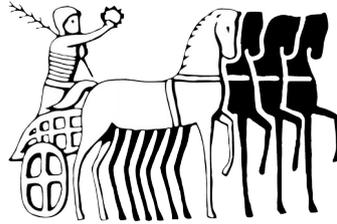


Colchester Archaeological Trust



**CAT Report 1982
issued October 2023**

**Archaeological strip, map and record excavation of a
driveway at Wallbury Lodge, Dell Lane, Hallingbury,
Essex, CM23 7SQ: September 2023**



**CAT project ref.: 23/07n
Scheduled Monument Consent number: S00244724
ECC code: FLWH23**

**Archaeological strip, map and record excavation of
a driveway at Wallbury Lodge, Dell Lane,
Hallingbury, Essex, CM23 7SQ: September 2023**

NGR: TL 49184 17999 (centre)

Planning application: UTT/18/3168/HHF

**Scheduled Monument number:
SM EX 16, NHLE 1002190, HA 1002190
Scheduled Monument Consent number: S00244724**

**CAT project ref.: 2023/07n
CAT Report 1982**

**ECC code: FLWH23
OASIS id: colchest3-518063**

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commissioned by Robert Croft

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Issued:	19/10/2023	

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1 Summary

An archaeological strip, map and record excavation was carried out at Wallbury Lodge, Dell Lane, Hallingbury, Essex during groundworks for a new private driveway and associated landscaping. The site lies within Wallbury Camp, an Iron Age hillfort and Scheduled Ancient Monument. Monitoring did not reveal any archaeological remains.

2 Introduction (Fig 1)

This report presents the results of an archaeological strip, map and record excavation undertaken by the Colchester Archaeological Trust (CAT) at Wallbury Lodge, Hallingbury, Essex on 21st September 2023. The work was commissioned by Robert Croft and took place during groundworks for a private driveway and associated landscaping.

As the site lies within a Scheduled Ancient Monument (SM EX 16, NHLE 1002190), the Historic England Inspector of Ancient Monuments (HEIAM) and the Historic Environment Assistant at Essex County Council Place Services (ECCHEA) recommended that archaeological monitoring be undertaken on the groundworks to mitigate any potential damage to the monument. In consultation with Dr Jess Tipper/Will Fletcher (HEIAM) and Katie Lee-Smith (ECCHEA), a written scheme of investigation (WSI) was prepared by CAT (2023) and agreed with them in advance of the groundworks.

All fieldwork and reporting was done in accordance with the Scheduled Monument Consent and WSI as well as the *Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment* (MoRPHE) (Historic England 2016) 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 2020a) and *Standard and guidance for the collection, documentation, conservation and research of archaeological materials* (ClfA 2020b).

3 Archaeological background (Fig 2)

The following archaeological background draws on the Colchester Archaeological Trust report archive and the Colchester Historic Environment Record (CHER/ECC numbers; accessible via Colchester Heritage Explorer (<https://colchesterheritage.co.uk/map>)).

The development site is located within the highly sensitive scheduled monument of Wallbury Camp (SM 1002190; EHER 16). Wallbury Camp is an Iron Age *oppidum* (hillfort) located on the Essex/Hertfordshire border. Roughly pear-shaped, it occupies an area of 31 acres enclosed in a double rampart. The outer earthworks survive in good condition and it is thought that the interior should also contain well-preserved archaeological deposits. It was originally occupied in the Iron Age and a range of pottery vessels dating to this period has been recovered. The hillfort is likely to have been a defensive site on the boundary between the Trinovantes and the Catavallunian tribes during the Late Iron Age.

Two Grade II listed buildings are also located close to the development site. The first is Wallbury Dells Farmhouse, a late 16th- or early 17th-century timber-framed house (NHLE no. 1147617; EHER 37908). The second is a 17th- to 18th-century aisled barn (NHLE no. 1112000; EHER 37907).

