Colchester Archaeological Trust

CAT Report 2111
issued December 2024

Archaeological monitoring and recording at Britannia Car Park, Britannia Way, Colchester, Essex, CO2 7EF: November 2024

CAT project ref.: 2024/11a
CHER code: ECC4881

Archaeological monitoring and recording at Britannia Car Park, Britannia Way, Colchester, Essex, CO2 7EF: November 2024

NGR: TM 00067 24899 (centre)

Planning district: Colchester
Planning ref.: pre-application

CAT project ref.: 2024/11a
CAT Report 2111

CHER code: ECC4881
OASIS id: colchest3-529390

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Commissioned by Alison Fogg
On behalf of Colchester City Council

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Issued:	04/12/24	

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Cover: General site shot, looking west.

1 Summary

Archaeological monitoring and recording was carried out at Britannia Car Park, Britannia Way, Colchester, Essex, during the excavation of three 1m² trial-pits along the train station's northern wall. The trial-pits were located just outside the precinct of St Botolph's Priory, with other archaeological remains, principally Roman, in the vicinity of the development site. However, all groundworks impacted on only modern (19th-20th century) remains and one undated layer at the base of trial-pit 1. The modern remains are associated with the industrial history of the site.

2 Introduction (Fig 1)

This is the report for archaeological monitoring and recording at Britannia Car Park, Britannia Way, Colchester, Essex, which was carried out on the 13th-15th November 2024. The work was commissioned by Alison Fogg on behalf of Colchester City Council and was carried out by Colchester Archaeological Trust (CAT) during preliminary groundworks ahead of the proposed (pre-application) development of the site. Three 1m² trial pits were excavated along the southern boundary of the car park to investigate the foundations of the train station's northern wall, to assess the size and depth, including any underpinning.

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 City Council Archaeological Advisor (CCCAA). The recommended archaeological condition was based on the guidance given in the *National Planning Policy Framework* (MHCLG 2023).

All work was carried out in accordance with a *Brief for a geoarchaeological borehole survey and test-pit evaluation at Britannia Car Park, Colchester*, written by Dr Richard Hoggett (CCCAA 2023). A Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) was prepared by CAT (2024a) in response to the brief and agreed with the CCCAA in advance of the groundworks.

In addition to the project Brief and WSI, all fieldwork and reporting was undertaken in accordance with:

- *Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment* (*MoRPHE*) (Historic England 2015),
- Professional standards of the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists, including its *Code of Conduct* (CIfA 2020a-b, 2022, 2023a-b),
- East of England standards and frameworks published by East Anglian Archaeology (Brown & Glazebrook 2000, Gurney 2003, Medlycott 2011) and the recent review updates on https://researchframeworks.org/eoe/
- Relevant health and safety guidelines and requirements (CAT 2024b).

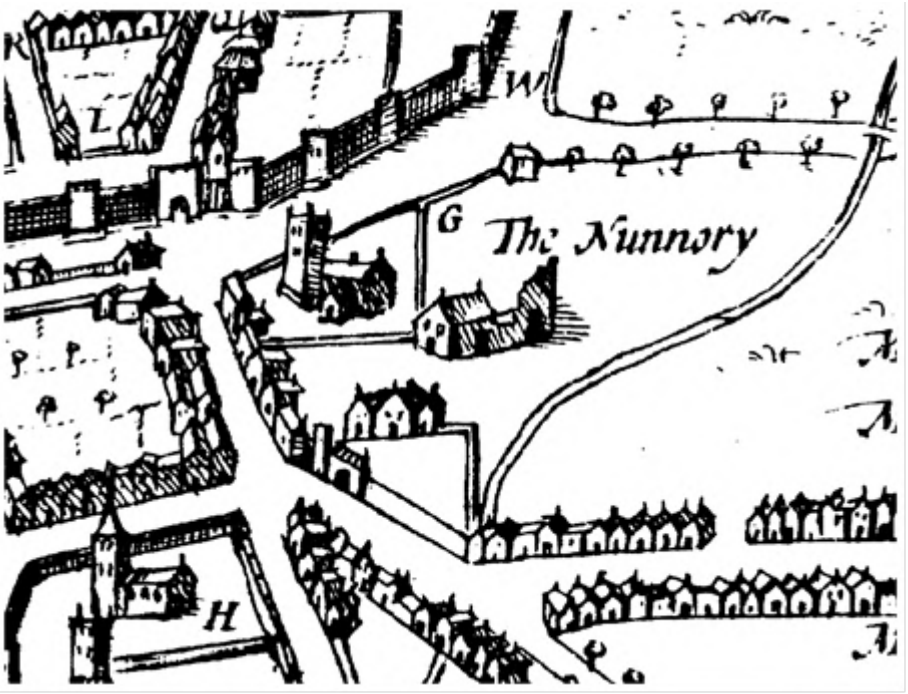
3 Archaeological and geological background

The following archaeological background draws on the Colchester Archaeological Trust report archive and the Colchester Historic Environment Record (CHER/ECC numbers, which are accessible via Colchester Heritage Explorer (https://colchesterheritage.co.uk/map).

The site is located *c* 100m south of the historic Roman and medieval core surrounded by the Roman Town wall (NHLE 1003772; MCC859) and *c* 170m southeast of South Gate which would have been one of the largest gates using St Botolphs Street and Mersea Road as a main route towards the coast at Mersea Island. To the west of the town centre extra-mural Roman occupation, considered to be an extension of the Roman town, is known to extend up to 300m west of the town wall (*CAR* **3**, fig 8).

The main development site, but not where the current trial pits are located, is situated inside the precinct of St Botolph's Priory, a Scheduled Monument (NHLE 1013764; MCC425). The Priory was founded in 1104, probably on or near a pre-existing church (Crummy 2001, 150). It was the first Augustinian foundation in Britain but was not wealthy, which probably explains why the church was not finished or dedicated until 1177 (Crummy 2001,149). It was eventually demolished following the Dissolution in 1536. The nave continued to function for parish and civic services but was badly damaged during the Siege of 1648 and the building consequently fell out

of use, and it is unclear to what extent the other priory buildings were reused following the Dissolution (Crummy 2001, 150). Now only the walls of the nave of the priory church remain standing. The full extent of the Priory precinct is not known, but it is assumed to stretch from Priory Street southwards to Magdalen Street and west to St. Botolph's Street. The eastern boundary is unknown. During the 19th and 20th centuries, buildings began to encroach significantly onto the former precinct of the priory.



Map 1 Speed's map of 1610 showing St Botolph's Priory Church.

Trial-trenching to the northeast of the standing remains of the Priory in 1986 revealed traces of the north transept and two burials of probable medieval date (Shimmin 1988). Further details pertaining to the east end of the church, including a possible crypt, along with more burials were uncovered during excavations in 1991 (Crummy 2001, 150). The remains of a Roman building were also revealed, which was considered probably part of an extra-mural settlement rather than a Roman church or 'martyrium' (Crummy 2001, 150) (MCC2067-2098).

Excavations in 1970 some 35m to the east at 30 St Julian Grove revealed stratified deposits of the 2nd to 3rd centuries AD (MCC2083). A floor of red *tessera* has been recorded to the north under Priory Street adjacent to the property in question (MCC1091). Monitoring in 2010 (CAT Report 567) within the Priory as part of landscaping works uncovered gravestones and an 18th- or 19th-century well.

At 2-3 Priory Street an archaeological evaluation was carried out by CAT in 2014 (CAT Report 800, ECC2882). Roman deposits, including at least one *in situ* surface and debris from the demolition of a Roman building, were identified at the northern end of the evaluation trench. The Roman deposits on the site had been truncated by medieval inhumation burials associated with the Priory. A significant quantity of disarticulated human bone was recovered and two articulated skeletons, both young individuals, were uncovered at depths of 0.68m and 0.74m below the modern ground level. Several subsequent phases of work by CAT (CAT Reports 1138, 1236 and 1771) revealed the remains of *in situ* inhumation burials and a large quantity of disarticulated human bone. Most of the burials appear to be of medieval date but two were found cut into a layer dating from the 17th to 18th centuries, showing that the cemetery continued in use after the dissolution of the monasteries. The remains of two east/west Roman wall foundations were also uncovered. One was at least 12m long, 0.55-0.6m wide and made of small fragments of greensand stone, *septaria* and brick/tile set in a loose bed of mortar. The other was at least 5m long and made of large flint nodules and occasional fragments of *septaria* and greensand stone

set in an off-white mortar. Roman building debris from the site included brick, roofing tile, flue-tile, tesserae cubes, opus signinum and painted wall plaster.

