

# The Triple Dyke: Archaeological monitoring at 78 Straight Road, Colchester, Essex, CO3 9DB

**May 2018**



**by Laura Pooley**

with figures by Sarah Carter and Laura Pooley

fieldwork by Nigel Rayner

**commissioned by David Syrett  
on behalf of Balkerne Gate Developments (Southeast) Ltd**

NGR: TL 9647 2477 (centre)

Planning ref.: 180144

CHER project: ECC4201

CAT project ref.: 18/04n

Colchester Museum accession code: COLEM: 2018.25

OASIS ref.: colchest3-315582



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**CAT Report 1283**  
June 2018

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CAT WSI

OASIS summary

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## 1 Summary

Archaeological monitoring was undertaken at 78 Straight Road, Colchester, Essex during groundworks for the construction of a new residential dwelling. Archaeological evaluation in March 2018 had established that the central ditch of the Roman earthwork known as the Triple Dyke did pass through the development site. Observations made during monitoring revealed that the central ditch measured 5.4m across. It was recorded for a depth of 1.4m, but excavation ceased before the base of the ditch could be revealed as the sides of the trenches were becoming unstable. There were no archaeological finds.

## 2 Introduction (Fig 1)

This is the archive report for archaeological monitoring at 78 Straight Road, Colchester, which was carried out on 8th to 9th May 2018. The work was commissioned by David Syrett, on behalf of Balcerne Gate Developments (Southeast) Ltd, during groundworks for the construction of a new residential dwelling, and was undertaken by Colchester Archaeological Trust (CAT).

As the site lies within an area highlighted by the 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 Continuous Archaeological Monitoring and Recording*, detailing the required archaeological work, written by Jess Tipper (CBCAA 2018), and a written scheme of investigation (WSI) prepared by CAT in response to the brief and agreed with ECCPS (CAT 2018).

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).

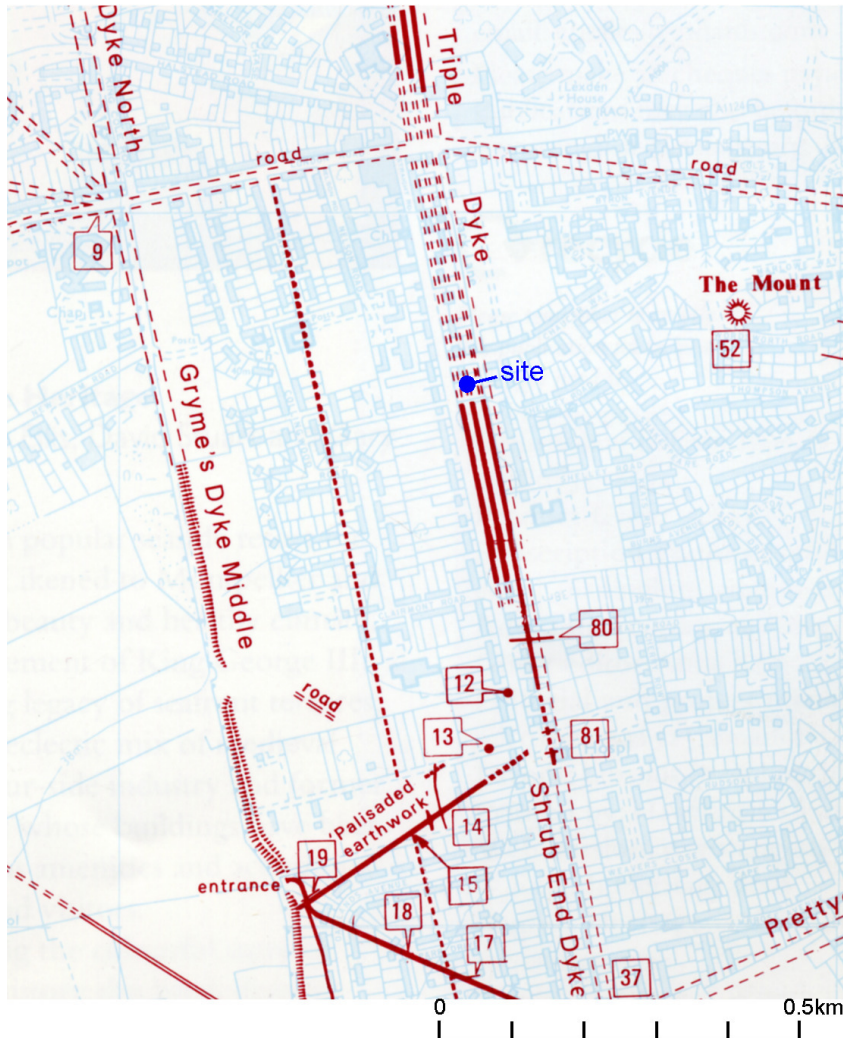
## 3 Archaeological background

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

The proposed development is situated within an area of archaeological significance. It lies within the projected line of the earthwork known as the Triple Dyke (scheduled monument 1019993; CHER MCC7041) and Shrub End Dyke (MCC7467). The Colchester dykes are among the most important prehistoric monuments in Britain. They define the extent of the pre-Roman 'proto-town' (or *oppidum* in Latin) of *Camulodunum*. *Camulodunum* was the capital and home of Cunobelin, who was arguably the most important leader in Britain in the decades leading up to the Roman invasion of AD 43. There have been several studies of and excavations on the dykes, which are described fully in two principal reference works: *Camulodunum*, by CFC Hawkes and MR Hull (1947), and *Colchester Archaeological Report 11 (CAR 11): Camulodunum 2*, by CFC Hawkes and Philip Crummy (1995).

The Shrub End Dyke was originally a single ditch thought to have been constructed in approximately AD 10 which formed part of a system with the Lexden and Sheepen

Dykes. Aerial photography in 1933 revealed that a little north of Heath Road, two further ditches had been added to the west side of the Shrub End Dyke, forming the Triple Dyke. Photographs show that the Triple Dyke continued for approximately 1.61km northwards to the River Colne (CAR 11, 53-7).



