# Archaeological investigations at Greytown House, 138-140 High Street, Colchester, Essex, CO1 1YJ

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#### 1 Summary

Archaeological investigations, consisting of two phases of monitoring and a recording project, was carried out to the rear of Greytown House, 138-140 High Street, Colchester, Essex, in advance of groundworks associated with the redevelopment of Greytown House. The development site is located in an area of the highest archaeological importance in Insula 19 of the Roman town of Colchester and in the core of the medieval town. Excavations on the development site in 1973-4, after the demolition of the Cups Hotel (in advance of the construction of Greytown House), revealed significant modern disturbance over the entire site caused by a series of cellars. However, building remains from both the Roman and medieval periods were present.

Phase 1 monitoring was located in the car park/loading bay area immediately behind Greytown House. All groundworks took place through concrete and make-up dating to the 1970s redevelopment of this site. However, the discovery of a short length of wall foundation and floor suggests that not all of the Cups Hotel cellars had been completely removed.

During phase 1 monitoring, a section was identified on the northern edge of the development site which stood 1.5-2m higher than the car park/loading bay. When cleaned, the section revealed remains dating to the post-medieval/modern and Roman periods. Significantly, the Roman remains included floor layers dating from the early Roman period, through the Boudiccan destruction of the town and into the 2nd century.

Phase 2 monitoring along St Runwald's Street to the north of Greytown House revealed Roman layers, an early medieval wall foundation (from an early medieval house first identified during the 1970s excavations), two medieval pits and post-medieval/modern structural remains.

#### 2 Introduction (Fig 1)

This report presents the results of archaeological investigations at Greytown House, 138-140 High Street, Colchester, Essex, which were carried out by Colchester Archaeological Trust (CAT) from 7th March – 28th September 2017. The work was commissioned by David Bebb of Gleeds on behalf of Fenwick Ltd, during groundworks associated with the redevelopment of Greytown House.

In response to 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 Archaeological Investigation*, detailing the required archaeological work, written by Jess Tipper (CBCPS 2016), and a written scheme of investigation (WSI) prepared by CAT in response to the brief and agreed with CBCPS (CAT 2016).

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 briefs* (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 major published sources for Colchester archaeology, and also on the Colchester Historic Environment Record (CHER) and the Essex Historic Environment Record (EHER).

Archaeological excavations on the development site were first carried out in 1973-4 when the Cups Hotel was demolished to make-way for the construction of Greytown House. Unfortunately, approximately 80% of the site had already been disturbed by cellars, some of which were two-tiered, and 'much of the archaeological remains had already been removed' (CAR 6, 328). The largest pocket of undisturbed archaeology (located between cellars) was targeted with excavations revealing three Roman houses of different periods, Anglo-Saxon and Norman robber trenches and pits, two medieval houses fronting onto the High Street (dating to the c 13th and 15th centuries), and the remains of the Cups Hotel (primarily the cellars). Subsequent groundworks by the contractors over the rest of the site revealed metalling from a pre-Boudiccan north/south street (also recorded during the Culver Street excavations) and an early medieval stone house. A full report on these excavations can be found in CAR 6, 328-338 (also see Plan 1 below).

A detailed assessment of the archaeological and heritage assets of the site was completed in 2016 (CAT Report 935, written by Howard Brooks). The following is a summary taken from that report:

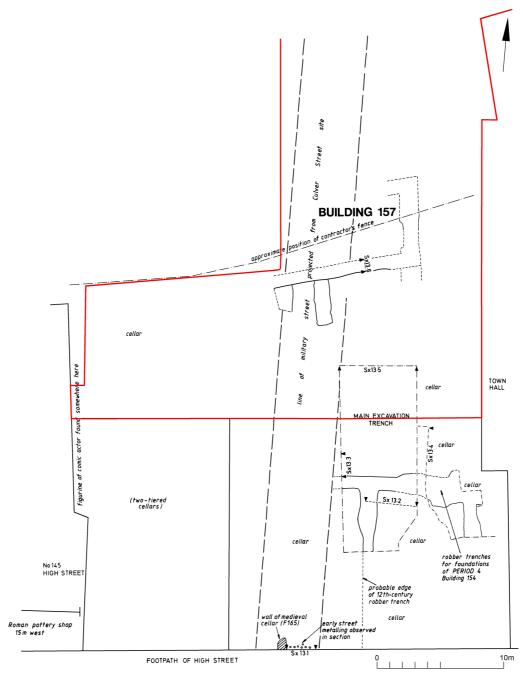
Greytown House is located in an area of the highest archaeological importance – in Insula 19 of the Roman town of Colchester, and in the core of the medieval town. It also lies close to the sites of several medieval stone houses and the find-spots of medieval coin hoards.

The Williams & Griffin store, the site of the 2014 excavation, which produced important Boudiccan deposits and the 'Fenwick Treasure', is 50m to the west. However, the proposed redevelopment is only the refurbishment of an existing structure. The site now occupied by Greytown House was excavated in 1973-4, following which the contractors dug out a large basement to below the level of archaeological remains.

There are two forms of evidence relating to the damage caused by the construction of Greytown House. First, photographic evidence shows that the contractor's basement excavation extended beyond the area of Greytown House and the car park to the rear. It seems very unlikely that any archaeological horizons could survive this process.

Second, we have direct evidence of the height above OD of archaeological levels along a N-S line 10m west of Greytown House (rear of Williams & Griffin). This data shows that the existing basement is already several metres below the lowest archaeological horizon at the southern edge of Greytown House. The same calculation shows that the northern edge of the car park may be 20-30cm above the lowest archaeological horizon. However, given slab depth and the inevitable disturbance caused by construction, it seems very unlikely that any archaeological horizons will survive here.

It appears likely that the majority of archaeological remains at this location were removed during the 1970s redevelopment of the site. However, there is at least some potential for surviving archaeological remains further northwards and the level of archaeological preservation and survival is currently unclear.



**Plan 1** General site plan of the Cups Hotel excavation (1973-4) showing location of the main trench and discoveries recorded during the contractor's works (CAR 6, Fig 13.8). Current development site shown outlined in red.

#### 4 Aims

The aim of the archaeological investigations was to ascertain whether any surviving archaeological deposits existed on the site, to record any such remains, and to determine whether further investigations were required.

#### 5 Methodology

All groundworks were carried out by the contractors under the supervision of a CAT archaeologist. There were three phases of archaeological investigation:

- 1) Phase 1 monitoring (CAT project code 16/10g); all context numbers prefixed M
- 2) Section recording (CAT project code 17/04m); all context numbers prefixed **B** (this part of the investigation was previously identified as the 'bund recording', and is referred to as such in the archive).
- 3) Phase 2 monitoring (UKPN works) (CAT project code 17/07b); all context numbers prefixed **M**

Each phase will be described separately below.

#### 6 Results (Figs 2-9)

#### **6.1 Phase 1 monitoring** (Figs 2-4)

(CAT project code 16/10g); all context numbers prefixed M

Phase 1 monitoring was located immediately to the rear of Greytown House within the loading bays and car park. This area had been reduced significantly in the 1970s during the demolition of the Cups Hotel (and the removal of its cellars) and the construction of Greytown House. Therefore, ground level is approximately one-storey lower at the rear of the property than on the High Street to the front.

Eight trial-holes (Fig 2) were excavated by the contractors to locate and assess the structural foundations of Greytown House and adjacent buildings/structures. This meant that the trial-holes were of various sizes and ranged in depth from 0.23m (TH5) to 2.4m below current ground level (bcgl) (TH1).

All groundworks were located through a modern concrete slab (0.22-0.4m thick) and a thick make-up layer consisting of a clayey to clayey gravelly sand. Ground investigation by Cundall in 2016 revealed that together the concrete slab and make-up layer were recorded for a depth of 1.3-1.5m bcgl. This was confirmed during the excavation of TH1 (see Fig 4). Sealed beneath was natural sands and gravels overlaying London Clay (Cundall 2016). The make-up layer dates to the 1970s when the old cellars were grubbed out and the site levelled before construction.

The partial foundations of Greytown House and the Town Hall were revealed in the trial-holes, along with a number of modern service trenches. Interestingly, the foundations for the Town Hall appear to have been clad in slate (Photograph 2).

After the trial-holes were dug, most of the concrete slab to the rear of Greytown House was lifted (Fig 3, Photograph 3) revealing the 1970s make-up layer beneath. During this work the partial remains of a post-medieval brick wall and floor were identified running parallel to the street frontage, approximately 0.8m below the concrete slab (Photograph 4). They must be part of the surviving cellars of the Cups Hotel, showing that not all of the structure had been demolished in the 1970s.



Photograph 1 Trial-hole 4, looking E



Photograph 2 Trial-hole 7, showing Town Hall foundations clad in slate, looking E

Foundation trenches and piling caps associated with the new development were excavated through the layer of make-up into natural (see Fig 3 for locations). No significant archaeological remains were present, as groundworks both pre- and during the 1970s had cleared most of the site.



Photograph 3 Slab removal, looking NW



Photograph 4 Cellar wall and floor, looking N

#### Section recording (Figs 5-6)

(CAT project code 17/04m); all context numbers prefixed B

During Phase 1 monitoring it became clear that on the northern boundary of the Greytown House development site stood a vertical section, created in the 1970s when the cellars were removed and ground level reduced. Philip Crummy (director of the 1970s excavations) clearly remembers this section being created, but as it was outside of their boundary it could not be investigated at the time. Miraculously, 44 years later, it is still standing. The section, and the level ground behind it, stands approximately 1.5-2m higher than the Phase 1 monitoring area (see Photographs 5-7), and reveals a significant depth of archaeological strata.

The section was cleaned and the stratigraphic sequence recorded and photographed (see Figs 5-6). As no excavation took place, contexts could not be fully investigated making interpretation and dating difficult as, although a small number of finds were recovered during cleaning, they were not from secure contexts.

Despite the difficulties, it was possible to identify potentially early Roman features and layers in the bottom third of the section. Clay floor BL13 represents the earliest Roman layer, and is likely of early/mid 1st century date. Burnt clay floor layers BL11 and BL22 were probably associated with the Boudiccan destruction of the town and were sealed by a typical post-Boudiccan layer of destruction debris (notably BL10, plus BL18-BL20). It is possible that BF12-BF14, are robber trenches from walls associated with the clay floor, but this could not be determined from the cleaning of the section alone. The Boudiccan and post-Boudiccan layers were then sealed by a tessellated floor of probable 2nd century date (Philip Crummy, pers comm). Possible robber trench BF10 may indicate the presence of a wall associated with this later floor.

Sealing the Roman contexts were features and layers dating to the post-medieval/modern periods, consisting mainly of a number of brick walls/brick wall foundations and pits.

See Figs 5 and 6 for a drawing and photographic record of the section and Table 1 for a description of all contexts.

After the section was recorded it was shuttered to protect it from ongoing construction works.



