

Archaeological attendance and recording at 30 St Peters Street, Colchester, Essex

March - May 2015



report prepared by
Ben Holloway and Howard Brooks

on behalf of Baqus Fletcher McNeill

CAT project ref.: 12/10c
NGR: TL 9965 2559 (centre)
Colchester and Ipswich Museum accession code: 2015.54



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CAT Report 846
June 2015

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1 Summary

This site is 70m north of the Roman walled town and on the south bank of the River Colne.

Two archaeological evaluations on this site in 2009 and 2013 showed that the uppermost horizon is 1.0m - 1.1m of accumulated debris resulting from the demolition of the 19th-century silk mill and 20th-century Colnebank House. Under that modern deposit was a layer of river silt, 1.55-1.65m deep, under which were river gravels (ie, at approximately 2.6m below modern ground level).

Given the above results, it was anticipated that the piled construction of the new Premier Hotel would not affect any sensitive remains. Monitoring during construction of the piling mat, renewal of drainage, and digging of footings revealed nothing of archaeological significance. A brick wall, undoubtedly part of the silk mill, was seen on the eastern site edge. It sealed river silts containing very small amounts of residual Roman material. At a lower level, river gravels were identified at depths of between 2.1m and 2.5m in the NE and SW corners of the site in drainage intercept manholes.

2 Introduction (Fig 1)

This is the report on archaeological attendance and monitoring at 30 St Peter's Street Street, Colchester, Essex, carried out by Colchester Archaeological Trust (CAT) between March and May 2015.

The site lies to the north of Colchester's modern town centre, to the immediate north of the Roman town wall and adjacent to the river Colne.

Centre of the 0.2ha site is at TL 9965 2559.

3 Methodology

The archaeological work reported here was carried out in response to a planning condition attached to the applicant's planning consent. This is quoted in CAT's *Written Scheme of Investigation* (CAT 2012), which gives a description of the monitoring methodology used to discharge this condition.

This report follows the standards set out in Colchester Borough Council's *Guidelines on standards and practices for archaeological fieldwork in the Borough of Colchester* (CBC 2008a) and *Guidelines on the preparation and transfer of archaeological archives to Colchester & Ipswich Museums* (CBC 2008b), and the Chartered 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).

The guidance contained in the documents *Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment* (EH 2006), and *Standards for field archaeology in the East of England* (EAA 14) and *Research and archaeology revisited: A revised framework for the East of England*, East Anglian Archaeological Occasional Papers 24 (EAA 24) were also followed.

4 Archaeological background (Fig 1)

This section is based on standard texts (for instance, Hull 1958, *CAR 6*, *CAR 11*), and records held by the CBC Urban Archaeological Database.

The site lies outside the walled area of the historic Roman and later town of Colchester (but within the Roman and medieval suburbs and within the area of the *oppidum* of *Camulodunum*). There have been a number of archaeological finds and excavations in the locality in recent times, and some within this site.

Fragments of Roman samian pottery were uncovered in 1940 when an air raid shelter was being excavated immediately east of the site. A 2008 archaeological evaluation of this area, the former Corporation depot at Middle Mill, revealed no structural evidence other than shallow pits with Roman brick/tile and 1.55m of alluvial deposit (Kaye 2008: UAD No. 4167).

An archaeological evaluation by CAT in 1998 at St Peter's House (150m to the west of the current site), identified a gravel area which separated riverine deposits to the north of the site from layers of Roman make-up on the south of the site (CAT Report 25). This may mark an area of river-side activity (wharf?).

A more recent excavation by CAT, at 21 St Peter's Street (adjacent to Claudius Court and 100m south west of Colnebank House) revealed a Roman metalled road running north-south, and the position of a previously unrecorded gateway in the town wall (CAT Report 559).

There have been two recent evaluations on this site. In 2009, an evaluation by four trial-trenches exposed foundations of the 19th-century silk mill. These buildings were date from 1826, and were demolished in 1967. The excavated sequence consisted primarily of modern strata which sealed river silts containing residual Roman brick and tile. River gravels were reached below the river silts at depths of between 2.1m and 2.5m below current ground-level (CAT Report 526).

The results of the 2013 test-pit evaluation within (the still-standing) Colnebank House are similar to those of the 2009 evaluation. Beneath the floors of Colnebank House were the remains of the 19th-century silk mill (demolished in 1967 for the construction of Colnebank House). All site levels below about 2.55m were water-logged. The mill was constructed on top of a thick deposit of alluvial silts containing occasional pottery sherds, CBM and oyster shells. These finds probably represent rubbish dumped between the Roman and post-medieval periods, when this area was marshland between the town wall and the River Colne (CAT Rep 692).

The residual Roman finds sometimes found in the river silts along St Peter's Street may be derived from a Roman wharfside or landing area whose exact details and location are not known. The 2008 excavation on the south side of St Peter's Street which found the new Roman road heading towards the river shows that Roman riverside activity was not confined to the bridging point carrying the broad emerging from North Gate, but was spread some distance along the south river bank.

Farther west, 300m along St Peter's Street, was the Roman suburb at Middleborough (CAR 3).

There is little evidence of medieval activity in the immediate area. Cartographic evidence indicates that the site was undeveloped in the post-medieval period, and remained so until the first half of the 19th century when a four-storey silk mill and a jetty were constructed in 1826 by Stephen Brown. This structure was demolished in 1967, and the now demolished Colnebank House was built by Royal Mail soon after.

5 Aim

The development had been designed to have a minimum impact on buried remains. The aim of this work was to monitor the groundworks to record anything unexpected which might be revealed, and to make a proper record of it.

6 Monitoring results

The monitoring took place in three main phases between March and May 2015. Regular visits were made during the construction of the piling mat, renewal of drainage, and the excavation of ground beams after piling had been carried out. All groundwork was carried out using a mechanical excavator equipped with a toothless bucket.

Apart from the 19th-century brick foundations seen in the drainage renewal, no archaeological features were seen during monitoring. The only find was a Roman sherd found in the spoil heap.

