

Archaeological monitoring at St Helena School, Sheepen Road, Colchester, Essex, CO3 3LE

February 2018



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fieldwork by Adam Tuffey

on behalf of St Helena School

NGR: TL 9889 2589 (centre)
Scheduled monument consent ref.: S00180054
CAT project ref.: 17/110
Colchester Museum accession code: COLEM 2018.1
Colchester HER: ECC4126
OASIS reference: colchest3-303726



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CAT Report 1231
April 2018

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1 Summary

Archaeological monitoring was carried out at St Helena School, Sheepen Road, Colchester during groundworks for four concrete foundations for a pair of rugby goal posts. The development site is located within the scheduled monument of Sheepen between two Roman temples (Colchester Temples 2 and 3) (SM EX 46, HA 1002173).

The foundations for each post were excavated to a depth of 0.9m below current ground level, no significant archaeological horizons were encountered. However, a Roman spearhead was recovered as a residual find from a post-Roman accumulation layer.

2 Introduction (Fig 1)

This report presents the results of archaeological monitoring at St Helena School, Sheepen Road, Colchester, which was carried out on the 12th February 2018. The work was commissioned by Sarah Caven-Atack of St Helena School and occurred during groundworks for four concrete foundations for a pair of rugby goal posts. Work was undertaken by Colchester Archaeological Trust (CAT).

As the site lies within a scheduled monument (SM EX 46, HA 1002173), scheduled monument consent was sought and given (ref. S00180054) for the erection of the goal posts. However, as the site has a high potential of encountering significant archaeological remains, the Assistant Inspector of Ancient Monuments for Historic England (East of England office) requested that all groundworks be completed under archaeological supervision.

All archaeological work was carried out in accordance with scheduled monument consent and a written scheme of investigation (WSI) prepared by CAT and agreed with Historic England (CAT 2018)

In addition to the WSI, all fieldwork and reporting was done in accordance with English Heritage's *Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment (MoRPHE)* (English Heritage 2006), and with *Standards for field archaeology in the East of England* (EAA 14 and 24). This report mirrors standards and practices contained in the Institute for Archaeologists' *Standard and guidance for archaeological watching brief* (CIfA 2014a) and *Standard and guidance for the collection, documentation, conservation and research of archaeological materials* (CIfA 2014b).

3 Archaeological background (Figs 2-3)

The following archaeological background draws on the major published sources for Colchester archaeology (listed below) and the Colchester Historic Environment Record (EHER).

St Helena School is in an area of high archaeological importance. It is within *Camulodunum* – the nationally-important Late Iron Age oppidum whose 12-square-mile extent is now occupied by modern Colchester. *Camulodunum* had two principal centres. One was at Gosbecks (the farmstead and possible the home of Cunobelin) and the other was at Sheepen (the trading depot and quayside). St Helena School is on the northern side of Sheepen, and part of the site is a scheduled monument (SM EX 46, HA 1002173). Excavations at Sheepen occurred in the 1930s (Hawkes & Hull 1947) and in 1970 (Niblett 1985).

The school site also coincides with the location of two later Romano-Celtic temples (Colchester Temples 2 and 3, see Figs 2-3) and associated buildings (first discovered and excavated in 1935 when the school was first built, and prior to the construction of the new Colchester bypass – now the 'Avenue of Remembrance'). The remains of Temple 2 lie under the northern edge of the main school building, and the precinct wall enclosed a block of land now occupied by the core school buildings. The remains of a

much smaller Romano-Celtic temple (Temple 3) lie on the boundary between the extreme north edge of the school grounds and the Avenue of Remembrance (Hull 1958, 224-34; Crummy 1980). The current development site lies between the two temples.

Apart from the major excavation in the 1930s, there have been many small-scale archaeological projects at St Helena. Excavations in 2014 (CAT Report 825) prior to the construction of the science and technology block exposed the Temple 2 precinct wall, a possible shrine, and a large possibly 'votive' pit containing a hoard of Roman coins. The Roman remains here were not deeply-buried. Other archaeological investigations have revealed Roman remains including the outer precinct wall of Temple 2 with buttresses, the walls of Temple 2 and gravel surfaces (see CAT Report 816, 835, 905, 916 and 1001).

4 Aims

Archaeological monitoring was undertaken to ensure that groundworks occurring within the scheduled monument were monitored and that all archaeological deposits were fully recorded.

5 Results (Figs 2-4)

A CAT archaeologist supervised the excavation of four 1.1m² concrete foundations posts, each measuring 0.9m deep. Foundation posts 1 and 2 lay at the west end of the pitch, 3 and 4 at the east.

Foundation post 1: Excavated through modern topsoil (L1, c 0.30m thick) sealing a layer of post-Roman accumulation (L2, c 0.62m thick).

Foundation post 2: Excavated through modern topsoil (L1, c 0.28m thick) sealing a layer of post-Roman accumulation (L2, c 0.41m thick) above a possible levelling layer (L3, c 0.24m thick).

Foundation post 3: Excavated through modern topsoil (L1, c 0.30m thick) sealing a layer of post-Roman accumulation (L2, c 0.42m thick) above a possible levelling layer (L3, c 0.20m thick). Layer L3 sealed natural sand (L4).

Foundation post 4: Excavated through modern topsoil (L1, c 0.28m thick) sealing a layer of post-Roman accumulation (L2, c 0.35m thick) above natural sand (L4).

There were no significant archaeological remains.



Photograph 1 Foundation post 1 under excavation, looking northeast



Photograph 2 Foundation post 3 fully excavated, looking south

6 Finds

6.1 Bulk Finds

by Stephen Benfield

A small quantity of Roman finds was recovered from soil layers (L1 & L2) in foundation posts 1 and 4. The finds consist of pottery, ceramic building material (CBM) and animal bone. Post-Roman finds are limited to a single small piece of tile which is probably peg-tile. The Roman pottery fabrics (listed in Table 1) refer to the Colchester Roman fabric series (CAR 10) and the vessel forms refer to the Colchester, *Camulodunum* (CAM) type series (Hawkes & Hull 1947 & Hull 1958). All of the finds are listed and described in Table 2.

| Fabric | Fabric description |
|--------|--|
| AA | All amphorae (excluding Dressel 20) |
| DJ | Coarse oxidised and related wares |
| HZ | Large storage jars in heavily-tempered fabrics |

Table 1 Roman pottery by fabric

Almost all of the finds are Roman and, where closely-datable, are of early Roman (mid 1st to 2nd century) date. There is nothing among them that need necessarily date later than the 1st century or even the Flavian period. However, the quantity of finds is small so that this should be treated more as an observation that any wider dating in relation to the contexts. One sherd from a grog-tempered storage jar may date to the pre-conquest period (early to mid 1st century). The remaining Roman pottery is limited to a rim from a Spanish 'salazon' (Dressel 7-11) amphora that can be closely compared with Cam form 185A (PH1 L1), sherds from a storage jar(s) and a sherd of oxidised pottery probably from a flagon.

Among the CBM is a piece from the end of a Roman *tegula* (roof) tile which has a thick base (30mm) and preserves part of a quarter-round lower cut-away of a type recovered from Boudican contexts in Colchester, at the former St Mary's Hospital site (St Mary's Type 1) and at Fenwicks (formerly Williams and Griffins) (CAT Report 1150, 206 & fig 108).

