# Colchester Archaeological Trust

**CAT Report 1844**
**issued November 2022**

## Archaeological monitoring at 158 Straight Road, Colchester, Essex, CO3 9DT: August 2022

**CAT project ref.: 2022/05o**
**ECC code: ECC4732**

# Archaeological monitoring at 158 Straight Road, Colchester, Essex, CO3 9DT: August 2022

## NGR: TL 96678 23867 (centre)

## Planning ref.: 211439

## CAT project ref.: 2022/05o
## CAT Report 1844

## ECC code: ECC4732
## OASIS id: colchest3-507059


## report prepared by Megan Seehra and Laura Pooley

## with contributions from Dr Matthew Loughton

## fieldwork by Megan Seehra


## commissioned by Andrew Feasey, CPS Architecture Ltd on behalf of the homeowner

| | | |
|---|---|---|
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| **Issued:** | 22nd November 2022 | |


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## 1 Summary

*Archaeological monitoring took place at 158 Straight Road, Colchester during groundworks for a rear and side extension. The development site is located at the 'Peartree Junction' where Prettygate Dyke meets the Shrub End Dyke. Minor features were found – likely all modern – but there was no evidence of the dykes, which appear to have been truncated by the construction of the house and garage and accompanying landscaping.*

## 2 Introduction (Fig 1)

This report presents the results of archaeological monitoring undertaken by the Colchester Archaeological Trust (CAT) at 158 Straight Road, Colchester on the 1st-2nd August 2022. The work was commissioned by Andrew Feasey of CPS Architecture Ltd and took place during groundworks for a single-storey rear and side extension.

In response to consultation with Colchester Borough Council Planning Services (CBCPS), the Colchester Borough Council Archaeological Advisor Simon Wood 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).

All archaeological work was carried out in accordance with a *Brief for Archaeological Investigation*, detailing the required archaeological work, written by Dr Simon Wood (CBCPS 2022), and a written scheme of investigation (WSI) prepared by CAT in response to the brief and agreed with CBCPS (CAT 2022).

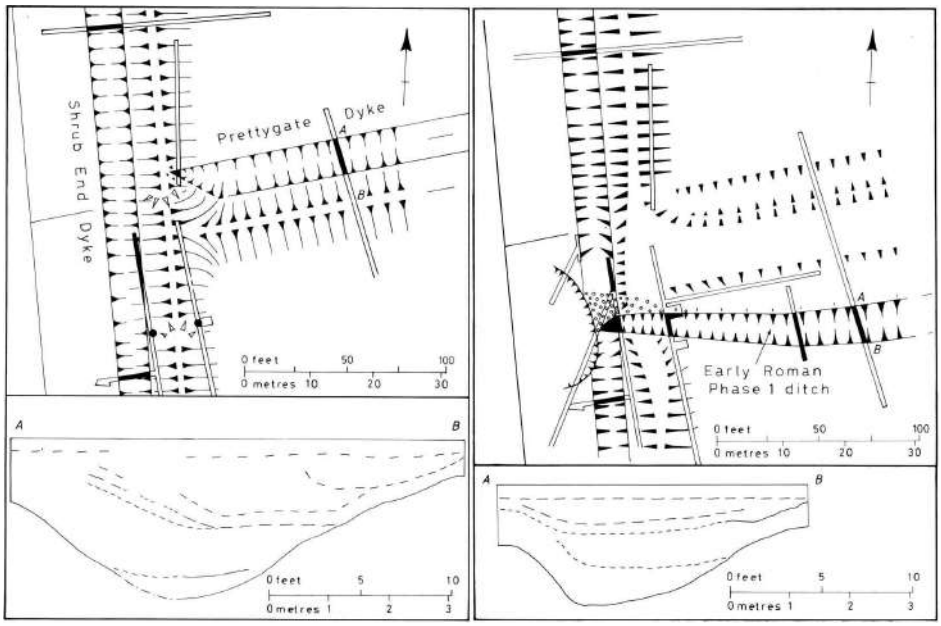
In addition to the brief and WSI, all fieldwork and reporting was done in accordance with *Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment* (*MoRPHE*) (Historic England 2016), and with *Standards for field archaeology in the East of England* (EAA **14** and **24**). This report mirrors standards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

## 3 Archaeological background (Fig 2)

The following archaeological background draws on the Colchester Archaeological Trust report archive and the Colchester Historic Environment Record (CHER/ECC numbers; accessible via Colchester Heritage Explorer (https://colchesterheritage.co.uk/map).

The proposed development is situated within an area of archaeological significance at the junction of several dykes. The Colchester dykes and earthworks are among the most important prehistoric monuments in Britain. They define the extent of the pre-Roman 'proto-town' (or *oppidum* in Latin) of *Camulodunum*. *Camulodunum* was the capital and home of Cunobelin, who was arguably the most important leader in Britain in the decades leading up to the Roman invasion of AD 43. There have been several studies of and excavations on the dykes, which are described fully in the two principal reference works: *Camulodunum*, by CFC Hawkes and MR Hull (1947), and *Camulodunum 2, Colchester Archaeological Report* **11** (*CAR* **11**), by CFC Hawkes and Philip Crummy (1995).

The site is located at the 'Peartree Junction' where Prettygate Dyke (MCC1742) meets Shrub End Dyke (MCC7467). Rex Hull excavated sections across the dykes here in 1936 (Plan 1). The sections across the Prettygate Dyke revealed the structure of the rampart and a filled-in ditch on either side of it. The northern ditch is greater in dimensions than the southern one. The southern one is thought to have been built to replace the northern one (*CAR* **11**, 47). Hull extended his excavation across the projected line of Shrub End Dyke to see if anything had been built across it. He found that the primary northern ditch did not cross the Shrub End Dyke but the later southern ditch did cross the Shrub End ditch where it ended/began (*CAR* **11** 47-8).




**Plan 1** Plan of the pre-Roman (left) and Roman (right) works at Peartree Junction with sections across the northern ditch (left) and the ditch of the Roman Road 2 (right) as excavated by Hull 1936 (*CAR* **11**, Fig 2.23-4).

To the immediate south of the site is the supposed location of a Roman military beacon. The beacon was plotted on Lufkin & Smiths map of 1722 which was later copied and reproduced by Philip Morant (ECC2362).

## 4 Aim

Archaeological monitoring was undertaken to excavate and record any archaeological deposits which were exposed by the groundworks.

## 5 Results (Figs 2-3)

Approximately 35m of trenching was excavated under the supervision of a CAT archaeologist. It was 0.5m wide and reached depths of between 1-1.7m below current ground level (bcgl).

Modern landscaped topsoil was seen across the site (L2, 0.08-0.22m thick), which was covered by modern grey paving slabs (L1, 0.1m thick) on the western side of site (in front of the demolished garage) and on the far side of the most easterly foundation trenches. Modern concrete with blue plaster (L5, 0.9m thick) associated with the demolished garage was mainly seen at the centre of the site, with L1 covering it on its western edge. L5 also covered the topsoil.

