

8C ANCHOR STREET

CHELMSFORD

ESSEX

ARCHAEOLOGICAL INVESTIGATION



Essex County Council

FIELD ARCHAEOLOGY UNIT

May 2009

**8C ANCHOR STREET
CHELMSFORD
ESSEX**

ARCHAEOLOGICAL INVESTIGATION

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**8C ANCHOR STREET,
CHELMSFORD, ESSEX**

ARCHAEOLOGICAL INVESTIGATION

Client: Chelmsford Borough Council

Planning application no.: CHL/00227/07

Grid reference: TL 70583 06173

Site code: CF61

ECC FAU project no.: 1816

OASIS reference: essexcou1-56383

Dates of fieldwork: 11/02/09 to 18/02/09

SUMMARY

An archaeological investigation consisting of four trenches was carried out by the Essex County Council Field Archaeology Unit on behalf of Chelmsford Borough Council before the construction of a car park at 8c Anchor Street, Chelmsford. The site was located on the southern outskirts of the Roman 'small town' of Caesaromagus on the Roman London-Colchester road, whose line is followed by modern Moulsham Street.

The investigation recorded a backyard area at the rear of a ribbon development along the Roman road, indicated by Roman gullies, pits and associated finds. The gullies may represent boundaries of building plots alongside the Roman road. Most of the pits were probably dug for rubbish disposal, although some may originally have been plank-lined, serving as water tanks. Occupation at the site appears to have begun in the 2nd century and to have declined by the mid 4th century. A human skull found in one of the pits probably indicates that the site was situated near a Roman cemetery.

These results complement the findings of an earlier archaeological excavation nearby at 145 Moulsham Street (Robertson 2005; Robertson and Compton in press) and indicate that occupation in this part of the Roman town continued from the late 1st/2nd century into the early 4th century, but had declined by the mid 4th century. The site must have lain close to the southern edge of the Roman town, as earlier excavations at Last's Garage only a short distance to the south showed a contraction of the occupied area in the late 2nd/early 3rd century (Wallis 1988).

1. INTRODUCTION

This report presents the results of an archaeological investigation before the construction of a new car park at 8c Anchor Street, Chelmsford, carried out by the Essex County Council Field Archaeology Unit (ECC FAU) on behalf of Chelmsford Borough Council. The investigation was undertaken as a condition placed on planning consent by Chelmsford Borough Council Planning Department (CHL/00227/07), following advice from the Essex County Council Historic Environment Management team (ECC HEM) based on Planning Policy Guidance note 16 (DoE 1990). The investigation was carried out in accordance with an archaeological brief produced by ECC HEM (2007) and a written scheme of investigation by ECC FAU (2009), and was monitored by ECC HEM on behalf of the local planning authority.

Bound and digital copies of this report will be supplied to Chelmsford Borough Council, ECC HEM and the Essex Historic Environment Record. A digital copy of the report will be uploaded on the online access to the index of archaeological investigations (www.oasis.ac.uk). The site archive and copies of the report will be deposited at Chelmsford Museum.

2. BACKGROUND

2.1 Location and Topography

The site is located in the Moulsham suburb of Chelmsford, to the south of the town centre and the crossing of the rivers Can and Chelmer (Fig. 1). It measures 44 by 24m (c. 1000m²) and lies on the corner of Anchor Street, which forms the main frontage to the south-west, and George Street to the north-west. It is situated 37m north-west of Moulsham Street, which follows the line of the original Roman road from London to Colchester. The surface geology is brickearth overlying terrace gravels of the river Chelmer.

The site was formerly occupied by Keen's Engineering Works, consisting of late 19th/early 20th-century buildings to the rear, and more recent 1950s/1960s structures on the Anchor Street frontage. The works buildings had been demolished and the site levelled and covered with hardcore by the time the archaeological investigation took place. However, the north-eastern end of the site was occupied by a large stockpile of hardcore.

2.2 Archaeology and History

The site lies on the southern edge of the former Roman 'small town' of *Caesaromagus*, to the south of the crossing of the river Can on the Roman London-Colchester road, whose line is followed by modern Moulsham Street. After the Roman town had been abandoned, the medieval town of Chelmsford was founded to the north of the river crossing in 1199. A small suburb existed along Moulsham Street in the medieval and post-medieval periods, although the site lay outside the settlement in an area of open fields until the 19th century.

The area of the Roman town has been extensively investigated and only archaeological sites in the immediate vicinity of the site are specifically mentioned here. The Roman town was established in c. AD 70-75 on the site of a short-lived fort built on the south side of the river crossing after Boudica's revolt of AD 60-61. A civilian settlement developed along the London-Colchester road (Moulsham Street) and a side road to the east that led to Heybridge and Wickford. The town included a *mansio* (government posting station) with a bath-house, and a temple precinct. In c. 160-75 substantial earthwork defences were constructed to defend the town's core but the southern side of the circuit at least was abandoned by the later 3rd century and settlement continued to extend to the south along the London-Colchester road (Moulsham Street). The site thus lies at the southern edge of the established extent of the Roman town, but outside the town defences.

An excavation immediately to the east of the development site, at 145 Moulsham Street, recorded Roman settlement dating from the later 1st to early/mid 4th centuries along the Moulsham Street frontage (Robertson 2005; Robertson and Compton in press). The remains consisted of boundary ditches and rubbish pits, and although the presence of roadside buildings is implied, the relevant levels had been disturbed. Nevertheless, the excavation suggests that Roman settlement remains extended at least 30m back from the Roman road.

Two further excavations immediately to the south, at Lasts Garage, now Albion Court, and at the former Shell Garage, now 84-88 Moulsham Street, provide evidence for the precise southern limit of the Roman settlement. Lasts Garage, on the same side of the Roman road as 145 Moulsham Street, recorded a roadside building, rubbish pits and a ritual horse burial, all dating to the 2nd century (Wallis 1988). Nos 84-88 Moulsham Street on the opposite side of the Roman road recorded Roman roadside ditches dating to the late 1st and 2nd centuries but no other evidence of Roman activity (O'Brien and Roberts 2009). The south of this site, excavated in 1965, but unpublished, recorded Roman cremation burials, clearly marking the southern limit of the settlement.

Anchor Street is first shown on Walker's map of 1591 as a lane extending north-west from Moulsham Street, giving access to fields behind cottages and their smallholdings ranged along the street frontage. In 1591 the site lay in an area known as *West fyelde*. The Ordnance Survey 1st edition shows Anchor Street as having been built up with terrace houses by 1874, although the site area was a yard bounded by outbuildings to the rear of the Anchor Public House.

3. AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

3.1 Aims

The general aim of the archaeological investigation was to establish and to preserve by record any significant remains, especially related to the Roman 'small town'.

