

# Archaeological evaluation at Wakes Hall, Colchester Road, Wakes Colne, Essex, CO6 2DB

January 2019



**by Dr Elliott Hicks and Chris Lister**

figures by Chris Lister, Ben Holloway and Emma Holloway

fieldwork by Ben Holloway with Sarah Carter, Adam Tuffey and Bronagh Quinn

**commissioned by Nicholas Percival  
on behalf of Emberworth Ltd**

NGR: TL 8857 2883 (centre)

Planning ref.: 172642

CHER project: ECC4287

CAT project ref.: 18/12a

Colchester Museum accession code COLEM: 2018.123

OASIS ref.: colchest3-335948



**Colchester Archaeological Trust**

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

tel.: 01206 501785

email: [eh2@catuk.org](mailto:eh2@catuk.org)

**CAT Report 1374**

June 2019

## Contents

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

Figures after p8

EHER summary sheet

CAT WSI

OASIS summary

## List of photographs and figures

Cover: site shot

Photograph 1	Trench T1, looking west	2
Photograph 2	Trench T2, looking south	2
Photograph 3	Detail of concrete foundation F1 in T1	3
Photograph 4	The former POW camp at Ashford Lodge, Halstead	5
Photograph 5	Google Earth imagery 2018	6

Map 1	1954 map of Wakes Hall	4
Map 2	1958 edition of the 1:10,560 Ordnance Survey	5

Fig 1	Site location and trench layout	
Fig 2	Evaluation results in relation to structures shown on the 1954 plan of the camp associated with ammunition dump	
Fig 3	Trench results	
Fig 4	Feature and representative sections	

## 1 Summary

*An archaeological evaluation (three trial-trenches) was undertaken at Wakes Hall, Colchester Road, Wakes Colne, Essex in advance of the part-demolition and extension of an existing building, its conversion into twelve dwellings, and the construction of a further ten dwellings. Two modern foundations which probably form part of building remains from a camp associated with a Second World War ammunition dump at Wakes Colne were uncovered, along with a ditch of uncertain date. The camp probably supplied troops manning the pillboxes and defences around Chappel Viaduct immediately to the east, part of the Eastern Command Line and was reportedly converted to house displaced persons after the war.*

## 2 Introduction (Fig 1)

This is the report for an archaeological evaluation by trial-trenching at Wakes Hall, Colchester Road, Wakes Colne, which was carried out on 31st January 2019. The work was commissioned by Nicholas Percival on behalf of Emberworth Ltd in advance of the part-demolition and extension of an existing building, its conversion into twelve dwellings, and the construction of a further ten dwellings, 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* (MHCLG 2018).

All archaeological work was carried out in accordance with a *Brief for an archaeological trial trenched 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* (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 ([www.colchesterheritage.co.uk](http://www.colchesterheritage.co.uk)):

The proposed site is situated within the grounds of Wakes Hall (MCC5202). Built in 1857, the Hall was designed by F. Chancellor, who utilised the format of the 'model' farm, with buildings located in a regular layout. Model farms were conceived during the Victorian period as part of a broader effort to make agriculture more efficient and productive to meet the needs of a growing population (Wade-Martins, 2002). The main brick farm house is laid out in an 'E' shaped plan (MCC4616), with a cart lodge and granary (MCC4618) and a 19th-century gate lodge (MCC4616). Its construction coincided with that of several houses and the water mill (MCC4590) in Wakes Colne and the nearby village of Chappel. There is only one house built prior to the 18th century in the vicinity, 'Gages', which is located 450m east-southeast of the site, and dates to the late 15th or early 16th century (MCC4620). There are, however, a small concentration of historic properties 1km to the southeast around St Barnabas Church in Chappel (MCC10030-1 and MCC3824) which were variously built during the late 14th

century (The Swan Inn, MCC3830), the 16th century (MCC3818, MCC3827 and MCC3839) and the 18th century.

The site lies 425m northwest of All Saints Church, the origins of which lie in the 12th century (MCC7005). A chancel was added to the church in the 14th century and a tower in the 15th century. In the 19th century, restoration work included the rebuilding of the eastern wall, south vestry and the addition of the organ chamber (MCC7006). Archaeological remains related to early medieval occupation may survive in the vicinity of the church. The site is also located close to the River Colne, above the floodplain and within an area topographically favourable for occupation. In June 2017 CAT carried out an evaluation approximately 1.24km to the west at land south of Colchester Road, White Colne and found stretches of a 13th- to 14th-century boundary ditch, which may have delineated a roadside plot (CAT Report 1114).

#### 4 Aim

The aim of the archaeological evaluation was to record the extent of any surviving archaeological deposits, and to assess the archaeological potential of the site to allow the CBCAA to determine if further investigation is required.

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

Three trial-trenches, each 20m long by 1.8m wide, were machine-excavated under the supervision of a CAT archaeologist. They were excavated through modern topsoil (L1, c 0.13-0.29m thick, friable, dry/moist medium/dark brown silty-clay) and subsoil (L2, 0.11-0.26m thick, firm, dry/moist medium orange/brown clay with >5% stones) into natural (L3, firm/hard, dry/moist medium yellow/orange/brown silty-clay with >35% stones).

A sondage was excavated in trench T2 to confirm the identification of L3 as natural.

##### Trench 1 (T1): 20m by 1.8m

Modern concrete foundation F1 was 0.45m wide, 2.4m long and 0.17m deep.



**Photograph 1** T1 trench shot – looking west



**Photograph 2** T2 trench shot – looking south





**Photograph 3** Detail of concrete foundation F1 in T1. This foundation corresponds with the location of a Second World War building on the site, part of a camp attached to an ammunition dump at Wakes Colne.

**Trench 2 (T2): 20m by 1.8m**

Undated ditch F2 was aligned east-west and was 0.69m wide and 0.22m deep.

**Trench 3 (T3): 20m by 1.8m**

Modern concrete foundation F3 was 0.4m wide and 0.12m deep.

## 6 Finds

There were no archaeological finds.

## 7 Conclusion

During the archaeological evaluation at Wakes Hall, excavations revealed two modern foundations and an undated ditch. These remains may be associated with a hutted camp attached to an ammunition dump dating to the Second World War which was located at Wakes Hall and shown on a map from 1954 provided by Nicholas Percival (Map 1 and Figure 2). This camp may have supplied troops manning the pillboxes and defences around Chappel Viaduct immediately to the east, part of the Eastern Command Line which followed the River Colne from its outlet at Mersea Island, around Colchester, westwards to Chappel Viaduct (ECC2017).

