

# Archaeological monitoring on land to the rear of Marchants, 8 The Street, Rayne, Braintree, Essex, CM77 6RN

February 2018



**by Adam Tuffey**  
figures by A Tuffey

fieldwork by Mark Baister & Adam Tuffey

**commissioned by Alan Reynolds (Bryan Reeve Associates)  
on Behalf of Mr and Mrs Kardhordo**

NGR: TL 72969 22611 (centre)

Planning ref.: 15/00613/FUL

CAT project ref.: 17/09j

ECC code: RATS17

Braintree Museum accession code: [requested](#)

OASIS ref.: colchest3-296220



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**CAT Report 1238**  
February 2018

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## 1 Summary

*Archaeological monitoring and recording was carried out at Marchants, 8 The Street, Rayne in advance of the construction of a new two-storey dwelling. The historic settlement of Rayne is likely medieval in origins and a number of 16th to 18th century listed buildings survive in the vicinity, including Marchants itself. However, no significant archaeological remains were present.*

## 2 Introduction (Fig 1)

This archive report presents the results of archaeological monitoring at land to the rear of Marchants, 8 The Street, Rayne, Braintree, Essex, which was carried from the 1st to 15th February 2018. The work was commissioned by Alan Reynolds on behalf of Mr and Mrs Kardhordo in advance of the erection of a two-storey dwelling to the rear of the property. The condition also covered the construction of a cart lodge, which is not to be dug for some time and so was not covered during this current work. The monitoring was undertaken by Colchester Archaeological Trust (CAT).

In response to consultation with Essex County Council Place Services (ECCPS), Historic Environment Advisor Teresa O'Connor 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 Archaeological Trial Trench evaluation*, detailing the required archaeological work, written by Teresa O'Connor (ECCPS 2016), 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 watching brief* (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, Essex.

The proposed development site lies within the historic settlement of Rayne. It is situated to the rear of a small nucleus within the settlement around a historic green known as The Gore, which is an early medieval term for a triangular piece of ground, so the settlement is likely to be medieval in origin. A number of 16th- to 18th- century listed buildings survive within this settlement along Gore Lane, including Marchants (EHER 27687) which is located at the top of the lane along The Street. Cartographic evidence shows the development area to have been largely undeveloped over the past 200 years apart from the erection of outbuildings at some point c 1920 which appear to be short-lived and most likely associated with the house adjacent to Marchants.

The main road through Rayne follows the route of a Roman Road known as Stane Street for which evidence of a settlement has been found to the west near the A120 junction and to the east where a small Roman town was established.

#### 4 Aims

Archaeological monitoring and recording was undertaken to identify and record any surviving archaeological deposits that existed on the site, to record any such remains, and to identify the need for any further archaeological work.

#### 5 Results (Figs 2-4)

A CAT archaeologist supervised the excavation of the footings for the new dwelling totalling approximately 43.6m<sup>2</sup> by 0.5-0.6m deep.

These footings cut through three constituent layers. The uppermost layer consists of a modern topsoil (L1, c 0.17m thick, dark-mid brown clayey-silt with occasional flecks of modern CBM and sub rounded-angular stones). The very upper extent of this soil had been disturbed by the construction work. This overlaid a sterile subsoil (L2 c 0.36m thick, mid brown, silty-clay with occasional rounded stones). This in turn overlaid the natural sands and ballast (L3 natural sand/ballast, light-mid yellowish orange with frequent medium-small stones).

No significant archaeological remains were present.



**Photograph 1** Excavation of southernmost trench, view northeast



**Photograph 2** Excavation of medial trench, view: east

## **6 Finds**

No finds of archaeological significance were recovered.

## **7 Conclusion**

Despite the potential for historical deposits no significant archaeological features or horizons were identified within trenches excavated for the development.

## **8 Acknowledgements**

CAT thanks Alan Reynolds and Mr and Mrs Kardhordo for commissioning and funding the work. The project was managed by C Lister, fieldwork was carried out by Adam Tuffey and Mark Baister The project was monitored for ECCPS by Teresa O'Connor.

