

**145 – 145A MOULSHAM STREET
CHELMSFORD
ESSEX**

ARCHAEOLOGICAL EXCAVATION



**Essex County Council
Field Archaeology Unit
April 2005**

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ARCHAEOLOGICAL EXCAVATION

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Doc. Ref.	1457Rep.doc
Report Issue Date	April 2005
Circulation	IPE Properties Ltd
	ECC Historic Environment Management
	ECC Historic Environment Record

As part of our desire to provide a quality service, we would welcome any comments you may have on the content or the presentation of this report.

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CHELMSFORD,
ESSEX**

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SUMMARY

Client: IPE Properties Ltd.

Planning application: CHL/01255/04

FAU Project No.: 1457

NGR: TL 7060 0612 (Centred)

Site Code: CF 45

Date of Fieldwork: 14 Feb until 1 March 2005

An archaeological excavation was carried out by ECC Field Archaeology Unit, on behalf of IPE properties Ltd, in advance of a residential development at 145 – 145A Moulsham Street, Chelmsford. The site was formerly a car showroom and garage. Immediately to the southwest a site at Lasts Garage was excavated in 1987, which uncovered a range of 2nd century Roman remains including part of a timber structure, a roadside ditch and a pit containing a virtually intact horse skeleton. A range of Roman and post-medieval period remains were found on the present site, despite significant areas of modern disturbance being encountered

Early Roman remains dating to the 1st and 2nd century, consisted of a short length of roadside ditch and two pits containing domestic waste. Although no structures were identified, these remains seem to indicate that the area of the site was occupied during this period.

The late Roman remains from the 3rd century are of a similar nature to those from the preceding centuries with three rubbish pits and two post-holes, containing domestic pottery and small personal objects such as hairpins and a ring, and a replacement roadside ditch and perpendicular property boundary. As with the 1st and 2nd centuries, no structures were identified on the site but the recovered remains indicate that occupation was taking place in the immediate vicinity.

Four post-medieval pits and a spread of redeposited natural brickearth were also identified. All contained remains consistent with domestic waste disposal, especially fire residue and presumably constitute occupation on the southern periphery of 17th/18th century Chelmsford.

1.0 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Planning Background

A planning application was made by IPE Properties Ltd for a residential development at 145 – 145A Moulsham Street, Chelmsford. On behalf of the local planning authority the Historic Environment Management (HEM) team of Essex County Council placed an archaeological condition, in line with PPG 16 (DoE 1990), on the application. Essex County Council Field Archaeology Unit (FAU) were commissioned to undertake an archaeological evaluation followed by an excavation on the development area. The evaluation identified sufficient remains that, with the agreement of the client, a full excavation of the footprint of the proposed buildings was undertaken along the northeastern and southeastern edges of the development area. This report presents the results of the excavation. The archive will be deposited in Chelmsford Museum.

2.0 BACKGROUND

2.1 Location and topography (Fig 1)

The site comprised a rectangular plot covering approximately 1400m² at the corner of Moulsham Street and Anchor Street (NGR TL 7060 0612, centred). The southwestern and northwestern sides of the site are bounded by residential and commercial properties. Prior to the commencement of works the site was a garage show room and workshop.

The land around the site is generally flat. However, the area of the site has been extensively developed and the ground level has been built up by approximately 1m of modern rubble.

2.2 Geology

The site was covered to a depth of approximately 1m by modern building rubble and crushed concrete. No topsoil was identified and the undisturbed natural was mid orange brown gravelly silty clay with pockets of light orange sandy clay. Much of the site was badly disturbed by modern services and intrusions. The drift geology of the area consists of brickearth above the Chelmer river gravels.

2.3 History and archaeology

Chelmsford is a known Roman 'small town' which was situated to the south of a river crossing at the junction of the rivers Can and Chelmer, along the Colchester to London road. Roman Chelmsford (*Caesaromagus*) is thought to have grown from a small 1st-century settlement to a small town with *Mansio* (posting station), bathhouse and earthwork defences during the 2nd century. Although the town was occupied until the early 5th century it saw a gradual decline during the 3rd and 4th centuries with building plots being abandoned. Between the 5th century and the 12th century Chelmsford virtually ceased to exist as a coherent entity and was only a loose collection of rural estates. However, Moulsham, the area of the former Roman town is noted in the

Domesday Book as containing 12 households and being held as a manor by Westminster Abbey. During the 12th century Chelmsford was re-founded to the north of the Roman town and grew into a major staging and administration point for the county, with Moulsham as a suburb. By the 13th century Chelmsford had *de-facto* replaced Colchester as the county town (Medlycott 1998).

The development area is located just outside the core of the Roman town and within an area of proven archaeological potential and fronts onto the Roman London to Colchester road. No archaeological investigation appears to have been undertaken prior to the construction of the garage that occupied the site. A number of excavations along Moulsham Street have been undertaken since the 1960's, including the plot immediately to the southwest at the corner of Queen Street and Moulsham Street, excavated in 1987 (Wallis 1988).

The 1987 excavations revealed Roman features and artefacts dating from the 1st and 2nd centuries, most notably the remains of a timber structure, a length of roadside ditch, and a pit containing a virtually intact horse skeleton. This complements some of the other excavations in the area and gives a picture of occupation developing outside the limits of the town during the 2nd century and declining during the 3rd and 4th centuries as the town itself contracts. It is also the most southerly occupation evidence for 2nd century Chelmsford.

3.0 AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

The general aim of the project was to record any surviving archaeological deposits that would be destroyed by the development. More specific aims were:

- To identify any evidence relating to the Roman town and the nature of that occupation
- To place the any Roman remains in their landscape context
- To examine any continuation of features from the adjacent site

4.0 METHOD

The modern overburden, was removed using a 360° mechanical excavator fitted with a toothless ditching bucket, under archaeological supervision. All archaeological features and deposits were then excavated by hand using standard ECC FAU procedures, with plans being drawn at 1:20 and sections at 1:10. Finds were collected for dating and characterisation purposes. Sections of all features were recorded following standard ECC FAU methodologies. A photographic record, consisting of monochrome prints and colour transparencies, was maintained on selected individual features as well as group and area shots. Levels were taken of ground levels on and around the site as well as on individual features. The limits of excavation and planning grid were located using GPS.

