

Archaeological evaluation at Parsons Heath, Colchester, Essex, CO4 3HT

June 2017



by Dr Elliott Hicks

with figures by S Carter and B Holloway

fieldwork by B Holloway, with A Tuffey, Z Eksen, H Furness and J Roberts

on behalf of Robert Pomery, Oak Home Developments Ltd

NGR: TM 0222 2639 (centre)

Planning ref.: pre-planning

CHER project : ECC4005

CAT project ref.: 17/05r

Colchester Museum accession code: COLEM: 2017.88

OASIS ref.: colchest3-286905



Colchester Archaeological Trust

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

tel.: 01206 501785

email: lp@catuk.org

CAT Report 1121

June 2017

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CAT WSI

OASIS summary

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1 Summary

An archaeological evaluation by trial-trenching (five trenches) was undertaken on land at Parsons Heath, Colchester, Essex in advance of the construction of a residential development with car parking and associated works. Trenching covering 5% of the site was excavated to characterise the area in order to determine whether further work was required. The site is located in close proximity to an area of medieval activity and a complex of cropmarks at Parsons Heath, and near to areas yielding prehistoric, Roman, and medieval finds. The evaluation uncovered modern wall foundations, part of a modern brick floor, and a single linear feature.

2 Introduction (Fig 1)

This is the archive report for an archaeological evaluation by trial-trenching on land at Parsons Heath, Colchester, which was carried out on 20th June 2017. The work was commissioned by Robert Pomery of Oak Home Developments in advance of the construction of a residential development with car parking and associated works, and was undertaken by Colchester Archaeological Trust (CAT).

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

All archaeological work was carried out in accordance with a *Brief for a Trenched Archaeological Evaluation*, detailing the required archaeological work, written by Jess Tipper (CBCAA 2017), and a written scheme of investigation (WSI) prepared by CAT in response to the brief and agreed with ECCPS (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 field evaluation* (CIfA 2014a) and *Standard and guidance for the collection, documentation, conservation and research of archaeological materials* (CIfA 2014b).

3 Archaeological background

The following archaeological background draws on the Colchester Archaeological Trust report archive, the Colchester Historic Environment Record (CHER) and the Essex Historic Environment Record (EHER) accessed via the Heritage Gateway.

The EHER/CHER shows that the development site is located on the (former) edge of Parsons Heath (HER MCC9324) and there is potential for medieval occupation, and consequently below-ground archaeological remains, along the edge of the heath.

Cropmarks are known from the area of Parsons Heath (EHER 2496-7), with others to the east (600m, various rectilinear features, some of which represent a possible former field boundary, EHER 17541). A prehistoric flint flake was found near Parsons Heath Primary School (EHER 2493, 200m NW) and a Palaeolithic hand axe to the SW (EHER 2336, 400m SW). Roman (coin) and medieval finds (brooch, strap-fitting and knife) have also been located by metal detector to the NE (EHER 53264, 55168, 50890, 580-710m NE).

4 Results (Figs 2-3)

Five trial-trenches were excavated within the development site.

Trench 1 (T1): 9m long by 1.8m wide

T1 was excavated through a layer of tarmac and hardstanding (L1, 0.16-0.18m thick) onto subsoil (L4, 0.18-0.19m thick). L4 sealed naturally-deposited soils (L5, encountered at a depth of 0.4-0.42m).

A very shallow linear feature (F2), aligned N-S, possibly a gully, ran along the length of the trench. T1 was cut by modern services towards its northern end.

Trench 2 (T2): 10m long by 1.8m wide

T2 was excavated through L1 (0.2m thick), which sealed L4 (0.2m thick), which in turn sealed L5 (encountered at a depth of 0.4m). No significant archaeological remains were encountered.

Trench 3 (T3): 12m long by 1.8m wide

T3 was excavated through L1 (0.14-0.15m thick), L4 (0.15-0.25m thick) onto L5 (encountered at a depth of 0.3-0.39m). No significant archaeological remains were encountered.

Trench 4 (T4): 20m long by 1.8m wide

T4 was excavated through L1 (0.26-0.31m thick), L4 (0.33-0.37m thick) onto L5 (encountered at a depth of 0.63-0.64m). The trench was cut by two modern land drains: one situated mid-way along the trench, the other towards its southern end. The trench was also cut by a modern soakaway towards its southern end. No significant archaeological remains were encountered.

Trench 5 (T5): 15m long by 1.8m wide

T5 was excavated through L1 (0.16m thick), onto modern consolidation (L2) and demolition layer (L3) (0.18-0.24m thick in total). L3 sealed L5 (encountered at a depth of 0.39-0.49m). Services were located to the north and south of the trench.

Towards the southern end of the trench, modern (late-19th to 20th century) walls or foundations (F1) were uncovered. They were composed of frogged bricks and off-white to grey mortar. Adjacent to this feature, and very likely associated with it, a fragment of brick floor (F3), constructed from unfrogged brick, was uncovered.



Photograph 1 F1 and F3 - looking southeast

5 Finds

by Stephen Benfield

A small quantity of finds of post-medieval/modern and modern date was recovered from F1 (1). The pottery fabrics quoted in the text refer to CAR 7.