Photograph 5 Section (west end), looking NW



Photograph 6 Section (central/east end), looking N



Photograph 7 Section showing the differences in ground level, looking NNW

Table 1 Section recording context list

Context number	Finds number	Context type	Description	Cut by/sealed by	Cuts/seals	Date
BF1	-	?Pit	Possible pit or area of disturbance, possible relating to soil settlement over BF18. Firm, dry, medium grey silt with flecks of oyster shell and mortar, 20% post-medieval/modern CBM post-medieval/modern.	-	BL1, BL2, BL5, BL7, BF18	Modern, L18-E20C
BF2	-	Drain culvert	Probably a drainage culvert. Square brick structure made from very large unfrogged bricks with a large disused salt-glazed pipe above.	BL1	BL1, BF7, BF9	Post-medieval/ modern
BF3	-	Brick wall	Probably a boundary or retaining wall.  Wide brick wall constructed from large, unfrogged dark red bricks bonded in a bright white lime mortar. The construction cut for the wall is visible to the west, backfilled with a loose, medium grey silt and large amounts of CBM and other debris.	BL1	BL1, BF9, BF10, BF15	Post-medieval/ modern
BF4	-	Brick structure	Brick built structure made of large unfrogged bricks poorly bonded together with white lime mortar. Probable floor level visible.	-	BL1, BL9, BL21, BL22, BF15, BF16	Post-medieval/ modern
BF5	-	Brick wall/ structure	Large whole bricks and brick fragments bonded together in a loose white lime mortar. Either a rough wall foundation or below ground structure.	BL1	BL9, BL16, BF17	Post-medieval/ modern
BF6	-	Pit	Firm, dry, medium grey sandy-silt containing a dump of large stone blocks (septaria and limestone). Excavated against wall BF5.	BL1	BL3	Modern
BF7	-	Pit	Firm, dry, medium grey silty-loam with 2% stone containing oyster shell and peg-tile.	BL1	BL2, BL5, BL7, BL17, BF10, BF11	Post-medieval
BF8	-	Stanchion	Large concrete block/stanchion.	-	BL1, BL3	Modern
BF9	-	Pit	Firm, dry, medium grey silty-loam containing 10% stone and CBM	BL1, BF2, BF3	BF10	Post-medieval
BF10	-	?Robber trench	Possibly a robber trench associated with the Roman structural layers. Loose, dry, medium grey silt with flecks of oyster shell, CBM and mortar, containing 10% stone, 20% mortar and 5% CBM.	BF7, BF9	BL11, BL17, BL19	Late Roman? Medieval?
BF11	В3	Pit	Firm, dry, medium grey sandy-silt with flecks of CBM, containing some pegtile and mortar, 20% stone.	BL1	BL2, BL5, BL7, BL17, BL19, BL20	Post-medieval
BF12	B4	?Pit or	?Pit or unidentified cut feature, cut through layers BL10-BL13, probably	BL7, BF18	BL10, BL11,	Roman,

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		unidentified cut feature	related to BF13 and BF14. Appears to be sealed by BL7. Firm, moist, dark grey clayey-silt with flecks of charcoal and fired clay/daub, contains some small fragments of CBM		BL12, BL13	post-Boudiccan
BF13	B5	?Pit or unidentified cut feature	?Pit or unidentified cut feature, cut through layers BL10-BL13, probably related to BF12 and BF14. Appears to be sealed by BL7. Firm, moist, dark grey clayey-silt with flecks of charcoal and fired clay/daub, contains some small fragments of CBM	BL7	BL10, BL11, BL12, BL13	Roman, post-Boudiccan
BF14	B6, B10	?Pit or unidentified cut feature	?Pit or unidentified cut feature, cut through layers BL10-BL13, probably related to BF12 and BF13. Appears to be sealed by BL7. Firm, dry, medium grey/brown clayey-silt with flecks of charcoal, fired clay/daub and mortar, contains some small fragments CBM and oyster shell.	BL7	BL10, BL11, BL12, BL13	Roman, post-Boudiccan (finds = M-L4C)
BF15	-	?Posthole	Material from demolition layer BL18 appears to have slumped/spread into this feature, it is possibly a posthole.	BL18	BL11, BL12	Early Roman, ?post- Boudiccan
BF16	-	?Pit	Firm, dry, medium grey silty-clay with ash/clinker, 10% CBM	BL1, BF4	BL9, BL21	Post-medieval/ modern
BF17	B9	Pit or foundation cut	Pit directly underneath BF5 or foundation cut for BF5. Edges of the feature would suggest that it is associated with BF5 but it continues much deeper than the base of the wall. Firm, dry, medium-dark grey/brown silt with inclusions of daub, CBM (pegtile) and mortar.	BF17	BL16	Post-medieval, c 18C
BF18	-	Backfill	Backfill probably relating to the demolition of a concrete wall (part of the wall still stands along the western edge of the development site, but has been roughly demolished against the bund where BF18 is visible in section).  Firm, dry, medium grey silt. Modern debris in the top fill but lots of Roman debris in the lower fill – suggesting the disturbance of Roman contexts at this depth.	BF1	BL2, BL5, BL7, BF12	Modern
BF19	-	?	Probably should be a layer. Firm, dry, medium grey clayey-silt.	BL8, BF3, BF4	BL21	?
BF20	-	Small pit/ posthole	Firm, dry, medium grey silty-loam.	BL5	BL6, BL7	?Roman
BL1	B36	Accumulation	Uppermost deposit of firm, dry, medium-dark grey silty-loam with charcoal, oyster shell and peg-tile. Appears to have been disturbed by drainage	BL8, BF8	BL2, BL3, BL9, BF2,	Post-medieval/ modern

			trenches and other modern/post-medieval activity.		BF3, BF4, BF5, BF6, BF7, BF9, BF11	
BL2	-	Accumulation	Firm, dry, medium grey silt with stone chippings, 40% CBM and 20% mortar.	BL1, BF1, BF18, BF11	BL5	Post-medieval
BL3	-	Accumulation	Firm, dry, medium-dark grey silty-loam containing CBM, mortar, 3% stone and concrete. Lenses of modern builders sand (BL15) within.	BL1, BF5, BF6, BF8, BF17	BL16, BL22	Modern
BL4	-	Demolition debris	Lens of painted wall plaster deposited within BL5.	BL5	BL5	?Later Roman, post-dates Roman building
BL5	B34	Demolition debris/ accumulation	Layer of demolition debris/accumulation sealing all Roman structural layers. Firm, dry, medium grey silty-loam containing quantities of Roman CBM, mortar, stone and oyster shell.	BL2, BF1, BF18, BF7, BF11	BL6, BL7	?Later Roman, post-dates Roman building
BL6	-	Floor	Opus signinum floor bedded on mortar base BL7, appears to have been the base for a tessellated floor (although few tesserae cubes have survived, only indentations now visible).	BL5	BL7	Roman
BL7	B35	Mortar base	Mortar base of floor BL6, overlaying made-ground/base layer BL10. Firm layer of medium orange mortar with grit inclusions.	BL5, BL6	BL10, BL17, BF12, BF13, BF14	Roman
BL8	-	Backfill	Modern backfill between BF3 and BF4. Firm, dry, medium grey clayey-silt, 5% mortar, 15% post-medieval/modern CBM.	-	BF19	Modern
BL9	-	?Accumulation	Thick layer between BF4 and BF5. Loose, dry, light-medium grey silt containing CBM, mortar, glass and stone	BL1	BL16, BL21	Post-medieval/ modern
BL10	-	Made-ground/ base layer	Made-ground/base layer for floor layers BL6 and BL7, overlying scorched clay floor BL11.  Firm, medium-dark orange/grey sandy-clay mixed with silt, common flecks of charcoal and fire clay/daub – possibly demolition debris from Boudiccan fire.	BL7, BL14, BF12, BF13, BF14, BF15	BL11	Early Roman, post-Boudiccan
BL11	-	Clay floor	Clay floor laid over made-ground/base layer BL11. The top third of the clay floor has been scorched red/black. Possible Boudiccan destruction layer. Firm, dry, light-medium orange/cream sandy-clay, with top third scorched red/black.	BL10, BL18, BL19, BF10, BF12, BF13, BF14, BF15	BL12	Early Roman, Boudiccan

BL12	-	Made-ground/ base layer	Made-ground/base layer for clay floor BL11, laid over/sealing clay floor BL13. Medium orange/brown sand.	BL11, BF12, BF13, BF14, BF15	BL13	Early Roman, pre-Boudiccan
BL13	-	Clay floor	Clay floor, identified at the base of the bund so not fully visible. Firm, dry, light-medium orange sandy-clay.	BL12, BF12, BF13, BF14	-	Early Roman, pre-Boudiccan
BL14	-	Made-ground	Mixed layer of loose sand and firm sandy-clay.	BL17, BF14	BL10, BL20	Roman
BL15	-	Made-ground	Imported modern builder's sand	BL3	BL16, BL22	Modern
BL16	B8, B38	?	Firm, dry, medium grey/brown clayey-silt with flecks of charcoal, fired clay/daub and mortar.	BL3, BL9, BL15, BL21, BF5, BF17	BL22	Early Roman
BL17	-	Made-ground/ base layer	Made-ground/base layer similar to BL10. Firm, dry, medium-dark silty-clay with flecks of mortar and charcoal, 1% stone.	BL5, BL7, BF14	BL14, BL19, BL20	Roman
BL18	В7	Demolition	Layer/lens of Roman roof tiles and dense charcoal overlying clay floor BL11, possibly associated with Boudcian fire. Layer appears to have partially spread into possible posthole BF15. Loose black charcoal with high quantity of Roman roof tiles.	BL19	BL11, BF15	Early Roman, Boudiccan
BL19	-	?	Layer of firm, medium cream sandy-clay overlaying BL18.	BL17, BL20, BF11	BL11, BL18	Early Roman, post-Boudiccan
BL20	-	Made-ground	Layer/lens of Roman roof tiles in a medium grey silt.	BL14, BL17, BF11	BL19	Early Roman
BL21	B37	?	Firm, dry, medium cream sandy-clay containing flecks of mortar and patches of charcoal.	BF4, BF19	BL16, BL22	Early Roman
BL22	-	Burnt clay	Layer of burnt clay, possibly associated with Boudiccan fire, identified at the base of the bund so not fully visible. Firm, dry, medium yellow/orange fired clay, scorched red.	BL3, BL15, BL16, BL21, BF19, BF17	-	Early Roman, ?Boudiccan

#### Phase 2 monitoring (Fig 7-9)

(CAT project code 17/07b); all context numbers prefixed M

Phase 2 monitoring took place during the digging of a 60m long UKPN (UK Power Network) service trench. The trench measured approximately 0.5m wide and 0.75-1.3m deep. It was located along St Runwald's Street from the rear of Greytown House to the northeast corner of the CBC car park where it was tunnelled underneath a retaining wall before joining an existing service trench (Fig 7).

During the 1970s redevelopment, St Runwald's Street was expanded to access the rear of the newly constructed Greytown House. This entailed lowering the existing ground level by up to about 1m along a 6m wide strip (*CAR* **6**, 330). Today, ground level at the rear of Greytown House is approximately 0.76m lower than that at the far northern end of the UKPN service trench (from 27.74m AOD rising to 28.5m AOD).

Monitoring revealed that immediately behind Greytown House the modern road surface cut into natural sands for a distance of approximately 2.5m. For the next c 25m, a number of Roman layers were recorded (ML29-ML35 and ML37-ML39, with ML33 in particular possibly representing post-Bouddican demolition debris) cut by a wall foundation (MF5) and robber trench (MF6), two possible medieval pits (MF1 and MF2), two post-medieval wall foundations (MF4 and MF8) and a pit (MF9) (Fig 7 and Fig 8, Sx1 and Sx2).

During the 1970s investigations, an early medieval stone house was identified during contractor works (Building 157) (*CAR* **6**, 338). Overlaying the 1970s plans onto the results of the current monitoring revealed that wall foundation MF5 is aligned almost perfectly with this building (see Fig 7). The wall foundation was originally identified as Roman during current groundworks as it was made from Roman building materials. However, excavators in the 1970s noted that the 'foundations and walls were of reused Roman building materials' and that peg-tile was absent (*ibid*, 338). It is uncertain if robber trench MF6 relates to a Roman building or a similar early medieval structure.

With ground level rising in the remaining *c* 34m of trenching, only post-medieval and modern features/layers were revealed. Consequently, the trench did not go deep enough to expose any surviving Roman archaeology. As well as post-medieval/modern wall foundations (MF3, MF10-MF12, MF13), a dense layer of levelling/dump (ML45) was recorded.

See Figs 7-9 for a plan and section drawings of the service trench and Table 2 for a description of all contexts.