In other areas, such as to the west of the Roman wall, extra-mural Roman occupation has been recorded which is generally considered to be an extension of the Roman town (*CAR* **3**, fig 8). To the west of Balkerne Gate extra-mural occupation is known to extend up to 300m west of the town wall. The Roman structural remains recorded at Priory Street and St Julian Grove show the potential for extra-mural Roman occupation to the south-east of the wall.

In more modern times the site has been an industrial area. The earliest mention of the site dates back to 1811 when the site was used by a nail maker. From at least 1836 the site was part iron foundry (MCC5013) and part nail making. A succession of companies used the site for the construction of sewing machines, lathes and engines. From 1941 to 1982 Paxman used the site to manufacture petrol engines and associated control gear and components. The site had to be partially rebuilt after suffering serious fire damage from incendiary bombs in February 1944 (Carr, R, *Paxman History Pages*, available at https://www.paxmanhistory.org.uk/paxbrit.htm, accessed 08th November 2024).

In March 2022, SUMO Geophysics carried out a ground-penetrating geophysical survey of the site. Anomalies were identified at depths of less than 1m below modern ground level which indicate that the site is broadly sub-divided into four areas of different character, related to the site history. The densest area was on the western side of the site where the oldest part of the ironworks was located. Central areas formerly occupied by the post-WWII ironworks were more fragmented, with some potential evidence to suggest deeper level basements. Numerous anomalies were recorded to the eastern end of the site, which may be of archaeological significance.

The Geology of Britain viewer (1:50,000 scale[1]) shows the bedrock geology of the site to be Thames Group, an Eocene lithostratigraphic unit comprised mainly of clays and silty clays, some sandy or gravelly, with some silts, sands, gravels and calcareous mudstone. The Thames Group was deposited in environments ranging from marine shoreface ranging out to outer marine shelf. Within the survey district the Kesgrave Catchment Subgroup, that encompasses all terrace deposits of the pre-Anglian, pre-diversion River Thames, forms superficial deposits composed of gravels, mainly of quartz and quartzite, derived from Triassic, Carboniferous and Devonian rocks of the West Midlands, Welsh Borderland and possibly south-western Pennines, and felsic volcanic rocks from northern Wales.

4 Aim

The aim of the archaeological monitoring was to identify and record any archaeological contexts revealed during the groundworks.

5 Results (Figs 2-3)

Three trial-pits (TPs), each 1m², were excavated under the supervision of a CAT archaeologist. They were located along the southern boundary of the car park to investigate the foundations of the train station's northern wall.

Trial-pit 1

TP1 was excavated to a depth of 1.07m through modern layers. It cut through a thick layer of modern concrete (L1, *c* 0.39m-0.58m thick) and sub-base (L8, 0.02-0.03m thick), and layers of sand (L9, 0.14m thick), sandy silt (L10, 0.07-0.18m thick), compacted sands and gravel (L11, 0.03-0.06m) and another layer of sandy silt (L12, over 0.25m thick). Finds from L12 at the base of the trial-pit included four pieces of modern window glass, indicating that all of the contexts date from the 19th-20th century.

[1] British Geological Survey – https://geologyviewer.bgs.ac.uk/?

Context	Finds no.	Type	Description	Date
L1	-	Concrete	Iron bar reinforced concrete pad. Ground level, seals F3 and L8. 0.39-0.58m thick.	Modern
L8	-	Sub-base	Friable, moist, dark brown sandy silt with rare small stones. Sealed by L1, seals L9. *c* 0.02-0.03m thick.	Modern
L9	-	Sand layer	Moist, soft medium-yellow sand with rare small stones. L9 probably represents the remains of modern backfill associated with the construction of modern service F3. Sealed by L8, seals L10, cut by F3. 0.14m thick.	Modern
L10	-	Sandy silt layer	Friable, moist, mid-grey to brown sandy silt, with occasional small stones (2%) and inclusions of CBM and oyster shells. Sealed by L9, seals L11, cut by F3. 0.07-0.18m thick.	Modern
L11	-	Possible surface, compacted sands and gravel	Compact, mid-brown sandy silt with frequent small stones and gravel. Sealed by L10, seals L12, cut by F3. 0.03-0.06m thick.	Modern
L12	6	Sandy silt layer	Soft, dark brown sandy silt with occasional CBM. Inclusions of oyster shell, pot, glass and animal bone. Sealed by L11. Over 0.25m thick.	Modern
F3	5	Service trench	Loose light mid-brown sandy silt. Inclusions of potsherds, unfrogged brick, slate. Cuts L9, L10 and L11.	Modern

Table 1 Trial-pit 1 context list.

Service trench F3 comprised two low, closely parallel, un-frogged brick walls in two courses, 0.08m apart, with both resting on slate slabs (one slab is fully exposed by the east LOE), creating a slate-floored channel. This structure was orientated exactly parallel to the wall of the train station, suggesting it post-dates the construction of the wall. The north side of F3 was encased by loose sandy silt, the edge of which cuts L9, L10 and L11. The brickwork of F3 was capped by a layer of mortar, above which were at least three courses of bricks in a stretcher orientation. These bricks were damaged to the extent that individual courses were hard to distinguish.

Photograph 1 Trial-pit 1 with F3, looking south (disregard north arrow).

Trial-pit 2

Trial-pit 2 was excavated to a depth of 0.68m and cut through modern layers. Concrete pad L1 (0.45m thick) sealed a layer of crush (L3, 0.07-0.08m thick) above a deposit of sandy silt (L2, at least *c* 0.15m thick). Pottery from L2 dated from the 19th to 20th century (Table 6), and L3 included many CBM fragments of 20th century date. F1 was possibly the remains of the construction cut for the train station wall.

Context	Finds no.	Type	Description	Date
L1	-	Concrete	Iron bar reinforced concrete pad, *c* 0.45m thick. Seals L3.	Modern
L2	1	Sandy silt layer	Soft, wet dark-brown sandy silt, with inclusions of CBM, pot, glass, oyster shells and animal bone. Sealed by L3 and cut by F1. Possibly the same layer as L12 in TP1. Over 0.15m thick.	Modern
L3	-	Crush	Firm, wet medium orange-brown sand, with 10% stones. Frequent CBM inclusions. Sealed by L1 and seals L2 and F1. 0.07-0.08m thick.	Modern
F1	-	Construction cut for train station wall	Soft, wet, medium green-brown sandy silt, with brick and tile inclusions. Sealed by L3 and F3, seals L2, and cut by L2.	Modern

Table 2 Trial-pit 2 context list.

Photograph 2 Trial-pit 2, looking west.

Trial-pit 3
TP3 was excavated to a depth of 1m and cut through five modern contexts into an undated layer (L7) at the base. A thick layer of concrete (L1, *c* 0.57-0.59m thick) sealed a layer of sandy silt (L4, 0.07-0.16m thick) above a demolition layer/floor (L5, 0.04m to 0.13m thick) with another layer of sandy-silt below (L6, 0.06m thick) sealing a layer of sand and gravels (L7, at least 0.05m thick).

Small stake-hole F2 was cut into L7.

