Colchester Archaeological Trust



CAT Report 1945 issued June 2023

Archaeological evaluation at Wild Oaks, East Hanningfield Road, Sandon, Essex, CM2 7TQ: May 2023



CAT project ref.: 2023/04g EHER code: SAWO23b

Archaeological evaluation at Wild Oaks, East Hanningfield Road, Sandon, Essex, CM2 7TQ: May 2023

NGR: TL 75100 02999 (centre)

Planning district.: Chelmsford Planning ref.: 22/01714/FUL

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EHER code: SAWO23b ECC monitor: Mark Baister OASIS id: colchest3-515312

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fieldwork by Nigel Rayner, George Williams & Ziya Eksen

commissioned by Vicki Coleman, Apple Green Developments Ltd on behalf of Hilliams Property Ltd

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Issued:	22/06/23	

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1 Summary

An archaeological evaluation (two trial-trenches) was carried out at Wild Oaks, East Hanningfield Road, Sandon in advance of the construction of two new dwellings. The evaluation took place within the grounds of a late 19th-/early 20th-century building, with a Roman wine jar and coins recovered from a boundary ditch west of the site. However, no archaeological remains were encountered during the evaluation.

2 Introduction (Fig 1)

This is the report for an archaeological evaluation carried out by Colchester Archaeological Trust (CAT) at Wild Oaks, East Hanningfield Road, Sandon on 25th May 2023. The work was commissioned by Vicki Coleman of Apple Green Developments Ltd on behalf of Hilliams Property Ltd, and took place in advance of the demolition of the existing dwelling and garage and the construction of two replacement dwellings with detached garages, including formation of access.

In response to consultation with Essex County Council Place Services (ECCPS), the Historic Environment Advisor 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 the *National Planning Policy Framework* (MHCLG 2021).

All archaeological work was carried out in accordance with a *Brief for Archaeological Historic Building Recording and Trial Trenching at Site at Wild Oaks, East Hanningfield Road, Sandon* by Mark Baister and detailing the required archaeological work (ECCPS 2022). A written scheme of investigation (WSI) was prepared by CAT in response to the brief and agreed with ECCPS (CAT 2023).

In addition to the brief and WSI, all fieldwork and reporting was done in accordance with *Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment (MoRPHE)* (Historic England 2016), and with *Standards for field archaeology in the East of England* (EAA **14** and **24**). This report mirrors standards and practices contained in the Institute for Archaeologists' *Standard and guidance for archaeological field evaluation* (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 includes extracts of the ECC Brief and Essex Historic Environment Records (EHER) held at Essex County Council, County Hall, Chelmsford, Essex (accessed via http://www.heritagegateway.org.uk).

The Geology of Britain viewer (1:50,000 scale¹) shows the bedrock geology of the site to be Claygate member (clay, silt and sand). The proposed development site is located in the southwest of the village of Sandon, adjacent to Howe Green. The building proposed for demolition first appears on historic mapping in 1919 (Map 1), giving it a construction date of between 1895 and 1919. In addition to the historic building, immediately west of the development site, a Roman wine jar and coins were reportedly recovered from a boundary ditch (EHER 5581).

4 Aims

The aims of the archaeological evaluation were to record the extent of any surviving archaeological deposits and to assess the archaeological potential of the site to allow the ECCHEA to determine if further investigation is required.

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

5 Results (Figs 2-3 and Appendix 1)

Two trial-trenches covering an area of 36m² were machine-excavated under the supervision of a CAT archaeologist. Site stratigraphy was topsoil (L1, *c* 0.22m thick) overlying natural (L2, *c* 0.26m thick). A sondage was excavated in both trenches. There were no archaeological remains.



Photograph 1 Trench 1, view east.



Photograph 2 Trench 2, view north.



Photograph 3 Trench 1, representative section and sondage, view north.

6 Finds

No finds were recovered from site.

7 Conclusion

There were no archaeological remains uncovered during the evaluation at Wild Oaks, East Hanningfield Road, Sandon.

8 Acknowledgements

CAT would like to thank Vicki Coleman of Apple Green Developments Ltd and Hilliams Property Ltd for commissioning and funding the project. The project was managed by A Wightman and L Pooley, with fieldwork carried out by N Rayner with G Williams and Z Eksen. Figures were compiled by L Pooley and E Holloway. The project was monitored for ECCPS by Mark Baister.

