Historic building recording and test-pit evaluation at Duncan's Gate, Colchester, CO1 1UN

July 2016

report prepared by Mark Baister

commissioned by
Colchester Borough Council

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1 Summary

A programme of historic building recording and evaluation by test-pitting was carried out by Colchester Archaeological Trust at Duncan's Gate (on Colchester's Roman town wall) in July 2016. The gate and its associated masonry (the in situ remains of the collapsed gate tower) are in a state of decay and urgently require repairs. The collapsed masonry was heavily consolidated with modern concrete and a retaining wall after the excavations in 1927-9 by Rex Hull but these repairs are themselves beginning to decay. The excavated test-pit exposed the cut of the known Roman drain aligned through the gateway, although the fill of it is likely entirely backfill from earlier archaeological work. The test-pit also exposed the layers that had been deposited on the site since the 1920s excavation.

2 Introduction (Fig 1)

This is the archive report on a historic building recording and test-pit evaluation at Duncan's Gate, Colchester, in advance of proposed conservation work to the gate. The archaeological work was commissioned by Colchester Borough Council, and carried out by Colchester Archaeological Trust (CAT) in July 2016. Duncan's Gate is a partially ruined Roman gateway on the north-east corner of Colchester's town wall (scheduled monument NHLE no. 1003772), located at NGR TL 9995 2503. To the south of the gate is an area of collapsed masonry that has been interpreted as the remains of the gate tower (Hull, 1958).

As a scheduled monument, Historic England (HE) advised Colchester Borough Council that an archaeological impact assessment would be required of the gate and the associated archaeological remains, in the form of a Historic England Level 3 building survey of the above ground remains and a test-pit adjacent to the collapsed masonry, to establish the character and significance of any surviving archaeological deposits. In response to this recommendation the Colchester Borough Council Archaeological Advisor (CBCAA) prepared a brief for the required archaeological work, to be undertaken in advance of the conservation work. This recommendation is based on the guidance given in the National Planning Policy Framework (DCLG 2012).

In response to the brief, a Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) was prepared by Colchester Archaeological Trust (CAT 2016) and agreed with the CBCAA and HE. All work was carried out in accordance with this WSI.

In addition, all work was carried out according to standards and practices contained in the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists' *Standard and guidance for archaeological investigation and recording of standing buildings or structures* (2014), *Management of research projects in the historic environment* (MoRPHE), and *Standards for field archaeology in the East of England* (EAA **14**). In addition, the guidelines contained in

English Heritage: Understanding Historic Buildings, A guide to good recording practice (2006) and *RCHME: Descriptive Specification 3rd Edition* were followed.

3 Aims

Building recording

The aim of the building recording was to provide a detailed record and assessment of the gate and masonry prior to conservation. The building recording was carried out to Level 3 (English Heritage, 2006).

In particular the record considered:

- Plan and form of the site
- Materials and method of construction.
- Date(s) of the structure.
- Function and layout.
- Original and later phasing, additions and their effect on the internal/external fabric and the level of survival of original fabric.
- The significance of the site on a regional level.

Test-pit evaluation

The aim of the evaluation was to establish the character and significance of any surviving archaeological deposits, and determine the impact on these by the previous excavations on the site (see Historical background below).

4 Methodology

Building recording

Prior to the building recording survey being carried out, the gate, collapsed masonry and surrounding area was cleared of overgrowth and vegetation. All plants growing from the wall or masonry were trimmed back with the roots left intact, to avoid damage to the scheduled monument.

The following are included in this report:

- A documentary, cartographic and pictorial survey of the evidence pertaining to the history and evolution of Duncan's Gate.
- A large-scale block plan of the site.

- Annotated elevations of the remains at a scale of 1:50.
- A detailed description of the gate. The description addresses features such as materials, dimensions, method of construction and phasing.
- A photographic record, comprising digital photographs of both general shots and individual features. Selected examples of the photographic record are clearly tied into the drawn record and reproduced as fully annotated photographic plates supporting the text (Appendix 1). The photographic record is accompanied by a photographic register detailing location and direction of shot (Appendix 2).

Test-pit evaluation

The 2m x 1m test-pit was hand excavated directly adjacent (to the north) to the collapsed masonry, and halted when the highest apparent stratified archaeological deposit was encountered.

The exposed archaeological horizons were cleaned by hand, planned and recorded.

5 Archaeological background

The following archaeological background draws on the Colchester Archaeological Trust report archive, the Colchester Urban Archaeological Database (UAD) and the Essex Historic Environment Record accessed via the Heritage Gateway:

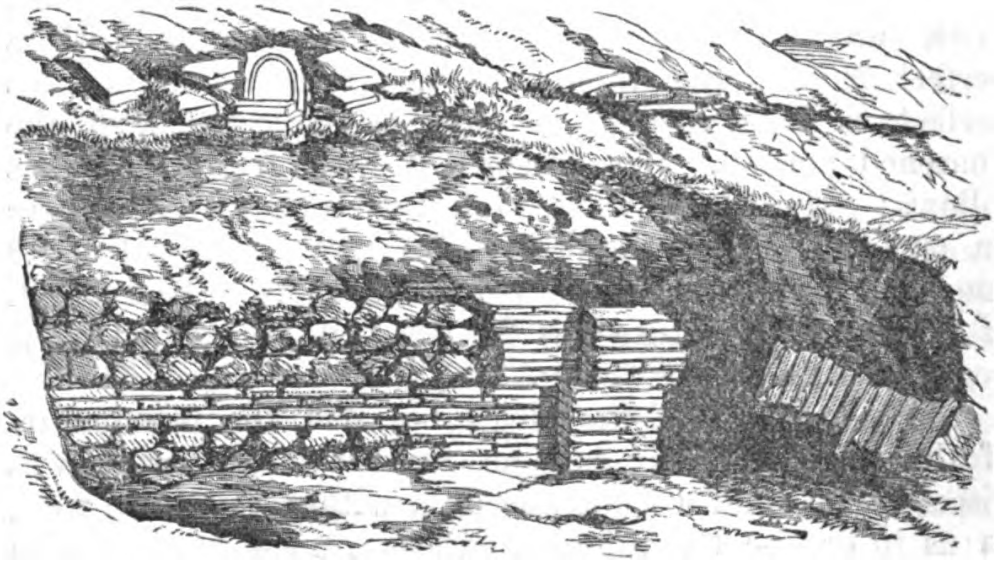
Duncan's Gate is located on the north-east corner of the Roman Town Wall. The wall was built around the town in the later 1st-century AD following the revolt led by Boudica. It is constructed of a core of layered septaria and mortar with coursed septaria and tile on each face. A recent study has concluded that the wall has an average width of 2.67m (including offsets) which is equivalent to precisely nine Roman feet (*pedes monetales*). A hypothetical cross-section of the wall shows the foundations as being 3.77m wide (Crummy 1997). Previous work shows that some of the wall foundations were surprisingly shallow at 600mm deep (Hull 1958, 25-6). Work by CAT at the Sixth Form College in 2005 shows the stone foundations to be 1.2m deep with wooden piles below (CAT Report 347), although, being water-logged, ground conditions here presumably explain their exceptional depth. Trial-holes confirmed that survival of the foundations varies. Where they have not been robbed away, the foundations extend 2.1m from the existing face of the wall and are in a sound state of preservation.

Above ground, the survival of the wall is very patchy. Some sections are in relatively good condition, with large areas of intact facing surviving (such as around Balkerne Gate to the west of the town). The section of the wall around Duncan's Gate, however, has lost up to 2.4m in width and nothing of the original exterior face survives, only the core. The majority of what is standing has been refaced or completely rebuilt in brick and stone.

The collapsed masonry to the south of Duncan's Gate has been interpreted as the remains of a gate tower or turret that has fallen and been preserved *in situ* adjacent to the gate. It is extremely fragile and has deteriorated in recent years, and now requires conservation (although it has been conserved in the past). No detailed record has been made of this masonry and no detailed study has been undertaken (at least in modern times) to assess the significance of it.

The gate was discovered by Dr P M Duncan (after which it is named), in 1853 while he was following the line of a Roman drain (or *cloaca*) running from what was later known as the *mithraeum* to the town ditch (Transactions of the Essex Archaeological Society vol 1 1858, 210-228). He interpreted the collapsed masonry to the south of the gate as being part of the fallen arch of the gateway (Drawing 1). Duncan notes that during the excavation of the gate several human bones, horse bones, charred wood and remains of weapons were uncovered. He goes on to suggest that this evidence of "fire and violence" is directly associated with the destruction of the gate:

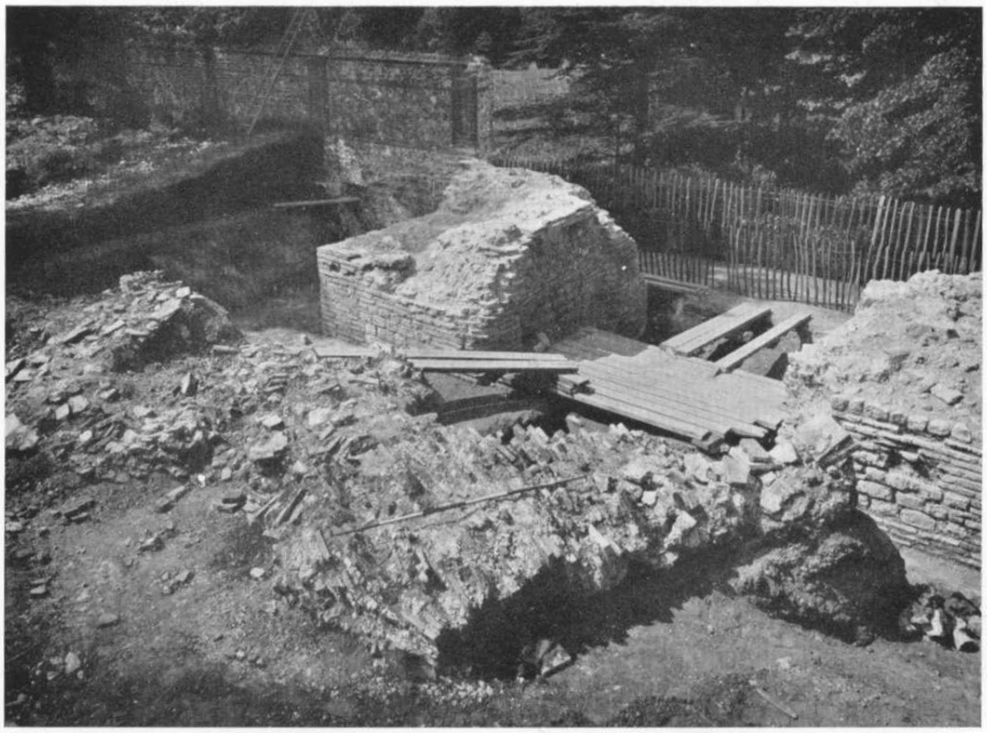
"It is most remarkable, that during the various sieges of Colchester, this filled-up gateway was not discovered, and that for centuries, mere rubbish, overgrown by turf and bramble, should have covered the very remains of the conflict which overthrew its arch and destroyed its existence as an outlet from the town."