A single piece of thin, flat tile recovered from L2 is probably peg-tile of medieval or post-medieval date.

| Context type | Find no. | Type/ description | Finds spot date |
|--|----------|---|---|
| Foundation post 1, L1, topsoil | 1 | Roman pottery: (1 sherd, 188g) Fabric AA, rim sherd from a Spanish 'salazon' amphora, buff fabric Dressel 7-11 (Cam 186 A) (mid 1st-early 2nd century) | Roman (mid 1st-early 2nd century) |
| Foundation post 1, L2, post-Roman accumulation | 2 | Roman pottery: (4 sherds, 358g) Fabric AA, wall sherd (82g) from an amphora, buff/orange fabric, burnt internally which may affect fabric colour, probably Spanish (mid 1st-early 2nd century); Fabric DJ (1 sherd, 18g) orange fabric with cream surface and margins (mid 1st-2nd century); Fabric HZ shoulder and body sherd from large storage jar (258g), shoulder decorated with row of stab marks (mid 1st-2nd century). Roman CBM: <i>tegula</i> (2 pieces, 686g), one base c 30mm thick with part of a quarter round cut-away (pre-Flavian?), other base 20mm thick, orange sandy fabric with visible white quartz inclusions; <i>imbrex</i> (1 piece, 226g); brick/tile (2 pieces, 192g) c 12/15mm up to 20mm thick; brick (2 pieces, 1602g) one 60mm | Roman (mid 1st-2nd century, possibly 1st); plus post-Roman (14th century +) |

| Context type | Find no. | Type/ description | Finds spot date |
|--|----------|--|----------------------------|
| | | thick, other 50mm thick, both with some white quartz inclusions. Post-Roman CBM: one small piece, probably peg-tile (64g) (c 14th century +) Animal bone: (3 pieces, 106g), large mammal, probably cow, part of a radius and part of the end of a humerus – bone condition poor. | |
| Foundation post 4, L2, post-Roman accumulation | 4 | Roman pottery: (1 sherd, 34g) Fabric HZ, sherd from a large storage jar, grog-tempered, (1st century AD) | LIA/Roman (1st century AD) |

Table 1 All bulk finds by context

6.2 Iron spearhead (Fig 5) by Laura Pooley

A Roman socketed iron spearhead (SF1, finds no. 3) was recovered residually from a post-Roman accumulation layer (L2) in foundation post 4. It is almost complete with the very tip of the blade missing, totalling 148mm in length, 113.3g. The blade of the spearhead measures 90mm long by 31mm wide (maximum width). It is asymmetrical with one shoulder strongly curved while the other is more angular, and has a triangular cross-section, one side being arched with a central ridge, the other side flat. The split socket measures 58mm long by 15mm in diameter. Similar to Manning's Group II spearheads from Hod Hill of mid 1st-century AD date (1985, 165-166, V82-V104).

7 Conclusion

Archaeological monitoring at St Helena School revealed a Roman socketed iron spearhead, recovered from post-Roman accumulation and likely to have been disturbed from its original context by modern development/disturbance on the site since the school was built in the 1930s. Excavations at the Sheepen site in the 1930s and 1970 revealed a significant quantity of 1st century AD Roman military equipment, including the remains of helmets, swords, daggers, shields and body-armour (Hawkes & Hull 1947; Niblett 1985). Rosalind Niblett stated that 'Roughly 50% of the copper alloy objects found in 1970 (excluding brooches) was specifically military, and the remainder would not have been out of place in a legionary setting, particularly in the officers' quarters' (Niblett 1970, 113). Although no spearheads were recovered during these previous excavations, other missile weapons were recorded including a javelin-head (Hawkes & Hull 1947, 340). The spearhead identified during current monitoring is likely part of this same wealth of military material from Sheepen.

8 Acknowledgements

CAT thanks Sarah Caven-Atack, St Helena School, for commissioning and funding the work. The project was managed by C Lister and carried out by Adam Tuffey. Figures were prepared by A Tuffey and L Pooley, illustrations by E Holloway. The project was monitored for Historic England by Sarah Poppy.

9 References

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

| | | |
|--------|------|---|
| CAR 10 | 1999 | <i>Colchester Archaeological Report 10: Roman pottery from excavations in Colchester, 1971-85</i> , by R Symonds & S Wade |
| CAT | 2014 | <i>Health & Safety Policy</i> |
| CAT | 2018 | <i>Written Scheme of Investigation for archaeological monitoring and recording at St Helena School, Sheepen Road, Colchester, Essex</i> , |

| | | |
|---------------------|-------|---|
| | | CO3 3LE |
| CAT Report 816 | 2015 | Archaeological attendance and recording (watching brief) at St Helena School, Sheepen Road, Colchester, Essex: February 2015 |
| CAT Report 825 | 2015 | Archaeological excavation at St Helena School, Sheepen Road, Colchester: October-November 2014 |
| CAT Report 835 | 2015 | Archaeological evaluation on the site of a proposed pavilion at St Helena School, Sheepen Road, Colchester, Essex: May 2015 |
| CAT Report 905 | 2016 | An archaeological excavation and watching brief at St Helena School, Sheepen Road, Colchester, Essex, CO3 3LE: October 2015 – January 2016 |
| CAT Report 916 | 2016 | Archaeological watching brief at St Helena School, Sheepen Road, Colchester, Essex, CO3 3LE: August-September 2015 |
| CAT Report 978 | 2016 | Heritage Statement for St Helena School, Sheepen Road, Colchester, Essex |
| CAT Report 1001 | 2016 | Archaeological monitoring and recording at St Helena School, Sheepen Road, Colchester, Essex, CO3 3LE: August-October 2016 |
| CAT Report 1150 | 2017 | An archaeological excavation and watching brief at Fenwick Colchester (formerly Williams & Griffin), 147-151 High Street, Colchester, Essex: April-August 2014 |
| CifA | 2014a | Standard and Guidance for an archaeological watching brief |
| CifA | 2014b | Standard and guidance for the creation, compilation, transfer and deposition of archaeological archives |
| CifA | 2014c | Standard and guidance for the collection, documentation, conservation and research of archaeological materials |
| Crummy, P | 1980 | 'The temples of Roman Colchester', in <i>Temples, Churches and Religion (Recent Research in Roman Britain)</i> , ed by Warwick Rodwell, BAR, British Series, 77 , 242-83 |
| DCLG | 2012 | <i>National Planning Policy Framework</i> |
| English Heritage | 2006 | <i>Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment (MoRPHE)</i> |
| Gurney, D | 2003 | <i>Standards for field archaeology in the East of England</i> . East Anglian Archaeology Occasional Papers 14 (EAA 14). |
| Hawkes, C & Hull, R | 1947 | <i>Camulodunum, first report on the excavations at Colchester, 1930-30</i> , RRCSAL 14 |
| Hull, M R | 1958 | <i>Roman Colchester</i> , RRCSAL 20 |
| Manning, W H | 1985 | <i>Catalogue of the Romano-British Iron Tools, Fittings and Weapons in the British Museum</i> |
| Medlycott, M | 2011 | <i>Research and archaeology revisited: A revised framework for the East of England</i> . East Anglian Archaeology Occasional Papers 24 (EAA 24) |
| Niblett, R | 1985 | <i>Sheepen: an early Roman industrial site at Camulodunum</i> . Council for British Archaeology (CBA) Report No. 97 |

10 Abbreviations and glossary

| | |
|-------------|---|
| CAT | Colchester Archaeological Trust |
| CBCPS | Colchester Borough Council Planning Services |
| CHER | Colchester Historic Environment Record |
| CifA | Chartered Institute for Archaeologists |
| context | specific location of finds on an archaeological site |
| feature (F) | an identifiable thing like a pit, a wall, a drain: can contain 'contexts' |
| layer (L) | distinct or distinguishable deposit (layer) of material |
| modern | period from c AD 1800 to the present |
| natural | geological deposit undisturbed by human activity |
| NGR | National Grid Reference |
| residual | something out of its original context, eg a Roman coin in a modern pit |
| Roman | the period from AD 43 to c AD 410 |
| section | (abbreviation sc or Sx) vertical slice through feature/s or layer/s |
| wsj | written scheme of investigation |

11 Contents of archive

Finds: one box (spearhead)
Paper and digital record

One A4 document wallet containing:
The report (CAT Report 1231)
Scheduled monument application and consent, CAT written scheme of investigation
Original site record (feature and layer sheets, finds record, plans)
Site digital photos and log, attendance register, risk assessment

12 Archive deposition

The paper and digital archive is currently held by the Colchester Archaeological Trust at Roman Circus House, Roman Circus Walk, Colchester, Essex, CO2 7GZ, but will be permanently deposited with Colchester Museum under accession code COLEM: 2018.1.