IFA standards and by-laws and ALGAO's Standards for Field Archaeology in the East of England (Gurney, 2003) were adhered to during the fieldwork, which was monitored by Mr P. Connell of ECC HEM on behalf of the local planning authority.

5.0 FIELDWORK RESULTS (Fig 2)

The evaluation trenches and the excavation area were confined to the footprint of the proposed building along the northeastern and southeastern edges of the development area, along the Anchor Street and Moulsham Street frontages. The features identified and partially excavated during the evaluation have been amalgamated into the results of the full excavation. Large areas of the site were heavily disturbed by modern intrusions, and virtually all the features contained finds with a moderate to high degree of residuality or intrusiveness, which reflects the amount of disturbance and re-use of the site. All the features identified fell into three broad date ranges: early Roman (1st to 2nd century); late Roman (3rd century onwards); and post-medieval (17th to 18th century). These are described below, with additional context data in Appendix 1.

5.1 Early Roman (1st to 2nd Centuries)

Only three features can be securely dated to this period; pits [16] and [29], and ditch [37]. While the two pits are well-dated to the second century, ditch [37] is possibly 1st century in origin although it may well have continued in use into the 2nd century. Only a short section of this ditch was seen at the southwestern corner of the site, where it is approximately 0.7m wide and 0.3m deep and ran southwest to northeast, parallel to Moulsham Street. Although it is cut away by the later Roman ditch [53]/[30] for the majority of its length, its line is perpetuated by it. There is a moderate degree of intrusiveness and some residuality to some of the finds from this ditch. It is highly likely that this ditch represents an original roadside ditch along Roman Moulsham Street.

The two pits lay at the corner of the two frontages. Pit [16] was filled by two deposits, the lower of which (27) contained a large amount of butchered animal bone. The second pit [29] lay immediately to the south. This was sampled <1> and, after being processed, was shown to contain small amounts of burnt animal bone and significant quantities of charcoal. While the lack of *in situ* burning does not suggest that pit [29] was itself a fire pit it was clearly filled by fire residue, possibly from a domestic hearth. It may be significant that these two pits lie close to each other and both contain remains associated with food preparation. Even with no structural deposits surviving on the site it is clear that these pits and the deposits within them are associated with early Roman domestic occupation.

5.2 Late Roman (3rd Century and later)

There is not enough evidence to suggest whether there is a continuity from the earlier period. With one exception all of the features are discrete. The 3rd and later centuries are represented by pits [40] and [46], post-hole [22] and ditches [53]/[30] and [50].

Ditch [53]/ [30] was a direct replacement for ditch [37] and represents a re-establishment of the roadside ditch. The dimensions of the ditch, approximately 1.4m wide and 0.8m deep, are comparable to a similar length of ditch excavated in 1987 immediately to the south (Wallis 1988). This ditch not only contained Roman pottery, but medieval and post-medieval tile, which is most likely intrusive. The prehistoric pottery recovered from the ditch is also likely to be residual.

In the southeastern corner of the Moulsham Street arm, running northwest to southeast, ditch [50] cut ditch [30]/[53]. Although only a short section of ditch [50] was seen in the excavation area, and it seems to run perpendicular to the roadside ditch which may indicate that it was a boundary for a plot running off Roman Moulsham Street.

Pits [40] and [46] lay along the Anchor Street frontage of the site. Pit [46] was relatively shallow at 0.15m deep but had a reasonably large circumference at 1.55m wide and over 2m long. It seems to be the base of what was once a large rubbish pit. In contrast, pit [40] was approximately 0.5m deep, 1.75m wide and 2.05m long. It contained four fills: (41), (42), (48) and the primary deposit (49). The upper two fills contained several small finds including two fragments (SF7 and 8) and a complete bone pin (SF 5). Fill (48) was very ashy and is likely to have been dumped fire residue mixed in with general rubbish, and the primary fill (49) was a rich brown loam which may constitute part of an old topsoil. Both of these pits were filled with domestic rubbish which, although no structures were identified on site, suggests nearby occupation.

Post-hole [22], while heavily truncated by modern disturbance, may be associated with undated post-hole [20] which lies immediately to the south. Post-hole [22] contained a finger ring (SF 4) as well as 4th century pottery. What these two post-holes represent is unclear, but it seems likely that they are associated with domestic occupation and probably pits [40] and [46].

5.3 Post-medieval

Leaving aside obviously modern disturbance, five pits [13], [19], [25], [34] and [45] and deposit (39) were post-medieval in date. Deposit (39) was a redeposited natural brickearth and may represent the fill of a large feature such as a quarry pit as its depth exceeds 0.8m. Although the edges of the deposit were not clearly identified in plan, the rough extents can be ascertained from the distribution of earlier features. The deposit was cut through by pits [13], [19] and [34].

Pits [19] and [45] were sub-rectangular in plan but neither was bottomed. The fills were moderately ashy and contained clay pipes and post-medieval pottery as well residual Roman pottery. Both of these pits were filled with an ashy deposit, which suggests that they were at least partly filled with fire residue. Pits [13] and [34] contained topsoil mixed with a redeposited natural brick earth as well as more general rubbish. Pit [25] was cut into the base of pit [13] and was 0.8m deep, the profile of this pit suggests that it may have been a large post-hole rather than a pit. The vast majority of the finds from these features is 17th /18th century in date, though they all contain some residual Roman pottery. The quantity of Roman pottery recovered from these pits indicates that some earlier remains were disturbed when they were dug.

6.0 FINDS AND ENVIRONMENTAL MATERIAL by J Compton

Finds were recovered from twenty-seven contexts. All of the material has been recorded by count and weight, in grams, by context. Full details can be found in Appendix 2. The pottery, tile and animal bone were rapidly scanned, primarily in order to provide dating evidence. The identified pottery types have thus been grouped by period and listed, and only the major animal types have been identified. The features found during the evaluation were renumbered during the excavation, but the original context numbers have been retained for the finds collected during the evaluation phase.

Most of the material recovered dates to the Roman period, mainly 3rd century or later. Half of the total contexts, however, contain post-Roman finds, mainly in the form of post-medieval pantile fragments. Five features (pits 13, 19, 26, 34 and 45) are certainly post-medieval in date; intercutting pits 13 and 26 contained a range of finds, which are wholly post-medieval. The other post-medieval features also contained residual Roman material. Six of the Roman features (11, 30, 37, 40, 50 and 53) produced intrusive medieval and post-medieval finds, although the medieval pottery from the fill of ditch 37 was retrieved during the evaluation and may in fact derive from ditch 53 which cut it. The finds are described by period and category below.

