

# Archaeological evaluation at Hawkins Road, Colchester, Essex, CO2 8JX

June 2018



**by Dr Elliott Hicks**

figures by Ben Holloway and Sarah Carter

fieldwork by Ben Holloway with Adam Tuffey and Robin Mathieson

**commissioned by Sukhdev Ghotra,  
Rootstar Constructions Limited**

NGR: TM 0157 2453 (centre)

Planning ref.: 152493

CAT project ref.: 18/05e

ECC code: ECC4218

Colchester Museum accession code COLEM: 2018.55

OASIS ref.: colchest3-317243



**Colchester Archaeological Trust**

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

tel.: 01206 501785

email: [lp@catuk.org](mailto:lp@catuk.org)

**CAT Report 1282**  
June 2018

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CAT wsi

OASIS summary sheet

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Fig 1 Site location and trench layout in relation to proposed development (dashed blue lines) and extant buildings (blocked grey).

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## 1 Summary

*An archaeological evaluation (three trial-trenches) was carried out on a site at Hawkins Road, Colchester, Essex in advance of the construction of apartments and offices with associated works. The site is located within the Hythe, an area of port activity since at least the 13th century. The evaluation revealed a late 17th- or early 18th-century wall foundation, probably from a cellar, which was backfilled in the mid-20th century. Located in a historic area of waterfront activity, this likely represents the remains of a wharf or warehouse constructed during this period which was demolished during subsequent development in the area.*

## 2 Introduction (Fig 1)

This is the archive report for an archaeological evaluation at Hawkins Road, Colchester, Essex which was carried out on 4th June 2018. The work was commissioned by Sukhdev Ghotra of Rootstar Constructions Limited in advance of the construction of 37 apartments and 2 office units with associated parking, access, landscaping and groundworks and was carried out by Colchester Archaeological Trust (CAT).

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). 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*, detailing the required archaeological work, written by Jess Tipper (CBCAA 2018), 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* (CIfA 2014a) and *Standard and guidance for the collection, documentation, conservation and research of archaeological materials* (CIfA 2014b).

## 3 Archaeological background

The following archaeological background draws on the Colchester Archaeological Trust report archive and the Colchester Historic Environment Record (CHER) accessed via the Colchester Heritage Explorer ([www.colchesterheritage.co.uk](http://www.colchesterheritage.co.uk)).

The Hythe has been the port for Colchester probably since the Norman period. The name derives from an Old English word for landing place, and the area was originally known as 'New Hythe'. The earlier landing place, with New Hythe superseded was at Old Heath (*Ealdehythe* – the old landing place), located closer to the mouth of the River Colne. The earliest reference to Old Heath, implying the existence of the New Hythe, is in 1272. The nearby Hythe parish church of St Leonard's (MCC24, MCC3402 and MCC9031) is referenced in 1237, and the earliest reference to the Hythe itself appears to date from 1276 (CAR 1, 47). There are numerous references to private quays, wharfs and warehouses from the 14th century onwards, and by 1823 the quays at the Hythe extended along both sides of the river (CAT Report 232, 21). There are numerous records for current or demolished historic houses and shops within close proximity of the development site, including the 15th to 16th century former Perseverance Inn (MCC27), the late 17th century house at 106 Hythe Hill (MCC3404) to the 18th century brick house at 100 Hythe Hill (MCC3400).

There is also the possibility of a Roman quay or bridge in this area, as a Roman road can be traced to within half a mile of the Hythe, from the direction of Mistley. The projected line of this road suggests a crossing point on the river close to the bottom of Hythe Hill.

To the north and south of the development site, on both sides of the river, are warehouses dating from the late 19th century (MCC101000), as well as several, since-demolished, lime kilns (including MCC5169 and MCC5197). The northern building on the site is present on the 1st edition OS map (Map 1). This 1st edition map labels the site as a timber yard and shows it opposite a tar distillery. This suggests there is significant potential for uncovering archaeology of a post-medieval date, possibly associated with the aforementioned industries.



**Map 1** 1st edition 1874 6-inch OS map. Site location with still standing building shown.

The development site itself contains the find spot of a bronze socketed and looped axe (MCC31), indicating the potential for prehistoric archaeology on the site.

Most of the archaeological investigations within the Hythe have been small sites away from the present river frontage, including 79 Hythe Hill (Brooks 2000), 64-76 Hythe Hill evaluation (ECC2627 and MCC2663-6, Shimmin 2004) and subsequent excavation (ECC2590, Benfield 2004) and 9-11 Hythe Quay evaluation (MCC5310, MCC5311 and MCC5312, CAT Report 100). However, no trace of the medieval quay or any Roman structures has been located at the Hythe.

In 2006, CAT monitored four test-pits at 28 Hythe Quay (CAT Report 388), next to the retaining quay wall. They were mostly dug through 18th- to 19th-century brick rubble with some post-medieval pottery. There was no evidence of Roman or medieval activity but a large timber located at the base of one of the concrete structures is thought to have possibly have been part of an earlier quay.

In 2018, CAT conducted an evaluation on the west side of the river, at Bridge House, Hythe Quay (CAT Report 1264). Four trenches were excavated, two of which contained medieval pits and linears, as well as the remains of a medieval (late 12th to 14th century) wall foundation of medium to large compacted stones. Looser patches of compacted medium stones and chalk were uncovered that might represent a second,

later, wall foundation (15th to 17th century) but could also have been the remains of either a plinth or surface.

#### 4 Aim

Archaeological evaluation was undertaken at Hawkins Road to determine if significant archaeological remains had survived on the development site, particularly relating to prehistoric activity, the nearby Roman road, and the medieval and industrial heritage of Hythe Quay.

