

Colchester Archaeological Trust



**CAT Report 1849
issued December 2022**

**Archaeological excavation on land at
Watch House Green, Felsted, Essex, CM6 3EF:
July-August 2022**



**CAT project ref.: 2022/02i
ECC code: WHSW21**

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NGR: TL 69198 21101 (centre)

Planning ref.: UTT/20/2375/FUL

**CAT project ref.: 2022/02i
CAT Report 1849**

**ECC code: WHSW21
OASIS id: colchest3-504761**

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**commissioned by Darren Stevens
on behalf of Dengie Construction Ltd**

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Issued:	19/12/22	

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1 Summary

An archaeological excavation was carried out on land at Watch House Green, Felsted, Essex in advance of the construction of a residential development. The site lies adjacent to The Watch House, which has its origins in the 17th century, and is in the midst of a number of cropmark complexes. Excavation revealed: 1) a Late Iron Age/early Roman ditch and associated gullies; 2) an area of metalling with ditches, gullies and pits likely representing an agricultural landscape close to a Roman farmstead or villa dating from the late 2nd into the early/mid 4th century; and 3) a post-medieval field boundary ditch.

2 Introduction (Fig 1)

This is the report for an archaeological excavation carried out by Colchester Archaeological Trust (CAT) on land at Watch House Green, Felsted, Essex from 22nd July to 5th August 2022. The work was commissioned by Darren Stevens on behalf of Dengie Construction Ltd and carried out in advance of the construction of four detached houses and a new access road.

In response to consultation with Essex County Council Place Services (ECCPS), Historic Environment Advisor Katie Lee-Smith advised that in order to establish the archaeological implications of this application, the applicant should be required to commission a scheme of archaeological investigation in accordance with the *National Planning Policy Framework* (MHCLG 2019). A programme of archaeological trial-trenching was initially undertaken by CAT in April 2021 (CAT Report 1660). The results of this evaluation identified the need for further archaeological mitigation in the form of a programme of open area excavation in part of the footprint of the two southernmost proposed dwellings and southern portion of the proposed access road (1035m²), where four ditches, a gully and a metalled surface – all Roman in date – were discovered.

All archaeological work was carried out in accordance with a written scheme of investigation (WSI) prepared by CAT in response to the consultation and agreed in advance with ECCPS (CAT 2022).

In addition to the WSI, all fieldwork and reporting was done in accordance with *Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment (MoRPHE)* (Historic England 2016), and with *Standards for field archaeology in the East of England (EAA 14 and 24)*. This report mirrors standards and practices contained in the Institute for Archaeologists' *Standard and guidance for archaeological excavation* (ClfA 2014a), and *Standard and guidance for the collection, documentation, conservation and research of archaeological materials* (ClfA 2014b).

3 Archaeological background

The following archaeological includes extracts of the ECC brief and the Essex Historic Environment Records (EHER) held at Essex County Council, County Hall, Chelmsford, Essex (accessed via <http://www.heritagegateway.org.uk>).

The EHER shows that the proposed development site lies in an area of known archaeological remains. It is located to the east of The Watch House, a timber-framed house which has its origins in the 17th century or possibly earlier (EHER 37001), and to the south-east of a 16th-century timber-framed barn associated with the house (EHER 370000). Both buildings are listed. The site is also located to the north and northwest of an area of recorded cropmarks which include a square enclosure, linear features and pits (EHER 1356).

An archaeological evaluation c 300m to the north of the site uncovered a Roman ditch, medieval ditches, gullies and pits, and post-medieval/modern field boundary ditches (EHER 49073), with another evaluation c 350m north-east revealing medieval, post-medieval and undated ditches (EHER 49494).

Trial-trenching undertaken in advance of the proposed development was carried out by CAT in April 2021 (CAT Report 1660). This evaluation identified twelve features (eleven ditches and

one post-hole) and a metalled surface. The predominant phase of activity was Roman, with three ditches and a post-hole of post-medieval or later date.

4 Aims

Archaeological excavation was carried out within the footprints of the two southernmost proposed dwellings and the southern portion of the access road to record any archaeological remains due to be destroyed by the development.

5 Results (Figs 2-5)

All feature, layer and finds numbers used during the current excavation follow on from numbers assigned during the evaluation stage of this investigation (CAT Report 1660). See Appendix 1 for a full context list.

An area measuring 664m² was machine excavated under the supervision of a CAT archaeologist. The excavation area was located over evaluation trench T5 and the western half of trench T4. The northern half of the excavation area was cut through modern topsoil (L1, c 0.13-0.31m thick) and an accumulation layer (L2, c 0.14-0.36m thick) onto natural (L3, encountered at 0.39-0.55m below current ground level). The southern half was cut through L1 and L2 which sealed a 2nd- to 3rd-century metalled surface L5/L6/L8 (c 0.04-0.11m thick). A small patch of late Roman/post-Roman accumulation (L7, up to 0.07m thick) was also present on the southwestern side of the site between L2 and the metalled surface.

Prehistoric

Eight sherds of prehistoric pottery were recovered during the excavation: one from gully F14, four from ditch F18, one from pit F20 and one from ditch F23. Most of this pottery was not closely datable, although the four sherds of handmade sand-tempered pottery from F18, which included fragments of a cup or bowl, might have dated to the Middle Iron Age. All of this material was residual in later contexts.

Late Iron Age/early Roman

Late Iron Age or early Roman ditch F18 passed through the northern half of the site on a NE-SW alignment. It was 0.92-2.04m wide and 0.62-0.73m deep and had an irregular U-shaped profile. The feature produced the most substantial pottery assemblage of any on the site, comprising of some 337 sherds of Late Iron Age or early Roman and a very small quantity (7 sherds) of late Roman pottery. Notable examples of the former category included a sherd of Gallo-Belgic *terra nigra* platter and one from a southern Gaulish Drag. 27 cup; those of the latter included a sherd of Eifelkeramik/Mayen ware and six from a Nene valley and Oxford mortaria. It is likely, however, that this later material is intrusive and derives from mid to late 3rd-century ditch F15, which cuts F18. The feature also yielded a similarly intrusive medieval or post-medieval lead token (probably originating from activity around post-medieval ditch F11), further demonstrating a degree of later intrusion within F18.

Gully F19 extended from the southern edge of F18 on a NW-SE alignment for a short distance before terminating. It was 0.36-0.41m wide and 0.06-0.15m deep with a V-shaped profile. The feature contained no dating evidence but was cut by ditch F18 and cut gully F14. On a NE-SW alignment, gully F14 was a NE-SW alignment. It was 0.41m wide and 0.15m deep with a V-shaped profile. The feature only produced a single sherd of Roman pottery, as well as a sherd of prehistoric date.

Gully F21 extended for a short distance in the centre of the excavation area on a NE-SW alignment. It was 0.46m wide and 0.05m deep with a very shallow U-shaped profile. The feature produced no dating evidence but was cut by F15, and may have been associated with ditch F18 and gully F19.



Photograph 1 F18 sx3 – looking west southwest



Photograph 2 L5 – looking southeast

Roman, late 2nd-early/mid 4th century

Roman pottery from the excavation dates primarily from the late 2nd century into the early/mid-4th century AD with a reduction in the quantity of pottery dateable to the 4th century. This suggests that the main phase of Roman activity on the site was possibly quite short-lived and focussed on the 3rd century, although a 4th-century coin dated to AD 330-335 was recovered from the upper fill of one of the ditches.

The earliest feature is an area of metalling which probably originally covered the entire southern half of the site (numbered L5, L6 & L8). Consisting of compacted stones (c 70%) in a grey/brown sandy-silt, it produced a large assemblage (mostly surface finds) of some 289 pottery sherds, including one deriving from an early 2nd- to early 3rd-century central Gaulish decorated Drag. 37 bowl, a fragment of a mid 2nd- to mid 3rd-century eastern Gaulish Drag. 45 mortarium, a piece of an early Roman Cam 259 jar, five fragments of a mid 1st- to late 3rd-century Gauloise 4 wine amphora, and two sherds of early 3rd- to early 5th-century Oxidised Hadham ware. The layer also contained half a lava quernstone, a fragment of possible millstone grit quernstone, two pieces of worked stone, lead lumps, nail shanks, a fragment of Roman glass and heat-affected stones.

Ditch F6 passed through the northern end of the excavation area on a NE-SW alignment, and was 0.83-0.98m wide and 0.25-0.28m deep with an irregular V-shaped profile. It yielded an assemblage of 31 sherds of pottery and six fragments of brick and tile which could only be broadly dated to the Roman period. When excavated as F2 during the evaluation stage of this investigation, however, it was found to contain eight pottery sherds dating to the 4th century.



Photograph 3 F6 sx2 – looking northeast

Ditch F15 extended southwards through the centre of the site on a NW-SE alignment before terminating. It was 0.73-1.7m wide and 0.06-0.34m deep and had a shallow, slightly irregular U-shaped profile. While the probable junction of the two features is obscured by ditch F11, it is likely that this feature joined ditch F6 to the north. Two pieces of a Roman key were recovered from this feature. Additionally, it produced an assemblage of some 85 sherds of pottery giving a date range from the mid to late 3rd century, including ten sherds of a Nene Valley and Oxford mortaria, as well as two sherds of Roman flue-tile, five sherds of Roman brick or tile, ten fragments of baked clay and a shard of Roman glass.

The remaining ditches were concentrated in the southern end of the site, cutting through metallated area L5/L6/L8. Ditch F23 entered the excavation area from the west on a NE-SW alignment before turning NNE and terminating. It was 0.75-0.9m wide and 0.29-0.44m deep with an irregular U-shaped profile. Some 64 sherds of pottery giving a date range of the late 3rd to the early 4th century were retrieved from this feature, including one fragment of a late 3rd- to late 4th-century Oxfordshire-type red colour-coated ware Cam 316 bowl, and one sherd of early

3rd- to early 5th-century Hadham ware. It also contained two sherds of Roman brick or tile. F23 terminated approximately 1m from the terminus of F15, and gully F27 extended between the short distance between the two termini on a NE-SW alignment. It was 0.32m wide and 0.07m deep with a shallow U-shaped profile. It is possible that this feature was a natural rainwater gully.



Photograph 4 F15 sx3 – looking south

Ditch F26 similarly entered the excavation area from the west on an ENE-WSW alignment before turning NW and terminating. It was 1.09-1.38m wide and 0.31m deep with an irregular U-shaped profile. Fifty-six sherds of pottery giving an approximate date of the late 3rd century were recovered from this feature, including one fragment of an early 2nd- to early 4th-century Cam 268 jar, a piece of a mid 3rd- to late 4th-century Nene Valley and Oxford mortaria, a sherd deriving from a Roman Baetican amphora, and a sherd of early 3rd- to early 5th-century Oxidised Hadham ware. It also contained a sherd of Roman flue-tile and another sherd of Roman tile, as well as a lead lump.

Ditch F24 (recorded as F10 during the evaluation) was located immediately to the south of F26 and cut ditch F7. It passed through the excavation area on an ENE-WSW alignment and was 0.84-1.24m wide and 0.2-0.28m deep with an irregular U-shaped profile. The feature produced 34 sherds of pottery, ranging in date from the early 2nd to the early 4th century, notably one fragment of a Roman Baetican amphora.

Gully F12 entered the excavation area from the south on a NE-SW alignment. The feature was 0.37m wide and 0.06m deep with a shallow U-shaped profile. It produced only three sherds of Roman pottery.

Ditch F7 passed through the southern end of the excavation area on a NE-SW alignment and was cut by ditch F24. It was 0.29-0.53m wide and 0.07-0.15m deep with a shallow U-shaped profile, and produced eleven sherds of Roman pottery dating from the 2nd to the 3rd century and a single fragment of baked clay. A 4th-century Roman coin dating to AD 330-335 also came from the upper fill of sx1 during the evaluation.



Photograph 5 F23 plan – looking south



Photograph 6 F26 sx1 – looking southwest



Photograph 7 F24 sx3 – looking west southwest

A number of pits dating to this period were also uncovered. ?Late Roman pit F20 was located in the western part of the excavation area. It was 0.61m wide and 0.07m deep with a very shallow U-shaped profile. The feature yielded ten sherds of pottery, including one derived from a Roman shell-tempered and calcite-gritted jar, and nine fragments of cow molar. Pit F8 was situated in the eastern part of the excavation area. This feature was 1.49m wide and 0.31m deep with a slightly shallow U-shaped profile. The feature yielded twenty-four sherds of Roman pottery and one sherd of Roman brick or tile giving a date range from the mid to the late 3rd-century.

Pit F22 lay to the south of the two aforementioned features. It was 0.28m wide and 0.15m deep. The feature produced a large assemblage of 117 pottery sherds giving a date range from the mid 2nd to the late 3rd century, including twelve from a late 1st- to late 4th-century Cam 330 bowl. It also contained seventeen fragments of charcoal. A further pit, F25, was located immediately to the south of F22. It was 0.49m wide and 0.2m deep and had a U-shaped profile. The feature contained five sherds of pottery which could only be dated as broadly Roman, but it cut F26, and so must have dated to the late 3rd century at the earliest.

Pit F9 was located to the north of the two abovementioned features. It was 0.66m wide and 0.38m deep with a deep, slightly irregular U-shaped profile. When excavated during the evaluation stage of this investigation it produced two sherds of Roman pottery.

Post-medieval

Post-medieval ditch F11 passed through the western part of the excavation area on a NNW-SSE alignment. The feature was 1.88m wide and 0.5m deep and had an irregular U-shaped profile. It yielded a large assemblage of 61 sherds of medieval or post-medieval peg-tile, as well as four further fragments of medieval or post-medieval brick. Several fragments of lava quernstone were also recovered from this feature, as well as six undiagnostic diaphysis fragments from medium- or large-sized mammals.