6.1 Prehistoric Finds

Single body sherds of prehistoric pottery, weighing a total of 24g, came from three contexts, representing the fills of Roman ditches 37 and 53 towards the south of the site. Small pieces of burnt flint, weighing a total of 38g, were found in the fills of pits Roman 16, 22, 40 and 46, and a flint flake came from the primary fill of pit 16. The burnt flints have not been retained.

6.2 Roman Finds

6.2.1 Recorded finds

A variety of Roman finds were recovered, including copper alloy items, worked bone hairpins, pottery, brick and tile fragments and glass. Most of the five copper alloy items are not readily identifiable, as all but two comprise indeterminate fragments. Pit 22 produced an incomplete finger-ring which had been set with a gemstone, probably glass or paste, as there are traces of white cement on the oval setting. A flat circular object, probably a coin, has both surfaces obscured by dirt and corrosion products, so is difficult to identify with any certainty. Six contexts contained iron nails and fragments, not all of which are definitely of Roman date. Pit 40 produced a complete bone hairpin and shaft fragments from two further pins. The complete hairpin has a pinecone-shaped terminal above a collar (Crummy 1983, Type 5). These are dated to the 4th century at Colchester, but since most of the pottery from pit 40 is 3rd century, the hairpin may also be of this date.

6.2.2 Roman Pottery

The largest assemblage component is pottery of mainly Roman date, amounting to 652 sherds, weighing 10.5kg, recovered from twenty-two contexts. The pottery has been counted and weighed by context. The fabrics were recorded using the Essex County Council Field Archaeology Unit fabric series. Any forms present were noted using the type series devised for Chelmsford (Going 1987, 13-54). A range of pottery types was recovered, although only general comments can be made at present. Most of the assemblage comprises mainly body sherds in coarse fabrics, although several fine ware types were also noted. Most of the recognisable pottery forms are mid to late Roman, although pottery of exclusively late 4th century date is generally absent.

Several features, however, contained early Roman pottery, and these include pits 16, 29 and ditch 37. Pits 16 and 29 produced a range of 2nd century forms and fabrics, with those from pit 16 comprising large and unabraded sherds. Four sherds of 1st-century pottery were recovered from ditch 37, along with a single residual prehistoric sherd. This appears to be the earliest feature, although severely disturbed by later ditches 50 and 53. Indeed, the residual pottery recovered from these ditches probably derives from ditch 37.

More than 95% of the datable pottery dates to the 3rd century or later, and the pits containing this later pottery comprise the best-dated features. In particular, pit 40 produced 60% (almost 7kg) of the total datable pottery. The range of fabrics and forms indicate a date in the 3rd century, and there are no later pieces present which would carry the date into the 4th century. Pit 56 contained a similar range of fabrics and forms. The latest pieces are likely to have come from ditch 53 and pit 22, although identification of these single sherds as 4th century pieces is not certain.

Comparison with the pottery from the adjacent 1987 excavations is difficult, since the published report concentrates on the samian stamps from the horse burial (Wallace 1988, 43). The excavation report indicates that most of the pottery is early Roman, except from the soil build-up, although the spot-dating records in the archive suggest that later pottery is also present elsewhere. It is notable that the quantities of pottery from the 1987 site far outweigh those from the current excavations, and there are greater numbers of copper alloy objects and coins (Wallis 1988, 43).

6.2.3 Baked clay

Baked clay fragments, weighing a total of 222g, came from eight contexts. The fragments are not large but some are part-vitrified, either indicating industrial activity or a conflagration. Only small amounts of slag (722g from four contexts) were recovered, however, so the evidence for industrial activity in the vicinity is slim.

6.2.4 Brick and Tile

More than 10kg of brick and tile fragments were found in fifteen contexts. *Tegula* and *imbrex* roof tiles were identified and a small sherd of box-flue tile. More than half of the assemblage comprises brick fragments, some of which are quite large. The high proportion of bricks to roof tile is notable and indicates a probable use for these fragments other than as building material, e.g. hearths, as is common in Roman town sites in Essex.

6.2.5 Glass

Fill 58 of pit 56 contained four Roman vessel glass sherds. These are blue-green, all from the same vessel, and are semi-crazed, perhaps from heat damage. The colour indicates a utilitarian vessel but the form cannot now be discerned.

6.2.6 Bone

Animal bone, weighing a total of 7682g, was recovered from twenty contexts. More than 90% of the assemblage came from pits 16, 40 and 56. The bone was scanned for condition and completeness and the animals present were identified using Schmid 1972, where possible. Most of the assemblage comprises bone fragments from large mammals (probably all cattle), although pig was present in pits 40 and 56, and sheep/goat, plus dog, were found in pit 40. Pit 40 also contained the sawn antler tine from a red deer and a shed roe deer antler. Utilisation of deer antler is well known in the late Roman period, and need not indicate the consumption of venison. All of the bones are in good condition, but fragmentary; in particular, the long bones in pit 16 were splintered in antiquity. Many of the cattle and other large mammal bones bear chop and saw marks, indicating the preparation of joints of meat for consumption. The bones from pit 56 largely

comprised cattle mandibles, horn cores, phalanges and scapulae, which may indicate initial preparation of the hides for leather-working or at least primary preparation of carcasses.

6.3 Medieval and Post-medieval finds

Twenty-four sherds of medieval and post-medieval pottery, weighing 672g, were recovered from eight contexts. This forms the subject of a separate report, see below. Most of the post-medieval pottery, mainly dating to the late 17th and 18th centuries, came from pits 19 and 34. Pits 13, 19 and 34 produced a number of clay pipe bowl and stem fragments, totalling 39 pieces weighing 174g. Two near-complete plain bowls are from Oswald (1975) Type 10 pipes, which are dated to the first half of the 18th century. A stem fragment from fill 17 of pit 19 has the maker's initials (L and T) moulded on either side of the spur. Two wine bottle base sherds with high kick-ups came from the fill of pit 13. These could be 18th or 19th century in date.

