is a wooded plantation (*Plate 9*) which appears to have been established fairly recently (post-1960). No visible features of interest were noted within these specific parts of the site outside the former moated enclosure.



*Plate 2: View SE across courtyard towards Canfield Moat*



*Plate 3: View looking N towards the Coach House*

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*Plate 4: View looking W towards outbuildings to W of Canfield Moar*



*Plate 5: View E across garden showing shallow depression running N-S representing the former eastern arm of the moat*

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*Plate 6: View looking E showing modern swimming pool and pool house to E of Canfield Moat*



*Plate 7: View looking S showing water-filled remains of former moat at S end of site (now a pond)*

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*Plate 8: View looking SSE across lawned garden to E of house, towards modern tennis courts*



*Plate 9: View looking NE across lawned garden E of house towards woodland plantation*

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## 8 Conclusions

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### 8.1 Potential Impacts

The following description of the proposed development is based on architects' drawings and information supplied by Mr J. Cann on behalf of Mr Andrew Smith. The proposals entail the construction of 15 dwellings, to be located to the N, NW and E of the existing house at Canfield Moat, with provision of car parking and additional landscaping works (*fig. 6*). Potential Impacts from the proposed development on buried archaeological remains could include the following:

#### 8.1.1 Topsoil removal

It is assumed for the purposes of this report that topsoil would be removed across the entire site as part of the preliminary site works. Removal of topsoil is a potential impact as (in the addition to loss of any residual evidence it contains) it would expose any archaeological remains that may be present immediately below the surface of the topsoil. These may then be affected by movement of vehicles and plant involved in construction activities.

#### 8.1.2 Standard strip foundations

Standard strip foundations would entail the removal of any archaeological remains within the footprint of each excavated strip to a typical depth of 1.0–1.5m below existing ground level as assumed for the purposes of this assessment. It is possible that the bases of archaeological features such as pits or ditches would remain intact beneath these impact levels but their context could be lost.

#### 8.1.3 Landscaping and other groundworks

The excavation of new service trenches, drains and other landscaping features, including attenuation ponds, may extend to a depth of at least 1.0–1.5m below existing ground level as assumed for the purposes of this assessment. This would entirely remove or truncate any archaeological remains within the footprint of the works.

### 8.2 Overall Conclusions

The overall potential of the site at Canfield Moat in archaeological terms has been assessed as **Moderate to High**. This assessment reflects the fact that the development site is partially located within a medieval moated site and consequently there is significant potential to encounter archaeological features of medieval and post-medieval date, including remains of the moat and associated buildings, occupation features and deposits. It is possible that archaeological remains may be encountered at a relatively shallow depth in this area and there is potential for disturbance by 19<sup>th</sup>/20<sup>th</sup> century buildings and landscaping activity.

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Within the moated site itself, where five new dwellings (Units 3-7) are proposed, there is good potential for groundworks to encounter buried deposits and features associated with the moat itself and remains of buildings of medieval and early post-medieval date which formerly stood within the enclosure, although it is likely that there will have been some disturbance by 19<sup>th</sup>/20<sup>th</sup> century building and landscaping activity.

The area to the E of the moated site (where a courtyard range of eight dwellings (Units 10-17) is proposed) is considered to be of lesser sensitivity in archaeological terms although there could nevertheless be potential to encounter evidence of archaeological remains relating to medieval and earlier phases of occupation. The NW corner of the site (where two new dwellings (Units 1 & 2) are proposed) would similarly be regarded as being of lower sensitivity although there remains some potential to encounter features of archaeological interest.

**Recommendations: It is BA's considered opinion that, *prima facie*, the archaeological potential of the site does not present an impediment to the proposed development. Given the overall Moderate to High potential of the site in archaeological terms, it is recommended that an appropriate programme of archaeological work, the details of which to be agreed with the Essex Historic Environment Service (Place Services) will be necessary to determine the extent, depth and significance of buried archaeological features and deposits across the site.**

## 9 Copyright

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## 10 References

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## 10.1 Cartography

(All maps were obtained from the National Archives unless otherwise stated).

