

Archaeological recording and monitoring at 31 Lexden Road, Colchester, Essex, CO3 3PX

June 2017



by **Dr Elliott Hicks**
figures by **Sarah Carter**

fieldwork by **Alec Wade**

Commissioned by David Monks

NGR: TL 98670 24982 (centre)

Planning reference: 170871

CAT project ref.: 17/06d

Colchester Museum accession code: COLEM 2017.89

CHER ref: ECC4007

OASIS reference: colchest3-287327



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CAT Report 1123
July 2017

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1 Summary

Archaeological monitoring and recording was carried out at 31 Lexden Road in advance of the construction of a part two-storey, part single-storey rear extension. The development site is located within the Late Iron Age oppidum of Camulodunum, to the west of the Roman walled town, within an area of Late Iron Age and Roman cemeteries and close to the Iron Age and early Roman settlement and industrial complex at Sheepen. Excavations uncovered a single Roman linear feature, possibly a ditch, and post-medieval or modern remains of structures previously standing at this site.

2 Introduction (Fig 1)

This report presents the results of archaeological monitoring and recording at 31 Lexden, Colchester, Essex, which was carried out on the 20th-21st June 2017. The work was commissioned by David Monks in advance of the construction of a part-single, part two-storey rear extension, and was undertaken by Colchester Archaeological Trust (CAT).

In response to 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 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* (ClfA 2014a) and *Standard and guidance for the collection, documentation, conservation and research of archaeological materials* (ClfA 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 1.2km 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 Late Iron Age and 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) leading out of Balcerne Gate as far west as The Avenue (Hull 1958 and *CAR 11*). A number of Roman cremations, inhumations and tombstones have been discovered in the immediate vicinity (Hull 1958), a full discussion of which can be found in *CAR 9*. Of particular note is a high-status rectangular walled cemetery which lay immediately north of and adjacent to the Roman road (Hall 1946), and in 2005 CAT excavated the remains of a Roman temple-tomb at the Colchester Royal Grammar School (CAT Report 345) opposite the site.

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 (640m NW 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).

4 Results (Figs 2-4)

An L-shaped foundation trench measuring approximately 12.25m in length was dug under archaeological supervision to the rear of the house. The trench was 0.55m wide and was excavated to a depth of 1.2-1.45m.

East-west branch of the trench

The E-W branch of the trench was excavated through seven layers. A concrete surface and bedding (L1, c 0.15-0.2m thick) sealed a layer of buried topsoil (L2, c 0.45-0.75m), which in turn sealed a layer of sandy-silt containing a single Roman pottery sherd (L3, c 0.2-0.5m). Towards the western end L3 sealed layer L4 (c 0.15m thick) which sealed a layer of naturally-deposited sands (L5, encountered at a depth of c 1m below current ground level). At the mid-point, L3 sealed a further Roman layer (L6, c 0.02m of which was exposed at the base of the trench). Towards the east, L3 sealed another layer possibly dating to the early Roman period (L7, c 0.13m exposed at the base of the trench).



Photograph 1 E-W foundation - looking west

A post-medieval or modern foundation of unfrosted bricks, aligned E-W and coinciding with the course of the trench, was uncovered. It was removed during excavation. It

was three bricks deep at its west end, and seven bricks deep at its east end, with a single N/S wall branching from it. In addition, around 1.2m to the east of this footing, a lead pipe water main was uncovered.

A single N/S linear feature (F1) cut into L3, possibly a ditch of mid Roman date, was observed in section mid-way along the E-W branch of the foundation trench. It measured 1.2m in width and 0.5m in depth.

North-south branch of the trench

The N-S branch of the trench was excavated through six layers. L1 (c 0.25m thick) sealed L2 (c 0.48m thick), which in turn sealed L3 (c 0.32-0.35m thick). L3 sealed L7 (c 1.7-2.5m thick), which sealed a possible Roman layer (L8, c 0.15-0.23m exposed at the base of the trench). At the southernmost point, an undatable layer (L9) was observed in the base of the trench beneath two large brick pads. This layer was not excavated further.

The southernmost 3m of this branch of the foundation trench was disturbed by two post-medieval or modern brick pads measuring over 0.6m in width and 1.4m in depth. Located between these was a brick and concrete encased drain measuring 1.2m in width and aligned E-W. Above this drain, a second ceramic drain, a concrete base/drain for a downpipe and an electricity cable were situated. Additionally, a large water main was found to cut this branch of the trench.

No significant archaeological remains were encountered.



Photograph 2 N-S foundation - looking south

5 Finds

by Stephen Benfield

A small quantity of finds of Roman date was recovered from a ?ditch (F1) and three soil layers (L3, L6 and L7). The finds consist entirely of pottery and ceramic building material (CBM). The more closely dated of the pottery is broadly of mid/late 1st-2nd century and 2nd-3rd century date, and all of the pottery recovered could be accommodated with that broad early and mid-Roman date range. Some abrasion to the finds and the general relatively small to medium size of pottery sherds suggest that most or all of them have some indeterminate prior depositional history before coming to rest in these contexts. The finds are listed and described by context and find number in Table 1. The pottery fabric and forms refer to the Colchester Roman pottery fabric series (*CAR 10*) and the Colchester (Cam) Roman pottery form series (Hull 1958) supplemented by the Chelmsford (Essex) form series (Going 1987).