Piling mat construction

Ground level was reduced to a maximum depth of 500mm below ground level (bgl) for construction of a piling mat. Next, a geotextile membrane was laid, and a layer of crush was imported and then compacted. The removed material consisted of made ground (this was L3 in the evaluation), and contained large amounts of crushed brick and concrete from the demolition of Colnebank House.

Drainage renewal

Drainage renewal took place in two parts of the site - the NE and SW corners. The work involved the installation of new intercept manholes and foul and storm water runs. Both manholes (5x5m) were excavated to a formation level of 2.7m bgl. Made ground (L3 in evaluation) was observed to a depth of 1.3m bgl, sealing alluvial deposits (river silts). Natural river gravels were observed a depth of 2m bgl, and ground water at 2.5m. No archaeological deposits or material was recovered from the manhole excavations, however a substantial foundation was seen in the east edge of the NE excavation. The foundation was 19th-century, and although not part of the silk mill itself represents one of a range of associated ancillary buildings on the eastern edge of the complex (the engine shed or the fuel store). New drainage runs were excavated to a maximum formation level of 1.1m bgl into made ground (L3).



Plate 1: silk mill footings exposed in storm drain intercept in NE site corner.

Foundation beams

Once the piling had been completed, observations were carried out as the connecting ground beams, associated pile caps, and the base of the central lift shaft were excavated (to a maximum formation depth of 700mm bgl through the made ground (L3). The base of the lift shaft was excavated to a formation level of 1.1m bgl into made ground (L3).

7 Finds

by Stephen Benfield

The only find was (1), an unstratified rim sherd from a Roman amphora of form Dressel 20 (CAR 10 - Fabric AJ), sherd weight is 365g and the EVE (estimated vessel equivalent) 0.40.

Dressel 20 amphorae, which originate in Spain, were used as transport containers, principally for olive oil. In Britain they date from the mid 1st century to early/mid 3rd century. However, during that time there were typological changes to the shape of the rims which allow closer dating (Peacock & Williams 1986, figs 65 & 66). The rim of this vessel has a broad triangular section indicating a currency in the Trajanic/Hadrianic-Antonine period, and can be dated as early-mid/late 2nd century.

Modern building materials (brick and concrete) associated with the demolition of Colnebank House were not collected or retained.

8 Conclusions

All features and strata seen in this watching brief were as expected, and as identified by previous evaluation at Colnebank House.

Ground reduction was mostly into made ground (L3 in the evaluation - the demolished remains of the silk mill, and of Colnebank House). Only occasionally did deeper ground-reduction penetrate into the river silts, and in one place in the NE site corner (in a storm-drain intercept manhole), a brick foundation of Stephen Brown's silk mill was exposed.

The silk mill is shown on the 1875 OS map Plate 2, below).



Plate 2: extract from OS of 1875, showing Brown's Silk Mill. The red ellipses mark the approximate positions of brick footings associated with the mill, as intercepted by 2009 and 2013 evaluations, and 2015 watching brief.

The residual Roman material in the river silts probably relates to riverside activity further upstream (ie, west), where there are Roman suburbs (at Middleborough) and possible riverside activity at (and east of) the river-crossing opposite the Roman North Gate.

The site appears to have remained undeveloped in the post Roman and medieval periods prior to the construction of the silk mill in the early part of the 19th century. Monitoring has also confirmed the level of natural river gravels at between 2.2 and 2.5 m in depth, and sealed by substantial accumulated river silts.

9 Acknowledgements

CAT thanks Baqus Fletcher McNeill for commissioning and funding the work, and Carter Builders for on site assistance. The project was managed and carried out by Ben Holloway. The project was monitored by acting CBCAO Howard Brooks.

10 References

- | | | |
|------------------------------|-------------|--|
| CAR 3 | 1984 | <i>Colchester Archaeological Report 3: Excavations at Lion Walk, Balkerne Lane, and Middleborough, Colchester, Essex</i> , by P Crummy |
| CAR 6 | 1992 | <i>Colchester Archaeological Report 6: Excavations at Culver Street, the Gilbert School, and other sites in Colchester, 1971-85</i> , by P Crummy |
| CAR 10 | 1999 | <i>Colchester Archaeological Report 10: Roman pottery from excavations in Colchester, 1971-86</i> , by Robin P Symonds and Sue Wade, edited by Paul Bidwell and Alexandra Croom. |
| CAR 11 | 1995 | <i>Colchester Archaeological Report 11: Camulodunum 2</i> , by CFC Hawkes and Philip Crummy. |
| CAT | 2012 | <i>WSI for an archaeological watching brief at 30 St Peter's Street, Colchester, Essex</i> . Oct 2012. |
| CAT Report 25 | 1998 | <i>An archaeological evaluation at St Peter's House, St Peter's Street, Colchester</i> . Report by S Benfield on behalf of JayGate Homes plc. |
| CAT Report 526 | 2009 | <i>Archaeological evaluation by trial-trenching at Colnebank House, 30 St Peter's Street, Colchester, Essex: September 2009</i> . Report prepared by Howard Brooks and Ben Holloway, for Royal Mail Group |
| CAT Report 559 | 2010 | <i>An archaeological excavation at 21 St Peter's Street, Colchester, Essex: 2008</i> . |
| CAT Report 692 | 2013 | <i>Archaeological evaluation by trial-trenching at Colnebank House, 30 St Peter's Street, Colchester, Essex, March 2013</i> . Report prepared by G Adams |
| CBC | 2008a,
b | a) <i>Guidelines on standards and practices for archaeological fieldwork in the Borough of Colchester</i> .
b) <i>Guidelines on the preparation and transfer of archaeological archives to Colchester & Ipswich Museums</i> |
| CifA | 2014a,b | a) <i>Standard and guidance for archaeological watching brief</i>
b) <i>Standard and guidance for the collection, documentation, conservation and research of archaeological materials</i> |
| Hull, MR | 1958 | <i>Roman Colchester</i> . Report of the Research Committee of the Society of Antiquaries of London, number 20. |
| Kaye, David | 2008 | <i>Archaeological evaluation: Middle Mill Road, Colchester, Essex</i> . Archaeological Services and Consultancy: Ref ASC: 1018/CMM/1 |
| EAA 14 | 2003 | <i>Standards for field archaeology in the East of England</i> , East Anglian Archaeology, Occasional Papers, 14, ed by D Gurney |
| EAA 24 | 2012 | <i>A revised framework for the East of England</i> , East Anglian Archaeological Occasional Papers 24. By Maria Medlycott. |
| Peacock, D,
& Williams, D | 1986 | <i>Amphorae and the Roman economy; an introductory guide</i> |

