

Archaeological evaluation on land between 1-3 Halfmoon Farm & Byways Cottage, Huxtables Lane, Fordham Heath, Colchester, Essex, CO3 9TJ

April 2021



by Laura Pooley

with contributions by Dr Matthew Loughton
figures by Sarah Carter and Laura Pooley

fieldwork by Mark Baister and Sarah Carter

**commissioned by Gary Mason
on behalf of Holm Oak Property Ltd**

NGR: TL 9444 2605 (centre)
Planning ref.: 182461
CAT project ref.: 2021/01d
CHER code: ECC4594
OASIS ref.: colchest3-412450



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CAT Report 1653
April 2021

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1 Summary

An archaeological evaluation (two trial-trenches) was carried out on land between 1-3 Halfmoon Farm and Byways Cottage, Huxtables Lane, Fordham Heath, Colchester, Essex in advance of the construction of a new residential dwelling. Despite being located to the south of the historic Fordham Heath and in an area of known cropmarks, there were no significant archaeological remains.

2 Introduction (Fig 1)

This is the report for an archaeological evaluation carried out by Colchester Archaeological Trust (CAT) on land between 1-3 Halfmoon Farm and Byways Cottage, Huxtables Lane, Fordham Heath, Colchester, Essex. The evaluation was commissioned by Gary Mason of Holm Oak Property Ltd and took place on 8th April 2021 in advance of construction of a new residential dwelling.

As the site lies within an area highlighted by the Colchester Historic Environment Record (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 initially for a Historic Building Recording of the existing outbuilding before demolition followed by an archaeological evaluation by trial-trenching. The recommendation was based on the guidance given in the *National Planning Policy Framework* (MHCLG 2019).

A *Brief for Historic Building Recording and Archaeological Evaluation* was written by Dr Richard Hoggett (CBCAA 2020), and a written scheme of investigation (WSI) was prepared by CAT in response to the brief and agreed with CBCAA in advance of the work (CAT 2021). However, a site visit by CAT in January 2021 was able to determine that the outbuilding on the site was not that recorded on the 1838 Tithe Map, and was in fact of 20th-century date. Subsequent consultation with the CBCAA meant that the requirement for Historic Building Recording was removed.

In addition to the brief and WSI, all fieldwork and reporting was done in accordance with the *Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment (MoRPHE)* (Historic England 2015) and with *Standards for field archaeology in the East of England (EAA 14 and 24)*. This report mirrors standards and practices contained in the Institute for Archaeologists' *Standard and guidance for archaeological field evaluation* (ClfA 2014a) and *Standard and guidance for the collection, documentation, conservation and research of archaeological materials* (ClfA 2014b).

3 Archaeological background

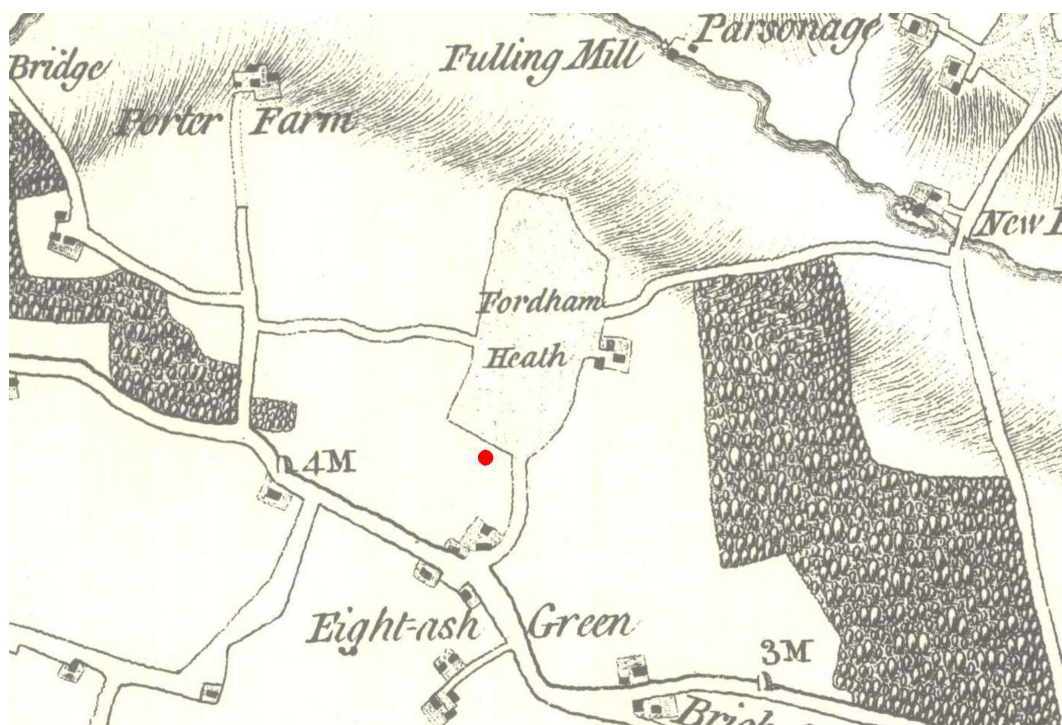
The following archaeological background draws on the Colchester Historic Environment Record (CHER, ECC/MCC numbers) accessed via the Colchester Heritage Explorer (www.colchesterheritage.co.uk).

Historic maps of the area show that the site is situated immediately south of Fordham Heath (CHER MCC9171), a historic heath originally shown on Chapman and André's map of 1777. The heath is shown as subrectangular, enclosing an area of c 15ha. Although undeveloped in 1777, by the 1838 Tithe map (ERO D/CT 142B) the proposed site had been built on and continued to be occupied by buildings until the present day. Approximately 80m to the west of the development was the site of a late 19th-century brewery (CHER MCC5158), marked on the 2nd edition OS Map (1897).

The site is also surrounded by cropmarks. To the west at Heathside Farm (MCC7777) is a mixture of linear features and pits, along with a small rectangular enclosure with a southwestern entrance. To the northwest, 'West of Fordham Heath' (MCC7723) are cropmarks of rectilinear enclosures and associated trackways. To the northeast, 'south of White House Farm' (MCC7584), are cropmarks of ring-ditches with internal pits, with a Neolithic polished axe (MCC7585) recovered just to the east of these. To the north of these crop-marks at White

House Farm, are parchmarks of various rectilinear features (MCC8752). To the southeast of the site, cropmarks at Newlands Farm (MCC8644) have been identified as former field boundaries, one with an attached rectangular pond, and other linear features. Located on the western side of these cropmarks are some masonry foundations (MCC7621). Cut by a boundary ditch, the foundations are marked on an OS map as probably Roman.

In 2018 CAT undertook monitoring works at Heath Road, to the north of the site, but there no significant archaeological remains uncovered by the groundworks (CAT Report 1357).



Map 1 Extract from the Chapman and André map of 1777. Site location in red.

4 Aim

The aims of the archaeological evaluation were to record the extent of any surviving archaeological deposits and to assess the archaeological potential of the site to allow the CBCAA to determine if further investigation is required.

