

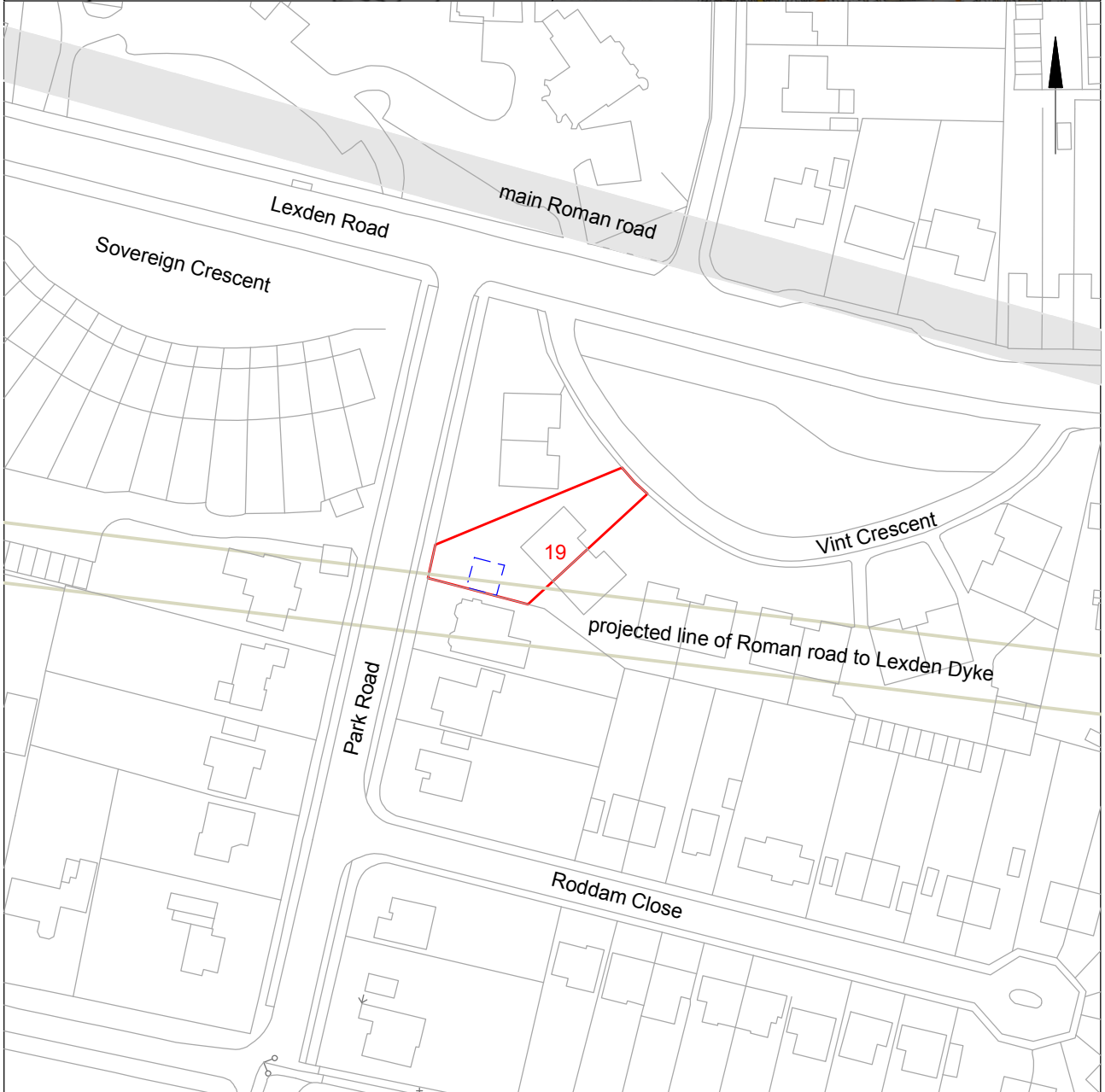
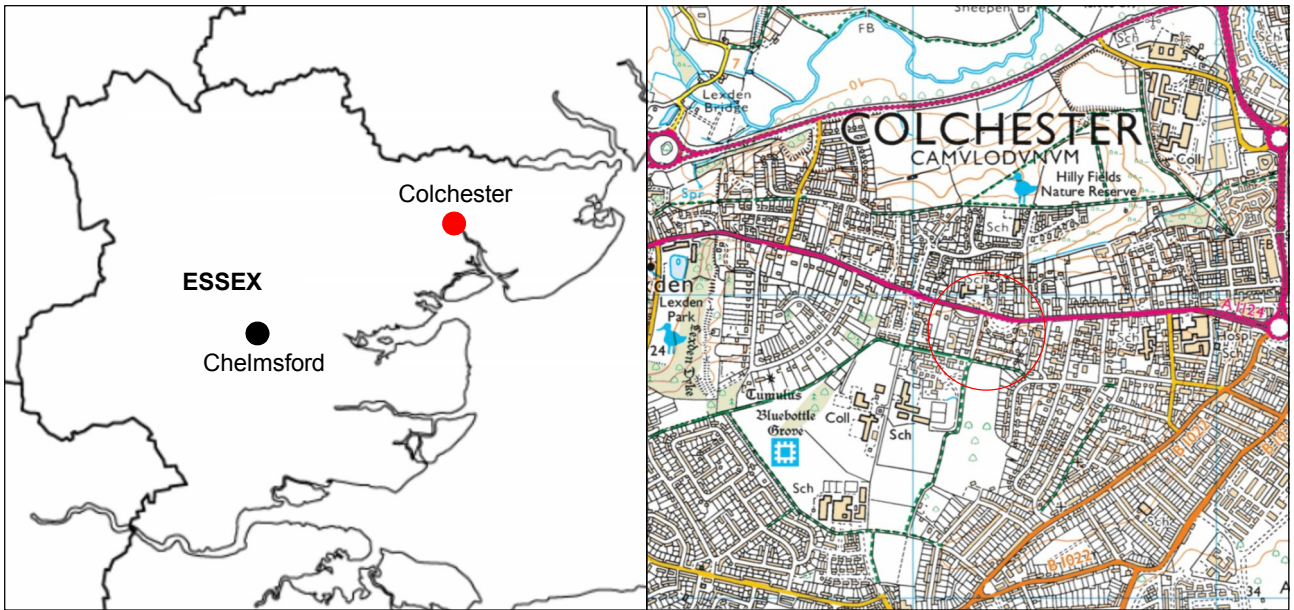


