

Archaeological monitoring at 42 Gainsborough Road, Colchester, Essex, CO3 4QW

August 2018



by Dr Elliott Hicks

figures by Chris Lister and Adam Wightman

fieldwork by Adam Wightman

on behalf of Barry Kellegher

NGR: TL 9756 2432 (centre)

Planning reference: 173057

CAT project ref.: 18/06f

Colchester Museum accession code COLEM: 2018.58

CHER ref: ECC4237

OASIS reference: colchest3-320215



Colchester Archaeological Trust

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CAT Report 1321

September 2018

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1 Summary

Archaeological monitoring was carried out at 42 Gainsborough Road, Colchester during the construction of a two-storey structure. Despite being located close to both the Lexden and Prettygate Dykes, the only archaeological feature was a modern foundation or service haunching.

2 Introduction (Fig 1)

This report presents the results of archaeological monitoring at 42 Gainsborough Road, Colchester, Essex which was carried out on 26th-27th June 2018. The work was commissioned by Barry Kellegher in advance of the construction of a two-storey structure, and was undertaken by Colchester Archaeological Trust (CAT).

As the site lies within an area identified by the Colchester Historical Environment Record (CHER) and the Essex Historic Environment Record (EHER) as possessing a high potential for archaeological deposits, following 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* (MHCLG 2012).

All archaeological work was carried out in accordance with a *Brief for Continuous Archaeological Monitoring and 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* (ClfA 2014a) and *Standard and guidance for the collection, documentation, conservation and research of archaeological materials* (ClfA 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 (CHER) 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). Significantly Lexden Dyke Middle, a scheduled monument (NHLE no.1019966), runs SE-NW across the rear of the property (CAR 11, 9) (CHER MCC2096). The development site is also located within 50m of the Prettygate junction (to the southeast) where the Lexden Dykes, Prettydate Dyke (MCC1742), Heath Farm Dyke Middle (MCC2095) and Heath Farm Dyke North (MCC2101) converge, and several excavations have taken place here (CAR 11, 46-52).

Also located immediately to the rear of the property is a WWII anti-tank ditch and defence line (MCC8706).

4 Aims

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

5 Results (Figs 2-3)

All groundworks were carried out by the contractor under archaeological supervision. The foundation trench for the new extension totalled approximately 18.8m in length, and measured 0.5m in width and 1m in depth.

Three layers were recorded. Modern topsoil (L1, c 0.26-0.28m thick, firm, dry medium/dark brown sandy-silt with 10% gravel and 1% tile/brick piece inclusions) sealed a layer of subsoil (L2, c 0.43-0.45m thick, firm, dry light grey/brown slightly sandy-clayey-silt with 5% gravel piece inclusions), which sat above natural (L3, hard, dry medium/dark orange sandy-clay with up to 50% gravel piece inclusions, encountered at a depth of c 0.7-0.72m below current ground level).

Modern concrete foundation or service haunching F1 was uncovered in the northernmost NW-SE branch of the foundation trenching.



Photograph 1 Site shot

6 Finds

There were no archaeological finds.

7 Conclusion

Despite being located in close proximity to the Lexden and Prettygate Dykes, the only significant archaeological feature uncovered was a modern concrete foundation or service haunching.

8 Acknowledgements

CAT thanks Barry Kellegher for commissioning and funding the work. The project was managed by C Lister and carried out by A Wightman. Figures were prepared by C Lister and A Wightman. 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>