Context	Finds no.	Type	Description	Date
L1	-	Concrete	Concrete. Ground level, seals L4. 0.57-0.59m thick.	Modern
L4	2	Sandy silt layer	Firm, moist, dark-brown sandy silt, with inclusions of brick (un-frogged), pot, glass, charcoal, and shell. 2% stones. Sealed by L1 and seals L5 and L6. 0.07-0.16m thick.	Modern
L5	3	Sandy silt layer	Soft, moist, medium-brown sandy silt, with pot sherds, brick, peg tile, slate, clay pipe and glass inclusions. Sealed by L4 and L6, seals L7 and F2. 0.05-0.13m thick.	Modern
L6	4	Demolition layer/floor	Hard, most, medium-brown sandy silt, with pot sherds, unfrogged brick and peg tile inclusions. 2% stones. Sealed by L4, seals L5. 0.06m thick.	Modern
L7	-	Sand & gravels	Loose, wet, light-brown sand. 60% gravel, 10% small stones. Sealed by L5. Over 0.05m thick and 0.05m deep.	Undated
F2	-	Stake-hole	Firm, wet, dark, brown-black sandy silt, with inclusions of charcoal and oyster shell. 1% stone. Cuts L7, sealed by L5.	Modern

Table 3 Trial-pit 3 context list.

Photograph 3 Trial-pit 3, looking west.

6 Finds

6.1 Ceramic and pottery finds (Appendix 1-2)

by Dr Matthew Loughton

Monitoring uncovered a small assemblage of pottery and ceramic building material (CBM) at 49 pieces with a weight of 4.6kg, estimated vessel equivalents (EVE) of 0.24 and mean sherd weight (MSW) of 95g (Table 4). This material was recovered from one feature and five layers (Table 9).

Ceramic material	No.	Weight (g)	MSW (g)	EVE
Pottery	32	384	12	0.24
CBM	17	4,276	252	-
All	49	4,660	95	0.24

Table 4 Summary of the pottery and CBM.

Medieval, post-medieval and modern pottery

Medieval, post-medieval and modern pottery was recorded according to the fabric groups from *CAR* 7 (Cotter 2000) (Table 5). The assemblage consists of 32 sherds with a weight of 384g and EVE of 0.24 (Table 6). The MSW is 12g. This material was recovered from one feature and five layers (Table 7). A variety of post-medieval and modern wares account for the majority of the assemblage and the only item of note was a Westerwald stoneware (fabric F45F) slack-bodied jar (EVE:0.15) dating to *c* 1650-1725 (Cotter 2000, 288 fig. 196.7). Medieval pottery was only represented by one sherd of Kingston-type ware (fabric F23D).

Fabric code	Fabric description	Fabric date range guide
F23D	Kingston-type ware	1200-1425
F40	Post-medieval red earthenwares	*c* 1500-19th/20th century
F45D	Frechen stonewares	*c* 1500-1700
F45F	Westerwald stoneware	1600-1800
F45G	Nottingham/Derbyshire stoneware	1675-1800
F45M	Modern English stoneware	1800-2000
F46	Netherlands, Anglo-Netherlands and English tin-glazed earthenwares	1550-1800
F47	Staffordshire-type white stoneware	1725-1775
F48D	Staffordshire-type white earthenwares	1800-2000
F50	Staffordshire-type slipware	1650-1800
F51A	Late slipped kitchenware	1800-2000

Table 5 Pottery fabrics recorded.

Fabric code	Fabric description	No.	Weight (g)	MSW (g)	EVE
F23D	Kingston-type ware	1	8	8	0.00
F40	Post-medieval red earthenwares	12	210	18	0.09
F45D	Frechen stonewares	1	5	5	0.00
F45F	Westerwald stoneware	2	25	13	0.15
F45G	Nottingham/Derbyshire stoneware	1	16	16	0.00
F45M	Modern English stoneware	2	39	20	0.00

F46	Netherlands, Anglo-Netherlands and English tin-glazed earthenwares	1	4	4	0.00
F47	Staffordshire-type white stoneware	2	8	4	0.00
F48D	Staffordshire-type white earthenwares	6	31	5	0.00
F50	Staffordshire-type slipware	2	6	3	0.00
F51A	Late slipped kitchenware	2	32	16	0.00
	Total	***32***	***384***	***12***	***0.24***

Table 6 Summary of the pottery.

Context	Feature type	No.	Weight(g)	MSW (g)	EVE
F3	Service trench	1	24	24	0.00
L2	Sandy silt layer	9	112	12	0.15
L4	Sandy silt layer	3	18	6	0.00
L5	Sandy silt layer	7	37	5	0.00
L6	Demolition layer/floor	2	6	3	0.00
L12	Sandy silt layer	10	187	19	0.09
	Total	***32***	***384***	***12***	***0.24***

Table 7 Quantities of medieval, post-medieval and modern pottery from specific contexts.

Ceramic building material (CBM)

CBM consist of 17 sherds with a weight of 4.276kg and MSW of 252g which was recovered from one feature and five layers (Table 8). One fragment of Roman brick was recovered from L2 otherwise all the CBM consists of medieval/post-medieval peg-tile and fragments of post-medieval to modern brick. A modern four-pressed frogged brick with a stamp of [LBC PHO]RPES, from the London brick company was recovered from L4.

Context	Feature type	No.	Weight(g)	MSW (g)
F3	Service trench	1	3,077	3077
L2	Sandy silt layer	8	382	48
L4	Sandy silt layer	1	503	503
L5	Sandy silt layer	2	144	72
L6	Demolition layer/floor	3	143	48
L12	Sandy silt layer	2	27	14
	Total	***17***	***4,276***	***252***

Table 8 Quantities of CBM from specific contexts.

Conclusion

Table 9 summarizes the spot dating evidence for the feature and layers which contained dateable pottery and CBM. The finds dated from the mid-17/18th to the 20th century. None of the pottery and CBM finds were retained.

Context	Medieval, post-medieval, modern pottery	CBM	Date Approx.
F3	F51A (storage jar)	BR (UN-FROGGED)	19th century
L2	F23D, F40, F45F (slack bodied jar), F45G, F45M, F47	RB, PT	19th-20th century
L4	F48D	BR (FROGGED)	20th century
L5	F40, F45F (tankard/jug), F47, F48D, F51A	BR, PT	19th-20th century

L6	F50	BR, PT	Mid 17th-19th century
L12	F40 (large storage jar), F45D, F46	PT	Mid 16th-18th century

Table 9 Ceramic spot dates for the individual contexts.

6.2 Miscellaneous finds

by Laura Pooley with animal bone identified by Alec Wade

Miscellaneous finds included small fragments of post-medieval/modern glass and clay pipe stems, along with fragments of roofing slate, coal/clinker, iron, animal bone and shell. This material is recorded in Table 10 below and has been discarded.

Context	Finds no.	Description
F3	5	**Slate:** One fragment of slate, 99.3g.
L2	1	**Animal bone:** Three fragments of sheep/goat bone, including a metacarpal and metatarsal both dog-gnawed, 43.4g. **Shell:** One fragment of oyster shell, 6.1g. **Coal/coke:** One fragment, 13.4g. **Iron:** Unidentifiable lump, 12.1g.
L4	2	**Glass:** One fragment of curved bottle glass, pale green, 2.7g, post-medieval/ modern. **Shell:** One oyster shell, 25.0g.
L5	3	**Glass:** Three fragments of bottle glass, olive green, green and amber/brown, 15.4g, post-medieval/modern. **Clay tobacco pipe:** Two stem fragments, 4.0g, post-medieval/modern. **Slate:** Four fragments of roofing slate, including one piece with a fixing hole, 105.6g.
L6	4	**Shell:** Fragment of oyster shell, 9.6g.
L12	6	**Glass:** Four fragments of window glass, 10.9g, modern. **Clay tobacco pipe:** Stem fragment, 1.9g, post-medieval/modern. **Slate:** Small fragment, 2.7g. **Animal bone:** Three fragments of pig bone, including two pieces from the pelvis and a metapodial, 45.8g. **Shell:** Fragment of oyster shell, 8.7g. **Coal/coke:** Six fragments, 105.6g.

Table 10 Miscellaneous finds listed by context.

7 Conclusion

Archaeological monitoring at Britannia Car Park, Colchester, revealed that none of the groundworks impacted on significant archaeological remains, with all pits cutting modern contexts, although there was one undated layer at the base of TP3. The trial-pits were too small to be able to interpret many of the contexts, but there were some possible floor layers. Finds from the 19th-20th century would have been associated with the industrial history of the site. There were also a small number of residual finds including one piece of Roman brick, and medieval and post-medieval pottery.