#### 5 Results (Figs 2-3)

It was originally proposed that two trial-trenches would be excavated. However, once on site and in consultation with the CBC archaeological advisor, it was decided that two test-pits would replace one of the evaluation trenches in order to give a better picture of the stratigraphic sequence of the site.

##### **Test-pit 1 (T1): 4m long by 4m wide**

T1 was excavated through modern tarmac (L1, c 0.18-0.23m thick), made-ground (L5, 0.26-0.3m thick), mortar (L6, c 0.06-0.08m thick) and contaminated substrate (L2, c 0.38-0.48m thick). Sealed beneath was natural clay (L3, encountered at a depth of c 1m below current ground level (bcgl)). Small quantities of ceramic building material were recorded pushed into the top of L3, but a sondage excavated to a depth of 2.3m bcgl showed that L3 was natural clay. Excavations ceased at c 2.3m bcgl due to flooding in the bottom of the trench and safe-working requirements.

There were no significant archaeological remains.



**Photograph 1** Trench 1, looking northeast

##### **Trench 2 (T2): 30m long by 1.8m wide**

T2 was excavated through L1 (modern concrete, c 0.27-0.36m thick), L5 (c 0.22-0.25m thick) and L2 (c 0.6-0.68m thick) into L3 (encountered at a depth of c 1.2m bcgl). A small sondage was excavated through L3 to check that it was natural, but stopped after 0.3m (c 1.5m bcgl) due to safe-working depths.

There were no significant archaeological remains.

**Test-pit 3 (T3): 4m long by 4m wide**

T3 was excavated through L1 (concrete). Directly underneath L1 was the corner of a red brick wall foundation (F1). The interior face of the foundation had been rendered suggesting that this was a cellar. The backfill from the interior of the cellar (L4) contained material dating to the mid-20th century (finds from the backfill were not retained for post-excavation analysis). No associated floor layers were observed.



**Photograph 2** Trench 2, looking west



**Photograph 3** Trench 3, wall foundation F1, looking west

## 6 Finds

by Stephen Benfield

Two bricks were taken as dating samples from F1. The bricks are nearly identical. They are red, unfrogged bricks, both 225mm x 115mm x 52mm in size. They show some irregularity in shape overall but are fairly regular with fairly sharp edges. Surfaces are mostly obscured by white and grey lime-based mortar adhering to them but appear fairly smooth. The overall form and size indicate a probable late 17th- to early 18th-century date, as bricks in Essex dated to after this time are typically greater than 60mm thickness (Ryan 1996, Appendix 1).

## 7 Conclusion

Archaeological evaluation at Hawkins Road uncovered a late 17th- or early 18th-century wall foundation probably from a cellar which was backfilled in the mid-20th century. Located in a historic area of waterfront activity, this likely represents the remains of a wharf or warehouse constructed during this period which was demolished during subsequent development in the area.

## 8 Acknowledgements

CAT thanks Sukhdev Ghotra, Rootstar Constructions Limited for commissioning and funding the work. The project was managed by C Lister, fieldwork was carried out by B Holloway with R Mathieson and A Tuffey. Figures are by B Holloway and S Carter. 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>

- |                  |       |  |
|------------------|-------|--|
| Benfield, S      | 2004  | An archaeological excavation at 64-76 Hythe Hill, Colchester, in 1999', <i>Journal of the Colchester Archaeological Trust</i> , <b>2</b> , 34-59 |
| Brooks, H        | 2000  | 'Excavations at 79 Hythe Hill, Colchester, Essex, 1994-95', <i>Essex Archaeology and History</i> , <b>31</b> , 112-24                            |
| Brown, D         | 2007  | <i>Archaeological Archives: A guide to best practice in creation, compilation, transfer and curation</i>   |
| CAR 1            | 1981  | <i>Colchester Archaeological Report 1: Aspects of Anglo-Saxon and Norman Colchester</i> by Philip Crummy, CBA, Research Report, <b>39</b>        |
| CAT              | 2017  | Health & Safety Policy   |
| CAT              | 2018  | <i>Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) for a trenched archaeological evaluation at Hawkins Road, Colchester, Essex, CO2 8JX</i>                |
| CAT Report 100   | 2000  | <i>An archaeological evaluation at 9-11 Hythe Quay, Colchester, Essex: October 2000</i>  |
| CAT Report 232   | 2003  | <i>A desk-based assessment of the archaeological remains in and around the site of the proposed Colne barrage, Colchester, Essex: June 2003</i>  |
| CAT Report 388   | 2006  | <i>Archaeological watching brief at 28 Hythe Quay, Colchester, Essex: August 2006</i>  |
| CAT Report 1264  | 2018  | <i>Archaeological evaluation at Bridge House, Hythe Quay, Colchester, Essex, CO2 8JB: April 2018</i>   |
| CBCAA            | 2018  | <i>Brief for Trenched Archaeological Evaluation at Hawkins Road, Colchester</i> by J Tipper  |
| ClfA             | 2014a | <i>Standard and Guidance for an archaeological evaluation</i>  |
| ClfA             | 2014b | <i>Standard and guidance for the collection, documentation, conservation and research of archaeological materials</i>                            |
| DCLG             | 2012  | <i>National Planning Policy Framework</i>  |
| Historic England | 2015  | <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</i>  |

Medlycott, M	2011	<i>Archaeology Occasional Papers 14 (EAA 14)</i> . Research and archaeology revisited: A revised framework for the East of England, <i>East Anglian Archaeology Occasional Papers 24 (EAA 24)</i>
Ryan, P.	1996	<i>Brick in Essex, from the Roman conquest to the Reformation</i>
Shimmin, D	2004	'An archaeological evaluation at 64-76 Hythe Hill, Colchester, in 1999', <i>Journal of the Colchester Archaeological Trust</i> , <b>2</b> , 58-61

