



Colchester
Archaeological
Trust

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| CAT Report 1465 | Parish: Colchester |
| Archaeological monitoring at 13 Duncan Road, Colchester, Essex, CO2 9AL: August 2019 | Planning reference: 190261 |
| | CHER Event no.: ECC4341 |
| | OASIS ref.: colchest3-351687 |
| | Grid Reference: TL 9790 2350 |
| | Number of site visits: 1 |
| | Dates of visits: 28th August 2019 |

Nature of the work: Observation of groundworks for a single-storey extension.

Reason for condition: The site lies approximately 45m southwest of the Colchester-Gosbecks Roman road.

% of total seen: 100% of the groundworks.

Results: The excavation of foundation trenching, measuring approximately 9.25m in length, 0.4m in width and 1m in depth, was archaeologically monitored in response to a brief set by Jess Tipper of Colchester Borough Council Planning Services.

The foundation trenching was excavated through a layer of turf and concrete (L1, c 0.09-0.14m thick), modern topsoil (L2, c 0.38-0.45m thick, friable, dry medium grey/brown silty-sand with 3% gravel) and subsoil (L3, c 0.23-0.26m thck, friable/firm, dry medium orange/brown silty-sand with 2% gravel) onto natural (L4, friable, dry medium orange sand, encountered at a depth of c 0.77-0.79m below current ground level).



Photograph 1 Site shot

Modern services were present, but otherwise no significant archaeological deposits or material were encountered.

