

Archaeological monitoring and recording at 99 Lexden Road, Colchester, Essex, CO3 3RB

May-June 2017



by Dr Elliott Hicks

with contributions by Stephen Benfield
figures by Sarah Carter and Alec Wade

fieldwork by Alec Wade

on behalf of Wendy Ramsay

NGR: TL 9810 2500 (centre)

Planning reference: 163195

CAT project ref.: 17/03k

Colchester Museum accession code COLEM: 2017.45

CHER ref: ECC3975

OASIS reference: colchest3-280685



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CAT Report 1113

June 2017

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1 Summary

Archaeological monitoring and recording was carried out at 99 Lexden Road, Colchester during the construction of a front and rear extension. The development site is located within the Late Iron Age oppidum of Camulodunum, to the west of the Roman walled town and within an area of Roman cemeteries termed ‘the western cemetery’ or the ‘Lexden cemetery’. The excavation uncovered a single pit, possibly a refuse pit, dating to the modern period.

2 Introduction (Fig 1)

This report presents the results of an archaeological watching brief at 99 Lexden Road, Colchester, Essex, which was carried out during May and June 2017. The work was commissioned by Wendy Ramsay, in advance of the construction of a front and rear extension, and was undertaken by Colchester Archaeological Trust (CAT). On the first day of excavations, a film crew from Channel 4 was in attendance, filming an episode of the series *Ugly House to Lovely House*.

As the site lies within an area identified by the Colchester Historical Environment Record (CHER) and the Essex Historic Environment Record (EHER) as possessing a high potential for archaeological deposits, following consultation with Colchester Borough Council Planning Services (CBCPS), Colchester Borough Council Archaeological Advisor Jess Tipper advised that in order to establish the archaeological implications of this application, the applicant should be required to commission a scheme of archaeological investigation in accordance with paragraphs 128, 129 and 132 of the *National Planning Policy Framework* (DCLG 2012).

All archaeological work was carried out in accordance with a *Brief for Continuous Archaeological Monitoring and Recording*, detailing the required archaeological work, written by Jess Tipper (CBCPS 2017), and a Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) prepared by CAT in response to the brief and agreed with CBCPS (CAT 2017)

In addition to the brief and WSI, all fieldwork and reporting was done in accordance with English Heritage’s *Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment (MoRPHE)* (English Heritage 2006), and with *Standards for field archaeology in the East of England* (EAA 14 and 24). This report mirrors standards and practices contained in the Institute for Archaeologists’ *Standard and guidance for archaeological watching briefs* (CIfA 2014a) and *Standard and guidance for the collection, documentation, conservation and research of archaeological materials* (CIfA 2014b).

3 Archaeological background

The following archaeological background draws on the major published sources for Colchester archaeology (listed below), and also on the Colchester Historic Environment Record (CHER) and the Essex Historic Environment Record (EHER).

The development site is located 1.8km west of Colchester town centre within the Late Iron Age *oppidum* of Camulodunum, to the west of the Roman walled town and within an area of Roman cemeteries termed ‘the western cemetery’ by Hull (1958), but more generally known as the Lexden cemetery (EHER 11713, 11714). The Lexden cemetery area encompasses a number of Iron Age and Roman burial grounds on both sides of Lexden Road (the main Roman road leading from the walled town towards London and Braughing) (Hull 1958 and CAR 11). In particular a Roman lead coffin was found approximately 270m east of the development site in 1880 (EHER 13186), with many other burials found close-by.

The development site is also located on the southern edge of the Late Iron Age and early Roman settlement and industrial complex at Sheepen (EHER 11673, Scheduled Monument no. 46). Sheepen was extensively excavated in the 1930s (Hawkes & Hull

1947) and 1970s (Niblett 1985; CAR 11, 131-7). Finds were prolific, and evidence found included remains of a trackway and workshops, with evidence of metal-working and coin manufacture (Crummy 2001, 15- 16).

The Late Iron Age settlement at Sheepen was defended on its western side by the Sheepen Dyke (EHER no 11641). This was a large earth bank and ditch, which was probably constructed by c AD 10 (CAR 11, 161-2). A later addition to the Sheepen Dyke extended to the southwest for approximately 340m ('Ditch 1A') and was sectioned in several places in the 1930s (Hawkes & Hull 1947, 111-12). This stretch was possibly added shortly before the Roman invasion. It was projected to cross the southeastern corner of the Kingswode Hoe School (290m NE of the development site). This ditch then continued towards the north bank of a stream, which is represented today by a marked dip in Sussex Road. The Sheepen Dyke was probably levelled and the ditch backfilled shortly after the Roman conquest (Crummy 2001, 90; Hawkes & Hull 1947, 51 & 112).

Many Roman pottery and tile kilns have been excavated nearby; to the northeast (EHER 11692) and in the grounds of Kingswode Hoe School (EHER 13146, Hull 1963, 155-6). Recent monitoring at Kingswode Hoe School has also revealed post-medieval/modern features (CAT Report 578) and part of the Sheepen Dyke along with two other Roman ditches (CAT Report 623). However, evaluations in the northeast corner of neighbouring St Mary's Upper School in 2000 (CAT Report 95) and at the front of the school in 2017 (CAT Report 1067) did not reveal any significant archaeological remains.

Roman remains of an unspecified nature were found close to St Mary's Upper School when 'The Turrets' (89 Lexden Road) was being constructed in 1816 (Hull 1958, 292).

Archaeological investigations in and around Colchester County High School for Girls to the south have revealed parts of the Heath Farm Dyke North (EHER 12660, CAR 11, 32), a 'triple-ditched dyke' (EHER 12630, CAR 11, 127), a building with wooden posts (EHER 12631), palisade trenches, an irregular wattle-and-daub structure, gullies and pits (EHER 12632, CAR 11, 124-126).

The now Second Post windmill, erected c 1681 and now demolished, stood close to the site (EHER 47552), as did a WWII pillbox (also now demolished, EHER 20514), and 95 and 97 Lexden Road are a pair of early 19th century listed brick houses (NHLE no. 1123586).

4 Results (Figs 2-4)

All groundworks were carried out by the contractor under archaeological supervision.

Front extension

At the front of the property, a dog-legged foundation trench measuring 6.5m in length was excavated to a depth of between 1-1.4m.

Three layers were recorded. Trenching was excavated through the surface of the drive, tarmac on a layer of concrete, sand and gravel, onto original subsoil (L3, 0.24-0.52m thick). This sealed a layer of possible hillwash/colluvium (L5, 0.22-0.44m thick), which sealed naturally-deposited sands and gravels (L6).

