

## RB Cemetery I Gazetteer

### Cemetery Ia

#### **Cremation 25. (354N/-122E) Adult Male**

Notebook 5.10-12

*Grave pit:* Elongated oval pit, just large enough for main cremation vessel (25.1) and accessory beaker (25.2), which were both upright and almost touching. 0.38m x 0.28m, depth uncertain.

*Grave fill:* Dark brown sandy loam with? charcoal flecks and residual IA sherd surrounding both vessels; main cremation vessel contained brown earth and pebbles, while the accessory vessel contained chocolate brown sandy loam.

*Grave goods:*

25.1 Large grey ware jar with everted '7'-type rim; burnished on shoulder; step on shoulder; very abraded base (Rim 260mm; Base 102mm; Max diam 260mm). Mucking product. Quite rare. Marsh and Tyers Type II.D.1. AD70-160.

25.2 Small fine grey-ware poppy head beaker with cornice rim, bag-shaped; four zones of barbotine dot decoration; shallow groove 12mm below rim; foot-ring (Ht 91mm; Rim 70mm; Base 39mm). Highgate product. Marsh and Tyers Type III.E.1. AD70-150/60.

*Bone:* No data preserved.

#### **Cremation 26. (352N/-148E) Adult Male. Cremation 26a Child (*Infans*)**

Notebook 5.1, 5.13, 5.15

*Grave pit:* Roughly circular, with sloping sides and rounded base. Area of bones and charcoal in centre, with pot placed to one side. 0.53m x 0.53m x 0.10m deep.

*Grave fill:* Dark brown loamy fill; some pinkish soil may suggest burning in situ. Bone was more concentrated in the northern half of the cremation pit. Oak charcoal recorded (50+ pieces). Ground frozen up to 3" deep.

*Grave goods:*

26.1 Grey ware carinated narrow-necked jar; dash rouletting on upper body above carination (Ht 141mm; Neck 29mm; Max diam 128mm; Rim 40mm; Base 48mm). Vessel does not appear to have been used as a cinerary urn, as only brown fill and no cremated bones were found inside; it appears to have been placed upright on the margins of the grave pit. North Kent product. Late 1st to early 2nd century AD.

26.2 Copper alloy brooch (Lab No, 12 Mucking Cat. No. 65/1), probably placed with the bone fragments (recovered from a frozen chunk of earth that also produced human bone and charcoal). Colchester - derivative brooch lacking pin and part of spring. Plain bow with D-shaped section; solid catchplate, with impressions of two holes not punched out. Wings over spring of at least six coils. Head lug pierced by external chord; also axial bar in Harlow manner. L 42mm. Mid to late 1st century AD.

*Bone:* Record of bone fragments set roughly centrally in grave. Rib fragments noted as crossed in centre of burial may have been deliberately placed. If so, this is one of the earliest instances of this fashion (crossed bones). Other bone fragments were found in the fill of the grave pit. Bone report suggests two individuals are represented.

#### **Cremation 27. (334N/-119E) Adult**

Notebook 5.1, 5.14

*Grave pit:* Roughly circular, with sloping sides and rounded base. The pottery vessel was placed on top? of the cremation, which appears to have been piled around its base, but there is also a suggestion that some bones had been placed inside. 0.51m x 0.30m x 0.09m deep.

*Grave fill:* Soft dark brown sandy loam; not much charcoal but bones distributed throughout the fill. A single iron nail was also recovered.

*Grave goods:*

27.1 Small narrow-necked globular grey ware jar. Slightly burnished from inside rim to shoulder; two deep incised grooves on lower shoulder (Ht 92mm; Rim 75mm; Base 44mm). Exact parallel from Slayhills, North Kent [REF]; late 1st to early 2nd century AD. Pot stood upright at one side of the grave pit, though was slightly crushed (broken at shoulder) and rim somewhat fragmented.

27.2 Copper alloy brooch (Lab No 2; Mucking Cat. No. 65/3). Disc brooch with conical centre with moulded tip, hollow behind; narrow raised rim. Otherwise plain. Part of pin, two-lug hinge attachment and catchplate survive. Diameter 23mm. "Buckler" or "Tutulusfibel". Feugère Type 25a; Feugère suggests they originate in east-central France. Dating: late 1st to mid 2nd century AD. Found with the bone deposit (outside the vessel).

**Cremation 38. (312N/-147E) Child (*Infans*)**

Notebook 5.29-30

*Grave pit:* Sub-circular, 0.30 x 0.23 x 0.06m deep.

*Grave fill:* Dark charcoally fill, with cremated bone, two nails and two or three burnt flints.

*Grave furniture:* Two nails, one a shank only, found. The cremation was perhaps placed in a small casket.

*Grave goods:* None.

*Bone:* Cremation burial in poor condition (68g survived). Identified as *Infans*.

**Cremation 39. (325N/-116E) Adult (*Juvenilis*). Cremation 39a: Adult Male**

Notebook 5.29

*Grave pit:* Oval, with pottery vessel set tightly within it. 0.58 x 0.53 x 0.38m deep. Cuts MIA PG20.

*Grave fill:* Ashy, charcoally fill, with fire reddened, and fire-blackened pebbles. Cremated bone found above and around vessel, not contained within it. Residual IA and RB sherds.

*Grave furniture:* Three nails found. No sign of casket or box.

*Grave goods:*

39.1 Grey ware storage jar. Wide cordon near neck with cross-hatched line decoration; the decoration goes clear of the cordon (Ht 280mm; Rim 214mm; Base 120mm). Very common form in Southwark. Cam 220A; Marsh and Tyers Type II.N. Probably mid to late 1st century AD.

*Bone:* Poor survival, 480g, longest piece 66mm; identified as *juvenilis*. Zuvanovich refers in his notes to the presence of bone from a burial 39A. No detail of is this preserved in the notebooks; it is possible that two individuals were represented here.

**Cremation 40. (316N/-133E) Adult Male**

Notebook 5.30, 5.32

*Grave pit:* Irregular circular pit, with steep sides and rounded base, 0.61 x 0.61 x 0.61m deep.

*Grave fill:* Fine brown silt/sand fill. Pea-grits found in the bottom of the pit. Also noted were fire-cracked flints. Both the urn and the beaker (which were not touching) had been pressed down into a deposit of pebbles, dark earth and cremated bone fragments (which appears to have been a single deposit, as thoroughly intermixed), and the urn was supported in place by large residual RB sherds. Very few bones in the lower part of the jar fill (?ash); brooch found in upper fill (identified after vessel x-rayed and excavated in lab).

*Grave furniture:* two nails noted. There was no sign of a casket.

*Grave goods:*

40.1 High-shouldered grey ware jar, used as a cinerary urn (Ht 154mm; Rim 149mm; Max diameter 175mm; Base 77mm). Brown/red and smoothed just below rim; bottom rough. Common in Southwark. Cam 220A; Marsh and Tyers Type II.N. AD 70-150/60.

40.2 Carinated fine grey ware beaker used as an accessory vessel (Ht 80mm; Diameter 85mm). Similar form to Cam 120 (mid to late 1st century AD). Rim broken and side adjacent to urn cracked.

40.3 Copper alloy brooch (No 65/7 Lab No. 384), found in vessel 40.1 (see plate 00). Complete hinged asymmetrical plate brooch with enamelled lozenge-shaped field and zoomorphic foot. Slim rectangular head, folded over to house hinge pin. Lozenge-shaped field has external rim with incised linear decoration; 4 L-shaped panels (white?) surround a central diamond (red). A moulding separates the foot, which has incised 'scale' decoration, terminating in a snakes-head, with the catch-plate behind. L 38mm. No sign of burning. Feugère 26b2a, Dating: late 1st or 2nd century AD; for a parallel from Colchester, see Hull 1958, fig 47.3 and p 117, and also from London (Wheeler 1930, 90, fig 24.6-9).

*Bone:* The cremation was incompletely burned; 810g, pieces ranged up to 77mm in length. Adult (from the size, structure, and shape of the bones), and male (on the basis of a femur fragment with a solo diaphyseal angle of 155 deg., and morphological characteristics of the heads of femur and humerus).

**Cremation 42. (333N/-108E) Adult (*Maturus*)**

*Grave pit:* Heavily truncated, leaving just a vessel base *in situ*.

*Grave fill:* Not recorded, but bones found both in pot and in grave pit.

*Grave goods:*

42.1 Base of a thick-walled storage jar in coarse grey ware (Base diam 92mm). Probably 1st/2nd century AD. Local product.

*Bone:* Poor survival (18g), max length of fragments, 36mm.

**Cremation 44. (310N/-125E) Child (*Infans II*)**

Notebook 5.35

*Grave pit:* Roughly oval, with sloping sides and rounded base, 0.61 x 0.46 x 0.19+m deep, damaged by ploughing. Possibly dug into natural hollow.

*Grave fill:* Compacted dark earth and charcoal together with fire-cracked and dark burnt flints. Disturbed by animal burrow. Pea-grit lenses towards the base of the pit.

*Grave furniture:* fourteen small (up to 31mm) nails found, probably from a casket, but their positions were random, and some were found in the overlying baulk, perhaps as a result of animal burrowing.

