Archaeological monitoring at The Sweyne Park School, Sir Walter Raleigh Drive, Rayleigh, Essex, SS6 9BZ

April 2021



by Laura Pooley with contributions by Dr Matthew Loughton and Alec Wade figures by Mark Baister, Emma Holloway and Laura Pooley

fieldwork by Mark Baister

commissioned by Matthew Mackenzie on behalf of Morgan Sindall

NGR: TQ 80155 91685 (centre) Planning ref.: 20/00897/CM CAT project ref.: 2021/03bb ECC code: RLSPS21 OASIS ref.: colchest3-418426



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

tel.: 01206 501785 email: <u>lp@catuk.org</u>

CAT Report 1699 August 2021

Contents

1	Summary	1				
2	Introduction	1				
3	Archaeological background	1				
4	Aim	2				
5	Results	2				
6	Finds	5				
7	Conclusion	6				
8	Acknowledgements	6				
9	References	6				
10	Abbreviations and glossary	7				
11	Contents of archive	7				
12	Archive deposition	8				
App	pendix 1 Context list	9				
App	pendix 2 Pottery list	10				
Figu	Figures after p10					

OASIS summary sheet

List of photographs, tables and figures Cover: Site working shot

Photograph 1	Initial site strip, looking southwest						
Photograph 2	Working shot of foundation pad excavations, looking southwe						
Photograph 3	Ditch F4 in section in foundation pad 53, looking southeast						
Photograph 4	Ditch F7 in foundation pad 28, looking southeast						
	nary of the pottery and ceramic building material I bone from ditch F4	5 5					

- Fig 1 Site location showing proposed development (dashed blue)
 Fig 2 Monitoring results shown alongside the features recorded during the evaluation
 Fig 3 Feature and representative sections

1 Summary

Archaeological monitoring was carried out on land at The Sweyne Park School, Sir Walter Raleigh Drive, Rayleigh, Essex, during the construction of a new school block. The school is located within an area of multi-period occupation with prehistoric, Anglo-Saxon and medieval remains close by. An evaluation in March 2021 revealed two ditches, a pit and three postholes, with pottery from the features indicating two phases of activity in the Bronze Age to Middle Iron Age and the Late Iron Age. One of the ditches was curvilinear and the presence of postholes and structural fired clay in the vicinity led to a very tentative identification of a roundhouse on the site.

Monitoring of foundation pads revealed two ditches. The first was a northwest/southeast aligned ditch initially recorded during the evaluation, but pottery dating evidence was problematic indicating either a Middle Iron Age or potentially an early Anglo-Saxon date. The only other feature uncovered was another northwest/southeast aligned ditch that probably represents a continuation of the curvilinear ditch from the evaluation. The curvilinear ditch is therefore is not part of a roundhouse but a landscape feature.

2 Introduction (Fig 1)

This is the report for archaeological monitoring carried out by Colchester Archaeological Trust (CAT) on land at The Sweyne Park School, Rayleigh, Essex from 20th to 28th April 2021. The work was commissioned by Matthew Mackenzie on behalf of Morgan Sindall during the construction of a new school block.

In response to consultation, Essex County Council Historic Environment Advisor (ECCHEA) Alison Bennett advised that in order to establish the archaeological implications of this application, the applicant should be required to commission a scheme of archaeological investigation in accordance with the *National Planning Policy Framework* (MHCLG 2019). This requirement was initially for an archaeological evaluation which was carried out by CAT in March 2021 (CAT Report 1640). As significant archaeological remains were uncovered the requirement was extended to include the monitoring of all foundation pads.

All archaeological work was carried out in accordance with a *Brief for Archaeological Investigation at The Sweyne Park School, Sir Walter Raleigh Drive, Rayleigh* (ECCHEA 2021), written by Alison Bennett. A written schemes of investigation (WSI) was prepared by CAT in response to the requirement for archaeological monitoring (CAT 2021a), and was approved by ECCHEA in advance of the groundworks.

In addition to the brief and WSI, all fieldwork and reporting was done in accordance with *Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment (MoRPHE)* (Historic England 2016) and with *Standards for field archaeology in the East of England* (EAA **14** and **24**). This report mirrors standards and practices contained in the Institute for Archaeologists' *Standard and guidance for archaeological field evaluation* (CIfA 2014a) and *Standard and guidance for the collection, documentation, conservation and research of archaeological materials* (CIfA 2014b).

3 Archaeological background

The following archaeological background draws on the Brief and the Essex Historic Environment Record (EHER) held at Essex County Council, County Hall, Chelmsford, Essex (accessible to the public via http://www.heritagegateway.org.uk).