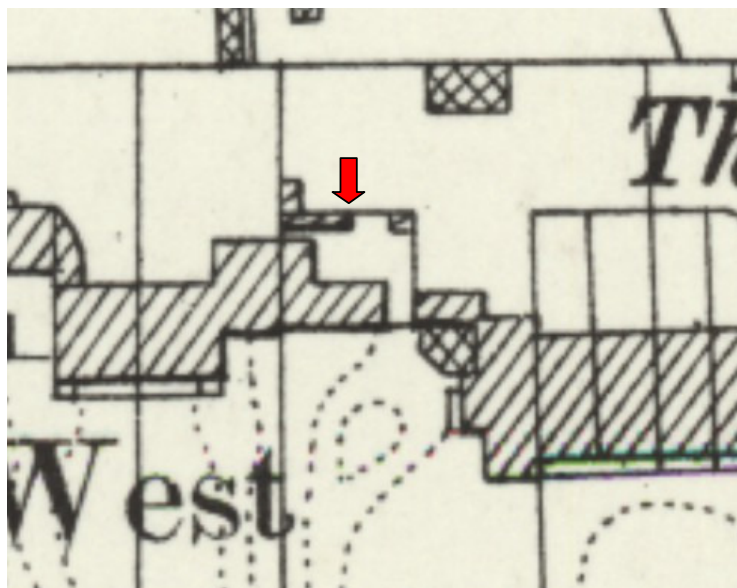
Ctxt	Ctxt type	Find no	Type/ description	Finds spot date
F1	Ditch?	2	CBM Roman (3, 522 g) flat Roman tile pieces, slightly abraded, all in slightly sandy orange-red fabric, thickness 20 mm-25 mm, probably <i>tegula</i> (roof tile) base pieces	Roman
F1	Ditch?	4	Pottery Roman (1 sherd, 10 g) small sandy oxidised (white/cream coloured) sherd, the fabric suggests either an import (Rheinland white ware) or a regional source possibly Oxford (Roman – 2nd-3rd/4th C)	Roman (2-3/4C)
L3	Subsoil	1	Pottery Roman (1 sherd, 2 g) Fabric GX, abraded body sherd (Roman)	Roman
L6	Soil layer	3	Pottery Roman (1 sherd, 2 g) coarse oxidised ware/Fabric HZ, slightly coarse/vesicular buff fabric with occasional red grog inclusions, probably from a large jar/storage jar, slightly abraded	Roman (probably M1-2C)
L7	Soil layer	5	Pottery Roman Fabric DJ (3 sherds, 48 g) cream/buff fabric handle from a large flagon (joining sherds), slightly abraded (Roman M1-2C). Fabric GX (2 sherds, 4 g) one abraded small, soft sherd probably M-L1st C, other hard, sandy greyware and Roman. Fabric MQ, sherds from a flange rim dish/bowl - form corresponding to Cam 317 – dated late 3rd-4th century but the general form is broadly of 2nd-4th C date – see Going 1987 form B10 – and as a probable local product is likely to date to the 2nd-3rd century), rim edge simple and plain, abraded and appears overfired/ burnt, some trace of white/cream slip remaining on surface, esp. in groove between rim & body (Roman 2-3/4C). CBM Roman (1 piece, 184 g) flat Roman tile piece, slightly abraded, slightly sandy orange-red fabric, part of a semi-circular signature mark, tile thickness 20 mm-25 mm, probably <i>tegula</i> (roof tile) base piece (Roman)	Roman (2-3C)

Table 1 Finds by context

6 Discussion

Excavations at 31 Lexden Road uncovered a single linear feature, possibly a ditch, aligned SSE-NNW and dated to the Roman period. Both the ditch and Roman sherds in L3, L6 and L7 indicate activity in this vicinity from the mid-1st or 2nd century up to the 3rd or 4th century.

The excavation also revealed the remains of post-medieval or modern walls and foundations. An E-W aligned unfrogged brick foundation was uncovered running along the course of the E-W branch of the foundation trench, and another foundation aligned N-S was observed in its north-facing section. The 1898 edition of the OS map indicates that a rear garden wall and number of outbuildings previously stood at this site, and it is likely that these represent the remains of the garden wall and the western N-S aligned wall of an adjoining outbuilding. The two large brick pads uncovered might have been associated with the original house and earlier extension. One was situated beneath the existing building, while the other projected some 0.3m beyond the footprint of the existing building. The location of these remains do not correspond with any structure shown on the 1898 edition of the OS map. They might, therefore, derive from an earlier structure which had been demolished prior to the surveying of the 1898 edition of the OS map.



Map1 OS Map: Essex XXVII.SE, Revised: 1896, Published: 1898. Location of rear garden wall and western N-S aligned wall of the adjoining outbuilding indicated by arrow.

7 Acknowledgements

CAT thanks David Monks 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 L Pooley. 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 9 | 1993 | Colchester Archaeological Report 9: <i>Excavations of Roman and later cemeteries, churches and monastic sites in Colchester, 1971-88</i> , by N Crummy, P Crummy and C Crossan |
| CAR 10 | 1999 | Colchester Archaeological Report 10: <i>Roman pottery from excavations in Colchester, 1971-86</i> , by R Symonds and S Wade |
| CAR 11 | 1995 | Colchester Archaeological Report 11: <i>Camulodunum II</i> , by Hawkes and Crummy |
| CAT | 2017 | <i>Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) for continuous archaeological monitoring and recording at 31 Lexden Road, Colchester, Essex, CO3 3PX</i> |
| CAT Report 345 | 2005 | <i>A Roman temple-tomb at Colchester Royal Grammar School, Lexden Road, Colchester, Essex: August-September 2005</i> , by H Brooks |
| CBCAA | 2017 | <i>Brief for a Continuous Archaeological Monitoring and Recording at 31 Lexden Road, Colchester, CO3 3RB</i> by J Tipper |
| CifA | 2014a | <i>Standard and Guidance for an archaeological watching briefs</i> |
| CifA | 2014b | <i>Standard and guidance for the creation, compilation, transfer and deposition of archaeological archives</i> |
| 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> |
| Going, C | 1987 | CBA Research Report 62: <i>The Mansio and other sites in the south-eastern sector of Caesaromagus: the Roman pottery</i> |
| Gurney, D | 2003 | <i>Standards for field archaeology in the East of England</i> . East Anglian Archaeology Occasional Papers 14 (EAA 14). |