Recorded by: Dr Elliott Hicks

Date: 29th August 2019



Colchester Archaeological Trust

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

tel.: 01206 501785

email: eh2@catuk.org

Checked by: Philip Crummy

Date: 30.08.2019

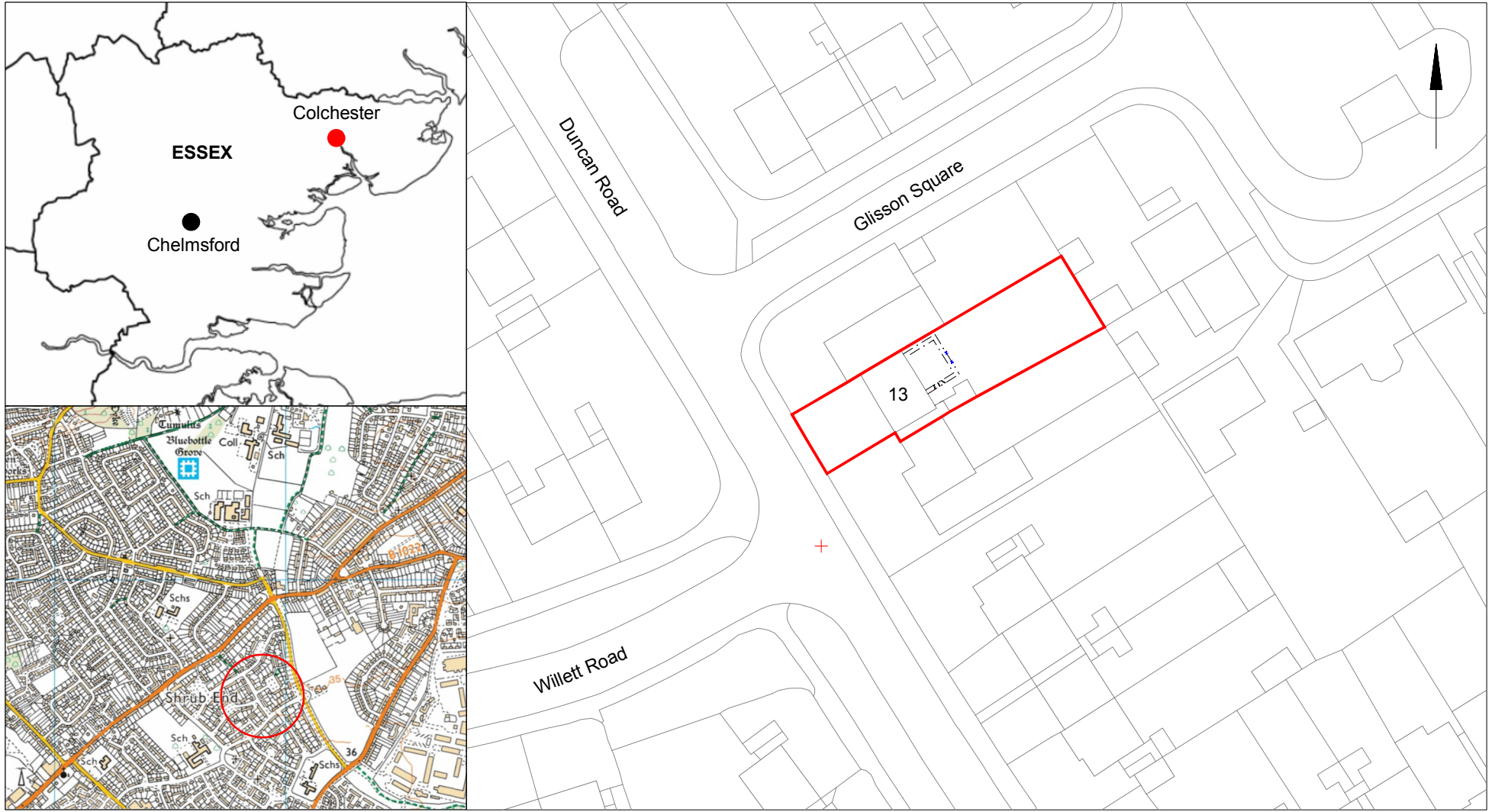


Fig 1 Site location

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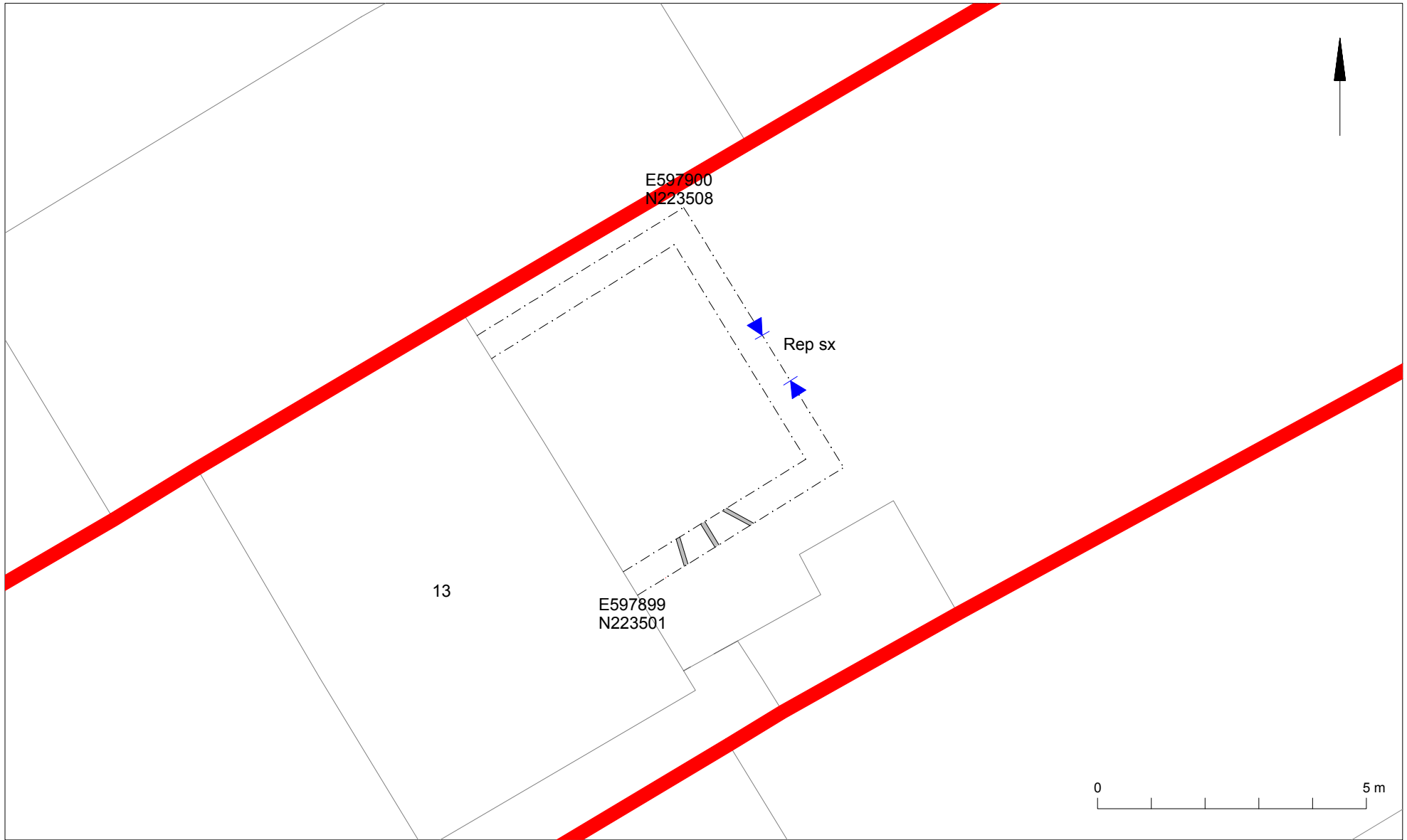


