

**Archaeological evaluation by trial-trenching
at Torc Cottage, 3 Garden End,
Stock, Essex, CM4 9LD**

October 2015



**by Laura Pooley
illustrations by Chris Lister and Emma Holloway**

**on behalf of Silverswan Homes,
agent RD Consulting**

Planning reference: CHL 15/00068/FUL
CAT project ref.: 15/06f
NGR: TQ 69555 98875 (centre)
Chelmsford Museum accession code CHMRE: 2015.118
ECC project code: SKTC15
OASIS reference: colchest3-217268



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CAT Report 881
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1 Summary

An archaeological trial-trenching evaluation undertaken in advance of the construction of two new chalet style houses revealed no significant archaeological features or finds.

2 Introduction (Fig 1)

This report presents the results of an archaeological trenched evaluation at Torc Cottage, 3 Garden End, Stock, Essex which was carried out on the 28th October 2015. The work was commissioned by RD Consulting, the agent for Silverswan Homes, in advance of the construction of two new chalet style houses, and was undertaken by Colchester Archaeological Trust (CAT).

In response to consultation with Historic England and Essex County Council Place Services (ECCPS), Historic Environment Advisor Alison Bennet advised that in order to establish the archaeological implications of this application, the applicant should be required to commission a scheme of archaeological investigation in accordance with paragraphs 128, 129 and 132 of the *National Planning Policy Framework* (DCLG 2012).

All archaeological work was carried out in accordance with a *Brief for Archaeological Evaluation*, detailing the required archaeological work, written by Alison Bennett (ECCPS 2015), and a Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) prepared by CAT in response to the brief and agreed with ECCPS (CAT 2015).

In addition to the brief and WSI, all fieldwork and reporting was done in accordance with English Heritage's *Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment (MoRPHE)* (English Heritage 2006), and with *Standards for field archaeology in the East of England* (EAA 14 and 24). This report mirrors standards and practices contained in the Institute for Archaeologists' *Standard and guidance for archaeological field evaluation* (ClfA 2014a) and *Standard and guidance for the collection, documentation, conservation and research of archaeological materials* (ClfA 2014b).

3 Archaeological background

The following archaeological background draws on the Essex Historic Environment Record (EHER) held at Essex County Council, County Hall, Chelmsford.

Pottery manufacture was an important industry in Stock from the 16th to the 19th centuries. This has been evidenced by the finding of post-medieval pottery kilns to the north-west of the development site at Stock Bowling Club (EHER 5507), and medieval pottery and kiln waste has also been recovered from a sewer trench alongside Common Lane (EHER 5391). Recent excavations at 10 The Paddock (CAT Report 704) revealed large quantities of post medieval pottery, which indicates a nearby kiln (EHER 48334). Historical evidence shows that Stock Common to the north of the development site was dug for clay for pottery manufacture. Earlier evidence of occupation in Stock comes from a site just to the north of the development site (EHER 46565) where Late Bronze Age/Early Iron Age features were found.

For further details of the history of Stock see Phillips (2003 and 2009).

4 Results (Fig 2-3)

Two trenches were excavated within the footprint of the new houses. Two layers were identified: modern topsoil, 300mm thick (L1), which sealed natural sand/clay (L2).

Trench 1, 10m long by 1.8m wide, with half of the trench being offset by a bucket's width to avoid a modern service.

Three obviously modern features were identified but not excavated.



Plate 1: Trench 1

Trench 2, 13m long by 1.8m wide

A modern drain ran across one end of the trench and an area of modern disturbance was probably associated with the demolition of the house previously on the site.



Plate 2: Trench 2

5 Finds

No archaeological finds were identified on the site.

6 Discussion

No archaeological discoveries were made on the site. All of the modern features were probably associated with the demolished house and outbuilding previously on the site.

7 Acknowledgements

CAT thanks Silverswan Homes (client) and RD Consulting (agent) for commissioning and funding the work. The project was managed by B Holloway and fieldwork was carried out by B Holloway and E Sanford. Site plans were prepared by C Lister. The project was monitored for ECC by Alison Bennett.

