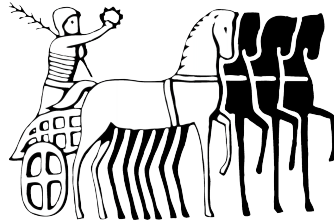


# Colchester Archaeological Trust



**CAT Report 2102**  
**issued November 2024**

**Archaeological monitoring and recording at**  
**90 Fairhaven Avenue, West Mersea,**  
**Colchester, Essex, CO5 8BS: October 2024**



**CAT project ref.: 2024/05g**  
**ECC code: ECC4858**

**Archaeological monitoring and recording at  
90 Fairhaven Avenue, West Mersea,  
Colchester, Essex, CO5 8BS: October 2024**

**NGR: TM 02203 12854 (centre)**

**Planning district: Colchester  
Planning ref.: 240055**

**CAT project ref.: 2024/05g  
CAT Report 2102**

**CHER code: ECC4858  
OASIS id: colchest3-526081**

**Report prepared by  
Bronagh Rae-Quinn**

**Fieldwork by Megan Beale and  
Bronagh Rae-Quinn**

**Commissioned by Graeme Roe of  
Stanley Bragg Architects  
On behalf of the homeowner**

<b>Prepared by:</b>	Bronagh Rae-Quinn	Senior Site/Post-Excavation Assistant
<b>Reviewed by:</b>	Laura Pooley	Post-Excavation Manager
<b>Reviewed and approved by:</b>	Howard Brooks	Senior Associate
<b>Issued:</b>	20/11/2024	

**Colchester Archaeological Trust**

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

tel.: 01206 501785

email: [services@catuk.org](mailto:services@catuk.org)

web: [www.catuk.org](http://www.catuk.org)

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## 1 Summary

Archaeological monitoring was carried out at 90 Fairhaven Avenue, West Mersea, Colchester, Essex during groundworks for the construction of a new dwelling. Despite being located close to a Late Iron Age burial and the findspot of a possible Roman burial accessory vessel, no archaeological remains were identified during the works.

## 2 Introduction (Fig 1)

This is the report for archaeological monitoring at 90 Fairhaven Avenue, West Mersea, Colchester, Essex, which was carried out on 7th to 15th October 2024. The work was commissioned by Graeme Roe of Stanley Bragg Architects on behalf of the homeowner, and was carried out by Colchester Archaeological Trust (CAT) during groundworks for the construction of a new two-storey detached dwelling with associated parking.

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 City Council Archaeological Advisor (CCCAA). This recommendation was for an archaeological monitoring and was based on the guidance given in the *National Planning Policy Framework* (MHCLG 2023).

All work was carried out in accordance with a *Brief for Archaeological Monitoring at 90 Fairhaven Avenue, West Mersea, CO5 8BS* written by Dr Richard Hoggett (CCCAA 2024). A Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) was prepared by CAT (2024a) in response to the brief and agreed with the CCCAA in advance of the groundworks.

In addition to the project Brief and WSI, all fieldwork and reporting was undertaken in accordance with:

- *Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment (MoRPHE)* (Historic England 2015),
- Professional standards of the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists, including its *Code of Conduct* (CIfA 2020a-b, 2022, 2023a-b),
- East of England standards and frameworks published by East Anglian Archaeology (Brown & Glazebrook 2000, Gurney 2003, Medlycott 2011) and the recent review updates on <https://researchframeworks.org/eoe/>
- Relevant health and safety guidelines and requirements (CAT 2024b).

## 3 Archaeological background

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

The CHER shows that the proposed development site is located close to the site of a Roman find spot of a possible accessory vessel to a burial, identified in 1948 during excavations for a soakaway at 77 Fairhaven Avenue, 45m to the north (MCC8822). Further south on Fairhaven Avenue at what is now Nos. 100-102 the CHER records a Late Iron Age burial which comprised four vessels and cremated bone (MCC8263). An archaeological evaluation undertaken at 94 Fairhaven Avenue identified only a modern pit and an undated pit which was interpreted as most probably a tree-throw (CAT Report 1195). Archaeological monitoring has been undertaken at 83 and 92 Fairhaven Avenue, neither of which identified significant archaeological remains (CAT Reports 1726 & 1505).

## 4 Aim

The aim of the archaeological monitoring was to identify, excavate and record any archaeological contexts revealed during the works.

## 5 Results (Figs 2-3)

An area measuring approximately 127m<sup>2</sup> was machine-excavated under the supervision of a CAT archaeologist. The groundworks cut through topsoil (L1, c 0.1-0.15m thick) which sealed subsoil (L2, c 0.1m thick) and into natural geology (L3). Natural was encountered at a depth of c 0.20-0.25m below current ground level. No archaeological features were identified during the groundworks.



**Photograph 1** General site shot, looking south-west.



**Photograph 2** General site shot, looking north-east.

## 6 Finds

There were no archaeological finds.

## 7 Conclusion

Despite being located in an area of archaeological potential, no archaeological remains were identified during the monitoring.

## 8 Acknowledgements

CAT thanks Graeme Roe of Stanley Bragg Architects and the homeowner for commissioning and funding the work. The project was managed by A Wightman and C Lister, fieldwork was carried out by M Beale and B Rae-Quinn. Figures are by B Rae-Quinn and C Hill. The project was monitored for CCC by Dr Richard Hoggett.

