

Archaeological monitoring at 9 Malyons Lane, Hullbridge, Essex, SS5 6EN

June 2022



by Bronagh Quinn

figures by Sarah Veasey

fieldwork by Bronagh Quinn

**commissioned by Craig Pallett (BDA Architecture)
on behalf of the Homeowner**

NGR: TQ 80860 94646 (centre)

Planning ref.: 21/01163/FUL

CAT project ref.: 2022/05p

ECC code: HUML22

OASIS ref.: colchest3-507069



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CAT Report 1813

July 2022

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1 Summary

Archaeological monitoring was carried out at 9 Malyons Lane, Hullbridge, Essex in advance of the construction of a single-storey side extension. Despite being located close to a medieval moat and Roman remains, no archaeological deposits were identified during the works.

2 Introduction (Fig 1)

This is the report for archaeological monitoring carried out by Colchester Archaeological Trust (CAT) at 9 Malyons Lane, Hullbridge, Essex on 7th June 2022. The work was commissioned by Craig Pallett (BDA Architecture) on behalf of the homeowner in advance of the construction of a single-storey side extension.

As the site lies within an area highlighted by the EHER as having a high potential for archaeological deposits, an archaeological condition was recommended by the Essex County Council Place Services Historic Environment Advisor. This recommendation was for an archaeological monitoring and was based on the guidance given in the *National Planning Policy Framework* (MHCLG 2019).

A *Brief for Archaeological Monitoring at 9 Malyons Lane, Hullbridge*, was produced by Mark Baister detailing the required archaeological work (ECCPS 2022), and a written scheme of investigation (WSI) was prepared by CAT in response to the brief and agreed with ECCPS in advance of the groundworks (CAT 2022).

All fieldwork and reporting was done in accordance with *Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment (MoRPHE)* (Historic England 2016), 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 excavation* (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 includes extracts of the ECC brief and the Essex Historic Environment Records (EHER) held at Essex County Council, County Hall, Chelmsford, Essex (accessed via <http://www.heritagegateway.org.uk>).

In 2006 the archaeological character of the area around Hullbridge was described as a '*...flat clay plain around the headwaters of the Crouch and its tributaries, with concentrations of archaeology, often associated with historic settlement or areas of recent archaeological activity. The relatively low density of early material in the area reflects a lack of work rather than necessarily a lack of archaeology. There are pockets of development in the area and these are likely to have damaged / truncated archaeological deposits*' (ECC2006, 47). Archaeological remains within the vicinity of the development site were sparse but included a possible moat (EHER 13861) and the discovery of a bronze spearhead (EHER 9901/9893).

However, from 2018-2020 archaeological investigations at Maylons Farm to the south-east of the development site revealed significant remains (OAE Reports 2179 and 2361; EHER 49519). Excavated over three areas (Area A, B and C), the earliest evidence from the site included residual Neolithic flints and Early Bronze Age pottery, and a large Late Bronze Age pit. In Area A (c 275m south-east of the development site) were the remains of several Romano-British enclosure ditches and numerous extraction pits with finds including Late Iron Age and Romano-British pottery, animal bone and oyster shell. Two small unurned Romano-British cremations, each containing less than 500g of calcined bone, were also located in this area. Area B (between 160-410m to the north-west) revealed an area of unenclosed Early Iron Age settlement including a trackway, six post-built structures, scattered pits and post-holes and a large waterhole. Late Bronze Age and Early Iron Age pottery, calcined bones, possible briquetage fragments and fired clay weights of Bronze Age and Iron Age date were found, along with preserved wood and environmental remains from the lower fills of the waterhole. Within

Area C (100m north-west) was a north/south aligned medieval ditch producing moderate quantities of medieval pottery. Several post-medieval to modern field boundary ditches cut across the site, particularly Area B.

An evaluation by CAT in 2022 (CAT Report 1791) immediately to the north-west of Area A further revealed a further seven prehistoric pits, a Romano-British pit, two post-medieval/modern pits, five undated features (one ditch/pit and four pits) and one natural feature. All seven of the prehistoric pits produced handmade flint-tempered pottery likely dating from the Bronze Age to Early Iron Age. Other finds from the evaluation included two fragments of fired clay, possibly from loomweights.

Furthermore, immediately to the north-east of the site, east of Elm Grove, is the location of a former medieval moated site (EHER 13861). Medieval moated enclosures were primarily constructed between 1250 and 1350. The moats themselves are often substantial, and were associated with prestigious settlements containing high-status domestic or religious buildings. Although the moat east of Elm Grove has been entirely infilled and built over, medieval remains relating to its associated settlement may still survive below-ground and extend into the proposed development site.