5 Results (Figs 2-3)

Two trial-trenches were machine-excavated under the supervision of a CAT archaeologist within the footprint of the proposed new dwelling. The trenches were 10m (T1) and 8m (T2) long, 1.8m wide, and both were cut through modern topsoil (L1, 0.1-0.25m thick) and subsoil (L2, 0.1-0.26m thick) into natural sands and gravels (L3, encountered at a depth of 0.2-0.36m below current ground level). Small spade-width slots were dug into L3 in both trenches to check that this was natural ground level. A modern pit (F1) was excavated in T2, but there were no significant archaeological remains in either trench.



Photograph 1 Trench 1, looking east



Photograph 2 Trench 2, looking south

6 Finds

6.1 Pottery and ceramic building material

by Dr. Matthew Loughton

The evaluation produced a small collection of pottery and CBM (ceramic building material) from pit F1. The CBM consisted of two sherds of medieval/post-medieval peg-tile (128g) and a sherd of pan-tile (46g) dating from c AD 1700 onwards, along with two sherds of 19th- to 20th-century Staffordshire-type white earthenwares (5g).

6.2 Miscellaneous finds

by Laura Pooley

A fragment of 19th-/20th-century pale blue vessel glass (3g) and an iron nail (16g) came from modern pit F1.

7 Conclusion

Evaluation revealed one modern pit so, despite being located to the south of the historic Fordham Heath and in an area of known cropmarks, there were no significant archaeological remains on the development site.

8 Acknowledgements

CAT thanks Holm Oak Property Ltd for commissioning and funding the work. The project was managed by C Lister, fieldwork was carried out by M Baister and S Carter. Figures are by S Carter and L Pooley. The project was monitored for Colchester Borough Council by Dr Richard Hoggett.

9 References

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

CAT	2021	<i>Health & Safety Policy</i>
CAT	2021	<i>Written scheme of investigation (WSI) for a historic building recording and archaeological evaluation on land between 1-3 Halfmoon Farm & Byways Cottage, Huxtables Lane, Fordham Heath, Colchester, CO3 9TJ</i>
CAT Report 1357	2018	<i>Archaeological monitoring at land adjacent to 6 Heath Cottages, Heath Road, Fordham Heath, Essex, CO3 9TN: December 2018</i>
CBCPS	2020	<i>Brief for Historic Building Recording and Archaeological Evaluation at Land between 1-3 Halfmoon Farm & Byways Cottage, Huxtables Lane, Fordham Heath, Colchester.</i>
CIfA	2014a	<i>Standard and Guidance for archaeological evaluation.</i> Updated 2019.
CIfA	2014b	<i>Standard and guidance for the collection, documentation, conservation and research of archaeological materials.</i> Updated 2019.
CIfA	2014c	<i>Code of Conduct.</i> Updated 2020.
Gurney, D	2003	<i>Standards for field archaeology in the East of England.</i> East Anglian Archaeology Occasional Papers 14 (EAA 14)
Historic England	2015	<i>Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment (MoRPHE)</i>
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)
MHCLG	2019	<i>National Planning Policy Framework.</i> Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government.

10 Abbreviations and glossary

CAT	Colchester Archaeological Trust
CBC	Colchester Borough Council

CBCAA	Colchester Borough Council Archaeological Advisor
CBCPS	Colchester Borough Council Place Services
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'
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, http://oasis.ac.uk/pages/wiki/Main
post-medieval	from c AD 1500 to c 1800
section	(abbreviation sx or Sx) vertical slice through feature/s or layer/s
wsj	written scheme of investigation

11 Contents of archive

Finds: none retained

Paper record

One A4 document wallet containing:

The report (CAT Report 1653)

CBC evaluation brief, CAT written scheme of investigation

Original site record (sections)

Site digital photos and log

Digital record

The report (CAT Report 1653)

CBC evaluation brief, CAT written scheme of investigation

Site digital photographs, thumbnails and log

Graphic files

Site data

Survey data

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 project ref. ECC4594.

Distribution list:

Gary Mason, Holm Oak Property Ltd
Dr Richard Hoggett, Colchester Borough Council Planning Services
Essex Historic Environment Record



Colchester Archaeological Trust

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

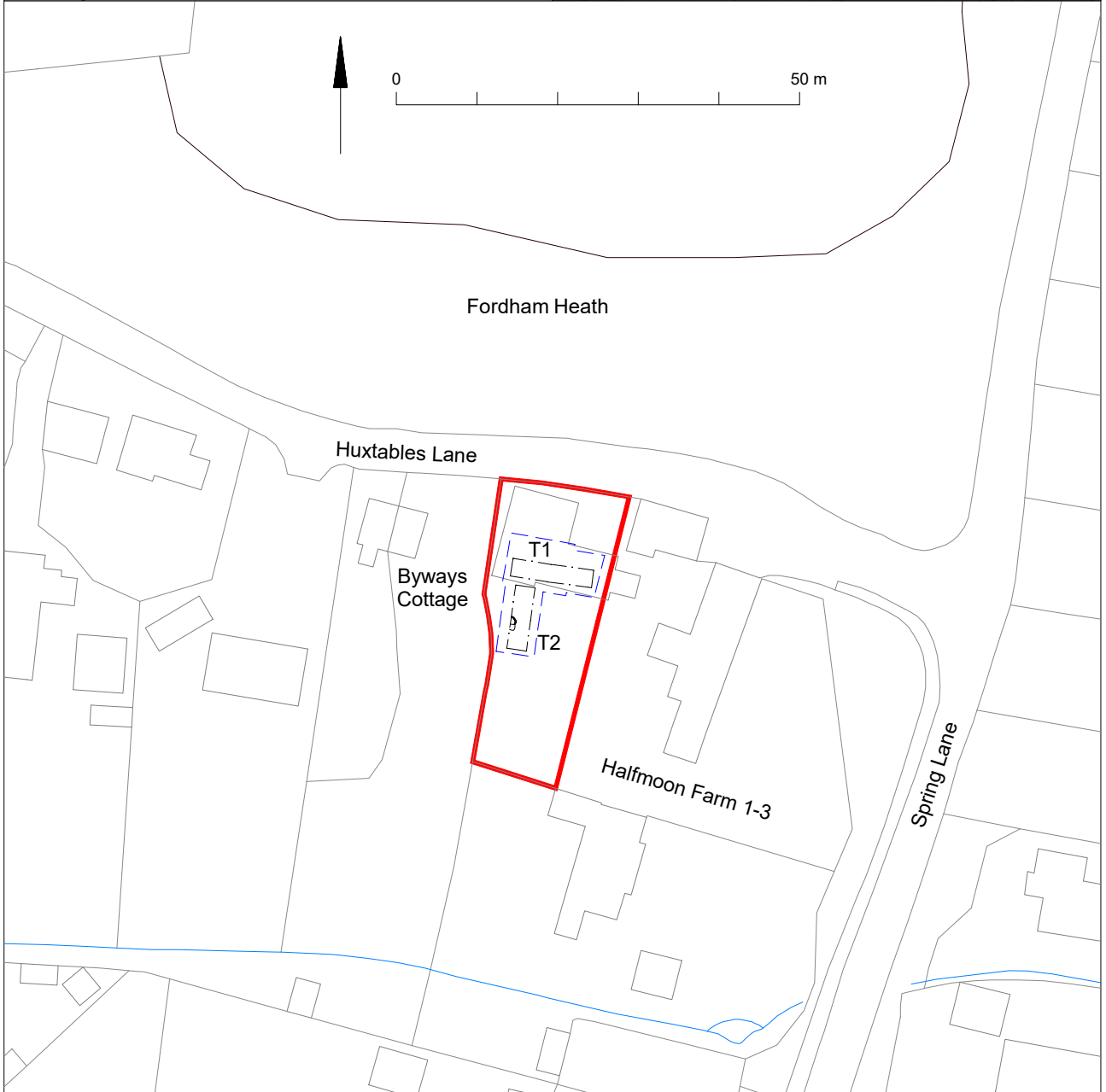
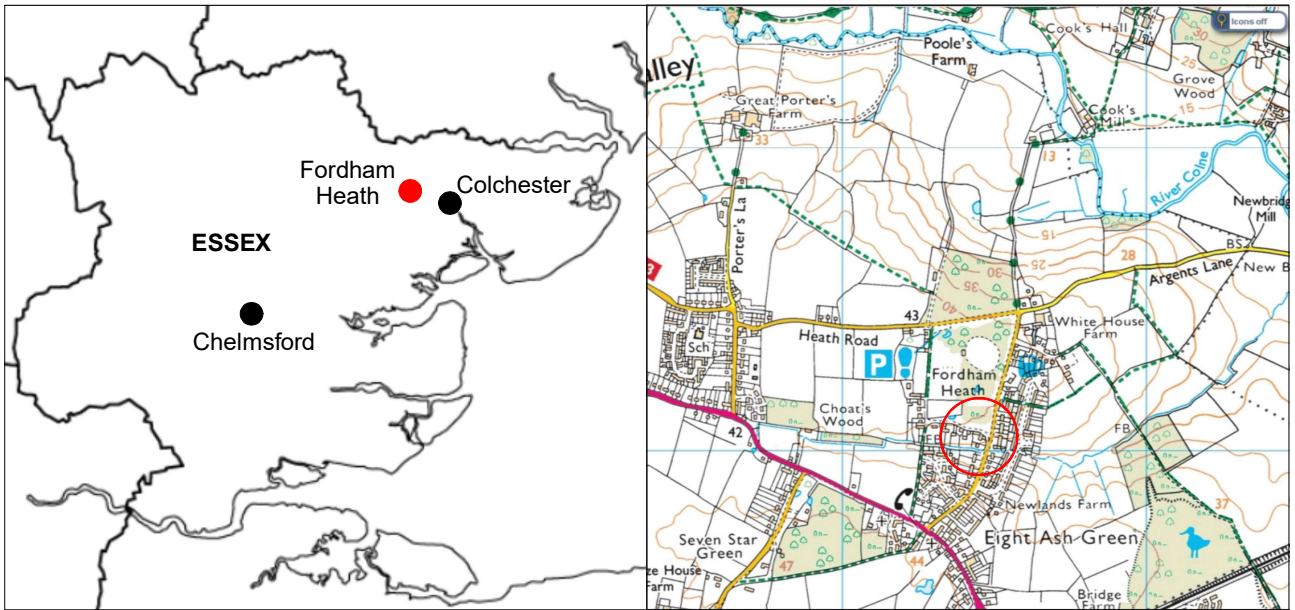
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Date: 30.4.21