## **9 References**

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

CAT	2014	<i>Health &amp; Safety Policy</i>
CAT	2017	<i>Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) for archaeological monitoring on land to the rear of Marchants, 8 The Street, Rayne, Braintree, Essex, CM77 6RN</i>

ClfA	2014a	<i>Standard and Guidance for an archaeological watching brief</i>
ClfA	2014b	<i>Standard and guidance for the collection, documentation, conservation and research of archaeological materials</i>
DCLG	2012	<i>National Planning Policy Framework</i>
ECC	2016	<i>Brief for archaeological monitoring and excavation on land to the rear of Marchants, 8 The Street, Rayne, Braintree CM77 6RN</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 <b>14</b> (EAA <b>14</b> ).
Medlycott, M	2011	<i>Research and archaeology revisited: A revised framework for the East of England</i> . East Anglian Archaeology Occasional Papers <b>24</b> (EAA <b>24</b> )

## 10 Abbreviations and glossary

CAT	Colchester Archaeological Trust
ClfA	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
EHHER	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
residual	something out of its original context, eg a Roman coin in a modern pit
Section	(abbreviation sx or Sx) vertical slice through feature/s or layer/s
WSI	Written Scheme of Investigation

## 11 Contents of archive

**Finds:** none retained

### **Paper and digital record**

One A4 document wallet containing:

The report (CAT Report 1238)

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

## 12 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 Braintree Museum under accession code: [requested](#)

**Distribution list:**

Mr and Mrs Kardhordo  
Alan Reynolds (Bryan Reeve Associates)  
ECC Place Services Historic Environment Advisor  
Essex Historic Environment Record, Essex County Council



