

Archaeological monitoring at the Colchester and East Essex Co-op, 1-21 Long Wyre Street Colchester, Essex, CO1 1LH

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1 Summary

Archaeological monitoring was carried out at the Colchester & East Essex Co-op, 1-21 Long Wyre Street, Colchester, Essex, during groundworks to facilitate revisions to the internal layout and elevations relating to a small section of the Long Wyre Street frontage. A series of large pits were uncovered which dated to the 19th or 20th century, just prior to the construction of the present-day building in 1925-6. Several of these pits were overlain by the remains of a modern wall foundation. A number of undatable postholes were also uncovered; these may relate to a series of early Roman postholes recorded during excavations of the site undertaken in 1997. A Roman hearth or oven containing considerable quantities of charred cereal grains was also excavated.

2 Introduction (Fig 1)

This report presents the results of archaeological monitoring at Colchester & East Essex Co-op, 1-21 Long Wyre Street, Colchester, Essex which was carried out between 4th and 12th July 2019. The work was commissioned by Ian Harvey of Dudley Smith Partnership on behalf of the East of England Co-operative Society and took place during groundworks to facilitate revisions to the internal layout and elevations relating to a small section of the Long Wyre Street frontage. The work was undertaken by the Colchester Archaeological Trust (CAT).

In response to consultation with Colchester Borough Council Planning Services (CBCPS), the Colchester Borough Council Archaeological Advisor Dr 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 the *National Planning Policy Framework* (MHCLG 2019).

All archaeological work was carried out in accordance with a *Brief for Archaeological Investigation*, detailing the required archaeological work, written by Dr Jess Tipper (CBCPS 2019), and a written scheme of investigation (WSI) prepared by CAT in response to the brief and agreed with CBCPS (CAT 2019).

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 watching brief* (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 largely draws on CAT Report 1361 and the Colchester Historic Environment Record (accessed via Colchester Heritage Explorer (<https://colchesterheritage.co.uk/map>)).

Colchester has been the subject of antiquarian and archaeological interest for centuries, culminating in modern large-scale archaeological excavations within the town centre and suburbs. There is a large corpus of published information on the town's archaeological and historical background (Morant 1748, Hull 1958, CAR 1, CAR 3, CAR 6, CAR 9 and Crummy 1997).

The archaeological importance of the site's location is beyond question. It lies within the walled Roman town (specifically, straddling Insulae 29, 30, 36 and 37), and – in terms of post-Roman heritage – south of the now-demolished St Nicholas' Church, whose damaged graveyard survives in part.

The current development work is located towards the northern end of the former Co-operative Stores. Extensive excavations were conducted in the surrounding area from the 1970s to the 1990s. These investigations demonstrated the presence of nationally-important archaeological remains, especially from the Roman period. The reports on these excavations give us an expected depth below ground level of the highest significant archaeological levels, of whatever period, and the level of 'natural ground'. The highest surviving archaeological remains (as projected from nearby sites) lie approximately at 25.6m AOD

Major excavations conducted by CAT in the surrounding area include those at Lion Walk carried out in 1971-5 immediately to the west (CAR 3), the area around the Co-operative stores¹ in 1979 and 1996-8, immediately to the south (CAR 6 and Brooks 2001), and The Lion Walk United Reformed Church² excavation of 1984, 100m to the west (CAR 3). These excavations revealed:

- the Roman fortress (c AD 43-49).
- the Roman veterans' colony (AD 49-60/61).
- the Boudiccan destruction horizons (AD 60/61).
- several periods of Roman, post-Boudiccan rebuilding (AD 60/61 - 4th century), including Roman roads, mosaics, tessellated pavements, walls and drainage systems.
- Anglo-Saxon (structures, loose finds).
- Medieval (structures, stone-robbing activity, rubbish pits).
- Post-medieval (structures, rubbish pits).

In December 1997 CAT carried out an evaluation at the Co-op site, 21-31 Long Wyre Street (MCC2043, MCC2045). The evaluation involved five small hand-dug trenches. These revealed stratified Roman deposits including burnt Boudiccan debris and part of a mosaic floor (Brooks 2001a). Consequently, in 1998, CAT carried out an excavation (Brooks 2001b, CHER MCC2722-3). The store spans a 30m-wide strip along the western edge of Insula 37 and a thin slice of the western edge of Insula 38a. Evidence recorded included:

- Period I – c 80-100 AD: Several rows of small post-holes with associated sand and clay floors.
- Period II – early 2nd century AD: Clay floors with occupation dirt on them (no contemporary walls were found).
- Period III – early to mid 2nd century AD: A building with stone-filled wall-footing trenches and clay floors. Construction of street separating Insulas 37 and 38a.
- Period IV – mid to late 2nd century AD: A substantial addition to the Period 3 building. A new pebble-in mortar floor associated with two buried pots (ritual foundation deposits).
- Period V – late 2nd century AD: An oven, fragments of walls, floor patches.
- Period VI – early-mid 3rd century AD: A structure defined by slots and associated with a gravel surface. A third ritually-deposited pot.
- Period VII – after AD 270 and later 3rd century: A new house with deep, rubble-in-mortar foundations. Parts of nine(?) rooms coincide with the excavated area, but it was clearly a much larger structure. Some floors tessellated.
- Period VIII – late 3rd-early 4th century AD: Demolition of the Period VII house.
- Period IX – early 4th century AD: Various cuts into the demolition debris above (robbing activity?).
- Period X – medieval: Robbing of Roman walls, followed by digging of rubbish-pits.

¹ Includes CHER nos. MCC1119, MCC1122, MCC1123, MCC1129, ECC373, MCC1132, MCC373, MCC246, MCC7906, MCC7907-8, MCC8317, MCC1012, MCC1113, MCC1115, MCC1118, MCC1124, MCC1133-5, MCC1139, MCC1146, MCC1152-4, MCC1158-9, MCC1161, MCC2043, MCC2721-3, MCC723-4, MCC1147.

² CHER no. MCC478.

- Period XI – post-medieval: Large-scale pit-digging along the southern edge of the site.
- Period XII – modern: Walls, concrete stanchions (recent Co-operative Society's building), pits.

4 Aim

Archaeological monitoring was undertaken to record any archaeological deposits exposed by the groundworks.

5 Results (Figs 2-3)

A CAT archaeologist supervised excavations through the basement floor in five locations where new foundations are required. These are referred to as TP1-5 in the following text. Where archaeology was encountered in three of the five locations, a team of CAT archaeologists took over the excavations.

Test-pit 1 (TP1): 7.5m by 1.4m

TP1 was excavated through a modern concrete floor (L1, 0.15-0.19m thick), which, at the northern end of the trench, overlay 19th- or 20th-century ?make-up layer L5 (0.05-0.16m thick), which in turn sealed archaeological deposits cut into natural L3.³ In the spaces between pits F3 and F6, and F4 and F5, L1 directly sealed L3. A small patch of possible Boudiccan destruction horizon lay in-situ on L3 adjacent to pit F10.

The predominating feature of this trench was a series of four large pits located along its eastern half. All of the pits were square in shape with sharply sloping sides. They were all cut into L3, and proceeded in sequence from north to south, the later pit cutting the earlier one to the north.



Photograph 1 TP1 west-facing sx oblique view – looking northeast

The earliest feature in this sequence was 19th- or 20th-century pit F7, located at the northern end of the trench. This feature extended beyond the limit of excavation but its exposed extent was 1.48m wide. The feature was excavated to a depth of 1.25m whereupon excavations ceased due to the need to maintain safe working depths.

F7 was cut by 19th- or 20th-century pit F8, which was 1.95m wide. The feature was excavated to a depth of 1.45m and was then augered, establishing its depth to be 1.62m. F8 contained a fill identical to that of F7, indicating that these two features were contemporary with one another.

³ Layer L5 was initially thought to be a pit, and was assigned the feature number F2, now voided.

F8 was cut by 19th- or 20th-century pit F10, which was 1.35m wide and was excavated to a depth of 1.19m due to the need to stay within safe working depths.

F10, in turn, was cut by 19th- or 20th-century pit F4, which was 1.06m wide and 0.96m deep.

Two further pits were located immediately adjacent to F4, but they did not cut it. Pit F5, which was of 19th- to 20th-century date, was also square in shape with sharply-sloping sides, was 0.68m wide and 0.75m deep. It was cut by undatable pit F11. This feature extended beyond the LOE, but its exposed extent was 0.61m wide and 0.4m deep.

A number of other features were also excavated. Modern wall foundation F1 was uncovered in the centre of the trench, overlying L2. It was composed of a mixture of tile, brick, septaria and mortar with green sand inclusions, it lay on a N-S alignment and was approximately 0.6m wide.



Photograph 2 F1, F3, F4, L2 and L3 – looking north

Pit F3, which was of 19th- or 20th-century date, was located immediately to the west of F1. Like the other pits, it was also square in shape with sharply-sloping sides. The feature was 1.1m wide; it was not bottomed but was excavated to a depth of 0.92m.

Modern pit F6, another square-shaped pit with sharply-sloping sides, lay immediately south of F3 at the southern end of the trench. The feature extended beyond the limit of excavation (LOE) but its exposed extent was 0.68m wide; it was excavated to a depth of 0.42m whereupon excavations ceased due to the presence of concrete.



Photograph 3 F3 and F6 – looking east

Two further pits were located on a sliver of natural which extended along the western edge of the trench left undisturbed by the pitting along its eastern half. A small ?Roman pit, F9, was 0.56m wide and 0.4m deep. F9 was cut by 19th- or 20th-century elongated pit F12. The feature extended beyond the LOE, and so its full dimensions could not be ascertained, but it was 0.4m deep.



Photograph 4 F9 – looking west

Test-pit 2 (TP2): 1m by 1m

TP2 was excavated through a modern concrete floor and underlying sub-base (L1, c 0.54m thick) onto natural (L3, encountered at a depth of 0.54m below current ground level).

No significant archaeological remains were encountered.

Test-pit 3 (TP3): 1.3m by 1.3m

GTP3 was excavated through L1 and underlying sub-base (c 0.59m thick) onto L3 (encountered at a depth of 0.59m bcgl).

No significant archaeological remains were encountered.

Test-pit 4 (TP4): 1.3m by 1.3m

TP4 was excavated through L1 (c 0.1m thick) and post-medieval make-up layer L6 (0.05m thick) onto a distinct natural (L7, encountered at a depth of c 0.15m bcgl).

Five postholes – F14, F15, F16, F17 and F18 – were uncovered. They were 0.05-0.24m wide and 0.06-0.43m deep.



Photograph 5 F14, F15, F16, F17 and F18 fully-excavated – looking south

Test-pit 5 (TP5): 1m by 0.3m

TP5 was excavated through L1 (c 0.1m thick) and L6 (c 0.05m thick) onto (L7, encountered at a depth of c 0.15m bcgl).

Roman (2nd- to 4th-century) hearth or oven F13 was 0.5m wide and 0.19m deep.



Photograph 6 F13 sx – looking north

6 Finds

6.1 Ceramic and pottery

by Dr Matthew Loughton

The archaeological investigation uncovered 344 sherds of pottery and ceramic building material (henceforth CBM) with a weight of just over 60 kg and 0.73 vessels (rim EVE) while the rim EVREP is 8 (Table 1). CBM accounts for the majority of this material and 87% by sherd count and 99% by weight (Table 1).

Ceramic material	No.	%	Weight (g)	%	MSW/g	Rim EVREP	Rim EVE
Roman	35	10.2%	512	0.8%	15	5	0.40
Medieval/post-	9	2.6%	248	0.4%	28	3	0.33

medieval							
Ceramic Building Material (CBM)	300	87.2%	59,993	98.8%	200	-	-
All	344		60753		177	8	0.73

Table 1 Details on the main types of ceramics and pottery

This material was recovered from eight pits and one hearth/oven although the pits F7 and F10 contained the majority of this material (Table 2).

