

**Archaeological evaluation at
117-123 Gosbecks Road,
Colchester, Essex
January 2013**

**fieldwork by
Adam Wightman**

**report prepared by
G Adams**

**on behalf of
M Scott Properties Ltd**

CAT project ref.: 12/12d
NGR: TL 97527 22848 (c)
Colchester and Ipswich Museums accession code: COLEM 2013.4



Colchester Archaeological Trust

Roman Circus House,
Circular Road North,
Colchester,
Essex CO2 7GZ

tel.: 07436273304

email: archaeologists@catuk.org

CAT Report 682
February 2013

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

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CAT Report 682

Summary sheet

Address: 117-123 Gosbecks Road, Colchester, Essex	
Parish: Colchester	District: Colchester
NGR: TL 97527 22848 (c)	Site codes: CAT project code – 12/12d Museum accession code – COLEM 2013.4
Type of work: Evaluation	Site director/group: Colchester Archaeological Trust
Date of work: 23rd January 2013	Size of area investigated: 2.2 acres (two trenches)
Location of curating museum: Colchester and Ipswich Museums	Funding source: Developer
Further seasons anticipated? No	Related EHER numbers: -
Final report:	CAT Report 682
Periods represented:	-
<p>Summary: <i>Two machine-dug trenches were excavated in advance of a proposed redevelopment of the site at 117-123 Gosbecks Road, Colchester, Essex. No archaeological finds, features or deposits were observed during the fieldwork.</i> <i>A brief for an archaeological evaluation at 117-123 Gosbecks Road was issued by the Archaeological Officer of Colchester Borough Council, because the site of the proposed development is located within an area of definite archaeological potential.</i> <i>The site is 2.2 acres in size, located to the south of Colchester town centre and on the northern side of Gosbecks Road. The site included the office and store buildings of Colchester Borough Homes and the Colchester Wine Company. A large part of the site was made up of areas of concrete hardstanding for car-parking.</i> <i>The brief was issued because a forthcoming application proposed a redevelopment of the site, consisting of a new building of 1,915 sq m on the</i></p>	

western side of the site, largely within the footprint of the larger two of the existing buildings. The car-parking areas are to be retained, as is the office building and car-park in the south-eastern part of the site. Two smaller buildings to the rear (north) of the site are to be removed and that area incorporated into the car-park.

The site is adjacent to the Scheduled Ancient Monument area of the Iron Age and Romano-British site at Gosbecks (SAM no 57). During excavations by CAT in the 1990s, south of Gosbecks Road and north of Cunobelin Way, extensive features of the prehistoric and Roman landscape were recorded. (For full information on the archaeology of the Gosbecks site, see CAR 11 and CAT Report 127.) The line of a Roman road leading north-south from Colchester to Gosbecks passes approximately 85 m to the west of the current site.

The evaluation was undertaken to establish the extent, character and date of any surviving archaeological deposits on the site.

CAT archaeologist Adam Wightman supervised the machine-excavation of two evaluation trenches (T1, T2), near the footprint of the new building on the western side of the site. They were adjacent to the two larger existing buildings (see Fig 1). The trenches were excavated to a depth of 250 mm and cut through a layer of concrete and hardstanding, below which was approximately 20 mm of topsoil which overlay the natural. T1 was 9 m long and 2 m wide, and T2 was 8.75 m long and 2 m wide. No archaeological finds, features or deposits were observed.

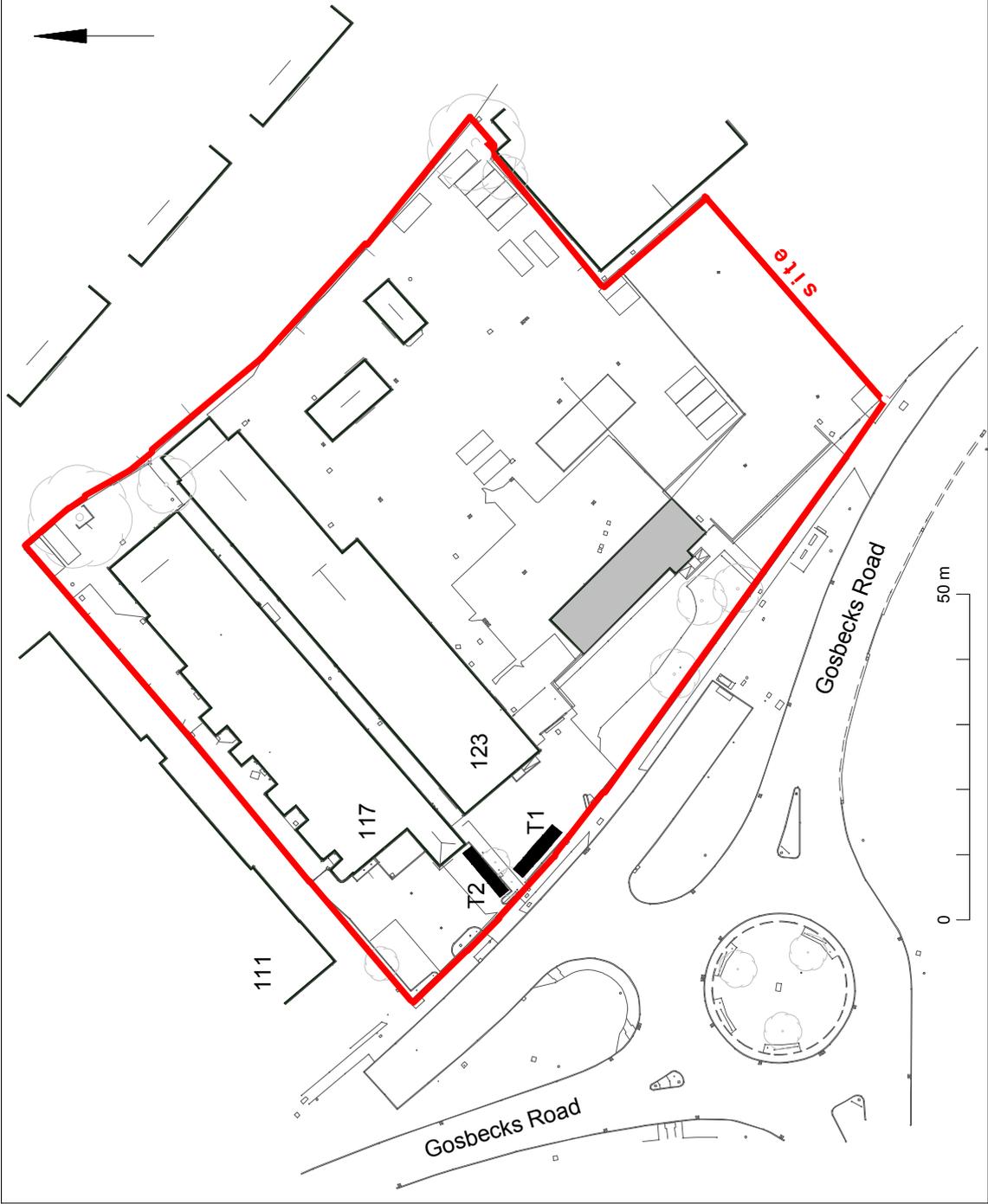
Previous summaries/reports: None

Keywords: -

Significance: neg

Author of summary:
G Adams

Date of summary:
February 2013



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Fig 1 Site location (four buildings with black outline to be demolished; one building with grey tone to be retained).