**Colchester Archaeological Trust**

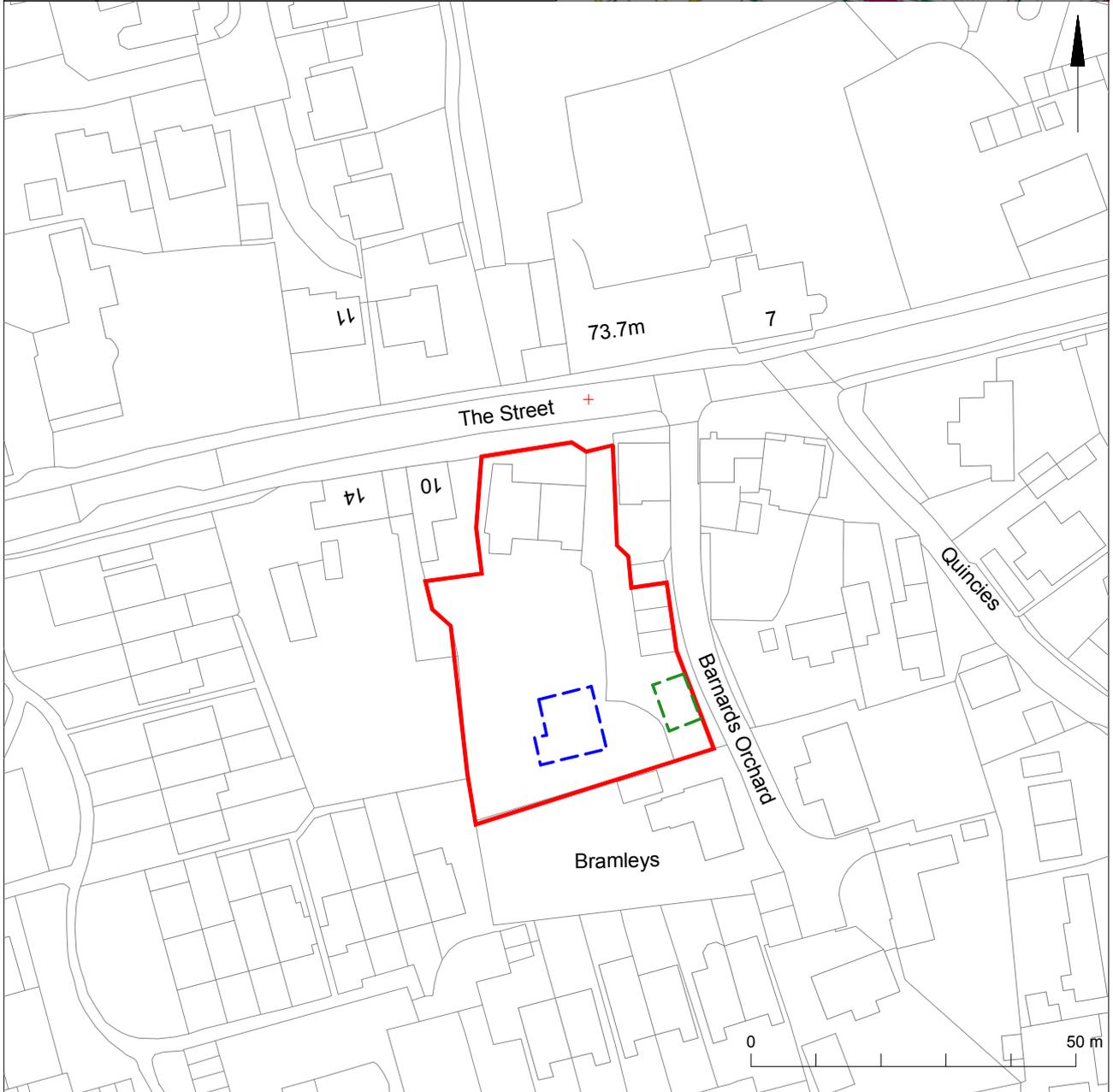
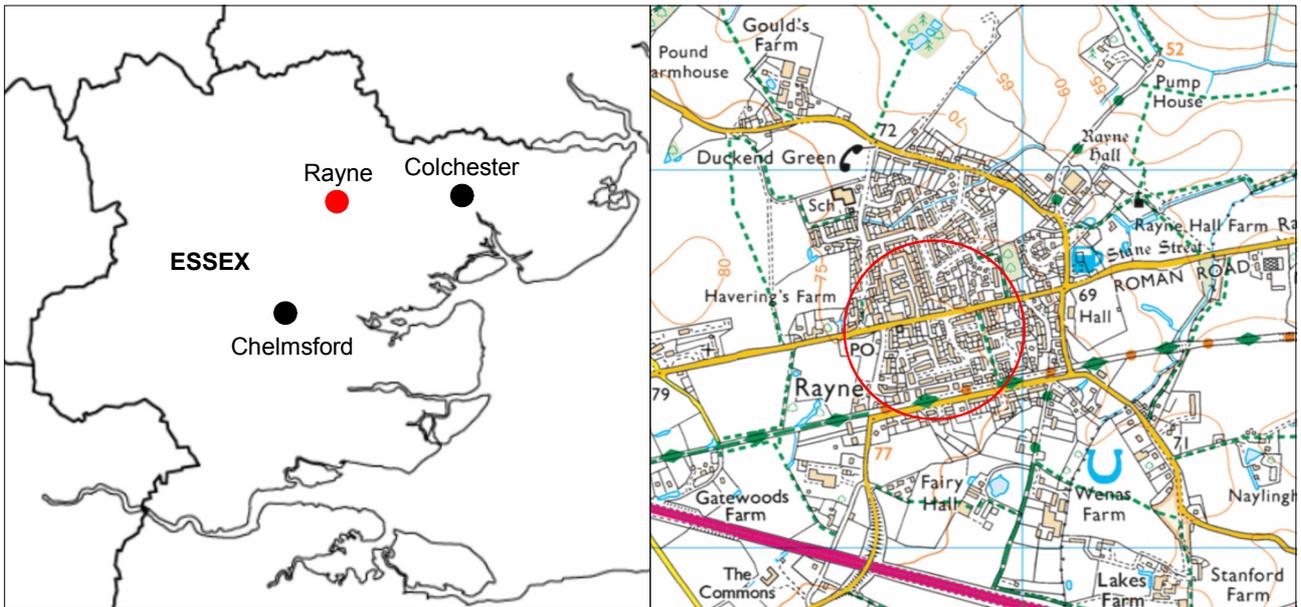
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Date: 08.03.2018



