

Archaeological excavation, monitoring and building recording at 'High Trees', St Clare Drive, Colchester, Essex, CO3 3TA

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1 Summary

Archaeological excavation, monitoring and a building recording was carried out at 'High Trees', St Clare Road, Colchester in advance of the construction of four new dwellings, garages and an access road. The development site is located 60m west of Lexden Dyke and on the northern edge of the Late Iron Age and Roman 'Lexden cemetery'.

Roman features consisted of four north/south ditches, one east/west ditch, fourteen small pits, one large pit(s) and three postholes. The ditches are probably either field boundaries or relate to a nearby settlement, with the presence of a moderately wealthy finds assemblage suggesting that the latter may be more likely. So, not only were people being buried in this part of Roman Colchester but they were living here too.

A second phase of activity dates to the post-medieval period (16/17th to early 18th century) with two large quarry pits showing gravel was extracted on the site. Modern pillar postholes, pits and a boundary ditch are probably related to the old house and garden.

A building recording was also carried out on a Second World War air-raid shelter located on the site.

2 Introduction (Fig 1)

This report presents the results of archaeological excavation and monitoring at 'High Trees' St Clare Drive, Colchester, Essex which was carried out from February to July 2016. The work was commissioned by Robert Pomery (Pomery Planning Consultants) on behalf of Gus Newell, in advance of the construction of four new dwellings, garages and a new access, and was undertaken by Colchester Archaeological Trust (CAT).

In response to consultation with Colchester Borough Council Planning Services (CBCPS), Colchester Borough Council Archaeological Advisor Jess Tipper advised that in order to establish the archaeological implications of this application, the applicant should be required to commission a scheme of archaeological investigation in accordance with paragraphs 128, 129 and 132 of the *National Planning Policy Framework* (DCLG 2012).

All archaeological work was carried out in accordance with a *Brief for Archaeological Excavation*, detailing the required archaeological work, written by Jess Tipper (CBCPS 2016), and a written scheme of investigation (WSI) prepared by CAT in response to the brief and agreed with CBCPS (CAT 2016).

In addition to the brief and WSI, all fieldwork and reporting was done in accordance with English Heritage's *Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment (MoRPHE)* (English Heritage 2006), and with *Standards for field archaeology in the East of England* (EAA 14 and 24). This report mirrors standards and practices contained in the Institute for Archaeologists' *Standard and guidance for archaeological excavation* (ClfA 2014a) and *Standard and guidance for the collection, documentation, conservation and research of archaeological materials* (ClfA 2014b).

3 Archaeological background

The following archaeological background draws on the major published sources for Colchester archaeology (listed below), and also on the Colchester Historic Environment Record (CHER) and the Essex Historic Environment Record (EHER).

The development site is located in an area rich in archaeological remains. It lies within the Late Iron Age *oppidum* of Camulodunum, which was defined by a system of defensive dykes. One of these, Lexden Dyke, extends roughly north-south through Lexden Park 60m west of the development site (CAR 11, 34-45). Excavations in 1932

indicated that there was probably an entrance through Lexden Dyke Middle adjacent to the current site (*ibid*, 42-4).

It is also situated towards the northern edge of the Lexden cemetery (CAR 6, 281; CAR 11, 164-169). The core of the cemetery, measuring around 75m across with at least 27 cremation burials, lies approximately 300m south of the current site and is of a Late Iron Age date (*ibid*). Later burials, 1st century BC to the 3rd century AD, were then more widely scattered throughout the cemetery area (*ibid*). Outliers of the cemetery are found elsewhere on St Clare Road (CAR 11, 164-9).

Approximately 430m to the southeast lies the Lexden Tumulus, an Iron Age barrow excavated in 1924 which produced a rich Belgic burial with the remains of funerary bronzes, gold and silver objects and a coin with the head of Augustus mounted as a medallion. Various pottery finds date the burial (a cremation) to just before the Roman conquest. The burial mound has variably thought to be that of *Addedomarus* (CAR 11, 85-94, Foster 1986) or *Tasciovanus* (Philip Crummy, pers comm).

CAT has undertaken a number of other fieldwork projects in St Clare Road in recent years, most of them revealed no significant archaeological horizons (CAT Report 99, 136, 195, 225, 250, 455, 568, 1004). However, two Roman urned cremation burials were identified during a watching brief at 12 St Clare Road (CAT Report 582).

Excavation at 20 St Clare Road revealed a post-medieval boundary ditch and post-medieval/modern pits (CAT Report 832), and a watching brief at 1 St Clare Road earlier this year revealed two early Roman pits, a post-medieval pit and a modern pit (CAT Report 959). Also carried out this year, evaluation and excavation at 19 St Clare Road (CAT Report 958 and 1009) revealed four Roman ditches, a pit and a possible grave.

An archaeological evaluation on this development site in 2013 revealed twenty-one archaeological features including six Roman inhumations, Roman and undated ditches, and post-medieval and modern pits (CAT Report 745). Archaeological remains here were shallow, encountered at c 350-400mm below existing ground level.

4 Results (Figs 2-9)

All of the feature and layer numbers follow on from the evaluation phase of the project (CAT Report 745). The excavation areas were stripped through modern topsoil (L1, c 100-350mm thick) and a silty-clay accumulation horizon (L2, c 450-560mm thick) onto natural sands and gravels (L3). Three layers of post-medieval accumulation/garden levelling (L5-L7) were also identified within the garage of plot 2.

Excavation: Plot 1 (building: 231.2m² and garage: 43.1m²)

Roman

Two Roman ditches were aligned north to south (F46 and F47). Ditch F46 was excavated within the garage plot. It was recorded for a distance of 6.9m and measured approximately 0.42m wide by 0.14m deep. Ditch F47 was larger and located about 14.5m further to the west. It was recorded for a distance of 15.3m and measured approximately 1.3m wide by 0.22m deep.

Post-medieval

Four large post-medieval, 16th-18th century, post-holes (possibly for garden pillars – F39-F42) were excavated in a row across the centre of the site.

Undated

A small east to west aligned gully (F48) was recorded for 7m across the centre of the site but petered out at either end. It was 0.39m wide and very shallow.

Tree-throws

Two tree-throws were identified (F43 and unnumbered).

Excavation: Plot 2 (building: 183.7m² and garage: 60.9m²)

Roman

Three Roman ditches were aligned north to south (F26, F31 and F36). Ditch F47 from plot 1 continues to the south as F36. It was recorded for a distance of 14.8m and measured approximately 0.76m wide by 0.23m deep. Immediately to the east, ditch F31 terminated in the centre of the plot. It was recorded for a distance of 8m and measured approximately 0.75m wide by 0.20m deep. Further to the east, ditch F26/F58 was recorded for a distance of 18.3m into the garage plot where it was cut by a large post-medieval pit. It measured 0.65m wide and 0.25m deep. A post-hole (F37) was excavated of the eastern edge of ditch F36 near the terminal of ditch F31, which also had two post-holes (F32-F33) cut through it.

A Roman ditch aligned east to west (F55) was also excavated within the garage plot. It had been cut by a large post-medieval pit so was only recorded for a distance of 1.4m. It measured 0.67m wide by 0.45m deep.

Three pits were excavated to the west of ditch F36 (F44, F45, F50) and five pits to the east of ditch F26 (F23, F25, F28, F34, F35).

Post-Medieval/Modern

A medieval/post-medieval pit (F22), a post-medieval/modern pit (F29) and two modern pits (F27, F30) were excavated.

Tree-throws

One tree-throw was identified (F38).

Excavation: Plot 3 (building: 185m² and garage: 57.3m²)

Roman

Five small Roman pits (F61, F69, F70, F72 and F76) were excavated and a large pit/group of pits (F75) is probably also Roman.

Medieval and post-medieval

Medieval/post-medieval features included four small pits (F60, F62, F63, F67) and a large pit (F59, including postholes F65-F66). Another large pit (F64) was of a post-medieval date. Feature F64 measured at least 1.2m deep towards the west of plot 3.

Modern

A modern boundary ditch (F68) was aligned north to south along the eastern edge of the plot.

Plot 4

The basement of the existing house on plot 4 was demolished and removed, this was recorded at 2.5m below current ground level.

Due to the high level of ground distance in the area of plot 4 the house and garage will be built using piles so full excavation was not required.



Photograph 1 Plot 1, looking W



Photograph 2 Plot 2, looking SW



Photograph 3 Plot 3, looking NW

Monitoring and recording

All groundworks were carried out by the contractors under archaeological supervision (unless otherwise stated). No significant archaeological horizons were identified.

Service trench: A service trench was excavated to the southeast of the development site. It measured 600mm wide and 1-1.2m deep. It was excavated through modern topsoil (L1, c 140-150mm thick) and a silty-clay accumulation horizon (L2, c 350-390mm thick) onto natural sands and gravels (L3). A large undated feature (WBF1), possibly a pit, measuring approximately 2m wide and 1.2m deep was identified at the western end of the trench. A short spur trench for the gas connection measured 600mm wide and 700mm deep.

Access road: The new access road was stripped by 300-400mm.

Soakaway: A large soakaway was excavated in the southwest corner of the development site without archaeological supervision. It measured 10m by 15m and 4m deep. The sides of the soakaway were too unstable to draw a section.

Manholes: Two new manholes (1-2) and a connecting service trench were excavated to the northwest of the development site. The manholes measured 2m by 2m by 1.8m deep and the service trench 600mm wide by 1.4-1.6m deep. They were excavated through modern topsoil (L1, c 200mm thick) and a silty-clay accumulation horizon (L2, c 400-600mm thick) onto natural sands and gravels (L3).

No other groundworks went deeper than 500mm bcgl so were not monitored. This was approved by the CBCAA as the shallowest occurrence of Roman archaeology on the site was recorded at 700mm, which would leave a 200mm buffer over any potential archaeological horizons.



Photograph 4 Service trench, looking E



Photograph 5 Soakaway, looking SE



Photograph 6 Manhole 2, looking NE

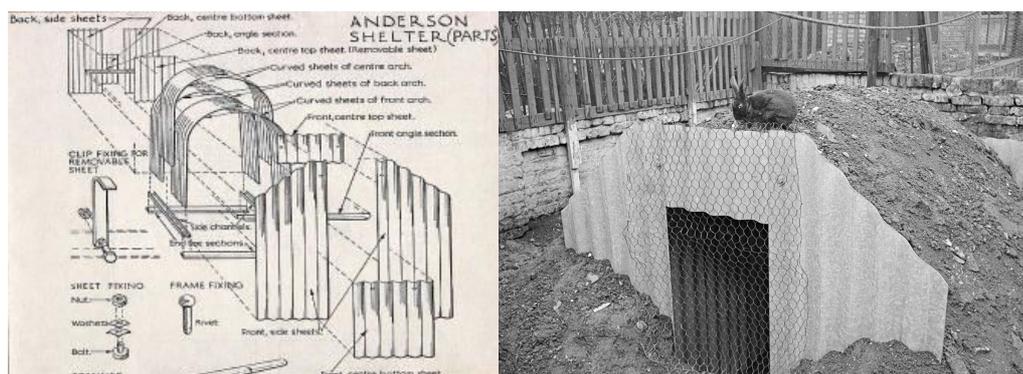
A building recording on the air-raid shelter
by Chris Lister

An air-raid shelter dating to the Second World War is located on the south side of St Clare Drive, the access to High Trees. This structure is situated opposite the three detached properties shown on the 1939 revision of the 25 inch Ordnance Survey (Photograph 7).



Photograph 7 1939 revision of the 25 inch Ordnance Survey

The need for domestic air-raid shelters in Britain had been debated since the German Zeppelin and Gotha raids of the First World War, but was highlighted by the number of casualties arising from aerial bombing of civilian targets, in particular the town of Guernica, during the Spanish Civil War (1936-39) and given greater impetus after the Munich Crisis of 1938. The perceived threat from Nazi Germany (it was the German Luftwaffe's Condor Legion who carried out the Guernica bombing) prompted the *Air Raid Precautions Act* of 1937, part of which was provision for domestic air-raid shelters. The most common form of these was the Anderson shelter, formed from semi-arched sheets of corrugated steel erected in a pit dug into people's gardens (Photographs 8 and 9). These were provided free to householders with an income of less than £5 per annum and by September 1939 over 1.5 million had been issued.



Photograph 8-9 Anderson shelter schematic and constructed Anderson shelter

The Anderson shelter was a surface shelter, employing a cut and cover technique, where the spoil from digging the pit was used to cover the sides and roof. It was intended for the use of families and would only accommodate the average-sized family.

Earlier communal trench shelters had been dug, particularly in response to the Munich Crisis, which were much more simplistic in design, usually comprising a simple dug and revetted trench. Many of these were later either reinforced with or constructed from prefabricated concrete panels and steel frames, the whole then being covered with earth or sandbags. Unlike the Anderson shelter they were usually accessed by a flight of steps flanked by blast walls, often one at each end. Trench shelters required ventilation and often included an emergency escape hatch in the roof, especially if there was only one entrance. Wooden benches or beds were sometimes installed but flooding was often an issue in domestic shelters.

The materials used in the construction of covered trench shelters (predominantly concrete, steel and timber shuttering) meant that there was a great variety of design and size, the main differences usually being in cross-section; the strongest designs had parabolic cross-sections, although many, particularly those not built from prefabricated panels, had weaker square or rectangular cross-sections.

The shelter located on St Clare Drive, although most definitely not an Anderson shelter, shares characteristics of both. Its location suggests it was intended to serve as an air-raid shelter for nos. 1-3 St Clare Road, rather than just one dwelling, and the construction costs were probably shared by the owners of the three detached houses, especially as it seems unlikely that they would have qualified for the free Anderson shelter.

The design is a semi-sunken trench shelter aligned east-west with a single entrance flanked by blast walls facing the houses at the east end (Photograph 10).



Photograph 10 The air-raid shelter cleared of vegetation, with the entrance concealed by the corrugated iron sheet, view south-east

The entrance has a crude door formed by a corrugated iron sheet, most likely a later addition. Below this are six step steps leading to a short corridor with a left turn into the interior (Photograph 11).



Photograph 11 Entrance to the shelter



Photograph 12 Interior of the shelter

The entrance and the walls of the internal chamber shows the shelter was constructed not from prefabricated reinforced concrete panels but from concrete blocks, probably with reinforcing rods passed through their central voids, and that it has a rectangular cross-section. The roof is formed from concrete poured onto plank shuttering (Photograph 12). These materials and the construction techniques reinforce the theory that this was privately funded and probably constructed by a local builder, contracted by the residents of St Clare Drive.

Unlike many covered trench shelters this example has only one entrance and there is no emergency escape hatch, although there is a ventilation shaft in the ceiling. Wooden battens are affixed to the walls at the far end of the chamber and, although it is not possible to say for certain that these are original fixtures, it is likely that they represent the remains of bunk beds attached to the walls.

As with many air-raid shelters after the war it was re-used for storage and from the arrangement of the chairs and milk crates in Photograph 12 it appears that local children may also have used it as a den.

The air-raid shelter has survived virtually unchanged since its construction at the start of the Second World War and is being retained as a feature in the newly refurbished St Clare Drive, leading to the High Trees development.

5 Finds

Bulk finds

by Stephen Benfield

Introduction

Quantities of finds consisting mostly of pottery and ceramic building material (CBM) were recovered (Table 1). The finds are primarily of Roman date, with smaller amounts of material that can be dated to the prehistoric, medieval, post-medieval and modern periods. All of the finds are listed by context in the bulk finds appendix (Appendix 2). There are also a number of individually recorded small finds (SF) which are listed and reported separately.

Finds type	No.	Wt/g.
Pottery	616	9793
CBM	107	6299
Briquetage	33	320
Fired clay	4	55
Flints	5	(not recorded)
Burnt stones (flint)	5	173
Clay pipe	2	8
Coal	1	4
Glass	1	394
Nails (iron)	28	611
Quern (lava)	2	102
Slag	2	234
Animal bone	1	6

Table 1 Types and quantities of bulk finds

Pottery

There is a significant amount of pottery of Roman date, with a small quantity of medieval and post-medieval pottery and a few sherds that are prehistoric and modern. All of the pottery is listed by period and fabric in Table 2. The Roman pottery fabrics refer to the Colchester Roman fabric series (*CAR 10*) and Roman pottery vessel forms refer to the *Camulodunum* (Cam) Roman pottery type series (Hawkes & Hull 1947, Hull 1958). Samian vessel forms follow Webster (1996). The post-Roman pottery fabrics

referred to follow the Essex post-Roman fabric series (Cunningham 1985 & CAR 7). All of the pottery is listed and described by context in the finds appendix (Appendix 2).

Fabric code	Fabric name	No	Wt/g
<i>Prehistoric:</i>			
HMF	Hand-made flint-tempered (general)	1	10
HMFS	Hand-made flint & sand-tempered (general)	1	6
	<i>sub-total</i>	2	16
<i>Roman:</i>			
AA	Amphorae, all (excluding Dressel 20 & Brockley Hill/Verulamium region)	1	62
AJ	Amphorae, Dressel 20	16	878
BASG	South Gaulish plain samian	3	10
BACG	Central Gaulish plain samian	5	98
BAEG	East Gaulish plain samian	1	34
BXCG	Central Gaulish decorated samian	1	2
BSW	Black surface wares	21	264
CZ	Colchester and other red colour-coated wares	1	2
DJ	Coarse oxidised and related wares	30	248
DZ	Fine oxidised ware	3	2
ESH	Early shell-tempered ware (CAR 10 Fabric HD)	2	74
GA	BB1: Black-burnished ware, Category 1	2	22
GB	BB2: Black-burnished ware, Category 2	2	18
GTW	Grog-tempered ware (LIA-type)	9	274
GTW/RW	Grog tempered ware/Romanising (native) ware	76	802
GTW/RCW	Grog tempered ware/Romanising coarse ware	1	8
GX	Other coarse wares, principally locally produced grey wares	343	3311
HZ	Large storage vessels in heavily-tempered coarseware fabrics	48	2566
HZ(G)	Large storage vessels in grog-tempered coarseware fabrics	3	120
RCW	Romanising coarsewares	4	112
TZ	Mortaria, Colchester or continental imports	10	438
TN	<i>Terra nigra</i>	2	28
UR	<i>Terra nigra</i> -type ware	8	152
TR4	Local or regionally produced TR forms	7	58
WA	Silvery micaceous grey ware	1	2
	<i>sub-total</i>	600	9585
<i>Post-Roman:</i>			
20	Medieval coarsewares (general)	2	42
21	Medieval sandy orange wares (general)	3	20
21A	Colchester-type ware	2	12
40	Post-medieval (glazed) red earthen ware	5	82
44B	Werra slipware	1	20
48D	Staffordshire-type white earthenwares	1	16
	<i>sub-total</i>	14	192
<i>All pottery</i>	<i>Total</i>	616	9793

Table 2 Pottery by period and fabric

Prehistoric

Pottery

Two small sherds of hand-made prehistoric pottery were recovered, one each from F50 and F51. Both are flint-tempered and while difficult to date closely, the nature of the sherds and the fabric suggest a Late Bronze Age or Early Iron Age date.