1777: J. Chapman and P. Andre, Map of Essex

1839: Tithe Map of Little Canfield Parish

1881: OS 1<sup>st</sup> edition 6-inch map

1897: OS 2<sup>nd</sup> edition 25-inch Map

1920: OS 3<sup>rd</sup> edition 25-inch Map

1923: OS 3<sup>rd</sup> edition 6-inch Map

1951: OS provisional edition 6-inch Map

(Aerial photographs were consulted using resources held at Essex Record Office and the Cambridge University Centre for Aerial Photography)

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11 Appendix 1: Historic Maps

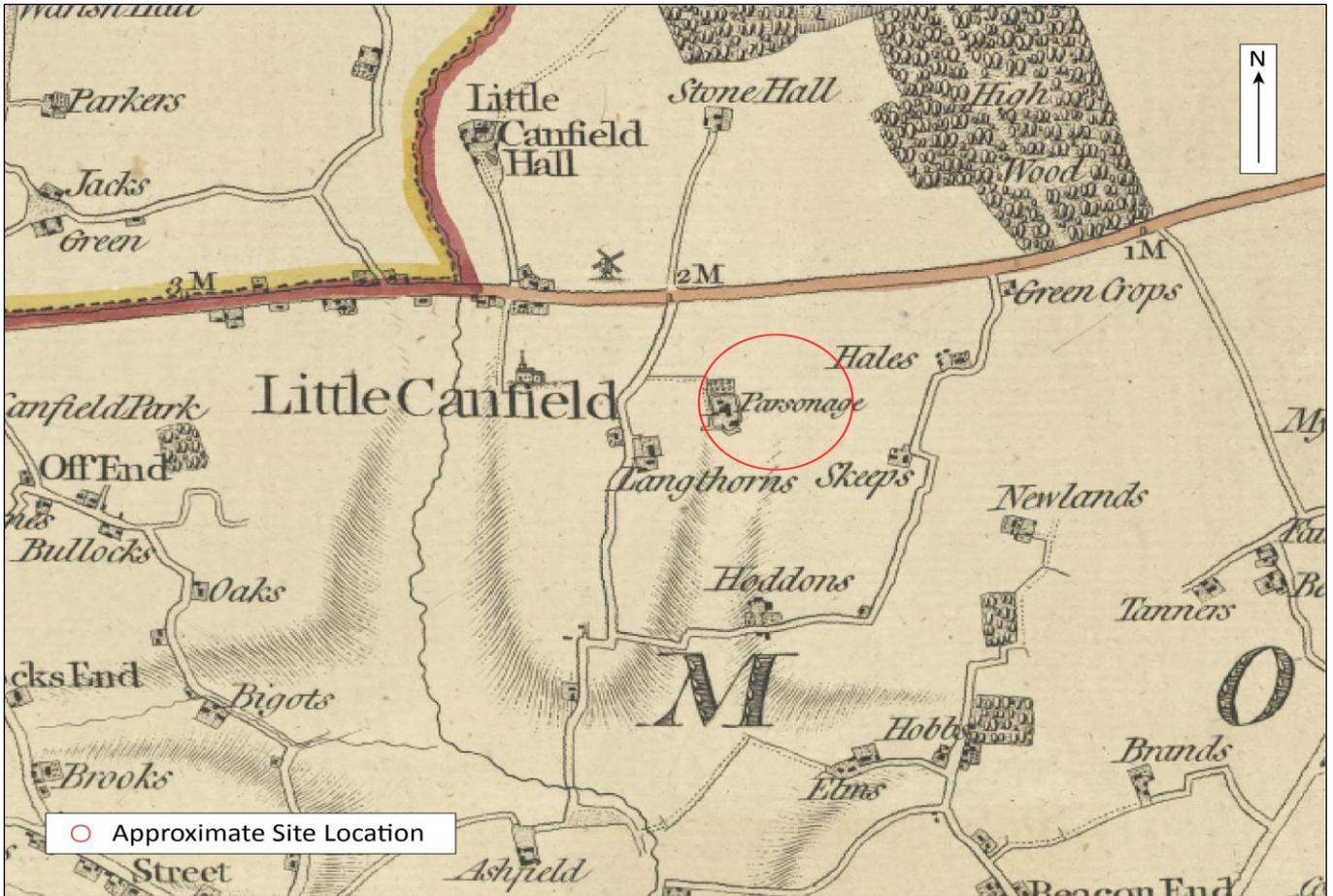


Fig. 7: Extract from the Map of Essex by J. Chapman and P. Andre (1777) showing the site (marked in red)  
(Reproduced by courtesy of the Essex Record Office)



