

Archaeological evaluation and excavation at 143-147 High Street, Maldon, Essex July-August 2008



report prepared by
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1 Summary

The site is located within Maldon's historic medieval core. During an evaluation by two trial-trenches followed by an area excavation, both in 2008, evidence of occupation from the 10th-11th centuries to modern times was investigated.

The site had been badly truncated, mainly in modern times. Nevertheless, it was possible to discern the following periods of occupation. The earliest (Period 1) is dated to the 10th-11th centuries, and was represented by Thetford-type ware found residually in later contexts. No structures were identified for this period.

Various slots and post-holes dated to the 12th-13th centuries indicate that the earliest structure (Period 2a) identified was probably timber, and located on the street frontage. In the 13th-14th centuries (Period 2b), the earlier structure was replaced by another timber one, to the rear of which was a fence-line defining a property boundary.

The Period 2b structure appears to have remained standing in the 15th-16th centuries (Period 2c). Post-holes representing fence-lines to the rear of the building show that the site was split into three smaller plots. (The site still retains the three plots in its current address: 143, 145, 147 High Street.) An important feature of this period is a 15th-century barrel containing a group of leather off-cuts, possibly dumped material from a cobbler's workshop.

In the post-medieval period (Period 3, 17th-18th centuries), a new building was erected. Although its wall lines are uncertain, its extent is probably defined by a clay floor.

In the 19th century (Period 4), a chimney-stack foundation to the rear of the building is all that survives of what may have been a larger structure. In the later 20th century, the site was occupied by a commercial garage, a major feature of which was a hydraulic lift, the pit for which had destroyed a large block of ground in the centre of the site.

A small group of small finds, including fragments of quern stone, hone, and a spindle-whorl, indicates that a wide range of domestic activities was carried out on the site. A deposit of mercury indicates some light-industrial process (gold-smithing, leather-working, or hat-making) in Period 2. Some of the stones found loose on the site have a distant origin, and may have been brought to Maldon as ship's ballast.

2 Introduction (Fig 1)

- 2.1 This is the archive report on a two-part archaeological project at 143-147 High Street, Maldon, Essex, carried out on behalf of Vaughan English Associates Ltd. The first part was an evaluation by two trial-trenches in July 2008, and the second part was an area excavation in August 2008.
- 2.2 The site fronts onto Maldon High Street, and was formerly occupied by a commercial garage and associated hardstanding used for car-parking.
- 2.3 The site centre is at NGR TL 85418 06897.
- 2.4 Following submission of a planning application to Maldon District Council in 2007 for the construction of five one-bedroom flats, Essex County Council's Historic Environment (HEM) team issued a brief entitled *Archaeological Investigation Phase 1: 143-147 High Street, Maldon* (ECC 2008). Following *Planning Policy Guidance note 16* (DoE 1990), this recommended an evaluation, the results of which would inform a decision on whether more archaeological work would be required before development.
- 2.5 The evaluation uncovered significant archaeological remains. Therefore, at a site meeting, the HEM team (Mr Pat Connell) recommended a Phase 2 of archaeological work. This consisted of the full excavation of an area measuring 10m x 13.5m which included all the area of the trial-trenches except for the northern 4m of T2, ie the part of T2 which was furthest away from the frontage.
- 2.6 Both parts of the archaeological work were carried out in accordance with *Written Schemes of Investigation* (WSIs) produced by CAT (CAT 2008a; CAT 2008b) in response to the HEM team brief, and agreed with the HEM team.
- 2.7 In addition to the WSI, all fieldwork and reporting was consistent with standards and practices contained in CAT's *Policies and procedures* (CAT 2008c), Colchester Borough Council's *Guidelines on the preparation and transfer of archaeological*

archives to Colchester and Ipswich Museums (CIMS 2008), the Institute for Archaeologists' *Standard and guidance for archaeological field evaluation* (IfA 2008a), *Standard and guidance for archaeological excavation* (IfA 2008b), and *Standard and guidance for the collection, documentation, conservation and research of archaeological materials* (IfA 2008c). The guidance contained in the documents *Management of research projects in the historic environment* (MoRPHE) and *Standards for field archaeology in the East of England* (EAA 14) was also followed.

3 Archaeological background (Fig 1)

- 3.1 This section is based on the Essex Historic Environment Record (EHER) held by Essex County Council, at County Hall, Chelmsford, Essex.
- 3.2 The site lies within an area of significant archaeological potential on the High Street in Maldon.
- 3.3 The major Roman site in this area is that of the small Roman town at Heybridge. This is situated on the north bank of the River Blackwater, and 1.3km to the NNW of the current site.
- 3.4 Anglo-Saxon Maldon was a *burh* founded by King Edward the Elder in AD 916. It is generally believed that the *burh* was located in what is now the western side of Maldon town centre, ie around Wellington Road and West Chase, and bisected by the London Road. The Maldon Archaeological Group has found evidence for an earthwork enclosure in this area, though its dating is uncertain, and nothing is known about what was inside the enclosure (Medlycott 1999, 4). The built-up area of Anglo-Saxon Maldon, as plotted by Medlycott (*ibid*, plan labelled 'Maldon: Saxon interpretation'¹) extended from close to the western side of the *burh* and eastwards along the high ridge now occupied by the High Street, ie in modern street names from Silver Street (not on Fig 1) to Butt Lane, and on either side of the High Street (see Fig 1).
- 3.5 In the medieval period, the built-up area spread down what is now the modern High Street, thus extending from near the Market Place at Silver Street (not on Fig 1) as far as the medieval wharves and dock at the Hythe (see Fig 1). The site lies within this expanded area of medieval settlement, and would probably have been occupied by medieval buildings fronting onto the High Street.

4 Aim

The aim of the evaluation was to record the character, extent, date, significance and condition of any archaeological remains and deposits likely to be affected by groundworks for the new development.

The aim of the excavation was to 'preserve by record' all archaeological features and deposits which would be destroyed by the development.

5 Results (Figs 2-15)

This section gives combined results of the evaluation and the excavation.

This site had surviving stratification in a number of places, but was heavily truncated in others. The combination of this truncation and the residual nature of some of the finds makes detailed stratigraphic analysis difficult. Nevertheless, the evidence of occupation on the site has been phased into two medieval and two post-medieval or modern periods, as detailed below.

5.1 Period 1: late Anglo-Saxon (10th-11th centuries)

The presence on this site of 36 sherds (457g) of Thetford-type ware and one sherd (5g) of St Neots-type ware suggests that there was 10th-/11th-century occupation here, which may have been pre-conquest in date. However, all the material occurred residually in later contexts, and no features can be assigned to this period.

¹ Figure 1 in this report is based on this plan, with thanks to M Medlycott.

5.2 Period 2: medieval to early post-medieval (12th-16th centuries)

Period 2a - early medieval (12th century) (Figs 3, 8-9)

Structural features and their interpretation

Various post-holes and slots lay parallel to the street frontage and probably defined a timber building. None of the slots contained traces of wood or nails, but they are interpreted here as slots formed by the pressure of an overlying structure built on ground-plates. When the building was replaced, the ground plates may have been lifted out and recycled in a later structure on this site or close by.

In this phase, the rear wall of a structure may be represented by slot F89, which was 6.0m (19' 8") behind the current street frontage. Slightly over 3m of F89 survived, and both its ends had been truncated by later features. Parallel to F89 was slot F58, which was separated from F89 by a gap of 1.6m (5' 3"). At right-angles to F58 was slot F53, which extended towards the street frontage (for 2.1m, up to the site edge).

Two rows of stake holes may have been associated with this structure: first, to the south, a line defined by (from west to east) F33, ?F48, F50, F51 and F52, and second, to the north, (from west to east) were F28, F29, F73, F74 and ?F57. F73 and F74 were cut by Period 2b slot F18. These features may have defined partitions, presumably internal.

It is uncertain if this structure continued into the eastern half of the site. Possible elements of the same or another structure lay in the south-eastern corner of the site. These were post-holes F115, F116, F119 and F110 and a short length of slot F117 on approximately the same alignment as F53.

A number of unassociated post-holes and stake holes may also belong to this period (from west to east: F26, F60, F76, F109, F105 and F118).

Interpretation of these remains is difficult. The slots cannot be rationalised in terms of the classic medieval floor-plan of a hall-house, with hall, screens passage and service rooms. Nevertheless, three rooms can be extrapolated from the slots – a passage to the rear with two rooms on the street frontage.

A number of layers are associated with this period, ie which together may be defined as the land surface on which the Period 2a structure was built. These were L6 and L11, both of which sealed natural L5. L11 was found generally over the northern half of the site, and L6 over the southern half, although heavily cut in the southern half by later features. The fact that these layers contained 26 sherds of pottery shows that they were not natural deposits, such as hill-wash, but were probably 'reworked natural' trampled and cut into by human activity.

A few droplets of mercury (not weighed) were discovered in L6. During the trowelling of L6, a stone was lifted out, and a few droplets of mercury rolled into the cavity left by the stone. We cannot entirely exclude the possibility that the mercury had seeped down from above, but, on the basis of the excavated stratigraphy, there seems a strong probability that it is a genuine medieval find.

Whatever the origin of L6 and L11, associated pottery included Fabrics 9, 12, 13 and 20. Although the presence of Fabric 9 may suggest an earlier date, the other fabrics perhaps indicate a late 12th-century date for these soils.

It is difficult to guess the origin of the mercury droplets, but it is very probable that they were used in an industrial process on this site or on an adjacent site in the 12th century. Three industries which used mercury were gold-smithing, leather-working and hat-making, but we are not aware of any other evidence that any of these trades were carried out here.

To the rear of the Period 2a buildings, a band of greenish clay (L4) was exposed, sealing L6/L11. The greenish tint indicates that it was a cassy deposit associated with the Period 2a structure. Unfortunately, it contained no finds other than small find SF 17, a medieval buckle which probably derives from L4 (see section 6.2 below).

Period 2b - medieval (13th-14th centuries) (Figs 4, 8-9)

Structural features and their interpretation

A second building is indicated by the fact that the Period 2a slot F58 was cut (and therefore put out of use) by a larger slot F18, which continued at a right-angle as F66/F104.

Slot F38 was parallel to slot F18, and at a distance of 1.7m to 1.8m (5' 3" to 5' 6") to its west. This was a wide enough gap to allow the following interpretation, ie that F18 and F38 represent the positions of ground-beams supporting the walls of two different buildings. Between the buildings was a passage leading off the High Street to the rear of the properties. F38 may have been the eastern wall of the adjacent property (ie now no 141 High Street). L8, a patch of gravel, may have been the metalled surface of this passage.

Parallel to slot F18/F66/F104 and 2m to its north, a row of contemporary post-holes seems to have defined a rear boundary fence (from west to east: F40, F39, F121, F111, F112 and F113). The earth-fast nature of these posts argues against this being the rear wall of a building, as earth-fast buildings were unusual at this time in towns.

Thus gully F18/F66/F109 defined a structure, the frontage and eastern boundaries of which lay off the site, unless F108 was a part of the eastern boundary. The virtue of the latter suggestion is that the post-hole F108 is precisely on the property line defined by wall F22 in Period 2c (see this page, below).

A number of other, undated features, ie F114, F75, F31, F46, probably belong to this phase.

On the extreme northern edge of the site, two slots or gullies meeting at right-angles (F107, F96/F16) may have defined a structure of unknown function which was not aligned on the postulated frontage building. Nearby, a single pit F92 may represent domestic waste disposal to the rear of the property.

Period 2c - late medieval/early post-medieval (15th-16th centuries) (Figs 5, 8-11) *Plot boundaries*

In Period 2c, the Period 2b structure remained standing, and that a number of cut features (rectilinear cut F36, and a cluster of large post-holes or small pits F34, F35, F45, F49, F54 and F55) were external to it. The function of these features is not clear. Their location outside a building and close to a hypothetical plot boundary between this site and what would be (as a modern postal address) no 141 High Street to the west may indicate that they are connected with a plot boundary. It may not be accidental that F34 and F35 align exactly with F84 and F87 to the rear of the plot. All four features may have been part of a fence-line between adjacent properties.

The wooden barrel and associated features (Figs 10-11, and Plates 2-5)

Among the more interesting finds on this site was a wooden barrel with the ends removed (F97). This was set into a pit (F81) and was packed around with a clean silty grey clay (L13) which contained no finds. Two wooden posts (F98, F99) had been driven into L13. The two posts had no obvious purpose unless they were part of a superstructure above the barrel (?cistern). The barrel had three internal fills, ie L14 (top), L15 (middle), and L16 (bottom).



Plate 2: barrel F97 in pit F81, with posts F98 and F99, during excavation, view south-east.



**Plate 3: barrel F97 fully excavated (1-metre scale),
view south-east.**

Structures of this type can be interpreted in a number of ways, for example, as cisterns to retain water, as sumps to absorb water or as wells from which water could be extracted. The absence of drains leading to this feature appears to rule out use as a sump, and the fact that it was set in impermeable clay means that it is very unlikely to have been a well. A use as a cistern, perhaps associated with some industrial process, can be postulated.

Although the example here is unlikely to be a well, it is of interest that a barrel re-used as a well is known from the Post Office site in Maldon High Street (Eddy *et al* 1992). Although found by accident on a building site and not professionally excavated, the authors of the report on the discovery describe this as a barrel-lined well which was used in its final phases as a cess-pit. Associated pottery dated it to probably the 13th century, which is slightly earlier than the example here.



Plate 4: preparation for removal of the barrel, view south-east.



Plate 5: the barrel, view south.

There were no finds in the clay packing around the barrel (L13), so there is no firm construction date for the ?cistern. However, the upper fill and the lowest fill within the barrel (L14, L16) contained residual sherds of Fabrics 20 and 35 and also 'Tudor' brick fragments which probably date to the 16th century. It would seem, therefore, that the ?cistern was backfilled in the early 16th century. While there is no firm evidence for its construction date, N Crummy (below, section 6.2) is of the opinion that the shape of the pieces of leather dumped into the ?cistern indicates a mid to late 15th-century date, and that they were probably dumped at that time. This is slightly earlier than the early 16th-century date indicated by the brick and tile. On this basis, perhaps it can be suggested that the ?cistern was constructed and used in the later 15th century, and went out of use and was infilled in the early 16th century.

Other features

Another feature to the rear of the property was ditch F19/F102. This may simply have been a ditch, but in view of the fact that the site includes parts of three adjacent plots (nos 143-147 High Street), a plot boundary at approximately two-thirds of the way across the width of the site should not be unexpected. Pit or post-hole F86 also aligned with F19/F102, and may have been a part of the same plot boundary. If this interpretation is correct, then it is of interest that there was no apparent plot boundary at this location in Period 2a or Period 2b, unless it is the right-angled F16/F107 of Period 2b. This may mean that the creation of the plots as they survive today along the north side of the High Street took place at this time.

If we assume that the Period 2b structure remained standing, then the location of curvilinear feature F78 is of interest because it must have been inside the structure. A function such as drainage may be suggested for this otherwise odd feature.

L12 (a layer of gravel and oystershells) and L9 (a gravel layer) may have been dumped at this time to serve as internal metalled surfaces. Such surfaces may have been purely domestic, but they may also indicate a commercial use for the property at that time (as a shop or storage area).

5.3 Period 3: post-medieval (17th-18th centuries) (Figs 6, 8-9)

Buildings

A new structure seems to have been built in this period. The rear wall line of this structure has evidently been removed by the later (Period 4) wall F43, which extended along the same line. Despite the absence of other walls, the position of this structure appears to be defined by the extent of clay floor L7. L7 sealed L10, a thick layer of silty clay, which had been dumped over the Period 2b timber structure. No other evidence for walls could be found. This means that they may lie off-site, in which case a single building must have spanned all three plots (now 143-145-147 High Street).

Lying along the north side of the postulated rear wall of this building, a brick drain (F77) belongs to this period. A small patch of peg-tiles (F41), very slightly off the line of F77, may have been part of the structure of the rear wall or perhaps a doorway or porch.

Clay floor L7 was cut by two small slots (F62, F63), the latter of which held *in situ* peg-tiles. These slots, which were probably created by the weight of the overlying timberwork compressing the clay floor, may mark the position of internal divisions or perhaps repairs.

At a later, but still post-medieval date, the clay floor (L7) was replaced by the brick floor F22 (at least over the eastern edge of the site). L3 was a layer dumped over most of the site, probably at the time when brick floor F22 replaced clay floor L7.

There were four features inside the house for which no obvious function can be suggested: F32, F59, F47 and F120. F47, which contained a Rose farthing of Charles I (dated 1635/6-44) was a large pit which cut slot F63. It is possible that these features, and perhaps especially F47, belong to the later phase of Period 3, when the clay floor L7 was replaced by the brick floor F22.

Plot boundaries

There are features in this period which may relate to the three plots on this site (ie nos 143, 145, 147 High Street). First, on the western side, gully F83 -and, to a lesser extent, F64 - appears to have defined a small plot of land which lies primarily to the west (ie in no 143). It was speculated under Period 2c above that a row of post-holes to the west of F83 (ie F49, F84, F87) may have defined the plot division between nos 143 and 145. If gully F83 represented the plot boundary in this period, at least in the gardens to the rear of the street frontage, then there was encroachment of approximately 1.5m to 2m in the 200 years or so between these periods. The two contemporary features within this plot (F25, F88) contained sufficient pottery sherds to indicate that they were domestic rubbish-pits.

Second, on the eastern side, again under Period 2c above, it was speculated that gully F19/F102 and post-hole F86 defined a plot boundary. It is more difficult to see evidence of a boundary here in Period 3, but the alignment of linear gravel surface F1 may indicate its termination alongside a boundary. F8 was a group of stones which may have been a localised strengthening of the gravel surface F1.

Some features may relate to an east-west rear boundary plot. These are wooden post F95 in post-pit F94, post-hole F106, and pit F101. These aligned with F100, a group of stones (a ?post-pad). F103 was also a wooden post in a post-pit, but was on a different alignment to the above features.

Other features

A number of features of unknown function belong to this period. These include pits F85, F82, and F79, all of which were located to the north of drain F77 and therefore to the rear of the property.

A brick-lined well or soakaway F2 was constructed on the boundary between 145 and 147 High Street in the 18th century. This cut the southern edge of the gravel path F1. The bricks used to build F2 were frogless, measured 220 x 110 x 55mm, and are likely to date to the 18th century. The feature was not excavated, so it is not certain whether it was a well or a soakaway.

F7, a pit filled with oystershells, was cut by well F2.

5.4 **Period 4: modern (19th-21st centuries)** (Figs 7-8)

Commercial garage and related features

The features of this period relate principally to the commercial garage which stood on the site in the later 20th century. F43 was a gravel-filled trench below a concrete wall footing which was lifted out prior to the excavation. It aligned with the rear wall of the postulated Period 3 building. F3 and ceramic pipe F42, lying parallel with the back wall of the property, were contemporary.

The largest feature of this period was the foundation for a hydraulic lift and its pit (F23) which stood in the centre of the garage. F24 was a curved brick drain. F68 was the foundation of the brick chimney-stack of a structure for which there was no other evidence. This may indicate that the Period 3 structure was larger than is evident in its surviving remains.

Cut features F12, F90 and F91 also belong to this period, but are not of archaeological importance. F69 was not a cut feature, but was merely sinkage into the top of the Period 2c barrel F97.

6 **Finds**

6.1 **Introduction**

Below are reports on the small finds, bulk metalwork and fired clay, the post-Roman pottery, the clay tobacco-pipes, the faunal remains (animal bones), and the stones (other than worked stones, which are reported on by Nina Crummy). Brick and tile, glass, flint, shells, and other finds are listed and quantified in section 12 below.

6.2 **The small finds, bulk metalwork and fired clay** (Figs 12-14)

by Nina Crummy

The assemblage is small and includes artefacts with a wide range of functions. It includes a group of waterlogged organic material, mainly leather footwear, recovered from the pit for the pit F81 and the barrel F97 sunk within it. The objects are catalogued below by material, and, within material, by date and context number.

