Colchester Archaeological Trust



CAT Report 2036 issued May 2024

Archaeological evaluation on land north of Beth Chatto's Gardens, Elmstead Market, Essex, CO7 7DB: March 2024



CAT project ref.: 2024/02f ECC code: ESBCG24

Archaeological evaluation on land north of Beth Chatto's Gardens, Elmstead Market, Essex,

CO7 7DB: March 2024

NGR: TM 06945 23978 (centre)

Planning ref.: 23/01731/FUL

CAT project ref.: 2024/02f CAT Report 2036

ECC code: ESBCG24 OASIS id: colchest3-523197

report prepared by Dr Elliott Hicks with contributions by Dr Matthew Loughton, Laura Pooley, Tabitha Lawrence, Adam Wightman, Alec Wade, Megan Beale & Bronagh Rae-Quinn

fieldwork by Nigel Rayner with Matthew Perou, Ziya Eksen, Megan Beale, Alexander Smith, Charlie Hodges, Tabitha Lawrence, Chloe Hill & Alice **Parker**

commissioned by Peter Le Grys (Stanfords) on behalf of South East Developments Ltd

Prepared by:	Dr Elliott Hicks	Junior Project Officer
Reviewed and approved by:	Laura Pooley	Post Excavation Manager
Issued:	14/05/2024	

Colchester Archaeological Trust

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

telephone: 01206 501785 email: services@catuk.org website: www.catuk.org

Contents

4 Aims 5 Results 6 Finds 7 Human b 8 Environm 9 Conclusion 10 Acknowle 11 Reference	on one one one one one one one one one o	1 1 2 3 3 16 31 33 34 37 38 40 40 40
Appendix 1 (Appendix 2 F	Context list Flot information	42 48
Figures		after p49
OASIS summ	ary sheet	
List of photo Cover: working	graphs, tables, maps and figures g shot	
Photograph 1 Photograph 2 Photograph 3 Photograph 5 Photograph 6 Photograph 7 Photograph 8 Photograph 9	T12 trench shot – looking north-west F31 – looking south T21 trench shot – looking south-east T25 trench shot – looking north F104 plan – looking north-west T32 trench shot – looking south-west F34 sx – looking north-east	4 6 7 8 10 11 12 13
Table 1 Table 2 Table 3 Table 4 Table 5 Table 6 Table 7	Summary of the pottery and CBM Details on the prehistoric pottery Quantities of prehistoric pottery from specific features Late Iron Age-Roman pottery fabrics recorded Details on the Late Iron Age-Roman pottery Roman pottery quantification via vessel form Quantities of Late Iron Age-Roman pottery from specific	16 17 17 18 18 18
Table 8 Table 9 Table 10 Table 11 Table 12 Table 13 Table 14 Table 15 Table 16	features Details on the Roman pottery from pit F34 Roman pottery quantification via vessel from from pit F34 Building material by period and type Quantities of CBM from specific features Quantities of baked clay from specific features Approximate dates for the individual features Iron nails, listed by context Metal-detected finds, listed by trench Clay tobacco pipe, glass and other miscellaneous material	20 20 22 22 23 23 24 25 25
Table 17 Table 18 Table 19 Table 20 Table 21 Table 22	listed by context Worked flints from the prehistoric or undated contexts Worked flints from Roman and post-Roman contexts Burnt (heat-altered) flint, listed by context Animal bone from pit F34 Animal bone from ditch F94 Age groups	27 29 30 30 31 32

Table 23 Table 24 Table 25 Table 26	Cremated bone by spit from F31 Cremated bone by fragment size for each spit from F31 Cremated bone by colour changes from F31 Sample information	32 32 33 33
Map 1	Extract from tithe map, 1844	37
Fig 1 Fig 2 Fig 3 Fig 4 Fig 5 Fig 6 Fig 7 Fig 8 Fig 9 Fig 10 Fig 11 Fig 12 Fig 13 Fig 14 Fig 15 Fig 16 Fig 17 Fig 18 Fig 17 Fig 18 Fig 20 Fig 21 Fig 22 Fig 23	Site location and trench layout in relation to rectified cropmarks Evaluation results in relation to rectified cropmarks Results Results Results Results Results Results Results Trench results	
	-	

1 Summary

An archaeological evaluation (forty-four trial-trenches) was carried out on land north of Beth Chatto's Gardens, Essex, in advance of the construction of a new residential development. Previous excavations to the south-east of the site at Lanswood Park uncovered a large number of Late Bronze Age or Early Iron Age pits lying near a ring-ditch containing a cremation burial, which also probably dated to this period, as well as a Late Iron Age/early Roman enclosure containing further cremation burials. The primary phase of activity occurred from the late 1st into the 3rd century, when a farmed estate stood at the site. A subsequent excavation to the northeast of the site, north of Clacton Road, similarly revealed evidence of Late Bronze Age or Early Iron Age activity, as well evidence of a pottery industry operating here during the early Roman period.

Excavations at the present site revealed evidence of sporadic occupation at the site during the Late Neolithic or Early Bronze Age, and the Middle or Late Bronze Age. A further phase of activity occurred during the early Roman period, with evidence of occupation and of animal husbandry and crop processing. An urned Roman cremation burial may belong to this phase of activity. A droveway associated with the farmstead at Lanswood Park was further excavated, along with Roman ditches which might represent the remains of a field system located to the west of this settlement.

Further phases extended through the post-medieval and modern periods. These features were likely related to agricultural activity and included several field boundary ditches depicted on mid 19th-century tithe mapping of the area.

2 Introduction (Fig 1)

This is the report for an archaeological evaluation carried out by Colchester Archaeological Trust (CAT) on land north of Beth Chatto's Gardens, Elmstead Market, Essex during 4th-19th March 2024. The work was commissioned by Peter Le Grys (Stanfords) on behalf of South East Developments Ltd and took place in advance of the construction of a new residential development.

In response to consultation with Essex County Council Place Services (ECCPS), the Historic Environment Advisor advised that, to establish the archaeological implications of this application, the applicant should be required to commission a scheme of archaeological investigation in accordance with the *National Planning Policy Framework* (MHCLG 2023).

All archaeological work was carried out in accordance with a *Brief for Archaeological Evaluation* at Land North of and Including Access Road to Beth Chatto's gardens, Clacton Road, Elmstead written by Mark Baister (ECCPS 2024). A written scheme of investigation (WSI) was prepared by CAT in response to the brief and agreed with ECCPS (CAT 2024a).

In addition to the project Brief and WSI, all fieldwork and reporting was undertaken in accordance with:

- Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment (MoRPHE) (Historic England 2015),
- Professional standards of the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists, including its Code of Conduct (CIfA 2020a-b, 2022, 2023a-b),
- East of England standards and frameworks published by East Anglian Archaeology (Brown & Glazebrook 2000; Gurney 2003; Medlycott 2011) and the recent review updates on https://researchframeworks.org/eoe/
- Relevant health and safety guidelines and requirements (CAT 2024b).

3 Archaeological background

The following archaeological background includes extracts of the ECC Brief and Essex Historic Environment Records (EHER) held at Essex County Council, County Hall, Chelmsford, Essex (accessed via http://www.heritagegateway.org.uk).

The site lies within the south-western edge of the Tendring plateau, a high, flat area largely characterised by large areas of former heathland (Medlycott 2008, 82). Bedrock geology for the site is Thames Group (clay silt and sand), with superficial deposits of cover sand (clay, silt and sand) covering most of the site except a strip at the most southerly boundary which has deposits of Kesgrave Catchment Subgroup (sand and gravel).¹

The proposed development site lies amid multiple cropmarks, many of which extend into the development site. These include cropmarks of trackways, pitting, field boundaries and other linear features (EHER 2593). The results of recent excavations to the south-east of the site suggest these cropmarks indicate the presence of significant prehistoric and Roman archaeological remains.

In 2017, CAT conducted an evaluation at Blue Barn Farm, some 515m south-east of the present site. Excavations at this site revealed a series of ditches, two of which were dated to the 12th to the 14th centuries and were taken to represent the remains of a medieval agricultural landscape. A modern pit and an undated pit were uncovered during a second phase of the evaluation (CAT Reports 1094 & 1209). In 2020, CAT carried out an evaluation at 'Forres', immediately to the west of the development site, where a similar collection of medieval or post-medieval ditches were uncovered, including two which corresponded to the cropmark of an apparent trackway which extended through the site (CAT Report 1527).

Another evaluation was undertaken on land adjacent to Market Field School, approximately 300m west north-west of the present site in 2018. Excavations here revealed a well or quarry pit possibly dating to the Roman period, and a post-medieval quarry pit or pond, pit and ditches, one of which corresponded to a field boundary ditch depicted on 19th-century Ordnance Survey mapping (CAT Report 1320).

More extensive archaeological investigations of the area occurred in 2020-21, when archaeological evaluation and excavation was conducted at Lanswood Park, roughly 500m south-east of the development site (CAT Report 1575). A small scattering of prehistoric flints indicating sporadic activity in the Mesolithic and Neolithic periods was recovered. Other prehistoric remains included a group of 51 pits arranged in two or three overlapping oval patterns, of which 19 contained Late Bronze Age and Early Iron Age pottery. These were situated near to a ring-ditch containing an off-centre cremation burial (neither of which produced dating evidence but which probably also originated during the Late Bronze Age or Early Iron Age). The beginning of a sustained period of activity was found to have commenced here in the 1st century AD, when a Late Iron Age/early Roman enclosure was laid out. Two unurned cremation burials, as well as a small number of features could be dated to this phase. The late 1st and early 2nd century witnessed a considerable increase in activity which continued into the 3rd century, with the establishment of an enclosure (half of which lay within the excavated area), approached by at least four trackways or droveways. Remains of particular significance dating to this period included a Roman timber well.

The large assemblage of Roman brick and tile recovered during the excavation suggests the presence of a Roman masonry structure with a tiled roof and a hypocaust nearby. It seems likely that the excavated site was a farmyard belonging to an adjacent and substantial Roman-period structure which most likely had its origins in the 1st century, and which was associated with the earlier enclosure and cremation burials. A large assemblage of pottery was also recovered, and this was presumably used by the inhabitants of this building and then dumped as waste in the adjacent farmyard. Significantly, the fact that brick, roof tile and flue-tile fragments from the building found their way into the farmyard ditches imply that the building was demolished or at least remodelled during the existence of the farmstead.

¹ British Geological Survey – https://geologyviewer.bgs.ac.uk/

In 2022, CAT carried out a further evaluation on land to the north of Clacton Road, approximately 100m east of the present site (CAT Report 1880). Excavations revealed a handful of features dating from the Early Bronze Age to the Early Iron Age, one of which contained a Late Bronze Age barbed-and-tanged flint arrowhead, as well as a few features only datable more broadly to the prehistoric period. These features tended to cluster towards the south-eastern part of the site and were interpreted as an extension of contemporary activity previously uncovered to the south. Remains dating to the early Roman period were similarly concentrated in the south-eastern section of the site. Two features contained large assemblages of kiln wasters, and one of these was located near a feature exhibiting evidence of in-situ burning which, although left unexcavated, was interpreted as a kiln or kiln-related feature. These features were taken to evidence the existence of a pottery manufacturing industry which operated at the site during AD 43-69. Other significant Roman remains included the droveway previously uncovered during the 2020-21 excavations to the south. A small scatter of medieval features and several post-medieval or modern agricultural features and quarry pits were also recorded.

4 Aims

The aims of the archaeological evaluation were to record the extent of any surviving archaeological deposits and to assess the archaeological potential of the site to allow the ECCHEA to determine if further investigation is required.

5 Results (Figs 2-23; Appendix 1)

Forty-four trial-trenches were excavated under the supervision of a CAT archaeologist. All trenches were 130m long and 1.8m wide except for trenches T9 and T29, which were 15m long and 1.8m wide, T5, which was 20m long and 1.8m wide, and T43, which was 35m long and 1.8m wide.

All of the trenches were cut through modern topsoil (L1, c 0.16-0.5m thick) onto natural (L2), except for trench T24, which was cut through L1 (c 0.28-0.43m thick) and subsoil (L3, c 0.16-0.36m thick) onto L2 (encountered at a depth of 0.44-0.66m below current ground level [bcgl]).

There were no archaeological remains in trenches T1, T4, T14 or T19. A full context list with soil descriptions can be found in Appendix 1.

Trench 2

Ditch F54 extended through the north-western end of the trench on a north-east/south-west alignment. The feature was 0.92m wide and 0.32m deep with a U-shaped profile. It contained no dating evidence.

Trench 3

Ditch or natural feature F120 passed through the southern end of the trench on a west north-west/east south-east alignment. It extended beyond the limit of excavation (LOE); its exposed extent was 0.78m wide and 0.15m deep and it had a shallow U-shaped profile. No dating evidence was recovered from this feature.

Tree-throw or natural feature F118 was also excavated.

Trench 5

Disturbance or pit F53 lay in the western half of the trench. Modern detritus was observed on its surface and so it was not excavated. Its exposed dimensions were 1.83m by 1.17m.

Ditch F117 was uncovered in the eastern half of the trench. It was oriented north-west/south-east, was 0.64m wide and 0.36m deep and had a V-shaped profile. The feature produced no finds. It continued to trench T11, to the south-east, where it was recorded as F39.

Trench 6

Two pairs of parallel ditches – F51 and F52, and F112 and F113 – extended through the northeastern half of the trench on a west north-west/east south-east alignment. F51 was 1.3m wide and 0.2m deep with a shallow U-shaped profile; F52 was 0.49-0.55m wide and 0.15-0.16m deep with a U-shaped profile; F112 was 0.63m wide and 0.13m deep with a shallow U-shaped profile; and F113 was 0.58m wide and 0.22m deep with a U-shaped profile. None of these features contained any dating evidence. F52 continued to trench T7, to the east. F51 continued to the east south-east, where it was recorded as F115 (T7), F68 (T13), F71 (T20) and F98 (T22). It corresponded to a cropmark targeted by the evaluation.

Ditch F113 was cut by pit F109, which, similarly, produced no finds. The feature was 0.39m wide and 0.14m deep, was sub-round in plan and had a U-shaped profile.

Trench 7

Three ditches – F52, F114 and F115 – passed through the south-western half of the trench on a west north-west/east south-east alignment. F52 was 0.49-0.55m wide and 0.15-0.16m deep with a U-shaped profile; F114 was 1.16m wide and 0.21m deep with an irregular profile; and F115 was 0.74m wide and 0.25m deep was an irregular profile. F114 contained one sherd of prehistoric pottery but neither of the other features contained any dating evidence. F52 was previously recorded in trench T6, to the west. F115 represented a continuation of F51, to the west north-west, and continued to the east south-east, where it was recorded as F68 (T13), F71 (T20) and F98 (T22). It corresponded to a cropmark targeted by the evaluation.

Three further ditches – F61, F62 and F63 – extended through the north-eastern half of the trench on a north north-west/south south-east alignment. F61 was 1.03m wide and 0.29m deep with an irregular profile; F62 was 1.33m wide and 0.58m deep with an irregular profile; and F63 was 0.63m wide and 0.25m deep with an irregular profile. None of these features yielded any dating evidence. F63 corresponded to a cropmark targeted by the evaluation.

Pits F57 and F58 lay between ditches F61 and F63, the latter feature cutting the former. F57 was 0.51m wide and 0.13m deep, was sub-round in plan and had a shallow U-shaped profile; F58 was 0.55m wide and 0.09m deep, was sub-round in plan; and had a shallow U-shaped profile. Neither produced any finds.



Photograph 1 T7 trench shot – looking south-west

Trench 8

Three ditches – F64, F65 and F91 – passed through the south-eastern half of the trench on a north-east/south-west alignment. F64 was 0.68m wide and 0.25m deep with a slightly irregular U-shaped profile; F65 was 0.67m wide and 0.21m deep with an irregular profile; and F91 was

0.66m wide and 0.1m deep with an irregular profile. None contained any dating evidence. F64 and F91 corresponded to cropmarks targeted by the evaluation.

A third ditch, F83, entered the southern-eastern end of the trench from the south-west on a north-east/south-west alignment for a short distance before terminating. The feature was 0.74m wide and 0.16m deep with a slightly irregular U-shaped profile. No finds were recovered from this feature either.

Ditch F91 cut pit F90. F90 was 0.45m wide and 0.09m deep, was sub-round in plan with an irregular profile, and contained no dating evidence.

Trench 9

Gully F66 extended through the centre of the trench on a north-east/south-west alignment. It was 0.57m wide and 0.14m deep with a V-shaped profile. No dating evidence was recovered from this feature. It corresponded to a cropmark targeted by the evaluation.

Trench 10

Ditch F49 was uncovered at the north-eastern end of the trench. It was oriented north-west/south-east, was 0.52m wide and 0.14m deep, and had a U-shaped profile. No finds were recovered from this feature.

Ditch F50 passed through the south-western half of the trench on a north-west/south-east alignment. The feature was 0.47m wide and 0.08m deep with a shallow U-shaped profile. It yielded no finds.

Trench 11

Ditch F38 passed through the south-eastern end of the trench on a north-east/south-west alignment. The feature was 1.14m wide and 0.31m deep with an irregular profile. No finds were retrieved. The feature continues to the south-west, where it was recorded F75 (T17), F95 (T16) and F22 (T23). It corresponded to a cropmark targeted by the evaluation.

Ditch F39 extended through the north-western end of the trench on a north north-west/south south-east alignment. It was 0.7m wide and 0.13m deep with a shallow U-shaped profile. The feature produced one pottery sherd from a sand-tempered urn or bowl dating to the Middle or Late Bronze Age. It represented a continuation of F117 in trench T5, to the north north-west.

Trench 12

Silt patch F111 occupied much of the south-eastern half of the trench. It contained a worked flint. The feature corresponded to a cropmark targetted by the trench.

Pit F108 was uncovered in the centre of the trench. The feature extended beyond the LOE; its exposed extent was 0.5m wide and 0.1m deep. It was sub-round in plan with a shallow irregular profile. Two heat-affected stones were recovered from this feature.

Ditch F105 extended through the north-western half of the trench on a north-east/south-west alignment. It was 1.1m wide and 0.23m deep with a shallow, irregular profile. No finds were recovered from this feature. Posthole F106 was uncovered to the north of F105. It was 0.19m wide and 0.07m deep, sub-round in plan with a U-shaped profile, and yielded one worked flint.



Photograph 2 T12 trench shot – looking northwest

Trench 13

Two ditches – F67 and F68 – passed through the south-western half of the trench on a north-west/south-east alignment. F67 was 1.16m wide and 0.31m deep with a U-shaped profile; F68 was 1.04m wide and 0.19m deep with a shallow U-shaped profile. No finds were recovered from the latter feature but the former contained a fragment of baked clay. F67 continued to the south-east, where it was recorded as F72 (T20). F68 represented a continuation of F51 and F115, to the north-west, and continued to the south-east, where it was recorded as F71 (T20) and F98 (T22). Both features corresponded to cropmarks targeted by the evaluation.

A further ditch, F69, was uncovered at the south-western end of the trench. It was oriented east north-east/west south-west. The feature extended beyond the LOE; its exposed extent was 1.17m wide and 0.41m deep and it had a U-shaped profile. No finds were recovered from this feature. It corresponded to a cropmark targeted by the evaluation.

Ditch or natural feature F84 extended into the north-eastern half of the trench from the north on a north-south alignment for a short distance before terminating. The feature was 0.63m wide and 0.15m deep with a shallow U-shaped profile. It yielded no dating evidence. The feature corresponded to a cropmark targeted by the evaluation.

Tree-throw or natural feature F70 was also excavated.

Trench 15

Ditch F42 passed through the north-eastern half of the trench on a north-west/south-east alignment. It was 1.1m wide and 0.27m deep with an irregular profile. No dating evidence was recovered. The feature continued to the south-east, where it was recorded as F103 (T32) and F78 (T39). It corresponded to a cropmark targeted by the evaluation.

Ditch F46 was uncovered at the south-western end of the trench. It was oriented north-east/south-west. The feature extended beyond the LOE; its exposed dimensions were 0.57m wide and 0.23m deep and it had a U-shaped profile. One sherd of prehistoric pottery, one worked flint and ten heat-affected stones were recovered from this feature.

Pit F44 was located to the north of F46. The feature was 1.2m wide and 0.15m deep, was irregular in plan and had a shallow irregular profile. It yielded four heat-altered stones.

Trench 16

Two ditches – F92 and F95 – passed through the trench on a north-east/south-west alignment, the former through its north-western half, the latter through its south-eastern half. F92 was 1.85m wide and 0.62m deep with an irregular U-shaped profile; F95 was 1.46m wide and 0.52m deep with a U-shaped profile. F95 produced no dating evidence but F92 contained one sherd of Late Iron Age or Roman pottery. F92 continued to the north-east, where it was recorded as F32 (T17), and to the south-west, where it was recorded as F20 (T23). F95 represented a continuation of F38, to the north-east, and continued to the north-east, where it was recorded as F75 (T17), and to the south-west, where it was recorded as F22 (T23). Both features corresponded to cropmarks targeted by the evaluation.

Gully F107 extended into the north-western end of the trench from the north-west on a north-west/south-east alignment for a short distance before terminating. The feature was 0.54m wide and 0.09m deep with a shallow U-shaped profile. It yielded one sherd of post-medieval pottery, one fragment of baked clay and one heat-affected stone.

Trench 17

Cremation burial F31 was uncovered at the southern end of the trench. The feature was 0.35m wide and 0.05m deep, was sub-round in plan and had a shallow, irregular V-shaped profile. It contained 26 sherds of Late Iron Age or Roman pottery.



Photograph 3 F31 - looking south

Two ditches – F32 and F75 – passed through the trench on an east north-east/west south-west alignment, the former through its southern half, the latter through its northern half. F32 was 1.08m wide and 0.23m deep with an irregular U-shaped profile; F75 was 0.61m wide and 0.12m deep with a shallow U-shaped profile. Neither feature contained any dating evidence. F32 represented a continuation of F92, to the south-west, and continued further south-west, where it was recorded as F20 (T23). F75 represented a continuation of F38, to the north-east, and F95, to the south-west, and continued to the south-west, where it was recorded as F22 (T23). F32 corresponded to a cropmark targeted by the evaluation.

