

**NEW FOOTBRIDGE
CHAPPEL
ESSEX**

ARCHAEOLOGICAL MONITORING AND RECORDING



**Essex County Council
Field Archaeology Unit**

October 2010

**NEW FOOTBRIDGE
CHAPPEL
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ARCHAEOLOGICAL MONITORING AND RECORDING

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| | ECC Historic Environment Management |
| | Essex Historic Environment Record |
| | Colchester Museum |

As part of our desire to provide a quality service, we would welcome any comments you may have on the content or the presentation of this report.

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EHER SUMMARY SHEET

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| Site Name/Address: New Footbridge, Chappel, Essex | |
| Parish: Chappel | District: Colchester |
| NGR: TL 8947 2835 | Site Code: CHAFB10 |
| Type of Work: Archaeological Monitoring and Recording | Site Director/Team: Phillippa Sparrow (ECC FAU) |
| Dates of Work: 21st & 22nd September 2010 | Size of Area Investigated: 25m ² |
| Curating Museum: Colchester Museum | Funding Source: Mouchel |
| Further Work Anticipated? No | Related HER Nos. None |
| Final Report: Summary in EAH | OASIS Ref: 84465 |
| Periods Represented: None | |
| <p>SUMMARY OF FIELDWORK RESULTS:</p> <p>An archaeological monitoring and recording project was undertaken to observe groundworks for a temporary replacement footbridge, located adjacent to the extant road bridge which will be repaired. The current road bridge lies across the River Colne in the village of Chappel, along The Street, off Colchester Road. The road links the east-west running Colchester Road to the east-west running A120, both roads of Roman origins. The remains of a Roman villa have been uncovered at Great Tey and are protected as a scheduled monument. This would indicate the presence of a road nearby. A mosaic floor (HER 8774) has been reported from behind the school at Chappel which would suggest the presence of a high status Roman dwelling. The Swann Inn dates to the 17th century and is located on the banks of the river by the road bridge. The origins of the road bridge and ford over the River Colne can be traced to the 1st edition OS (c.1870) and are likely to be much earlier.</p> <p>The groundworks comprised the removal, by mechanical excavator, of topsoil to a depth of 0.35m to 0.4m on both banks of the River Colne, to the east of the current road bridge (Fig. 1, Plate 1). The northern bank excavation partially revealed a heavily rooted made ground layer comprising gravelly silty sand containing modern ceramic tiles and glass shards. Two drain pipes were cut into this layer.</p> <p>The southern bank had clearly been cut into in the recent past, as a sand bag wall had been created in order to stabilise the bank (Plate 2). The excavation of topsoil revealed a gravelly made ground layer containing modern waste items, such as a crisp packet.</p> <p>No archaeological finds or features were identified as the excavation did not extend down to the archaeological horizon. The made ground layers on both banks and the sand bag wall on the south bank are evidence of modern alteration to the river banks.</p> | |
| Previous Summaries/Reports: None | |
| Author of Summary: P. Sparrow | Date of Summary: 6th October 2010 |

Plates



Plate 1. Northern bank stripped of topsoil. Looking north. 1m scale.



Plate 2. Southern bank. Looking south. 1m scale.

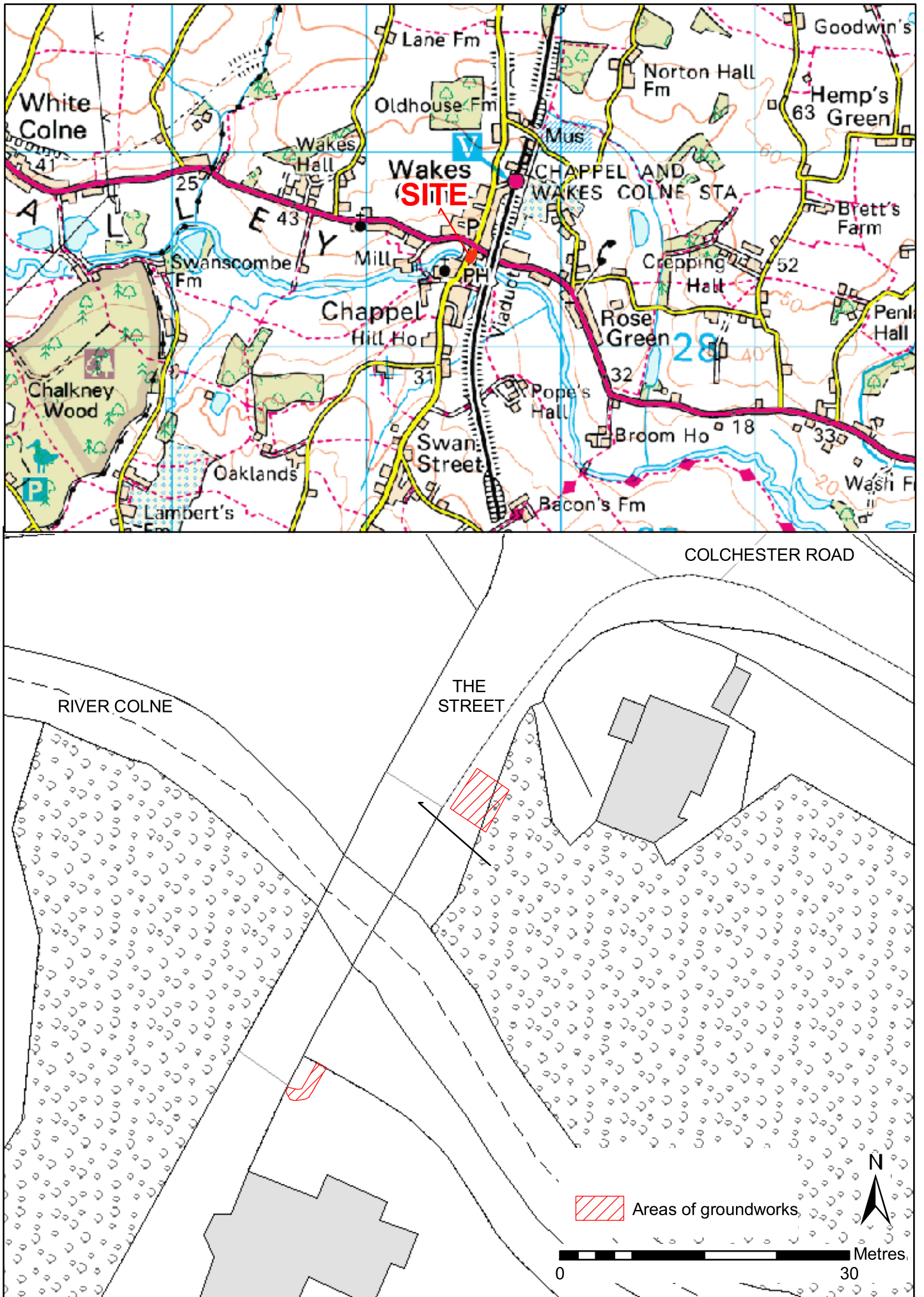


Fig. 1. Site Location