8 Acknowledgements

CAT thanks Alison Fogg and CCC for commissioning and funding the work. The project was managed by A Wightman and C Lister, fieldwork was carried out by M Perou. Figures are by X Smith and E Holloway. The project was monitored for CCC by Dr Richard Hoggett.

9 References

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

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CAR **3**	1984	*Colchester Archaeological Report 3: Excavations at Lion Walk, Balkerne Lane, and Middleborough, Colchester, Essex,* by P Crummy. Colchester: Colchester Archaeological Trust Ltd.
CAR **7**	2000	*Colchester Archaeological Report 7: Post-Roman pottery from excavations in Colchester, 1971-85*, by J P Cotter. Colchester: Colchester Archaeological Trust Ltd.
CAT	2024a	*Written Scheme of Investigation for archaeological monitoring and recording at Britannia Car Park, Britannia Way, Colchester, Essex, CO2 7EF,* by Emma Holloway. Colchester: Colchester Archaeological Trust.
CAT	2024b	*Health & Safety Policy.* Colchester: Colchester Archaeological Trust.
CAT Report 567	2010	*Archaeological watching brief at St Botolph's Priory, Colchester: October 2010.* Colchester: Colchester Archaeological Trust Ltd.
CAT Report 800	2014	*An archaeological evaluation by trial-trenching at 2-3 Priory Street, Colchester, Essex: November 2014.* Colchester: Colchester Archaeological Trust Ltd.
CAT Report 1138	2017	*Archaeological recovery excavation at 2-3 Priory Street, Colchester, Essex, CO1 2PY: March 2017.* Colchester: Colchester Archaeological Trust Ltd.
CAT Report 1236	2018	*Archaeological monitoring at 2-3 Priory Street, Colchester, Essex, CO1 2PY – February 2018.* Colchester: Colchester Archaeological Trust Ltd.
CAT Report 1771	2022	*Archaeological excavation at 2-3 Priory Street, Colchester, Essex – May 2020-October 2021.* Colchester: Colchester Archaeological Trust Ltd.
CCCAA	2023	*Brief for a geoarchaeological borehole survey and test-pit evaluation at Britannia Car Park, Colchester,* by Dr R Hoggett. Colchester: Colchester City Council.
CIfA	2020a	*Standard and guidance for the creation, compilation, transfer and deposition of archaeological archives*. CIfA Chartered Institute for Archaeologists; published 2014, revised 2020.
CIfA	2020b	*Standard and guidance for the collection, documentation, conservation and research of archaeological materials.* CIfA Chartered Institute for Archaeologists; published 2014, revised 2020.
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Morely, C	2020	*Heritage Statement, Britannia Car Park, Colchester. Pegasus Group*
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10 Abbreviations and glossary

CAT	Colchester Archaeological Trust
CCC	Colchester City Council
CCCAA	Colchester City Council Archaeological Advisor
CHER	Colchester Historic Environment Record
CIfA	Chartered Institute for Archaeologists
CRGS	Colchester Royal Grammar School
context	a single unit of excavation, which is often referred to numerically, and can be any feature, layer or find.
feature (F)	an identifiable thing like a pit, a wall, a drain: can contain 'contexts'
Late Iron Age	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
NGR	National Grid Reference
OASIS	**O**nline **A**cces**S** to the **I**ndex of Archaeological Investigation**S**, http://oasis.ac.uk/pages/wiki/Main
post-medieval	from c AD 1500 to c 1800
Roman	the period from AD 43 to c AD 410
section	(abbreviation sx or Sx) vertical slice through feature/s or layer/s
wsi	written scheme of investigation

11 Contents of archive

Finds: none retained
Digital:
CAT Report 2111
CHER brief, CAT written scheme of investigation
Digital photographs
Site data
Survey data

12 Archive deposition

The 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 the Archaeology Data Service (digital archive).

Distribution list:
Alison Fogg, Colchester City Council
Dr Richard Hoggett, Colchester City Council
Colchester Historic Environment Record

Appendix 1 Pottery list

Context	Feature type	Find number	NR	GR	*MSW*	Discard	Rim	Handle	Base	Wmd	Sooting (ext)	Charing (int)	Burning	Organic Residue	Abraison	Fabric Group	Typology	Function	EVE	Diam	Comments	Start Date	End Date
F3	Service trench	5	1	24	*24*	X	0	0	1							F51A	STORAGE JAR	STORAGE JAR				1800	2000
L2	Sandy silt layer	1	3	23	*8*	X										F40						1500	1800/1900
L2	Sandy silt layer	1	1	16	*16*	X	0	0	1							F45G						1675	1900
L2	Sandy silt layer	1	1	4	*4*	X										F47						1725	1775
L2	Sandy silt layer	1	2	39	*20*	X										F45M						1800	2000
L2	Sandy silt layer	1	1	22	*22*	X	1	0	0							F45F	SLACK BODIED JAR	JAR	0.15	90	Sim Cotter 2000 F196.7, 288	1650	1725
L2	Sandy silt layer	1	1	8	*8*	X										F23D					? GREEN GLAZE	1200	1425
L4	Sandy silt layer	2	3	18	*6*	X	0	0	1							F48D					BTP	1800	2000
L5	Sandy silt layer	3	3	13	*4*	X										F48D					BTP	1800	2000
L5	Sandy silt layer	3	1	3	*3*	X										F45F	TANKARD/JUG	TANKARD/JUG				1600	1800
L5	Sandy silt layer	3	1	4	*4*	X										F47						1725	1775
L5	Sandy silt layer	3	1	8	*8*	X										F51A						1800	2000
L5	Sandy silt layer	3	1	9	*9*	X										F40						1500	1800/1900
L6	Demolition/floor layer	4	2	6	*3*	X										F50						1650	1800
L12	Sandy silt layer	6	1	4	*4*	X										F46						1550	1800
L12	Sandy silt layer	6	1	5	*5*	X										F45D						1500	1700
L12	Sandy silt layer	6	8	178	*22*	X	1	0	1							F40	LARGE STORAGE JAR	STORAGE JAR	0.09	230		1500	1800/1900

Appendix 2 CBM list

Cxt	Feature type	Find no.	NR	GR.	*MSW*	Discard	Typology	Sub-type	Stamp	L.	BR.	TH.	Frog. L	Frog. Width	Mortar	Burnt	Abraded	Modif.	Comments	Date
F3	Service trench	5	1	3077	*3077*	X	BR			230	110	65							RED/OR	19TH CENTURY
L2	Sandy silt layer	1	7	154	*22*	X	PT								X					MEDIEVAL-POST MEDIEVAL
L2	Sandy silt layer	1	1	228	*228*	X	RB													ROMAN
L4	Sandy silt layer	2	1	503	*503*	X	BR	FROGGED	X										STAMP;[LBC PHO]RPES, PRESSED BR	MODERN
L5	Sandy silt layer	3	1	121	*121*	X	PT													MEDIEVAL-POST MEDIEVAL
L5	Sandy silt layer	3	1	23	*23*	X	BR													POST-MEDIEVAL-MODERN
L6	Sandy silt layer	4	2	51	*26*	X	PT								X					MEDIEVAL-POST MEDIEVAL
L6	Sandy silt layer	4	1	92	*92*	X	BR													POST-MEDIEVAL-MODERN
L12	Sandy silt layer	6	1	18	*18*	X	PT													MEDIEVAL-POST MEDIEVAL
L12	Sandy silt layer	6	1	9	*9*	X	PT													MEDIEVAL-POST MEDIEVAL