Photograph 8 UKPN service trench, looking N



Photograph 9 Roman wall foundation F5, looking W



Photograph 10 Post-medieval/modern wall foundation F8, looking W

**Table 2** Phase 2 monitoring context list

Context number	Finds number	Context type	Description	Cut by/sealed by	Cuts/seals	Date
MF1	M12	?Pit ?Linear	Possible pit or linear feature. Only one edge was easily identified during machining but thought to be 1.6-1.7m wide. Soft, friable, moist, dark grey/brown silty-clay with rare flecks of charcoal and oyster shell.	ML24	ML29, ML30	?Medieval, c 13-14C
MF2	M11, M13	?Pit ?unidentified cut	Unidentified feature or features, possible intercutting pits.  Soft, friable, moist, dark grey silty-clay containing <1% CBM and 1% stone.	ML24	ML29, ML30, ML31, ML32	?Late medieval, c 15-E16C
MF3	-	Wall foundation	Badly damaged brick wall foundation, made of both frogged and unfrogged bricks. The top of the wall had been robbed out (MF15).	MF15	ML25, ML26, ML28	Post-medieval
MF4	-	Wall foundation	Wall foundation, aligned east-west, 0.6m wide and surviving to 2-3 courses deep. Made of frogged bricks set in a hard white/grey mortar.	ML23	ML33, ML34, MF5	Post-medieval
MF5	M22	Wall foundation	Probable early medieval wall foundation aligned east-west, 1.1m wide and exposed to a height of 0.45m. The top 0.2m had been badly damaged, probably because the modern road surface sits directly on top of it, with the fabric becoming loose and scattered. Below this the foundation was solid. It was made of septaria (15-20%), rounded pebbles (<5%) and CBM fragments (5%) in a matrix of cream coloured mortar.	ML23, MF4	Cuts or is contemporary with ML33, ML34 and ML35.	Early medieval
MF6	M24	?Robber trench	Possible robber trench as has clear vertical cut with loose fill containing a large quantity of septaria, CBM and mortar in a dark grey/brown silty-clay. 0.7m wide.	ML23	ML33	?Roman or later
MF7	-	?Unidentified cut	Unidentified cut located in the base of the trench. Soft, friable, moist, medium-dark grey/brown slightly-sandy silty-clay with rare flecks of charcoal and fired clay.	ML33	-	?Roman
MF8	M31	Cellar wall foundations	Rectangular or square structure made of stone and mortar. Three side walls were identified and the structure measured 1.5m externally, 1.2m internally and was constructed of fist-sized stones arranged, for the most part, in single rows towards the inside face. These were set in a solid matrix of firm cream-coloured mortar. The wall foundations varied in thickness between 0.15-0.2m. The inside face appeared to be covered by a thin skin of mortar with some of the stone blocks visible. Backfill inside the structure consisted of a loose/soft, moist, dark grey sandy-silty-clay containing a lot of post-medieval debris including CBM, pottery and clay pipe. No dating evidence was recovered from the construction cut or wall	ML23	ML33, ML39	Post-medieval, L17-E18C

			foundations themselves.			
MF9	-	Pit	Friable, moist medium-dark grey/brown slightly-sandy silty-clay, containing occasional flecks of charcoal and CBM.	ML23	MF8, ML33, ML39, ML40	Post-medieval
MF10	-	Wall foundation	Southern wall foundation of cellar (also see MF11-MF12) made of red bricks with a shallow frog.	ML23, ML42	-	Post-medieval/ modern
MF11	-	Wall foundation	Northern wall foundation of cellar (also see MF10 & MF12) made of red bricks with a shallow frog.	ML23	-	Post-medieval/ modern
MF12	-	Cellar	Cellar, 3.64m wide, defined by walls MF10 to the south and MF11 to the north. Floor made of yellow unfrogged brick laid side-by-side. Floor is 1.28m below current ground level. Backfill of cellar consists of loose brick fragments and concrete lumps in a mid-dark orange/brown sandy-silt.	ML23	ML28, ML43	Post-medieval/ modern
MF13	-	Brick drain	Top of a brick drain, 0.9m below ground level.	ML44	-	Post-medieval/ modern
MF14	-	Wall foundation	Wall foundation discovered while tunnelling underneath the current car park retaining wall, and on the same alignment as this wall.	ML44	-	Post-medieval/ modern
MF15	-	Robber trench	Robber trench associated with brick wall foundation MF3.	ML23	MF3, ML24, ML25, ML27, ML28	Post-medieval/ modern
ML23	-	Road	Concrete road surface and bedding material	-	Everything	Modern
ML24	-	Make-up/ levelling	Probably post-medieval make-up/levelling layer. Moist, dark grey silty-clay with inclusions of post-medieval CBM.	ML23, ML40, MF15	MF1, MF2, ML29, ML32	Post-medieval
ML25	-	Demolition	Layer of post-medieval demolition/rubble. Soft, moist, dark grey/brown silty-clay with frequent post-medieval CBM fragments.	ML24, MF3, MF15	ML26	Post-medieval
ML26	-	?	Soft, friable, moist, dark grey-brown silty-clay with occasional fragments of CBM and oyster shell.	ML25, MF3	-	Post-medieval
ML27	-	Levelling	Layer of post-medieval levelling. Soft, greenish-brown sandy-silt with occasional to frequent post-medieval CBM fragments	ML23, MF15	MF28	Post-medieval
ML28	M32	Levelling/ dump	Layer of post-medieval levelling/dump. Soft, friable, moist, dark grey-brown silty-clay containing post-medieval CBM fragments	ML27, ML42, ML45, MF3	ML43	Post-medieval, 18C
ML29	M14	Demolition	Possible thin layer of Roman demolition debris.	ML24, MF1,	ML31	Roman

	M15	debris	Friable, firm, moist, medium orange/brown sandy-silty-clay, with occasional CBM, mortar, stone and fired clay fragments, rare charcoal flecks	MF2		
ML30	-	Levelling	Possible layer of Roman levelling. Similar to ML31? Friable, firm, moist, medium-dark orange/brown sandy-silty-clay with occasional flecks of CBM, fired clay and charcoal.	ML32, ML40, MF2	-	Roman
ML31	M16 M17	Levelling	Possible layer of Roman levelling. Similar to ML30? Friable, firm, moist, medium-dark orange and mottled grey/brown sandy-silt-clay with occasional flecks of CBM, charcoal and oyster shell.	ML24, ML29, MF1, MF2	ML29	Roman, ?M-L1/E2C
ML32	-	Accumulation	Possible accumulation layer. Soft, friable, moist, dark orange/brown sandy-silty-clay with rare flecks of fired clay.	ML24, ML40, MF2	-	
ML33	M19, M27	Demolition layer	Possible Roman demolition layer. Soft, friable, moist, medium grey-brown slightly-sandy silty-clay with frequent inclusions of charcoal and fired clay, and occasional fragments of CBM and mortar.	ML23, ML39, MF4, MF6, MF5, MF8, MF9	ML34	Roman, ?post- Boudiccan
ML34	M18, M21, M28	Levelling	Possible Roman levelling layer. Soft, friable, mottled medium orange/grey/brown slightly-sandy silty-clay with occasional charcoal flecks.	ML23, ML33, MF4	ML35	Early Roman
ML35	M26	Accumulation	Possible Roman accumulation layer.  Moist, medium-dark grey/brown slightly-sandy silty-clay with occasional inclusions of charcoal, oyster shell and CBM, <1% stone	ML23, ML34, ?MF5	ML37, ML38	Roman
ML36	-	Natural	Natural sands. Encountered at a depth of 0.34m below current ground level at the southern edge of the service trench directly underneath the modern road surface. Ground level is at its lowest at this southern end, and increases in height to the north. Therefore, for the first approximately 6.6m of trenching, there are no significant archaeological horizons surviving.	ML23	-	-
ML37	M30	?	Thin layer on slope of natural. Friable, firm, moist, medium grey/brown slightly-sandy silty-clay with rare inclusions of charcoal and fired clay.	ML35	ML38	Roman, ?M1-E/M2C
ML38	M29	Natural interface	Probable interface layer just above natural. Light-medium slightly-green grey/brown sandy-silt.	ML35, ML37	-	Early Roman, M-M/L1C
ML39	-	?	Post-Roman layer. Firm, medium brown sandy-silt with occasional CBM and charcoal fragments.	MF8, MF9	ML33	Post-Roman
ML40	M33	Make-up/	Post-medieval make-up/levelling layer, which also contains a lot of Roman	MF9, ML23	ML24, ML30,	Post-medieva

		levelling	CBM. Soft, friable, moist, dark grey silty-clay with inclusions of CBM.		ML32	modern, L17C-E20C
ML41	-	Tarmac	Tarmac road surface overlaying ML23 at far northern end of trench.	-	ML23	Modern
ML42	-	Disturbance	Layer of disturbance associated with construction of the car park. Friable, firm, moist, medium-dark grey/brown sandy-silty-clay with occasional CBM fragments.	ML23	MF10, ML28	Modern
ML43	-	Earlier ground level	Thought be be a post-medieval or earlier original ground level, before later build-up of deposits on slope/car-park levelling.	MF10, ML28	-	?Post-medieval or earlier
ML44	-	Make-up/ spread	Post-medieval make-up / spread of CBM. Soft, friable, moist, dark grey/brown slightly sandy-silty clay, occasional to frequent post-medieval/modern CBM	ML23	MF13, MF14	Post-medieval/ modern
ML45	M32	Levelling/ dump	ML45 has been used to describe all of the post-medieval levelling/dump deposits along the trench from roughly east of MF3 to south of MF10, where it has not been possible to make a distinction between these deposits due to a high degree of modern disturbance and flooding. They are presumed to overlay ML28. Friable, moist, dark grey/brown silty-clay with large quantities of post-medieval and modern building debris including CBM and concrete.	ML23	ML28	Post-medieval/ modern

#### 7 Finds

by Stephen Benfield

#### Introduction

During the archaeological work finds of Roman, medieval, post-medieval and modern date were recovered from ten features (MF1, MF2, MF5, MF6, MF8, BF11, BF12, BF13, BF14 & BF17), a number of soil layers (BL1, BL5, BL7, BL16, BL18, BL21, ML29, ML31, ML33, ML34, ML35, ML37, ML38 & ML40) and as unstratified finds from two trial holes (TH6 & TH8). Of the finds that can be closely-dated the great majority are Roman, and many of these are of early Roman or probable early Roman date, c mid 1st to the early 2nd century. All of the finds are listed and described by context in Table 4.

#### **Pottery**

The Roman and post-medieval pottery was recorded by sherd count and by weight. The pottery fabrics and vessel form numbers refer to the Colchester Roman Fabric series (*CAR* **10**) and Roman form series (Hawkes & Hull 1947 & Hull 1958). The post-Roman pottery fabrics refer to the Colchester post-Roman fabric series (*CAR* **7**). The pottery fabrics recorded are listed in Table 3.

Fabric code	Fabric description
Roman:	
AA	Amphora (other than Dressel 20)
AJ	Amphora Dressel 20
DJ	Coarse oxidised wares (general)
DZ	Fine oxidised wares (general)
EC	Early Colchester colour-coated ware
GX	Other coarse wares, principally locally-produced grey wares
MP	Oxfordshire-type red colour-coated ware
BSW	Black surface wares
Post-Roman:	
20	Medieval sandy grey coarsewares (general)
21A	Colchester-type ware
48D	Staffordshire-type white earthenwares (general)
98	Miscellaneous unidentified

Table 3 Pottery fabrics

Only one individually significant piece of Roman pottery was recovered. This is a large section from a mortarium rim with a potter's stamp (Fig 10.1). It is an unstratified find (US (39)) discovered and handed to the archaeologists by the building contractors working on the site. It comes from a large vessel in buff fabric (rim diameter c 440mm) with a broad, curving flange (form Cam 195). Only part the stamp is preserved and is abraded but is clearly that of one of the *Sexti Valeri* group of potters. The bar below the name in the stamp is the same as stamps from this group numbered 105-108 in *CAR* **10** (fig 4.26). There is some indication that this group of potters, probably freedmen (sharing the same *praenomen* and *nomen*), might possibly have begun production at Colchester prior to the Boudiccan revolt (AD 60/61). But this is not clear and certainly most of the known stamps of this group of potters do not to predate the Boudiccan revolt and are dated c AD 60-90 (see Hartley 1999, 203).

