

Essex Sound and Video Archive

Sources on Housing



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Essex Sound and Video Archive Sources on Housing

This guide to the collection has been produced to assist searchers who are looking for sound and video recordings on the subject of housing. Before ordering any of the items listed below, consult the tape summaries on the Essex Record Office catalogue database SEAX to make sure that this is the right tape for your needs. Video recordings are indicated by italics.

The recordings range from recollections of housing in the 1890s to news reports on housing policy in the 1990s. The main categories are as follows:

1) Housing before 1914

	Reference
Bradfield: description of house	SA 12/513/1
Burnham: domestic accommodation	SA 24/755/1
Burnham: living conditions of family in Lilian Road	SA 5/383/1
Chelmsford: memories of living at The Limes, London Road; father an architect; BBC studios now in former house; buildings designed by father; houses and residents in London Road	SA 15/707/1
Colchester: description of childhood home; housework	SA 8/1579/1
Colchester: description of family home and housework	SA 8/1447/1
Colchester: description of house	SA 8/1575/1
Colchester: description of house and chores	SA 8/1437/1
Colchester: description of house; difficulty of bathing	SA 8/1450/1
Colchester: description of house; garden; housework	SA 8/1660/1
Colchester: description of houses	SA 8/1076/1
Colchester: housing	SA 8/998/1
Colchester: memories of childhood house	SA 8/1382/1
Colchester: slum house; landlord; rent; bath; toilet; oil lamps	SA 8/1585/1
Cressing: Cressing Temple Farm house	SA 24/1015/1
Crockleford Heath: domestic arrangements - washing clothes, wells, earth closet, oil lamps, coal	SA 8/1074/1
Elmstead Market: description of tied cottage – part 1	SA 8/994/1
Elmstead Market: description of tied cottage – part 2	SA 8/997/1
Finchingfield: costs of running Spains Hall and modern improvements, such as a electricity	SA 13/612/1
Great Bentley: account of parents' tied house	SA 12/509/1
Great Bromley: description of Bromley Cottage; water supply; sleeping arrangements	SA 8/1658/1
Leigh: compulsory purchase of cottages; water supply; sanitation; changes in Leigh	SA 20/1556/1
Little Chesterford: housing; water supply; tied cottage	SA 18/913/1
Old Heath: description of house; its location; housework	SA 8/1440/1

Rowhedge: childhood home – rooms; water supply; bath; toilet; lighting; heating	SA 8/1663/1
Rowhedge: description of childhood home	SA 8/1582/1
Thorpe-le-Soken: description of house	SA 12/512/1
Wickam St. Paul: memories of grandmother's cottage; water supply; candles	SA 17/793/1

2) 1914 – 1945

	Reference
Braintree: two rooms; police houses at Stapleford Abbots; council flat in Dagenham	SA 25/1/12/1
Burnham: description of house and garden at Mangapps	SA 24/1008/1
Canvey Island: Hester's Development - parallels with Plotlands; description of bungalow built by father	SA 20/1144/1
Changes in three Essex villages during 20th century – Steeple Bumpstead, Ingatestone and Newport	SA 1/458/1
Chelmsford: housing 1900-1939	SA 24/357/1
Chelmsford: housing 1900-1939	SA 24/358/1
Chelmsford: housing between the wars	SA 24/356/1
Chelmsford: major land use changes from farmland to housing; large private houses and residents	SA 15/704/1
Colchester: description of childhood home	SA 8/974/1
Colchester: description of childhood home	SA 8/975/1
Colchester: description of houses in Denmark Street and Morant Road	SA 8/540/1
Colchester: detailed description of childhood home	SA 8/973/1
Colchester: first house; mortgage	SA 8/1593/1
Colchester: first house; present house	SA 8/1436/1
Colchester: had house built 1933; land; mortgage	SA 8/1079/1
Colchester: housing; rent; condition of streets and footpaths	SA 8/958/1
Colchester: sanitary arrangements and washing facilities	SA 8/947/1
Colchester: working class housing	SA 8/1590/1
Doddinghurst: expansion since the 1930s	SA 1/232/1
Forest Gate: description of house; larger house in Wanstead	SA 8/1651/1
Great Chesterford: candles and paraffin lamps, water from pump next door, Valor stoves for cooking and heating	SA 18/922/1
Great Chesterford: housing; water supply; sewerage	SA 18/915/1
Great Chesterford: sewerage and water supply; electricity; paraffin lamps; oil stoves	SA 18/916/1
Great Wakering: increase in housing	SA 1/128/1
Great Warley: housing	SA 2/1/13/1
Iford: description of house; domestic arrangement; servants	SA 8/393/1
Laindon: father built several bungalows in the area; detailed account of Laindon 1925-1939 - location of houses, roads, bungalows, allotments, with names of families; first council houses	SA 3/412/1
Laindon: self built bungalows	SA 3/421/1
Lee Chapel: air raid damage during World War II to very old cottages and first council houses in Lee Chapel Lane	SA 3/416/1

