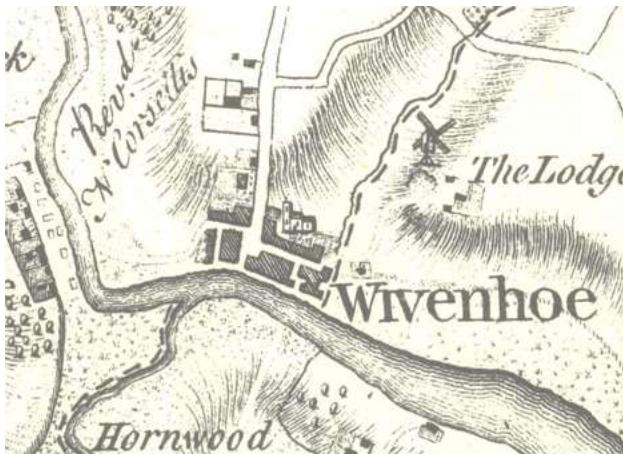


# **Archaeological monitoring and test-pit evaluation at St Mary's Church, High Street, Wivenhoe, Essex, CO7 9BD**

**April 2018-May 2020**



**by Dr Elliott Hicks**

with contributions by Dr Matthew Loughton, Laura Pooley and Adam Wightman  
figures by Chris Lister, Mark Baister and Sarah Carter

fieldwork by Mark Baister with Robin Mathieson and Sarah Carter

**commissioned by Inkpen Downie  
on behalf of the PCC of St Mary's church, Wivenhoe**

NGR: TL 0389 2150 (centre)

Planning ref.: 162526

CAT project ref.: 18/02k

Colchester Museum accession code: COLEM 2018.19

ECC code: ECC4146 & ECC4148

OASIS ref.: colchest3-310649



**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 1551**

June 2020

## Contents

1	Summary	1
2	Introduction	1
3	Archaeological background	1
4	Aim	2
5	Results	2
6	Finds	5
7	Conclusion	11
8	Acknowledgements	11
9	References	11
10	Abbreviations and glossary	12
11	Contents of archive	12
12	Archive deposition	13
	Appendix 1      Context list	14
	Appendix 2      Pottery list	15
	Appendix 3      CBM list	16

Figures after p16

CAT wsi  
OASIS summary sheet

## List of photographs, tables and figures

Cover: extract from Chapman and André's map of Essex (1777)

Photograph 1	F1 during excavation, looking east northeast	2
Photograph 2	TP3, showing F8, F9, F10 and F11 – looking west northwest	3
Photograph 3	TP4, showing F2, F3, F4, F5, F6 and F7, looking west northwest	4
Table 1	Details on the main types of ceramics and pottery and stone building material	5
Table 2	Quantities of pottery and CBM from specific features and contexts	5
Table 3	Post-Roman pottery fabrics recorded	5
Table 4	Details on the post-Roman pottery	6
Table 5	CBM by period and type	6
Table 6	Miscellaneous finds by context	10
Fig 1	Site location	
Fig 2	Test-pit locations	
Fig 3	TP3 plans	
Fig 4	TP4 plan	
Fig 5	Representative sections	

## 1 Summary

*Archaeological monitoring and an archaeological test-pit evaluation (two test-pits) was carried out at St Mary's Church, High Street, Wivenhoe, Essex in advance of the demolition of the south porch and the construction of an extension. No archaeological deposits were observed during monitoring, but test-pitting revealed ten inhumation burials and a quantity of disarticulated bone. The burials which yielded datable material gave a date range from the late 17th to the 19th century for these features, although one had disturbed an earlier burial. A 19th-century wall foundation which was probably the remains of a funerary monument was also uncovered.*

## 2 Introduction (Fig 1)

This is the report for archaeological monitoring at St Mary's Church, High Street, Wivenhoe, Essex which was carried out on 6th April 2018, and an archaeological evaluation undertaken at the site during 13th-15th May 2020. The work was commissioned by Inkpen Downie on behalf of the PCC of St Mary's Church in advance of the construction of a new extension to house a new meeting room and ancillary facilities 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 test-pitting and was based on the guidance given in the *National Planning Policy Framework* (MHCLG 2019).

All archaeological work was carried out in accordance with a *Brief for a Archaeological Evaluation*, detailing the required archaeological work, written by Dr Jess Tipper (CBCPS 2017), and a written scheme of investigation (WSI) prepared by CAT in response to the brief and agreed with CBCPS (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 development site abuts the Church of St Mary the Virgin (CHER MCC3175 & MCC8980), a 14th-century church with 19th-century alterations, lying within its churchyard (MCC10041).

In their survey of churches within the Diocese of Chelmsford, Rodwell & Rodwell (1977) described the church as 'Dull and uninteresting' and its graveyard as 'devastated and largely cleared' with only 'a few monuments' left standing. The potential for archaeological remains, however, 'could be high'.

A number of listed buildings dating from the 15th to the 19th centuries surround the church and churchyard.

## 4 Aim

Archaeological monitoring was undertaken to excavate and record any archaeological deposits which were exposed by the groundworks. The aim of the archaeological evaluation was to record the extent and depth of any surviving archaeological remains, and particularly to ascertain the presence and location of any burials within the proposed development area.

## 5 Results (Figs 2-5)

### 5.1 Monitoring

On 6th April 2018, a CAT archaeologist observed the excavation of two test-pits by hand. Test-pit TP1 was 0.5m by 0.5m and 1m deep, and was excavated through modern topsoil (L1, c 0.66-0.67m thick, soft/friable medium/dark grey/brown sandy-silt) and a post-medieval layer of mortar (L2, c 0.06m thick, soft, dry grey/beige mortar) into post-medieval buried soil or grave fill (L3, soft dry medium brown sandy-silt with frequent small stones). Test-pit TP2 was 0.5m by 0.5m and 0.66m deep. TP1 was excavated through L1 only.

No archaeological remains were encountered.

### 5.2 Test-pit evaluation

During 13-15th May 2020, CAT archaeologists carried out a test-pit evaluation. Two test-pits were machine-excavated under archaeological supervision until archaeological deposits were reached, whereupon excavations continued by hand.

#### Test-pit 3 (TP3): 2m long by 2m wide

TP3 was cut through L1 (c 0.36-0.4m thick) into L3 until inhumation burials were encountered, at a depth of 1.04-1.17m below current ground level [bcgl] (6.96-6.81m AOD). A water pipe extended along the southern edge of the test-pit, and so it was stepped-in by approximately 0.4-0.55m.



**Photograph 1** F1 during excavation – looking east northeast

Wall foundation F1 extended through the southern half of TP1 on an WNW-ESE alignment. It was constructed from red unfrogged bricks which appeared to have been cut down and re-used, and which were bonded in lime mortar. Only two courses remained. The bricks dated to the 18th or early 19th century and it is likely that the foundation was built later on during the latter century. The foundation lay upon L3 and was sealed by L1.

Inhumation burials F8, F9, F10 and F11 were uncovered. All were aligned E-W. None of the burials were fully exposed, as they were partially located beyond the limit of excavation (LOE), and all remains were left *in situ*.



**Photograph 2** TP3, showing F8, F9, F10 and F11 – looking west northwest

Post-medieval inhumation burial F8 extended from the WNW-facing LOE into the centre of the test-pit. Only the upper two-thirds of the inhumation was exposed. Small prenatal bones were present within the pelvis, indicating that the individual was an adult female. There was no trace of either arm or the left leg.

F9 was situated almost entirely beneath the bulk left in place due to the presence of the water pipe. Only the very edge of the burial was revealed by excavations, and therefore it is not possible to speculate upon the age or the sex of the individual. The remains lay upon a metal sheet which represents the remains of a lead coffin. A number of nails lay within the burial. Lead coffins were often placed within wooden coffins, and this explains their presence. Coffin burial became common from the late 17th century onwards.

Post-medieval inhumation burial F10, an intact foot and lower leg, extended from the LOE into the southwest corner of the test-pit. Further partially-disarticulated remains which may be remains of the other foot lay to south.

Post-medieval inhumation burial F11 was uncovered in the northwest corner of the test-pit. Only the lower half of the burial was exposed. The left half of the pelvis, the lower spine, and the top of left leg all lay *in situ*, but rest of the lower skeleton was missing, and was slightly misaligned compared to the others, suggesting that it has been impacted by later burials.

### Test-pit 4 (TP4): 2m long by 2m wide

TP3 was cut through L1 (c 0.36-0.43m thick) into L3 until inhumation burials were encountered, at a depth of 0.75-1m bcgl (7.27-7m AOD).

Inhumation burials F2, F3, F4, F5, F6 and F7 were uncovered. F2, F3 and F4 were all aligned E-W. F6 was a disarticulated skull while F5 and F7 were skulls which appeared to be *in situ*. None of the burials were fully exposed, as they were partially located beyond the limit of excavation (LOE), and all remains were left *in situ*.



**Photograph 3** TP4, showing F2, F3, F4, F5, F6 and F7 – looking west northwest

F2, F3 and F4 lay along the western half of the test-pit, from south to north. Only the lower half of each burial was revealed. Immediately to the north of F3 lay a further partially-disarticulated burial which was presumably disturbed when this individual was buried. Nails and other iron objects were associated with the remains, suggesting that they were interred in coffins and thus date to the period from the late 17th century onward. The remains disturbed by F3, however, must be earlier in date.

F7 was uncovered in the northeastern corner of the test-pit. Only the skull was revealed. It was possibly disarticulated, although it also lay on an E-W alignment and may have been *in situ*. A copper-alloy dress pin was recovered from this burial, indicating that it was post-medieval in date.

Inhumation burial F6 lay just to the south of F7. It consisted of a badly-degraded skull which lay on the remains of a lead coffin. A coffin handle and a copper-alloy object lay just adjacent to it. It dated to the period from the late 17th century onwards.

Inhumation burial F5 was located in the southeastern corner of the test-pit. Again, only the skull was exposed, and it too appeared to be *in situ*. Two small copper-alloy upholstery studs were recovered from this burial, suggesting that it is 18th- or 19th-century in date.