Drawing 1 Duncan's drawing of the eastern side of the gate. Visible to the right is the collapsed masonry to the south of the gate (reproduced from Transactions of the Essex Archaeological Society vol 1, 1858, pg 220).

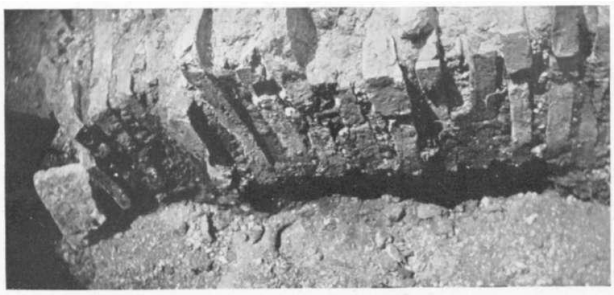
The gate was next investigated in 1927-9 by the Colchester Excavation Committee, overseen by M. R. Hull (Hull 1958, 36-41). He determined that the collapsed masonry to the south of the gate was in fact the remains of the gate tower, containing the arches of windows, rather than a gateway (Photographs 2 and 3). Hull's report (Hull, 1958) goes on

to provide two possible reconstructions of the gate (Figs 7 and 8), with differing sizes and numbers of windows.



Photograph 1 Duncan's Gate under excavation in 1927-9. Collapsed masonry visible in foreground. Photograph taken facing north-west (reproduced from Roman Colchester, 1958, plate VIIa).

Photograph 2 Detailed photo of window arch visible in collapsed masonry (reproduced from Roman Colchester, 1958, plate IVb).



Photograph 3 Detailed photo of window arch visible in collapsed masonry (reproduced from Roman Colchester, 1958, plate IVc).

He observed that Duncan's excavation had removed all archaeological layers directly adjacent to the sides of the gate and “across the whole south face of the gate”. They began their own investigation by completely emptying Duncan's trenches (which were easily identified).

Like Duncan, Hull found evidence of burning within the gateway. He was more detailed in his recording, describing two distinct layers of charcoal with a layer of road metalling

between them. He postulated that this is evidence of two distinct incidents of fire at the gate:

"after the first destruction by fire the floor was replaced better than before, which suggests a public work, but this was followed by a most destructive fire for which we have good evidence that outside action is responsible".

Unlike Duncan, Hull recovered no evidence of animal bones, human bones or any remains of weapons – but still agreed with Duncan's assessment that the gate was destroyed, and the tower collapsed, by fire. Hull did observe (in section) "very black earth" beneath the collapsed masonry to the south of the gate, noting that neither he nor Duncan disturbed it, and that if it were ever to be moved its contents would be of great interest.

It seems likely from the descriptions of these two previous excavations that the earth beneath the collapsed masonry contains the only remaining intact stratigraphic sequence on the site – although as neither Hull nor Duncan recorded the exact location or extent of their excavations it is difficult to be certain.

Although not discussed in the Hull's report (save for one labelled photograph - Photograph 4), after the excavations of 1927-9 the gate and collapsed masonry was the subject of significant conservation. This attempt at conservation was observed during the fieldwork for this report, and is noted in the descriptive record below.

Photograph 4 The eastern pier of Duncan's Gate after conservation (reproduced from Roman Colchester, 1958, plate VIIb). Note that the sides of the gate are free-standing at this stage.

After the excavations in the late 1920s, Duncan's Gate was not examined archaeologically until 1989, when hand-drawn elevations were produced by CAT of the entire town wall. These 1989 elevations are used as a base for the ones appearing in this report (with changes noting the damage the gate has endured in the intervening 27 years).

No excavation has been undertaken to record and understand the nature of the surviving remains at Duncan's Gate for 89 years. The report that follows is an attempt to bring together evidence from the two previous excavations and combine it with the modern evaluation and building record of the gate in order to better inform any future conservation or archaeological work.

6 Building recording descriptive record (Appendix 1, Figs 2-6)

The gate (Figs 4-5)

Duncan's Gate is located on the north-east corner of Colchester town wall (Photograph 7). It has two sides coming south off from the main wall at right angles, leaving an opening 3.7m wide (Fig 2). Each side of the gate extends 5.4m south of the north face of the wall. Each side is 2.6m wide, and their outer and inner faces are identical to the town wall proper: four courses of septaria alternating with four courses of brick, all bonded together with lime mortar. The interior make-up of the sides, where visible, also mirrors that of the town wall (i.e. irregular layers of septaria and mortar).

The two sides of the gate vary in preservation, with the western side being in better condition than the eastern – the western side stands 2.4m from the current ground level (Photograph 8), while the eastern side stands 1.7m (Photograph 9). As a result of this height discrepancy, the western side has more courses of brick and septaria remaining (Fig 4). As with the rest of the town wall, neither of the sides stand at their original height at the time of construction (the town wall is thought to have been at least 6m tall – Crummy 1997, 87).

Both sides are extensively overgrown and have deteriorated significantly in the last century – banks of soil and plant debris have been deposited or built up on the east and west sides of the gate (mimicking the original Roman rampart). Photographs from 1920s (after Hull's excavation) show the sides of the gate free-standing with no vegetation around them (Photographs 1 and 4). During the course of this investigation, it was clear that the gate was in a rapid state of decay, with several lumps of masonry scattered around the site that had recently fallen off from the wall.

The conservation efforts conducted in the 1920s were mostly focused on the collapsed masonry (see below), but parts of each side of the gate were also conserved. Largely this

conservation was restricted to the south face of each side (where they are most damaged- Photographs 10 and 11), but part of the west facing elevation of the eastern side was also conserved (Fig 5).

The method of conservation consisted of some areas of the wall/masonry being re-bonded with concrete in an attempt to prevent further collapse. This concrete is very different in appearance from the original Roman lime mortar and so is quite jarring aesthetically (although in some areas the moss and overgrowth make it hard to distinguish between the two). Additionally the concrete itself seems to have decayed significantly since it was laid, in areas re-exposing the original Roman mortar.

The collapsed masonry (Fig 6)

The collapsed masonry lies approximately 1m to the south of Duncan's Gate, and is heavily overgrown (Photograph 12). Even after removal of a substantial amount of overgrowth, the only section identifiable on the surface were the tile courses (with some occasional septaria fragments) defining the windows of the gate tower (Photographs 13, 14 and 19). The entire western half of the collapsed masonry is covered in grass, making any identification impossible. Although the limits of the collapse are difficult to define, the masonry appears to be about 10 square metres in area.

Due to the irregular size, footprint and overgrown nature of the masonry, it was decided the best way to record elevations would be as two sections – one east to west across the whole footprint, and one south-west to north-east, following the arch of a collapsed window (Fig 3).

The masonry was heavily modified and conserved in the 20th century. Like the south faces of the gate itself, the collapsed tile courses and the entire exterior of the masonry (where visible) was re-rendered in modern concrete (Photograph 15). The entire north side of the masonry has had a crescent-shaped retaining wall built against it, constructed of septaria and modern brick (Photograph 16). How much this retaining wall represents the original extent of the collapse is unclear.

On the south-east side of the masonry, two concrete steps have been added leading up to the collapsed tile courses, probably in an attempt to convert the masonry into a garden feature in the early 20th-century (Photograph 15).

The north-east corner of the masonry has very recently suffered a significant collapse, with the modern concrete render, retaining wall and a course of tiles having fallen, exposing the original lime mortar beneath (Photograph 17).

7. Test-pit evaluation results

The test-pit was excavated by hand up against the north side of the collapsed masonry (and the modern retaining wall). Five layers were observed in the test-pit and two features identified.

L1a was a thin (up to 90mm thick) layer of dark grey sandy silt topsoil which had recently built up over the site since the 1920s. It contained occasional small roots. It sealed L1b, a 80mm thick layer laid down after the excavation in the 1920s. It was a brown/orange sandy silt containing occasional fragments of modern concrete and Roman tile.

Beneath these layers was an 80mm thick layer of very loose redeposited grey sand, with occasional seams of gravel. This layer was sitting on a very thin (40mm) layer of coarser orange sand. These two layers combined (L2) appear to be sand brought onto the site to backfill the excavation in 1927-9. They both contained a small quantity of residual Roman finds.

The layers described above butt up against the modern retaining wall to the north of the collapsed masonry (Photograph 5). Below these layers and at the base of the retaining wall is L3 (an orange/brown sandy silt), which has two features (described below) cut into it. The test-pit was stopped at this depth as it seemed that L3 was undisturbed subsoil.

Photograph 5 Section of test-pit, showing layers butting up against the retaining wall. Photograph taken facing west.

Two features were observed in the test-pit. F1 was the backfilled Roman drain that Duncan discovered in 1853 that services the town and is aligned through the gate to the north. It lined up exactly, both with the still visible grated-over drain to the south, and with the plans from Hull's excavation (Fig 3). The fill of F1 was a dark brown/grey sandy silt and was not excavated, although some Roman pottery and tile was recovered from its surface (see Finds below). Although we can be confident that this cut is for the original Roman drain, the fill of this feature is likely backfill from Duncan's or Hull's excavation.

Photograph 6 Overhead photo of test-pit. F1, F2 and L3 visible. Photograph taken facing north.

F2 was only observed at the very north end of the test-pit, and lies within the same cut as F1 (i.e. the Roman drain). The fill was very similar to that of F1, but was clearly darker. Again, this seems likely to be the backfill from one of the two previous archaeological excavations of this feature.

Finds

by Stephen Benfield

A small quantity of finds were recovered from three contexts (L1, L2 & F1). All of the finds are listed and described in Table 1. The more closely datable finds, consisting of pottery & ceramic building material (CBM) are of Roman date, while two flint flakes are probably prehistoric but are not closely dated. The Roman pottery fabrics refer to the Colchester Roman fabric series (CAR 10) and the pottery form numbers refer to the Colchester (Camulodunum) Roman pottery type series (Hawkes & Hull 1947 & Hull 1958).