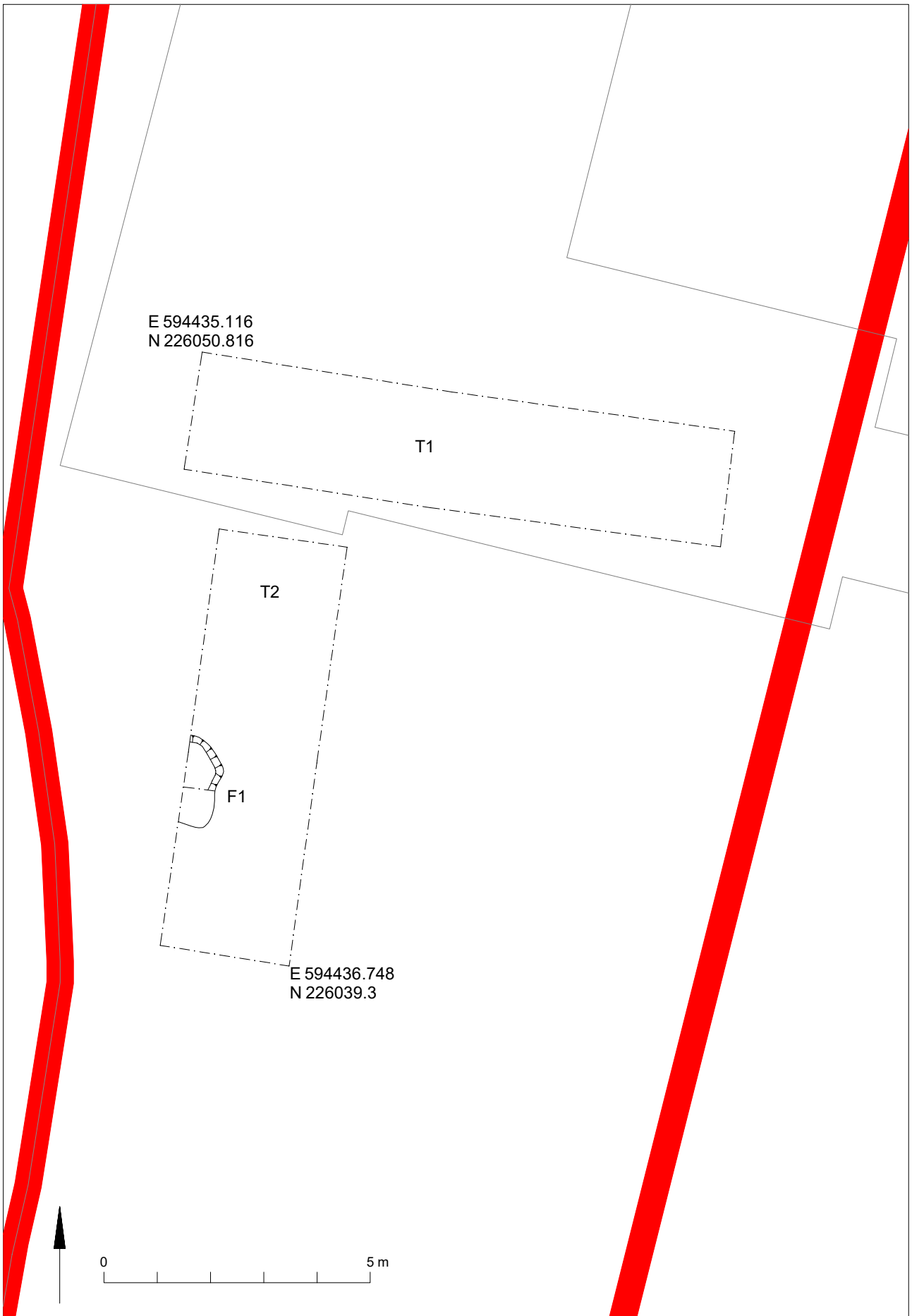
Appendix 1 Context list

Trench	Context	Finds no.	Context type	Description	Date
All	L1	-	Topsoil	Loose moist medium grey/brown sandy silt with charcoal flecks, brick flecks	Modern
All	L2	-	Subsoil	Soft moist medium grey/brown sandy silt	Undated
All	L3	-	Natural	Moist medium yellow/orange sand and gravel with patches of gravelly-clay	Post-glacial
T2	F1	1	Pit	Friable moist medium grey/brown sandy silt with charcoal flecks, brick flecks and inclusions of: stone 3%	Modern



