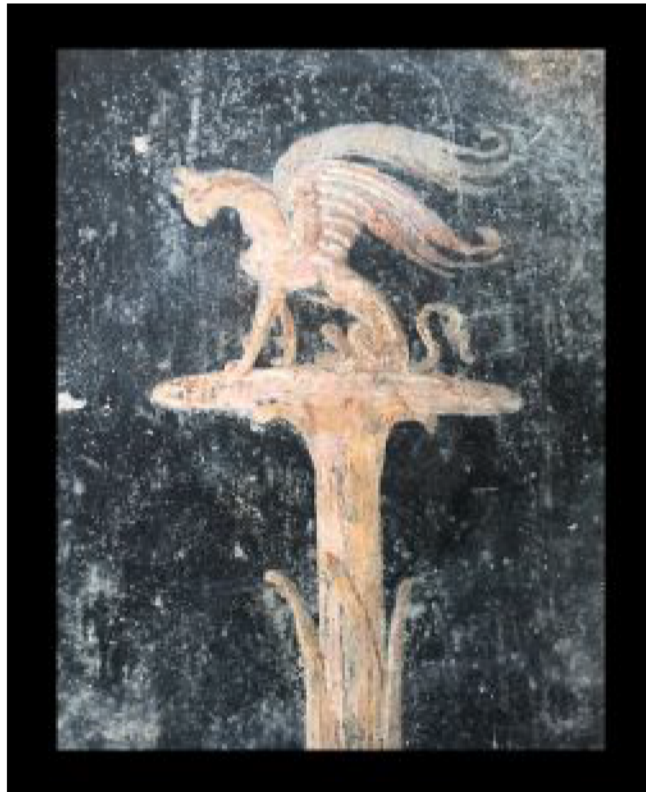


Archaeological Trial Trenching at  
Land to the Rear of 16 High Street, Maldon, Essex CM9 5PJ  
(New Address: 15 Friary Lane, Maldon, Essex)



For Bright Ideas Ltd

January 2020

TA Project: FLM19

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(New Address: 15 Friary Lane, Maldon, Essex)

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Appendix II: OASIS Report

Appendix III: Pottery Report: Helen Walker

Appendix IV: WSI



## Summary

*Touchstone Archaeology was commissioned Bright Ideas Ltd to undertake archaeological Trial Trenching at Land to the Rear of 16 High Street, Maldon, Essex CM9 5PJ, during works involving the demolition of the 19<sup>th</sup> C building and the erection of a new dwelling (18/00335/FUL). The work was undertaken on 12<sup>th</sup> December 2020.*

*Two trenches were excavated.*

*In T1 (northwest to southeast) foundations from the Post Medieval building recorded on the Tithe map, OS maps and reported as fire damaged in newspapers and a lease document were extant. A gravel foundation with a single stone in situ was uncovered adjacent to a dump of brick and stone rubble. Pottery from the dump provided dating evidence of C16<sup>th</sup> – 18<sup>th</sup>, the date of the High Street buildings. Three residual sherds of Medieval pottery and one sherd of Roman pottery were also recovered.*

In T2 the stratigraphy corresponded to that of T2.

## 1.0 INTRODUCTION

1.1 In December 2019 Touchstone Archaeology carried out archaeological Trial Trenching at Land rear of 16 High Street, Maldon Essex (TL 84863 07012). The works were commissioned by Bright Ideas Ltd to fulfil the terms of a planning consent condition (condition L1 & L2) determined by Maldon District Council (MDC) (Figures 1-2).

1.2 Planning consent was granted by Maldon District Council for the Demolition of an existing redundant outbuilding and the construction of new two storey one bedroom dwelling (Planning Ref: FUL/MAL/18/00335) with an archaeological condition in place.

1.3 The archaeology condition states:

### *L1 Archaeological Assessment*

*No development including any site clearance or groundworks of any kind shall take place within the site until the applicant or their agents; the owner of the site or successors in title has submitted an archaeological assessment by an accredited archaeological consultant to establish the archaeological significance of the site. Such archaeological assessment shall be approved by the local planning authority and will inform the implementation of a programme of archaeological work. The development shall be carried out in a manner that accommodates such approved programme of archaeological work.*

### *L2 Implementation of Archaeological Fieldwork Programme*

*No development including any site clearance or groundworks of any kind shall take place within the site until the applicant or their agents; the owner of the site or successors in title has secured the implementation of a programme of archaeological work from an accredited archaeological contractor in accordance with a written scheme of investigation which has been submitted to and approved in writing by the local planning authority. The development shall be carried out in a manner that accommodates the approved programme of archaeological work.*

## Archaeological Trial Trenching at Land rear of 16 High Street, Maldon, Essex

1.4 Maria Medlycott, Historic Environment Advisor at Place Services, provided a Brief on 22<sup>nd</sup> October 2019 regarding the requirements of the archaeological work and the preparation of the WSI.

1.5 A Written Scheme of Investigation for the Trial Trenching was submitted to and approved by the Historic Environment Advisor (5<sup>th</sup> November 2018) in advance of the development (*Touchstone Archaeology, 2018, Written Scheme of Investigation FL18*).

1.6 The works were carried out in accordance with the WSI (TA 2018) and advised by *Standard and guidance: Archaeological Field Evaluation (ClfA 2014)*, the *Management of Archaeological projects 2 (EH 1991)*, the *Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment (MORPHE): Project Manager's Guide (HE 2016)* and *Research and Archaeology revisited: A revised framework for the East of England, East Anglian Archaeol. Occ. Paper 24 (Medlycott, M. 2011)*.

1.7 This report provides an account of the archaeological Trial Trenching undertaken by Zoe Schofield on 12<sup>th</sup> December 2019.

## 2.0 THE SITE

2.1 The proposed development area (PDA) is located in the south east of England, in the town of Maldon, Essex within the civil parish of St Mary, Maldon.

The site is located to the rear garden of No.16, at the western end of the High Street, on the hilltop of Maldon within a mixed retail, commercial and residential area. The PDA is situated at an average height of 107m above Ordnance Datum (aOD) (Fig. 1-2)

2.2 The site measures 7.85m x 4.805 (c.37.7 sqm).

2.3 According to the British Geological Survey the underlying solid geology at the site is London Clay Formation - clay, silt and sand. There are no superficial deposits

recorded. However, the site sits to the eastern edge of a large deposit of Glaciofluvial sand and gravel located around the Spital Road area (BGS 2019).

