

Archaeological strip, map and recording at Parkside (Phase 1a), University of Essex, Wivenhoe Park, Colchester, Essex, CO4 3SQ

November–December 2015



by Laura Pooley

with contributions by Stephen Benfield
figures by Robin Mathieson and Emma Holloway

fieldwork by Ben Holloway

**commissioned by Steve Bowler
on behalf of Stanley Bragg / University of Essex**

NGR: TM 02199 24115 (centre)
planning ref.: O/COL/121771
CAT project ref.: 15/11i
Colchester Museum accession code: COLEM 2016.65
UAD ref: ECC3804
OASIS reference: colchest3-255917



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CAT Report 974
July 2016

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CAT WSI
OASIS Summary

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1 Summary

An archaeological strip, map and record (a watching brief) was carried out at the University of Essex, Wivenhoe Park, Colchester as part of the Parkside office development (Phase 1a). The site was located in a field between Clingoe Hill (A133) and Nesfield Road. Archaeological work in and around the University has previously revealed Bronze Age barrows, a Roman road, burials and domestic activity, and medieval ditches, pits and postholes. A single Roman pit was identified containing Late Iron Age/early Roman and early Roman pottery.

2 Introduction (Fig 1)

This report presents the results of an archaeological strip, map and record at University of Essex, Wivenhoe Park, Colchester, Essex which was carried out between 30th November – 8th December 2015. The work was commissioned by Steve Bowler, on behalf of Stanley Bragg / University of Essex, as part of the Parkside office development (phase 1a), and was undertaken by Colchester Archaeological Trust (CAT).

In response to consultation with Colchester Borough Council Planning Services (CBCPS), Colchester Borough Council Archaeological Advisor Martin Winter 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 paragraphs 128, 129 and 132 of the *National Planning Policy Framework* (DCLG 2012).

All archaeological work was carried out in accordance with a *Brief for Archaeological attendance and recording*, detailing the required archaeological work, written by Martin Winter (CBCAA 2006), and a Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) prepared by CAT in response to the brief and agreed with CBCAA (CAT 2012).

In addition to the brief and WSI, all fieldwork and reporting was done in accordance with English Heritage's *Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment (MoRPHE)* (English Heritage 2006), 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* (ClfA 2014a) and *Standard and guidance for the collection, documentation, conservation and research of archaeological materials* (ClfA 2014b).

3 Archaeological background

The following archaeological background draws on the major published sources for Colchester archaeology (listed below), and also on the Urban Archaeological Database (UAD) created by Colchester Borough Council, and the Essex Historic Environment Record (EHER).

This development site is located in an area of high archaeological potential. It is situated in a topographically favourable location for early occupation of all periods, overlooking the floodplain of the River Colne, and at the confluence with Salary Brook.

The EHER records a presumed Roman road (EHER 2534) to the north of the development site and a prehistoric barrow cemetery (EHER 2413) to the west. A field evaluation across the area of the barrows (FAU 2004) confirmed that the four mounds and ring-ditches situated adjacent to the railway line and Salary Brook were man-made and artefacts recovered indicated a late Iron Age or Roman date. However, it was thought that this material may be the product of later use of an existing Bronze Age monument. The rest of the evaluation revealed little of interest.

A watching brief in 2010-2011 (CAT Report 638) on infrastructure works surrounding and to the west of the development site revealed evidence of Late Iron Age/Roman activity, which included burials, as well as identifying a dense spread of medieval pottery sherds dating to the 13th-14th century.

A watching brief at 'The Meadows' in 2012, located to the west of the development site (CAT Report 678), identified nineteen Late Iron Age/Roman features including ditches, pits, post-holes and a probable inhumation.

A watching brief was carried out in 2013 on phase 1 of the Parkside office development (CAT Report 753). No archaeological horizons were identified but sherds of medieval and post-medieval pottery were recorded.

An archaeological evaluation to the south of the site as part of the Knowledge Gateway development in 2016 revealed a cluster of medieval features, layers and finds possibly associated with domestic/light industrial use (CAT Report 918).

See CAT Report 856 for a further detailed study of the area (*A desk-based assessment of the archaeological remains around Project Area 2a, University of Essex, Wivenhoe Park, Colchester*)

3 Results (Figs 2-3)

The archaeological strip, map and record occurred within Phase 1a of the Parkside office development. All groundworks were carried out by mechanical excavator under archaeological supervision.

Haul Road

The haul road was stripped to a depth of approximately 500mm through modern topsoil (L1, 180mm thick) onto natural sands and gravels (L2, identified at a depth of 180mm below current ground level).



Photograph 1 Excavation of the haul road, looking NW

Area Reduction

The area to the east of the haul road was stripped to a depth of approximately 700mm through modern hard-standing (150mm thick) onto modern subsoil (L3, 170mm thick). Natural sands and gravels (L2, identified at a depth of 320mm bcgl) were identified beneath L3. A single Roman pit was identified (F1). It measured 780mm in diameter and contained a charcoal rich fill.



Photograph 2 Area reduction, looking NW



Photograph 3 F1, looking SW

5 Finds

by Stephen Benfield

A small group of pottery of Late Iron Age/Early Roman and Early Roman date was recovered from F1 (1). In total there are eleven sherds together weighing 52g, with a moderate-low average sherd weight of 4.7g. Five of the sherds are in a very abraded, grey/grey-brown, grog-tempered fabric of Late Iron Age or early post-conquest (Roman) date (c late 1st century BC – mid 1st century AD). The remainder of the sherds are in sandy, early Roman-type (Romanising) fabrics with some grog and/or dark (burnt) organic inclusions and can be dated to the period of the mid-late 1st century. The degree of abrasion to the surface and edges of the grog-tempered sherds could suggest some significant history prior to burial in the ditch, while by contrast the early Roman sherds show little sign of any significant abrasion. The average sherd weight of the grog-tempered sherds (at 3.6g) is also less than the early Roman ones. While the softer grog-tempered fabric might, to some extent, exaggerate the degree of abrasion, contrasted with the Romanising sherds there is a marked difference between the two fabric groups.