Feature	Feature Type	No.	%	Weight (g)	%	MSW/g
F3	Pit	6	1.7%	2,038	3.4%	340
F4	Pit	5	1.5%	1,803	3.0%	361
F5	Pit	22	6.4%	8,237	13.6%	374
F7	Pit	76	22.1%	10,374	17.1%	137
F8	Pit	39	11.3%	3,173	5.2%	81
F9	Pit	24	7.0%	1,991	3.3%	83
F10	Pit	81	23.5%	30,272	49.8%	374
F12	Pit	23	6.7%	2,159	3.6%	94
F13	Hearth / oven	68	19.8%	706	1.2%	10
Total		344		60753		177

Table 2 Quantities of pottery and CBM from specific features and contexts

Roman Pottery

The Roman pottery was classified according to the fabric groups outlined in CAR 10 (1999) (Table 3) and the vessel types were classified via the Colchester (*Camulodunum*), henceforth Cam, type series (Hawkes & Hull 1947; Hull 1958; CAR 10, 1999, 468-487). The pottery was recorded by sherd count, the number of rims, handles and bases, and weight, for each fabric group. The number of vessels was determined by rim EVE (estimated vessel equivalent) and rim EVREP (estimated vessel representation).

Fabric code	Fabric description	Fabric date range guide
AA	All amphorae (excluding Dressel 20 and Brockley Hill)	Mid 1st-2nd early 3rd century
BASG	South Gaulish plain samian	Mid 1st-late 1st century AD
BXSG	South Gaulish decorated samian	Mid 1st-late 1st century AD
BAMV	Les Martres-de-Veyre plain samian	Early 2nd century AD
CH	Oxidised Hadham wares	Late 3rd-4th century AD
CS (OD)	Pompeian-red wares	1st century AD
DJ	Coarse oxidised and related wares	Roman (primarily mid 1st-2nd century AD)
DZ	Fine oxidised wares	Mid 1st-early 2nd century AD
GA	BB1: black-burnished ware, category 1	Early 2nd-4th century AD
GB	BB2: black-burnished ware, category 2	Early 2nd-3rd century AD
GX	Other coarse, principally locally-produced grey wares	Roman
TZ	Mortaria, Colchester and Continental imports	Mid 1st-3rd century AD
WA	Silvery micaceous wares	Roman

Table 3 Roman pottery fabrics recorded

There were only 35 sherds of Roman pottery with a weight of 512 g (Table 4) and 0.40 vessels according to the rim EVE while the EVREP is five (Table 5). Roman pottery was recovered from the pits F5, F7, F8, and F10, and the hearth/oven F13 (Table 6). Pit F7 contained the majority of the Roman pottery (Table 6) although the assemblage is chronologically mixed with sherds from the early to the later Roman periods. Noteworthy pieces included an imported, possibly from central Gaul, Pompeian-red ware (fabric CS OD) dish dating to the early Roman period, a Cam 278 BB2 black-burnished (fabric GB) cooking pot dating from the Hadrianic period to c AD 250 and a sherd of Les-Martres-de-Veyre? (fabric BAMV) samian with a small repair hole (c 5 mm diam.). Finally, a sherd of black-burnished ware, category 1 pottery (fabric GA) has been cut down into a small disc (diam. 55 mm) and the edges smoothed.

Fabric Group	Fabric description	No	Weight (g)	MSW /g	Rim	Handle	Base	Rim EVREP	Rim EVE
AA	All amphorae (excluding Dressel 20 and Brockley Hill)	1	30	30	0	0	0	0	0.00
BASG	South Gaulish plain samian	2	11	6	0	0	0	0	0.00
BXSG	South Gaulish decorated samian	1	8	8	1	0	0	1	0.04
BAMV	Les Martres-de-Veyre plain samian	1	15	15	0	0	0	0	0.00
CH	Oxidised Hadham wares	2	11	6	0	0	1	0	0.00
CS (OD)	Pompeian-red wares	4	40	10	2	0	2	1	0.15
DJ	Coarse oxidised and related wares	5	72	14	0	0	0	0	0.00
DZ	Fine oxidised wares	1	5	5	0	0	0	0	0.00
GA	BB1: black-burnished ware, category 1	1	9	9	0	0	0	0	0.00
GB	BB2: black-burnished ware, category 2	2	39	20	1	0	0	1	0.02
GX	Other coarse, principally locally-produced grey wares	11	120	11	1	0	2	1	0.13
TZ	Mortaria, Colchester and Continental imports	2	134	67	1	0	0	1	0.06
WA	Silvery micaceous wares	2	18	9	0	0	0	0	0.00
Total		35	512	15	6	0	5	5	0.40

Table 4 Details on the Roman pottery

Fabric Group	Form	EVE
BXSG	Drag. 29	0.04
CS (OD)	Pompeian dish	0.15
GB	Cam 278	0.02
GX	Cam 406	0.13
TZ	Cam 496	0.29

Table 5 Roman pottery quantification via vessel form

Cxt	Feature type	No.	Weight (g)	MSW/g	Rim	Base	Rim EVREP	Rim EVE
F5	Pit	2	52	26	0	0	0	0.00
F7	Pit	17	226	13	3	4	2	0.17
F8	Pit	9	101	11	1	0	1	0.13
F10	Pit	4	122	31	2	0	2	0.10
F13	Hearth / oven	3	11	4	0	0	0	0.00

Table 6 Quantities of Roman pottery from features

Post-Roman pottery

The post-Roman pottery was recorded according to the fabric groups from CAR 7 (2000) (Table 7) while the number of vessels was determined by rim EVREP (estimated vessel representation) and EVE (estimated vessel equivalent). There were only nine sherds of post-Roman pottery with a weight of 248 g, and three vessels (rim EVREP) while the rim EVE is 0.33 (Table 8). The pits F3, F5, F7, and F10 produced small quantities of post-Roman pottery (Table 9).

Fabric code	Fabric description	Fabric date range guide
F13	Early Medieval sandy wares	Early 11th-early 13th century
F20	Medieval sandy greywares	Mid 12th-late 14th century
F21A	Colchester-type ware	c 1200-1550
F48D	Staffordshire-type white earthenwares	19th-20th century

Table 7 Post-Roman pottery fabrics recorded

Fabric Group	Fabric description	No	Weight (g)	MS W/g	Rim	Handle	Base	Rim EVREP	Rim EVE
F13	Early Medieval sandy wares	3	149	50	3	0	0	3	0.33
F20	Medieval sandy greywares	4	73	18	0	0	0	0	0.00
F21	Colchester-type ware	1	19	19	0	0	0	0	0.00
F48D	Staffordshire-type white earthenwares	1	7	7	0	0	0	0	0.00
Total		9	248	28	3	0	0	3	0.33

Table 8 Details on the post-Roman pottery

Cxt	Feature type	No	Weight (g)	MSW/g	Rim	Base	Rim EVREP	Rim EVE
F3	Pit	2	41	21	0	0	0	0.00
F5	Pit	2	69	35	1	0	1	0.08
F7	Pit	1	9	9	0	0	0	0.00
F10	Pit	4	129	32	2	0	2	0.25

Table 9 Quantities of post-Roman pottery from specific contexts

Noteworthy sherds included three early medieval sandy ware (Fabric F13) cooking pots with rims of types A4a (AD 1025/1050-1200/1225), B1B (AD 1025/1050-1225) and H1 (AD 1150/1175-1225) (CAR 7 2000, 50 fig. 27) from the pits F5 and F10. A black organic deposit was noted on the H1 cooking pot from the pit F5.

Ceramic building material (CBM)

CBM accounts for the majority of the Long Wyre Street pottery and ceramic assemblage with 300 sherds with a weight of nearly 60 kg. The CBM consists of a variety of Roman, medieval and post-medieval material (Table 10). This material was recovered from eight pits and the hearth/oven although the pits F7 and F10 contained a large proportion of the CBM (Table 11).

CBM code	CBM type	No.	Weight (g)	MSW/g
Roman				
RT	Roman tegula	64	13,538	211
RI	Roman imbrex	35	3,177	91
RB	Roman brick	45	22,759	506
RFT	Roman flue tile	1	374	374
RBT	Roman brick or tile (general)	23	1,685	73
DB	Daub-brick	9	5,221	580
Baked clay		43	494	11
Tess	Tesserae	1	23	23
Mortar		8	70	9
Painted wall plaster		38	270	7
Post-Roman				
PT	Peg-tile	2	389	165
BR	Brick	29	11,917	411
Slate		2	76	38
Total		300	59,993	200

Table 10 Building material by period and type

Feature	Feature Type	No	%	Weight (g)	%	MSW/g
F3	Pit	4	1.3%	1,997	3.3%	499
F4	Pit	5	1.7%	1,803	3.0%	361
F5	Pit	18	6.0%	8,116	13.5%	451
F7	Pit	58	19.3%	10,139	16.9%	175
F8	Pit	30	10.0%	3,072	5.1%	102
F9	Pit	24	8.0%	1,991	3.3%	83
F10	Pit	73	24.3%	30,021	50.0%	411
F12	Pit	23	7.7%	2,159	3.6%	94
F13	Hearth / oven	65	21.7%	695	1.2%	11

Table 11 Quantities of CBM by features

Noteworthy pieces included several Roman tiles with lower cut aways (Warry 2006): type A26 (AD 40-120) with examples from the pits F8, F9 and F10, type A29 (AD 40-120) from the pit F10, and type D15 (?) (AD 240-380) from the pit F10. Fragments of daub-bricks were recovered from the pits F7 (78 mm and 87 mm thick), F9 and F10. A fragment of Roman brick from the pit F10 has a scored lattice decoration on its face.

A fragment of peg-tile from the pit F3 had two rectangular peg-holes (11 mm x 10 and 11 mm x 8 mm) one of which was blind.

There was a small collection of painted wall-plaster with 38 sherds with a weight of 270 g (Table 10) from the pits F7 and F8, and the hearth/oven. These sherds were decorated with white (81 cm²), white (sometimes grey from burning), red (6 cm²) and orange (4 cm²) paint.

The post-Roman bricks including some fragments with shallow frogs and dating from the later 18th-19th century onwards. These were recovered from the pits F4, F10 and F12. The pit F10 contained three large brick fragments, which all were unfrogged and one was complete with dimensions of 220 mm x 105 mm x 55 mm. This is possibly a Red Brick (18th or early 19th century) or London Stocks brick (late 18th to first half of 20th century) according to Ryan's Essex brick typology (1996, 95).

Summary

Table 12 provides a brief dating summary for the features which produced datable ceramic finds. The majority of these features can be dated to the 19th-20th century AD while hearth/oven F13 is the only feature which can be dated to the Roman period and the early 2nd to 4th century AD.