*Grave goods:* None noted.

*Bone:* Generally scattered. Poor survival (17g), and max length of 8mm.

**Cremation 56. (311N/-111E) Adult Male**

Notebook 5.44

*Grave pit:* Oval, with vertical sides and flat base. 0.61 x 0.41 x 0.30m deep.

*Grave fill:* The pit bottom was very pebbly, over which was a very sandy fill with occasional flecks of charcoal; two IA sherds in fill are probably residual.

*Grave furniture:* Single nail found, probably bier fitting.

*Grave goods:* None.

*Bone:* Cremation, with good survival (1.25kg), which included several large broken pieces ('carefully arranged'), max length 88mm.

**Cremation 59. (345N/-108E) Adult Male**

Notebook 5.42

*Grave pit:* Oval rounded-bottom hollow, 0.60 x 0.56 x 0.25m deep.

*Grave fill:* Dark fill; cremated remains and vessel resting over fire-reddened flints. Vessel not used as a cinerary urn, but lay beside the cremation at the same level, resting against the side of the pit.

*Grave furniture:* Three nails found. They appear to have no deliberate position. Possibly part of a bier?

*Grave goods:*

59.1 High shouldered, narrow-necked jar in a brownish-grey fabric (Ht 120mm; Max girth 128mm; Base diam 58mm; Rim diam 68mm). Cam 220A or 221; Marsh and Tyers Type II.N. AD70-150. Probably a local product; rare in London, and at Colchester this form occurs in pre- or early Flavian contexts.

*Bone:* Cremation. Scattered across the pit floor. 650g. Max length of fragments, 73mm. Some of the bones appear to have been partially sorted on the grave floor; less cremated material higher up in fill.

**Grave 64. (345N/-133E)**

Notebook 6.37

*Grave pit:* Rectangular, with slightly bowed sides and rounded ends, oriented WSW-ENE. 1.52 x 0.61 x 0.71m. Cut by Grave 63.

*Grave fill:* Within coffin stain recorded as dark grey-brown silty sand. Possibly turves on/in the coffin, indicated by grey/brown compact sandy silt. Residual RB sherds.

*Grave furniture:* Good stain of nailed oak coffin. The nails were at the corners. Dimensions: 1.37 x 0.56m, depth not stated. Clear stain of coffin lid noted in the section.

*Grave goods:* Both at the side inside the coffin at base of grave.

64.1 Platter in very fine fabric imitating a Samian form [Measurements?]. London form ?4. Matching pair with 64.2. At Copt Hall Close same vessel type was associated with a Dr. 27 cup. AD90-120.

64.2 As 64.1.

*Bone:* No stain noted. No survival. Size of grave may indicate a child/juvenile.

## Cemetery Ib: Inhumations

### Grave 1. (312N/-85E) Adult Male

Notebook 5.43

*Grave pit:* Parallel sided, with rounded corners, oriented ESE-WNW. 2.43 x 0.73 x 0.76m deep. Cuts two pits, one of which was clay-lined.

*Pit fill:* General fill, very fine grey, ash-like, with some charcoal; some redeposited clay; one residual IA sherd.

*Grave furniture:* Black stain of nailed oak coffin, 1.95 x 0.56 x 0.23m. Twenty-seven nails found. Some nails suggested not to be connected with coffin, but with an object outside the coffin on the right.

*Grave goods:*

1.1 Grey ware flask, complete; slightly hooked rim with double grooves at base of neck and on shoulder; burnishing to max. girth at shoulder; small pedestal foot (Mucking kiln product type 'O'; Ht 136mm; Rim 49mm; Neck 30mm; Max. diam 119mm; Base 33mm), placed within coffin by right foot. Late 2nd to early 3rd century AD.

1.2 Cluster of five hobnails; these suggest that 'sandals must have been put on top of the coffin', as they were 'above the knees'.

1.3 'There appears to have been something on the right hand side of the grave, between the edge and the coffin. The nails do not appear to have had anything to do with the coffin'.

1.4 A dark organic stain by the left lower leg may represent a further decayed grave offering (perhaps a food deposit?).

*Bone:* Silhouette, although the skull seems to have survived in part. Indicates a supine extended inhumation with head to the south-east.

### Grave 2. (312N/-93E)

Notebook 7.9

*Grave pit:* Sub-rectangular, with rounded corners, near-vertical sides and flat base, oriented ESE-WNW. One end cut obliquely (probably overdug). 2.13 x 0.91 x 0.84m deep.

*Grave fill:* Very clean fill of sand and small gravel.

*Grave furniture:* Fifteen *in situ* coffin nails noted, suggesting a nailed oak coffin measuring *c.* 1.85m x 0.48m and 0.23m deep; the only area of coffin staining was seen at the western end of the grave.

*Grave goods:* None

*Bone:* None surviving and no silhouette.

### Grave 3. (297N/-85E) Adult

Notebook 6.68

*Grave pit:* Rectangular, with rounded ends, oriented NNW-SSE. One side slightly bowed out. 2.31 x 0.79 x 0.61m deep.

*Grave fill:* Variably coloured humic silt; presence of several very large pebbles in coffin fill may suggest use of packing stones; residual IA sherds and part of an IA triangular loomweight in fill.

*Grave furniture:* Nail oak coffin, measuring 1.88 x 0.61 x 0.20m deep. Some 30 nails survived; together with staining, this indicated the coffin was wider at the head than the foot (0.44m). A dark brown manganese stain beneath the left leg and left side of the coffin may indicate something else deposited before the coffin was interred.

*Grave goods:*

3.1 Colchester colour coated beaker of Pentice type, with warped base, cordon on shoulder and rouletting on body; AD 250+. Apparently little used before burial (perhaps acquired deliberately for burial; vessel was a second, and was usable, but only just). Placed upright beside left foot inside coffin (Ht 154mm; Rim 70mm; Neck 60mm; Max diam 117mm; Base 37mm).

*Bone:* Fragmentary remains of two long-bones and skull, and an extensive ginger silt silhouette, suggest a supine extended burial with head to the SSE end of the grave, looking left.

### Grave 4. (292N/-86E)

Notebook 7.19

*Grave pit:* Sub-rectangular, with rounded corners, oriented NW-SE. 2.43 x 1.07 x 0.35m deep.

*Grave fill:* Sandy; with much pea-grit beneath the coffin stain; residual IA and RB sherds.

*Grave furniture:* Stain of nailed oak coffin (with sixteen iron nails), 1.98 x 0.58 x 0.28m deep. It is of some interest to note that the grave plan shows that clusters of nails occur a short distance away from the head end of the coffin. They clearly have been moved in concert, rather than piecemeal as a process of decay and random disturbance such as animal burrowing, and the suggestion should therefore be made that the end of the coffin was wrenched away from the sides when it was still relatively intact.

*Grave goods:*

4.1 Bronze fragments (Lab No 65), found outside east end of coffin.

*Body:* No evidence of stain or of bone.

#### **Grave 5. (280N/-82E)**

Notebook 7.11

*Grave pit:* Sub-rectangular, with rounded corners, sloping sides and rounded base, oriented NE-SW. 2.18 x 0.91 x 0.36m deep.

*Grave fill:* Greyish clay lining containing some charcoal, surrounding greasy black fill containing daub, charcoal and residual IA pottery.

*Grave furniture:* Clear stain of nailed oak coffin noted, with one markedly bowed end, measuring approximately 1.83 x 0.61m (depth unknown). Fourteen iron nails suggesting coffin. At least six end/side nails found 'in one corner'.

*Grave goods:* None.

*Body:* No evidence of bones or silhouette.

#### **Grave 6. (257N/-105E)**

Notebook 5.33; 6.8, 6.58-9

*Grave pit:* Rectangular, with rounded ends, irregular sides and flattish base, oriented NNW-SSE. 2.44 x 1.12 x 0.69m deep. Post-hole at the head end of the grave may be a marker.

*Grave fill:* Sandy loam with patches of sand and gravel, and many residual prehistoric sherds in top of fill. Handmade base fragment and rim sherd with finger-tip impressions. ?Bronze Age.

*Grave furniture:* None recorded. No coffin stain noted.

*Grave goods:*

6.1 Six refitting fragments of a copper alloy snake's-head bracelet (lab no. 650112) recovered where the right arm might have been expected. Possessing a D-shaped cross-section, the terminals measure 8mm and 9mm at their widest points, with the bracelet narrowing to 4mm. Internal diameter *c.* 60mm, thickness, 1.5mm, weight 5g. The fragments are similar in appearance, all having been subject to a sufficiently high temperature to produce a friable and flaky surface. There is no evidence of the terminals being decorated. Snake's-head bracelets are common objects found in Romano-British grave and cremation contexts, dating from the 3rd - 4th century AD.

*Body:* Most of head silhouette, and part of the abdominal region; head to the SSE, facing up. The ginger-brown stained sand silhouette lay directly on the base of the grave. The grave goods were taken by the excavator to suggest that the inhumation was that of a female, but there is no skeletal evidence for this.