*Fig. 8: Extract from the Tithe Map of Little Canfield Parish (1838) showing the site (marked in red)  
(Reproduced by courtesy of National Archives)*

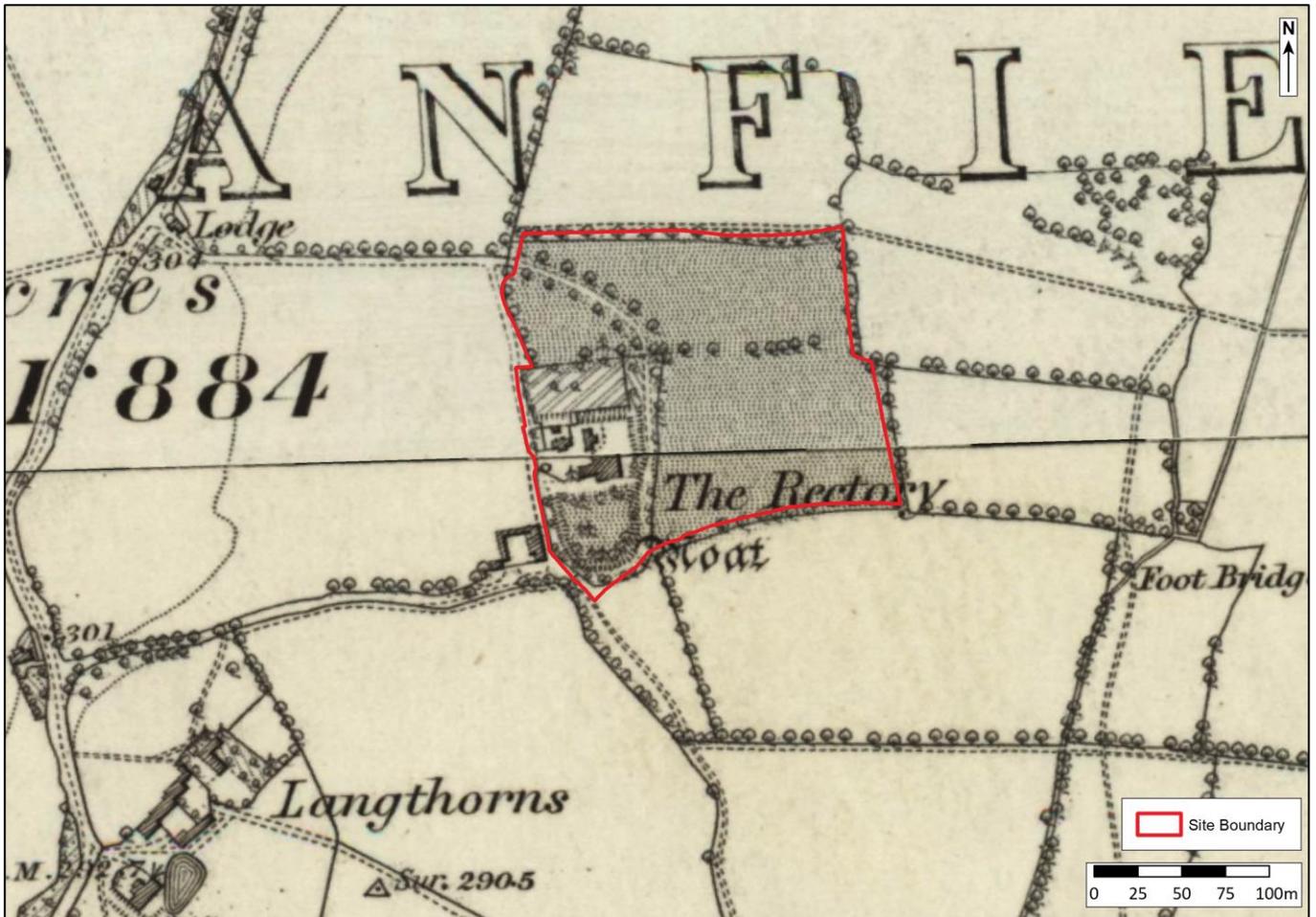


Fig. 9: Extract from the Ordnance Survey 1<sup>st</sup> Edition 6-inch (1881) showing the site (marked in red)  
(Reproduced by courtesy of the National Archives)