8 References

Note: all CAT reports, except for DBAs, are available online in PDF format at <http://cat.essex.ac.uk>

CAT Report 704	2014	<i>An archaeological evaluation by trial-trenching at 10, The Paddock, Stock, Essex: May 2013</i>
CAT	2015	<i>Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) for an archaeological evaluation at Torc Cottage, 3 Garden End, Stock, Essex</i>
CIfA	2014a	<i>Standard and guidance for archaeological field evaluation</i>
CIfA	2014b	<i>Standard and guidance for the collection, documentation, conservation and research of archaeological materials</i>
DCLG	2012	<i>National Planning Policy Framework</i> . Dept of Communities and Local Government.
EAA 14	2003	<i>Standards for field archaeology in the East of England</i> , East Anglian Archaeology, Occasional Papers, 14 . Ed. D Gurney
EAA 24	2011	<i>Research and archaeology revisited: A revised framework for the East of England</i> , East Anglian Archaeology Occasional Papers 24 , by Maria Medlycott
ECCPS	2015	<i>Brief for Archaeological Evaluation at Torc Cottage, 3 Garden End, Stock</i>
English Heritage	2006	<i>Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment</i> (English Heritage)
Phillips, C	2003	<i>The story of Stock and Buttsbury</i>
Phillips, C	2009	<i>Village Design Statement: Planning Guidance for the Parish of Stock</i>

9 Abbreviations and glossary

CAT	Colchester Archaeological Trust
CIfA	Chartered Institute for Archaeologists
context	specific location of finds on an archaeological site
ECCPS	Essex County Council Place Services
EH	Essex Historic Environment Record

feature (F)	an identifiable thing like a pit, a wall, a drain: can contain 'contexts'
layer (L)	distinct or distinguishable deposit of soil
modern	period from c AD 1800 to the present
natural	geological deposit undisturbed by human activity
WSI	Written Scheme of Investigation

10 Contents of archive

Finds: none retained

Paper and digital record

One A4 document wallet containing:

The report (CAT Report 881)

ECC Evaluation Brief, CAT Written Scheme of Investigation

Original site record (Feature and layer sheets, Finds record, plans)

Site digital photos and log, Architectural plans, Attendance register, Risk assessment

11 Archive deposition

The paper and digital archive is currently held by the Colchester Archaeological Trust at Roman Circus House, Roman Circus Walk, Colchester, Essex, CO2 7GZ, but will be permanently deposited with Chelmsford Museum under accession code CHMRE: 2015.118.

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Silverswan Homes
RC Consulting
Alison Bennett, Essex County Council
EHER



