### A watching brief at 121 London Road, Marks Tey, Essex

October 2000

on behalf of Carroll Homes

Report 106 CAT project: 00/6A Archive code: 2000-51



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October 2000

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### **Colchester Archaeological Trust**

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# A watching brief at 121 London Road, Marks Tey, Essex

NGR: TL 9164 2368

### **Summary**

Negative, other than a tile fragment and pit, possibly of Roman date.

### Report

The development consisted of a row of bungalows at the rear (south-east part) of the site, also one plot near the London Road frontage. Foundation trenches were inspected at intervals between June and October 2000. The only noteworthy observation was in the corner of the site, adjacent to the rear of 117 London Road, where a 3m-deep north-east-- south-west trench revealed a pit (Feature 1 or F1), the location of which is shown in Figure 1. The trench section (Fig 2) was smeared and close examination of the feature was not possible for safety reasons. The greater part of the pit fill was a dark brown silty clay loam with a scatter of charcoal flecks, also occasional small shell and rare minute red tile or brick fragments. A fragment of 28mm-thick red tile, possibly Roman, was found on the ground next to the feature. In the absence of any other source, the tile seems most likely to have come from this pit.

Elsewhere, trenches revealed the following overall sequence of deposits:

- L1 150mm. Dark brown silty clay loam. Modern fresh topsoil, largely stripped by machine.
- L2 300mm. Brown to dark brown silty clay loam. An earlier topsoil accumulation.
- L3 Yellowish brown chalky boulder clay. Natural.

### **Archive**

The fieldwork archive, consisting of the site records, photographs and finds, will be deposited with Colchester Museum for permanent storage under cover of museum code 2000-51.

### **Acknowledgements**

Thanks are due to Mr V Chapman of Carroll Homes for his constant assistance throughout the watching brief. Site inspections were by H Brooks, K Orr and C Crossan.

Carl Crossan October 2000

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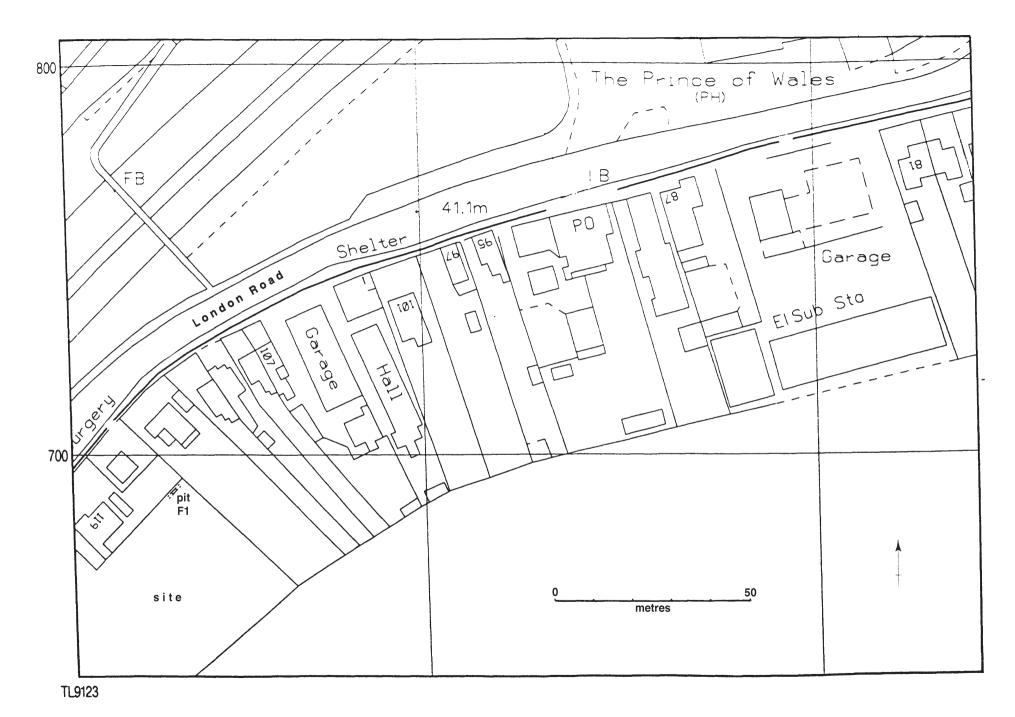
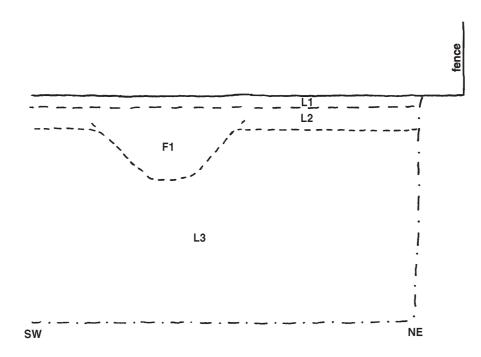


Fig 1 Location plan.



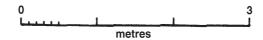


Fig 2 Trench section.