

Archaeological recording at 44 Castle Road, Colchester, Essex, CO1 1UN

May 2017



by Dr Elliott Hicks

with contributions by Stephen Benfield
figures by S Carter and A Wade

fieldwork by A Wade

**Commissioned by Andy Cameron (Wright, Ruffle, Cameron)
on behalf of Graham Jerram**

NGR: TM 00041 25517 (centre)

Planning reference: 162870

CAT project ref.: 17/05b

Colchester Museum accession code: COLEM: 2017.63

CHER ref: ECC3990

OASIS reference: colchest3-284152



Colchester Archaeological Trust

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

tel.: 01206 501785

email: lp@catuk.org

CAT Report 1111
June 2017

Contents

1	Summary	1
2	Introduction	1
3	Archaeological background	1
4	Results	2
5	Finds	3
6	Discussion	5
7	Acknowledgements	5
8	References	5
9	Abbreviations and glossary	6
10	Contents of archive	7
11	Archive deposition	7

Figures after p8

Appendix 1 Context list
Appendix 2 CAT WSI
Appendix 3 OASIS Summary

List of photographs and figures

Cover: general site shot

Photograph 1 Oblique view of sx 1 - looking south east

Fig 1 Site location
Fig 2 Results
Fig 3 Representative sections

Table 1 Pottery fabrics
Table 2 Finds by context

1 Summary

An archaeological watching brief was carried out at 44 Castle Road, Colchester during the construction of single and two-storey extensions to form new living space located within the Roman town and close to Duncan's Gate. A possible pit and the corner of a cut feature were uncovered.

2 Introduction (Fig 1)

This report presents the results of archaeological monitoring and recording at 44 Castle Road, Colchester, Essex which was carried out during 24-26 May 2017. The work was commissioned by Andy Cameron of Wright, Ruffle, Cameron in advance of the construction of single and two-storey extensions to form new living space, and was undertaken by Colchester Archaeological Trust (CAT).

As the site lies within an area identified by the Colchester Historical Environment Record (CHER) and the Essex Historic Environment Record (EHER) as possessing a high potential for archaeological deposits, following consultation with Colchester Borough Council Planning Services (CBCPS), Colchester Borough Council Archaeological Advisor Jess Tipper 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 Continuous Archaeological Monitoring and Recording*, detailing the required archaeological work, written by Jess Tipper (CBCPS 2017), and a Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) prepared by CAT in response to the brief and agreed with CBCPS (CAT 2017)

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 Colchester Historic Environment Record (CHER) and the Essex Historic Environment Record (EHER).

The proposed development site is located within the northeast corner of the Roman town of Colonia Claudia Victricensis, close to the Roman town wall (a scheduled monument, NHLE no. 1003772) and Duncan's Gate. Part of the longest surviving stretch of Roman wall is located in this northeast corner, on the eastern side of Roman Road (UAD event no. EVT3994; Colchester Archaeological Trust Report 356).

The Roman wall was built around the town in the later 1st century AD following the revolt led by Boudica. It is constructed of a core of layered septaria and mortar faced with coursed septaria and tile. A recent study has concluded that the wall has an average width of 2.67m (including offsets) which is equivalent to precisely nine Roman feet (pedes Monetales). A hypothetical cross-section of the wall shows the foundations as being 3.77m wide (Crummy 2003). Some previous work shows that the wall foundations were surprisingly shallow at 600mm deep (Hull 1958, 25-6). Work by CAT at the Sixth Form College in 2005 shows the stone foundations to be 1.2m deep with wooden piles below (CAT report 347), although, being water-logged, ground conditions here presumably explain their exceptional depth. Trial-holes confirmed that survival of

the foundations varies. Where they have not been robbed away, the foundations extend 2.1m from the existing face of the wall and are in a sound state of preservation.

Above ground, the survival of the wall is very patchy. Some sections are in relatively good condition, with large areas of intact facing surviving (such as around Balcerne Gate to the west of the town). The section of the wall around Duncan's Gate however, has lost up to 2.4m in width and nothing of the original exterior face survives, only the core. The majority of what is standing has been refaced or completely rebuilt in brick and stone.

Duncan's gate was first discovered and excavated by Dr P M Duncan (after which it is named) in 1853 and again in 1927-9 by the Colchester Excavation Committee, overseen by M. R. Hull (Hull 1958, 36-41). A full summary of these investigations can be found in CAT Report 1022, carried out when a historic building record and test-pit evaluation was completed at the gate in 2016 in advance of conservation work.

The development site also backs onto Colchester Castle Park (a scheduled monument, NHLR no. 1002217) and the scheduled monument extends into the garden of the property, meaning there is high potential for encountering Roman remains at this location.

Other archaeological work undertaken by CAT in the vicinity includes a small number of negative watching briefs – 3 Roman Road (CAT Report 648), 5 Roman Road (CAT Report 230), 12 Roman Road (CAT Report 997), 15 Roman Road (CAT Report 906), 24 Castle Road (CAT Report 67) and 41a Castle Road (CAT Report 98). However, other work at 24 Castle Road (CAT Report 158) revealed a fragment of an opus signinum Roman floor and a collapsed wall of a Roman building.

