

# Archaeological evaluation at the Colchester Holiday Park, Cymbeline Way, Colchester, Essex, CO3 4AG

September 2016



**by Laura Pooley**

with contributions by Stephen Benfield and Lisa Gray  
figures by Ben Holloway and Emma Holloway

fieldwork by Ben Holloway, Nigel Rayner and Alec Wade

**commissioned by Mark Southerton  
on behalf of Sam Sellars**

NGR: TL 9670 2562 (centre)

Planning reference: 136183 and 160672

CAT project ref.: 16/09d

Colchester Museum accession code: COLEM 2016.98

UAD ref: ECC3880

OASIS reference: colchest3-262635



**Colchester Archaeological Trust**

Roman Circus House,  
Roman Circus Walk,  
Colchester,  
Essex, CO2 7GZ

tel.: 01206 501785

email: lp@catuk.org

**CAT Report 1024**  
October/November 2016

## Contents

1	Summary	1
2	Introduction	1
3	Archaeological background	1
4	Results	2
5	Finds	6
6	Environmental report	8
7	Discussion	10
8	Acknowledgements	10
9	References	10
10	Abbreviations and glossary	11
11	Contents of archive	11
12	Archive deposition	12
	Appendix 1 Context list	13
	Appendix 2 Finds catalogue	14-15

Figures after p16

Appendix 3 CAT WSI  
Appendix 4 OASIS Summary

## List of photographs, tables and figures

Cover: general site shot

Photograph 1	T2, looking E	3
Photograph 2	T3, F1, looking W	3
Photograph 3	T4, looking S	4
Photograph 4	T8, looking W	5
Photograph 5	T9, looking S	5
Table 1	CBM data	7
Table 2	Plant macro-remains	9

Fig 1	Site location (red) and trenches in relation to proposed development
Fig 2	Results
Fig 3	Trench plans: T1-T4
Fig 4	Trench plans: T6, T8-T9
Fig 5	Feature sections
Fig 6	Feature and representative sections

## 1 Summary

*An archaeological evaluation (nine trial-trenches) was carried out at the Colchester Holiday Park, Cymbeline Way, Colchester, Essex in advance of the siting of an additional 42 static holiday caravan plots. The development site is located between the scheduled Triple Dyke and Moat Farm Dyke, in an area of known cropmarks and Roman features. Roman ditches, pits and postholes were excavated and are probably associated with agriculture or settlement. However, large quantities of Roman ceramic building material were recorded and may suggest the presence of a structure with tiled-roof and hypocaust somewhere nearby.*

## 2 Introduction (Fig 1)

This report presents the results of an archaeological evaluation at the Colchester Holiday Park, Cymbeline Way, Colchester, Essex which was carried out on the 26th-28th September 2016. The work was commissioned by Mark Southerton, on behalf of Sam Sellars, in advance of the siting of an additional 42 static holiday caravan plots, 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 Trenched Archaeological Evaluation*, 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 evaluation* (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), the Colchester Historic Environment Record (CHER) (previously known as Urban Archaeological Database (UAD)) 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. The Triple Dyke extends roughly north-south 800m to the west to the site. The Triple Dyke was added to the dyke system after the Roman conquest to strengthen the line of Shrub End Dyke at its northern end (CAR 11, 52-61) (EHER 11635). The Moat Farm Dyke (the northern extension of the Lexden Dyke) extends roughly northeast-southwest 550m to the east of the site (CAR 11, 34-45) (EHER 11627).

To the north a sub-circular enclosure has been identified as cropmarks at Seven Arches Farm (formerly Motts Farm) (EHER 11971) with linear cropmarks identified to the west of Westhouse Farm (EHER 11990). A watching brief on a new water-main to the east of Spring Lane (500m to the SE of the development site) revealed two or three sand

quarry pits dated to the Roman period. One pit contained Roman bricks which would have formed a voussoir over a door or window, indicating the presence of a high-status Roman building nearby (CAT Report 160; EHER 19728). An Iron Age enclosure is known to the northeast at West House Farm (CAR 11, 137; EHER 12671).

Immediately to the southeast, Maltings Farm House is a timber-framed listed 16th century building (EHER 31271).

#### **4 Results** (Figs 2-6)

Nine trenches were laid out across the development site and machine excavated under archaeological supervision. The tenth trench (as proposed in the WSI) could not be excavated as the caravan plot was still occupied. Each trench measured 20m long by 1.8m wide (totalling 324m<sup>2</sup>).

All of the trenches were excavated through modern topsoil (L1, containing fragments of Roman CBM, peg-tile, slate, modern brick and coal – none retained) onto a medium grey/brown silty subsoil (L2). Quantities of Roman CBM were recovered from L2 in trenches T2, T3, T8 and T9. Beneath L2 was a natural orange/brown silt with gravel patches (L3).

##### **Trench 1 (T1)**

Excavated through modern topsoil (L1, c 200mm thick) onto a medium grey/brown silty subsoil (L2, c 150mm thick) sealing natural (L3).

Roman ditch F3 was U-shaped, aligned NE/SW and measured 0.9m wide by 0.2m deep. Undated ditch F4 was also U-shaped, aligned N/S and 0.7m wide by 0.1m deep.

##### **Trench 2 (T2)**

Excavated through modern topsoil (L1, c 210-220mm thick) onto a medium grey/brown silty subsoil (L2, c 100-320mm thick) sealing natural (L3).

At the east end of the trench, Roman ditch F16 was U-shaped, aligned N/S and 1m wide by 0.15m deep. A second undated ditch terminal (F17) was also U-shaped, aligned NE/SW and 1.17m wide by 0.27m deep. Two Roman pits F7 and F15 were excavated either side of the ditches, measuring 0.12m and 0.3m deep respectively.

At the west end of the trench was a wide and shallow cut feature (F20) measuring 2.44m wide by 0.1-0.14m deep. It was possibly a Roman linear aligned N/S but had an irregular, though level, base. Two postholes, F21-F22, were recorded in the base of the feature. They measured 0.3m and 0.35m in diameter and 0.1m deep.

##### **Trench 3 (T3)**

Excavated through modern topsoil (L1, c 260-280mm thick) onto a medium grey/brown silty subsoil (L2, c 140-160mm thick) sealing natural (L3).

The south end of the trench contained a wide and shallow cut feature or spread of CBM (F1). It was irregular but was aligned roughly NW/SE measuring 1.6-1.9m wide by approximately 0.18m deep. It was packed with abraded/worn Roman CBM and fist-sized stones/flint nodules.

Undated pit/posthole F2 and modern posthole F5 were excavated at the north end of the trench, and a modern ceramic land drain was recorded.

##### **Trench 4 (T4)**

Excavated through modern topsoil (L1, c 150mm thick) onto a medium grey/brown silty subsoil (L2, c 150mm thick) sealing natural (L3).

Roman ditch F8 was U-shaped, aligned NE/SW and measured 0.41m wide by 0.13m deep. Roman pit F6 was approximately 0.11m in diameter and 0.27m deep.



**Photograph 1** T2, looking E



**Photograph 2** T3, F1, looking W



**Photograph 3** T4, looking S

**Trench 5 (T5)**

Excavated through modern topsoil (L1, c 250-300mm thick) onto a medium grey/brown silty subsoil (L2, c 200-250mm thick) sealing natural (L3).

No significant archaeological horizons were exposed.

**Trench 6 (T6)**

Excavated through modern topsoil (L1, c 100-240mm thick) onto a medium grey/brown silty subsoil (L2, c 120-250mm thick) sealing natural (L3).

Small undated pit/posthole F9 was excavated near the centre of the trench, it measured 0.39m wide by 0.14m deep. Modern services were recorded to the north.

**Trench 7 (T7)**

Excavated through modern topsoil (L1, c 200-250mm thick) onto a medium grey/brown silty subsoil (L2, c 300mm thick) sealing natural (L3).

Two modern services were recorded but no significant archaeological horizons were exposed.

**Trench 8 (T8)**

Excavated through modern topsoil (L1, c 250-300mm thick) onto a medium grey/brown silty subsoil (L2, c 200-350mm thick) sealing natural (L3).

To the east was Roman ditch F10. It was U-shaped, aligned NW/SE and measured 0.95m wide by 0.23m deep. In the centre of the trench was a row of four undated postholes (F11-F14) 0.18-0.26m in diameter and 0.14-0.2m deep. To the west was a modern ceramic land drain.



**Photograph 4** T8, looking W



**Photograph 5** T9, looking S

### Trench 9 (T9)

Excavated through modern topsoil (L1, c 200mm thick) onto a medium grey/brown silty subsoil (L2, c 400mm thick) sealing natural (L3).

A bulk was left in the centre of the trench to avoid a live electricity cable. To the north was Roman pit F19, measuring approximately 2.9m long by at least 0.87m wide and 0.19m deep. To the south was Roman ditch F18. It has a slightly irregular base but was aligned NE/SW and measured 0.95m wide by 0.15m deep.

## 5 Finds

All of the finds are listed in Appendix 2.

