

Archaeological monitoring at 104 Oaklands Avenue, Colchester, Essex, CO3 9EU

September 2021



by Megan Seehra

figures by Laura Pooley and Sarah Veasey

fieldwork by Alexander Smith and Megan Seehra

**commissioned by Athena Architectural Services
on behalf of the homeowner**

NGR: TL 96305 23843 (centre)

Planning reference: 192870

CAT project ref.: 20/01k

CHER ref: ECC4432

OASIS reference: colchest3-382590



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CAT Report 1710
September 2021

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CAT WSI

OASIS Summary

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1 Summary

Archaeological monitoring was carried out at 104 Oaklands Avenue, Colchester, Essex during groundworks for side and rear extensions. The site lies approximately 40m east of the prehistoric Gryme's Dyke, with evidence to suggest pre-dyke activity near the site. Other archaeological features dated from the Late Iron Age to post-medieval have also been discovered nearby in recent years. Despite this, only a single ditch was revealed, and ceramic recovered from the fill has been dated to the modern period.

2 Introduction (Fig 1)

This report presents the results of archaeological monitoring at 104 Oaklands Avenue, Colchester, Essex, which was carried out during 13th-16th September 2021. The work was commissioned by Andrea Savill of Athena Architectural Services on behalf of the homeowner. It was undertaken during groundworks for a single- and two-storey rear extension, plus a two-storey side extension. The monitoring was carried out by Colchester Archaeological Trust (CAT).

As the site lies within an area identified by the Colchester Historical Environment Record (CHER) as possessing a high potential for archaeological deposits, following consultation with Colchester Borough Council Planning Services (CBCPS), Colchester Borough Council Archaeological Advisor Dr 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 the *National Planning Policy Framework* (MHCLG 2019).

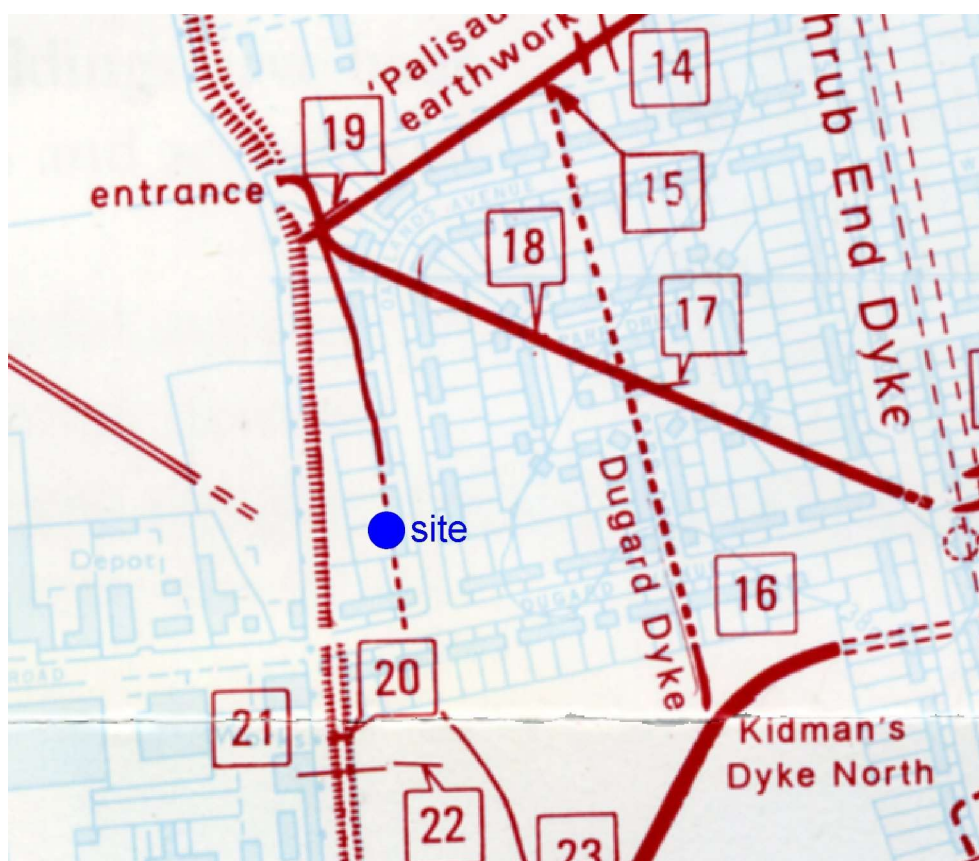
All archaeological work was carried out in accordance with a *Brief for Archaeological Investigation*, detailing the required archaeological work, written by Jess Tipper (CBCPS 2020), and a Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) prepared by CAT in response to the brief and agreed with CBCPS (CAT 2020).

In addition to the brief and WSI, all fieldwork and reporting was done in accordance with *Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment (MoRPHE)* (Historic England 2016), and with *Standards for field archaeology in the East of England* (EAA 14 and 24). This report mirrors standards and practices contained in the Institute for Archaeologists' *Standard and guidance for archaeological watching briefs* (CIfA 2014a) and *Standard and guidance for the collection, documentation, conservation and research of archaeological materials* (CIfA 2014b).

