

Archaeological evaluation on land adjacent to Tall Trees, Clacton Road, Frating Hill, Frating, Essex, CO7 7DG

June 2022



by Laura Pooley

figures by Sarah Veasey and Emma Holloway

fieldwork by Sarah Veasey with Oliver Windridge

**commissioned by Andy Cameron of Wright, Ruffle, Cameron
on behalf of the landowner**

NGR: TM 08048 23316 (centre)

Planning ref.: 19/01113/FUL

CAT project ref.: 2022/03e

ECC code: FRCR22

OASIS ref.: colchest3-505963



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CAT Report 1823

July 2022

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1 Summary

An archaeological evaluation (one L-shaped trench) was carried out on land adjacent to Tall Trees, Clacton Road, Frating Hill, Frating in advance of the construction of a new house and garage. Despite being located in an area of extensive cropmarks, there were no archaeological remains.

2 Introduction (Fig 1)

This is the report for an archaeological evaluation carried out by Colchester Archaeological Trust (CAT) on land adjacent to Tall Trees, Clacton Road, Frating Hill, Frating, Essex on the 8th June 2022. The work was commissioned by Andy Cameron of Wright, Ruffle, Cameron on behalf of the landowner, and was carried out in advance of the construction of a new house and garage.

In response to consultation with Essex County Council Place Services (ECCPS), Historic Environment Advisor Teresa O'Connor 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 2019).

All archaeological work was carried out in accordance with a *Brief for Archaeological Evaluation*, written by ECCPS and detailing the required work (ECCPS 2022), and a written scheme of investigation (WSI) prepared by CAT in response to the brief and agreed with ECCPS in advance of the work commencing (CAT 2022).

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 (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 includes extracts from the ECC brief and the Essex Historic Environment Records (EHER) held at Essex County Council, County Hall, Chelmsford, Essex (accessed via <http://www.heritagegateway.org.uk>).

The Historic Environment Record shows that there are extensive archaeological deposits within the area identified from cropmark evidence recorded through aerial photography. Situated immediately to the north of the development area on land west of Morehams Hall lies the remains of a double-ditched enclosure, with linear features running south towards the application site and two small ring-ditches to the north-west (EHER 2536). Further east, on land west of Frating Green, are linear features depicting extensive field boundaries (EHER 17560). To the south there are extensive cropmarks of a field system and enclosures, potentially related to late prehistoric or Roman settlement (EHER 2611, EHER 17569). One of these linear features, if extending north of the Frating Hill Road, would bisect the site. North-west of the site are cropmarks showing a possible curvilinear enclosure (EHER 48544), and aerial photographs taken in 2014 show that although the area is masked by geological deposits and there may be other pits and ditches present. Recent archaeological work on land south-west of the site revealed a thin spread of multi-phase activity ranging from the Neolithic to Roman period (EHER 17574).

4 Aim

The aim of the archaeological evaluation was 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.

5 Results (Figs 2-3)

An L-shaped trench was machine excavated under the supervision of a CAT archaeologist. The trench, 20m and 5.5m long by 1.8m wide, cut through:

- topsoil (L1, c 0.15m thick, mid grey/brown silt) overlying
- subsoil (L2, c 0.25m thick, lighter grey/brown sandy-silt) into
- natural (L3, yellow/orange clayey-sand and gravel, identified at c 0.4m below current ground level, c 28.68-28.86m AOD).

A sondage was excavated to confirm the identification of L3 as natural.

There were no archaeological remains.



Photograph 1 Evaluation trench, looking south



Photograph 2 Evaluation trench, looking west

6 Finds

There were no archaeological finds.

7 Conclusion

Archaeological evaluation did not reveal any archaeological remains, indicating that none of the surrounding cropmarks pass through the development site.

8 Acknowledgements

CAT would like to thank Andy Cameron of Wright, Ruffle, Cameron, and the landowner, for commissioning and funding the work. The project was managed by C Lister, with fieldwork carried out by S Veasey with O Windridge. Figures were compiled by C Lister, S Veasey and E Holloway. The project was monitored for ECCPS by Teresa O'Connor.

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	<i>Research and Archaeology: A Framework for the Eastern Counties 2. Research agenda and strategy.</i> East Anglian Archaeology Occasional Paper 8 (EAA 8)
CAT	2022	<i>Health & Safety Policy</i>
CAT	2022	<i>Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) for an archaeological evaluation on land adjacent to Tall Trees, Clacton Road, Frating Hill, Frating, Essex, CO7 7DG, by E Holloway</i>
CIfA	2014a	<i>Standard and Guidance for archaeological evaluation.</i> Revised October 2020
CIfA	2014b	<i>Standard and guidance for the collection, documentation, conservation and research of archaeological materials.</i> Revised October 2020
CIfA	2014c	<i>Code of Conduct.</i> Revised October 2021
ECCPS	2021	<i>Brief for archaeological trial trenching on land adjacent Tall Trees, Frating Hill, Frating by T O'Connor</i>
Gurney, D	2003	<i>Standards for field archaeology in the East of England.</i> East Anglian Archaeology Occasional Papers 14 (EAA 14).
Historic England	2016	<i>Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment (MoRPHE)</i>
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)
MHCLG	2019	<i>National Planning Policy Framework.</i> Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government.

