

CHAPTER 1

INTRODUCTION AND BACKGROUND

THE STANWAY SITE (FIGS 1–3, 9)

The subject of this report has come to be known simply as the ‘Stanway site’ after the wider area in which it lay. However, it could more accurately have been termed the ‘Colchester Quarry site’ after the quarry in which the site was situated until its gradual destruction during sand and gravel extraction between *c.* 1987 and 2005.

The site was located in the parish of Stanway at NGR TL 955 226, on a flat plateau to the south-west of modern Colchester (FIGS 1–2). It lay only 0.25 km west of Gryme’s Dyke, the westernmost element of the system of dykes which protected the Late Iron Age and Roman *oppidum* of Camulodunum. The complex of dykes evolved over many decades. Some of the earthworks appear to have been of post-conquest date, the latest being Gryme’s Dyke itself which is now dated to just after the Boudican revolt (*CAR* 11, 107–14). The royal farmstead at Gosbecks (*CAR* 11, 97–8) lay about 1.5 km to the east of the Stanway site, with the industrial site of Sheepen (Hawkes and Hull 1947; Niblett 1985; *CAR* 11, 70–84) some 4 km further to the north-east. Various Late Iron Age burials have been found to the south-west of Sheepen at Lexden. These include the famous Lexden Tumulus, a rich grave dated to *c.* 15–10 B.C. and believed to be that of a British king (Foster 1986; *CAR* 11, 85–94). Gosbecks continued to be an important place in the Roman period as is shown by the presence there of a Roman theatre and a Romano-Celtic temple within a monumental portico (*CAR* 11, 95–105). Although not falling within the defended area provided by the dyke system, the high-status nature of the Stanway site suggests that it must nevertheless have been intimately linked with Camulodunum (FIG. 3).

The existence of archaeological remains on the Stanway site was first revealed by aerial photography in the 1930s. This showed clear cropmarks of five ditched enclosures, the largest being over 100 m across (FIGS 2 and 9). The enclosures were arranged in two north–south rows, with two end to end to the west and the rest conjoined in a line to the east. Until the 1990s, the function and date of the enclosures were uncertain, but the favoured view was that they were concerned with the management of stock. Archaeological excavation changed all that and revealed a remarkable funerary site with some extraordinary finds.

HISTORY OF THE EXCAVATIONS (FIG. 4)

The quarry has had a life of over thirty years, and the quarry face did not reach the enclosures until 1987 because they were near the south side of the site. The archaeological excavations were carried out in two stages, each just in front of the slowly advancing quarry face. The first stage took place yearly between 1987 and 1992, the second in 1996 and 1997.

The history of the excavation needs to be explained in some detail to make clear how and why the excavation strategy changed as the project progressed. Today for a site such as the Stanway pit, the quarry company would probably have been required to fund any archaeological work made necessary by their workings. This would have been achieved by making the initial planning consent subject to archaeological investigations that the quarry company would need to fund. But planning consent for the Stanway pit was granted in the 1960s, some considerable time before such conditions became the norm, and the result was that there was no financial provision to cover any archaeological work that might prove necessary.

STANWAY: AN ÉLITE BURIAL SITE AT CAMULODUNUM



FIG. 1. The Stanway site in relation to Camulodunum and the Roman town and its regional location

INTRODUCTION AND BACKGROUND



FIG. 3. The Stanway site in relation to the Iron Age and Roman archaeology at Gosbecks



FIG. 4. Site areas (A–E) and areas of excavation (see pp. 5–7)

At the outset of the project, English Heritage and Tarmac both recognised that there was a problem and both kindly agreed to a jointly funded package which was to allow sampling of the ditches and interiors of the enclosures. Tarmac were under no obligation to do this, and English Heritage generously offered to support the project as a willing partner for Tarmac. Nobody at this point could have guessed the true extent of the work which would be needed to do the site justice.

The enclosures had never been highlighted as being of unusual interest or of exceptional archaeological potential. This only changed with the discovery of BF6 which, as it happened, coincided with the discovery of a similar but richer chamber at Folly Lane, Verulamium, St Albans, Herts. Recognition of the chamber meant that simply sampling ditches and the interiors of the enclosures was not going to be enough. This was because it became apparent that the enclosures represented the remains of a hitherto unrecognised kind of monument in Britain where it was not possible to predict what they might contain or what form such remains might take. Subsequent investigations did indeed confirm that the interiors and the ditch fills all merited total excavation.

With a gradually improving understanding of what the remains represented, the interiors of the enclosures were subject to greater examination as the excavation progressed, and, by the time Enclosure 5 was being excavated, the investigations were as thorough and comprehensive as could be managed within the limits of what resources could be mustered.