Modern topsoil (L2) covered undated subsoil (L4, 0.25m thick) which sealed natural sands and gravel (L3, from 0.6m bcgl). However, natural (L3) was not encountered consistently throughout throughout the trenching.

Four features were noted during monitoring. The first, a large pit-like feature (F1), was at least 7.7 x 2.4m in area and 1m deep. Both the base, southern and eastern edges of the feature went beyond the limit of excavation, although possible western and northern edges were seen. These edges were not seen clearly in section, and may have extended further. Unsafe trench edges prevented further examination.

The second feature was a possible ditch terminus or pit (F2) cut into the southern end of F1. The entire feature was not seen, but it was at least 2m long, 0.8m wide and 1.1m deep.

**Photograph 1** Representative section showing F1 and F2, looking east.

**Photograph 2** F3 in plan, looking south-east.

The third feature, F3, appeared to be a modern gully, *c* 0.3m wide and at least 1.7m long. It was not excavated since it was believed to be modern due to its strong smell of petrol.

The last feature was likely a tree throw (F4) or pit. Seen in section only, it was *c* 0.5m deep and included a thin layer of gravel on the base of the feature.

**Photograph 3** F4, looking south-east.

**Photograph 4** North-east side of foundation trench, looking south-west.

**Photograph 5** Representative section showing an edge of F1, looking south.

**Photograph 6** General view of foundation trenches from middle of site, looking north-west.

**Photograph 7** General view of foundation trenches south side of house, looking north-east.

**Photograph 8** General view of former garage footings in section, looking west.

Post-medieval/modern finds were recovered from F1. The other three features produced no dating evidence.

A full list of context information can be seen in Appendix 1.

## 6 Finds

*by Dr Matthew Loughton and Laura Pooley*

Possible pit F1 (finds no. 1) produced six sherds of baked clay (108g) and nine fragments of post-medieval/modern olive green glass (107.9g) from at least two different vessels, one of which was probably a wine bottle. This material was not retained.

## 7 Conclusion (Figs 4-5)

Archaeological monitoring at 158 Straight Road revealed three modern features and an undated tree throw/pit. There was no trace of any contexts relating to the Peartree Junction of dykes. Fig 4 shows the projected route of both Prettygate Dyke and Shrub End Dyke in relation to groundworks on the development site. Fig 5 is a copy of the same, but with Rex Hull's 1936 plan of the junction overlaid (taken from *CAR* **11**, fig 2.24).

Figs 4 and 5 both show that the Shrub End Dyke passes north to south through the development site with Prettygate Dyke located further to the east beyond the current groundworks. Based on the projected alignment, the early Roman ditch (ERD) associated with the Prettygate Dyke should have passed through the south-east corner of the foundation trenches (see Fig 4), but much of this feature could have been truncated by F1. Similarly, any trace of the Shrub End Dyke rampart would also have been largely truncated by F1 and groundworks associated with the construction of the property. F1 contained finds dated to the post-medieval/modern period, and was large in size, so may be a quarry pit.

Figs 4 and 5 also show that based on the projected route the Shrub End Dyke ditch should have been visible in the centre of the foundation trenches. However, no edges were apparent and no changes in soil were seen. Fig 5 does show truncation of the ditch, as recorded in 1936, by a large curved feature, probably a quarry pit. Both the house and garage have also been built over the ditch subsequently.

The limited nature of the narrow trenches made analysis difficult, however monitoring has shown signs of significant modern disturbance and landscaping to the area. This has likely destroyed archaeological evidence of Shrub End Dyke at 158 Straight Road.

## 8 Acknowledgements

CAT thanks Andrew Feasey of CPS Architecture Ltd and the homeowner for commissioning and funding the work. The project was managed by C Lister and A Wightman and carried out by M Seehra. Figures were prepared by L Pooley and S Veasey. The project was monitored for CBCPS by Dr Simon Wood.

## 9 References

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


| | | |
|---|---|---|
| *CAR* **11** | 1984 | *Colchester Archaeological Report* **11***: Camulodunum 2*, by CFC Hawkes & P Crummy |
| CAT | 2021 | *Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) for archaeological monitoring at 158 Straight Road, Colchester, Essex, CO3 9DT* by E Holloway |
| CBCPS | 2021 | *Brief for Archaeological Investigation at 158 Straight Road, Colchester*, by S Wood |
| CIfA | 2014a | *Standard and Guidance for an archaeological watching brief.* Revised June 2020 |
| CIfA | 2014b | *Standard and guidance for the collection, documentation, conservation and research of archaeological materials.* Updated October 2020 |
| Gurney, D | 2003 | *Standards for field archaeology in the East of England.* East Anglian Archaeology Occasional Papers 14 (EAA **14**) |
| Hawkes, C F C & Hull, M R | 1947 | *Camulodunum: First Report on the Excavations at Colchester, 1930-1939.* Oxford University Press |

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Hull, M R | 1958 | *Roman Colchester* |
| Historic England | 2015 | *Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment* (MoRPHE) |
| 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. |


## 10 Abbreviations and glossary

| | |
|---|---|
| beacon | a place where fire was deliberately lit to give a warning or message to others |
| CAT | Colchester Archaeological Trust |
| CBC | Colchester Borough Council |
| CBCAA | Colchester Borough Council Archaeological Advisor |
| CBCPS | Colchester Borough Council Planning Services |
| CHER | Colchester Historic Environment Record |
| CIfA | Chartered Institute for Archaeologists |
| context | specific location of finds on an archaeological site |
| feature (F) | an identifiable thing like a pit, a wall, a drain: can contain 'contexts' |
| layer (L) | distinct or distinguishable deposit (layer) of material |
| modern | period from *c* AD 1800 to the present |
| natural | geological deposit undisturbed by human activity |
| NGR | National Grid Reference |
| OASIS | **O**nline **A**cces**S** to the **I**ndex of Archaeological Investigation**S**, http://oasis.ac.uk/pages/wiki/Main |
| post-medieval | from c AD 1500 to c 1800 |
| prehistoric | pre-Roman |
| rampart | an elongated bank or wall forming a defensive boundary of an enclosure |
| 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:** not retained

**Digital record**

CAT Report 1844
CBC brief
Digital photographs and photographic log
Graphics files
Site data (including scans of original plans/sections)
Survey data

## 12 Archive deposition

The 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 the Archaeological Data Service.