Hall, A F	1946	'A Roman walled cemetery at Colchester', <i>Archaeological Journal</i> , CI
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	<i>Research and archaeology revisited: A revised framework for the East of England</i> . East Anglian Archaeology Occasional Papers 24 (EAA 24)

9 Abbreviations and glossary

CAT	Colchester Archaeological Trust
CBCAA	Colchester Borough Council Archaeological Advisor
CBCPS	Colchester Borough Council Planning Services
CBM	brick/tile (ceramic building material)
CHER	Colchester Historic Environment Record
CIfA	Chartered Institute for Archaeologists
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
modern	period from c AD 1800 to the present
natural	geological deposit undisturbed by human activity
NGR	National Grid Reference
OASIS	O nline A cces S to the I ndex of A rchaeological I nvestigati S , http://oasis.ac.uk/pages/wiki/Main
post-medieval	from c AD 1500 to c AD 1800
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 sc 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 1123)

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 2017.89.

Distribution list

David Monks
Jess Tipper, Colchester Borough Council Planning Services
Essex Historic Environment Record



Colchester Archaeological Trust

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

tel.: 01206 501785

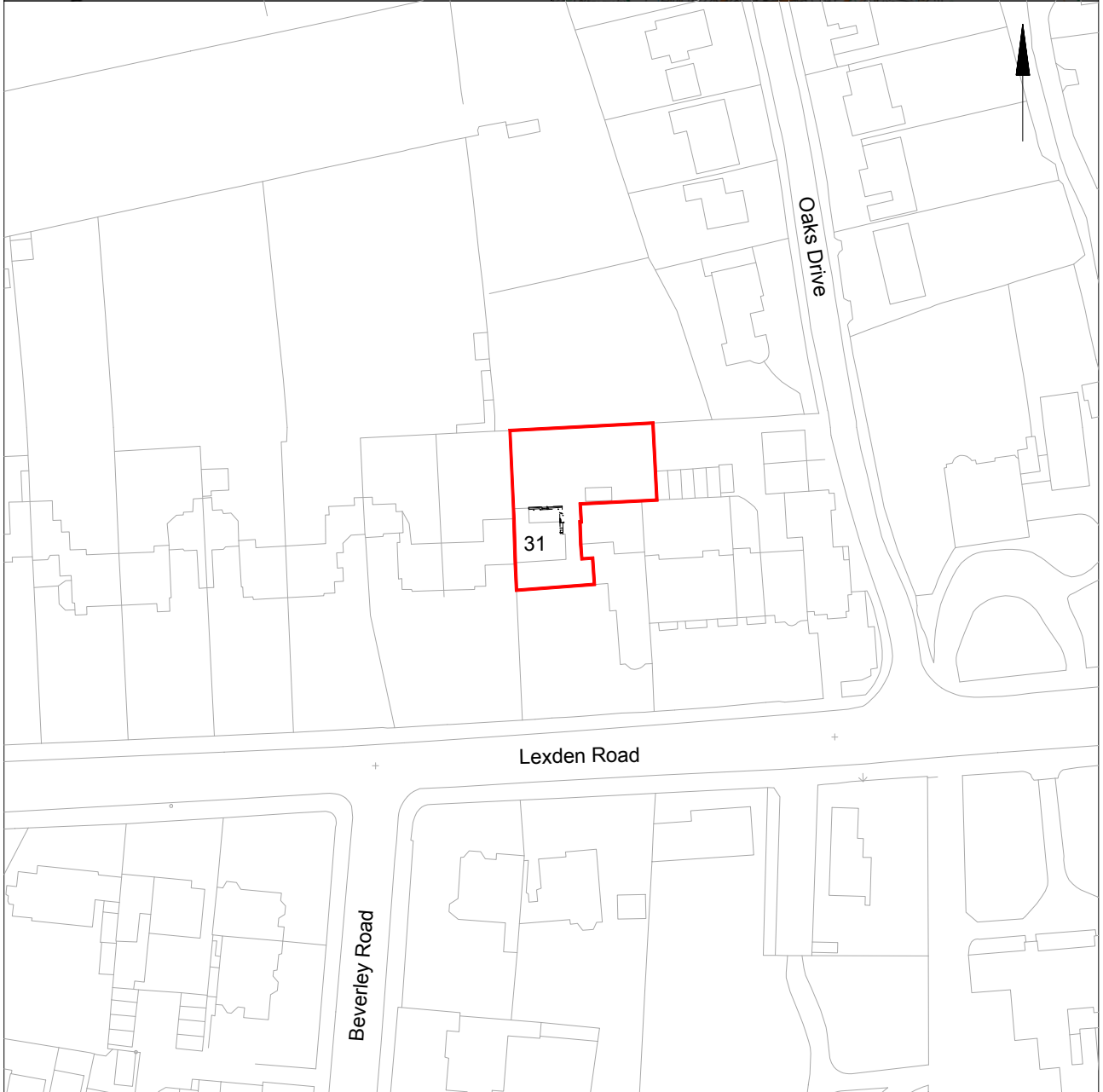
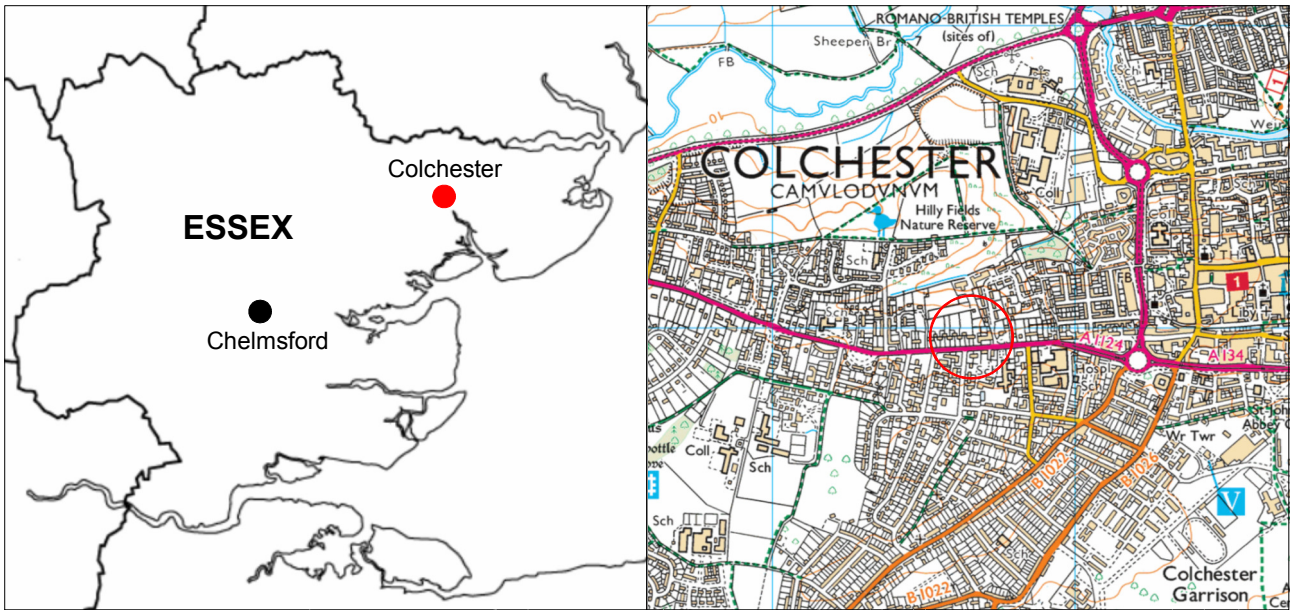
email: lp@catuk.org

