

Archaeological monitoring at Willowdene, 39 Oaks Drive, Colchester, Essex, CO3 3PS

August 2018



by Dr Elliott Hicks
figures by Chris Lister and Sarah Carter

fieldwork by Nigel Rayner

Commissioned by Mr M Stych

NGR: TL 98822 25159 (centre)
Planning reference: 171265
CAT project ref.: 18/06k
Colchester Museum accession code: COLEM 2018.63
CHER ref: ECC4238
OASIS reference: colchest3-320908



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CAT Report 1318
August 2018

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1 Summary

Archaeological monitoring was carried out at Willowdene, 39 Oaks Drive, in advance of the construction of a single-storey rear extension, a first-floor extension above the existing garage, and associated groundworks. The development site is located in the midst of a number of archaeologically-significant sites, particularly the Iron Age and Roman industrial complex of Sheepen and the area of Roman cemeteries known as the 'Lexden Cemetery'. While no archaeological features were encountered, a significant amount of Roman pottery, bricks, and tiles were retrieved, the latter of which do not appear to be related to Roman kilns previously uncovered in the vicinity of site, but which might instead indicate the presence of a Roman brick kiln.

2 Introduction (Fig 1)

This report presents the results of archaeological monitoring at Willowdene, 39 Oaks Drive, Colchester, Essex, which was carried out during 22nd August 2018. The work was commissioned by Mr M Stych, in advance of the construction of a single-storey rear extension, a first-floor extension above the existing garage, and associated groundworks, and was undertaken by Colchester Archaeological Trust (CAT).

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* (MHCLG 2018).

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

3 Archaeological background

The following archaeological background draws on the major published sources for Colchester archaeology (listed below), and also on the Colchester Historic Environment Record, accessed via the Colchester Heritage Network (<https://colchesterheritage.co.uk/>).

The site lies within an area of significant archaeology where evidence of concentrations of Late Iron Age and Roman occupation, and industrial activity, have been recorded in an area known as Sheepen Farm (CHER MCC7488). The area is designated as a heritage asset (Scheduled Monument number 1002173). The Late Iron Age and Roman site at Sheepen involves a main period of occupation between c AD 5-60 (Hawkes and Hull 1946; Niblett 1985), though Bronze Age occupation is also evident there (CAR 11, 132-3).

The site is situated outside the Roman walled town which lies approximately 410m to the east. The site is surrounded by important archaeological remains, principally of Late Iron Age and Roman date. These remains are dominated by the major road a short

distance to the southeast (CHER MCC475 and MCC1928) which led from the walled town to London (Hull 1958, 2-3).

Extra-mural Roman occupation, considered to be an extension of the Roman town (CAR 3, fig 8), is known to extend up to 300m west of the town wall. Part of this settlement close to the town wall has been excavated (the Balkerne Lane site; CAR 3). Here buildings and property plots fronting the major Roman road leading out from the Balkerne Gate were recorded. There are a number of CHER spots for evidence of buildings nearby the site including fragments of tessellated Roman floors seen in Papillon Road (CHER MCC1069), Rawstorn Road (CHER MCC1074) and Crowhurst Road (CHER MCC1734). And fragments of walls seen in Manor Road (CHER MCC1075) and Papillon Road (CHER MCC1084).

Further Roman buildings and activities including horticulture and sand quarrying were recorded on areas away from the road frontage. During a watching brief carried out by CAT in 2008 at 37 Oaks Drive (CAT Report 463), F1 was recorded as being a Roman quarry pit.

Approximately 80m to the southeast of the site is a concentration of Roman kilns (CHER MCC8077 and MCC1226-8) uncovered during the construction of Oaks Drive for the residential development in 1973 and recorded by CAT (CAR 6, 338-340). CAT also recorded a possible kiln c 40m east of the site (CHER MCC1721) during a watching brief in 1975 (CAR 6, 811-2).

The site is also located within an area of Roman cemeteries termed 'the western cemetery' by Hull (1958), but more generally known as the Lexden cemetery (CHER MCC7647). The Lexden cemetery area encompasses a number of Iron Age and Roman burial grounds on both sides of Lexden Road (the main Roman road leading from the walled town towards London and Braughing), leading out of Balkerne Gate as far west as The Avenue (Hull 1958 and CAR 11). A number of Roman cremations, inhumations and tombstones have been discovered in the immediate vicinity (Hull 1958), a full discussion of which can be found in CAR 9. In 1975 CAT recorded two Roman inhumations c. 40m east of the site (CHER MCC1719-1720, CAR 6, 811-2).

To the east-northeast of the site archaeological investigations were carried out by CAT between 2001 and 2003 on the site of the former St Mary's hospital (now known as Balkerne Heights/St. Mary's Fields). Excavations in 2001-3 uncovered early Roman houses destroyed in the Boudican revolt of AD 60/61. The suburb was rebuilt and a road leading to Sheepen to the north-west was created, plus smaller lanes connecting the houses. By the 4th century AD, settlement had moved back inside the town walls and the area was turned over to use as a cemetery. In all, 86 Roman burials were excavated, mainly from the north and eastern areas of the site (CAT Report 484). Four Roman inhumations were also recorded at 'Topfield', Rawstorn Road in 2001 (CHER MCC5422 and MCC2889-2892), adjacent to the hospital site (CAT Report 134). During the development of residential properties in Oaks Drive, fragments of a lead coffin and pottery were found at no. 41 (CAR 6, 811-2, CHER MCC1718) and a skeleton with a glass bead found at no. 52 (CAR 6, 811-2, CHER MCC1719).