3 Archaeological background

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

The proposed development is situated within an area of archaeological significance as it lies adjacent to Gyne's Dyke Middle (Scheduled Ancient Monument no. 1019960, MCC7465). The Colchester dykes and earthworks 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 of 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 the two principal reference works: *Camulodunum*, by CFC Hawkes and MR Hull (1947), and *Camulodunum 2, Colchester Archaeological Report 11* (CAR 11), by CFC Hawkes and Philip Crummy (1995).



Map 1 Extract of the general map of Colchester showing the locations of earthworks and excavations discussed in CAR11 (Fig 6.1), current site is labelled blue.

Gryme's Dyke is the outermost, longest and latest of all the dykes of the town. Gryme's Dyke faced westwards and took the form of a deep V-shaped ditch with a steep earth bank behind it. The dyke can be divided into three distinct sections on topographical grounds, ie Gryme's Dyke North, South and Middle (CAR 11, 27-9). The dyke survives for much of its length as a visible but badly damaged and denuded earthwork. The current site is located adjacent to an area named in CAR 11 as Gryme's Dyke Middle. Excavation work between 1946-1958 (labelled 19 on Map 1) revealed there was an entrance through Gryme's Dyke and looked at the relationship between Gryme's Dyke, the palisaded earthwork (MCC7085) and the Laver ditch (MCC1054, for full discussion see CAR 11, 27-29, 59-61 and 109). At location 20 (see Map 1) CAT excavated part of a section across Gryme's Dyke in 1976. Part of the rampart was removed to construct a footpath. Only part of the base of eastern end of the rampart survived. Cut into the cover loam was a series of small shallow features that pre-date the bank and therefore suggest evidence of pre-dyke activity in the area of the current site (CAR 11, 109-110). A recent CAT investigation at 52 Oaklands Avenue did not reveal evidence of the expected palisaded earthwork. It was concluded some of the foundations were too shallow to reach it, or the cropmark was slightly further south than previously projected (CAT Report 1388).

Other features noted in the area include Late Iron Age to Roman ditches recorded along the road (MCC8080 and MCC8087). Human bone was found during the erection of a radio aerial in 1963 (MCC7634) and CAT inspected a sudden hole which appeared in the rear of 64 Oaklands Avenue in 1988. This proved to have been caused by a possible well, a 4.6m deep vertical shaft (CAT code 97/10c, CAT report 1000).

Either side of Gryme's Dyke are two historic heathland areas; Lexden Heath to the east (MCC9144) and Stanway Heath to the west (MCC9144). These were areas of common

land established during medieval to post-medieval periods recorded on historic mapping including the Chapman and André map of 1777.

4 Aim

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

5 Results (Figs 2-3)

A total of 29.8m of foundation trenching was excavated at 0.6m wide and between 0.9m and c 1.1m deep. A soakaway approximately 5m west of the footings was also excavated at c 1.5 by 1.5m, and was c 1.5m deep.

Three layers were recorded. The modern, landscaped topsoil (L1) was between 0.05-0.3m thick. However most of the excavation area was reduced by c 0.3m prior to excavation of the trenching (Photograph 1). Therefore L1 was only seen fully in the soakaway section, where it was c 0.25m thick. The subsoil (L2) was between 0.20-0.25m thick, and the sandy natural (L3) was seen from c 0.65m below current ground level (bcgl). A full list of context information can be seen in Appendix 1.



Photograph 1 Area of site reduced prior to excavation, looking roughly west

One ditch (F1) was found. This was orientated north-south and approximately 1.15m in width, with steep, almost vertical edges. We excavated the ditch to a depth of c 1.3m but the base was not reached. Modern material was observed throughout its fill, with large pieces of modern ceramic pipe retained for post-excavation reporting.

The trenching was dug through the former site of a modern garage and conservatory footings, so the area was highly disturbed. A mains water pipe was also discovered, running approximately N-S, parallel to F1, across the site.



Photograph 2 Excavation of main footings, looking roughly east



Photograph 3 Excavated soakaway, looking north



Photograph 4 Representative section of middle foundation trench, looking roughly south-east

6 Finds

by Dr. Matthew Loughton

The ditch F1 produced a modern ceramic stoneware drain/sewer pipe (4 fragments at 1,330g) with a stamp of B.C. M.A.R.K.O/[BRI]TISH MADE.

7 Conclusion

Monitoring of 104 Oaklands Avenue revealed a single modern feature. Confirmation of OS maps from the last 75 years show significant developments to Oaklands Avenue. It is likely, therefore, that F1 is associated with these changes. This may have also been the reason for the lack of archaeological deposits and features found during monitoring.

8 Acknowledgements

CAT thanks Andrea Savill of Athena Architectural Services and the homeowner for commissioning and funding the work. The project was managed by C Lister and carried out by A Smith and M Seehra. Figures were prepared by L Pooley and S Veasey. The project was monitored for the CBCPS by Dr Jess Tipper and Dr Simon Wood.