11 Glossary

bgl	below (current) ground level
CBC	Colchester Borough Council
ClfA	Chartered Institute for Archaeologists
context	specific location of finds on an archaeological site.
EHHER	Essex Historic Environment Record
feature	an identifiable thing like a pit, a wall, a drain, a floor
medieval	period from AD 1066 to c AD 1500
modern	period from c 1850 onwards to the present
NGR	National Grid Reference
natural	geological deposit undisturbed by human activity
post-medieval	period from c 1500 to c 1850
Roman	the period from AD 43 to AD 410 approximately
UAD	Urban Archaeological Database (CBC)

12 Contents of archive

Finds: 1 box containing all finds

Paper and digital record

One A4 document wallet containing:

The report (CAT Report 846)

Original site record

CAT Written Scheme of Investigation

Site digital photographic log, site photographic record on CD

Attendance register: Benchmark data: Risk assessment

13 Archive deposition

The monitoring archive, including the site records, photographs and finds, will be permanently deposited with Colchester and Ipswich Museums under accession code COLEM 2015.54.

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Distribution list:

Baqus Fletcher McNeill

CBCAO, Colchester Borough Council

Essex Historic Environment Record, Essex County Council



Colchester Archaeological Trust

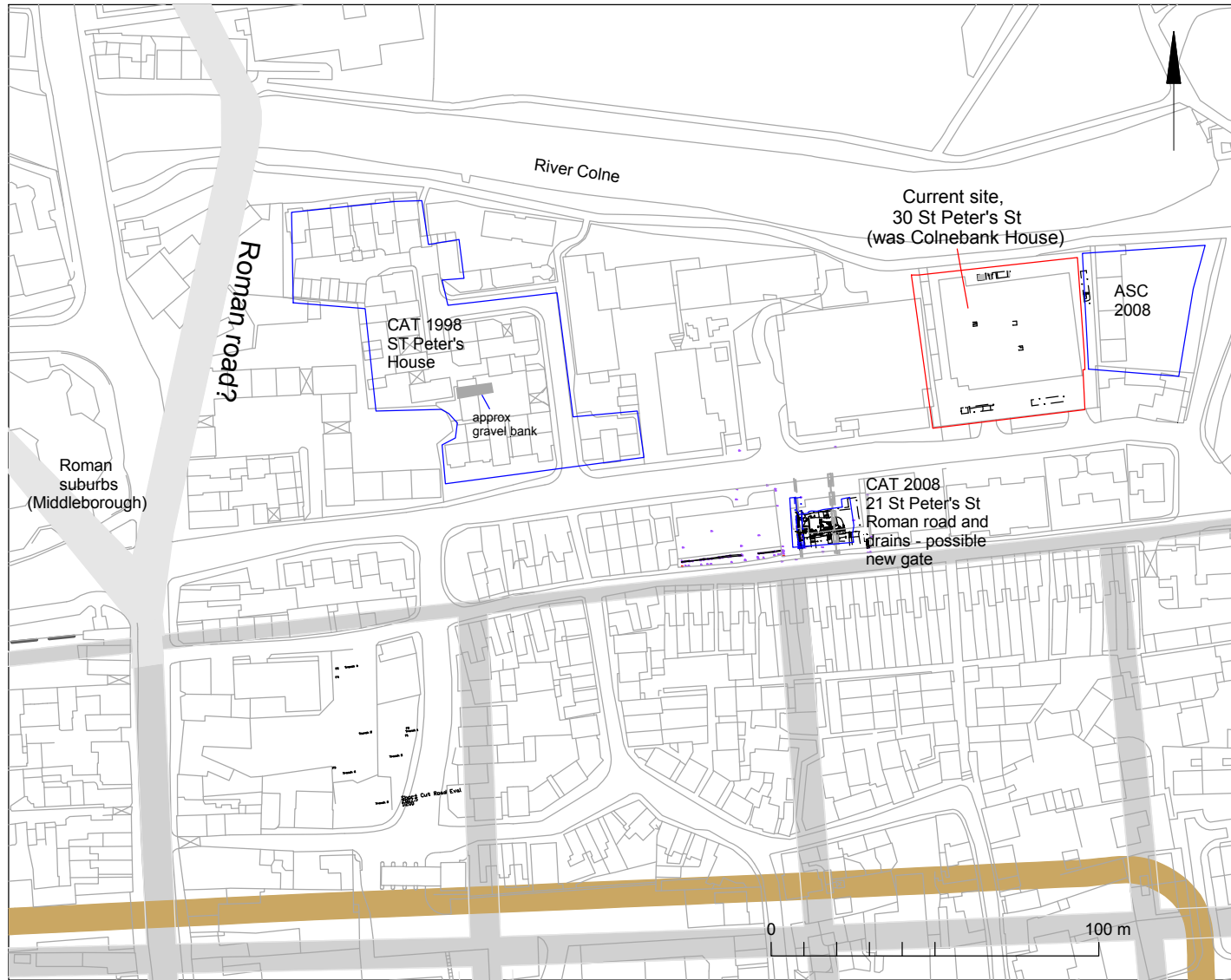
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Figure 1 30 St Peter's Street (red), in its archaeological context



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Fig 2 30 St Peter's Street, showing 2009 evaluation trenches (T1-4), the 2013 test pits (TP1-3). The brick footings of the silk mill are shown in grey tone.

