Archaeological Impact Assessment 89 High Street, Billericay

Klara 89 Limited February 2024

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Executive summary

This archaeological impact assessment has outlined the archaeological potential of the site and study area and examined the effects of any historic or existing impacts upon that potential. The archaeological assessment presented here satisfies national guidelines as specified in the NPPF to ensure developers adequately assess a site's heritage potential. The assessment includes an appraisal of the recorded archaeological sites and site-specific evaluations that have taken place within the study area. The conclusions of this assessment will form the starting point for any required mitigation.

The site at the rear of 89 High Street, Billericay, is situated within the Billericay conservation area and lies within an area of urban archaeological potential identified within the Billericay Historic Town Management Zones¹. The Essex Historic Environment Record (HER) lists 37 non-designated sites and/or features within the study area. The site lies within the suspected boundary of the medieval marketplace in the historic town (TOR2), identified as an area of high archaeological potential by Essex County Council.

In accordance with NPPF paragraph 211, which states:

"Local planning authorities should require developers to record and advance understanding of the significance of any heritage to be lost (wholly or in part) in a manner proportionate to their importance and the impact, and to make this evidence (and any archive generated) publicly accessible".

The assessment has identified that overall, there is an negligible to low potential for archaeological remains to be present within the site. The site has historically been subject to several intrusive ground works during previous development, notably in the late 19th century and in 1955 when the core building was demolished and subsequently rebuilt. Additionally, the site is currently a car park covered in hardstanding. Any below ground remains could have been destroyed by the ground reduction associated with the car park construction.

The designated assets relevant to this study are discussed in the accompanying Heritage Statement (PN4137/HS/1) produced by Orion Heritage.

¹ Archaeological management guidance for the historic towns of Essex

1 Introduction

- 1.1 This report provides an archaeological impact assessment of land at the rear of 89 High Street, Billericay, CM12 9AT prepared by tor&co on behalf of Klara 89 Ltd. It describes the known terrestrial resource of the site and study area, that could be affected by future housing development.
- 1.2 This archaeological impact assessment examines the potential for the discovery of as yet unknown features of archaeological interest and considers the implications of the proposed development. The report sets out the baseline, potential and significance of the known and recorded non-designated archaeological assets for the site and 250m study area. A separate Heritage Statement covering the designated assets (scheduled monuments) is to be submitted with the application.
- 1.3 The accompanying planning statement outlines the relevant planning policy background and describes the proposed development. The description of the development is as follows:

Proposed removal of surface car park to enable the erection of 2 x semidetached houses alongside associated landscaping, parking, and refuse storage.

1.4 The report is one of a series accompanying the planning application. It should therefore be read alongside the full set of submitted documents and drawings.

Site location and description

- 1.5 The application site is situated within Billericay town centre to the rear of 89 High Street and is accessed via Rose Lane. The site covers approximately 320sqm and is currently unoccupied. The neighbouring building at 89 High Street (within the same curtilage as the application site) was last used as a Lloyd's Bank, which closed in 2022. The application site consists of an open tarmac area, providing 11 parking spaces and lies adjacent to a large car parking area behind no91 High Street which also forms part of the site.
- 1.6 The application site is irregular in shape and covers an approximate area of 320 square metres. The wider-site (incl. the neighbouring former Lloyd's Bank Building) slopes slightly east to west with an approximate elevation of 98m to 96m aOD.
- 1.7 The applicant is also proposing a separate standalone planning application for the partial change of use and upward/rear extension of the existing building at 89 High Street which is within the same curtilage as the application site. This report only considers impacts in relation to the application site given no ground works are proposed as part of the neighbouring application.

2 Legislation, policy and planning background

- 2.1 National and international policy recognises the value and significance of cultural heritage, and the public interest in the preservation of particular assets and sets out mechanisms to ensure that it is taken into account in planning decision-making. Sites and features of identified interest are protected under the Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Areas Act 1979 as amended, and the Town and Country Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act 1990.
- 2.2 National planning policy guidance on conserving and enhancing the historic environment is contained within the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF), the online National Planning Practice Guidance, and the Good Practice Advice published by Historic England (GPA1 Local plan making, GPA2 Managing significance in decision-taking in the historic environment (2015) and GPA3 The setting of heritage assets (2017). Heritage assets are an irreplaceable resource and should be conserved in a manner appropriate to their significance, so that they can be enjoyed for their contribution to the quality of life of existing and future generations (NPPF, paragraph 189).
- 2.3 Paragraph 203 of the NPPF states that in determining planning applications, *"Local planning authorities should take account of:*

a) The desirability of sustaining and enhancing the significance of heritage assets and putting them to viable uses consistent with their conservation.
b) The positive contribution that conservation of heritage assets can make to sustainable communities including their economic vitality; and
c) The desirability of new development making a positive contribution to local character and distinctiveness."

- 2.4 Local planning authorities are required to take the significance of an asset into account when considering proposals, in order to avoid or mitigate conflict between any aspects of the proposals and the conservation of the asset (paragraph 201), and *"great weight"* should be given to the objective of conserving designated heritage assets (paragraph 205). As heritage assets are irreplaceable, all harm, from demolition to harm through development within the setting, requires *"clear and convincing justification"* (paragraph 206).
- 2.5 The principal objective is to avoid harm to designated heritage assets, but detailed policies define the justification required in cases of harm. These are based on whether public benefits can outweigh the harm, taking account of the great weight to be given to conservation, and consideration of whether the conflict between the provision of such public benefits and heritage conservation is necessary (paragraphs 207 and 208). The corresponding test for non-designated heritage assets, such as locally listed buildings, is in paragraph 209 which requires a *"balanced judgement"* to be made of the effects of development having regard to the scale of harm and the significance of the asset.
- 2.6 No specific policy referencing non-designated assets or archaeology is included in the Basildon District Local Plan policies (2007) however, Billericay is included in the Historic Towns Supplementary Planning Guidance for Essex (1999).

- 2.7 The site is situated within the Billericay conservation area, which was designated in 1969 in order to preserve the area including buildings of specific architectural and/or historic interest. There are more than 40 listed buildings within the conservation area along with several buildings of local interest which include both commercial and residential properties. The designated assets within study area covered in this report are discussed in the accompanying Heritage Statement (PN4137/HS/1). There are no scheduled monuments or registered parks and gardens within 250m of the site.
- 2.8 The site also lies within an area of urban archaeological potential identified within the Billericay Historic Town Management Zones².

