

Archaeological monitoring at 15a West Lodge Road, Colchester, Essex, CO3 3NL

March 2018



by **Laura Pooley and Dr Elliott Hicks**

with contributions by Stephen Benfield
figures by Ben Holloway and Sarah Carter

fieldwork by Ben Holloway and Mark Baister

**commissioned by Mark Polley, MP Associates
on behalf of Miss L Ward**

NGR: TL 9854 2482 (centre)

Planning reference: 172139

CAT project ref.: 17/11k

Colchester Museum accession code COLEM: 2017.154

CHER ref: ECC4116

OASIS reference: colchest3-302248



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CAT Report 1247

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1 Summary

Archaeological monitoring was carried out at 15a West Lodge Road, Colchester during groundworks for the construction of a sunroom extension to the rear of the existing property. The development site is located within the Roman 'Lexden cemetery' with groundworks in 2004/5 having revealed six or seven cremation burials and two possible inhumations.

Monitoring revealed a horizon of dark earth sealed by modern layers. This late Roman or post-Roman dark earth was first identified during archaeological investigations on the site in 2004/5. It was recorded across the development site sealing the Roman burials, which had survived at a depth of 0.95-1.2m below ground level at that time. Evidence from the current monitoring would suggest that ground level was raised during the construction of nos. 15 and 15a in 2004/5 and, as current groundworks did go below the dark earth horizon, there was no impact on any Roman burials which may still exist on the site.

2 Introduction (Fig 1)

This report presents the results of archaeological monitoring at 15a West Lodge Road, Colchester, Essex, which was carried out 14th to 15th March 2018. The work was commissioned by Mark Polley of MP Associates, on behalf of Miss L Ward, during groundworks for the construction of a sunroom extension to the rear of the existing property, and was undertaken by Colchester Archaeological Trust (CAT).

As the site lies within an area identified by the Colchester Historical Environment Record (CHER) 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* (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 Colchester Archaeological Trust report archive, and the Colchester Historic Environment Record accessed via the Colchester Heritage Explorer.

The development site is located 1.2km southwest of Colchester town centre within the Late Iron Age *oppidum* of Camulodunum, to the southwest 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 (CHER MCC7646). 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 Balkerne 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.

In 1848 major excavations took place on the West Lodge estate following the discovery of burials during the construction of the house. Although virtually no records survive, 120 burial vessels were presented to Colchester Museum (CAR 9, 258-9). Nearby in 1849 a Roman altar was found in the corner of Buntings garden adjacent to the West Lodge inn (MCC7648).

An abundance of burials has also been recorded from Beverley Road including some spectacular and well-preserved funerary monuments (CAR 9, 259-60). Most of these were excavated by George Joslin in the vicinity of his house at 10 Beverley Road (MCC2127). In 1866, Joslin discovered the 'child's grave' which contained an unusual collection of pipeclay figurines (MCC7645). Joslin's other finds include the tombstone of the Roman centurion Facilis found in 1868 (MCC1352). Another tombstone, this one for Longinus, was found west of Beverley Road in 1928 (MCC1361).

Recent archaeological excavations at 1 Queen's Road (formerly Handford House), c 130m south of the development site, revealed 68 Roman cremation and inhumation burials (CAT Report 323). Burials have also been recorded from 26 West Lodge Road (CAT Report 80), 21 West Lodge Road (CAT Report 293), and 17 West Lodge Road (CAT Report 665).

In 2004, an archaeological evaluation followed by monitoring and limited excavation was carried out at 15 West Lodge Road while the house was being demolished and properties 15 and 15a constructed. This work revealed six or seven cremation burials and human skeletal bone was recorded in two cut features, which may possibly have been inhumation burials (CAT Report 318).

4 Aim

Archaeological monitoring was undertaken to determine the extent of any surviving archaeological remains which may exist at the site.

5 Results (Figs 2-3)

All groundworks were carried out by the contractors under archaeological supervision. Numbers allocated during this current monitoring follow those assigned during work at this site in 2004/5 (see CAT Report 318). New layer numbers start at L16, finds numbers at 54.

In total 12m of foundations were excavated measuring 0.45m wide by 1-1.2m deep. Three layers were recorded. Modern concrete and type-1 sub-base (L16, 0.45m thick) overlay a dump or make-up layer containing modern building debris (L17, 0.21m thick). Both of these modern layers date to construction work carried out in 2004/5. Sealed beneath L17 was a dark earth horizon (L14) which measured at least 0.75m thick but was not bottomed at any point. During the 2004/5 archaeological investigations, this dark earth horizon was identified as being of late Roman or post-Roman date (numbered variously as L3, L9 & L14) (CAT Report 318). A quantity of Roman pottery, CBM and animal bone was recovered from L14 during the current monitoring.

Modern drains were the only cut features recorded.



