

A watching brief on a borehole survey at Colchester Garrison

Phase 2: boreholes BH8-BH18

July 2000

**commissioned by
W.S. Atkins Consultants Ltd
on behalf of
RMPA Services**



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CAT Report 86

**A watching brief on a
borehole survey
at
Colchester Garrison**

Phase 2: boreholes BH8-BH14

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CAT project 00/7C
CAT Report 86
Archive code: 2000-59



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Introduction

This report contains a record of the soil stratigraphy revealed in a series of geotechnical boreholes on land within and belonging to Colchester Garrison. As a preliminary to deep drilling, pits were hand-dug at each location to check soil types and the presence of services and buried ordnance in the uppermost 1.2m of ground. The archaeological watching brief, commissioned by W.S. Atkins Ltd on behalf of RMPA Services, focused on this first stage of the survey work.

Results

The borehole locations are shown in Figure 1.

Boreholes 1-7 had already been dug and monitored in June 2000 (CAT Report 84). On 6th July 2000, the final seven boreholes (BH8-BH14) were dug and monitored. The position of BH8 had altered slightly from the original plan.

BH8

(38cm x 37cm x 1.2m deep)

Ploughed field with a crop, south of Marne Road

NGR: TL 9917 2340

- L1 Fine light silt. 40cm.
- L2 Orange-brown silt. 20cm.
- L3 Natural sand. 40cm.

No brick in any of the layers.

The author was not present during the hand-digging of this borehole. However, the contractor had laid the different soils out in sequence, for inspection.

BH9

(38cm x 37cm x 1.2m deep)

Roman Barracks sports ground, north of Berechurch Hall Road

NGR: TL 9938 2198

- L1 Soft fine silt with some stones. 28cm.
- L2 Orange sandy silt. No brick but one piece of metal clinker. 22cm.
- L3 Very orange sand and gravel. 50cm. Natural.

BH10

(38cm x 35cm x 1m deep)

Grass verge south of Circular Road South

NGR: TL 9925 2383

- L1 Turf and topsoil. 17cm.
- L2 Weathered yellowish brown silty sand with stones and a few small pieces of brick. 23cm.
- L3 Darker fine silt with natural charcoal and fewer stones. 40cm.
- L4 Sand and gravel. 20cm. Natural.

BH11

(35cm x 37cm x 1.1m deep)

Overgrown field next to Butt Road car park, Le Cateau Barracks

NGR: TL 9925 2460

- L1 Topsoil with brick flakes. 20cm.
- L2 Light brown sandy silt with stone, mortar and large pieces of brick. 13cm.
- L3 Orange softer soil with brick. 17cm.
- L4 Natural. 60cm.

BH12

(37cm x 38cm x 1.1m deep)

Cricket pitch

NGR: TL 9972 2443

L1 Turf and topsoil - soft dark silty sand with a few flakes of brick and some stone. 75cm.

L2 Natural yellow-brown sand and gravel. 35cm.

BH13

(40cm x 40cm x 1.2m deep)

Grass verge in Meanee Barracks

NGR: TM 0033 2446

L1 Turf and topsoil with gun cartridges. 15cm.

L2 Red-brown soil with one large piece of brick and several brick flakes, large piece of slate, stones. 40cm.

L3 Sand with gravel. 15cm.

L4 Very dark silt. Natural. 50cm.

BH14

(38cm x 39cm x 1.2m deep)

Field of turnips? south of Gurdon Road

NGR: TL 9980 2326

L1 Dark silt with very few stones. No brick. 40cm.

L2 Orange sand with gravel. 80cm.

Overall no cut features were discernible in any of the pits, although this may be due to their small size and not to the absence of archaeology. Fairly modern brick, a gun cartridge and a marble were the only artefacts found. None were retained.

Archive

A copy of this report together with the original fieldwork records will be deposited permanently with Colchester Museum under cover of museum archive code 2000-59.

Acknowledgements

The Trust is grateful to the following for their co-operation in the course of the fieldwork:

RMPA Services

W.S Atkins Ltd (E. Harrison and S. Watson)

Geotechnical Engineering Ltd (R. Clarke)

Ministry of Defence, Colchester Project Team (P. Bew)