3.2 Objectives

The research objectives for the archaeological investigation were in accordance with the research objectives identified in *Research and Archaeology: a Framework for the Eastern Counties*, 2. *Research and Strategy* (Brown and Glazebrook 2000). Improving the understanding of Roman small towns is an important regional research aim. The specific objective of the investigation was to establish the date and character of activity at the southern edge of the Roman town.

4. METHOD

The site was investigated by four trenches, each 1.5m wide, stripped under archaeological supervision using a tracked 360° excavator with a toothless bucket (Figs 1 and 2, A to D). The trench plan as indicated in the written scheme of investigation had to be modified to avoid a large stockpile of hardcore at the north-eastern end of the site, and several large stacks of bricks. The trenches represent an 8% sample of the site area. All identifiable archaeological deposits predating the 19th/20th centuries were investigated and recorded.

The archaeological fieldwork was carried out in accordance with the Institute of Field Archaeologists *Standards and Guidance for Archaeological Evaluation* (IFA 1999) and the Association of Local Government Officers' *Standards for Field Archaeology in the East of England* (Gurney 2003). The ECC FAU uses its own recording system (ECC FAU 2006).

5. FIELDWORK RESULTS

Trenches A to D revealed prehistoric, Roman and modern (19th/20th century) remains (Fig 2). The features cut brickearth and were sealed by c. 0.4m of topsoil and a thin surface layer of modern hardcore. The main findings are described below. Further details about each feature can be found in Appendix 1.

5.1 Prehistoric

The prehistoric remains consisted of four pieces of worked flint, 40g weight of burnt flint, and an undiagnostic sherd of flint-tempered pottery. The prehistoric finds were recovered from Roman features and were all residual.

5.2 Roman

Roman features and finds were found in trench A and in the south-eastern ends of trenches B and C. There were no Roman remains in trench D. The Roman features comprised two parallel gullies (1 and 21) and nine pits (7, 15, 17, 19, 23, 29, 32, 41 and 45).

The gullies were situated in the north-eastern half of trench A. They ran east-west and lay 8m apart, at an oblique angle to nearby Moulsham Street, the line of the Roman road. Both features contained single fills and were of similar size and profile (Plates 1 and 2).

The pits were situated along the length of trench A and across the south-eastern ends of trenches B and C. Pits 7, 17, 19, 29 and 41 were rounded or irregular, and pits 15, 32 and 45 were roughly rectangular (Plates 2 to 5). The pits had steeply sloping sides and flat or concave bases, apart from pit 29 which was very irregular. Most of the pits were between 0.5 and 0.63m deep. The base of pit 41 was not exposed and it must have been more than 0.63m deep. Pit 45 had two fills and was the only one of the pits to contain more than one deposit. It was also the only pit to be on the same alignment as the two gullies. The rectangular pits, especially pit 45, may originally have been plank-lined, probably representing water tanks.

All of the Roman features contained sherds of Roman pottery and many also contained fragments of Roman brick and tile. The pottery-dating evidence indicates that a few features are broadly datable to the early Roman period, probably to the 2nd century, and that most of the features were in use during the mid to late Roman period, dating either to the mid 2nd to

mid 3rd centuries or the later 3rd to mid 4th centuries. It is possible to reconstruct a rough chronology for the Roman features.

Early Roman (2nd century)

The earliest features, gullies 1 and 21, and pit 23, were in use during the early Roman period. Of these, only gully 1 was at all closely datable, dating to the 2nd century. The two gullies were aligned east-west, at an angle to the Roman road on the line of modern Moulsham Street.

Mid to late Roman (mid 2nd to mid 4th centuries)

The majority of the Roman features were within this date range, with most of the Roman pottery coming from pits 29, 32, 41 and 45. Pits 41 and 45 are dated to the mid 2nd to mid 3rd centuries, bridging the early and late Roman periods. Significantly, pit 45 was aligned parallel with the early Roman gullies described above, and may have been contemporary with their later use. Pits 7, 15, 19, 17, 29 and 32 are dated to the late 3rd to mid 4th centuries. Most of these are on a noticeably different alignment to the early Roman gullies, and roughly perpendicular to the Roman road on the line of Moulsham Street. No late 4th-century features were identified, although a few late 4th-century pottery sherds were found lying on the surface of pit 29.

Other finds from the Roman features comprised a copper-alloy hair pin, a small number of iron objects and nails, and a small quantity of animal bone. A human skull was discovered sitting on the base of pit 32 (Plate 6). The skull faced eastward towards Moulsham Street, but was not part of an articulated skeleton and is likely to have originated from a disturbed inhumation nearby.

5.3 Modern

The investigation found building remains relating to Keen's Engineering Works, including concrete slabs and a brick wall (55) in trench C, and 19th/20th-century post-holes (9, 11, 13, 27, 37 and 56) and pits (35, 39, 43, 48 and 50) in trenches A, B and D. The pits contained building rubble and modern artefacts and had probably been dug for the disposal of rubbish. The post-holes contained modern window glass and fragments of brick, tile and wood, and represent the remains of fences or light buildings along the south-eastern boundary of the site, predating the enlargement of Keen's Engineering Works in the 1950s/1960s.

6. FINDS

By Joyce Compton

Finds were recovered from fourteen contexts, across four trenches (A-D). All of the finds have been recorded by count and weight, in grams, by context. Full quantification details can be found in Appendix 3. The assemblage mainly comprises ceramic material; all other finds categories are present in relatively small amounts. Almost all of the datable material is Roman, with pit 32 producing more than half by weight of the brick and tile and a quarter of the pottery. The finds are described briefly by category below.

6.1 Pottery

All of the pottery is of Roman date, apart from a single (10g) body sherd of prehistoric flint-tempered pottery found residually in the fill of pit 17. Roman pottery was recorded from thirteen contexts in total, amounting to 256 sherds, weighing 3.5kg. The pottery in each context has been recorded by fabric and form onto paper *proformas* which form part of the archive. The pottery fabrics were recorded using the Essex County Council Field Archaeology Unit fabric series and vessel forms were classified using the type series devised for Chelmsford (Going 1987, 13-54). The pottery is in good condition overall, with an average sherd weight of 13.6g. Burnt sherds were noted in the fill of pit 32.

The pottery was recorded in the first instance to provide dating evidence for features and layers. Nine contexts contained small amounts of pottery, allowing only tentative dating to be provided for these contexts. Three features (gullies 1 and 21; pit 23) are dated broadly to the early Roman period. Almost two-thirds by weight of the assemblage, however, was recovered from four features, pits 29, 32, 41 and 45. These are more closely dated to the mid 2nd to mid 3rd centuries (pits 41 and 45) and the late 3rd to mid 4th centuries (pits 29 and 32). Pottery of exclusively late 4th century date occurs in just one context (surface finds, 31, over pit 29).

