

Archaeological investigation at Upper Castle Park, High Street, Colchester, Essex, CO1 1TJ

August 2021



by **Emma Holloway**

with contributions by Dr Matthew Loughton

fieldwork and figures by E Holloway

on behalf of **Colchester Borough Council**

NGR: TL 99851 25497 (centre)

CAT project ref.: 2021/08k

CHER code: ECC4658

OASIS ref.: colchest3-429253



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CAT Report 1707

February 2022

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1 Summary

An archaeological investigation was carried out at Upper Castle Park, Colchester, Essex during the excavation of a pit for a commemorative tree on the site of an existing tree that had died. Upper Castle Park is a Grade II listed park and garden within the scheduled ancient monument of Colchester Castle. There were no archaeological remains as groundworks did not extend beyond layers of modern date.

2 Introduction (Fig 1)

This is the report for an archaeological investigation at Upper Castle Park, Colchester, Essex which was carried out on 31st August 2021. The work was commissioned by Colchester Borough Council, and was carried out by Colchester Archaeological Trust (CAT) during the excavation of a pit for a new cork oak tree to replace an existing tree that had died.

In response to consultation with Dr Jess Tipper, Historic England Inspector of Ancient Monuments (HEIAM) it was advised that the works should go ahead under the supervision of a CAT archaeologist (Scheduled Ancient Monument consent number S00241781). A written scheme of investigation (WSI) was prepared by CAT in advance of the groundworks and agreed the HEIAM.

In addition to the WSI, all fieldwork and reporting was done in accordance with *Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment (MoRPHE)* (Historic England 2015), 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 Colchester Archaeological Trust report archive and the Colchester Historic Environment Record (CHER) (accessed via Colchester Heritage Explorer, <https://colchesterheritage.co.uk>).

The surface geology of the Castle Park area is a mix of Kesgrave sands and gravels and London clay. The south-western corner of the park is dominated by the 11th-century Norman castle keep and its associated earthwork defences (MCC1732). The Castle Park grounds were landscaped by Charles Gray of Hollytrees in the early 18th century. The site was sold to Colchester Borough in 1892 for the creation of a public park, laid out by Backhouse & Co. of York in the late 19th century. The majority of the park is a Scheduled Monument (SM EX 1, HA 1002217) and the park is a Registered historic park and garden.

Evidence for a number of Roman town houses (including MCC852, MCC854 and MCC856), walls, tessellated pavements, metalled streets, masonry drains and a water works have been recorded within the park, much of this is summarised by Hull (1958), Crummy (*CAR 6*) and Brooks (1997). The park also contains the site of the Temple of Claudius (MCC1830). The base of the temple is preserved beneath the Norman Castle. Crossing through the centre of the park is the town wall (MCC859), a dominant feature. The current site is located just to the south of the wall.

CAT have carried out numerous investigations within Castle Park, the nearest to the current site is a UKPN repair in 2017 which revealed layers dating to the modern, post-medieval and medieval periods, recorded to a depth of 0.45-0.7m below current ground level. Two patches of demolition material were recorded at the western-end of the trench and despite containing Roman material, they sealed medieval layer L3. The whole area had been badly disturbed by modern electrical cabinets and cables (CAT Report 1086).

4 Aim

The aim of the archaeological monitoring was to identify and record any archaeological contexts revealed during groundworks.

5 Results (Figs 2-3)

A pit was dug into the grass slope between the band stand area and the Roman town wall. The pit covered an area of 0.207m² and was excavated to a depth of 0.4m below current ground level.

The trench was excavated through modern upper topsoil (L1, 0.08-0.1m thick. Comprised of hard, dry, light to mid-brown leached humic loam) and lower modern topsoil (L2, 0.31-0.33m deep to the base of the tree pit. Fill was firm, dry mid-grey silty loam).



Photograph 1 Tree pit shot looking southeast



Photograph 2 Tree pit shot looking northeast

6 Finds

by Matthew Loughton

The watching brief uncovered 11 sherds of pottery and ceramic building material (henceforth CBM) with a weight of 159g (Table 1). The assemblage contained a variety of Roman, medieval, and post-medieval material which all came from the lower topsoil (L2). Roman finds included several tesserae cubes and sherds of greyware (fabric GX) and Coarse oxidised (fabric DJ) pottery. Post-Roman ceramics included sherds of Colchester-type ware (c 1200-1550), post-medieval red earthenwares (c 1500-19th/20th century) and peg-tile (medieval-post medieval). None of the pottery and CBM was retained.

Ceramic material	Number	Weight (g)	MSW (g)
Pottery	5	36	7
CBM	6	123	21
Total	11	159	14

Table 1 Details on the main types of ceramics and pottery

Small fragments of Roman brick and modern polystyrene were noted in L1 and fragments of oyster shell and a piece of modern plastic in L2, these were not retained.

7 Conclusion

Archaeological monitoring at Lower Castle Park did not exceed layers of modern date and therefore did not penetrate deep enough to reach archaeological features.

