

# Archaeological monitoring and excavation at 5 Yorick Road, West Mersea, Essex, CO5 8HT

March 2020



**by Dr Elliott Hicks**

with contributions by Dr Matthew Loughton and Adam Wightman  
figures by Chris Lister and Sarah Carter

fieldwork by Mark Baister and Nigel Rayner with Matthew Perou and Megan Seehra

**commissioned by Vaughan & Blythe**

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**Colchester Archaeological Trust**

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

tel.: 01206 501785

email: [eh2@catuk.org](mailto:eh2@catuk.org)

**CAT Report 1538**  
April 2020

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## 1 Summary

*A programme of archaeological monitoring and excavation (following an evaluation) was carried out at 5 Yorick Road, West Mersea, Essex in advance of the construction of a new dwelling. The site lies in an area rich in archaeological remains dating to the Roman period. Seventeen features were excavated during this stage of investigation, in addition to the six features uncovered during evaluation. Due to the lack of finds, however, most of these features could not be dated. A cluster of postholes, some of which contained Roman material dating, indicated the presence of a posted structure here during this period, while a Roman ditch was also recorded. A ditch which yielded a quantity of Middle Bronze Age pottery during evaluation was excavated further, but only produced one further sherd of late prehistoric pottery.*

## 2 Introduction (Fig 1)

This is the report for an archaeological excavation and monitoring at 5 Yorick Road, West Mersea, Essex which was carried out on 12th to 20th March 2020. The work was commissioned by Vaughan & Blythe in advance of the construction of a new dwelling and was carried out by Colchester Archaeological Trust (CAT).

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 excavation and was based on the guidance given in the *National Planning Policy Framework* (MHCLG 2019).

All archaeological work was carried out in accordance with a *Brief for Archaeological Excavation*, detailing the required archaeological work, written by Jess Tipper (CBCAA 2020), and a written scheme of investigation (WSI) prepared by CAT in response to the brief and agreed with ECCPS (CAT 2020).

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

## 3 Archaeological background

### Yorick Road area

CAT has carried out several archaeological investigations at 20 Yorick Road. A Roman wheel-shaped mausoleum lies to the rear of the property (MCC8355 Scheduled Monument no. 1002195). The mausoleum was originally discovered in 1896 and was initially thought to be the remains of a Roman lighthouse. The structure is 20m in diameter with a hexagonal chamber in the centre from which six walls radiate. These walls meet the 1m-thick encircling wall and project beyond it for over a metre as external buttresses. Between each pair of walls there is an extra buttress, making twelve in all. The structure is made of tile on foundations of mortar and Kentish ragstone. Dressed stone and roof tiles have also been found. A geophysical survey of the site was carried out by English Heritage in 1989. In 2003, an exploratory trench was excavated to assess the exact location and condition of the mausoleum (MCC2973, CAT Report 255). This was followed by a watching brief on trenching for an extension to the garage, which exposed part of a Roman wall foundation (MCC5406, CAT Report 330).

A brick tomb has also been found a few yards east of the wheel tomb on a property off Beach Road, although its exact location is uncertain. The tomb contained a glass urn with a lead lid which contained cremated bone of a child and a small clay lamp (MCC8786).

### **High Street area**

Archaeological deposits along the High Street include a Roman stone wall set in opus signinum revealed during a small excavation at Bonheur in 1922 (MCC8837). Further work at the site conducted by Hull in 1927 revealed Roman pottery, a bone pin and an iron knife (CHER ECC3540; *VCH* vol. 3, 161). A possible Roman wall was also found on land at the corner of the High Street and Captains Lane (MCC8860). A Roman ditch was recorded adjacent to this during a watching brief carried out by Britannia Archaeology in 2016 (MCC10065). In 1985, CAT carried out a photographic survey of Hall Barn prior to its conversion into a country club (CAT Report 1000 vol 3).

### **Church Road area**

The site lies adjacent to West Mersea parish church (Church of St Peter and St Paul). The church is constructed from re-used Roman Kentish ragstone walls with Roman and post-Roman brick. The earliest element of the church, the lower part of the tower, appears to be 11th-century in date (MCC8909 & MCC4666). Notable deposits have been uncovered in the area around the churchyard. Cromwell Mortimer recorded a mosaic and Roman remains in 1730 (*VCH* vol. 3, 158-9) and in 1896 Henry Laver observed a Roman wall (CHER MCC8858). In 1991, CAT excavated three trial pits prior to extensions to the church but only residual Roman finds were recorded (CAT Report 1000 vol. 3).

A medieval priory is thought to have once stood to the west of the church, although its exact location is uncertain. It was established around 1046 (MCC8835). Roman pavement and tesserae have been observed within this area on multiple occasions (MCC8858 & MCC8909). A well found on the southern side of Coast Road is thought to be associated with the priory (MCC9356).

CAT have also conducted investigations on land to the north of Church Road, where trenching for drainage exposed human remains which were thought to be medieval in date. Fragments of daub and pieces of Roman brick and tile were also observed in the up-turned soil (CAT Report 1000 vol. 3).

CAT has undertaken a number of negative watching briefs in the area, including at 6 High Street (CAT Report 576), 4 Meadow Lane (MCC5553, CAT Report 420), 6 Meadow Lane (CAT Report 629), The Blackwater Hotel Church Road (MCC5291, CAT Report 223), and at Howard's Cottage, 12a Church Road (CAT Report 1000 vol 3). As has been noted in some of these reports, the land in this area appears to comprise of made ground thought to date to the 1960s (8 High Street, CAT Report 118).

## **4 Aim**

The aim of this investigation was to excavate and record all archaeological horizons due to be destroyed during the proposed development.

## **5 Results (Figs 3-5)**

All feature, layer and finds numbers used during the current excavation follow on from numbers assigned during the evaluation stage of this investigation (CAT Report 1518).

### **6.1 Monitoring**

On the 12th and 16th March, a CAT archaeologist monitored the excavation of foundation trenching totalling 85.3m in length, 0.56-1.15m in width and 1-1.25m in depth.

The groundworks cut a modern demolition layer (L1, c 0.18-0.45m thick) and subsoil (L2, 0.17-0.41m thick) into natural (L3, encountered at a depth of 0.37-0.75m below current ground level).

?Middle Bronze Age ditch F1, which was excavated during the evaluation stage of this investigation, was observed in section. The feature was aligned N-S and was 0.91m wide and 0.42m deep. The feature was designated F8 before it became clear that it was part of F1.



**Photograph 1** F1 – looking north

Possible treethrow F2, was recorded during the previous evaluation, was seen in section.

Undatable ?pit F7 was observed in section. It was 1.41m wide and 0.36m deep.

Undatable pit F9 extended beyond the limit of excavation, but its exposed extent was 0.26m wide and 0.1m deep.

Undatable posthole F10 was seen in section. It was 0.33m wide and 0.22m deep.

Roman ditch F11 was observed in section. The feature lay on a WNW-ESE alignment and was 1.26m wide and 0.46m deep.



**Photograph 2** F11 – looking west northwest



## 6.2 Excavation

Following the laying of the footings, the areas bounded by the foundation trenching, totalling 115.99m<sup>2</sup>, was stripped down to L3. Including the foundation trenching, the total area investigated was 184.89m<sup>2</sup>.

?Middle Bronze Age ditch F1, recorded during both the evaluation and monitoring phases of this investigation, was excavated further. The feature extended through the western half of the excavation area on a N-S alignment. It extended beyond the limit of excavation (LOE) and so its full dimensions could not be ascertained, but its exposed extent was 0.47-1.22m wide and 0.19-0.27m deep.

Roman ditch F11, which was originally recorded during monitoring, was further investigated. The feature lay in the southwestern corner of the excavation area, and cut F1. It extended beyond the LOE, but its excavated extent was 0.65m wide and 0.26m deep. It lay on a WNW-ESE alignment.

Immediately to the north of F11 lay a cluster of six postholes, F13, F14, F15, F16, F18 and F19, which were 0.25-0.4m wide and 0.05-0.13m deep. Three of these postholes – F13, F15 and F19 – cut ditch F1. Single fragments of Roman CBM were recovered from both F13 and F18.



**Photograph 3** F1 sx 3, F13, F14, F15 and F15 group shot – looking northeast

Undatable pit F20 was located to the north of this series of postholes and immediately to the west of ditch F1. It was 0.81m wide and 0.16m deep.



**Photograph 4** F20 sx – looking south southeast

Undatable pit F21 was uncovered in the northwestern corner of the site. The feature was 0.35m wide and 0.15m deep.

Undatable pits F22 and F23 were located in the central area of the site. The former feature was 0.89m wide and 0.33m deep; the latter extended beyond the LOE, but its exposed extent was 0.7m wide and 0.27m deep.

Undatable ?natural feature F17 extended into eastern half of the site on a ENE-WSW alignment. It was 0.87-0.96m wide and 0.25-0.35m deep.

Undatable ?pit F12 was situated to the south of F17. It was 0.71m wide and 0.09m deep.



**Photograph 5** F12 sx – looking east

### 6.3 Monitoring

On 19th and 20th March 2020, a CAT archaeologist returned to monitor the excavation of a soakaway and two service runs to accommodate drainage pipes. The soakaway was 1.7m by 2.9m and 1.2m deep. The service runs were 27.46m long, 0.6m wide and 0.7m deep.

Roman ?ditch F24 was observed in section within the soakaway. The feature extended beyond the LOE but its exposed extent was 2.9m wide and 0.62m deep. It possibly represented a continuation of ditch F11.