In retrospect, although the earliest work was not as exhaustive as the later investigations, it is doubtful if anything of great significance was missed. It would have been good if much more of the ditch fills could have been excavated on Site A, but, from the little that was done, it seems very likely that there were no great scatters of broken pottery as observed in Enclosures 4 and 5. And although all of the interior of Enclosure 1 was not subjected to methodical investigation, observations during machine-stripping, coupled with the careful hand-cleaning of some areas, suggest that few, if any, important features are likely to have been overlooked. This is not to say that total excavation would not have been worthwhile. Such an approach would have been helpful because it would have given confidence to our belief that little of significance was missed and it would have provided more data to map the distribution of the smashed pottery in the ditches. The main problems of the under-resourcing were the consequences of having to machine-excavate the ditches of Enclosures 3 and 4 and having to excavate the Warrior's burial in its entirety on the day on which it was discovered. The experience of the latter in particular made us determined to avoid a similar situation arising again. As it turned out, a similar grave did indeed subsequently emerge (*i.e.* the Doctor's burial), and this time it was excavated and recorded as carefully and as painstakingly as possible.

The sequence of excavation, the areas concerned, and the methodology employed are as summarised below. The thick lines on FIGURE 4 show the limits of the sites (*i.e.* Sites A, B, C, D and E). 'Hand-cleaning' usually involved hoeing with some surface trowelling.

May–June 1987

FIG. 4, Site A, Area A

A small trench was hand-dug to locate the western side of Enclosure 1. The enclosures were known from oblique aerial photographs, and fixing their position successfully in the field had to be the starting point of the investigation. The enclosure ditch was located and sectioned as a result.

March 1988

FIG. 4, Site A, Area B

Following unsupervised machine-stripping, limited areas were cleaned by hand and a few features of minor significance were excavated on the western side of Enclosure 1.

May–August 1988

FIG. 4, Site C, Area C

An area at the north end of Enclosure 1 was machine-stripped under archaeological supervision and then the surface was cleaned by hand. An evaluation trench was cut by machine through the unstripped area of Enclosures 1 and 2. The trench was parallel to the quarry face which at that time was a short distance to the west. All the finds were plotted in plan, and there was limited excavation of features, including the first of the cremation burials (*i.e.* AF18).

March–April 1989

FIG. 4, Site A, Areas B, C and D

Part of Enclosure 1 and the north end of Enclosure 2 were machine-stripped under archaeological supervision. Area excavation followed. This included the excavation of chamber AF25 and a pit with broken funerary goods, AF48.

1990

FIG. 4, Site A, Area E

The south-east corner of Enclosure 1 was stripped without archaeological supervision.

November–December 1990

FIG. 4, Site A, Area F

Most of the eastern half of Enclosure 1 was stripped under archaeological supervision. This was followed by limited area excavation which revealed various small pits and stake-holes of relatively early date.

February–July 1991

FIG. 4, Site B

Enclosures 3 and 4 were machine-stripped under archaeological supervision and large areas hand-cleaned. The funding package kindly provided by English Heritage and Tarmac was based on the examination of a 25 per cent sample of the stripped area, but the unexpected discovery of two chambers (BF6 and BF24), each requiring detailed recording, meant that much less could be achieved. In the event, the interiors of Enclosures 3 and 4 were not exhaustively examined, but instead work was focused on key locations and places where features were evident either during the mechanical stripping or the subsequent cleaning. Thus, in addition to the chambers, most of the work was concentrated on the entrances of Enclosures 3 and 4, and the pyre-sites BF16/BF1 and the ?mortuary enclosure BF32.

January–February 1992

FIG. 4, Site B

Funds were now exhausted, but the quarry face had reached the west side of Site B and the loss of that part of the site was imminent. With the aid of a small but invaluable grant from Essex County Council, unexcavated parts of the ditches of Enclosures 3 and 4 were excavated by machine to check for the presence of burials or other substantial remains. All of the ditch forming Enclosure 3 and the northern half of Enclosure 4 was dug out, except for a length on the west side of Enclosure 3, which was under the temporary roadway along the top of the quarry face. No burials were found and there was only sparse evidence for smashed pots such as subsequently discovered in much larger numbers in the ditch forming Enclosure 5 and the rest of Enclosure 4.

March–April 1992

FIG. 4, Site B

The excavations on-going at this time at Folly Lane, Verulamium, St Albans, had shown that grave goods (in this case chain mail and a horse bit) associated with chambers such as that in Site B could be buried in a secondary pit inside the funerary enclosure. It thus became apparent that it was important to check that nothing similar existed inside Enclosure 3 at Stanway. There was also a need to investigate the interior of the enclosure thoroughly for burials. With the aid of a grant of £500 from the Essex History Fair, the surface of Site B was again stripped and cleaned by machine at almost the very last minute before being destroyed by the advancing quarry face. All features (certain and dubious) were 'tested' by hand or, failing this, by machine. The work could only last a day and resulted in the discovery and hasty excavation of the Warrior's burial (BF64) and the Inkwell burial (BF67). No secondary pits like that at Folly Lane were found.

July–September 1996

FIG. 4, Site C

The whole of Site C was stripped by machine under archaeological supervision. All of Enclosure 5 was then hand-cleaned and excavated. Features investigated included the chamber CF42, the ?mortuary enclosure CF43–6, the slot CF96, the Doctor's burial CF47, the Brooches burial CF72, and the pit CF7. About 60 per cent of the ditch of Enclosure 5 was fully excavated. Little work was undertaken in Enclosure 2 that year except for a few sections across its enclosure ditch. Also at that time, the whole of Site C was metal-detected. This resulted in the discovery of a pair of currency bars in the enclosure ditch of Enclosure 2 and two Iron Age spearheads south of Enclosure 2.