**Distribution list**
The homeowner
Andrew Feasey, CPS Architecture Ltd
Dr Simon Wood, Colchester Borough Council Planning Services
Essex Historic Environment Record

## Appendix 1 Context list

| Context | Context type | Description | Date |
|---|---|---|---|
| L1 | paving slabs | grey garden paving slabs | modern |
| L2 | topsoil | firm dry medium/dark grey/brown sandy silt and inclusions of: stone 2% | modern |
| L3 | natural | firm/hard dry medium orange silty sand and inclusions of: gravel 25% stone 25% | post-glacial |
| L4 | ?subsoil | soft dry medium orange/grey/brown sandy silt and inclusions of: stone 5% | undated |
| L5 | concrete | concrete surface associated with former garage, with some blue plaster for floor | modern |
| | | | |
| F1 | ?pit | soft dry light/medium grey/brown clayey silt with charcoal flecks and inclusions of: stone 2% | post-medieval - modern |
| F2 | ditch terminus/pit | firm dry medium orange/brown sandy silt and inclusions of: gravel 5% stone 20% | post-medieval-modern |
| F3 | ?gully | friable dry/moist medium/dark orange/grey/brown silty clay with flecks of: clinker | ?modern |
| F4 | pit/tree throw | firm dry medium grey/brown sandy silt with charcoal flecks and inclusions of: stone 2% | undated |

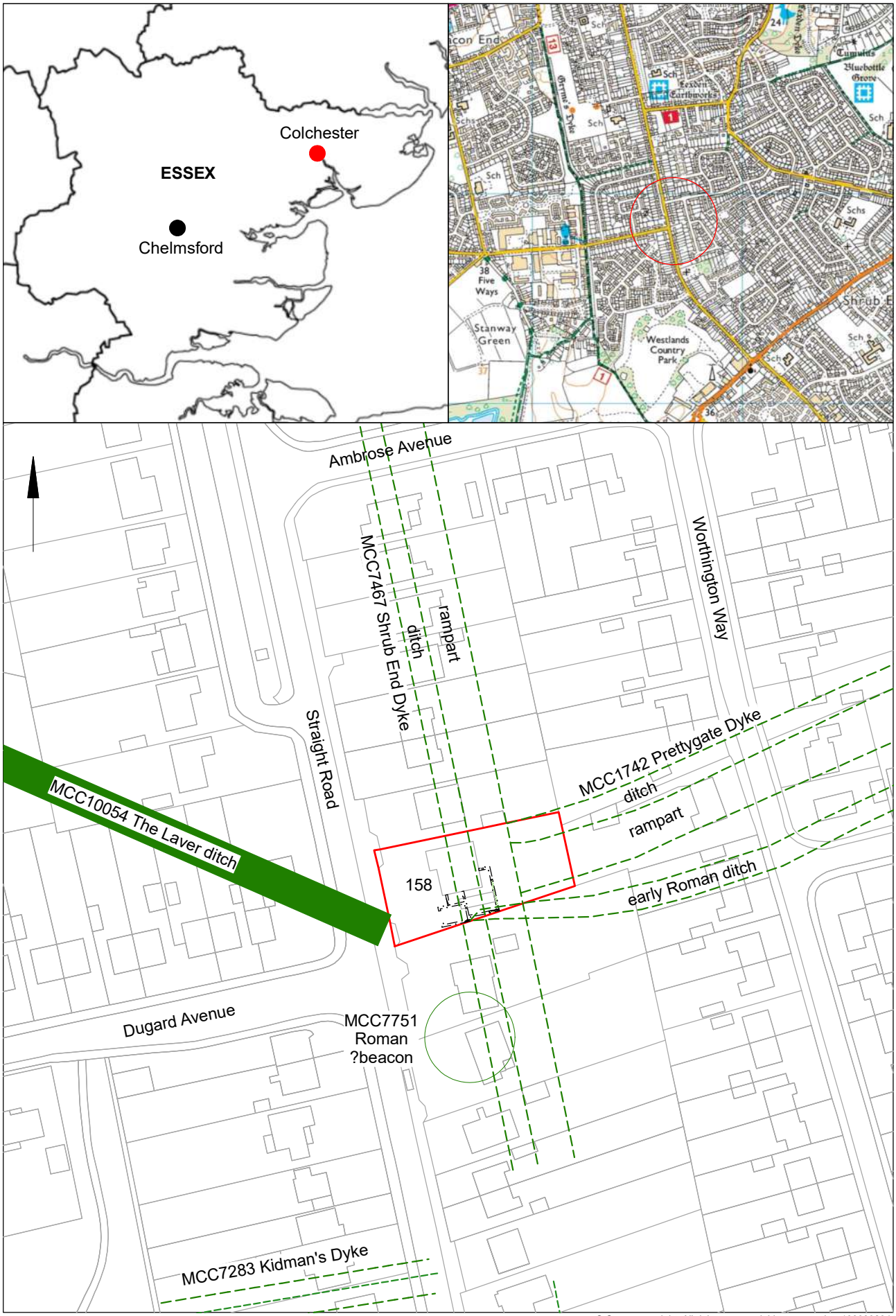





Fig 1 Site location.

