

Wickham Times

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ARCHAEOLOGISTS DIG DEEP



Roman pottery found in Wickham.

Since September 2018, Cotswold Archaeology, a charity, have been carrying out an archaeological investigation because there is a plan for Croudace homes to build 82 new homes on the site in Wickham.

Cotswold Archaeology have found a Roman settlement, lying in the dirty, wet mud which is in the process of being unearthed. They have found a Roman road, roadside wooden structures like lean-tos,

multiple wide, deep ditches and waste pits that contain lots of smooth, old pottery. The pottery, greeting the surface whilst being dug up, was made of clay. Archaeologists have found evidence of Bronze Age cremations. Cremation was a tradition of how the Bronze Age people decided to die. The options were to either be buried or to be burnt.

The archaeologists had to be working in all weathers: rain, snow, and hot weather. They also found evidence of post holes from lean-tos. Romans would use packing stones to keep the posts stable.

“The settlement is thought to have had its heyday within the 1st and 2nd centuries AD,

perhaps as a kind of Roman ‘service station’, said an employee from Cotswold Archaeology at the site.

Local people say, “We have been watching the video over and over again and we would be really pleased to visit the site!”

Cotswold Archaeology have recently been sharing what they have found with Croudace Homes and looking at the plans for the houses. They have been having a talk with Wickham History Society and local people have also spoken to Cotswold archaeology about what is going to happen next.

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