4 Results (Figs 2-3, Photograph 1)

All groundworks were carried out by the contractor under archaeological supervision. A foundation trench measuring 16.7m in length and 0.45m wide was excavated to a depth of 1.2-1.4m without the natural layer being found. No other groundworks were undertaken.

Five layers were recorded. A layer of topsoil (L1, c 0.01-0.66m thick) sealed a band of mixed dark grey silty-clay and pale brown/grey clay (L2, c 0.01-0.24m thick). This in turn sealed a layer of mixed orange/brown sandy gravel and light brown-grey clay (L3, c 0.06-0.46m thick), which sealed a band of dark grey/brown sandy-silty-clay (L4, c 0.01-0.6m thick). L4 sealed a layer of mixed medium brown silty-clay with patches of light brown clay (L5).

Two archaeological features were uncovered. A possible pit, F1, was situated in the southeast corner of the foundation trench. In the northwest corner of the foundation trench, the corner of a cut feature, F2, was discerned. Due to the depth of the trench, neither of these features could be excavated.



Photograph 1 Oblique view of sx 1 - looking south east

5 Finds

by Stephen Benfield

A moderate quantity of finds ranging in date from the Roman to post-medieval period was recovered during the watching brief. The finds were all recovered from soil layers (L1, L4 and L5) although some of the finds from L4 (L4 (1)) are possibly associated with a feature (F1). The types and quantities of finds recovered are listed and described in Table 2. The Roman pottery fabrics refer to the Colchester Roman fabric series (*CAR 10*) and vessel form to the *Camulodunum* (Colchester) type series (Hawkes and Hull 1947, Hull 1958). The post-Roman pottery fabrics and vessel forms refer to the Essex (Colchester) post-Roman fabric series (*CAR 7*). The pottery fabrics are listed in Table 1.

Fabric	Fabric description
<i>Roman:</i>	
BASG	South Gaulish plain samian
CZ	Colchester and other red colour-coated wares
GA	Black-burnished ware Type 1 (BB1)
GX	Other coarse wares, principally locally-produced grey wares
TZ	Buff fabric mortaria (generally) primarily from Colchester
BSW	Black surface wares
<i>Post-Roman:</i>	
13	Early medieval sandywares (general)
21A	Colchester-type ware
40	Post-medieval (glazed) red earthenwares
48D	Frechen stoneware

Table 1 Pottery fabrics

Ctxt and Find no.	Type/description	Finds spot date
L1, 5	<p>Pottery Medieval (1 sherds, 2g) Fabric 21A ?jug rim with white paint (late Colchester ware L14/15-E16C).</p> <p>Pottery Post-medieval (1 sherd, 14g) Fabric 40 (c 17-18C).</p> <p>CBM Roman (1, 52g) flat tile piece orange fabric, grey core (Rom); also small tesserae cube (orange fabric) used – white mortar on.</p> <p>Post-Roman CBM (1, 44g).</p> <p>Animal bone (1, 18g) small piece from a large animal long bone, probably cow</p>	P-med 17-18C
L4 (F1), 1	<p>Pottery Roman (4 sherds, 102g) Fabric GA (1) Cam 305 (L3-4C); Fabric GX (2) ?Cam 268 jar rim (E2-E4C); Fabric TZ, sandy buff-orange, abraded, short flange with rim bead proud of rim, prob. Cam 192B (c M1C).</p> <p>Pottery medieval (1, 16g) Fabric 13 (L11-12/E13C).</p> <p>Pottery post-medieval (1, 6g) Fabric 45D (L16-17C)</p> <p>Glass (Vessel) (1, 10g) moderately thick, pale blue green glass, slightly opaque degenerating surfaces (p-med/mod).</p> <p>CBM Roman (10) all in orange, fine sandy fabrics; Roman brick (3, 1464g) c 30mm thick; Roman brick/tile (5, 314g) moderately thin, probably <i>tegula</i> base sherds; Roman <i>tegula</i> (2, 208g) flanged pieces 16mm and 18mm thick.</p> <p>Animal bone (1, 6g) sawn bone piece from a medium size mammal.</p>	P-med/mod L16-17C+
L4, 2	<p>Pottery Roman (1 sherd, 2g) Fabric CZ, probably Colchester, buff fabric dark slip (E2-3C).</p> <p>CBM Roman (1, 138g) flat Roman tile piece, orange, fine sandy fabric, probably <i>tegula</i> base 18mm thick (Rom). Also two small tesserae cubes.</p> <p>Animal bone (2, 16g) long bone pieces from a medium size mammal.</p>	
L4, 3	<p>Pottery Roman (3 sherds, 22g) Fabric BSW (2) (Rom); Fabric GX (2) ? Cam 268 jar rim sherd (E2-E4C).</p> <p>CBM Roman (7) all primarily in orange relatively fine sandy fabrics; Roman brick (1, 46g); Roman <i>tegula</i> (3, 348g) flanged piece and small parts/fragments of lower cut-aways; Roman brick/tile (2, 694g) 16mm thick almost certainly <i>tegula</i> base pieces; Roman <i>imbrex</i> (1, 136g); one piece probably Roman <i>imbrex</i> but might date later (dated ?Roman); also 4 small tesserae cubes (approx 15mm x 20/25mm).</p> <p>Stone (1, 3g) small greenish-blue cube (12mm x 12mm), well finished broad groove on one face, sides fine finish and two opposite sides (ends) broken – snapped from a rod piece(?), appears modern.</p> <p>Animal bone (2, 14g) inc long bone piece from a medium size mammal.</p>	Rom E2C+ with intrusive modern?
L4, 6	<p>Pottery Roman (4 sherds, 44g) fabric BASG, rim Dr 18 dish (M-L1C); Fabric GX (3) one with internal 'kettle' scale (Rom).</p> <p>CBM Roman (4) all primarily in orange relatively fine sandy fabrics; Roman brick (2, 1802g) (38mm-40mm thick); Roman <i>imbrex</i>, large single piece (1, 724g); Roman <i>tegula</i> (1, 140g), piece from back corner with part of upper cut away. Also 8 small-medium tesserae cubes (approx 15mm-20/25mm) no indication of mortar from use.</p> <p>Clay tobacco pipe (2, 24g) pipe bowl Crummy Type 7 (CAR 5, 49) (c 1670-1700), also plain stem piece.</p>	P-med late 17C
L5, 4	<p>Pottery Roman (3 sherds, 46g) Fabric BASG (1) rim Dr 18 dish (M-L1C); Fabric GA (1) Cam flanged bowl (L3-4C); Fabric GX (1) Body sherd (Rom)</p> <p>CBM Roman (1) small tesserae cube (orange fabric)</p>	Rom L3-4C