#### **Grave 7. (264N/-105E) Adult**

*Grave pit:* Rectangular, with markedly squared-off ends, vertical sides rounding to a flat base, oriented SSE-NNW. 1.83 x 0.61m and 0.46m deep.

*Grave fill:* Loam, with much dark brown compact silt at the north end, leading to the suggestion that turves had fallen into the grave.

*Grave furniture:* Nailed coffin, measuring 1.60 x 0.53 x 0.26m deep. Thirteen nails found at corners only (no wood identification). A coffin stain may have been indicated by siltier soil along the edges of the grave; the top of the grave had been removed by the dragline, but the lid of the coffin was apparently observed as a soil mark.

*Body:* Survival was poor, with a stain and some survival only of the head, which was at the E end, facing up, and perhaps the right foot.

#### **Grave 8. (273N/-102E)**

Notebook 6.59

*Grave pit:* Sub-rectangular, with rounded corners, oriented NW-SE. 2.26 x 0.91m, depth unknown. Grave cuts two charcoal-filled pits.

*Grave fill:* Unstated; some residual IA and RB sherds.

*Grave furniture:* Nailed coffin of poplar (at least eighteen nails), measuring 1.83 x 0.46 x 0.26m deep. The NW end of the coffin appear to have decayed outwards, as the headstain lay over the lower coffin stain.

*Grave goods:*

8.1 Grey ware flask, placed on the right side of the body by its foot inside coffin, lying on its side. Slight cordon; burnishing to below max. girth then single bands of burnishing to base. Mucking kiln product type 'O' (Ht 134mm; Rim 42mm; Neck 30mm; Max diam 111mm; Base 5.3mm). Late 2nd to early 3rd century AD.

*Body:* Head stains only, suggesting head to NW, facing up.

### **Grave 9. (283N/-95E)**

Notebook 6.65

*Grave pit:* Rectangular, slightly tapering with rounded corners, oriented ESE-WNW. 2.59 x 0.91m x 0.58m deep.

*Grave fill:* Clean orange sand inside coffin; residual IA and RB finds including many sherds, fragment of IA triangular loomweight, millstone grit fragment and spindle whorl fragment.

*Grave furniture:* Nailed coffin, measuring 2.19 x 0.53 x 0.26m deep, with 30 coffin nails. Parts of the sides of the wooden coffin were preserved as knots and sections of upstanding preserved timber, leading to the suggestion that it was constructed from yew, although the wood remains unidentified.

*Grave goods:*

9.1 Upper cluster of 28 hobnails, and lower cluster of 40 hobnails, both with leather attached, observed about 1' from the end of the coffin, by the right leg, or possibly on the feet, points up.

9.2 Grey ware hooked rim flask, inside the coffin by the left knee. Red body with black slip. Burnished zone on upper body and wavy line burnish on lower body. Single cordon below neck (Ht 145mm; Rim 50mm; Neck 27mm; Max diam 112mm; Base 4.7mm). Mucking Type O; late 2nd to early 3rd century AD.

9.3 Grey ware plain rim dish, also by the left knee, which had seen much use (Ht 30mm; Rim 180mm; Base 145mm). Local product; AD 140+.

9.4 One item (Nail No. 8, found outside the coffin to the east of the head) assumed to be a coffin nail was identified as having preserved leather attached, and may have been a knife handle, or perhaps a form of coffin fitting [good sketch in cemetery file].

*Bone:* Patch of ginger soil marks head stain at east end of grave, head facing up; estimated height of body (measured from head to hobnails) 5' 3".

### **Grave 10. (288N/-100E) Adult**

Notebook 5.33, 6.66

*Grave pit:* Rectangular, with rounded corners and slightly bowed sides, oriented ESE-WNW. 2.13 x 0.91 x 0.61m deep. A gravel 'shelf' was observed running down the north side of the grave.

*Grave fill:* Very clean dark brown silt outside coffin with residual IA and RB sherds; brown sandy fill inside coffin.

*Grave furniture:* Stain of nailed oak coffin measuring 1.90 x 0.46 x 0.23m deep, with bowed left side; 26 iron coffin nails recovered.

*Grave goods:*

10.1 Grey ware hooked rim flask: cordon on shoulder, slipped on upper half, with dent/hole in upper body, placed (slightly tilted) in the coffin at the north-east corner; Mucking Type O. Late 2nd to early 3rd century AD. Now lost.

10.2 Flanged grey ware bowl, placed on the right side of the body, by the right leg, and was apparently already broken when placed in the grave (Ht 84mm; Diam 172mm; Base 114mm). Very similar to Mucking Type D, which probably date after AD250. Now lost.

*Body:* Body supine and extended with head to east, facing up. Silhouette shows spine, pelvis and legs. Damaged crown of tooth, probably upper premolar; enamel only. No dentine survives.

### **Grave 11. (295N/-100E)**

Notebook 5.16, 7.57

*Grave pit:* Rectangular, with slightly bowed sides and rounded corners, oriented WNW-ESE. 1.98 x 0.73 x 0.53m deep. Cuts LBA-EIA pit 298N, -95E at E end.

*Grave fill:* Brownish loam and gravel, with residual LBA-EIA sherds; grave floor was very hard sand. Phosphate readings were conducted over this grave by Proctor and Gamble on 30th November 1965, giving a reading of 60% at the centre right of the grave and 73% over the centre left.

*Grave furniture:* Nailed oak coffin, measuring 1.83 x 0.50 x 0.30m deep, represented by 20 iron nails and partial coffin stain.

*Grave goods:*

11.1 Grey ware narrow-necked flask, which lay on its side within the coffin between the knees and feet. Burnished above the shoulder and above the foot. Mucking Type O. Late 2nd to early 3rd century AD.

11.2 At the E end of the coffin there was a group of 20 hobnails. The soil close to them was more clayey and greasy in texture and greyish in colour, and was presumably the traces of the decayed leather. Close by and slightly deeper, a further group of nails was found, still largely in situ. These also were surrounded by greyish earth. These sandals may have been worn at burial, or placed in the grave (34 hobnails in total).

Also a fragment of bronze near right knee.

*Bone:* Head stain and some body stain suggest that the head lay to the west, and that the body lay slightly flexed on its left side; this was possibly to fit into the restricted space within the coffin.

### **Grave 13. (303N/-107E)**

Notebook 5.45

*Grave pit:* Slightly tapering grave with rounded corners, variable to vertical sides and flat base, oriented NW-SE. 2.31m x 1.02m x 0.41m deep.

*Grave fill:* Darkish silt. Some charcoal flecks noted in upper fill and some residual IA pottery and worked flint.

*Grave furniture:* None observed. No coffin stain seen.

*Grave goods:* None.

*Bone:* None preserved. Probably sandy brown body silhouette noted, with head apparently at the SSE end, facing up, but body position unclear.

### **Grave 14. (322N/-138E)**

Notebook 5.41, 6.41

*Grave pit:* Rectangular grave with rounded corners, oriented WNW-ESE. 2.00 x 0.66 x 0.40m deep.

*Grave fill:* A dirty gravel fill inside the coffin; a stain outside the coffin at the foot end of the grave may be redeposited turf; residual IA sherds. Ground frozen during excavation, so grave was picked.

*Grave furniture:* Clear stain of nailed oak coffin, with at least 14 iron nails, measuring 1.73 x 0.61m, depth uncertain. Most of the coffin nails were upright, serving to nail the bottom to the sides.

*Grave goods:*

14.1 Colchester colour coated beaker: orange-dark brown with white barbotine scroll dots above two bands of single line rouletting (Ht 190mm; Diam 100mm; Rim 53mm; Base 45mm). The rim of the vessel is warped and partly broken; vessel was a second; 3rd to 4th century AD. The pot lay inside the coffin on its side near the foot of the grave, and was empty except for a little sand.

14.2 Two clear clusters of hobnails close to the left leg. They were clearly not on the feet of the body (40 in total). Most of the hobnails lay on their sides (perhaps indicating that the shoes were deposited in this manner) and there were more nails with the left than the right.

*Bone:* Head stain and partial body silhouette of compact ginger brown sand indicates that body was supine and extended, with the head to the west end of the grave, facing up.

### **Grave 15a and b. (327N/-147E) (a) Adult; (b) Adult**

Notebook 6.25-6, 17.186

Grave 15a

*Grave pit:* Large, with roughly parallel sides and rounded corners, near-vertical sides and a flat base, oriented ESE-WNW. 2.51 x 1.07 x 0.79m deep. Cuts MIA structure PG16 and disturbed Grave 15b.

*Grave fill:* Mixed sand and gravel fill; residual IA sherds.

*Grave furniture:* Nailed oak coffin, with stain indicating dimensions of 1.78 x 0.53m, depth uncertain. At least 20 iron nails recovered.

*Grave goods:*

15a.1. Set of iron hobnails, two groups put together totalling 40, probably pair of hobnailed shoes.

*Bone:* Good head stain and poor ginger brown sand body silhouette indicating a supine extended burial with head to the east, facing up.

Grave 15b

*Grave pit:* No data: disturbed by Grave 15a, but over 0.81m deep, as coffin/?body stain of brown sand observed at this level.