9 References

Note: all 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>
CAR 11	2nd ed. 1995	<i>Colchester Archaeological Report 11: Camulodunum 2</i> , by CFC Hawkes & P Crummy
CAT	2021	<i>Health & Safety Policy</i>

CAT	2020	<i>Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) for an archaeological investigation at 104 Oaklands Avenue, Colchester, Essex, CO3 9EU</i> by E Holloway
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
CAT Report 1388	2019	<i>Archaeological monitoring at 52 Oaklands Avenue</i> by E Holloway
CBCPS	2020	<i>Brief for Archaeological Investigation at 104 Oaklands Avenue, Colchester, CO3 9EU</i> by J Tipper
CIfA	2014a	<i>Standard and Guidance for an archaeological watching brief</i>
CIfA	2014b	<i>Standard and guidance for the collection, documentation, conservation and research of archaeological materials</i>
Gurney, D	2003	<i>Standards for field archaeology in the East of England</i> . East Anglian Archaeology Occasional Papers 14 (EAA 14)
Hawkes, CFC & Hull, MR	1947	<i>Camulodunum, first report on the excavations at Colchester 1930-39</i> , RRCSAL, 14
Historic England	2016	<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 Planning Services
CBM	ceramic building material, ie brick/tile
CHER	Colchester Historic Environment Record
CIfA	Chartered Institute for Archaeologists
context	specific location of finds on an archaeological site
dyke	a linear earthwork, usually a bank accompanied by a ditch
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
medieval	period from AD 1066 to c 1500
modern	period from c AD 1800 to the present
natural	geological deposit undisturbed by human activity
NGR	National Grid Reference
OASIS	O nline A ccess to the I ndex of A rchaeological I nvestigations, http://oasis.ac.uk/pages/wiki/Main
OS	Ordnance Survey
palisade	a defensive fence-like wall, usually made from large wooden stakes
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 1710)

CBC monitoring brief, CAT written scheme of investigation

Original site record (site notes, sections and plan)

Site digital photos and log

Inked section drawings

Digital record

The report (CAT Report 1710)
CBC monitoring brief, CAT written scheme of investigation
Graphics
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 project ref. ECC4432.