July–August 1996

FIG. 4, Site C, Area G

An exploratory trench was cut by machine through a palaeochannel (CF52) south of Enclosure 2.

July–September 1997

FIG. 4, Site C

The uninvestigated part of Enclosure 2 was cleaned by hand. All internal features were then excavated, plus about 35 per cent of the enclosure ditch. At the same time, the interior of Enclosure 5 was re-cleaned by hand to make sure that no archaeological features had been mistaken for natural ones the previous year. Around 150 features were investigated that year. All but one of them (cremation burial CF403) appeared to be natural. Excavation of the chamber CF42 and the ?ritual shaft CF23 was completed.

November–December 2002

FIG. 4, Site D

The south-east corner of the field was machine-stripped without archaeological supervision in readiness for sand and gravel extraction. As a result, various dark patches were revealed that a preliminary investigation showed to include at least one cremation burial and a number of pits with charcoal and pyre debris. A geophysical survey of the site was carried out in March–April 2003 by Aileen Black and David Black.

December 2003

FIG. 4, Site D

Tarmac provided additional funds for a more thorough investigation of the stripped area. Just over 50 per cent of it was very lightly cleaned with a mini-digger fitted with a toothless bucket. This had to be done, because the surface was obscured by vegetation and lenses of redeposited material left behind during the site-stripping. Subsequently, excavation of the features uncovered in 2002 was completed and a further two cremation burials and more pits with charcoal and pyre debris were investigated.

August 2004

FIG. 4, Site E

The south-west corner of the field was machine-stripped under archaeological supervision in readiness for mineral extraction. The archaeological monitoring was funded by Tarmac. Little of archaeological significance was recorded.

SIMPLIFIED CHRONOLOGY AND KEY FEATURES (FIGS 5–9)

NEOLITHIC AND LATE BRONZE AGE/EARLY IRON AGE (FIG. 5)

The earliest occupation in the area is indicated by a limited scatter of flints, a small quantity of pottery and a number of pits, of which one was Late Neolithic, one was Early Bronze Age, and three were Late Bronze Age or Early Iron Age (FIG. 5).

MIDDLE IRON AGE (c. 200–50 B.C.) (FIGS 5, 9)

The core of a Middle Iron Age farmstead is represented by Enclosure 2 and a ?secondary boundary ditch (CF137/AF59) to the north (FIGS 5 and 9). There was a scatter of pits inside the enclosure and west of the boundary ditch. The largest of these were inside Enclosure 2. The spatial relationships between the pits inside Enclosure 2 and the presumed bank along the inner edge of its ditch allow the site of a single round-house to be tentatively identified.

There was a substantial scatter of Middle Iron Age pottery over the sites of Enclosures 1 and 2. Most of it fell within Enclosure 2, and much of it was residual in later contexts. Enclosure 2 contained many fragments of loomweights, which is consistent with a domestic/agricultural use