Feature	Feature Type	Roman Pottery	Post-Roman Pottery	CBM	Overall date Approx.
F3	Pit	-	F20 F48D	RI PT BR Slate	19th-20th century
F4	Pit	-	-	RT RB BR (frog)	19th-20th century
F5	Pit	GB GX	F13 (Cooking pot H1) F20	RI RT RB	1150-late 14th century?
F7	Pit	2nd-4th century AD	F20	RI RT Daub-brick PT BR	19th-20th century
F8	Pit	2nd century AD	-	RT LCA A26 (AD 40-120) RI RB RFT BR	19th-20th century
F9	Pit	-	-	RT RI Daub-brick	Roman?
F10	Pit	1st-2nd century AD	F13 (Cooking pot A4a, B1b) F20 F21	RT LCA 26 & LCA 29 (AD 40-120) RT LCA D15 ? (AD 240-380) RI RB Daub-brick BR (frog)	19th-20th century
F12	Pit	-	-	RT BR (frog)	19th-20th century

				Slate	
F13	Hearth / oven	Early 2nd-4th century AD	-	RT RB	Early 2nd-4th century AD

Table 12 Approximate dates for the individual features and layers

6.2 Glass and stone

by Laura Pooley

Non-ceramic finds were rare. A small but thick fragment of green glass from a Roman vessel came from F1 (1) along with two fragments of post-medieval bottle glass. A similar fragment of post-medieval bottle glass came from F3 (3). Two fragments of marble tile came from F5 (6) and F7 (4), both probably dating from the 19th-20th century. A post-medieval/modern iron nail and three nails shanks came from F13 (16) with unworked fragments of limestone from F5 (2), F7 (13) and F10 (8). See Table 13 for full descriptions. All of these finds will be discarded once the report is approved.

Context	Finds no.	Description
F1	1	Glass: Fragment of green vessel glass, thick (9mm), 6.2g, Roman. Two fragments of dark olive-green bottle glass, 13.3g, post-medieval.
F3	3	Glass: Fragment of dark olive-green bottle glass, 31.7g, post-medieval.
F5	2	Stone: Large irregular fragment of limestone and four small limestone chips, 3.5kg, probably used as building stone.
	6	Stone: Fragment of marble tile or veneer, roughly rectangular, broken on both short edges, both long edges possibly original although quite crudely cut, both surfaces smoothed, one (?upper) surface polished, 60mm long, 19mm wide, 12mm thick, 32.5g. Probably 19th-20th century.
F7	4	Stone: Fragment of marble tile, broken on all edges, upper surface smoothed, lower surface lightly scored with close-set parallel lines across the tile to aid adhesion, 79mm long, 57mm wide, 13mm thick, 111.6g, 19th-20th century.
	13	Stone: Fragment of very degraded limestone, 182.0g.
F10	8	Stone: Two fragments of limestone, 647.3g.
F13	16	Iron: 1) Virtually complete iron nail with tip missing, round-sectioned shank, flat round head (c 15mm diameter), 42mm long, 9.7g. 2) Three round-sectioned nail shanks, 7.4g. All post-medieval/modern.

Table 13 Non-ceramic finds by context

6.2 Animal bone

by Alec Wade

The excavation produced a very small assemblage of fifteen pieces of animal bone weighing 169g from three pits. Though quite fragmented, the bone was in fair to good surface condition.

Four species were identified in the assemblage including pig, sheep or goat (no distinction being possible), domestic fowl and cat. Dog gnawing was noted on some of the bone which is usually a good indicator of residuality within the deposited material and one bone fragment displayed fine cut marks resulting from butchery.

Context	Finds no.	Type	No. pieces	Weight (g)	Comments
F5	2	Modern	9	90	1 Sheep/goat distal tibia fragment

(TP1)		pit			(unfused metaphysis, age less than 1 ¼ to 1 ½ years). 1 Cock tarso-metatarsus (complete) with a broken spur. 7 fragments of large sized mammal bone (probably cow or horse) including rib and vertebra pieces. At least 1 piece shows signs of having been dog gnawed.
F7	4	Modern pit	3	32	1 cat ulna (Complete) with an unfused distal metaphysis. 2 fragments of large sized mammal including femur (pig?). Both pieces have been dog gnawed and one has a couple of very fine cut marks associated with butchery.
F8	10	Modern pit	3	47	1 pig ulna (incomplete) with an unfused distal metaphysis (age less than 3 – 3 ½ years). 2 rib fragments, one large mammal sized, and the other medium mammal sized (probably sheep or goat).
Totals			15	169g	1 cat 1 domestic fowl (cock) 1 pig 1 sheep or goat 11 Unidentified

Table 14 Animal bone by context

7 Environmental analysis

by Lisa Gray MSc MA ACIfA Archaeobotanist

Introduction

A single sample was taken from F13 (finds no. 16; sample no. <1>) due to the high quantity of environmental remains present in this feature. This report will list the plant macro-remain identifications and supply any information they give with regards the interpretation of features, economic and ecological information.

Methodology

Identification and recording

Identification of the grains, chaff and seeds were made using modern reference material (author's own and the seed reference collection at the Institute of Archaeology, University College London) and reference manuals (such as Beijerinck 1947; Cappers *et al* 2006; Jacomet 2006). Whole and embryo ends of grains were counted. Grain fragments were given estimated levels of abundance as follows:- + =1-10, ++ =11-50, +++ = 51-150, ++++ = 151-250 and +++++ = >250. Plant nomenclature follows this Stace (Stace 2010).

Charcoal fragments larger than 4mm Ø in size were separated and identification was attempted using epi-luminating microscopy. It is difficult to make identifications of charcoal fragments that are smaller than 4mm Ø in size because the diagnostic features necessary for identification may not be visible in such small fragments (Asouti 2006, 31; Smart & Hoffman 1988, 178-179). Fragments smaller than this size were scanned to find any twigs or smaller roundwood fragments. When fragments have been broken to reveal anatomical features, they have been wrapped in foil to keep those fragments intact so they can be counted. Charcoal identifications were made using modern reference slides (author's own) and anatomical guides (Hather 2000; Schoch *et al* 2004). The number of identifiable fragments in this sample was very high, so the fragments were sorted using a riffle box and one hundred randomly selected fragments were identified (see Table 15).

Results (see Table 15)

All the plant remains in this sample were preserved by charring and were dominated by cereal grains. No seeds were present. Chaff was recovered in very low quantities. Charcoal fragments were abundant. The density of charred plant remains in these samples per litre of sample soil were very high so are most likely to be remnants of one incident of hearth waste disposal or an actual hearth.

The cereal grains were dominated by those of wheat (*Triticum* sp.) and rye (*Secale cereale* L.). Thirty-two percent of the grains were indeterminate wheat grains. Twenty-two percent were rye grains. Sixteen percent were spelt (*T.spelta* L.) grains and nine percent had a more rounded morphology resembling bread wheat (*T.aestivum*) grains. Seventeen percent of the grains were barley (*Hordeum* sp.) grains. Eleven percent of the grains were hulled, straight barley (*H.vulgare*). One percent of these grains were twisted grains. The absence of well-preserved barley chaff has meant it is difficult to decide if the barley grains in this sample is a 2 or 6 rowed variety. The ratio of straight to twisted grains are not the 2 twisted to 1 straight grain one would expect for six-rowed barley. However, observations of cereal grain sieving in traditional farming communities in Greece by Glynis Jones did reveal the tendency for the twisted grains of six-rowed barley to be sieved out and not form part of the cleaned product (Jones 1996, 181).

One percent of the whole grain assemblage were oat (*Avena* sp.) grains. It was not possible to identify these as wild or cultivated oat due to the lack of oat chaff.

Twenty-nine chaff fragments were recovered. Twenty-one of these were well-preserved spelt spikelet forks. Three were spelt glumes and five were less well-preserved wheat spikelet bases.

All the charcoal fragments were fragments of oak (*Quercus* sp.). It is not possible to identify oak to species by microscopic anatomical characteristics alone (Hather 2000, 11).

Discussion

Taphonomic issues and feature interpretation

This charred plant remain assemblage is mostly clean grain with very little chaff and no seeds. This assemblage could have been created during the accidental charring of clean grain meant for consumption or storage (Van der Veen 2014, 2). This could happen during the drying or parching of grain in a corn drier. Corn driers have been identified in many parts of the British Isles, from sites dating from the late prehistoric to the medieval period (van der Veen 1989, 315). They have been found in areas where summers were cool and moist (Gibson 1989, 219) meaning harvests were damp (Monk 1985, 34) and grains needed to be dried to prevent spoilage by germination or insect damage (Van der Veen 1989, 303). The oak charcoal fragments could be evidence of fuel for a corn drier. Oak wood provides long-lasting fuel (Gale & Cutler 2000, 205).

Crop husbandry and food production

Spelt wheat, six-rowed hulled barley, bread wheat and cultivated oats are common cereals in Roman samples in Britain (Van der Veen 2014, 2). These grains could have been being prepared for storage or milling for flour. None of the grains were sprouted so there is no evidence that they were intended for brewing (Parks 2012, 50). Clean grains, de-husked, sieved and ready for consumption were transported in bulk to Roman Colchester (Parks 2012, 262) so this assemblage could be part of a supply of grain.

Environment

No waterlogged plant remains were present so no information about local environmental conditions was available.

Feature Number		F13
Finds Number		16
Sample Number		1
Description		Pit
Date		Roman, 2nd – 4th century
Initial Volume (L.)		40
Charred Grains		
<i>Avena</i> sp.	oat grain	10
<i>Hordeum</i> sp.	poorly preserved barley grain	91
<i>Hordeum vulgare</i> L.	two/six rowed barley (straight grain)	144
<i>Hordeum vulgare</i> L.	two/six rowed barley (twisted grain)	14
<i>Secale cereale</i> L.	rye grain	315
<i>Secale/Triticum</i> sp.	rye/wheat grain	47
<i>Triticum</i> sp.	poorly preserved wheat grain	464
<i>Triticum spelta</i> L.	spelt grain	230
<i>Triticum aestivum</i> L.	bread wheat	135
Indeterminate cereal	grain tissue	+++++
Charred Cereal Chaff		
<i>Triticum spelta</i> L.	spelt spikelet fork	21
<i>Triticum spelta</i> L.	spelt glume	3
<i>Triticum</i> sp.	wheat spikelet base	5
Charcoal		
<i>Quercus</i> sp.	oak	100

Table 15 Sample contents. Key to Estimated Quantities: + =1-10 items, ++ =11-50 items, +++ = 51-150, ++++ = 151-250, +++++ = >250.

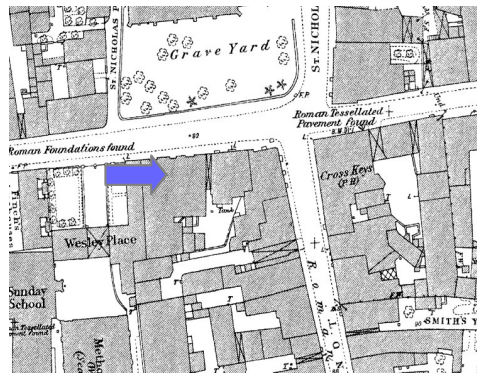
8 Conclusion

Seventeen features were recorded during archaeological monitoring at this site: ten pits, five postholes, a hearth or oven and a wall foundation. Of these, the most prominent were the series of large pits uncovered within TP1, all of which dated to the late 19th or early 20th century. The building which currently stands at the site, the former Co-op department store, was built during 1925-6. Historical mapping of the area depicts a series of buildings which altered very little during the fifty years prior to this development, and the area of the test-pits themselves occupied by a large building (see maps below). Although it is possible that these pits were dug in the cellar of this building, it is more likely that they were excavated subsequent to its demolition and prior to or during the construction of the present building. While their purpose is unclear, it is possible that they were excavated to quarry for sand. This theory is lent credence by the fact that while the lowest levels of post-medieval horizons recorded at the nearby Jacks site were between 24.79-25.82m AOD (CAT Report forthcoming), the lowest depth of these pits was 23.26m AOD, indicating that they were excavated in the base of an already substantial pit which was possibly dug to access the underlying sand deposits. More puzzling, however, is the wall foundation which overlaid several of these pits, the nature and purpose of which are yet to be determined.