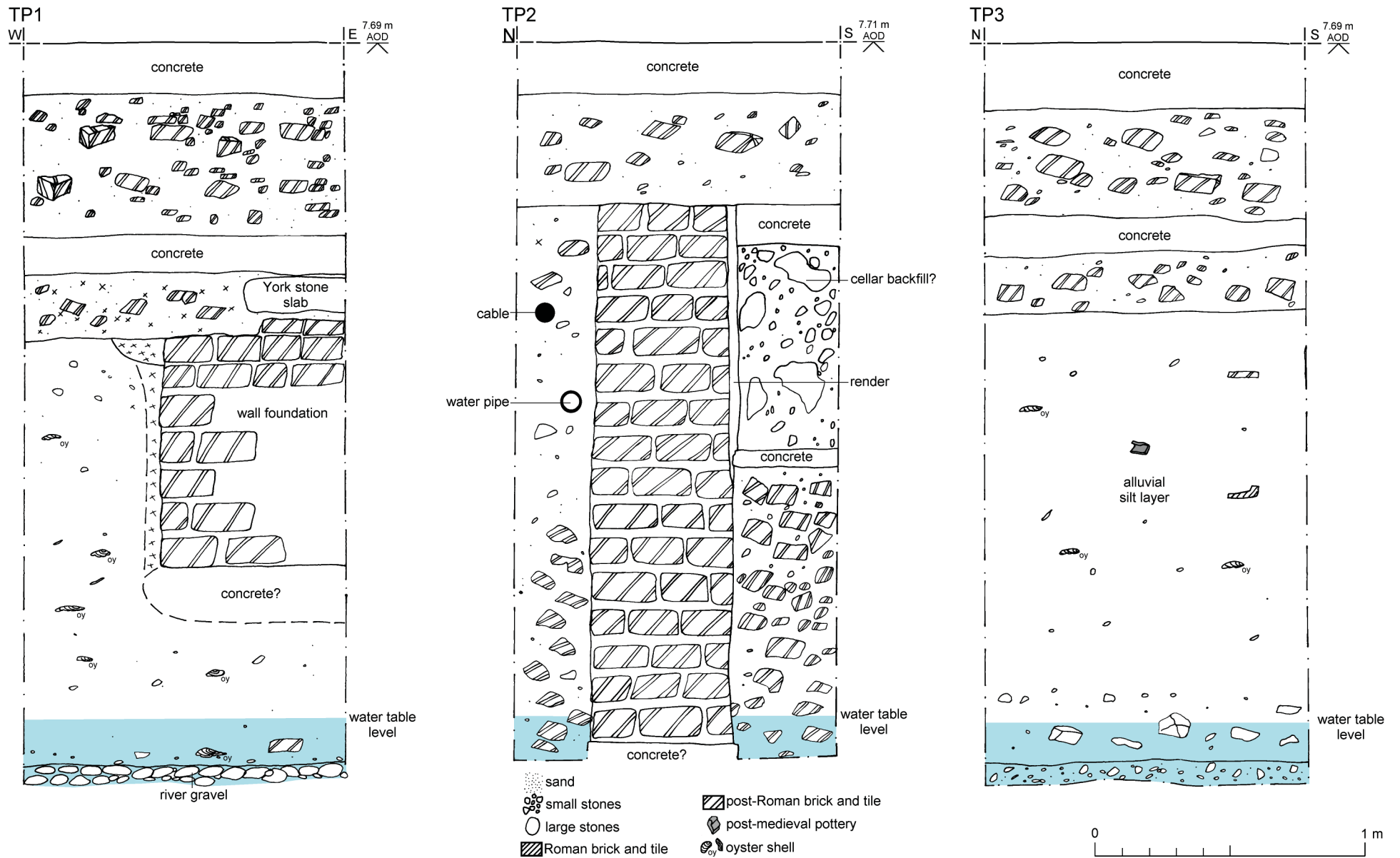


Fig 3 Test Pit sections.

Essex Historic Environment Record/ Essex Archaeology and History

Summary sheet

Address: 30 St Peters Street, Colchester, Essex	
Parish: Colchester	District: Colchester
NGR: TL 9965 2559	Site code: CAT project code – 12/10c
Type of work: Monitoring	Site director/group: Colchester Archaeological Trust
Date of work: March-April 2015	Size of area investigated: 0.2 ha
Location of curating museum: Colchester and Ipswich Museum accession code : 2015.54	Funding source: Developer
Further seasons anticipated? No	Related UAD number:
Final report: CAT Report 846	
Periods represented: Modern	
<p>Summary of fieldwork results: <i>This site is 70m north of the Roman walled town and on the south bank of the River Colne.</i></p> <p><i>Two archaeological evaluations on this site in 2009 and 2013 showed that the uppermost horizon is 1.0m - 1.1m of accumulated debris resulting from the demolition of the 19th-century silk mill and 20th-century Colnebank House. Under that modern deposit was a layer of river silt, 1.55-1.65m deep, under which were river gravels (ie, at approximately 2.6m below modern ground level).</i></p> <p><i>Given the above results, it was anticipated that the piled construction of the new Premier Hotel would not affect any sensitive remains. Monitoring during construction of the piling mat, renewal of drainage, and digging of footings revealed nothing of archaeological significance. A brick wall, undoubtedly part of the silk mill, was seen on the eastern site edge. It sealed river silts containing very small amounts of residual Roman material. At a lower level, river gravels were identified at depths of between 2.1m and 2.5m in the NE and SW corners of the site in drainage intercept manholes.</i></p>	
Previous summaries/reports: CAT Report 526, 692	
Keywords:	Significance: neg
Author of summary: Ben Holloway	Date of summary: June 2015

Written Scheme of Investigation
for an archaeological watching brief

at

30 St Peter's Street,
Colchester, Essex

October 2012

commissioned by
Jones Lang LaSalle



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ROMAN CIRCUS HOUSE,
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1 Introduction