Prior to this phase of monitoring, an archaeological evaluation (one trial-trench) was carried out by CAT in 2018 (Scheduled Monument consent no. S00194211). The evaluation revealed a small number of residual worked flints indicative of prehistoric activity in the area in the Mesolithic or Early Neolithic, and Bronze Age or Iron Age. A possible Late Iron Age ditch may be associated with the hillfort of Wallbury Camp, and finds were identified indicative of continued activity into the Roman period. Eleven medieval features show extensive use of the site in the 12th to 13th centuries possibly associated with agriculture or horticulture. Domestic evidence recovered from these contexts suggests a medieval settlement or farmstead is located nearby. Three layers were recorded. Modern topsoil (L1, c 0.18-0.24m thick) sealed a layer of

subsoil (L2, c 0.09-0.2m thick) which overlaid natural sandy-clay (L3, encountered at a depth of 0.34-0.4m below current ground level). All of the features recorded were of fairly shallow depth (0.25-0.33m deep) (CAT Report 1310).

Two phases of monitoring were undertaken at Wallbury Lodge in 2022, the first for the installation of a broadband cable and the second for the construction of a garage. Neither phase of monitoring impacted any archaeological horizons (CAT Reports 1788 and 1835).

4 Aims

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

5 Results (Figs 2-3)

An area for the new driveway measuring 220m² was excavated to depths of between 0.05-0.3m, orientated north-south. The driveway overlaid, but did not impact on, the trial trench excavated by CAT in 2018 (CAT report 1310).

Zone 1 (see Fig 2 for a location)

The first zone was the largest section monitored, and comprised of the partial removal of modern landscaped topsoil (L1, 0.2-0.3m thick). This zone was reduced by 0.05-0.1m.



Photograph 1 South end of new driveway, looking north-east.



Photograph 2 North end of new driveway, looking south.



Photograph 3 Mid-trench of new driveway, looking north.

Zone 2 (see Fig 2 for a location)

Zone 2 was a small area approximately 7m in length. This zone was reduced by 0.10-0.2m, with the complete removal of L1, exposing a modern backfill layer (L2, c0.1m thick). This layer is a mix of topsoil and a subsoil, produced during the backfill of the 2018 evaluation trench.



Photograph 4 View of the driveway from the north end, looking south.

Zone 3 (see Fig 2 for a location)

The third zone was the area reduced the most, as 0.2-0.3m was removed. This zone went through L1 and L2, revealing gravelly, orange natural (L3, from c 0.3-0.4m below current ground level).



Photograph 5 North end of new driveway with north end of 2018 trench covered by membrane poking out (black arrow). Looking north.

Zone 4 (see Fig 2 for a location)

The last zone was a small strip removed at the north end of the new driveway. It was reduced by 0.1-0.2m. Four horizons were noted here. A thin layer of modern topsoil (L1, c 0.05m thick) was removed, underneath which was an uneven layer of modern material (L6, c0.2m thick) consisting of yellow sand and gravel to create a bank at the edge of the road track. Likely deposited after or at the same time was a modern trackway (L4, c0.15m thick, consisting of modern, dark soil and gravel), and underneath this the foundation of the trackway (L5, c0.15m thick) which was made up of compacted made-ground and yellow sand.



Photograph 6 North end of new driveway, looking east.

No archaeological remains were encountered and no finds were recovered. A full context list can be found in Appendix 1.

6 Conclusion

Archaeological monitoring at Wallbury Lodge, Dell Lane, Hallingbury, Essex did not reveal any archaeological remains as most of the groundworks only impacted modern layers. Only a small section (Zone 3) reached the depth of archaeological remains seen in previous investigations, and no archaeological remains were present there.

7 Acknowledgements

CAT thanks Robert Croft for commissioning and funding the work. The project was managed by C Lister and A Wightman and carried out by M Beale. Figures were prepared by C Lister and E Holloway. The project was monitored for Historic England by Dr Jess Tipper and for Essex County Council by Katie-Lee Smith.

