

**Archaeological evaluation on land
adjacent to 12 Weeley Road, Little Clacton,
Essex, CO16 9EY**

January 2016



by Laura Pooley

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fieldwork by Ben Holloway

Planning reference: 15/00848/FUL

CAT project ref.: 15/12e

NGR: TM 162 198 (centre)

Colchester Museum accession code COLEM: 2016.1

ECC project code: WEWR15

OASIS reference: colchest3-325125



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CAT Report 907

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Contents

1	Summary	1
2	Introduction	1
3	Archaeological background	1
4	Results	2
5	Finds	3
6	Discussion	3
7	Acknowledgements	3
8	References	3
9	Abbreviations and glossary	3
10	Contents of archive	4
11	Archive deposition	4

Figures after p4

List of plates, figures and tables

Cover: general site shot

Photograph 1	Trench 1	2
Photograph 2	Trench 2	2

Fig 1	Site location
Fig 2	Evaluation results
Fig 3	Sections

1 Summary

An archaeological evaluation by trial-trenching was carried out on land adjacent to 12 Weeley Road, Little Clacton, Essex. Despite being located on the site of a much older dwelling (of post-medieval or possibly medieval origin) no archaeological features or finds were identified.

2 Introduction (Fig 1)

This report presents the results of an archaeological evaluation on land adjacent to 12 Weeley Road, Little Clacton, Essex which was carried out on the 15th January 2016. The work was commissioned by Chris Morrison in advance of the construction of a single detached property and associated garage, and was undertaken by Colchester Archaeological Trust (CAT).

In response to consultation with Essex County Council Place Services (ECCPS), Historic Environment Advisor Richard Havis 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 Adrian Gascoyne (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.

Historic mapping, including the 1777 Chapman and André map, and the 1st edition Ordnance Survey map, show that the development site is situated within the plot of a much older dwelling, which is at least post medieval in date and may have been medieval in origin. The new development has the potential to damage or destroy any surviving archaeological remains.

The site also lies immediately to the southwest of an area used as a WWI night landing ground from 1916-1919 (EHER 19353).



Map 1 First edition OS map showing older dwellings on the development site which is immediately above 'Plough Corner'

4 **Results** (fig 1-2)

Two trial-trenches were excavated across the footprint of the new dwelling and garage. Both measured 7m long by 1.8m wide.

Trench 1 (T1)

Trench 1 was excavated to a depth of 500mm below ground level. It was dug through hardstanding (L1, 300mm deep, a modern driveway), sealing an accumulation horizon (L2, 160mm deep, modern/post-medieval), which sealed natural clay (L3). No archaeological features were identified.



Photograph 1 Trench 1, view E



Photograph 2 Trench 2, view S

Trench 2 (T2)

Trench 2 was excavated to a depth of 430mm below ground level. It was dug through topsoil (L4, 290mm deep, modern), sealing an accumulation horizon (L2, 120mm deep,

modern/post-medieval), which sealed natural clay (L3). A modern field drain ran the entire length of the trench. No archaeological features were identified.

5 Finds

Fragments of brick, peg-tile and coal were observed in L2 but not retained.
Fragments of modern brick and plastic were observed in L4 but not retained.

6 Discussion

Despite being located on the site of a much older dwelling (of post-medieval or possibly medieval origin) no archaeological features or finds were identified in the evaluation trenches.

7 Acknowledgements

CAT thanks Chris Morrison for commissioning and funding the work. The project was managed by B Holloway and fieldwork was carried out by BH and R Mathieson. Site plans were prepared by B Baister. The project was monitored for ECC by Adrian Gascoyne.

8 References

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

CAT	2015	<i>Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) for archaeological evaluation on land adjacent to 12 Weeley Road, Clacton, Essex, CO16 9EY</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 and Excavation on land adjacent to 12 Weeley Road, Clacton</i>
English Heritage	2006	<i>Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment</i> (English Heritage)

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
medieval	period from AD 1066 to Henry VIII
modern	period from c AD 1800 to the present
natural	geological deposit undisturbed by human activity
NGR	National Grid Reference

post-medieval from Henry VIII to c AD 1800
Section (abbreviation sx or Sx) vertical slice through feature/s or layer/s
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 907)

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 Colchester and Ipswich Museums under accession code COLEM: 2016.1.