### **3.0 ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND**

3.1 The PDA is located at the west end of the high street on the hilltop of Maldon.

#### ***Iron Age (BC 600 –AD 43)***

3.2 The site was first occupied in the Iron Age period as a defended settlement similar to that on Danbury hill c.6km SW. It was abandoned in the late Iron Age in favour of the lower ground near the coastline.

#### ***Roman (AD 43-410)***

3.3 Although Maldon was a long-standing Roman settlement, there is no direct evidence of occupation on the hill.

#### ***Saxon (AD 410-1066)***

3.4 The name Maldon derives from the Saxon *Maldune* meaning 'cross hill', supposedly named for a cross that once stood on the highest part of the town. In 913 CE King Edward the elder camped at Maldon and in 916 CE a burh was built as part of his campaign against the Danish. Despite a written record of the burh in the Anglo Saxon Chronicles the location of the burh is still uncertain; a possible location and postholes were recorded at 15 Silver Street c.90m NE (14777/18787).

#### ***Medieval (AD 1066-1539)***

3.5 The town developed to the east of the proposed position of the burh with a small market place and probably an earlier church on the site of the medieval All Saints Church and two phases of timber buildings on the south side of the High Street (the

location of the PDA). Maldon was an important port, shipping goods to London for towns such as Chelmsford and Billericay and is recorded in the Domesday Survey as second in importance after Colchester. The mint, the first in Essex, and the Kings Hall, (thought to have been c.100m NW (18788)) are recorded in the Domesday Survey and the probable site of the late Saxon market is recorded at the junction of High Street, Spittle Road, Fambridge Road and Cromwell Road c.30m NE (18789). The Church of All Saints, 100m NE, dates to the 12<sup>th</sup> C (24788, 24784, 24787, 53475, 53750, 55591, 46894, 7734, 7735, 7736, 7743).

Maldon's status was indicated by the presence of three parish churches within a very short distance - All Saints, St. Peters and St Mary and also home to a Friary, St Giles leper hospital and the chapel of St Mary's; Beeleigh Abbey was found to the west of the town. The Carmelite Friary, founded 1293-1538 was located c.110m SE (7728) and a fragment of window mullion thought to come from the Friary building was found c.90m SE (7730) and a damaged corbel of a beast or monster was found in the garden of Maldon Friary House c.80m SE (7731).

The property is surrounded by Listed Buildings that date to the medieval period. At 9 High Street c.15m SW a pink pavement with CBM was uncovered (14549), the town midden, covered over in C19th was c.60m S (18790), Silver Street is the possible location of the fish market c.90m Ne (38460),

### ***Post Medieval (AD 1540-1900)***

3.6 The town did not expand until the C18<sup>th</sup>, although many buildings were refurbished or demolished and rebuilt and new religious buildings were established. The maritime trade with London created an economic revival and this is seen in the C18/19<sup>th</sup>. The PDA is located on the south side of the High Street, close to the junction with Spittle Road and London Road. In the Tithe map and Tithe award of 21<sup>st</sup> January 1848, No.16 is designated as 95 (10 perches of buildings and yard) and is occupied by John Pretty the



landowner. Later Thomas Greatorex traded as a Harness maker and saddler from the property. On Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> March 1893 a fire, recorded in the Essex Herald and Chelmsford Chronicle, broke out in the neighbouring property of No.18 burning it to the ground with the exception of the shop to the front but also taking with it two bedrooms and an attic room in the property of No.16. The property passed to the new landlord, Mr Howe and on the 2<sup>nd</sup> December 1936 Mr Brand, a furniture dealer and upholsterer, signed a lease (D/DCf B26/5B). The outbuilding (exterior office), which was formerly a cottage, was noted as fire damaged.

#### **4.0 ARCHAEOLOGICAL METHODOLOGY**

##### **4.1 Aims and Objectives**

4.1.1 The general objective of the archaeological work was to sample the site with two trenches across the length and breadth of the site and to record, interpret and report on any archaeological remains revealed in accordance with the WSI (TA 2018) and current archaeological standards and to assess past impacts on the site.

4.1.2 Specific research aims were to identify any evidence of Iron Age settlement, use of the hill during the Roman period, activity or occupation in relation to the Saxon Burh, the development of the Medieval town of Maldon and the continued Post Medieval development of the town

##### **4.2 Methodology**

4.2.1 All archaeological works were carried out in accordance with the WSI (TA 2018) and the Standards and Guidance of the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (CIfA 2014).

## Archaeological Trial Trenching at Land rear of 16 High Street, Maldon, Essex

4.2.2 The groundworks were mechanically excavated with plant provided by the client. The excavator was fitted with a bladed bucket of and the works were carried out over the course of one day and were monitored by an archaeologist.

4.2.3 all deposits were recorded using Touchstone Archaeology standard recording sheets. A full photographic record was made of contexts (Plates 2-3). Section drawings of the excavated profiles were drawn and digitised.

4.2.5 The archive is currently held at the office of Touchstone Archaeology in Danbury, Essex. Subject to the agreement of the legal landowner the archive will be deposited to the Colchester Museum in due course. A summary of information from this project will be entered into the OASIS online database of archaeological projects in Britain (Appendix I - zoeschof1-332104).

The contents of the archive include:

**Table 1. Site Archive**

Type	No.
WSI	1
Site Diary	0
Context Register	1
Context Sheet	0
Photographic Register	1
Photographs	140
Drawings	3
HER Summary sheet	1
OASIS form	1
Final Report	1

## 5.0 RESULTS

### 5.1 Context description

A total of twelve contexts were recorded during the Trial Trenching.

Due to an inspection chamber and an existing drainage run that served the current buildings the intended trench positions had to be moved. In total 12.2sqm (32%) of the site was sampled.

Trench 1 was excavated from the northwest to the southeast (1.2m x 7m) to a maximum depth of 2.3m. Made ground (001) was identified to a depth of 0.2m with pottery and glass inclusions dating to the C17th & C18th. This overlay a dump (006) to the northwest, a sub-base of crushed CBM (003) to the centre and a brick foundation (002 & 004) to the southeast. The bricks were red and measured 2" x 4" x 8.5" with a yellow/white gravelly mortar and appeared to date to the post-medieval period.