There are very few stratified early medieval items: some iron fragments, part of a grit stone tile or slab, probably used as building material, and a small piece from a hand quern of Mayen lava. Querns of this stone, from the Eifel Hills in Germany, were imported during the 1st and 2nd century AD, perhaps longer, and again from the Middle Saxon into the early post-medieval period. Small fragments cannot be closely dated, but it is unlikely that the piece from this site is Roman in origin.

Several items are from features of general medieval date, such as a buckle-plate, several nails and part of a Norwegian ragstone hone from pit F79. Like Mayen lava querns, these hones were imported over a long period, and are often found in Late Saxon to early post-medieval contexts in the Eastern Counties (eg Moore & Ellis 1984; *CAR* 5, 77). Two small pieces of fired clay from F18 and F88 are of uncertain origin. The fabric is hard-fired, resembling that of many Iron Age loom weights, although one fragment incorporated an unusually large quantity of vegetable temper. They are perhaps most likely to come from the superstructure of an oven or kiln. A spindle whorl from F18 is evidence for fibre preparation on the site. Spinning was still carried out at home by women and girls of all ranks between other domestic chores, unlike weaving, which, because of changing loom technology, had, by about the 11th century, become a specialist craft carried out in buildings or rooms dedicated solely to that purpose. For example, at the fortified manor of Goltho in Lincolnshire, weaving equipment was found only in and immediately around a series of weaving sheds, while spindle whorls were found in the sequence of halls and bowers (Beresford 1987, 55).

A large proportion of the assemblage comes from late medieval features, notably the pit for the ?cistern F81 and the barrel F97 set within it. A pottery sherd retaining the bung, and a fragment of a glazed floor tile, came from F97, while F81 contained an iron buckle (Fig 12.2, SF 23) and a wall-hook made from a roe deer antler, which had only minimal effort spent on its manufacture (Fig 12.3, SF 25). The beam has been partly sawn and partly broken off, and one side of the burr and pedicle has been roughly cut flat so that it would lie flat against a wall; a nail hole for attachment

has been drilled through the beam. A similar hook made of red deer antler, more closely worked into a hook, was found in a 13th- to 15th-century building at Winchester (Rees *et al* 2008, 360-61, fig 198, 2708). The antler from this site was not shed but came from a butchered animal, with part of the skull remaining attached. Waste debris from antler-working often includes the lower part of the beam and the brow tine but ends at the burr, as shed antler seems to have been preferred and unshed antlers from butchered animals are rarely recovered.

Both F81 and F97 contained waterlogged leather from worn and discarded footwear, probably of late 15th-century date. Soles in a range of sizes are present, deriving from the shoes of both men and women, and perhaps juveniles, although no fragments from shoes of a size suitable for young children were found. Some repair soles were recovered, which had been sewn onto the outside of worn soles using tunnel stitching (eg Fig 14.1, SF 13c; Grew & de Neergaard 1988, 89-90; Clarke & Carter 1977, 362). The repairs were also worn and were detached from the original sole, suggesting that they had been deliberately removed and that this group of fragments was dumped material from a cobbler's workshop, although a much larger assemblage might be expected if this were indeed the case. A different method of repair seems to have been used for Figure 14.2, SF 14a, which had had the rear of the heel cut away and a new piece sewn on with a butt seam. This is an unusual and probably uncomfortable type of repair, as the seam would lie directly below the heel. Two-piece soles were generally joined at the waist, below the instep, so that the seam did not press into the foot. Comparatively few fragments from uppers were found, although context 138 in F97 included some vamp fragments, a triangular heel reinforcement (Fig 14.4, SF 14), and both quarters (the side pieces running from the vamp to the heel) from an ankle shoe. A quarter fragment from a boot came from context 143 in F97. An iron shoe buckle, still retaining part of the upper and strap, came from F97 (finds no 146; Fig 14.5, SF 15). The shape of the soles and quarters suggest that the pieces were dumped in the mid to late 15th century.

Other late medieval objects include an iron knife with scale tang from pit F20 (Fig 12.1, SF 4). Knives of similar form came from late 14th- to 15th-century contexts in London (Cowgill *et al* 1987, figs 65-67).

The remainder of the material dates to the post-medieval and modern periods. It includes a Rose farthing of Charles I from pit F47, a piece of structural leadwork retaining the marks of iron nails from hearth-pit F69 and a limestone block from a window or door jamb ornamented with vertical mouldings (Fig 13.1, SF 29). This is probably of medieval date and residual in its context.

Catalogue

Copper-alloy

SF 17. (35) L4? Late medieval/early post-medieval deposit. Plain folded buckle-plate secured at the open end by a single rivet. Length 21 mm, width 12 mm. Medieval or early post-medieval.

SF 20. (90) L10. Post-medieval dump. Wire dress or sewing pin with globular wound-wire head. Length 23 mm. The size of this example suggests that it is of post-medieval date.

SF 6. (51) F47. Post-medieval pit. Coin: Charles I, worn Rose farthing token of Peck's Type 2 (Peck 1970, 80-81). Diameter 13 mm, weight 0.78 mm. Date: 1635/6-44.

SF 19. (53) F47. Post-medieval pit. Buckle fragment, with raised vegetal decoration. Length 23 mm, width 32 mm..

SF 21. (149). Unstratified. Slightly convex octagonal boss with raised vegetal decoration. Width 16 mm. Late post-medieval to modern.

SF 18. (36). Unstratified. Fragment of a boss with countersunk top decorated with fine concentric ridges. Diameter 24 mm, height 5 mm. Modern.

Lead

SF 3. (26) F19. Medieval ditch. Drip. 27 by 23 by 24 mm.

SF 24. (67) F69. Sinkage into pit F81. Curved strip, folded at one end and pierced by several nail holes with impressions from the nail heads around them. Length 86 mm, width 20 mm.

Iron

See also *Leather* below for an iron shoe buckle, SF 15.

SF 5. (40) F15. Early medieval small pit/post-hole. Three tapering tube fragments, not fitting but all probably part of a ferrule. Length 45 mm, diameter 16 mm; length 16 mm, diameter 16 mm; length 32 mm, diameter 11 mm.

SF 27. (30) F29. Early medieval stake hole. Amorphous fragment. 28 by 22 mm.

SF 1. (2) F4. Fill of late medieval/early post-medieval pit F64. Fragment of a knife with whittle tang. The back is offset from the tang and slopes towards the tip, the edge is straight. Length 67 mm, width 15 mm.

(3) F5. Part of F64. Iron-working slag. Weight 150 g.

SF 10. (16) F11. Part of post-medieval L3. a) Tapering strip with tongue-ended terminal pierced by a small nail and with a nail hole 40 mm in from the end. Length 100 mm, maximum width 15 mm. b) Narrow strip with rolled terminal. Length 45 mm, width 6 mm.

SF 8. (42) F18. Medieval slot. Two amorphous fragments. 30 by 13 mm; 31 by 18 mm.

Fig 12.1. SF 4. (25) F20. Late medieval pit. Knife with scale tang retaining four rivets for attaching the plates of a wooden or bone handle. The back of the blade is straight before curving gently downwards to the tip, the edge is damaged but probably rose gradually to the tip. Length 144 mm, width 16 mm.

SF 7. (50) F47. Post-medieval pit. Fragment of sheet iron with nail holes for attachment. 60 by 45 mm.

Fig 12.2. SF 23. (79) F81. Late medieval ?cistern pit. Complete D-shaped buckle. Length 32 mm, width 41 mm.

SF 22. (88) L10. Post-medieval dump. Strip fragment with nail hole for attachment. Length 26 mm, width 20 mm.

Nails

- (17) F4. Fill of late medieval/early post-medieval pit F64. Complete, length 74 mm.
- (60) F4. Fill of late medieval/early post-medieval pit F64. Complete, length 43 mm.
- (19) F6. Fill of late medieval/early post-medieval pit F64. Complete, length 54 mm.
- (38) F34. Medieval pit. Shank fragment, length 45 mm.
- (49) F47. Post-medieval pit. Incomplete, length 41 mm.
- (95) F77. Post-medieval drain. Complete, length 66 mm.
- (74) F78. Medieval linear feature. Complete, length 55 mm.
- (82) F83. Late medieval gully. Complete, length 77 mm.
- (84) F86. Medieval pit. ?Nail, length 26 mm.
- (88) F88. Medieval pit. Shank fragment, length 46 mm.
- (137) L15/F97. Late medieval middle fill of barrel F97. Complete, length 51 mm.
- (128) F111. Medieval linear feature. Incomplete, length 25 mm.
- (133) F120. late medieval pit. Incomplete, length 23 mm.
- (122) L2. Post-medieval or modern accumulation. Incomplete, length 40 mm.
- (109) L3. Post-medieval dump. Incomplete, length 17 mm.
- (87) L10. Post-medieval dump. Two, incomplete, lengths 42 and 32 mm.
- (91) L10. Post-medieval dump. Incomplete, length 22 mm.

Bone

Fig 12.3. SF 25. (154) F81. Late medieval ?cistern pit. Hook made from a roe deer antler

from a butchered animal, with the pedicle and a small part of the skull below the burr. The brow tine and the lower part of the beam remain, but the beam is thin and the antler is unlikely to have come from a mature animal. The upper end of the beam has been partly sawn across and partly broken, and a hole has been drilled across it. The burr and pedicle have been shaved flat on the side opposite the brow tine, allowing the piece to lie flat against a vertical surface. Length 162 mm, diameter of hole 7 mm.

Stone

SF 2. (11) F15. Early medieval small pit/post-hole. Fragment of Mayen lava from a hand-quern, with no original surface remaining. 45 by 40 by 39 mm.

SF 9. (31) F15. Early medieval small pit/post-hole. Fragment of an iron-rich gritstone tile or slab, with one smooth and one rough surface and one worked edge. Maximum dimensions 71 by 57 mm, 34 mm thick.

SF 30. (57) F1. Post-medieval metallurgy. Fragment of the upper-stone from a Mayen lava hand-quern. The grinding surface is worn smooth. 126 by 100 mm, 106 mm thick.

Fig 12.4. SF 26. (156) F79. Medieval pit. Fragment of a Norwegian ragstone hone, rectangular in section at the wider end, which is broken, and worn down to a narrow circular-section tip. Length 95 mm, section 22 by 11 mm, tapering to 11 mm in diameter.

SF 28. (103) F80. Post-medieval post-hole. Fragment from the corner of a worn sandstone tile or slab with one straight edge and a very small part of a return set at right-angles to it. Mortar on the broken faces as well as the surfaces shows this piece to have been re-used. Surviving dimensions 105 by 79 mm, maximum thickness 45 mm.

Fig 13.1. SF 29. (101) L3. Post-medieval accumulation. A moulded limestone block, probably from a door or window embrasure. Maximum dimensions: height 187 mm, width 213 mm, thickness 135 mm.

Ceramic and fired clay

Fig 13.2. SF 16. (28) F18. Medieval foundation trench. Plano-convex spindle whorl of hard mudstone, with worn figure-of-eight shaped spindle hole. Diameter 30 mm, height 18 mm; minimum diameter of spindle hole 7.5 mm.

(144) L16/F97. Late medieval bottom fill of barrel F97. Corner fragment from a glazed floor tile, with white slipped surface fired to yellow/orange. Surviving dimensions 85 by 85 mm, 29 mm thick.

(42) F18. Medieval foundation trench. Small fragment of fired clay with no original surfaces remaining. The fabric is sandy with some flint grit, hard-fired mainly to black but with some irregular buff areas. Weight 27 gm.

(97) F88. Medieval pit. Fragment of fired clay with two original flat surfaces remaining, contiguous and set at an obtuse angle. The fabric is sandy with some flint grit and much vegetable (flat-bladed grass) temper, fired internally to black/orange and on the surviving surface to buff/black. Weight 53 gm.

Leather

SF 13. (153) F81. Late medieval ?cistern pit. Leather shoe fragments.

a) Right foot sole with the toe detached and the leather worn away beneath the ball of the foot and at one side of the heel. There is edge/flesh stitching around the edge. Length 245 mm, maximum width 79 mm.

b) Toe fragment from a repair sole, with tunnel stitching around the edge. Length 68 mm, width 87 mm.

c) **Fig 14.1.** Fragment from a repair sole, with tunnel stitching around the edge. Length 97 mm, width 57 mm.

d) Rand or binding strip with edge-flesh stitching along one side and grain-flesh stitching along the other. Length 102 mm, width 13 mm.

SF 14. (138) L15/F97. Late medieval middle fill of barrel F97. Leather shoe fragments.

a) **Fig 14.2.** The front part of a right foot two-piece sole with edge/flesh stitching around the edge and an edge-flesh butt seam across the heel; this seam is probably for a repair as two-piece soles usually join at the waist beneath the instep. The toe is pointed, Length 200 mm, maximum width 70 mm.

- b) Right foot one-piece sole, missing the heel, with edge/flesh stitching around the edge. Length 255 mm, maximum width 87 mm.
- c) Left foot one-piece sole with toe missing. There is edge/flesh stitching around the edge. Length 195 mm, maximum width 90 mm.
- d) Toe end of a right-foot sole with edge/flesh stitching around the edge. Length 100 mm, maximum width 70 mm.
- e) Toe end of a left foot forepart repair sole with tunnel stitching around the edge (cf Grew & de Neergaard 1988, 90). Length 177 mm, width 92 mm.
- f) **Fig 14.3.** The quarters from an ankle-shoe, each with grain/flesh stitching at the sole seam, a butt seam at the heel of edge/flesh stitching, edge/flesh stitching at the vamp seam and binding stitch around the top. Two holes close to the upper end of the vamp seam were probably for the attachment of a buckle. Complete piece 140 mm long by 115 mm high. For general construction see the quarters from a boot from London (Grew & de Neergaard 1988, fig 107).
- g) Fragment from a quarter with binding stitch along the top edge. Length 60 mm, height 78 mm.
- h) Toe fragment from vamp, with grain-flesh stitching at the edge. Length 80 mm, width between seams (flat) 92 mm.
- i) Vamp fragment with grain/flesh stitching at the sole seam, edge/flesh stitching at the quarter seam and a hole for a cord or lace (cf Grew & de Neergaard 1988, fig 101).
- j) Vamp fragment, 165 mm long by 170 mm wide (flat).
- k) Upper fragment with one straight edge with grain/flesh stitching. Length 125 mm, height 72 mm.
- l) Twelve rand and upper fragments, one from the toe of a pointed sole, all with grain/flesh stitching. Lengths 29, 35, 47, 54, 65, 70, 85, 90, 92, 100, 115, 178 mm.
- m) **Fig 14.4.** Triangular heel reinforcement with grain/flesh stitching at the sole seam and edge/flesh stitching at the sides. Length 130 mm, height 70 mm.
- n) Four featureless scraps: 20 by 12 mm; 60 by 10 mm (?strap fragment); 83 by 60 mm; 93 by 83 mm.

SF 11. (143) L16/F97. Late medieval bottom fill of barrel F97. Fragment from a boot quarter with binding stitch along the top edge and edge/flesh stitching at the vamp seam. Height 134 mm, maximum width 85 mm.

Fig 14.5. SF 15. (146) L16/F97. Late medieval bottom fill of barrel F97. Round iron shoe buckle with a small part of the leather shoe onto which it was sewn and part of the buckle strap. Diameter of buckle 12 mm; length of strap 82 mm, width 9 mm. Shoe buckles of this type were used from the late 14th century but most are of 15th-century date (Grew & de Neergaard 1988, 75, fig 110, a-c).

Wood

SF 12. (145) L16/F97. Late medieval bottom fill of barrel F97. Pottery sherd with wooden bung remaining in the bung hole. Diameter of bung 20 mm, length 29 mm.

6.3 The pottery (Fig 15)

by Howard Brooks

Description of pottery

Pottery fabric descriptions are after Cunningham 1985 and *CAR 7*. A list of fabrics by context is given in the catalogue below. Fabrics present include:

Late Anglo-Saxon/early medieval - Fabric 9 (Thetford-type ware); Fabric 10 (St Neots-type ware).

Medieval - Fabric 12 (early medieval shelly ware); Fabric 13 (early medieval sandy ware); Fabric 20 (medieval sandy grey ware); Fabric 21 (sandy orange ware); Fabric 21a (Colchester-type ware); Fabric 22 (Hedingham-type ware); Fabric 31 (Low Countries red ware); Fabric 35 (Mill Green-type ware); Fabric 36 (London-type ware).

Post-medieval - Fabric 40 (post-medieval red earthenware or PMRE); Fabric 48d (modern ironstone).

Comment

I am very grateful to Helen Walker of Essex County Council Field Archaeology Unit for helping me to classify this material.

This group of pottery is predominantly of medieval date. Proportions were as follows: late Saxon/early medieval wares, 37 sherds, 462 grammes (4.1% of group by sherd weight); medieval wares, 676 sherds, 9,889g (88.6% of group by sherd weight); post-medieval wares, 24 sherds, 817g (7.3% of group by sherd weight).

The range of fabrics present indicates that there has been activity on this site from the late Anglo-Saxon period to the modern period. The relative absence of some post-medieval pottery types, eg tin-glazed earthenwares (Fabric 46) and German stonewares (Fabric 45), is due to the truncation of the site during its recent use as a commercial garage and especially the construction of the concrete slab.

Although overland transport cannot be ruled out, it is possible that a number of these potsherds represent vessels (of St Neots-type ware, and London-type ware) coming into Maldon via the port (the Hythe).

Catalogue of illustrated pottery

Fig 15.1

F20, finds no 22.

Flat-topped Thetford ware rim (Fabric 9), 31g, 9th-12th centuries

Fig 15.2

F83, finds no 82.

Rim of large Thetford ware storage jar with thumbled applied cordon (Fabric 9), 32g, 9th-12th centuries

Fig 15.3

F66, finds no 64.

Early medieval sandy ware rim (Fabric 13), 60g, 12th century

Fig 15.4

L7, finds no 75.

Flat-topped rim of early medieval sandy ware bowl (Fabric 13), 107g, 12th century

Fig 15.5

F83, finds no 82.

Early medieval shelly ware (Fabric 12), flat-topped rim, 36g; form similar to *CAR 7*, fig 23.25, 11th-mid 12th century

Fig 15.6

F11, finds no 16.