Fig 2 Monitoring results.

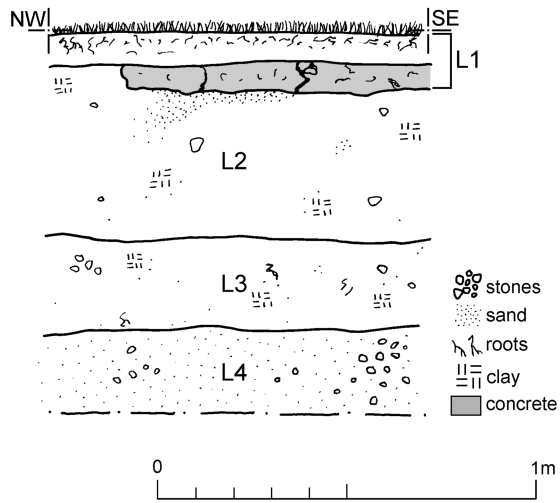


Fig 3 Representative section.

**Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI)
for continuous archaeological monitoring and
recording at 13 Duncan Road, Colchester,
Essex, CO2 9AL.**

NGR: TL 9790 2350 (centre)

Parish: Colchester

Planning references: 190261

Commissioned by and on behalf of: Jenna Hopkins

Curating museum: Colchester

CHER number: tbc

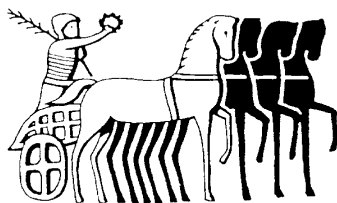
CAT project code: 2019/05j

OASIS project number: colchest3-351687

Site manager: Chris Lister

CBC monitor: Jess Tipper

This WSI written: 17/05/2019



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

tel: 01206 501785

email: eh@catuk.org

Site location and description

The proposed development site lies approximately 2.35km southwest of the centre of the historic core in Colchester Town Centre at 13 Duncan Road, Colchester, Essex, CO2 9AL (Fig 1). The site is centred at National Grid Reference (NGR) TL 9790 2350.

Proposed work

The development comprises the construction of a single storey extension and any associated groundworks.

Archaeological background

The following archaeological background draws on the major published sources for Colchester archaeology and the Colchester Historic Environment Record (accessed via Colchester Heritage Explorer (<https://colchesterheritage.co.uk/map>)).

The current site is located approximately 45m southwest of a main Roman Road which runs from Gosbecks to just southwest of the Roman town (CHER MCC2529).

Gosbecks is the site of an important Late Iron Age and Roman complex. Gosbecks has had multiple investigations including aerial photography, geophysical surveys, evaluations and excavations (Hull 1958, 259-71; *CAR 11*, 95-105; CAT Report 30, 45 and 127; Crummy 1997). (CHER MCC7470). Archaeological remains at Gosbecks include: dykes, droveways and field systems; a large enclosure (CHER MCC7044), possibly the farmstead of Cunobelin, King of the Trinovantes (CHER MCC7044); a small Roman fort of probable Claudian date (CHER MCC7472); a Romano- British temple (CHER MCC2849), surrounded by a monumental portico (CHER MCC7043); a Roman theatre (CHER MCC2831); a Roman water-main, possibly leading to a bath-house (CHER MCC2903); and the aforementioned Roman road (CHER MCC2529).

