

**Historic building recording at
Town Wall Section 11,
rear of 62 Priory Street (Priory Lodge),
Colchester, CO1 2QE**

August 2017



report prepared by Mark Baister

**commissioned by
Colchester Borough Council**

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CAT Report 1184
November 2017

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1 Summary

A programme of historic building recording was carried out by Colchester Archaeological Trust at Section 11 of Colchester's town wall, to the rear of 62 Priory Street (Priory Lodge) in August 2017.

This section of wall contains one of the eight medieval bastions added to the south-east of the wall in the 14th century, as well as remnants of medieval facing which was added to the wall at the same time. Since the medieval period the wall has been refaced and repaired multiple times. Until relatively recently the bastion had a modern structure on top of it, evidence for which is visible on photographs from 1923 and 1986.

There is some evidence at the base of the wall for underpinning, suggesting that the modern ground level along Priory Street is lower than the base of the Roman foundation. This has been observed elsewhere on the wall circuit, most notably at Lion Walk.

2 Introduction (Fig 1)

This is the archive report on a historic building recording at Section 11 of the town wall at Colchester, in advance of proposed conservation work. The recording work was commissioned by Colchester Borough Council, and carried out by Colchester Archaeological Trust (CAT) in August 2017. Section 11 is located on the south-east corner of Colchester's town wall (scheduled monument NHLE no. 1003772), specifically at NGR TM 0020 2518 (Fig 1).

As the wall is a scheduled monument, Historic England (HE) advised Colchester Borough Council that a Historic England Level 3 building survey of this section of wall would be required prior to any conservation work taking place. This recommendation is based on the guidance given in the National Planning Policy Framework (DCLG 2012).

All work was carried out according to standards and practices contained in the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists' *Standard and guidance for the collection, documentation, conservation and research of archaeological materials* (2014a), *Standard and guidance for archaeological investigation and recording of standing buildings or structures* (2014b), *Management of research projects in the historic environment* (Historic England 2015), *Standards for field archaeology in the East of England* (EAA 14) and *Research and Archaeology Revised: A Revised Framework for the East of England* (EAA 24). In addition, the guidelines contained in *Understanding Historic Buildings, A guide to good recording practice* (Historic England 2016) were followed.

3 Aims

The aim of the building recording was to provide a detailed record and assessment of the section of wall prior to conservation. The building recording was carried out to Level 3 (Historic England 2016).

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.

4 Methodology

Prior to the building recording survey being carried out the section of wall was cleared of overgrowth and vegetation. Scaffolding was erected against the wall, and all plants growing from the wall 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 Section 11 of the town wall.
- A large-scale block plan of the site.
- Annotated elevations of the remains at a scale of 1:50.
- A detailed description of the wall. 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. The photographic record is accompanied by a photographic register detailing location and direction of shot (Appendix 1).

5 Historical and archaeological background (Figs 2 and 3)

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:

Section 11 is located on the south-east corner of the Roman Town Wall. The section numbers originate from a drawing project of the standing town wall undertaken in the 1980-90s. The sections are numbered from 1 to 28, starting from Balcerne Gate and going anti-clockwise around the wall circuit (Fig 3). Section 11 includes one of the eight bastions on the south-east corner of the wall, numbered as Bastion 1 in Roman Colchester (Hull 1958, 45) and *CAR 3* (p52).

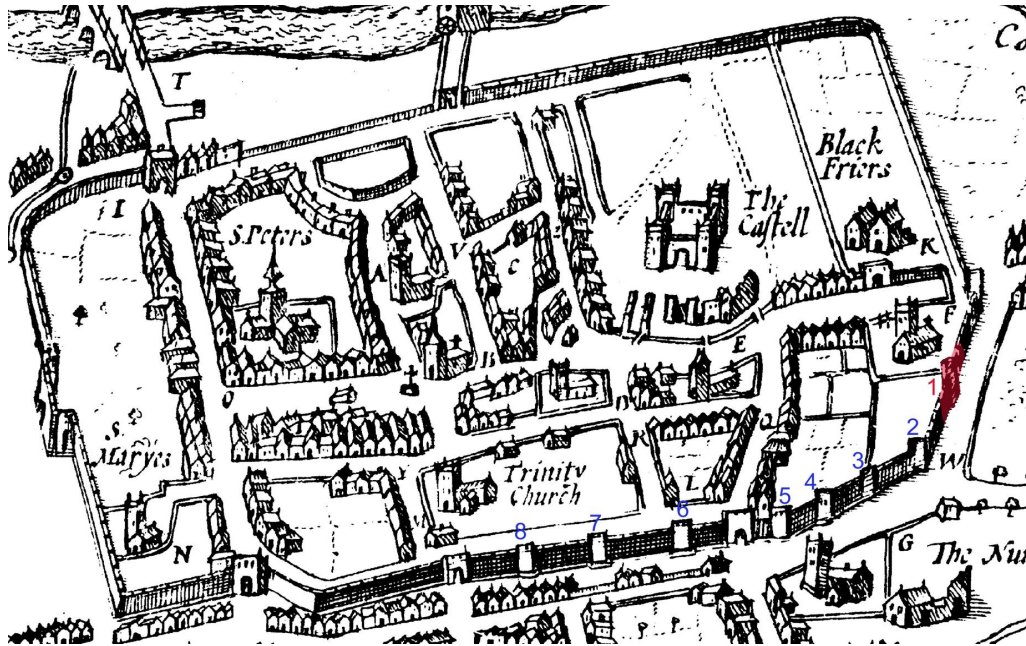
The wall was built around the town in the later 1st century AD following the revolt led by Boudica. It is constructed of a core of layered septaria and mortar with coursed septaria and tile on each face (Crummy 2003).

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 have 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 Balcerne Gate to the west of the town). The section of the wall to the north of the town is in far worse condition, with long stretches not surviving above ground. The wall around Section 11, to the south-east of the town, has been much repaired and altered in the medieval period, most notably with the refacing of the wall and the addition of the bastions.