Photograph 1 Foundation trench, looking N



Photograph 2 Foundation trench, looking W

6 Finds

by Stephen Benfield

The finds consist of Roman pottery, ceramic building material (CBM) and animal bone. All come from soil layer L14. The finds are listed and described in Table 2. The pottery was recorded using the Colchester Roman fabric type series (CAR 10) and the fabrics referred to are listed and described in Table 1. Roman pottery vessel forms refer to the Colchester, *Camulodunum* (Cam), pottery type series (Hawkes and Hull 1947, and Hull 1958).

Fabric code	Fabric description
AA	Amphorae, all (excluding Dressel 20 & Brockley Hill/Verulamium region)
AJ	Amphorae, Dressel 20
BACG	Central Gaulish plain samian
CB	Colchester red colour-coated roughcast ware
CH	Oxidised Hadham ware
DJ	Coarse oxidised and related wares (general)
EA	Nene Valley colour-coated ware
GB	BB1: Black-burnished ware, category 1
GX	Other coarsewares (general), principally locally produced greywares
HD	Shell-tempered and calcite gritted wares
HZ	Large storage vessels in heavily-tempered coarseware fabrics
KX	Black-burnished ware (BB2) types in pale greyware
MQ	White slipped fines wares & parchment wares
TE	Nene Valley mortaria (white fabric, unslipped or with red wash)
TZ	Mortaria, primarily Colchester mortaria

Table 1 Pottery fabrics

Context	Type / description
L14, finds no.54, dark earth	<p>Roman pottery: Fabric AA (1 sherd, 24g); Fabric AJ (2 sherds, 66g) includes late fabric type (Tomber & Dore BAT AM 2); Fabric BACG (1 sherd, 8g); Fabric CB (1 sherd, 2g); Fabric CH (2 sherds, 20g); Fabric DJ (6 sherds, 68g) includes one sherd with traces of white slip (Fabric DJ I or possibly Fabric MQ); Fabric EA (1 sherd, 14g) beaker base; Fabric GB (1 sherd, 14g) Cam 37B; Fabric GX (10 sherds, 138g); Fabric HD (late) (1 sherd, 8g); Fabric HZ (3 sherds, 138g); Fabric KX (2 sherds, 78g) includes Cam 278 with grouped angled burnished lines on body; Fabric TE (1 sherd, 8g) probably a <i>mortarium</i> flange; Fabric TZ (1 sherd 36g) bead from the edge of a <i>mortarium</i> flange in buff fabric.</p> <p>Roman CBM: (25 pieces, 4090g); <i>tegula</i> (4 pieces, 568g), bases 18-25mm thick; <i>imbrex</i> (1 piece, 176g); brick/tile (13 pieces, 1398g); brick (7 pieces, 1956g), between 30-35mm thick, includes single small chip of cream coloured tile, one brick corner has impression of what are almost certainly dog paws having claw tips as well as pads.</p> <p>Animal bone: (28 pieces, 830g); almost entirely cattle (26 pieces + frags, 818g) includes near complete radius, metatarsal and vertebra, some butchery chop marks and possible deliberate splitting of some bones (although some of this damage is recent), other large mammal bone pieces all probably also cattle; single sheep metatarsal end (unfused) and one other piece from medium size mammal long bone (2 pieces, 12g)</p> <p>Spot date for all finds: Mid 3rd to 4th century, probably mid to late 4th century</p>

Table 2 All finds by context

In total there are 33 sherds of Roman pottery weighing 622g. Although the average sherd weight is not particularly low (18.8g), as an assemblage the pottery is quite broken-up. Identifiable vessels are represented only by single sherds and several fabric types represented by just one or two sherds. Together, the date range of the pottery types spans the period of the late 1st to 4th century, although the majority is of 2nd- to 4th-century date and only one sherd, almost certainly from a rilled jar in shell-tempered ware (Fabric HD), can be closely-dated to the late 4th century.

It can be noted that previous archaeological investigations at 15 West Lodge Road in 2005 produced 279 sherds (4011g) of Roman pottery as well as several Roman cremation burials, two in pottery urns (CAT Report 318). The larger number of sherds there includes a wider range of fabrics and a larger range of finewares, possibly with a greater proportion of 1st-century material. However, in terms of overall date it appears similar to the assemblage here with an apparent emphasis on 2nd- to 3rd-century pottery and some pottery of broad late 3rd- to 4th-century date, but little or nothing that can be closely dated to the late 4th century. The pottery also appears to have been quite broken-up with an average sherd weight of 14.2g. A relatively low proportion of late Roman (mid to late 4th-century) pottery appears fairly typical of assemblages from many extra mural sites at Colchester, while the broken-up nature of the pottery itself suggests a high degree of residuality.