6.3.1 Medieval and Post-medieval Pottery by H. Walker

Twenty-four sherds of medieval and post-medieval pottery, weighing 672g, were recovered from eight contexts. Very little medieval pottery was recovered, comprising body sherds of medieval coarse ware, much of which was residual in an 18th century feature, and single sherds of sandy orange ware and Mill Green ware. Medieval coarse ware spans the 12th to 14th centuries. Mill Green ware was made at Mill Green to the south of Chelmsford and is a common find in south-central Essex. The Mill Green ware sherd is slip-painted but unglazed and most likely dates to the mid 13th to mid 14th centuries, but the lack of glaze indicates that a late medieval date is a possibility.

Pottery dating to the post-medieval period is much more common, the largest quantity coming from pit 19. Here, there is a range of post-medieval pottery spanning the 16th to 18th centuries. The most interesting find is a fragment of Martincamp flask. These are globular flasks with a long narrow neck made in northern France during the 16th and 17th centuries. This type of pottery, although not rare, is relatively unusual, and shows Chelmsford had good trading links in the early post-medieval period. A further example of a traded ware is a sherd of Surrey white ware flange-rimmed dish decorated with wavy-line combing around the rim.

The bulk of the assemblage from pit 19 comprises plain post-medieval red earthenware, black-glazed ware and Metropolitan slipware. These were locally produced and red-firing, and may have been manufactured at the village of Stock just to the south of Chelmsford. Metropolitan slipware reached its peak of production in the middle years of the 17th century, when it was widely traded. The simple scrolled motifs in thinly-trailed slip suggests that this vessel is quite late,

belonging to the later 17th to 18th centuries. The latest pottery comprises a sherd of blue-painted, tin-glazed earthenware and a sherd of Chinese porcelain, both dating to the 18th century.

Pit 34 contained two flange-rimmed dishes, one in Metropolitan slipware and one in plain PMRE. The Metropolitan slipware dish has a very simple pattern of slip-trailed wavy lines, and the plain PMRE dish is decorated with an incised wavy line around the rim flange, similar to the decoration on the Surrey white ware dish. Both vessels show signs of use; the slipware dish is fire-blackened externally and the second dish shows signs of wear on both the internal and external surfaces.

A similar range of mainly post-medieval pottery types was recovered from the adjacent excavations (Walker 1988, 43).

6.3.2 Tile

Post-medieval tile fragments, weighing a total of 858g, were recovered from eight contexts. A large, part-vitrified, brick fragment came from fill 25 of pit 26. Following the gazetteer in Ryan (1996, 94-6), this has been provided with a broad 17th/18th century date. A single small sherd of medieval tile was found in fill 31 of ditch 30.

6.4 Environmental material

A single soil sample was taken from the fill of pit 29, as of all the features this presented the highest potential for the recovery of ecofacts. This was processed by bulk wet-sieving with flotation, using a 0.5mm mesh and collecting the flotation fraction (flot) on a 0.5mm sieve. The residue was then dried and separated into coarse and fine fractions using 4mm and 2mm sieves. The flots were also dried. All of the dried material in the 4mm fraction was sorted by eye, and artefacts and other ecofacts extracted. The artefacts, which comprised pottery sherds, baked clay and bone fragments, were separated into type and recorded. The material smaller than 2mm (the fine fraction) was collected and bagged unsorted. Charcoal present in the dried residue was noted. Charcoal recovered from the flots was retained separately. No seeds or grain were noted either in the residue or the flots.

7.0 CONCLUSIONS

While no structural remains were present, the features and deposits from the 2nd century and the 3rd century suggest a reasonably close proximity to an area of occupation.

The 2nd century pits contained artefactual and ecofactual evidence that points to the disposal of food preparation waste. The animal bones in pit 16 bear a large amount of butchery marks and the burnt bone in pit 29 is likely to be the residue from a meal rather than a dispersed cremation burial.

The 1987 excavation at Lasts Garage (Wallis 1988), immediately to the southwest, revealed remains of a probable structure of this date and the pits uncovered on this site may well be associated with any such occupation.

The 1st century ditch, although only seen at the edge of the site, does seem to correspond to similar ditches found along both sides of Moulsham Street at numbers 191 –2 (Isserlin and Wickenden forthcoming) and 193 – 6 (Allen 1989) on the west side and at numbers 37 (Turner 1982) and 57 –63 (Drury 1988) on the east side. This ditch primarily marked the edge of the road, but also the frontage line of plots alongside it during the 1st and 2nd centuries.

It is clear that although during the earlier Roman period this area lay at the edge of the main settlement, it was occupied and utilised possibly by smallholdings which grew up along the road, possibly in a ribbon development.

Ditch 53/30 seems to correspond to a similar ditch uncovered to the southwest at Lasts Garage, and perhaps indicates that at least some of the ditches along the roadside were re-established, along a similar line as the earlier ditch, during this later Roman period. Ditch 50, which runs perpendicular to the roadside ditch, suggests that the reinstatement of the roadside ditch may be associated with defining property boundaries rather than with road delineation.

The remains associated with the 3rd century were similar in nature to those seen in the 2nd century. The domestic nature of the pottery recovered and the personal nature of some of the small finds recovered from the pits suggests that these were filled with day-to-day rubbish from a close-by dwelling. It is possible that post-holes 20 and 22 were part of a structure; but with only two remaining it is impossible to do more than speculate.

Although the evidence for 3rd century occupation can be seen as circumstantial, it is reasonable to assume that with disposal of domestic pottery, and possible property boundaries, the area of the site was occupied by a domestic structure. Although it is unclear what the pattern of occupation was during the 3rd and 4th centuries in the area of the site, it does seem to be semi-rural in nature which possibly indicates that it was a small farmstead or croft on the southern outskirts of the town.

The contents of post-medieval pits seem consistent with disposal of day-to-day waste, especially fire debris. This is not particularly surprising as Walker's map of 1591 (Fig 3) clearly shows that the area of the site was occupied by a dwelling on the corner of Moulsham street and a lane representing a forerunner of Anchor Street.

It is clear that the remains uncovered fit well into the known development of Moulsham Street, particularly with regard to the roadside ditches. It is interesting to note, however, the association of the 3rd century ditch with a property boundary which may give an indication as to how the line of Roman Moulsham Street was perpetuated outside the core of the settlement.