Photograph 8 Aerial shot (top of the photograph is to the north-east)

Undatable

Two features produced no dating evidence. Ditch F16 entered the northern half of the excavation area from the east on a ENE-WSW alignment and terminated at around its middle. It was 0.64-1.39m wide and 0.12-0.15m deep with a shallow, irregular U-shaped profile. While the feature produced no dating evidence, it cut ditches F15 and F18, and so is either of late Roman or post-Roman date. Charcoal-rich pit F13 was located in the northeastern corner of the excavation area, it was 0.75m wide and 0.1m deep with an irregular U-shaped profile.

6 Finds

6.1 Pottery and ceramic building material

by Dr Matthew Loughton

Some 1,222 sherds of pottery and ceramic building material (henceforth CBM) were recovered during the excavation, with a weight of just over 18.7kg (Table 1). The mean sherd weight is low at 15g and the assemblage is fragmented. There were rim sherds from 11.45 vessels (EVE) (Table 1). Pottery accounts for the majority of this material by sherd count and sherd weight (Table 1).

Ceramic material	No.	%	Weight (g)	%	MSW (g)	EVE
Pottery	1,101	90.1%	13,260	70.8%	12	11.45
CBM	121	9.9%	5,470	29.2%	45	-
All	1,222		18,730		15	11.45

Table 1 Summary of the pottery and CBM

Sherds of pottery and ceramics were recovered from 13 features and two layers (Table 2). The largest assemblage came from ditch F18, consisting of 346 sherds with a weight of 3.3kg, followed by metalling L5, which produced 306 sherds with a weight of 6.6kg (Table 2). Other notable assemblages came from pit F22 (118 sherds at 1.3kg), ditch F15 (103 at 1.3kg), and ditch F11 (75 at 3kg) (Table 2).

Context	Context type	No.	Weight (g)	MSW (g)
F6	Ditch	37	279	8
F7	Ditch	14	115	8
F8	Pit	25	224	9
F11	Ditch	75	3,018	40
F14	Gully	2	24	12
F15	Ditch	103	1,343	13
F18	Ditch	346	3,300	10
F20	Pit	10	65	7
F22	Pit	118	1,354	11
F23	Ditch	66	818	12
F24	Ditch	34	231	7
F25	Pit	5	25	5
F26	Ditch	58	812	14
L5	Metalling	306	6,618	22
L7	Accumulation	23	504	22

Context	Context type	No.	Weight (g)	MSW (g)
Total		1,222	18,730	15

Table 2 Quantities of pottery and CBM from specific contexts

6.1.1 Pottery

Prehistoric pottery

There was a small assemblage of handmade prehistoric pottery consisting of eight sherds with a weight of 103g and EVE of 0.19 (Table 3). This material was recovered from four ditches (Table 4) and is residual as these features date to the Late Iron Age to early Roman or Roman periods. There is little in the way of diagnostic and dateable material except for the handmade sand tempered (HMS) pottery, including a small cup/bowl (EVE:0.16) from ditch F18, which could date to the Middle Iron Age.

Fabric group	Fabric description	No.	Weight (g)	MSW (g)	EVE
HMS	Handmade sand tempered	4	103	26	0.16
HMSF	Handmade sand flint tempered	1	6	6	0.00
HMSOR	Handmade sand & organic (voids) temper	2	6	3	0.00
HMG	Handmade grog-tempered	1	14	14	0.03
Total		8	129	16	0.19

Table 3 Summary of the prehistoric pottery

Context	Feature type	No.	Weight(g)	MSW (g)	EVE
F14	Gully	1	6	6	0.00
F18	Ditch	4	103	26	0.16
F20	Pit	2	6	3	0.00
F23	Ditch	1	14	14	0.03
Total		8	129	16	0.19

Table 4 Quantities of prehistoric pottery from specific features

Late Iron Age-Roman pottery

The Roman pottery was classified according to the fabric groups outlined in *CAR 10* (1999) supplemented with groups from the Chelmsford fabric series (Going 1987, 3-11) (Table 5). The Late Iron Age/early Roman pottery fabrics were recorded according to the fabric groups developed to record the pottery from the Stanway burials (Crummy *et al* 2007) and the Colchester Institute (Loughton in prep.) (Table 5). The Romanising coarse ware pottery fabric group (RCW) has been further sub-divided and the following sub-fabrics were noted in the Braintree assemblage:

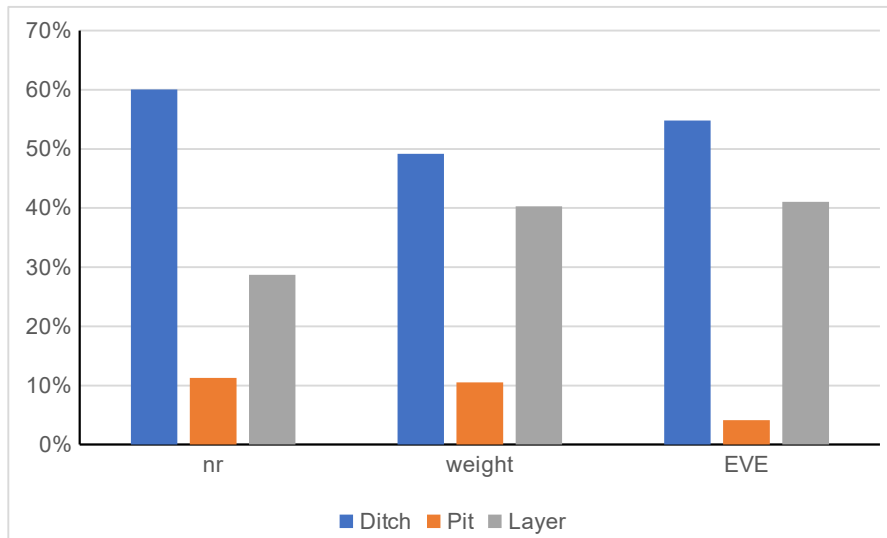
- RCW 1: Black surface ware, typically thin-walled, micaceous, with very smooth burnished surfaces.
- RCW 2: Pimply ware (sand and grog) often with a black outer surface.
- RCW 4: thin-walled approaching EGW/FSW with orange to red coloured surfaces, and some voids; perhaps a more Romanised version of the mixed vesicular ware (MVW).

Roman vessel types were classified via the Colchester (*Camulodunum*), henceforth Cam, type series (Hawkes & Hull 1947; Hull 1958; *CAR 10*, 468-487) and the Chelmsford type series (Going 1987, 13-54). The pottery was recorded by sherd count, the number of rims, handles, and bases, and weight, for each fabric group. The number of vessels was determined by rim EVE (estimated vessel equivalent).

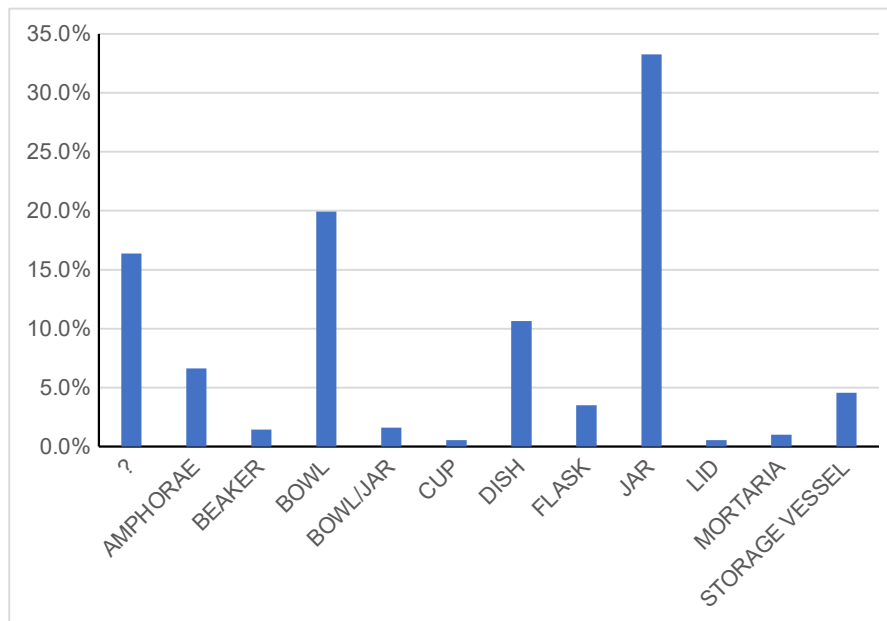
Assemblage as a whole

There was a good-sized assemblage of Late Iron Age-Roman pottery at 1,084 sherds weighing 12.9kg with an EVE of 11.18 (Tables 6-7). The mean sherd weight was only 12g. This material was recovered from 13 features and two layers (Table 8). As can be seen in Graph 1, the majority of this material by sherd count, weight and EVE came from ditches followed by layers, while only a small quantity came from pits. Ditch F18, pit F22 and metalling L5 between them produced the majority of the Late Iron Age-Roman pottery by sherd count (68%), weight (71%) and EVE (58%).

Jars were the most common vessel type represented in the assemblage, accounting for 33% of the Late Iron Age-Roman EVE followed by bowls (20%) and dishes (11%) (Graph 2). Furthermore, most of the unidentified vessels are probably of bowls and jars. Mortaria and lids are rare, while platters are absent. Drinking vessels, such as beakers and cups are also uncommon while there were no flagons. The assemblage is then dominated by cooking vessels while table wares for presentation and drinking are rare.



Graph 1 Percentage of the Late Iron Age-Roman pottery by sherd count, weight and EVE from the main depositional contexts



Graph 2 Vessel function by percentage of EVE for the late Iron Age-Roman pottery assemblage

Fabric code	Fabric description	Fabric date range guide
BASG	South Gaulish (La Graufesenque) plain samian	AD 43-110
BACG	Central Gaulish plain samian	AD 110-220
BXCG	Central Gaulish decorated samian	AD 110-220
BAEG	East Gaulish plain samian	AD 150-260
BAET	Inland Baetican (Guadalquivir) amphorae	Roman
BSW	Black surface ware	Roman
BSW 1	Black surface ware	Roman
BSW 2	Black surface ware	Roman
CH	Oxidised Hadham wares	AD 225/250-425
CZ	Colchester and other red colour-coated ware	AD 100/110-275/300
DJ	Coarse oxidised and related wares	Roman
DZ	Fine oxidised wares	AD 43-225
EA	Nene Valley colour-coated wares	AD 225/250-425
FSOW	Fine sandy oxidized ware	Late Iron Age- Early Roman
GA	BB1: black-burnished ware, category 1	AD 110/125-400
GAB TN1	Gallia-Belgica Terra Nigra 1	20 BC-AD 80
GB	BB2: black-burnished ware, category 2	AD 110/125-300
GB (BSW)	BB2: black-burnished ware, category 3/black surface ware	AD 140-250
GBW	Grossly burnished grog-tempered ware	Late Iron Age
GQ	East Anglian stamp-decorated and similar 'London-type' wares	Ad 70/90-125
GTW	Late Iron Age 'Belgic' grog-tempered ware	Late Iron Age
GTW (BG)	Late Iron Age 'Belgic' grog-tempered ware (Black grog)	Late Iron Age
GTW GREY (BG)	Late Iron Age 'Belgic' grog-tempered ware grey	Late Iron Age
GTW (OX)	Late Iron Age 'Belgic' grog-tempered ware oxidised	Late Iron Age
GTWS	Late Iron Age 'Belgic' grog & sand tempered ware	Late Iron Age
GX	Other coarse, principally locally-produced grey wares	Roman
GX (BG)	Other coarse, principally locally-produced grey wares (with black grog)	Roman
GX/47	Other coarse, principally locally-produced grey wares/Sandy ware	Roman
GX/RET	Other coarse, principally locally-produced grey wares with flint (Rettendon ware?)	Roman
HD	Shell-tempered and calcite-gritted wares	AD 43-425
HG	Eifelkeramik/Mayen ware	AD 350-425
HZ	Large storage jars and other vessels in heavily-tempered grey wares	AD 43-425
HZ OX	Large storage jars and other vessels in heavily-tempered oxidised wares	AD 43-425
HZ (OX) M	Large storage jars and other vessels in heavily-tempered micaceous oxidised wares	AD 43-425

KX	Black-burnished ware (BB2) types in pale grey ware	AD 125/150-300
MP	Oxfordshire-type red colour-coated ware	AD 275-425
MVW	Mixed vesicular ware	Late Iron Age
NARB	Narbonensis Amphorae (Gauloise)	Roman
RCW	Romanising Coarse ware	Late Iron Age- Early Roman
RCW 1	Romanising Coarse ware (Black surface ware)	Late Iron Age- Early Roman
RCW 2	Romanising Coarse ware	Late Iron Age- Early Roman
RCW 4	Romanising Coarse ware	Late Iron Age- Early Roman
REP	Italian Republican amphorae (Dr.1, Dr.2-4, CAM 176)	Late Iron Age-Roman
TE	Nene valley mortaria, white fabric, black grits, unslipped or with reddish wash	AD 275/300-400
TK	Oxford mortaria, white/cream fabric, unslipped with pink grits	AD 250/275-400
WA	Silvery micaceous wares	Roman