The Eastern Command Line at Chappel is a Scheduled Monument (NHLE 1020687) and the list entry describes Wakes Colne as a 'Defended Place Class C', i.e. where the object of holding the defended place was to deny use of the roads to the enemy. The 8th Battalion of the Essex Home Guard manned the defences. Chappel is noted as a 'Class B Defended Place' in the North Essex Sub District, defined as a major centre of road communications and provided with a garrison sufficient to hold its defences (specified as less than 1,000 men but more than two battle platoons of 80 men each).

The map evidence indicates that the camp comprised over 80 structures surrounded by a barbed wire fence so the size of this installation would seem to suggest an association with the Eastern Command Line.



**Map 1** Extract from a 1954 map of Wakes Hall – the first part of the title is illegible but the remainder reads “attached to the ammunition dump at Wakes Colne”. The development area is indicated by the green polygon.

Personal recollections from people associated with Wakes Hall and communicated to the site team during the trial-trenching hold that the camp was converted to house displaced persons after the end of the war, predominantly for Poles. A search of the internet, the Local Studies Library and the Essex Records office found no documentary evidence for the official status of such a camp. It does not appear on the list of camps that were part of the Polish Resettlement Corps (a holding unit for members of the Polish armed forces who had been serving with the British armed forces during the Second World War and did not wish to return to a Communist Poland after 1945), nor does it appear on the lists of Polish Civilian Family camps (Biegus & Biegus, 2013) of which the closest was at Kelvedon.

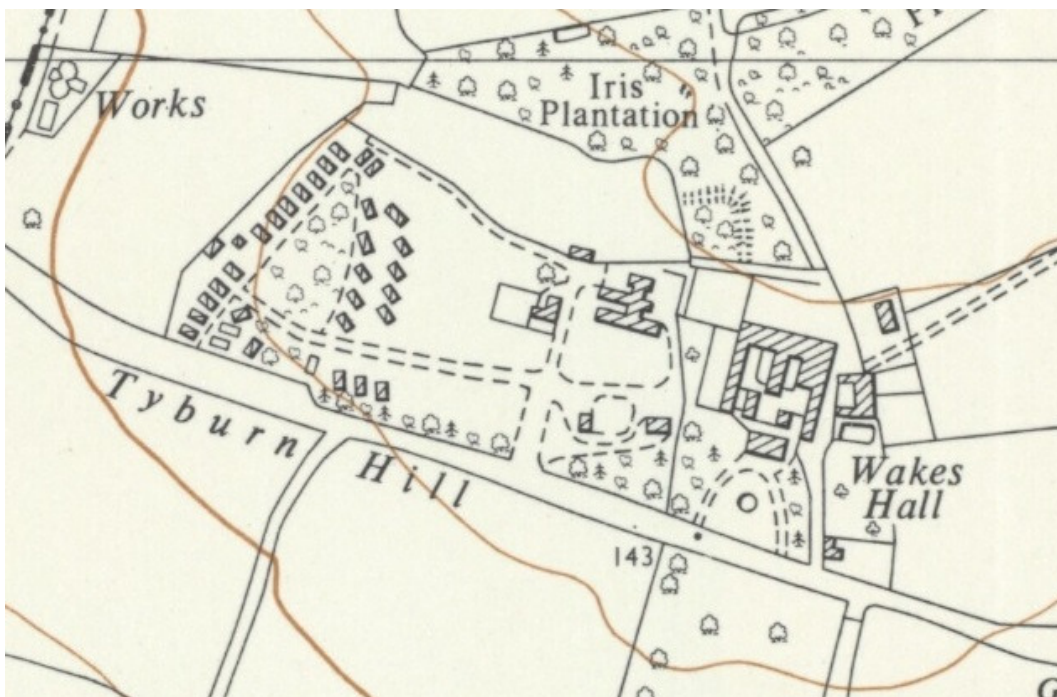
There is a small chance that this is a hitherto unknown camp, either military or civilian, but it is probably more likely that the camp was vacated by the military at the end of the war and subsequently taken over informally by displaced persons or returning servicemen as happened at the former POW camp (HQ 129 Italian Labour Battalion) located at Ashford Lodge, Halstead (Osborne, 1983). Whilst this can only be conjecture the huts at Wakes Hall were probably the same as those depicted at Ashford Lodge in the photograph below; Nissen huts. A Nissen hut was a prefabricated steel structure for military use, especially as barracks, made from a half-cylindrical skin of corrugated steel on shallow concrete foundations. Designed during the First World War by the engineer and inventor Major Peter Norman Nissen, it was used extensively during the Second World War.





**Photograph 4** The former POW camp at Ashford Lodge, Halstead shortly after 1945 when it was informally taken over by returning servicemen and their families as cheap housing (Osborne, 1983).

Map evidence shows that some of the huts that comprised the camp at Wakes Hall were still standing in 1958 (Map 2). The reduction in number from 1954-58 suggests that there was a gradual decline in the population of the camp as the inhabitants were able to secure the better quality housing that was constructed after 1945 to meet the needs of the expanding population. The Nissen hut was never a long-term solution to housing only an expedient one.



**Map 2** 1958 edition of the 1:10,560 Ordnance Survey showing a reduction in the number of huts in the camp.

The ephemeral remains of the camp can be seen on satellite imagery as shown below in Photograph 5. The building identified in Trench 1 shows up perfectly as a parch mark and is identical to its plan form on the 1954 map.



**Photograph 5** Google Earth imagery 2018 (Map data ©2019 Google). The building identified in Trench 1 is clearly visible at the north end of the development area (indicated by the red line).

No cultural material associated with the camp was identified in any of the three evaluation trenches but the development area is located in what was the east extent of the camp and the building identified in Trench 1 is the largest of the camp structures. The map shows either a parade ground or a parking area to the south of this so it is likely that this part of the camp was used for administration rather than accommodation.

It is possible that the ditch identified in Trench 2 is similarly associated with the Second World War camp, although it is equally possible that this feature dates to an alternative, earlier period of activity on the site.