10 Abbreviations and glossary

CAT	Colchester Archaeological Trust
CIfA	Chartered Institute for Archaeologists
ECC	Essex County Council
ECCHEA	Essex County Council Historic Environment Advisor
ECCPS	Essex County Council Place Services
EHHER	Essex Historic Environment Record
evaluation	a limited programme of non-intrusive and/or intrusive fieldwork, which determines the presence or absence of archaeological features, structures, deposits, artefacts or ecofacts within a specified area. This may take the form of an intrusive investigation of a percentage of the site, geophysical or topographical survey. The results of this investigation will establish the requirements for any further work.
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
prehistoric	the period before AD 43
Roman	the period from AD 43 to c AD 410
section	(abbreviation sx or Sx) vertical slice through feature/s or layer/s
wsI	written scheme of investigation

11 Contents of archive

Digital record

The report (CAT Report 1823)
 ECC evaluation brief, CAT written scheme of investigation
 Site digital photographs, photographic thumbnails and log
 Scan of the section
 Site data
 Graphic files
 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 Archaeological Data Service.

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Distribution list:

Andy Cameron, Wright, Ruffle, Cameron
Landowner
ECC Place Services Historic Environment Advisor
Essex Historic Environment Record, Essex County Council



Colchester Archaeological Trust

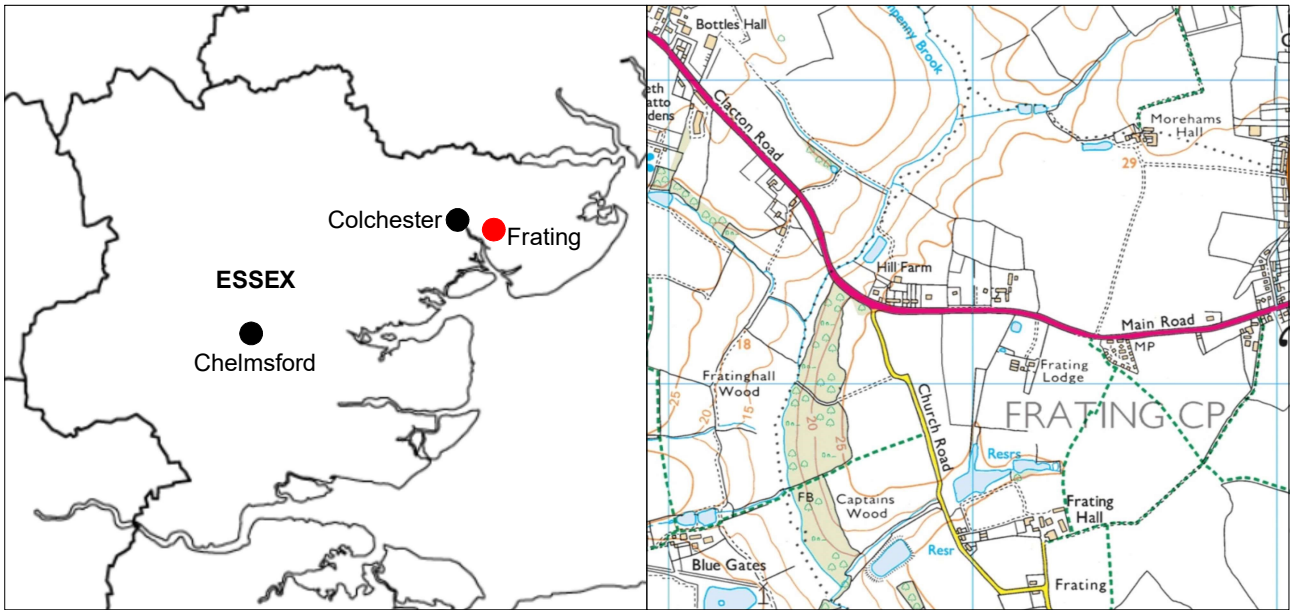
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email: lp@catuk.org

