

Archaeological evaluation on land adjacent to 62 Military Road, Colchester, Essex, CO1 2AN

March 2018



by **Laura Pooley**

with contributions by Stephen Benfield
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fieldwork by Nigel Rayner with Adam Tuffey and Alec Wade

**commissioned by Samuel Aligbe, CBC
on behalf of Colchester Amphora Homes**

NGR: TM 0032 2454 (centre)

Planning ref.: pre-application

CHER project: ECC4164

CAT project ref.: 18/03i

Colchester Museum accession code: COLEM: 2018.24

OASIS ref.: colchest3-312391



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CAT Report 1254
April 2018

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1 Summary

An archaeological evaluation by trial-trenching (two trenches) was undertaken on land adjacent to 62 Military Road, Colchester, Essex as part of a pre-planning application assessment. Located close to an area where prehistoric, Roman and Anglo-Saxon remains have recently been identified, evaluation revealed a medieval pit or ditch (of c 14th- to 15th/early 16th-century date), a modern ditch and the remains of a demolished cellar.

2 Introduction (Fig 1)

This is the archive report for an archaeological evaluation by trial-trenching on land adjacent to 62 Military Road, Colchester, which was carried out on 29th March 2018. The work was commissioned by Samuel Aligbe (CBC), on behalf of Colchester Amphora Homes, as part of a pre-application assessment of the site for a proposed residential development, and was undertaken by Colchester Archaeological Trust (CAT).

As the site lies within an area highlighted by the CHER as having a high potential for archaeological deposits, an archaeological condition was recommended by the Colchester Borough Council Archaeological Advisor (CBCAA). This recommendation was for an archaeological evaluation by trial-trenching and was based on the guidance given in the *National Planning Policy Framework* (DCLG 2012).

All archaeological work was carried out in accordance with a *Brief for a Trenched Archaeological Evaluation* (2018), detailing the required archaeological work, written by Jess Tipper (CBC Archaeological Advisor), and a written scheme of investigation (WSI) prepared by CAT in response to the brief and agreed with ECCPS (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 field evaluation* (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, the Colchester Historic Environment Record (CHER) accessed via the Colchester Heritage Explorer.

The proposed development site lies adjacent (approximately 100m) to the former Meeanee & Hyderabad barracks of the Colchester Garrison. As part of the Colchester Garrison redevelopment, a series of evaluations and excavations took place within these barracks (known during the redevelopment as 'GAL Area A1'). The site revealed significant archaeological discoveries which are summarised below. For full details see CAT Reports 206 and 628.

Prehistoric

Evaluations and excavations in Area A1 revealed some pits dating to the Neolithic and Bronze Age. These features have mostly been identified as tree-removal pits, evidence of woodland clearance (swidden or 'slash and burn') for early farming. One tree stump clearance pit was found to contain sixty-one sherds of Early Neolithic Mildenhall style pottery alongside nine Neolithic flints (CHER MCC10082).

GAL Area A1 falls within the area of the pre-Roman *oppidum* of *Camulodunum*. The only above ground traces of this *oppidum* are the linear banks and ditches of the

defensive dyke system that surrounded it. Excavation within site J of GAL Area A1 included the discovery of a previously unknown extension of the late Iron Age/early Roman Berechurch Dyke. There have been several studies of and excavations on the dykes, which are described fully in the two principal reference works: *Camulodunum*, by CFC Hawkes and MR Hull (1947), and *Colchester Archaeological Report 11 (CAR 11): Camulodunum 2*, by CFC Hawkes and Philip Crummy (1995).

Roman

The line of Mersea Road to the west of GAL Area A1 almost certainly follows the course of a Roman road leading to the southeast gate of the Roman town (via St Botolph's Street). Roman cemeteries are often found adjacent to Roman roads and Roman burials were found during the excavation of GAL Area A1 sites A, G, H and K.

Almost all of the excavation sites revealed Roman features. Largely these comprised of features that probably represent the trackways, paddocks and field boundaries of a rural settlement of that period. There was a substantial ditch and stock enclosure in Site D (CHER MCC10081), with ditches in sites G, I and K. A large quarry pit in site B (CHER MCC10075) would have been created for the extraction of sands and gravels often used for the construction of Roman roads.

Anglo-Saxon

An early Anglo-Saxon cemetery was suggested by fragmentary remains and grave goods found in 1926 east of Mersea Road and north of the northwestern corner of the barracks (CHER MCC2642). Excavation of GAL Area A1 site A, revealed a cemetery of fourteen cremations and seventy inhumations. The cemetery was first used in the mid Roman period and either continued in use, or was reused, in the late 6th or early 7th century. Eight inhumations were within ring-ditches, and five contained grave-goods including Anglo-Saxon shield bosses, spear-heads, knives and beads.

Medieval

Despite being located close to the remains of the medieval St John's Abbey (to the northwest of the development site), no significant medieval archaeology was found on GAL Area A1, and the likelihood is that the area was within open farmland at this time. There was also little evidence relating to the early post-medieval period.

Post-medieval/Modern

The CHER shows that along Military Road there were a series of post-medieval windmills (CHER MCC2277, MCC2278, MCC8993, MCC9002). The nearest one to the development site was located approximately under 65 Military Road (CHER MCC2278), but was demolished before 1875.

The earliest barracks covering Area A1 were constructed in 1855 as a temporary camp. The Meeanee and Hyderabad Barracks were built between 1896 to 1904, and modernised between 1958 and 1961.

4 Aims

The aim of the archaeological evaluation was to assess the archaeological potential of the development site so that the CBCAA can determine if further archaeological investigation will be required.

5 Results (Figs 2-3)

Two trial-trenches was machine excavated under the supervision of a CAT archaeologist. Each measured 13m long by 1.8m wide.

Trench 1 (T1)

Trench T1 was excavated through four layers. A thick layer of modern demolition debris (L6, c 0.7m thick) sealed buried modern topsoil (L7, c 0.1-0.15m thick). Beneath this was a layer of make-up (L8, c 0.25m thick) sealing natural silty-sand (L5, encountered at a depth of c 1.1m below current ground level).