## 6 Finds

### 6.1 Ceramic finds

by Dr Matthew Loughton

The archaeological investigation produced a small assemblage of pottery, ceramic building material (henceforth CBM) and stone building material (SBM) with 61 sherds weighing just over 12 kg (Table 1). A large proportion of this material came from the layer L3 with a small quantity from layer L1, while the rest was unstratified (Table 2).

Ceramic material	no.	weight/g	MSW/g	Rim EVE
Pottery	34	690	20	0.66
CBM	26	11326	436	0
SCM	1	132	132	0
All	61	12148	202	0.66

**Table 1** Details on the main types of ceramics and pottery and stone building material

Cxt	Description	no.	weight/g	MSW/g	Rim EVE
L1	Topsoil	3	86	39	0
L3	Buried soil/grave fill	33	4,684	142	0.27
F1	Wall foundation	2	5897	2949	0
U/S	-	24	7,246	302	0.39
<b>Total</b>		<b>61</b>	<b>12,148</b>	<b>202</b>	<b>0.66</b>

**Table 2** Quantities of pottery and CBM from specific features and contexts

### Post-Roman pottery

There was a small but varied collection of post-Roman pottery (Table 3) with 34 sherds with a weight of 690g and 0.66 vessels (Table 4). The oldest material is the small quantity of medieval sandy greywares, some of which came from the layer L1 (1). There was a cooking pot dateable to c 1250/1275-1375/1400 (CAR 7, 107) although this was unstratified. The rest of the material dates to the post-medieval and modern periods and mostly consists of sherds of post-medieval red earthenwares (F40, F40A), modern English stoneware (F45M), and Staffordshire-type white earthenwares (F48D) (Table 4).

The post-medieval red earthenware (F40) includes several large bowls or panceons including one example with a sagging base dating to the late 16th to early 17th century (*ibid*, 196-8 fig. 134). There was a tubular handle from a tripod skillet dating to the 17th to early 18th century (*ibid*, 207-10) and a tripod pipkin with a bright orange glaze dating to the late 17th to 18th century (*ibid*, 208-10 fig. 143).

In Metropolitan slipware (F40A) there was a dish with a trailed white slip decoration dating to the 17th century (*ibid*, 221-223 fig. 153). There was a press-moulded dish with a combed slip decoration in Staffordshire-type slipware (F50) dating to 1650-1800 (*ibid*, 248 fig. 170). Finally, there was a large sub-rectangular dish in late slipped kitchenware (F51A) decorated with cream/white slip dots and crescents which dates to the 19th and early 20th century (*ibid*, 254-255 fig. 171 no. 3).

Fabric code	Fabric description	Fabric date range guide
F20	Medieval sandy greywares	c 1150-1375/1400
F40	Post-medieval red earthenwares	c 1500-19th/20th century
F40A	Metropolitan slipware	17th to early 18th century
F42	Border ware	16th-17th century
F45M	Modern English stoneware	19th-20th century
F46	Netherlands, Anglo-Netherlands and English tin-glazed earthenwares	Mid-16th-18th century
F48D	Staffordshire-type white earthenware	19th-20th century
F48J	Jackfield ware	1740-1800

F50	Staffordshire-type slipware	1650-1800
F51A	Late slipped kitchenware	19th-20th century

**Table 3** Post-Roman pottery fabrics recorded

Fabric Group	Fabric description	no.	weight (g)	MSW (g)	Rim	Handle	Base	EVE
F20	Medieval sandy greywares	3	17	6	1	0	0	0.06
F40	Post-medieval red earthenwares	7	302	43	3	0	0	0.20
F40A	Metropolitan slipware	1	48	48	1	0	0	0.08
F42	Border ware	3	66	22	1	1	1	0.08
F45M	Modern English stoneware	9	116	13	0	0	1	0.00
F46	Netherlands, Anglo-Netherlands and English tin-glazed earthenwares	1	3	3	0	0	0	0.00
F48D	Staffordshire-type white earthenware	6	47	8	2	0	1	0.14
F48J	Jackfield ware	2	25	13	0	1	0	0.00
F50	Staffordshire-type slipware	1	19	19	1	0	0	0.06
<b>F51A</b>	<b>Late slipped kitchenware</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>47</b>	<b>47</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0.04</b>
<b>Total</b>		<b>34</b>	<b>690</b>		<b>10</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>0.66</b>

**Table 4** Details on the post-Roman pottery

#### Ceramic building material (CBM)

There were 26 sherds of CBM with a weight of just over 11 kg and this consists of a variety of Roman and medieval to post-medieval material (Table 5). Most of the CBM consists of sherds of peg-tile and post-Roman brick. Presumably, the small quantity of Roman CBM, which includes two sherds of combed Roman flue box-tile, has been reused and some sherds had traces of modern mortar. There were a small number of unfrogged brick fragments including a brick from wall foundation F1 with dimensions of 220 mm x 110 x 65 mm which is perhaps an 18th or early 19th century red brick according to Ryan's Essex brick typology (1996, 95).

CBM code	CBM type	no.	weight (g)	MSW (g)
Roman				
RI	Roman imbrex	5	1,803	361
RF	Roman flue tile	2	158	79
RBT	?	1	81	81
Post-Roman				
PT	Peg-tile	10	1,533	153
BR	Brick	6	7,080	1,180
FT	Floor tile?	1	543	543
	Cement/mortar	1	128	128
	<b>Total</b>	<b>124</b>	<b>30,749</b>	<b>248</b>

**Table 5** CBM by period and type

#### Stone building material (SBM)

A piece of roofing slate with a weight of 132g which came from the layer L3 (10).

#### Conclusion

Most of the pottery ranges in date from the 17th to the 19th/early 20th century. The brick recovered from wall foundation F1 can be dated to the 18th and early 19th century, although it had been re-used to construct a later structure.

## 6.2 Coffin furniture and other small finds

by Laura Pooley

A significant quantity of iron coffin furniture was recovered from L3 in TP3 and TP4, along with a single coffin handle from L1 in TP4, and all of these items likely came from truncated late 17th- to 19th-century burials. Additional finds included two small copper-alloy upholstery studs (also from a coffin), a copper-alloy dress pin and a fragment of bone handle.

Burial in a coffin became common from the late 17th century onwards with coffin decoration becoming increasingly elaborate by the early 18th century (Webb & Norton 2009, 173). Metal coffin fittings included handles (also known as grips), grip plates, upholstery studs, breastplates, headplates and footplates, and most of the finds recovered during archaeological work at St Mary's Church consisted of iron handles and grip plates. Handles were commonly fixed to the coffin using decorative grip plates and would have been placed at intervals around the outside of the coffin, normally three to each side and one at each end for an adult-sized coffin or two per side for a child-sized coffin (Reeve & Adams 1993, 83). Given the size of the handles and the weight of the coffin with occupant inside, most were likely to be purely decorative (Reeve & Adams 1993, 83). The handles and grip plates recovered at St Mary's church were made from the cheapest metal available (Webb & Norton 2009, 159).

### Coffin furniture from L3 TP4 (finds no. 6)

Seven iron coffin handles were attached to iron grip plates (SF1-SF7). The plates are all flat, long and narrow with bowed edges that taper towards lobed terminals at each end. Two double-spiked loop attachments pass through each of the plates. At the front the loops hold the handle in place and at the back the arms of the double-spike would have passed through the wooden coffin and bent at 90° to fix the plate and handle in place. All of the drop-handles are angled, consisting of a long straight bar (with round cross-section, some expanded at the centre) bent to form two short arms, which are bent again to pass through the looped attachment. The plates are too corroded to determine if any of them were originally decorated. Similar plates and handles were recorded at Rivenhall Church to the southwest of Colchester (Rodwell & Rodwell 1993, Fig 23.6), but the examples from St Mary's Church were too corroded to determine if they had the same cut-outs and rivet-holes. An angled coffin handle without grip plate was also present among the assemblage (SF8).

**SF1** Almost complete plate, slight damage to one terminal and both arms of the double-spiked loops, 170mm long, 40mm wide at centre, 60mm wide at terminals, 3.4mm thick. Angled handle complete and attached to plate, 136.5mm long, 32.9mm drop (length of arms). Total 161.2g.

**SF2** Incomplete plate with one lobed terminal missing and both arms of the double-spiked loops damaged, 175mm long, 50mm wide at centre, 60mm wide at terminals, 3.4mm thick. Angled handle complete and attached to plate, 156mm long, 35mm drop (length of arms). Total 219.7g. Includes a small circular domed-shaped attachment in the centre of the bottom edge of the plate, similar in appearance to the stopper of a door-knocker.

**SF3** Incomplete plate with one lobed terminal missing and both arms of the double-spiked loops damaged, 180mm long, 53mm wide at centre, 72mm wide at terminals, 3.9mm thick, with traces of mineralised wood on the reverse. Angled handle complete and attached to plate, 141mm long, 32mm drop (length of arms). Total 243.8g.

**SF4** Incomplete plate with both lobed terminals missing and both arms of the double-spiked loops damaged with one now broken away from the plate, 190mm long, 50mm wide at centre, 4.3mm thick. Angled handle complete and partially attached to plate, 180mm long, 37mm drop (length of arms). Total 267.9g. There appears to be a triangular-shaped cut-out in the plate.

**SF5** Incomplete plate with both lobed terminals missing and both arms of the double-spiked loops damaged, 180mm long, 50mm wide at centre, 4.4mm thick. Angled handle complete and attached to plate, 160mm long, 37mm drop (length of arms). Total 265.5g.

**SF6** Plate badly damaged and incomplete with both arms of the double-spiked loops damaged, 150mm long, 44mm wide at centre, 3mm thick, with traces of mineralised wood on the reverse. Angled handle complete and attached to plate, 127mm long, 36mm drop (length of arms). Total 156.1g.

**SF7** Plate badly damaged and incomplete with both arms of the double-spiked loops damaged, 190mm long, 62mm wide at centre, 4.1mm thick, with traces of mineralised wood on the reverse. Angled handle complete and attached to plate, 131mm long, 30mm drop (length of arms). Total 180.7g.

