

# Archaeological evaluation on land at 16 Martyns Rise, Long Melford, Suffolk, CO10 9HR

September 2021



**by Megan Seehra**

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fieldwork by Harvey Furniss and Oliver Windridge

**Commissioned by Steve Norman  
on behalf of Prestige Homes**

NGR: TL 8609 4444 (centre)  
Planning ref: DC/21/00056  
CAT project ref.: 2021/07h  
Suffolk Parish Number: LMD 356  
OASIS ref: colchest3-426596



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**CAT Report 1712**  
October 2021

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## 1 Summary

An archaeological evaluation (two trial-trenches) was carried out on land at 16 Martyns Rise, Long Melford, Suffolk in advance of the construction of two new dwellings. The site was just outside the village of Long Melford, which was a substantial Roman settlement. Cropmarks were found south-east of the site and interpreted as a possible villa. There is also evidence of medieval and post-medieval activity nearby to the site. Despite this, no archaeological remains or features were found during the evaluation.

## 2 Introduction (Fig 1)

This report presents the results of an archaeological evaluation on land at 16 Martyns Rise, Long Melford, Suffolk which was carried out on 9th September 2021. The work was commissioned by Steve Norman on behalf of Prestige Homes in advance of the construction of two semi-detached, two-storey dwellings with new vehicular access and associated groundworks. This was undertaken by Colchester Archaeological Trust (CAT).

The Local Planning Authority (Mid-Suffolk District Council: Planning reference DC/21/00056) was advised by Suffolk County Council Archaeology Service (SCCAS) that this site lies in an area of high archaeological importance, and 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 a Trenched Archaeological Evaluation* detailing the required archaeological work written by James Rolfe (SCCAS 2021a), and a Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) prepared by CAT in response to the SCCAS brief and agreed with SCCAS (CAT 2021).

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 field evaluation* (ClfA 2014a) and *Standard and guidance for the collection, documentation, conservation and research of archaeological materials* (ClfA 2014b), as well as the SCCAS *Requirements for a Trenched Archaeological Evaluation* (SCCAS 2021b).

## 3 Archaeological and landscape background (Fig 2)

The following archaeological background draws on information from the Suffolk Historic Environment Record ([archaeology.her@suffolk.gov.uk](mailto:archaeology.her@suffolk.gov.uk)), SCC invoice number 9508963.

### Geology

The Geology of Britain viewer (1:50,000 scale<sup>1</sup>) shows the bedrock geology of the site as Lewes Nodular Chalk Formation, Seaford Chalk Formation, Newhaven Chalk Formation and Culver Chalk formation (undifferentiated) - chalk, with superficial deposits of Head – clay, silt, sand and gravel.

### Historic landscape

The development site is located in an area defined as *rolling estate farmlands* in the Suffolk Landscape Character Assessment<sup>2</sup>. Gentle sloping valleys and plateau fringes are important foci for early settlement. Within the Suffolk Historic Landscape Characterisation Map<sup>3</sup> it is defined as Landscape type 5.1 (meadow or managed wetland – meadow). This may mean archaeological remains have a higher chance of survival as there is not damage from ploughing.

<sup>1</sup> British Geological Survey – <http://mapapps.bgs.ac.uk/geologyofbritain/home.html?>

<sup>2</sup> <http://www.suffolklandscape.org.uk/>

<sup>3</sup> The Suffolk Historic Landscape Characterisation Map, version 3, 2008, Suffolk County Council

The landscape immediately around the site is characterised as: Landscape sub-type 10.2 (Built up area – town) and 1.1 (pre-18th century enclosure – random fields).

#### **Archaeology<sup>4</sup>** (Fig 2)

(All measurements are taken from the centre point of the development site to the centre point of the archaeological site).

This background is focused on results within a 500km radius of the site.

Long Melford is an attractive village with a long High Street largely located along the eastern bank of the River Stour. Melford is derived from 'mill' and 'ford' a crossing of a tributary of the river.

#### **Prehistoric:**

Observations at Withendale Pit, a former Great Eastern railway ballast pit recorded gravel deposits which included a few lithics and a fragment of mammoth tooth thought to date to the Palaeolithic period (LMD 059 339m SW).

Within the search area a couple of Iron Age coins have been recorded including a bronze coin of Cunobelin, dated c AD10-40 (LMD 039), and a gold Iron Age quarter-stater (Portable Antiquities Scheme ref. - CCI-820154).

#### **Roman:**

The centre of Long Melford is the site of a substantial Roman settlement which is believed to have been established around the junction of two main Roman roads, the N-S Chelmsford to Pakenham road (SUF 098) and the E-W Wixoe to Coddensham road (LMD 172). The current development abuts the edge of Station Road and Southgate Street where a Roman road running SSW-NNE was uncovered. This was 6.55m wide and flanked by 1.8m wide ditches which contained finds dating to the 1st-2nd centuries. It was noted that these must have silted up quickly as they were replaced by a second pair of ditches cut just outside the first. In the 2nd century a clay lined domestic oven with a stoke hole cut into the upper silt of the first ditch on the western side of the road was recorded. A child burial was found to the west of the oven (LMD 245). Finds recorded included pottery, glass vessels, a glass bead and an enamelled brooch (LMD 031, PSIA 32, 1970, 99). This road was also recorded by builders in 1969 as being 0.15m below the current road surface (LMD 037, 104m SW).

Southeast of the site cropmarks recorded through aerial photography revealed the outlines of two Roman buildings, the larger of which has been interpreted as a probable winged villa. A dense scatter of tile, flint and pottery has been noted. The site is now designated as a Scheduled Ancient Monument (1005969, LMD 042, 603m) to protect it from further damage caused by ploughing.

An excavation in advance of a housing development at the southern end of Long Melford Roman settlement in 1994 revealed several gullies containing early Roman pottery. Subsequent monitoring work revealed further ditches including three possible rectilinear enclosures (LMD 082 346m NE).

Roman finds within the search area include: a bronze mirror and iron knife from the vicinity of Melford Place (LMD 020, 494m N), a ceramic flagon neck (LMD 021, 314m NE), pottery from 19 Southgate Street (LMD 150, 133m NNE), a scatter of pottery found in the 1970s during the construction of a housing estate (LMD 203, 481m NE), pottery from an evaluation at 25 Southgate Street (LMD 224, 174m NNE) and a Roman coin.

#### **Anglo-Saxon-Medieval:**

In the Domesday survey of AD1086 the manor of Melford is listed as an estate of over 600 hectares. It is defined from historic mapping and locations of Listed Buildings. The concentration of medieval activity starts c 420m north-northeast of the current site (LMD 183).

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<sup>4</sup> This is based on records held at the Suffolk County Historic Environment Record (SCHER).

Medieval finds recorded within the search area include pottery from monitoring at 19 Southgate Street (LMD 150, 177m NNE) and a medieval coin.

**Post-Medieval:**

A map of Long Melford drawn by Israel Amyce depicts the site of a large house located c 494m north of the current site (LMD 020), two mills (also recorded in the Domesday Survey) along the River Stour 272m east-northeast of the current site (LMD 110) and a row of four houses now known as 'Rotton Row'(LMD 113, 345m NNE).

