

TOUCHSTONE ARCHAEOLOGY LTD

Archaeological evaluation by Trial Trenching  
Brentwood Preparatory School, Middleton Hall Lane,  
Brentwood, Essex CM15 8EQ

October 2018

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Archaeological evaluation by Trial trenching at Brentwood Preparatory School,  
Middleton Hall Lane, Brentwood Essex CM15 8EQ

NGR: TQ 60094 94079 (centre)

Planning Reference: 17/01233/FUL

SHER Site Code: TBA

Touchstone Archaeology Project ref.: BPS18

Curating Museum: Chelmsford Museum

Museum Accession code: TBA

Oasis ID: zoeschof1- 316961

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<b>Date</b>	30 <sup>th</sup> October 2018	
<b>Version</b>	V.1	

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## **Summary**

*Touchstone Archaeology was commissioned by Brentwood Preparatory School to undertake archaeological trial trenching at Brentwood Preparatory School, Middleton Hall Lane, Brentwood, Essex CM15 8EQ, in advance of the construction works involving the creation of a new car park area (Area 1) to the west of Shenfield Road on the periphery of the Shenfield Road Playing Fields, the demolition of the 19<sup>th</sup> C Porters Lodge and north stable block (Area 2) prior to the erection of new buildings and the reconstruction of the extension to 18<sup>th</sup> C Grade II Listed Middleton Hall (SMR: 27391). The work was undertaken between 10<sup>th</sup> September 2018 and 11<sup>th</sup> September 2018.*

*The trial trenching consisted of four trenches and encountered a small area of burning in Area 1 and an undated ditch interpreted as a field ditch, a post-medieval dump and extant foundations from the demolished buildings in Area 2.*

## **1.0 INTRODUCTION**

### **1.1 Site Background**

Touchstone Archaeology was commissioned by Brentwood Preparatory School to undertake archaeological trial trenching during in advance of construction works at Brentwood Preparatory School, Middleton Hall Lane, Brentwood, Essex CM15 8EQ (TQ 60094 94079; Figures 1-3, Plate 1). The development involved the creation of a new car park area (Area 1) to the west of Shenfield Road on the periphery of the Shenfield Road Playing Fields, the demolition of the 19<sup>th</sup> C Porters Lodge and north stable block (Area 2) prior to the erection of new buildings and the reconstruction of the extension to 18<sup>th</sup> C Grade II Listed Middleton Hall (SMR: 27391).

### **1.2 Geology & Location**

1.2.1 According to the British Geological Survey the underlying solid geology at the site is Bagshot Formation – Sand deposits with superficial deposits of Stanmore Gravel Formation (sand and gravel) (*BGS*).

1.2.2 The PDA is located in the county of Essex, within the Borough of Brentwood and the civil parish of Brentwood St Thomas in a semi-rural area to the eastern outskirts of the town. Area 1 is found on the west side of the Shenfield Road (A1023) within the school playing field. Area 2 is found on the east side of the Shenfield Road within the grounds of the Grade II Listed Middleton Hall (SMR: 27391) (Fig. 1-3, Plate 1).

### **1.3 Scope of the report**

This report provides an account of the archaeological trial trenching.

### **1.4 Planning background**

1.4.1 Planning consent was granted by Brentwood District Council (BDC) for the

creation of a new car park area (Area 1) to the west of Shenfield Road on the periphery of the Shenfield Road Playing Fields, the demolition of the 19<sup>th</sup> C Porters Lodge and north stable block (Area 2) prior to the erection of new buildings and the reconstruction of the extension to 18<sup>th</sup> C Grade II Listed Middleton Hall (SMR: 27391) (Planning Ref: 17/10233/FUL) with an archaeological condition in place (Figure 1-3, Plate 1).

1.4.2 The archaeology condition states:

*No development shall take place within the application site until the applicant has secured the implementation of a programme of archaeological work in accordance with a written scheme of investigation which has been submitted to and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority.*

*Reason: To enable archaeological records to be made if necessary on a site that lies within an area of known archaeological interest.*

1.4.3 Zoe Schofield consulted Helen Saunders, Historic Environment Advisor at Essex County Council (ECC) regarding the requirements of the archaeological work which resulted in a Brief (*Saunders H., 2018*).

1.4.4 A Written Scheme of Investigation for the trial trenching was submitted to and approved by the ECC Historic Environment Advisor in advance of the development (*Schofield, Z., 2018*).

## **2.0 ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND**

2.1 A search of the Essex County Council Historic Environment Record (ECC HER) centred on the site identified a number of entries within a 500m radius. These are listed in Appendix 1, Text and briefly summarised below. The site does not lie within or in proximity to statutory designated areas.