**SF8** Angled coffin handle similar to those attached to plates above (SF1-SF7). The remains of double-spiked loops are still attached to both ends of the handle. 137mm long, 33mm drop (length of arms), 92.9g.

A fragment of grip plate with the remains of a small angled handle attached to it probably came from a child's coffin (SF9). The plate is possibly of a similar shape to SF1-SF7, but too much is missing to be certain. A second small angled handle also likely came from a child's coffin (SF10).

**SF9** Fragment of iron plate probably similar in shape to those above as fragment appears to include a lobed terminal but too fragmented to be certain. One incomplete double-spiked loop is present, attached to an incomplete angled handle. There appears to be a nail through the end of the plate, for additional attachment. The plate and handle are very small compared to examples 1-7 and probably come from a child's coffin. Plate: 46mm long, 32mm wide, 3.2mm thick. Handle: 56mm long, 16mm drop (length of arms). 14.3g.

**SF10** Complete angled coffin handle similar to those attached to plates above but much smaller, probably from a child's coffin, 90mm long, 20mm drop (length of arms), 14.3g.

The assemblage also included nine rounded coffin handles (SF11-SF19). A thin strip of plate was corroded onto the reverse of one of the handles and seven included the partial remains of one or two double-looped spikes. The handles have a round or oval cross-section, are usually expanded at the centre, and are rounded in appearance with two short straight projections at either end which would pass through the looped attachments for fixing. Similar handles have been recorded from Rivenhall Church (Rodwell & Rodwell 1993, Fig 23.1 – handle only) and at Spitalfields, London (Reeve & Adams 1993, Type 2a grips, illustrated in microfiche).

**SF11** Rounded coffin handle with round cross-section, expanded in centre, handle has a thin strip of plate corroded onto it and one incomplete double-spiked loop is present, 119mm long, 57.4g.

**SF12** Rounded coffin handle with round cross-section, expanded in centre, one incomplete double-spiked loop is present, 155mm long, 65.3g.

**SF13** Rounded coffin handle with round cross-section, expanded in centre, one incomplete double-spiked loop is present, 137mm long, 58.4g.

**SF14** Rounded coffin handle with round cross-section, expanded in centre, incomplete double-spiked loops present at both ends, 128mm long, 55.7g.

**SF15** Rounded coffin handle with round cross-section, expanded in centre, 131mm long, 52.7g.

**SF16** Rounded coffin handle with round cross-section, expanded in centre, 114mm long, 50.1g.

**SF17** Rounded coffin handle with round cross-section, expanded in centre, incomplete double-spiked loops present at both ends, 115mm long, 43.7g.

**SF18** Rounded coffin handle with expanded centre which is oval in cross-section, incomplete double-spiked loops present at both ends, 136mm long, 84.5g.

**SF19** Rounded coffin handle with expanded centre which is oval in cross-section, incomplete double-spiked loops present at both ends, 121mm long, 40.8g.

Other finds included two tin plates which could possibly be coffin furniture (SF20-SF21) and 22 iron coffin nails.

**SF20** Crown-shaped tin plate, incomplete, 78mm long, 35mm wide, 1mm thick, 5.2g.

**SF21** Rectangular tin plate with one corner cut diagonally, includes one small round perforation, a small neat triangular cut-out, and an irregular rectangular-shaped cut-out where the edges have been bent backwards rather than cut off, 148mm long, 102mm wide, 50.0g.

Twenty-two iron coffin nails, where complete 42-62mm long, total 111.3g. The nails have square-sectioned shanks, small sub-square and rectangular heads (where the width of the head is the same as the shank), and all have traces of mineralised wood on the surfaces.

#### **Coffin furniture from L3 TP3 (finds no. 11)**

Two angled handles with grip plates came from L3 in TP3. The first plate (SF22) was incomplete and damaged but appeared to be of similar shape to SF1-SF7 (SF22). The second (SF23) was oval in shape, but it was too corroded to determine if this was the intended shape of the plate or if the lobed terminals had been broken off. Both plates had angled handles attached by double-spiked loops, and both were too corroded to tell if the plates had originally been decorated. Two angled handles (SF24-SF25), three rounded handles (SF26-SF28) and five iron coffin nails were also present.

**SF22** Incomplete and damaged plate, but appears to be of a similar shape to nos. 1-7. Angled handle complete with both double-spike loops present but damaged. Plate: 190mm long, 52mm wide at centre, 64mm wide at terminals, 3.5mm thick. Handle: 152mm long, 34mm drop (length of arms). Total 255.2g.

**SF23** Oval-shaped plate, corrosion makes it difficult to determine if this is its actual shape or if the terminals are missing. Angled handle complete with both double-spike loops present but damaged. Traces of mineralised wood on reverse of plate. Plate: 160mm long, 48mm wide at centre, 4.3mm thick. Handle: 137mm long, 35mm drop (length of arms). 234.6g.

**SF24** Incomplete angled handle, attached at one end by an incomplete double-spiked loop to a small fragment of coffin plate, 127mm long, 33mm drop (length of arms), 108.0g. Discarded.

**SF25** Incomplete angled handle with both arms missing, 118mm long, 80.1g. Discarded.

**SF26** Complete rounded handle with thin strip of plate adhering, both double-spiked loops present but damaged, 126mm long, 83.5g. Discarded.

**SF27** Incomplete rounded handle with both arms missing, 95mm long, 44.3g. Discarded.

**SF28** Incomplete rounded handle with both arms missing, 92mm long, 27.2g. Discarded.

Five iron coffin nails, where complete 61-76mm long, total 115.3g. The nails have square-sectioned shanks, small round and rectangular heads (where the width of the head is the same as the shank), and all have traces of mineralised wood on the surfaces.

Two strips of iron (SF29-SF30) and a thin strip of wavy iron bar (SF31) also came from this context, but are unlikely to be coffin fittings.

**SF29** Rectangular strip of iron, bent and incomplete, 200mm long, 33m wide, 2.5mm thick, 68.1g.

**SF30** Rectangular strip of iron, bent at both ends, 200mm long, 33m wide, 2.5mm thick, 44.4g.

**SF31** Strip of wavy iron bar, 118mm long, 8mm wide, 6mm thick, 30.7g.

#### **Coffin furniture from L1 TP4 (finds no. 3)**

A complete angled handle came from topsoil L1 in TP4 (SF32).

**SF32** Complete angled handle with expanded central bar, 133mm long, 33mm wide, 84.2g.

#### Coffin furniture and other small finds from TP4

In addition to the finds listed above, two small copper-alloy upholstery studs came from L3/F5 (SF33-SF34), a copper-alloy dress pin with globular head (**CAR 5**, Type 2) from L3/F7 (SF35), and a fragment of bone handle with iron rivets from L3 (SF36). The upholstery studs would have come from a coffin, and it is possible that the dress pin was used on a shroud but could equally have been a casual loss. All of these items are of post-medieval date, the upholstery studs probably dating to the 18th or 19th century.

**SF33** L3/F5, TP4, finds no. 7. Small copper-alloy upholstery stud with round-sectioned shank and flat oval head, 10.3mm long, 0.2g. Post-medieval, 18th-19th century.

**SF34** L3/F5, TP4, finds no. 7. Small copper-alloy upholstery stud with round-sectioned shank, head missing, 8.8mm long, <0.1g. Post-medieval, 18th-19th-century.

**SF35** L3/F7, TP4, finds no. 6. Small copper-alloy dress pin with globular head (**CAR 5**, Type 2), now broken in half, 29.4mm long, <0.1g. Post-medieval.

**SF36** L3, TP4. Fragment of bone scale plate probably from a knife handle, broken at one end, D-shaped in cross-section, plain but polished. Holes for two iron rivets have been drilled into the scale from the flat reverse so that they cannot be seen from the front, one of the rivets is still in place. 46.5mm long, 22.4mm wide, 8.3mm thick, 9.1g. Post-medieval.

### 6.3 Miscellaneous finds

by Laura Pooley

Miscellaneous finds included five fragments of post-medieval bottle glass, 18 fragments of clay tobacco pipe stem and a complete clay tobacco pipe bowl from the maker Stephen Chamberlain Rand, listed in Piggot's and Kelly's Directories over the period 1827-1855 (**CAR 5**, 64).

Context	Finds no.	Description	Qt	Wt g
L3 TP3	10	<b>Clay tobacco pipe stems:</b> Fragments of plain stem, one of which includes the heel but no part of the bowl. All discarded. <b>Clay tobacco pipe bowl:</b> Complete bowl, small with wide mouth, mouth cut parallel to stem, spurred foot with flat tip, SR in relief on the sides of the foot. A similar shaped pipe is illustrated in <b>CAR 5</b> ref. 2906 where it is not included in the Colchester type series but listed as a miscellaneous undecorated pipe. SR is Stephen Chamberlain Rand, listed in Piggot's and Kelly's Directories over the period 1827-1855 ( <b>CAR 5</b> , 64). Retained in the finds archive. <b>Oyster shell:</b> two left valves, large (103.9mm long by 114mm wide) and small (49.5mm long by 64.4mm wide). Discarded.	13 1 2	58.8 6.4 156.1
L1 TP4 OR L3 TP4	2 OR 4	Finds accidentally mixed up from two separate contexts. <b>Clay tobacco pipe stems:</b> Fragments of plain stem, one of which includes the heel but no part of the bowl. All discarded. <b>Glass:</b> Fragments of post-medieval olive green bottle glass. All discarded.	5 5	32.6 43.3

**Table 6** Miscellaneous finds by context

#### 6.4 Flints

by Adam Wightman

Two worked flints were recovered from L3 in TP3. One is a large, retouched secondary flake detached from its parent core using a hard hammer. The flake has been retouched on both lateral edges; a small notch has been retouched on the left lateral edge and a short length of abrupt ?scraper retouch is on the right lateral edge. The retouched flake probably dates to the Late Neolithic or Bronze Age, but could be earlier. The second worked flint is a small, tertiary blade or bladelet. It was detached from the parent core using a punch or a soft hammer and there is evidence of the striking platform/edge having been prepared before the blade was detached. Unlike the other worked flint from this context, the blade is patinated on all surfaces. There is evidence of use-wear or edge-damage on both lateral edges, but neither edge is retouched. The blade dates to either the Mesolithic or Early Neolithic.