### Pottery

by Stephen Benfield

There is a small quantity of pottery (22 sherds weighting 544g). This comes from features F1 (T3), F10 (T8), F18 (T9), F19 (T9) & F20 (T2) and from soil layer L2 in T2 and T9. Most of the pottery is closely datable to the Late Iron Age (LIA) and Roman period. The Roman pottery fabrics used in the text and the quantification (Appendix 1) refer to the Colchester Roman fabric series (*CAR 10*) and the Roman pottery vessel forms refer to the *Camulodunum* (Cam) Roman pottery type series (Hawkes & Hull 1947, Hull 1958). There are also a few hand-made sherds which are either prehistoric in date or are not closely dated but are probably prehistoric. One of these has finger nail decoration and is mostly likely to date to the period of the Later Neolithic or Early Bronze Age.

There are several sherds of grog-tempered ware typical of the LIA broadly current in the period c 50/25 BC-50/60AD. A small group of sherds from a storage jar with comb decorated body come from ditch F10 and there is a single small sherd residual among Roman pottery in pit F18. Roman pottery is associated with several features. A small group of greyware sherds come from ditch F20 and include a shoulder sherd from a Cam 268 jar (dated early/mid 2nd-late 3rd/early 4th century). Another small group comes from ditch F18 and includes a sherd from a storage jar (Fabric HZ) and a base from a bowl that could be an oxidised Hadham product (Fabric CH). This was current at Colchester in the period of the late 3rd-4th century, although the surface is not slipped (as is common to Hadham products) and another source and an earlier date (c late 1st-early 2nd century) might be possible for this pot. This near complete oxidised base with a small section of the body wall is the largest sherd among the pottery recovered. A small sandy greyware sherd from L2 (T2) might possibly be medieval, but could also be Roman and a Roman date appears more likely.

There is a small number of handmade (HM) sherds that are difficult to date with confidence. One sherd with some grog in the fabric (Fabric HMG) from ditch F1 is probably likely to be LIA. Another sherd, from pit F19 is in a dark sandy fabric from which the surface is laminating. As a hand-made sand-tempered sherd a broad later Iron Age date (c mid-late 1st century BC/early 1st century AD) is possibly most likely. Although not certain, these two sherds might be associated with the closely dated LIA pottery from the site. The remaining two hand-made sherds are more certainly of an earlier prehistoric date. These small sherds come from L2 (T9) and, although not joining, are clearly part of the same pot. They are in a sand-tempered fabric with small voids in the surfaces that indicate a leached-out/dissolved former tempering agent, most likely shell, although this is not entirely clear. The surfaces are decorated with some small stab marks and also with finger nail impressions which, at least in one instance, are paired or pinched finger nails. The finger nail impressions suggest a possible later Neolithic or Early Bronze Age date and are especially associated with



Peterborough and Beaker pottery; although shell-temper is not common in the fabric of these pottery styles in north Essex.

Overall the pottery suggests some activity in the prehistoric period and more clearly there is activity here in the LIA and Roman period. The more closely dated Roman pottery suggests a mid-late Roman date, but the quantity of pottery is so small that this might be misleading; although some of the Roman pottery is certainly of 2nd-3rd century date. However, in terms of quantity, the amount of pottery recovered appears quite low in relation to that which might be expected where there are any significant levels of occupation or occupation of some status on or in the immediate area of the site, certainly for the Roman period and probably for the LIA also.

### **Ceramic building material (CBM) and other finds**

*by Laura Pooley*

Roman ceramic building material was the most dominant find-type recorded during the evaluation. One hundred and four fragments (28,509g) were excavated from ten features and subsoil L2. No complete pieces were recorded with most being small-medium sized, abraded and worn fragments. They were largely made from a soft, fine to medium sandy fabric, ranging in colour from orange to orange-red, brownish-orange, red and grey, with few grit/small stone inclusions.

Roof tile, represented by fragments of tegula with flange and imbrex, formed 34% of the total quantity and 33% of the total weight of CBM. Some of the pieces identified as tile and brick/tile may also be fragments of tegula. The tegula flanges varied considerably in height with some being tall and thin (forming a 45mm projection) and others flat and wide (30mm projection). Only one of the tegula had evidence of a cutaway. Using Warry's tegulae typology (Warry, 2006) this was a Type D15, dated from the mid 3rd to the 4th century.

Twenty-four fragments of brick were recorded representing 41% of the total weight of CBM. These fragments of bessalis, bipedalis, pedalis, Lydion or sesquipedalis could have been used for many different construction purposes including flooring, bonding courses within walls and forming columns (*pilae*) in hypocausts. Also from a hypocaust were 19 fragments of combed box flue tile.

The quantity of Roman CBM would certainly suggest that a structure existed in the vicinity of the development site that had a tiled roof and hypocaust heating. However many of the tiles, like the tegula, do not represent a homogeneous group of building material but a mix of fabrics and forms. Also, no trace of mortar was identified on any of the tiles and no mortar or other building debris, like plaster or nails, was recovered among the finds. The worn and abraded nature of the pieces, and the fact that many were recovered from the subsoil, perhaps suggests that they have been largely disturbed from their original location.

<b>CBM type</b>	<b>Data</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>Average weight of piece (g)</b>	<b>Percentage of total</b>
<b>Imbrex</b>	Sum of number of pieces	9		9%
	Sum of weight (g)	1226	136	4%
<b>Tegula</b>	Sum of number of pieces	26		25%
	Sum of weight (g)	8251	317	29%
<b>Flue Tile</b>	Sum of number of pieces	19		18%
	Sum of weight (g)	3658	193	13%
<b>Brick</b>	Sum of number of pieces	24		23%
	Sum of weight (g)	11,609	484	41%
<b>Tile</b>	Sum of number of pieces	21		20%
	Sum of weight (g)	3365	160	12%

<b>Brick/Tile</b>	Sum of number of pieces	5		5%
	Sum of weight (g)	400	80	1%
<b>Total Sum of Number of Pieces</b>		<b>104</b>		
<b>Total Sum of Weight (g)</b>		<b>28,509</b>		

**Table 1** CBM data

In addition to the Roman CBM were four fragments of probable building stone, two of septaria, one greensand and one ragstone (totalling 2146g). Again all of the fragments were small/medium sized, worn and abraded.

A fragment of Mayen lava quern was recorded from ditch F1(2). The dressed fragment was from an upper-stone with raised lip around the edge of the upper surface.

In addition was a single later prehistoric retouched flint flake (L2) and piece of burnt flint (F10). Heated stones, primarily used to indirectly heat water, are usually associated with prehistoric activity.

## 6 Environmental report

by Lisa Gray MSc MA ACIfA Archaeobotanist

### Introduction – aims and objectives

Two samples were taken during the trial-trenching evaluation. Several Roman ditches, pits and postholes were identified, most containing large quantities of Roman ceramic building material but little other dating evidence (All site information *pers. comm.* Laura Pooley 2016).

Sample <1> was taken from a shallow linear cut/spread of CBM and sample <2> from a shallow pit. Both sampled contexts were dated as Roman.

### Sampling and processing methods

Samples were taken and processed by Colchester Archaeological Trust. Each whole earth sample's original size was 20L. Both 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) and for mollusca from Kerney and Cameron (Kerney and Cameron 1979). Latin names are given once and the common names used thereafter. Low numbers of non-charcoal charred plant remains are counted. As are spheroidal hammerscale if present. Uncharred plant remains, fauna and magnetic fragments are given estimated levels of abundance unless, in the case of seeds, numbers are very low.

### Results (Table 2)

Neither sample contained faunal or artefactual remains. Table 2 below displays the plant macro-remains.

Sample	1	2
Feature No.	F1	F7
Finds No.	3	2
Feature type	Linear cut/ spread of CBM	Pit
<b>Charred Cereals</b>		
Avena sp. (grain)	-	1
<b>Uncharred Ruderals</b>		
<i>Rubus</i> sect. 2 <i>Glandulosus</i> Wimm.& Grab (subsect <i>R.fruticosus</i> ) (fruit)	1	1
<i>Galium verum/palustre</i> (fruit)	2	3
<i>Atriplex hastata/patula</i> (fruit)	1	-
<i>Chenopodium album</i> L. (fruit)	-	1
<b>Other plant macrofossils</b>		
Charcoal >4mmØ	+	+
Charcoal <4mmØ	+++	+++
Uncharred root/rhizome fragments	+++	+++
<b>Sample Volume (litres)</b>	20	20
<b>Volume processed (litres)</b>	20	20
<b>Volume of flot (litres)</b>	0.010	0.015

**Table 2** Plant macro-remains

(Key - + =1-10, ++=11-50, +++=51-150, ++++=151-250, +++++=>250)

One charred oat (*Avena* sp.) grain was found in sample 2. The only other charred plant remains were low numbers of charcoal fragments and moderate quantities of charcoal flecks too small to identify.

The uncharred remains were modern root/rhizome fragments and seeds of ruderal plants blackberry (*Rubus* sect. 2 *Glandulosus* Wimm.& Grab (subsect *R.Fruticosus*), fat hen (*Chenopodium album* L.) and lady's bedstraw/common marsh bedstraw (*Galium verum/palustre*).

