Archaeological monitoring at 33 Audley Road, Colchester, Essex, CO3 3TZ

June 2018



by Dr Elliott Hicks

figures by Ben Holloway and Sarah Carter

fieldwork by Ben Holloway

Commissioned by Gavin Muttock

NGR: TL 98220 24214 Planning reference: 180247 CAT project ref.: 18/04p

Colchester Museum accession code: COLEM 2018.39

CHER ref: ECC4202

OASIS reference: colchest3-315611



Colchester Archaeological Trust

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CAT Report 1284

June 2018

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1 Summary

Archaeological monitoring was carried out at 33 Audley Road during the erection of a two-storey rear extension to replace an existing single-storey rear extension. The site is located within the Iron Age oppidum of Camulodunum and near to the Colchester-Gosbecks Roman road and a Roman temple complex located in the grounds of the Colchester Royal Grammar School. Despite being located in an area of archaeological importance, however, no archaeological deposits were uncovered.

2 Introduction (Fig 1)

This report presents the results of archaeological monitoring at 33 Audley Road, Colchester, Essex, which was carried out on the 14th June 2018. The work was commissioned by Gavin Muttock in advance of the erection of a two-storey rear extension to replace an existing single-storey rear extension and was undertaken by Colchester Archaeological Trust (CAT).

In response to consultation with Colchester Borough Council Planning Services (CBCPS), Colchester Borough Council Archaeological Advisor Jess Tipper advised that in order to establish the archaeological implications of this application, the applicant should be required to commission a scheme of archaeological investigation in accordance with paragraphs 128, 129 and 132 of the *National Planning Policy Framework* (DCLG 2012).

All archaeological work was carried out in accordance with a *Brief for Continuous Archaeological Recording*, detailing the required archaeological work, written by Jess Tipper (CBCPS 2018), and a written scheme of investigation (WSI) prepared by CAT in response to the brief and agreed with CBCPS (CAT 2018).

In addition to the brief and 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 briefs* (CIfA 2014a) and *Standard and guidance for the collection, documentation, conservation and research of archaeological materials* (CIfA 2014b).

3 Archaeological background

The following archaeological background draws on the major published sources for Colchester archaeology (listed below), and also on the Colchester Historic Environment Record, accessed via the Colchester Heritage Network (https://colchesterheritage.co.uk/).

The development site is located in an area rich in archaeological remains. It lies within the Late Iron Age *oppidum* of Camulodunum, which was defined by a system of defensive dykes. Each dyke consisted of a V-shaped ditch with a simple bank behind, constructed so that the inner face of the ditch continued as the outer face of the bank (Crummy 1997, 14). Moat Farm Dyke (MCC2099/MCC7280) is located 515m west (*CAR* 11, 34), with Heath Farm Dyke (MCC2095/MCC2101) and Prettygate Dyke (MCC1742) also close-by.

It is also situated to the south of known Roman cemeteries that cluster around the former Roman roads radiating out of Colchester. One of these roads, linking the town to Gosbecks, is projected to run through the gardens between Audley Road and Maldon Road (130m east of the site) (MCC2529). It is likely that Roman burials or buildings will be aligned to the orientation of this road. Finds recovered in the immediate vicinity include Roman coins from the rear gardens of 12 and 22 Audley Road (MCC1273 and MCC1302).

A substantial Roman temple complex (Temple 6) was also partly excavated in 1947 (MCC1959/MCC8407). It is located *c* 190m NNW of the site, in the playing fields of the Colchester Royal Grammar School (Hull 1958). Two votive plaques and a figurine of a stag found during excavations show that the temple was erected to Silvanus, god of war and hunting (Crummy 1997, 107).

No significant archaeological features or horizons were identified during recent archaeological investigations at 20 Irvine Road (CAT Report 867), 40 Irvine Road (CAT Report 860), 10 Audley Road (CAT Report 813), 55 Audley Road (CAT Report 1260) or during a small evaluation on the Colchester Royal Grammar School playing fields (off Athelstan Road) (CAT Report 180).

An anti-tank ditch and defence line dating to World War II is also located approximately 400m SW (MCC8706).

4 Aims

Archaeological monitoring was conducted at this site as its proximity to the Colchester-Gosbecks Roman Road, along which buildings and burials were likely to be situated, and a Roman temple complex, suggest that archaeological deposits dating to this period may be located here.

5 Results (Figs 2-3)

A CAT archaeologist supervised the excavation of approximately 6.4m of foundation trenching to the rear of the house. The trench measured 0.5m in width by 0.8m in depth.