The foundation and the sub-base appeared to be contemporary and there was evidence of burning and ash on the brick, which suggests the brick may date to the fire recorded in 1893. The tithe map shows a sub rectangular building in this location. Beneath both the sub-base and the foundation was a layer of made ground (005) with pottery (one sherd mid/late C13<sup>th</sup>-14<sup>th</sup>), glass and oyster shell inclusions overlying a lens of light brown clay and a black organic silty, stony soil (009), which sealed the natural gravel (010). One sherd of Roman pottery was recovered from this soil (009) to the southeast of the trench.

Towards the northwest end of the trench was a dump (006) of dressed stone, large sections of red brick and white/cream mortar (one section lying flat in the base of the trench 1.1m x 1.160m), clay pipe (C18th) and pottery. The pottery was a mixed group of



two sherds of C13<sup>th</sup> and several sherds that date between the mid C16<sup>th</sup> and the C18<sup>th</sup>. The buildings on the High Street have a date period of between C16<sup>th</sup>-C19<sup>th</sup>. Adjacent to the dump was a single stone with a shallow gravel foundation of 0.05m (008). To the southwest was a foundation cut [012] of 0.4m width x 1.5m length. The fill of the cut (012) was the black organic soil (009). The foundation was left in situ and the evaluation continued to the southeast of the trench (Plate 1-4).

Trench 2 was 1.2m x 2.0m and was located in the south corner and was excavated to a depth of 1.2m. It provided the same stratigraphic sequence as Trench 1 southeast. The made ground beneath the floor contained a land drain suggesting it dated to the post medieval period.

## 5.2 Natural geology

The lowest deposit identified was natural clay to the northwest of trench 1 (007) at a depth of c.0.25m to the northwest of the trench, which sloped away to 2.3m to the southeast and was the expected natural geology of London clay. Superficial deposits of Glaciofluvial gravel, indicated by the British Geological Survey to exist around the Spital Road area, were uncovered at 0.85m below ground level. To the southeast of the trench the gravel was excavated to a depth of 2.3m until the natural clay was visible (Plate 1-4).

### 5.3 Context record

**Table 2: List of recorded contexts**

Context No.	Type	Interpretive Category	Depth (m)
001	Levelling layer	Made ground	0.00 – 0.2m b.g.l
002	Structure	Brick foundation	0.2 – 0.25m b.g.l
003	Structure	Floor	0.2 – 0.30m b.g.l
004	Structure	Brick pier	0.25 – 0.55m b.g.l
005	Levelling Layer	Made ground	0.4 – 1.8m b.g.l
006	Layer	Rubble and loose worked stone	0.0 – 0.8m b.g.l
007	Redeposited lens	Clay	0.55 – 0.6m b.g.l
008	Structure	Stone and gravel foundation	0.6 – 0.85m b.g.l
009	Layer	Black organic soil	0.6 – 0.85m b.g.l
010	Natural Geology	Natural gravel	0.85m – 2.3m b.g.l
007	Natural Geology	Clay	0.25 – 2.3m b.g.l
011	Cut	Foundation trench?	0.8m – 0.85m b.g.l
012	Structure	Brick Foundation	0.1m – 0.44m b.g.l
013	Fill	Foundation trench?	0.8m – 0.85m b.g.l

### 6.0 FINDS

One sherd of Roman pottery was recovered in the black, silty soil (009) that sealed the natural gravel. It is a thick-walled, fine greyware fabric and shows the beginnings of a base.

The made ground (005) beneath the extant floor and foundations of the building produced one thick-walled, relatively fine fabric, body sherd of Medieval wheel-thrown coarse-ware dating to mid/late C13<sup>th</sup> – 14<sup>th</sup>.

Sixteen sherds were recovered from the dump (006) to the northeast section of the trench; one sherd of Medieval coarseware body showing rilled sides and external fire-blackening C13th; one sherd of Surrey-Hampshire whiteware body mid C16<sup>th</sup> to late 17<sup>th</sup> and two sherds of a flanged dish rim, mid to late C17th; one sherd of Post-medieval red earthenware fragment from a single handled jar C17th; two sherds of Westerwald stoneware from the rim of a jug, mug or tankard from the third quarter of the C17th to the early C18th; one sherd of Staffordshire-type slipware dish fragment and wide-necked cup or double-handled posset with a rim diameter of 150mm, c.1720-1740; one sherd of English stoneware salt-glazed with brown iron-wash from the rim of a cylindrical tankard and one body sherd with brown salt glaze C18th.

There were three small fragments of clay pipe stem with hole measuring 2.5mm diameter and one distal end of a pipe bowl with no stamps or mouldings suggesting from the size, shape and angle of the rim an C18th date (006).

Unstratified finds in the made ground (001) that covered the site included a glass bottle with wide kick-up base from a possible squat wine bottle popular between 1710 and 1790; Staffordshire-type slipware dish fragment and holloware fragment c.1720-174; a Staffordshire-type white salt-glazed stoneware saucer c.1740-1750 and C18th English tin-glazed earthenware from a plate or dish (Appendix I).

## **7.0 DISCUSSION**

According to the British Geology Survey, the underlying natural geology is London Clay but the evaluation showed that the superficial Glaciofluvial gravel deposit known to exist in the Spital Road area, extended to the PDA.

There was no evidence of Iron Age activity, however, one sherd of Roman pottery was recovered from a black, silty soil similar to a garden soil.

Three sherds of C13th/14<sup>th</sup> Medieval pottery were collected, two from a dump of brick and dressed stone and one from an unstratified made ground that lay over the site and

may have been redeposited during demolition.

A gravel foundation with one piece of stone in situ was recorded. The Conservation Officer Tim Howson visited site but the date of construction remains unknown. A dump of loose dressed stone and corbelling and large sections of brickwork immediately adjacent contained post-medieval pottery.

The buildings along this stretch of the High Street date back to C16th and the recovered pottery reflects this period, comprising of the remains of drinking vessels, dishes, a plate and a jar from the C16th-18th. Of these the local pottery is the red earthenware handled jar. The Surrey-Hampshire is made at production centres on the Surrey-Hampshire border. The salt-glazed stoneware and slipware is from Staffordshire or the north and midlands and the tin-glazed earthenware and brown salt-glazed stoneware were made in London. The Westerwald stoneware was manufactured in Rhineland Germany. This assemblage is typical of an assemblage from inland Essex and does not reflect Maldon's status as a port with access to coastal, riverine and overseas trade. The most interesting find was the slipware necked cup with an unusual decoration. The rim is just wide enough to identify it as a posset; a vessel used to contain a hot milky drink mixed with wine or ale, which is sometimes spiced and often used medicinally (*Helen Walker*).