## Discussion

### **Biases in recovery, residuality, contamination**

Nothing was highlighted with regards biases in recovery and contamination but the large number of uncharred modern root/rhizome fragments in each sample indicate that bioturbation and aeration of the soil creating conditions favouring charred plant remains is likely.

### **Significance and potential of the samples and recommendations for further work.**

The single oat grain in sample <2> is best interpreted as general background waste and likely to have moved from its 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 (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 remains 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 fragments and seeds. Therefore, it is unlikely that any further work on either of these samples will be beneficial.

### Concluding summary and key points

Two samples were taken, one from a shallow linear cut/spread of CBM and one from a shallow pit. Both sampled contexts were dated as Roman. Both samples exhibited evidence of bioturbation. Neither were very productive. Plant remains were mostly modern and intrusive. Only one charred grain was present and its origin is uncertain. No further work is recommended on these samples.

## 7 Discussion

Archaeological evaluation at the Colchester Holiday Park revealed Roman activity on the development site. Thirteen Roman features consisted of four ditches, a linear containing two postholes, four pits and a spread of building material. In addition some/all of the eight undated features (two ditches, four postholes and two pits/postholes) may also be related to this phase. The ditches are probably field boundaries associated with agriculture or settlement, and the linear with postholes may also have formed a boundary of some kind.

Interestingly a large quantity of Roman CBM was recorded during the evaluation. The finds perhaps indicate a large structure with tiled roof and hypocaust somewhere in the vicinity, although no structural features were identified on the site itself. Similar quantities of CBM were recorded during the excavation of a pipe trench in Spring Lane 500m to the SE in 2001 (CAT Report 160) with roofing-tiles and brick recorded, including two large voussoir bricks possibly used in window- or door-arches. It is tempting to suggest that the CBM comes from the same source and has ultimately been scattered over a wide area, which may explain why so little pottery, domestic material and other building debris was recorded during the evaluation.

## 8 Acknowledgements

CAT thanks Mark Southerton and Sam Sellars for commissioning and funding the work. The project was managed by C Lister and carried out by B Holloway, N Rayner and A Wade. Figures were prepared by BH and E Holloway. The project was monitored for the CBCPS by Jess Tipper.

## 9 References

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

- |   |      |  |
|---|------|--|
| Beijerinck, W                               | 1947 | <i>Zadenatlas der Nederlandsche Flora</i> . Veenman and Zonen, Wageningen  |
| Cappers, R J T, Bekker, R M and Jans, J E A | 2006 | <i>Digital Zadenatlas Van Nederlands - Digital Seeds Atlas of the Netherlands</i> . Groningen Archaeological Studies Volume 4, Barkhius Publishing, Groningen. |
| CAR 10                                      | 1999 | <i>Colchester Archaeological Report 10: Roman pottery from excavations in Colchester, 1971-86</i> , by R Symonds and S Wade                                    |
| CAR 11                                      | 1995 | <i>Colchester Archaeological Report 11: Camulodunum II</i> , by Hawkes and Crummy  |
| CAT   | 2014 | <i>Health &amp; Safety Policy</i>  |
| CAT   | 2016 | <i>Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) for an archaeological evaluation at Colchester Holiday Park, Cymbeline Way, Colchester, Essex, CO3 4AG</i>            |
| CAT Report 160                              | 2001 | <i>An archaeological watching brief on one section of an Anglian Water sewer pipeline in Spring Lane, Lexden, Colchester</i>                                   |
| CBCPS                                       | 2016 | <i>Brief for Trenched Archaeological Evaluation at Colchester Holiday Park, Cymbeline Way, Colchester, CO3 4AG</i> , by Jess Tipper                            |
| Charles, M                                  | 1984 | 'Introductory remarks on the cereals.' <i>Bulletin on Sumerian Agriculture</i> 1, 17-31.   |

CIfA	2014a	<i>Standard and Guidance for an archaeological evaluation</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>
DCLG	2012	<i>National Planning Policy Framework</i>
English Heritage	2006	<i>Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment (MoRPHE)</i>
Fuller, D	2007	'Cereal Chaff and Wheat Evolution' Retrieved on 12th February 2010 from World Wide Web: <a href="http://www.homepages.ucl.ac.uk/~tcrndfu/archaeobotany.htm">http://www.homepages.ucl.ac.uk/~tcrndfu/archaeobotany.htm</a>
Gurney, D	2003	<i>Standards for field archaeology in the East of England</i> . East Anglian Archaeology Occasional Papers 14 (EAA 14).
Hawkes, C & Hull, M	1947	<i>Camulodunum, first report on the excavations at Colchester 1930-39</i> , RRCSAL 14
Hillman, G C	1976	'Criteria useful in identifying charred Wheat and Rye Grains.' Unpublished versions of notes likely to have entered publication in some form and given to the author by Gordon Hillman during the course of her MSc in 1995-1996.
Hull, M	1958	<i>Roman Colchester</i> , RRCSAL 20
Jacomet, S	2006	<i>Identification of cereal remains from archaeological sites - second edition</i> . Basel: Basel University Archaeobotany Lab IPAS
Medlycott, M	2011	<i>Research and archaeology revisited: A revised framework for the East of England</i> . East Anglian Archaeology Occasional Papers 24 (EAA 24)
Pelling, R, Campbell, G, Carruthers, W, Hunter, K and Marshall, P	2015	'Exploring contamination (intrusion and residuality) in the archaeobotanical record: case studies from central and southern England'. In <i>Vegetation History and Archaeobotany</i> (2015) 24: 85-99.
Stace, C	2010	<i>New Flora of the British Isles</i> , 3 <sup>rd</sup> Edition, Cambridge University Press, Cambridge

## 10 Abbreviations and glossary

CAT	Colchester Archaeological Trust
CBCPS	Colchester Borough Council Planning Services
CBM	ceramic building material, ie brick/tile
CHER	Colchester Historic Environment Record (previously UAD)
CIfA	Chartered Institute for Archaeologists
context	specific location of finds on an archaeological site
Early Bronze Age	period from c 2500 – 1500 BC
feature (F)	an identifiable thing like a pit, a wall, a drain: can contain 'contexts'
Late Iron Age	(LIA), period from c 100 – 50 BC to Roman invasion of AD 43
Late Neolithic	period from c 2900 – 2500 BC
layer (L)	distinct or distinguishable deposit of soil
medieval	period from AD 1066 to Henry VIII
modern	period from c AD 1800 to the present
natural	geological deposit undisturbed by human activity
NGR	National Grid Reference
OASIS	<b>O</b> nline <b>A</b> ccess to the <b>I</b> ndex of <b>A</b> rchaeological <b>I</b> nvestigations, <a href="http://oasis.ac.uk/pages/wiki/Main">http://oasis.ac.uk/pages/wiki/Main</a>
post-medieval	from Henry VIII to c AD 1800
prehistoric	pre-Roman
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 sx or SX) vertical slice through feature/s or layer/s
UAD	Urban Archaeological Database
WSI	Written Scheme of Investigation

## 11 Contents of archive

**Finds:** one box

**Paper and digital record**

One A4 document wallet containing:  
The report (CAT Report 1024)  
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 2016.98.

© Colchester Archaeological Trust 2016

### Distribution list

Mark Southerton

Sam Sellers

Jess Tipper, Colchester Borough Council Planning Services  
Essex Historic Environment Record



### Colchester Archaeological Trust

Roman Circus House,  
Roman Circus Walk,  
Colchester,  
Essex, CO2 7GZ

tel.: 01206 501785

email: [lp@catuk.org](mailto:lp@catuk.org)

Checked by: Philip Crummy

Date: 31/10/2016

## **Appendix 1 Context list**

<b>Feature No.</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Date</b>
F1	Shallow linear cut or spread of CBM, slightly irregular feature running E-W; medium brown silty-clay packed with abraded/worn Roman CBM and fist-sized stones/flint nodules (about 20% retained for analysis).	Roman, 2nd-3rd century
F2	Shallow pit/base of posthole; medium grey/brown slightly sandy/silty-clay, frequent manganese, 5% stone.	Undated
F3	Ditch, N/S; firm medium grey silty-clay with charcoal flecks	Roman
F4	Ditch, N/S; firm medium grey silty-clay with charcoal flecks	Undated
F5	Posthole; firm light-medium grey silty-clay	Modern
F6	Pit; firm medium grey/brown silt with charcoal flecks	Roman
F7	Pit; shallow irregular feature, firm medium grey/brown silt, 3% stone	Roman
F8	Ditch (gully); firm medium grey/brown silt with charcoal flecks	Roman
F9	Pit/posthole; soft dark yellow/brown silty-clay	Undated
F10	Ditch, NW/SE; firm medium grey/brown silt with charcoal flecks	Roman, possibly earlier Roman
F11-F14	Postholes; firm medium grey/brown silt with charcoal flecks	Undated
F15	Pit; firm medium yellow/grey/brown sandy-silt with rare flecks of oyster, 10% stone	Roman
F16	Ditch, N/S; firm medium yellow/grey/brown sandy-silt, 40% stone	Roman
F17	Ditch, NE/SW; firm light-medium grey/brown silt with flecks of brick/tile, 3% stone	Undated
F18	Ditch, NE/SW; firm medium grey/brown silt with flecks of charcoal	Roman, late 3rd-4th century
F19	Pit; firm medium grey silty with flecks of charcoal	Roman
F20	Linear cut, roughly N/S; medium grey silt, 25% stone	Roman, 2nd-3rd/4th century
F21	Posthole; medium grey/brown silt, 20% stone	Roman
F22	Posthole; medium orange/grey/brown silty-clay, 3% stone, 5% Roman brick/tile flecks	Roman
L1	Topsoil; firm medium-dark grey silt, rare brick/tile flecks, <1% stone, included Roman CBM, slate, peg-tile and coal (not retained for analysis)	Modern
L2	Subsoil; medium grey/brown silt with rare charcoal and brick/tile flecks, in trenches T2 and T9 layer contained large quantities of Roman CBM	Post-Roman?
L3	Natural; firm light-medium orange/grey/brown silt, 30% gravel and 20% stone	-