Trench 18

Ditch F73 extended through the western half of the trench on a north-south alignment; ditch F74 extended through the western end of the trench on a north-east/south-west alignment. The former feature was 0.76m wide and 0.21m deep with a slightly irregular U-shaped profile. The

latter extended beyond the LOE; its exposed extent was 0.84m wide and 0.51m deep and it had a U-shaped profile. Neither feature yielded any finds. The feature corresponded to a cropmark targeted by the evaluation.

Trench 20

Two parallel ditches – F71 and F72 – extended through the south-western half of the trench on a north-west/south-east alignment. F71 was 0.76m wide and 0.19m deep with an irregular profile; F72 was 0.88m wide and 0.24m deep with a shallow U-shaped profile. Neither contained any dating evidence. F71 represented a continuation of F51, F115 and F68, to the north-west, and continued to the south-east, where it was recorded as F98 (T22). F72 represented a continuation of F67, to the north-west, and corresponded to a cropmark targeted by the evaluation.

Trench 21

Two ditches – F88 and F89 – passed through the centre of the trench on a north-east/south-west alignment. F88 was 1.42-1.74m wide and 0.36-0.37m deep with an irregular profile; F89 was 0.69m wide and 0.16m deep with a shallow U-shaped profile. F89 contained no dating evidence but F88 produced a worked flint. F88 continued to trenches T22 and T27, to the south-west. F89 continued to the south-west, where it was recorded as F94 (T22) and F100 (T27). Both trenches corresponded to cropmarks targeted by the evaluation.



Photograph 4 T21 trench shot – looking southeast

Trench 22

Ditch F98 passed through the eastern half of the trench on a north-west/south-east alignment. It was 0.61m wide and 0.15m deep with a U-shaped profile. No finds were recovered from this feature. It represented a continuation of F51, F115, F68 and F71, to the north-west, and corresponded to a cropmark targeted by the evaluation.

Ditch F94 extended through the western end of the trench. The feature was oriented north-east/south-west, was 1.29m wide and 0.24m deep and had an irregular profile. It produced one sherd of Late Iron Age or Roman pottery and an iron nail. The feature represented a

continuation of F89, to the north-east, and continued to the south-west, where it was recorded as F100 (T27). It corresponded to a cropmark targeted by the evaluation.

Ditch F88 extended through the centre of the trench on a north-east/south-west alignment. The feature was 1.42-1.74m wide and 0.36-0.37m deep and had an irregular profile. It did not produce any finds when sectioned in this trench. The feature continued to trench T27, to the south-west. It corresponded to a cropmark targeted by the evaluation.

Ditch F93 extended into the western half of the trench from the south on a north north-west/south south-east alignment for a short distance before terminating. The feature was 0.79m wide and 0.13m deep with an irregular profile. It produced no finds.

Trench 23

Ditch F20 passed through the south-eastern end of the trench on a north-east/south-west alignment. The feature was 1.78m wide was excavated to a depth of 0.77m and had an irregular V-shaped profile. It contained one sherd of Late Iron Age or Roman pottery, one worked flint flake and one heat-altered stone. The feature represented a continuation of F32 and F92, to the north-east and corresponded to a cropmark targeted by the evaluation.

Ditch F21 extended through the centre of the trench on a west north-west/east south-east alignment. It was 0.62m wide and 0.17m deep with a U-shaped profile. No finds were recovered from this feature. It corresponded to a cropmark targeted by the evaluation.

Ditch F22 passed through the north-western half of the trench on a north-east/south-west alignment. The feature was 1.08m wide and 0.21m deep with a shallow U-shaped profile. It yielded no dating evidence. The feature represented a continuation of F38, F75 and F95, to the north-east. Pit F23 was uncovered immediately to the north of F20. The feature was 0.61m wide and 0.3m deep, was sub-round in plan and had a U-shaped profile. It produced no dating evidence. The feature corresponded to a cropmark targeted by the evaluation.

Trench 24

Ditches F55 and F56 extended through the northern end of the trench on a west north-west/east south-east alignment, the former feature cutting the latter. F55 was 1.19m wide and 0.39m deep with an irregular profile; F56 was 1.48m wide and 0.39m deep with a U-shaped profile. F56 produced no dating evidence but one sherd of medieval or post-medieval peg-tile was recovered from F55. One of the ditches continued to the east south-east, where it was recorded as F85 or F86 (T25), F87 sx 2 (T32) and F45 (T39). One of the features corresponded to a cropmark targeted by the evaluation.

Ditch F41 was uncovered in the southern end of the trench. It was aligned north-east/south-west, was 2.65m wide and excavated to a depth of 0.76m, and had a U-shaped profile. No finds were recovered. The feature continued to the east, where it was recorded as F87 (T25). It corresponded to a cropmark targeted by the evaluation.

Trench 25

Ditches F85 and F86 passed through the centre of the trench on a west north-west/east south-east alignment, the latter feature cutting the former. F85 was 1.04m wide and 0.32m deep with a V-shaped profile; F86 was 1.68m wide and 0.43m deep with a slightly irregular U-shaped profile. F86 contained no dating evidence but an iron nail, a clay tobacco pipe stem, one fragment of post-medieval unfrogged brick, and one sherd of medieval or post-medieval peg-tile were retrieved from F85. F85 or F86 represented a continuation of F55 or F56, to the west north-west, and continued to the east south-east, where one of the ditches was recorded as F87 sx 2 (T32) and F45 (T39). One of the ditches corresponded to a cropmark targeted by the evaluation.

Ditch F87 sx 1 extended through the southern half of the trench on an east north-east/west south-west alignment. The feature was 3.1m wide and 0.79m deep with a V-shaped profile. It produced a pottery sherd deriving from a grog-tempered orange/brown coloured urn dating from

the Late Neolithic to the Early Bronze Age. F87 sx 1 represented a continuation of F41, to the west. It corresponded to a cropmark targeted by the evaluation.

Ditch F79 passed through the southern end of the trench on a north-west/south-east alignment. The feature was 0.8m wide and 0.21m deep with a slightly irregular U-shaped profile. It yielded no dating evidence. The feature continued to the south-east, where it was recorded as F47 (T31). It corresponded to a cropmark targeted by the evaluation.



Photograph 5 T25 trench shot - looking north

Trench 26

Ditch F96 extended through the north-eastern half of the trench on a north-west/south-east alignment. The feature was 0.46m wide and 0.08m deep with a shallow U-shaped profile. It contained no finds. The feature continued to the south-east, where it was recorded as F76 (T33). It corresponded to a cropmark targeted by the evaluation.

Gully F97 passed through the south-western half of the trench on a north-west/south-east alignment. It was 0.62m wide and 0.18m deep with a shallow V-shaped profile. No dating evidence was recovered from this feature.

Pit or ditch F104 was uncovered in the centre of the trench. The feature was 0.64m wide and 0.21m deep, was sub-oval in plan and had a U-shaped profile. It was oriented north north-east/south south-west and contained four sherds of prehistoric pottery, one fragment of baked clay and a worked flint assemblage consisting of 16 flakes, five scrapers, five bladelets or small flakes, and four chips.



Photograph 6 F104 plan - looking north-west

Trench 27

Ditch F100 extended through the north-western half of the trench on a north-east/south-west alignment. The feature was 0.78m wide and 0.26m deep and had an irregular profile. It yielded one sherd of Late Iron Age or Roman pottery. The feature represented a continuation of F89 and F94, to the north-east. It corresponded to a cropmark targeted by the evaluation.

Pit or tree-throw F101 lay to the north-west of F100. The feature was 0.78m wide and 0.39m deep, was sub-oval in plan and had an irregular profile. It produced one pottery sherd from a flint and grog tempered orange/brown Late Neolithic/Early Bronze Age Bell beaker.

Ditch F88 passed through the south-eastern half of the trench on a north-east/south-west alignment. The feature was 1.42-1.74m wide and 0.36-0.37m deep with an irregular profile. It corresponded to a cropmark targeted by the evaluation. The feature produced an iron nail when sectioned in this trench.

Post-hole F99 was uncovered in the centre of the trench. The feature was 0.29m wide and 0.26m deep, was sub-round in plan and had an irregular profile. It contained no dating evidence.

Trench 28

Tree-throw or natural feature F119 was excavated.

Trench 29

Ditch F28 passed through the northern half of the trench on a north-west/south-east alignment. The feature was 0.98m wide and 0.64m deep and it had a V-shaped profile. It yielded twelve sherds of Late Iron Age or Roman pottery, one sherd of Roman CBM and a fragment of quernstone.

Trench 30

Ditch F27 passed through the centre of the trench and ditch F29 passed through its southwestern end. Both were oriented north-west/south-east. The former feature was 1.38m wide and 0.46m deep with an irregular V-shaped profile; the latter was 2.23m wide and 0.62m deep with a V-shaped profile. F27 contained five sherds of Late Iron Age or Roman pottery, one sherd of Roman CBM and one fragment of baked clay. F29 contained two sherds of prehistoric pottery and fifteen sherds of Late Iron Age or Roman pottery (including four sherds from a Gallo-Belgic terra nigra platter, dating from *c* 20 BC until *c* AD 69). The two ditches corresponded to a cropmark which was recorded as F35 in trench T35, to the south-east, and F116 in trench T34, to the south-west. F29 was sealed by modern truncation or plough scar F30.

Undated ditch or natural feature F81 passed through the north-eastern half of the trench on a north-west/south-east alignment. The feature was 0.66m wide and 0.13m deep with a shallow U-shaped profile. It produced no dating evidence. The feature corresponded to a cropmark targeted by the evaluation.

Trench 31

Ditch F47 passed through the eastern end of the trench on a north-west/south-east alignment. It was 0.8m wide and 0.19m deep with a U-shaped profile. The feature contained no finds. It represented a continuation of F79, to the north-west. The feature corresponded to a cropmark targeted by the evaluation.

Pit F48 was uncovered in the eastern half of the trench. The feature extended beyond the LOE; its exposed dimensions were 1.21m wide and 0.3m deep. It was sub-round in plan and had a shallow, U-shaped profile. No dating evidence was recovered from this feature.

Trench 32

Ditch F87 sx 2 passed through the south-western end of the trench on a north-west/south-east alignment. It was 2.15m wide, was excavated to a depth of 0.34m and had a V-shaped profile. The feature represented a continuation of F55 or F56 and F85 or F86, to the west north-west, and continued to the east south-east, where it was recorded as F45 (T39). It corresponded to a cropmark targeted by the evaluation.

Undated ditch F103 extended through the centre of the trench on a north-west/south-east alignment. The feature was 0.94m wide and 0.24m deep with a shallow, slightly irregular profile. It yielded no dating evidence. The feature represented a continuation of F42, to the north-west, and continued to the south-east, where it was recorded as F78 (T39). It corresponded to a cropmark targeted by the evaluation.

Two further ditches – F102 and F110 – passed through the north-eastern half of the trench on a north-west/south-east alignment. The former feature was 0.85m wide and 0.15m deep with a shallow U-shaped profile; the latter was 1m wide and 0.26m deep with a slightly irregular profile. Neither contained any dating evidence. Gully F82 also passed through the north-eastern half of the trench on the same alignment. It was 0.34m wide and 0.12m deep with a U-shaped profile. Similarly, this feature produced no finds.



Photograph 7 T32 trench shot – looking south-west

Trench 33

Undated ditch F76 was uncovered in the eastern half of the trench. It was oriented north-west/south-east, was 0.52m wide and 0.14m deep, and had a shallow V-shaped profile.

The feature produced no finds. It represented a continuation of F96, to the north-west. The feature corresponded to a cropmark targeted by the evaluation.

Gully or natural feature F77 passed through the western half of the trench on a north-west/ south-east alignment. The feature was 0.66m wide and 0.15m deep and had a U-shaped profile. It yielded no dating evidence.

Trench 34

Ditch F116 passed through the centre of the trench on a north-east/south-west alignment. The feature was 1.65m wide and 0.84m deep with an irregular V-shaped profile. It produced seven sherds of prehistoric pottery (including some from a ?jar with a flat-topped rim in a handmade flint-tempered fabric), 29 sherds of Late Iron Age or Roman pottery and two fragments of baked clay. It represented a continuation of F27, F29 and F35, to the north-east. The feature corresponded to a cropmark targeted by the evaluation.

F116 was cut by pit F34, which was 1.59m wide and 0.37m deep, was sub-round in plan and had a slightly irregular U-shaped profile. This feature yielded a large assemblage of finds. Seven sherds of prehistoric pottery were recovered, along with 572 sherds of Late Iron Age or Roman pottery. The Late Iron Age or Roman pottery assemblage retrieved from this feature had two components: a large collection of early Roman vessels in fabrics typical of the products from a nearby early Roman kiln uncovered on land north of Clacton Road, and sherds from vessels in more typical greyware and black surface ware fabrics which are presumably not products of the Clacton Road kiln(s), and which include some late 2nd-century material. The feature also yielded 140 sherds of Roman CBM, 127 fragments of baked clay (including possible fragments of kiln furniture and supports), thirteen pieces of daub, a piece of worked sandstone, a complete nail, three incomplete nails, a small fragment of shank, two worked flints and three heat-altered stones. However, a small assemblage of intrusive post-medieval and modern finds were also recovered from the pit.



Photograph 8 F34 sx – looking north-east

Gully F33 extended into the south-eastern half of the trench from the east on an east/west alignment before turning northwards and terminating. The feature was 0.59-0.9m wide and 0.16-0.23m deep and had an irregular profile. It produced one sherd of prehistoric pottery.

Trench 35

Ditch F35 passed through the north-western half of the trench on a north-east/south-west alignment. The feature was 0.83m wide and 0.27m deep with an irregular profile. It contained no dating evidence. The feature corresponded with a cropmark targeted by the evaluation.

Pit F36 lay immediately to the north of F35, and pit or post-hole F37 lay immediately to its south. The former feature was 0.73m wide and 0.38m deep, was sub-oval in plan and had an irregular, V-shaped profile; the latter was 0.8m wide and 0.23m deep, was sub-round in plan and had an irregular profile. Neither feature yielded any dating evidence. Both features interacted with F35 but their relationship was unclear.

Pit F40 was uncovered to the north-west of this cluster of features. It was 0.9m wide and 0.15m deep, was sub-oval in plan and had a shallow U-shaped profile. No dating evidence was recovered from this feature. Pits or post-holes F25 and F26 lay to the south-east of the cluster. F25 was 0.56m wide and 0.27m deep, was sub-round in plan and had an irregular V-shaped profile; F26 was 0.71m wide and 0.4m deep, was sub-oval in plan and had a U-shaped profile. No dating evidence was retrieved from either feature.

Ditch F24 passed through the south-eastern half of the trench on a north-east/south-west alignment. The feature was 1.1m wide and 0.46m deep with an irregular profile. It contained five sherds of prehistoric pottery and eight sherds of Late Iron Age or Roman pottery. Ditch F18 was located to the south-east of F24 and was oriented north north-east/south south-west. The feature was 1.63m wide and 0.47m deep with an irregular, V-shaped profile. It produced two sherds of prehistoric pottery, 79 sherds of Late Iron Age or Roman pottery (including some derived from the Cam 108 beaker and Cam 243-244/246 bowl), two sherds of Roman CBM and one fragment of baked clay. Pit F19 was situated between these two ditches. It was 1.25m wide and 0.22m deep, as sub-oval in plan and had a shallow, irregular U-shaped profile. No finds were recovered from this feature.



Photograph 9 T35 trench shot – looking south-east

Trench 36

Pit F15 was uncovered in the western half of the trench. The feature was sub-round in plan and it had a shallow, slightly irregular profile. The dimensions of this feature were not recorded. It yielded one heat-altered stone.

Trench 37

Ditch F60 extended through the north-western half of the trench on a north-east/south-west alignment. It was 1.07m wide and 0.25m deep with a slightly irregular profile. No dating evidence was recovered from this feature. It continued to the east north-east, where it was recorded as F59 (T38). The feature corresponded to a cropmark targeted by the evaluation.

Ditch F43 passed through the centre of the trench on a north-east/south-west alignment. The feature is 1.78m wide and 0.44m deep with an irregular profile. It yielded one sherd of Late Iron

Age or Roman pottery. The feature continued to the south-west, where it was recorded as F11 (T41). It corresponded to a cropmark targeted by the evaluation.

Ditch F80 was uncovered to the south-east of F43. It was oriented north-east/south-west, was 0.7m wide and 0.1m deep, and had a shallow U-shaped profile. No finds were recovered from this feature.

Trench 38

Ditch F59 passed through the north-western half of the trench on an east north-east/west south-west alignment. It was 0.55m wide and 0.28m deep and had a U-shaped profile. The feature contained no dating evidence. It represented a continuation of F60, to the west south-west. The feature corresponded to a cropmark targeted by the evaluation.

Trench 39

Ditch F78 passed through the north-eastern half of the trench on a north-west/south-east alignment. The dimensions of this feature were not recorded; it had a V-shaped profile. It contained no dating evidence. The feature represented a continuation of F42 and F103, to the north-west. It corresponded to a cropmark targeted by the evaluation.

Ditch F45 lay to the south-west of F78. It was also oriented north-west/south-east, was 1.25m wide and 0.51m deep, and had a U-shaped profile. It contained one sherd of prehistoric pottery. The feature represented a continuation of F55 or F56, F85 or F86 and F87 sx2, to the west north-west. It corresponded to a cropmark targeted by the evaluation.

Trench 40

Ditch F9 extended through the northern half of the trench on a north-west/south-east alignment, and ditch F10 passed through the trench on a north-east/south-west alignment. The former feature extended beyond the LOE; its exposed extent was 0.67m wide and 0.19m deep and it had a U-shaped profile. The latter was 0.5m wide and 0.12m deep with a shallow V-shaped profile. Neither ditch produced any dating evidence. The two features interacted, but their relationship was unclear.

Ditch F17 extended through the centre of the trench on a north-west/south-east alignment. The feature was 1.44m wide and 0.35m deep with an irregular V-shaped profile. It contained no dating evidence.

Gully F16 passed through the southern half of the trench on an east/west alignment. It was 0.6m wide and 0.08m deep with a shallow U-shaped profile. One sherd of medieval or post-medieval peg-tile was recovered from this feature.

Pit or natural feature F8 was situated to the south of F16. The feature was sub-oval in plan and had a shallow U-shaped profile. Its dimensions were not recorded. No dating evidence was recovered.

Trench 41

Ditches F11 and F12 passed through the centre of the trench on a north-east/south-west alignment, the former cutting the latter. F11 was 1.85m wide and 0.65m deep with an irregular profile; F12 was 1.09m wide and 0.53m deep with an irregular profile. No finds were recovered from ether feature. F11 represented a continuation of F43, to the north-east, and corresponded to a cropmark targeted by the evaluation.

Pit F14 was located immediately to the east of F11. The feature extended beyond the LOE; its exposed dimensions were 1.03m wide and 0.26m deep. It was sub-oval in plan and had an irregular profile. The feature produced no finds.

Trench 42

Ditch F6 extended through the southern half of the trench on an east/west alignment. It was 1.41m wide and 0.3m deep with a slightly irregular profile. Finds were recovered from this feature but were subsequently misplaced.

Gully F7 passed through the southern half of the trench on a west north-west/east south-east alignment. The feature was 0.3m wide and 0.12m deep with a U-shaped profile. No dating evidence was recovered.

Trench 43

Ditch F1 extended into the eastern half of the trench from the south on a north-east/south-west alignment for a short distance before terminating. It was 0.7m wide and 0.1m deep with a shallow, U-shaped profile. No dating evidence was recovered from this feature.

Ditch F2 passed through the eastern end of the trench on a north-east/south-west alignment. The feature was 0.79m wide and 0.11m deep with a shallow U-shaped profile. It produced no dating evidence. The feature corresponded to a cropmark targeted by the evaluation.

Pit or ditch F5 extended into the western half of the trench from the south on a north-east/south-west alignment for a short distance before terminating. The feature was 1.03m wide and 0.28m deep, was sub-oval in plan and had an irregular profile. It contained no finds.

Trench 44

Ditch F3 passed through the north-western end of the trench on an east north-east/west south-west alignment. The feature was 1.09m wide and 0.19m deep and had a shallow, irregular, U-shaped profile. It contained no dating evidence.

Ditch F13 extended through the south-eastern half of the trench on a north-east/south-west alignment. The feature was 1.19m wide and 0.22m deep with a U-shaped profile. It yielded four sherds of prehistoric pottery and three worked flint flakes.

Pit F4 was uncovered at the south-eastern end of the trench. The feature extended beyond the LOE; its exposed extent was 0.84m wide and 0.47m deep. It was sub-oval in plan and had an irregular profile. The feature contained a worked flint and two fragments of coke.

6 Finds

6.1 Pottery and CBM

by Dr Matthew Loughton

The evaluation uncovered a modest assemblage of pottery and ceramic building material (henceforth CBM) consisting of 943 sherds with a weight of 8.4kg and EVE (estimated vessel equivalent) of 8.95 (Table 1). The mean sherd weight is low at 9g.

Ceramic material	No.	Weight (g)	MSW (g)	EVE
Pottery	790	6,331	8	8.15
СВМ	153	2,075	14	-
AII	943	8,406	9	8.95

Table 1 Summary of the pottery and CBM

6.1.1 Prehistoric pottery

Handmade prehistoric pottery was classified according to the type of temper (flint, sand, grog, shell, etc.), while note was also taken of the temper-frequency and size, and the fabric colour. Other aspects, such as finishing (wiping, burnishing) and decoration were also noted. There was a small-sized assemblage of 38 sherds with a weight of 306g and EVE of 0.29 (Table 2). Small quantities of prehistoric pottery were recovered from 14 features (Table 3), although for

many of these contexts, such as F18, F24, F29, F34 and F116, the prehistoric pottery was residual (Table 13).

