

**Archaeological monitoring (watching brief)  
At Colchester Retail Park,  
Sheepen Road,  
Colchester, Essex  
August 2012**



**report prepared by  
Ben Holloway**

**on behalf of  
Indigo Planning**

CAT project ref.: 12/08a  
NGR: TL 990 254



**Colchester Archaeological Trust**

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**CAT Report 660**  
August 2012

Essex Historic Environment Record/  
*Essex Archaeology and History*

**Archaeological attendance & recording  
(watching brief)  
at Colchester Retail Park,  
Sheepen Road, Colchester**

**Summary sheet**

**CAT Report 660**

<b>Address:</b> Colchester Retail Park, Sheepen Road, Colchester, Essex	
<b>Parish:</b> Colchester	<b>District:</b> Colchester
<b>NGR:</b> TL 990 254 (centre)	<b>Site code:</b> CAT project code – 12/8a
<b>Type of work:</b> Watching brief	<b>Site director/group:</b> Colchester Archaeological Trust
<b>Date of work:</b> 16 <sup>th</sup> August 2012	<b>Size of area investigated:</b> 5m x 0.7m engineering trench
<b>Location of curating museum:</b> Colchester and Ipswich Museum accession code – 2012.46	<b>Funding source:</b> Developer
<b>Further seasons anticipated?</b> Yes	<b>Related EHER numbers:</b> CAT REPORTS 368, 362
<b>Final report:</b> CAT Report 660	
<b>Periods represented:</b> modern	
<b>Summary of fieldwork results:</b> An archaeological watching brief was carried out in August of 2012, in accordance with a <i>Project Brief</i> issued by the Colchester Borough Council Archaeological Officer (CBCAO).  Observations were made during the excavation of an engineering trench through modern car-park hardstanding (L1) and its associated sub-base (approx 400mm thick). At the east end of the trench L1 sealed modern concrete, and geo-textile at the west end. L1 sealed a horizon of made-ground (L2) - substantial deposits of builder's debris (brick, slate and plastic, none of which was retained). L2 was probably associated with the construction of the retail park in the late 1990s. Excavation was halted at this depth.  In summary, no archaeological features were identified, and there were no finds. The made-ground under the modern surface was not penetrated, but it may be assumed that it seals any underlying archaeological horizons, which remain <i>in situ</i> and unaffected by the investigation.	

Further monitoring will be required after the formalisation of the foundation design, so any material that will be affected or removed by the work can be recorded.	
<b>Previous summaries/reports:</b> none	
<b>Keywords:</b> modern	<b>Significance:</b> neg
<b>Author of summary:</b> Ben Holloway	<b>Date of summary:</b> August 2012
<b>CBC Monitor:</b> Martin Winter	