## 9 References

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

- |                          |       |   |
|--------------------------|-------|---|
| Brown, N & Glazebrook, J | 2000  | <i>Research and Archaeology: A Framework for the Eastern Counties 2. Research agenda and strategy.</i> East Anglian Archaeology Occasional Paper 8 (EAA 8).                                       |
| CAT                      | 2024a | <i>Written Scheme of Investigation for archaeological monitoring and recording at 90 Fairhaven Avenue, West Mersea, Colchester, Essex, CO5 8BS</i> , by Yulia Shevlyakova.                        |
| CAT                      | 2024b | <i>Health &amp; Safety Policy.</i> Colchester Archaeological Trust.   |
| CAT Report 1195          | 2017  | <i>Archaeological evaluation at 94 Fairhaven Avenue, West Mersea, Colchester, Essex, CO5 8BS</i> by Dr Elliott Hicks  |
| CAT Report 1505          | 2019  | <i>Tides Reach, 92 Fairhaven Avenue, West Mersea, Colchester, Essex, CO5 8BS</i> by Dr Elliott Hicks  |
| CAT Report 1726          | 2021  | <i>Archaeological monitoring at 83 Fairhaven Avenue, West Mersea, Essex, CO5 8BS</i> by Megan Seehra  |
| CCC                      | 2024  | <i>Brief for Archaeological Monitoring at 90 Fairhaven Avenue, West Mersea, CO5 8BS</i> by Dr Richard Hoggett   |
| CIfA                     | 2020a | <i>Standard and guidance for the creation, compilation, transfer and deposition of archaeological archives.</i> CIfA Chartered Institute for Archaeologists; published 2014, revised 2020.        |
| CIfA                     | 2020b | <i>Standard and guidance for the collection, documentation, conservation and research of archaeological materials.</i> CIfA Chartered Institute for Archaeologists; published 2014, revised 2020. |
| CIfA                     | 2022  | <i>Code of Conduct.</i> CIfA Chartered Institute for Archaeologists; published 2014, revised 2022.  |
| CIfA                     | 2023a | <i>Standard for archaeological monitoring and recording.</i> CIfA Chartered Institute for Archaeologists.   |
| CIfA                     | 2023b | <i>Universal guidance for archaeological monitoring and recording.</i> CIfA Chartered Institute for Archaeologists.   |
| Gurney, D                | 2003  | <i>Standards for field archaeology in the East of England.</i> East Anglian Archaeology Occasional Papers 14 (EAA 14)   |
| Historic England         | 2015  | <i>Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment (MoRPHE)</i>   |
| 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).   |
| MHCLG                    | 2023  | <i>National Planning Policy Framework.</i> Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government  |

## 10 Abbreviations and glossary

CAT	Colchester Archaeological Trust
CCC	Colchester City Council
CCCAA	Colchester City Council Archaeological Advisor
CCCPS	Colchester City 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	<b>O</b> nline <b>A</b> ccess to the <b>I</b> ndex of Archaeological Investigation <b>S</b> , <a href="http://oasis.ac.uk/pages/wiki/Main">http://oasis.ac.uk/pages/wiki/Main</a>
section	(abbreviation sx or Sx) vertical slice through feature/s or layer/s
wsj	written scheme of investigation

## 11 Archive deposition

**Digital record:** This project falls within the CIfA definition of a sterile project (<https://www.archaeologists.net/selection-toolkit/sterile-projects>), and as such the preserved archaeological archive will take the form of a single digital document that incorporates all the relevant elements from the project archive. This document will be uploaded to OASIS and released into the Archaeological Data Service (ADS) library, from where it will be curated by the ADS. The single digital document will include the report, brief, wsi, photographs, and original site data (for example context sheets, section drawings).