Table 2 Finds by context

Discussion of finds

The majority of the finds are of Roman date. The Roman pottery includes sherds that can be closely dated to the 1st-century (South Gaulish samian), 2nd-3rd-century (Colchester colour-coated ware & form Cam 268 jar) as well as sherds of late Roman (late 3rd-4th century) date coming from form Cam 305 flanged bowls in Dorset black-burnished ware. There is also a significant quantity of Roman ceramic building material with pieces from roof tiles (*tegula and imbrex*) and bricks. With this are a number of tesserae (floor) cubes, although only one, from L1 (5), has white fixing mortar on it confirming it had been set into a floor. Most of the CBM comes from L4. The general absence of mortar and of wall plaster is noted and might indicate that this material had been salvaged for reuse from elsewhere.

Small quantities of post-medieval finds were recovered from both L1 (17th-18th-century pottery) and L4 (late 16th-17th-century pottery and late 17th-century clay tobacco pipe). It is noted that the post-medieval pottery from L4 might be associated with a pit (F1) cutting(?) it. In that case the only certain post-Roman finds from this layer are two pieces of clay tobacco pipe, although a small cube of stone (similar to a mosaic cube) recovered from L4 (3) appears probably to be of modern rather than Roman date. There are no finds of post-Roman date from L5 (which included one pottery sherd dated to the late 3rd-4th-century) although it should be born in mind that only a very small quantity of finds was recovered from this layer.

6 Discussion

The excavation uncovered only modest evidence of occupation at this site extending from the late 3rd-century to the post-medieval period. It found no evidence of Roman buildings which might be expected in this area. The only trace of Roman occupation was one layer. Post-medieval occupation was evidenced by two features. The groundworks associated with the extension were too limited to permit the confident characterisation of the archeology in this area, especially as the natural was not reached.

7 Acknowledgements

CAT thanks Andy Cameron of Wright, Ruffle, Cameron for commissioning and funding the work. The project was managed by C Lister and carried out by A Wade. Figures were prepared by S Carter and A Wade. The project was monitored for the CBCPS by Jess Tipper.

8 References

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

Brown, D	2007	<i>Archaeological Archives: A guide to best practice in creation, compilation, transfer and curation</i>
CAR 5	1988	<i>Colchester Archaeological Report 5: Post-Roman small finds from excavations in Colchester 1971-85</i> , by N Crummy
CAR 7	2000	<i>Post-Roman pottery from excavations in Colchester 1971-85</i> , by J Cotter
CAR 10	1999	<i>Roman pottery from excavations in Colchester 1971-86</i> , R Symonds and S Wade
CAR 11	1995	<i>Colchester Archaeological Report 11: Camulodunum 2</i> , by C F C Hawkes & P Crummy
CAT	2014	<i>Health & Safety Policy</i>
CAT	1999	<i>The Colchester archaeologist</i> magazine, 12
CAT	2017	<i>Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) for continuous archaeological recording at 44 castle road, Colchester, Essex, CO1 1UN</i>
CAT Report 98	2000	<i>An archaeological watching brief at 41a Castle Road, Colchester:</i>