Table 5 Late Iron Age-Roman pottery fabrics recorded

Fabric group	Fabric description	No.	Weight (g)	MSW (g)	EVE
BASG	South Gaulish (La Graufesenque) plain samian	1	3	3	0.06
BACG	Central Gaulish plain samian	4	92	23	0.00
BXCG	Central Gaulish decorated samian	1	5	5	0.03
BAEG	East Gaulish plain samian	1	9	9	0.00
BAET	Inland Baetican (Guadalquivir) amphorae	2	18	9	0.00
BSW	Black surface ware	1	5	5	0.00
BSW 1	Black surface ware	8	16	2	0.00
BSW 2	Black surface ware	5	45	9	0.03
CH	Oxidised Hadham wares	5	29	6	0.00
CZ	Colchester and other red colour-coated ware	3	6	2	0.00
DJ	Coarse oxidised and related wares	84	425	5	0.51
DZ	Fine oxidised wares	3	8	3	0.00
EA	Nene Valley colour-coated wares	1	7	7	0.06
FSOW	Fine sandy oxidized ware	4	21	5	0.00
GA	BB1: black-burnished ware, category 1	2	14	7	0.00
GAB TN1	Gallia-Belgica Terra Nigra 1	1	17	17	0.00
GB	BB2: black-burnished ware, category 2	51	431	8	0.89
GB (BSW)	BB2: black-burnished ware, category 3/black surface ware	4	52	13	0.10
GBW	Grossly burnished grog-tempered ware	1	4	4	0.00
GQ	East Anglian stamp-decorated and similar 'London-type' wares	1	7	7	0.00
GTW	Late Iron Age 'Belgic' grog-tempered ware	49	763	16	0.10
GTW (BG)	Late Iron Age 'Belgic' grog-tempered ware (Black	11	104	9	0.02

	grog)				
GTW (GREY)	Late Iron Age 'Belgic' grog-tempered ware grey	10	88	9	0.00
GTW (OX)	Late Iron Age 'Belgic' grog-tempered ware oxidised	16	129	8	0.20
GTWS	Late Iron Age 'Belgic' grog & sand tempered ware	19	207	11	0.37
GX	Other coarse, principally locally-produced grey wares	391	3,240	8	4.05
GX (BG)	Other coarse, principally locally-produced grey wares (with black grog)	4	28	7	0.14
GX/47	Other coarse, principally locally-produced grey wares/Sandy ware	8	87	11	0.27
GX/RET	Other coarse, principally locally-produced grey wares with flint (Rettendon ware)	58	499	9	0.71
HD	Shell-tempered and calcite-gritted wares	3	18	6	0.08
HG	Eifelkeramik/Mayen ware	1	13	13	0.00
HZ	Large storage jars and other vessels in heavily-tempered grey wares	52	2,451	47	0.11
HZ (OX)	Large storage jars and other vessels in heavily-tempered oxidised wares	64	1,871	29	0.00
HZ (OX) M	Large storage jars and other vessels in heavily-tempered micaceous oxidised wares	1	23	23	0.00
KX	Black-burnished ware (BB2) types in pale grey ware	30	384	13	1.32
MP	Oxfordshire-type red colour-coated ware	2	13	7	0.06
MVW	Mixed vesicular ware	8	115	14	0.26
NARB	Narbonensis Amphorae (Gauloise)	5	360	72	0.74
RCW	Romanising Coarse ware	20	213	11	0.08
RCW 1	Romanising Coarse ware (Black surface ware)	106	512	5	0.66
RCW 2	Romanising Coarse ware	12	175	15	0.00
RCW 4	Romanising Coarse ware	1	2	2	0.02
REP	Italian Republican amphorae (Dr.1, Dr.2-4, CAM 176)	1	12	12	0.00
TE	Nene valley mortaria, white fabric, black grits, unslipped or with reddish wash	1	29	29	0.00
TK	Oxford mortaria, white/cream fabric, unslipped with pink grits	17	262	15	0.11
WA	Silvery micaceous wares	11	136	12	0.20
Total		1,084	12,948	12	11.18

Table 6 Details on the Late Iron Age-Roman pottery

Fabric Group	Form	EVE
BASG	All	0.06
	DRAG 27	0.06
BXCG	All	0.03
	DRAG 37	0.03
BSW 2	All	0.03
	?	0.03

DJ	All	0.51
	?	0.16
	CAM 268	0.08
	CAM 330	0.27
EA	All	0.06
	CAM 308B	0.06
GB	All	0.89
	CAM 37B/38B	0.03
	CAM 39/40	0.07
	CAM 39B	0.03
	CAM 40A	0.31
	CAM 40B	0.13
	CAM 278	0.18
	CAM 305B	0.14
GB (BSW)	All	0.10
	CAM 39B	0.10
GTW	All	0.10
	?	0.10
GTW BG	All	0.02
	?	0.02
GTW OX	All	0.20
	?	0.20
GTWS	All	0.37
	CAM 231-232	0.21
	CAM 271	0.16
GX	All	4.05
	?	2.84
	CAM 227	0.11
	CAM 268	0.65
	CAM 280-281	0.14
	CAM 307	0.18
	G21.1	0.13
GX (BG)	All	0.14
	?	0.08
	CAM 259	0.06
GX/47	All	0.27
	?	0.27
GX/RET	All	0.71
	?	0.28
	CAM 268	0.43
HD	All	0.08

	?	0.08
HZ	All	0.11
	CAM 273	0.11
KX	All	1.32
	CAM 37B/38B	0.27
	CAM 39/40	0.03
	CAM 39B	0.15
	CAM 40B	0.34
	CAM 305B	0.53
MP	All	0.06
	CAM 316	0.06
MVW	All	0.26
	CAM 254/256	0.03
	CAM 256/259	0.10
	CAM 259	0.13
NARB	All	0.74
	GAULOISE 4	0.74
RCW	All	0.08
	CAM 219	0.08
RCW 1	All	0.66
	CAM 115	0.16
	CAM 219	0.10
	CAM 223	0.22
	CAM 231-232	0.18
RCW 4	All	0.02
	?	0.02
TK	All	0.11
	M17-18	0.11
WA	All	0.20
	CAM 39B	0.03
	CAM 278	0.17
Total		11.18

Table 7 Late Iron Age-Roman pottery quantification by vessel form

There is a modest collection of Late Iron Age grog-tempered and related wares (fabrics GTW, GTW BG, GTW GREY BG, GTW OX, GTWS) which represent c 10% of the assemblage by sherd count and sherd weight and 6% of the EVE (Table 6). Identified vessel forms are limited to examples of the Cam 231-232 flask (EVE:0.21) and the Cam 271 storage vessel (EVE:0.16) (Table 7). There was also a small quantity of Late Iron Age mixed vesicular ware (MVW) with examples of the Cam 254/256 (EVE:0.03), Cam 256/259 (EVE:0.10) and Cam 259 jars (EVE:0.13) (Table 7). There was one sherd from an imported Gallo-Belgic *terra nigra* (GAB TN1) platter which came from ditch F18. There is also a modest quantity of Late Iron Age-early Roman 'Romanising coarse wares' and related fabrics (RCW, RCW 1, RCW 2, RCW 4) which account for 13% of the assemblage by sherd count, 7% by sherd weight and 7% of the EVE (Table 6). Vessels include examples of the Cam 219 (EVE:0.18) and Cam 223 bowls

(EVE:0.23), a Cam 115 butt beaker copy (EVE:0.16), and the Cam 231-232 flask (EVE:0.18) (Table 7).

There was a small collection of southern (BASG), central (BACG, BXCG), and eastern Gaulish (BAEG) samian which account for 0.6% of the assemblage by sherd count, 0.8% by sherd weight and 0.8% by EVE (Table 6). Ditch F18 produced a southern Gaulish (fabric BASG) Drag. 27 cup (EVE:0.06). A central Gaulish decorated (fabric BXCG) Drag. 37 bowl (EVE:0.03), dating to AD 110-220, was produced metalling L5. Finally, a sherd from an eastern Gaulish Drag. 45 mortarium was also recovered from metalling L5.

Coarse oxidised and related wares (fabric DJ) are well represented in the assemblage representing 7.7% of the sherd count, 3.3% of the sherd weight and 4.6% of the EVE (Table 6). Identifiable vessel forms are limited to examples of the Cam 330 bowl (EVE:0.27) dating to AD 69-400, recovered from pit F22 and a Cam 268 jar (EVE:0.08) dating to AD 125/150-280/320 recovered from ditch F26.

Other coarse, principally locally-produced grey wares (fabric GX) and related wares (GX BG, GX/47), including some sandy greywares with varying quantities of flint (fabric GX/RET), account for a significant proportion of the assemblage (Table 7), some 42.5% by sherd count, 29.8% by weight and 46.2% by EVE (Table 6). Some of these sherds exhibit traces of burning and sooting on their surfaces indicating that these vessels were used domestically, heated on the hearth. There are, however, no sherds with the traces of limescale left from the heating of water. Bowls and jars account for the majority of the identifiable vessel forms and the Cam 268 jar (EVE:1.08), dating to AD 125/150-280/320, with an EVE of 1.08 is notably common (Table 7). There are also examples of the Cam 307 bowl/jar (EVE:0.18), Cam 280-281 (EVE:0.14) storage vessel, G21.1 jar (EVE:0.13) and a Cam 227 (EVE:0.11) bowl (Table 7). Metalling L5 yielded an early Roman Cam 259 jar (EVE:0.06) in an unusual greyware fabric with charcoal like inclusions (fabric GX BG) which is possibly an Ardleigh product (Going & Belton 1999; Loughton CAT report in prep.).

Black-burnished and related wares (fabrics GA, GB, GB BSW, KX) account for a significant proportion of the assemblage and 8% of the sherd count, 6.8% of the sherd weight and 20.6% of the EVE (Table 6). Local Black-burnished category 2 wares account for most of this material and there are only two sherds (14g) of Dorset black-burnished ware (fabric GA). Black-burnished dishes (EVE: 1.16, Cam 39/40, Cam 39B, Cam 40A, Cam 40B) and bowls (EVE:0.97, Cam 37B/38B, Cam 305B) account for the majority of the black-burnished EVE, while jars (Cam 278) are uncommon (EVE:0.18). It is worth noting that while there are examples of the Cam 37B/38B bowl dating to AD 180-275 there are no examples of the earlier (AD 120-180/220) Cam 37A/38A. There is also a small quantity of Silvery micaceous (fabric WA) vessels derived from the black-burnished Cam 39B dish (EVE:0.03) and Cam 278 jar (EVE:0.17).

There is also a small quantity of later Roman pottery dating from the mid/late 3rd century AD onwards. Notably, there is one sherd (13g) of Eifelkeramik/Mayen ware (fabric HG), dating to AD 350-425, which was recovered from ditch F18. Ditch F23 produced an Oxfordshire-type red colour-coated ware (fabric MP) Cam 316 bowl (EVE:0.06), dating to AD 280-400 (Table 7). Small quantities of Oxidised Hadham wares (fabric CH), dating to AD 225/250-425, came from ditch F23, ditch F26, metalling L5 and accumulation L7. Sherds of Nene valley (fabric TE) and Oxford mortaria (fabric TK) including an example of the M17-18 (EVE:0.11) were recovered from ditches F15, F18 and F26. Accumulation L7 contained a Nene valley colour-coated ware (fabric EA) Cam 308 castor box lid (EVE:0.06) dating to AD 225/250-425 (Table 7). Finally, there was a jar (EVE:0.08) of unidentifiable form in fabric HD (Shell-tempered and calcite-gritted wares) which was produced by pit F20 (Table 7).

Rare Baetican amphora sherds were recovered from ditches F24 and F26 (Table 6) and these are probably derived from the Dressel 20, which contained olive oil. A Gauloise 4 wine amphora (EVE:0.74), dating to AD 50-300, was recovered from metalling L5. There was also a small thin-walled sherd (12g) from an Italian Campanian Republican amphora, presumably from the Dressel 2-4 wine amphorae rather than the earlier thicker-walled Dressel 1.

Context	Context type	No.	Weight (g)	MSW (g)	EVE
F6	Ditch	31	135	4	0.08
F7	Ditch	13	108	8	0.28
F8	Pit	24	205	9	0.40
F11	Ditch	2	31	16	0.09
F14	Gully	1	18	18	0.00
F15	Ditch	86	1,126	13	1.19
F18	Ditch	333	3,074	9	1.84
F20	Pit	8	59	7	0.08
F22	Pit	117	1,339	11	0.46
F23	Ditch	63	750	12	0.62
F24	Ditch	34	231	7	0.27
F25	Pit	5	25	5	0.00
F26	Ditch	56	633	11	1.28
L5	Metalling	289	4,739	16	4.18
L7	Accumulation	22	475	22	0.41
Total		1,084	12,948	12	11.18

Table 8 Quantities of Late Iron Age-Roman pottery from specific contexts**Post-Roman pottery**

The post-Roman pottery was recorded according to the fabric groups from CAR 7 (2000) (Table 9) while the number of vessels was determined by rim EVE (estimated vessel equivalent). There were only nine sherds of post-Roman pottery with a weight of 183g and EVE of 0.08 (Table 10). This material was recovered from ditch F11 and accumulation L7 (Table 11). Eight sherds of post-medieval red earthenware pottery (fabric F40) with a weight of 154g, including a dish (EVE:0.08) dating to c 1500-19th/20th century, was produced by ditch F11. Finally, one sherd of Colchester-type ware (fabric F21) dating to c AD 1200-1550 was recovered from accumulation L7, although this could be intrusive as all the rest of the pottery from this context is Roman.

Fabric code	Fabric description	Fabric date range guide
F21	Colchester-type ware	c 1200-1550
F40	Post-medieval red earthenwares	c 1500-19th/20th century

Table 9 Post-Roman pottery fabrics recorded

Fabric group	Fabric description	No.	Weight (g)	MSW (g)	EVE
F21	Colchester-type ware	1	29	29	0.00
F40	Post-medieval red earthenwares	8	154	19	0.08
Total		9	183	20	0.08

Table 10 Summary of the post-Roman pottery

Context	Context type	No.	Weight (g)	MSW (g)	EVE
F11	Ditch	8	154	19	0.08
L7	Accumulation	1	29	29	-
Total		9	183	20	0.08

Table 11 Quantities of post-Roman pottery from specific contexts

6.1.2 Ceramic building material (CBM)

There were 121 sherds of CBM with a weight of just over 5.4kg with a mean sherd weight of 45g (Table 12). CBM was retrieved from nine features and one layer (Table 13). The majority of contexts produced very little in the way of CBM with nine or fewer sherds while three contexts (ditches F11 and F15 and metalling L5) produced larger assemblages (Table 13). The largest collection of CBM by sherd count is 65 sherds weighing 2.8kg from ditch F11 (Table 13).