² Archaeological management guidance for the historic towns of Essex

3 Methodology

Context

- 3.1 For the purposes of this report, documentary and cartographic sources including results from any/all known archaeological and geotechnical investigations on the site and within the study area were examined in order to determine the likely nature, extent, preservation and significance of any buried archaeological sites/features that may be present within/below the site or in its immediate vicinity.
- 3.2 The study areas lies withing the boundary of Essex County Historic Environment Record (EHER)³. The EHER was consulted for information on known archaeological features within a 250m radius. A full list of the data sources consulted is provided at the end of this document.
- 3.3 Figures and appendices are arranged as follows:
 - The HER data is annotated on figure 1, which shows the nondesignated and undesignated sites and findspots.
 - Figure 2 shows the past archaeological events in the 250m study area.
 - Figures 3a-c reproduce a series of historic Ordnance Survey maps of the study area.
 - Figure 4 is a current aerial photograph of the site to provide context.
 - The gazetteers in appendix 1 list the sites and archaeological events and provides extracts from the HER and the National Heritage List for England.
 - A glossary of specific technical terms is included as appendix 2.

Scope of the study

3.4 The archaeological elements of the study were undertaken with reference to the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists code of conduct and appropriate standards (2008, updated 2014; revised 2021).

Limitations of the study

3.5 The report's conclusions are limited by the extent and quality of existing information and therefore its usefulness in predicting the extent and definitive location of the archaeological resource must be qualified. The proposed development lies adjacent to a large car park area which was subject to an archaeological watching brief in 1998⁴. There has not been, as of yet, any intrusive ground investigations to confirm if any archaeological remains are present within the site.

³ HER data received via email $_{\rm 25\ January\ 2024}$

⁴ Land to the rear of 91 High Street, Billericay, Essex, archaeological watching brief report 1998.

Assessment of significance

3.6 This report aims to give an overall assessment of the components, qualities and level of importance or value of the heritage assets within the study area, including above and below ground archaeology. A judgement is made of the value of known archaeological features or deposits and the probability of discovering currently unknown remains, and their likely importance.

4 Historic background

- 4.1 There are no designated heritage assets identified within the site itself in the HER data provided by Essex County Historic Environment Record. However, the site does sit within the boundary of the medieval marketplace at Billericay (TOR2) and is recognised by ECC as an area of high archaeological potential.
- 4.2 The evidence is presented in chronological order in broadly accepted chronological periods such as Palaeolithic Neolithic. The EHER data lists 37 non-designated sites and/or features within the study area, none of which lie within the site boundary. In addition, the HER provides information on 58 past archaeological events (figure 2).

Geology

4.3 The British Geological Survey (BGS) records the bedrock geology of the area as belonging to the Bagshot formation. This is overlain by superficial deposits of Stanmore gravel comprising sand and gravel⁵.

Archaeological resources and historic development

- 4.4 Evidence from the Palaeolithic period (800,000-10,00BC) is generally sparse within the Essex region, with chance findspots of lithic material dominating the record through fieldwalking, construction or quarrying activities. A suspected Palaeolithic hand axe is recorded 100m east of the site, however the exact location of the findspot is unknown (TOR11).
- 4.5 Mesolithic hunter-gather communities of the postglacial period (10,000-4,000 BC) inhabited a still largely wooded environment. The river valleys and coast of the south east of England would have been favoured by providing a predictable source of food and water, as well as a means of transport and communication. Despite this, there are no known of Mesolithic or Neolithic date within the study area.
- 4.6 The Bronze Age (2,000 BC 600BC) was a period characterised by technological change, which saw the transition from the use of flint and stone to bronze and copper materials in everyday use. The site lies approximately 1.1km south west of the multi-period site at Norsey Wood, a designated scheduled monument (SMR 1019485). The site has evidence of a Bronze Age bowl barrow, Iron Age and Roman cemeteries and medieval deer bank. No Bronze Age remains have been found in the study area.
- 4.7 There is limited evidence of Iron Age date within the study area. An Iron Age pot is recorded as a findspot at 5 Capel Street (TOR36), however no accession number or date of finding is noted. Settlement of the urban area appears to have originated as a ditched enclosure of Late Iron Age date, growing into a small town in the Roman period.
- 4.8 A town was first established at the time of the Roman invasion in 55/54 BC with evidence of a Roman fort at Blunts Wall. Evidence of Roman activity within the study area consists of a Roman burial (TOR12), located 200m south of the site and sherds of Roman pottery (TOR13 and 14), associated with gas works

⁵ https://www.bgs.ac.uk

undertaken in 1960. No other remains of Roman date are recorded within the site or study area.

Late medieval period (1066 -1550)

- 4.9 Billericay was founded in the 13th century by the monks of Stratford Langthorne Abbey, with a market potentially established as early as 1253 (TOR2), although the place name is not recorded until 1291.
- 4.10 It is thought that the eastern High Street/Chapel Street block was originally a large triangular marketplace, as at Great Dunmow. The marketplace, wooden market cross and the market house were sited at the junction between High Street and Chapel Street. This area was infilled by the post-medieval period.
- 4.11 Billericay was built on wasteland, where the Mountnessing and Great Burstead parish boundaries met and incorporated several manors. In 1345 a chapel was built to the west in the Mountnessing parish (TOR9). This area was subsequently transferred to Great Burstead parish. This division is reflected in the town topography, two distinct units being identifiable, probably of different dates. The Battle of Billericay occurred during the Peasants Revolt of 1381 which is said to have taken place at Norsey Wood.
- 4.12 There are very few recorded remains which date to the medieval period within the study area. At 51 High Street, Billericay, trial trenches were excavated to the rear of the property in advance of development proposals. Five sherds of medieval pottery were found in a pit (TOR15).
- 4.13 The post-medieval town expanded in the form of ribbon development along the existing medieval street structure. First edition OS mapping (figure 3a) from 1874, illustrates that minimal development occurred in Billericay and that it mostly retained its rural character as a market town. In the town, the Union Workhouse was built in 1840 to continue to implement the Poor Law. Parts of this building were later incorporated into what was St. Andrew's Hospital. The railway arrived in Billericay in 1889, being on the Great Eastern Main Line between London and Southend-on-Sea. A building is shown within the site, fronting onto the High Street which replaced an earlier building⁶ and a small outbuilding is seen to the rear of building.
- 4.14 In the early 20th century, development was predominately centred around the High Street. The surrounding land beyond High Street continued to exhibit limited development, maintaining its rural character with open fields, garden plots, and orchards.
- 4.15 A watching brief adjacent to the site at the rear of No 91 (EV54), located a possible 19th century well to the immediate rear of the property (TOR4). An evaluation at 108 High Street revealed contemporary features which appeared to be 19th and 20th century rubbish pits and a pet burial (TOR17). A watching brief during the construction of Mayflower House (EV42) found a number of post medieval ditches thought to be the extension of the property boundaries fronting the High Street (TOR25).
- 4.16 In the 1930's, Billericay underwent a gradual transformation from a modest settlement to a well-established town. Development began to extend into the

⁶ Shown on the 1839 Great Burstead Tithe Map

surrounding fields and by 1967, the OS map shows streets of late 20th century housing, densely populating the spaces (figure 3b). The core building remained largely unchanged, however a small structure with a separate boundary is documented at the rear of the property, replacing the earlier structure.