Overall, the assemblage is generally mid to late Roman in character and is dominated by locally-made coarse wares, at more than 88% by weight of the total. The main regional industries are also represented, albeit by small amounts of pottery. Sherds of Verulamium white ware, North Kent grey ware, Colchester and Nene Valley colour-coated wares and Hadham oxidised ware indicate trading links throughout the Roman period. No mortaria were identified, although the assemblage is too small for this absence to be of any significance. The Oxfordshire industry is represented by the flange from a hemispherical bowl. Pottery imported from the continent comprises three sherds from amphoras, representing both

Gaulish wine and Dressel 20 olive oil vessels, and five sherds of Gaulish samian, unfortunately residual.

The pottery compares well with that from nearby excavations at 145 Moulsham Street (Robertson and Compton in press), with local coarse wares dominating both assemblages. Slightly less early Roman pottery was recovered from the current work, with five sherds of samian recorded against twenty-seven from Moulsham Street, although the overall variety of fabric types and pottery sources is very similar.

6.2 Brick and tile

Roman brick and tile, amounting to forty-one pieces, weighing 4kg, was recovered from nine contexts, mainly of mid to late Roman date. Diagnostic pieces were recorded in all contexts and include *tegulae* and *imbrices*, both of which are roofing tile types, and brick.

6.3 Metalwork

The top half of a copper alloy hairpin was found in the fill of pit 32. The pin is encrusted but has a flattened spherical head with two grooves below. This is a Crummy (1983) Type 5 hairpin, of probable 2nd-century date.

Iron items, all encrusted, were recorded in five contexts. Three are probably nails, but a large angled object was found in the fill of pit 23 and a further, unidentifiable, object came from the fill of pit 29.

6.4 Human bone

Part of a poorly-preserved, incomplete human skull was uncovered at the base of pit 32. This was lifted within the soil matrix, but its poor condition precluded intact recovery. Approximately half of the cranium is likely to be present, but the mandible was not evident. The teeth appeared to be *in situ* but were obviously no longer firmly rooted in the maxilla. The presence of the skull at the base of a 3rd-century pit is difficult to explain, but presumably it had derived from an earlier inhumation nearby.

6.5 Animal bone

Four contexts produced animal bone, amounting to fifty-nine fragments, weighing 128g. Most of the pieces are small and in poor condition, with recognisable elements comprising teeth and tooth enamel fragments. Molars from both cattle and horse were noted, however. A number of bone fragments were recovered from the fill of pit 32. There is no reason for

assuming that these are human, even though part of a human skull was found at the base of the pit (see above).

6.6 Other finds

These are few. Unworked flint flakes were found in three contexts and single burnt flints in a further two contexts. Three small abraded pieces of probable lava quern were found in the fill of pit 32. A post-medieval clay tobacco pipe stem was recovered from pit 17. Two joining fragments of natural blue-green glass were recovered from the fill of pit 41. These form an angled, thick-walled sherd which is severely crazed, preventing the provision of an accurate date. A post-medieval date is tentatively suggested but a Roman date cannot be ruled out.

6.7 Comments on the Assemblage

A variety of finds categories was recorded, although quantities are relatively small. The assemblages compare well with those from recent excavations along Moulsham Street (Robertson and Compton in press). The pottery, in particular, has the same characteristics, deriving largely from similar areas of mid to late Roman pitting. The pottery is in overall good condition and is unlikely to have travelled far from where it was used. The animal bone was better preserved on the 145 Moulsham Street site, but this probably indicates a slightly less-acidic burial environment.

The Roman pottery has been fully recorded by fabric and form, in accordance with current guidelines. The copper alloy hairpin has been submitted for conservation to prevent further deterioration. No further work is required on the remainder of the material, although x-rays of the ironwork are normally recommended for archive purposes. Since most of the ironwork appears to be nails, x-rays may be considered unnecessary in this instance. All of the finds should be retained.

7. CONCLUSIONS

The investigation has revealed Roman pits and gullies belonging to a yard area extending at least 40m back from the Roman London to Colchester road (modern Moulsham Street), around which the Roman small town at Chelmsford developed. The existence of building plots extending in a ribbon development along the Roman road can be safely inferred from the presence of the pits themselves and by comparison with previous excavations in the area. A complete building plot excavated at Godfrey's Mews only 100m north-east of the site shows Roman strip buildings extending 20-25m back from the Roman road, with pitting to their rear (Drury 1988, 57-62; Wickenden 1996, 91-3 and fig. 15). The Anchor Street pits would undoubtedly have lain to the rear of roadside buildings beneath the Anchor Public House and Victorian houses along Moulsham Street.

Most of the pits were probably dug for rubbish disposal, but it is likely that the very regular rectangular pit 45, and possibly some others, were plank-lined and used as water storage tanks, although whether for domestic or industrial use is impossible to determine. The skull found in pit 32 is probably derived from a disturbed inhumation from an undiscovered Roman cemetery. The discovery of the skull is perhaps not unexpected as cemeteries during the Roman period were traditionally sited on the margins of towns.

The gullies probably represent property boundaries or sub-divisions within property boundaries. Other early Roman linear features found within Chelmsford share the east-west alignment of the gullies and it is likely that the laying out of the town during its early phases had been influenced by the alignments of earlier boundaries (Drury 1988, figs 6 and 41; pages 125-6). Pit 45 has the same alignment as the gullies and possibly implies that the east-west alignment was still influencing the orientations of features during the mid 2nd to mid 3rd century.

The results of the present investigation complement those of previous excavations nearby at 145 Moulsham Street and Lasts Garage (Fig. 3). Pits and roadside and/or boundary ditches comprise most of the archaeological remains at all three sites. The combined evidence suggests that occupation at all three sites began during the late 1st and 2nd centuries, came to an end at Lasts Garage during the late 2nd/early 3rd century, and to have carried on uninterrupted at 145 Moulsham Street and 8c Anchor Street until the mid 4th century. It also confirms that Lasts Garage lay on the periphery of the Roman settlement, and that 145

Moulsham Street represented the southern edge of the town from the beginning of the 3rd century onwards.

Activity within the general area of the site during prehistory is implied by the discovery of the worked flint and the prehistoric potsherd.

The investigation has not found any archaeological remains dating from the 5th to 18th centuries and the site appears to have been open land, probably pasture, during that period. This is supported by John Walker's map of 1591, which shows the site as having been part of an area known as *West fælde* during the late 16th century.