Ctxt	Ctxt type	Find no	Form/ description	Finds spot date
L1	modern topsoil	1	**Pottery: Roman** (SQ) Fabric GB (BB2) (2, 38) Cam 278 (2 E/M3C); Fabric GX (greyware) (4, 64 g) Cam 243-244/246 rim (M1-E2C), Cam 269 (E/M2-L3/E4C). **CBM** (1) small piece from a Roman brick/tile (Rom). **Animal Bone** (5 pieces) includes cattle metacarple & a vertabra and mandible bone both probably also cattle, pig humerus. **Shell** (1) Oyster shell.	**Rom** M2-3/E4C (residual)
L2	modern backfill after 1920s excavation	2	**CBM** (SQ) small pieces, all either Roman or probably Roman brick/tile. **Flint** (2) Both moderately thin; Small flake, sharpe unmodified, undamaged edges; Second broad flake with sharp unmodified, undamaged edges (prehistoric, Neolthic-Bronze Age). **Animal Bone** (1) large mammal rib.	**Rom** (residual)
F1	backfill of drain run	3	**Pottery: Roman** (2) Fabric EA (Nene Valley colour-coat) sherd from a folded beaker (3-3/4C); Fabric GX (greyware) sherd from a jar/bowl with combed wavy-line band (M1/2-3C). CBM (1) piece of Roman brick/tile (22 mm thick) possibly from a tegula (Rom). **Animal Bone** (2) unfused sheep tibia and dog caudal (tail) vertibra bone	**Rom** 3-3/4C (residual)

Table 1 Finds by context (SQ=small quantity 5-10 pieces)

Note:

During the course of the work detailed in this report, a section of subsidence was observed to the west of the collapsed masonry (Fig 2). The ground in the area was extremely unstable and seemed to have subsided to a significant depth (Photograph 18). Upon observation down the hole Roman tile was visible. It seems possible that this collapse indicates a previously unknown section of the Roman drainage system – alternatively it may be the result of the Hull's 1920s excavations, as a north-east/south-west aligned trench running from Duncan's Gate is shown in his report (Fig 9). Either way it would be advisable for this area of collapse to be investigated and shored up to prevent further damage.

8. Discussion

The two features uncovered during the test-pit evaluation either represent two different archaeological excavations of the Roman drain or are different lenses of the same backfill from a single excavation. It is unlikely that any of the remaining backfill is original to the drain, given that both Duncan and Hull describe it in detail (although Hull does suggest he believes Duncan did not excavate all of it – implying that Hull did). As noted in the archaeological background above, it seems likely that (apart from the soil directly beneath the collapsed masonry) very little intact archaeological stratigraphy remains on the site, given the two extensive previous excavations.

The collapsed masonry to the south of Duncan's Gate is rare example in Britain of the remains of the upper levels of a Roman gateway. The conservation efforts of the 1920s have long since ceased in their effectiveness, and the gate and masonry as it stands now is in dire need of repair.

Overlaying the collapsed masonry onto Hulls possible reconstructions of the gate tower (Figs 7 and 8) allows the damage to the masonry since the 1920s to be roughly measured. The masonry overlaps where it is marked on the reconstruction by about 20cm on every side (this is undoubtedly Hull accounting for the 'springing' of the courses of tiles as they fell, as he mentions in his report). The two exceptions to this overlap are at the very top and bottom of the masonry, both of which appear 25cm less than shown on the plan, suggesting some tile courses have been lost in these areas. Although the exact speed of the decay is difficult to measure, continued effects of rain and frost will only result in more deterioration to the gate and masonry's fabric.

The evidence of damage observed during this report is extensive and poses a significant threat to the heritage of Colchester.

9 Acknowledgements

Colchester Archaeological Trust would like to thank Colchester Borough Council for commissioning and funding the building recording and evaluation.

The building recording and evaluation was carried out by Mark Baister and Alec Wade.
The plans and elevations were created by Mark Baister, with reference to elevations drawn in 1989.

The project was monitored by Dr Jess Tipper for Colchester Borough Council.

10 References

Note: all CAT reports, except for DBAs, are available online in .pdf format at http://cat.essex.ac.uk

CAT Report 347	2009	*Roman buildings, the rear face of the Roman town wall and archaeological investigations in Insulas 1a, 1b, 9a and 9b, at the Sixth Form College, North Hill, Colchester, Essex April 2005-March 2006*
CAT	2016	*Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) for historic building recording and test-pit evaluation at Duncan's Gate, Colchester, CO1 1UN*
CBC	2016	*Brief for Historic Building Recording and Test Pit Evaluation at Duncan's Gate, Colchester* by Jess Tipper
CIfA	2014	*Standard and guidance for archaeological investigation and recording of standing buildings and structures*
Crummy, P	1997	*City of Victory: the story of Colchester – Britain's first Roman town*
Duncan, P.M	1858	Transactions of the Essex Archaeological Society vol 1, pgs 210-228: *The Roman cloca at Colchester; its discovery and description*
EAA **14**	2003	*Standards for field archaeology in the East of England,* East Anglian Archaeology, Occasional Papers **14**, ed by D Gurney
Historic England	2006	*Understanding Historic Buildings, A guide to good recording practice*
Hull, M.R.	1958	*Roman Colchester*
MoRPHE	2006	*Management of research projects in the historic environment* (English Heritage)

11 Abbreviations and glossary

CAT	Colchester Archaeological Trust
CBC	Colchester Borough Council
CIfA	Chartered Institute for Archaeologists
HE	Historic Environment
modern	period from the 19th-century onwards to the present
NGR	National Grid Reference
UAD	Urban Archaeological Database, held by the CBC

12 Archive deposition

The paper and digital archive is currently held by the Colchester Archaeological Trust at Roman Circus House, Roman Circus Walk, Colchester, Essex CO2 7GZ, but will be permanently deposited with Colchester Museum under accession code 2016.68.

13 Contents of archive

One A4 document wallet containing:

1 Introduction

1.1 Copy of brief issued by CBC

1.2 Copy of WSI produced by CAT

1.3 Risk assessment

2 Site archive

2.1 Digital photographic record

2.2 Attendance register

2.3 Original site record (context sheets, finds record, plans, sections)

2.4 Site photographic record (evaluation and building recording) on CD

3 Research archive

3.1 Client report

Distribution list

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date: 01/11/2016

Appendices

Appendix 1

Selected photographs

Photograph 7 General shot of Duncan's Gate. Collapsed masonry visible in foreground. Photograph taken facing north-east.

Photograph 8 Western pier of Duncan's Gate Photograph taken facing north-west.

Photograph 9 Eastern pier of Duncan's Gate. Photograph taken facing north-east.

Photograph 10 Southern face of western pier. Visible is the decayed concrete used to consolidate the wall in the 1920s. Photograph taken facing north.

Photograph 11 Southern face of eastern pier. Visible is the decayed concrete used to consolidate the wall in the 1920s. Photograph taken facing north.

Photograph 12 Collapsed masonry prior to the removal of overgrowth. Photograph taken facing south.

Photograph 13 Collapsed masonry after the removal of overgrowth. Photograph taken facing south.

Photograph 14 Collapsed masonry after the removal of overgrowth. Photograph taken facing south-east.

Photograph 15 Collapsed masonry, showing tile courses repaired with modern concrete. Also visible is the modern steps added to the collapse in the early 20th-century. Photograph taken facing north-west.

Photograph 16 View of retaining wall after test-pit excavation. Modern brick and septaria visible in make-up. Photograph taken facing south.

Photograph 17 Recent collapse to east of masonry. Lime mortar exposed behind concrete render and retaining wall. Photograph taken facing south.

Photograph 18 Area of collapsed ground to south-west of Duncan's gate. Possibly evidence of a Roman drain run? Photograph taken facing south.

Photograph 19 Arch of window in collapsed masonry. Photograph taken facing north.

Appendix 2

Full list of digital photographic record (images on accompanying CD)

Duncan's Gate, Colchester BR & TP 01.JPG	Collapsed masonry after clearing. Shot taken facing north-west.
Duncan's Gate, Colchester BR & TP 02.JPG	Duncan's gate general photo. Shot taken facing north-west.
Duncan's Gate, Colchester BR & TP 03.JPG	South face of eastern pier. Shot taken facing north.
Duncan's Gate, Colchester BR & TP 04.JPG	South face of eastern pier. Shot taken facing north.
Duncan's Gate, Colchester BR & TP 05.JPG	Shot of collapsed masonry showing recent damage. Shot taken facing west.
Duncan's Gate, Colchester BR & TP 06.JPG	Shot of collapsed masonry showing recent damage. Shot taken facing west.
Duncan's Gate, Colchester BR & TP 07.JPG	General shot of collapsed masonry, showing retaining wall. Shot taken facing south.
Duncan's Gate, Colchester BR & TP 08.JPG	Oblique shot of eastern pier. Shot taken facing south-east.
Duncan's Gate, Colchester BR & TP 09.JPG	Oblique shot of western pier, shot taken facing north-west.
Duncan's Gate, Colchester BR & TP 10.JPG	Western pier after removal of overgrowth. Shot taken facing west-north-west.
Duncan's Gate, Colchester BR & TP 11.JPG	Eastern pier after removal of overgrowth. Shot taken facing east-north-east.
Duncan's Gate, Colchester BR & TP 12.JPG	Eastern pier after removal of overgrowth. Shot taken facing east-north-east.
Duncan's Gate, Colchester BR & TP 13.JPG	Southern face of western pier, showing extensive damage. Shot taken facing north.
Duncan's Gate, Colchester BR & TP 14.JPG	Southern face of western pier, showing extensive damage. Shot taken facing north.
Duncan's Gate, Colchester BR & TP 15.JPG	Shot of eastern pier with collapsed masonry in foreground. Shot taken facing north-east.
Duncan's Gate, Colchester BR & TP 16.JPG	Collapsed masonry. Shot taken facing east.
Duncan's Gate, Colchester BR & TP 17.JPG	General shot of Duncan's Gate. Shot taken facing north-east.
Duncan's Gate, Colchester BR & TP 18.JPG	General shot of Duncan's Gate. Shot taken facing north-east.
Duncan's Gate, Colchester BR & TP 19.JPG	General shot of Duncan's Gate. Shot taken facing north.
Duncan's Gate, Colchester BR & TP 20.JPG	General shot of Duncan's Gate. Shot taken facing north.
Duncan's Gate, Colchester BR & TP 21.JPG	General shot of Duncan's Gate, focusing on masonry. Shot taken facing north.
Duncan's Gate, Colchester BR & TP 22.JPG	General shot of Duncan's Gate, focusing on masonry. Shot taken facing north.
Duncan's Gate, Colchester BR & TP 23.JPG	Western pier. Shot taken facing west.