Checked by: Philip Crummy

Date: 06.07.2017

Appendix 1 Context list

Context Number	Finds Number	Feature Type	Description	Depth below ground level	Date
F1	2, 4	Ditch?	Soft to friable moist dark grey sandy-silt	0.7-0.8m	Roman
L1	-	Concrete floor and bedding	Concrete floor/surface covered in a thin layer of gravel	-	Modern
L2	-	Buried topsoil	Soft to friable moist dark grey sandy-silty-clay with rare brick and stone inclusions	0.13-0.23m	Post-medieval / modern
L3	1	Subsoil	Soft moist medium grey/brown sandy-silt	0.65-0.98m	Roman
L4	-	Layer	Soft to friable moist light to medium orange/brown sandy-clay with rare charcoal inclusions	1.03-1.3m	Probably Roman
L5	-	Natural	Firm moist light to medium orange/brown sand	1-1.3m	Post-glacial
L6	3	Layer	Soft light brown sandy-silt	1.28-1.32m	Roman
L7	5	Layer	Soft to friable moist medium brown sandy-silt with occasional stone inclusions	1.12-1.3m	Roman
L8	-	Layer	Soft to friable moist medium orange/brown sandy-silt with occasional stone inclusions	1.23-1.28m	Roman?
L9	-	Layer	Soft to friable moist dark grey/brown sandy-silt	c 1.37m	-



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Fig 1 Site location.