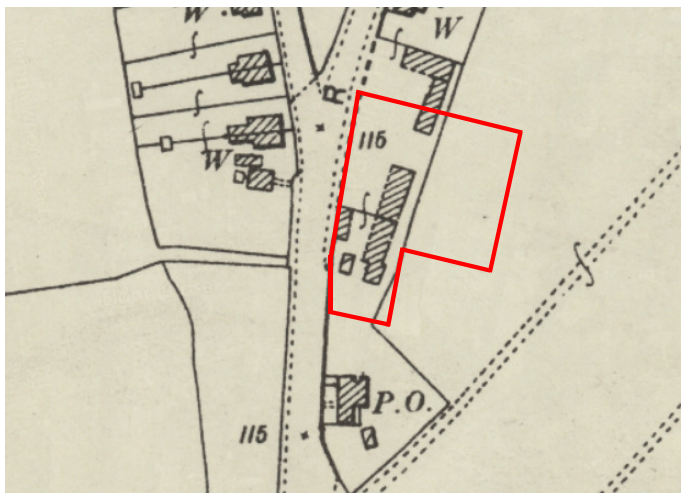
Probably the latest, most closely dated of the finds is a complete red brick with a broad shallow frog that probably dates no earlier than the mid- to late-19th century. Other ceramic building material includes a complete pale yellow/buff coloured floor brick, broadly of 19th century date, and pieces from pan-tiles (commonly used for roofing out-buildings rather than a main dwelling). A single piece of slate, probably part of a roofing slate is also present. Of a small quantity of pottery the latest, most-closely dated, is a sherd of yellow ware (Fabric 48E) dated late-18th to 20th century. There are also two sherds of post-medieval (glazed) red earthenware (Fabric 40), one with a dark brown surface, broadly dated as c 17th to early-19th century. Other single finds consist of a piece of thick, clear bottle glass (probably of late-19th to early-20th century date), a corroded piece of iron that is probably a nail shaft and a complete humerus from a small mammal – probably a rabbit. The finds indicate a late-19th century *terminus post quem* for the context.

6 Conclusion

Evaluation trenching at Parsons Heath produced no evidence of indications given by other archaeological investigations within the area. It indicates that there is not likely to be archaeology located at this site. We uncovered the remains of brick walls or foundations and brick floor fragments from a demolished building. These can be dated with some confidence to the 19th century. Whilst the 1777 Chapman and André map of Essex (Map 1) does not indicate the existence of any buildings at this site, the 1897 edition of the OS 25-inch map of Colchester shows that by the end of the 19th century a number of buildings had been erected here (Map 2). It is very likely that the remains uncovered during the course of this excavation are associated with this group of structures, which were presumably demolished at some point prior to the opening of a car dealership here in the 1950s (personal comm.). Additionally, a very shallow linear feature was uncovered in the northwest corner of the site. The feature was undatable but possibly modern, and though perhaps a gully, may equally be the product of rooting by shrubbery which had previously grown at the site.



Map 1 Chapman and André, published 1777; location of site indicated by red outline



Map 2 OS 25-inch, Essex (1st Ed/Rev 1862-96) XXVII.12, revised: 1896, published: 1897; location of site indicated by red outline

7 Acknowledgements

CAT thanks Robert Pomery of Oak Home Developments Ltd for commissioning and funding the work. The project was managed by C Lister, fieldwork was carried out by B Holloway with A Tuffey, Z Eksen, H Furniss and J Roberts. Figures are by S Carter and B Holloway. The project was monitored for Colchester Borough Council by Jess Tipper.

8 References

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

CAR 7	2000	<i>Colchester Archaeological Report 7: Post-Roman pottery from excavations in Colchester, 1971-85</i> , by J Cotter
CAT	2014	<i>Health & Safety Policy</i>
CBCAA	2016	<i>Brief for a Trenched Archaeological Evaluation at Land at Parsons Heath, Colchester</i> , by J Tipper
CIfA	2014a	<i>Standard and Guidance for archaeological evaluation</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>
DCLG	2012	<i>National Planning Policy Framework</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).
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
CBCAA	Colchester Borough Council Archaeological Advisor

CHER	Colchester Historic Environment Record
ClfA	Chartered Institute for Archaeologists
context	specific location of finds on an archaeological site
EHHER	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
Mesolithic	period from c 10,000 – 4000BC
modern	period from c AD 1800 to the present
natural	geological deposit undisturbed by human activity
NGR	National Grid Reference
OASIS	Online Access to the Index of Archaeological Investigations, http://oasis.ac.uk/pages/wiki/Main
Palaeolithic	period c 800,000 BC to c 10,000BC
post-medieval	from c AD 1500 to c 1800
prehistoric	pre-Roman
Roman	the period from AD 43 to c AD 410
section	(abbreviation sx or Sx) vertical slice through feature/s or layer/s
wsi	written scheme of investigation

10 Contents of archive

Finds: none retained

Paper and digital record

One A4 document wallet containing:

The report (CAT Report 1121)

ECC 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 2017.88

Distribution list:

Robert Pomery
Oak Homes Developments Ltd
Jess Tipper, Colchester Borough Council Planning Services
Essex Historic Environment Record