### 7 Conclusion

Groundworks abutting the church revealed no archaeological remains, although a layer of mortar which forms part of the church's foundation was exposed. Test-pitting at the site, however, uncovered the remains of ten individuals. Four inhumation burials were exposed in test-pit TP3 at a depth of 1.04-1.17m bcgl (6.96-6.81m AOD), and six inhumations in test-pit TP4 at a depth of 0.75-1m bcgl (7.27-7m AOD).

The burials were mostly arranged in rows with a small gap between each one, indicating a planned layout of burials. At least one was truncated by an earlier burial, and an amount of disarticulated human remains were also recovered, suggesting that a high concentration of burials lie in this area. The large concentration of coffin furniture present amongst these remains indicates that these individuals were interred from the late 17th century onwards, and there is a high likelihood that further earlier burials underlie those uncovered here.

The remains were left in situ and so it is not possible to provide information on their sex, age, ethnicities, morbidities, possible causes of death, occupations or diets. One was clearly female, however, as prenatal bones were present within its pelvis.

A 19th-century wall foundation was also uncovered. It is likely that this represents the remains of a funerary monument.

### 8 Acknowledgements

CAT thanks Inkpen Downie and the PCC of St Mary's Church, Wivenhoe, for commissioning and funding the work. The project was managed by C Lister, fieldwork was carried out by M Baister with R Mathieson and S Carter. Figures are by C Lister, M Baister and S Carter. The project was monitored for Colchester Borough Council by Dr Jess Tipper.

### 9 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>  |
| Brown, N & Glazenbrook, J | 2000 | <i>Research and Archaeology: A Framework for the Eastern Counties 2 – Research Agenda and Strategy</i> , East Anglian Archaeology Occasional Papers 8 (EAA 8) |
| CAR 5                     | 1988 | <i>Colchester Archaeological Report 5: The post-Roman small finds from excavations in Colchester 1971-85</i> , by N Crummy                                    |
| CAR 7                     | 2000 | <i>Colchester Archaeological Report 7: Post-Roman pottery from</i>  |

CAT	2014	<i>excavations in Colchester, 1971-85, by J Cotter</i>
CBCPS	2017	<i>Health &amp; Safety Policy</i>
		<i>Brief for archaeological evaluation at St Marys Church, High Street, Wivenhoe, Colchester, by Dr J Tipper</i>
ClfA	2014a	<i>Standard and Guidance for an archaeological evaluation</i>
ClfA	2014b	<i>Standard and Guidance for an archaeological watching brief</i>
ClfA	2014c	<i>Standard and guidance for the collection, documentation, conservation and research of archaeological materials</i>
ClfA	2014d	<i>Standard and guidance for archaeological investigation and recording of standing buildings or structures</i>
DCLG	2012	<i>National Planning Policy Framework</i>
English Heritage	2006	<i>Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment (MoRPHE)</i>
English Heritage	2006	<i>Understanding Historic Buildings. A guide to good recording practice</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>
Reeve, J & Adams, M	1993	<i>The Spitalfields Project, Volume 1: Across the Styx</i>
Rodwell, W J & Rodwell, K A	1977	<i>Historic Churches: a wasting asset</i>
Rodwell, W J & Rodwell, K A	1993	<i>Rivenhall: investigations of a Roman villa, church and village, 1950-1977, Volume 2: Specialist studies and Index to Volumes 1 and 2</i>
Ryan, P	1996	<i>Brick in Essex from the Roman Conquest to the Reformation</i>
Webb, H & Norton, A	2009	<i>'The medieval and post-medieval graveyard of St Peter-le-Bailey at Bonn Square, Oxford', Oxoniensia 74, 137-79</i>

## 10 Abbreviations and glossary

Bronze Age	period from c 2500 – 700 BC
CAT	Colchester Archaeological Trust
CBC	Colchester Borough Council
CBCAA	Colchester Borough Council Archaeological Advisor
CBCPS	Colchester Borough Council Planning Services
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
Mesolithic	period from c 10,000 – 4000BC
modern	period from c AD 1800 to the present
Neolithic	period from c 4000 – 2500 BC
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>
peg-tile	rectangular thin tile with peg-hole(s) used mainly for roofing, first appeared c AD1200 and continued in use to present day, but commonly post-medieval to modern
post-medieval	from c AD 1500 to c 1800
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:** part of one box (flints, coffin furniture)

**Paper record**

One A4 document wallet containing:

The report (CAT Report 1551)  
CBC evaluation brief, CAT written scheme of investigation  
Original site record (layer sheets, finds sheet, sections)  
Site digital photos and log  
**Digital record**  
The report (CAT Report 1551)  
CBC evaluation brief, CAT written scheme of investigation  
Site digital photographs, thumbnails and log  
Graphic files  
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: 2018.19

© Colchester Archaeological Trust 2020

### Distribution list:

Inkpen Downie  
PCC of St Mary's church, Wivenhoe  
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: 02.06.2020

### **Appendix 1 Context list**

Context Number	Finds Number	Feature / layer type	Description	Date
L1	1, 2, 3	Topsoil	Soft/friable, medium/dark grey/brown sandy-silt	Late 19th / early 20th century
L2	-	Mortar layer	Soft, dry grey/beige mortar	Post-medieval
L3	4, 5, 6, 10, 11	Buried soil / grave fill	Soft dry medium brown sandy-silt with frequent small stones	Post-medieval
<hr/>				
F1	9	Wall foundation	Constructed from re-used unfrogged soft red bricks bonded with lime mortar	19th century
F2	-	Inhumation burial	Soft dry medium brown sandy-silt with frequent small stones	Late 17th century or later
F3	-	Inhumation burial	Soft dry medium brown sandy-silt with frequent small stones	Late 17th century or later
F4	-	Inhumation burial	Soft dry medium brown sandy-silt with frequent small stones	Late 17th century or later
F5	7	Inhumation burial	Soft dry medium brown sandy-silt with frequent small stones	18th-19th century
F6	-	Inhumation burial	Soft dry medium brown sandy-silt with frequent small stones	Late 17th century or later
F7	8	Inhumation burial	Soft dry medium brown sandy-silt with frequent small stones	Post-medieval
F8	-	Inhumation burial	Soft dry medium brown sandy-silt with frequent small stones	?Post-medieval
F9	-	Inhumation burial	Soft dry medium brown sandy-silt with frequent small stones	Late 17th century or later
F10	-	Inhumation burial	Soft dry medium brown sandy-silt with frequent small stones	?Post-medieval
F11	-	Inhumation burial	Soft dry medium brown sandy-silt with frequent small stones	?Post-medieval

**Appendix 2 Pottery list**

Cxt	Feature type	Find no.	TR	NR	GR.	MSW	Discard	Rim	Handle	Base	Dec.	STAMP	GRAF Pre-F	GRAF Post-F	Wmd Int	Wmd Ex	Soot Int	Soot Ex	Burn Int	Burn Ext	Overfired	Residue	Abraded	Modif	Mark	Repair hole	Hole	Disc	Polishing	Fabric Grp	EVE	Diam	Vessel Height	Comments	Date			
L1		1	TP1	2	8	4	X																									F20		c 1150-1400				
L3		10	TP3	1	13	13	X	0	0	1																									19th to 20th century			
L3		10	TP3	1	48	48	X	1	0	0																								combed slip decoration	17th century			
L3		10	TP3	1	112	112	X	1	0	0																									Late 16th-early 17th century			
L3		10	TP3	1	17	17	X	1	0	0																									16th-17th century			
L3		10	TP3	3	25	8	X																													19th to 20th century		
L3		10	TP3	3	64	21	X																													19th to 20th century		
L3		10	TP3	1	3	3	X																													18th-19th century		
L3		10	TP3	1	19	19	X	1	0	0																									press-moulded dish with combed dec.	1650-1800		
L3		10	TP3	1	19	19	X	1	0	0																									19th to 20th century			
L3		10	TP3	2	19	10	X																													1740-1800		
?	?	2	25	13	X	0	1	0																											16th-17th century			
?	?	2	2	49	25	X	0	1	1																										19th to 20th century			
?	?	2	4	33	8	X	0	0	1																										19th to 20th century			
?	?	2	2	9	5	X	2	0	0																										19th to 20th century			
?	?	2				X																														late 17th-18th century		
?	?	6	190	32	X	2	0	0																											late 16th-1800			
?	?				X																																	
?	?	1	47	47	X	1	0	0																												Sub-rect. Dish	19th to 20th century	
?	?	1	9	9	X	1	0	0																												Cooking pot	1250/12 75-1375/14 00	

**Appendix 3 CBM list**

Cx#	Feature type	Find no.	TR	NR.	GR.	MSW	Discard	Typology	Sub-type	Flange		Cut Aways		Marks 1		Marks 2		Flue tile				Peg-tile		Brick dim.			Mortar		Burnt	Over-fired												
										NR	FL	MNI	FL	LCA	L	UCA	L	Stamp	Sign	Tally	Graf	PF	Animal	Shoe	Scored	Comb	Roller	Circ. VT	Rct. VT	Bl. VT	PH	R	PH	SQ	2 PHs	Blind	L	BR.	TH.	Modif.	Comments	Date
L1		1	TP1	1	78	78	X		PT																												Medieval / post-medieval					
L3		10	TP3	4	1727	432	X		RI																											Roman						
L3		10	TP3	1	81	81	X		RBT																											cream fabric	Roman					
L3		10	TP3	2	824	412	X		PT																											Medieval / post-medieval						
L3		10	TP3	1	35	35	X		PT																											Medieval / post-medieval						
L3		10	TP3	3	1004	334.67	X	BR	frogged																											18th-19th century						
F1		?	?	1	2406	2406	X	BR	frogged																										18th-19th century							
F1		?	?	1	3491	3491	X	BR																										3 bricked bonded together	18th-19th century							
L3		10	TP3	1	64	64	X		PT																										Medieval / post-medieval							
L3		10	TP3	1	128	128	X	Cement	?																										19th to 20th century							
L3		10	TP3	1	69	69	X	RFT																											Roman							
L3		10	TP3	3	177	59	X	PT																											Medieval / post-medieval							
L3		10	TP3	1	76	76	X	RI																											Roman							
L3		10	TP3	1	179	179	X	BR																											18th-19th century							
?		?	?	1	89	89	X	RFT																												Roman						
?		?	?	1	167	167	X	PT																											Medieval / post-medieval							
?		?	?	1	188	188	X	PT																											Medieval / post-medieval							
?		?	?	1	543	543	X	BR/floor tile																											Post-Medieval							
L3		10	TP3	1	132	132	X	Slate	Roofing slate																											19th to 20th century						