Old Heath: description of house	SA 8/1429/1
Pitsea: description of houses; domestic routine	SA 3/404/1
Rowhedge: description of childhood home	SA 8/1582/1
Saffron Walden: detailed description of shops and houses in High Street	SA 24/1597/1
Tollesbury: conversion of motor torpedo boat into living accommodation	SA 1/238/1
Wanstead: description of childhood home; domestic routine	SA 8/1652/1
Wanstead: description of childhood home; domestic routine	SA 8/1653/1
Wickford: description of Brickfield Cottages and home in Brick Lane	SA 3/532/1
Wickford: description of houses in Jersey Gardens	SA 3/522/1
Wickford: memories of a plotland bungalow	SA 3/525/1
Wivenhoe: description of homes	SA 8/484/1
Woodford: description of grandmother's house in Woodford where he later lived; history of Great Mollands farmhouse, South Ockendon	SA 10/587/1

3) Post-war Housing

	Reference
Ashdon: council housing	SA 1/11/1
Ashdon: recent developments; council housing ; need for low cost housing to keep young people in village	SA 1/10/1
Basildon: description of Basildon in early 1950s; squatters; beauty of area; rent; rates; description of current house	SA 20/1131/1
Basildon: development from 1951	SA 3/411/1
Basildon: living conditions in the New Town	SA 3/206/1
<i>Basildon: old area around Basildon and the modern estates of the town, 1974</i>	<i>VA 1/1/1</i>
Brentwood: Railway Square in the 1950s; childhood home and slum clearance	SA 2/1/32/1
Brentwood: 'Staying Put' Project, run by the Anchor Housing Trust	SA 2/1/3/1
Changes in three Essex villages during 20th century – Steeple Bumpstead, Ingatestone, Newport	SA 1/458/1
Chelmsford: description of house	SA 24/1456/1
The Chignalls: decline in population and number of farm cottages	SA 1/15/1
Coggeshall: "Eco-houses"	SA 1/1634/1
Colchester: first home; furniture; second home - description of buying land and having it built	SA 8/1581/1
Colchester: new bungalow	SA 8/1662/1
Essex County Council: housing strategy 1996	SA 1/1730/1
<i>Harlow: 'Experiment in Towns', 1958</i>	<i>VA 1/14/1</i>
<i>Harlow: 'Faces of Harlow', 1964</i>	<i>VA 1/28/1</i>
Harlow Housing and Design	SA 22/1352/1
Harlow Housing and Design	SA 22/1353/1
Harlow Housing and Design	SA 22/1354/1
Harlow Housing and Design	SA 22/1355/1