4.17 The OS map dated 1978 (figure 3c), shows the outbuilding has been demolished and the area at the rear of 89 High Street has been covered in hardstanding for use as a car park.

Results of archaeological investigations

- 4.18 There have been 58 recorded archaeological events in the study area, none of which have taken place within the site (figure 2). The events primarily consist of watching briefs and archaeological intervention ahead of development. An overview is provided below.
- 4.19 A number of archaeological watching briefs and evaluations have been undertaken in recent years by the ECC Field Archaeology Group and others within the documented area of the medieval Billericay, but these all have provided little or no information on the medieval development of the town.
- 4.20 Adjacent to the site at No 91 High Street, an archaeological watching brief was undertaken in 1998 (EV5 & EV54). The paucity of archaeological remains on the site indicates that the historic core of Billericay does not extend into this area north of the High Street. The deposit sequence for the site consisted of topsoil overlying natural subsoil. As there was no indication of truncation by previous land use, it seems likely that the site was not developed during the medieval and post-medieval periods.
- 4.21 An archaeological trial trench evaluation was undertaken at land to the rear of 69 High Street, Billericay, in advance of the construction of two houses and associated infrastructure (EEX55914). Two trenches were excavated within the footprint of the proposed new dwellings. The trenches revealed evidence of post-medieval garden management as shown on the First Edition Ordnance Survey map of 1874. The majority of the finds date to the post-medieval period, however a small quantity residual finds including Tudor red earthenware, a 17th century clay pipe and an ornamental roof tile dating from c.1500 onwards suggest earlier activity on the site, though no features dating to this period were revealed.
- 4.22 An archaeological watching brief at undertaken in 78-83 High Street, adjacent to the site, recorded no archaeological finds or features (EV57). An evaluation and excavation undertaken on land to the rear of 76-78 High Street in 2019 (EV44). The evaluation, which comprised a single 10m long trench, revealed a number of post-medieval postholes. Subsequent excavation exposed an additional posthole, two late 18th/19th century walls and some probable extraction pits which contained domestic waste and post-medieval ceramic building material.
- 4.23 Evaluation trenching at 112-118 High Street ahead of development located no archaeological features or deposits (EV55). Two trenches were dug, one contained a modern rubbish pit and the other came down to natural once the tarmac and concrete layers had been removed.

5 Assessment of significance

5.1 The range of heritage values that may be attached to a place were outlined in the English Heritage document Conservation principles: policies and guidance for the sustainable management of the historic environment, 2008, and have been retained with minor changes in the draft updated version published by Historic England in November 2017. The revised guidance identifies three main categories of heritage values:

Archaeological interest: the ways a heritage asset holds, or potentially may hold, evidence of past human activity that could be revealed through investigation at some point. Heritage assets with archaeological interest may be the only source of evidence for human activities in the distant past which may complement or contradict the evidence of written records or verbal accounts. It includes above-ground structures as well as earthworks and buried or submerged remains.

Historic interest: the ways in which past people, events and aspects of life can be connected through a place to the present (this is split into two main aspects; illustrative and associative and can for some assets can include communal value).

Architectural and artistic interest: the ways in which people draw sensory and intellectual stimulation from a place, both from deliberate design and from the fortuitous effect of organic change over time.

5.2 Some or all of these values can be attributed to the known and recorded heritage resource present within the development site boundary and in the study area.

Archaeology

- 5.3 The nature and potential of possible archaeological survival in the area of development is summarised here, taking into account the levels of natural geology and the level and nature of land disturbance.
- 5.4 The archaeological potential of the site is considered to be negligible to low and would be of local significance. The site lies within the Billericay conservation area and within an area of archaeological potential, as it thought to have been located within the medieval marketplace (TOR2). Evidence in the wider landscape suggests that Billericay formed part of a multi-period active landscape. Despite this, survival of archaeological deposits may be limited due to truncation from modern activities.
- 5.5 Several archaeological investigations have taken place within the study area, none within the site, however a watching brief was undertaken adjacent to the site at 91 High Street, ahead of the construction of a large car park. No archaeological deposits were observed during this work. No depths were given however the deposit sequence for the site consisted of topsoil overlying natural subsoil. It concluded that the historic core of Billericay did not extend into this area north of the High Street.
- 5.6 The potential for archaeological remains dating to the prehistoric period is considered to be negligible to low. Although evidence for Prehistoric activity is seen in the wider area, notably at Norsey Wood, there is limited evidence within

the study area that prehistoric remains survive in the vicinity of the site. Any remains found would be of local significance.

- 5.7 The potential for remains dating to the Roman period is considered to be negligible. Roman activity is seen across the wider Billericay landscape, notably south of the site where a Roman fort at Blunts Wall is thought to have existed. However, there have been few finds within the study area of Roman date and any remains would have likely be truncated by medieval and modern activities. Any isolated, residual artefacts would have a low to medium significance and be of local interest, providing evidential value for Roman military activity in the area.
- 5.8 The potential of encountering medieval remains on the site is considered to be low. While the site is acknowledged as possibly situated within the bounds of the medieval marketplace, excavations at 91 High Street suggest that this specific area was not part of it. Historical records reveal that two properties from the 16th century, which once stood on the site, were demolished in the late 19th century⁷. Subsequently, the current red brick and stucco building was constructed in their stead.
- 5.9 In addition to this the historic OS map regression of the site dating from 1879 to 1978 (figures 3a-c), indicates that the rear of 89 High Street served as gardens or back plots throughout the 19th and 20th centuries until the 1970's when it was used as a car park. In addition to this an outhouse building or small structure is also depicted at the rear which was demolished and rebuilt across several areas. There is a medium potential for the discovery of remains dating to the post-medieval period. Any remains if found would likely be post-medieval garden features and evidence of landscaping. The significance of any remains found on site would be of a low local value depending on their state of preservation and the nature of the archaeological material.
- 5.10 The archaeological sensitivity of the site and study area is as follows:

Archaeological	Prehistoric	Iron Age	Medieval	Post-
resource		Roman		Medieval
On site	Negligible/ low	Negligible	low	Medium
Study area	Low	low	Medium	Medium

Table 1: Archaeological sensitivity on-site and within the study area based on known records and investigations.