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Distribution list

The homeowner

Andrea Savill of Athena Architectural Services

Dr Jess Tipper, Colchester Borough Council Planning Services

Essex Historic Environment Record



Colchester Archaeological Trust

Roman Circus House,

Roman Circus Walk,

Colchester,

Essex, CO2 7GZ

tel.: 01206 501785

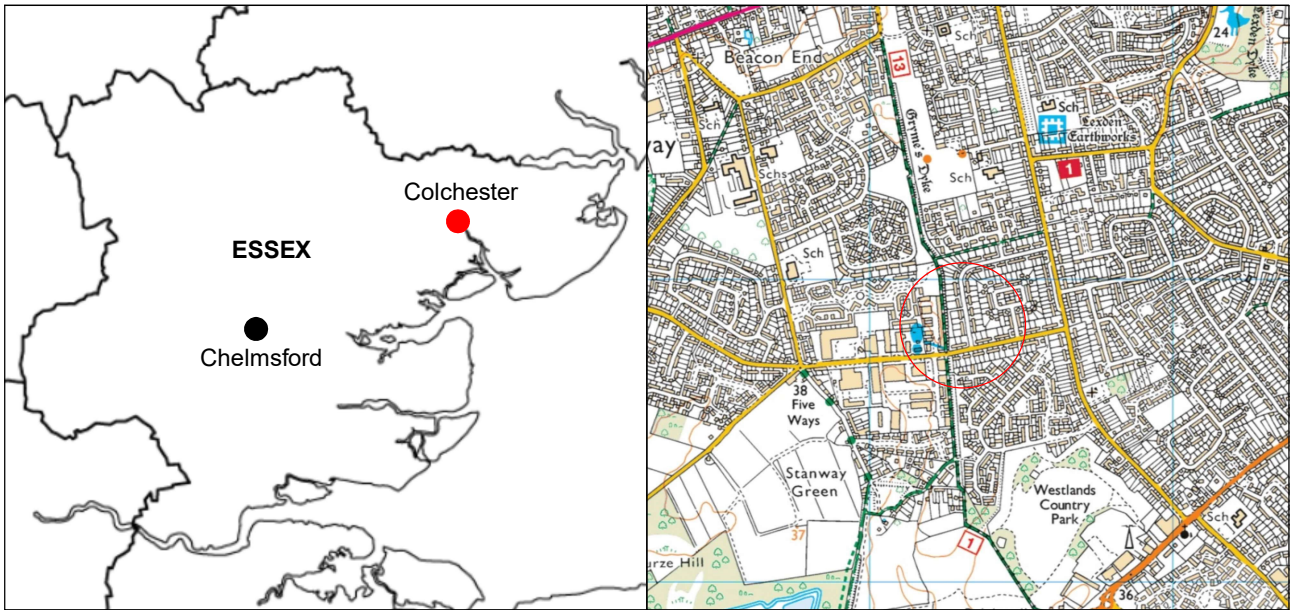
email: ms@catuk.org

Checked by: Philip Crummy

Date: 05/10/2021

Appendix 1 Context list

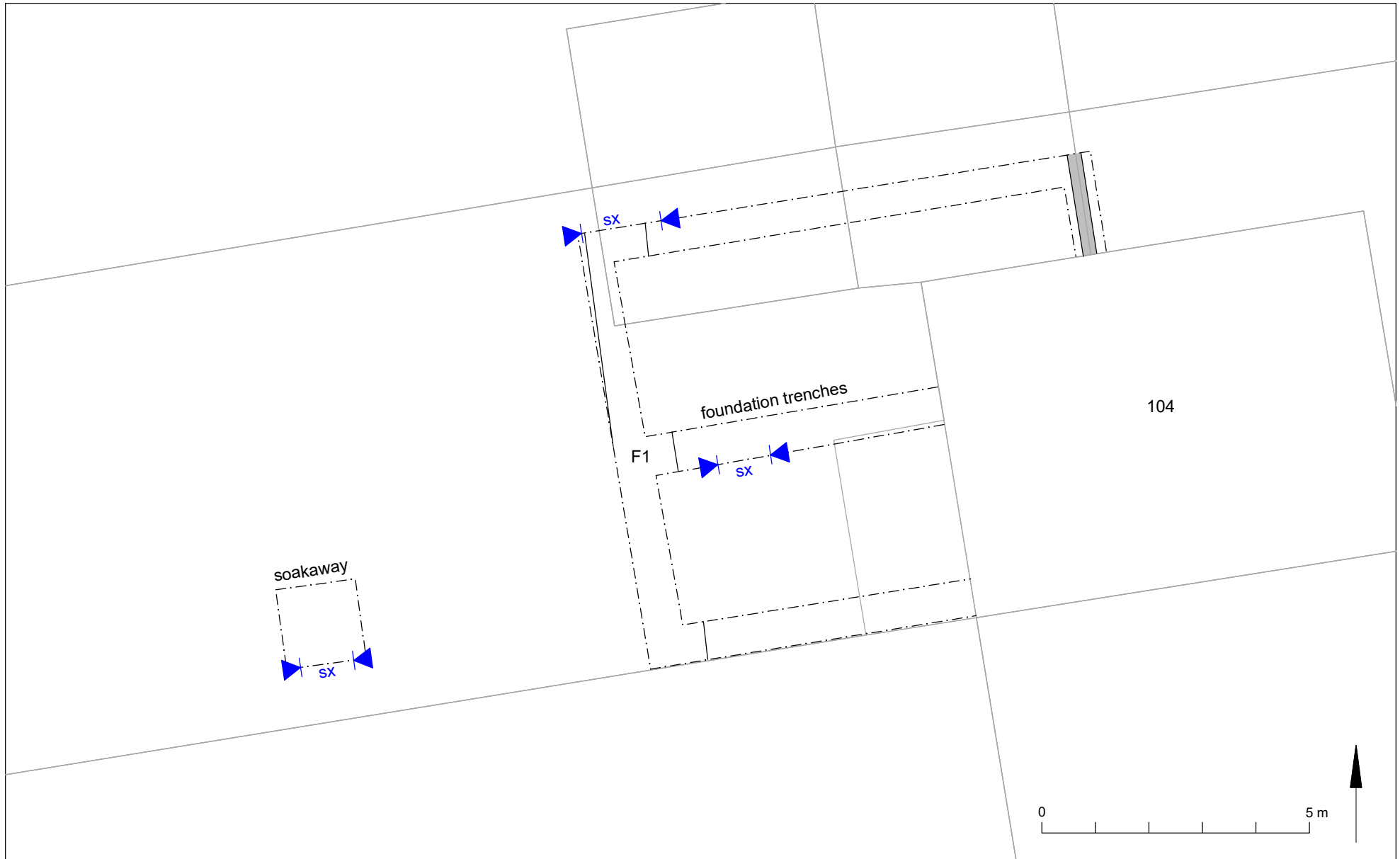
Context	Finds No.	Context type	Description	Date
L1	-	Topsoil	Loose dry medium/dark grey/brown sandy silt and inclusions of: gravel 1%	Modern
L2	-	Subsoil	Soft dry medium grey/brown sandy silt and inclusions of: gravel 30%	Undated
L3	-	Natural	Firm dry medium orange/brown sand and inclusions of: gravel 15%	Post-glacial
F1	1	Ditch	Soft dry medium/dark orange/brown sandy silt and inclusions of: gravel 25%	Modern



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Fig 1 Site location.