Colchester Archaeological Trust

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

Tel.: 01206 501785 Email.: services@catuk.org

CAT Report 1486 Archaeological monitoring at 19 Vint Crescent, Colchester, Essex, CO3 3QQ: October 2019	Parish: Colchester
	Planning reference: 190972
	CHER Event no.: ECC4375
	OASIS ref.: colchest3-366277
	Grid Reference: TL 98235 24882 (centre)
	Number of site visits: 1
Dates of visits: 2nd October 2019	
Nature of the work: Observation of groundworks for a new garage.	
Reason for condition: The site lies within an area of known Roman cemeteries and within the projected route of a Roman road (CHER ECC1928).	
% of total seen: 100% of the groundworks.	
Results: All groundworks were monitored by a CAT archaeologist in response to a Brief set by Jess Tipper of Colchester Borough Council Planning Services. An area measuring 6m by 6m was stripped to a depth of 0.4m through modern topsoil (L1, medium grey/brown sandy-silt) onto a modern layer of modern type-1 sub-base (L2, covered by terram membrane) which formed the base of the old, demolished garage. The new garage will be built on top of this base. As groundworks did not go below modern made-ground, no significant archaeological remains were encountered.	
	
Photograph 1 Site shot, looking south	
Recorded by: Laura Pooley (lp@catuk.org)	Date: 8.10.2019
Checked by: Philip Crummy (pc@catuk.org)	Date: 9.10.2019



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Fig 1 Site location showing projected route for the Roman road to Lexden Dyke



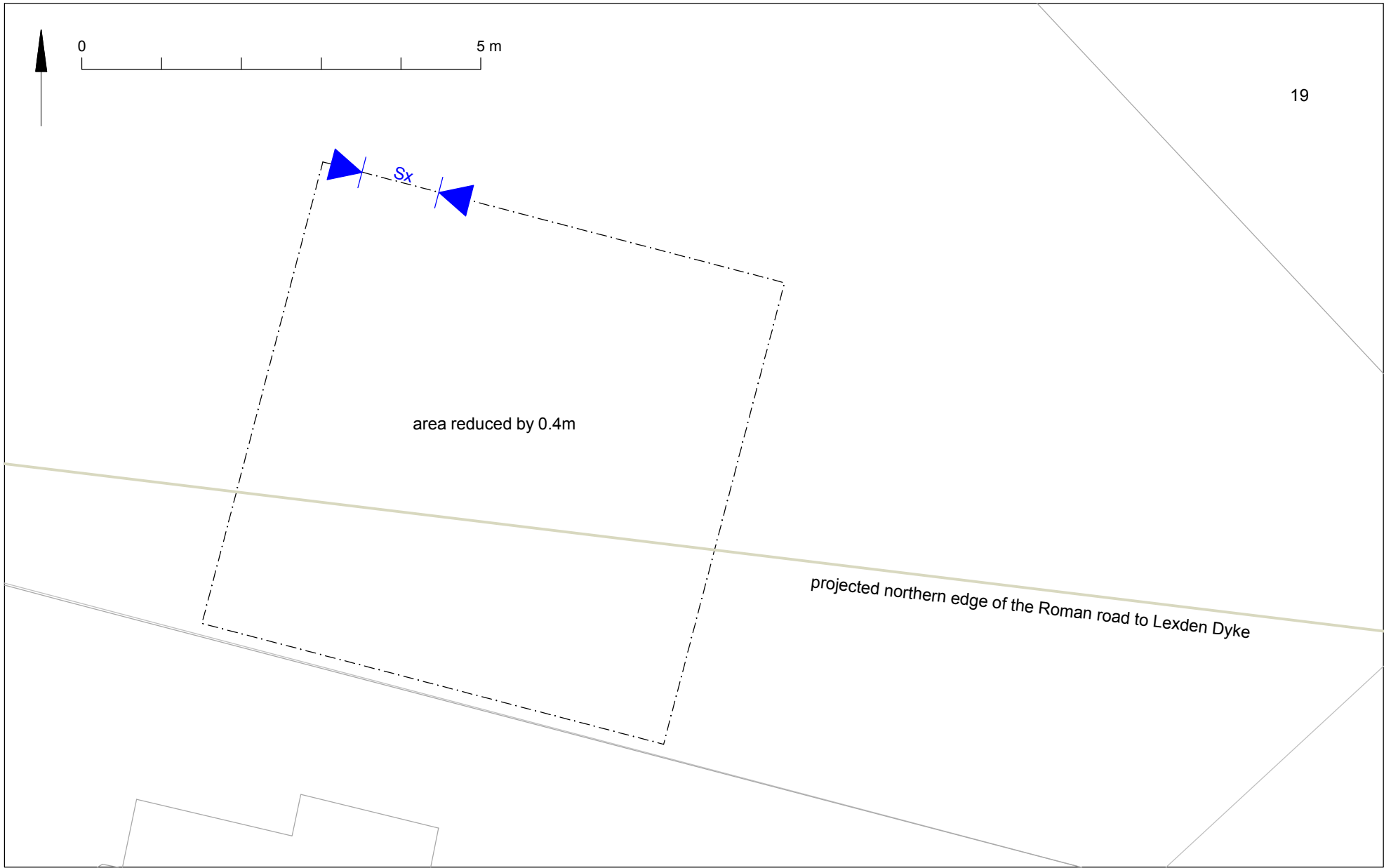


Fig 2 Results.