## 8 Acknowledgements

CAT thanks Nicholas Percival and Emberworth Ltd for commissioning and funding the work. The project was managed by C Lister, fieldwork was carried out by B Holloway with S Carter, A Tuffey and B Quinn. Figures are by C Lister, B Holloway and E Holloway. 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>

- |                       |      |  |
|-----------------------|------|--|
| Biegus, Z & Biegus, J | 2013 | <i>Polish Resettlement Camps in England and Wales 1946-1969</i>    |
| CAT                   | 2018 | <i>Health &amp; Safety Policy</i>                                  |
| CAT                   | 2018 | <i>Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) for an archaeological</i> |



		<i>evaluation by trial-trenching at Wakes Hall, Colchester Road, Wakes Colne, Essex, CO6 2DB</i>
CAT Report 1114	2017	<i>Archaeological evaluation on land south of Colchester Road, White Colne, Essex: June 2017</i>
CBCAA	2018	<i>Brief for an Archaeological Trial Trench Evaluation at Wakes Hall, Colchester Road, Wakes Colne, CO6 2DB</i>
ClfA	2014a	<i>Standard and Guidance for archaeological evaluation</i>
ClfA	2014b	<i>Standard and guidance for the collection, documentation, conservation and research of archaeological materials</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>
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>
MHCLG	2018	<i>National Planning Policy Framework. Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government</i>
Osborne, D	1983	<i>Halstead and Colne Valley at War</i>
Wade-Martins, S	2002	<i>The English Model Farm: Building the Agricultural Ideal, 1700-1914</i>

## 10 Abbreviations and glossary

CAT	Colchester Archaeological Trust
CBCAA	Colchester Borough Council Archaeological Advisor
CBCPS	Colchester Borough Council Planning Services
CHER	Colchester Historic Environment Record
ClfA	Chartered Institute for Archaeologists
context	a single unit of excavation, which is often referred to numerically, and can be any feature, layer or find.
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	Online Access to the Index of Archaeological Investigations, <a href="http://oasis.ac.uk/pages/wiki/Main">http://oasis.ac.uk/pages/wiki/Main</a>
POW	prisoner of war
section	(abbreviation sx or Sx) vertical slice through feature/s or layer/s
WSI	Written Scheme of Investigation

## 11 Contents of archive

**Find:** n/a

### **Paper record**

One A4 document wallet containing:

The report (CAT Report 1374)

CBC evaluation brief, CAT written scheme of investigation

Original site record (trench sketch sheets, feature and layer sheets, sections)

Digital photographic thumbnails and log

### **Digital record**

The report (CAT Report 1374)

CBC evaluation brief, CAT written scheme of investigation

Digital photographic thumbnails and log

Graphics

Survey data

## 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: 2018.123.

© Colchester Archaeological Trust 2019

### Distribution list:

Nicholas Percival

Emberworth Ltd

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: [eh2@catuk.org](mailto:eh2@catuk.org)