## 6 Finds

### 6.1 Pottery and ceramic building material

*by Dr Matthew Loughton*

The excavation produced a small collection of pottery and ceramic building material (henceforth CBM) with 14 sherds with a weight of 184g (Table 1).

Ceramic material	no.	weight/g	MSW/g	EVE
Pottery	6	35	6	0.00
CBM	8	149	19	-
<b>All</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>184</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>0.00</b>

**Table 1** Details on the main types of ceramics and pottery

Pottery and ceramic finds were recovered from five features (Table 2).

Cxt	Description	no.	weight/g	MSW/g
F1	Ditch	1	1	1
F11	Ditch	4	30	8
F13	Posthole	1	10	10
F18	Posthole	1	55	55
F24	?Ditch	6	79	13
US		1	9	9
<b>Total</b>		<b>14</b>	<b>184</b>	<b>13</b>

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

### Prehistoric pottery

One small sherd of (1g) of later prehistoric (Iron Age?) handmade sand-tempered pottery was recovered from the ditch F1.

### Roman

Most of the pottery and CBM is of Roman date and this material was recovered from the following contexts: ditch F11, posthole F13, posthole F18, and ?ditch F24. The Roman pottery and CBM cannot be dated precisely except for the sherd of black surface ware (fabric GX/BSW) from ?ditch F24, which could be early Roman.

### Modern

Finally, there was also one unstratified (US) frogged brick fragment, dating to the 19th to 20th century.

## 6.2 Animal bone

*by Adam Wightman*

Animal bone was recovered from two contexts at the site. It is possible that all bone from the two contexts could derive from the same horse skull/mandible.

F1 SX4 (10) Seventeen very small molar/premolar fragments (3g), probably the remains of a single tooth from a large mammal (most likely cattle/horse).

F11 (5) Eight horse molars/premolars (230g) – relatively worn, could have all come from the same individual - very small piece of bone (probably skull or mandible fragment).

## 7 Discussion

Seventeen features were recorded during archaeological monitoring and excavation at 5 Yorick Road. Added to the six features uncovered during the evaluation, a total of twenty-three features have been excavated at this site: eight pits, seven postholes, four ditches, two gullies, a treethrow and a natural feature.

Due to the paucity of finds across the site, the majority of features could not be dated. Those features for which a date could be established were concentrated in the western part of the site. Located within the southwest corner of the building footprint were a cluster of six postholes. Two of these postholes each contained a single fragment of Roman CBM, and it is probable that all of these features date to the Roman period and indicate that a posted structure stood here during this period. Immediately to the south of these postholes lay a ditch which yielded pottery similarly dating this feature to the Roman period. A further probable ditch was observed during the excavation of the soakaway, to the south of the main excavation area. This feature also contained



Roman pottery and it likely represents a continuation of the Roman ditch uncovered in the excavation area. These results are in keeping with the findings of other archaeological investigations in the area, which have revealed a historic landscape rich in Roman remains.

Given the lack of prehistoric archaeological remains encountered in the area, however, perhaps the predominating and most noteworthy feature uncovered during these investigations was a ditch which extended on a N-S alignment through the western half of the excavation area. This feature was originally recorded during the evaluation stage of the investigation, during which eighteen sherds of Middle Bronze Age pottery were retrieved from it. During this phase of investigation, however, despite being sectioned three times, only a single small sherd of late prehistoric pottery was recovered from the feature. A speculative Iron Age date has been given for this sherd, but in view of the quantity of Middle Bronze Age pottery found within the ditch during the evaluation, it seems likely that this sherd similarly dates to this earlier period.

## 8 Acknowledgements

CAT thanks Vaughan & Blythe for commissioning and funding the work. The project was managed by C Lister, fieldwork was carried out by M Baister with N Rayner, M Perou and M Seehra. Figures are by C Lister and S Carter. The project was monitored for Colchester Borough Council by Jess Tipper.

## 9 References

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

Brown, D	2011	<i>Archaeological Archives: A guide to best practice in creation, compilation, transfer and curation</i>
CAT	2016	<i>Colchester Archaeological Trust Finds Retention Policy</i> , by S Benfield
CAT	2019	<i>Health &amp; Safety Policy</i>
CAT Report 118	2001	<i>An archaeological watching brief at 8 High Street, West Mersea, Essex: December 2000</i> , by K Orr
CAT Report 223	2003	<i>An archaeological evaluation at the Blackwater Hotel, Church Road, West Mersea, Colchester, Essex: March 2003</i> , by L Pooley
CAT Report 255	2004	<i>An archaeological evaluation at 20 Yorick Road, West Mersea, Essex: November 2003</i> , by B Holloway
CAT Report 330	2005	<i>An archaeological watching brief at 20 Yorick Road, West Mersea, Essex: July 2005</i> , by B Holloway
CAT Report 596	2010	<i>An archaeological watching brief on land to the south of 'Serenity' 6 High Street, West Mersea, Colchester: July 2010</i> , by A Wightman
CAT Report 629	2012	<i>Archaeological monitoring (watching brief) At 6 Meadow Lane, West Mersea, Essex September 2011 – February 2012</i> , by B Holloway
CAT Report 1000	forthcoming	<i>A miscellany of unpublished Colchester and Essex sites: 1984-2000 (sites not published in any Colchester Archaeological Report, or in the CAT Report Series from 1997)</i> , by H Brooks
CAT Report 1518	2020	<i>Archaeological evaluation at 5 Yorick Road, West Mersea, Colchester, Essex, CO5 8HT: February 2020</i> , by E Hicks
CBCAA	2020	<i>Brief for Archaeological Excavation at 5 Yorick Road, West Mersea, CO5 8HT</i> , by J Tipper
CifA	2014a	<i>Standard and Guidance for archaeological excavation</i>
CifA	2014b	<i>Standard and guidance for the collection, documentation, conservation and research of archaeological materials</i>
East Anglian Archaeology	2015	<i>Advice note for Post Excavation Assessment</i>
Gurney, D	2003	<i>Standards for field archaeology in the East of England</i> . East

Historic England	2015	Anglian Archaeology Occasional Papers 14 (EAA 14) <i>Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment (MoRPHE)</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.

## 10 Abbreviations and glossary

Bronze Age	period from c 2500 – 700 BC
Bronze Age (Early)	Early Bronze Age, period from c 2500 – 1500 BC
Bronze Age (Middle)	Middle Bronze Age, period from c 1500 – 1000 BC
Bronze Age (Late)	Late Bronze Age, period from c 1000 – 700 BC
CAT	Colchester Archaeological Trust
CBCAA	Colchester Borough Council Archaeological Advisor
CBM	ceramic building material, ie brick/tile
CHER	Colchester Historic Environment Record
ClfA	Chartered Institute for Archaeologists
context	specific location of finds on an archaeological site
feature (F)	an identifiable thing like a pit, a wall, a drain: can contain 'contexts'
Iron Age	period from 700 BC to Roman invasion of AD 43
late Prehistoric	period from c 4,000 BC to AD 43 (Neolithic, Bronze Age and Iron Age)
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	<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>
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
wsi	written scheme of investigation

## 11 Contents of archive

**Finds:** Part of one box (ceramics and metalwork)

### **Paper and digital record**

One A4 document wallet containing:

The report (CAT Report 1538)

CBC evaluation brief, CAT written scheme of investigation

Original site record (sections)

Site digital photos and log

## 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 project ref. ECC4443.

**Distribution list:**

Vaughan & Blythe

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](mailto:eh2@catuk.org)

Checked by: Philip Crummy

Date: 30.04.2020

**Appendix 1 Context list**

Context Number	Finds Number	Feature / layer type	Description	Date
L1	-	Demolition layer	Soft, dry medium grey silt with frequent stones, CBM, concrete and tarmac pieces	Modern
L2	-	Subsoil	Soft, moist medium yellow/grey/brown sandy-silt	Undatable
L3	-	Natural	Brown/orange sand with frequent gravels	Post-glacial
Evaluation				
F1	1, 6, 7, 10	Ditch	Soft, moist medium grey/brown sandy-silty-loam with 8% stones and charcoal and daub flecks	?Middle Bronze Age
F2	2	?Treethrow	Soft, moist light grey/brown sandy-silty-loam	Iron Age at latest
F3	3	Gully	Soft, moist medium yellow/brown sandy-silty-clay with 1% stones	Modern
F4	-	Ditch	Soft, moist medium grey/brown sandy-silt	Roman / post-Roman
F5	-	Gully	Soft, dry light grey sandy-silt	Undatable
F6	-	Pit	Firm, moist medium grey/brown sandy-silty-clay with charcoal flecks	Undatable
Monitoring/excavation				
F7	-	?Pit	Firm, moist medium grey/brown sandy-silty-clay	Undatable
F8	FEATURE VOIDED			
F9	-	Pit	Medium brown/grey sandy-silt	Undatable
F10	-	Posthole	Firm, moist medium grey/brown sandy-silty-clay	Undatable
F11	5	Ditch	Dark black/brown sandy-silt	Roman
F12	-	?Pit	Loose, moist medium orange/brown sandy-silt	Undatable
F13	8	Posthole	Soft, dry light/medium grey sandy-silt	Roman
F14	-	Posthole	Medium grey/orange/brown sandy-silt	Undatable
F15	-	Posthole	Medium yellow/orange/brown sandy-silt	Undatable
F16	-	Posthole	Medium yellow/orange/brown sandy-silt	Undatable
F17	-	?Natural feature	Firm, moist orange/brown clay	Undatable
F18	9	Posthole	soft moist medium orange/brown sandy silt	Roman
F19	-	?Posthole	Soft, moist medium orange/brown sandy-silt	Undatable
F20	-	Pit	Soft, moist medium grey/brown sandy-silt with 20% stones	Undatable
F21	-	Pit	Soft, moist medium grey/brown sandy-silt with 15% stones	Undatable
F22	-	Pit	Medium grey/brown silty-sand with frequent stones and charcoal flecks	Undatable
F23	-	Pit	Firm, moist medium brown sandy-silt	Undatable
F24	12	?Ditch	Friable, dry/moist medium grey silty-sand	Roman

