



## Colchester Archaeological Trust

Roman Circus House, Roman Circus Walk, Colchester, Essex, CO2 7GZ

Tel.: 01206 501785 Email.: services@catuk.org

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|---|--|
| <b>CAT Report 1834</b><br><br><b>Archaeological test-pit at<br/>26 Shrub End Road, Colchester, Essex,<br/>CO2 7XD: August 2022</b>  | <b>CAT code:</b> 2022/07r                      |
|   | <b>Planning reference:</b> 211729              |
|   | <b>CHER Event no.:</b> ECC4734                 |
|   | <b>OASIS ref.:</b> colchest3-508852            |
|   | <b>Grid Reference:</b> TL 98139 23929 (centre) |
|   | <b>Number of site visits:</b> 2                |
|   | <b>Dates of visit:</b> 3rd-4th August 2022     |
| <b>Nature of the work</b><br>Single test-pit, 1m by 1m, to be excavated as close as possible to the foundations of a new extension and soakaway that were excavated without archaeological supervision, to ascertain the form and extent of any surviving archaeological deposits in the area.  |  |
| <b>Reason for condition</b><br>As the original requirement for archaeological monitoring of all groundworks associated with the new extension was not met, Simon Wood, Archaeological Advisor for Colchester Borough Council, required a test-pit to be excavated.<br><br>An archaeological condition was originally placed on this planning application as the proposed extension lies within the projected route of the main Roman road from Gosbecks to Colchester (CHER MCC2529).   |  |
| <b>% of total seen</b><br>The test-pit was hand-excavated to natural by a CAT archaeologist (100%).   |  |
| <b>Results (Figs 2-3)</b><br>The test-pit was positioned c 3.8m south of the new extension and c 0.2m to the west of the new soakaway. It was 1m by 1m, and was hand-excavated to a depth of 0.83m. Three horizons were observed: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• modern topsoil (L1, c 0.3m thick) sealed</li><li>• modern made-ground (L2, c 0.5m thick) overlying</li><li>• natural sand and gravels (L3, identified at a depth of c 0.80m below current ground level).</li></ul> L1, modern topsoil, soft, moist dark grey/brown silt with light rooting and small fragments of 20th-century glass and brick (not retained for post-excavation analysis).<br>L2, modern made-ground, soft, moist, medium brown silt with 1% small stones and small fragments of 20th-century glass and brick (not retained for post-excavation analysis).<br>L3, natural, firm, dry, light orange sand and gravels.<br><br>Despite being located within the projected route of the main Roman road from Gosbecks to Colchester there were no archaeological remains within the test-pit. The most likely explanation is that the road surface has been truncated, either by deep ploughing on farmland before the development of modern-day Colchester, or during the construction of the properties now built here. Unfortunately it is difficult to determine what, if any, archaeological remains associated with the Roman road were impacted by the unsupervised foundation trenches and soakaway. Both areas of groundworks could potentially have encountered surviving Roman road surface and the roadside ditches.<br><br>Photographs of the unsupervised works were passed to CAT by the homeowners, some of which are reproduced here (see Photographs 3-6). |  |





**Photograph 1** Test-pit looking north-west towards the new extension.



**Photograph 2** Test-pit, looking west





**Photograph 3** Unsupervised foundation trenches, image supplied by the homeowner



**Photograph 4** Unsupervised foundation trenches, image supplied by the homeowner





**Photograph 5** Unsupervised ground reduction area inside of foundations, image supplied by the homeowner



**Photograph 6** Unsupervised soakaway, image supplied by the homeowner

**Recorded by:** Adam Ronn ([ar@catuk.org](mailto:ar@catuk.org))

**Date:** 04/08/2022

**Checked by:** Philip Crummy ([pc@catuk.org](mailto:pc@catuk.org))

**Date:** 24/08/2022





Fig 1 Site location.