- 1.1 This is a Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) for an archaeological watching brief at 30 St Peter's Street, Colchester, Essex, during the redevelopment of the site as a Premier Inn.
- 1.2 The site (NGR: TL 9965 2559) is situated approximately 40 m to the north of the walled area of Colchester town centre. It occupies a low-lying site on the south bank of the River Colne. It measures approximately 50 m square and lies on the north side of St Peter's Street, towards its eastern end. The property formerly consisted of a late 1960's office block called Colnebank House.
- 1.3 The redevelopment of the site is subject to the following planning condition received from Colchester Borough Council with regard to archaeology:
'Prior to the commencement of development, details of a watching brief to be carried out by a suitably qualified archaeologist during construction works shall be submitted to and agreed in writing by the Local Planning Authority. The development shall thereafter be carried out strictly in accordance with these agreed details. In the event that significant archaeological features or remains are discovered which are beyond the scope of the watching brief and require a fuller rescue excavation, the construction work shall cease immediately and shall not recommence until a revised programme of archaeological work including a scheme of investigation has been submitted to, and approved in writing by, the Local Planning Authority. Reason: Whilst the site was evaluated in September 2009, this did not extend to the entire site and there may be archaeological remains which require evaluation.'
- 1.4 This WSI has been written by the Colchester Archaeological Trust (CAT). It sets out proposals for an archaeological watching brief, and for post-excavation work including the production of a report, an archive and (if necessary) publication texts.
- 1.5 Any variations in this WSI will be agreed beforehand with Colchester Borough Council's Archaeological Officer (CBCAO).

2 Archaeological background

- 2.1 The site lies immediately to the north of the walled area of the historic Roman and later town of Colchester. It is also situated within the Late Iron Age *oppidum* of Camulodunum. Discoveries of archaeological material from the site and surrounding area are listed on the Urban Archaeological Database (UAD). The more significant of these are outlined below.
- 2.2 Fragments of Roman samian were uncovered in 1940 during the excavation of an air-raid shelter immediately to the east of the site (CBC 2009). An archaeological evaluation by ASC Ltd in January 2008, also just east of the site, at the former Colchester Borough Council (CBC) depot at Middle Mill, revealed shallow pits with Roman building material, and 1.55m-thick alluvial deposits, but no evidence of structures (UAD no 4167).
A more recent excavation by CAT, on the south side of St Peter's Street, adjacent to Claudius Court and approximately 40m to the south-west of the site, revealed a Roman metalled road aligned north-south, and the possible position of a previously-unrecorded gateway in the town wall (*Col Arch*, **21**, 2-5). To the west of St Peter's Street, major excavations in the 1970s revealed a substantial area of Roman suburbs at Middleborough, outside the Roman north gate (*CAR 3*, 155-209).
- 2.3 An archaeological evaluation by four trial-trenches was carried out on the site by CAT in 2009 (CAT Report 526). This exposed foundations and surfaces which were probably part of the 19th-century silk mill. The mill buildings were constructed by Stephen Brown & Co and date from 1826. They were demolished in 1967, and Colnebank House was built by the Royal Mail soon afterwards (CBC 2009).
The modern features sealed river silts containing residual Roman brick and tile. River gravels were reached below the silts at depths of between 2.1m and 2.5m below the current ground-level.
- 2.4 There is little evidence of medieval activity in the immediate vicinity of the site. Cartographic evidence indicates that the site remained undeveloped in the post-medieval period, and remained so until 1826 when the silk mill was built.

3 Aims

The aims of the watching brief are to record the depth and extent of any archaeological remains uncovered during the redevelopment, and to assess the date and significance of these remains.

4 General Methodology

- 4.1 All works will be undertaken by professional archaeologists employed by CAT. The field officer(s) will have a level of experience appropriate to the work.
- 4.2 All the latest Health and Safety guidelines will be followed on site. CAT has a standard health and safety policy, which will be adhered to (CAT 2007).
- 4.3 For the purposes of the deposition of the archive, a museum accession code will be obtained through Colchester & Ipswich Museums. The code used will be quoted in any reports arising from the work.
- 4.4 The relevant document of the Institute of Field Archaeologists (IFA) will be followed, i.e. *Standard and guidance for an archaeological watching brief* (IfA 2008a), including its 'code of conduct'. The Borough Council's *Guidelines on standards and practices for archaeological fieldwork in the Borough of Colchester* (CIMS 2008a), and *Guidelines on the preparation and transfer of archaeological archives to Colchester & Ipswich Museums* (CIMS 2008b) and English Heritage's *Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment* (MoRPHE 2006) will be adhered to throughout the course of the project. Other guidelines followed are those published in EAA **3**, EAA **8** and EAA **14**.
- 4.5 At the start of work an OASIS online record will be initiated and key fields completed on Details, Location and Creators forms.

5 Recording methodology

- 5.1 Intermittent visits will be made by a CAT archaeologist during groundworks for the new building. Prior to this, the CAT archaeologist will also monitor the removal of any existing foundations, if applicable.
- 5.2 Any deep excavations undertaken by the contractors using a mechanical excavator will employ the use of a toothless ditching/trenching bucket under the supervision of the CAT archaeologist.
- 5.3 If any potentially significant archaeological contexts are located, these will be investigated by hand to an extent necessary to achieve the aims set out in section 3. Fast excavation techniques involving (for instance) picks, forks and mattocks will not be used on complex stratigraphy.
- 5.4 Sufficient time will be allowed for the recording of any complex archaeological deposits including burials/cremations that may be located.
- 5.5 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.
- 5.6 All features and layers or other significant deposits will be planned, and their profiles or sections recorded. The normal scale will be site plans at 1:20 and sections at 1:10, unless circumstances indicate that other scales would be appropriate.
- 5.7 The photographic record will consist of general site shots, and shots of all archaeological features and deposits taken on a digital camera. The photographic record shall be accompanied by a register detailing, as a minimum, feature number, location and direction of shot.
- 5.8 The environmental sampling policy is as follows. CAT has an arrangement with Val Fryer whereby any potentially rich environmental layers or features will be appropriately sampled as a matter of course, with any processing and reporting done by VF. If advice is required Helen Chappell at English Heritage will be consulted. The water-table is close to the surface in this part of town and therefore significant Roman organic remains may survive.
- 5.9 A metal detector will be used to check spoil heaps and any finds recovered. This will not normally be done on demonstrably modern strata.
- 5.10 The site boundaries, features and levels will be tied into Ordnance Datum using a Total Station.