CBM code	CBM type	No.	Weight (g)	MSW (g)
Roman				
RB	Roman brick	13	1,826	140
RT	Roman tegulae	2	76	38
RFT	Roman flue-tile	6	243	41
RBT	Roman brick or tile (general)	20	373	19
Post-Roman				
PT	Peg-tile	61	2,440	40
BR	Brick	4	393	98
Undated				
	Baked clay	14	116	8
	Daub	1	3	3
	Total	121	5,470	45

Table 12 Building material by period and type

Context	Context type	No.	Weight (g)	MSW (g)
F6	Ditch	6	144	24
F7	Ditch	1	7	7
F8	Pit	1	19	19
F11	Ditch	65	2,833	44
F15	Ditch	17	217	13
F18	Ditch	9	123	14
F22	Pit	1	15	15
F23	Ditch	2	54	27
F26	Ditch	2	179	90
L5	Metalling	17	1,879	111
	Total	121	5,470	45

Table 13 Quantities of CBM from specific contexts

The Roman brick, tegulae and combed flue-tile was retrieved from ditches F15, F18, F23 and F26, pit F22 and metalling L5. All of the medieval/post-medieval peg-tile came from ditch F11, as did all of the post-Roman brick fragments.

Conclusion

Table 14 summarizes the dating evidence for contexts which contained dateable pottery and CBM. The pottery indicates occupation from the Late Iron Age-early Roman period to the 4th century AD. It is worth noting that the Late Iron Age-early Roman pottery came from ditches F15 and F18, both of which also produced some later Roman pottery. Ditch F18 contained a large assemblage of Late Iron Age-early Roman pottery alongside rare sherds of mid to late Roman pottery. All of the pottery recovered from the lower fill of ditch F18 (sx 1) dates to the Late Iron

Age to the early Roman period and the rare sherds of mid-late Roman pottery came from sx 2 and the upper fill of sx 1. Some of this late Roman pottery, notably the sherds from the upper fill of sx 1, probably originate from the late 3rd century AD ditch F15, which cuts F18. The remaining mid-late Roman sherds from ditch F18 are also presumably intrusive. Conversely, much of the Late Iron Age-early Roman pottery from ditch F15 could have been redeposited from ditch F18. The Roman pottery shows that most of the material dates from the late 2nd century and into the early/mid-4th century AD, although there appears to be a reduction in the quantity of pottery dateable to the 4th century. The possible absence of 2nd-century occupation could explain the rarity of Colchester and other red colour-coated ware (fabric CZ), which appeared by the early 2nd century AD, and the absence of Colchester mortaria (fabric TZ COL) which date to c AD 43-225.

Context	Prehistoric	LIA-Roman	Post-Roman	CBM	Date approx.
F6	-	DJ, HZ, GX (Bowl), GX/RET	-	RFT, RBT	Roman
F7	-	BSW 2, GB (CAM 39/40), GQ, GX, HZ OX, RET/GX	-	-	2nd-3rd century AD
F8	-	GA, GB (CAM 37B/38B, CAM 40A), GX, HZ OX, KX (CAM 37B/38B, CAM 305B), GX/RET	-	RBT	AD 250/275-300
F11	-	KX (CAM 37B/38B)	F40 (dish)	PT, BR	Post-medieval
F14	HMSF	GX	-	-	Roman
F15	-	CZ, DJ, DJ (S), GB (CAM 40B), GTW, GTWS, GX (CAM 268), GX (BG), GX/RET (CAM 268), HZ, HZ OX, KX (CAM 37B/38B), RCW, TK (M17-18), WA	-	RFT, RBT	AD 250/275-300
F18	HMS	BASG (DRAG 27), BSW, BSW 1, BSW 2, DJ, DZ, DZ (M), FSOW, GAB TN1 (PLATTER), GBW, GTW, GTW BG, GTW GREY BG, GTW OX, GTWS (CAM 231-232, CAM 271), GX (CAM 268), HD, HG, HZ, HZ OX, MVW (CAM 254/256, CAM 256/259, CAM 259), RCW (CAM 219), RCW 1 (CAM 115, 219, CAM 223, CAM 231-232), RCW 2, RCW 4, RCW 5, GX/RET, TK	-	RB, RBT	Late Iron Age- Early Roman (intrusive mid-late Roman sherds)
F20	HMSOR	DJ, DJ (S), GX, HD (JAR)	-	-	Late Roman?
F22	-	DJ (M), DJ (CAM 330), GB, GX, GX/RET, KX (CAM 39/40), WA	-	RBT	AD 150-300
F23	HMG	CH, DJ, GB (CAM 40B), GB (BSW) (CAM 39B), GTW, GX, GX (BG), GX/RET (CAM 268), HZ, HZ OX, KX (CAM 305B), MP (CAM 316), WA (CAM 278)	-	RBT, RT	Late 3rd-early 4th century AD
F24	-	BAET, BSW 1, DJ, GB, GB (BSW), GX (CAM 268, G21.1), GX/RET, HZ, HZ OX, WA	-	-	AD 125/150- 280/320
F25	-	DJ, GX, GX/RET	-	RT, RFT	Roman
F26	-	BAET, CH, DJ (CAM 268), GB, GX, GX (BG), GX/RET (CAM 268), GX/47, HZ OX, KX (CAM 39B, CAM 40B), TE, WA (CAM 39B, CAM 278)	-	-	Late 3rd century AD
L5	-	BACG, BXCG (DRAG 37), BAEG (DRAG 45), BSW 1, BSW 2, CH, CZ, DJ, GA, GB (CAM 40A, CAM 278, CAM 305B), GTW,	-	RB, RFT	Late 3rd-early 4th century AD

Context	Prehistoric	LIA-Roman	Post-Roman	CBM	Date approx.
		GX (CAM 227, CAM 259, CAM 268, CAM 280-281, CAM 307), GX (BG), HZ (CAM 273), HZ OX, HZ OX (M), KX (CAM 37B/38B, CAM 40B, CAM 305B), NARB (G.4), REP (DR2-4)			
L7	-	CH, DJ, EA (CAM 308B), GB (CAM 39B), GX, HZ (CAM 273), HZ OX, KX (CAM 305B), WA	F21 intrusive?	-	Late 3rd century AD

Table 14 Approximate dates for the individual features and layers

6.2 Small finds

by Laura Pooley

Ditch F15 produced two pieces of a Roman key (SF6). The copper-alloy fleur-de-lis handle and iron key are now in two pieces that no longer join together. The key is a corroded mass but x-rays appear to show a hollow round-section stem with notched rectangular bit, indicating it was probably a rotary key. Copper-alloy fleur-de-lis handles for either copper-alloy or iron keys have been dated to post 150 (CAR 2, 126).

From metallised surface L5 was approximately half of a lava quernstone (SF7), a fragment of possible millstone grit quernstone (SF14), and two pieces of worked stone (SF12 and SF15). The discovery of quernstone, worked stone and burnt stone/flint (see 'Miscellaneous finds') within the metallised surface shows that the inhabitants of the site were utilising any available material in the construction/maintenance of the surface. The lava quernstone was an upper stone with low kerb and dressed surfaces of harped (upper) and radial (lower) grooves. A fragment of lava quernstone also came from ditch F11 (SF13), with fragments of lava quernstone from the evaluation recovered from ditches F7 (SF2) and F11 (SF5).

An incomplete medieval/post-medieval lead token from ditch F18 (SF8) was decorated in relief with a central pellet, six radiating grooves and a pellet in each of the six segments. Three other lead lumps came from ditch F26 (SF9) and metallised surfaces L5 (SF10) and L8 (SF11). Three fragments of square-sectioned iron, probably nail shanks, were also recovered from L5.

Catalogue

Fig 6.1 SF6: F15, finds no. 61. Roman key in two pieces, not joining. 1) Copper-alloy fleur-de-lis handle, 45.2mm high, 29.0mm wide, 7.4mm thick, 16.4g. 2) Iron key, now a corroded mass but x-ray appears to show a hollow round-section stem. The rectangular bit projects at 90° from the stem with notches cut out of the top, bottom and terminal edge. Stem: 40mm high, c 10.5mm diameter; bit: 15mm high, 20mm wide; 40.9g.

Fig 6.3 SF7: L5, finds no. 41. Approximately half of a thin (worn) cylindrical lava quernstone in three joining pieces (one old break and one new break). Upper stone has very low kerb (c 70mm wide). Upper surface dressed with harped grooves (worn). Lower grinding surface dressed with radial grooves (worn). Edged has vertical grooves. 450mm diameter, c 30.9mm thick (at edge), 4.5kg.

Fig 6.2 SF8: F18, finds no. 64. Lead medieval/post-medieval token, incomplete and slightly crumpled. Uniface design of six segments with a pellet in the centre and a pellet in each segment (Powell Type 3), 20.3mm diameter, 1.7g.

SF9: F26, finds no. 63. Lump of lead, 31.2mm x 27.0mm x 7.4mm, 22.9g.

SF10: L5, finds no. 62. Lump of lead, 38.8mm x 33.6mm x 14.9mm, 64.9g.

SF11: L8, finds no. 59. Lump of lead, 27.8mm x 21.4mm x 13.1mm, 18.9g.

SF12: L5, finds no. 54. Fragment of worked stone with two flat surfaces and one smoothed edge (all other edges broken), 100.3mm x 61.0mm x 31.5mm, 408.7g.

SF13: F11, finds no. 53. Fragment of lava quernstone, abraded and broken of all edges, one surface dressed with grooves, other irregular, 117.5mm x 76.6mm and 34.3mm thick, 244.2g.

SF14: L5, finds no 54. Fragment of possible millstone grit quern, includes bevelled edge, one flat surface and one irregular surface, 99.7mm long, 115.7mm wide, 37.7mm thick, 486.0g.

SF15: L5, finds no. 54. Fragment of worked stone with one flat surface and three flat edges (wedge-shaped), 111.7mm long, 76.8mm wide (max), 44.3mm thick, 423.8g.

L5, finds no. 54. Three fragments of square-sectioned iron shank, probably nail shanks, 37.2g.

6.3 Miscellaneous finds by Laura Pooley

Two fragments of Roman glass came from ditch F15 and metallated surface L5. Among the stone from L5 was two pieces of burnt stone and a piece of burnt flint. Two other pieces of burnt stone/flint also came from ditch F18. Small fragments of charcoal from pit F22 totalled only 1g.

Context	Finds no.	Description
Roman glass		
F15	51	Fragment of curved pale green glass, 4.7g.
L5	65	Thick fragment of blue/green glass, 14.2g.
Burnt stone/flint (all discarded)		
F18 sx3	49	Lightly burnt stone, pinkish-red, 1362g.
	50	Burnt flint, cracked, dark grey and red, 209g.
L5	40	Burnt stone, dark reddish-grey, 3785g.
	54	Lightly burnt stone, pinkish-red, 993g. Lightly burnt pinkish flint, shattered fragment, 73g.
Charcoal		
F22	36	17 fragments, 1g.

Table 15 Miscellaneous finds by type and context

6.4 Animal bone by Alec Wade

The excavation produced a small assemblage of 45 fragments of tooth and bone weighing a total of 30g. These derived from three features (all ditches), two of Roman date (F6 and F20), and one post-medieval (F11). Two domestic species were identified, cattle and horse. No wild species were identified.

The animal bone recovered from Roman features F6 and F11 consisted entirely of tooth fragments belonging to cattle molars and a horse incisor. Tooth enamel fragments are amongst the most enduring parts of an animal's skeleton and are often the only remains still surviving in ground conditions that are hostile to the survival of other bone.

The later post-medieval ditch (F11) produced six small diaphysis fragments in poor condition. These were largely undiagnostic beyond their attribution (based upon the size and robustness of the fragments) as belonging to either medium-sized (such as sheep and goat) or large-sized mammals (cattle and horse).

Context	Find no.	No. of pieces	Weight (g)	Species	Comments
F6 sx2	25	24	6	Bos	Fragments of a (single?) cow molar
F6 sx3	26	6	4	Equus	Fragments of a (single?) horse incisor

F11	53	6	16	Medium- and large-sized mammals	Undiagnostic diaphysis fragments from both medium-sized (sheep/goat) and large-sized (cow/horse) mammals
F20	34	9	4	Bos	Fragments of a (single?) cow molar
Total		45	30		

Table 16 Summary of the animal bone by context

7 Environmental assessment

by Bronagh Quinn

Introduction

Four environmental samples (nos. 2-5) were taken during the excavation. Sample 1 was taken during the evaluation phase (CAT Report 1660).

Sample no.	Context no.	Feature type	% Sampled	Date	Sample volume (L.)
2	F13	Pit	100	Undated	30
3	F15	Ditch	-	Roman, AD 250/275-300	20
4	F26 sx1	Ditch terminus	-	Roman, late 3rd century AD	20
5	F15	Ditch	-	Roman, AD 250/275-300	30

Table 17 Environmental sample information

Sampling and processing methods

All samples were floated by a trained member of CAT staff and analysed by the author. Samples produce both a flot and a larger residue of material >7mm unless otherwise stated.

Results

All samples contained only charcoal with no other plant remains identified. Also present in all samples were large numbers of modern rootlets. The flots were sieved through a 4mm sieve and weighed to ascertain the percentage of charcoal present that could be identifiable (Table 2).