4 Aims

Archaeological monitoring was undertaken to excavate and record any archaeological deposits which were exposed by the groundworks.

5 Results (Figs 2-3)

Approximately 16m of foundation trench was machine-excavated under the supervision of a CAT archaeologist. The trench varied from 0.45-0.6m wide, was c.1.2m deep and was cut through a modern hardcore layer (L1, c. 0.17-0.35m thick) and a contaminated clay (L2, c. 0.6-0.2m thick) into natural clay (L3). Natural was encountered at a depth of c 0.85-0.47m below current ground level. L1 was also stripped from the central area of the foundation trenches. There were no archaeological remains.



Photograph 1 – Trench shot, looking south.



Photograph 2 – Trench shot, looking west.



Photograph 3 – Trench shot, looking east

6 Finds

No finds were uncovered during the archaeological monitoring.

7 Conclusion

Despite being located in an area of archaeological potential, no features were uncovered during this monitoring.

8 Acknowledgements

CAT thanks Craig Pallett and the homeowner for commissioning and funding the work. The project was managed by C Lister, fieldwork was carried out by B Quinn. Figures are by S Veasey. The project was monitored for ECCPS by Mark Baister.

9 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 | 2022 | <i>Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) for archaeological monitoring at 9 Malyons Lane, Hullbridge, Essex, SS5 6EN</i> |
| CAT Report 1791 | 2022 | <i>Archaeological evaluation on land opposite 92-96 Windermere Avenue, Hullbridge, Essex, SS5 6JT: March 2022</i> , by L Pooley |
| 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> |
| ECC | 2006 | <i>Rochford District Historic Environment Characterisation Project.</i> Essex County Council Historic Environment Branch |

ECCPS	2022	<i>Brief for Archaeological Monitoring at 9 Malyons Lane, Hullbridge</i> , by M Baister
Gurney, D	2003	<i>Standards for field archaeology in the East of England</i> . East Anglian Archaeology Occasional Papers 14 (EAA 14).
Historic England	2016	<i>Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment (MoRPHE)</i>
Medlycott, M	2011	<i>Research and archaeology revisited: A revised framework for the East of England</i> . East Anglian Archaeology Occasional Papers 24 (EAA 24)
MHCLG	2019	<i>National Planning Policy Framework</i> . Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government.
OAE Report 2361	2020	<i>Malyons Farm, Hullbridge, Essex</i> , by N Cox. Oxford Archaeology East.

10 Abbreviations and glossary

Bronze Age	period from c 2500 – 700 BC
CAT	Colchester Archaeological Trust
CIfA	Chartered Institute for Archaeologists
context	a single unit of excavation, which is often referred to numerically, and can be any feature, layer or find.
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’
Iron Age	period from 700 BC to Roman invasion of AD 43
Iron Age (Late)	Late Iron Age (LIA), period from c 100 – 50 BC to Roman invasion of AD 43
layer (L)	distinct or distinguishable deposit (layer) of material
medieval	period from AD 1066 to c 1500
modern	period from c AD 1800 to the present
natural	geological deposit undisturbed by human activity
Neolithic	period from c 4000 – 2500 BC
NGR	National Grid Reference
OASIS	Online Access to the Index of Archaeological Investigations, http://oasis.ac.uk/pages/wiki/Main
post-medieval	from c AD 1500 to c 1800
Roman	the period from AD 43 to c AD 410
section	(abbreviation sx or Sx) vertical slice through feature/s or layer/s
ws	written scheme of investigation

11 Contents of archive

Finds: n/a

Digital record

The report (CAT Report 1813)

ECCPS brief and CAT wsi

Photographs and photographic log

Graphics files

Site data

Survey data

12 Archive deposition

The 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 the Archaeological Data Service

Distribution list:

Craig Pallett, BDA Architecture
Homeowner
ECC Place Services Historic Environment Advisor
Essex Historic Environment Record, Essex County Council