A short linear feature (F2), aligned east/west, measured c 0.6m wide by a shallow 0.1m deep. It is uncertain if it is the remains of a ditch or an elongated pit. It contained three sherds of medieval pottery dated from c 14th- to 15th/early 16th-century. Cutting F2 was a modern linear (F1), possibly a ditch, aligned NW/SE and measuring c 0.8m wide by 0.18m deep.

A significant part of the trench contained the remains of a large demolished cellar (F3), which would presumably have been part of the demolished buildings of nos. 58-60 Military Road. Bricks from the backfill of the demolition suggest that the cellar had originally been constructed in the mid to late 19th century, and buildings are shown at this location on the first edition 1896 6-inch OS map (see Map 1 below).



Photograph 1 Trench T1, showing the remains of the unexcavated demolished cellar, looking SW

Trench 2 (T2)

Trench T2 was excavated through five layers. Modern demolition debris (L1, c 0.25m thick) sealed a modern dump or make-up layer (L2, c 0.25m thick). Beneath this was a silty-clay make-up (L3, c 0.2m thick) and subsoil (L4, c 0.06m thick) sealing natural silty-sand (L5, encountered at a depth of c 0.75m below current ground level).

Layers L3 (T2) and L8 (T1) are likely to be part of the same layer of make-up, with pottery sherds suggesting it dates to the medieval period.

There were no significant archaeological remains in T2.



Photograph 2 Trench T2, looking NW

6 Finds

by Stephen Benfield

Finds were recovered from the three features (F1, F2 & F3) and two soil layers (L3 & L8). The finds are of medieval, post-medieval/modern and modern date. All of the finds are listed and described by context in Table 2, together with an overall spot date for the finds from each context. The pottery fabrics recorded, listed in Table 1, refer to the Colchester post-Roman pottery fabric series (*CAR 7*).

Fabric code	Fabric description
13	Early medieval sandy wares (general)
20	Medieval sandy greyware (general)
21	Medieval sandy orange wares (general)
47	Staffordshire-type white stonewares

Table 1 Pottery fabrics

The earliest closely dated find is a rim from an early medieval cooking pot (L8) dated to the late 11th- to 12th-century. Later dated medieval greyware sherds, including a rim from a cooking pot or jar, come from F2 and L3. The rim is similar in form and size to jars of Thetford-type wares (*CAR 7* fig 9 nos 1-5) but the fabric appears more typical of medieval greyware than those associated with Thetford-type wares (*ibid* 28), and all the

greyware sherds are likely to date to the period of the 13th- to 14th-centuries. A sherd of medieval oxidised ware, also from F2, suggests a date in the period of the 14th- to early 16th-century. One of the sandy greyware sherds from F2 is very highly fired, almost vitrified/stoneware like in appearance with some surface cracks, which suggests a possible kiln waster or use in an industrial process. The exterior surface has black streaks on it. Of some interest is a single piece of tile in a relatively fine fabric from F2. It may be possible that this is Roman, although the nature of the piece suggests a post-Roman date and it might be from a thick peg-tile, similar pieces with peg-holes having been recovered from the area of the former St John's Abbey (Colchester) during excavations at Flagstaff, Garrison Area B1b.

Finds from F1 and F3 can be dated as post-medieval/modern and modern and the fill of both features can be dated as modern. The finds include a single piece of clay pipe stem and a sherd of modern factory pottery from F1, and three complete bricks (taken as a sample) from the backfill of the cellar F3 which are probably of mid to late 19th-century date.

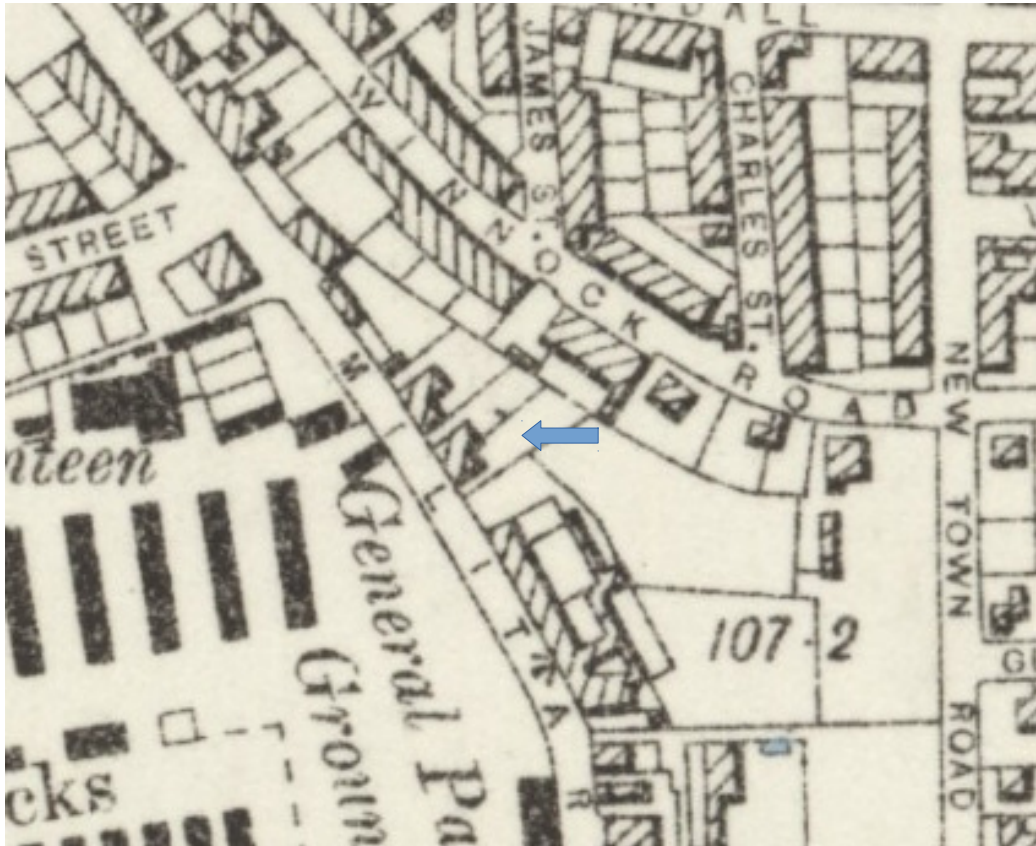
Context	Find no.	Type/description	Finds spot date
F1, ?ditch	2	Modern pottery: Fabric 47 (2g), small white stoneware sherd (late 18th/19th to early 20th century). Clay tobacco pipe: Stem piece (2g) (post-medieval). CBM: Peg-tile (3 pieces, 120g); brick (1 piece, 200g), from the corner of a red brick (probably 18th to 19th century).	Late 18th/19th to early 20th century
F2, ditch or pit	3	Medieval pottery: Fabric 20 (1 sherd, 16g), cooking pot/jar rim, dished/lid seated rim top, rim diameter c 140mm; Fabric 20 (1 sherd, 8g) grey sandy fabric, very highly fired, almost vitrified to stoneware like appearance, surface cracks and possible blistering/warping with blackened external surface; Fabric 21A (1 sherd, 2g), sandy oxidised sherd. Post-Roman CBM: Single piece of thick tile/peg-tile (15mm thick, 104g), fine orange fabric with occasional small pieces of chalk and small flint stones, little or no sanding to underside (post-Roman rather than Roman); peg-tile (2 pieces, 48g) (probably dating to after the late 13th/early 14th century); other (1 piece, 4g) small tile flake with grey core and traces of glaze on edge.	Medieval, c 14th to 15th/early 16th century
F3, demolished cellar	5	Modern CBM: Red brick (230mm x 105mm x 65mm), broad shallow frog, lime based mortar on surfaces from use in construction. Red (orange) brick (220mm x 110mm x 65mm), broad shallow frog, some lime base mortar on surfaces from use in construction. Cream coloured brick (230mm x 117mm x 70mm), not frogged, some lime based mortar on surfaces from use in construction.	Mid to late 19th century
L3, make-up layer	1	Medieval pottery: Fabric 20 (6g), single greyware sherd, most probably medieval rather than Roman.	Medieval, c 13th to early 15th century
L8, make-up layer	4	Medieval pottery: Fabric 13 (18g), rim from a medieval cooking pot in early medieval sandy ware, form C1/B1b (CAR 7 fig 27).	Medieval, late 11th to early 12th/12th century