Most of this material was tempered with flint followed by sand (Table 2). There was very little in the way of more tightly dateable diagnostic material except for the following:

Ditch F39: a handmade sand-tempered (with sparse flint) urn or bowl (EVE:0.08) dating to the Middle or Late Bronze Age.

Ditch F87 sx 1: grog-tempered orange/brown coloured urn (EVE:0.03) decorated with vertical rows of impressed circles and a cabled rim with deep thumb impressions (Fig 22.1). Late Neolithic-Early Bronze Age.

Pit/tree-throw F101: flint and grog tempered orange/brown late Neolithic-Early Bronze Age Bell beaker (EVE:0.13) with a smooth finish and decorated with rows of lines or weakly impressed cord-decoration (Fig 22.2).

Ditch F116: possible jar? with a flat-topped rim in a handmade flint-tempered fabric (EVE:0.05)	Ditch F116: possible	iar? with a f	flat-topped rim in a	handmade flint-ten	npered fabric	(EVE:0.05).
---	----------------------	---------------	----------------------	--------------------	---------------	-------------

Fabric group	Fabric description		No.	Weight (g)	MSW (g)	EVE
HMF	Handmade flint-tempered		23	89	4	0.05
HMFG	Handmade flint & grog-tempered		1	15	15	0.13
HMG	Handmade grog-tempered		1	135	135	0.03
HMS	Handmade sand-tempered		8	35	4	0.08
HMSG	Handmade sand & grog-tempered		1	2	2	0.00
HMSH	Handmade shell-tempered		1	5	5	0.00
		Total	38	306	8	0.29

Table 2 Details on the prehistoric pottery

Context	Feature type	No.	Weight (g)	MSW (g)	EVE
F13	Ditch	4	16	4	0.00
F18	Ditch	2	13	7	0.00
F24	Ditch	5	4	1	0.00
F29	Ditch	2	24	12	0.00
F33	Gully	1	3	3	0.00
F34	Pit	7	14	2	0.00
F39	Ditch	1	7	7	0.08
F45	Ditch	1	5	5	0.00
F46	Ditch	1	3	3	0.00
F87 sx 1	Ditch	1	135	135	0.03
F101	Pit/tree-throw	1	15	15	0.13
F104	Pit/ditch	4	39	10	0.00
F114	Ditch	1	5	5	0.00
F116	Ditch	7	23	3	0.05
	Total	38	306	8	0.29

Table 3 Quantities of prehistoric pottery from specific features

6.1.2 Roman pottery

The Roman pottery was classified according to the fabric groups outlined in *CAR* **10** (1999) supplemented with fabric groups from the National Roman Fabric Reference Collection, henceforth NRFRC (Tomber & Dore 1998) (Table 4). Roman 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).

There was a good-sized assemblage of Roman pottery consisting of 751 sherds, with a weight of 6kg and EVE of 8.66 (Tables 5-6). The mean sherd weight is 8g. This material was recovered from 13 features, although pit F34 alone produced a substantial proportion of the assemblage. Only two other features (F18, F116) produced assemblages of note (Table 7).

Fabric code	Fabric description	Fabric date range guide
BSW 1	Black surface ware (smooth, micaceous)	Roman
BSW 2	Black surface ware (sandier, coarser)	Roman
BSW 3	Black surface ware (coarser, pimply, sand & grog)	Roman
DJ	Coarse oxidised and related wares	Roman
DJ (S)	Coarse oxidised and related wares (sandy)	Roman
DZ	Fine oxidised wares	AD 43-225
FSW/EGW	Fine sandy ware/Early Grey ware	Late Iron Age-Early Roman
GAB TN1*	Gallia-Belgica Terra Nigra 1	20 BC-AD 80
GX	Other coarse, principally locally-produced grey wares	Roman
GX (S)	Other coarse, principally locally-produced grey wares (sandy)	Roman
HZ OX (M)	Large storage jars and other vessels in heavily-tempered oxidised wares (micaceous)	Late Iron Age-Roman
KX	Black-burnished ware (BB2) types in pale grey ware	AD 125/150-300
UR (FSW/EGW)	Copies of Terra nigra-wares (Fine sandy ware/Early Grey ware)	AD 43-100

Table 4 Late Iron Age-Roman pottery fabrics recorded. *NRFRC

Fabric group	Fabric description	No.	Weight (g)	MSW (g)	EVE
BSW 1	Black surface ware (smooth, micaceous)	141	686	5	0.95
BSW 2	Black surface ware (sandier, coarser)	121	594	5	1.02
BSW 3	Black surface ware (coarser, pimply, sand & grog)	10	83	8	0.07
DJ	Coarse oxidised and related wares	18	93	5	0.16
DJ (S)	Coarse oxidised and related wares (sandy)	8	75	9	0.19
EZ	Fine oxidised wares	3	10	3	0.00
FSW/EGW	Fine sandy ware/Early Grey ware	214	1,881	9	3.24
GAB TN1	Gallia-Belgica Terra Nigra 1	5	20	4	0.00
GX	Other coarse, principally locally-produced grey wares	55	481	9	0.47
GX (S)	Other coarse, principally locally-produced grey wares (sandy)	166	1,999	12	2.29
HZ OX (M)	Large storage jars and other vessels in heavily- tempered oxidised wares (micaceous)	1	19	19	0.00
KX	Black-burnished ware (BB2) types in pale grey ware	5	24	5	0.00
UR (FSW/EGW)	Copies of Terra nigra-wares (Fine sandy ware/Early Grey ware)	4	54	14	0.27
	Total	751	6,019	8	8.66

Table 5 Details on the Late Iron Age-Roman pottery

Fabric group	Form	EVE
BSW 1	All	0.95
	?	0.11

	CAM 218	0.84
BSW 2	All	1.02
	CAM 268	0.94
	CAM 508	0.08
BSW 3	All	0.07
	?	0.07
DJ	All	0.16
	?	0.16
DJ (S)	All	0.19
	CAM 330	0.14
	CAM 508	0.05
FSW/EGW	All	2.44
	?	0.73
	CAM 108	0.40
	CAM 218	0.73
	CAM 231-232	0.80
	CAM 243-244/246	0.09
	CAM 323	0.00
	CAM 508	0.49
GX	All	0.47
	?	0.08
	CAM 108	0.14
	CAM 218	0.08
	CAM 221	0.14
	CAM 243-244/246	0.03
GX (S)	All	2.29
	?	0.14
	CAM 243-244/246	0.05
	CAM 268	2.10
UR (FSW/EGW)	All	0.27
	CAM 28	0.27
	•	8.66

Table 6 Roman pottery quantification via vessel form

Context	Feature type	No.	Weight(g)	MSW (g)	EVE
F18	Ditch	79	405	5	0.35
F20	Ditch	1	4	4	0.00
F24	Ditch	8	49	6	0.00
F27	Ditch	5	27	5	0.00
F28	Ditch	12	158	13	0.30
F29	Ditch	15	191	13	0.30
F31	Cremation burial	26	472	18	0.00
F34	Pit	572	4,296	8	7.64
F43	Ditch	1	7	7	0.00
F92	Ditch	1	3	3	0.00
F94	Ditch	1	9	9	0.00
F100	Ditch	1	2	2	0.00
F116	Ditch	29	396	14	0.07
	Total	751	6,019	8	8.66

 Table 7
 Quantities of Late Iron Age-Roman pottery from specific features

Pit F34

This feature alone contained 572 sherds of Roman pottery with a weight of nearly 4.3kg and EVE of 7.64 (Table 8). This assemblage represents 76% of the Roman pottery assemblage recovered during the investigation by sherd count, 73% by weight and 88% of the EVE. There are two components to this assemblage. The first is a large collection of early Roman vessels in fabrics typical of the products from a nearby early Roman kiln uncovered on land north of Clacton Road (CAT Report 1880). This includes various fine sandy greywares with fine sand, mica and fine orange/red nodules (fabric FSW/EGW) which have light grey to patchy grey surfaces and a buff/orange core. In some instances, the surface is darker and better preserved giving a black surface-type ware. Vessels include examples of the Cam 108 beaker, Cam 218 bowl, Cam 231-232? flask and Cam 508 lid (Table 9). This fabric is similar to the Elmstead fabrics 4 & 8 while examples of the Cam 218 were noted amongst the products of the land north of Clacton Road kiln. The Cam 508 lid has traces of burning and/or sooting on its edge. indicating that it has been used within the kitchen. One unusual Elmstead product from this feature is a Cam 323 carinated spouted strainer bowl although the spout is missing (Fig 22.3). This form is based upon copper-alloy vessels examples of which examples are know from Colchester 'Head Street', Stanway and Sheepen while further examples are found throughout much of central-southern England along a band running from Norfolk to Dorset (Sealey and Wardley 2021, 14-23 fig. 10). The production of this form at Elmstead is surprising as the Cam 322-323 is a rare form even at Colchester where it is found in fabrics DJ, GX and ON and is dated to AD 43-120 (CAR 10 1999, 483). Occasional earlier examples in Late Iron Age grogtempered and later Romanising fabrics are known from Sheepen (Thompson 1982, 566-567; Niblett 1985, 72 fig. 33, microfiche 1:D3-4). Three grog-tempered examples were uncovered from the 'cauldron pit' at Ardleigh although these are from an early Roman context (Sealey 1999). At Elms Farm, Essex sherds from nine ceramic spouted strainers in grog-tempered fabrics were recovered from contexts ranging in date from 50/15 BC until c AD 170 although most date to the Late Iron Age-early Roman period (Sealey 2018). Sealey (2018, 170 appendix) notes four other Late Iron Age findspots from Essex at Heybridge 'Crescent Road', Rainham 'Moor Hall Farm', Thurrock and Wickford 'Beauchamps Farm'. This form (M1) is also noted at Chelmsford during the Roman period (Going 1987, 35 fig. 17). Sealey has argued that the Cam 322-323 was used to strain locally infused drinks, such as beer, herbal drinks or mead (Sealey 1999, 122-124). The Elmstead vessel has traces of darker staining on the interior, but also on the exterior, which could be connected with its use thus suggesting that it is not kiln waster (Fig. 22.3).

Fabric group	Fabric description	No.	Weight (g)	MSW (g)	EVE
BSW 1	Black surface ware (smooth, micaceous)	129	579	4	0.95
BSW 2	Black surface ware (sandier, coarser)	121	594	5	1.02
BSW 3	Black surface ware (coarser, pimply, sand & grog)	9	79	9	0.00
DJ	Coarse oxidised and related wares	11	54	5	0.16
DJ (S)	Coarse oxidised and related wares (sandy)	7	68	10	0.19
EZ	Fine oxidised wares	3	10	3	0.00
FSW/EGW	Fine sandy ware/Early Grey ware	120	1205	10	2.89
GAB TN1	Gallia-Belgica Terra Nigra 1	39	235	6	0.28
GX	Other coarse, principally locally-produced grey wares	128	1448	11	2.15
GX (S)	Other coarse, principally locally-produced grey wares (sandy)	5	24	5	0.00
KX	Black-burnished ware (BB2) types in pale grey ware	129	579	4	0.95
	Total	572	4296	8	7.64

Table 8 Details on the Roman pottery from pit F34

Fabric group	Form	EVE
BSW 1	All	0.95
	?	0.11

	CAM 218	0.84
BSW 2	All	1.02
	CAM 268	0.94
	CAM 508	0.08
DJ	All	0.16
	?	0.16
DJ (S)	All	0.19
	CAM 330	0.14
	CAM 508	0.05
FSW/EGW	All	2.89
	?	0.73
	CAM 108	0.14
	CAM 218	0.73
	CAM 231-232	0.80
	CAM 508	0.49
GX	All	0.28
	?	0.14
	CAM 108	0.14
	CAM 221	0.28
GX (S)	All	2.15
•	CAM 243-244/246	0.05
	CAM 268	2.10
		7.64

Table 9 Roman pottery quantification via vessel from from pit F34

The second component of this assemblage is that it includes vessels in more typical greyware (GX, GX S) and black surface ware (BSW) fabrics which are presumably not products of the Elmstead 'Clacton Road' kiln(s). This includes some late 2nd-century material, notably several complete, or nearly compete, Cam 268 jars (*c* AD 125/150-280/320) with traces of external sooting in fabrics GX S and BSW 2. A base in fabric BSW 2 is possibly from a sieve as it has several small prefiring (?) holes (Fig 22.4). There is also a Cam 243-244/246 bowl (AD 43-140) in sandy greyware fabric with some darker coloured sand, and examples of the Cam 108 beaker and Cam 221 bowl in more standard greyware fabrics (GX). In oxidised fabrics are there are examples of the Cam 508 lid and Cam 330 bowl, which date from the Flavian period onwards. Finally, there are sherds from a possible Cam 278 jar, dating from *c* AD 125/150-250/260, in fabric KX and a base from a rough cast colour-coated beaker which does not appear to be a Colchester or Cologne product (fabric EZ?).

Elmstead products in fabrics FSW/EGW and GX were also noted in the following features: F18, F27, F28, F31, F92 and F116. This includes examples of the Cam 108 beaker and Cam 243-244/246 bowl from ditch F18.

Other pottery of note included four sherds (20g) of Gallo-Belgic terra nigra (GAB TN1) from a platter, dating from c 20 BC until the early Roman period (c AD 69), which came from ditch F29. The lack of any other Late Iron Age pottery suggests that this this vessel is an early post-conquest import. Ditch F29 also produced sherds from a local copy (UR FSW/EGW) of a Gallo-Belgic Cam 28 platter (EVE:0.27). One notable aspect of the Roman pottery assemblage is the absence of sherds of samian, amphorae and mortaria, suggesting low-status occupation.

Graffit

There were three sherds with post-firing graffiti:

1. Pit F34 (15)
Cam 218 bowl (fabric BSW 1)
IIST[or ISII?

Thinly-scratched on exterior of vessel wall (Fig 23.1)

2. Pit F34 (28)

Two curves thinly-scratched on underside of base (fabric BSW 1) (Fig 23.2)

3. Ditch F116 (48)

Two lines/slashes through cordon on exterior of Cam 218 bowl (fabric BSW 1) (Fig 23.3)

6.1.3 Post-medieval pottery

Post-medieval pottery was recorded according to the fabric groups from CAR 7 (2000) and there was one sherd (6g) of post-medieval red earthenware (fabric F40), dating to c 1500-1800/1900, which came from gully F107.

6.1.4 Ceramic building material (CBM)

There were 153 sherds of CBM with a weight of just over 2kg and a mean sherd weight of 14g (Table 10). The CBM consists of a variety of Roman, medieval and post-medieval/modern material (Table 18) and was recovered from 11 features, although a substantial proportion came from pit F34 (Table 11).

Roman CBM was limited to two sherds which were retrieved from ditches F18 and F28. Post-Roman CBM was also rare and limited to three sherds of medieval/post-medieval peg-tile from gully F16 and ditches F55 and F85, and one fragment of unfrogged brick from ditch F85.

CBM code	CBM type	No.	Weight (g)	MSW (g)	
Roman					
RB	Roman brick	1	79	79	
RBT	Roman brick or tile (general)	1	30 30		
Post-Roman					
PT	Peg-tile	3	84	28	
BR	Brick	1	384	384	
Undated					
Bake	Baked clay 134 1,378 10				
Daub		13	120	9	
	Total	153	2,075	14	

Table 10 Building material by period and type

Context	Description	No.	Weight (g)	MSW (g)
F16	Gully	1	11	11
F18	Ditch	2	82	41
F27	Ditch	1	4	4
F28	Ditch	1	30	30
F34	Pit	140	1,460	10
F55	Ditch	1	67	67
F67	Ditch	1	9	9
F85	Ditch	2	390	195
F104	Pit/ditch	1	11	11
F107	Gully	1	1	1
F116	Ditch	2	10	5
	To	tal 153	2,075	14

 Table 11 Quantities of CBM from specific features

Baked clay

Most of the CBM consists of baked clay, most of which was recovered from pit F34. The baked clay from pit F34 includes fragments of possible kiln furniture and supports.

Context	Description	No.	Weight (g)	MSW (g)
F18	Ditch	1	3	3
F27	Ditch	1	4	4
F34	Pit	127	1,340	11
F67	Ditch	1	9	9
F104	Pit/ditch	1	11	11
F107	Gully	1	1	1
F116	Ditch	2	10	5
	Tota	134	1,378	10

Table 12 Quantities of baked clay from specific features

Daub

A small quantity of daub (13 pieces at 120g) came from pit F34.

6.1.5 Conclusion

Table 13 summarizes the dating evidence for the features and layer which contained dateable pottery and ceramics. The small collection of prehistoric pottery indicates occupation dating to the Late Neolithic-Early Bronze Age and Middle/Late Bronze Age while there is no evidence for any Iron Age occupation despite evidence of activity dating to this period being uncovered during the evaluation carried out to the north of Clacton Road (CAT Report 1880).

The Roman pottery indicates activity from the Claudian period into the 2nd century. A substantial proportion of the Roman pottery, especially the assemblage from pit F34, consists of early Roman pottery mostly from the nearby Elmstead kilns.

Context	Prehistoric pottery	LIA-Roman pottery	Post-Roman pottery	СВМ	Date approx.
F13	HMS	-	-	-	Prehistoric
F16	-	-	-	PT	Medieval/ post-medieval
F18	HMF	DJ, FSW/EGW (CAM 108, CAM 243-244/246), GX	-	RB	Early Roman
F20	-	GX (S)	-	-	Roman
F24	HMF	BSW 1	-	-	Roman
F27	-	FSW/EGW, HZ OX (M), GX (S)	-		Early Roman
F28	-	FSW/EGW, GX (CAM 218), GX (S)	-	RBT	Early Roman
F29	HMF	DJ, GAB TN (PLATTER), GX (CAM 243-244/246), UR (FSW/EGW) (CAM 28)	-	-	Early Roman
F31	-	GX (S)	-	-	Roman
F33	HMF	-	-	-	Prehistoric
F34	HMF, HMSG	BSW 1 (CAM 218), BSW 2 (CAM 268, CAM 508), BSW 3, DJ, DJ (S) (CAM 330, CAM 508), EZ, FSW/EGW (CAM 108, CAM 218, CAM 231- 232, CAM 323, CAM 508), GX (CAM 108, CAM 221), GX (S) (CAM 243-244/246, CAM	-	-	AD 125-150

		268), KX (CAM 278)			
F39	HMS (URN/BOWL)	-	-	-	Middle Bronze Age/ Late Bronze Age
F43	-	DJ (S)	-	-	Roman
F45	HMS	-	-	-	Post-medieval
F46	HMF	-	-	-	Post-medieval
F55	-	-	-	PT	Medieval/ post-medieval
F85	-	-	-	BR (unfrogged), PT	Post-medieval
F87 sx 1	HMG (URN)	-	-	-	Late Neolithic-/Early Bronze Age
F92	-	GX (S)	-	-	Roman
F94	-	DJ	-	-	Roman
F100	-	GX	-	-	Roman
F101	HMFG (BEAKER)	-	-	-	Late Neolithic/ Early Bronze Age
F104	HMF, HMFS	-	-	-	Prehistoric
F107	-	<u>-</u>	F40	-	Post-medieval
F114	HMSH	-	-	-	Prehistoric
F116	HMF (JAR), HMS	BSW 1 (CAM 218), BSW 3, DJ, FSW/EGW, GX, GX (S)	-	-	Early Roman

Table 13 Approximate dates for the individual features

6.2 Small finds, nails and metal-detected finds by Laura Pooley

Small finds were rare with only three recorded, all from Roman features. A complete iron ring was found within ditch F29 (SF1), while ditch F28 produced a fragment of lava quernstone (SF2), and a piece of worked sandstone was recovered from pit F34 (SF3).

SF1 F29, finds no. 11. Complete iron ring, corroded and covered in dirt. Probably oval in cross-section. Measurements: *c* 56mm diameter, 13mm wide, 10mm thick, 38.1g.

SF2 F28, finds no. 12. Fragment of lava quern stone, surface worn, no other distinguishing features, 130mm by 105mm and 44-48mm thick, 835g.

SF3 F34, finds no. 15. Fragment of worked sandstone. Part of the stone is flat and smooth, but all other surfaces are broken with no other distinguishing features, 126mm by 116mm and 30mm thick, 559.2g.

Iron nails came from four features (Table 14). Early/mid 2nd-century pit F34 produced a complete nail, three incomplete nails and a small fragment of shank. Where enough of the nails had survived, they were identified as Manning Type 1b nails with square-sectioned shanks and a flat round head (Manning 1985). A fragment of iron nail was recovered from Roman ditch F94, a complete iron nail came from post-medieval ditch F85, and an incomplete nail from undated ditch F88.

Context	Finds no.	Description
F34	15	Incomplete iron nail with tip missing, flat round head, 7.8g.
	28	Incomplete iron nail with head missing, square-sectioned shank, 5.3g.
	29	Incomplete iron nail with tip missing, flat round head, 4.8g.
	30	Complete iron nail, square-sectioned shank, flat round head, 10.0g, 67.8mm long.
	<9>	Fragment of square-sectioned nail shank, 2.9g (discarded).

F85		Complete iron nail broken into two pieces, square-sectioned shank, flat round head, 10.1g, 58.3mm long
F88 sx3		Incomplete iron nail with upper shank and head missing, square-sectioned shank, 3.5g.
F94	40	Fragment of iron, probably the tip of an iron nail, 1.2g (discarded).

Table 14 Iron nails, listed by context (sample numbers shown as <>).

Spoil heaps from all trenches were metal-detected with only a few objects being recovered. Modern finds included three buttons, the tag from a zip, lead shotgun pellets, and a copper-alloy tag/fixing, with the remaining items all unidentifiable fragments of either copper-alloy or lead. The items have been recorded in Table 15 below and discarded.

