

**Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) for  
archaeological monitoring at  
Wallbury Lodge, Dell Lane, Little Hallingbury,  
Essex, CM22 7SQ.**

**NGR:** TL 49184 17999 (centre)

**Parish:** Little Hallingbury

**Scheduled Monument number:** SM EX 16, HA 1002190

**Historic England SM consent number:** TBC

**Planning reference:** UTT/18/3168/HHF

**Commissioned by:** Andrew Stevenson Associates

**On behalf of:** Mr R Croft

**Curating museum:** Saffron Walden District Museum

**ECC project code:** tbc

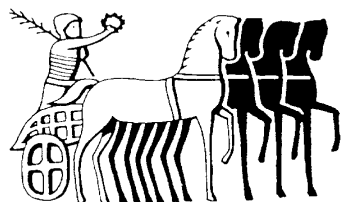
**CAT project code:** 2019/07b

**Oasis project ID:** colchest3-358273

**Site manager:** Chris Lister

**ECC monitor:** Richard Havis/Katie Lee-Smith

**This WSI written:** 05/07/2019



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## Site location and description

The proposed development site lies within the scheduled monument of Wallbury Camp, at Wallbury Lodge, Dell Lane, Little Hallingbury, CM22 7SQ (Fig 1). Site is centred at National grid reference (NGR) TL49184 17999.

## Proposed work

The planning application proposes to remove existing garages and office at the south-western end of the property, to be replaced with a single storey and two storey side and front extensions. A new driveway and gate are to be installed alongside garden landscaping and any associated groundworks.

## Archaeological background

The following archaeological background draws on the Brief and the Essex Historic Environment Record (EHER) held at Essex County Council, County Hall, Chelmsford, Essex (accessible to the public via <http://www.heritagegateway.org.uk>).

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).

An archaeological evaluation (one trial-trench) was carried out at Wallbury Lodge by CAT in 2018, in advance of the construction of the new driveway (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).

## Planning background

A planning application was submitted to Uttlesford District Council in November 2017 but was later withdrawn to undertake appropriate archaeological assessment of the site. After a CAT evaluation, a revised planning application (UTT/18/3168/HHF) was submitted to Tendring District Council in November 2018. This application proposed the *demolition of existing attached garage and office accommodation. Erection of single storey and two storey side and front extensions. Provision of new private drive and associated landscaping works.*

As the site lies within a scheduled monument the Essex County Council Historic Environment Advisor (ECCHEA) and the Historic England Inspector of Ancient Monuments (HEIAM) recommended archaeological monitoring be undertaken on groundworks. This follows the guidelines given in National Planning Policy Framework (MHCLG 2019) and states:

*No development shall take place within the site until the implementation of a programme of archaeological work in accordance with a written scheme of investigation has been secured and has been submitted to and approved in writing by the local planning authority.*

### **Requirement for work** (Fig 1)

The required archaeological work will consist of archaeological monitoring. Details are given in a Project Brief written by ECCPS (*Brief for archaeological monitoring at Wallbury Lodge, Dell Lane, Little Hallingbury* – ECC 2019).

*Specifically*, the monitoring and recording is being undertaken to identify and record any surviving archaeological deposits that may exist on site.

The aim is to:

- To define the nature of the archaeological deposits surviving in the area of the hillfort
- assess the longevity of occupation
- identify any area of reuse at a later date

Scheduled monument consent will be obtained before this work takes place.

Further area excavation may be required should significant archaeological deposits/features be identified that cannot be preserved *in situ*. This will be decided by the HEIAM and ECCHEA and will be carried out in accordance with a further brief and WSI.

### **General methodology**

All work carried out by CAT will be in accordance with:

- professional standards of the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists, including its *Code of Conduct* (CIfA 2014a, b)
- Standards and Frameworks published by East Anglian Archaeology (Gurney 2003, Medlycott 2011)
- relevant Health & Safety guidelines and requirements (CAT 2018)
- the Project Brief issued by ECC Historic Environment Advisor (ECCPS 2019)
- Historic England Scheduled Monument consent

Professional CAT field archaeologists will undertake all specified archaeological work, for which they will be suitably experienced and qualified.