*Grave fill:* No data.

*Grave furniture:* Part of a coffin stain underneath Grave 15a at a depth of 0.81m.

*Grave goods:*

15b.1. Discrete group of iron hobnails, cut through by the right side of Grave 15a coffin, plus another isolated group under coffin of Grave 15a.

15b.2. Cu alloy bangle found just outside the coffin of Grave 15a; disturbed (Lab No 370; No 65/8). Ribbon stip bracelet with line, dot and stamp decoration. Flat rectangular cross-section. A broken adult-size bracelet made to fit a small child. Lydney decoration Type H: 4th century AD.

*Bone:* Head stains and disturbed skull bone found in two places: near the left shoulder and under the left foot of Grave 15a, comprising fragments of cranium, occipital interior and part of mastoid process.

**Grave 17. (280N/-105E) Adult**

Notebook 5.17, 5.25, 7.17-9

*Grave pit:* Rectangular with rounded corners, sloping sides and flat base, oriented WNW-ESE. 2.74 x 1.22 x 0.61m deep.

*Grave fill:* Mixed loam and gravel as infill after coffin collapse; grave fill itself is loam over brown sandy loam. Flint and sherd recorded from fill and cremated bone recorded in top 3" of grave fill at SE corner: did this burial destroy an earlier cremation?

*Grave furniture:* Poor stain of nailed oak coffin; location of fourteen iron nails gives approximate dimensions of 1.98m x 0.66m (depth uncertain).

*Grave goods:*

17.1 Dish, plain rimmed, in sandy grey ware, ?rouletted band on the interior, and a post-firing cross-scratched graffiti on outside of base. Burnished all over but very worn inside and outside base (Ht 42mm; Max diam 203mm; Base 174mm). Filled with roots and sand, and placed within the coffin at the north-west corner of the grave. Possible Mucking product or North Kent, late 2nd to 3rd century AD

17.2 Miniature funnel-necked beaker with beaded rim in fine grey ware. Burnished on shoulder (Ht 66mm; Rim 33mm; Max diam 51mm; Base 28mm). Found in slanting position in grave outside the coffin at the head end of the grave, filled with sand. Mucking Type U, late 2nd to 3rd century AD.

17.3 Fifty-five iron hobnails. Some loose, other in pattern (with points up, suggestive of a shoe placed sole downwards) towards W end of the grave at a depth of 0.56m.

*Bone:* Silhouette, dark earth soil mark in sand at a depth of 0.56m; position of hobnails suggests body lay with head to east.

**Grave 18. (290N/-115E) Adult Female**

*Grave pit:* Rectangular, with rounded corners, truncated at the head end by the enclosure of Grave 19. Dimensions: 2.29m long x 0.91m wide and 0.46m deep, oriented N-S.

*Grave fill:* Not certain but probably sandy loam; residual RB sherds.

*Grave furniture:* Stain of nailed ?poplar coffin, with at least 13 iron nails; dimensions: 2.01m long, 0.51m wide, depth unknown.

*Grave goods:*

18.1 Circular twisted expanding fastening bracelet or armband (lab no. 14; no. 65/10), found on the left leg (anklet?); each twist has three turns. With a circular cross-section, 2mm wide, and an internal diameter of 86mm, the bracelet weighs 10g. Identical examples have been recovered from Colchester and Lankhills cemetery, Winchester, the former dating from the 3rd to 4th century AD (Crummey 1983: no. 1601) and that from Lankhills, between 310 and 410 AD (Clarke 1979: 120; graves G239, G323).

18.2 Two refitting fragments forming a complete snakeshead bracelet (lab no. 385; no. 65/9). Placed on right side near the hip (?on arm), the bracelet has a D-shaped cross-section, 4mm thick and 4mm wide and



weighs 18g. Both terminals are decorated with incised circles and grooves to represent a snake's head, eyes and snout. Dated to the 3rd - 4th century AD.

*Bone:* Traces of head stain and a few teeth; corrosion products from bangle 18.1 preserved adjacent section of leg bone (?tibia); together these indicate a supine extended burial with head to the north, facing up.

### **Grave 19. (293N/-123E) Adult**

Notebook 5.27, 6.53

*Grave pit and surround:* Rectangular grave with rounded corners, near-vertical sides and flat base, oriented ESE-WNW. 2.74m x 1.27m x 1.22m deep. The surrounding ditch was *c* 0.30-0.46m in width, measuring 3.80m x 2.90m overall with straight sides to cut. It had no opening. The bottom of the ditch was irregular and was pitted with stake- and other holes. It seems likely that these are the rootings of an ornamental hedge. This feature cut the head of grave 18 (see above).

*Grave fill:* Gravel and loam; some residual IA and RB sherds in upper fill.

*Grave furniture:* Clear stain of a nailed coffin, *c* 1.88m x 0.46m x 0.30m deep. The coffin nails (of which there were stated to be twenty) included some which were exceptionally large, up to 0.23m in length. The wood grain impressions suggest that some were driven only part-way into the coffin and may have projected as much as *c* 0.10m. The larger nails were found at the upper part of the coffin, the smaller ones at the bottom. The position of the nails suggests that the coffin sides were lap-jointed to the bottom of the coffin, while the end was butt-jointed to the bottom board.

[WOOD IDENTIFICATION]

*Grave goods:*

19.1 Fragmentary coarse grey ware flanged bowl; complete but abraded (Ht 80mm; Rim 145mm; Base 74mm). Found broken against the right foot of the coffin, and outside it. Mucking product, AD250+.

19.2 Inside, and close to the bowl were two 'heart-shaped' pieces of unfired clay, while a third similar object was found mid-way along the right side of the coffin. These were not kept and it is impossible to state what they might have been.

19.3 Two hobnails (location uncertain).

19.4 Round-section pin articulating with a fragment of round-section ring; probably a buckle or brooch. Location uncertain.

*Bone:* Poor silhouette showing only the head stain, indicating that the body lay with head to the east, facing up.

### **Grave 21. (352N/-126E)**

Notebook 5.26

*Grave pit:* Slightly tapered towards foot end, with rounded head end and rounded corners to foot end, sloping sides and flat base, oriented ESE-WNW. 2.20 x 0.91 x 0.46m.

*Grave fill:* Gravelly fill with areas of greyish brown sand or silt.

*Grave furniture:* Clear greyish silt stain of nailed oak coffin, 'of bowl-shaped section', measuring 1.70 x 0.51 x 0.20m deep. Eight nails recovered.

*Grave goods:* None recorded.

*Bone:* Poor silhouette of legs only, but indicate that body extended and supine, with head to the east.

### **Grave 22. (356N/-117E)**

Notebook 5.40a; 6.33

*Grave pit:* Straight sided, with rounded ends. 1.78 x 0.61m and 0.33m deep.

*Pit fill:* Unstated; top picked as grave frozen.

*Grave furniture:* None observed. No coffin stain or nails noted.

*Bone:* Stain only, showing individual was placed in the grave on its left side, in a flexed position.

### **Grave 23. (333N/-115E)**

Notebook 5.36

*Grave pit:* Elongated oval grave, oriented ESE-WNW, very deep. 2.21 x 1.22 x 1.22m deep.

*Grave fill:* Clean gravel outside of coffin, but dirty gravel within coffin; residual IA sherds.

*Grave furniture:* Clear dark brown/black sand stain of nailed oak coffin (ten iron nails recovered) measuring 1.66 x 0.48 x 0.20m deep.

*Grave goods:*

23.1 Hobnails within clear greyish gravel stains of two sandals (lengths of 23cm and 26cm) placed upside down in the grave, probably within the coffin (55 in total).

*Bone:* Head stain only; narrowness of coffin suggests a supine extended burial with head to the south-east, facing up.

**Grave 24. (250N/-116E)**

Notebook 5.32, 5.47

*Grave pit:* Rectangular, rounded corners and slightly irregular sides, oriented SSW-NNE. 2.13 x 1.01 x 0.61m deep.

*Grave fill:* Mixed loam and gravel. Residual sherds of IA and RB pottery noted in fill.

*Grave furniture:* Heavy staining of nailed oak coffin, with up to 54 nails in clear pattern, measuring 1.83 x 0.61 x 0.50m. At the base of the grave the coffin stain extended across the bottom of the grave.

*Grave goods:* None noted.

*Bone:* Body stain not seen due to heavy coffin staining.

**Grave 28. (345N/-140E) Adult**

Notebook 5.34, 5.36-8

*Grave pit:* Rectangular grave with rounded corners, steeply sloping sides and flat base, oriented ENE-WSW. 2.13 x 0.86m x 0.61m deep. Grave post-dates Graves 57, 58 and 62.

*Grave fill:* Not noted; residual IA and RB sherds.

*Grave furniture:* At least 57 iron coffin nails, and a clear (in parts) coffin stain indicate a nailed oak coffin measuring 1.22 x 0.38m (depth uncertain).

*Grave goods:* Sherds of small orange/red Much Hadham type jar from this grave (part also found in grave 58, where it may have originally been deposited).