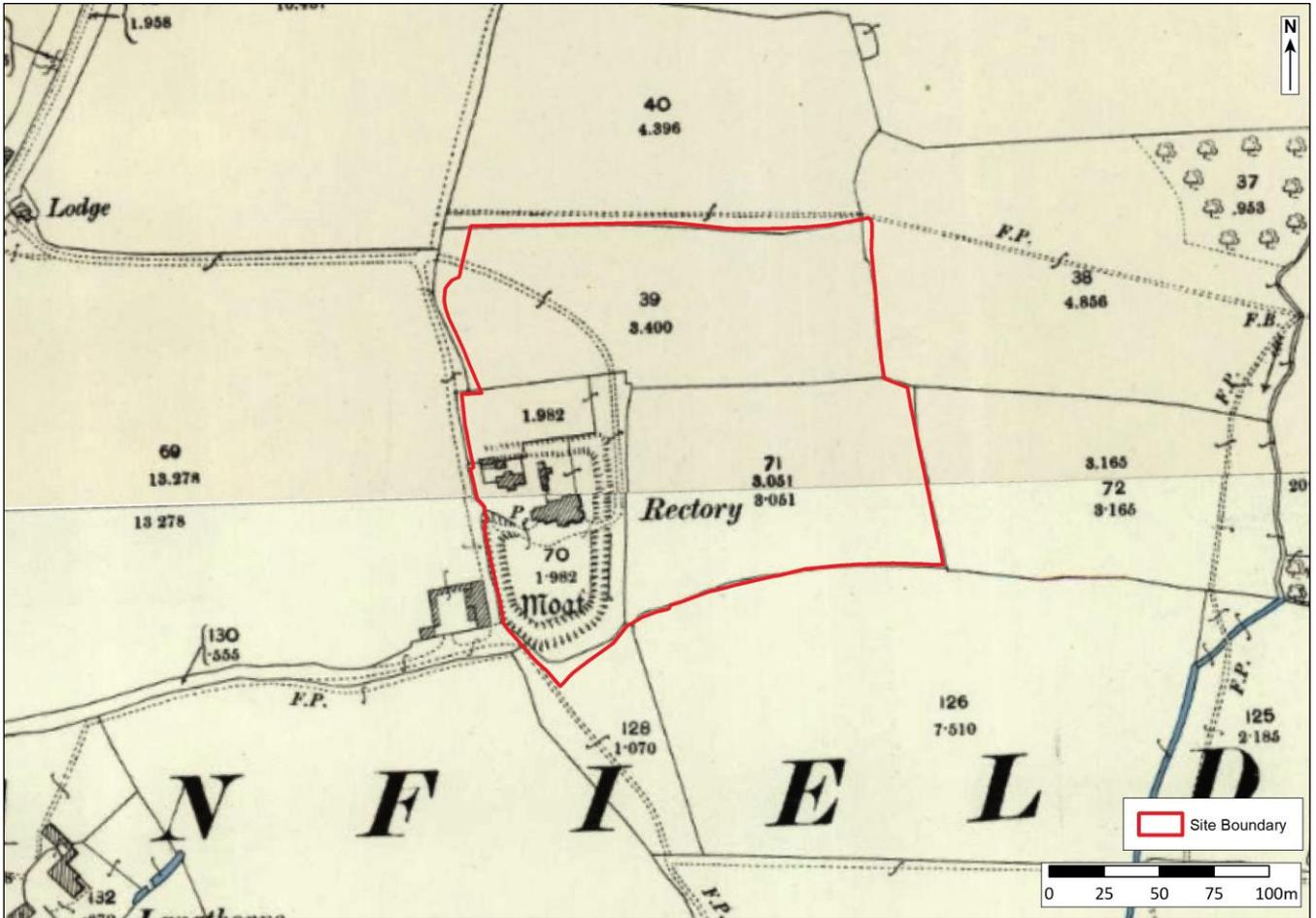


Fig. 10: Extract from the Ordnance Survey 2<sup>nd</sup> Edition 25-inch (1897) showing the site (marked in red)  
(Reproduced by courtesy of the National Archives)