Notification of the supervisor/project manager's name and the start date for the project will be provided to HEIAM and ECCHEA one week before start of work.

Unless it is the responsibility of other site contractors, CAT will study mains service locations and avoid damage to these.

At the start of work (immediately before fieldwork commences) an OASIS online record <http://ads.ahds.ac.uk/project/oasis/> will be initiated and key fields completed on Details, Location and Creators forms. At the end of the project all parts of the OASIS online form will be completed for submission to EHER. This will include an uploaded .PDF version of the entire report.

A project or site code will be sought from ECCHEA and/or the curating museum, as appropriate to the project. This code will be used to identify the project archive when it is deposited at the curating museum.

## **Staffing**

The number of field staff for this project is estimated as follows: One CAT officer for the duration of the groundworks.

In charge of day-to-day site work: Ben Holloway/Mark Baister

## **Monitoring methodology**

There will be sufficient on-site attendance by CAT staff to maintain a watch on all contractors' ground works to record, excavate or sample (as necessary) any archaeological features or deposits.

All topsoil removal and ground reduction will be done with a toothless bucket.

If any features or deposits are uncovered, time will be allowed for these features to be excavated by hand, planned and recorded. This includes a 50% sample of discrete features (pits, etc) and 10% of linear features (ditches, etc).

Fast hand-excavation techniques involving (for instance) picks, forks and mattocks will not be used on complex stratigraphy.

A metal detector will be used to examine spoil heaps, and the finds recovered.

Individual records of excavated contexts, layers, features or deposits will be entered on proforma record sheets. Registers will be compiled of finds, small finds and soil samples.

All features and layers or other significant deposits will be planned, and their profiles or sections recorded. The normal scale will be site plans at 1:20 and sections at 1:10, unless circumstances indicate that other scales would be appropriate.

## **Site surveying**

The site and any features will be surveyed by Total Station where possible, unless the particulars of the features indicate that manual planning techniques should be employed. Normal scale for archaeological site plans and sections is 1:20 and 1:10 respectively, unless circumstances indicate that other scales would be more appropriate.

The site grid will be tied into the National Grid. Corners of excavation areas will be located by NGR coordinates.

## **Environmental sampling policy**

The number and range of samples collected will be adequate to determine the potential of the site, with particular focus on palaeoenvironmental remains including both biological remains (e.g. plants, small vertebrates) and small sized artefacts (e.g. smithing debris), and to provide information for sampling strategies on any future excavation. Samples will be collected for potential micromorphical and other pedological sedimentological analysis. Environmental bulk samples will be 40 litres in size (assuming context is large enough).

Sampling strategies will address questions of:

- the range of preservation types (charred, mineral-replaced, waterlogged), and their quality
- concentrations of macro-remains
- and differences in remains from undated and dated features
- variation between different feature types and areas of site

CAT has an arrangement with Val Fryer / Lisa Gray whereby any potentially rich environmental layers or features will be appropriately sampled as a matter of course. Trained

CAT staff will process the samples and the flots will be sent to Val Fryer or Lisa Gray for analysis and reporting.

Should any complex, or otherwise outstanding deposits be encountered, VF or LG will be asked onto site to advise. Waterlogged 'organic' features will always be sampled. In all cases, the advice of VF/LG and/or the Historic England Regional Advisor in Archaeological Science (East of England) on sampling strategies for complex or waterlogged deposits will be followed, including the taking of monolith samples.

## Human remains

CAT follows the policy of leaving human remains *in situ* unless there is a clear indication that the remains are in danger of being compromised as a result of their exposure or unless advised to do so by the project osteologist, HEIAM or ECCHEA. If circumstances indicated it were prudent or necessary to remove remains from the site during the monitoring, the following criteria would be applied; if it is clear from their position, context, depth, or other factors that the remains are ancient, then normal procedure is to apply to the Department of Justice for a licence to remove them and seek advice from the project osteologist. Following HE guidance (HE 2018) if the human remains are not to be lifted, the project osteologist should be available to record the human remain *in situ* (i.e. a site visit). Conditions laid down by the DoJ license will be followed. If it seems that the remains are not ancient, then the coroner, the client, and the ECCHEA will be informed, and any advice and/or instruction from the coroner will be followed.