Checked by: Philip Crummy

Date: 27.02.2019

Revised: 26.06.2019

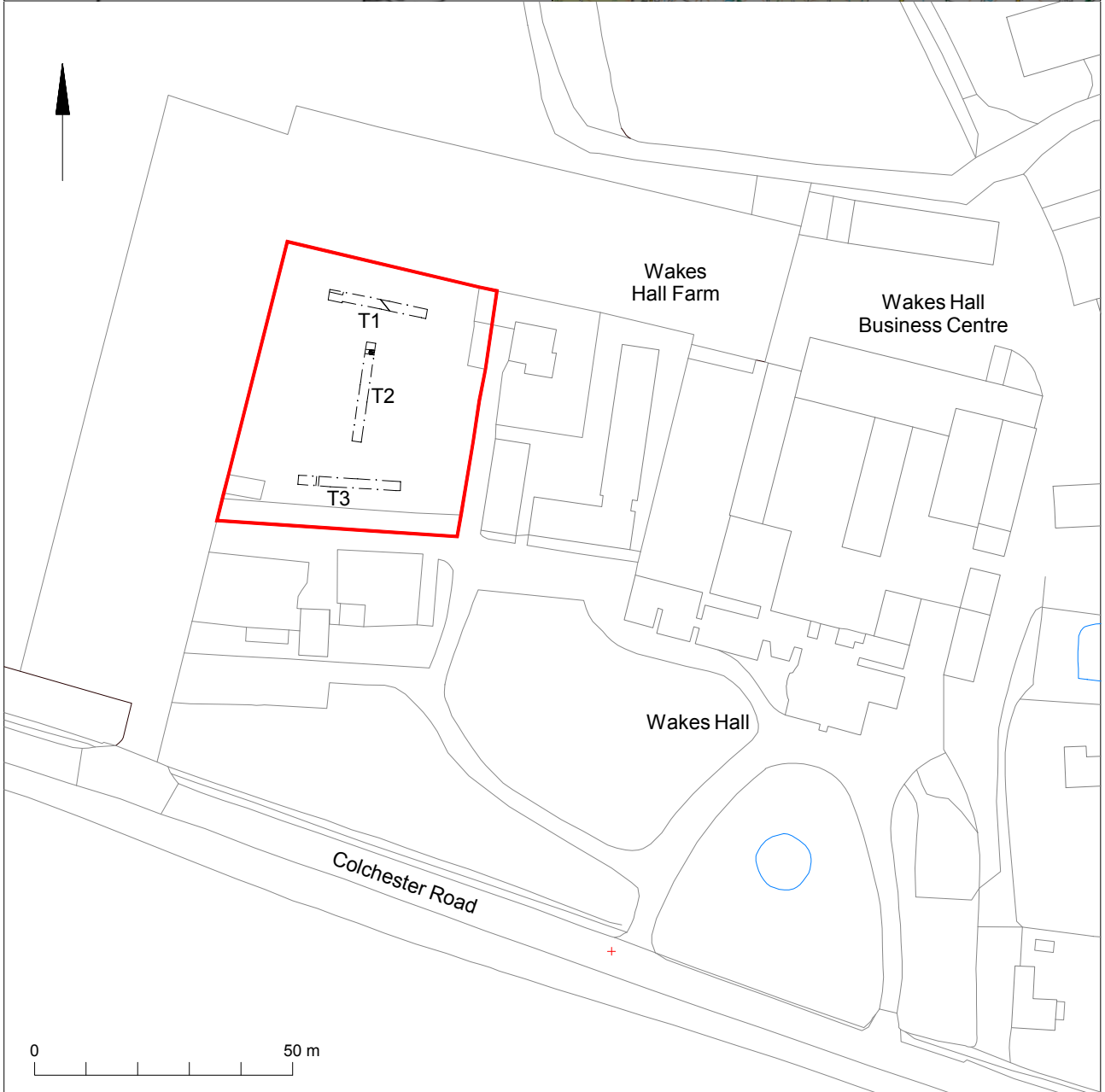
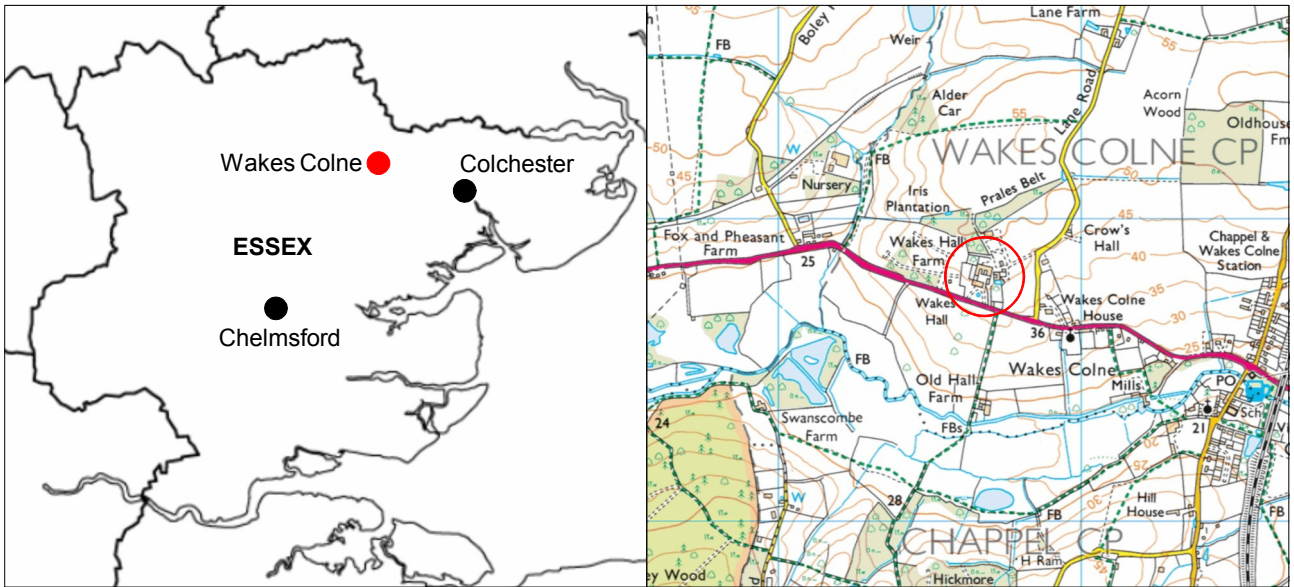
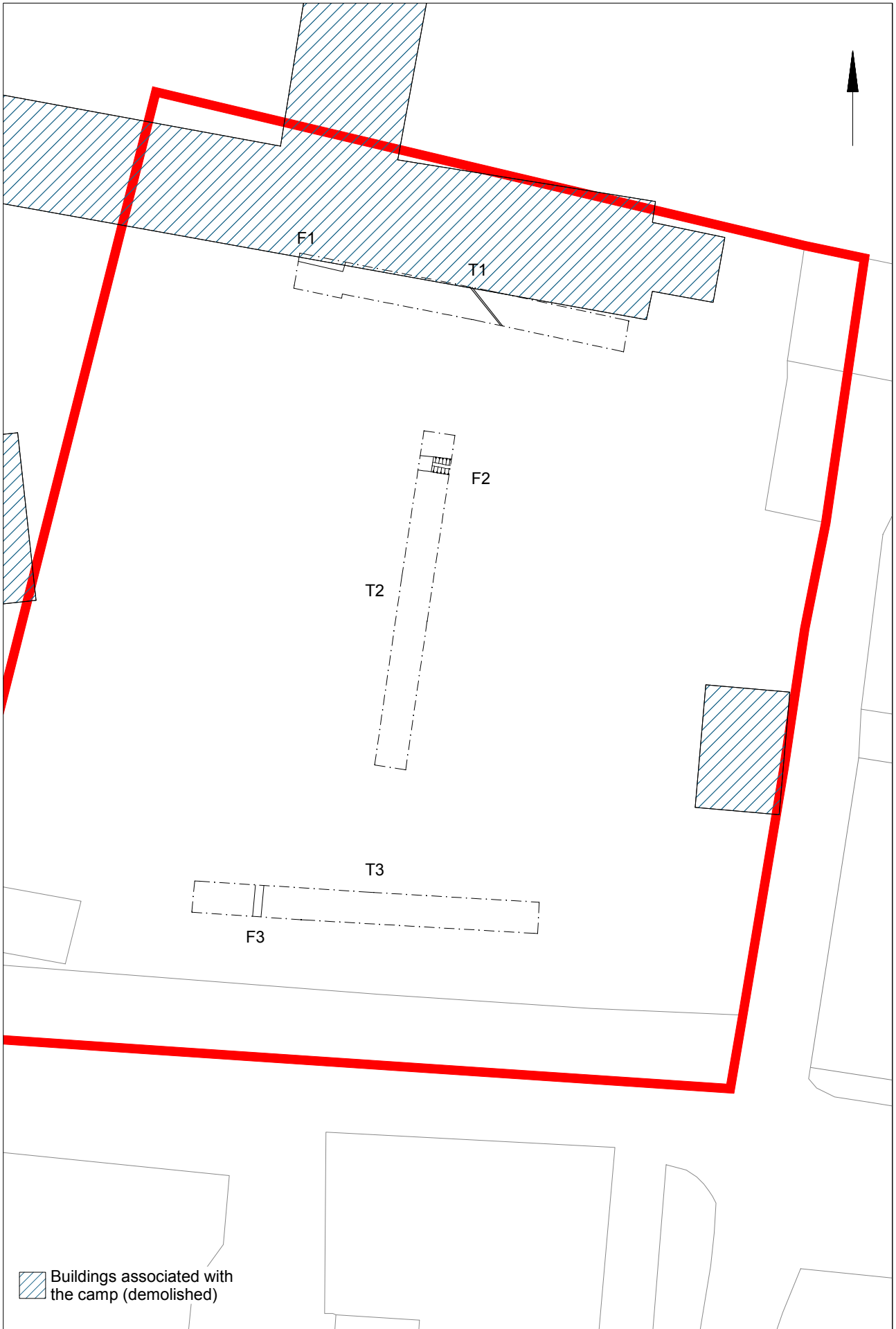


Fig 1 Site location and trench layout.