		September 2000.
CAT Report 158	2000	<i>An archaeological watching brief at 24 Castle Road, Colchester: September-October 2000.</i>
CAT Report 230	2003	<i>An archaeological watching brief at 5 Roman Road, Colchester: March 2003.</i>
CAT Report 347	2009	<i>Roman buildings, the rear face of the Roman town wall and archaeological investigations in Insulas 1a, 1b, 9a and 9b, at the Sixth Form College, North Hill, Colchester, Essex: April 2005-March 2006.</i>
CAT Report 356	2006	<i>An archaeological investigation of the Roman town wall at Roman Road, Colchester, Essex: October 2004 and February 2006.</i>
CAT Report 648	2012	<i>An archaeological watching brief at 3 Roman Road, Colchester, Essex: May 2012.</i>
CAT Report 906	2015	<i>Archaeological monitoring and recording at 15 Roman Road, Colchester, Essex, CO1 1UR: September 2015</i>
CAT Report 997	2016	<i>Archaeological monitoring and recording at 12 Roman Road, Colchester, Essex, CO1 1UN: August 2016</i>
CAT Report 1022	2016	<i>Historic building recording and test-pit evaluation at Duncan's Gate, Colchester, CO1 1UN: July 2016</i>
CBCPS	2016	<i>Brief for Continuous Archaeological Recording at 44 Castle Road, Colchester, Essex, CO1 1URN</i> by J Tipper
CIfA	2014a	<i>Standard and Guidance for an archaeological watching brief</i>
CIfA	2014b	<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>
Crummy, P	2001	<i>City of Victory: the story of Colchester - Britain's first Roman town</i>
Crummy, P	2003	'Colchester's town wall', in <i>The archaeology of Roman towns: studies in honour of John S Wacher</i> , ed by P Wilson
DCLG	2012	<i>National Planning Policy Framework</i>
Duncan, P.M	1858	Transactions of the Essex Archaeological Society vol 1, pgs 210-228: <i>The Roman cloca at Colchester; its discovery and description</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</i> . East Anglian Archaeology Occasional Papers 14 (EAA 14).
Hawkes, C and Hull, M	1947	<i>Camulodunum, first report on the excavations at Colchester 1930-39</i> RRCSAL 14
Hull, M.R.	1958	<i>Roman Colchester</i> RRCSAL 20
Medlycott, M	2011	<i>Research and archaeology revisited: A revised framework for the East of England</i> . East Anglian Archaeology Occasional Papers 24 (EAA 24)

9 Abbreviations and glossary

CAT	Colchester Archaeological Trust
CBCPS	Colchester Borough Council Planning Services
CBM	ceramic building material, ie brick/tile
CHER	Colchester Historic Environment Record (previously UAD, Urban Archaeological Database)
CIfA	Chartered Institute for Archaeologists
context	specific location of finds on an archaeological site
EHER	Essex Historic Environment Record
feature (F)	an identifiable thing like a pit, a wall, a drain: can contain 'contexts'
layer (L)	distinct or distinguishable deposit (layer) of material
medieval	period from AD 1066 to c 1500
modern	period from c AD 1800 to the present
natural	geological deposit undisturbed by human activity
post-medieval	period from c AD 1500 to c 1800
Roman	the period from AD 43 to c AD 410
wsI	written scheme of investigation

10 Contents of archive

Finds: n/a

Paper and digital record

One A4 document wallet containing:

The report (CAT Report 1111)

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

11 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 2017.63.

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Distribution list

Andy Cameron (Wright, Ruffle, Cameron)

Graham Jerram

Jess Tipper, Colchester Borough Council Planning Services

Essex Historic Environment Record



Colchester Archaeological Trust

Roman Circus House,

Roman Circus Walk,

Colchester,

Essex, CO2 7GZ

tel.: 01206 501785

email: lp@catuk.org

Checked by: Philip Crummy

Date: 14.06.2017

Appendix 1 Context list

Context Number	Finds Number	Feature Type	Description	Date
F1	-	Pit?	Dark grey/brown sandy-silty-clay with occasional CBM fragments and septaria and very occasional small stones and mortar fragments.	Undated, possibly post-medieval
F2	-	Corner of cut feature	Dark grey/brown sandy-silty-clay with occasional CBM fragments and septaria and very occasional small stones and mortar fragments.	Undated
L1	5	Topsoil	Dark grey sandy-loam	Modern
L2	-	Possibly associated with house construction	Mixed dark grey silty-clay and light brown/grey clay with occasional small stones	Modern?
L3	5?	-	Mixed orange/brown sandy gravel and light brown/grey clay	Post-medieval/modern
L4	1, 2, 3, 6	-	Dark grey/brown sandy-silty-clay with occasional CBM fragments and septaria and very occasional small stones and mortar fragments.	Post-medieval, late 17th-century
L5	3, 5	-	Mixed medium brown silty-clay and light brown clay with very occasional small stones, CBM fragments and oyster shell fragments.	Possibly Roman, late 3rd-4th-century



Fig 1 Site location.