## 10 Abbreviations and glossary

Anglo-Saxon	period from c 500 – 1066
CAT	Colchester Archaeological Trust
CBCAA	Colchester Borough Council Archaeological Advisor
CBM	ceramic building material, ie brick/tile
CHER	Colchester Historic Environment Record
ClfA	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'
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	<b>O</b> nline <b>A</b> ccess to the <b>I</b> ndex of <b>A</b> rchaeological <b>I</b> nvestigations, <a href="http://oasis.ac.uk/pages/wiki/Main">http://oasis.ac.uk/pages/wiki/Main</a>
post-medieval	period from c AD 1500 to c 1800
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
wsi	written scheme of investigation

## 11 Contents of archive

**Finds:** none retained

### **Paper and digital record**

One A4 document wallet containing:

The report (CAT Report 1282)

ECC evaluation brief, CAT written scheme of investigation

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

Site digital photos and log

## 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: 2018.55.

**Distribution list:**

Sukhdev Ghotra, Rootstar Constructions Limited  
Jess Tipper, Colchester Borough Council Planning Services  
Essex Historic Environment Record



**Colchester Archaeological Trust**

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

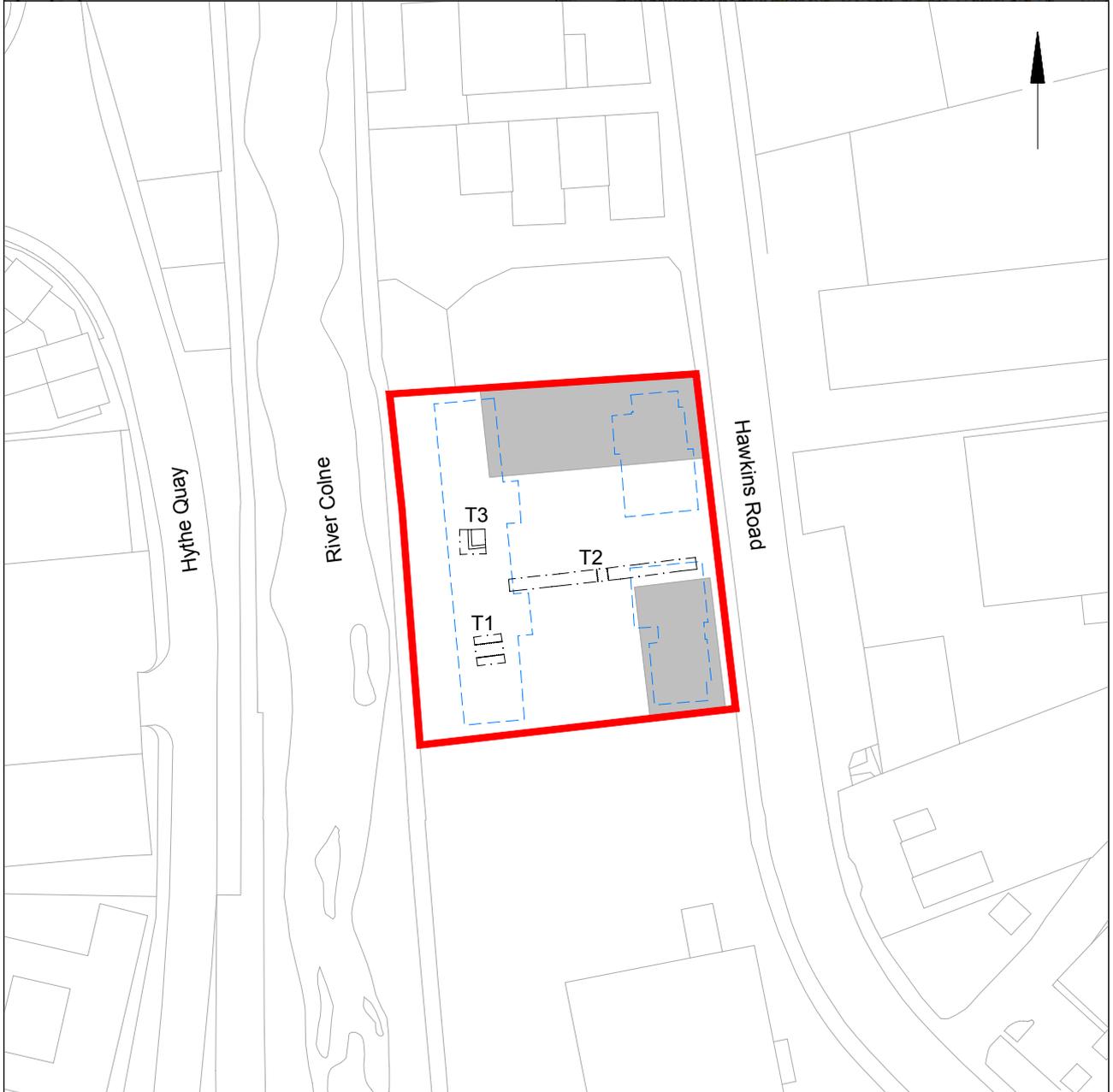
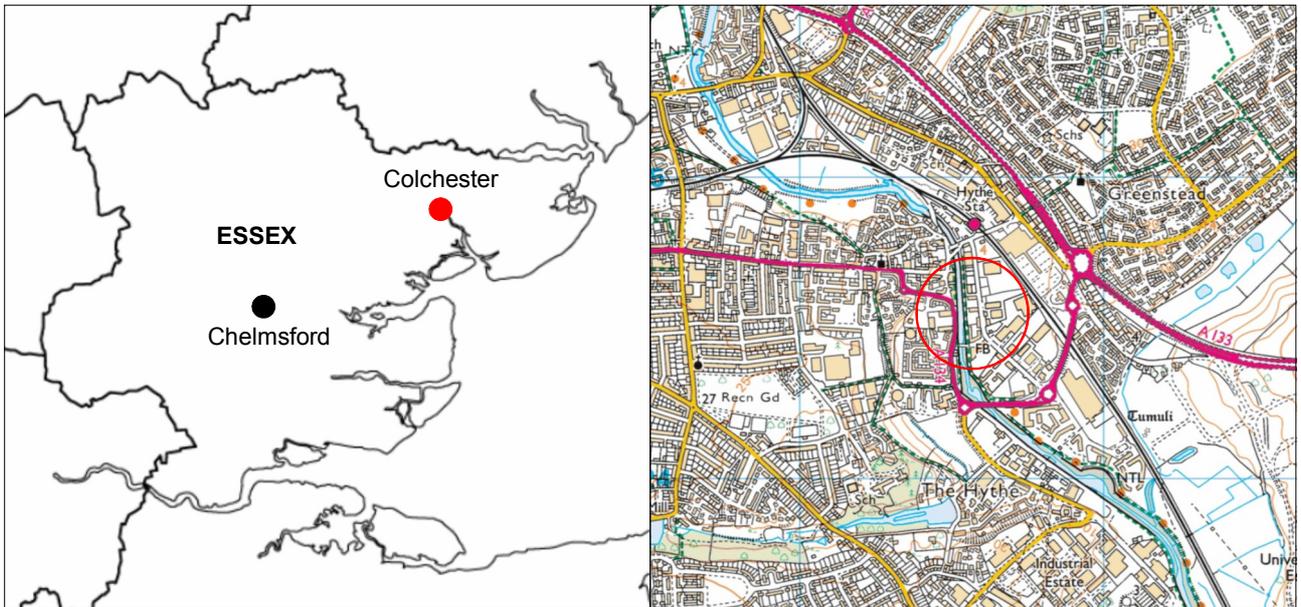
tel.: 01206 501785