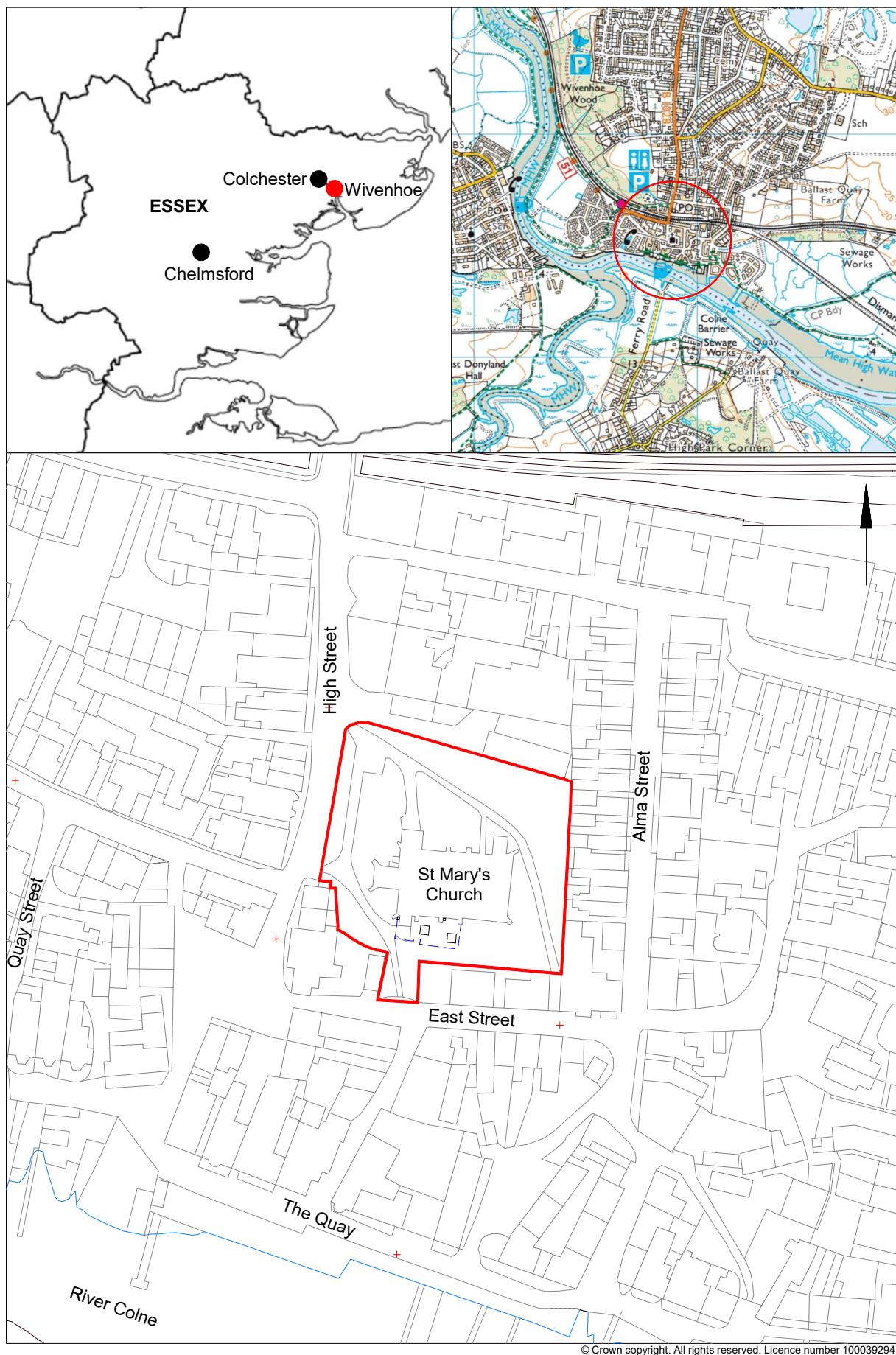


Fig 1 Site location, proposed development dashed blue

0 50 m

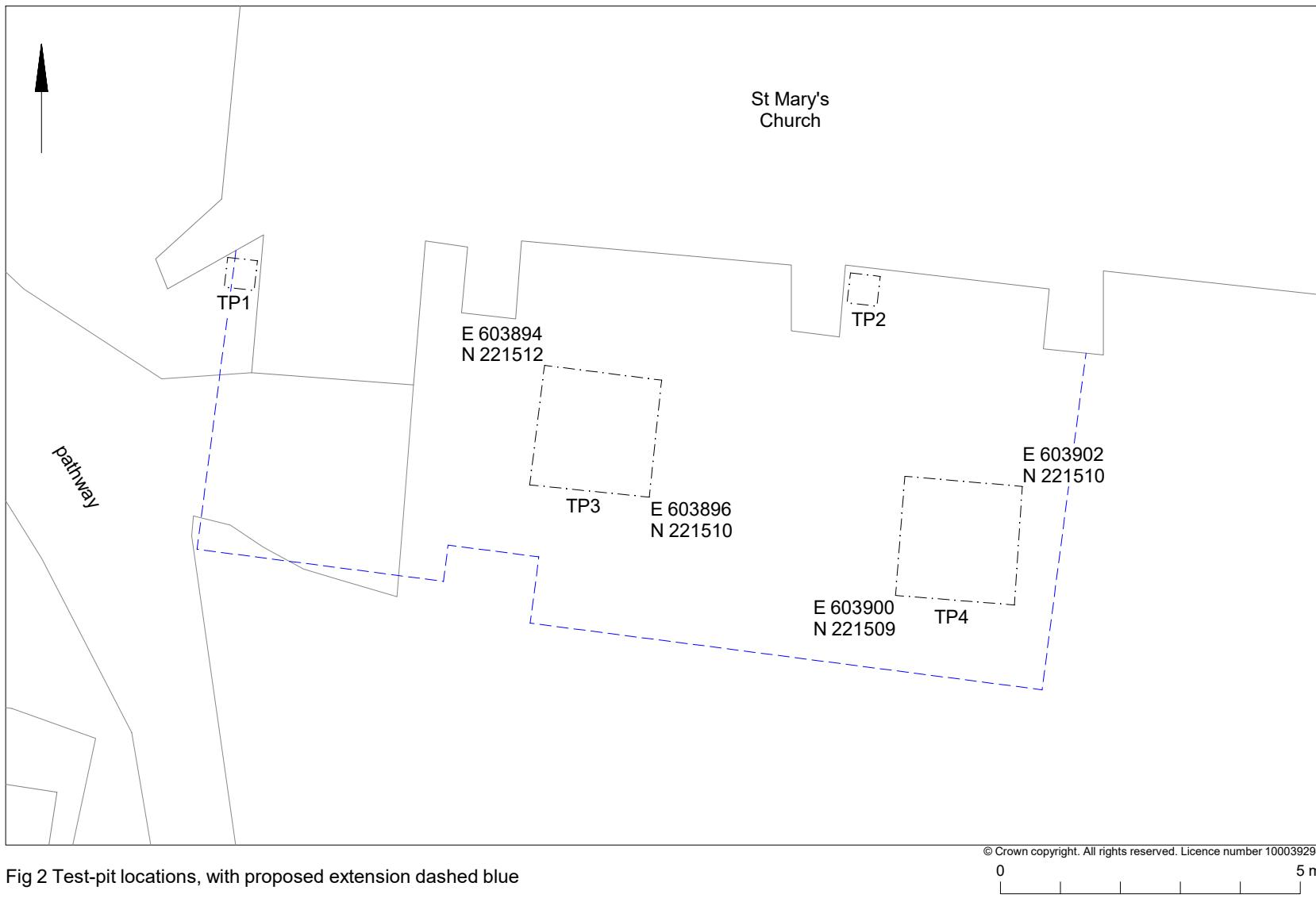
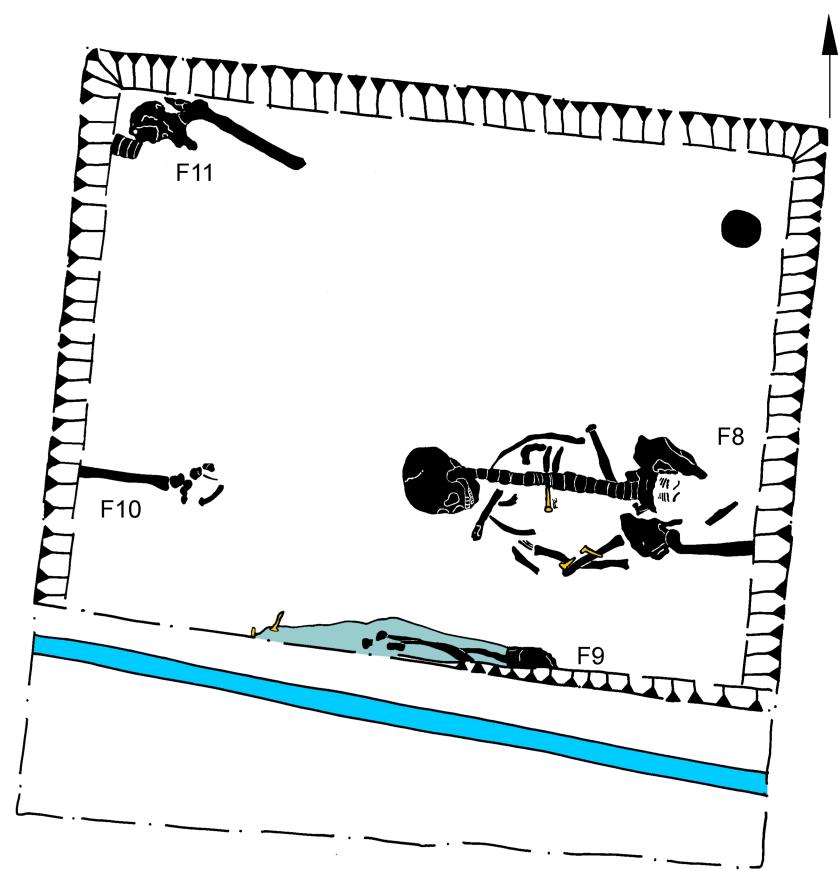
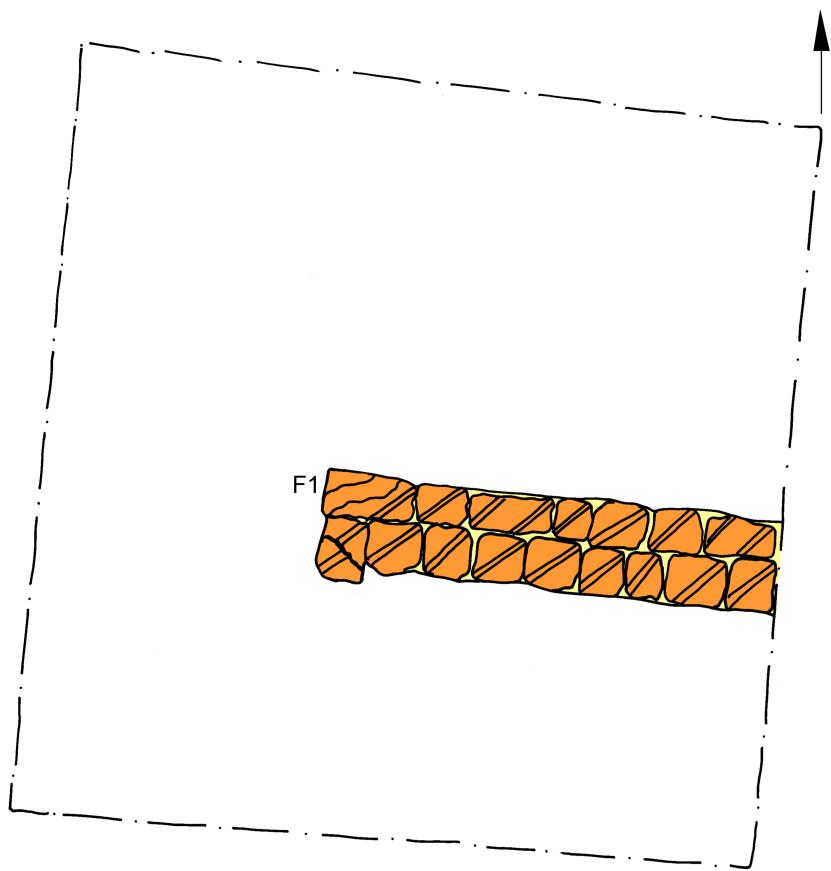


