

An archaeological watching brief at 10 St Clare Road, Colchester, Essex

June 2002

**on behalf of
Colchester Borough Council**

CAT project code: 02/6b
Colchester Museum accession code: 2002.120
NGR: TL 9746 2499



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CAT Report 195
June 2002

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EHCR summary sheet

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Fig 1 Site location showing local Iron Age and Roman burials, with site detail.

1 Summary

This site is located within the area of the Roman Lexden cemetery. During a watching brief on contractor's trenches for a small extension to an existing conservatory at 10 St Clare Road, Colchester, Essex, no finds, features or deposits of archaeological significance were observed.

2 Introduction

- 2.1 This is the archive report on an archaeological watching brief at 10 St Clare Road, Colchester, Essex (NGR: TL 9746 2499).
- 2.2 The watching brief was carried out on behalf of Colchester Borough Council during the contractor's excavation of a construction trench for an extension to an existing conservatory on the west side of the property on 21st June 2002 (Fig 1).
- 2.3 All fieldwork was undertaken by Howard Brooks of the Colchester Archaeological Trust (CAT). There was no specification from the Archaeology Officer for Colchester Borough Council, and therefore the work was carried out in accordance with the standards and practices contained in Colchester Borough Council's *Guidelines for the standards and practice of archaeological fieldwork in the Borough of Colchester* (1999) and in *CAT Policies and procedures* (2000).

3 Archaeological background

The site is in something of an archaeological hot-spot, being located on the west side of St Clare Road and therefore on the western edge of the Roman Lexden cemetery (Essex Sites and Monuments Record or ESMR 11712-11714) as discussed in Crummy *et al* (1993, p 261) and as plotted in Hawkes and Crummy (1995, fig 6.1). Furthermore, the Lexden Dyke (ESMR 11628) is only 100m to the west of the site, and the Lexden cemetery with its early burials (late Iron Age) is centred 100m to the south (Hawkes & Crummy 1995, fig 7.1). Roman bronze brooches are also recorded from close to St Clare Drive (ESMR 11717). Earlier periods are represented by the Middle Bronze Age urn which was recorded from St Clare Road (ESMR 11720).

4 Aim

The aim of the watching brief was to record any finds, features and deposits of archaeological significance.

5 Methods

A footings trench was dug by the contractor in the angle between the south edge of the existing conservatory and the east edge of the south wall of the house (defining a new 1 x 3m extension). The trench was 300m wide and 500mm deep. Observed strata were 100mm of concrete slab and 400mm of greyish brown clay with pebbles.

6 Finds

No finds of archaeological significance were collected.

7 Discussion and interpretation

No finds, features or deposits of archaeological significance were observed during this watching brief.

8 Acknowledgments

Site work was undertaken by Howard Brooks. The project was monitored by Martin Winter, Archaeology Officer for Colchester Borough Council.

9 References

Crummy, N, Crummy, P, & Crossan, C, 1993 *Excavations of Roman and later cemeteries, churches and monastic sites in Colchester 1971-88*, Colchester Archaeological Report **9**

Hawkes, C F C, & Crummy, P, 1995 *Camulodunum 2*, Colchester Archaeological Report **11**

10 Archive deposition

The paper archive is held at Colchester Archaeological Trust, 12 Lexden Road, Colchester, Essex CO3 3NF, but it will be permanently deposited with Colchester Museums under accession code 2002.120.

