

Colchester Archaeological Trust
CAT Report 469

**Essex Historic Environment Record/
*Essex Archaeology and History***

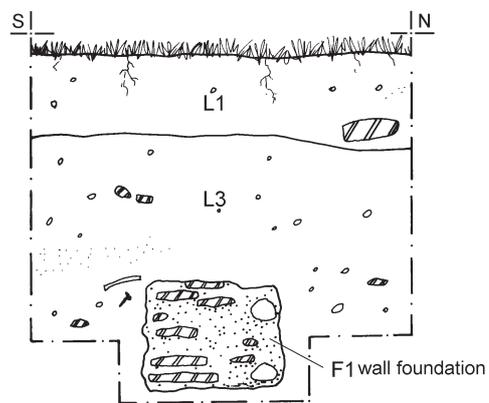
Summary sheet

Site address: 9 East Hill, Colchester, Essex	
Parish: Colchester	District: Colchester Borough
NGR: TM 0025 2522 (centre)	Site codes: CAT project code: 08/3g COLEM accession code 2008.57
Type of work: Watching brief	Site director/group: Colchester Archaeological Trust
Date of work: 13th March-14th April 2008	Size of area investigated: footings and a service trench in a 530m ² site
Location of finds/curating museum: Colchester and Ipswich Museums	Funding source: Developer (Rose Builders)
Further seasons anticipated? No	Related UAD nos:
Final report: CAT Report 469 (summary sheet)	
Periods represented: late medieval, post-medieval, modern	
<p>Summary of fieldwork results:</p> <p><i>Footings were excavated for a new development on the site of a car-park on Priory Street between properties 52 and 54 and in front of 52a (Fig 1). These footings were dug to a depth of between 600mm and 700mm below the modern ground-level which included a 250mm-thick layer of concrete and hogging. The footprint of the new building overlay that of a building which once fronted onto Priory Street, the remains of which were observable as numerous layers of building demolition debris interleaved with a grey mixed loam containing frequent brick, mortar, slate and glass fragments. A building on this plot of land can be seen on the 1923 Ordnance Survey map; the building has subsequently been demolished and replaced with a concreted car-parking area. The footprint of the new development extends 700mm beyond that of the old building in an easterly direction and here a post-Roman sandy loam accumulation was observed containing charcoal, shells and peg-tile. Features of the old building were noted, including a north-south aligned brick drain seen in the boundary wall of the property to the north, and a ?cellar seen in the section of one of the footings trenches. To the east of the new development, on the north-facing wall of property 52a, shallow excavations for services uncovered an archway leading into what was once the cellar of this property.</i></p> <p><i>In the back garden of 9 East Hill, footings were dug for a new brick wall to enclose a garden attached to property 52a on Priory Street (Fig1). These footings were excavated to 500mm below modern ground-level through topsoil and a sandy loam containing post-medieval pottery and tile but no archaeological features. A service trench from the back of 9 East Hill through to Priory Street was dug in the garden (Fig 1). The trench was excavated to an average depth of 700mm below modern ground-level, although the natural geology was identified at a depth of 105mm at one point along the trench. This trench was excavated prior to the arrival on site of an archaeologist. Two modern wall foundations (250mm below the modern ground-level) and a wall foundation of greater antiquity (F1; 600mm below ground-level) were identified in section. The deeper of the two foundations (F1) was constructed of mortar (60%), peg-tile (25%) and large pebbles (15%) and was observable only in the western trench section (Fig 2). The absence of any wall material in the spoil heaps and the solidity of the foundation suggest that the wall was not cut away when the service trench was dug. Hence it is likely that it was part of the end of a wall or perhaps a doorway. The peg-tile used in its construction and a closely associated fragment of Fabric 21a (Colchester-type ware) both suggest that the structure was late medieval or post-medieval in date.</i></p>	
Previous summaries/reports: None	
Keywords: post-medieval building	Significance: neg
Author of summary: Adam Wightman	Date of summary: 23rd April 2008



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Fig 1 Plan showing the location of the new development and the brick boundary walls for which the footings were excavated, and the service trench with the late medieval/post-medieval wall foundation (F1).



- sand
- small stones
- large stones
- mortar
- ▨ post-Roman brick and tile
- ◊ pottery
- iron nail
- √ roots

Fig 2 Section.