8 Acknowledgements

CAT thanks Tim Betts and Colchester Borough Council for commissioning and funding the work. The project was managed by A Wightman, fieldwork was carried out by E Holloway. The project was monitored for Historic England by Dr Jess Tipper.

9 References

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

- Brooks, H 1997 *A Historical Survey of Castle Park (Report for Council 1997)*
- 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** (EAA **8**)
- CAR 6 1992 *Colchester Archaeological Report 6: Excavations at Culver Street, the Gilbert School, and miscellaneous sites in Colchester 1971-1985.* By P Crummy
- CAR 7 2000 *Colchester Archaeological Report 7: Post-Roman pottery from excavations in Colchester, 1971-85.* By J P Cotter
- CAR 10 1999 *Colchester Archaeological Report 10: Roman pottery from excavations in Colchester, 1971-86.* By R Symmonds
- CAT 2021 *Health & Safety Policy*
- CAT 2021 *Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) for an archaeological investigation at Upper Colchester Castle Park, High Street, Colchester, Essex, CO1 1TJ*
- CAT Report 1086 2017 *Archaeological monitoring and recording at Colchester Castle Park, Colchester, Essex – March 2017.* By L Pooley
- ClfA 2014a *Standard and Guidance for archaeological watching briefs*
- ClfA 2014b *Standard and guidance for the collection, documentation, conservation and research of archaeological materials*
- Drury, P J 1982 *Aspects of the origins and development of Colchester castle in the archaeological journal vol.139*
- Gurney, D 2003 *Standards for field archaeology in the East of England.* East Anglian Archaeology Occasional Papers **14** (EAA **14**)
- Historic England 2015 *Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment (MoRPHE)*
- Hull, M R 1958 *Roman Colchester*
- Medlycott, M 2011 *Research and archaeology revisited: A revised framework for the East of England.* East Anglian Archaeology Occasional Papers **24** (EAA **24**)
- MHCLG 2019 *National Planning Policy Framework.* Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government

10 Abbreviations and glossary

CAT	Colchester Archaeological Trust
CBC	Colchester Borough Council
CBCAA	Colchester Borough Council Archaeological Advisor
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
medieval	period from AD 1066 to c 1500
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
peg-tile	rectangular thin tile with peg-hole(s) used mainly for roofing, first appeared c AD1200 and continued in use to present day, but commonly post-medieval to modern
post-medieval	from c AD 1500 to c 1800
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 sx or Sx) vertical slice through feature/s or layer/s
ws	written scheme of investigation

11 Contents of archive

Finds: none retained

Digital record

The report (CAT Report 1707)
CAT written scheme of investigation
Site digital photographs, thumbnails and log
Graphic files
Site data
Survey data

12 Archive deposition

The 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 the Archaeology Data Service under reference number ECC4658.

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Distribution list:

Tim Betts, Colchester Borough Council
Dr Jess Tipper, Historic England
Essex Historic Environment Record