Rear extension

At the rear of the property, foundation trenching measuring approximately 19m in length was excavated. The depth of trenching varied here. The western half of the foundation trench was excavated to a depth of between 1.05-1.1m, whilst the eastern half was excavated to a depth of 1.6m at the direction of the building controller due to the presence of large trees on this side of the property.

Six layers were recorded. The shallower western part of the trench was excavated through modern topsoil (L1, c 0.2m thick) onto modern subsoil (L2, c 0.2-0.25m thick). L2 sealed a layer of original subsoil (L3, c 0.6m thick). This sealed a layer of hillwash/colluvium (L4, c 0.15-0.3m thick). In the deeper western section of the foundation trench, L1 and L2 were not encountered. This section of the trench was excavated through a mortar and cement patio base onto L3 (c, 0.6m thick) and L4 (c 0.15-0.2m thick). L4 was found to seal a layer of hillwash/colluvium (L5, c 0.35-0.4m thick), which in turn sealed naturally deposited sands and gravels.

Within the area bounded by foundation trenching, an oversite area measuring approximately 40.5m² was excavated to a depth of 0.45m below the level of the concrete footings rather than 0.25m as had been intended, and was subsequently backfilled to achieve the required depth.

Soakaway

A soakaway measuring 1m² was excavated to a depth of 1m to the rear of the existing house.

Two layers were encountered. The soakaway was excavated through L1 (c 0.2m thick) onto L3.

One post-medieval/19th-century pit (F1) was observed in the northern, eastern and southern sections of the soakaway. It measured 0.2-0.28m deep, c 1m in width, and c 0.4m in length recorded in the southwest corner of the foundation trench. It contained a large amount of detritus - fragments of china, pottery, glass and corroded metal - and most likely was a rubbish pit.



Photograph 1 Sx 1 oblique view, looking southeast

5 Finds

by Stephen Benfield

A small quantity of finds of prehistoric, Roman, post-medieval and modern date was recovered during the watching brief. All of these come from soil layers (L3 and L4). The finds are listed and described by context in Table 2. The Roman pottery fabrics refer to the Colchester Roman fabric series (**CAR 10**) and Roman pottery vessel forms refer to the *Camulodunum* (Cam) Roman pottery type series (Hawkes and Hull 1947, Hull 1958). The post-Roman pottery fabrics referred to follow the Colchester (Essex) post-Roman fabric series (**CAR 7**). All of the pottery fabrics referred to are listed in Table 1.

Fabric	Fabric description
<i>Ro-man:</i>	
BASG	South Gaulish plain samian
GX	Other coarse wares, principally locally-produced grey wares
HZ	Large storage jars in heavily-tempered fabrics
UR	<i>Terra nigra</i> -type wares
<i>Post-Ro-man:</i>	
40	Pots-medieval (glazed) red earthenwares
51B	Modern flowerpot

Table 1 Pottery fabrics

Ctxt	Ctxt type	Find no	Type/description	Finds spot date
L3	Subsoil	1	<p>Pottery Roman Fabric GX (2 sherds, 12g) Roman coarseware, both abraded (Roman).</p> <p>Pottery post-medieval/modern (1 sherd, 4g) wheel-turned sandy orange-red earthenware with thin grey wash surface, not obviously abraded, not closely dated probably post-medieval or modern (?flowerpot).</p> <p>CBM Roman all in orange/red fine/medium sand fabrics; <i>Tegula</i> (1 piece, 130g) flange edge, abraded; Roman brick (2 pieces, 370g) one piece abraded (Roman).</p> <p>Briquetage Flay clay piece (28g) probably part of a clay vessel, relatively soft orange and brown coloured clay fabric with common vegetable fragment inclusions (Iron Age/late Iron Age-Early Roman).</p> <p>Other Nail (iron) corroded, head with short piece of shaft and probable unrelated lower shaft piece.</p>	Roman with one sherd probably post-medieval / modern
L3	Subsoil	3	<p>Pottery Roman Fabric GX (2 sherds, 12g) one greyware sherd quite abraded, the other lightly abraded, dark surface and light grey sandy fabric, might possibly be medieval but presumed Roman (Roman).</p> <p>CBM Roman (2 pieces, 146g) orange/red fine/medium sand fabric; one piece <i>imbrex</i> (104g) other piece Roman brick/tile (42G) abraded (Roman).</p>	Roman
L3	Subsoil	4	<p>Object Round, metal cap with raised border (dia 25mm, thickness 2-3mm), heavily corroded or with heavy encrustation, probably post-medieval or modern.</p>	(?) post-medieval / modern
L3	Subsoil	5	<p>Pottery Roman Fabric HZ (1 sherd, 6g), voids from burnt-out temper, small jar, orange fabric with buff surface (c M1st-2nd C).</p>	Roman (M1st-2nd C)
L3	Subsoil	6	<p>Pottery Roman Fabric GX (3 sherds, 12g) in rim from a cam 268 jar (EVE 0.09) (E/M2nd-L3rd/E4th</p>	c 18th-19th C

			<p>C). Pottery post-medieval Fabric 40 (2 sherds, 10g) 17th-18th/E19th C). Glass (vessel) (1 piece, 40g) base form a rectangular bottle, pale blue-green tint to glass (probably modern). Clay tobacco pipe Stem piece (2g) narrow bore 1-1.5mm (post-medieval - probably 18th-19th C). CBM Roman All in orange/red fine/medium sand fabrics; <i>Tegula</i> (2 pieces, 324g); Roman brick (4 pieces, 444g) (Roman). Fired clay (1 piece, 14g) abraded, rounded small piece, buff fine sand fabric (not closely dated - probably likely to be Roman).</p>	
L3	Subsoil	7	<p>Pottery Roman Fabric BASG (1 sherd, 4g) very abraded (M-L1C); Fabric UR (1 sherd, 10g), rim (EVE 0.05) dish form - CAM 26 or Cam 27-type platter (pre-Flavian); fabric GX (2 sherds, 18g) (Roman); Fabric HZ (1 sherd, 8g) abraded (M1-2C).</p>	Roman (M1st-E2nd C) - abraded small sherds (residual?)
L4	Slope accum.	2	<p>Pottery prehistoric (1 sherd, 4g) common small to medium flint (relatively fine) with several larger flint inclusions, smoothed surface, small sherd, not easily confidently dated but probably Late Bronze Age-early Iron Age. Flint (1 piece, 8g) small secondary flake (some cortex) squat and relatively thick with broad striking platform, some slight edge damage/use wear, probably later prehistoric (Late Neolithic-Bronze Age).</p>	Prehistoric (probably Late bronze Age-Early Iron Age)

Table 2 Finds by context

The earliest dated finds come from L4. These consist of a single, small sherd of flint-tempered prehistoric pottery and a flint flake. While difficult to date closely, they are both likely to be of later prehistoric date, the flint probably of Late Neolithic-Bronze Age date and the pottery sherd probably of Late Bronze Age-Early Iron Age date.

