

**Essex Historic Environment Record/
Essex Archaeology and History**

Summary sheet

**CAT Report 502
An archaeological evaluation by trial-trenching**

Address: 75 Hill Avenue, Wickford, Essex	
Parish: Wickford	District: Basildon
NGR: TL 7591 9368	Site codes: CAT - 09/1e ECC HEM - WKDHA 09 Museum accession - (awaiting code from Southend Museum)
Type of work: Evaluation	Site director/group: Colchester Archaeological Trust
Date of work: 6th February 2009	Size of area investigated: 14m of linear trenching @ 1.6m width
Location of finds/curating museum: Southend Museum	Funding source: Developer
Further seasons anticipated? No	Related EHER numbers:
Final report: CAT Report 502 (summary sheet)	
Periods represented: modern	
<p>Summary of fieldwork results: <i>The evaluation trench (T1) was positioned to cross the footprints of two proposed dwellings which are to replace the existing house on the site (see Fig 1). It was 14 m long x 1.6 m wide, and excavated to a depth of 350mm through modern topsoil (L1), which was a thin, slightly humic deposit with frequent evidence of turf-root matting and worm and animal activity. This sealed a clay-rich accumulation horizon (L2) which had been affected by minor plant-root activity. This deposit sealed natural geological clay (L3), a dense material which extended along the entire trench. No archaeological remains were identified during the evaluation, nor were any finds recovered.</i> <i>The sparsity of the topsoil suggests that the site had been subject to levelling</i></p>	

or possibly reduction in the past, most likely at the time when the existing house and the surrounding housing estate were constructed in the second half of the 20th century.

Previous summaries/reports: None

Keywords: -

Significance: neg

Author of summary: Ben Holloway

Date of summary: February 2009

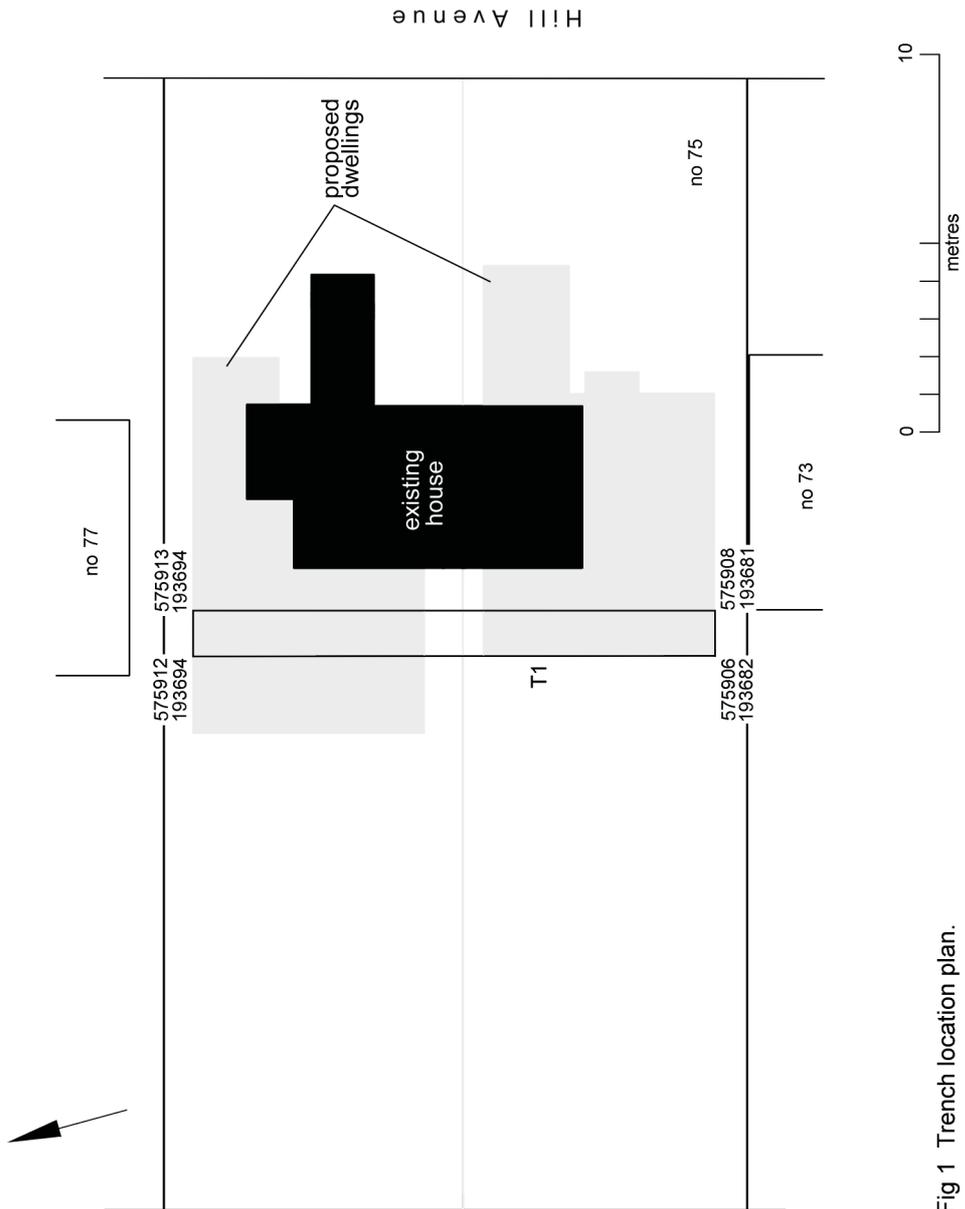


Fig 1 Trench location plan.