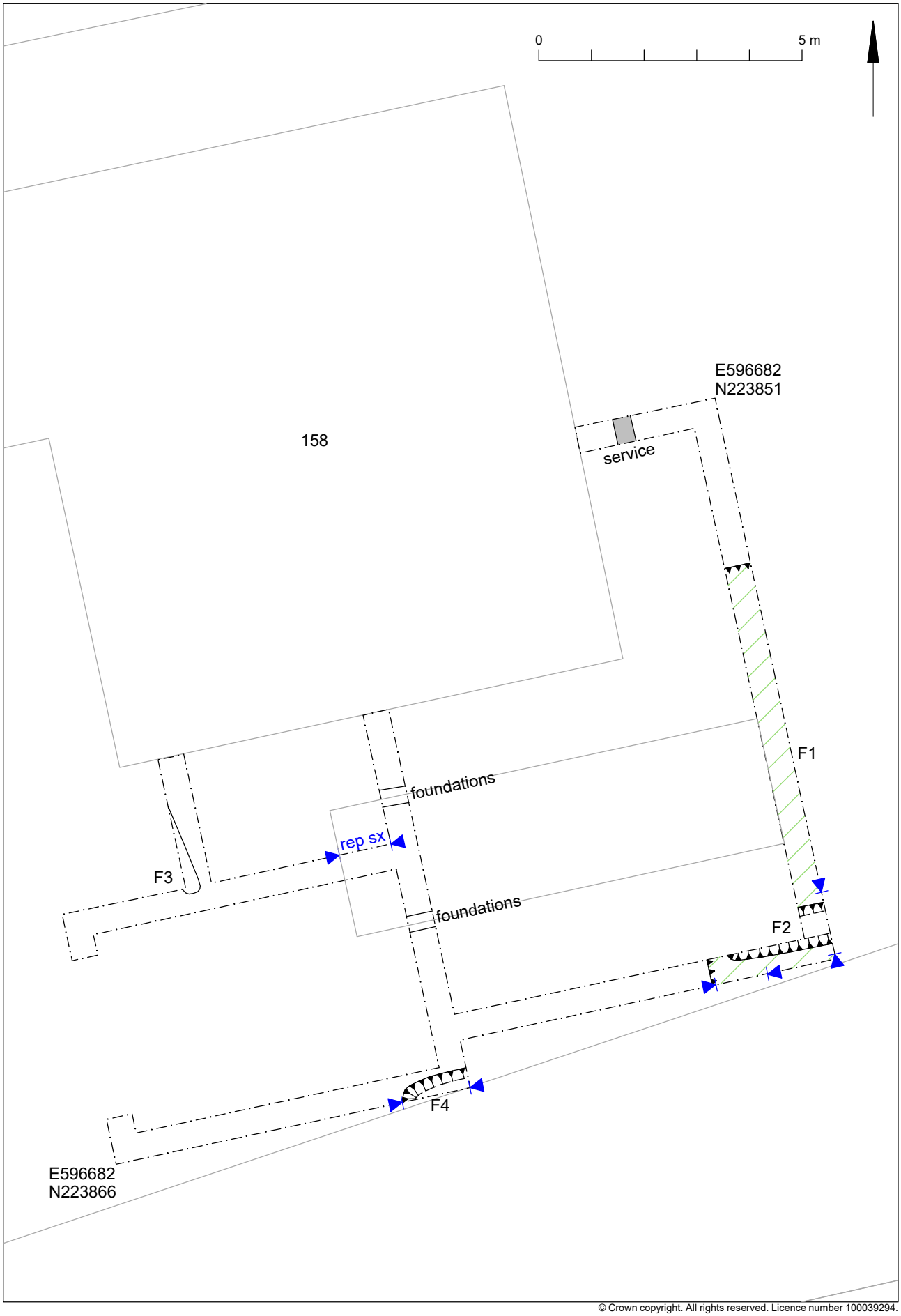





Fig 2 Monitoring results.

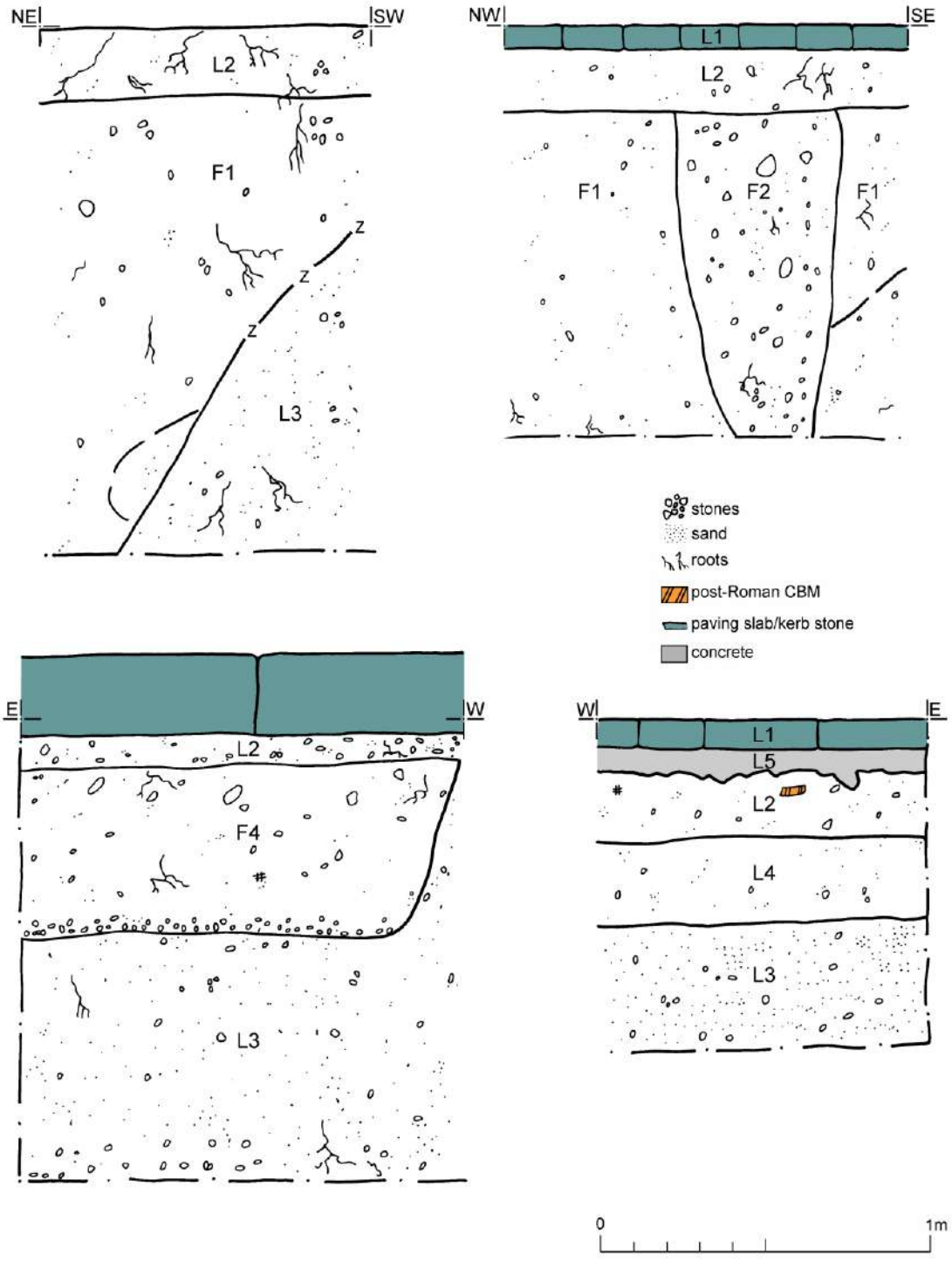



Fig 3 Feature and representative sections.



Fig 4 Results in relation to the projected routes of the Shrub End Dyke and Prettygate Dyke