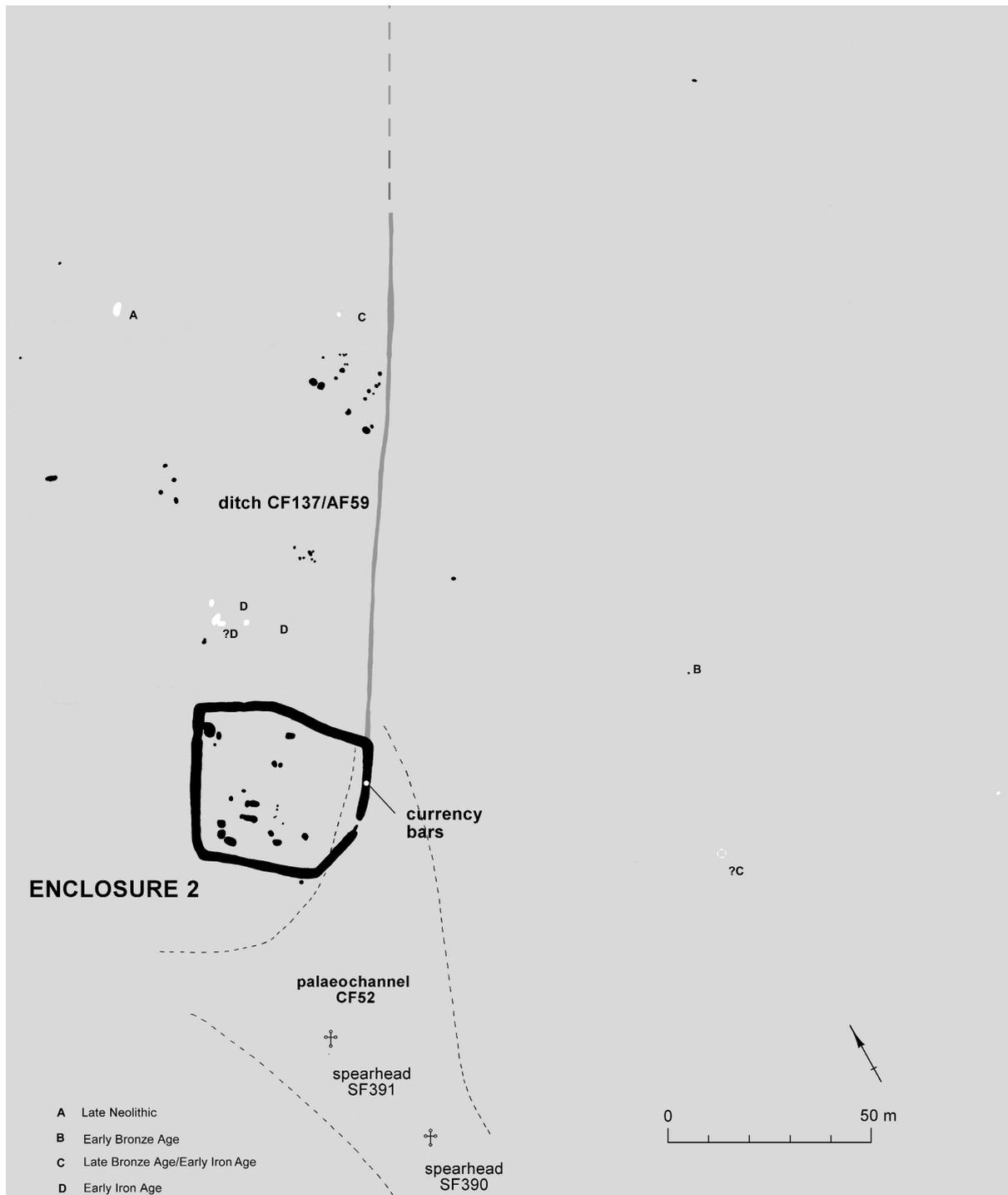


FIG. 5. Phase 1 and earlier

for the enclosure as opposed to a funerary one. Some flint tools and waste from the site also seem to be Iron Age.

A hoard of two currency bars was 'placed' in the enclosure ditch of the farmstead. Dating of the bars is not precise on stratigraphic grounds. However, they do seem to pre-date the earliest of the Late Iron Age burials, because they appear to have been deposited relatively early in the life of the farmstead (p. 26).

Spearheads found during a metal-detector survey to the south of the farmstead enclosure appear to be of Late Iron Age or early Roman date. In view of the nearby currency bars, they may have been ritually deposited.

