

# Archaeological evaluation on land adjacent to 67 Queen Street, Southminster, Essex, CM0 7BB

September 2017



**by Dr Elliott Hicks**

figures by Ben Holloway and Sarah Carter

fieldwork by Ben Holloway with Gareth Morgan

**commissioned by Ben Levy  
on behalf of Countryside Style Ltd**

NGR: TQ 94891 99978 (centre)

Planning ref.: OUT/MAL/15/01254

CAT project ref.: 17/08o

ECC code: SOUQS17

Colchester Museum accession code: COLEM: 2017.120

OASIS ref.: colchest3-293399



**Colchester Archaeological Trust**

Roman Circus House,

Roman Circus Walk,

Colchester,

Essex, CO2 7GZ

tel.: 01206 501785

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

**CAT Report 1165**

September 2017

## Contents

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

Appendix 1	Context list	6
------------	--------------	---

Figures	after p6
---------	----------

OASIS summary sheet

## List of photographs, maps and figures

Cover: working shot

Photograph 1	F1 sx, looking west	3
--------------	---------------------	---

Map 1	6-inch OS map (ESSEX LXII), surveyed 1873-4, published 1880	2
-------	---	---

Map 2	Chapman and André map 1777	2
-------	----------------------------	---

Fig 1 Site location and trench layout in relation to the proposed development (dashed blue lines)

Fig 2 Trench detail in relation to the proposed development (dashed blue lines)

Fig 3 Feature and representative sections

## 1 Summary

An archaeological evaluation (two trial-trenches) was carried out on land adjacent to 67 Queen Street, Southminster, Essex in advance construction of two new detached dwellings with associated car-parking and services. The site is located in the vicinity of the Anglo-Saxon settlement at Southminster. More immediately, it is situated near to what appears on historic maps of the area to have been a *purpresture*, a 17th-century roadside enclosure. The only archaeological feature found was a modern pit.

## 2 Introduction (Fig 1)

This is the archive report for an archaeological evaluation by trial-trenching on land adjacent to 67 Queen Street, Southminster, Essex which was carried out on 5th September 2017. The work was commissioned by Ben Levy on behalf of Countryside Style Ltd in advance of the construction of two new detached dwellings with associated car-parking and services, and was undertaken by Colchester Archaeological Trust (CAT).

In response to consultation with Essex County Council Place Services (ECCPS), Historic Environment Advisor Maria Medlycott 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 the *National Planning Policy Framework* (DCLG 2012).

All archaeological work was carried out in accordance with a *Brief for trial trenching and excavation* detailing the required archaeological work, written by Maria Medlycott (ECCPS 2017), and a written scheme of investigation (WSI) prepared by CAT in response to the brief and agreed with ECCPS (CAT 2017).

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* (CIfA 2014a) and *Standard and guidance for the collection, documentation, conservation and research of archaeological materials* (CIfA 2014b).