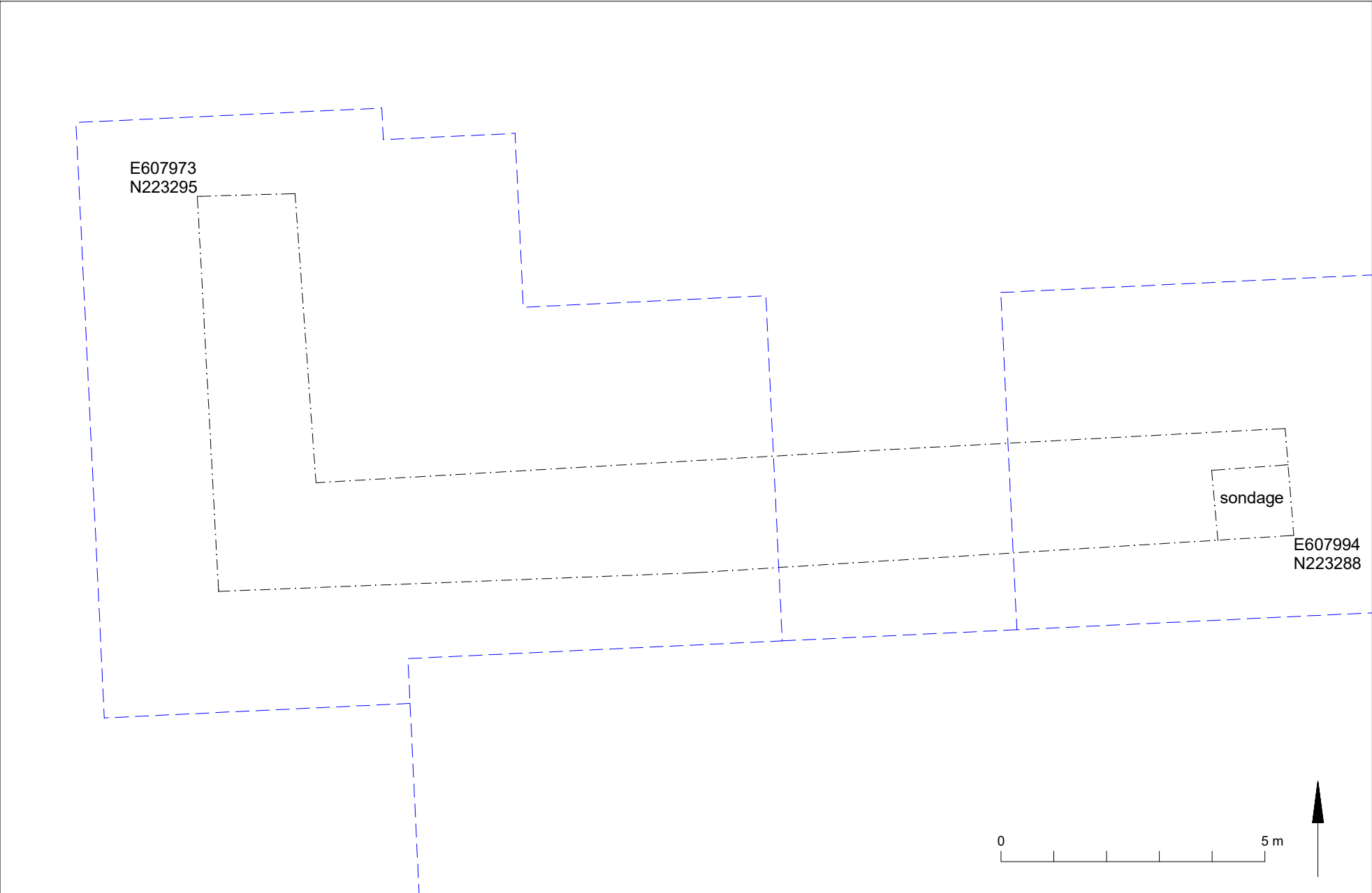
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Date: 05/06/2022



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Fig 1 Site location in relation to proposed development (dashed blue lines).



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Fig 2 Results (proposed development dashed blue)

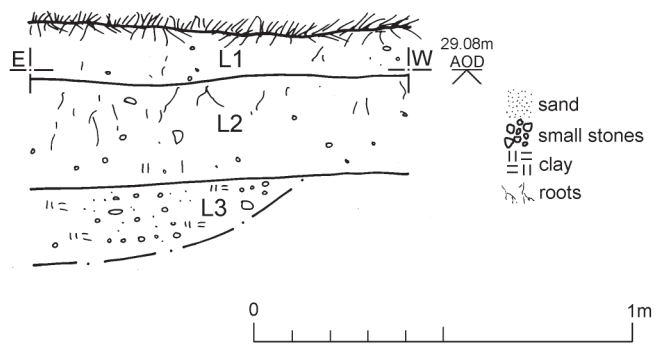


Fig 3 Representative section.

Summary for colchest3-505963

OASIS ID (UID)	colchest3-505963
Project Name	Evaluation at land adjacent to Tall Trees, Clacton Road, Frating Hill, Frating, Essex, CO7 7DG
Sitename	Land adjacent to Tall Trees, Clacton Road, Frating Hill, Frating, Essex, CO7 7DG
Activity type	Evaluation
Project Identifier(s)	2022/03e
Planning Id	19/01113/FUL
Reason For Investigation	Planning: Post determination
Organisation Responsible for work	Colchester Archaeological Trust
Project Dates	08-Jun-2022 - 08-Jun-2022
Location	Land adjacent to Tall Trees, Clacton Road, Frating Hill, Frating, Essex, CO7 7DG NGR : TM 08048 23316 LL : 51.8696040584299, 1.02060175801955 12 Fig : 608048,223316
Administrative Areas	Country : England County : Essex District : Tendring Parish : Frating
Project Methodology	Archaeological evaluation of one L-shaped trench.
Project Results	An archaeological evaluation (one L-shaped trench) was carried out on land adjacent to Tall Trees, Clacton Road, Frating Hill, Frating in advance of the construction of a new house and garage. Despite being located in an area of extensive cropmarks there were no archaeological remains.
Keywords	
Funder	
HER	Essex HER - unRev - STANDARD
Person Responsible for work	L, Pooley
HER Identifiers	
Archives	Digital Archive - to be deposited with Archaeology Data Service Archive;



Brief for archaeological trial trenching on Land adjacent Tall Trees, Frating Hill, Frating

Date: 07/4/2022





Title: Archaeological trial trenching on Land adjacent Tall Trees, Frating Hill, Frating

Agent: Chris Lister (Colchester Archaeological Trust)

Date issued: 07/4/2022

Historic Environment Advisor: Teresa O'Connor | teresa.oconnor@essex.gov.uk

03330 136852

Museum: Colchester and Ipswich

This archaeological brief is only valid for six months. After this period the Historic Environment (HE) Advisor should be contacted to assess if any changes need to be made. Any written scheme of investigation resulting from this brief shall only be considered for the same period.

The contractor is advised to visit the site before completing their written scheme of investigation as there may be implications for accurately costing the project.