Colchester Archaeological Trust

Roman Circus House

Roman Circus Walk,

Colchester,

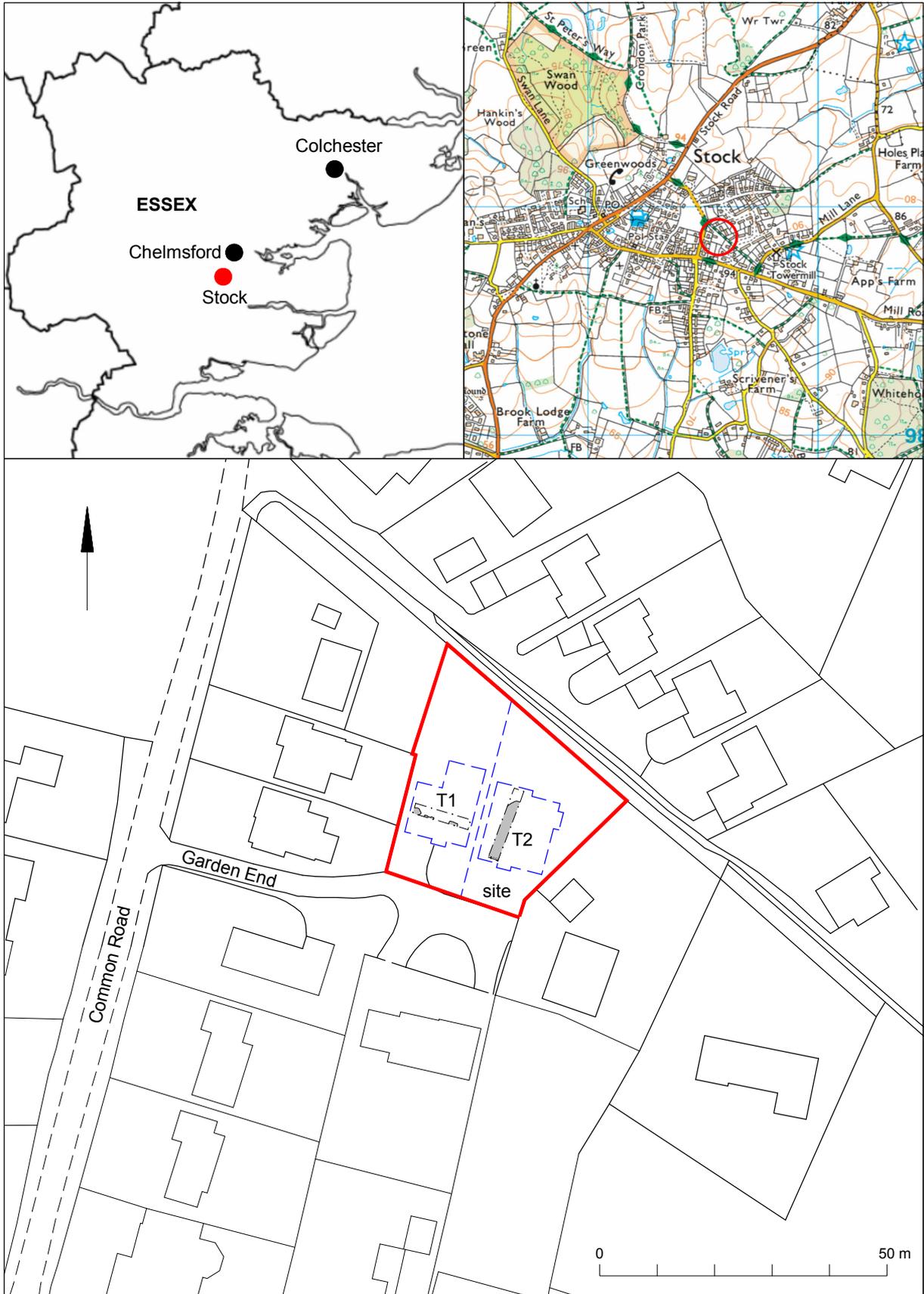
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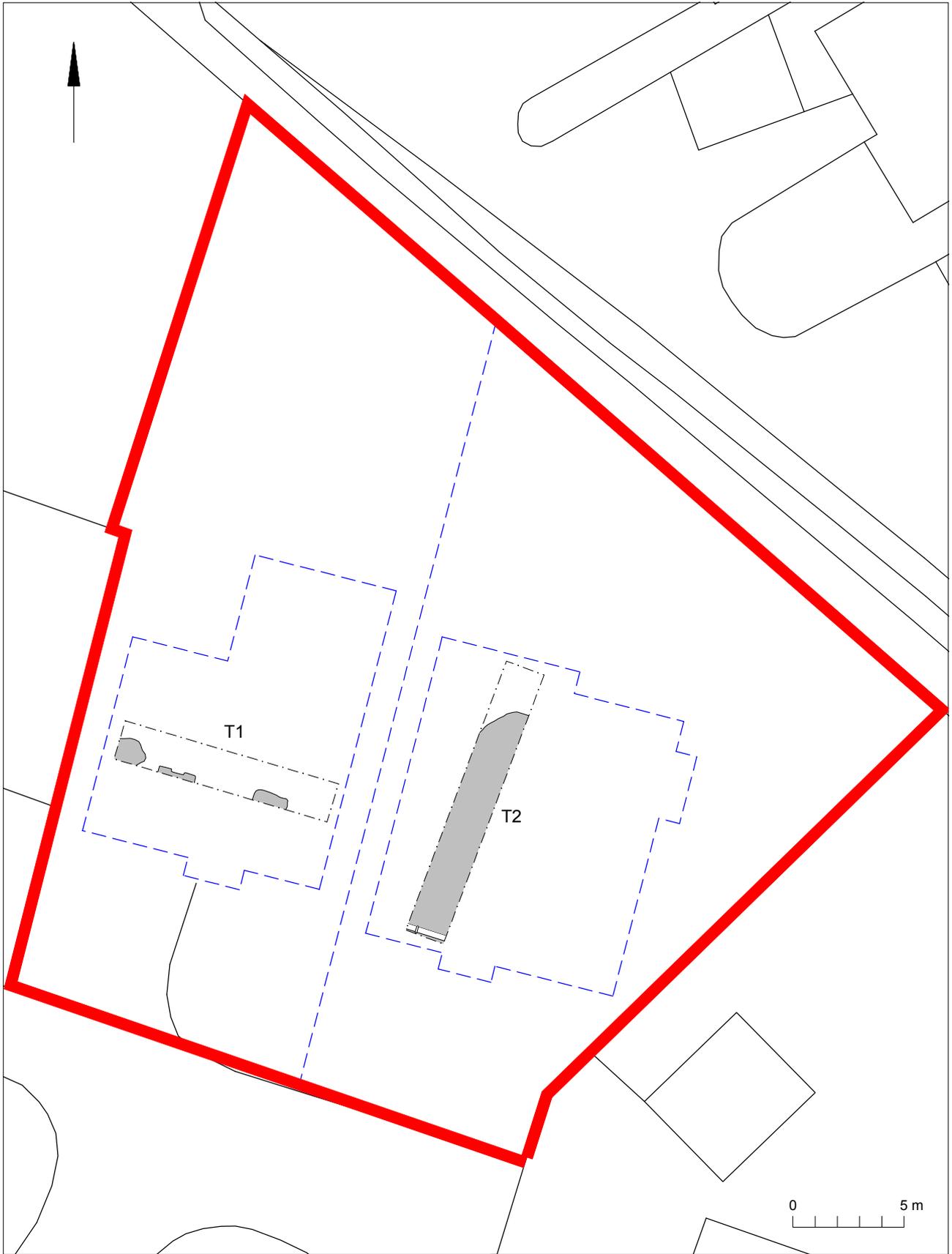
Checked by: Howard Brooks