**Fig 10.1** US (39), Fabric TZ, part of the rim from a large buff fabric mortarium (Cam 195) with spout and potters stamp, part of abraded stamp only, clearly one of the Sexti Valeri group with bar visible below name (see *CAR* **10**, fig 4.26 nos 105 -108) (dated late Neronian-Flavian, *c* AD 60-90)

#### Ceramic building material (CBM)

CBM forms a significant proportion of the finds recovered. The majority consists of coarse building material (bricks and tiles) of Roman and post-Roman date. Of interest is a small group of post-medieval (18th century) tin-glazed tiles from ML28 which are described in detail below.

#### Brick and tile

This was recorded by period and type. Roman brick and tile types were categorised as *tegula* and *imbrex* roof tiles, Roman brick, undiagnostic Roman brick/tile and flue tiles. Almost all of these are in orange-red, fine sand fabrics, and tile fabrics were generally only noted where they varied from this. One piece of Roman CBM is illustrated (Fig 10.2). This is a piece of flue tile which comes from MF6 (M24), a feature interpreted as a robber cut. The post-Roman CBM included pieces of peg-tiles, pantiles from roofs and bricks.

**Fig 10.2** MF6 (M24) Roman box flue tile, edge piece with part of rectangular cut away in side face and vertical spaced wavy line combing on face, orange-red fine sand fabric, tile wall thickness 15mm.

#### Tin-glazed (Delft) tiles

A small group of broken tin-glazed (delft-type) decorated tiles was recovered from a context interpreted as a dump or levelling deposit ML28 (M32). The tiles divide into two groups. One group is decorated in hand-painted blue on a white or pale blue background. The other purple (fired to dark brown) on a white background, each of which has a quarter part of a larger pattern (requiring four tiles to complete). All of the tile pieces are about 7mm thick. The tiles can be broadly dated to the 18th century. It can be noted that small pieces from similar tin-glazed, blue decorated tiles were recovered during the nearby excavation at Fenwick (formerly Williams & Griffin) department store (CAT Report 1150).

There is a minimum of seven blue painted tiles represented. All the designs are contained in a central circular panel defined by a double blue line border with motifs occupying the otherwise blank tile corners. The tiles with a pale blue background share a different corner motif to those with the white background. Also the lines defining the circular centre panels are finer and less prominent on the tiles with pale blue background, while the design scene is generally less starkly bold in appearance.

The tiles with the pale blue background include two with religious themes (Fig 11.1-3). These also share a similar yellow-buff fabric. There is a small piece from a tile illustrating a scene from 'Moses in the bulrushes' with part of a figure either launching or retrieving a small floating cradle with a baby inside. The other features a kneeling, crowned figure at prayer and appears to be King Solomon praying to God to bless the temple (Betts & Weinstein 2010 no 364). The remaining tiles in this group are not obviously on a religious theme. The most complete depicts a figure on a seashore playing a pipe with birds overhead and a row of sailing ships/sailing barges out at sea. Although having a damaged edge, the width of this tile can be closely estimated at about 127mm.

**Fig 11.1** Corner of a tile with scene from 'Moses in the bulrushes' (yellow-buff fabric). **Fig 11.2** Corner of a tile with kneeling crowned figure at prayer, probably King Solomon praying to God to bless the temple (yellow-buff fabric).

**Fig 11.3** Upper part of tile, small part of left edge missing (complete width probably *c* 127mm), figure playing a pipe on the sea shore, birds overhead and a row of sailing ships/sailing barges out to sea (fine, pale pinkish-brown buff fabric).

Tile pieces with a white background represent a minimum of at least four tiles (Fig 11.4-10). All have a faintly yellowed buff fabric. They are united by a theme of ships/sailing barges and harbours. There are two examples of one tile decorated with a scene that includes ships' masts and sails as near identical depictions of the same mast tops appear on two tile pieces, the very slight differences being due to hand painting. At least two tiles, possibly three, are represented by vertical cut strips between 30-40mm wide, presumably cut to fit a particular location. The strips which run the complete length of the tile are all 128mm long.

Two pieces (not joining) from the same or a similar tile:

Fig 11.4 Complete cut vertical strip with cross on tower and part of harbour

Fig 11.5 Complete cut vertical strip with windmill and part of harbour wall

Three pieces (not joining) from the same or similar tile:

Fig 11.6 Complete vertical strip (broken) with tower and harbour wall

Fig 11.7 Corner piece with top of sailing ship/barge masts

**Fig 11.8** Side piece with top of near identical sailing ship/barge masts *Other pieces:* 

Fig 11.9 Side piece with building and ships' masts

Fig 11.10 Side piece with fortification in distance

Three pieces (two joining) come from two purple patterned tiles that come from part of the one larger pattern (Fig 11.11-12). The pattern appears as a very dark brown colour. Each tile features a quarter part of an octagon in one corner which shows that four tiles were required to complete the pattern. The octagon has a central flower motif and there are also parts of other floral elements on the tile pieces. The two surviving blank corners have large spear head-shaped motifs that derive from a *fleur de lis* pattern. The tiles are 130mm square with a faintly yellowed buff fabric.

**Fig 11.11** Two joining pieces forming one complete side of a tile, purple (dark brown) pattern on white background, one quarter of octagon with central flower motif in top right corner (tile length 130mm).

Fig 11.12 Piece from a corresponding tile with one quarter of octagon with central flower motif in top left corner.

#### **Animal bone**

Overall, only a relatively small quantity of animal bone was recovered. The bone recovered from features (MF1, MF2, MF5, MF6, MF8 & BF17) comes from post-medieval or modern contexts, although sometimes associated with residual Roman finds. The bone pieces recovered from soil layers (ML29, ML31, ML33, ML35, ML37 & ML38) are all from contexts associated with Roman finds. The largest single quantity from any one context is 12 pieces (MF8) while the quantity from other contexts is five pieces or fewer. Much of the bone could not be closely identified but almost certainly represents the more common medium-large domestic mammals. Cow, sheep and pig bones were recorded from MF8, sheep/goat from MF17 and cow from ML38.

#### Other finds

Small quantities or individual finds of clay tobacco pipe fragments, glass (modern), slate, iron, nails and oyster shell were also recovered and are listed by context in Table 4.

Table 4 All finds by context

Context	Find	Type/ description	spot date
	no		
Phase 1 monitoring	l		
U/S, TH6	M1	Roman pottery: (1 sherd, 242g, EVE 1.00) Fabric DJ, complete neck from a Hofheim-type collared flagon, Cam 140 (M-L1C, c AD 43-60)  Roman CBM: (1 piece, 318g) tegula, pink & buff coloured fabric, part of angled lower cut away	Early Roman (pre-Flavian?)
U/S, TH8	M2	Roman CBM: (1 piece, 106g) comb keyed flue tile	Roman
U/S Found by builders	M39	Roman pottery: (1 sherd, 768g, EVE 0.22) Fabric TZ, mortarium rim (Cam 195) with spout and potters stamp, large vessel rim diameter <i>c</i> 440mm. Part stamp, abraded, one of the <b>Sexti Valeri</b> group with bar below name (see <i>CAR</i> <b>10</b> , fig 4.26 nos 105 -108)	Early Roman (Flavian, <i>c</i> 61- 90 AD)
Section recording			
BF11, post-med pit	B3	<b>Roman CBM:</b> (1 piece, 318g) tegula, cream coloured fabric, back corner with part of angled upper cut awat, thick lime	Roman (residual)

Context	Find no	Type/ description	spot date
		mortar on underside and partly across break, reused	
BF12 Roman pit/cut	B4	Roman CBM: (2 pieces, 76g) brick/tile, reddish-buff fabric	Roman
BF13 Roman pit/cut	B5	Roman CBM: (1 piece, 22g) small flake from tile surface	Roman
BF14 Roman pit/cut	B6	Roman pottery: (1 sherd, 10g) small sherd from a base with chamfered edge, quite thick and sandy – probably Roman but possibly medieval.  Roman CBM: (1 piece, 42g) Roman imbrex (RI), small piece, burnt/scorched.	Roman?
	B10	Roman pottery: (2 sherds, 98g, EVE 0.11) Fabric MP, (appears to be Oxford rather than Hadham) abraded with worn red slip, Cam 317-type dish with broad curving rim (c M-L4C)	Roman, M-L4C
BF17 Post-med/modern foundation cut	В9	Roman pottery: (3 sherd, 20g) Fabric DJ (1) small neck sherd from a flagon (M1-2C); Fabric GX, two small sherds, one sooted on exterior and with internal 'water' scale from use.  Roman CBM: (1 piece, 144g) orange/red fine/medium sand fabric, flue tile, scored keying (tile 17mm thick).  Mortar: (1 piece, 62g) flat piece of coarse while lime mortar 30mm thick (Rom?).  Clay tobacco pipe: (1 piece, 4g) small stem piece, borehole 2mm dia. (post-medieval/mod – c 18C?)  Animal bone: (1 piece, 6g) small foot bone (sheep/goat astragalus)	Post-medieval/ modern (c 18C)
BL1	B36	Modern pottery: (2 pieces, 96g), both from the same plate,	Modern
Accumulation BL5 Demolition debris/ accumulation	B34	Fabric 48D (48P pearl ware)  Roman pottery: (1 sherd, 8g, EVE 0.04) Fabric GX (very pale)  Roman CBM: (2 pieces, 292g) tile & flue tile (combed)  Mortar: (1 piece, 140g) sandy lime mortar	Roman
BL7 Mortar base	B35	Roman pottery: (2 sherds, 14g) Fabric GX Roman CBM: (3 piece, 270g) RBT and one small thin tile piece (8mm thick), possibly early Roman tile	Roman
BL16, ?	В8	Roman pottery: (1 sherd, 14g) Fabric DJ (pale brown surface with grey core, sightly micaceous) (Roman, possibly 1st-2nd C).  Fired clay: (1 piece, 114g) slightly soft and easily marked/crumbled with a finger nail, flat, 24mm thick, possibly under fired tile	Roman, ?M1-2C
	B38	<b>Post-medieval pottery:</b> (1 sherd, 36g) Fabric 50, sherd from a dish with frilled rim (L17-18C, probably 18C)	Post-medieval, 18C (intrusive)
BL18 demolition	В7	Roman CBM: (19 pieces, 5178g) all in orange/red fine/medium sand fabric unless otherwise described. <i>Tegula</i> (7 pieces, 2820g), six flanged pieces, bases <i>c</i> 25-30mm thick plus one lower cut away (LCA) of Warry Type A26 (2006 fig 1.3) dated by Warry as M1-E2C, length of LCA <i>c</i> 60-70mm, base thickness <i>c</i> 25-30mm. Brick/tile (6 pieces, 2106g) one with part of arc signature, <i>c</i> 20-25mm thick, probably all <i>tegula</i> . <i>Imbrex</i> (11 pieces, 1482g), two scorched/ burnt dark grey, three others with grey clouding on surface also possibly burnt/ scotched. Brick (1 piece, 876g) 40mm thick.	Early Roman, ?M1-E2C
BL21, ?	B37	Roman pottery: (3 sherds, 20g) Fabric BASG, Dr 17 (burnt) (M/M-L 1C); Fabric DJ Roman CBM: (1 piece, 12g), imbrex (burnt)	(Early) Roman
Phase 2 monitoring	1		
MF1 ?pit	M12	Roman pottery: (2 sherds, 28g) Fabric GX, Fabric DJ.  Medieval pottery: (2 sherds, 36g, EVE 0.13) Fabric 20, cooking pot rim and a bowl rim (c 13-14C)  Mortar: lime mortar (1 piece, 16g)  Slate: (1 piece, 22g)	Medieval, c 13-14C