## Appendix 2 Finds catalogue

### CBM Fabrics

A = soft, fine sandy fabric with few inclusions (very occasional grit/small stones)

B = medium sandy fabric, well fired and hard, orange-red to brownish-orange in colour, sometimes grey or with a grey core, few inclusions (very occasional grit/small stones)

C = medium sandy fabric, fabric is well fired and hard, red in colour, sometimes with a grey core, few inclusions (very occasional grit/small stones)

Context	Context type	Find no	Find type	Fabric	Description	Form	No.	Wt.	Ab	Finds date
T1, F3	Ditch	4	CBM	A B	Imbrex (2, 138g), 14-15mm thick; brick/tile (1, 18g), 16mm thick; brick (1, 130g), 31mm thick. Combed flue tile (2, 106g), 10 & 14mm thick.		6	392		Roman
T2, F7	Cut	6	CBM	B C	Brick (1, 238g), 38mm thick; brick/tile (1, 50g), at least 20mm. Brick/tile (1, 68g), 23mm thick.		3	356		Roman
T2, F15	Pit	13	CBM	B B/C	Tile (2, 192g), 15mm thick; imbrex (2, 120g), 14mm & 18mm thick. Brick (4, 308g), 28mm, 30mm, 31mm & 39mm thick.		8	620		Roman
T2, F16	Ditch	12	CBM	B	Brick/tile (1, 208g), 32mm thick; combed flue tile (1, 34g), 14mm thick.		2	242		Roman
T2, F20	Ditch	17	CBM	A B	Tegula with flange (1, 210g), 20mm thick. Imbrex (1, 324g), 14mm thick; flue tile (2, 146g), 13mm & 14mm thick, inc a corner piece; tegula (1, 162g), 26mm thick.		5	842		Roman
T2, F20	Ditch	17	Pot	GX	Roman greywares sherds, slightly abraded, includes rim from a neckless jar (2-3/4C), shoulder sherd from a Cam 268 jar (E/M2-L3/E4C) & rim from a dish/bowl (2-3C)	Cam 268	5	34	(*)	Roman (2-3/4C)
T2, L2	Subsoil	10	CBM	B	Box flue tile (1, 800g), combed, corner, 170mm wide (complete width); brick (2, 1.448kg), 34mm thick; tile (1, 284g), 17mm thick; tegula with flange (1, 218g), 18mm thick; large piece of tegula with flange (1.175kg) (approx ¼ of tegula), 225mm long by 165mm wide, 17mm thick, corner piece, no cutaway		6	3925		Roman
T2, L2	Subsoil	18	Pot	GX	Small thin sherd (recently snapped) hard sandy fabric, this could be medieval coarseware (Fabric 20) but is probably more likely to be Roman		1	6		Roman
T2, L2	Subsoil	18	Flint	-	Flake with retouched notch on left lateral edge of ventral face, usewear/edge damage		1	10		Later prehistoric
T3, F1	Ditch	1	Pot	GX	Base edge sherd from an open dish, wheel thrown in hard sandy fabric, similar to a medieval pot base, but probably Roman	Dish/ platter(?)	1	34		Roman c M1-2C
T3, F1	Ditch	1	Pot	HZ	Rim from a large Roman storage pot, hard sandy fabric, not obviously heavily-tempered		1	200	(*)	Roman (2-3C?)
T3, F1	Ditch	1	CBM	B	Brick (1, 1.124kg), 34mm thick; imbrex (1, 318g), 15mm thick; tegula with flange (7, 2.570kg), 18-26mm thick; box flue tile (8, 1.624kg), all combed, five corner pieces – one full depth 102mm wide.		17	5636		Roman
T3, F1	Ditch	2	Stone	-	Lava quern fragment, upper-stone with raised lip around the edge of the upper surface. Upper surface and edge both dressed (radial grooving)		1	312		Roman
T4, F6	Pit	5	CBM	B	Brick/tile (1, 56g), 28mm thick.		1	56		Roman
T4, F8	Gully	8	CBM	B B/C	Tile (7, 504g), 16-20mm thick; tegula with flange (3, 662g), 17-20mm thick; imbrex (1, 52g), 16mm thick. Brick (7, 1.424kg), 27-35mm thick.		18	2642		Roman



Context	Context type	Find no	Find type	Fabric	Description	Form	No.	Wt.	Ab	Finds date
T4, F8	Gully	8	Stone	-	Septaria (NR)		2	1254		
T4, F8	Gully	9	Stone	-	Degraded fragment of greensand, not worked, 110mm by 100mm by 45mm (NR)		1	718		
T8, F10	Ditch	11	pot	GTW	Sherds from a large jar/storage jar with combed lines on body, tempered with dark grog and some burnt organic fragments	Storage jar	3	94		LIA (L1C BC-M 1C AD)
T8, F10	Ditch	11	pot	GX	Small rim sherd, beaded, jar rim		1	4		Rom
T8, F10	Ditch	11	pot	HMG	Small handmade sherds with some grog and burnt organic material in the fabric, probably Late Iron Age		1	2		LIA (L1C BC-M 1C AD)
T8, F10	Ditch	11	BF	-	Burnt flint		1	8		prehistoric
T9, F18	Pit	15	pot	GX	Jar rim (probably 2-3/4C) with one small body sherd	jar	2	12	(*)	Roman (2-3/4C)
T9, F18	Pit	15	pot	GTW	sherd		1	10		LIA (L1C BC-M1C AD)
T9, F18	Pit	15	pot	CH	Base, two joining sherds in red-brown fine sand fabric, footing and lower edge of wall, bowl-like form, possibly a Hadham product (Fabric CH) but not certain	bowl	2	126		Rom (L3-4C(?))
T9, F18	Pit	15	pot	HZ	Soft, moderately thick, abraded, sandy fabric, possibly part of a storage jar		1	4	*	LIA-E Rom (1C AD(?))
T9, F18	Pit	15	CBM	B	Brick (3, 4.728kg), 34mm, 37mm (x2), 43mm, one signature; tegula with flange (2, 284g), 19mm thick; tile (3, 418g), 13-21mm thick.		8	5430		Roman
T9, F19	Pit	16	pot	HMS	Moderately thick sandy sherd dark grey/black, fabric is laminating, not closely dated, probably later prehistoric, probably broadly later Iron Age		1	8		Later IA? (not closely dated)
T9, F19	Pit	16	CBM	A&B C	Flue tile (5, 948g), two corner pieces, all combed, 13-19mm thick; tegula with flange (8, 2100g), 19-26mm thick, two corner pieces one with cutaway – Warry type D15; imbrex (2, 274g), 14mm & 16mm thick; tile (7, 1.687kg), 15-27mm thick; brick (1, 296g), 35mm thick, roughly shaped at one end. Brick (1, 338g), 43mm thick.		24	5643		Roman
T9, L2	Subsoil	14	pot	HMSH	Small sherds (5-6mm thick) with voids from leached-out temper, probably shell, stab and finger-nail decoration in surface, The use of fingernal decoration is typical of pottery of the later Neolithic and early Bronze Age, especially Peterborough and Beaker pottery, the use of what might be shell-temper in the fabric is not common in these pottery styles in north Essex		2	10		Later Neo-EBA (not closely dated)
T9, L2	Subsoil	14	CBM	A B	Brick (3, 1.575kg), 27mm, 34mm and 45mm thick. Tegula with flange (2, 870g), 18mm & 28mm thick; tile (prob tegula) (1, 280g), 17mm thick.		6	2725		Roman
T9, L2	Subsoil	14	Stone	-	Fragment of roughly square ragstone (NR)		1	174		