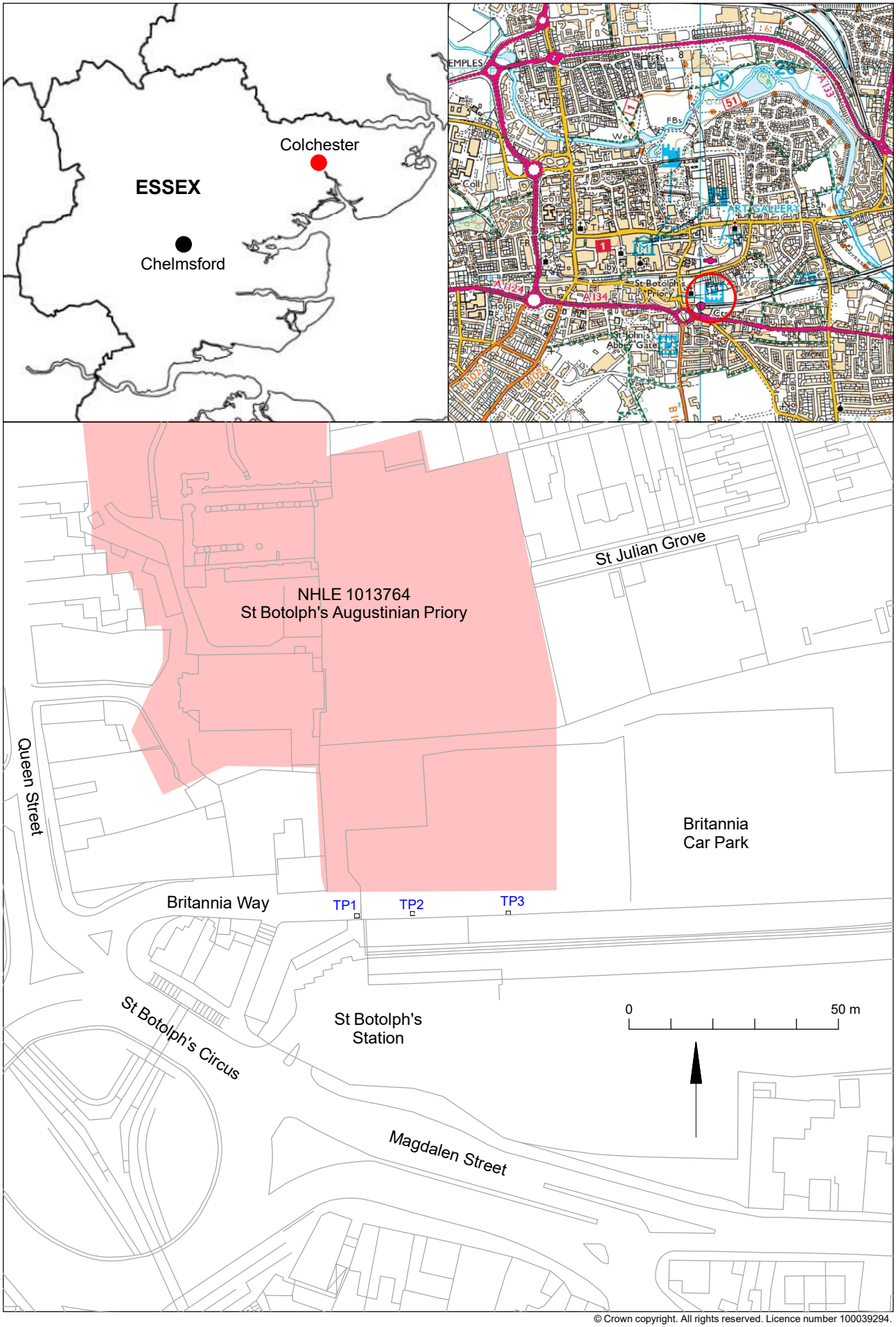

Fig 1 Site location.

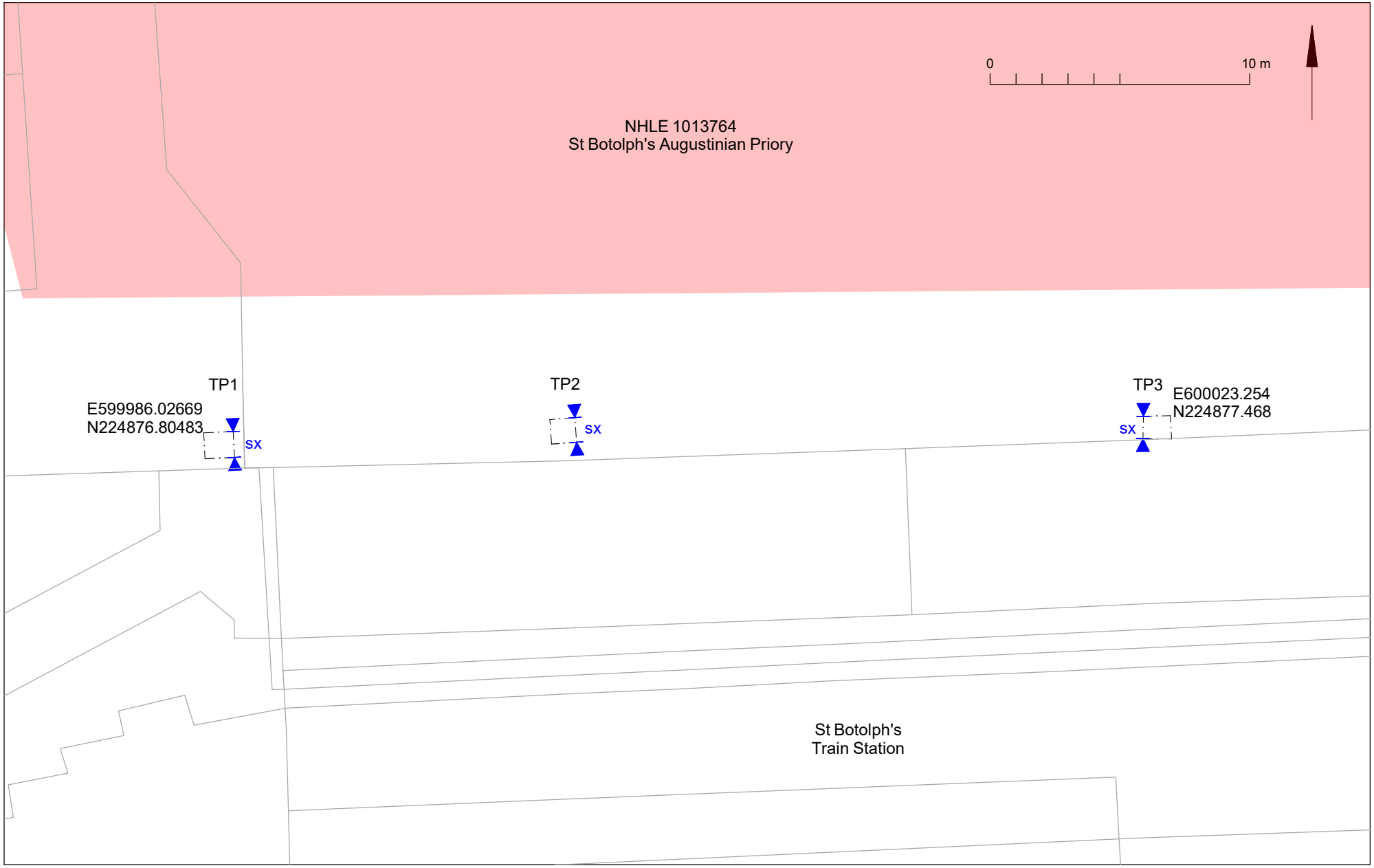

Fig 2 Close-up location plan.

Fig 3 Detailed plans and sections.