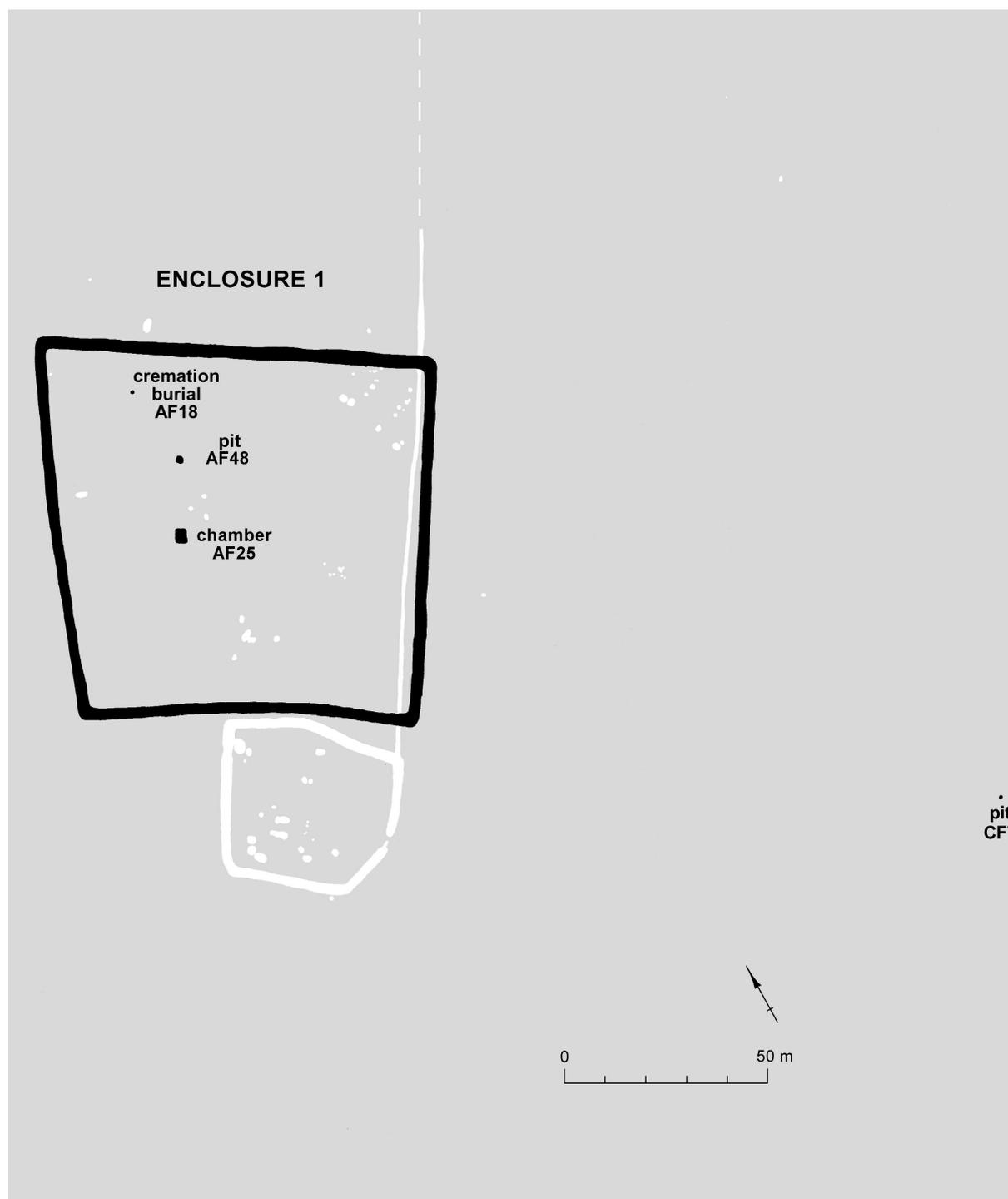


FIG. 6. Phase 2: second half of the 1st century B.C.

SECOND HALF OF THE 1ST CENTURY B.C. (FIGS 6 and 9)

Enclosure 1 was laid out during the second half of the 1st century B.C. and a small wooden burial chamber inserted into it (FIGS 6 and 9). A cremation in a single pot was later interred in the enclosure, and a large pit dug in which were buried the broken remains of a ?wooden box with decorative iron and copper-alloy bands and a pair of earrings or a finger-ring.

Some distance to the east of Enclosure 2, beyond the area later occupied by Enclosure 5, was a pit with pyre debris. The interred remains included a pot containing a brooch datable to c. 50–10 B.C.

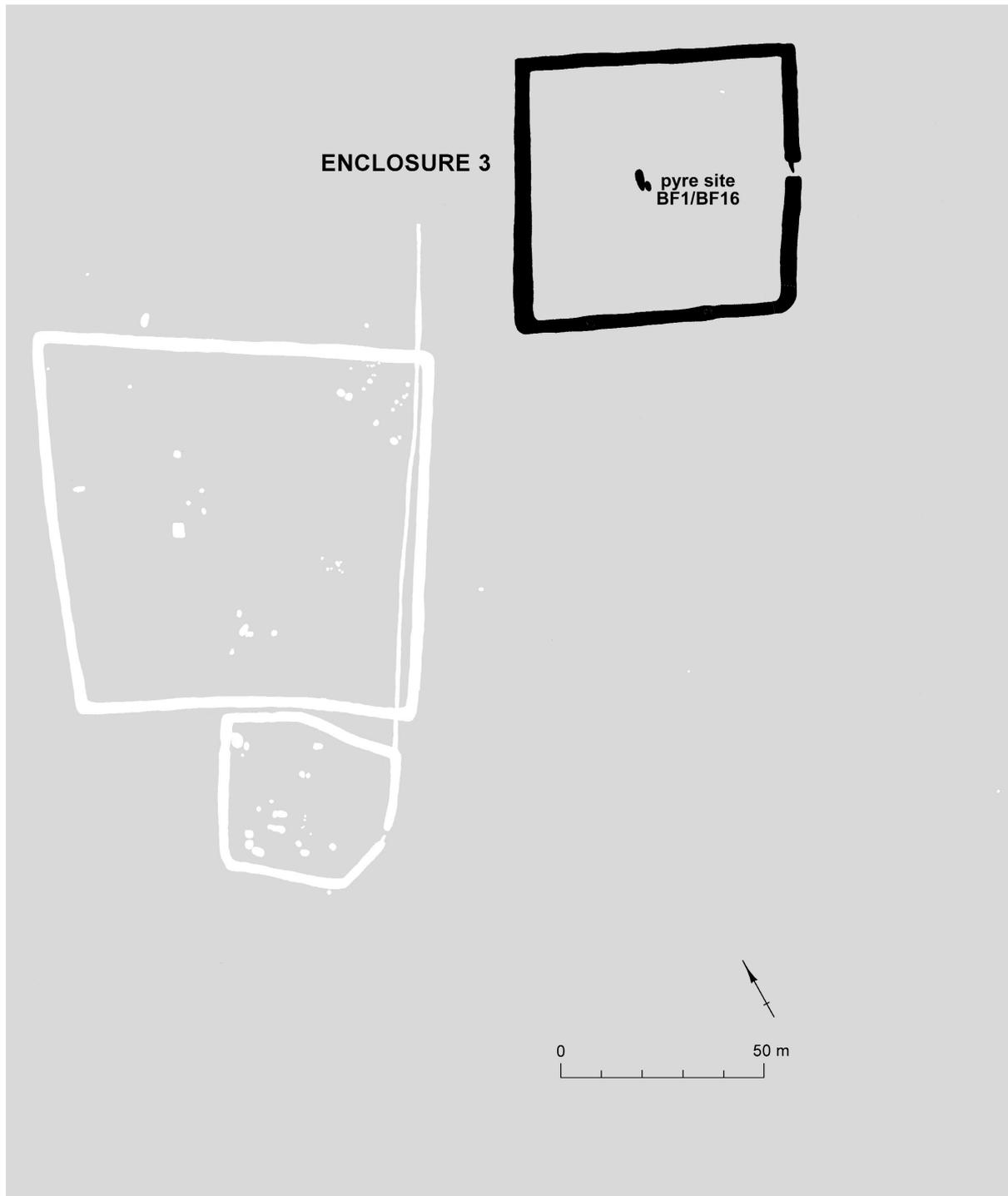


FIG. 7. Phase 3: mid 1st century A.D.