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Fig 1 Site location with new build shown as dashed blue line, Cart Lodge as green

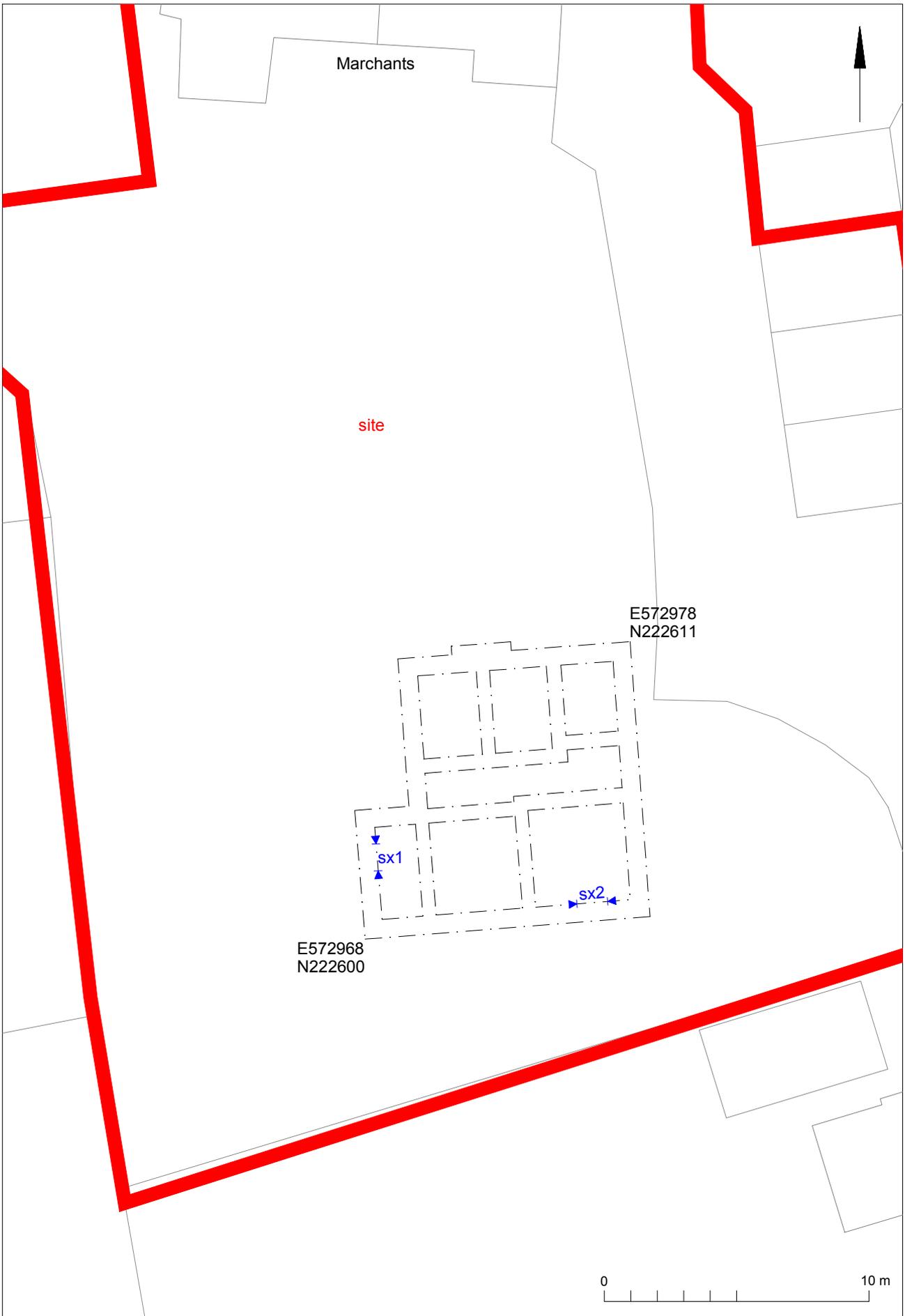
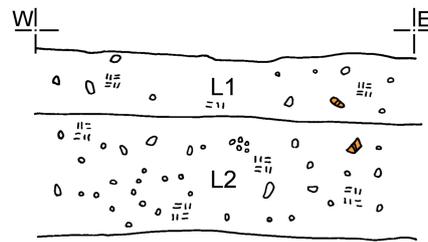
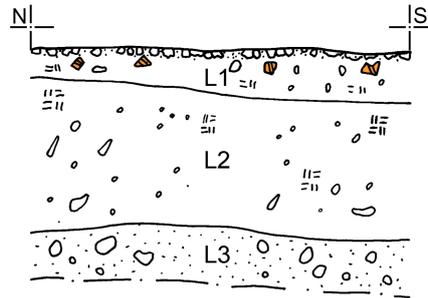