Worked flints

Five pieces of worked flint came from two features, pit F75 and a large quarry pit/terracing feature F64. The flints were examined by Adam Wightman (CAT) and his comments and identifications are incorporated in this text. All of the flints are prehistoric and are residual in the contexts from which they were recovered. The earliest piece is a

blade of Mesolithic or Early Neolithic date (F64 (95)) and retouch on this piece may have been intended to create a denticulate edge. From the same feature a large core with extensive edge damage can be categorised as a tool of convenience of probable later prehistoric date. The flints from F75 consist of a damaged scraper (dated Neolithic-Bronze Age), a large blade (dated Early Neolithic) and a secondary flake (dated Neolithic-Bronze Age).

Burnt flint

Although not close datable five burnt stones were recorded, all whitened/calcified. Heat crazed flints are also likely to be of prehistoric date. These were recovered as individual finds from features Roman and post-Roman contexts.

Late Iron Age and Roman

Pottery

There is a considerable quantity of pottery dating to the Late Iron Age (LIA) and Roman period (600 sherds weighing 9585g). The forms and fabrics present are typical of the period from the late 1st century BC/early 1st century AD to the 3rd century. The forms recorded are listed in Table 3. No pottery that can be closely dated to the late 3rd or 4th century is present.

Fabric	Recorded vessel forms
AJ	Dressel 20
BASG	Dr 27, Dr 27g
BACG	Dr 18/31, Dr 31
BXCG	Dr 37
CZ	(beaker)
ESH	Cam 254, Cam 259
GA	(jar)
GB	Cam 37A, Cam 40B
GTW	Cam 230
GTW/RW	Cam 218, Cam 256(?)
GX	Cam 108, Cam 218, Cam 242(?), Cam 243-244/246, Cam 268
HZ	Cam 270B, Cam 273
TZ	Cam 501
TN	Cam 2
UR	Cam 28c (type)
TR4	(Girth beaker), Cam 119(type)

Table 3 Late Iron Age and Roman pottery forms recorded by fabric

Most of the pottery comes from pit fill, including large probable quarry pits although some might represent terracing, notably F51 and F64. Both of these features also produced a much smaller quantity of post-medieval finds (pottery, CBM) indicating that the LIA and Roman pottery from them is residual.

There is a significant amount of grog-tempered pottery among the assemblage, primarily wheel thrown, relatively thin walled pots (Fabric GTW/RW) although thicker grog-tempered sherds, probably partly hand-made, are present (Fabric GTW). Both types of pottery are present at Sheepen (dated c AD5-60/61) which has produced very large assemblages of Late Iron Age and Early Roman pottery. However, there are very few Gallo-Belgic imports (common at Sheepen) with only two sherds of *terra-nigra* (Fabric TN) and the only form recognised is the platter form Cam 2 which remained in production into the Claudian period. A few sherds in local or regionally produced fabrics broadly follow Gallo-Belgic forms, these being sherds from beakers in Fabric TR4. However, the principal imported fineware pottery from the site is samian, dating to the Roman (post-conquest) period. This suggests that while some of the pottery is of LIA type and probably dates to the late 1st century BC/early-mid 1st century AD, overall the assemblage is more typically post-conquest Roman and activity on the site appears to intensify or begin in the post-conquest period. Of particular interest is a grey Gallo-Belgic-style platter of mid-late 1st century date from F51 (79), which unusually has a

block name stamp and a rosette stamp (Fig 10) and this is the subject of a separate report by Val Rigby (below).

Forms common to the Early Roman period (mid 1st-early 2nd century) appear well represented. These include examples of Cam 108 (beaker), Cam 218 (cordoned jar/deep bowl) and Cam 243-244/246 (flat flange rimmed bowl). A small quantity of early shell-tempered ware (Fabric ESH) is of 1st century date. Pottery dating to after the early 2nd century is also well represented. There is imported central Gaulish samian, including a decorated bowl (form Dr 37), locally produced fineware (Fabric CZ) and coarsewares, including black-burnished ware (Fabric GB) and mortaria (Fabric TZ). Sherds from a central Gaulish bowl of form Dr 31 can be dated to the later 2nd century and while some pot forms might date later (ie Cam 268 jar dated early/mid 2nd-late 3rd/early 4th century), this is the latest closely dated pottery among the Roman assemblage; although the mortaria form Cam 510 (Fabric TZ) is likely to be of similar date (c mid-late 2nd century) and an East Gaulish samian sherd is also likely to date to the period of the mid 2nd-early 3rd century. The absence of the bead rim bowl Cam 37B (introduced in the late 2nd-early 3rd century) is noticeable and the complete absence of pottery typical of the mid/late 3rd and 4th centuries points to the Roman activity/occupation here essentially ending at some point in the early-mid 3rd century or slightly later.

Report on the Gallo-Belgic potters stamp by Val Rigby (Fig 10)

Reference: XCHT – 1 (79) F51 [V693 Potter C341 A. G...PE Die 01B01]

Stamp: a bordered two-line central name stamp, very worn, possibly the result of long-term use before discard. The upper line comprises at least seven letters. Uncertain reading:- A. G...PE; the lower line is incomplete it begins with A and so may have read AVOTIS.

Decoration: at least one circular motif with 11 petals above the stamp.

Form: deep flat-based platter with concave wall probably to be included in Camulodunum Form 28 as an exaggerated copy of Camulodunum Form 14.

Fabric: brown fine sandy matrix; grey /black surfaces with traces of a glossy burnished finish overall. One fine incised groove encircles outer surface.

Source: unknown. The form and fabric suggest it was not made at Colchester.

Condition: about 1/3 rim diameter.

Date of manufacture: AD 65-85?

Only the initial A on the upper line of the name stamp is secure, the remaining letters G, P and E are uncertain; it is very competently inscribed and the style implies the hand of a literate and trained die-cutter probably an immigrant. The die is neatly rectangular, bordered with 2-lines, a rare die-style for a coarse ware potter to use particularly if the lower line reads AVOTIS or repeats the upper line. The upper base is decorated with at least one oval rosette motif. Another example has already been recorded at Colchester but with a different rosette die and potter's name; this particular rosette motif is significant because it was also used alone as a potter's mark on another platter (CAR 10, LTC 9 & LTC 67). The fine-grained grey fabrics of both suggest they were made locally.

More than 30 name stamps on coarse ware cups and platters have been recorded at Colchester with several potters considered to have worked in the Colchester area (*ibid*, 219-226). Judging from the variety of forms and fabrics the use of literate dies began before AD60/1 period on platters in grog-tempered wares (Crummy *et al* 2007, Burial BF24).

The Colchester platters can be grouped with a range of different stamped motifs were used to decorate beakers and deep bowls in so-called 'black' polished 'London-type Wares' found on sites in East Anglia and considered to have been produced at various kilns in that region while rosette motifs were occasionally used there are no recorded name dies (Rodwell 1978). Oval rosettes similar to the Colchester stamps are

recorded at West Stow, Suffolk and Fingeringhoe, Essex, just outside Colchester but this piece is not a West Stow product (*ibid*, fig 7.12, 92-94; West 1989).

Ceramic building material (CBM)

The Roman CBM consists of a total of 50 pieces weighing 4132g. All are broken pieces in orange-red, mostly fine sandy fabrics, although one piece of Roman brick is either burnt or overfired a grey colour. The largest quantities come from the large quarry pit/terracing features F51 and F64 which also contained finds dated to the post-medieval period. Most of the other CBM retrieved occurs as single or just a couple of pieces spread among a number of the other features. Almost all of the CBM is undistinguished pieces of flat Roman brick/tile (RBT), thicker pieces of which (between 30/35-55 mm) can be identified as Roman brick (RB). There is one piece of flanged *tegula* tile (RT), the base of which is relatively thin (15mm) suggesting a mid-late Roman date, after the mid/late 2nd century (F51 (79)); also one piece of *imbrex* (RI) (F51 (79)) and a piece of combed flue tile (RFT) (F64 (97)). A second piece of flue tile appears to be represented by a thick piece of tile that has scored lines on the surface (F64 (97)). The moderate sized Roman assemblage appears to represent a collection of CBM, possibly used or reused in structures around the site, rather than representing a domestic building here where roof-tiles might be expected to make up a significant proportion of the tile.

Briquetage

A small quantity of fired clay identified as salt briquetage was recovered. These are in vegetable tempered fabrics. This type of salt material was produced on coastal sites, primarily in the Late Iron Age and Early Roman period in Essex (Fawn et al, 1990). Almost all of this comes from ditch F26 and from pit F34 with other pieces coming from linear feature F46 and the large quarry pit/terracing feature F64. The flat, slab-like pieces almost certainly all come from vessels/containers and one piece can be identified as a vessel rim with finger indentations along the top. It can be noted that small quantities of briquetage have also recovered from a site close by at 19 St Clare Road (CAT Report 1009) and one or two pieces have also come from excavations at nearby Lexden Grange (2007).

Quernstone

Two small pieces of lava quern, almost certainly imported from the Rhineland, come from the fill of quarry pit F51. One piece retains part of the quern stones original shape and is 25mm thick. These are almost certainly residual in this feature and are almost without doubt of Roman date.

Post-Roman (medieval and post-medieval)

Pottery

A small assemblage of pottery of medieval and post-medieval date was recovered from the site, made up of 14 sherds weighing 192g. Single sherds of medieval greyware (Fabric 20), broadly dating to the 13th-14th century, were residual among later dated finds in the large quarry pit/terracing feature F64 and pit F67. There is a slightly larger number of sherds of medieval sandy orange ware (Fabric 21), probably most if not all of local (Colchester) production (Fabric 21A). One glazed sherd possibly dates to the period of the 13th-14th century (F75(102)). Most probably date to the later period of the Colchester industry, including a pot with white slip paint (F64(96)), or are transitional to post-medieval wares (c L15-16C). These come from pit F39, large quarry pit/terracing feature F64 and pit F75. There is a similar small quantity of post-medieval red earthenwares (Fabric 40) broadly of 16th/17th-early 18th century date which are associated with ditch F31, pit F42, quarry pit F51 and the large quarry pit/terracing feature F64. Of interest is a single sherd of imported German Werra slipware (Fabric 44B) dating to the period of the late 16th-early 17th century (c 1590-1625). This pottery is relatively uncommon in Colchester with a minimum of twenty-one pots previously identified from excavations in the town (CAR 7, 292). There is a single sherd of modern

factory made earthenware pottery (Fabric 48D) from pit F27, dated as c mid 18th-19th/early 20th century.

Ceramic building material

In total there are 57 pieces of post-Roman CBM with a combined weight of 2167 g. This material consists of pieces of thin, hard tile (c 10 mm thick) which can be identified as peg-tile (PT) pieces or are probably part of peg-tiles, together with a few pieces of post-medieval brick (BR) most of which are in red sandy fabrics. Of themselves the peg-tiles are not closely dated. They are current in the medieval period and into the early modern period, but can be broadly dated as medieval-post-medieval and probably date to no earlier than the 14th century onwards, not being at all common prior to that time in Essex (Ryan & Andrews 1993, 97). These tiles are especially associated with the quarry pit F51 and the large quarry pit/terracing feature F64. Other peg-tile pieces were recovered singly or in small numbers from pits F22, F29, F40, F41, F42, F51/52 F59, F60, F62, F63, F67 and from soil layer L7. While not closely dated, the brick pieces are all likely to be broadly of post-medieval or post-medieval-early modern date. These are only associated with three features, quarry pit F51, linear feature F52 and the large quarry pit/terracing feature F64. One piece with a brownish-yellow fabric (F64 (95)) is probably also late post-medieval or early modern and one from pit F51 (66) has some trace of glaze on its surface. Of interest is one piece of red tile/brick from F51(66) (Photograph 7-8). This has part (approximately 60% remaining) of a slightly irregular, large, flat round moulding or raised disc (24mm thick, dia. 85mm) on its surface. The top of the round moulding is uneven, but appears to be the original surface as it has a fine sand coating from manufacture. For part of the circumference of the roundel the sides are vertical but slope out slightly in one area. The brick/tile base, which (apart from one tiny piece) only survives below the area of the roundel itself is 22 mm thick. This might be part of a supporting foot, from a decorative brickwork scheme, or possibly a plaque although the surface on the round moulding and the piece itself appears probably too rough for the latter and also seems overly large.



Photograph 13 Tile/brick with round moulding

Other post-medieval/modern finds

Two pieces of clay pipe stem, broadly dated as post-medieval-early modern and possibly of c 18th-19th century date together with a piece from the base of a bottle with a high internal kick in dark green glass and dated c 18th 19th century were both recovered from ditch F68 (89). A piece of coal/coke was recovered from pit F29 (18).

Miscellaneous finds

The miscellaneous finds consist of a small number of finds which of themselves are not closely dated.

Fired clay

There are a few pieces of fired clay which come from three features. In two features they are associated with finds of Roman date (F34 and F72). The third feature is a post-medieval pit (BF51) and has a vitrified surface indicating heating to a high temperature as part of an oven or kiln. The association with Roman finds might indicate that this material is likely to be of Roman date and the piece in F51 is possibly residual.

Nails

A small quantity of corroded iron nails come from several of the features. The majority are from the quarry pit F51 (13 nails/nails haft pieces) and the large quarry pit/terracing feature F64 (5 nails/nail shaft pieces), with a small group (4 nails/nails shaft pieces) from pit F75. Single nails or just a couple of nails come from pit F23, pit F34 and pit F69. There are few measurements on these nails but where measurements and head types were able to be recorded the heads are flat and sub-circular and the shafts are c 50-65 mm in length. It seems probable that in the main they represent the former presence of structural timber of which only the nails used in construction now remain.

Slag

There are two pieces of slag, both are non-diagnostic iron slag. The first is a small, irregular piece (40g) from pit F24 and was the only find associated with this feature. The other is a heavy, denser slag piece (194g) and cones from the large quarry pit/terracing F64.

Animal bone

A single, abraded (rounded) piece of animal bone (6 g), from the porous interior part of a large bone, was recovered from the fill of quarry pit F51 (67). That this piece is the only piece of bone from the sit indicates a very poor preservation of bone in the soil here and that it survives in this pit, which can be dated to the post-medieval period, suggests it is probably contemporary with it or that it is an intrusive/stray piece.

Discussion

Prehistoric

A few flints and pottery sherds can be variously dated from the period of the Mesolithic-Early Neolithic to Bronze Age or Early Iron Age. All are residual in later dated features. Two of the more closely dated flints indicate activity in the Mesolithic or Early Neolithic and Early Neolithic while two flint-tempered pottery sherds are probably of Late Bronze Age/Early Iron Age date. The closest known site with a significant concentration of prehistoric activity resulting from occupation is at Sheepen, approximately 1 km northeast of the current site, dated to the Late Bronze Age (CAR 11 Catalogue entry 66d, 131-137). While occasional finds of prehistoric pottery and worked flint have been recorded as residual finds, for example at 19 St Clare Road (CAT Report 1009), no apparent focus of prehistoric activity has so far been located in the immediate area.

Late Iron Age and Roman

The largest group of finds from the LIA and Roman period is pottery. Among the pottery the grog-tempered wares probably indicate some activity here in the LIA and this might not be unexpected. There is a concentration of LIA burials to the south, referred to as

the Lexden cemetery (CAR 11 fig 7.1) and the Iron Age Lexden Dyke runs along the west of the site. The briquetage vessel pieces might date from this period or a little later while sherds from early shell-tempered ware pots (dated as 1st century) might also indicate a link with the coastal areas. It can be noted that briquetage was present on one nearby site at 19 St Clare Road, where LIA pottery was also found (CAT Report 1009), but not at 3 Sanders Drive where no LIA pottery was recorded (CAT Report 1013); although both these sites were very small with 3 Sanders Drive consisting of little more than the excavation of part of a large pit.

The majority of the pottery from the site here can be seen as an assemblage of post-conquest date. A significant quantity of this was residual in pits which contained a much smaller quantity of post-medieval finds. The Roman pottery includes imports of plain samian of 1st and 2nd/3rd century date, including cup and dish/bowl forms, with a 2nd century decorated bowl. There is possibly a sherd from an amphora (other than the common Dressel 20 which is also represented), and which is more typical of highly Romanised assemblages, also sherds from specialist culinary vessels represented by mortaria. Coarsewares include sherds from flagons, beakers, jars/kitchen pots and large storage jars, probably almost entirely of local manufacture, although one platter has an unusual combination of potters stamps that indicate it may have come from kilns in Suffolk. While LIA and Roman burials are known from this area (CAR 11 fig 7.1) there appears little in the pottery assemblage that is necessarily indicative of a cemetery, for example displaced whole or partial pots, and the range of pottery as a whole appears fairly typical of a moderately wealthy domestic assemblage of Gallo-Roman influence – although this pottery might be more readily available close to the major Roman town here than in the countryside.

However, the nature of the activity/occupation here in the Roman period is difficult to clarify from the pottery and other bulk finds alone. It can be noted that while samian is rarely encountered placed in graves within the immediate Colchester environs, there are indications that it might have been present in funerary practices as it occurs in assemblages from cemetery areas like Garrison Area H (CAT Report 1033). A significant quantity of pottery (including fineware imports) and roof-tiles from a pit on a site at 3 Sanders Drive, Lexden (CAT Report 1013), located a short distance to the east of the present site, also appears fairly typical of occupation. This might indicate that there were occupation sites within this area close to the main Roman road, although traces of buildings have remained elusive and the tile at 3 Sanders Drive might be connected with manufacture rather than a building. In contrast to 3 Sanders Drive, there is little among the CBM here that suggests any significant construction using brick/tile on the site or in the immediate area and while the presence of pieces of quernstone might suggest domestic activity they might possibly also relate to industrial use. The presence of a piece of fired clay with a vitrified surface, possibly residual in a post-medieval pit, might also indicate some industrial activity. The Roman activity on the site does not appear to have extended much beyond the early-mid 3rd century. This absence of late Roman pottery is also the case at other sites in the area including 3 Sanders Drive and 19 St Clare Drive (excluding the late cemetery areas) and can be related to the apparent contraction of occupation in the extra mural areas around the town in the late 3rd century with the burial areas encroaching close to the walled town (Crummy 1997, 118).