**BRIEF FOR ARCHAEOLOGICAL EXCAVATION AT 75
HILL AVENUE, WICKFORD**

JANUARY 2009



Essex County Council

Site: 75 Hill Avenue, Wickford

Planning app. no.: BAS/01313/08

Agent: Chris Abbott, 31 Risebridge Road, Gidea Park, Romford, Essex RM2 5PR

(07801-460750) ABBOTT_C@sky.com

HEM Officer: Maria Medlycott (01245 437641)

Museum: Southend Museum (01702-434449)

This archaeological brief is only valid for six months. After this period the Historic Environment Management Team of Essex County Council should be contacted to assess whether changes are required to the brief. Any written scheme of investigation resulting from this brief shall only be considered for the same period.

The contractor is strongly advised to visit the site before completing their written scheme of investigation as there may be implications for accurately costing the project.

1 Introduction

This brief for archaeological excavation in advance of the construction of two new properties on the site of 75 Hill Avenue, Wickford, (TQ 75919368) has been prepared by the Historic Environment Management (HEM) Team of Essex County Council. The brief has been issued in response to the placing of a full archaeological condition on the application for the development works by Basildon District Council.

2 Site Location and Description

The proposed development is sited next to the Iron Age and Roman settlement of Beauchamps Farm, Wickford (EHER 7532-40). The site currently contains one bungalow and accompanying gardens. The proposal is to demolish this bungalow and replace with two chalets.

3 Planning Background

A planning application for the construction of the new buildings was submitted to Basildon District in January 2008 (BAS/01313/08). The following condition was attached to the planning permission on the recommendation of the Historic Environment Management Team, of ECC based on the advice given in Planning Policy Guidance Note 16: Archaeology and Planning (Department of the Environment 1990):

Recommendation: Full condition

'No development or preliminary groundwork's of any kind shall take place 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 by the applicant and approved by the local planning authority'.

4 Archaeological Background

The following archaeological background utilises the Essex Historic Environment Record (HER) held at Essex County Council, County Hall, Chelmsford. Prospective archaeological contractors should visit the HER prior to the completion of any written scheme of investigation (To make an appointment contact Ms A. Bennett, 01245 437637).

The proposed development is sited next to the Iron Age and Roman settlement of Beauchamps Farm, Wickford (EHER 7532-40). The Iron Age settlement comprised a large farm, that extended beyond the extent of the Beauchamps Farm excavations. The nature of the Roman settlement is not entirely clear, current thought is that it may have been either a large sprawling villa-complex or possibly a village. It is possible that both the Iron Age and Roman settlements extended into the area of proposed development at 75 Hill Avenue.

5 Requirement for Work

Archaeological deposits are a fragile resource and are likely to be disturbed/destroyed during any development on site. Excavation is therefore recommended in order to establish the presence or absence of any archaeological deposits, and if present to ensure preservation by record of their nature, extent and date prior to any construction taking place.

Initially a single trench (20 x 1.8m) will be excavated across the width of the property, to the rear of the current bungalow but within the footprint of the replacement chalets. If archaeological features are revealed, these will be planned, excavated and recorded, and an on-site meeting held to discuss mitigation strategies. It is possible that these could include the extension of the excavation area to cover the total footprint of the two chalets.

6 Archaeological methodology

- 6.1 All archaeological works shall be undertaken by persons with recognised expertise in archaeological recording. The number of staff involved and the structure of the team shall be stated in the Written Scheme of Investigation and Curriculum Vitae of all personnel in the team may be requested.
- 6.2 Notification of the supervisor/project manager's name for the project shall be provided to HEM at least one week in advance of commencement of work.

- 6.3 All the latest Health and Safety guidelines must be followed on site.
- 6.4 At the start of work (immediately before fieldwork commences) an OASIS online record <http://ads.ahds.ac.uk/project/oasis/> must be initiated and key fields completed on Details, Location and Creators forms.
- 6.5 A single 20 x 1.8m trench is to be excavated across the width of the property, this should be located to the rear of the current building (in order to avoid modern disturbance) but within the proposed footprint of the two new buildings.
- 6.6 Machine stripping will be undertaken to the top of the archaeological horizon under archaeological supervision and to the satisfaction of the archaeologist. Any archaeological features observed will be planned, excavated and recorded.
- 6.7 If archaeological features are revealed an on-site meeting will be held between monitoring staff from this office, the contracting archaeologists and the applicant or applicant's agent to discuss mitigation strategies. These could include the further expansion of the excavation area to encompass the total footprint of the two houses.
- 6.1 The contractor shall provide details of the site surveying, excavation and finds recovery policy in the written scheme of investigation. The site grid shall be tied into the National Grid.
- 6.2 Details of the site planning policy shall be given in the written scheme of investigation. The normal preferred policy for the scale of archaeological site plans is 1:20 and sections at 1:10, unless circumstances indicate that other scales would be more appropriate.
- 6.3 The photographic record shall include both general and feature specific photographs, a photographic scale (including north arrow) shall be included in the case of detailed photographs. The photographic record shall be accompanied by a photographic register detailing as a minimum feature number, location, and direction of shot.
- 6.4 The contractor shall provide details of the sampling strategies for retrieving artefacts, biological remains (for palaeoenvironmental and palaeoeconomic investigations), and samples of sediments and/or soils (for micromorphological and other pedological/sedimentological analyses). Advice on the appropriateness of the proposed strategies will be sought from the English Heritage Regional Adviser in Archaeological Science (East of England).
- 6.5 Should human remains be discovered the coroner will be informed and a licence from the Home Office sought immediately; both the client and the monitoring officer will also be informed.
- 6.6 The site and spoil heaps shall be checked by metal detector, with any finds recovered.
- 6.7 The IFA's *Standards and Guidance for Archaeological excavation and watching briefs* and the EAA *Standards for Field Archaeology in the Eastern Region* document should be used for additional guidance in the production of the written scheme of investigation, the content of the report, and the general execution of the project.