0 50 m

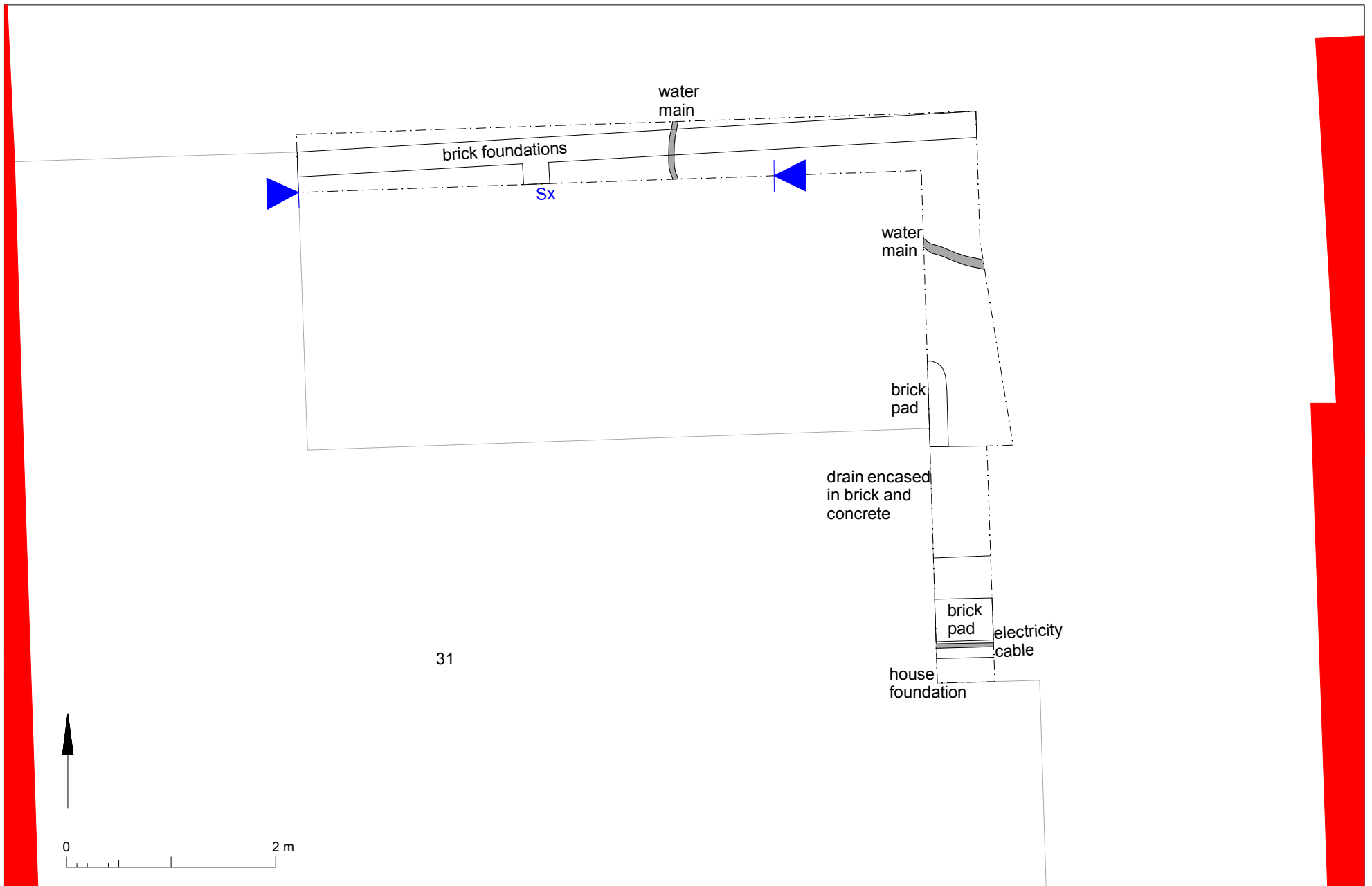


Fig 2 Results showing brick foundations

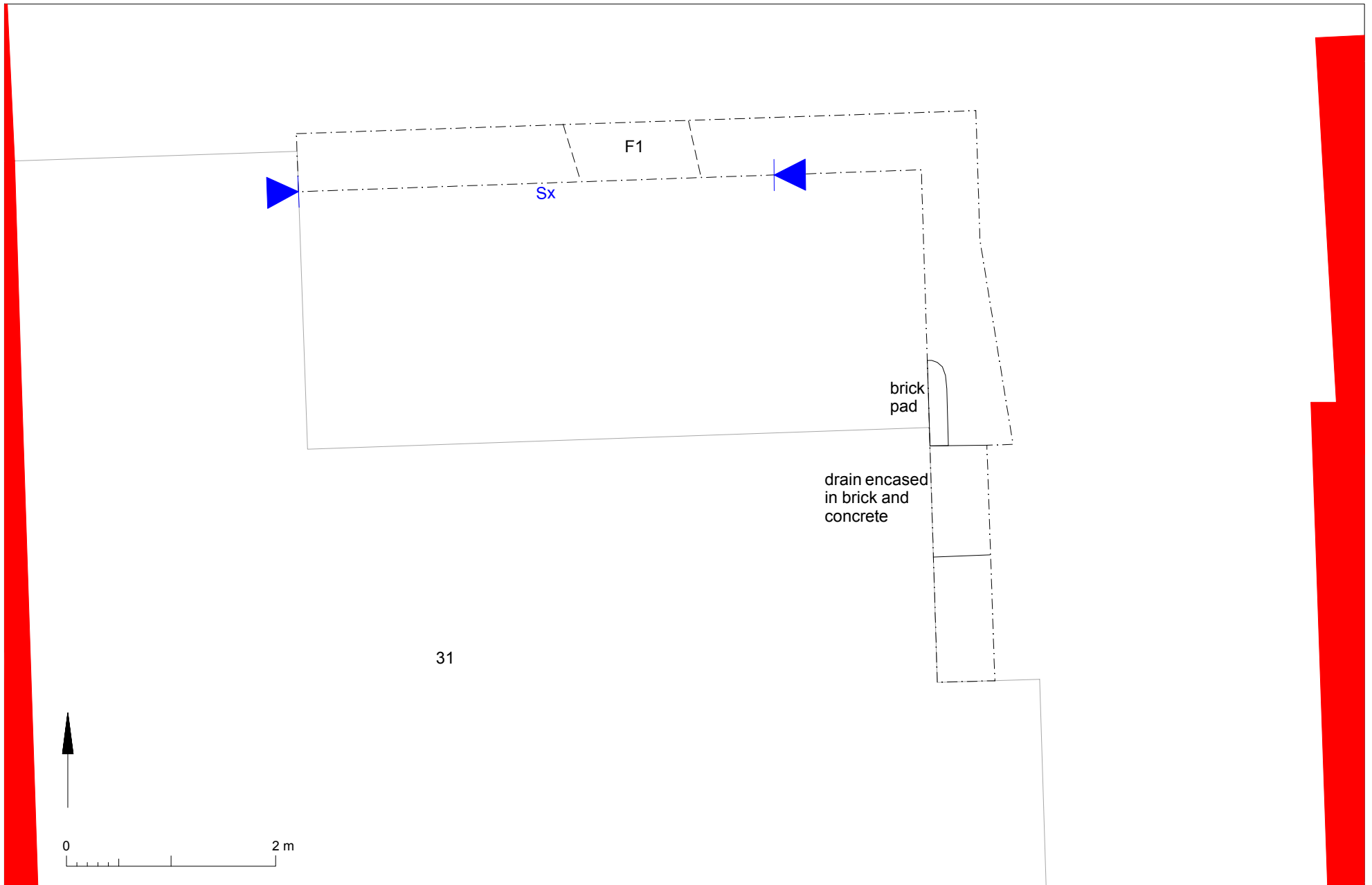


Fig 3 Results after removal of brick foundations

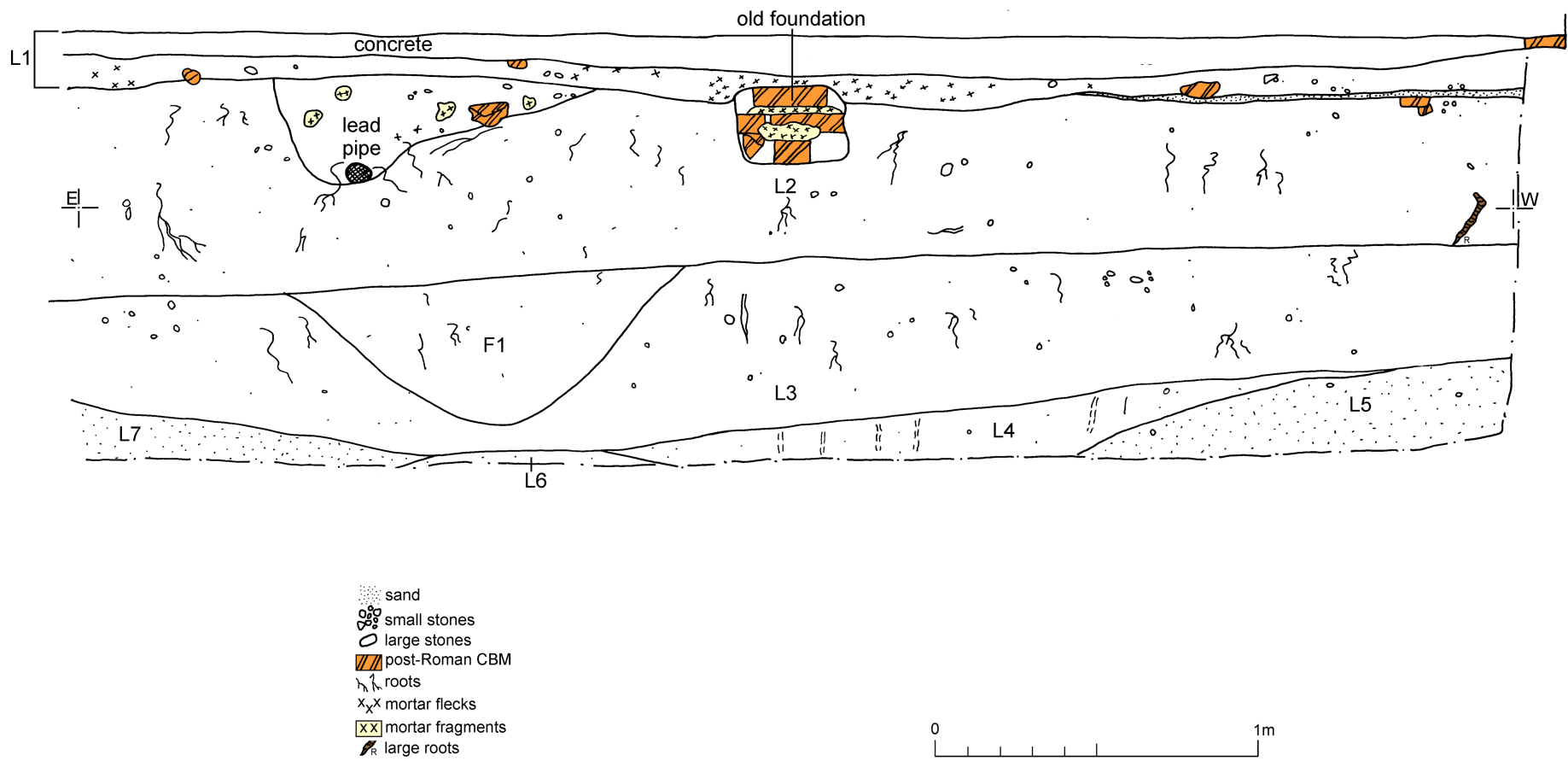


Fig 4 Feature and representative section

Essex Historic Environment Record/ Essex Archaeology and History

Summary sheet

Address: 31 Lexden Road, Colchester, Essex, CO3 3PX	
Parish: Colchester	District: Colchester
NGR: TL 98670 24982 (centre)	Site code: CAT project ref.: 17/06d CHER ref: ECC4007 OASIS ref: colchest3-287327
Type of work: Monitoring	Site director/group: Colchester Archaeological Trust
Date of work: 20th-21st June 2017	Size of area investigated: 0.06 ha
Location of curating museum: Colchester museum accession code COLEM: 2017.89	Funding source: Owner
Further seasons anticipated? Not known	Related CHER/SMR number: EHER 11641, 11673, 11713, 11714
Final report: CAT Report 1123	
Periods represented: -	
Summary of fieldwork results: <i>Archaeological monitoring and recording was carried out at 31 Lexden Road in advance of the construction of a part two-storey, part single-storey rear extension. The development site is located within the Late Iron Age oppidum of Camulodunum, to the west of the Roman walled town, within an area of Late Iron Age and Roman cemeteries and close to the Iron Age and early Roman settlement and industrial complex at Sheepen. Excavations uncovered a single Roman linear feature, possibly a ditch, and post-medieval or modern remains of structures previously standing at this site.</i>	
Previous summaries/reports: None	
CBC monitor: Jess Tipper	
Keywords: -	Significance: -
Author of summary: Dr Elliott Hicks	Date of summary: June 2017

Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) for continuous archaeological monitoring and recording at 31 Lexden Road, Colchester, Essex, CO3 3PX

NGR: TL 98670 24982 (centre)

Planning reference: 170871

Client: David Monks

Curating museum: Colchester

Museum accession code: [tbc](#)

CHER ref: [tbc](#)

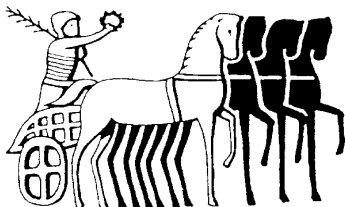
CAT project code: 17/06d

OASIS ref.: colchest3-287327

Site manager: Chris Lister

CBC monitor: Jess Tipper

This WSI written: 9.6.2017



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Site location and description

The development site lies approximately 1.2km west of Colchester town centre at 31 Lexden Road (Fig 1). Site centre is TL 98670 24982 (centre).

Proposed work

Proposed work consists of a part two-storey, part single-storey 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 1.2km 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) leading out of Balcerne Gate as far west as The Avenue (Hull 1958 and CAR 11). A number of Roman cremations, inhumations and tombstones have been discovered in the immediate vicinity (Hull 1958), a full discussion of which can be found in CAR 9. Of particular note is a high-status rectangular walled cemetery which lay immediately north of and adjacent to the Roman road (Hall 1946), and in 2005 CAT excavated the remains of a Roman temple-tomb at the Colchester Royal Grammar School (CAT Report 345) opposite the site.

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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 (640m NW 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).

Planning background

A planning application was made to Colchester Borough Council in May 2017 (application no. 170871) proposing part two-storey, part single-storey rear extension

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.

If unexpected remains are encountered the CBCAA will be informed immediately and the CBCAA will decide if amendments to the brief are required to ensure adequate provision for archaeological recording.

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.

References

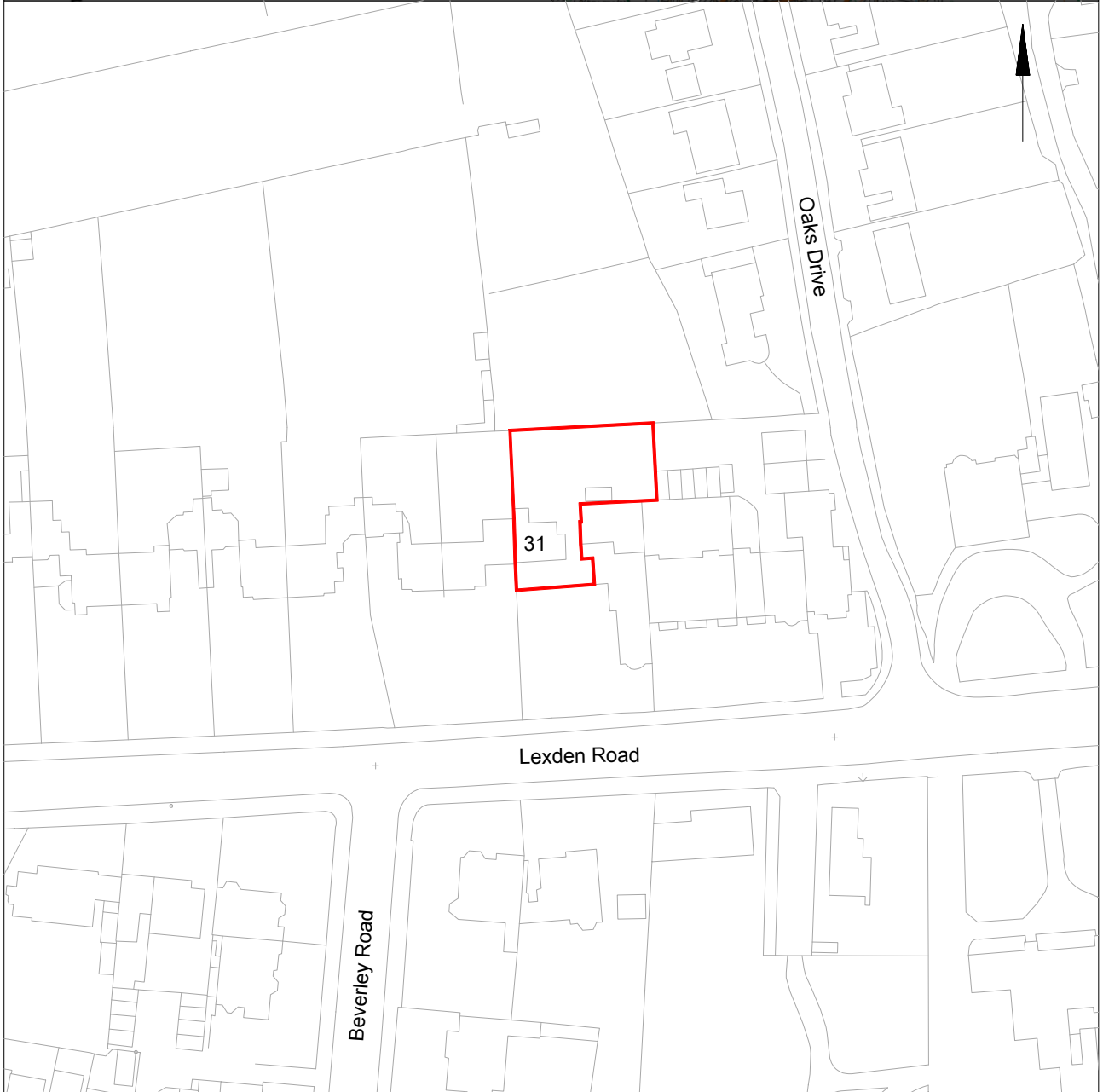
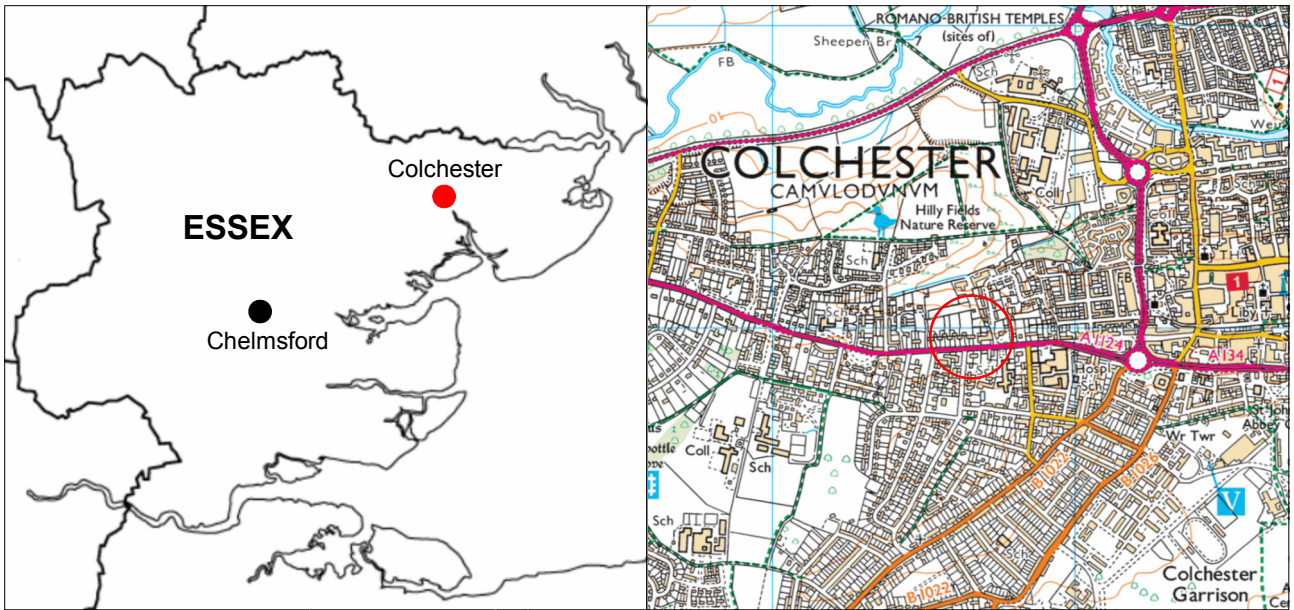
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Fig 1 Site location.