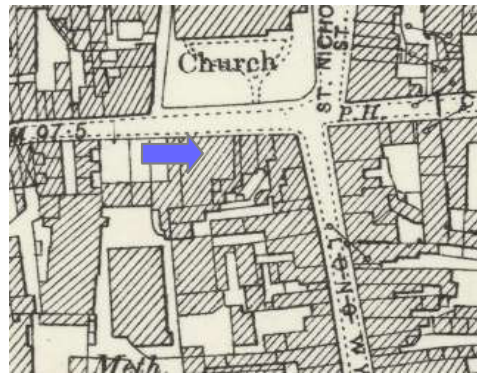
The series of postholes cut into natural which were uncovered in TP4 mirror the findings of the excavation of the site in 1997, when a number of postholes which formed the remains of multiple structures which stood at the site around 80-100 AD were recorded. It is possible that the postholes excavated during this investigation are the remains of the same collection of structures. These features yielded no artefactual evidence, however, and so their nature and dating can only be speculated upon.

A Roman feature containing considerable amounts of charred grain (wheat, rye, spelt, barley and oats) was also excavated. This deposit gives the impression of clean grain intended for consumption or storage which was accidentally charred during drying. The feature might simply be a pit excavated to deposit this waste material. It is more likely, however, that it represents the remains of a hearth or oven, although as the feature extended beyond the LOE, however, it is not possible to be more specific. Again, this

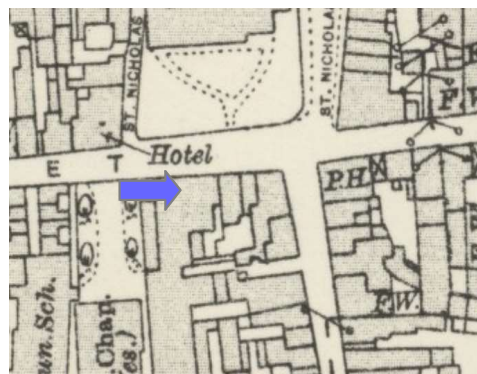
corresponds with the findings of the 1997 excavations, during which two Roman ovens and five hearths were excavated.



Map 1 Extract from the OS map of Colchester (1876) (The approximate location of the site is indicated by the blue arrow)



Map 2 Extract from the OS map of Colchester (1897) (The approximate location of the site is indicated by the blue arrow)



Map 3 Extract from the OS map of Colchester (1923) (The approximate location of the site is indicated by the blue arrow)

9 Acknowledgements

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and carried out by B Holloway, A Wightman, R Mathieson, S Carter, Z Eksen and B Quinn. Figures were prepared by M Baister and S Carter. The project was monitored for CBCPS by Jess Tipper.

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

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11 Abbreviations and glossary

Anglo-Saxon	period from c 500 – 1066
CAT	Colchester Archaeological Trust
CBCAA	Colchester Borough Council Archaeological Advisor
CBCPS	Colchester Borough Council Planning Services
CBM	ceramic building material, ie brick/tile
CHER	Colchester Historic Environment Record (previously UAD, Urban Archaeological Database)
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'
layer (L)	distinct or distinguishable deposit (layer) of material
medieval	period from AD 1066 to c 1500

modern	period from c AD 1800 to the present
natural	geological deposit undisturbed by human activity
NGR	National Grid Reference
OASIS	Online Access to the Index of Archaeological Investigations, http://oasis.ac.uk/pages/wiki/Main
peg-tile	rectangular thin tile with peg-hole(s) used mainly for roofing, first appeared c AD1200 and continued in use to present day, but commonly post-medieval to modern
post-medieval	from c AD 1500 to c 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 sx or Sx) vertical slice through feature/s or layer/s
wsi	written scheme of investigation

12 Contents of archive

Finds: one box

Paper record

One A4 document wallet containing:

The report (CAT Report 1452)

CBCAA evaluation brief, CAT written scheme of investigation

Original site records (layer, feature and finds sheets, sections)

Site digital photographic thumbnails and log

Inked section drawings

Digital record

The report (CAT Report 1481)

CBCAA evaluation brief, CAT written scheme of investigation

Graphics

Site digital photographs, photographic thumbnails and log

Original site records (layer, feature and finds sheets)

Survey data

13 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.

Distribution list

Ian Harvey (Dudley Smith Partnership)
East of England Co-operative Society
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: eh2@catuk.org

Checked by: Chris Lister
Date: 13.09.2019

Appendix 1 Context list

Context Number	Test-pit number	Finds number	Feature / layer type	Description	Date
L1	TP1, TP2, TP3, TP4, TP5	-	Concrete hard-top	Concrete floor slab	Modern
L2	TP1	-	?Boudiccan destruction horizon	Firm, moist, medium orange silty-clay with frequent charcoal pieces	?1st century
L3	TP1, TP2, TP3	-	Natural	Firm, dry light yellow/brown sand	Post-glacial
L4	-	-	-	VOIDED	-
L5	TP1	-	?Make-up layer	Firm, dry dark grey silty-clayey sand with daub inclusions	19th-20th century
L6	TP4, TP5	-	Make-up layer	Firm, dry medium grey silty-sand with CBM flecks	Post-medieval
L7	TP4, TP5	-	Natural	Firm, dry light grey/brown silty-sand	Post-glacial
F1	TP1	1	Wall foundation	Composed of a firm, dry mixture of tile, brick, septaria and mortar with green sand inclusions	Post-medieval
F2	-	-	-	VOIDED	-
F3	TP1	3	Pit	Fill A: firm, light brown/grey silty-sand with frequent CBM fragments and gravel; Fill B: firm, medium grey/brown clayey-silt; Fill C: firm, dark grey/brown clayey-silt with CBM fragments and large stones	19th-20th century
F4	TP1	7	Pit	Friable/firm, dry light/medium brown sandy-silt with CBM flecks	19th-20th century
F5	TP1	2, 6	Pit	Firm, dry/moist dark grey/brown silty-sand	19th-20th century
F6	TP1	-	Pit	Fill A: friable, light brown/grey silty-sand with frequent CBM fragments and gravel; Fill B: hard, dark brown/grey silty-clay with frequent CBM fragments and large stones	Modern
F7	TP1	4, 13	Pit	Fill A: mixed firm, dark red/brown clayey-sand and light yellow/brown clay with rare small stones; Fill B: firm, very dark red-brown silty-clay with rare charcoal flecks; Fill C: thin mortar layer; Fill D: firm, dark red-brown silty-clay with occasional medium yellow/brown clay, frequent mortar and CBM fragments and occasional charcoal flecks; Fill E: firm, medium yellow/brown clay with occasional CBM fragments; Fill F: firm, medium yellow/brown clayey-silt with rare small stones; Fill G: firm, dark red/grey/brown silty-clay with rare small stones; Fill H: friable, medium yellow	19th-20th century

				sand; Fill I: firm, dark grey/brown clayey-silt with occasional small/medium stones	
F8	TP1	10, 11, 12	Pit	Fill A: mixed firm, dark red/brown clayey-sand and medium yellow/brown clay with frequent CBM pieces and small stones and occasional charcoal flecks; Fill B: firm, dark yellow/brown clayey-sand with frequent mortar and small stones and occasional CBM pieces; Fill C: firm, dark brown/grey clayey-sand with rare small stones; Fill D: soft, light brown/grey sandy-silt with rare small stones	19th-20th century
F9	TP1	5	Pit	Friable, moist grey/brown sandy-silty-clay with charcoal and daub flecks and 2% stones	?Roman
F10	TP1	8, 9, 19	Pit	Fills A, C and E: friable medium/dark brown/grey sandy-silt with frequent and CBM fragments, stones and charcoal flecks; Fills B and D: firm, dark red/brown silty-clay with frequent CBM fragments, small stones and charcoal flecks; Fills F and H: mixed friable, medium yellow/brown silty-sand and occasional patches of brown clay with frequent mortar fragments and small stones; Fill G: firm, light brown clay with rare small stones; Fill I: firm, medium grey/brown silty-clay with rare mortar fragments and small stones; Fill J: firm, dark brown/grey silty-clay with rare mortar fragments and small stones	19th-20th century
F11	TP1	-	Pit	Firm, dry light/medium brown sandy-silt with CBM flecks	Undatable
F12	TP1	14	Pit	Soft, moist medium grey/brown silty-clay	19th-20th century
F13	TP5	16	Hearth / oven	Soft, moist medium grey/brown silty-clay with very frequent charcoal daub pieces and CBM flecks	2nd-4th century
F14	TP4	-	Posthole	Firm, dry dark grey silty-sand with charcoal flecks	Undatable
F15	TP4	15	Posthole	Firm, dry dark grey silty-sand with charcoal flecks	Undatable
F16	TP4	17	Posthole	Firm, dry dark grey silty-sand with charcoal flecks	Undatable
F17	TP4	-	Posthole	Firm, dry dark grey silty-sand with charcoal flecks	Undatable
F18	TP4	18	Posthole	Firm, dry dark grey silty-sand with charcoal flecks	Undatable

Appendix 2 Ceramic and pottery list

Context	Feature type	Find no.	Find Type	Fabric Group	Discard	No.	Weight	Rim	Handle	Base	Other	Form	Comments	Date
F3	Pit	3	CBM	-	-	1	41					slate	Roofing slate	Modern
F3	Pit	3	CBM	-	-	1	324					PT	rectangular peg-hole, 11 x 10, 11 x 8, one blind	13th-16th century
F3	Pit	3	CBM	-	-	1	1,385					BR	Unfrogged, ? x 106 x 42	Medieval-Post Medieval
F3	Pit	3	CBM	-	-	1	247				burnt	RI		Roman
F3	Pit	3	Pottery	F48D	-	1	7						Blue transfer printed	19th-20th century
F3	Pit	3	Pottery	F20	-	1	34						Combed decoration	Mid 12th-late 14th century
F4	Pit	7	CBM	-	X	2	891					BR	Frog ? x ? x 65 mm	19th-20th century
F4	Pit	7	CBM	-	X	1	247					BR	Frog	19th-20th century
F4	Pit	7	CBM	-	X	1	513					RB		Roman
F4	Pit	7	CBM	-	X	1	152					RT		Roman
F5	Pit	2	CBM	-	X	2	527					RI		Roman
F5	Pit	2	CBM	-	X	1	61					RT	worn	Roman
F5	Pit	2	CBM	-	X	4	2764					RB		Roman
F5	Pit	2	CBM	-	X	1	884					RBT		Roman
F5	Pit	2	CBM	-	X	2	23					RBT		Roman
F5	Pit	2	CBM	-	X	1	89					RT		Roman
F5	Pit	2	CBM	-	-	1	23					Tess	30 x 20 x 20	Roman
F5	Pit	2	Pottery	F20	-	1	10							Mid 12th-late 14th century
F5	Pit	2	Pottery	F13	-	1	59	1	0	0	black organic deposit int.	Cooking pot H1	some mortar	1150/1175-1225
F5	Pit	2	CBM	-	X	1	62					RI		Roman
F5	Pit	2	CBM	-	X	1	674					RB		Roman
F5	Pit	2	CBM	-	X	2	373					RT		Roman

CAT Report 1452: Archaeological monitoring at the Colchester & East Essex Co-op, 1-21 Long Wyre Street, Colchester, Essex – February-July 201