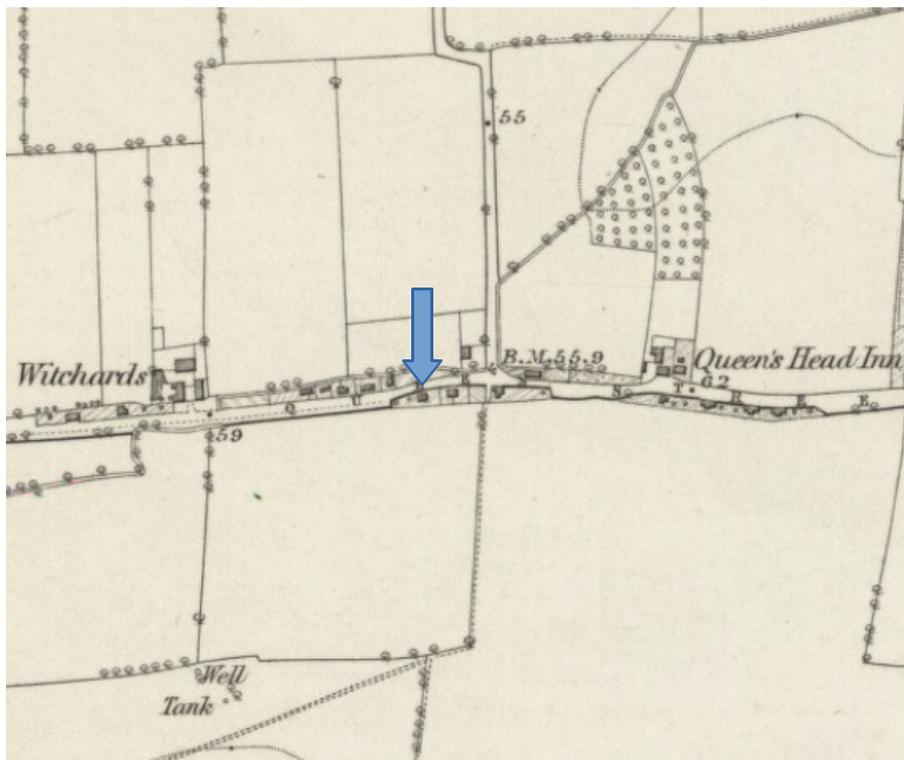
## 3 Archaeological background

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

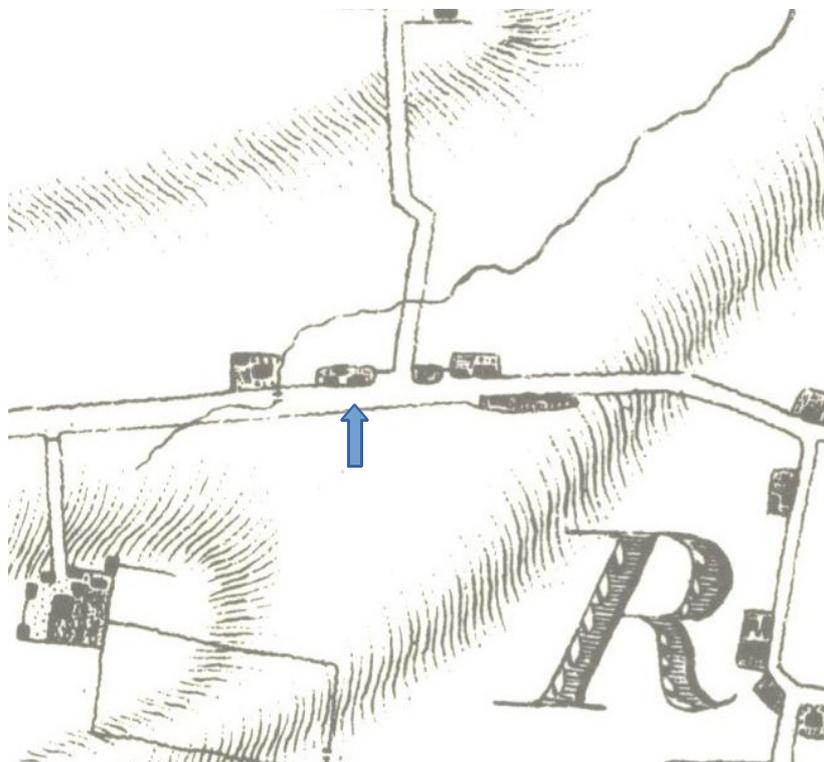
The following archaeological background draws on the Essex Historic Environment Record (EHER) held at Essex County Council, County Hall, Chelmsford, Essex.

The EHER shows that the proposed development is sited on the edge of the historic settlement of Southminster (EHER 19416). Southminster has been a settlement since the Saxon period, and there is also evidence for earlier occupation in and around the area including Roman burial urns found in 1893 at Caidge Farm 220m NW (EHER 11298).

The historic cartographic evidence shows that the development site directly overlaps a building shown on the 1st edition OS map of 1873/4 (Map 1). The area around the site is also depicted as built up on the 1777 Chapman and André map (Map 2). The form of the site suggests that it has its origin as *purpresture*, that is 17th century roadside enclosure. Any development on the site should therefore be preceded by a programme of archaeological investigation.