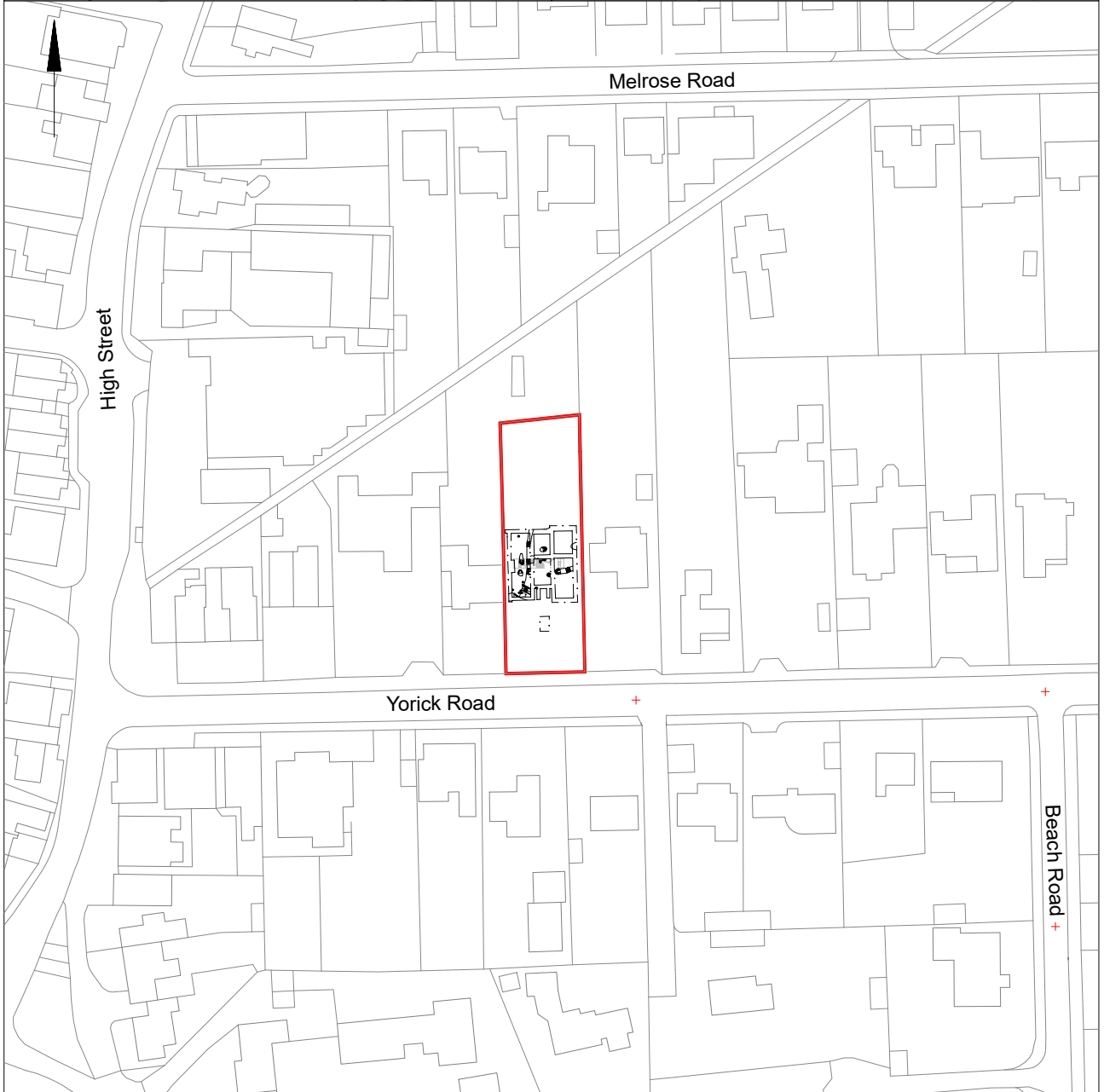
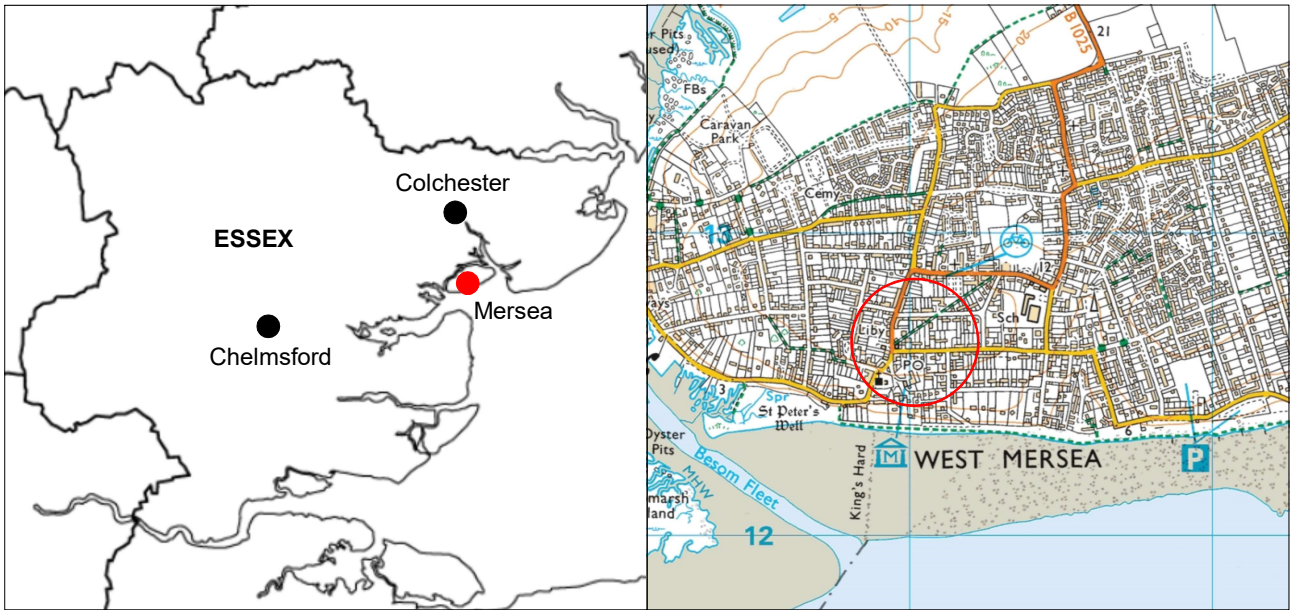
**Appendix 2 Pottery list**

Cxt	Feature type	Find no.	TR	NR	GR	MSW	Discard	Rim	Handle	Base	Dec.	STAMP	GRAE Pre-F	GRAE Post-F	Wind Int	Wind Ex	Soot Int	Soot Ex	Burn Int	Burn Ext	Overfired	Residue	Abraded	Modif	Mark	Repair hole	Hole	Disc	Polishing	Fabric Grp	Typology	EVE	Diam.	Vessel Height	Comments	Date
F1	Ditch	7		1	1	1	X																					HMS					or baked clay?	Prehistoric		
F11	Ditch	5		2	8	4	X																					DJ						Roman		
F11	Ditch	5		2	22	11	X																					GX						Roman		
F24	?Ditch	12		1	4	4	X																					GX (BSW)						Early Roman		

**Appendix 3 CBM list**

Cxt	Feature type	Find no.	TR	NR	GR	MSW	Discard	Typology	Sub-type	Flange					Cut Aways				Marks 1				Marks 2		Flue tile					Peg-tile			Brick dim.			Mortar	Burnt	Abraded	Modif.	Comments	Date
										NR FL	MINI	FL H.	FL W.	FL TH.	LCA	LCA L.	UCA	UCA L.	Stamp	Sign	Tally	Graf PF	Animal	Shoe	Scored	Comb	Roller	Circ. VT	Rect. VT	Bl. VT	Bl. VT	PH R	PH SQ	2 PHs	Blind						
F13	Post hole	8		1	10	10	X	RBT																														Roman			
F18	Post hole	9		1	55	55	X	RBT																														Roman			
F24	?Ditch	12		3	35	12	X	RBT																													Roman				
F24	?Ditch	12		1	12	12	X	RI																													Roman				
F24	?Ditch	12		1	28	28	X	RBT																												?	Roman				
US	?Ditch	11		1	9	9		BR	Frogged BR																												19th-20th century				





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Fig 1 Site location.