## Photographic record

Will include both general and feature-specific photographs, the latter with scale and north arrow. A photo register giving context number, details, and direction of shot will be prepared on site, and included in site archive.

## Finds

All significant finds will be retained.

All finds, where appropriate, will be washed and marked with site code and context number. CAT may use local volunteers to assist the CAT Finds Officer with this task.

Matthew Loughton (CAT) normally writes our finds reports. Some categories of finds are automatically referred to other CAT specialists:

non-ceramic bulk finds: Laura Pooley

small finds, metalwork, coins, etc: Laura Pooley

animal bones (small groups): Alec Wade / Adam Wightman

flints: Adam Wightman

or to outside specialists:

animal bones (large groups): Julie Curl (*Sylvanus*)

project osteologist (human remains): Julie Curl

environmental processing and reporting: Val Fryer / Lisa Gray

conservation of finds: Norwich Museum / Laura Ratcliffe (LR Conservation)

Other specialists whose opinion can be sought on large or complex groups include:

Roman brick/tile: Ernest Black / Ian Betts (MOLA)

Roman glass: Hilary Cool

Prehistoric pottery: Stephen Benfield / Paul Sealey / Nigel Brown

Small finds: Nina Crummy

Other: EH Regional Adviser in Archaeological Science (East of England).

All finds of potential treasure will be removed to a safe place, and the coroner informed immediately, in accordance with the rules of the Treasure Act 1996. The definition of treasure is given in pages 3-5 of the Code of Practice of the above act. This refers primarily to gold or silver objects.

Requirements for conservation and storage of finds will be agreed with the appropriate museum prior to the start of work, and confirmed to HEIAM and ECCHEA.

### **Post-excavation assessment**

An updated post-excavation assessment will be submitted within 2 months or at an alternatively agreed time with the ECCHEA.

Where archaeological results do not warrant a post-excavation assessment then agreement will be sought from the ECCHEA to proceed straight to grey literature / publication.

### **Results**

Notification will be given to HEIAM and ECCHEA when the fieldwork has been completed.

An appropriate archive will be prepared to minimum acceptable standards outlined in *Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment* (HE 2015).

The report will be submitted within 6 months of the end of fieldwork, with a copy supplied to the HEIAM and ECCHEA as a single PDF.

The report will contain:

- Location plan of trenches in relation to the proposed development. At least two corners of each excavated area will be given a 10 figure grid reference.
- Section/s drawings showing depth of deposits from present ground level with Ordnance Datum, vertical and horizontal scale.
- Archaeological methodology and detailed results including a suitable conclusion and discussion. Appropriate discussion and results section assessing the site in relation to the Regional Research Frameworks (Brown and Glazebrook 2000, Medlycott 2011).
- All specialist reports or assessments
- A concise non-technical summary of the project results.

An OASIS summary sheet shall be completed at the end of the project and supplied to the ECCHEA. This will be completed in digital form with a paper copy included with the archive. A copy (with trench plan) will also be emailed to the Hon. Editor of the *Essex Archaeology and History Journal* for inclusion in the annual round-up of projects ([paul.gilman@me.com](mailto:paul.gilman@me.com)).

Publication of the results at least a summary level (i.e. round-up in *Essex Archaeology & History*) shall be undertaken in the year following the archaeological fieldwork. An allowance will be made in the project costs for the report to be published in an adequately peer reviewed journal or monograph series.

### **Archive deposition**

The requirements for archive storage shall be agreed with the Curating museum.

If the finds are to remain with the landowner, a full copy of the archive will be housed with the curating museum.

The archive will be deposited with the appropriate museum within 1 month of the completion of the final publication report, with a summary of the contents of the archive supplied to HEIAM and ECCHEA.