⁷ The Billericay Group's 1953 publication 'Billericay and its High Street', describes the subject Building, p. 30

6 The proposals, site conditions and conclusions

6.1 The proposed development for the site is as follows:

Proposed removal of surface car park to enable the erection of 2 x semidetached houses alongside associated landscaping, parking, and refuse storage.

Archaeology

- 6.2 The physical impacts on buried archaeological sites/features/artefacts within the site would arise from any activity associated with ground disturbance, for example site works, remediation, landscaping, balancing/attenuation ponds and the construction of the new access and the preparatory foundations for the proposed residential units.
- 6.3 This assessment has outlined the likely archaeological potential within the site and the study area and examined the effects of any historic or existing impacts upon that potential. The report's conclusions are limited by the extent and quantity of existing information, and therefore, its usefulness in predicting the actual full extent and definitive location of the archaeological resource must be qualified.
- 6.4 The study site lies within an Area of High Archaeological Potential (AHAP) as defined by Essex County Council. The AHAP follows the area defined as the medieval marketplace (TOR2) which is also a designated conservation area. However, previous site investigations in the vicinity have not uncovered any evidence to suggest it lies within the medieval marketplace.
- 6.5 This Archaeological Impact Assessment has identified that overall, there is a negligible to low potential for archaeological remains to be present within the site. The application site is an area of car parking which may have potential for remnants of medieval and post-medieval backyard activity. However, any below ground remains could have been destroyed by the ground reduction associated with the car park construction, as seen at the car park at 91 High Street.
- 6.6 Previous demolition of two earlier 16th century buildings and subsequent construction and groundworks associated with the present 19th century building, as well as the outhouses shown on historic mapping, should also be considered to have had an impact to some extent on earlier archaeological remains, if ever present.
- 6.7 In accordance with NPPF paragraph 200, which states:

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. As a minimum the relevant historic environment record should have been consulted and the heritage assets assessed using appropriate expertise where necessary. Where a site on which development is proposed includes, or has the potential to include, heritage assets with archaeological interest, local planning authorities should require developers to submit an appropriate desk-based assessment and, where necessary, a field evaluation." 6.8 The Essex County Historic Environment advisor will decide whether any further archaeological work is required, but on the basis of the evidence presented above, and in particular the disturbance caused by previous phases of construction and demolition of the building and the car park, there should be no requirement for mitigation on the study site either pre- or post-determination.