The Domesday Book demonstrates that there was a village at Rayleigh at the end of the Saxon period. The Swein of Essex built his castle there at some point between 1066 and 1086, making it one of the earliest Norman castles in the country (Rumble 1983, EHER 13586-7). During the medieval period Rayleigh flourished into a market town (EHER 13575) with a small but stable population until the beginning of the 20th century when the introduction of the railway led to its growth as a commuter town for London.

Approximately 711m northwest of the site at the former Park School, Rawreth Lane, investigations have revealed at Anglo-Saxon burial ground with over 146 cremations and a small number of inhumations (EHER 45134). Features discovered also included a series of pits, gullies and ditches thought to be associated with the burials. Artefacts from the burials included pottery, metalwork and glass beads which were dated to approximately AD 525-600. Underlying the cemetery was a scatter of prehistoric pits and post-holes dating from the Early to Middle Iron Age (Ennis 2005; EAA 127).

Approximately 440m southeast of the site lies the former church and chapel of St Mary. Masonry and encaustic tiles date the church and chapel as medieval and indicate the presence of medieval occupation nearby (EHER 13502).

An archaeological evaluation carried out on the site in April 2021 (CAT Report 1640) revealed six prehistoric features originating from two distinct phases of activity. Towards the south end of the trench was a ditch (F4) aligned northwest/southeast which produced pottery of Bronze Age to Middle Iron Age date. In the middle of the trench was a Late Iron Age curvilinear ditch (F1) associated with three postholes (F3, F5 and F6). It was tentatively suggested that these features may represent the western extent of a roundhouse, especially as an assemblage fired clay from a wattle-and-daub structure was found in a later pit (F2) cutting the ditch.

4 Aim

The aim of the monitoring phase was to record all archaeological remains uncovered during groundworks for the foundation pads.

5 Results (Figs 2-3)

The context numbers for this monitoring phase follows on from the evaluation and a full context list for both phases of work can be found in Appendix 1.

The stratigraphy of the site had already been established during the evaluation (CAT Report 1640). A modern topsoil (L1, c 0.1-0.2m thick) overlaid a modern makeup layer containing large amounts of concrete, tarmac and modern brick fragments (L2, c 0.25-0.35m thick). Below this was a buried topsoil (L3, c 0.3-0.35m thick) which sealed subsoil (L4, c 0.12-0.5m thick). In the northern half of the site was a thin interface layer below the subsoil (L5, c 0.05-0.12m thick). Natural clay (L6) was sealed by either L4 (to the south) or L5 (to the north) and was encountered at a depth of 0.93-1.25m below current ground level.

Initially the whole footprint of the building was stripped *c* 0.65-0.7m below current ground level. Fifty-seven foundation pads were then excavated under archaeological supervision. The pads were generally $1.3m^2$, $1.5m^2$ or $2m^2$, but two were rectangular at 3m by 1.5m, and all were excavated to a depth of 1.1m.

Ditch F4 from the evaluation was partially recorded in five of the foundation pads (nos. 43, 44, 52, 53 and 54). It maintains the northwest/southeast alignment seen in the evaluation, with sections across the ditch in foundation pads 43, 52 and 54 suggesting that it is about 1.05m deep. More pottery was recovered from the ditch but dating has been problematic, suggesting either a Middle Iron Age or possibly early Anglo-Saxon date (see section 6.2.1).

The only other feature uncovered was ditch F7 in foundation pad 28. It was aligned northwest/ southeast, was U-shaped with a flat base and was 0.28m wide by 0.11m deep. No finds were recovered from the feature but flecks of fired clay and charcoal were present within the backfill. However, ditch F7 is adjacent to curvilinear ditch F1 from the evaluation and, as no evidence of the postulated roundhouse was found in any of the foundation pads, F1 probably turns sharply to the southeast to become F7.



Photograph 1 Initial site strip, looking southwest



Photograph 2 Working shot of foundation pad excavations, looking southwest



Photograph 3 Ditch F4 in section in foundation pad 53, looking southeast



Photograph 4 Ditch F7 in foundation pad 28, looking southeast

6 Finds

6.1 Pottery and ceramic building material (Appendix 2) by Dr Matthew Loughton

The watching brief produced a small assemblage of pottery and ceramic building material (henceforth CBM) at 15 sherds with a weight of 104g, while the mean sherd weight is very low at only 7g. (Table 1). All of this material came from ditch F4 (see Appendix 2).