0 50 m



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Fig 2 Results (modern services in grey)

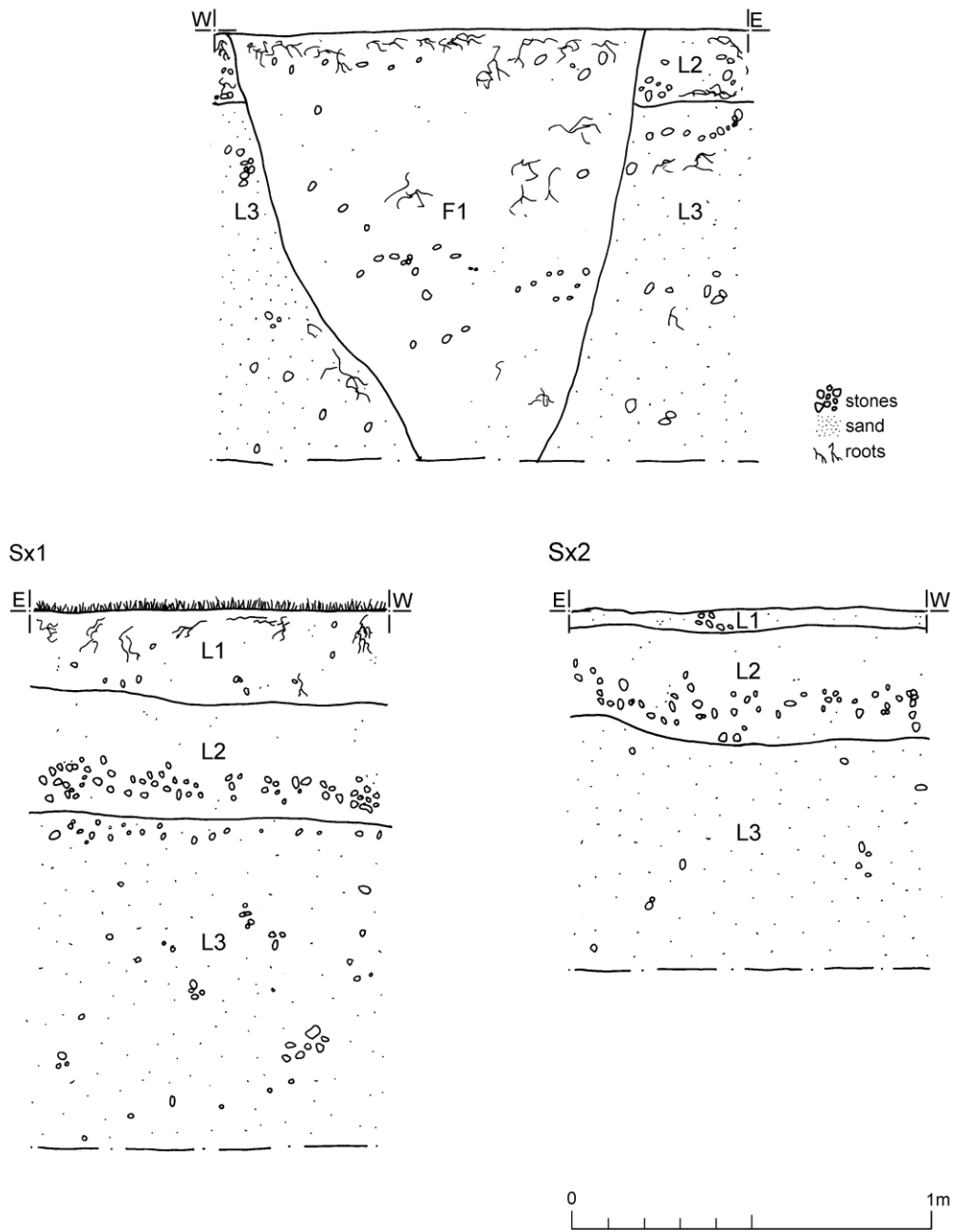


Fig 3 Feature and representative sections.

Essex Historic Environment Record/ Essex Archaeology and History

Summary sheet

Address: 104 Oaklands Avenue, Colchester, Essex, CO3 9EU	
Parish: Colchester	District: Colchester
NGR: TL 96305 23843 (centre)	Site code: CAT project ref.: 20/01k CHER ref: ECC4432 OASIS ref: colchest3-382590
Type of work: Monitoring	Site director/group: Colchester Archaeological Trust
Date of work: 13th-16th September 2021	Size of area investigated: 0.05ha
Location of curating museum: Colchester museum	Funding source: Homeowner
Further seasons anticipated? no	Related CHER/SMR number: CHER MCC7465, MCC7085, MCC1054, MCC8080, MCC8087, MCC7634, MCC9144, MCC9144
Final report: CAT Report 1710	
Periods represented: -	
Summary of fieldwork results: Archaeological monitoring was carried out at 104 Oaklands Avenue, Colchester, Essex during groundworks for side and rear extensions. The site lies approximately 40m east of the prehistoric Gryme's Dyke, with evidence to suggest pre-dyke activity near the site. Other archaeological features dated from the the late Iron Age-post-medieval have also been discovered nearby in recent years. Despite this, only a single ditch was revealed, and ceramic recovered from the fill has been dated to the modern period.	
Previous summaries/reports: -	
CBC monitor: Dr Jess Tipper	
Keywords: -	Significance: -
Author of summary: Megan Seehra	Date of summary: September 2021

Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) for an archaeological investigation at 104 Oaklands Avenue, Colchester, Essex, CO3 9EU.