8 References

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

CAT	2023	<i>Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) for archaeological strip, map and record excavation or a driveway at Wallbury Lodge, Dell Lane, Little Hallingbury, Essex, CM23 7SQ</i> , by S Veasey
CAT Report 1310	2018	<i>Archaeological evaluation at Wallbury Lodge, Dell Lane, Little Hallingbury, Essex, CM22 7SQ: August 2018</i> , by L Pooley
CAT Report 1788	2022	<i>Archaeological monitoring at Wallbury Lodge, Dell Lane, Little Hallingbury, Essex, CM22 7SQ: March 2022</i> , by L Pooley
CAT Report 1835	2022	<i>Archaeological monitoring at the old turkey shed Wallbury Lodge, Dell Lane, Little Hallingbury, Essex, CM22 7SQ: July 2022</i> , by M Seehra
CIfA	2020a	<i>Standard and Guidance for an archaeological watching brief</i> . Revised June 2020
CIfA	2020b	<i>Standard and guidance for the collection, documentation, conservation and research of archaeological materials</i> . Updated October 2020
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</i> (MoRPHE)
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)

9 Abbreviations and glossary

Bronze Age	period from c 2000 – 875 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
EHER	Essex Historic Environment Record
feature (F)	an identifiable thing like a pit, a wall, a drain: can contain 'contexts'
hillfort	a settlement on a hill, enclosed by a system of defensive banks and ditches
Iron Age	period from c 875 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
Mesolithic	period from c 10,000 – 4000BC
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	O nline A cces S to the Index of Archaeological Investigation S , http://oasis.ac.uk/pages/wiki/Main
<i>oppidum</i>	a fortified administrative centre, settlement or town; plural <i>oppida</i>
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 Archive deposition

Digital record: This project falls within the CIfA 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, wsi, photographs, and original site data (for example context sheets, section drawings)

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Distribution list

The homeowner

Dr Jess Tipper, Historic England

Historic Environment Advisor, ECC Place Services

Essex Historic Environment Record, Essex County Council

Appendix 1 Context list

Context	Context type	Description	Date
L1	Landscaped topsoil	firm, dry medium grey-brown loamy silt with brick flecks and inclusions of: stone 5%	Modern
L2	Modern backfill	hard, dry medium/light grey-brown sandy silt with brick flecks and inclusions of: stone 10%	Modern
L3	Natural	hard, dry medium orange-brown sandy-clay with inclusions of: flint and stone 50%	Post-glacial
L4	Modern track/road	firm, dark grey-brown silty loam with inclusions of: gravel 20%	Modern
L5	Modern road landscaping	hard, dry yellow sand and brown-grey compacted sandy silt	Modern
L6	Modern bank	modern yellow sand and grey-brown sandy silt with inclusions of: gravel 40%	Modern