The site is first recorded in the Tithe map and Tithe award of 21<sup>st</sup> January 1848. At that time it is designated as 95 (10 perches of buildings and yard) and is occupied by John Pretty the landowner. Later Thomas Greatorex traded as a Harness maker and saddler from the property. A sub-rectangular building is shown on the tithe map to the northeast side of the garden and the brick floor and foundations uncovered during the evaluation are probably the remains of this building.

On Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> March 1893 a fire, recorded in the Essex Herald and Chelmsford Chronicle, broke out in the neighbouring property of No.18 burning it to the ground with the exception of the shop to the front but also taking with it two bedrooms and an attic room in No.16. A lease signed between the owner Mr Howe and, Mr Brand, a

furniture dealer and upholsterer, on 2<sup>nd</sup> December 1936, noted the outbuilding (exterior office), which was formerly a cottage, as fire damaged (D/DCf B26/5B). The bricks uncovered in the evaluation showed evidence of burning and ash deposits. It is probable that the Roman pottery sherd was residual and that the medieval pottery was redeposited along with the rubble. The post-medieval pottery probably has some connection with the High Street buildings and is evidence of living style and standards during their lifetime.

## **8.0 ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS**

Touchstone Archaeology Ltd would like to thank the Client for commissioning the work and Maria Medlycott (ECC HEA) for her guidance throughout the project. Zoe Schofield carried out the fieldwork and compiled the archive, prepared it for deposition and authored the report. Helen Walker analysed the pottery and Digitise This prepared the digital drawings.

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*Treasure Act 1996 Code of Practice (2nd Revision) 1996, DCMS Treasure (Designation) Order 2002, TSO*

**Online Resources:**

*<http://bgs.ac.uk> accessed 13<sup>th</sup> November 2018*

FIGURES AND PLATES

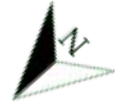


Plate 1. Trench 1: View southeast: Brick rubble section



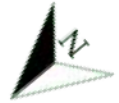


Plate 2. Trench 1: Plan: Gravel foundation (008)





Plate 3. Trench 1: View northeast gravel foundation (008)



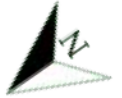


Plate 4. Trench 1: View southeast brick foundation (002)



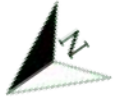


Plate 5. Trench 1: View southeast natural gravel (010) beneath soil (009)



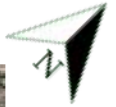


Plate 6. Trench 2: View northwest natural gravel (010)