NGR: TL 96305 23843 (centre)

District: Colchester

Planning references: 192870

Commissioned by: Andrea Savill

On behalf of: Vittoria Polito

Curating museum: Colchester

CHER number: tbc

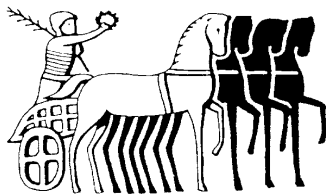
CAT project code: 2020/01k

OASIS project number: colchest3-382590

Site manager: Chris Lister

CBC monitor: Jess Tipper

This WSI written: 28/01/2020



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Site location and description

The proposed development site is located c 3.5km southwest of the historic Colchester Town Centre at 104 Oaklands Avenue, Colchester, Essex, CO3 9EU (Fig 1). The site is centred at National Grid Reference (NGR) TL 96305 23843.

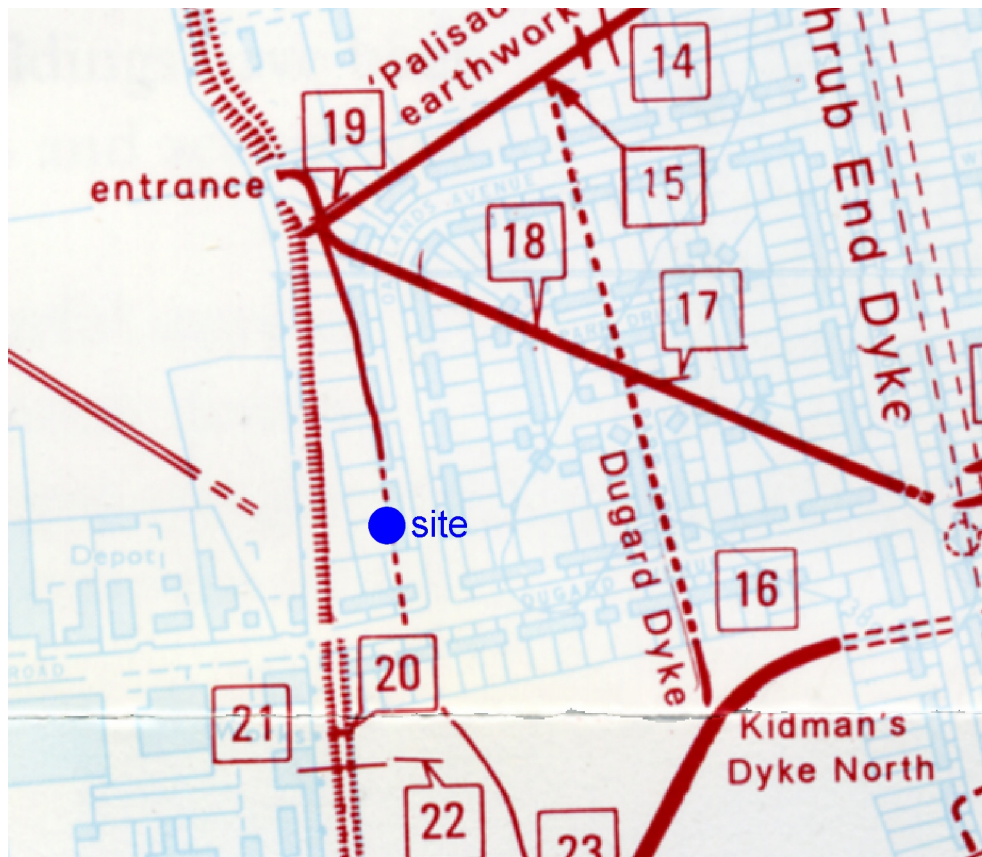
Proposed work

The development comprises the demolition of an existing extension, car port and garage to be replaced by the erection of a single and two storey rear extension and a two storey side extension and any other associated groundworks.

Archaeological background

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

The proposed development is situated within an area of archaeological significance as it lies adjacent to Gyms Dyke Middle (Scheduled Ancient Monument no. 1019960, MCC7465). The Colchester dykes and earthworks 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 of 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 the two principal reference works: *Camulodunum*, by CFC Hawkes and MR Hull (1947), and *Camulodunum 2, Colchester Archaeological Report 11 (CAR 11)*, by CFC Hawkes and Philip Crummy (1995).



Map 1: Extract of the general map of Colchester showing the locations of earthworks and excavations discussed in CAR11 (Fig 6.1), current site is labelled blue.