Table 2 Finds by context

7 Conclusion

Archaeological evaluation on land adjacent to 62 Military Road revealed a medieval ditch or pit of c 14th- to 15th/early 16th-century date. A layer of subsoil (L3 and L8) sealed by 0.5-0.7m of modern layers may also be of medieval date.

The remains of a mid to late 19th-century demolished cellar were present in trench T1, with modern demolition/dump or make-up layers in both trenches likely associated with the demolition of the building (nos. 58-60 Military Road) that used to exist on this site. This building is present on the first edition 6-inch OS map of 1896 where it fronts onto the road (see Map 1). It is uncertain how ditch F1 relates to this earlier building, unless it is associated with either its construction or demolition.



Map 1 Six-inch 1896 OS map (ESSEX XXVII.SE), showing a building on the development site (indicated by the blue arrow) fronting onto Military Road.

8 Acknowledgements

CAT thanks Samuel Aligbe (CBC) and Colchester Amphora Homes for commissioning and funding the work. The project was managed by C Lister, fieldwork was carried out by N Rayner with A Tuffey and A Wade. Figures are by S Carter and L Pooley. The project was monitored for Colchester Borough Council 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 7	2000	<i>Colchester Archaeological Report 7: Post-Roman pottery from excavations in Colchester, 1971-85</i> , by J Cotter
CAR 11	1995	<i>Colchester Archaeological Report 11: Camulodunum 2</i> , by CFC Hawkes & P Crummy
CAT	2014	<i>Health & Safety Policy</i>
CAT	2018	<i>Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) for an archaeological evaluation by trial-trenching on land adjacent to 62 Military Road, Colchester, Essex, CO1 2AN.</i>
CAT Report 206	2002	<i>An archaeological evaluation by trial-trenching on Areas A, B, D, GJ, H, J, N, V and YP at Colchester Garrison PFI site,</i>

CAT Report 628	2016	<i>Colchester, Essex: June-July 2002 A Late Iron Age dyke, Roman and Anglo-Saxon burials, a Roman coin hoard, and a Civil War fort: Stage 1b evaluation and Stage 2 archaeological excavation at Colchester Garrison Alienated Land Area A1 (former Meeanee & Hyderabad Barracks), Colchester, Essex: October 2010-September 2011.</i>
CBCAA	2018	<i>Brief for a Trenched Archaeological Evaluation at land adjacent to 62 Military Road, Colchester, by J Tipper</i>
ClfA	2014a	<i>Standard and Guidance for archaeological evaluation</i>
ClfA	2014b	<i>Standard and guidance for the creation, compilation, transfer and deposition of archaeological archives</i>
ClfA	2014c	<i>Standard and guidance for the collection, documentation, conservation and research of archaeological materials</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>
Hawkes, C F C & Hull, M R	1947	<i>Camulodunum, Report of the Research Committee of the Society of Antiquaries of London, Volume 14</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
CBCAA	Colchester Borough Council Archaeological Advisor
CHER	Colchester Historic Environment Record
ClfA	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	Online Access to the Index of Archaeological Investigations, http://oasis.ac.uk/pages/wiki/Main
prehistoric	pre-Roman
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 1254)

CBC 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 2018.24.

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Distribution list:

Samuel Aligbe, Colchester Borough Council
Colchester Amphora Homes
Jess Tipper, Colchester Borough Council Planning Services
Essex Historic Environment Record