MID 1ST CENTURY A.D. (c. A.D. 40–60) (FIGS 7–9)

Enclosures 3 to 5 were laid out around the middle of the 1st century A.D. (FIGS 7–9). Burnt patches in the centre of Enclosure 3 indicate the probable sites of two sequential pyres (FIG. 7). Two small ditched areas in the other two enclosures are each likely to represent the site of a pyre-site and/or the remains of a platform or other above-ground structure for excarnation. Each of the enclosures contained a single wooden burial chamber (FIG. 8). The grave goods in the chambers had been smashed prior to deposition and only small samples of the resultant debris deposited in the chambers. Some of the vessels from at least one of the chambers appear to have been burnt on a pyre after having been broken.

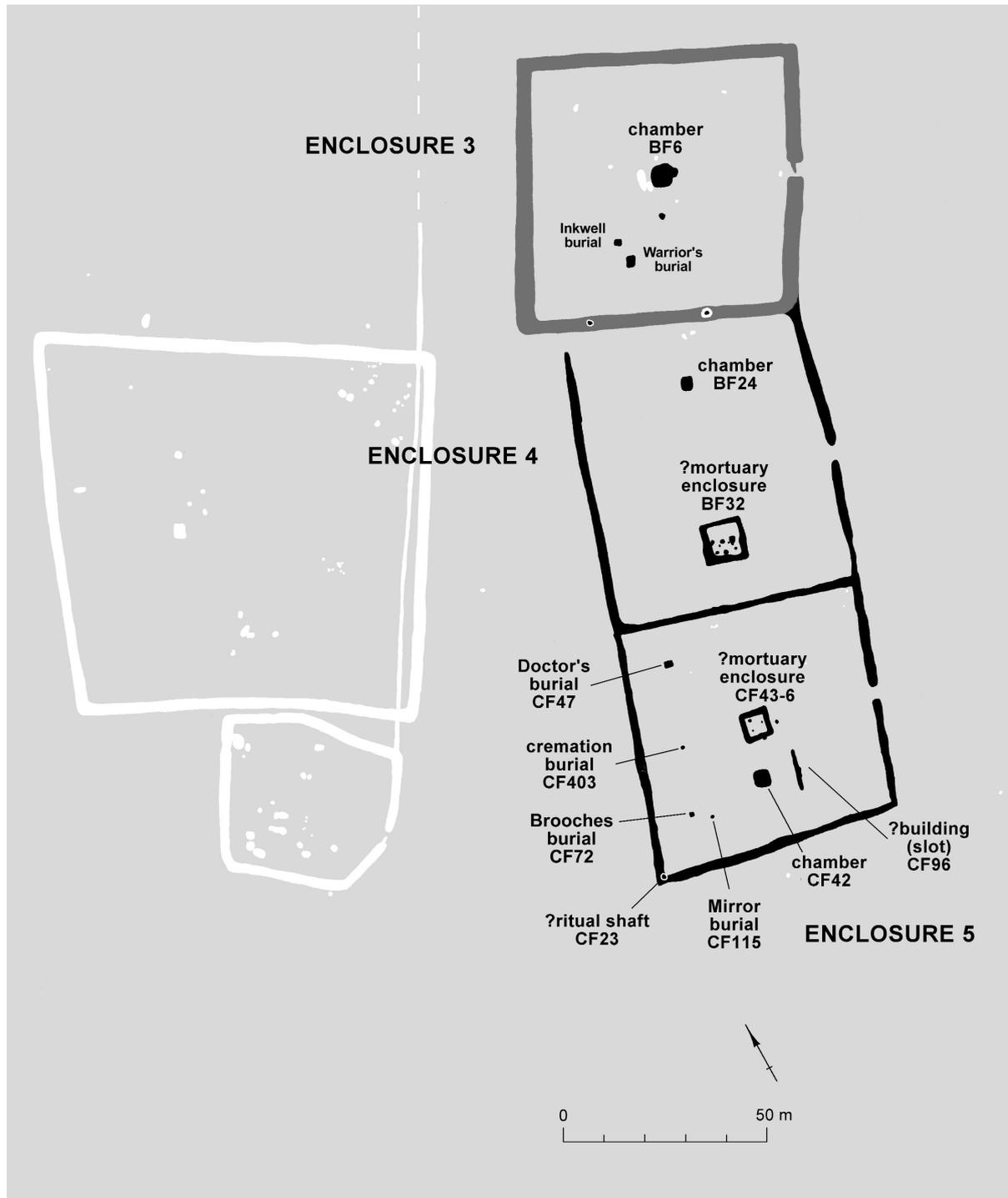


FIG. 8. Phase 4: mid 1st century A.D.