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Distribution list

Sarah Caven-Atack, St Helena School
Sarah Poppy, Historic England
Jess Tipper, Colchester Borough Council Planning Services
Essex Historic Environment Record



Colchester Archaeological Trust

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

tel.: 01206 501785

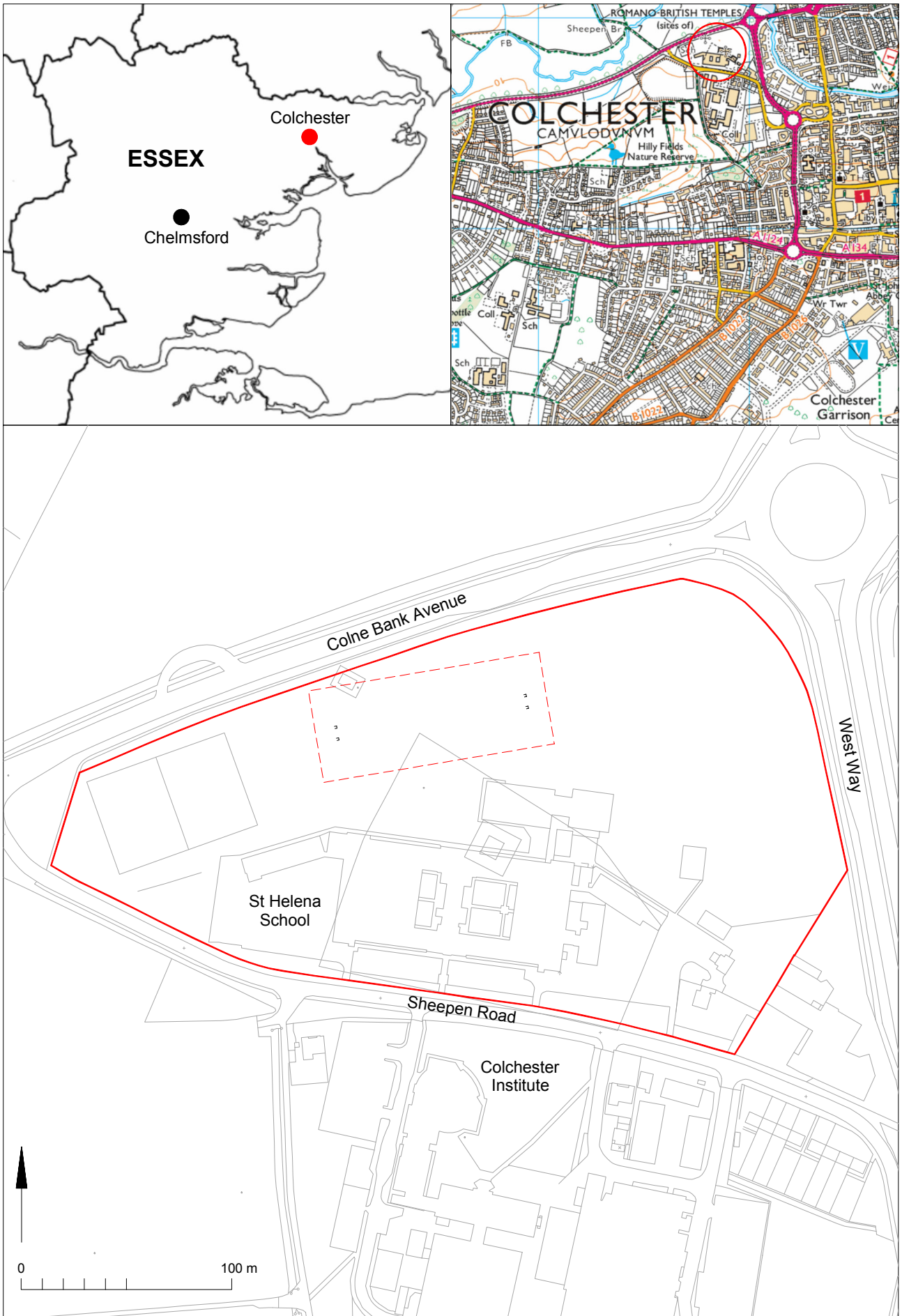
email: lp@catuk.org

Checked by: Philip Crummy

Date: 20.4.2018

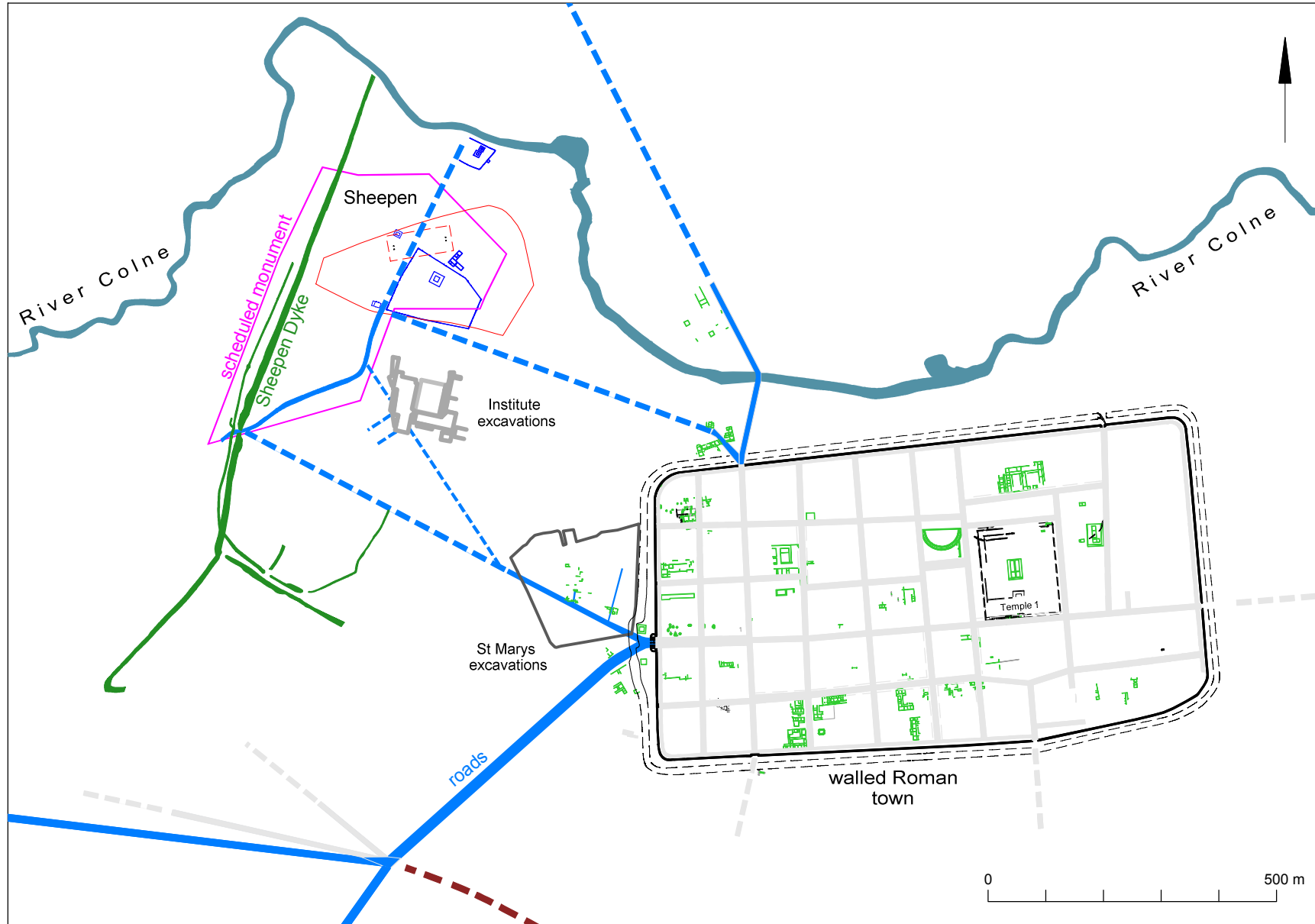
Appendix 1 Context list

| Layer number | Finds number | Context | Description | Date |
|---------------------|---------------------|----------------|--|--------------|
| L1 | 1 | Topsoil | Friable, damp, dark brown clayey-silt, with fragments/flecks of CBM and pot included in fill, 5% stone, <1% gravel | Modern |
| L2 | 2, 3, 4 | Accumulation | Friable, damp, dark brown/black clayey-silt, with fragments/flecks of CBM and pot included in fill, 8% stone, <1% gravel | Post-Roman |
| L3 | - | Levelling | Friable, medium grey/brown silty-sand, 4% stone | - |
| L4 | - | Natural | Natural sands and gravels | Post-glacial |



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Fig 1 Site location, rugby pitch shown dashed red



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Fig 2 Site location (red) in relation to the wider archaeological context.

