

**LAND TO THE REAR OF 36 ORCHARD STREET  
CHELMSFORD  
ESSEX**

**ARCHAEOLOGICAL MONITORING AND RECORDING**



Essex County Council

**FIELD ARCHAEOLOGY UNIT**

**May 2011**



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Prepared by: Phillippa Sparrow	Signature:
Position: Supervisor	Date:
Checked By: Patrick Allen	Signature:
Position: Project Manager	Date:

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***Field Archaeology Unit,***  
Fairfield Court, Fairfield Road, Braintree, Essex CM7 3YQ  
Tel: 01376 331470  
Fax: 01376 331428

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Essex CM1 1QH



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**SUMMARY**

Client: Bermac Properties Ltd

FAU Project No.: 1736

NGR: TL 7082 0629

Planning Application No.: 10/ 01187/FUL

Site Code: CF66

Dates of Fieldwork: 9th February – 7th March 2011

*Archaeological monitoring and recording was undertaken during groundworks for the construction of three studio apartments on land to the rear of 36 Orchard Street, Chelmsford. The site is located within the area of the former Roman town, to the north-west of the Roman mansio, a government inn and posting station, and 25m to the north of a second Roman building previously recorded at site AR (Fig. 1). The site also lies at the rear of medieval and post-medieval properties on the east side of Moulsham Street.*

*No Roman or medieval remains were present within the site area, most likely as a result of disturbance by post-medieval pits and modern foundations. Small amounts of Roman pottery, Roman brick/ tile and medieval pottery were recovered as residual finds in the later features. No further evidence was found of the Roman building at site AR.*

*Fourteen post-medieval rubbish pits were recorded, especially in Building Footprint 1 in the west of the site. The two earliest are dated to the 16th century, with the others dated to the 18th and 19th centuries.*

*Brick wall footings dated to the late 19th century correspond to a large building shown in the western area of the site on the 2nd edition Ordnance Survey map of 1897. This was demolished and the site was levelled before the erection of a replacement structure, shown on the 3rd edition Ordnance Survey map of 1921, and used until recently as a warehouse.*





## **1.0 INTRODUCTION**

This report presents the results of a programme of archaeological monitoring and recording at land to the rear of 36 Orchard Street, Chelmsford (TL 7082 0629) during groundworks for the construction of three new studio apartments (Fig. 1). The archaeological recording was carried out by Essex County Council Field Archaeology Unit (ECC FAU) on behalf of Bermac Properties as part of a planning condition (10/ 01187/FUL) placed upon the development by Chelmsford Borough Council, following advice given by the Essex County Council Historic Environment Management team (ECC HEM) in line with Planning Policy Statement 5: Planning for the Historic Environment. The fieldwork was carried out in accordance with a brief issued by ECC HEM (2010) and a written scheme of investigation (WSI) prepared by ECC FAU (2011a: 2011b), and was monitored by ECC HEM on behalf of the local planning authority.

Bound and digital copies of this report will be supplied to Bermac Properties (including a copy for the Local Planning Authority), ECC HEM and the Essex Historic Environment Record (EHER). A digital copy of the report will be uploaded on the online access to the index of archaeological investigations ([www.oasis.ac.uk](http://www.oasis.ac.uk)). The site archive and copies of the report will be deposited with Chelmsford Museum.

## **2.0 BACKGROUND**

### **2.1 Location, Geology and Topography (Fig. 1)**

Orchard Street is situated 0.5km south of the centre of Chelmsford, to the south of the historic bridging points of the rivers Can and Chelmer (NGR TL 7082 0629) (Fig. 1). The site is L-shaped and bounded in all directions by residential and commercial properties, with access via a drive adjacent to No. 36 Orchard Street. A warehouse, shown on the 3rd edition Ordnance Survey of 1921, formerly occupied the western arm of the site and a garage was located in its eastern arm; both these buildings were demolished before redevelopment took place.

Locally the drift geology comprises brickearth overlying terrace gravels of the rivers Can and Chelmer, above a base stratum of London Clay.

## **2.2 Archaeology and History**

The following information is based on the Essex Historic Environment Record (EHER), the Chelmsford Historic Town Assessment (Medlycott 1998) and a published report on previous excavations in the site area (Drury 1988).

The site is located 20m to the east of Moulsham Street, which follows the line of the Roman London-Colchester road (Fig. 1). The Roman town developed alongside the road in the later 1st century AD and was occupied until the end of the 4th century. Initially, the site lay to the south of a fort established after the Boudican revolt of AD 60/1, but for most of the Roman period it lay to the rear of buildings along the London-Colchester road. The site lay within the precinct of the Roman *mansio*, a large courtyard building which served as a government inn and posting station, located at the south-eastern end of Orchard Street (EHER 5835, 5841). A second Roman building was recorded during previous excavations at site AR 25m to the south of the site (Fig. 1; Drury 1988, 9-22 and fig. 85).

The Roman town was abandoned in favour of rural estates during the Saxon period, although in 1086 Domesday recorded Moulsham, held by the Abbot of Westminster, as containing twelve households (Medlycott 1998).

The bridge across the river Can was rebuilt in the early 12th century, thereby restoring the old London-Colchester road, and the medieval town was founded in 1199 on the opposite side of the river crossing (Medlycott 1998). Moulsham developed as a southern suburb of the medieval town and the site probably lay at the edge of the built-up area. A 15th-century Wealden house fronting onto Moulsham Street is located adjacent to the north-west site boundary (EHER 5898), and medieval pits and a post-medieval well were revealed to the rear of 45-6 Moulsham Street, to the south-west of the site (EHER 5889). John Walker's map of 1591 shows the site area, to the rear of properties on Moulsham Street, as orchards and gardens, and the Tithe Map of 1842-3 shows this land-use to have survived virtually unchanged into the early Victorian period.

The 1st edition Ordnance Survey of 1874 shows a building in the location of the demolished garage in the east of the site and the remainder of the site as divided into three small plots. On the 2nd edition Ordnance Survey of 1897, however, the site is shown as part of a larger plot, possibly a yard to the rear of the properties fronting onto Moulsham Street, with a large rectangular building in the position of the former warehouse in the west of the site.

### **3.0 AIMS AND OBJECTIVES**

#### **3.1 Aims**

The aim of the archaeological excavation was to preserve, by record, any archaeological features or deposits that would be destroyed by the construction of the new buildings and to establish the location, extent, and character of any surviving archaeological remains.

#### **3.2 Objectives**

The specific objectives of the project were to investigate:

- Any evidence of Roman settlement;
- The relationship of any Roman activity on site to the Roman fort and/or mansio;
- Any evidence of medieval and post-medieval settlement related to Moulsham Street.

### **4.0 METHOD**

The ECC FAU is a Registered Archaeological Organisation (RAO) with the Institute for Archaeologists (IfA) and adheres to its code of conduct (IfA 2010). The IfA's *Standard and Guidance for an Archaeological Watching Brief* (IfA 2008) and ALGAO's *Standards for Field Archaeology in the East of England* (Gurney 2003) were followed throughout the project.

The archaeological work comprised the monitoring of groundworks likely to disturb archaeological remains, such as ground reduction and the cutting of foundation trenches (Fig. 1). The original design involved the construction of small strip footings to support a foundation raft, and this was reflected in the original Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) agreed with the ECC HEM (ECC FAU 2011a). Before the start of the fieldwork, however, the scheme design was radically altered to include deep foundations along each wall of the new building footprints (Fig. 1). Following consultation with the client and the ECC HEM monitoring officer, the requirement for archaeological work was changed to include intensive monitoring of the deep foundation trenches, and the WSI was revised accordingly (ECC FAU 2011b).