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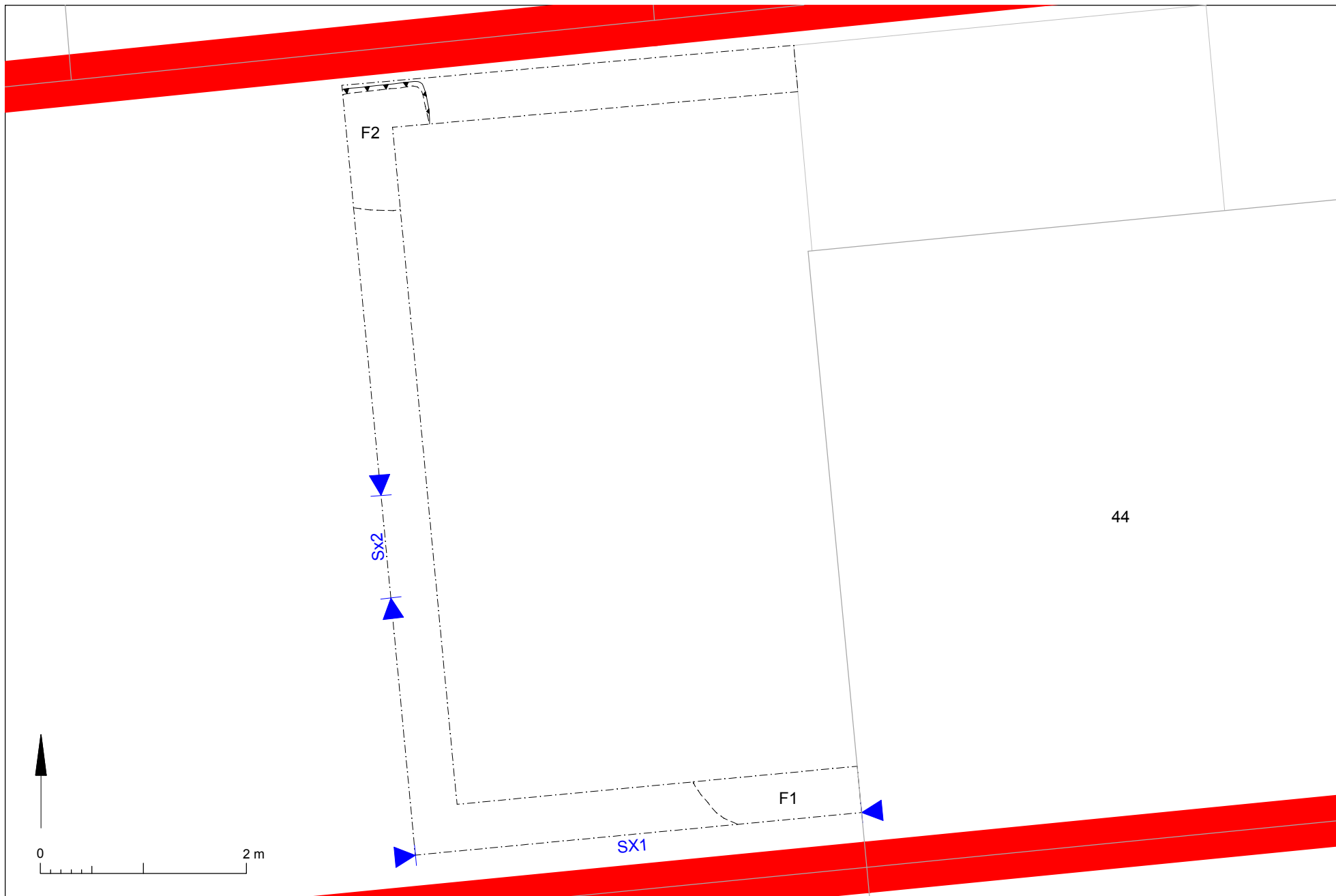
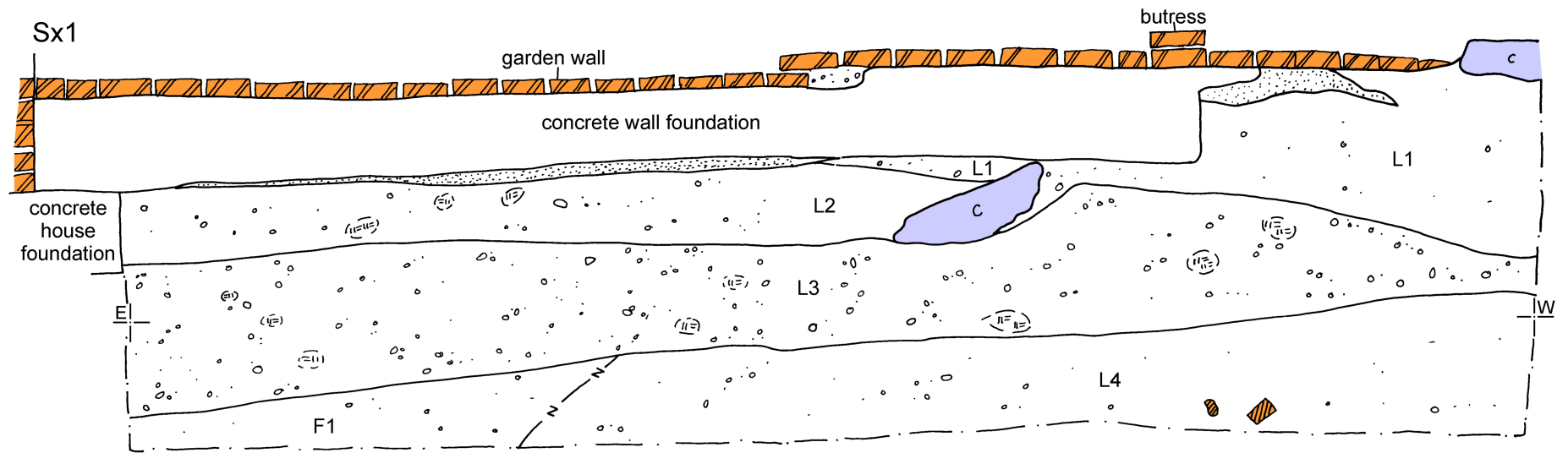