Post-Roman (medieval-post-medieval)

Post-Roman finds come from a number of features, but are relatively sparse compared with the Roman material. The pottery indicates some activity here, or close by, from the period of the 13th-14th century and continuing at a relatively low level into the 16th/17th-early 18th century. There is only one modern factory ware sherd which is of 18th century date or later. A sherd from an imported German Werra ware vessel dating to the late 16th-early 17th century is a notable find and comes from a highly decorated and probably relatively expensive pot. The most common find from the medieval and post-medieval period is pieces of peg-tiles, but these are not of themselves closely

dated within the medieval-post-medieval period; although they probably date no earlier than the 14th century. A small number of pieces of brick are, judging by the pottery, probably of post-medieval date, although a post-medieval-early modern date might also be possible for some pieces.

Small finds

by Pip Parmenter

Introduction

Fifteen small finds were recovered during excavations at 'High Trees', St Clare Drive, Colchester. Three of the small finds were pottery and the rest were metal. Of the metal small finds, eight were iron, three were copper-alloy and one was lead. Five of the small finds were recovered from post-medieval features. The rest of the finds were recovered from Roman contexts.

A full catalogue of the metal small finds can be found in Appendix 3, at the rear of this report.

Ten of the small finds were recovered from two features – F34, a Roman pit (SF1–3, 10 and 13) and F51, a post-medieval quarry pit (SF4–7 and 9). The five other small finds recovered from individual features – SF15 in F70 and SF12 in F75 (two Roman pits), SF14 in F55 (a Roman ditch), SF11 in F64 (a post-medieval quarry pit) and SF8 in F52 (a gully within quarry pit F51).

The Roman Small Finds

Eight of the small finds were recovered from Roman contexts and a further three were found residually in post-medieval contexts. Mid 1st to early 3rd century pit F34 contained five of the eight finds: a single hobnail of Manning type 10 (SF1); a small bent piece of lead with large amounts of white surface corrosion (SF3); an irregularly shaped spindle whorl in Fabric HZ (SF10), with a drilled central perforation made after firing and broken edges; and an iron strip which seemed to have been bent into a triangular shape which, under x-ray, appears to have another iron ring within it (SF13).

The final and by far the most interesting small find from this context was the base of a copper-alloy seal box (SF2, Fig 10). Seal boxes are bronze containers which would have been attached to a sealed document or package in order to guarantee that their content was both authentic and untampered with (Holmes 1995, 392). To achieve this, the package would have been tied with cord, and the cord knotted within the base of the seal box and encased in wax, which would usually have been impressed with an intaglio. The, often enamelled, lid of the seal box would have protected the seal during transit and ensured the recipient could identify the sender (*ibid*). The seal-box base found at High Trees is an Andrews' type S2 – a rectangular box with long hinge formed by rolling over a flap of metal at one end of the base to form a tube running the full width of the base (Andrews 2012, p32). It has three base holes in a triangular configuration. Andrews identifies this seal-box type as being both early and imported, possibly the second half of the 1st century, and fairly rare in Britain with only six recorded on his database (*ibid*, p73).

Three residual small finds were recovered from post-medieval contexts. SF7 was found in Quarry pit F51. It was a small fragment of the lower part of a clay lamp. It is made of a soft orange clay fabric and appears to be rather crude. There is some indication that there was a decoration of concentric circles on the base of the lamp, though this is fairly well worn. It is difficult to discern the type of lamp from the fragment; however, it is thought that it would have been quite simplistic. In Nina Crummy's analysis of small finds from Colchester, it appears as though concentric ring patterning on the base of lamps is often seen on those of Rosette type (Crummy 1983, 87), which have only

been found in Colchester. The other two residual finds were half an irregularly shaped pot-counter (SF9) and a copper-alloy *dupondius* of Trajan minted in Rome 114-117 AD.

SF1 (30) F34 Small corroded hobnail with pyramidal head. Manning Type 10. L: 20mm, Wt: 2g

Fig 10 SF2 (27) F34 Small, rectangular seal box base. Copper-alloy. Andrews' type S2 with long hinge and three base holes in a triangular layout, each 2.5-3mm diameter. L: 22mm, W: 16mm, T: 4.5mm, Wt: 4g

SF3 (31) F34 Small bent piece of lead. White/cream corrosion covering surface. Crumbling at edges. L: 31mm, W: 14 – 22mm, T: 6 – 9mm, Wt: 16g

SF7 (64) F51 Small fragment of lower part of Roman clay lamp. Soft orange clay fabric. Concentric circular decoration. L: 30mm, W: 42mm, T: 6mm, Wt: 12g

SF9 (70) F51 Roughly half a greyware (Fabric GX) pottery counter. Dia: 53mm, T: 7mm, Wt: 16g

SF10 (54) F34 Possible spindle whorl. Irregular shaped disc – not round but all edges broken. Appears to be more square/triangular. Central hole. (Fabric HZ). Dia: 45-48mm, T: 10mm, Wt: 28g

SF11 (98) F64 Trajan *dupondius* largely complete though damage to surfaces, particularly the reverse. Obverse: -**JNO O[PT]IMO AVG GER DA**[-, bust of emperor, right-facing, radiate, draped. Reverse: completely illegible, vague outline of a figure seated looking left. Probably *RIC 653*, minted in Roman, AD 114-117. Dia: 27mm, Wt: 10g, die axis: 7.

SF12 (101) F75 Three small pieces from a brooch spring. One piece was a hoop, another was part of a spring. Wt: <1g

SF13 (25) F34 Iron strip, bent into a roughly triangular shape. Appears to have an internal ring also. Highly corroded. L: 23mm, W: 23, T: 23, Wt: 14g

SF14 (72) F55 Iron. Small flat piece. Possibly small section of lower part of a knife blade. L: 35mm, W: 19 – 26mm, T: 9mm, Wt: 12g

SF15 (93) F70 Highly corroded iron nail shank and partial point. L: 36mm, W: 21mm, Wt: 10g

Post-medieval small finds

SF 4, 5 and 8 are the only small finds from post-medieval contexts which may have been of contemporary date. SF4 and SF5 both appear to be fragments of iron blade. SF5 is very narrow compared to SF4, which was fairly robust. Both were recovered from post-medieval quarry pit F51.



Photograph 14 The hobnail shoe *in situ*

Found in gully F52, which was located within post-medieval quarry pit F51, were 34 hobnails from a single hobnail shoe. The hobnails appear to have been found *in situ* and quite obviously formed the shape of a shoe in the base of the feature. As the feature is securely dated to the post-medieval period we can be fairly confident that the shoe is of this date. Some of the hobnails were recovered individually, while others had corroded together and were recovered in lumps. No lace tags, other metal shoe accessories or leather were recovered, making it hard to speculate as to the style of the shoe.

SF4 (69) F51 Section of corroded iron knife blade. L: 50mm, W: 22mm, T: 9mm, Wt: 22g

SF5 (80) F51 Section of corroded iron knife blade. L: 34mm, W: 13mm, T: 5mm, Wt: 6g

Conclusions

There were some interesting objects within the relatively small assemblage of small finds from High Trees. Particularly so was the seal box base from Roman pit F34, which, though not complete, gives some insight into the personal lives of those who lived on/around the site. As an object associated with written communication, it is likely that the owner of the seal box would have been literate. The presence of a spindle whorl suggests that weaving activity may have been occurring in the vicinity.

The residual Roman material found in the post-medieval quarry pits implies a relatively high level of disturbance across the site. The single shoe in a gully in the base of one of these pits was likely deposited with other refuse during the backfilling of the features.

6 Environmental report

by Lisa Gray, Archaeobotanist

Introduction – aims and objectives

Eleven samples were taken from ditches, pits and postholes all dated as early Roman.

Sampling and processing methods

Samples were taken and processed by Colchester Archaeological Trust. All samples were completely processed using a Siraf-type flotation device. Flot was collected in a 300 micron mesh sieve then dried.

Once with the author the flots were scanned under a low powered stereo-microscope with a magnification range of 10 to 40x. The whole flots were examined. The abundance, diversity and state of preservation of eco- and artefacts in each sample were recorded. A magnet was passed across each flot to record the presence or absence of magnetised material or hammerscale.

Identifications were made using modern reference material (author's own and the Northern European Seed Reference Collection at the Institute of Archaeology, University College London) and reference manuals (such as Beijerinck 1947; Cappers *et al.* 2006; Charles 1984; Fuller 2007; Hillman 1976; Jacomet 2006). Nomenclature for plants is taken from Stace (Stace 2010). Latin names are given once and the common names used thereafter. Low numbers of non-charcoal charred plant macro-remains were counted. Uncharred plant remains, fauna and magnetic fragments were given estimated levels of abundance unless, in the case of seeds, numbers are very low in which case they were counted.

Results (Appendix 4)

The plant remains

For each sample the number of counted plant remains per litre of sampled soil was between less than one and less than three. Samples <1> (ditch), <6> (pit) and <7> (ditch) contained only uncharred root/rhizome fragments. Sample <9> (ditch) contained

<3 counted items per litre of samples soil. Most of these were uncharred seeds of elderberry (*Sambucus nigra* L.).

Charred plant remains were present in six samples. Most of these were in sample <2>. Cereal grains were present in low numbers in samples <2>, <4>, <9> and <11>: bread/club/rivet wheat (*Triticum aestivum/durum/turgidum*) in samples <2> and <11>, barley/wheat (*Hordeum/Triticum* sp.) in samples <4>, hulled straight barely (*H.vulgare*) in sample <2> and emmer from a one-grained spikelet (*T.dicoccum*) in sample <2>. Charred seeds were present in low numbers in samples <2>, <9> and <11>. One charred bramble (*Rubus fruticosus*) seed was found in sample <11> (pit). Chaff was only present in the form of two grass stem fragments in sample <11>.

Uncharred/dried waterlogged plant remains were found in eight samples. Most were seeds of ruderal plants. Seeds of elderberry and fat hen (*Chenopodium album*) were most frequent.

Faunal remains

Low numbers of earthworm cocoons were found in samples <9>, <10> and <11>. A terrestrial snail shell was found in sample <10>.

Inorganic remains

One fragment of magnetic material that was not clearly hammer scale was found in sample <1> and <2>.

Discussion

Biases in recovery, residuality, contamination

Nothing with regards biases in recovery, residuality or contamination was highlighted for any of these samples. On microscopic examination it was clear that bioturbation was likely due to the presence of root/rhizome fragments and earthworm cocoons.

Significance and potential of the samples and recommendations for further work

The cereal grains in these samples are a common find in Iron Age and Romano-British samples in Eastern England (Parks 2012, 1; Murphy 1986). However, the low number of charred plant macro-remains at this site means that they are likely to be general background waste rather than indicative of original feature use. They could have moved from their original context by bioturbation and reworking.

A recent study of intrusion and residuality in the archaeobotanical record for southern England (Pelling *et al.* 2015) has highlighted the problem of assigning charred plant remains such as these to the dated contexts they were taken from because it is possible that these durable charred plant remains survived being moved between contexts by human action and bioturbation so cannot be properly interpreted unless radiocarbon dates are gained from the plant macro-remains themselves. That is the only way to secure a genuine date for the charred plant macro-remains like these (Pelling *et al.* 2015, 96).

It is not wise to assume that the context in which the plant macro-remain was found during excavation was the context in which it was originally deposited, especially when the preservation of the plant remain is poor, numbers are very low relative to the amount of soil sampled and there is evidence of bioturbation, truncation or backfilling. At this site evidence for bioturbation was present in the form of modern root/rhizome fragments and earthworm cocoons

Therefore, it is not recommended that further work is carried out on the plant remains in these samples.

7 Discussion

Prehistoric

Residual flints and pottery sherds variously dated from the Mesolithic/Early Neolithic to Bronze Age or Early Iron Age show prehistoric activity in the area. Some of this may be associated with Late Bronze Age activity at Sheepen (approximately 1 km northeast; *CAR 11* Catalogue entry 66d, 131-137), but no focus of prehistoric activity has so far been located in the immediate area.

Roman

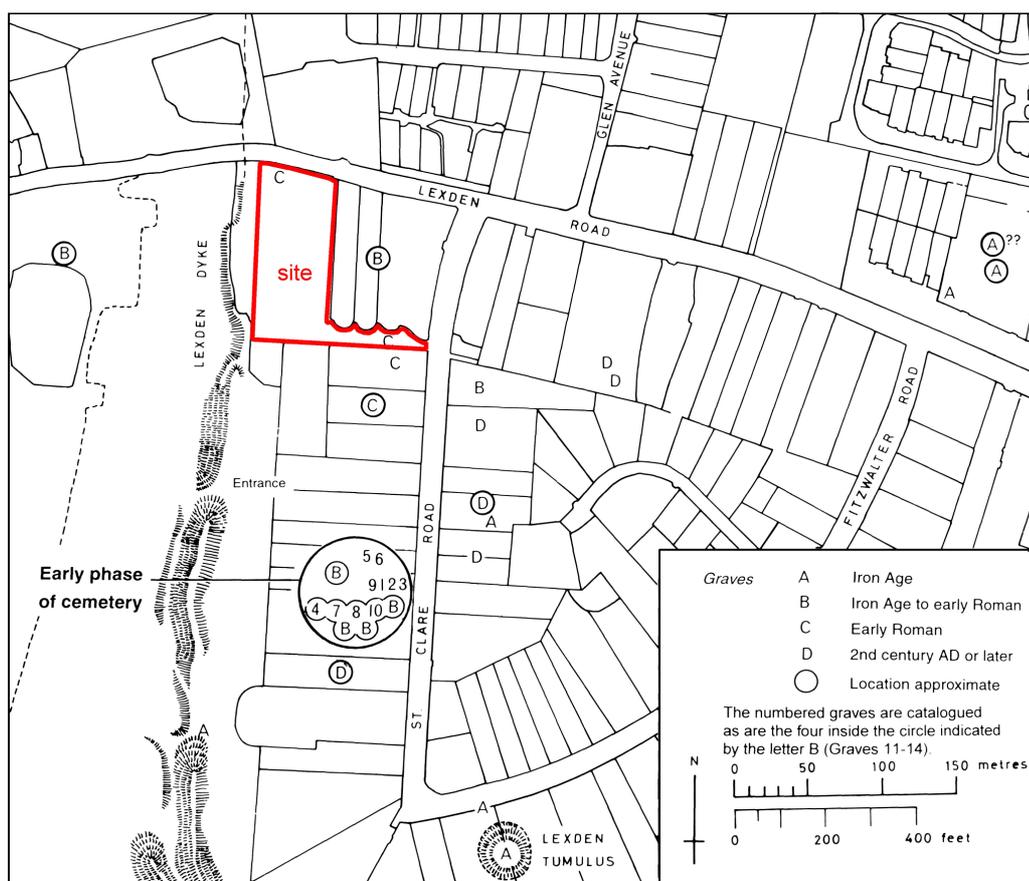
Four north/south ditches and one east/west ditch are among the most significant features recorded on the site. Another two north/south ditches were identified during the evaluation phase in T3, F19 and T4, F2 (*CAT Report 745*), although F19 could not be traced within excavation plot 3. Primarily of an early Roman date, and with all the north/south ditches running parallel to Lexden Dyke, these are probably either field boundary ditches or relate to a nearby settlement.

No structural features were recorded on the site and CBM was not present in any quantity to suggest the existence of a significant brick and tile structure. However, a number of Roman pits/rubbish pits were excavated and are indicative of occupation, with finds from the site forming a moderately wealthy assemblage. Indeed the presence of the seal-box base may even suggest a level of literacy among the inhabitants. Roman ditches and pits similar to those identified at High Trees have also recently been found during excavations 250m south at 19 St Clare Road (*CAT Report 1009*).

The development site is located within the Lexden cemetery area. In particular, two Early Roman burials are known from within the site (see Map 1 below, marked 'C' within the red outline) (*CAR 11*, p164-9), although the samian vessel on the southern edge of the site was not associated with any cremated bone and may have been disturbed (Philip Crummy pers comm). The location of the samian vessel is remarkably close to the location of the air-raid shelter, however the vessel appears to have been accessioned into Colchester Museum in the 1920s, so was probably discovered before the shelter was built. Both Iron Age to Early Roman and Early Roman burials are also known from adjacent properties (see Map 1 below), including a cremation in an amphora (Philip Crummy pers comm, marked 'B' on Map 1 in the corner of Lexden Road/St Clare Road).

No burials were present within the excavation or monitoring areas. Those identified as tentative burials in evaluation trench T3 (*CAT Report 745*) were probably actually pits associated with the cluster of Roman and post-Roman pits seen on the northeast edge of Plot 3. Those features identified as burials in evaluation trench T4 were not reinvestigated during this phase of work as they were not by any groundworks. However, as we know that Roman burials have previously been found within the development site, there is also the possibility that the ditches identified during these investigations not only delineate field boundaries and areas of settlement but also burial plots, perhaps for the nearby inhabitants.

Together with the excavations at 19 St Clare Road, evidence from High Trees suggests that this area of Roman Colchester was not only being used for burials but included an, as yet unlocated, area of settlement.



Map 1 High Trees site (in red) in relation to the Lexden cemetery (CAR 11, Fig 7.1)

Post-Roman

Pottery dating from the 13th-14th century indicates some activity close to the development site in the medieval period. However, most of the post-Roman features date to the post-medieval period (16/17th to early 18th century). Excavations at Lexden Dyke in 1932, immediately to the west of the site, identified a number of gravel pits (CAR 11, p35, Fig 2.16) and the large post-medieval pits identified on the development site (F51/52, F64) are probably similar quarry/gravel pits.

The postholes in plot 1 were probably garden boundary pillars and the small pits, tree-throws and modern ditch are also presumably related to the old house and garden.