Ceramic material	No.	Weight (g)	MSW (g)
Pottery	12	39	3
СВМ	3	65	22
Totals	15	104	7

 Table 1
 Summary of the pottery and ceramic building material

The pottery included a small quantity (5 sherds at 5 g) of prehistoric handmade black/dark brown coloured pottery tempered with fine flint (fabric HMF). There was also one sherd (2g) of handmade pottery tempered with some fine silver mica and occasional flint (HMFM). The remaining handmade pottery (6 sherds at 32g) has brown surfaces and black cores and is tempered with common fine silver mica and some very fine sand although some sherds are less micaceous. These mica rich fabrics are unusual for prehistoric pottery and instead could be of early Anglo-Saxon date (5th-7th centuries). For example, in the Suffolk post-Roman pottery fabric series there is an early Saxon fabric with fine sand and mica (ESSM) (Anderson 2020), while at Lincoln fabric M, a non-local Anglo-Saxon fabric, was characterised by moderate to abundant flakes of sliver mica (Young & Vince 2005, 30). However, mica-rich pottery was not noted in the assemblage of early handmade Anglo-Saxon pottery from the nearby cemetery at Rayleigh (Tyler 2008). Another possibility is that the sherd dates to the Middle Iron Age. Finally, three fragments (65g) of baked clay were also recovered from the ditch.

6.2 Burnt (heat-altered) stone

by Laura Pooley

A fragment of burnt stone (165g) was recovered from ditch F4 (finds no. 6). The fragment of cracked and burnt a deep red. A fragment of burnt stone and two pieces of burnt flint were found in the same ditch during the evaluation phase. This fragment has been discarded.

6.3 Animal bone

by Alec Wade

The watching brief produced 29 pieces of animal bone from ditch F4, weighing a total of 294g. The bone was very fragmented and in poor surface condition with signs of dog gnawing on at least four fragments. The only two species identified were cattle and horse. Cut marks associated with butchery (specifically dismemberment of the carcass) were found on two humerus fragments, one cattle and the other not closely identifiable, though also likely to be cow.

Context	Find no.	No.	Weight (g)	Species	Comments
F4	6	2	26	Cattle	Upper molar and a humerus fragment (distal, epiphyses fused) with multiple transverse fine cut marks across olecranon fossa (Binford Hd-3)**.
		25	142	Large mammal*	Mostly fragmented diaphysis fragments but including three pieces of distal humerus. One of these has multiple fine transverse cut marks across the anterior medial surface (Binford Hd-2)**. Four pieces display signs of dog gnawing (including one of the humerus fragments).

	8	1	108	Horse	Complete left metacarpal (distal epiphyses fused) and fused McII.
		1	18	Large mammal	Humerus fragment (proximal).
Total		29	294		

Table 2 Animal bone from ditch F4

*Large mammal could potentially be either cattle, horse, or larger species of deer. Medium sized mammal includes sheep, goat, pig and smaller deer species. **The cut mark codes given in the table refer to the Atlas of cut marks in Binford 1981.

7 Conclusion

Archaeological monitoring at The Sweyne Park School, Rayleigh identified limited archaeological remains. Ditch F4 from the evaluation was recorded in five of the foundation pads. It crossed the development site on a northwest to southeast alignment, and evidence from both the evaluation and monitoring phases now indicate that is was c 1.5m wide and c 1.1m deep. Dating the ditch has proved problematic. A single sherd of pottery from the evaluation was dated from the Bronze Age to Middle Iron Age, but sherds of mica-rich pottery from this current monitoring phase could either be of Middle Iron Age or potentially early Anglo-Saxon date.

Monitoring revealed no evidence for the possible roundhouse that was postulated in CAT Report 1640. In fact, the only other feature recorded during monitoring was ditch F7 in a foundation pad adjacent to curvilinear ditch F1 of the evaluation. The close proximity of the two ditches strongly suggests that ditch F1 is not actually part of a roundhouse but instead turns sharply to the southeast to become ditch F7, and is instead a field ditch. Whatever the relationship between F1 and F7, this little cluster of features in the centre of the development site does appear to represent some form of probable Late Iron Age activity but, with the limited evidence we have, it is difficult to determine what this activity might be.

8 Acknowledgements

CAT would like to thank Matthew Mackenzie for commissioning and Morgan Sindall for funding the work. The project was managed by C Lister and A Wightman, fieldwork was carried out by M Baister. The project was monitored for ECC by Alison Bennett and Richard Havis.

9 References

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

Anderson, S	2020	Suffolk Medieval Pottery Fabric Series. A Dated Type-Series for the Anglo- Saxon, Medieval and Later Pottery of Norfolk and Suffolk. https://www.suffolkmedpot.co.uk/
Baker, P & Worley, F	2019	Animal bones and archaeology: recovery to archive. Swindon: Historic England.
Binford, L R	1981	Bones: Ancient men and modern myths. New York, Academic Press.
Brown, N &	2000	Research and Archaeology: A Framework for the Eastern Counties 2.
Glazebrook, J		<i>Research agenda and strategy.</i> East Anglian Archaeology Occasional Paper 8 (EAA 8)
CAT	2021a	Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) for an archaeological monitoring at The Sweyne Park School, Sir Walter Raleigh Drive, Rayleigh, Essex, SS6 9BZ
CAT	2021b	Health & Safety Policy
CAT Report	2021	Archaeological investigation by trial-trenching and excavation at The Sweyne
1640		Park School, Sir Walter Raleigh Drive, Rayleigh, Essex, SS6 9BZ: March 2021
ClfA	2014a	Standard and Guidance for archaeological evaluation
CIfA	2014b	Standard and guidance for the collection, documentation, conservation and research of archaeological materials
ECCPS	2021	Brief for Archaeological Investigation at The Sweyne Park School, Sir Walter Raleigh Drive, Rayleigh by A Bennett
Ennis, T	2005	Former Park School, Rawreth Lane, Rayleigh, Essex. FAU Report 1361

