

Archaeological monitoring at 7 Common Road, Stock, Essex, CM4 9LY

March 2018



by **Dr Elliott Hicks**

figures by Ben Holloway and Sarah Carter

fieldwork by Ben Holloway

commissioned by **Anthony O'Toole (E&M Design)**
on behalf of **March Building**

NGR: TQ 6945 9888 (centre)

Planning reference: CHL 16/01634/FUL

CAT project ref.: 18/01d

Chelmsford Museum accession code: CHMRE 2018.001

ECC code: SKCR18

OASIS reference: colchest3-305940



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CAT Report 1244

April 2018

Contents

1	Summary	1
2	Introduction	1
3	Archaeological background	1
4	Aims	1
5	Results	2
6	Finds	2
7	Conclusion	2
8	Acknowledgements	3
9	References	3
10	Abbreviations and glossary	3
11	Contents of archive	3
12	Archive deposition	4

Figures

after p4

Appendix 1 OASIS Summary

List of photographs and figures

Cover: general site shot

Photograph 1 Area of ground reduction 2

Fig 1 Site location

Fig 2 Monitoring results

1 Summary

Archaeological monitoring was carried out at 7 Common Road, Stock during the demolition of the existing house and erection of the first of two new houses with associated parking and groundworks. Monitoring was primarily undertaken to determine the relationship of the site to the historic pottery industry of Stock. No significant archaeological remains were encountered as excavations did not penetrate beyond modern layers. Nor was any residual evidence of pottery manufacture uncovered.

2 Introduction (Fig 1)

This report presents the results of archaeological monitoring at 7 Common Road, Stock, which was carried out on 13th March 2018. The work was commissioned by Anthony O'Toole of E&M Design on behalf of March Building Contracts during the demolition of the existing house and erection of the first of two new houses with associated parking and groundworks and was undertaken by Colchester Archaeological Trust (CAT).

In response to consultation, Essex County Council Historic Environment Advisor (ECCHEA) Alison Bennett 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 the *National Planning Policy Framework* (DCLG 2012).

All archaeological work was carried out in accordance with the *Brief for monitoring and recording at 7 Common Road, Stock* detailing the required archaeological work, written by Alison Bennett (ECCPS 2018), and a Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) prepared by CAT in response to the brief and agreed with ECCHEA (CAT 2018).

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 Essex Historic Environment Record (EHER) held at Essex County Council, County Hall, Chelmsford, Essex.

Pottery manufacture was an important industry in Stock from the 16th to the 19th centuries. This has been evidenced by the finding of post-medieval pottery kilns to the north-west of the development site at Stock Bowling Club (EHER 5507), and medieval pottery and kiln waste came from a sewer trench alongside Common Lane (EHER 5391). Recent excavations at 10 The Paddock revealed large quantities of post medieval pottery, which indicates a nearby kiln (CAT Report 704, EHER 48334). Historical evidence shows that Stock Common to the northwest of the development site was dug for clay for pottery manufacture. Earlier evidence of occupation in Stock comes from a site to the south of the development site (EHER 46565) where Late Bronze Age/Early Iron Age features were found.

For further details of the history of Stock see Phillips (2003).

4 Aims

Archaeological monitoring was primarily undertaken to ascertain the relationship of this site, if any, to the pottery industry of medieval and post-medieval Stock. More generally,

monitoring was carried out to identify and record any surviving archaeological deposits that may exist on the site.

5 Results (Figs 2-3)

On 13th March 2018, a CAT archaeologist observed the removal of the slab and foundations of the former dwelling at this site and the levelling of an area measuring 263m² by 0.5m below current ground level in preparation for the construction of a piling mat.

Two horizons were observed during the area reduction. A modern concrete foundation slab (L1, c 0.3-0.4m thick, concrete layer overlaying a bed of dark grey brown sandy silt) sealed modern topsoil (L2, dark grey brown silty clay).