1. Introduction

This brief for an archaeological trial trench has been prepared by the Historic Environment Advisor of Essex County Council. The brief sets out the requirements for archaeological investigation of a development site Land adjacent Tall Trees, Frating Hill, Frating in advance of residential development.

2. Site Location and Description

The site comprises land within the grounds of Tall Trees garden (TM0804823316). The plot is open grassland located on the northern side of the A133. The development comprises the construction of a 4 bedroom house and garage.

Details of the proposed development can be found on the Tendring planning web site.

3. Planning Background

The planning application was submitted to Tendring District Council in July 2019 (19/01113/FUL) for the proposed erection of a single 4 bedroom house and garage.

As the site lies within an area highlighted by the Historic Environment Record as having a high potential for archaeological deposits being present a full archaeological condition was recommended. The full archaeological condition that was recommended is based on the guidance given in the National Planning Policy Framework and states:

RECOMMENDATION: A Programme of Archaeological evaluation

1. 'No development or preliminary ground works of any kind shall take place until the applicant has secured the implementation of a programme of archaeological work in accordance with a written scheme of investigation which has been submitted by the applicant and approved by the planning authority'

4. Archaeological Background

The following archaeological background utilises the Essex Historic Environment Record held at Essex County Council, County Hall, Chelmsford. Prospective contractors are advised to obtain the EHER data prior to the completion of any archaeological written scheme of investigation.

The Historic Environment Record shows that there are extensive archaeological deposits within the area identified from cropmark evidence. Aerial photographic evidence situated immediately to the north of the development area lies the remains of a double ditched enclosure (EHER 2536) with linear features running south towards the application site. To the south there are extensive cropmarks of a field system and enclosures, potentially related to Late prehistoric or Roman settlement (EHER 2611, 17569). One of these linear features if extending north of the Frating Hill Road would bisect the site.

5. Requirement for Work

The archaeological work will comprise the excavation of a single trial trench through the proposed house and garage to cover the full width of the development area.

The initial work will comprise the trial trench which will be followed by a site meeting which will either lead to further archaeological work, comprising the widening out of the area to encompass the house and garage foot print, or the production of a report on the single trial trench. If no archaeological deposits are identified a report on the trial trenching alone will be required.

6. General Methodology

- 6.1 A professional team of field archaeologists shall undertake the archaeological work.
- 6.2 The number of staff involved and the structure of the team shall be stated in the written scheme of investigation. Notification of the supervisor/project manager's name for the project shall be provided to the Historic Environment Advisor at Place Services one week in advance of commencement of work.
- 6.3 The archaeological contractor is expected to follow the Code of Conduct of the Institute of Field Archaeologists.
- 6.4 The contractor shall ensure detailed study of all mains' service locations and avoid damage to these.
- 6.5 All Health and Safety guidelines must be followed on site.
- 6.6 At the start of work (immediately before fieldwork commences) an OASIS online record <http://ads.ahds.ac.uk/project/oasis/> must 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 must be completed for submission to the HER. This should include an uploaded .PDF version of the entire report.

7. Trial Trench Methodology

- 7.1 Machine stripping shall be undertaken to an agreed standard, using a toothless ditching bucket, and under the supervision and to the satisfaction of a professional archaeologist. The exposed sub-soil or archaeological horizon will be cleaned by hand immediately after machine stripping, if required and any archaeological deposits or negative features planned.
- 7.2 Machine stripping will only be undertaken to the top of the archaeological horizon unless agreement is obtained from the Historic Environment Advisor to deepen the trench by this method.
- 7.3 The contractor shall provide details of the site surveying, excavation and finds recovery policy in the written scheme of investigation. The site grid shall be tied into the National Grid.
- 7.4 Details of the site planning policy shall be given in the written scheme of investigation. The normal preferred policy for the scale of archaeological site plans is 1:20 and sections at 1:10, unless circumstances indicate that other scales would be more appropriate.
- 7.5 The contractor shall provide details of the sampling strategies for retrieving artefacts, biological remains (for palaeoenvironmental and palaeoeconomic investigations), and samples of sediments and/or soils (for micromorphological and other pedological/sedimentological analyses). Advice on the appropriateness of the proposed strategies will be sought from the Historic England Regional Adviser in Archaeological Science (East of England).
- 7.6 Should human remains be discovered the coroner will be informed and a licence from the Home Office sought immediately; both the client and the monitoring officer will also be informed. Human remains must be left *in situ* except in those cases where damage or desecration are anticipated, or where analysis of the remains is considered to be a necessary requirement for satisfactory evaluation of the site.
- 7.7 The photographic record shall include both general and feature specific photographs, a photographic scale (including north arrow) shall be included in the case of detailed

photographs. The photographic record shall be accompanied by a photographic register detailing as a minimum feature number, location, and direction of shot.

- 7.8 The site and spoil heaps shall be checked by metal detector, with any finds recovered.
- 7.9 The CIFA's *Standards and Guidance for Archaeological Field Evaluations*, and the EAA *Standards for Field Archaeology in the Eastern Region* document should be used for additional guidance in the production of the written scheme of investigation, the content of the report, and the general execution of the project.

8. Post Excavation Assessment

- 8.1 An updated post excavation assessment shall be submitted within 2 months or at an alternatively agreed time to the Historic Environment Advisor.
- 8.2 Where archaeological results do not warrant a post excavation assessment then agreement will be sought from the Historic Environment Advisor to proceed straight to grey literature /publication.