During investigations undertaken by CAT in the vicinity of the present site, at 17 Rawstorn Road in 1985, 35 Oaks Drive in 1999 (CAT Report 1000, forthcoming), 26 Oaks Drive in 2001 (CAT Report 157), 11 Oaks Drive in 2002 (CAT Report 209) and 15 Rawstorn Road in 2004 (CAT Report 291), depositions of modern debris or sand measuring 1.25-1.5m were encountered. These were thought to be from either construction of the houses in the 1970s or to raise the height of gardens that were sloping.

4 Aims

Archaeological monitoring was undertaken to excavate and record any archaeological deposits which were exposed by the groundworks.

5 Results (Figs 2-3)

A CAT archaeologist supervised the excavation of approximately 25m of foundation trenching to the rear of the property. The trenching was 0.5m wide and varied in depth from 1.4m to 2.1m.

Excavations occurred through modern topsoil (L1, medium yellow/brown sandy-loam with frequent pottery and tile piece inclusions).

There were no archaeological features.



Photograph 1 N-S branch of foundation trenching – looking north

6 Finds

by Philip Crummy

The fabric series referred to below is described in **CAR 9**.

The trench for the new foundations was cut entirely through a single deposit of topsoil (L1: yellow-brown sandy loam) which was up to 2 m deep. The finds retrieved from this layer consisted of 35 sherds of pottery and four large fragments of brick and tile. The material is all of Roman date. Nothing later was found and there were no other significant finds.

L1 was homogeneous in composition. The finds appeared as if randomly scattered throughout it thus giving the strong impression that they were all residual in context. They were mixed in terms of date, some being pre-Flavian, others 2nd to 3rd century or later. Collectively, they suggest that L1 was deposited in the 2nd or 3rd century.

Two fragments of heavily-burnt Roman brick are possibly the remnants of one or maybe different two hearths. Three pottery kilns were found 90 m to the south-east of the site in 1973 (Crummy 1992, 338-40) but these are unlikely to have been the source of the burnt brick since the kilns there appear to have been made entirely of clay and used not for the manufacture of brick but of pottery. A brick kiln elsewhere is an outside possibility especially since the box flue-tile seems unused.

Catalogue

Amphorae

- a) Five body sherds of large-girthed vessel(s), probably Dressel 20, Fab AJ.
- b) Large part of a handle of unidentified form, Fab AA.

Samian

- a) Fragment of footring of a large bowl with first part of the stamp surviving as two letters MA allided followed by the top left-hand corner of an R to give Marinus or a T for Martialis, both floruit AD 50-65. South Gaulish.
- b) Decorated body sherd, with an upper frieze similar to CAR 10, 63, no 440 and a lower frieze like CAR 9, 42, no 163. Pre-Flavian. South Gaulish.
- c) Small rim sherd Dr 33. Body sherd.
- d) Body sherd.

Flagons

- a) Rim fragment of buff-coloured cup-necked flagon with four rings, DJ, CAM 154/155, Claudio-Neronian.
- b) Buff plain body sherd (DJ).

Coarseware

Rim sherd CAM 266, Fab GX, 2nd to 3rd centuries.
Rim sherd CAM 38, Fab WA, probably late 2nd - late 3rd century.
Rim sherd of late form of butt beaker CAM 119, Fab GX (?2nd - 3rd century).
Rim sherd CAM 259.
Rim sherd CAM 266, Fab GX, 2nd-4th century.
Rim sherd Fab GX.
Three thick vesiculated body sherds from at least two large storage jars.
Two body sherds of carinated jars, Fab GX, 1st century.
One neck sherd of large storage jar with cordon, prob 1st century.
Eleven plain body sherds.

CBM

End corner fragment of box flue-tile which appears never to have been set in a wall or used in some other way.
Fragment of plain red tile 21 mm thick. Plain on one side. Of uncertain function or date.
Two fragments of two heavily-burnt bricks (31 and 40 mm thick), one with part of a paw print. Each fragment probably from a hearth or kiln.

7 Discussion

Archaeological monitoring was undertaken at this site due to its proximity to several areas of archaeological interest dating to the Late Iron Age and Roman era. No significant archaeological features were encountered. Groundworks did, however,

penetrate a homogeneous layer containing only Roman material, which measured about 2m in depth. The initial appearance of the layer suggested the presence of a large pit, although this is unlikely. It is possible that the layer represented a substantial deposit of material to level the ground occurring around the 2nd century AD. Another possibility, however, is that the layer was a more recent levelling deposit laid down prior to the construction of housing in the early 1970s, as has been observed during previous archaeological investigations conducted in the area, although it should be noted that no post-Roman finds were recovered during groundworks. A significant amount of Roman pottery, tile, and bricks were retrieved, however. The former indicates domestic activity in the vicinity of the site during this period; the latter do not appear to be related to the Roman kilns located to the southeast uncovered by CAT during the 1970s as these were made of clay and were used for pottery production. There is therefore a chance that the remains of a Roman brick kiln may lie somewhere near to the site.

8 Acknowledgements

CAT thanks M Stych for commissioning and funding the work. The project was managed by C Lister and carried out by N Rayner. Figures were prepared by C Lister and S Carter. The project was monitored for the CBCPS by Jess Tipper, and for Historic England by Debbie Priddy.