Given the survival of Roman and post-medieval remains in the excavated areas it is likely that the remaining parts of the development area contain similar evidence. However, the overburden, which is in excess of 1m in places, will in all likelihood preserve these remains. On a wider scale it seems likely that the area around the site represents the southern limits of the Roman town and any occupation is likely to be confined to plots facing onto Moulsham Street. While the survival of further plots will be dependent on the amount of development in a given area the remains uncovered on the present site show that the potential for some survival is still moderately good.

Acknowledgements

This project was commissioned and funded by IPE Properties Ltd and special thanks are due to Mr K Sneath for his assistance throughout the project. The monitoring officer was Mr P Connell of HEM on behalf of the local planning office. Mr P Allen managed the project and the author carried out the excavation with the assistance of J Archer, C Down, D Smith and A Turner. Finds were processed by P McMichael and assessed by J Compton and H Walker. The illustrations were prepared by the author and A Lewsey.

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Fig.1. Site location

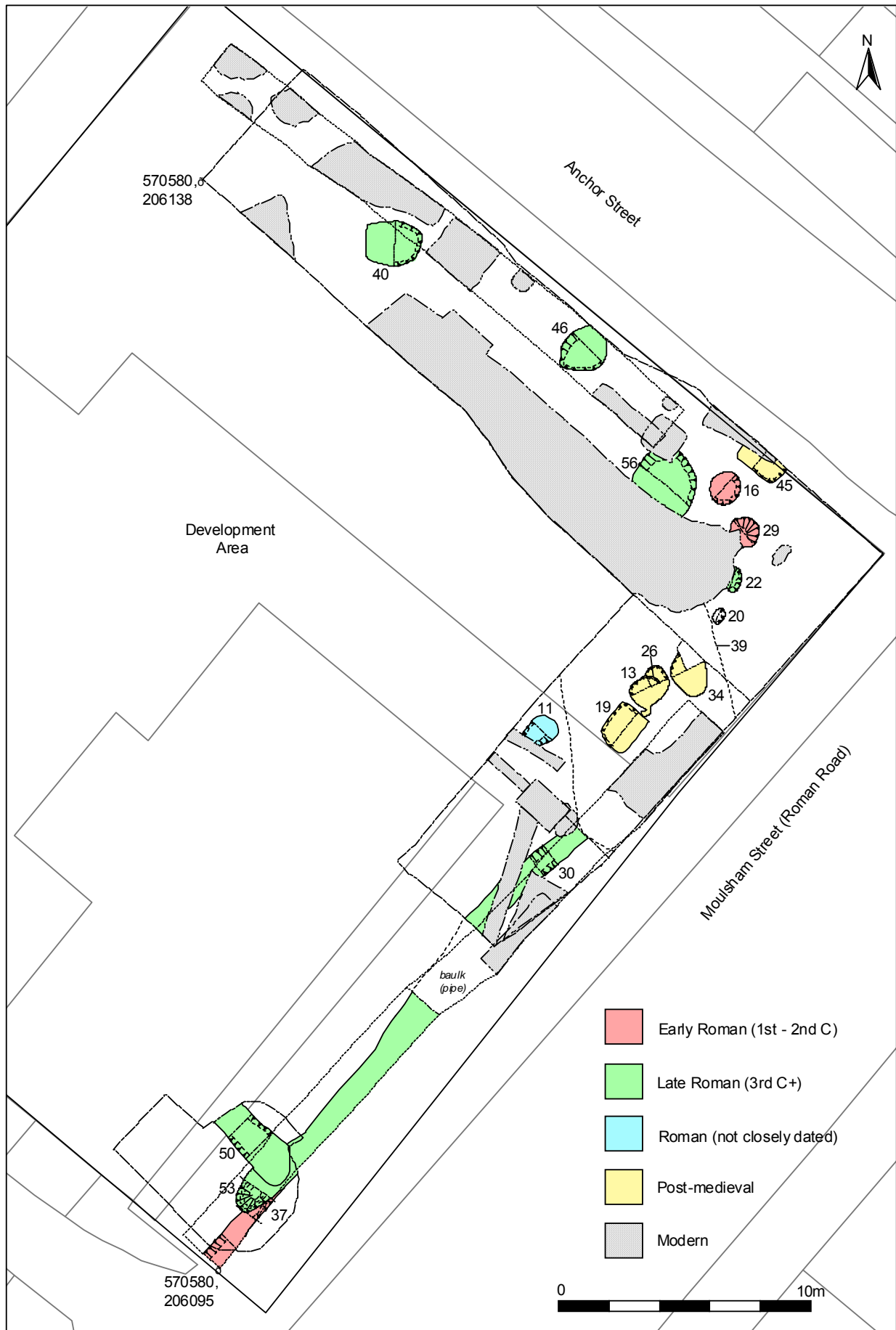


Fig.2. Phased site plan (1:200)