		(Excavation Report)
Gurney, D	2003	Standards for field archaeology in the East of England. East Anglian
	0040	Archaeology Occasional Papers 14 (EAA 14)
Hillson, S	2016	Mammal bones and teeth: An introductory guide to methods of identification. Abingdon: Routledge
Historic	2016	Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment (MoRPHE)
England		
Medlycott, M	2011	Research and archaeology revisited: A revised framework for the East of England. East Anglian Archaeology Occasional Papers 24 (EAA 24)
MHCLG	2019	National Planning Policy Framework. Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government
Rumble, A (ed.)	1983	Domesday Book – Essex, Phillimore: Chichester
Schmid, E	1972	Atlas of animal bones. Amsterdam: Elsevier Publishing Company.
Tyler, S	2008	'Pottery', in Trevor, E. (ed.) An Early Saxon Cemetery at Rayleigh, Essex. East Anglian Archaeology 127 , 38-41. Chelmsford: Essex County Council.
Young, J & Vince, V	2005	A Corpus of Anglo-Saxon and Medieval Pottery from Lincoln. Lincoln Archaeological Studies No. 7. Oxford: Oxbow Books.

10 Abbreviations and glossary

ClfAChartered Institute for ArchaeologistsECCEssex County CouncilECCHEAEssex County Council Historic Environment AdvisorECCPSEssex County Council Place ServicesEHEREssex Historic Environment Recordfeature (F)an identifiable thing like a pit, a wall, a drain: can contain 'contexts'Iron Ageperiod from 700 BC to Roman invasion of AD 43Iron Age (Middle)Middle Iron Age, period from c 400 – 100BCIron Age (Late)Late Iron Age, period from c 100 – 50 BC to Roman invasion of AD 43layer (L)distinct or distinguishable deposit (layer) of materialmodernperiod from c AD 1800 to the presentnaturalgeological deposit undisturbed by human activityNGRNational Grid ReferenceOASISOnline AccesS to the Index of Archaeological InvestigationS, http://oasis.ac.uk/pages/wiki/Main_prehistoricthe period prior to the Roman invasion of Britain, i.e. pre AD 43section(abbreviation sx or Sx) vertical slice through feature/s or layer/s	Bronze Age	period from <i>c</i> 2500 – 700 BC
ECCEssex County CouncilECCHEAEssex County Council Historic Environment AdvisorECCPSEssex County Council Place ServicesEHEREssex Historic Environment Recordfeature (F)an identifiable thing like a pit, a wall, a drain: can contain 'contexts'Iron Ageperiod from 700 BC to Roman invasion of AD 43Iron Age (Middle)Middle Iron Age, period from c 400 – 100BCIron Age (Late)Late Iron Age, period from c 100 – 50 BC to Roman invasion of AD 43layer (L)distinct or distinguishable deposit (layer) of materialmodernperiod from c AD 1800 to the presentnaturalgeological deposit undisturbed by human activityNGRNational Grid ReferenceOASISOnline AccesS to the Index of Archaeological InvestigationS, http://oasis.ac.uk/pages/wiki/Main_prehistoricthe period prior to the Roman invasion of Britain, i.e. pre AD 43section(abbreviation sx or Sx) vertical slice through feature/s or layer/s	CAT	Colchester Archaeological Trust
ECCHEAEssex County Council Historic Environment AdvisorECCPSEssex County Council Place ServicesEHEREssex Historic Environment Recordfeature (F)an identifiable thing like a pit, a wall, a drain: can contain 'contexts'Iron Ageperiod from 700 BC to Roman invasion of AD 43Iron Age (Middle)Middle Iron Age, period from c 100 – 100BCIron Age (Late)Late Iron Age, period from c 100 – 50 BC to Roman invasion of AD 43layer (L)distinct or distinguishable deposit (layer) of materialmodernperiod from c AD 1800 to the presentnaturalgeological deposit undisturbed by human activityNGROnline AccesS to the Index of Archaeological InvestigationS, http://oasis.ac.uk/pages/wiki/Mainprehistoricthe period prior to the Roman invasion of Britain, i.e. pre AD 43section(abbreviation sx or Sx) vertical slice through feature/s or layer/s	CIfA	Chartered Institute for Archaeologists
ECCPSEssex County Council Place ServicesEHEREssex Historic Environment Recordfeature (F)an identifiable thing like a pit, a wall, a drain: can contain 'contexts'Iron Ageperiod from 700 BC to Roman invasion of AD 43Iron Age (Middle)Middle Iron Age, period from c 400 – 100BCIron Age (Late)Late Iron Age, period from c 100 – 50 BC to Roman invasion of AD 43layer (L)distinct or distinguishable deposit (layer) of materialmodernperiod from c AD 1800 to the presentnaturalgeological deposit undisturbed by human activityNGRNational Grid ReferenceOASISOnline AccesS to the Index of Archaeological InvestigationS, http://oasis.ac.uk/pages/wiki/Main_prehistoricthe period prior to the Roman invasion of Britain, i.e. pre AD 43section(abbreviation sx or Sx) vertical slice through feature/s or layer/s	ECC	Essex County Council
EHEREssex Historic Environment Recordfeature (F)an identifiable thing like a pit, a wall, a drain: can contain 'contexts'Iron Ageperiod from 700 BC to Roman invasion of AD 43Iron Age (Middle)Middle Iron Age, period from c 400 – 100BCIron Age (Late)Late Iron Age, period from c 100 – 50 BC to Roman invasion of AD 43layer (L)distinct or distinguishable deposit (layer) of materialmodernperiod from c AD 1800 to the presentnaturalgeological deposit undisturbed by human activityNGRNational Grid ReferenceOASISOnline AccesS to the Index of Archaeological InvestigationS, http://oasis.ac.uk/pages/wiki/Main_prehistoricthe period prior to the Roman invasion of Britain, i.e. pre AD 43section(abbreviation sx or Sx) vertical slice through feature/s or layer/s	ECCHEA	