**Map 1** 6-inch OS map (ESSEX LXII), surveyed 1873-4, published 1880, development site indicated by blue arrow



**Map 2** Chapman and André map 1777

#### **4 Results** (Figs 2-3, photographs 1-2)

Two trial-trenches were machine excavated under the supervision of a CAT archaeologist.

##### **Trench 1 (T1): 7m long by 1.8m wide**

T1 was excavated through a layer of sub-base for block paving (L1, c 0.3-0.4m thick) and subsoil (L2, c 0.23-0.27m thick) onto natural (L3).

Modern pit F1 was uncovered. The dimensions of this feature could not be determined as it extended beyond the limit of excavation. The feature contained a large deposit of dumped vegetation (conifer branches) probably associated with clearance/infill during the construction of the garage and driveway.



**Photograph 1** F1 - looking west

##### **Trench 2 (T2): 7m long by 1.8m wide**

T2 was repositioned some 3m to the north due to the presence of a pond. It was excavated through modern topsoil (L4, c 0.22-0.37m thick) and subsoil (L2, c 0.3-0.36m thick), onto L3.

No significant archaeological horizons were encountered.

#### **5 Finds**

No finds were recovered.

#### **6 Discussion**

Evaluation at this site uncovered a single modern pit.

#### **7 Acknowledgements**

CAT thanks Ben Levy and Countryside Style Ltd for commissioning and funding the work. The project was managed by C Lister, fieldwork was carried out by B Holloway with G Morgan. Figures are by B Holloway and S Carter. The project was monitored for ECCPS by Maria Medlycott.

## 8 References

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

Brown, N & Glazebrook, J	2000	<i>Research and Archaeology: A Framework for the Eastern Counties 2. Research agenda and strategy.</i> East Anglian Archaeology Occasional Paper 8 (EAA 8)
CAT	2014	<i>Health &amp; Safety Policy</i>
CAT	2017	<i>Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) for archaeological evaluation on land adjacent to 67 Queen Street, Southminster, Essex, CM0 7BB</i>
CifA	2014a	<i>Standard and Guidance for archaeological 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>
ECCPS	2016	<i>Brief for archaeological trial-trenching and excavation on land adjacent 67 Queen Street, Southminster</i>
English Heritage	2006	<i>Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment (MoRPHE)</i>
Gurney, D	2003	<i>Standards for field archaeology in the East of England.</i> East Anglian Archaeology Occasional Papers 14 (EAA 14)
Medycott, M	2011	<i>Research and archaeology revisited: A revised framework for the East of England.</i> East Anglian Archaeology Occasional Papers 24 (EAA 24)

## 9 Abbreviations and glossary

Anglo-Saxon	period from c 500 – 1066
CAT	Colchester Archaeological Trust
CifA	Chartered Institute for Archaeologists
context	specific location of finds on an archaeological site
ECC	Essex County Council
ECCHEA	Essex County Council Historic Environment Advisor
ECCPS	Essex County Council Place Services
EHEN	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 (layer) of material
modern	period from c AD 1800 to the present
natural	geological deposit undisturbed by human activity
NGR	National Grid Reference
OASIS	Online Access to the Index of Archaeological Investigations, <a href="http://oasis.ac.uk/pages/wiki/Main">http://oasis.ac.uk/pages/wiki/Main</a>
post-medieval	from c AD 1500 to c 1800
prehistoric	pre-Roman
Roman	the period from AD 43 to c AD 410
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 1165)

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 Museum under accession code COLEM  
2017.120.