Colchester Archaeological Trust

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

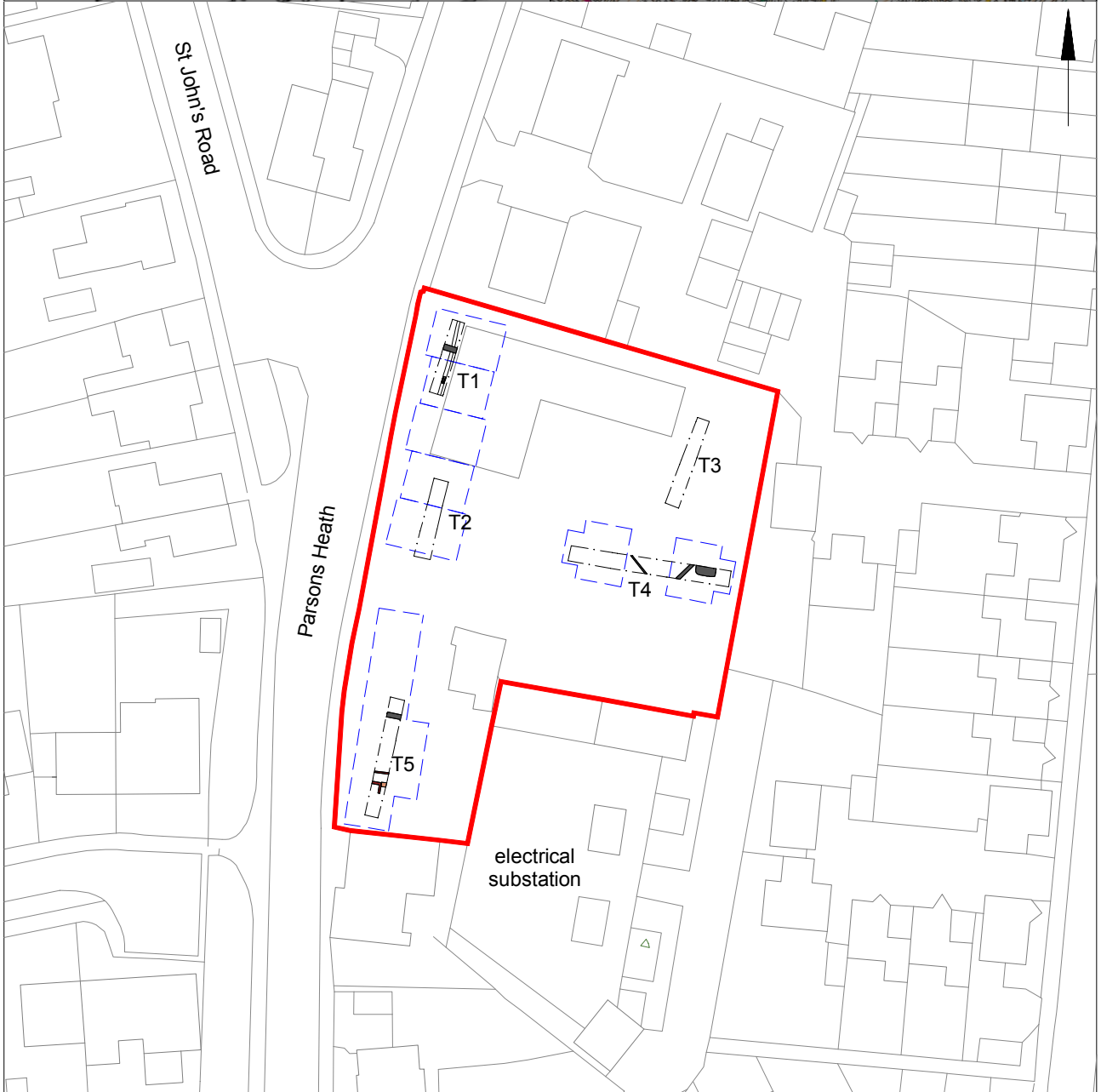
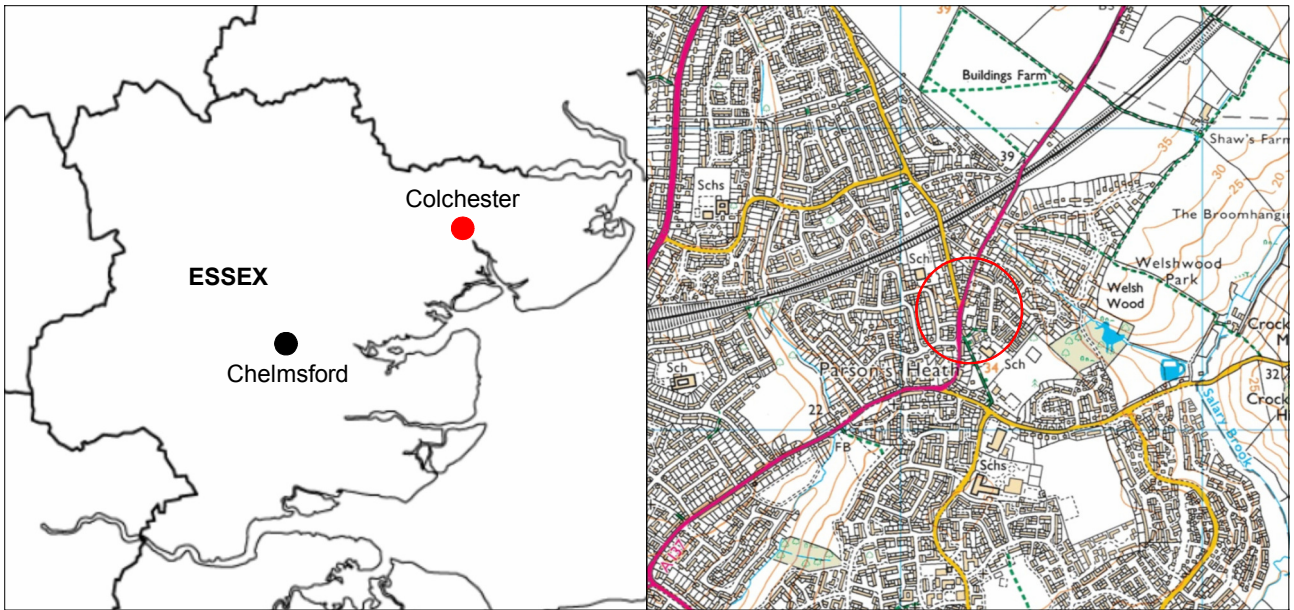
tel.: 01206 501785

email: lp@catuk.org

Checked by: Philip Crummy
Date: 29.06.2017

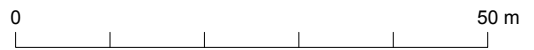
Appendix 1 Context list

Context Number	Finds Number	Context Type	Description	Date
F1	1	Walls/foundation	Frogged brick. Mixed loose and firm dry medium grey/brown sandy-clay (relates to fill within the wall and to north of feature)	Modern, late-19th / 20th century
F2	-	Linear feature, possibly a gully?	Friable dry medium grey/brown silty-sandy-clay	Undatable (modern?)
F3	-	Brick floor fragment	Unfrogged brick	Post-med / modern
L1	-	Macadam / hardstanding	Macadam / hardstanding	Modern
L2	-	Consolidation layer	Friable dry dark black silty-clay with very frequent brick inclusions and frequent brick inclusions	Modern
L3	-	Demolition layer	Friable dry medium brown silty/clay with very frequent brick inclusions	Modern
L4	-	Buried subsoil	Firm moist medium grey/brown/black sandy-silty-clay with occasional stone inclusions	Undatable
L5	-	Natural	Firm moist dark orange/grey/blue silty-clay	Post-glacial