28.1 Small Much Hadham jar; zones of burnishing on shoulder and body, divided by two shallow grooves (Ht 110mm; Rim 95mm; Base 51mm). Very late 2nd century or later.

*Body:* Not noted.

*Remarks:* Part of 57 group (Graves 28,57, 58, 61 and 62).

**Grave 29. (325N/-125E)**

Notebook 5.22, 5.41

*Grave pit:* Sub-rectangular, with rounded corners, oriented WNW-ESE, but grave floor slopes from E to W. 1.98 x 0.91 x 0.81m deep.

*Grave fill:* Pan found in floor; otherwise not stated.

*Grave furniture:* Clear stain of nailed oak coffin; 1.52 x 0.40 x 0.23m deep. The coffin was broader at the head than the foot. Eighteen nails were found.

*Grave goods:*

29.1 Grey ware narrow-necked flask. Burnished from rim to just above maximum girth; perforated hole might indicate a 'killed' pot (Ht 134mm; Rim 44mm; Base 62mm; Max diameter 130mm). Possibly a Mucking product Type O; early to mid 3rd century AD. Vessel upright in bottom left corner of coffin.

*Body:* No silhouette or head stain noted. Tapering of coffin and placing of the vessel might indicate an extended burial with head to the ESE.

**Grave 30. (292N/-142E) Adult**

Notebook 5.18

*Grave pit:* Rectangular, with rounded sides and ends, oriented SE-NW. 2.43 x 1.37m x 0.91m deep. The W end of the burial was under an uncleared area, and was cut by Grave 47, and the grave itself possibly disturbed.

*Grave fill:* Generally mixed loam and gravel, with much humus; residual RB sherd.

*Grave furniture:* Sixteen nails were found, but these did not give the size and shape of the coffin. Replaced wood on the nails identified as oak.

*Grave goods:* Both bracelets found near the larger group of hobnails at the ?foot end of the grave.

30.1 Bracelet (Lab No 654). Small narrow, rectangular cross-sectioned bracelet or armband decorated over with five circular impressions, with the central two between transverse grooves. The 'upper' three are connected by diagonal bands. Two notches, 3.5mm from the end, create a rounded appearance to the terminal. The 'lower' half is separated by two transverse bands and decorated with a mid-line groove with

evenly spaced small notches either side. The surface of the armlet is pitted (lab no. 654). Internal diameter 35mm, width 4.5mm, thickness 1.5mm, weight 2g.

30.2 Bracelet (Lab No 655). Small narrow, rectangular cross-sectioned oval bracelet armlet decorated with circular impression and possible four transverse grooves. The surface of the armlet is heavily pitted, obscuring the decoration (lab no. 655). Internal diameter 42mm x 36mm, width 4mm, thickness <1mm, weight 2g. Both these bracelets are similar in size and form and more suited to a young child. Comparable examples have been found in the cemeteries at Colchester and Lankhills, Winchester (Clarke 1979; Crummy 1983).

30.3 'Somewhat disturbed' cluster of hobnails from a pair of sandals (17 in total), which lay approximately 1m apart (?disturbed). They had no clear pattern, but lay points up in the grave. Greyish silty deposit in the vicinity of the clusters is probably decayed leather.

*Bone:* In the vicinity of the bracelets only, there was some bone survival, but the general condition of them was poor. No bone stain or silhouette was visible. The grave goods were taken by the excavator to suggest that this was a female burial, but there is no skeletal evidence for this.

### **Grave 31. (275N/-142E)**

Notebook 5.20

*Grave pit:* Sub-rectangular, with rounded corners, oriented WNW-ESE. 2.43 x 0.91 x 0.53m deep.

*Grave fill:* Mixed loam and gravel.

*Grave furniture:* Eleven nails were found in the fill, suggesting that the burial was coffined, but no clear dimensions were recovered, and wood not able to be identified.

*Grave goods:*

31.1 Pair of hobnailed sandals found (identified by the stains and eight nails). The cluster had heads pointing downwards, suggesting the soles were placed uppermost, and had been positioned at the head end of the burial.

*Bone:* Poor silhouette of dark brown stained sand; legs only and possibly one foot, indicating a supine extended burial with head to the WNW.

### **Grave 33. (248N/-127E)**

Notebook 5.21

*Grave pit:* Rectangular, with rounded ends, vertical sides and flat base, oriented NW-SE. 1.88 x 0.74 x 0.38m.

*Grave fill:* Mixed loam and gravel.

*Grave furniture:* Twenty-two nails were found grouped at both ends, indicating a nailed oak coffin with approximate dimensions 1.60 x 0.43 x 0.37m deep.

*Grave goods:*

33.1 Single hobnailed sandal (nails rusted together, but point upwards where visible), at foot end of grave, with toe pointing SW (13 in total).

*Bones:* No survival; stain only showing the position of the head and the legs, indicating a burial with head to NNW.

### **Grave 34. (263N/-128E)**

Notebook 5.21

*Grave pit:* Rectangular, with near vertical sides and flat base, oriented ESE-WNW. 2.43 x 0.79 x 0.84m deep.

*Grave fill:* Brownish loam and gravel; some residual IA sherds in fill.

*Grave furniture:* Clear stain and thirty nails found from nailed oak coffin; apparently tapering; approximately 1.98 x 0.26m (depth unknown).

*Grave goods:*

34.1 Narrow-necked grey ware jar. Slight cordon at base of neck, zone of burnished triple wavy lines and traces of white slip. Burnishing to maximum girth of vessel below neck; two bands of triple possibly combed lines; ?heat crazing on one side (Ht 120mm; Rim 42mm; Base 45mm; Max diameter 111mm). Mucking type 'O'; AD170/90-210/30. [NB Mistakenly attributed to Grave 24 when published as No. 89 in Jones and Rodwell 1973]. Vessel placed inside the coffin at the left foot (empty when found).

34.2 Hobnails from pair of sandals at the foot of the coffin; points up; placed in grave (37 in total).

*Bone:* Poor survival; partial silhouette only, suggesting that the body lay with head to WSW, facing left.

**Grave 35. (275N/-127E) Adult**

Notebook 5.24, 5.28

*Grave pit:* Irregularly rectangular with rounded corners, oriented SE-NW. 2.29 x 1.22 x 0.56m deep.

*Grave fill:* Generally brownish loam and gravel; some residual RB sherds in fill.

*Grave furniture:* No coffin stain noted, but sixteen coffin nails (*?in situ*) give approximate dimensions of 1.96 x 0.61 x 0.38m deep. Replaced wood on nails identified as oak.

*Grave goods:* None.

*Bone:* No silhouette, but some bone survival including part of a leg. Poor condition, but position of leg suggests head may have lain to SE.

**Grave 36. (256N/-112E)**

Notebook 5.39, 4.22, 6.6, 6.31

*Grave pit:* Sub-rectangular, with rounded corners, vertical sides and flat base, aligned SSE-NNW. 2.36 x 1.14 x 0.86m deep.

*Grave fill:* Outside coffin grave fill was reddish-blackish, with more gravelly reddish fill within. Marked dark brown humus linear stain on the top of the grave, possibly sods, or a grave marker of wood noted. Nineteen residual sherds and a flint noted; coin (36.1) mus also be residual.

*Grave furniture:* Clear stain of nailed oak coffin measuring 1.83 x 0.61 x 0.48m deep. Thirty-two nails found, mainly clustered at the coffin side/ends.

*Grave goods:*

36.1 Flat-Linear potin. Obv Head left, with angular face; Rev bull left. Est diam 17 mm. Class I, Type F or GB. Later 2nd to early 1st century BC (Haselgrove 2006; Gruel and Haselgrove 2007). Found on right side of burial close to the head, but outside coffin (residual) [coin No. 65/1].

*Bone:* Clear silhouette of head and limbs. Otherwise no bone survival. Indicates that body was supine and extended, with head to SSE, facing up.

**Grave 37. (357N/-134E)**

Notebook 5.19

*Grave pit:* Sub-rectangular with rounded corners, oriented ENE-WSW. 1.98 x 1.40 x 0.91m deep.

*Grave fill:* Sandy loam and gravel, with some traces of charcoal at all levels. (This may be derived from an earlier patch of charcoal found nearby.)

*Grave furniture:* No coffin silhouette noted, but six nails were found in the E end of the grave, probably representing a wooden box. Replaced wood identified as oak.

*Grave goods:*

37.1 Single hobnail noted, presumably at the foot of the grave; possibly residual and not indicating footwear.

*Bone:* No silhouette noted. There was no bone survival. Position of hobnail may indicate that head lay to SW, but this remains uncertain.

**Grave 41. (312N/-144E)**

Notebook 5.34

*Grave pit:* Sub-rectangular but slightly tapering, with rounded corners, vertical sides and roughly level base, oriented W-E. 1.79 x 1.02m x 0.56m deep.

*Grave fill:* Clean sandy soil.

*Grave furniture:* Only one nail found, above the right leg.

*Grave goods:* None.

*Bone:* Partial light brown sandy silt silhouette only, faint stains of legs, indicating that body lay with head to the west.