A range of maltings buildings dating to the 19th century is recorded to the south-west of the site (276m SW)

An historic farmstead, Melford Place is noted on first edition OS maps (LMD 335, 483m NNE).

Long Melford railway station (LMD 156, 454m SW) opened in 1855 as part of the Stour Valley Line, running between Sudbury and Bury St Edmunds. The line was closed in 1967 (SUF 075, 76m W).

Post-medieval finds recorded within the search area include pottery and tile from monitoring at 19 Southgate Street (LMD 150, 177m NNE).

A type FW3/22 WWII pillbox is located c 219m north-west of the site (LMD 212).

**Undated:**

Within the search area are a few areas of cropmarks recorded by aerial photography including a possible long barrow of unknown date (LMD 013, 186m SSE), a large ring-ditch or circular enclosure (LMD 140, 295m NNE) and a ring-ditch (LMD 141, 141m NE).

A large undated ditch was recorded in the footings for a new dwelling during monitoring work at Spenmar, Roper Lane (DSF 20080, 527m SW).

**Negative:**

A watching brief at The Weavers, Beestons Coach Depot did not reveal any archaeological finds or deposits. The whole area had been truncated when the railway line and marshalling yard had been constructed (ESF 22659, 306m SW)

**Listed buildings<sup>5</sup>**

There were no Historic England Listed Buildings within the search area.

## 4 Aims

The aims of the evaluation were to:

- 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 of environmental evidence.
- provide sufficient information to construct an archaeological conservation strategy, dealing with preservation, the recording of archaeological deposits, working practices, timetables and orders of costs.

## 5 Methodology

As per the WSI (appended to this report), two trial-trenches were laid out across the footprint of the proposed new buildings.

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<sup>5</sup> This is based on records held at the Suffolk County Historic Environment Record (SCHER).

The trenches were mechanically excavated under the supervision of a CAT archaeologist, and all archaeological horizons were excavated and recorded according to the WSI. There was sufficient excavation to give evidence for the period, depth and nature of all archaeological deposits.

Individual records of deposits were entered on pro-forma record sheets. The evaluation trenches were surveyed by GPS with sections drawn by hand at 1:10. All trenches were digitally photographed with a scale and north arrow. A metal detector was used to check trenches, spoil heaps and excavated strata.

## 6 Results (Figs 3-4)

The trenches were cut through modern topsoil (L1, c 0.4-0.5m thick) and subsoil (L2, c 0.25-0.35m thick) onto natural sands and gravels (L3, encountered at a depth of c 0.75m below current ground level). Both trenches were 10m in length and c 1.8m in width.

No archaeological features were revealed during this evaluation. A modern service pipe was found at the west end of Trench 1 running roughly NNW-SSE, and is likely associated with the nearby dwellings.



**Photograph 1** Trench 1 (showing service pipe in foreground), looking east



**Photograph 2** Trench 2, looking south-east

## 7 Finds

There were no finds discovered during this evaluation.

## 8 Discussion

Despite lying in an archaeologically-sensitive area, only a modern service trench was uncovered during the evaluation.

## 9 Acknowledgements

CAT is grateful to Steve Norman and Prestige Homes for commissioning and funding the project. The project was managed by C Lister and A Wightman, fieldwork was carried out by H Furniss and O Windridge. Figures are by S Veasey, H Furniss and L Pooley. The project was monitored by James Rolfe for Suffolk County Council Archaeological Services.

## 10 References

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

- |                           |       |  |
|---------------------------|-------|--|
| Brown, N & Glazenbrook, J | 2000  | <i>Research and Archaeology: a frame work for the Eastern Counties 2 Research agenda and strategy</i> , East Anglian Archaeological, occasional papers 8 (EAA 8) |
| CAT                       | 2021  | <i>Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) for a trenched archaeological evaluation at 16 Martyns Rise, Long Melford, Suffolk, CO10 9HR</i> , by E Holloway        |
| CIfA                      | 2014a | <i>Standard and Guidance for an archaeological field evaluation</i> . Updated Oct 2020   |
| CIfA                      | 2014b | <i>Standard and guidance for the collection, documentation, conservation</i>   |

		<i>and research of archaeological materials.</i> Updated Oct 2020
Historic England	2015	<i>Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment (MoRPHE)</i>
MHCLG	2019	<i>National Planning Policy Framework.</i> Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government.
PSIA	1970	<i>Proceedings of the Suffolk Institute of Archaeology, XXXII.</i> Suffolk Institute of Archaeology
SCCAS	2019	<i>Archaeological Archives in Suffolk: Guidelines for Preparation and Deposition</i>
SCCAS	2021a	<i>Brief for a Trenched Archaeological Evaluation at 16 Martyns Rise, Long Melford,</i> by James Rolfe
SCCAS	2021b	<i>Requirements for a Trenched Archaeological Evaluation.</i> Updated Jan 2021

## 11 Abbreviations and glossary

Anglo-Saxon	period from c 500 – 1066
CAT	Colchester Archaeological Trust
CIfA	Chartered Institute for Archaeologists
context	specific location of finds on an archaeological site
feature (F)	an identifiable thing like a pit, a wall, a drain, can contain 'contexts'
Iron Age	period from 700 BC to Roman invasion of AD 43
Iron Age (Early)	Early Iron Age, period from c 600 – 400BC
Iron Age (Middle)	Middle Iron Age, period from c 400 – 100BC
Iron Age (Late)	Late Iron Age (LIA), period from c 100 – 50 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
Neolithic	period from c 4000 – 2500 BC
NGR	National Grid Reference
OASIS	<b>O</b> nline <b>A</b> cces <b>S</b> to the <b>I</b> ndex of <b>A</b> rchaeological <b>I</b> nvestigations, <a href="http://oasis.ac.uk/pages/wiki/Main">http://oasis.ac.uk/pages/wiki/Main</a>
post-medieval	from c AD 1500 to c 1800
prehistoric	pre-Roman
Roman	the period from AD 43 to c AD 410
SCC	Suffolk County Council
SCCAS	Suffolk County Council Archaeological Services
SCHER	Suffolk County Historic Environment Record
section	(abbreviation sx or Sx) vertical slice through feature/s or layer/s
ws	written scheme of investigation

## 12 Contents of archive

**Finds:** n/a

### **Paper and digital record**

One A4 document wallet containing:

The report (CAT Report 1712)

SCCAS evaluation brief

Original site record (sections)

Site digital photographic log

### **Digital record**

The report (CAT Report 1712)

SCCAS evaluation brief, CAT written scheme of investigation

Site digital photographs, thumbnails and log

Graphic files

Site data

Survey data



### **13 Archive deposition**

The paper archive and finds are currently held by CAT at Roman Circus House, Roman Circus Walk, Colchester, Essex, but will be permanently deposited with SCCAS under Parish Number LMD 356. The archive will be deposited in line with SCCAS guidance (SCCAS 2019).