9 References

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

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

- | | | |
|-----------------|---------------|---|
| Brown, D | 2011 (2nd ed) | <i>Archaeological Archives: A guide to best practice in creation, compilation, transfer and curation</i> |
| CAR 3 | 1984 | <i>Colchester Archaeological Report 3, Excavations at Lion Walk, Balke Lane and Middleborough, Colchester, Essex</i> by P Crummy |
| CAR 6 | 1992 | <i>Colchester Archaeological Report 6: Excavations at Culver Street, the Gilberd School, and other sites in Colchester, 1971-85</i> by P Crummy |
| CAR 9 | 1993 | <i>Colchester Archaeological Report 9: Excavations of Roman and later cemeteries, churches and monastic sites in Colchester, 1971-85</i> by N Crummy, P Crummy and C Crossan |
| CAR 10 | 1999 | <i>Colchester Archaeological Report 10: Roman pottery from excavations in Colchester, 1971-86</i> by Robin P Symonds and Sue Wade |
| CAR 11 | 1995 | <i>Colchester Archaeological Report 11: Camulodunum 2</i> by CFC Hawkes and P Crummy |
| CAT | 2014 | <i>Health and Safety Policy</i> |
| CAT | 2018 | <i>Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) for continuous monitoring and recording at Willowdene, 39 Oaks Drive, Colchester, Essex, CO3 3PS</i> |
| CAT Report 134 | 2001 | <i>An archaeological evaluation at 'Topfield', Rawstorn Road, Colchester</i> by K Orr |
| CAT Report 157 | 2001 | <i>An archaeological watching brief at 26 Oaks Drive, Colchester, Essex: June and September 2001</i> by K Orr |
| CAT Report 209 | 2002 | <i>An archaeological evaluation at 11 Oaks Drive, Colchester, Essex: September 2002</i> by K Orr |
| CAT Report 291 | 2004 | <i>An archaeological evaluation at 15 Rawstorn Road, Colchester, Essex: October 2004</i> by K Orr |
| CAT Report 463 | 2008 | <i>Archaeological watching brief at 37 Oaks Drive, Colchester, Essex: February 2008</i> by S Benfield |
| CAT Report 1000 | forthcoming | <i>A miscellany of unpublished Colchester and Essex sites: 1984-2000 (sites not published in any Colchester Archaeological Report, or in the CAT Report Series from 1997)</i> by H Brooks |
| CBCPS | 2018 | <i>Brief for Continuous Archaeological Monitoring and Recording at Willowdene, 39 Oaks Drive, Colchester, CO3 3PS</i> by J Tipper |
| ClfA | 2014a | <i>Standard and Guidance for an archaeological watching brief</i> |
| ClfA | 2014b | <i>Standard and guidance for the collection, documentation,</i> |

English Heritage	2006	<i>conservation and research of archaeological materials 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>
Hull, MR	1958	<i>Roman Colchester, RRCSAL, 20</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>
MHCLG	2018	<i>National Planning Policy Framework</i>
Niblett, BRK	1985	<i>Sheepen: an early Roman Industrial site at Camulodunum, CBA Research Report, 57</i>

10 Abbreviations and glossary

Bronze Age	period from c 2500 – 700 BC
CAT	Colchester Archaeological Trust
CBCPS	Colchester Borough Council Planning Services
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'
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	O nline A ccess to the I ndex of A rchaeological I nvestigations, http://oasis.ac.uk/pages/wiki/Main
Roman	the period from AD 43 to c AD 410
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 1318)

CBCPS evaluation brief, CAT written scheme of investigation

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

Site digital photos and log

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 2018.63.

Distribution list

Mr M Stych
Jess Tipper, Colchester Borough Council Planning Services
Debbie Priddy, Historic England
Essex Historic Environment Record