Date: 10/11/2015



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Fig 1 Site location.



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Fig 2 Results in relation to the proposed development.

 modern disturbance

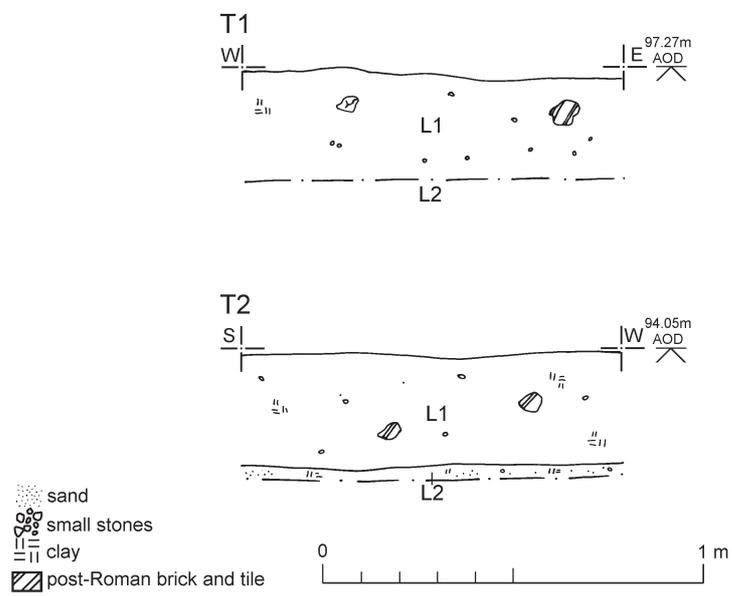


Fig 3 Representative trench sections (T1-2).

Essex Historic Environment Record/ Essex Archaeology and History

Summary sheet

Address: Torc Cottage, 3 Garden End, Stock, Essex, CM4 9LD	
Parish: Chelmsford	District: Stock
NGR: TQ 69555 98875 (c)	Site code: CAT project ref.: 15/06f ECC project code: SKTC15 OASIS ref: colchest3-217268
Type of work: Evaluation	Site director/group: Colchester Archaeological Trust
Date of work: 28th October 2015	Size of area investigated: <i>2 trenches totalling 23m by 1.8m (41.4m²)</i>
Location of curating museum: Chelmsford museum accession code CHMRE: 2015.118	Funding source: Owner
Further seasons anticipated? no	Related UAD/SMR number: EHER 5391, 5507, 46565, 48334
Final report: CAT Report 881	
Periods represented: Modern	
Summary of fieldwork results: <i>An archaeological trial-trenching evaluation undertaken in advance of the construction of two new chalet style houses revealed no significant archaeological features or finds.</i>	
Previous summaries/reports: None	
CBC monitor: Alison Bennett	
Keywords: -	Significance: -
Author of summary: Laura Pooley	Date of summary: November 2015