Modern tarmac, concrete and rubble overburden were removed across the footprint of the new buildings using a tracked mechanical excavator with a broad toothless bucket, and

recent building foundations exposed at this level were then broken out (Fig. 2; Plate 3). The foundation trenches for the new buildings were excavated from the reduced level by the same machine fitted with a narrow 500mm toothless bucket. As a result of the modern disturbance, archaeological deposits and the natural brickearth were not exposed in plan across the area of general ground reduction and were only visible in the foundation trenches. All foundation trenches were monitored and all finds were retrieved, with the exception of overburden and disturbed deposits where modern material was noted but discarded.

## **5.0 FIELDWORK RESULTS**

Groundworks revealed two late 15th/16th century pits, twelve post-medieval pits dating to the 18th and 19th centuries, two modern pits, and late 19th- and early 20th-century brick wall footings and a drain. Initial ground reduction involved the removal of hardstanding, concrete and made ground deposits to a depth of 0.25m in the north-western end, becoming deeper to 0.7m in the southern end of the site (Fig. 2). Foundation trenches up to 1.5m in depth were then cut into the reduced ground (Fig. 3). The natural orange slightly sandy silt (brickearth) was revealed 0.25m below the car park surface along the eastern edge of the site, and between 0.65m and 0.9m below the former ground level along the western edge of the site. Full details of the archaeological deposits encountered can be found in Appendix 1.

### **5.1 Roman**

The earliest finds comprise the residual Roman pottery found within the fills of pits 10, 13, 26, 28, 46 and 55 and modern made-ground layer 5. The presence of this material might indicate that Roman features were disturbed by the later pits.

### **5.2 Medieval**

One sherd of medieval pottery dated to the 12th-13th centuries was present as a residual find in made-ground layer 5, and one later 14th-16th century sherd was found during the removal of a modern concrete footing. Archaeological investigations in the surrounding area have revealed evidence of medieval activity, but the residual nature and small quantity of medieval pottery hinders any further interpretation.

### **5.3 Post-medieval (16th century–mid 19th century) (Figs 3 and 4)**

The earliest features on site were pits 15 and 28 in Building Footprint 1, which contained late 15th/16th-century Tudor red earthenware, 16th-century red earthenware and post-medieval

tile fragments (a modern brick fragment is considered intrusive). They represent a group of contemporary, possibly intercutting, pits as they were recorded in adjacent foundation trenches and each contained joining pottery sherds from the same Tudor red earthenware vessel. Both pits were at least 2m wide and over 1.5m deep (their bases were below the bottom of the foundation trench) with near-vertical sides (Fig. 4) and were filled with loose sandy silt. A relatively high quantity of late 15th/16th-century Tudor Red Earthenware was present in the fills of several other pits (pit 6/fill 7, pit 13/fill 14 and pit 26/fill 27) indicating that deposits of this date had been disturbed by later pitting.

Similarly, the majority of the later post-medieval pits (6, 10, 13, 21, 24, 26, 32, 34, 42, 44, 49 and 51) were on average between 1.5 and 2.0m wide and 1.5m deep (Fig. 4). The base of pit 26 was not reached as it was deeper than the footings and hand-excavation was impossible due to the unstable trench edges (Plate 1). Their shapes in plan could not be identified as they all extended beyond the 0.5m-wide footing trenches. Finds were not retained from all of the pits, although they all contained very similar assemblages of post-medieval finds, including large quantities of pottery, brick and tile, bottle glass, animal bone and oyster shell. Pottery and bricks from pits 6 and 13 were quite closely datable to the 18th-19th centuries, but material from other pits was later, dating to the 19th century.

### **5.3 Modern (late 19th-20th century) (Figs 2, 3 and 4)**

The footings of modern brick buildings were recorded during the initial ground reduction (Fig. 2), but traces of earlier buildings dating to the late 19th century were also recorded in the cutting of the modern foundation trenches (Fig. 3).

A large possibly rectangular, certainly elongated, pit (46/55) occupied almost the entire area of Building Footprint 2 (Fig. 3). It is dated by pottery to the 19th-20th centuries and was situated in the location of a former rectangular structure shown on the 1st edition Ordnance Survey map of 1874. The pit might therefore have been created during the removal of the footings and the demolition of the former structure.

Wall footings 39/40 and 57 at the south-eastern end of Building Footprint 1 were constructed using red frogged brick on a south-west to north-east alignment, indicating that they formed the south-eastern extent of the former building shown on the 2nd edition Ordnance Survey map of 1897. A brick sample taken from footing 39/40 dates to the late 19th century (Plate 2). A possible entranceway between the two wall footings might have existed as footing 40 only extended a short distance into the trench (Fig. 3). Wall footing 53, present in the south-

western corner of Building Footprint 2, probably formed the north-eastern edge of wall footing 57. Wall footing 23, visible in the south-west facing section of the north-eastern footing of Building Footprint 1, might have been associated with 57 and 53; however it was impossible to establish their relationship due to a high level of truncation by pit 21 and modern service 19 and because of the staged method of excavation and concrete-pouring.

A made-ground layer (5) was present across much of the north and western part of the site (Fig. 4). Layer 5 contained a large quantity of 19th century material along with residual earlier post-medieval pottery and Roman sherds.

Wall footings 1 and 2 (Plate 3) and drain 3 (Plate 4) were cut into made-ground layer 5 (Fig. 2). Wall footing 1 contained red frogged bricks and wall footing 2 comprised bricks bonded with lime mortar and therefore predated 1850. The bricks within wall footing 2 must have been re-used from an earlier structure (either on the site or in the vicinity) as the wall corresponds with the north-western external wall of the early 20th century building shown on the 1921 Ordnance Survey map. Wall footing 2 cut through the top of drain 3 which contained 19th and 20th century pottery sherds, brick and tile and animal bone, none of which were retained for further analysis.

One very large modern pit (37) located in the south-eastern corner of Building Footprint 1 contained, among other finds, a modern 20th century flower pot at its base. A second, shallower modern pit (19) was located in the north-eastern footing of Building Footprint 1 and contained an early 20th century ceramic drain pipe.

The large concrete footing of the late 20th century car park wall was removed along the north-western edge of Building Footprint 2, during which a small number of finds (48) were disturbed (Fig. 3). It was not possible to assign them to pits 46, 49, 51 or 55 below because it was impossible to differentiate the pit fills during the excavation of the concrete.

## **6.0 FINDS** by Alan J. Jacobs

### **6.1 Introduction**

A total of 85 fragments of pottery, brick, tile, slate, glass, bone, slag and tobacco pipe were recovered from site, these weighed a total of 10,588 grams. All of the material has been

sorted into context and recorded by count and weight. The finds are described, tabulated and presented in Appendix 2. Much 19th- and 20th-century material was discarded on site.

## **6.2 Roman pottery**

All fabrics are defined by the Chelmsford type series (Going 1987) with additions from the Stansted excavations (Wallace et al 2004, 285-312), unless otherwise stated.

The Roman pottery assemblage consists of nine sherds weighing 214 grams. Coarse wares comprise the bulk of the material and contain black-surfaced ware (fabric BSW), in the form of a G9 (context 48) cooking pot. There are indications of diagonal burnished lines on the body of the pot, a common feature on this type of cooking pot that imitates BB1 forms. Two oval bodied jar rims in grey sandy ware (fabric 47, GRS) from forms G24.2/1 (contexts 5) and G24.1/1(context 47) are both fairly common examples dating from the 2nd to the 4th century. Fine sandy ware (fabric 39, GRF) is present in the form of a C29 carinated bowl, which dates to the late 1st century (context 29).