Trench	Finds no.	Description
T1 spoil	49	Lump of lead, 16.0g.
T10 spoil	51	Small copper-alloy strip, rectangular-sectioned and broken at one end, it has the appeared of a zip tag, 2.0g, modern. Fragment of copper-alloy sheet, 0.7g, modern. Fragment of lead, 1.0g.
T11 spoil	35	Complete copper-alloy tag/fixing with rounded terminals and holes (5mm diameter) at each end for fixing, <i>c</i> 67mm long, 9mm wide, 2.9g, modern. Fragment of lead, 0.5g.
T17 spoil	36	Complete brass military button, in poor condition, image is the Royal cypher with crown above and around the motto HONI SOIT QUI MAL Y PENSE, 21mm diameter, 3.1g, 20th century. Lead shotgun pellet, 0.2g, modern.
T26 spoil	-	Copper-alloy strip, folded and broken at above ends, 30m long (as folded), 4.4mm wide, 1.3g.
T34 spoil	24	Fragment of copper-alloy, 1.4g. Fragment of lead, 6.2g. Lead shotgun pellet, 0.3g, modern.
T35 spoil	32	Incomplete copper-alloy button, flat, plain or with design no longer legible, fixing missing, 28mm diameter, 5.8g, modern.
T37 spoil	33	Incomplete brass military button with fixing missing, in poor condition but appears to be a Royal cypher with crown above surround by a wreath, 20th century.

Table 15 Metal-detected finds, listed by trench (all discarded).

6.3 Clay pipe, glass and other miscellaneous material by Laura Pooley

A fragment of clay tobacco pipe stem was recovered from ditch F85. A fragment of intrusive modern glass was retrieved from pit F34 and a piece of intrusive modern plastic was found in ditch F24. Finally, two fragments of clinker/coke were found in pit F4, along with another fragment in pit F34. All of these finds have been recorded in the table below and discarded.

Context	Finds no.	Description
F4	1	Two fragments of clinker/coke, 4.7g.
F24	8	Fragment of plastic.
F34	28	Fragment of intrusive modern glass, 2.4g.
F34	<2>	Fragment of clinker/coke, 0.6g.
F85	26	Fragment of clay tobacco pipe stem, 3.7g, post-medieval.

Table 16 Clay tobacco pipe, glass and other miscellaneous material, listed by context (sample numbers shown as <>)

6.4 Flints

by Tabitha Lawrence and Adam Wightman

Introduction

Sixty-two worked flints were recovered during the evaluation. Twelve of these have been discarded as naturally fractured. In what follows, the attributes of the lithic assemblage will be described and discussed in turn. All the worked pieces have been tabulated and described in a catalogue included in the site archive.

The analysis of this assemblage has been completed in accordance with the Standard and guidance for the collection, documentation, conservation, and research of archaeological materials (ClfA 2014). The principal works cited include *Prehistoric Flintwork* (Butler 2005) and the *Classification of Lithic Artefacts from the British Late Glacial and Holocene Periods* (Ballin 2021). All the worked pieces were collected during excavation or recovered from environmental samples. The measurement of flakes follows the methodology devised by Saville (1980) and outlined by Butler (2005).

The flints were recovered from across the site, but there was a greater concentration towards the south and south-west. The site assemblage is dominated by flakes (68%) but does include a few retouched pieces as well as diagnostic tool types. An assemblage of 37 worked flints was recovered from prehistoric pit/ditch F104 in T26, in the centre of the site. The assemblage produced by this feature alone accounts for over half of the worked flints recovered during the evaluation.

Prehistoric or undated features

The majority of the worked flints were recovered from features which are undated and presumed prehistoric based on the presence of worked flints, or were dated by prehistoric pottery found within them. Three worked flints were also recovered from topsoil L1.

The three flints produced by L1 include a core fragment (potentially from a blade core with soft hammer knapping attributes) and two additional thick retouched flakes (one with abrupt retouch at the distal end and the other with abrupt retouch forming a notch). All three exhibit damage around the edges, consistent with post-depositional damage within the topsoil.

Three flakes were recovered from prehistoric pit F13. All three pieces exhibit evidence of soft hammer knapping. All the flakes are tertiary and exhibit plunge fractures. Prehistoric ditch F46 contained a tertiary soft hammer flake alongside a quantity of burnt stone. The flake exhibits possible use-wear or edge-damage long the left lateral edge. This flake has started to patinate at the distal end, but otherwise is a dark grey flint.

Only one find was recovered from undated posthole F106. This worked flint is most likely the distal end of a bladelet. It measures 12mm in length by 7mm in width. A large triangular flake from undated silt patch F111 is produced on a banded brown/grey flint with only a small amount of cortex remaining. The piece exhibits semi-abrupt retouch on the dorsal face.

Pit/ditch F104

The largest collection of worked flints from a single context was recovered from prehistoric pit/ditch F104. The feature was 50% sampled to enable further finds recovery. Worked flints were recovered both during excavation and from environmental sample <11>. Overall, 20 flakes, seven retouched pieces, and ten chips were collected. These will now be described in detail below.

Chips

The chips found in the assemblage are categorised as fragments smaller than 10mm in size (Butler 2005). Chips are further categorised as debitage and evidence of the *chaîne opératoire* (Ballin 2021). Five of them are long and thin, and one is possibly an axe thinning flake. Only three of the chips display any cortex.

Flakes

In total, 20 flakes were recovered from F104. The colour of the flints varies significantly and includes dark grey, opaque brown and mottled grey/brown. The cortex exhibited on the flakes appears stained and pitted, consistent with secondary sources of waterborne pebbles or nodules being utilised as a source for raw materials. Overall, nine of the flakes exhibit attributes of soft hammer knapping, including diffuse bulbs. One exhibits multi-directional removals and may be an axe thinning flake. Apart from three secondary flakes, these soft hammer flakes are all tertiary. Eleven are hard hammer flakes and are all relatively large and thick. All the flakes are in a fresh condition, with very little edge-chatter, suggesting a low level of post-depositional damage.

Retouched and formal tools

Seven retouched pieces were recovered from environmental sample <11>. Two were produced on dark grey flint and feature a minimal amount of semi-abrupt retouch on the right lateral edges.

Five scrapers measuring between 22mm-13mm in length and 16mm-11m in width were all produced on mid to dark grey/brown flint. One of the pieces exhibits invasive retouch on the left lateral edge but none on the right lateral edge, most likely the result of a break. The largest scraper has a small break on the right lateral edge but is otherwise in fresh condition. Invasive retouch covers the scraper's distal end, with abrupt retouch on the left lateral edge and distal end. The other three scrapers can be described as 'thumbnail' scrapers, aptly named for their size being that of an adult male's thumbnail. They are characteristically under 20mm in diameter (Butler, 2005). They are all in fresh condition despite these breaks. They have clear invasive retouch covering their dorsal faces, with two featuring abrupt retouch on their lateral edges. Two are tertiary flints and one has cortex covering 50% of its dorsal face. The cortex may have been an ergonomic decision as when held it aids grip on the scraper itself.

Context	Find no.	Context type	Туре	Cortex %	Hard/soft hammer	Platform prep	Modification
L1	25	Topsoil	core fragment (blade)	15	?soft	no	use-wear/edge-damage
F13 3 F46 22 F104 42			retouched flake?	80	hard	no	use-wear/edge-damage
			retouched flake	30	hard	no	use-wear/edge-damage
F13	-		flake	0	?soft	no	-
		ditch	flake	0	?soft	no	-
			flake	0	?soft	no	-
F46	22	Prehistoric ditch	flake	4	soft	yes	use-wear/edge-damage
F104	42	Early Bronze Age pit/ ditch	flake	5	hard	no	-
			flake	10	hard	no	-
			flake	0	soft	no	-
	<11>		preform scraper	0	soft	yes	invasive retouch on left lateral edge, dorsal face
			scraper	2	soft	no	abrupt and invasive retouch on left lateral edge and distal end, dorsal face
			thumbnail scraper	0	soft	no	abrupt retouch on left lateral edge, invasive retouch on distal end and right lateral edge, dorsal face
			thumbnail scraper	55	soft	no	invasive retouch at left and right lateral, distal end, dorsal face
			thumbnail scraper	10	soft	no	invasive retouch at left and right lateral, distal end,

							dorsal face
			retouched flake	0	?soft	yes	-
			retouched flake	20	?soft	?yes	-
			long chip/ debitage	0	soft	?no	-
			long chip/ debitage	0	soft	yes	-
			long chip/ debitage	0	soft	yes	-
			long chip/ debitage	0	soft	no	use-wear/edge-damage
			long chip/ debitage	20	soft	no	-
			chip	0	soft	no	-
			chip	10	soft	no	-
			?chip	30	soft	no	-
			chip	0	soft	no	-
			chip (?axe thinning)	20	soft	no	-
			flake	0	soft	no	-
			flake	5	hard	no	-
			flake	10	hard	no	-
			flake	35	hard	no	-
			flake	60	hard	no	-
			flake	20	hard	no	-
			flake	0	hard	no	-
			?flake	30	hard	no	edge-damage on right lateral edge
			flake	5	hard	no	-
			flake	10	soft	no	-
			flake	0	hard	no	-
			flake	0	soft	no	-
			flake	15	soft	no	-
			flake	10	soft	no	-
			flake	90	soft	no	-
			flake	0	soft	no	-
			flake	15	soft	no	-
F106	41	Undated posthole	flake/ bladelet (distal end)	45	soft	no	-
F111	45	Undated silt patch	retouched flake	5	hard	no	semi-abrupt on left lateral edge dorsal face

Table 17 Worked flints from the prehistoric or undated contexts

Roman or later features

Six worked flints were residual within features dated to the Roman period or later. A soft hammer flake from Roman ditch F20 exhibits a small amount of abrupt retouch on the right lateral edge on the dorsal face. Two hard hammer flakes (one secondary and one tertiary) and a blade were recovered from Roman pit F34. Use-wear or edge-damage is visible on the distal end of the blade, as well as a small break on the right lateral edge. The soft hammer knapping and technological attributes would date the blade to the mid or late Neolithic period.

A single hard hammer flake was recovered from modern pit F4. The flake has a hinge fracture and has no evidence of retouch or use-wear/edge-damage. A secondary retouched flake was

also retrieved from undated ditch F88 (sx2), which also produced an iron nail. The flake exhibits a line of abrupt continuous retouch at the flake's distal end.

Context no.	Find no.	Context type		Cortex %	Hard/ soft hammer	Platform prep	Modification
F4	1	Modern pit	flake	20	hard	no	-
F20	7	Roman ditch	retouched flake	10	soft	?yes	abrupt retouch on right lateral edge, dorsal face.
F34	15	Roman pit	flake	15	hard	no	-
			flake	0	hard	no	-
	28		blade	45	?soft	yes	use-wear/ edge-damage
F88 sx2	46	Undated ditch	retouched flake	5	hard	no	abrupt retouch on distal end, ventral face

 Table 18
 Worked flints from Roman and post-Roman contexts

Discussion

The assemblage from this evaluation indicates the presence of prehistoric activity across the site, mirroring the findings of previous investigations in the vicinity. During 2020-21, an assemblage of sixty-six flints was recovered from Bronze Age and other prehistoric features during excavations at Lanswood Park (CAT Report 1575). This assemblage contained several retouched flakes as well as end scrapers and a possible hammer stone. Of the sixty-six flints found, 33 were retrieved from a single Middle Bronze Age pit (F126). In 2022, seven worked flints were recovered during a trial-trenching evaluation carried out on land north of Clacton Road. These including a barbed and tanged arrowhead and retouched pieces (CAT Report 1880). The most diagnostic piece, the arrowhead, was dated as Early Bronze Age (2500-1500BC). These sites are less than 200m west of the current investigation area. Therefore, this assemblage adds to our current understanding of prehistoric activity within the area.

Pit/ditch F104 is significant as it contains most of the worked flints found on site including a group of scrapers. The scrapers are all in relatively good condition and have a fresh appearance. The reasoning behind their deposition in a relatively large number is unknown. Debitage is present in the form of chips and flakes, indicating knapping did take place in the vicinity of the feature. The flakes are mostly knapped by soft hammer percussion and only two show evidence of retouch. Thumbnail or button scrapers are described as distinctively Early Bronze Age (Butler 2005), and the additional worked flint in the feature supports this date.

Conclusion

One residual blade, which is likely to be Neolithic in date, was recovered. However, the scarcity of blade or bladelet technology and the overall character of the worked flints assemblage supports a probable Early to Middle Bronze Age date.

The presence of Early Bronze Age activity is especially evident in the assemblage from F104, and correlates to previous findings west of the site. The recovery of scrapers suggests activities linked to the processing of organic material, such as wood, bone or hide (Waddington 2004). Their small size suggests these activities may have required precision and skill. However, further understanding the context of this feature in the wider prehistoric landscape would require further investigations at the site.

6.4 Burnt (heat-altered) flint

by Tabitha Lawrence

Burnt (heat-altered) flint was recovered from eight features. These eight features produced small quantities of burnt flint, representing only a background scatter of material rather than any significant and deliberate deposits. However, there was a slightly larger assemblage of ten pieces from pit F46 which was accompanied by a soft hammer flake.

Flint occurs naturally in the underlying gravel deposits. The burnt flints were small- to mediumsized irregular broken pieces, cracked and crazed from the heat and discoloured various shades of white (calcified), grey, pink, red and black. A few of the burnt flints were recovered with worked flints, namely in features F20 and F46. None of these worked flints showed evidence of heat treatment as described by Butler (2005). This material has been recorded in Table 19 below and discarded.

Context	Finds	Description
	no.	
F15	6	One piece, 14.5g, cracked, burnt pink and red
F20	7	One piece, 3.3g, cracked and crazed, burnt various shades of white and grey
F34	15	Two pieces, 6.7g, cracked, burnt various shades of pink and red
F34	28	One piece, 40.8g, cracked and crazed, burnt various shades of white, grey, and black.
F44	19	Four pieces, 69.8g, cracked and crazed, burnt various shades of white, grey, red, and black.
F46	22	Ten pieces, 136.4g, cracked and crazed, burnt various shades of white, grey, pink and red.
F107	44	One piece, 7.8g, cracked and crazed, burnt white and grey
F108	43	Two pieces, 3g, cracked and crazed, burnt various shades of white, pink and dark red

Table 19 Burnt (heat-altered) flint, listed by context

6.6 Animal bone

by Alec Wade

The evaluation produced an assemblage of 76 small bone fragments (totalling only 15g) from two Roman features: pit F34 (T34) and ditch F94 (T22). All this material was burnt except for one piece from F34. No positive identification of species was possible due to the small fragment size (ranging between 7-22mm) and the calcined state of the bone (with associated shrinkage, cracking and distortion of the pieces) though it is likely that most pieces are of sheep or goat sized mammals.

Pit F34

This feature produced 69 small fragments of bone weighing a total of 13g. The material was recovered by both hand collection and by sieved environmental sample. The single fragment of bone that had not been burnt appears to be a possible working off-cut. One edge had been cut using a saw, a tool generally not utilised prior to the post-medieval period for butchery but restricted to more specialised use in craft and industry. This fragment of unburnt bone appears to be intrusive within this feature.

<sample> or finds number</sample>	No.	Fragment size	Weight (g)	Burnt colour	Description
16	1	12mm	<1g	White	(1) Unidentified, possibly a rib fragment?
28 Fill A second half	1	12mm	<1g	White	(1) Unidentified, possibly part of the distal articular surface of a sheep or goat sized animals' 1st phalanx?
<2>	1	16mm	<1g	Not burnt	(1) Very small diaphysis fragment from a sheep or goat sized animal. One edge has been created by a transverse saw cut.
<4>	33	7 – 21mm	6g	White	(2) Rib fragments from a sheep/goat sized animal. (11) Diaphysis fragments from a sheep/goat sized animal. Though largely undiagnostic, they may include tibia fragments. (19) Unidentified fragments, probably including more diaphysis pieces and some small pieces

<9> Fill C	69	7 – 23mm	4g	White/grey - white	(3) Rib fragments from a sheep/goat sized animal. (3) Diaphysis fragments from a sheep/goat sized animal. (27) Unidentified pieces, may include some very small cranial/mandible fragments? Probably sheep or goat sized mammal at largest.
					of articular surface. (1) fragment of a sheep/goat sized carpal or tarsal?

Table 20 Animal bone from pit F34

F94 (T22)

The small quantity of bone from this ditch was all hand collected. No particularly diagnostic pieces were present and though not conclusive, the general robustness and form of some of the fragments suggest they are also from sheep- or goat-sized animals.

Finds number	No.	Fragment size	Weight (g)	Burnt colour	Description
40	7	8 – 22mm	2g	White	 (2) Cranial fragments, probably from a sheep or goat sized mammal. (1) Rib fragment from a sheep/goat sized animal. (2) Diaphysis fragments from a sheep/goat sized animal. (1) Vertebrae fragment? Sheep/goat sized mammal or larger?
Total	7	-	2g	-	-

Table 21 Animal bone from ditch F94

7 Human bone

by Megan Beale

Introduction

A single urned cremation (F31) was recovered during the evaluation. The urn was within a suboval pit and contained no other finds. The urn itself was in poor condition and subjected to plough damage. Less than half of the pot remained and was fragmented. A small quantity of burnt bone was able to be recovered from the urn, but this likely represents a small percentage of the original contents. The cremation is Roman based on dating of the urn.

Methodology

Excavation, treatment and recovery of suspected human bone followed recommended practice from ClfA (McKinley & Roberts 1993). This report follows guidelines by ClfA for recording human remains (Mitchell & Brickley 2004 & 2018).

The urn was block-lifted on site and micro-excavated by the osteologist in post-excavation. As the pot was so damaged, it was attempted to be excavated in 5cm spits. The spits were then separately wet-sieved with bone and any other finds kept for analysis.

All cremated bone was weighed and counted by fragment size, colour, identifiable skeletal elements within their spits. Fragments under 3mm were weighed only and not counted.

Minimum number of individuals (MNI) was estimated using the most common element and side present (e.g. two left femora = MNI of two), where possible. Age and sex was estimated using

Buikstra & Ubelaker (1994) and Schaefer *et al* (2005) unless otherwise stated. Heat-induced fractures were classified as per Symes *et al* (2015, 46-47).

Ages were organised into age groups (Table 22) but were also given specific age ranges where possible.

Age Group	Age Range
Foetal	 birth
Infant	birth-3 years old
Child	3-12 years old
Adolescent	12-20 years old
Young Adult	20-35 years old
Middle Adult	35-50 years old
Old Adult	50 years old+
Adult	20-50 years old

Table 22 Age groups

Results

Quantification and Preservation

Modern adult cremations typically weigh between 1,000g and 3,600g, whereas archaeological cremains of undisturbed single adults have weighed from 57g to 3,000g (McKinley 2000, 404, 409). The cremains recovered from F31 weighed 87.52g with 406 fragments (Table 23). The largest fragment was 28.6mm long. Most fragments were recovered from around the urn (sample no. 1) which may have been due to disturbance of the feature.

Sample no.	Description	Weight (g)	Fragment count
<1>	Fill around urn	45.19	197
<12>	Spit 1	24.96	121
<12>	Spit 2	12.53	62
<12>	Spit 3	4.84	26

Table 23 Cremated bone by spit from F31

Most fragments from the cremation were between 3-5mm in size (Table 24), with very few over 10mm.

Sample no. Description		<3mm	3-5m	3-5mm		5-7mm		7-10mm		10mm+	
<1>	Fill around urn	10.75g	13.8g	148	10.51g	39	6.33g	8	3.8g	2	
<12>	Spit 1	5.97g	7.75g	94	5.23g	22	3.35g	4	2.66g	1	
<12>	Spit 2	5.07g	3.63g	49	2.24g	10	1.59g	3	0g	0	
<12>	Spit 3	1.95g	1.56g	22	1.33g	4	0g	0	0g	0	
	Total:	23.74g	26.74g	313	19.31g	75	11.27g	15	6.46g	3	

Table 24 Cremated bone by fragment size for each spit from F31 (key: weight (g); fragment count)

Heat-related changes

The heat source used to cremate human remains can reach temperatures of up to 1400°C and usually burns for at 1-3+ hours to complete the cremation process (McKinley 2000, 406-407). Completely white bone fragments indicate fully oxidised bone, whereas black or brown bone denotes charring only.

As Table 25 shows, most of the cremated bone was completely white. Although not all the bone has survived, this is likely a true representation of the cremation process. This consistent white

colour implies all remains were burnt to a temperature of at least 650°c (Devlin & Herrmann 2015, 121) for a significant amount of time.

Sample no.	Description	Whi	ite	White-grey		
<1>	Fill around urn	44.19g	194	1g	3	
<12>	Spit 1	24.96g	121	0g	0	
<12>	Spit 2	12.53g	62	0g	0	
<12>	Spit 3	4.84g	26	0g	0	

Table 25 Cremated bone by colour changes from F31 (key: weight (g); fragment count)

Dehydration of human bone during cremation causes various types of cracks, fissures, warping and shrinkage. As per Symes *et al* (2015), there are seven fracture types associated with cremated human bone: longitudinal, step, transverse, patina, splintering and delamination, burn line fractures, and curved transverse.

Longitudinal fractures were most noted, especially among long bone fragments. Occasional transverse and curved transverse fractures were also seen. Patina fractures were noted in skull and vertebral fragments. Splintering, delamination and burn lines were not seen. Abnormal warping was not seen.

Demographic assessment

The cremains recovered from F31 suggest an MNI of one. As the remains were highly fragmented, plus the feature itself was highly disturbed and therefore incomplete, osteological assessment was difficult. Some identifiable fragments suggest a possible adult. Sex could not be estimated. No pathologies were noted from the fragments recovered.

Conclusion

A single urned, but disturbed cremation was encountered during the evaluation. Unfortunately, the quantity of bone recovered was less than 100g, making assessment somewhat limited. The context and high fragmentation of the bone is evidence of a formal cremation process followed by an intentional burial of the remains. No pyre or grave goods were encountered. The remains may have been that of an adult.

8 Environmental assessment

by Bronagh Rae-Quinn

Introduction

Twelve samples were taken during the evaluation. They were taken from Roman cremation burial F31, early/mid 2nd-century pit F34, prehistoric pit/ditch F104 and undated pit F90 (Table 26).