© Colchester Archaeological Trust 2017

**Distribution list:**

Ben Levy  
Countryside Style Ltd  
ECC Place Services Historic Environment Advisor  
Essex Historic Environment Record, Essex County Council



**Colchester Archaeological Trust**

Roman Circus House,  
Roman Circus Walk,  
Colchester,  
Essex, CO2 7GZ

tel.: 01206 501785

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

Checked by: Philip Crummy

Date: 13.9.2017

**Appendix 1 Context list**

<b>Context number</b>	<b>Finds number</b>	<b>Context type</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Date</b>
L1	-	Sub-base	Hardcore crush / sand mixture	Modern
L2	-	Subsoil	Firm, moist, dark grey/brown silty-clay with charcoal fleck inclusions	-
L3	-	Natural	Firm, moist, medium grey clay	Post-glacial
L4	-	Topsoil	Firm, moist, medium grey/brown silty-clay	Modern
F1	-	Pit	Firm, moist, medium grey/brown clay	Modern

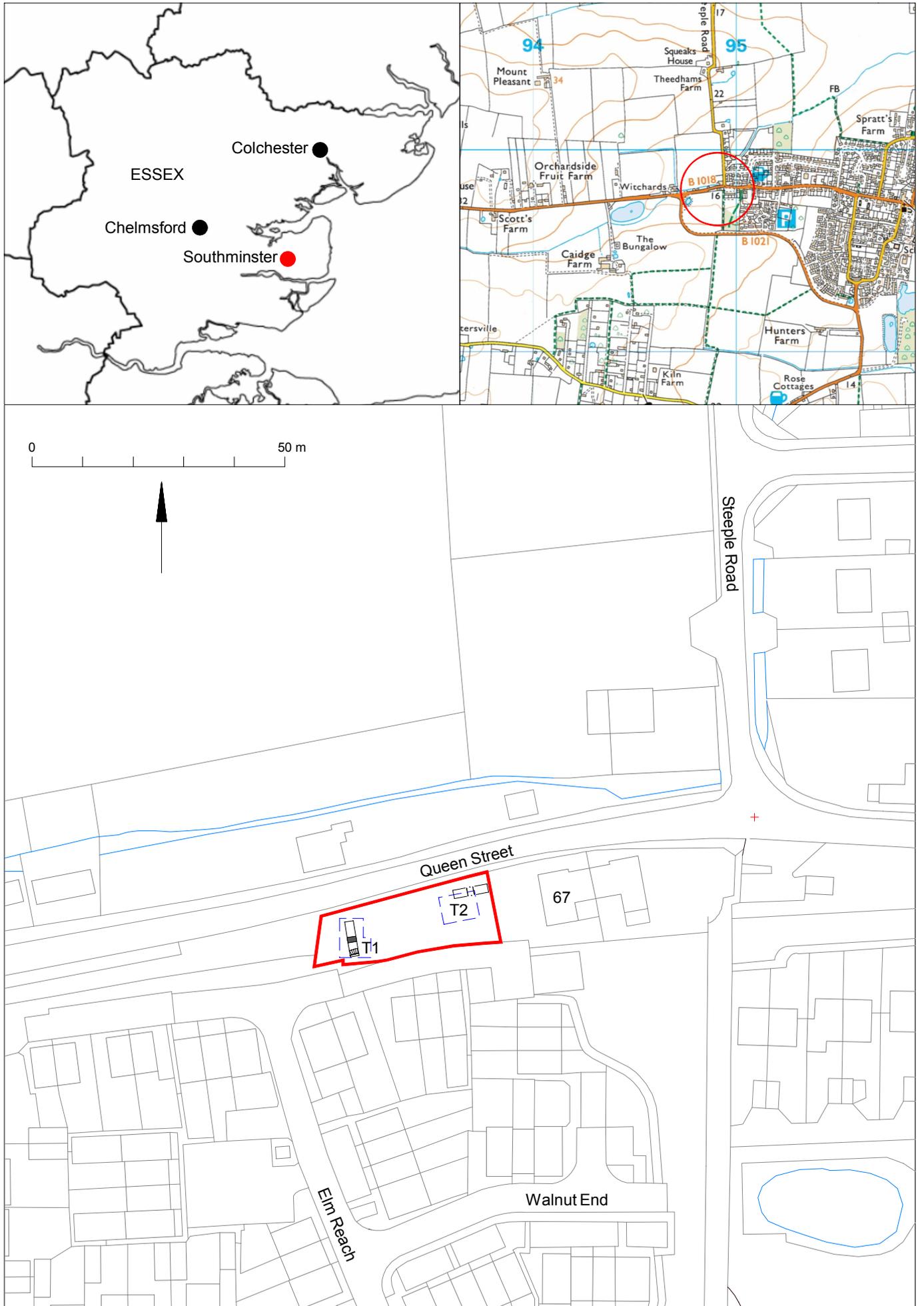


Fig 1 Site location, proposed development dashed blue

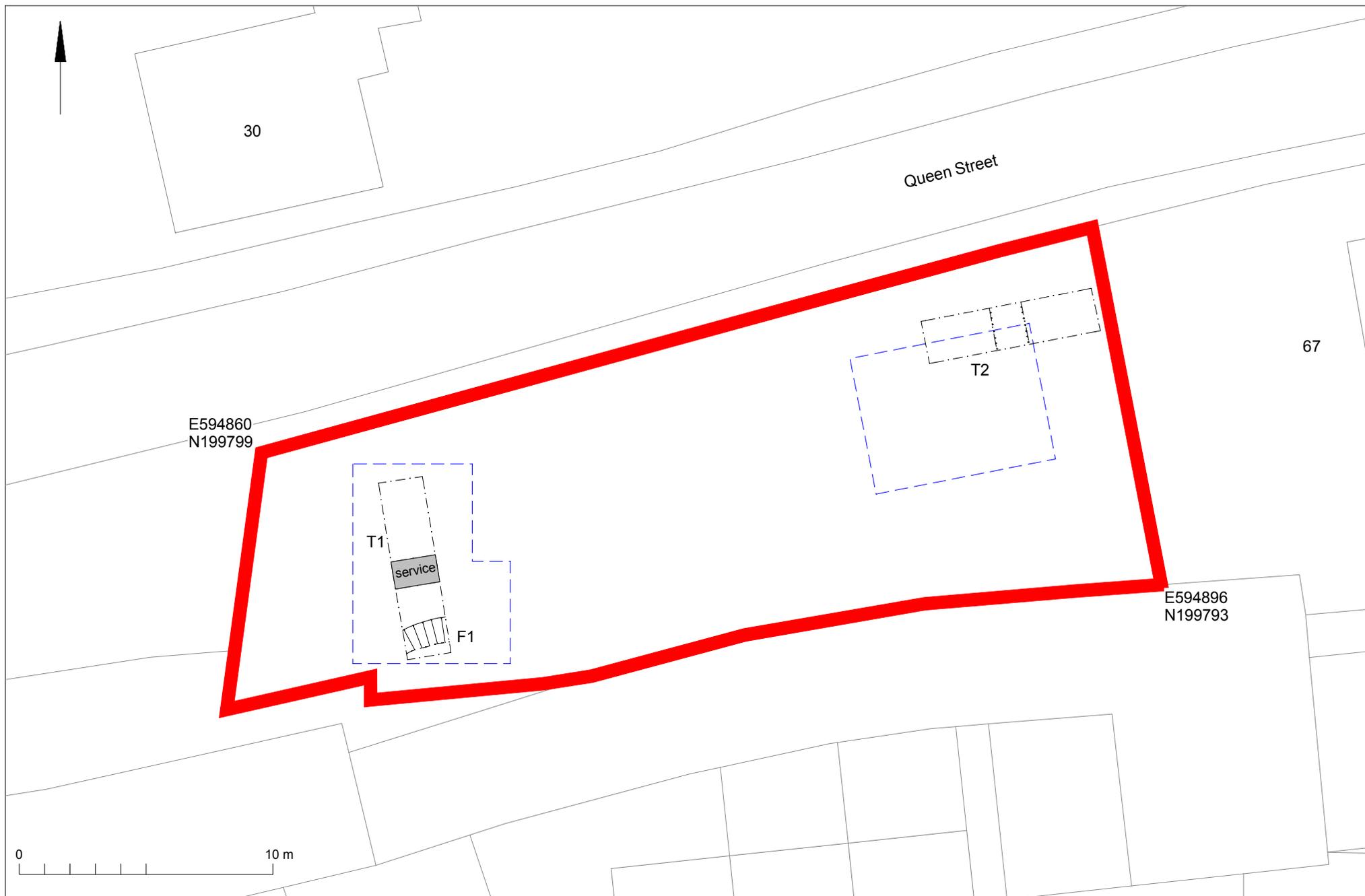


Fig 2 Results (proposed development dashed blue).