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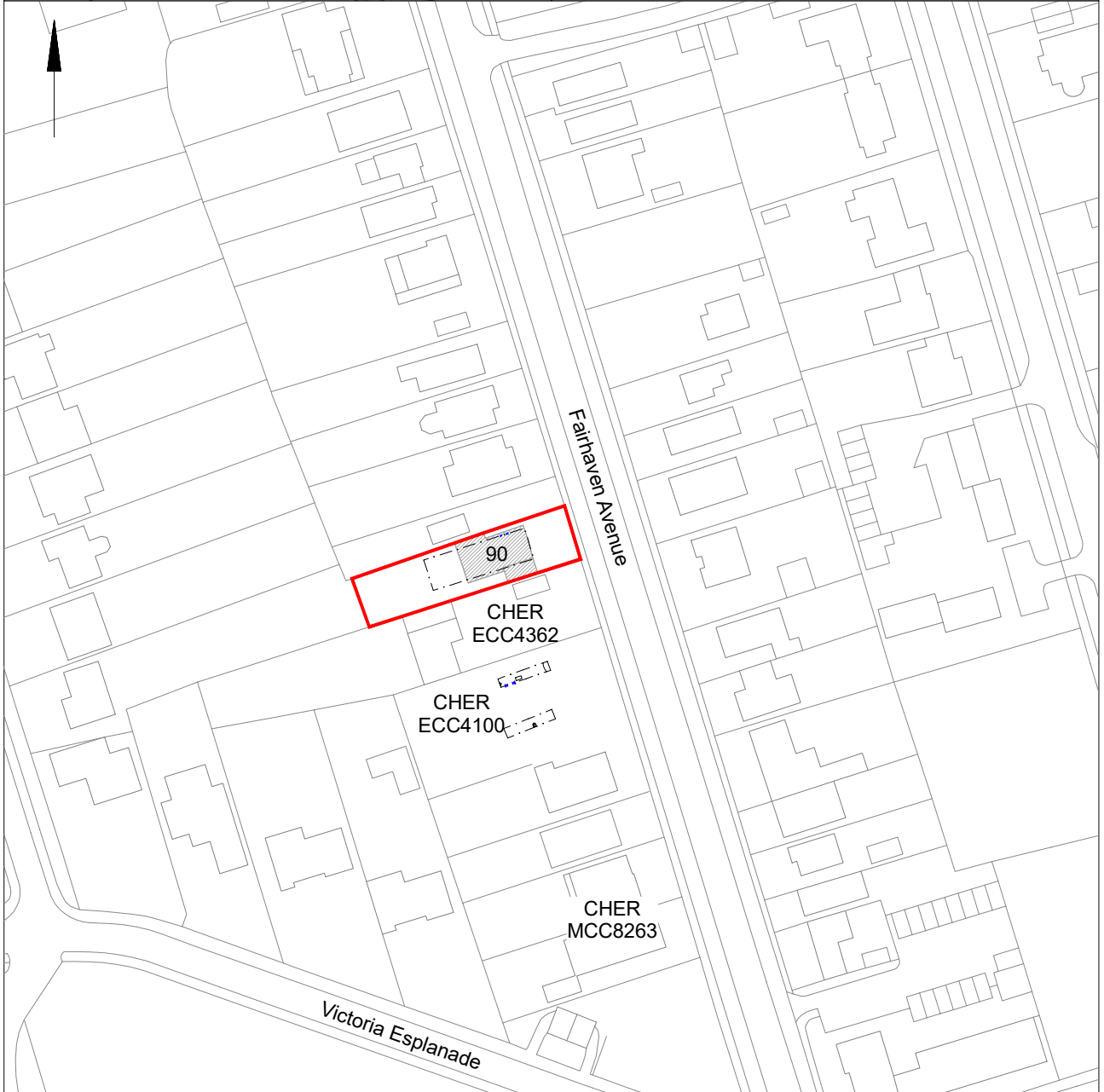
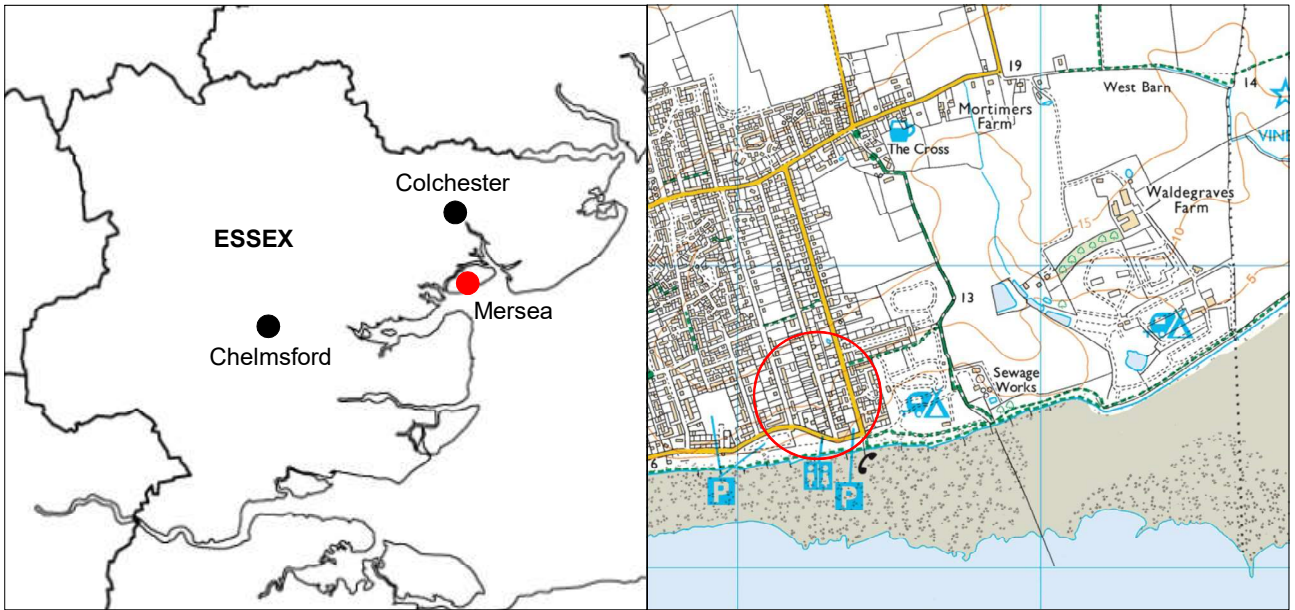
### Distribution list:

Graeme Roe, Stanley Bragg Architects  
The homeowner  
Dr Richard Hoggett, Colchester City Council Archaeological Advisor  
Colchester Historic Environment Record

## Appendix 1 Context list

<b>Context</b>	<b>Finds No.</b>	<b>Context type</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Date</b>
L1	-	Topsoil	Dark grey/brown clay loam with frequent demolition rubble	Modern
L2	-	Subsoil	Mid brown/grey clay	Modern
L3	-	Natural	Firm mid orange clay	Post-glacial





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Fig 1 Site location.