Context	Find no	Type/ description	spot date
		Animal bone: (1 piece 12g)	
MF2 Unidentified feature, ?pit	M11	Roman pottery: (2 sherds, 56g) Fabric DJ; Fabric GX (rim).  Medieval pottery: (2 sherds, 16g) Fabric 21A (late) (c 15-E16C).	Late medieval, c 15-E16C
iodidio, .pit		<b>?Modern pottery:</b> base sherd (58g) from a large pot (diameter <i>c</i> 240mm), very hard, maroon coloured fabric and	
		surface with grey margins. The fabric is reminiscent of Roman New Forest pottery (Fabric NFO CC, Tober & Dore	
		1998), wider distribution dated <i>c</i> L3-4 C. However this fabric is extremely rare at Colchester and this is almost certainly an	
		unrecognised modern fabric (CAR 7 Fabric 98 – miscellaneous unidentified) (?intrusive).	
		<b>Post-Roman CBM:</b> peg-tile (1 piece, 36g) circular peg-hole (med/post-medieval, after <i>c</i> 1300).	
		Animal bone: (3 pieces, 86g).  Iron: small piece from a thin, corroded, rectangular bar,	
	M13	broken at both ends (60g).  Roman pottery: (1 sherd, 2g) Fabric BASG Dr 27	M-L1C
MF5	M22	Roman CBM: (3 pieces, 494g) two pieces of brick in pale	Roman
Wall foundation		reddish buff fabric (joining), <i>imbrex</i> <b>Animal bone:</b> (1 piece,16g)	
MF6 Robbing cut	M24	Roman pottery: (5 sherds, 10g) Fabric GX, small sherds, internal water scale deposit	Roman (residual?)
3		Roman CBM: (26 piece, 3090g) all orange-red fabric; combed flue tile, including 2 pieces with combed face and	,
		side with circular cut out (c 20mm thick), and large piece with	
		vertical wavy line pattern and rectangular side cut-out, some sooting from use; tile (2 pieces, base <i>c</i> 20mm & 22mm thick);	
		brick (1 piece); miscellaneous pieces. <b>Animal bone:</b> (3 pieces, 40g)	
		Oyster shell: (4 pieces, 56g) appear slightly heat damaged	
MF8 ?Cellar	M31	Roman pottery: (5 sherds, 58g) Fabric BXSG rim Dr 29 bowl (M-L1 C), Fabric GX.	Post-medieval (L17-E18C)
		Medieval pottery: (1 sherd, 12g) Fabric 21A, sherd from a decorated jug with speckled green glaze over cream slip and	
		unusual raised (curving line) pattern on surface (13-14 C). <b>Post-medieval pottery:</b> (15 sherds, 216g), Fabric 40 (10	
		sherds) (c L16/17-18C), Fabric 45X (German stoneware –	
		not sourced) (16-17 C), Fabric 45F (17-E18 C).  Clay tobacco pipes: (3 bowl pieces, 4 stem pieces), 1 bowl	
		Crummy Type 6 L17 C ( <i>c</i> 1660-80), 1 bowl Crummy Type 8 L17-E18 C ( <i>c</i> 1680-1710)	
		<b>Post-medieval CBM:</b> (670g) end of a brick (90 x 50mm), dense hard grey fabric with slight glaze effect on surface and	
		end (c L17-E18 C) (Ryan 1996, Appendix 1)  Stone: (780g) piece of grey limestone with worn (smooth)	
		surface, possibly used as paving or a step  Animal bone: (12 pieces, 378g) Cow: phalanx with cut	
		marks & metatarsal probably cow; <i>Sheep</i> : radius & scapula pieces; <i>Pig</i> : tibia with other unidentified bone pieces from	
MI OO	Maa	medium and large mammals with some butchery cut marks.	Doot modicinal
ML28 Post-med dump /	M32	Post-medieval tiles: pieces from a number of tin-glazed (delft) decorated tiles. There are two groups, one with blue	Post-medieval, c 18C
levelling		painted designs, the other parts of two tiles from of a set of patterned tiles with a purple (fired dark brown) flower and	
		octagon design where the pattern is composed of several tiles as a group. Among the blue tiles there are a minimum of	
		7 tiles, two tiles have been cut to form vertical strips. The designs on the blue tiles include religious scenes and scenes	
		with boats both in a harbour/estuary and at sea off of a	
		beach on which there is a person playing a pipe (c L17-18/18C)	
ML29	M14	Roman pottery: (4, 36g) Fabric DJ, Fabric DZ, Fabric GX.	Roman

Context	Find no	Type/ description	spot date
Roman demolition	110	Roman CBM: (4 piece, 534 g), tile and imbrex.	
debris		Roman Mortar: (1 piece, 356g) opus signinum from a roof,	
		from the area between a tegula (RT) and imbrex (RI)	
		Limestone tufa: (1 piece, 414g) previously recorded from a	
		few Roman contexts in Colchester (Balkerne Gate & Head street Roman basin/pool)	
		Slate: (1 piece, 2g) small thin sliver of slate, probably med/p-	
		med-modern (probably intrusive)	
		Animal bone: (1 piece, 1g) near complete, small, long bone	
	M15	Roman pottery: (5 sherds, 10g, EVE 0.10), Fabric EC	Roman? (Early
		beaker rim (pre-Flavian); Fabric GX	Roman?)
		<b>Roman CBM:</b> (2 pieces, 24g), small pieces. Also one other rounded abraded piece (26 g) possibly brick.	
ML31	M16	Roman pottery: (6 sherds, 42g) Fabric DJ, Fabric GX	Roman (M-
Roman make-up/	I WITO	including Cam 108 (M1-E2C), Fabric BSW	L1/E2C?)
levelling		Glass: (1 sherd, 2g) small sherd, clear (faintly white/opaline	
_		translucent) glass, facet cut with indents either side of a	
		strongly moulded vertical rib; from Roman context but but	
		almost without doubt modern (intrusive)	
		Roman CBM: (1 piece, 154g) Animal Bone: (1 piece, 2g)	
		Bone skull fragment: (1 piece, 4g)	
	M17	Roman pottery: (4 sherds, 22g) Fabric GX, including Cam	Roman (Early
		108 (M1-E2C)	Roman?)
		Roman CBM: (3 pieces, 102g) including a piece in buff	
	1112	cream fabric	
ML33	M19	Roman CBM: (1 piece, 122g), possibly burnt	Roman
Roman demolition	M27	Roman pottery: (3 sherds, 436g) includes burnt sherds, Fabric DJ two flagon? sherds, one burnt; Fabric TZ	Roman, possibly Early
		mortarium, burnt along edge of inner surface.	Roman?
		Roman CBM (3 pieces, 212g) including <i>imbrex</i> (burnt)	Tromair.
		Fired clay: (7 pieces, 1846g) medium-large pieces,	
		brownish-red, sandy fabric, three joining pieces atypical with	
		some straw-like chaff impressions and voids (probably from	
		similar organic inclusions) in fabric with sparse inclusions of	
		small chalk and flint fragments, c 75mm thick. Possibly broken daub wall blocks from an early Roman building,	
		probable Boudiccan destruction debris.	
		Animal bone: (4 pieces, 42g)	
		Oyster shell: (1 piece, 20g)	
ML34	M18	Roman pottery: (1 sherd, 2g) Fabric BASG	M-L1C
Roman make-up/	M21	Roman pottery: (3 sherds, 20g) Fabric DJ (legionary type?),	Roman (Early
levelling		Fabric GX Roman CBM: (5 pieces, 114 g) including one thick based	Roman?)
		tegula (bases 18mm & 34mm thick)	
		Fired clay: (15 pieces, 80g) small rounded pieces and	
		fragments, pale brown-buff and dark grey	
	M28	Metal object (SF1): Iron strip/bar covered in copper-alloy,	
		80mm long, 6mm wide at one end, 4mm wide at the other,	
MISE	Mac	4mm thick, slightly notched at one end. 16.6g.	Domon
ML35 Roman	M26	Roman pottery: (6 sherds, 56g), Fabric AA, Fabric DJ, Fabric GX	Roman
accumulation		Animal bone: (1 pieces, 8g)	
ML37	M30	Roman pottery: (6 sherds, 130g) Fabric AA, Fabric AJ,	Roman (M1-
Roman		Fabric GX or BSW	E/M2C?)
accumulation		Roman CBM: (3 piece, 154g), including a piece of brick (35-	
		40mm thick) overfired or badly burnt, and imbrex	
		Nail: Iron nail head head and part shaft, round flat head (if	
		Roman, Manning Type 1b)  Animal bone: (7 pieces, 228g)	
ML38	M29	Roman pottery: (8, 42g) Fabric AA (black sand) Italian	Early Roman?
Accumulation/		Claudio-Neronian; Fabric BASG Dr 15/17, Dr 27 (1C –	(M-M/L1C)

Context	Find no	Type/ description	spot date
disturbance over natural		Claudio-Neronian/E Flavian?), Fabric DJ, Fabric GX.  CBM: (1 piece, 34g) thin tile with very sandy fabric, possibly peg-tile (med/p-med) but possibly Early Roman (not closely dated)  Animal Bone: (1 piece, 130g) cattle (cow) humerus (distal end)	
ML40 Post-med make- up/ levelling	M33	Roman CBM: (1 piece, 652g) tile, reused (base 25mm thick).  Post-Roman CBM: (3 pieces, 446g), peg-tile and pan tile (L17C-E20C)	Post-medieval (L17C-E20C)

#### 8 Discussion

**Phase 1 monitoring:** Excavations on the site of the Cups Hotel in 1973/4 had already revealed that the building 'contained extensive cellars (two-tiered in some places) so that much of the archaeological remains had already been removed' (*CAR* **6**, 328). After the excavations had concluded, Philip Crummy (director of the 1970s excavation) remembers substantial groundworks taking place to grub out the cellars and clear the site before the construction of Greytown House. Consequently, the significant Roman remains identified within the section on the northern edge of the development site (see below), are located 0.2-0.7m above modern ground level in this monitoring area.

As a result of the modern disturbance, all groundworks within the phase 1 monitoring area took place through concrete and a 1970s make-up layer onto natural. However, the discovery of a short length of wall foundation and floor shows that the cellars of the Cups Hotel were not completely demolished in the 70s.

**Section recording:** The section edge, created during 1970s groundworks, revealed a significant depth of archaeological remains. Post-medieval/modern contexts were present from the top of the section to a depth ranging from 0.5-1.6m, with the structural remains likely associated with property boundaries and buildings/cellars to the rear of the Cups Hotel. Sealed beneath were significant Roman contexts, including floor layers dating from the early Roman period, ranging from Boudiccan destruction of the town and into the 2nd century.

Structural remains dating to the period of the Boudiccan revolt were also identified on the development site during the 1970s excavations. Part of a burnt building with at least two partly sunken rooms or 'semi-cellars' (Building 152) (CAR **6**, 328-330) were located approximately 20m to the southeast of the section. Important Boudiccan remains have also recently been found c 50m to the west on the site of Fenwicks (formerly Williams and Griffins) where the Fenwick treasure hoard was discovered (CAT Report 1150).

**Phase 2 monitoring:** Monitoring revealed Roman and early medieval contexts in the southern half of the service trench, sealed by the 1970s road. Wall foundation MF5 is likely to be part of the early medieval stone house (building 157) identified during the 1970s excavations (*CAR* **6**, 338). Plans from this excavation also show that the projected route of a military street should pass through the UKPN service trench (*ibid*, Fig 13.8) (see Fig 7). Although Roman layers were recorded in this area, there was no trace of street metalling. Philip Crummy states (pers comm) that the road may however be located slightly further to the east than that projected in *CAR* **6** (Fig 13.8).

As the ground level rises, later contexts were encountered in the northern half of the service trench. This included two possible medieval pits, post-medieval debris and a number of post-medieval/modern wall foundations. Roman layers are likely to have survived beneath these later contexts, but the service trench was not dug deep enough to confirm this.

In summary, archaeological investigations at Greytown House revealed a small number of important contexts dating to the early Roman and early Medieval periods. These have survived in the area of high ground beyond the northern edge of the Greytown House boundary and underneath St Runwald's Street. However, there has been significant post-medieval and modern disturbance across the site, especially in the area of the Greytown House car park/loading bay.

#### 9 Acknowledgements

CAT thanks David Bebb of Gleeds and Fenwick Ltd for commissioning and funding the work. The project was managed by C Lister and carried out by S Carter, B Holloway, E Holloway, C Lister, A Wade and A Wightman. Figures were prepared by SC, BH, EH and L Pooley. The project was monitored for the CBCPS by Jess Tipper.