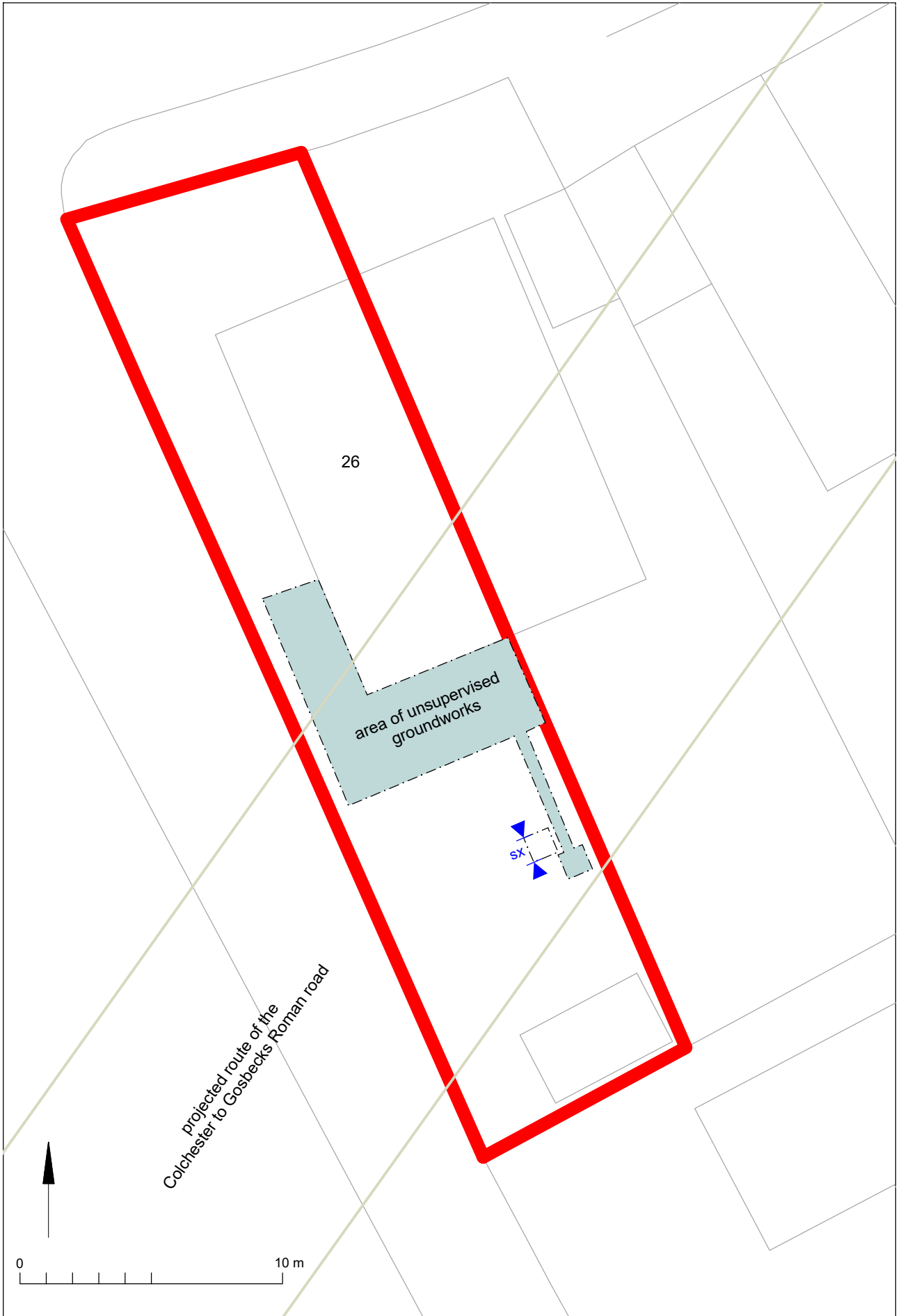


Fig 2 Results



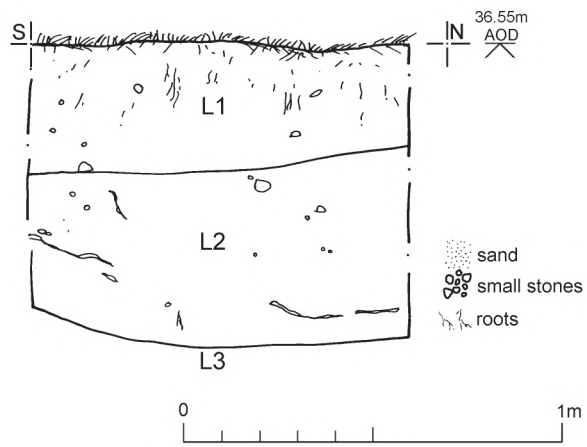


Fig 3 Representative section.