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Fig 1 Site location, proposed development dashed blue



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Fig 2 Results

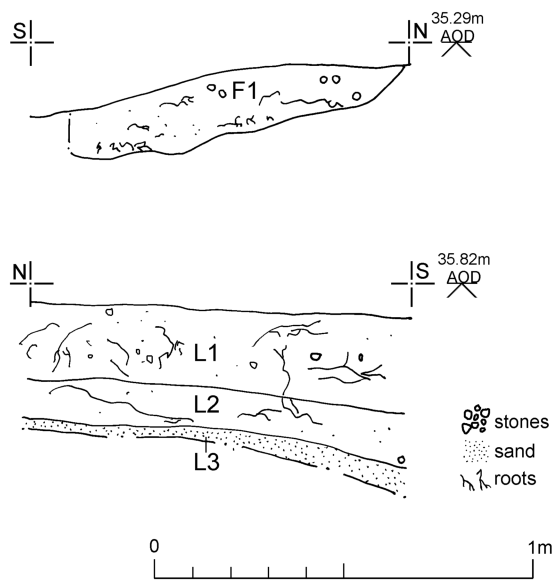


Fig 3 Feature and representative sections.

Essex Historic Environment Record/ Essex Archaeology and History

Summary sheet

Address: Land between 1-3 Halfmoon Farm & Byways Cottage, Huxtables Lane, Fordham Heath, Colchester, Essex, CO3 9TJ	
Parish: Fordham	District: Colchester
NGR: TL 9444 2605 (centre)	Site code: CAT project ref.: 2021/01d CHER ref: ECC4594 OASIS ref: colchest3-412450
Type of work: Evaluation	Site director/group: Colchester Archaeological Trust
Date of work: 8th April 2021	Size of area investigated: 0.05ha
Location of curating museum: Colchester museum	Funding source: Developer
Further seasons anticipated? Not known	Related CHER/SMR number: CHER MCC9171
Final report: CAT Report 1653	
Periods represented: Modern	
Summary of fieldwork results: An archaeological evaluation (two trial-trenches) was carried out on land between 1-3 Halfmoon Farm and Byways Cottage, Huxtables Lane, Fordham Heath, Colchester, Essex in advance of the construction of a new residential dwelling. Despite being located to the south of the historic Fordham Heath and in an area of known cropmarks, there were no significant archaeological remains.	
Previous summaries/reports: -	
CBC monitor: Dr Richard Hoggett	
Keywords: -	Significance: -
Author of summary: Laura Pooley	Date of summary: April 2021

Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) for an historic building recording and an archaeological evaluation on land between 1-3 Halfmoon Farm & Byways Cottage, Huxtables Lane, Fordham Heath, Colchester, CO3 9TJ.

NGR: TL 9444 2605 (centre)

District: Colchester

Parish: Fordham

Planning references: 182461

Commissioned by: Gary Mason (Holm Oak Property Ltd)

On behalf of: Holm Oak Property Ltd

Curating museum: Colchester

CHER number: HBR: [tbc](#)

EVAL: [tbc](#)

CAT project code: HBR: 2021/01c

EVAL: 2021/01d

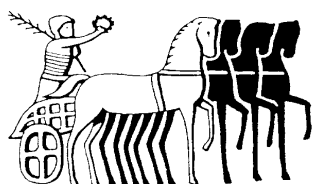
OASIS project number: HBR: colchest3-412449

EVAL: colchest3-412450

Site manager: Chris Lister

CBC monitor: Dr Richard Hoggett

This WSI written: 13/01/2021



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Site location and description

The proposed development site is located on land between 1-3 Halfmoon Farm and Byways Cottage, Huxtables Lane, Fordham Heath, Colchester, CO3 9TJ (Fig 1). The site is centred on National Grid Reference (NGR) TL 9444 2605.

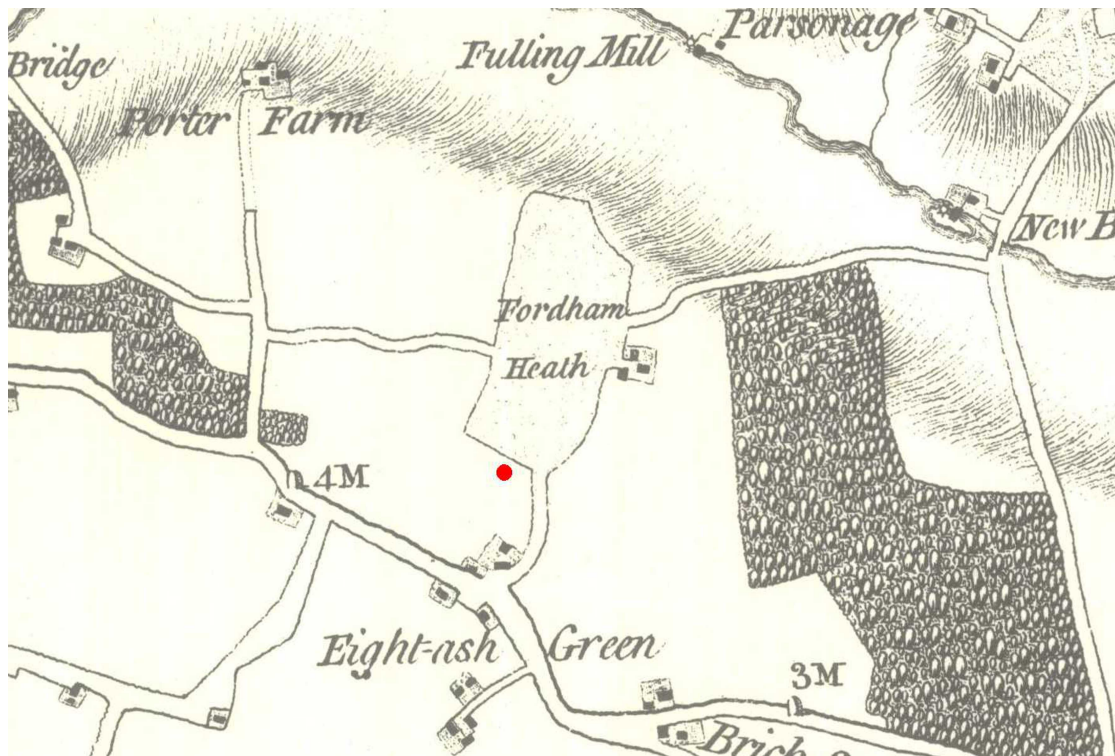
Proposed work

The development comprises the demolition of existing sheds and outbuildings and the construction of a single detached dwelling with associated landscaping and groundworks.

Archaeological background

The following archaeological background draws on the Colchester Historic Environment Record (CHER, ECC/MCC numbers) accessed via the Colchester Heritage Explorer (www.colchesterheritage.co.uk).

The site is situated just south of Fordham Heath (MCC9171), a historic heath originally shown on the 1777 Chapman and André map. The heath is shown to subrectangular-shaped with an area of c 15ha. Approximately 80m to the west of the development was the site of a late 19th-century brewery (MCC5158), marked on the 2nd edition OS Map (1897).