#### 10 References

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

Betts, I & Weinstein, R	2010	Tin-glazed tiles from London. MoLAS.
Brown, D	2007	Archaeological Archives: A guide to best practice in creation, compilation, transfer and curation
CAR 6	1992	Colchester Archaeological Report <b>6</b> : Excavations at Culver Street, the Gilberd School, and other sites in Colchester, 1971-85, by P Crummy
CAR 7	1999	Colchester Archaeological Report 7: Post-Roman pottery from excavations in Colchester, 1971-85, by J Cotter
CAR <b>10</b>		Colchester Archaeological Report <b>10</b> : Roman pottery from excavations in Colchester, 1971-86, by R Symonds and S Wade
CAT	2014	Health & Safety Policy
CAT	2016	Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) for archaeological investigation at Greytown House, 138-140 High Street, Colchester, CO1 1YJ
CAT Report 935	2016	Greytown House, High Street, Colchester, CO1 1PT: Assessment of archaeological and heritage assets, by Howard Brooks
CAT Report 1150	2017	An archaeological excavation and watching brief at Fenwick Colchester (formerly Williams & Griffin), 147-151 High Street, Colchester, Essex: April-August 2014
CBCPS	2016	Brief for archaeological investigation at Greytown House, 138-140 High Street, Colchester, CO1 1YJ, by J Tipper
CIfA CIfA	2014a 2014b	Standard and Guidance for an archaeological watching briefs Standard and guidance for the collection, documentation,
		conservation and research of archaeological materials
Cundall	2016	Greytown House, Colchester: interim results of ground investigation
DCLG	2012	National Planning Policy Framework
English Heritage	2006	Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment (MoRPHE)
Hartley, K	1999	'The stamped mortaria' in R Symonds and S Wade, Colchester Archaeological Report <b>10</b> (CAR <b>10</b> ): Roman pottery from excavations in Colchester, 1971-86, 195-211
Gurney, D	2003	Standards for field archaeology in the East of England. East Anglian Archaeology Occasional Papers 14 (EAA 14).
Manning, W	1985	Catalogue of the Romano-British iron tools, fittings and weapons in the British Museum
Medlycott, M	2011	Research and archaeology revisited: A revised framework for the East of England. East Anglian Archaeology Occasional Papers 24 (EAA 24)
Ryan, P	1996	Brick in Essex, from the conquest to the Reformation
Tomber, R &	1998	The national Roman fabric collection, A handbook, MoLAS

Dore, J Monograph 2

Warry, P 2006 Tegulae, manufacture, typology and use in Roman Britain, BAR

British Series 417

#### 11 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
ClfA 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 (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

NGR National Grid Reference

OASIS Online AccesS to the Index of Archaeological InvestigationS,

http://oasis.ac.uk/pages/wiki/Main

post-medieval period from c AD 1500 to c 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

wsi written scheme of investigation

#### 12 Contents of archive

Finds: one box

Paper and digital record

One A4 document wallet containing: The report (CAT Report 1203)

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

#### 13 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 2016.104.

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#### **Distribution list**

David Bebb of Gleeds Fenwick Ltd Jess Tipper, Colchester Borough Council Planning Services Essex Historic Environment Record

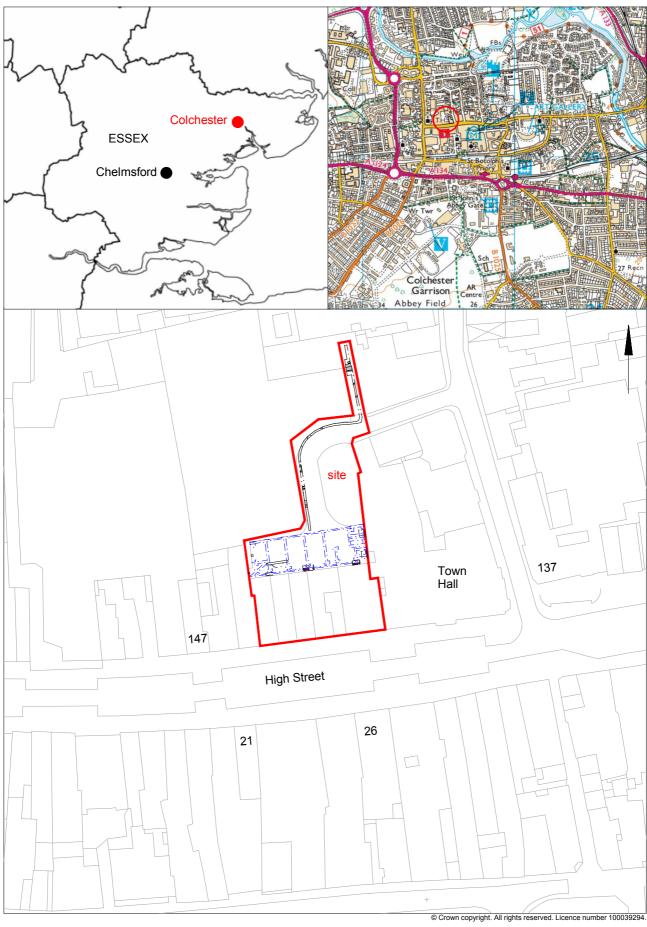


#### **Colchester Archaeological Trust**

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

tel.: 01206 501785 email: lp@catuk.org

Checked by: Philip Crummy Date: 8/12/2017



50 m

Fig 1 Site location.



Fig 2 Phase 1 monitoring: trial-holes TH1-8 with location of section dashed green. 1970s excavation area dashed pink.





Fig 3 Phase 1 monitoring: slab removal, approximate location of cellar wall and floor, and location of foundation trenches/piles (blue)



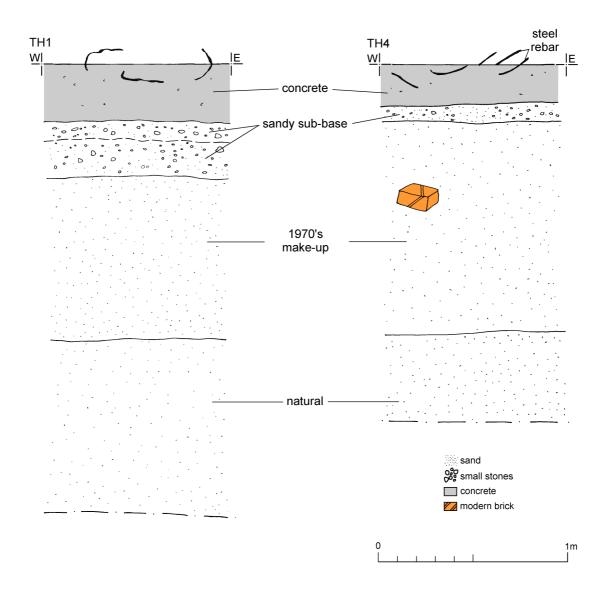


Fig 4 Phase 1 monitoring: TH1 and TH4 representative sections.

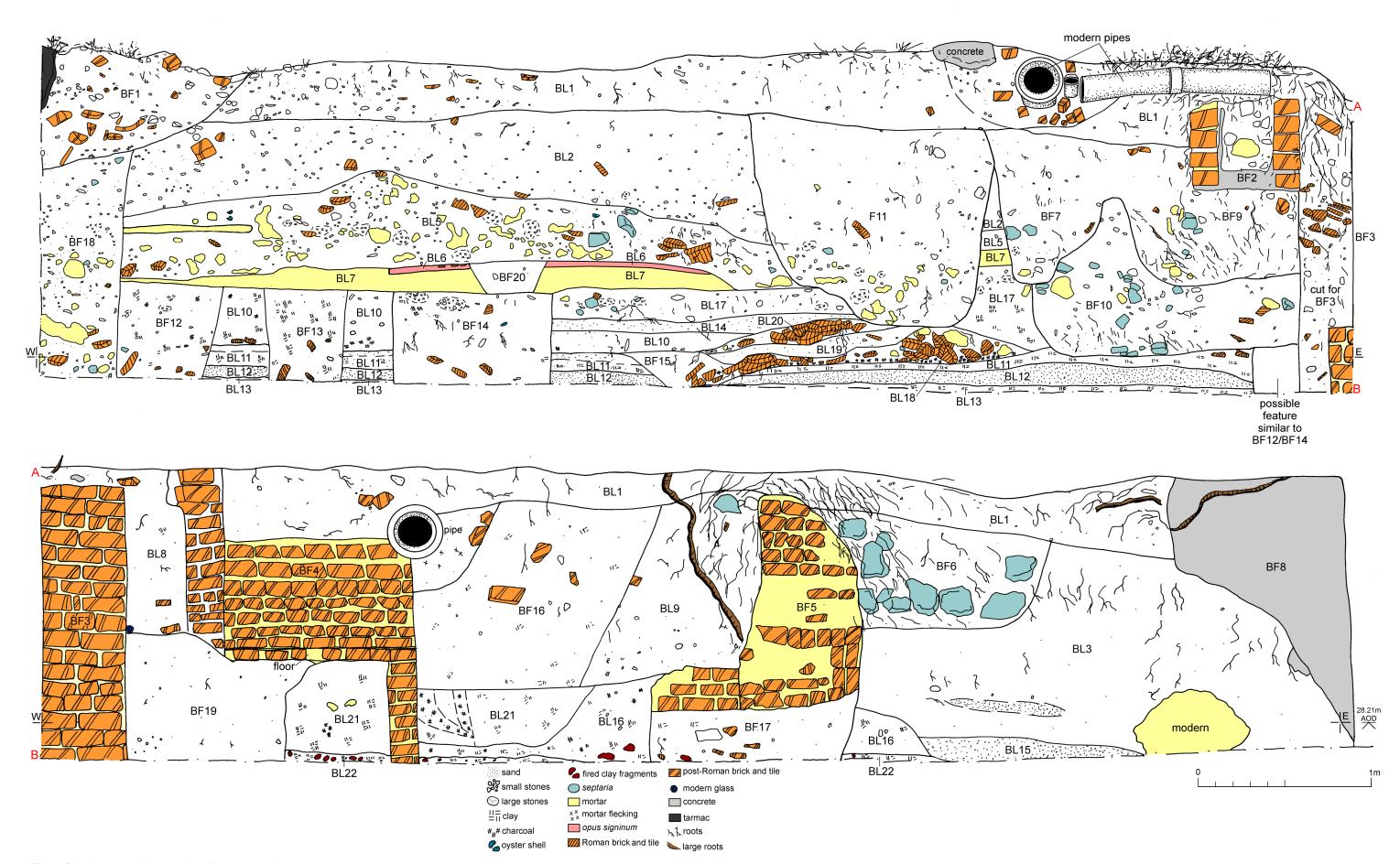


Fig 5 Section recording: section (in two parts).





Fig 6 Section recording: photograph (in two parts, not to scale).