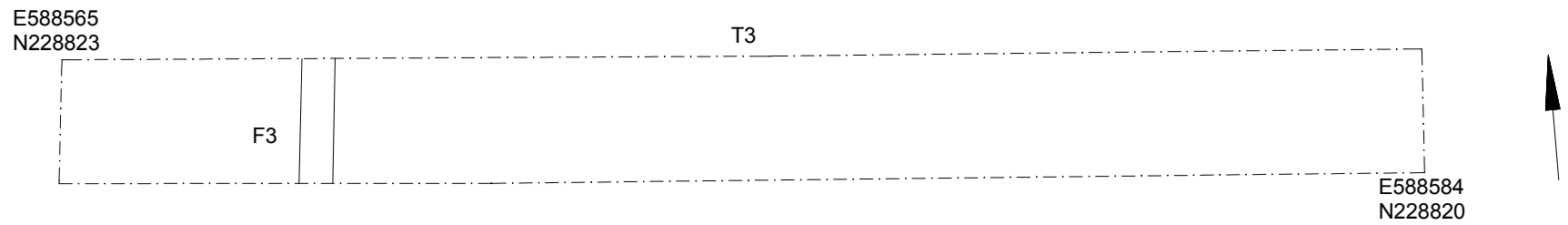
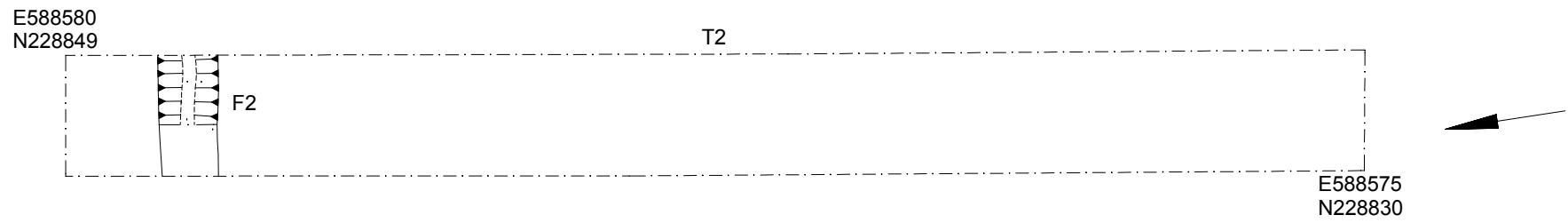
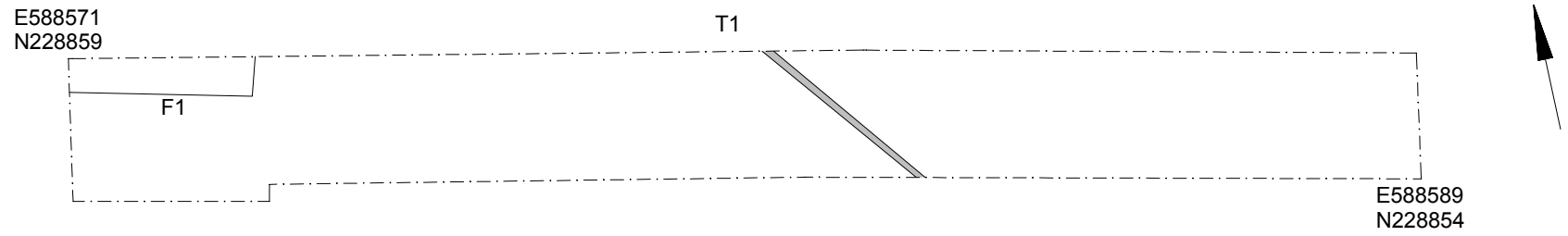




© Crown copyright. All rights reserved. Licence number 100039294.

Fig 2 Evaluation results in relation to structures shown on the 1954 plan of the camp associated with the ammunition dump.

0 20 m



© Crown copyright. All rights reserved. Licence number 100039294.

Fig 3 Trench results.

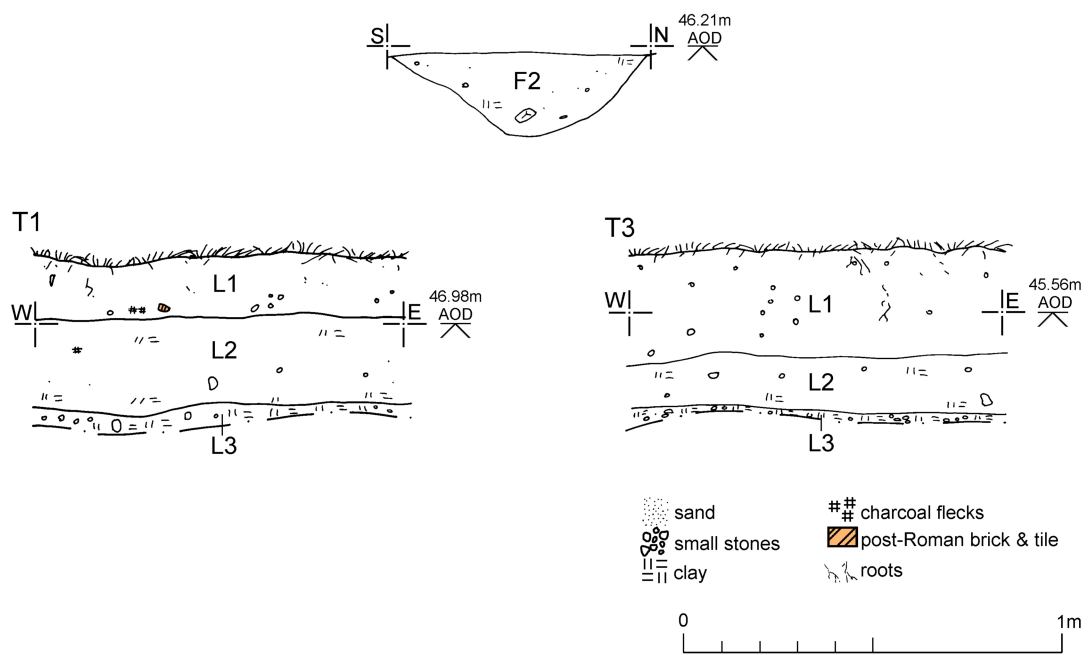


Fig 4 Feature and representative sections.