6 Finds

- 6.1 The policy with regard to human remains depends on how old they are. If it is clear, from their position, context, depth, or other factors that the remains are ancient, then the normal procedure is to apply to the Home Office (Department of Constitutional Affairs) for a licence to remove them. In that case, conditions laid down by the licence will be followed. If it seems that the remains are not ancient, then the coroner and CBCAO will be informed, and any advice and/or instruction from the coroner will be followed. **Note:** As the relevant legislation is currently in a state of flux, advice will be sought from CBCAO and DCA on best practice.
- 6.2 All finds of archaeological relevance will be retained. Policies for later disposal of any finds will be agreed with CBCAO and Colchester & Ipswich Museums.
- 6.3 All finds, where appropriate, will be washed.
- 6.4 A policy of marking for pottery and other finds will be agreed with Colchester & Ipswich Museums. Marking will include the site code and context number.
- 6.5 Provisions for conservation and storage have been agreed with Colchester & Ipswich Museums in accordance with their requirements.
- 6.6 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.
- 6.7 Finds work will be to accepted professional standards as presented in *Standard and guidance for the collection, documentation, conservation and research of archaeological materials* (IFA 2008b).
- 6.8 A list of specialists available for consultation is given at the end of this WSI.

7 Results

- 7.1 Notification will be given to CBCAO when the fieldwork has been completed.
- 7.2 The full report, including full reports on artefacts, will be submitted to the CBCAO within a length of time not exceeding 3 months from the end of fieldwork. A digital copy of the report will be supplied to the Essex Historic Environment Record (EHER) as a PDF.
- 7.3 This report will include:
- The aims and methods adopted in the course of the archaeological work.
 - Location plan of recorded areas.
 - A section drawing showing the depth of deposits including present ground-level related to Ordnance Datum.
 - The recording methodology and results with a suitable conclusion and discussion.
 - All specialist reports and assessments.
 - A concise non-technical summary of the project results.
- 7.4 An appropriate archive will be prepared to minimum acceptable standards outlined in *Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment* (MoRPHE 2006).
- 7.5 If, after discussion with CBCAO, the results are considered worthy of publication, a report (at least at a summary level) will be submitted to *Essex Archaeology and History*.

8 Archive deposition

- 8.1 The full archive will be deposited at Colchester & Ipswich Museums within 6 months of completion of the final publication report on the project in accordance with *Guidelines on the preparations and transfer of archaeological archives to Colchester & Ipswich Museums* (CIMS 2008b). The guidance in *Archaeological archives: a guide to best practice in creation, compilation, transfer and curation* (IfA 2007) will also be followed.
- 8.2 Finds (and other retained materials) will be bagged and boxed in the manner recommended by Colchester & Ipswich Museums. The storage of the archive will accord with Colchester & Ipswich Museums guidelines.
- 8.3 Plans will be presented on hanging strips to fit Colchester & Ipswich Museums storage systems.

- 8.4 The photographic archive is to be presented as follows: original digital data on disk and hard copies of digital photo logs.
- 8.5 A summary of the contents of the archive shall be supplied to CBCAO at the time of deposition at the museum.
- 8.6 All parts of the OASIS online form will be completed for submission to CBCAO. This will include an uploaded PDF version of the entire report.

9 Monitoring

- 9.1 CBCAO will be responsible for monitoring progress and standards throughout the project, and will be kept regularly informed during fieldwork, post-excavation and publication stages.
- 9.2 Notification of the start of work will be given to CBCAO, if possible, one week in advance of its commencement.
- 9.3 Any variations of the WSI shall be agreed with CBCAO in writing prior to them being carried out.
- 9.4 CBCAO will be notified when the fieldwork is complete.
- 9.5 The involvement of CBCAO shall be acknowledged in any report or publication generated by this project.

10 References

CAR 3	1984	<i>Colchester Archaeological Report 3: Excavations at Lion Walk, Balkerne Lane, and Middleborough, Colchester, Essex</i> , by P Crummy
CAT	2007	<i>Health and Safety Policy</i>
CAT Report 526	2009	Archaeological evaluation by trial-trenching at Colnebank House, 30 St Peter's Street, Colchester, Essex, September 2009, unpublished CAT archive report, by Howard Brooks and Ben Holloway
CBC	2009	<i>Brief for archaeological evaluation: Colnebank House, 30 St Peter's Street, Colchester, Essex</i> , August 2009, Colchester Borough Council Museums Services
CIMS	2008a	<i>Guidelines on standards and practice for archaeological fieldwork in the Borough of Colchester</i> (CBC),
CIMS	2008b	<i>Guidelines on the preparation and transfer of archaeological archives to Colchester & Ipswich Museums</i> (CBC)
<i>Col Arch 21</i>	2008	<i>The Colchester Archaeologist</i> , 21
EAA 3	1997	<i>Research and archaeology: a framework for the Eastern Counties 1. Resource assessment</i> , ed by J Glazebrook
EAA 8	2000	<i>Research and archaeology: a framework for the Eastern Counties 2. Research agenda and strategy</i> , ed by N Brown and J Glazebrook
EAA 14	2003	<i>Standards for field archaeology in the East of England</i> , ed by D Gurney, ALGAO East
IFA	2007	<i>Archaeological archives: a guide to best practice in creation, compilation, transfer and curation</i>
IFA	2008a	<i>Standard and guidance for an archaeological watching brief</i>
IFA	2008b	<i>Standard and guidance for the collection, documentation, conservation and research of archaeological materials</i>
MoRPHE	2006	<i>Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment</i> , English Heritage

Donald Shimmin 23/10/12

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List of team members

Site supervision and recording

Adam Wightman

Assistants

To be decided

Finds consultants

Stephen Benfield (CAT): Prehistoric and Roman pottery
Joanna Bird (Guildford): Samian ware
Ernest Black (Colchester): Roman brick/tile
Howard Brooks (CAT): Medieval and Post-Medieval pottery
Dr Helen Chappell (English Heritage): Regional Science Advisor
Dr Hilary Cool (Nottingham): Roman glass
Nina Crummy (Colchester): Small finds
Julie Curl (NAU): Animal bone
John Davis (Norwich Museum): Roman coins
Val Fryer (UEA/Loddon): Environmental
Hazel Martingell (Braintree): Lithics
Valerie Rigby (British Museum): LIA ceramics
Patricia Ryan (Chelmsford): Medieval and later brick and tile