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2.1.1 The site lies within the grounds of Middleton Hall. Middleton Hall (HER Ref. 27391), now the preparatory department of the existing Brentwood School, is a Grade II Listed Building (List entry Number: 1297243) founded in 1557 and opened in 1558. The school has a Tudor schoolroom and a Victorian chapel.

2.1.2 The area in which Brentwood is set was part of the Great Forest of Essex and aside from the Roman Road (565-MEX2262/5422-MEX18645) that connected London, Chelmsford and Colchester, a hoard of treasure was found in a field 100m southeast of the PDA in 1772, which included two brass Lares of Vesta and Bacchus and several fine paterae (PAS), however, there is scant evidence of occupation prior to the medieval period.

2.1.3 The name Brentwood is thought to derive from the 'the burnt wood' relating to the occupation of charcoal burning. In 1180AD St Osyth's Abbey was licensed to assart forty acres of forest and a small hamlet grew up at the crossroads of the London Road and the Ongar Road. In 1221AD the monks of St Osyth built a chapel dedicated to St Thomas the Martyr attracting pilgrims on their route from London to Canterbury. In 1227 the town received a market charter and due to its proximity to London, its location at the joining of two major roads and its convenient position on the Canterbury pilgrimage route, it became an administrative centre.

2.1.4 The Essex HER records are largely sited c.400m+ to the west of the site within the town development. There are numerous WWII monuments within the surrounding area, including road barriers, pillboxes and spigot mortar emplacements.

### **3.0 ARCHAEOLOGICAL METHODOLOGY**

#### **3.1 Aims and Objectives**

3.1.1 The general objective of the archaeological work was to record, interpret and report on any archaeological remains revealed by the groundworks in accordance with current archaeological standards and to assess past impacts on the site. The information



collated was to enable the ECC Historic Environment Advisor to make an informed decision as to the requirement for any further archaeological work.

3.1.2 Specific research aims were to identify any evidence of settlement activity associated with the development of the site of Middleton Hall (List entry Number: 1297243), settlement activity around the Roman Road (565-MEX2262/5422-MEX18645) and to record any evidence of medieval and post medieval activity associated with the origins and expanding urbanisation of Brentwood.

## **3.2 Methodology**

3.2.1 All archaeological works were carried out in accordance with the Brief issued by Place Services (*Saunders, H., 2018*), the WSI prepared by Touchstone Archaeology (*Schofield, Z., 2018*) and the Standards and Guidance of the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (*CIfA 2014*).

3.2.2 The buildings were demolished prior to the archaeologist's attendance but the foundations were left in situ in accordance with the request of the Historic Environment Advisor and the methodology of the WSI.

3.2.3 Due to the location of a high voltage electric cable the trench position was adjusted with prior approval from the ECC Historic Environment Advisor.

3.2.4 The fieldwork took place over two days, 10th and 11<sup>th</sup> September 2018. David Britchfield MCIfA acted as the senior archaeologist on site. Plant and welfare were supplied by the contractor (*Rooff Ltd*)

3.2.5 Four trenches were mechanically excavated with a bladed bucket under archaeological supervision; Area 1 comprised of two trenches: 30m x 1.7m (NE-SW). Area 2 comprised of two trenches 20m x 2.2.m and 30m x 2.2m (NE-SW) (Figure 4).

3.2.6 The trenches and archaeological features were accurately located and planned by use of a Digital Global Positioning System (DGPS).

3.2.7 All deposits were recorded in a site diary and using Touchstone Archaeology standard recording sheets.

3.2.8 Section drawings of the excavated profiles were drawn where necessary on plastic drafting film at a scale of 1:10 (Plates 1-2) and later digitised.

3.2.9 A full photographic record was made recording all features and contexts.

3.2.10 The fieldwork was monitored by Helen Saunders of ECC Place Service, however, due to the results a site visit was deemed unnecessary.

### **3.3 Site archive**

The site archive is currently held at the offices of Touchstone Archaeology and will be delivered to the Chelmsford Museum in due course. The contents of the archive include:

<b>Type</b>	<b>No.</b>
WSI	1
Site Diary/Day book	1
Context Register	1
Photographic Register	1
Photographs	138
Drawings	2
Summary sheet	1
Final Report	1

**Table 1. Site Archive**

## **4.0 RESULTS**

The post-excavation assessment and the preparation of this report have been carried out in accordance with the guidelines laid out in Management of Research projects in the Historic Environment (MoRPHE, 2015).

### **4.1 Context description**

#### **4.1.1 Trench 1**

Trench 1 (NE-SW) was located within the footprint of the former north Stable Block and measured 30m x 2.2m. The trench was excavated to a depth of approximately 1.08m and exposed a stratigraphic sequence, which comprised granite set (101) overlying made ground (102), a former topsoil (103) and a partially re-worked subsoil (104). The natural geology comprised stiff clay (105) (Fig.4, Plate 2 & 3).