Brown, D	2007	<i>Archaeological Archives: A guide to best practice in creation, compilation, transfer and curation</i>
CAR 11	1995	<i>Colchester Archaeological Report 11: Camunlodunum 2</i> by C F C Hawkes and P Crummy
CAT	2014	<i>Health & Safety Policy</i>
CAT	2018	<i>Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) for continuous archaeological monitoring and recording at 42 Gainsborough Road, Colchester, Essex, CO4 4QW</i>
CBCPS	2018	<i>Brief for continuous archaeological monitoring and recording at 42 Gainsborough Road, Colchester, CO3 4QW</i> , by J Tipper
CifA	2014a	<i>Standard and Guidance for an archaeological watching brief</i>
CifA	2014b	<i>Standard and guidance for the collection, documentation, conservation and research of archaeological materials</i>
Crummy, P	1997	<i>City of Victory. The Story of Colchester – Britain's first Roman town</i>
MHCLG	2018	<i>National Planning Policy Framework</i>
English Heritage	2006	<i>Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment (MoRPHE)</i>
Gurney, G	2003	<i>Standards for field archaeology in the East of England</i> . East Anglian Archaeology Occasional Papers 14 (EAA 14).
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)

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	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'
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
ws	Written Scheme of Investigation

11 Contents of archive

Finds: n/a

Paper and digital record

One A4 document wallet containing:
The report (CAT Report 1321)

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 2018.58.

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Distribution list

Barry Kellegher
Jess Tipper, Colchester Borough Council Planning Services
Essex Historic Environment Record



Colchester Archaeological Trust

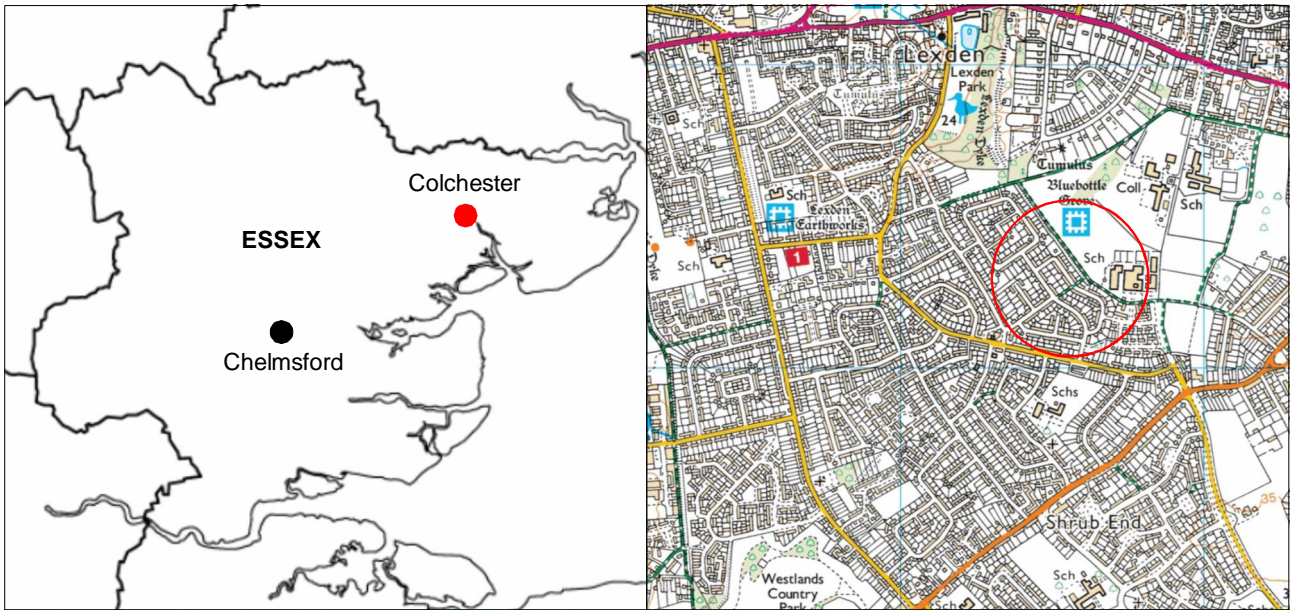
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Checked by: Philip Crummy