Sample no.	Context	Feature type	% Sampled	Provisional date	Sample volume (L.)
1	F31	Cremation burial	30	Roman	10
2	F34	Pit	40	Early/mid-2nd century	40
3	F34	Pit	10	Early/mid-2nd century	20
4	F34	Pit	50	Early/mid-2nd century	30
5	F34	Pit	5	Early/mid-2nd century	10
6	F34 fill A	Pit	40	Early/mid-2nd century	40
7	F34 fill A	Pit	10	Early/mid-2nd century	10
8	F34 fill B	Pit	50	Early/mid-2nd century	10
9	F34 fill C	Pit	40	Early/mid-2nd century	20
10	F90	Pit	50	Undated	10
11	F104	Pit/ditch	25	Prehistoric	50

12 F31 Cremation burial	100	Roman	30	
-------------------------	-----	-------	----	--

Table 26 Sample information

Sampling and processing methods

All samples were floated by a trained member of CAT staff and analysed by the author. Nomenclature for all plant remains is taken from Stace (2010). All samples were processed using a serif-style flotation device which produced a flot and a larger residue, both of which were analysed by the author. Flots were collected in a 300-micron mesh and scanned using a microscope (magnification x10), while the larger residues were scanned by eye and any charcoal/charred wood removed by hand.

Results (Appendix 2)

All samples bar two had very small flots (i.e., <0.1L in volume) with minimal environmental material. Low densities of charred cereal grains of barley (*Hordeum vulgare.*) and wheat (*Triticum sp., Triticum spelta*) were present in all but four of the samples taken, with wheat glume bases also present in a majority. Charred seeds of brome (*Bromus sp.*) and sedge (*Carex sp.*) were likewise identified in low densities. A low density of hazelnut (*Corylus avellana L.*) and a single indeterminate small legume were noted.

Intrusive modern seeds of dry land herbs such as saltbush (*Atriplex sp.*), black bindweed (*Fallopia colvolvulus L.*), fumitory (*Fumaria officinalis L.*), knotgrass (*Pologonum aviculare L.*), dock (*Rumex sp.*) and ivy-leaved speedwell (*Veronica hederifolia L.*) were present throughout the samples. Single specimens of blackberry (*Rubus fruticosus L.*) and elderberry (*Sambucus nigra L.*) were also noted.

Flots from samples 10 and 12 contained no environmental evidence and were therefore discarded.

Discussion

Samples taken from pit F34 produced all the evidence for cereals on site in the form of grains and some chaff (glume bases). However, many of the grains were of too poor a quality to identify further than general identifications of barley and wheat. The presence of a relatively high amount of glume bases is interesting, as it is indicative of a point in the threshing process where the grains were charred. Cereal grains would have been parched next to a fire to dry and easily remove the grains from their husks (Hekbaek 1952), so the presence of glumes suggests that the grains were accidentally charred early on in this process. It is likely that this material represents a purposeful dump of material within this pit.

The sample taken from pit/ditch F104 produced a small amount (<10 specimens) of hazelnut shell. While hazelnut was a common food source throughout prehistory (Renfrew 1973), such a small amount would not be enough to speculate as to their use on this site. It is more likely that these fragments represent detritus rather than an intentional deposit.

Potential, significance and recommendations

The samples taken during this investigation produced an overall low density of environmental material which included wheat, barley, and a small number of hazelnut fragments. While the hazelnut fragments were well preserved and identifiable, the same cannot be said for the grains in F34. Further testing i.e., radiocarbon dating of the grains and hazelnut fragments would be possible, however, it is not recommended at this time due to the features already containing abundant dating evidence. It is recommended that any future works continue to take soil samples in line with the CAT environmental policies outlined in the WSI.

9 Conclusion

Some 120 features were recorded during evaluation at this site: 76 ditches, 15 pits, eight gullies, a cremation burial, two post-holes, three pits or post-holes, two pits or ditches, one ditch or gully, one area of disturbance or pit, one area of disturbance or plough scar, one pit or tree-throw, one pit or natural feature, three ditches or natural features, one gully or natural feature,

three tree-throws or natural features and a silt patch. These features were fairly evenly distributed, although they were sparser at the northern and southern edges of the site. A paucity of finds meant that 74 (61%) of these features could not be dated. The investigation identified six phases of activity at the site: the first occurring during the Late Neolithic to the Early Bronze Age, the second during the Middle and Late Bronze Age, a third phase during the Early Roman period, a fourth during the 2nd and 3rd centuries, a fifth during the post-medieval period and a final phase during the modern period.

Late Neolithic/Early Bronze Age

Excavations at the site revealed evidence of periodic activity through the late prehistoric era. The earliest remains uncovered during the evaluation were Late Neolithic or Early Bronze Age ditch F41/F87 sx1 (T24 & T25) and pit or tree-throw F101 (T27), located within the centre of the site. The first feature produced sherds from a grog-tempered orange/brown coloured urn while the second contained sherds from a flint- and grog-tempered orange/brown Bell beaker, a pottery assemblage which indicates occupation in the vicinity. Also uncovered within this part of the site was pit or ditch F104 (T26), which produced the largest worked flint assemblage, consisting of 37 flints. These were dated to the Early Bronze Age, and evidenced the occurrence of flint production at the site. The pottery and flint assemblages recovered from these features provide evidence of habitation here during an earlier period than previous investigations carried out in the vicinity, which – aside from a single isolated Early Bronze Age pit uncovered during excavations to the south-east at Lanswood Park (CAT Report 1575) – have not revealed any evidence of significant activity in the area before the Late Bronze Age or Early Iron Age.

Middle Bronze Age/Late Bronze Age

In the north-western part of the site, an isolated Middle or Late Bronze Age feature, ditch F39/F117 was uncovered across trenches T11 and T5, respectively. The ditch contained sherds from a sand-tempered urn or bowl dating to the Middle or Late Bronze Age, indicating occupation at the site during this period too.

Prehistoric

A scatter of features – F13 (T44), F33 (T34), F46 (T15) and F114 (T7) – could only be dated to the prehistoric period more broadly. These features were fairly evenly distributed and did not exhibit any particular concentration.

Residual prehistoric artefacts were recovered from several features, particularly in the south-western corner of the site. Residual prehistoric pottery was recovered from F18 (T35), F25 (T35), F29 (T30), F34 (T34) and F116 (T34), while residual worked flints were present in F20 (T23), F34 (T34), F88 (T21), F106 (T12) and F111 (T12).

It should be noted that while features dating to the Iron Age were encountered during the excavations north of Clacton Road (CAT Report 1880) and at Lanswood Park, no remains dating to this period were recorded during the present investigation.

Early Roman

Early Roman remains were concentrated in the south-western corner of the site, in trenches T29, T30, T34 and T35, and consisted of a series of six ditches. Four of these ditches corresponded to a cropmark indicating the presence of a rectilinear enclosure, and another of the ditches represented a continuation of this feature. Some of these ditches produced significant assemblages of Late Iron Age or Roman pottery, particularly F18 (T35), which contained 79 sherds, including some deriving from the Cam 108 beaker and Cam 243-244/246 bowl, and F29 (T30), which contained four sherds from a Gallo-Belgic terra nigra platter, dating from *c* 20 BC until *c* AD 69. A piece of quernstone was recovered from F28 (T29), and fragments of baked clay were also found in F18, F27 (T30) and F116.

Together, these remains indicate occupation in the vicinity during this period, with evidence of animal husbandry, crop production and possibly the existence of a structure. Perhaps significantly, a number of post-holes were also uncovered in the midst of this cluster of Early

Roman remains. These may represent the remains of the putative structure, although no dating evidence was recovered from any of these features to confirm this. It is possible that this Early Roman activity was related to the pottery production occurring to the north during AD 43-69 (CAT Report 1880) and to the Late Iron Age or early Roman enclosure at Lanswood Park (CAT Report 1575).

An urned cremation burial, F31, was uncovered in trench T17, at the centre of the site. It was not possible to closely date this feature beyond the Roman period. However, the abovementioned Late Iron Age or early Roman enclosure uncovered at Lanswood Park contained two cremation burials, and it is possible that the cremation burial revealed during the present investigation may belong to this same phase of activity.

Roman

A third phase of activity occurred later in the Roman period and was associated with the establishment of a farmed estate to the south-east at the Lanswood Park site during the late 1st or early 2nd century. The predominating feature dating to this period was a droveway previously identified during excavations at Lanswood Park, which entered the farmstead from the west. Ditches F96 (T26) and F76 (T33) represented the northern track of the droveway 2 while ditches F42 (T15), F103 (T32) and F78 (T39) represented its southern track. No dating evidence was recovered from these features but the previous investigation established that it had been backfilled during the period from the late 2nd to the late 3rd century (CAT Report 1575). The absence of finds in these features is perhaps significant, and possibly indicates that this area lay some distance away from the main centre of activity at the Lanswood Park farmstead. Additionally, in contrast to the excavations at Lanswood Park, only two sherds of Roman CBM were recovered, from F18 and F28. At the aforementioned site, the large quantity of Roman CBM recovered was regarded as evidencing the close proximity of a Roman structure. The relative paucity of CBM recovered during the present investigation provides further indication that the present site formed a hinterland of activity at the farmstead.

Perhaps the most significant feature dating to this period was pit F34 (T34), which dated to AD 125-150. Some 572 sherds of Late Iron Age or Roman pottery were recovered from this feature alone. This assemblage was divisible into two distinct components: the first consisting of early Roman vessels in fabrics characteristic to the pottery industry which existed slightly to the north during AD 43-69; the second consisting of vessels in greyware and black surface wares not produced by the aforementioned industry, some of which dated to the late 2nd century. The pit also produced 13 fragments of daub and 127 fragments of baked clay, some of which may have been fragments of kiln furniture and supports, suggesting that the remains of a kiln lie nearby. Additionally, it contained barley and wheat grains and chaff, indicating that these crops were being grown and harvested here during this period.

Pit F34 complicates the periodisation of activity within the area indicated by previous investigations, which have suggested a quite well-defined division between a Claudian-Neronian phase of occupation, represented by the Elmstead pottery industry uncovered to the north of Clacton Road, which apparently ceased in AD 69, perhaps disrupted by the Boudiccan revolt, and a subsequent establishment of a farmed estate at Lanswood Park in the late 1st or early 2nd century. Located in the midst of early Roman remains in the south-western part of the site, the assemblage of finds recovered from this feature might suggest a continuous phase of activity in the area. Equally, it may be that the early Roman pottery recovered from this feature is residual, although the large quantity of this material suggests that this is unlikely.

A series of ditches were uncovered which could only be dated to the Roman period more broadly: F92 (T16), F32 (T17) and F20 (T23); F89 (T21), F94 (T22) and F100 (T27); F74 (T18); and F24 (T35). It is likely that these represent boundaries delineating a field system located to the west of the farmstead at Lanswood Park.

Post-medieval

The next phase of activity occurred during the post-medieval period. The primary features originating during this phase were ditches F88 (T21, T22 & T27); F55 or F56 (T24), F85 or F86

(T25), F87 sx2 (T32) and F45 (T39); and F43 (T37) and F11 (T41), which correspond to field boundaries depicted on tithe mapping of the area compiled in 1844 (see Map 1 below).

Map 1 Extract from tithe map, 1844. Field boundary ditches indicated by blue arrows

The other features dating to this period were gullies F107 (T16) and F16 (T40). The latter feature was dated to the medieval or post-medieval periods on the basis of peg-tile recovered from its fill and has been assigned to this phase of activity. Like the ditches described above, these features are likely agricultural in origin.

Modern

Modern features consisted of ?pit F4 (T44), truncation or plough scar F30 (T30) and disturbance or pit F53 (T5). Again, these are likely the product of agricultural activity.

Undated

Seventy-four features, or some 61% of those recorded, could not be dated.

Cropmarks

Some of the trenches were positioned to target a series of cropmarks across the site. While a number of features which might correspond to these cropmarks were uncovered (see Fig 2), in other cases potentially corresponding remains were not detected. It is possible that these cropmarks denoted the presence of land disturbances which did not reach the natural geology.

10 Acknowledgements

CAT would like to thank E&M Design Partnership and Lauren Nicole Homes Ltd for commissioning and funding the project. The project was managed by C Lister and A Wightman, with fieldwork carried out by N Rayner with M Perou, Z Eksen, M Beale, A Smith, C Hodges, T Lawrence, C Hill and A Parker. Figures were compiled by C Lister, Z Eksen, E Hicks and E Holloway. The project was monitored for ECCPS by Mark Baister.

11 References

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

Baker, P & Worley, F	2019	Animal bones and archaeology: recovery to archive (Swindon: Historic England)
Ballin, TB	2021	Classification of Lithic Artefacts from British Late Glacial and Holocene Periods (Oxford: Archaeopress Publishing Ltd.)
Benfield, S	2007	'The Late Iron Age and Roman pottery from the enclosure ditches and the ditches of ?mortuary enclosure BF32 and CF43-6', in P Crummy, S Benfield, N Crummy, V Rigby & D Shimmin (eds.), <i>Stanway: an elite burial site at Camulodunum</i> (Britannia Monograph Series 24) (London: The Society for the Promotion of Roman Studies), 275-289
Brickley, M & McKinkey, JI (eds.)	2004	Guidelines to the Standards for Recording Human Remains. If A Paper No. 7 (Southampton & Reading: BABAO & Institute of Field Archaeologists)
Brown, N & Glazebrook, J	2000	Research and Archaeology: A Framework for the Eastern Counties 2. Research agenda and strategy. East Anglian Archaeology Occasional
Buikstra, JE & Ubelaker, DH (eds.)	1994	Paper 8 (EAA 8) Standards for data collection from human skeletal remains (Fayetteville: Arkansas Archaeological Survey Research Series 44)
Butler, C	2005	Prehistoric flintwork (London: Tempus Pub Ltd.)
Cappers, RJT, Bekker, RM & Jans, JEA	2006	Digital Zadenatlas Van Nederlands - Digital Seeds Atlas of the Netherlands (Groningen: Barkhius Publishing)
CAR 7	2000	Colchester Archaeological Report 7: Post-Roman pottery from excavations in Colchester, 1971-85 (Colchester: Colchester
CAR 10	1999	Archaeological Trust Ltd.), by J Cotter Colchester Archaeological Report 10: Roman pottery from excavations in Colchester, 1971-86 (Colchester: Colchester Archaeological Trust Ltd.), by R Symonds & S Wade
CAT	2023	Health & Safety Policy
CAT	2024	Written Scheme of Investigation for an archaeological evaluation by trial-trenching and excavation on land north of Beth Chatto's Gardens, Elmstead Market, Essex, CO7 7DB
CAT Report 1094	2017	Archaeological evaluation at Blue Barn Farm, Clacton Road, Elmstead Market, Essex, CO7 7DF: April 2017, by L Pooley
CAT Report 1209	2018	Archaeological evaluation at Blue Barn Farm (Phase 2, Plots 6 and 7), Clacton Road, Elmstead Market, Essex, CO7 7DF: December 2017, by E Holloway
CAT Report 1320	2018	Archaeological evaluation on land adjacent to Market Field School, Elmstead Market, Essex, CO7 7ET: August 2018, by E Hicks
CAT Report 1527	2020	Archaeological evaluation at Forres, Clacton Road, Elmstead Market, Essex, CO7 7DD: February 2020, by E Hicks
CAT Report 1575	2022	A prehistoric ring-ditch and Roman landscape at Lanswood Park, Elmstead Market, Essex: evaluation and excavation (June-July 2020 and March-June 2021), by H Brooks
CAT Report 1880	2023	Archaeological evaluation on land north of Clacton Road, Elmstead Market, Essex, CO7 7FD: November-December 2022, by L Pooley & E Hicks
CIfA	2020a	Standard and guidance for the creation, compilation, transfer and deposition of archaeological archives. CIfA Chartered Institute for
CIfA	2020b	Archaeologists; published 2014, revised 2020 Standard and guidance for the collection, documentation, conservation and research of archaeological materials. ClfA Chartered
CIfA	2022	Institute for Archaeologists; published 2014, revised 2020 Code of Conduct. ClfA Chartered Institute for Archaeologists;
CIfA	2023a	published 2014, revised 2022 Standard for archaeological field evaluation. CIfA Chartered Institute
CIfA	2023b	for Archaeologists <i>Universal guidance for archaeological field evaluation</i> . ClfA Chartered Institute for Archaeologists
Cohen, A &	1996 (rev	A manual for the identification of bird bones from archaeological sites
Serjeantson, D	ed.)	(London: Archetype Publications)
Devlin, JB &	2015	'Bone Colour', in C Schmidt & S Symes (eds.), <i>The Analysis of Burned</i>
Herrmann, NP	(2nd ed.)	Human Remains (London: Academic Press), pp. 119-138

ECCPS	2023	Brief for Archaeological Evaluation at Land North of and Including
		Access Road to Beth Chatto's Gardens, Clacton Road, Elmstead, by M Baister
Gurney, D	2003	Standards for field archaeology in the East of England. East Anglian Archaeology Occasional Papers 14 (EAA 14)
Hawkes, CFC & Hull, MR	1947	Camulodunum: First Report on the Excavation at Colchester 1930- 1939 (RRCSAL 14) (Oxford: The Society of Antiquaries, London)
Helbaek , H	1952	'Early crops in southern England', <i>Proceedings of the Prehistoric Society</i> 18 , 194-233.
Hillson, S	2016	Mammal bones and teeth: an introductory guide to methods of identification (Abingdon: Routledge)
Historic England	2015	Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment (MoRPHE)
Hull, MR	1958	Roman Colchester (RRCSAL 20) (Oxford: The Society of Antiquaries, London)
Jacomet, S et al	2006 (2nd ed.)	Identification of cereal remains from archaeological sites (Basel: Basel University Archaeobotany Lab IPAS)
Loughton, ME Manning, WH	In prep 1985	Colchester Institute pottery Catalogue of the Romano-British Iron Tools, Fittings and Weapons in the British Museum (London: British Museum Press)
McKinley, JI	2000	'Cremation burials', in B Barber & D Bowsher (eds.), <i>The eastern cemetery of Roman London, Excavations 1983-1990</i> (London: Museum of London Archaeological Services Monograph 4), pp. 264-277
McKinley, JI & Roberts, C	1993	Excavation and post-excavation treatment of cremated and inhumed human remains (Birmingham: IfA Technical Paper Number 13)
Medlycott, M	2008	Tendring District Historic Environment Characterisation Project. Essex County Council Historic Environment Team
Medlycott, M	2011	Research and archaeology revisited: A revised framework for the East of England. East Anglian Archaeology Occasional Papers 24 (EAA 24)
MHCLG	2023	National Planning Policy Framework. Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government
Mitchell, PD & Brickley, M (eds.)	2018	Updated Guidelines to the Standards for Recording Human Remains (Southampton & Reading: BABAO & Institute of Field Archaeologists)
Niblett, R	1985	Sheepen: an early Roman industrial site at Camulodunum (CBA Research report 57) (London: Council for British Archaeology)
Renfrew, J	1973	Palaeoethnobotany: The prehistoric food plants of the Near East and Europe (New York: Columbia University Press)
Ryan, P	1996	Brick in Essex from the Roman Conquest to the Reformation (Chelmsford: Pat Ryan)
Saville, A	1980	'On the measurement of Struck Flakes and Flake Tools', <i>Lithics</i> 1 , 16-20
Schaefer, M, Black, S & Scherer, L	2009	Juvenile Osteology: A Laboratory and Field Manual (London: Academic Press)
Schmid, E	1972	Atlas of animal bones (Amsterdam: Elsevier Publishing Company)
Sealey, PR	1999	'Finds from the cauldron pit', in O Bedwin (ed.), <i>The Archaeology of Ardleigh, Essex: Excavations, 1955-1980</i> (Chelmsford: East Anglian
Sealey, PR	2018	Archaeology Report) 'Late Iron Age ceramic spouted strainer bowls from Heybridge Elms Farm', Essex Archaeology and History 9 , 168-170
Sealey, PR & Wardley, K.V	2021	Crownthorpe: A Boudican Hoard of Bronze vessels from early Roman Norfolk (East Anglian Archaeology Report 175) (Chelmsford: Essex County Council)
Stace, C	2010 (3rd ed.)	New Flora of the British Isles (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press)
Symes, SA, Rainwater, CW, Chapman, EN, Gipson, DR & Piper, AL	2015 (2nd ed.)	Patterned Thermal Destruction in a Forensic Setting', in CW Schmidt, & SA Symes (eds.), <i>The Analysis of Burned Human Remains</i> (Cambridge MA: Academic Press), 17-59
Thompson, I	1982	Grog-tempered 'Belgic' pottery of south-eastern England (Oxford: BAR British Series 108)
Tomber, R & Dore, J	1998	The National Roman Fabric Reference Collection: A Handbook (London: Museum of London Archaeology Service)

Waddington, C 2004 The Joy of Flint (Newcastle-upon-Tyne: Museum of Antiquities)

12 Abbreviations and glossary

Bronze Age period from c 2500 – 700 BC
CAT Colchester Archaeological Trust
CBM ceramic building material, i.e. brick/tile
ClfA Chartered Institute for Archaeologists

context a single unit of excavation, which is often referred to numerically, and can be any

feature, layer or find

cremains cremated remains (burnt bone)

ECC Essex County Council

ECCHEA Essex County Council Historic Environment Advisor

ECCPS Essex County Council Place Services EHER Essex Historic Environment Record

feature (F) an identifiable thing like a pit, a wall, a drain: can contain 'contexts'

grave goods items placed in the deceased's grave. In a cremation context, they will have been place

in the grave after cremation, and so will be unburnt

Iron Age period from 700 BC to Roman invasion of AD 43 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

Neolithic period from c 4000 – 2500 BC 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

prehistoric pre-Roman

pyre debris burnt material that is considered residue from the cremation process. It may contain

charcoal, burnt human and/or animal bone

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

unurned a cremation that has been deposited into the ground, either poured into a pit, or placed in a cloth or material bag first

in a cloth or material bag ins

urned a cremation that has been deposited into the ground contained in a pot or similar

vessel. It may have a lid

WSI written scheme of investigation

13 Contents of archive

Finds: pottery, flints, human remains

Digital:

CAT Report 2036

ECC evaluation brief, CAT written scheme of investigation

Site digital photographs

Graphic files Site data Survey data

14 Archive deposition

The 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 and Ipswich Museums (finds archive) and the Archaeology Data Service (digital archive).