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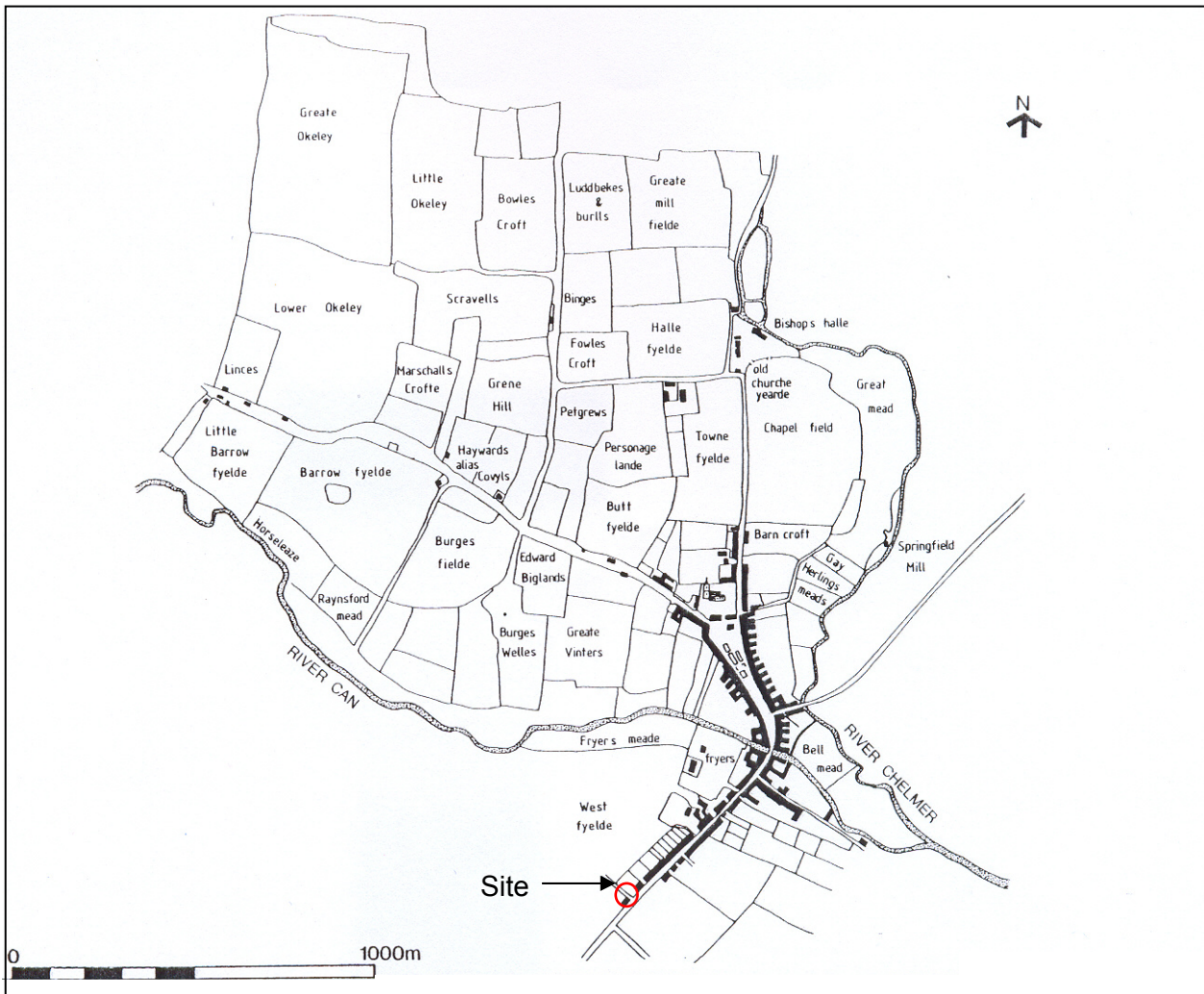


Fig.3. Walker's map of Chelmsford, 1591 (redrawn from ERO D/DM P2)

APPENDIX 1: CONTEXT DATA

All dimensions are given in metres

Feature Number	Type	Cut by	Filled by	Equals	Dimensions (L, W, D)	Date
1	Pit		2	50	-	3rd C+
3	Ditch		4	30	-	1st C
5	Pit		6	46	-	3rd C+
7	Posthole		8		0.5 Ø	-
9	Pit		10	40	-	3rd/4th C
11	Pit		12		1.3 x 1.1 x 0.12	Rom
13	Pit		14; 24		1.75 x 1.28 x 0.35	P-med
16	Pit		15; 27		1.2 x 1.3 x 0.25	2nd C
19	Pit		17; 18		1.9 x 1.26 x 0.4	17/ 18th
20	Pit		21		0.64 x 0.42 x 0.08	-
22	Pit		23		1.05 x 0.64 x 0.27	4th C
26	Posthole	13	25		0.37 x 0.4 x 0.74	18th C
29	Pit		28		1.16Ø x 0.09	2nd C
30	Ditch		31; 32; 33	53	1 x 1 x 0.36	3rd C+
34	Pit	39	35; 36		≈ 7 x +7 x 0.8	P-med
37	Ditch	53	38	3	1 x 0.68 x 0.3	1st C
40	Pit		41;42;48;49	9	2.05 x 1.75 x 0.53	3rd/4th C
45	Pit		44		2.10 x 1.02 x +0.1	3rd C+
46	Pit		47	5	2 x 1.55 x 0.15	3rd C+
50	Ditch		51; 52	1	1 x 1.5 x 0.41	3rd C+
53	Pit	50	54; 55	30	1 x 1.4 x 0.78	3rd C+
56	Pit		57;58;59		2.8Ø x +0.41	3rd C+

APPENDIX 2: FINDS AND ENVIRONMENTAL DATA

All weights are given in grams

Context	Feature	Count	Weight	Description	Date
4=38	3	2	-	Copper alloy coin SF1; copper alloy fragment SF2	-
		1	6	Animal bone fragment, abraded	-
		5	164	Tile fragments; tegula flange and crumbs (these discarded, 4/12g)	Roman
		2	6	Pottery; body sherds, sandy orange ware	13th to 16th C
		3	8	Pottery; body sherds, one is samian, one is HAX	Roman
6=47	5	5	70	Animal bone; rib fragment, large mammal; humerus, distal end, ?pig; long bone fragment	-
		2	8	Oyster shell, one valve, one fragment (Discarded)	-
		1	10	Burnt flint, grey and red (Discarded)	-
		3	18	Daub, decayed	-
		1	166	Brick corner fragment	Roman
		4	16	Pottery; body sherds, one is samian	Roman
10=41	9	5	94	Animal bone; astragalus, cattle; vertebra spine, large mammal; incisor, pig; canine, sheep/goat; fragments	-
		2	8	Burnt flints, grey and red (Discarded)	-
		3	24	Baked clay fragments	-
		1	14	Tile fragment	Post med.
		22	194	Pottery; B1 dish rim sherd, ?bowl-jar rim sherd GRF; C16 bowl rim sherd GRS; G40 flask rim sherd BSW; ?rim sherd NVC; beaker base BSW; body sherds GRS GRF and BSW	3rd C+
12	11	1	36	Brick fragment	Roman
		1	6	Pottery; body sherd, sandy orange ware	14th to 16th C
		3	102	Pottery; body sherds, STOR, burnt BSW	Roman
15	16	1	-	Copper alloy fragment SF3	-
		53	855	Animal bone; long bone fragments, large mammal, some with chop marks (splintered in antiquity)	-
		9	264	Pottery; large flagon top, J3.5, MWSRS; body sherds, STOR, BSW and GRS; dish rim sherd, B2, BB2; beaker rim sherd (Monaghan class 2E1), NKG; joining body sherds, NKG	2nd C
17	19	20	270	Animal bone; skull, vertebra and pelvis fragments, large mammal; mandible and molar fragments, cattle; ribs, proximal end, medium-sized mammal	-
		2	8	Vessel glass; body sherds	Post med.
		14	58	Clay pipes; bowl and stem fragments, inc mouthpiece (near-complete bowl is Oswald 10, separate spur has initials L and T on either side)	18th C
		1	98	Roof tile fragment	Post med.
		2	280	Tegula flange and corner fragments	Roman
		8	277	Pottery; base sherds, PMRE; body sherds, TGE and porcelain; body sherds, black-glazed ware, Metropolitan slip ware, Surrey white ware and 'Martincamp flask' ?Type II	Late 16th to 18th C
		3	57	Medieval coarse ware	12th to 14th C
		7	118	Pottery; bowl-jar rim sherd, beaker base and body sherds, STOR, GRF, GRS and BSW	Roman
23	22	1	-	Copper alloy finger ring SF4	Late Roman
		1	6	Animal bone; long bone fragment	-
		1	10	Burnt flint (Discarded)	-
		32	230	Pottery; body sherds ?PORD; jar rim sherd, G24, GRS; base, rim and body sherds, BSW, GRS and STOR	4th C
24	13	6	98	Animal bone; scapula, lower part of blade missing,	-