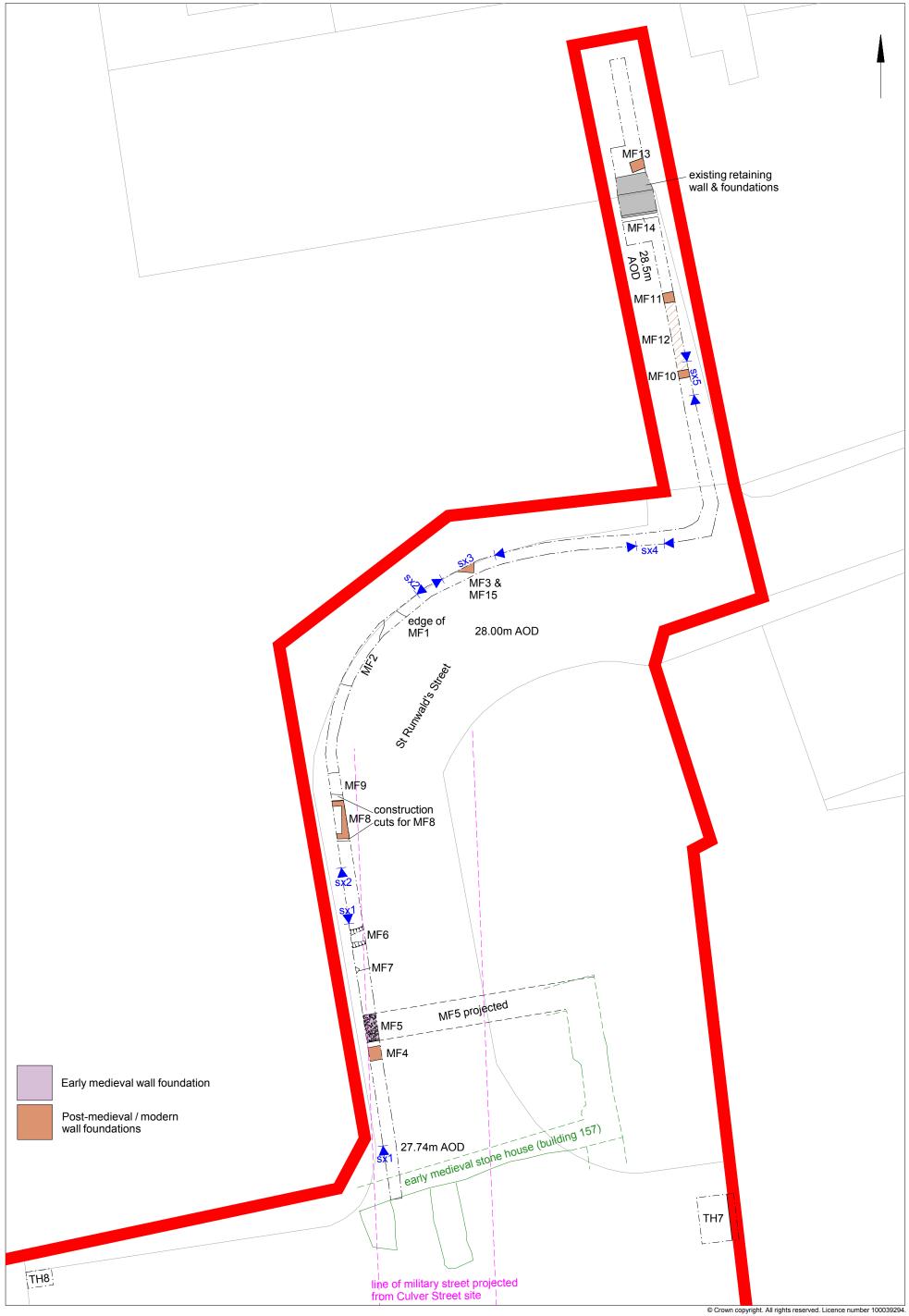
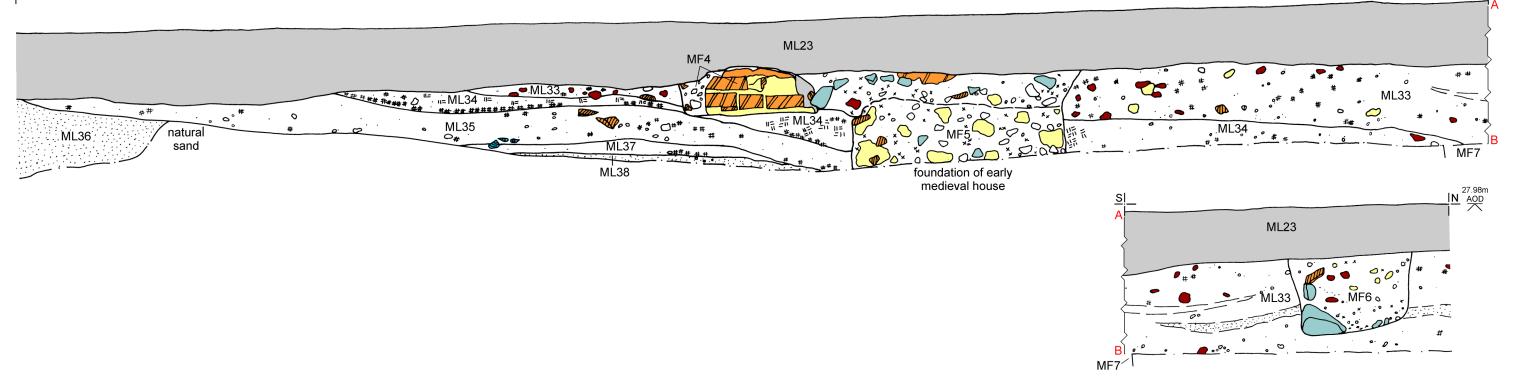


Fig 7 Phase 2 monitoring shown in relation to 1970s excavations, showing location of the Roman military street and early medieval house (CAR 6, Fig 13.8)

0 10 m





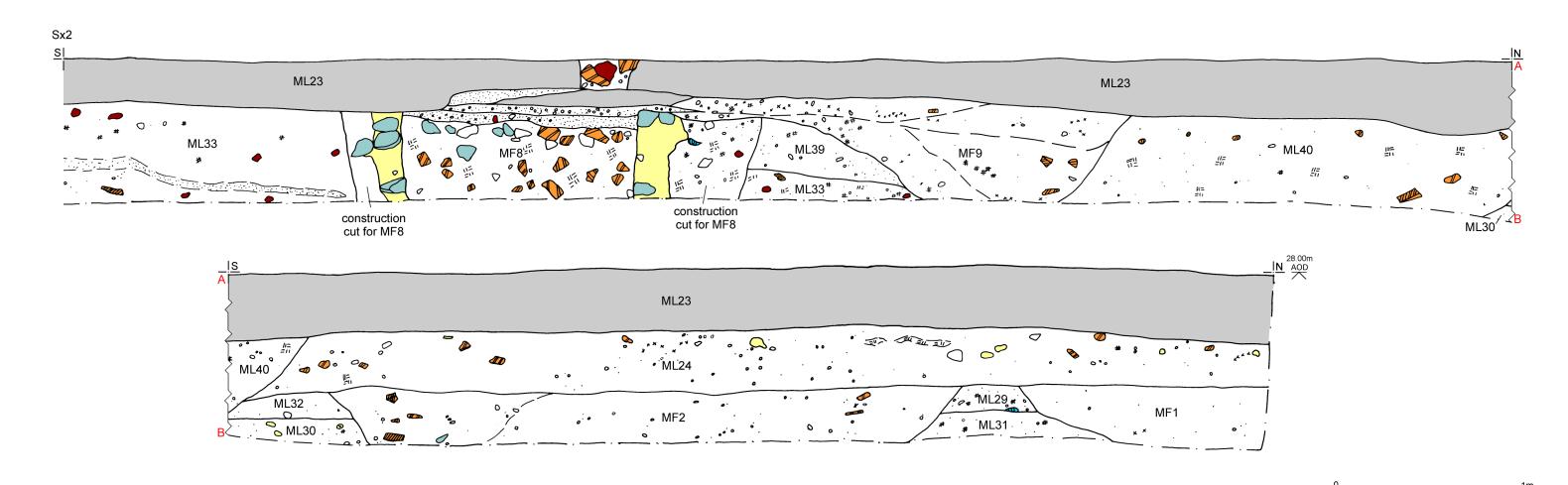
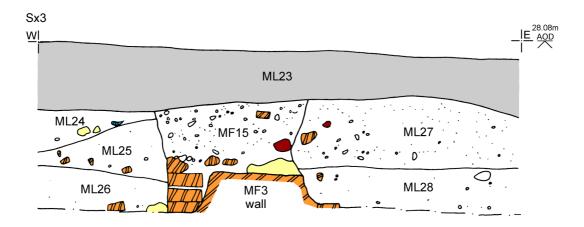


Fig 8 Phase 2 monitoring: Sx1 and Sx2.



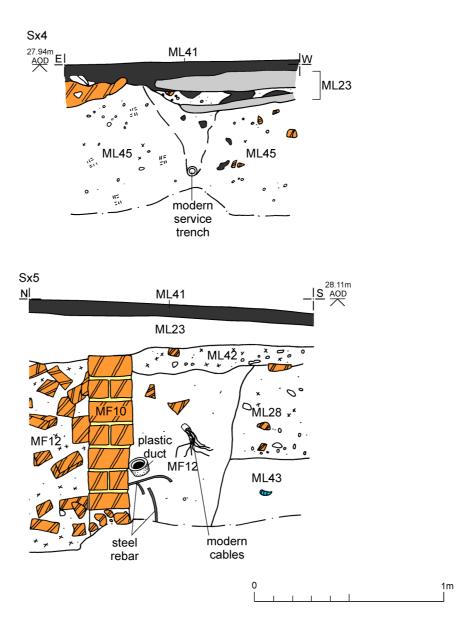


Fig 9 Phase 2 monitoring: Sx3, Sx4 and Sx5.

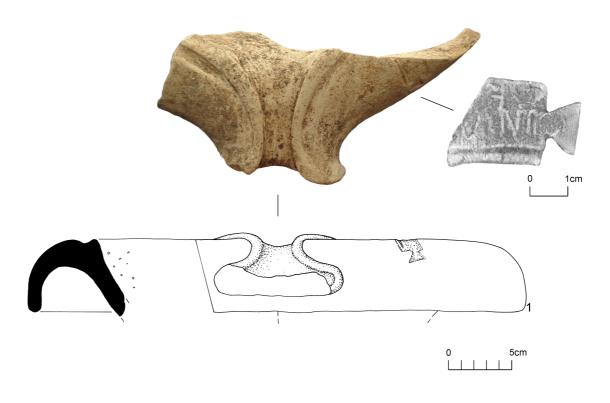




Fig 10 Roman mortarium (including stamp rubbing) (1) and box flue tile (2).



Fig 11 Tin-glazed (Delft) tiles.

# Essex Historic Environment Record/ Essex Archaeology and History

# **Summary sheet**

Address: Greytown House, 138-140 High Street, Colchester, Essex, CO1 1YJ		
Parish: Colchester	District: Colchester	
NGR: TL 9955 2523 (centre)	Site code: CAT project ref.: 16/10g, 17/04m & 17/07b CHER ref: ECC3888 OASIS ref: colchest3-266729	
Type of work: Monitoring and recording	Site director/group: Colchester Archaeological Trust	
Date of work: 7th March – 28th September 2017	Size of area investigated: 0.15ha	
Location of curating museum: Colchester museum accession code COLEM: 2016.104	Funding source: Developer	
Further seasons anticipated? Not known	Related CHER/SMR number:	
E: 1 0AT D 14000		

Final report: CAT Report 1203

**Periods represented:** Roman, medieval, post-medieval, modern

# Summary of fieldwork results:

Archaeological investigations, consisting of two phases of monitoring and a recording project, was carried out to the rear of Greytown House, 138-140 High Street, Colchester, Essex, in advance of groundworks associated with the redevelopment of Greytown House. The development site is located in an area of the highest archaeological importance in Insula 19 of the Roman town of Colchester and in the core of the medieval town. Excavations on the development site in 1973-4, after the demolition of the Cups Hotel (in advance of the construction of Greytown House), revealed significant modern disturbance over the entire site caused by a series of cellars. However, building remains from both the Roman and medieval periods were present.

Phase 1 monitoring was located in the car park/loading bay area immediately behind Greytown House. All groundworks took place through concrete and make-up dating to the 1970s redevelopment of this site. However, the discovery of a short length of wall foundation and floor suggests that not all of the Cups Hotel cellars had been completely removed.

During phase 1 monitoring, a section was identified on the northern edge of the development site which stood 1.5-2m higher than the car park/loading bay. When cleaned, the section revealed remains dating to the post-medieval/modern and Roman periods. Significantly, the Roman remains included floor layers dating from the early

Roman period, through the Boudiccan destruction of the town and into the 2nd century.

Phase 2 monitoring along St Runwald's Street to the north of Greytown House revealed Roman layers, an early medieval wall foundation (from an early medieval house first identified during the 1970s excavations), two medieval pits and post-medieval/modern structural remains.