8. ASSESSMENT OF RESULTS

The site contains Roman remains relating to the development of the southern outskirts of the Roman 'small town' of *Caesaromagus*. The remains comprise pits and boundary gullies and are sealed by c. 0.5m of topsoil and modern hardcore. The results of the trenching suggest that most of the Roman remains probably occur in a 6m-wide band along the south-eastern edge of the site. The trenching has been unable to establish the presence or otherwise of archaeological remains in the north-eastern third of the site, due to the presence of a large stockpile of hardcore, although modern features recorded in trench D adjacent to the hardcore suggest that its north-western area at least has been disturbed. The site contains extensive modern remains, including underground services and large slabs of concrete relating to Keen's Engineering Works. The construction of the 1950s/60s building has left the south-west and the centre of the site badly disturbed.

The trenches excavated to date have determined the overall character and development of the site, except possibly in the north-east, which could not be fully investigated. Roman remains may survive under part of the hardcore stockpile, and may warrant further investigation to understand the layout of the features better, especially the postulated boundary gullies.

The Roman remains found on site are typical of this area of Roman Chelmsford both in terms of their date range and the range of backyard features present and the artefacts recovered from them. The main value of the Roman evidence at the Anchor Street site is that it adds to the results of previous excavations nearby at 145 Moulsham Street, Lasts Garage/Albion Court and 84-88 Moulsham Street, making it possible to reconstruct the extent of settlement

at the southern limit of the Roman town in different periods of its development. The Roman town reached its greatest extent in the 2nd century, after which there was some contraction, although settlement appears to have continued uninterrupted at the Anchor Street site until the mid 4th century, when there was a final decline. This pattern of development reinforces conclusions reached from the large-scale excavations at Godfrey's Mews 100m to the north-east, where settlement in the form of roadside building plots ceased in the mid 4th century (Wickenden 1996, 93), and it is reasonable to assume a general abandonment of the southern area of the town at this date.

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The archaeological fieldwork was undertaken by Mark Germany, Andrew Lewsey and Adrian Scruby. The finds were processed by Phil McMichael and were analysed and reported on by Joyce Compton. The project was managed by Patrick Allen. The figures were drawn by Andrew Lewsey. The archaeological work was monitored by Teresa O'Connor of the Essex CC Historical Environment Management team on behalf of the local planning authority.

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APPENDIX 1: CONTEXT DATA

All dimensions are in metres (Length x Width x Depth)

No.	Tr.	Category	Description	Date
1	A	Gully	Straight-sided gully with gradually-sloping sides and a slightly concave base (1.37+ x 0.6 x 0.12). Filled by 2	2ndC+
2	A	Fill	Yellowish brown plastic/soft clay silt with infrequent gravel. Single fill of gully 1	2ndC+
3	A	Hardcore	Greyish brown loose silt sand with frequent gravel and abundant pieces of concrete and brick (0.06 thick). Above 4	Modern
4	A	Tarmac	(0.08 thick). Below 3. Above 5	Modern
5	A	Hardcore	Greyish brown loose silt sand with frequent gravel and abundant pieces of concrete and brick (0.1 thick). Below 4. Above 6	Modern
6	A	Topsoil	Brown friable silt clay with infrequent gravel (0.44 thick). Contains infrequent pieces of coal, brick and tile. Below 5	Modern
7	A	Pit	Pear-shaped pit with steeply-sloping sides and an uneven base (1.3 x 0.85 x 0.2). Filled by 8	Late 3rd to mid 4thC
8	A	Fill	Dark brown friable silt clay with infrequent gravel and flecks of charcoal. Single fill of pit 7	Late 3rd to mid 4thC
9	A	Post-hole	Oval post-hole with steep, near-vertical sides and an uneven base (0.56+ x 0.55 x 0.26). Filled by 10	Modern
10	A	Fill	Greyish brown friable/loose silt clay with infrequent gravel. Contains pieces of modern brick, tile, glass, coal and clinker. Single fill of post-hole 9	Modern
11	A	Post-hole	Square post-hole with rounded corners, gradually-sloping sides and a flat base (0.3 x 0.28 x 0.04). Filled by 12	Modern
12	A	Fill	Brownish grey friable silt clay with infrequent gravel. Contains small animal bones and pieces of modern window glass. Single fill of post-hole 11	Modern
13	A	Post-hole	Rounded post-hole (0.5 x 0.36+ x ?). Not excavated. Filled by 14	Modern
14	A	Fill	Brown friable silt clay with infrequent gravel. Contains fragments of post-medieval/modern brick and tile. Not excavated. Single fill of post-hole 13	Modern
15	A	Pit	Rectangular pit with rounded corners, steeply-sloping sides and a concave base (0.63 x 0.58 x 0.32). Filled by 16	3rdC+
16	A	Fill	Orange brown friable silt clay with infrequent gravel. Single fill of pit 15	3rdC+
17	A	Pit	Rounded pit with steeply-sloping sides. Base not exposed (1.08 x 0.4 x 0.7+). Filled by 18	Late 3rd to mid 4thC
18	A	Fill	Greyish brown friable silt clay with infrequent gravel and flecks of charcoal. Single fill of pit 17	Late 3rd to mid 4thC
19	A	Pit	Elongated pit with steeply-sloping sides and a slightly concave and uneven base (2 x 0.96 x 0.48). Filled by 20	Late 3rd to mid 4thC
20	A	Fill	Orange-grey brown friable clay silt with occasional gravel. Single fill of pit 19	Late 3rd to mid 4thC