**Map 1** Extract of the general map of Colchester showing the locations of earthworks and excavations discussed in CAR11 (Fig 6.1). The development site is shown in blue.

In 1961, Colchester Archaeological Group excavated a section through the Triple Dyke. The section revealed that the innermost ditch had larger dimensions than the outer two. Philip Crummy believes this shows that the innermost ditch is the original Shrub End Dyke and the two additional ditches and banks were added later. This triplication was dated to the Roman period (CAR 11, 57 Fig 2.33 and 59). In 1984, two sections of the Shrub End Dyke were excavated. Its western edge was recorded at 21.5m east of the western site boundary (on Straight Road). Its width was recorded at 6m and its depth varied from approximately 1m to 3m (CAR 6, 1045-6, fig 13.278).

In more recent years little archaeological work has been carried out in this area. Monitoring at the former 'Brights' Public House along Straight Road in 1996 revealed the partial remains of the central ditch of the Triple Dyke (CAT project code 96/4d; soon to be published in CAT Report 1000). No significant archaeological remains were encountered during monitoring at 93-97 Straight Road (CAT Report 109) or 91 Straight

Road (CAT Report 135). Development work in 2006 at 108 Straight Road uncovered one possible undated ditch (CAT report 381) that appeared to be too far to the east to be the Shrub End Dyke.

In March 2018 an archaeological evaluation on the development site was carried out by CAT (CAT Report 1253). The evaluation revealed the remains of the central ditch of the Triple Dyke (F1) within the footprint of the proposed new dwelling (see Fig 2). The eastern edge of the ditch was located outside the evaluation trench, but three small test-holes suggest that the ditch measured between 5.2-6.5m wide. The ditch was excavated to a depth of 0.9m but the base of the feature was not reached. There were no archaeological finds.

#### **4 Aim**

The aim of the archaeological evaluation was to identify and record all archaeological deposits that will be damaged or removed by the development, specifically those of the Triple Dyke.

#### **5 Results (Figs 2-3)**

Approximately 47m of foundation trenches and a soakaway were machine excavated by the contractors under the supervision of a CAT archaeologist. The trenches measured c 0.5-0.6m wide by 1.6m deep, and the soakaway 2m by 1.5m and 1.6m deep.

The trenches and soakaway were excavated through modern topsoil (L1, c 0.15-0.3m thick, dark grey/brown sandy-loam) and an intermittent subsoil/natural cover loam (L3, where present was recorded up to 0.25m thick, light yellow/brown silty-clay). Natural sandy-silts (L2) were identified sealed beneath either L1 or L2 at a depth of c 0.15-0.5m below current ground level.

The entire width of the central ditch of the Triple Dyke (F1) was revealed during monitoring, sealed beneath c 0.25m of topsoil, and measured 5.4m wide. The fill of the ditch was a soft, moist, medium yellow/brown slightly loamy sandy-silt, containing abundant gravel and stone. The brief and wsi both stated that the entire profile of the ditch would be excavated within one of the foundation trenches. However, at a depth of 1.6m below current ground level excavation had to cease as the edges of the trench were becoming unstable. As a result, the base of the ditch was not uncovered but has been preserved beneath the foundations for the new dwelling. There were no archaeological finds.

A small undated pit (F2) was identified in the soakaway.



**Photograph 1** Foundation trenches, looking NE



**Photograph 2** Soakaway, looking W

## 6 Finds

There were no archaeological finds.

## 7 Conclusion

Archaeological monitoring at 78 Straight Road identified the full width of the Roman central ditch of the Triple Dyke, which measured 5.4m wide. The line of the central ditch can now be more accurately plotted in this location. Unfortunately, due to the depths involved and the unstable nature of the foundation trenches, a full profile of the ditch could not be revealed.

Previous archaeological work on the Triple Dyke, carried out in 1961, 0.63km to the north of the development site showed that the central ditch measured c 5.3m wide. The results of this current monitoring show that the width of the ditch appears to be consistent along the length of the dyke. The 1961 work also revealed the ditch to be 1.8m deep with a flat base (CAR 11, 57 Fig 2.33 and 59).

## 8 Acknowledgements

CAT thanks David Syrett and Balcerne Gate Developments (Southeast) Ltd for commissioning and funding the work. The project was managed by C Lister, fieldwork was carried out by N Rayner. Figures are by S Carter and L Pooley. The project was monitored for Colchester Borough Council by Jess Tipper.

## 9 References

Note: all CAT reports, except for DBAs, are available online in PDF format at

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

- |                           |              |   |
|---------------------------|--------------|---|
| CAR 6                     | 1992         | <i>Colchester Archaeological Report 6: Excavations at Culver Street, the Gilbert School, and other sites in Colchester, 1971-85</i> , by P Crummy |
| CAR 11                    | 1995         | <i>Colchester Archaeological Report 11: Camulodunum 2</i> , by CFC Hawkes & P Crummy  |
| CAT                       | 2014         | <i>Health &amp; Safety Policy</i>   |
| CAT Report 109            | 2000         | <i>An archaeological watching brief at 93-97 Straight Road, Colchester, Essex: October 2000</i>   |
| CAT Report 135            | 2001         | <i>An archaeological watching brief at Plot 6 to the rear of 91 Straight Road, Colchester, Essex: March 2001</i>                                  |
| CAT Report 381            | 2006         | <i>An archaeological watching brief at Kingsmead House, 108 Straight Road, Colchester, Essex: July 2004-February 2005</i>                         |
| CAT Report 1000           | forth-coming | <i>A miscellany of unpublished Colchester and Essex sites: 1984-2000</i>  |
| CAT Report 1253           | 2018         | <i>The Triple Dyke: Archaeological evaluation at 78 Straight Road, Colchester, Essex, CO3 9DB: March 2018</i>                                     |
| CBCAA                     | 2016         | <i>Brief for a Continuous Archaeological Monitoring and Recording at 78 Straight Road, Colchester, CO3 9DB</i> , by J Tipper                      |
| ClfA                      | 2014a        | <i>Standard and Guidance for archaeological watching briefs</i>   |
| ClfA                      | 2014b        | <i>Standard and guidance for the creation, compilation, transfer and deposition of archaeological archives</i>                                    |
| ClfA                      | 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).                           |
| Hawkes, C F C & Hull, M R | 1947         | <i>Camulodunum</i> , Report of the Research Committee of the Society of Antiquaries of London, Volume 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)   |