7 Finds

- 7.1 All finds, where appropriate, shall be washed.
- 7.2 All pottery and other finds where appropriate, shall be marked with the site code and context number.
- 7.3 The written scheme of investigation shall include an agreed list of specialist consultants, who might be required to conserve and/or report on finds, and advise or report on other aspects of the investigation.
- 7.4 The requirements for conservation and storage shall be agreed with the appropriate museum (Southend 01702-434449) prior to the start of work, and confirmed in writing to the HEM Team.

8 Results

- 8.1 The report shall be submitted within a length of time (but not exceeding 3 months) from the end of the fieldwork, to be agreed between the developer and archaeological contractor, with a copy supplied to the HER. A full digital copy shall be supplied to the HEM team.
- 8.2 The excavation report must contain:
 - The aims and methods adopted in the course of the excavation.
 - Location plan of excavated areas in relation to the proposed development. At least two corners of the excavated area shall be given 10 figure grid references.
 - A section/s drawing showing depth of deposits including present ground level with Ordnance Datum, vertical and horizontal scale.
 - Archaeological methodology and detailed results including a suitable conclusion and discussion. Appropriate discussion and result section assessing the site in relation to the history and development of the iron Age and Roman settlement at Beauchamps Farm.
 - All specialist reports or assessments
 - A concise non-technical summary of the project results.
- 8.3 An HER summary sheet shall also be completed within four weeks (copy attached with brief) and supplied to the HEM Team officer. This will be completed in digital form (copy can be emailed). This shall include a plan showing the position of the excavation.
- 8.4 Publication of the results, at least to a summary level (i.e. round up of archaeology in Essex in Essex Archaeology and History) shall be undertaken in the year following the archaeological field work. An allowance shall be made within the costs for the report to be published in an adequately peer reviewed journal or monograph series.

9 Archive Deposition

- 9.1 The requirements for archive storage shall be agreed with the appropriate museum (Southend 01702-434449) and confirmed in writing to the HEM Team.

- 9.2 If the finds are to remain with the landowner a full copy of the archive shall be housed with the appropriate museum.
- 9.3 The full archive shall be deposited with the appropriate museum within 1 months of the completion of the final publication report and confirmed with the HEM Team in writing.
- 9.4 All parts of the OASIS online form must be completed for submission to the HER. This should include an uploaded .pdf version of the entire report (a paper copy should also be included with the archive).

10 Monitoring

- 10.1 The HEM Team of Essex County Council Historic Environment Branch will be responsible for monitoring progress and standards throughout the project. This will include the fieldwork, post-excavation and publication stages.
- 10.2 Notification of the start of work shall be given to the HEM Team one week in advance of its commencement.
- 10.3 Any variations of the written scheme of investigation shall be agreed with the HEM Team prior to them being carried out.

11 Contractors Written Scheme of Investigation

- 11.1 In accordance with Standards and Guidance produced by the IFA this design brief should not be considered sufficient to enable the total execution of the project. A WSI is required therefore in order to provide the basis for a measurable standard and for submission by the developer to the Local Planning Authority for approval.
- 11.2 Archaeological contractors shall forward a WSI to the HEM Team of Essex County Council for validation prior to fieldwork commencing.
- 11.3 The involvement of the HEM Team shall be acknowledged in any report or publication generated by this project.

For further information regarding the content of this brief please contact the author at the address below. As part of our desire to provide a quality service, we would welcome any comments you may have on the content and presentation of this archaeological brief.

Maria Medlycott
Historic Environment Branch
Environment, Sustainability and Highways
Essex County Council
County Hall
Chelmsford
CM1 1QH

Tel (01245) 437641
Fax (01245) 437213

maria.medlycott@essex.gov.uk

Written Scheme of Investigation for archaeological trial trenching and excavation at 75 Hill Avenue, Wickford, Essex

Planning application no BAS/01313/08
NGR: TQ 7591 9368

January 2009



COLCHESTER ARCHAEOLOGICAL TRUST,
12 LEXDEN ROAD,
COLCHESTER,
ESSEX C03 3NF
tel/fax: (01206) 500124
email: archaeologists@catuk.org

1 Introduction

This is a Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) for archaeological investigation by trial trenching at 75 Hill Avenue, Wickford, Essex.