The earliest known map of Colchester, by John Speed in 1610 (Map 1), shows the town walls as largely intact. Section 11 is free-standing with no buildings visible built up

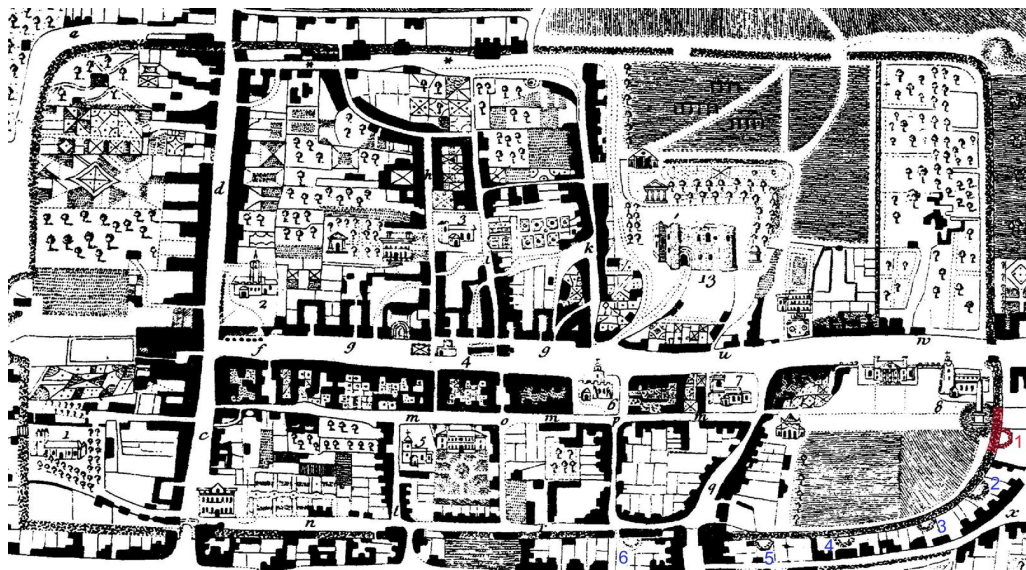
against it. The eight bastions supporting the south-east of the town wall are all extant at this point.



Map 1 John Speed's map of Colchester, 1610. Location of Section 11 highlighted in red. Bastions numbered (after CAR 3, 52).

Philip Morant's map of Colchester from 1748 (Map 2) shows the town in more detail, and again shows no buildings adjacent to Section 11. The section of wall forms part of the boundary of Berryfields (now East Hill House) and the closest building to Section 11 is an obelisk (topping an ornate icehouse) in its grounds, near St James's Church.

This map also shows that parts of the town wall are starting to be demolished or built upon to make way for new construction, particularly to the north and south of the town. Only six of the original eight bastions are still standing.



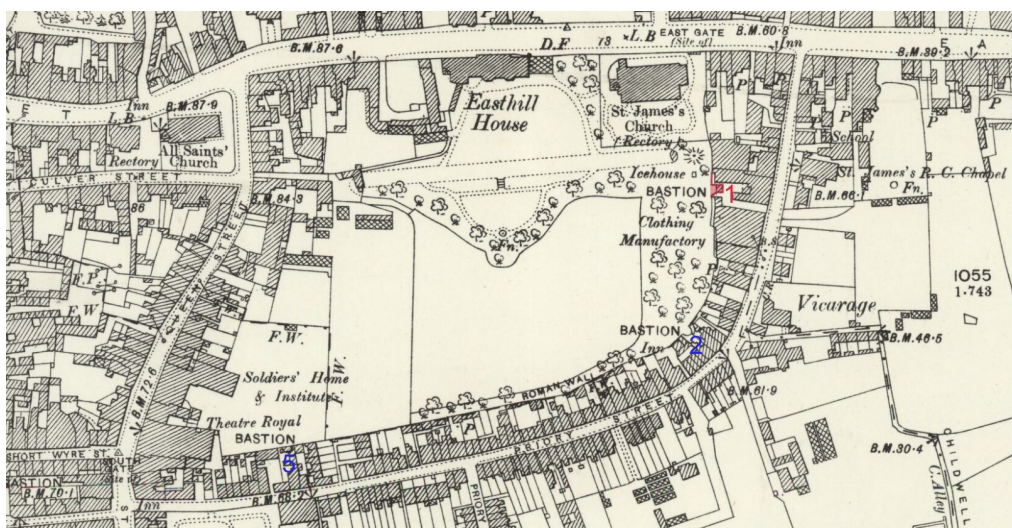
Map 2 Philip Morant's map of Colchester, 1748. Location of Section 11 highlighted in red. Surviving bastions numbered.

Monson's Map of Colchester from 1848 (Map 3) again shows Section 11 as free-standing. Bastion 1 is depicted as a square structure rather than a bastion. This is probably due to the presence of a structure on top of the bastion (see later mapping). Further along the wall, Bastion 5, which is still standing today, was omitted from the map and is not shown at all.



Map 3 Monson's map of Colchester, 1848. Location of Section 11 highlighted in red. Surviving bastions numbered.

The 1896 OS map shows only 3 bastions surviving (as is still the case). Section 11, and the entire south-east corner of the wall, has had several structures built up against it. There appears to be a structure built on top of Bastion 1, which would account for its portrayal in Monson's map. No evidence of this structure survives today, but there are remnants of it visible in photographs from 1923 and 1986 (see below).



Map 4 1896 OS map. Location of Section 11 highlighted in red. Surviving bastions numbered.

A modern plan of the site (Figs 1 and 2) shows the majority of the buildings constructed against the wall in Priory Street have been demolished and replaced with a car-park. Section 11 is just to the north of this car park, within the gardens of Priory Lodge residential home at 62 Priory Street (Fig 2).



Photograph 1 Photograph of interior of Bastion 1 during excavation in 1923. To right and back of the frame is the face of the town wall, to the left is the foundations of Bastion 1. Taken from Roman Colchester (Hull 1958, pl XI B). For the location of this trench see Fig 2.

The interior of Bastion 1 was excavated in 1923 by P.G. Laver, who exposed the partially robbed town wall behind the medieval bastion (Fig 2). He also uncovered the bastion's foundations, which started 1ft below the foundations of the wall itself (Photograph 1). The soil within the interior of the bastion contained some residual Roman finds but nothing else of interest (Hull 1958, 45-6).

Hull (1958, 45) notes that at the top of the bastion are some foundations that probably belong to some 'eighteenth century ornamental garden work': this is undoubtedly the building visible atop of the bastion on Monson's, and the 1896 OS, map. A photograph of the bastion in Roman Colchester (Hull 1958) shows these foundations. It also shows a small brick building built up against the east elevation of the bastion, partially obscuring it (Photograph 2).