Mill Green ware (Fabric 35), foot from huge tripod pot, 200g, mid 14th-15th century

Catalogue of pottery (not including illustrated sherds) (below)

F1

Finds no 48

Fabric 13, 2 sherds, 16g
Fabric 21, 1 sherd, 16g
Fabric 45d (Frechen ware), 1 sherd, 3g
mid 15th or 16th century

Finds no 55

Fabric 12, 1 sherd, 2g
Fabric 13, 1 sherd, 16g
Fabric 21, 3 sherds, 18g
Fabric 35, 2 sherds, 76g
mid 13th or 14th century

Finds no 56

Fabric 13, 1 sherd, 5g
Fabric 35, 5 sherds, 66g - external green glaze
13th-14th centuries

F4

Finds no 1

Fabric 13, 1 slashed decorated handle fragment, 51g
Fabric 21, 3 sherds, includes a simple handle, 18g
Fabric 21a, 5 sherds, 125g
Fabric 35, 4 sherds, 68g - thumbbed jug base
not necessarily later than 14th century

Finds no 17

Fabric 13, 3 sherds, 34g - includes thumbbed jug base
Fabric 20, 7 sherds, 60g - external sooting
Fabric 21, 8 sherds, 129g - copy of Rouen jug
Fabric 35, 1 sherd, 8g
13th/14th century

Finds no 60

Fabric 13, 2 sherds, 45g - E5 rim (flat topped) – **14th century**
Fabric 21, 1 sherd, 6g
Fabric 35, 1 sherd, 10g - external white slip
14th century

F5

Finds no 3

Fabric 9, 4 sherds, 61g
Fabric 13, 7 sherds, 119g
Fabric 20, 10 sherds, 79g
Fabric 21, 3 sherds, 14g
Fabric 35, 5 sherds, 64g
late 13th-14th century

F6

Finds no 4

Fabric 13, 2 sherds, 20g
12th century

Finds no 19

Fabric 9, 1 sherd, 30g - 13th-14th centuries
Fabric 12, 2 sherds, 6g
Fabric 13, 37 sherds, 348g
Fabric 21a, 4 sherds, 24g
Fabric 22, 2 sherds, 3g
Fabric 35, 3 sherds, 21g - late 13th century
13th-14th centuries

Finds no 20

Fabric 20, 2 sherds, 10g
Fabric 21, 1 sherd, 4g
Fabric 23, 1 sherd, 5g - base of jug?
Fabric 35, 2 sherds, 9g
13th century

F9

Finds no 7

Fabric 13, 1 sherd, 9g
12th century

F10

Finds no 8

Fabric 45m, 1 sherd, 7g
Fabric 48d, 2 sherds, 75g
19th-21st centuries

F11

Finds no 16

Fabric 12, 3 sherds, 18g
Fabric 13, 35 sherds, 310g
Fabric 21, 4 sherds, 29g
Fabric 21a, 7 sherds, 75g
Fabric 23, 1 sherd, 23g
Fabric 31, 2 sherds, 32g
Fabric 35, 1 sherd, 20g
Fabric 36, 1 sherd, 6g (Fabric 36 is calcareous)
mid 14th-15th century

F12

Finds no 9

Fabric 13, 1 sherds, 24g
Fabric 20, 2 sherds, 8g
Fabric 21a, 1 sherd, 5g
Fabric 40, 1 sherd, 2g
Fabric 45m, 1 sherd, 11g
19th-21st centuries

F14

Finds no 29

Fabric 9, 2 sherds, 4g
Fabric 12, 1 sherd, 5g
Fabric 13, 1 sherd, 4g
11th-12th centuries

Finds no 13

Fabric 12, 1 sherd, 23g - B2 rim
12th century

F15

Finds no 10

Fabric 9, 1 sherd, 4g
Fabric 13, 3 sherds, 12g
11th-12th centuries

Finds no 31

Fabric 12, 2 sherds, 35g
Fabric 13, 1 sherd, 10g
Fabric 20, 1 sherd, 2g
late 12th or 13th century

Finds no 40

Fabric 9, 1 sherd, 54g
Fabric 12, 1 sherd, 19g - perhaps Hedingham coarse ware
c 1200

F16

Finds no 18

Fabric 13, 1 sherd, 2g
11th-12th centuries

F17

Finds no 14

Fabric 12, 2 sherds, 14g
11th-12th centuries

F18

Finds no 15

Fabric 12, 1 sherds, 6g
Fabric 13, 2 sherds, 13g

Finds no 42

Fabric 9, 3 sherds, 13g
Fabric 12, 10 sherds, 130g
Fabric 13, 6 sherds, 79g
Early medieval group: **12th century**

F19 Sx 1

Finds no 23
Fabric 21, 1 sherd, 10g
13th century or later

F19 Sx 2

Finds no 24
Fabric 9, 2 sherds, 13g - fine grey Thetford ware
mid 9th-mid 12th century

F20

Finds no 22
Fabric 9, 1 sherds, 5g - Thetford ware
Fabric 12, 3 sherds, 26g
Fabric 13, 1 sherds, 7g
Fabric 35, 1 sherd, 1g
mid 13th century or later

F22

Finds no 59
Fabric 13, 1 sherd, 18g
Fabric 31, 1 sherd, 14g
Fabric 40, 1 sherd, 7g
17th-18th centuries

F25

Finds no 85
Fabric 9, 3 sherds, 49g
Fabric 12, 1 sherd, 3g
Fabric 13, 3 sherds, 26g
Fabric 20, 15 sherds, 76g
Fabric 21, 1 sherd, 4g
Fabric 21a, 2 sherds, 9g
Fabric 35, 1 sherd, 8g
mid 13th century or later

F34

Finds no 38
Fabric 9, 1 sherd, 4g
Fabric 12, 3 sherds, 70g - A4 rim - 11th century
Fabric 13, 3 sherds, 36g
Fabric 22, 1 sherd, 2g
Fabric 35, 5 sherds, 58g
13th-century Mill Green ware

F36

Finds no 37
Fabric 12, 2 sherds, 14g
Fabric 13, 1 sherd, 9g
11th-12th centuries

F37

Finds no 39
Fabric 48d, 1 sherd (or wall tile fragment?), 6g
19th-21st centuries

F38

Finds no 41
Fabric 12, 2 sherds, 23g
Fabric 13, 1 sherd, 3g
11th-12th centuries

F39

Finds no 43
Fabric 9, 1 sherd, 4g
Fabric 13, 1 sherd, 3g
11th-12th centuries

F40

Finds no 44
Fabric 12, 1 sherd, 8g
Fabric 20, 3 sherds, 28g
Fabric 35, 1 sherd, 4g
mid 13th century

F41

Finds no 45
Fabric 9, 1 sherd, 4g
9th-11th centuries

F41

Finds no 45
Fabric 13, 1 sherd, 29g
11th-12th centuries

F45

Finds no 47
Fabric 9, 2 sherds, 13g
Fabric 10, 1 sherd, 5g - **13th century**
Fabric 12, 1 sherd, 9g
Fabric 20, 1 sherd, 13g
13th century

F46

Finds no 46
Fabric 21a, 2 sherds, 12g
13th century or later

F47

Finds no 49
Fabric 13, 1 sherd, 16g
Fabric 35, 1 sherd, 19g - Mill Green ware jug; decoration on neck is vertically combed through a thick slip using a four-pronged comb; external green glaze.
13th-14th centuries

Finds no 52

Fabric 12, 3 sherds, 9g
Fabric 13, 2 sherds, 24g
Fabric 23, 1 sherd, 11g - clear (ie honey) glaze
13th century

Finds no 71

Fabric 12, 3 sherds, 88g - includes a Fabric 12a bevelled edge rim and bowl rim, mid 11th-12th centuries, but residual here
Fabric 13, 1 sherd, 10g
Fabric 20, 8 sherds, 73g
Fabric 21, 1 sherd, 18g - thumbled jug base
14th century

F56

Finds no 58
Fabric 13, 1 sherd, 8g
11th-12th centuries

F59

Finds no 62
Fabric 13, 2 sherds, 16g
11th-12th centuries

F62

Finds no 63
Fabric 13, 1 sherd, 9g
11th-12th centuries

F66

Finds no 64
Fabric 9, 1 sherd, 8g - simple everted rim
11th century

F66

Finds no 64
Fabric 12, 1 sherd, 7g
11th century

F67

Finds no 65
Fabric 13, 1 sherd, 9g
11th-12th centuries

F69

Finds no 66
Fabric 23, 1 sherds, 6g - sparse speckly green glaze; late 14th century
Fabric 45b (Siegburg ware), 2 sherds, 68g
late 14th century

F69

Finds no 76
Fabric 48d, 8 sherds, 163g - this is probably yellow ware
19th-21st centuries

F75

Finds no 69
Fabric 13, 1 sherd, 7g
11th-12th centuries

F77

Finds no 95
Fabric 12, 1 sherd, 4g
Fabric 31, 1 sherd, 15g
Fabric 35, 1 sherd, 33g - thumbled jug base fragment
mid 13th century

F78

Finds no 74
Fabric 13, 5 sherds, 110g - includes a handle with olive green glaze on upper surface only
Fabric 22, 1 sherd, 6g
mid 12th-13th centuries

F78, Sx 2

Finds no 114
Fabric 12, 2 sherds, 19g
Fabric 13, 4 sherds, 41g
Fabric 21a, 1 sherd, 9g
Fabric 22, 2 sherds, 29g
13th century

F79

Finds no 83
Fabric 13, 2 sherds, 61g
Fabric 20, 8 sherds, 69g
Fabric 21a, 1 sherd, 7g
13th century

F80

Finds no 78
Fabric 13, 4 sherds, 63g (is one sherd Roman?)
Fabric 35, 4 sherds, 44g
Fabric 40, 2 sherds, 39g
17th-18th centuries

F81

Finds no 79
Fabric 12, 4 sherds, 71g
Fabric 20, 11 sherds, 213g, includes two E5 rims
Fabric 21, 2 sherds, 16g
Fabric 21a, 6 sherds, 55g
Fabric 31, 2 sherds, 45g
14th century

Finds no 80

Fabric 21, 1 sherd, 8g
13th century

Finds no 106

Fabric 20, 5 sherds, 90g
Fabric 21, 1 sherd, 8g
Fabric 21a, 5 sherds, 29g
Fabric 35, 3 sherds, 89g
13th century

Finds no 107

Fabric 13, 1 handle fragment, 31g
Fabric 21, 1 sherd, 6g
Fabric 35, 1 sherd, 10g - late medieval coarse ware, like Hedingham ware, 13th-14th century
13th century

Finds no 121

Fabric 21, 1 glazed sherd, 2g
13th century

F83

Finds no 82
Fabric 9, 2 sherds, 27g
Fabric 12, 1 sherd, 5g
Fabric 13, 2 sherds, 36g, includes a thickened everted rim
Fabric 20, 13 sherds, 103g
Fabric 21, 1 sherd, 13g
Fabric 21a, 1 sherd, 1g
13th-14th centuries

F84

Finds no 93
Fabric 12, 1 sherd, 18g
Fabric 20, 3 sherds, 45g
Fabric 35, 4 sherds, 20g - late Hedingham coarseware rim E5 or H1, late 13th-14th century, plus 3 Hedingham fine ware
late 13th-14th centuries

F85

Finds no 111
Fabric 12, 1 sherd, 15g - B1b rim, 11th century
11th century

F86

Finds no 84
Fabric 13, 3 sherds, 25g
Fabric 21, 1 sherd, 8g
Fabric 21a, 1 sherd, 3g
13th century

F87

Finds no 96
Fabric 13, 2 sherds, 126g
Fabric 20, 4 sherds, 19g
Fabric 21a, 2 sherds, 22g
Fabric 35, 5 sherds, 131g
13th century

Finds no 112

Fabric 21, 1 sherd, 29g
13th century

F88

Finds no 97
Fabric 9, 1 sherd, 10g
Fabric 13, 5 sherds, 113g
Fabric 20, 6 sherds, 47g
Fabric 21, 2 sherds, 29g
Fabric 21a, 5 sherds, 103g
Fabric 35, 4 sherds, 119g
13th century

Finds no 98

Fabric 20, 3 sherds, 607g
Fabric 35 (Mill Green coarse ware), 1 sherd,
19g

13th century

F90

Finds no 108

Fabric 48d, 1 sherd, 4g

19th-21st centuries

F92

Finds no 104

Fabric 12, 1 sherd, 7g
Fabric 13, 1 sherd, 24g

12th century

F94

Finds no 113

Fabric 13, 1 sherd, 14g
Fabric 31, 1 sherd, 3g

14th century

F96

Finds no 116

Fabric 13, 1 sherd, 14g

12th century

F97, L14

Finds no 135

Fabric 35, 1 sherd, 91g
Fabric 45b (Siegburg ware), 1 sherd, 46g -
Fabric 45b, later 14th/early 15th century

Finds no 136

Fabric 35, 1 sherd, 16g - Mill Green ware
jug with upright neck and flat-topped slightly
lid-seated rim; bib of glaze has a post-
medieval feel, so this is probably late

?15th or possibly 16th century

F97, L15

Finds no 137

Fabric 20, 1 sherds, 3g
Fabric 35, 3 sherds, 243g - includes a rim
and handle, 13th-14th century
Fabric 21a, 1 sherd, 170g - flat-topped
cistern or storage jar rim, probably 15th-
16th century

15th-16th centuries

F97, L16

Finds no 140

Fabric 20, 2 sherds, 10g
Fabric 35, 1 sherd, 22g

13th century

Finds no 141

Fabric 20, 1 sherd, 9g
Fabric 31, 1 sherd, 67g
Fabric 35, 17 sherds, 851g - 1 sherd is part
of a Mill Green ware squat jug

14th-15th centuries

F100

Finds no 117

Fabric 21a, 2 sherds, 5g

13th century

F101

Finds no 118

Fabric 13, 3 sherds, 22g
Fabric 22, 1 sherd, 52g

late 12th/13th century

F102

Finds no 119

Fabric 9, 1 sherd, 21g
Fabric 13, 1 sherd, 8g

12th century

F104

Finds no 130

Fabric 12, 4 sherds, 98g - includes an A2
rim

late 11th or 12th century

F106

Finds no 123

Fabric 13, 1 sherd, 16g

12th century

F108

Finds no 125

Fabric 12, 1 sherd, 2g
Fabric 13, 2 sherds, 6g

12th century

F111

Finds no 128

Fabric 12, 1 sherd, 5g
Fabric 13, 8 sherds, 76g

12th century

F112

Finds no 132

Fabric 12, 1 sherd, 5g

11th-12th centuries

F113

Finds no 129

Fabric 12, 4 sherds, 35g
Fabric 13, 1 sherds, 9g

12th century

F114

Finds no 131

Fabric 13, 2 sherds, 46g

12th century

F120

Finds no 133

Fabric 13, 5 sherds, 110g
Fabric 35, 1 sherd, 24g

L2

Finds no 6

Fabric 13, 11 sherd, 268g - E5 flat-topped
rim - late 13th-14th century

Fabric 21, 1 sherd, 2g

Fabric 35, 1 sherd, 3g

late 13th-14th century

Finds no 21

Fabric 40, 1 sherd, 329g - enormous
pouring lip, green glazed

17th-18th centuries

L3

Finds no 5

Fabric 13, 2 sherds, 20g

Fabric 35, 1 sherd, 111g - includes large
handle with small slashed decoration

13th-14th centuries

Finds no 72

Fabric 13, 17 sherds, 132g - includes a B2
rim after 1100

Fabric 35, 2 sherds, 15g

after 1100

Finds no 99

Fabric 12, 7 sherds, 67g
Fabric 13, 2 sherds, 30g
Fabric 20, 16 sherds, 164g - heavily limed internally (boiling water)
Fabric 21, 1 sherd, 26g
Fabric 21a, 3 sherds, 25g
Fabric 31, 2 sherds, 50g - similar to Fabric 33 (South Netherlands glazed ware)
Fabric 40, 1 sherd, 57g

17th-18th centuries, unless Fabric 40 is intrusive

Finds no 105

Fabric 13, 3 sherds, 35g
Fabric 21a, 1 sherd, 5g
Fabric 23, 1 sherd, 9g

Finds no 109

Fabric 13, 1 sherd, 24g; flat-topped rim
probably 13th century

Finds no 124

Fabric 13, 3 sherds, 21g; perhaps Hedingham coarse ware
13th century

L6/L3

Finds no 77

Fabric 13, 2 sherds, 21g - includes A2 rim,
11th-12th centuries

L6

Finds no 12

Fabric 12, 4 sherds, 80g
Fabric 13, 2 sherds, 9g
12th century

L7

Finds no 73

Fabric 13, 5 sherds, 41g
Fabric 21, 1 sherd, 5g
13th century

L9

Finds no 70

Fabric 13, 1 sherd, 20g
12th century

L10

Finds no 8

Fabric 9, 1 sherd, 4g
9th-11th centuries

Finds no 86

Fabric 9, 4 sherds, 31g
Fabric 12, 2 sherds, 21g - includes a B2 rim

12th century

Fabric 20, 12 sherds, 72g

Fabric 21, 1 sherd, 12g

12th century

Finds no 87

Fabric 12, 5 sherds, 43g
Fabric 13, 11 sherds, 147g
Fabric 20, 6 sherds, 29g
Fabric 21a, 1 sherd, 4g
Fabric 35, 3 sherds, 14g

13th century

L11

Finds no 92

Fabric 12, 1 sherd, 5g
Fabric 13, 4 sherds, 41g

12th century

Finds no 122

Fabric 13, 6 sherds, 82g
Fabric 20, 3 sherds, 13g

13th century

Finds no 127

Fabric 9, 1 sherd, 35g
Fabric 12, 1 sherd, 6g
Fabric 13, 2 sherds, 15g

12th century

Finds no 134

Fabric 12, 1 sherd, 8g
Fabric 13, 1 sherd, 21g

11th-13th centuries

L14

Finds no 120

Fabric 21, 1 sherd, 2g
13th-16th centuries

6.4 The clay tobacco-pipes

by Nina Crummy

The assemblage mainly consists of plain stem fragments, but includes a bowl dated to c 1660-80 and a fragment of another which probably belongs to the late 17th or early 18th century.

F1 (post-medieval metalling)

Finds no 48

Two plain stem fragments. 1) Length 47 mm; bore diameter 2 mm. 2) Length 45 mm; bore diameter 2 mm.

F22 (post-medieval wall foundation/floor surface)

Finds no 59

Bowl fragment and fourteen plain stem fragments. The bowl fragment has a large foot and probably dates to the late 17th or early 18th century. Stem fragments: 1) Length 78 mm; bore diameter 3 mm. 2) Length 70 mm; bore diameter 3 mm. 3) Length 68 mm; bore diameter 3 mm. 4) Length 66 mm; bore diameter 3 mm. 5) Length 63 mm; bore diameter 2.5 mm. 6) Length 59 mm; bore diameter 2.5 mm. 7) Length 54 mm; bore diameter 3 mm. 8) Length 53 mm; bore diameter 3 mm. 9) Length 51 mm; bore diameter 3 mm. 10) Length 40 mm; bore diameter 2.5 mm. 11) Length 37 mm; bore diameter 3 mm. 12) Length 34 mm; bore diameter 3 mm. 13) With mouthpiece; length 31 mm; bore diameter 2.5 mm. 14) Length 24 mm; bore diameter 3 mm.

F59 (post-medieval post-hole/pit)

Finds no 62

Complete bowl of Oswald Type 6, dated to c 1660-80 (Oswald 1975, 37, fig 3, G). The bowl has a rouletted rim and a central swelling which is a characteristic seen on many Colchester pipes (CAR 5, 49, fig 55). This may, therefore, be a Colchester product, or an indication that the swelling is a regional feature.

F69 (modern hearth-pit)

Finds no 76

Plain stem fragment. Length 55 mm; bore diameter 2 mm.

6.5 The faunal remains

by Adam Wightman

Introduction

In total, 340 pieces of bone (weighing 7.402kg) were recovered from medieval and post-medieval contexts. These included ditches, slots/gullies, pits, post-holes, a barrel, and a clay floor surface and the layer which it sealed.

The bone was generally in a good state of preservation and the variety of species and bone types attest to a good level of preservation. This is particularly the case with the bone preserved in the wet anaerobic conditions of the barrel-lined cistern.

Methodology

All the bone was examined to determine range of species and elements present. Each bone was inspected to determine if evidence of bone-, horn- or antler-working was present in the assemblage. Evidence of butchering and any indications of skinning, horn-working and other modifications were recorded. When possible, a record was made of ages and any other relevant information, such as pathologies. Counts and weights were taken and recorded for each context. All information was input directly into a Microsoft Works spreadsheet for analysis. Measurements were not taken for the bones as there would have been too little data for any meaningful interpretation. Bones of sheep and goats were recorded as *ovis* based on the greater frequency of this species in this part of the world, but horn-cores, metapodials and deciduous fourth premolars (DPM4) of sheep or goat were distinguished between the two species. The side of the body from which the bones were derived was noted. The zones of the bone that were represented by the fragment and the zone on which butchery marks occurred were recorded using the methodology devised by Cohen & Serjeantson (Cohen & Serjeantson 1996).

Characteristics of the often neglected indeterminate fragments were also recorded. Fragments were separated into size classes according to their maximum

length and the bone fragment type (diaphysis, cancellous, etc) was recorded. Details about the freshness of the bone when broken based on the fracture angle, outline and texture were also noted.

The analysis was carried out following a modified version of guidelines by English Heritage (Davis 1992) and specific texts dealing with butchered animal bone remains (see references below).