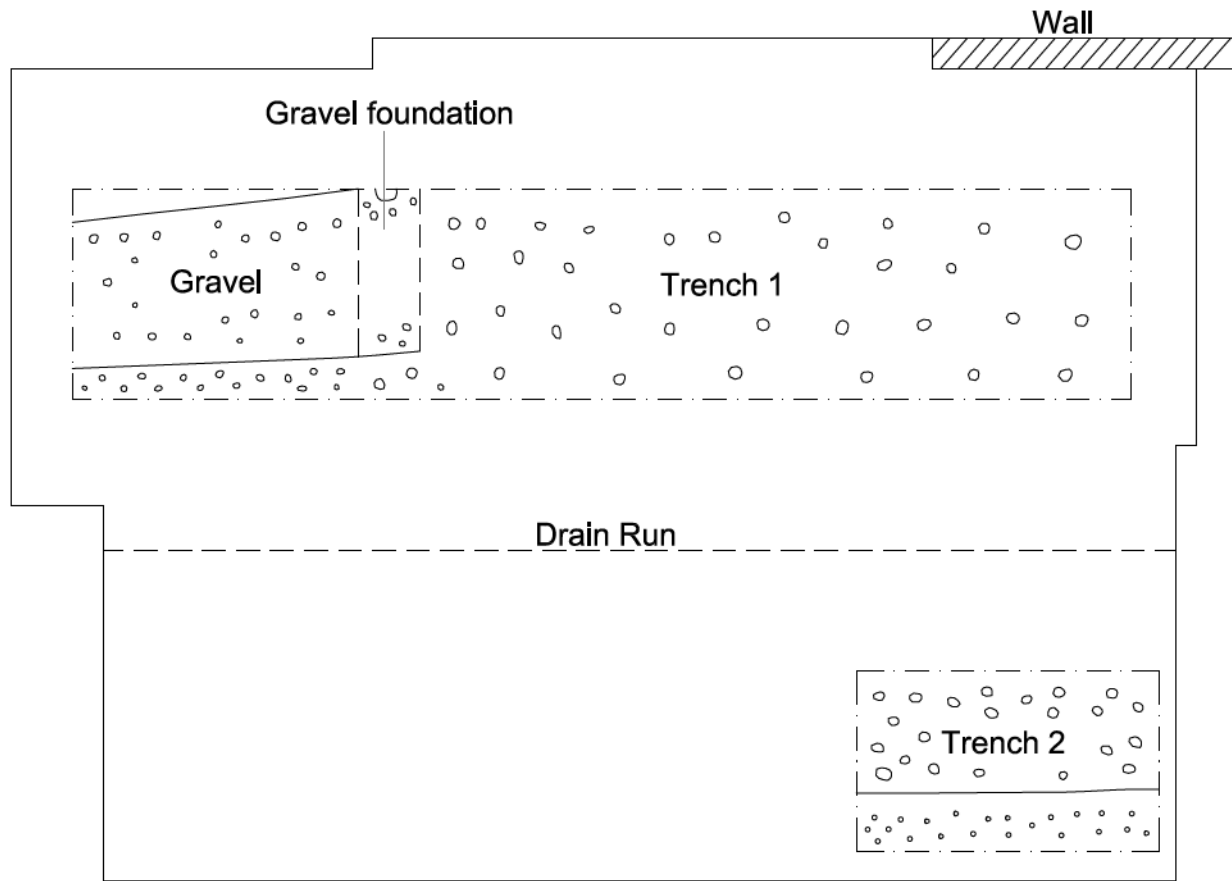




Plate 7. Dressed stone example from northwest dump



Plate 8: Staffordshire-type slipware with unusual decoration

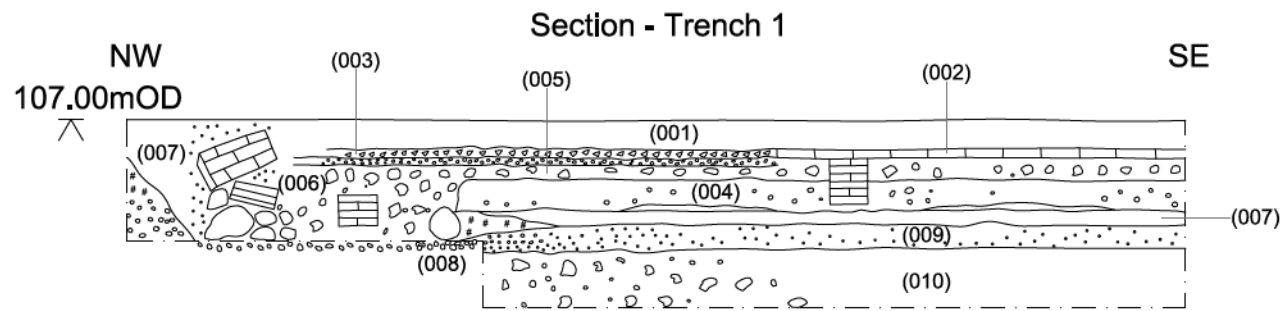
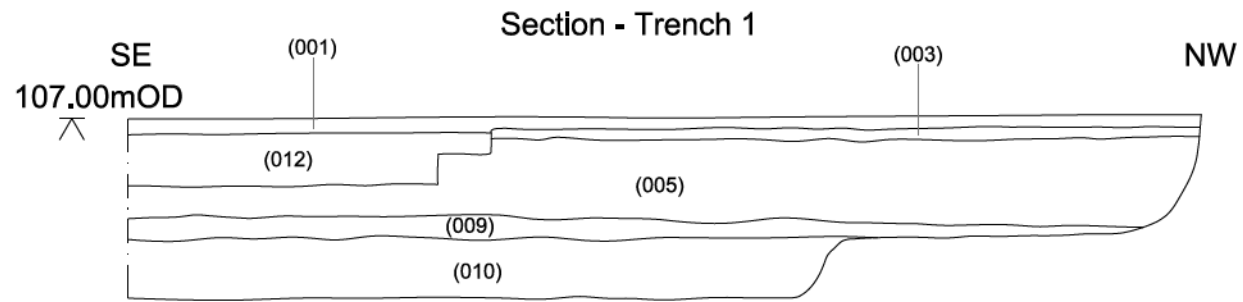


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Figure 1: Plan

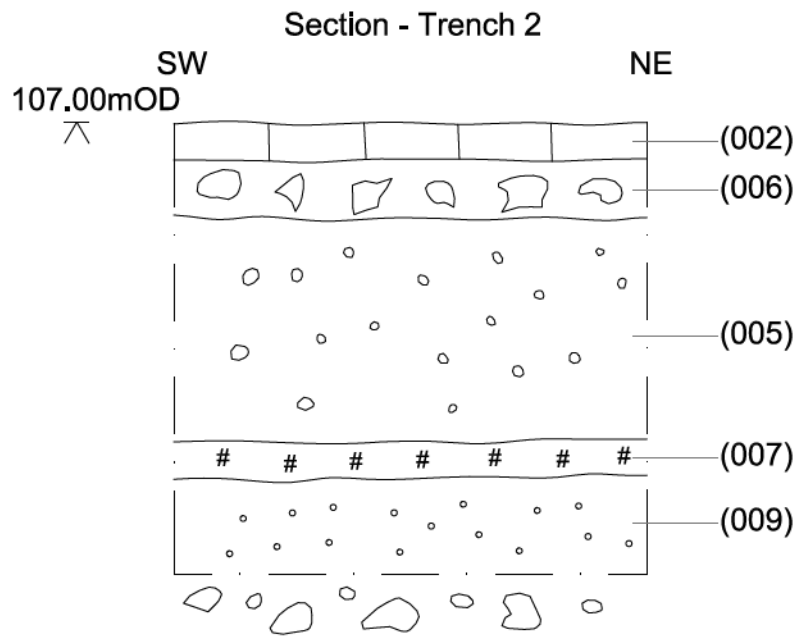
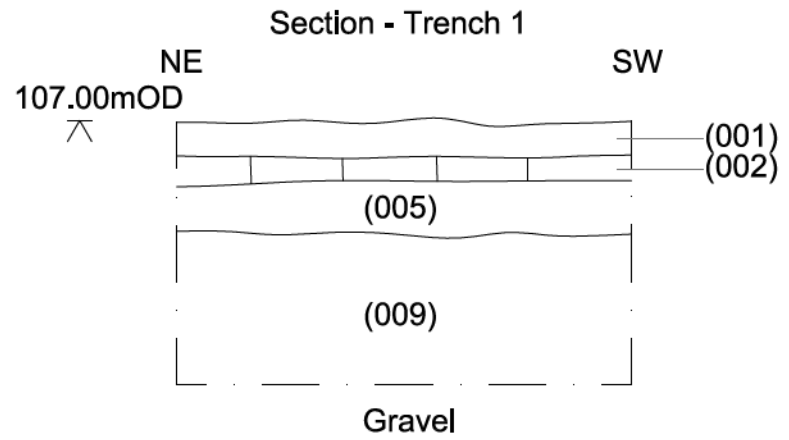
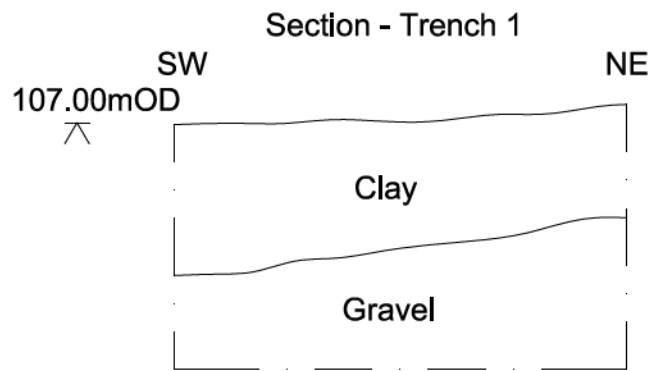