The site is also c 274m northeast of an area defined by the CHER as containing cropmarks identified through aerial photography. These are interpreted to show linear features, a trackway, a possible rectilinear enclosure and pits (CHER 2619-2620). Within this cropmark area was the location of Alderman Blaxill County Secondary School. Prior to the demolition of the school 2017 CAT evaluated four trenches at the Paxman Road edge. The evaluation revealed possible evidence for the Roman road to Gosbecks, a ditch and some natural features (CAT Report 1167).

Planning background

A planning application was made to Colchester Borough Council in January 2019 (application No.182876) proposing a *single storey rear extension*.

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 2019).

Requirement for work

The required archaeological work is for continuous archaeological monitoring and recording of all groundworks. Details are given in a Project Brief written by CBCAA (CBC 2019).

Specifically:

The monitoring and recording is being undertaken to identify and record any surviving archaeological deposits that may exist on site.

If unexpected remains are encountered the CBCAA will be informed immediately and the CBCAA will decide if amendments to the brief are required to ensure adequate provision for archaeological recording.

General methodology

All work carried out by CAT will be in accordance with:

- professional standards of the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists, including its *Code of Conduct* (ClfA 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 2019).

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 Essex Historic Environment Record (EHER). This will include an uploaded .PDF version of the entire report.

A unique HER event number will be obtained from the CBCAA prior to the commencement of fieldwork. The curating museum will be notified of the details of the project and the event code, which will be used to identify the project archive when depositing at the end of the project.

Staffing

The number of field staff for this project is estimated as follows: One CAT officer for the duration of the groundworks.

Monitoring methodology

There will be sufficient on-site attendance by CAT staff to maintain a watch on all contractors' ground works to record, excavate or sample (as necessary) any archaeological features or deposits. Monitoring will include all groundworks and inspection of upcast soil.

All topsoil removal and ground reduction will be done with a toothless bucket.

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

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

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

A metal detector will be used to examine spoil heaps, and the finds recovered.

Individual records of excavated contexts, layers, features or deposits will be entered on pro-forma record sheets. Registers will be compiled of finds, small finds and soil samples.

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 or unless advised to do so by the project osteologist or CBCAA.

CBCAA will be notified immediately if any human remains are encountered during the investigation.

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 and seek advice from the project osteologist. Human remains removed from site for analysis this may involve radiocarbon dating (see finds section).

Following HE guidance (HE 2018) if the human remains are not to be lifted, the project osteologist should be available to record the human remain *in situ* (i.e. a site visit). Conditions laid down by the DoJ license will be followed. If it seems that the remains are not ancient,

then the coroner, the client, and the 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. CAT may use local volunteers to assist the CAT Finds Officer with this task.

Matthew Loughton (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): Alec Wade / Adam Wightman

flints: Adam Wightman

or to outside specialists:

animal bones (large groups)

project osteologist (human remains): Julie Curl (*Sylvanus*)

environmental processing and reporting: Val Fryer / Lisa Gray

conservation of finds: staff at Norfolk Museums Service, Conservation and Design Services / 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: Stephen Benfield / Paul Sealey / Nigel Brown

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.

A contingency will be made in the budget for absolute dating in the event that archaeomagnetic and/or (more probably) radiocarbon dating is required, if burning is encountered or human remains (in which case it might be necessary to lift a small sample for absolute dating).

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* (HE 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 and provision must be made for additional recording (e.g. photography, illustration and analysis) as appropriate.

The archive will be deposited with Colchester & Ipswich Museum or an alternate repository (approved by COLEM and CBCAA) within 3 months of the completion of the final publication report, with a summary of the contents of the archive supplied to CBCAA.

A digital / vector drawing of the site be given to the CBCAA for integration into the HER.