Photograph 1 NE-SW branch of foundation trench – looking north-east

The foundation trench was excavated through a modern concrete surface and associated sub-base (L1, c 0.2m thick). This sealed a layer of accumulated subsoil (L2, c 0.27m thick, firm, moist medium grey/brown sandy-silt) which, in turn, lay above natural (L3, firm, moist medium orange sand, encountered at a depth of 0.47m below current ground level).

No significant archaeological features were encountered.

6 Finds

There were no archaeological finds.

7 Conclusion

Despite being located in an area of archaeological significance, no archaeological remains were uncovered.

8 Acknowledgements

CAT thanks Gavin Muttock for commissioning and funding the work. The project was managed by C Lister and carried out by B Holloway. Figures were prepared by CL and S Carter. The project was monitored for the CBCPS by Jess Tipper.

9 References

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

http://out.ocoox.ac.ak		
Brown, D	2007	Archaeological Archives: A guide to best practice in creation, compilation, transfer and curation
CAR 9	1993	Colchester Archaeological Report 9: Excavations of Roman and later cemeteries, churches and monastic sites in Colchester, 1971-85 by N Crummy, P Crummy & C Crossan
CAR 11	1995	Colchester Archaeological Report 11: Camunlodunum 2 by C F C Hawkes and P Crummy
CAT	2014	Health & Safety Policy
CAT	2018	Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) at 33 Audley Road, Colchester, Essex, CO3 3TZ
CAT Report 180	2002	An archaeological evaluation on Colchester Royal Grammar School playing fields (off Athelstan Road, Colchester, Essex: February 2002
CAT Report 813	2015	An archaeological watching brief at 10 Audley Road, Colchester, Essex: February 2015
CAT Report 860	2015	Archaeological monitoring and recording: 40 Irvine Road, Colchester, Essex, August 2015
CAT Report 867	2015	Archaeological monitoring and recording: 20 Irvine Road, Colchester, Essex, CO3 0TR, July 2015
CAT Report 1230	2018	Archaeological monitoring at 33 Audley Road, Colchester, Essex, CO3 3TZ: March 2018
CBCPS	2017	Brief for continuous archaeological monitoring and recording at 55 Audley Road, Colchester, CO3 3TZ, by J Tipper
ClfA	2014 a	Standard and Guidance for an archaeological watching brief
CIfA	2014 b	Standard and guidance for the collection, documentation, conservation and research of archaeological materials
Crummy, P	1997	City of Victory. The Story of Colchester – Britain's first Roman town
DCLG	2012	National Planning Policy Framework
English Heritage	2006	Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment (MoRPHE)
Gurney, D	2003	Standards for field archaeology in the East of England. East Anglian Archaeology Occasional Papers 14 (EAA 14).

Medlycott, M 2011 Research and archaeology revisited: A revised framework for the

East of England. East Anglian Archaeology Occasional Papers 24

(EAA 24)

10 Abbreviations and glossary

CAT Colchester Archaeological Trust

CBCPS Colchester Borough Council Planning Services

ClfA Chartered Institute for Archaeologists

context specific location of finds on an archaeological site

feature (F) an identifiable thing like a pit, a wall, a drain: can contain 'contexts'

Iron Age period from 700 BC to Roman invasion of AD 43 layer (L) distinct or distinguishable deposit (layer) of material

modern period from c AD 1800 to the present

natural geological deposit undisturbed by human activity

NGR National Grid Reference

OASIS Online AccesS to the Index of Archaeological InvestigationS,

http://oasis.ac.uk/pages/wiki/Main

Roman the period from AD 43 to c AD 410

Section (abbreviation sc or Sx) vertical slice through feature/s or layer/s

wsi written scheme of investigation

11 Contents of archive

Finds: n/a

Paper and digital record

One A4 document wallet containing: The report (CAT Report 1284)

CBCPS evaluation brief, CAT written scheme of investigation Original site record (feature and layer sheets, finds record, plans)

Site digital photos and log

12 Archive deposition

The paper and digital archive is currently held by the Colchester Archaeological Trust at Roman Circus House, Roman Circus Walk, Colchester, Essex, CO2 7GZ, but will be permanently deposited with Colchester Museum under accession code: COLEM 2018.39.