The majority of the finds were associated with the subsoil layer L3. Most of the closely-dated finds from this layer are Roman. The majority of this was pottery and ceramic building material (CBM). The pottery sherds are generally small-medium size and show some abrasion suggesting some post-depositional history and age in relation to the context. Almost all of the of them are plain body sherds from locally produced grey-wares (Fabric GX) and are not closely dated within the Roman period, although a few more closely datable sherds in other fabrics are of 1st century, or more broadly of early Roman (1st-2nd century) date. All of the more closely-dated sherds come from L3 (7) and consist of a sherd of South Gaulish samian (mid-late 1st century), a rim sherd from a locally made platter of form Cam 26 or Cam 27 (probably pre-Flavian) and a relatively coarsely-tempered sherd (classified as Fabric HZ – although the fabric is oxidised) that is probably of mid 1st-2nd century date. Of note is a small, slab piece from a briquetage vessel (1) which is associated with salt production in the Iron Age and Roman period and considered to arrive on inland sites from the transport of salt. This is likely to date to the Late Iron Age or Early Roman periods.

Several of the finds from L3 can be dated as modern or are probably so. Most conspicuous among these is a piece from a clay tobacco pipe stem (6), while a small sherd of pottery lacking any abrasion (1) is likely to be of post-medieval or modern date. Part of the base from a rectangular glass bottle is also almost certainly modern, as is an encrusted/corroded circular thick metal disc (4) which appears to have a collar around the top(?) edge and is possibly a metal cap.

6 Discussion

Archaeological monitoring and recording at 99 Lexden Road was undertaken due to the proximity of the site to several areas of archaeological interest dating to the Late Iron Age and Roman era. These include the Late Iron Age *oppidum* of Camulodunum, the 'Lexden cemetery', the Iron Age and early Roman settlement and industrial complex at Sheepen (Scheduled Monument no. 46), the Sheepen Dyke, the Heath Farm Dyke North and a number of Roman pottery and tile-kilns, ditches, trenches, pits and wooden-posted structures. Despite being located within a site of considerable archaeological interest, the only archaeological feature uncovered was a possible refuse pit dating to the modern period. A proliferation of Roman-era finds deriving from L3 does, however, indicate Roman habitation and activity in this area. Similarly, prehistoric finds uncovered in L4 are indicative of prehistoric habitation and activity at this site.

7 Acknowledgements

CAT thanks Wendy Ramsay for commissioning and funding the work. The project was managed by C Lister and carried out by A Wade. Figures were prepared by S Carter and A Wade. The project was monitored for the CBCPS by Jess Tipper.

8 References

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

- | | | |
|------------------------------|-------|---|
| CAR 7 | 2000 | <i>Colchester Archaeological Report 7: Post-Roman pottery from excavations in Colchester, 1971-85</i> , by J Cotter |
| CAR 10 | 1999 | <i>Colchester Archaeological Report 10: Roman pottery from excavations in Colchester, 1971-86</i> , by R Symonds and S Wade |
| CAR 11 | 1995 | <i>Colchester Archaeological Report 11: Camulodunum II</i> , by C F C Hawkes and P Crummy |
| CAT | 2017 | <i>Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) for continuous archaeological monitoring and recording at 99 Lexden Road, Colchester, Essex, CO3 3RB</i> |
| CAT Report 95 | 2000 | <i>An archaeological evaluation at St Mary's School, 91 Lexden Road, Colchester: September 2000</i> |
| CAT Report 578 | 2010 | <i>Archaeological monitoring at Kingswode Hoe School, Sussex Road, Colchester, Essex: August-September 2010</i> |
| CAT Report 623 | 2011 | <i>Archaeological investigations at Kingswode Hoe School, Sussex Road, Colchester, Essex: October 2011</i> |
| CAT Report 1067 | 2017 | <i>Archaeological evaluation at St Mary's Upper School, 91 Lexden Road, Colchester, Essex, CO3 3RB: February 2017</i> |
| CBCAA | 2016 | <i>Brief for a Continuous Archaeological Monitoring and Recording at 99 Lexden road, Colchester, CO3 3RB</i> by J Tipper |
| CifA | 2014 | <i>Standard and Guidance for an archaeological watching briefs</i>
a |
| CifA | 2014 | <i>Standard and guidance for the creation, compilation, transfer and deposition of archaeological archives</i>
b |
| CifA | 2014c | <i>Standard and guidance for the collection, documentation, conservation and research of archaeological materials</i> |
| Crummy, P | 2001 | <i>City of Victory: the story of Colchester – Britain's first Roman town</i> |
| DCLG | 2012 | <i>National Planning Policy Framework</i> |
| English Heritage | 2006 | <i>Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment (MoRPHE)</i> |
| Gurney, D | 2003 | <i>Standards for field archaeology in the East of England</i> . East Anglian Archaeology Occasional Papers 14 (EAA 14). |
| Hawkes, C F C, and Hull, M R | 1947 | <i>Camulodunum, first report on the excavations at Colchester 1930-39</i> , RRCSAL, 14 |
| Hull, M R | 1958 | <i>Roman Colchester</i> , RRCSAL, 20 |
| Hull, M R | 1963 | <i>The Roman potters' kilns of Colchester</i> , RRCSAL, 21 |
| Niblett, R | 1985 | <i>Sheepen: an early Roman industrial site at Camulodunum</i> , CBA Research Report 57 |

Medlycott, M 2011 *Research and archaeology revisited: A revised framework for the East of England*. East Anglian Archaeology Occasional Papers 24 (EAA 24)

9 Abbreviations and glossary

Bronze Age	period from c 2500 – 700 BC
CAT	Colchester Archaeological Trust
CBCAA	Colchester Borough Council Archaeological Advisor
CBCPS	Colchester Borough Council Planning Services
CBM	ceramic building material, ie brick/tile
CHER	Colchester Historic Environment Record (previously UAD, Urban Archaeological Database)
CIfA	Chartered Institute for Archaeologists
CM	Colchester Museum
context	specific location of finds on an archaeological site
feature (F)	an identifiable thing like a pit, a wall, a drain: can contain ‘contexts’
Iron Age	period from 700 BC to Roman invasion of AD 43
layer (L)	distinct or distinguishable deposit (layer) of material
medieval	period from AD 1066 to c 1500
modern	period from c AD 1800 to the present
natural	geological deposit undisturbed by human activity
Neolithic	period from c 4000 – 2500 BC
NGR	National Grid Reference
OASIS	O nline A ccess to the I ndex of A rchaeological I nvestigations, http://oasis.ac.uk/pages/wiki/Main
post-medieval	period from c AD 1500 to c 1800
prehistoric	pre-Roman
residual	something out of its original context, eg a Roman coin in a modern pit
Roman	the period from AD 43 to c AD 410
section	(abbreviation sx or Sx) vertical slice through feature/s or layer/s
ws	written scheme of investigation

10 Contents of archive

Finds: None retained

Paper and digital record

One A4 document wallet containing:

The report (CAT Report 1113)

CBCPS evaluation brief, CAT written scheme of investigation

Original site record (feature and layer sheets, finds record, plans)

Site digital photos and log, architectural plans, attendance register, risk assessment

11 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: COLEM 2017.45.