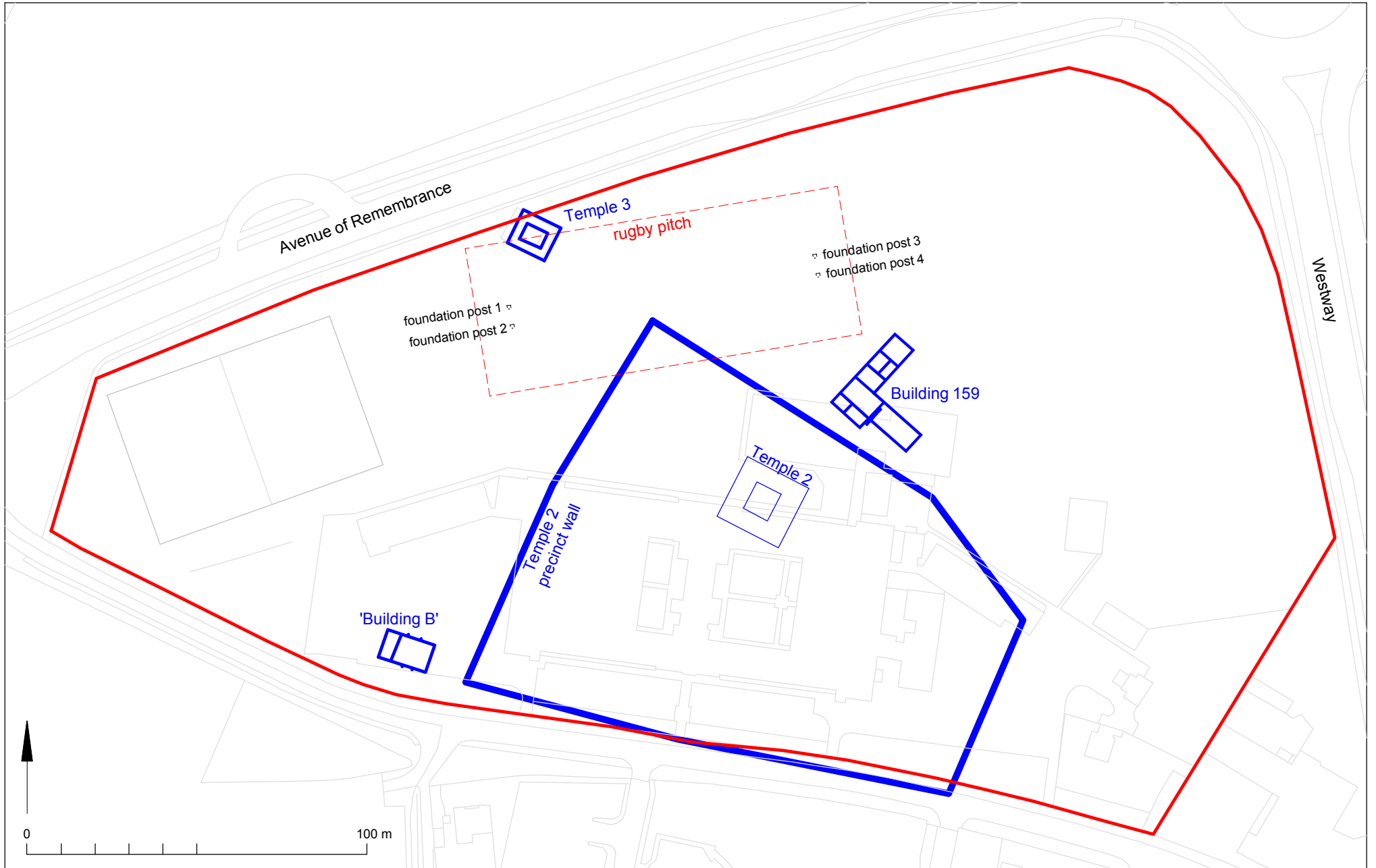
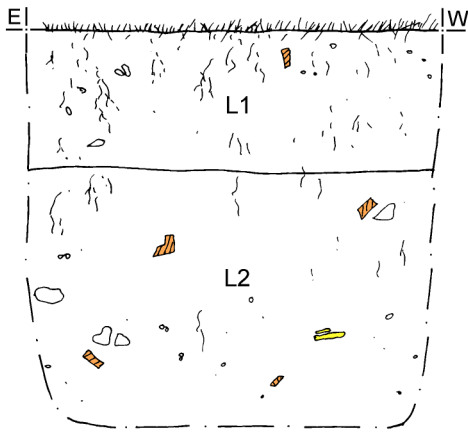
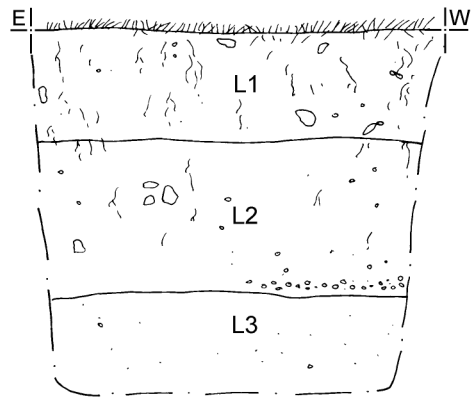


Fig 3 Results in relation to Roman buildings (blue)

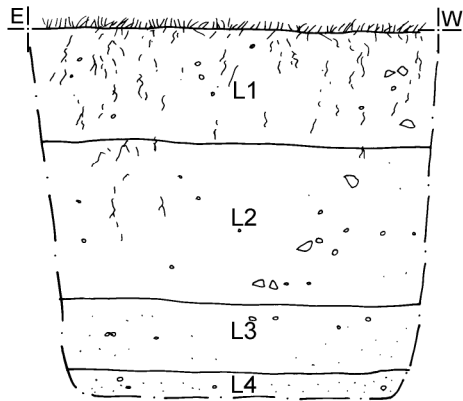
foundation post 1



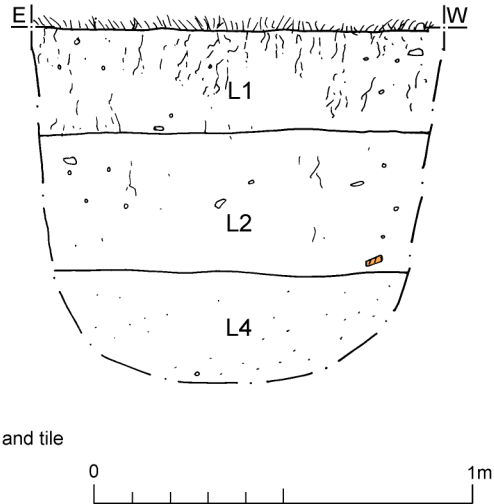
foundation post 2



foundation post 3



foundation post 4



- sand
- small stones
- ||| clay
- 🦴 animal bone
- ▨ Roman brick and tile
- 🌱 roots

0 1m

Fig 4 Representative sections.