*Kate Orr
7th July 2000*

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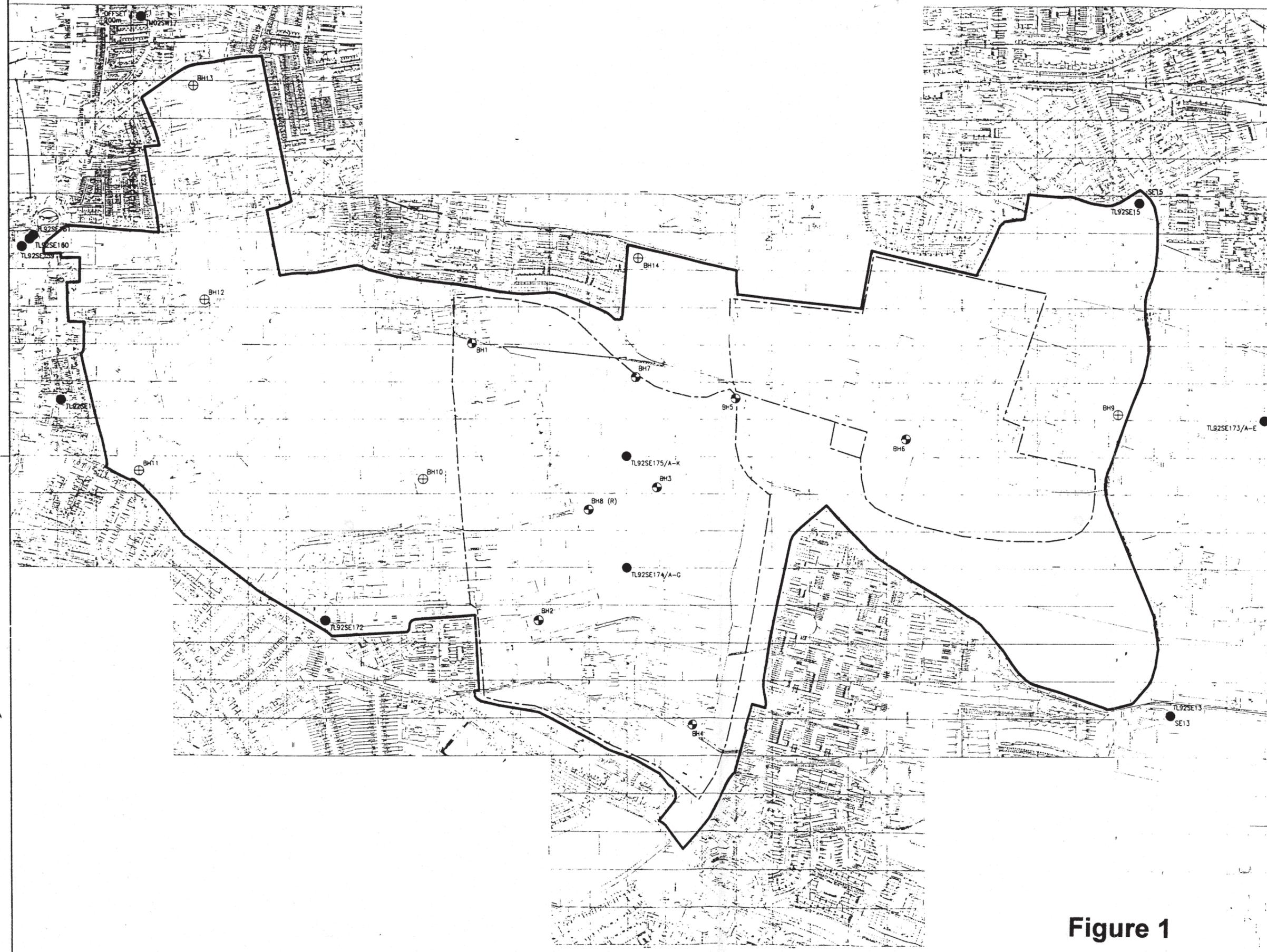
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NOTES
 1. ALL LOCATIONS ARE PRELIMINARY AND ARE SUBJECT TO CONFIRMATION AFTER SITE VISIT. LOCATIONS TO BE AGREED ON SITE WITH REPRESENTATIVE OF THE MoD

- LEGEND**
- GARRISON BOUNDARY SITE FENCE
 - ⊕ PHASE 1 GEOLOGICAL BOREHOLE
 - ⊕ ADDITIONAL BOREHOLES IN PROPOSED RECYCLED LAND AREAS
 - EXISTING BGS BOREHOLE RECORDS



D	ADDITIONAL S.I. WITHIN RECYCLED LAND REQUIRED, PLUS AMENDED LOCATION FOR BH8.	CH	20.12.99	EEH
C	BH LOCATIONS AMENDED BY MOD AND AGREED AT MEETING 22.3.00.	CH	20.12.99	EEH
B	TP's REMOVED, BH7&8 ADDED.	CH	14.12.99	EEH
A	BH6 MOVED.	CH	10.12.99	EEH
Rev.	Description	By	Date	Chk'd

FOR INFORMATION	C	20.12.99	
FOR INFORMATION	C	20.12.99	
FOR INFORMATION	B	14.12.99	
FOR INFORMATION	A	10.12.99	
FOR INFORMATION	D	21.12.99	
Purpose of issue	Rev	Date	Aut

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Client
 RMPA SERVICES

Project
 COLCHESTER GARRISON PFI

Title
 EXPLORATORY HOLE LOCATION PLAN

Original Scale	Drawn	Checked	Authorised
1:5000	CMH	EEH	CH
Date	Date	Date	Date
21.12.99	21.12.99	21.12.99	21.12.99

Drawing Number
 A80755/GTG.990592/001

Figure 1

A1