A small Romano-British Mica dusted ware (fabric 12, MIC) body sherd of a bowl or beaker was also recovered (context 14), and is a feature of the 1st to early 2nd century. The only colour coat sherd recovered is the base of a beaker in Colchester colour-coated ware (fabric 1, COLC). This dates to the 1st to 2nd century, and is relatively unabraded. A single sherd of Central Gaulish Samian ware (fabric 60, CGSW) in the form of a plate or bowl, (Dragendorff 18/31R) and much-abraded comprises the only imported pottery.

These fabrics represent the general balance of material available during the Roman period. The datable pottery is all residual in later contexts, of too small a quantity, and of limited use beyond a very general dating of activity in this area.

## **6.3 Medieval and later pottery** by Helen Walker

A total of 41 sherds weighing 1162g were recovered from ten contexts. The earliest sherd is a small abraded fragment of medieval coarse ware residual in modern layer 5 and datable to the 12th to 13th centuries. A late medieval unglazed sherd of Colchester-type ware from finds context 48, showing slip-painted decoration, is datable to the later 14th to 16th centuries.

Much of the pottery comprises Tudor red earthenware and as the name suggests this dates to the late 15th and 16th centuries. It has very smooth surfaces and is normally unglazed or

sparsely glazed. Featured sherds comprise a bung-hole from a large cistern (used chiefly for brewing beer), a bifid handle from a large jug or cistern, a possible dripping dish fragment, and the rim of a funnel-necked jug. Examples of this type of pottery occur in contexts 7, 14, 16, 27, 29 and 31, but often in association with later finds.

There are a number of sherds of post-medieval red earthenware, most of which are not closely datable. One sherd, decorated with trailed slip, is an example of Metropolitan slipware. This was produced principally during the middle years of the 17th century and was manufactured at Harlow and other centres to the south of the county, continuing to be made for local consumption into the 18th century. Other post-medieval pottery includes single sherds of Westerwald stoneware, imported from Rhineland Germany chiefly from the mid 17th century, and basalt ware, fine black earthenware made from the mid 18th century. Sherds of Creamware are relatively common and include the rim of a small teapot perhaps also dating to the mid 18th century. There is also an example of industrial slipware with a Creamware body (from context 47), which is somewhat later, dating to the early 19th century.

Modern pottery includes examples of stoneware, modern white earthenware and a fragment of flowerpot, much is Victorian or later and has been discarded.

#### **6.4 Building material**

A total of three complete and two fragments of modern brick were recovered. The complete bricks date from the 19th century (Brick Samples 2, 23 and 39), and two comprise red brick forms with striated surfaces and rounded arises. The first of these has traces of lime mortar indicating a pre-1850 date (23), the other has a coarse frog and possible traces of cement, indicating a post-1850 date (39). The final brick also of pre-1850 date (2), is in a highly fired, cream fabric with sharp arises and a frog underneath with a WR stamp, as well as traces of lime mortar. In addition two small fragments of brick were recovered, (contexts 7 and 29) one of which has lime mortar on its surface, which again would indicate a pre-1850 date.

Fragments of tile were recovered from eight contexts (5, 7, 11, 14, 17, 27, 29 and 47), these are predominantly small fragments of medieval/post-medieval roof tile, and no complete forms were recovered. This material was recovered from post-medieval or modern contexts. Definable fragments of residual and much abraded Roman *tegula* (context 11) and *imbrex* (contexts 14 and 27) are also present. The only other building material is a single fragment



of a slate roof tile (context 47); this type of material did not come into general use until the Victorian period when improvements in transport led to a countrywide distribution of slate.

### **6.5 Other Finds**

Glass is present in the form of a modern window pane fragment (context 47), a sherd of a small bottle of late 19th to 20th century date (context 48), and the neck and rim of a brown beer bottle (context 47). Also recovered was the frosted or lined fragment of glass possibly from a bathroom window or external light cover (context 48). A single fragment of iron slag (context 7), was present, this is light for its size and as such most likely to be of modern date. Finally a single, residual example of an Oswald type 6 (1975, 37) tobacco pipe, with a large bulbous bowl and rouletted rim, but no stamp (context 47) dates from 1660 to 1680.

### **6.6 Animal bone**

Animal bone was recovered from four contexts (11, 16, 17 and 29), this material primarily consists of cattle long bone and shoulder fragments and a pig's jaw bone, and all was recovered from post-medieval or modern context. The mixed nature of the features and small amount of material recovered limits further conclusions being drawn from this group.

### **6.7 Conclusion**

The overall artefact assemblage is typical of that recovered from an urban site, with much earlier material redeposited into later or unstratified contexts. The Roman material is all residual in later contexts, of too small a quantity, and as such is of limited use beyond a very general dating of activity in this area. This suggests that the Roman features have been truncated by later activity. This assemblage comes entirely from post-medieval or modern contexts (16th to 20th century). The early post-medieval material is similar to pottery of 16th century date that was found during excavations close by at Moulsham Street (Cunningham 1985a and b) and the pottery excavated at Orchard Street sheds further light on the extent of occupation during the early post-medieval period. The later post-medieval and modern material gives an indication of the economy and sources of pottery supply in this area. Other materials are fairly characteristic of post-medieval and modern urban sites with no unusual artefacts.

## **7.0 CONCLUSIONS AND ASSESSMENT**

Archaeological monitoring during groundworks did not reveal any Roman remains, despite the site's location in the centre of the former Roman town and near the mansio, a large courtyard building which served as a government inn and posting station. No further evidence was found of the Roman building recorded at site AR to the west of the mansio (Fig. 1). Small amounts of Roman pottery and brick/tile recovered as residual finds in post-medieval pits suggest that any Roman features in the site area had been disturbed by the later pits.

Occasional finds of medieval pottery in residual contexts merely reflect nearby medieval settlement off-site along Moulsham Street to the west.

The monitoring recorded fourteen post-medieval rubbish pits, of which the two earliest are dated to the 16th century, with the others dated to the 18th-19th centuries. Walker's map of 1591 shows the site located in an area of orchards and gardens to the rear of properties along Moulsham Street, and the 1843-3 Tithe Map and early Ordnance Survey maps show that this area was not built up until the Victorian period. These post-medieval pits represent some encroachment into the open space, but not a significant expansion of settlement beyond the line of Moulsham Street.

A large area of ground clearance in Building Footprint 2 (Fig. 3, 46/55) is broadly dated to the 19th-20th centuries and corresponds with a building shown on the 1st edition Ordnance Survey of 1874. Short lengths of brick wall footings (Fig. 3, 39/40 and 57 and 5) represent the south-eastern end of a building that occupied Building Footprint 1, which is recorded on the 2nd edition Ordnance Survey of 1897 but not on the earlier map of 1874. This was demolished and replaced by a slightly smaller building, shown on the 3rd edition Ordnance Survey of 1921, represented by brick wall footings 1 and 2, and drain 3 (Fig. 2), cut through made ground layer 5 from levelling of the earlier building remains.

Overall, the archaeological remains recorded are of relatively low significance, especially as any possible evidence related to the former Roman town has been disturbed by post-medieval pits and modern building foundations.