© Colchester Archaeological Trust 2024

Distribution list:

Peter Le Grys (Stanfords)
South East Developments Ltd
ECC Place Services Historic Environment Advisor
Essex Historic Environment Record, Essex County Council

Appendix 1 Context list

Context	Trench no.	Finds no.2	Interpretation	Context information	Period
L1	All	25	Topsoil	Loose/soft, moist medium/dark grey/brown sandy-silty-loam with charcoal and CBM flecks	Modern
L2	All	-	Natural	Friable, dry medium orange sand with 70% gravel	Post-glacial
L3	T24	-	Subsoil/cover loam	Soft, moist medium yellow/brown sandy-silt	Undated
		T	T	T	Г
F1	T43	-	Ditch	Soft, moist medium grey sandy-silt with 1% stones	Undated
F2	T43	-	Ditch	Soft, moist medium/dark yellow/grey/brown sandy-silt with 1% stones	Undated
F3	T44	-	Ditch	Friable, dry medium brown sandy-silt with 1% stones	Undated
F4	T44	1	?Pit	Soft, moist light brown sandy-silt with 1% stones	Modern
F5	T43	-	Pit/ditch	Soft, moist medium grey/brown sandy-silt with 2% stones	Undated
F6	T42	2	Ditch	Friable, moist medium grey/brown sandy- silt with 2% stones	Undated
F7	T42	-	Gully	Friable, moist medium/dark grey/brown sandy-silt	Undated
F8	T40	-	Pit/natural feature	Friable, moist medium grey silty-sand	Undated
F9	T40	-	Ditch	Soft, moist medium grey/brown silty-sand with 1% stones. Interacts with F10 but relationship unclear.	Undated
F10	T40	-	Ditch	Soft, moist medium grey/brown silt. Interacts with F9 but relationship unclear.	Undated
F11	T41	-	Ditch	Firm, dry medium grey/brown sandy-silt with 1% stones. Cuts F12.	Post-medieval
F12	T41	-	Ditch	Firm, dry medium yellow/brown sandy-silt with 2% stones. Cut by F11.	Post-medieval at latest
F13	T44	3	Ditch	Fill A: soft, moist light brown sandy-silt with 1% stones; Fill B: soft, moist dark brown/black sandy-silt with 1% stones	Prehistoric
F14	T41	-	Pit	Soft, moist medium grey/brown sandy-silt with 2% stones	Undated
F15	T36	6	Pit	Soft, moist light/medium brown sandy-silt with 1% stones	Undated
F16	T40	5	Gully	Soft, moist medium yellow/grey/brown sandy-silt with 1% stones	Medieval/post- medieval
F17	T40	-	Ditch	Firm, moist medium grey/brown sandy-silt with 2% stones	Undated

Finds nos. 24, 32, 33, 35, 36, 49 and 51 were assigned to metal-detected finds. Finds no. 20 was not assigned. Some finds were recovered from F6 but were misplaced.

F18	T35	4	Ditch	Firm, moist medium/dark grey/brown sandy-silt with 1% stones	Early Roman
F19	T35	-	Pit	Firm, moist light/medium grey/brown sandy-silt with 1% stones	Undated
F20	T23	7	Ditch	Friable, dry medium orange/brown sandy- silt with 20% stones	Roman
F21	T23	-	Ditch	Soft, moist medium grey silty-sand with 1% stones	Undated
F22	T23	-	Ditch	Soft, moist medium grey silty-clayey-sand with 1% stones	Undated
F23	T23	-	Pit	Soft, moist medium grey silty-clayey-sand with 1% stones	Undated
F24	T35	8	Ditch	Firm, moist medium grey/brown sandy-silt with 1% stones	Roman
F25	T35	-	Pit/posthole	Firm, moist medium grey/brown sandy-silt with 1% stones	Undated
F26	T35	-	Pit/posthole	Firm, moist medium grey/brown sandy-silt with 1% stones	Undated
F27	T30	9	Ditch	Friable, moist light/medium grey/brown sandy-silt with 2% stones	Early Roman
F28	T29	12	Ditch	Soft, moist medium grey/brown sandy-silt with 1% stones	Early Roman
F29	Т30	10, 11	Ditch	Fill A: firm, moist medium yellow/orange silt with 1% stones; Fill B: firm, moist medium grey/brown sandy-silt with 3% stones; Fill C: firm, moist medium/dark grey/brown silty-sand. Sealed by F30	Early Roman
F30	T30	-	Truncation/plough scar	Fill A: hard, moist dark grey/blue clay with 1% stones; Fill B: hard, moist dark brown clay with 1% stones. 0.37-0.42m thick. Seals F29.	Modern
F31	T17	13, 37, <1>, <12>	Cremation burial	Friable, dry medium brown silt with charcoal flecks	Roman
F32	T17	-	Ditch	Firm, moist medium orange/brown sandy-silt with 1% stones	Roman
F33	T34	14	Gully	Soft, moist medium yellow/grey/brown sandy-silt with 5% stones	Prehistoric
F34	T34	15, 16, 28, 29, 30, <2>, <3>, <4>, <5>, <6>, <7>, <8>,	Pit	Fill A: soft, moist medium grey/brown loamy-silt with charcoal flecks and 1% stones; Fill B: soft, moist light grey clayey-sand with charcoal flecks; Fill C: soft, moist medium/dark grey/brown clayey-silt with charcoal flecks and 1% stones. Cuts F116.	AD125-150
F35	T35	-	Ditch	Firm, moist medium/dark grey/brown sandy-silt with 1% stones. Interacts with F36 and F37 but relationship unclear	Early Roman
F36	T35	-	Pit	Friable, moist light/medium grey/brown sandy-silt with 1% stones. Interacts with	Early Roman at latest

				T	
				F35 and F37 but relationship unclear	
F37	T35	-	Pit/posthole	Friable, moist medium grey/brown sandy- silt with 2% stones. Interacts with F36 and F37 but relationship unclear.	Early Roman at latest
F38	T11	-	Ditch	Fill A: firm, moist dark brown sandy-silt with 1% stones; Fill B: friable, moist light orange/grey sandy-silt with 1% stones.	Undated
F39	T11	17	Ditch	Friable, dry medium brown/grey sandy-silt with 1% stones.	Middle Bronze Age/Late Bronze Age
F40	T35	-	Pit	Friable, moist medium grey/brown sandy-silt with 1% stones.	Undated
F41	T24	-	Ditch	Fill A: soft, moist dark brown loamy-sand with 1% stones; Fill B: soft, moist medium/light grey/brown sandy-silt with 1% stones; Fill C: soft, moist light/medium yellow/grey/brown sandy-silt with 1% stones.	Late Neolithic/Early Bronze Age
F42	T15	-	Ditch	Friable, dry medium yellow/brown sandy-silt.	Late 2nd to late 3rd century
F43	T37	18	Ditch	Soft, moist medium grey/brown clayey-silt with 1% stones.	Post-medieval
F44	T15	19	Pit	Friable, moist medium grey/brown sandy-silt with 1% stones.	Undated
F45	T39	21	Ditch	Fill A: friable, moist light brown silty-sand with 1% stones; Fill B: friable, moist medium grey silty-sand with 1% stones.	Post-medieval
F46	T15	22	Ditch	Friable, moist medium orange/brown sandy-silt with charcoal flecks and 1% stones.	Prehistoric
F47	T31	-	Ditch	Loose/soft, moist medium grey/brown sandy-silt with 5% stones.	Undated
F48	T31	-	Pit	Soft, moist light brown sandy-silt with 1% stones.	Undated
F49	T10	-	Ditch	Friable, dry medium orange/brown sandy-silt with 1% stones.	Undated
F50	T10	-	Ditch	Friable, moist light orange/brown sandy-silt.	Undated
F51	Т6	-	Ditch	Soft, moist medium grey/brown sandy-silt with 3% stones.	Undated
F52	T6 & T7	-	Gully	Soft, moist medium grey/brown sandy-clayey-silt with 1% stones.	Undated
F53	T5	-	Disturbance/pit	Soft, dry dark brown/black silt.	Modern
F54	T2	-	Ditch	Friable, dry light orange/brown silty-sand with 1% stones.	Undated
F55	T24	23	Ditch	Firm, moist medium/dark grey/brown silt with 3% stones. Cut by F56.	Medieval/post- medieval
F56	T24	-	Ditch	Firm, moist medium grey/brown sandy-silt with 3% stones. Cuts F55.	Medieval at earliest
F57	Т7	-	Pit	Firm, moist grey/brown sandy-silt with charcoal flecks and 1% stones. Cut by F58.	Undated

7 -	Pit	F: ' ' ' ' ' ' ' ' ' ' ' ' ' ' ' ' ' ' '	
, -	FIL	Firm, moist medium grey/brown sandy-silt with charcoal flecks and 2% stones. Cuts F57.	Undated
38 -	Ditch	Soft, moist medium grey/brown silty-sand.	Undated
37 -	Ditch	Friable, moist medium grey/brown clayey-silt with 1% stones.	Undated
7 -	Ditch	Soft, moist medium grey/brown silty-clay with 1% stones.	Undated
7 -	Ditch	Fill A: soft, moist medium brown sandy-silt with 1% stones; Fill B: soft, moist light/medium orange/grey silt with 1% stones; Fill C: firm, moist light grey/orange silt with 1% stones; Fill D: firm, moist medium orange sand with 2% stones.	Undated
7 -	Ditch	Soft, moist medium grey/brown silty-clay with 50% stones.	Undated
-	Ditch	Firm, dry medium red/brown sandy-silt with 1% stones.	Undated
3 -	Ditch	Firm, dry medium grey/brown sandy-silt with 2% stones.	Undated
9 -	Gully	Soft, moist medium yellow/brown silt with 1% stones.	Undated
13 34	Ditch	Fill A: soft, moist dark yellow/brown sandy-silt with 1% stones; Fill B: soft, moist light yellow/grey/brown sandy-silt with 1% stones.	Undated
13 -	Ditch	Soft, moist medium yellow/grey/brown sandy-silt with 1% stones.	Undated
13 -	Ditch	Soft, moist medium yellow/grey/brown sandy-silt with 1% stones.	Undated
13 -	Treethrow/natural feature	Friable, moist light brown/grey sandy-silt with 2% stones.	Undated
20 -	Ditch	Friable, moist light/medium grey/brown sandy-silt with 1% stones.	Undated
20 -	Ditch	Soft, wet light/medium yellow/grey/brown sandy-silt with 1% stones.	Undated
18 -	Ditch	Loose/soft, moist light grey/brown sandy-silt with 5% stones.	Undated
18 -	Ditch	Friable, moist light/medium grey/brown sandy-silt with 1% stones.	Roman
17 -	Ditch	Soft, moist medium yellow/grey/brown sandy-silty-clay.	Undated
33 -	Ditch	Soft, moist medium yellow/brown sandy-silt with 1% stones.	Late 2nd to late 3rd century
33 -	Gully/natural feature	Firm, dry light grey/brown sandy-silt with 2% stones.	Undated
39 -	Ditch	Friable/firm, moist medium brown sandy-silt with 5% stones.	Late 2nd to late 3rd century
25 -	Ditch	Firm, moist medium grey/brown silt with charcoal flecks and 50% stones.	Undated
37 -	Ditch	Soft, moist medium yellow/brown sandy-	Undated
	37 - 7 - 7 - 3 - 13 - 13 - 13 - 13 - 14 - 15 - 16 - 17 - 33 - 33 -	Ditch Ditc	F57.

F81	T30	-	Ditch/natural feature	Soft, moist medium yellow/brown sandy-silt with 1% stones.	Undated
F82	T32	-	Gully	Soft, moist medium grey sandy-silt with 1% stones.	Undated
F83	Т8	-	Ditch	Soft/friable, moist light/medium orange/brown sandy-silt with 5% stones.	Undated
F84	T13	-	Ditch/natural feature	Friable, moist light yellow/brown sandy-silt with 1% stones.	Undated
F85	T25	26	Ditch	Firm, moist light/medium grey/brown sandy-silt with 2% stones. Cut by F86.	Post-medieval
F86	T25	-	Ditch	Firm, moist medium grey/brown sandy-silt with 2% stones. Cuts F85.	Undated
F87	T25, T32	27	Ditch	Fill A: soft, moist medium grey/brown sandy-silt with charcoal flecks and 1% stones; Fill B: soft, moist light grey/brown sandy silt with 10% stones.	Late Neolithic/Early Bronze Age (sx 1), post- medieval (sx 2)
F88	T21, T22 & T27	46, 50	Ditch	Firm, moist/wet medium orange/grey/brown sandy-silt with 2% stones.	Post-medieval
F89	T21	-	Ditch	Soft, moist medium/dark yellow/grey/brown sandy-silt with 1% stones.	Roman
F90	Т8	<10>	Pit	Friable/firm, moist medium brown/red sandy-silt with 2% stones. Cut by F91.	Undated
F91	Т8	-	Ditch	Firm, moist light/medium orange/grey/brown sandy-silt with 5% stones. Cuts F90.	Undated
F92	T16	31	Ditch	Friable, moist medium grey/brown clayey-silt with 2% stones.	Roman
F93	T22	-	Ditch	Friable/firm, moist light/medium grey/brown sandy-silt with 2% stones.	Undated
F94	T22	40	Ditch	Friable/firm, moist light/medium grey/brown sandy-silt with 1% stones.	Roman
F95	T16	-	Ditch	Fill A: friable, moist medium grey/brown silty-clay with 1% stones; Fill B: friable, moist medium orange/grey/brown silty-clay with 1% stones.	Undated
F96	T26	-	Ditch	Soft, moist light yellow/brown sandy-silt with 1% stones.	Late 2nd to late 3rd century
F97	T26	-	Gully	Soft, moist light yellow/brown sandy-silt with 1% stones.	Undated
F98	T22	-	Ditch	Friable, moist medium orange/grey/brown sandy-silt with 1% stones.	Undated
F99	T27	-	Posthole	Friable, moist dark brown sandy-silt with 1% stones.	Undated
F100	T27	39	Ditch	Firm, moist medium orange/brown sandy-silt with 1% stones.	Roman
F101	T27	38	Pit/treethrow	Firm, moist medium brown/grey sandy-silt with 1% stones.	Late Neolithic/Early Bronze Age

F102	T32	-	Ditch/gully	Firm, moist medium grey/brown sandy-silt with 1% stones.	Undated
F103	T32	-	Ditch	Firm, moist medium grey/brown sandy-silt with 1% stones.	Late 2nd to late 3rd century
F104	T26	42, <11>	Pit/ditch	Firm, moist medium grey/brown silt with charcoal flecks and 1% stones.	Early Bronze Age
F105	T12	-	Ditch	Firm, moist medium grey/brown sandy-silt with 5% stones.	Undated
F106	T12	41	Posthole	Firm, dry medium brown sandy-silt with charcoal flecks.	Undated
F107	T16	44	Gully	Soft, moist medium yellow/grey/brown sandy-silt with 1% stones.	Post-medieval
F108	T12	43	Pit	Friable, moist light grey sandy-silt with charcoal flecks and 1% stones.	Undated
F109	Т6	-	Pit	Friable, dry light grey sandy-silt with charcoal flecks and 1% stones. Cuts F113.	Undated
F110	T32	-	Ditch	Friable, moist medium grey/brown silt with 1% stones.	Undated
F111	T12	45	Silt patch	Fill A: soft, moist medium orange/grey/brown sandy-silty-clay with 1% stones; Fill B: soft, moist medium grey silty clay with 1% stones; Fill C: soft, moist medium yellow/grey/brown sandy silt with 1% stones.	Undated
F112	Т6	-	Ditch	Soft, moist medium yellow/grey/brown sandy-silt with 1% stones.	Undated
F113	Т6	-	Ditch	Soft, moist medium yellow/grey sandy-silt with 1% stones. Cut by F109.	Undated
F114	T7	47	Ditch	Friable, moist medium grey/brown sandy-silt with 2% stones.	Prehistoric
F115	T7	-	Ditch	Friable, moist medium grey/brown sandy-silt with 1% stones.	Undated
F116	T34	48	Ditch	Firm, moist medium grey/brown silty-clay with 2% stones. Cut by F34.	Early Roman
F117	Т5	-	Ditch	Friable, moist light/dark grey/brown silty- clay with 10% stones.	Middle Bronze Age/Late Bronze Age
F118	Т3	-	Treethrow/natural feature	Loose, moist medium yellow/grey/brown sandy-silt with 1% stones.	Undated
F119	T28	-	Treethrow/natural feature	Loose/soft, moist medium grey/brown sandy-silt with 1% stones.	Undated
F120	Т3	-	Ditch/natural feature	Soft, moist medium yellow/grey/brown sandy-silt with 1% stones.	Undated
			1	1	1

Appendix 2 Flot information

Sample No.		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	11
							F34 fill	F34 fill	F34 fill	F34 fill	
Context No.		F31	F34	F34	F34	F34	Α	Α	В	С	F104
Cereals							_				
Hordeum vulgare.	Barley		Х	х	Х	Х	Х			Х	
Triticum sp. (grains)	Wheat		Х	xcf	х					х	
Triticum spelta (grains)	Spelt wheat				х		Х	х	Х		
Triticum spelta (glume base)	Wheat			х	XXXX	х	Х			xx	
Indet. Grains			Х	XX	XXX	Х	Х	х	Х	XX	
Dryland herbs											
Atriplex sp.	Saltbush	XXXX	XXXXX	XXX	XXX			Х	Х	Х	XXXX
Bromus sp.	Brome				х				Х	х	
Fallopia convolvulus (L.)	Black bindweed	х									
Fumaria officinalis L.	Fumitory										Х
Pologonum aviculare L.	Knotgrass	Х	Х				Х				
Rumex sp.	Dock	Х									
Small Fabaceae indet.	Small legumes				xcf						
Veronica hederifolia L.	lvy-leaved speedwell	х	Х	х						Х	Х
Wetland plants											
Carex sp.	Sedge								Х	х	
Tree/Shrub macrofossils											
Corylus avellana L.	Hazel nut										Х
Rubus fruticosus L.	Blackberry								Х		
Sambucus nigra L.	Elderberry										х
Other remains											
Charcoal >10mm			Х	х	Х		Х			Х	XX
Charcoal 4-10mm		XX	XXX	XXX	XXXXX	Х	XXX	XX	XXX	XXXX	XXXXX
Charcoal <4mm		Х	XXX	XXXX	XXXXX	XX		XXXX	XXXX	xxxx	XXXXX
Charred twigs/roundwood				х	XX		X				

CAT Report 2036: Archaeological evaluation on land north of Beth Chatto's Gardens, Elmstead Market, Essex – March 2024

Coal	х	х								
Modern plant material (rootlets)	XXX	XXX				xxxx	xxx	XX	xxx	xxx
Sample volume (litres)	10	40	20	30	10	40	10	10	20	50
Volume of flot (litres)	<0.1	<0.1	<0.1	0.2	<0.1	<0.1	<0.1	<0.1	<0.1	0.6
% flot sorted	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%

Key: x 0-10; xx 10-25; xxx 25-50; xxxx 50-100; xxxxx 100+. Modern intrusive specimens highlighted in blue