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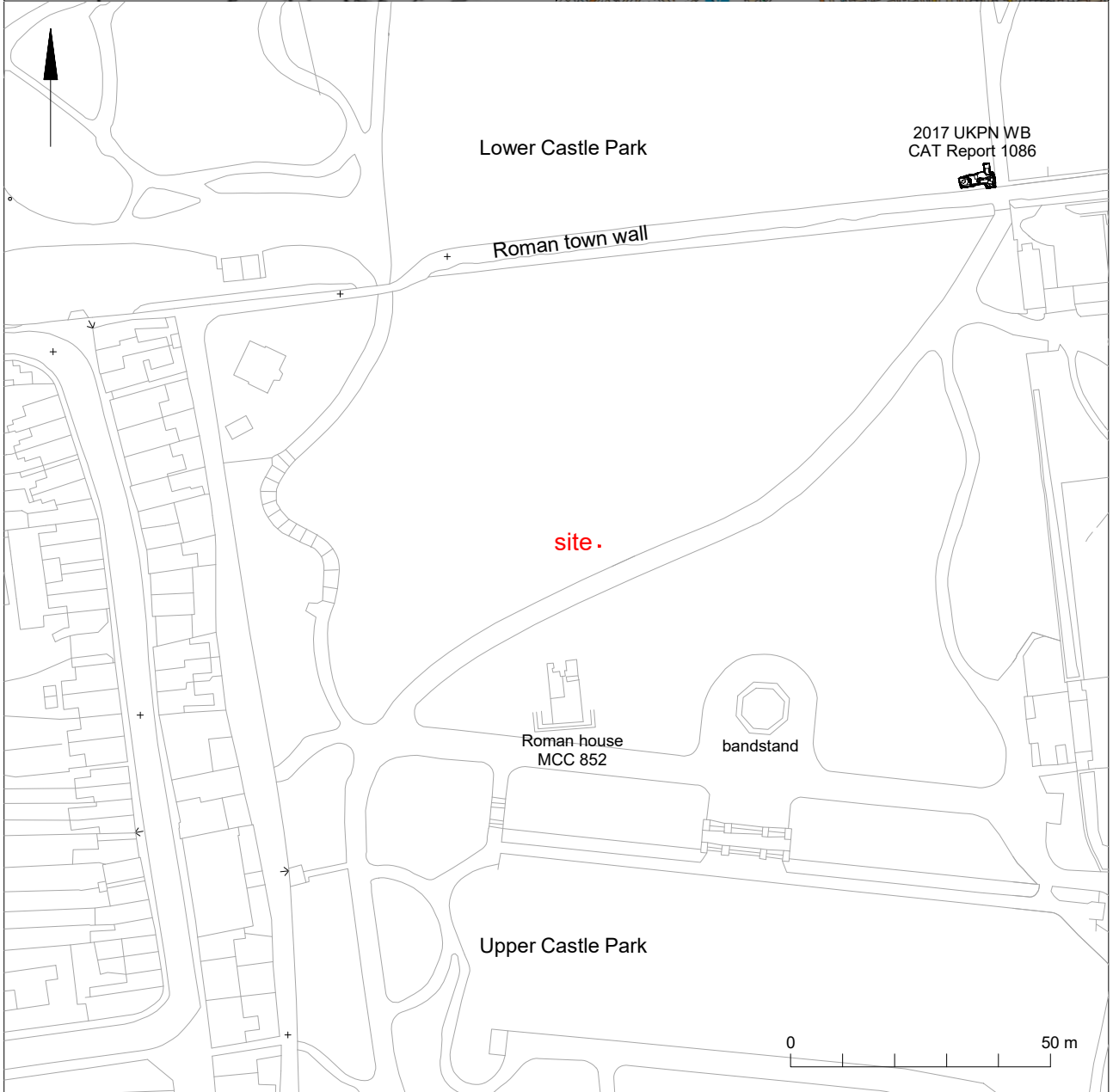
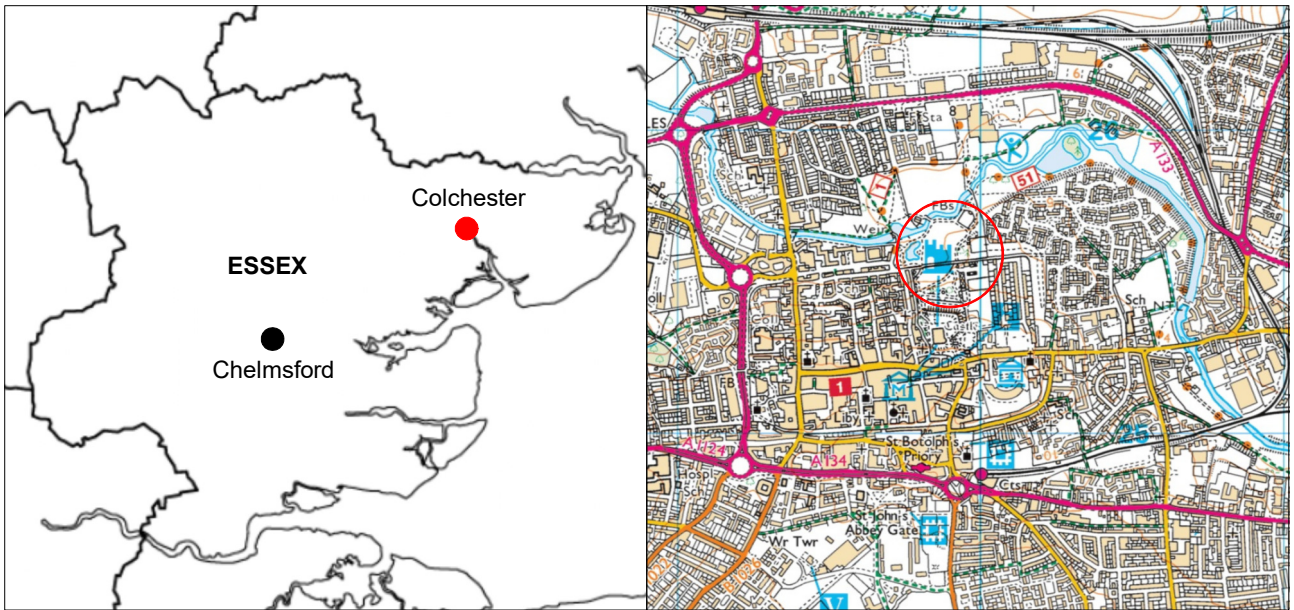


Fig 1 Site location.