Colchester Archaeological Trust

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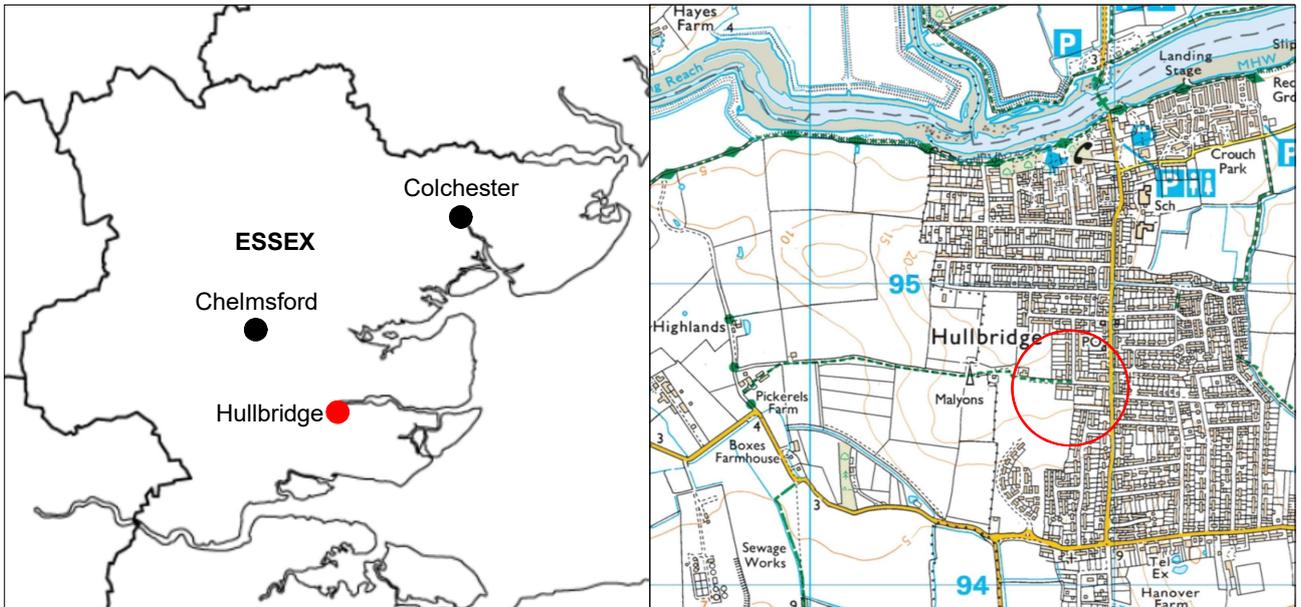
tel.: 01206 501785

email: bq@catuk.org

Checked by: Philip Crummy
Date: 07/07/2022

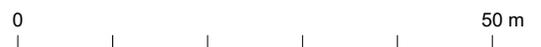
Appendix 1 Context list

Context	Finds no.	Context type	Description	Date
L1	-	Hardcore	Modern hardcore layer	Modern
L2	-	Contaminated clay	Moist medium-dark blue-grey clay	Undated
L3	-	Natural	Moist medium orange clay	Post-glacial



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Fig 1 Site location.