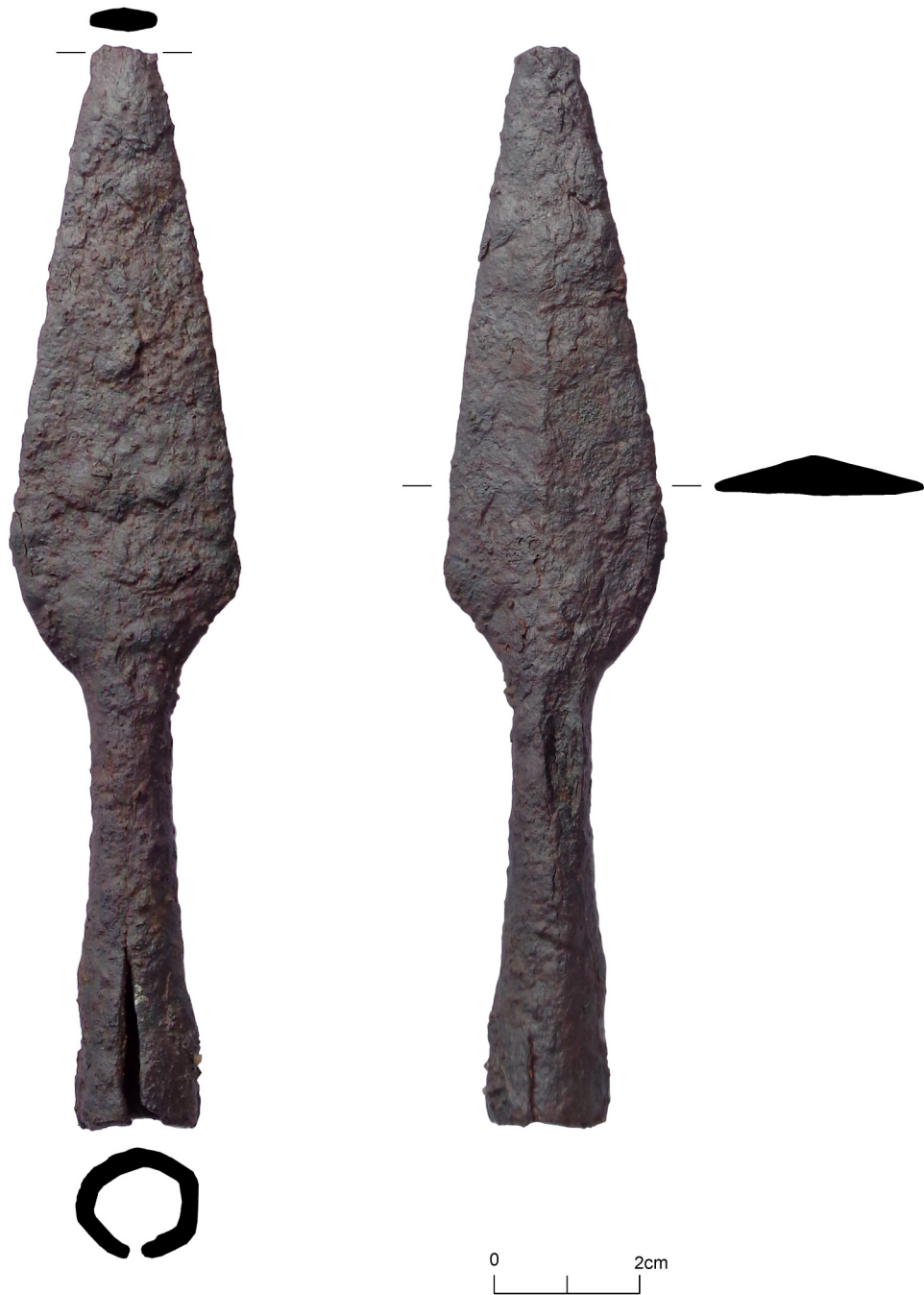


Fig 5 Roman iron spearhead (SF1).

Essex Historic Environment Record/ Essex Archaeology and History

Summary sheet

| | |
|--|---|
| Address: St Helena School, Sheepen Road, Colchester, Essex, CO3 3LE | |
| Parish: Colchester | District: Colchester |
| NGR: TL 9889 2589 (centre) | Site code: CAT project ref.: 17/11o CHER ref: ECC4126 OASIS ref: colchest3-303726 |
| Type of work: Monitoring | Site director/group: Colchester Archaeological Trust |
| Date of work: 12th February 2018 | Size of area investigated: 5.53ha |
| Location of curating museum: Colchester museum accession code COLEM: 2018.1 | Funding source: School |
| Further seasons anticipated? No | Related CHER/SMR number: SM EX 46, HA 1002173 |
| Final report: CAT Report 1231 | |
| Periods represented: Roman, modern | |
| Summary of fieldwork results: Archaeological monitoring was carried out at St Helena School, Sheepen Road, Colchester during groundworks for four concrete foundations for a pair of rugby goal posts. The development site is located within the scheduled monument of Sheepen between two Roman temples (Colchester Temples 2 and 3) (SM EX 46, HA 1002173). The foundations for each post were excavated to a depth of 0.9m below current ground level, no significant archaeological horizons were encountered. However, a Roman spearhead was recovered as a residual find from a post-Roman accumulation layer. | |
| Previous summaries/reports: | |
| Historic England monitor: Sarah Poppy | |
| Keywords: spearhead | Significance: * |
| Author of summary: Laura Pooley | Date of summary: April 2018 |

Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) for archaeological monitoring and recording at St Helena School, Sheepen Road, Colchester, Essex, CO3 3LE

NGR: TL 9889 2589 (centre)

Scheduled Monument number: SM EX 46, HA 1002173
Historic England application ref: S00180054

Client: Ms Sarah Caven-Atack, St Helena School

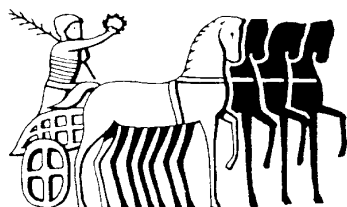
Curating Museum: Colchester

Museum accession code: COLEM: 2018.1
Colchester HER (previously UAD): tbc
CAT Project code: 17/11o
OASIS ref.: colchest3-303726

Site Manager: Chris Lister

CBC monitor: Jess Tipper
Historic England monitor: Sarah Poppy

This WSI written: 03.01.2018



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Site location and description

The proposed development site is located within St Helena School, Colchester on playing fields to the north of the school (Fig 1). Site centre is NGR TL 9883 2583.

Proposed work

The proposed development comprises the construction of four holes for two rugby pitch goal posts.

Archaeological background (Figs 2-3)

The following archaeological background draws on the major published sources for Colchester archaeology (listed below), the Urban Archaeological Database (UAD) created by Colchester Borough Council, and the Essex Historic Environment Record (EHER).

A Heritage Statement for the proposed development was completed in July 2016 (CAT Report 978). The following is a summary:

St Helena School is in an area of high archaeological importance. It is within *Camulodunum* – the nationally-important late Iron Age and Roman fortress whose 12-square-mile extent is now occupied by modern Colchester. *Camulodunum* had two principal centres. One was at Gosbecks (the farmstead and possible the home of Cunobelin) and the other was at Sheepen (the trading depot and quayside). St Helena School is on the northern side of Sheepen, and part of the site is a Scheduled Ancient Monument (SM EX 46, HA 1002173).

The school site coincides with the location of two Romano-Celtic temples (Colchester Temples 2 and 3, Fig 2) and associated buildings (first discovered and excavated in 1935 when the school was first built, and prior to the construction of the new Colchester bypass – now the 'Avenue of Remembrance'). The remains of Temple 2 lie under the northern edge of the main school building, and the precinct wall enclosed a block of land now occupied by the core school buildings. The remains of a much smaller Romano-Celtic temple (Temple 3) lie on the boundary between the extreme north edge of the school grounds and the Avenue of Remembrance (Hull 1958, p224-34 & Crummy 1980).

The east end of this current development site overlies the northern half of the remains of Temple 2 with the west located within the precinct of that temple.

Apart from the major excavation in the 1930s, there have been many small-scale archaeological projects at St Helena (Fig 3). These projects confirm the presence of extremely important archaeological remains at St Helena. Excavations in 2014 (CAT Report 825) prior to the construction of the science and technology block exposed the Temple 2 precinct wall, a possible shrine, and a large possibly 'votive' pit containing a hoard of Roman coins. The Roman remains were not deeply-buried, and are susceptible to damage from modern construction.