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The ECC FAU would like to thank Bermac Properties for commissioning and funding the archaeological investigation, and particularly Mr Rob McKay for his assistance. The project was managed by Patrick Allen of the ECC FAU and was monitored by Teresa O'Connor of the ECC HEM on behalf of the local planning authority.

The archaeological fieldwork was undertaken by Phillippa Sparrow. The finds were processed, analysed by and reported upon by Alan J. Jacobs, and the medieval and later pottery sherds were analysed and reported upon by Helen Walker. The figures were drawn by Andrew Lewsey.

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## MAPS

Walker, John	1591	<i>A trew platt of the manor and hamlett of Moulsham</i> , surveyed for Sir Thomas Mildmay. Essex Record Office (ERO D/DM P2)
Tithe Map	1842-3	<i>Tithe map for Chelmsford and Moulsham.</i> Essex Record Office (ERO B/CT 72)
OS	1874	Ordnance Survey 1st edition, 1:2500
OS	1897	Ordnance Survey 2nd edition, 1:2500
OS	1921	Ordnance Survey 3rd edition, 1:2500

## APPENDIX 1: FIELDWORK DATA

All dimensions are given in metres

Context	Feature	Type	Description	Date
1	1	Wall	Yellow brick wall. Frogged bricks. Aligned NW-SE and SW-NE. 13.5m x 0.4m x 0.7m deep	Modern
2	2	Wall	Red brick wall. Some bricks burnt/sooty. 0.24m x 0.12m x 0.06m Lime mortar. Predecessor to 1? Aligned NE-SW. 1m+ x 0.26m X 0.7m deep	Modern
3	3	Drain	Aligned NW-SE. Straight sides and flat base. 12m+ x 0.3m x 0.14m deep	Modern
4	3	Fill	Building rubble. 19th-20th century pottery not retained.	Modern
5	5	Layer	Dark brown sandy silt made ground layer present across site in patches. 0.25-0.70m deep. 19th/20th century pot, brick, tile, modern glass, animal bone not retained	Modern
6	6	Pit	Pit, disturbed by drain. 0.5m+ x 3m+ x 0.8m deep	Post-med
7	6	Fill	Dark brown sandy silt. Loose	Post-med
8	6	Fill	Redeposited natural layer within pit 6.	Post-med
9	6	Fill	Mid grey brown sandy silt. Loose.	Post-med
10	10	Pit	Pit, steep sides and flat base. 0.5m+ x 1.6m x 1.4m deep.	Post-med
11	10	Fill	Lower fill of pit 10. Dark brown sandy silt. Loose	Post-med
12	10	Fill	Upper fill of pit 10. Grey brown clayey silt. Loose	Post-med
13	13	Pit	Small, shallow pit. Rounded base and sides. 0.5m+ x 1.9m x 0.68m deep	Post-med
14	13	Fill	Mixed brown and orange sandy silt. Loose	Post-med
15	15	Pit	Cut of steep-sided pit, base not reached. 0.5m+ x 1.83m x 1.64m+ deep.	Post-med
16	15	Fill	Earliest exosed fill of pit 15. Dark brown sandy silt. Loose. Frequent charcoal and oyster shell. Pot, animal bone, shell, brick and tile.	Post-med
17	15	Fill	Second fill of pit 15. Mid brown sandy silt. Loose. Animal bone, brick and tile	Post-med
18	15	Fill	Upper fill of pit 15. Dark brown sandy silt. Loose. Pot	Post-med
19	19	Pit	Cut of pit, possibly related to wall 1 above. Modern pipe within. Cut pit/wall footing 21. 0.5m+ x 1.7m x 0.55m deep	Modern
20	19	Fill	Mid grey brown sandy silt, loose	Modern.
21	21	Pit	Pit. 0.1m+ x 1.15m x 1.7m deep	Post-med
22	21	Fill	Fill of 21. Mid grey sandy silt, loose	Post-med
23	23	Wall	Bricks, unfrogged and irregularly laid. 0.1m+ x 1.15m x 1.2m deep	Modern
24	24	Pit	Cut of steep-sided pit and slightly convex base. 0.5m+ x 1.6m x 1.2m deep	Post-med
25	24	Fill	Dark brown sandy silt, loose	Post-med
26	26	Pit	Deep pit. Steep sides, base not reached. 0.5m+ x 0.5m+ x 1.5m+ deep	Post-med
27	26	Fill	Dark grey brown sandy silt, loose	Post-med
28	28	Pit	Cut of large deep pit with steep sides, base not reached. 0.5m+ x 2m+ x 1.5m+ deep	Post-med
29	28	Fill	Dark orange sandy silt loose. Lowest exposed fill of pit 28	Post-med
30	28	Fill	Mid grey brown sandy silt, loose. Second fill of pit 28	Post-med
31	28	Fill	Upper fill of pit 28. Dark brown sandy silt, loose.	Post-med
32	32	Pit	Cut of pit with steep sides and concave base. 0.5m+ x 1.55m x 1.4m deep. 19th century pottery, brick, tile	Post-med

			and shell not retained	
33	32	Fill	Fill of 32. Mid grey brown sandy silt, loose	Post-med.
34	34	Pit	Vertical SW side and flat base. Cut by 32. 0.5m+ x 2.75m+ x 1.4m deep	Post-med.
35	34	Fill	Lower fill of pit 34. Dark brown sandy silt, loose. Finds not retained: brick, tile, china, shell and animal bone	Post-med
36	34	Fill	Upper fill of 34. Mixed orange and brown sandy silt. Loose. No finds retained. 0.5m+ x 2.55m+ x 1m deep	Post-med
37	37	Pit	Pit, vertical sides. 8m x 0.5m+ x 1.4m+ deep	Modern
38	37	Fill	Dark brown and orange sandy silt, loose. Mixed fill of pit 37. Contained part of a modern flower pot. 8m x 0.5m+ x 1.4m+ deep	Modern
39	39	Wall	Red frogged brick. Height of 4 courses: 0.33m. Aligned NE-SW.	Modern
40	39	Wall footing	Steep sides, base not reached. Extended beyond SW edge of trench. 1m+ x 0.34m+ x 0.9m+ deep	Modern
41	40	Fill	Dark brown sandy silt. Loose. Fill of 40. 1m+ x 0.34m+ x 0.9m+ deep. Finds: china, tile not retained	Modern
42	42	Pit	Pit with vertical sides and base not reached. 0.65m+ x 0.75m x 1m+ deep	Post-med
43	42	Fill	Dark brown sandy silt. Loose. 0.65m+ x 0.75m x 1m+ deep Finds: tile, animal bone not retained.	Post-med
44	44	Pit	Cut of pit with rounded sides and base. 0.75m x 0.7m+ x 0.8m deep.	Post-med
45	44	Fill	Only fill of 44. Dark brown sandy silt, loose. No finds retained but contained china, brick, tile, oyster shell.	Post-med
46	46	Pit	Cut of pit. Truncated by concrete footing for car park wall. Moderately sloping side and flattish base. Shallow depth suggests it has been truncated all over probably for the car park development and prior to building garage. 3.1m+ x 0.5m+ x 0.3m deep	Modern
47	46	Fill	Only fill of 46. Dark brown sandy silt. Loose. 3.1m+ x 0.5m+ x 0.3m deep	Modern
48		Finds	Various finds recovered during the excavation of concrete car park wall footing.	Modern
49	49	Pit	Cut of pit, extend beyond footings. Vertical sides and rounded base. 1.2m x 0.5m+ x 0.6m deep.	Post-med
50	49	Fill	Dark grey sandy silt, loose. Only finds were small fragments of tile.	Post-med
51	51	Pit	Cut of large pit. Vertical sides and rounded base. 3m+ x 0.5m+ x 0.6m+ deep	Post-med
52	51	Fill	Fill of 51. 3m+ x 0.5m+ x 0.6m+ deep. No finds retained – all 19th century onwards.	Post-med
53	53	Cut	Cut for wall, possibly the same as 21. Vertical sides, flat base. 0.75m x 0.26m+ x 0.6m deep	Modern
54	53	Fill	Only fill of 53. Dark grey sandy silt. Firm.	Modern
55	55	Pit	Same as 46? Vertical sides and flat base. 10.7m+ x 3.7m x 0.7m deep	Modern
56	55	Fill	Only fill of 56. Dark grey brown sandy silt. Loose. 10.7m+ x 3.7m x 0.7m deep. Residual Roman pot, 19th century onwards finds of brick, china etc.	Modern
57	57	Wall footing	Cut of corner wall footing. Same as 53 and 40? Same brick. Aligned NE-SW and NW-SE. 1.5m+ x 0.15m+ x 1.4m+ deep	Modern
58	57	Fill	Dark brown loose sandy silt with frequent pebbles. 1.5m+ x 0.15m+ x 1.4m+ deep	Modern