email: [lp@catuk.org](mailto:lp@catuk.org)

Checked by: Philip Crummy  
Date: 27.6.2018

**Appendix 1 Context list**

<b>Context Number</b>	<b>Finds Number</b>	<b>Feature Type</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Date</b>
F1	1	Wall foundation	Composed of red unfrogged bricks with white/grey mortar	Post-medieval, late 17th to early 18th century
L1	-	Concrete surface	Concrete surface	Modern
L2	-	Contaminated substrate	Firm, moist dark grey/brown/black/blue silty-clay with common metal, CBM, wood and some plastic inclusions	Modern
L3	-	Natural	Firm, dark mottled grey/brown/green clay	Post-glacial
L4	-	Backfilled cellar	Firm medium grey/brown silty-clay	Modern, mid-20th century
L5	-	Made-ground	Medium grey/black silty-clay with tarmac, lime, stone and brick piece inclusions	Modern
L6	-	Mortar patch	Firm, moist mortar	Modern



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Fig 1 Site location and trench layout in relation to proposed development (dashed blue lines) and extant buildings (blocked grey).



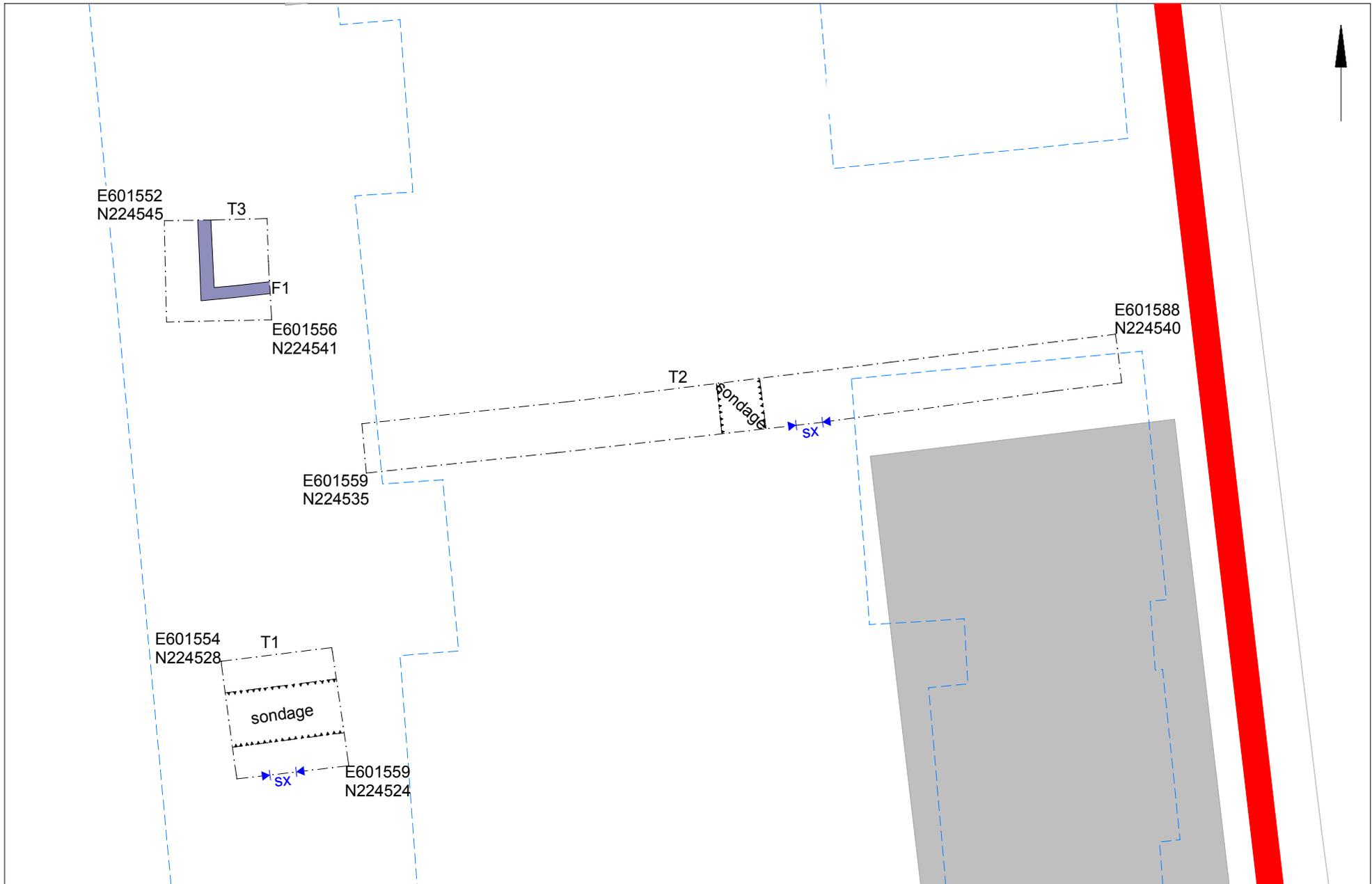


Fig 2 Results in relation to proposed development (dashed blue lines) and extant buildings (blocked grey).

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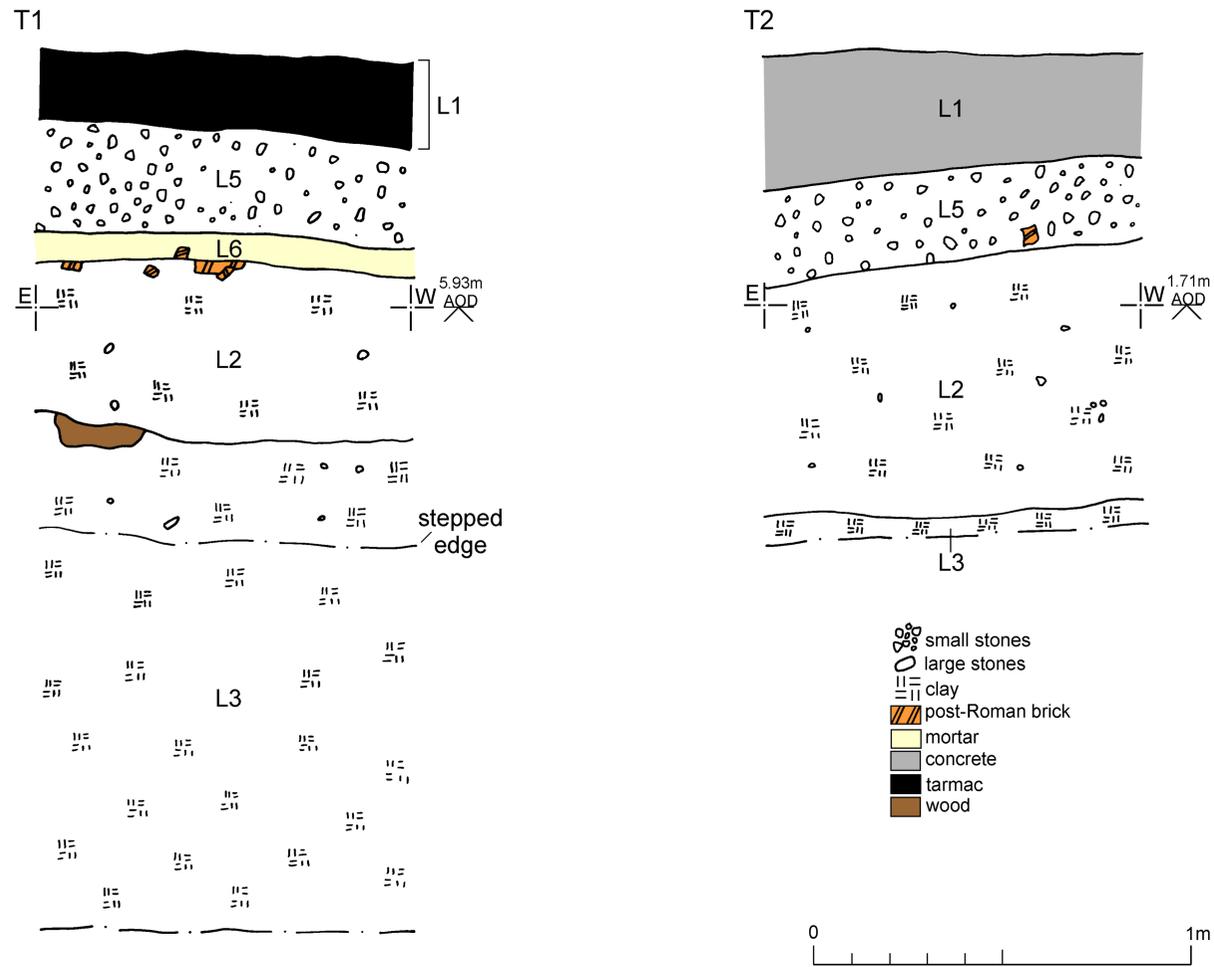