F5	Pit	2	CBM	-	X	1	102					RBT	overfired	Roman
F5	Pit	2	CBM	-	X	1	2534					RB	sign lines, 210+ x 210+ x 36	Roman
F5	Pit	2	Pottery	GX	-	1	35	0	0	1				Roman
F5	Pit	2	Pottery	GB	-	1	17							Roman
F7	Pit	4	CBM	-	X	1	730					RB		Roman
F7	Pit	4	CBM	-	X	1	65					PT		13th-16th century
F7	Pit	4	CBM	-	X	3	61					RBT		Roman
F7	Pit	4	CBM	-	X	5	368					RI		Roman
F7	Pit	4	CBM	-	X	5	1060					RT		Roman
F7	Pit	4	Pottery	DJ	-	2	37							Roman
F7	Pit	4	Pottery	TZ	-	1	57							Roman
F7	Pit	4	Pottery	DJ	-	1	15							Roman
F7	Pit	4	Pottery	CS (OD)	-	4	40	2	0	2				1st-early 2nd century AD
F7	Pit	4	Pottery	BAMV	-	1	15						repair hole 0.5 cm diam.	Early 2nd century AD
F7	Pit	4	Pottery	GB	-	1	22	1	0	0		Cam 278		Hadrianic to AD 250
F7	Pit	4	Pottery	GX	-	2	8							Roman
F7	Pit	4	Pottery	GX	-	2	13	0	0	1				Roman
F7	Pit	4	Pottery	F20	-	1	9						rare shell	Mid 12th-late 14th century
F7	Pit	4	CBM	-	X	4	467					RT		Roman
F7	Pit	4	CBM	-	X	1	54					RI		Roman
F7	Pit	4	CBM	-	-	2	472					RT	UCA B5	Roman
F7	Pit	4	CBM	-	-	1	1136					daub brick	87 mm thick	Roman
F7	Pit	4	CBM	-	X	4	21					mortar		Roman
F7	Pit	4	CBM	-	-	1	13					wall plaster	Red 6 cm sq	Roman
F7	Pit	4	CBM	-	-	1	4					wall plaster	White 1 cm sq	Roman
F7	Pit	4	CBM	-	X	1	22					RT		Roman
F7	Pit	4	CBM	-	X	1	8					RBT		Roman

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F7	Pit	4	CBM	-	X	1	8					RBT		Roman
F7	Pit	4	Pottery	CH	-	2	11	0	0	1			overfired	Late 3rd-4th century AD
F7	Pit	13	CBM	-	X	2	232					RI		Roman
F7	Pit	13	CBM	-	X	4	796					RT		Roman
F7	Pit	13	CBM	-	X	5	1880					RB		Roman
F7	Pit	13	CBM	-	X	1	769					daub brick	78 mm thick	Roman
F7	Pit	13	CBM	-	X	3	502					RB		Roman
F7	Pit	13	CBM	-	X	1	199					BR		Medieval-Post Medieval
F7	Pit	13	CBM	-	X	2	369					daub brick		Roman
F7	Pit	13	CBM	-	X	4	556					RT		Roman
F7	Pit	13	CBM	-	-	1	182					RT		Roman
F7	Pit	13	CBM	-	-	1	8					wall plaster	White 4 cm sq	Roman
F7	Pit	13	CBM	-	X	1	99					RI		Roman
F7	Pit	13	CBM	-	X	1	58					RI		Roman
F7	Pit	13	Pottery	GX	-	1	8							Roman
F8	Pit	10	CBM	-	-	2	193					BR	?	Medieval-Post Medieval
F8	Pit	10	CBM	-	X	2	419					RB		Roman
F8	Pit	10	CBM	-	-	1	374					RFT	combed	Roman
F8	Pit	10	CBM	-	X	4	265					RI		Roman
F8	Pit	10	CBM	-	X	4	718					RT	sign curve	Roman
F8	Pit	10	CBM	-	-	2	326					RT	LCA A26	AD 40-120
F8	Pit	10	CBM	-	X	1	101					RBT		Roman
F8	Pit	10	Pottery	GX	-	2	29							Roman
F8	Pit	10	Pottery	DJ	-	1	7							Roman
F8	Pit	10	Pottery	DJ	-	1	13							Roman
F8	Pit	10	Pottery	DZ	-	1	5							Roman
F8	Pit	10	Pottery	GX	-	1	25	1	0	0				Roman
F8	Pit	11	CBM	-	X	1	301					RB		Roman

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F8	Pit	11	Pottery	WA	-	1	3						Roman
F8	Pit	12	Pottery	BASG	-	1	4			burnt	Drag. 27		AD 100-150/160
F8	Pit	12	CBM	-	X	1	66				RI		Roman
F8	Pit	12	CBM	-	X	1	198				RB		Roman
F8	Pit	12	CBM	-	-	9	91				wall plaster	White 40 cm sq	Roman
F8	Pit	12	CBM	-	-	1	7				wall plaster	Red & white line 6 cm sq	Roman
F8	Pit	12	CBM	-	-	1	13				wall plaster	Orange 4 cm sq	Roman
F8	Pit	12	Pottery	WA	-	1	15				Cam 108		Claudian to AD 130/140?
F9	Pit	5	CBM	-	X	6	288				RI		Roman
F9	Pit	5	CBM	-	X	2	87				RBT		Roman
F9	Pit	5	CBM	-	X	1	104				RT		Roman
F9	Pit	5	CBM	-	-	12	138				Baked clay	daub brick frags?	Roman
F9	Pit	5	CBM	-	-	1	20				Baked clay	daub, stake imp c.10 mm	Roman
F9	Pit	5	CBM	-	-	1	1184			burnt	daub brick		Roman
F9	Pit	5	CBM	-	-	1	170				RT	UCA B1	Roman
F10	Pit	8	CBM	-	X	1	98				RT		Roman
F10	Pit	8	CBM	-	X	4	3992				RB		Roman
F10	Pit	8	CBM	-	-	1	436				RT	LCAA26	AD 40-120
F10	Pit	8	Pottery	BASG	-	1	7				Drag. 27		1st century AD
F10	Pit	8	CBM	-	X	2	350				daub brick		Roman
F10	Pit	8	CBM	-	X	2	194				RI		Roman
F10	Pit	8	CBM	-	X	1	102			burnt	RI		Roman
F10	Pit	8	CBM	-	X	2	351				RB		Roman
F10	Pit	8	CBM	-	X	2	182				RT		Roman
F10	Pit	8	CBM	-	X	1	66				BR	shallow frog	19th-20th century
F10	Pit	8	Pottery	F21	-	1	19						c.1200-1550
F10	Pit	8	CBM	-	X	4	1431				RB		Roman
F10	Pit	8	CBM	-	-	1	366				RT		Roman

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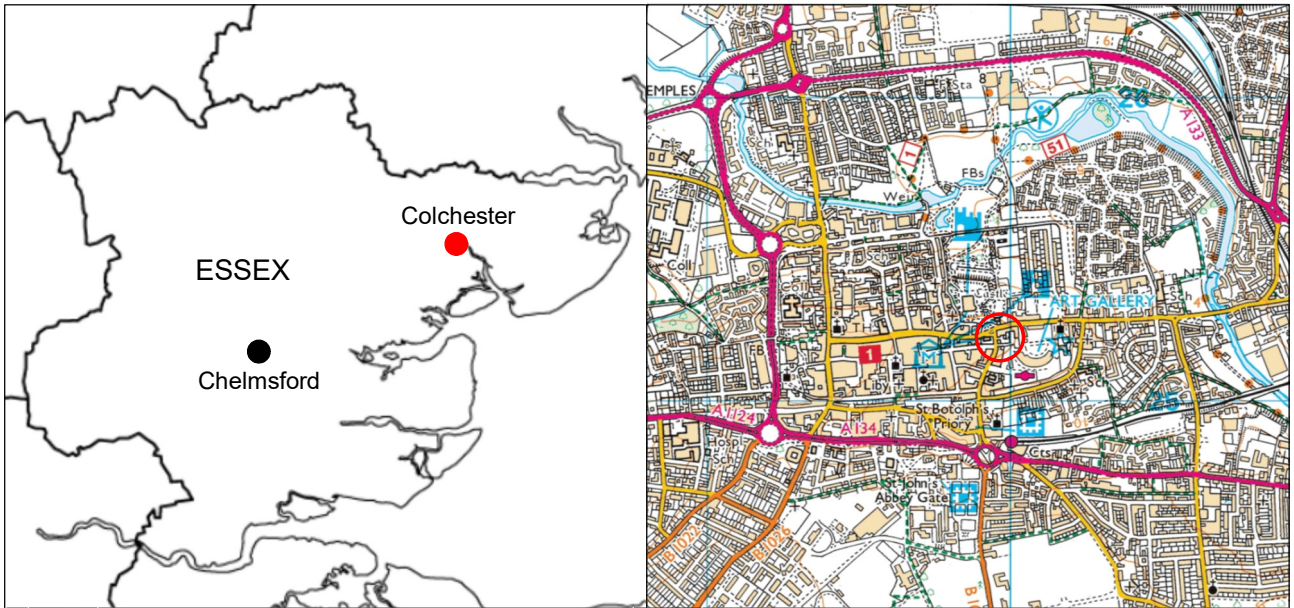
F10	Pit	8	CBM	-	X	1	177					RBT		Roman
F10	Pit	8	CBM	-	-	1	399					RT	LCA D15	Roman
F10	Pit	8	Pottery	TZ	-	1	77	1	0	0		Cam 192A		Roman
F10	Pit	8	CBM	-	X	1	178					RI		Roman
F10	Pit	8	CBM	-	X	3	112					RBT		Roman
F10	Pit	8	CBM	-	X	6	1716					RB		Roman
F10	Pit	8	CBM	-	X	2	688					RT		Roman
F10	Pit	8	CBM	-	X	2	730					RB		Roman
F10	Pit	8	CBM	-	-	2	1413					daub brick	80 mm thick curved/near triangular	Roman
F10	Pit	8	CBM	-	-	2	1208					RT	LCA A29	AD 40-120
F10	Pit	8	CBM	-	X	3	263					RI		Roman
F10	Pit	8	CBM	-	-	1	769					RT		Roman
F10	Pit	8	Pottery	BXSG	-	1	8	1	0	0		Drag. 29		1st century AD
F10	Pit	8	Pottery	F13	-	2	90	2	0	0		Cooking pot A4a, B1b		1025/1050-1200/1225
F10	Pit	8	Pottery	F20	-	1	20				black sooting on ext			Mid 12th-late 14th century
F10	Pit	8	Pottery	AA (Gaul)	-	1	30				burnt, burnt resin			Roman
F10	Pit	9	CBM	-	-	1	489					RB	combed	Roman
F10	Pit	9	CBM	-	X	1	63					RI		Roman
F10	Pit	9	CBM	-	X	9	1415					RT		Roman
F10	Pit	9	CBM	-	X	2	567					RT		Roman
F10	Pit	9	CBM	-	--	2	1048					RT	LCA A26	Roman
F10	Pit	9	CBM	-	X	3	1270					BR	? x 108 x 61 unfrogged	Medieval-Post Medieval
F10	Pit	9	CBM	-	X	1	100					RI		Roman
F10	Pit	9	CBM	-	X	2	1390					RB		Roman
F10	Pit	9	CBM	-	X	2	926					RB		Roman
F10	Pit	9	CBM	-	-	1	456					RT		Roman

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F10	Pit	9	CBM	-	X	1	1171					RB	71 mm thick	Roman
F10	Pit	19	CBM	-	-	1	2097					BR	Unfrogged, 60 x 110 x ?	Medieval-Post Medieval
F10	Pit	19	CBM	-	-	2	3808					BR	2 unfrogged bricks, 55 x 105 x 220, 55 x 100 x ?	Medieval-Post Medieval
F12	Pit	14	CBM	-	X	1	35					slate	Roofing slate	Modern
F12	Pit	14	CBM	-	X	3	40					mortar		Roman
F12	Pit	14	CBM	-	X	2	65					RBT		Roman
F12	Pit	14	CBM	-	X	1	74					RT		Roman
F12	Pit	14	CBM	-	-	1	184					RT		Roman
F12	Pit	14	CBM	-	X	14	1635					BR	shallow frog, 67 mm thick	19th-20th century
F12	Pit	14	CBM	-	X	1	126					BR		Medieval-Post Medieval
F13	Hearth / oven	16	CBM	-	X	1	11					RI		Roman
F13	Hearth / oven	16	CBM	-	X	3	100					RT		Roman
F13	Hearth / oven	16	CBM	-	X	5	57					RBT		Roman
F13	Hearth / oven	16	CBM	-	X	1	48					RB		Roman
F13	Hearth / oven	16	CBM	-	X	4	18				burnt	Baked clay	daub	Roman
F13	Hearth / oven	16	CBM	-	X	25	311					Baked clay	daub	Roman
F13	Hearth / oven	16	CBM	-	X	1	7				burnt	Baked clay		Roman
F13	Hearth / oven	16	Pottery	GX	X	2	2							Roman
F13	Hearth / oven	16	CBM	-	X	1	9					mortar		Roman
F13	Hearth / oven	16	CBM	-		10	34					wall plaster	Grey (burnt white?) 14 cm sq	Roman
F13	Hearth / oven	16	CBM	-		14	100					wall plaster	White 22 cm sq	Roman

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F13	Hearth / oven	16	Pottery	GA		1	9						Disc 55 mm diam, smoothed edge	Roman
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Fig 1 Site location.