Fig 2 Test-pit locations, with proposed extension dashed blue

0 5 m



stones	human bone
sand	iron object
roots	copper-alloy object
# charcoals	clay-pipe
post-Roman brick	coffin fragments
mortar fragments	modern service

0 1m

Fig 3 TP3 plans.

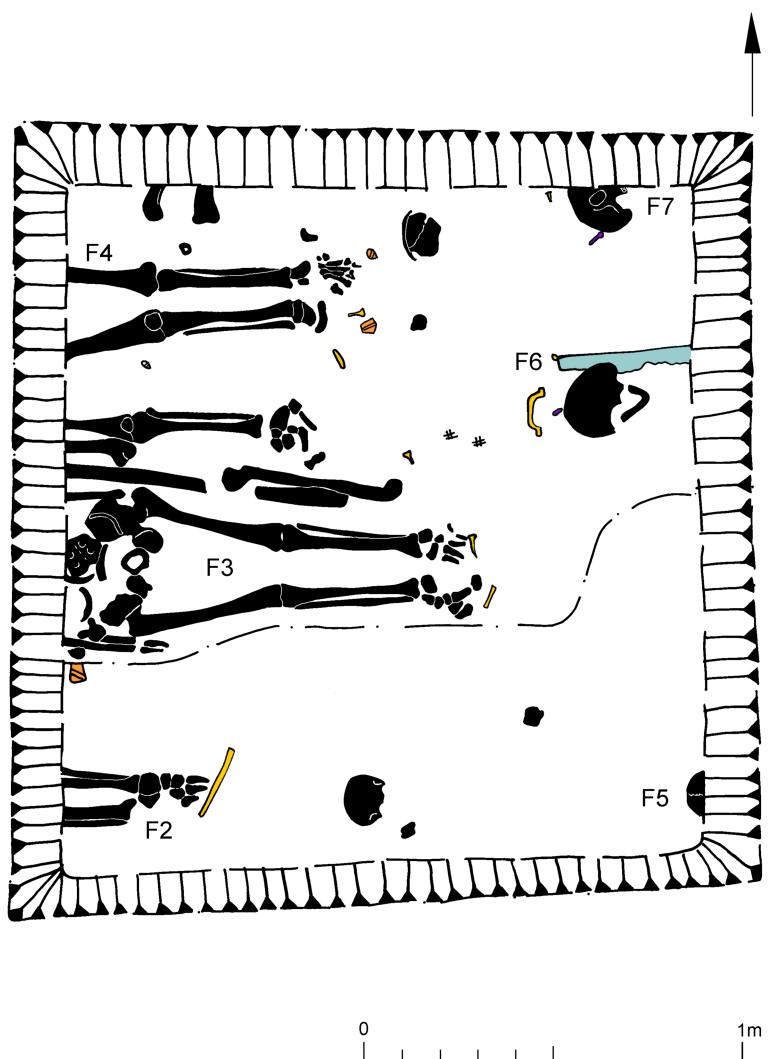
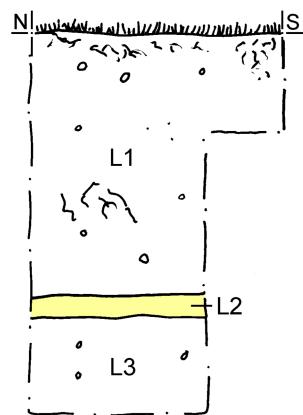
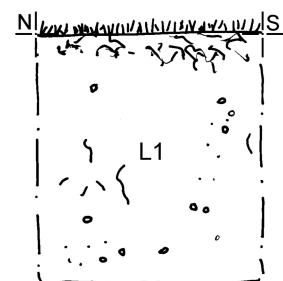


Fig 4 TP 4 plan.

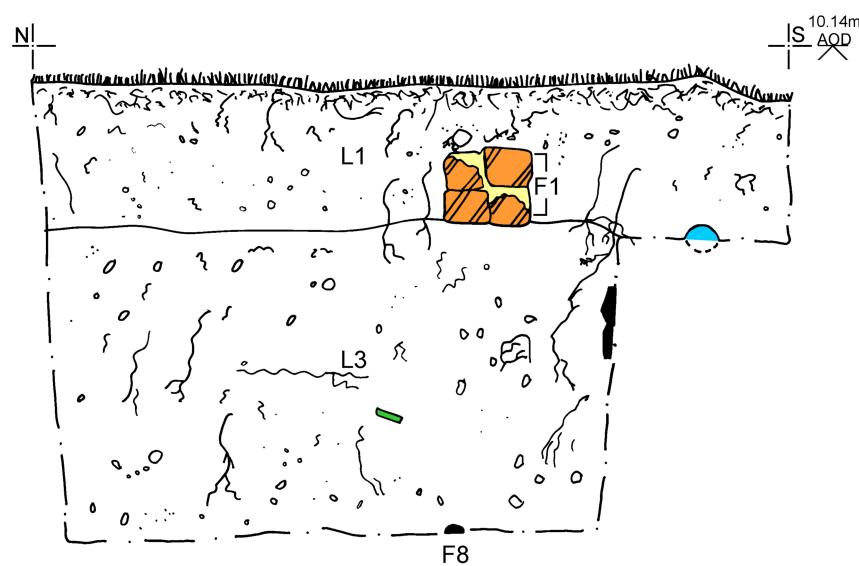
TP1



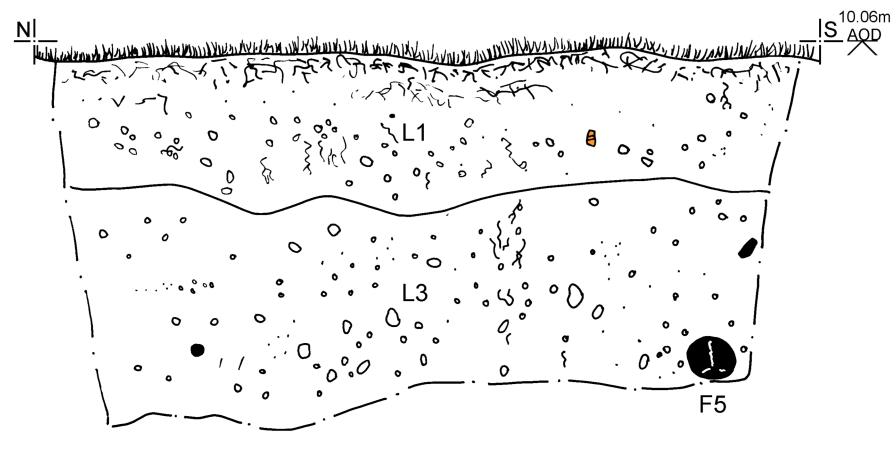
TP2



TP3



TP4



0 1m

Fig 5 Representative sections.