Results by feature type

Medieval ditches

Ovis bones were dominant although a significant quantity of *sus* and *bos* elements were identified. *Gallus domesticus* and *gadid* bones were also recovered. A mixture of appendicular and axial elements were identified, including a high frequency of long-bones; in particular, *ovis* long-bones. Many of the *ovis* long-bones exhibited gnawing by *canids*. Butchery evidence was present on bones of all species but in no great frequency. A few *ovis* horn-cores were recovered. They did not exhibit evidence of working.

Medieval pits

Ovis bones were most common (just) with *bos* elements also common and *sus* notably rarer. *Cervidae*, *gadidae*, and small *aves* bones were also recovered. High frequency of *ovis* long-bones (in particular metapodials and radii), some of which were almost complete and the ends of many of which had been chewed by *canids*. Axial and small appendicular bones were also present, some of which were whole. Evidence of butchery was rare.

Medieval small pits/post-holes

Such features were quite small and, as such, only contained small-/medium-sized bone fragments in relatively low numbers. *Ovis* bones were the most common (just) followed by *bos* and *sus*. Two *gadidae* bone fragments were found in these contexts and a fragment of *Capreolus capreolus* antler was also recovered. A mixture of axial and appendicular elements were recovered. One *ovis* long-bone gnawed by *canids* was identified. No bones from these features exhibited evidence of butchery.

Post-medieval ditches

One ditch terminal, in particular (F64, formerly F4/F5/F6), contained a large quantity of animal bone (20% of the pieces and 16% of the total weight of bone analysed). The bones identified were primarily *bos* and *ovis* with *bos* elements being the most frequent, a conclusion reinforced by the high frequency of unidentifiable large mammal fragments. *Sus* and *aves* bones were identified in low numbers. The identifiable *aves* bones were *anserinae*. A fairly equal mixture of long-bones and axial/small appendicular bones were recovered. Evidence of butchery on the bones was rare.

Post-medieval pits

Bos bones were dominant followed by those of *ovis* then *sus*. The bones were mainly axial with some appendicular. No evidence of butchery was identified.

Post-medieval small pits/post-holes

There were only two features of this type and they contained very few bones. Nothing of archaeological significance was identified.

Clay floor L7 (early post-medieval)

Few animal bones were found upon, or pressed into, the clay floor in the area which was hand-excavated. Those that were found were from each of three common domesticated species (*ovis*, *bos*, *sus*). However, the only one of any interest was a gnawed *ovis* long-bone. More bones were found in the slot through the layer below the clay floor (L10). This layer was excavated in two spits (upper and lower). However, little difference was observed between the bones of each spit and, therefore, they are being considered together. *Bos* and *ovis* bones dominated the assemblage although there was a considerable amount of unidentifiable bone. One bone was found of each of the following species; *aves* (small and juvenile), *sus*, and *equus* (this last bone was the only *equus* example from the site). Long-bones

dominated the assemblage over the axial bones and the smaller appendicular bones. Some of the long-bones were quite complete and many exhibited signs of butchery. One was gnawed by a *canid*. The small bone fragments appear to suggest both the smashing of fresh bone and also the breaking of bone once decomposition had begun.

?Cistern F81/F97 (late medieval/early post-medieval)

The bone from this feature was analysed in distinct units: the upper, middle and lower parts of the fill and the fill of the barrel itself (layers L14, L15, L16). However, it was observed that the assemblages were broadly similar. Some very large and, indeed, some very small bones were recovered. Identifiable *bos* bones and fragments of large mammal bones were the most common bones found, though *ovis* was well represented. *Sus* bones were rare and present in a similar frequency to *Gallus domesticus*, *Anserinae* (possibly domestic), *Capreolus capreolus* (whole antler small find), and *gadidae* bones (most likely from large cod) were all found in the fills of the barrel itself. The mammal bones were a mixture of appendicular and axial elements and exhibited a high frequency of butchery evidence (chopped bones, chop-marks and cut-marks) which was notable when compared to the bone from the rest of the site. One gnawed *ovis* radius was identified.

Faunal remains discussion and conclusions

The bone was generally in a good condition and the variety of species and bone types attest to a good level of preservation. The bone from the ?cistern was, in particular, very well preserved. A number of large fragments were recovered from various context types as well as many whole small bones and small bone fragments, suggesting that, although hand-picked, the samples were well collected. There were no significant patterns observed on a feature-by-feature basis or in terms of feature types and, therefore, conclusions below will be outlined based on the dates of the features followed by general comments.

Medieval contexts

Ovis was the most commonly identified species from the medieval contexts, although the frequency of *bos* bones was not significantly lower. *Sus* elements were present but in even lower quantities. *Gallus domesticus* remains were also identified. The discovery of fish bones from a species of the *gadidae* family (probably cod) provides evidence for the exploitation of coastal resources in this period. The *gadidae* bones included some notably large examples. The presence of *Cervidae* elements also suggests a supplement to the diet by hunting. In general, a mixture of long-bone fragments and axial elements/small appendicular elements were identified from most features. However, a notably high frequency of long-bones were noted in others. These were often *ovis* long-bones (most frequently radii and metapodials), many of which exhibited evidence of having been chewed by *canids*. These elements probably represent domestic food waste which was subsequently accessed by domestic dogs before being placed into pits (most frequently) or ditches. Evidence of butchery on the bones was infrequent and the number of small broken bone fragments low, suggesting that much of the meat-processing was occurring away from the site. *Ovis* horn-cores were found in two of the ditches. However, none of them exhibited signs of working. There was little difference between the bones found in different context types (ie pit, post-hole, ditch) other than the obvious variations in quantity and size of bones.

Late medieval/early post-medieval contexts

Bos was the most commonly identified species in the post-medieval pits, post-holes and ditches along with a high frequency of *ovis* bones. *Sus* and *aves* bones (those identified were *Anserinae* bones) were present but were rare. There was a wide mixture of elements represented with no notable patterning, and butchery evidence was rare.

The bone from the excavated slot (F63, F64) through the clay floor (L7) and the soil layer beneath the clay floor (L10) consisted of a high frequency of *bos* and *ovis* elements as well as a high number of unidentifiable fragments. Elements of other species such as *sus*, *equus* and *aves* (small and unidentifiable) were present in

small numbers. A high frequency of long-bones is notable from these contexts, many of which were almost complete and/or exhibited evidence of butchery and gnawing by *canids*. As with the medieval remains discussed above, this suggests that the bones probably represent domestic waste. Also notable was the high frequency of broken unidentifiable bone (mentioned above) which exhibited both fresh and less fresh breaks. The freshly-broken bone may have been utilised for marrow or grease extraction. However, the less-fresh bone most likely became fragmented by trampling once the organic content of the bone had broken down.

An interesting assemblage of bone was recovered from the fills above and within the barrel-lined ?cistern F81/F97. The species identified included *Gallus domesticus*, *Anserinae* (possibly domestic), *Capreolus capreolus* (antler small find) and *gadidae* bones (most likely from large cod). Of the identifiable mammal bones, *bos* were the most frequent with *ovis* well represented and *sus* elements rare. A high frequency of butchery marks on the bone was observed, particularly on the *bos* bones. This is probably a consequence of more invasive techniques being required to butcher a large *bos* than an *ovis*. A number of distinct fills were identified from this feature which possibly represent backfilling episodes, and the bones within these fills are probably the domestic waste from the nearby houses. Despite the assemblage being relatively small, the diversity of species and the elements identified in the ?cistern suggest a varied diet.

Overall, the assemblage suggests a pattern of domestic waste with a greater frequency of *ovis* in the medieval period and *bos* in the post-medieval period. Few abnormalities in the assemblage suggest that no specific practices involving animals were taking place in the vicinity, such as tanning, butchery, etc, although the frequency of large *gadidae* bones suggests an interesting supplement to the diet by way of large sea fish, most likely cod. The high frequency of gnawed long-bones suggests that domestic dogs were kept in the vicinity. However, no *canid* bones were identified in the assemblage.

Glossary of terms used in faunal remains report

Anserinae - geese

appendicular - appendage or anything attached to a major part of the body

aves - bird

axial - bones in the head and trunk of the body

bos - cattle

canid - of the biological family of the dog

Capreolus capreolus - roe deer

cervidae - deer

equus - genus of animals including horse

gadidae - marine fish family including cod, pollock, haddock, whiting

Gallus domesticus - domestic fowl

ovis - sheep species

sus - pig species

6.6 A list of the stone

by Dr Keith Oak

Stones are listed here by finds number.

Finds number	Context	Type	Dimensions	Colour and texture	Possible provenance	Other
17 (bag 1 of 2)	F4	Sandy limestone	8 x 4 x 4.5cm		?Greensand	
17 (bag 2 of 2)	F4	Sandy limestone	7 x 4 x 2cm		?Greensand	
85	F25	Limestone (micrite) chalk?	6.5 x 4.5 x 2cm	Very fine grained	Local	?Worked
115 (bag 1 of 2)	F78	Pisolithic limestone?	20 x 12 x 5 cm	Pale cream/grey. Calcite pisoliths up to 3mm. Micrite matrix Often with iron staining around the pisoliths	Jurassic outcrops (Dorset, Gloucestershire, Leicestershire, Oxfordshire)	Weathered on 3 sides Has a small ?hematite vein

115 (bag 2 of 2)	F78	Pisolithic limestone?	Smaller	Pale cream/ grey. Has fewer pisoliths and more micrite	Ditto	Weathered on 2 surfaces Marine weathering?
148	F78	Serpentinite?		Medium grained. Dark, rounded inclusions	Cornwall	Very dense Basic/ultrabasic
74 (bag 1 of 3)	F78	Micritic limestone	7 x 5.5 x 5cm	Pale cream/ orange brown dark edges. Fine	Septarian nodules?	Burnt Borings from marine organisms (bivalves)?
74 (bag 2 of 3)	F78	Micritic limestone	5 x 2 x 4cm	Pale cream/ orange brown dark edges. Fine	Septarian nodules?	Burnt Borings from marine organisms (bivalves)?
74 (bag 3 of 3)	F78	Micritic limestone	5 x 3 x 1.5cm	Pale cream/ orange brown dark edges. Fine	Septarian nodules?	Burnt Borings from marine organisms (bivalves)?
79	F81	Sandstone/ quartzite		Very fine sand	Scotland?	Water-smoothed pebble - river or fluvioglacial
81 (bag 1 of 2)	F81	?Dolomitic Limestone with limestone	13 x 8 x 9cm	Pale cream Very fine grained	Part of the Greensand?, Kent	2 specimens
81 (bag 2 of 2)	F81	Calcareous sandstone layer with limestone layer		Medium to fine grained Sub-angular quartz clasts	Part of the Greensand?, Kent	Crude 1cm layering
102	F82	Slightly foliated microgranite	20 x 15 x 5cm	Light-coloured granite, grey quartz, milky white feldspar, black biotite and hornblende. Quartz, biotite, feldspar and hornblende? 2-3mm. Medium grained	Possibly Cornwall or other granite outcrop in the North of England	Weathered, blackened on 1 edge
93	F84	Chalk	6 x 3 x 3cm		Local	
84	F86	Limestone (micrite)	5 x 4x 2cm	Pale orange/ pink/brown/ cream. Very fine grained		?Burnt Very hard angular fragment
129	F113	Orthoquartzite	6 x 3.5 x 3.5cm	Pale cream with green staining. Rounded to sub-rounded medium sand (quartz)		
101	L3	Calcareous sandstone (Greensand)	24 x 18 x 15cm	Fine grained	Greensand Kent?	Worked
72	L3	Micritic limestone	3 x 2 x 2cm	Dark grey Pale cream/ grey on weathered surface. Fine	Septarian nodule?	Hard
73	L7	Coarse sandstone/grit		Mottled pink, red, cream. Poorly sorted coarse sand Poorly cemented	New red sandstone? Devon, Cumbria, Cheshire, Scotland	

				Well-rounded quartz grains		
86 (bag 1 of 4)	L10	Limestone (micrite) Similar to 84	3 x 2.5 x 2cm	Pale orange/pink/brown. Very fine grained		4 samples
86 (bag 2 of 4)	L10	Serpentinite?	2 x 2 x 0.75cm	Dark reddish brown. Medium crystals (3mm)	Cornwall	Igneous
86 (bag 3 of 4)	L10	Flint	5 x 3 x 3cm	Reddened outer surface	Local	Burnt?
86 (bag 4 of 4)	L10	Sandstone / grit		Red/brown. Poorly sorted coarse grained Angular clasts up to 5mm x 4mm rounded		
87	L10	Limestone (micrite) chalk?	3.5 x 1.5 x 3cm	Pale cream to orangey buff. Fine micrite	Local	Burnt chalk?
120	L14	Red sandstone		Orange/brown. Medium sand Moderately well cemented	New red sandstone? Devon, Cheshire, Cumbria, Scotland	Burnt
141	L16	Chalk/Marl	9 x 8 x 6cm	Pale cream, greenish		A hard nodule

Conclusions

These stone samples are of mixed provenance, and are of local and non-local origin.

Local

These rocks, often used as building materials, would be expected in this area.

- a) a number of specimens probably from the Greensand of Kent including samples (F4, F81 and L3).
- b) septarian nodules, probably derived from the London clay outcrops at the coast or from quarries (L3, F78).
- c) flint, which can also be locally found within soil or glacial deposits (L10)
- d) chalk and muddy chalk (Marl), which can also be found locally in soil or brought in from Chalk outcrops in other parts of Essex, Kent and Norfolk (F25, L10, F84, L16).

Non-local

These include a number of limestones, some of which appear to belong to the Greensand suite from Kent; there are others that have an unknown origin, including finds numbers 84, 85 and 86. These could be used in building, but equally could be used for manufacturing cement and lime as well as aggregate.

There are a number of unusual rocks, including:

Coarse sandstone/desert sandstone (L7, L10, L14)

Although these are variable, they appear to be desert sandstones, possibly New Red Sandstone from locations such as Devon, Cumbria, Scotland, and Cheshire. These could be brought in by glacial activity, but, as they are quite soft, I suspect that they have been imported. They can be used as building materials.

Serpentinite (L10, F78)

There are two specimens of what appears to be Serpentinite. This is an unusual rock in Britain, found in places such as Cornwall and Shetland. These samples are dark reddish brown and could be used as ballast for ships or railways as it is very dense.

Pisolithic limestone (F78)

An unexpected find - a limestone similar to oolitic limestone but with larger ooliths called pisoliths. These are up to 3mm in diameter. It is a very attractive rock and could be used as a decorative stone or building stone. It can be found in places such as Dorset, Gloucestershire, Leicestershire and Oxfordshire as part of the Jurassic outcrop.

Microgranite (F82)

A fine-grained granite which is slightly foliated. There are a number of possible sources including Cornwall, the Lake District and Scotland. It could be used as a decorative stone, aggregate or ballast.

These four rocks are certainly unusual, especially the serpentinite and pisolithic limestone. They can all be found together in South-West England, particularly in Devon and Cornwall. They could therefore have been brought in along the coast to Maldon, most probably as ship's ballast. The unusual rocks may then have been kept out of curiosity.

7 Discussion

The development of Anglo-Saxon and medieval Maldon

The Middle and Late Saxon periods

The early development of Maldon is still uncertain and much remains to be understood. It had been assumed that the town originated as the late Anglo-Saxon *burh* recorded in the *Anglo-Saxon Chronicle* as having been created by Edward the Elder in c 916. This *burh* site is generally identified with the earthworks which lie at the top of Maldon hill and, in terms of modern topography, is centred on London Road with its eastern edge approximately 50m west of the junction of High Street and Farnbridge Road. It had also been assumed that the early settlement then spread down what is now the High Street towards the Hythe area. However, excavations by FAU in 2007 on the former Croxton's Works site (Ennis 2009; shown as FAU 2007 on our Fig 1) produced stratified Middle Saxon material, opening up the interesting idea that settlement at Maldon started between the mid 7th to 9th centuries in the Hythe area rather than on the site later fortified as the *burh* in the early 10th century.

However, such excavation as there has been on the site of the reputed *burh* have failed to confirm an Anglo-Saxon date for the earthworks. Instead, the archaeological evidence all points to the Early Iron Age, the 12th century, and even to the post-medieval period. This is perhaps indicative of a prehistoric (Iron Age?) earthwork enclosure, with several later phases of use, in this case the 12th century and perhaps the post-medieval period. If that were the case, the Maldon *burh* site would share some of the dating problems of the other local *burh* site, at Chipping Hill, Witham (EHER no 8108).

So, if the earthworks 200m to the west of 143-147 High Street cannot be shown to be those of Edward's *burh*, are there any alternative sites? Firm identification is problematic, but the current site and recent FAU sites may be helpful in this respect. Excavation by the FAU 75m to the south-south-east of the current at 140-142 High Street (ie, the former bus station) identified significant late Anglo-Saxon deposits of 10th- and 11th-century date (EHER no 18271: shown as FAU 1999 on Fig 1), and the earliest material found during the investigation at 143-147 High Street is Thetford ware, which is likely to be of similar date. Taken together, the evidence from the two sites suggests that both areas might have been early enough to have been inside Edward the Elder's *burh*. Topographically, this idea makes sense since both sites lie either on or close to the High Street, which normally would have been the focus of such a settlement (as at Colchester: Crummy 1997, 140-41). This may link in with the evidence from the 2007 FAU excavations on the former Croxton's Works site (250m to the south-south-east of 143-147 High Street). This site has produced the earliest stratified material in Maldon, dating to the mid 7th to the 9th century, but has no strong evidence relating to the *burh* period. A reasonable interpretation of recent excavations is, therefore, that Anglo-Saxon settlement on Maldon hill originated in

the Hythe area (as suggested by Ennis 2009), and then moved westwards up the High Street. The *burh* was then founded either around the High Street (the FAU 1999 site and CAT 2008 sites being inside the *burh*), or, which is less likely, given the absence of evidence, at the earthworks site on London Road.

The site

The late Saxon and early medieval period (Period 1)

The discovery of Thetford ware on the current site shows that occupation had spread to this part of Maldon by the 10th or 11th century. It is not possible to determine whether this occupation was pre- or post-Norman conquest, nor is it possible to define the nature of the occupation, given the absence of contemporary cut features.

The medieval period (Period 2)

The site is in a part of Maldon which had become built up in the medieval period (Medlycott 1999). The site was certainly occupied during this time by a sequence of structures, but it is not clear what plan-form they took. In Period 2a, slots appear to have defined a three-roomed structure, but one which does not resemble the floor-plan of a typical medieval hall-house, unless the three rooms represent the screens passage and service wing, with a missing (ie truncated) hall to the north. In Period 2b, the earlier timber structure was replaced by another timber structure with a line of features apparently defining a fence-line to the rear. Again, the floor-plan is not clear. The slots may have been for a structure, the corners of which would not have been square, or the L-shaped slot (F18) may have surrounded a structure of which nothing survives except the pair of post-holes (F108, F114).

Despite the difficulties in interpreting building plans, the range of animal bones, pottery and small finds from these periods (including the buckle-plate, part of a Norwegian ragstone hone, the Mayen lava quern, the fragment from the superstructure of an oven or kiln, and the spindle whorl), indicate that a wide range of domestic activities took place here, and, in the case of the mercury droplets, perhaps commercial activities as well.

The mismatch between buildings and site finds is even more marked in Period 2c, when, apart from two patches of gravel, the structure is archaeologically almost invisible. Yet, as in Periods 2a and 2b, the range of associated finds point to occupation on site. This is particularly so with the leather off-cuts from the barrel, possibly dumped from an adjacent cobbler's workshop.

The position of gullies and rows of post-holes may indicate that the modern plot boundaries date back to at least the 15th or 16th century.

The post-medieval and later periods (Periods 3-4)

The post-medieval period saw the construction of a new house on the site, on top of a soil layer dumped over the Period 2 buildings. The position of the building is shown more by the extent of the clay floor than by wall lines (which are largely missing). A brick-lined well or soakaway was built in the eastern part of the site (147 High Street).