Substantial modern truncation was apparent during the area reduction. This was the result of the removal of the foundations of the former dwelling. Modern debris (tile, brick and plastic) was observed compressed into L2 (likely a result of the demolition works) but not retained. No archaeological material or deposits were observed during the groundworks.



Photograph 1 Area of ground reduction

6 Finds

There were no archaeological finds.

7 Conclusion

Archaeological monitoring at this site did not detect any residual trace of the pottery manufacturing industry of medieval and post-medieval Stock. However, as groundworks did not penetrate beyond modern layers, it cannot be definitively concluded that this site was not implicated in this activity.

8 Acknowledgements

CAT thanks Anthony O'Toole of E&M Design and March Building Contracts for commissioning and funding the work. The project was managed by C Lister and carried out by B Holloway. Figures were prepared by BH and S Carter. The project was monitored for Essex County Council by Alison Bennett.

9 References

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

Brown, N and Glazenbrook, J	2000	<i>Research and Archaeology: A Framework for the Eastern Counties 2 – Research Agenda and Strategy</i> . East Anglian Archaeology
CAT	2014	<i>Health & Safety Policy</i>
CAT Report 704	2013	<i>An archaeological evaluation by trial-trenching at 10, The Paddock, Stock, Essex: May 2013</i> . A Wightman and H Brooks
Cifa	2014a	<i>Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Evaluation</i>
Cifa	2014b	<i>Standard and guidance for the collection, documentation, conservation and research of archaeological materials</i>
DCLG	2012	<i>National Planning Policy Framework</i>
ECCPS	2018	<i>Brief for monitoring and recording at 7 Common Road, Stock</i> . Bennett, A
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)
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)
Phillips, C	2003	<i>The Story of Stock and Buttsbury</i>
Phillips, C	2009	<i>Village Design Statement: Planning Guidance for the Planning of Stock</i>

10 Abbreviations and glossary

Bronze Age	period from c 2500 – 700 BC
CAT	Colchester Archaeological Trust
Cifa	Chartered Institute for Archaeologists
context	specific location of finds on an archaeological site
ECCHEA	Essex County Council Historic Environment Advisor
ECCPS	Essex County Council Place Services
EHHER	Essex Historic Environment Record
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
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
residual	something out of its original context, eg a Roman coin in a modern pit

11 Contents of archive

Finds: n/a

Paper and digital record

One A4 document wallet containing:

The report (CAT Report 1244)

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

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

12 Archive deposition

The paper and digital archive is currently held by the Colchester Archaeological Trust at Roman Circus House, Roman Circus Walk, Colchester, Essex, CO2 7GZ, but will be permanently deposited with Chelmsford Museum under accession code CHMRE: 2018.001.