Fig 2 Results



-  sand
-  small stones
-  large stones
-  clay
-  post-Roman brick



Fig 3 Representative sections

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**OASIS ID: colchest3-296220**

### Project details

Project name	Archaeological monitoring and recording at Marchants, 8 The Street, Rayne, Braintree, Essex, CM77 6RN
Short description of the project	Archaeological monitoring and recording was carried out at Marchants, 8 The Street, Rayne in advance of the construction of a new two-storey dwelling. The historic settlement of Rayne is likely medieval in origins and profusion of 16th to 18th century listed buildings survive in the vicinity, including Marchants itself. However, no significant archaeological remains were present.
Project dates	Start: 01-02-2018 End: 15-02-2018
Previous/future work	No / Not known
Any associated project reference codes	15/00613/FUL - Planning Application No.
Any associated project reference codes	17/09j - Contracting Unit No.
Any associated project reference codes	RATS17 - HER event no.
Type of project	Recording project
Site status	None
Current Land use	Other 5 - Garden
Monument type	N/A None
Significant Finds	N/A None
Investigation type	""Watching Brief""
Prompt	Planning condition

### Project location

Country	England
Site location	ESSEX BRAINTREE RAYNE Marchants, 8 The Street
Postcode	CM77 6RN
Study area	0.16 Hectares
Site coordinates	TL 72969 22611 51.874717830011 0.51298597613 51 52 28 N 000 30 46 E Point

**Project creators**

Name of Organisation	Colchester Archaeological Trust
Project brief originator	HEM Team Officer, ECC
Project design originator	Harvey Furniss
Project director/manager	Chris Lister
Project supervisor	Adam Tuffey
Type of sponsor/funding body	Owner

**Project archives**

Physical Archive Exists?	No
Physical Archive recipient	Braintree Museum
Digital Archive recipient	Braintree Museum
Digital Contents	"Stratigraphic"
Digital Media available	"Images raster / digital photography"
Paper Archive recipient	Braintree Museum
Paper Contents	"Stratigraphic"
Paper Media available	"Context sheet", "Drawing", "Notebook - Excavation", " Research", " General Notes", "Photograph", "Plan", "Report", "Section", "Unpublished Text"

**Project bibliography 1**

Publication type	Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)
Title	Archaeological monitoring on land to the rear of Marchants, 8 The Street, Rayne, Braintree, Essex, CM77 6RN
Author(s)/Editor(s)	Tuffey, A.
Other bibliographic details	CAT Report 1238
Date	2018
Issuer or publisher	Colchester Archaeological Trust
Place of issue or publication	Colchester, Essex
Description	A4, comb bound with an opaque black back and clear plastic front.
URL	<a href="http://cat.essex.ac.uk/all-reports.html">http://cat.essex.ac.uk/all-reports.html</a>

Entered by	Adam Tuffey (lp@catuk.org)
Entered on	8 March 2018

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