9. Finds

- 9.1 All finds, where appropriate, shall be washed.
- 9.2 All pottery and other finds where appropriate, shall be marked with the site code and context number.
- 9.3 The written scheme of investigation shall include an agreed list of specialist consultants, who might be required to conserve and/or report on finds, and advise or report on other aspects of the investigation.
- 9.4 The requirements for conservation and storage shall be agreed with the appropriate museum prior to the start of work, and confirmed to the Historic Environment Advisor.

10. Results

- 10.1 The report shall be submitted within a length of time (but not exceeding 3 months) from the end of the fieldwork, to be agreed between the developer and archaeological contractor, with a copy supplied to the Historic Environment Advisor as a single PDF.
- 10.2 This report must contain:
 - The aims and methods adopted in the course of the trial trench and any follow on excavation.

- Location plan of excavated areas in relation to the proposed development. At least two corners of each of the excavated area shall be given 10 figure grid references.
- A section/s drawing showing depth of deposits including present ground level with Ordnance Datum, vertical and horizontal scale.
- Archaeological methodology and detailed results including a suitable conclusion and discussion. Appropriate discussion and result section assessing the site in relation to the Regional Research Frameworks (Brown and Glazebrook 2000, Medlycott 2011).
- All specialist reports or assessments
- A concise non-technical summary of the project results.

10.3 An OASIS sheet shall be completed at the end of the project and supplied to the Historic Environment Advisor. This will be completed in digital form. A copy should also be e-mailed to the Hon. Editor of the Essex Archaeology and History Journal for inclusion in the annual round-up of projects in the Journal paul.gilman@me.com .

10.4 Publication of the results, at least to a summary level (i.e. round up of archaeology in Essex in *Essex Archaeology and History*) shall be undertaken in the year following the archaeological field work. An allowance shall be made within the costs for the report to be published in an adequately peer reviewed journal or monograph series

11. Archive Deposition

11.1 The requirements for archive storage shall be agreed with the Colchester and Ipswich museum

11.2 If the finds are to remain with the landowner a full copy of the archive shall be housed with the appropriate museum.

11.3 The archive shall be deposited with the appropriate museum within 1 months of the completion of the final publication report with a summary of the contents of the archive supplied to the Historic Environment Advisor

12. Monitoring

- 12.1 The Historic Environment consultant at Place Services will be responsible for monitoring progress and standards throughout the project. This will include the fieldwork, post-excavation and publication stages.
- 12.2 Notification of the start of work shall be given to the Historic Environment consultant at Place Services one week in advance of its commencement.
- 12.3 All excavated areas must be inspected by the Place Services Historic Environment consultant prior to their development.
- 12.4 Any variations of the written scheme of investigation shall be agreed with the Historic Environment consultant at Place Services prior to them being carried out.

13. Contractors Written Scheme of Investigation

- 13.1 In accordance with Standards and Guidance produced by the CIFA this design brief should not be considered sufficient to enable the total execution of the project. A WSI is required therefore in order to provide *the basis for a measurable standard* and for submission by the developer to the Local Planning Authority for approval.
- 13.2 Archaeological contractors shall forward a WSI to the Historic Environment Advisor of Place Services for validation prior to fieldwork commencing.
- 13.3 The involvement of the Historic Environment Advisor shall be acknowledged in any report or publication generated by this project.

References

Brown, N. and Glazebrook, J.	2000	Research and Archaeology: A Framework for the Eastern Counties 2. Research agenda and strategy East Anglian. Archaeol. Occ. Pap. 8
Gurney, D.	2003	<i>Standards for Field Archaeology in the East of England</i> East Anglian. Archaeol. Occ. Pap. 14
Medlycott, M.	2011	<i>Research and Archaeology Revisited: A Revised Framework for the East of England</i> East Anglian. Archaeol. Occ. Pap. 24

For further information regarding the content of this brief please contact the author at the address below. As part of our desire to provide a quality service, we would welcome any comments you may have on the content and presentation of this archaeological brief.

Teresa O'Connor

Historic Environment Advisor

Place Services

County Hall

Chelmsford

CM1 1QH

Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) for an archaeological evaluation by trial-trenching on land adjacent to Tall Trees, Clacton Road, Frating Hill, Frating, Essex, CO7 7DG

NGR: TM 08048 23316 (centre)

District: Tendring

Parish: Frating

Planning reference: 19/01113/FUL

Commissioned by: Andy Cameron (Wright, Ruffle, Cameron)

Client: landowner

Curating museum: Colchester/ADS Archaeology

ECC project code: FRCR22

CAT project code: 2022/03e

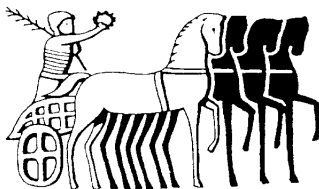
Oasis project ID: colchest3-505963

Fieldwork Manager: Adam Wightman

Contracts Manager: Chris Lister

ECC monitor: Teresa O'Connor

This WSI written: 11/04/2022



COLCHESTER ARCHAEOLOGICAL TRUST,
Roman Circus House,
Roman Circus Walk,
Colchester,
Essex, CO2 7GZ

tel: 01206 501785 (option 1)

email: services@catuk.org

Site location and description

The proposed development site is a 0.2ha plot which is currently an area of undeveloped grassland on the northern side of the A133 at land adjacent to Tall Trees, Clacton Road, Frating Hill, Frating, Essex (Fig 1). Site is centred at National Grid Reference (NGR) TM 08048 23316.