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Checked by: Philip Crummy

Date: 10.4.2018

Appendix 1 Context list

Context no.	Finds no.	Context Type	Description	Date
L1	-	Demolition debris	A mixed layer of mid to dark grey/brown slightly sandy-silty-clay above a mixed cream/light brown/grey silty-sand with intermittent coarse brown/orange sand. Includes fragments of post-medieval/ modern brick/tile, rubble and mortar.	Modern
L2	-	Dump/make-up	Friable, moist, very dark grey silty-clay with rare flecks/fragments of post-medieval/modern brick/tile.	Modern
L3	1	Make-up	Moist, medium-dark brown silty-clay, <1% stone, flecks of CBM	Medieval, c 13th to early 15th century
L4	-	Subsoil	Friable, moist, medium brown slightly sandy silty-clay, <1% stone	Undated
L5	-	Natural	Natural orange/brown silty-sand	Post-glacial
L6	-	Demolition debris	Medium grey/brown sandy-loam with inclusions of post-medieval/modern brick/tile, oyster shell and charcoal, common stone.	Modern
L7	-	Buried topsoil	Firm, moist, dark grey/brown sandy-loam with inclusions of post-medieval/ modern brick/tile and charcoal, occasional stone	Modern
L8	4	Make-up	Soft, moist, medium yellow/brown loamy-sand with flecks of oyster shell and charcoal, common stone	Medieval, late 11th to early 12th/12th century
F1	2	?ditch	Soft, moist, medium grey/brown loamy-sand with flecks of brick, coal and charcoal, occasional stone	Modern, late 18th/19th to early 20th century
F2	3	Ditch or pit	Soft, moist, medium yellow/brown loamy-sand with flecks of charcoal, occasional stone.	Medieval, c 14th to 15th/ early 16th century
F3	4	Demolished cellar	Area of disturbance caused by the demolition of a modern cellar. Bricks from the demolition debris suggest the cellar was originally built in the mid to late 19th century.	Modern



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Fig 1 Site location.