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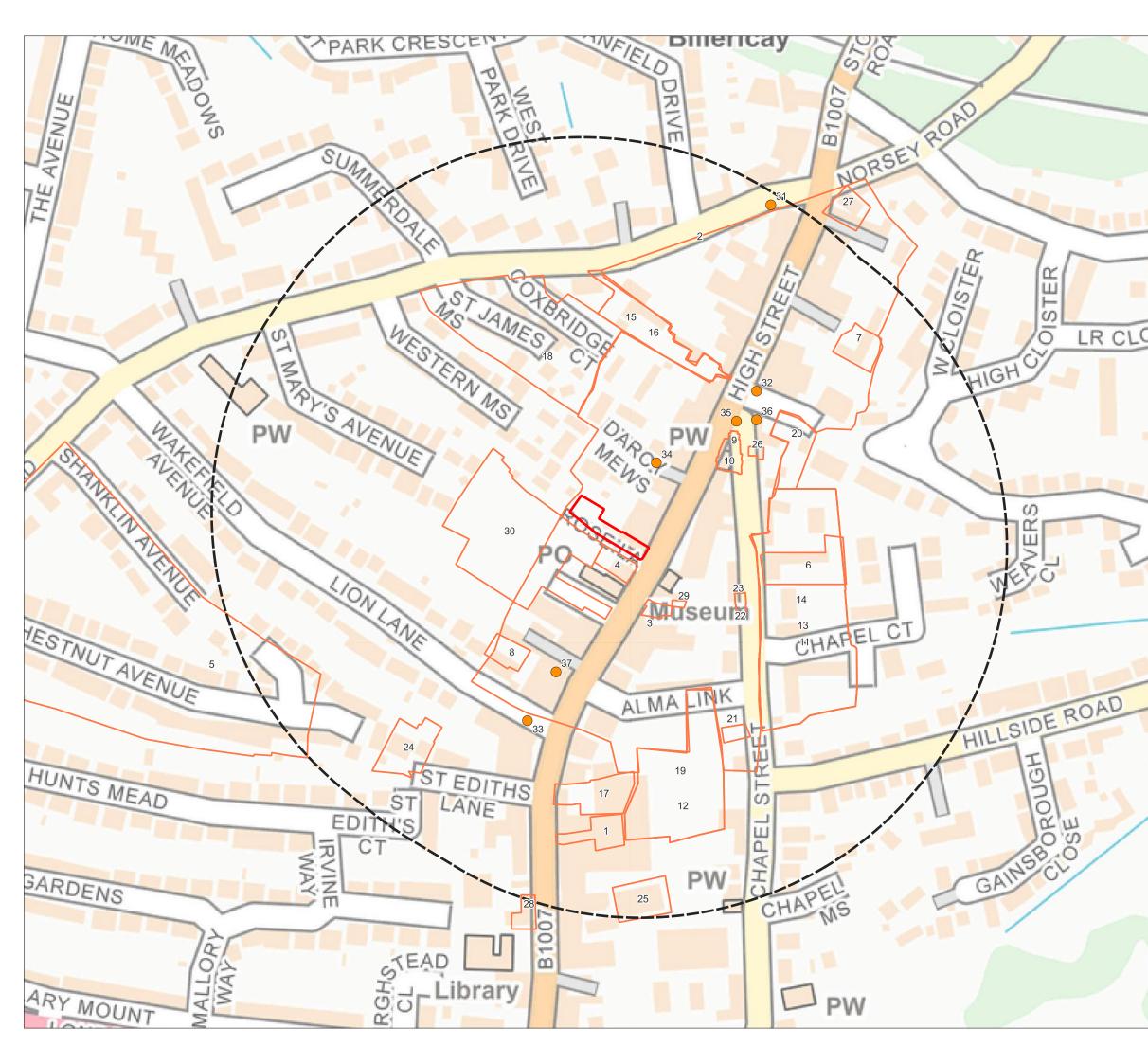
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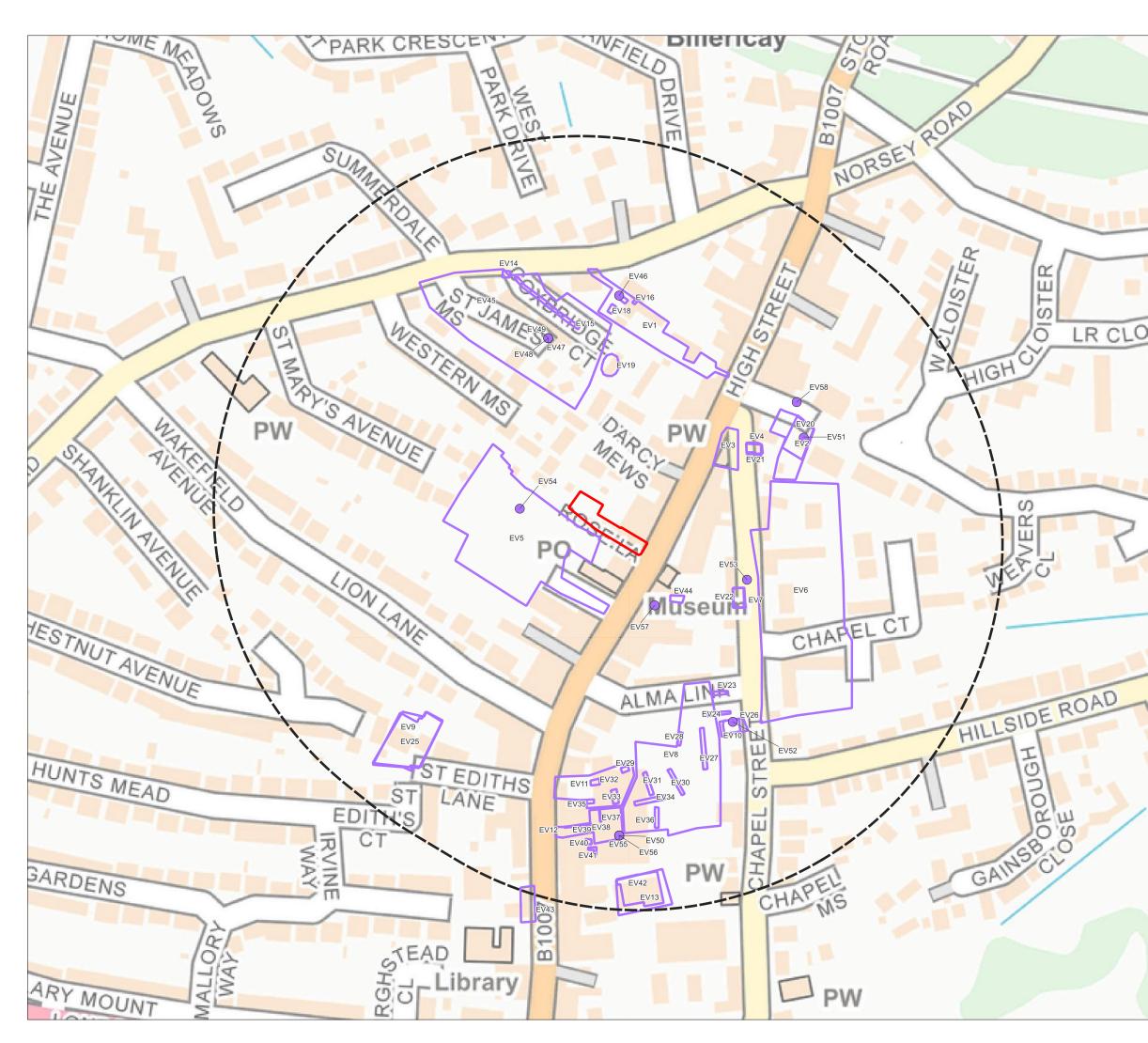
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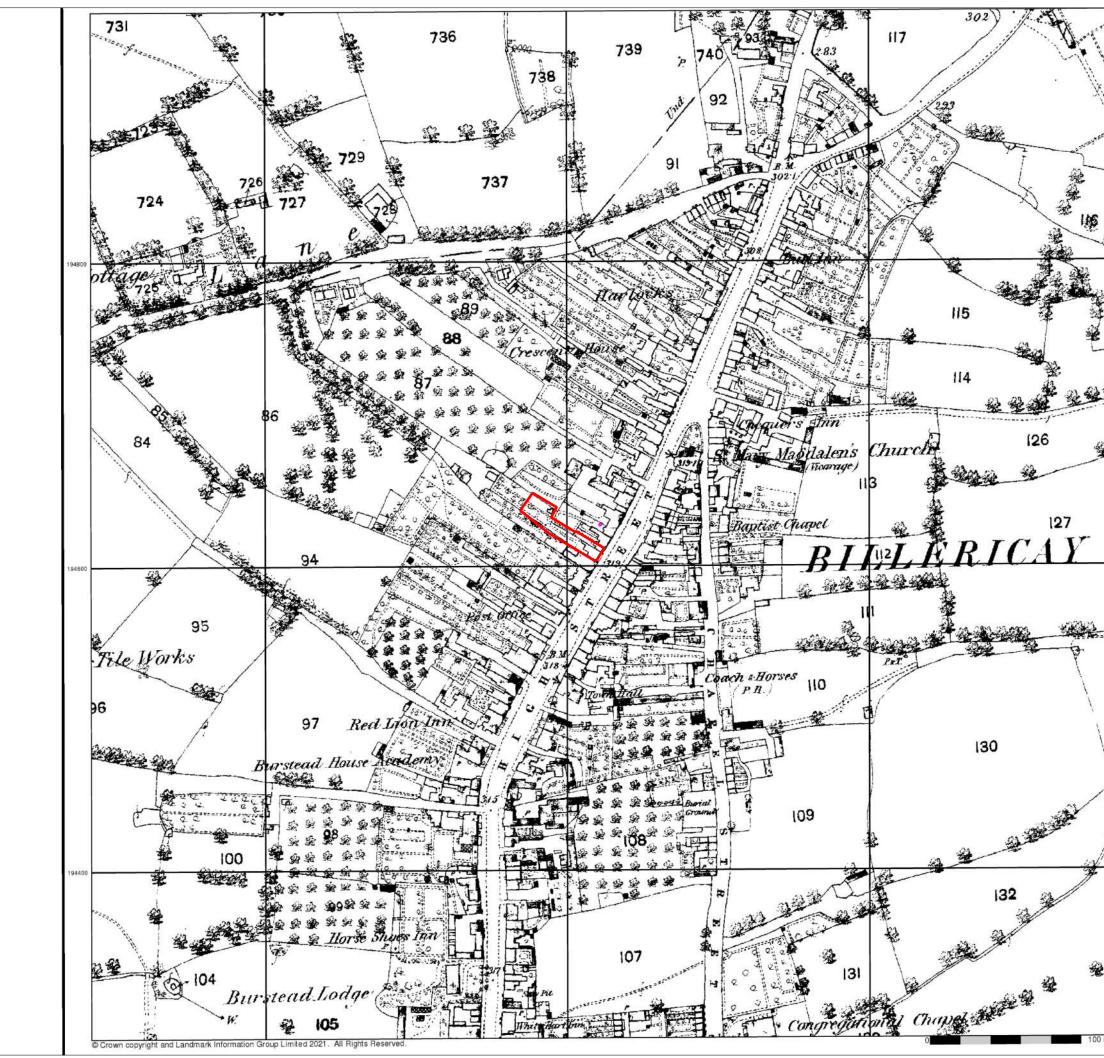