Fig 3 Representative sections

## Essex Historic Environment Record/ Essex Archaeology and History

### Summary sheet

<b>Address:</b> Hawkins Road, Colchester, Essex, CO2 8JX	
<b>Parish:</b> Colchester	<b>District:</b> Colchester
<b>NGR:</b> TM 0157 2453 (centre)	<b>Site code:</b> CAT project ref.: 18/05e CHER ref: ECC4218 OASIS ref: colchest3-317243
<b>Type of work:</b> Evaluation	<b>Site director/group:</b> Colchester Archaeological Trust
<b>Date of work:</b> 4th June 2018	<b>Size of area investigated:</b> 0.26ha
<b>Location of curating museum:</b> Colchester museum accession code COLEM: 2018.55	<b>Funding source:</b> Developer
<b>Further seasons anticipated?</b> Not known	<b>Related CHER/SMR number:</b> MCC24, 31, 2590, 2627, 2663, 2664, 2665, 2666, 3402, 5169, 5197, 5310, 5311, 5312, 9031, 101000
<b>Final report:</b> CAT Report 1282	
<b>Periods represented:</b> Post-medieval, modern	
<p><b>Summary of fieldwork results:</b> An archaeological evaluation (three trial-trenches) was carried out on a site at Hawkins Road, Colchester, Essex in advance of the construction of apartments and offices with associated works. The site is located within the Hythe, an area of port activity since at least the 13th century. The evaluation revealed a late 17th- or early 18th-century wall foundation, probably from a cellar, which was backfilled in the mid-20th century. Located in a historic area of waterfront activity, this likely represents the remains of a wharf or warehouse constructed during this period which was demolished during subsequent development in the area.</p>	
<b>Previous summaries/reports:</b> None	
<b>CBC monitor:</b> Jess Tipper	
<b>Keywords:</b> -	<b>Significance:</b> *
<b>Author of summary:</b> Dr Elliott Hicks	<b>Date of summary:</b> June 2018

**Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI)  
for a trenched archaeological evaluation at  
Hawkins Road, Colchester,  
Essex, CO2 8JX**

**NGR:** TM 0157 2453 (centre)

**Planning reference:** 152493

**Commissioned by:** Sukhdev Ghotra, Rootstar Constructions Limited

**Curating museum:** Colchester

**Museum accession code:** [tbc](#)

**CHER number:** [tbc](#)

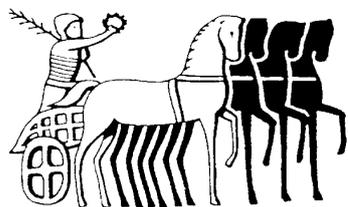
**CAT project code:** 18/05e

**OASIS project id:** colchest3-317243

**Site manager:** Chris Lister

**CBC monitor:** Jess Tipper

**This WSI written:** 16.05.2018



COLCHESTER ARCHAEOLOGICAL TRUST,  
Roman Circus House,  
Roman Circus Walk,  
Colchester,  
Essex, CO2 7GZ

*tel:* 01206 501785

*email:* [mb@catuk.org](mailto:mb@catuk.org)

## Site location and description

The proposed development site lies approximately 2km south-west of Colchester town centre on Hawkins Road, Colchester, CO2 8JX (Fig 1). The site is currently a disused industrial plot adjacent to the River Colne, containing two buildings. The site is centred on NGR TM 0157 2453.

## Proposed work

The development comprises the construction of 37 apartments, 2 office units and associated parking, access, landscaping and 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](http://www.colchesterheritage.co.uk)), and the Essex Historic Environment Record (EHER) accessed by Heritage Gateway. The background largely draws on CAT Report 388.

The Hythe area has been the port for Colchester probably since the Norman period. The name derives from an Old English word for landing place, and the area was originally known as 'New Hythe'. This appears to be a reference to an earlier landing place at Old Heath (*Ealdehythe* – the old landing place), located closer to the mouth of the River Colne, which New Hythe superseded. The earliest reference to Old Heath, implying the existence of the New Hythe, is in 1272. The nearby Hythe parish church of St Leonard's (MCC24, MCC3402 and MCC9031) is referenced in 1237, and the earliest reference to the Hythe itself appears to date from 1276 (CAR 1, 47). There are numerous references to private quays, wharfs and warehouses from the 14th century onwards, and by 1823 the quays at the Hythe extended along both sides of the river (CAT Report 232, 21).

To the north and south of the development site, on both sides of the river, are warehouses dating from the late 19th century (MCC101000), as well as several, since-demolished, lime kilns (including MC5169 and MCC5197). The northern building on the site is present on the 1st edition OS map (Map 1). This 1st edition map labels the site as a timber yard and shows it opposite a tar distillery. This suggests there is significant potential for uncovering archaeology of a post-medieval date, possibly associated with the aforementioned industries.



**Map 1** 1st edition 1874 6-inch OS map. Site location with still standing building shown.

There is also the possibility of a Roman quay or bridge in this area, as a Roman road can be traced to within half a mile of the Hythe, from the direction of Mistley. The projected line of this road suggests a crossing point on the river close to the bottom of Hythe Hill (some 150m to the north of the development site).

The development site itself contains the find spot of a bronze socketed and looped axe (MCC31), indicating the potential for prehistoric archaeology on the site.

So far most of the archaeological investigations within the Hythe area have been small sites and carried out on areas some way back from the present river frontage, including 79 Hythe Hill (Brooks 2000); 64-76 Hythe Hill evaluation (ECC2627 and MCC2663-6, Shimmin 2004) and subsequent excavation (ECC2590, Benfield 2004) and 9-11 Hythe Quay evaluation (MCC5310, MCC5311 and MCC5312, CAT Report 100).

In 2006 CAT watched four test pits being machine dug at 28 Hythe Quay (CAT Report 388), next to the retaining quay wall. They were mostly dug through 18th-19th century brick rubble with some post-medieval pottery. There was no evidence of Roman or medieval activity but a large timber located at the base of one of the concrete structures is thought to have possibly have been part of an earlier, post-medieval quay.