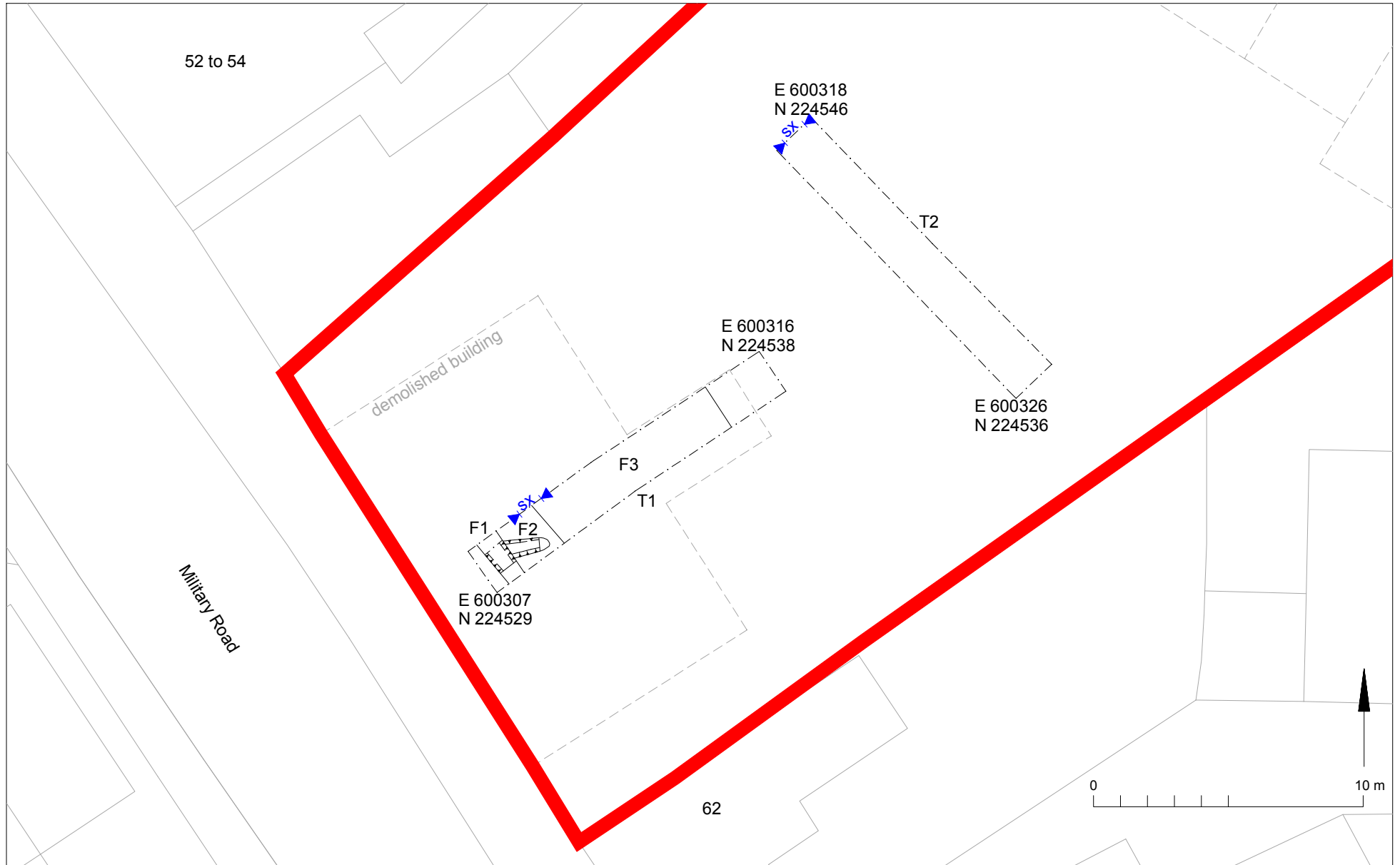


Fig 2 Results

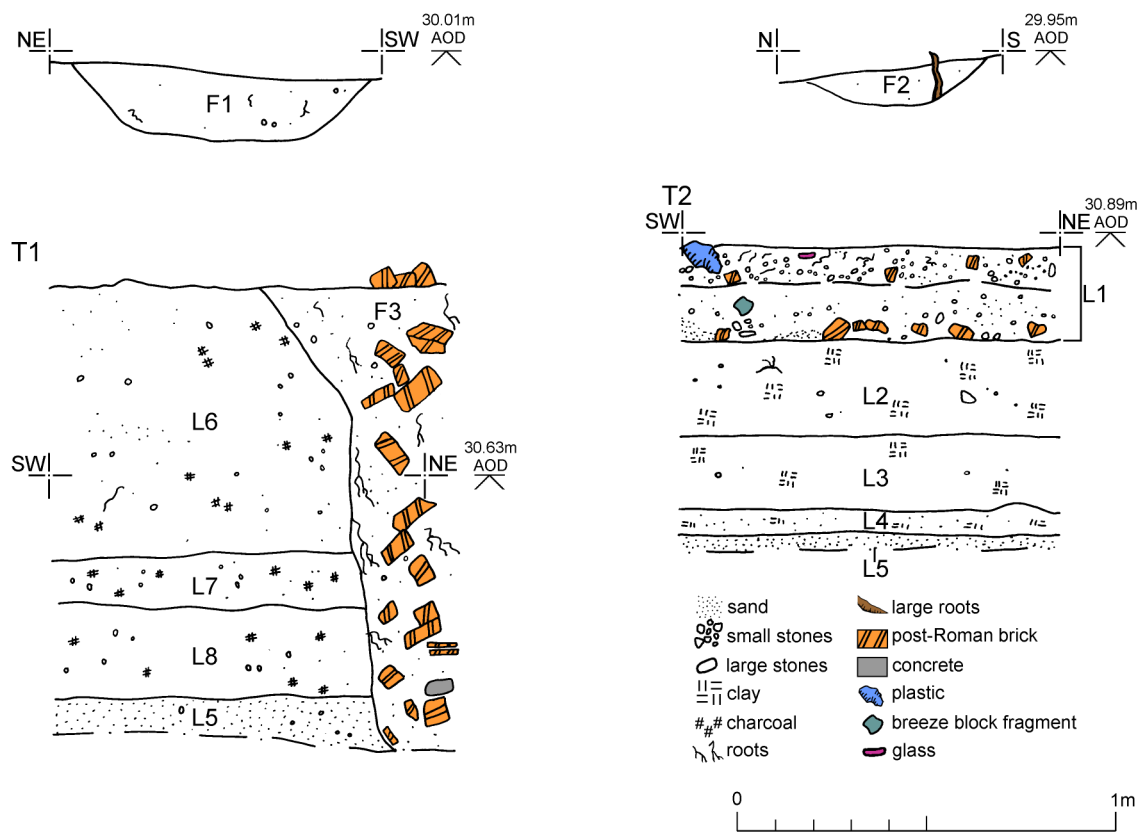


Fig 3 Feature and representative sections.

Essex Historic Environment Record/ Essex Archaeology and History

Summary sheet

Address: land adjacent to 62 Military Road, Colchester, Essex, CO1 2AN	
Parish: Colchester	District: Colchester
NGR: TM 0032 2454 (centre)	Site code: CAT project ref.: 18/03i CHER ref: ECC4164 OASIS ref: colchest3-312391
Type of work: Evaluation	Site director/group: Colchester Archaeological Trust
Date of work: 29th March 2018	Size of area investigated: 0.09ha
Location of curating museum: Colchester museum accession code COLEM: 2018.24	Funding source: Developer
Further seasons anticipated? Not known	Related CHER/SMR number:
Final report: CAT Report 1254	
Periods represented: Medieval, modern	
Summary of fieldwork results: An archaeological evaluation by trial-trenching (two trenches) was undertaken on land adjacent to 62 Military Road, Colchester, Essex as part of a pre-planning application assessment. Located close to an area where prehistoric, Roman and Anglo-Saxon remains have recently been identified, evaluation revealed a medieval pit or ditch (of c 14th- to 15th/early 16th-century date), a modern ditch and the remains of a demolished cellar.	
Previous summaries/reports:	
CBC monitor: Jess Tipper	
Keywords:	Significance: *
Author of summary: Laura Pooley	Date of summary: April 2018

**Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI)
for an archaeological evaluation by trial-
trenching on land adjacent to 62 Military Road,
Colchester, Essex, CO1 2AN.**

NGR: TM 0032 2454

Planning references: pre-application

Commisioned by: Samuel Aligbe (Colchester Borough Council)

Client: Colchester Amphora Homes

Curating museum: Colchester

Museum accession code: tbc

CHER number: tbc

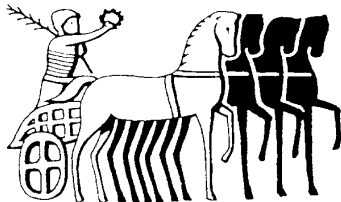
CAT project code: 18/03i

OASIS project number: colchest3-312391

Site manager: Chris Lister

CBC monitor: Jess Tipper

This WSI written: 21.03.2018



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Site location and description

The proposed development site is located approximately 1.13km southeast of the main centre of Colchester at land adjacent to 62 Military Road, Colchester, Essex, CO1 2AN (Fig 1). The site is centred on NGR TM 0032 2454.

Proposed work

The development involves a residential development with associated groundworks.

Archaeological background

The following archaeological background draws on the Colchester Archaeological Trust report archive, the Colchester Historic Environment Record (CHER) accessed via the Colchester Heritage Explorer (www.colchesterheritage.co.uk), and the Essex Historic Environment Record (EHER) accessed by Heritage Gateway.

The proposed site lies very close (approximately 100m) from the c 13.39ha former Meeanee & Hyderabad site within the general Colchester Garrison development (GAL Area A1), formerly under the ownership of MoD/RMPA and passed on to Taylor Wimpey for residential redevelopment. CAT undertook archaeological mitigation works during the demolition phase (removal of the modern garrison buildings by Wooldridge, evaluation trenching and area excavations (CAT Report 206 and CAT Report 628). The site revealed significant archaeological discoveries some of which are summarised below:

Prehistoric

Evaluation and excavation work in the area revealed some pits dating to the Neolithic and Bronze Age. Features have mostly been identified as tree-removal pits, evidence of woodland clearance (swidden or 'slash and burn') for early farming. Within Area E a tree stump clearance pit was found to contain sixty-one sherds of Early Neolithic Mildenhall style pottery alongside nine Neolithic flints (CHER MCC10082).

Area A1 falls within the area of the pre-Roman *oppidum* of *Camulodunum*. The only above-ground traces of this *oppidum* are the linear banks and ditches of the defensive dyke system that surrounded it. The Garrison area occupies the eastern edge of the *oppidum*, with the north-south aligned eastern defensive dyke (the Berechurch Dyke) intersecting its extreme south-eastern edge (east edge of the former Roman Barracks). Excavation in site J included the discovery of a previously unknown extension of the late Iron Age/early Roman Berechurch Dyke. There have been several studies of and excavations on the dykes, which are described fully in the two principal reference works: *Camulodunum*, by CFC Hawkes and MR Hull (1947), and *Camulodunum 2, Colchester Archaeological Report 11 (CAR 11)*, by CFC Hawkes and Philip Crummy (1995).