NR = not retained

CBM retained or discarded as per CAT Finds Retention Policy 2016

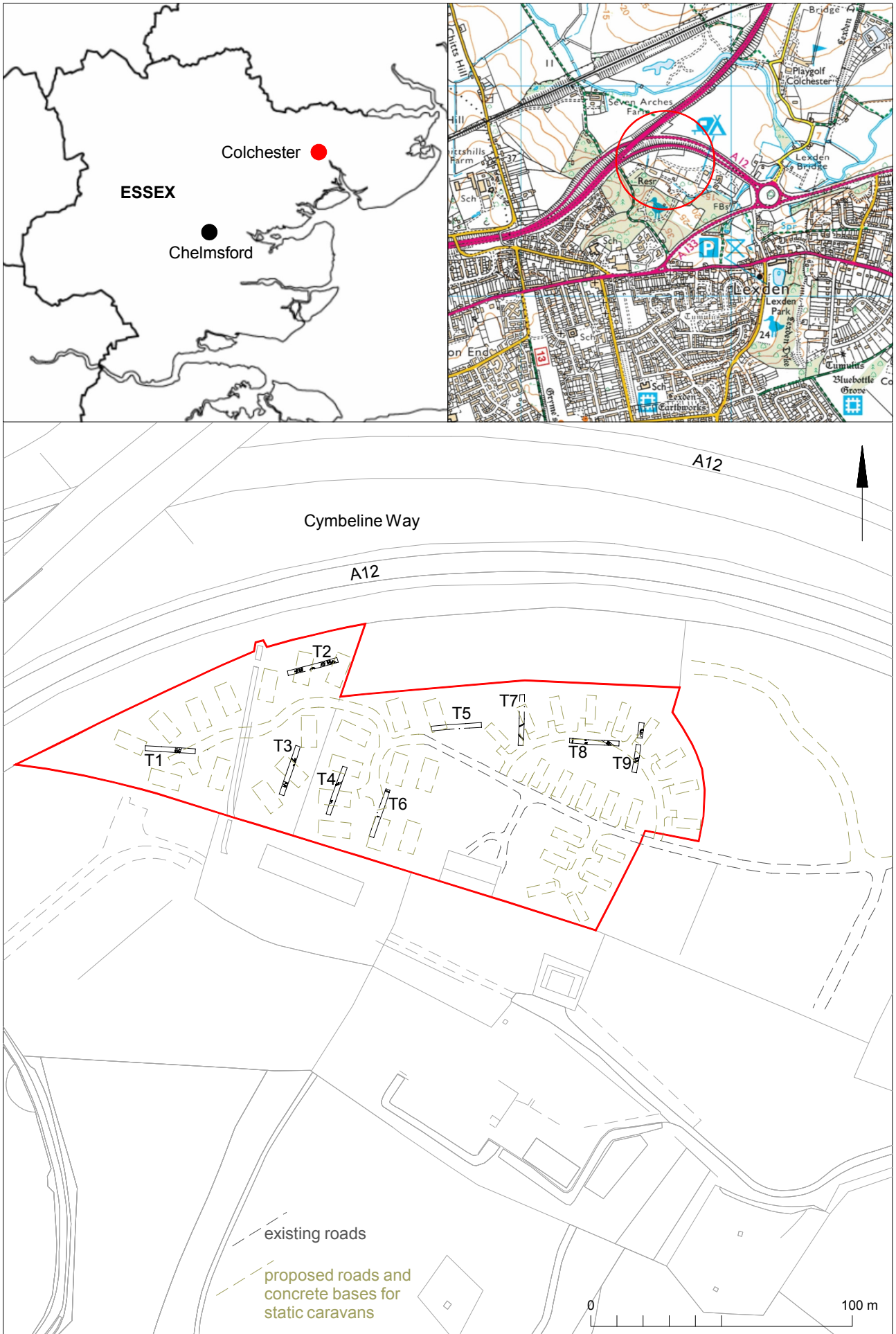


Fig 1 Site location (red) and trenches in relation to proposed development

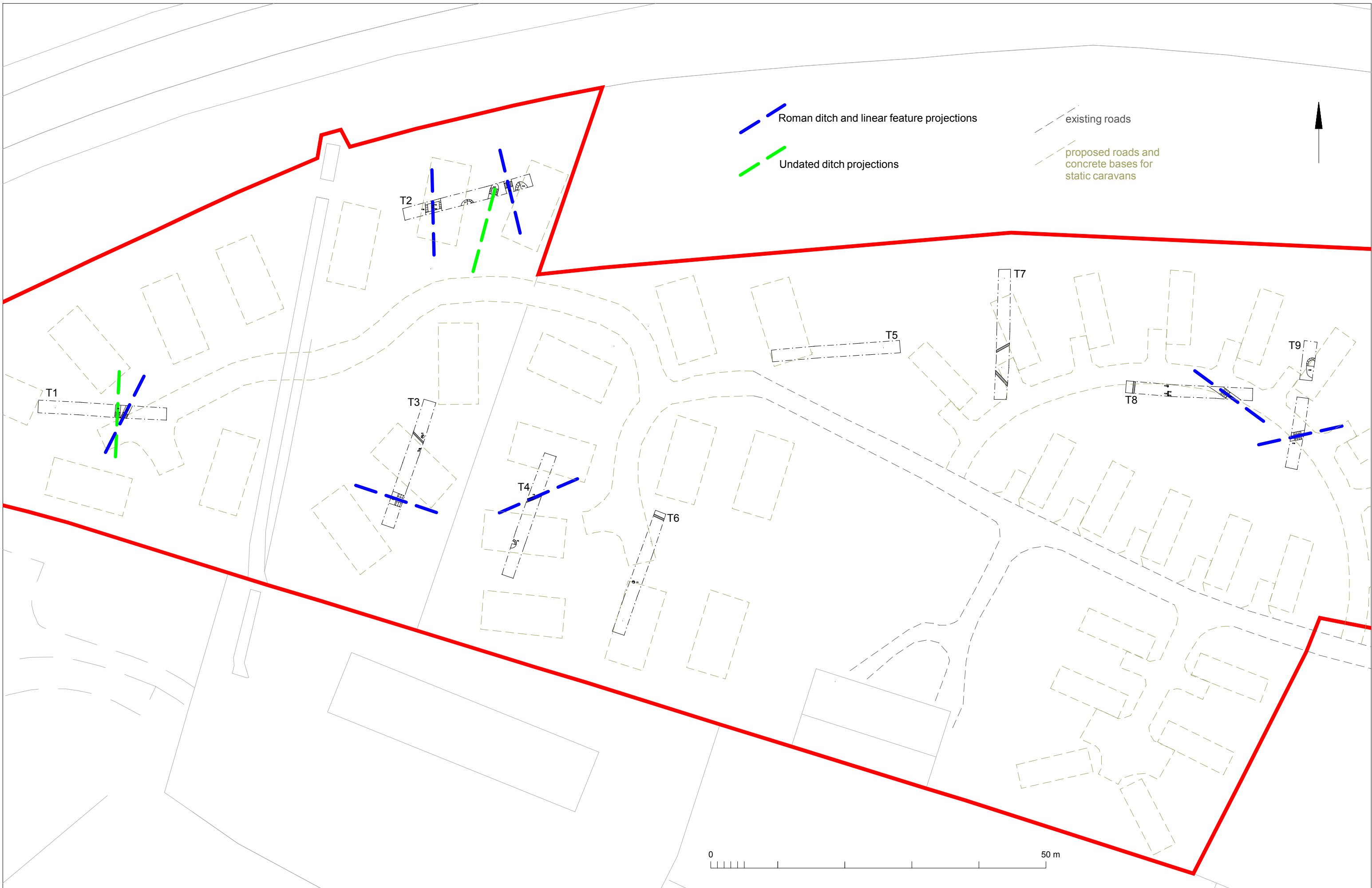


Fig 2 Results

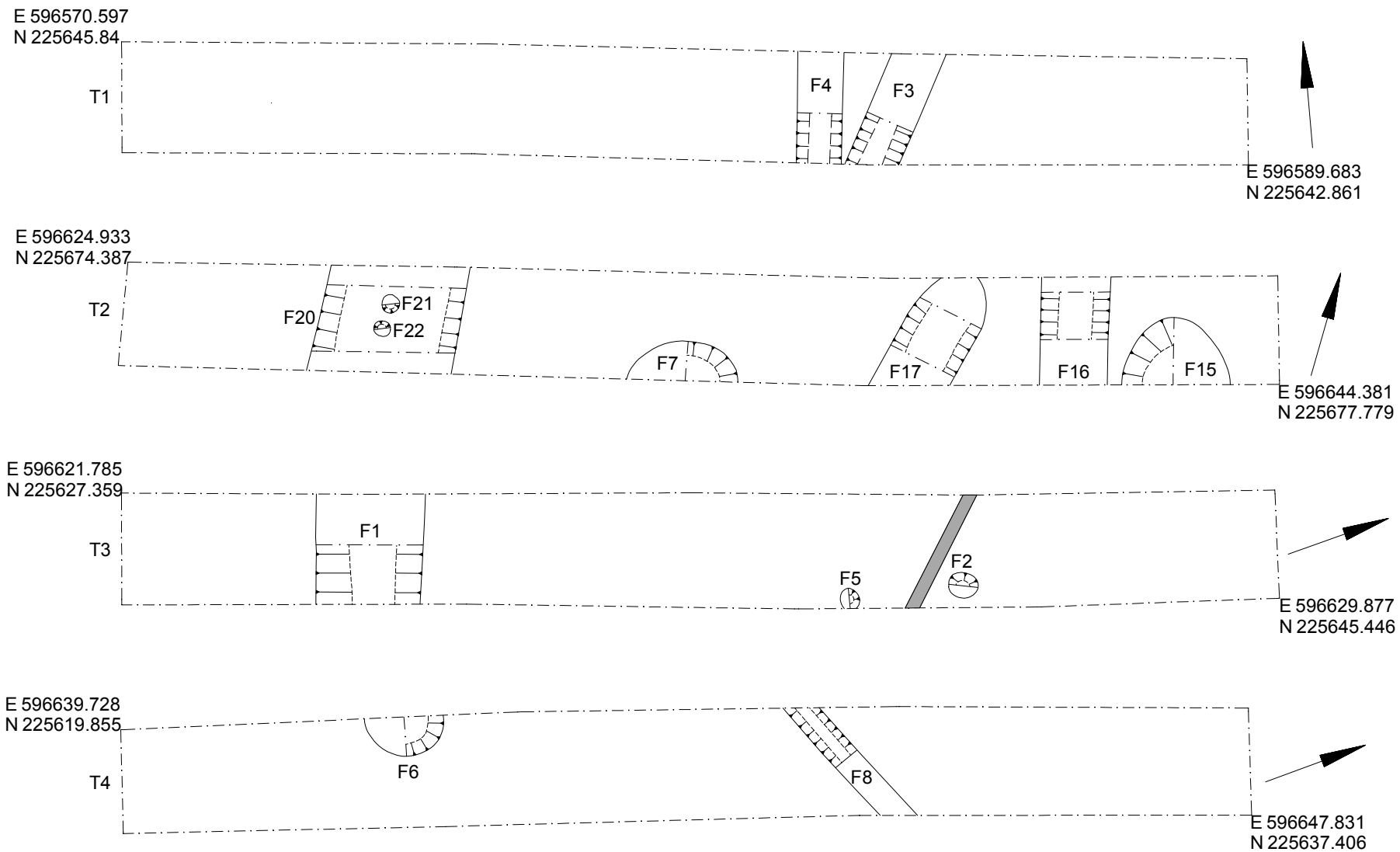


Fig 3 Trench plans: T1-T4