# Essex Historic Environment Record/ Essex Archaeology and History

## Summary sheet

<b>Address:</b> Wakes Hall, Colchester Road, Wakes Colne, Essex, CO6 2DB	
<b>Parish:</b> Wakes Colne	<b>District:</b> Colchester
<b>NGR:</b> TL 8857 2883 (centre)	<b>Site code:</b> CAT project ref.: 18/012a CHER ref: ECC4287 OASIS ref: colchest3-335948
<b>Type of work:</b> Evaluation	<b>Site director/group:</b> Colchester Archaeological Trust
<b>Date of work:</b> 28th September 2018	<b>Size of area investigated:</b> 0.28ha
<b>Location of curating museum:</b> Colchester museum accession code COLEM: 2018.123	<b>Funding source:</b> Developer
<b>Further seasons anticipated?</b> Not known	<b>Related CHER/SMR number:</b> CHER MCC3818, MCC3824, MCC3827, MCC3830, MCC3839, MCC4590, MCC4616, MCC4618, MCC4620, MCC5202, MCC7005, MCC7006, MCC10030, MCC10031
<b>Final report:</b> CAT Report 1374	
<b>Periods represented:</b> modern	
<b>Summary of fieldwork results:</b>  An archaeological evaluation (three trial-trenches) was undertaken at Wakes Hall, Colchester Road, Wakes Colne, Essex in advance of the part-demolition and extension of an existing building, its conversion into twelve dwellings, and the construction of a further ten dwellings. Two modern foundations which probably form part building remains from a camp associated with a Second World War ammunition dump at Wakes Colne were uncovered, along with a ditch of uncertain date. The camp probably supplied troops manning the pillboxes and defences around Chappel Viaduct immediately to the east, part of the Eastern Command Line and was reportedly converted to house displaced persons after the war.	
<b>Previous summaries/reports:</b> -	
<b>CBC monitor:</b> Dr Jess Tipper	
<b>Keywords:</b> -	<b>Significance:</b> -
<b>Author of summary:</b> Dr Elliott Hicks	<b>Date of summary:</b> June 2019

# **Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) for an archaeological evaluation by trial-trenching at Wakes Hall, Colchester Road, Wakes Colne, Essex, CO6 2DB.**

**NGR:** TL 8857 2883 (centre)

**Planning reference:** 172642

**Commissioned by:** Nicholas Percival  
**On behalf of:** Emberworth Ltd

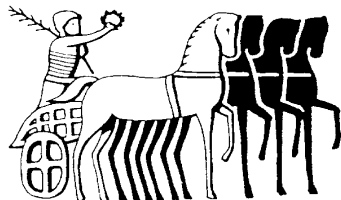
**Curating museum:** Colchester

**Museum accession code:** tbc  
**CHER project code:** ECC4287  
**CAT project code:** 2018/12a  
**Oasis project ID:** colchest3-335948

**Site manager:** Chris Lister

**CBC monitor:** Jess Tipper

**This WSI written:** 05.12.2018



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

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

## Site location and description

The proposed development site is located on the northern side of Tyburn Hill at Wakes Hall, Colchester Road, Wakes Colne, Essex, CO6 2DB (Fig 1). Site centre is NGR TL 8857 2883.

## Proposed work

The development comprises the demolition of part of an existing building, to be replaced with a new extension. This building will be converted into twelve dwellings. There will also be the construction of ten new dwellings, associated car parking any other associated groundworks.

## Archaeological background (Fig 1)

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)):

The proposed site is situated within the grounds of Wakes Hall. The Farm was built in 1857, designed by F Chancellor. The design was in the format of a 'model' farm (MCC5202) with buildings located in a regular layout. Model farms were a creation of the Victorian era in a drive to make farms more efficient and increase food production for a growing population. Wade Martins (1995, 8) refers to these as "*industrial-style farms, more reminiscent of railway than rural architecture, were erected across the country, using mass produced cast-iron fittings, bricks and the ubiquitous Welsh slate*". In this instance the main brick farm house is in an 'E' shaped design (MCC4616), with cartlodge and granary (MCC4618) and a 19<sup>th</sup> century gate lodge (MCC4616). This coincides with the construction of several houses and the water mill (MCC4590) built in Wakes Colne and the nearby village of Chappel. There are few houses dating earlier than the 18<sup>th</sup> century, only 'Gages' 450m east-southeast of the site dating to late 15<sup>th</sup>-early 16<sup>th</sup> centuries (MCC4620). There are however, a small concentration of properties 1km to the southeast around St. Barnabus Church (MCC10030-1 and MCC3824) in Chappel dating from late 14<sup>th</sup> century (The Swan Inn, MCC3830), 16<sup>th</sup> century (MCC3818, MCC3827 and MCC3839) to 18<sup>th</sup> century.

The site lies 425m northwest of All Saints Church. The church has origins in the 12<sup>th</sup> century (MCC7005), with additions in 14<sup>th</sup> century when the chancel was added, 15<sup>th</sup> century when the tower was added and 19<sup>th</sup> century when restoration work included rebuilding the eastern wall, south vestry and the addition of the organ chamber (MCC7006). The site is also located in a location close to the River Colne, above the floodplain and within an area topographically favourable for occupation. The area has seen little archaeological work however the proximity to the church could suggest the potential of earlier medieval occupation in the vicinity. In June 2017 CAT carried out an evaluation approximately 1.24km to the west at land south of Colchester Road, White Colne and found stretches of a 13<sup>th</sup> to 14<sup>th</sup> century boundary ditch, though to possibly delineate a roadside plot (CAT Report 1114).

## Planning background

Planning application (172642) was submitted to Colchester Borough Council in October 2018 proposing demolition part of existing buildings, then extend and convert into 12 dwellings and erect 10 dwellings (22 dwellings in total), including associated car parking.

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* (MHCLG 2018).

## Requirement for work (Fig 1)

The required archaeological work is for a 5% sample evaluation of the development site by trial-trenching. Details are given in a Project Brief written by CBCAA (CBC 2018).



Specifically, three trenches, each measuring 20m long by 1.8m wide will be located within the area of new buildings, to the west of the existing building to be renovated. Areas may need to be locally widened if there are deep trenches and/or sections across deep features to ensure they are evaluated.