Nearby to the proposed rugby pitch CAT undertook a series of archaeological work as part of the development of all-weather football pitches, a pavilion and associated services including test pits in 2014 (CAT Report 816), an evaluation in 2015 (CAT Report 835) and an excavation and associated watching brief in 2015 (CAT Report 905). As part of the 2015 excavation and watching brief a cable trench revealed part of the foundation of the north side of the outer precinct wall of 'Temple 2', along with an external buttress and gravel surface. Other groundworks to the northeast of Temple 2 revealed a Roman agricultural/ drainage ditch and demolition layer. It is difficult to say if they were associated with the temple complex or other industrial or domestic activity occurring nearby.

Planning background

An application for Scheduled Monument Consent was made to Historic England in October 2017 (Historic England ref. S00180054). The application proposed the replacement of rugby posts. The newly revised pitch will be smaller and will require four new post bases.

As the site lies within a scheduled monument and has a high potential for archaeological deposits, the Assistant Inspector of Ancient Monuments, Historic England (East of England Office) (HE) has requested groundworks be completed under archaeological supervision.

Requirement for work

The required archaeological work includes the continuous archaeological monitoring and recording of all groundworks associated with the excavation of the four new rugby post bases. Each post-hole will measure 1100 x 1100mm wide by 900mm deep.

If unexpected remains are encountered (e.g. if archaeological remains are encountered in the topsoil strip), CBCAA/HE will be informed immediately. Any variation to this WSI must be agreed with the CBCAA/HE before they are carried out.

General methodology

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

- All work carried out by CAT will be in accordance with:
- professional standards of the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists, including its *Code of Conduct* (ClfA 2014a, b)
- Standards and Frameworks published by East Anglian Archaeology (Gurney 2003, Medlycott 2011)
- relevant Health & Safety guidelines and requirements (CAT 2014)

Professional CAT field archaeologists will undertake all specified archaeological work, for which they will be suitably experienced and qualified.

Notification of the supervisor/project manager's name and the start date for the project will be provided to CBCAA/HE one week before start of work.

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

At the start of work (immediately before fieldwork commences) an OASIS online record <http://ads.ahds.ac.uk/project/oasis/> will be initiated and key fields completed on Details, Location and Creators forms. At the end of the project all parts of the OASIS online form will be completed for submission to EHER. This will include an uploaded .PDF version of the entire report.

A project or site code will be sought from the curating museum. This code will be used to identify the project archive when it is deposited at the curating museum.

Staffing

The number of field staff for this project is estimated as follows: One CAT officer for the duration of the groundworks.

Monitoring methodology

There will be sufficient on-site attendance by CAT staff to maintain a watch on all contractors' ground works to record, excavate or sample (as necessary) any archaeological features or deposits.

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

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

If any features or deposits uncovered are to be destroyed by the proposed development, time will be allowed for these features to be excavated by hand. This includes a 50% sample of discrete features (pits, etc), 10% of linear features (ditches, etc) and 100% of all complex features and burials (see Human Remains policy below).

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

A metal detector will be used to examine spoil heaps, and the finds recovered.

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

Site surveying

Normal scale for archaeological site plans and sections is 1:20 and 1:10 respectively, unless circumstances indicate that other scales would be more appropriate.

The site grid will be tied into the National Grid. Corners of excavation areas and trenches will be located by NGR coordinates.

Environmental sampling policy

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

Human remains

CAT follows the policy of leaving human remains *in situ* unless there is a clear indication that the remains are in danger of being compromised as a result of their exposure. 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. In that case, conditions laid down by the license will be followed. If it seems that the remains are not ancient, then the coroner, the client, and CBCAA/HE will be informed, and any advice and/or instruction from the coroner will be followed.

Photographic record

Will include both general and feature-specific photographs, the latter with scale and north arrow. A photo register giving context number, details, and direction of shot will be prepared on site, and included in site archive.

Finds

All significant finds will be retained.

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

Stephen Benfield (CAT) normally writes our finds reports. Some categories of finds are automatically referred to other CAT specialists:

small finds, metalwork, coins, etc: Laura Pooley
animal bones (small groups): Adam Wightman
flints: Adam Wightman

or to outside specialists:

animal bones (large groups) and human remains: Julie Curl (*Sylvanus*)
environmental processing and reporting: Val Fryer / Lisa Gray
conservation of finds: staff at Colchester Museum / Laura Ratcliffe (LR Conservation)

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

Roman brick/tile: Ernest Black
Roman glass: Hilary Cool
Prehistoric pottery: Paul Sealey
Other: EH Regional Adviser in Archaeological Science (East of England).

All finds of potential treasure will be removed to a safe place, and the coroner informed immediately, in accordance with the rules of the Treasure Act 1996. The definition of treasure is given in pages 3-5 of the Code of Practice of the above act. This refers primarily to gold or silver objects.

Requirements for conservation and storage of finds will be agreed with the appropriate museum prior to the start of work, and confirmed to CBCAA/HE.

Results

Notification will be given to CBCAA/HE when the fieldwork has been completed.

An appropriate archive will be prepared to minimum acceptable standards outlined in *Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment* (English Heritage 2006).

The report will be submitted within 6 months of the end of fieldwork, with a copy supplied to CBCAA/HE as a PDF.

The report will contain:

- Location plan of the groundworks in relation to the proposed development. At least two corners of the site will be given 10 figure grid references.
- Section/s drawings showing depth of deposits from present ground level with Ordnance Datum, vertical and horizontal scale.
- Archaeological methodology and detailed results including a suitable conclusion and discussion and results referring to Regional Research Frameworks (Medlycott 2011).
- All specialist reports or assessments
- A concise non-technical summary of the project results.

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

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

Archive deposition

It is a policy of Colchester Borough Council that the integrity of the site archive be maintained (i.e. all finds and records should be properly curated by a single organisation), with the archive available for public consultation. To achieve this desired aim it is assumed that the full archive will be deposited in Colchester Museums *unless otherwise agreed in advance*. (A full copy of the archive shall in any case be deposited).

By accepting this WSI, the client agrees to deposit the archive, including all artefacts, at Colchester & Ipswich Museum.

The requirements for archive storage will be agreed with the curating museum.

If the finds are to remain with the landowner, a full copy of the archive will be housed with the curating museum.

The archive will be deposited with Colchester & Ipswich Museum within 3 months of the completion of the final publication report, with a summary of the contents of the archive supplied to CBCAA/HE.