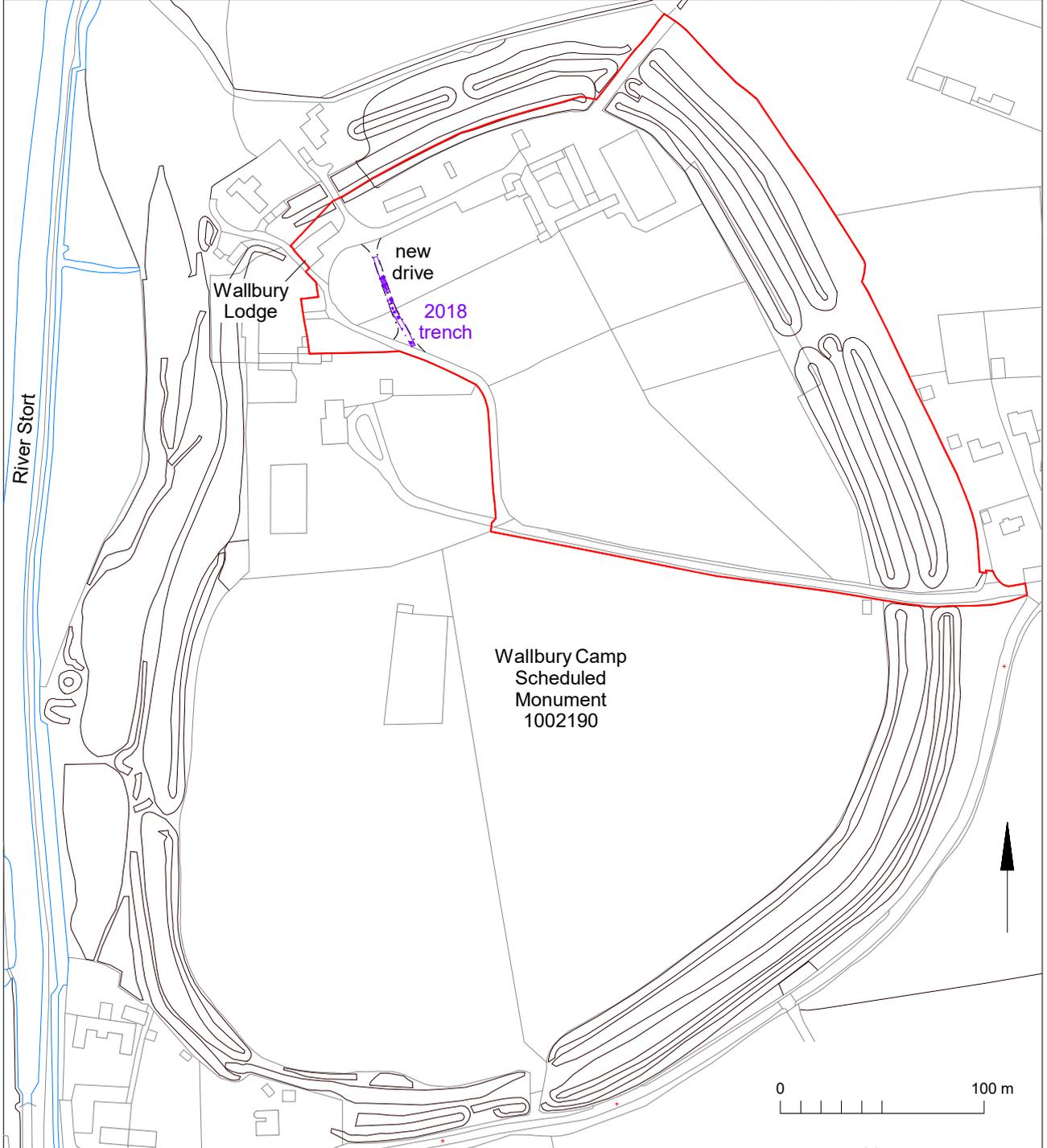
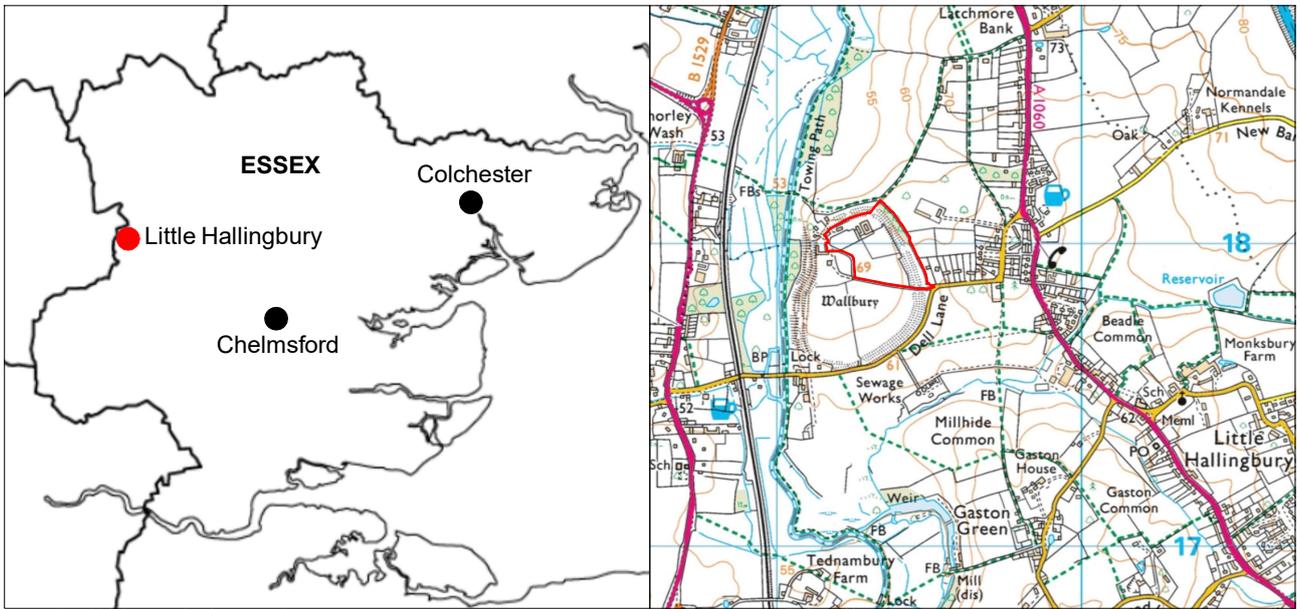