As presently understood, the *oppidum* had two main centres of activity: at modern Gosbecks Farm (2km south-west of the Garrison), which was a Late Iron Age (LIA) and Roman rural farmstead (and possibly the home of Cunobelin); and Sheepen (2km north-west of the Garrison), which was the industrial and trading centre. Apart from these two large centres (above), it is likely that there were a number of smaller domestic and farming sites in the *oppidum*.

Roman

The line of Mersea Road on the western side of GAL A1 almost certainly follows the course of a Roman road leading to the south-east gate of the Roman town (via St Botolph's Street). Roman cemeteries are found adjacent to the Roman road grid south of Colchester and this stretch conforms to this pattern. Roman burials were found in site A, G, H and K. Almost all of the excavation areas within A1 revealed Roman features. Largely these comprised of features that probably represent the trackways, paddocks and field boundaries of a rural settlement of that period. There was a substantial ditch in site D (CHER MCC10081), stock enclosures in

site D, ditches in site G, I and K. A large quarry pit in site B (CHER MCC10075) would have been created for the extraction of sands and gravels often used for the construction of Roman roads.

Anglo-Saxon

An Early Anglo-Saxon cemetery is suggested by fragmentary remains and grave goods was found in 1926 just east of Mersea Road and just north of the north-western corner of Area A1 (CHER MCC2642). Excavation of site A in 2011 revealed a cemetery of fourteen cremations and seventy inhumations, which, although first used in the mid Roman period evidence showed it was either continued, or reused in the late 6th or early 7th century. Eight inhumations were within ring-ditches, and five contained grave-goods including Anglo-Saxon shield bosses, spear-heads, knives and beads.

Medieval

The remains of St John's Abbey in GAL Area B (immediately north-west of Area A1) is the dominant medieval monument in the northern part of Colchester Garrison. The Abbey was built by the Benedictine Order by 1115 but burnt down in 1133. It was rebuilt in the early 13th century. Medieval burials associated with the Abbey have been recorded several times in this area. The church was added to and altered in the 14th and 15th centuries. The building is Grade 1 Listed and is also scheduled. The Abbey was dissolved in 1538 and started to fall down or be demolished at this time (CAT Report 97, CAR 9, 203-221, CAR 1, 28-30). There are currently no indications of medieval sites or finds within Area A1 and the likelihood is that area was within open farmland at this time.

Post-medieval

There was little evidence from the 2002 trial trenches (CAT Report 206) relating to the early post-medieval period. The excavated sites were generally in the area of Colchester's southern Civil War defences but otherwise were rural in character. The siege of Colchester and the Royalist rebel army of Essex holed within, by the Parliamentarian 'New Model Army' under Fairfax, lasted 75 days over the wet summer of 1648 was one of the largest siege operations ever conducted on English soil. It included the construction of at least one trench circuit with integral forts (including Fort Needham) and fortlets completely encircling the town.

The earliest barracks covering Area A1 were constructed in their original form in 1855 as a temporary camp. The camp grew quickly and had doubled in size during the 1860s. CAT Report 97 (the desk-based assessment) states that:

'The field on which this barracks is located was bought by the Army in 1806 as an Ordnance Field...In 1855 six blocks of huts including a camp hospital were built here. These were built as temporary infantry barracks for 5,000 men and were built on the Aldershot model...The current Meeanee Barracks and Hyderabad Barracks were built from 1896 to 1904 to replace the huts. They were modernised between 1958 and 1961.'

The CHER shows that along Military Road there were a series of post-medieval windmills (CHER MCC2277, MCC2278, MCC8993, MCC9002), the nearest located approximately under 65 Military Road (CHER MCC2278) but was demolished before 1875.

Planning background

The current archaeological investigation forms part of the pre-application assessment of the development site.

As the site lies within an area highlighted by the 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 archaeological evaluation by trial-trenching. Details are given in a Project Brief written by CBCAA (CBC 2018).

Trial trenches are to be excavated to cover a 5% sample of the development site, which equates to 47m² of trenching. Specifically, this will comprise of the excavation of two trial-trenches (T1-2) 13m long by 1.8m wide, located to sample the site but avoid known utilities. The purpose of the trenches is to assess the archaeological potential of the site and to determine if further archaeological investigation is required. Decisions on the need for any further archaeological investigation before any groundworks commence and/or monitoring during groundworks will be made by the CBCAA on the basis of the results of the evaluation.

The trial-trenching is required to:

- Identify the date, approximate form and purpose of any archaeological deposit, together with its likely extent, localised depth and quality of preservation. The WSI should provide for a contingency in the event of the need for absolute dating.
- Evaluate the likely impact of past land uses, and the possible presence of masking colluvial/alluvial deposits.
- Establish the potential for the survival of environmental evidence
- **Provide sufficient information to construct an archaeological conservation strategy, dealing with preservation, the recording of archaeological deposits, working practices, timetables and orders of cost.**

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 supervisor plus two archaeologists for one day.

In charge of day-to-day site work: Nigel Rayner/Ben Holloway

Evaluation methodology

Where appropriate, modern overburden and any topsoil stripping/levelling will be performed using a mechanical excavator equipped with a toothless ditching bucket under the supervision and to the satisfaction of a professional archaeologist. If no archaeologically significant deposits are exposed, machine excavation will continue until natural subsoil is reached.

Where necessary, areas will be cleaned by hand to ensure the visibility of archaeological deposits.

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

All features or deposits will be excavated by hand. This includes a 50% sample of discrete features (pits, etc), 10% of linear features (ditches, etc) in 1m wide sections, and 100% of complex structures/features. Complex archaeological structures such as walls, kilns, ovens or burials will be carefully cleaned, planned and fully recorded, but where possible left *in situ*. Only if it can be demonstrated that the complex structure/feature is likely to be destroyed by groundworks will it be removed, or on the rare occasion where full excavation (or exhumation in the case of burials) is necessary to achieve the objectives of the evaluation.

Fast hand-excavation techniques involving (for instance) picks, forks and mattocks will not be used on complex stratigraphy.

A sondage will be excavated in each trench to test the stratigraphy of the site. This will occur in every trench unless it can be demonstrated that a feature excavated within a particular trench has clearly penetrated into natural.

A representative section will be drawn of each trench, to include ground level, the depth of machining within the trench and the depth of any sondages.

A metal detector will be used to examine trenches, contexts and 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.