		3 2 1 2	12 162 94 30	sheep/goat; long bone shafts, one distal end has been chewed; rib fragment Clay pipe stems Bottle glass; wine bottle bases with high kick-ups (Discarded) Roof tile fragment Pottery; body sherds, PMRE, internal glaze	Post med. 18/19th C Post med. Late 16th to 19th C
25	26	2 1 1 2	6 652 46 32	Oyster shell fragments (Discarded) Brick fragment, overfired and vitrified, 100 x 50mm Roof tile fragment Pottery; body sherds PMRE and black-glazed ware	- 17/18th C Post med. 17th to earlier 18th C
27	16	146 1 2 2 1 6	1955 6 10 6 14 64	Animal bone; long bone and rib fragments, large mammal, some with chop marks; cattle astragalus, chopped and split (all splintered in antiquity) Flint flake Burnt flint, split pebble (Discarded) Baked clay fragments Tile fragment Pottery; rim sherd, ?flask, BSW; body sherds, BSW, STOR, GRF and NKG; lower wall sherd, GROG	- - - - Roman Early 2nd C
28	29	20 - - 1 7	4 10 6 54 74	Animal bone fragments, inc burnt, from sample 1 Charcoal from sample 1 Baked clay crumbs from sample 1 Tile fragment, probably Roman Pottery; dish rim sherd TSG; base and body sherds, BSW, two with G9-type lattice decoration; body sherds, 4g, from sample 1	- - - Undated 2nd C
31	30	5 - 1 1 2	28 54 92 4 12	Animal bone; cattle molars, very worn; maxilla fragments Slag fragments Roof tile fragment Tile spall (Discarded) Pottery; joining base sherds GRS	- - Medieval Roman Roman
33	30	1 3	68 16	Vitrified clay fragment Pottery; body sherds BSW and GRS	- Roman
35	34	1 10 4 21 4 3	12 54 24 98 252 26	Iron nail Animal bone; part of sheep/goat mandible with three molars; scapula fragment; rib fragment, large mammal, poor condition; ribs, medium-sized mammal; bird bone; fragments, one burnt Oyster shell, two valves (Discarded) Clay pipes; top part of plain bowl poss Oswald type 10, stem with flat heel; stem fragments Pottery; dish rim sherds, PMRE and Metropolitan slip ware Pottery; folded body sherds, GRF	- - - 18th C Later 16th to 18th C 3rd C+
36	34	2 1	36 6	Animal bone; sheep/goat mandible with three molars; long bone shaft Clay pipe stem	- Post med.
38	37	1 4 1	36 48 2	Baked clay fragment Pottery; C16.5-type bowl rim sherd and body sherd GROG; base and body sherd GRS Pottery; body sherd, flint-tempered	- 1st C Prehistoric
41	40	1 3 14	- 36 168	Copper alloy fragment SF6 Iron nails, all with heads Animal bone; cattle phalanx; rib and long bone fragments, large mammal; skull fragment; pig incisor; tooth enamel fragments; burnt fragment	- - -

		1 1 1 2 1 90	4 8 34 150 4 1745	Worked bone hairpin, complete, SF5 Baked clay fragment Roof tile fragment Brick/tile fragments Pottery; body sherd, medieval coarse ware Pottery; body sherd, AMPH; body sherds, one rouletted, one with scales, and base sherds NVC; base sherd, NVM (joins with 42); rim sherds, Curle 23, one burnt, wall sherd, f45 (joins with 42), body sherd with flange, f38, all TSG; base and body sherds, STOR; B1 and B4 dishes, C16 bowl, jar and beaker rims, base and body sherds, large lid sherd, all BSW, GRF and GRS	4th C - Post med. Roman 12th to 14th C 3rd C+
42	40	1 2 34 1 1 17 196	6 - 700 214 32 2280 3140	Iron nail shaft Worked bone hairpin fragments SF7 and SF8 Animal bone; cattle mandible with four molars; vertebra, long bone and rib fragments, large mammal, ribs have saw marks; cattle phalanx; sawn antler tine; shed roe deer antler, friable; fragments Unworked stone fragment (Discarded) Slag Brick and tile fragments, inc piece of imbrex Pottery; mortarium rim and body sherds, NVM (joins with 41); base sherd COLBM; wall sherd, f45, body sherd with flange, f38, (both join with 41), dish base sherd, body sherds, one decorated, all TSG; B1, B2 and B3 dish rim and base sherds, GRF and BSW; G5 and G24 jar rim sherds, GRS; beaker bases, GRF and ?HAX; C16 bowl rim (as 41) BSW; body sherds, GRF, GRS, BSW, STOR and MWSRS	- Roman - - Roman 3rd C+
44	45	1 4 1 1 1	26 178 48 8 52	Animal bone; long bone shaft fragment, large mammal Roof tile fragments, two with peg holes Tegula fragment Pottery; base sherd PMRE Pottery; jar rim sherd GRS, sooted externally	- Post med. Roman ?16th C Roman
47	46	1 8 17	4 146 1020	Iron nail head Animal bone; long bone and rib fragments, large mammal Pottery; base and lower wall sherds, large jar GRS; mortarium rim sherd OXWM; E2 bowl-jar and B5.1 rim sherds GRF; B4 and B1 dish rim sherds BSW; body sherds BSW, GRF, GRS and STOR	- - 3rd C+
48	40	5 9 1 1 48	108 116 100 72 582	Iron nails and object Animal bone; cattle phalanx; long bone fragments; pig incisor fragment Slag Tile fragment Pottery; G40 and G24 jar rim sherds GRS; rim, base and body sherds BSW, GRS, GRF and GROG	- - Roman 3rd C+
49	40	30 2 67	620 152 1025	Animal bone; skull and vertebra fragments, large mammal; cattle maxilla with four molars; mandibles, dog, with two molars, and sheep/goat, with five molars; scapula, large mammal, with suspension hole; fragments Tile fragments Pottery; rim, base and body sherds, COLB, GRF, GRS, STOR and BSW, some with wavy line decoration, one with stabbing	- Roman Mid Roman
51	50	2 1	8 84	Animal bone; cattle molar; fragment Septaria fragment	- -