The site currently contains one bungalow and accompanying gardens, approximately 946 m², located at NGR TQ 7591 9368 (centre).

A planning application was made in January 2008 to Basildon District Council (BAS/01313/08) to demolish the bungalow and replace with two chalets.

This WSI, written in response to a Brief from Essex County Council Historic Environment Management Officer (HEM: Medlycott 2009) sets out proposals for the required evaluation, which will lead to post-excavation work and the production of archive and (if necessary) publication texts.

Any variations in this WSI will be agreed beforehand with HEM.

2 Archaeological background

This section is based on records held by The Essex Historic Environment Record (EHER).

The development area is sited next to the Iron Age and Roman settlement of Beauchamps Farm, Wickford (EHER 7532-40). The Iron Age settlement comprised a large farm, which extended beyond the extent of the Beauchamps Farm excavations. The nature of the Roman settlement is not entirely clear, current thought is that it may have been either a large sprawling villa-complex or possibly a village. It is possible that both the Iron Age and Roman settlements extended into the area of proposed development at 75 Hill Avenue.

3 Aim

The trial trenching evaluation is required to establish the character, extent, date, significance and condition of any archaeological remains and deposits likely to be affected by ground works associated with the construction of the new chalets.

If archaeological features are encountered, a site meeting will be held to discuss mitigation strategies. These could include the extension of the excavation area to cover the footprint of the two chalets. In this event a further WSI will be undertaken by CAT.

4 General Methodology

All works will be undertaken by professional archaeologist(s) employed by CAT. The field officer(s) will have a level of experience appropriate to the work.

Prior to excavation, CAT will seek information about existing service locations from the developer.

All the latest Health and Safety guidelines will be followed on site. CAT has a standard health and safety policy, which will be adhered to (CAT 1999 updated 2007).

A site code will be obtained from HEM. All codes will be quoted in any reports arising from the work.

For purposes of deposition of the archive, a museum accession code will be obtained through Southend Museum. All codes will be quoted in any reports arising from the work.

The relevant document of the Institute of Field Archaeologists (IFA) will be followed, i.e. *Standard and guidance for archaeological field evaluation (2003)* and *Standard and guidance for archaeological excavation (2003)*, and the IFA 'code of conduct'. Other guidelines followed are those published in EAA 3, EAA 8 and EAA 14.

At the start of the work an OASIS online record will be initiated. Key fields will be completed on Details, Location and Creators forms.

5 Trial trenching and excavation methodology

The requirement is for a single trench (20 x 1.8m), which will be excavated across the width of the property, to the rear of the current bungalow but within the footprint of the replacement chalets. The proposed trench layout is shown on the accompanying figure 1.

A mechanical excavator equipped with a toothless bucket will progressively strip the topsoil down to the uppermost surviving level of archaeological significance. All further investigation will be carried out by hand to an extent necessary to achieve the aims set out in section 3.

Fast excavation techniques involving (for instance) picks, forks and mattocks will not be used on complex stratigraphy.

Individual records of excavated contexts, layers, features or deposits will be entered on CAT pro-forma record sheets. Registers will be compiled of finds and samples.

The normal recording scale will be feature plans at 1:20 and sections at 1:10.

A metal detector will be used to check spoil heaps and any suitable strata, and the finds recovered. This will not normally be done on demonstrably modern strata.

The photographic record will consist of general site shots, and shots of all archaeological features and deposits. Standard 'record' shots of contexts will be taken on a digital camera. Colour transparencies will be used for overall site shots and all important contexts.

The site boundary and features and site levels will be tied into Ordnance Datum.

The policy for environmental sampling will be as follows; any features that appear to be organically rich should be sampled, but only if they can be dated. If advice is required Jen Heathcote the English Heritage regional science advisor will be consulted.

6 Finds

Environmental sampling policy. CAT has an arrangement with Val Fryer whereby any potentially rich environmental layers or features will be appropriately sampled as a matter of course, but only if they are datable. Any processing and reporting will be done by Val Fryer. If any complex or outstanding deposits are encountered VF will be asked onto site to advise. Jen Heathcote of EH is available for further advice.

The policy with regard to human remains depends on how old they are. If it is clear, from their position, context, depth, or other factors that the remains are ancient, then normal procedure is to apply to the Home Office (Department of Constitutional Affairs) for a licence to remove them. In that case, conditions laid down by the license will be followed. If it seems that the remains are not ancient, then the coroner, the client, and HEM will be informed, and any advice and/or instruction from the coroner will be followed. **Note: As the relevant legislation is currently in a state of flux, advice will be sought from HEM and DCA on best practice.**

All finds of archaeological relevance will be retained. Policies for later disposal of any finds will be agreed with HEM officer and the site owner.

All finds, where appropriate, will be washed.

A policy of marking for pottery and other finds will be agreed with Southend Museum. Marking will include the site code and context number.

The site archive will be presented to Southend Museum in accordance with their requirements

All finds of potential treasure will be removed to a safe place, and the coroner informed immediately, in accordance with the rules of the Treasure Act 1996. The definition of treasure is given in pages 3-5 of the Code of Practice of the above act. This refers primarily to gold or silver objects.