6 Environmental assessment

A soil sample was taken from pit F1 but misplaced prior to processing. Therefore, it has not been possible to provide an environmental assessment.

7 Discussion

A single early Roman pit was identified during the watching brief. It was probably associated with Late Iron Age/early Roman agricultural activity identified to the west of the site (to the west of Boundary Road) on the lower valley slope of the River Colne (CAT Report 638).

8 Acknowledgements

CAT thanks Steve Bowler and Stanley Bragg/ University of Essex for commissioning and funding the work. The project was managed by C Lister and carried out by Ben Holloway. Figures were prepared by R Mathieson and E Holloway. The project was monitored for the CBCPS by Jess Tipper.

9 References

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

CAR 7	2000	<i>Post-Roman pottery from excavations in Colchester, 1971-85</i> , by J Cotter
CAT	2014	<i>Health & Safety Policy</i>
CAT	2012	<i>Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) for an archaeological strip, map and recording (a watching brief) at 'Parkside', University of Essex, Wivenhoe Park, Colchester, Essex</i>
CAT Report 638	2012	<i>An archaeological watching brief at the Knowledge Gateway, the University of Essex, Colchester, Essex: September 2010-August 2011.</i>
CAT Report 678	2013	<i>Archaeological monitoring at 'The Meadows', University of Essex, Wivenhoe Park, Colchester, Essex: July-September 2012</i>
CAT Report 753	2014	<i>Archaeological monitoring at the University of Essex Parkside Office Development, Wivenhoe Park, Colchester, Essex (Phase 1): September 2013</i>
CAT Report 856	2015	<i>A desk-based assessment of the archaeological remains around Project Area 2a, University of Essex, Wivenhoe Park, Colchester</i>
CAT Report 918	2016	<i>Archaeological evaluation at the new Innovation Centre, University of Essex, Wivenhoe Park, Colchester, Essex, CO4 3SQ: February 2016</i>
CBC	2006	<i>Brief for archaeological attendance and recording (a watching brief) at</i>

CIfA	2014a	<i>University of Essex, Colchester, by Martin Winter</i>
CIfA	2014b	<i>Standard and Guidance for an archaeological evaluation</i>
		<i>Standard and guidance for the creation, compilation, transfer and deposition of archaeological archives</i>
CIfA	2014c	<i>Standard and guidance for the collection, documentation, conservation and research of archaeological materials</i>
DCLG	2012	<i>National Planning Policy Framework</i>
ECC FAU	2004	<i>Land adjacent to Elmstead Road and Boundary Road, University of Essex, Colchester, Essex, archaeological evaluation, Essex County Council Field Archaeology Unit Report, by T Ennis. Report 1328</i>
English Heritage	2006	<i>Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment (MoRPHE)</i>
Gurney, D	2003	<i>Standards for field archaeology in the East of England. East Anglian Archaeology Occasional Papers 14 (EAA 14).</i>
Medlycott, M	2011	<i>Research and archaeology revisited: A revised framework for the East of England. East Anglian Archaeology Occasional Papers 24 (EAA 24)</i>

10 Abbreviations and glossary

CAT	Colchester Archaeological Trust
CBCPS	Colchester Borough Council Planning Services
CBM	brick/tile (ceramic building material)
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 of soil
medieval	period from AD 1066 to Henry VIII
modern	period from c AD 1800 to the present
natural	geological deposit undisturbed by human activity
NGR	National Grid Reference
post-medieval	from Henry VIII to c AD 1800
residual	something out of its original context, eg a Roman coin in a modern pit
Roman	the period from AD 43 to c AD 410
Section	(abbreviation sc or Sx) vertical slice through feature/s or layer/s
UAD	Urban Archaeological Database
WSI	Written Scheme of Investigation

11 Contents of archive

Finds: not retained

Paper and digital record

One A4 document wallet containing:

The report (CAT Report 974)

CBCPS Evaluation Brief, CAT Written Scheme of Investigation

Original site record (Feature and layer sheets, Finds record, plans)

Site digital photos and log, Architectural plans, Attendance register, Risk assessment

12 Archive deposition

The paper and digital archive is currently held by the Colchester Archaeological Trust at Roman Circus House, Roman Circus Walk, Colchester, Essex, CO2 7GZ, but will be permanently deposited with Colchester Museum under accession code: COLEM 2016.65.