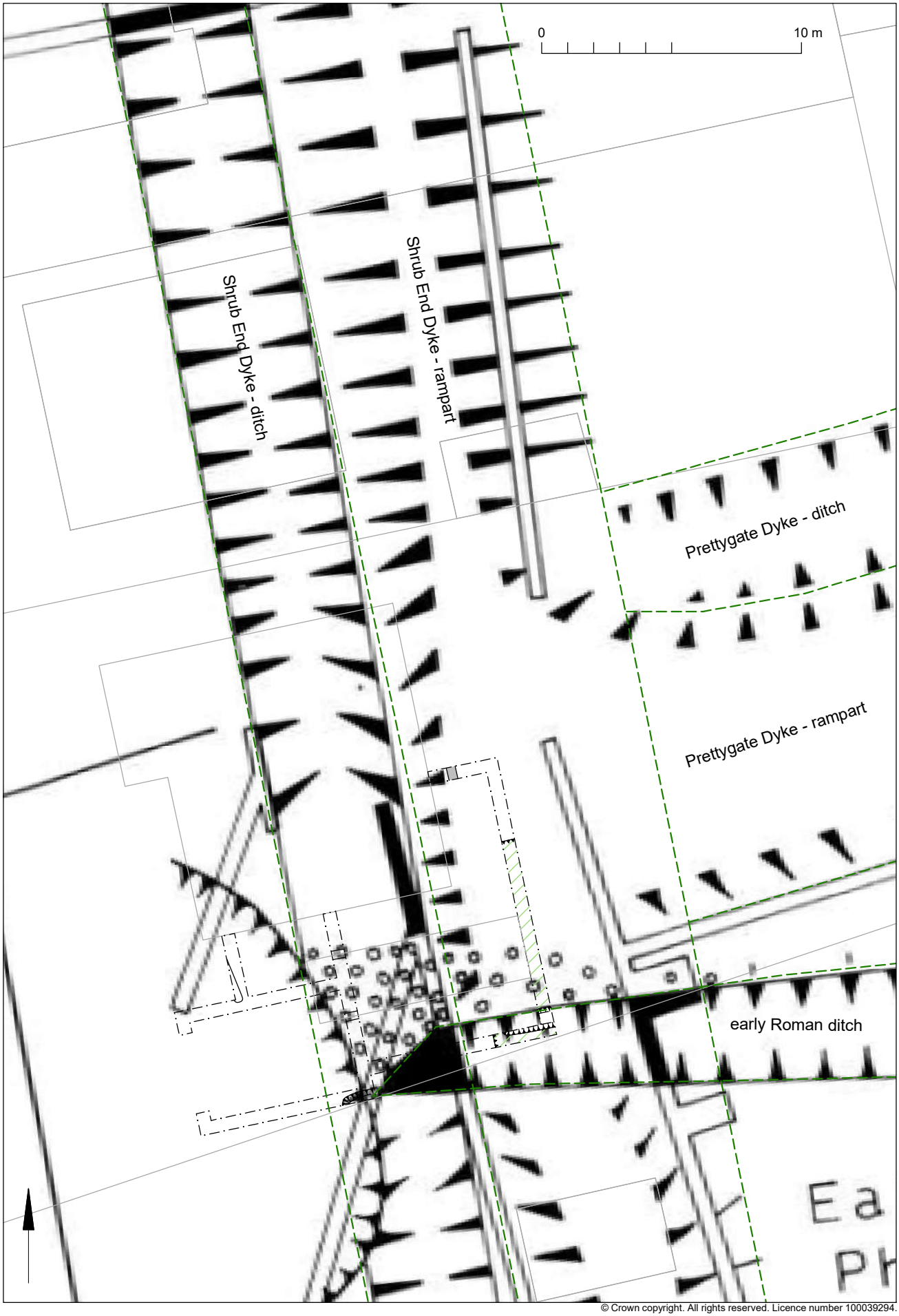





Fig 5 Results with Fig 2.24 from CAR 11 overlaid

# Essex Historic Environment Record/
# *Essex Archaeology and History*

**Summary sheet**

| | |
|---|---|
| ***Address:*** **158 Straight Road, Colchester, CO3 9DT** | |
| ***Parish:*** Colchester | ***District:*** Colchester |
| ***NGR:*** TL 9667823867 (centre) | ***Site code:***<br>CAT project ref.: 22/05o<br>CHER ref: ECC4732<br>OASIS ref: colchest3-507059 |
| ***Type of work:***<br>Monitoring | ***Site director/group:***<br>Colchester Archaeological Trust |
| ***Date of work:***<br>1st-2nd August 2022 | ***Size of area investigated:***<br>0.09ha |
| ***Location of curating museum:***<br>Colchester Museum | **Funding source:**<br>Owner |
| ***Further seasons anticipated?***<br>No | ***Related CHER/SMR number:***<br>CHER MCC1742, MCC7467 |
| ***Final report:*** CAT Report 1844 | |
| ***Periods represented:*** Post-medieval/modern | |
| ***Summary of fieldwork results:***<br><br>Archaeological monitoring took place at 158 Straight Road, Colchester during groundworks for a rear and side extension. The development site is located at the 'Peartree Junction' where Prettygate Dyke meets the Shrub End Dyke. Minor features were found – likely all modern – but there was no evidence of the dykes, which appear to have been truncated by the construction of the house and garage and accompanying landscaping. | |
| ***Previous summaries/reports:*** - | |
| ***CBC monitor:*** Dr Simon Wood | |
| ***Keywords:*** - | ***Significance:*** - |
| ***Author of summary:***<br>Megan Seehra | ***Date of summary:***<br>November 2022 |

# Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) for archaeological monitoring at 158 Straight Road, Colchester, Essex, CO3 9DT

**NGR:** TL 96678 23867 (centre)
**District:** Colchester
**Parish:** Colchester

**Planning reference:** 211439

**Comissioned by:** Andrew Feasey (CPS Architecture Ltd)
**Client:** Homeowner

**Curating museum:** Colchester/ADS Archaeology
**CHER number:** tbc

**CAT project code:** 2022/05o
**OASIS project number:** colchest3-507059

**Contracts manager:** Chris Lister
**Fieldwork manager:** Adam Wightman
**Post-excavation manager:** Laura Pooley

**CBC monitor:** Dr Simon Wood

**This WSI written**: 27/05/2022

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

*tel:* 01206 501785 (option 1)
*email:* services@catuk.org

## Site location and description

The proposed development site is located approximately 3.2km southwest from the main historic core of Colchester at 158 Straight Road, Colchester, Essex. (Fig 1). The site is centred on National Grid Reference (NGR) TL 96678 23867.