## 10 Abbreviations and glossary

CAT	Colchester Archaeological Trust
CBCAA	Colchester Borough Council Archaeological Advisor
CHER	Colchester Historic Environment Record
CIfA	Chartered Institute for Archaeologists
context	specific location of finds on an archaeological site
feature (F)	an identifiable thing like a pit, a wall, a drain: can contain 'contexts'
Iron Age	period from 700 BC to Roman invasion of AD 43
layer (L)	distinct or distinguishable deposit (layer) of material
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, <a href="http://oasis.ac.uk/pages/wiki/Main">http://oasis.ac.uk/pages/wiki/Main</a>
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
ws	written scheme of investigation

## 11 Contents of archive

**Finds:** n/a

### **Paper and digital record**

One A4 document wallet containing:

The report (CAT Report 1283)

CBC evaluation brief, CAT written scheme of investigation

Original site record (feature and layer sheets, finds record, plans)

Site digital photos and log, architectural plans, attendance register, risk assessment

## 12 Archive deposition

The paper and digital archive is currently held by the Colchester Archaeological Trust at Roman Circus House, Roman Circus Walk, Colchester, Essex CO2 7GZ, but will be permanently deposited with Colchester Museum under accession code COLEM: 2018.25.



**Distribution list:**

David Syrett, Balkerne Gate Developments (Southeast) Ltd  
Jess Tipper, Colchester Borough Council Planning Services  
Essex Historic Environment Record



**Colchester Archaeological Trust**

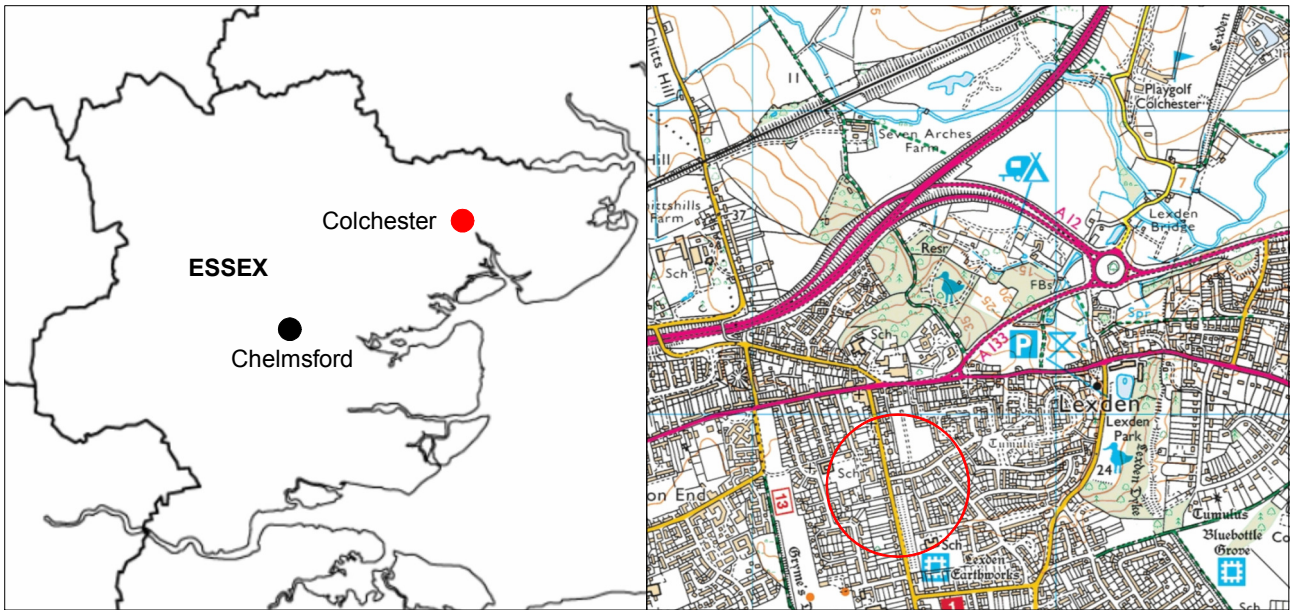
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Checked by: Philip Crummy

Date: 20.6.2018



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Fig 1 Site location in relation the Triple Dyke (green).