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Distribution list

Steve Bowler

Stanley Bragg / University of Essex

Jess Tipper, Colchester Borough Council Planning Services

Essex Historic Environment Record



Colchester Archaeological Trust

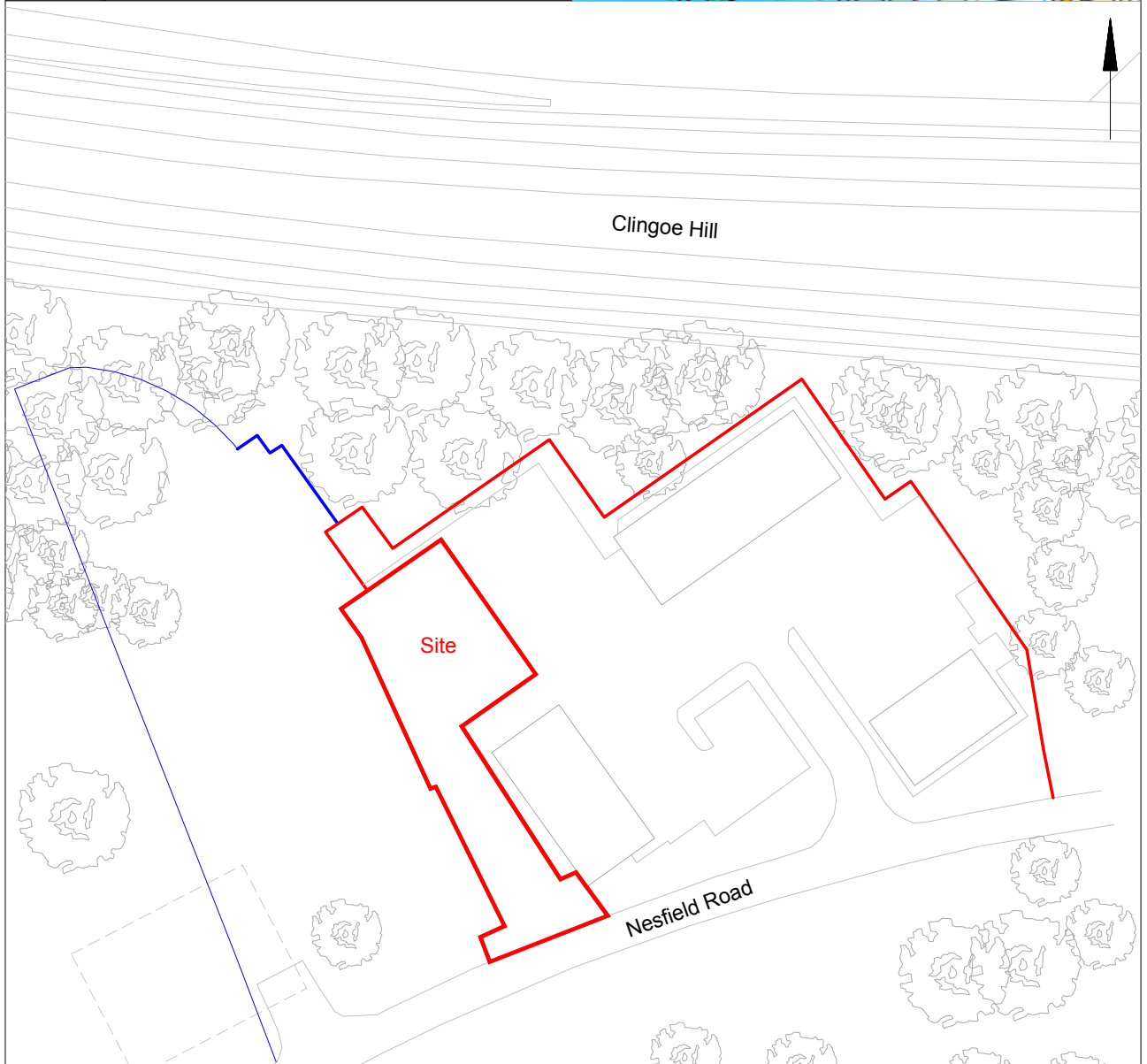
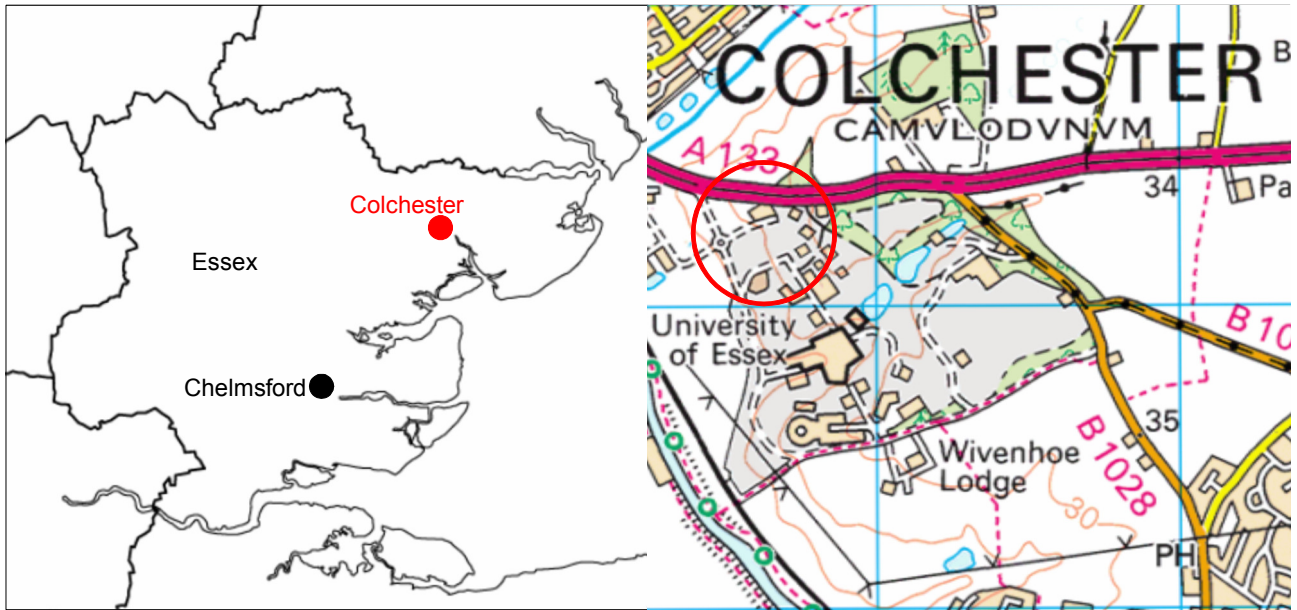
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Date: 3.7.2016