Roman street layout
 Roman fortress ditch

0 50 m



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Fig 2 Trial hole results (in red) in relation to previous archaeological work, showing known Roman building remains (in green).



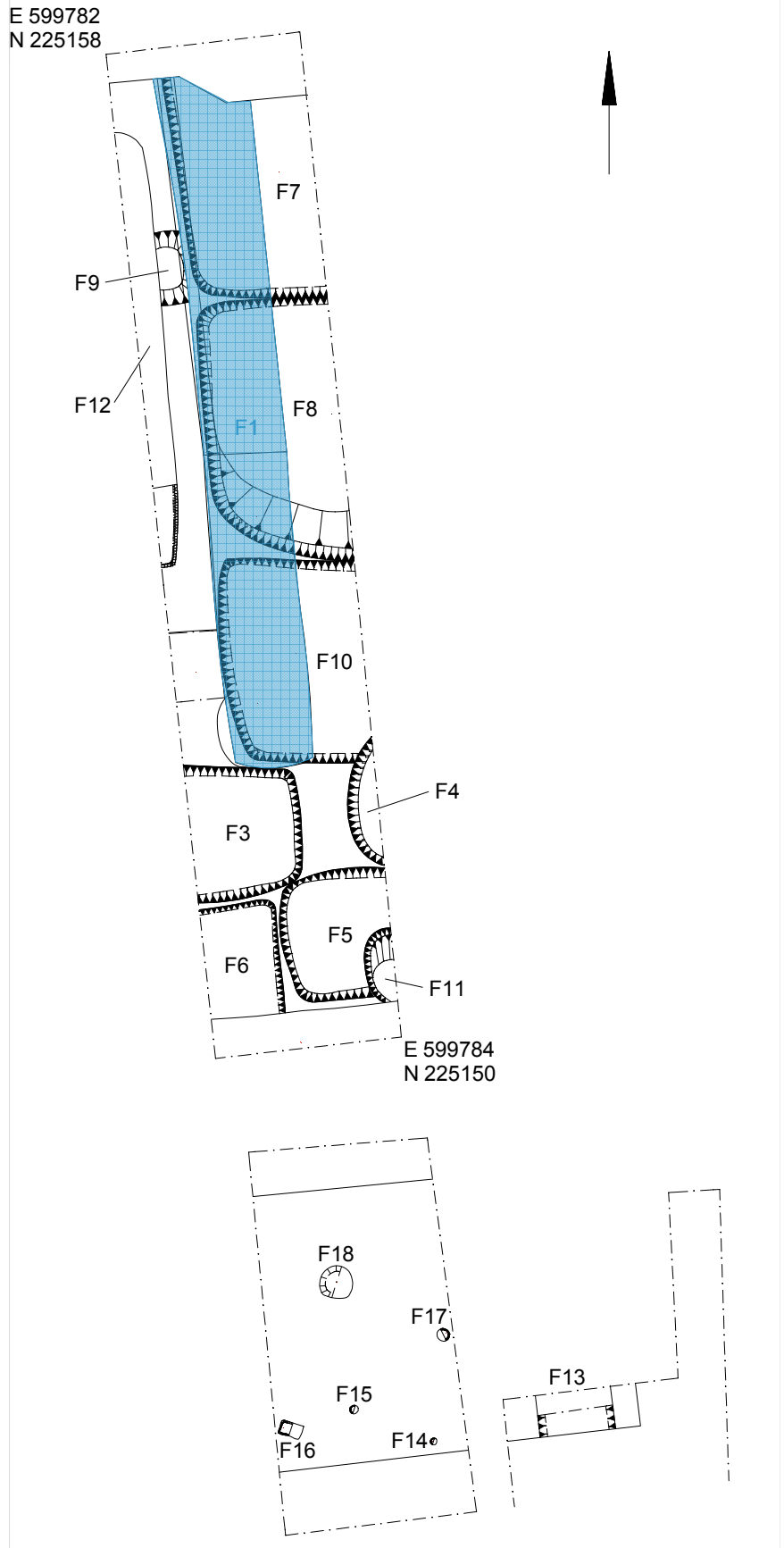


Fig 3 Detailed results.

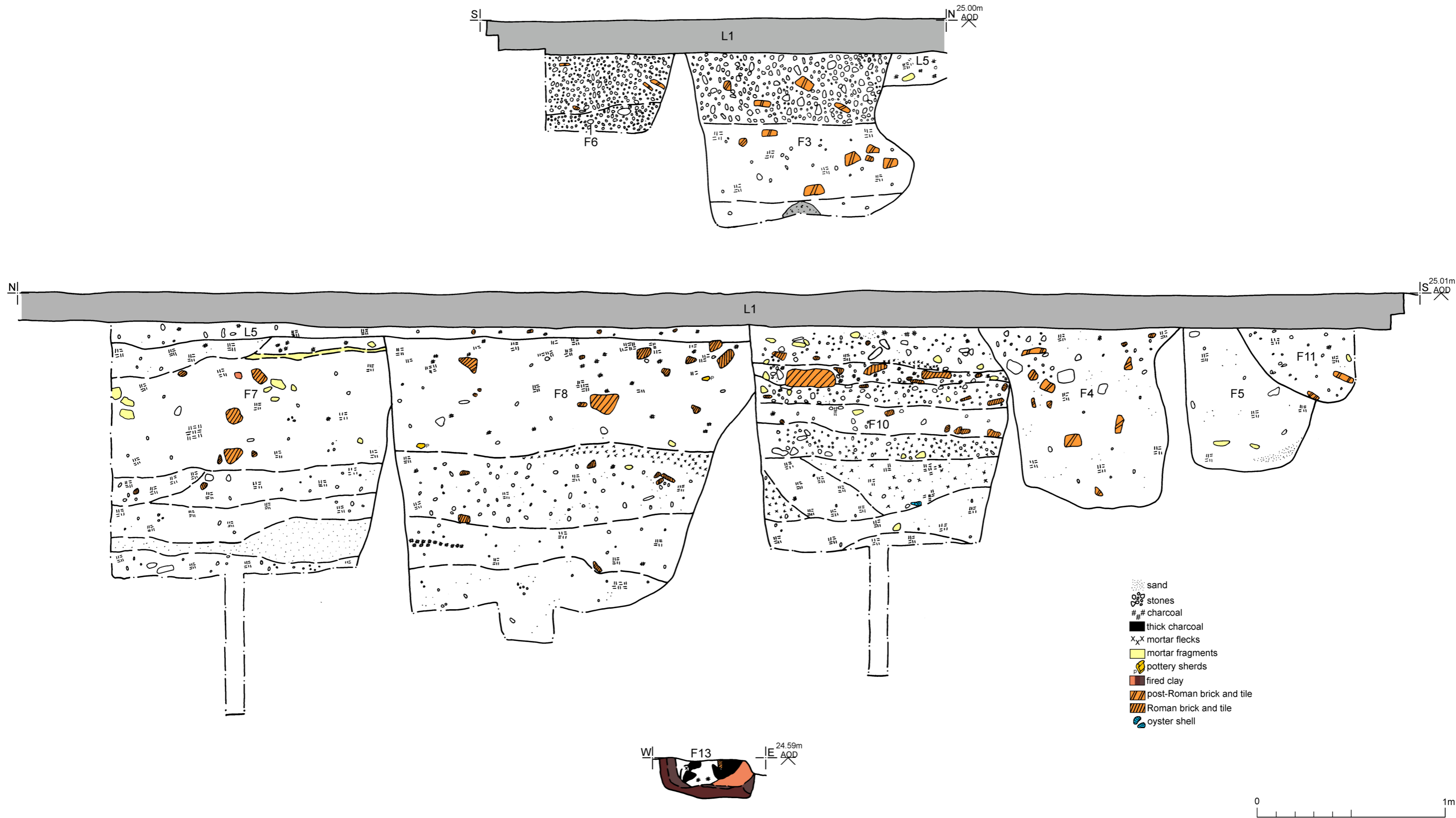


Fig 4 Feature sections.

Essex Historic Environment Record/ Essex Archaeology and History

Summary sheet

Address: Colchester & East Essex Co-op, 1-21 Long Wyre Street, Colchester, Essex, CO1 1LH	
Parish: Colchester	District: Colchester
NGR: TL 9978 2515 (centre)	Site code: CAT project ref.: 19/02a CHER ref: ECC4340 OASIS ref: colchest3-351652
Type of work: Monitoring	Site director/group: Colchester Archaeological Trust
Date of work: 4th and 12th July 2019	Size of area investigated: 0.22ha
Location of curating museum: Colchester museum	Funding source: Owner
Further seasons anticipated? Not known	Related CHER/SMR number: MCC246, MCC373, MCC478, MCC723, MCC724, MCC1012, MCC1113, MCC1115, MCC1118, MCC1119, MCC1122, MCC1123, MCC1124, MCC1129, MCC1132, MCC1133, MCC1134, MCC1135, MCC1139, MCC1146, MCC1147, MCC1152, MCC1153, MCC1154, MCC1158, MCC1159, MCC1161, MCC2043, MCC2045, MCC2721, MCC2722, MCC2723, MCC7906, MCC7907, MCC7908, MCC8317; ECC373
Final report: CAT Report 1452	
Periods represented: Roman, modern	
Summary of fieldwork results: <i>Archaeological monitoring was carried out at the Colchester & East Essex Co-op, 1-21 Long Wyre Street, Colchester, Essex, during groundworks to facilitate revisions to the internal layout and elevations relating to a small section of the Long Wyre Street frontage. A series of large pits were uncovered which dated to the 19th or 20th century, just prior to the construction of the present-day building in 1925-6. Several of these pits were overlain by the remains of a modern wall foundation. A number of undatable postholes were also uncovered; these may relate to a series of early Roman postholes recorded during excavations of the site undertaken in 1997. A Roman hearth or oven containing considerable quantities of charred cereal grains was also excavated.</i>	
Previous summaries/reports: CAT Report 1361	
CBC monitor: Jess Tipper	
Keywords: –	Significance: *
Author of summary: Dr Elliott Hicks	Date of summary: September 2019

**Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI)
for an archaeological investigation at
the Colchester & East Essex Co-op, 1-21 Long
Wyre Street, Colchester, Essex, CO1 1LH.**

NGR: TL 9790 2350 (centre)

Planning references: 190399 (non-material amendment of 170424)

Parish: Colchester

Commissioned by: Ian Harvey (Dudley Smith Partnership)

Client: East of England Co-operative Society

Curating museum: Colchester

CHER number: ECC4340

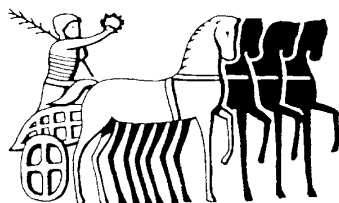
CAT project code: 2019/02a

OASIS project number: colchest3-351652

Site manager: Chris Lister

CBC monitor: Jess Tipper

This WSI written: 17/05/2019 (revised)



COLCHESTER ARCHAEOLOGICAL TRUST,
Roman Circus House,
Roman Circus Walk,
Colchester,
Essex, CO2 7GZ

tel: 01206 501785

email: eh@catuk.org

Site location and description

The proposed development site lies approximately 2.3km southwest of the centre of the historic core within Colchester Town Centre at the site of the Colchester & East Essex Co-op, 1-21 Long Wyre Street, Colchester, Essex, CO3 4QW (Fig 1). The Colchester & East Essex Co-op is part of the East of England Co-operative Society. The site is centred at National Grid Reference (NGR) TL 9790 2350.