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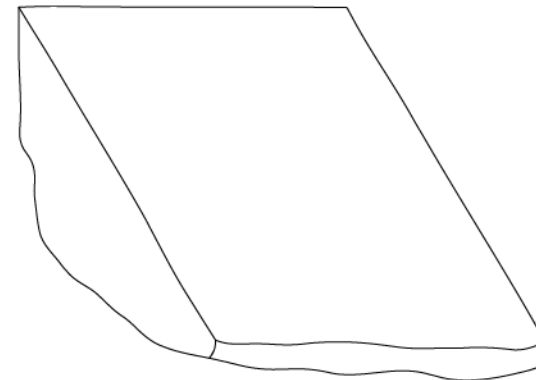
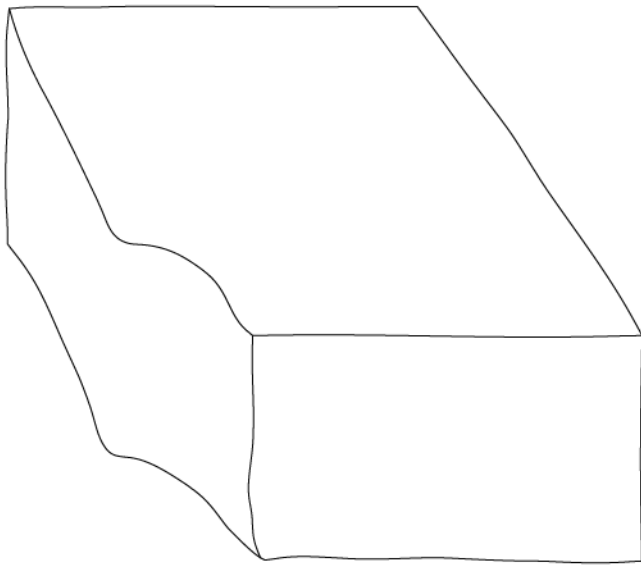
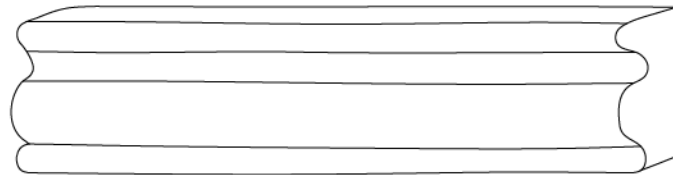
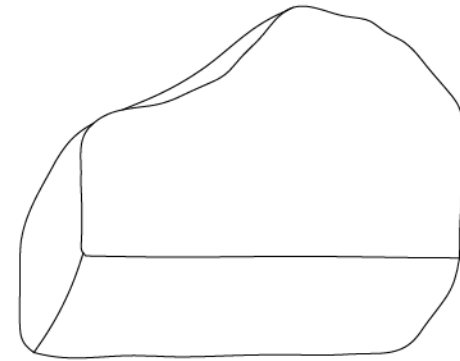
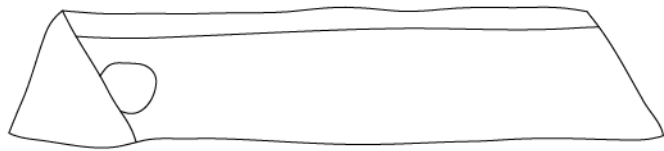
Figure 2: Sections



1:20@A4



Figure 3: Sections



1:50@A4



Figure 4: Stone pieces from rubble

<b>Site Name/Address:</b> Land to the rear of 16 High Street, Maldon, Essex CM9 5PJ (New address: 15 Friary Lane, Maldon, Essex)	
<b>Parish:</b> St Mary	<b>District:</b> Tower Hamlets
<b>NGR:</b> TL 84863 07012	<b>Site Code:</b> FLM19
<b>Type of Work:</b> Trial Trenching	<b>Site Director/Group:</b> Zoe Schofield/Touchstone Archaeology Ltd
<b>Date of Work:</b> 12 <sup>th</sup> December 2019	<b>Size of Area Investigated:</b> 12.2 sqm
<b>Location of Finds/Curating Museum:</b> Colchester	<b>Funding source:</b> Owner
<b>Further Seasons Anticipated?</b> No	<b>Related EHCR No's:</b>
<b>Final Report:</b> Archaeological trial trenching at land rear of 16 High Street, Maldon, Essex	<b>OASIS number:</b> zoeschof1 - 332104
<b>Periods Represented:</b> Roman, Medieval, Post-Medieval	
<b>SUMMARY OF FIELDWORK RESULTS:</b>	
<p>Two trenches totalling 12.2sqm were excavated.</p> <p>In Trench 1 (northwest to southeast) foundations from the Post-Medieval building recorded on the Tithe map, OS maps and reported as fire damaged in newspapers and a lease document were extant. A gravel foundation with a single stone in situ was uncovered adjacent to a dump of brick, stone rubble. Pottery from the dump provided dating evidence of C16th-18<sup>th</sup>, the date of the High Street buildings. Three residual sherds of Medieval pottery and one sherd of Roman pottery were also recovered.</p> <p>In Trench 2 the stratigraphy corresponded to that of T1.</p> <p>Natural gravel was uncovered at c.106m OD.</p>	
<b>Previous Summaries/Reports:</b>	
Touchstone Archaeology, 2018, Historic Environment Desk based Assessment	
<b>Author of Summary:</b> ZOE SCHOFIELD	<b>Date of Summary:</b> 4 <sup>th</sup> February 2020

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**OASIS ID: zoeschof1-332104**

### Project details

Project name	Land to the rear of 16 High Street, Maldon CM9 5PJ
Short description of the project	Archaeological evaluation by Trial Trenching at Land to the rear of 16 High Street, Maldon, Essex CM9 5PJ (New address: 15 Friary Lane, Maldon, Essex)
Project dates	Start: 12-12-2019 End: 12-12-2019
Previous/future work	Yes / No
Any associated project reference codes	FLM19 - Contracting Unit No.
Any associated project reference codes	zoeschof1-330908 - OASIS form ID
Any associated project reference codes	18/00335/FUL - Planning Application No.
Type of project	Field evaluation
Site status	Local Authority Designated Archaeological Area
Current Land use	Other 5 - Garden
Monument type	NONE None
Significant Finds	SHERD Roman
Significant Finds	SHERD Medieval
Significant Finds	SHERD Post Medieval
Methods & techniques	"Targeted Trenches"
Development type	Rural residential
Prompt	Planning condition
Position in the planning process	After full determination (eg. As a condition)