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Fig 1 Site location in relation to proposed development (dashed blue)



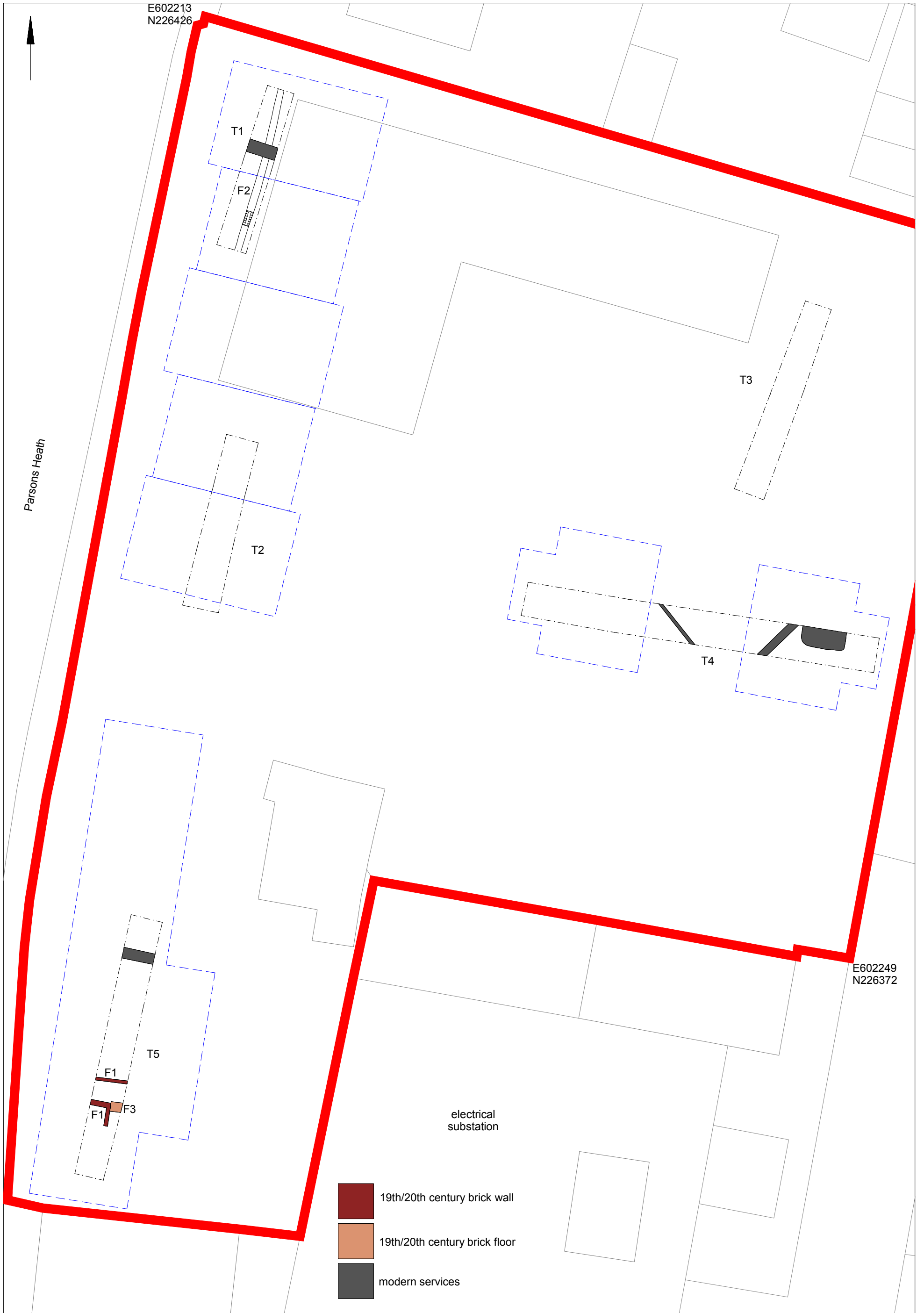


Fig 2 Results