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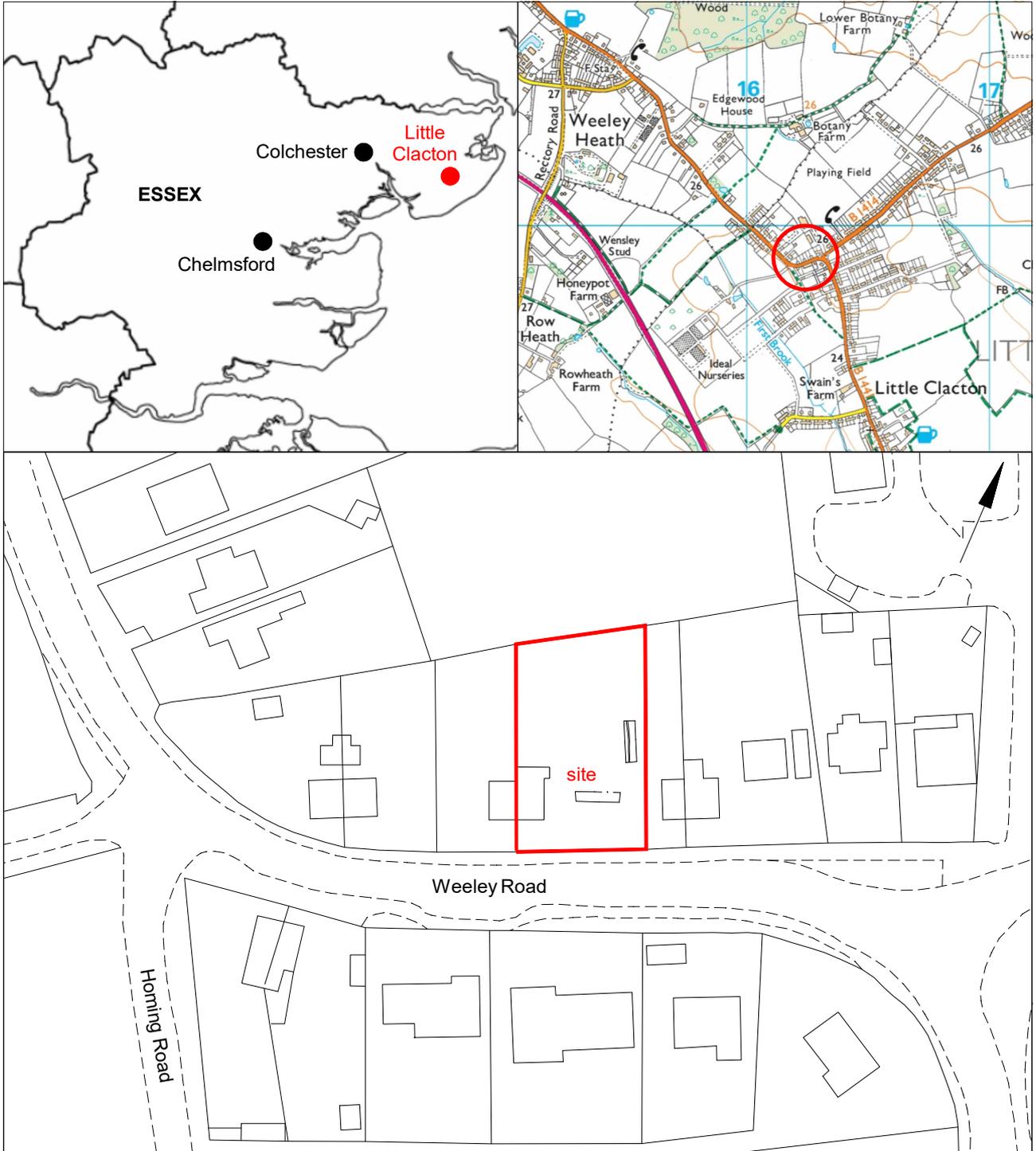
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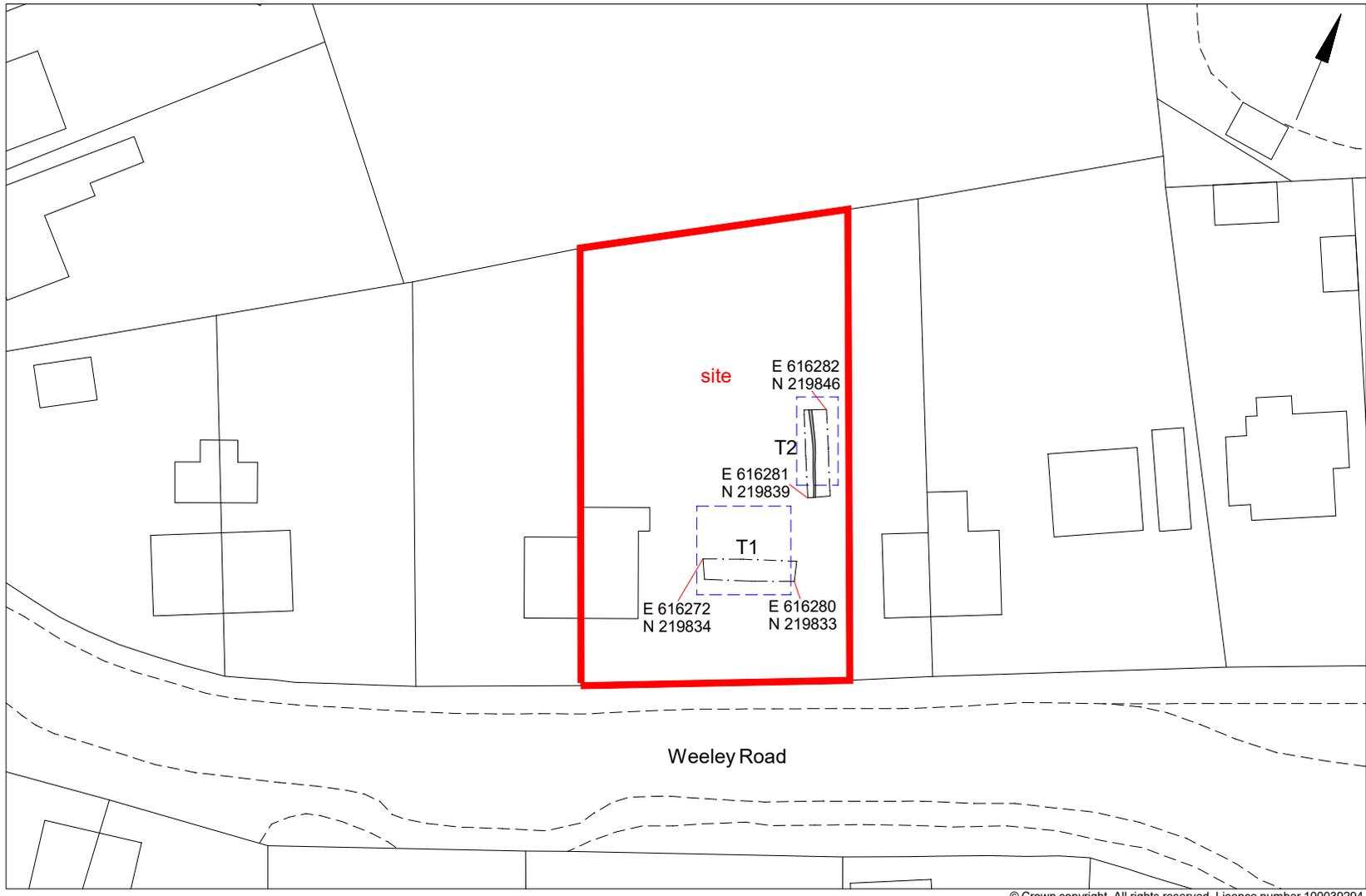
Date: 18/01/2016