Harlow Housing and Design	SA 22/1356/1
Harlow Housing and Design	SA 22/1357/1
Harlow Housing and Design	SA 22/1358/1
Harlow Housing and Design	SA 22/1359/1
Harlow Housing and Design	SA 22/1360/1
Harlow Housing and Design	SA 22/1361/1
Harlow Housing and Design	SA 22/1362/1
Harlow Housing and Design	SA 22/1363/1
Harlow Housing and Design	SA 22/1364/1
Harlow Housing and Design	SA 22/1365/1
Harlow Housing and Design	SA 22/1366/1
Harlow Housing and Design	SA 22/1367/1
Harlow Housing and Design	SA 22/1368/1
Harlow: previous homes of new inhabitants; post-war housing shortage; building schemes since first development	SA 1/63/1
Kelvedon: building of Fullers Close	SA 44/1/2/1
Kelvedon: development of Riverside estate	SA 44/1/29/1
South Woodham Ferrers: 'A Country Town Experiment'	SA 1/102/1
<i>South Woodham Ferrers: 'A Riverside Country Town', 1981</i>	<i>VA 3/3/2/1 & VA 3/8/9/1</i>
Southend: housing; shortages; 'doss' houses	SA 20/1151/1
Stansted: new house building plans	SA 1/1744/1
Stansted: new housing in surrounding villages	SA 1/1742/1
Stansted: urbanisation	SA 1/1741/1
Tolleshunt Knights: planning enquiry into proposed development of 40 houses	SA 1/1205/1

4) Council Houses

	Reference
Ashdon: council housing	SA 1/10/1
Ashdon: council housing	SA 1/11/1
Burnham: council house labourer	SA 5/383/1
Chelmsford: council housing between the wars	SA 24/356/1
Coggeshall: council houses refurbished by Braintree District Council to a high standard of environment-friendliness	SA 1/1634/1
Dagenham: council flat	SA 25/1/12/1
Harlow: moving from London to a council house in Harlow in 1926	SA 4/692/1
Laindon: first council houses	SA 3/412/1
Lee Chapel: first council houses in Lee Chapel Lane	SA 3/416/1
Southend: councillor; chair of Housing Committee in 1970s; effect of 'socialism' and welfare state; number of council houses 1946-80; rents; maintenance costs; sale of council houses; effect on council; Kursaal development- rents, allocation; Conservative plans for housing in Southend	SA 20/1569/1

5) Plotlands

	Reference
Basildon and South Woodham Ferrers: difficulties of establishing ownership of land	SA 1/464/1
Canvey Island: Hester's Development - parallels with Plotlands	SA 20/1144/1
Doddinghurst: building of temporary homes for East Enders	SA 1/17/1
Doddinghurst: sale of agricultural land for 'shacks'	SA 1/232/1
Doddinghurst: sale of land for temporary homes in 1930; migration of Londoners	SA 1/16/1
Laindon: moved to smallholding in Laindon 1919; poor housing conditions; no mains services and unmade roads; poor offers for land made by Council in advance of coming of new town	SA 3/268/1
Laindon: self built bungalows	SA 3/421/1
South Woodham Ferrers: problems involved in buying land from East End small holders	SA 1/102/1
Wickford: plotland bungalow	SA 3/525/1

6) Utilities (water supply, sewerage, electricity, etc.)

	Reference
Canvey Island: water supply; sewage; refuse	SA 20/1144/1
Colchester: water supply	SA 8/1450/1
Crockleford Heath: wells; earth closet; oil lamps; coal	SA 8/1074/1
<i>Electricity: video discussing the relationship between Bradwell Power Station and the village of Bradwell, 1991</i>	<i>VA 4/1/1/1</i>
<i>Electricity: Promotional film on Bradwell Power Station, including information on how the power station generates electricity, the materials used, and environmental controls, 1990</i>	<i>VA 4/1/2/1</i>
Great Bromley: water supply	SA 8/1658/1
Great Chesterford: sewerage and water supply; electricity; paraffin lamps; oil stoves	SA 18/916/1
Great Chesterford: water supply; sewerage	SA 18/915/1
Great Wakering: arrival of public utilities; early standpipes in streets and sewage collection at night	SA 1/128/1
Harlow: paid for cable to bring electricity to house	SA 4/692/1
Leigh: water supply; sanitation	SA 20/1556/1
Little Chesterford: water supply	SA 18/913/1
Rowhedge: water supply; lighting; heating	SA 8/1663/1
<i>Telephones: video made by British Telecom to illustrate their response to the damage caused by the hurricane of 1987.</i>	<i>VA 27/5/1</i>
West Mersea: water supply	SA 8/1432/1
Wickford: installation of mains services	SA 3/532/1
Wickford: plotland bungalow – well; sanitary conditions	SA 3/525/1
Wickham St. Paul: water supply	SA 17/793/1