Duncan's Gate, Colchester BR & TP 24.JPG	Western pier. Shot taken facing west.
Duncan's Gate, Colchester BR & TP 25.JPG	Western pier. Shot taken facing west.
Duncan's Gate, Colchester BR & TP 26.JPG	Eastern pier, showing build up of overgrowth and damage to structure. Shot taken facing north-west.
Duncan's Gate, Colchester BR & TP 27.JPG	Eastern pier. Shot taken facing east.
Duncan's Gate, Colchester BR & TP 28.JPG	Eastern pier. Shot taken facing east.
Duncan's Gate, Colchester BR & TP 29.JPG	Eastern pier. Shot taken facing east.
Duncan's Gate, Colchester BR & TP 30.JPG	Eastern pier. Shot taken facing east.
Duncan's Gate, Colchester BR & TP 31.JPG	South face of eastern pier. Shot taken facing north-east.
Duncan's Gate, Colchester BR & TP 32.JPG	Collapsed masonry, with retaining wall. Shot taken facing south-east.
Duncan's Gate, Colchester BR & TP 33.JPG	Collapsed masonry, with retaining wall. Shot taken facing south-east.
Duncan's Gate, Colchester BR & TP 34.JPG	Collapsed masonry, with retaining wall. Shot taken facing east.
Duncan's Gate, Colchester BR & TP 35.JPG	Collapsed masonry in foreground, with western pier behind. Shot taken facing north-west.
Duncan's Gate, Colchester BR & TP 36.JPG	Collapsed masonry with retaining wall, shot taken facing south-west.
Duncan's Gate, Colchester BR & TP 37.JPG	Collapsed masonry with retaining wall, shot taken facing south-west.
Duncan's Gate, Colchester BR & TP 38.JPG	Collapsed masonry showing recent damage, shot taken facing west.
Duncan's Gate, Colchester BR & TP 39.JPG	Detailed shot of recent damage. Shot taken facing west.
Duncan's Gate, Colchester BR & TP 40.JPG	Shot of concrete steps added to collapse. Shot taken facing west.
Duncan's Gate, Colchester BR & TP 41.JPG	Collapsed masonry, shot taken facing east.
Duncan's Gate, Colchester BR & TP 42.JPG	Collapsed masonry, shot taken facing south-east.
Duncan's Gate, Colchester BR & TP 43.JPG	Shot of collapsed masonry and retaining wall. Shot taken facing south.
Duncan's Gate, Colchester BR & TP 44.JPG	Detailed shot of collapsed masonry and retaining wall, shot taken facing south.
Duncan's Gate, Colchester BR & TP 45.JPG	Detailed shot of collapsed masonry and retaining wall, shot taken facing south.
Duncan's Gate, Colchester BR & TP 46.JPG	Shot of test pit from above, L3, F1 and F2 visible.
Duncan's Gate, Colchester BR & TP 47.JPG	Retaining wall in test-pit, showing modern brick used in its construction. Shot taken facing south.
Duncan's Gate, Colchester BR & TP 48.JPG	Layers in test-pit. L1, L2 and L3 visible. Shot taken facing east.
Duncan's Gate, Colchester BR & TP 49.JPG	Test-pit with retaining wall. Shot taken facing south-west.
Duncan's Gate, Colchester BR & TP 50.JPG	Shot of collapsed window arches during recording. Shot taken facing north-west.

Duncan's Gate, Colchester BR & TP 51.JPG	Shot of collapsed window arches during recording. Shot taken facing north-west.
Duncan's Gate, Colchester BR & TP 52.JPG	Shot of collapsed window arches during recording. Shot taken facing north-west.
Duncan's Gate, Colchester BR & TP 53.JPG	Shot of collapsed window arches during recording. Shot taken facing north-west.
Duncan's Gate, Colchester BR & TP 54.JPG	Shot of collapsed window arches during recording. Shot taken facing north-west.
Duncan's Gate, Colchester BR & TP 55.JPG	Working shot of site, shot taken facing south.
Duncan's Gate, Colchester BR & TP 56.JPG	Working shot of site, shot taken facing south-west.
Duncan's Gate, Colchester BR & TP 57.JPG	Working shot of site, shot taken facing south-west.
Duncan's Gate, Colchester BR & TP 58.JPG	Working shot of site, shot taken facing south-west.
Duncan's Gate, Colchester BR & TP 59.JPG	Western pier site shot, shot taken facing west.
Duncan's Gate, Colchester BR & TP 60.JPG	Working shot, shot taken facing north-west.
Duncan's Gate, Colchester BR & TP 61.JPG	Working shot of site, shot taken facing south-west.
Duncan's Gate, Colchester BR & TP 62.JPG	Working shot of site, shot taken facing south-east.
Duncan's Gate, Colchester BR & TP 63.JPG	Eastern pier during recording, shot taken facing east.
Duncan's Gate, Colchester BR & TP 64.JPG	Collapsed ground to SW of gate, shot taken facing south.
Duncan's Gate, Colchester BR & TP 65.JPG	Close up of collapsed ground. Roman tile visible in hole.
Duncan's Gate, Colchester BR & TP 66.JPG	Overhead shot of test-pit. F1, F2 and L3 visible.
Duncan's Gate, Colchester BR & TP 67.JPG	Overhead shot of test-pit. F1, F2 and L3 visible.
Duncan's Gate, Colchester BR & TP 68.JPG	Detailed photo of collapsed masonry. Shot taken facing south-east.
Duncan's Gate, Colchester BR & TP 69.JPG	Photo of collapsed masonry. Shot taken facing south-east.
Duncan's Gate, Colchester BR & TP 70.JPG	Photo of collapsed masonry. Shot taken facing south-west.
Duncan's Gate, Colchester BR & TP 71.JPG	Photo of collapsed masonry. Shot taken facing west.
Duncan's Gate, Colchester BR & TP 72.JPG	Photo of collapsed masonry, with concrete steps. Shot taken facing north-west.
Duncan's Gate, Colchester BR & TP 73.JPG	Shot of collapsed masonry with window arches. Shot taken facing north.
Duncan's Gate, Colchester BR & TP 74.JPG	Shot of collapsed masonry with window arches. Shot taken facing north.
Duncan's Gate, Colchester BR & TP 75.JPG	Detailed photo of window arch in collapsed masonry. Shot taken facing north.
Duncan's Gate, Colchester BR & TP 76.JPG	Shot of collapsed masonry with window arches. Shot taken facing north-east.
Duncan's Gate, Colchester BR & TP 77.JPG	Detailed shot of tile courses in collapsed masonry. Shot taken facing east.
Duncan's Gate, Colchester BR & TP 78.JPG	Detailed shot of tile courses in collapsed masonry. Shot taken facing south-east.

Duncan's Gate, Colchester BR & TP 79.JPG	Detailed shot of tile courses in collapsed masonry. Shot taken facing east.
Duncan's Gate, Colchester BR & TP 80.JPG	Detailed shot of collapsed masonry. Shot taken facing north-east.
Duncan's Gate, Colchester BR & TP 81.JPG	Detailed shot of tile courses and retaining wall in collapsed masonry. Shot taken facing south-east.
Duncan's Gate, Colchester BR & TP 82.JPG	Detailed shot of damage to collapsed masonry. Shot taken facing east.
Duncan's Gate, Colchester BR & TP 83.JPG	Detailed shot of damage to collapsed masonry. Shot taken facing south.
Duncan's Gate, Colchester BR & TP 84.JPG	Collapsed masonry. Shot taken facing east.
Duncan's Gate, Colchester BR & TP 85.JPG	Collapsed masonry. Shot taken facing south.
Duncan's Gate, Colchester BR & TP 86.JPG	Detailed shot of window arch in collapsed masonry. Shot taken facing south-west.
Duncan's Gate, Colchester BR & TP 87.JPG	Detailed shot of window arch in collapsed masonry. Shot taken facing west.
Duncan's Gate, Colchester BR & TP 88.JPG	Detailed shot of window arch in collapsed masonry. Shot taken facing south.
Duncan's Gate, Colchester BR & TP 89.JPG	Detailed shot of window arch in collapsed masonry. Shot taken facing south.
Duncan's Gate, Colchester BR & TP 90.JPG	Detailed shot of window arch in collapsed masonry. Shot taken facing west.
Duncan's Gate, Colchester BR & TP 91.JPG	Detailed shot of window arch in collapsed masonry. Shot taken facing north.
Duncan's Gate, Colchester BR & TP 92.JPG	Window arch in collapsed masonry. Shot taken facing north-east.
Duncan's Gate, Colchester BR & TP 93.JPG	Window arch in collapsed masonry. Shot taken facing north-east.