Photograph 2 Photograph of Bastion 1 from Roman Colchester (Hull 1958, pl XI D). Note the remains of later foundations on top of the bastion. Photograph taken facing north-west.

In the CAT photographic archive are a series of photographs of Bastion 1 taken in 1986 after the adjoining building was demolished (Photographs 3-5). Although there is no associated written record, comparing these photos to the current wall (see descriptive record below) shows that Section 11 and Bastion 1 are (although overgrown) in much the same state as they were 31 years ago. The photos show that the foundations on top of the bastion have partially collapsed, but are still visible on one elevation (Photograph 5). Today no evidence of these foundations remains (see descriptive record below).



Photograph 3 Section 11 and Bastion 1, taken in 1986 after demolition of a nearby building. Photograph taken facing north-west.



Photograph 4 Detailed shot of Bastion 1, taken in 1986 after demolition of a nearby building. Photograph taken facing north-west.



Photograph 5 Detailed shot of Bastion 1, taken in 1986 after demolition of a nearby building. Highlighted in blue at the top of the bastion is the remains of a structure seen on mapping in 1848 and 1896. Photograph taken facing south-west.

6 Building recording descriptive record (Figs 4, 5 and 6)



Photograph 6 Section 11 of the town wall, including Bastion 1, prior to removal of overgrowth. Photograph taken facing north-west.

Section 11 is 16.9m in length, and survives to a height of approximately 4.5m above modern ground level to the south of Bastion 1, and 5.6m to the north (although what is visible is mostly medieval or later in origin). The original height of the wall would have been at least 6m (Crummy 1997, 89), although, as mentioned below, modern ground level outside the walls appears to be below the base of the wall foundation.

Section 11 is constructed of a mix of septaria, Roman tile and modern bricks (Photographs 6-11). On top of the wall to the north of the bastion is 300-400mm of uneven red brick courses. The top 250mm of the wall to the south of the bastion has been 'capped' by lime mortar, recently added to the wall in 2014 in an attempt to prevent water seeping into its fabric (Universal Stone 2014). The top of the bastion shows no surviving evidence of the structure visible on the 1896 OS map (or the photographs from 1923 and 1986). The top 700-900mm of the bastion is constructed of large stones, concrete slabs and re-used Roman tile and septaria, all bound in concrete. The large stones appear to be reclaimed and re-used from sources other than the wall, and include fragments of possible Kentish ragstone and broken pieces of worked limestone.

On top of this concrete capping is a later capping of lime mortar, which is modern in origin and corresponds with the wall to the south of the bastion (Photograph 7).

Because this section of town wall has been the subject of so much repair work, both in the medieval period and later, identifying any *in situ* Roman fabric is challenging. In fact, the wall has been altered so much that accurately identifying the medieval repairs is equally as problematic. This problem is only compounded due to most of medieval and later repairs re-using Roman materials.

Most of the wall is faced in septaria and Roman tile bound in mortar. As mentioned above, this is the result of several phases of repair work. The original *in situ* Roman fabric, and later medieval repairs, have been labelled on Fig 4. But it should be noted that the sheer amount of alteration on this section of the wall makes identification of

any specific phase of repair work quite difficult. The multiple irregular repairs on Section 11 are similar in make-up and appearance to the other standing sections of wall in Priory Street (drawn in 1988-9 and partially reproduced as Figs 5 and 6).



Photograph 7 Section of the top of the bastion photographed during survey (for location see Fig 4). Three phases highlighted; at the top, the modern lime mortar capping, in the middle, stones and re-used Roman tile bound in concrete, and at the bottom, the original bastion material of re-used Roman tile and septaria. Photograph taken facing west.

Bastion 1 (like the other bastions) is entirely constructed of re-used Roman septaria and tile. The bastions were added to the wall sometime in the 14th century during extensive restoration works (as detailed by Morant 1748, 6).

Towards the base of the wall to the north of the bastion (Fig 4) part of the later repairs have collapsed, exposing the Roman septaria and mortar core. Towards the top of the wall in the same area are remnants of the Roman face, with partial courses of tiles (Photograph 9) lining up with coursing seen further to the south in Section 10 (Figs 5 and 6). In Section 10 similar courses were identified as being the back of the inner (west) face of the wall, and given that the width of the wall does not change significantly between Sections 10 and 11, this is also probably the case here.

It has been observed elsewhere, particularly on the south side of the town, that the base of the town walls foundation is on occasion higher than the modern ground level outside the wall circuit (CAR 6, 63). In Hull's description of the 1923 excavation within Bastion 1, he notes that the bottom the bastion's masonry was 1ft (0.3m) below the base of the town wall foundation.

In some areas at the base of the wall in Section 11 there seems to be evidence of underpinning (Fig 4), which, combined with the evidence from the 1923 excavation, suggests that the foundation of the town wall in Priory Street is indeed above modern ground level. Where visible, this underpinning is constructed of re-used Roman tile and septaria bound in lime mortar, and is presumably medieval in origin (Photograph 8). As with the rest of the wall, however, much of the underpinning has been refaced in the

post-medieval period. The need for underpinning would also account for why it was deemed necessary to construct bastions along this part of the wall in the 14th century.



Photograph 8 Section of the base of the wall photographed during survey (for location see Fig 4). Highlighted section shows possible underpinning of wall below foundation. Photograph taken facing west.



Photograph 9 Wall to the south of Bastion 1 prior to removal of overgrowth. Photograph taken facing west.



Photograph 10 Bastion 1 prior to removal of overgrowth. Photograph taken facing west.



Photograph 11 Section of wall to the north of Bastion 1 prior to removal of overgrowth. Remains of tile courses visible towards the top of the wall. Photograph taken facing west.

7 Discussion

After the end of the Roman period, the town wall would have been a valuable source of building stone, and there is evidence from various sites around the town that the outer face was extensively robbed (such as at Culver Street; CAR 6, 63). This would have exposed the core of the wall, which at Priory Street was subsequently refaced in the medieval period with re-used Roman tile and septaria.

Medieval refacing of the wall has been observed in several other locations around the town, including around the site of North Gate (CAT Report 1183) and most notably during the excavations at Lion Walk (CAR 3). The medieval refacing of the wall at Section 11 would have coincided with the construction of Bastion 1. This was also the case with Bastion 8 at Lion Walk, the construction of which was found to be entirely “contiguous and contemporary with a refacing of the Roman wall” (CAR 3, 84).