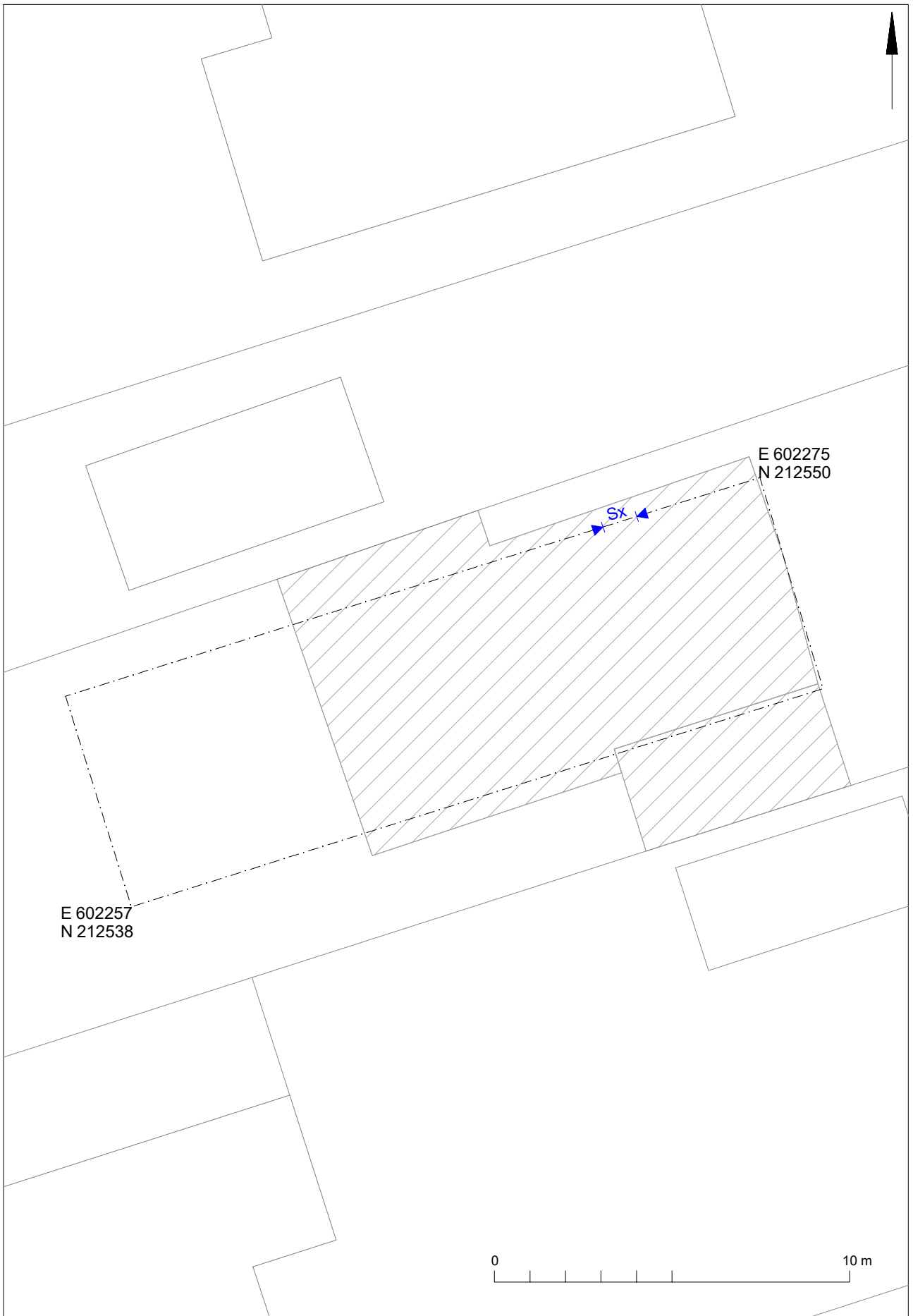


Fig 2 Results. Demolished house in grey.

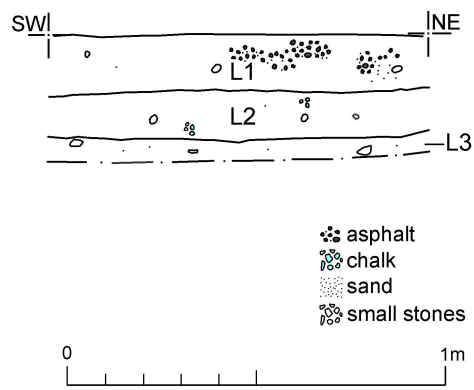


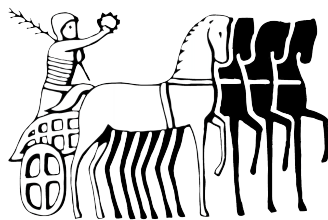
Fig 3 Representative section.

# Essex Historic Environment Record/ Essex Archaeology and History

## Summary sheet

<b>Address:</b> 90 Fairhaven Avenue, West Mersea, Colchester, Essex, CO5 8BS	
<b>Parish:</b> West Mersea	<b>District:</b> Colchester
<b>NGR:</b> TM 02203 12854 (centre)	<b>Site code:</b> CAT project ref.: 2024/05g CHER ref: ECC4858 OASIS ref: colchest3-526081
<b>Type of work:</b> Monitoring	<b>Site director/group:</b> Colchester Archaeological Trust
<b>Date of work:</b> 7th-15th October 2024	<b>Size of area investigated:</b> 0.013ha
<b>Location of curating museum:</b> Colchester Museum	<b>Funding source:</b> Owner
<b>Further seasons anticipated?</b> No	<b>Related CHER/SMR number:</b> -
<b>Final report:</b> CAT Report 1705	
<b>Periods represented:</b> None	
<b>Summary of fieldwork results:</b>  <i>Archaeological monitoring was carried out at 90 Fairhaven Avenue, West Mersea, Colchester, Essex during groundworks for a new two-storey detached dwelling with associated parking. No archaeological remains were identified during the works.</i>	
<b>Previous summaries/reports:</b> CAT Reports 1195, 1505, 1726	
<b>CBC monitor:</b> Dr Richard Hoggett	
<b>Keywords:</b> -	<b>Significance:</b> -
<b>Author of summary:</b> Bronagh Rae-Quinn	<b>Date of summary:</b> October 2024