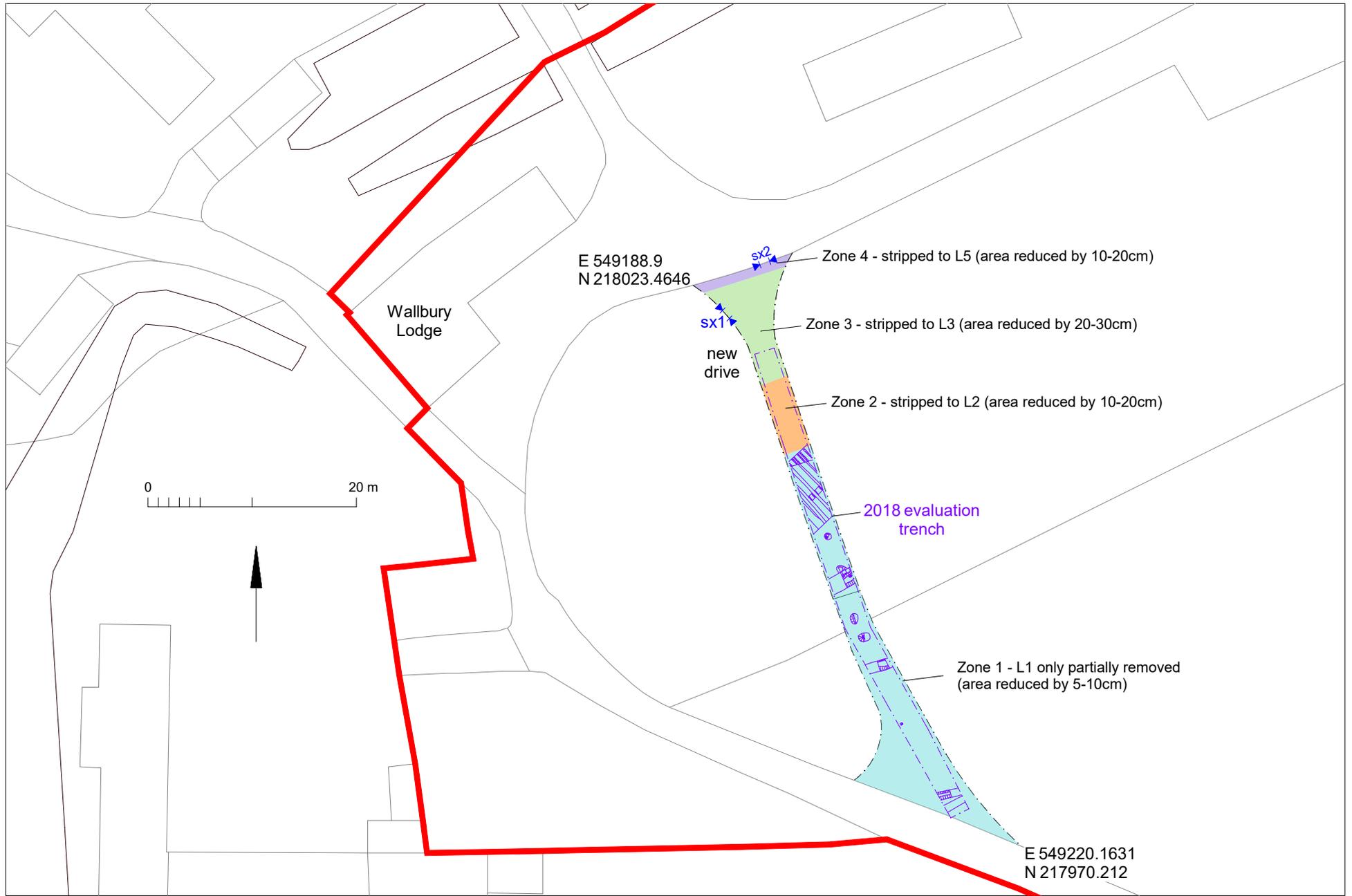