**Grave 43. (273N/-130E)**

No data available (grave marked on base plan, but no notebook reference or details recorded).

**Grave 45. (317N/-125E)**

Notebook 6.43

*Grave pit:* Straight sides, with rounded ends, oriented ENE-WSW. c 1.98 x 0.84m (depth unknown).

*Grave fill:* Compact grey-brown ?turf, and sand. Disturbed by the dragline that removed the upper fill; residual RB sherd.

*Grave furniture:* No stain visible and no nails recorded from grave itself, but a nail recovered from the dragline had mineral-preserved oak, suggesting a coffin may perhaps have been disturbed (though this could easily have been disturbed from elsewhere).

*Grave goods:*

45.1 Everted-rim jar in coarse grey ware, with burnished lattice decoration on mid-body (Ht 97mm). Thames Estuary product. Marsh and Tyers Type II.N; AD120-250. Placed by the right leg, on side when found.

45.2 Cluster of at least seven hobnails found at the W (foot) end of the grave (12 are indicated on the grave plan).

*Bone:* No survival, and poor silhouette only, of head and right leg, indicated burial with head to the east, facing up.

### **Graves 46A and 46B. (365N/-145E)**

Notebook 5.35, 6.19

#### **Grave 46A.**

*Grave pit:* Irregular rectangle (disturbed by the digging of grave 46B), oriented ESE-WNW. Dimensions 2.28 x 1.07 x 0.68m.

*Grave fill:* Not stated, but probably greyish-brown sand.

*Grave furniture:* Coffin stain noted (E end and N side). 1.12+ x 0.18+m (depth uncertain). One coffin nail recorded.

*Grave goods:* None recorded. To the left of the head stain (see below) were traces of an organic deposit. If this was not material deriving from decay of the body, was it a food offering?

*Bone:* No survival. Ginger sand silhouette of cranium only. The body lay with head to ESE, facing up.

#### **Grave 46B.**

This burial was dug into the fill of 46A and almost completely destroyed it. The grave diggers cut the skull of 46A in half through a vertebra. 'This was a clear cut, so [it] must have taken place some years after the first burial when the bone was already soft' (Nb).

*Grave pit:* Irregularly rounded rectangle, oriented ESE-WNW. 1.37 x 0.91m; depth not recorded.

*Grave fill:* Sandy loam and medium brown gravel.

*Grave furniture:* The soil stain of a broad box coffin was noted, 1.22 x 0.61m; depth not recorded. Three iron angle brackets were noted on its N side, together with the remains of a riveted ?lock plate (see report by Q. Mould). The coffin was also nailed, and replaced wood from one of these was identified as oak.

*Grave goods:* None recorded, save for a blackish stain in the vicinity of the abdomen of the inhumation (see plan) which clearly represents decayed organic material. If it is not connected with the body itself in some way it may be clothing, or perhaps a food offering.

*Bones:* No survival, but a partial stain shows the head and legs of a flexed inhumation lying on its left side, with head to the ESE, facing left.

#### **Grave 47. (292N/-152E)**

*Grave pit:* Only one end seen, as rest of grave lay under road, and southern end cut by Grave 30, but probably a sub-rectangular grave, oriented SE-NW. c. 0.91+ x 1.10 x 1.00m deep.

*Grave fill:* Not stated.

*Grave furniture:* Clear stain of wooden coffin 0.56m wide (length and depth not recorded).

*Grave goods:* None recorded.

*Body:* No stain observed.

#### **Grave 48. (328N/-136E) Child (*Infans*)**

Notebook 5.45, 6.29

*Grave pit:* Straight sides, with rounded ends, oriented NW-SE. c. 2.36 x 0.96 x 0.61m deep.

*Grave fill:* Not stated; residual IA sherd.

*Grave furniture:* Clear stain of nailed oak coffin measuring 1.68 x 0.45 x 0.20m deep. Replaced wood shows the boards to be c. 34-36mm thick. Ten nails recovered.

*Grave goods:*

48.1 Pentice moulded beaker in poor Oxfordshire type colour coat. Bands of rouletting on upper part of body; burnished; pedestal base slightly concave (Ht 163mm; Rim 51mm; Max diameter 80mm; Base 33mm). AD270-400. Found at the right foot of the body inside coffin.

48.2 Clear clusters of hobnails found in right and left corners of coffin foot (with 29 and 19 hobnails respectively). Grey silty material in vicinity of the hobnails suggests decayed leather.

*Body:* Clear silhouette of supine extended burial with head turned to the right, head to west. The only bone preservation was of the mandible, with poorly preserved teeth. These comprised about four molars, including one lower molar. Only the enamel survives.

**Grave 49. (335N/-125E)**

Notebook 4.22, 5.40, 6.31

*Grave pit:* Rectangular, with slightly bowed sides and rounded ends, oriented ESE-WNW, vertical sides and flat base. 2.74 x 0.91 x 0.61m deep. Cuts MIA structure PG16.

*Grave fill:* Not stated, but possibly sandy loam; residual RB sherd.

*Grave furniture:* Clear coffin stain, but only one nail found. The dimensions of the coffin were 1.83m long, 0.46m wide. The depth was not stated.

*Grave goods:* None recorded. However, a dark stain close to the presumed left hip of the body may have been a grave good, which has perished.

*Bone:* No survival, black-brown sandy silt silhouette only of head, which lay to ESE, facing up.

**Grave 50. (308N/-138E)**

Notebook 5.39

*Grave pit:* Rectangular with rounded corners, oriented WNW-ESE. 2.49 x 1.17 x 0.74m deep.

*Grave fill:* Dirty gravel outside coffin; clean gravel inside coffin; residual IA and RB sherds.

*Grave furniture:* Clear stain of nailed oak coffin measuring 1.78 x 0.41m (depth not recorded); sixteen iron nails recovered.

*Grave goods:* all three vessels lay at the foot of the grave, within the coffin (50.1 and 50.3 by the left foot, and 50.2 by the right); the excavator thought the pie-dish (50.3) may have been thrown into the grave and shattered, as a sherd from it was found in the beaker (50.1) immediately above.

50.1 Colchester Colour Coat beaker. Barbotine scroll decoration in central panel (Ht 114mm; Rim 51mm). Parallel from Kiln 32 at Colchester; not good quality. Mid to late 3rd century AD.

50.2 Oxfordshire Colour Coat type beaker (Young Type C29); lower half of body and base only (the old break smoothed for re-use as ?drinking vessel). Stabbed squares (vertical) above a band of oblique rouletted lines. Burnished; pedestal base with foot ring (Base 30mm). Very poor quality. AD250+.

50.3 Grey ware flanged bowl, Mucking Type 'D' (Ht 70mm; Rim 140mm); found in fragments. AD250+.

50.4 Small fragment of bronze (location not noted).

*Body:* Clear dark brown/black sand stain of an extended supine inhumation with head to the west, facing left. No bone surviving.

**Grave 51. (245N/-95E)**

Notebook 6.63

*Grave pit:* Rectangular, with rounded corners, oriented NW-SE. 1.68 x 0.81 x 0.70m deep.

*Grave fill:* ?sandy; 20-30 sherds of residual pottery and an iron ring.

*Grave furniture:* No coffin stain noted, but locations of ten coffin nails gave dimensions of 1.41m by 0.58m. Depth not stated. Replaced wood suggests oak. An iron ring, found near the right foot, may be a coffin fitting or a residual find.

*Grave goods:* None noted (but see under grave furniture).

*Bone:* Ginger sand stain only of head and part of the spine. This indicated that the body lay on its right side, possibly flexed, with head to the SE, facing right.

**Grave 52. (284N/-135E)**

Notebook 6.51

*Grave pit:* Tapering rectangular (wider at the head end), with rounded ends, oriented NW-SE. 2.18 x 0.91 (depth uncertain). Coffin placed in the grave at an angle (?to allow room for grave goods). Reference to

Grave 72 underlying this grave, of which only 2" depth survived. Grave was hurriedly excavated ahead of the dragline.

*Grave fill:* Not stated.

*Grave furniture:* Clear coffin stain giving dimensions: 1.83m long by 0.38m wide by 0.61m deep. No nails were found: the coffin must have been jointed or pegged.

*Grave goods:*

52.1 Crudely-thrown, plain-rimmed dog dish in a coarse grey ware, probably of local manufacture; burnished all over outside and inside walls (Ht 42mm; Rim 108mm; Base 94mm). A post-firing graffito on the exterior base may read 'E'. Mucking Type A (Kilns II-V). Poor quality. AD130/60-260.

52.2 Five fragments of a distorted and bent oval circular cross-sectioned bracelet or armlet (lab no 10; no. 6514). Width. 2.5mm - 3mm, total weight 7g. The external surfaces are decorated with transverse grooves.

52.3 Six refitting fragments, some bent, of a circular cross-sectioned bracelet or armlet (lab no 8; no. 6514); diameter 2mm, total weight. There are no evident surviving terminals. The bracelet's principal decorative scheme consists of unevenly (crudely) spaced transverse grooves with occasional rectangular panels.