### **Monitoring**

ECCHEA will be responsible for monitoring progress and standards throughout the project, and will be kept regularly informed during fieldwork, post-excavation and publication stages.

Notification of the start of work will be given HEIAM and ECCHEA one week in advance of its commencement.

Any variations in this WSI will be agreed with HEIAM and ECCHEA prior to them being carried out.

HEIAM and ECCHEA will be notified when the fieldwork is complete.

The involvement of HEIAM and ECCHEA shall be acknowledged in any report or publication generated by this project.

## References

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

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|--------------------------|-------|---|
| 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 <b>8</b> (EAA <b>8</b> ) |
| CAT                      | 2018  | <i>Health &amp; Safety Policy</i>   |
| CAT Report 1310          | 2018  | <i>Archaeological evaluation at Wallbury Lodge, dell Lane, Little Hallingbury, Essex, CM22 7SQ.</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>   |
| ECCPS                    | 2019  | <i>Brief for archaeological monitoring at Wallbury Lodge, Dell Lane, little Hallingbury</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> ).                                     |
| Historic England (HE)    | 2015  | <i>Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment (MoRPHE)</i>   |
| Historic England (HE)    | 2018  | <i>The Role of the Human Osteologist in an Archaeological Fieldwork Project.</i> By S Mays, M Brickley and J Sidell   |
| 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> )             |
| MHCLG                    | 2019  | <i>National Planning Policy Framework.</i> Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government.   |