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Fig 1 Site location.

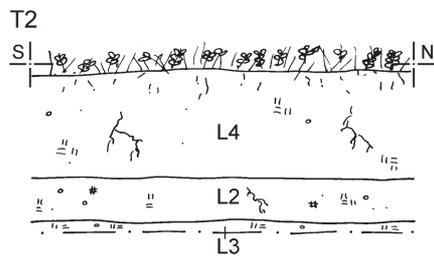
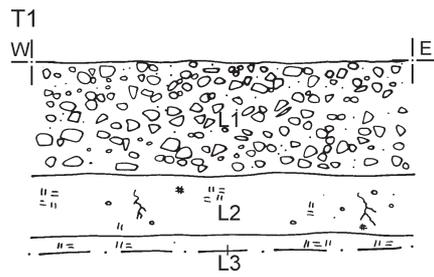




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Fig 2 Evaluation results. Proposed development shown in blue.





- sand
- small stones
- ≡≡ clay
- ## charcoal
- √ roots



Fig 3 Sections.

Essex Historic Environment Record/ Essex Archaeology and History

Summary sheet

Address: land adjacent to 12 Weeley Road, Little Clacton, Essex, CO16 9EY	
Parish: Clacton-on-Sea	District: Tendering
NGR: TM 162 198 (c)	Site code: CAT project ref.: 15/12e ECC project code: WEWR15 OASIS ref: colchest3-235125
Type of work: Evaluation	Site director/group: Colchester Archaeological Trust
Date of work: 15th January 2015	Size of area investigated: Two trenches each 7m long by 1.8m wide (25.2m ²)
Location of curating museum: Colchester museum accession code COLEM: 2016.1	Funding source: Developer
Further seasons anticipated? no	Related UAD/SMR number: EHER 19353
Final report: CAT Report 907	
Periods represented: modern	
Summary of fieldwork results: <i>An archaeological evaluation by trial-trenching was carried out on land adjacent to 12 Weeley Road, Little Clacton, Essex. Despite being located on the site of a much older dwelling (of post-medieval or possibly medieval origin) no archaeological features or finds were identified.</i>	
Previous summaries/reports: None	
CBC monitor: Adrian Gascoyne	
Keywords: -	Significance: -
Author of summary: Laura Pooley	Date of summary: January 2016