9 References

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

Brown, N & Glazebrook, J	2000	Research and Archaeology: A Framework for the Eastern Counties 2. Research agenda and strategy. East Anglian Archaeology Occasional Paper 8(EAA8)
CAT	2023	Health &Safety Policy
CAT	2023	Written scheme of investigation for historic building recording and archaeological evaluation at Wild Oaks, East Hanningfield Road, Sandon by S Veasey
CIfA	2014a	Standard and Guidance for archaeological evaluation. Revised October 2020
CIfA	2014b	Standard and guidance for the collection, documentation, conservation and research of archaeological materials. Revised October 2020
CIfA	2014c	Code of Conduct. Revised October 2022
ECCPS	2022	Brief for Archaeological Historic Building Recording and Trial Trenching at Site at Wild Oaks, East Hanningfield Road, Sandon by M Baister
Gurney, D	2003	Standards for field archaeology in the East of England. East Anglian Archaeology Occasional Papers 14(EAA14)
Historic England	2016	Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment (MoRPHE)
Medlycott, M	2011	Research and archaeology revisited: A revised framework for the East of England. East Anglian Archaeology Occasional Papers 24(EAA 24)
MHCLG	2021	National Planning Policy Framework Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government

10 Abbreviations and glossary

CAT	Colchester Archaeological Trust
ClfA	Chartered Institute for Archaeologists
ECC	Essex County Council
ECCHEA	Essex County Council Historic Environment Advisor
ECCPS	Essex County Council Place Services
EHER	Essex Historic Environment Record
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
section	(abbreviation sx or Sx) vertical slice through feature/s or layer/s
WSI	written scheme of investigation

11 Archive deposition

Digital record: This project falls within the CIfA definition of a sterile project (https://www.archaeologists.net/selection-toolkit/sterile-projects), and as such the preserved archaeological archive will take the form of a single digital document that incorporates all the relevant elements from the project archive. This document will be uploaded to OASIS and released into the Archaeological Data Service (ADS) library, from where it will be curated by the ADS. The single digital document will include the report, brief, wsi, photographs, and original site data (for example context sheets, section drawings).

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Distribution list:

Vicki Coleman, Apple Green Developments Ltd Hilliams Property Ltd ECC Place Services Historic Environment Advisor Essex Historic Environment Record, Essex County Council

Appendix 1 Context list

Context	Finds	Identification	Description	Date
	no.			
L1	-	Topsoil	Soft, moist mid grey silty clay with >1% stone.	Modern
L2	-	Natural	Firm, friable moist light orangish grey clay with frequent 10% stone.	Post-glacial

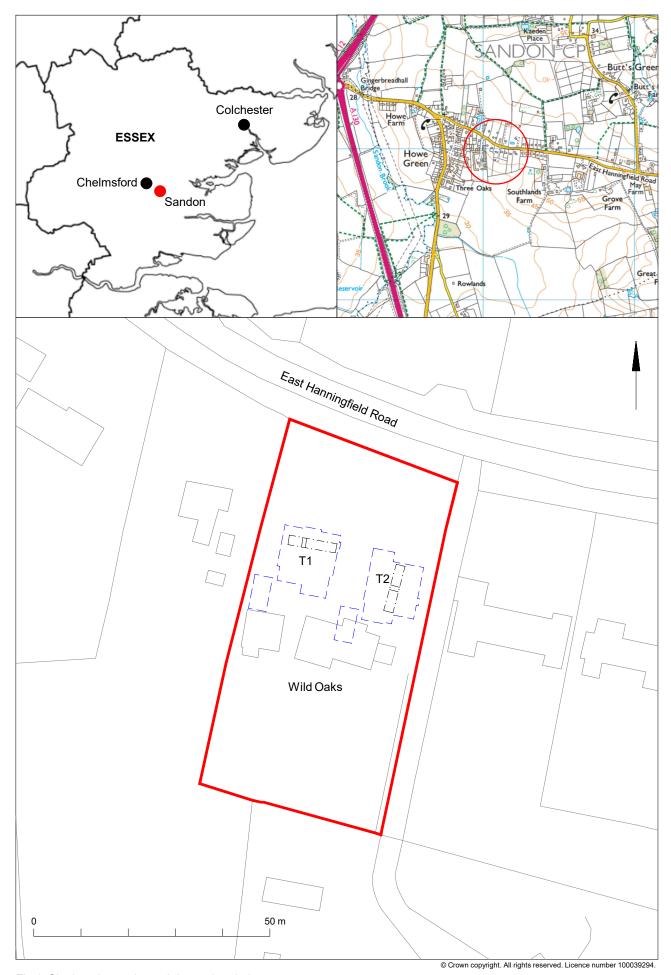


Fig 1 Site location and trench layout in relation to the proposed development (dashed blue).