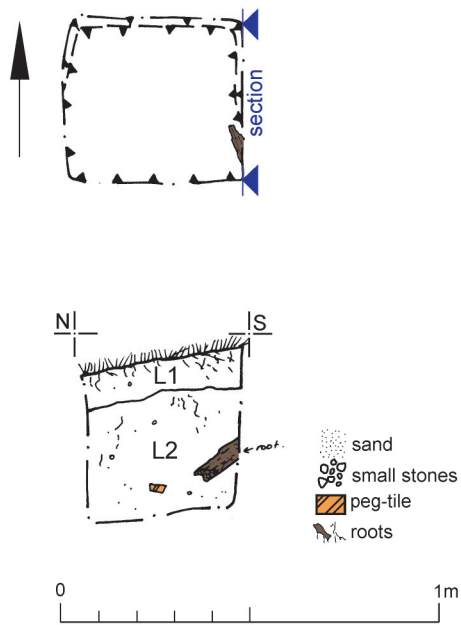


Fig 2 Tree pit plan and section.

Essex Historic Environment Record/ Essex Archaeology and History

Summary sheet

Address: Upper Castle Park, Colchester, Essex, CO1 1UG	
Parish: Colchester	District: Colchester
NGR: TL 99851 25497 (centre)	Site code: CAT project ref.: 2021/08k CHER ref: ECC4658 OASIS ref: colchest3-429253 Scheduled Monument consent number: S00241781
Type of work: Investigation	Site director/group: Colchester Archaeological Trust
Date of work: 31st August 2021	Size of area investigated: 0.21 square meters
Location of curating museum: Archaeology Data Service	Funding source: Colchester Borough Council
Further seasons anticipated? No	Related CHER/SMR number: NHLE 1002217, MCC852, MCC854, MCC856, MCC859, MCC1732 and MCC1830-1
Final report: CAT Report 1707	
Periods represented: Modern	
Summary of fieldwork results: An archaeological investigation was carried out at Upper Castle Park, Colchester, Essex during the excavation of a pit for a commemorative tree on the site of an existing tree that had died. Upper Castle Park is a Grade II listed park and garden within the scheduled ancient monument of Colchester Castle. There were no archaeological remains as groundworks did not extend beyond layers of modern date.	
Previous summaries/reports:	
Historic England Inspector of Ancient Monuments: Dr Jess Tipper	
Keywords: -	Significance: -
Author of summary: Emma Holloway	Date of summary: February 2022

Summary for colchest3-429253

OASIS ID (UID)	colchest3-429253
Project Name	An archaeological investigation at Upper Colchester Castle Park, High Street, Colchester, Essex, CO1 1TJ
Activity type	WATCHING BRIEF
Project Identifier(s)	2021/08k
Planning Id	
Reason For Investigation	Scheduled monument consent
Organisation Responsible for work	Colchester Archaeological Trust
Project Dates	31-Aug-2021 - 31-Aug-2021
Location	Upper Colchester Castle Park, High Street, Colchester NGR : TL 99849 25497 LL : 51.8921832270667, 0.902937268973528 12 Fig : 599849,225497
Administrative Areas	Country : England County : Essex District : Colchester Parish : Colchester, unparished area
Project Methodology	archaeological investigation of the hole for a new commemorative Cork oak tree to be planted in at the site of a former tree that had died expectantly. Work will be carried out in accordance with <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • professional standards of the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists, including its Code of Conduct (CIfA 2014a-c) • East of England Standards and Frameworks published by East Anglian Archaeology (Gurney 2003, Medlycott 2011) and the recent review updates on https://researchframeworks.org/eoe/ • relevant Health & Safety guidelines and requirements (CAT 2021) • Scheduled Monument consent documents
Project Results	An archaeological investigation was carried out at Upper Castle Park, Colchester, Essex during the excavation of a pit for a commemorative tree on the site of an existing tree that had died. Upper Castle Park is a Grade II listed park and garden within the scheduled ancient monument of Colchester Castle. There were no archaeological remains as groundworks did not extend beyond layers of modern date.
Keywords	
HER	Historic England review - unRev - STANDARD
HER Identifiers	HER Event No - ECC4658
Archives	Digital Archive - to be deposited with Archaeology Data Service Archive

Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) for an archaeological investigation at Upper Castle Park, High Street, Colchester, Essex, CO1 1TJ

NGR: TL 99849 25497 (centre)

District: Colchester

Parish: Colchester

Scheduled Monument number: SM EX 1, HA1002217

Scheduled Monument consent case number: requested

Commissioned by: Tim Betts (CBC)

Commissioned by: Colchester Borough Council

Curating museum: Colchester

CHER number: tbc

CAT project code: 2021/08k

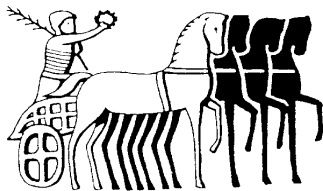
OASIS project number: colchest3-429253

Contracts manager: Chris Lister

Fieldwork manager: Adam Wightman

Historic England Inspector of Ancient Monuments: Dr Jess Tipper

This WSI written: 26.08.2021



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Site location and description

The proposed development is located within a Scheduled Ancient Monument (NHLE number 1002217) c 44m northeast of the bandstand at Upper Colchester Castle Park, High Street, Colchester, Essex (Fig 1) The site is centred at National Grid Reference (NGR) TL 99849 25497.