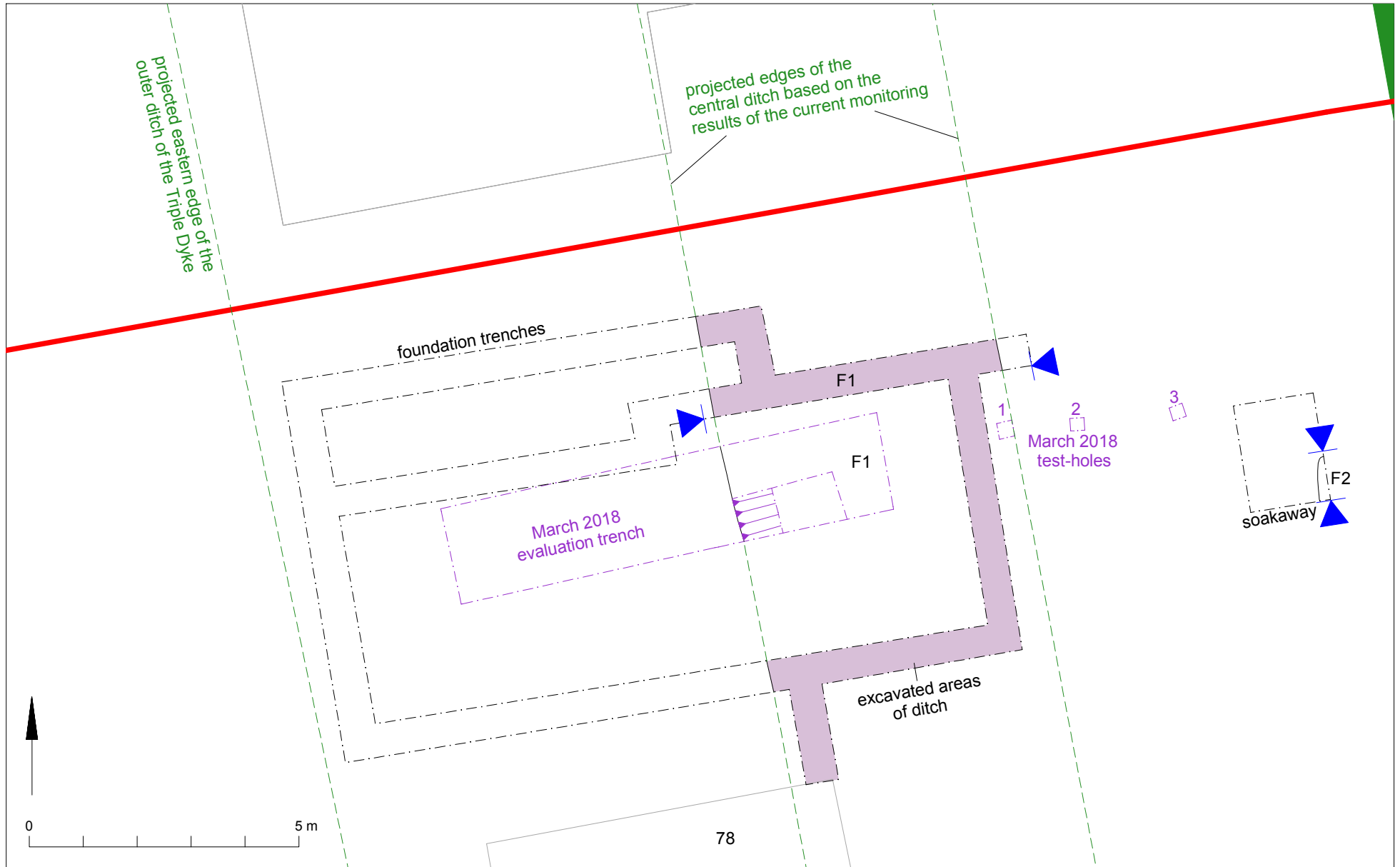


Fig 2 Results

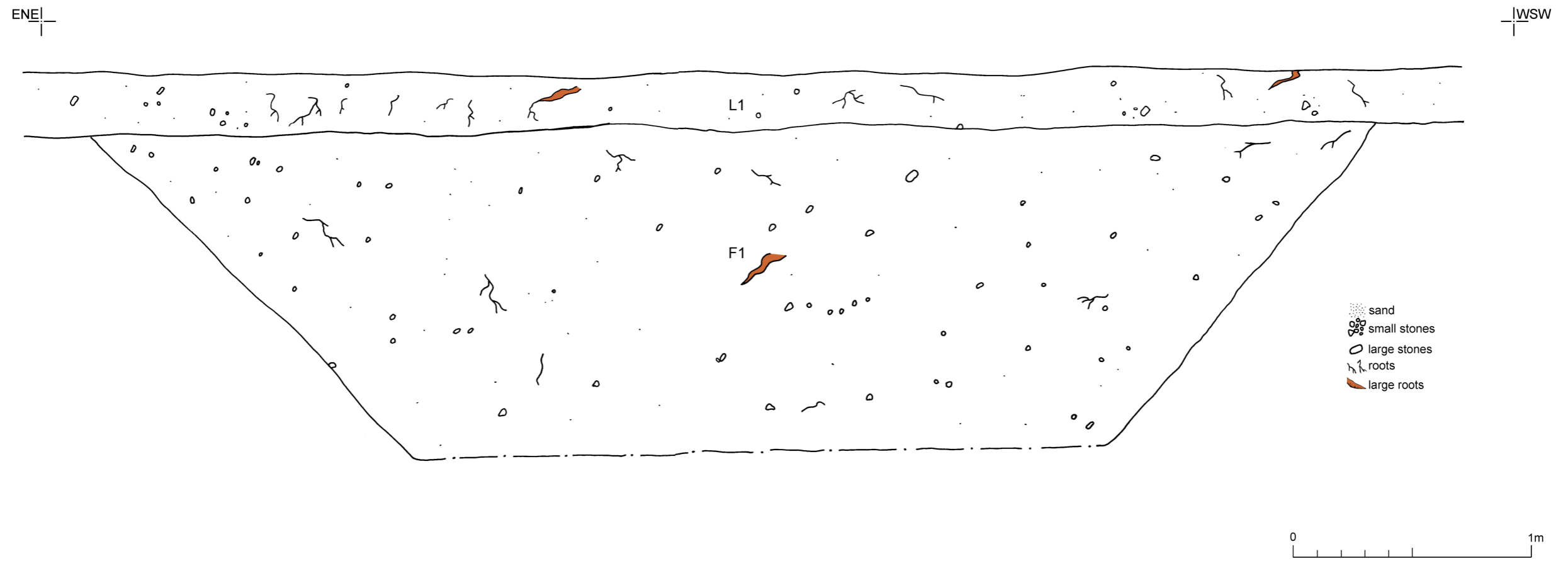


Fig 3 Feature and representative section

# Essex Historic Environment Record/ Essex Archaeology and History

## Summary sheet

<b>Address:</b> 78 Straight Road, Colchester, Essex, CO3 9DB	
<b>Parish:</b> Colchester	<b>District:</b> Colchester
<b>NGR:</b> TL 9647 2477 (centre)	<b>Site code:</b> CAT project ref.: 18/04n CHER ref: ECC4201 OASIS ref: colchest3-315582
<b>Type of work:</b> Monitoring	<b>Site director/group:</b> Colchester Archaeological Trust
<b>Date of work:</b> 8th-9th May 2018	<b>Size of area investigated:</b> 0.1ha
<b>Location of curating museum:</b> Colchester museum accession code COLEM: 2018.25	<b>Funding source:</b> Owner
<b>Further seasons anticipated?</b> Not known	<b>Related CHER/SMR number:</b> CHER MCC7041, MCC7467 Scheduled monument 1019993
<b>Final report:</b> CAT Report 1283	
<b>Periods represented:</b> Roman	
<b>Summary of fieldwork results:</b>  Archaeological monitoring was undertaken at 78 Straight Road, Colchester, Essex during groundworks for the construction of a new residential dwelling. Archaeological evaluation in March 2018 had established that the central ditch of the Roman earthwork known as the Triple Dyke did pass through the development site. Observations made during monitoring revealed that the central ditch measured 5.4m across. It was recorded for a depth of 1.4m, but excavation ceased before the base of the ditch could be revealed as the sides of the trenches were becoming unstable. There were no archaeological finds.	
<b>Previous summaries/reports:</b> CAT Report 1253 <i>Camulodunum</i> , by CFC Hawkes and MR Hull (1947) <i>Colchester Archaeological Report 11 (CAR 11): Camulodunum 2</i> , by CFC Hawkes and Philip Crummy (1995).	
<b>CBC monitor:</b> Jess Tipper	
<b>Keywords:</b> Triple Dyke	<b>Significance:</b> **
<b>Author of summary:</b> Laura Pooley	<b>Date of summary:</b> June 2018

# **Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) for archaeological monitoring and recording at 78 Straight Road, Colchester, Essex, CO3 9DB**

**NGR:** TL 9647 2477

**Planning references:** 180144

**Commisioned by:** David Syrett

**Client:** Balkerne Gate Developments (Southeast) Ltd

**Curating museum:** Colchester

**Museum accession code:** COLEM: 2018.25

**CHER number:** ECC4201

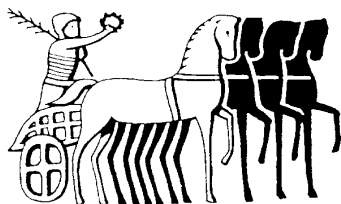