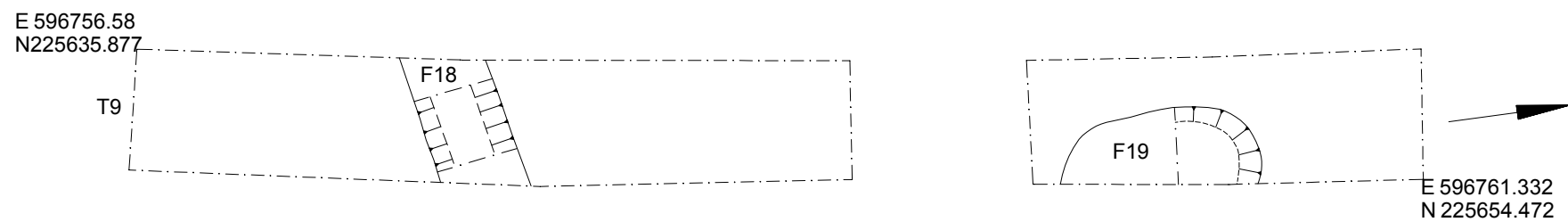
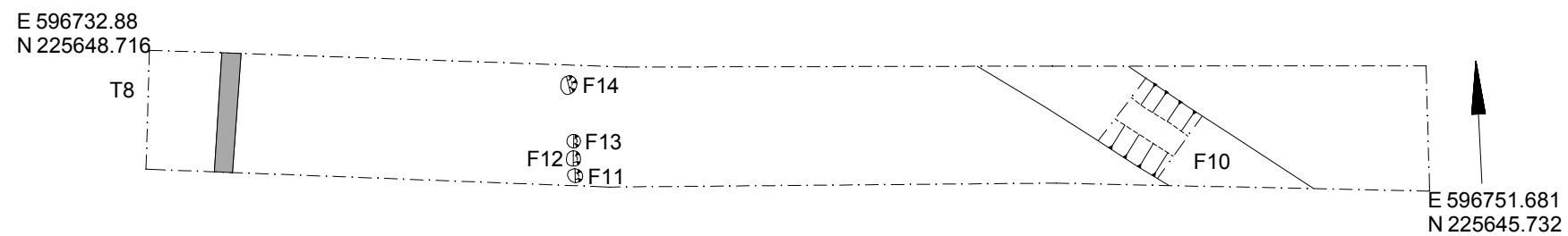
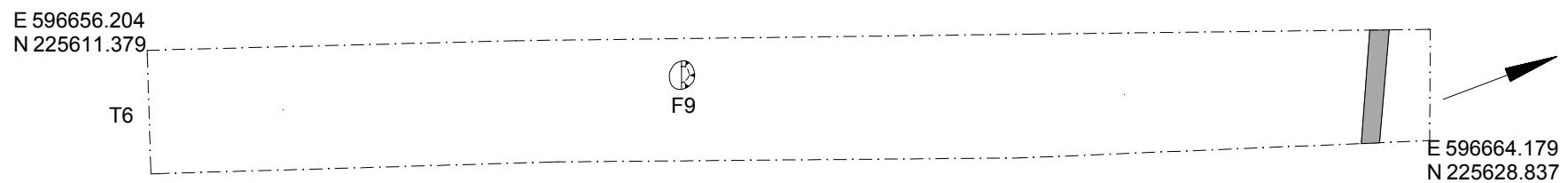


Fig 4 Trench plans: T6, T8-T9



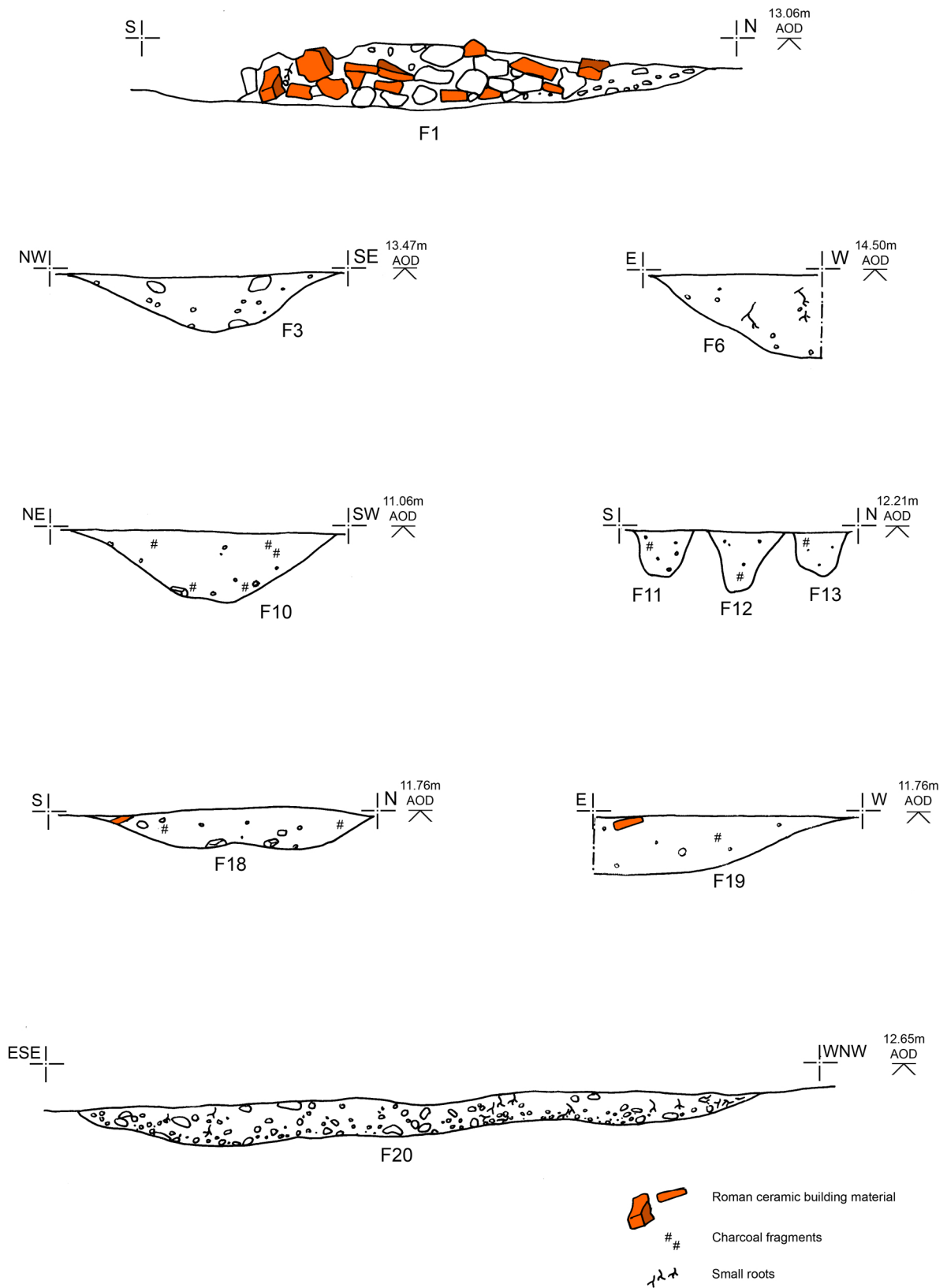
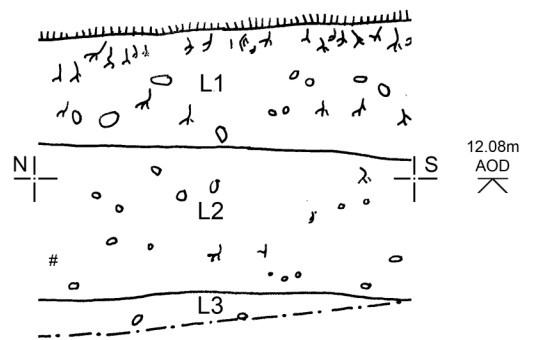
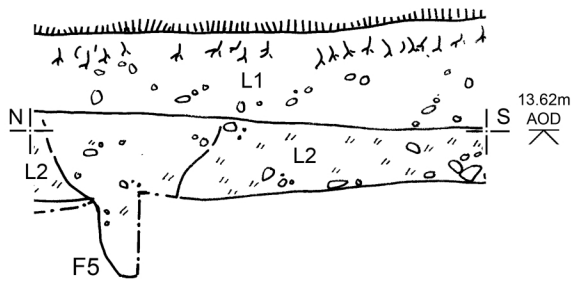
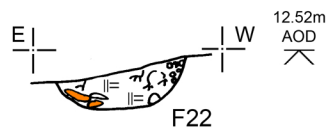
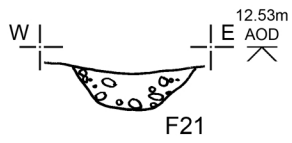


