

**An archaeological watching brief at 3 Roman Road, Colchester, Essex:  
May 2012  
CAT Report 648**

|                              |                                 |
|------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| <b>Site address:</b>         | 3 Roman Road, Colchester, Essex |
| <b>Date of fieldwork:</b>    | 17th and 18th May 2012          |
| <b>NGR:</b>                  | TM 00178 22305                  |
| <b>CBCAO brief?:</b>         | Yes                             |
| <b>Plans attached?:</b>      | Yes (Fig 1)                     |
| <b>Museum accession code</b> | 2012.36                         |
| <b>CAT project code:</b>     | 12/05b                          |

A planning application (LPA No. F/COL/11/1820) was submitted to Colchester Borough Council for the construction of a conservatory within the existing rear garden of 3 Roman Road. As the site is adjacent to the town wall, a Scheduled Ancient Monument (Essex SAM no. 7), a watching brief condition was attached to the planning consent. The watching brief called for the archaeological monitoring of the topsoil and subsoil stripping and associated groundworks, in order to identify and record any surviving archaeological deposits.

A foundation trench covering an area 3m by 3.25m was hand-dug by contractors immediately to the rear of the house. This was excavated through 200mm of concrete patio slabs and an associated sandy gravel base. Below this was a layer of dark brown loam which was interpreted as the upper level of the garden soil. The foundation trench was excavated 200mm into this layer and then halted at the required dig depth. A few sherds of pottery were recovered from the excavation, but these were not retained as they clearly dated to the twentieth century. No archaeological contexts were distinguishable in the bottom of the trench.

**References**

Winter, M 2011 *Brief for archaeological attendance and recording (a watching brief), 3 Roman Road, Colchester, Essex*

**Report author:** Chris Lister  
**Report date:** May 2012

**Distribution list**

Mr Homa Cherry  
Martin Winter, Colchester Borough Council  
EHER

checked by: *Philip Crummy*  
date: 21.05.12

*PC Projects/2012/3Roman Road, Colchester/Report648.doc*



**Colchester Archaeological Trust**

12 Lexden Road,  
Colchester,

Essex CO3 3NF

tel.: (01206) 541051

email: [archaeologists@catuk.org](mailto:archaeologists@catuk.org)

## Essex Historic Environment Record/ Essex Archaeology and History

### Summary sheet

|   |  |
|---|--|
| <b>Address:</b> 3 Roman Road, Colchester, Essex   |  |
| <b>Parish:</b> Colchester   | <b>District:</b> Colchester Borough                            |
| <b>NGR:</b> TM 00178 22305 (c)  | <b>Site codes:</b><br>CAT project code - 12/05b                |
| <b>Type of work:</b><br>Watching brief  | <b>Site director/group:</b><br>Colchester Archaeological Trust |
| <b>Date of work:</b><br>17th and 18th May 2012  | <b>Size of area investigated:</b><br>3m by 3.25m               |
| <b>Location of curating museum:</b><br>Colchester and Ipswich Museum<br>accession code 2012.36  | <b>Funding source:</b><br>Developer                            |
| <b>Monitored by:</b><br>Martin Winter, Colchester Borough Council Archaeological Officer  |  |
| <b>Further seasons anticipated?</b><br>No   | <b>Related EHER numbers:</b>                                   |
| <b>Final report:</b>  | CAT Report 648   |
| <b>Periods represented:</b>   | modern   |
| <p><b>Summary:</b><br/> <i>A planning application (LPA No. F/COL/11/1820) was submitted to Colchester Borough Council for the construction of a conservatory within the existing rear garden of 3 Roman Road. As the site is adjacent to the town wall, a Scheduled Ancient Monument (Essex SAM no. 7), a watching brief condition was attached to the planning consent. The watching brief called for the archaeological monitoring of the topsoil and subsoil stripping and associated groundworks, in order to identify and record any surviving archaeological deposits.</i></p> <p><i>A foundation trench covering an area 3m by 3.25m was hand-dug by contractors immediately to the rear of the house. This was excavated through 200mm of concrete patio slabs and an associated sand gravel base. Below this was a layer of dark brown loam which was interpreted as the upper level of the garden soil. The foundation trench was excavated 200mm into this layer and then halted at the required dig depth. A few sherds of pottery were recovered from the excavation, but these were not retained as they clearly dated to the twentieth century. No archaeological contexts were distinguishable in the bottom of the trench.</i></p> |  |
| <b>Previous summaries/reports:</b> none   |  |
| <b>Keywords:</b> -  | <b>Significance:</b> negative                                  |
| <b>Author of summary:</b><br>Chris Lister   | <b>Date of summary:</b><br>May 2012                            |