Instructionfeature (F)an identifiable thing like a pit, a wall, a drain: can contain 'contexts'Iron Ageperiod from 700 BC to Roman invasion of AD 43Iron Age (Middle)Middle Iron Age, period from c 400 – 100BCIron Age (Late)Late Iron Age, period from c 100 – 50 BC to Roman invasion of AD 43layer (L)distinct or distinguishable deposit (layer) of materialmodernperiod from c AD 1800 to the presentnaturalgeological deposit undisturbed by human activityNGROnline AccesS to the Index of Archaeological InvestigationS, http://oasis.ac.uk/pages/wiki/Mainprehistoricthe period prior to the Roman invasion of Britain, i.e. pre AD 43 (abbreviation sx or Sx) vertical slice through feature/s or layer/s	ECCPS	Essex County Council Place Services
Iron Ageperiod from 700 BC to Roman invasion of AD 43Iron Age (Middle)Middle Iron Age, period from c 400 – 100BCIron Age (Late)Late Iron Age, period from c 100 – 50 BC to Roman invasion of AD 43layer (L)distinct or distinguishable deposit (layer) of materialmodernperiod from c AD 1800 to the presentnaturalgeological deposit undisturbed by human activityNGROnline AccesS to the Index of Archaeological InvestigationS, http://oasis.ac.uk/pages/wiki/Mainprehistoricthe period prior to the Roman invasion of Britain, i.e. pre AD 43section(abbreviation sx or Sx) vertical slice through feature/s or layer/s	EHER	Essex Historic Environment Record
Iron Age (Middle)Middle Iron Age, period from c 400 – 100BCIron Age (Late)Late Iron Age, period from c 100 – 50 BC to Roman invasion of AD 43layer (L)distinct or distinguishable deposit (layer) of materialmodernperiod from c AD 1800 to the presentnaturalgeological deposit undisturbed by human activityNGRNational Grid ReferenceOASISOnline AccesS to the Index of Archaeological InvestigationS, http://oasis.ac.uk/pages/wiki/Mainprehistoricthe period prior to the Roman invasion of Britain, i.e. pre AD 43 (abbreviation sx or Sx) vertical slice through feature/s or layer/s	()	
Iron Age (Late)Late Iron Age, period from c 100 – 50 BC to Roman invasion of AD 43layer (L)distinct or distinguishable deposit (layer) of materialmodernperiod from c AD 1800 to the presentnaturalgeological deposit undisturbed by human activityNGRNational Grid ReferenceOASISOnline AccesS to the Index of Archaeological InvestigationS, http://oasis.ac.uk/pages/wiki/Main_prehistoricthe period prior to the Roman invasion of Britain, i.e. pre AD 43 (abbreviation sx or Sx) vertical slice through feature/s or layer/s	Iron Age	
layer (L)distinct or distinguishable deposit (layer) of material period from c AD 1800 to the present geological deposit undisturbed by human activity NGRNGRNational Grid ReferenceOASISOnline AccesS to the Index of Archaeological InvestigationS, http://oasis.ac.uk/pages/wiki/Mainprehistoricthe period prior to the Roman invasion of Britain, i.e. pre AD 43 (abbreviation sx or Sx) vertical slice through feature/s or layer/s	Iron Age (Middle)	
modernperiod from c AD 1800 to the presentnaturalgeological deposit undisturbed by human activityNGRNational Grid ReferenceOASISOnline AccesS to the Index of Archaeological InvestigationS, http://oasis.ac.uk/pages/wiki/Main_prehistoricthe period prior to the Roman invasion of Britain, i.e. pre AD 43 (abbreviation sx or Sx) vertical slice through feature/s or layer/s	Iron Age (Late)	
natural NGRgeological deposit undisturbed by human activity NGRNGRNational Grid ReferenceOASISOnline AccesS to the Index of Archaeological InvestigationS, http://oasis.ac.uk/pages/wiki/Mainprehistoricthe period prior to the Roman invasion of Britain, i.e. pre AD 43 (abbreviation sx or Sx) vertical slice through feature/s or layer/s	layer (L)	distinct or distinguishable deposit (layer) of material
NGR National Grid Reference OASIS Online AccesS to the Index of Archaeological InvestigationS, <u>http://oasis.ac.uk/pages/wiki/Main</u> prehistoric the period prior to the Roman invasion of Britain, i.e. pre AD 43 (abbreviation sx or Sx) vertical slice through feature/s or layer/s	modern	
OASISOnline AccesS to the Index of Archaeological InvestigationS, http://oasis.ac.uk/pages/wiki/Main_prehistoricthe period prior to the Roman invasion of Britain, i.e. pre AD 43 (abbreviation sx or Sx) vertical slice through feature/s or layer/s	natural	geological deposit undisturbed by human activity
http://oasis.ac.uk/pages/wiki/Main_prehistoricsectionthe period prior to the Roman invasion of Britain, i.e. pre AD 43(abbreviation sx or Sx) vertical slice through feature/s or layer/s	NGR	National Grid Reference
prehistoric the period prior to the Roman invasion of Britain, i.e. pre AD 43 (abbreviation sx or Sx) vertical slice through feature/s or layer/s	OASIS	Online AccesS to the Index of Archaeological InvestigationS,
section (abbreviation sx or Sx) vertical slice through feature/s or layer/s		<u>http://oasis.ac.uk/pages/wiki/Main_</u>
	prehistoric	the period prior to the Roman invasion of Britain, i.e. pre AD 43
wsi written scheme of investigation	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 (pottery, fired clay and animal bone) Paper record One A4 document wallet containing: The report (CAT Report 1699) CAT written scheme of investigation Original site record (plans and sections) Site digital photos and log Inked sections Digital record The report (CAT Report 1699) ECC evaluation brief, CAT written scheme of investigation Site digital photographs, thumbnails and log Graphic files Site data 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 Southend Museum under project ref. RLSPS21.