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 2018)
- 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 CHER. 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 three archaeologist for one day.

In charge of day-to-day site work: Ben Holloway/Mark Baister

## **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 proforma record sheets. Registers will be compiled of finds, small finds and soil samples.

### **Site surveying**

The evaluation trench and any features will be surveyed by Total Station, unless the particulars of the features indicate that manual planning techniques should be employed. 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 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 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 process the samples and the flots will be sent to Val Fryer or Lisa Gray for analysis and reporting.

Should any complex, or otherwise outstanding deposits be encountered, VF or 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**

During evaluation work 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 the remains from the site during the evaluation phase, 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. If the human remains are not to be lifted at the evaluation stage, the specialist should be available to record the human remain *in situ* (i.e. a site visit).

### **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.

Most of our finds reports are written internally by CAT Staff under the supervision and direction of Philip Crummy (Director) and Howard Brooks (Deputy Director). This includes specialist subjects such as:

prehistoric and Roman pottery: Matthew Loughton  
post-Roman pottery: Howard Brooks  
animal bones (small groups): Alec Wade / Adam Wightman  
small finds, metalwork, coins, etc: Laura Pooley  
flints: Adam Wightman  
environmental processing: Robin Mathieson

or to outside specialists:

animal bones (large groups) and human remains: Julie Curl (*Sylvanus*)  
environmental assessment and analysis: Val Fryer / Lisa Gray  
conservation/x-ray: Laura Ratcliffe (LR Conservation) /  
 Norfolk Museums Service, Conservation and Design Services

Other specialists whose opinion can be sought on large or complex groups include:

prehistoric and Roman pottery: Stephen Benfield / Nigel Brown / Paul Sealey

Roman brick/tile: Ernest Black / Ian Betts

Roman glass: Hilary Cool

Prehistoric pottery: Paul Sealey

Small Finds: Nina Crummy

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

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

CAT	2018	<i>Health &amp; Safety Policy</i>
CAT Report 1114	2017	<i>Archaeological evaluation on land south of Colchester Road, White Colne, Essex :June 2017.</i> By M Baister
CBCAA	2018	<i>Brief for an Archaeological Trial Trench Evaluation at at Wakes Hall, Colchester Road, Wakes Colne, CO6 2DB.</i> By J Tipper
Cifa	2014a	<i>Standard and Guidance for archaeological evaluation</i>
Cifa	2014b	<i>Standard and guidance for the collection, documentation, conservation and research of archaeological materials</i>
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 <b>14</b> ).
Medlycott, M	2011	<i>Research and archaeology revisited: A revised framework for the East of England.</i> East Anglian Archaeology Occasional Papers 24 (EAA <b>24</b> )
MHCLG	2018	<i>National Planning Policy Framework.</i> Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government.
Wade Martins, S	1995	Farms and fields

E Holloway



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

tel: 01206 501785

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



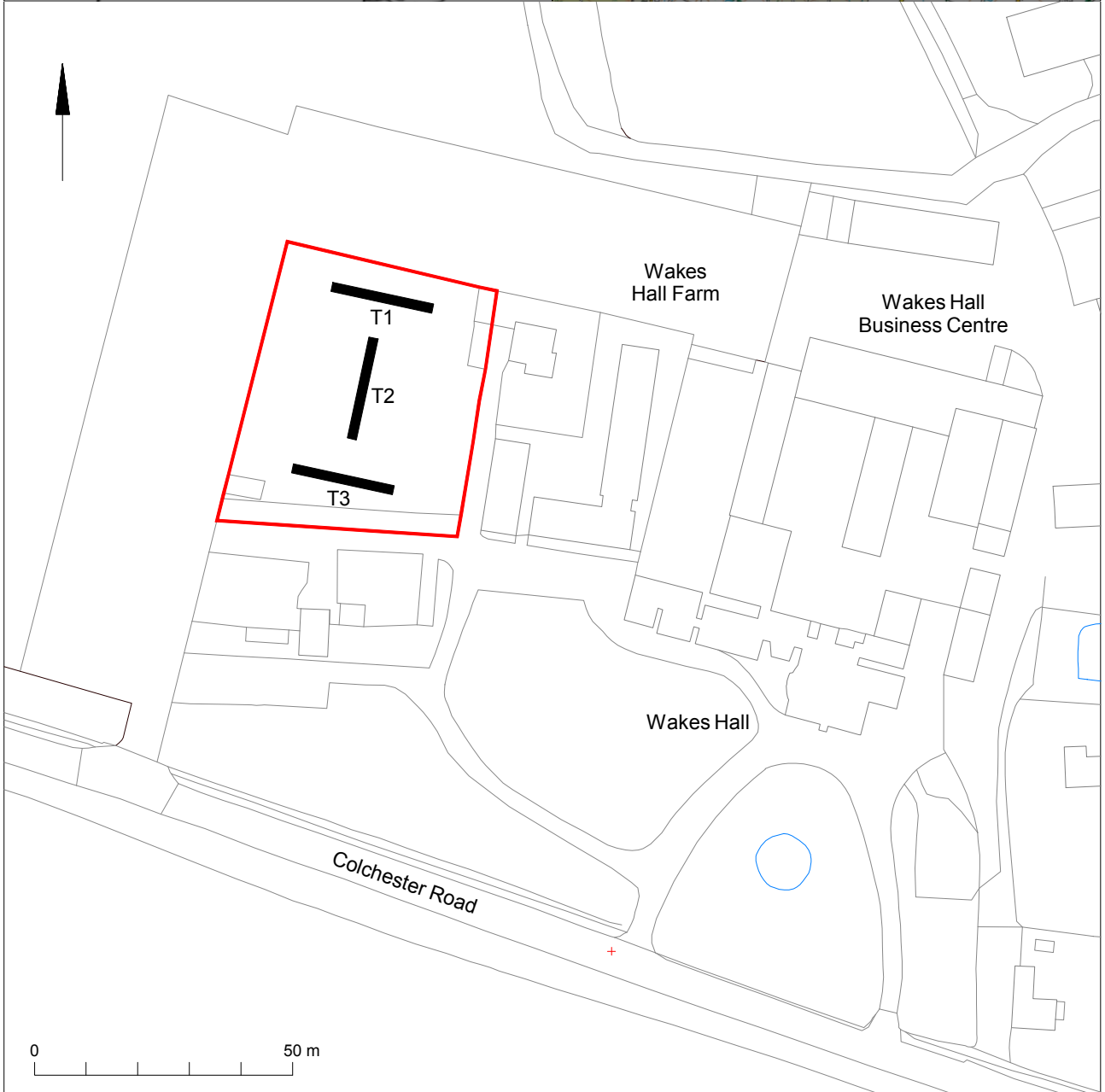
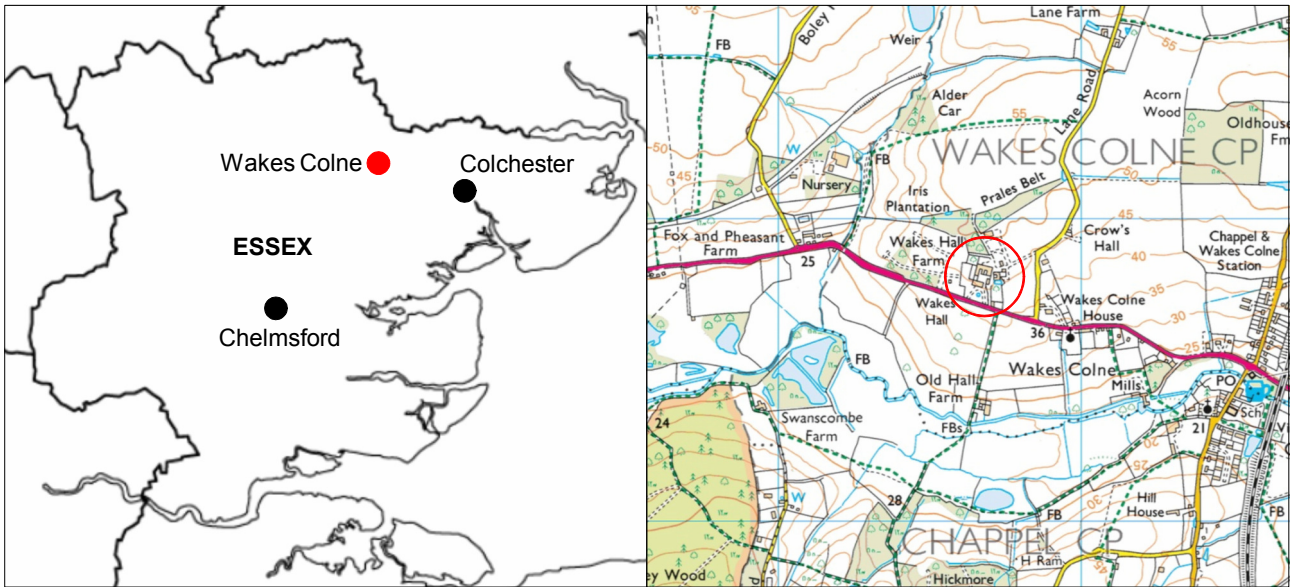