Proposed work

The development comprises the construction of a new detached four bedroom house and garage.

Archaeological background

The following archaeological includes extracts of the ECC brief and the Essex Historic Environment Records (EHER) held at Essex County Council, County Hall, Chelmsford, Essex (accessed via <http://www.heritagegateway.org.uk>).

The Historic Environment Record shows that there are extensive archaeological deposits within the area identified from cropmark evidence recorded through aerial photography. Situated immediately to the north of the development area on land west of Morehams Hall lies the remains of a double ditched enclosure, with linear features running south towards the application site and two small ring-ditches to the northwest (EHER 2536). Further east on land west of Frating Green is are linear features depicting extensive field boundaries. (EHER17560). To the south there are extensive cropmarks of a field system and enclosures, potentially related to Late prehistoric or Roman settlement (EHER 2611, EHER17569). One of these linear features if extending north of the Frating Hill Road would bisect the site. Northwest of the site are cropmarks showing a possible curvilinear enclosure. Photographs taken in 2014 showed that the area is masked by geological features which may be masking other features (EHER 48544). Recent archaeological work on land southwest of the site have shown that the cropmarks in the area represent real features as an 84 trench evaluation has shown a thin spread of multi-phase activity ranging from the Neolithic to Roman (EHER 17574).

Planning background

A planning application (19/01113/FUL) was submitted to Tendring District Council in July 2019 proposing *one new dwelling with garage, parking and landscaping*.

As the site lies within an area highlighted by the EHER as having a high potential for archaeological remains a phased full archaeological condition was recommended. This follows the guidelines given in National Planning Policy Framework (MHCLG 2019).

Requirement for work (Fig 2)

The required archaeological work will consist of an archaeological evaluation by trial-trenching. Details are given in a Project Brief written by ECCPS (*Brief for archaeological trial trenching on Land adjacent Tall Trees, Frating Hill, Frating – ECC 2022*).

It is proposed that one 'L-shaped' trench be evaluated within the site targeting the house and garage. Trench 1 (T1) will measure 25m long and 1.8m wide, covering an area of 45m² to cover the full width of the development area.

The initial work will comprise of the trial trench which will be followed by a site meeting with the ECCHEA. Further archaeological work may be required, comprising of widening the area to encompass the excavation of the house and garage footprint should archaeological deposits/features be identified that cannot be preserved *in situ*. This will be decided by the ECCHEA on completion of the trial-trenching and report.

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)
- the Project Brief issued by ECC Historic Environment Advisor (ECCPS 2022)

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 ECCHEA 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 ECCHEA and/or the curating museum, as appropriate to the project. 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 project officer and one archaeologist for one days.

In charge of day-to-day site work: Ben Holloway/Harvey Furniss

Evaluation methodology

Where appropriate, modern overburden and any topsoil stripping/levelling will be performed using a mechanical excavator equipped with a toothless ditching bucket under the supervision and to the satisfaction of a professional archaeologist. If no archaeologically significant deposits are exposed, machine excavation will continue until natural subsoil is reached.

Where necessary, areas will be cleaned by hand to ensure the visibility of archaeological deposits.

If archaeological features or deposits are uncovered, time will be allowed for these to be excavated, planned and recorded.

There will be sufficient excavation to give clear evidence for the period, depth and nature of any archaeological deposit. For linear features 1m wide sections will be excavated across their width to a total of 10% of the overall length. Discrete features, such as pits, will have 50% of their fills excavated, although certain features may be fully excavated. Complex archaeological structures such as walls, kilns, ovens or burials will be carefully cleaned, planned and fully recorded, but where possible left *in situ*. Only if it can be demonstrated that the complex structure/feature is likely to be destroyed by groundworks, and only then after discussion with the ECCHEA, will it be removed.

Fast hand-excavation techniques involving (for instance) picks, forks and mattocks will not be used on complex stratigraphy.

The depth and nature of colluvial or other masking deposits will be established. Therefore, a sondage will be excavated in each trench to test the stratigraphy of the site. This will occur in every trench unless it can be demonstrated that a feature excavated within a particular trench has clearly penetrated into natural.

A representative section will be drawn of each trench, to include ground level, the depth of machining within the trench and the depth of any sondages.

Trained CAT staff will use a metal detector to scan all trenches both before and during excavation. All spoil heaps will also be scanned and 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.

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.

The photographic record will consist of general site shots, and shots of all archaeological features and deposits. A photographic scale (including north arrow) shall be included in the case of detailed photographs. A photographic register will accompany the photographic record. This will detail as a minimum feature number, location, and direction of shot.

The trench will not be backfilled until they have been signed off by the ECCHEA.

Site surveying

The evaluation trench and any features will be surveyed by Total Station or GPS, unless the particulars of the features indicate that manual planning techniques should be employed. 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 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 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 process the samples and the flots will be sent to Val Fryer or Lisa Gray for analysis and reporting.

Should any complex, or otherwise outstanding deposits be encountered, VF or 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 ECCHEA. If circumstances indicated it were prudent or necessary to remove remains from the site during the evaluation, 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. 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 ECCHEA 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. 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 ECCHEA.

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.

Post-excavation assessment

An updated post-excavation assessment will be submitted within 2 months or at an alternatively agreed time with the ECCHEA.

Where archaeological results do not warrant a post-excavation assessment then agreement will be sought from the ECCHEA to proceed straight to grey literature / publication.