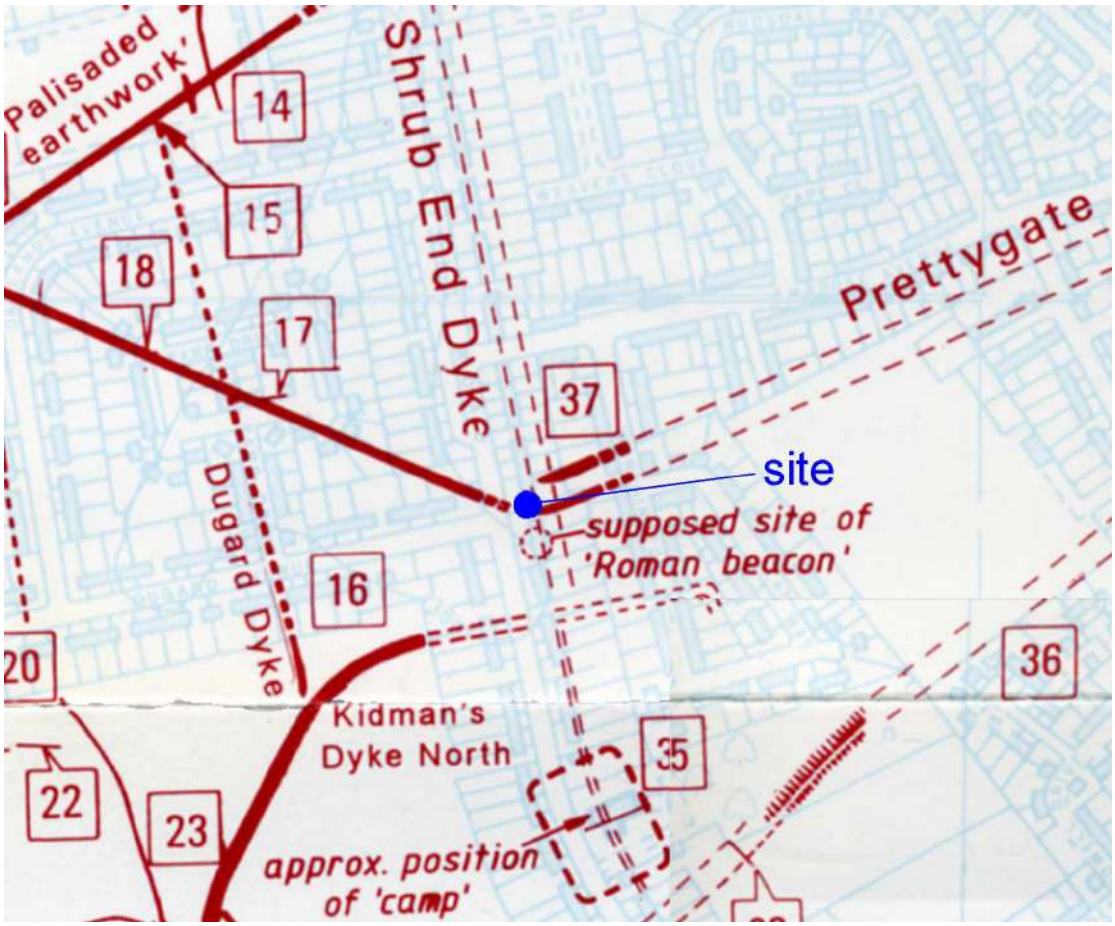
## Proposed work

The development comprises of the construction of a single storey extension to the side and rear of the property and any associated groundworks.

## Archaeological background

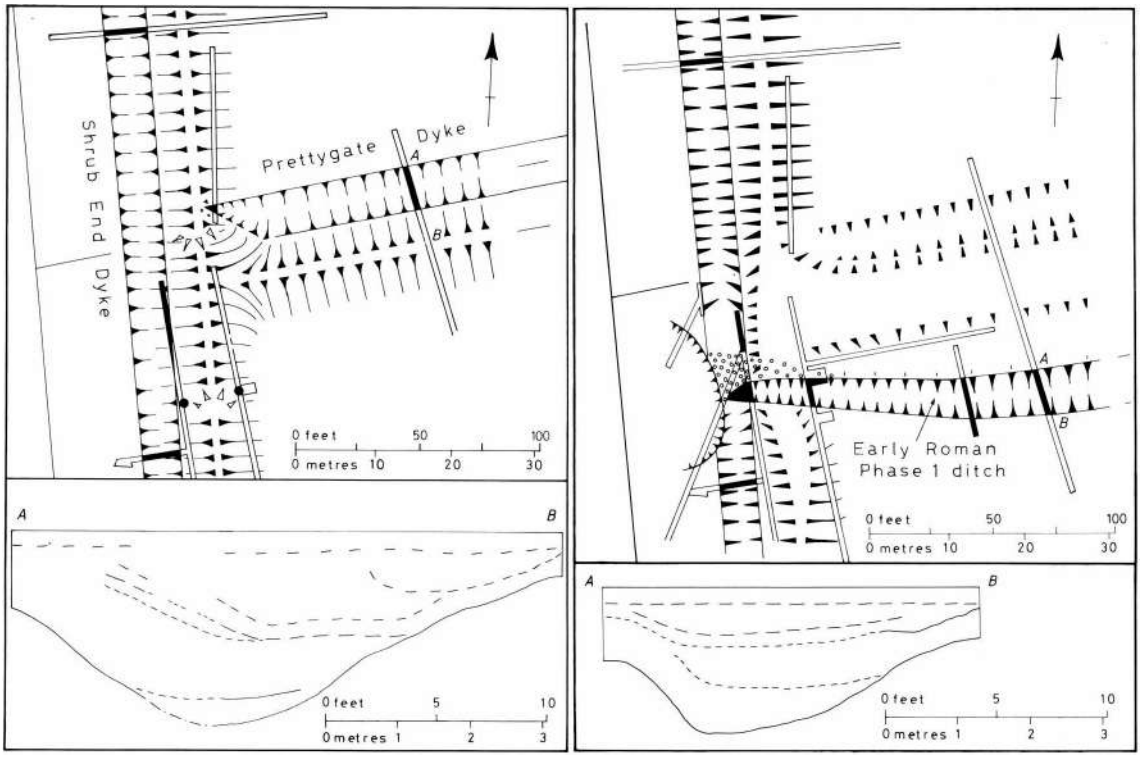
The following archaeological background draws on the Colchester Archaeological Trust report archive and the Colchester Historic Environment Record (CHER/ECC numbers; accessible via Colchester Heritage Explorer (https://colchesterheritage.co.uk/map).

The proposed development is situated within an area of archaeological significance. It lies at a junction of several dykes. The Colchester dykes and earthworks are among the most important prehistoric monuments in Britain. They define the extent of the pre-Roman 'proto-town' (or *oppidum* in Latin) of *Camulodunum*. *Camulodunum* was the capital and home of Cunobelin, who was arguably of the most important leader in Britain in the decades leading up to the Roman invasion of AD 43. There have been several studies of and excavations on the dykes, which are described fully in the two principal reference works: *Camulodunum*, by CFC Hawkes and MR Hull (1947), and *Camulodunum 2, Colchester Archaeological Report* **11** (CAR **11**), by CFC Hawkes and Philip Crummy (1995).




**Map 1:** Extract of the general map of Colchester showing the locations of earthworks and excavations discussed in *CAR***11** (Fig 6.1), current site is labelled blue.

The site is located at the 'Peartree Junction' (no 37 on Map 1) where Prettygate dyke (MCC1742) meets the Shrub End Dyke (MCC7467). Rex Hull excavated sections across the dykes here in 1936. The sections across the Prettygate dyke (labelled A-B on Map 2) revealed the structure of the rampart and a filled-in ditch on either side of it. The northern ditch is greater in dimensions than the southern one. The southern one is thought to have been built to replace the northern one (CAR 11, 47).




**Map 2:** Plan of the pre-Roman (left) and Roman (right) works at Peartree Junction with sections across the northern ditch (left) and the ditch of Roman Road 2 (right) as excavated by Hull 1936 (*CAR***11** Fig 2.23-4).

Hull extended his excavation across the projected line of Shrub End Dyke to see if anything had been built across it. He found that the primary northern ditch did not cross the Shrub End dyke but the later southern ditch did cross the Shrub End ditch where it ended/began (*CAR* **11** 47-8).

To the immediate south of the site is the supposed location of a Roman military beacon. The beacon was plotted on the Lufkin and Smiths map (1722) which was later copied and reproduced by Philip Morant (ECC2362).

## Planning background

A planning application (211439) was made to Colchester Borough Council in May 2021 for a *proposed single storey side and rear extension.*

As the site lies within an area highlighted by the CHER as having a high potential for archaeological deposits, an archaeological condition was recommended by the Colchester Borough Council Archaeological Advisor (CBCAA). The recommended archaeological condition is based on the guidance given in the *National Planning Policy Framework* (MHCLG 2019).

## Requirement for work

The required archaeological work is for an archaeological monitoring of all groundworks (including services and landscaping). Details are given in a Project Brief written by CBCAA (CBC 2022).

Specifically:
The monitoring is being undertaken to identify and record any surviving archaeological deposits that may exist on site. Particularly any remains related to the dykes and Roman road recorded here in 1936.

