

Colchester Archaeological Trust



**CAT Report 1936
issued May 2023**

**Archaeological evaluation at
3-4 The Lindens, Mill Road, Stock, Essex, CM4 9LJ:
May 2023**



**CAT project ref.: 2023/05b
EHER code: SKTL23**

**Archaeological evaluation at
3-4 The Lindens, Mill Road, Stock, Essex, CM4 9LJ:
May 2023**

NGR: TQ 69582 98732 (centre)

**Planning district.: Chelmsford
Planning ref.: 22/01611/FUL**

**CAT project ref.: 2023/05b
CAT Report 1936**

**EHER code: SKTL23
ECC monitor: Mark Baister
OASIS id: colchest3-515443**

**report prepared by Adam Ronn and Laura Pooley
fieldwork by Nigel Raynor, Matt Perou & Adam Ronn**

**commissioned by Paul Ellwood, E & M Design
on behalf of Burstead Building Projects Ltd**

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OASIS summary sheet

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

Fig 2 Results.

Fig 3 Representative sections.

1 Summary

An archaeological evaluation (two trial-trenches) was carried out at 3-4 The Lindens, Mill Road, Stock, Essex in advance of the construction of two new dwellings. Archaeological remains from Stock include an Iron Age enclosure, Roman cemetery and an important medieval and post-medieval pottery industry. However, no archaeological remains were encountered during the evaluation.

2 Introduction (Fig 1)

This is the report for an archaeological evaluation carried out by Colchester Archaeological Trust (CAT) at 3-4 The Lindens, Mill Road, Stock, Essex on 11th May 2023. The work was commissioned by Paul Ellwood of E&M Design, on behalf of Burstead Building Projects Ltd, and took place in advance of the construction of two new dwellings with a garage to the rear garden of 3-4 The Lindens, including formation of access.

In response to consultation with Essex County Council Place Services (ECCPS), the Historic Environment Advisor 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* (MHCLG 2021).

All archaeological work was carried out in accordance with a *Brief for archaeological evaluation and excavation at 3 & 4 The Lindens, Stock* written by Mark Baister and detailing the required archaeological work (ECCPS 2023). A written scheme of investigation (WSI) was prepared by CAT in response to the brief and agreed with ECCPS (CAT 2023).

In addition to the brief and WSI, 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 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 includes extracts of the ECC Brief and Essex Historic Environment Records (EHER) held at Essex County Council, County Hall, Chelmsford, Essex (accessed via <http://www.heritagegateway.org.uk>).

The Geology of Britain viewer (1:50,000 scale) shows the bedrock geology of the site is London clay formation (clay, silt and sand, comprised of bioturbated or poorly laminated, blue-grey or grey-brown, slightly calcareous, silty to very silty clay, clayey silt and sometimes silt, with some layers of sandy clay), with superficial deposits of Lowestoft formation (chalky till, together with outwash sands and gravels, silts and clays. The till is characterised by its chalk and flint content).

The Historic Environment Record shows that the proposed development lies in an area with archaeological potential for remains associated with medieval and post-medieval pottery manufacture. Pottery manufacture was an important industry in Stock from the 16th to the 19th centuries. This has been evidenced by the finding of medieval and post-medieval pottery and kiln waste from multiple locations around the village, including in a sewer trench at the junction of Common Lane and Mill Road (EHER 5391) just to the north-west of the development site. Evidence of earlier occupation of Stock also exists in the form of a probable Roman cremation cemetery (EHER 5380) along with a possible Iron Age enclosure (EHER 9135), both to the west of the development site. In the vicinity of the development site, at 71 Mill Road, a Late Bronze Age/Early Iron Age gully was identified in a trial-trench excavated in 2007 (EHER 46565).

The proposed new dwelling is also situated along the street frontage of Mill Street, which is a historic routeway visible on the Chapman and André map of 1777 (Map 1).



Map 1 Chapman & André 1777 showing the current site in orange.

Aims

The aims of the archaeological evaluation were to record the extent of any surviving archaeological deposits and to assess the archaeological potential of the site to allow the ECCHEA to determine if further investigation is required.

Results (Figs 2-3 and Appendix 1)

Two trial-trenches, machine-excavated under the supervision of a CAT archaeologist, uncovered no archaeological contexts. The layers within both trenches consisted of a topsoil (L1, c 0.29m thick) overlying subsoil (L2, c 0.18m thick) on top of the natural (L3).



Photograph 1 Site shot, view south-east.



Photograph 2 Trench 1, view north-west.



Photograph 3 Trench 2, view south-east.



Photograph 4 Representative section from T2, view north north-east.

Finds

No finds were recovered from site.

7 Conclusion

There were no archaeological remains uncovered during the evaluation at 3 & 4 The Lindens, Mill Road, Stock. There was no evidence of Iron Age or Roman settlement, or medieval or post-medieval pottery kilns within the development site.