© Colchester Archaeological Trust 2021

Distribution list: Morgan Sindall ECC Historic Environment Advisor Essex Historic Environment Record, Essex County Council



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

tel.: 01206 501785 email: <u>lp@catuk.org</u>

Checked by: Philip Crummy Date: 27.8.2021

Appendix 1 Context list

Context	Finds no.	Context type	Fill description	Date
L1	-	Topsoil	Soft dark grey/brown sandy silt and inclusions of: stone 10%	Modern
L2	-	Build-up layer	Firm moist medium yellow/brown sandy silt containing modern CBM fragments along with tarmac and concrete	Modern
L3	-	Buried topsoil	Firm moist medium/dark grey/brown sandy silty loam	Modern
L4	-	Subsoil	Firm moist medium orange/brown sandy silty clay	Undated
L5	-	Interface layer	Firm moist medium grey sandy silty clay	Undated
L6	-	Natural	Firm moist yellow/brown clay	Post-glacial
F1	1, 2	Ditch	Firm moist medium grey/brown clayey silt	Late Iron Age
F2	3	Pit	Firm moist medium grey/brown clayey silt	?Late Iron Age
F3	-	Posthole	Firm moist medium/dark grey/brown clayey silt with charcoal flecks and daub flecks	?Late Iron Age
F4	4, 6, 7, 8	Ditch	Friable moist/wet light/medium grey/brown clayey silt	Middle Iron Age or early Anglo-Saxon
F5	-	Posthole	Firm moist medium grey/brown clayey silt	?Late Iron Age
F6	5	Posthole	Firm moist medium grey/brown clayey silt	Late Iron Age
F7	-	Ditch	Medium/dark grey clayey silt, common flecks of daub and charcoal	?Late Iron Age