**CAT project code:** 18/04n

**OASIS project number:** colchest3-315582

**Site manager:** Chris Lister

**CBC monitor:** Jess Tipper

**This WSI written:** 27.4.2018



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## Site location and description

The proposed development site is located approximately 3.8km west of the town centre of Colchester at 78 Straight Road, Colchester, Essex, CO3 9DB (Fig 1). The site is centred on NGR TL 9647 2477.

## Proposed work

The development comprises the demolition of an existing single-storey structure attached to the existing dwelling, the formation of a building plot, and the erection of a two-storey dwelling with associated parking facilities for both properties, served by an improved access, as well as any associated groundworks.

## Archaeological background

The following archaeological background draws on the Colchester Archaeological Trust report archive, the Colchester Historic Environment Record (CHER) accessed via the Colchester Heritage Explorer ([www.colchesterheritage.co.uk](http://www.colchesterheritage.co.uk)).

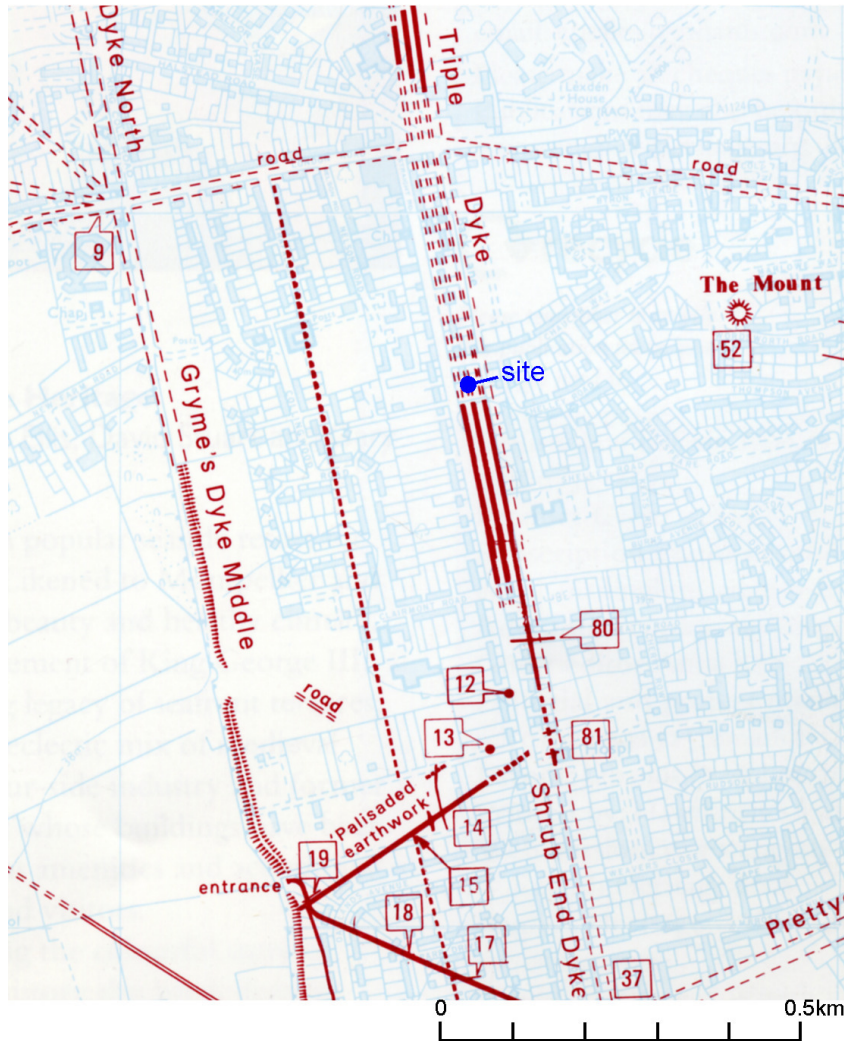
The proposed development is situated within an area of archaeological significance. It lies within the projected line of the earthwork known as the Triple Dyke (scheduled monument 1019993; CHER MCC7041) and Shrub End Dyke (MCC7467). The Colchester dykes are among the most important prehistoric monuments in Britain. They define the extent of the pre-Roman 'proto-town' (or *oppidum* in Latin) of *Camulodunum*. *Camulodunum* was the capital and home of Cunobelin, who was arguably the most important leader in Britain in the decades leading up to the Roman invasion of AD 43. There have been several studies of and excavations on the dykes, which are described fully in two principal reference works: *Camulodunum*, by CFC Hawkes and MR Hull (1947), and *Colchester Archaeological Report 11 (CAR 11): Camulodunum 2*, by CFC Hawkes and Philip Crummy (1995).