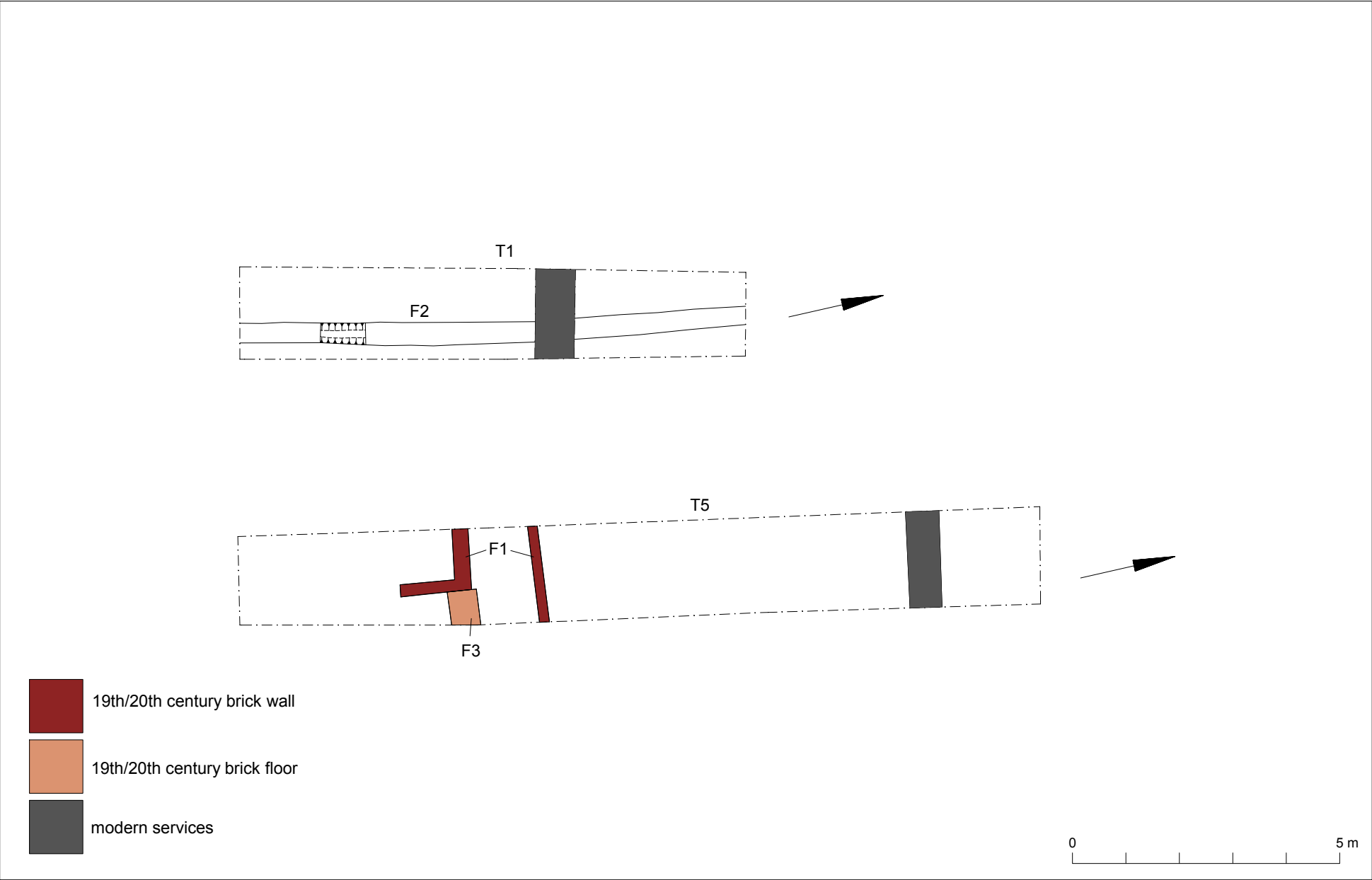


Fig 3 Trench plans: T1 and T5

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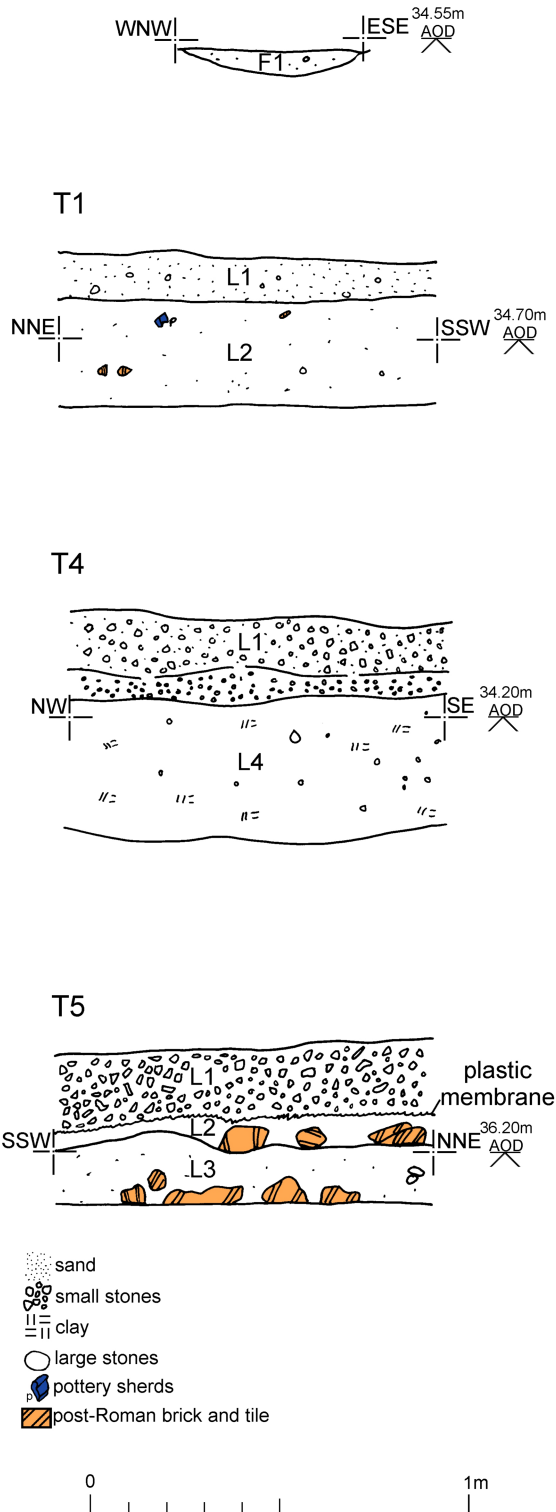