Date: 04.09.2018



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Fig 1 Site location

0 50 m

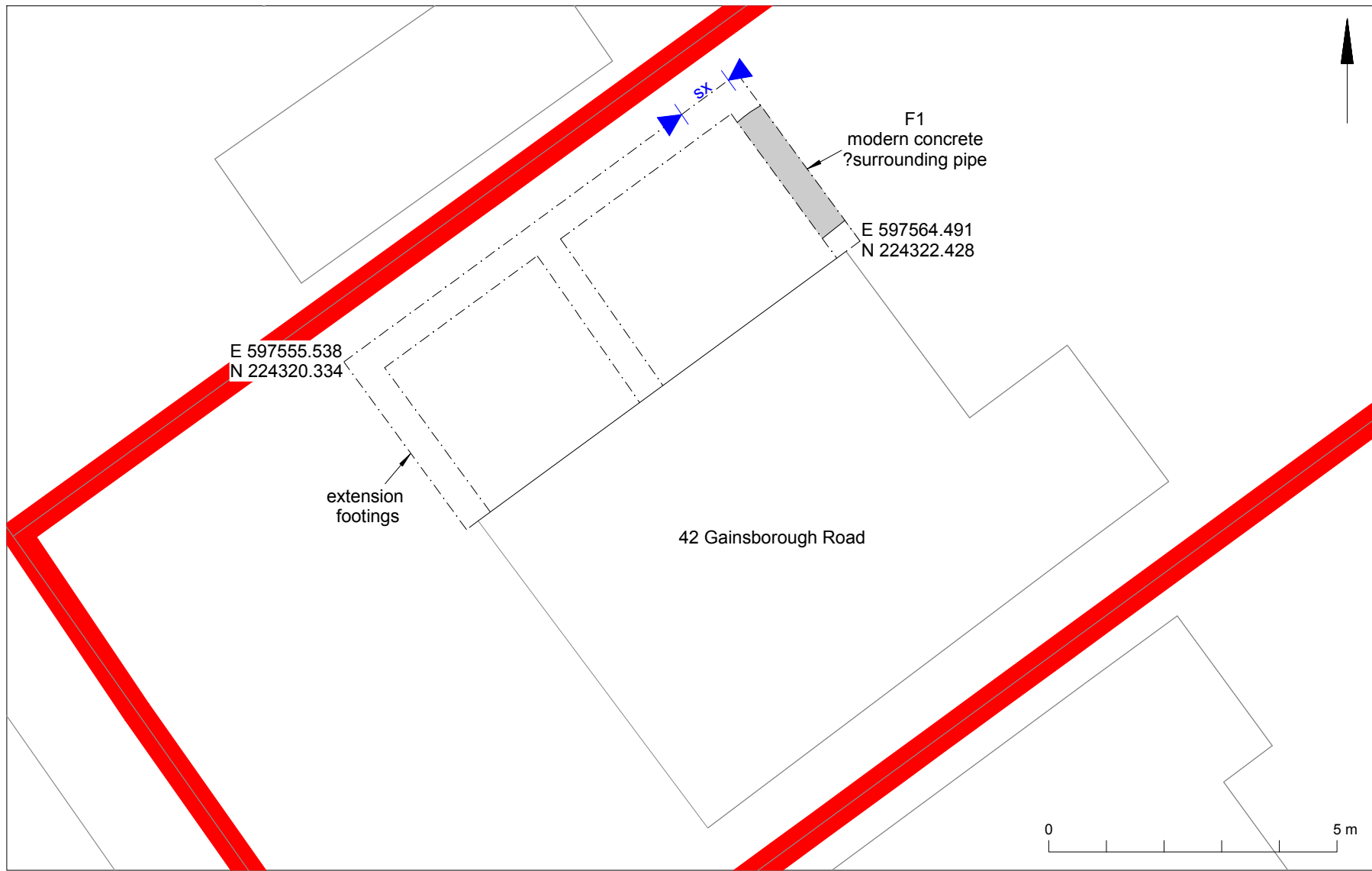


Fig 2 Results

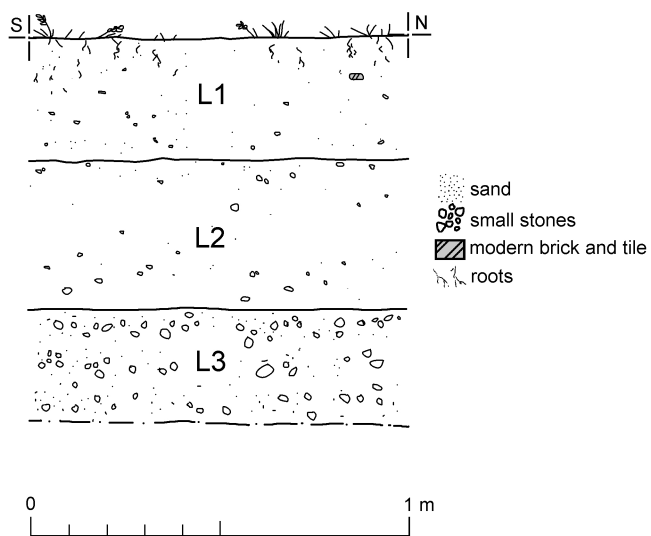


Fig 3 Representative section.

Essex Historic Environment Record/ Essex Archaeology and History

Summary sheet

Address: 42 Gainsborough Road, Colchester, Essex, CO3 4QW	
Parish: Colchester	District: Colchester
NGR: TL 9756 2432 (centre)	Site code: CAT project ref.: 18/06f CHER ref: ECC4237 OASIS ref: colchest3-320215
Type of work: Monitoring	Site director/group: Colchester Archaeological Trust
Date of work: 26th-27th June 2018	Size of area investigated: 0.036ha
Location of curating museum: Colchester museum accession code COLEM: 2018.58	Funding source: Developer
Further seasons anticipated? no	Related CHER/SMR number: NHLE no.1019966; CHER MCC2095, MCC2096, MCC2101, MCC8706
Final report: CAT Report 1321	
Periods represented: Modern	
Summary of fieldwork results: Archaeological monitoring was carried out at 42 Gainsborough Road, Colchester during the construction of a two-storey structure. Despite being located close to both the Lexden and Prettygate Dykes, the only archaeological feature was a modern foundation or service haunching.	
Previous summaries/reports: None	
CBC monitor: Jess Tipper	
Keywords: -	Significance: none
Author of summary: Dr Elliott Hicks	Date of summary: September 2018

Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) for continuous archaeological monitoring and recording at 42 Gainsborough Road, Colchester, Essex, CO3 4QW

NGR: TL 9756 2432 (centre)

Planning references: 173057

Client: Barry Kellegher

Curating museum: Colchester