In 2018 CAT conducted an evaluation on the west side of the river, at Bridge House, Hythe Quay (CAT Report 1264). Four trenches were excavated, two of which contained medieval pits and linears, as well as the remains of a medieval (late 12th to 14th century) wall foundation of medium to large compacted stones. Looser patches of compacted medium stones and chalk were uncovered that might represent a second, later, wall foundation (15th to 17th century) but could also have been the remains of either a plinth or surface.

## **Planning background**

A planning application (152493) was made to Colchester Borough Council in November 2015 proposing the demolition of the existing buildings on the site and the construction of 37 apartments and 2 office units, with associated layout, access and parking works.

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 65m of trenching. Specifically, this will comprise of the excavation of two trial-trenches (T1 and T2). T1 will be 35m long and 1.8 wide, and aligned north-south on the west side of the site, within the footprint of the largest of the two proposed apartment blocks. T2 will be 30m long and 1.8m wide, and will be aligned east-west through the centre of the site, in the area most likely to be impacted by access works and drainage (Fig 1). 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.

Specifically, the trial-trenching is intended to:

- Identify the date, approximate form and purpose of any archaeological deposit, together with its likely extent, localised depth and quality of preservation.
- 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 2017).
- the Project Brief issued by the CBCAA (CBC 2018).

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 two days.

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

## **Evaluation methodology**

The concrete overlaying the trench locations will be removed by a mechanical excavator. Where appropriate, the removal of 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.

As the site is located directly adjacent to the River Colne there is a high possibility of potential palaeoenvironmental remains (waterlogged archaeological deposits). If this is the case trenches may need to be widened to allow safe access to deep deposits.

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 micromorphological 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 evaluation, 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 / Ian Betts

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* (Historic England 2015).

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

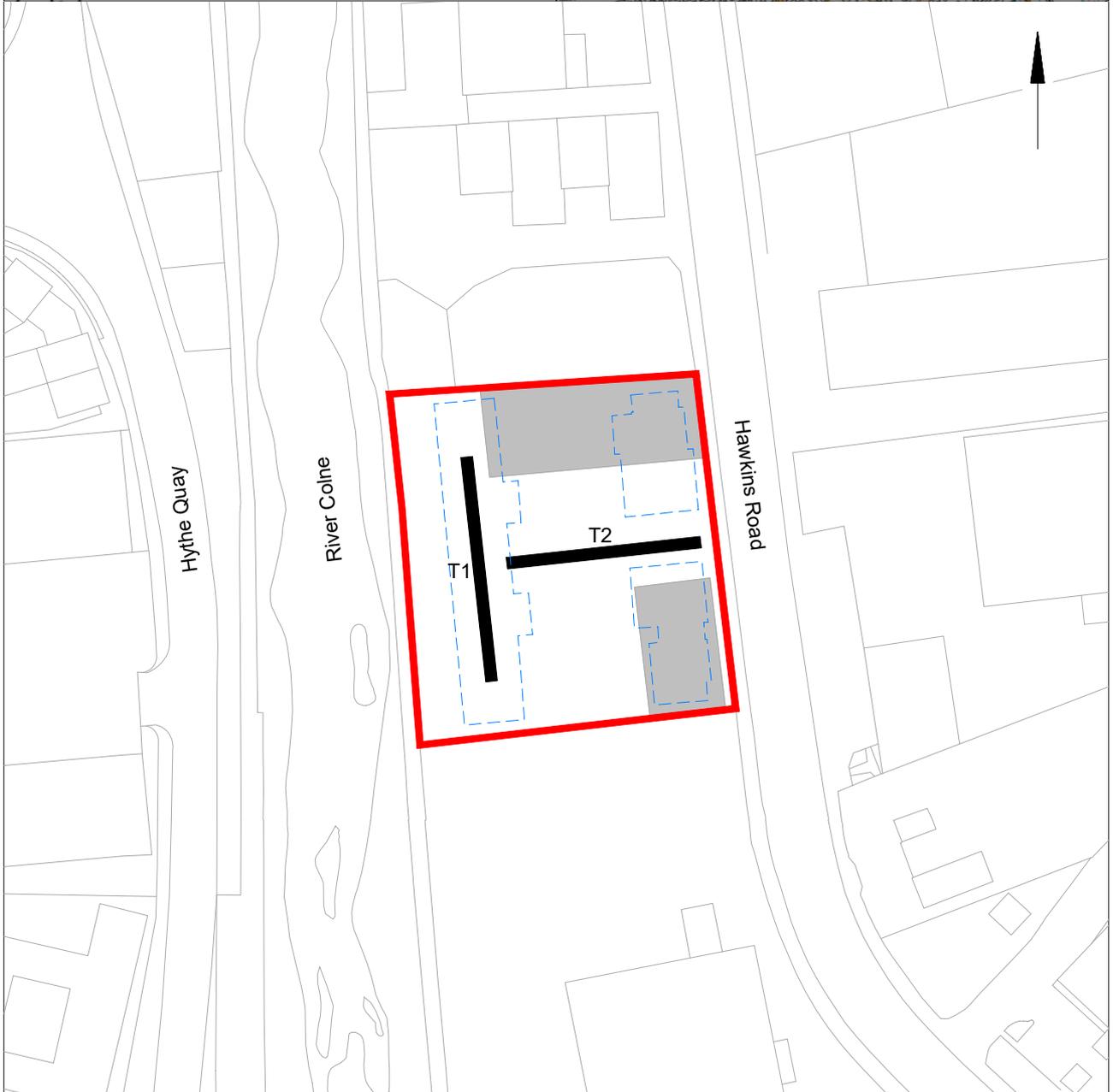
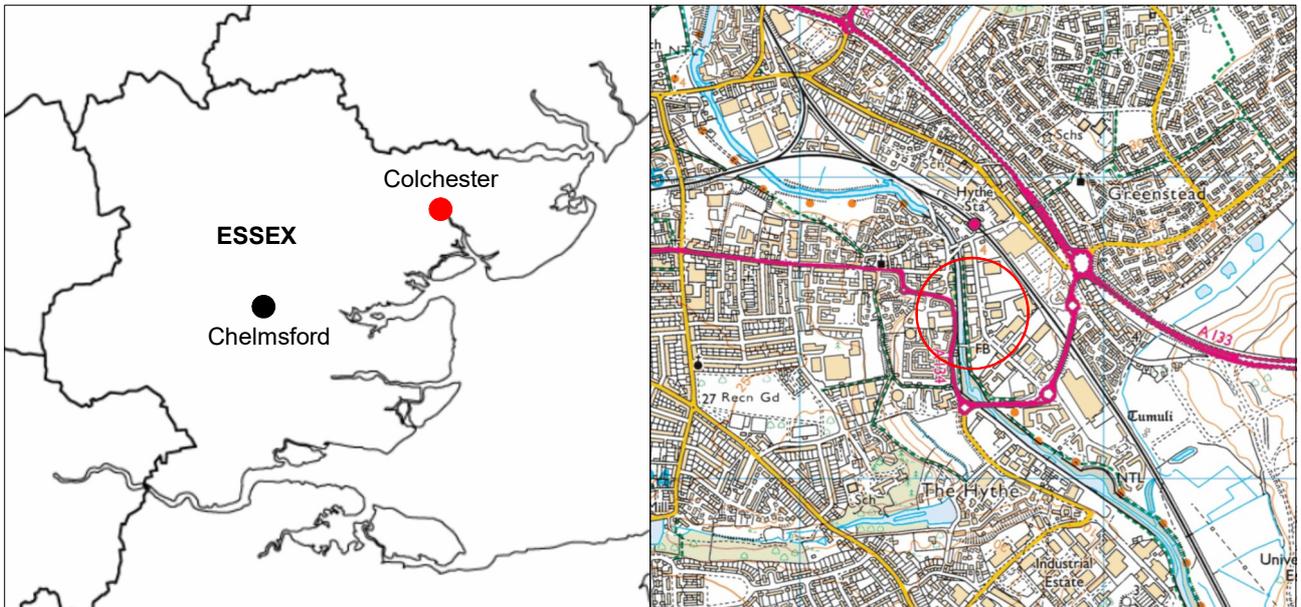
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M Baister