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Distribution list

Anthony O'Toole, E&M Design

March Building Contracts

Alison Bennett, Essex County Council Place Services

Essex Historic Environment Record



Colchester Archaeological Trust

Roman Circus House

Roman Circus Walk,

Colchester,

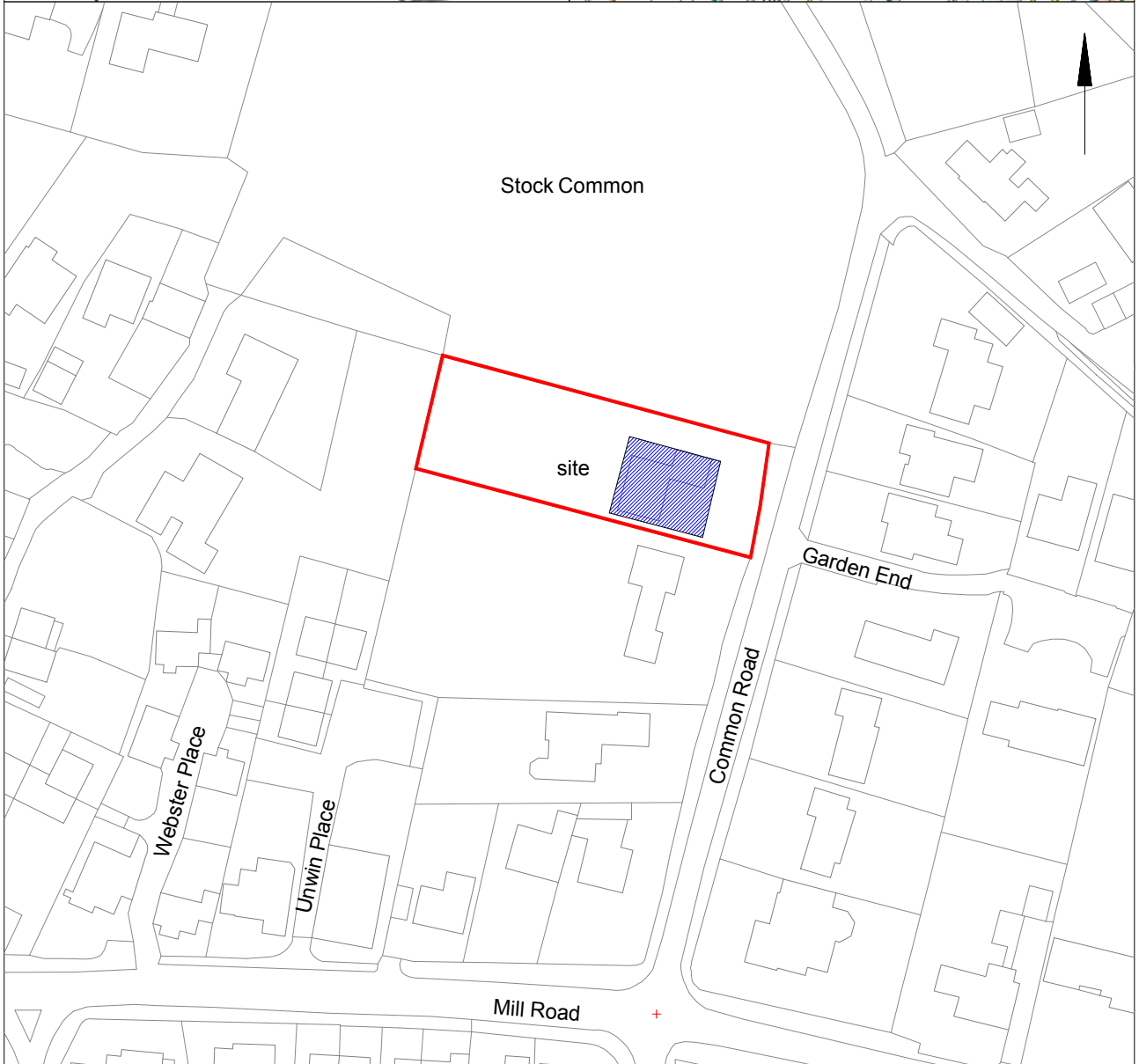
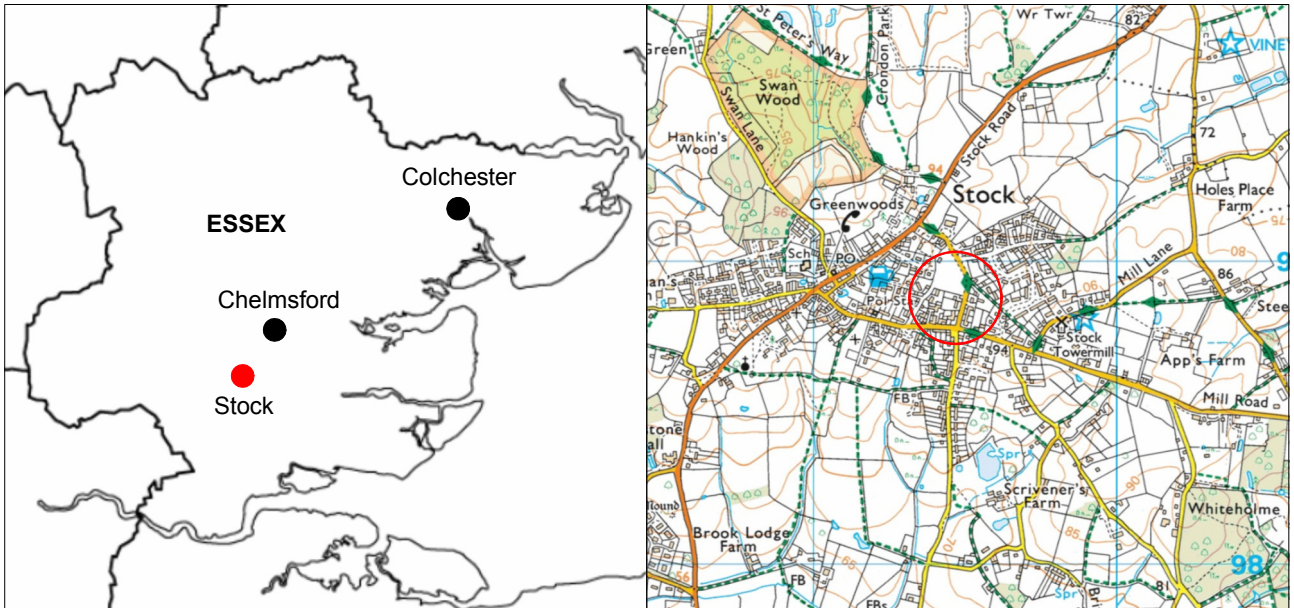
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Checked by: Howard Brooks