Howard Brooks, June 2002

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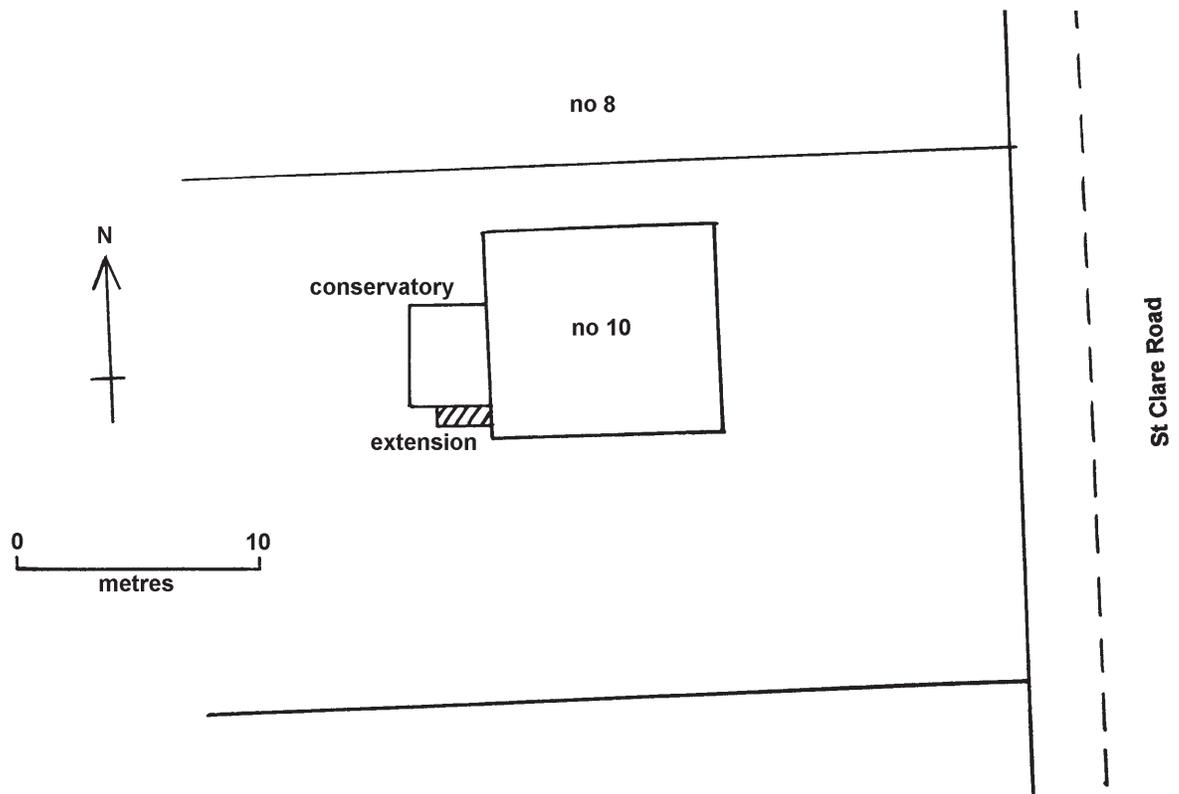
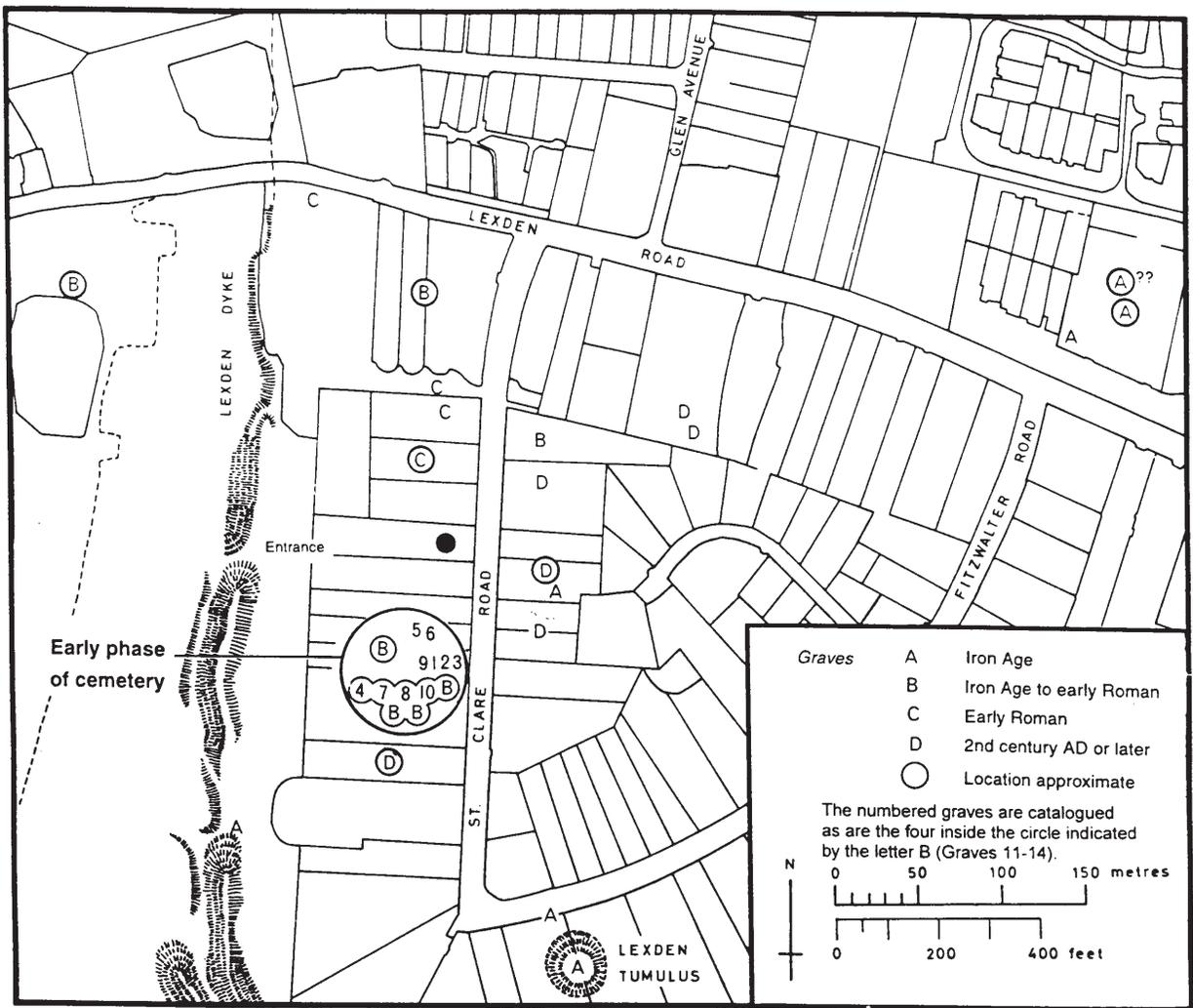


Fig 1 Above: site location (black dot) showing local Iron Age and Roman burials, with below: site detail.

Essex Heritage Conservation Record/ *Essex Archaeology and History*

Summary sheet

Site address: 10 St Clare Road, Colchester, Essex	
Parish: Colchester	District: Colchester
NGR: TL 9746 2499	Site code: Museum accession code 2002.120
Type of work: Watching brief	Site director/group: Colchester Archaeological Trust
Date of work: June 2002	Size of area investigated: 1 x 3m
Location of finds/curating museum: Colchester Museums	Funding source: Colchester Borough Council
Further seasons anticipated? No	Related SMR nos: 11628, 11712-11714, 11717, 11720
Final report: CAT Report 195 and summary in <i>EAH</i>	
Periods represented: None	
Summary of fieldwork results: <i>This site is located within the area of the Roman Lexden cemetery. During a watching brief on contractor's trenches for a small extension to an existing conservatory, no finds, features or deposits of archaeological significance were observed.</i>	
Previous summaries/reports: None	
Author of summary: Howard Brooks	Date of summary: June 2002