		3 7 9	346 484 238	Roof tile fragments Tile fragments, inc small piece of box-flue tile Pottery; Cam 258 and G24 jar rim sherds, GRS; base and body sherds, COLB, GRS, GROG, OXWM and BSW	Post med. Roman 3rd C+
54	53	3 1	48 4	Tile fragments, abraded Pottery; body sherd	Post med. ?Prehistoric
55	53	2 5 4 1	10 154 32 18	Baked clay fragments Tile fragments, abraded, one may be post-med Pottery; base and body sherds, NVC, BSW and GRS Pottery; body sherd, flint-tempered	- Roman ?4th C Prehistoric
57	56	1 1	282 80	Animal bone; cattle mandible and four molars Brick/tile fragment	- Roman
58	56	5 72 4 1 1 4 34 115	42 2140 536 46 2850 6 6370 1576	Iron nails and flat fragment Animal bone; cattle mandible fragments and molars; cattle phalanges and horn cores; pig mandible, plus molars; scapulae, rib and vertebra fragments, large mammal; many with chop marks Slag fragments Baked clay Stone block Vessel glass; body sherds, semi-crazed, blue-green Brick and tile fragments and spalls, inc three corners, one weighs 1.7kg (some smaller pieces are abraded) Pottery; dish rim and base sherds, one with part- stamp, f27cup body sherd, f37 body sherd, burnt, TSG; rim sherd, storage jar, STOR; B3 dish rim sherd, jar rim sherds, GRS and BSW; beaker rim sherd, NVC; base and body sherds, NVC (rouletted), GRS, GRF, BSW COLB, NKG, ESH, GROG and STOR	- - - - - Roman Roman 3rd C+

APPENDIX 3: ARCHIVE INDEX

SITE NAME: 145 – 145a Moulsham Street, Chelmsford (CF 45)

Index to the Archive

File containing:

1. Introduction

- 1.1 Brief for Evaluation
- 1.2 Brief for Excavation
- 1.3 Written Scheme of Investigation for Evaluation
- 1.4 Written Scheme of Investigation for Excavation

2. Research Archive

- 2.1 Summary Report (Evaluation)
- 2.2 Client Report
- 2.3 Finds Reports

3. Site Archive

- 3.1 2 Context Record Registers
- 3.2 Original Context Records 01 to 59
- 3.3 1 Plan Register
- 3.4 4 Sections Register
- 3.5 3 Levels Register
- 3.6 4 Photographic Register
- 3.7 Site Photographic Record (13 x Black and White Prints; 13 x Colour Slide)
- 3.8 9 Permatrace Plan sheets (5 x A1 sheets; 4 x small blue sheets)
- 3.9 3 Permatrace Section sheets

4. Not in Files:

- 4.1 3 boxes of Finds

APPENDIX 4: HER SUMMARY SHEET

Site Name/Address: 145 – 145A Moulsham Street, Chelmsford	
Parish: Chelmsford	District: Chelmsford
NGR: TL 7060 0612 (Centred)	Site Code: CF 45
Type of Work: Evaluation and Excavation	Site Director/Group: Andrew Robertson ECC FAU
Date of Work: 14 Feb – 1 March 2005	Size of Area Investigated: Approximately 1400m ²
Location of Finds/Curating Museum: Chelmsford Museum	Funding Source: IPE Properties Ltd.
Further Work Anticipated? No	Related HER Nos: EHCR 17221; 17223 ; 17246
Final Report: EAA Short note?	
Periods Represented: Roman , post- medieval	
SUMMARY OF FIELDWORK RESULTS:	
<p>An archaeological excavation was carried out by ECC Field Archaeology Unit, on behalf of IPE properties Ltd, in advance of a residential development at 145 – 145A Moulsham Street, Chelmsford. The site was formerly a car showroom and garage. Immediately to the southwest a site at Lasts Garage was excavated in 1987, which uncovered a range of 2nd century Roman remains including part of a timber structure, a roadside ditch and a pit containing a virtually intact horse skeleton. A range of Roman and Post-medieval period remains were found on the present site, despite significant areas of modern disturbance being encountered</p>	
<p>Early Roman (1st and 2nd Centuries)</p> <p>Early Roman remains dating to the 1st and 2nd century, consisted of a short length of roadside ditch and two pits containing domestic waste. Although no structures were identified, these remains seem to indicate that the area of the site was occupied during this period.</p>	
<p>Late Roman (3rd Century onwards)</p> <p>The late Roman remains from the 3rd century are of a similar nature to those from the preceding centuries with three rubbish pits and two post-holes, containing domestic pottery and small personal objects such as hairpins and a ring, and a replacement roadside ditch and perpendicular property boundary. As with the 1st and 2nd centuries, no structures were identified on the site but the recovered remains indicate that occupation was taking place in the immediate vicinity.</p>	

Post-medieval

Four post-medieval pits and a spread of redeposited natural boulder clay were also identified. All contained remains consistent with domestic waste disposal, especially fire residue and presumably constitute occupation on the southern periphery of 17th/18th century Chelmsford.

Previous Summaries/Reports:

Author of Summary: Andrew Robertson

Date of Summary: April 2005