8 Acknowledgements

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CAT Report 195	2002	<i>An archaeological watching brief at 10 St Clare Road, Colchester, Essex: June 2002</i>
CAT Report 225	2003	<i>An archaeological excavation at 1 St Clare Road, Colchester, Essex: March 2003.</i>
CAT Report 250	2003	<i>An archaeological evaluation at 30 St Clare Road, Colchester, Essex: November 2003</i>
CAT Report 455	2008	<i>Report on a negative watching brief at 1 St Clare Road, Colchester, Essex: January 2008.</i>
CAT Report 568	2010	<i>Watching brief at 30 St Clare Road, Colchester, Essex: September 2010</i>
CAT Report 582	2010	<i>An archaeological watching brief at 12 St Clare Road, Colchester, Essex: November 2010</i>
CAT Report 745	2013	<i>A Roman cemetery east of Lexden Dyke: archaeological evaluation by trial-trenching at 'High Trees', St Clare Road, Colchester, Essex: December 2013</i>
CAT Report 832	2015	<i>Archaeological strip, map and recording on land adjacent to 20 St Clare Road, Colchester, Essex: March 2015</i>
CAT Report 958	2016	<i>Archaeological evaluation at 19 St Clare Road, Colchester, Essex, CO3 3SZ: May 2016</i>
CAT Report 959	2016	<i>Archaeological monitoring and recording at 1 St Clare Road, Colchester, Essex, CO3 3SZ: May 2016</i>
CAT Report 1004	2016	<i>Archaeological monitoring and recording at 2 St Clare Road, Colchester, Essex, CO3 3SZ: August 2016</i>
CAT Report 1009	2016	<i>Archaeological excavation at 19 St Clare Road, Colchester, Essex, CO3 3SZ: July 2016</i>
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10 Abbreviations and glossary

Bronze Age	period from c 2500 – 700 BC
Bronze Age (Early)	Early Bronze Age, period from c 2500 – 1500 BC
Bronze Age (Middle)	Middle Bronze Age, period from c 1500 – 1000 BC
Bronze Age (Late)	Late Bronze Age, period from c 1000 – 700 BC
CAT	Colchester Archaeological Trust
CBCPS	Colchester Borough Council Planning Services
CBM	brick/tile (ceramic building material)
ClfA	Chartered Institute for Archaeologists
context	specific location of finds on an archaeological site
feature (F)	an identifiable thing like a pit, a wall, a drain: can contain 'contexts'
Iron Age	period from 700 BC to Roman invasion of AD 43
Iron Age (earliest)	period from c 800 – 600BC

Iron Age (Early)	Early Iron Age, period from c 600 – 400BC
Iron Age (Middle)	Middle Iron Age, period from c 400 – 100BC
Iron Age (Late)	Late Iron Age (LIA), period from c 100-50 BC to Roman invasion of AD 43
Iron Age (later layer (L)	period from c 350 BC to early 1st century AD distinct or distinguishable deposit of soil
medieval	period from AD 1066 to Henry VIII
Mesolithic	period from c 9600 – 4000BC
modern	period from cAD 1800 to the present
natural	geological deposit undisturbed by human activity
Neolithic	period from c 4000 – 2500 BC
Neolithic (Early-Middle)	Early-Middle Neolithic, period from c 4000 – 2900 BC
Neolithic (Late)	Late Neolithic, period from c 2900 – 2500 BC
NGR	National Grid Reference
post-medieval	from Henry VIII to cAD 1800
residual	something out of its original context, eg a Roman coin in a modern pit
Roman	the period from AD 43 to c AD 410
Section	(abbreviation sc or Sx) vertical slice through feature/s or layer/s
UAD	Urban Archaeological Database
WSI	Written Scheme of Investigation

11 Contents of archive

Finds: two boxes (bulk finds) plus two small plastic boxes (small finds)

Paper and digital record

One A4 document wallet containing:

The report (CAT Report 1008)

CBCPS Evaluation Brief, CAT Written Scheme of Investigation

Original site record (Feature and layer sheets, Finds record, plans)

Site digital photos and log, Architectural plans, Attendance register, Risk assessment

12 Archive deposition

The paper and digital archive is currently held by the Colchester Archaeological Trust at Roman Circus House, Roman Circus Walk, Colchester, Essex, CO2 7GZ, but will be permanently deposited with Colchester Museum under accession code COLEM: 2016.17.

Distribution list

Robert Pomery (Pomery Planning Consultants)

Gus Milne

Jess Tipper, Colchester Borough Council Planning Services

Essex Historic Environment Record



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Date: 22/12/2016

Appendix 1 Context list

Context Number	Context Type	Description	Date
F22	Pit	Loose, soft, moist, medium yellow/brown sandy-silt with 10% gravel and 30% stone	Medieval/post-medieval
F23	Pit	Loose, soft, moist, medium yellow/brown sandy-silt with 10% gravel and 10% stone	Roman
F24	Pit	Loose, soft, moist, medium yellow/brown sandy-silt with 5% stone	Undated
F25	Pit	Loose, soft, moist, medium yellow/brown/grey/black sandy-silt with 5% stone	Roman, M1-E2/2C?
F26	Ditch	Soft, moist, medium yellow/grey/brown sandy-silt with 10% gravel and 30% stone; continues to the south at F58	Roman, M1-2C
F27	Pit	Soft, moist, medium grey/brown sandy-loam with 5% stone	Modern
F28	Pit	Loose, soft, moist, dark yellow/orange/brown sandy-slightly loamy silt with 20% stone	Roman
F29	Pit	Soft, moist, dark yellow/grey/brown sandy-loam	Post-medieval
F30	Posthole	Soft, moist, medium yellow/brown sandy-silt with 2% stone	Roman
F31	Ditch	Soft, medium grey/brown sandy-silt with <1% stone	Roman
F32	Posthole	Soft, medium grey/brown sandy-silt with <1% stone	?Roman
F33	Posthole	Soft, medium grey/brown sandy-silt with <1% stone	?Roman
F34	Pit	Soft, moist, sandy-silt with 5% gravel and 10% stone	Roman, M1-E3C
F35	Pit/ Posthole	Soft, moist, medium yellow/brown sandy-silt with 5% stone	Roman, 2C
F36	Ditch	Soft, medium-dark grey/brown sandy-silt with <1% stone; continues to the north as F47	Roman, M1-3/4C
F37	Posthole	Soft, medium orange/grey/brown sandy-silt with <1% stone	Roman
F38	Tree-throw	Soft, moist, medium brown sandy-silt with 10% stone	-
F39-F42	Pillar postholes	Soft, moist, medium grey/brown sandy-silt with 1% gravel and 2% stone	Post-medieval
F43	Tree-throw	Loose/soft, silty-sandy	-
F44	Pit	Soft, dark orange/grey/brown sandy-silt with 2% stone	LIA/Roman, E-M1C
F45	Pit	Soft, light grey/brown sandy-silt with <1% stone	Roman
F46	Ditch	Soft, moist, medium grey/brown sandy-silt with 10% gravel	LIA/Early Roman
F47	Ditch	Friable, dry, medium grey/brown sandy-silt with 1% gravel and 2% stone; continues to the south as F36	Roman
F48	Gully	Soft, dry, light grey/brown sandy-silt	Undated
F49	Pit/ Posthole	Soft, dark grey/brown sandy-silt with <1% stone; only seen in section	Roman
F50	Pit	Soft, moist, dark orange mottled grey/brown sandy-silt with rare charcoal flecks and 5% stone	Roman, M1-2C
F51	Quarry Pit	Soft, moist, medium yellow/orange sandy-silty loam with grey/brown mottled lenses, with 10% gravel and 30% stone	Post-medieval
F52	Gully within F51	Soft, moist, medium yellow/orange grey/brown sandy-silt with 10% gravel and 20% stone	Post-medieval
F53	Pit	Soft, medium-dark grey/brown sandy-silt with <1% stone	Undated
F54	Pit	Soft, medium orange/brown sandy-silt with <2% stone	Undated
F55	Ditch	Soft, dark grey/brown sandy-silt with <1% stone	Roman, 1C
F56	Pit/ posthole	Soft, dark grey/brown sandy-silt	Undated
F57	Pit	Soft, dark grey/brown sandy-silt	Undated

F58	Ditch	Soft, moist, medium yellow/grey/brown sandy-silt with 20% stone; continues to the north as F26	Roman, 1C
F59	Pit(s)	Soft, moist, dark orange/grey/brown sandy-silt with 3% stone	Medieval/post-medieval
F60	Pit	Loose, moist, medium-dark yellow/mottled orange/grey/brown sand, slightly loamy, with 10% stone	Medieval/post-medieval
F61	Pit	Loose/soft, medium yellow/grey/brown sandy, slightly loamy, with 5% stone	Roman, M1-2/3C
F62	Pit	Loose/soft, moist, medium-dark yellow/mottled green/grey/brown sandy, slightly loamy, with 10% stone	Medieval/post-medieval
F63	Pit	Soft, medium-dark grey/brown sandy-silt with 2% stone	Medieval/post-medieval
F64	Quarry Pit	Loose/soft, medium yellow/grey/brown sandy-silty loam with common stones	Post-medieval
F65	Posthole	Soft, medium-dark grey/brown sandy-silt with 3% stone	?Medieval/post-medieval
F66	Posthole	Soft, medium-dark grey/brown sandy-silt with 2% stone	?Medieval/post-medieval
F67	Pit	Loose/soft, moist, medium-dark yellow/orange sand, slightly loamy with lenses of grey/brown, 5% stone	Medieval/post-medieval
F68	Ditch	Firm, moist, dark grey/brown sandy-silt	Modern
F69	Pit	Firm, moist, dark grey/brown sandy-silt	Roman
F70	Pit	Soft, medium orange/grey/brown sandy-silt with 2% stone	Roman, M1-2/3C
F71	Pit	Soft, medium orange/grey/brown sandy-silt with 2% stone	Undated
F72	Pit	Firm, moist, dark grey/brown sandy-silt with charcoal flecks	Roman, E2-M3C
F73	VOID	Natural feature	-
F74	VOID	Natural feature	-
F75	Pit(s)	Loose/soft, moist, medium-dark yellow/orange sandy-silt with lenses of grey/brown, rare charcoal flecks and 20% stone	Roman, E/M2-4C
F76	Pit	Loose/soft, moist, medium yellow/grey/brown sandy-silt with 10% stone	Roman
L1	Topsoil	-	Modern
L2	Subsoil	Silty-clay accumulation horizon	Post-medieval
L3	Natural	Natural sands and gravels	Natural
L4	VOID	-	-
L5	Buried turf	Soft, dark grey/brown sandy-silt, possibly a buried soil/turf line – identified in the garage of Plot 2	Post-medieval/modern
L6	Make-up	Various mixed bands/layers of dark brownish grey sandy-silt and orange/brown sand and gravel used to level the ground surface above the quarry subsidence – identified in the garage of Plot 2	Post-medieval/modern
L7	Subsoil	Soft, friable, medium-dark grey/brown sandy-silt; a thick deposit sealing features F51, F54-F56 – equivalent to L2?	Post-medieval

Appendix 2 Finds catalogue

NR=not retained

Ctxt	Ctxt type	Find no	Find type	Fabric	Description	Form	No	Wt/g	EVE	Ab/B	Finds spot date
F22	pit	9	CBM	R	Peg-tile, one with round peg hole (NR)		2	40			med-p-med
			CBM		Roman brick/tile (NR)		1	70		(*)	Rom
			pot	GX	Greywares sherd (NR)		1	2		*	Rom
F23	pit	10	nail	fe	Small corroded nail with sub-round head (50 mm+) (NR)		1	12			Rom?
			CBM	R	Roman brick/tile (NR)		2	84			Rom
F24	pit	11	slag		Irregular non-diagnostic iron base slag piece		1	40			
F25	pit	13	pot	BSW	RCW?		1	2			Rom (M1-E2/2C?)
			pot	GTW	Probably LIA		1	4		*	LIA
F26	ditch	32	pot	ESH	Sooted exterior, used for cooking	Cam 259	1	28	7		1C
			pot	GTW/RW	misc	Cam 218	8	74	21		E-M1C
		33	BRIQ		Briquetage pieces, veg tempered		4	46			LIA/Rom
F26 (sx1)		14	CBM	R	Tile, 16mm thick, (2 pieces join), presumed Roman (NR)		1	58			Rom
					Pliable, small piece, not closely identified, but appears probably to be tree bark (modern?) intrusive (NR)		1				
			pot	HZ			1	16			M1-2C
F26 (sx2)	ditch	21	pot	GX			1	56			Rom
			stone	S/Q	Sandstone/quartzite piece, broken from a small cobble, no modification (natural) (NR)		1				
			BF	flint			1	1			Preh?
			BRIQ		Briquetage pieces, vegetable tempered		6	56		(*)	LIA/Rom
			pot	ESH	Jar rim, shell leached out Cam 254, possibly burnt/scorched	Cam 254	1	46	11	(*)	E-M1C AD
pot	GTW/RW	Misc sherds, significant part of a rim from a Cam 218 jar/bowl and Roman sherd from a jar with simple slightly flattened rim (Cam 256?)	Cam 218 Cam 256?	13	182	40	(*)	E-M1C			
F26 (sx3)	ditch	24	BRIQ		coarse veg-temper		3	16			LIA/Rom
F27	pit	16	pot	48D			1	16			L18-19/E20C
F28	pit	17	pot	GX	Including rouletted beaker sherd	beaker	1	4			Rom
F29	pit	18	coal		Coal/coke piece, probably post-medieval/modern (NR)		1	4			P-med/mod
			CBM	R	Peg-tile (NR)		1	22			med-p-med
F30	posthole	19	CBM	R	Abraded Roman brick/tile (NR)		1	84		*	Rom
F31 (sx2)	ditch	22	pot	GX			2	4		**	Rom
			pot	BSW			1	6			Rom
			pot	GX			2	8		*	Rom
F31 (sx2)	ditch	59	pot	40	Small sherd (intrusive?)		1	2			M/L16-18C (intrusive?)
			pot	40	Small sherd (intrusive?)		1	2			
F34	pit	25	nail	fe	Nail shaft (bent) (NR)		1	4			

Ctxt	Ctxt type	Find no	Find type	Fabric	Description	Form	No	Wt/g	EVE	Ab/B	Finds spot date
			FC		Two small pieces, flat surfaces, structural clay		2	12			
			CBM	R	Roman brick, thickness 48 mm+ (NR)		1	48			Rom
			pot	AJ	Light buff but possibly AJ		1	12			M1-E3C?
			pot	GX	Misc quite broken-up	Cam 108	38	186	20	(*)	M1-E2/2C?
			pot	DJ	Mostly buff, one red		7	20		(*)	M1-2C
			pot	HZ		Cam 270B (2)	3	250	16	(*)	M1-2C
			pot	BASG			1	27		(*)	M-L1C
			pot	AJ			2	50		(*)	M1-E3C
		26	BRIQ		Contains some veg-temper, rather porous, sandy fabric, appears to be briquetage		16	80			LIA/Rom
		29	pot	GTW/RW			4	18			E-M1C
		53	pot	GX	Small sherds	Cam 242?	5	14	11	(*)	M-L1C/Rom
			pot	GTW/RW	Misc including sherds from cordoned bowls/jars, several pots represented, quite broken-up	Cam 218?	23	162		(*)	E-M1C
			pot	DJ	Buff with unusual dark inner surface, possibly from firing, a lining or burnt(?)		1	10			M1-2C
			pot	BASG	cup	Dr 27	1	2		*	M-L1C
			pot	TZ?	Early mortaria or possibly amphora (AA)		1	26		(*)	M1C?
			pot	AJ			1	40			M1-2C
		55	Nail?	fe	Quite small corroded piece of fe, looks like part/remains of a small nail head (NR)		1	1			Rom?
		56	pot	GTW/RW			1	2			E-M1C
			pot	AJ			2	20		*	Rom
			pot	GTW			2	10			LIA (L1C BC/E-M1C AD
F35	pit/posthole	34	pot	GX			1	28			Rom (M1-2C?)
			pot	BACG	Large bowl base	Dr 37?	1	64			2C
F36	ditch	38	pot	GX	Rim from a large jar/storage jar		1	74	14	(*)	Rom M1-3/4C
			pot	GX	Sandy fabric, rather soft		1	10		*	LIA?/Rom
		74	pot	GX			2	6		*	Rom
F36 (sx2)	ditch	43	pot	GX			1	2		*	Rom
F36 (sx3)	ditch	60	pot	GTW/RW			4	10		*	E-M1C
F37	posthole	35	pot	WA			1	2		*	Rom
F39	pit	39	pot	21	Probably med-p-med		1	2		*	Prob p-med
F40	pit	40	CBM	R	Peg-tile pieces, probably 13/14C or later (NR)		2	32			med-p-med
F41	pit	41	CBM	R	Peg-tile		1	20			med-p-med
F42	pit	42	CBM	R	Peg-tile (NR)		1	5			med-p-med
			pot	40	Internal glaze		1	8			M/L16-18C
F44	pit	44	CBM	R	Roman brick/tile (NR)		1	216			Rom

Ctxt	Ctxt type	Find no	Find type	Fabric	Description	Form	No	Wt/g	EVE	Ab/B	Finds spot date
			pot	GTW/RCW			1	8			E/M1C
			pot	GTW			1	26		*	LIA/M1C
F45	pit	45	pot	GX			1	10			Rom
F46 (sx2)	ditch	49	pot	GTW	Large sherd part profile, carinated bowl, light cordon ridges on neck interior worn/flaked nearly up to rim	Cam 230	2	198	15		LIA L1C BC-E/M 1C AD
F46 9sx1)	ditch	48	BRIQ		Silty fabric with some coarse veg-temper, one piece vessel rim top with finger indentation		2	48			LIA/Rom
F47 (sx1)	ditch	51	pot	GX			1	2		*	Rom
F47 (sx2)	ditch	52	CBM	R	Roman brick/tile (NR)		2	144			Rom
F50	pit	57	pot	GX			3	26			Rom
			pot	DJ			2	6		(*)	Rom M1-2C
			pot	HMSF	Prob LBA-EIA		1	6		*	Preh LBA-EIA?
			BS	flint	(NR)		2	60			Preh?
			CBM	R	Roman brick/tile (38 mm thick) (NR)		1	44			Rom
		58	CBM	R	Roman brick/tile, small abraded piece (NR)		1	2			Rom
			pot	GX	Oxidised but GX type fabric, probably E Rom		1	1			LIA?/Rom
F51	quarry pit	65	nails	fe	Nails shaft pieces (up to 47 mm) and three small nails with round flat heads (30 mm)		6	26			
			CBM	R	Moderately thick tile (13 mm) probably peg-tile (NR)		1	56			med+
			CBM	R	Brick piece, slightly coarse, vesicular red fabric (NR)		1	22			p-med
			CBM	R	Peg-tile piece (NR)		1	24		(*)	med+
			BF	flint	(NR)		1	44			Preh?
			pot	TZ			1	48			Prob E-M Rom (M1-E2C?
			pot	HMF	Common small-medium flint, well embedded		1	10			Preh LBA-EIA?
			pot	GX	Misc, quite broken-up	Cam 218, Cam 108	45	468	23		M1-E2/2C
			pot	HZ		Cam 273	7	362	11	(*)	M1-2C
		pot	AJ			1	40			M1-E3C	
		66	CBM	R	Piece of shaped brick, irregular round, broad piece 24 mm tall on flat, tile-like(?) base 22 mm thick		1	362			p-med
			CBM	R	Brick pieces with some trace of glaze		1	62			p-med
			CBM	R	Probably brick (NR)		1	70			p-med
			CBM	R	Brick/tile, misc abraded pieces, probably Roman (NR)		3	54			Rom
			CBM	R	Brick (52 mm thick), probably Roman, probably slightly overfired (NR)		1	290			Rom
CBM	R		Roman brick/tile(NR)		4	216			Rom		
	CBM	R	Peg-tile – thin tile pieces, probably 13/14C or later (NR)		6	116			med-p-med		
	nail	fe	Nail shaft piece (NR)		1	2					