8 Acknowledgements

CAT would like to thank Paul Eillwood of E&M Design and Burstead Building Projects Ltd for commissioning and funding the project. The project was managed by A Wightman and L Pooley, with fieldwork carried out by N Rayner with M Perou and A Ronn. Figures were compiled by C Lister, A Ronn and E Holloway. 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 (EAA8) |
| CAT | 2023 | <i>Health & Safety Policy</i> |
| CAT | 2023 | <i>Written scheme of investigation for an archaeological evaluation by trial-trenching at 3 & 4 The Lindens, Mill Road, Stock, Essex</i> by Tabitha Lawrence |
| ClfA | 2014a | <i>Standard and Guidance for archaeological evaluation.</i> Revised October 2020 |
| ClfA | 2014b | <i>Standard and guidance for the collection, documentation, conservation and research of archaeological materials.</i> Revised October 2020 |
| ClfA | 2014c | <i>Code of Conduct.</i> Revised October 2021 |
| ECCPS | 2022 | <i>Brief for Archaeological evaluation and excavation at 3 & 4 The Lindens</i> by Mark Baister |
| Gurney, D | 2003 | <i>Standards for field archaeology in the East of England.</i> East Anglian Archaeology Occasional Papers 14 (EAA14) |
| Historic England Medlycott, M | 2016 | <i>Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment (MoRPHE)</i> |
| | 2011 | <i>Research and archaeology revisited: A revised framework for the East of England.</i> East Anglian Archaeology Occasional Papers 24 (EAA 24) |
| MHCLG | 2021 | <i>National Planning Policy Framework</i> Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government |

10 Abbreviations and glossary

| | |
|-----------|--|
| CAT | Colchester Archaeological Trust |
| ClfA | Chartered Institute for Archaeologists |
| ECC | Essex County Council |
| ECCHEA | Essex County Council Historic Environment Advisor |
| ECCPS | Essex County Council Place Services |
| EHER | Essex Historic Environment Record |
| 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 | O nline A ccess to the I ndex of A rchaeological I nvestigation S , http://oasis.ac.uk/pages/wiki/Main |
| section | (abbreviation sx or Sx) vertical slice through feature/s or layer/s |
| WSI | written scheme of investigation |

11 Archive deposition

Digital record: This project falls within the ClfA definition of a sterile project (<https://www.archaeologists.net/selection-toolkit/sterile-projects>), and as such the preserved

archaeological archive will take the form of a single digital document that incorporates all the relevant elements from the project archive. This document will be uploaded to OASIS and released into the Archaeological Data Service (ADS) library, from where it will be curated by the ADS. The single digital document will include the report, brief, wsi, photographs, and original site data (for example context sheets, section drawings).