Appendix 2 Pottery list

Cxt	Feature type	Find no.	NR	GR.	мsw	Discard	Rim	Base Handle	Dec.	Stamp	Graf Pre-F	Graf Post-F	Wmd	Pitting	Burn	Ove	Kiln second	Residue	Gritted	Abraded	Modif.	Mark	Repair hole	Hole	Disc diam.	Polishing	Fabric Grp	Vessel H. Diam.	Comments Date
F4	DITCH	6	1	2	2																						HMF		BLACK, FINE FLINT PREHISTORIC
F4	DITCH	6	1	1	1																						HMM/ESSM		BLACK, BROWN EXTERIOR, MOD FINE SILVER MICA ?
F4	DITCH	7	2	3	2																						HMM/ESSM		BLACK CORE, BROWN SURF., MOD FINE SLIVER MICA ?
F4	DITCH	7	4	3	1																						HME		DARK BROWN, FINE FLINT PREHISTORIC
F4	рітсн	8	1	23	23																						ESSM		BLACK, DARK BROWN SURFACE, VCOMMON FINE SILVER MICA5-7TH CENTURY A
F4	рітсн	8		5	3																						ESSM		BLACK, DARK BROWN SURFACE, COMMON FINE SILVER MICA 5-7TH CENTURY A
F4	рітсн	8		2	2																						HMMF		BLACK, MOD SILVER MICA & RARE FLINT PREHISTORIC?

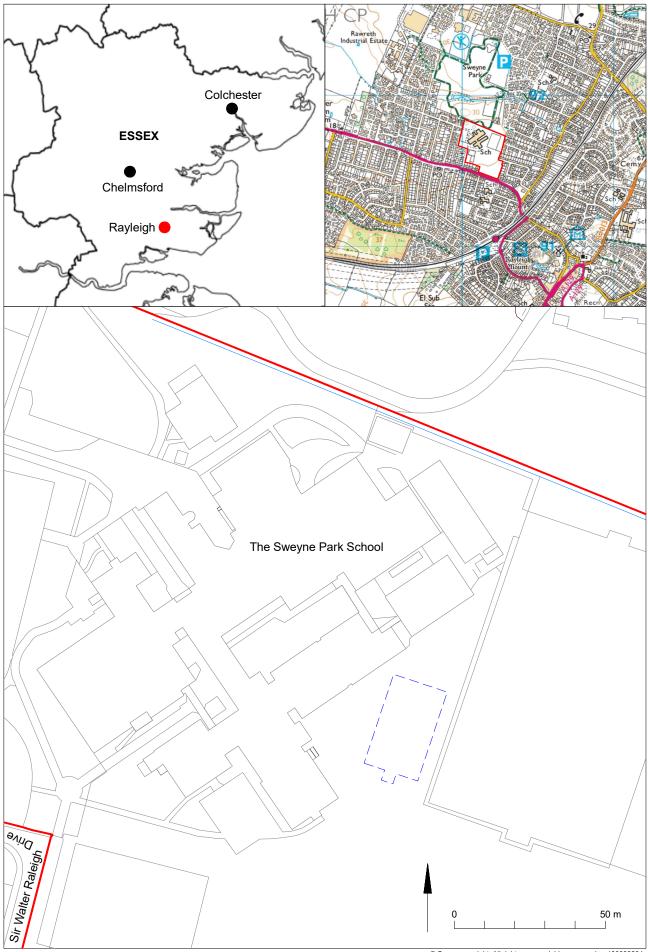


Fig 1 Site location showing proposed development (dashed blue)

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



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

Fig 2 Monitoring results shown alongside the features recorded during the evaluation

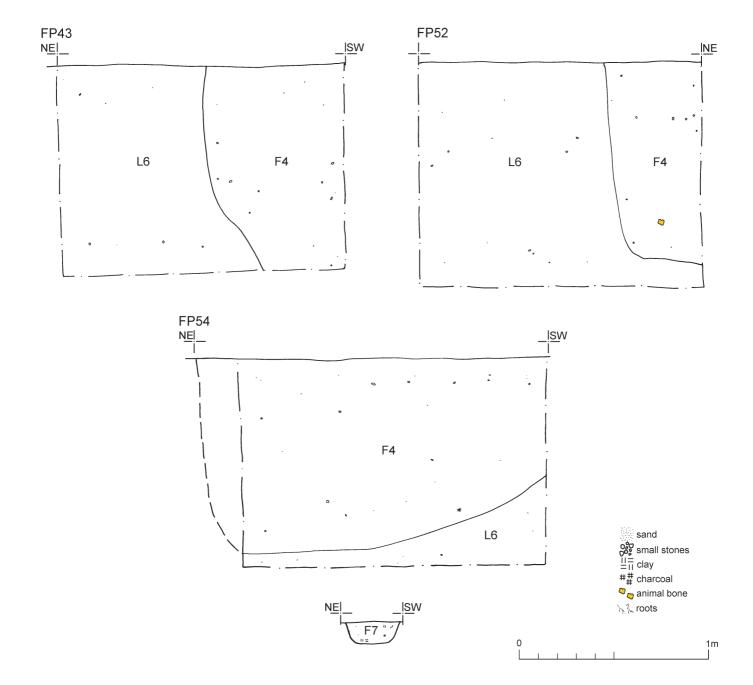


Fig 3 Feature and representative sections.