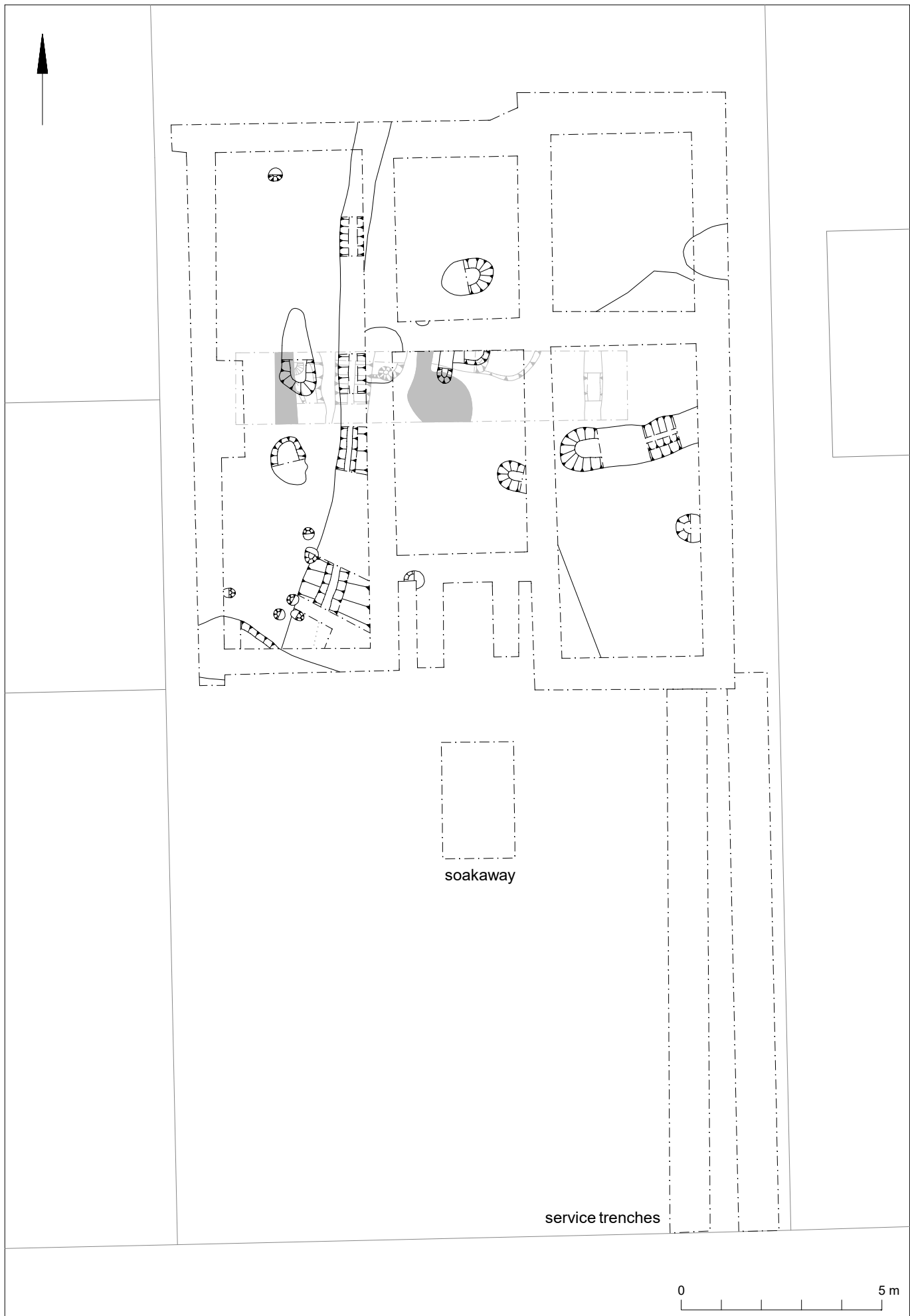


Fig 2 Excavation and monitoring results (evaluation trench in grey).

E201020  
N212643

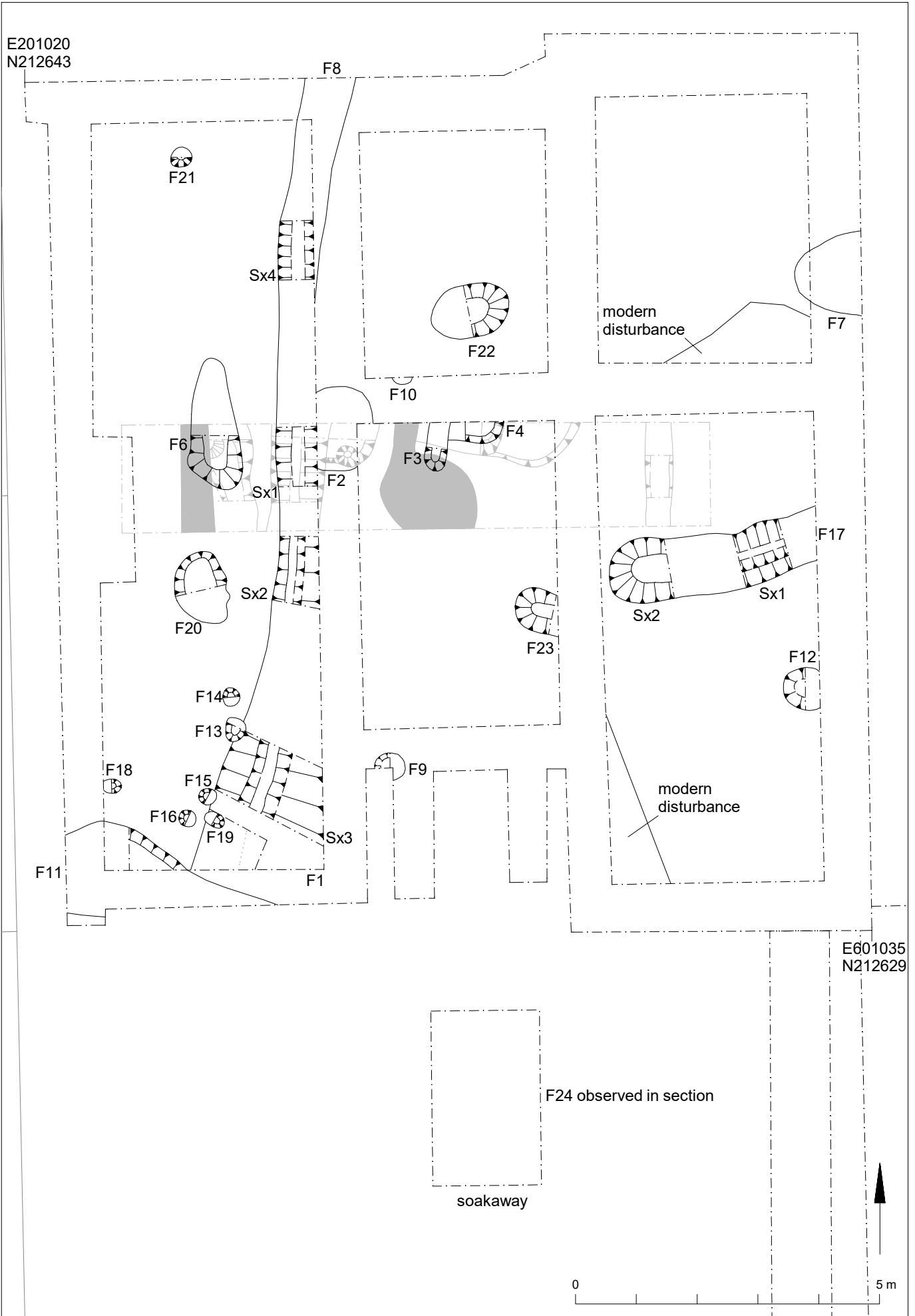


Fig 3 Excavation and monitoring results (evaluation trench in grey).