Fig 1 Site location and trench proposal.

# OASIS DATA COLLECTION FORM: England

[List of Projects](#) | [Manage Projects](#) | [Search Projects](#) | [New project](#) | [Change your details](#) | [HER coverage](#) | [Change country](#) | [Log out](#)

## Printable version

**OASIS ID: colchest3-335948**

### Project details

Project name	Archaeological evaluation by trial-trenching at Wakes Hall, Colchester Road, Wakes Colne, CO6 2DB.
Short description of the project	An archaeological evaluation (three trial-trenches) was undertaken at Wakes Hall, Colchester Road, Wakes Colne, Essex in advance of the part-demolition and extension of an existing building, its conversion into twelve dwellings, and the construction of a further ten dwellings. Two modern foundations which probably form part building remains from a camp associated with a Second World War ammunition dump at Wakes Colne were uncovered, along with a ditch of uncertain date. The camp probably supplied troops manning the pillboxes and defences around Chappel Viaduct immediately to the east, part of the Eastern Command Line and was reportedly converted to house displaced persons after the war.
Project dates	Start: 31-01-2019 End: 31-01-2019
Previous/future work	No / Not known
Any associated project reference codes	2018/12a - Contracting Unit No.
Any associated project reference codes	172642 - Planning Application No.
Any associated project reference codes	COLEM: 2018.123 - Museum accession ID
Any associated project reference codes	ECC4287 - HER event no.
Type of project	Field evaluation
Site status	None
Current Land use	Other 2 - In use as a building
Current Land use	Other 5 - Garden
Monument type	CONCRETE FOUNDATION Modern
Monument type	DITCH Uncertain
Methods & techniques	""Sample Trenches""
Development type	Rural residential
Prompt	National Planning Policy Framework - NPPF
Position in the planning process	After full determination (eg. As a condition)

### Project location

Country	England
Site location	ESSEX COLCHESTER WAKES COLNE Wakes Hall, Colchester Road, Wakes Colne
Postcode	CO6 2DB
Study area	0.22 Hectares
Site coordinates	TL 8857 2883 51.925497932004 0.742779384193 51 55 31 N 000 44 34 E Point
Height OD / Depth	Min: 45.3m Max: 46.78m

**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	Developer

**Project archives**

Physical Archive Exists?	No
Digital Archive recipient	Colchester Museum
Digital Archive ID	COLEM: 2018.123
Digital Media available	"Images raster / digital photography", "Survey", "Text"
Paper Archive recipient	Colchester Museum
Paper Archive ID	COLEM: 2018.123
Paper Media available	"Context sheet", "Drawing", "Photograph", "Report"

**Project bibliography 1**

Publication type	Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)
Title	Archaeological evaluation at Wakes Hall, Colchester Road
Author(s)/Editor(s)	Hicks, E. and Lister, C.
Other bibliographic details	CAT Report 1374
Date	2019
Issuer or publisher	Colchester Archaeological Trust
Place of issue or publication	Colchester
Description	A4 loose-leaf comb-bound
URL	<a href="http://cat.essex.ac.uk">http://cat.essex.ac.uk</a>
Entered by	Chris Lister (cl@catuk.org)
Entered on	26 June 2019

**OASIS:**Please e-mail [Historic England](#) for OASIS help and advice© ADS 1996-2012 Created by [Jo Gilham and Jen Mitcham](#), email [Last modified Wednesday 9 May 2012](#)Cite only: <http://www.oasis.ac.uk/form/print.cfm> for this page[Cookies](#) [Privacy Policy](#)