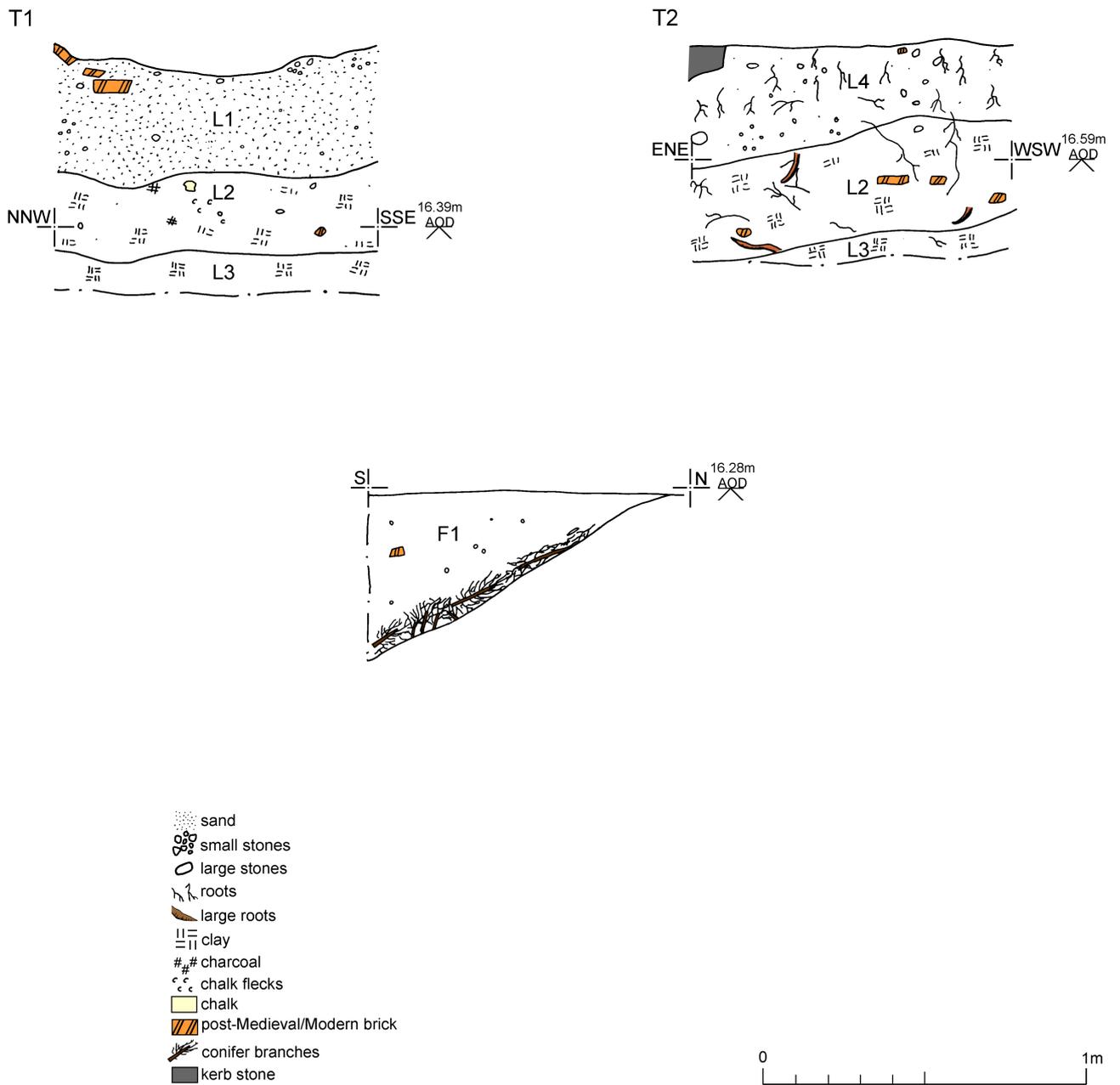


Fig 3 Feature and representative sections

# OASIS DATA COLLECTION FORM: England

[List of Projects](#) | [Manage Projects](#) | [Search Projects](#) | [New project](#) | [Change your details](#) | [HER coverage](#) | [Change country](#) | [Log out](#)

## Printable version

**OASIS ID: colchest3-293399**

### Project details

Project name	Archaeological evaluation on land adjacent to 67 Queen Street, Southminster, Essex, CM0 7BB
Short description of the project	An archaeological evaluation (two trial-trenches) was carried out on land adjacent to 67 Queen Street, Southminster, Essex in advance construction of two new detached dwellings with associated car-parking and services. The site is located in the vicinity of the Anglo-Saxon settlement at Southminster. More immediately, it is situated near to what appears on historic maps of the area to have been a purpresture, a 17th-century roadside enclosure. The only archaeological feature found was a modern pit.
Project dates	Start: 05-09-2017 End: 05-09-2017
Previous/future work	No / Not known
Any associated project reference codes	17/08o - Contracting Unit No.
Any associated project reference codes	OUT/MAL/15/01254 - Planning Application No.
Any associated project reference codes	COLEM 2017.120 - Museum accession ID
Any associated project reference codes	SOUQS17 - HER event no.
Type of project	Field evaluation
Site status	None
Current Land use	Other 5 - Garden
Monument type	PIT Modern
Methods & techniques	""Sample Trenches""
Development type	Urban residential (e.g. flats, houses, etc.)
Prompt	Planning condition
Position in the planning process	After outline determination (eg. As a reserved matter)