Fig 2 Results



- sand
- small stones
- ||| clay
- large stones
- oyster shell
- ▨ Roman brick and tile
- ▨ post-Roman brick and tile
- c concrete

Sx2

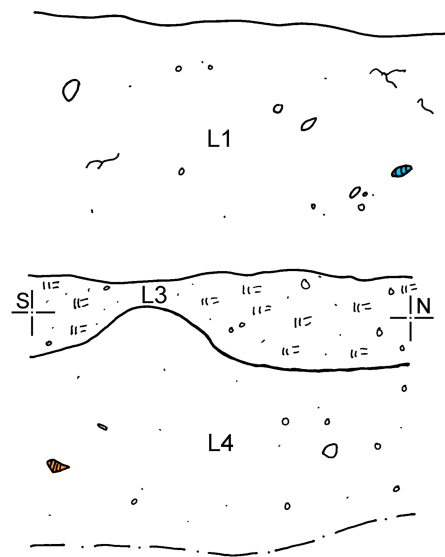


Fig 3 representative sections

Essex Historic Environment Record/ Essex Archaeology and History

Summary sheet

Address: 44 Castle Road, Colchester, Essex, CO1 1UN	
Parish: Colchester	District: Colchester
NGR: TM 00041 25517 (centre)	Site code: CAT project ref.: 17/05b CHER ref: ECC3990 OASIS ref: colchest3-284152
Type of work: Monitoring and recording	Site director/group: Colchester Archaeological Trust
Date of work: May 2017	Size of area investigated: 0.02 ha
Location of curating museum: Colchester museum accession code: COLEM 2017.63	Funding source: Developer
Further seasons anticipated? no	Related CHER/SMR number:
Final report: CAT Report 1111	
Periods represented: -	
Summary of fieldwork results: <i>An archaeological watching brief was carried out at 44 Castle Road, Colchester during the construction of single and two-storey extensions to form new living space located within the Roman town and close to Duncan's Gate. A possible pit and the corner of a cut feature were uncovered.</i>	
Previous summaries/reports: None	
CBC monitor: Jess Tipper	
Keywords: -	Significance: none
Author of summary: Dr Elliott Hicks	Date of summary: June 2017

Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) for continuous archaeological recording at 44 Castle Road, Colchester, Essex, CO1 1UN

NGR: TM 00041 25517 (centre)

Planning references: 162870

Commissioned by: Andy Cameron (Wright, Ruffle, Cameron)

On behalf of: Graham Jerram

Curating museum: Colchester

Museum accession code: [tbc](#)

CHER event number: [tbc](#)

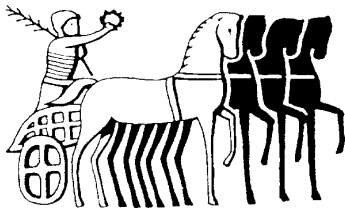
CAT project code: 17/05b

OASIS project number: colchest3-284152

Site manager: Chris Lister

CBC monitor: Jess Tipper

This WSI written: 03.05.2017



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

tel: 01206 501785

email: lp@catuk.org

Site location and description

The proposed development site is located within Colchester town centre at 44 Castle Road, Colchester, Essex (Fig 1). It is also situated in the northeast corner of the Roman walled town, 60m south/southeast of the Roman town wall and Duncan's Gate. Site centre is NGR TM 00041 25517.

Proposed work

The development comprises the erection of single and two-storey extensions to form new living space.

Archaeological background

The following archaeological background draws on the major published sources for Colchester archaeology, and also on the Colchester Historic Environment Record (CHER, previously the Urban Archaeological Database (UAD)) and the Essex Historic Environment Record (EHER).

The proposed development site is located within the northeast corner of the Roman town of *Colonia Claudia Victricensis*, close to the Roman town wall (a scheduled monument, NHLE no. 1003772) and Duncan's Gate. Part of the longest surviving stretch of Roman wall is located in this northeast corner, on the eastern side of Roman Road (UAD event no. EVT3994; Colchester Archaeological Trust Report 356).