Map 1 Extract of Chapman and André 1777 map. Site location in red.

The site is surrounded by a large quantity of crop-marks. To the west at Heathside Farm, a range of undated crop-marks have been identified (MCC7777). A mixture of linear features and pits, some may be geological in origin, and a small rectangular enclosure with a south-western entrance.

To the north-west is a series of crop-marks known as 'West of Fordham Heath' (MCC7723) have been identified. These represent rectilinear enclosures and associated trackways.

120m to the north-east of the site are undated crop-marks known as 'south of White House Farm' (MCC7584), interpreted as a ring-ditch with internal pits. A Neolithic polished axe (MCC7585) was recovered just to the east of the crop-marks. To the north of these crop-

marks at White House Farm, parchmarks of various rectilinear features have been identified (MCC8752).

To the south-east of the site crop-marks have been identified at Newlands Farm (MCC8644). Former field boundaries, one with an attached rectangular pond, and other linear features. Located on the western side of these crop-marks are some masonry foundations (MCC7621). Cut by a boundary ditch, the foundations are marked on an OS map as probably Roman.

In 2018 CAT undertook monitoring works at Heath Road, to the north of the site. A series of service runs were monitoring but uncovered nothing of archaeological significance (CAT Report 1357).

Although undeveloped on the Chapman and André map (1777), by the 1838 Tithe map (ERO D/CT 142B) the proposed site had been built upon and continued to be occupied by buildings until the present day.

Project background

A planning application was made to Colchester Borough Council in December 2020 (application No. 182461) for the *demolition of existing sheds and outbuildings and erection of new 4 bedroom 2 storey house*.

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* (MHCLG 2019).

Requirement for work (Fig 1-2)

The required archaeological work is for an historic building recording followed by an archaeological trial-trenching evaluation. Details are given in a Project Brief written by CBCAA (CBC 2020).

Specifically,

- 1) An Historic England Level 2 historic building recording will be undertaken on the outbuilding prior to demolition.

The record will consider:

- Plan form of the site
- Materials and method of construction
- Date(s) of the building
- Function and internal layout
- Fixtures and fittings
- Context of the outbuilding within its immediate contemporary landscape

- 2) After the HBR and demolition of the sheds and outbuildings, two linear trial-trenches will be evaluated. These will be positioned within the footprint of the proposed new dwelling (see Fig 2). Trench 1 will measure 10m long by 1.8m wide and Trench 2 will measure 8m long by 1.8m wide, both trenches will be positioned to avoid disturbance from the existing foundations. This equates to 18m in length of trenching covering an area of 32.4m².

Aims of the archaeological evaluation is to target:

- Identify the date, approximate form and purpose of any archaeological deposit, together with its likely extent, localised depth and quality of preservation.
- Evaluate the likely impact of past land uses, and the possible presence of masking colluvial/alluvial deposits.

- Establish the potential for the survival, condition and significance of environmental evidence.
- Establish an archaeological deposit model for below-ground archaeological remains across the site.
- Provide sufficient information to construct an archaeological conservation strategy, dealing with preservation, the recording of archaeological deposits, working practices, timetables and orders of cost.

Further archaeological investigation could be required if unusual deposits or other archaeological finds of significance are recovered, this decision will be made by the CBCAA and will be the subject of an additional brief and WSI.

General methodology

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

- professional standards of the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists, including its *Code of Conduct* (CIfA 2014a, b)
- Standards and Frameworks published by East Anglian Archaeology (Gurney 2003, Medlycott 2011)
- relevant Health & Safety guidelines and requirements (CAT 2020)
- the Project Brief issued by the CBCAA (CBC 2020).

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 CHER. This will include an uploaded .PDF version of the entire report.

A unique HER event number will be obtained from the CBCAA prior to the commencement of fieldwork. The curating museum will be notified of the details of the project and the event code, which will be used to identify the project archive when depositing at the end of the project.

Staffing

The number of field staff for this project is estimated as follows:

HBR: one historic building recorder for one day

Evaluation: one CAT officer and one archaeologist for one day.

In charge of day-to-day site work and historic building recording: Mark Baister

Historic building recording methodology

A Historic England Level 2 building survey of the outbuilding will be carried out prior to its demolition. The resultant report will include the following:

A brief documentary and cartographic survey will be made of the evidence relating to the history and evolution of the site.

A large-scale block plan will be made of the site using existing architect's drawings or the current OS 2500 map extract. The position of the building will be shown and any adjacent buildings will be given a unique number noting date of construction and function (where known).

The building will be described in as much detail as possible. The description will address materials, dimensions, method of construction, joinery, fenestration, spatial configuration, phasing, and any evidence of original fixtures/fittings.

Based on existing architect's plans and using the RCHME (1996) conventions floor plans at scale 1:100 will be made of the building/s affected by the proposals. Doors, windows, internal divisions, truss positions, together with any surviving fixtures/fittings will be shown together with any evidence of phasing.

A full photographic record will be made comprising both general and detailed shots (external and internal/features/joinery/timber marks/etc). A photographic scale should be included in the case of detailed photographs. The photographic record will be accompanied by a photographic register detailing (as a minimum) location and direction of shot; where possible, the photographic record will be tied into the drawn record.

The guidelines contained in Historic England: *Understanding Historic Buildings. A guide to good recording practice* (2016a) will be adhered to. In addition, RCHME: *Descriptive Specification* 3rd Edition, ClfA's Standard and Guidance for the Archaeological Investigation and Recording of Standing Buildings or Structures (2014) and the appropriate sections of the *Standards for Field Archaeology* in the East of England (East Anglian Archaeology occasional paper **14**, 2003) and *Research and Archaeology Revised: A Revised Framework for the East of England* (EAA **24**, 2011) and *Management of research projects in the historic environment* (MoRPHE, 2016b) will be used for additional guidance in the design of the project specification, the contents of the report, and for the general execution of the project.

Evaluation methodology

Where appropriate, modern overburden and any topsoil stripping/levelling will be performed using a mechanical excavator equipped with a toothless ditching bucket under the supervision and to the satisfaction of a professional archaeologist. If no archaeologically significant deposits are exposed, machine excavation will continue until natural subsoil is reached.

Where necessary, areas will be cleaned by hand to ensure the visibility of archaeological deposits.

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

All features or deposits will be excavated by hand. This includes a 50% sample of discrete features (pits, etc), 10% of linear features (ditches, etc) in 1m wide sections, and 100% of complex structures/features. Complex archaeological structures such as walls, kilns, ovens or burials will be carefully cleaned, planned and fully recorded, but where possible left *in situ*. Only if it can be demonstrated that the complex structure/feature is likely to be destroyed by groundworks will it be removed, or on the rare occasion where full excavation (or exhumation in the case of burials) is necessary to achieve the objectives of the evaluation.

Burials, if encountered, will be left *in situ* at this evaluation stage with an on site human bone specialist available to record as much information as possible (see human remains section below).

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

A sondage will be excavated in each trench to test the stratigraphy of the site. This will occur in every trench unless it can be demonstrated that a feature excavated within a particular trench has clearly penetrated into natural.

A representative section will be drawn of each trench, to include ground level, the depth of machining within the trench and the depth of any sondages.