## APPENDIX 2: FINDS DATA

Context	Feature	Count	Wt (g)	Description	Date
5	Layer 19th/20th C material not retained	1	2	Medieval coarse ware, very abraded sherd, borderline early medieval ware	12th to 13th c
		2	23	Post-medieval red earthenware, body sherds, one with all over glaze, the other internally glazed	17th to 19th century
		1	1	Westerwald stoneware, body sherd with blue decoration	Mid 17th to later 18th century
		1	2	Basalt ware body sherd	From mid 18th century
		1	4	Creamware teapot lid	1740s to 1830s
		3	62	Modern stoneware, lead glazed sherds, one from cider jar-type vessel (discarded)	19th to early 20th century
		4	66	Modern white earthenware, including relief-moulded handle and cup fragment with mauve transfer-printed decoration (discarded)	1830s to 20th century
		1	86	Medieval/Post medieval roof tile fragment one edge only surviving 13mm thick, fine red sandy fabric	13th-18th century
		1	12	Roman Central Gaulish Samian ware (fabric 60, CGSW) plate/bowl, Dragendorff 18/31R, 300mm Diameter 5% EVE.	120-150 AD
1	6	Roman pottery, small rim fragment of a Grey Sandy ware jar (fabric 47, GRS) form G24.2/1, 140mm Diameter, 4% EVE.	2nd to 4th century		
7	6	1	5	Tudor red earthenware body sherd	Late 15th/16th century
		1	13	Metropolitan slipware, sherd from a hollow ware decorated on the outside, no identifiable motifs	c. 1625-earlier 18th century
		1	30	Post medieval/modern brick fragment, fine red highly fired fabric, lime mortar on surface.	1700-1850 AD
		1	22	Medieval/Post medieval roof tile fragment upper surface and nail hole only surviving, fine red sandy fabric	13th-18th century
		1	36	Slag fragment, light for size, post medieval/modern?	
11	10	1	94	Medieval/Post medieval roof tile fragment one edge only surviving 13mm thick, fine red sandy fabric	13th-18th century
		1	64	Roman tile fragment laminated slightly over fired fragment, possibly part of Tegula, up to 23mm thick, sanded lower surface	1st to 4th century
		1	76	Roman tile fragment laminated soft orange fragment of Tegula flange, very abraded, possibly part of Tegula, up to 26mm thick.	1st to 4th century
		1	4	Fragment of animal bone, part of sizeable long bone, most probably cattle.	
14	13	1	6	Roman pottery, small body sherd of bowl or beaker in Romano-British Mica dusted ware (fabric 12, MIC).	1st to 2nd century
		1	9	Tudor Red Earthenware, flared rim ?from funnel-necked beaker, internal whitish residue	Late 15th to mid 16th century
		1	16	Creamware, footring base from small rounded vessel	1740s to 1830s
		1	342	Roman tile fragment laminated slightly over fired or burnt surface, part of an Imbrex, up to 23mm thick, sanded lower surface	1st to 4th century
16	15	2	171	Tudor Red Earthenware, thick-walled bases with internal glaze, one perhaps from a cistern, the second has vertical sides and may be from a dripping dish or similar	Late 15th/16th century

Context	Feature	Count	Wt (g)	Description	Date
		2	62	Fragment of animal bone, part of clavicle? Cattle bone.	
		1	62	Fragment of animal bone, part of pigs jaw, and some teeth surviving in situ.	
17	15	1	40	Medieval/Post medieval roof tile fragment no edges surviving 15mm thick, fine red sandy fabric	13th-18th century
		1	256	Medieval/Post medieval roof tile fragment two edges (corner) only surviving, square nail hole present, 13-15mm thick, coarse red sandy fabric	13th-18th century
		1	198	Fragment of animal bone, complete cattle phalange.	
27	26	1	26	Roman tile fragment laminated orange fabric, part of an Imbrex, up to 18mm thick, sanded lower surface	1st to 4th century
		2	28	Tudor Red Earthenware, body sherds, one thick-walled, the second thinner walled with a partial external glaze	Late 15th/16th century
		1	30	Post-medieval red earthenware, thick-walled body sherd with an all over glaze, probably from a bread crock or similar and fairly recent	19th to early 20th century
		1	18	Medieval/Post medieval roof tile fragment no edges surviving, fine red sandy fabric	13th-18th century
29	28	1	64	Post medieval/modern brick fragment, fine red highly fired fabric, smoothed surface.	19th-20th century intrusive
		1	154	Medieval/Post medieval roof tile fragment one edge only surviving, square nail hole present, 12-13mm thick, coarse red sandy fabric	13th-18th century
		3	12	Animal bone fragments of long bones, medium mammal	
		1	18	Fragments of animal bone, part of cattle shoulder bone	
		2	50	Fragments of animal bone, pig shoulder bone.	
		2	10	Roman pottery, small rim fragment of a Fine Sandy ware carinated bowl (fabric 39, GRF) form C29, 100mm Diameter, 7% EVE.	Late 1st century
		9	539	Tudor Red Earthenware fragments from large vessels including the bunghole from a cistern and a bifid handle from either a large jug or a cistern	Late 15th/16th century
		2	10	Post-medieval red earthenware, body sherds from smallish vessel with all over glaze	16th century or later
31	28	1	68	Tudor Red Earthenware, thick-walled base sherd, internally glazed, perhaps from same vessel as found in context 16	Late 15th/16th century
41	40	1	50	Modern stoneware, pad base from ovoid jug or jar, pale fabric with slightly encrusted surfaces	Post 1750
47	46	1	16	Roman pottery, small rim fragment of a Grey Sandy ware jar (fabric 47, GRS) form G24.1/1, 200mm Diameter, 7% EVE.	2nd to 4th century
		1	18	Bowl of tobacco pipe, similar to Oswald type 6	1660-1680 AD
		1	4	Creamware with brown slip-coating and traces of darker brown and cream slip – industrial slipware	Early 19th century
		2	14	Modern white earthenware, plain body sherds (discarded)	Early 19th to 20th century
		1	6	Fragment of modern roof tile, 10mm thick laminated fabric	19th to 20th century
		1	12	Fragment of slate roof tile	1830-2000 AD
		1	54	Modern glass fragment, rim and neck of brown beer bottle.	20th century
		1	4	Modern glass fragment, part of window pane.	20th century