Proposed work

The project comprises of the erection of a commemorative tree in memory of the late His Royal Highness, The Prince Philip, Duke of Edinburgh, in the same location of a previous tree that died.

Archaeological background

The following archaeological background draws on the Colchester Archaeological Trust report archive and the Colchester Historic Environment Record (CHER/ECC numbers; accessible via Colchester Heritage Explorer (<https://colchesterheritage.co.uk/map>)).

The surface geology of the Castle Park area is a mix of Kesgrave sands and gravels and London clay. The south-western corner of the park is dominated by the 11th-century Norman castle keep and its associated earthwork defences (CHER MCC1732). The Castle Park grounds were landscaped by Charles Gray of Hollytrees in the early 18th century. This included the creation of a raised terrace on the north side of the castle ending in a wooden summerhouse in the form of a tetrastyle Greek temple (CHER MCC3224). The site was sold to Colchester Borough in 1892 for the creation of a public park, laid out by Backhouse & Co. of York in the late 19th century. The war memorial is located on the northern side of the High Street at the entrance to the castle (CHER MCC5420). The majority of the park is a Scheduled Monument (SM EX 1, HA 1002217) and the park is a Registered historic park and garden.

Evidence for a number of Roman town houses (including CHER MCC852, MCC854 and MCC856), walls, tessellated pavements, metalled streets, masonry drains and a water works have been recorded within the park, much of this is summarised by Hull (1958), Crummy (*CAR 6*) and Brooks (1997). Two rooms of one building have been left exposed and a drain near Duncan's Gate (CHER MCC1831) is visible, as are the collapsed remains of the gate itself. The park also contains the site of the Temple of Claudius and its forum (CHER MCC1830). The base of the temple is preserved beneath the Norman Castle. Through the centre of the park the town wall (CHER MCC859) is a dominant feature and a section of the town wall's inner rampart is visible. The current site is located just to the immediate north of the wall and could therefore potentially find evidence of the outer wall defensive ditch (MCC659) and counterscarp bank (MCC1493).

Colchester Castle was built late in the 11th century and provided with defensive earthworks resulting in a diversion of the High Street. South of the Norman Castle is the site of a ?Late Anglo-Saxon chapel (CHER MCC2084) which was presumably replaced by a masonry chapel in the 11th or 12th century following its construction. In addition to the chapel, several stone built buildings have been identified within the Castle's bailey (including CHER MCC2087). Much of the archaeological work immediately south of the castle was undertaken by P.G. Laver in 1931-32 and published in detail by Paul Drury (1982).

Although CAT have carried out numerous investigations within Castle Park the nearest to the current site involved a UKPN repair in 2017 which revealed layers dating to the modern, post-medieval and medieval periods, recorded to a depth of 0.45-0.7m below current ground level. Two patches of demolition material were recorded at the western-end of the trench and despite containing Roman material, they sealed medieval layer L3. The whole area had been badly disturbed by modern electrical cabinets and cables (CAT Report 1086).

Project background

In response to consultation with Dr Jess Tipper, Inspector of Ancient Monuments for Historic England (HEIAM) it was advised that as the site lies within a Scheduled Ancient Monument (NHLE no. 1002217) the tree planting work could go ahead under the supervision of a CAT archaeologist.

As the site is located within a Scheduled Ancient Monument and therefore an area highlighted as having a high potential for archaeological remains Scheduled Monument consent for the works was sought and an archaeological monitoring was recommended by the HEIAM. The recommended archaeological work is based on the guidance given in the *National Planning Policy Framework* (MHCLG 2019).

Requirement for work

The required archaeological work is for an archaeological investigation of the hole for a new commemorative Cork oak tree to be planted in at the site of a former tree that had died unexpectedly and removed in February 2021. The tree pit is not due to exceed 450mm² and 400mm deep.

Specifically:

The investigation is being undertaken to identify and record any surviving archaeological deposits that may exist on site.

If unexpected remains are encountered the HEIAM will be informed immediately and the HEIAM will decide if amendments to the brief are required to ensure adequate provision for archaeological recording.

In the exceptional circumstances that important, well-preserved mosaic floors (or similar remains) are discovered, which cannot otherwise be avoided by the development (and satisfactorily preserved in situ), a contingency will be required for the block-lifting of these archaeological remains, e.g. well-preserved mosaic remains and for subsequent conservation and presentation. A decision about the need for conservation and lifting of important archaeological remains will be made in consultation with specialist stakeholders (e.g. Historic England, Colchester Museum and Norfolk Museums Service, Conservation and Design Services).

The method and form of development will also be monitored to ensure that it conforms to the previously agreed locations and techniques upon which the brief is based. Any variations will be discussed with the HEIAM immediately.

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-c)
- East of England Standards and Frameworks published by East Anglian Archaeology (Gurney 2003, Medlycott 2011) and the recent review updates on <https://researchframeworks.org/eoe/>
- relevant Health & Safety guidelines and requirements (CAT 2021)
- Scheduled Monument consent documents

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 HEIAM 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 Essex Historic Environment Record (EHER). This will include an uploaded .PDF version of the entire report.