Fig 4 Feature and representative sections

Essex Historic Environment Record/ Essex Archaeology and History

Summary sheet

Address: land at Parsons Heath, Colchester, Essex, CO4 3HT	
Parish: Colchester	District: Colchester
NGR: TM 0222 2639 (centre)	Site code: CAT project ref.: 17/05r CHER ref: ECC4005 OASIS ref: colchest3-286905
Type of work: Evaluation	Site director/group: Colchester Archaeological Trust
Date of work: 20th June 2017	Size of area investigated: 2.36ha
Location of curating museum: Colchester museum accession code COLEM: 2017.88	Funding source: Developer
Further seasons anticipated? no	Related CHER/SMR number: HER MCC9324; EHER 2336, 2493, 2496-7, 17541, 50890, 53264, 55168
Final report: CAT Report 1121	
Periods represented: modern	
Summary of fieldwork results: <i>An archaeological evaluation by trial-trenching (five trenches) was undertaken on land at Parsons Heath, Colchester, Essex in advance of the construction of a residential development with car parking and associated works. Trenching covering 5% of the site was excavated to characterise the area in order to determine whether further work was required. The site is located in close proximity to an area of medieval activity and a complex of cropmarks at Parsons Heath, and near to areas yielding prehistoric, Roman, and medieval finds. The evaluation uncovered modern wall foundations, part of a modern brick floor, and a single linear feature.</i>	
Previous summaries/reports: none	
CBC monitor: Jess Tipper	
Keywords: -	Significance: -
Author of summary: Dr Elliott Hicks	Date of summary: June 2017

Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) for an archaeological evaluation at Parsons Heath, Colchester, Essex, CO4 3HT

NGR: TM 0222 2639 (centre)

Planning reference: pre-planning

Commissioned by: Robert Pomery

Client: Oak Home Developments Ltd

Curating Museum: Colchester

Museum accession code: [tbc](#)

CHER number: [tbc](#)

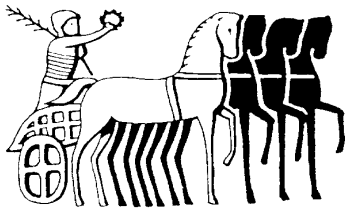
CAT project code: 17/05r

OASIS project id: colchest3-286905

Site Manager: Chris Lister

CBC Monitor: Jess Tipper

This WSI written: 7.6.2017



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 lies approximately 2.51km NE of Colchester town centre on land to the north of 39a Parsons Heath, Colchester, close to the junction of St John's Road (Fig 1). The site is centred on NGR TM 0222 2639.

Proposed work

The development comprises a residential development with car parking and associated works.

Archaeological background

The following archaeological background draws on the Colchester Archaeological Trust report archive, the Colchester Historic Environment Record (CHER) and the Essex Historic Environment Record (EHER) accessed via the Heritage Gateway:

The EHER/CHER shows that the development site is located on the (former) edge of Parsons Heath (HER MCC9324) and there is potential for medieval occupation, and consequently below-ground archaeological remains, along the edge of the heath.

Cropmarks are known from the area of Parsons Heath (EHER 2496-7), with others to the east (600m, various rectilinear features, some of which represent a possible former field boundary, EHER 17541). A prehistoric flint flake was found near Parsons Heath Primary School (EHER 2493, 200m NW) and a Palaeolithic hand axe to the SW (EHER 2336, 400m SW). A Roman (coin) and medieval finds (brooch, strap-fitting and knife) have also been located by metal detector to the NE (EHER 53264, 55168, 50890, 580-710m NE).

Planning background

The current archaeological work is part of a pre-planning application phase of investigation.

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

Requirement for work

The required work is for a trenched archaeological evaluation to be carried out in advance of any groundworks to enable the archaeological resource, both in quality and extent, to be accurately quantified. Details are given in a Project Brief written by CBCAA (CBC 2017).

Specifically, five trial-trenches will be excavated within the footprints of the proposed new developments to cover 5% by area of the development site (0.24ha in total). The trial-trenches total 67m linear by 1.8m wide and have been laid out to avoid existing services (Fig 1).

The trial-trenching is required to:

- Identify the date, approximate form and purpose of any archaeological deposit, together with its likely extent, localised depth and quality of preservation.
- Evaluate the likely impact of past land uses, and the possible presence of masking colluvial/alluvial deposits.
- Establish the potential for the survival of environmental evidence
- Provide sufficient information to construct an archaeological conservation strategy, dealing with preservation, the recording of archaeological deposits, working practices, timetables and orders of cost.

If unexpected or unusual remains are encountered the CBCAA will be informed immediately. Further evaluation may be required by the CBCAA, which would be the subject of an additional brief and wsi.

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* (ClfA 2014a-c)
- 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 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.

A project or site code will be sought from the curating museum, as appropriate to the project. This code will be used to identify the finds bags and boxes, and 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 supervisor plus three archaeologists for one day.

In charge of day-to-day site work: Nigel Rayner

Evaluation methodology

All topsoil removal and ground reduction will be done with a toothless bucket under the supervision of a CAT archaeologist.

If archaeological features or deposits are uncovered, these will be excavated by hand, planned and recorded. This includes a 50% sample of discrete features (pits, etc) and 10% of linear features (ditches, etc) in 1m sections where this is possible.

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 the site, 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.

Samples will be taken based on the strategy requested by CBCAA (see 'Environmental Sampling Policy' below)

Site surveying

The evaluation trench and any features will be surveyed by Total Station, unless the particulars of the features indicate that manual planning techniques should be employed. 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. Any significant features, ie burials, will be planned by hand.