Context	Feature	Count	Wt (g)	Description	Date
48	Finds	1	28	Modern lined/frosted glass, from bathroom window or external light covering.	20th century
		2	24	Roman pottery, sherds of Black Surfaced ware (BSW), in the form of highly burnished shoulder of a G9 cooking pot form, there are indications of diagonal burnished lines.	125/30-350 AD
		1	15	Colchester-type ware, unglazed slip-painted sherd perhaps from a jug, reduced, internal limescale	14th to 16th century
		1	8	Post-medieval red earthenware, body sherd with all over glaze	Later 16th century onwards
		1	22	Flowerpot: base sherd with central drainage hole	18th to 20th century
		1	1	Modern glass fragment, part of small bottle.	20th century
56	55	1	140	Roman pottery, base of a beaker in Colchester Colour coated ware fabric (1, COLC), unabraded.	1st– 2nd century
BS2	Building sample	1	2475	Complete brick highly fired, sharp arised cream fabric, frog underneath with WR impressed, traces of lime mortar. 235mm by 115mm by 67mm	Early 19th century
BS23	Building sample	1	2640	Complete brick coarse oxidised red fabric large inclusions striated surface and traces of lime mortar. 216mm by 105mm by 64mm	Early 19th century
BS39	Building sample	1	2260	Complete brick coarse oxidised red fabric large inclusions striated surfaces and traces of cement? on the surfaces, coarse frog underneath. 230mm by 106mm by 67mm	Late 19th century
<i>Total</i>		85	10588		

## APPENDIX 3: ARCHIVE INDEX

CF66            **LAND TO THE REAR OF 36 ORCHARD STREET, CHELMSFORD:  
ARCHAEOLOGICAL MONITORING AND RECORDING**

### Index to the Archive

File containing:

**1. Introduction**

- 1.1 Brief for evaluation
- 1.2 WSI for evaluation

**2. Research Archive**

- 2.1 Evaluation report
- 2.2 Finds report
- 2.3 CD Rom containing pdf version of report and digital images

**3. Site Archive**

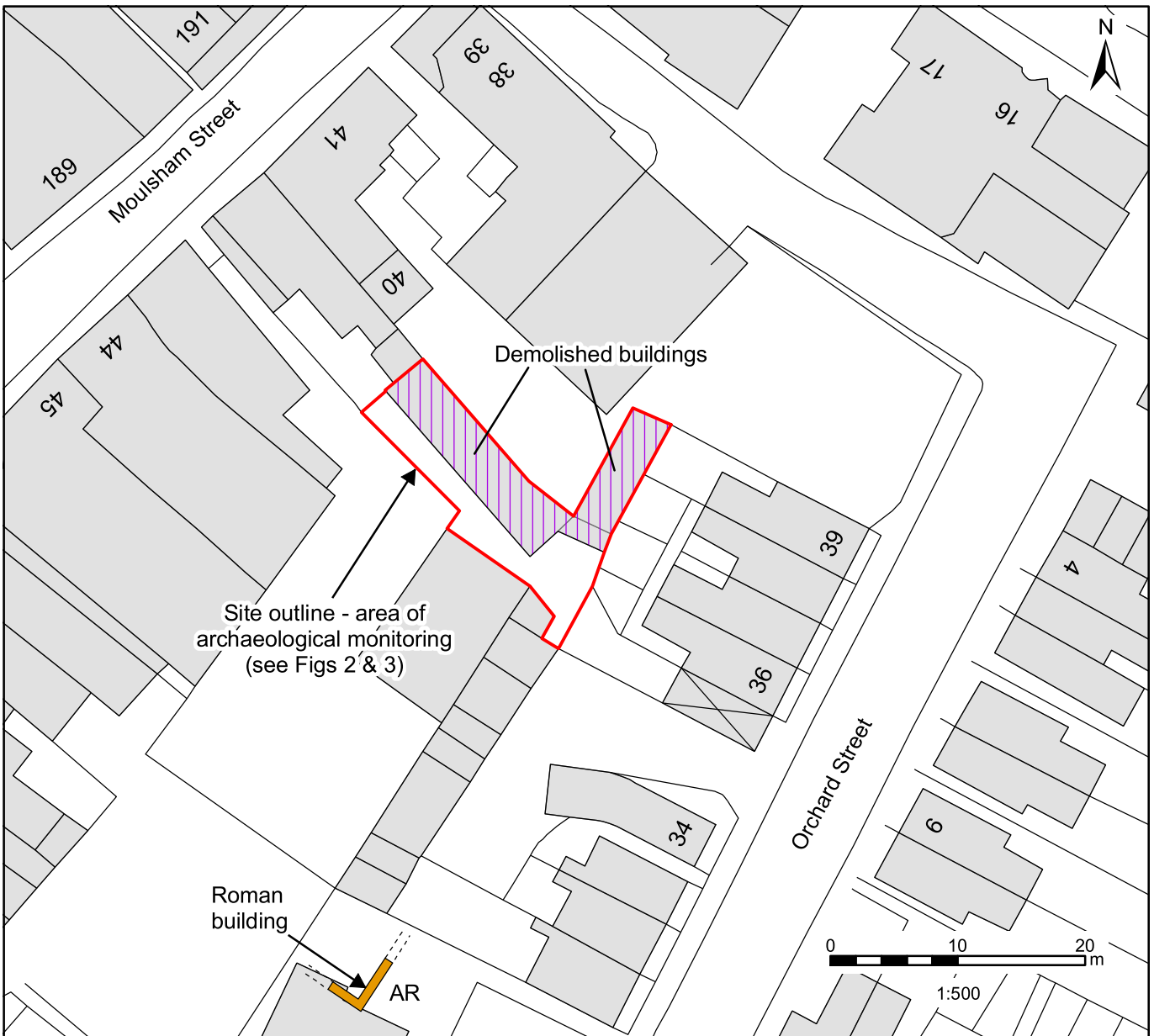
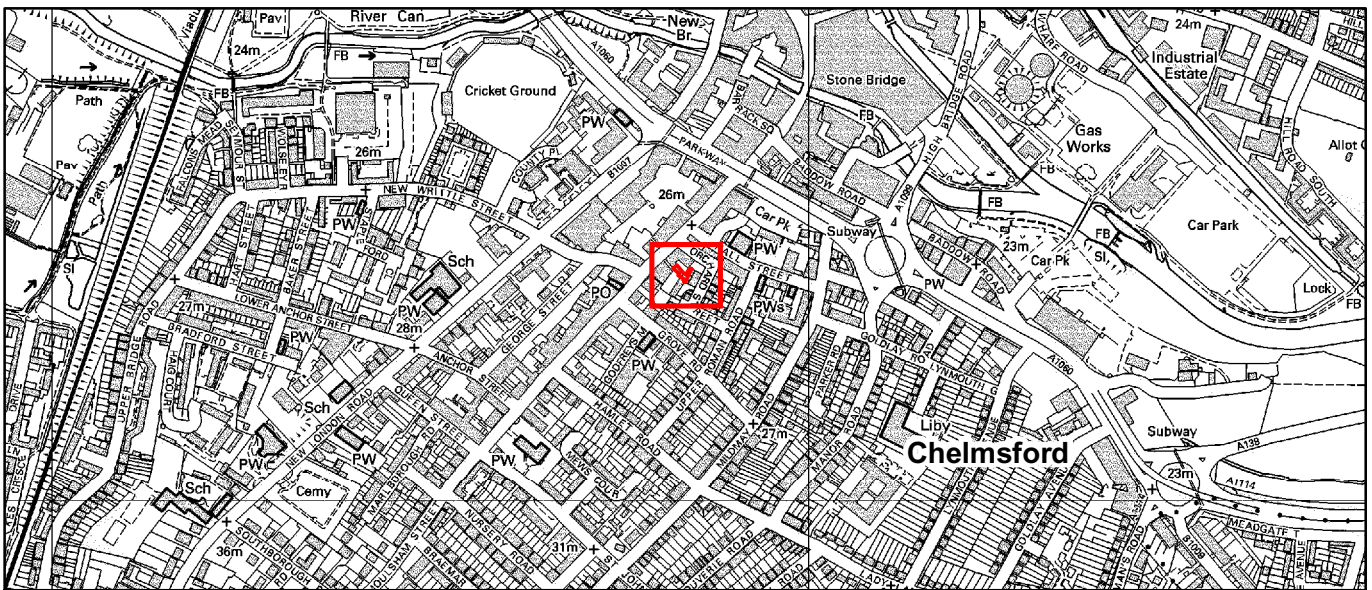
- 3.1 Context record register
- 3.2 Original context records 1 - 58
- 3.3 Photographic register
- 3.4 Photograph contact sheet
- 3.5 Digital photograph prints
- 3.5 Miscellaneous maps and plans