Gryme's dyke is the outermost, longest and latest of all the dykes on the western side of the town. Gryme's Dyke faced westwards and took the form of a deep V-shaped ditch with a steep earth bank behind it. The dyke can be divided into three distinct sections on topographical grounds, i.e. Gryme's Dyke North, South and Middle (CAR 11, 27-9) The dyke survives for much of its length as a visible but badly damaged and denuded earthwork. The current site is located adjacent to an area named in CAR 11 as Grymes Dyke Middle. Excavation work between 1946-1958 (labelled 19 on Map 1) revealed there was an entrance through Grymes Dyke and looked at the relationship between Grymes Dyke, the palisaded earthwork (MCC7085) and the Laver ditch (MCC1054, for full discussion see CAR 11, 27-29, 59-61 and 109). At location 20 (see Map 1) CAT excavated part of a section across Grymes Dyke in 1976. Part of the rampart was removed to construct a footpath. Only part of the base of eastern end of the rampart survived. Cut into the cover loam were a series of small shallow features that pre-date the bank and therefore suggest evidence of pre-dyke activity in the area of the current site (CAR 11, 109-110). A recent CAT investigation at 52 Oaklands Avenue did not reveal evidence of the expected palisaded earthwork, either some of the foundations were too shallow to reach it, or that the cropmark is slightly further south than previously projected (CAT Report 1388).

Other features noted in the area include Late Iron Age to Roman ditches recorded along the road (MCC8080 and MCC8087). Human bone was found during the erection of a radio aerial in 1963 (MCC7634) and CAT inspected a sudden hole which appeared in the rear of 64 Oaklands Avenue in 1988 and recorded a 4.6m deep vertical shaft, thought to be a well of unknown date (97/10c, CAT report 1000).

Either side of Grymes Dyke are two historic heathland areas; Lexden Heath to the east (MCC9144) and Stanway Heath to the west (MCC9144). These were areas of common land established during medieval to post-medieval periods recorded on historic mapping including the Chapman and André map of 1777.

Planning background

A planning application was made to Colchester Borough Council in November 2019 (application No. 192870) for the *demolition of existing extension, carport and garage. Construction of single storey and 2 storey rear extension and 2 storey side extension.*

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

The required archaeological work is for an archaeological investigation of all groundworks. Details are given in a Project Brief written by CBCAA (CBC 2020).

Specifically, the investigation is being undertaken to identify and record any surviving archaeological deposits that may exist on site.

If unexpected remains are encountered the CBCAA will be informed immediately and the CBCAA will decide if amendments to the brief are required to ensure adequate provision for archaeological recording.

In the exceptional circumstances that important, well-preserved remains are discovered, which cannot otherwise be avoided by the development (and satisfactorily preserved in situ), a contingency will be required for the block-lifting of these archaeological remains and for subsequent conservation and presentation. A decision about the need for conservation and lifting of important archaeological remains will be made in consultation with specialist stakeholders (e.g, Historic England, Colchester Museum and Norfolk Museums Service, Conservation and Design Services).

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 2019)
- 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 Colchester Historic Environment Record (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: One CAT officer for the duration of the groundworks.

Investigation 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. The investigation will involve monitoring of all groundworks and inspection of upcast soil.

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

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 investigated areas will be located by NGR coordinates.

Environmental sampling policy

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

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

If circumstances indicated it were prudent or necessary to remove remains from the site during the investigation, 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 and seek advice from the project osteologist. Human remains removed from site for analysis this may involve radiocarbon dating (see finds section).

Following HE guidance (HE 2018) if the human remains are not to be lifted, the project osteologist should be available to record the human remain *in situ* (i.e. a site visit). 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.

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: Robin Mathieson/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. This can include soil micromorphological assessment, absolute dating in the event that archaeomagnetic and/or (more probably) radiocarbon dating is required, if burning is encountered or human remains (in which case it might be necessary to lift a small sample for absolute dating). The Historic England Regional Science Advisor will be consulted for advice on this.

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* (HE 2015b).

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 and provision must be made for additional recording (e.g. photography, illustration and analysis) as appropriate.

The archive will be deposited with Colchester & Ipswich Museum or an alternate repository (approved by COLEM and CBCAA) within 3 months of the completion of the final publication report, with a summary of the contents of the archive supplied to 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