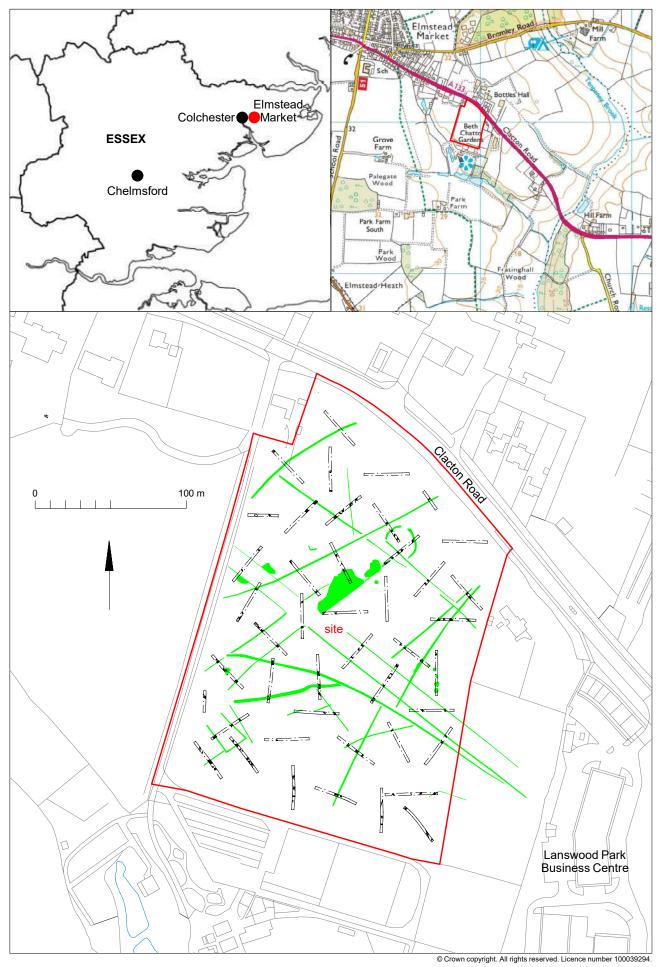


Fig 1 Site location and trench plan in relation to rectified cropmarks

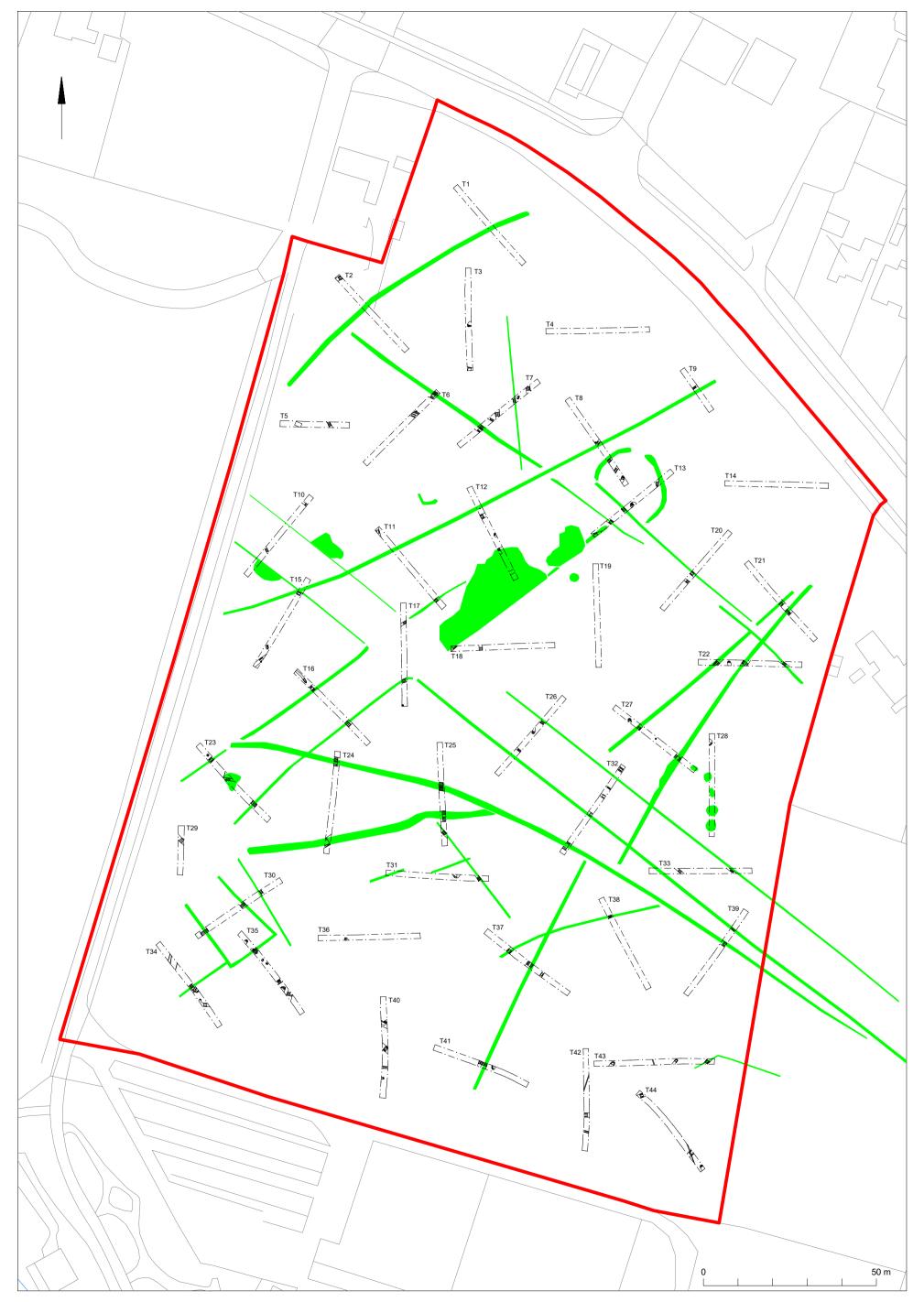


Fig 2 Evaluation results in relation to the rectified cropmarks (cropmarks in green)



Fig 3 Results

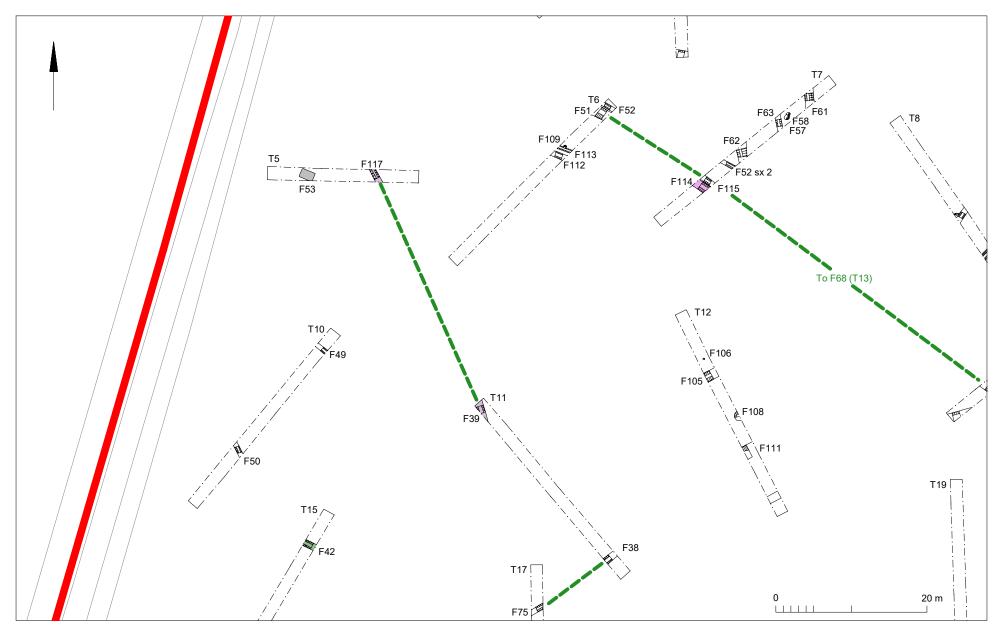


Fig 4 Results (see Fig 3 for phasing key)

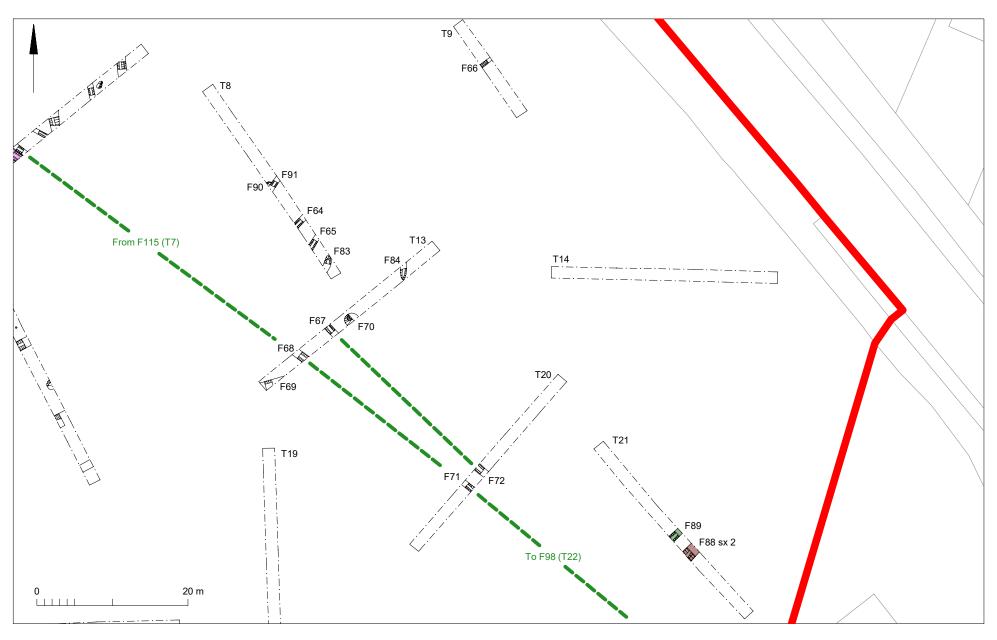


Fig 5 Results (see Fig 3 for phasing key)

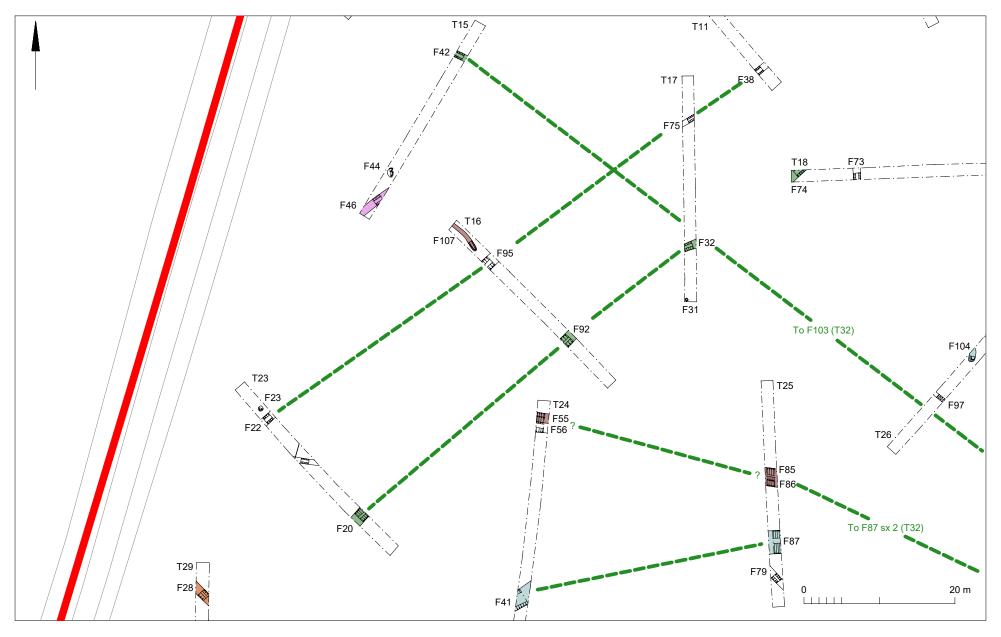


Fig 6 Results (see Fig 3 for phasing key)

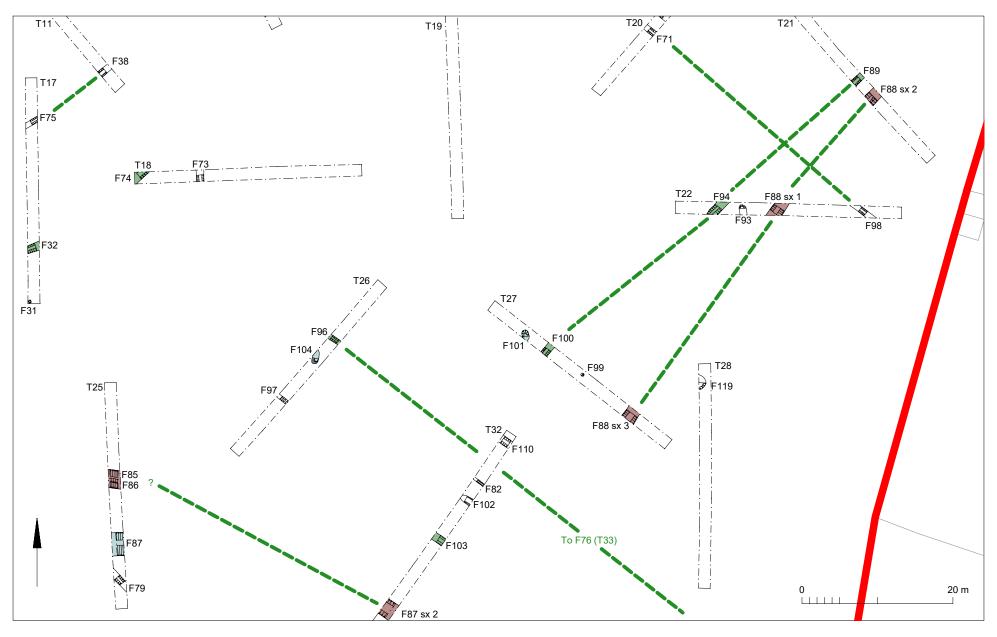


Fig 7 Results (see Fig 3 for phasing key)

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

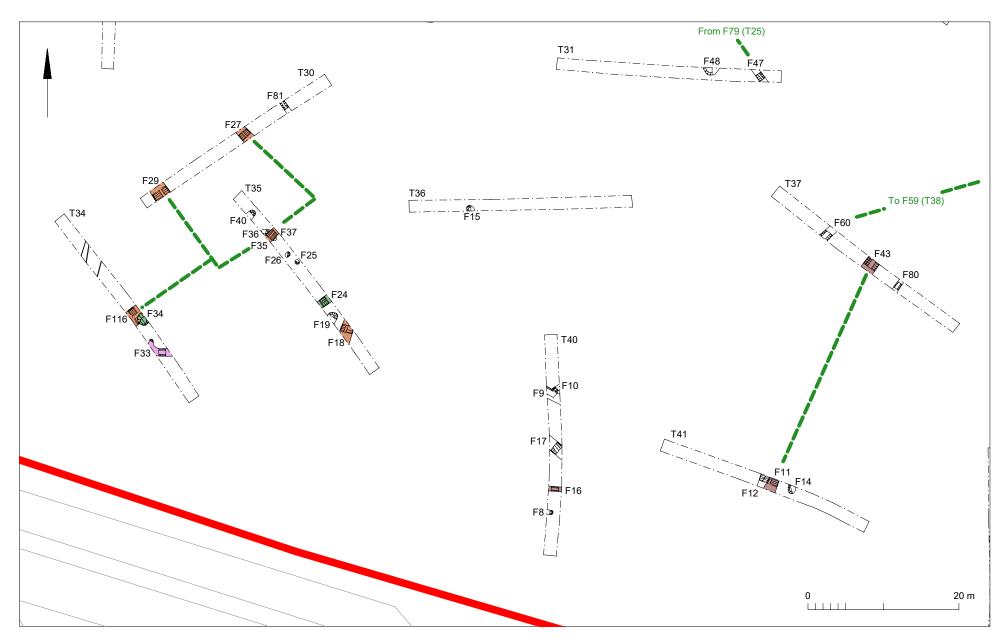


Fig 8 Results (see Fig 3 for phasing key)

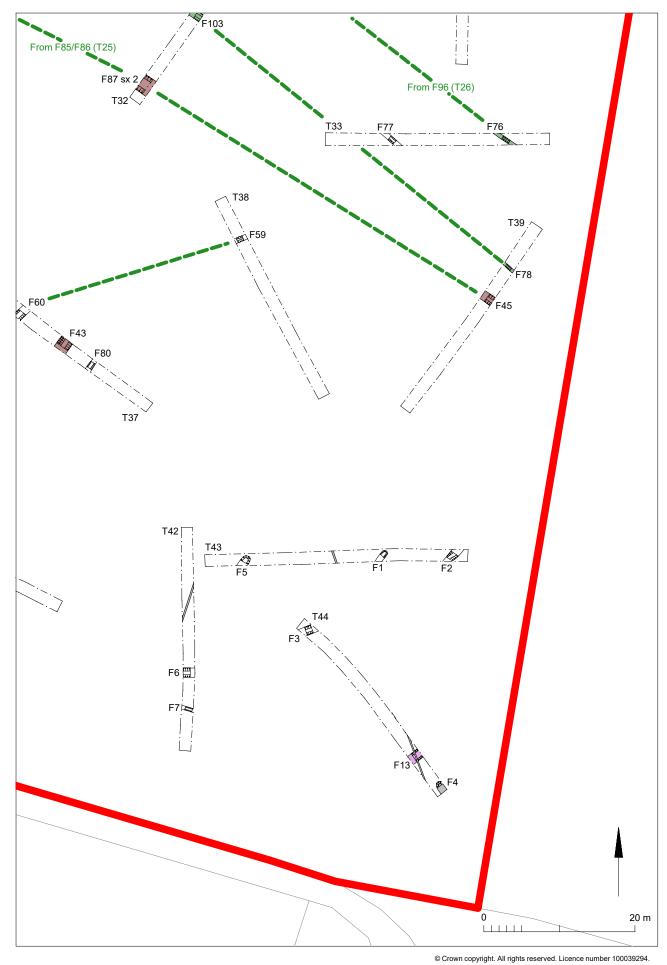


Fig 9 Results (see Fig 3 for phasing key)

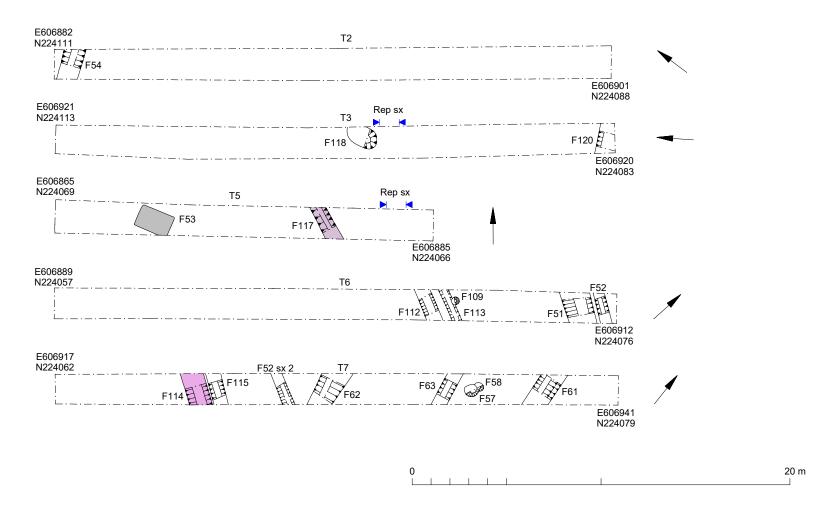


Fig 10 Trench results (see Fig 3 for phasing key)

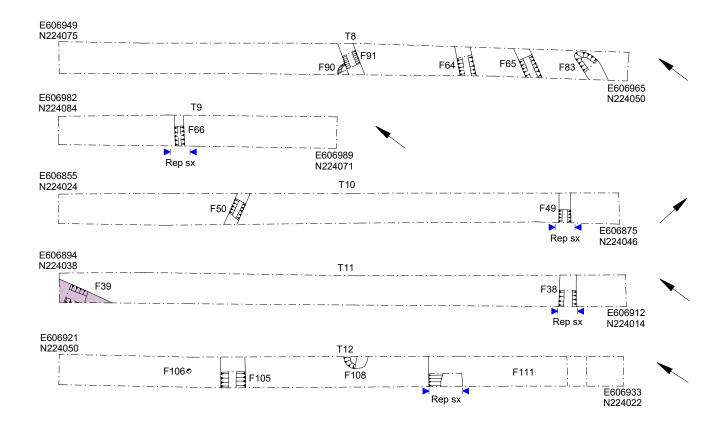




Fig 11 Trench results (see Fig 3 for phasing key)

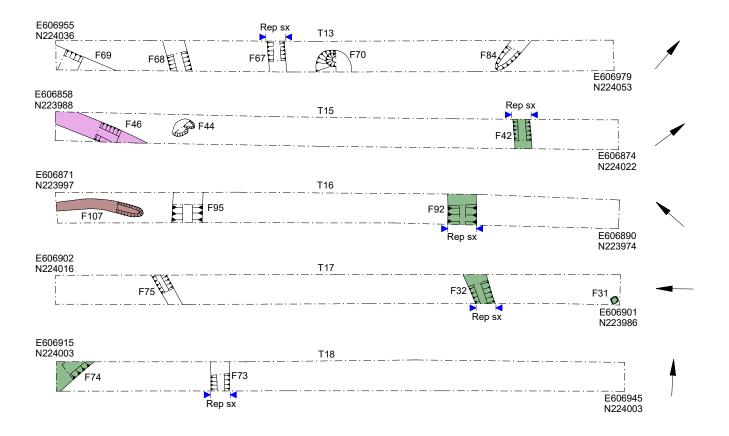




Fig 12 Trench results (see Fig 3 for phasing key)

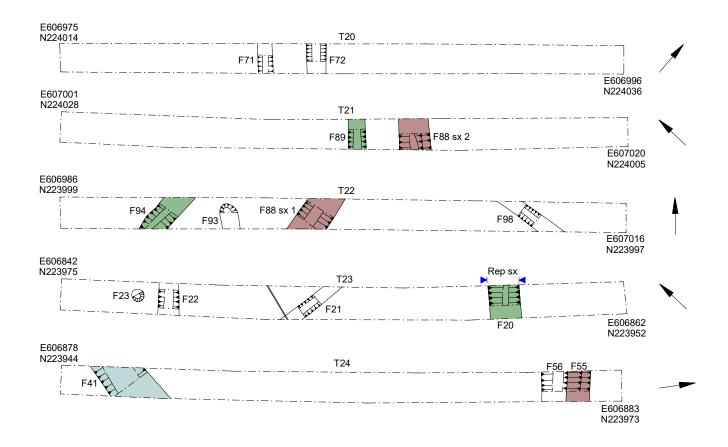




Fig 13 Trench results (see Fig 3 for phasing key)

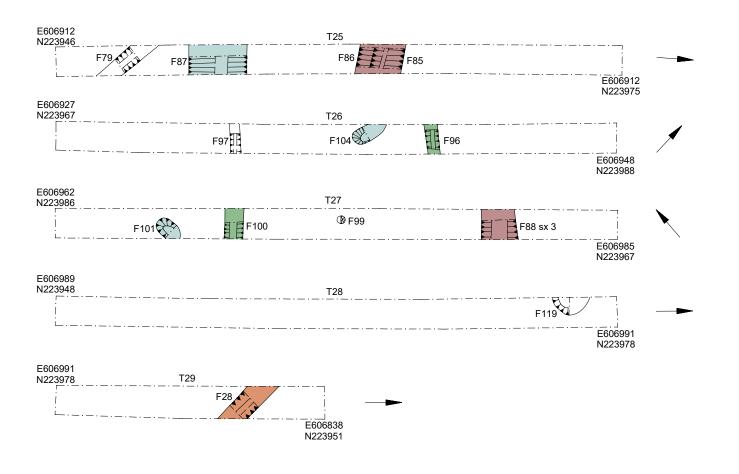




Fig 14 Trench results (see Fig 3 for phasing key)