A unique HER event number will be obtained from the CBCAA prior to the commencement of fieldwork. The curating museum will be notified of the details of the project and the event code, which will be used to identify the project archive when depositing at the end of the project.

Staffing

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

Investigation 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. The investigation will involve monitoring of all groundworks and inspection of upcast soil.

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

The number and range of samples collected will be adequate to determine the potential of the site, with particular focus on palaeoenvironmental remains including both biological remains (e.g. plants, small vertebrates) and small sized artefacts (e.g. smithing debris), and to provide information for sampling strategies on any future excavation. Samples will be collected for potential micromorphical and other pedological sedimentological analysis. Environmental bulk samples will be 40 litres in size (assuming the context is large enough).

Sampling strategies will address questions of:

- the range of preservation types (charred, mineral-replaced, waterlogged), and their quality
- concentrations of macro-remains
- and differences in remains from undated and dated features
- variation between different feature types and areas of site

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. Trained CAT staff will do any processing and the flots passed to Val Fryer / Lisa Gray for analysis and reporting.

Should any complex, or otherwise outstanding deposits be encountered, VF/LG will be asked onto site to advise. Waterlogged 'organic' features will always be sampled. In all cases, the advice of VF/LG and/or the Historic England Regional Advisor in Archaeological Science (East of England) on sampling strategies for complex or waterlogged deposits will be followed, including the taking of monolith samples.

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 or unless advised to do so by the project osteologist or HEIAM.

The HEIAM will be notified immediately if any human remains are encountered during the monitoring.

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 and seek advice from the project osteologist. Human remains removed from site for analysis this may involve radiocarbon dating (see finds section).

Following Historic England guidance (2018) if the human remains are not to be lifted, the project osteologist should be available to record the human remain *in situ* (i.e. a site visit). Conditions laid down by the DoJ license will be followed. If it seems that the remains are not ancient, then the coroner, the client, and the HEIAM 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. Digital site photographs will be taken and archived as per Historic England guidelines (2015a).

Finds

All significant finds will be retained.

All finds, where appropriate, will be washed and marked with site code and context number. CAT may use local volunteers to assist the CAT Finds Officer with this task.

Most of our finds reports are written internally by CAT Staff under the supervision and direction of Philip Crummy (Director) and Laura Pooley (Post-excavation Manager). This includes specialist subjects such as:

ceramic finds (pottery and ceramic building material): Matthew Loughton
animal bones: Alec Wade (or Adam Wightman, small groups only)

small finds, metalwork, coins, etc: Laura Pooley
non-ceramic bulk finds: Laura Pooley
flints: Adam Wightman
environmental processing: Bronagh Quinn
project osteologist (human remains): Meghan Seehra

or to outside specialists:

animal and human bone: Julie Curl (*Sylvanus*)
environmental assessment and analysis: Val Fryer / Lisa Gray
archaeometallurgy: David Dungworth
radiocarbon dating: SUERC Radiocarbon Dating Laboratory, Glasgow
conservation/x-ray: Laura Ratcliffe (LR Conservation) / Norfolk Museums Service,
Conservation and Design Services

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

flint: Hazel Martingell
prehistoric pottery: Stephen Benfield / Nigel Brown / Paul Sealey
Roman pottery: Stephen Benfield / Paul Sealey / Jo Mills / Gwladys Monteil
Roman brick/tile: Ian Betts (MOLA)
Roman glass: Hilary Cool
small finds: Nina Crummy
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 HEIAM.

A contingency will be made in the budget for scientific assessment/analysis if suitable deposits are identified. This can include soil micromorphological and geochemical analysis of floors and dark earth deposits and/or absolute dating (such as archaeomagnetic and radiocarbon). The Historic England Regional Science Advisor will be consulted for advice.

Results

Notification will be given to HEIAM 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* (Historic England 2015b).

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

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.

A PDF copy of the full report will be uploaded by CAT to the OASIS website and the Colchester Archaeological Trust's Online Report Library (<http://cat.essex.ac.uk/>), both of which are publicly accessible.

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 and provision must be made for additional recording (e.g. photography, illustration and analysis) as appropriate.

The archive will be deposited with Colchester & Ipswich Museum or an alternate repository (approved by COLEM and HEIAM) within 3 months of the completion of the final publication report, with a summary of the contents of the archive supplied to HEIAM. Digital archives will be curated with the Archaeology Data Service, or similar accredited digital archive repository, that safeguard the long-term curation of digital records.

The HEIAM will be notified of the archiving timetable throughout the project and once deposition has occurred.

A digital / vector drawing of the site be given to the CBCAA for integration into the HER.

Monitoring

HEIAM 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 HEIAM one week in advance of its commencement.

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

HEIAM will be notified when the fieldwork is complete.