Ctxt	Ctxt type	Find no	Find type	Fabric	Description	Form	No	Wt/g	EVE	Ab/B	Finds spot date
			pot	GX	misc	Cam 108; Cam 268?	23	204	20	(*)	E/M2-3C
			pot	DJ	Including flagon neck, one sherd dark interior similar to F34		5	38			M1-2/3C
			pot	HZ		Cam 270B	3	128	6		M1-2C
			pot	BACG	High limestone fabric, but appears CG	Dr 18/31	1	10	7	(*)	E-M2C
			pot	BAEG	Base, dish/bowl		1	34		*	M2-E/M3C
			pot	AJ		D 20	3	434			M1-2/E3C
		67	AB		Abraded (naturally rounded) bone piece from the interior of a large bone		1	6			
		70	CBM		Roman brick/tile (NR)		2	78		(*)	Rom
			FC		Piece with vitrified surface from an oven or kiln		1	40			
			CBM	R	Peg-tile (NR)		1	20			med-p-med
			pot	40	Base, internal glaze		1	46			M/L16-18C
			pot	GX	Misc sherds, Quite broken-up	Cam 218	18	214	49	(*)	M1-E2/2C
			pot	HZ			4	132		(*)	M1-2C
			pot	GTW			1	10		*	L1C BC-M1C AD
			pot	TR4	Butt Beaker – essentially similar to general Cam 119 form	(Cam 119)	1	34	11		E-M1C
			pot	BASG			1	6		*	M-L1C
			pot	AJ			1	26		(*)	M1-E3C
		pot	TZ	Inc Cam 501, plus one other mortarium	Cam 501	3	52	5	*	M2-E3C	
		71	quern	lava	Two small pieces of imported German lava querns, one piece retains part of the quern stone shape and is 25 mm thick, almost certainly Roman		2	102		8	Rom
		76	nail	fe	Nail shaft, corroded (5 mm)(NR)		1	6			
			pot	RCW			1	20			M1-E2C
			pot	HZ			2	84			M1-2C
			pot	GX			16	126	26	(*)	Rom M1-2C?
			pot	TR4	Girth beaker		3	16			E-M1C
			pot	DJ			1	16			M1-2/3C
			pot	AJ			1	56			M1-2/3C
			pot	BXCG	Small sherd	Dr 37	1	2		*	2C
			pot	TN	Platter base		1	18			L1C BC-M 1C AD
		CBM		One piece peg-tile, the other probably peg-tile rather than thin Roman tile, probably 13/14C or later (NR)		2	146			med-p-med	
		78	pot	GX	misc		5	88	11	(*)	Rom
			pot	RCW			1	18			M-L1/E2C
			pot	HZ			1	10			M1-2C
			pot	BACG		31?	1	18		*	2C prob L2C
			CBM	R	Roman brick, (2) 30-35mm thick (NR)		2	150			Rom
		79	pot	fe	Iron nail shaft pieces, two with round, flat heads. Not closely dated, possibly Roman		5	46			

Ctxt	Ctxt type	Find no	Find type	Fabric	Description	Form	No	Wt/g	EVE	Ab/B	Finds spot date
			pot	HZ			1	32		*	M1-2/3C
			pot	GZ	Misc, quite broken-up	Cam 243-44/246	22	186	6	(*)	Rom (M1-3/4C)
			pot	GA			1	16		(*)	E2-4C
			pot	40	internal glaze		1	4			M/L16-18C
			pot	DJ			2	6		*	
			pot	TZ	Includes lower part of collar	Cam 501	1	38		*	M2-E3C
			pot	BACG	Bowl form (1 sherd poss BAEG)		2	6			2C/M-L2C
			BF	flint	(NR)		1	68			
			CBM	R	Roman brick/tile		2	64		(*)	Rom
			CBM	R	Roman brick, burnt/overfired grey (thickness 48 mm) (NR)		1	300			Rom
			CBM	R	Brick, probably 13/14C or later (NR)		1	28			med-p-med
			CBM	R	Brick/tile, probably post-medieval (NR)		1	28			P-med
			CBM	R	Roman imbrex (NR)		1	22			Rom
			CBM	R	Roman tegula, base thickness 15 mm, orange coarse sand fabric, height at flange 55 mm (NR)		1	390		(*)	Rom (M2-3C?)
			pot	UR	Platter sherds, BSW, fine sand fabric, some dark charcoal-like inclusions, fine mica, Cam form 28C-type There is one stamped sherd, not joining the rim, but probably the same platter - block stamp, possibly centrally placed, with a small rosette stamp just to one side. The lettering in the block stamp is almost completely abraded off although part of one letter, possibly A or V can be seen at one end - to the right of the rosette when viewed from that side. Possible links with Suffolk/West Stow?	28C	8	152			M-L 1C (c 70-120?)
F51/5 2	pit/gully	77	pot	44B	Warra slipware		1	20		(*)	L16-E17C
			pot	GX	base		1	60			Rom
			CBM	R	Peg-tile (NR)		3	132			med-p-med
F52	gully	62	pot	GX	Greyware base with other sandy sherds		3	22		(*)	Rom M1-2/3C?
			CBM	R	Brick, slightly coarse sand fabric inc some flint, dense fabric but appears to be post-Roman, probably post-medieval (NR)		1	48		(*)	P-med?
F55	ditch	72	pot	DZ	Possibly from a lamp? Thin orange-buff sherds, carinated/indented pot		3	2			Rom (1C?)
			pot	GTW/RW	misc		10	86			E-M1C
F58	ditch	75	pot	GX	Sandy fabric, bowl jar with shoulder cordon	Cam 218?	1	6			M-L1C
			pot	RCW			1	52			C M-L1C
			pot	GTW/RW	GTW/RW		7	166	11		E-M1C
			pot	HZ(G)			3	120			E-M1C
			pot	TR4	Girth beaker		3	8			LIA/Rom L1C BC-M1C AD
			pot	TN	Platter rim	Cam 2	1	10	5		LIA/Rom L1C BC-M1C AD

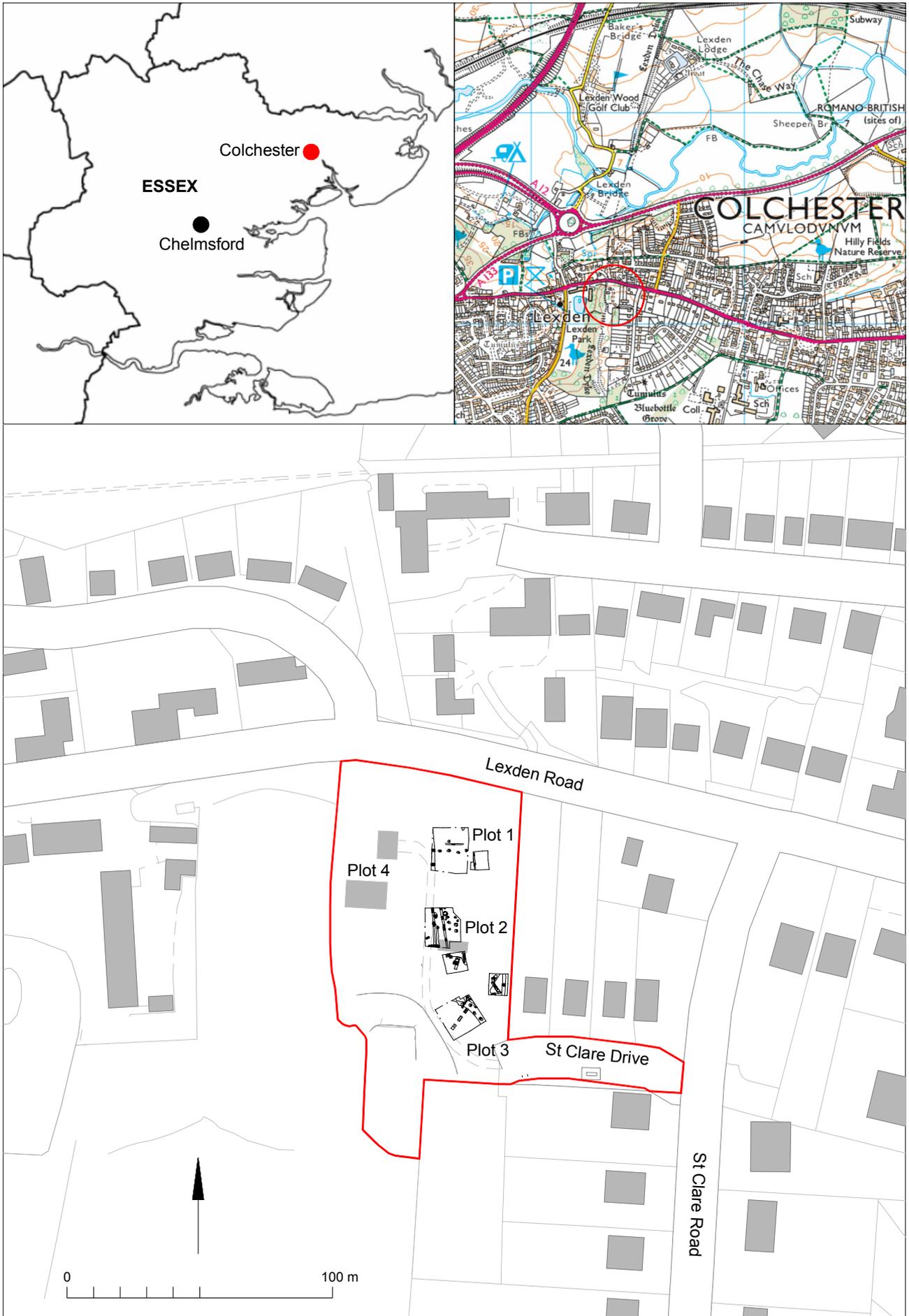
Ctxt	Ctxt type	Find no	Find type	Fabric	Description	Form	No	Wt/g	EVE	Ab/B	Finds spot date
F59	pit(s)	81	CBM	R	Thin tile almost certainly peg-tile (NR)		1	24			med-p-med
			pot	HZ		Cam 270	2	102	6	(*)	M1-2C
			pot	GX			3	10			
			pot	AJ			1	24		*	
			pot	GTW/RW	misc		4	40			E-M/M 1C
F60	pit	83	CBM	R	Thin tile piece (corner), probably peg-tile		1	6			med-p-med
			pot	GX			1	4		*	Rom
			pot	GB		Cam 37A	1	6	5		E2-L2/E3C
			pot	BSW			2	8			Rom
			pot	DJ		Cam 214-244/246	1	20	11		M1-E2C
F61	pit	84	pot	GX	Slightly odd, damaged rim, possibly a narrow mouth jar?		4	46	10		Rom (M1-2/3C?)
F62	pit	86	CBM	R	Peg-tile (NR)		3	32			med-p-med
F63	pit	87	CBM	R	Peg-tile (NR)		1	42			med-p-med
			pot	GX			1	2			Rom
F64 (sx1)	quarry pit	95	pot	21			2	18		(*)	14/15-16C
			pot	20			1	12		(*)	13-14C
			pot	GX			5	40	4	*	Rom
			pot	HZ			4	204			M1-2/3C
			pot	TZ			2	198		(*)	M/L1-2/3C
			slag		Non-diagnostic fe slag piece, quite heavy		1	194			
			nails	fe	One nail 60 mm round flat head, two shaft pieces (NR)		3	20			Rom/ p-Rom?
			flint		Core piece with heavily battered area in large notch (nodule/core tool with possible flake removals and evidence of extensive edge damage, ?tool of convenience, dated Late Neolithic-Bronze Age)		1				Later prehistoric
			flint		Patinated blade, flaking scars on dorsal face (blade, probably retouched to create a denticulated edge on left lateral, evidence of platform prep, soft hammer struck, dated Mesolithic or Early Neolithic)		1				Mesolithic or Early Neolithic
			CBM	R	Peg-tile (NR)		7	278			Med-p-med/p-med
			CBM	Yellow	Brick, brownish -yellow piece abraded (NR)		1	58			P-med-mod/mod
F64 (sx2)	quarry pit	96	CBM	R	possibly brick rather than Roman tile (NR)		1	48		*	P-med?
			CBM	R	Thin tile (15 mm), probably peg-tile (NR)		1	30			Med+(?)
			CBM	R	Roman brick/tile (NR)		3	174			Rom
			pot	21A	Sandy red with white paint/slip, probably Fabric 21A (post-med) but might possibly be Roman fabric DJ(I)		1	6			C 13/14-E16C
			pot	BSW			2	16	4	(*)	Rom
			pot	GX	misc		7	44	4	(*)	Rom
			pot	GTW/RW			2	62		(*)	E-M1C
F64	quarry	97	pot	DJ	Red, sandy, with grey core		1	16		*	Rom (M1-2C?)

Ctxt	Ctxt type	Find no	Find type	Fabric	Description	Form	No	Wt/g	EVE	Ab/B	Finds spot date		
(sx3)	pit		pot	GTW				1	12			LIA	
			pot	BSW				2	26	6		Rom	
			pot	GB			Cam 40B	1	12	7	(*)	E/M2-3C	
			pot	GX	Misc, including rim probably from Cam 268 jar		Cam 268	11	104	16	(*)	E/M2-3/E4C	
			pot	HZ				2	92		(*)	M1-2/3C	
			Briq		Vegetable-tempered fabric, slab vessel pieces (15 mm thick)			2	74			Prob LIA/E Rom	
			pot	40	Internal glaze			1	22			C 16/L16-18C	
			nail	fe	Small nail with round head and nail shaft piece (NR)			2	12			Rom or later	
			CBM	R	Thin tile most if not all peg-tile (NR)			8	222			med-p-med	
			CBM	R	Roman flue tile, thick piece with deeply scored lattice surface			1	214			Rom	
			CBM	R	Combed Roman flue tile (fired grey) (NR)			1	72			Rom	
CBM	R	Roman brick/tile, misc abraded pieces (NR)			11	778			*	Rom			
F67	pit	88	CBM	R	Small flake from a tile surface, not very high fired and possibly RBT, but might be PT, not closely dated (NR)		1	6					
			pot	20	Handle with folded sides as for a pipkin, grey, quartz sand fabric		1	30			med		
			pot	GTW			1	14			*	LIA	
F68	ditch	89	Clay pipe		Stem pieces 18-19C (NR)		2	8			Mod (c 18-19C)		
			glass	DG	Bottle base with high internal kick, dark green glass c 18-19C (NR)		1	394			Mod (c 18-19C)		
			CBM	R	Roman brick/tile (NR)		1	34			**	Rom	
			CBM	R	Peg-tile, one with parts of two round fixing holes (NR)		3	166				med-p-med	
F69	pit	90	pot	GX	Red thick sandy sherd – probably pottery rather than fired clay or Roman brick/tile		1	16			Rom		
			pot	GX			1	12				Rom	
F69	pit	91	nail	fe	Pointed end of a nail shaft (3mm)		1	2					
F70	pit	93	pot	BSW	Distorted sherd with scratched/ grooved lattice patter, burnt/ waster?		1	20				Rom M1-2/3C	
			pot	BSW			5	118				Rom (M1-2C?)	
F72	pit	99	FC	R	Small abraded sandy piece (NR)		1	3			*	Rom?	
			pot	HZ			1	12				M1-2C	
			pot	DJ			2	4				M1-2C	
			pot	CZ			(beaker)	1	2			**	E2-M3C
			pot	GX	Misc sherds		5	66					Rom
F75	pits(s)	100	pot	DJ	Thick sandy reddish-brown, partly burnished surface (possibly oxidised GX)		1	18				M-L1/E2C?	
			pot	RCW			1	22					
			pot	GX	Misc, including some burnish lattice decorated sherds, possibly 2C		48	644	50	(*)		M1-E2/2C(?)	
			pot	BSW	Misc, including lid sherd		7	68	4			Rom	
			pot	HZ			1	42				M1-2C	
			pot	TZ	Flanged mortarium, bead level with flange, flange edge broken		1	44	5				M/L1-2C