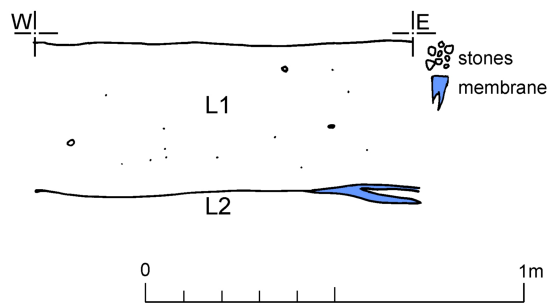


Fig 3 Representative section.

Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) for an archaeological investigation at 19 Vint Crescent, Colchester, Essex, CO3 3QQ

NGR: TL 98235 24882 (centre)

Parish: Colchester

Planning references: 190972

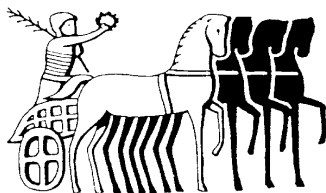
Commissioned by: Peter Johnson, Johnson Dennehy Planning Partnership
On behalf of: Mrs J Doubleday

Curating museum: Colchester
CHER number: ECC4375

CAT project code: 2019/09c
OASIS project number: colchest3-366277

Site manager: Chris Lister
CBC monitor: Jess Tipper

This WSI written: 05/09/2019



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Site location and description

The proposed development site is located 1.6km west-southwest of the historic centre of Colchester, at 19 Vint Crescent, Colchester, Essex (Fig 1). The site is centred at National Grid Reference (NGR) TL 98235 24882.

Proposed work

The development comprises the demolition of the existing garage carport and the construction of a new garage with storage.

Archaeological background

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

The development site is located within the Late Iron Age *oppidum* of Camulodunum and to the west of the Roman walled town. It is also located close to an area of Roman burials termed 'the western cemetery' by Hull (1958) but more generally known as the Lexden cemetery (CHER MCC7647). The Lexden cemetery area encompasses a number of Iron Age and Roman burial grounds on both sides of Lexden Road, which roughly corresponds to the main Roman road leading from the walled town towards London and Braughing (Hull 1958 and CAR 11). In particular, ten cremation burials were discovered at Vint Crescent in 1848 (CHER MCC2308-2317) with others known from the immediate vicinity (CHER MCC1353, MCC2511, MCC7750, MCC8069).

A Roman road is projected to run along the southern edge of the development site (ECC1928) (for location see Fig 1). In CAR 11, Fig 6.1, the road is marked with a '?' and has been projected in a straight-line between patches of gravel identified during excavations at the Colchester Royal Grammar School and an entrance through Lexden Dyke (between Lexden Dyke Middle and Lexden Dyke North). To date, there has been no evidence to confirm whether the road exists or the exact route it might have taken. Archaeological monitoring at 4 Park Road immediately to the south of the current site found no evidence for the existence of the road at that location (CAT Report 1199).

The development site is also located to the south of the Late Iron Age and early Roman settlement and industrial complex at Sheepen (CHER MCC4787, Scheduled Monument 1002173). Sheepen was extensively excavated in the 1930s (Hawkes & Hull 1947) and 1970s (Niblett 1985; CAR 11, 131-7). Finds were prolific, features included the remains of a trackway and workshops and there was evidence of metal-working and coin manufacture (Crummy 2001, 15- 16).