Proposed work

The development comprises the relocation of the sub-station, minor revisions to the internal layout plans and elevations relating to a small section of the Long Wyre Street frontage and any associated groundworks.

Archaeological background

The following archaeological background largely draws on CAT Report 1361 and the Colchester Historic Environment Record (accessed via Colchester Heritage Explorer (<https://colchesterheritage.co.uk/map>)).

Colchester has been the subject of antiquarian and archaeological interest for some centuries, culminating in modern large-scale archaeological excavations within the town centre and suburbs. There is a large corpus of published information on the town's archaeological and historical background (Morant 1748, Hull 1958, *CAR 1*, *CAR 3*, *CAR 6*, *CAR 9* and Crummy 1997).

The archaeological importance of the site's location is beyond question - it is within the walled Roman town (specifically, it straddles Insulae 29, 30, 36 and 37), and (in terms of post-Roman heritage), south of the now-demolished St Nicholas' Church, whose damaged graveyard survives in part.

The current development work is located towards the northern end of the former Co-operative Stores. This area is surrounded by extensive excavations from the 1970s - 1990s which demonstrated the presence of nationally important archaeological remains, especially of the Roman period. The reports on these excavations give us an expected depth below ground of the highest significant archaeological levels, of whatever period, and the level of 'natural ground'. Taking into account the highest surviving archaeological remains (as projected from nearby sites) at approximately 25.6m AOD

Key large excavations by CAT include Lion Walk¹ (1971-5), which is immediately west (*CAR 3*), the area around the Co-operative stores excavation site² (1979, 1996-8), which is immediately south (*CAR 6* and Brooks 2001), and The Lion Walk United Reformed Church³ excavation of 1984, which is 100m west (*CAR 3*). These large excavations revealed:

- the Roman fortress (*circa* AD 43-49)
- the Roman veterans' colony (AD 49-60/61)
- the Boudiccan destruction horizons (AD 60/61)
- several periods of Roman, post-Boudiccan rebuilding (AD 60/61 - 4th century), including Roman roads, mosaics, tessellated pavements, walls and drainage systems.
- Anglo-Saxon (structures, loose finds)
- Medieval (structures, stone-robbing activity, rubbish pits)
- Post-medieval (structures, rubbish pits)

1 Includes CHER no.s MCC8311, MCC482, MCC238, MCC677-8, MCC688, MCC694-5, MCC697, MCC702, MCC703, MCC733, MCC735-8, MCC757, MCC794, MCC802, MCC959.

2 Includes CHER no.s MCC1119, MCC1122, MCC1123, MCC1129, ECC373, MCC1132, MCC373, MCC246, MCC7906, MCC7907-8, MCC8317, MCC1012, MCC1113, MCC1115, MCC1118, MCC1124, MCC1133-5, MCC1139, MCC1146, MCC1152-4, MCC1158-9, MCC1161, MCC2043, MCC2721-3, MCC723-4, MCC1147.

3 CHER no MCC478

In December 1997 CAT carried out an evaluation at the Co-op site, 21-31 Long Wyre Street (MCC2043, MCC2045). The evaluation involved five small hand-dug trenches. These revealed stratified Roman deposits including burnt Boudiccan debris and part of a mosaic floor (Brooks 2001a). Consequently, in 1998 CAT carried out an excavation (Brooks 2001b, CHER MCC2722-3). The store spans a 30m-wide strip along the western edge of Insula 37 and a thin slice of the western edge of Insula 38a. Evidence recorded included:

- Period I – c 80-100 AD Several rows of small post-holes with associated sand and clay floors.
- Period II – early 2nd century AD Clay floors with occupation dirt on them (no contemporary walls were found).
- Period III – early to mid 2nd century AD A building with stone-filled wall-footing trenches and clay floors. Construction of street separating Insulas 37 and 38a.
- Period IV – mid to late 2nd century AD A substantial addition to the Period 3 building. A new pebble-in mortar floor associated with two buried pots (ritual foundation deposits).
- Period V – late 2nd century AD An oven, fragments of walls, floor patches.
- Period VI – early-mid 3rd century AD A structure defined by slots and associated with a gravel surface. A third ritually deposited pot.
- Period VII – after AD 270 and later 3rd century A new house with deep, rubble-in-mortar foundations. Parts of nine(?) rooms coincide with the excavated area, but it was clearly a much larger structure. Some floors tessellated.
- Period VIII – late 3rd-early 4th century AD Demolition of the Period VII house.
- Period IX – early 4th century AD Various cuts into the demolition debris above (robbing activity?).
- Period X – medieval Robbing of Roman walls, followed by digging of rubbish-pits.
- Period XI – post-medieval Large-scale pit-digging along the southern edge of the site.
- Period XII – modern Walls, concrete stanchions (recent Co-operative Society's building), pits.

Planning background

A planning application was made to Colchester Borough Council in March 2019 (application No.190399, a non-material amendment to an earlier application 170424) proposing the *relocation of lift and stairwell, commercial floor space reconfiguration, second floor apartments reconfiguration (unit 23 and 24), relocation of substation, recess opening and Louvre doors, cycle storage.*

As the site lies within an area highlighted by the CHER 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 (MHCLG 2019).*

Requirement for work

The required archaeological work is for an archaeological investigation. Details are given in a Project Brief written by CBCAA (CBC 2019).

Specifically:

This will involve monitoring and recording to identify and record any surviving archaeological deposits that may exist on site.

If unexpected remains are encountered the CBCAA will be informed immediately and the CBCAA will decide if amendments to the brief are required to ensure adequate provision for archaeological recording.

In the exceptional circumstances that important, well-preserved mosaic floors (or similar remains) are discovered, which cannot otherwise be avoided by the development (and satisfactorily preserved in situ), a contingency will be required for the block-lifting of these

archaeological remains, e.g. well-preserved mosaic remains and/or exceptional burnt remains related to the Boudiccan destruction of AD 60/61, and for subsequent conservation and presentation. A decision about the need for conservation and lifting of important archaeological remains will be made in consultation with specialist stakeholders (e.g. Historic England, Colchester Museum and Norfolk Museums Service, Conservation and Design Services).

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, b)
- Standards and Frameworks published by East Anglian Archaeology (Gurney 2003, Medlycott 2011)
- relevant Health & Safety guidelines and requirements (CAT 2018)
- the Project Brief issued by the CBCAA (CBC 2019).

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.

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

A unique HER event number will be obtained from the CBCAA prior to the commencement of fieldwork. The curating museum will be notified of the details of the project and the event code, which will be used to identify the project archive when depositing at the end of the project.

Staffing

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

Investigation methodology

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

All topsoil removal and ground reduction will be done with a toothless bucket under supervision and guidance by the archaeologist, stopping at the uppermost archaeological horizon, to ensure hand excavation, and recording.

If archaeological features or deposits are uncovered, time will be allowed for these to be planned and recorded.

If any features or deposits uncovered are to be destroyed by the proposed development, time will be allowed for these features to be excavated by hand. This includes a 50% sample of discrete features (pits, etc), 10% of linear features (ditches, etc) and 100% of all complex features and burials (see Human Remains policy below).

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

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

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

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 and trenches 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 micromorphological and other pedological sedimentological analysis. Environmental bulk samples will be 40 litres in size (assuming the context is large enough).

Sampling strategies will address questions of:

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

CAT has an arrangement with Val Fryer / Lisa Gray whereby any potentially rich environmental layers or features will be appropriately sampled as a matter of course. Trained CAT staff will do any processing and the flots passed to Val Fryer / Lisa Gray for analysis and reporting.

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

Human remains

CAT follows the policy of leaving human remains *in situ* unless there is a clear indication that the remains are in danger of being compromised as a result of their exposure or unless advised to do so by the project osteologist or CBCAA.

CBCAA will be notified immediately if any human remains are encountered during the investigation.

If circumstances indicated it were prudent or necessary to remove remains from the site during the monitoring, the following criteria would be applied; if it is clear from their position, context, depth, or other factors that the remains are ancient, then normal procedure is to apply to the Department of Justice for a licence to remove them and seek advice from the

project osteologist. Human remains removed from site for analysis this may involve radiocarbon dating (see finds section).

Following HE guidance (HE 2018) if the human remains are not to be lifted, the project osteologist should be available to record the human remain *in situ* (i.e. a site visit). Conditions laid down by the DoJ license will be followed. If it seems that the remains are not ancient, then the coroner, the client, and the 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. CAT may use local volunteers to assist the CAT Finds Officer with this task.

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

small finds, metalwork, coins, etc: Laura Pooley

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

flints: Adam Wightman

or to outside specialists:

animal bones (large groups)

Project osteologist (human remains): Julie Curl (*Sylvanus*)

environmental processing and reporting: Val Fryer / Lisa Gray

conservation of finds: staff at Norfolk Museums Service, Conservation and Design Services / Laura Ratcliffe (LR Conservation)

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

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

Roman glass: Hilary Cool

Prehistoric pottery: Stephen Benfield / Paul Sealey / Nigel Brown

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.

A contingency will be made in the budget for absolute dating in the event that archaeomagnetic and/or (more probably) radiocarbon dating is required, if burning is encountered or human remains (in which case it might be necessary to lift a small sample for absolute dating).

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* (HE 2015).

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:

- Location plan of the groundworks in relation to the proposed development. At least two corners of the site will be given 10 figure grid references.
- Section/s drawings showing depth of deposits from present ground level with Ordnance Datum, vertical and horizontal scale.
- Archaeological methodology and detailed results including a suitable conclusion and discussion 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 and provision must be made for additional recording (e.g. photography, illustration and analysis) as appropriate.

The archive will be deposited with Colchester & Ipswich Museum or an alternate repository (approved by COLEM and CBCAA) within 3 months of the completion of the final publication report, with a summary of the contents of the archive supplied to CBCAA.

A digital / vector drawing of the site be given to the CBCAA for integration into the HER.