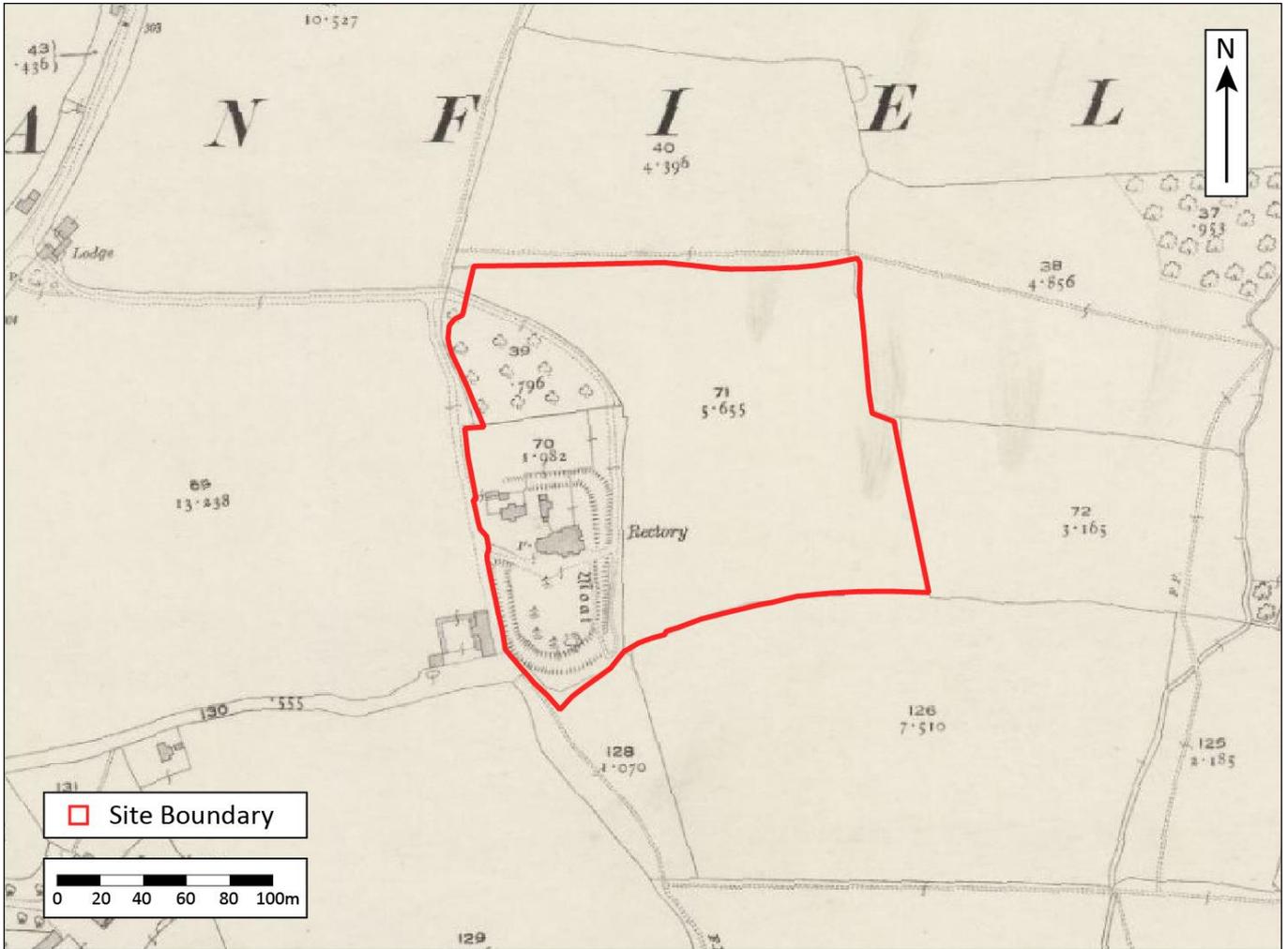


Fig. 11: Extract from the Ordnance Survey 3<sup>rd</sup> edition 25-inch map (1920) showing the site (marked in red)  
(Reproduced by courtesy of the National Archives)