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Distribution list

Gavin Muttock Jess Tipper, Colchester Borough Council Planning Services Essex Historic Environment Record



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Checked by: Philip Crummy Date: 20.6.2018

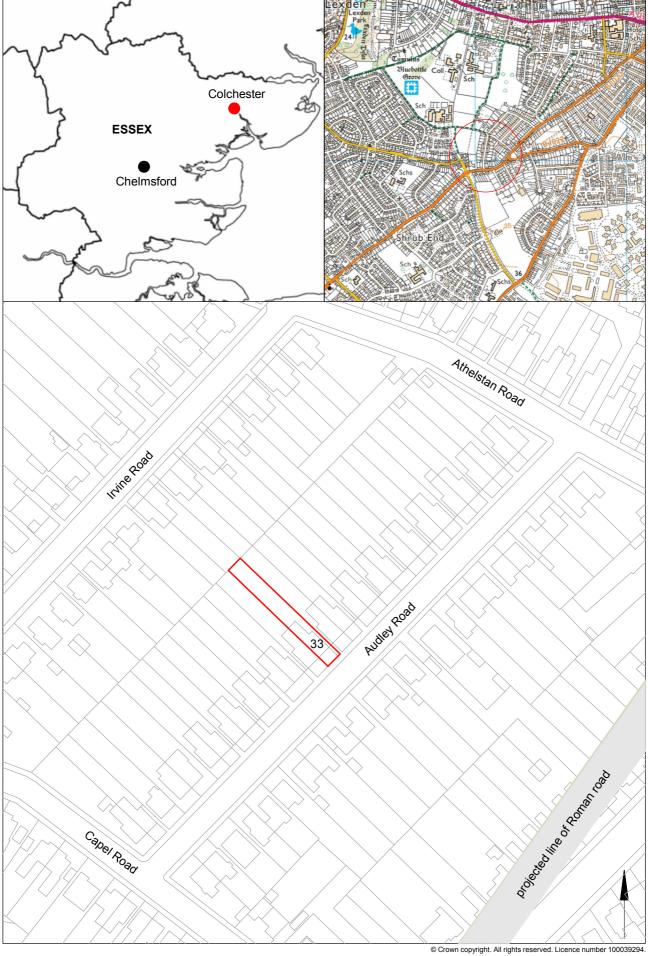


Fig 1 Site location.

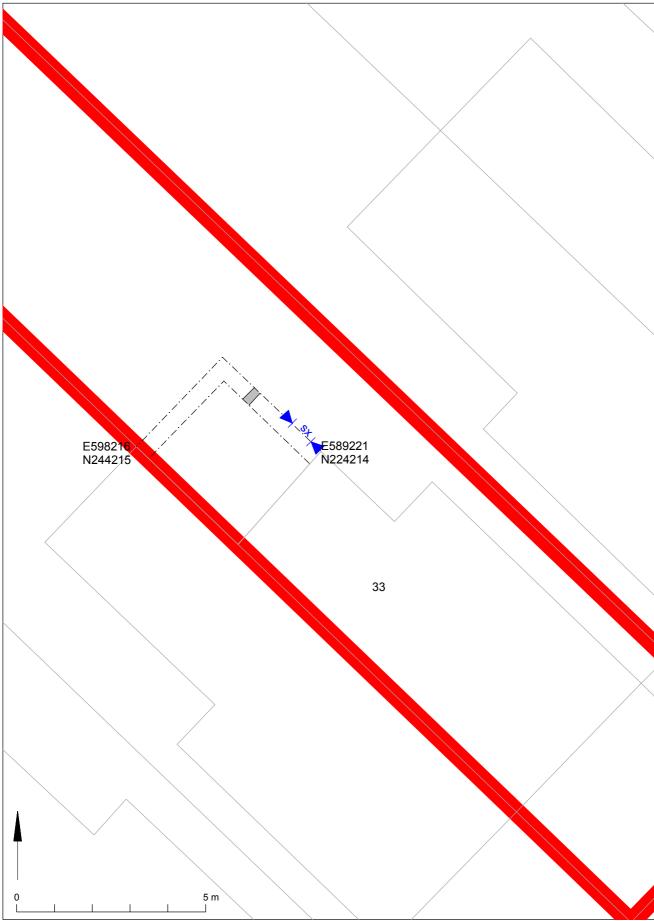


Fig 2 Monitoring results (modern services in grey)

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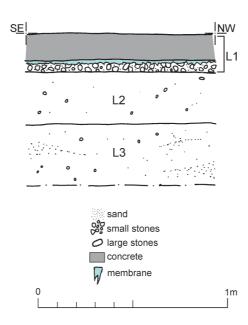