The Shrub End Dyke was originally a single ditch thought to have been constructed in approximately AD 10 which formed part of a system with the Lexden and Sheepen Dykes. Aerial photography in 1933 revealed that a little north of Heath Road, two further ditches had been added to the west side of the Shrub End Dyke, forming the Triple Dyke. Photographs show that the Triple Dyke continued for approximately 1.61km northwards to the River Colne (CAR 11, 53-7).

In 1961, Colchester Archaeological Group excavated a section through the Triple Dyke. The section revealed that the innermost ditch had larger dimensions than the outer two. Philip Crummy believes this shows that the innermost ditch is the original Shrub End Dyke and the two additional ditches and banks were added later. This triplification was dated to the Roman period (CAR 11, 57 Fig 2.33 and 59). In 1984, two sections of the Shrub End Dyke were excavated. Its western edge was recorded at 21.5m east of the western site boundary (on Straight Road). Its width was recorded at 6m and its depth varied from approximately 1m to 3m deep (CAR 6, 1045-6, fig 13.278).

In more recent years little archaeological work has been carried out in this area. Monitoring at the former 'Brights' Public House along Straight Road in 1996 revealed the partial remains of the central ditch of the Triple Dyke (CAT project code 96/4d; soon to be published in CAT Report 1000). No significant archaeological remains were encountered during monitoring at 93-97 Straight Road (CAT Report 109) or 91 Straight Road (CAT Report 135). Development work in 2006 at 108 Straight Road uncovered one possible undated ditch (CAT report 381) that appeared to be too far to the east to be the Shrub End Dyke.

An archaeological evaluation on the development site in March 2018, in advance of proposed works, revealed the remains of the central ditch of the Triple dyke (CAT Report 1253) within the footprint of the proposed new dwelling (see Fig 2). The eastern edge of the ditch was located outside the evaluation trench, but three small test-holes suggest that the ditch measures between 5.2m-6.5m wide. The ditch was excavated to a depth of 0.9m but the base of the feature was not reached. There were no archaeological finds.



**Map 1** Extract of the general map of Colchester showing the locations of earthworks and excavations discussed in CAR11 (Fig 6.1). The development site is shown in blue.

## Planning background

A planning application was made to Colchester Borough Council in January 2018 (application No.180144) proposing the demolition of the extension attached to the existing dwelling, splitting the site to create a second two-storey dwelling on the plot. New parking facilities for both dwellings with improved access.

As the site lies within an area highlighted by the 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

As an archaeological evaluation in March 2018 (CAT Report 1253) revealed significant archaeological remains, further archaeological work was recommended by the Colchester Borough Council Archaeological Advisor (CBCAA).

The required archaeological work is for continuous archaeological monitoring and recording of all groundworks. Specifically to identify and record all archaeological deposits which will be



damaged or removed by the development (including services and landscaping). Details are given in a Project Brief written by CBCAA (CBC 2018).

In addition, a full profile of the central ditch of the Triple Dyke will be excavated and recorded (for location see Fig 2), and the spoil sifted for finds.

The method and form of the development will also be monitored to ensure that it conforms to previously agreed locations and techniques upon which the brief and this wsi is based. If the method and extent of groundworks varies from the excavation of (narrow) foundation trenches, the CBCAA will be informed immediately, and who may decided that amendments to the brief and this wsi are required to ensure adequate provision for archaeological recording. This could include the need for archaeological excavation of parts of the site which would otherwise be damaged or destroyed.

## **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, 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 2018).

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 archaeologist for the duration of the groundworks.

In charge of day-to-day site work: Nigel Rayner/Alec Wade

## **Monitoring methodology**

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

All features and layers or other significant deposits will be planned, and their profiles or sections recorded. The normal scale will be site plans at 1:20 and sections at 1:10, unless circumstances indicate that other scales would be appropriate.

### **Site surveying**

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

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

### **Environmental sampling policy**

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 micromorphological and other pedological sedimentological analysis. Environmental bulk samples will be 40 litres in size (assuming the 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 any processing and the 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. If circumstances indicated it were prudent or necessary to remove remains from the site during the monitoring, the following criteria would be applied; if it is clear from their position, context, depth, or other factors that the remains are ancient, then normal procedure is to apply to the Department of Justice for a licence to remove them. In that case, conditions laid down by the

license will be followed. If it seems that the remains are not ancient, then the coroner, the client, and CBCAA will be informed, and any advice and/or instruction from the coroner will be followed.

## **Photographic record**

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

## **Finds**

All significant finds will be retained.

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

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

small finds, metalwork, coins, etc: Laura Pooley

animal bones (small groups): Adam Wightman / Alec Wade

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 / Laura Ratcliffe (LR Conservation)

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

Roman brick/tile: Ernest Black / Ian Betts (MOLA)

Roman glass: Hilary Cool

Prehistoric pottery: Paul Sealey

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

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

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

## **Results**

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

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

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

The report will contain:

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

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

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

## Archive deposition

It is a policy of Colchester Borough Council that the integrity of the site archive be maintained (i.e. all finds and records should be properly curated by a single organisation), with the archive available for public consultation. To achieve this desired aim it is assumed that the full archive will be deposited in Colchester Museums *unless otherwise agreed in advance*. (A full copy of the archive shall in any case be deposited).