Although the remains of the post-medieval building have been badly affected by later work on this site (principally the construction of the Period 4 commercial garage), the absence of a Period 3 chimney-stack is surprising. The fact that there was a later (Period 4) chimney-stack to the rear of the building may indicate that the Period 3 and Period 4 structures were larger than is evident from the surviving remains, and that perhaps domestic accommodation was located there, leaving the frontage rooms for possible commercial use (workshop or shop).

The principal modern component of the site was the commercial garage, now demolished.

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The project was monitored for the ECC HEM team by Mr Pat Connell.

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10 Abbreviations and glossary

Anglo-Saxon	5th century to AD 1066
AOD	above Ordnance Datum
CAT	Colchester Archaeological Trust
CIMS	Colchester and Ipswich Museums
context	specific location on an archaeological site, especially one where finds are made
ECC	Essex County Council
EH	English Heritage
EHER	Essex Historic Environment Record, held by Essex County Council
faunal	animal
feature	an identifiable thing like a pit, a wall, a floor; can contain 'contexts'
fill	the soil filling up a hole such as a pit or ditch
HEM	Historic Environment Management team
medieval	after AD 1066 and up to c 1530
modern	the 19th-21st centuries
natural	geological deposit undisturbed by human activity
NGR	National Grid Reference
post-medieval	after c 1530 and up to c 1800
Roman	the period from AD 43 to around AD 430

11 Archive deposition

The paper and digital archive is currently held by the Colchester Archaeological Trust at 12 Lexden Road, Colchester, Essex CO3 3NF, but will be permanently deposited with Colchester and Ipswich Museums under accession code COLIM 2008.111.

12 Context list

This context list includes a bulk finds list, and key context dating.

'Fabric' refers to medieval and later pottery fabrics as listed in *CAR 7*. Small find and pottery dates, and information on clay tobacco-pipes, are included here as an aid to context dating. The full reports on these items can be found above in sections 6.2, 6.3 and 6.4 respectively.

Context	Description	Pottery fabrics and dates, CBM and miscellaneous finds	Finds date	Period
F1	Linear patch of metalling	<i>Finds no 48</i> Fabrics 13, 21, 45d (Frechen ware) (mid 15th-16th centuries); Two plain clay-tobacco pipe fragments <i>Finds no 55</i> Fabrics 12, 13, 21, 35 (mid 13th-14th centuries); 4 peg-tile fragments, 148g; 1 Tudor brick fragment, 46g. <i>Finds no 56</i> Fabrics 13, 35 (13th-14th centuries); 1 fragment of common whelk shell, 7g	17th-18th centuries	Period 3
F2	Well or soakaway	<i>Finds no 144</i> 1 post-medieval brick (frogless), 225 x 110 x 60mm. No pressure marks, smooth surface with little creasing, no frogging, thinness	18th century	Period 3

		suggests that it is pre mid 18th century when brick thickness increased (18th-century stock brick)		
F3	Large clay drainage pipe		-	Period 4
F4	A fill of F64	<p><i>Finds no 1</i> Fabrics 13, 20, 21, 21a, 35: not necessarily later than 14th century; 1 slate fragment (possibly earlier than post-medieval); 1 <i>imbrex</i> fragment, 109g</p> <p><i>Finds no 17</i> Fabrics 13, 20, 21, 35: 13th-14th centuries; 4 peg-tile fragments, 132g; 1 Roman tile fragment, 20g</p> <p><i>Finds no 60</i> Fabrics 13, 21, 35: 14th century; 5 peg-tile fragments, 192g; 1 fragment of oyster shell, 2g</p>	post-medieval	(Period 3)
F5	A fill of F64	<p><i>Finds no 3</i> Fabrics 9, 13, 20, 21, 35: 13th-14th centuries; 3 peg-tile fragments, 64g</p>	post-medieval	(Period 3)
F6	A fill of F64	<p><i>Finds no 4</i> Fabric 13, 12th century</p> <p><i>Finds no 19</i> Fabrics 9, 12, 13, 21, 21a: 13th-14th centuries; 5 peg-tile fragments, 157g; 1 piece of coal, 18g</p> <p><i>Finds no 20</i> Fabrics 20, 21, 23, 35: 13th century; 1 peg-tile fragment, 102g</p>	post-medieval	(Period 3)
F7	Small pit with oyster shells (not excavated)		-	Period 3
F8	Concentration of large stones		-	Period 3
F9	?Post-hole	<p><i>Finds no 9</i> Fabric 13: 12th century</p>	12th century	Period 2b
F10	Pit (in section only)	<p><i>Finds no 8</i> Fabrics 45, 48d: 19th-21st centuries</p>	19th-21st centuries	Period 4
F11	Part of L3 (not a feature)	<p><i>Finds no 16</i> Fabrics 12, 13, 21, 21a, 23, 31, 35, 36: 14th-15th centuries; 4 peg-tile fragments, 171g; 1 Roman tile fragment, 184g; 3 Roman brick fragments, 298g</p> <p><i>Finds no 128</i> 1 Roman tile fragment, 52g</p>	late medieval or early post-medieval	
F12	Shallow pit	<p><i>Finds no 9</i> Fabrics 13, 20, 21a, 45m: 19th-21st centuries 2 peg-tile fragments, 70g</p>	modern	Period 4
F13	Shallow post-hole		-	Period 2a
F14	Small pit/post-hole	<p><i>Finds no 10</i> Fabrics 9, 13: 11th-12th centuries</p> <p><i>Finds no 13</i> Fabric 12: 12th century</p> <p><i>Finds no 29</i> Fabrics 9, 12, 13: 11th-12th centuries</p> <p><i>Finds no 31</i> Fabrics 12, 13, 20: late 12th-13th centuries</p>	12th-13th centuries	Period 2a
F15	Small pit/post-hole	<p><i>Finds no 40</i> Fabrics 9, 12, 13, 20: c 1200</p>	13th century	Period 2b
F16	Terminal of slot/gully F96	<p><i>Finds no 18</i> Fabric 13: 11th-12th centuries</p>	11th-12th centuries	Period 2b
F17	Small pit later renumbered as F34	<p><i>Finds no 14</i> Pottery: medieval and later Fabric 12: 11th-12th centuries</p>	11th-12th centuries	(Period 2c)

F18	Slot (continued as F66)	<p><i>Finds no 15</i> Fabrics 12, 13: 12th century; 1 fragment of common whelk shell, 8g</p> <p><i>Finds no 42</i> Fabrics 9, 12, 13: 11th century; 9 ?post-medieval brick fragments, 110g; 1 fragment of oyster shell, 14g; 1 fragment of common whelk shell, 8g</p>	12th century (with intrusive brick?)	Period 2b
F19	Ditch (= F102)	<p><i>Finds no 23</i> Fabric 21: 13th century or later</p> <p><i>Finds no 24</i> Fabric 9: 9th-12th centuries</p>	13th century	Period 2c
F20	Pit	<p><i>Finds no 22</i> Fabrics 9, 12, 13, 35: 13th century + 2 peg-tile fragments, 36g; 1 Roman brick fragment, 308g</p> <p><i>Finds no 25</i> SF 4. Iron knife with scale tang. Knives of similar form came from late 14th- to 15th-century contexts in London</p>	late medieval-early post-medieval	Period 2a
F21	Linear feature		-	Period 2a
F22	Brick floor surface	<p><i>Finds no 59</i> Fabrics 13, 31, 40: 17th-18th centuries; Clay tobacco-pipe bowl fragment and fourteen plain stem fragments: late 17th or early 18th century</p>	17th-18th centuries	Period 3
F23	Structural remains of hydraulic lift		-	Period 4
F24	Curved brick drain		-	Period 4
F25	Pit	<p><i>Finds no 85</i> Fabrics 9, 13, 20, 21, 35: 13th century + ; 1 peg-tile fragment, 67g</p>	late medieval or early post-medieval	Period 3
F26	Stake hole		-	Period 2a
F27	Stake hole		-	Period 2a
F28	Stake hole		-	Period 2a
F29	Stake hole		-	Period 2a
F30	Small pit/post-hole		-	Period 2a
F31	Small pit/post-hole		-	Period 2b
F32	Shallow pit	<p><i>Finds no 34</i> 1 peg-tile fragment, 55g</p>	-	Period 3
F33	Stake hole		-	Period 2a
F34	Small pit or post-hole (= F17)	<p><i>Finds no 89</i> Fabrics 9, 13, 22, 35: 13th century</p>	13th century	Period 2c
F35	Pit or post-hole		-	Period 2c
F36	Rectilinear cut	<p><i>Finds no 37</i> Fabrics 12, 13: 11th-12th centuries; 1 Roman tile fragment, 33g</p>	11th-12th centuries	Period 2c
F37	Pit	<p><i>Finds no 39</i> Fabric 48d: 19th-21st centuries; 1 post-medieval brick fragment, 328g; 1 large piece of clinker, 43g</p>	19th-21st centuries	Period 4
F38	Slot/gully	<p><i>Finds no 41</i> Fabrics 12, 13: 11th-12th centuries; 1 fragment of common whelk shell, 1g</p>	11th-12th centuries	Period 2b
F39	Small pit or post-hole	<p><i>Finds no 43</i> Fabrics 9, 13: 11th-12th centuries</p>	11th-12th centuries	Period 2b
F40	Small pit or post-hole	<p><i>Finds no 44</i> Pottery: medieval and later Fabrics 12, 20, 35: 13th century 1 Roman ?brick fragment, 72g</p>	13th century	Period 2b

F41	Post-pad constructed from four pieces of peg-tile lying flat	<i>Finds no 45</i> Pottery: medieval and later Fabrics 9, 13: 9th-11th centuries; 1 peg-tile fragment, 152g <i>Finds no 147</i> 1 peg-tile fragment, 952g	late medieval or early post-medieval	Period 3
F42	Drainage pipe		-	Period 4
F43	Gravel-/sand-filled ditch from beneath a concrete foundation		-	Period 4
F44	Post-hole		-	Period 2b
F45	Small pit or post-hole	<i>Finds no 47</i> Fabrics 9, 12, 20: 13th century; 2 fragments of common whelk shell, 29g	13th century	Period 2c
F46	Shallow pit	<i>Finds no 46</i> Fabrics 13, 21a: 13th century +	13th century +	Period 2b
F47	Pit	<i>Finds no 49</i> Fabrics 13, 35: 13th-14th centuries <i>Finds no 52</i> Fabrics 12, 13, 23: 13th century <i>Finds no 51</i> SF 6. Coin: Charles I, worn rose farthing token of Peck's Type 2 (Peck 1970, 80-81). Date: 1635/6-44 <i>Finds no 71</i> Fabrics 12, 13, 20, 21: 14th century	17th century	Period 3
F48	Stake hole		-	Period 2a
F49	Post-hole		-	Period 2c
F50	Stake hole		-	Period 2a
F51	Stake hole		-	Period 2a
F52	Stake hole		-	Period 2a
F53	Slot		-	Period 2a
F54	Post-hole		-	Period 2c
F55	Small pit or post-hole		-	Period 2c
F56	Small linear foundation	<i>Finds no 58</i> Fabric 13: 11th-12th centuries	11th-12th centuries	Period 2b
F57	Post-hole/pit		-	Period 2a
F58	Small linear foundation		-	Period 2a
F59	Post-hole/pit	<i>Finds no 62</i> Fabric 13: 11th-12th centuries; Complete clay tobacco-pipe bowl dated to c 1660-80; 1 fragment of thick-lipped dog whelk shell, 1g; 1 fragment of oyster shell, 16g; 1 fragment of chequered carpet shell, 8g	17th century	Period 3
F60	Post-hole		-	Period 2a
F61	Post-hole		-	Period 2a
F62	Small slot in clay floor (L7)	<i>Finds no 63</i> Fabric 13: 11th-12th centuries; 1 fragment of oyster shell, 2g	11th-12th centuries	Period 3
F63	Small slot in clay floor (L7)	<i>Finds no 61</i> 1 peg-tile fragment, 12g	-	Period 3
F64	Straight-sided and flat-bottomed linear feature		-	Period 3

F65	Rectangular pattern of small iron objects/ stains		-	Period 3
F66	slot (continued as F18)	<i>Finds no 64</i> Fabrics 9, 12, 13: 11th century	11th century	Period 2b
F67	Post-hole within linear feature F18	<i>Finds no 65</i> Fabric 13: 11th-12th centuries	11th-12th centuries	Period 2b
F68	Chimney-stack footings		-	Period 4
F69	Sinkage into underlying ?cistern pit F81	<i>Finds no 66</i> Fabrics 23, 45b, 48d: 19th-21st centuries; 1 peg-tile fragment, 33g Slate <i>Finds no 67</i> SF 24. A piece of post-medieval and modern structural leadwork retaining the marks of iron nails <i>Finds no 68</i> 1 fragment from fairly delicate neck of Victorian or later glass bottle, 3g; 1 fragment of window glass, 1.5mm thick, 3g 19th century or later <i>Finds no 76</i> Fabric 48d: 19th-21st centuries; Plain tobacco-pipe stem fragment	19th-21st centuries	Period 4
F70	Post-hole		-	Period 2a
F71	Post-hole		-	Period 2b
F72	Post-hole		-	Period 2b
F73	Stake hole		-	Period 2a
F74	Stake hole		-	Period 2a
F75	Post-hole	<i>Finds no 69</i> Fabric 13: 11th-12th centuries	11th-12th centuries	Period 2b
F76	Post-hole		-	Period 2a
F77	Brick drain	<i>Finds no 95</i> Fabrics 12, 31, 35: 13th-14th centuries; 1 Tudor brick fragment, 206g (35mm thick); 1 plaster fragment - primarily white but contains red specks (like <i>opus signinum</i>), 12g <i>Finds no 96</i> 1 fragment of window glass, 1.5mm thick, 1g 19th century or later <i>Finds no 100</i> Whole brick (3,500g: 245 long x 115 wide x 55mm thick) is a lot smoother and better made than the broken brick though both are quite irregular. The whole brick is creased and has quite a rough base. A brick fragment (1,700g: 150+ x 115 x 55mm); extremely rough base, creasing, very irregular and has possible fingerprint marks on the upper surface. The rough character and combination of thinness and long length indicate that both the above are Tudor bricks (mid ?16th century). There is also a possible floor brick from F77 (1,415g: 150 x 170 x 35mm). This is quite a large brick (too big to have been 5-6 inches square, so probably originally 9-12 inches square). Unglazed, brick-like fabric with one smooth side and one quite rough side. The	post-medieval or modern	Period 3

		two surviving edges are bevelled and have mortar on them. It has a marbled/streaky appearance where broken and is quite precisely made. Date unknown.		
F78	Curved feature	<i>Finds no 74</i> Fabrics 13, 22: 12th-13th centuries; 3 Roman ?brick fragments, 152g <i>Finds no 114</i> Fabrics 12,13, 21a, 22: 13th century; 1 Roman ?brick fragment, 125g	13th century	Period 2c
F79	Pit (square, 80% oyster shells)	<i>Finds no 83</i> Fabrics 20, 21a: 13th century; 1 peg-tile fragment, 40g; 1 post-medieval brick fragment, 8g	13th century (with intrusive brick)	Period 3
F80	Post-hole	<i>Finds no 78</i> Fabrics 13, 35, 40: 17th-18th centuries; 1 peg-tile fragment, 32g	17th-18th centuries	Period 3
F81	Large pit containing wooden barrel F97	<i>Finds no 79</i> Fabrics 12, 20, 21, 21a, 31: 14th century; 6 peg-tile fragments, 1,065g; 2 post-medieval brick fragments, 199g; 2 fragments of oyster shell, 4g <i>Finds no 80</i> Fabric 21: 13th century; 1 peg-tile fragment, 201g; 1 piece of coal, 131g <i>Finds no 106</i> Fabrics 20, 21, 21a, 35: 13th century; <i>Finds no 107</i> Fabrics 13, 21, 35: 13th century; <i>Finds no 121</i> Fabric 21: 13th century; 2 peg-tile fragments, 92g <i>Finds no 154</i> SF 25. Hook made from a roe deer antler. A similar hook was found in a 13th- to 15th-century building at Winchester (Rees <i>et al</i> 2008)	late medieval or early post-medieval	Period 2c
F82	Pit (square and similar to F79)		-	Period 3
F83	Gully	<i>Finds no 82</i> Fabrics 9, 13, 20, 21, 21a: 13th-14th centuries; 1 peg-tile fragment, 175g; 1 Roman brick fragment, 450g	late medieval or early post-medieval	Period 3
F84	Pit or post-hole	<i>Finds no 93</i> Fabrics 12, 20, 35: 13th-14th centuries	13th-14th centuries	Period 2c
F85	Shallow pit	<i>Finds no 111</i> Fabric 12: 11th-12th centuries	11th-12th centuries	Period 3
F86	Pit or post-hole	<i>Finds no 84</i> Fabrics 13, 21, 21a: 13th century	13th century	Period 2c
F87	Pit or post-hole	<i>Finds no 96</i> Fabrics 13, 20, 21, 21a, 35: 13th century <i>Finds no 112</i> Fabric 21: 13th century	13th century	Period 2c
F88	Pit	<i>Finds no 97</i> Fabrics 9, 13, 20, 21, 21a, 35: 13th century; 1 peg-tile fragment, 147g <i>Finds no 98</i> Fabric 20, 35: 13th century	late medieval or early post-medieval	Period 3
F89	Slot/gully		-	Period 2a
F90	Pit/post-hole	<i>Finds no 108</i> Fabric 48d: 19th-21st centuries; 1 peg-tile fragment, 42g; 1 post-medieval brick fragment, 906g (100 x 110 x 50mm)	19th-21st centuries	Period 4
F91	Pit/post-hole		-	Period 4
F92	Pit	<i>Finds no 104</i> Fabrics 12, 13: 12th century	12th century	Period 2b
F93	Post-hole		-	Period 3

F94	Post-hole (with post F95)	<i>Finds no 113</i> Fabrics 13, 31: 14th century; 1 peg-tile fragment, 75g; 1 post-medieval brick fragment, 258g	late medieval or early post-medieval	Period 3
F95	Wooden post in post-hole F94		-	Period 3
F96	Slot/gully, connects to F107	<i>Finds no 116</i> Fabric 13: 12th century	12th century	Period 2b
F97	Wooden barrel in F81	(see L14-L16 below)	late medieval or early post-medieval	Period 2c
F98	Wooden post in F81		-	Period 2c
F99	Wooden post in F81		-	Period 2c
F100	Square stone post-pad	<i>Finds no 117</i> Fabric 21a: 13th century; 1 peg-tile fragment, 152g; 1 Tudor brick fragment, 540g (95 x 110+ x 50mm). Irregular, pink/cream/red brick; base is extremely rough - almost certainly a medieval brick (perhaps mid 14th century)	late medieval or early post-medieval	Period 3
F101	Pit or post-hole	<i>Finds no 118</i> Fabrics 13, 22: 12th-13th centuries; 1 Tudor brick fragment, 167g. 50mm thick, red/purple fabric, stretcher face shows probable diagonal pressure mark. Mid-late 17th century	17th century	Period 3
F102	Ditch	<i>Finds no 119</i> Fabrics 9, 13: 12th century	12th century	Period 2c
F103	Wooden post in post-hole		post-medieval	Period 3
F104	Foundation trench, E-W (probably = F66)	<i>Finds no 130</i> Fabric 12: 11th-12th centuries	11th-12th centuries	Period 2b
F105	Post-hole		-	Period 2a
F106	Post-hole	<i>Finds no 123</i> Fabric 13: 12th century	12th century	Period 3
F107	Slot/gully		-	Period 2b
F108	Post-hole	<i>Finds no 125</i> Fabrics 12, 13: 12th century	12th century	Period 2b
F109	Post-hole		-	Period 2a
F110	Post-hole		-	Period 2a
F111	Small linear feature - ?terminal	<i>Finds no 128</i> Fabrics 12, 13: 12th century	12th century	Period 2b
F112	Post-hole	<i>Finds no 132</i> Fabric 12: 12th century	12th century	Period 2b
F113	Post-hole	<i>Finds no 129</i> Fabrics 12, 13: 12th century	12th century	Period 2b
F114	Post-hole/small pit	<i>Finds no 131</i> Fabric 13: 12th century	12th century	Period 2b
F115	Post-hole		-	Period 2a
F116	Post-hole		-	Period 2a
F117	Slot		-	Period 2a
F118	Post-hole		-	Period 2a
F119	Post-hole		-	Period 2a
F120	Pit	<i>Finds no 133</i> Fabrics 13, 35: 13th-14th centuries; 3 peg-tile fragments, 328g	late medieval or early post-medieval	Period 3
F121	Post-hole		-	Period 2b
L1	Demolition rubble/topsoil mix	<i>Finds no 86</i> Fabrics 9, 12: 11th-12th century (residual)	residual, 12th century	Period 4