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

| | | |
|----------|------|--|
| Brown, D | 2007 | <i>Archaeological Archives: A guide to best practice in creation, compilation, transfer and curation</i> |
| CAR 11 | 1984 | <i>Colchester Archaeological Report 11: Camulodunum 2</i> , by CFC Hawkes & P Crummy |
| CAT | 2018 | <i>Health & Safety Policy</i> |

| | | |
|---------------------------|-------|---|
| CAT Report 30 | 1998 | <i>Gosbecks Archaeological Park, Colchester: an archaeological evaluation of the north-west area. By S Benfield</i> |
| CAT Report 45 | 1999 | <i>Excavation at Gosbecks Archaeological Park: July-August 1999. By C Austin</i> |
| CAT Report 127 | 2008 | <i>Excavations of Late Iron Age and Roman features and a Roman road north of Gosbecks Archaeological Park, Colchester, Essex 1995-1996. by S Benfield</i> |
| CAT Report 1167 | 2017 | <i>Archaeological evaluation at Alderman Blaxill County Secondary School, Paxman Avenue, Colchester, Essex – September 2017</i> |
| Crummy, P | 1997 | <i>City of Victory. The Story of Colchester – Britain's first Roman town</i> |
| CBCAA | 2019 | <i>Brief for continuous archaeological monitoring and recording at 54a Gainsborough Road, Colchester, CO3 4QW. By J Tipper</i> |
| 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> |
| Crummy, P | 1997 | <i>City of Victory. The Story of Colchester – Britain's first Roman town</i> |
| Gurney, D | 2003 | <i>Standards for field archaeology in the East of England. East Anglian Archaeology Occasional Papers 14 (EAA 14).</i> |
| Hawkes, CFC, and Hull, MR | 1947 | <i>Camulodunum, Report of the Research Committee of the Society of Antiquaries of London, Volume 14</i> |
| Historic England (HE) | 2015 | <i>Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment (MoRPHE)</i> |
| Historic England (HE) | 2018 | <i>The Role of the Human Osteologist in an Archaeological Fieldwork Project. By S Mays, M Brickley and J Sidell</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 | 2019 | <i>National Planning Policy Framework. Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government.</i> |