Distribution list

Wendy Ramsay

Jess Tipper, Colchester Borough Council Planning Services

Essex Historic Environment Record



Colchester Archaeological Trust

Roman Circus House,
Roman Circus Walk,
Colchester,
Essex, CO2 7GZ

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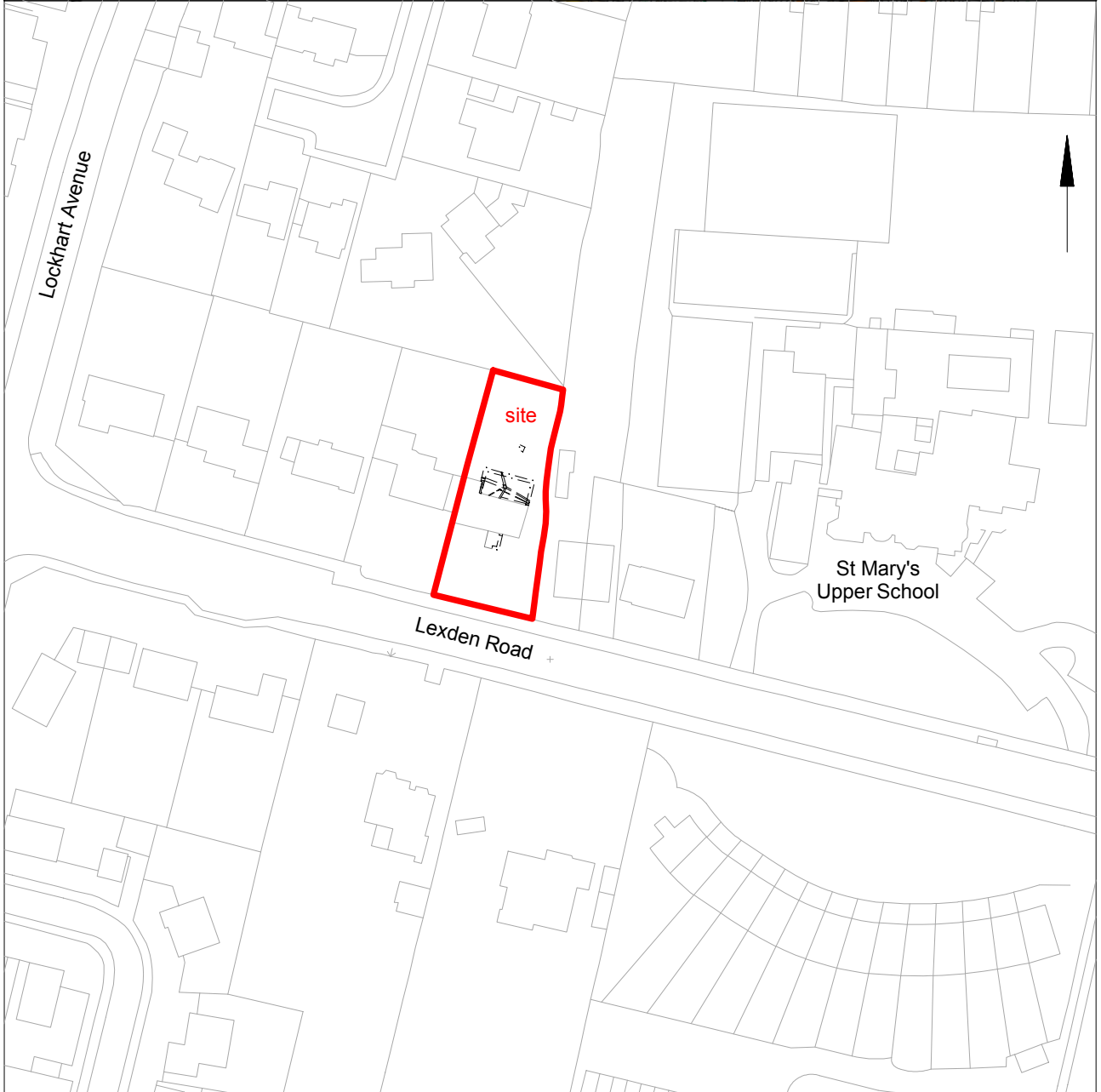
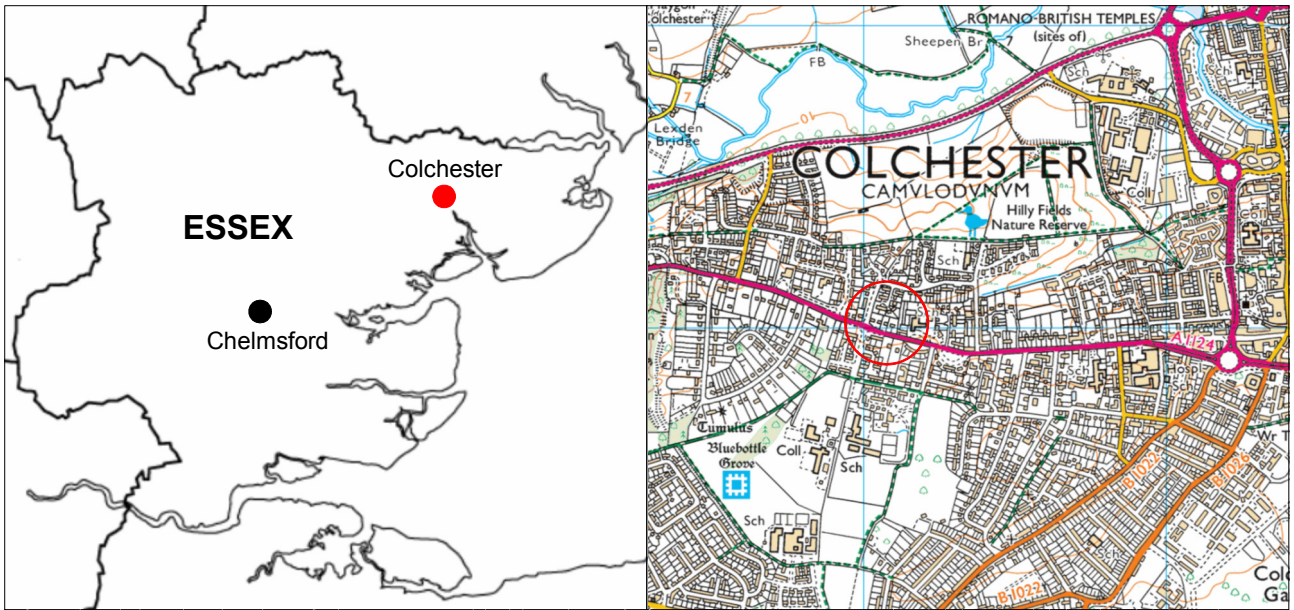
email: lp@catuk.org