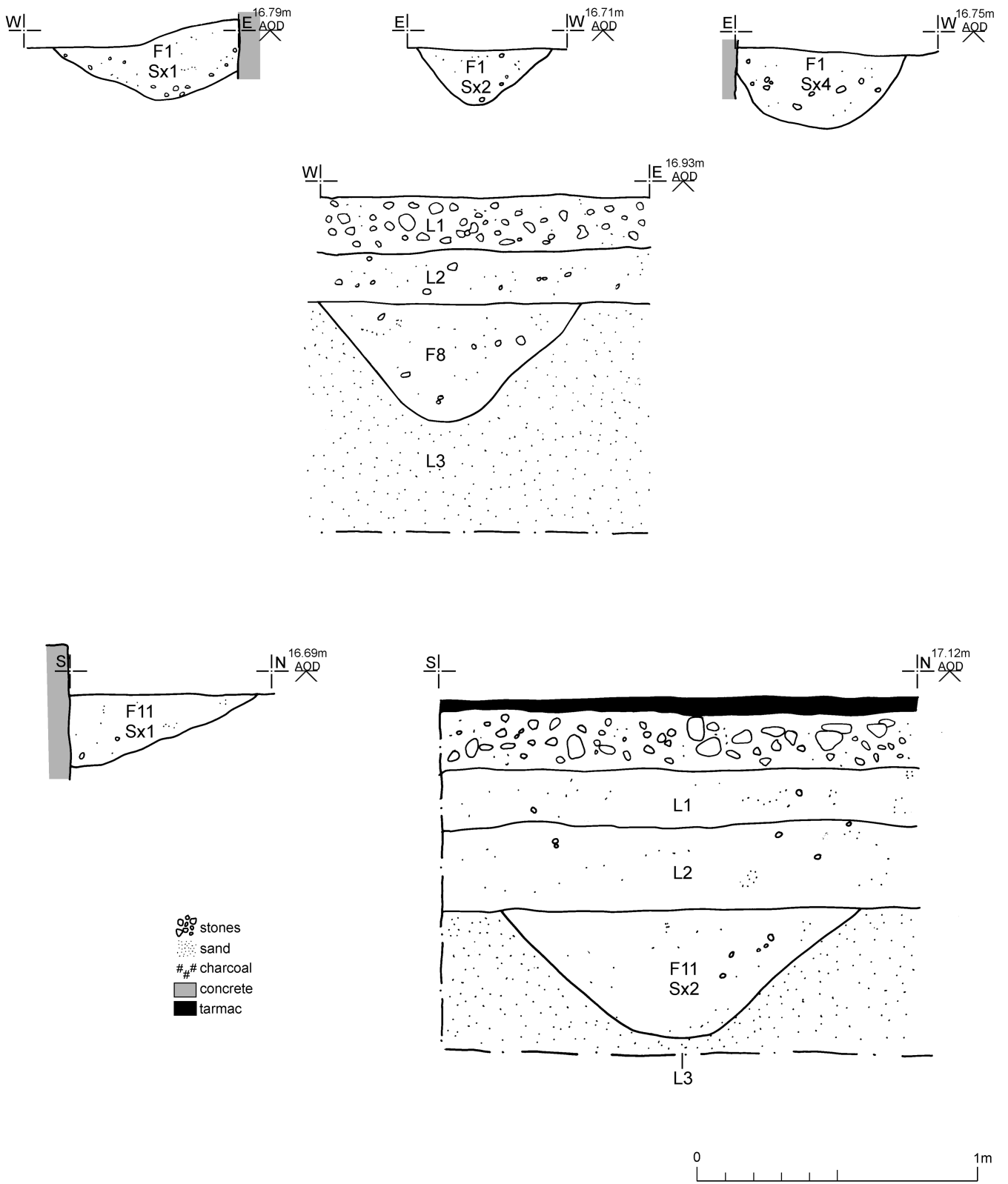


Fig 4 Feature sections.

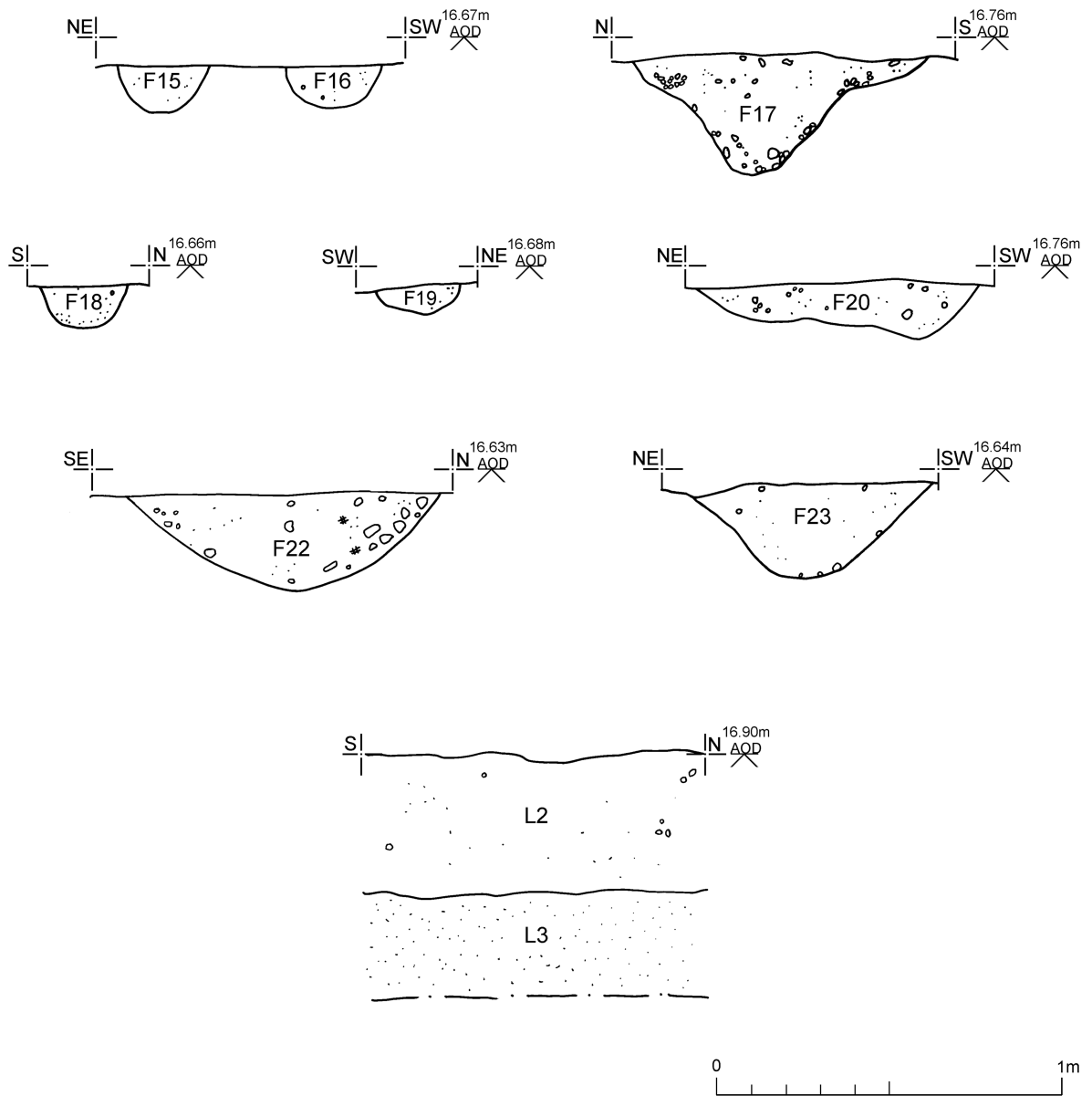


Fig 5 Feature and representative sections.

# Essex Historic Environment Record/ Essex Archaeology and History

## Summary sheet

<b>Address:</b> 5 Yorick Road, West Mersea, Essex, CO5 8HT	
<b>Parish:</b> Colchester	<b>District:</b> Colchester
<b>NGR:</b> TM 01028 12635 (centre)	<b>Site code:</b> CAT project ref.: 20/02o CHER ref: ECC4443 OASIS ref: colchest3-387024
<b>Type of work:</b> Monitoring and excavation	<b>Site director/group:</b> Colchester Archaeological Trust
<b>Date of work:</b> 12th-20th March 2020	<b>Size of area investigated:</b> 0.07 ha
<b>Location of curating museum:</b> Colchester museum	<b>Funding source:</b> Developer
<b>Further seasons anticipated?</b> No	<b>Related CHER/SMR number:</b> CHER MCC2973, MCC4666, MCC5291, MCC5406, MCC5553, MCC8786, MCC8835, MCC8837, MCC8858, MCC8860, MCC8909, MCC9356, MCC10065; ECC3540
<b>Final report:</b> CAT Report 1538	
<b>Periods represented:</b> Bronze Age/Iron Age, Roman	
<b>Summary of fieldwork results:</b> A programme of archaeological monitoring and excavation (following an evaluation) was carried out at 5 Yorick Road, West Mersea, Essex in advance of the construction of a new dwelling. The site lies in an area rich in archaeological remains dating to the Roman period. Seventeen features were excavated during this stage of investigation, in addition to the six features uncovered during evaluation. Due to the lack of finds, however, most of these features could not be dated. A cluster of postholes, some of which contained Roman material dating, indicated the presence of a posted structure here during this period, while a Roman ditch was also recorded. A ditch which yielded a quantity of Middle Bronze Age pottery during evaluation was excavated further, but only produced one further sherd of late prehistoric pottery.	
<b>Previous summaries/reports:</b> CAT Reports 1518	
<b>CBC monitor:</b> Dr Jess Tipper	
<b>Keywords:</b> -	<b>Significance:</b> *
<b>Author of summary:</b> Dr Elliott Hicks	<b>Date of summary:</b> April 2020



# Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) for archaeological excavation at 5 Yorick Road, West Mersea, CO5 8HT

**NGR:** TM 01028 12635 (centre)

**District:** Colchester

**Planning reference:** 192570

**Commissioned by:** Vaughan & Blythe

**Curating museum:** Colchester

**CHER project code:** ECC4443

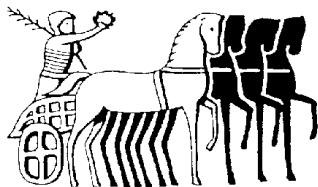
**CAT project code:** 2020/02o

**Oasis project ID:** colchest3-387024

**Site manager:** Chris Lister

**CBC monitor:** Jess Tipper

**This WSI written:** 02/03/2020



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

*tel:* 01206 501785

*email:* [mb@catuk.org](mailto:mb@catuk.org)

## Site location and description

The proposed development site is located at 5 Yorick Road, West Mersea, Colchester, Essex, CO5 8HT (Fig 1). The site is centred on National Grid Reference (NGR) TM 01028 12635.

## Proposed work

The development comprises the demolition of an existing dwelling (already undertaken) which is to be replaced with a new three bedroom detached bungalow and associated groundworks.

## Archaeological background

The following archaeological background is based on the Colchester Archaeological Trust report archive and the Colchester Historic Environment Record (ECC and MCC numbers) accessible via the Colchester Heritage Explorer ([www.colchesterheritage.co.uk](http://www.colchesterheritage.co.uk)):

The proposed development lies within an area of high archaeological potential, specifically, within an area of Roman occupation revealed by multiple sightings of wall foundations and floors and mediaeval remains related to the nearby church and priory.