Colchester Archaeological Trust

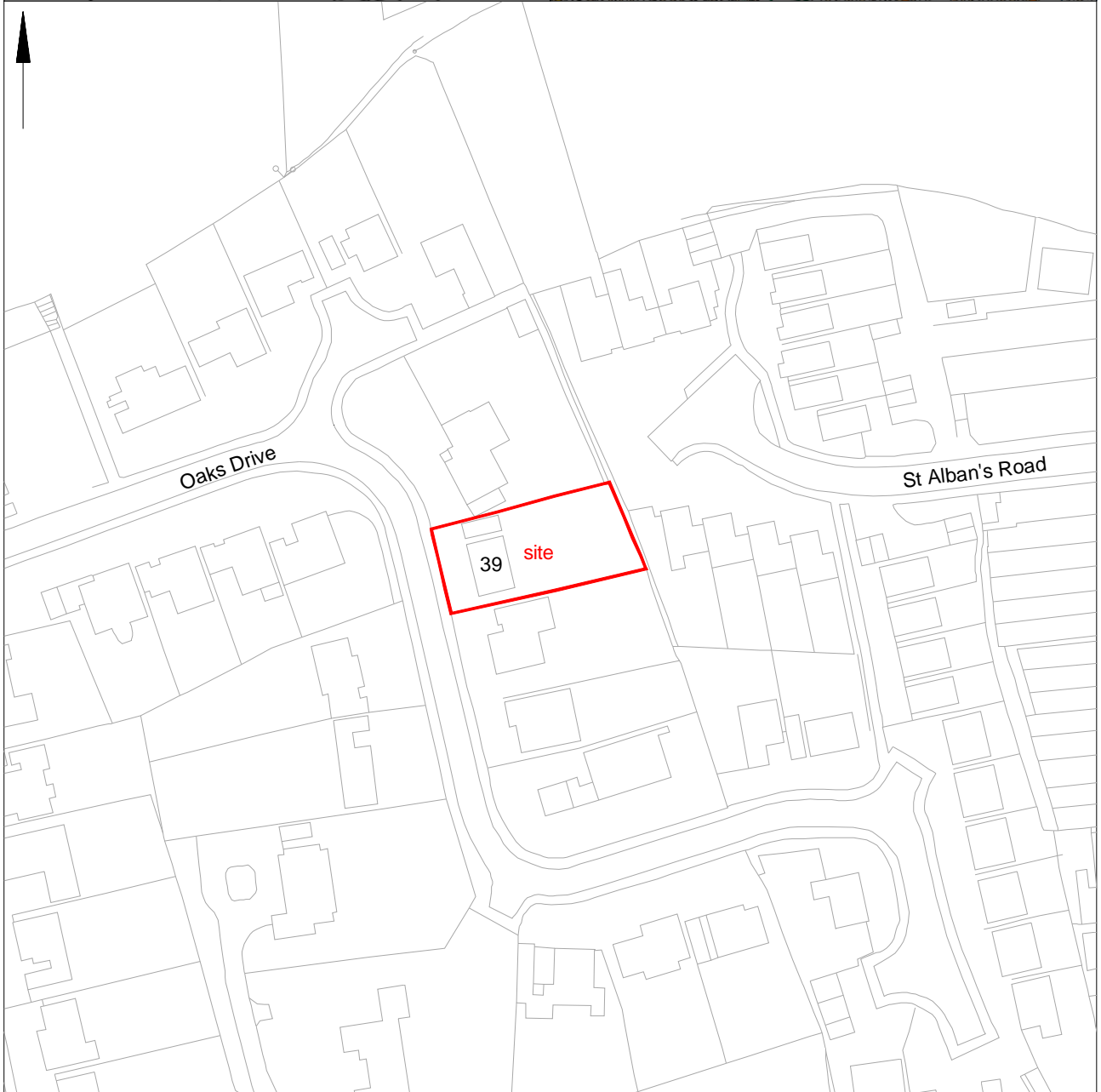
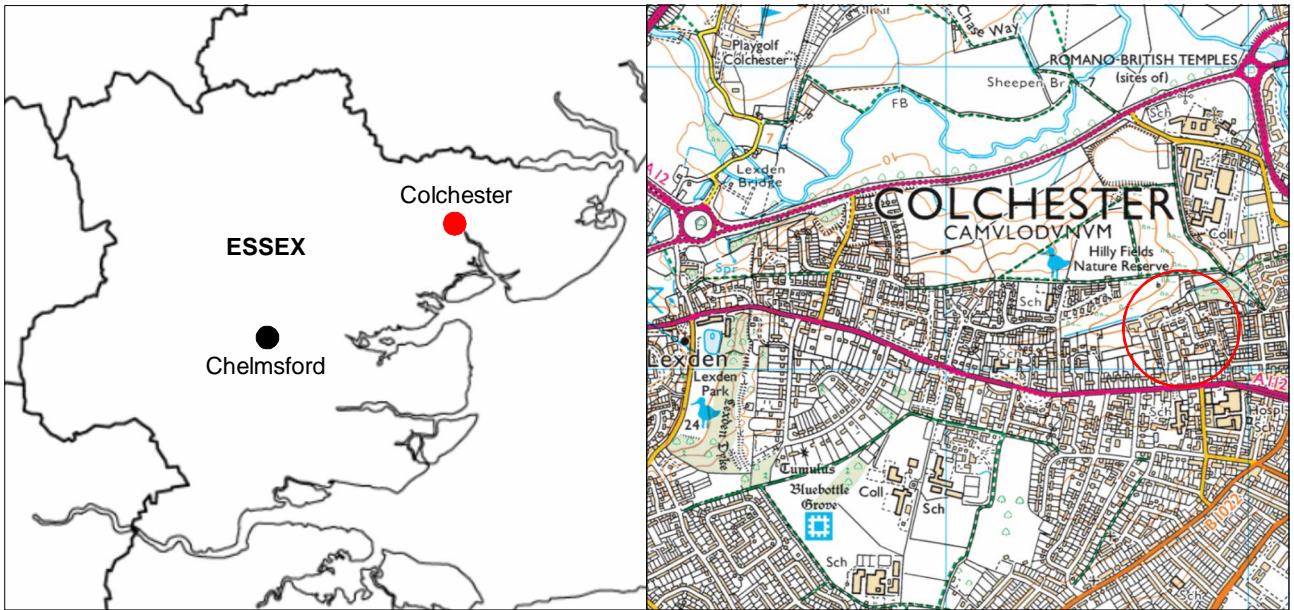
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Checked by: Philip Crummy