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**Distribution list:**

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James Rolfe, SCCAS  
Suffolk County Historic Environment Record

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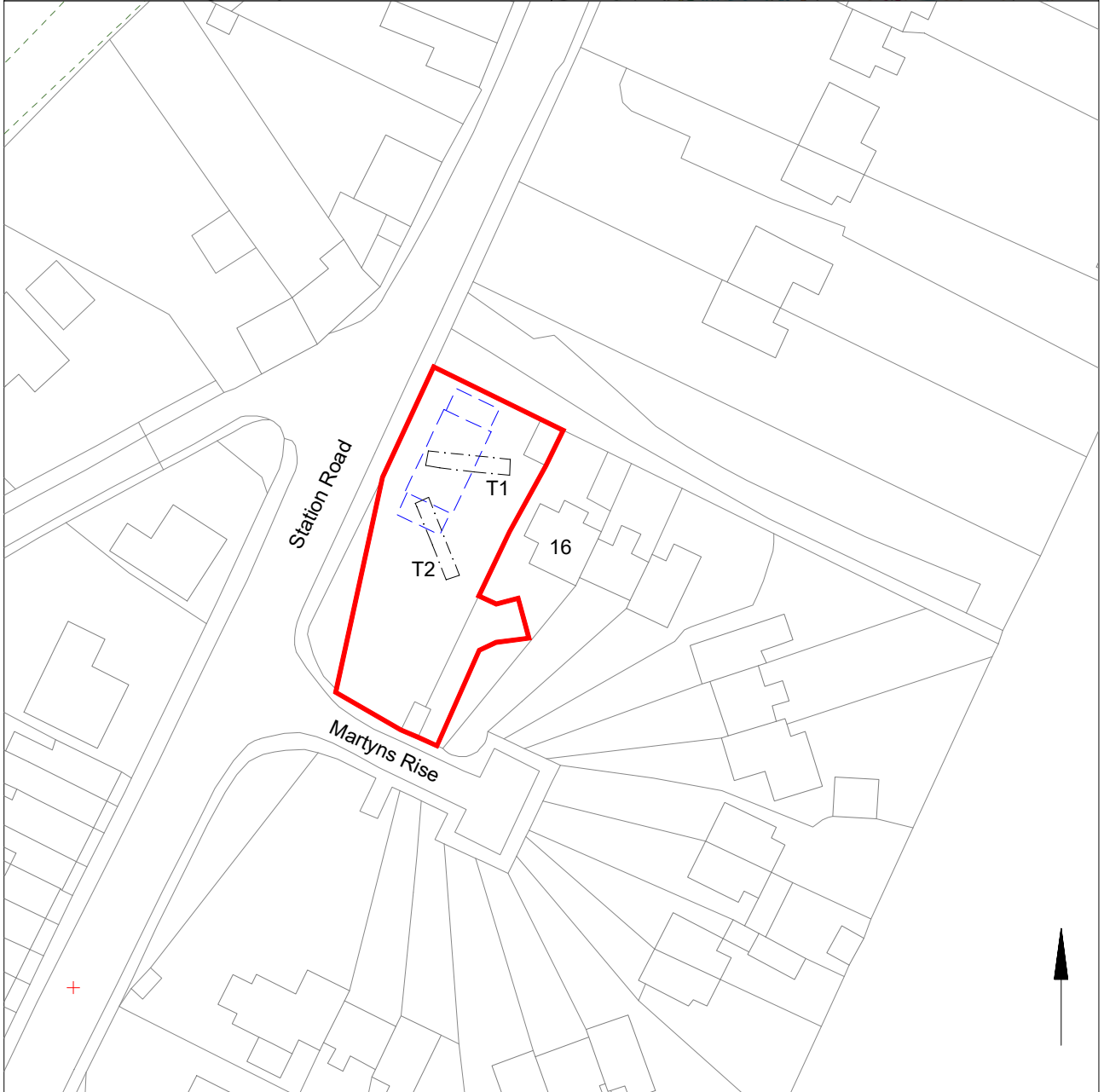
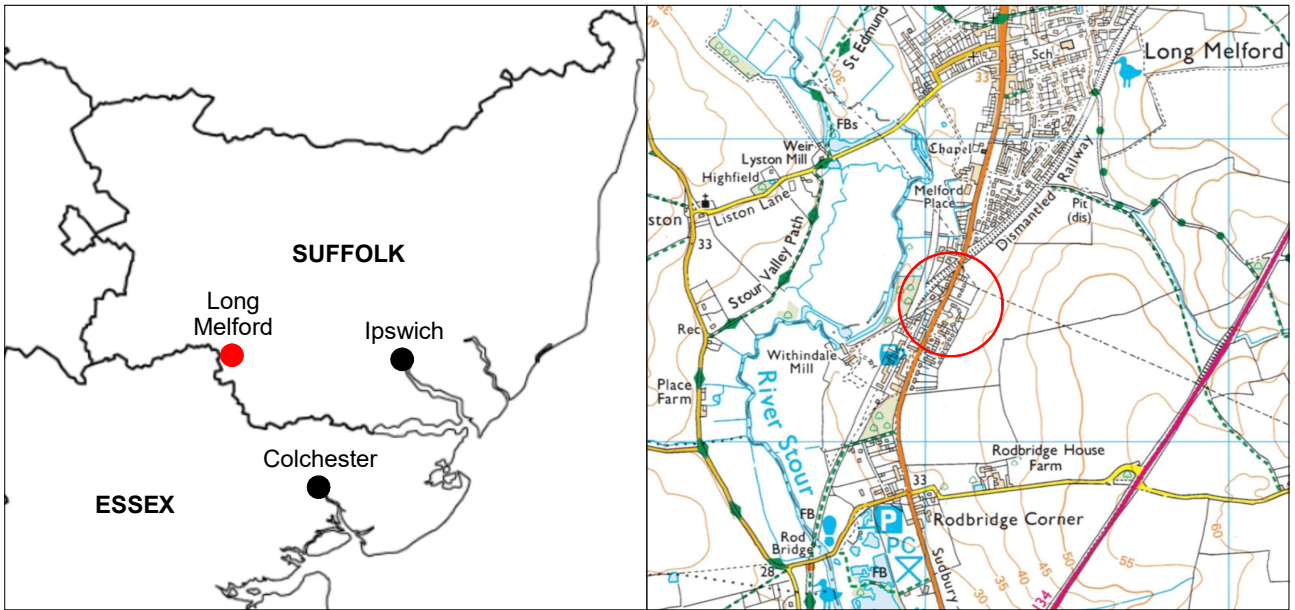
email: [ms@catuk.org](mailto:ms@catuk.org)

checked by: Philip Crummy

date: 05/10/2021

**Appendix 1 Context list**

<b>Context</b>	<b>Trench</b>	<b>Finds No.</b>	<b>Context type</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Date</b>
L1	All	-	Topsoil	Firm medium grey/brown sandy silt and inclusions of: stone 5%	Modern
L2	All	-	Subsoil	Hard medium grey silty sand and inclusions of: stone 15%	Undated
L3	All	-	Natural	Hard medium yellow/orange/brown sand and inclusions of: gravel 60%	Post-glacial



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Fig 1 Site location and trench layout in relation to proposed development (dashed blue lines).





Fig 2 Development site (in red) shown in relation to archaeological and historic sites recorded on the Suffolk Historic Environment Record.