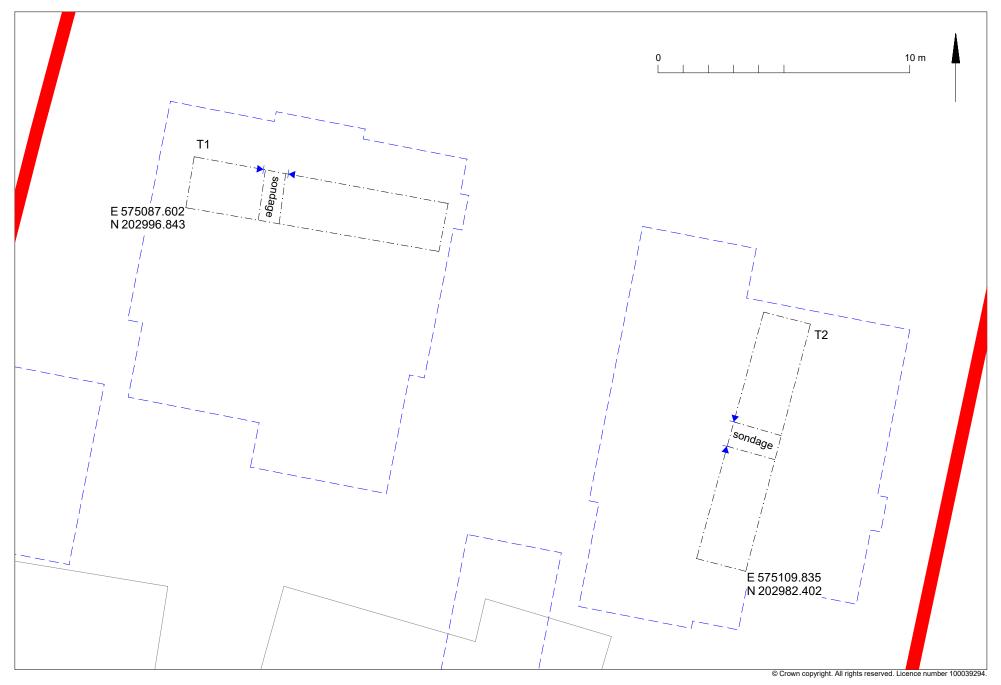
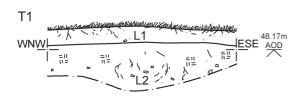


Fig 2 Results



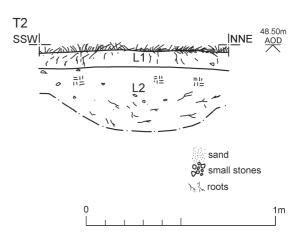


Fig 3 Representative sections.

Summary for colchest3-515312

OASIS ID (UID)	colchest3-515312
Project Name	Archaeological evaluation at Wild Oaks, East Hanningfield Road, Sandon, Essex, CM2 7TQ
Sitename	Wild Oaks, East Hanningfield Road, Sandon, Essex, CM2 7TQ
Activity type	Evaluation
Project Identifier(s)	2023/04g
Planning Id	22/01714/FUL
Reason For Investigation	Planning: Post determination
Organisation Responsible for work	Colchester Archaeological Trust
Project Dates	25-May-2023 - 25-May-2023
Location	Wild Oaks, East Hanningfield Road, Sandon, Essex, CM2 7TQ NGR: TL 75100 02999
	LL: 51.69842070135012, 0.532325452244673
	12 Fig : 575100,202999
Administrative Areas	Country : England
	County: Essex
	District : Chelmsford
	Parish : Sandon
Project Methodology	Archaeological evaluation (two trial-trenches) carried out as specified by the project brief and wsi.
Project Results	An archaeological evaluation (two trial-trenches) was carried out at Wild Oaks, East Hanningfield Road, Sandon in advance of the construction of two new dwellings. The evaluation took place within the grounds of a late 19th-/early 20th-century building, with a Roman wine jar and coins recovered from a boundary ditch west of the site. However, no archaeological remains were encountered during the evaluation.
Keywords	
Funder	
HER	Essex HER - unRev - STANDARD
Person Responsible for work	Tabitha, Lawrence
HER Identifiers	HER Event No - SAWO23b
Archives	