Sample	Weight of flot <4mm (g)	Weight of flot >4mm (g)	Total Weight of flot (g)
2	321.9	303.3	625.8
3	126.2	164.4	290.6
4	11.5	15.1	26.6
5	212.3	181.6	393.9

Table 18 Weights of flots

No charcoal was found in the >7mm residues from the samples.

Potential, significance and recommendations

The samples produced no environmental remains of significance other than fragments of charcoal. Charcoal of identifiable size was recovered from all four features if further analysis is required. However, the small quantity of charcoal from sample 4 probably represents scattered wind-blown remains, and the charcoal recovered from samples 3 and 5 were both from the upper fills of ditch F15, representing the final phase of backfill rather than the main timespan in which the ditch was in use.

8 Discussion

Excavations at this site uncovered fourteen features: seven ditches, three gullies, three pits and a charcoal-rich pit, as well as the remains of a large area of metallurgy. Archaeological features

were uncovered across the excavation area, but they tended to concentrate within its southern half.

The investigation identified three phases of activity at the site. The earliest occurred during the Late Iron Age to early Roman period, which was represented by one ditch (F18) and three gullies (F14, F19 and F21). Probable field boundary ditch F18, produced a large assemblage of Late Iron Age and early Roman pottery. The quantity of pottery recovered, as well as the forms identified (jars and bowls as well as a cup, platter, beaker and flask) evidence occupation in the vicinity during this period.

Ceramic evidence suggests that there was then little activity on the site until the late 2nd century, with the main phase of occupation probably focussed on the 3rd century and likely continuing into the 4th century, as a coin dated AD 330-335 recovered from the upper fill of one of the ditches during the evaluation. The earliest feature was metalling L5/L6/L8 which was made out of 70% stone but included pieces of CBM, quernstone and worked stone, showing that the inhabitants of the site utilised any available resource in the construction/repair. Too wide for a road, it must have been used as some kind of working area, perhaps for animal husbandry.

Most of the later ditches/gullies cut the area of metalling. These may have been dug as field boundaries and/or for drainage, but some – particularly F6, F15 and F23 which included a 1m wide entrance – may have represented part of an enclosure. These ditches and gullies were themselves backfilled between the late 3rd and early/mid 4th centuries suggesting that they, like the metalled area, fell out of use comparatively quickly. A number of pits dating to this phase were also uncovered.

Pottery sherds deriving primarily from jars, bowls and dishes, along with amphorae and pieces of storage jar, show that the ceramic assemblage from this phase was dominated by cooking vessels, with table wares for presentation and drinking quite rare. Although small in size and quantity, fragments of Roman brick, tegulae and flue-tile from ditches and the area of metalling suggest a building of some significance must have existed in the surrounding area. The single piece of vessel glass and key also allude to the presence and use of some higher status material. Although the ground conditions did not allow for the survival of much animal bone, teeth fragments from both cow and horse were recovered from features, and the recovery of fragments of quernstone show that grain was being processed on or close to the site. Overall, the evidence would suggest an agricultural site located close to a Roman farmstead or small villa. Located 1.8km south of the main Roman road running from Colchester to Braughing (Stane Street), previous investigations in the area have revealed a number of farmsteads and villas spread out on both sides of this road (ECC 2009, 45). Evidence from the archaeological excavation of this development site therefore adds to this growing picture of settlement and land-use between the Roman towns of Great Dunmow to the west and Braintree to the east.

The final phase of activity occurred during the post-medieval period. A single ditch dating to this period extended across the western side of the site. It is likely that this is a backfilled field boundary ditch.

9 Acknowledgements

CAT thanks Darren Stevens and Dengie Construction Ltd for commissioning and funding the work. The project was managed by C Lister, A Wightman and L Pooley, with fieldwork carried out by N Rayner with Z Eksen, K Davies, D Spenner, O Ruffles and A Ronn. Figures are by C Lister, L Pooley and E Holloway. The project was monitored for ECCPS by Katie Lee-Smith.

10 References

Note: all CAT reports, except for DBAs, are available online in PDF format at <http://cat.essex.ac.uk>

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11 Abbreviations and glossary

CAT	Colchester Archaeological Trust
CBM	ceramic building material, ie brick/tile
CIfA	Chartered Institute for Archaeologists
context	a single unit of excavation, which is often referred to numerically, and can be any feature, layer or find
ECC	Essex County Council
ECCHEA	Essex County Council Historic Environment Advisor
ECCPS	Essex County Council Place Services
EHHER	Essex Historic Environment Record
feature (F)	an identifiable thing like a pit, a wall, a drain: can contain 'contexts'
Iron Age	period from 700 BC to Roman invasion of AD 43
layer (L)	distinct or distinguishable deposit (layer) of material
medieval	period from AD 1066 to c 1500
modern	period from c AD 1800 to the present
natural	geological deposit undisturbed by human activity
NGR	National Grid Reference
OASIS	Online Access to the Index of Archaeological Investigations, http://oasis.ac.uk/pages/wiki/Main

peg-tile	rectangular thin tile with peg-hole(s) used mainly for roofing, first appeared c AD1200 and continued in use to present day, but commonly post-medieval to modern
post-medieval	from c AD 1500 to c 1800
prehistoric	pre-Roman
residual	something out of its original context, eg a Roman coin in a modern pit
Roman	the period from AD 43 to c AD 410
section	(abbreviation sx or Sx) vertical slice through feature/s or layer/s
wsj	written scheme of investigation

12 Contents of archive

Finds: Four boxes

Paper record

CAT Report 1849

CAT written scheme of investigation

Original site record (section drawings)

Inked section drawings

Site digital photographic thumbnails and log

Digital record

CAT Report 1849

CAT written scheme of investigation

Site digital photographs and photographic log

Site data

Survey data

13 Archive deposition

The archive is currently held by the Colchester Archaeological Trust at Roman Circus House, Roman Circus Walk, Colchester, Essex CO2 7GZ, but will be permanently deposited with Saffron Walden Museum under site code WHSW21 and with the Archaeological Data Service.

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Appendix 1 Context list

Context Number	Finds Number ¹	Feature / layer type	Description	Date
L1	-	Topsoil	Firm/hard, dry medium grey/brown sandy-loam with charcoal and CBM flecks	Modern
L2	-	Accumulation	Firm/hard, dry light/medium yellow/orange/grey/brown sandy-silt with charcoal and CBM flecks	Undatable
L3	-	Natural	Firm/hard, dry medium orange/brown sandy-clay	Post-glacial
L4	6	Accumulation layer	Firm, moist medium/dark orange/grey/brown sandy-silty-clay with charcoal, daub and CBM flecks	Roman
L5	7, 40, 41, 51, 54, 57, 62, 65	Metalling	Soft, moist medium grey/brown sandy-silt with charcoal flecks and 70% stones	?2nd to 3rd century AD
L6	20	Metalling	Soft, moist medium grey/brown sandy-silt with charcoal flecks and 70% stones	?2nd to 3rd century AD
L7	47, 55	Accumulation layer	Hard, dry medium orange/grey/brown sandy-silt with charcoal and daub flecks and 20% stones	Late Roman / post-Roman
L8	59	Metalling	Firm, dry medium grey/brown sandy-silt with 70% stones	?2nd to 3rd century AD
Evaluation				
F1	1	Ditch	Very firm, dry medium brown silty-clay with charcoal flecks and 10% stones	2nd-4th century AD
F2	2, 13	Ditch	Firm, dry dark grey/brown silty-clay	4th century AD
F3	3	Ditch/gully	Firm, moist light/medium grey/brown silty-clay with charcoal and CBM fleck	Post-medieval
F4	4	?Posthole	Hard, moist medium green/grey silty-clay with frequent CBM pieces	Post-medieval
F5	5	Ditch	Soft, moist dark grey/brown silt with frequent CBM pieces and CBM and charcoal flecks	Modern
F6	16, 17, 25, 26	Ditch	Firm/hard, medium orange/grey/brown sandy-clay with charcoal and daub flecks	Roman
F7	8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 42, 43, <1>	Ditch	Firm, dry medium orange/grey/brown sandy-clay with charcoal flecks	2nd-3rd century AD
F8	14, 33	Pit	Firm, dry dark grey/brown sandy-silt with frequent CBM pieces, CBM and charcoal flecks and 5% stones	Mid-late 3rd century AD
F9	15	Pit	Hard, dry medium/dark orange/grey silty-clay with 15% gravel and 5% stones	Roman
F10	18, 19	Ditch	Firm, dry medium grey/brown silty-clay with 10% gravel	Early 2nd to early 4th century AD
F11	21, 22, 23, 53	Ditch	Firm, dry medium/dark grey/brown silty-clay with frequent CBM pieces, daub and CBM flecks and 1% stones	Post-medieval
F12	24	Gully	Firm, dry medium grey/brown silty-clay	Roman

¹ Some pottery sherds and CBM were recovered from F19 and L6 but were lost.

Excavation				
F13	<2>	Charcoal-rich pit	Firm, dark grey/brown/black sandy-silt with charcoal flecks and 1% stones	Undatable
F14	27	Gully	Hard, dry medium orange/grey/brown silty-clay with charcoal and daub flecks and 1% stones	Roman
F15	29, 30, 35, 58, 60, <3>, <5>	Ditch	Firm/hard, medium/dark grey/brown/black sandy-clay with charcoal, daub and CBM flecks	Mid-late 3rd century AD
F16	-	Ditch	Firm/hard, dry medium/dark orange/grey/brown sandy-clay with charcoal flecks	Undatable
F17	This context number was not assigned to a feature			
F18	31, 32, 38, 39, 49, 50, 64	Ditch	Hard, dry medium orange/grey/brown silty-clay with charcoal and daub flecks	Late Iron Age-Early Roman
F19	28	Gully	Hard, dry medium orange/grey/brown silty-clay with charcoal and daub flecks	Early Roman at latest
F20	34	Pit	Firm, dark grey/brown silt with charcoal flecks	?Late Roman
F21	-	Gully	Firm/hard, dry medium grey/brown silt	Undatable
F22	36	Pit	Hard, dry medium grey/brown sandy-silt	Mid 2nd to late 3rd century AD
F23	37, 56	Ditch	Hard, dry yellow/grey/brown silty-clay with charcoal and daub flecks	Late 3rd to early 4th century AD
F24	44, 52	Ditch	Firm, dry medium yellow/grey/brown sandy-silty-clay	Early 2nd to early 4th century AD
F25	45	Pit	Hard, dry medium grey/brown sandy-silty-clay with 5% stones	Roman
F26	46, 48, 63, <4>	Ditch	Hard, dry medium grey/brown sandy-silt with 5% stones	Late 3rd century AD
F27	-	Gully	Hard, dry medium orange/grey/brown sandy-silt	Undatable

Appendix 2 Pottery list

Cxt	Feature type	Find no.	Soil S no.	Section	Level	NR	GR.	MSW	Discard	Rim	Handle	Base	Sooting (ext.)	Sooting location	Charring (int.)	Charring location	Burning	Overfired	Org. Residue	Gritted	Abraision	Fabric Grp	Typology	Function	EVE	Diam.	Comments	Date
F6	DITCH	25	2		15	85	6		1	0	1						X					GX	?	BOWL	0.08	200		ROMAN
F6	DITCH	25	2		2	4	2						X									GX						ROMAN
F6	DITCH	25	2		4	32	8	X														HZ						LIA-AD 200/300
F6	DITCH	25	2		1	2	2	X														GX						ROMAN
F6	DITCH	26	3		3	5	2															GX						ROMAN
F6	DITCH	26	3		1	2	2															GX/RET				SOME FL		ROMAN
F6	DITCH	26	3		5	5	1															DJ				BR		ROMAN
F7	DITCH	42			1	8	8		1	0	0											GB	CAM 39/40	DISH	0.07	170		AD 110/125-275/300
F7	DITCH	42			1	8	8		1	0	0											GX	?	JAR	0.13	125		ROMAN
F7	DITCH	43	2		4	57	14		0	0	1											GX						ROMAN
F7	DITCH	43	2		1	6	6															HZ OX						LIA-AD 200/300
F7	DITCH	43	2		2	9	5		1	0	0											GX	?	BOWL	0.05	200		ROMAN
F7	DITCH	43	2		1	2	2						X									GX/RET				FL		ROMAN
F7	DITCH	43	2		1	7	7		1	0	0											BSW 2	?	?	0.03?			ROMAN
F7	DITCH	43	2		1	4	4		1	0	0						X					GX/RET				BUFF/BR CORE, C FL		ROMAN
F7	DITCH	43	2		1	7	7															GQ				? RED/OR SURF		AD 70/90-125
F8	DITCH	33	2		1	11	11	X														HZ OX						LIA-AD 200/300
F8	DITCH	33	2		1	6	6						X				X					GA						AD 110/125-400
F8	DITCH	33	2		1	3	3															GX						ROMAN
F8	DITCH	33	2		10	98	10															GX						ROMAN
F8	DITCH	33	2		3	43	14		2	0	1						X					GB	CAM 40A	DISH	0.08	220		AD 110/125-275
F8	DITCH	33	2														X					GB	CAM 40A	DISH	0.05	200		AD 110/125-275
F8	DITCH	33	2		1	5	5		1	0	0											GB	CAM 40A	DISH	0.05	180		AD 110/125-275
F8	DITCH	33	2		3	21	7		3	0	0											KX	CAM 40B	DISH	0.07	170		AD 125/150-275
F8	DITCH	33	2																			KX	CAM 37B/38B	BOWL	0.04	200		AD 180-275
F8	DITCH	33	2																			KX	CAM 305B	BOWL	0.08	200		AD 275-300
F8	DITCH	33	2		1	4	4															GX/RET				C FL		ROMAN
F8	DITCH	33	2		1	5	5		0	0	1											X	BACG				LOST ALL OF SLIP	AD 110-220
F8	DITCH	33	2		1	3	3															X	BACG				LOST ALL OF SLIP	AD 110-220