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Fig 1 Site location

0 50 m

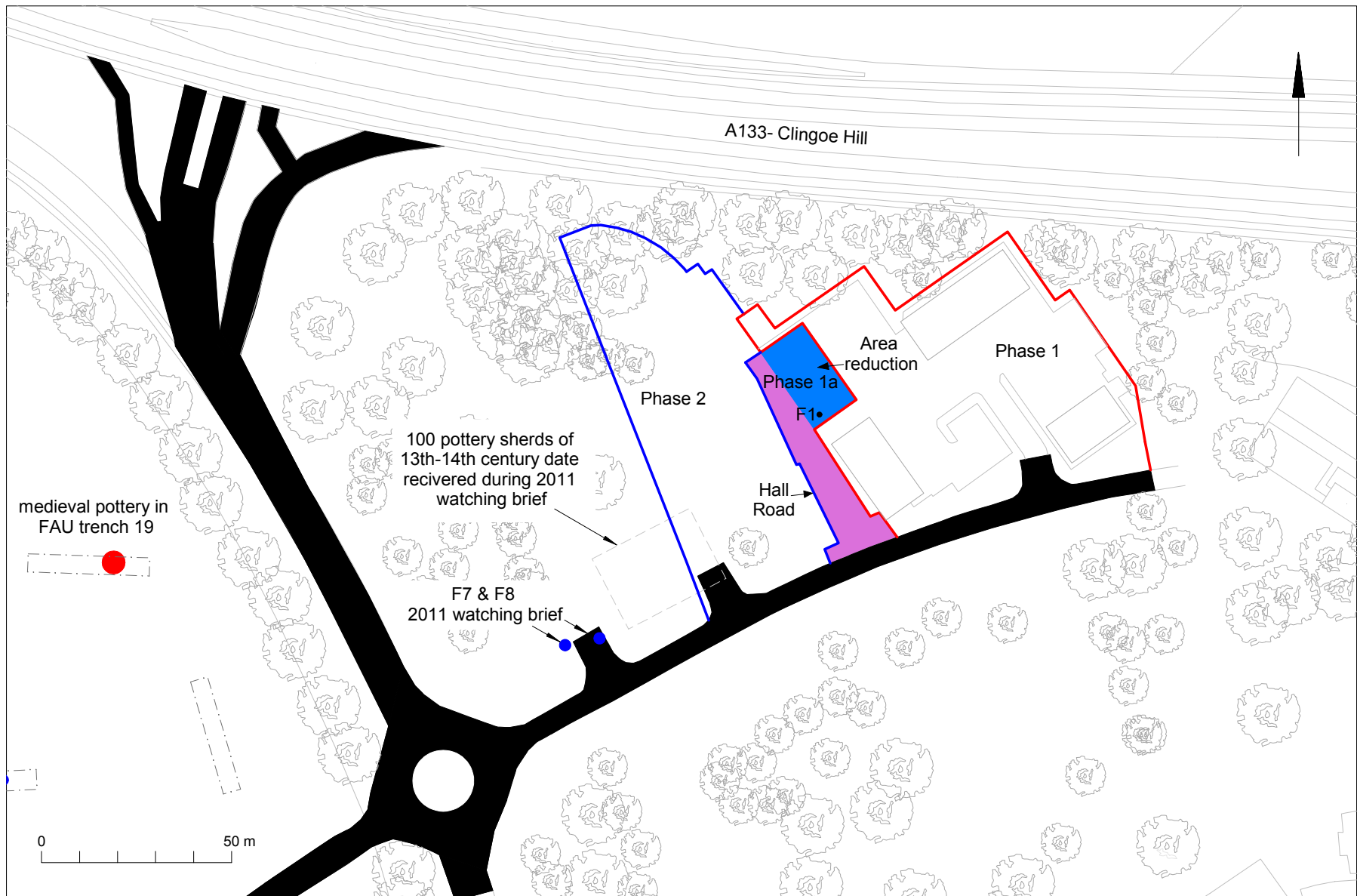


Fig 2 Site plan.

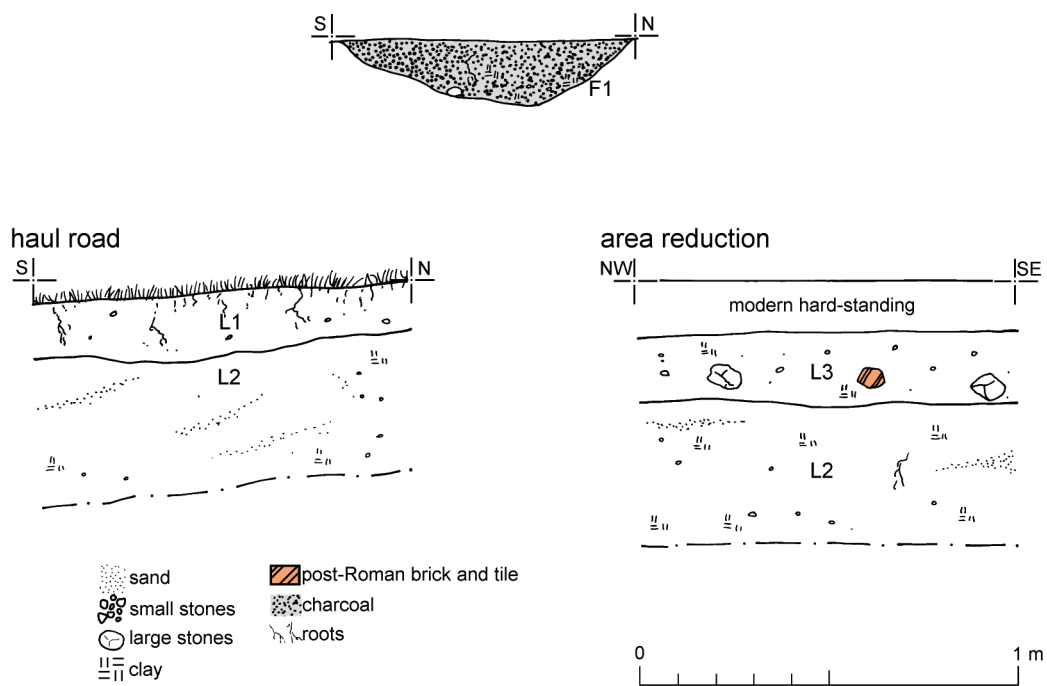


Fig 3 Feature (F1) and representative sections.