L2	Layer with frequent oyster shells	<i>Finds no 6</i> Fabrics 13, 21: 13th-14th centuries; 4 peg-tile fragments, 574g <i>Finds no 21</i> Fabric 40: 17th-18th centuries	post-medieval	Period 4
L3	Accumulation	<i>Finds no 5</i> Fabrics 13, 35: 13th-14th centuries <i>Finds no 72</i> Fabrics 13, 35: 14th century <i>Finds no 99</i> Fabrics 12, 13, 20, 21, 21a, 31, 40: 17th-18th centuries <i>Finds no 105</i> Fabrics 13, 21, 23: 13th-14th centuries; 1 post-medieval brick fragment, 14g <i>Finds no 109</i> Fabric 13: 13th century <i>Finds no 124</i> Fabric 13; 12th century <i>Finds no 101</i> SF 29. A moulded limestone block, probably from a door or window embrasure	17th-18th centuries	Period 3
L4	Cessy deposit	<i>Finds no 35</i> SF 17. Plain folded buckle-plate, medieval or early post-medieval	medieval to early post-medieval	Period 2a
L5	Orange natural clay		-	-
L6	Re-worked subsoil	<i>Finds no 12</i> Fabrics 12, 13: 12th century	12th century	Period 2a
L7	Clay floor	<i>Finds no 73</i> Fabrics 13, 21: 13th century <i>Finds no 75</i> Fabric 13: 12th-13th centuries	13th century	Period 3
L8	Small spread of stones		-	Period 2b
L9	Small spread of stones	<i>Finds no 70</i> Fabric 13: 12th century <i>Finds no 94:</i> 1 flint flake with no sign of secondary retouch, 3g	12th century	Period 2c
L10	Dump	<i>Finds no 8</i> Fabric 9: 9th-11th centuries <i>Finds no 86</i> Fabrics 9, 12, 20, 21: 13th century; 1 post-medieval brick fragment, 22g; 1 Roman ?tile fragment, 76g; 2 fragments of oyster shell, 19g; 1 fragment of whelk shell, 7g; 1 fragment of common periwinkle shell, 1g <i>Finds no 87</i> Fabrics 12, 13, 20, 21a, 35: 14th century; 2 post-medieval brick fragments, 75g; 3 Roman brick fragments, 357g <i>Finds no 89</i> Slate (possible earlier than post-medieval) <i>Finds no 90</i> SF 20. Wire dress- or sewing-pin with globular wound-wire head. Size indicates a post-medieval date.	post-medieval	Period 3
L11	Re-worked subsoil	<i>Finds no 92</i> Fabrics 12, 13: 12th century <i>Finds no 122</i> Fabrics 13, 20: 13th century <i>Finds no 127</i> Fabrics 9, 12, 13: 12th century <i>Finds no 134</i> Fabrics 12, 13: 11th-13th centuries	12th-13th centuries	Period 2a

L12	Metalled surface	<p><i>Finds no 122</i> 1 ?Roman brick fragment, 148g</p> <p><i>Finds no 134</i> 1 ?Roman brick fragment, 221g; 2 fragments of oyster shell, 8g</p>	residual Roman	Period 2c
L13	Fill/packing around barrel F97		-	Period 2c
L14	Uppermost of three barrel fills (F97)	<p><i>Finds no 135</i> Fabrics 35, 45b: late 14th-15th century; 1 whole and 2 fragments of oyster shell, 13g; 1 fragment of common periwinkle shell, 2g; 1 whole and 1 fragment of common mussel shell, 3g</p> <p><i>Finds no 136</i> Fabric 35: late 14th-15th century 23 peg-tile fragments, 2,990g; 1 Tudor brick fragment, 600g. 50 mm thick, 105mm wide, pale brown fabric, irregular, rough base and creasing; cut-out 62mm in from the end of the brick - the size and fabric of the brick suggest that it is Tudor</p> <p>3 fragments of oyster shell, 18g; 1 fragment of chequered carpet shell, 1g</p> <p><i>Finds no 120</i> 6 peg-tile fragments, 1,478g; 1 Tudor brick fragment, 2,728g (cut-out brick); 2 fragments of oyster shell, 9g; 4 fragments of common mussel shell, 8g</p>	15th-16th centuries, possibly later	Period 2c
L15	Middle barrel fill (F97)	<p><i>Finds no 137</i> medieval and later Fabrics 20, 21a, 35: 13th-14th century; 30 peg-tile fragments, 3,590g</p>	late medieval or early post-medieval	Period 2c
L16	Lower barrel fill (F97)	<p><i>Finds no 140</i> Fabrics 20, 35: 13th century; 15 peg-tile fragments, 1,428g; 1 post-medieval brick fragment, 48g</p> <p><i>Finds no 141</i> Fabrics 20, 31, 35: 13th-14th century; 27 peg-tile fragments, 2,470g; 1 Tudor brick fragment, 2,728g (75 x 102 x 45mm). 45mm thick and 102mm wide, yellow/pink/cream colour, very irregular, very rough base, creasing on the stretcher faces. Colour and fabric of the brick suggest that it is ?medieval although not as crude as the brick from F101; 1 fragment of common whelk shell, 4g</p> <p><i>Finds no 146</i> SF 15. Round iron shoe buckle of late 14th-century or 15th-century type</p>	late medieval – 14th-15th centuries	Period 2c

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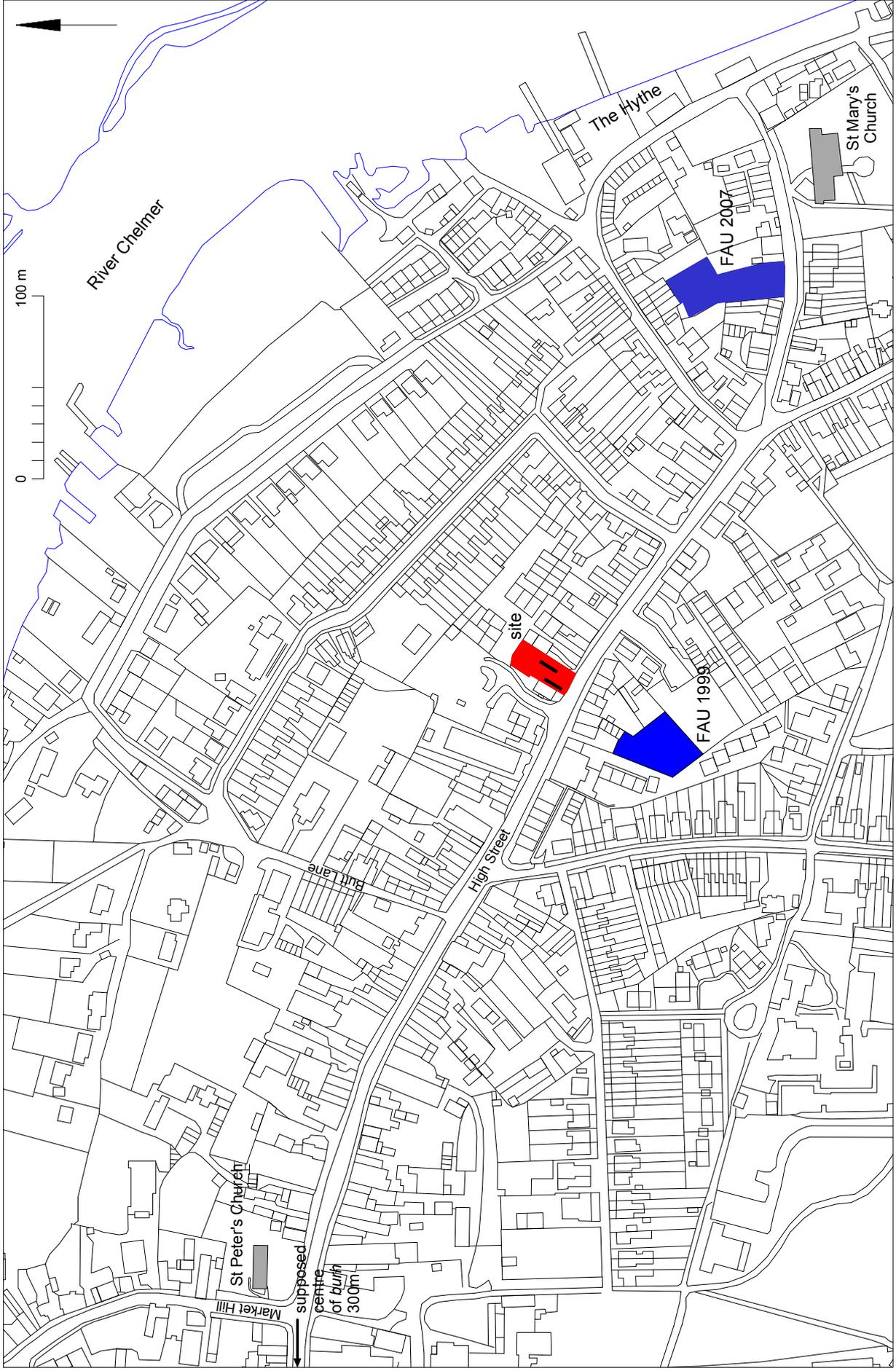


Fig 1 Site location, showing CAT 2008 evaluation and excavation, and FAU 1999 evaluation and FAU 2007 excavation.

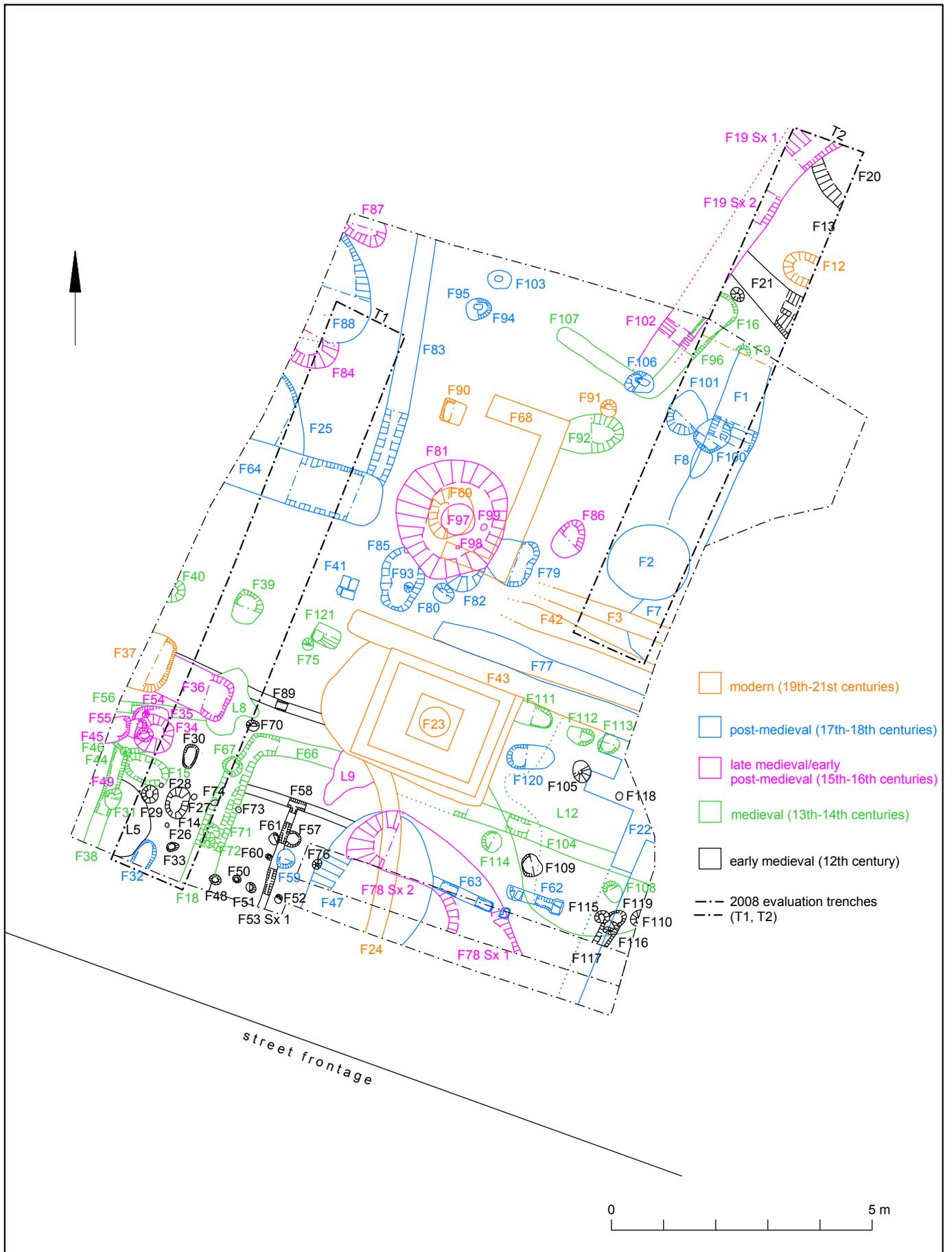


Fig 2 Site plan of CAT 2008 evaluation and excavation, showing all excavated features.



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Fig 3 Period 2a: early medieval (12th century) - excavated features (black) and interpretation (red).

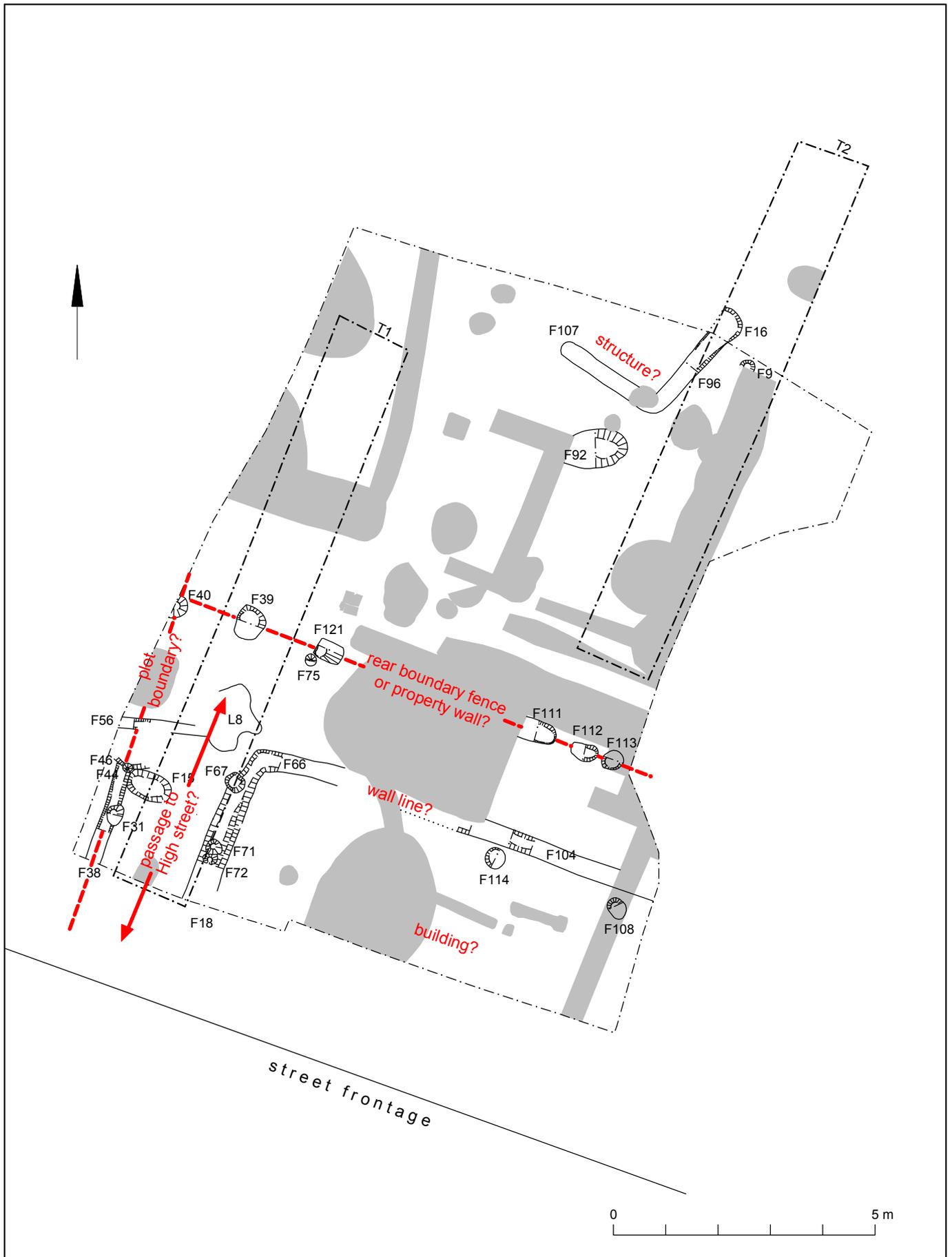


Fig 4 Period 2b: medieval (13th-14th centuries) - excavated features and interpretation.

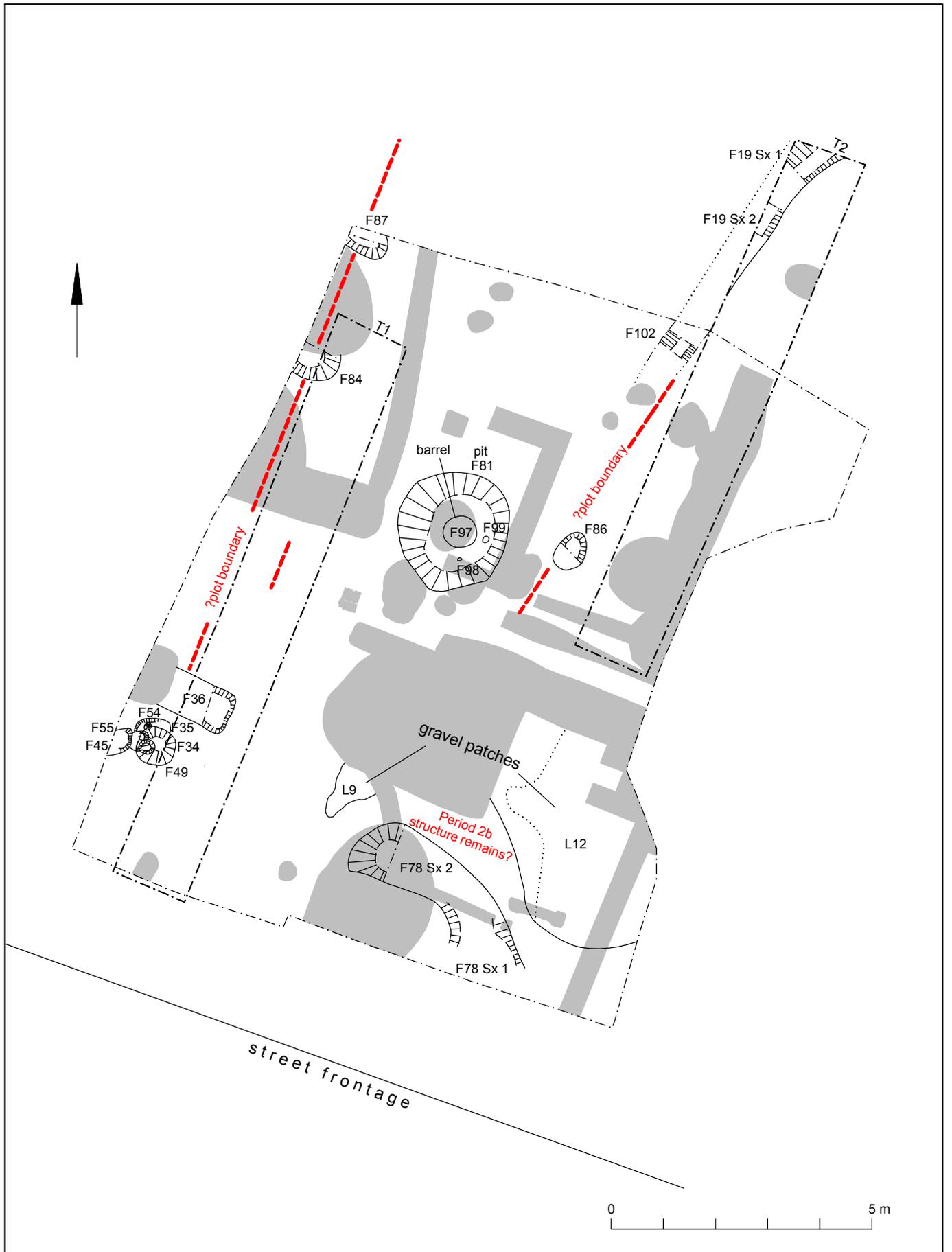


Fig 5 Period 2c: late medieval/early post-medieval (15th-16th centuries) - excavated features and interpretation.