No.	Tr.	Category	Description	Date
21	A	Gully	Straight-sided gully with moderately-sloping sides and a flat base (1 x 0.54 x 0.21). Filled by 22	Early Roman
22	A	Fill	Orange-grey brown friable clay silt with occasional gravel. Single fill of gully 21	Early Roman
23	A	Pit	Rounded pit with steeply-sloping sides and a concave base (1.0+ x 0.46+ x 0.36). Filled by 24	Early Roman
24	A	Fill	Brownish grey friable silt clay with infrequent gravel. Single fill of pit 23	Early Roman
25	A	Pit	Same as 23	Early Roman
26	A	Fill	Same as 24	Early Roman
27	A	Post-hole	Oval post-hole with moderately steep sides and a concave base (0.4 x 0.36 x 0.13). Filled by 28	Modern
28	A	Fill	Brownish grey loose/friable silt clay with infrequent gravel. Contains small fragment of modern window glass. Single fill of post-hole 27	Modern
29	A	Pit	Elongated, rounded pit with irregular sloping sides and base (1.55+ x 1.25 x 0.56). Filled by 30	Late 3rd to mid 4thC
30	A	Fill	Dark brown friable silt clay with infrequent gravel and flecks of charcoal. Single fill of pit 29	Late 3rd to mid 4thC
31	A	Artefacts	Surface finds, pit 29	Late 4th
32	A	Pit	Straight-sided pit with rounded corners, near vertical sides and a flat base (1.27 x 0.75+ x 0.55). Filled by 33	Late 3rd to mid 4thC
33	A	Fill	Dark brown friable silt clay with infrequent gravel. Single fill of pit 32. Contains 34	Late 3rd to mid 4thC
34	A	Artefact	Human skull found on base of pit 32. Upright and facing east. Centrally located within excavated segment. Within fill 33	Late 3rd to mid 4thC
35	A	Pit	Elongated, rounded pit (1 x 0.8 x ?). Filled by 36. Not excavated	Modern
36	A	Fill	Single fill of pit 36. Contains modern bricks. Not excavated	Modern
37	A	Post-hole	Straight-sided post-hole (0.52 x 0.12+ x ?). Filled by 38. Not excavated	Modern
38	A	Fill	Single fill of post-hole 37. Contains pieces of modern brick and window glass. Not excavated	Modern
39	A	Pit	Pit (1.55+ x 1.25+ x ?). Filled by 40. Not excavated	Modern
40	A	Fill	Single fill of pit 39. Contains broken wine bottles. Not excavated	Modern
41	A&C	Pit	Rounded pit with steeply sloping sides (2.36+ x 0.48+ x 0.58+). Base not exposed. Filled by 42	Mid 2nd to mid 3rdC
42	A&C	Fill	Yellowish brown friable silt clay with occasional gravel and infrequent flecks of charcoal. Single fill of pit 41	Mid 2nd to mid 3rdC
43	B	Pit	Pit (0.8+ x 1 x ?). Filled by 44. Not excavated	Modern

No.	Tr.	Category	Description	Date
44	C	Fill	Single fill of pit 43. Contains numerous pieces of brick and concrete	Modern
45	A&C	Pit	Rectangular pit with near-vertical sides and a flat base (2.22 x 1 x 0.47). Filled by 46 and 47	Mid 2nd to mid 3rdC
46	A&C	Fill	Brownish yellow friable silt clay with infrequent gravel. Primary fill of pit 45	Mid 2nd to mid 3rdC
47	A&C	Fill	Yellowish brown friable silt clay with infrequent gravel. Top fill of pit 45	Mid 2nd to mid 3rdC
48	D	Pit	Large pit surrounded by blocks of bricks (1.3+ x 1.2+ x ?). Filled by 49. Not excavated	Modern
49	D	Fill	Dark grey/black silt with infrequent gravel. Single fill of pit 48. Contains abundant ash and clinker and numerous small fragments of iron scrap. Not excavated	Modern
50	D	Pit	Rounded pit (0.7+ x 0.6+ x ?). Filled by 51. Not excavated	Modern
51	D	Fill	Single fill of pit 50. Contains post-medieval/modern bricks. Not excavated	Modern
52	D	Overburden	Dark greyish brown plastic clay silt with infrequent gravel (0.3 thick). Beneath 53	Modern
53	D	Hardcore	Layer of brick and concrete fragments (0.1 thick). Above 52	Modern
54	C	Hardcore	Compacted hardcore alongside wall 55 (0.6 wide)	Modern
55	C	Wall	Base of brick wall (0.9 wide)	Modern
56	A	Post-hole	Small rectangular post-hole (0.5 x 0.28 x ?). Not excavated	Modern

APPENDIX 2: FINDS DATA

All Finds Data

Context	Feature	Count	Weight	Description	Date
2	1	1 10	28 76	Tile; tegula flange fragment Pottery; G25 jar rim sherd, jar rim and body sherds, all sandy grey ware, some flinty; body sherds, black-surfaced ware and fine grey ware	Roman Roman
8	7	2 1 26	186 88 328	Tile; imbrex fragment and spall Pottery; Dressel 20 amphora body sherd Pottery; G25 jar rim sherd, flinty sandy grey ware; bowl-jar rim sherd, fine grey ware; jar rim, base and body sherds, sandy grey ware and black-surfaced ware; dish base sherd, black-surfaced ware; vessels in common with 18	Roman Roman Roman
16	15	1 1 3	20 52 14	Iron nail Tile; imbrex fragment Pottery; body sherds, sandy grey ware; folded beaker body sherd, black-surfaced ware	- Roman Roman
18	17	8 1 5 35 1	16 1 250 374 10	Animal bone; skull fragment, cattle molar and tooth enamel fragments Clay pipe stem Tile; mainly tegula fragments, one reduced Pottery; B1 and B6 dish rim sherds, flange and body sherds, black-surfaced ware; G25 jar rim and body sherds, sandy grey ware, some decorated, some flinty; vessels in common with 8 Pottery; body sherd, flint-tempered	- Post med. Roman Roman Prehistoric
20	19	2 4 13	18 162 152	Flint flake and lump Tile; fragments inc imbrex Pottery; beaker and B6 dish rim sherds, fine grey ware; base and body sherds, fine and sandy grey wares, storage jar fabric and black-surfaced ware	- Roman Roman
22	21	1 4	4 36	Flint flake Pottery; body sherds, sandy grey ware; joining footing sherds, North Kent grey ware	- Roman
24	23	1 4	224 28	Iron object Pottery; jar rim sherds, sandy grey ware; body sherds, North Kent grey ware and fine grey ware	- Roman
26	25	1	2	Pottery; chip of amphora	Roman
30	29	1 6 35	64 314 312	Iron object Tile; fragments inc tegula flange Pottery; B2/4 dish rim, sooted, and B6 dish rim and flange sherds, black-surfaced ware; jar rim and body sherds, sandy grey ware, some flinty, black-surfaced ware, Nene Valley colour-coated ware and North Kent grey ware	- Roman Roman
31	29	1 1 9	30 2 256	Iron nail Flint flake Pottery; flange sherd, C8 bowl, Oxford red colour-coated ware; G24 and G25 jar rim sherds, base and body sherds, sandy grey ware; base sherd, black-surfaced ware	- - Roman
33	32	1 32 1 3 14	4 48 38 32 2330	SF1 Copper alloy hairpin Animal bone; fragments, poor condition Burnt flint Lava quern fragments, abraded Tile; fragments inc tegulae, imbrices and brick	Roman - - Roman Roman