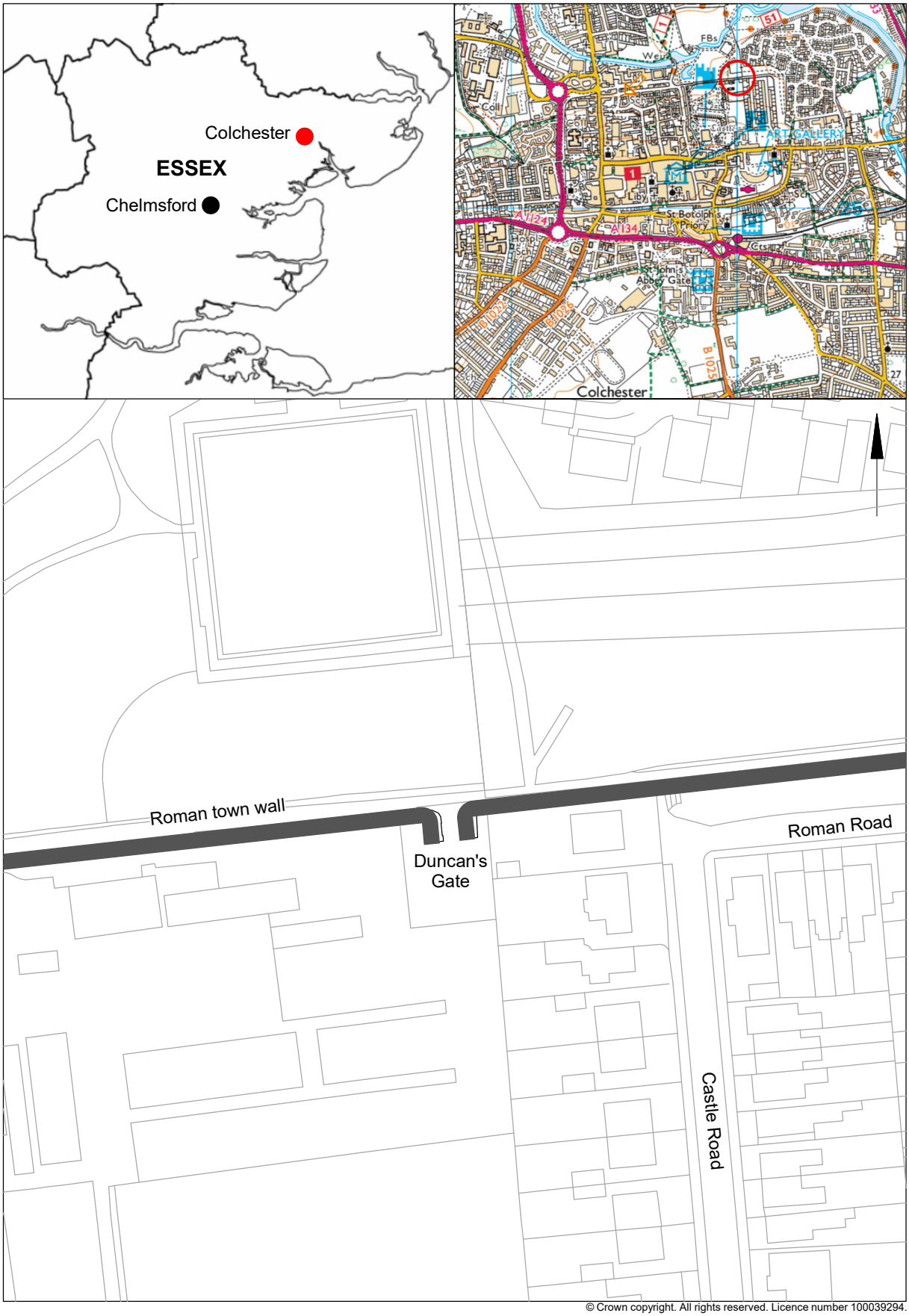
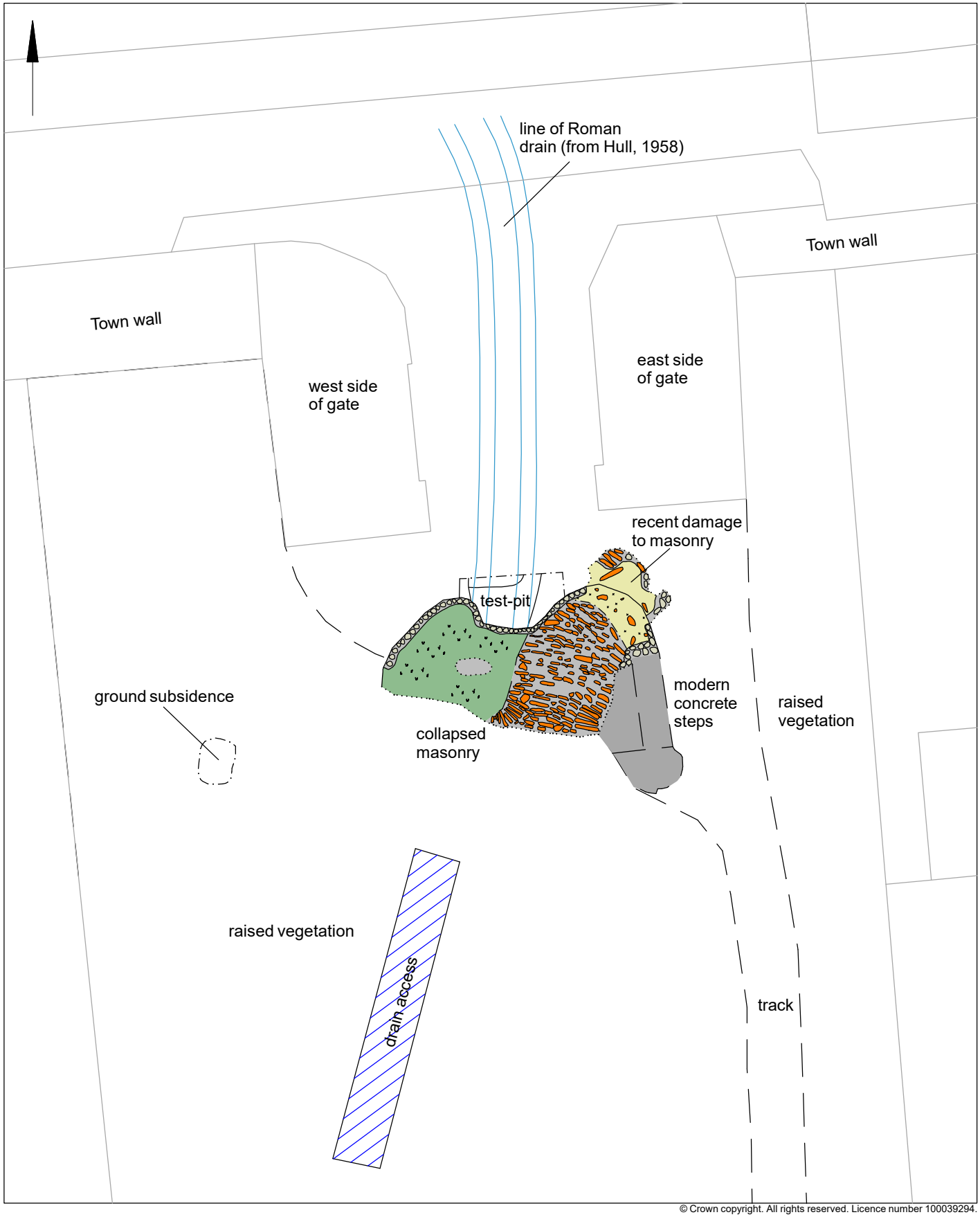


Fig 1 Site location.



0 5 m

Fig 2 Plan of site.

Fig 3 Detailed plan of collapsed masonry and test pit.

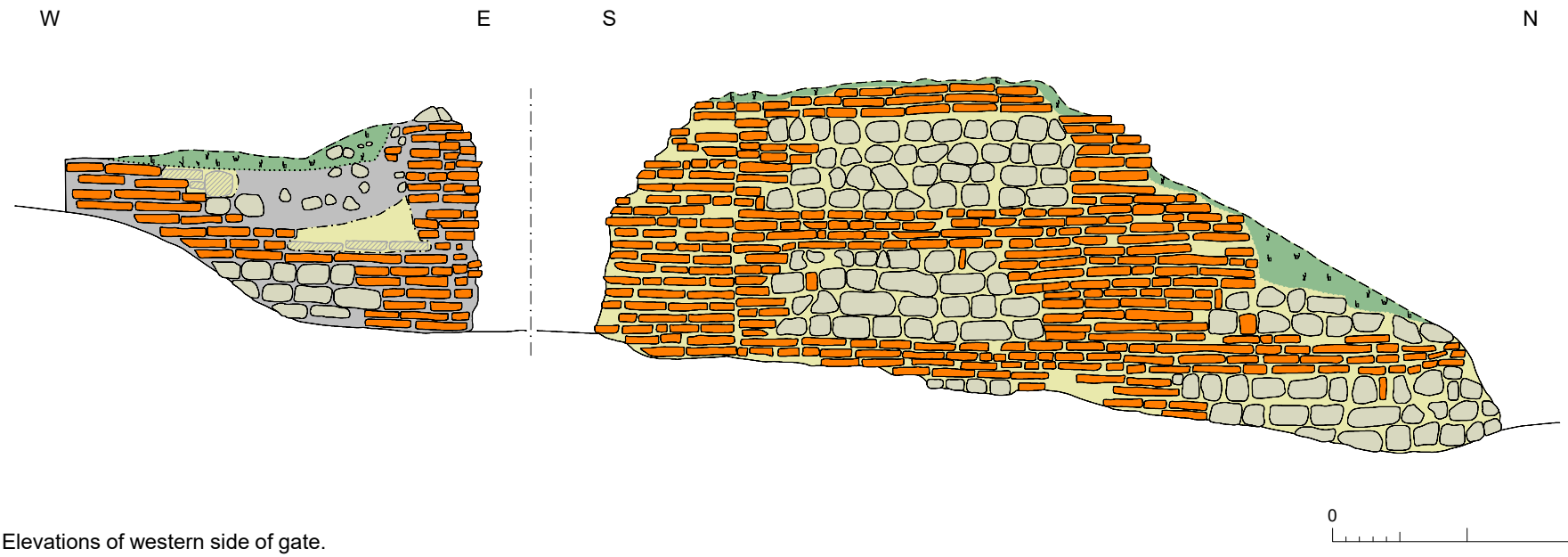


Fig 4 Elevations of western side of gate.

key

concrete conservation (laid in 1920s)

lime mortar (original Roman)

overgrowth/vegetation

septaria

tile

masonry present on 1989 drawing

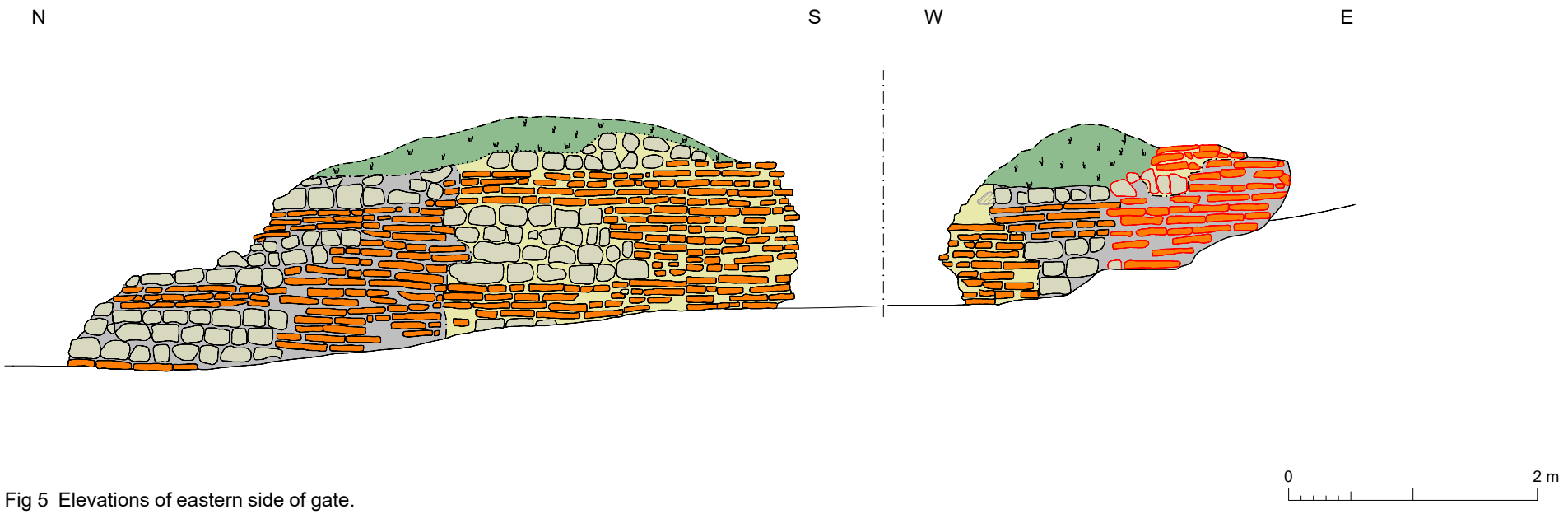


Fig 5 Elevations of eastern side of gate.