The Roman CBM (11 pieces, weight 4098g) includes pieces from roof tiles (*tegula* and *imbrex*), and a number of non-diagnostic pieces of flat tile or brick are also probably *tegula* bases. There are also pieces of Roman brick of moderate thickness (c 30-35mm) one of which is a corner piece with animal paw imprints that are almost certainly dog. None of the CBM has any mortar adhering to it. All is in relatively fine, or moderately coarse sand, orange/red coloured fabrics with just a single small chip from a cream coloured brick or tile.

The animal bone (28 pieces, weight 830g) while not of itself datable, can be assumed to be Roman based on the other finds recovered. It consists almost entirely of cattle bone with clear butchery marks on one or two pieces.

7 Conclusion

Archaeological monitoring at 15a West Lodge Road revealed a layer of late Roman or post-Roman dark earth, first identified during archaeological investigations on the site in 2004/5. A quantity of Roman finds was recovered from this layer, consisting of pottery, CBM and animal bone.

During the 2004/5 investigations, six or seven cremation burials were excavated and human skeletal bone recorded in two cut features, which may possibly have been inhumation burials. However, these burials were identified at depths of between 0.95-1.2m below ground level at that time, sealed beneath the dark earth horizon (L3/L9/L14). Evidence from the current monitoring would suggest that ground level was raised during the construction of nos. 15 and 15a and that, despite excavating 1-1.2m below current ground level, groundworks for the new sunroom did not go deep enough to penetrate through the dark earth or impact on any Roman burials which may still exist on the site.

8 Acknowledgements

CAT thanks Mark Polley of MP Associates and Miss L Ward for commissioning and funding the work. The project was managed by C Lister and carried out by B Holloway and M Baister. Figures were prepared by B Holloway and S Carter. The project was monitored for the CBCPS by Jess Tipper.

9 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 11 | 1995 | <i>Colchester Archaeological Report 11: Camulodunum II</i> , by Hawkes and Crummy |

CAT	2017	<i>Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) for continuous archaeological monitoring and recording at 15a West Lodge Road, Colchester, Essex, CO3 3NL</i>
CAT Report 80	2000	<i>Evaluation at 26 West Lodge Road, Colchester: May 2000</i>
CAT Report 293	2005	<i>An archaeological watching brief at Merly House, 21 West Lodge Road, Colchester, Essex: March-June 2004.</i>
CAT Report 318	2006	<i>An archaeological evaluation, watching brief and limited excavation at 15 West Lodge Road, Colchester, Essex: September 2004-September 2005.</i>
CAT Report 323	2010	<i>Archaeological excavations at 1 Queens Road (Handford House, now 'Handford Place'), Colchester, Essex: 2003 and 2004-5</i>
CAT Report 345	2005	<i>A Roman temple-tomb at Colchester Royal Grammar School, Lexden Road, Colchester, Essex: August-September 2005</i>
CAT Report 665	2012	<i>An archaeological watching brief at 17 West Lodge Road, Colchester, Essex: August 2012</i>
CBCAA	2017	<i>Brief for a Continuous Archaeological Monitoring and Recording at 15a West Lodge Road, Colchester, CO3 3NL by J Tipper</i>
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>
Gurney, D	2003	<i>Standards for field archaeology in the East of England. East Anglian Archaeology Occasional Papers 14 (EAA 14).</i>
Hall, A F	1946	<i>'A Roman walled cemetery at Colchester', <i>Archaeological Journal</i>, CI</i>
Hull, M R	1958	<i>Roman Colchester, RRCSAL, 20</i>
Medlycott, M	2011	<i>Research and archaeology revisited: A revised framework for the East of England. East Anglian Archaeology Occasional Papers 24 (EAA 24)</i>

10 Abbreviations and glossary

CAT	Colchester Archaeological Trust
CBC	Colchester Borough Council
CBCAA	Colchester Borough Council Archaeological Advisor
CBCPS	Colchester Borough Council Planning Services
CBM	ceramic building material, ie brick/tile
CHER	Colchester Historic Environment Record
Cifa	Chartered Institute for Archaeologists
context	specific location of finds on an archaeological site
EHER	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
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
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

11 Contents of archive

Finds: None retained

Paper and digital record

One A4 document wallet containing:

The report (CAT Report 1247)
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

12 Archive deposition

The paper and digital archive is currently held by the Colchester Archaeological Trust at Roman Circus House, Roman Circus Walk, Colchester, Essex, CO2 7GZ, but will be permanently deposited with Colchester Museum under accession code COLEM: 2017.154.