# **Colchester Archaeological Trust**



**Written Scheme of Investigation  
for archaeological monitoring and recording at  
90 Fairhaven Avenue, West Mersea, Colchester,  
Essex, CO5 8BS**

**June 2024**

**CAT project ref.: 2024/05g  
CHER code: ECC4858**

**Written Scheme of Investigation for archaeological  
monitoring and recording at 90 Fairhaven Avenue,  
West Mersea, Colchester, Essex, CO5 8BS**

**June 2024**

**NGR: TM 02203 12854 (centre)**

**Planning district.: Colchester  
Planning ref.: 240055**

**CAT project ref.: 2024/05g**

**CHER code: ECC4858  
CCC monitor: Dr Richard Hoggett  
OASIS id: colchest3-526081  
WSI prepared by: Yulia Shevlyakova**

**Commissioned by: Graeme Roe  
(Stanley Bragg Architects)  
On behalf of: Landowner**

Prepared by:	Yulia Shevlyakova	Post-Excavation Assistant
Reviewed and approved by:	Chris Lister	Director, Business Operations
Issued:	17/06/2024	

**Colchester Archaeological Trust**

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

*tel.:* 01206 501785

*web.:* [www.catuk.org](http://www.catuk.org)

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

## Site location and description

The proposed development site is located on the south-western edge of Mersea Island at 90 Fairhaven Avenue, West Mersea, Colchester, Essex, CO5 8BS (Fig 1). The site is centred at National Grid Reference (NGR) TM 02203 12854.

## Proposed work

The development comprises construction of a two-storey detached dwelling with associated parking.

## Archaeological and geological background

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

The Geology of Britain viewer (1:50,000 scale<sup>1</sup>) shows the bedrock geology of the site comprises London Clay Formation (clay, silt and sand) with superficial deposits of River Terrace Deposits (sand and gravel).

The proposed development lies within an area of high archaeological potential, specifically, within an area of Roman occupation, revealed by multiple sightings of wall foundations and floors and medieval remains related to the nearby church and priory.

Four Late Iron Age cremation urns were discovered at 42 Fairhaven Avenue (CHER MCC8263) and a Red Hill has also been documented on the beach near the end of Seaview Avenue (CHER MCC8873) 500m to the south of the site.

Development along the High Street, to the west of the site, has included a small excavation at Bonheur in 1922, which revealed a Roman stone wall set in *opus signinum* (CHER MCC8837). Further work by Hull in 1927 revealed Roman pottery, a bone pin and an iron knife (CHER ECC3540, **VCH** vol 3 p161). Approximately 1.5km west of the site, on land between the High Street and Captains Road, a possible Roman wall was recorded (CHER MCC8860). Adjacent to this in 2016 a Roman ditch was recorded during a watching brief by Britannia Archaeology (CHER MCC10065). A University of Cambridge Higher Education Field Academy outreach project in the area involved a series 1m<sup>2</sup> test pits (TPs) in open spaces (mostly private gardens). At 5 Mersea Avenue, TP5 found a sherd of Roman and eight sherds of post-medieval pottery (MCC5729). TP3, at the rear of 32 St Peter's Road recovered Middle Iron Age and post-medieval pottery (MCC5727), both the west of the development site.

Approximately 1km to the southwest is West Mersea parish church (Church of St Peter and St Paul). The church is constructed of re-used Roman Kentish ragstone walls with Roman, and later brick. The earliest evidence (the lower part of the tower) appears to be 11th century in date (CHER MCC8909 & MCC4666). The area around the churchyard has had a number of sightings of finds. Cromwell Mortimer recorded seeing a mosaic and Roman remains in 1730 (**VCH** vol 3 p158-9). In 1896 Henry Laver observed a Roman wall (CHER MCC8858). CAT excavated three trial pits in 1991 prior to extensions to the church. Only some residual Roman finds were recorded (91/7b, CAT Report 1000).

To the west of the church is thought to be the location of a medieval priory. Although the exact location is uncertain, it was recorded to have been established in 1046 AD (CHER MCC8835). Within this area Roman pavement and tesserae have been noted on more than one occasion (CHER MCC8838, CHER MCC8858 & MCC8909). On the southern side of Coast Road a well is thought to relate to the priory (CHER MCC9356).

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<sup>1</sup> British Geological Survey – <https://geologyviewer.bgs.ac.uk/>

CAT has undertaken a series of investigations to the southwest at 20 Yorick Road. The rear of the property includes the location of a Roman *mausoleum* (CHER MCC8355 Scheduled Monument no. 1002195). An exploratory trench was undertaken to assess the exact location and condition of the *mausoleum* (CHER MCC2973, CAT Report 255). Followed by a watching brief exposing part of a Roman wall foundation (CHER MCC5406, CAT Report 330).

Archaeological work undertaken by CAT in the area has proven devoid of any archaeological features or finds, including an evaluation on the adjacent land at 94 Fairhaven Avenue (CAT Report 1195), 63 Churchfields (CAT Report 1152), 6 High Street (CAT Report 576), 4 Meadow Lane (CHER MCC5553, CAT Report 420), 6 Meadow Lane (CAT Report 629), The Blackwater Hotel Church Road (CHER MCC5291, CAT Report 223), Howard's Cottage, 12a Church Road (CAT Report 1000 vol 3), 92 Fairhaven (CAT Report 1505, ECC4362), 83 Fairhaven Avenue (CAT Report 1726, ECC4447). It has been noted in some of these reports however that the land appeared to have comprised of made-up ground thought to be dated to the 1960s (8 High Street, CAT Report 118).