52.4 Bracelet or armlet (lab no 23; no. 6515). Bent out of shape.

52.5 Fragments of two D-shaped cross-sectioned bracelets or armlets (lab no. 22; no. 6513). The terminal of the larger fragment (internal diameter *c.* 70mm, width. 3.5mm, 2mm thick, weight 4g) is flattened to form a spatula-like end. The smaller fragment measures 2.5mm wide, 1.5mm thick and weighs 1g. Both pieces are decorated on the exterior surface, the larger with alternating zones of rectangular panels and transverse grooves (each *c.* 5mm wide), and the smaller bracelet with grooves only (the surface is pitted, obscuring/masking the decoration).

52.6 Fragment of a small D-shaped cross-sectioned bracelet or armlet (lab no. 1/6518). The surface is pitted and corroded, but sufficient detail survives to reveal alternate zones of transverse grooves and rectangular panels, similar to 52.5. Length 35mm, width 3mm, thickness 2mm, weight 1g.

52.7 Three fragments of an oval D-shaped cross-sectioned bracelet or armlet (lab no 21; no. 6513). Internal diameter *c.* 30mm-60mm, width. 3mm, 2mm thick, total weight 3g. The external surface of the largest fragment is decorated with alternating zones of rectangular panels (3mm- 4mm) and transverse grooves (*c.* 5mm wide).

52.8 Penannular slightly bulbous roughly circular cross-sectioned bracelet or armlet (diam. 5-6mm), tapering to rectangular flattened terminals (2mm thick; lab no. 372). The terminals are decorated with transverse bands and with a single circular impression. There is no evidence to suggest the terminals were lap-soldered or are missing attachments (see Crummy 1983). The bracelet's internal diameter is estimated between 60mm and 70mm and weighs 21g. The bracelet is distorted, presenting a 'handle' like aspect, and may represent post-mortem removal of the piece from the body and its subsequent placement under pottery dish 52.1. The bracelet is dated to the 3rd - 4th centuries AD on typological grounds.

52.9. Small fragment of thin rectangular cross-sectioned bracelet or armlet; length 15mm, width 4.5mm, thickness 0.5mm, weight <1g (lab no. 330; no. 65/18). Decorated with a single circular impression. Recovered from the grave cut, this fragment is stylistically the same as the other examples listed above, and may form part of 52.4.

All of the bracelets lay in the burial outside the coffin, on its right side and can be dated to the 3rd to 4th century AD on typological grounds (see Crummy 1983 for comparative examples). A darker stain in the vicinity of the bracelets suggests they had been placed in an organic container, possibly of plaited reed or straw, as bracelet 52.8 showed clear traces of plaited material in its corrosion products (see P1 000). The sixth bracelet lay under the coffin at the northwest (foot) end.

52.10 (not illustrated). Hobnails in the coffin foot showed that a pair of hobnailed boots had also been provided (54 in total).

*Bone:* No survival, but stain of cranium and spine suggests the burial was of an adult, probably supine and extended, with head to SE, facing up.

### **Grave 53. (290N/-135E)**

Notebook 6.46-8

*Grave pit:* Cut at the head only by the quarry dragline, vertical sides and flat base, oriented WNW-ESE. Cuts Grave 70 and 71. 2.43+ x 0.91 x 1.00m deep. Excavated in haste.

*Grave fill:* Not given; residual RB sherds.

*Grave furniture:* Six or seven nails found from nailed oak coffin, though stain only recorded at the foot end of the grave. Coffin 0.46m wide; length and depth not recorded.

*Grave goods:*

53.1 Clusters of hobnails found at the west end of the grave suggest boots were included (40 in total).

*Bone:* 'Good preservation'; burial probably lay with head to the ESE.

*Remarks:* Part of 53 group (Graves 53, 67, 68, 69, 70 and 71).

**Grave 55. (313N/-136E) Child (*Infans*)**

Notebook 5.46

*Grave pit:* Sub-rectangular, with rounded corners, near vertical sides and flat base; large and deep grave with space around the coffin on three sides, oriented WNW-ESE. 2.21 x 1.22 x 1.07m deep.

*Grave fill:* Not stated (grave picked as ground frozen).

*Grave furniture:* Clear dark brown stain of nailed oak coffin measuring 1.75 x 0.41 x 0.20m deep. Replaced wood indicated boards of c. 20mm thick used in coffin construction.

*Grave goods:*

55.1 Two groups of hobnails found in the coffin foot. The right shoe appears to lean against the end board of the coffin (61 in total).

*Bone:* Poor. Little bone survival in the cranium. Good dark brown sand silhouette showing body extended and supine with head to the west facing up; juvenile from size of stain.

**Grave 57. (345N/-140E)**

Notebook 5.36-8

*Grave pit:* Rectangular, with rounded ends, steeply sloping sides and flat base, oriented N-S. 2.13m x 0.46m deep, width not known [PLAN]. Cut by Graves 28 and 60.

*Grave fill:* Not stated.

*Grave furniture:* No clear record. No sign of coffin stain or nails.

*Grave goods:*

57.1 Hobnail cluster at the foot of the grave (four in total).

*Bone:* Traces only noted; location of hobnails suggests body lay with head to the WSW.

*Remarks:* Part of 57 group (Graves 28,57, 58, 61 and 62).

**Grave 58. (343N/-145E)**

Notebook 5.36-8

*Grave pit:* Rectangular, with rounded ends, steeply sloping sides and flat base, oriented WSW-ENE. Cuts Grave 62; cut by Graves 28 and 61. Dimensions 2.40+ x 0.61m+; depth unknown.

*Grave fill:* Not stated; some residual RB sherds.

*Grave furniture:* Nails found suggesting nailed coffin, but no stain either observed or noted.

*Grave goods:*

58.1 Two hobnail clusters at the foot of the grave suggest the presence of sandals (59 in total).

*Bone:* Stain of the hips and legs of an ?adult noted, otherwise no bone survival, aside from a skull fragment. Location of this and of hobnail clusters suggest a burial with head to the ENE.

*Remarks:* Part of 57 group (Graves 28,57, 58, 61 and 62).

**Grave 60. (340N/-140E)**

Notebook 5.36-8

*Grave pit:* rectangular, with rounded corners, vertical sides and flat base, oriented SW-NE. 1.37m x 0.53 deep, width uncertain. Cuts Grave 57.

*Grave fill:* Unstated, but a 'dark red stain' at the bottom of the grave was noted. This may be an odd fill, or equally, part of a battern.

*Grave furniture:* None noted.

*Grave goods:*

60.1 Two clear hobnail clusters found in the foot of the coffin (29 at the right foot and 20 at the left).

*Bone:* No stain noted, no record of survival. Location of hobnails suggest that body lay with head to WSW.

*Remarks:* Part of 57 group (Graves 28,57, 58, 61 and 62).

**Grave 61. (348N/-145E)**

Notebook 5.36-8



*Grave pit:* rectangular, with rounded corners, vertical sides and flat base, oriented WSW-ENE. Cuts Grave 58 and 62. c.1.37+ x 0.61m and 0.46m deep.

*Grave fill:* dark fill, perhaps of turves.

*Grave furniture:* None noted.

*Grave goods:* Two pottery vessels lay at the foot of the grave.

61.1 Grey ware flanged bowl; Mucking Type D19 (Kilns IV-V) (Ht 69mm; Rim 152mm; Base 71mm); Cam 305, Moulsham Street Kiln Chelmsford, common form. At Verulamium dated to AD270/90+.

61.2 Flagon in a granular, grey ware with lattice decoration from maximum girth to neck and burnish lines below (Ht 178mm; Rim 43mm; Diameter 140mm; Base 61mm). Very rare in the Thames Esruary; probably a container. Alice Holt type 8.12; produced in the Overwey kilns. AD270-400+.

*Bone:* No data.

*Remarks:* Part of 57 group (Graves 28,57, 58, 61 and 62). This is possibly the latest dated grave in the cemetery.

### **Grave 62. (348N/-139E)**

Notebook 5.36-8

*Grave pit:* Rectangular, with rounded corners, steeply sloping sides and generally flat base, oriented WSW-ENE; heavily truncated by Graves 28 and 58. Stratigraphically this is the earliest of the burials of the grave 28 complex, and the most disturbed. 2.13m x 0.61m x 0.61m deep.

*Grave fill:* Unstated.

*Grave furniture:* Not stated.

*Grave goods:* None reported.

*Bone:* No data.

*Remarks:* Part of 57 group (Graves 28,57, 58, 61 and 62).

### **Grave 63. (350N/-132E) Adult**

Notebook 6.35

*Grave pit:* Rectangular, with rounded ends, steeply sloping sides and flat base, oriented WSW-ENE. 1.98 x 1.09 x 0.61m deep. Cuts Grave 64.

*Grave fill:* Not stated; greyish gravelly fill inside coffin; residual RB sherds.

*Grave furniture:* Clear black stain of nailed poplar coffin. Individual floor boards were evident. Some nails found. Dimensions: 1.73 x 0.46 x 0.26m deep. A stain in the coffin near the head may be the remains of a pillow.