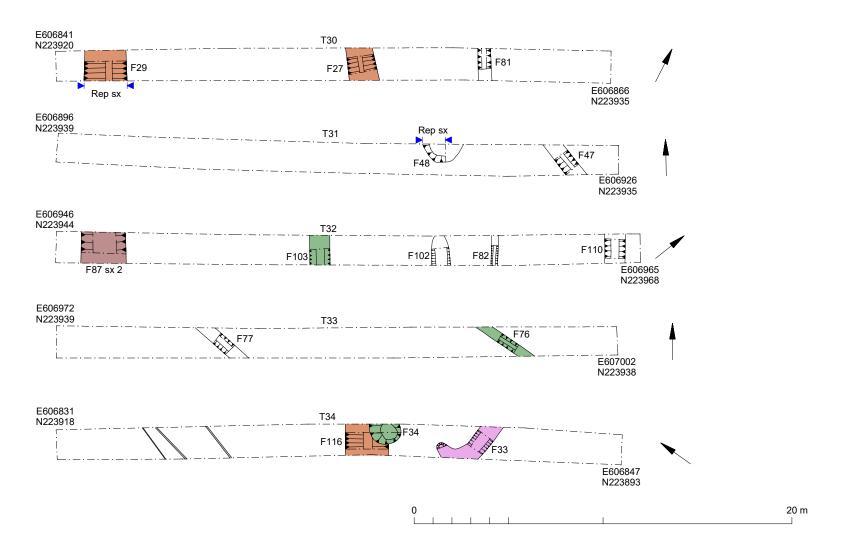


Fig 15 Trench results (see Fig 3 for phasing key)

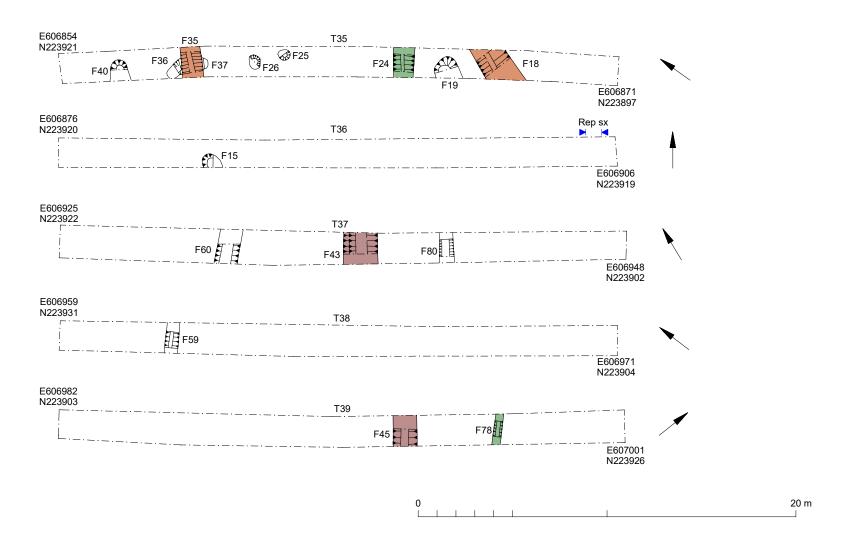


Fig 16 Trench results (see Fig 3 for phasing key)

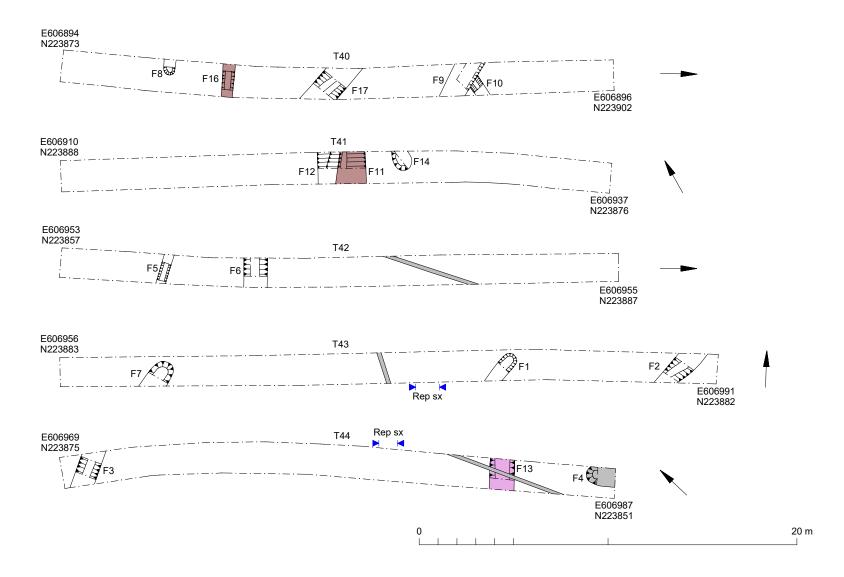


Fig 17 Trench results (see Fig 3 for phasing key)

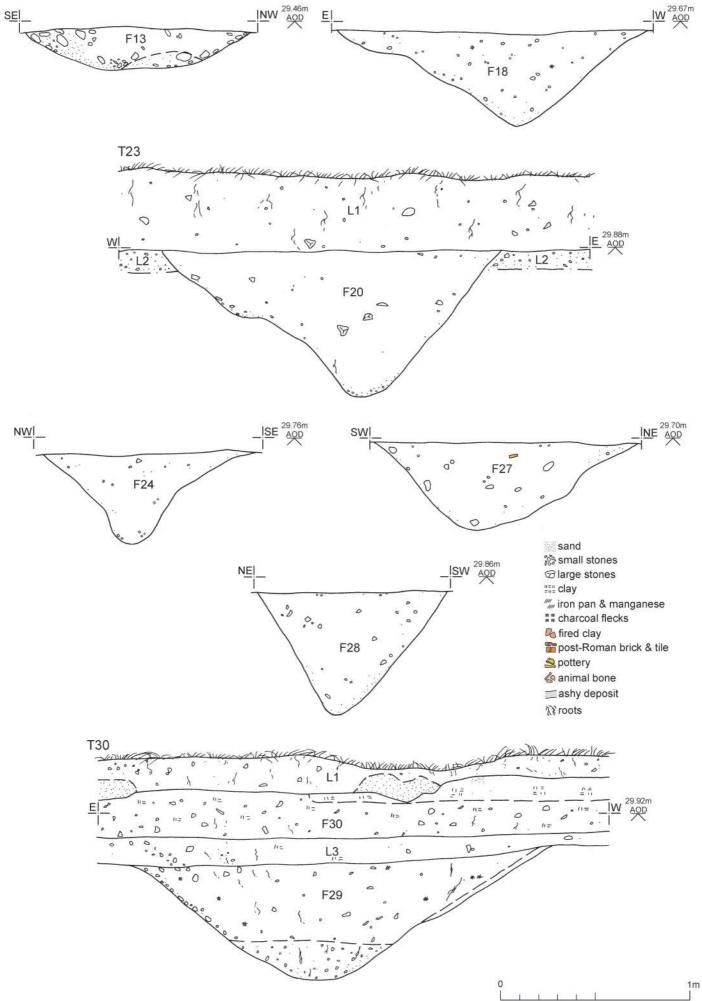


Fig 18 Feature sections.

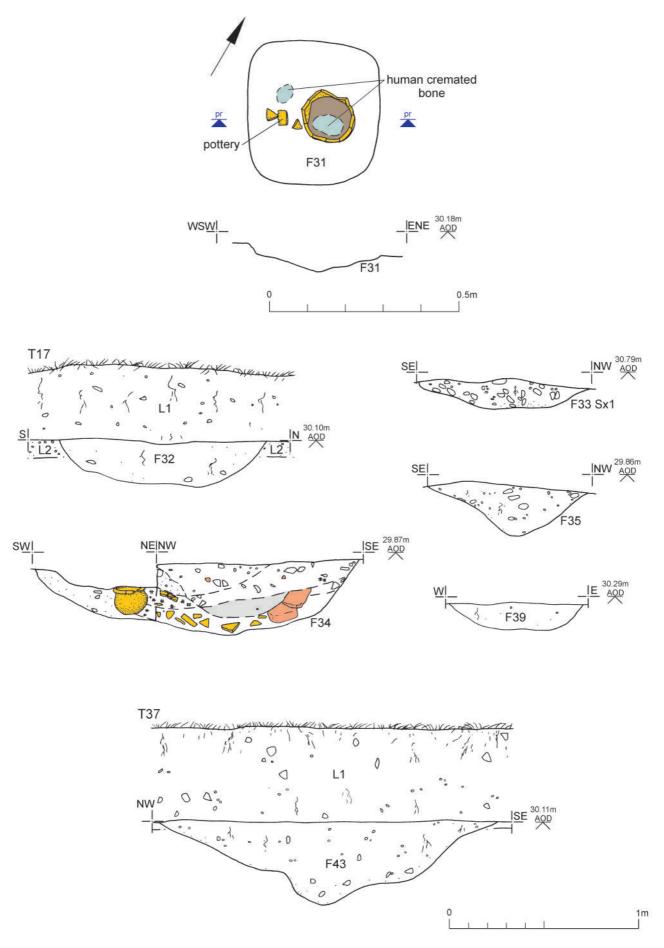


Fig 19 F31 Burial plan and profile. Feature sections.

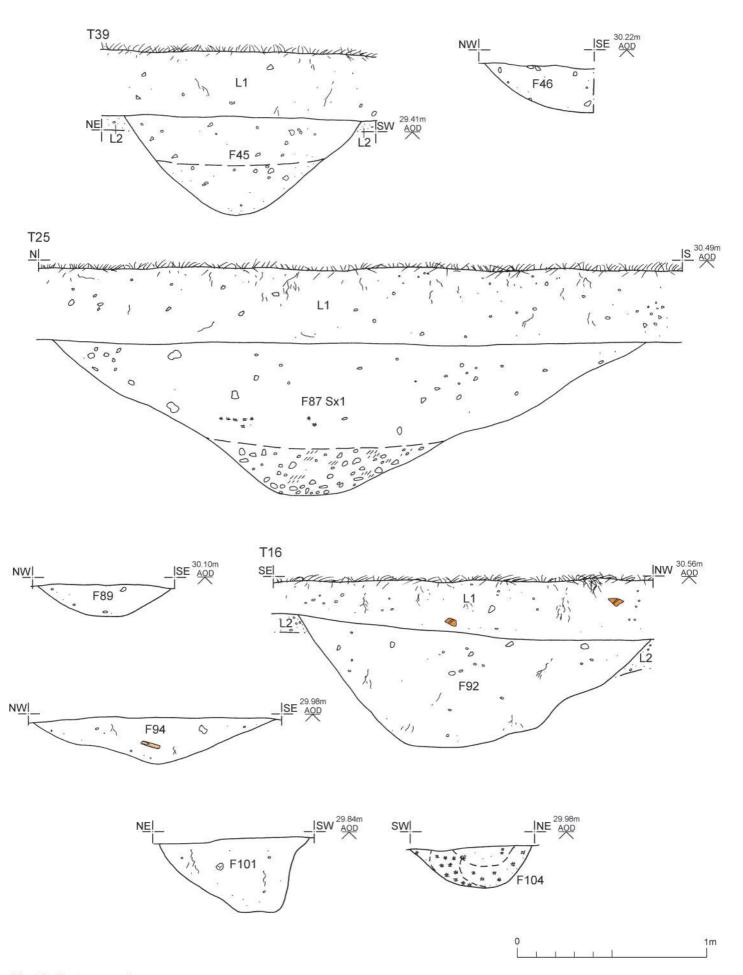


Fig 20 Feature sections.

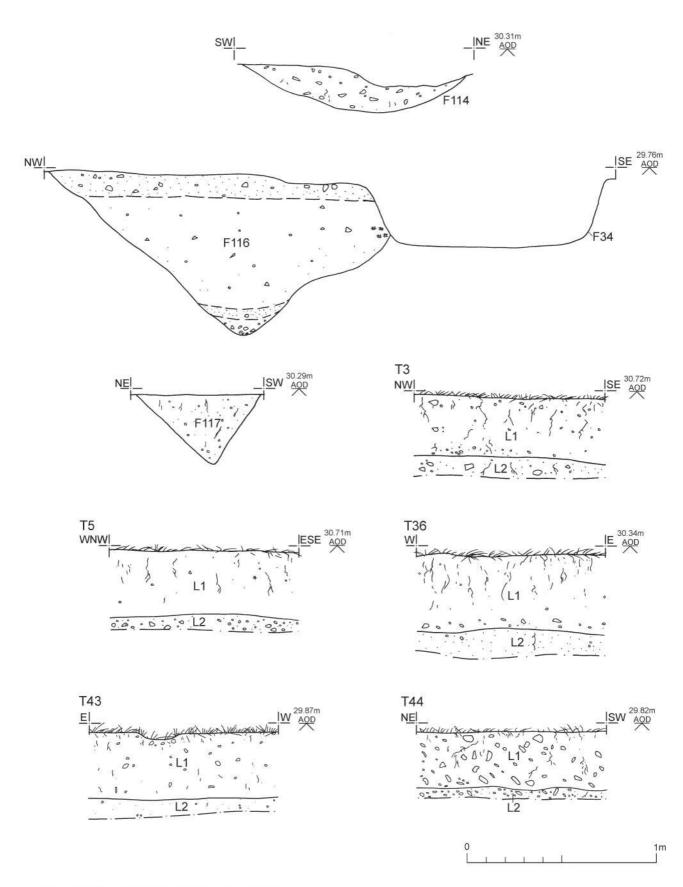


Fig 21 Feature and representative sections.

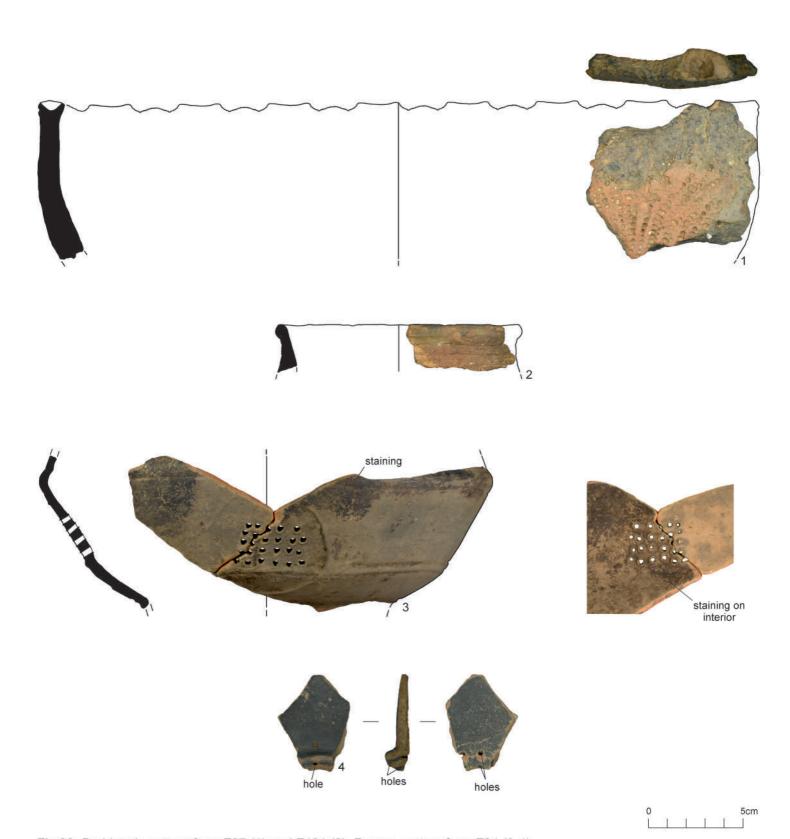


Fig 22 Prehistoric pottery from F87 (1) and F101 (2). Roman pottery from F34 (3-4).



Fig 23 Roman pottery with graffiti from F34 (5 and 6) and F116 (7).

OASIS Summary for colchest3-523197

OASIS ID (UID)	colchest3-523197
Project Name	Archaeological evaluation on land north of Beth Chatto's Gardens, Elmstead Market, Essex, CO7 7DB: March 2024
Sitename	Land North of Beth Chatto's Gardens, Elmstead Market, Essex
Sitecode	
Project Identifier(s)	2024/02f
Activity type	Evaluation
Planning Id	23/01731/FUL
Reason For Investigation	Planning: Between application and determination
Organisation Responsible for work	Colchester Archaeological Trust
Project Dates	04-Mar-2024 - 19-Mar-2024
Location	Land North of Beth Chatto's Gardens, Elmstead Market, Essex
	NGR : TM 06945 23978
	LL: 51.87595776546984, 1.005000450529091
	12 Fig : 606945,223978
Administrative Areas	Country : England
	County/Local Authority : Essex
	Local Authority District : Tendring
	Parish : Elmstead
Project Methodology	Archaeological evaluation was carried out as per the brief and WSI.
Project Results	An archaeological evaluation (forty-four trial-trenches) was carried out on land north of Beth Chatto's Gardens, Essex, in advance of the construction of a new residential development. Previous excavations to the south-east of the site at Lanswood Park uncovered a large number of Late Bronze Age or Early Iron Age pits lying near a ring-ditch containing a cremation burial, which also probably dated to this period, as well as a Late Iron Age/early Roman enclosure containing further cremation burials. The primary phase of activity occurred from the late 1st into the 3rd century, when a farmed estate stood at the site. A subsequent excavation to the north-east of the site, north of Clacton Road, similarly revealed evidence of Late Bronze Age or Early Iron Age activity, as well evidence of a pottery industry operating here during the early Roman period.
	Excavations at the present site revealed evidence of sporadic occupation at the site during the Late Neolithic or Early Bronze Age, and the Middle or Late Bronze Age. A further phase of activity occurred during the early Roman period, with evidence of occupation and of animal husbandry and crop processing. An urned Roman cremation burial may belong to this phase of activity. A droveway associated with the farmstead at Lanswood Park was further excavated, along with Roman ditches which might represent the remains of a field system located to the west of this settlement.
	Further phases extended through the post-medieval and modern periods. These features were likely related to agricultural activity and included several field boundary ditches depicted on mid 19th-century tithe mapping of the area.

Keywords	Ditch - UNCERTAIN - FISH Thesaurus of Monument Types
	Pit - POST MEDIEVAL - FISH Thesaurus of Monument Types
	Pit - 20TH CENTURY - FISH Thesaurus of Monument Types
	Pit - UNCERTAIN - FISH Thesaurus of Monument Types
	Gully - UNCERTAIN - FISH Thesaurus of Monument Types
	Natural Feature - UNCERTAIN - FISH Thesaurus of Monument Types
	Ditch - POST MEDIEVAL - FISH Thesaurus of Monument Types
	Ditch - LATER PREHISTORIC - FISH Thesaurus of Monument Types
	Gully - MEDIEVAL - FISH Thesaurus of Monument Types
	Gully - MEDIEVAL - FISH Thesaurus of Monument Types
	Ditch - ROMAN - FISH Thesaurus of Monument Types
	Post Hole - UNCERTAIN - FISH Thesaurus of Monument Types
	Cremation Burial - ROMAN - FISH Thesaurus of Monument Types
	Gully - LATER PREHISTORIC - FISH Thesaurus of Monument Types
	Pit - ROMAN - FISH Thesaurus of Monument Types
	Ditch - MIDDLE BRONZE AGE - FISH Thesaurus of Monument Types
	Ditch - LATE BRONZE AGE - FISH Thesaurus of Monument Types
	Ditch - LATE NEOLITHIC - FISH Thesaurus of Monument Types
	Ditch - EARLY BRONZE AGE - FISH Thesaurus of Monument Types
	Ditch - MEDIEVAL - FISH Thesaurus of Monument Types
	Tree Throw - UNCERTAIN - FISH Thesaurus of Monument Types
	Pit - LATE NEOLITHIC - FISH Thesaurus of Monument Types
	Pit - EARLY BRONZE AGE - FISH Thesaurus of Monument Types
	Tree Throw - LATE NEOLITHIC - FISH Thesaurus of Monument Types
	Tree Throw - EARLY BRONZE AGE - FISH Thesaurus of Monument
	Types
	Sherd - LATER PREHISTORIC - FISH Archaeological Objects
	Thesaurus
	Sherd - MIDDLE BRONZE AGE - FISH Archaeological Objects
	Thesaurus
	Sherd - LATE BRONZE AGE - FISH Archaeological Objects Thesaurus
	Sherd - LATE NEOLITHIC - FISH Archaeological Objects Thesaurus
	Sherd - EARLY BRONZE AGE - FISH Archaeological Objects
	Thesaurus
	Sherd - ROMAN - FISH Archaeological Objects Thesaurus
	Sherd - POST MEDIEVAL - FISH Archaeological Objects Thesaurus
	Ceramic - ROMAN - FISH Archaeological Objects Thesaurus
	Ceramic - MEDIEVAL - FISH Archaeological Objects Thesaurus
	Ceramic - POST MEDIEVAL - FISH Archaeological Objects Thesaurus
	Ceramic - 20TH CENTURY - FISH Archaeological Objects Thesaurus
	Nail - ROMAN - FISH Archaeological Objects Thesaurus
	Quern - ROMAN - FISH Archaeological Objects Thesaurus
	Dressed Stone - ROMAN - FISH Archaeological Objects Thesaurus
	Clay Pipe (Smoking) - POST MEDIEVAL - FISH Archaeological Objects
	Thospurus

Thesaurus

	Lithic Implement - EARLY BRONZE AGE - FISH Archaeological Objects Thesaurus
	Lithic Implement - MIDDLE BRONZE AGE - FISH Archaeological
	Objects Thesaurus
	Pot Boiler - LATER PREHISTORIC - FISH Archaeological Objects
	Thesaurus
	Animal Remains - UNCERTAIN - FISH Archaeological Objects
	Thesaurus
	Human Remains - ROMAN - FISH Archaeological Objects Thesaurus
Funder	Private or public corporation South East Developments Ltd
HER	Essex HER - unRev - STANDARD
Person Responsible for work	A Wightman
HER Identifiers	HER Event No - ESBCG24
Archives	Digital Archive - to be deposited with Archaeology Data Service Archive;

Report generated on: 14 May 2024, 14:58