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

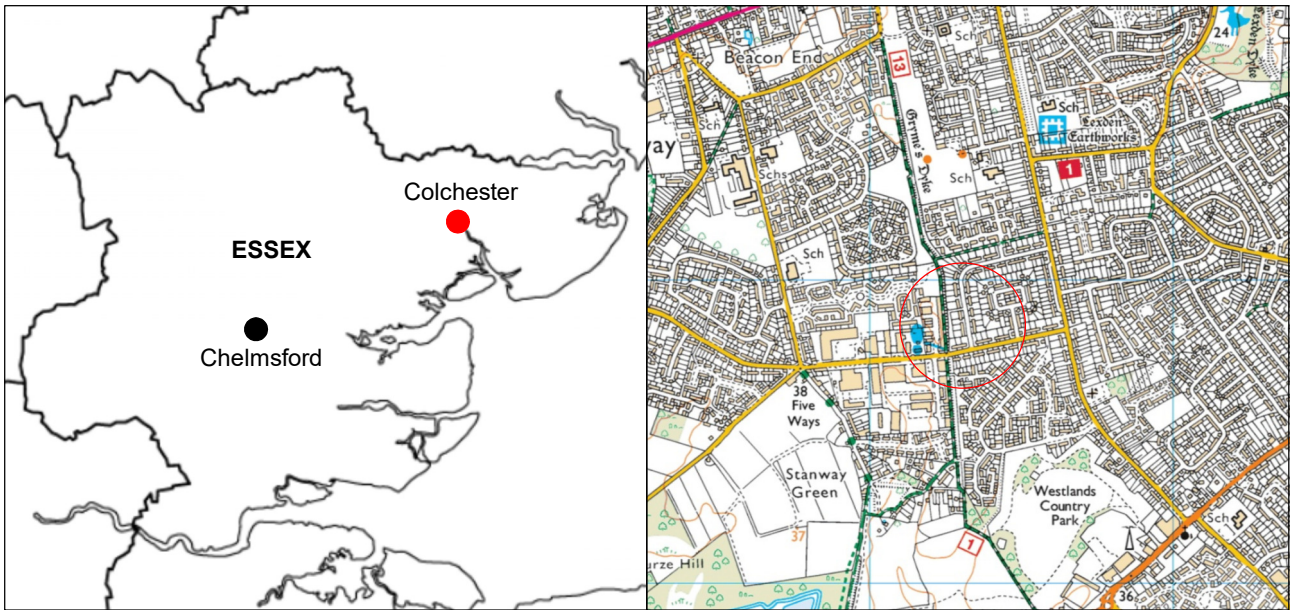
Brown, D	2011	<i>Archaeological Archives: A guide to best practice in creation, compilation, transfer and curation.</i> 2nd edition.
CAR 11	1995	<i>Colchester Archaeological Report 11: Camulodunum II</i> , by Hawkes and Crummy
CAT	2019	<i>Health & Safety Policy</i>
CAT Report 1000	forthcoming	<i>A miscellany 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
CAT Report 1388	2019	<i>Archaeological monitoring at 52 Oaklands Avenue.</i> By E Holloway
CBCAA	2020	<i>Brief for Archaeological Investigation at 104 Oaklands Avenue, Colchester, CO3 9EU.</i> By J Tipper
CIfA	2014a	<i>Standard and Guidance for an archaeological watching brief</i>
CIfA	2014b	<i>Standard and guidance for the collection, documentation, conservation and research of archaeological materials</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, and Hull, M R	1947	<i>Camulodunum, first report on the excavations at Colchester 1930-39, RRCSAL, 14</i>
Historic England (HE)	2015a	<i>Digital Image capture and File Storage: Guidelines for best practice.</i> By S Cole & P Backhouse
Historic England (HE)	2015b	<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.

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Fig 1 Site location.



OASIS DATA COLLECTION FORM: England

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OASIS ID: colchest3-382590

Project details

Project name	An archaeological investigation at 104 Oaklands Avenue, Colchester, Essex, CO3 9EU.
Short description of the project	Archaeological monitoring was carried out at 104 Oaklands Avenue, Colchester, Essex during groundworks for side and rear extensions. The site lies approximately 40m east of the prehistoric Gryme's Dyke, with evidence to suggest pre-dyke activity near the site. Other archaeological features dated from the the late Iron Age-post-medieval have also been discovered nearby in recent years. Despite this, only a single ditch was revealed, and ceramic recovered from the fill has been dated to the modern period.
Project dates	Start: 13-09-2021 End: 16-09-2021
Previous/future work	No / No
Any associated project reference codes	2020/01k - Contracting Unit No.
Any associated project reference codes	192870 - Planning Application No.
Any associated project reference codes	ECC4432 - HER event no.
Type of project	Recording project
Site status	None
Current Land use	Residential 1 - General Residential
Current Land use	Other 5 - Garden
Monument type	DITCH/LINEAR Modern
Significant Finds	N/A None
Investigation type	""Watching Brief""
Prompt	National Planning Policy Framework - NPPF

Project location

Country	England
Site location	ESSEX COLCHESTER COLCHESTER 104 Oaklands Avenue, Colchester
Postcode	CO3 9EU
Study area	0.05 Hectares

Site coordinates TL 96305 23843 51.878025938854 0.852298291382 51 52 40 N 000 51 08 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 director/manager Adam Wightman

Project supervisor Alexander Smith

Type of sponsor/funding body Landowner

Name of sponsor/funding body Homeowner

Project archives

Physical Archive Exists? No

Digital Archive recipient Colchester Museum

Digital Archive ID ECC4432

Digital Contents "none"

Digital Media available "Database", "Images raster / digital photography", "Survey"

Paper Archive recipient Colchester Museum

Paper Archive ID ECC4432

Paper Contents "none"

Paper Media available "Context sheet", "Miscellaneous Material", "Report", "Section"

Project bibliography 1

Publication type Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)

Title Archaeological monitoring at 104 Oaklands Avenue, Colchester, Essex, CO3 9EU
September 2021

Author(s)/Editor(s) Seehra, M.

Other bibliographic details 1710

Date 2021

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Please e-mail [Historic England](#) for OASIS help and advice

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