Imagery ©2021 CNES/Airbus, Getmapping PLC, Infoterra Ltd & Bluesky, Maxar Technologies, Map data © 2021  
 HER data © Suffolk Historic Environment Record

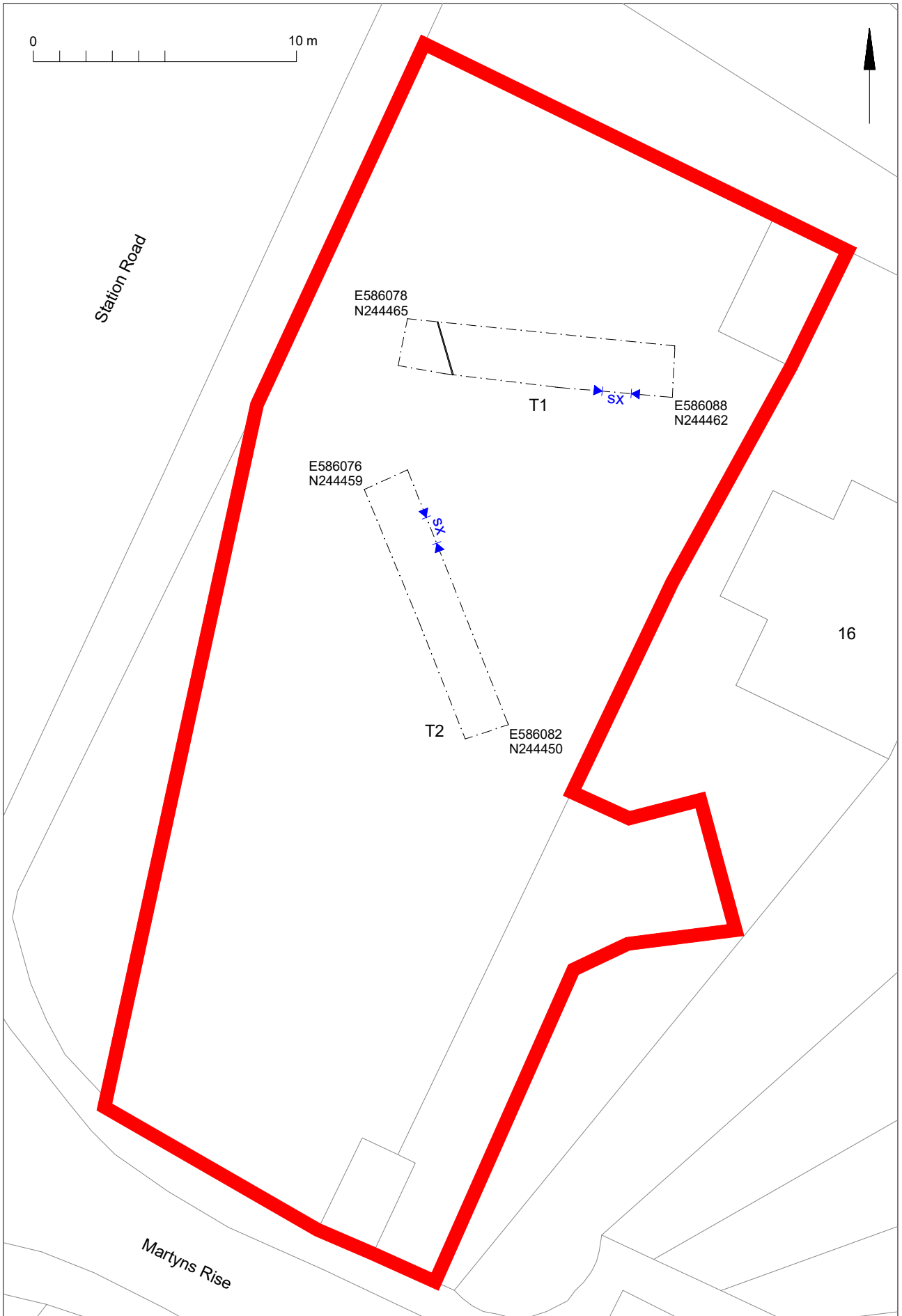


Fig 3 Results (modern service highlighted in grey)

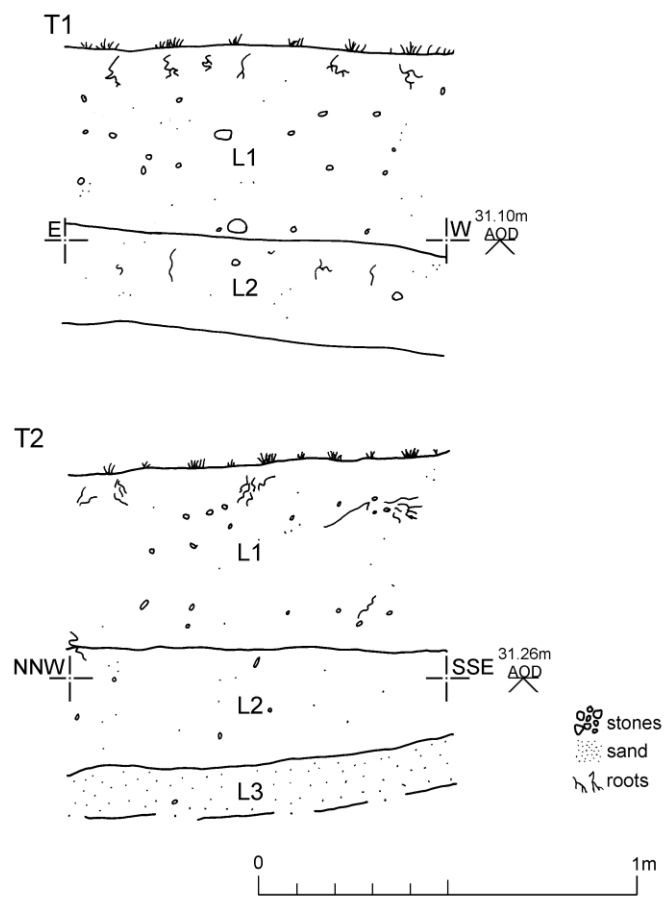


Fig 4 Representative sections.

# Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) for a trenched archaeological evaluation at 16 Martyns Rise, Long Melford, Suffolk, CO10 9HR

**NGR:** TL 8609 4444 (centre)

**Planning reference:** DC/21/00056  
**District:** Mid Suffolk District Council  
**Parish:** Long Melford

**Commissioned by:** Steve Norman  
**Client:** Prestige Homes

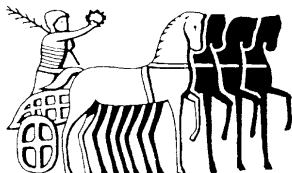
**Curating museum:** Suffolk County Council Archaeological Service

**Suffolk parish number:** LMD 356  
**CAT project code:** 2021/07h  
**OASIS reference no.:** colchest3-426596

**Contracts manager:** Chris Lister  
**Site manager:** Adam Wightman

**SCCAS Monitor:** James Rolfe

**This WSI written:** 27/08/2021



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## Site location and description

The site is located at the southernmost end of the historic town of Long Melford at 16 Martyns Rise, Long Melford, Suffolk CO10 9HR (Fig 1). The site is centred on National Grid Reference (NGR) TL 8609 4444. The site comprises of a plot less than 0.1 hectares in size, currently in use as a garden with assorted sheds and a greenhouse.

## Proposed work

The development comprises the erection of a pair of semi-detached, two-storey dwellings with new vehicular access and any associated groundworks.