Cxt	Feature type	Find no.	Soil S no.	Section	Level	NR	GR.	MSW	Discard	Rim	Handle	Base	Sooting (ext.)	Sooting location	Charring (int.)	Charring location	Burning	Overfired	Org. Residue	Gritted	Abrasion	Fabric Grp	Typology	Function	EVE	Diann.	Comments	Date
F15	DITCH	35				6	172	29														HZ OX						LIA-AD 200/300
F15	DITCH	35				1	60	60	0	0	1									X		TK						AD 250/275-400
F15	DITCH	35				5	27	5														GX/RET					SOME FL	ROMAN
F15	DITCH	35				1	3	3														CZ						AD 100/110-275/300
F15	DITCH	35				5	46	9	0	0	2											GX						ROMAN
F15	DITCH	35				1	12	12	1	0	0						X					GX	?	JAR	0.13	130		ROMAN
F15	DITCH	35				2	10	5	1	0	1											GB	CAM 40B	DISH	0.03?			AD 110/125-275
F15	DITCH	35				1	12	12	1	0	0	X										GX	?	JAR	0.10	135	S EXT R & NECK	ROMAN
F15	DITCH	35				2	12	6	0	0	1											GX						ROMAN
F15	DITCH	58				1	2	2														GX/RET						ROMAN
F15	DITCH	58				1	4	4	1	0	0											GX	?	JAR	0.08	100		ROMAN
F15	DITCH	60				3	22	7	1	0	0											GX	?	JAR	0.08	140		ROMAN
F15	DITCH	60				1	1	1														GX						ROMAN
F15	DITCH	60				2	40	20	2	0	0											GX/RET	CAM 268	JAR	0.15	180	BUFF CORE, SAND & SPARSE FL	ROMAN
F18	DITCH	31	2			1	13	13	X													HZ						LIA-AD 200/300
F18	DITCH	31	2			5	289	58														HZ OX						LIA-AD 200/300
F18	DITCH	31	2			1	13	13									X					HZ OX					B INT	LIA-AD 200/300
F18	DITCH	31	2			1	13	13														HG						AD 350-425
F18	DITCH	31	2			2	14	7														HD						ROMAN
F18	DITCH	31	2			1	14	14	1	0	0											MVW	CAM 259	JAR	0.08	130		LIA-AD 80
F18	DITCH	31	2			1	4	4									X					DZ (M)						AD 43-225
F18	DITCH	31	2			1	3	3	1	0	0						X					BASG	DRAG 27	CUP	0.06	150		AD 43-100
F18	DITCH	31	2			2	13	7														BSW 2						ROMAN
F18	DITCH	31	2			3	23	8	1	0	0											GX	CAM 268	JAR	0.07	140		AD 125/150-280/320
F18	DITCH	31	2			1	4	4														GBW						LIA
F18	DITCH	31	2			3	29	10										X				GTWS					GROG & SAND	LIA
F18	DITCH	31	2			9	71	8	1	0	0											GTW OX	?	JAR	0.20	120		LIA
F18	DITCH	31	2			5	30	6														GX						ROMAN
F18	DITCH	31	2			1	3	3					X									DJ						ROMAN
F18	DITCH	32	2			2	40	20										X				GTW BG						LIA

Cxt	Feature type	Find no.	Soil S no.	Section	Level	NR	GR.	MSW	Discard	Rim	Handle	Base	Sooting (ext.)	Sooting location	Charring (int.)	Charring location	Burning	Overfired	Org. Residue	Gritted	Abrasion	Fabric Grp	Typology	Function	EVE	Diam.	Comments	Date
F18	DITCH	32		2		1	3	3														DZ						AD 43-225
F18	DITCH	32		2		3	18	6														RCW 1						LIA-ER
F18	DITCH	32		2		1	11	11														GTW						LIA
F18	DITCH	32		2		3	50	17		2	0	0										RCW 1	CAM 223	BOWL	0.22	130	WHEEL FINISHED UPPER, LOWER BODY MORE IRREGULAR	LIA-ER
F18	DITCH	32		2		1	2	2		1	0	0										RCW 4	?	?	0.02?		OR PATCHY SURF, GREY CORE	LIA-ER
F18	DITCH	32		2		1	24	24		0	0	1					X					GTW					IRREG WHEEL FINISHED	LIA
F18	DITCH	32		2		1	15	15														GTW OX						LIA
F18	DITCH	32		2		1	7	7									X					RCW					TH-W, GROG, SILVER MICA, GREY CORE, BUFF	LIA-ER
F18	DITCH	38		1UPPER		3	6	2														BSW 1						ROMAN
F18	DITCH	38		1UPPER		1	3	3														MVW						LIA-ER
F18	DITCH	38		1UPPER		2	3	2														DJ						ROMAN
F18	DITCH	38		1UPPER		20	105	5		0	0	1										GX						ROMAN
F18	DITCH	38		1UPPER		1	90	90														HZ OX						LIA-AD 200/300
F18	DITCH	38		1UPPER		18	56	3														RCW 1						LIA-ER
F18	DITCH	38		1UPPER		4	9	2														DJ					P-Y	ROMAN
F18	DITCH	38		1UPPER		6	67	11									X				X	TK						AD 250/275-400
F18	DITCH	38		1UPPER		6	31	5														HZ						LIA-AD 200/300
F18	DITCH	38		1UPPER		1	10	10									X					GTW BG						LIA
F18	DITCH	38		1UPPER		4	40	10														GTW						LIA
F18	DITCH	38		1UPPER		3	47	16		0	0	3										GX/RET					SOME FL	ROMAN
F18	DITCH	38		1UPPER		5	13	3									X					DJ					P-BUFF	ROMAN
F18	DITCH	38		1UPPER		1	5	5														GTW OX					NR TEMPERLESS, OXID BR	LIA
F18	DITCH	38		1UPPER		1	2	2														DJ					OR	ROMAN
F18	DITCH	38		1UPPER		1	5	5														BSW					?	ROMAN
F18	DITCH	38		1UPPER		2	16	8									X					DJ					OR BL CORE	ROMAN
F18	DITCH	38		1UPPER		1	4	4		0	0	1										GTW OX						LIA
F18	DITCH	39		1LOWER		1	6	6														HZ						LIA-AD 200/300
F18	DITCH	39		1LOWER		28	269	10		0	0	1										GTW						LIA
F18	DITCH	39		1LOWER		1	12	12		1	0	0										MVW	CAM 254/256	JAR	0.03?			LIA-ER
F18	DITCH	39		1LOWER		15	65	4		4	0	0					X					RCW 1	CAM 219	BOWL	0.10	160		LIA-ER

Cxt	Feature type	Find no.	Soil S no.	Section	Level	NR	GR.	MSW	Discard	Rim	Handle	Base	Sooting (ext.)	Sooting location	Charring (int.)	Charring location	Burning	Overfired	Org. Residue	Gritted	Abrasion	Fabric Grp	Typology	Function	EVE	Diam.	Comments	Date	
F18	DITCH	39		1	LOWER												X					RCW 1	CAM 115	BEAKER	0.16	120		LIA-ER	
F18	DITCH	39		1	LOWER	4	27	7														RCW						LIA-ER	
F18	DITCH	39		1	LOWER	2	56	28		0	0	1					X					HMS				OR/BR, MISFIRED	PREHISTORIC		
F18	DITCH	39		1	LOWER	1	1	1									X					DZ				RED/OR	LIA-ER		
F18	DITCH	39		1	LOWER	1	4	4														FSOW						LIA-ER	
F18	DITCH	39		1	LOWER	2	12	6														FSOW						LIA-ER	
F18	DITCH	39		1	LOWER	1	5	5									X					FSOW						LIA-ER	
F18	DITCH	39		1	LOWER	1	4	4														GTW OX				NR TEMPERLESS, OXID BR/BUFF	LIA		
F18	DITCH	49		3		1	31	31		1	0	0						X				GTWS	CAM 231-232	FLASK	0.21	120		LIA	
F18	DITCH	49		3		1	48	48		0	0	1					X					RCW						LIA-ER	
F18	DITCH	49		3		2	38	19		1	0	0					X					MVW	CAM 256/259	JAR	0.10	160		LIA-ER	
F18	DITCH	49		3		1	16	16														HZ OX						LIA-AD 200/300	
F18	DITCH	49		3		12	175	15														RCW 2						LIA-ER	
F18	DITCH	49		3		1	42	42														GTW GREY BG						LIA	
F18	DITCH	49		3		1	19	19														GTW						LIA	
F18	DITCH	49		3		1	262	262		1	0	0								X		GTW	?	STORAGE VESSEL	0.10	280	WORN EXT SIM TO F6.102.17. ODD C207B WITH SHORT TRIANGULAR RIM	LIA	
F18	DITCH	49		3		1	17	17		0	0	1										GAB TN1	?	PLATTER				LIA-AD 80	
F18	DITCH	49		3		67	323	5		1	0	0										RCW 1	CAM 231-232	FLASK	0.18	110		LIA-AD 150/180	
F18	DITCH	49		3		6	28	5		0	0	1						X				GTW						PEDESTAL BASE	LIA
F18	DITCH	49		3		1	3	3														GTW GREY BG						LIA	
F18	DITCH	49		3		3	22	7		0	0	1										RCW						LIA-ER	
F18	DITCH	49		3		1	3	3														GTWS				GROG & SAND		LIA	
F18	DITCH	49		3		1	7	7		0	0	1										HMS				? BL CORE		PREHISTORIC	
F18	DITCH	49		3		1	4	4														MVW						LIA	
F18	DITCH	50		3		2	44	22		1	0	0										MVW	CAM 259	JAR	0.05	190		LIA-ER	
F18	DITCH	50		3		1	18	18									X					GTW OX				NR TEMPERLESS, COMBED		LIA	
F18	DITCH	50		3		7	50	7														GTW BG						LIA	
F18	DITCH	50		3		7	35	5										X				GTW GREY BG						LIA	
F18	DITCH	50		3		3	4	1					X									GX						ROMAN	
F18	DITCH	50		3		2	12	6														GTW OX						LIA	

Cxt	Feature type	Find no.	Soil S no.	Section	Level	NR	GR.	MSW	Discard	Rim	Handle	Base	Sooting (ext.)	Sooting location	Charring (int.)	Charring location	Burning	Overfired	Org. Residue	Gritted	Abrasion	Fabric Grp	Typology	Function	EVE	Diam.	Comments	Date
F18	DITCH	50	3		1	8	8															GTW GREY BG						LIA
F18	DITCH	50	3		13	140	11		4	0	0											GTWS	CAM 271	STORAGE VESSEL	0.16	240	COMBED	LIA-ER
F18	DITCH	50	3		6	40	7															RCW						LIA-ER
F18	DITCH	50	3		1	4	4		1	0	0											GTW BG	?	?	0.02?			LIA
F18	DITCH	50	3		4	65	16		2	0	1											RCW	CAM 219	BOWL	0.08	330		LIA-ER
F18	DITCH	50	3		1	40	40		1	0	0	X				X						HMS	CUP	CUP	0.16	100	BR/BL, BL CORE	PREHISTORIC
F20	DITCH	34			3	44	15															GX						ROMAN
F20	DITCH	34			2	4	2															DJ					OR SANDY	ROMAN
F20	DITCH	34			1	4	4		1	0	0											HD	?	JAR	0.08	160		ROMAN
F20	DITCH	34			2	7	4									X						DJ					OR	ROMAN
F20	DITCH	34			2	6	3		0	0	1											HMSOR					SAND & VOIDS (ORGANIC), SOFT	PREHISTORIC
F22	PIT	36			1	17	17															WA						ROMAN
F22	PIT	36			5	55	11															GX/RET					SAND & SOME FL	ROMAN
F22	PIT	36			2	20	10															GX					C SAND	ROMAN
F22	PIT	36			6	25	4		1	0	2											KX	CAM 39/40	DISH	0.03?			AD 125/150-300
F22	PIT	36			1	37	37									X						GX						ROMAN
F22	PIT	36			79	1042	13		3	0	2											GX	?	?	0.08	220		ROMAN
F22	PIT	36																				GX	?	?	0.08	210		ROMAN
F22	PIT	36			10	23	2															GB						AD 110/125-300
F22	PIT	36			1	3	3									X						DJ (M)						ROMAN
F22	PIT	36			12	117	10		5	0	0											DJ	CAM 330	BOWL	0.27	160	OR, ROUL (FINE S & M) NR CH LIKE	AD 69-400
F23	DITCH	37	1		8	186	23															HZ OX						LIA-AD 200/300
F23	DITCH	37	1		1	22	22									X						GTW						LIA
F23	DITCH	37	1		7	160	23															HZ						LIA-AD 200/300
F23	DITCH	37	1		1	9	9		0	0	1											GB						AD 110/125-300
F23	DITCH	37	1		1	10	10		1	0	0											MP	CAM 316	BOWL	0.06	240		AD 280-400
F23	DITCH	37	1		1	5	5															DJ					BR	ROMAN
F23	DITCH	37	1		2	38	19															HZ						LIA-AD 200/300
F23	DITCH	37	1		10	66	7															GX						ROMAN
F23	DITCH	37	1		1	3	3					X										GX						ROMAN