### **Planning background**

A planning application (240055) was made to Colchester City Council in January 2024 proposing the construction of a two-storey detached dwelling with associated parking, to replace existing dwelling. Consent for a replacement dwelling was granted on 16/02/23 (ref 200206), consent has now expired and the design has now been refreshed.

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 City Council Archaeological Advisor (CCCAA). The recommended archaeological condition is based on the guidance given in the *National Planning Policy Framework* (MHCLG 2023).

### **Requirement for work (Fig 1)**

The archaeological work will consist of archaeological monitoring and recording. Details are given in a Project Brief written by the CCCAA (*Brief for Archaeological Monitoring at 90 Fairhaven Avenue, West Mersea, Colchester, Essex, CO5 8BS*– CCC 2024).

*Specifically*, the monitoring is being undertaken to provide a record of all archaeological deposits which are damaged or removed by any development permitted by the current planning consent.

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

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 CCCAA 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 2020, 2022 & 2023a-b).
- 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 2024).
- The archaeological Brief

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 the CCCAA 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 the project (when the WSI is written) an OASIS online record <http://ads.ahds.ac.uk/project/oasis/> will be initiated and key fields completed (Activity type, Location and Reviewers/Admin areas). At the end of the project all parts of the OASIS online form will be completed for submission to the EHER. This will include an uploaded .PDF version of the entire report.

A unique HER event number will be obtained from the CCCAA 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 and recording methodology**

There will be sufficient on-site attendance by CAT staff to maintain a watch on all contractors' groundworks 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), at least 10% of linear features (ditches, etc) and 100% of all complex features and burials (see Human Remains policy below).

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

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

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

## **Site surveying**

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

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

## **Environmental sampling policy**

The number and range of samples collected will be adequate to determine the potential of the site, with particular focus on palaeoenvironmental remains including both biological remains

(e.g. plants, small vertebrates) and small sized artefacts (e.g. smithing debris). Samples will be collected for potential micromorphological and other pedological sedimentological analysis. Environmental bulk samples will be at least 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.
- 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 process the samples and the flots will be sent to Val Fryer or Lisa Gray for analysis and reporting.

Should any complex, or otherwise outstanding deposits be encountered, VF or 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 the CCCAA.

The CCCAA 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.

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 Department of Justice license will be followed. If it seems that the remains are not ancient, then the coroner, the client, and the CCCAA 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.

Most of our finds reports are written internally by CAT staff under the supervision and direction of Howard Brooks (Interim 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/Pip Parmenter - small groups only)  
small finds, metalwork, coins, etc: Laura Pooley  
non-ceramic bulk finds: Laura Pooley  
flint: Adam Wightman  
environmental processing: Bronagh Rae-Quinn  
osteology: (human remains): Megan Beale

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:  
Historic England 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 the CCCAA.

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 the CCCAA 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 the CCCAA as a single PDF.

The report will contain:

- Location plan of the groundworks in relation to the proposed development. At least two corners of each excavated area will be given a 10-figure grid reference.
- 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 and the recent review updates on <https://researchframeworks.org/eoe/>)
- 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 the CCCAA.

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 Essex County 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 Braintree Museum *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.

The requirements for archive storage will be agreed with the curating museum and follow guidelines for processing archaeological archives in Essex (Museums Essex 2022).

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 digital archive resulting from the work will be deposited with the Archaeology Data Service ([www.archaeologydataservice.ac.uk](http://www.archaeologydataservice.ac.uk)) to safeguard the long-term curation of the digital records. The CCCAA will be notified when the digital archive has been deposited. Prior to deposition CAT's data management plan (based on the official guidelines from the Digital Curation Centre [DCC 2013]) and the project specific Digital Management Plan (see Appendix 1) will ensure the integrity of the digital archive. A summary of the contents of the archives shall be supplied to the CCCAA at the time of their deposition. The CCCAA will be notified of the archiving timetable throughout the project and once deposition has occurred.

A digital / vector drawing of the site will be supplied to the CCCAA for integration into the HER.

### **Monitoring**

The CCCAA 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 the CCCAA one week in advance of its commencement.

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

The CCCAA will be notified when the fieldwork is complete.

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

## Public outreach

As part of CAT's public outreach programme, CAT is committed to engaging our local community with their archaeological resource. Among other activities, CAT regularly invites volunteers to engage in finds processing tasks at our office, such as washing, marking, sorting and packing bulk archaeological finds from commercial archaeological projects. Our volunteer programme is not designed to replace the work of paid archaeologists but to complement it, and to provide greater public benefit by means of community engagement and participation.

CAT volunteers are fully trained in all tasks they are engaged in and are fully supervised by a CAT employee at all times. Finds processing volunteers are managed and supervised by a Senior Post-Excavation Assistant, whose role is to ensure that all volunteer processing is carried out to the highest possible standard and within professional guidelines. This is overseen by the Post-Excavation Manager and Director.

CAT will never use volunteers in place of employees when funding is agreed for the latter, or if doing so would disadvantageously affect the timetable of works agreed between CAT and our clients.

CAT's liability insurance policies cover the activities of volunteers and liability towards them. All activities are carried out according to CAT's 'Volunteer and work experience policy' and 'Outreach, public relations and publicity policy'.