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

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

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

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

## Monitoring

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

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

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

CBCAA will be notified when the fieldwork is complete.

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

## References

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

Brown, D	2007	<i>Archaeological Archives: A guide to best practice in creation, compilation, transfer and curation</i>
CAR 6	1992	<i>Colchester Archaeological Report 6: Excavations at Culver Street, the Gilbert School, and other sites in Colchester, 1971-85</i> , by P Crummy
CAR 11	1995	<i>Colchester Archaeological Report 11: Camulodunum 2</i> , by CFC Hawkes & P Crummy
CAT	2014	<i>Health &amp; Safety Policy</i>
CAT Report 109	2000	<i>An archaeological watching brief at 93-97 Straight Road, Colchester, Essex: October 2000</i> , unpublished CAT archive report, by C Crossan
CAT Report 135	2001	<i>An archaeological watching brief at Plot 6 to the rear of 91 Straight Road, Colchester, Essex: March 2001</i> , unpublished CAT archive report, by K Orr
CAT Report 381	2006	<i>An archaeological watching brief at Kingsmead House, 108 Straight Road, Colchester, Essex: July 2004-February 2005</i> , unpublished CAT archive report, by K Orr and H Brooks
CAT Report 1253	2018	<i>The Triple Dyke: Archaeological evaluation at 78 Straight Road, Colchester, Essex, CO3 9DB: March 2018</i>
CBCPS	2018	<i>Brief for continuous archaeological monitoring and recording at 78</i>

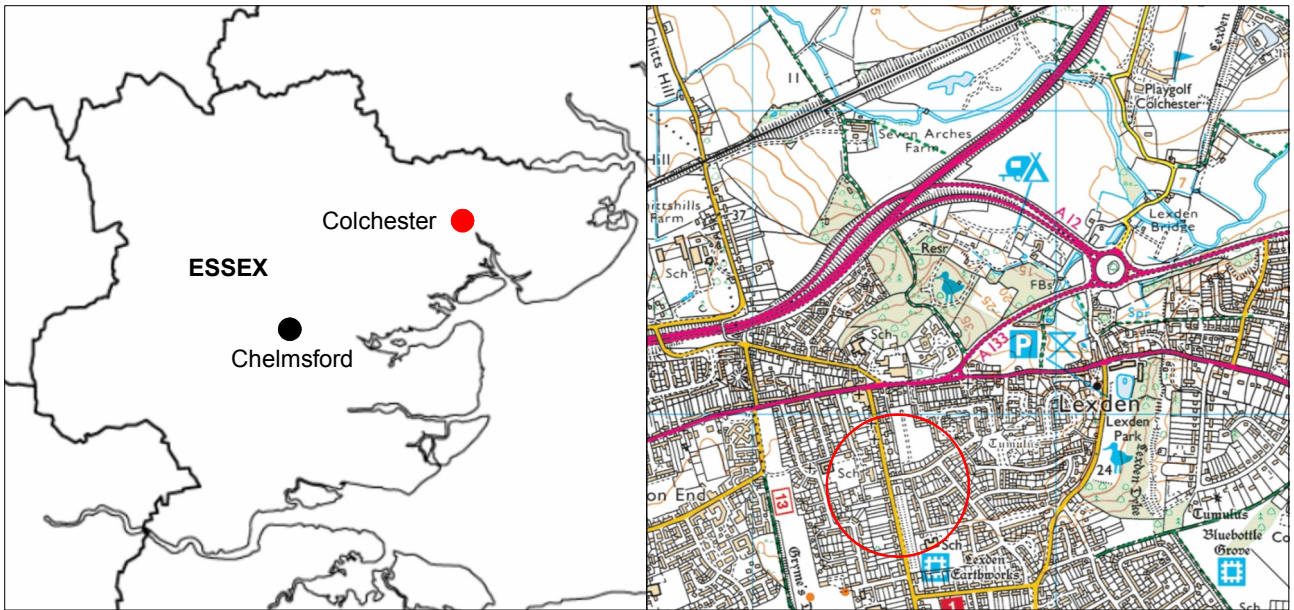
CIFA	2014a	<i>Straight road, Colchester, CO3 9DB</i>
CIFA	2014b	<i>Standard and Guidance for an archaeological watching brief</i>
		<i>Standard and guidance for the collection, documentation, conservation and research of archaeological materials</i>
DCLG	2012	<i>National Planning Policy Framework</i>
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. East Anglian Archaeology Occasional Papers 14 (EAA 14).</i>
Hawkes, CFC, and Hull, MR	1947	<i>Camulodunum, Report of the Research Committee of the Society of Antiquaries of London, Volume 14</i>
Medlycott, M	2011	<i>Research and archaeology revisited: A revised framework for the East of England. East Anglian Archaeology Occasional Papers 24 (EAA 24)</i>

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Fig 1 Site location in relation to proposed development (dashed blue) and the Triple Dyke (green).