Since the medieval period, the wall along Priory Street has been repaired, refaced and altered many more times, often re-using Roman septaria and tile. Large sections have been entirely rebuilt or replaced with brick walls. Section 11 is better preserved than others, in that it seems beneath the layers of refacing, that the original wall survives to some degree.

Even so, if the original courses of tiles observed in this investigation are the back of the inner face of the wall (as is the case elsewhere on Priory Street), then it has lost a substantial amount of its original width: probably over 1.5m.



Photograph 12 Section 11 and Bastion 1 after conservation. Photograph taken facing north-west.



Photograph 13 Section 11 (to right of frame) and part of Section 10 (drawn in Figs 5 and 6). All after conservation. Photograph taken facing north-west.

8 Acknowledgements

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

The recording was carried out by Mark Baister, Sarah Carter and Gareth Morgan.

Figures are by Mark Baister, except for the elevations of the town wall in Priory Street from CAT archives (Figs 5 and 6 - drawn in 1988-9).

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

9 References

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

| | | |
|------------------|-------------|---|
| CAT Report 144 | 2000 | <i>Colchester town wall: miscellaneous sites from 1987 to 2000</i> |
| CAT Report 347 | 2009 | <i>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</i> |
| CAT Report 356 | 2006 | <i>An archaeological investigation of the Roman town wall at Roman Road, Colchester, Essex: October 2004 and February 2006</i> |
| CAT Report 955 | 2016 | <i>A survey of the Town Wall in the Bus Depot, Queen Street, Colchester, Essex</i> |
| CAT Report 1000 | forthcoming | <i>A miscellany of Colchester and Essex sites: 1984-2000</i> |
| CAT Report 1022 | 2016 | <i>Historic building recording and test-pit evaluation at Duncan's Gate, Colchester, CO1 1UN, July 2016</i> |
| CAT Report 1183 | 2017 | <i>Historic building recording at Town Wall Section 21, Rear of 1 Middleborough, Colchester, CO1 1WD, August 2017</i> |
| CIfA | 2014a | <i>Standard and guidance for the collection, documentation, conservation and research of archaeological materials</i> |
| CIfA | 2014b | <i>Standard and guidance for archaeological investigation and recording of standing buildings or structures</i> |
| Crummy, P | 1997 | <i>City of Victory: the story of Colchester – Britain's first Roman town</i> |
| Crummy, P | 2003 | 'Colchester's Roman Town Wall' p44-52 in <i>The Archaeology of Roman Towns</i> , ed by Wilson, P |
| DCLG | 2012 | <i>National planning policy framework</i> |
| EAA 14 | 2003 | <i>Standards for field archaeology in the East of England</i> East Anglian Archaeological occasional papers 14 by Gurney, D. |
| EAA 24 | 2011 | <i>Research and Archaeology Revisited: A Revised Framework for the East of England</i> , East Anglian Archaeological occasional papers 24 by Medycott, M |
| Historic England | 2015 | <i>MoRPHE: Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment</i> |
| Historic England | 2016 | <i>Understanding Historic Buildings. A guide to good recording practice</i> |
| Hull, M.R. | 1958 | <i>Roman Colchester</i> |
| Universal Stone | 2014 | <i>Operation & Maintenance Manual of Colchester Roman Walls</i> |

10 Abbreviations and glossary

| | |
|----------|--|
| CAT | Colchester Archaeological Trust |
| CBC | Colchester Borough Council |
| CIfA | Chartered Institute for Archaeologists |
| context | specific location of finds on an archaeological site |
| EHHER | Essex Historic Environment Record, held by the ECC |
| HE | Historic Environment |
| modern | period from the 19th century onwards to the present |
| medieval | the period from 1066 to 1500 |
| 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 |
| Roman | the period from AD 43 to c AD 410 |
| septaria | a compacted clay used as building material by the Romans |

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 2017.141).

12 Contents of archive

Paper and digital record

One A4 document wallet containing:

The report (CAT Report 1184)

Original site record (layer sheets, finds record, plans, sections)