FIG. 9. Stanway: aerial view of cropmarks (Crown Copyright NMR)

In addition to the chambers, there were six secondary burials in this phase. Three are of exceptional interest, because their grave goods signify something about the occupation of the dead person: a 'doctor' (with surgical instruments), a presumed 'warrior' (with spear and shield), and a literate person (with an inkwell).

Ritual activity is indicated by hundreds of sherds of smashed pottery in the enclosure ditches especially along the east side of the enclosures and perhaps also by a 'shaft' in the south-west corner of Enclosure 5.

The possibility of an above-ground structure in the south-east corner of Enclosure 5 is indicated by a single north-south slot (CF96). A temple or excarnation platform are two possible explanations for this feature.

The relationships between the enclosure ditches suggest that Enclosures 4 and 5 were laid out as one, as an addition to Enclosure 3. Sequencing and dating closely not only the enclosures themselves but the various features and activities represented in them is difficult. No clear unequivocal solution can be offered, but the issues are discussed in detail on pages 438–43 where a possible scheme is tentatively outlined. At a simple level, it seems very likely that all three enclosures and the features in them were laid out between *c.* A.D. 40 and 60. The only definite exception is the slot CF96, the fill of which, because it contained a copper-alloy Neronian coin, must post-date A.D. 64.

The small number of burials (three) and pits with pyre-related debris (four, possibly five) in the south-east corner of the site (*i.e.* Site D) formed the remains of an apparently unenclosed cemetery area, which presumably was not directly related to Enclosures 1 and 3–5. The range of dates of these burials and pits equated with those of the funerary enclosures with, as in the latter, the emphasis on the Claudio-Neronian period, although the presence of a coin of Vespasian in one of the pits with pyre-related debris shows that the closing date of this group may have been a decade or so later.

POST-ROMAN FEATURES

A few sherds of medieval and later pottery have been found in the ploughsoil in the part of the site immediately south of the funerary enclosures. This material should probably be associated with medieval and later occupation along the street frontage forming the southern boundary of the quarry field. The frontage is opposite All Saints' church and the site of Stanway Hall, although the number of sherds seems too low to justify supposing that they belong to a now-deserted or shrunken village of Stanway.

The site of the enclosures was crossed by three post-Roman field boundaries. The archaeological remains were badly damaged by ploughing (as typically happens in Essex and East Anglia). Sand and gravel extraction started in the 1960s.

SUMMARY OF DATES

Middle Iron Age farmstead c. 200–50 B.C.

Enclosure 2 (the core of a Middle Iron Age farmstead)

Pits within Enclosure 2, some containing fragments of loomweights

Pits to the north on the site of the later Enclosure 1

Substantial scatter of Middle Iron Age pottery over sites of Enclosures 1 and 2, probably extending throughout Period 2

Ditch CF137/AF59 added on north side of Enclosure 2

Funerary enclosures and their associated funerary contexts

Late Iron Age: c. 50–1 B.C.

AF25: chamber in Enclosure 1 (contains fragments of two vessels)

AF18: cremation burial in Enclosure 1 (a single pot containing cremated bone)

AF48: pit with broken funerary goods (contained fragments of a ?box with decorative iron and copper-alloy bands and also a small amount of cremated human bone)

Late Iron Age/early Roman

Enclosure 3: laid out c. A.D. 35–45

BF1 and BF16: pyre-sites c. A.D. 35–45 (BF16 post-dates BF1)

Enclosures 4 and 5: laid out as one unit c. A.D. 40–50

BF32 and CF43–6: ?sites of pyres or (less likely) structures for the display of bodies c. A.D. 40–50, presumably laid out at the same time as their enclosures

BF6: chamber constructed c. A.D. 35–45

BF64: 'Warrior's burial' c. A.D. 40–50

BF67: 'Inkwell burial' c. A.D. 40–50

BF24: chamber c. A.D. 40–50

CF42: chamber c. A.D. 45–55

CF47: 'Doctor's burial' c. A.D. 40–50

CF72: 'Brooches burial' c. A.D. 43–50

CF115: 'Mirror burial' c. A.D. 50–60

CF403: cremation burial c. A.D. 50–60

CF23: ?shaft c. A.D. 40–50

CF96: slot c. A.D. 65–75 (part of an above-ground structure?)

Unenclosed funerary contexts

CF7: pit with pyre debris *c.* 50–10 B.C.

Site D

DF1: cremation burial *c.* A.D. 10–43/60

DF26: cremation burial early 1st century A.D.

DF28: cremation burial A.D. 43–70

DF2: pit with pyre debris *c.* A.D. 70–80/90

DF3: pit with pyre debris *c.* A.D. 43–70

DF7: pit with pyre debris *c.* A.D. 70–80/90

DF13/14: pit with pyre debris *c.* A.D. 43–?80/90

DF25: ?pit with pyre debris ?1st century A.D.