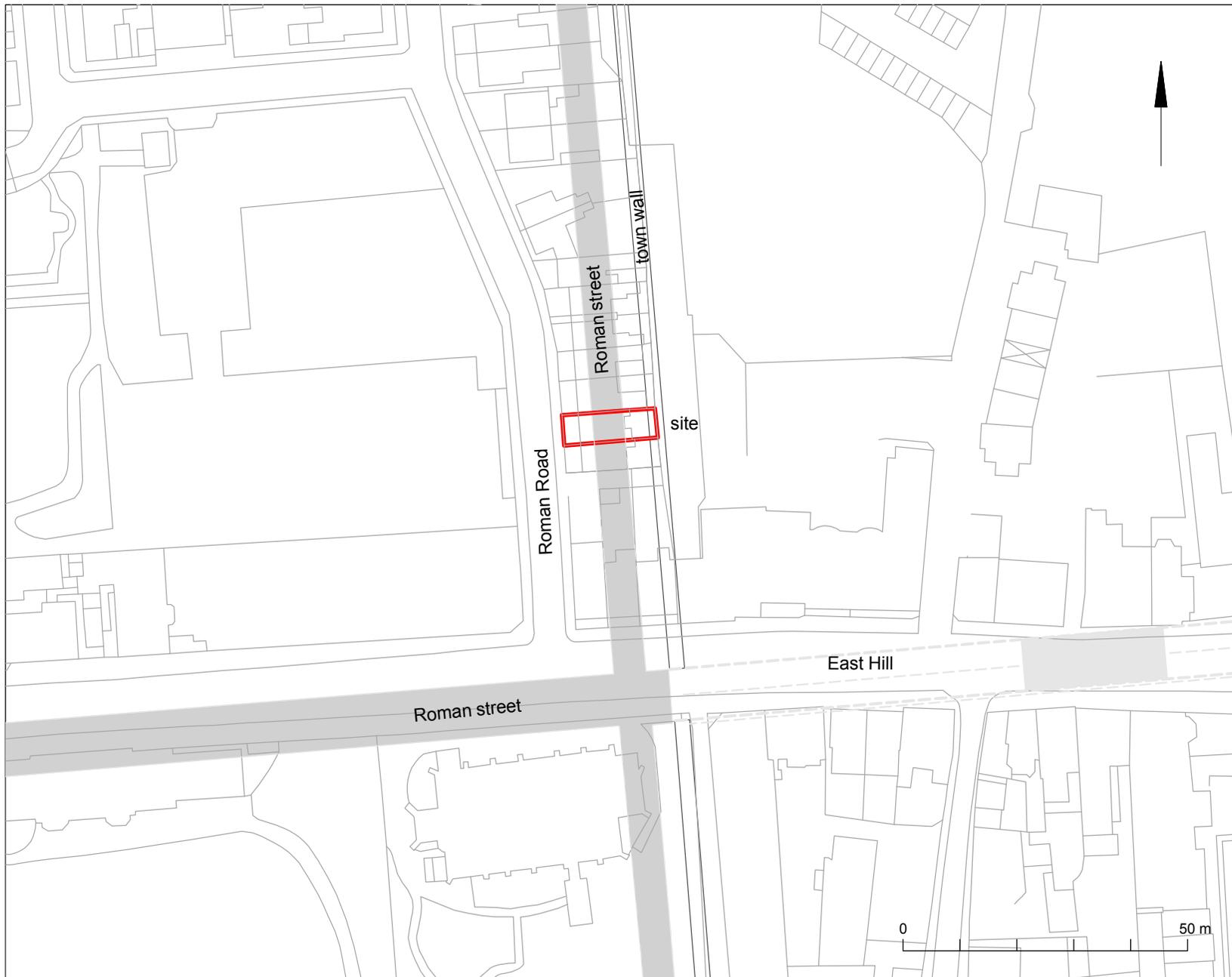


Fig 1 Site location.