Essex Historic Environment Record/
Essex Archaeology and History

Summary sheet

Address: **Britannia Car Park, Britannia Way, Colchester, Essex, CO2 7EF**	
Parish: Colchester	***District:*** Colchester
NGR: TM 00067 24899 (centre)	***Site code:*** CAT project ref.: 2024/11a CHER ref.: ECC4881 OASIS ref.: colchest3-529390
Type of work: Archaeological monitoring and recording	***Site director/group:*** Colchester Archaeological Trust
Date of work: 13th-15th November 2024	***Size of area investigated:*** 56 square metres
Location of curating museum: Archaeology Data Service	***Funding source:*** Colchester City Council
Further seasons anticipated? No	***Related CHER/SMR number:***
Final report: CAT Report 2111	
Periods represented: Modern, post-medieval	
Summary of fieldwork results: *Archaeological monitoring and recording was carried out at Britannia Car Park, Britannia Way, Colchester, Essex, during the excavation of three 1m² trial-pits along the train station's northern wall. The trial-pits were located just outside the precinct of St Botolph's Priory, with other archaeological remains, principally Roman, in the vicinity of the development site. However, all groundworks impacted on only modern (19th-20th century) remains and one undated layer at the base of trial-pit 1. The modern remains are associated with the industrial history of the site.*	
Previous summaries/reports: n/a	
CCC monitor: Dr Richard Hoggett	
Keywords: -	***Significance:*** -
Author of summary: Dr Patrick Spencer	***Date of summary:*** 23rd November 2024

Colchester Archaeological Trust

Written Scheme of Investigation
for archaeological monitoring and recording at
Britannia Car Park, Britannia Way, Colchester,
Essex, CO2 7EF

November 2024

CAT project ref.: 2024/11a
CHER code: tbc

Written Scheme of Investigation for archaeological monitoring and recording at Britannia Car Park, Britannia Way, Colchester, Essex, CO2 7EF

November 2024

NGR: TM 00067 24899 (centre)

Planning district.: Colchester
Planning ref.: pre-application

CAT project ref.: 2024/11a

CHER code: tbc
CCC monitor: Dr Richard Hoggett
OASIS id: colchest3-529390

WSI prepared by: Emma Holloway
Figure by: Chris Lister

Commissioned by: Alison Fogg (CCC)
On behalf of: Colchester City Council

Prepared by:	Emma Holloway	Project Officer (Post-excavation & Illustration)
Reviewed and approved by:	Chris Lister	Director, Business Operations
Issued:	08/11/2024	

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

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Site location and description

The proposed development site is located approximately 100m south of the walled historic core of Colchester on land adjacent to the St Botolphs Railway Station and railway line. (Fig 1). The site is centred on National Grid Reference (NGR) TM 00067 24899. The site was primarily in use for a factory and ironworks, known as Britannia Works, from *c* 1811 to 1982 when it was demolished to be used as a public car park covered in hard standing.

Proposed work

The proposed development comprises the redevelopment of the urban space which could see the construction of up to 120 new homes including 30% affordable homes set within a rejuvenated and improved public amenity area.

Archaeological and geological background

The following archaeological background draws on the Colchester Archaeological Trust report archive and the Colchester Historic Environment Record (CHER/ECC numbers, which are accessible via Colchester Heritage Explorer (https://colchesterheritage.co.uk/map).

The Geology of Britain viewer (1:50,000 scale[1]) shows the bedrock geology of the site comprises Thames Group (mainly silty clays and clays, some sandy or gravelly, with some silts, sands, gravels and calcareous mudstones. The Thames Group was deposited in environments ranging from marine shoreface ranging out to outer marine shelf), with superficial deposits of Kesgrave catchment sub-group (mainly gravels characterised by quartz and quartzite from the Triassic, Carboniferous and Devonian rocks of the West Midlands, Welsh Borderland and possibly south-western Pennines, and by felsic volcanic rocks from northern Wales. The members comprise bodies of cross-bedded and massive, moderately sorted sand and gravel).

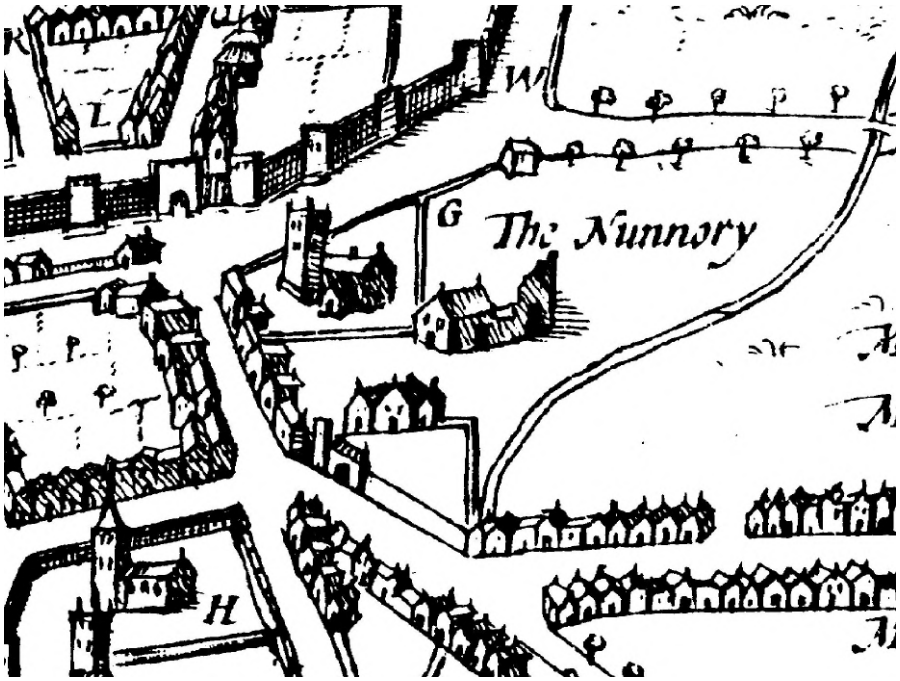
See the Heritage Statement for the main development site, produced by Pegasus Group, for the general background of the site and list of sites on the Colchester historic environment record (Morley 2020).

A general overview of key archaeological remains near the site include:

The site is located *c* 100m south of the historic Roman and medieval core surrounded by the Roman Town wall (Scheduled Ancient Monument, NHLE no. 1003772, MCC859) and *c* 170m southeast of South Gate which would have been one of the largest gates using St Botolphs Street and Mersea Road as a main route towards the coast at Mersea Island. To the west of the town centre extra-mural Roman occupation, considered to be an extension of the Roman town, is known to extend up to 300m west of the town wall (*CAR* **3**, fig 8).

The main development site, but not where the current trial pits are located, is situated inside the precinct of St Botolph's Priory, a Scheduled Monument (MCC425, NHLE no. 1013764). The Priory was founded in 1104, probably on or near a pre-existing church (Crummy 2001, 150). It was the first Augustinian foundation in Britain but was not wealthy, which probably explains why the church was not finished or dedicated until 1177 (Crummy 2001,149). It was eventually demolished following the Dissolution in 1536. The nave continued to function for parish and civic services but was badly damaged during the Siege of 1648 and the building consequently fell out of use, and it is unclear to what extent the other priory buildings were reused following the Dissolution (Crummy 2001, 150). Now only the walls of the nave of the priory church remain standing. The full extent of the Priory precinct is not known, but it is assumed to stretch from Priory Street southwards to Magdalen Street and west to St. Botolph's Street. The eastern boundary is unknown. During the 19th and 20th centuries, buildings began to encroach significantly onto the former precinct of the priory.

[1] British Geological Survey – https://geologyviewer.bgs.ac.uk/?



Map 1 Speed's map of 1610 showing St Botolph's Priory Church.

Trial-trenching to the northeast of the standing remains of the Priory in 1986 revealed traces of the north transept and two burials of probable medieval date (Shimmin 1988). Further details pertaining to the east end of the church, including a possible crypt, along with more burials were uncovered during excavations in 1991 (Crummy 2001, 150). The remains of a Roman building were also revealed, which was considered probably part of an extra-mural settlement rather than a Roman church or 'martyrium' (Crummy 2001, 150) (MCC2067-2098).

Excavations in 1970 some 35m to the east at 30 St Julian Grove revealed stratified deposits of the 2nd to 3rd centuries AD (MCC2083). A floor of red *tessera* has been recorded to the north under Priory Street adjacent to the property in question (MCC1091). Monitoring in 2010 (CAT Report 567) within the Priory as part of landscaping works uncovered gravestones and an 18th- or 19th-century well.