## Archaeological background

The following archaeological background draws on information from the Suffolk Historic Environment Record ([archaeology.her@suffolk.gov.uk](mailto:archaeology.her@suffolk.gov.uk)), SCC invoice number 9508963.

### Geology

The Geology of Britain viewer (1:50,000 scale<sup>1</sup>) shows the bedrock geology of the site as Lewes Nodular Chalk Formation, Seaford Chalk Formation, Newhaven Chalk Formation and Culver Chalk formation (undifferentiated) - chalk, with superficial deposits of Head – clay, silt, sand and gravel.

### Historic landscape

The development site is located in an area defined as *rolling estate farmlands* in the Suffolk Landscape Character Assessment<sup>2</sup>. Gentle sloping valleys and plateau fringes are important foci for early settlement. Within the Suffolk Historic Landscape Characterisation Map<sup>3</sup> it is defined as Landscape type 5.1 (meadow or managed wetland – meadow). This may mean archaeological remains have a higher chance of survival as there is not damage from ploughing. The landscape immediately around the site is characterised as: Landscape sub-type 10.2 (Built up area – town) and 1.1 (pre-18th century enclosure – random fields).

### Archaeology<sup>4</sup> (Fig 2)

(All measurements are taken from the centre point of the development site to the centre point of the archaeological site).

This background is focused on results within a 500m radius of the site.

Long Melford is an attractive village with a long High Street largely located along the eastern bank of the River Stour. Melford is derived from 'mill' and 'ford' a crossing of a tributary of the river.

#### **Prehistoric:**

Observations at Withendale Pit, a former Great Eastern railway ballast pit recorded gravel deposits which included a few lithics and a fragment of mammoth tooth thought to date to the Palaeolithic period (LMD 059 339m SW).

Within the search area a couple of Iron Age coins have been recorded including a coin of Cunobelin, dated c AD10-40, and a stater.

#### **Roman:**

The centre of Long Melford has a substantial Roman settlement which is believed to have been established around the junction of two main Roman roads, the N-S Chelmsford to Pakenham road (SUF 098) and the E-W Wixoe to Coddensham road (LMD 172). The current development area abuts the edge of an excavation in 1970-2 in Station Road and Southgate

<sup>1</sup> British Geological Survey – <http://mapapps.bgs.ac.uk/geologyofbritain/home.html?>

<sup>2</sup> <http://www.suffolklandscape.org.uk/>

<sup>3</sup> The Suffolk Historic Landscape Characterisation Map, version 3, 2008, Suffolk County Council

<sup>4</sup> This is based on records held at the Suffolk County Historic Environment Record (SCHER).

Street which uncovered a Roman road running SSW-NNE. The road was 6.55m wide and flanked by 1.8m wide ditches which contained finds dating to the 1st-2nd centuries. It was noted that these must have silted up quickly as they were replaced by a second pair of ditches cut just outside the first. In the 2<sup>nd</sup> century a clay lined domestic oven with a stoke hole cut into the upper silt of the first ditch on the western side of the road was recorded. A child burial was found to the west of the oven (LMD 245). Finds recorded included pottery, glass vessels, glass bead and an enamelled brooch (LMD 031, PSIA 32, 1970, 99). This road was also recorded by builders in 1969 as being 0.15m below the current road surface (LMD 037, 104m SW)

Southeast of the site cropmarks recorded through aerial photography revealed the outlines of a winged building and a second smaller building. The larger building has been interpreted as a probable villa. A dense scatter of tile, flint and pottery has been noted on the surface area. To protect the site from damage caused by ploughing the site is protected as a Scheduled Ancient Monument (1005969, LMD 042, 603m)

An excavation in advance of a housing development at the southern end of Long Melford Roman settlement in 1994 revealed several gullies containing early Roman pottery. Subsequent monitoring work revealed further ditches including three possible rectilinear enclosures (LMD 082 346m NE).

Roman finds within the search area include: a bronze mirror and iron knife recorded in the vicinity of Melford Place (LMD 020, 494m N), a ceramic flagon neck (LMD 021, 314m NE), pottery from 19 Southgate Street (LMD 150, 133m NNE), a scatter of pottery found in the 1970s during the construction of a housing estate (LMD 203, 481m NE), pottery from an evaluation at 25 Southgate Street (LMD 224, 174m NNE) and a Roman coin.

#### ***Anglo-Saxon-Medieval:***

In the Domesday survey of 1086 the manor of Melford is listed as an estate of over 600 hectares. It is defined from historic mapping and locations of Listed Buildings. The concentration of Medieval activity starts c 420m north-northeast of the current site (LMD 183).

Medieval finds recorded within the search area include pottery from monitoring at 19 Southgate Street (LMD 150, 177m NNE) and a medieval coin.

#### ***Post-Medieval:***

A map of Long Melford drawn by Israel Amyce drawn depicts the site of a large house located c 494m north of the current site (LMD 020), two mills (also recorded in the Domesday Survey) along the River Stour 272m east-northeast of the current site (LMD 110) and a row of four houses now known as 'Rotton Row' (LMD 113, 345m NNE).

A range of maltings buildings dating to the 19<sup>th</sup> century is recorded to the southwest of the site (276m SW)

A historic farmstead, Melford Place is noted on first edition OS maps (LMD 335, 483m NNE).

Long Melford railway station (LMD 156, 454m SW) opened in 1855 as part of the Stour Valley Line, running between Sudbury and Bury St Edmunds. The line was closed in 1967 (SUF 075, 76m W).

Post-medieval finds recorded within the search area include pottery and tile from monitoring at 19 Southgate Street (LMD 150, 177m NNE).

A type FW3/22 WWII pillbox is located c 219m northwest of the site (LMD 212).

#### ***Undated:***

Within the search area are a few areas of cropmarks recorded by aerial photography including a possible long barrow of unknown date (LMD 013, 186m SSE), a large ring-ditch or circular enclosure (LMD 140, 295m NNE) and a ring-ditch (LMD 141, 141m NE).

A large undated ditch was recorded in the footings for a new dwelling during monitoring work at Spenmar, Roper Lane (DSF 20080, 527m SW).

**Negative:**

A watching brief at The Weavers, Beestons Coach Depot did not reveal any archaeological finds or deposits. The whole area had been truncated when the railway line and marshalling yard had been constructed (ESF 22659, 306m SW)

**Listed buildings<sup>5</sup>**

There were no Historic England Listed Buildings within the search area.

**Project background**

A planning application was submitted to Mid Suffolk District Council in January 2021 (DC/21/00056) proposing the *erection of 1 No pair of semi-detached, two-storey dwellings and new vehicular access.*

As the site lies within an area highlighted by the Suffolk HER as having a high potential for archaeological deposits, an archaeological condition was recommended by the Suffolk County Council Archaeological Service Conservation Team (SCCAS/CT). The recommended archaeological condition is based on the condition based on the guidance given in the National Planning Policy Framework (MHCLG 2019).

**Requirement for work**

The required archaeological work is for trenched archaeological evaluation. Details are given in the Project Brief (*Brief for a Trenched Archaeological Evaluation at 16 Martyns Rise Long Melford*) written by SCCAS (2021a).

The brief stated the evaluation would involve 2 linear trenches located to cover the footprint of the proposed houses. Both trenches will be 10m long and 1.8m wide equating to 20m of trenching covering an area of 36m<sup>2</sup> (see Fig 1).