Essex Historic Environment Record/ Essex Archaeology and History

Summary sheet

Address: University of Essex, Wivenhoe Park, Colchester, Essex, CO4 3SQ	
Parish: Colchester	District: Colchester
NGR: TM 02199 24115 (centre)	Site code: CAT project ref.: 15/11i UAD ref: ECC3804 OASIS ref: colchest3-255917
Type of work: Watching brief	Site director/group: Colchester Archaeological Trust
Date of work: 30th November – 8th December 2015	Size of area investigated: Total size of area 804m ²
Location of curating museum: Colchester museum accession code COLEM: 2016.65	Funding source: Owner
Further seasons anticipated? no	Related UAD/SMR number: EHER 2413, 2534
Final report: CAT Report 974	
Periods represented: Roman	
Summary of fieldwork results: An archaeological strip, map and record (a watching brief) was carried out at the University of Essex, Wivenhoe Park, Colchester as part of the Parkside office development (Phase 1a). The site was located in a field between Clingoe Hill (A133) and Nesfield Road. Archaeological work in and around the University has previously revealed Bronze Age barrows, a Roman road, burials and domestic activity, and medieval ditches, pits and postholes. A single Roman pit was identified containing Late Iron Age/early Roman and early Roman pottery.	
Previous summaries/reports: CAT Report 638, 678, 753, 856, 918	
CBC monitor: Jess Tipper	
Keywords: -	Significance: *
Author of summary: Laura Pooley	Date of summary: July 2016

**Written Scheme of Investigation for an
Archaeological strip, map and recording
(watching brief)
at 'Parkside'
University of Essex,
Wivenhoe Park,
Colchester, Essex**

NGR: TM 02199 24115 (centre)

December 2012



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1 Introduction

- 1.1 This is a Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) for an archaeological watching brief at 'Parkside' Essex University, Colchester, Essex (Fig 1).
- 1.2 The site is situated approximately 2.5km east of Colchester town centre (at NGR TM 0242 2424). The site is a block of land approximately 0.9 ha in size, and consists of gently sloping grassland/woodland.
- 1.3 The site is in an area of archaeological potential as shown by the recent watching brief on infrastructure works for the 'Knowledge Gateway' development.
- 1.4 The proposed work include the construction of office buildings, car parking and associated access.
- 1.5 Several applications have been made to CBC for commercial development over many years. The relevant current application is O/COL/121771. Condition 9 attached to the consent requires the applicant to commission an archaeological watching brief to be held on site as groundworks commence and proceed.
- 1.6 The required archaeological work is detailed in a brief written by Mr Martin Winter, the Colchester Borough Council Archaeology Officer (CBCAO 2006).
- 1.7 Following the CBCAO Brief, this Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) sets out proposals for the watching brief which will lead to post-excavation work and the production of archive and (if necessary) publication texts.
- 1.8 Any variations in this WSI will be agreed beforehand with CBCAO.

2 Archaeological background

This section is based on records from the Urban Archaeological Database held at Colchester and Ipswich Museum and the EHER based at County Hall Chelmsford.

There was no record of any archaeological artefacts having been discovered on the site. However, the EHER does record a presumed Roman road (EHER 2534) to the north of the site and a possible prehistoric barrow cemetery (EHER 2413) to the west. A desk-based assessment was compiled in May 2003 (FAU 2003), and a field evaluation was completed by the Field Archaeology Unit of Essex County Council (FAU 2004). This evaluation confirmed that the four mound and ring ditches situated adjacent to the railway line and Salary Brook were man made and artefacts recovered indicated a late Iron Age or Roman date. However, it was thought that this material may be the product of later use of an existing Bronze Age monument. The barrows and ring ditches are currently fenced off and will remain undisturbed and outside of the development area. The rest of the evaluation in the area under consideration revealed little of interest. A watching brief conducted by the Colchester Archaeological Trust Ltd on the infrastructure works revealed evidence of Late iron Age/Roman activity to the south-west which included burials as well as identifying a dense spread of medieval pottery sherds dating to the 13th-14th century immediately adjacent to the site (Fig 2). A subsequent watching brief at 'The Meadows' 300m to the south-west of the development site identified 19 Late Iron Age/Roman features including ditches, pits, post-holes and a probable inhumation.

3 Aim

The aim of the watching brief is to identify and record any surviving archaeological deposits that may be disturbed during building operations. The requirement for frequent site visits includes:

- archaeological supervision of topsoil stripping.
- archaeological supervision of groundworks associated with the site access and car parking.
- archaeological supervision of the installation of services.

Particular attention will be paid to the possible survival of the remains mentioned in Section 2 above.

4 Watching brief methodology

- 4.1 A CAT archaeologist(s) will be present during all topsoil removal and ground reduction associated with the construction of the buildings or associated car parking/roadways. If archaeological features or deposits are uncovered time will be allowed for these to be planned and recorded.
- 4.2 If any features or deposits uncovered during the groundworks 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) and 10% of linear features (ditches etc).
- 4.3 A similar exercise shall be followed for any new service runs that are proposed.
- 4.4 Any topsoil removal shall be undertaken using a toothless bucket.
- 4.5 Fast hand-excavation techniques involving (for instance) picks, forks and mattocks will not be used on complex stratigraphy.
- 4.6 A metal detector will be used to examine spoil heaps, and the finds recovered.
- 4.7 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.
- 4.8 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.
- 4.9 The photographic record will consist of general site shots, and shots of all archaeological features and deposits. Standard "record" shots of contexts will be taken on a digital camera. Colour transparencies will still be used for overall site shots and *all* important contexts.
- 4.10 The environmental sampling policy is as follows. CAT has an arrangement with and 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 English Heritage will be consulted.

5 General Methodology

- 5.1 All works will be undertaken by professional archaeologists employed by CAT. The field officer will have a level of experience appropriate to the work.
- 5.2 CAT is not carrying out the groundwork. The location and avoidance of existing services is the job of the groundwork contractor.
- 5.3 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 2012).
- 5.4 For purposes of deposition of the archive, a museum accession code will be obtained through Colchester Museums. All codes will be quoted in any reports arising from the work.
- 5.5 The relevant document of the Institute for Archaeologists (IfA) will be followed, i.e. *Standard and guidance for archaeological watching brief (2008a)*, including its 'Code of Conduct'. The Borough Council's *Guidelines on standards and practices for archaeological fieldwork in the Borough of Colchester (2008)*, other guidelines followed are those published in EAA **3**, EAA **8**, EAA **14** and EAA **24**
- 5.6 At the start of the work an OASIS online record will be initiated. Key fields will be completed on Details, Location and Creators forms.