Fig 5 Feature sections





T3 Representative section

T9 Representative section





-  Roman ceramic building material
-  Clay
-  Small roots
-  Manganese flecks

Fig 6 Feature and representative sections



# Essex Historic Environment Record/ Essex Archaeology and History

## Summary sheet

<b>Address:</b> Colchester Holiday Park, Cymbeline Way, Colchester, Essex, CO3 4AG	
<b>Parish:</b> Colchester	<b>District:</b> Colchester
<b>NGR:</b> TL 9670 2562 (centre)	<b>Site code:</b> CAT project ref.: 16/09d UAD ref: ECC3880 OASIS ref: colchest3-262635
<b>Type of work:</b> Evaluation	<b>Site director/group:</b> Colchester Archaeological Trust
<b>Date of work:</b> 26th-28th September 2016	<b>Size of area investigated:</b> Nine trenches each 20m long by 1.8m wide (324m <sup>2</sup> )
<b>Location of curating museum:</b> Colchester museum accession code COLEM: 2016.98	<b>Funding source:</b> owner
<b>Further seasons anticipated?</b> Not known	<b>Related EHER/SMR number:</b> EHER 11627, 11635, 11971, 11990, 12671, 19728, 31271
<b>Final report:</b> CAT Report 1024	
<b>Periods represented:</b> Roman, modern	
<b>Summary of fieldwork results:</b> An archaeological evaluation (nine trial-trenches) was carried out at the Colchester Holiday Park, Cymbeline Way, Colchester, Essex in advance of the siting of an additional 42 static holiday caravan plots. The development site is located between the scheduled Triple Dyke and Moat Farm Dyke, in an area of known cropmarks and Roman features. Roman ditches, pits and postholes were excavated and are probably associated with agriculture or settlement. However, large quantities of Roman ceramic building material were recorded and may suggest the presence of a structure with tiled-roof and hypocaust somewhere nearby.	
<b>Previous summaries/reports:</b> –	
<b>CBC monitor:</b> Jess Tipper	
<b>Keywords:</b> –	<b>Significance:</b> *
<b>Author of summary:</b> Laura Pooley	<b>Date of summary:</b> October 2016



Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI)  
for a trenched archaeological evaluation at  
Colchester Holiday Park, Cymbeline Way,  
Colchester, Essex, CO3 4AG

**NGR:** TL 9670 2562 (centre)

**Planning reference:** 136183 and 160672

**Commissioned by:** Mark Southerton

**Client:** Sam Sellars

**Curating Museum:** Colchester

**Museum accession code:** [TBC](#)

**UAD Event number:** ECC3880

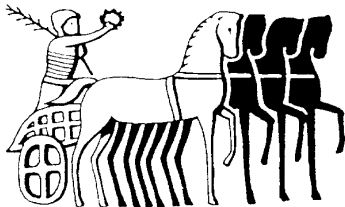
**CAT Project code:** 16/09d

**OASIS Project id:** colchest3-262635

**Site Manager:** Ben Holloway

**CBC Monitor:** Jess Tipper

**This WSI written:** 15.09.2016



COLCHESTER ARCHAEOLOGICAL TRUST,  
Roman Circus House,  
Roman Circus Walk  
Colchester,  
Essex, C02 7GZ  
tel: 01206 501785  
email: [archaeologists@catuk.org](mailto:archaeologists@catuk.org)

## Site location and description

The proposed development site (1.4ha) lies approximately 3.1km west of Colchester town centre at the Colchester Holiday Park, Cymbeline Way, Colchester (Fig 1). The site is centred on NGR TL 9670 2562.

## Proposed work

The development comprises the siting of 42 static holiday caravans (on concrete slabs) on land previously used for touring caravans/storage, along with associated infrastructure.

## Archaeological background (Fig 2)

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

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. The Triple Dyke extends roughly north-south 800m to the west to the site. The Triple Dyke was added to the dyke system after the Roman conquest to strengthen the line of Shrub End Dyke at its northern end (*CAR 11*, 52-61) (EHER 11635). The Moat Farm Dyke (the northern extension of the Lexden Dyke), also extends roughly northeast-southwest 550m to the east of the site (*CAR 11*, 34-45) (EHER 11627).

To the north a sub-circular enclosure has been identified as cropmarks at Seven Arches Farm (formerly Motts Farm) (EHER 11971) with linear cropmarks identified to the west of Westhouse Farm (EHER 11990). A watching brief on a new water-main to the east of Spring Lane revealed two or three sand quarry pits dated to the Roman period. One pit contained Roman bricks which would have formed a voussoir over a door or window, indicating the presence of a high-status Roman building nearby (CAT Report 180; EHER 19728). An Iron Age enclosure is known to the northeast at West House Farm (*CAR 11*, 137; EHER 12671). Immediately to the southeast, Maltings Farm House is a timber-framed listed 16th century building (EHER 31271).

## Planning background

Two planning applications were made to Colchester Borough Council in December 2013 and March 2016 (application 136183 and 160672) proposing the siting of 42 static holiday caravans (on concrete slabs) on land previously used for touring caravans/storage, along with associated infrastructure.

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

## Requirement for work

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

Specifically, ten trial-trenches, each measuring 20m long by 1.8m wide (totalling 200m linear or 360m<sup>2</sup>), will be laid out across the development site (Fig 1). A further 1% contingency has been allowed (78m of trenching) for unforeseen circumstances and/or to investigate archaeological features encountered in the initial trial-trenching.

The trial-trenching is required to:

- Identify the date, approximate form and purpose of any archaeological deposit, together with its likely extent, localised depth and quality of preservation.
- Evaluate the likely impact of past land uses, and the possible presence of masking colluvial/alluvial deposits.
- Establish the potential for the survival of environmental evidence
- Provide sufficient information to construct an archaeological conservation strategy, dealing with preservation, the recording of archaeological deposits, working practices, timetables and orders of cost.

If unusual, significant or unexpected remains are encountered the CBCAA will be informed immediately and further evaluation may be required, which would be the subject of an additional 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* (ClfA 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 2016)

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 and two archaeologists for up to two days.

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

## **Evaluation 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, these will be excavated by hand, planned and recorded. This includes a 50% sample of discrete features (pits, etc) and 10% of linear features (ditches, etc) in 1m sections where this is possible.

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 based on the strategy requested by CBCAA (see 'Environmental Sampling Policy' below)

### **Site surveying**

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

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

### **Environmental sampling policy**

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

Sampling strategies will address questions of:

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

CAT has an arrangement with Val Fryer (Loddon) whereby any potentially rich environmental layers or features will be appropriately sampled as a matter of course. Val Fryer will do any processing and reporting.