Site digital photos and log, attendance register, risk assessment

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Distribution list

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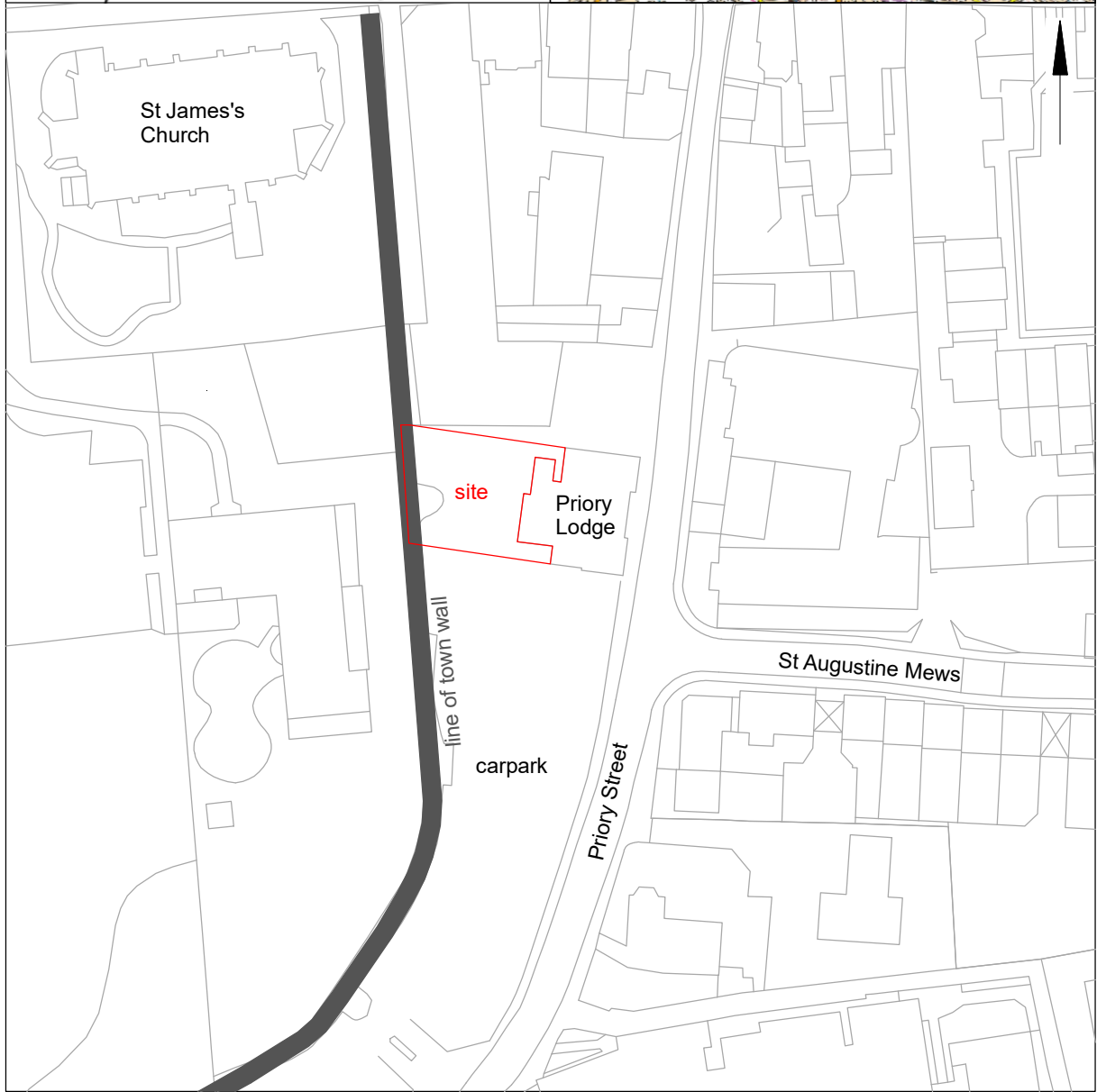
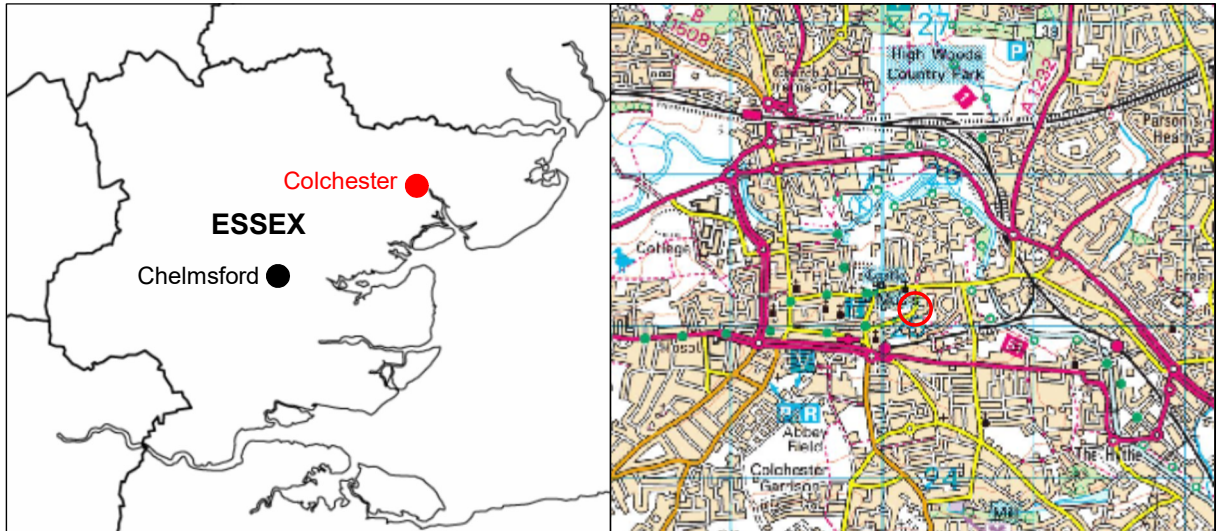
email: mb@catuk.org

checked by: Philip Crummy

date: 24/10/2017

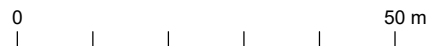
Appendix 1:
Full digital photographic record
(images on accompanying CD)

| | |
|---|---|
| Section 11 of Town Wall behind 62 Priory Street, Colchester HBR 001.JPG | Section 11, south of Bastion 1 before removal of overgrowth. Photograph taken facing west. |
| Section 11 of Town Wall behind 62 Priory Street, Colchester HBR 002.JPG | South elevation of Bastion 1 before removal of overgrowth. Photograph taken facing north-west. |
| Section 11 of Town Wall behind 62 Priory Street, Colchester HBR 003.JPG | Bastion 1 before removal of overgrowth. Photograph taken facing west. |
| Section 11 of Town Wall behind 62 Priory Street, Colchester HBR 004.JPG | North elevation of Bastion 1 before removal of overgrowth. Photograph taken facing south-west. |
| Section 11 of Town Wall behind 62 Priory Street, Colchester HBR 005.JPG | Section 11, north of Bastion 1 before removal of overgrowth. Photograph taken facing west. |
| Section 11 of Town Wall behind 62 Priory Street, Colchester HBR 006.JPG | Bastion 1 before removal of overgrowth. Photograph taken facing west. |
| Section 11 of Town Wall behind 62 Priory Street, Colchester HBR 007.JPG | Section 11, north of Bastion 1 before removal of overgrowth. Photograph taken facing south-west. |
| Section 11 of Town Wall behind 62 Priory Street, Colchester HBR 008-028.JPG | Detailed photographs with grid points for the creation of a rectified elevation. Lowest level of scaffolding. Going from north to south. Photographs taken facing west. |
| Section 11 of Town Wall behind 62 Priory Street, Colchester HBR 029-098.JPG | Detailed photographs with grid points for the creation of a rectified elevation. Middle level of scaffolding. Going from south to north. Photographs taken facing west. |
| Section 11 of Town Wall behind 62 Priory Street, Colchester HBR 099-146.JPG | Detailed photographs with grid points for the creation of a rectified elevation. Top level of scaffolding. Going from south to north. Photographs taken facing west. |
| Section 11 of Town Wall behind 62 Priory Street, Colchester HBR 147.JPG | Section 11 south of bastion. Photograph taken facing west. |
| Section 11 of Town Wall behind 62 Priory Street, Colchester HBR 148.JPG | Section 11 south of bastion. Photograph taken facing west. |
| Section 11 of Town Wall behind 62 Priory Street, Colchester HBR 149.JPG | Section 11 after conservation. Photograph taken facing north-west. |
| Section 11 of Town Wall behind 62 Priory Street, Colchester HBR 150.JPG | Section 11 after conservation. Photograph taken facing north-west. |
| Section 11 of Town Wall behind 62 Priory Street, Colchester HBR 151.JPG | Part of Section 10 and Section 11 after conservation. Photograph taken facing north-west. |



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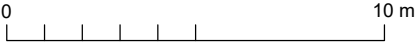
Fig 1 Site location.