Date: 12.09.2018



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Fig 1 Site location



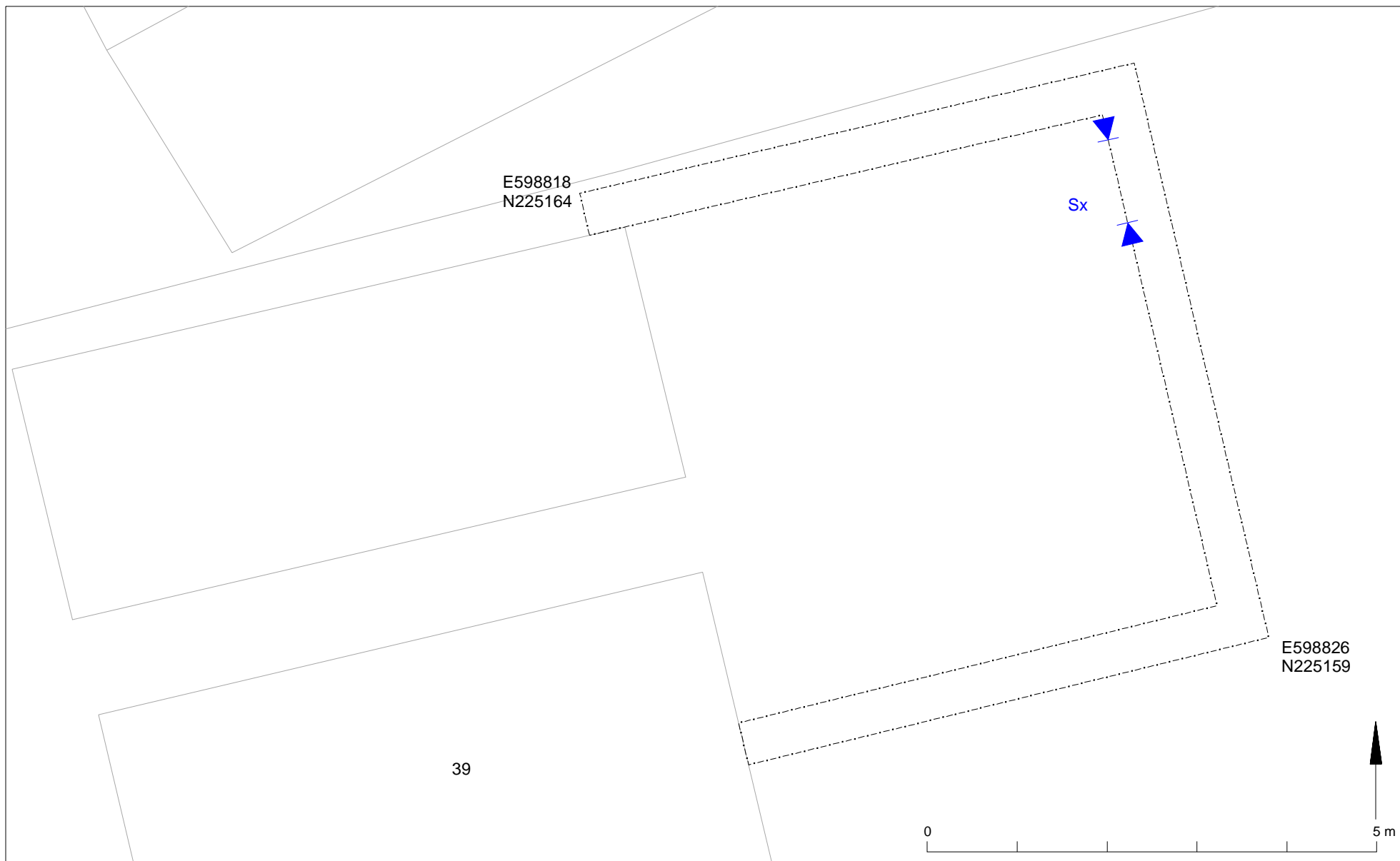


Fig 2 Results

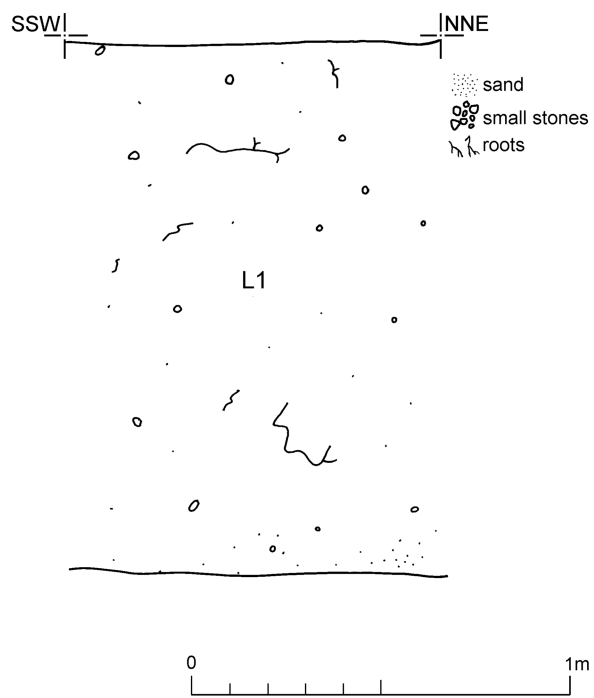


Fig 3 Representative section

Essex Historic Environment Record/ Essex Archaeology and History

Summary sheet

Address: 39 Oaks Drive, Colchester, Essex, CO3 3PS	
Parish: Colchester	District: Colchester
NGR: TL 98822 25159 (centre)	Site code: CAT project ref.: 18/06k CHER ref: ECC4238 OASIS ref: colchest3-320908
Type of work: Monitoring	Site director/group: Colchester Archaeological Trust
Date of work: 22nd August 2018	Size of area investigated: 0.065 ha
Location of curating museum: Colchester museum accession code COLEM: 2018.36	Funding source: Owner
Further seasons anticipated? Not known	Related CHER/SMR number: CHER MCC475, MCC1069, MCC1074, MCC1075, MCC1084, MCC1226, MCC1227, MCC1228, MCC1718, MCC1719, MCC1720, MCC1721, MCC1734, MCC1928, MCC2889, MCC2890, MCC2891, MCC2892, MCC5422, MCC7488, MCC7647, MCC8077; Scheduled Monument no. 1002173
Final report: CAT Report 1318	
Periods represented: Roman	
Summary of fieldwork results: <i>Archaeological monitoring was carried out at Willowdene, 39 Oaks Drive, in advance of the construction of a single-storey rear extension, a first-floor extension above the existing garage, and associated groundworks. The development site is located in the midst of a number of archaeologically-significant sites, particularly the Iron Age and Roman industrial complex of Sheepen and the area of Roman cemeteries known as the 'Lexden Cemetery'. While no archaeological features were encountered, a significant amount of Roman pottery, bricks, and tiles were retrieved, the latter of which do not appear to be related to Roman kilns previously uncovered in the vicinity of site, but which might instead indicate the presence of a Roman brick kiln.</i>	
Previous summaries/reports: None	
CBC monitor: Jess Tipper	
Keywords: -	Significance: *
Author of summary: Dr Elliott Hicks	Date of summary: August 2018

Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) for continuous archaeological monitoring and recording at Willowdene, 39 Oaks Drive, Colchester, Essex, CO3 3PS

NGR: TL 98822 25159 (centre)

Planning reference: 171265

Client: Mr M Stych

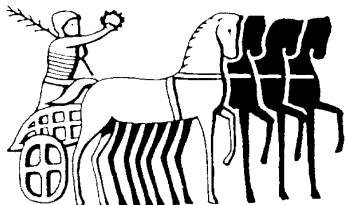
Curating museum: Colchester

Museum accession code: [tbc](#)
CHER number: ECC4238
CAT project code: 2018/06k
OASIS project id: colchest3-320908

Site manager: Chris Lister

CBC monitor: Jess Tipper
Historic England Inspector: Debbie Priddy

This WSI written: 27.06.2018



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Site location and description

The proposed development site lies approximately 750m west of main Colchester town centre at Willowdene, 39 Oaks Drive, Colchester, Essex, CO3 3PS (Fig 1). The site is centred on NGR TL 98822 25159.