At 2-3 Priory Street an archaeological evaluation was carried out by CAT in 2014 (CAT Report 800, ECC2882). Roman deposits, including at least one in situ surface and debris from the demolition of a Roman building, were identified at the northern end of the evaluation trench. The Roman deposits on the site had been truncated by medieval inhumation burials associated with the Priory of St Botolph's. A significant quantity of disarticulated human bone was recovered and reburied and two articulated skeletons, both young individuals, were uncovered at depths of only 0.68m and 0.74m below the modern ground level. Several subsequent phases of work by CAT here (CAT Reports 1138, 1236 and 1771) have revealed the remains od in situ inhumation burials and a large quantity of disarticulated human bone. Most of the burials appear to be of medieval date but two were found cut into a layer dating from the 17th to 18th centuries, showing that the cemetery continued in use after the dissolution of the monasteries. The remains of two east/west Roman wall foundations were also uncovered. One was at least 12m long, 0.55-0.6m wide and made of small fragments of greensand stone, *septaria* and brick/tile set in a loose bed of mortar. The other was at least 5m long and made of large flint nodules and occasional fragments of *septaria* and greensand stone set in an off-white mortar. Roman building debris from the site included brick, roofing tile, flue-tile, tesserae cubes, opus signinum and painted wall plaster.

In other areas, such as to the west of the Roman wall, extra-mural Roman occupation has been recorded which is generally considered to be an extension of the Roman town (*CAR* **3**, fig 8). To the west of Balkerne Gate extra-mural occupation is known to extend up to 300m

west of the town wall. The Roman structural remains recorded at Priory Street and St Julian Grove show the potential for extra-mural Roman occupation to the south-east of the wall.

In more modern times the site has been an industrial area. The earliest mention of the site dates back to 1811 when the site was used by a nail maker. From at least 1836 the site was part iron foundry (MCC5013) and part nail making. A succession of companies used the site for the construction of sewing machines, lathes and engines. From 1941 to 1982 Paxman used the site to manufacture petrol engines and associated control gear and components. The site had to be partially rebuilt after suffering serious fire damage from incendiary bombs in February 1944 (Carr, R, *Paxman History Pages*, available at https://www.paxmanhistory.org.uk/paxbrit.htm, accessed 08th November 2024).

In March 2022 SUMO Geophysics carried out a ground-penetrating geophysical survey of the site. Anomalies were identified at depths of less than 1m below modern ground level which indicate that the site is broadly sub-divided into four areas of different character, related to the site history. The densest area was on the western side of the site where the oldest part of the ironworks was located. Central areas formally occupied by the post-WWII ironworks were more fragmented, with some potential evidence to suggest deeper level basements. Numerous anomalies were recorded to the eastern end of the site, which may be of archaeological significance.

Planning background

The site is currently in pre-application stage of development. However, as the site lies within an area highlighted by the CHER as having a high potential for archaeological deposits the Colchester City Council Archaeological Advisor (CCCAA) was consulted for advice. An archaeological condition of archaeological monitoring and recording was recommended based on the guidance given in the *National Planning Policy Framework* (MHCLG 2024).

Requirement for work (Fig 1)

The archaeological work will consist of an archaeological monitoring and recording of all groundworks. A Project Brief was not provided by the CCCAA for this phase of work.

Specifically, three 1m^2 trial pits are to be excavated along the southern boundary of the car park to investigate the foundations of the train station's northern wall, to assess the size and depth, including any underpinning. The trial pits will be excavated to a depth of 150mm below the base of the footings. The monitoring is being undertaken to identify and record any surviving archaeological deposits that may exist on site.

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

In the exceptional circumstances that important, well-preserved mosaic floors (or similar 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, e.g. well-preserved mosaic 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).

The method and form of development will also be monitored to ensure that it conforms to the previously agreed locations and techniques upon which the brief is based. Any variations will be discussed with the CCCAA immediately.

General methodology

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

- Professional standards of the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists, including its *Code of Conduct* (CIfA 2020, 2022 & 2023a-b).
- East of England Standards and Frameworks published by East Anglian Archaeology (Gurney 2003, Medlycott 2011) and the recent review updates on https://researchframeworks.org/eoe/.
- Relevant Health & Safety guidelines and requirements (CAT 2024).

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 the CCCAA 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 the project (when the WSI is written) an OASIS online record http://ads.ahds.ac.uk/project/oasis/ will be initiated and key fields completed (Activity type, Location and Reviewers/Admin areas). At the end of the project all parts of the OASIS online form will be completed for submission to the EHER. This will include an uploaded .PDF version of the entire report.

A unique HER event number will be obtained from the CCCAA 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.

Monitoring and recording methodology

There will be sufficient on-site attendance by CAT staff to maintain a watch on all contractors' groundworks 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.

Once the hard standing has been removed all topsoil removal and ground reduction will be carried out by hand.

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), at least 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 the trial pits 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). Samples will be collected for potential micromorphological and other pedological sedimentological analysis. Environmental bulk samples will be at least 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.
- Differences in remains from undated and dated features.
- Variation between different feature types and areas of site.

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

Should any complex, or otherwise outstanding deposits be encountered, VF or LG will be asked onto site to advise. Waterlogged 'organic' features will always be sampled. In all cases, the advice of VF/LG and/or the Historic England Regional Advisor in Archaeological Science (East of England) on sampling strategies for complex or waterlogged deposits will be followed, including the taking of monolith samples.

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 the CCCAA.

The CCCAA will be notified immediately if any human remains are encountered during the monitoring.

If circumstances indicated it were prudent or necessary to remove remains from the site during the monitoring, the following criteria would be applied; if it is clear from their position, context, depth, or other factors that the remains are ancient, then normal procedure is to apply to the Department of Justice for a licence to remove them and seek advice from the project osteologist. Human remains removed from site for analysis this may involve radiocarbon dating.

Following Historic England guidance (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 CCCAA 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 (2015a).

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 Adam Wightman (Director of Archaeology) and Laura Pooley (Post-excavation Manager). This includes specialist subjects such as:

ceramic finds (pottery and ceramic building material): Matthew Loughton
animal bones: Alec Wade (or Adam Wightman/Pip Parmenter - small groups only)
small finds, metalwork, coins, etc: Laura Pooley
non-ceramic bulk finds: Laura Pooley
flint: Adam Wightman
environmental processing: Bronagh Rae-Quinn
osteology: (human remains): Megan Beale

or to outside specialists:

animal and human bone: Julie Curl (*Sylvanus*)
environmental assessment and analysis: Val Fryer / Lisa Gray
archaeometallurgy: David Dungworth
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:
Historic England 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 the ECCHEA.

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

Results

Notification will be given to CCCAA 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 report will be submitted within 6 months of the end of fieldwork, with a copy supplied to the CCCAA as a single PDF.

The report will contain:

- Location plan of the groundworks in relation to the proposed development. At least two corners of each excavated area will be given a 10 figure grid reference.
- 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 and and the recent review updates on https://researchframeworks.org/eoe/)
- 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 CCCAA.

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

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

Archive deposition

It is a policy of Colchester City 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.

If finds are retained from the site the full archive will be deposited in Colchester Museum *unless otherwise agreed in advance*. (A full *copy* of the archive shall in any case be deposited). If there are no finds a full digital archive will be deposited with ADS Archaeology.

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 the CCCAA) within 3 months of the completion of the final publication report, with a summary of the contents of the archive supplied to the CCCAA. 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.

The CCCAA 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 CCCAA for integration into the HER.

Monitoring

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

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

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

The CCCAA will be notified when the fieldwork is complete.

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

Public outreach

As part of CAT's public outreach programme, CAT is committed to engaging our local community with their archaeological resource. Among other activities, CAT regularly invites volunteers to engage in finds processing tasks at our office, such as washing, marking, sorting and packing bulk archaeological finds from commercial archaeological projects. Our volunteer programme is not designed to replace the work of paid archaeologists but to complement it, and to provide greater public benefit by means of community engagement and participation.

CAT volunteers are fully trained in all tasks they are engaged in and are fully supervised by a CAT employee at all times. Finds processing volunteers are managed and supervised by a Junior Project Officer, whose role is to ensure that all volunteer processing is carried out to the highest possible standard and within professional guidelines. This is overseen by the Post-Excavation Manager and Director.

