A trial trench in the garden of Tymperleys House, Trinity Street, Colchester

May 2000

on behalf of Scrutton Bland

CAT Report 74 Project ref.: 00/5C



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NGR: TL 9954 250

Abstract

An 80cm-deep exploratory trench at the south-west corner of Tymperleys garden revealed only topsoil deposits, probably of 19th-century and later date.

Introduction

This report summarises the results of an exploratory trench dug in the garden of Tymperley's House in May 2000. The trench was commissioned by Scott and Masters Architects in advance of the proposed reconstruction of the main toilets at 18 Sir Isaac's Walk. The trench is the second to be dug at this spot in connection with current redevelopment at this property. The first was excavated in August 1999 and was the subject of CAT Report 40, a copy of which is appended. This year's trench was narrower and shallower, and extended to either side of the 1999 trench.

Description of excavation

A 4.4m-long x 0.5m-wide west-east trench located in the south-west corner of Tymperley's garden (Fig 1) was manually excavated to a depth of 0.8m. Beneath a concrete path, excavation revealed a thick layer of dark brown sandy loam with occasional peg-tile, brick, mortar and Roman tile inclusions (L1 in Fig 2). This material extended down beyond the bottom of the trench. At the west end of the trench, L1 was cut by a large late pit (F1 or Feature 1 in Fig 2), the full extent of which is not known.

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Results

Viewed in conjunction with the 1999 results, L1 corresponds to the top and middle parts of

1999 layer 3. On this occasion, no internal soil horizons were discernible within L1, the

exposed part of which may be composed of topsoil entirely of 19th-century and later date.

Roman building material in L1 is clearly residual, as is Roman greyware pottery recovered

from the stratigraphically late pit, F1.

Archive

The site records and finds will be deposited with the Colchester Museum under cover of

archive code 2000-43.

Acknowledgements

The work was commissioned by Mr P Scott of Scott and Masters Architects, on behalf of

Scrutton Bland. The excavation and recording were carried out by Nigel Rayner (CAT) and

took place in consultation with Mr M Winter, Archaeological Officer for Colchester Borough

Council.

C E Crossan June 2000

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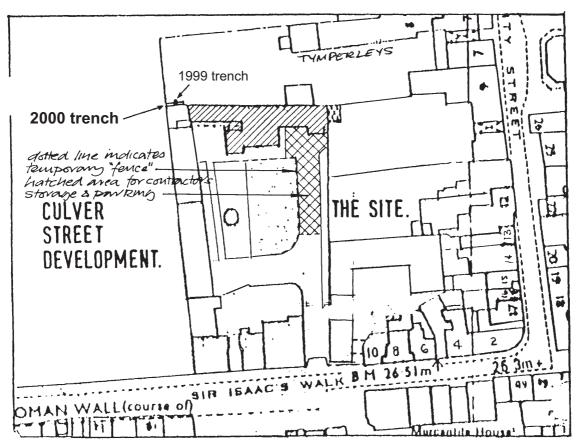
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email: archaeologists@colchester-arch-trust.co.uk

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Fig 1

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SITE LOCATION PLAN



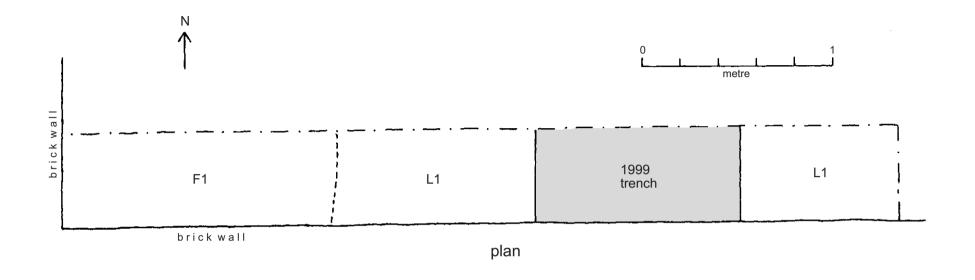
18 SIR ISAACS WALK COLCHESTER PROPOSED REFURBISHMENT ETC OF FIRST FLOOR OFFICES NORTH BLOCK

2.99

NTS

SIW/ 200

SCOTT & MASTERS CHARTERED ARCHITECTS
9a HIGH STREET BRIGHTLINGSEA
COLCHESTER ESSEX tel: (0206) 304949



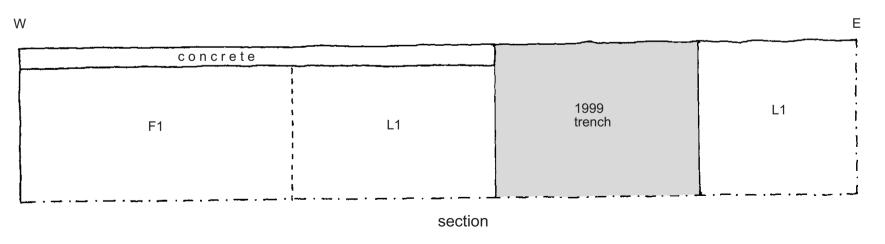


Fig 2 Plan and section.