### Yorick Road area

CAT carried out a series of archaeological investigations at 20 Yorick Road. The rear of the property includes the location of a Roman wheel-shaped *mausoleum* (MCC8355 Scheduled Monument no. 1002195). The mausoleum was originally discovered in 1896 and initially thought to be the remains of a Roman lighthouse. The structure is 20m in diameter with a hexagonal chamber in the centre from which radiate six walls. These walls meet the 1m-thick encircling wall and project beyond it for over a metre as external buttresses. Between each pair of walls there is an extra buttress, making twelve in all. The structure is made of tile on foundations of mortar and Kentish ragstone. Dressed stone and roof tiles have also been found. A geophysical survey of the site was carried out by English Heritage in 1989. An exploratory trench was undertaken to assess the exact location and condition of the *mausoleum* (MCC2973, CAT Report 255). Followed by a watching brief exposing part of a Roman wall foundation (MCC5406, CAT Report 330).

Although the exact location is uncertain the CHER has records of a brick tomb found a few yards east of the wheel tomb on a property off Beach Road. The tomb contained a glass urn with a lead lid and inside was cremated bone of a child and a small clay lamp (MCC8786).

### High Street area

Development along the High Street have included a small excavation at Bonheur in 1922, which revealed a Roman stone wall set in *opus signinum* (MCC8837). Further work by Hull in 1927 revealed Roman pottery, a bone pin and an iron knife (CHER ECC3540, **VCH** vol 3 p161). A possible Roman wall was also found near the land from the High Street to Captains Lane (MCC8860). Adjacent to this in 2016 a Roman ditch was recorded during a watching brief by Britannia Archaeology (MCC10065). CAT carried out a photographic survey of Hall Barn in 1985 prior to conversion into a country club (CAT Report 1000 vol 3).

### Church Road area

The site lies adjacent to West Mersea parish church (Church of St Peter and St Paul). The church is constructed of re-used Roman Kentish ragstone walls with Roman, and later, brick. The earliest evidence (the lower part of the tower) appears to be 11th century in date (MCC8909 & MCC4666). The area around the churchyard has had a number of sitings of finds. Cromwell Mortimer recorded seeing a mosaic and Roman remains in 1730 (**VCH** vol 3 p158-9). In 1896 Henry Laver observed a Roman wall (CHER MCC8858). And CAT excavated three trial pits in 1991 prior to extensions to the church. Only some residual Roman finds were recorded (CAT Report 1000 vol 3).

To the west of the church is thought to be the location of a medieval priory. Although the exact location is uncertain, it was recorded to have been established in 1046 (MCC8835). Within this area Roman pavement and tesserae have been noted on more than one occasion

(MCC8858 & MCC8909). On the southern side of Coast Road a well is thought to relate to the priory (MCC9356).

On land to the north of Church Road CAT was called out by the Curator of West Mersea Museum to record where workmen had uncovered human remains in trenches for a sewerage trench for a new bungalow. Although the workmen had removed all the bone (?3 partial skulls, some limb and vertebrae bones) before the first visit, on the second visit the location of a human skull was recorded. The skeletal remains were interpreted as medieval in date. It was also noted fragments of daub as well as Roman tile/brick fragments were seen in the backfill (CAT Report 1000 vol 3).

Several sites CAT have overseen during watching briefs in the area have proven devoid of any archaeological features or finds, including 6 High Street (CAT Report 576), 4 Meadow Lane (MCC5553, CAT Report 420), 6 Meadow Lane (CAT Report 629), The Blackwater Hotel Church Road (MCC5291, CAT Report 223), Howard's Cottage, 12a Church Road (CAT Report 1000 vol 3). It has been noted in some of these reports however that the land appeared to have comprised of made-up ground thought to be dated to the 1960s (8 High Street, CAT Report 118).

## **Project background**

A planning application was made to Colchester Borough Council in October 2019 (application No. 192570) for the *demolition of existing dwelling and construction of a 3 bedroom detached bungalow*.

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).

Colchester Archaeological Trust undertook a trial-trenched evaluation of the site in February 2020 (CAT Report No: 1518, February 2020; OASIS id: colchest3-378367; HER event code ECC4417).

The trial-trenched evaluation consisted of a single trial-trench, 10m long x 1.80m wide, positioned within the footprint of the proposed bungalow. Six features were uncovered within the trench. Of these, the most noteworthy was ditch F1, which produced a small assemblage of pottery sherds dating to the Middle Bronze Age. The presence of this material suggests that an area of Bronze Age settlement is located within the vicinity of the site. A Roman or post-Roman ditch was also recorded. This is in keeping with the results of other archaeological investigations undertaken within the area more broadly, which have revealed considerable evidence of Roman settlement. A modern pit and two undatable features – a gully and a ditch – were also recorded.

## **Requirement for work** (Fig 1)

Following on from the evaluation phase it was decided that further work would be required to quantify the exact nature of the potential archaeological features identified during the trial-trenching. The required archaeological work comprises archaeological excavation of the proposed bungalows footprint in advance of development. Details are given in a Project Brief written by CBCAA (CBC 2020).

Specifically, the entire footprint of the proposed dwelling is to be archaeologically excavated, an area totalling 167.5m<sup>2</sup> (Fig 2). In addition, archaeological monitoring is to be carried out on other groundworks that have the potential to impact upon archaeological remains.

The aim of the excavation is to enable the archaeological resource, both in quality and extent, to be accurately quantified. To:

- Identify the date, approximate form and purpose of any archaeological deposits, together with their 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.
- Determine the significance of the site in relation to its immediate local context, paying specific attention to the sites highlighted in the archaeological background above.

## **General methodology**

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

- professional standards of the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists, including its *Code of Conduct* (CIfA 2014a, b)
- Standards and Frameworks published by East Anglian Archaeology (Gurney 2003, Medlycott 2011)
- relevant Health & Safety guidelines and requirements (CAT 2019)
- the Project Brief issued by the CBCAA (CBC 2020).

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 CHER. 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 supervisor plus one archaeologist for three days, with additional staff as needed.

In charge of day-to-day site work: Mark Baister/Ben Holloway

## **Excavation methodology**

Where appropriate, modern overburden and any topsoil stripping/levelling will be performed using a mechanical excavator equipped with a toothless ditching bucket under the supervision and to the satisfaction of a professional archaeologist. If no archaeologically significant deposits are exposed, machine excavation will continue until natural subsoil is reached.

Construction machinery will be prevented from accessing the site during and after the topsoil and subsoil strip and until areas have been signed off, to prevent any rutting or damage to archaeological remains.

Where necessary, areas will be cleaned by hand to ensure the visibility of archaeological deposits.

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

There will be sufficient excavation to give clear evidence for the period, depth and nature of any archaeological deposit. For linear features 1m wide sections will be excavated across their width to a total of 10% of the overall length. Discrete features, such as pits, will have 50% of their fills excavated, although certain features may be fully excavated. Complex archaeological structures such as walls, kilns, ovens or burials will be carefully cleaned, planned and fully recorded, but where possible left *in situ*. Only if it can be demonstrated that the complex structure/feature is likely to be destroyed by groundworks, and only then after discussion with the CBCAA, will these be removed.

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

Trained CAT staff will use a metal detector to scan all areas of the strip and map both before and during excavation. All features and spoil heaps will be scanned and finds recovered.

Individual records of excavated contexts, layers, features or deposits will be entered on proforma 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. A representative section will be drawn to include ground level and the depth of machining. The normal scale will be site plans at 1:20 and sections at 1:10, unless circumstances indicate that other scales would be appropriate.

### **Site surveying**

The excavation area and any features will be surveyed by Total Station or GPS, 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 / Lisa Gray whereby any potentially rich environmental layers or features will be appropriately sampled as a matter of course. Trained

CAT staff will process the samples and the flots will be sent to Val Fryer or Lisa Gray for analysis and reporting.

Provision will be included (where necessary) for column or core samples to be taken, for the assessment and/or full analysis of those samples, and for absolute dating of the sequence. Provision will also be made (where necessary) for the identification and absolute dating of suitable deposits of charred remains. Should VF/LG make a recommendation that suitable samples not datable by other means (ie associated finds) be submitted for absolute dating, then these samples will be sent to the SUERC Radiocarbon Dating Laboratory at Glasgow University for analysis.

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 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**

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

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.

If circumstances indicated it were prudent or necessary to remove remains from the site during the excavation, 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.

If it cannot be demonstrated that future ground works are able to avoid impacting them, burials will be fully excavated. However, 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.

Human remains removed from site for analysis may be sent for radiocarbon dating (see finds section).

### **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. Digital site photographs will be taken and archived as per Historic England guidelines (HE 2015a).

### **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.

Most of our finds reports are written internally by CAT Staff under the supervision and direction of Philip Crummy (Director) and Howard Brooks (Deputy Director). This includes specialist subjects such as:

ceramic finds (pottery and ceramic building material): Matthew Loughton



animal bones: Alec Wade (or Adam Wightman, small groups only)

small finds, metalwork, coins, etc: Laura Pooley

non-ceramic bulk finds: Laura Pooley

flints: Adam Wightman

environmental processing: Robin Mathieson/Bronagh Quinn

project osteologist (human remains): Meghan Seehra

or to outside specialists:

animal and human bone: Julie Curl (*Sylvanus*)

environmental assessment and analysis: Val Fryer / Lisa Gray

radiocarbon dating: SUERC Radiocarbon Dating Laboratory, Glasgow

conservation/x-ray: Laura Ratcliffe (LR Conservation) / Norfolk Museums Service,  
Conservation and Design Services

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

flint: Hazel Martingell

prehistoric pottery: Stephen Benfield / Nigel Brown / Paul Sealey

Roman pottery: Stephen Benfield / Paul Sealey / Jo Mills / Val Rigby /  
Gwladys Monteil

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

Roman glass: Hilary Cool

small finds: Nina Crummy

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 scientific assessment/analysis. This can include soil micromorphological assessment, 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). The Historic England Regional Science Advisor will be consulted for advice on this.