Checked by: Philip Crummy

Date: 20.06.2017

Appendix 1 Context list

Context Number	Finds Number	Feature Type	Description	Date
F1	Finds not retained	Pit	Medium orange/brown sandy-silt.	Post-medieval / 19th-century
L1	Finds not retained	Topsoil	Moist dark grey/brown sandy-silty-loam with occasional patches of mixed brown-orange sandy-clay and very occasional stones.	Modern
L2	-	Subsoil / buried horizon	Dark grey slightly sandy-silty-clay with very occasional stones and charcoal and CBM flecks.	Modern
L3	1, 3, 6, 7	Original subsoil?	Friable moist medium to dark brown slightly sandy-silty-clay with very occasional stones and CBM flecks.	Post-medieval/ modern
L4	2	Accumulation down slope	Friable moist light to medium brown slightly sandy-silty-clay with occasional stones.	?Prehistoric
L5	-	Hillwash	Orange/brown slightly sandy-silt with occasional mottles of pale grey/brown silt and very occasional stones.	Undated
L6	-	Natural	Hard dry medium orange/brown sand with very frequent gravel	Post-glacial



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Fig 1 Site location



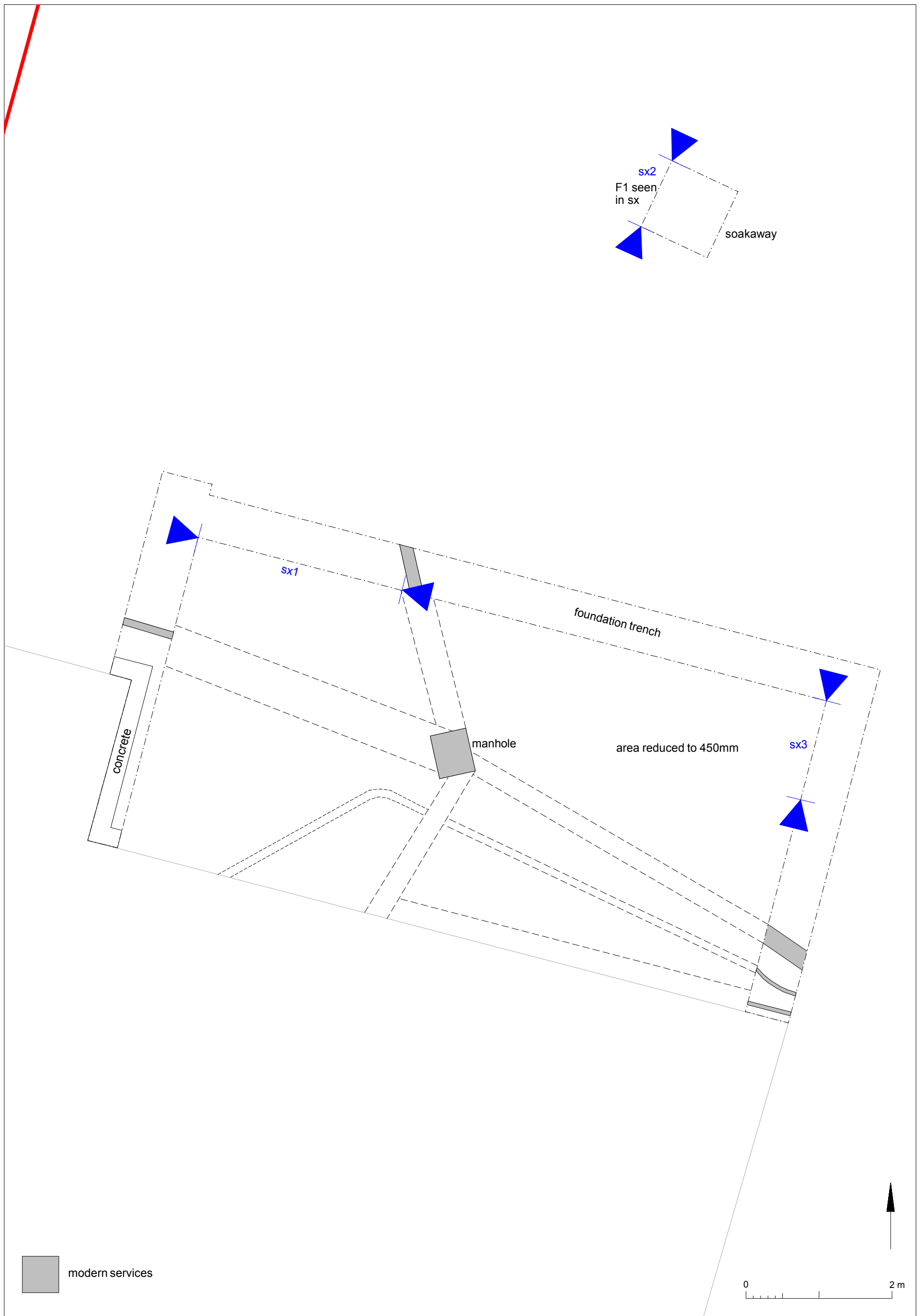


Fig 2 Results: rear extension and soakway

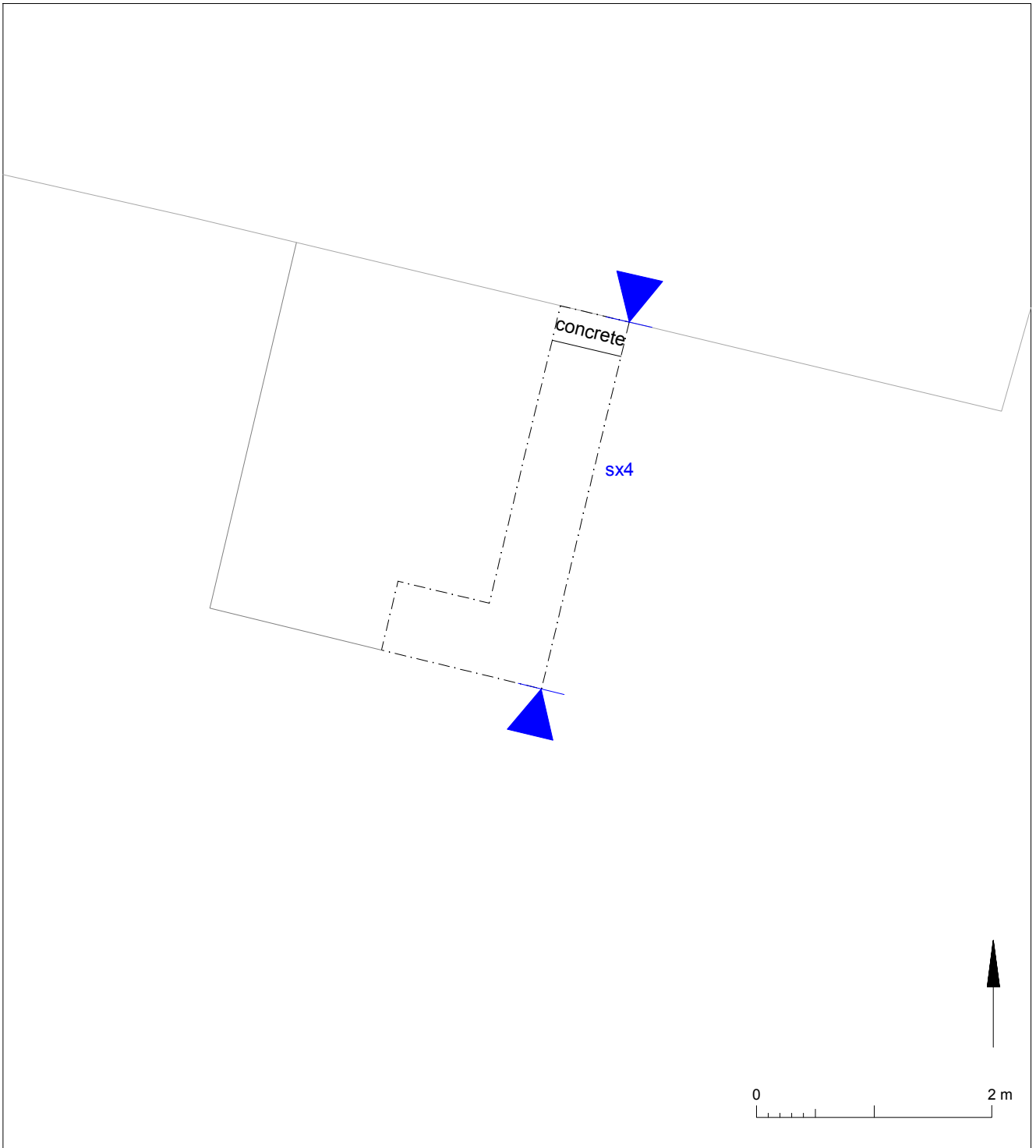


Fig 3 Results: front extension

Essex Historic Environment Record/ Essex Archaeology and History

Summary sheet

Address: 99 Lexden Road, Colchester, Essex, CO3 3RB	
Parish: Colchester	District: Colchester
NGR: TL 9810 2500 (centre)	Site code: CAT project ref.: 17/03k CHER ref: ECC3975 OASIS ref: colchest3-280685
Type of work: Monitoring and recording	Site director/group: Colchester Archaeological Trust
Date of work: May-June 2017	Size of area investigated: 0.07ha
Location of curating museum: Colchester museum accession code COLEM: 2017.45	Funding source: Developer
Further seasons anticipated? no	Related CHER/SMR number: EHER 11641, 11673, 11692, 11713, 11714, 12630, 12631, 12632, 12660, 13146, 13186, 20514, 47552
Final report: CAT Report 1113	
Periods represented: -	
Summary of fieldwork results: <i>Archaeological monitoring and recording was carried out at 99 Lexden Road, Colchester during the construction of a front and rear extension. The development site is located within the Late Iron Age oppidum of Camulodunum, to the west of the Roman walled town and within an area of Roman cemeteries termed 'the western cemetery' or the 'Lexden cemetery'. The excavation uncovered a single pit, possibly a refuse pit, dating to the modern period.</i>	
Previous summaries/reports: None	
CBC monitor: Jess Tipper	
Keywords: -	Significance: none
Author of summary: Dr Elliott Hicks	Date of summary: June 2017

Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) for continuous archaeological monitoring and recording at 99 Lexden Road, Colchester, Essex, CO3 3RB

NGR: TL 9810 2500 (centre)

Planning reference: 163195

Client: Wendy Ramsay

Curating museum: Colchester

Museum accession code: [tbc](#)

CHER ref: ECC3975

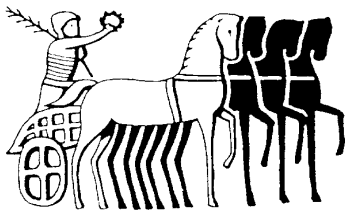
CAT project code: 17/03k

OASIS ref.: colchest3-280685

Site manager: Chris Lister

CBC monitor: Jess Tipper

This WSI written: 28.03.2017



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Site location and description

The development site lies approximately 1.8km west of Colchester town centre at 99 Lexden Road (Fig 1). Site centre is TL 9810 2500 (centre).

Proposed work

Proposed front and rear extension.

Archaeological background

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

The development site is located 1.8km west of Colchester town centre within the Late Iron Age *oppidum* of Camulodunum, to the west of the Roman walled town and within an area of Roman cemeteries termed 'the western cemetery' by Hull (1958), but more generally known as the Lexden cemetery (EHER 11713, 11714). The Lexden cemetery area encompasses a number of Iron Age and Roman burial grounds on both sides of Lexden Road (the main Roman road leading from the walled town towards London and Braughing) (Hull 1958 and *CAR 11*). In particular a Roman lead coffin was found approximately 270m east of the development site in 1880 (EHER 13186), with many other burials found close-by.

The development site is also located on the southern edge of the Late Iron Age and early Roman settlement and industrial complex at Sheepen (EHER 11673, Scheduled Monument no. 46). Sheepen was extensively excavated in the 1930s (Hawkes & Hull 1947) and 1970s (Niblett 1985; *CAR 11*, 131-7). Finds were prolific, and evidence found included remains of a trackway and workshops, with evidence of metal-working and coin manufacture (Crummy 2001, 15- 16).

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Many Roman pottery- and tile- kilns have been excavated nearby; to the northeast (EHER 11692) and in the grounds of Kingswode Hoe School (EHER 13146, Hull 1963, 155-6). Recent monitoring at Kingswode Hoe School has also revealed post-medieval/modern features (CAT Report 578) and part of the Sheepen Dyke along with two other Roman ditches (CAT Report 623). However, evaluations in the northeast corner of neighbouring St Mary's Upper School in 2000 (CAT Report 95) and at the front of the school in 2017 (CAT Report 1067) did not reveal any significant archaeological remains.