Date: 24.04.2018



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Fig 1 Site location.



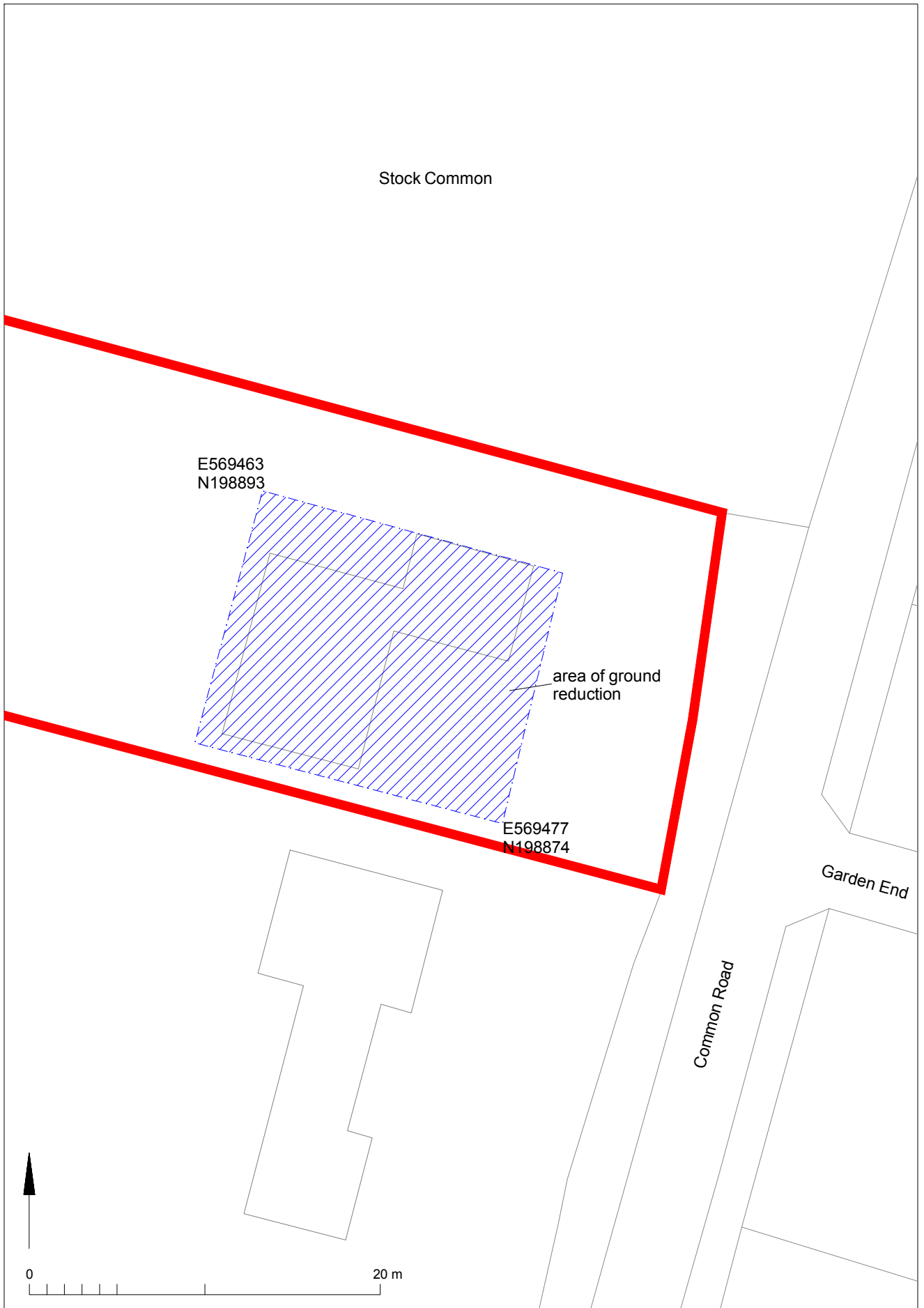


Fig 2 Monitoring results

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OASIS ID: colchest3-305940

Project details

Project name	Archaeological monitoring and recording at 7 Common Road, Stock, Essex, CM4 9LY
Short description of the project	Archaeological monitoring was carried out at 7 Common Road, Stock during the demolition of the existing house and erection of the first of two new houses with associated parking and groundworks. Monitoring was primarily undertaken to determine the relationship of the site to the historic pottery industry of Stock. No significant archaeological remains were encountered as excavations did not penetrate beyond modern layers. Nor was any residual evidence of pottery manufacture uncovered.
Project dates	Start: 13-03-2018 End: 13-03-2018
Previous/future work	No / Not known
Any associated project reference codes	18/01d - Contracting Unit No.
Any associated project reference codes	16/01634/FUL - Planning Application No.
Any associated project reference codes	CHMRE 2018.001 - Museum accession ID
Any associated project reference codes	SKCR18 - HER event no.
Type of project	Recording project
Site status	None
Current Land use	Residential 1 - General Residential
Investigation type	""Watching Brief""
Prompt	National Planning Policy Framework - NPPF

Project location

Country	England
Site location	ESSEX CHELMSFORD STOCK 7 Common Road
Postcode	CM4 9LY

Study area	0.14 Hectares
Site coordinates	TQ 6945 9888 51.662607799621 0.450333185958 51 39 45 N 000 27 01 E Point

Project creators

Name of Organisation	Colchester Archaeological Trust
Project brief originator	HEM Team Officer, ECC
Project design originator	Emma Holloway
Project director/manager	Chris Lister
Project supervisor	Ben Holloway
Type of sponsor/funding body	Developer

Project archives

Physical Archive Exists?	No
Digital Archive recipient	Chelmsford Museum
Digital Archive ID	CHMRE 2018.001
Digital Media available	"Images raster / digital photography","Survey"
Paper Archive recipient	Chelmsford Museum
Paper Archive ID	CHMRE 2018.001
Paper Media available	"Context sheet","Drawing","Miscellaneous Material","Photograph","Report"

Project bibliography 1

Publication type	Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)
Title	Archaeological monitoring at 7 Common Road, Stock, Essex, CM4 9LY: March 2018
Author(s)/Editor(s)	Hicks, E.
Other bibliographic details	CAT Report 1244
Date	2018
Issuer or publisher	Colchester Archaeological Trust
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URL	http://cat.essex.ac.uk/
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Entered on 24 April 2018

OASIS:

Please e-mail [Historic England](#) for OASIS help and advice

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