Localised extensions to trenches may be required by the SCCAS after the site monitoring visit. This will only be used if unclear archaeological remains or geomorphological features present difficulties of interpretation, or to assist with the formulation of a mitigation strategy.

Trial-trenching is required to:

- 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 of environmental evidence
- provide sufficient information to construct an archaeological conservation strategy, dealing with preservation, the recording of archaeological deposits, working practices, timetables and orders of costs.

All work will take place within and contribute to the goals of the Regional Research Frameworks. This includes the regional review by Medlycott (2011) and the recently revised period specific frameworks (accessible via <https://researchframeworks.org/eoe/>).

Decision on the need for any further archaeological investigation (eg excavation) will be made by SCCAS, in a further brief, based on the results presented in the report for this evaluation. Any further investigation will be the subject of a further WSI, submitted to SCCAS for scrutiny and formally approved by the LPA.

This document represents a Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) for the archaeological evaluation ONLY; this document alone will NOT result in the discharge of the archaeological condition.

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<sup>5</sup> This is based on records held at the Suffolk County Historic Environment Record (SCHER).

## Staffing

The number of field staff for this project is estimated as follows: One supervisor plus one archaeologists for two days.

In charge of day-to-day site work: Ben Holloway

## 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-c)
- Standards for Field Archaeology in the East of England (Gurney 2003)
- Regional research and resource frameworks for the East of England (Medlycott 2011 and <https://researchframeworks.org/eoe/>)
- relevant Health & Safety guidelines and requirements (CAT 2021), including a Risk Assessment which will be carried out before the evaluation begins.
- the Project Brief issued by SCCAS (2021a)
- The outline specification within *Requirements for a Trenched Archaeological Evaluation* (SCCAS 2021b) to be used alongside the Project Brief.

CAT is covered by Aviva Insurance Ltd, 006288/04/21, which includes Professional Indemnity £2,000,000, Employer's Liability £10,000,000 and Public Liability £5,000,000.

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 SCCAS ten days before start of work.

Unless it is the responsibility of other site contractors, CAT will study mains service locations and avoid damage to these.

Prior to the commencement of the site a HER parish code will be sought from the HER team. The HER parish code will be used to identify the finds bags and boxes, and the project archive when it is deposited at the curating museum.

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

## 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. Machine assistance may also be required for very large/deep features and a contingency has been made within the budget if required, but all features will be hand excavated unless specifically agreed with SCCAS.

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 will be excavated and recorded unless otherwise agreed with SCCAS.

There will be sufficient excavation to give clear evidence for the period, depth and nature of any archaeological deposit. For linear features 1m wide sections will be excavated across their width to a total of 10% of the overall length. Discrete features, such as pits, will have 50% of their fills excavated, although certain features may be fully excavated. 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, and only then after discussion with the SCCAS, will it be removed.

Trenches will first be stepped where appropriate to allow for safe excavation of deep features. After discussion with SCCAS the use of a hand held auger (or a power auger where appropriate) will be used where necessary to gain information from very deep deposits/features if depth cannot be established through hand excavation.

Any complex/unexpected deposits will be discussed with SCCAS to agree a strategy.

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

The depth and nature of colluvial or other masking deposits will be established. Therefore, 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.

The use of a hand held auger (or a power auger where appropriate) will be used where necessary to gain information from very deep deposits/features.

A metal detector will be used to scan all trenches both before and during excavation. This will be carried out by trained CAT staff under the supervision of project manager/supervisors Adam Wightman, Nigel Rayner or Ben Holloway who have over 5 years experience of metal detecting on archaeological sites. Experienced metal detectorist Geoff Lunn will be available for advice and support throughout the project. Geoff has 4 years experience and has worked with CAT to recover finds from recent excavations at the Mercury Theatre and Essex County Hospital sites in Colchester, and who has also worked with the Colchester Archaeological Group, Suffolk Archaeology, Access Cambridge Archaeology, The Citizen Project (MOLA) and others. If considered necessary, Geoff will be employed by CAT for to assist with the metal detecting. All finds will have their location recorded via GPS or with the Total Station. All spoil heaps will also be scanned and finds recovered.

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

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

The photographic record will consist of general site shots, and shots of all archaeological features and deposits. A photographic scale (including north arrow) shall be included in the case of detailed photographs. Standard "record" shots of contexts will be taken on a digital camera. A photographic register will accompany the photographic record. This will detail as a minimum feature number, location, and direction of shot.

Trenches will not be backfilled until they have been signed off by the SCCAS.

### **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 excavation areas will be located by NGR coordinates.

### **Environmental sampling policy**

CAT aims to follow guidance set out in the Historic England guide for Environmental Archaeology (Historic England 2011). 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 (unless complex or otherwise needing specialist processing) and the flots will be sent to VF/LG for 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* except in those cases where damage or desecration are to be expected, or in the event that analysis of the remains is shown to be a requirement of satisfactory evaluation of the site.

If circumstances indicated it were prudent or necessary to remove remains from the site during the evaluation, the following criteria would be applied; if it is clear from their position, context, depth, or other factors that the remains are ancient, then normal procedure is to apply to the Department of Justice for a licence to remove them. In that case, conditions laid down by the license will be followed. If it seems that the remains are not ancient, then the coroner, the client, and SCCAS will be informed, and any advice and/or instruction from the coroner will be followed.

Following HE guidance (Historic England 2018) all archaeological human remains excavated during the course of the evaluation will either be analysed and reported by CAT project osteologist Megan Seehra or will be sent to external specialist Julie Curl.

### **Photographic record**

The photographic record will consist of general site shots, and shots of all archaeological features and deposits and follow HE guidelines (Historic England 2015a). A photographic scale (including north arrow) shall be included in the case of detailed photographs. Standard "record" shots of contexts will be taken on a digital camera. A photographic register will accompany the photographic record. This will detail as a minimum feature number, location, and direction of shot.

Basic site record shots will be taken using the site recording tablet at a resolution of 2592 x 1944 (5 megapixels).

Photographs of significant archaeological features and deposits will be taken using a Nikon D3500 DSLR camera with a 24.2 megapixel DX-format sensor.

## **Post-excavation assessment**

If a post-excavation assessment is required by SCCAS, it will normally be submitted within 2 months of the end of fieldwork, or as quickly as is reasonably practicable and at a time agreed with SCCAS.

Where archaeological results do not warrant a post-excavation assessment, preparation of the normal site report will begin.

## **Finds**

All significant finds will be retained.

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

Most of our finds reports are written internally by CAT Staff under the supervision and direction of Philip Crummy (Director) and Laura Pooley (Post-excavation Manager). This includes specialist subjects such as:

- ceramic finds (pottery and ceramic building material): Dr 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: Tom Lawrence
- prehistoric pottery: Stephen Benfield / Nigel Brown / Paul Sealey
- Roman pottery: Stephen Benfield / Paul Sealey / Jo Mills / Gwladys Monteil
- Roman brick/tile: 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 reported immediately to the Suffolk FLO (Finds Liaison Office) who will inform the coroner within 14 days, 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 SCCAS and carried out as per their guidelines (SCCAS 2019b).

## **Results**

Notification will be given to SCCAS 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* (Historic England 2015b).