A concrete foundation (108), which spanned the evaluation trench, was left in situ in order to avoid trench collapse.

A single ditch [107] running northeast to southwest was present within this trench. Excavation confirmed a base fill of stiff blue grey clay with moderate rounded stones and occasional charcoal (possibly alluvial in origin with stones washed in) (106). No finds were present within the fill (Fig.5).

#### **4.1.2 Trench 2**

Trench 2 (NE-SW) was located to the west of Trench 1 and measured 30m x 2.2m. The stratigraphic sequence comprised topsoil (201) overlying made ground (202) and the natural disturbed geology (203 & 206). Two large pits, filled with Victorian bottles and rubbish, (204 & 205) and the remains of a brick foundation (207) were uncovered within this trench (Fig.4, Plate 4 & 5).

No significant archaeological finds or features were present.

#### **4.1.3 Trench 3**

Trench 3 (NE-SW) was located on the west side of the Shenfield Road, within an area set aside for a proposed car park and measured 30m x 1.7m. The only feature of interest consisted of a patch of burnt natural geology (305) with small friable lumps of pressed in charcoal. The natural clay within this area was stained red/pink due to the heat from a fire. The shallow depth of the feature below the topsoil and the good preservation of the charcoal suggested a relatively late date. No excavation was carried out because there was no specific fill, just stained natural clay (Fig.4, Plate 6 & 7).

No significant archaeological finds or features were present within this trench.

#### **4.1.4 Trench 4**

Trench 4 was located to the north of Trench 3, on the west side of the Shenfield Road, within an area set aside for a proposed car park and measured 30m x 1.7m. The topsoil (401) directly overlaid a reworked natural (402), which was removed exposing the clean natural (403) (Fig.4, Plate 8 & 9).

No significant archaeological finds or features were present.

## **4.2 Natural geology**

The lowest deposit identified was clay, at between 0.00 - 0.90m below ground level, which presented as a dark brown orange clay with blue grey mottling in Trench 1 (105), a stiff orange brown clay with occasional rooting and rounded stone in Trench 2 (203), a mottled orange brown clay with moderate rounded stone in Trench 3 & 4 (304 & 403) and was the expected natural Bagshot Formation strata indicated by the British

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Geological Survey. Trench 3 was excavated beyond the natural interface at the NE end to ensure that the natural geological horizon had been reached.

### 4.3 Context record

No archaeological features or artefacts were encountered during the trial trenching but a total of five contexts were recorded.

Context No.	Type	Interpretive Category	Depth
101	Layer	Existing surface - Extant paving and foundations of granite sets and bricks	0.00 – 0.22
102	Layer	Made ground - Dark grey silt clay, freq. CBM, stone, concrete etc.	0.22 – 0.63
103	Layer	Former topsoil - Dark brown grey silt clay, occ. charcoal, small rounded stone, rare CBM	0.63 – 0.79
104	Layer	Subsoil - Heavily mottled mid grey orange silt clay, occ. rounded stone, rare charcoal	0.79 – 1.08
105	Layer	Natural geology - Dark brown orange clay with blue grey mottling	1.08+
106	Fill	Fill of ditch - Stiff blue grey clay with moderate rounded stones and occ. charcoal, possibly alluvial in origin with stones washed in.	0.63 – 1.08+
107	Ditch cut	Concave base c.1.6m width x 0.4cm depth	0.63 – 1.08+
108	Masonry	Concrete foundation	0.22 – 0.79
201	Layer	Topsoil - Dark grey brown silt clay, freq. Victorian bottles (imported)	0.00 – 0.19

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202	Layer	Made ground - Light brown sand clay, mod CBM and rounded stone	0.19 – 0.72
203	Layer	Natural geology - Stiff orange brown clay, occ. rooting and rounded stone	0.72 – 0.84+
204	Fill	Victorian dump with imported bottles	0.00 – 0.19
205	Fill	Victorian dump with imported bottles	0.00 – 0.19
206	Layer	Natural geology - Very weathered natural with pressed in bricks	0.84+
207	Masonry	Extant brick wall, red brick, white mortar	0.30 – 0.70
301	Layer	Topsoil – Light grey dry sand silt with occ. rounded stone topped with turf	0.0 – 0.13
302	Layer	Made ground - Reworked natural, mid orange brown sand silt, very compact with freq. rounded stones and modern brick	0.13 – 0.29
303	Layer	Subsoil - Possibly upper natural geology, light orange brown silt clay occ. rounded stone	0.29 – 0.37
304	Layer	Natural geology – mottled orange brown clay, moderate rounded stone – over dug at NE to test validity	0.37 -0.51+
305	Layer	Burnt feature - Area of burning, no cut, burnt natural, below (302) and cut through (303)	0.29 – 0.45
401	Layer	Top soil – same as (301)	0.00 -0.25
402	Layer	Subsoil - Reworked natural – same as (302)	0.27 – 0.49
403	Layer	Natural geology – same as (303) and (304)	0.49+

**Table 2: List of recorded contexts**

## **5.0 FINDS**

Samples of imported bottles were recovered from the post-medieval/Victorian dump in Trench 2.