Graphics

E Holloway, G Adams, C Lister

Report writing

A Wightman

Senior Site Staff

Adam Wightman BSc, MA

After graduating from the University of Sheffield in 2004 with a BSc Hons in Archaeology and Prehistory, Adam worked for CAT during the Roman Circus excavations at Colchester Garrison in 2004/5. He then went on to work for Cambridge Archaeological Unit before completing a Masters in the Archaeology of Human Origins at the University of Southampton where he focused on lithic and animal bone analysis. Since returning to CAT in 2006 Adam has carried out evaluations and excavations at the Great Dunmow Salesrooms, 143-147 High Street Maldon, Firstsite Newsite in Colchester town centre, and at 21 St Peters Street adjacent to Colchester's Roman wall. He now completes assessments and full reports on small assemblages of animal bone and lithics for CAT.

Finds Specialists

Stephen Benfield BA, Cert Archaeol (Oxon) (CAT) Prehistoric and Roman pottery

Steve's first involvement with Colchester archaeology was in 1985, working on a Manpower Services Commission sponsored project to assist in processing the enormous collection of Roman pottery from excavations in the town. He graduated from Reading University with a degree in archaeology and subsequently studied for his post-graduate Certificate in Archaeology at Oxford. Returning to CAT, he has since worked on many CAT projects at various supervisory and directorial positions, including the major projects at Stanway Iron Age burial site and Gosbecks Roman temple/theatre complex. Stephen has also, through much hands-on experience, built up a considerable working knowledge of LIA and Roman ceramics. He now completes ceramic assessments and full reports for CAT, drawing on the unrivalled catalogues provided by the standard Colchester works *Camulodunum* (Hawkes & Hull 1947), *Roman Colchester* (Hull 1958) and now *CAR 10*, and by examining the fabric series held at CAT headquarters.

Joanna Bird FSA (Guildford) Samian

Joanna is one of the country's top samian specialists. Among her large corpus of work is a contribution to the publication *Colchester Archaeological Report 10: Roman pottery from excavations in Colchester 1971-1986*.

Ernest Black (Colchester) Roman brick/tile

Ernest is a Colchester schoolteacher with a wide interest in archaeology and the classical world. In this sense, he is following in the footsteps of A.F. Hall, and Mike Corbishley who were also local schoolmasters. He has developed his specialism by large scale hands-on experience with Roman brick and tile, and has contributed to the *Arch J, CAR 6: Excavations at Culver Street, the Gilbert School, and other sites in Colchester 1971-1985*.

Howard Brooks BA, MIFA (CAT) Medieval and Post-Medieval pottery

Howard's involvement in Essex archaeology goes back to 1970 when he dug at Sheepen, Colchester with Rosalind Dunnett (now Niblett). He studied archaeology at the University of Wales, and graduated in 1975. He worked for Colchester Archaeological Trust between 1976 and 1981, and again in 1985, where he was involved at various levels of responsibility (up to Co-Director) in the excavation of deeply stratified urban remains in Roman Colchester and suburbs (Colchester Archaeological Report 3 [1994]). Between 1992 and 1995 he worked for Essex County Archaeology Section, first in directing the fieldwalking and excavation project at Stansted Airport (East Anglian Archaeology 107, 2004), and then in Development Control. Howard then left ECC to set up and run HBAS, the county's smallest contracting team, in which capacity he carried out over twenty field projects and wrote a dozen consultancy reports. He rejoined CAT in 1997. He regularly contributes to Essex Archaeology & History, and teaches University evening classes on archaeology.

Dr Hilary Cool FSA MIFA (Nottingham) Roman glass

Yet another graduate of the University of Wales, Hilary is now a freelance glass and finds specialist, and has written many reports on glass from Colchester sites, including contributions to *Colchester Archaeological Report 6: Excavations at Culver Street, the Gilbert School, and other sites in Colchester 1971-85*, and *Colchester Archaeological Report 9: Excavations on Roman and later cemeteries, churches and monastic sites in Colchester 1971-88 (1993)*. Among her major works is the internationally selling *Colchester Archaeological Report 8: Roman vessel glass from excavations in Colchester 1971-85*.

Nina Crummy (Colchester) Small finds

Nina first worked in the early 1970s as finds assistant on the major urban excavations in Colchester for the Colchester Excavation Committee (later the Trust). Over the next twenty years she built up an unrivalled working knowledge of small finds of all types. She has collaborated in most of the *Colchester Archaeological Reports*, and was principal author of the best-selling *Colchester Archaeological Reports 2 (Roman small finds)*, 4 (*The coins from excavations in Colchester 1971-9*) and 5 (*The post-Roman small finds from excavations in Colchester 1971-85*). She recently worked for the Museum of London, and was instrumental in the recent transfer of and the massive improvement in accessibility to archaeological archives in London. She now works freelance on small finds reports for CAT, HBAS, and other bodies including Winchester Excavation Committee.

Julie Curl (Norfolk) Human and animal Bone

Julie has over 16 years of experience in archaeology and in particular finds for the Norfolk Archaeological Unit and Norfolk Museums Service. After many years working as both a bone specialist and in graphics for the NAU Julie has recently established her own freelance company Sylvanus in which she specialises in Archaeological and Natural History illustrations as well as being a freelance animal and human bone specialist. She has been producing faunal remains reports for many years and produces assessments and analysis reports for clients across the East Anglian region. She has her own extensive bone reference collection built up over many years. Her particular interests in faunal remains are animal husbandry and pathologies. She has also worked as a conservator, particularly on Pleistocene vertebrates and a wide variety of archaeology and natural history projects at the Norwich Castle Museum. Julie is also an extra-mural lecturer with the University of East Anglia, teaching Animal bones in Archaeology.