6 Finds

- 6.1 Environmental sampling policy. CAT has an arrangement with Val Fryer whereby any potentially rich environmental layers or features will be appropriately sampled as a matter of course, but only if they are datable. Any processing and reporting will be done by Val Fryer. If any complex or outstanding deposits are encountered VF will be asked onto site to advise and English Heritage may be consulted.

- 6.2 Should human remains be discovered the coroner will be informed and a licence from the Home Office sought immediately; both the client and the monitoring officer will also be informed. Human remains will be left in situ except in those cases where damage or desecration are anticipated, or where analysis of the remains is considered to be a necessary requirement for satisfactory evaluation of the site.
- 6.3 All finds of archaeological relevance will be retained. Policies for later disposal of any finds will be agreed with CBCAO and the site owner.
- 6.4 All finds, where appropriate, will be washed.
- 6.5 A policy of marking for pottery and other finds will be agreed with Colchester and Ipswich Museum. Marking will include the site code and context number.
- 6.6 The site archive will be presented to Colchester and Ipswich Museum in accordance with their requirements
- 6.7 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.
- 6.8 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).
- 6.9 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. The trial trenching will be followed by a single page summary report, which will either lead to further archaeological work in accordance with a further brief and WSI, or to the production of a report on the trial trenching alone.
- 7.2 An appropriate archive will be prepared to minimum acceptable standards outlined in *Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment* (MoRPHE English Heritage 2006) will be submitted to the CBCAO within a length of time not exceeding 3 months from the end of fieldwork, with one copy supplied to EHER (with a digital copy) and one to Colchester and Ipswich Museum with the archive.
- 7.3 This report will include:
 - The aims and methods adopted in the course of the evaluation.
 - Location plan of the evaluation trench area, with 10-figure grid references at two points.
 - A section drawing showing the depth of deposits including present ground level.
 - The excavation methodology and results with a suitable conclusion and discussion.
 - All specialist reports and assessments. Recommendations for further work will be kept separate from the results.
 - A concise non-technical summary of the project results.
- 7.4 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*. An Oasis online form will be completed for submission to the EHER, which will include an uploaded .pdf version of the report.

8 Archive deposition

- 8.1 The full archive will be deposited at Colchester and Ipswich Museum within 6 months of completion of final publication report on the project, and confirmed to CBCAO. All requirements for archive storage as required by Colchester and Ipswich Museum.
- 8.2 Finds (and other retained materials) will be bagged and boxed in the manner recommended by Colchester and Ipswich Museum.
- 8.3 Plans will be presented on hanging strips to fit Colchester and Ipswich Museum storage systems.
- 8.4 The photographic archive is to be presented as follows: original digital data on disk and hard copies of selected digital photos on high-quality paper, or as otherwise requested by Colchester and Ipswich Museum.
- 8.5 A summary of the contents of the archive shall be supplied to CBCAO at the time of deposition at the museum.

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 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.

References

- | | | |
|---------------------------------|-------|--|
| CBCAO | 2006 | <i>Brief for archaeological attendance and recording (a watching brief) at University of Essex, Colchester.</i> |
| Brown, N and Glazebrook, J. | 2000 | <i>Research and Archaeology: a frame work for the Eastern Counties 2 Research agenda and strategy</i> , East Anglian Archaeological, occasional papers 8 (EAA8) |
| Colchester Archaeological Trust | 2008 | <i>Policies and procedures.</i> |
| Colchester Borough Council | 2008 | <i>Guidelines on standards and practices for archaeological fieldwork in the Borough of Colchester</i> |
| Colchester Borough Council | 2008 | <i>Guidelines on the Preparation and Transfer of Archaeological Archives to Colchester & Ipswich Museums</i> |
| English Heritage | 2006 | <i>Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment (MoRPHE)</i> |
| Glazebrook, J. | 1997 | <i>Research and Archaeology: a frame work for the Eastern Counties 1 resource assessment</i> , East Anglian Archaeological, occasional papers 3 (EAA3) |
| Gurney, D. | 2003 | <i>Standards for field archaeology in the East of England</i> East Anglian Archaeological, occasional papers 14 (EAA14) |
| 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> |
| Medlycott, M. | 2011 | <i>Research and archaeology revisited: A revised framework for the East of England</i> , East Anglian Archaeological Occasional Papers 24 (EAA24) |

Adam Wightman 7/12/12
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APPENDIX: TEAM STRUCTURE

List of team members

Site supervision and Recording

Adam Wightman

Assistants

TBC

Finds consultants

Stephen Benfield (CAT): LIA/Roman pottery

Hazel Martingell (Braintree): lithics

Joanna Bird (Guildford): samian ware

Francesca Boghi (NAU) Human bone

Ernest Black (Colchester): Roman brick/tile

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

Valerie Rigby (British Museum): LIA ceramics

Dr Paul Sealey (Colchester Museums): Roman amphoras, prehistoric & Roman pottery

Helen Walker (ECC): Saxon, medieval and post-medieval pottery.

Graphics

C Lister, E Spurgeon

Report writing

Adam 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) Late Iron Age 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 1986 and 1991 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

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 FSA (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 AIFA (Sylvanus: Archaeological, Natural History and Illustration Services) 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. Currently working as a freelance specialist in both human and animal bone and illustration. She has been producing faunal and Human remains reports for many years and produces assessment 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 specialises 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.

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 works 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 *Crissing Temple: A Templar and Hospitaller Manor in Essex* (1993).