# Essex Historic Environment Record/ Essex Archaeology and History

## Summary sheet

|   |   |
|---|---|
| <b>Address:</b> 26 Shrub End Road, Colchester, Essex, CO2 7XD   |   |
| <b>Parish:</b> Colchester   | <b>District:</b> Colchester   |
| <b>NGR:</b> TL 98139 23929 (centre)   | <b>Site code:</b><br>CAT project ref.: 2022/07r<br>CHER ref.: ECC4734<br>OASIS ref.: colchest3-508852 |
| <b>Type of work:</b><br>Test-pit  | <b>Site director/group:</b><br>Colchester Archaeological Trust  |
| <b>Date of work:</b><br>3rd-4th August 2022   | <b>Size of area investigated:</b><br>0.03ha   |
| <b>Location of curating museum:</b><br>Archaeological Data Service  | <b>Funding source:</b><br>Homeowner   |
| <b>Further seasons anticipated?</b><br>No   | <b>Related CHER/SMR number:</b><br>CHER MCC2529   |
| <b>Final report:</b> CAT Report 1834  |   |
| <b>Periods represented:</b> Modern  |   |
| <b>Summary of fieldwork results:</b><br><br>Archaeological monitoring was due to take place during groundworks for an extension to 26 Shrub End Road, Colchester, Essex. However, as this was carried out without archaeological supervision, the Archaeological Advisor for Colchester Borough Council required a test-pit to be excavated close to the original groundworks to ascertain the form and extent of any surviving archaeological deposits in the area. A test-pit, 1m by 1m by 0.83m deep, was hand-excavated to natural by a CAT archaeologist. Despite being located within the projected route of the Colchester to Gosbecks Roman road, no archaeological remains were encountered within the test-pit with modern made-ground sealing natural. It is therefore uncertain what, if any, archaeological remains were impacted by the unsupervised works. |   |
| <b>Previous summaries/reports:</b> -  |   |
| <b>CBC monitor:</b> Dr Simon Wood   |   |
| <b>Keywords:</b> -  | <b>Significance:</b> -  |
| <b>Author of summary:</b><br>Laura Pooley   | <b>Date of summary:</b><br>August 2022  |



## Summary for colchest3-508852

|                                   |   |
|-----------------------------------|---|
| OASIS ID (UID)                    | colchest3-508852  |
| Project Name                      | Watching Brief at 26 Shrub End Road, Colchester, England, United Kingdom  |
| Sitename                          | 26 Shrub End Road, Colchester, England, United Kingdom  |
| Activity type                     | Watching Brief  |
| Project Identifier(s)             | 2022/07r  |
| Planning Id                       | 211729  |
| Reason For Investigation          | Planning: Post determination  |
| Organisation Responsible for work | Colchester Archaeological Trust   |
| Project Dates                     | 03-Aug-2022 - 04-Aug-2022   |
| Location                          | 26 Shrub End Road, Colchester, England, United Kingdom<br>NGR : TL 98141 23930<br>LL : 51.878725, 0.877256<br>12 Fig : 598141,223930  |
| Administrative Areas              | Country : England<br>County : Essex<br>District : Colchester<br>Parish : Colchester, unparished area  |
| Project Methodology               | Hand-excavation of a 1m by 1m test-pit to natural by a professional archaeologist to ascertain the form and type of any archaeological remains in the area of previously unmonitored groundworks.   |
| Project Results                   | Archaeological monitoring was due to take place during groundworks for an extension to 26 Shrub End Road, Colchester, Essex. However, as this was carried out without archaeological supervision, the Archaeological Advisor for Colchester Borough Council required a test-pit to be excavated close to the original groundworks to ascertain the form and extent of any surviving archaeological deposits in the area. A test-pit, 1m by 1m by 0.83m deep, was hand-excavated to natural by a CAT archaeologist. Despite being located within the projected route of the Colchester to Gosbecks Roman road, no archaeological remains were encountered within the test-pit with modern made-ground sealing natural. It is therefore uncertain what, if any, archaeological remains were impacted by the unsupervised works. |
| Keywords                          |   |
| Funder                            |   |
| HER                               | Colchester Borough Council - unRev - STANDARD   |
| Person Responsible for work       | A, Ronn   |
| HER Identifiers                   | HER Event No - ECC4734  |
| Archives                          | Digital Archive - to be deposited with Archaeology Data Service Archive;  |