### **Post-excavation assessment**

An updated post-excavation assessment (PXA) will be submitted within 2 months or at an alternatively agreed time with the CBCAA. Post-excavation assessments and updated project designs will be prepared in accordance with Historic England principals of MoRPHE (HE 2006) and East Anglian Archaeology notes (2015). PXAs will include an assessment of the archaeological value of the results, and include a statement of significance for retention of artefacts, based on specialist advice, for retention or discard agreed with the depositing museum.

Where archaeological results do not warrant a post-excavation assessment then agreement will be sought from the CBCAA to proceed straight to grey literature / publication.

### **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 2015b).

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 inventory of the archive and any statement of retention and discard strategy based on specialist advice. CAT has a non-site specific finds retention strategy approved by Colchester Museum (CAT 2016).

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 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. Digital archives will be curated with the Archaeology Data Service, or similar accredited digital archive repository, that safeguard the long-term curation of digital records. Prior to deposition CAT's data management plan (based on the official guidelines from the Digital Curation Centre [DCC 2013]) will ensure the integrity of the digital archive.

The CBCAA will be notified of the archiving timetable throughout the project and once deposition has occurred.

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

### **Education and outreach**

The CAT website ([www.thecolchesterarchaeologist.co.uk](http://www.thecolchesterarchaeologist.co.uk)) is updated regularly with information on current sites. Copies of our reports (grey literature) can be viewed on the website and downloaded for free. CAT also works alongside the Colchester Archaeological Group (providing a venue for their lectures and library) and the local Young Archaeologists Club.

CAT archaeologists can be booked for lectures and information on fees can be obtained by contacting the office on 01206 501785.

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

Brown, D	2011	<i>Archaeological Archives: A guide to best practice in creation, compilation, transfer and curation</i>
CAT	2016	<i>Colchester Archaeological Trust Finds Retention Policy</i> . By S Benfield
CAT	2019	<i>Health &amp; Safety Policy</i>
CAT Report 118	2001	An archaeological watching brief at 8 High Street, West Mersea, Essex: December 2000. By K Orr
CAT Report 223	2003	An archaeological evaluation at the Blackwater Hotel, Church Road, West Mersea, Colchester, Essex: March 2003. By L Pooley
CAT Report 255	2004	An archaeological evaluation at 20 Yorick Road, West Mersea, Essex: November 2003. By B Holloway
CAT Report 330	2005	An archaeological watching brief at 20 Yorick Road, West Mersea, Essex: July 2005. By B Holloway
CAT Report 596	2010	An archaeological watching brief on land to the south of 'Serentity' 6 High Street, West Mersea, Colchester: July 2010. By A Wightman
CAT Report 629	2012	Archaeological monitoring (watching brief) At 6 Meadow Lane, West Mersea, Essex September 2011 – February 2012. By B Holloway
CAT Report 1000	forthcoming	<i>A miscellany of unpublished Colchester and Essex sites: 1984-2000</i> (sites not published in any Colchester Archaeological Report, or in <i>the CAT Report Series from 1997</i> ). By H Brooks
CBCAA	2020	<i>Brief for Archaeological Excavation at 5 Yorick Road, West Mersea, CO5 8HT</i> By J Tipper
CIfA	2014a	<i>Standard and Guidance for archaeological excavation</i>
CIfA	2014b	<i>Standard and guidance for the collection, documentation, conservation and research of archaeological materials</i>
East Anglian Archaeology	2015	<i>Advice note for Post Excavation Assessment</i>
Gurney, D	2003	<i>Standards for field archaeology in the East of England</i> . East Anglian Archaeology Occasional Papers 14 (EAA <b>14</b> ).
Historic England (HE)	2006	<i>Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment</i> (MoPHE)
Historic England (HE)	2015a	<i>Digital Image capture and File Storage: Guidelines for best practice</i> . By S Cole & P Backhouse
Historic England (HE)	2015b	<i>Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment</i> (MoRPHE)
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
Medlycott, M	2011	<i>Research and archaeology revisited: A revised framework for the East of England</i> . East Anglian Archaeology Occasional Papers 24 (EAA <b>24</b> )
MHCLG	2019	<i>National Planning Policy Framework</i> . Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government.

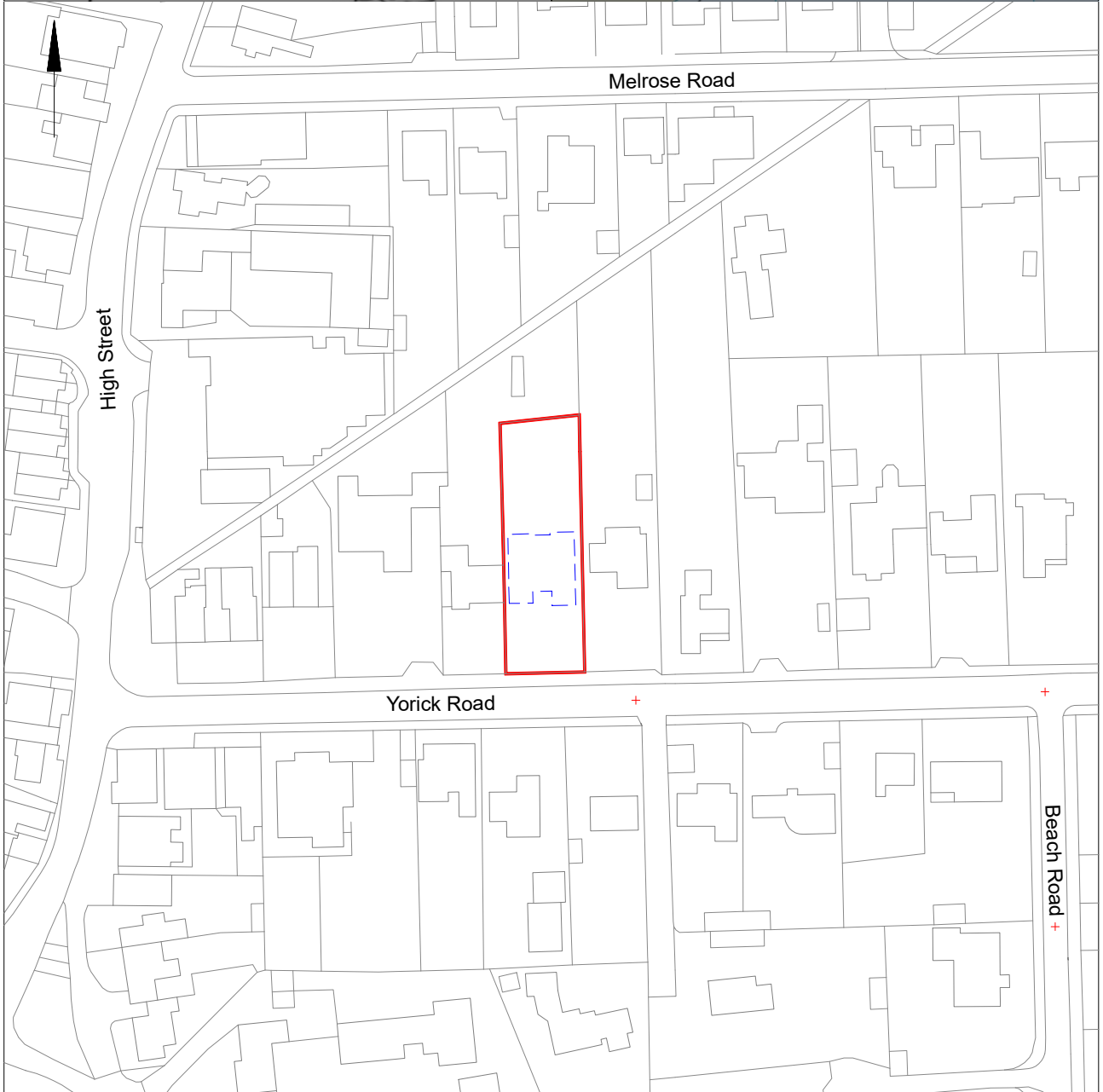
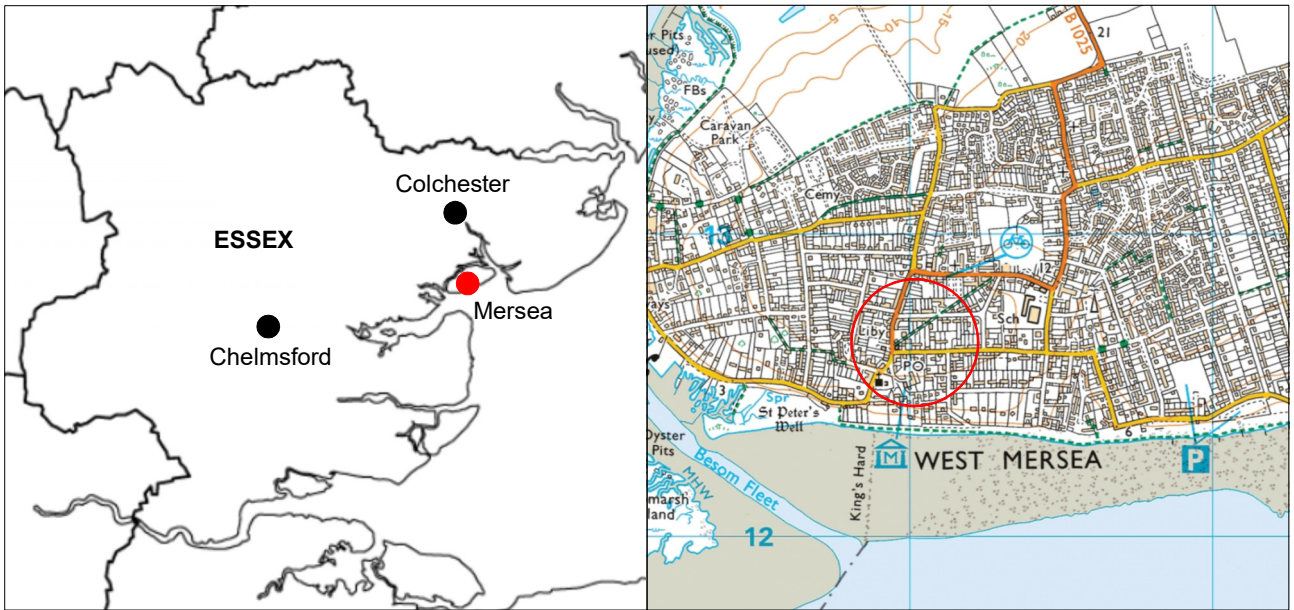
M Baister