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Distribution list

Mark Polley, MP Associates

Miss L Ward

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



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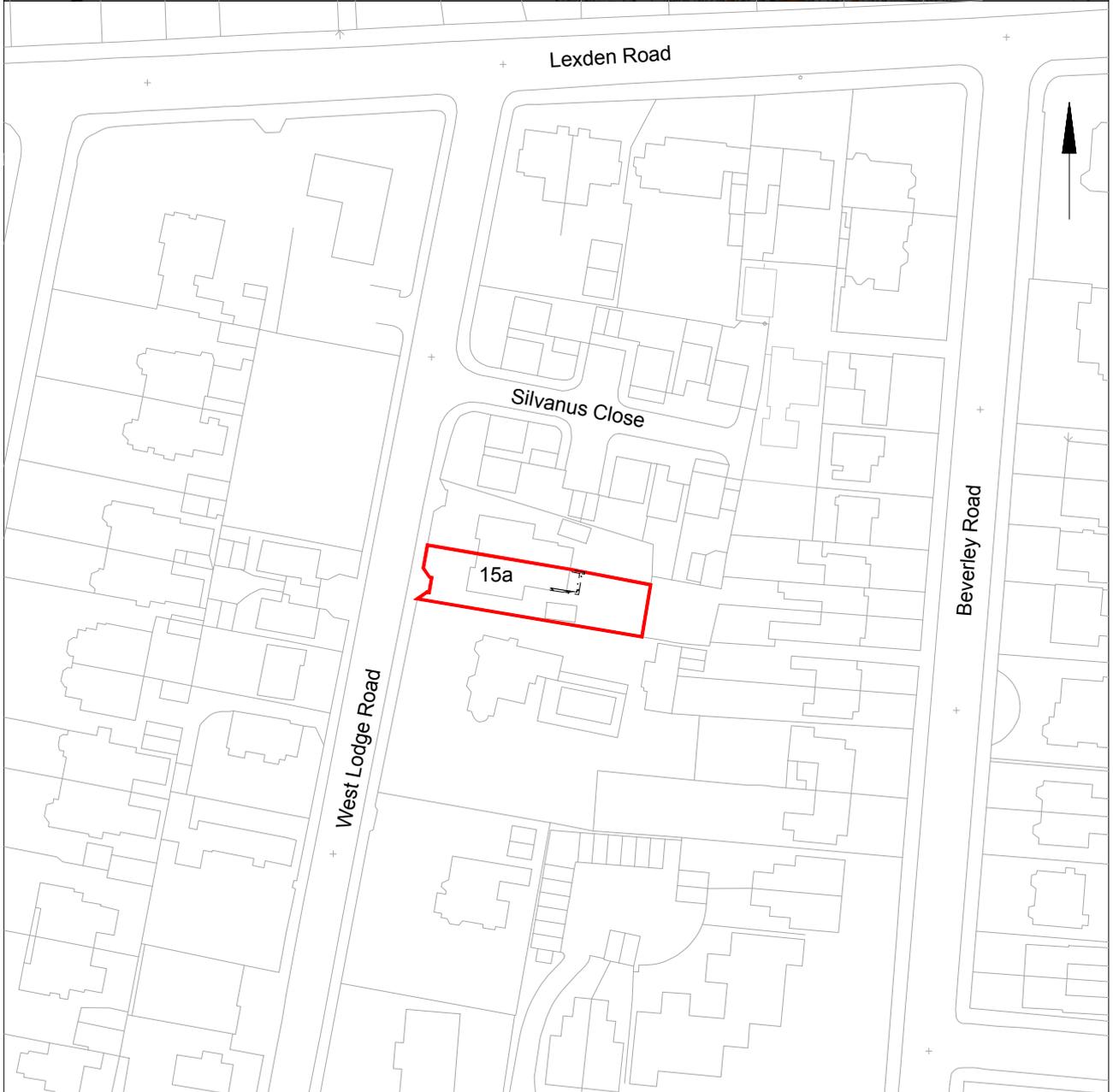
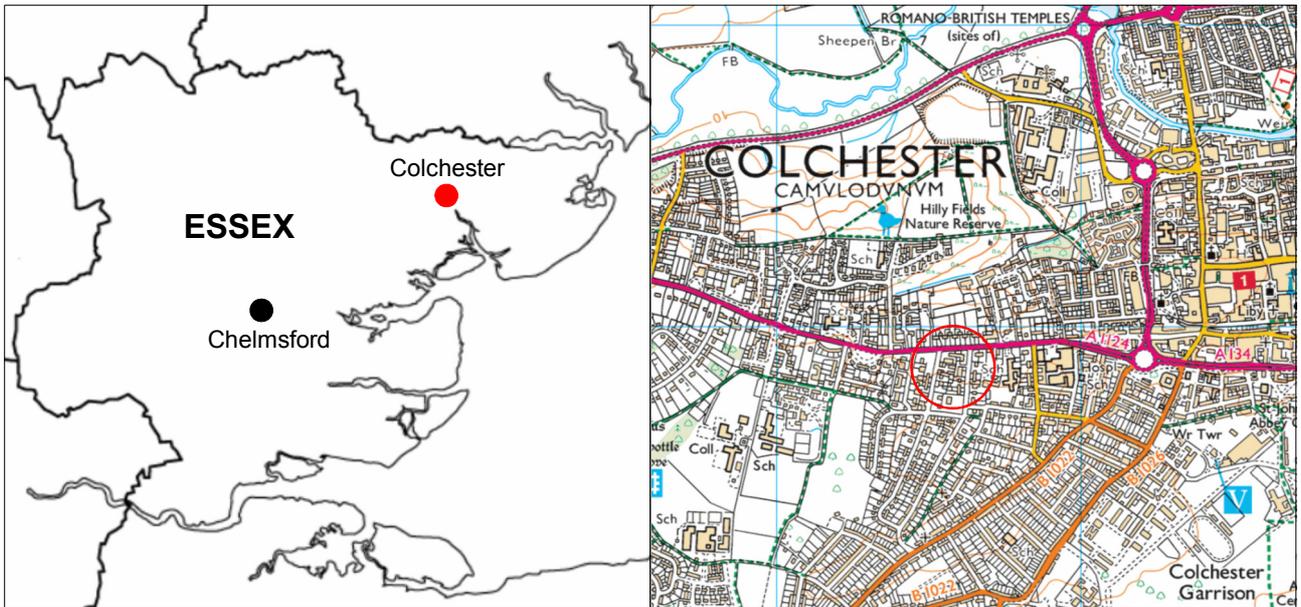
email: lp@catuk.org