Results

Notification will be given to ECCHEA 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 2015).

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

The report will contain:

- Location plan of trenches in relation to the proposed development. At least two corners of each excavated area will be given a 10 figure grid reference.
- 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.
- Appropriate discussion and results section assessing the site in relation to the Regional Research Frameworks (Brown and Glazebrook 2000, Medlycott 2011. <https://researchframeworks.org/eoe/>).
- All specialist reports or assessments
- A concise non-technical summary of the project results.

An OASIS summary sheet shall be completed at the end of the project and supplied to the ECCHEA. This will be completed in digital form with a paper copy included with the archive. A copy (with trench plan) will also be emailed to the Hon. Editor of the Essex Archaeology and History Journal for inclusion in the annual round-up of projects (paul.gilman@me.com).

Publication of the results at least a summary level (i.e. round-up in *Essex Archaeology & History*) shall be undertaken in the year following the archaeological fieldwork. 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

The requirements for archive storage shall be agreed with the Curating museum.

If finds are retained from the site the full archive will be deposited with Colchester Museum unless otherwise agreed in advance. (A full copy of the archive shall in any case be deposited). If there are no finds a full digital archive will be deposited with ADS Archaeology.

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 digital archive resulting from the work will be deposited with the Archaeology Data Service (www.archaeologydataservice.ac.uk) to safeguard the long-term curation of the digital records. The ECCHEA will be notified when the digital archive has been deposited. Prior to deposition CAT's data management plan (based on the official guidelines from the Digital Curation Centre [DCC 2013]) will ensure the integrity of the digital archive. A summary of the contents of the archives shall be supplied to the ECCHEA at the time of their deposition.

The ECCHEA will be notified when the digital archive has been deposited.

Monitoring

ECCHEA 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 ECCHEA one week in advance of its commencement.

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

ECCHEA will be notified when the fieldwork is complete.

The involvement of ECCHEA 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>

Brown, N & Glazebrook, J	2000	<i>Research and Archaeology: A Framework for the Eastern Counties 2. Research agenda and strategy.</i> East Anglian Archaeology Occasional Paper 8 (EAA 8)
CAT	2021	<i>Health & Safety Policy</i>
CIfA	2014a	<i>Standard and Guidance for archaeological evaluation.</i> Revised October 2020

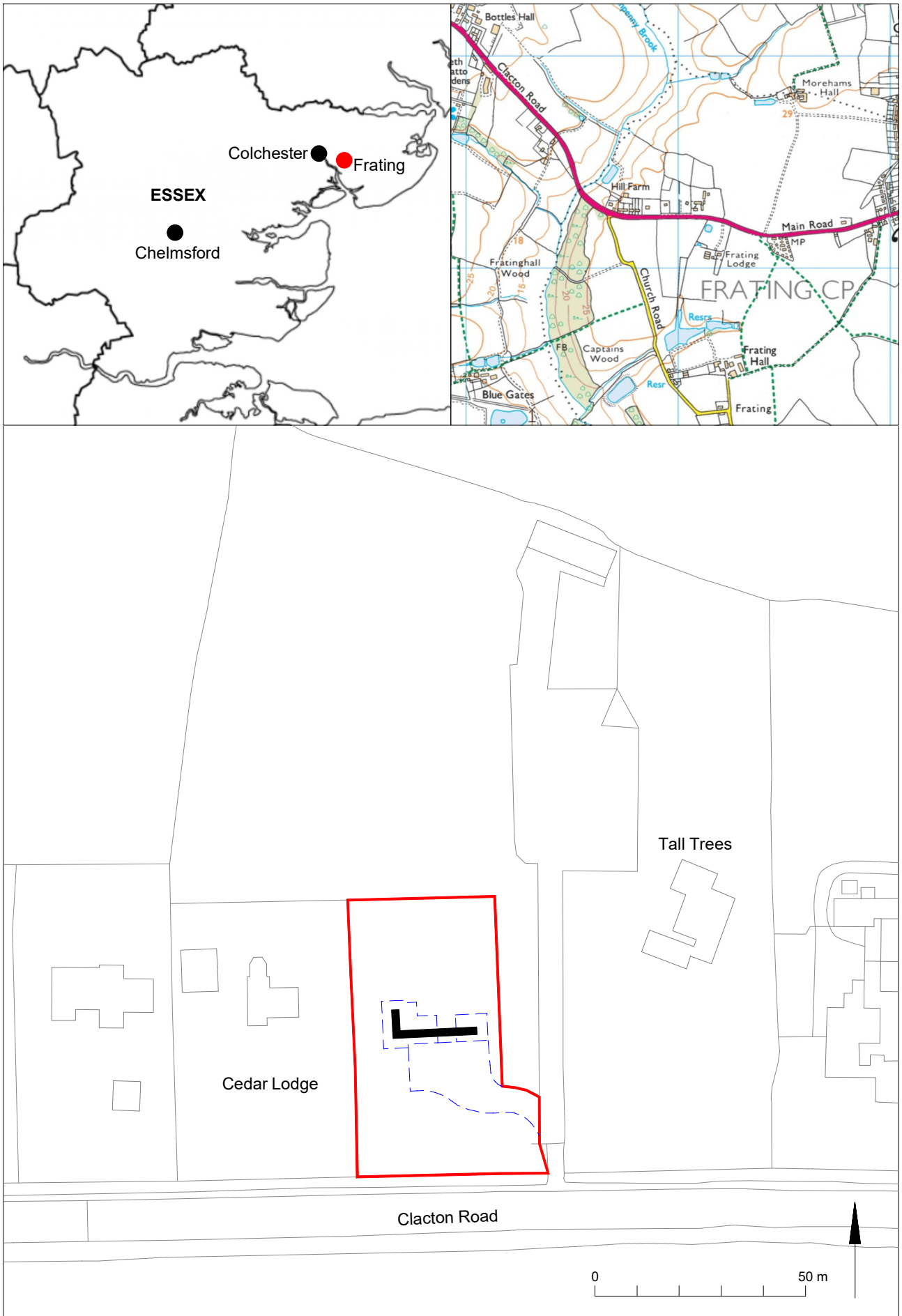
CIfA	2014b	<i>Standard and guidance for the collection, documentation, conservation and research of archaeological materials.</i> Revised October 2020
CIfA	2014c	<i>Code of Conduct.</i> Revised October 2021
Digital Curation Centre (DCC)	2013	<i>Checklist for Data Management Plan v. 4.0</i>
ECCPS	2022	<i>Brief for archaeological trial trenching evaluation on Land Adjacent Tall Trees, Frating Hill, Frating,</i> by T O'Connor
Gurney, D	2003	<i>Standards for field archaeology in the East of England.</i> East Anglian Archaeology Occasional Papers 14 (EAA 14).
Historic England	2015	<i>Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment (MoRPHE)</i>
Historic England	2018	<i>The Role of the Human Osteologist in an Archaeological Fieldwork Project.</i> By S Mays, M Brickley & J Sidell
Medlycott, M	1999	<i>Historic Towns in Essex - Kelvedon- Historic Towns Assessment Report.</i> Essex County Council
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)
MHCLG	2019	<i>National Planning Policy Framework.</i> Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government.