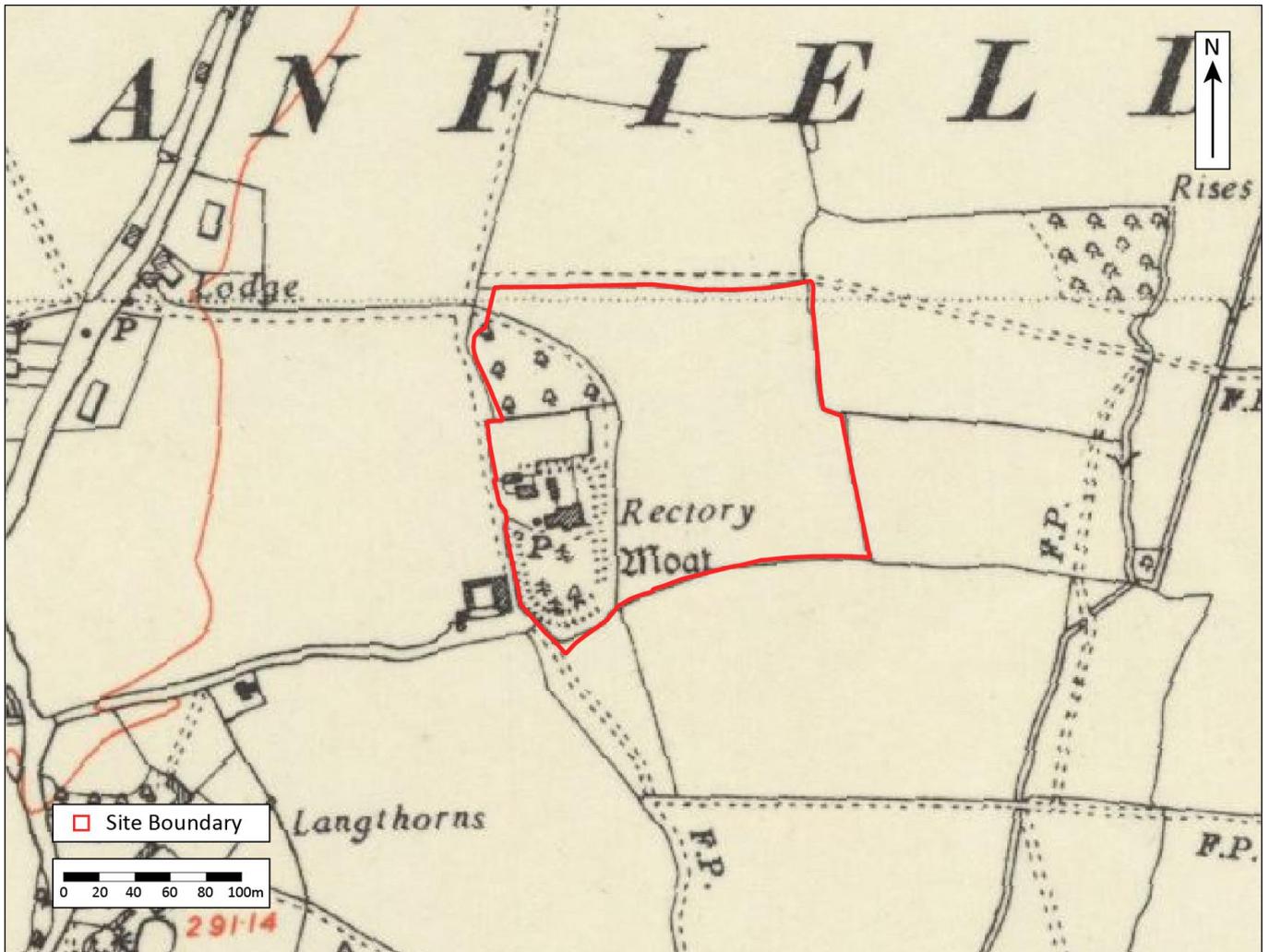
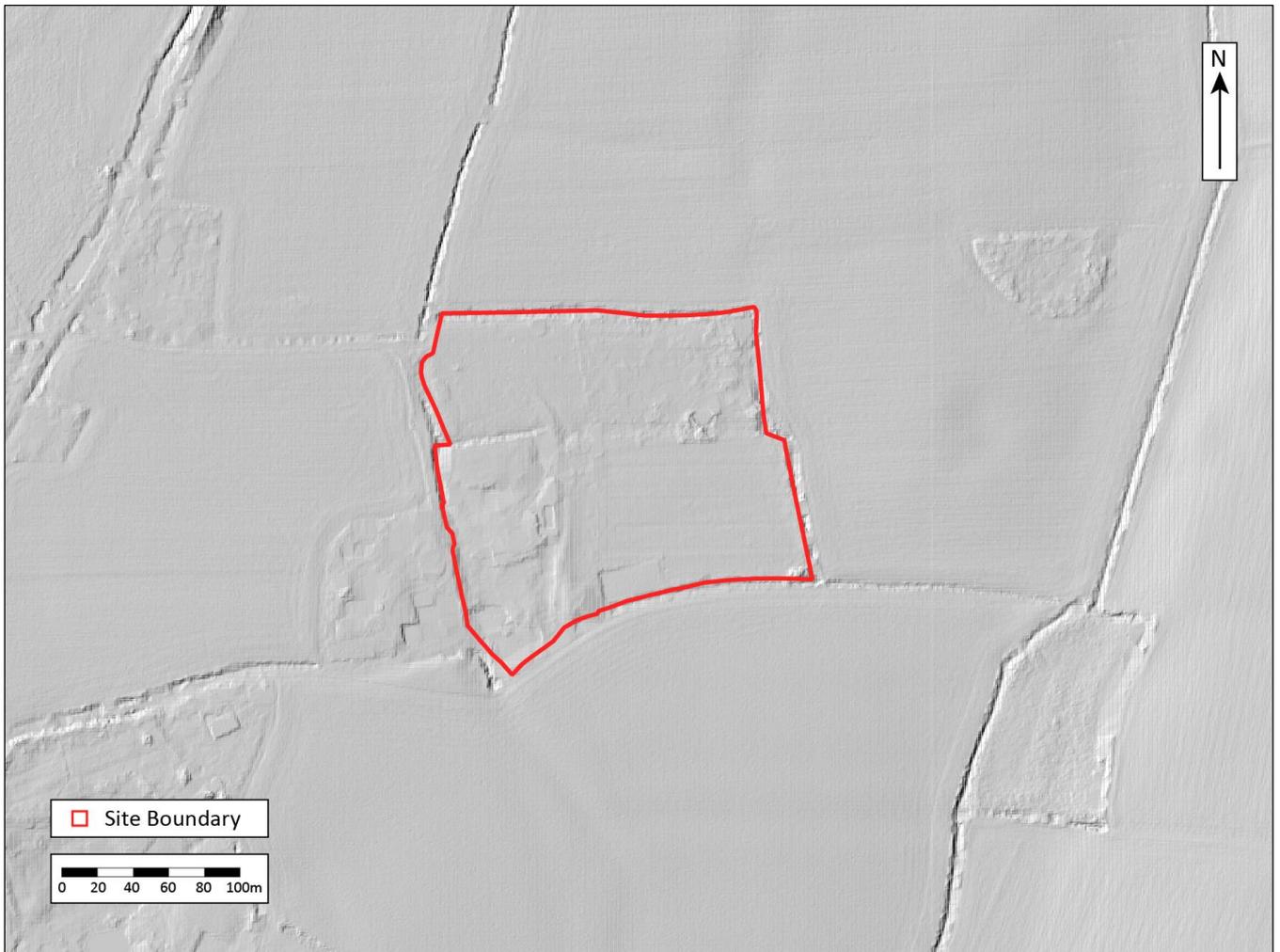


Fig. 12: Extract from the Ordnance Survey 6-inch (1951) showing the site (marked in red)  
(Reproduced by courtesy of the National Archives)



*Fig. 13: Extract from LiDAR 1m DTM covering the site (marked in red)  
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Document Title		Document Reference	
Archaeological Desk-Based Assessment: Canfield Moat, High Cross Lane West, Little Canfield CM6 1TD on behalf of Mr Andrew Smith.		BA2287CME	
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Issue No.	Status	Date	Approved for issue
1	Final	September 2022	George Children MA MCI <sup>f</sup> A