**Not in File:**

Site Drawings (3 permatrace sheet)  
Finds occupy less than one box.

#### APPENDIX 4: ESSEX HISTORIC ENVIRONMENT RECORD SUMMARY

<b>Site Name/Address:</b> Land to the rear of 36 Orchard Street, Chelmsford, Essex	
<b>Parish:</b> Chelmsford	<b>District:</b> Chelmsford
<b>NGR:</b> TL 7082 0629	<b>Site Code:</b> CF66
<b>Type of Work:</b> Archaeological Monitoring and Recording	<b>Site Director/Team:</b> Phillipa Sparrow ECC FAU
<b>Dates of Work:</b> 9th Feb - 7th march 2011	<b>Size of Area Investigated:</b> 140 sq m
<b>Curating Museum:</b> Chelmsford Museum	<b>Funding Source:</b> Bermac Properties
<b>Further Work Anticipated?</b> No	<b>Related HER Nos.</b> None
<b>Final Report:</b> Summary in EAH	<b>OASIS Ref:</b> essexcou1-92884
<b>Periods Represented:</b> modern	
<b>SUMMARY OF FIELDWORK RESULTS:</b>	
<p><i>Archaeological monitoring and recording was undertaken during groundworks for the construction of three studio apartments on land to the rear of 36 Orchard Street, Chelmsford. The site is located within the area of the former Roman town, to the north-west of the Roman mansio, a government inn and posting station, and 25m to the north of a second Roman building previously recorded at site AR (Fig. 1). The site also lies at the rear of medieval and post-medieval properties on the east side of Moulsham Street.</i></p>	
<p><i>No Roman or medieval remains were present within the site area, most likely as a result of disturbance by post-medieval pits and modern foundations. Small amounts of Roman pottery, Roman brick/ tile and medieval pottery were recovered as residual finds in the later features. No further evidence was found of the Roman building at site AR.</i></p>	
<p><i>Fourteen post-medieval rubbish pits were recorded, especially in Building Footprint 1 in the west of the site. The two earliest are dated to the 16th century, with the others dated to the 18th and 19th centuries.</i></p>	
<p><i>Brick wall footings dated to the late 19th century correspond to a large building shown in the western area of the site on the 2nd edition Ordnance Survey map of 1897. This was demolished and the site was levelled before the erection of a replacement structure, shown on the 3rd edition Ordnance Survey map of 1921, and used until recently as a warehouse.</i></p>	
<b>Previous Summaries/Reports:</b> None	
<b>Author of Summary:</b> P. Allen	<b>Date of Summary:</b> May 2011