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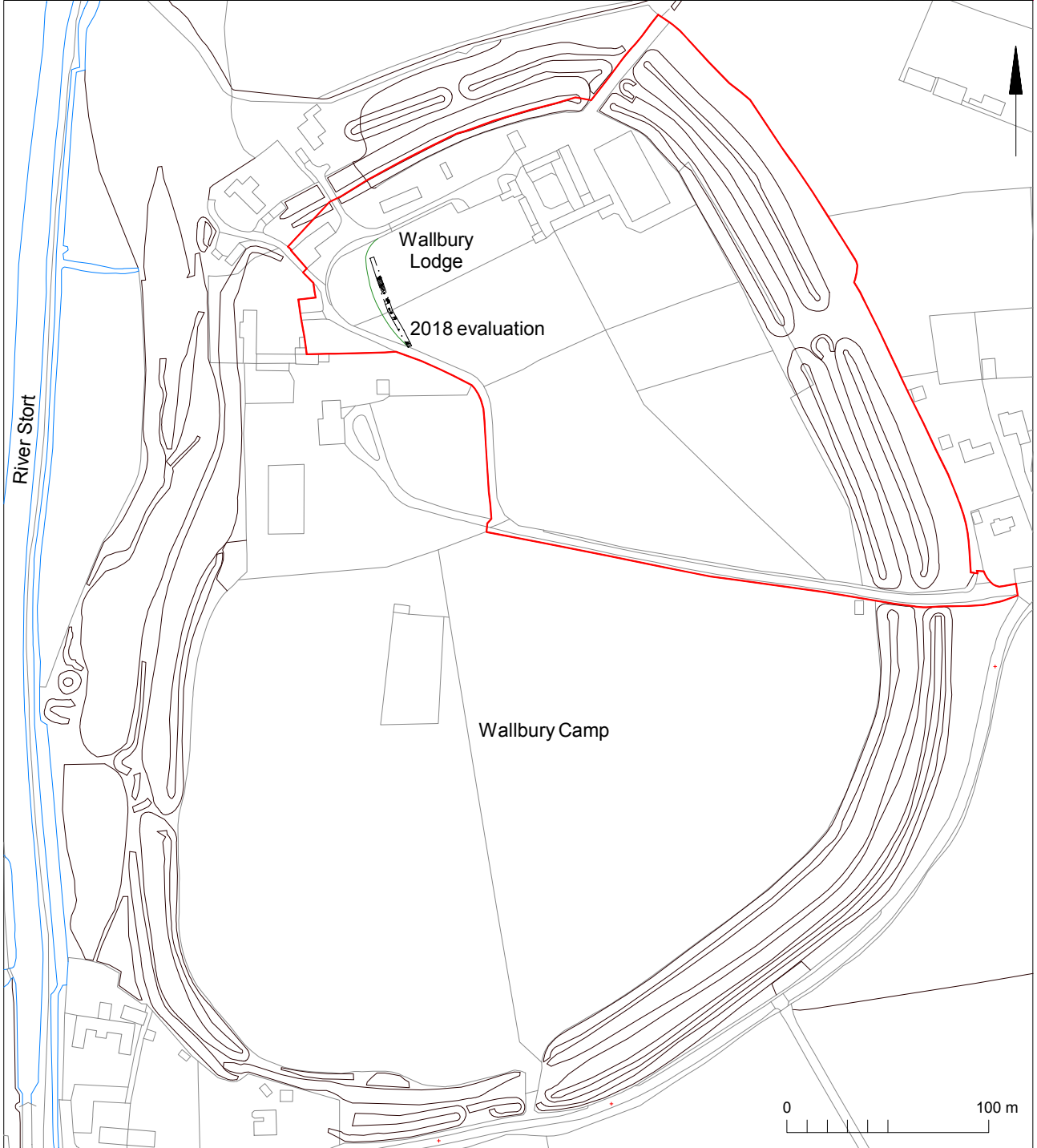
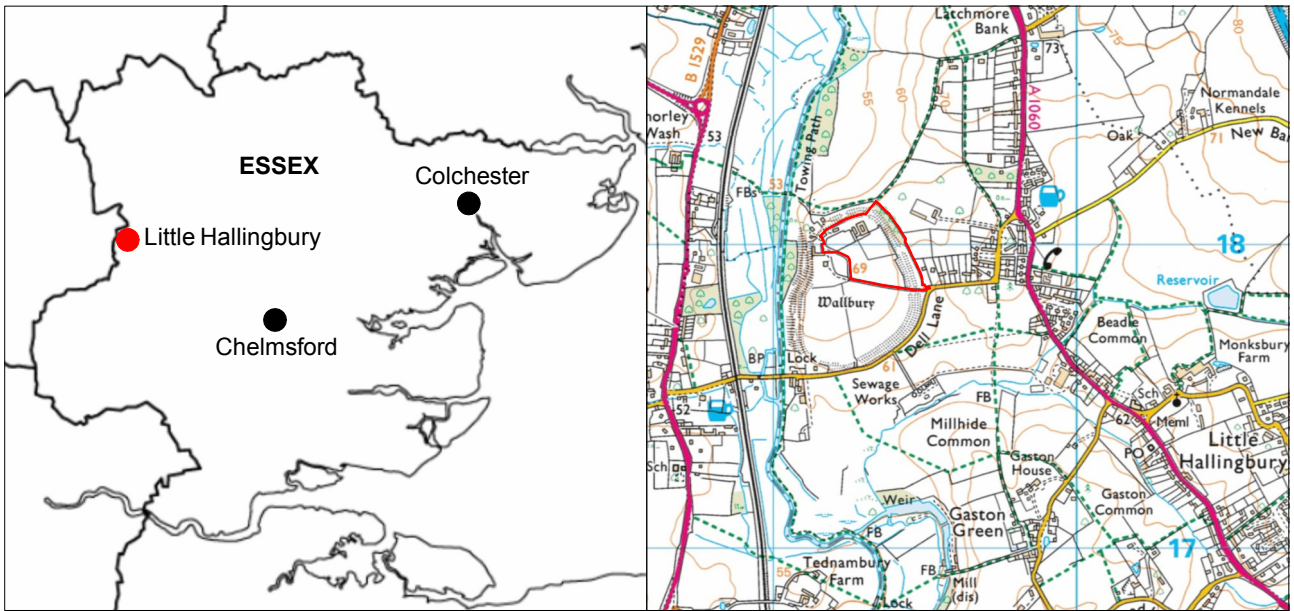


Fig 1 Site location.