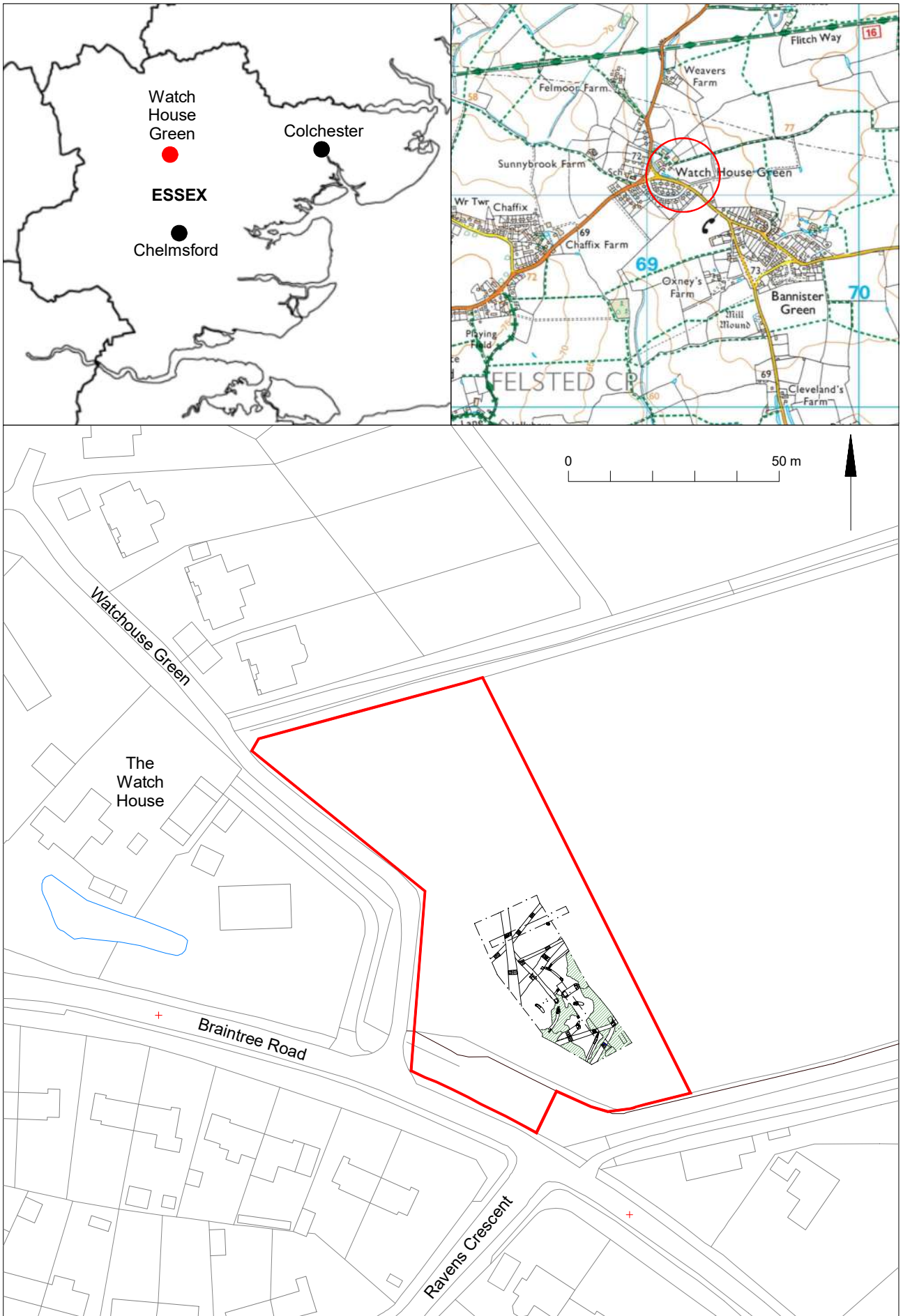
Cxt	Feature type	Find no.	Soil S no.	Section	Level	NR	GR.	MSW	Discard	Rim	Handle	Base	Sooting (ext.)	Sooting location	Charring (int.)	Charring location	Burning	Overfired	Org. Residue	Gritted	Abrasion	Fabric Grp	Typology	Function	EVE	Diam.	Comments	Date
F23	DITCH	37		1		2	26	13		2	0	0										KX	CAM 305B	BOWL	0.06	180		AD 275-300
F23	DITCH	37		1		2	23	12		1	0	0										GX/RET	CAM 268	JAR	0.10	140	SPARSE FL	AD 125/150-280/320
F23	DITCH	37		1		1	6	6									X					GX						ROMAN
F23	DITCH	37		1		1	7	7														CH						AD 225/250-425
F23	DITCH	37		1		3	18	6		2	0	0					X					DJ	?	?	0.05	170	BUFF/BR	ROMAN
F23	DITCH	37		1		1	6	6		1	0	0					X					GX/RET					P-GREY EXT, BUFF CORE, SPARSE FL	ROMAN
F23	DITCH	37		1		1	1	1														DJ					BR SURF, BL CORE	ROMAN
F23	DITCH	37		1		1	14	14		1	0	0						X				HMG	?	?	0.03?		GROG?	PREHISTORIC
F23	DITCH	56		2		1	2	2														GX/RET						ROMAN
F23	DITCH	56		2		1	3	3		0	0	1					X					GX						ROMAN
F23	DITCH	56		2		1	3	3														GX						ROMAN
F23	DITCH	56		2		1	12	12														DJ					OR	ROMAN
F23	DITCH	56		2		8	34	4														GX						ROMAN
F23	DITCH	56		2		1	19	19		1	0	0										KX	CAM 305B	BOWL	0.09	190		AD 275-300
F23	DITCH	56		2		1	3	3														MP						AD 275-425
F23	DITCH	56		2		1	12	12		1	0	0										WA	CAM 278	JAR	0.06	210		AD 120-250/260
F23	DITCH	56		2		1	5	5														WA						ROMAN
F23	DITCH	56		2		1	32	32		1	0	0										GB	CAM 40B	DISH	0.10	195		AD 110/125-275
F23	DITCH	56		2		1	33	33		1	0	0										GB (BSW)	CAM 39B	DISH	0.10	180		AD 140-300
F23	DITCH	56		2		1	4	4														GX (BG)					BG OR CHARCOAL LIKE INCS	ROMAN
F23	DITCH	56		2		1	2	2														WA						ROMAN
F24	DITCH	44		2		1	38	38	X								X					HZ						LIA-AD 200/300
F24	DITCH	44		2		1	25	25	X													HZ						LIA-AD 200/300
F24	DITCH	44		2		1	23	23														HZ						LIA-AD 200/300
F24	DITCH	44		2		1	6	6														WA						ROMAN
F24	DITCH	44		2		4	25	6	X								X					HZ OX						LIA-AD 200/300
F24	DITCH	44		2		3	7	2														GX						ROMAN
F24	DITCH	44		2		1	9	9		0	0	1										GB						AD 110/125-300
F24	DITCH	44		2		3	19	6														GB (BSW)					HADHAM?	AD 110/125-300
F24	DITCH	44		2		1	4	4														GX/RET					SPARSE C FL	ROMAN

Cxt	Feature type	Find no.	Soil S no.	Section	Level	NR	GR.	MSW	Discard	Rim	Handle	Base	Sooting (ext.)	Sooting location	Charring (int.)	Charring location	Burning	Overfired	Org. Residue	Gritted	Abrasion	Fabric Grp	Typology	Function	EVE	Diagn.	Comments	Date	
F24	DITCH	44	2		9	54	6		5	0	0	X										GX	CAM 268	JAR	0.02?			AD 125/150-280/320	
F24	DITCH	44	2									X										GX	CAM 268	JAR	0.03?			AD 125/150-280/320	
F24	DITCH	44	2									X										GX	G21.1	JAR	0.13	240		ROMAN	
F24	DITCH	44	2									X										GX	?		0.06	180		ROMAN	
F24	DITCH	44	2		3	8	3															GX						ROMAN	
F24	DITCH	44	2		1	2	2															DJ					BR SANDY	ROMAN	
F24	DITCH	44	2		3	4	1															BSW 1						ROMAN	
F24	DITCH	44	2		1	2	2		1	0	0										X	GX	?	?	0.03?			ROMAN	
F24	DITCH	44	2		1	5	5	X									X					BAET						ROMAN	
F25	PIT	45			2	16	8															GX						ROMAN	
F25	PIT	45			1	3	3															DJ					BR/OR	ROMAN	
F25	PIT	45			2	6	3					X										GX/RET						SPARSE FL	ROMAN
F26	DITCH	46	1		2	15	8															GB						AD 110/125-300	
F26	DITCH	46	1		4	60	15															HZ OX						LIA-AD 200/300	
F26	DITCH	46	1		1	13	13	X														BAET						ROMAN	
F26	DITCH	46	1		1	8	8															WA						ROMAN	
F26	DITCH	46	1		7	57	8															GX						ROMAN	
F26	DITCH	46	1		2	14	7															GX/RET						SOME FL	ROMAN
F26	DITCH	46	1		1	13	13															GX/RET						SPARSE FL	ROMAN
F26	DITCH	46	1		1	29	29													X		TE						AD 275/300-400	
F26	DITCH	46	1		1	10	10															CH						AD 225/250-425	
F26	DITCH	46	1		1	8	8		1	0	0											GX (BG)	?	?	0.08	160	BG CHARCOAL LIKE INCS	ROMAN	
F26	DITCH	46	1		1	8	8					X										KX						AD 125/150-300	
F26	DITCH	46	1		1	9	9		1	0	0											KX	CAM 40B	DISH	0.06	190		AD 110/125-275	
F26	DITCH	46	1		1	6	6															GX/RET						SPARSE FL	ROMAN
F26	DITCH	46	1		8	87	11		3	0	0	X										GX/47	?		0.17	170	PATCHY GREY SURF, BR CORE	ROMAN	
F26	DITCH	46	1									X										GX/47	?		0.10	140	PATCHY GREY SURF, BR CORE	ROMAN	
F26	DITCH	46	1		1	16	16		1	0	0						X	X				DJ	CAM 268	JAR	0.08	160	OR SURF, GREY CORE MISFIRED GX, SANDY	AD 125/150-280/320	
F26	DITCH	48	2		11	94	9		2	0	0											GX	?	JAR	0.10	150		ROMAN	
F26	DITCH	48	2																			GX	CAM 307	BOWL/JAR	0.06	180		AD 180/220-400	

Cxt	Feature type	Find no.	Soil S no.	Section	Level	NR	GR.	MSW	Discard	Rim	Handle	Base	Sooting (ext.)	Sooting location	Charring (int.)	Charring location	Burning	Overfired	Org. Residue	Gritted	Abrasion	Fabric Grp	Typology	Function	EYE	Diam.	Comments	Date
F26	DITCH	48		2		1	3	3														DJ						ROMAN
F26	DITCH	48		2		1	23	23	1	0	0											GX/RET	CAM 268	JAR	0.10	140	C FL	AD 125/150-280/320
F26	DITCH	48		2		2	19	10	1	0	0											GX	?	?	0.08	190		ROMAN
F26	DITCH	48		2		1	17	17	1	0	0											GX/RET	CAM 268	JAR	0.08	180	SPARSE F FL	AD 125/150-280/320
F26	DITCH	48		2		1	24	24	0	0	1											GX/RET					GREY, OR/BUFF CORE, M FL	ROMAN
F26	DITCH	48		2		1	6	6	1	0	0						X					GX	?	JAR	0.08	140		ROMAN
F26	DITCH	48		2		1	19	19	1	0	0						X					WA	CAM 39B	DISH	0.03?			AD 140-300
F26	DITCH	48		2		2	55	28	2	0	0											KX	CAM 39B	DISH	0.11	180		AD 140-300
F26	DITCH	48		2																		KX	CAM 39B	DISH	0.04	190		AD 140-300
F26	DITCH	48		2		1	6	6														GX						ROMAN
F26	DITCH	48		2		1	14	14	1	0	0											WA	CAM 278	JAR	0.11	140		AD 120-250/260
L5	METALLING	40				1	3	3														GX						ROMAN
L5	METALLING	40				3	29	10	1	0	0											GX	CAM 268	JAR	0.18	125	VC S & SOME FL	AD 125/150-280/320
L5	METALLING	40				3	295	98	1	0	1											HZ	CAM 273	STORAGE VESSEL	0.06	320		AD 43-200/300
L5	METALLING	40				5	51	10	2	0	2											GB	CAM 40A	DISH	0.05?			AD 110/125-275
L5	METALLING	40				1	12	12	1	0	0	X										GB	CAM 278	JAR	0.18	90		AD 120-250/260
L5	METALLING	40				1	4	4									X					DJ (M)						ROMAN
L5	METALLING	40				1	3	3														DJ						ROMAN
L5	METALLING	51				1	90	90														HZ						LIA-AD 200/300
L5	METALLING	51				3	18	6														GB						AD 110/125-300
L5	METALLING	51				3	5	2														DJ					WH	ROMAN
L5	METALLING	51				1	9	9	0	0	1						X					GX						ROMAN
L5	METALLING	51				2	15	8														GX/RET					SOME FL	ROMAN
L5	METALLING	51				6	14	2														GX						ROMAN
L5	METALLING	51				9	66	7	1	0	0											GX	?	JAR	0.05	110		ROMAN
L5	METALLING	51				3	6	2														DJ					OR	ROMAN
L5	METALLING	51				1	6	6	1	0	0											KX	CAM 305B	BOWL	0.03?			AD 275-300
L5	METALLING	54				1	2	2	0	0	1											BSW 1						ROMAN
L5	METALLING	54				2	13	7	2	0	0											GX	CAM 227	BOWL	0.11	110		AD 54-120
L5	METALLING	54																				GX	CAM 307	BOWL/JAR	0.06	170		AD 180/220-400