Proposed work

The development comprises the erection of a single-storey rear extension, a first floor extension above the existing garage and any other associated groundworks.

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, accessed via the Colchester Heritage Network (<https://colchesterheritage.co.uk/>).

The site lies within an area of significant archaeology where evidence of concentrations of Late Iron Age and Roman occupation, and industrial activity, have been recorded in an area known as Sheepen Farm (CHER MCC7488). The area is designated as a heritage asset (Scheduled Monument number 1002173). The late Iron Age and Roman site at Sheepen involves a main period of occupation between c AD 5-60 (Hawkes & Hull 1946; Niblett 1985), though Bronze Age occupation is also attested there (CAR 11, 132-3).

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Extra-mural Roman occupation, considered to be an extension of the Roman town (CAR 3, fig 8), is known to extend up to 300m west of the town wall. Part of this settlement close to the town wall has been excavated (the Balkerne Lane site; CAR 3). Here buildings and property plots fronting the major Roman road leading out from the Balkerne Gate were recorded. There are a number of CHER spots for evidence of buildings nearby the site including fragments of tessellated Roman floors seen in Papillon Road (CHER MCC1069), Rawstorn Road (CHER MCC1074) and Crowhurst Road (CHER MCC1734). And fragments of walls seen in Manor Road (CHER MCC1075) and Papillon Road (CHER MCC1084).

Further Roman buildings and activities including horticulture and sand quarrying were recorded on areas away from the road frontage. During a watching brief carried out by CAT in 2008 at 37 Oaks Drive (CAT Report 463) F1 was recorded as being a Roman quarry pit.

Approximately 80m to the southeast of the site is a concentration of Roman kilns (CHER MCC8077 and MCC1226-8) uncovered during the construction of Oaks Drive for the residential development in 1973 and recorded by CAT (CAR 6, 338-340). CAT also recorded a possible kiln c. 40m east of the site (CHER MCC1721) during a watching brief in 1975 (CAR 6 811-2).

The site is also situated within an area within an area of Roman cemeteries termed 'the western cemetery' by Hull (1958), but more generally known as the Lexden cemetery (CHER MCC7647). The Lexden cemetery area encompasses a number of Iron Age and Roman burial grounds on both sides of Lexden Road (the main Roman road leading from the walled town towards London and Braughing), leading out of Balkerne Gate as far west as The Avenue (Hull 1958 and CAR 11). A number of Roman cremations, inhumations and tombstones have been discovered in the immediate vicinity (Hull 1958), a full discussion of which can be found in CAR 9. In 1975 CAT recorded two Roman inhumations c. 40m east of the site (CHER MCC1719-MCC1720, CAR 6 811-2).

To the east-northeast of the site archaeological investigations were carried out by CAT between 2001 and 2003 on the site of the former St Mary's hospital (now known as Balkeerne Heights/St. Mary's Fields). Excavations in 2001-3 uncovered early Roman houses destroyed in the Boudican revolt of AD 60/61. The suburb was rebuilt and a road leading to Sheepen to the north-west was created, plus smaller lanes connecting the houses. By the 4th century AD, settlement had moved back inside the town walls and the area was turned over to use as a cemetery. In all, 86 Roman burials were excavated, mainly from the north and eastern areas of the site (CAT report in forthcoming). Four Roman inhumations were also recorded at 'Topfield', Rawstorn Road in 2001 (CHER MCC5422 and MCC2889-2892), adjacent to the hospital site (CAT Report 134). During the development of residential properties in Oaks Drive fragments of a lead coffin and pottery were found at no. 41 (CAR 6 811-2, CHER MCC1718) and a skeleton with a glass bead found at no. 52 (CAR 6 811-2, CHER MCC1719)

Sites CAT worked on at 17 Rawstorn Road in 1985, 35 Oaks Drive in 1999 (CAT Report 1000, forthcoming), 26 Oaks Drive in 2001 (CAT Report 157), 11 Oaks Drive in 2002 (CAT Report 209) and 15 Rawstorn Road in 2004 (CAT Report 291) all had between 1.25-1.5m of modern debris or sand dumps thought to be from either construction of the houses in the 1970's or to raise the height of gardens that were sloping. This modern layer meant there was no surviving archaeological remains left in these areas.

Planning background

A planning application was made to Colchester Borough Council in May 2017 (application no. 171265) proposing a single-storey rear extension and first floor extension above garage.

As the site lies within a designated heritage asset (Scheduled Ancient Monument no 1002173) and 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). Scheduled Monument consent is required for these works and was granted by Historic England in January 2018 (Ref S0014587).

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 2018).

The monitoring and recording is being undertaken to identify and record any surviving archaeological deposits that will be damaged or destroyed by any development (including services and landscaping) permitted by the current planning consent.

The method and form the development will also be monitored to ensure that it conforms to previously agreed locations and techniques upon which the brief, and this wsi, are based.