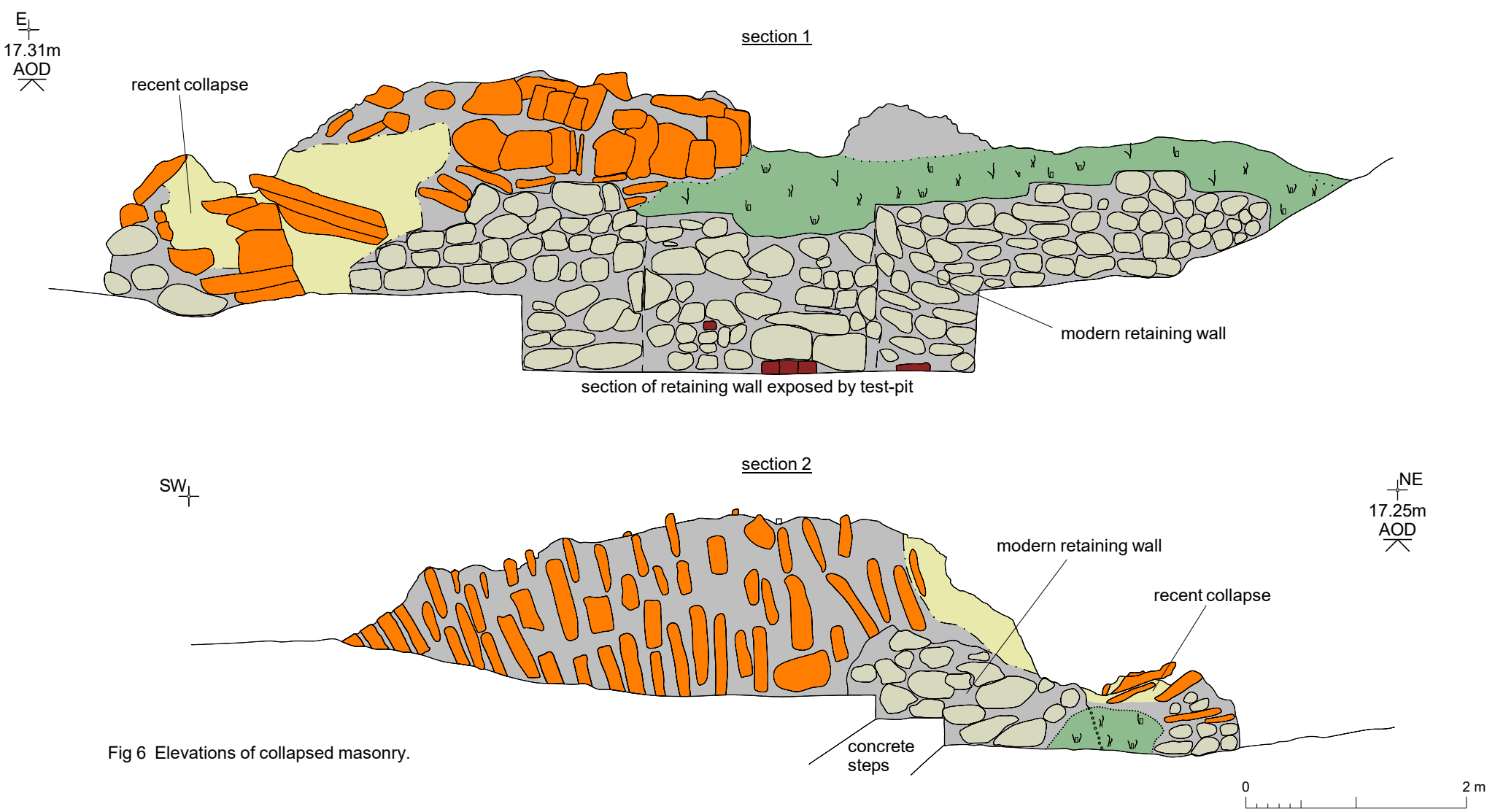


Fig 6 Elevations of collapsed masonry.

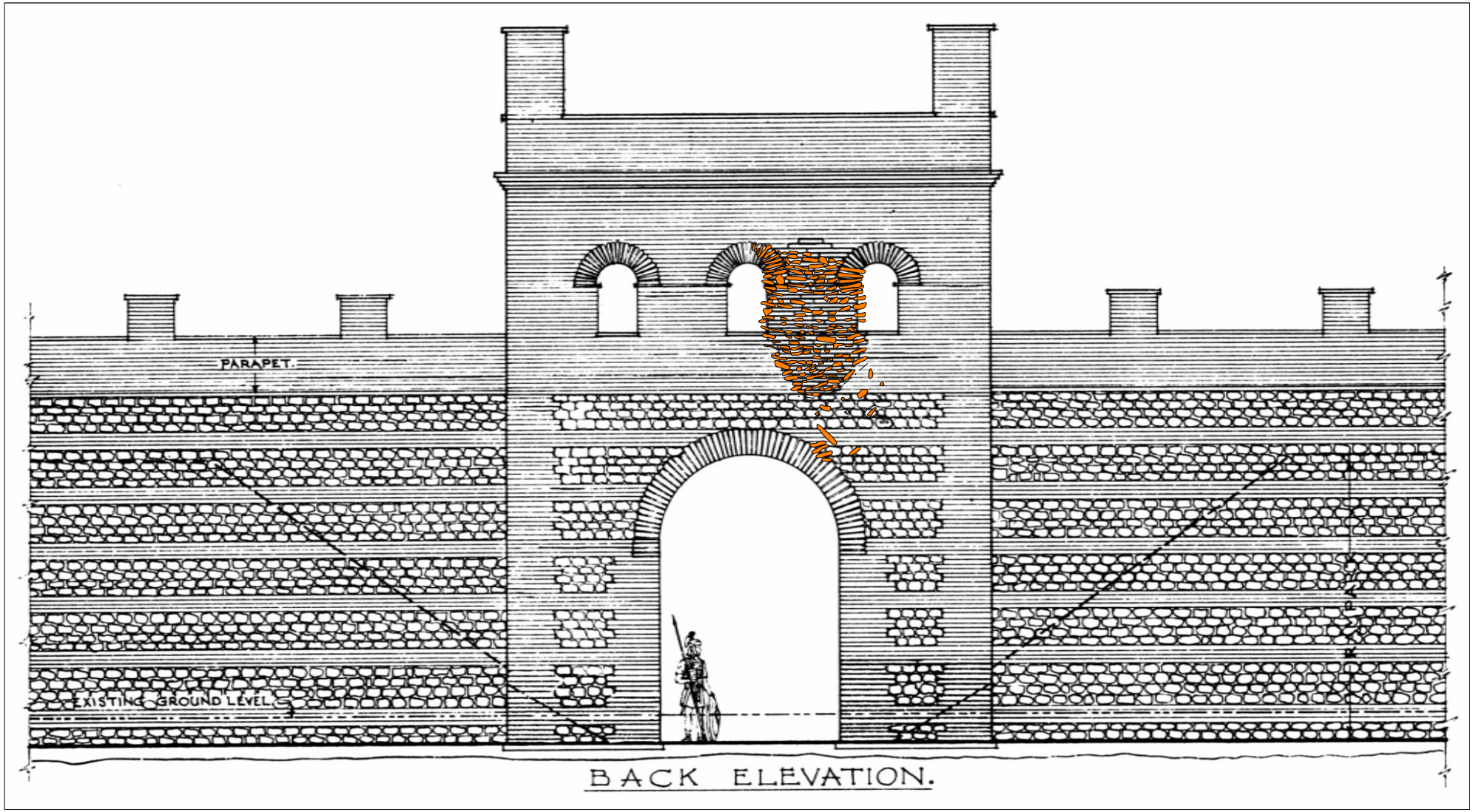


Fig 7 First reconstruction of south elevation of Duncan's Gate showing the gate tower with three windows, with plan of collapsed masonry overlayed. Reproduced from Hull 1958, 38.

0 5 m

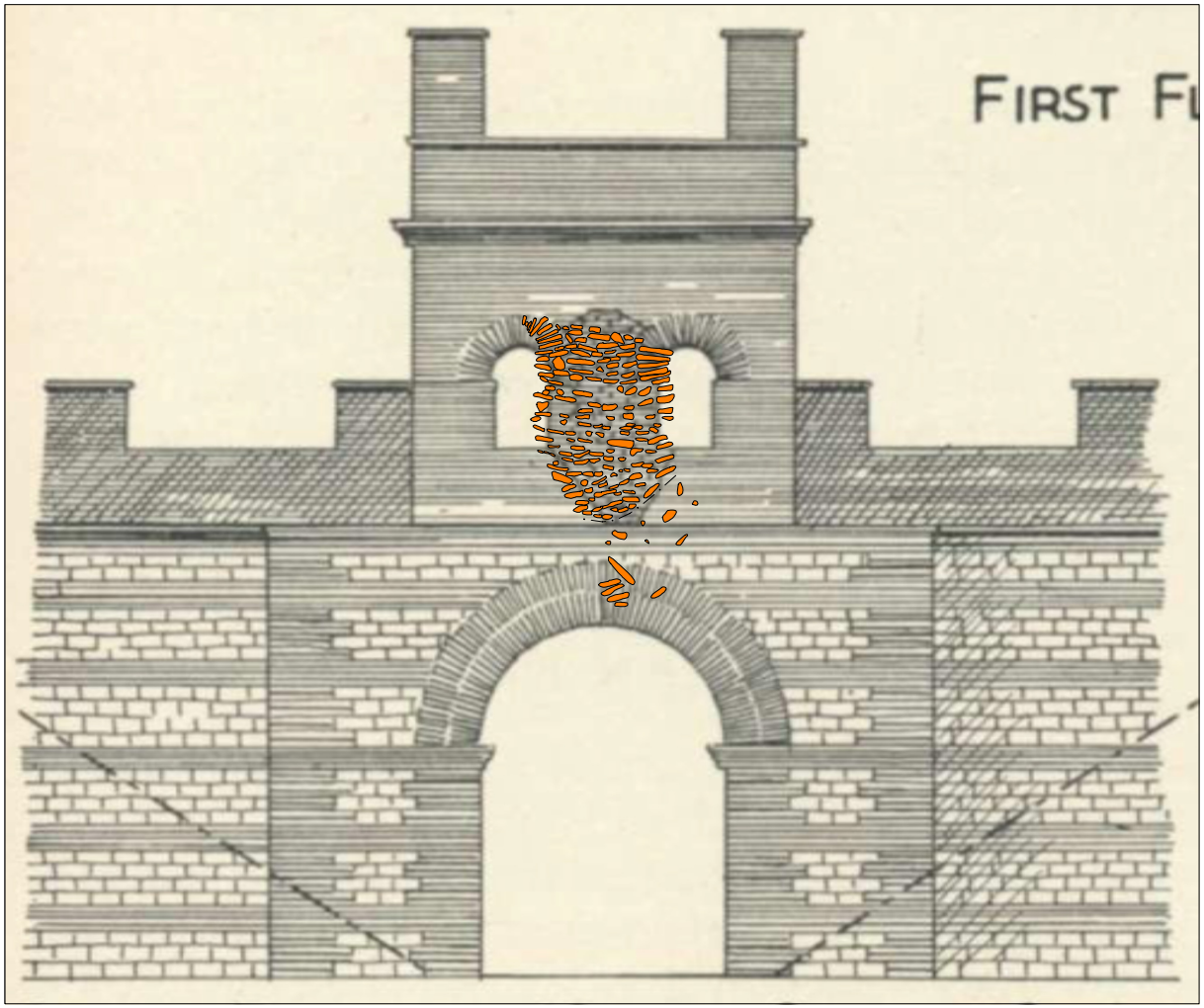


Fig 8 Second reconstruction of south elevation of Duncan's Gate showing the gate tower with two windows, with plan of collapsed masonry overlaid. Reproduced from Hull 1958, 41.

Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) for historic building recording and test-pit evaluation at Duncan's Gate, Colchester, CO1 1UN

NGR: TL 99925 25559 (centre)

Planning reference: n/a

Client: Mark Wickes, Colchester Borough Council Homes

Curating Museum: Colchester

Museum accession code: COLEM: 2016.68
CAT Project code: 16/06o
UAD Event number:
Building recording: ECC3808
Test-pit evaluation: ECC3809
OASIS ref: colchest3-256198

Site Manager: Chris Lister

CBC Monitors: Jess Tipper

This WSI written: 29-06-2016

COLCHESTER ARCHAEOLOGICAL TRUST,
Roman Circus House,
Roman Circus Walk
Colchester,
Essex, C02 7GZ
tel: 01206 501785
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Site location and description

Duncan's Gate is located on the north-east corner of the Town Walls in the centre of Colchester, Essex (Fig 1). The site is centred on NGR TL 9995 2503.

Proposed work

The proposed work comprises the conservation of Duncan's Gate.

Archaeological background

The following archaeological background draws on the Colchester Archaeological Trust report archive, the Colchester Urban Archaeological Database (UAD) and the Essex Historic Environment Record accessed via the Heritage Gateway:

Duncan's Gate is located on the north-east corner of the Roman Town Wall (scheduled monument NHLE no. 1003772).

The wall was built around the town in the later 1st century AD following the revolt led by Boudica. It is constructed of a core of layered septaria and mortar faced with coursed septaria and tile. A recent study has concluded that the wall has an average width of 2.67m (including offsets) which is equivalent to precisely nine Roman feet (*pedes monetales*). A hypothetical cross-section of the wall shows the foundations as being 3.77m wide (Crummy 2003). Previous work shows that some of the wall foundations were surprisingly shallow at 600mm deep (Hull 1958, 25-6). Work by CAT at the Sixth Form College in 2005 shows the stone foundations to be 1.2m deep with wooden piles below (CAT report 347), although, being water-logged, ground conditions here presumably explain their exceptional depth. Trial-holes confirmed that survival of the foundations varies. Where they have not been robbed away, the foundations extend 2.1m from the existing face of the wall and are in a sound state of preservation. Above ground, the survival of the wall is very patchy. Up to 2.4m width of wall has been lost and nothing of the original exterior facing of the wall survives, only the core. The majority of what is standing has been refaced in brick or stone or completely rebuilt in brick.

The masonry 'lump' to the south, and in front of, Duncan's Gate has been interpreted as the remains of a gate tower or turret that has fallen and been preserved *in situ* adjacent to the gate. It is extremely fragile and has deteriorated in recent years, and now requires conservation (although it is likely that it has been conserved in the past). No detailed record has been made of this masonry and no detailed study has been undertaken (at least in modern times) to assess the significance of it. The below ground remains have previously been investigated by Dr P M Duncan in 1853 and the Colchester Excavation Committee in the 1920s (Hull 1958, 36-41). No modern or systematic investigation has been undertaken to record and understand the nature of the surviving remains and there is high potential for important below-ground heritage assets (ie archaeological remains) to be present.

Planning background

As a scheduled monument, Historic England (HE) advised Colchester Borough Council that an archaeological impact assessment would be required of the Gate and the associated archaeological remains, in the form of a Historic England Level 3 building survey of the above ground remains and a test pit adjacent to the collapsed masonry, to establish the character and significance of any surviving archaeological deposits. In response to this recommendation the Colchester Borough Council Archaeological Advisor (CBCAA) prepared a brief for the required archaeological work, to be undertaken in advance of the conservation work. This recommendation is based on the guidance given in the *National Planning Policy Framework* (DCLG 2012).

Colchester Archaeological Trust has prepared this Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) in response to the CBCAA brief for submission to Colchester Borough Council Planning Department and Historic England.

Any variations to this WSI will be agreed beforehand with the Archaeological Advisor of CBC (CBCAA) and the Historic England Inspector of Ancient Monuments.

Requirement for work

The required archaeological work is for historic building recording and a test-pit evaluation. Details are given in a Project Brief written by CBC (*Brief for historic building recording and test-pit evaluation* - CBC 2016).

Test-pit evaluation

The work will comprise a single test-pit located to the north of (and up against) the collapsed masonry (interpreted as the remains of the collapsed gate tower) to establish the character and significance of any surviving archaeological deposits. (Fig 2). The test-pit will measure 2m by 1m and will be excavated no deeper than the highest stratified archaeological deposit.

Aim:

- To characterise the uppermost deposits of the test-pit and assess their significance

Building recording

The building recording will comprise a Historic England Level 3 survey of the above ground remains of Duncan's Gate.

The remains will be described, drawn and photographed. Specifically this will consider:

- Plan form of the site.
- Materials and method of construction.
- Date(s) of the structure.
- Function and layout.
- Original and later phasing, additions and their effect on the internal/external fabric and the level of survival of original fabric.
- The significance of the site on a regional level.

General methodology

All work carried out by CAT will be in accordance with:

- professional standards of the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists, including its *Code of Conduct* (CIfA 2014a, b, c)
- Standards and Frameworks published by East Anglian Archaeology (Gurney 2003, Medlycott 2011)
- relevant Health & Safety guidelines and requirements (CAT 2014)
- the Project Brief issued by CBC Archaeological Adviser (CBC 2016)

Professional CAT field archaeologists will undertake all specified archaeological work, for which they will be suitably experienced and qualified.

Notification of the supervisor/project manager's name and the start date for the project will be provided to CBCAA/HE one week before start of work.

Unless it is the responsibility of other site contractors, CAT will study mains service locations and avoid damage to these.

Vegetation will need to be cleared from the wall, masonry lump and surrounding area to facilitate good recording. For general grass and weeds a petrol strimmer will be used. Any plants growing from the masonry itself will be cut back to face of the masonry but the roots left intact to avoid damage to the scheduled monument. At this stage it is not envisaged that removal of soil/build up of decaying vegetation will be undertaken unless specifically requested by CBCAA/HE.

At the start of work (immediately before fieldwork commences) an OASIS online record http://ads.ahds.ac.uk/project/oasis/ will be initiated and key fields completed on Details, Location and Creators forms. At the end of the project all parts of the OASIS online form will

be completed for submission to EHER. This will include an uploaded .PDF version of the entire report.

A project or site code will be sought from CBCAA and/or the curating museum, as appropriate to the project. This code will be used to identify the project archive when it is deposited at the curating museum.

Staffing

The number of field staff for this project is estimated as follows

Test-pit: Two archaeologists for one day

Building recording: A building recorder and one surveyor for one day

In charge of day-to-day site work: Chris Lister

Test-pit evaluation

Test-pit methodology

The test-pits will be hand excavated, no deeper than the highest stratified archaeological deposit.

Any exposed sub-soil or archaeological horizons will be cleaned by hand.

If archaeological features or deposits are uncovered these will be planned and recorded.

If archaeological deposits are encountered these will be sampled for palaeoenviromental analysis.

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

A metal detector will be used to examine spoil heaps, and the finds recovered.

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

Site surveying

Normal scale for archaeological site plans and sections is 1:20 and 1:10 respectively, unless circumstances indicate that other scales would be more appropriate.

The site grid will be tied into the National Grid. Corners of the test-pit will be located by NGR coordinates.

Environmental sampling policy

The number and range of samples collected will be adequate to determine the potential of the site, with particular focus on palaeoenvironmental remains including both biological remains (e.g. plants, small vertebrates) and small sized artefacts (e.g. smithing debris), and to provide information for sampling strategies on any future excavation. Samples will be collected for potential micromorphical and other pedological sedimentological analysis. Environmental bulk samples will be 40 litres in size (assuming context is large enough)

Sampling strategies will address questions of:

- the range of preservation types (charred, mineral-replaced, waterlogged), and their quality
- concentrations of macro-remains
- and differences in remains from undated and dated features
- variation between different feature types and areas of site

CAT has an arrangement with Val Fryer (Loddon) whereby any potentially rich environmental layers or features will be appropriately sampled as a matter of course. Val Fryer will do any processing and reporting.

Should any complex, or otherwise outstanding deposits be encountered, VF will be asked onto site to advise. Waterlogged 'organic' features will always be sampled. In all cases, the advice of VF and/or the Historic England Regional Advisor in Archaeological Science (East of England) on sampling strategies for complex or waterlogged deposits will be followed, including the taking of monolith samples.

Human remains

During evaluation work CAT follows the policy of leaving human remains *in situ* unless there is a clear indication that the remains are in danger of being compromised as a result of their exposure. If circumstances indicated it were prudent or necessary to remove the remains from the site during the evaluation phase, the following criteria would be applied; 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 Department of Justice 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 CBCAA/HE will be informed, and any advice and/or instruction from the coroner will be followed.

Photographic record

Will include both general and feature-specific photographs, the latter with scale and north arrow. A photo register giving context number, details, and direction of shot will be prepared on site, and included in site archive.

Finds

All significant finds will be retained.

All finds, where appropriate, will be washed and marked with site code and context number.

Stephen Benfield (CAT) normally writes our finds reports. Some categories of finds are automatically referred to other CAT specialists:

animal bones (small groups): Pip Parmenter
flints: Adam Wightman

or to outside specialists:

small finds, metalwork, coins, etc: Pip Parmenter
animal bones (large groups) and human remains: Julie Curl (*Sylvanus*)
environmental processing and reporting: Val Fryer (Loddon)
conservation of finds: staff at Colchester Museum

Other specialists whose opinion can be sought on large or complex groups include:

Roman brick/tile: Ernest Black
Roman glass: Hilary Cool
Prehistoric pottery: Paul Sealey
Other: EH Regional Adviser in Archaeological Science (East of England).

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.

Requirements for conservation and storage of finds will be agreed with the appropriate museum prior to the start of work, and confirmed to CBCAA.

Building recording

Building Recording Methodology

A Historic England Level 3 survey of Duncan's Gate will be undertaken.

A documentary, cartographic and pictorial survey of the evidence pertaining to the history and evolution of Duncan's Gate will be made. Sources consulted will include:

- Essex Historic Environment Record.
- Essex Records Office.

- The site owner/developer.

A large-scale block plan will be made of the site using existing architects' drawings or the current OS 1:2500 map extract.

Plans and elevations at a scale of 1:100 will be made of the remains, tied into the descriptive text and accompanying photographic record.

The walls will be viewed, described and photographed. The description will seek to address materials, dimensions, method of construction and phasing.

A full photographic record will be made comprising colour digital photographs. This record will include both general shots and details of external and internal features (ie structural detail). A photographic scale will be included in the case of detailed photographs. The photographic record will be accompanied by a photographic register detailing (as a minimum) location and direction of shot.

The completed plans will be clearly annotated to show the location and orientation of photographs taken as part of the survey.

Fully annotated photographic plates supporting the text will be reproduced as colour laser copies.