Fig 3 Representative section

Essex Historic Environment Record/ Essex Archaeology and History

Summary sheet

Address: 33 Audley Road, Colchester, Essex, CO3 3TZ				
Parish: Colchester	District: Colchester			
NGR: TL 98220 24214	Site code: CAT project ref.: 18/04p CHER ref: ECC4202 OASIS ref: colchest3-315611			
Type of work: Monitoring	Site director/group: Colchester Archaeological Trust			
Date of work: 14th June 2018	Size of area investigated: 0.03 ha			
Location of curating museum: Colchester museum accession code COLEM: 2018.39	Funding source: Owner			
Further seasons anticipated? Not known	Related CHER/SMR number: MCC1273, 1302, 1742, 1959, 2095, 2099, 2101, 2529, 7280, 8407, 8706			
Final report: CAT Report 1284				
Periods represented: -				
Summary of fieldwork results: Archaeological monitoring was carried out at 33 Audley Road during the erection of a two-storey rear extension to replace an existing single-storey rear extension. The site is located within the Iron Age oppidum of Camulodunum and near to the Colchester-Gosbecks Roman road and a Roman temple complex located in the grounds of the Colchester Royal Grammar School. Despite being located in an area of archaeological importance, however, no archaeological deposits were uncovered.				
Previous summaries/reports: None				
CBC monitor: Jess Tipper				
Keywords: -	Significance: -			
Author of summary: Dr Elliott Hicks	Date of summary: June 2018			

Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) for continuous archaeological recording at 33 Audley Road, Colchester, Essex, CO3 3TZ

NGR: TL 98220 24214 (centre)

Planning references: 180247

Commissioned by: Gavin Muttock

Curating museum: Colchester

Museum accession code: tbc CHER number: ECC4202 CAT project code: 18/04p

OASIS project number: colchest3-315611

Site manager: Chris Lister

CBC monitor: Jess Tipper

This WSI written: 27.4.2018



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 lies approximately 2km southwest of Colchester town centre at 33 Audley Road, Colchester (Fig 1). Site centre is NGR TL 98220 24214.

Proposed work

The development comprises a two-storey rear extension to replace an existing sing-storey rear extension.

Archaeological background

The following archaeological background draws on the major published sources for Colchester archaeology (listed below), and also on the Colchester Historic Environment Record, accessed via the Colchester Heritage Network (https://colchesterheritage.co.uk/).

The development site is located in an area rich in archaeological remains. It lies within the Late Iron Age *oppidum* of Camulodunum, which was defined by a system of defensive dykes. Each dyke consisted of a V-shaped ditch with a simple bank behind, constructed so that the inner face of the ditch continued as the outer face of the bank (Crummy 1997, 14). Moat Farm Dyke (MCC2099/MCC7280) is located 515m west (*CAR* 11, 34), with Heath Farm Dyke (MCC2095/MCC2101) and Prettygate Dyke (MCC1742) also close-by.

It is also situated to the south of known Roman cemeteries that cluster around the former Roman roads radiating out of Colchester. One of these roads, linking the town to Gosbecks, is projected to run through the gardens between Audley Road and Maldon Road (130m east of the site) (MCC2529). It is likely that Roman burials or buildings will be aligned to the orientation of this road. Finds recovered in the immediate vicinity include Roman coins from the rear gardens of 12 and 22 Audley Road (MCC1273 and MCC1302).

A substantial Roman temple complex (Temple 6) was also partly excavated in 1947 (MCC1959/MCC8407). It is located *c* 190m NNW of the site, in the playing fields of the Colchester Royal Grammar School (Hull 1958). Two votive plaques and a figurine of a stag found during excavations show that the temple was erected to Silvanus, god of war and hunting (Crummy 1997, 107).

No significant archaeological features or horizons were identified during recent archaeological investigations at 20 Irvine Road (CAT Report 867), 40 Irvine Road (CAT Report 860), 10 Audley Road (CAT Report 813), 55 Audley Road (CAT Report 1260) or during a small evaluation on the Colchester Royal Grammar School playing fields (off Athelstan Road) (CAT Report 180).

An anti-tank ditch and defence line dating to World War II is also located approximately 400m SW (MCC8706).

Planning background

A planning application was made to Colchester Borough Council in January 2018 (application No.180247) proposing a two-storey rear extension to replace an existing single-storey rear extension, and proposed loft conversion.

As the site lies within an area highlighted by the EHER / CHER as having a high potential for archaeological deposits, an archaeological condition was recommended by the Colchester Borough Council Archaeological Advisor (CBCAA). The recommended archaeological condition is based on the guidance given in the *National Planning Policy Framework* (DCLG 2012).

Requirement for work

The required archaeological work is for continuous archaeological monitoring and recording of all groundworks. Details are given in a Project Brief written by CBCAA (CBC 2018).