### Project location

Country	England
Site location	ESSEX MALDON MALDON 15 Friary Lane
Postcode	CM9 5PJ

Study area	12.2 Square metres
Site coordinates	TL 84863 07012 51.730775551082 0.677272354007 51 43 50 N 000 40 38 E Point
Lat/Long Datum	Unknown
Height OD / Depth	Min: 106m Max: 107m

### Project creators

Name of Organisation	TOUCHSTONE ARCHAEOLOGY
Project brief originator	Local Authority Archaeologist and/or Planning Authority/advisory body
Project design originator	Zoe Schofield
Project director/manager	Zoe Schofield
Project supervisor	Zoe Schofield
Type of sponsor/funding body	Landowner

### Project archives

Physical Archive recipient	COLCHESTER MUSEUM
Physical Archive ID	FLM19
Physical Contents	"Ceramics","Glass","other"
Digital Archive recipient	COLCHESTER MUSEUM
Digital Archive ID	FLM19
Digital Contents	"none"
Digital Media available	"GIS","Images raster / digital photography","Text"
Paper Archive Exists?	No

### Project bibliography 1

Publication type	Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)
Title	Archaeological trial trenching to Land to the rear of 16 High Street, Maldon, Essex CM9 5PJ
Author(s)/Editor(s)	Schofield, Z.
Other bibliographic details	V1
Date	2020
Issuer or publisher	Touchstone Archaeology Ltd
Place of issue or publication	www.touchstonearchaeology.com
Description	PDF report

URL [www.touchstonearchaeology.com](http://www.touchstonearchaeology.com)

Entered by Zoe (zoeschofield1@gmail.com)

Entered on 4 February 2020

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## Friary Lane, Maldon (FLM19)

**The finds reports by Helen Walker (19/01/2020)****Roman pottery**

A sherd of Roman pottery (wt16g) was the sole find in Layer [009] East. It is thick-walled, has in a fine greyware fabric, and shows the beginnings of flat base. The sherd may well be residual in this context, but does show slight evidence of Roman activity in the area.

**Medieval and later pottery****Summary**

A total of sixteen sherds of pottery weighing 401g was excavated from four contexts and has been catalogued according to Cunningham's typology of post-Roman pottery in Essex (Cunningham 1985, 1-16; expanded by Drury et al.1993 and Cotter 2000). The finds are shown by ware, sherd count and weight in Table 1

Pottery by ware	Sherd count	Wt (g)
Medieval coarseware	2	28
Post-medieval red earthenware	1	52
Surrey-Hampshire whiteware	3	59
English tin-glazed earthenware	1	8
Westerwald stoneware	2	39
Staffordshire-type slipware	4	150
Staffordshire-type white salt-glazed stoneware	1	34
English stoneware	2	31
<b>Total</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>401</b>

Table 1: The pottery by ware, sherd count and weight, shown in approximate chronological order

Only two sherds of medieval pottery are present comprising body sherds of grey-firing medieval coarseware, both of which are residual. One is the sole pottery find from a black organic silty soil [009] and comprises a thick-walled sherd, which is wheel-thrown with a relatively fine fabric suggesting a date of mid/late 13<sup>th</sup> to 14<sup>th</sup> centuries. The second is from Trench [006] West and shows rilled sides and external fire-blackening and may be earlier, probably dating to the 13<sup>th</sup> century.

The remaining pottery, excavated from Trench [006] East and West and found unstratified comprises post-medieval pottery dating from the later 17<sup>th</sup> to 18<sup>th</sup> centuries. The pottery from these contexts is very similar and has been considered as a single group. The various wares present are listed in Table 1 (above) and vessel forms comprise the remains drinking vessels, dishes, a plate and a jar. Diagnostic pieces are itemised below, by function:-

**Tea wares**



- Saucer in Staffordshire-type white salt-glazed stoneware (cf. Jennings 1981, fig.102.1618), dated c.1740-50 [unstratified]

#### Drinking wares

- Rim of jug, mug, or tankard in Westerwald stoneware showing scrolling decoration in cobalt-blue delineated with incised lines, a type of decoration used from the early 18<sup>th</sup> century (Jennings 1981, 123), Trench [006] East
- Sherd from a second jug, mug, or tankard in Westerwald stoneware, showing a band of manganese-purple and incised decoration with a blue background, the use of manganese-purple indicates a date of third quarter of the 17<sup>th</sup> to the beginning of the 18<sup>th</sup> century (Jennings 1981, 123; Noël Hume 1969, 27-8), Trench [006] West
- Rim of wide necked cup or double-handled posset in Staffordshire-type slipware showing the remains of a handle, decorated around the neck with brown slip-trailed arcs interspersed with brown slip dots - three dots within the arc arranged as a triangle and one dot above where the arcs intersect, this is unusual as simple rows of dots are the norm, comparable to Barker (1993, 16, lower plate, left; Barker and Crompton 2007, 53, upper plate), dated early 18<sup>th</sup> century, Trench [006] West
- Rim of cylindrical tankard in English salt-glazed stoneware showing a brown iron-wash, 18<sup>th</sup> century, Trench [006] West

#### Table wares

- Sherd from plate or dish in English tin-glazed earthenware showing simple blue-painted decoration, 18<sup>th</sup> century, [unstratified]

#### Kitchenwares and serving wares

- Single-handled jar in post-medieval red earthenware showing a beaded rim, internal glaze and the remains of the handle attachment joining at the rim, 17<sup>th</sup> century, Trench [006] East
- Flanged dish rim in Surrey-Hampshire whiteware with an internal streaky green glaze, the flange is slightly hollowed and folded over at the edge to form a bead below the rim, a type datable to the mid- to late 17<sup>th</sup> century (cf. Pearce 1992, 10, fig.21.35), Trench [006] East
- Two press-moulded dishes in Staffordshire-type slipware both showing a raised circular ring delineating the base, and trailed and combed slip decoration (cf. Barker 1993, 18, lower plate), dated 1720 to 1740, [unstratified] and Trench [006] West

#### Discussion

There is very little evidence of medieval activity. The post-medieval pottery spans the mid- to late 17<sup>th</sup> century to the mid-18<sup>th</sup> century, the latest piece being the white salt-glaze stoneware saucer dated c.1740-50. With many other vessels dating to the earlier 18<sup>th</sup> century a date of deposition of c.1740 or later is postulated. The only pottery which is of local origin is the post-medieval red earthenware handled jar. The origin of the Surrey-Hampshire white ware is self-explanatory – made at production centres on the Surrey-Hampshire border. The white salt-glazed stoneware and slipware pottery is from Staffordshire or perhaps other production centres in the north and Midlands, and the tin-glazed earthenware and brown salt-glazed stoneware were almost certainly made in London. Westerwald stoneware is the only overseas import, manufactured in Rhineland Germany. This assemblage would be typical of an assemblage from inland Essex and does not reflect Maldon's status as a port with access to coastal, riverine and overseas trade.