# Essex Historic Environment Record/ Essex Archaeology and History

## Summary sheet

<b>Address:</b> St Mary's Church, High Street, Wivenhoe, Essex, CO7 9BD	
<b>Parish:</b> Colchester	<b>District:</b> Colchester
<b>NGR:</b> TL 0389 2150 (centre)	<b>Site code:</b> CAT project ref.: 18/02k CHER ref: ECC4146-8 OASIS ref: colchest3-310649
<b>Type of work:</b> Monitoring and evaluation	<b>Site director/group:</b> Colchester Archaeological Trust
<b>Date of work:</b> 13th-15th May 2020	<b>Size of area investigated:</b> 0.26ha
<b>Location of curating museum:</b> Colchester museum	<b>Funding source:</b> Developer
<b>Further seasons anticipated?</b> Not known	<b>Related CHER/SMR number:</b> CHER MCC3175, MCC8980, MCC10041
<b>Final report:</b> CAT Report 1551	
<b>Periods represented:</b> Mesolithic, Neolithic, Bronze Age, Roman, post-medieval	
<b>Summary of fieldwork results:</b> Archaeological monitoring and an archaeological test-pit evaluation (two test-pits) was carried out at St Mary's Church, High Street, Wivenhoe, Essex in advance of the demolition of the south porch and the construction of an extension. No archaeological deposits were observed during monitoring, but test-pitting revealed ten inhumation burials and a quantity of disarticulated bone. The burials which yielded datable material gave a date range from the late 17th to the 19th century for these features, although one had disturbed an earlier burial. A 19th-century wall foundation which was probably the remains of a funerary monument was also uncovered.	
<b>Previous summaries/reports:</b> None	
<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 2020

# **Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) for an archaeological test-pit evaluation, monitoring and historic building recording at St Mary's Church, High Street, Wivenhoe, Essex, C07 9BD**

**NGR:** TL 0389 2150 (centre)

**Planning reference:** 162526

**Commissioned by:** Ben Downie, Inkpen Downie

**Client:** PCC of St Mary's Church, Wivenhoe

**Curating museum:** Colchester

**Museum accession code:** tbc

**CHER project code:** tbc

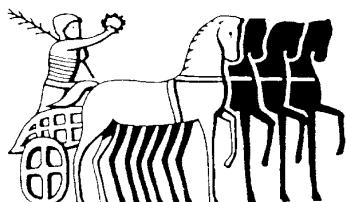
**CAT project code:** 18/02k

**Oasis ID:** colchest3-310649

**Site manager:** Chris Lister

**CBC monitor:** Jess Tipper

**This WSI written:** 2.3.2018



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

*tel:* 01206 501785

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

## **Site location and description**

The proposed development site is located at St Mary's Church, High Street, Wivenhoe, Essex (Fig 1). Site centre is NGR TL 0389 2150.

## **Proposed work**

The development comprises the demolition of the existing south porch and erection of new extension for meeting room and ancillary facilities.

## **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 CHER shows that the development site is located within the churchyard (CHER no. MCC10041) and abutting the Church of St Mary the Virgin (CHER no. MCC3175 & MCC8980), a 14th century church with 19th century alterations.

An assessment of the site in 1977 (Rodwell & Rodwell) concluded that the church was:  
'Dull and uninteresting after 19th century rebuilding. Graveyard has been devastated and largely cleared with headstones leaned carelessly against boundary walls though a few monuments are *in situ*. Archaeological potential unknown, could be high.'

A number of listed buildings dating from the 15th to the 19th centuries surround the church and churchyard.

## **Planning background**

A planning application was made to Colchester Borough Council in October 2016 (application no.162526) proposing the demolition of the existing south porch and erection of new extension for meeting room and ancillary facilities.

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 test-pit evaluation, monitoring and historic building recording, and was based on the guidance given in the National Planning Policy Framework (DCLG 2012).

## **Requirement for work**

The required archaeological work is for archaeological evaluation, monitoring and historic building recording.

### **Evaluation**

The required work is for an archaeological test-pit evaluation to be carried out in advance of any groundworks to enable the archaeological resource, both in quality and extent, to be accurately quantified. Details are given in a Project Brief written by CBCAA (CBC 2017).

Specifically, two test-pits, each measuring 2m by 2m will be excavated within the footprint of the new development (Fig 1).

The test-pit evaluation 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.
- 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.

If unexpected or unusual remains are encountered the CBCAA will be informed immediately. Further evaluation may be required by the CBCAA, which would be the subject of an additional brief.

### **Monitoring and recording**

In addition to the archaeological test-pit evaluation, continuous archaeological monitoring and recording will take place during preliminary groundworks required by the structural engineer. This will be in the form of two hand-dug trial-pits located alongside the existing foundation.

Specifically:

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

If unexpected archaeological remains are encountered the CBCAA will be informed immediately who may make amendments to the brief to ensure adequate provision for archaeological recording.

### **Historic building recording**

The archaeological work will comprise a Historic England Level 3 analytical recording of the exiting porch before it is demolished.

Specifically the records will consider:

- Plan form of the site.
- Materials and method of construction.
- Date(s) of the structure.
- Function and internal layout.
- Fixtures and fittings – this should include a more detailed photographic record of the surviving workshop features including tools and equipment with descriptions.
- Context of the site within its immediate contemporary landscape.

### **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 2014)
- the Project Brief issued by the CBCAA (CBC 2017)

Professional CAT field archaeologists will undertake all specified archaeological work, for which they will be suitably experienced and qualified.

Notification of the supervisor/project manager's name and the start date for the project will be provided to CBCAA one week before start of work.

Unless it is the responsibility of other site contractors, CAT will study mains service locations and avoid damage to these.

A project or site code will be sought from the curating museum, as appropriate to the project. This code will be used to identify the finds bags and boxes, and the project archive when it is deposited at the curating museum.

## **Evaluation and monitoring**

### **Staffing**

#### **Test-pit evaluation**

The number of field staff for this project is estimated as follows: One supervisor plus one archaeologist for two/three days.

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

#### **Monitoring**

The number of field staff for this project is estimated as follows: One CAT archaeologist for the duration of the trial-pit groundworks.

### **Test-pit 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), 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.

All features and layers or other significant deposits will be planned, and their profiles or sections recorded. The normal scale will be site plans at 1:20 and sections at 1:10, unless circumstances indicate that other scales would be appropriate.

A metal detector will be used by the attending archaeologist to examine the site, 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.

The photographic record will consist of general site shots, and shots of all archaeological features and deposits. A photographic scale (including north arrow) shall be included in the case of detailed photographs. Standard "record" shots of contexts will be taken on a digital camera. A photographic register will accompany the photographic record. This will detail as a minimum feature number, location, and direction of shot.

If exceptional or significant archaeological deposits are encountered CAT will inform CBCAA and these may be reviewed on site.

## **Monitoring methodology**

There will be continuous on-site attendance by CAT staff to maintain a watch on all contractors' groundworks associated with two hand-dug trial-pits.

All topsoil removal and ground reduction will be done by hand under the supervision and to the satisfaction of a professional archaeologist.

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 monitoring.

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

All features and layers or other significant deposits will be planned, and their profiles or sections recorded. The normal scale will be site plans at 1:20 and sections at 1:10, unless circumstances indicate that other scales would be appropriate.

A metal detector will be used by the attending archaeologist to examine the site, 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.

The photographic record will consist of general site shots, and shots of all archaeological features and deposits. A photographic scale (including north arrow) shall be included in the case of detailed photographs. Standard "record" shots of contexts will be taken on a digital camera. A photographic register will accompany the photographic record. This will detail as a minimum feature number, location, and direction of shot.

If exceptional or significant archaeological deposits are encountered CAT will inform CBCAA and these may be reviewed on site.

## **Site surveying**

The test-pits 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 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**

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 or subsequent excavation 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.

## **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:

animal bones (small groups): Alec Wade  
small finds, metalwork, coins, etc: Laura Pooley  
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  
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 CBAAC.

## **Historic building recording**

### **Staffing**

The number of field staff for this project is estimated as follows: One CAT building recorder for one day.

In charge of day-to-day site work: Mark Baister

### **Building recording methodology**

A Historic England Level 3 survey of the existing porch will be undertaken prior to demolition.

A documentary, cartographic and pictorial survey of the evidence pertaining to the history and evolution of the present building will be made. Sources consulted will include:

- Colchester Historic Environment Record.
- Essex Records Office.
- The site owner/developer.

A large-scale block plan will be made of the site using existing architects' drawings or the current OS 1:2500 map extract. The position of the building will be shown and any adjacent buildings will be given a unique number noting date of construction and function (where known).

Based on existing architect's plans and using the RCHME (1996) conventions, floor plans and elevations at a scale of 1:100 will be made of the building. Doors, windows, internal divisions, truss positions, together with any surviving fixtures/fittings must be shown together with any evidence of phasing.

The building (exterior and the interior) will be viewed, described in detail and photographed. The description will seek to address materials, dimensions, method of construction, joinery, fenestration, spatial configuration, phasing, any evidence of original fixtures/fittings.

A full photographic record will be made comprising colour digital photographs. This record will include both general shots and details of external and internal features (ie structural detail, joinery, fixtures and fittings joinery/carpenters'/timber marks etc). A photographic scale will be included in the case of detailed photographs. The photographic record will be accompanied by a photographic register detailing (as a minimum) location and direction of shot.

The completed plans will be clearly annotated to show the location and orientation of photographs taken as part of the survey.

Fully annotated photographic plates supporting the text will be reproduced as colour laser copies.

The guidelines contained in *English Heritage: Understanding Historic Buildings. A guide to good recording practice* (2006) will be adhered to. In addition, ClfA's *Standard and Guidance for the Archaeological Investigation and Recording of Standing Buildings or Structures* (2014d) and the appropriate sections of the *Standards for Field Archaeology in the East of England* (East Anglian Archaeology occasional paper 14, 2003) and *Research and Archaeology Revised: A Revised Framework for the East of England* (EAA 24, 2011) and *Management of research projects in the historic environment* (MoRPHE) will be used for

additional guidance in the design of the project specification, the contents of the report, and for the general execution of the project.

## 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).

A single report, encompassing all aspects of the required archaeological work will be submitted within 2 months of the end of fieldwork, with a copy supplied to the CBCAA as a single PDF.