Context	Feature	Count	Weight	Description	Date
		53	905	Pottery; storage jar base sherd; B6 dish rim sherd, burnt BB1; f33 cup rim sherd, burnt, and body sherd, samian; jar rim sherd, beaker base and dish base sherds, black-surfaced ware; jar rim sherd, sandy grey ware, H35 beaker rim sherd, fine grey ware; body sherds, Nene Valley colour-coated ware, some rouletted, Hadham oxidised ware, black-surfaced, fine and sandy grey wares, cream-slipped red ware	Roman
34	33	90+	168	Human bone; skull vault fragments, loose incisor, canine and ten molars	-
42	41	5 2 3 25	12 8 284 535	Animal bone; fragments, poor condition Glass; joining fragments, blue-green, thick-walled, crazed and friable, probably post med. Tile; brick fragment and spalls, one reduced Pottery; jar rim sherds, black-surfaced and sandy grey wares; E2 bowl-jar rim sherd, fine grey ware; H20 beaker rim sherd, Colchester colour-coated ware, with roughcasting; B2 dish rim sherd, black-surfaced ware; body sherds, storage jar fabric, samian, fine and sandy grey wares, black-surface ware, two with cordon, one with stabbing	- Undated Roman Roman
47	45	1 14 1 5 1 33	24 52 2 420 74 314	Iron nail Animal bone; horse and cattle molars, fragments and tooth enamel fragments Burnt flint Tile; tegula, brick and imbrex fragments Pottery; amphora body sherd, ?Gaulish Pottery; B2 dish and G9 jar rim sherds, body sherd with lattice decoration (possible BB2), dish base sherd and body sherds, black-surfaced ware; beaker rim and body sherds, Nene Valley colour-coated ware; dish wall sherd and body sherd, samian; B3 dish rim sherd, folded body sherds, base and body sherds, sandy grey ware, body sherds Verulamium white ware and storage jar fabric	- - - Roman Roman Roman

Roman Pottery Data

Context	Feature	Count	Weight	Description	Date
2	1	10	76	G25 jar rim sherd, jar rim and body sherds, all sandy grey ware, some flinty; body sherds, black-surfaced ware and fine grey ware	2nd C+
8	7	1 29	88 328	Dressel 20 amphora body sherd G25 jar rim sherd, flinty sandy grey ware; bowl-jar rim sherd, fine grey ware; jar rim, base and body sherds, sandy grey ware and black-surfaced ware; dish base sherd, black-surfaced ware	Roman Late 3rd to mid 4th C
16	15	3	14	Body sherds, sandy grey ware; folded beaker body sherd, black-surfaced ware	3rd C+
18	17	35 1	374 10	B1 and B6 dish rim sherds, flange and body sherds, black-surfaced ware; G25 jar rim and body sherds, sandy grey ware, some decorated, some flinty Body sherd, flint-tempered	Late 3rd to mid 4th C Prehistoric
20	19	13	152	Beaker and B6 dish rim sherds, fine grey ware; base and body sherds, fine and sandy grey wares, storage jar fabric and black-surfaced ware	Late 3rd to mid 4th C
22	21	4	36	Body sherds, sandy grey ware; joining footing sherds, North Kent grey ware	Early Roman
24	23	4	28	Jar rim sherds, sandy grey ware; body sherds, North Kent grey ware and fine grey ware	Early Roman
26	25	1	2	Chip of amphora	Roman
30	29	35	312	B2/4 dish rim, sooted, and B6 dish rim and flange sherds, black-surfaced ware; jar rim and body sherds, sandy grey ware, some flinty, black-surfaced ware, Nene Valley colour-coated ware and North Kent grey ware	Late 3rd to mid 4th C
31	29	9	256	Flange sherd, C8 bowl, Oxford red colour-coated ware; G24 and G25 jar rim sherds, base and body sherds, sandy grey ware; base sherd, black-surfaced ware	Late 4th C
33	32	53	905	Storage jar base sherd; B6 dish rim sherd, burnt BB1; f33 cup rim sherd, burnt, and body sherd, samian; jar rim sherd, beaker base and dish base sherds, black-surfaced ware; jar rim sherd, sandy grey ware, H35 beaker rim sherd, fine grey ware; body sherds, Nene Valley colour-coated ware, some rouletted, Hadham oxidised ware, black-surfaced, fine and sandy grey wares, cream-slipped red ware	Late 3rd to mid 4th C
42	41	25	535	Jar rim sherds, black-surfaced and sandy grey wares; E2 bowl-jar rim sherd, fine grey ware; H20 beaker rim sherd, Colchester colour-coated ware, with roughcasting; B2 dish rim sherd, black-surfaced ware; body sherds, storage jar fabric, samian, fine and sandy grey wares, black-surface ware, two with cordon, one with stabbing	Mid 2nd to mid 3rd C
47	45	1 33	74 314	Amphora body sherd, ?Gaulish B2 dish and G9 jar rim sherds, body sherd with lattice decoration (possible BB2), dish base sherd and body sherds, black-surfaced ware; beaker rim and body sherds, Nene Valley colour-coated ware; dish wall sherd and body sherd, samian; B3 dish rim sherd, folded body sherds, base and body sherds, sandy grey ware, body sherds Verulamium white ware and storage jar fabric	Roman Mid 2nd to mid 3rd C
		257	3504	N.B. One sherd (10g) prehistoric	

APPENDIX 3: CONTENTS OF ARCHIVE

One A4 folder containing:

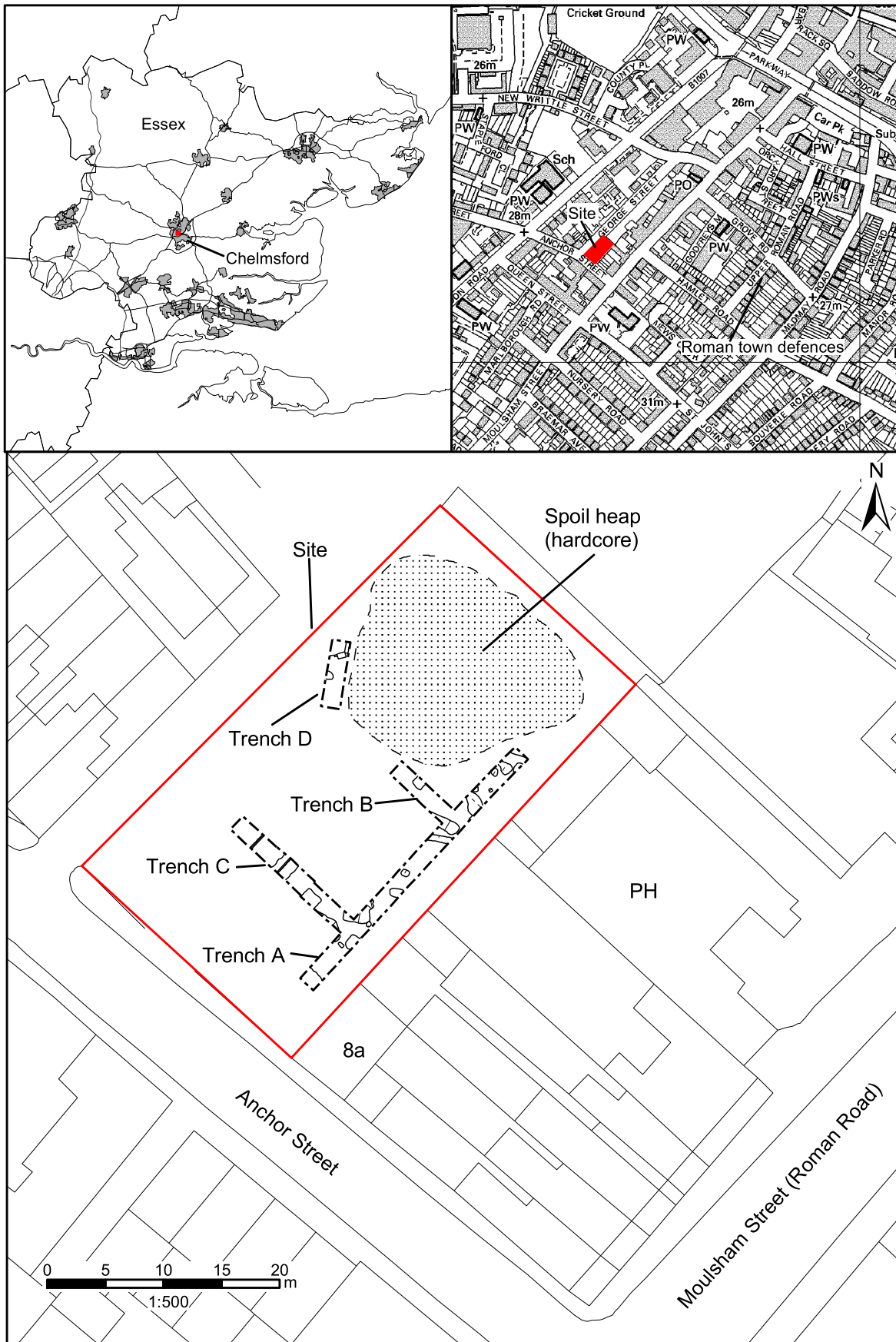
- 1 Copy of this report
- 1 Copy of the written scheme of investigation
- 1 Copy of the archaeological brief
- 1 Copy of the finds report, including archive tables
- 2 Context register sheets
- 56 Context sheets
- 1 Environmental sample register sheet
- 4 Environmental sample record sheets
- 1 Plan register sheet
- 1 Section register sheet
- 1 Small finds register sheet
- 13 Black and white prints and negatives
- 1 Computer disc containing 24 digital photographs

Held separate from folder:

- 3 Sheets of site drawings
- 1 Sheet of section drawings
- 2 Boxes of finds

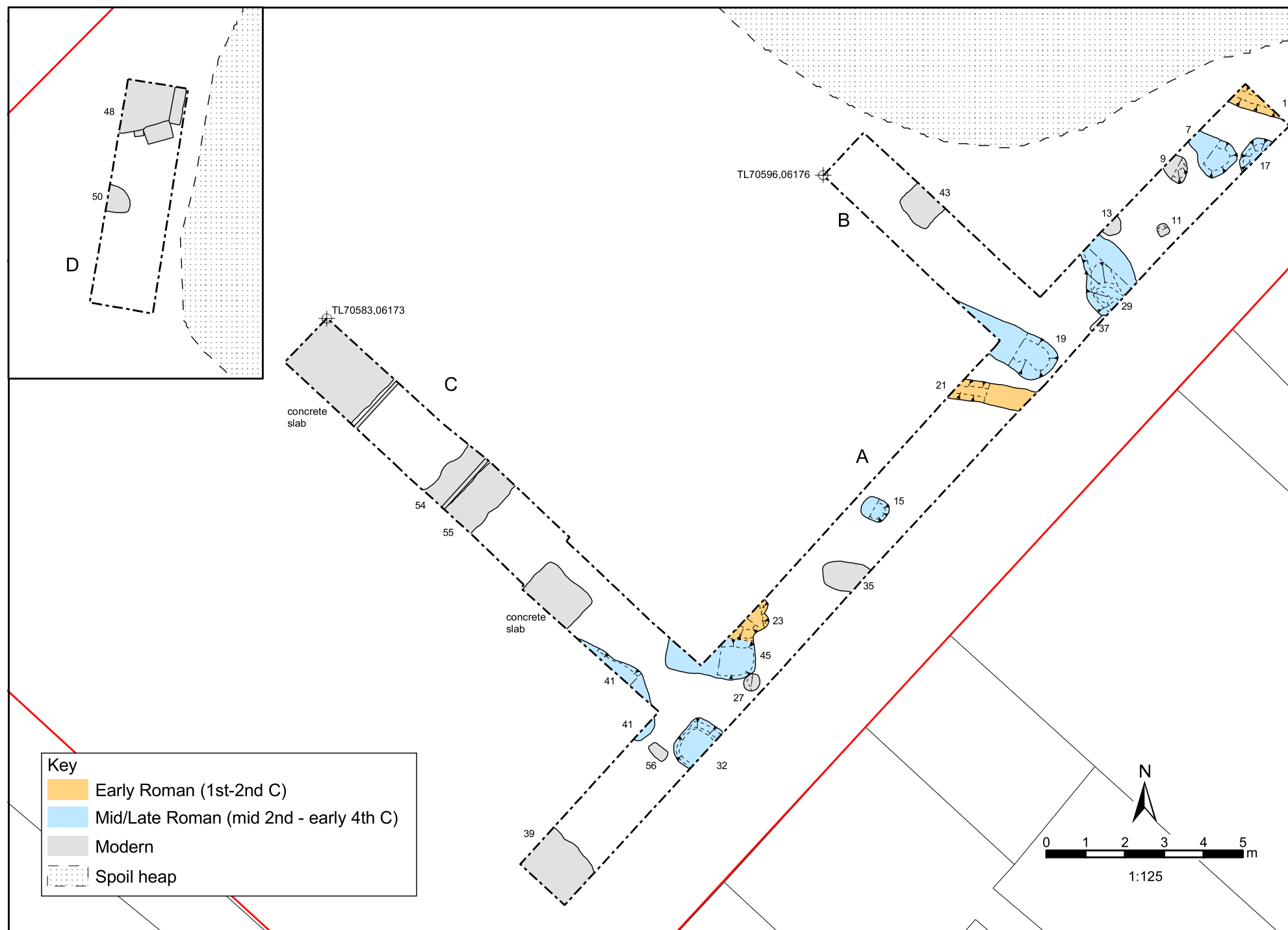
APPENDIX 4: ESSEX HISTORIC ENVIRONMENT RECORD SUMMARY