Finds work will be to accepted professional standards as presented in *Standard and guidance for the collection, documentation, conservation and research of archaeological materials* (IFA 2001).

A list of specialists available for consultation is given at the end of this WSI.

7 Results

Notification will be given to HEM officer when the fieldwork has been completed. An appropriate archive will be prepared to minimum acceptable standards outlined in *Management of archaeological projects 2* (English Heritage 1991) will be submitted to the HEM officer within a length of time not exceeding 3 months from the end of fieldwork, with one copy supplied to EHER (with a digital copy) and one to Southend Museum with the archive.

This report will include:

- The aims and methods adopted in the course of the evaluation.
- Location plan of the trench, with 10-figure grid references at two points.
- A section drawing showing the depth of deposits including present ground-level.
- The excavation methodology and results with a suitable conclusion and discussion.
- All specialist reports and assessments. Recommendations for further work will be kept separate from the results.
- A concise non-technical summary of the project results.

If, after discussion with HEM, the results are considered worthy of publication, a report (at least at a summary level), will be submitted to *Essex Archaeology and History*. An Oasis online form will be completed for submission to the EHER that will include an uploaded .pdf version of the report.

8 Archive deposition

The full archive will be deposited at Southend Museum within 6 months of completion of final publication report on the project, and confirmed to HEM. All requirements for archive storage as required by Southend Museum.

Finds (and other retained materials) will be bagged and boxed in the manner recommended by Southend Museum.

Plans will be presented on hanging strips to fit Southend Museum storage systems.

The photographic archive is to be presented as follows: original digital data on disk and hard copies of selected digital photos on high-quality paper, or as otherwise requested by Southend Museum.

A summary of the contents of the archive shall be supplied to HEM at the time of deposition at the museum.

9 Monitoring

HEM will be responsible for monitoring progress and standards throughout the project, and will be kept regularly informed during fieldwork, post-excavation and publication stages.

Notification of the start of work will be given to HEM officer one week in advance of its commencement.

Any variations of the WSI shall be agreed with HEM officer in writing prior to them being carried out.

HEM will be notified when the fieldwork is complete.

The involvement of HEM shall be acknowledged in any report or publication generated by this project.

10 References

Colchester Archaeological Trust 1999 (updated 2004) *Policies and procedures*

English Heritage 1991. *Management of archaeological projects, 2nd edition* (MAP 2)

EAA3 *Research and Archaeology: a frame work for the Eastern Counties 1 resource assessment*, East Anglian Archaeological occasional papers **3**, Glazebrook J. 1997,

EAA8 *Research and Archaeology: a frame work for the Eastern Counties 2 Research agenda and strategy*, East Anglian Archaeological, occasional papers **8** Brown N. and Glazebrook J. 2000

EAA14 *Standards for field archaeology in the East of England* East Anglian Archaeological, occasional papers 14. Gurney D, 2003

IFA 2003 *Standard and Guidance for archaeological field evaluation*.

IFA 2003 *Standard and Guidance for an archaeological excavation*.

IFA 2001. *Standard and Guidance for the collection, documentation, conservation and research of archaeological materials*.

Medlycott, M, *Brief for Archaeological Excavation at 75 Hill Avenue, Wickford*. January 2009 ECC HEM Team brief

Chris Lister 28/02/24

APPENDIX: TEAM STRUCTURE

List of team members

Site supervision and Recording

Ben Holloway/Chris Lister/Adam Wightman

Assistants

TBC

Finds consultants

Stephen Benfield (CAT): LIA/Roman pottery

Hazel Martingell (Braintree) : lithics

Joanna Bird (Guildford): samian ware

Francesca Boghi (NAU) Human bone

Ernest Black (Colchester): Roman brick/tile

Dr Hilary Cool (Nottingham): Roman glass

Nina Crummy (Colchester): small finds

Julie Curl (NAU): animal bone

John Davis (Norwich Museum): Roman coins

Val Fryer (UEA/Loddon): environmental

Valerie Rigby (British Museum): LIA ceramics

Dr Paul Sealey (Colchester Museums): Roman amphoras, prehistoric & Roman pottery

Helen Walker (ECC): Saxon, medieval and post-medieval pottery.

Graphics

M McDonald, E Spurgeon

Report writing

Howard Brooks, Adam Wightman

Senior Site Staff

Ben Holloway Bsc, AIFA

Ben joined CAT as a permanent member of staff in 2000, a graduate in Archaeology from Bournemouth University. Ben has conducted field work in Scotland and the Isle of Man. Since joining the Trust Ben has carried out extensive work in Colchester eg evaluations and excavations at Colchester Garrison PFI (including the circus), St Marys Hospital (a Roman suburb and cemetery) and Colchester 6th Form College (Roman bath-house). His work in Essex includes Sandon Park and Ride Site, Notley Business Park and Dry Street, Basildon.

Chris Lister BA

Chris joined CAT in June 2000 working on the Head Street excavation. He studied Ancient History and Civilization at the University of Wales, College of Swansea, graduating in 1997. He is now the unit surveyor responsible for the site recording of the majority of works undertaken by CAT. In addition to his survey work Chris has supervised excavations at Colchester Zoo and Colchester Garrison, and carried out evaluations and watching briefs throughout the county, including surveys of Twentieth century military structures.