If unexpected remains are encountered the CBCAA and the Historic England Inspector (HEI) will be informed immediately and the CBCAA/HEI will decide if 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 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/HEI 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 CHER. 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), 10% of linear features (ditches, etc) and 100% of all complex features and burials (see Human Remains policy below).

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.

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 will be located by NGR coordinates.

Environmental sampling policy

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

Human remains

CAT follows the policy of leaving human remains *in situ* unless there is a clear indication that the remains are in danger of being compromised as a result of their exposure. As the requirement for work is for full excavation any human remains encountered on the site will be subject to the following criteria: if it is clear from their position, context, depth, or other factors that the remains are ancient, then normal procedure is to apply to the Ministry of Justice for a licence to remove them. In that case, conditions laid down by the license will be followed. If it seems that the remains are not ancient, then the coroner, the client, and CBCAA/HEI 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 / Nina Crummy

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

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: Laura Ratcliffe (LR Conservation) /

Norfolk Museums Service, Conservation and Design Services

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 / Nigel Brown

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/HEI 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/HEI as a PDF.

The report will contain:

- The aims and methods adopted in the course of the archaeological project.
- Location plan of the excavation/monitoring areas in relation to the proposed development. At least two corners of the area will be given 10 figure grid references.
- A section drawing showing depth of deposits from present ground level with Ordnance Datum, vertical and horizontal scale (if this can be safely done)
- Archaeological methodology and detailed results including a suitable conclusion and discussion and results referring to Regional Research Frameworks (Medlycott 2011).
- All specialist reports or assessments
- A concise non-technical summary of the project results.

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

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/HEI.

Monitoring

CBCAA/HEI 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/HEI one week in advance of its commencement.

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

CBCAA/HEI will be notified when the fieldwork is complete.

The involvement of CBCAA/HEI 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>

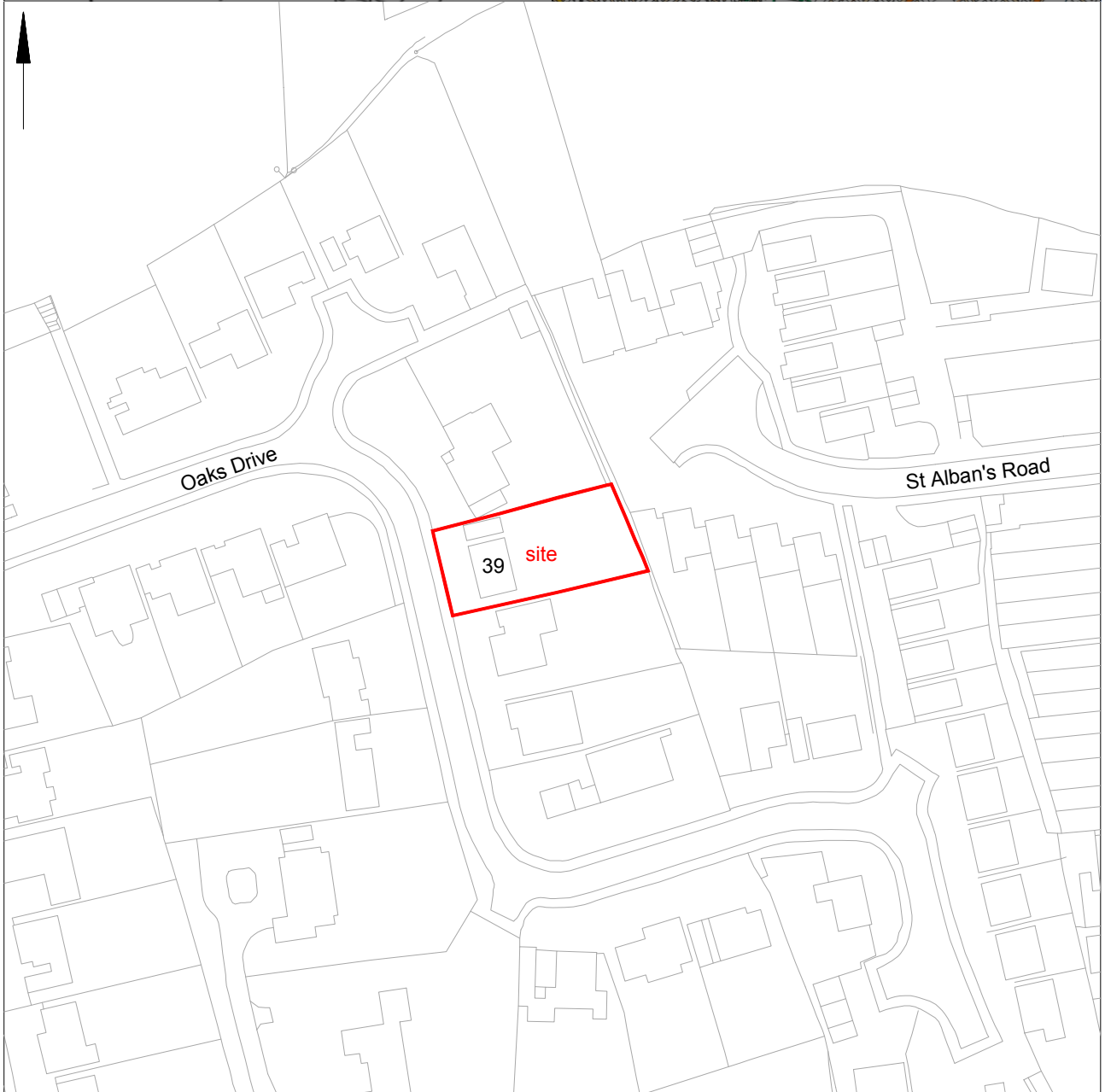
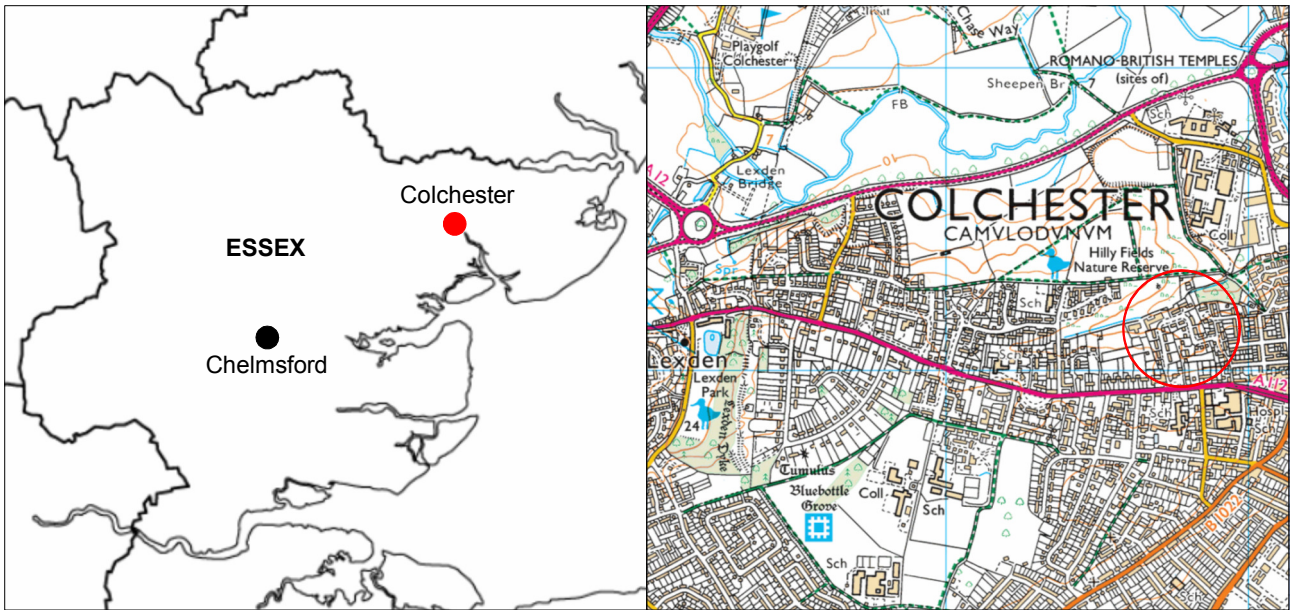
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| CAR 6 | 1992 | <i>Colchester Archaeological Report 6: Excavations at Culver Street, the Gilbert School, and other sites in Colchester, 1971-85.</i> By P Crummy |
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Fig 1 Site location