OASIS DATA COLLECTION FORM: England

List of Projects | Manage Projects | Search Projects | New project | Change your details | HER coverage | Change country | FAQs | Log out

Printable version

OASIS ID: colchest3-418426

Project details

Project name Archaeological monitoring at The Sweyne Park School, Sir Walter Raleigh Drive, Rayleigh, Essex, SS6 9BZ

Short description Archaeological monitoring was carried out on land at The Sweyne Park School, Sir Walter Raleigh Drive, Rayleigh, Essex, during the construction of a new school block. The school is located within an area of multi-period occupation with prehistoric, Anglo-Saxon and medieval remains close by. An evaluation in March 2021 revealed two ditches, a pit and three postholes, with pottery from the features indicating two phases of activity in the Bronze Age to Middle Iron Age and the Late Iron Age. One of the ditches was curvilinear and the of the project presence of postholes and structural fired clay in the vicinity led to a very tentative identification of a roundhouse on the site. Monitoring of foundation pads revealed two ditches. The first was a northwest/southeast aligned ditch initially recorded during the evaluation, but pottery dating evidence was problematic indicating either a Middle Iron Age or potentially an early Anglo-Saxon date. The only other feature uncovered was another northwest/southeast aligned ditch that probably represents a continuation of the curvilinear ditch from the evaluation. The curvilinear ditch is therefore is not part of a roundhouse but a landscape feature.

Project dates	Start: 20-04-2021 End: 28-04-2021
Previous/future work	Yes / No
Any associated project reference codes	21/03bb - Contracting Unit No.
Any associated project reference codes	20/00897/CM - Planning Application No.
Any associated project reference codes	RLSPS21 - HER event no.
Type of project	Recording project
Type of project Site status	Recording project None
51 1 5	
Site status	None
Site status Current Land use	None Community Service 1 - Community Buildings
Site status Current Land use Monument type	None Community Service 1 - Community Buildings DITCH Iron Age
Site status Current Land use Monument type Monument type	None Community Service 1 - Community Buildings DITCH Iron Age DITCH Early Medieval
Site status Current Land use Monument type Monument type Significant Finds	None Community Service 1 - Community Buildings DITCH Iron Age DITCH Early Medieval POTTERY Iron Age
Site status Current Land use Monument type Monument type Significant Finds Significant Finds	None Community Service 1 - Community Buildings DITCH Iron Age DITCH Early Medieval POTTERY Iron Age POTTERY Early Medieval

Project location

Country	England
Site location	ESSEX ROCHFORD RAYLEIGH The Sweyne Park School, Sir Walter Raleigh Road
Postcode	SS6 9BZ
Study area	0.12 Hectares
Site coordinates	TQ 80155 91685 51.594633514293 0.601264380068 51 35 40 N 000 36 04 E Point

Project creators

Name of Organisation	Colchester Archaeological Trust
Project brief originator	HEM Team Officer, ECC
Project design originator	Chris Lister
Project director/manager	Chris Lister
Project director/manager	Adam Wightman
Project supervisor	Mark Baister
Type of sponsor/funding body	Developer

Project archives

Physical Archive recipient Physical Archive RLSPS21 ID

Southend Museum

Physical Contents	"Ceramics","Worked bone"
Digital Archive recipient	Archaeological Data Service
Digital Archive ID	RLSPS21
Digital Contents	"other"
Digital Media available	"Images raster / digital photography","Survey","Text"
Paper Archive recipient	Southend Museum
Paper Archive ID	RLSPS21
Paper Contents	"other"
Paper Media available	"Miscellaneous Material", "Photograph", "Plan", "Report", "Section"

Project bibliography 1

	Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)
Publication type	
Title	Archaeological monitoring at The Sweyne Park School, Sir Walter Raleigh Drive, Rayleigh, Essex, SS6 9BZ: April 2021
Author(s)/Editor(s)	Pooley, L.
Other bibliographic details	CAT Report 1699
Date	2021
lssuer or publisher	Colchester Archaeological Trust
Place of issue or publication	Colchester
Description	A4 brass stapled
URL	http://cat.essex.ac.uk/all-reports.html
Entered by	Laura Pooley (Ip@catuk.org)
Entered on	27 August 2021



 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=429412 for this page

Cookies Privacy Policy