Colchester Archaeological Trust  
Roman Circus House  
Roman Circus Walk  
Colchester  
Essex  
CO2 2GZ

tel: 01206 501785  
email: [mb@catuk.org](mailto:mb@catuk.org)



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Fig 1 Site location with trench layout in relation to proposed development (dashed blue lines). Currently extant buildings highlighted in grey.



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**OASIS ID: colchest3-317243**

## Project details

Project name	Archaeological evaluation at Hawkins Road, Colchester, Essex, CO2 8JX
Short description of the project	An archaeological evaluation (three trial-trenches) was carried out on a site at Hawkins Road, Colchester, Essex in advance of the construction of apartments and offices with associated works. The site is located within the Hythe, an area of port activity since at least the 13th century. The evaluation revealed a late 17th- or early 18th-century wall foundation, probably from a cellar, which was backfilled in the mid-20th century. Located in a historic area of waterfront activity, this likely represents the remains of a wharf or warehouse constructed during this period which was demolished during subsequent development in the area.
Project dates	Start: 04-06-2018 End: 04-06-2018
Previous/future work	No / Not known
Any associated project reference codes	18/05e - Contracting Unit No.
Any associated project reference codes	152493 - Planning Application No.
Any associated project reference codes	ECC4218 - HER event no.
Any associated project reference codes	COLEM:2018.55 - Museum accession ID
Type of project	Field evaluation
Site status	None
Current Land use	Industry and Commerce 4 - Storage and warehousing
Monument type	WALL FOUNDATION Post Medieval
Significant Finds	BRICKS Post Medieval
Methods & techniques	""Sample Trenches""
Development type	Housing estate
Prompt	Planning condition
Position in the planning process	After full determination (eg. As a condition)

## Project location

Country	England
Site location	ESSEX COLCHESTER COLCHESTER Hawkins Road
Postcode	CO2 8JX
Study area	0.26 Hectares
Site coordinates	TM 0157 2453 51.882308255681 0.929093221933 51 52 56 N 000 55 44 E Point
Height OD / Depth	Min: 1.55m Max: 1.55m

## Project creators

Name of Organisation	Colchester Archaeological Trust
Project brief originator	CBC Archaeological Officer
Project design originator	Mark Baister
Project director/manager	Chris Lister
Project supervisor	Ben Holloway
Type of sponsor/funding body	Developer

## Project archives

Physical Archive Exists?	No
Digital Archive recipient	Colchester Museum

Digital Archive ID	COLEM: 2018.55
Digital Contents	"Stratigraphic","Survey","other"
Digital Media available	"Images raster / digital photography","Survey","Text"
Paper Archive recipient	Colchester Museum
Paper Archive ID	COLEM: 2018.55
Paper Contents	"Stratigraphic","Survey","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 at Hawkins Road, Colchester, Essex, CO2 8JX
Author(s)/Editor(s)	Hicks, E.
Other bibliographic details	CAT Report 1282
Date	2018
Issuer or publisher	Colchester Archaeological Trust
Place of issue or publication	Colchester
Description	A4 ring-bound loose leaf
URL	<a href="http://cat.essex.ac.uk/all-reports.html">http://cat.essex.ac.uk/all-reports.html</a>
Entered by	Laura Pooley (lp@catuk.org)
Entered on	27 June 2018

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