EXPLANATION OF THE SITE CODES AND SMALL FIND NUMBERS

The recording system used at Stanway was similar to that used at other sites in Colchester (*CAR* 3, 3–4; *CAR* 6, 3–5). Stanway was dug as a series of sub-sites which are referred to by a single-letter code (sub-sites A–E). These codes are used to prefix the context numbers (*e.g.* A509, BL25, CF68). An exception to this is the small trial-trench dug by hand in 1987. A few context numbers from this trench are referred to in the report and are prefixed by the Colchester Museums accession number 1987.16.

There are three separate sets of small find numbers and these can be distinguished by the prefix to the context number:

- 1) a short series for the 1987 trial-trench prefixed by 1987.16,
- 2) a series for sub-sites A and B (Colchester Museums accession number 1988.4) prefixed by A or B,
- 3) a series for sub-sites C and D (Colchester Museums accession numbers 1996.34 for C and 2002.247 for D) prefixed by C or D.

**INTRODUCTION TO THE LATE IRON AGE AND ROMAN POTTERY
IN THIS REPORT**

The Late Iron Age and Roman pottery, including the samian and amphoras, is listed and catalogued by archaeological context where appropriate. The pottery assemblage is dominated by whole and broken pots (referred to here as ‘partial pots’) and divides naturally into two separate assemblages that are almost mutually exclusive, *i.e.* pots or broken pots from the burials and chambers, and broken pots from the enclosure ditches and ditches of the ?mortuary enclosures. Vessels from the latter, where individual pots could be identified, have been assigned a unique number (*e.g.* Pot 59). Elsewhere, they are referenced according to context (*e.g.* BF6.6). Reports and discussion about specific categories or groups of pottery appear as free-standing contributions in the second half of the report. These are amphoras (Paul R. Sealey), Gallo-Belgic wares (V. Rigby), stamps on the Gallo-Belgic wares (V. Rigby), samian (G. Dannell), and the pottery assemblages from the enclosure ditches and ?mortuary enclosures (Stephen Benfield). The fabric codes used in the report are listed in TABLE 1, and descriptions of them are given in Chapter 5 on pages 268–71. Where possible, pottery forms for the Gallo-Belgic, Gaulish, and coarsewares follow those of the Camulodunum pottery type series (Hawkes and Hull 1947, 202–7, 215–75; Hull 1958, 280–92).

A pot is regarded as ‘partial’ if, from joining sherds and other indications, it is apparent that parts of it had been deposited in the ditches after the pot had been broken. No doubt many more of the pots given pot numbers must have been partial than we have managed to identify. This is because similarities of forms and fabrics make the recognition of individual partial pots difficult unless they are distinctive in some way. It would appear that at least 20 per cent or so of any one vessel categorised as partial was present in the ditches, but this figure is likely to be meaningless because partial pots represented by a relatively small number of sherds will be harder to identify.

TABLE 1: FABRIC CODES AND NAMES FOR THE ROMAN, GALLO-BELGIC AND GAULISH WARES

<i>Fabric code</i>	<i>Fabric name</i>
BPW/NOG WH3	Butt-beaker parchment ware/North Gaulish (Gallo-Belgic) white ware 3
CAD AM	Cadiz amphora
CAM AM 1	Campanian (Black sand) amphora 1
CAM AM 2	(Northern) Campanian amphora 2
CAT AM	Catalan amphora
CG CC1 CC2	Central Gaulish colour-coated wares, 'Lyons' ware/Central Gaulish (white and cream) colour-coated wares
CNG GL1 GL2	Central Gaulish lead-glazed ware/Central Gaulish (white and cream) glazed wares 1 and 2
CSOW	Coarse sandy oxidised ware
DJ	Roman oxidised wares
FJ	Brockley Hill/Verulamium region oxidised ware
FMW	Fumed micaceous ware
FSOW	Fine sandy oxidised ware
FSW	Fine sandy ware/early grey ware
GBW	Glossy burnished ware
GFW	Gaulish flagon ware
GTW	Late Iron Age wares, commonly grog-tempered
GX	Other coarsewares, principally locally produced grey wares
HD	Shell-tempered and calcite-gritted wares
HZ	Large storage jars and other vessels in heavily tempered grey wares
MVW	Mixed vesicular ware
PW	'Pimpley' ware
RCVW	Romanising coarse vesicular ware
RCW	Romanising coarseware
ROW	Romanising oxidised ware
SW	Sandy ware
TN/GAB TN1(A)	<i>Terra nigra</i> /Gallo-Belgic <i>terra nigra</i> 1
TR1(C)/GAB TR1(C)	<i>Terra-rubra</i> 1(C)/Gallo-Belgic <i>terra-rubra</i> 1(C)
TR3/GAB TR3	<i>Terra-rubra</i> 3/Gallo-Belgic <i>terra-rubra</i> 3
WPW/NOG WH1	White pipe clay ware/North Gaulish (Gallo-Belgic) white ware 1

DEFINITION OF TERMS USED IN THE REPORT

Funerary goods

A selection of objects that has been assembled for a funeral and would in most cases have been interred intact in a grave.

Grave goods

Funerary goods that have been interred in a grave.

Pyre debris

Debris from a funeral pyre characterised by the presence of charcoal and sometimes cremated bone and containing whole or broken funerary goods that have been placed on or very close to a pyre, including objects worn on the body.