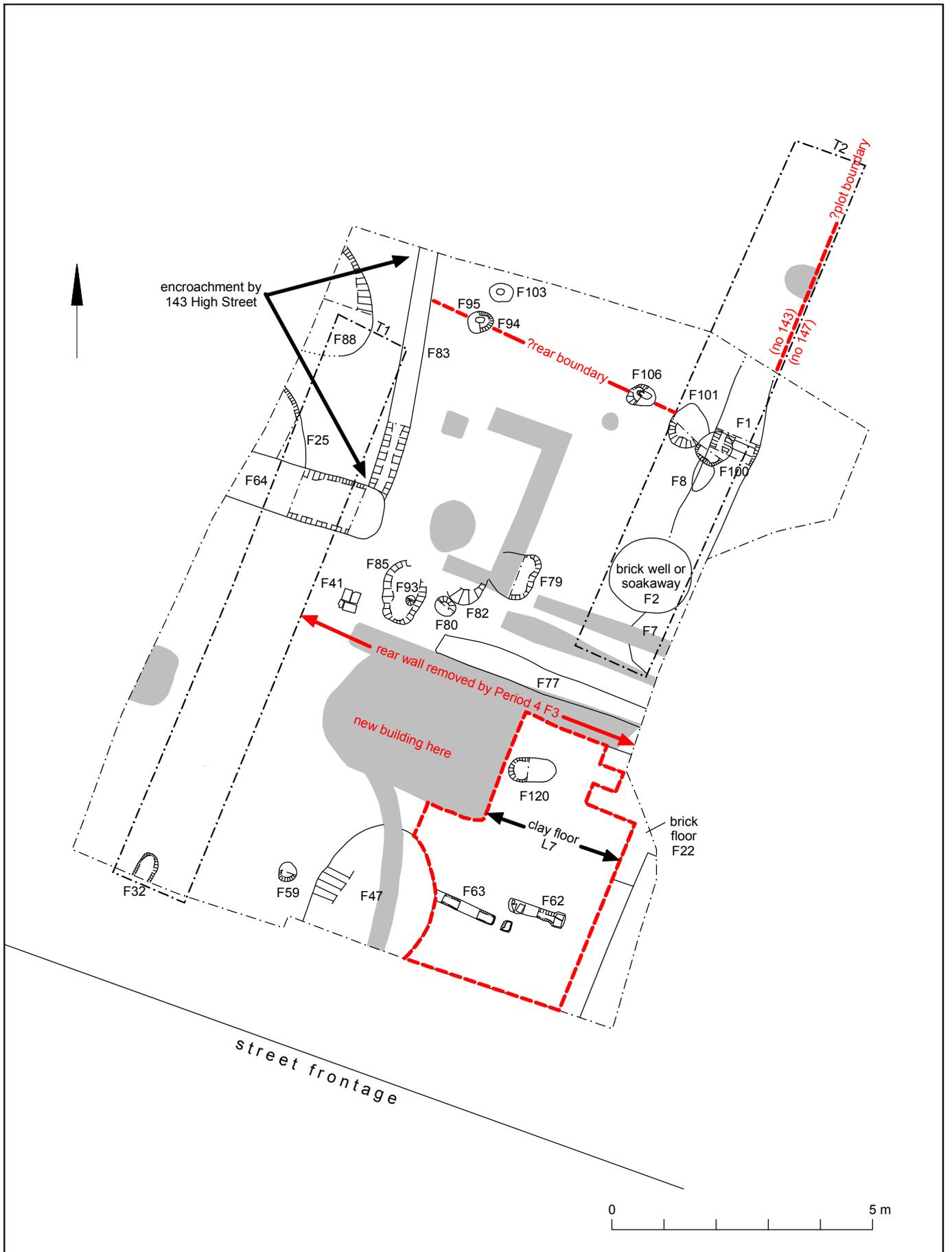
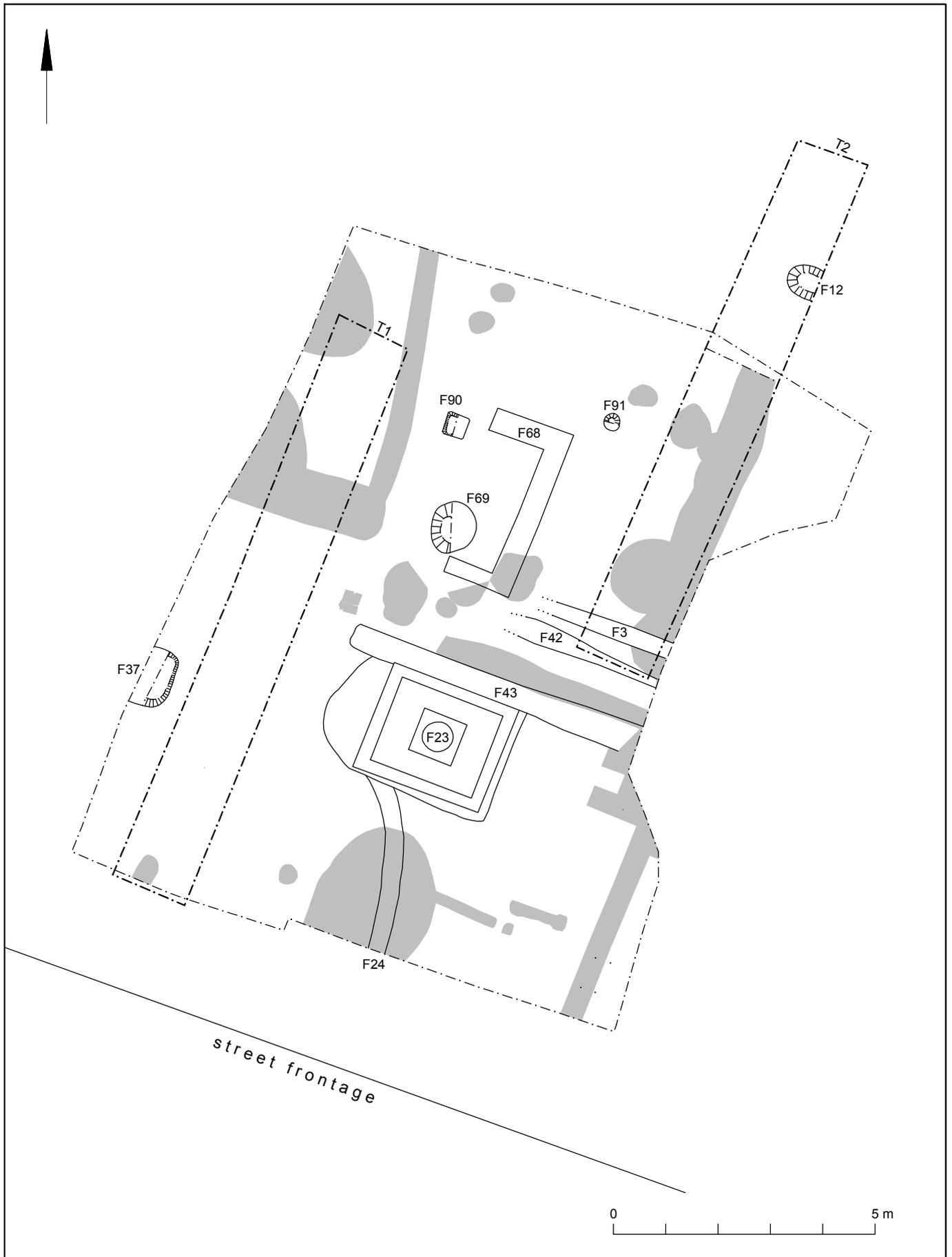
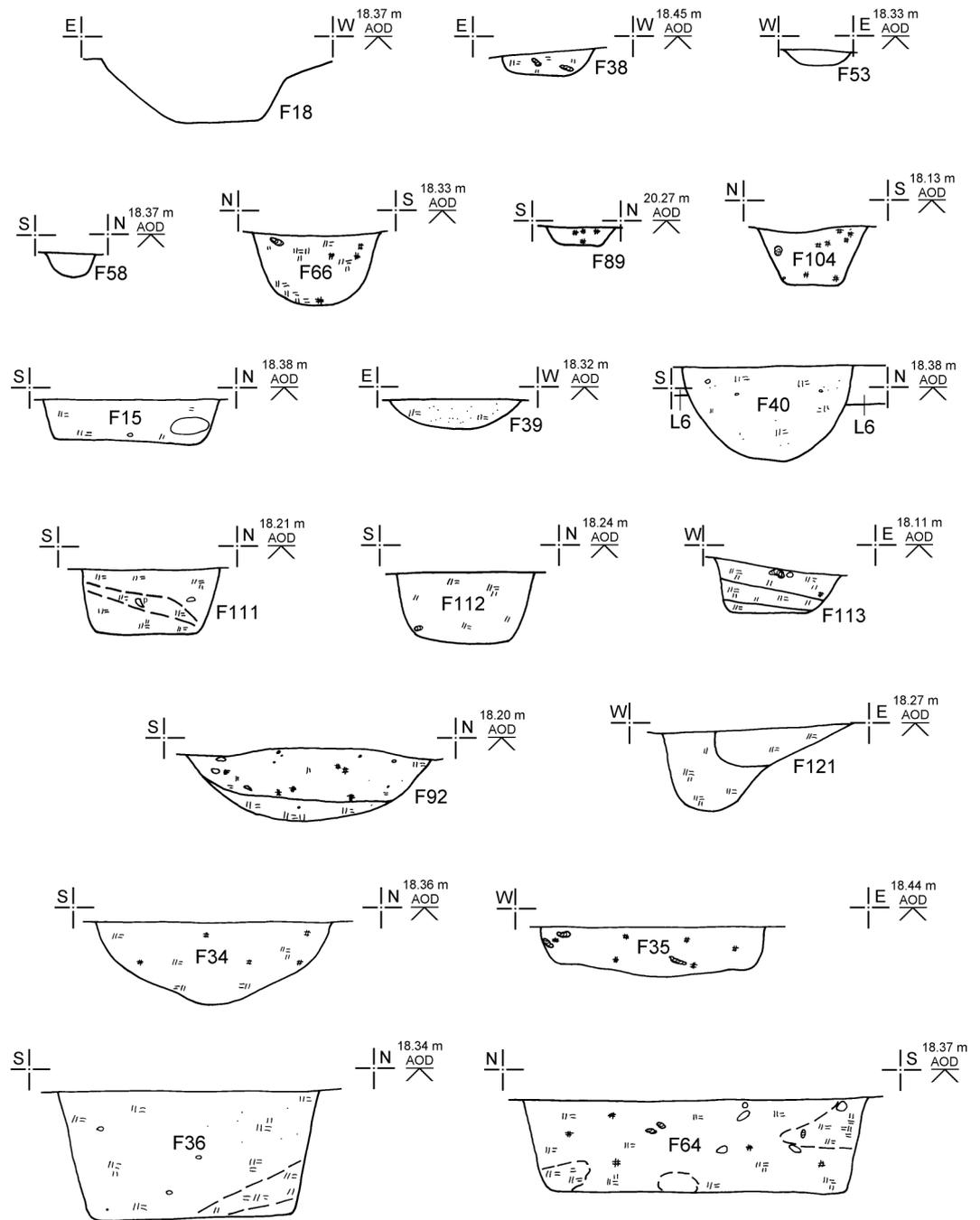


Fig 6 Period 3: post-medieval (17th-18th centuries) - excavated features and interpretation.



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Fig 7 Period 4: modern (19th-21st centuries) - excavated features and interpretation.



- sand
- charcoal
- oyster shell
- small stones
- ▨ post-Roman brick and tile
- wood
- large stones
- animal bone
- pottery sherds
- ||= clay

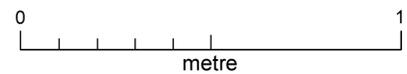


Fig 8 Early medieval, medieval, late medieval and post-medieval features: sections.

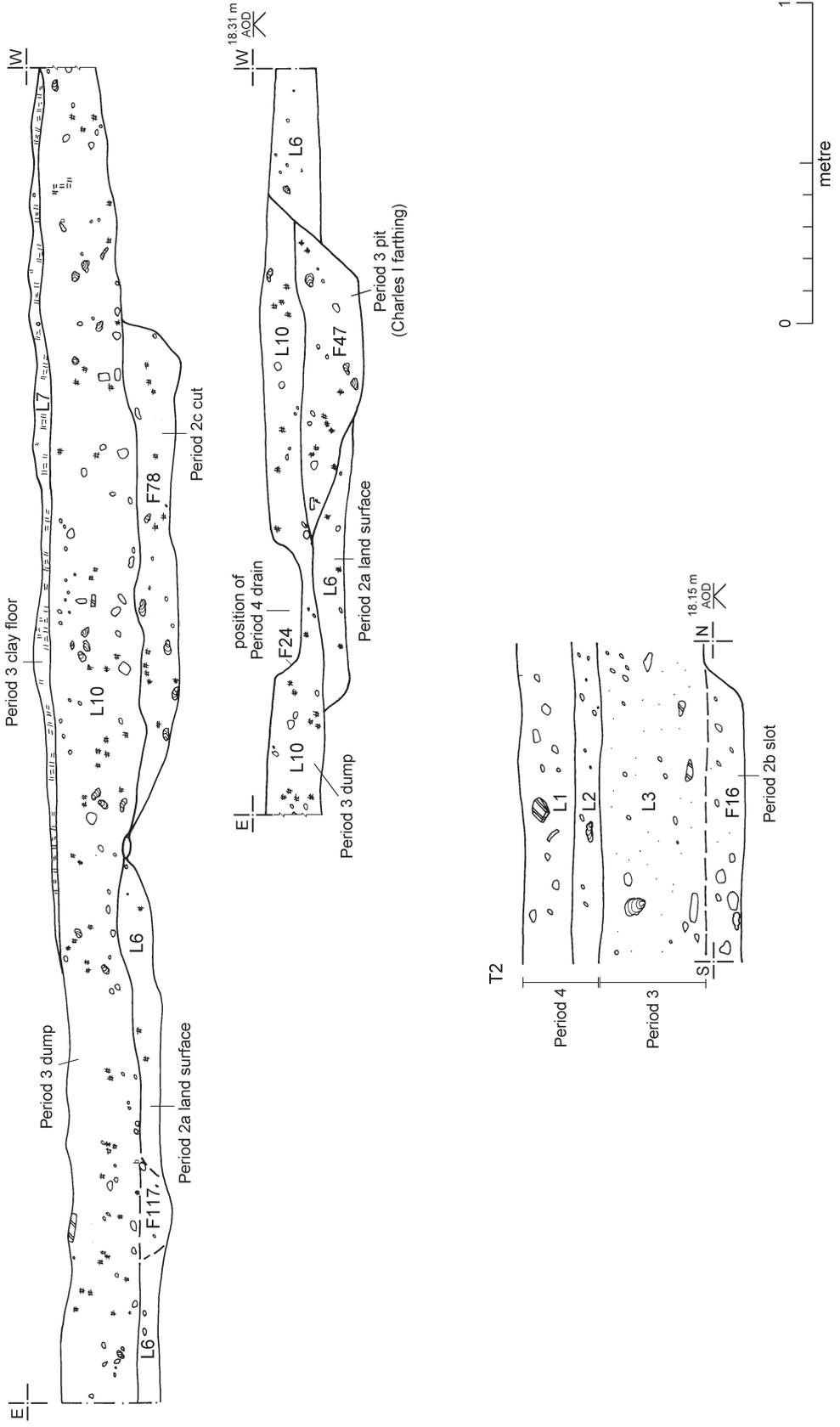


Fig 9 Section of south edge of site, and representative section of evaluation trench T2.