## **6.0 DISCUSSION**

The school playing field (Area 1), set aside for the proposed car park, consisted of topsoil directly overlaying a layer full with rounded pebbles and occasion land drains. This sealed the re-worked natural geology – effectively the upper geological horizon that had been exposed to weathering. It suggests that the construction of the existing playing fields involved a phase of landscaping that levelled the site. This would explain the ‘re-worked’ nature of the natural geology and the presence of the stone layer and land drains. Such landscaping may have had an effect on any archaeological features that may have been present. A small area of burning had scorched the natural clay but this was considered a modern intrusion.

The site of Middleton Hall (Area 1) had seen past impact from the construction of the 19<sup>th</sup> C buildings. The remains of paving and foundations from these demolished buildings were present in Trenches 1 & 2. There was no evidence of previous construction phases. An undated ditch, interpreted as a field ditch, was present in Trench 1, along with a preserved layer of former topsoil. This suggests that relatively low impact has occurred within this area and that preservation conditions are good.

There was no topsoil present in Trench 2 but there were frequent Victorian waste deposits and made ground above the natural geology, therefore, it is possible that this area was landscaped, as part of 19<sup>th</sup> century development and that archaeological features would likely have been disturbed.

## **7.0 ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS**

Touchstone Archaeology would like to thank Brentwood Preparatory School for commissioning the work and Helen Saunders (ECC HEA) for her guidance throughout the project. David Britchfield (MCIfA) carried out the fieldwork and Zoe Schofield authored the report.

## **8.0 BIBLIOGRAPHY**

*CIfA 2014 - Standard and guidance for archaeological field evaluation, the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists; Reading*

*CIfA 2014 – Standard and guidance for the creation, compilation, transfer and deposition of archaeological archives, the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists; Reading*

*ESHER, received 18<sup>th</sup> May 2018*

*Historic England 2015 - Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment*