Roman remains of an unspecified nature were found close to St Mary's Upper School when 'The Turrets' (89 Lexden Road) was being constructed in 1816 (Hull 1958, 292).

Archaeological investigations in and around Colchester County High School for Girls to the south have revealed parts of the Heath Farm Dyke North (EHER 12660, *CAR 11*, 32), a 'triple-ditched dyke' (EHER 12630, *CAR 11*, 127), a building with wooden posts (EHER 12631), palisade trenches, an irregular wattle-and-daub structure, gullies and pits (EHER 12632, *CAR 11*, 124-126).

The now Second Post windmill, erected c 1681 and now demolished, stood close to the site (EHER 47552), as did a WWII pillbox (also now demolished, EHER 20514), and 95 and 97 Lexden Road are a pair of early 19th century listed brick houses (NHLE no. 1123586).

Planning background

A planning application was made to Colchester Borough Council in December 2016 (application No. 163195) proposing front and rear extensions

As the site lies within an area highlighted by the EHER / CHER as having a high potential for archaeological deposits, an archaeological condition was recommended by the Colchester Borough Council Archaeological Advisor (CBCAA). The recommended archaeological condition is based on the guidance given in the *National Planning Policy Framework* (DCLG 2012).

Requirement for work

The required archaeological work is for continuous archaeological monitoring and recording of all groundworks. Details are given in a Project Brief written by CBCAA (CBC 2016).

Specifically:

The monitoring and recording is being undertaken to identify and record any surviving archaeological deposits that may exist on site.

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)
- Standards and Frameworks published by East Anglian Archaeology (Gurney 2003, Medlycott 2011)
- relevant Health & Safety guidelines and requirements (CAT 2014)
- the Project Briefs issued by the CBCAA (CBC 2017).

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 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.

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 the curating museum. 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: One CAT officer for the duration of the groundworks.

Monitoring methodology

There will be sufficient on-site attendance by CAT staff to maintain a watch on all contractors' ground works to record, excavate or sample (as necessary) any archaeological features or deposits.

All topsoil removal and ground reduction will be done with a toothless bucket.

If archaeological features or deposits are uncovered, time will be allowed for these to be planned and recorded.

If any features or deposits uncovered are to be destroyed by the proposed development, time will be allowed for these features to be excavated by hand. This includes a 50% sample of discrete features (pits, etc) and 10% of linear features (ditches, etc).

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.

All features and layers or other significant deposits will be planned, and their profiles or sections recorded. The normal scale will be site plans at 1:20 and sections at 1:10, unless circumstances indicate that other scales would be appropriate.

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 excavation areas and trenches will be located by NGR coordinates.

Environmental sampling policy

CAT has an arrangement with Val Fryer/Lisa Gray whereby any potentially rich environmental layers or features will be appropriately sampled as a matter of course, but only if they are datable. Processing will be carried out by trained CAT staff with analysis and reporting done by VF/LG. If any complex or outstanding deposits are encountered, VF/LG will be asked onto site to advise. EH Regional Adviser is available for further advice.

Human remains

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 remains from the site during the monitoring, 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 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:

small finds, metalwork, coins, etc: Pip Parmenter

animal bones (small groups): Pip Parmenter

flints: Adam Wightman

or to outside specialists:

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.

Results

Notification will be given to CBCAA 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).

The report will be submitted within 6 months of the end of fieldwork, with a copy supplied to CBCAA as a PDF.

The report will contain:

- Location plan of groundworks. At least two corners of which will be given 10 figure grid references.
- Section/s drawings showing depth of deposits from present ground level with Ordnance Datum, vertical and horizontal scale.
- Archaeological methodology and detailed results including a suitable conclusion and discussion and results referring to Regional Research Frameworks (Medlycott 2011).
- All specialist reports or assessments
- A concise non-technical summary of the project results.

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 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 one week in advance of its commencement.