## Brief for Archaeological Monitoring

AT

26 Shrub End Road, Colchester

**PLANNING APPLICATION NUMBER:** 211729

**GRID REFERENCE:** TL 98139 23929

**DEVELOPMENT PROPOSAL:** Demolition of the rear and side conservatories and erection of a rear and side extension

**THIS BRIEF ISSUED BY:** Simon Wood  
Archaeological Advisor  
Tel: 01206 282913  
E-mail: [simon.wood@colchester.gov.uk](mailto:simon.wood@colchester.gov.uk)

**Date:** 14 January 2022

### Archaeological Background

- 1.1 The proposed extension is directly over the projected line of the main Roman road from Gosbecks to Colchester. Should the road be present, groundworks related to the development are likely to impact on its remains. Some disturbance may already have occurred due to the existing conservatories, but these proposals are for a much more substantial extension, with presumably substantial foundations.

### Planning Background

- 2.1 In accordance with paragraph 205 of the National Planning Policy Framework, the Local Planning Authority has attached a planning condition relating to archaeological investigation:

No works shall take place until the implementation of a programme of archaeological work has been secured, in accordance with a Written Scheme of Investigation that has been submitted to and approved, in writing, by the Local Planning Authority. The scheme shall include an assessment of significance and research questions; and:

- a. The programme and methodology of site investigation and recording.
- b. The programme for post investigation assessment.
- c. Provision to be made for analysis of the site investigation and recording.
- d. Provision to be made for publication and dissemination of the analysis and records of



the site investigation.

e. Provision to be made for archive deposition of the analysis and records of the site investigation.

f. Nomination of a competent person or persons/organisation to undertake the works. The site investigation shall thereafter be completed prior to development, or in such other phased arrangement, as agreed, in writing, by the Local Planning Authority. The development shall not be occupied or brought into use until the site investigation and post investigation assessment has been completed in accordance with the programme set out in the Written Scheme of Investigation approved and the provision made for analysis, publication and dissemination of results and archive deposition has been secured.

Reason: To safeguard archaeological assets within the approved development boundary from impacts relating to any groundworks associated with the development scheme and to ensure the proper and timely investigation, recording, reporting and presentation of archaeological assets affected by this development, in accordance Adopted Development Policy DP14 (2010, Revised 2014) and the Colchester Borough Adopted Guidance titled Managing Archaeology in Development (2015).

- 2.2 The archaeological contractor must submit a copy of their Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI), based upon this brief of minimum requirements, to the Archaeological Advisor for Colchester Borough Council (CBC/AA).
- 2.3 The WSI should be approved before costs are agreed with the commissioning client, in line with the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists' guidance. Failure to do so could result in additional and unanticipated costs.
- 2.4 Following acceptance, the WSI should be submitted to the planning officer for formal consultation. The planning officer will be advised that an appropriate scheme of work is in place, and recommend partial discharge of the condition to allow work to commence. The WSI, however, is not a sufficient basis for the full discharge of the planning condition relating to archaeological investigation. Only the full implementation of the scheme (completion of fieldwork and reporting), will enable the condition to be discharged.
- 2.5 The WSI will provide the basis for measurable standards and will be used to establish whether the requirements of the planning condition will be adequately met.