*Saunders, H., 2018, Brief for trial trenching and excavation, Place Services*

*Schofield Z., 2018, Written Scheme of Investigation BPS18*

### **Online Resources:**

*British Geological Survey: Geology of Britain Viewer accessed 15th May 2018*

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

*OS Maps provided by Groundsure 8<sup>th</sup> May 2018*



Figure 1: Site Location Map 1:250,000

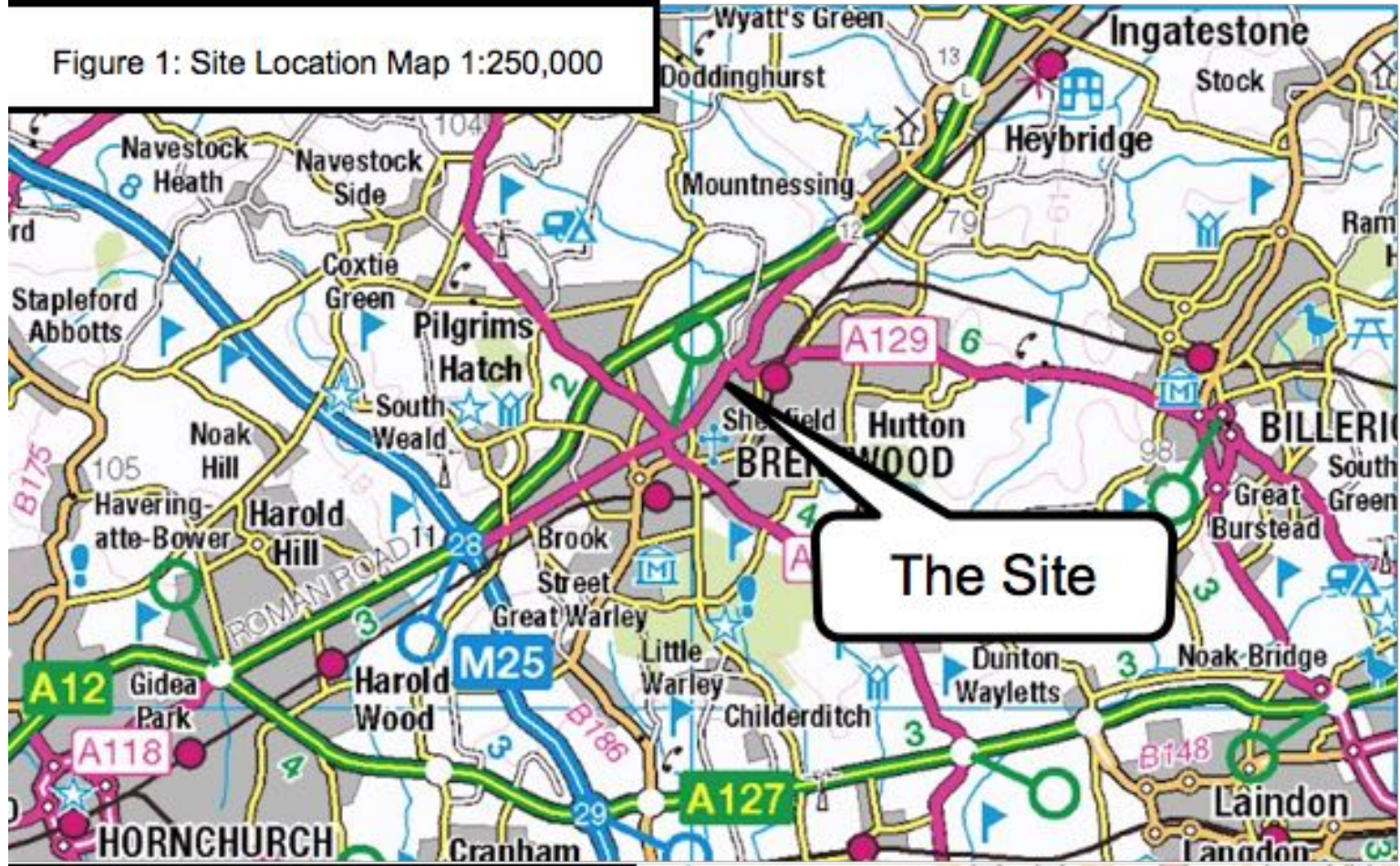


Figure 2: Site Location Map 1:25,000





04/05/2018

BRENTWOOD PREPARATORY SCHOOL, BRENTWOOD PREPARATORY SCHOOL,  
MIDDLETON HALL LANE, BRENTWOOD, CM15 8EQ



**Figure 3: Site Location Plan 1:1250**



Scale: 1:2500 | Area: 16Ha | Grid Reference: 560116.194151 | Paper Size: A4



Mapping contents © Crown copyright and database rights 2018 Ordnance Survey  
100035207



Figure 4: Trench Plan

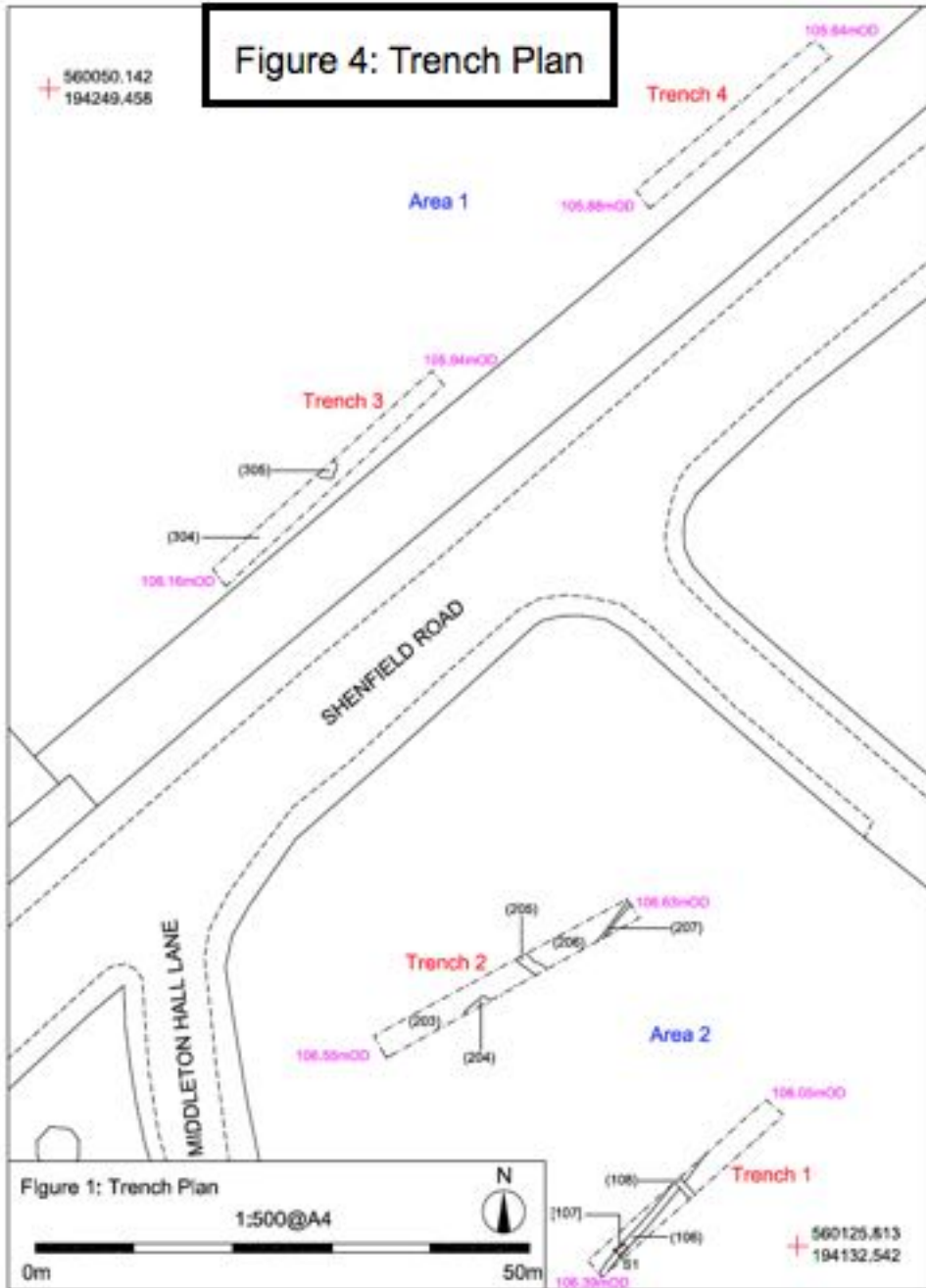
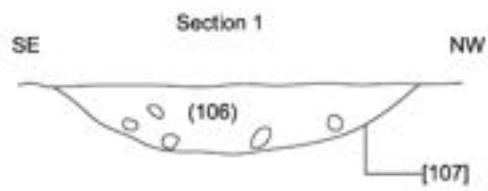