Monitoring

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

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

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

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

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

References

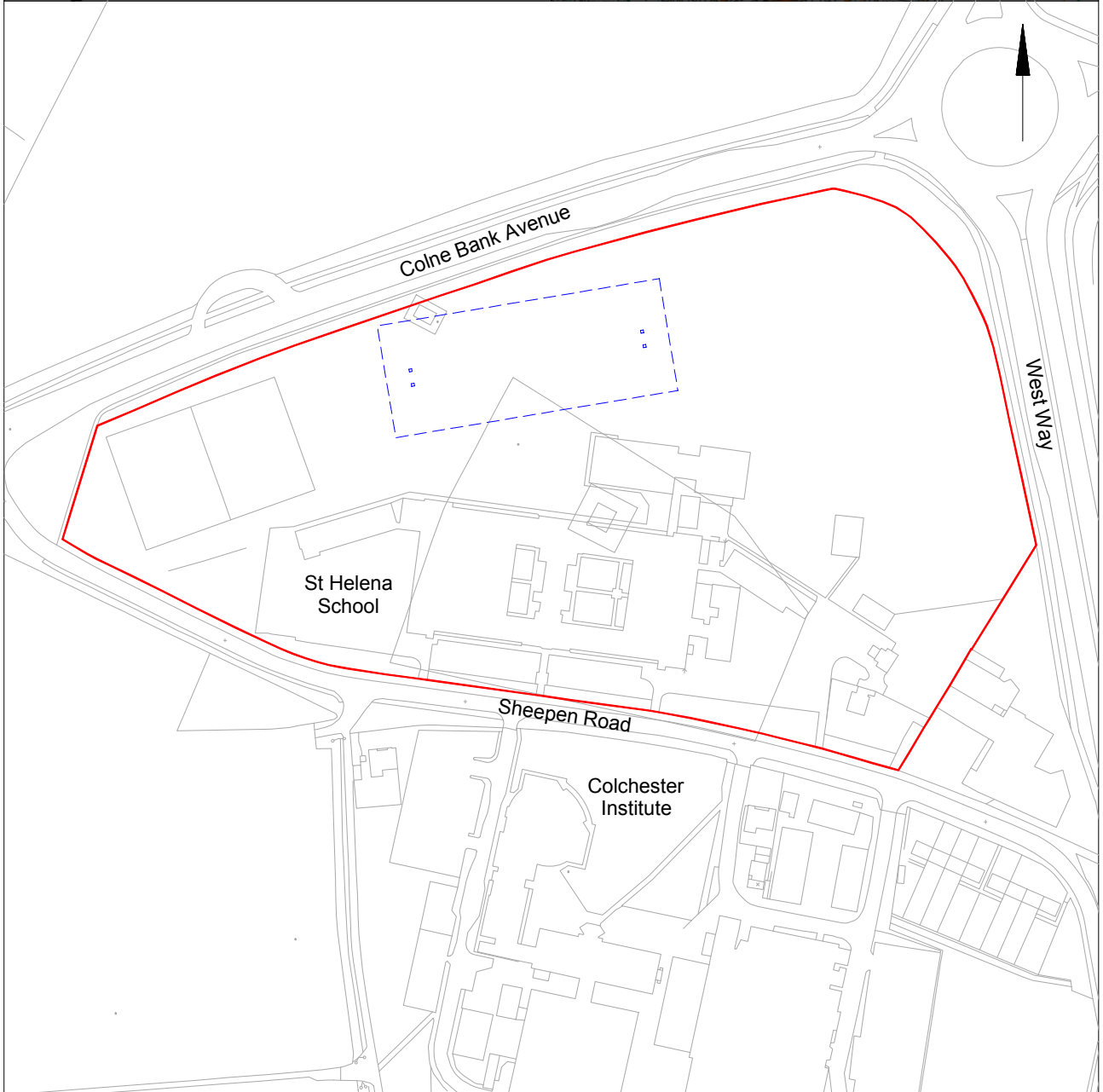
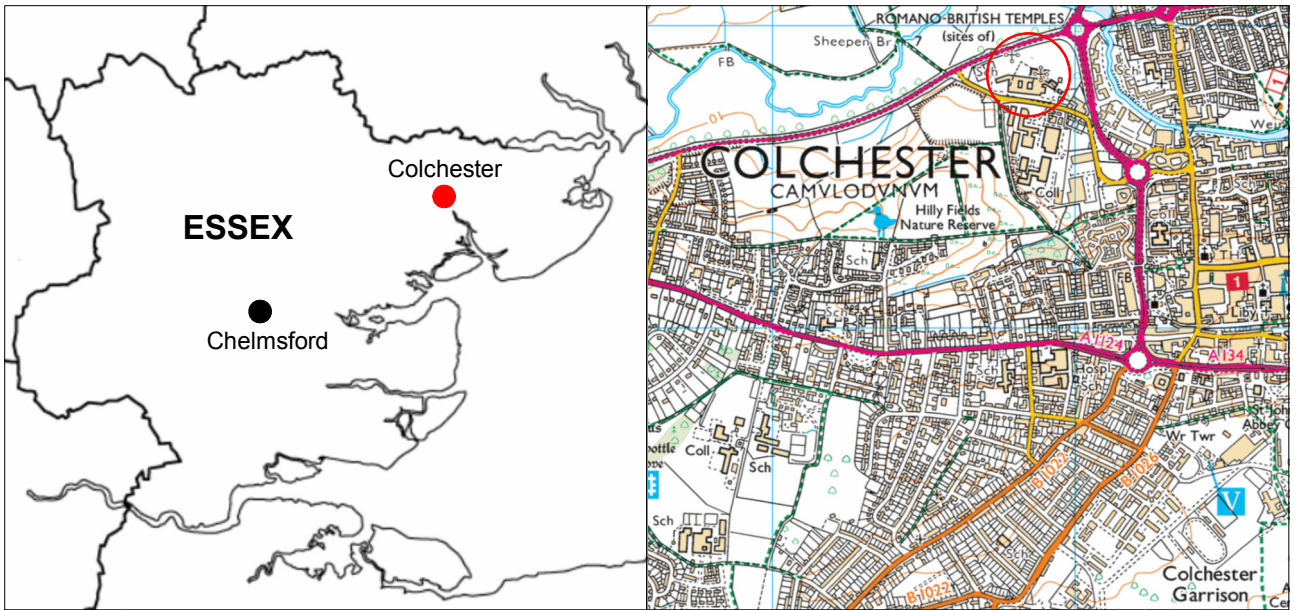
- | | | |
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Fig 1 Site location shown as dashed blue line.



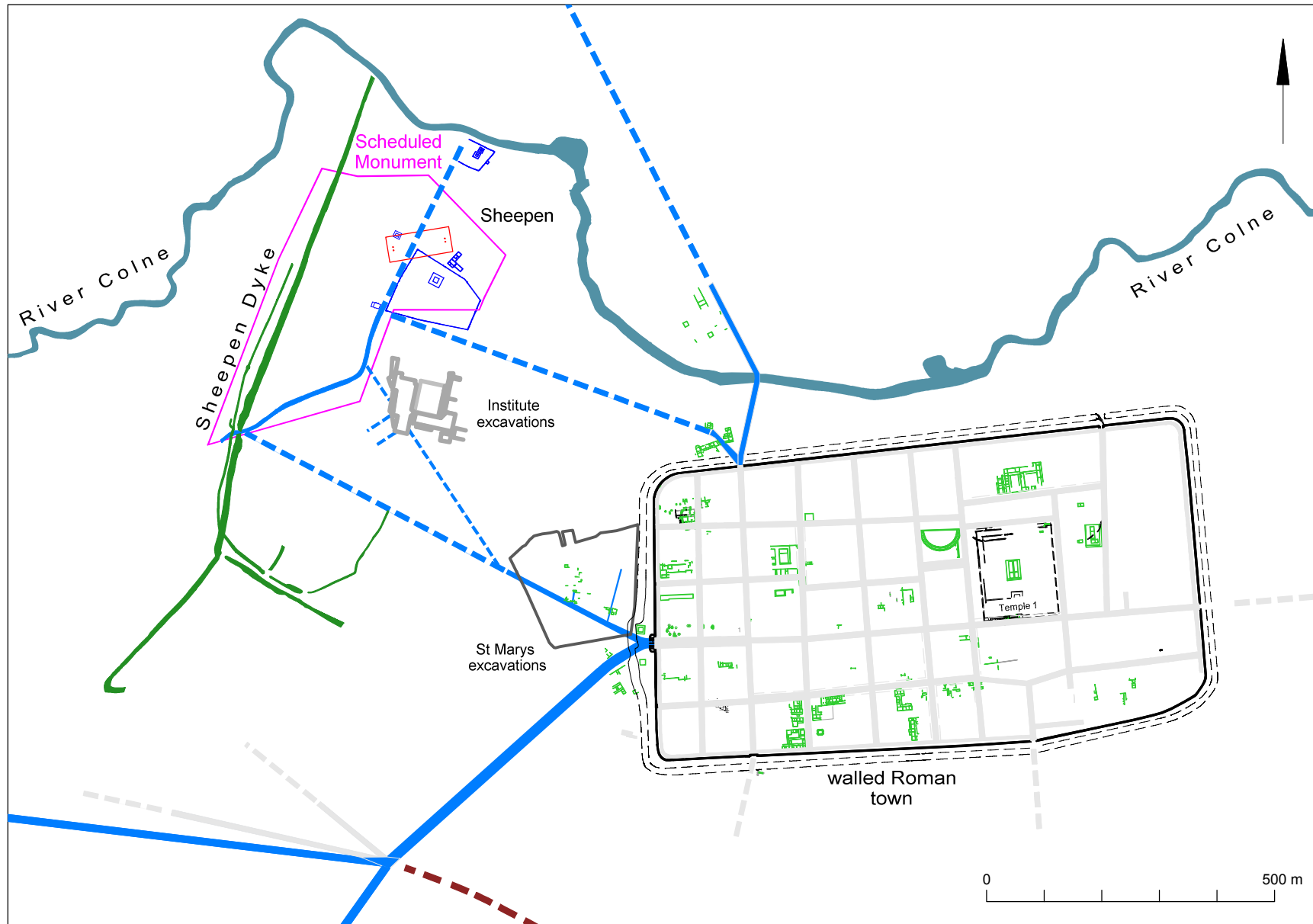


Fig 2. Site location (red) in relation to the wider archaeological context.