The monitoring and recording is being undertaken to identify and record any surviving archaeological deposits that will be damaged or destroyed by any development (including services and landscaping) permitted by the current planning consent.

The method and form the development will also be monitored to ensure that it conforms to previously agreed locations and techniques upon which the brief, and this wsi, are based.

If unexpected remains are encountered the CBCAA will be informed immediately and the CBCAA will decide if amendments to the brief, and this wsi, are required to ensure adequate provision for archaeological recording. This could include the need for archaeological excavation of parts of the site which would otherwise be damaged or destroyed.

General methodology

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

- professional standards of the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists, including its Code of Conduct (CIfA 2014a, b)
- Standards and Frameworks published by East Anglian Archaeology (Gurney 2003, Medlycott 2011)
- relevant Health & Safety guidelines and requirements (CAT 2014)
- the Project Brief issued by the CBCAA (CBC 2018).

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

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

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

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

<u>small finds, metalwork, coins,</u> etc: Laura Pooley <u>animal bones</u> (small groups): Alec Wade / 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: Laura Ratcliffe (LR Conservation) / Norfolk Museums Service,

Conservation and Design Services

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 Sealev

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.

Results

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

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

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

The report will contain:

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

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

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

Archive deposition

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

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

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

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

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.

Monitoring

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

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

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

CBCAA will be notified when the fieldwork is complete.

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

References						
Brown, D	2007	Archaeological Archives: A guide to best practice in creation, compilation, transfer and curation				
CAR 9	1993	Colchester Archaeological Report 9: Excavations of Roman and later cemeteries, churches and monastic sites in Colchester, 1971-85 by N Crummy, P Crummy & C Crossan				
CAR 11	1995	Colchester Archaeological Report 11: Camunlodunum 2 by C F C Hawkes and P Crummy				
CAT	2014	Health & Safety Policy				
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CBCPS	2018	Brief for continuous archaeological monitoring and recording at 33 Audley Road, Colchester, CO3 3TZ, by J Tipper				
CIfA	2014a	Standard and Guidance for an archaeological watching brief				
CIfA	2014b	Standard and guidance for the collection, documentation, conservation and research of archaeological materials				
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DCLG	2012	National Planning Policy Framework				
English Heritage	2006	Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment (MoRPHE)				
Gurney, D	2003	Standards for field archaeology in the East of England. East Anglian Archaeology Occasional Papers 14 (EAA 14).				
Medlycott, M	2011	Research and archaeology revisited: A revised framework for the East of England. East Anglian Archaeology Occasional Papers 24 (EAA 24)				

L Pooley



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Printable version

OASIS ID: colchest3-315611

Project details

Project name Archaeological monitoring and recording at 33 Audley road, Colchester,

Essex, CO3 3TZ

Short description of the project

Archaeological monitoring was carried out at 33 Audley Road during the erection of a two-storey rear extension to replace an existing single-storey

rear extension. The site is located within the Iron Age oppidum of Camulodunum and near to the Colchester-Gosbecks Roman road and a Roman temple complex located in the grounds of the Colchester Royal Grammar School. Despite being located in an area of archaeological importance, however, no archaeological deposits were uncovered.

Project dates Start: 14-06-2018 End: 14-06-2018

Previous/future

work

No / Not known

Any associated project reference

codes

180247 - Planning Application No.

Any associated project reference

codes

18/04p - Contracting Unit No.

Any associated project reference

codes

COLEM 2018.39 - Museum accession ID

Any associated project reference

codes

- . .

ECC4202 - HER event no.

Type of project Recording project

Site status None

Current Land use Residential 1 - General Residential

Investigation type "Watching Brief"

Prompt Planning condition

Project location

Country England

Site location ESSEX COLCHESTER COLCHESTER 33 Audley Road

Postcode CO3 3TZ

Study area 0.03 Hectares

Site coordinates TL 98220 24214 51.880677165648 0.880298451172 51 52 50 N 000 52 49 E

Point

Project creators

Name of Organisation Colchester Archaeological Trust

Project brief originator

CBC Archaeological Officer

Project design originator

Laura Pooley

Project

Chris Lister

director/manager

Project supervisor

Nigel Rayner

Type of

Owner sponsor/funding

body

Project archives

Physical Archive

No

Digital Archive

recipient

Exists?

Colchester Museum

Digital Archive ID

COLEM 2018.39

Digital Media available

"Images raster / digital photography"

Paper Archive recipient

Colchester Museum

Paper Archive ID

COLEM 2018.39

Paper Media available

"Context sheet", "Drawing", "Miscellaneous Material", "Photograph", "Report"

Project bibliography 1

Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)

Publication type

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