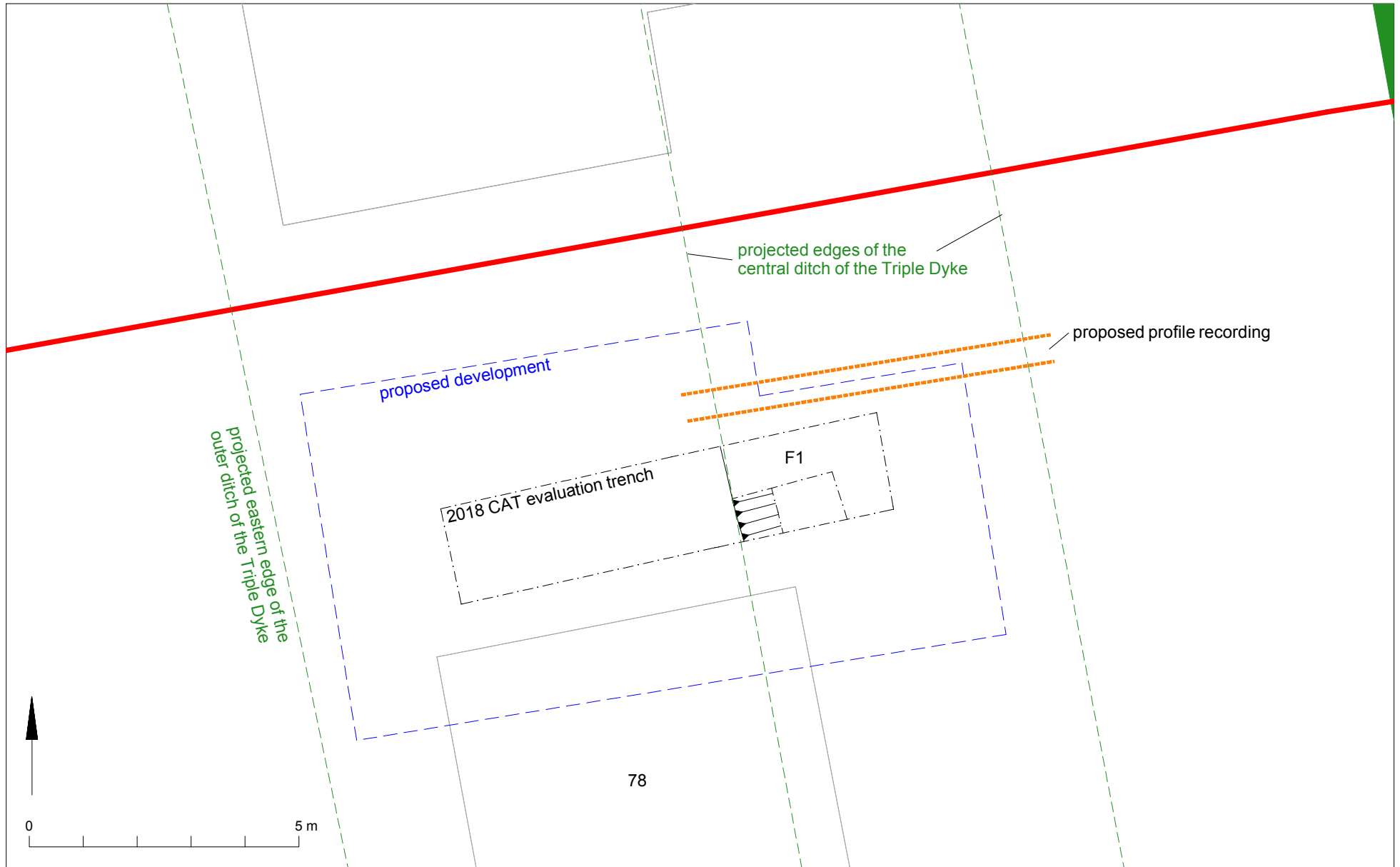


Fig 2 Results of 2018 archaeological evaluation in relation to the proposed development (dashed blue). The location of the proposed profile recording of the central ditch is highlighted in orange.

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**OASIS ID: colchest3-315582**

## Project details

Project name	Archaeological monitoring at 78 Straight Road, Colchester, Essex, CO3 9DB
Short description of the project	Archaeological monitoring was undertaken at 78 Straight Road, Colchester, Essex during groundworks for the construction of a new residential dwelling. Archaeological evaluation in March 2018 had established that the central ditch of the Roman earthwork known as the Triple Dyke did pass through the development site. Observations made during monitoring revealed that the central ditch measured 5.4m across. It was recorded for a depth of 1.4m, but excavation ceased before the base of the ditch could be revealed as the sides of the trenches were becoming unstable. There were no archaeological finds.
Project dates	Start: 08-05-2018 End: 09-05-2018
Previous/future work	Yes / Not known
Any associated project reference codes	18/04n - Contracting Unit No.
Any associated project reference codes	180144 - Planning Application No.
Any associated project reference codes	COLEM: 2018.25 - Museum accession ID
Any associated project reference codes	ECC4201 - HER event no.
Type of project	Recording project
Site status	None
Current Land use	Residential 1 - General Residential
Monument type	DYKE Roman
Monument type	PIT Uncertain
Significant Finds	N/A None
Investigation type	"Watching Brief"
Prompt	Planning condition

## Project location

Country	England
Site location	ESSEX COLCHESTER COLCHESTER 78 Straight Road
Postcode	CO3 9DB
Study area	0.1 Hectares
Site coordinates	TL 9647 2477 51.886292647851 0.855220323766 51 53 10 N 000 51 18 E Point

## Project creators

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

## Project archives

Physical Archive Exists?	No
Digital Archive recipient	Colchester Museum
Digital Archive ID	COLEM: 2018.25
Digital Contents	"Stratigraphic"
Digital Media available	"Images raster / digital photography","Survey","Text"



Digital Archive notes	Using same accession number as the evaluation phase of the project
Paper Archive recipient	Colchester Museum
Paper Archive ID	COLEM: 2018.25
Paper Contents	"Stratigraphic"
Paper Media available	"Context sheet", "Miscellaneous Material", "Photograph", "Plan", "Report", "Section"
Paper Archive notes	Using same accession number as the evaluation phase of the project

### Project bibliography 1

Publication type	Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)
Title	The Triple Dyke: Archaeological monitoring at 78 Straight Road, Colchester, Essex, CO3 9DB: May 2018
Author(s)/Editor(s)	Pooley, L.
Other bibliographic details	CAT Report 1283
Date	2018
Issuer or publisher	Colchester Archaeological Trust
Place of issue or publication	Colchester
Description	A4 ring-bound loose leaf
URL	<a href="http://cat.essex.ac.uk/all-reports.html">http://cat.essex.ac.uk/all-reports.html</a>
Entered by	Laura Pooley (lp@catuk.org)
Entered on	20 June 2018

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