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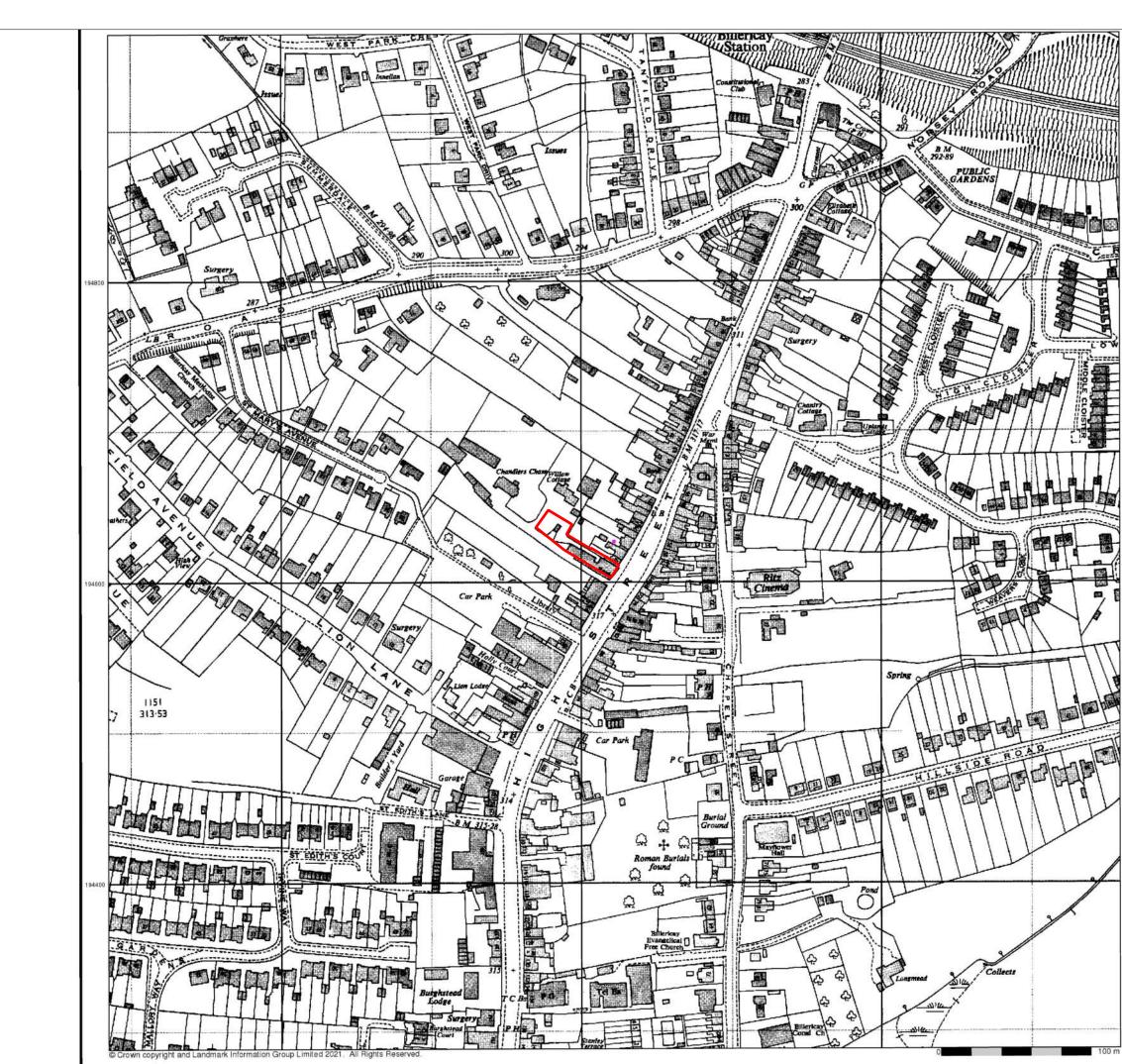
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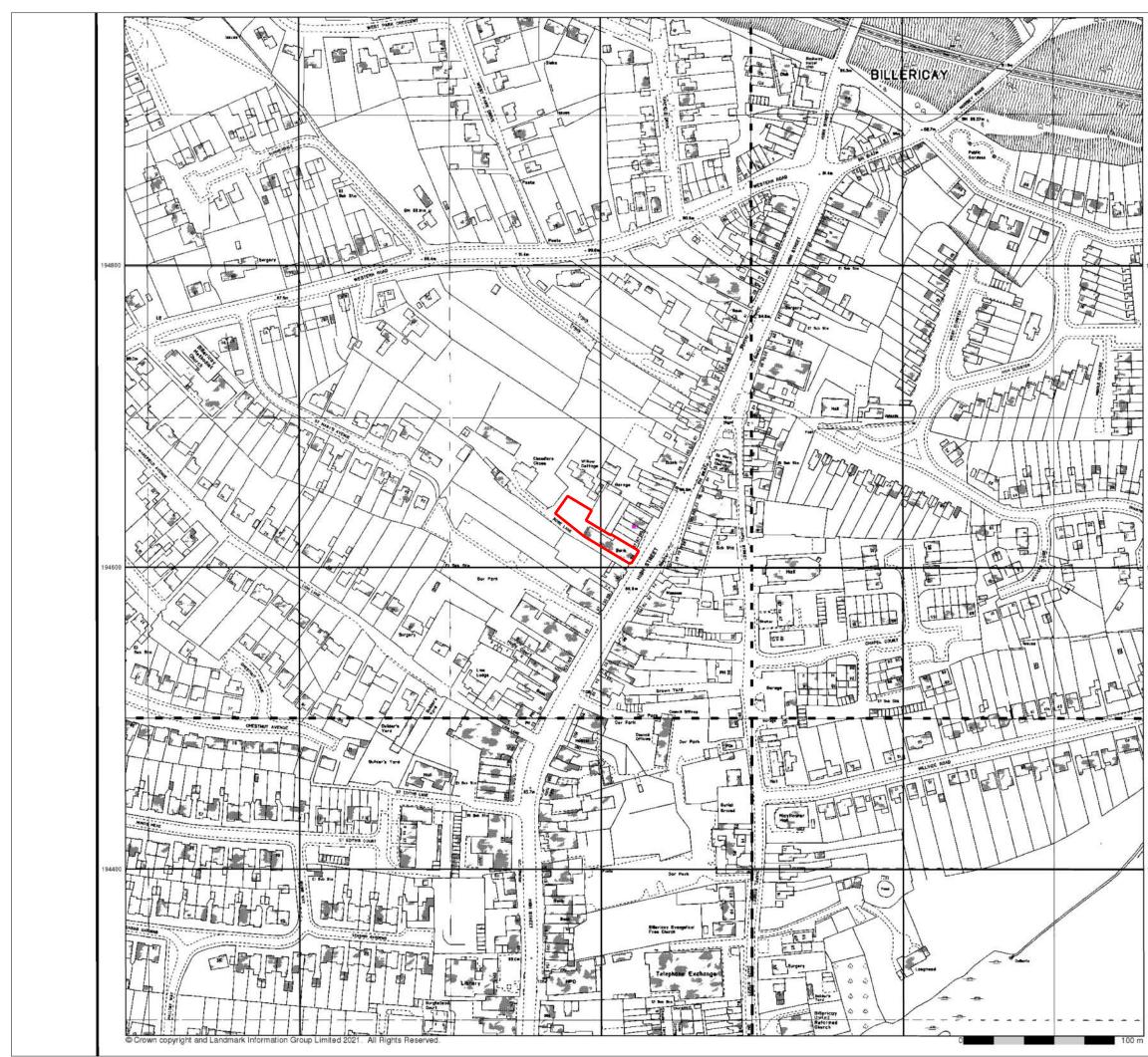
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Notes/Revision