Ctxt	Ctxt type	Find no	Find type	Fabric	Description	Form	No	Wt/g	EVE	Ab/B	Finds spot date
					away						
			pot	DJ	Including base probably from flagon		4	28			
			pot	AJ			1	20			M1-2/E3C
			nail	fe	Quite corroded		1	26			Rom?
			CBM	R	Roman brick/tile, 35 mm thick (NR)		2	280			Rom
		102	nail	fe	One corroded (66 mm long, round flat head) bent from use and pieces of one or more others, one shaft also bent from use		4	60			Rom?
			pot	GX	Including Cam 108 beaker sherd & rim probably from Cam 268 jar	Cam 108, Cam 268	57	448	66		E/M2-3/E4C
			pot	GA	Small section of a jar rim		1	6	5		E/M2-4C
			pot	21A	Clear glaze over cream slip, red fabric		1	6			13-14C
			pot	DJ	Including sherd from flagon base with dark grey-brown interior		3	66			M1-2C
			pot	AA	Oddly narrow (small diameter) sherd		1	62			M1-E2/2C
			pot	AJ			1	70			M1-2/E3C
			pot	HZ	misc	Cam 273	14	1002		7	M1-2C
			flint		Long flake/blade (large tertiary blade, edge damage/usewear, dated Early Neolithic)		1				Early Neolithic
			flint		Scraper (tertiary flake, edges damaged including scraping edge, some possible retouch on ventral face, lateral edges, dated Neolithic-Bronze Age)		1				Neolithic-Bronze Age
			flint		Flake (secondary flake, probable edge damage)		1				Neolithic-Bronze Age
			CBM	R	Roman brick/tile (NR)		2	198			Rom
F76	pit	103	pot	GX	Roman greyware		1	6			Rom
L2		12	pot	HZ		Cam 273	1	98	6		M1-2/3C
L2 (WB)	Subsoil in service trench	-	pot	TZ	orange-buff fabric, probably a mortarium base Types 18 or 20 (Martin-Kilcher 1983 in Peacock & Williams)		1	32		*	Rom
			pot	GX			2	62	6		Rom
			pot	AJ	Rim pointed, triangular c L1-2C	D 20	1	86	13	(*)	L1-2C
L7		105	CBM	R	Peg-tile (NR)		1	22			med-p-med

Appendix 3 Small finds catalogue

SF	Ctxt	Description	find no.	Mat.	obj type	description	no.	wt (g)	length mm	width mm	thick mm	dia mm	date of SF	
1	F34	Pit, Roman – mid 1st to early 3rd	30	fe	hobnail	corroded, small, pyramid head	1	2	20			12 (head)	Roman	
2			27	as	seal box base	small rectangular base with three perforations, 22mm long by 16mm wide by 4.5mm thick, bar hinge at one end (19mm wide), perforations 2.5-3mm in dia	1	4	22	16	4.5		Roman, 2nd-early 3rd century	
3			31	pb	piece	small, bent piece of lead, covered in cream/white surface corrosion(?), piece crumbling at edges	1	16	31	14-22	6-9		Roman	
4	F51	Quarry pit, post-medieval (with lots of residual)	69	fe	blade	part of an iron blade	1	22	50	22	9		?	
5			80	fe	blade	part of a narrow blade?	1	6	34	13	5		?	
6			63	fe	hob nails	corroded, small, head of hobnail – 11-13mm diameter	2	4	12 & 14				11-13	Roman
7			64	pot	lamp	Side part of a Roman clay lamp, soft orange clay fabric, appears rather coarsely made	1	12	30	42	6			Roman
8	F52	Gully within quarry pit F51, post-medieval (with residual)	61	fe	hobnails	34 individual hobnails and groups of hobnails from a hobnailed shoe. (these pieces possibly from the heel but may be all of shoe - see site records), largest lump 45mm by 45mm	34	52					Post-medieval	
9	F51	Quarry pit, post-medieval (with lots of residual)	70	pot	counter	Almost half of a pottery counter in greware (Fabric GX), broken	1	16			7	53	Roman	
10	F34	Pit, Roman – mid 1st to early 3rd	54	pot	possible spindle whorl	irregular shaped disc, roughly broken, not shaped but with central hole (post-firing) (Fabric HZ)	1	28			10	45-48	Roman	
11	F64 sx3	Quarry pit, post-medieval (with lots of residual)	98	ae	coin	Ae coin, worn, one edge badly degraded/flaking, obv. Worn head of emperor facing right, radiate, part of legend -]NO O[PT]IMO AVG GER DA[- ; rev. almost completely worn (vague outline of a figure seated, looking left), illegible; die axis 7; dupondius of Trajan (114-117 AD) (RIC 653)	1	10				27	Roman, 114-117AD	
12	F75	Pit, Roman – mid 1st to early 3rd	101	ae	brooch (spring)	Small pieces from a brooch spring	3	<1	6-11				Roman	
13	F34	Pit, Roman – mid 1st to early 3rd	25	fe	object	Fe strip, bent round into an irregular angular ring (perhaps more triangular in shape)	1	14	23	23	23		Roman	
14	F55	Ditch, Roman	72	fe	object	Small flat piece	1	12	35	19-26	9		Roman	
15	F70	Pit, Roman – 1st to 3rd	93	fe	nail	Nail shank	1	10	36	21		14	Roman	



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Fig 1 Site location.



Fig 2 Excavation results.

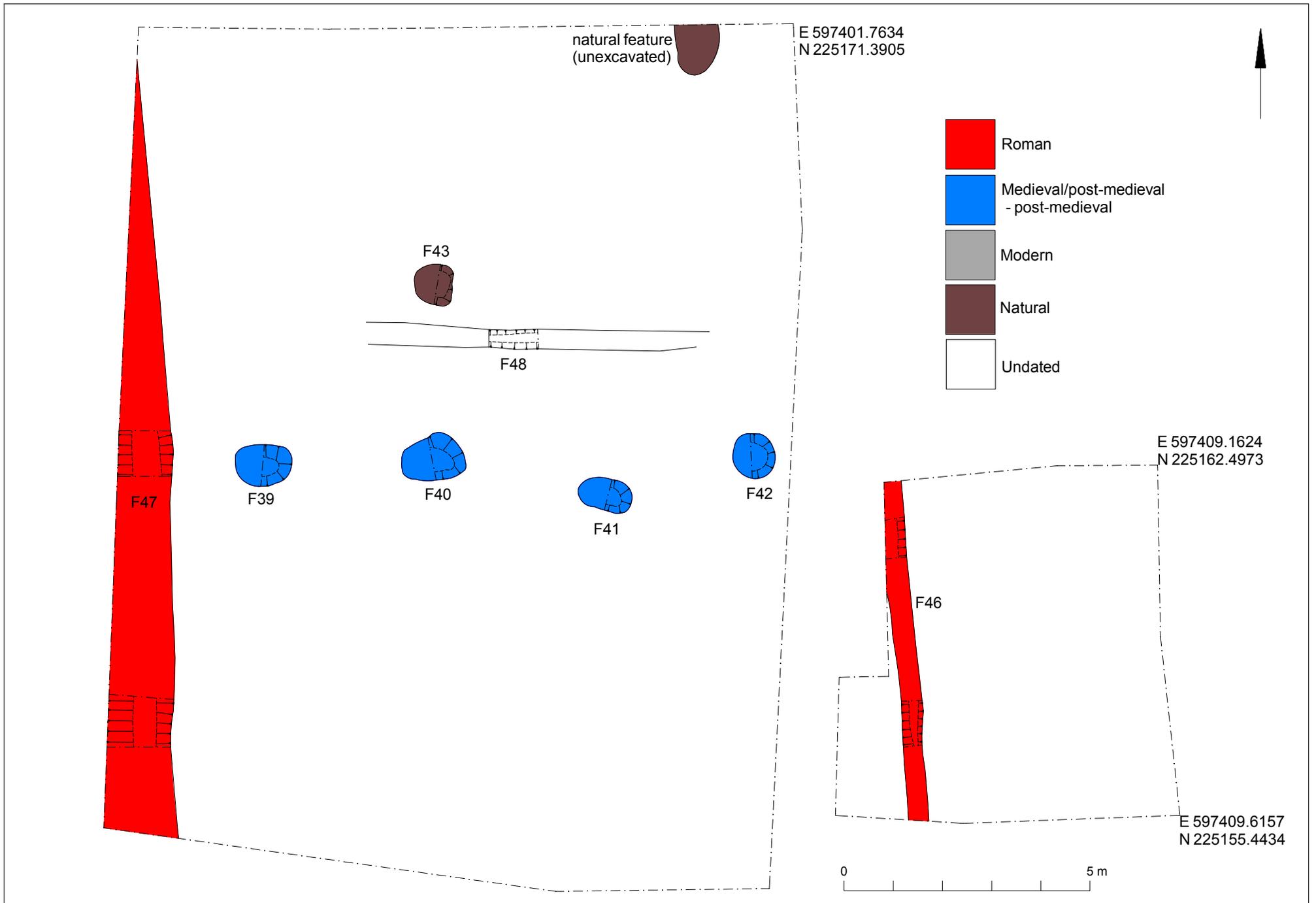


Fig 3 Plot 1 excavation results.

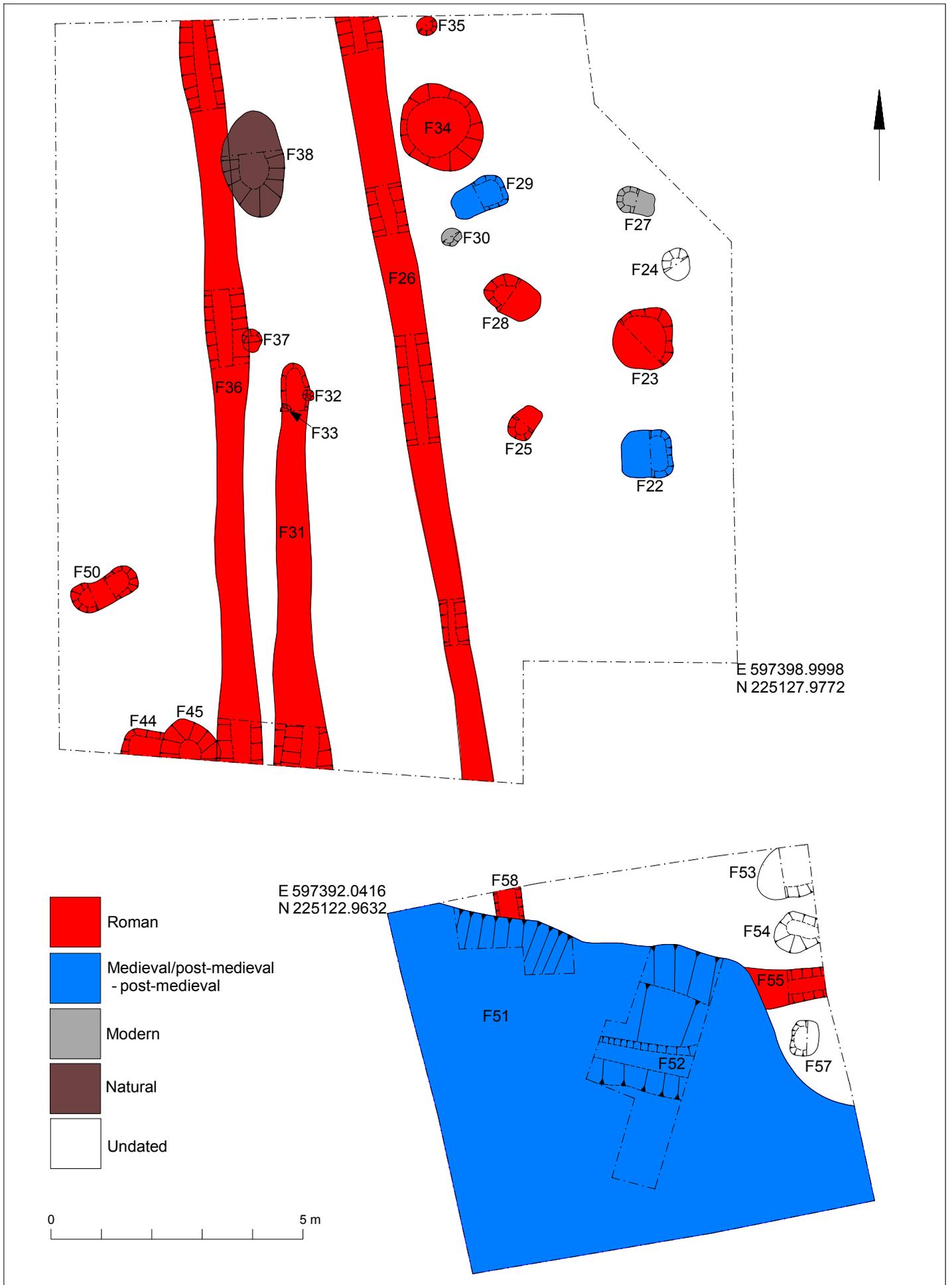


Fig 4 Plot 2 excavation results.

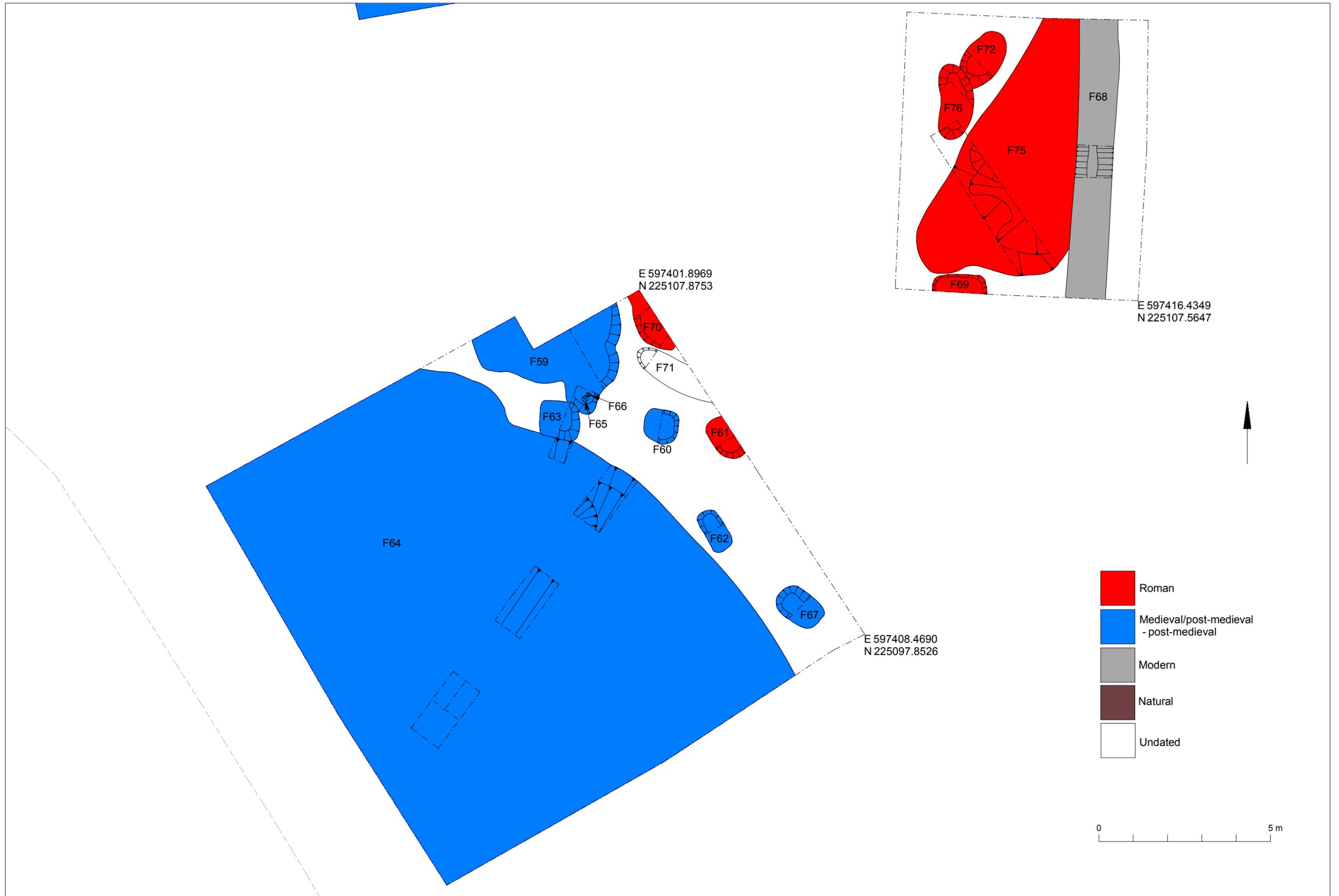


Fig 5 Plot 3 excavation results.