Colchester Archaeological Trust,  
Roman Circus House,  
Roman Circus Walk,  
Colchester,  
Essex, CO2 2GZ

tel: 01206 501785

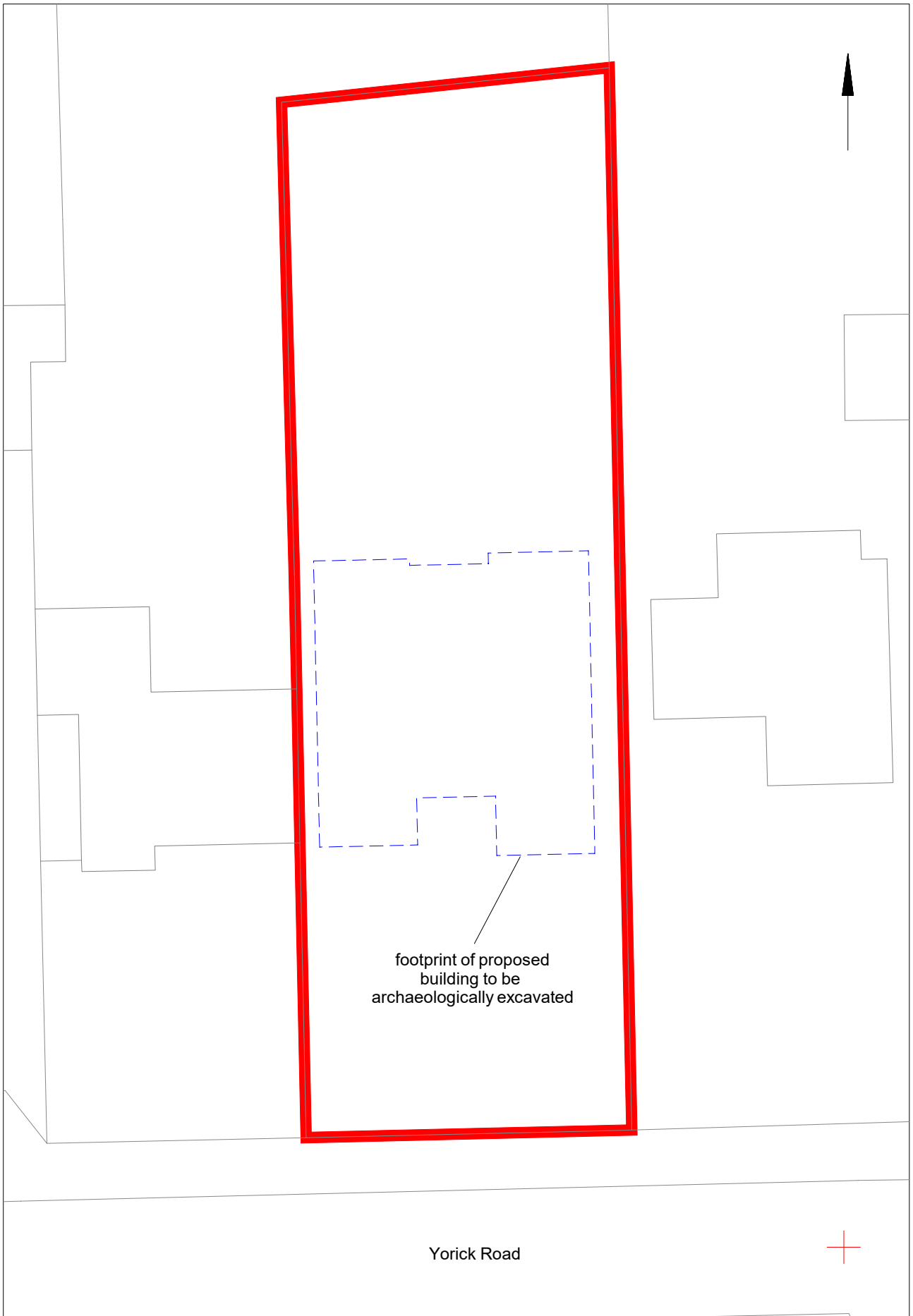
email: [mb@catuk.org](mailto:mb@catuk.org)



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Fig 1 Site location and proposed excavation area (indicated by the dashed blue lines).





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Fig 2 Proposed excavation area.



# OASIS DATA COLLECTION FORM: England

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## Printable version

**OASIS ID: colchest3-387024**

### Project details

Project name	An archaeological excavation at 5 Yorick Road, West Mersea, CO5 8HT
Short description of the project	A programme of archaeological monitoring and excavation (following an evaluation) was carried out at 5 Yorick Road, West Mersea, Essex in advance of the construction of a new dwelling. The site lies in an area rich in archaeological remains dating to the Roman period. Seventeen features were excavated during this stage of investigation, in addition to the six features uncovered during evaluation. Due to the lack of finds, however, most of these features could not be dated. A cluster of postholes, some of which contained Roman material dating, indicated the presence of a posted structure here during this period, while a Roman ditch was also recorded. A ditch which yielded a quantity of Middle Bronze Age pottery during evaluation was excavated further, but only produced one further sherd of late prehistoric pottery.
Project dates	Start: 12-03-2020 End: 20-03-2020
Previous/future work	Yes / Not known
Any associated project reference codes	2020/02o - Contracting Unit No.
Any associated project reference codes	192570 - Planning Application No.
Any associated project reference codes	ECC4443 - HER event no.
Type of project	Recording project
Current Land use	Other 5 - Garden
Monument type	DITCH Middle Bronze Age
Monument type	DITCH Roman
Monument type	POSTHOLE Roman
Monument type	POSTHOLE Uncertain
Monument type	PIT Uncertain
Monument type	NATURAL FEATURE Uncertain
Significant Finds	POTTERY Late Prehistoric
Significant Finds	POTTERY Roman
Significant Finds	CBM Roman

Significant Finds	CBM Post Medieval
Significant Finds	CBM Modern
Significant Finds	ANIMAL BONE Uncertain
Investigation type	"Open-area excavation","Watching Brief"
Prompt	National Planning Policy Framework - NPPF

### Project location

Country	England
Site location	ESSEX COLCHESTER WEST MERSEA 5 Yorick Road
Postcode	CO5 8HT
Study area	0.07 Hectares
Site coordinates	TM 01028 12635 51.775684808936 0.914319918306 51 46 32 N 000 54 51 E Point
Height OD / Depth	Min: 16.56m Max: 16.73m

### Project creators

Name of Organisation	Colchester Archaeological Trust
Project brief originator	CBC Archaeological Officer
Project design originator	Mark Baister
Project director/manager	Chris Lister
Project supervisor	Mark Baister
Type of sponsor/funding body	Developer

### Project archives

Physical Archive recipient	Colchester Museum
Physical Archive ID	ECC4443
Physical Contents	"Ceramics","Metal"
Digital Archive recipient	Colchester Museum
Digital Archive ID	ECC4443
Digital Media available	"Images raster / digital photography","Survey","Text"
Paper Archive recipient	Colchester Museum
Paper Archive ID	ECC4443
Paper Media available	"Miscellaneous Material","Photograph","Report","Section"

### Project bibliography 1



Publication type	Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)
Title	Archaeological monitoring and excavation at 5 Yorick Road, West Mersea, Essex, CO5 8HT: March 2020
Author(s)/Editor(s)	Hicks, E.
Other bibliographic details	CAT Report 1538
Date	2020
Issuer or publisher	Colchester Archaeological Trust
Place of issue or publication	Colchester
Description	A4 loose-leaf brass-stapled
URL	<a href="http://cat.essex.ac.uk">http://cat.essex.ac.uk</a>
Entered by	Dr Elliott Hicks (eh2@catuk.org)
Entered on	1 May 2020

## OASIS:

Please e-mail [Historic England](mailto:eh2@catuk.org) for OASIS help and advice

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