89 High Street, Billericay Klara Homes

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Figure 4: Aerial photograph of the site

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Appendix 1: Gazetteer of all heritage assets in the study area

Shropshire HER

TOR ID	HER ID	Description
1	MEX1031064	The trial trenches located no archaeological features or deposits.
2	MEX1031789	Medieval Marketplace.
3	MEX1032495	No archaeological features found.
4	MEX1035913	Possible 19th Century Well.
5	MEX1037163	Nix's brick and Tile Works, were situated east of Back Lane and west of the High Street, Billericay.
6	MEX1039160	An archaeological desk-based assessment of the site known as the former Ritz Bingo Hall in Chapel Street suggested the possibility of archaeological remains on the site. A subsequent watching brief on the development however, failed to reveal any archaeology.
7	MEX1040570	No archaeological remains survived the high level of truncation/disturbance (possibly up to 1.5m) across the site.
8	MEX1040609	Trial trenching revealed post medieval features and two sherds of residual medieval pottery.
9	MEX18616	Chapel established in 1345.
10	MEX18620	West tower medieval (see 5411).
11	MEX18629	Palaeolithic Hand-axe.
12	MEX18633	Roman burials.
13	MEX18636	Romano-British remains.
14	MEX18637	Roman pottery.
15	MEX39422	Trial trenches were excavated to the rear of the property in advance of development proposals.
16	MEX39427	Features found included 2 pits and a late C16 or early C17 ditch.
17	MEX39893	No features which can be dated to earlier than the 16th/17th centuries.
18	MEX40675	The remains of a building erected c.1700 and a boundary wall built c.1800.

19	MEX40719	A 5% sample of the site was excavated using 6 machine cut trenches.
20	MEX40776	A watching brief was carried out on the groundworks for a development next to 57 Chantry Way and behind The Chequers pub.
21	MEX42984	A trench dug by Billericay Archaeological and Historical Society found an Irish token - ground appears to have been disturbed by gravel-digging and to consist of back-fill, perhaps dated by the token.
22	MEX42987	Watching-brief during the demolition of the barn uncovered a Tudor well as well as Roman and Iron Age sherds.
23	MEX42989	Watching-brief during the demolition of the Black Barn, Chapel St.
24	MEX42993	Watching brief prior to construction of three bungalows; nothing found.
25	MEX42997	Watching brief during the construction of Mayflower House found a number of post medieval ditches thought to be the extension of the property boundaries fronting the High Street.
26	MEX42998	Watching brief during development, nothing found.
27	MEX1050514	Evaluation revealed the remains of a modern extension along with two 19th- to 20thcentury pits and a post-medieval/modern pit, all likely associated with Elizabeth Cottage. Evidence of earlier activity consisted of a 17th- to 18th-century pit.
28	MEX1050515	Other than a late 19th/early 20th century pit/soakaway, no archaeological finds, features or deposits were recorded.
29	MEX1050516	Evaluation and excavation revealed a number of postmedieval features including postholes, walls and extraction pits.
30	MEX1031063	A watching brief during car park construction revealed no archaeological features.
31	MEX1038208	Road Barrier (destroyed)
32	MEX1038209	Spigot Mortar Emplacement (destroyed)
33	MEX1038210	Road Barrier (destroyed)
34	MEX1040320	An archaeological evaluation to the rear of 69 High Street, Billericay revealed residual finds including Tudor red earthenware. Garden features were observed in the trenches dating to the post medieval period. <1>
35	MEX18613	Medieval town-first mentioned in 1291.
36	MEX18622	Iron Age pot found in garden of 5 Chapel Street.
37	MEX1001099	C18 red brick house.