7) Farm Houses and Cottages

	Reference
Basildon: Crays Hall, Church Lane - very old farm house	SA 3/415/1
The Chignalls: decline in population and number of farm cottages	SA 1/15/1
Elmstead Market: tied cottage	SA 8/994/1
Elmstead Market: tied cottage	SA 8/997/1
Feering and Kelvedon: old farm houses and manor houses	VA 1/45/1
Great Bentley: account of parents' tied house	SA 12/509/1
Little Chesterford: tied cottage	SA 18/913/1
South Ockendon: history of Great Mollands farmhouse	SA 10/587/1

8) Bungalows and Pre-fabs

	Reference
Colchester: new bungalow	SA 8/1662/1
Laindon: bungalows	SA 3/412/1
Laindon: self built bungalows	SA 3/421/1
Pitsea: buying a bungalow in St. Michael's Avenue, since compulsorily purchased and demolished	SA 3/405/1

9) Historic Houses

	Reference
Burnham: "Mangapps"	SA 24/1008/1
Chelmsford: The Limes, London Road	SA 15/707/1
Chignal Smealey: history of "The Bells"	SA 24/502/1
Cressing: Cressing Temple Farm house	SA 24/1015/1
Dedham: 12th century Flemish weavers cottage restored	SA 1/1109/1
Essex: 'The House That Essex Built' – construction of old houses in Essex	VA 1/20/1
Feering and Kelvedon: old manor houses and farm houses	VA 1/45/1
Finchingfield: Spains Hall	SA 13/612/1
Great Warley: history of "Wallets"	SA 2/1/1/1
Little Chesterford: King's Farm - description of farmhouse, a 17th century listed building	SA 18/911/1

10) Building Trade

	Reference
Basildon: leader of Basildon Tenants Association – background in building trade	SA 3/411/1
Essex: 'The House That Essex Built' – construction of old houses in Essex	VA 1/20/1
Holland-on-Sea: work in building trade	SA 39
Harlow: worked for Wimpey in Harlow in order to get a house; sites he worked on; comradely atmosphere; speed of building	SA 22/1365/1
South Woodham Ferrers: involvement of local builders	SA 1/102/1
Wickford: bricklayer	SA 3/522/1

11) Rents and Mortgages

	Reference
Colchester: mortgage; first house	SA 8/1593/1
Colchester: rent	SA 8/958/1
Colchester: rent	SA 8/1585/1
Harlow: complaints from tenants about housing in Harlow	SA 22/1353/1
Harlow: price of houses; rent; building costs; rates	SA 22/1366/1
Harlow: views on interest charges and rents	SA 22/1352/1
Saffron Walden: rent	SA 24/1597/1
Southend: rent	SA 20/1151/1
Wickham St. Paul: rent collection	SA 17/793/1

12) Local Government

	Reference
Essex County Council: housing strategy 1996	SA 1/1730/1
Harlow: Estates Officer for Harlow New Town Development Corporation	SA 22/1366/1
Harlow: Labour Party housing ideals	SA 22/1352/1
Southend: housing shortage	SA 20/1151/1
Southend: Housing Welfare Officer and Bailiff for Southend Corporation	SA 20/1153/1
Stansted: defeat of campaigners fighting to stop new houses being built in villages surrounding Stansted 19/7/96; latest situation regarding new houses 26/7/96; plans to build even more houses, interview with Charles St. George from Berisfords, the company that wants to build 875 houses	SA 1/1742/1
Stansted: urbanisation	SA 1/1741/1
Stansted: Essex County Council interviewed on house building plans decision	SA 1/1744/1
Tolleshunt Knights: Planning Enquiry into proposed development of 40 houses	SA 1/1205/1