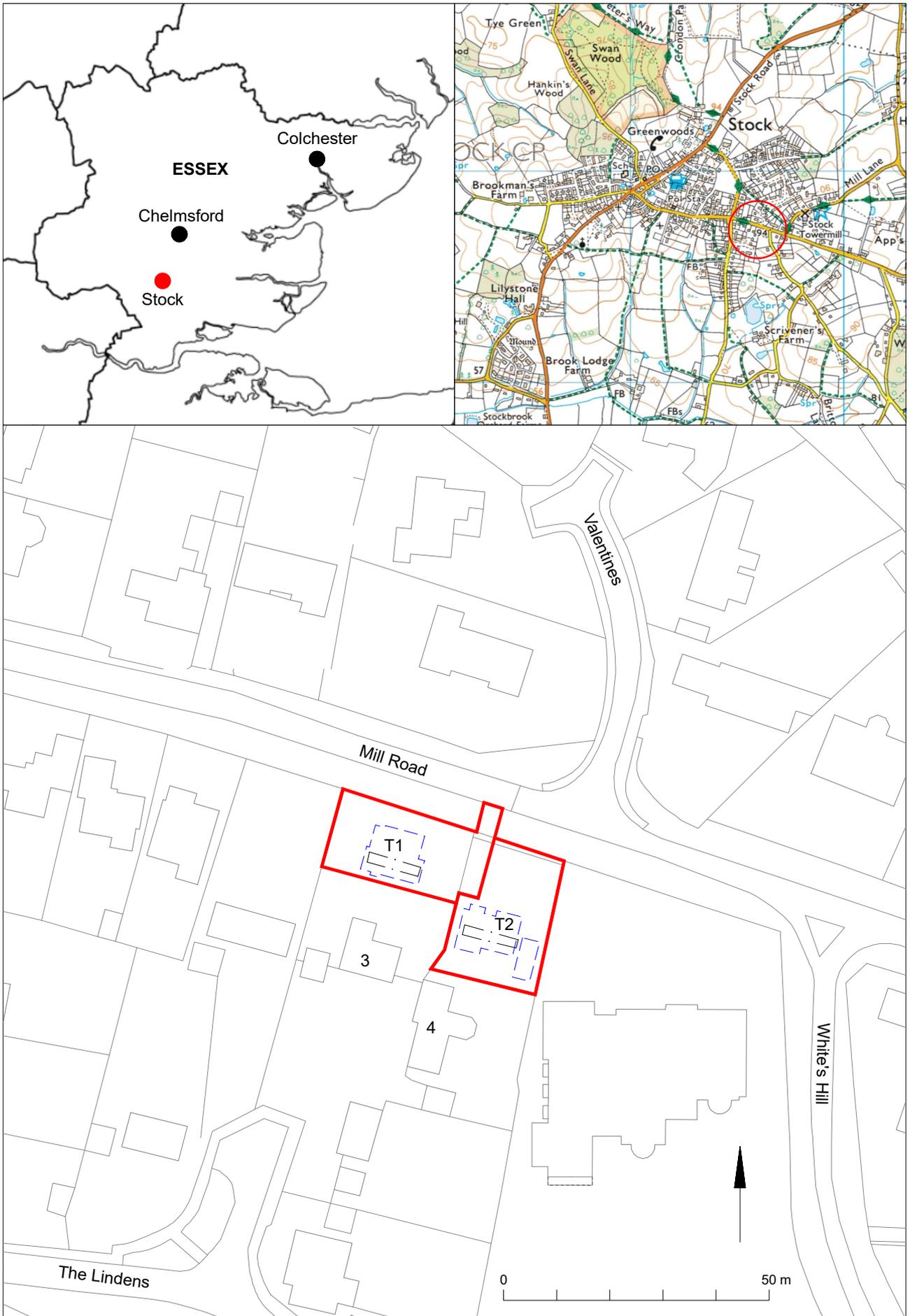
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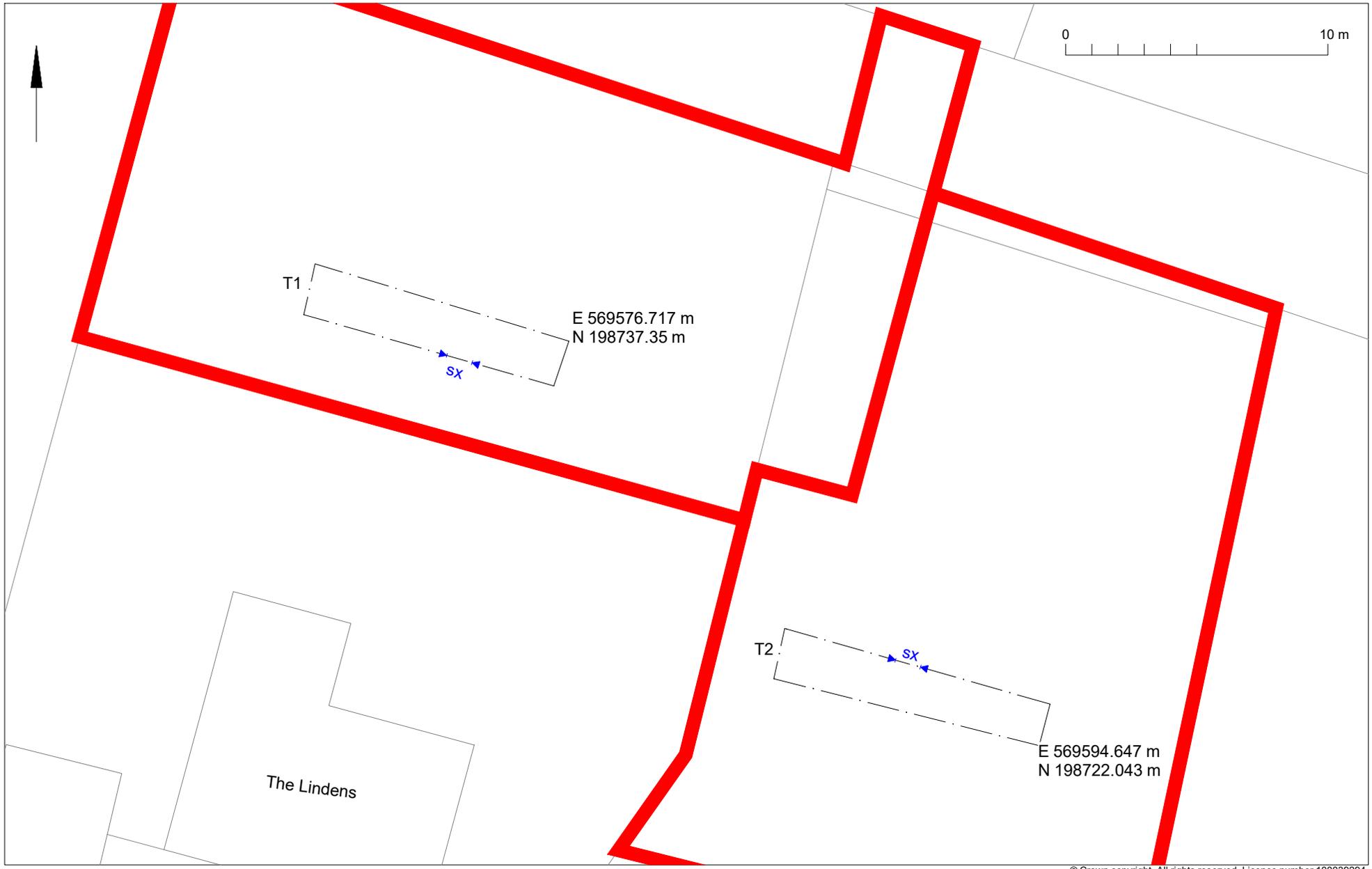
Appendix 1 Context list