The Roman wall was built around the town in the later 1st century AD following the revolt led by Boudica. It is constructed of a core of layered septaria and mortar faced with coursed septaria and tile. A recent study has concluded that the wall has an average width of 2.67m (including offsets) which is equivalent to precisely nine Roman feet (*pedes Monetales*). A hypothetical cross-section of the wall shows the foundations as being 3.77m wide (Crummy 2003). Some previous work shows that the wall foundations were surprisingly shallow at 600mm deep (Hull 1958, 25-6). Work by CAT at the Sixth Form College in 2005 shows the stone foundations to be 1.2m deep with wooden piles below (CAT report 347), although, being water-logged, ground conditions here presumably explain their exceptional depth. Trial-holes confirmed that survival of the foundations varies. Where they have not been robbed away, the foundations extend 2.1m from the existing face of the wall and are in a sound state of preservation.

Above ground, the survival of the wall is very patchy. Some sections are in relatively good condition, with large areas of intact facing surviving (such as around Balkerne Gate to the west of the town). The section of the wall around Duncan's Gate however, has lost up to 2.4m in width and nothing of the original exterior face survives, only the core. The majority of what is standing has been refaced or completely rebuilt in brick and stone.

Duncan's gate was first discovered and excavated by Dr P M Duncan (after which it is named) in 1853 and again in 1927-9 by the Colchester Excavation Committee, overseen by M. R. Hull (Hull 1958, 36-41). A full summary of these investigations can be found in CAT Report 1022, carried out when a historic building record and test-pit evaluation was completed at the gate in 2016 in advance of conservation work.

The development site also backs onto Colchester Castle Park (a scheduled monument, NHLR no. 1002217) and the scheduled monument extends into the garden of the property, meaning there is high potential for encountering Roman remains at this location.

Other archaeological work undertaken by CAT in the vicinity includes a small number of negative watching briefs – 3 Roman Road (CAT Report 648), 5 Roman Road (CAT Report 230), 12 Roman Road (CAT Report 997), 15 Roman Road (CAT Report 906), 24 Castle Road (CAT Report 67) and 41a Castle Road (CAT Report 98). However, other work at 24 Castle Road (CAT Report 158) revealed a fragment of an *opus signinum* Roman floor and a collapsed wall of a Roman building.

Planning background

A planning application was made to Colchester Borough Council in November 2016 (application No.162870) for the erection of single and two-storey extensions to form new living space.

As the site lies within an area highlighted by the CHER/EHER as having a high potential for archaeological deposits, an archaeological condition was recommended by the Colchester Borough Council Archaeological Advisor (CBCAA). The recommended archaeological condition is based on the guidance given in the *National Planning Policy Framework* (DCLG 2012).

Requirement for work

The required archaeological work is for continuous archaeological monitoring and recording of all groundworks. Details are given in a Project Brief written by CBCAA (CBC 2017).

Specifically:

The monitoring and recording is being undertaken to identify and record any surviving archaeological deposits that may exist on site.

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

General methodology

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

- professional standards of the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists, including its *Code of Conduct* (CIfA 2014a, b)
- Standards and Frameworks published by East Anglian Archaeology (Gurney 2003, Medlycott 2011)
- relevant Health & Safety guidelines and requirements (CAT 2014)
- the Project Brief issued by the CBCAA (CBC 2017).

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

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

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

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

A project or site code will be sought from the curating museum. This code will be used to identify the project archive when it is deposited at the curating museum.

Staffing

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

Monitoring methodology

There will be sufficient on-site attendance by CAT staff to maintain a watch on all contractors' ground works to record, excavate or sample (as necessary) any archaeological features or deposits.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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.

Site surveying

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

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

Environmental sampling policy

CAT has an arrangement with Val Fryer/Lisa Gray whereby any potentially rich environmental layers or features will be appropriately sampled as a matter of course, but only if they are datable. Any processing and reporting will be done by VF/LG. If any complex or outstanding deposits are encountered, VF/LG will be asked onto site to advise. EH Regional Adviser is available for further advice.

Human remains

CAT follows the policy of leaving human remains *in situ* unless there is a clear indication that the remains are in danger of being compromised as a result of their exposure. If circumstances indicated it were prudent or necessary to remove remains from the site during the monitoring, the following criteria would be applied; if it is clear from their position, context, depth, or other factors that the remains are ancient, then normal procedure is to apply to the Department of Justice for a licence to remove them. In that case, conditions laid down by the license will be followed. If it seems that the remains are not ancient, then the coroner, the client, and CBCAA will be informed, and any advice and/or instruction from the coroner will be followed.

Photographic record

Will include both general and feature-specific photographs, the latter with scale and north arrow. A photo register giving context number, details, and direction of shot will be prepared on site, and included in site archive.

Finds

All significant finds will be retained.

All finds, where appropriate, will be washed and marked with site code and context number.