Museum accession code: [tbc](#)

CHER event number: [tbc](#)

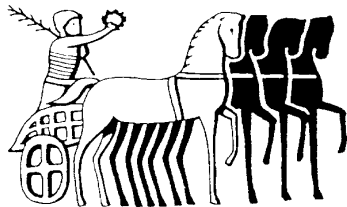
CAT project code: 18/06f

OASIS project number: colchest3-320215

Site manager: Chris Lister

CBC monitor: Jess Tipper

This WSI written: 19.6.2018



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Site location and description

The proposed development site lies approximately 2.4km to the southwest of Colchester town centre at 42 Gainsborough Road, Colchester, backing onto Philip Morant School and College (Fig 1). Site centre is NGR TL 9756 2432.

Proposed work

The development comprises the demolition of the existing garage and construction of a two-storey structure in the area previously occupied by the garage.

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 (CHER) and the Essex Historic Environment Record (EHER).

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). Significantly Lexden Dyke Middle, a scheduled monument (NHLE no.1019966), runs SE-NW across the rear of the property (*CAR 11*, 9) (CHER MCC2096). The development site is also located within 50m of the Prettygate junction (to the southeast) where the Lexden Dykes, Prettydate Dyke (MCC1742), Heath Farm Dyke Middle (MCC2095) and Heath Farm Dyke North (MCC2101) converge, and several excavations have taken place here (*CAR 11*, 46-52).

Also located immediately to the rear of the property is a WWII anti-tank ditch and defence line (MCC8706).

Planning background

A planning application was made to Colchester Borough Council in November 2017 (application no. 173057) proposing the demolition of the existing garage and construction of a two-storey structure in the area previously occupied by the garage.