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

Environmental sampling policy

The number and range of samples collected will be adequate to determine the potential of the site, with particular focus on palaeoenvironmental remains including both biological remains (e.g. plants, small vertebrates) and small sized artefacts (e.g. smithing debris), and to provide information for sampling strategies on any future excavation. Samples will be collected for potential micromorphical and other pedological sedimentological analysis. Environmental bulk samples will be 40 litres in size (assuming context is large enough)

Sampling strategies will address questions of:

- the range of preservation types (charred, mineral-replaced, waterlogged), and their quality
- concentrations of macro-remains
- and differences in remains from undated and dated features
- variation between different feature types and areas of site

CAT has an arrangement with Val Fryer / Lisa Gray whereby any potentially rich environmental layers or features will be appropriately sampled as a matter of course. Trained CAT staff will do all processing with flots passed to Val Fryer / Lisa Gray for analysis and reporting.

Should any complex, or otherwise outstanding deposits be encountered, VF/LG will be asked onto site to advise. Waterlogged 'organic' features will always be sampled. In all cases, the advice of VF/LG and/or the Historic England Regional Advisor in Archaeological Science (East of England) on sampling strategies for complex or waterlogged deposits will be followed, including the taking of monolith samples.

Human remains

CAT follows the policy of leaving human remains *in situ* unless there is a clear indication that the remains are in danger of being compromised as a result of their exposure. As the requirement for work is for full excavation any human remains encountered on the site will be subject to the following criteria: 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 Ministry 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 (*Sylvanus*)
environmental processing and reporting: Val Fryer / Lisa Gray
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: Historic England Regional Adviser in Archaeological Science (East of England).

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

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

- The aims and methods adopted in the course of the archaeological project.
- Location plan of the trenches in relation to the proposed development. At least two corners of each trench will be given 10 figure grid references.
- A section drawing showing depth of deposits from present ground level with Ordnance Datum, vertical and horizontal scale (if this can be safely done)
- 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 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.

References

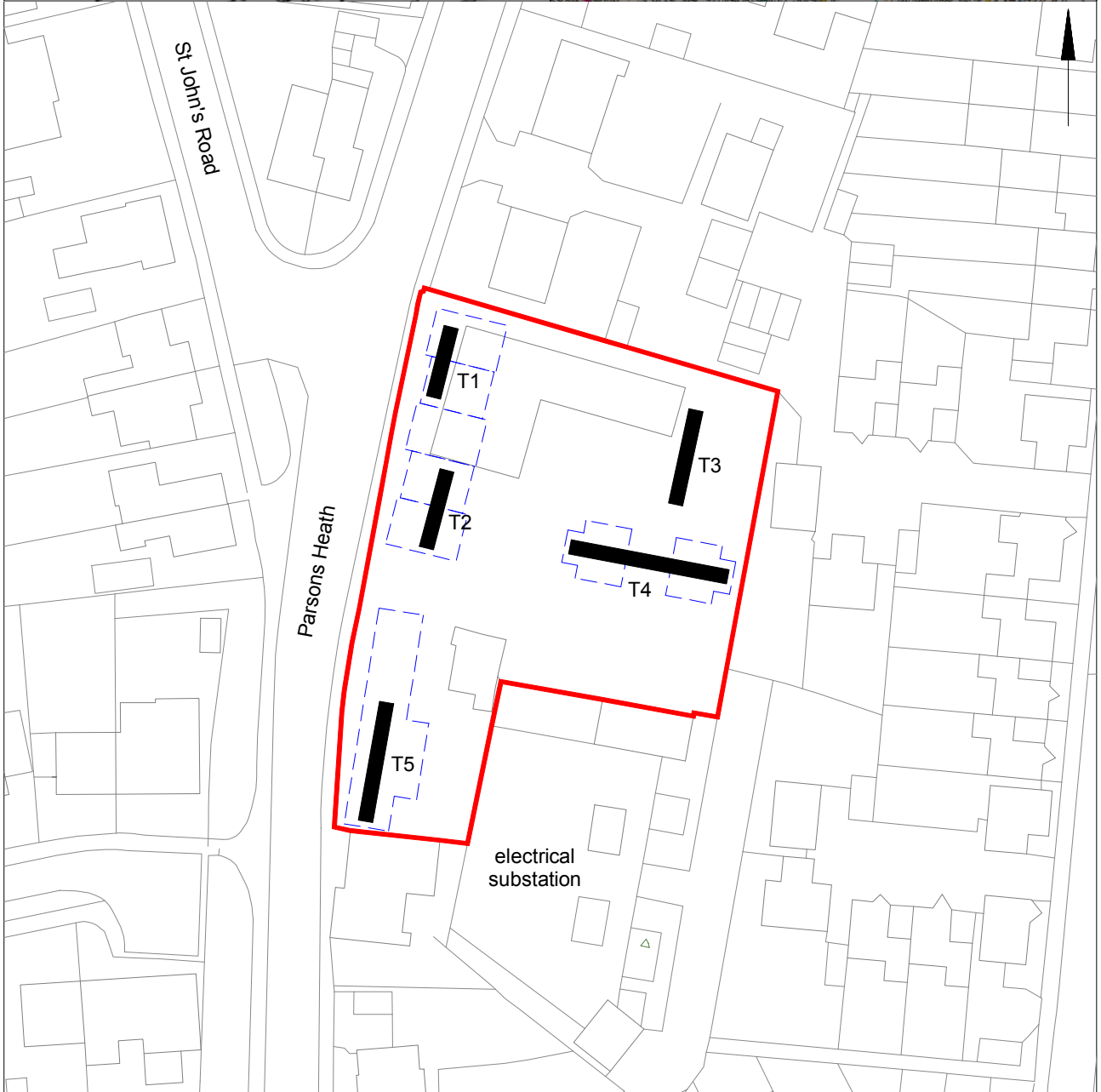
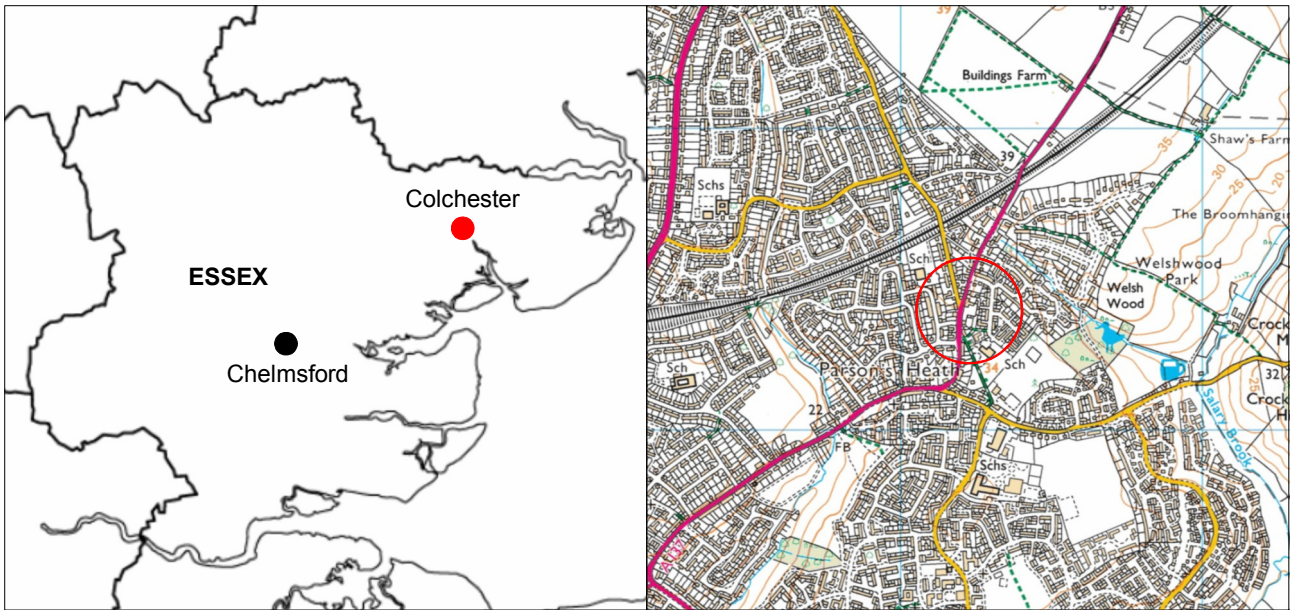
- | | | |
|------------------|-------|---|
| CAT | 2014 | <i>Health & Safety Policy</i> |
| CBCAA | 2016 | <i>Brief for a Trenched Archaeological Evaluation at Land at Parsons Heath, Colchester</i> by J Tipper |
| Cifa | 2014a | <i>Standard and Guidance for an archaeological evaluation</i> |
| Cifa | 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> |
| DCLG | 2012 | <i>National Planning Policy Framework</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). |
| 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) |