<b>D</b>	
Previous summaries/reports: CAR 6	
CBC monitor: Jess Tipper	
Keywords: Cups Hotel, Roman floor, Boudicca, Boudiccan destruction, early medieval wall foundation, early medieval stone house	Significance: *
Author of summary: Laura Pooley	Date of summary: December 2017

# Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) for archaeological investigation at Greytown House, 138-140 High Street, Colchester, Essex, CO1 1YJ

**NGR:** TL 9955 2523 (centre)

Planning references: 152506

Commissioned by: David Bebb, Gleeds

Client: Fenwick Ltd

**Curating Museum:** Colchester

Museum accession code: COLEM: 2016.104

CHER event number: ECC3888

CAT Project code: 16/10g

OASIS project number: colchest3-266729

Site Manager: Chris Lister

**CBC Monitor:** Jess Tipper

This WSI written: 26.10.2016

Amended: 29.3.2017



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 in the heart of Colchester Town Centre, located on the High Street and next to the Town Hall (Fig 1). Site centre is NGR TL 9955 2523.

# **Proposed work**

The development comprises replacement shop-fronts, replacement windows, ground floor rear extension, new openings to mansard roof and to rear elevation, demolition of escape stairs and internal alterations to create three separate A1/A3 commercial units.

# 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, formally the UAD) and the Essex Historic Environment Record (EHER).

A detailed assessment of the archaeological and heritage assets of the site has already been completed (CAT Report 935, written by Howard Brooks April 2016). The following is a summary taken from that report:

Greytown House is located in an area of the highest archaeological importance – in Insula 19 of the Roman town of Colchester, and in the core of the medieval town. It also lies close to the sites of several medieval stone houses and the find-spots of medieval coin hoards.

The Williams & Griffin store, the site of the 2014 excavation, which produced important Boudican deposits and the 'Fenwick Treasure', is 50m to the west. However, the proposed redevelopment is only the refurbishment of an existing structure. The site now occupied by Greytown House was excavated in 1973-4, following which the contractors dug out a large basement to below the level of archaeological remains.

There are two forms of evidence relating to the damage caused by the construction of Greytown House. First, photographic evidence shows that the contractor's basement excavation extended beyond the area of Greytown House and the car park to the rear. It seems very unlikely that any archaeological horizons could survive this process.

Second, we have direct evidence of the height above OD of archaeological levels along a N-S line 10m west of Greytown House (rear of Williams & Griffin). This data shows that the existing basement is already several metres below the lowest archaeological horizon at the southern edge of Greytown House. The same calculation shows that the northern edge of the car park may be 20-30cm above the lowest archaeological horizon. However, given slab depth and the inevitable disturbance caused by construction, it seems very unlikely that any archaeological horizons will survive here.

The basement of Greytown House is likely to have removed the majority of archaeological remains at this location, although there is at least some potential for surviving archaeological remains at the northern edge of the car park and the level of archaeological preservation and survival is currently unclear.

# Planning background

A planning application was made to Colchester Borough Council in November 2015 (application No. 152506) proposing the replacement shop-fronts, replacement windows, ground floor rear extension, new openings to mansard roof and to rear elevation, demolition of escape stairs and internal alterations to create three separate A1/A3 commercial units.

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). 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 2016). The monitoring and recording is being undertaken to identify and record any surviving archaeological deposits that may exist on site.

Any groundworks (including removal of existing foundations, floors and surfaces), and also the upcast soil, are to be closely monitored during and after excavation by the archaeological contractor in order to ensure no damage occurs to any heritage assets. Machinery is to be under the supervision and guidance of the archaeological contractor during earth moving operations.

If archaeological remains are encountered the CBCAA will be informed immediately and amendments to the brief may be required to ensure adequate provision for *in situ* preservation and/or full archaeological excavation and recording. The removal of *in situ* walls and floor surfaces will be only permissible in wholly exceptional circumstances.

# Amendment to requirement for work (29.3.2017)

During groundworks CAT staff identified a bank on the north edge of the development site where *in situ* archaeology was visible in section. After on site discussions with the CBCAA, client, contractor and CAT it was agreed that:

- 1) The bank will be protected from future disturbance. This will be achieved by the careful installation of retaining posts at the base of the bank between which horizontal timbers will be inserted to create a new wall. The careful infilling of the area between the wall and bank will ensure that the undisturbed archaeological remains are protected.
- 2) Before the above takes place, the bank section will be very carefully cleaned (to caused minimal disturbance) by CAT staff, photographed, drawn and the archaeological stratigraphy/layers described.

# 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 2015).

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 proforma 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 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. 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:

animal bones (small groups): Pip Parmenter

flints: Adam Wightman

or to outside specialists:

small finds, metalwork, coins, etc: Pip Parmenter

animal bones (large groups) and human remains: Julie Curl (Sylvanus)

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:

- The aims and methods adopted in the course of the archaeological project
- Location plan of site 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.

# References

Brown, D	2007	Archaeological Archives: A guide to best practice in creation, compilation, transfer and curation
CAT	2014	Health & Safety Policy
CAT Report 935	2016	Greytown House, High Street, Colchester, CO1 1PT: Assessment of archaeological and heritage assets, by Howard Brooks
CBCPS	2015	Brief for continuous archaeological investigation at Greytown House, 138-140 High Street, Colchester, CO1 1YJ, by Jess Tipper
ClfA	2014a	Standard and Guidance for an archaeological watching brief
ClfA	2014b	Standard and guidance for the collection, documentation, conservation and research of archaeological materials
David Gurney	2003	Standards for field archaeology in the East of England. East Anglian Archaeology Occasional Papers 14 (EAA 14).
DCLG	2012	National Planning Policy Framework
English Heritage	2006	Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment (MoRPHE)
Medlycott, M	2011	Research and archaeology revisited: A revised framework for the East of

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

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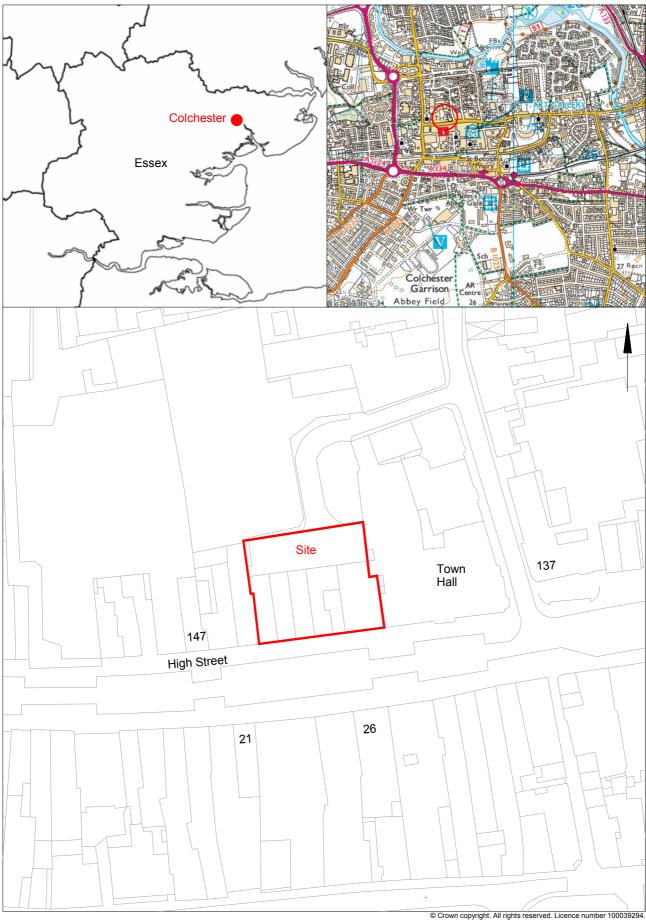


Fig 1 Site location.

0 200 m

# **OASIS DATA COLLECTION FORM: England**

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### Printable version

### OASIS ID: colchest3-266729

### **Project details**

Project name Archaeological investigations at Greytown House, 138-140 High Street, Colchester, CO1 1YJ

Short description of the project

Archaeological investigations, consisting of two phases of monitoring and a recording project, was carried out to the rear of Greytown House, 138-140 High Street, Colchester, Essex, in advance of groundworks associated with the redevelopment of Greytown House. The development site is located in an area of the highest archaeological importance in Insula 19 of the Roman town of Colchester and in the core of the medieval town. Excavations on the development site in 1973-4, after the demolition of the Cups Hotel (in advance of the construction of Greytown House), revealed significant modern disturbance over the entire site caused by a series of cellars. However, building remains from both the Roman and medieval periods were present. Phase 1 monitoring was located in the car park/loading bay area immediately behind Greytown House. All groundworks took place through concrete and make-up dating to the 1970s redevelopment of this site. However, the discovery of a short length of wall foundation and floor suggests that not all of the Cups Hotel cellars had been completely removed. During phase 1 monitoring, a section was identified on the northern edge of the development site which stood 1.5-2m higher than the car park/loading bay. When cleaned, the section revealed remains dating to the post-medieval/modern and Roman periods. Significantly, the Roman remains included floor layers dating from the early Roman period, through the Boudiccan destruction of the town and into the 2nd century. Phase 2 monitoring along St Runwald's Street to the north of Greytown House revealed Roman layers, an early medieval wall foundation (from an early medieval house first identified during the 1970s excavations), two medieval pits and post-medieval/modern structural remains.

Start: 07-03-2017 End: 28-09-2017 Project dates

Previous/future work

Yes / Not known

Any associated project reference 152506 - Planning Application No.

Any associated project reference 16/10g - Contracting Unit No.

codes

Any associated project reference codes 17/04m - Contracting Unit No

Any associated project reference codes

17/07b - Contracting Unit No.

Any associated project reference codes

ECC3888 - HER event no.

Any associated project reference COLEM: 2016.104 - Museum accession ID

Type of project Recording project

Site status None

Current Land use Industry and Commerce 3 - Retailing

Monument type **CLAY FLOOR Roman** 

TESSELLATED FLOOR Roman Monument type Monument type BOUDICCAN DESTRUCTION Roman WALL FOUNDATION Early Medieval Monument type

PITS Medieval Monument type

Monument type WALL FOUNDATIONS Post Medieval Monument type WALL FOUNDATIONS Modern

Significant Finds POTTERY Roman

Significant Finds FIRED CLAY Roman Significant Finds POTTERY Medieval Significant Finds POTTERY Post Medieval

Significant Finds POTTERY Modern

Significant Finds CERAMIC BUILDING MATERIAL Modern Investigation type "Field observation", "Watching Brief"

Prompt Planning condition

### **Project location**

Country

ESSEX COLCHESTER COLCHESTER Greytown House, 138-140 High Street Site location

Postcode CO1 1YJ Study area 0.15 Hectares

Site coordinates TL 9955 2523 51.889324550915 0.90018545848 51 53 21 N 000 54 00 E Point

Height OD / Depth Min: 27.43m Max: 27.43m

### **Project creators**

Name of Organisation Colchester Archaeological Trust

Project brief originator

CBC Archaeological Officer

Project design originator

Laura Poolev

Project

Chris Lister

director/manager

Project supervisor Chris Lister Project supervisor Alec Wade Type of

sponsor/funding

body

Developer

### **Project archives**

Physical Archive Colchester Museum recipient

Physical Archive COLEM: 2016.104

Physical Contents "Ceramics"

Digital Archive Colchester Museum

recipient

Digital Archive ID COLEM: 2016.104 Digital Contents "Stratigraphic", "Survey"

Digital Media

"Images raster / digital photography"

available

Paper Archive Colchester Museum

recipient

Paper Archive ID COLEM: 2016.104

Paper Contents

"Stratigraphic","Survey"

Paper Media available

"Context sheet","Miscellaneous Material","Photograph","Plan","Report","Section"

### **Project** bibliography 1

Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)

Publication type

Title Archaeological investigation at Greytown House, 138-140 High Street, Colchester, Essex, CO1 1YJ: March-September 2017

Author(s)/Editor(s) Pooley, L. CAT Report 1203

Other bibliographic

details

Date 2017

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12 December 2017 Entered on

Please e-mail Historic England for OASIS help and advice

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