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

References

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

Brooks, H	1997	<i>A Historical Survey of Castle Park (Report for Council 1997)</i>
Brown, D	2011	<i>Archaeological Archives: A guide to best practice in creation, compilation, transfer and curation</i>
CAR 6	1992	<i>Colchester Archaeological Report 6: Excavations at Culver Street, the Gilbert School, and miscellaneous</i>

CAT	2021	<i>sites in Colchester 1971- 1985. By P Crummy</i>
CAT Report 1086	2017	<i>Health & Safety Policy</i>
		Archaeological monitoring and recording at Colchester Castle
		Park, Colchester, Essex – March 2017. By L Pooley
CifA	2014a	<i>Standard and Guidance for an archaeological watching brief. Revised June 2020</i>
CifA	2014b	<i>Standard and guidance for the collection, documentation, conservation and research of archaeological materials. Updated Oct 2020</i>
CifA	2014c	<i>Code of Conduct. Revised Oct 2019</i>
Drury, P J	1982	Aspects of the origins and development of Colchester castle in
		the archaeological journal vol.139
Gurney, D	2003	<i>Standards for field archaeology in the East of England. East Anglian Archaeology Occasional Papers 14 (EAA 14).</i>
Historic England (HE)	2015a	<i>Digital Image capture and File Storage: Guidelines for best practice. By S Cole & P Backhouse</i>
Historic England (HE)	2015b	<i>Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment (MoRPHE)</i>
Historic England (HE)	2018	<i>The Role of the Human Osteologist in an Archaeological Fieldwork Project. By S Mays, M Brickley and J Sidell</i>
Hull, M R	1958	<i>Roman Colchester</i>
Medlycott, M	2011	<i>Research and archaeology revisited: A revised framework for the East of England. East Anglian Archaeology Occasional Papers 24 (EAA 24)</i>
MHCLG	2019	<i>National Planning Policy Framework. Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government.</i>

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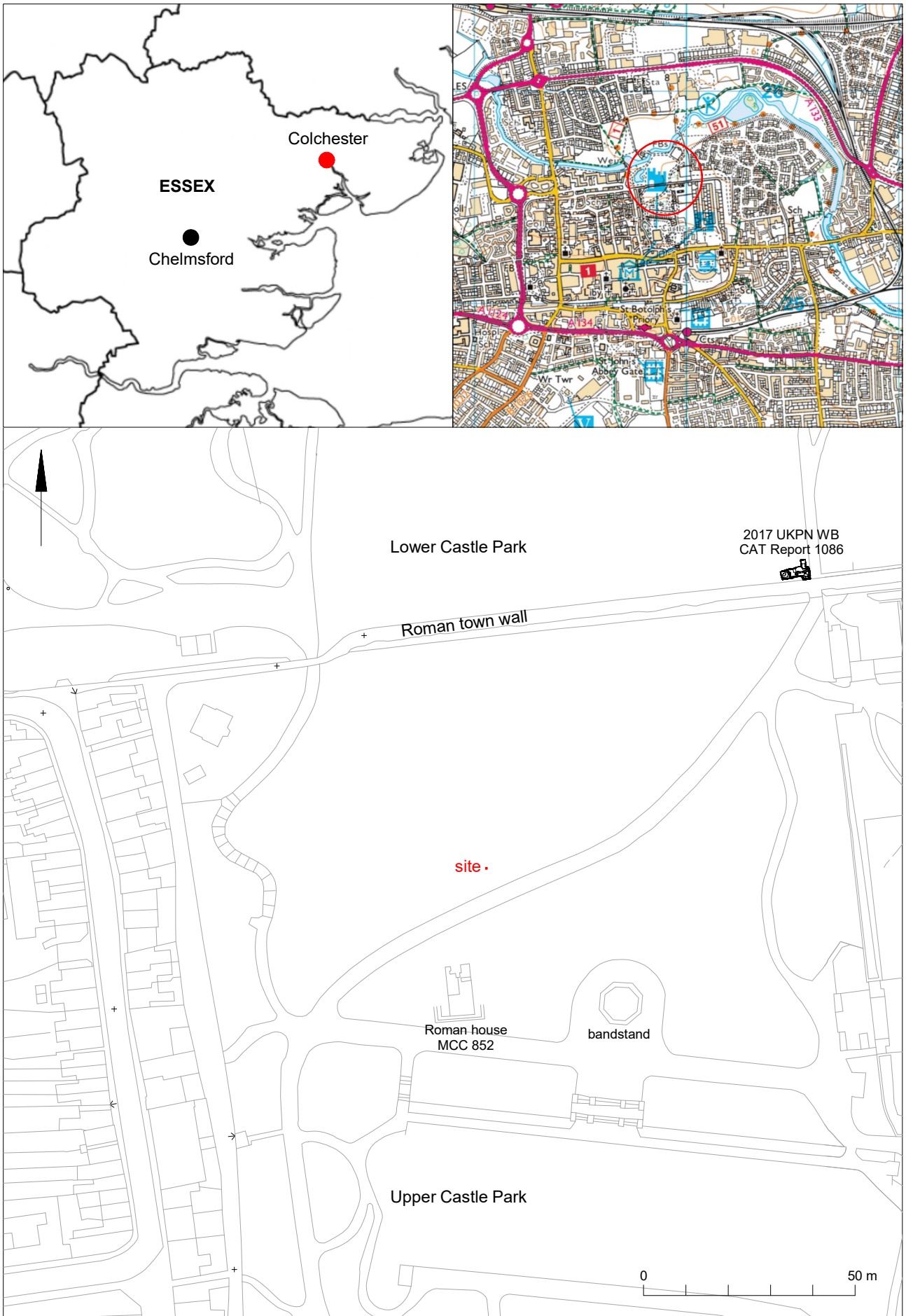


Fig 1 Site location.