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

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

Brooks, H	2001a	'An archaeological evaluation at 21-31 Long Wyre Street, Colchester, Essex, in 1997', <i>Journal of the Colchester Archaeological Trust Vol 1 (for 2001)</i> , 10-25.
Brooks, H	2001b	'Excavations at 21-31 Long Wyre Street, Colchester, Essex, in 1998', <i>Journal of the Colchester Archaeological Trust Vol 1 (for 2001)</i> , 26-103.
Brown, D	2011 2 nd ed	<i>Archaeological Archives: A guide to best practice in creation, compilation, transfer and curation</i>
CAR 1	1981	<i>Aspects of Anglo-Saxon and Norman Colchester</i> . Colchester Archaeological Report 1. By P Crummy
CAR 3	1984	<i>Excavations at Lion Walk, Balkerne Lane, and Middleborough, Colchester, Essex: Colchester Archaeological Report 3</i> , by P Crummy
CAR 6	1992	<i>Excavations at Culver Street, the Gilbert School, and other sites in Colchester 1971-85, Colchester Archaeological Report 6</i> . by P Crummy
CAR 9	1993	<i>Excavations of Roman and later cemeteries, churches and monastic sites in Colchester, 1971-88. Colchester Archaeological Report 9</i> . by N Crummy, P Crummy, and C Crossan
CAT	2018	<i>Health & Safety Policy</i>
Crummy, P	1997	<i>City of Victory. The Story of Colchester – Britain's first Roman town</i>
CBCAA	2019	<i>Brief for Archaeological Investigation at Colchester & East Essex Co-op, 1 to 21 Long Wyre Street, Colchester, CO1 1LH</i> . By J Tipper
CIfA	2014a	<i>Standard and Guidance for an archaeological watching brief</i>
CIfA	2014b	<i>Standard and guidance for the collection, documentation, conservation and research of archaeological materials</i>
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Gurney, D	2003	<i>Standards for field archaeology in the East of England</i> . East Anglian Archaeology Occasional Papers 14 (EAA 14).
Historic England (HE)	2015	<i>Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment (MoRPHE)</i>
Historic England (HE)	2018	<i>The Role of the Human Osteologist in an Archaeological Fieldwork Project</i> . By S Mays, M Brickley and J Sidell
Hull, R	1958	<i>Roman Colchester</i>
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)
MHCLG	2019	<i>National Planning Policy Framework</i> . Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government.
Morant, P	1748	<i>History and antiquities of the Borough of Colchester</i>

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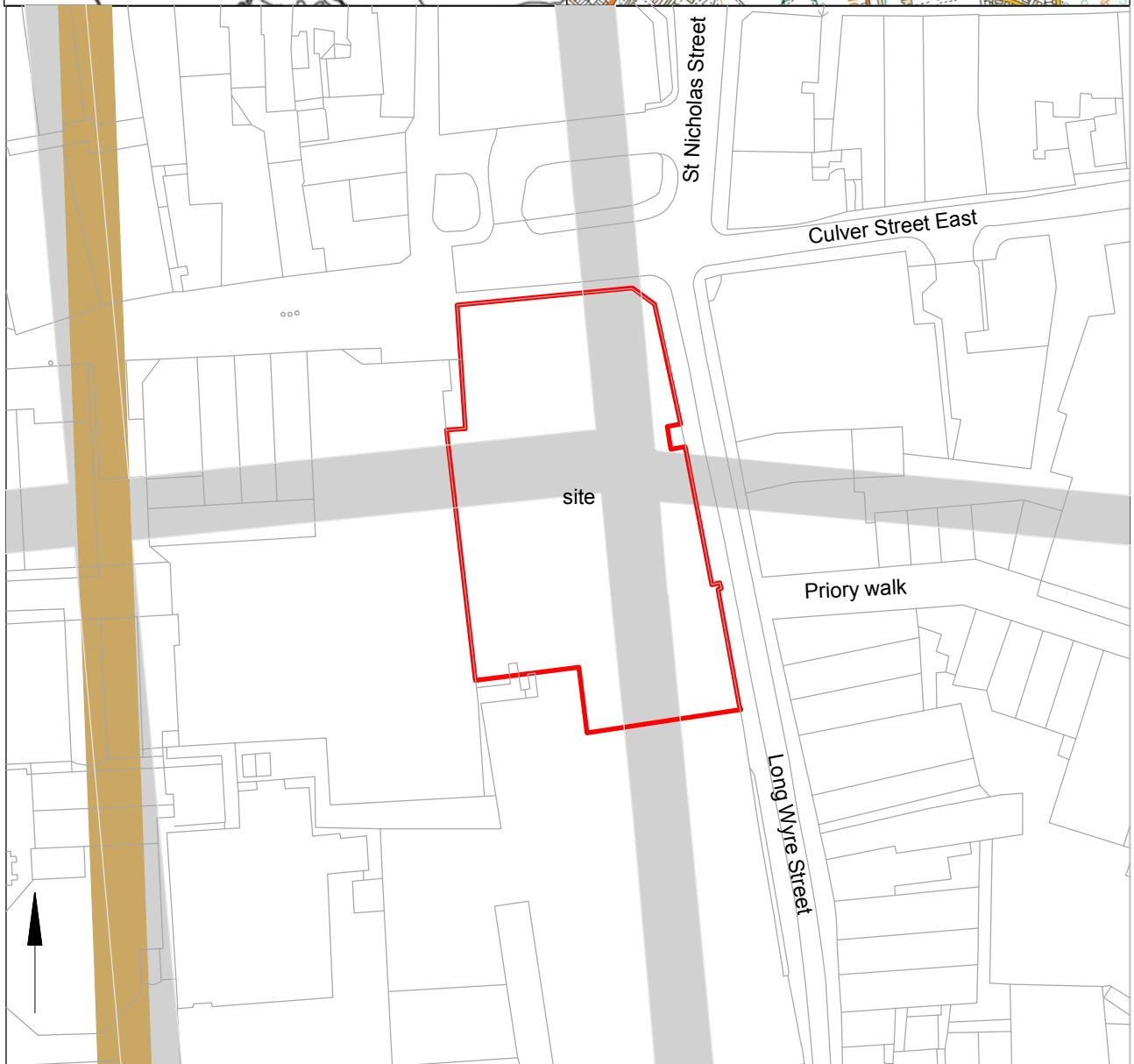
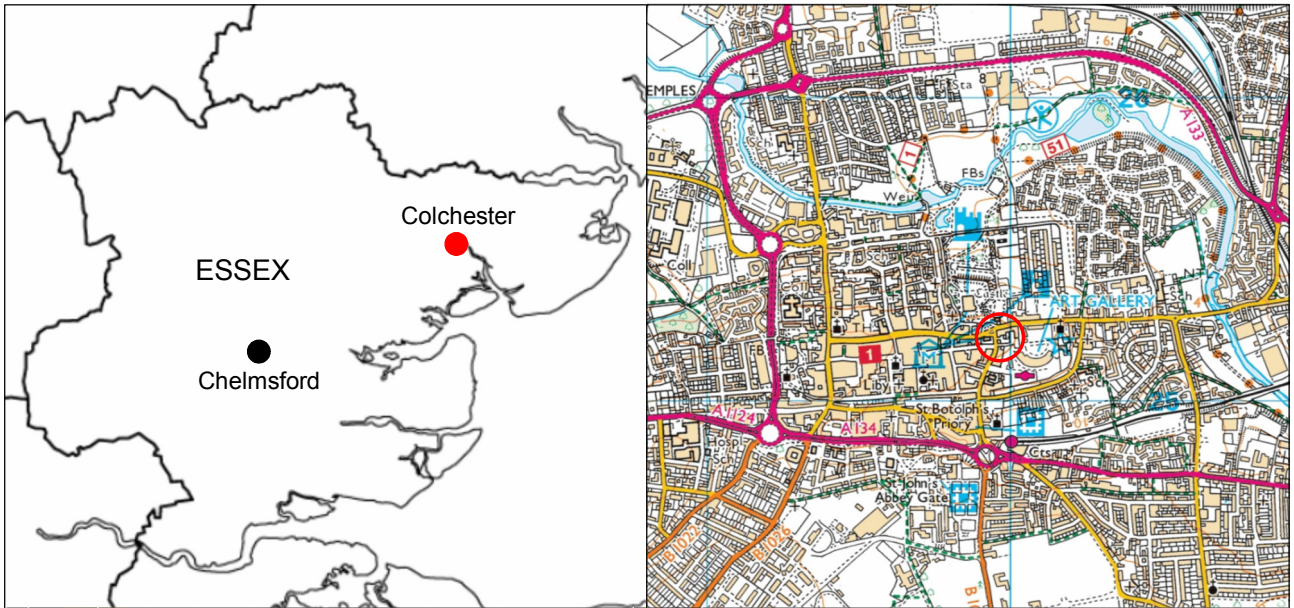


Fig 1 Site location.

■ Roman street layout

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Printable version

OASIS ID: colchest3-351652

Project details

Project name	Archaeological monitoring at the Colchester and East Essex Co-op, 1-21 Long Wyre Street, Colchester, Essex, CO1 1LH
Short description of the project	Archaeological monitoring was carried out at the Colchester and East Essex Co-op, 1-21 Long Wyre Street, Colchester, Essex, during groundworks to facilitate revisions to the internal layout and elevations relating to a small section of the Long Wyre Street frontage. A series of large pits were uncovered which dated to the 19th or 20th century, just prior to the construction of the present-day building in 1925-6. Several of these pits were overlain by the remains of a modern wall foundation. A number of undatable postholes were also uncovered; these may relate to a series of early Roman postholes recorded during excavations of the site undertaken in 1997. A Roman pit containing large amounts of daub and charcoal was also excavated, and possibly indicates that some form of artisanal activity was carried out in the vicinity during the Roman period.
Project dates	Start: 04-07-2019 End: 12-07-2019
Previous/future work	Yes / Not known
Any associated project reference codes	2019/02a - Contracting Unit No.
Any associated project reference codes	190399 - Planning Application No.
Any associated project reference codes	ECC4340 - HER event no.
Any associated project reference codes	colchest3-351652 - OASIS form ID
Type of project	Recording project
Site status	None
Current Land use	Industry and Commerce 3 - Retailing
Monument type	PIT Post Medieval
Monument type	PIT Modern
Monument type	PIT Uncertain
Monument type	WALL FOUNDATION Post Medieval
Monument type	WALL FOUNDATION Modern

Monument type	PIT Roman
Monument type	POSTHOLE Uncertain
Monument type	BURNT CONSTRUCTION FEATURE Roman
Significant Finds	IRON NAIL Post Medieval
Significant Finds	IRON NAIL Modern
Significant Finds	ANIMAL BONE Uncertain
Significant Finds	POTTERY Roman
Significant Finds	POTTERY Medieval
Significant Finds	POTTERY Post Medieval
Significant Finds	POTTERY Modern
Significant Finds	CBM Roman
Significant Finds	PEG-TILE Medieval
Significant Finds	PEG-TILE Post Medieval
Significant Finds	PEG-TILE Modern
Significant Finds	BRICK Post Medieval
Significant Finds	GLASS Roman
Significant Finds	GLASS Post Medieval
Significant Finds	STONE Uncertain
Significant Finds	STONE Post Medieval
Significant Finds	STONE Modern
Investigation type	""Watching Brief""
Prompt	National Planning Policy Framework - NPPF

Project location

Country	England
Site location	ESSEX COLCHESTER COLCHESTER 1-21 Long Wyre Street, Colchester, Essex
Postcode	CO1 1LH
Study area	0.22 Hectares
Site coordinates	TL 9790 2530 51.890544182027 0.876277869465 51 53 25 N 000 52 34 E Point
Height OD / Depth	Min: 22.84m Max: 24.84m

Project creators

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

Name of sponsor/funding body Colchester & East Essex Co-operative Society

Project archives

Physical Archive recipient Colchester Museum

Physical Archive ID ECC4340

Physical Contents "Ceramics"

Digital Archive recipient Colchester Museum

Digital Archive ID ECC4340

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

Paper Archive recipient Colchester Museum

Paper Archive ID ECC4340

Paper Media available "Context sheet","Drawing","Photograph","Report"

Project bibliography 1

Publication type Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)

Title Archaeological monitoring at the Colchester and East Essex Co-op, 1-21 Long Wyre Street, Colchester, Essex, CO1 1LH: July 2019

Author(s)/Editor(s) Hicks, E.

Other bibliographic details CAT Report 1452

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