Archaeological events

EVENT ID	MON ID	Description
EV1	EEX58468	EHCR site in Billericay
EV2	EEX58469	EHCR site in Billericay
EV3	EEX58470	EHCR site in Billericay
EV4	EEX58471	EHCR site in Billericay
EV5	EEX58472	EHCR site in Billericay
EV6	EEX58473	EHCR site in Billericay
EV7	EEX58474	EHCR site in Billericay
EV8	EEX58475	EHCR site in Billericay
EV9	EEX58476	EHCR site in Billericay
EV10	EEX58477	EHCR site in Billericay
EV11	EEX58478	EHCR site in Billericay
EV12	EEX58479	EHCR site in Billericay
EV13	EEX58480	EHCR site in Billericay
EV14	EEX58498	Excavation site in Billericay
EV15	EEX58499	Excavation site in Billericay
EV16	EEX58500	Excavation site in Billericay
EV17	EEX58501	Excavation site in Billericay
EV18	EEX58502	Excavation site in Billericay
EV19	EEX58503	Excavation site in Billericay
EV20	EEX58504	Excavation site in Billericay
EV21	EEX58505	Excavation site in Billericay
EV22	EEX58506	Excavation site in Billericay
EV23	EEX58507	Excavation site in Billericay

EV24	EEX58508	Excavation site in Billericay
EV25	EEX58509	Excavation site in Billericay
EV26	EEX58510	Excavation site in Billericay
EV27	EEX58511	Excavation site in Billericay
EV28	EEX58512	Excavation site in Billericay
EV29	EEX58513	Excavation site in Billericay
EV30	EEX58514	Excavation site in Billericay
EV31	EEX58515	Excavation site in Billericay
EV32	EEX58516	Excavation site in Billericay
EV33	EEX58517	Excavation site in Billericay
EV34	EEX58518	Excavation site in Billericay
EV35	EEX58519	Excavation site in Billericay
EV36	EEX58520	Excavation site in Billericay
EV37	EEX58521	Excavation site in Billericay
EV38	EEX58522	Excavation site in Billericay
EV39	EEX58523	Excavation site in Billericay
EV40	EEX58524	Excavation site in Billericay
EV41	EEX58525	Excavation site in Billericay
EV42	EEX58526	Excavation site in Billericay
EV43	EEX59936	Archaeological watching brief 137-139 High Street Billericay
EV44	EEX59937	Land at 76-78 High Street Billericay, Essex cm12 9BS:Archaeological evaluation and excavation
EV45	EEX58467	EHCR site in Billericay
EV46	EEX39423	PART EXCAV by Lavender, N,
EV47	EEX40676	SALV RECORD by Godbold, S,
EV48	EEX40677	SALV RECORD by Godbold, S,
EV49	EEX40678	SALV RECORD by Foreman, S

EV50	EEX40720	SALV RECORD by Barber, L,
EV51	EEX40777	SALV RECORD by Austin, L,
EV52	EEX42985	SALV EXCAV by BAHS,
EV53	EEX42988	SALV EXCAV by B.A.H.S,
EV54	EEX52403	Land to the rear of 91 High St, Billericay
EV55	EEX52404	112-118 High Street, Billericay
EV56	EEX52405	112-118 High St, Billericay
EV57	EEX52806	78-82 High Street, Billericay Arch. Watching Brief
EV58	EEX59275	38 High Street, Billericay

Appendix 2: Glossary of specific technical terms

Alluvium	Sediment laid down by a river. Can range from sands and gravels deposited by fast flowing water and clays that settle out of suspension during overbank flooding. Other deposits found on a valley floor are usually included in the term alluvium (e.g. peat).
Archaeological Priority Area (APA)	Area of archaeological priority, significance, potential or other title, designated by the local authority.
Bronze Age	2,000 – 600 BC
Early medieval	AD 410 – 1066. Also referred to as the Saxon period.
Evaluation (archaeological)	A limited programme of non–intrusive and/or intrusive fieldwork which determines the presence or absence of archaeological features, structures, deposits, artefacts or ecofacts within a specified area.
Excavation (archaeological)	A programme of controlled, intrusive fieldwork with defined research objectives which examines, records and interprets archaeological remains, retrieves artefacts, ecofacts and other remains within a specified area. The records made and objects gathered are studied and the results published in detail appropriate to the project design.
Findspot	Chance find/antiquarian discovery of artefact. The artefact has no known context, is either residual or indicates an area of archaeological activity.
Heritage asset	A building, monument, site, place, area or landscape positively identified as having a degree of significance meriting consideration in planning decisions. Heritage assets are the valued components of the historic environment. They include designated heritage assets and assets identified by the local planning authority (including local listing).
Historic England Archive	National database of archaeological sites, finds and events. Generally not as comprehensive as the county HER.
Historic Environment Record (HER)	Archaeological and built heritage database held and maintained by the local planning authority. Previously known as the sites and Monuments Record
Iron Age	600 BC – AD 43
Later medieval	AD 1066 – 1500
Made Ground	Artificial deposit. An archaeologist would differentiate between modern made ground, containing identifiably modern inclusion such as concrete (but not brick or tile), and undated made ground, which may potentially contain deposits of archaeological interest.
Mesolithic	12,000 – 4,000 BC
Neolithic	4,000 – 2,000 BC
Ordnance Datum (OD)	A vertical datum used by Ordnance Survey as the basis for deriving altitudes on maps.
Palaeolithic	700,000–12,000 BC
Post-medieval	AD 1500 – present
Preservation by record	Archaeological mitigation strategy where archaeological remains are fully excavated and recorded archaeologically, and the results published. For remains of lesser significance, preservation by record might comprise an archaeological watching brief.
Roman	AD 43 – 410
Scheduled monument	An ancient monument or archaeological deposits designated by the Secretary of State as a 'Scheduled Ancient Monument' and protected under the Ancient Monuments Act.
Study area	Area surrounding a proposed development within which data is collected and analysed in order to set the site into its archaeological and historical context.