The Late Iron Age settlement at Sheepen was defended on its western side by the Sheepen Dyke (CHER MCC498). This was a large earth bank and ditch, which was probably constructed by c AD 10 (CAR 11, 161-2). A later addition to the Sheepen Dyke extended to the south-west for approximately 340m ('Ditch 1A') and was sectioned in several places in the 1930s (Hawkes & Hull 1947, 111-12). This stretch was possibly added shortly before the Roman invasion. It was projected to cross the southeastern corner of the Kingswode Hoe School (300m SSE of the development site). This ditch then continued towards the north bank of a stream, which is represented today by a marked dip in Sussex Road. The Sheepen Dyke was probably levelled and the ditch backfilled shortly after the Roman conquest (Crummy 2001, 90; Hawkes & Hull 1947, 51 & 112).

Archaeological investigations in and around Colchester County High School for Girls, 300m to the southwest, have revealed parts of Heath Farm Dyke North (EHER 12660, CAR 11, 32), a 'triple-ditched dyke' (EHER 12630, CAR 11, 127), a building with wooden posts (EHER 12631), palisade trenches, an irregular wattle-and-daub structure, gullies and pits (EHER 12632, CAR 11, 124-126).

Planning background

A planning application was made to Colchester Borough Council in April 2019 (application No. 190972) for the *demolition of existing garage carport and construction of new garage with storage*.

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 an archaeological investigation of all groundworks. Details are given in a Project Brief written by CBCAA (CBC 2019).

Specifically:

The investigation 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 and WSI 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 2019)
- 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.

Investigation 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.

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 investigation areas and trenches will be located by NGR coordinates.

Environmental sampling policy

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

Sampling strategies will address questions of:

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

CAT has an arrangement with Val Fryer / Lisa Gray whereby any potentially rich environmental layers or features will be appropriately sampled as a matter of course. Trained CAT staff will do any processing and the flots passed to Val Fryer / Lisa Gray for analysis and reporting.

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

Human remains

CAT follows the policy of leaving human remains *in situ* unless there is a clear indication that the remains are in danger of being compromised as a result of their exposure 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 investigation, 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. Digital site photographs will be taken and archived as per Historic England guidelines (HE 2015a)

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

non-ceramic bulk finds: Laura Pooley

animal bones (small groups): Alec Wade

flints: Adam Wightman

or to outside specialists:

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 scientific assessment/analysis. This can include soil micromorphological assessment and absolute dating (such as archaeomagnetic and/or radiocarbon dating). If suitable remains are encountered The Historic England Regional Science Advisor will be consulted for advice. A contingency will also be allocated to block-lift and conserve exceptionally well-preserved remains which cannot be avoided by the development and left *in-situ*.

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 2015b).

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. Digital archives will be curated with the Archaeology Data Service, or similar accredited digital archive repository, that safeguard the long-term curation of digital records.

The CBCAA will be notified of the archiving timetable throughout the project and once deposition has occurred.