Adam Wightman BSc, MA

After graduating from the University of Sheffield in 2004 with a BSc Hons in Archaeology and Prehistory, Adam worked for CAT during the Roman Circus excavations at Colchester Garrison in 2004/5. He then went on to work for Cambridge Archaeological Unit before completing a Masters in the Archaeology of Human Origins at the University of Southampton where he focused on lithic and animal bone analysis. For CAT Adam has carried out evaluations and excavations at Goldlay Avenue in Chelmsford, 143-147 High Street Maldon, Firstsite Newsite in Colchester town centre, and at 21 St Peters Street adjacent to Colchester's Roman wall. Adam is also our assistant surveyor.

Finds Specialists

Stephen Benfield BA, Cert Archaeol (Oxon) (CAT) Late Iron Age and Roman pottery

Steve's first involvement with Colchester archaeology was in 1985, working on a Manpower Services Commission sponsored project to assist in processing the enormous collection of Roman pottery from excavations in the town. He graduated from Reading University with a degree in archaeology and subsequently studied for his post-graduate Certificate in Archaeology at Oxford. Returning to CAT, he has since worked on many CAT projects at various supervisory and directorial positions, including the major projects at Stanway Iron Age burial site and Gosbecks Roman temple/theatre complex. Stephen has also, through much hands-on experience, built up a considerable working knowledge of LIA and Roman ceramics. He now completes ceramic assessments and full reports for CAT, drawing on the unrivalled catalogues provided by the standard Colchester works *Camulodunum* (Hawkes & Hull 1947), *Roman Colchester* (Hull 1958) and now *CAR 10*, and by examining the fabric series held at CAT headquarters.

Francesca Boghi MSc (Norfolk Archaeological Unit) Human bone

Francesca has been the Norfolk Archaeological Unit's human bone specialist since 1998. Her previous experience includes work for the Calvin Wells laboratory at the University of Bradford, where she undertook the analysis of 79 skeletons from the medieval cemetery of Pennell Street, Lincoln, Lincolnshire and of a group of Romano-British cremations from Kempston, Bedfordshire. Since joining Norfolk Archaeological Unit she has analysed the medieval assemblage from the parish church of Brettenham, Norfolk (89 skeletons), the human remains from Norwich Whitefriars (thirty-three skeletons from the Carmelite Friary and thirty-seven from the Baptist Chapel of Friary Yard), the skeletal remains from a medieval well in Norwich and numerous other smaller assemblages of inhumations and cremated human remains from the county. In addition she contributes to local education programmes by providing short sessions on skeletal analysis and interpretation. Her professional qualification is an MSc from the University of Sheffield and Bradford in Osteology, Paleopathology and Funerary Archaeology. She is a member of the British Association of Biological Anthropologists and Osteoarchaeologists (BABA).

Howard Brooks BA, MIFA (CAT) Medieval and Post-Medieval pottery

Howard's involvement in Essex archaeology goes back to 1970 when he dug at Sheepen, Colchester with Rosalind Dunnett (now Niblett). He studied archaeology at the University of Wales, and graduated in 1975. He worked for Colchester Archaeological Trust between 1976 and 1981, and again in 1985, where he was involved at various levels of responsibility (up to Co-Director) in the excavation of deeply stratified urban remains in Roman Colchester and suburbs (*Colchester Archaeological Report 3* [1994]). Between 1986 and 1991 he worked for Essex County Archaeology Section, first in directing the fieldwalking and excavation project at Stansted Airport (*East Anglian Archaeology 107*, 2004), and then in Development Control. Howard then left ECC to set up and run HBAS, the county's smallest contracting team, in which capacity he carried out over twenty field projects and wrote a dozen consultancy reports. He rejoined CAT in 1997. He regularly contributes to *Essex Archaeology & History*, and teaches University evening classes on archaeology.

Nina Crummy (Colchester) Small finds

Nina first worked in the early 1970s as finds assistant on the major urban excavations in Colchester for the Colchester Excavation Committee (later the Trust). Over the next twenty years she built up an unrivalled working knowledge of small finds of all types. She has collaborated in most of the *Colchester Archaeological Reports*, and was principal author of the best-selling *Colchester Archaeological Reports 2* (Roman small finds), 4 (*The coins from excavations in Colchester 1971-9*) and 5 (*The post-Roman small finds from excavations in Colchester 1971-85*). She recently worked for the Museum of London, and was instrumental in the recent transfer of and the massive improvement in accessibility to archaeological archives in London. She now works freelance on small finds reports for CAT, HBAS, and other bodies including Winchester Excavation Committee.

Julie Curl (Norfolk Archaeological Unit) Animal Bone

Julie has over 16 years of experience in archaeology and in particular finds for the Norfolk Archaeological Unit and Norfolk Museums Service and currently works as both a bone specialist and in graphics for the NAU. She has been producing faunal remains reports for many years and produces assessment and analysis reports for clients across the East Anglian region. She has her own extensive bone reference collection built up over many years. Her particular interests in faunal remains are animal husbandry and pathologies. She has also worked as a conservator, particularly on Pleistocene vertebrates and a wide variety of archaeology and natural history projects at the Norwich Castle Museum. Julie is also an extra-mural lecturer with the University of East Anglia, teaching Animal bones in Archaeology.