Dr Paul Sealey (Colchester Museum) Amphoras

Paul has worked at Colchester Museum since the late 1970s. His PhD specialism was Roman amphoras, a topic on which he writes specialist reports. His main areas of interest are prehistory and the Roman period, and he has developed a familiarity with those periods and their ceramics. He has published widely. His major works include *Amphoras from the 1970 excavations at Colchester Sheepen* (BAR 142, 1985), contributions to Ros Niblett's *Sheepen: an early Roman industrial site at Camulodunum* (CBA Res Rep 57, 1985). He regularly contributes to *Essex Archaeology & History*.

Helen Walker BSc (ECC) Medieval and post-medieval pottery.

Helen is Essex County Council Field Archaeology Group's medieval and post-medieval pottery specialist. Before joining ECC in 1985, she worked on finds in Carmarthen, and for Hampshire CC on projects in Winchester. Since 1985, she has contributed reports on ceramics to many other projects in the county. A regular contributor to *Essex Archaeology & History*, her principal publications include reports on the Rayleigh kiln dump, and George Street and Church Street, Harwich (*Essex Archaeology & History*, 21 [1990]), and North Shoebury (*EAA* 75).

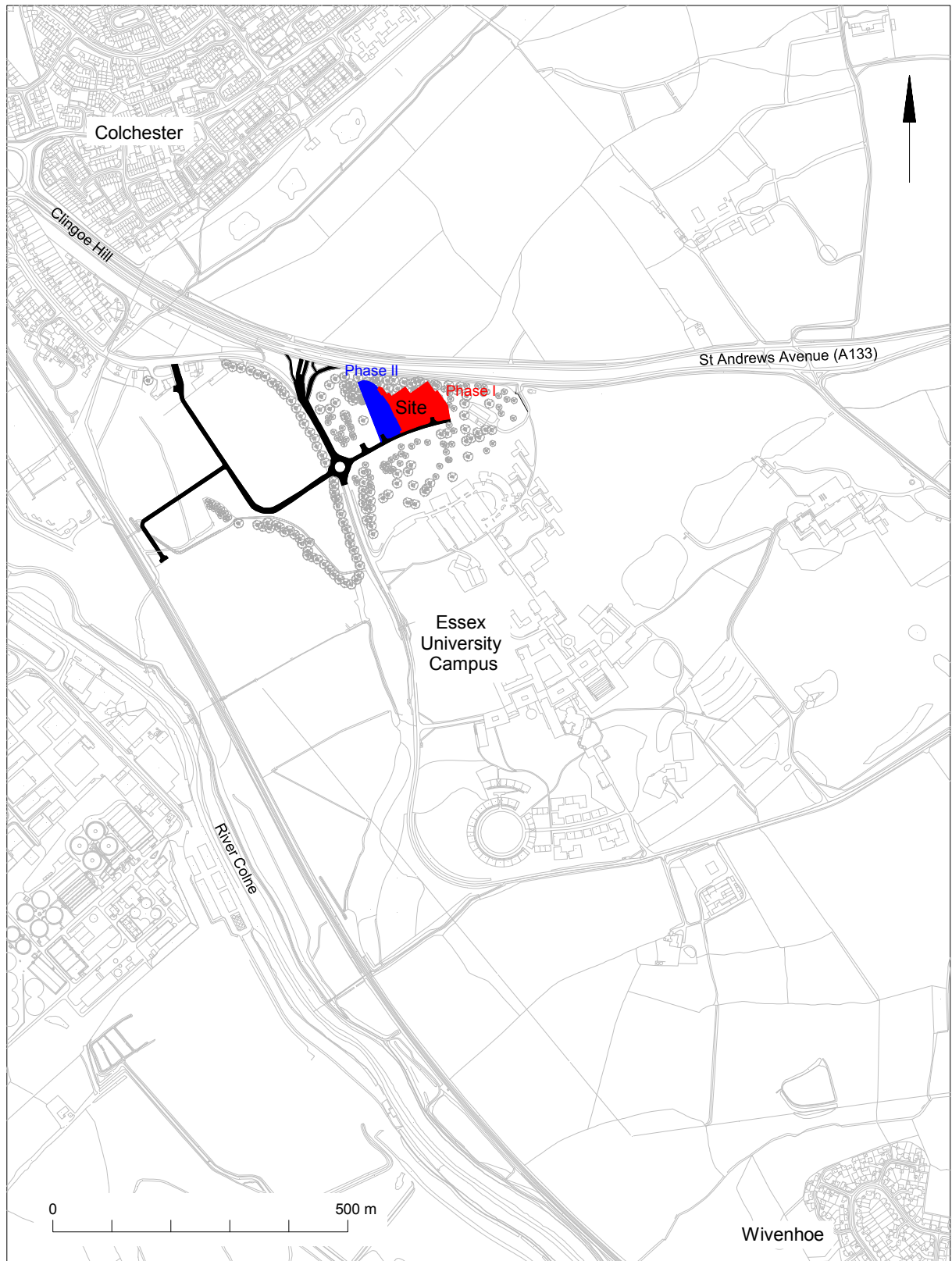


Fig 1 Site location.