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Fig 2 Detailed plan of site.



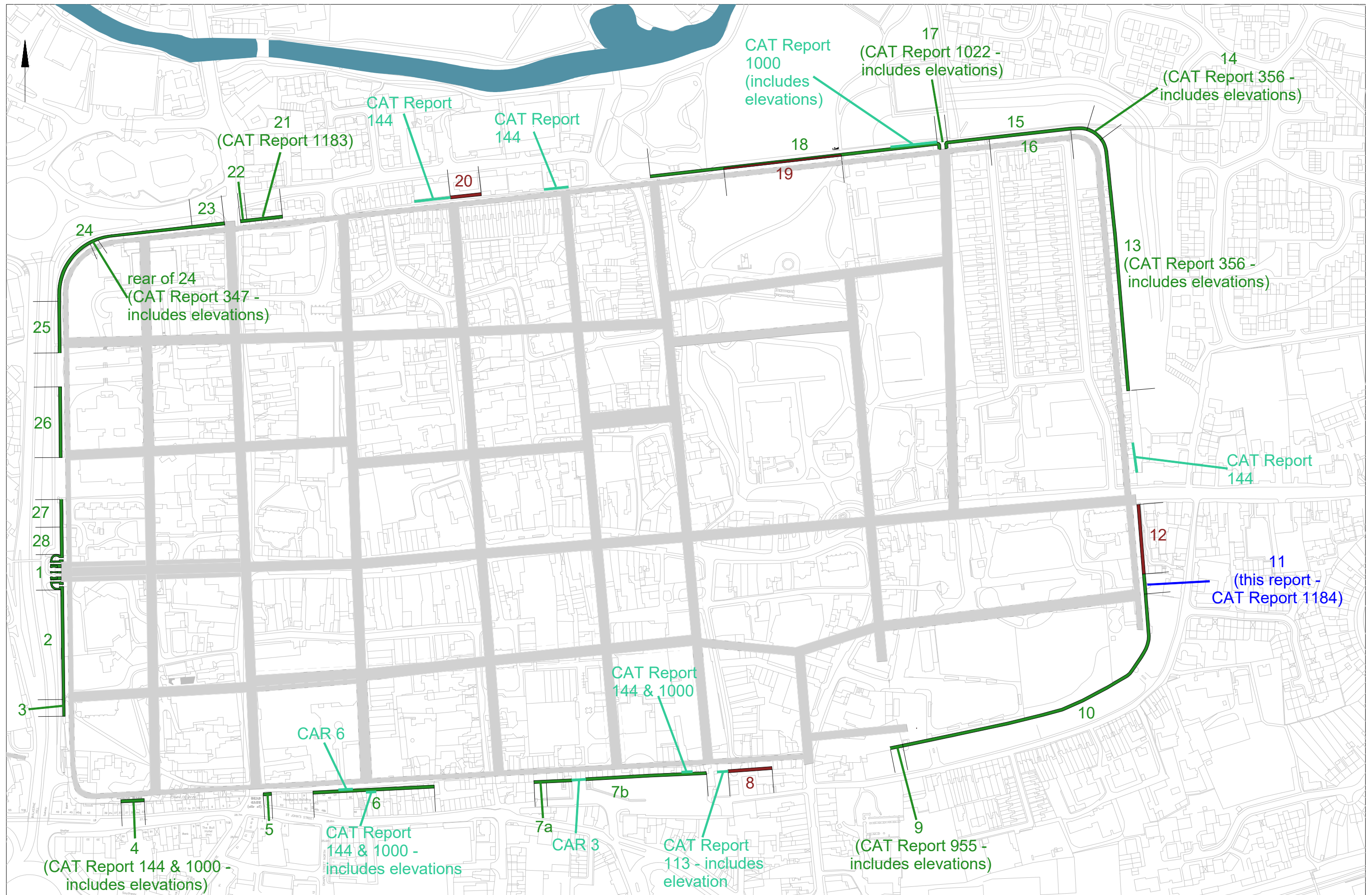


Fig 3 Plan showing previous recording of the town wall. Section numbers of standing elements of wall are as per the drawing project undertaken in the 1980-90s (unpublished). Any associated CAT reports and CARs detailing sections of wall are noted.