L Pooley



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

tel: 01206 501785
email: lp@catuk.org



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Fig 1 Site location and trench layout in relation to proposed development (dashed blue lines).



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OASIS ID: colchest3-286905

Project details

Project name	Archaeological evaluation on land at Parsons Heath, Colchester, Essex, CO4 3HT
Short description of the project	An archaeological evaluation by trial-trenching (five trenches) was undertaken on land at Parsons Heath, Colchester, Essex in advance of the construction of a residential development with car parking and associated works. Trenching covering 5% of the site was excavated to characterise the area in order to determine whether further work was required. The site is located in close proximity to an area of medieval activity and a complex of cropmarks at Parsons Heath, and near to areas yielding prehistoric, Roman, and medieval finds. The evaluation uncovered modern wall foundations, part of a modern brick floor, and a single linear feature.
Project dates	Start: 20-06-2017 End: 20-06-2017
Previous/future work	No / Not known
Any associated project reference codes	17/05r - Contracting Unit No.
Any associated project reference codes	ECC4005 - HER event no.
Any associated project reference codes	COLEM: 2017.88 - Museum accession ID
Type of project	Field evaluation
Site status	None
Current Land use	Vacant Land 2 - Vacant land not previously developed
Monument type	WALLS/FOUNDATION Post Medieval
Monument type	WALLS/FOUNDATION Modern
Monument type	LINEAR FEATURE Uncertain
Monument type	BRICK FLOOR Post Medieval
Significant Finds	BRICK Post Medieval
Significant Finds	PAN-TILE Post Medieval
Significant Finds	SLATE Post Medieval
Significant Finds	POTTERY Post Medieval
Significant Finds	POTTERY Modern
Significant Finds	GLASS Post Medieval
Significant Finds	GLASS Modern
Significant Finds	NAIL Post Medieval
Significant Finds	ANIMAL BONE Post Medieval
Methods & techniques	""""Sample Trenches""""
Development type	Urban residential (e.g. flats, houses, etc.)
Prompt	Planning condition
Position in the planning process	Pre-application

Project location

Country	England
Site location	ESSEX COLCHESTER COLCHESTER land at Parsons Heath
Postcode	CO4 3HT
Study area	2.36 Hectares
Site coordinates	TM 0222 2639 51.898774521343 0.939615769508 51 53 55 N 000 56 22 E Point
Height OD / Depth	Min: 33.94m Max: 36.07m

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	Ben Holloway
Type of	Developer

sponsor/funding
body

Project archives

Physical Archive Exists? No
Digital Archive recipient Colchester Museum
Digital Archive ID COLEM: 2017.88
Digital Media available "Images raster / digital photography", "Survey"
Paper Archive recipient Colchester Museum
Paper Archive ID COLEM: 2017.88
Paper Media available "Context sheet", "Drawing", "Miscellaneous Material", "Photograph", "Report", "Section"

Project bibliography 1

Publication type Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)
Title Archaeological evaluation at Parsons Heath, Colchester, Essex, CO4 3HT
Author(s)/Editor(s) Hicks, E.
Other bibliographic details CAT Report 1121
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