*Grave goods:*

63.1 Cluster of hobnails near the coffin foot. Possibly not on the feet of the body, but placed on the coffin (60 in total).

*Bone:* Clear ginger brown sand silhouette showing the head, legs and inturned feet. Poor bone survival otherwise. Body supine and extended with head to ENE (not to WSW as marked on Site Atlas), facing up.

### **Grave 65. (340N/-130E)**

Notebook 6.39

*Grave pit:* Rectangular with rounded corners, vertical sides and flat base, oriented W-E. 1.75 x 0.84 x 0.76m deep.

*Grave fill:* Soft sandy gravel.

*Grave furniture:* Clear stain of nailed oak coffin, with nails at the sides and ends and not at the corners, measuring 1.52 x 0.61 x 0.25m. Coffin apparently 'opened or decaying', as wider at the top than the bottom.

*Grave goods:* None.

*Bone:* Clear compact brown sand head silhouette. The head was to the west, facing up and apparently was seen *on* the (floor of?) coffin.

### **Grave 66. (310N/-140E)**

Notebook 6.45

*Grave pit:* Sub-rectangular grave with rounded ends, vertical sides and flat base, oriented WNW-ESE. 1.30 x 0.69 x 0.36m deep.

*Grave fill:* No details; residual fired clay.

*Grave furniture:* Stain of nailed oak coffin measuring 0.86m x 0.33m (depth unknown); five nails recovered.

*Grave goods:* None.

*Bone:* Nebulous ginger sand body stain but indicates that head to west, facing up. Child's grave by size.

**Grave 67. (300N/-135E)**

Notebook 6.49

*Grave pit:* Elongated oval grave, oriented WNW-ESE. 1.73+m x 0.66 x 0.56m. Probably cut by grave 68.

*Grave fill:* ?Clean gravel on hard orange gravel natural (also 68?)

*Grave furniture:* Possible coffin stain indicated on plan; wood on one nail unidentifiable.

*Grave goods:*

67.1 (Not illustrated). 'Some small fragments of what looks like lead' including a curved piece which appears to have been the base of a vessel.

*Bone:* None surviving but silhouette indicates supine extended grave with head to WNW.

*Remarks:* Part of 53 group (Graves 53, 67, 68, 69, 70 and 71).

**Grave 68. (303N/-135E) Adult Male**

Notebook 6.49

*Grave pit:* Rectangular grave with rounded corners, oriented NW-SE. 2.81m x 0.91 x 0.44m deep. Probably cuts Grave 67.

*Grave fill:* Gravelly fill with residual worked flint.

*Grave furniture:* Clear stain of nailed oak coffin: dimensions 1.88 x 0.54 x 0.21m deep. At least 12 nails at the corners.

*Grave goods:*

68.1 Hobnails. These appear to have been scattered within the grave. Also two lines of hobnails found 2" apart (95 in total).

*Bone:* Stain, and some bone survival. Some evidence suggests decapitation and head placed between legs as a fragment of femur or tibia lay 'across the skull' (Dr M J Catton identified this bone). The head was to the west.

*Remarks:* Part of 53 group (Graves 53, 67, 68, 69, 70 and 71).

**Grave 69. (298N/-135E)**

Notebook 6.49

*Grave pit:* Heavily disturbed grave (cut by Grave 70), oriented W-E; only one corner recognised in hurried excavation. 1.22+m long x 0.61m, depth uncertain.

*Grave fill:* Not noted; residual IA sherds.

*Grave furniture:* Only six nails from the NW corner of the coffin were recovered; nailed oak coffin. Thought to be c.1.00m long.

*Grave goods:* None recovered.

*Body:* Teeth recovered, suggesting burial lay with head to the west.

*Remarks:* Part of 53 group (Graves 53, 67, 68, 69, 70 and 71).

**Grave 70. (294N/-135E)**

Notebook 6.47

*Grave pit:* Just one end of grave excavated (cut through by Grave 53, but deeper than it; cuts Grave 69); section shows vertical sides and flat base, oriented NW-SE. Approx 2.13 x 0.76 x 1.07m deep.

*Grave fill:* Dark grey/brown silt (?turf); residual IA and RB sherds.

*Grave furniture:* At least six very large nails recovered from identified coffin stain from nailed ?oak coffin, 0.43m wide and 0.25m deep.

*Grave goods:*

70.1 Group of hobnails form a diagonal line in relation to coffin: ?shape of sole fallen upright (41 in total).

*Body:* No evidence; location of hobnails at the west end may indicate that head lay to ESE.

*Remarks:* Part of 53 group (Graves 53, 67, 68, 69, 70 and 71).

**Grave 71. (287N/-130E) Child (*Infans*)**

Notebook 6.48

*Grave pit:* Cut through by deeper Grave 53, oriented NW-SE. 2.13+ x 0.76 x 0.76m deep.

*Grave fill:* Not recorded; residual RB sherds.

*Grave furniture:* At the east end of the grave eight nails were recovered, and stains of that end and both sides of a nailed oak coffin recognised, measuring 1.52 x 0.61m (depth not recorded).

*Grave goods:*

71.1 Hobnails.

*Body:* No evidence. Hobnails at east end of grave may suggest that the burial had its head to WNW, facing up.

*Remarks:* Part of 53 group (Graves 53, 67, 68, 69, 70 and 71).

### **Grave 72. (282N/-135E)**

Notebook 6.51

*Grave pit:* No details – this had been cut by the dragline, and by Grave 52, and only 2” was left.

*Grave fill:* No data; a residual sherd noted.

*Grave goods:* None noted.

*Bone:* No data.

### **Grave 73. (244N/-127E)**

Notebook 7.79

*Grave pit:* Rectangular grave with rounded corners, sloping sides and base, oriented NW-SE. 0.97 x 0.53 x 0.18m deep.

*Grave fill:* In bottom, soft gravel, with no hard-pan; residual RB sherd.

*Grave furniture:* Poor stain of a nailed ?poplar coffin. Stain of coffin floor board? seen. 0.79m x 0.35m x 0.13m deep. Sixteen nails found.

*Grave goods:* None recorded.

*Bone:* No survival, poor dark brown/black stain showing part of the legs only indicates that burial lay extended with head to SE. Size indicates child's grave.

### **Grave 74. (248N/-111E)**

Notebook 6.58

*Grave pit:* Rectangular with rounded corners, near-vertical sides and undulating base, oriented WNW-ESE. 2.01m x 1.02m x 0.61m deep.

*Grave fill:* Loam; soil mark on south side suggests possible turves.

*Grave furniture:* No coffin stain, but locations of 23 nails indicate nailed oak coffin measuring 1.68 x 0.61 x 0.36m.

*Grave goods:*

74.1 Narrow-necked grey ware jar (Mucking type O). Cam 282; Marsh and Tyers Type II.R. Form is common in Essex but very rare in London. AD170/90-210/30. This lay inside the coffin at the top right corner.

74.2 Part of a twisted bronze bracelet, circular cross-section, length 48mm, weight 2g, diameter estimated between 50-60mm. At the mid-point are adhered fragments of mineralised wood. (lab no. 373; No 4/187). Found in the area of the right shoulder. This form of bracelet is common during the Romano-British period, with a hook and clasp terminals to close the item in place (see Crummy 1983: 38-39).

*Bone:* Brown sandy head and body silhouette, showing that head lay to WNW, facing up.

### **Grave 75. (242N/-110E) Adult**

Notebook 6.58

*Grave pit:* Rectangular grave with rounded corners, vertical sides and flat base, oriented WNW-ESE. 1.83 x 0.63 x 0.30m deep.

*Grave fill:* soft sand and area of fawn loam; residual RB sherds.

*Grave furniture:* None.

*Grave goods:* None.

*Body:* Parts of skull preserved, including seven teeth; ginger sand body stain indicates a supine extended burial with head to WNW, facing up.

**Grave 76. (247N/-132E)**

*Grave pit:* Oval, with rounded ends and rounded base, oriented NW-SE. 1.14 x 0.61 x 0.20m deep.

*Grave fill:* Not stated.

*Grave furniture:* Black silt stain of nailed coffin (wood unidentifiable), 0.76m long. Width and depth not known. Single nail may be from coffin or a grave good.

*Grave goods:* None noted (but see under grave furniture).

*Bone:* Head stain only, indicating that head lay to NW facing up. Size indicates child's grave.

**Grave 77. (242N/-120E)**

*Grave pit:* Rectangular, with rounded corners, vertical sides and flat base, oriented NW-SE. One side slightly bowed. 1.88 x 0.84 x 0.61m deep.

*Grave fill:* Grey-brown sand and loam; residual RB sherds.

*Grave furniture:* Clear brown/black stain of nailed oak coffin, measuring 1.70 x 0.43 x 0.23m deep. Coffin foot end clearly indicated by packed turves. Twenty coffin nails in all. Right side of the coffin warped. At a depth of 24" a 'large fleshy root was found, also bark of a silver birch'.

*Grave goods:* None noted. Stain in coffin corner to left of head may be organic grave good, if not displaced head stain.

*Bone:* No survival, ginger sand head stain only noted, indicating that head lay to SE, facing up.