drawn
 not drawn

0 200 m

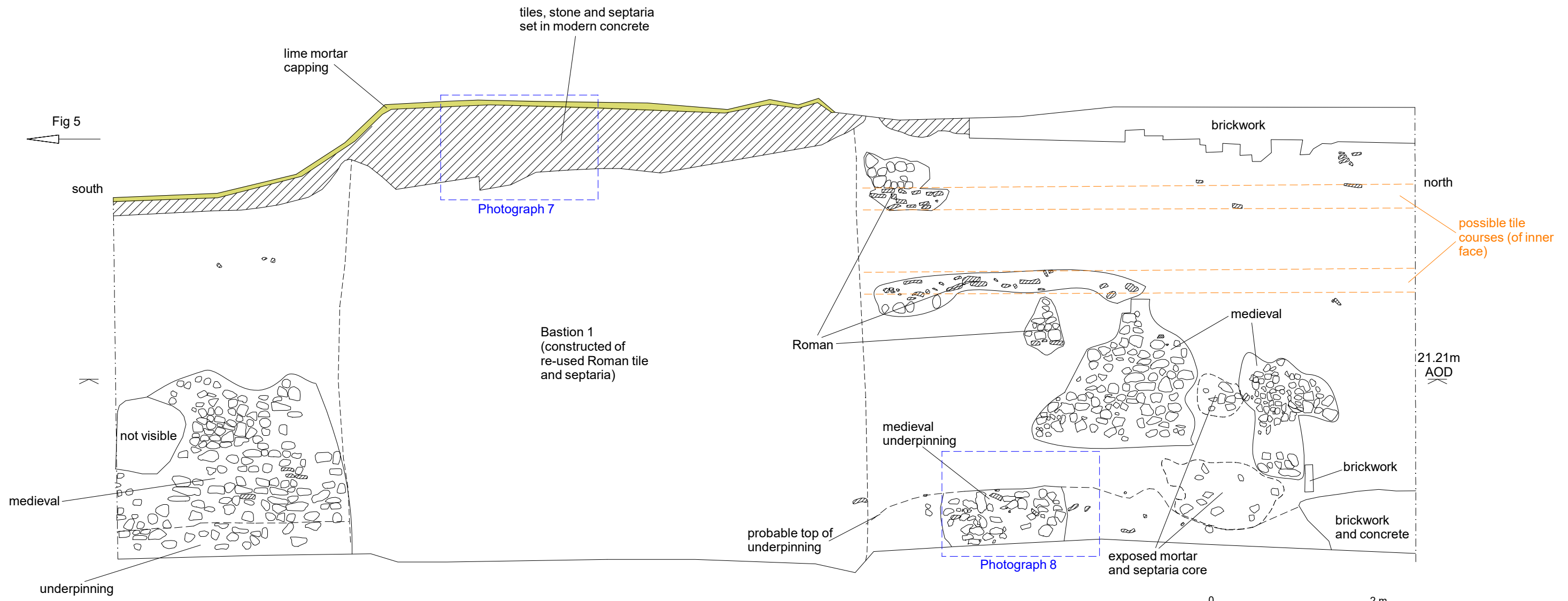






Fig 4 Eastern elevation of Section 11 of the town wall. Phasing conventions taken from town wall elevations in 1988-89 (see Figs 5 and 6).

-  modern repairs
-  post-medieval repairs
-  tile
-  septaria

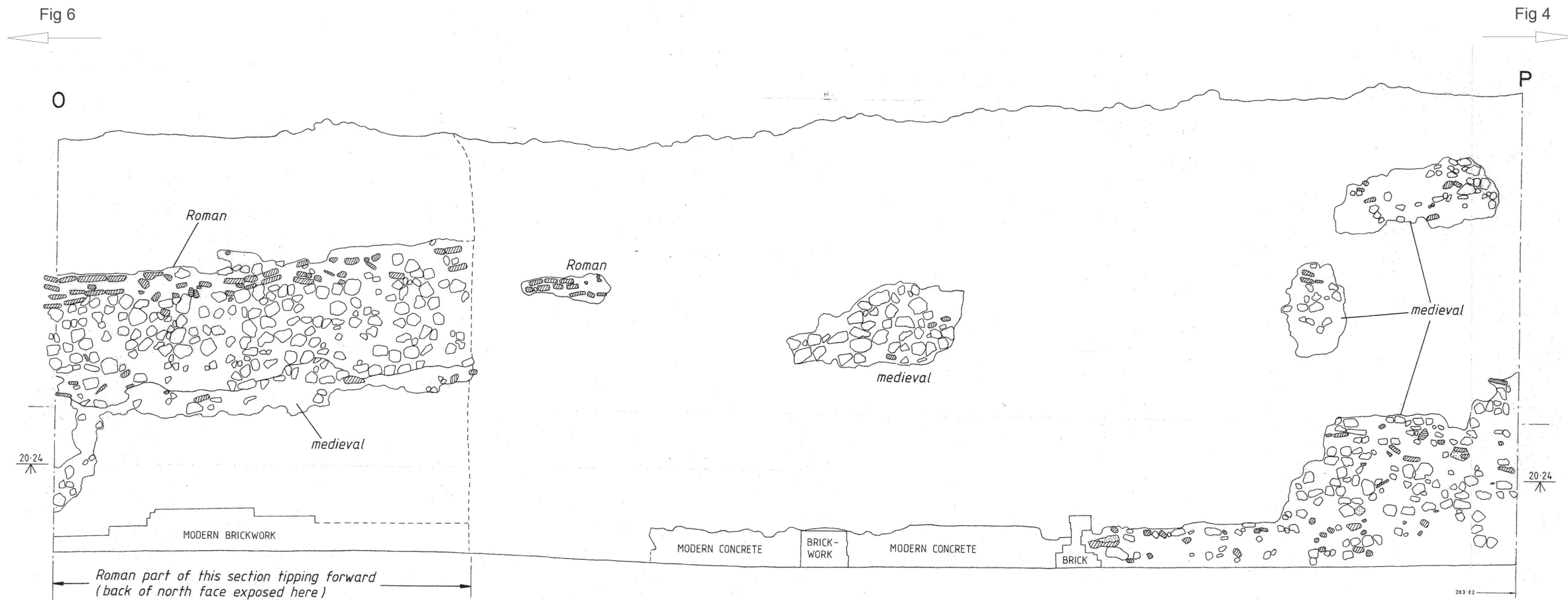


Fig 5 Elevations of Section 10 of the town wall, nearest to Section 11. Drawn in 1988-9.

THE ROMAN TOWN WALL, PRIORY STREET, COLCHESTER, ESSEX Section 10
 1988-9 drawing no. 3392 sheet 8 of 8



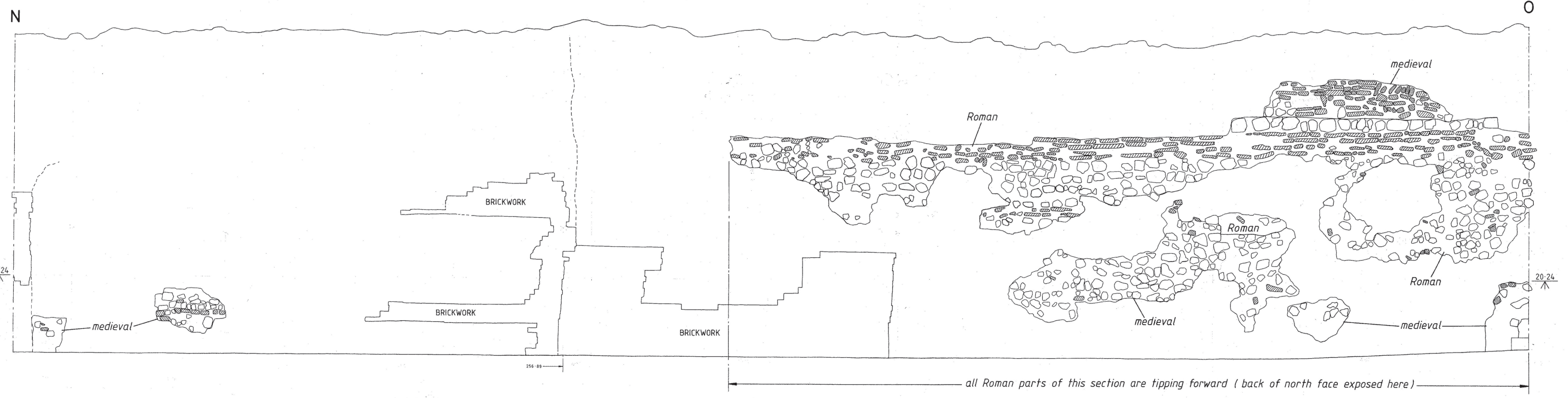
□ original ashlar — Roman and medieval (elsewhere exposed core) □ later repairs