A metal detector will be used to examine the trench, contexts and 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.

Site surveying

The evaluation trench and any features will be surveyed by Total Station or GPS, unless the particulars of the features indicate that manual planning techniques should be employed. Normal scale for archaeological site plans and sections is 1:20 and 1:10 respectively, unless circumstances indicate that other scales would be more appropriate.

The site grid will be tied into the National Grid. Corners of evaluation 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 micromorphical and other pedological sedimentological analysis. Environmental bulk samples will be 40 litres in size (assuming context is large enough).

Sampling strategies will address questions of:

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

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

Should any complex, or otherwise outstanding deposits be encountered, VF or 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.

A contingency will be made in the budget for scientific assessment/analysis if suitable deposits are identified. This can include soil micromorphological and geochemical analysis of floors and dark earth deposits and/or absolute dating (such as archaeomagnetic and radiocarbon). The Historic England Regional Science Advisor will be consulted for advice.

Human remains

CBCAA will be notified immediately if any human remains are encountered during the evaluation.

Burials, if encountered, will be left *in situ* at this evaluation stage. Following HE guidance (HE 2018) if the human remains are not to be lifted, the project osteologist will be available to record the human remains *in situ* (i.e. a site visit).

If circumstances indicated it were prudent or necessary to remove remains from the site, 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. Conditions laid down by the DoJ license will be followed. If it seems that the remains are not ancient, then the coroner, the client, and the CBCAA will be informed, and any advice and/or instruction from the coroner will be followed.

Human remains removed from site for analysis may be sent for radiocarbon dating.

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. Digital site photographs will be taken and archived as per Historic England guidelines (HE 2015a).

Finds

All significant finds will be retained.

All finds, where appropriate, will be washed and marked with site code and context number. CAT may use local volunteers to assist the CAT Finds Officer with this task.

Most of our finds reports are written internally by CAT Staff under the supervision and direction of Philip Crummy (Director) and Howard Brooks (Deputy Director). This includes specialist subjects such as:

ceramic finds (pottery and ceramic building material): Matthew Loughton

animal bones: Alec Wade (or Adam Wightman, small groups only)

small finds, metalwork, coins, etc: Laura Pooley

non-ceramic bulk finds: Laura Pooley

flints: Adam Wightman

environmental processing: Bronagh Quinn

project osteologist (human remains): Meghan Seehra

or to outside specialists:

animal and human bone: Julie Curl (*Sylvanus*)

environmental assessment and analysis: Val Fryer / Lisa Gray

radiocarbon dating: SUERC Radiocarbon Dating Laboratory, Glasgow

conservation/x-ray: Laura Ratcliffe (LR Conservation) / Norfolk Museums Service,
Conservation and Design Services

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

flint: Hazel Martingell

prehistoric pottery: Stephen Benfield / Nigel Brown / Paul Sealey

Roman pottery: Stephen Benfield / Paul Sealey / Jo Mills / Val Rigby /
Gwladys Monteil

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

Roman glass: Hilary Cool

small finds: Nina Crummy

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.

A contingency will be made in the budget for scientific assessment/analysis if suitable deposits are identified. This can include soil micromorphological and geochemical analysis of floors and dark earth deposits and/or absolute dating (such as archaeomagnetic and radiocarbon). The Historic England Regional Science Advisor will be consulted for advice.

Results

Notification will be given to the 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* (HE 2015b).

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

The report will contain:

- Location plan of the evaluation trenches. At least two corners of which 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 the 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.

A PDF copy of the full report will be uploaded by CAT to the OASIS website and the Colchester Archaeological Trust's Online Report Library (<http://cat.essex.ac.uk/>), both of which are publicly accessible.

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 or an alternate repository (approved by COLEM and the CBCAA) within 3 months of the completion of the final publication report, with a summary of the contents of the archive supplied to the CBCAA. Digital archives will be curated with the Archaeology Data Service, or similar accredited digital

archive repository, that safeguard the long-term curation of digital records. Prior to deposition CAT's data management plan (based on the official guidelines from the Digital Curation Centre [DCC 2013]) will ensure the integrity of the digital archive.

The CBCAA will be notified of the archiving timetable throughout the project and once deposition has occurred.

A digital / vector drawing of the site be given to the CBCAA for integration into the HER.

Monitoring

The 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 the CBCAA one week in advance of its commencement.

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

The CBCAA will be notified when the fieldwork is complete.