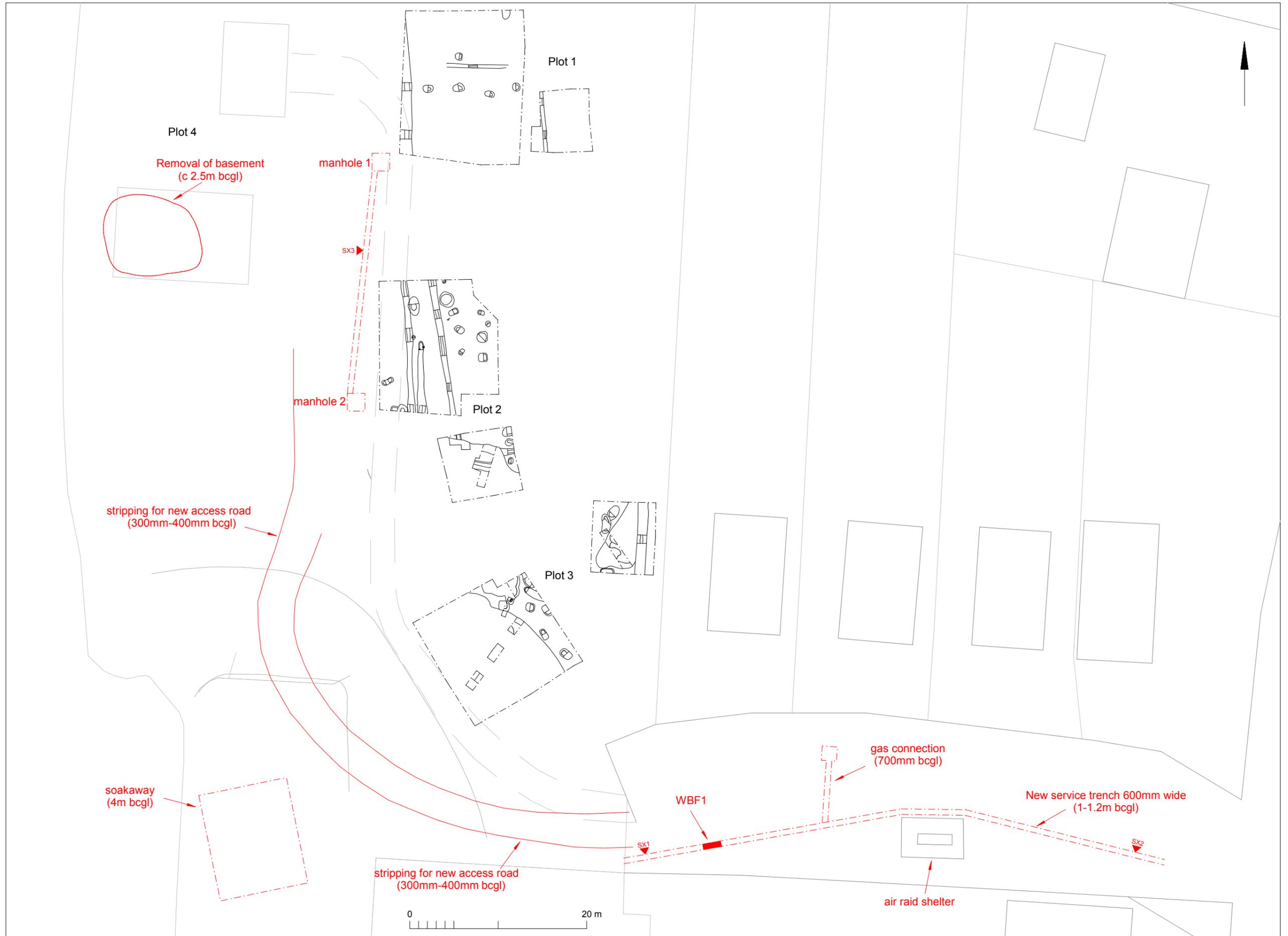
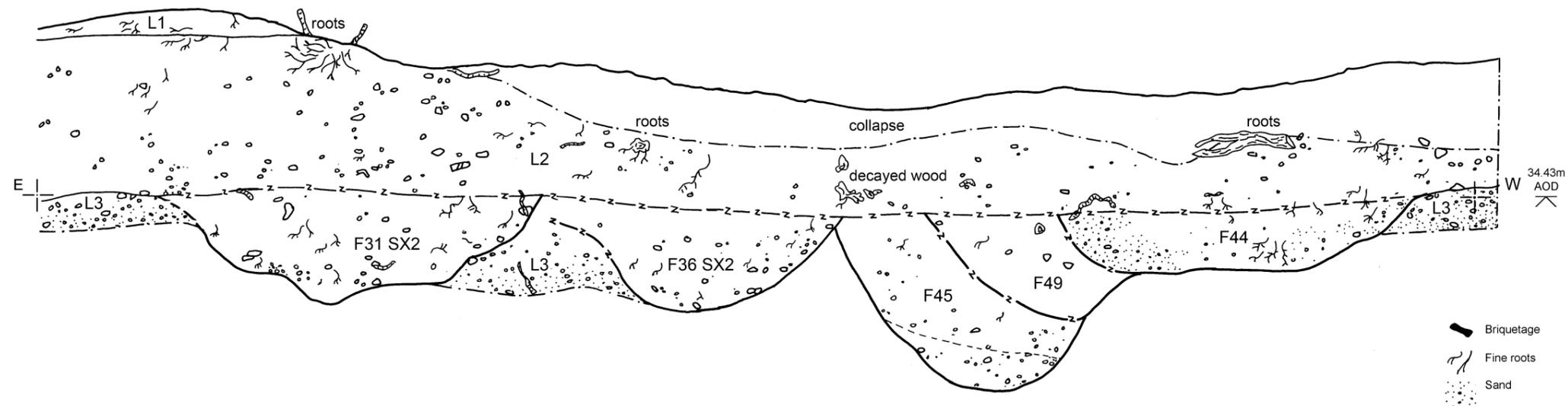
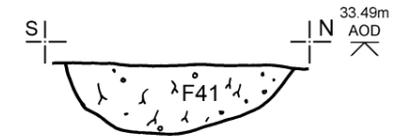
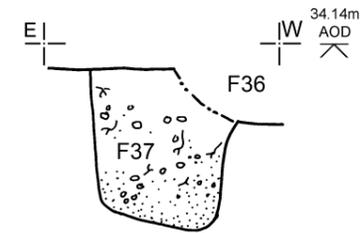
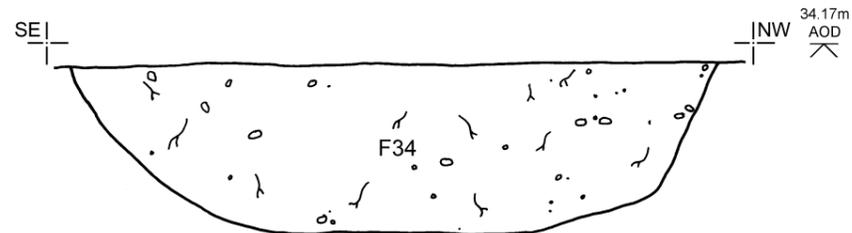
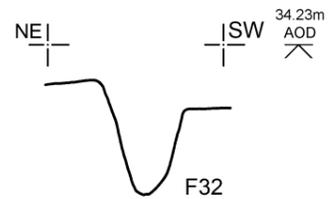
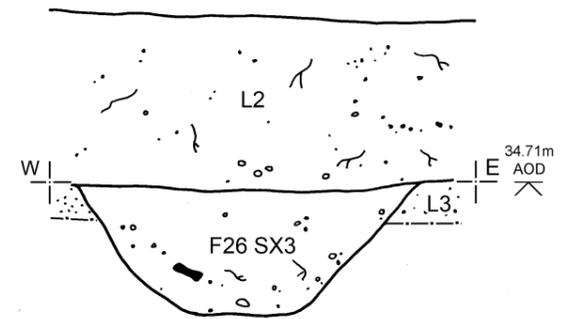
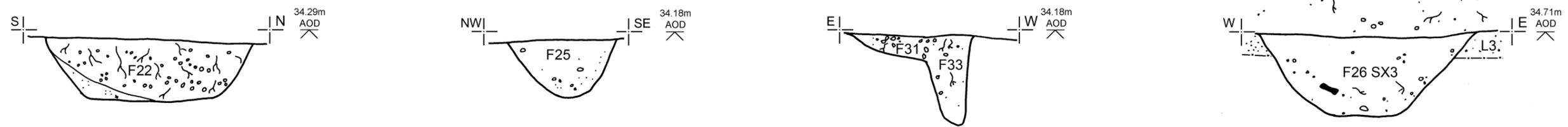


Fig 6 Areas of monitoring and recording (in red).



- Briquetage
- Fine roots
- Sand

Fig 7 Feature sections



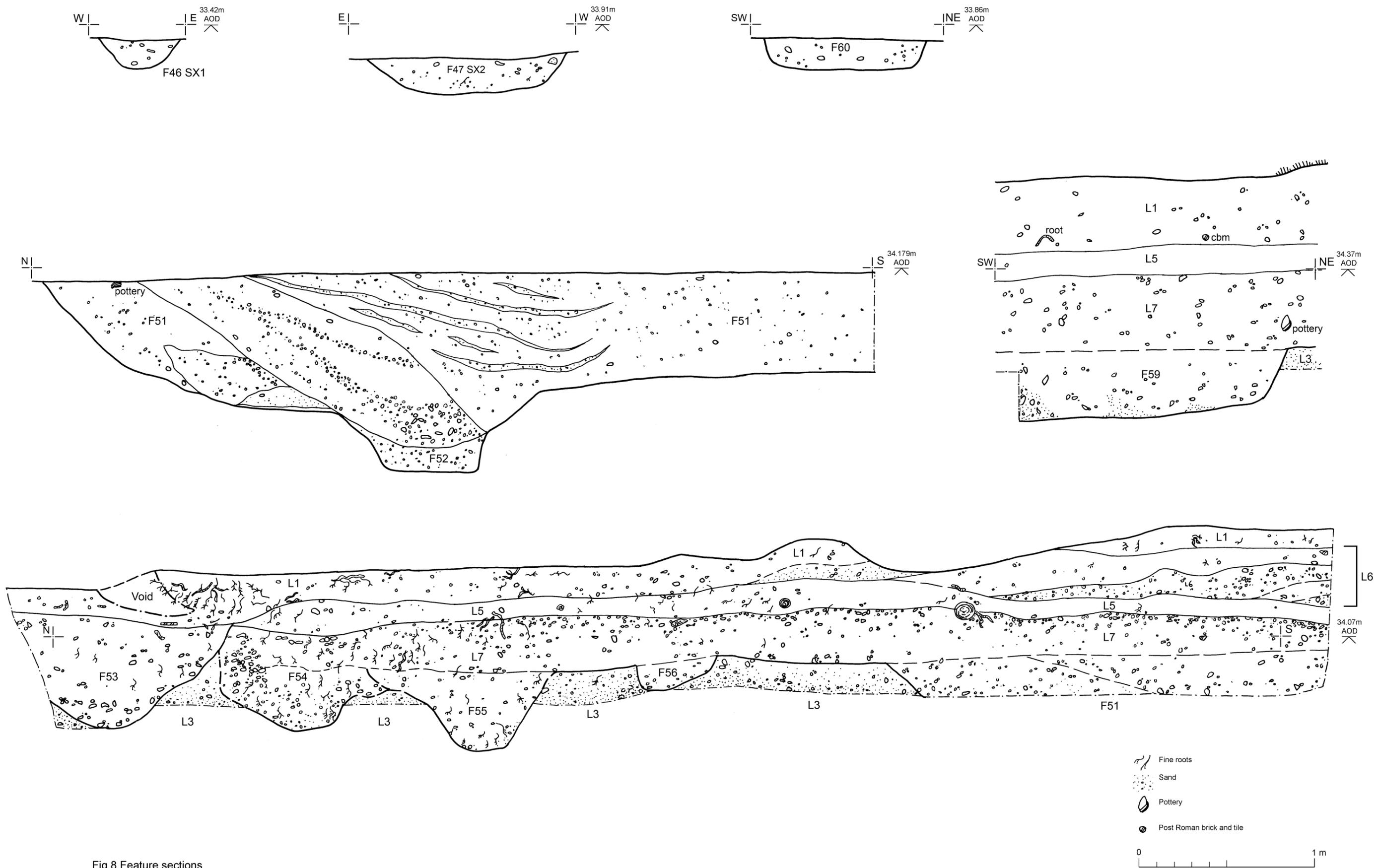
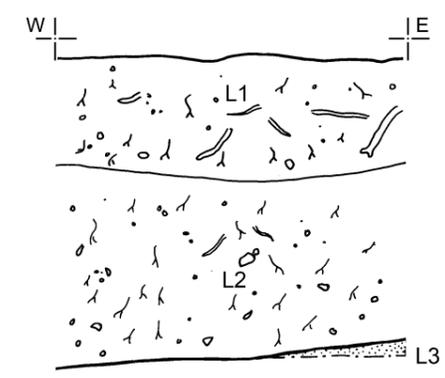
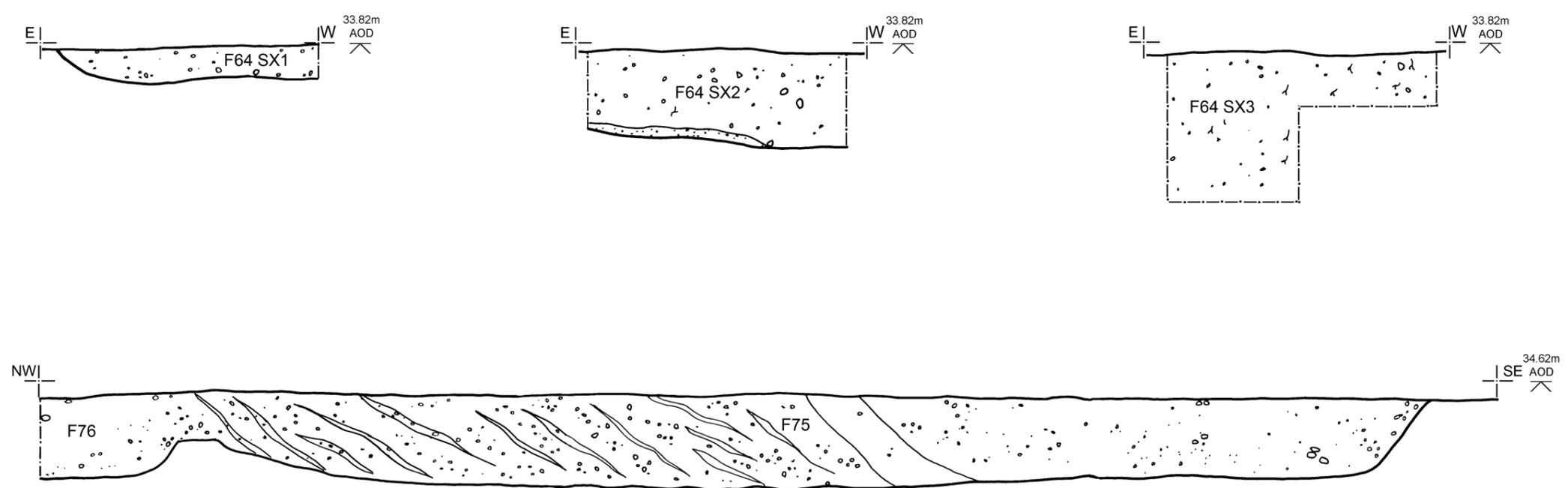
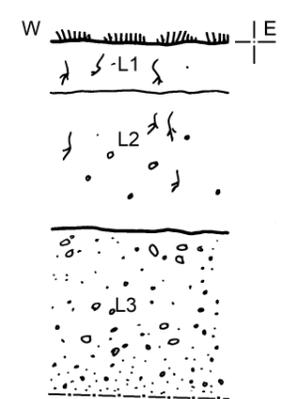


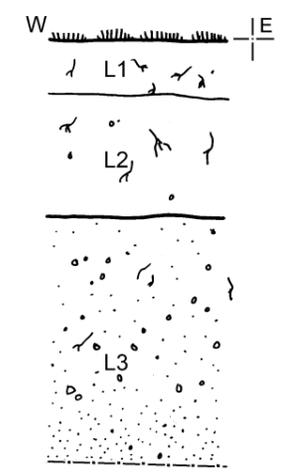
Fig 8 Feature sections



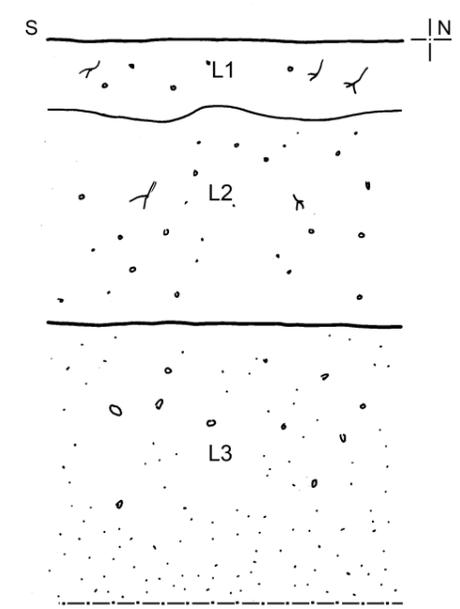
Plot 1 Representative section



Service trench representative section 1



Service trench representative section 2



Service trench representative section 3

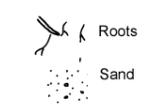


Fig 9 Feature and representative sections

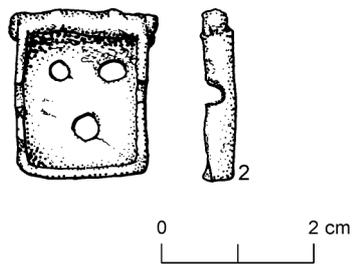
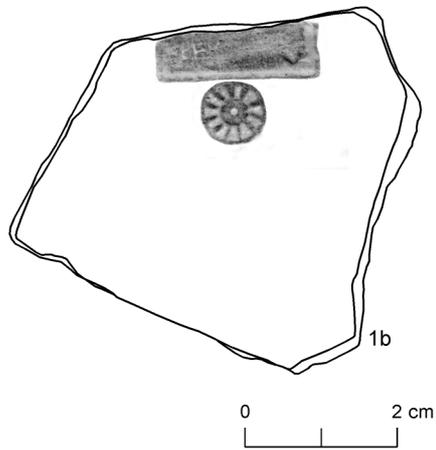
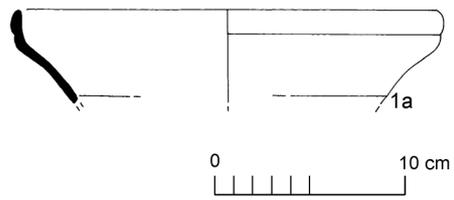


Fig 10 Roman platter (1a) with stamp on a non-joining base sherd (1b) and copper-alloy seal box base (2).

Essex Historic Environment Record/ Essex Archaeology and History

Summary sheet

Address: High Trees, St Clare Drive, Colchester, Essex, CO3 3TA	
Parish: Colchester	District: Colchester
NGR: TL 9738 2512 (centre)	Site code: CAT project ref.: 16/02b CHER ref: ECC3704 OASIS ref: colchest3-241412
Type of work: Excavation, monitoring and recording, building recording	Site director/group: Colchester Archaeological Trust
Date of work: February – July 2016	Size of area investigated: 0.94ha; excavation areas totalling 761.2m ²
Location of curating museum: Colchester museum accession code COLEM: 2016.17	Funding source: Developer
Further seasons anticipated? Not known	Related CHER/EHER numbers:
Final report: CAT Report 1008	
Periods represented: Roman, post-medieval, modern, Second World War	
<p>Summary of fieldwork results: Archaeological excavation, monitoring and a building recording was carried out at 'High Trees', St Clare Road, Colchester in advance of the construction of four new dwellings, garages and an access road. The development site is located 60m west of Lexden Dyke and on the northern edge of the Late Iron Age and Roman 'Lexden cemetery'.</p> <p>Roman features consisted of four north/south ditches, one east/west ditch, fourteen small pits, one large pit(s) and three postholes. The ditches are probably either field boundaries or relate to a nearby settlement, with the presence of a moderately wealthy finds assemblage suggesting that the latter may be more likely. So, not only were people being buried in this part of Roman Colchester but they were living here too.</p> <p>A second phase of activity dates to the post-medieval period (16/17th to early 18th century) with two large quarry pits showing gravel was extracted on the site. Modern pillar postholes, pits and a boundary ditch are probably related to the old house and garden.</p> <p>A building recording was also carried out on a Second World War air-raid shelter located on the site.</p>	
Previous summaries/reports: CAT Report 745	
CBC monitor: Jess Tipper	
Keywords: -	Significance: *
Author of summary: Laura Pooley	Date of summary: January 2017

Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) for an archaeological excavation at 'High Trees', St Clare Drive, Colchester, Essex, CO3 3TA

NGR: TL 9738 2512 (centre)

Planning reference: 151495

Client: Gus Milne

Agent: Robert Pomeroy

Curating Museum: Colchester

Museum accession code: COLEM 2016.17

UAD Event number: ECC3704

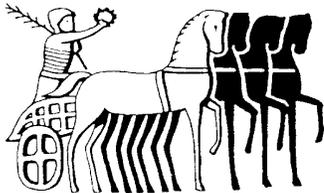
CAT Project code: 16/02b

OASIS Project code: colchest3-241412

Site Manager: Ben Holloway

CBC Monitor: Jess Tipper

This WSI written: 3.2.2016



COLCHESTER ARCHAEOLOGICAL TRUST,
Roman Circus House,
Roman Circus Walk
Colchester,
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Site Location and Description

The proposed development site lies on land at 'High Trees', St Clare Drive, Colchester. The site is centred on NGR TL 9738 2512.