Stephen Benfield (CAT) normally writes our finds reports. Some categories of finds are automatically referred to other CAT specialists:

small finds, metalwork, coins, etc: Pip Parmenter/Laura Pooley

animal bones (small groups): Pip Parmenter

flints: Adam Wightman

or to outside specialists:

animal bones (large groups) and human remains: Julie Curl/Lisa Gray

environmental processing and reporting: Val Fryer (Loddon)

conservation of finds: staff at Colchester Museum

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

Roman brick/tile: Ernest Black

Roman glass: Hilary Cool

Prehistoric pottery: Paul Sealey

Other: EH Regional Adviser in Archaeological Science (East of England).

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

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

Results

Notification will be given to CBCAA when the fieldwork has been completed.

An appropriate archive will be prepared to minimum acceptable standards outlined in *Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment* (English Heritage 2006).

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

The report will contain:

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

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

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

Archive deposition

It is a policy of Colchester Borough Council that the integrity of the site archive be maintained (i.e. all finds and records should be properly curated by a single organisation), with the archive available for public consultation. To achieve this desired aim it is assumed that the full

archive will be deposited in Colchester Museums *unless otherwise agreed in advance*. (A full copy of the archive shall in any case be deposited).

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

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

If the finds are to remain with the landowner, a full copy of the archive will be housed with the curating museum.

The archive will be deposited with Colchester & Ipswich Museum within 3 months of the completion of the final publication report, with a summary of the contents of the archive supplied to CBCAA.

Monitoring

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

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

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

CBCAA will be notified when the fieldwork is complete.

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

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- | | | |
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| CAT Report 67 | 2000 | <i>An archaeological watching brief at 41 Castle Road, Colchester: March 2000.</i> |
| CAT Report 98 | 2000 | <i>An archaeological watching brief at 41a Castle Road, Colchester: September 2000.</i> |
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L Pooley



Colchester Archaeological Trust
Roman Circus House,
Roman Circus Walk,
Colchester,
Essex,
CO2 2GZ

tel: 01206 501785
email: lp@catuk.org



Fig 1 Site location.

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OASIS ID: colchest3-284152

Project details

Project name	Archaeological monitoring and recording at 44 Castle Road, Colchester, Essex, CO1 1UN
Short description of the project	An archaeological watching brief was carried out at 44 Castle Road, Colchester during the construction of single and two-storey extensions to form new living space located within the Roman town and close to Duncan's Gate. A possible pit and the corner of a cut feature were uncovered.
Project dates	Start: 24-05-2017 End: 26-05-2017
Previous/future work	No / Not known
Any associated project reference codes	17/05b - Contracting Unit No.
Any associated project reference codes	162870 - Planning Application No.
Any associated project reference codes	COLEM: 2017.63 - Museum accession ID
Any associated project reference codes	ECC3990 - HER event no.
Type of project	Recording project
Site status	None
Current Land use	Residential 1 - General Residential
Monument type	PIT Post Medieval
Monument type	CUT FEATURE Uncertain
Significant Finds	POTTERY Roman
Significant Finds	POTTERY Medieval
Significant Finds	POTTERY Post Medieval
Significant Finds	CERAMIC BUILDING MATERIAL Roman
Significant Finds	CERAMIC BUILDING MATERIAL Post Medieval
Significant Finds	ANIMAL BONE Post Medieval
Significant Finds	GLASS (VESSEL) Post Medieval
Significant Finds	CLAY PIPE Post Medieval
Investigation type	""Watching Brief""

Prompt Planning condition

Project location

Country England
 Site location ESSEX COLCHESTER COLCHESTER 44 Castle Road
 Postcode CO1 1UN
 Study area 0.02 Hectares
 Site coordinates TM 00041 25517 51.89172505999 0.907478027695 51 53 30 N 000 54 26 E
 Point

Project creators

Name of Organisation Colchester Archaeological Trust
 Project brief originator CBC Archaeological Officer
 Project design originator Laura Pooley
 Project director/manager Chris Lister
 Project supervisor Alec Wade
 Type of sponsor/funding body Owner

Project archives

Digital Archive recipient Colchester Museum
 Digital Archive ID COLEM: 2017.63
 Digital Contents "Stratigraphic","Survey"
 Digital Media available "Images raster / digital photography","Survey"
 Paper Archive recipient Colchester Museum
 Paper Archive ID COLEM: 2017.63
 Paper Contents "Stratigraphic","Survey"
 Paper Media available "Context sheet","Drawing","Miscellaneous Material","Notebook - Excavation','
 Research',' General Notes","Photograph","Plan","Report"

Project bibliography

1

Publication type Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)
 Title Archaeological recording at 44 Castle Road, Colchester, Essex, CO1 1UN, May 2017
 Author(s)/Editor(s) Hicks, E.
 Other bibliographic details CAT Report 1111
 Date 2017
 Issuer or publisher Colchester Archaeological Trust
 Place of issue or publication Colchester
 Description A4 loose-leaf ring-bound

URL <http://cat.essex.ac.uk/>

Entered by Laura Pooley (lp@catuk.org)

Entered on 14 June 2017

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