## Events, activities and social media

In addition, the CAT website ([www.catuk.org](http://www.catuk.org)) and social media sites are updated regularly with information on our events and activities, with copies of our archaeological reports freely available at <http://cat.essex.ac.uk/>. Staff regularly give talks/lectures to groups, societies and schools, information on which (including any fees) is available by contacting the office on 01206 501785. CAT also works in partnership with both the Colchester Archaeological Group and Young Archaeologists Club providing venues for their meetings, advice and assistance.

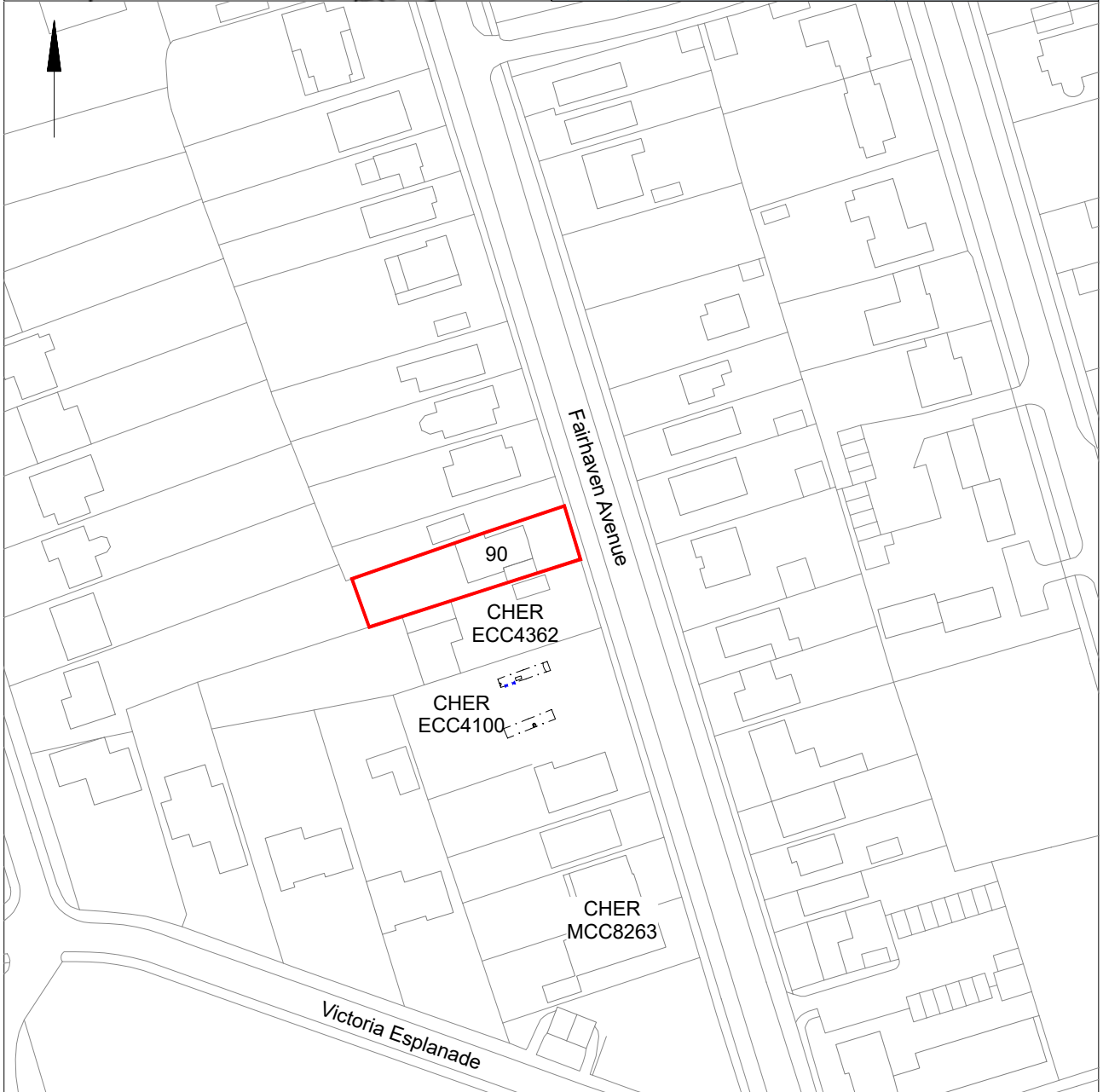
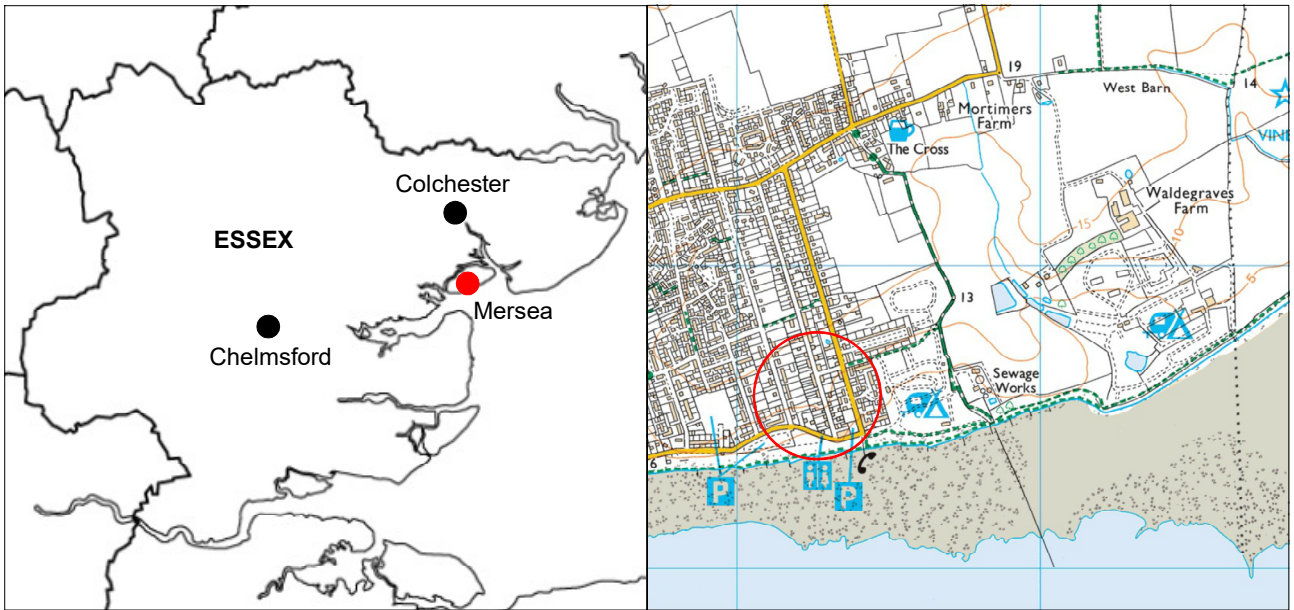
## References