Colchester Archaeological Trust Ltd.

west

east

Fig 5



THE ROMAN TOWN WALL, PRIORY STREET, COLCHESTER, ESSEX Section 10
 1988-9 drawing no. 3392 sheet 7 of 8

Fig 6 Elevations of Section 10 of the town wall, nearest to Section 11. Drawn in 1988-9.



□ ...original ashlar—Roman and medieval (elsewhere exposed core) □ ...later repairs

Essex Historic Environment Record/ Essex Archaeology and History

Summary sheet

| | |
|---|---|
| Address: Rear of 62 Priory Street, Colchester, CO1 2QE | |
| Parish: Colchester | District: Colchester |
| NGR: TM 0020 2518 (c) (centre) | Site code: CAT project ref.: 17/08i CHER ref: ECC4085 OASIS ref: colchest3-298494 |
| Type of work: Historic Building Recording | Site director/group: Colchester Archaeological Trust |
| Date of work: August 2017 | Size of area investigated: 42 square metres (approximately) |
| Location of curating museum: Colchester museum accession code: 2017.141 | Funding source: Colchester Borough Council |
| Further seasons anticipated? No | Related CHER/EHER number(s): CHER: CC7892 (Bastion 1) |
| Final report: CAT Report 1184 | |
| Periods represented: Roman, medieval, post-medieval, modern | |
| <p>Summary of fieldwork results: A programme of historic building recording was carried out by Colchester Archaeological Trust at Section 11 of Colchester's town wall, to the rear of 62 Priory Street (Priory Lodge) in August 2017.</p> <p>This section of wall contains one of the eight medieval bastions added to the south-east of the wall in the 14th century, as well as remnants of medieval facing which was added to the wall at the same time. Since the medieval period the wall has been refaced and repaired multiple times. Until relatively recently the bastion had a modern structure on top of it, evidence for which is visible on photographs from 1923 and 1986.</p> <p>There is some evidence at the base of the wall for underpinning, suggesting that the modern ground level along Priory Street is lower than the base of the Roman foundation. This has been observed elsewhere on the wall circuit, most notably at Lion Walk.</p> | |
| Previous summaries/reports: - | |
| CBC monitor: Jess Tipper | |
| Keywords: town wall, bastion | Significance: * |
| Author of summary: Mark Baister | Date of summary: November 2017 |

OASIS DATA COLLECTION FORM: England

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OASIS ID: colchest3-298494

Project details

| | |
|--|---|
| Project name | Historic building recording at Town Wall Section 11, rear of 62 Priory Street (Priory Lodge), Colchester, CO1 2QE |
| Short description of the project | A programme of historic building recording was carried out by Colchester Archaeological Trust at Section 11 of Colchester's town wall, to the rear of 62 Priory Street (Priory Lodge) in August 2017. This section of wall contains one of the eight medieval bastions added to the south-east segment of the wall in the 14th century. This section also contains remains of medieval facing which was added to the wall at the same time. Since the medieval period the wall has been refaced and repaired multiple times. Until relatively recently the bastion had a structure on top of it, evidence for which is visible on photographs from 1923 and 1986. At the base of the wall some of the later facing has fallen away, revealing the mortar and septaria core. This section of wall, although in better condition than some others around the circuit, has begun to decay, and conservation work is required to preserve it. |
| Project dates | Start: 18-08-2017 End: 25-10-2017 |
| Previous/future work | No / Not known |
| Any associated project reference codes | 17/08i - Contracting Unit No. |
| Any associated project reference codes | ECC4085 - HER event no. |
| Any associated project reference codes | 2017.141 - Museum accession ID |
| Type of project | Building Recording |
| Site status | Scheduled Monument (SM) |
| Current Land use | Other 5 - Garden |
| Monument type | TOWN WALL Roman |
| Monument type | BASTION Medieval |
| Significant Finds | N/A None |
| Methods & techniques | ""Measured Survey"", ""Photographic Survey"", ""Survey/Recording Of Fabric/Structure"" |
| Prompt | Conservation/ restoration |

Project location

| | |
|------------------|--|
| Country | England |
| Site location | ESSEX COLCHESTER COLCHESTER 62 Priory Street |
| Postcode | CO1 2QE |
| Study area | 42 Square metres |
| Site coordinates | TM 0020 2518 51.888641367015 0.909590177218 51 53 19 N 000 54 34 E Point |

Project creators

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

Project archives

| | |
|---------------------------|--|
| Physical Archive Exists? | No |
| Digital Archive recipient | Colchester Museum |
| Digital Archive ID | 2017.141 |
| Digital Contents | "Survey" |
| Digital Media available | "Images raster / digital photography" |
| Paper Archive recipient | Colchester Museum |
| Paper Archive ID | 2017.141 |
| Paper Contents | "Survey", "other" |
| Paper Media available | "Miscellaneous Material", "Photograph", "Plan", "Report", "Section", "Survey " |

Project bibliography 1

| | |
|-----------------------------|---|
| Publication type | Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript) |
| Title | Historic building recording at Town Wall Section 11, rear of 62 Priory Street (Priory Lodge), Colchester, CO1 2QE |
| Author(s)/Editor(s) | Baister, M. |
| Other bibliographic details | CAT Report 1184 |
| Date | 2017 |
| Issuer or publisher | Colchester Archaeological Trust |

Place of issue or publication Colchester

Description A4 bound report with a clear plastic cover and a opaque black back.

URL <http://cat.essex.ac.uk/summaries/CAT-1184.html>

Entered by Mark Baister (mb@catuk.org)

Entered on 25 October 2017

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