### **Requirement for Archaeological Investigation**

- 3.1 All groundworks related to the proposed development should be archaeologically monitored. Machinery (fitted with a back-acting ditching bucket) is to be under the supervision and guidance of the archaeological contractor stopping at the uppermost archaeological horizon, to ensure hand excavation and recording of archaeological deposits by the archaeological contractor. The WSI should detail the archaeological excavation, sampling and dating strategies.
- 3.2 The archaeological investigation should provide a record of archaeological deposits which are damaged or removed by any development permitted by the current planning consent. Adequate time is to be allowed for full archaeological excavation and recording of any archaeological deposits revealed during the investigations. The WSI should provide for a contingency for absolute dating (radiocarbon/archaeomagnetic). The WSI

should also provide for a contingency for scientific analysis of human remains; CBC must be informed immediately if human remains are encountered during the fieldwork.

- 3.3 If unexpected remains are encountered Colchester BC's Archaeological Advisor must be informed immediately. Amendments to this brief, and the WSI, may be required to ensure adequate provision for archaeological recording.
- 3.4 The method and form of development should be also monitored to ensure that it conforms to previously agreed locations and techniques upon which this brief is based. Amendments to this brief may be required to ensure adequate provision for archaeological recording. Any variation to the approved WSI must be agreed with the Archaeological Officer before they are carried out.

### **Arrangements for Archaeological Investigation**

- 4.1 All arrangements for the excavation of the site, the timing of the work and access to the site, are to be defined and negotiated by the archaeological contractor with the commissioning body.
- 4.2 The project manager must also carry out a risk assessment and ensure that all potential risks are minimised, before commencing the fieldwork. The responsibility for identifying any constraints on fieldwork (e.g. designated status, public utilities or other services, tree preservation orders, SSSIs, wildlife sites and ecological considerations) rests with the commissioning body and its archaeological contractor.
- 4.3 Notification of the start of work shall be given to the Archaeological Officer one week in advance of its commencement, to ensure the scheme of archaeological investigation can be adequately monitored. Monitoring will include the fieldwork, post-excavation and publication stages.

### **Reporting and Archival Requirements**

- 5.1 The project manager must obtain a Colchester HER Event number must be obtained from CBC's Archaeological Officer for the fieldwork; this will be the unique reference number for the work in the Colchester HER.
- 5.2 The report should present the results of the investigation in the spatial and temporal context, relating the site to the information recorded on historic maps held in the Essex Record Office. The WSI should also provide for a contingency in the event of the need for scientific analysis, including environmental studies, absolute dating and conservation of artefacts.
- 5.3 The project manager should consult the intended archive depository (Colchester and Ipswich Museums Service; [collections@colchester.gov.uk](mailto:collections@colchester.gov.uk)) before the WSI is prepared regarding the specific requirements for the archive deposition and curation, and regarding any specific cost implications of deposition; agreement in principle for deposition should be obtained prior to approval of the WSI. The intended depository must be prepared to accept the entire archive resulting from the project (both finds and written archive) in order to create a complete record of the project. A clear statement of



the form, intended content, and standards of the archive is to be submitted for approval as an essential requirement of the WSI. The WSI should include a Selection Strategy (<https://www.archaeologists.net/selection-toolkit>). An inventory of the site archive should be included in the report.