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

Site: Frating land adj Tall Trees EVAL

Site code: FRCR22

Layer No.

Interpretation 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 sand silt clay loam clay silt sand
Type ✓ ✓ ✓

charcoal oyster daub brick tile

Inclusions: flecks

gravel % stone % tile/brick % pot %

Inclusions: pieces 2

RECORDING 1:10 Sx

Plan nos

Section nos

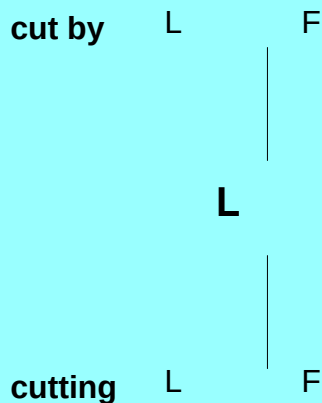
pre-exc ex post-ex

Photos taken

FINDS No finds

Find Nos:

NOTES Modern turfed topsoil



By SV Date 08/06/22

Site: Frating land adj Tall Trees EVAL

Site code: FRCR22

Layer No.

Interpretation Subsoil
Period Undated

2

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

Inclusions: pieces	gravel %	stone %	tile/brick %	pot %
		4		

RECORDING 1:10 Sx

Plan nos

Section nos

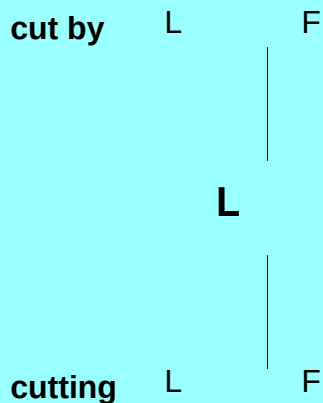
pre-exc ex post-ex

Photos taken

FINDS No finds

Find Nos:

NOTES Layer of subsoil



By SV Date 08/06/22

Site: Frating land adj Tall Trees EVAL

Site code: FRCR22

Layer No.

Interpretation Natural

Period Post-glacial

3

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 15

RECORDING 1:10 Sx

Plan nos

Section nos

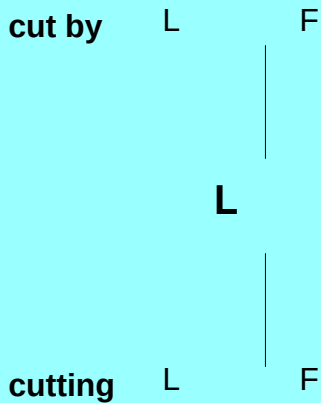
pre-exc ex post-ex

Photos taken

FINDS

Find Nos:

NOTES Natural clayey sand with patches of gravel and manganese.



By SV Date 08/06/22



001



002
1/



003



004
2/



005



006
3/



007



008
4/



009



010
5/



011

listing

FRCR22_Photo	graph_001.jpg	Site shot - view SE
FRCR22_Photo	graph_002.jpg	Site shot - view SW
FRCR22_Photo	graph_003.jpg	Site shot - view WSW
FRCR22_Photo	graph_004.jpg	Site shot - view NE
FRCR22_Photo	graph_005.jpg	Site shot - view NE
FRCR22_Photo	graph_006.jpg	Site shot - view SE
FRCR22_Photo	graph_007.jpg	Trench shot - view S
FRCR22_Photo	graph_008.jpg	Trench shot - view E
FRCR22_Photo	graph_009.jpg	Trench shot - view W
FRCR22_Photo	graph_010.jpg	Rep sx - view S
FRCR22_Photo	graph_011.jpg	Working shot