Checked by: Philip Crummy

Date: 20.4.2018

Appendix 1 Context list

Context no.	Finds no.	Context	Description	Date
L14	54	Dark earth	Soft, dry, dark brown/black sandy-silt with charcoal fleck inclusions, finds reach towards bottom of excavated depth.	Late Roman or post-Roman
L16	-	Concrete	Concrete and type-1 sub-base	Modern
L17	-	Dump or build-up	Firm, dark brown/black sandy-silt with modern building debris	Modern, from 2004-5 construction of nos. 15 & 15a



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Fig 1 Site location





Fig 2 Results, modern services in grey

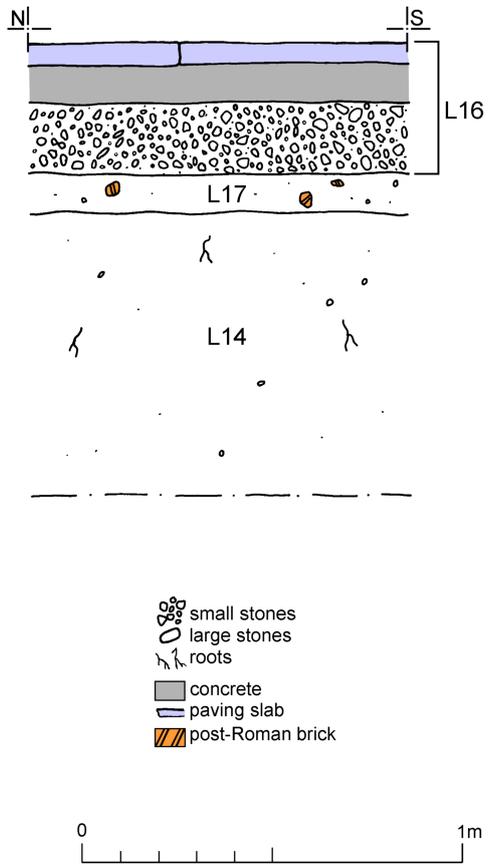


Fig 3 Representative section

Essex Historic Environment Record/ Essex Archaeology and History

Summary sheet

Address: 15a West Lodge Road, Colchester, Essex, CO3 3NL	
Parish: Colchester	District: Colchester
NGR: TL 9854 2482 (centre)	Site code: CAT project ref.: 17/11k CHER ref: ECC4116 OASIS ref: colchest3-302248
Type of work: Monitoring	Site director/group: Colchester Archaeological Trust
Date of work: 14th-15th March 2018	Size of area investigated: 0.04ha
Location of curating museum: Colchester museum accession code COLEM: 2017.154	Funding source: Developer
Further seasons anticipated? no	Related CHER/SMR number: CHER MCC7646
Final report: CAT Report 1247	
Periods represented: Roman, modern	
<p>Summary of fieldwork results:</p> <p>Archaeological monitoring was carried out at 15a West Lodge Road, Colchester during groundworks for the construction of a sunroom extension to the rear of the existing property. The development site is located within the Roman 'Lexden cemetery' with groundworks in 2004/5 having revealed six or seven cremation burials and two possible inhumations.</p> <p>Monitoring revealed a horizon of dark earth sealed by modern layers. This late Roman or post-Roman dark earth was first identified during archaeological investigations on the site in 2004/5. It was recorded across the development site sealing the Roman burials, which had survived at a depth of 0.95-1.2m below ground level at that time. Evidence from the current monitoring would suggest that ground level was raised during the construction of nos. 15 and 15a in 2004/5 and, as current groundworks did not remove all of the dark earth, there was no impact on any Roman burials which may still exist on the site.</p>	
Previous summaries/reports: CAT Report 318	
CBC monitor: Jess Tipper	
Keywords: -	Significance: *
Author of summary: Laura Pooley	Date of summary: April 2018

Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) for continuous archaeological monitoring and recording at 15a West Lodge Road, Colchester, Essex, CO3 3NL.

NGR: TL 9854 2482 (centre)

Planning reference: 172139

Commissioned by: Mark Polley, Mp Associates

On behalf of: Miss L Ward

Curating museum: Colchester

Museum accession code: [requested](#)

CHER ref: ECC4116

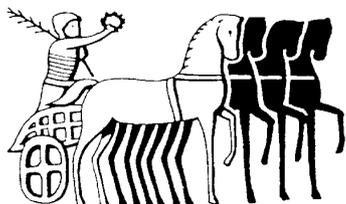
CAT project code: 17/11k

OASIS ref.: colchest3-302248

Site manager: Chris Lister

CBC monitor: Jess Tipper

This WSI written: 27.11.2017



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Site location and description

The development site lies approximately 1.2km southwest of Colchester town centre at 15a West Lodge Road, Colchester, Essex CO3 3NL (Fig 1). Site centre is TL 9854 2482 (centre).

Proposed work

Proposed work consists of a single storey rear sunroom extension to the existing property.

Archaeological background

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

The development site is located 1.2km southwest of Colchester town centre within the Late Iron Age *oppidum* of Camulodunum, to the southwest 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 Balkerne 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*.

In 1848 major excavations took place on the West Lodge estate following the discovery of burials during the construction of the house. Although virtually no records survive, 120 burial vessels were presented to Colchester Museum (*CAR 9*, 258-9). Nearby in 1849 a Roman altar was found in the corner of Buntings garden adjacent to the West Lodge inn (EHER 11853).

An abundance of burials have also been recorded from Beverley Road including some spectacular and well-preserved funerary monuments (*CAR 9*, 259-60). Most of these were excavated by George Joslin in the vicinity of his house at 10 Beverley Road (UAD 907). In 1866, Joslin discovered the so-called 'child's grave' which contained an unusual collection of pipeclay figurines (UAD 990; EHER 11850). Joslin's other finds include the tombstone of the Roman Centurion Facilis found in 1868 (UAD 992; EHER 11857).

Recent excavations at 1 Queen's Road (formerly Handford House), which lies approximately 130m south of the development site, revealed 68 Roman cremation and inhumation burials (CAT Report 323).

Previously at 15 West Lodge Road CAT excavated a couple of evaluation trenches in 2004 followed by a watching brief with a limited excavation during the demolition of the previous house and creation of the two new dwellings in 2005 (CAT Report 318). The work revealed six/seven cremation burials with human bone recorded in two features which may have been inhumations.

One *in situ* cremation and three disturbed cremations were recorded at 21 West Lodge Road (CAT Report 293), and the disturbed remains of an urned cremation burial was found at 17 West Lodge Road (CAT Report 665).

Planning background

A planning application was made to Colchester Borough Council in November 2017 (application no. 172139) proposing a single storey rear sunroom 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 2017).

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. 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 Brief 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.

The machine (if machine-excavated) is to be under the supervision and guidance of the archaeologist. All topsoil and ground reduction will be done with toothless bucket.

Machine excavations will stop at the archaeological horizon, or formation level if higher, to ensure hand excavation, recording or sampling (as necessary) of any archaeological features or deposits.

If any features or deposits uncovered are to be destroyed by the proposed development, adequate time will be allowed for these features to be excavated, recorded and/or sampled by hand. This includes a 50% sample of discrete features (pits, etc), 10% of linear features (ditches, etc) and 100% of any complex features or burials (see Human Remains policy below).

If burials are encountered and will be destroyed by the proposed development they will be fully investigated, ie it may be necessary to extend beyond the limits of the trench to obtain the full extent of any burials. See below for further details.