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

In the exceptional circumstances that important, well-preserved mosaic floors (or similar remains) are discovered, which cannot otherwise be avoided by the development (and satisfactorily preserved in situ), a contingency will be required for the block-lifting of these archaeological remains, e.g. well-preserved mosaic remains and for subsequent conservation and presentation. A decision about the need for conservation and lifting of important archaeological remains will be made in consultation with specialist stakeholders (e.g, Historic England, Colchester Museum and Norfolk Museums Service, Conservation and Design Services).

The method and form of development will also be monitored to ensure that it conforms to the previously agreed locations and techniques upon which the brief is based. Any variations will be discussed with the CBCAA immediately.

## General methodology

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

- professional standards of the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists, including its *Code of Conduct* (CIfA 2014a-c)
- East of England Standards and Frameworks published by East Anglian Archaeology (Gurney 2003, Medlycott 2011) and the recent review updates on https://researchframeworks.org/eoe/
- relevant Health & Safety guidelines and requirements (CAT 2021)
- the Project Brief issued by the CBCAA (CBC 2022).

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

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

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

At the start of work (immediately before fieldwork commences) an OASIS online record http://ads.ahds.ac.uk/project/oasis/ will be initiated and key fields completed on Details, Location and Creators forms. At the end of the project all parts of the OASIS online form will be completed for submission to Essex Historic Environment Record (EHER). This will include an uploaded .PDF version of the entire report.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

## Site surveying
Normal scale for archaeological site plans and sections is 1:20 and 1:10 respectively, unless circumstances indicate that other scales would be more appropriate.

The site grid will be tied into the National Grid. Corners of excavation areas and trenches will be located by NGR coordinates.

## Environmental sampling policy
The number and range of samples collected will be adequate to investigate 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). Samples will be collected for potential micromorphical and other pedological sedimentological analysis. Environmental bulk samples will be 40 litres in size (assuming the context is large enough).

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

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

Should any complex, or otherwise outstanding deposits be encountered, VF/LG will be asked

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

## Human remains

CAT follows the policy of leaving human remains *in situ* unless there is a clear indication that the remains are in danger of being compromised as a result of their exposure or unless advised to do so by the project osteologist or CBCAA.

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

If circumstances indicated it were prudent or necessary to remove remains from the site during the monitoring, the following criteria would be applied; if it is clear from their position, context, depth, or other factors that the remains are ancient, then normal procedure is to apply to the Department of Justice for a licence to remove them and seek advice from the project osteologist. Human remains removed from site for analysis this may involve radiocarbon dating (see finds section).

Following Historic England guidance (2018) if the human remains are not to be lifted, the project osteologist should be available to record the human remain *in situ* (i.e. a site visit). Conditions laid down by the DoJ license will be followed. If it seems that the remains are not ancient, then the coroner, the client, and the CBCAA will be informed, and any advice and/or instruction from the coroner will be followed.

## Photographic record

Will include both general and feature-specific photographs, the latter with scale and north arrow. A photo register giving context number, details, and direction of shot will be prepared on site, and included in site archive. Digital site photographs will be taken and archived as per Historic England guidelines (2015a).

## Finds

All significant finds will be retained.

All finds, where appropriate, will be washed and marked with site code and context number. CAT may use local volunteers to assist the CAT Finds Officer with this task.

Most of our finds reports are written internally by CAT Staff under the supervision and direction of Philip Crummy (Director) and Laura Pooley (Post-excavation Manager). This includes specialist subjects such as:

ceramic finds (pottery and ceramic building material): Matthew Loughton
animal bones: Alec Wade (or Adam Wightman, small groups only)
small finds, metalwork, coins, etc: Laura Pooley
non-ceramic bulk finds: Laura Pooley
flints: Adam Wightman
environmental processing: Bronagh Quinn
project osteologist (human remains): Megan Seehra

or to outside specialists:

animal and human bone: Julie Curl (*Sylvanus*)
environmental assessment and analysis: Val Fryer / Lisa Gray
archaeometallurgy: David Dungworth
radiocarbon dating: SUERC Radiocarbon Dating Laboratory, Glasgow

conservation/x-ray: Laura Ratcliffe (LR Conservation) / Norfolk Museums Service, Conservation and Design Services

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

flint: Hazel Martingell
prehistoric pottery: Stephen Benfield / Nigel Brown / Paul Sealey
Roman pottery: Stephen Benfield / Paul Sealey / Jo Mills / Gwladys Monteil
Roman brick/tile: Ian Betts (MOLA)
Roman glass: Hilary Cool
small finds: Nina Crummy
other: EH Regional Adviser in Archaeological Science (East of England).

All finds of potential treasure will be removed to a safe place, and the coroner informed immediately, in accordance with the rules of the Treasure Act 1996. The definition of treasure is given in pages 3-5 of the Code of Practice of the above act. This refers primarily to gold or silver objects.

Requirements for conservation and storage of finds will be agreed with the appropriate museum prior to the start of work, and confirmed to CBCAA.

A contingency will be made in the budget for scientific assessment/analysis if suitable deposits are identified. This can include soil micromorphological and geochemical analysis of floors and dark earth deposits and/or absolute dating (such as archaeomagnetic and radiocarbon). The Historic England Regional Science Advisor will be consulted for advice.

## 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* (Historic England 2015b).

The report will be submitted within 6 months of the end of fieldwork, with a copy supplied to CBCAA as a PDF.

The report will contain:

- Location plan of the groundworks in relation to the proposed development. At least two corners of the site will be given 10 figure grid references.
- Section/s drawings showing depth of deposits from present ground level with Ordnance Datum, vertical and horizontal scale.
- Archaeological methodology and detailed results including a suitable conclusion and discussion and results referring to Regional Research Frameworks (Medlycott 2011).
- All specialist reports or assessments
- A concise non-technical summary of the project results.

An EHER summary sheet will also be completed within four weeks and supplied to CBCAA.

Results will be published, to at least a summary level (i.e. round-up in *Essex Archaeology & History*) in the year following the archaeological field work. An allowance will be made in the project costs for the report to be published in an adequately peer reviewed journal or monograph series.

A PDF copy of the full report will be uploaded by CAT to the OASIS website and the Colchester Archaeological Trust's Online Report Library (http://cat.essex.ac.uk/), both of which are publicly accessible.

## 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.

If finds are retained from the site 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). If there are no finds a full digital archive will be deposited with ADS Archaeology.

**By accepting this WSI, the client agrees to deposit the archive, including all artefacts, at Colchester & Ipswich Museum.**

The requirements for archive storage will be agreed with the curating museum.

If the finds are to remain with the landowner, a full copy of the archive will be housed with the curating museum and provision must be made for additional recording (e.g. photography, illustration and analysis) as appropriate.

The archive will be deposited with Colchester & Ipswich Museum or an alternate repository (approved by COLEM and CBCAA) within 3 months of the completion of the final publication report, with a summary of the contents of the archive supplied to CBCAA. Digital archives will be curated with the Archaeology Data Service, or similar accredited digital archive repository, that safeguard the long-term curation of digital records.

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

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

## Monitoring

CBCAA will be responsible for monitoring progress and standards throughout the project, and will be kept regularly informed during fieldwork, post-excavation and publication stages.