Figure 5: Trench 1 Ditch Section



1:10@A4

Figure 2: Section 1

0m

1m





Plate.2: Trench 1 facing northeast



Plate.3: Trench 1 facing southwest





Plate.4: Trench 2 facing northeast



Plate.5: Trench 2 facing southwest







Plate 6: Trench 3 facing northeast



Plate 7: Trench 3 facing southwest





Plate.8: Trench 4 facing northeast



Plate.9: Trench 4 facing southwest

<b>KHER</b>	<b>Type</b>	<b>Location</b>	<b>Period</b>	<b>Description</b>
525-MEX2109	Monument	c.800m SW	Medieval - Modern	Brentwood. Medieval town first mentioned 1176. Established by the monks of St Osyth between 1177 and 1184 when they received permission to enclose woodland. The town began on the south side of the Chelmsford Road. In 1221 a chapel was built (528). In 1277 they obtained a market charter.
526-MEX2110	Find Spot	c.450m SW	Post Medieval	21 High Street, watching brief during construction of external staircase. Foundations uncovered. No finds or features prior to 19 <sup>th</sup> century. Subsoil – orange-yellow silty clay.
565-MEX2262	Monument	c.10m N/S	Roman	Roman Road. London-Chelmsford-Colchester. Recorded on OS map of Roman Britain.
643-MEX2479	Monument	c.500m NE	Post Medieval	St Helen's RC Cathedral. Built 1861, ragstone with a polygonal south west turret.
5290-MEX18230	Find Spot	c.200m SW	Palaeolithic	Priest Lane. Palaeolithic chipped flint axe found in a garden. Colchester Museum.
5422-MEX18645	Monument	c.10m N/S	Roman	Roman Road. See 565.
5475-MEX18783	Find Spot	c.550m NE	Palaeolithic	Three hand axes were found but nothing is known of their discovery. British Museum.
16128-MEX40803	Monument	c.550m SW	Modern	Rear of the Hermit, Shenfield Road. Pit. Watching brief, 1993, in advance of the construction of the Community Arts Centre, a large pit was uncovered full of 20 <sup>th</sup> c brick rubble.
17770-MEX52223	Monument	c.600m SW	Medieval – Post Medieval	Land adjacent to North Service Road, Ongar Road and North Road. Pit. Six trial trenches. One post-medieval pit 15 <sup>th</sup> -16 <sup>th</sup> C. The results suggest that during the medieval period the town grew in a ribbon development and did not extend far back from the High Street.
18432-MEX1031801	Monument	c.400m SW	Post Medieval	Archery butts. The earliest reference to the town's archery butts 1555AD. Northeast end of town. William Hunter was martyred there in 1555.
15311-MEX1034243	Industrial	c.500m W	Post Medieval – Modern	Victoria Iron Works. 19 <sup>th</sup> C iron works, now almost totally demolished. Appears on OS map 1872.