The draft final report will be submitted within 6 months of the end of fieldwork for approval by SCCAS.

The approved final report will normally be submitted to SCCAS as both a PDF and a hard copy.

The report will contain:

- The aims and methods adopted in the course of the archaeological project
- Location plan of the area in relation to the proposed development.
- 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 (EAA8, EAA14 & EAA24).
- All specialist reports or assessments
- A concise non-technical summary of the project results
- Appendices to include a copy of the completed OASIS summary sheet and the approved WSI

Results will be published, to at least a summary level, in the PSIAH (Proceedings of the Suffolk Institute of Archaeology and History) annual round up should archaeological remains be encountered in the evaluation. An allowance will be made for this in the project costs for the report.

Final reports are also published on the CAT website and on the OASIS website.

### **Archive deposition**

The archive will be deposited with the Suffolk County Council Archaeological Service as per their archive guidelines (SCCAS 2019).

If the client does not agree to transfer ownership to SCCAS they will be required to nominate another suitable repository approved by SCCAS or provide funding for additional recording and analysis of the finds archive (such as, but not limited to, additional photography or illustration of objects). In the rare event that artefacts of significant monetary value are discovered, separate ownership arrangements may be negotiated, provided they are not subject to Treasure Act legislation.

If the finds are to remain with the landowner or an approved third party, a full copy of the archive will be housed with the SCCAS.

The archive will be deposited with the SCCAS within 3 months of the completion of the final publication report, with a summary of the contents of the archive supplied to SCCAS. 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.

### **Monitoring**

SCCAS officers are responsible for monitoring all archaeological work within Suffolk and will need to inspect site works at an appropriate time during the fieldwork and will review the progress of excavation reports and/or archive preparation.

Notification of the start of work will be given to SCCAS ten days in advance of its commencement and a monitoring visit will be booked with SCCAS at this time.

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

SCCAS will be notified when the fieldwork is complete.

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



### **SCCAS remote monitoring requirements during the Covid-19 pandemic**

Currently SCCAS are undertaking monitoring visits.

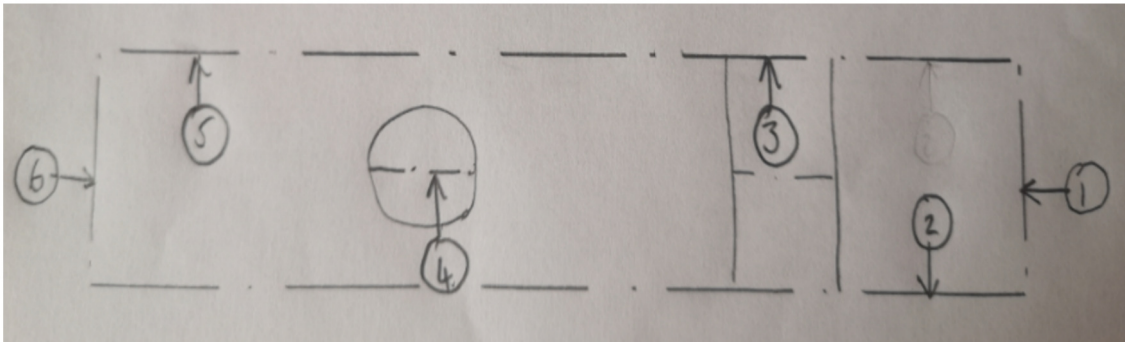
However, if government/local government advice changes due to a spike in cases/localised lockdown, *etc.* SCCAS may have to start remotely monitoring sites again.

In this case, the following remote monitoring requirements have been laid-out by SCCAS:

- All features present in the trenches, including presumed natural and geological features are to be investigated as per the WSI

In addition, the following must be sent to the SCCAS to enable them to decide if the fieldwork can be signed-off and trenches backfilled.

- GPS trench plans showing what is present in each trench – with context numbers included,
- Written text stating what finds were found (if any) in each context, with provisional date,
- Text stating which features environmental samples have been taken from,
- Photographs of 1) each trench, from each end of the trench; 2) trench sections (bulk); and 3) features (all photographs will be taken at appropriate times of day and not in bad lighting conditions and once trenches, sections, features have been cleaned)
- A diagram showing the direction each photograph was taken from, with photograph number. For example,



Provision will be made in the timetable of works for the SCCAS to review the remote monitoring documents and for any queries to be resolved.

CAT understands that if SCCAS cannot gain sufficient information remotely, they will not be able to sign off fieldwork which may lead to delays in the completion of projects.

### **Education and outreach**

The CAT website ([www.thecolchesterarchaeologist.co.uk](http://www.thecolchesterarchaeologist.co.uk)) is updated regularly with information on current sites. Copies of our reports (grey literature) can be viewed on the website and downloaded for free. Staff regularly give lectures to groups, societies and schools (a fee may apply). CAT also works in partnership with Colchester Archaeological Group (providing a venue for their lectures and library) and the local Young Archaeologists Club.

CAT archaeologists can be booked for lectures and information on fees can be obtained by contacting the office on 01206 501785.