CAT will never use volunteers in place of employees when funding is agreed for the latter, or if doing so would disadvantageously affect the timetable of works agreed between CAT and our clients.

CAT's liability insurance policies cover the activities of volunteers and liability towards them. All activities are carried out according to CAT's 'Volunteer and work experience policy' and 'Outreach, public relations and publicity policy'.

Events, activities and social media

In addition, the CAT website (www.catuk.org) and social media sites are updated regularly with information on our events and activities, with copies of our archaeological reports freely available at http://cat.essex.ac.uk/. Staff regularly give talks/lectures to groups, societies and schools, information on which (including any fees) is available by contacting the office on 01206 501785. CAT also works in partnership with both the Colchester Archaeological Group and Young Archaeologists Club providing venues for their meetings, advice and assistance.

References

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

Brown, D	2011 2nd ed.	*Archaeological Archives: A guide to best practice in creation, compilation, transfer and curation.*
Brown, N & Glazebrook, J	2000	*Research and Archaeology: A Framework for the Eastern Counties 2. Research agenda and strategy.* East Anglian Archaeology Occasional Paper 8 (EAA **8**).
CAR **3**	1984	*Colchester Archaeological Report* **3**: Excavations at Lion Walk, Balkerne Lane, and Middleborough, Colchester, Essex*, by P Crummy*

CAT Report 567	210	*Archaeological watching brief at St Botolph's Priory, Colchester: October 2010*
CAT Report 800	2014	*An archaeological evaluation by trial-trenching at 2-3 Priory Street, Colchester, Essex: November 2014*
CAT Report 1138	2017	*Archaeological recovery excavation at 2-3 Priory Street, Colchester, Essex, CO1 2PY: March 2017*
CAT Report 1236	2018	*Archaeological monitoring at 2-3 Priory Street, Colchester, Essex, CO1 2PY – February 2018*
CAT Report 1771	2022	*Archaeological excavation at 2-3 Priory Street, Colchester, Essex – May 2020-October 2021*
CAT	2024	*Health & Safety Policy.*
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CIfA	2022	*Code of Conduct.* Published 2014, revised October 2022
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CIfA	2023b	*Universal guidance for archaeological monitoring and recording*
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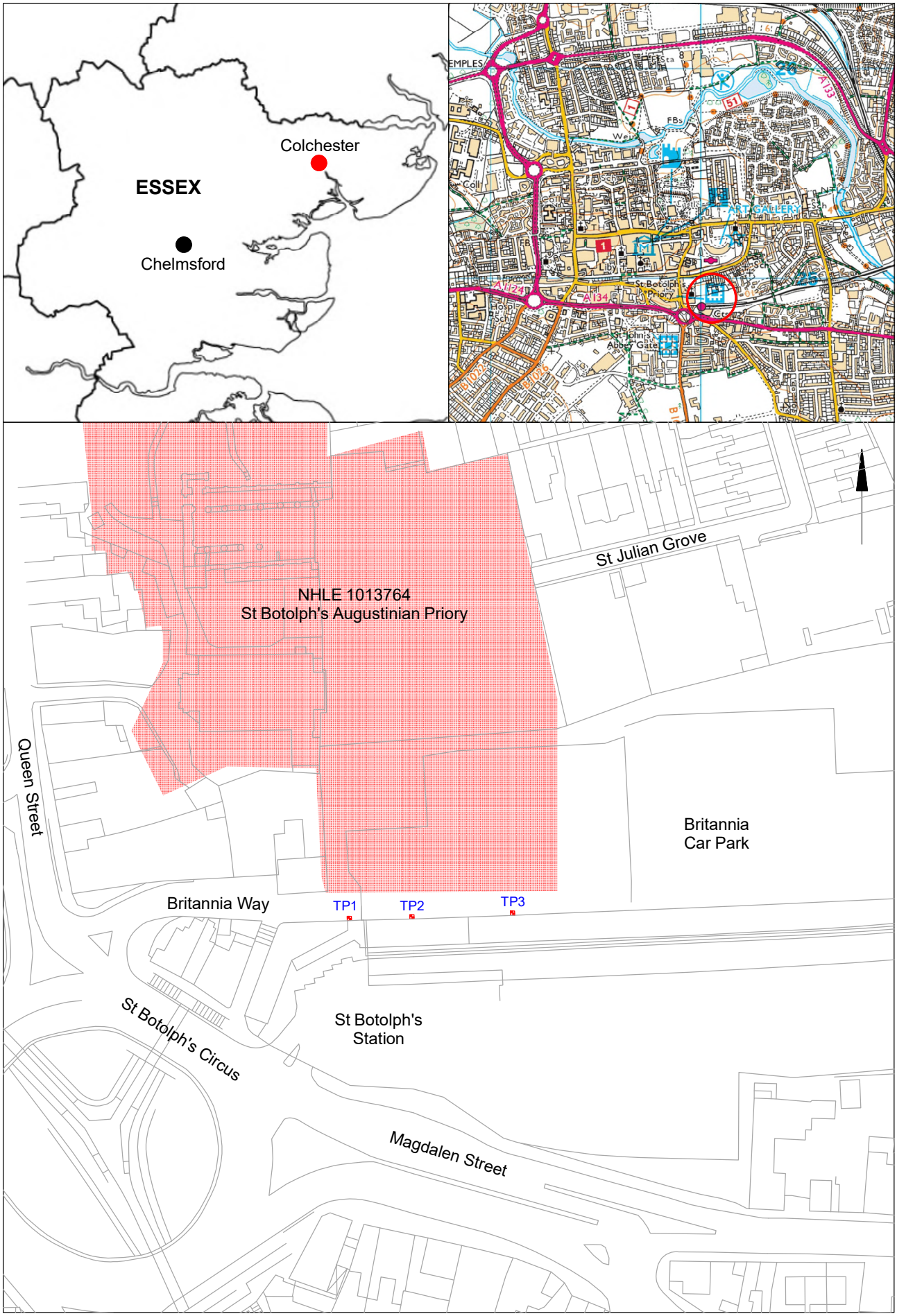

Fig 1 Trial pit locations in relation to the Scheduled Monument.

OASIS Summary for colchest3-529390

OASIS ID (UID)	colchest3-529390
Project Name	Archaeological monitoring and recording at Britannia Car Park, Britannia Way, Colchester, Essex, CO2 7EF: November 2024
Sitename	Britannia Car Park, Britannia Way, Colchester, Essex, CO2 7EF
Sitecode	ECC4881
Project Identifier(s)	2024/11a
Activity type	Watching Brief
Planning Id	
Reason For Investigation	Planning: Pre application
Organisation Responsible for work	Colchester Archaeological Trust
Project Dates	13-Nov-2024 - 15-Nov-2024
Location	Britannia Car Park, Britannia Way, Colchester, Essex, CO2 7EF NGR : TM 00067 24899 LL : 51.886735462557944, 0.905754474022116 12 Fig : 600067,224899
Administrative Areas	Country : England County/Local Authority : Essex Local Authority District : Colchester Parish : Colchester, unparished area
Project Methodology	Archaeological monitoring and recording of all groundworks (three trial-pits) as specified in the project brief and wsi.
Project Results	Archaeological monitoring and recording was carried out at Britannia Car Park, Britannia Way, Colchester, Essex, during the excavation of three 1mÂ² trial-pits along the train stationâs northern wall. The trial-pits were located just outside of the precinct of St Botolphâs Priory, with other archaeological remains, principally Roman, in the vicinity of the development site. However, all groundworks impacted on only modern (19th-20th century) remains and one undated layer at the base of trial-pit 1. The modern remains are associated with the industrial history of the site.
Keywords	
Funder	District, borough or city council Colchester City Council
HER	Colchester Borough Council - unRev - STANDARD
Person Responsible for work	Chris Lister, Adam Wightman
HER Identifiers	HER Event No - ECC4881
Archives	Digital Archive - to be deposited with Archaeology Data Service Archive;

Report generated on: 11 Feb 2025, 11:01