The involvement of the 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>

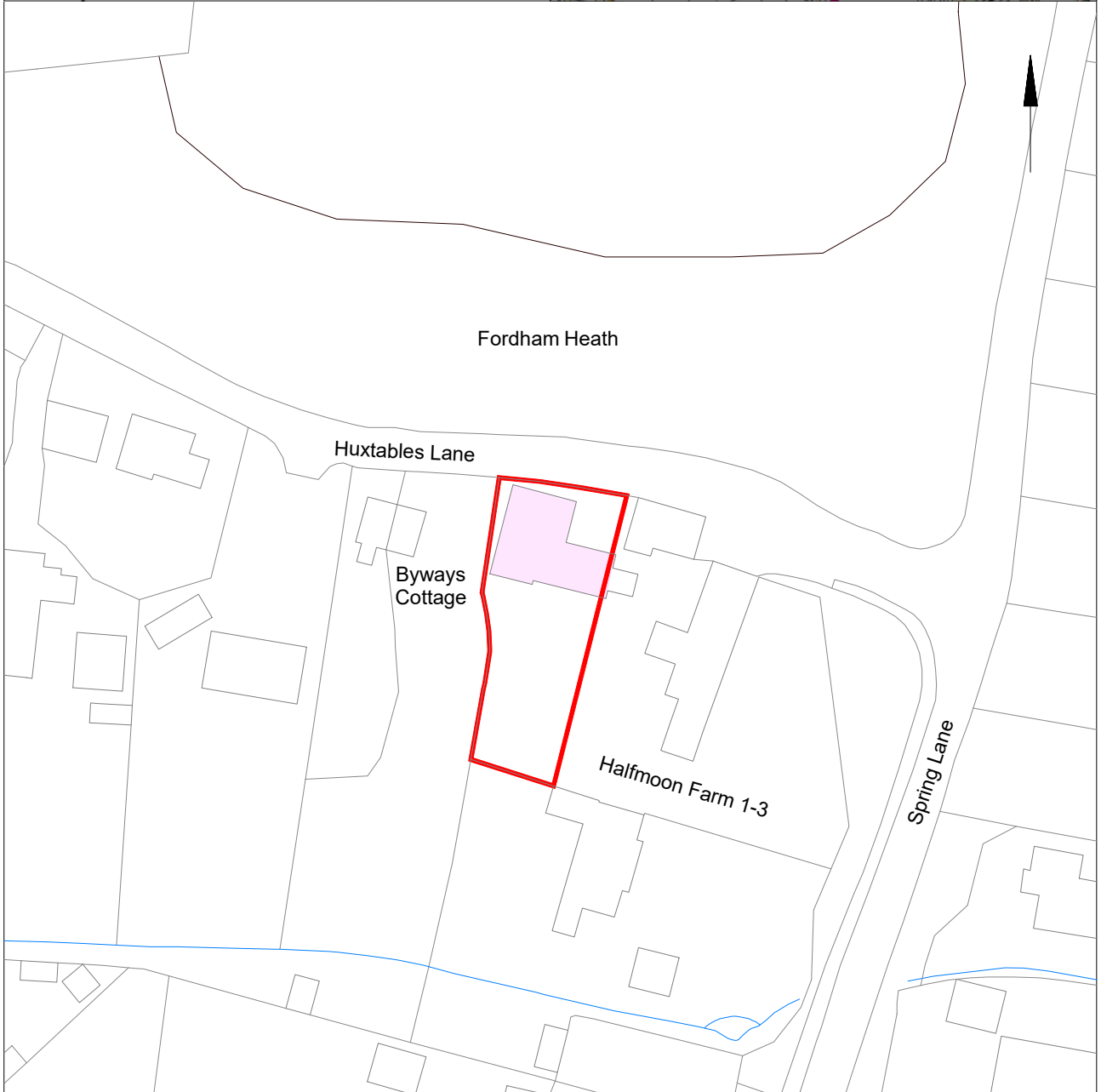
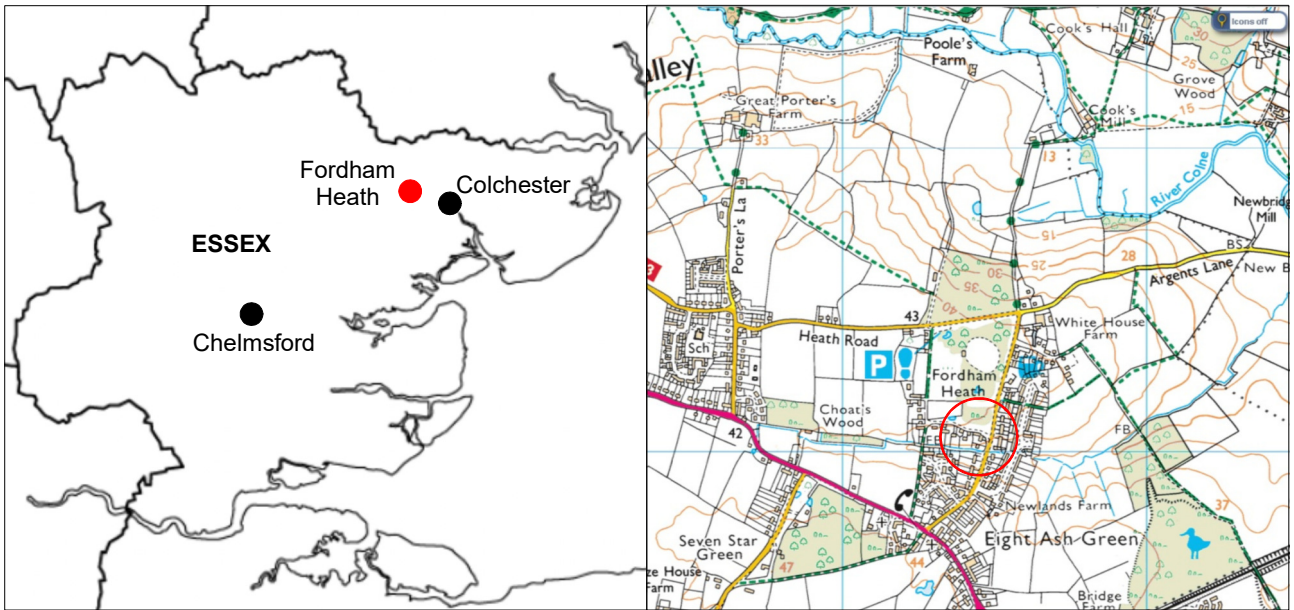
Brown, D	2011	<i>Archaeological Archives: A guide to best practice in creation, compilation, transfer and curation</i> . 2nd Edition
CAT	2020	<i>Health & Safety Policy</i>
CAT Report 1357	2018	<i>Archaeological monitoring at land adjacent to 6 Heath Cottages, Fordham Heath</i> By E Hicks
CBCAA	2020	<i>Brief for Historic Building Recording and Archaeological Evaluation at Land between 1-3 Halfmoon Farm & Byways Cottage, Huxtable Lane, Fordham Heath, Colchester</i> By R Hoggett
CIfA	2014a	<i>Standard and Guidance for archaeological evaluation</i>
CIfA	2014b	<i>Standard and guidance for the collection, documentation, conservation and research of archaeological materials</i>
Digital Curation Centre (DCC)	2013	Checklist for Data Management Plan v. 4.0
Gurney, D	2003	<i>Standards for field archaeology in the East of England</i> . East Anglian Archaeology Occasional Papers 14 (EAA 14).
Historic England (HE)	2015	<i>Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment (MoRPHE)</i>
Historic England (HE)	2016a	<i>Understanding Historic Buildings, a guide to good recording practice</i> . By R Lane
Historic England (HE)	2016b	<i>Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment (MoRPHE)</i>
Historic England (HE)	2018	<i>The Role of the Human Osteologist in an Archaeological Fieldwork Project</i> . By S Mays, M Brickley and J Sidell
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)
MHCLG	2019	<i>National Planning Policy Framework</i> . Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government.
RCHME	1996	Recording historic buildings, a descriptive specification