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: Laura Pooley

animal bones (small groups): Adam Wightman

flints: Adam Wightman

or to outside specialists:

animal bones (large groups) and human remains: Julie Curl (*Sylvanus*)

environmental processing and reporting: Val Fryer / Lisa Gray

conservation of finds: staff at Colchester Museum / Laura Ratcliffe (LR Conservation)

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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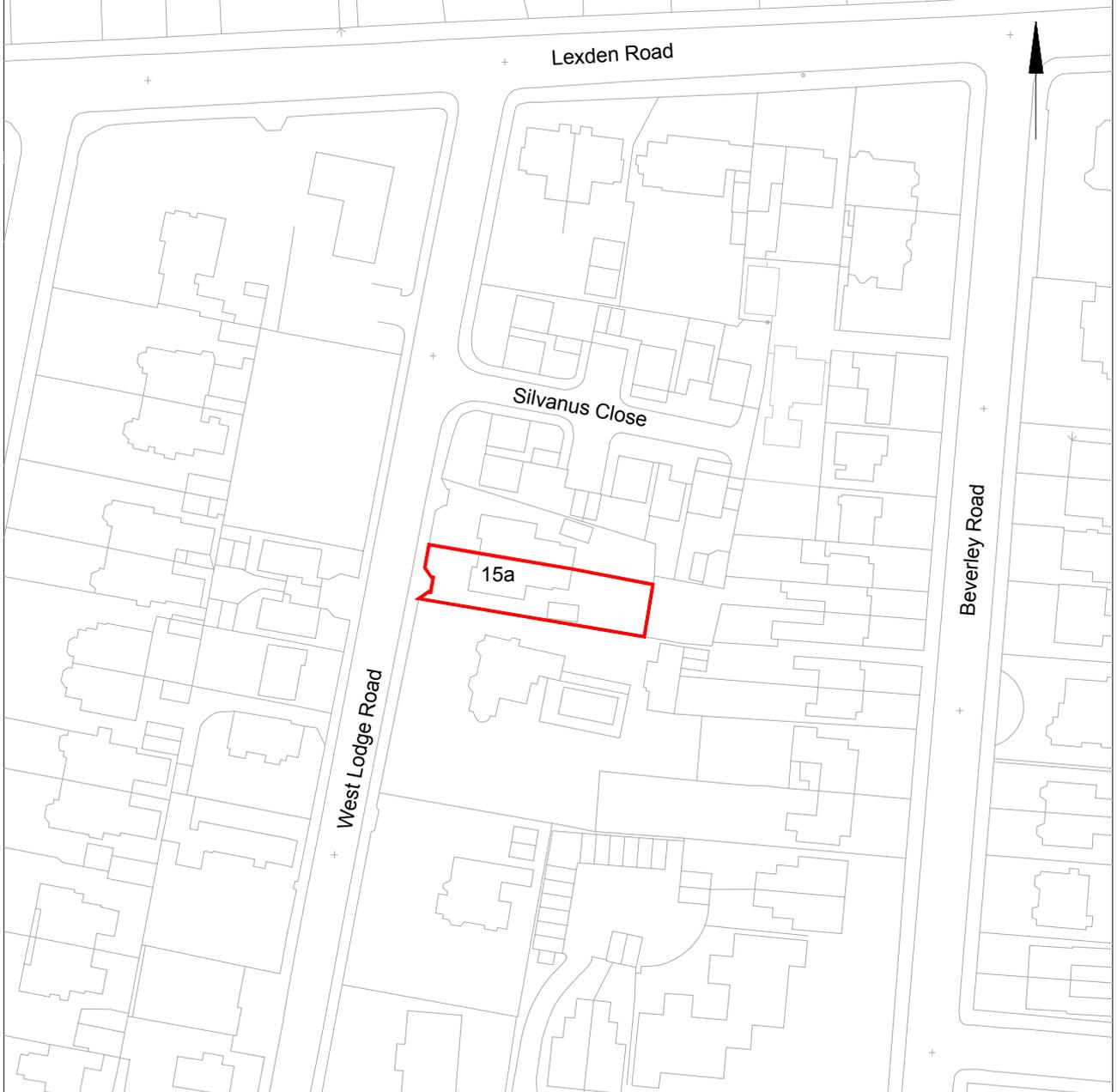
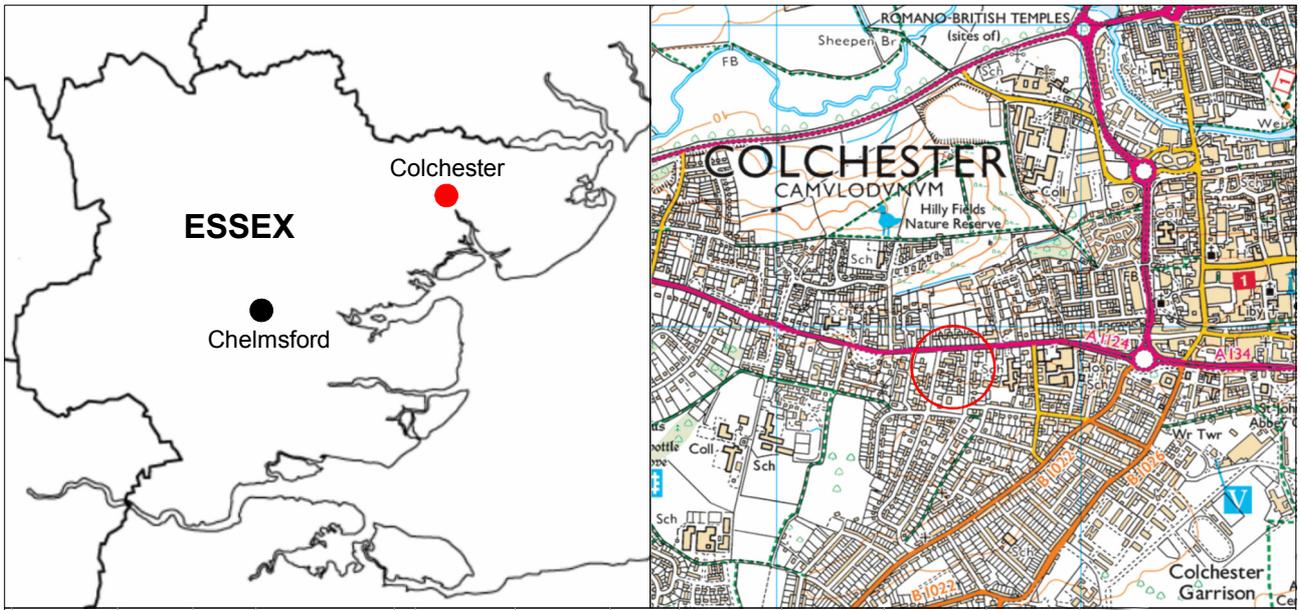
Emma Holloway