Proposed work

The proposed work comprises a residential development of four detached dwellings, garages, a new access road and associated infrastructure.

Archaeological Background

The following archaeological background draws on the Colchester Archaeological Trust report archive, the Colchester Urban Archaeological Database (UAD) and the Essex Historic Environment Record accessed via the Heritage Gateway:

The development site is located within an area of high archaeological potential, on the western side of the site of the Late Iron Age *oppidum* of Camulodunum, which was defined by a system of defensive dykes. One of these, Lexden Dyke, extends roughly north-south through Lexden Park, immediately to the west of the properties on the western side of St Clare Road (CAR 11, 34-45). Excavations in 1932 indicated that there was probably an entrance through Lexden Dyke Middle adjacent to the current site (*ibid*, 42-4).

The site also lies within the Late Iron Age/Roman Lexden cemetery area (CAR 9, 261) (EHER 11712). The cemetery area, which has not been fully published (but see CAR 11, 164-9), was in use from the 1st century BC to the 3rd or 4th century AD. Near to the corner of St Clare Road and Fitzwalter Road, south of the site, lies the Lexden Tumulus. This scheduled ancient monument (1019967) was excavated in 1924 and produced a rich Late Iron Age cremation burial dating to c 15-10 BC (Foster 1986) (EHER 11710).

CAT has undertaken a number of other fieldwork projects in St Clare Road in recent years, most of them revealed no archaeological features or finds (CAT Report 99, 136, 195, 225, 250, 455, 568). However, two Roman urned cremation burials were identified during a watching brief at 12 St Clare Road (CAT Report 582) and an excavation at 20 St Clare Road revealed a post-medieval boundary ditch and post-medieval/modern pits (CAT Report 832).

An archaeological evaluation on this development site in 2013 revealed 21 archaeological features including six Roman inhumations, Roman and undated ditches, and post-medieval and modern pits (CAT Report 745) (UAD no. ECC2879). Archaeological remains here were shallow, encountered at c 350-400mm below existing ground level.

Planning Background

A planning application was made to Colchester Borough Council in July 2015 (application No. 151495) proposing a residential development.

As the site lies within an area highlighted by the EHER / UAD as having a high potential for archaeological deposits, an archaeological condition was recommended by the Colchester Borough Council Archaeological Advisor (CBCAA). The recommended archaeological condition is based on the guidance given in the *National Planning Policy Framework* (DCLG 2012).

Requirement for Work

The required archaeological work is for archaeological excavation. Details are given in a Project Brief written by CBCAA (CBC 2016).

Specifically, four areas will be mechanically stripped (under archaeological supervision) and all archaeological features excavated and recorded (totalling 806m²) (Fig 2).

All other groundworks relating to this development will be the subject of continuous archaeological monitoring and recording (a watching brief).

General Methodology

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

- professional standards of the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists, including its *Code of Conduct* (CIfA 2014a-c)
- Standards and Frameworks published by East Anglian Archaeology (Gurney 2003, Medlycott 2011)
- required standards of fieldwork in Colchester Borough (CM 2008a, b)
- relevant Health & Safety guidelines and requirements (CAT 2014)
- the Project Brief issued by CBCAA (CBC 2015)

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

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

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

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

Staffing

The number of field staff for this project is estimated as follows: One supervisor, a site assistant and experience excavators for ten days.

In charge of day-to-day site work: Ben Holloway

Excavation methodology

All topsoil removal and ground reduction will be done with a toothless bucket under the supervision of an archaeologist.

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

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

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

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

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

Samples will be taken if palaeo-environmental and/or geoarchaeological remains are encountered.

Watching Brief Methodology (in addition to the above):

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

Site surveying

Normal scale for archaeological site plans and sections is 1:20 and 1:10 respectively, unless circumstances indicate that other scales would be more appropriate.

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

Environmental sampling policy

CAT has an arrangement with Val Fryer whereby any potentially rich environmental layers or features will be appropriately sampled as a matter of course, but only if they are datable. Any processing and reporting will be done by Val Fryer. If any complex or outstanding deposits are encountered, VF will be asked onto site to advise. EH Regional Adviser is available for further advice.

Human remains

CAT follows the policy of leaving human remains *in situ* unless there is a clear indication that the remains are in danger of being destroyed by groundworks. If circumstances indicated it were prudent or necessary to remove remains from the site during the excavation and monitoring, the following criteria would be applied; if it is clear from their position, context, depth, or other factors that the remains are ancient, then normal procedure is to apply to the Department of Justice for a licence to remove them. In that case, conditions laid down by the license will be followed. If it seems that the remains are not ancient, then the coroner, the client, and CBCAA will be informed, and any advice and/or instruction from the coroner will be followed.

Photographic record

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

Finds

All significant finds will be retained.

All finds, where appropriate, will be washed and marked with site code and context number.

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

animal bones (small groups): Adam Wightman

flints: Adam Wightman

or to outside specialists:

small finds, metalwork, coins, etc: Nina Crummy.

animal bones (large groups) and human remains: Julie Curl (*Sylvanus*)

environmental processing and reporting: Val Fryer (Loddon)

conservation of finds: staff at Colchester Museum

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

Roman brick/tile: Ernest Black

Roman glass: Hilary Cool

Prehistoric pottery: Paul Sealey

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

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

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

Post-excavation assessment

Once fieldwork has finished the need for a post-excavation assessment will be discussed and agreed with CBCAA.

If a post-excavation assessment is required by CBCAA, it will be normally be submitted within 2 months of the end of fieldwork, or as quickly as is reasonably practicable and at a time agreed with CBCAA. It will be a clear and concise assessment of the archaeological value and significance of the results, and will identify the research potential in the context of the Regional Research Framework. It will include an Updated Project Design, with a timetable, for analysis, dissemination and archive deposition.

Where archaeological results do not warrant a post-excavation assessment, preparation of the normal site report will begin.

Results

Notification will be given to CBCAA when the fieldwork has been completed.

An appropriate archive will be prepared to minimum acceptable standards outlined in *Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment* (English Heritage 2006).

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

The PDF report will be available as hard copy, and also published on the CAT website and on the OASIS website.

The report will contain:

- The aims and methods adopted in the course of the archaeological project.
- Location plan of trenches in relation to the proposed development. At least two corners of each trench will be given 10 figure grid references.
- A section drawing showing depth of deposits from present ground level with Ordnance Datum, vertical and horizontal scale (if this can be safely done)
- Archaeological methodology and detailed results including a suitable conclusion and discussion and results referring to Regional Research Frameworks (Medlycott 2011).
- All specialist reports or assessments
- A concise non-technical summary of the project results.

An EHER summary sheet will also be completed within four weeks and supplied to CBCAA.

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

Archive Deposition

It is a policy of Colchester Borough Council that the integrity of the site archive be maintained (i.e. all finds and records should be properly curated by a single organisation), with the archive available for public consultation. To achieve this desired aim it is assumed that the full

archive will be deposited in Colchester Museums *unless otherwise agreed in advance*. (A full copy of the archive shall in any case be deposited).

By accepting this WSI, the client agrees to deposit the archive, including all artefacts, at Colchester & Ipswich Museum.

The requirements for archive storage will be agreed with the curating museum.

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

The archive will be deposited with Colchester & Ipswich Museum within 3 months of the completion of the final publication report, with a summary of the contents of the archive supplied to CBCAA.

Monitoring

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

Notification of the start of work will be given to CBCAA one week in advance of its commencement.

Any variations in this WSI will be agreed with CBCAA prior to them being carried out. CBCAO will be notified when the fieldwork is complete.

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

References

- | | | |
|----------------|-------|---|
| CBC | 2016 | <i>Brief for Archaeological Excavation High Trees, St Clare Road, Colchester, CO3 3TA</i> , by J Tipper |
| CAR 9 | 1993 | <i>Excavations of Roman and later cemeteries, churches and monastic sites in Colchester, 1971-88</i> , Colchester Archaeological Report, 9 |
| CAR 11 | 1995 | <i>Camulodunum II</i> , Colchester Archaeological Report, 11 |
| CAT | 2014 | <i>Health & Safety Policy</i> |
| CAT Report 99 | 2000 | <i>Report on an archaeological watching brief at 1a St Clare Road, Colchester</i> . October 2000 |
| CAT Report 136 | 2001 | <i>An archaeological watching brief at 14 St Clare Road, Colchester, Essex</i> : April 2001 |
| CAT Report 195 | 2002 | <i>An archaeological watching brief at 10 St Clare Road, Colchester, Essex</i> : June 2002 |
| CAT Report 225 | 2003 | <i>An archaeological excavation at 1 St Clare Road, Colchester, Essex</i> : March 2003 |
| CAT Report 250 | 2003 | <i>An archaeological evaluation at 30 St Clare Road, Colchester, Essex</i> : November 2003 |
| CAT Report 455 | 2008 | <i>Report on a negative watching brief at 1 St Clare Road, Colchester, Essex</i> : January 2008 |
| CAT Report 568 | 2010 | <i>Watching brief at 30 St Clare Road, Colchester, Essex</i> : September 2010 |
| CAT Report 582 | 2010 | <i>An archaeological watching brief at 12 St Clare Road, Colchester, Essex</i> : November 2010 |
| CAT Report 745 | 2013 | <i>A Roman cemetery east of Lexden Dyke: archaeological evaluation by trial-trenching at 'High Trees', St Clare Road, Colchester, Essex</i> : December 2013 |
| CAT Report 832 | 2015 | <i>Archaeological strip, map and recording on land adjacent to 20 St Clare Road, Colchester, Essex</i> : March 2015 |
| CIfA | 2014a | <i>Standard and Guidance for an archaeological excavation</i> |
| CIfA | 2014b | <i>Standard and guidance for the creation, compilation, transfer and deposition of archaeological archives</i> |
| CIfA | 2014c | <i>Standard and guidance for the collection, documentation, conservation and research of archaeological materials</i> |
| CM | 2008 | <i>Guidelines on standards and practices for archaeological fieldwork in the</i> |

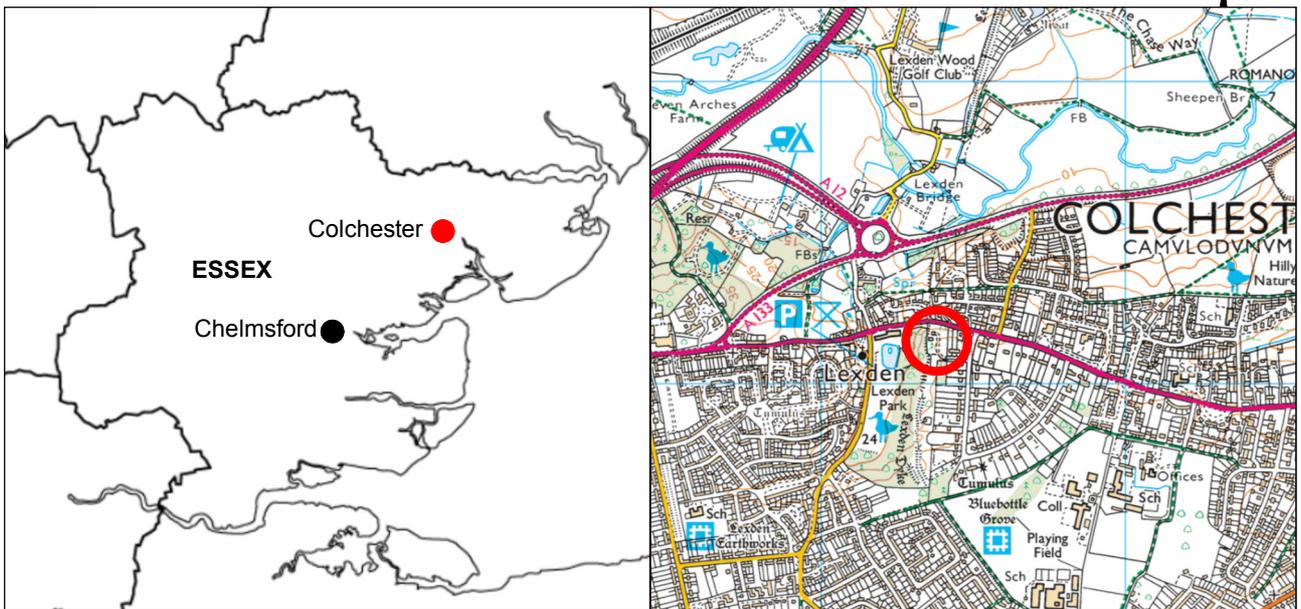
CM	2008	<i>Borough of Colchester Guidelines on the Preparation and Transfer of Archaeological Archives to Colchester & Ipswich Museums</i>
DCLG	2012	<i>National Planning Policy Framework</i>
English Heritage	2006	<i>Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment (MoRPHE)</i>
Foster, J	1986	<i>The Lexden Tumulus: a re-appraisal of an Iron Age burial from Colchester, Essex, BAR British Series, 156</i>
Gurney, D	2003	<i>Standards for field archaeology in the East of England. East Anglian Archaeology Occasional Papers 14 (EAA 14).</i>
Medlycott, M	2011	<i>Research and archaeology revisited: A revised framework for the East of England. East Anglian Archaeology Occasional Papers 24 (EAA 24)</i>

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Fig 1 Site location and excavation areas in relation to the evaluation trenches.

-
 proposed buildings
-
 proposed new driveway
-
 demolished dwelling and driveway

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OASIS ID: colchest3-241412

Project details

Project name	An archaeological excavation at High Trees, St Clare Drive, Colchester, Essex, CO3 3TA
Short description of the project	Archaeological excavation, monitoring and a building recording was carried out at 'High Trees', St Clare Road, Colchester in advance of the construction of four new dwellings, garages and an access road. The development site is located 60m west of Lexden Dyke and on the northern edge of the Late Iron Age and Roman 'Lexden cemetery'. Roman features consisted of four north/south ditches, one east/west ditch, fourteen small pits, one large pit(s) and three postholes. The ditches are probably either field boundaries or relate to a nearby settlement, with the presence of a moderately wealthy finds assemblage suggesting that the latter may be more likely. So, not only were people being buried in this part of Roman Colchester but they were living here too. A second phase of activity dates to the post-medieval period (16/17th to early 18th century) with two large quarry pits showing gravel was extracted on the site. Modern pillar postholes, pits and a boundary ditch are probably related to the old house and garden. A building recording was also carried out on a Second World War air-raid shelter located on the site.
Project dates	Start: 17-02-2016 End: 11-07-2016
Previous/future work	Yes / Not known
Any associated project reference codes	151495 - Planning Application No.
Any associated project reference codes	16/02b - Contracting Unit No.
Any associated project reference codes	COLEM: 2016.17 - Museum accession ID
Any associated project reference codes	ECC3704 - HER event no.
Type of project	Recording project
Site status	None
Current Land use	Residential 1 - General Residential
Monument type	DITCHES Roman
Monument type	PITS Roman
Monument type	POSTHOLES Roman
Monument type	PITS Medieval
Monument type	PITS Post Medieval
Monument type	GULLY Post Medieval
Monument type	POSTHOLES Post Medieval

Monument type	PITS Modern
Monument type	DITCH Modern
Monument type	PITS Uncertain
Monument type	AIR-RAID SHELTER Modern
Significant Finds	POTTERY Late Prehistoric
Significant Finds	FLINT Early Prehistoric
Significant Finds	FLINT Late Prehistoric
Significant Finds	POTTERY Late Iron Age
Significant Finds	POTTERY Roman
Significant Finds	CERAMIC BUILDING MATERIAL Roman
Significant Finds	QUERNSTONE Roman
Significant Finds	SEAL BOX Roman
Significant Finds	SPINDLEWHORL Roman
Significant Finds	COIN Roman
Significant Finds	POTTERY Medieval
Significant Finds	POTTERY Post Medieval
Significant Finds	CERAMIC BUILDING MATERIAL Medieval
Significant Finds	CERAMIC BUILDING MATERIAL Post Medieval
Significant Finds	FIRE CLAY Uncertain
Significant Finds	NAILS Uncertain
Investigation type	"Part Excavation", "Watching Brief"
Prompt	Planning condition

Project location

Country	England
Site location	ESSEX COLCHESTER COLCHESTER High Trees, St Clare Drive
Postcode	CO3 3TA
Study area	0.94 Hectares
Site coordinates	TL 9738 2512 51.889112917351 0.868627417809 51 53 20 N 000 52 07 E Point
Height OD / Depth	Min: 33.01m Max: 34.43m

Project creators

Name of Organisation	Colchester Archaeological Trust
Project brief originator	CBC Archaeological Officer
Project design originator	Laura Pooley
Project director/manager	Chris Lister
Project supervisor	Adam Wightman
Type of sponsor/funding body	Developer

Project archives

Physical Archive	Colchester Museum
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recipient	
Physical Archive ID	COLEM: 2016.17
Physical Contents	"Ceramics","Metal","Worked stone/lithics"
Digital Archive recipient	Colchester Museum
Digital Archive ID	COLEM: 2016.17
Digital Contents	"none"
Digital Media available	"Images raster / digital photography","Survey"
Paper Archive recipient	Colchester Museum
Paper Archive ID	COLEM: 2016.17
Paper Contents	"none"
Paper Media available	"Section","Context sheet","Miscellaneous Material","Photograph","Plan","Report"

Project bibliography 1

Publication type	Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)
Title	Archaeological excavation, monitoring and building recording at 'High Trees', St Clare Drive, Colchester, Essex, CO3 3TA: February-July 2016
Author(s)/Editor(s)	Pooley, L.
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