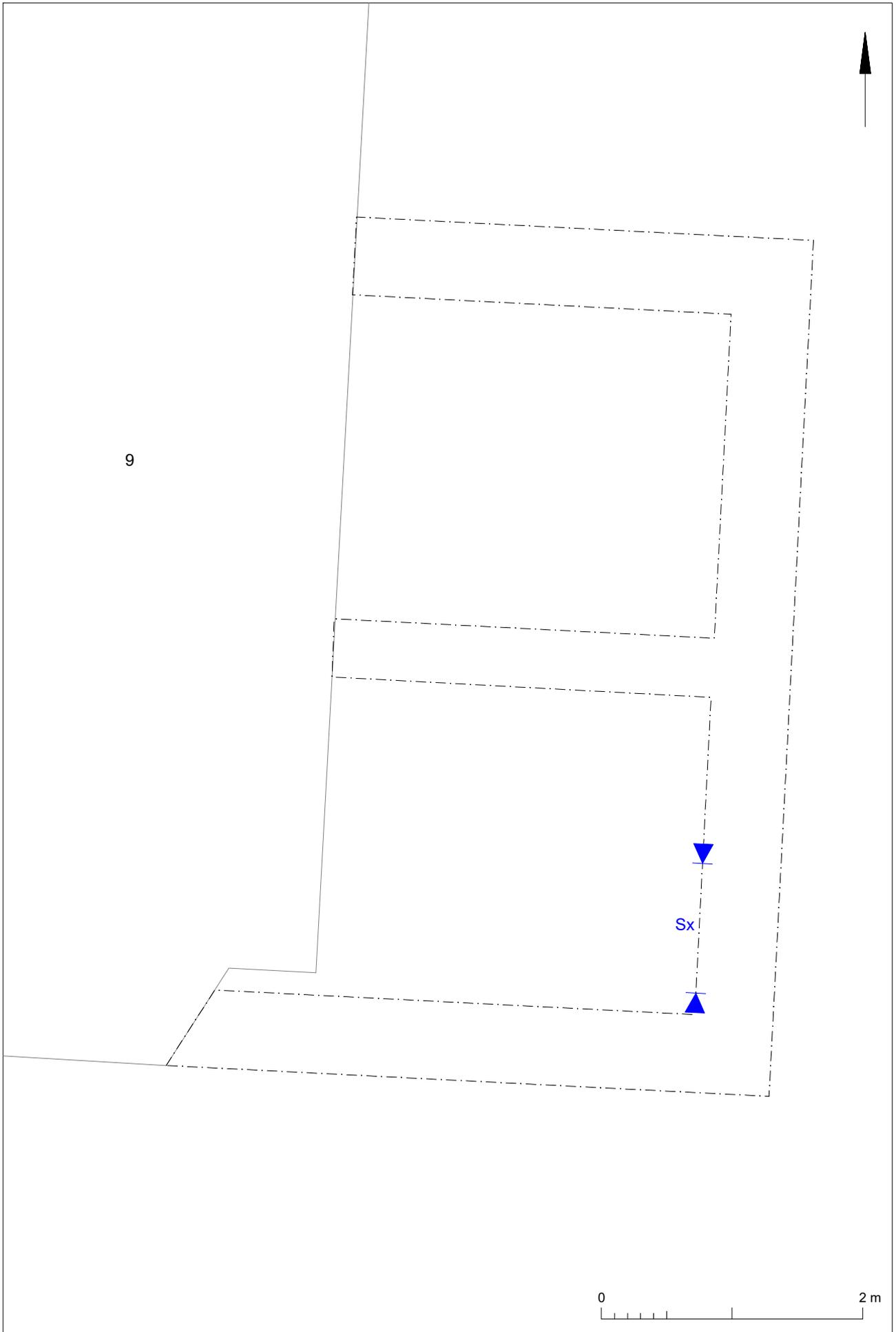


Fig 2 Monitoring results.

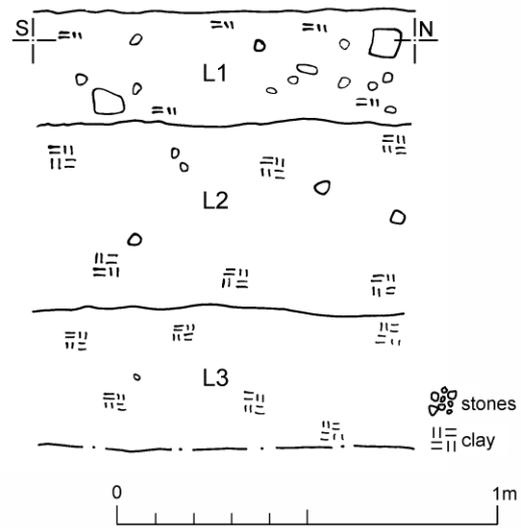


Fig 3 Representative section.

Summary for colchest3-507069

OASIS ID (UID)	colchest3-507069
Project Name	Watching Brief at 9 Malyons Lane, Hullbridge, Essex, SS5 6EN
Sitename	9 Malyons Lane, Hullbridge, Essex, SS5 6EN
Activity type	Watching Brief
Project Identifier(s)	2022/05p
Planning Id	21/01163/FUL
Reason For Investigation	Planning: Post determination
Organisation Responsible for work	Colchester Archaeological Trust
Project Dates	07-Jun-2022 - 07-Jun-2022
Location	9 Malyons Lane, Hullbridge, Essex, SS5 6EN NGR : TQ 80860 94646 LL : 51.6215702802243, 0.611263286284585 12 Fig : 580860,194646
Administrative Areas	Country : England County : Essex District : Rochford Parish : Hullbridge
Project Methodology	Approximately 16m of foundation trench was machine-excavated under the supervision of a CAT archaeologist. The trench varied from 0.45-0.6m wide, was c.1.2m deep and was cut through a modern hardcore layer (L1, c. 0.17-0.35m thick) and a contaminated clay (L2, c. 0.6-0.2m thick) into natural clay (L3). Natural was encountered at a depth of c 0.85-0.47m below current ground level. L1 was also stripped from the central area of the foundation trenches. There were no archaeological remains.
Project Results	Archaeological monitoring was carried out at 9 Malyons Lane, Hullbridge, Essex in advance of the construction of a single-storey side extension. Despite being located close to a medieval moat and Roman remains, no archaeological deposits were identified during the works.
Keywords	
Funder	
HER	Essex HER - unRev - STANDARD
Person Responsible for work	B, Quinn
HER Identifiers	HER Event No - HUML22
Archives	Digital Archive - to be deposited with Archaeology Data Service Archive;