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

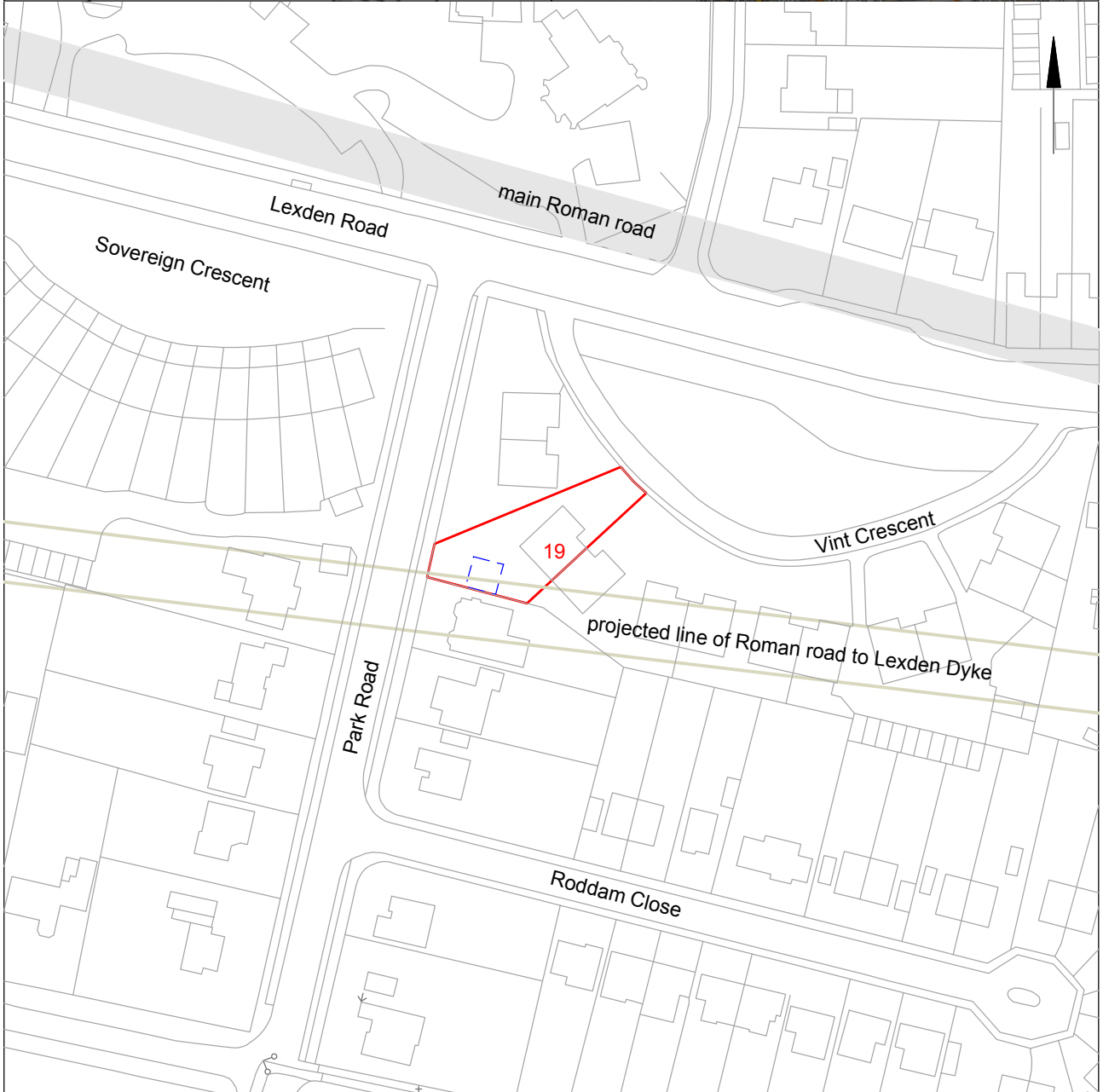
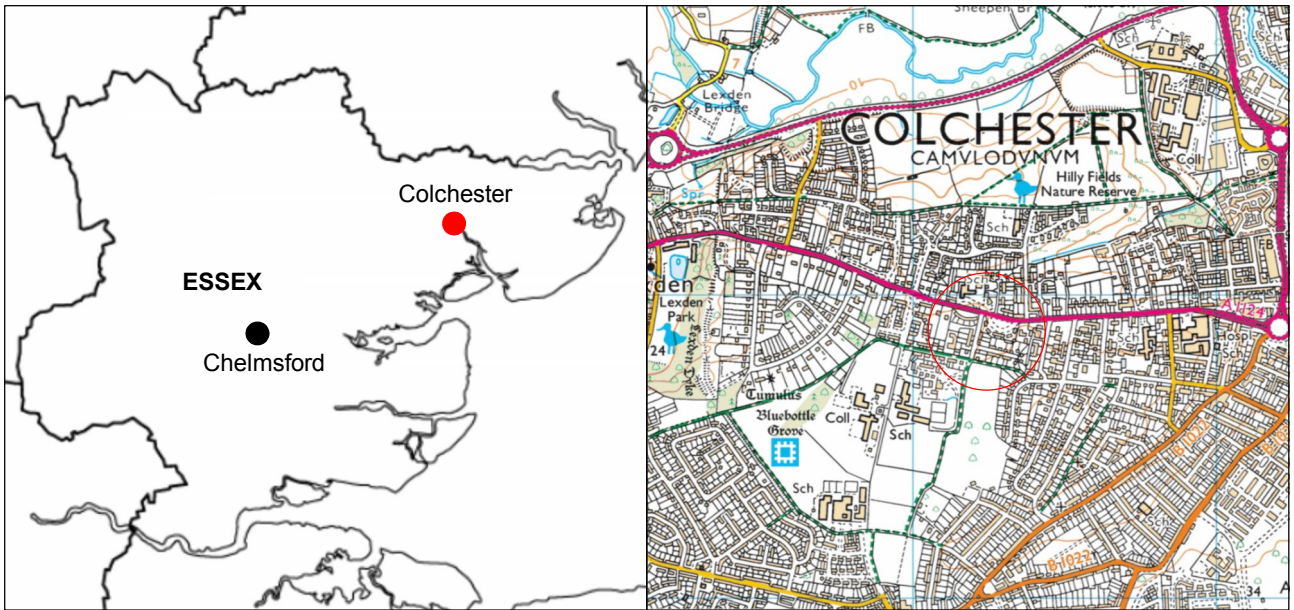
- | | | |
|---------------------------|-------|---|
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| CIFA | 2014a | <i>Standard and Guidance for an archaeological watching brief.</i> |
| CIFA | 2014b | <i>Standard and guidance for the collection, documentation, conservation and research of archaeological materials.</i> |
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Fig 1 Site location showing projected route for the Roman road to Lexden Dyke