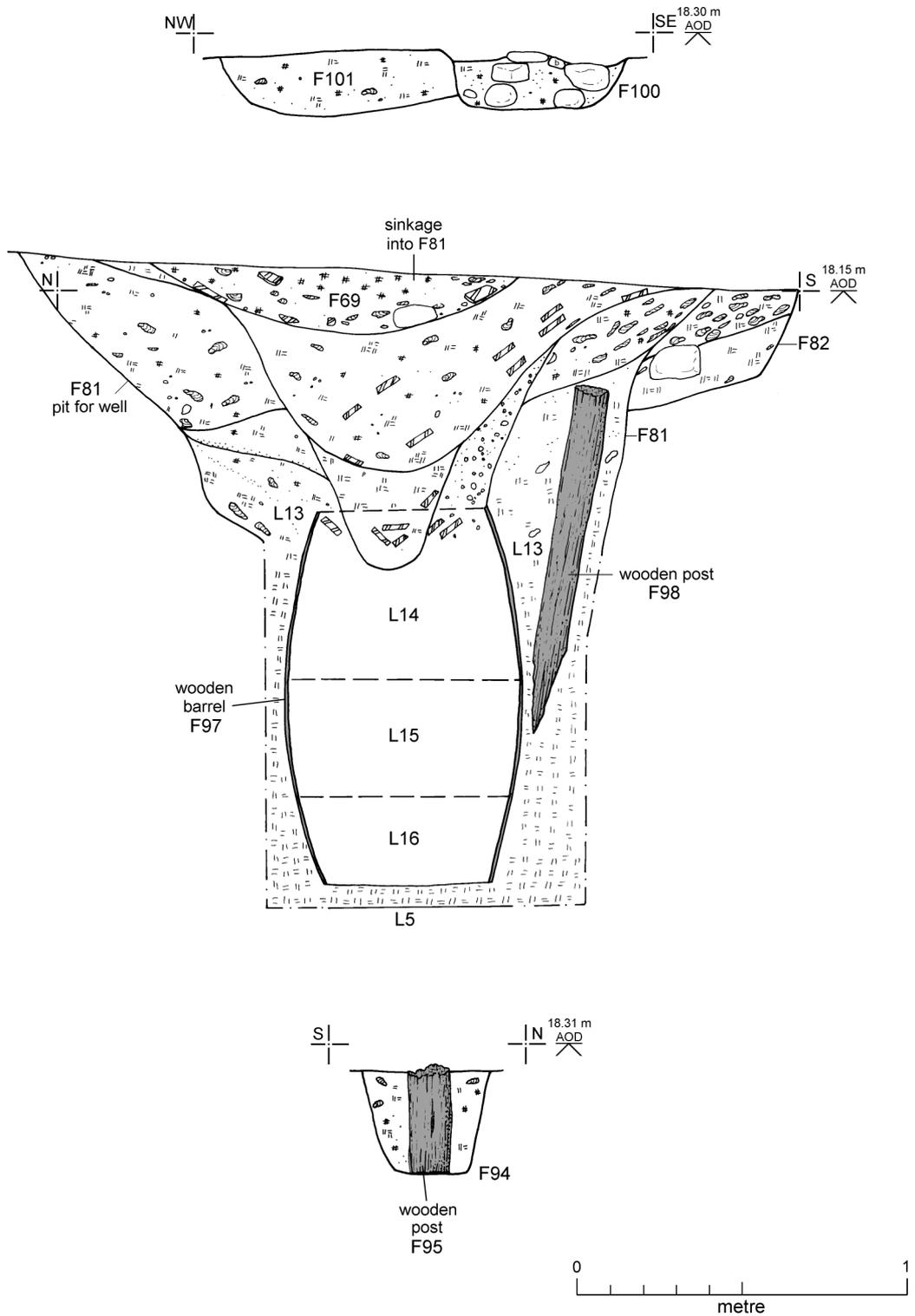
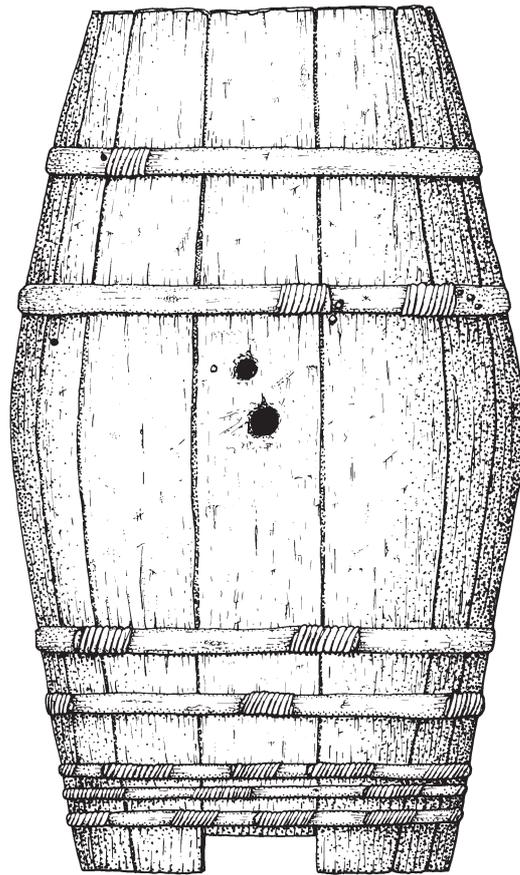


Fig 10 Post-medieval pit and late medieval/post-medieval post-pad (F101, F100), pit for well (F81), wooden barrel (F97), post-hole (F94) and wooden post (F95): sections.



- iron nail
- wooden peg

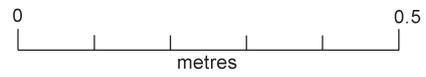


Fig 11 Reconstruction of wooden barrel F97 (scale 1:10).

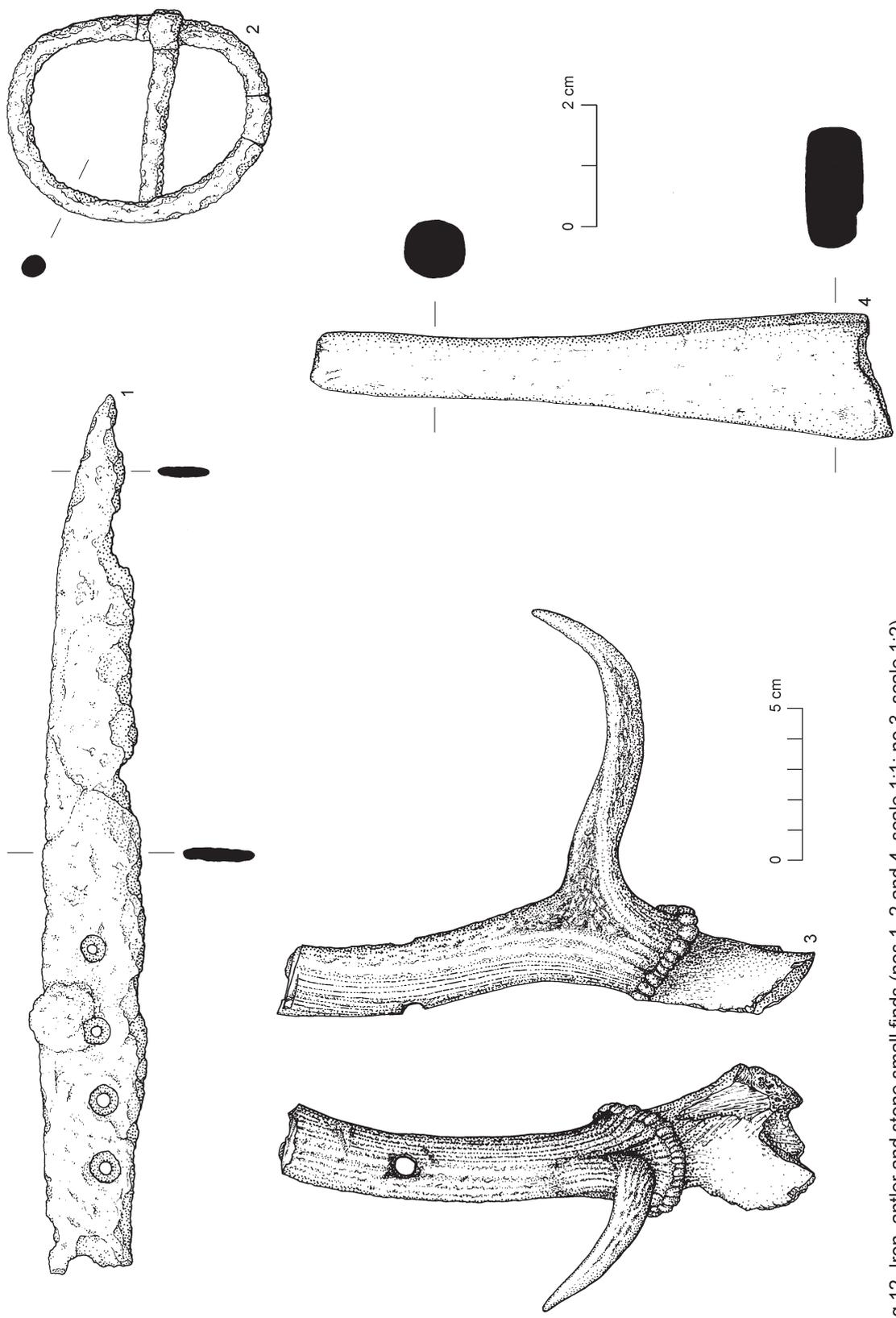


Fig 12 Iron, antler and stone small finds (nos 1, 2 and 4, scale 1:1; no 3, scale 1:2).

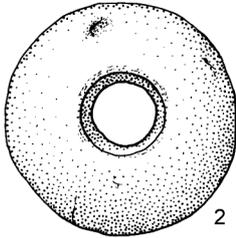
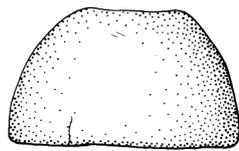
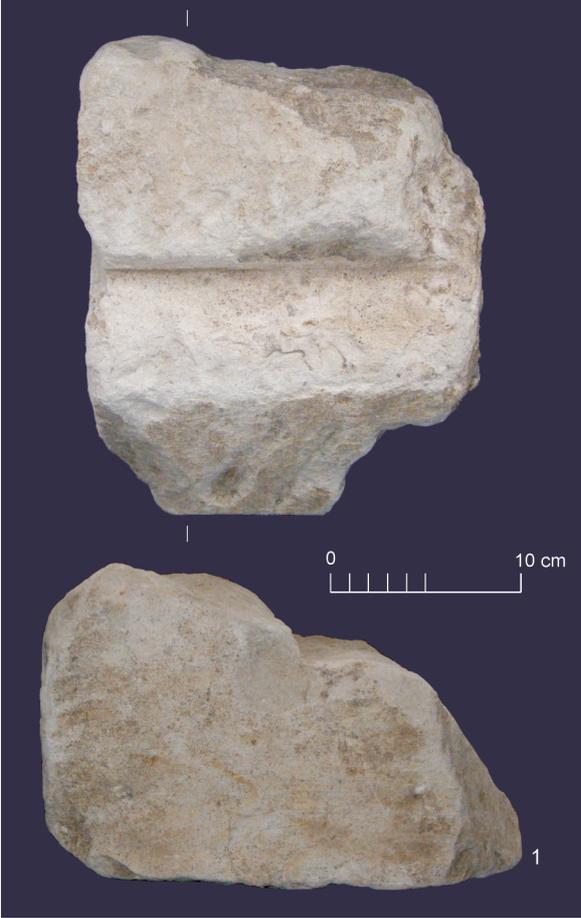


Fig 13 Stone and ceramic small finds (no 1, scale 1:4; no 2, scale 1:1).

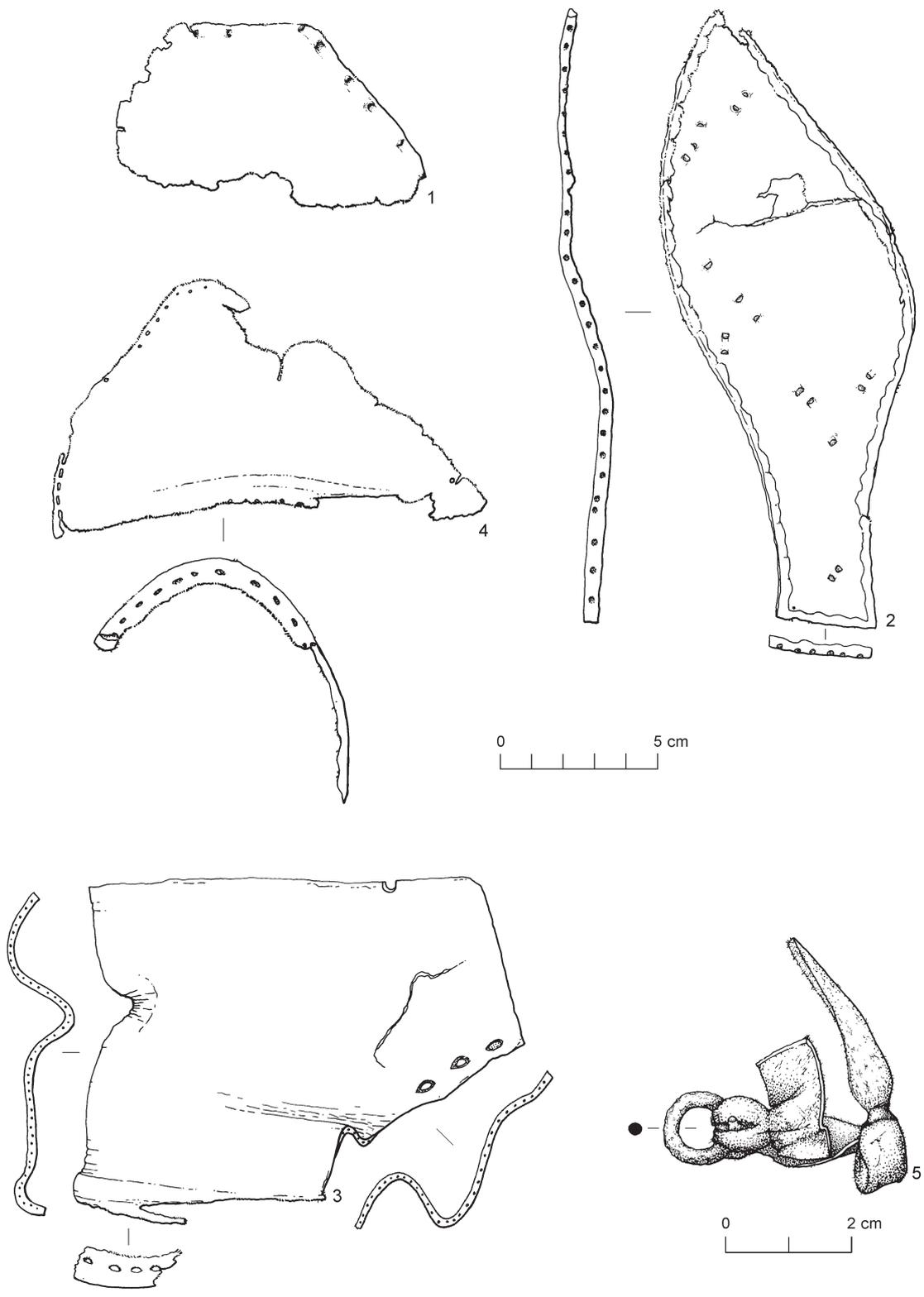


Fig 14 Leather and iron small finds (nos 1-4, scale 1:2; no 5, scale 1:1).

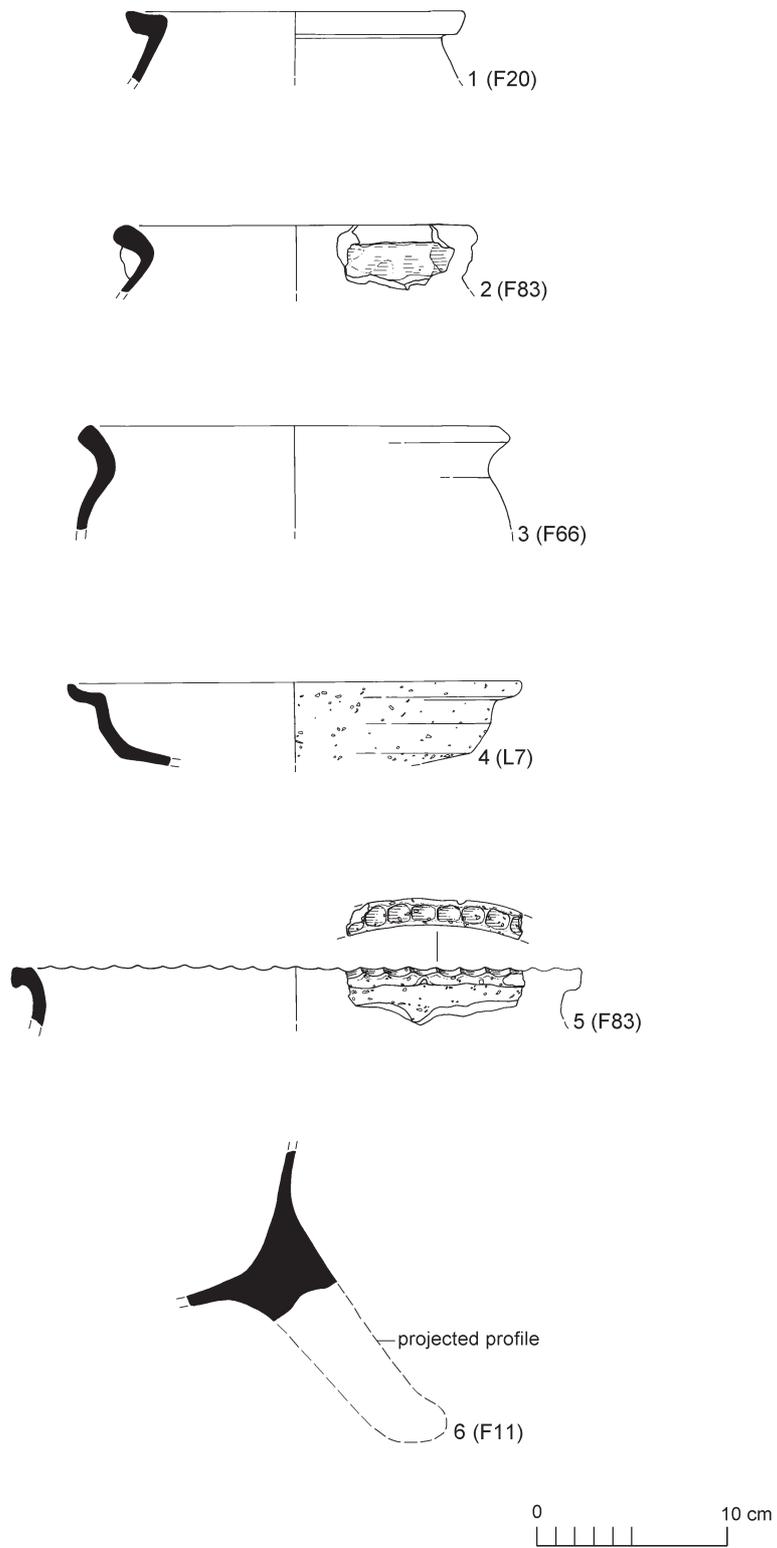


Fig 15 Pottery: late Anglo-Saxon (nos 1-2) and medieval (nos 3-6).

Essex Historic Environment Record/ Essex Archaeology and History

Summary sheet

Site address: 143-147 High Street, Maldon, Essex	
Parish: Maldon	District: Maldon
NGR: TL 85418 06897 (c)	Site codes: CAT project - 08/6a HEM site - MD 39 Museum accession - COLIM 2008.111
Type of work: Trial-trenching evaluation and area excavation	Site director/group: Colchester Archaeological Trust
Date of work: July-August 2008	Size of area investigated: approximately 11m x 20m
Location of finds/curating museum: Colchester and Ipswich Museums	Funding source: Developer
Further seasons anticipated? No	Related EHER nos: 8108, 18271
Final report: CAT Report 496 and summary in <i>EAH</i>	
Periods represented: late Anglo-Saxon, medieval, post-medieval	
<p>Summary of fieldwork results:</p> <p><i>The site is located within Maldon's historic medieval core. During an evaluation by two trial-trenches followed by an area excavation, both in 2008, evidence of occupation from the 10th-11th centuries to modern times was investigated.</i></p> <p><i>The site had been badly truncated, mainly in modern times. Nevertheless, it was possible to discern the following periods of occupation. The earliest (Period 1) is dated to the 10th-11th centuries, and was represented by Thetford-type ware found residually in later contexts. No structures were identified for this period.</i></p> <p><i>Various slots and post-holes dated to the 12th-13th centuries indicate that the earliest structure (Period 2a) identified was probably slot-built, and located on the street frontage. In the 13th-14th centuries (Period 2b), the earlier structure was replaced by another slot-built one, to the rear of which was a fence-line defining a property boundary.</i></p> <p><i>The Period 2b structure appears to have remained standing in the 15th-16th centuries (Period 2c). Post-holes representing fence-lines to the rear of the building show that the site was split into three smaller plots. (The site still retains the three plots in its current address: 143, 145, 147 High Street.) An important feature of this period is a 15th-century barrel containing a group of leather off-cuts, possibly dumped material from a cobbler's workshop.</i></p> <p><i>In the post-medieval period (Period 3, 17th-18th centuries), a new building was erected. Although its wall lines are uncertain, its extent is probably defined by a clay floor.</i></p>	

In the 19th century (Period 4), a chimney-stack foundation to the rear of the building is all that survives of what may have been a larger structure. In the later 20th century, the site was occupied by a commercial garage, a major feature of which was a hydraulic lift, the pit for which had destroyed a large block of ground in the centre of the site.

A small group of small finds, including fragments of quern stone, hone, and a spindle-whorl, indicates that a wide range of domestic activities was carried out on the site. A deposit of mercury indicates some light-industrial process (gold-smithing, leather-working, or ?hat-making) in Period 2. Some of the stones found loose on the site have a distant origin, and may have been brought to Maldon as ship's ballast.

Previous summaries/reports: None

Keywords: late Anglo-Saxon,
medieval, post-medieval,
building, mercury,
wooden barrel

Significance: **

Author of summary:
Howard Brooks

Date of summary:
February 2010