

CAT Report 282 - report on negative watching brief

Site address: 60 East Hill, Colchester (formerly Jet petrol filling station)
Planning application no: F/COL/01/1905
Date of fieldwork: 26/09/03 and 28/07/04
NGR: TM 00497 25299
CBC brief?: Yes
Sketch attached?: Yes
Museum accession code: 2003.264

Archaeological background

East Hill in the Roman and medieval periods was the main route east from Colchester town centre, with a continuous frontage of houses on both sides of the road. The site itself was once occupied by a 15th-century property, demolished to make way for the petrol station (UAD no 792). Part of a Roman road was found in 1928 at a depth of 1m, immediately adjacent to the site on its west side, under Guildford Road (UAD no 586). The development site is situated approximately 300m outside the Roman town wall. Nothing of archaeological significance was recorded in the development area itself.

Brief report

2003 - observation by Pauline Skippins of one trench approximately 1m x 3m in size and 1m in depth, in the south-eastern corner of site. This trench had been dug to drain contaminated water from the site. The section showed modern sand and gravel hogging overlying black contaminated soil. It was not possible to see any archaeological features. Several digital photographs were taken.

2004 - observation by Kate Orr of external drain-trenches dug along the southern edge of the site. They were approximately 0.8m deep. Natural ground was not reached. Modern hogging overlying black contaminated ground was observed again. Roman tile was visible but no features were observed.

Finds

None

Report author: K Orr

Report date: 23rd August 2004

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Essex Heritage Conservation Record/ *Essex Archaeology and History*

Summary sheet

Site address: 60 East Hill (formerly Jet petrol filling station), Colchester, Essex	
Parish: Colchester	District: Colchester
NGR: TM 00497 25299	Site code: Museum accession code 2003.264
Type of work: Watching brief	Site director/group: Colchester Archaeological Trust
Date of work: September 2003 and July 2004	Size of area investigated: 0.123 hectares
Location of finds/curating museum: Colchester Museums	Funding source: Developer
Further seasons anticipated? No	Related EHCR nos:
Final report: CAT Report 282	
Periods represented: None	
<p>Summary of fieldwork results:</p> <p>2003 - observation of one trench approximately 1m x 3m in size and 1m in depth, in the south-eastern corner of site. This trench had been dug to drain contaminated water from the site. The section showed modern sand and gravel hogging overlying black contaminated soil. It was not possible to see any archaeological features.</p> <p>2004 - observation of external drain trenches dug along the southern edge of the site. They were approximately 0.8m deep. Natural ground was not reached. Modern hogging overlying black contaminated ground was observed again. Roman tile was visible but no features were observed.</p>	
Previous summaries/reports: None	
Author of summary: Kate Orr	Date of summary: 23rd August 2004