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

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

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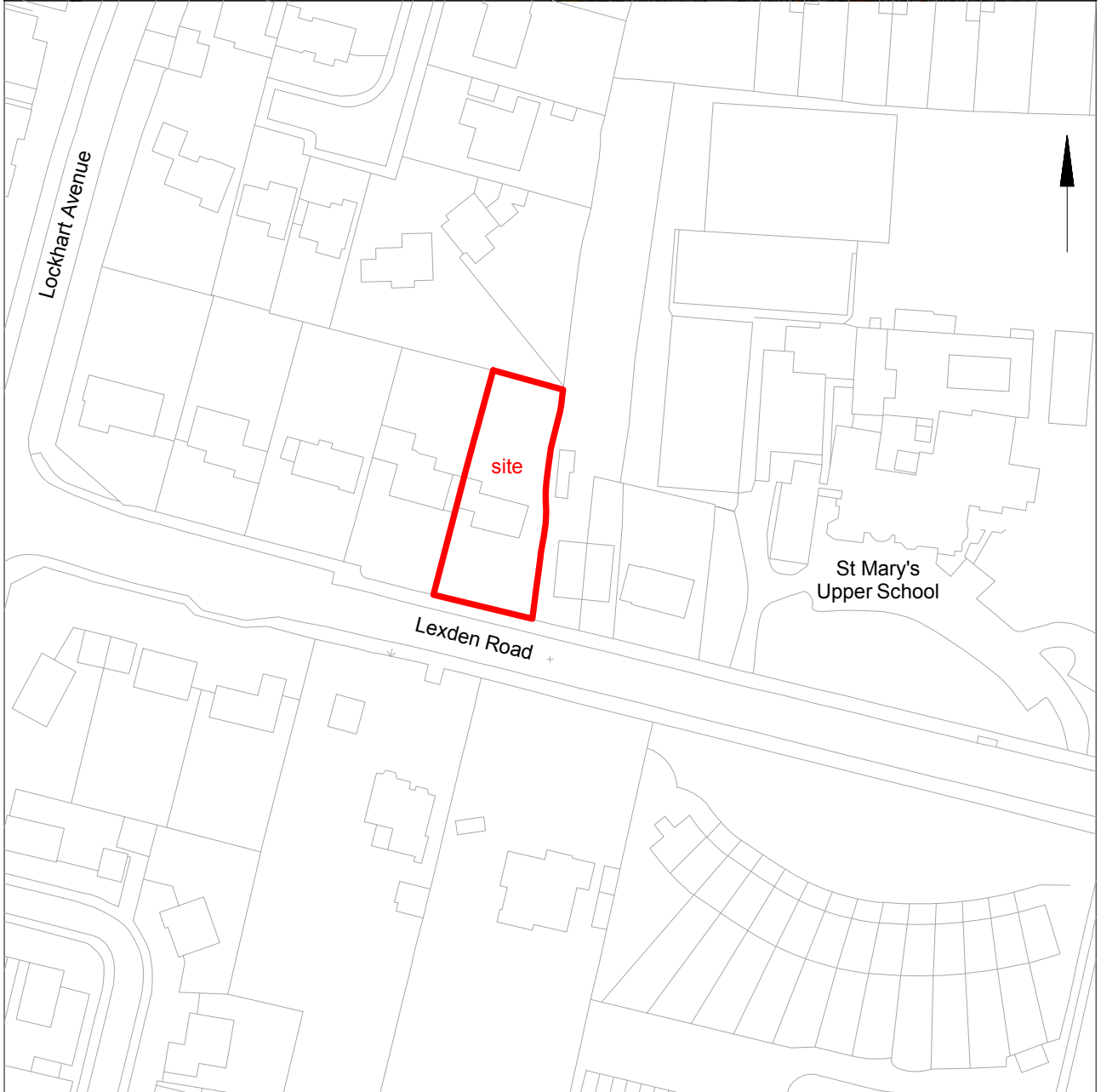
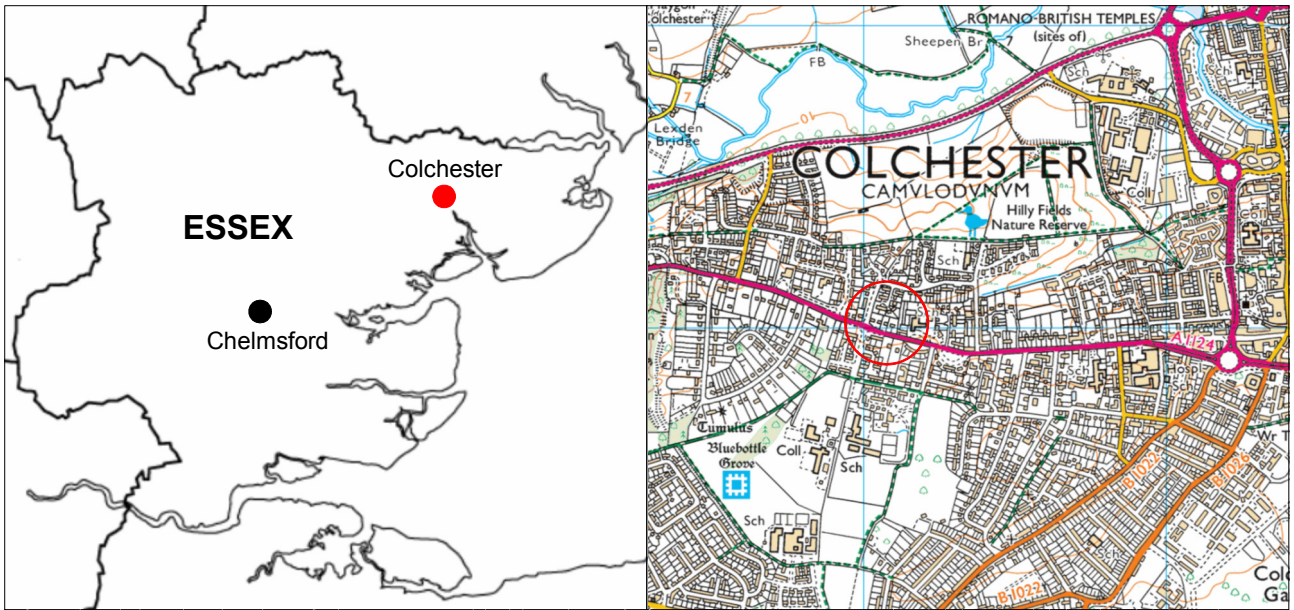
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Fig 1 Site location



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OASIS ID: colchest3-280685

Project details

Project name	Archaeological monitoring and recording at 99 Lexden Road, Colchester, Essex, CO3 3RB
Short description of the project	Archaeological monitoring and recording was carried out at 99 Lexden Road, Colchester during the construction of a front and rear extension. The development site is located within the Late Iron Age oppidum of Camulodunum, to the west of the Roman walled town and within an area of Roman cemeteries termed 'the western cemetery' or the 'Lexden cemetery'. The excavation uncovered a single pit, possibly a refuse pit, dating to the modern period.
Project dates	Start: 30-05-2017 End: 12-06-2017
Previous/future work	No / Not known
Any associated project reference codes	17/03k - Contracting Unit No.
Any associated project reference codes	163195 - Planning Application No.
Type of project	Recording project
Site status	None
Current Land use	Residential 1 - General Residential
Monument type	PIT Post Medieval
Significant Finds	POTTERY Roman
Significant Finds	POTTERY Post Medieval
Significant Finds	CBM Roman
Significant Finds	BRIQUETAGE Late Iron Age
Significant Finds	BRIQUETAGE Roman
Significant Finds	NAIL Post Medieval
Significant Finds	NAIL Modern
Significant Finds	METAL CAP Post Medieval
Significant Finds	METAL CAP Modern
Significant Finds	GLASS VESSEL Post Medieval
Significant Finds	CLAY PIPE Post Medieval
Significant Finds	FIRE CLAY Post Medieval
Significant Finds	POTTERY Late Bronze Age
Significant Finds	POTTERY Early Iron Age

Significant Finds	FLINT Late Neolithic
Significant Finds	FLINT Bronze Age
Investigation type	""Watching Brief""
Prompt	Planning condition

Project location

Country	England
Site location	ESSEX COLCHESTER COLCHESTER 99 Lexden Road
Postcode	CO3 3RB
Study area	0.07 Hectares
Site coordinates	TL 9810 2500 51.887778666689 0.879008415369 51 53 16 N 000 52 44 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	Ben Holloway
Type of sponsor/funding body	Owner

Project archives

Physical Archive Exists?	No
Digital Archive recipient	Colchester Museum
Digital Archive ID	COLEM: 2017.45
Digital Media available	"Images raster / digital photography","Survey"
Paper Archive recipient	Colchester Museum
Paper Archive ID	COLEM: 2017.45
Paper Media available	"Context sheet","Drawing","Miscellaneous Material","Notebook - Excavation',' Research',' General Notes","Photograph","Report"

Project bibliography 1

Publication type	Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)
Title	Archaeological monitoring and recording at 99 Lexden Road, Colchester, Essex, CO3 3RB, May-June 2017
Author(s)/Editor(s)	Hicks, E.
Other bibliographic details	CAT Report 1113

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