Dr John A Davies (Norwich Museum) Roman coins

John has, for some years, written reports on Roman coins from Colchester excavations. He specializes in barbarous radiates, and has contributed to *British Numismatic Journal* on that topic. Among his other publications is a contribution to *Colchester Archaeological Report 4: The coins from excavations in Colchester 1971-9*, and *CAR 9: Excavations on Roman and later cemeteries, churches and monastic sites in Colchester 1971-88 (1993)*.

Val Fryer (Norfolk) Environmental Archaeologist BA, MIFA

Val has fifteen years experience in environmental archaeology, working for English Heritage, County Units and independent archaeological bodies across the United Kingdom and Southern Ireland. She has published reports in East Anglian Archaeology (including occasional papers), Proceedings of the Prehistoric Society, Medieval Archaeology and Norfolk Archaeology. Specialist work for various police authorities across England and Northern Ireland. Val is a Member of the Institute of Field Archaeologists with special accreditation for environmental archaeology and she is also a Member of the Association of Environmental Archaeologists.

Dr Helen Chappell (English Heritage) Regional Science Advisor

Dr Helen Chappell is English Heritage's Regional Science Advisor (RSA) for the East of England, providing regionally-based advice on all aspects of archaeological science: geophysics, scientific dating, hydrology, geoarchaeology, analysis of biological remains and technological residues, artifact analysis and conservation. RSAs give advice to a range of organizations and also produce good practice standards and guidelines. RSAs are all actively involved in research, and applying new methodologies to site investigation and management.

Hazel Martingell BA, FAAIS (Braintree): Lithics

Hazel has for many years worked as a lithics illustrator and specialist, undertaking work for The British Museum, ECC Field Archaeology Unit and for London and Cambridge Universities, to name but a few. Since 1987 she has been self-employed and has excavated at a Middle Stone Age site at Gorham's Cave, Gibraltar as well as writing and illustrating worked flint reports for CAT, ECC FAU, and the British Museum. Her impressive publication record includes reports on sites from around the globe. Closer to home she has published work in *Essex History and Archaeology*, The *East Anglian Archaeology* Monograph series, *Antiquity* and *British Museum Occasional Papers*. Hazel is a fellow of the Association of Archaeological Illustrators and Surveyors and a founder member of the Lithics Study Group, London.

Valerie Rigby (Hertfordshire) LIA ceramics

Formerly working for the British Museum, Val is one of the country's leading authorities on later prehistoric ceramics in general, and traded wares in particular. She has published widely. Her major work include *Baldock : the excavation of a Roman and pre-Roman settlement, 1968-72 (Britannia Monograph Series 7, with Ian Stead)*. On a more local level, she has contributed to the magisterial *Colchester Archaeological Report 10: Roman pottery from excavations in Colchester 1971-88*, and to Ros Niblett's *Sheepen: an early Roman industrial site at Camulodunum (CBA Research Report 57, 1985)*.

Patricia Ryan (Chelmsford) Medieval and later brick and tile

Pat has for many years been examining excavated collections of brick and tile from Essex sites, and contributing reports which are usually consigned to the gloomier parts of archive reports, or as footnotes in published texts. Her regular contributions to *Essex Archaeology & History*, therefore, under-represent the devoted study which Pat has put in over the years. Nobody knows more about local brick and tile, except for David Andrews, with whom she collaborated on significant sections of *Cressing Temple: A Templar and Hospitaller Manor in Essex (1993)*.

OASIS DATA COLLECTION FORM: England

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OASIS ID: colchest3-216260

Project details

Project name	30 St Peter's Street
Short description of the project	This site is 70m north of the Roman walled town and on the south bank of the River Colne. Two archaeological evaluations on this site in 2009 and 2013 showed that the uppermost horizon is 1.0m - 1.1m of accumulated debris from the demolition of the 19th-century silk mill and 20th-century Colnebank House. Under that modern deposit was a layer of river silt, 1.55-1.65m deep, under which were river gravels (ie, at approximately 2.6m below modern ground level). Given the above results, it was anticipated that the piled construction of the new Premier Hotel would not impact any sensitive remains. Monitoring during construction of the piling mat, renewal of drainage, and digging of footings revealed nothing of archaeological significance. A brick wall, undoubtedly part of the silk mill, was seen on the eastern site edge. It sealed river silts containing very small amounts of residual Roman material. At a lower level, river gravels were identified at depths of between 2.1m and 2.5m in the NE and SW corners of the site in drainage intercept manholes.
Project dates	Start: 16-03-2015 End: 23-04-2015
Previous/future work	Yes / No
Any associated project reference codes	12/10c - Contracting Unit No.
Any associated project reference codes	2015.54 - Museum accession ID
Type of project	Recording project
Site status	None
Monument type	WALL Post Medieval
Significant Finds	POTTERY Roman
Investigation type	"Watching Brief"
Prompt	Planning condition

Project location

Country England

Site location ESSEX COLCHESTER COLCHESTER 30 St Peter's Street, Colchester
 Postcode CO1 1XL
 Study area 0.20 Hectares
 Site coordinates TL 9651 2559 51.8936426192 0.856268036343 51 53 37 N 000 51 22 E Point
 Height OD / Depth Min: 0m Max: 0m

Project creators

Name of Organisation Colchester Archaeological Trust
 Project brief originator Archaeological Officer of Colchester Museums
 Project design originator Colchester Archaeological Trust
 Project director/manager Ben Holloway
 Project supervisor Ben Holloway
 Type of sponsor/funding body Developer

Project archives

Physical Archive recipient Colchester Museum
 Physical Archive ID 2015.54
 Physical Contents "Ceramics"
 Digital Archive recipient Colchester Museum
 Digital Archive ID 2015.54
 Digital Contents "other"
 Digital Media available "Images raster / digital photography"
 Paper Archive recipient Colchester Museum
 Paper Archive ID 2015.54
 Paper Media available "Miscellaneous Material", "Plan", "Report"
 Entered by Howard Brooks (hb@catuk.org)
 Entered on 1 July 2015

OASIS:

Please e-mail Historic England for OASIS help and advice

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