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Fig.1. Site location

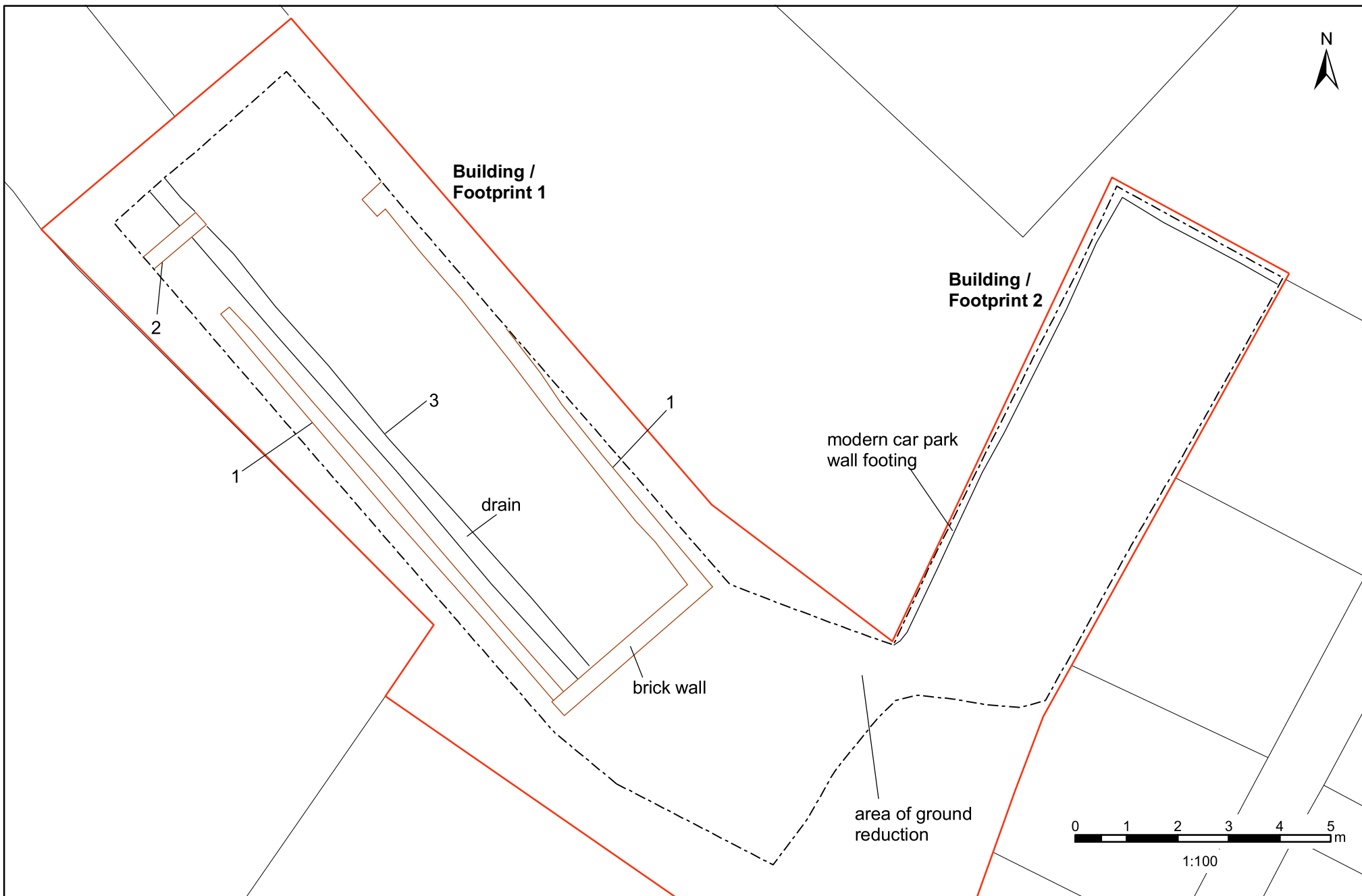


Fig.2. Intial ground reduction

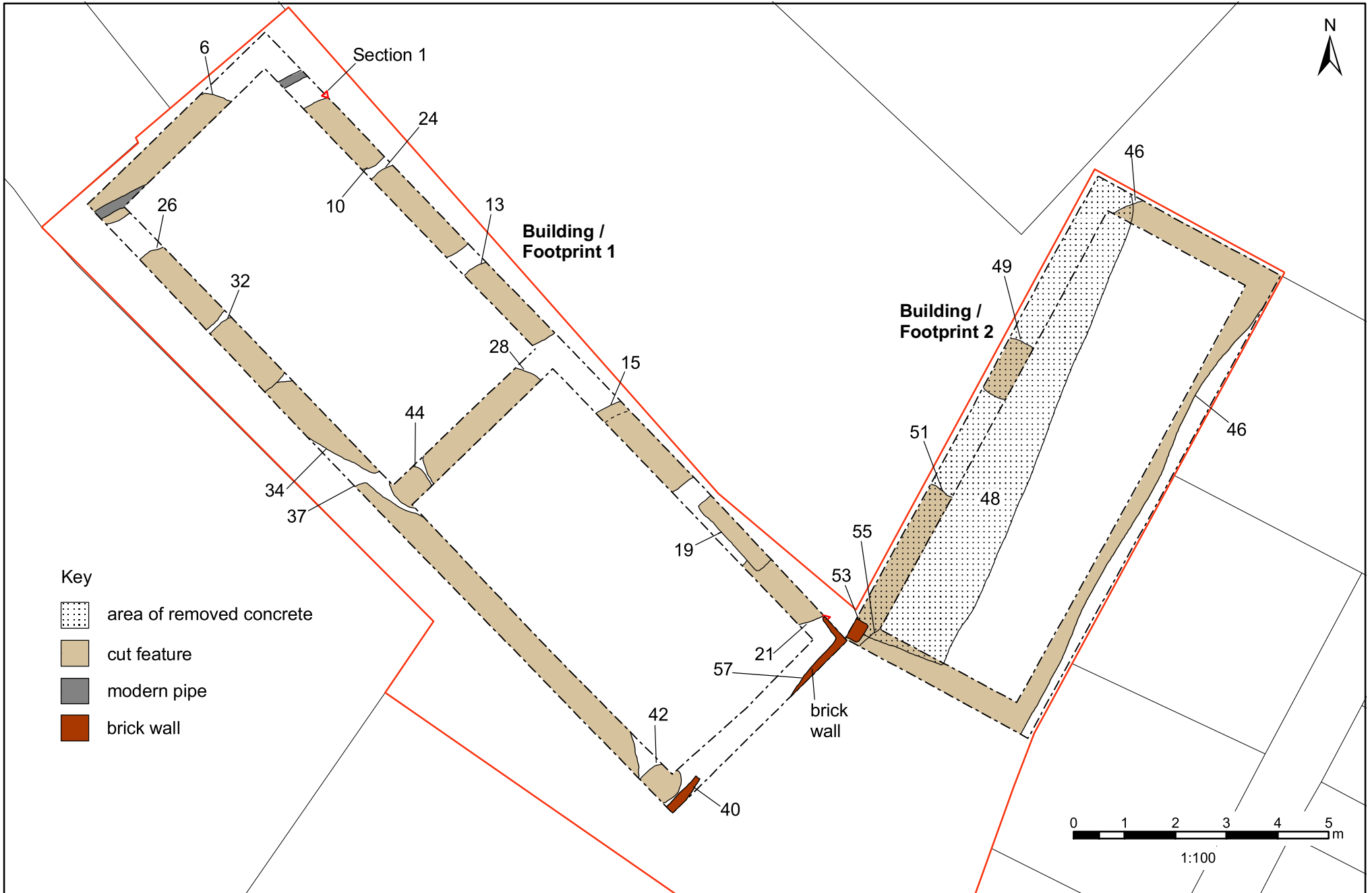


Fig.3. Footing excavation

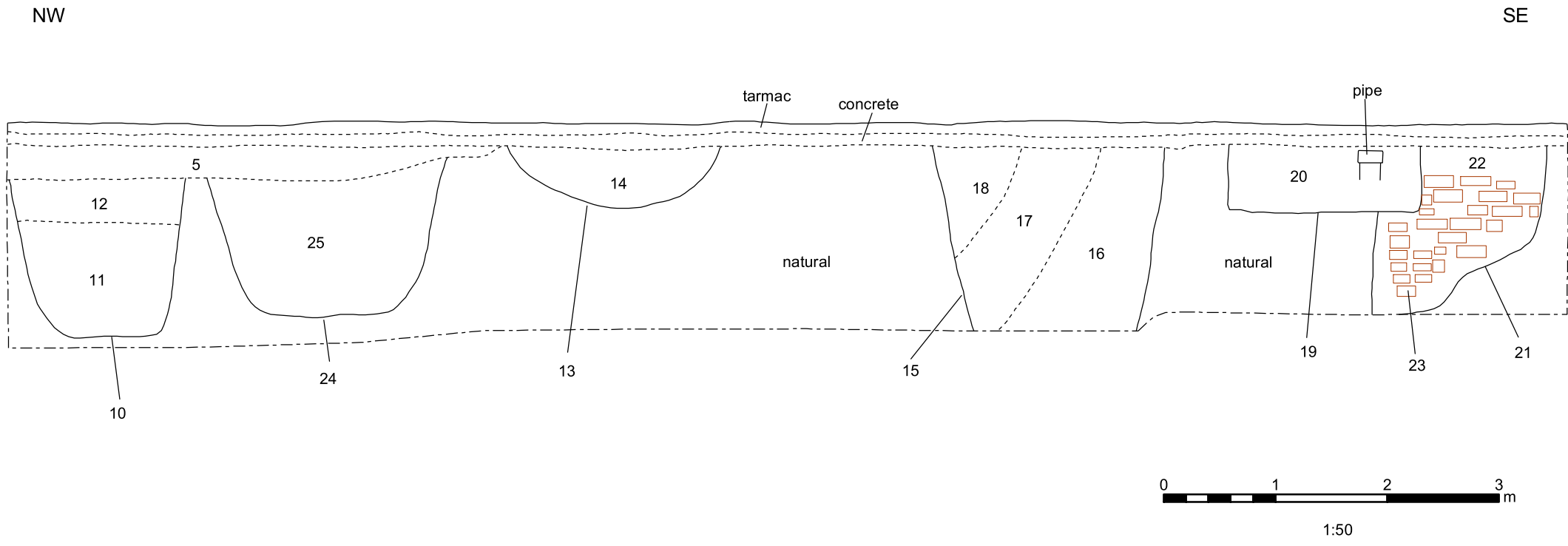


Fig.4. Section 1



Plate 1. Pit 15, dated to the 16th century, looking north-east. 2m scale



Plate 2. Late 19th-century wall footing 39, looking south-east. 2m and 0.5m scale





Plate 3. Modern walls 1 and 2 and drain 3 looking north. 1m scale.



Plate 4. Drain 3 looking south-west. 1m scale.