### **References**

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

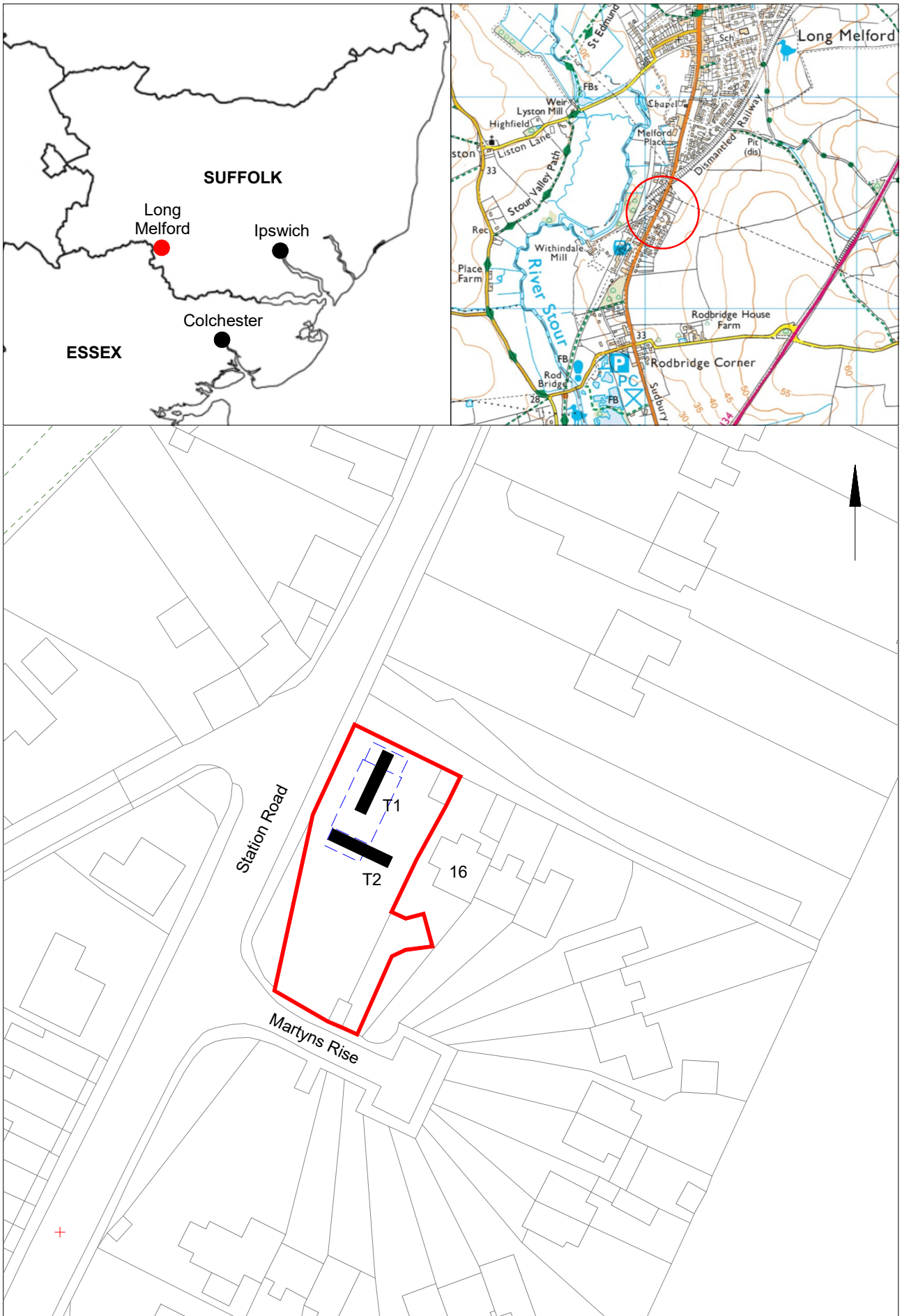
Brown, N and Glazenbrook, J.	2000	<i>Research and Archaeology: a frame work for the Eastern Counties 2 Research agenda and strategy</i> , East Anglian Archaeological, occasional papers 8 (EAA 8)
CAT	2021	<i>Health &amp; Safety Policy</i>
CIfA	2014a	<i>Standard and Guidance for an archaeological field evaluation</i> . Updated Oct 2020
CIfA	2014b	<i>Standard and guidance for the collection, documentation, conservation and research of archaeological materials</i> . Updated Oct 2020
CIfA	2014c	<i>Code of Conduct</i> . Revised Oct 2019
Digital Curation Centre (DCC)	2013	<i>Checklist for Data Management Plan v. 4.0</i>
ECDC	2019	<i>Yoxford: Draft Conservation Area Appraisal and Boundary Review</i> . Suffolk Coastal District Council. Feb 2019.
Gurney, D	2003	<i>Standards for field archaeology in the East of England</i> . East Anglian Archaeology Occasional Papers 14 (EAA 14).
Historic England	2011	<i>Environmental archaeology: A guide to the Theory and Practice of Methods, from sampling and Recovery to Post-excavation</i> . By G Campbell, L Moffett and V Straker
Historic England	2015a	<i>Digital image capture and file storage: Guidelines for best practice</i> . By S Cole & P Backhouse
Historic England	2015b	<i>Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment (MoRPHE)</i>
Historic England	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.
PSIA	1970	<i>Proceedings of the Suffolk Institute of Archaeology, XXXII</i> . Suffolk Institute of Archaeology
SCC	2012	<i>The Suffolk Historic Landscape Characterisation Map</i> , version 3
SCCAS	2019	<i>Archaeological Archives in Suffolk: Guidelines for Preparation and Deposition</i>
SCCAS	2021a	<i>Brief for a Trenched Archaeological Evaluation at 16 Martyrs Rise, Long Melford</i> , by James Rolfe
SCCAS	2021b	<i>Requirements for a Trenched Archaeological Evaluation</i> . Updated Jan 2021

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Fig 1 Site location and trench layout in relation to proposed development (dashed blue lines).





Fig 2 Development site (in red) shown in relation to archaeological and historic sites recorded on the Suffolk Historic Environment Record.

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 HER data © Suffolk Historic Environment Record

# OASIS DATA COLLECTION FORM: England

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## Printable version

**OASIS ID: colchest3-426596**

### Project details

Project name	Archaeological evaluation by trial-trenching at 16 Martyns Rise, Long Melford
Short description of the project	An archaeological evaluation (two trial-trenches) was carried out on land at 16 Martyns Rise, Long Melford, Suffolk in advance of the construction of two new dwellings. The site was just outside the village of Long Melford, which was a substantial Roman settlement. Cropmarks were found south-east of the site and interpreted as a possible villa. There is also evidence of medieval and post-medieval activity nearby to the site. Despite this, no archaeological remains or features were found during the evaluation.
Project dates	Start: 09-09-2021 End: 09-09-2021
Previous/future work	No / No
Any associated project reference codes	DC/21/00056 - Planning Application No.
Any associated project reference codes	2021/07h - Contracting Unit No.
Any associated project reference codes	LMD 356 - Museum accession ID
Type of project	Field evaluation
Site status	None
Current Land use	Other 5 - Garden
Monument type	N/A None
Significant Finds	N/A None
Methods & techniques	""Targeted Trenches""
Development type	Urban residential (e.g. flats, houses, 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	SUFFOLK BABERGH LONG MELFORD 16 Martyns Rise Long Melford

Postcode	CO10 9HR
Study area	0.07 Hectares
Site coordinates	TL 860 444 52.06620999309 0.713892411108 52 03 58 N 000 42 50 E Point
Height OD / Depth	Min: 30.5m Max: 30.9m

### Project creators

Name of Organisation	Colchester Archaeological Trust
Project brief originator	HEM Team Officer, SCC
Project design originator	Emma Holloway
Project director/manager	Chris Lister
Project director/manager	Adam Wightman
Project supervisor	Harvey Furniss
Type of sponsor/funding body	Developer
Name of sponsor/funding body	Prestige Homes

### Project archives

Physical Archive Exists?	No
Digital Archive recipient	Suffolk County Council Archaeology Service
Digital Archive ID	LMD 356
Digital Contents	"none"
Digital Media available	"Database","Images raster / digital photography","Survey","Text"
Paper Archive recipient	Suffolk County Council Archaeology Service
Paper Archive ID	LMD 356
Paper Contents	"none"
Paper Media available	"Drawing","Miscellaneous Material","Report"

### Project bibliography 1

Publication type	Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)
Title	Archaeological evaluation on land at 16 Martyns Rise, Long Melford, Suffolk, CO10 9HR
Author(s)/Editor(s)	Seehra, M.

Other bibliographic details	CAT report 1712
Date	2021
Issuer or publisher	Colchester Archaeological Trust
Place of issue or publication	Colchester
Description	An archaeological evaluation (two trial-trenches) was carried out on land at 16 Martyns Rise, Long Melford, Suffolk in advance of the construction of two new dwellings. The site was just outside the village of Long Melford, which was a substantial Roman settlement. Cropmarks were found south-east of the site and interpreted as a possible villa. There is also evidence of medieval and post-medieval activity nearby to the site. Despite this, no archaeological remains or features were found during the evaluation.
URL	<a href="http://cat.essex.ac.uk">http://cat.essex.ac.uk</a>
Entered by	Megan Seehra (ms@catuk.org)
Entered on	5 October 2021

## OASIS:

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