The assemblage is domestic and comprises mainly drinking and tablewares, only one definite kitchenware is present, the post-medieval red earthenware handled jar. The dishes (in slipware and

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Surrey-Hampshire white ware) were probably used either in the kitchen or for serving. The most interesting find is the slipware necked cup with its unusual decoration, its rim is just wide enough for it to be from a posset, a vessel used to contain a hot milky drink mixed with wine or ale, which is sometimes spiced and often used medicinally. The occupants may have been of middling status as the unusual necked cup may have been more expensive than the standard slipwares and the presence of a saucer indicates tea was drunk, but by the 18<sup>th</sup> century tea was drunk by all social classes in spite of the expense.

Table 2: Medieval pottery data

Con-text	Feature	Sherd Nos	Wt (g)	Pottery – ware and featured sherds	Date
U/S	U/S	1	8	English tin-glazed earthenware: sherd from plate or dish with off-white tin glaze and simple blue-painted scroll decoration	18th C
		1	34	Staffordshire-type white salt-glazed stoneware: complete profile of a saucer with a footring base, cf. Jennings 1981, fig.102.1618	c.1740-50
		1	15	Staffordshire-type slipware: sherd from holloware showing rows of combed slipware decoration cf. Barker (1993, 16, lower plate, left	early 18th C
		1	63	Staffordshire slipware: base of press-moulded dish showing a raised circular ring delineating the base and trailed and combed slip decoration, Barker 1993, 18, lower plate	1720-1740
005	Made Ground	1	18	Medieval coarseware: thick-walled body sherd, relatively fine fabric and wheel-thrown	mid/late 13th to 14th C
006 East	Dump	1	30	Westerwald stoneware: rim of jug, mug or tankard showing double cordon below rim and scrolling decoration in cobalt-blue delineated with incised lines, a type of decoration used from the early 18th century (Jennings 1981, 123)	from early 18th C
		1	44	Surrey-Hampshire whiteware: Flanged dish rim, the flange is slightly hollowed and folded over at the edge to form a bead below the rim, internal streaky green glaze, cf. Pearce 1992, fig.21.35, a type datable to the mid- to late 17th C (Pearce 1992, 10)	mid- to late 17th C
		1	13	Surrey-Hampshire whiteware: body sherd with internal yellow glaze	mid-16th to late 17th C
006 West	Made Ground	1	10	Medieval coarseware: body sherd showing rilled sides and external fire-blackening	13th C
		1	52	Post-medieval red earthenware: fragment from single handled jar showing beaded rim, internal glaze and handle attachment scar at rim	17th C
		1	2	Surrey-Hampshire white ware: body sherd with internal green glaze and partial green glaze on the external surface, probably from dish found in context (006 East)	mid- to late 17th C
		1	9	Westerwald stoneware: sherd from mug, jug or tankard showing moulded cordons, band of manganese-purple and incised decoration with blue background	3 <sup>rd</sup> quarter 17th to beginning of 18th C
		1	14	Staffordshire-type slipware: sherd from press-moulded dish showing a raised circular ring delineating the base and trailed and combed slip decoration (from a smaller, thinner-walled vessel than that found unstratified)	1720-1740

Con-text	Feature	Sherd Nos	Wt (g)	Pottery – ware and featured sherds	Date
		1	58	Staffordshire-type slipware: part of a wide necked cup or double-handled posset, rim diameter 150mm, showing remains of handle, simple everted rim and deep neck, which is decorated with brown slip-trailed arcs interspersed with brown slip dots - 3 dots within the arc arranged as a triangle and 1 dot above where the arcs intersect, this is unusual as simple rows of dots are the ore typical, comparable to Barker (1993, 16, lower plate, left; Barker and Crompton 2007, 53, upper plate) merits illustration	early 18th C
		1	28	English stoneware: sherd from rim of cylindrical tankard, salt-glazed with brown iron-wash internally and extending over to upper part of external surface	18th C
		1	3	English stoneware: body sherd with brown salt glaze	18th C
		<b>16</b>	<b>401</b>		

### Bottle glass

Found unstratified is a wide indented or kick-up base perhaps from a squat wine bottle (four shards, weighing 598g). It is made from dark green glass which has discoloured and laminated in places and also shows patches of iridescence. This type of wine bottle was popular between 1710 and 1790 (Hedges 1986, 4). Trench [006] West produced a single shard of greenish bottle glass (wt 8g), which also shows iridescence on the internal surface and may be of a similar date to the bottle base.

### Clay tobacco pipes

Trench [006] East produced part of a clay pipe bowl (1 fragment weighing 7g). No stamps or mouldings are present, but its shape, relatively large size and flat-topped rim all suggest an 18th century date. A date of before 1750 is most likely as after this time clay pipes were usually decorated (Simpson 1982, 3). Trench [006] West produced three clay pipe stem fragments (wt 22g), all have holes through the stem measuring 2.5mm in diameter, which may also be consistent with a date in the first half of the 18<sup>th</sup> century, but could be earlier (Simpson 1982, 2).

### All finds: Significance and further work

Apart from the Roman sherd, all finds could have been current in the earlier 18<sup>th</sup> century and show evidence of occupation of this part of Maldon at this time. It therefore sheds light on the occupation and development of the town in the post-medieval period. No further work is required on the post-Roman pottery other than to illustrate the wide-necked cup and any future publication could be based on this report with the addition of a brief discussion as to how it compares with other post-medieval assemblages from the town including that from the site of the nearby Carmelite Friary (Walker 1999). All other finds should be examined by specialists in the appropriate fields so as to more accurately date and identify these finds and understand their significance.

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