- 5.4 It is a policy of CBC 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. It is expected that the landowner will deposit the full site archive, and transfer title to, the Colchester and Ipswich Museum Service, and this should be agreed before the fieldwork commences. If this is not possible for all or any part of the finds archive, then provision must be made for additional recording (e.g. photography, illustration, analysis) as appropriate. Finds must be appropriately conserved and stored in accordance with guidelines from the Institute of Conservation (ICON). CBC's Archaeological Advisor should be notified when the archive has been deposited Colchester and Ipswich Museums Service.
- 5.5 The WSI should state proposals for the deposition of the digital archive relating to this project with the Archaeology Data Service, or similar digital archive repository with expertise in curating digital archaeological archives, and allowance should be made for costs incurred to ensure proper deposition (<http://ads.ahds.ac.uk/project/policy.html>). CBC's Archaeological Advisor should be notified when the archive has been deposited with the preferred digital archive repository. The WSI should also include a Data Management Plan.
- 5.6 A report on the fieldwork and archive, consistent with the principles of MoRPHE, must be provided. Its conclusions must include a clear statement of the archaeological value of the results, and their significance in the context of the Regional Research Framework (East Anglian Archaeology, Occasional Papers 3, 8 and 24, 1997, 2000 and 2011). Reporting should be commensurate with results. Where positive results are drawn from the project, the results should be related to the relevant known archaeological information held in the Colchester Historic Environment Record. When no significant features or finds are found, a short report will be sufficient with the following information: location (grid ref., parish, ward, address), planning application number and type of development, date(s) of visit(s), methodology, plan showing areas observed in relation to ground disturbance/proposed development (a digital vector plan when possible), depth of ground disturbance and soil profile in each area, observations as to land use history (truncation, etc.), recorder and organisation, date of report.
- 5.7 A copy of the report, clearly marked DRAFT, must be presented to CBC for approval within six months of the completion of fieldwork unless other arrangements are negotiated. Following acceptance, a .pdf digital copy (in PDF/A or PDF/Archive format) should be presented to the Colchester HER.
- 5.8 Where appropriate, a digital vector plan should be included with the report, which must be compatible with MapInfo GIS software, for integration in the Colchester HER. AutoCAD files should also be exported and saved into a format that can be imported into MapInfo (for example, as a .dxf or .TAB files).
- 5.9 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. When the project is completed, all parts of the OASIS

online form must be completed and a copy must be included in the final report and also with the site archive. A .pdf version (in PDF/A or PDF/Archive format) of the entire report should be uploaded.

- 5.10 A copy of the WSI should be appended to the report.
- 5.11 This brief remains valid for six months. If work is not carried out in full within that time this document will lapse; the brief may need to be revised and re-issued to take account of new discoveries, changes in policy and techniques.

Detailed standards, information and advice to supplement this brief are to be found in Standards for Field Archaeology in the East of England, East Anglian Archaeology Occasional Papers 14, 2003. The Chartered Institute for Archaeologists' Standard and Guidance for an archaeological watching brief (revised 2014) should be used for additional guidance in the execution of the project and in drawing up the report.

## **Notes**

The Chartered Institute of Archaeologists maintains a list of registered archaeological contractors ([www.archaeologists.net](http://www.archaeologists.net) or 0118 378 6446). There are a number of archaeological contractors that regularly undertake work in Colchester Borough and the archaeological advisor will provide advice on request. CBC does not give advice on the costs of archaeological projects.





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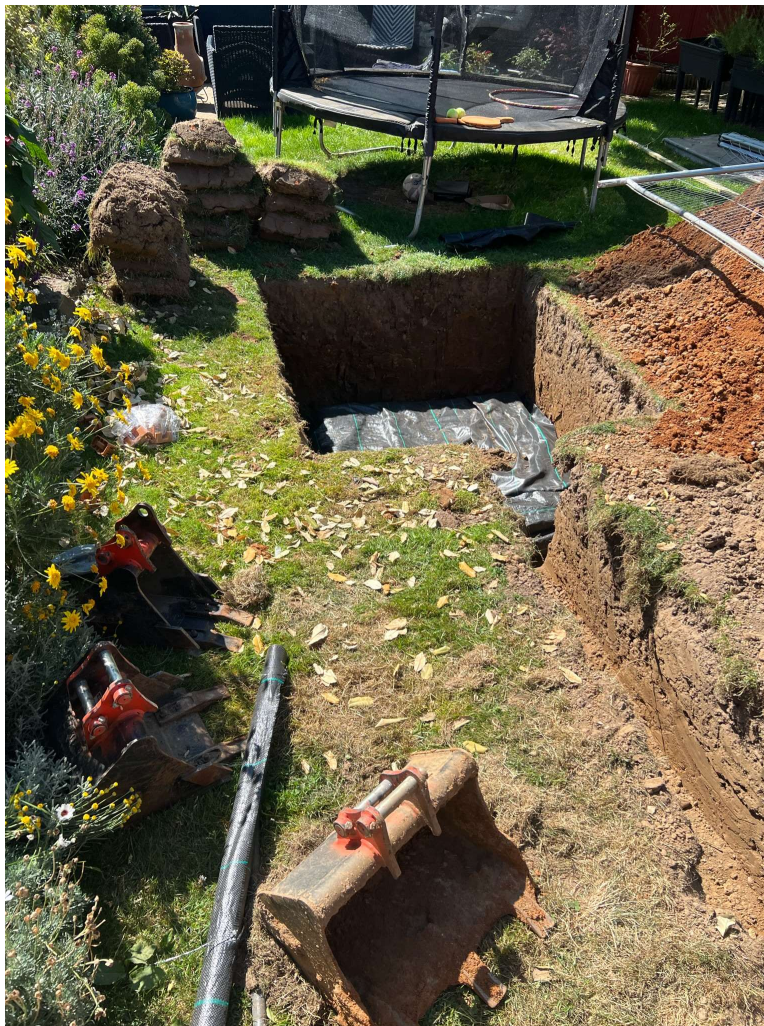