Notification of the start of work will be given to CBCAA one week in advance of its commencement.

Any variations in this WSI will be agreed with CBCAA prior to them being carried out.

CBCAA will be notified when the fieldwork is complete.

The involvement of CBCAA shall be acknowledged in any report or publication generated by this project.

## References

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


| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Brown, D | 2011<br>2nd ed | *Archaeological Archives: A guide to best practice in creation, compilation, transfer and curation* |
| *CAR* **11** | 1995 | *Colchester Archaeological Report **11**: Camunlodunum 2*, by C F C Hawkes and P Crummy |
| CAT | 2021 | *Health & Safety Policy* |
| CBCAA | 2022 | *Brief for Archaeological Monitoring at 158 Straight Road, Colchester.* By S Wood |
| CIfA | 2014a | *Standard and Guidance for an archaeological watching brief.* Revised June 2020 |
| CIfA | 2014b | *Standard and guidance for the collection, documentation, conservation and research of archaeological materials.* Updated Oct 2020 |

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| CIfA | 2014c | *Code of Conduct.* Revised Oct 2021 |
| Gurney, D | 2003 | *Standards for field archaeology in the East of England.* East Anglian Archaeology Occasional Papers 14 (EAA **14**). |
| Historic England | 2015a | *Digital Image capture and File Storage: Guidelines for best practice.* By S Cole & P Backhouse |
| Historic England | 2015b | *Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment (MoRPHE)* |
| Historic England | 2018 | *The Role of the Human Osteologist in an Archaeological Fieldwork Project*. By S Mays, M Brickley and J Sidell |
| 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. |



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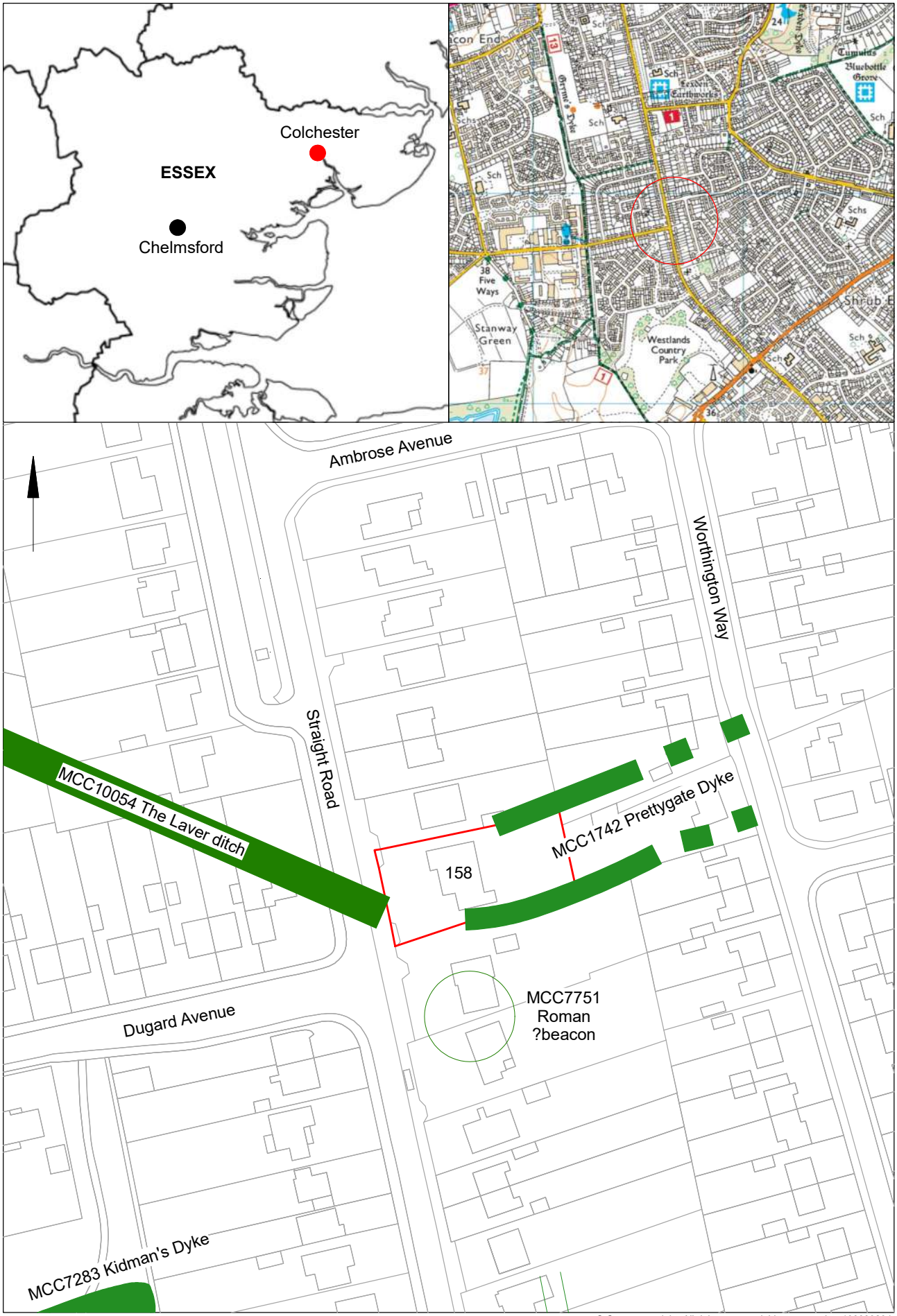




Fig 1 Site location.

# Summary for colchest3-507059

| | |
|---|---|
| OASIS ID (UID) | colchest3-507059 |
| Project Name | Watching Brief at 158 Straight Road, Colchester, Essex,  CO3 9DT |
| Sitename | 158 Straight Road, Colchester, Essex,  CO3 9DT |
| Activity type | Watching Brief |
| Project Identifier(s) | 2022/05o |
| Planning Id | 211439 |
| Reason For Investigation | Planning: Post determination |
| Organisation Responsible for work | Colchester Archaeological Trust |
| Project Dates | 01-Aug-2022 - 02-Aug-2022 |
| Location | 158 Straight Road, Colchester, Essex,  CO3 9DT<br>NGR : TL 96678 23867<br>LL : 51.8786733420875, 0.855987989371159<br>12 Fig : 596678,223867 |
| Administrative Areas | Country : England<br>County : Essex<br>District : Colchester<br>Parish : Colchester, unparished area |
| Project Methodology | Monitoring of all groundworks carried out as per the brief and wsi. |
| Project Results | Archaeological monitoring took place at 158 Straight Road, Colchester during groundworks for a rear and side extension. The development site is located at the 'Peartree Junction' where Prettygate Dyke meets the Shrub End Dyke. Minor features were found – likely all modern – but there was no evidence of the dykes, which appear to have been truncated by the construction of the house and garage and accompanying landscaping. |
| Keywords | |
| Funder | |
| HER | Colchester Borough Council - unRev - STANDARD |
| Person Responsible for work | M, Seehra |
| HER Identifiers | HER Event No - ECC4732 |
| Archives | |