The guidelines contained in *English Heritage: Understanding Historic Buildings. A guide to good recording practice (2006)* will be adhered to. In addition, RCHME: *Descriptive Specification 3rd Edition*, CIfA's *Standard and Guidance for the Archaeological Investigation and Recording of Standing Buildings or Structures* (2014) and the appropriate sections of the *Standards for Field Archaeology in the East of England* (*East Anglian Archaeology occasional paper **14**, 2003*) and *Research and Archaeology Revised: A Revised Framework for the East of England* (EAA **24**, 2011) and *Management of research projects in the historic environment* (MoRPHE) will be used for additional guidance in the design of the project specification, the contents of the report, and for the general execution of the project.

Results

Notification will be given to CBCAA/HE when the fieldwork has been completed.

An appropriate archive will be prepared to minimum acceptable standards outlined in *Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment* (English Heritage 2006).

A single report encompassing both elements (building recording and test-pit) will be submitted within 6 months of the end of fieldwork, with a copy supplied to CBCAA/HE as a PDF.

The report will contain:

- The aims and methods adopted in the course of the investigation.
- A brief history of Duncan's Gate
- Location maps, plans and annotated drawings tied into the OS Grid.
- Section/s drawings showing depth of deposits from present ground level with Ordnance Datum, vertical and horizontal scale.
- Labelled re-productions of a representative sample of the photographs
- Detailed results including a suitable conclusion and discussion and results referring to Regional Research Frameworks (Medlycott 2011).
- A concise non-technical summary of the project results.
- All specialist reports or assessments

An EHER summary sheet will also be completed within four weeks and supplied to CBCAA.

Results will be published, to at least a summary level (i.e. round-up in *Essex Archaeology & History*) in the year following the archaeological field work. An allowance will be made in the project costs for the report to be published in an adequately peer reviewed journal or monograph series.

Archive deposition

It is a policy of Colchester Borough Council that the integrity of the site archive be maintained (i.e. all finds and records should be properly curated by a single organisation), with the archive available for public consultation. To achieve this desired aim it is assumed that the full archive will be deposited in Colchester Museums *unless otherwise agreed in advance*. (A full *copy* of the archive shall in any case be deposited).

By accepting this WSI, the client agrees to deposit the archive, including all artefacts, at Colchester & Ipswich Museum.

The requirements for archive storage will be agreed with the curating museum.

If the finds are to remain with the landowner, a full copy of the archive will be housed with the curating museum.

The archive will be deposited with Colchester & Ipswich Museum within 3 months of the completion of the final publication report, with a summary of the contents of the archive supplied to CBCAA.

Monitoring

CBCAA/HE 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 CBCAA/HE one week in advance of its commencement.

Any variations in this WSI will be agreed with CBCAA/HE prior to them being carried out.
CBCAA/HE will be notified when the fieldwork is complete.

The involvement of CBCAA and HE will be acknowledged in any report or publication generated by this project.

References

CBC	2016	*Brief for Historic Building Recording and Test Pit Evaluation at Duncan's Gate, Colchester* by Jess Tipper
CIfA	2014a	*Standard and guidance for the collection, documentation, conservation and research of archaeological materials*
CIfA	2014b	*Standard and guidance for archaeological investigation and recording of standing buildings or structures*
CAT	2014	*Policies and procedures*
CAT Report 347	2009	*Roman buildings, the rear face of the Roman town wall and archaeological investigations in Insulas 1a, 1b, 9a and 9b, at the Sixth Form College, North Hill, Colchester, Essex: April 2005-March 2006*
Crummy, P	1997	*City of Victory the story of Colchester - Britain's first Roman town*
Crummy, P	2003	'Colchester's town wall' in *The archaeology of Roman towns: studies in honour of John S Wacher*, ed by P Wilson
English Heritage	2006 (revised 2009)	*MoRPHE: Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment*
English Heritage	2006	*Understanding Historic Buildings. A guide to good recording practice*
Gurney, D.	2003	*Standards for field archaeology in the East of England* East Anglian Archaeological, occasional papers 14 (EAA14)
Hull, M R	1958	*Roman Colchester*, RRCSAL 20
Medlycott, M.	2011	*Research and Archaeology Revisited: A Revised Framework for the East of England,* East Anglian Archaeological Occasional Papers 24 (EAA 24)

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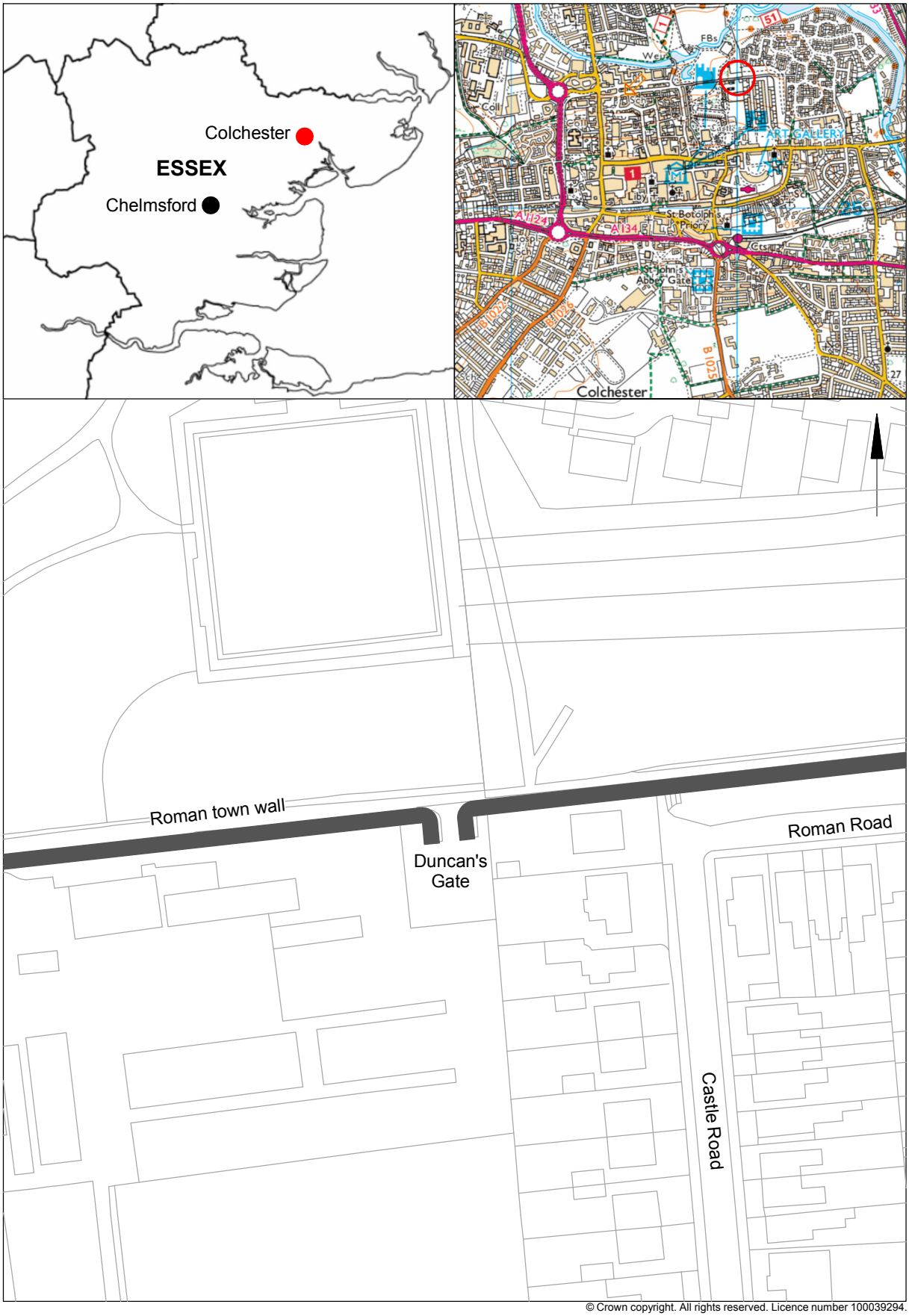

Fig 1 Site location.

Fig 2 Test pit location in relation to approximate position of collapsed archway and raised area with drain access.

0 10 m

OASIS DATA COLLECTION FORM: England

Printable version

OASIS ID: colchest3-256198

Project details

Project name	Historic Building Recording and Archaeological Test-Pit Evaluation at Duncan's Gate, Colchester, Essex, CO1 1UN
Short description of the project	A programme of historic building recording and evaluation by test-pitting was carried out by Colchester Archaeological Trust at Duncan's Gate (on Colchester's Roman town wall) in July 2016. The gate and its associated masonry (the in situ remains of the collapsed gate tower) are in a state of decay and urgently require repairs. The collapsed masonry was heavily consolidated with modern concrete and a retaining wall after the excavations in 1927-9 by Rex Hull but these repairs are themselves beginning to decay. The excavated test-pit exposed the cut of the known Roman drain aligned through the gateway, although the fill of it is likely entirely backfill from earlier archaeological work. The test-pit also exposed the layers that had been deposited on the site since the 1920s excavation.
Project dates	Start: 11-07-2016 End: 12-07-2016
Previous/future work	Yes / Not known
Any associated project reference codes	ECC3808 - HER event no.
Any associated project reference codes	16/06o - Contracting Unit No.
Any associated project reference codes	2016.68 - Museum accession ID
Any associated project reference codes	ECC3809 - HER event no.
Type of project	Building Recording
Site status	Scheduled Monument (SM)
Current Land use	Other 8 - Land dedicated to the display of a monument
Monument type	TOWN WALL Roman
Monument type	GATEWAY Roman
Significant Finds	POT Roman
Methods & techniques	"'Photographic Survey'"
Prompt	Scheduled Monument Consent

Project location

Country	England
Site location	ESSEX COLCHESTER COLCHESTER Duncan's Gate
Postcode	CO1 1UN
Study area	65.62 Square metres
Site coordinates	TL 99925 25559 51.892144047919 0.905818723444 51 53 31 N 000 54 20 E Point

Project creators

Name of Organisation	Colchester Archaeological Trust
Project brief originator	CBC Archaeological Officer
Project design originator	Laura Pooley
Project director/manager	Chris Lister
Project supervisor	Mark Baister
Type of sponsor/funding body	Borough Council

Project archives

Physical Archive recipient	Colchester Museum
Physical Archive ID	2016.68
Physical Contents	"Animal Bones","Ceramics"
Digital Archive Exists?	No
Paper Archive recipient	Colchester Museum
Paper Archive ID	2016.68
Paper Contents	"none"
Paper Media available	"Context sheet","Correspondence","Miscellaneous Material","Notebook - Excavation',' Research',' General Notes","Photograph","Plan","Report","Section"

Project bibliography 1

Publication type	Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)
Title	Historic building recording and test-pit evaluation at Duncan's Gate, Colchester, CO1 1UN July 2016
Author(s)/Editor(s)	Baister, M.
Other bibliographic details	CAT Report 1022
Date	2016
Issuer or publisher	Colchester Archaeological Trust

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OASIS:

Please e-mail Historic England for OASIS help and advice