20249-MEX1034783	Monument	c.500 SW	Modern	Spigot Mortar Emplacement, Wilson's Corner. WWII. Destroyed. At the junction of High St and Ingrave Road. Aerial photograph July 1944 shows it as extant set into the pavement outside 4/6 High Street.
20256-MEX1034788	Monument	c.600m S	Modern	Priests Lane. WWII Road Barrier. Destroyed. Wartime map shows the barrier at the W end of Priests Lane near the junction with Shenfield Crescent. Probably would have been bridging the road between no.9 and 16.
20248-MEX1034789	Monument	c.500m W	Modern	Road Barrier. WWII. Opposite Drill Hall, Ongar Road. Destroyed. Contemporary records state: 3.6 sockets, 16 uprights, 17 angles. Aerial photograph July 1944 shows 13+ concrete pimples stretching from the N side of the Drill Hall to the Road where a two-row socket pattern can be seen.
20253-MEX1034790	Monument	c.500m S	Modern	Spigot Mortar Emplacement. Shenfield Common. Destroyed. WWII. Aerial Photograph July 1944 shows it to the NE of crosspaths at the N end of Shenfield Common. Low depression in ground still visible.
15635-MEX1035364	Industrial	c.400m E	Modern	Brentwood Community Hospital formerly the Brentwood District Hospital. Built 1934 on the site of the Brentwood Cottage Hospital (moved to Shenfield Common in 1895). Prior to 1883 Brentwood did not have a hospital. A local wealthy businessman converted the cottage hospital on Shenfield Common. P Bayman of Middleton Hall donated 18 acres of land. Funds of £38,000 were raised and Hugo R Bird designed the hospital. The princess royal laid the foundation stone and Helena Victoria opened the hospital in 1934. Constructed from Kentish stocks with red brick dressings laid in stretcher bond. Mansard, hipped roof. Chapel, gardens and a small timber 'shed-like' chalet for the treatment of respiratory disease.
20251-MEX1035537	Monument	c.200m W	Modern	Spigot Mortar Emplacement. Cricket Ground, Shenfield Road. WWII. Destroyed. Contemporary records state that it was between the tennis courts and the main road. Probably sited at 'The Laurels' covering the road approach.
20252-MEX1035538	Monument	c.200m W	Modern	Spigot Mortar Emplacement. The Laurels, Shenfield Road. WWII. Destroyed. The house is now demolished and built over but it was on the S side of the Shenfield Road immediately to the E of the

				Almshouses.
20250-MEX1035541	Monument	c.350m W	Modern	Road barrier. Shenfield Road. WWII. Destroyed. A substantial road barrier that crossed Shenfield road at its junction with Sawyers Hall Lane. Aerial Photograph 1944 showed the distinct four-row pattern of a socket and steel barrier across the road immediately outside "Hawkwood".
20257-MEX1035542	Monument	c.600m SE	Modern	Pillbox. Priests lane. WWII. Destroyed. Contemporary records state Blockhouse. Some confusion over exact location.
20261-MEX1035553	Monument	c.400m NE	Modern	Road Barrier. Shenfield Road. WWII. Destroyed. A few yards south of the junction with Middleton Road, it crossed the road between Old Glanthsams (N) and Meadow Court (S) no longer in existence. Four barriers are recorded but it is thought that all four records relate to this one barrier.
40860-MEX1039278	Building	c.500m SW	Post Medieval – Modern	Otway House, Lodge and Gymnasium, The Brentwood School. Otway House was a former vicarage of 1877 named after the Reverend Otway. Purchased by Brentwood School and extended as a boarding house in 1927. The Armoury a 19 <sup>th</sup> C former outhouse converted into a store for the Combined Cadet Force (CCF), an early 20 <sup>th</sup> C gymnasium used by the CCF and Marshalls Lodge and early 20 <sup>th</sup> C bungalow used by the Headmaster.
47658-MEX1040612	Monument	c.550m SW	Post Medieval – Modern	10 High Street, Brentwood. Archaeological monitoring revealed a single vertically-sided cut feature immediately to the rear of the property which contained soft dark grey-brown humic soil, ash and tile fragments. Appeared recent – Victorian/Edwardian.
48556-MEX1042336	Monument	c.600m SW	Medieval	35 High Street. Archaeological trench evaluation. A truncated medieval feature with shallow fill containing 13 <sup>th</sup> -14 <sup>th</sup> C ceramic sherds. The site had been significantly disturbed and reduced by approximately 1m due to groundworks.