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Fig 1 Site location.

0 50 m

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OASIS ID: colchest3-302248

Project details

Project name	Archaeological monitoring at 15a West Lodge Road, Colchester, Essex, CO3 3NL
Short description of the project	Archaeological monitoring was carried out at 15a West Lodge Road, Colchester during groundworks for the construction of a sunroom extension to the rear of the existing property. The development site is located within the Roman 'Lexden cemetery' with groundworks in 2004/5 having revealed six or seven cremation burials and two possible inhumations. Monitoring revealed a horizon of dark earth sealed by modern layers. This late Roman or post-Roman dark earth was first identified during archaeological investigations on the site in 2004/5. It was recorded across the development site sealing the Roman burials, which had survived at a depth of 0.95-1.2m below ground level at that time. Evidence from the current monitoring would suggest that ground level was raised during the construction of nos. 15 and 15a in 2004/5 and, as current groundworks did not remove all of the dark earth, there was no impact on any Roman burials which may still exist on the site.
Project dates	Start: 14-03-2018 End: 15-03-2018
Previous/future work	Yes / Not known
Any associated project reference codes	17/11k - Contracting Unit No.
Any associated project reference codes	172139 - Planning Application No.
Any associated project reference codes	ECC4116 - HER event no.
Any associated project reference codes	COLEM: 2017.154 - Museum accession ID
Type of project	Recording project
Site status	None
Current Land use	Other 5 - Garden
Monument type	N/A None
Significant Finds	POTTERY Roman
Significant Finds	CERAMIC BUILDING MATERIAL Roman
Significant Finds	ANIMAL BONE Uncertain
Investigation type	"Watching Brief"
Prompt	Planning condition

Project location

Country	England
Site location	ESSEX COLCHESTER COLCHESTER 15a West Lodge Road, Colchester, Essex
Postcode	CO3 3NL
Study area	0.04 Hectares
Site coordinates	TL 9854 2482 51.886004926387 0.885290651326 51 53 09 N 000 53 07 E Point

Project creators

Name of Organisation	Colchester Archaeological Trust
Project brief originator	CBC Archaeological Officer
Project design originator	Emma Holloway
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: 2017.154

Digital Contents	"Stratigraphic"
Digital Media available	"Images raster / digital photography","Text"
Paper Archive recipient	Colchester Museum
Paper Archive ID	COLEM: 2017.154
Paper Contents	"Stratigraphic","other"
Paper Media available	"Context sheet","Miscellaneous Material","Photograph","Plan","Report","Section"

Project bibliography 1

Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)

Publication type	
Title	Archaeological monitoring at 15a West Lodge Road, Colchester, Essex, CO3 3NL: March 2018
Author(s)/Editor(s)	Pooley, L.
Author(s)/Editor(s)	Hicks, E.
Other bibliographic details	CAT Report 1247
Date	2018
Issuer or publisher	Colchester Archaeological Trust
Place of issue or publication	Colchester
Description	A4 ringbound loose leaf
URL	http://cat.essex.ac.uk/all-reports.html
Entered by	Laura Pooley (lp@catuk.org)
Entered on	23 April 2018

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