13) Police Houses

	Reference
Chelmsford: police houses	SA 25/1/11/1
Chelmsford: police houses and allotments; police accommodation in Billericay	SA 25/1/8/1
Saffron Walden: police accommodation	SA 24/1597/1
Southend: police officer's house	SA 20/1151/1
Stapleford Abbots: police houses	SA 25/1/12/1

14) Chelmsford

	Reference
Essex County Council housing strategy 1996	SA 1/1730/1
Land use changes from farmland to housing; large private houses and residents; alleys and pasageways before the war	SA 15/704/1
Memories of Chelmsford by an architect's daughter from 1910	SA 15/707/1

Chelmsford: homes and housing conditions, including council housing in Chelmsford between wars	SA 24/356/1
Chelmsford: description of homes and living conditions from childhood to married life - Moulsham Street, Baker Street, Upper Bridge Road, Rectory Lane, Henry Road, Baddow Road; Chelmsford Council Housing Estate - Kings Road - from 1927	SA 24/357/1
Chelmsford: description of homes and living conditions from childhood to married life - Railway Street, Hope Square, Haycocks Row; began married life in rooms in Warwick Square; moved to new council house on Boarded Barns Estate in 1926	SA 24/358/1
Chelmsford: early dislike of Chelmsford - comparison with London	SA 24/1456/1

15) Colchester

	Reference
Barrack Street; details of house in Canterbury Road, including sleeping and bathing arrangements; army accommodation; childhood home	SA 8/1575/1
Building of house 1933 – land; mortgage	SA 8/1079/1
Crockleford Heath: domestic arrangements - washing clothes; wells; earth closet; oil lamps; coal	SA 8/1074/1
Denmark Street and Morant Road: description of houses	SA 8/540/1
Description of childhood home	SA 8/974/1
Description of childhood home	SA 8/975/1
Description of childhood home	SA 8/1382/1
Description of childhood home; housework	SA 8/1579/1
Description of childhood home; housework	SA 8/1652/1
Description of childhood homes	SA 8/1076/1
Description of family home; housework	SA 8/1447/1
Description of house	SA 8/1660/1
Description of house; chores (1914-1926)	SA 8/1437/1
Description of house; difficulty of bathing; housework	SA 8/1450/1
Detailed description of childhood home	SA 8/973/1
Details of housing: rent; condition of streets and footpaths	SA 8/958/1
First home and furniture; second home - description of buying land and having it built	SA 8/1581/1
First house and furnishings; present house	SA 8/1436/1
First house; mortgage	SA 8/1593/1
Housing	SA 8/998/1
Housing	SA 8/1661/1
New bungalow	SA 8/1662/1
Old Heath: description of home	SA 8/1429/1
Old Heath: description of house and location; housework	SA 8/1440/1
Rowhedge: childhood home – rooms; water supply; bath; toilet; lighting; heating	SA 8/1663/1
Rowhedge: description of childhood home	SA 8/1582/1
Sanitary arrangements and washing facilities	SA 8/947/1

Slum house – landlord; rent; bath; toilet; oil lamps	SA 8/1585/1
Wivenhoe: description of homes (from 1918)	SA 8/484/1
Working class housing	SA 8/1590/1