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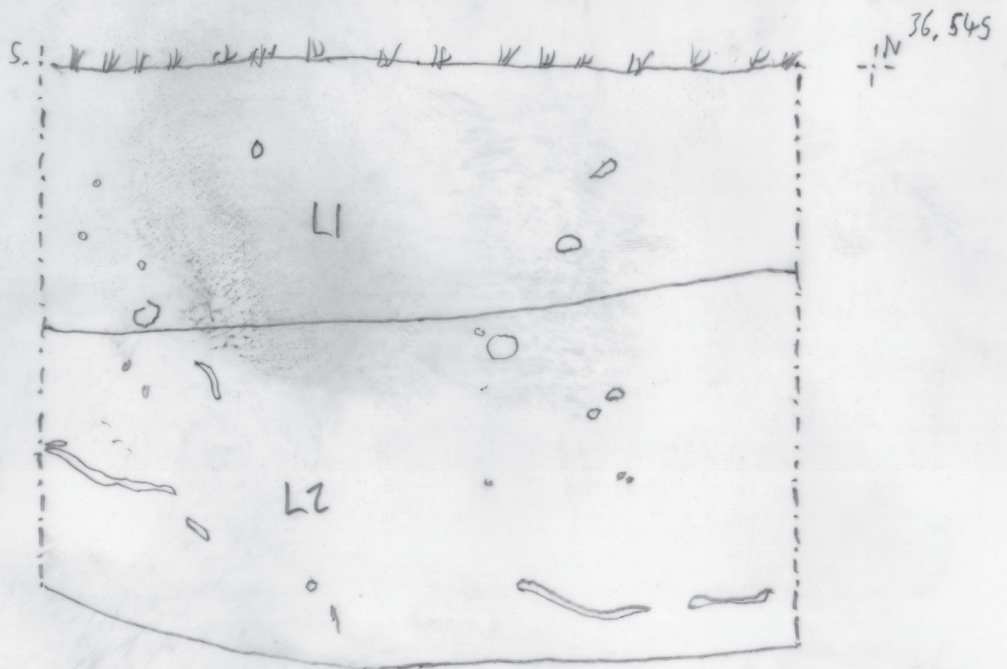
### Listing

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ECC4734\_Photo graph\_009.jpg Unsupervised foundation trenches  
filled with concrete, photo supplied by homeowner  
ECC4734\_Photo graph\_010.jpg Unsupervised foundation trenches and  
ground reduction, photo supplied by homeowner  
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ECC4734\_Photo graph\_014.jpg Unsupervised service trench and  
soakaway, photo supplied by homeowner  
ECC4734\_Photo graph\_015.jpg Test pit, facing NW  
ECC4734\_Photo graph\_016.jpg Overhead of test pit, facing west  
ECC4734\_Photo graph\_017.jpg Overhead of test pit, facing west  
ECC4734\_Photo graph\_018.jpg Test pit, facing SW  
ECC4734\_Photo graph\_019.jpg Location of test pit in relation to  
unsupervised works, facing north  
ECC4734\_Photo graph\_020.jpg Location of test pit 1, facing south  
ECC4734\_Photo graph\_021.jpg Test pit section, facing west  
ECC4734\_Photo graph\_022.jpg Test pit section, facing west



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