Val Fryer (Norfolk) Environmental Archaeologist BA, MIFA

Val has fifteen years experience in environmental archaeology, working for English Heritage, County Units and independent archaeological bodies across the United Kingdom and Southern Ireland. She has published reports in East Anglian Archaeology (including occasional papers), Proceedings of the Prehistoric Society, Medieval Archaeology and Norfolk Archaeology. Specialist work for various police authorities across England and Northern Ireland. Val is a Member of the Institute of Field Archaeologists with special accreditation for environmental archaeology and she is also a Member of the Association of Environmental Archaeologists.

Patricia Ryan (Chelmsford) Medieval and later brick and tile

Pat has for many years been examining excavated collections of brick and tile from Essex sites, and contributing reports which are usually consigned to the gloomier parts of archive reports, or as footnotes in published texts. Her regular contributions to *Essex Archaeology & History*, therefore, under-represent the devoted study which Pat has put in over the years. Nobody knows more about local brick and tile, except for David Andrews, with whom she collaborated on significant sections of *Cressing Temple: A Templar and Hospitaller Manor in Essex* (1993).

Helen Walker BSc (ECC) Saxon, Medieval and post-medieval pottery.

Helen is Essex County Council Field Archaeology Group's medieval and post-medieval pottery specialist. Before joining ECC in 1985, she worked on finds in Carmarthen, and for Hampshire CC on projects in Winchester. Since 1985, she has contributed reports on ceramics to many other projects in the county. A regular contributor to *Essex Archaeology & History*, her principal publications include reports on the Rayleigh kiln dump, and George Street and Church Street, Harwich (*Essex Archaeology & History*, 21 [1990]), and North Shoebury (*EAA* 75).

Site name: 75 Hill Ave Welford		Site code: WDK#11A 04		
Interpretation topsoil			Layer No. L1	
Period modern				
Location / grid ref length of evaluation track.				
Soil Description (circle or delete as necessary, and add other details)				
Consistence:	very loose	soft	friable <u>firm</u> hard	dry <u>moist</u> wet
Colour:	very light	medium <u>dark</u>	yellow	orange green grey <u>brown</u> black
Munsell (if used):	2.5YR	7.5YR	10YR	
Soil type:	sand	<u>silt</u>	<u>clay</u>	loam clay silt sand
Inclusions: flecks	charcoal	oyster	daub	brick tile
Inclusions: pieces	gravel	% stone	% tile/brick	% pot %
Recording 10 Rap 5 x @ 1:10				
Plan nos.	-			
sx/profile nos.				
Photos taken	pre-ex	ex	post-ex	
Finds N/A				
Bag nos.	-			
Small find nos.	-			
Sample nos.	-			
Notes: (can be continued overleaf) modern topsoil, thin slightly hime deposit, small stones + pebbles - not selected. high level of plant/animal activity root mottling + worm casts.				
Matrix		Location and detail sketch		
Completed by: [signature]	Date: 6/2/04	tick here if continued overleaf <input type="checkbox"/>		

Site name: 75 Will Ave Walsford.		Site code: WDKHA 09		
Interpretation <i>accumulation</i>		Layer No. L2		
Period				
Location /grid ref <i>length of road track</i>				
Soil Description (circle or delete as necessary, and add other details)				
Consistence:	very loose	soft	friable <u>firm</u> hard	dry <u>moist</u> wet
Colour:	very light	<u>medium</u> dark	<u>yellow</u> orange	green grey <u>brown</u> black
Munsell (if used):	2.5YR	7.5YR	10YR	
Soil type:	sand	silt	<u>clay</u> loam	clay silt sand
Inclusions:flecks	charcoal	oyster	daub	brick tile
Inclusions:pieces	gravel	%, stone	%, tile/brick	%, pot %, %
Recording <i>Rep 5x @ 1:10</i>				
Plan nos.	-			
sx/profile nos.	-			
Photos taken	pre-ex	ex <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	post-ex	
Finds <i>N/A</i>				
Bag nos.	-			
Small find nos.	-			
Sample nos.	-			
Notes: (can be continued overleaf) <i>thin accumulation horizon, mainly silt natural geological clay deposits</i> L3				
Matrix		Location and detail sketch		
		<i>see sketch 5x 41</i>		
Completed by: <i>PBA</i>	Date: <i>12/04</i>	tick here if continued overleaf <input type="checkbox"/>		