16) Harlow

	Reference
<i>Experiment in Towns: Harlow, 1958</i>	VA 1/14/1
<i>Faces of Harlow, 1964</i>	VA 1/28/1
Harlow Housing and Design: Mr and Mrs Desormeaux	SA 22/1352/1
Harlow Housing and Design: Jim Desormeaux, Town Councillor	SA 22/1353/1
Harlow Housing and Design: Mr and Mrs Evans, owned the first shop in Harlow selling light fittings	SA 22/1354/1
Harlow Housing and Design: Mrs Evans	SA 22/1355/1
Harlow Housing and Design: Alexander McCowen, architect	SA 22/1356/1
Harlow Housing and Design: Mrs Claire Simmons, moved to Harlow in 1952 from London	SA 22/1357/1
Harlow Housing and Design: Mr Alderson and Mrs Thompson	SA 22/1358/1
Harlow Housing and Design: Dave Bracy, Harlow Antiques	SA 22/1359/1
Harlow Housing and Design: Vic Holden, furniture retailer	SA 22/1360/1
Harlow Housing and Design: Sonia Anderson, moved to Harlow in 1949	SA 22/1361/1
Harlow Housing and Design: Violet Tolley, moved to Harlow 1951	SA 22/1362/1
Harlow Housing and Design: Mrs Vicky Taylor, moved to Harlow in 1952	SA 22/1363/1
Harlow Housing and Design: Mrs Summers, moved to Harlow in 1952	SA 22/1364/1
Harlow Housing and Design: Mr and Mrs Palmer, moved from Walthamstow to Harlow in 1951	SA 22/1365/1
Harlow Housing and Design: Donald Anderson, Estates Officer for Harlow New Town Development Corporation	SA 22/1366/1
Harlow Housing and Design: Ida May Bodkin, moved to Harlow in 1954	SA 22/1367/1
Harlow Housing and Design: Lady Gibberd	SA 22/1368/1
Origins of New Towns in Essex: Harlow - archive recording of Sir Frederick Gibberd, the architect, and interview with his widow on his landscaping plans; comments by early residents	SA 1/464/1
Previous homes of new inhabitants; post-war housing shortage; building schemes since first development	SA 1/63/1

17) Basildon

	Reference
Architects Department of Basildon Development Corporation 1954; description of Basildon in early 1950s; squatters; beauty of area; rent; rates	SA 20/1131/1
<i>Basildon Our Town; film made by pupils and staff of</i>	VA 1/1/1

Woodlands School, 1974	
Basildon New Town Fire Service: living conditions in the New Town	SA 3/206/1
Development of Basildon from 1951	SA 3/411/1
Ghyllgrove Farm, Honeyput Lane; resistance to compulsory purchase; building of first houses in Honeyput Lane; Crays Hall, Church Lane - very old farm house and ancient structure	SA 3/415/1
Interview with Charles Boniface, Basildon New Town General Manager, about the development of the new town, 1967	SA 20/2/7/1
Interview with Harry Bacon of the Planning Office of Basildon Development Corporation, relating to the issues involved in the planning of the new town, 1969	SA 20/2/8/1

18) Miscellaneous

	Reference
Caravans: fire safety, 1993	VA 3/3/3/1
Conversion of motor torpedo boat into living accommodation	SA 1/238/1
Feering and Kelvedon: manor houses; farm houses; inns and shops; older houses with Georgian facades	VA 1/45/1
Hervey Benham: council and court proceedings; politics	SA 8/1369/1
Heybridge: controversy over the development of archaeological site for new homes, 1994	SA 1/1933/1
House which is a converted yacht at West Mersea	SA 1/1106/1
Lady Gibberd and Harlow; Sir Frederick Gibberd	SA 22/1368/1
Memories of Chelmsford by an architect's daughter (from 1910)	SA 15/707/1
"Our House" - Nine Essex Homes: BBC Essex series visiting unusual homes in Essex	SA 1/1732/1
'Staying Put' Project in Brentwood, run by the Anchor Housing Trust	SA 2/1/3/1
Stephen McAdden House, old people's home in Southend	SA 20/1550/1
Stephen McAdden House, old people's home in Southend	SA 20/1551/1

The Essex Sound and Video Archive is being added to all the time and there may be recordings on this subject that have been recently added to the collection. Please consult the Essex Record Office catalogue database SEAX for further references.

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Cover photo:

Housing at Basildon New Town, c.1963 (ref: I/Mp 22/1/3)