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

Brown, D	2011	<i>Archaeological Archives: A guide to best practice in creation, compilation, transfer, and curation.</i>
	2nd ed.	
Brown, N & Glazebrook, J	2000	<i>Research and Archaeology: A Framework for the Eastern Counties 2. Research agenda and strategy.</i> East Anglian Archaeology Occasional Paper 8 (EAA 8).
CAT	2023	<i>Health &amp; Safety Policy.</i>
CAT Report 1195	2017	<i>Archaeological evaluation at 94 Fairhaven Avenue, West Mersea, Colchester, Essex, CO5 8BS : November 2017 By Dr E Hicks</i>
CAT Report 1505	2019	<i>Archaeological monitoring at Tides Reach, 92 Fairhaven Avenue, West Mersea, Colchester, Essex, CO5 8BS: November 2019 by Dr E. Hicks</i>
CAT Report 1726	2021	<i>Archaeological monitoring at 83 Fairhaven Avenue, West Mersea, Essex, CO5 8BS:October by M Seehra</i>
CCC	2024	<i>Brief for Archaeological Monitoring at 90 Fairhaven Avenue, West Mersea, CO5 8BS by Dr R Hoggett</i>
CifA	2020	<i>Standard and guidance for the collection, documentation, conservation and research of archaeological materials.</i> Published 2014, revised October 2020
CifA	2022	<i>Code of Conduct.</i> Published 2014, revised October 2022
CifA	2023a	<i>Standard for archaeological monitoring and recording</i>
CifA	2023b	<i>Universal guidance for archaeological monitoring and recording</i>
Digital Curation Centre (DCC)	2013	<i>Checklist for Data Management Plan v. 4.0.</i>
Gurney, D	2003	<i>Standards for field archaeology in the East of England.</i> East Anglian Archaeology Occasional Papers 14 (EAA 14).
Historic England	2015a	<i>Digital Image capture and File Storage: Guidelines for best practice, by</i>

Historic England	2015b	S Cole & P Backhouse <i>Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment (MoRPHE).</i>
Historic England	2018	<i>The Role of the Human Osteologist in an Archaeological Fieldwork Project</i> , by S Mays, M Brickley & J Sidell
Medlycott, M	2011	<i>Research and archaeology revisited: A revised framework for the East of England.</i> East Anglian Archaeology Occasional Papers 24 (EAA <b>24</b> )
MHCLG	2023	<i>National Planning Policy Framework.</i> Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government.
Museums Essex	2022	<i>Archaeological Archives in Essex: Guidelines for preparation and deposition.</i>

Yulia Shevlyakova  
ys@catuk.org



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Fig 1 Site location.



# OASIS Summary for colchest3-526081

OASIS ID (UID)	colchest3-526081
Project Name	Archaeological monitoring and recording at 90 Fairhaven Avenue, West Mersea, Colchester, Essex, CO5 8BS: October 2024
Sitename	90 Fairhaven Avenue, West Mersea, Colchester, Essex, CO5 8BS
Sitecode	ECC4858
Project Identifier(s)	
Activity type	Watching Brief
Planning Id	240055
Reason For Investigation	Planning: Post determination
Organisation Responsible for work	Colchester Archaeological Trust
Project Dates	07-Oct-2024 - 15-Oct-2024
Location	90 Fairhaven Avenue, West Mersea, Colchester, Essex, CO5 8BS NGR : TM 02203 12854 LL : 51.77781147319431, 0.929717163876223 12 Fig : 602203,212854
Administrative Areas	Country : England County/Local Authority : Essex Local Authority District : Colchester Parish : West Mersea
Project Methodology	All works were undertaken in accordance with the archaeological brief and written scheme of investigation (WSI).
Project Results	Archaeological monitoring was carried out at 90 Fairhaven Avenue, West Mersea, Colchester, Essex during groundworks for the construction of a new dwelling. Despite being located close to a Late Iron Age burial and the findspot of a possible Roman burial accessory vessel, no archaeological remains were identified during the works.
Keywords	
Funder	Private individual
HER	Colchester Borough Council - unRev - STANDARD
Person Responsible for work	C Lister, L Pooley, A Wightman
HER Identifiers	
Archives	Digital Archive - to be deposited with Archaeology Data Service Archive;