The evaluation/monitoring sections of the report will contain:

- The aims and methods adopted in the course of the investigation.
- Location plan of fieldwork in relation to the proposed development. At least two corners of the development 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. Appropriate discussion and result sections assessing the site in relation to the Regional Research Frameworks (Brown and Glazebrook 2000, Medlycott 2011).
- All specialist reports or assessments.
- A concise non-technical summary of the project results.

The historic building recording section of the report will include:

- The aims and methods adopted in the course of the investigation.
- A resume of the history and development of the building and a brief discussion on the design, date, form and function of the building and any significant modifications/reuse.
- Annotated drawings including a location map, an overall plan showing all buildings and copies of all plans and sections. Where appropriate, the plan drawings will be tied into the OS Grid.
- Where appropriate, the discussion and conclusions should be made with reference to the objectives outlined in Brown and Glazebrook (2000) and Medlycott (2011)
- Labelled re-productions of a representative sample of the photographs
- A concise non-technical summary of the project results.

An EH&R summary sheet will also be completed 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

Brown, D	2007	<i>Archaeological Archives: A guide to best practice in creation, compilation, transfer and curation</i>
Brown & Glazebrook	2000	<i>Research and Archaeology: A Framework for the Eastern Counties 2 – Research Agenda and Strategy</i> , East Anglian Archaeology Occasional Papers 8 (EAA 8)
CAT CBCPS	2014 2017	<i>Health &amp; Safety Policy</i> <i>Brief for archaeological evaluation at St Marys Church, High Street, Wivenhoe, Colchester</i> , by Jess Tipper
ClfA	2014a	<i>Standard and Guidance for an archaeological evaluation</i>
ClfA	2014b	<i>Standard and Guidance for an archaeological watching brief</i>
ClfA	2014c	<i>Standard and guidance for the collection, documentation, conservation and research of archaeological materials</i>
ClfA	2014d	<i>Standard and guidance for archaeological investigation and recording of standing buildings or structures</i>
DCLG English Heritage	2012 2006	<i>National Planning Policy Framework</i> <i>Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment (MoRPHE)</i>
English Heritage Gurney, D	2006 2003	<i>Understanding Historic Buildings. A guide to good recording practice</i> <i>Standards for field archaeology in the East of England</i> . East Anglian Archaeology Occasional Papers 14 (EAA 14).
Medlycott, M	2011	<i>Research and archaeology revisited: A revised framework for the East of England</i> . East Anglian Archaeology Occasional Papers 24 (EAA 24)
Rodwell, W J & Rodwell, K A	1977	<i>Historic Churches: a wasting asset</i> , p124

L Pooley



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

tel: 01206 501785 ext. 4  
email: [lp@catuk.org](mailto:lp@catuk.org)

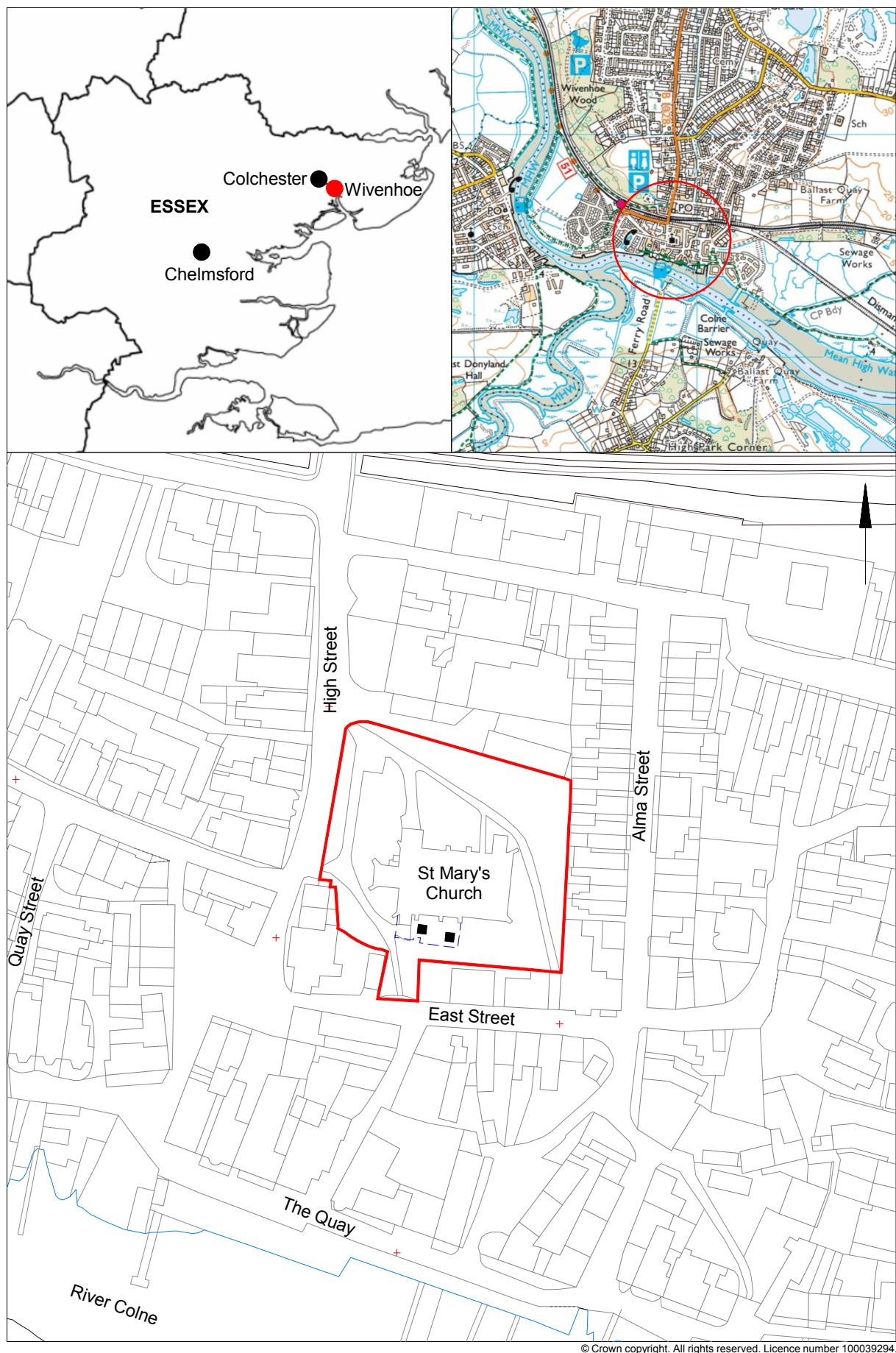


Fig 1 Site location, proposed development dashed blue

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

0 50 m

# 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:** colchest3-310649

## Project details

Project name	Archaeological investigations at St Mary's Church, High Street, Wivenhoe, Essex, CO7 9BD
Short description of the project	Archaeological monitoring and an archaeological test-pit evaluation (two test-pits) was carried out at St Mary's Church, High Street, Wivenhoe, Essex in advance of the demolition of the south porch and the construction of an extension. No archaeological deposits were observed during monitoring, but test-pitting revealed ten inhumation burials and a quantity of disarticulated bone. The burials which yielded datable material gave a date range from the late 17th to the 19th century for these features, although one had disturbed an earlier burial. A 19th-century wall foundation which was probably the remains of a funerary monument was also uncovered.
Project dates	Start: 06-04-2020 End: 15-05-2020
Previous/future work	No / Not known
Any associated project reference codes	18/02k - Contracting Unit No.
Any associated project reference codes	162526 - Planning Application No.
Any associated project reference codes	ECC4146 - HER event no.
Any associated project reference codes	ECC4148 - HER event no.
Any associated project reference codes	COLEM: 2018.19 - Museum accession ID
Type of project	Recording project
Site status	Listed Building
Current Land use	Other 4 - Churchyard
Monument type	WALL FOUNDATION Post Medieval
Monument type	INHUMATION BURIAL Post Medieval
Significant Finds	POTTERY Medieval
Significant Finds	POTTERY Post Medieval
Significant Finds	POTTERY Modern
Significant Finds	CBM Roman
Significant Finds	CBM Medieval
Significant Finds	CBM Post Medieval
Significant Finds	SBM Uncertain
Significant Finds	COFFIN FURNITURE Post Medieval
Significant Finds	GLASS Post Medieval
Significant Finds	CLAY PIPE Post Medieval
Significant Finds	FLINT Mesolithic
Significant Finds	FLINT Neolithic
Significant Finds	FLINT Bronze Age
Methods & techniques	"Test Pits"
Development type	Public building (e.g. school, church, hospital, medical centre, law courts etc.)
Prompt	Planning condition
Position in the planning process	Not known / Not recorded

## Project location

Country	England
Site location	ESSEX COLCHESTER WIVENHOE St Mary's Church, High Street
Postcode	CO7 9BD
Study area	0.26 Hectares

Site coordinates TL 0389 2150 51.881926133106 -0.490464423516 51 52 54 N 000 29 25 W 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	Mark Baister
Type of sponsor/funding body	Developer

#### Project archives

Physical Archive recipient	Colchester Museum
Physical Archive ID	COLEM: 2018.19
Physical Contents	"Metal","Worked stone/lithics"
Digital Archive recipient	Colchester Museum
Digital Archive ID	COLEM: 2018.19
Digital Media available	"Images raster / digital photography","Survey","Text"
Paper Archive recipient	Colchester Museum
Paper Archive ID	COLEM: 2018.19
Paper Media available	"Context sheet","Drawing","Photograph","Report","Section"

#### Project bibliography 1

Publication type	Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)
Title	Archaeological monitoring and test-pit evaluation at St Mary's Church, High Street, Wivenhoe, Essex, CO7 9BD: April 2018-May 2020
Author(s)/Editor(s)	Hicks, E.
Other bibliographic details	CAT Report 1551
Date	2020
Issuer or publisher	Colchester Archaeological Trust
Place of issue or publication	Colchester
Description	A4 loose-leaf brass-stapled
URL	<a href="http://cat.essex.ac.uk">http://cat.essex.ac.uk</a>

Entered by	Dr Elliott Hicks (eh2@catuk.org)
Entered on	3 June 2020

**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?id=395622> for this page

[Cookies](#) [Privacy Policy](#)