Fig 1 Site location.



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Fig 2 Driveway strip in relation to 2018 evaluation results.

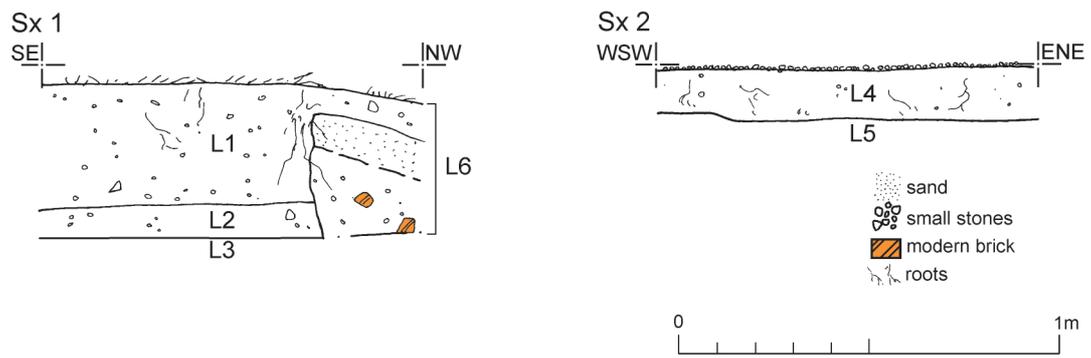


Fig 3 Representative sections.

OASIS Summary for colchest3-518063

OASIS ID (UID)	colchest3-518063
Project Name	Archaeological strip, map and record excavation of a driveway at Wallbury Lodge, Dell Lane, Hallingbury, Essex, CM23 7SQ
Sitename	Wallbury Lodge, Dell Lane, Little Hallingbury, Essex, CM23 7SQ
Sitecode	FLWH23
Project Identifier(s)	2023/07n
Activity type	Watching Brief, Strip Map And Sample
Planning Id	UTT/18/3168/HHF
Reason For Investigation	Planning: Post determination
Organisation Responsible for work	Colchester Archaeological Trust
Project Dates	21-Sep-2023 - 21-Sep-2023
Location	Wallbury Lodge, Dell Lane, Little Hallingbury, Essex, CM23 7SQ NGR : TL 49184 17999 LL : 51.840671826937964, 0.164066604514572 12 Fig : 549184,217999
Administrative Areas	Country : England County/Local Authority : Essex Local Authority District : Uttlesford Parish : Little Hallingbury
Project Methodology	An area for the new driveway measuring 220m ² was excavated to depths of between 0.05-0.3m, orientated north-south. All work was carried out according to the WSI and Historic England advice.
Project Results	An archaeological strip, map and record excavation was carried out at Wallbury Lodge, Dell Lane, Hallingbury, Essex during groundworks for a new private driveway and associated landscaping. The site lies within Wallbury Camp, an Iron Age hillfort and Scheduled Ancient Monument. Monitoring did not reveal any archaeological remains.
Keywords	
Funder	Private individual
HER	Essex HER - unRev - STANDARD Scheduled Monument Casework - unRev - STANDARD
Person Responsible for work	Chris Lister, Adam Wightman
HER Identifiers	HER Event No - FLWH23
Archives	Digital Archive - to be deposited with Archaeology Data Service Archive;