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

The number and range of samples collected will be adequate to determine the potential of the site, with particular focus on palaeoenvironmental remains including both biological remains (e.g. plants, small vertebrates) and small sized artefacts (e.g. smithing debris), and to provide information for sampling strategies on any future excavation. Samples will be collected for potential micromorphical and other pedological sedimentological analysis. Environmental bulk samples will be 40 litres in size (assuming the context is large enough).

Sampling strategies will address questions of:

- the range of preservation types (charred, mineral-replaced, waterlogged), and their quality
- concentrations of macro-remains
- and differences in remains from undated and dated features

- variation between different feature types and areas of site

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. Trained CAT staff will do any processing and the flots passed to Val Fryer / Lisa Gray for analysis and reporting.

Should any complex, or otherwise outstanding deposits be encountered, VF/LG will be asked onto site to advise. Waterlogged 'organic' features will always be sampled. In all cases, the advice of VF/LG and/or the Historic England Regional Advisor in Archaeological Science (East of England) on sampling strategies for complex or waterlogged deposits will be followed, including the taking of monolith samples.

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 / Alec Wade

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 / Ian Betts (MOLA)

Roman glass: Hilary Cool

Prehistoric pottery: Paul Sealey

Other: EH Regional Advisor 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 the groundworks in relation to the proposed development. At least two corners of the site 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

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

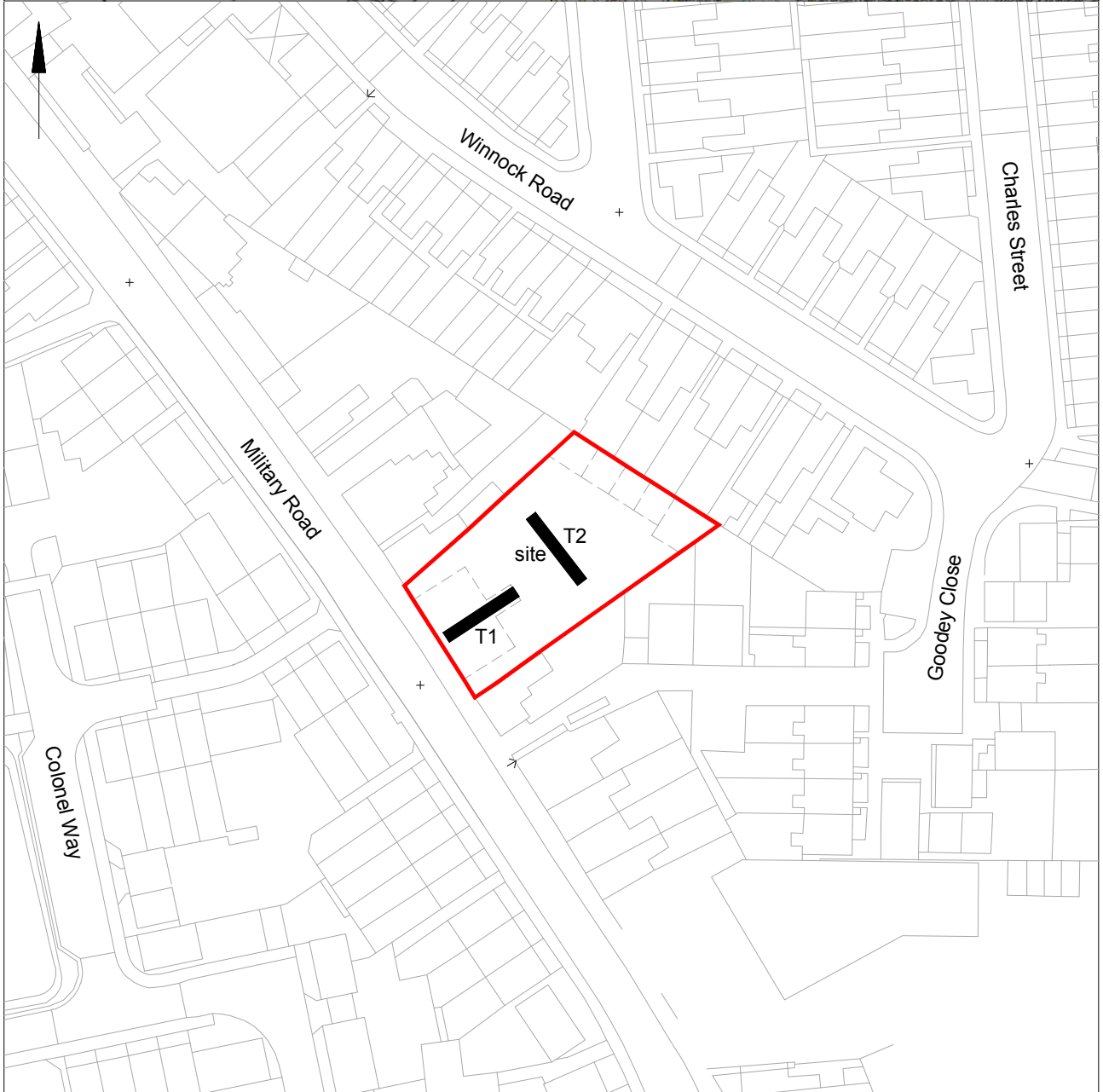
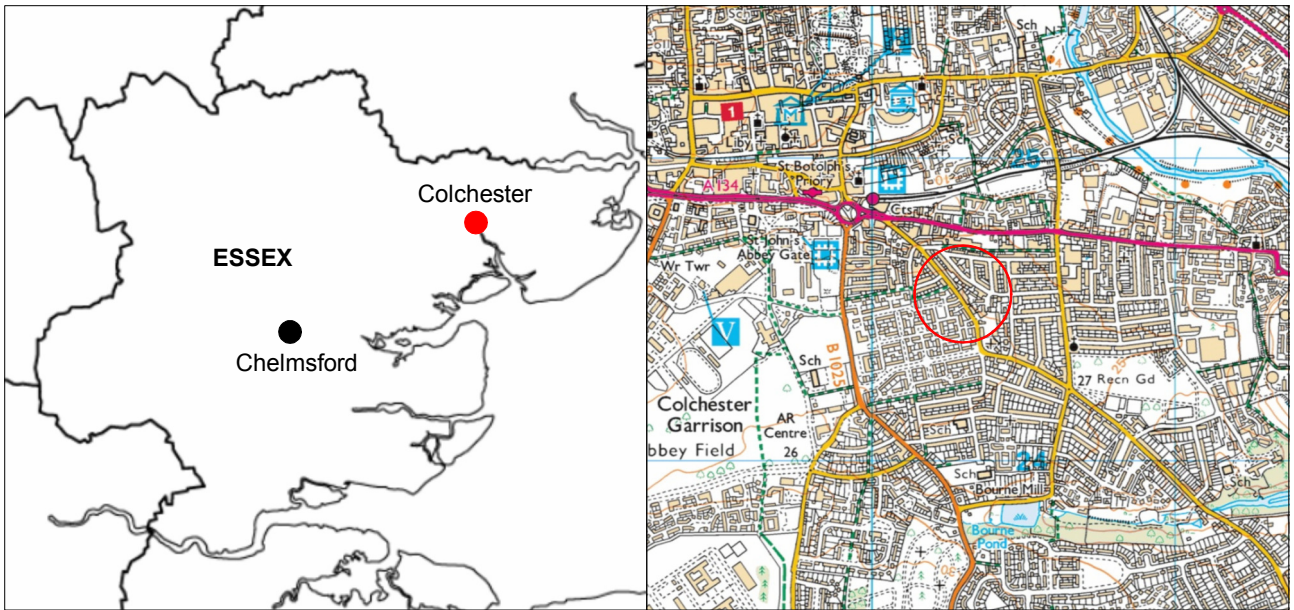
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|---------------------------|-------|---|
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| CAR 1 | 1981 | <i>Aspects of Anglo-Saxon and Norman Colchester</i> , Colchester Archaeological Report 1 (Colchester, 1981), by P Crummy |
| CAR 9 | 1993 | <i>Excavations of Roman and later cemeteries, churches and monastic sites in Colchester, 1971-88</i> , Colchester Archaeological Report 9, by N Crummy, P Crummy & C Crossan |
| CAR 11 | 1995 | <i>Colchester Archaeological Report 11: Camulodunum 2</i> , by CFC Hawkes & P Crummy |
| CAT | 2014 | <i>Health & Safety Policy</i> |
| CAT Report 97 | 2000 | An archaeological desk-based assessment of the Colchester Garrison PFI site, CAT archive report, by K Orr |
| CAT Report 206 | 2002 | <i>An archaeological evaluation by trial-trenching on Areas A, B, D, GJ, H, J, N, V and YP at Colchester Garrison PFI site, Colchester, Essex, June-July 2002</i> , report by Howard Brooks. |
| CAT Report 628 | 2016 | <i>A Late Iron Age dyke, Roman and Anglo Saxon burials, a Roman coin hoard, and a Civil War fort: Stage 1b evaluation and Stage 2 archaeological excavation at Colchester Garrison Alienated Land Area A1 (former Meeanee & Hyderabad Barracks) Colchester, Essex. October 2010- September 2011</i> by H Brooks |
| CBCPS | 2018 | <i>Brief for Trenched Archaeological Evaluation at Land adjacent to 62 Military Road, Colchester</i> , by J Tipper |
| Cifa | 2014a | <i>Standard and Guidance for an archaeological watching brief</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> |
| English Heritage | 2006 | <i>Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment (MoRPHE)</i> |
| Gurney, D | 2003 | <i>Standards for field archaeology in the East of England</i> . East Anglian Archaeology Occasional Papers 14 (EAA 14). |
| Hawkes, CFC, and Hull, MR | 1958 | <i>Camulodunum</i> , Report of the Research Committee of the Society of Antiquaries of London, Volume 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) |