| Context | Finds no. | Identification | Description | Date |
|---------|-----------|----------------|--|--------------|
| L1 | - | Topsoil | Soft, dry mid brown silt with frequent rooting | Modern |
| L2 | - | Subsoil | Firm, dry light brownish orange clayey-silt with frequent small rounded stone inclusions | Undated |
| L3 | - | Natural | Compact, moist mottled orange yellow sandy clay | Post-glacial |



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



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Fig 2 Results

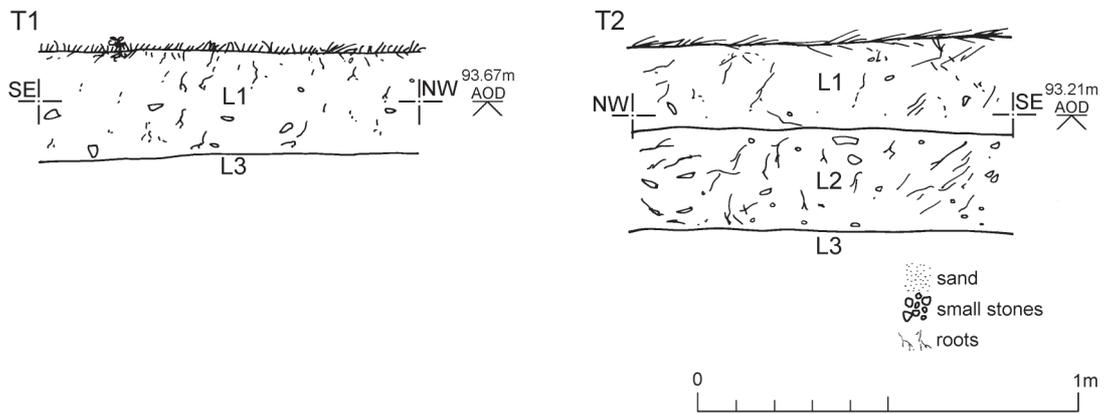


Fig 3 Representative sections.

Summary for colchest3-515443

| | |
|-----------------------------------|---|
| OASIS ID (UID) | colchest3-515443 |
| Project Name | Archaeological evaluation at 3 & 4 The Lindens, Mill Road, Stock, Essex, CM4 9LJ |
| Sitename | 3 & 4 The Lindens, Mill Road, Stock, CM4 9LJ |
| Activity type | Evaluation |
| Project Identifier(s) | 2023/05b |
| Planning Id | 22/01611/FUL, 21/00448/S73 |
| Reason For Investigation | Planning: Post determination |
| Organisation Responsible for work | Colchester Archaeological Trust |
| Project Dates | 11-May-2023 - 11-May-2023 |
| Location | 3 & 4 The Lindens, Mill Road, Stock, CM4 9LJ NGR : TQ 69582 98732 LL : 51.661783453146306, 0.450488322080138 12 Fig : 569582,198732 |
| Administrative Areas | Country : England County : Essex District : Chelmsford Parish : Stock |
| Project Methodology | Archaeological evaluation (two trial-trenches) carried out as specified in the project brief and wsi. |
| Project Results | An archaeological evaluation (two trial-trenches) was carried out at 3 & 4 The Lindens, Mill Road, Stock, Essex in advance of the construction of two new dwellings. Archaeological remains from Stock include an Iron Age enclosure, Roman cemetery and an important medieval and post-medieval pottery industry. However, no archaeological remains were encountered during the evaluation. |
| Keywords | |
| Funder | |
| HER | Essex HER - unRev - STANDARD |
| Person Responsible for work | A, Ronn |
| HER Identifiers | HER Event No - SKTL23 |
| Archives | |