E Holloway



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

tel: 01206 501785
email: eh@catuk.org

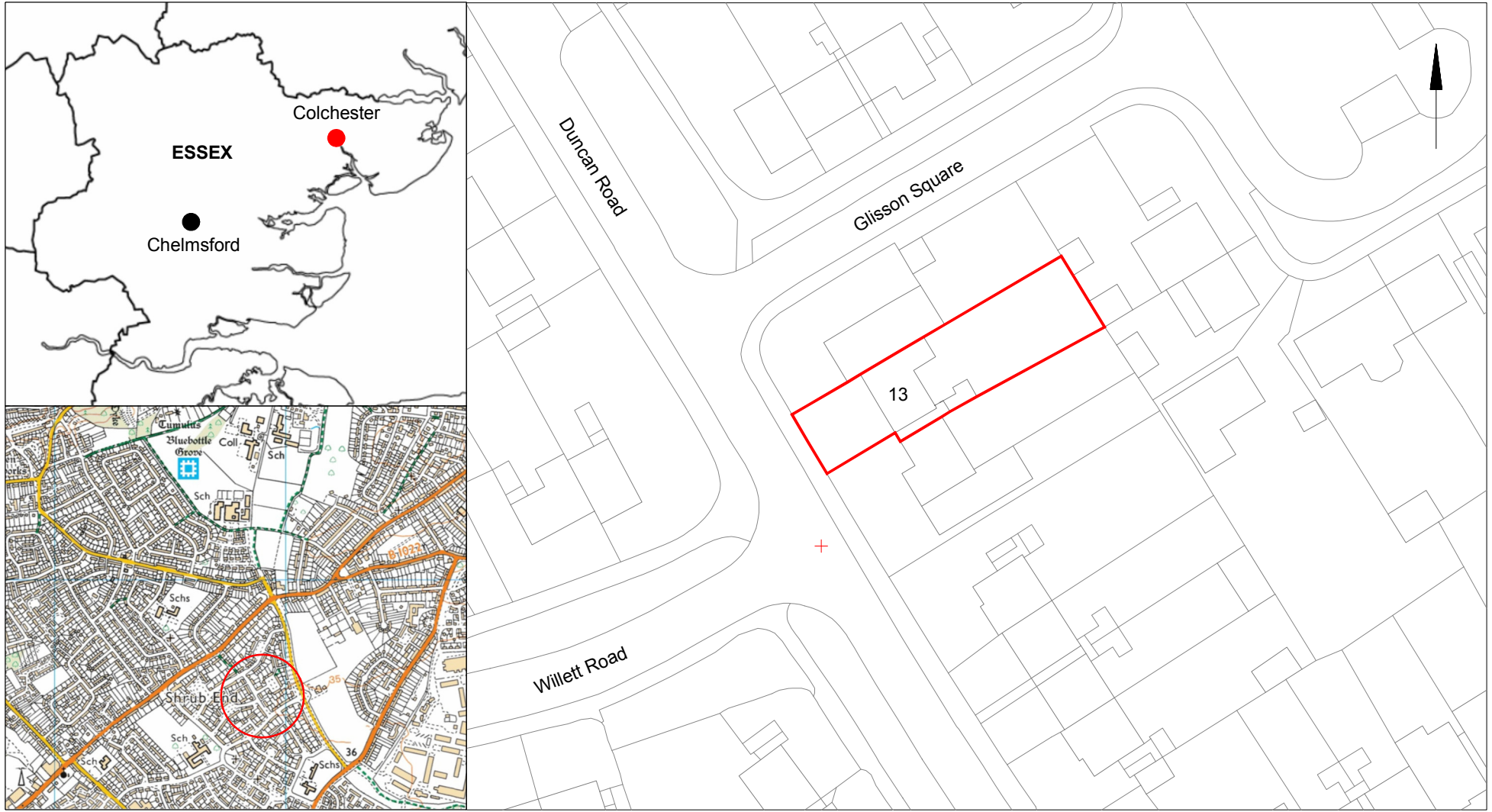


Fig 1 Site location

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OASIS ID: colchest3-351687

Project details

| | |
|--|---|
| Project name | Continuous archaeological recording at 13 Duncan Road, Colchester, Essex, CO2 9AL. |
| Short description of the project | Archaeological monitoring was carried out at 13 Duncan Road, Colchester, during groundworks for a single-storey extension. The site lies near to the Colchester-Gosbecks Roman road. Despite being located in an archaeologically-sensitive area, no significant archaeological remains were encountered. |
| Project dates | Start: 28-08-2019 End: 28-08-2019 |
| Previous/future work | No / Not known |
| Any associated project reference codes | 190261 - Planning Application No. |
| Any associated project reference codes | 2019/05j - Contracting Unit No. |
| Any associated project reference codes | ECC4341 - HER event no. |
| Type of project | Recording project |
| Site status | None |
| Current Land use | Other 5 - Garden |
| Investigation type | ""Watching Brief"" |
| Prompt | National Planning Policy Framework - NPPF |

Project location

| | |
|------------------|--|
| Country | England |
| Site location | ESSEX COLCHESTER COLCHESTER 13 Duncan Road, Colchester, Essex |
| Postcode | CO2 9AL |
| Study area | 0.04 Hectares |
| Site coordinates | TL 9790 2350 51.874379271368 0.875245536242 51 52 27 N 000 52 30 E Point |

Project creators

| | |
|--------------------------|---------------------------------|
| Name of Organisation | Colchester Archaeological Trust |
| Project brief originator | CBC Archaeological Officer |

| | |
|------------------------------|---------------|
| Project design originator | Emma Holloway |
| Project director/manager | Chris Lister |
| Type of sponsor/funding body | Owner |
| Name of sponsor/funding body | J Hopkins |

Project archives

| | |
|---------------------------|--|
| Physical Archive Exists? | No |
| Digital Archive recipient | Colchester Museum |
| Digital Archive ID | ECC4341 |
| Digital Media available | "Images raster / digital photography", "Text" |
| Paper Archive recipient | Colchester Museum |
| Paper Archive ID | ECC4341 |
| Paper Media available | "Context sheet", "Drawing", "Photograph", "Report" |

Project bibliography

1

| | |
|-------------------------------|--|
| Publication type | Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript) |
| Title | Archaeological monitoring at 13 Duncan Road, Colchester, Essex, CO2 9AL: August 2019 |
| Author(s)/Editor(s) | Hicks, E. |
| Other bibliographic details | CAT Report 1465 |
| Date | 2019 |
| Issuer or publisher | Colchester Archaeological Trust |
| Place of issue or publication | Colchester |
| Description | A4 loose-leaf ring-bound |
| URL | http://cat.essex.ac.uk |
| Entered by | Dr Elliott Hicks (eh2@catuk.org) |
| Entered on | 30 August 2019 |

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