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

### **Human remains**

CAT follows the policy of leaving human remains *in situ* unless there is a clear indication that the remains are in danger of being compromised as a result of their exposure. As the requirement for work is for full excavation any human remains encountered on the site will be subject to the following criteria: 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 Ministry 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): Pip Parmenter

flints: Adam Wightman

or to outside specialists:

small finds, metalwork, coins, etc: Pip Parmenter

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: Historic England 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 report will contain:

- The aims and methods adopted in the course of the archaeological project.
- Location plan of the excavation area in relation to the proposed development. At least two corners of the area 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. CBCAA 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**

CAR Report 11	1995	<i>Colchester Archaeological Report 11: Camulodunum II</i> , by Hawkes and Crummy
CAT Report 180	2001	<i>An archaeological watching brief on one section of an Anglian Water sewer pipeline in Spring Lane, Lexden, Colchester</i>
CBCAA	2016	<i>Brief for a Trenched Archaeological Evaluation at Colchester Holiday Park, Cymbeline Way, Colchester, CO3 4AG</i> by J Tipper

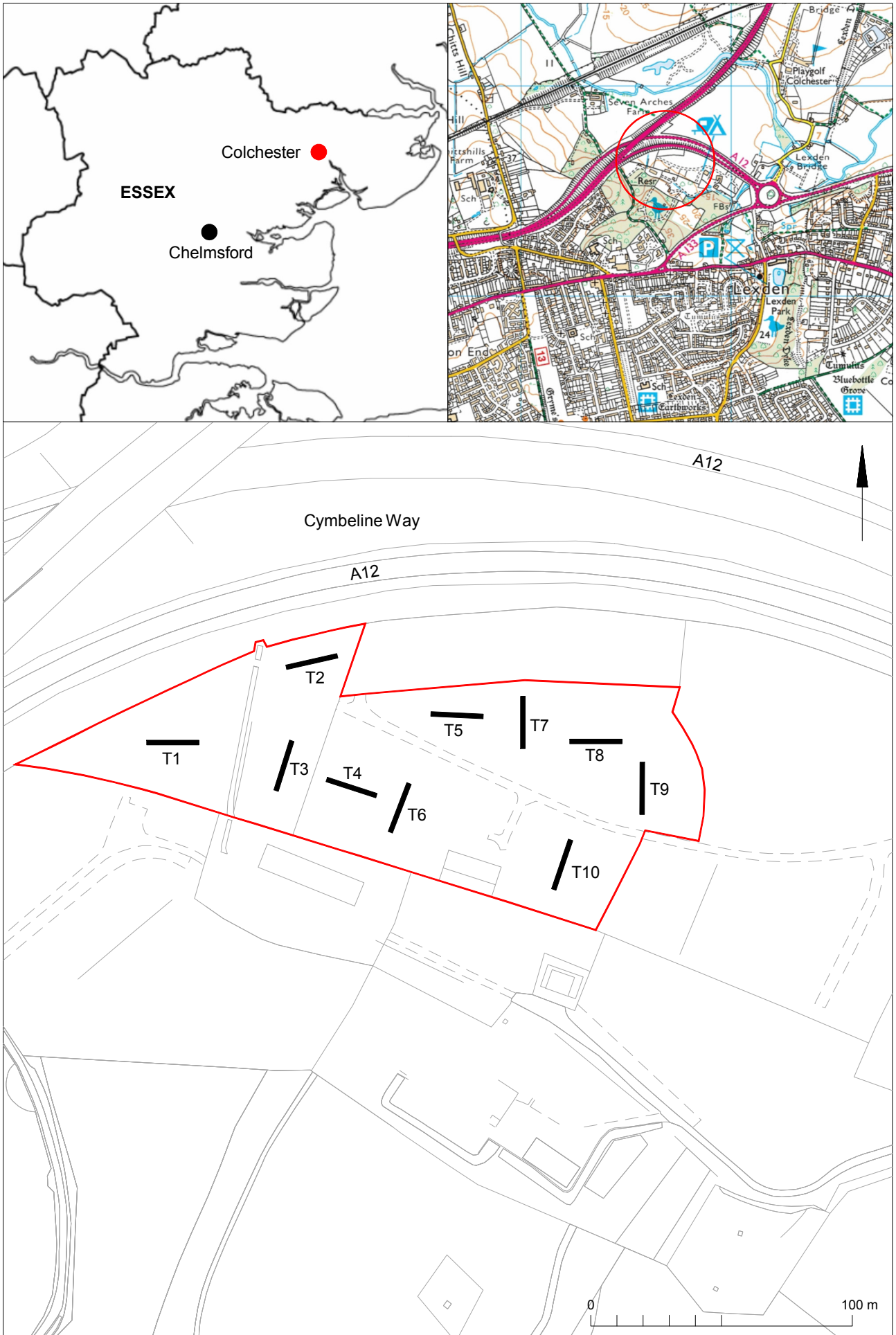
CIfA	2014a	<i>Standard and Guidance for an archaeological evaluation</i>
CIfA	2014b	<i>Standard and guidance for the creation, compilation, transfer and deposition of archaeological archives</i>
CIfA	2014c	<i>Standard and guidance for the collection, documentation, conservation and research of archaeological materials</i>
DCLG	2012	<i>National Planning Policy Framework</i>
English Heritage	2006	<i>Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment (MoRPHE)</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>

L Pooley



Colchester Archaeological Trust  
Roman Circus House  
Roman Circus Walk  
Colchester  
Essex  
C02 2GZ

tel: 01206 501785  
email: lp@catuk.org



© Crown copyright. All rights reserved. Licence number 100039294.

Fig 1 Site location and trench proposal (trenches orientated to avoid existing vegetation).



# OASIS DATA COLLECTION FORM: England

[List of Projects](#) | [Manage Projects](#) | [Search Projects](#) | [New project](#) | [Change your details](#) | [HER coverage](#) | [Change country](#) | [Log out](#)

## Printable version

**OASIS ID: colchest3-262635**

### Project details

Project name	Archaeological evaluation at the Colchester Holiday Park, Cymbeline Way, Colchester, Essex, CO3 4AG
Short description of the project	An archaeological evaluation (nine trial-trenches) was carried out at the Colchester Holiday Park, Cymbeline Way, Colchester, Essex in advance of the siting of an additional 42 static holiday caravan plots. The development site is located between the scheduled Triple Dyke and Moat Farm Dyke, in an area of known cropmarks and Roman features. Roman ditches, pits and postholes were excavated and are probably associated with agriculture or settlement. However, large quantities of Roman ceramic building material were recorded and may suggest the presence of a structure with tiled-roof and hypocaust somewhere nearby.
Project dates	Start: 26-09-2016 End: 28-09-2016
Previous/future work	No / Not known
Any associated project reference codes	16/09d - Contracting Unit No.
Any associated project reference codes	136183 - Planning Application No.
Any associated project reference codes	160672 - Planning Application No.
Any associated project reference codes	ECC3880 - HER event no.
Any associated project reference codes	COLEM: 2016.98 - Museum accession ID
Type of project	Field evaluation
Site status	None
Current Land use	Community Service 2 - Leisure and recreational buildings
Monument type	DITCH Roman
Monument type	PIT Roman
Monument type	POSTHOLE Roman
Significant Finds	POTTERY Late Iron Age
Significant Finds	POTTERY Roman
Significant Finds	CERAMIC BUILDING MATERIAL Roman
Significant Finds	LAVA QUERNSTONE Roman
Methods &	"Sample Trenches"

techniques

Development type Urban commercial (e.g. offices, shops, banks, etc.)

Prompt Planning condition

Position in the planning process After full determination (eg. As a condition)

### Project location

Country England

Site location ESSEX COLCHESTER COLCHESTER Colchester Holiday Park, Cymbeline Way

Postcode CO3 4AG

Study area 324 Square metres

Site coordinates TL 9670 2562 51.893844706274 0.859043086625 51 53 37 N 000 51 32 E Point

Height OD / Depth Min: 11.76m Max: 13.48m

### 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 Ben Holloway

Type of sponsor/funding body Owner

### Project archives

Physical Archive recipient Colchester Museum

Physical Archive ID COLEM: 2016.98

Physical Contents "Ceramics","Worked stone/lithics"

Digital Archive recipient Colchester Museum

Digital Archive ID COLEM: 2016.98

Digital Contents "none"

Digital Media available "Images raster / digital photography","Survey"

Paper Archive recipient Colchester Museum

Paper Archive ID COLEM: 2016.98

Paper Contents "none"

Paper Media available "Context sheet","Miscellaneous Material","Photograph","Plan","Report","Section"

### Project bibliography 1

Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)

## Publication type

Title Archaeological evaluation at the Colchester Holiday Park, Cymbeline Way, Colchester, Essex, CO3 4AG: September 2016

Author(s)/Editor(s) Pooley, L.

Other bibliographic details CAT Report 1024

Date 2016

Issuer or publisher Colchester Archaeological Trust

Place of issue or publication Colchester

Description A4 ringbound loose leaf

URL <http://cat.essex.ac.uk/all-reports.html>

Entered by Laura Pooley ([lp@catuk.org](mailto:lp@catuk.org))

Entered on 1 November 2016

## OASIS:

Please e-mail [Historic England](#) for OASIS help and advice

© ADS 1996-2012 Created by [Jo Gilham and Jen Mitcham](#), [email](#) Last modified Wednesday 9 May 2012

Cite only: <http://www.oasis.ac.uk/form/print.cfm?id=267192> for this page