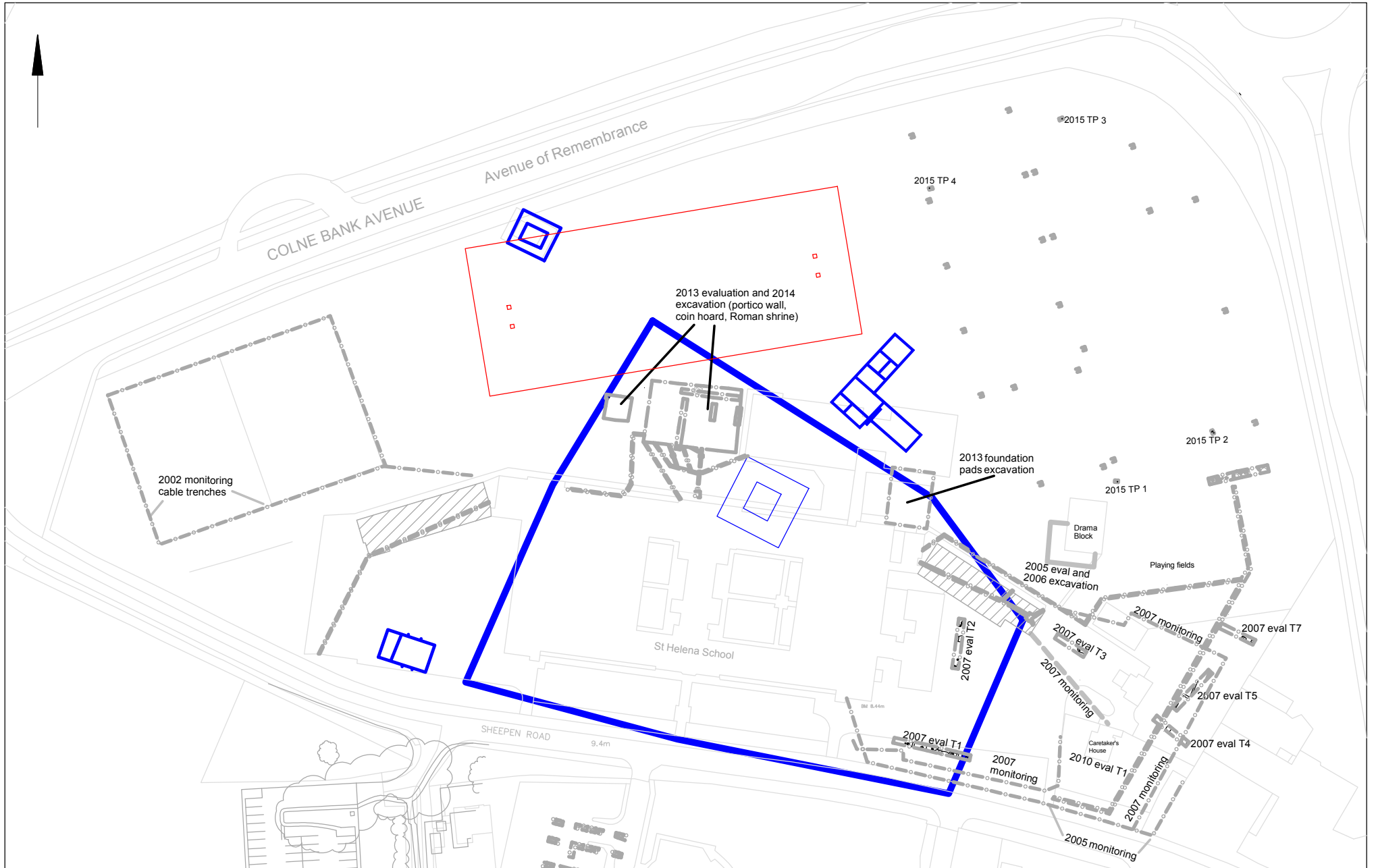


Fig 3 Rugby pitch monitoring area (red) in relation to previous archaeological work.

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OASIS ID: colchest3-303726

Project details

| | |
|--|---|
| Project name | Archaeological monitoring at St Helena School rugby pitch, Sheepen Road, Colchester, Essex, CO3 3LE |
| Short description of the project | Archaeological monitoring was carried out at St Helena School, Sheepen Road, Colchester during groundworks for four concrete foundations for a pair of rugby goal posts. The development site is located within the scheduled monument of Sheepen between two Roman temples (Colchester Temples 2 and 3) (SM EX 46, HA 1002173). The foundations for each post were excavated to a depth of 0.9m below current ground level, no significant archaeological horizons were encountered. However, a Roman spearhead was recovered as a residual find from a post-Roman accumulation layer. |
| Project dates | Start: 12-02-2018 End: 12-02-2018 |
| Previous/future work | Yes / Not known |
| Any associated project reference codes | 17/11o - Contracting Unit No. |
| Any associated project reference codes | EX 46 HA 1002173 - SM No. |
| Any associated project reference codes | ECC4126 - HER event no. |
| Any associated project reference codes | COLEM: 2018.1 - Museum accession ID |
| Type of project | Recording project |
| Site status | Scheduled Monument (SM) |
| Current Land use | Community Service 1 - Community Buildings |
| Monument type | N/A None |
| Significant Finds | SPEARHEAD Roman |
| Investigation type | "Watching Brief" |
| Prompt | Scheduled Monument Consent |

Project location

| | |
|------------------|---|
| Country | England |
| Site location | ESSEX COLCHESTER COLCHESTER St Helena School, Sheepen Road |
| Postcode | CO3 3LE |
| Study area | 5.53 Hectares |
| Site coordinates | TL 9889 2589 51.895488586384 0.89098709217 51 53 43 N 000 53 27 E Point |

Project creators

| | |
|------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| Name of Organisation | Colchester Archaeological Trust |
| Project brief originator | HISTORIC ENGLAND |
| Project design originator | Emma Holloway |
| Project director/manager | Chris Lister |
| Project supervisor | Chris Lister |
| Type of sponsor/funding body | School |
| Name of sponsor/funding body | The Sigma Trust t/a St Helena School |

Project archives

| | |
|----------------------------|-------------------|
| Physical Archive recipient | Colchester Museum |
| Physical Archive ID | COLEM: 2018.1 |
| Physical Contents | "Metal" |
| Digital Archive recipient | Colchester Museum |

| | |
|-------------------------|---|
| Digital Archive ID | COLEM: 2018.1 |
| Digital Contents | "Metal","Stratigraphic","other" |
| Digital Media available | "Images raster / digital photography","Text" |
| Paper Archive recipient | Colchester Museum |
| Paper Archive ID | COLEM: 2018.1 |
| Paper Contents | "Metal","Stratigraphic","other" |
| Paper Media available | "Context sheet","Miscellaneous Material","Photograph","Plan","Report","Section" |

Project bibliography 1

| | |
|-------------------------------|--|
| Publication type | Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript) |
| Title | Archaeological monitoring at St Helena School, Sheepen Road, Colchester, Essex, CO3 3LE: February 2018 |
| Author(s)/Editor(s) | Pooley, L. |
| Other bibliographic details | CAT Report 1231 |
| Date | 2018 |
| Issuer or publisher | Colchester Archaeological Trust |
| Place of issue or publication | Colchester |
| Description | A4 ringbound loose-leaf |
| URL | http://cat.essex.ac.uk/all-reports.html |
| Entered by | Laura Pooley (lp@catuk.org) |
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