S Carter



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Roman Circus House,
Roman Circus Walk,
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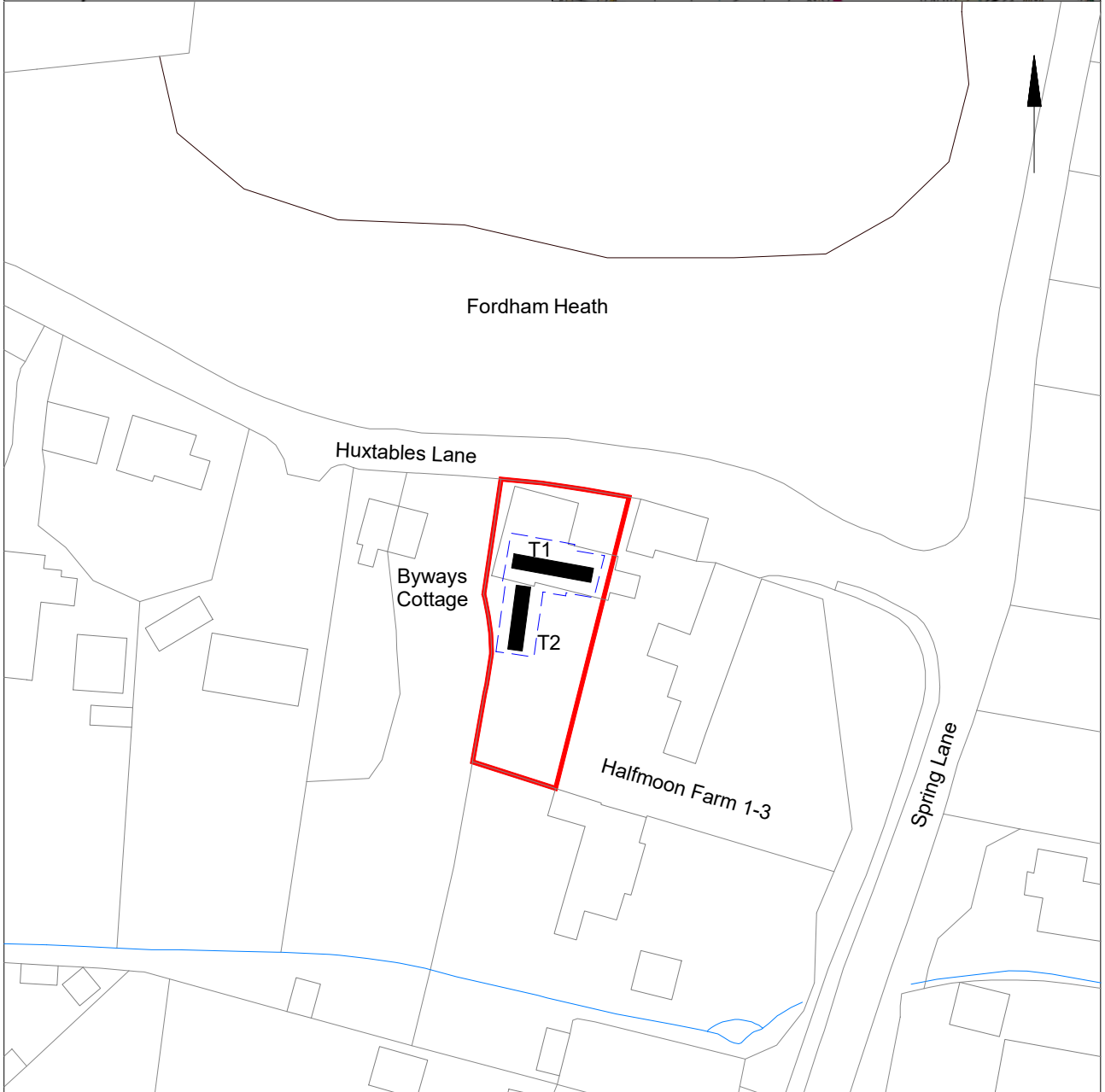
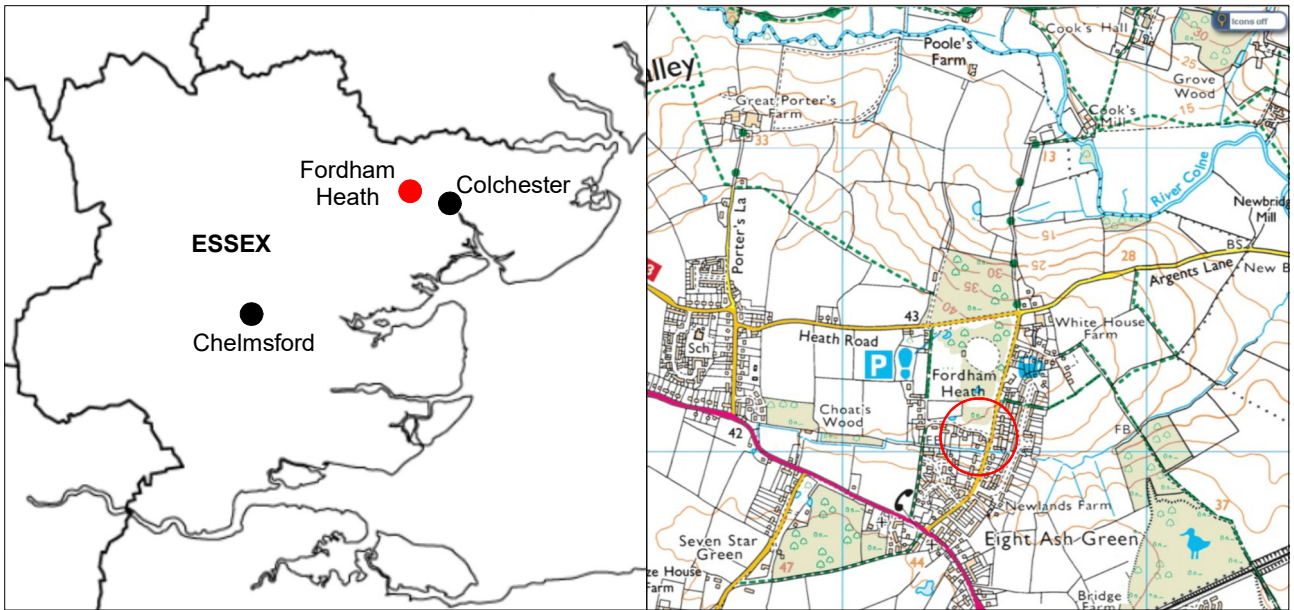
tel: 01206 501785
email: sc@catuk.org



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Fig 1 Site location with building to be recorded shaded pink.





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Fig 2 Site location and trench layout in relation to the proposed development (dashed blue lines).



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OASIS ID: colchest3-412450

Project details

Project name	Archaeological evaluation on land at Huxtables Lane, Fordham Heath, Colchestester, Essex, CO3 9TJ
Short description of the project	An archaeological evaluation (two trial-trenches) was carried out on land between 1-3 Halfmoon Farm and Byways Cottage, Huxtables Lane, Fordham Heath, Colchester, Essex in advance of the construction of a new residential dwelling. Despite being located to the south of the historic Fordham Heath and in an area of known cropmarks, there were no significant archaeological remains.
Project dates	Start: 08-04-2021 End: 08-04-2021
Previous/future work	Yes / Not known
Any associated project reference codes	2020/01d - Contracting Unit No.
Any associated project reference codes	182461 - Planning Application No.
Any associated project reference codes	ECC4594 - HER event no.
Type of project	Field evaluation
Site status	None
Current Land use	Vacant Land 1 - Vacant land previously developed
Monument type	PIT Modern
Significant Finds	N/A None
Methods & techniques	"Sample Trenches"
Development type	Small-scale (e.g. single house, etc.)
Prompt	National Planning Policy Framework - NPPF
Position in the planning process	After full determination (eg. As a condition)

Project location

Country	England
Site location	ESSEX COLCHESTER FORDHAM land between 1-3 Halfmoon Farm and Byways Cottage, Huxtables Lane, Fordham Heath
Postcode	CO3 9TJ
Study area	0.05 Hectares
Site coordinates	TL 9444 2605 51.898503139898 0.826479756385 51 53 54 N 000 49 35 E Point
Height OD / Depth	Min: 35m Max: 36.01m

Project creators

Name of Organisation	Colchester Archaeological Trust
Project brief originator	CBC Archaeological Officer
Project design originator	Sarah Carter
Project director/manager	Chris Lister
Project supervisor	Mark Baister
Type of sponsor/funding body	Developer

Project archives

Physical Archive Exists?	No
Digital Archive recipient	Archaeological Data Service
Digital Archive ID	ECC4594
Digital Contents	"other"
Digital Media available	"Images raster / digital photography","Survey","Text"

Paper Archive recipient Colchester Museum
Paper Archive ID ECC4594
Paper Contents "other"
Paper Media available "Miscellaneous Material", "Photograph", "Report", "Section"

Project bibliography 1

Publication type Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)
Title Archaeological evaluation on land between 1-3 Halfmoon Farm and Byways Cottage, Huxtables Lane, Fordham Heath, Colchester, Essex, CO3 9TJ: April 2021
Author(s)/Editor(s) Pooley, L.
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URL <http://cat.essex.ac.uk/all-reports.html>

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Entered on 21 April 2021

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