<b>Site Name/Address:</b> Brentwood Preparatory School, Middleton Hall Lane, Brentwood, Essex CM15 8EQ	
<b>Parish:</b> Brentwood St Thomas	<b>District:</b> Brentwood
<b>NGR:</b> TQ 60094 94079	<b>Site Code:</b> BPS18
<b>Type of Work:</b> Trial Trenching	<b>Site Director/Group:</b> Zoe Schofield/Touchstone Archaeology
<b>Date of Work:</b> 10th - 12th September 2018	<b>Size of Area Investigated:</b> 212 sqm
<b>Location of Finds/Curating Museum:</b> Brentwood	<b>Funding source:</b> Owner
<b>Further Seasons Anticipated?</b> No	<b>Related EHCR No's:</b> 27391
<b>Final Report:</b> Archaeological evaluation at Brentwood Preparatory School, Middleton Hall Lane, Brentwood, Essex CM15 8EQ	<b>OASIS number:</b> zoeschof1 - 316961
<b>Periods Represented:</b> Post Medieval/Modern	
<b>SUMMARY OF FIELDWORK RESULTS:</b>	
<p>An archaeological evaluation was carried out in advance of a development of new buildings and car park area at Brentwood Preparatory School. Two trenches were opened within the school grounds. Trench 1 was 20m in length and located within the footprint of the former stable block. A concave ditch (possibly field drainage/boundary) was uncovered running diagonally across the trench (N-S). No finds were present. Natural geology was encountered at 1.08m depth. Trench 2 was 30m in length and contained two large pits filled with post medieval (Victorian) bottles and debris. Natural geology was encountered at 0.84m depth. Two trenches were opened within the school playing field. Trench 3 was 30m in length and contained an area of burning. No finds were present. Natural geology was encountered at 0.49m depth. Trench 4 was 30m in length and contained no features or deposits. No finds were present. Natural geology was encountered at 0.46m depth.</p>	
<b>Previous Summaries/Reports:</b>	
None	
<b>Author of Summary:</b> ZOE SCHOFIELD	<b>Date of Summary:</b> 20 <sup>th</sup> September 2018

# OASIS DATA COLLECTION FORM: England

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**OASIS ID: zoeschof1-316961**

### Project details

Project name	Archaeological evaluation at Brentwood Preparatory School, Middleton Hall Lane, Brentwood, Essex CM15 8EQ
Short description of the project	Archaeological evaluation by trial trenching at Brentwood Preparatory School, Middleton Hall Lane, Brentwood, Essex CM15 8EQ in advance of the demolition and replacement of buildings and the construction of a car park area.
Project dates	Start: 10-09-2018 End: 11-09-2018
Previous/future work	No / No
Any associated project reference codes	BPS18 - Contracting Unit No.
Any associated project reference codes	17/01233/FUL - Planning Application No.
Type of project	Field evaluation
Site status	Listed Building
Current Land use	Community Service 1 - Community Buildings
Monument type	NONE None
Significant Finds	BT Post Medieval
Methods & techniques	"Targeted Trenches"
Development type	Public building (e.g. school, church, hospital, medical centre, law courts etc.)
Prompt	Planning condition
Position in the planning process	After full determination (eg. As a condition)

### Project location

Country	England
Site location	ESSEX BRENTWOOD BRENTWOOD Brentwood Preparatory School
Postcode	CM15 8EQ
Study area	212 Square metres
Site coordinates	TQ 60094 94079 51.622223600141 0.312965919189 51 37 20 N 000 18 46 E Point
Lat/Long Datum	Unknown



Height OD /  
Depth

Min: 107m Max: 108m

### Project creators

Name of Organisation	TOUCHSTONE ARCHAEOLOGY
Project brief originator	Local Authority Archaeologist and/or Planning Authority/advisory body
Project design originator	Zoe Schofield
Project director/manager	Zoe Schofield
Project supervisor	Zoe Schofield
Type of sponsor/funding body	Landowner

### Project archives

Physical Archive recipient	Touchstone Archaeology
Physical Archive ID	BPS18
Physical Contents	"Glass"
Physical Archive notes	Post Medieval bottles (Victorian)
Digital Archive recipient	Chelmsford Museum
Digital Archive ID	BPS18
Digital Contents	"none"
Digital Media available	"Images raster / digital photography", "Text"
Paper Archive Exists?	No

### Project bibliography 1

Publication type	Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)
Title	BPS18 Archaeological Trial Trenching at Brentwood Preparatory School, Middleton Hall Lane, Brentwood, Essex CM15 8EQ
Author(s)/Editor(s)	Schofield, Z.
Date	2018
Issuer or publisher	Touchstone Archaeology
Place of issue or publication	Danbury, Essex
Description	PDF
URL	<a href="http://www.touchstonearchaeology.com">www.touchstonearchaeology.com</a>

Entered by Zoe Schofield (zoeschofield1@gmail.com)

Entered on 30 October 2018

# OASIS:

Please e-mail [Historic England](#) for OASIS help and advice

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