### Project location

Country	England
Site location	ESSEX MALDON SOUTHMINSTER land adjacent to 67 Queen Street
Postcode	CM0 7BB
Study area	0.04 Hectares
Site coordinates	TQ 94891 99978 51.66419074766 0.818387576474 51 39 51 N 000 49 06 E Point
Height OD / Depth	Min: 15.75m Max: 16.44m

### Project creators

Name of Organisation	Colchester Archaeological Trust
Project brief originator	HEM Team Officer, ECC
Project design originator	Laura Pooley
Project director/manager	Chris Lister
Project supervisor	Ben Holloway
Type of sponsor/funding body	Developer

### Project archives

Physical Archive Exists?	No
Digital Archive recipient	Colchester Museum
Digital Archive ID	COLEM 2017.120
Digital Media available	"Images raster / digital photography", "Survey"
Paper Archive recipient	Colchester Museum
Paper Archive ID	COLEM 2017.120
Paper Media available	"Context sheet", "Drawing", "Miscellaneous Material", "Photograph", "Report"

### Project bibliography 1

Publication type	Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)
Title	Archaeological evaluation on land adjacent to 67 Queen Street, Southminster, Essex, CM0 7BB: September 2017
Author(s)/Editor(s)	Hicks, E.
Other bibliographic details	CAT Report 1165
Date	2017
Issuer or publisher	Colchester Archaeological Trust

Place of issue or publication	Colchester
Description	A-4 loose-leaf ringbound
URL	<a href="http://cat.essex.ac.uk/">http://cat.essex.ac.uk/</a>
Entered by	Elliott Hicks (lp@catuk.org)
Entered on	13 September 2017

## OASIS:

Please e-mail [Historic England](#) for OASIS help and advice

© ADS 1996-2012 Created by [Jo Gilham and Jen Mitcham](#), email Last modified Wednesday 9 May 2012

Cite only: <http://www.oasis.ac.uk/form/print.cfm?id=295668> for this page