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* (ClfA 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) and 10% of linear features (ditches, etc).

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.

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

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. Samples will be processed by trained CAT staff and the flots sent to Val Fryer / Lisa Gray for analysis and reporting. 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:

small finds, metalwork, coins, etc: Laura Pooley

animal bones (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) / staff at Norfolk Museum
Service Conservation Team

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 5-18 of the Code of Practice of the above act. This refers primarily to gold or silver objects/coins, and other artefacts deliberately deposited with those items.

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:

- The aims and methods adopted in the course of the archaeological project
- Location plan of trenches in relation to the proposed development. At least two corners of each trench 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 | <i>Archaeological Archives: A guide to best practice in creation, compilation, transfer and curation</i> |
| CAR 11 | 1995 | <i>Colchester Archaeological Report 11: Camunlodunum 2</i> by C F C Hawkes and P Crummy |
| CAT | 2014 | <i>Health & Safety Policy</i> |
| CBCPS | 2018 | <i>Brief for continuous archaeological monitoring and recording at 42 Gainsborough Road, Colchester, CO3 4QW</i> , by J Tipper |
| ClfA | 2014a | <i>Standard and Guidance for an archaeological watching brief</i> |
| ClfA | 2014b | <i>Standard and guidance for the collection, documentation, conservation and research of archaeological materials</i> |
| Crummy, P | 1997 | <i>City of Victory. The Story of Colchester – Britain's first Roman town</i> |
| DCLG | 2012 | <i>National Planning Policy Framework</i> |
| English Heritage | 2006 | <i>Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment (MoRPHE)</i> |
| Gurney, G | 2003 | <i>Standards for field archaeology in the East of England</i> . East Anglian Archaeology Occasional Papers 14 (EAA 14). |
| 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) |

L Pooley



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Fig 1 Site location

0 50 m

OASIS DATA COLLECTION FORM: England

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Printable version

OASIS ID: colchest3-320215

Project details

Project name	Archaeological monitoring at 42 Gainsborough Road, Colchester, Essex, CO3 4QW
Short description of the project	Archaeological monitoring was carried out at 42 Gainsborough Road, Colchester during the construction of a two-storey structure. Despite being located close to both the Lexden and Prettygate Dykes, the only archaeological feature was a modern foundation or service haunching.
Project dates	Start: 26-06-2018 End: 27-06-2018
Previous/future work	No / Not known
Any associated project reference codes	18/06f - Contracting Unit No.
Any associated project reference codes	173057 - Planning Application No.
Any associated project reference codes	COLEM 2018.58 - Museum accession ID
Any associated project reference codes	ECC4237 - 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 42 Gainsborough Road
Postcode	CO3 4QW
Study area	0.04 Hectares

Site coordinates TL 9756 2432 51.88186442552 0.870781803862 51 52 54 N 000 52 14 E Point

Project creators

Name of Organisation Colchester Archaeological Trust
Project brief originator CBC Archaeological Officer
Project design originator Laura Pooley
Project director/manager Chris Lister
Project supervisor Nigel Rayner
Type of sponsor/funding body Owner

Project archives

Physical Archive Exists? No
Digital Archive recipient Colchester Museum
Digital Archive ID COLEM 2018.58
Digital Media available "Images raster / digital photography"
Paper Archive recipient Colchester Museum
Paper Archive ID COLEM 2018.58
Paper Media available "Context sheet", "Drawing", "Photograph", "Report"

Project bibliography 1

Publication type Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)
Title Archaeological monitoring at 42 Gainsborough Road, Colchester, Essex, CO3 4QW: August 2018
Author(s)/Editor(s) Hicks, E.
Other bibliographic details CAT Report 1321
Date 2018
Issuer or publisher Colchester Archaeological Trust
Place of issue or publication Colchester
Description A4 loose-leaf ringbound
URL <http://cat.essex.ac.uk>

Entered by Elliott Hicks (eh2@catuk.org)
Entered on 4 September 2018

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