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OASIS ID: colchest3-366277

Project details

Project name	Archaeological monitoring at 19 Vint Crescent, Colchester, Essex, CO3 3QQ: October 2019
Short description of the project	Archaeological monitoring was carried out at 19 Vint, Colchester, Essex, during groundworks for a new garage. The development site lies within an area of known Roman cemeteries and within the projected route of a Roman road. As groundworks did not go below modern made-ground, no significant archaeological remains were encountered.
Project dates	Start: 02-10-2019 End: 02-10-2019
Previous/future work	No / Not known
Any associated project reference codes	2019/09c - Contracting Unit No.
Any associated project reference codes	190972 - Planning Application No.
Any associated project reference codes	ECC4375 - HER event no.
Type of project	Recording project
Site status	None
Current Land use	Other 5 - Garden
Monument type	N/A None
Significant Finds	N/A None
Investigation type	""Watching Brief""
Prompt	Planning condition

Project location

Country	England
Site location	ESSEX COLCHESTER COLCHESTER 19 Vint Crescent
Postcode	CO3 3QQ
Study area	0 Hectares
Site coordinates	TL 98235 24882 51.886670758534 0.880899901686 51 53 12 N 000 52 51 E Point

Project creators

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

Project archives

Physical Archive Exists?	No
Digital Archive recipient	Colchester Museum
Digital Archive ID	ECC4375
Digital Contents	"other"
Digital Media available	"Images raster / digital photography", "Survey", "Text"
Paper Archive recipient	Colchester Museum
Paper Archive ID	ECC4375
Paper Contents	"other"

Paper Media available "Context sheet","Miscellaneous Material","Photograph","Plan","Report","Section"

Project bibliography 1

Publication type Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)

Title Archaeological monitoring at 19 Vint Crescent, Colchester, Essex, CO3 3QQ: October 2019

Author(s)/Editor(s) Pooley, L.

Other bibliographic details

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