Site name: 75 Hill Ave Wadford		Site code: WDKHA09	
Interpretation natural clay horizon			Layer No. L3
Period POST - ofland			
Location / grid ref length of evaluation track.			
Soil Description (circle or delete as necessary, and add other details)			
Consistence:	very loose	soft	friable <u>firm</u> hard dry <u>moist</u> wet
Colour:	very light	<u>medium</u> dark	<u>yellow</u> orange green grey brown black
Munsell (if used):	2.5YR	7.5YR	10YR
Soil type:	sand	silt	<u>clay</u> loam clay silt sand
Inclusions: flecks	charcoal	oyster	daub brick tile
Inclusions: pieces	gravel	%, stone	%, tile/brick %, pot %, %
Recording sx @ 1:10 Ref.			
Plan nos.	-		
sx/profile nos.	-		
Photos taken	pre-ex	ex /	post-ex
Finds N/A			
Bag nos.	-		
Small find nos.	-		
Sample nos.	-		
Notes: (can be continued overleaf) natural geological horizon. compact clay deposit some v. minor dark inclusions. sealed by thin deposit of accumulate water L2.			
Matrix		Location and detail sketch	
		<p>See sketch L1</p>	
Completed by: RBA	Date: 6/2/09	tick here if continued overleaf <input type="checkbox"/>	



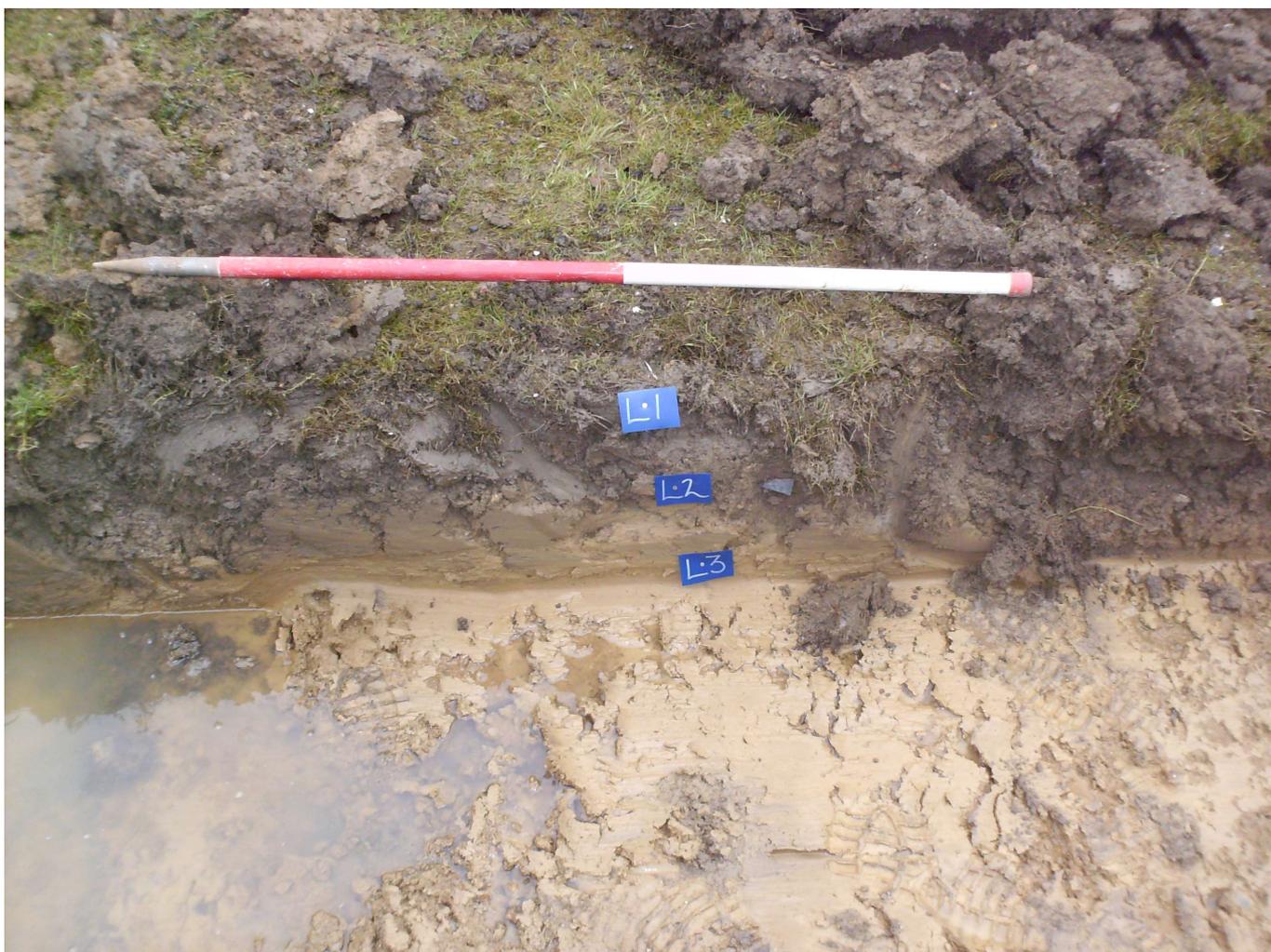
01



02



03



04



05



06



Photographic log for 75 Hill Avenue Wickford Eval

Filename	Description
WKDHA09_PhotoGraph_01.jpg	General trench shot view N
WKDHA09_PhotoGraph_02.jpg	General trench shot view S
WKDHA09_PhotoGraph_03.jpg	Trench sx view W
WKDHA09_PhotoGraph_04.jpg	Trench sx detail view W
WKDHA09_PhotoGraph_05.jpg	General site shot view NE
WKDHA09_PhotoGraph_06.jpg	General site shot view SE
WKDHA09_PhotoGraph_07.jpg	General site shot view E