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Fig 1 Site location.

0 50 m

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OASIS ID: colchest3-312391

Project details

Project name	Archaeological evaluation on land adjacent to 62 Military Road, Colchester, Essex, CO1 2AN
Short description of the project	An archaeological evaluation by trial-trenching (two trenches) was undertaken on land adjacent to 62 Military Road, Colchester, Essex as part of a pre-planning application assessment. Located close to an area where prehistoric, Roman and Anglo-Saxon remains have recently been identified, evaluation revealed a medieval pit or ditch (of c 14th- to 15th/early 16th-century date), a modern ditch and the remains of a demolished cellar.
Project dates	Start: 29-03-2018 End: 29-03-2018
Previous/future work	No / Not known
Any associated project reference codes	18/03i - Contracting Unit No.
Any associated project reference codes	ECC4164 - HER event no.
Any associated project reference codes	COLEM: 2018.24 - Museum accession ID
Type of project	Field evaluation
Site status	None
Current Land use	Vacant Land 1 - Vacant land previously developed
Monument type	DITCH OR PIT Medieval
Monument type	CELLAR Post Medieval
Monument type	DITCH Modern
Significant Finds	POTTERY Medieval
Significant Finds	BRICK Post Medieval
Significant Finds	POTTERY Modern
Methods & techniques	"Sample Trenches"
Development type	Urban residential (e.g. flats, houses, etc.)
Prompt	Planning condition
Position in the planning process	Pre-application

Project location

Country	England
Site location	ESSEX COLCHESTER COLCHESTER Land adjacent to 62 Military Road
Postcode	CO1 2AN
Study area	0.09 Hectares
Site coordinates	TM 0032 2454 51.882850713576 0.910960151371 51 52 58 N 000 54 39 E Point
Height OD / Depth	Min: 29.35m Max: 29.95m

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	Nigel Rayner
Type of sponsor/funding body	Developer

Project archives

Physical Archive Exists?	No
Digital Archive	Colchester Museum

recipient
Digital Archive ID COLEM: 2018.24
Digital Contents "Stratigraphic","Survey","other"
Digital Media available "Images raster / digital photography","Text"
Paper Archive recipient Colchester Museum
Paper Archive ID COLEM: 2018.24
Paper Contents "Stratigraphic","other"
Paper Media available "Context sheet","Miscellaneous Material","Photograph","Plan","Report","Section"

**Project
bibliography 1**

Publication type Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)
Title Archaeological evaluation on land adjacent to 62 Military Road, Colchester, Essex, CO1 2AN: March 2018
Author(s)/Editor(s) Pooley, L.
Other bibliographic details CAT Report 1254
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 11 April 2018

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