Site: Colchester Castle Park tree planting WB Site code: ECC4658

Layer No.

Interpretation Upper topsoil

Period Modern

1

Location

SOIL DESCRIPTION

Consistence very loose soft friable firm hard dry moist wet
✓ ✓ ✓

Colour very light medium dark yellow orange green grey brown black
✓ ✓ ✓

Soil Type sand silt clay loam clay silt sand
✓ ✓

charcoal oyster daub brick tile

Inclusions: flecks

gravel % stone % tile/brick % pot %

Inclusions: pieces

RECORDING SX

Plan nos

Section nos

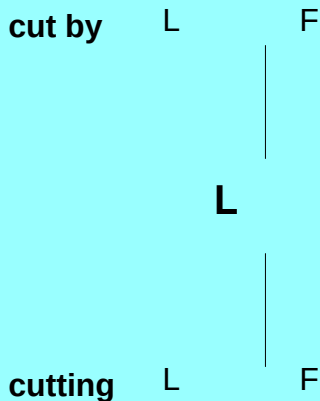
pre-exc ex post-ex

Photos taken

FINDS Small Roman brick fragment and polystyrene (not retained)

Find Nos:

NOTES Thin layer of really hard dry leached mid brown silty loam with occasional fragment of Roman brick and piece of polystyrene (not retained)



By Date

Site: Colchester Castle Park tree planting WB Site code: ECC4658

Layer No.

Interpretation Lower topsoil

Period Modern

Location All of tree hole

2

SOIL DESCRIPTION

Consistence very loose soft friable firm hard dry moist wet
✓ ✓ ✓

Colour very light medium dark yellow orange green grey brown black
✓ ✓

Soil Type sand silt clay loam clay silt sand
✓ ✓
charcoal oyster daub brick tile

Inclusions: flecks

gravel % stone % tile/brick % pot %

Inclusions: pieces

RECORDING

Plan nos

Section nos

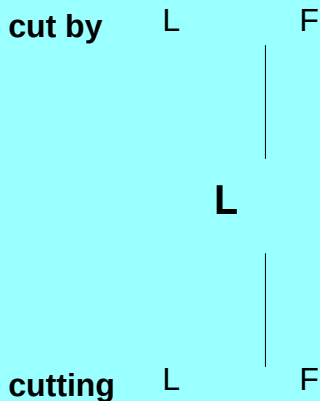
pre-exc ex post-ex

Photos taken

FINDS

Find Nos:

NOTES Hard dry grey brown silty layer with abundant rooting from the previous tree. Finds include tesserae, oyster shell, Roman brick and tile fragments, Roman pottery and post-medieval pottery, peg-tile and a piece of modern plastic.



By Date

Site: Colchester Castle Park tree planting WB

Site code: ECC4658

Feature No. Layer No.

u/s

Find No.

CONTEXT

upper fill

middle fill

lower fill

?

good

poor

?

Notes

Pottery

whole frags prehis Roman Saxon Med Post-med Mod ?
✓ ✓

CBM

R Brick R Tile box tile tessera unfrogged frogged Peg tile
✓ ✓ ✓ P-R Brick ✓

Organics

Animal bone Human bone shell leather wood
✓

other

flint fe nail R glass P-R glass painted plaster mortar slate clay pipe burnt stone

Small Find?

Small Find No.

Small Find type

Sample?

Sample No.

Sample type



001



002



003



004



005



006



007



008

listing

ECC4658 Upper Castle Park tree planting WB

Photographic log

Name	Description
ECC4658_ColchesterCastlePark-TreePlanting_WB_Photo	Rep sx - view E
ECC4658_ColchesterCastlePark-TreePlanting_WB_Photo	Rep sx - view E
ECC4658_ColchesterCastlePark-TreePlanting_WB_Photo	location shot - view SE
ECC4658_ColchesterCastlePark-TreePlanting_WB_Photo	General shot - view NE
ECC4658_ColchesterCastlePark-TreePlanting_WB_Photo	Plan shot - view E
ECC4658_ColchesterCastlePark-TreePlanting_WB_Photo	Ranger Tim backfilling - view E
ECC4658_ColchesterCastlePark-TreePlanting_WB_Photo	Ranger Tim backfilling - view NE
ECC4658_ColchesterCastlePark-TreePlanting_WB_Photo	Ranger Tim prepping location - view NNE