Site name/Address: 8C Anchor Street, Chelmsford	
Parish: Chelmsford	District: Chelmsford
NGR: TL 70583 06173	Site Code: CF 61
Type of Work: Archaeological evaluation	Site Director/Group: Mark Germany, Essex County Council Field Archaeology Unit
Date of Work: Archaeological trial-trenching	Size of Area Investigated: 4 trenches, totalling 80m ²
Location of Finds/Curating Museum: Chelmsford Museum	Client: Chelmsford Borough Council
Further Seasons Anticipated?: To be decided	Related EHR Nos.:
Final Report: Essex Archaeology and History (Summary)	
Periods represented: Prehistoric and Roman	
<p>SUMMARY OF FIELDWORK RESULTS:</p> <p><i>An archaeological investigation consisting of four trenches was carried out before the construction of a car park at 8c Anchor Street, Chelmsford by the Essex County Council Field Archaeology Unit on behalf of Chelmsford Borough Council. The site was located on the southern outskirts of the Roman small town of Caesaromagus, near Moulsham Street, which follows the line of the Roman London-Colchester road.</i></p> <p><i>The investigation discovered a backyard area at the rear of a ribbon development alongside the Roman road, indicated by Roman gullies, pits and associated finds. The gullies may represent boundaries of building plots alongside the Roman road. Most of the pits were probably dug for rubbish disposal, although some may originally have been timber-lined, for water tanks or an industrial use. Occupation at the site appears to have begun in the 2nd century and to have declined by the mid 4th century. A human skull found in one of the pits probably indicated that the site was situated near a Roman cemetery. A prehistoric potsherd and a small quantity of burnt and worked flint were recovered as residual finds.</i></p> <p><i>The results of the investigation complement the findings of an earlier archaeological excavation at nearby 145 Moulsham Street (Robertson 2005) and indicate that occupation in this part of Roman Chelmsford continued from the 2nd century into the 4th century, but had declined by the mid 4th century. The site must have lain close to the southern edge of the Roman settlement, as earlier excavations at Last's Garage only a short distance to the south showed a contraction of the occupied area in the late 2nd/early 3rd century (Wallis 1988).</i></p>	
<p>Previous Summaries/Reports:-</p> <p>Robertson, A., 2005, 145-145a Moulsham Street, Chelmsford, Essex. Archaeological Excavation. ECC FAU report 1457</p> <p>Robertson, A. and Compton, J. In press 'Roman remains at 145-145a Moulsham Street, Chelmsford'. Essex Archaeology and History</p> <p>Wallis, S., 1988, 'On the outskirts of Roman Chelmsford: excavations at Lasts Garage 1987'. Essex Archaeology and History 19, 40-46</p>	
Author of Summary: Mark Germany	Date of Summary: May 2009

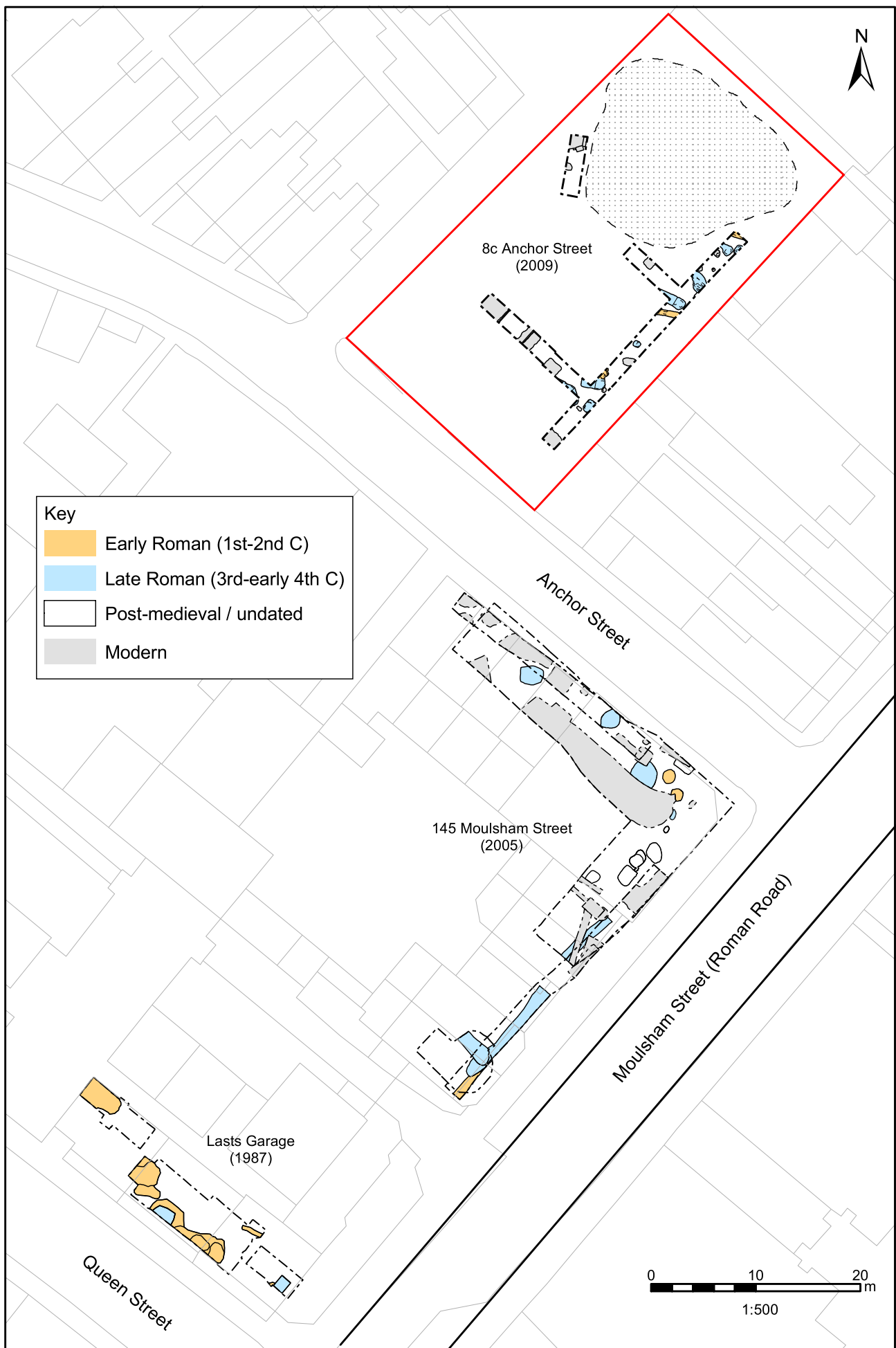


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Fig.1. Site location



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Fig.3. Areas of previous work



Plate 1: Gully 1, looking west



Plate 2: Gully 21, looking west



Plate 3: Pit 17, looking north-east



Plate 4: Pit 19, looking west



Plate 5: Pit 32, looking north-east



Plate 6: Human skull (facing east), pit 32, looking north