OASIS DATA COLLECTION FORM: England

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OASIS ID: colchest3-320908

Project details

Project name	Continuous archaeological monitoring and recording at Willowdene, 39 Oaks Drive, Colchester, Essex, CO3 3PS
Short description of the project	Archaeological monitoring was carried out at Willowdene, 39 Oaks Drive, in advance of the construction of a single-storey rear extension, a first-floor extension above the existing garage, and associated groundworks. The development site is located in the midst of a number of archaeologically-significant sites, particularly the Iron Age and Roman industrial complex of Sheepen and the area of Roman cemeteries known as the 'Lexden Cemetery'. While no archaeological features were encountered, a significant amount of Roman pottery, bricks, and tiles were retrieved, the latter of which do not appear to be related to Roman kilns previously uncovered in the vicinity of site, but which might instead indicate the presence of a Roman brick kiln.
Project dates	Start: 22-08-2018 End: 22-08-2018
Previous/future work	No / Not known
Any associated project reference codes	2018/06k - Contracting Unit No.
Any associated project reference codes	171265 - Planning Application No.
Any associated project reference codes	1002173 - SM No.
Any associated project reference codes	ECC4238 - HER event no.
Any associated project reference codes	COLEM 2018.63 - Museum accession ID
Type of project	Recording project
Site status	Scheduled Monument (SM)
Current Land use	Other 5 - Garden
Current Land use	Other 3 - Built over
Significant Finds	POTTERY Roman

Significant Finds	BRICK Roman
Significant Finds	TILE Roman
Investigation type	""Watching Brief""
Prompt	National Planning Policy Framework - NPPF

Project location

Country	England
Site location	ESSEX COLCHESTER COLCHESTER Willowdene, 39 Oaks Drive
Postcode	CO3 3PS
Study area	0.07 Hectares
Site coordinates	TL 98822 25159 51.888948307243 0.889578594591 51 53 20 N 000 53 22 E Point

Project creators

Name of Organisation	Colchester Archaeological Trust
Project brief originator	CBC Archaeological Officer
Project design originator	Emma Holloway
Project director/manager	Chris Lister
Project supervisor	Nigel Rayner
Type of sponsor/funding body	Owner
Name of sponsor/funding body	Mr M Stych

Project archives

Physical Archive Exists?	No
Digital Archive recipient	Colchester Museum
Digital Archive ID	COLEM 2018.63
Digital Media available	"Images raster / digital photography"
Paper Archive recipient	Colchester Museum
Paper Archive ID	COLEM 2018.63
Paper Media available	"Context sheet", "Photograph", "Report", "Section"

Project bibliography 1

Publication type	Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)
Title	

Archaeological monitoring at Willowdene, 39 Oaks Drive, Colchester, Essex,
CO3 3PS: August 2018

Author(s)/Editor (s)	Hicks, E.
Other bibliographic details	CAT Report 1318
Date	2018
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Place of issue or publication	Colchester
Description	A4 loose-leaf ringbound
URL	http://cat.essex.ac.uk
Entered by	Elliott Hicks (eh2@catuk.org)
Entered on	12 September 2018

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