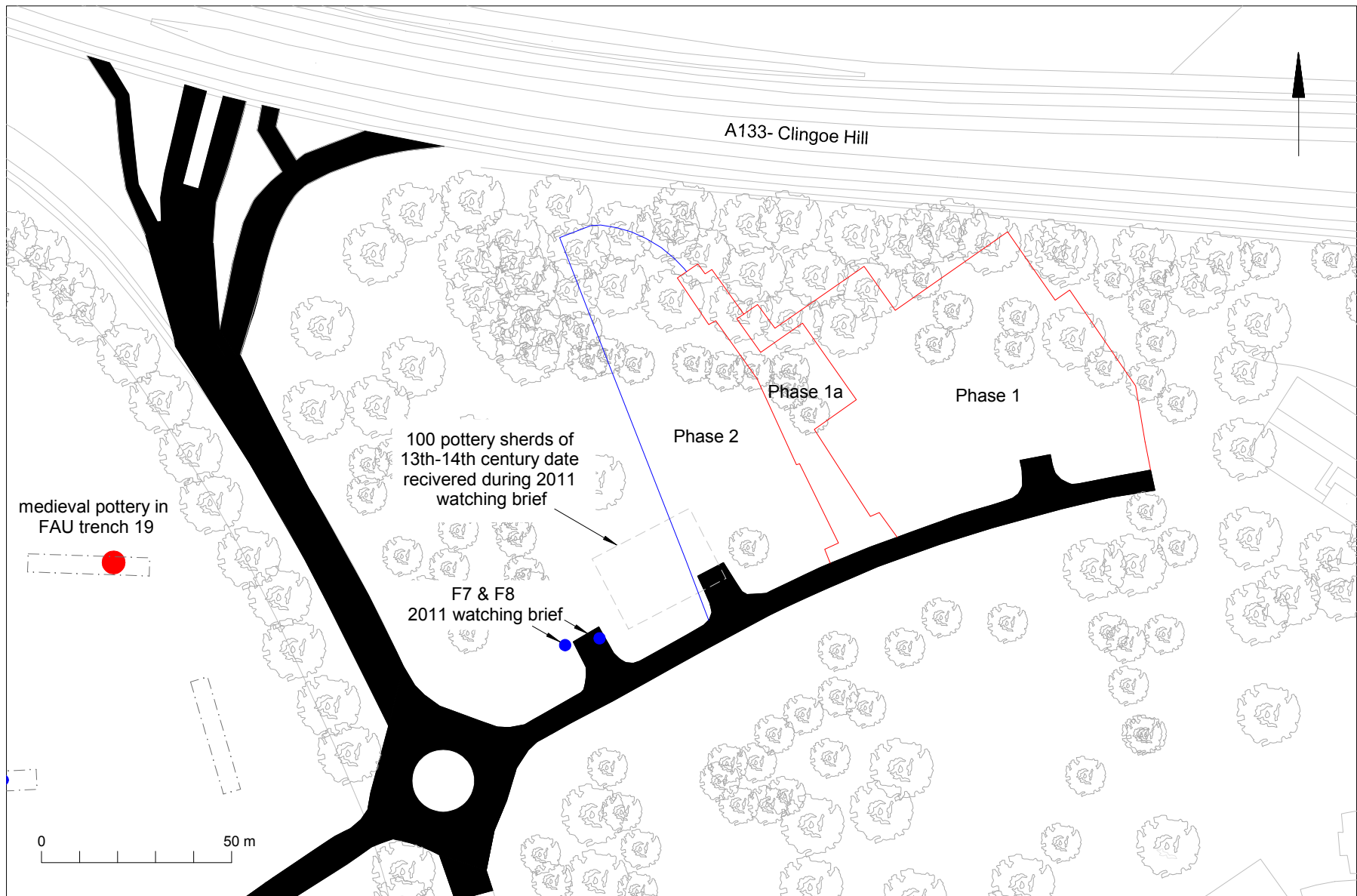


Fig 2 Site plan showing the known archaeology in close proximity to the site

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OASIS ID: colchest3-255917

Project details

Project name	Archaeological monitoring and recording at Parkside (Phase 1a), University of Essex, Colchester, Essex, CO4 3SQ
Short description of the project	An archaeological strip, map and record (a watching brief) was carried out at the University of Essex, Wivenhoe Park, Colchester as part of the Parkside office development (Phase 1a). The site was located in a field between Clingoe Hill (A133) and Nesfield Road. Archaeological work in and around the University has previously revealed Bronze Age barrows, a Roman road, burials and domestic activity, and medieval ditches, pits and postholes. A single Roman pit was identified containing Late Iron Age/early Roman and early Roman pottery.
Project dates	Start: 30-11-2015 End: 08-12-2015
Previous/future work	No / Not known
Any associated project reference codes	15/11i - Contracting Unit No.
Any associated project reference codes	O/COL/121771 - Planning Application No.
Any associated project reference codes	ECC3804 - HER event no.
Any associated project reference codes	COLEM: 2016.65 - Museum accession ID
Type of project	Recording project
Site status	None
Current Land use	Vacant Land 2 - Vacant land not previously developed
Monument type	PIT Roman
Significant Finds	POTTERY Roman
Investigation type	""Watching Brief""
Prompt	Planning condition

Project location

Country	England
Site location	ESSEX COLCHESTER COLCHESTER Parkside (Phase 1a), University of Essex
Postcode	CO4 3SQ
Study area	804 Square metres
Site coordinates	TM 02199 24115 51.87835270523 0.937977379188 51 52 42 N 000 56 16 E Point

Project creators

Name of Organisation	Colchester Archaeological Trust
Project brief originator	CBC Archaeological Officer
Project design originator	Adam Wightman
Project director/manager	Chris Lister
Project supervisor	Ben Holloway
Type of sponsor/funding body	Developer

Project archives

Physical Archive Exists?	No
Digital Archive recipient	Colchester Museum
Digital Archive ID	COLEM: 2016.65
Digital Media available	"Images raster / digital photography"
Paper Archive recipient	Colchester Museum
Paper Archive ID	COLEM: 2016.65
Paper Media available	"Context sheet", "Miscellaneous Material", "Photograph", "Plan", "Report", "Section"

Project bibliography 1

Publication type	Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)
Title	Archaeological strip, map and recording at Parkside (Phase 1a), University of Essex, Wivenhoe Park, Colchester, Essex, CO4 3SQ: November-December 2015
Author(s)/Editor(s)	Pooley, L.
Other bibliographic details	CAT Report 974
Date	2016
Issuer or publisher	Colchester Archaeological Trust
Place of issue or publication	Colchester
Description	A4 ringbound loose leaf
URL	http://cat.essex.ac.uk/all-reports.html
Entered by	Laura Pooley (lp@catuk.org)
Entered on	4 July 2016

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