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OASIS ID: colchest3-287327

Project details

Project name	Archaeological monitoring and recording at 31 Lexden Road, Colchester, Essex, CO3 3PX
Short description of the project	Archaeological monitoring and recording was carried out at 31 Lexden Road in advance of the construction of a part two-storey, part single-storey rear extension. The development site is located within the Late Iron Age oppidum of Camulodunum, to the west of the Roman walled town, within an area of Late Iron Age and Roman cemeteries and close to the Iron Age and early Roman settlement and industrial complex at Sheepen. Excavations uncovered a single Roman linear feature, possibly a ditch, and post-medieval or modern remains of structures previously standing at this site.
Project dates	Start: 20-06-2017 End: 21-06-2017
Previous/future work	No / Not known
Any associated project reference codes	17/06d - Contracting Unit No.
Any associated project reference codes	170871 - Planning Application No.
Any associated project reference codes	COLEM: 2017.89 - Museum accession ID
Any associated project reference codes	ECC4007 - HER event no.
Type of project	Recording project
Site status	None
Current Land use	Residential 1 - General Residential
Monument type	LINEAR FEATURE Roman
Monument type	WALLS/FOUNDATION Post Medieval
Monument type	WALLS/FOUNDATION Modern
Significant Finds	POTTERY Late Iron Age
Significant Finds	POTTERY Roman
Investigation type	"Watching Brief"
Prompt	Planning condition

Project location

Country	England
Site location	ESSEX COLCHESTER COLCHESTER 31 Lexden Road
Postcode	CO3 3PX
Study area	0.06 Hectares
Site coordinates	TL 98670 24982 51.887413223515 0.887270589088 51 53 14 N 000 53 14 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	Alec Wade
Type of sponsor/funding body	Owner

Project archives

Physical Archive Exists?	No
Digital Archive recipient	Colchester Museum
Digital Archive ID	COLEM: 2017.89
Digital Media available	"Images raster / digital photography"; "Survey"
Paper Archive	Colchester Museum

recipient

Paper Archive ID COLEM: 2017.89

Paper Media available "Context sheet", "Drawing", "Miscellaneous Material", "Notebook - Excavation", "Research", "General Notes", "Photograph", "Report", "Section"

**Project
bibliography 1**

Publication type Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)

Title Archaeological recording and monitoring at 31 Lexden Road, Colchester, Essex, CO3 3PX: June 2017

Author(s)/Editor(s) Hicks, E.

Other bibliographic details CAT Report 1123

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