Cxt	Feature type	Find no.	Soil S no.	Section	Level	NR	GR.	MSW	Discard	Rim	Handle	Base	Sooting (ext.)	Sooting location	Charring (int.)	Charring location	Burning	Overfired	Org. Residue	Gritted	Abrasion	Fabric Grp	Typology	Function	EYE	Diam.	Comments	Date
L5	METALLING	54				1	8	8									X					DJ					OR/BR SANDY	ROMAN
L5	METALLING	54				1	5	5					X									GX						ROMAN
L5	METALLING	54				1	8	8									X					GX						ROMAN
L5	METALLING	54				2	640	320									X					HZ						LIA-AD 200/300
L5	METALLING	54				4	171	43														HZ						LIA-AD 200/300
L5	METALLING	54				9	241	27		0	0	1										HZ OX						LIA-AD 200/300
L5	METALLING	54				1	8	8														GA						AD 110/125-400
L5	METALLING	54				4	24	6		1	0	2										GB	CAM 40A	DISH	0.08	140		AD 110/125-275
L5	METALLING	54				2	84	42		0	0	2									X	BACG						AD 110-220
L5	METALLING	54				1	61	61														GTW						LIA
L5	METALLING	54				7	86	12		0	0	1										GX/RET						ROMAN
L5	METALLING	54				1	23	23														HZ OX (M)						LIA-AD 200/300
L5	METALLING	54				3	36	12		3	0	0										KX	CAM 37B/38B	BOWL	0.08	190		AD 180-275
L5	METALLING	54																				KX	CAM 40B	DISH	0.08	150		AD 125/150-275
L5	METALLING	54																				KX	CAM 305B	BOWL	0.07	160		AD 275-300
L5	METALLING	54				4	16	4														GX						ROMAN
L5	METALLING	54				20	154	8		3	0	4										GX	CAM 268	JAR	0.09	140		AD 125/150-280/320
L5	METALLING	54																				GX	CAM 280-281	STORAGE VESSEL	0.14	85		AD 150/180-400
L5	METALLING	54																				GX	?	?	0.07	150		ROMAN
L5	METALLING	54				2	5	3		1	0	0										GX	?	?	0.03?			ROMAN
L5	METALLING	54				1	3	3														DJ					OR SANDY	ROMAN
L5	METALLING	54				1	6	6														GX						ROMAN
L5	METALLING	54				3	18	6		1	0	0					X					DJ	?	JAR	0.08	130	OR	ROMAN
L5	METALLING	54				1	5	5		1	0	0	X									GX	?	JAR	0.10	120	S TOP RIM EXT	ROMAN
L5	METALLING	54				1	10	10		1	0	0	X									GX	?	?	0.05	220	S TOP RIM EXT & INT	ROMAN
L5	METALLING	54				1	12	12		1	0	0										KX	CAM 305B	BOWL	0.00?			AD 275-300
L5	METALLING	54				1	12	12		1	0	0										GB	CAM 305B	BOWL	0.03?			AD 275-300
L5	METALLING	54				3	11	4														GX/RET					SPARSE FL	ROMAN
L5	METALLING	54				6	13	2														DJ					OR	ROMAN
L5	METALLING	54				2	3	2														CZ						AD 110/110-275/300

Cxt	Feature type	Find no.	Soil S no.	Section	Level	NR	GR.	MSW	Discard	Rim	Handle	Base	Sooting (ext.)	Sooting location	Charring (int.)	Charring location	Burning	Overfired	Org. Residue	Gritted	Abrasion	Fabric Grp	Typology	Function	EYE	Diam.	Comments	Date
L5	METALLING	54				2	6	3														CH						AD 225/250-425
L5	METALLING	54				1	2	2														DJ (M)						ROMAN
L5	METALLING	54				15	152	10		4	0	1										GX	?	BOWL	0.06	200	GREY OR/BR CORE	ROMAN
L5	METALLING	54																				GX	?	BOWL	0.09	200	GREY OR/BR CORE	ROMAN
L5	METALLING	54																				GX	?	BOWL	0.11	280	GREY OR/BR CORE	ROMAN
L5	METALLING	54				1	8	8														GB						AD 110/125-300
L5	METALLING	54				1	4	4														BSW 1						ROMAN
L5	METALLING	54				1	12	12		0	0	1										BSW 2						ROMAN
L5	METALLING	54				2	11	6		2	0	0										GX	?	?	0.11	170		ROMAN
L5	METALLING	54				5	40	8		3	0	0					X					GX/RET	?	?	0.08	180	SOME FL	ROMAN
L5	METALLING	54															X					GX/RET	?	JAR	0.20	130	SOME FL, B TOP RIM	ROMAN
L5	METALLING	54				1	4	4														DJ (M)						ROMAN
L5	METALLING	54				1	5	5														GX						BL/GREY SURF, BR CORE
L5	METALLING	54				1	3	3														GX						ROMAN
L5	METALLING	54				1	5	5		1	0	0					X					DJ	?	?	0.03?		FLANGE?	ROMAN
L5	METALLING	54				1	5	5		1	0	0					X					GX	?	JAR	0.07	130		ROMAN
L5	METALLING	54				6	554	92														HZ						LIA-AD 200/300
L5	METALLING	54				16	418	26														HZ OX						LIA-AD 200/300
L5	METALLING	54				2	44	22		2	0	0										KX	CAM 305B	BOWL	0.11	230		AD 275-300
L5	METALLING	54				1	18	18		0	0	1					X					DJ						ROMAN
L5	METALLING	54				4	24	6														GTW						LIA
L5	METALLING	54				7	102	15		1	0	1										GB	CAM 305B	BOWL	0.11	230		AD 275-300
L5	METALLING	54				4	20	5									X					DJ						BR
L5	METALLING	54				5	360	72		3	2	0										NARB	GAULOISE 4	AMPHORAE	0.74	130		AD 50-300
L5	METALLING	54				1	16	16														HZ						LIA-AD 200/300
L5	METALLING	54				1	15	15														HZ						LIA-AD 200/300
L5	METALLING	54				47	282	6		5	0	2										GX	CAM 307	BOWL/JAR	0.06	190		AD 180/220-400
L5	METALLING	54																				GX	CAM 268	JAR	0.03?			AD 125/150-280/320
L5	METALLING	54																				GX	?	?	0.02?			ROMAN
L5	METALLING	54																				GX	?	?	0.08?			ROMAN



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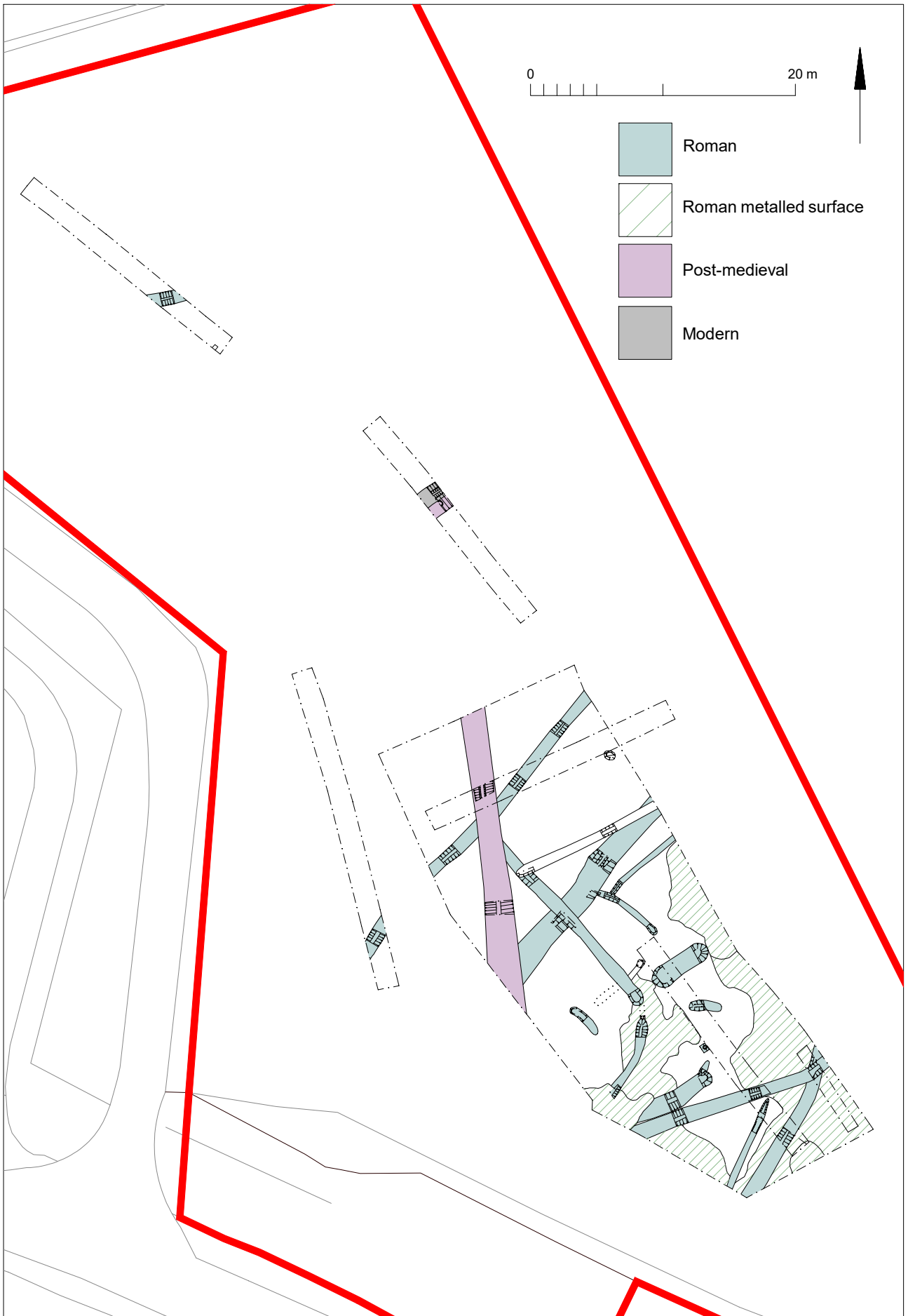
Fig 1 Site location.



Fig 2 Evaluation results.



Fig 3 Excavation results



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Fig 4 Evaluation and excavation results

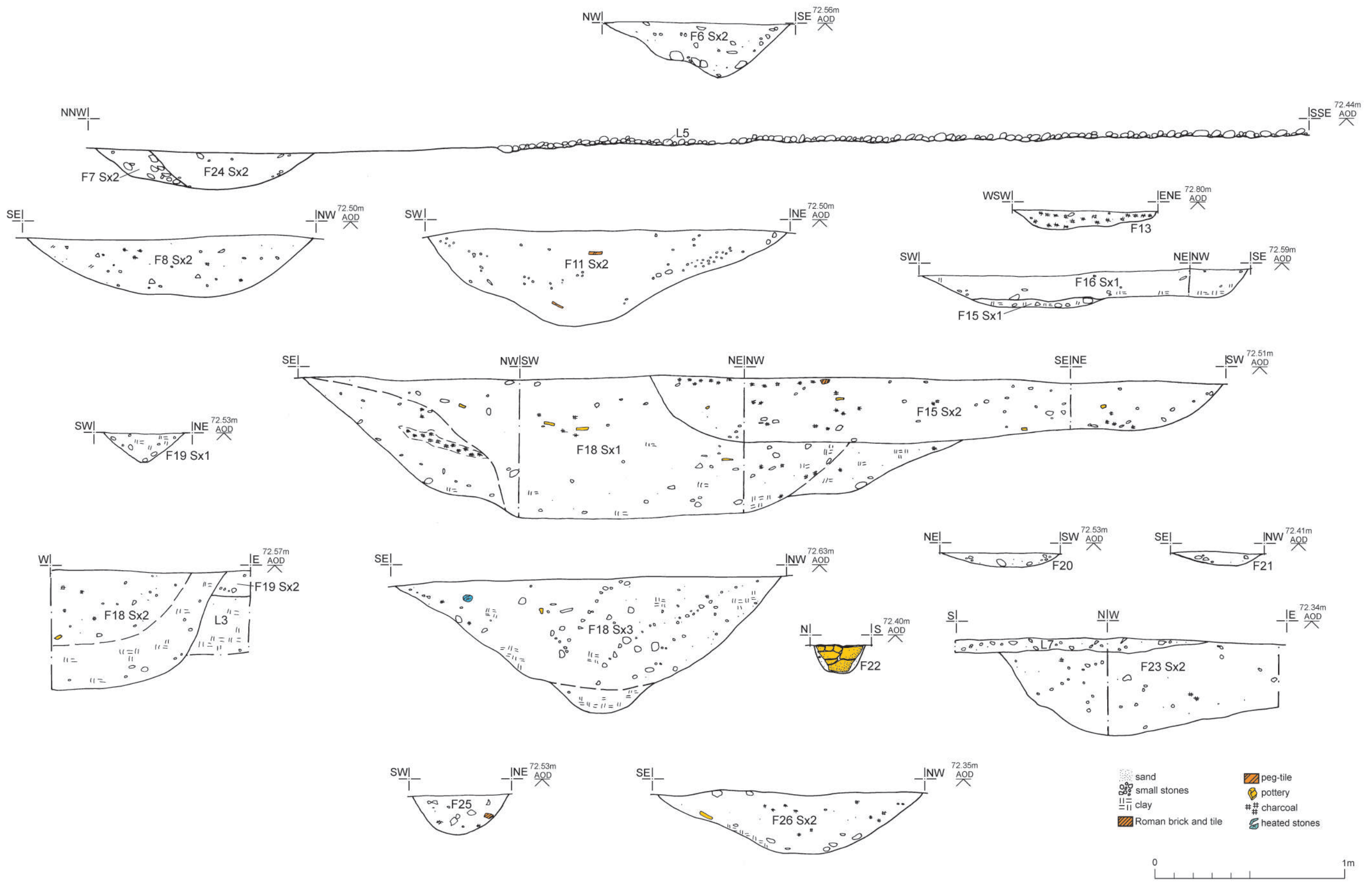


Fig 5 Sections.



Fig 6 Small finds.

Summary for colchest3-504761

OASIS ID (UID)	colchest3-504761
Project Name	Excavation at land at Watch House Green, Felsted, Essex, CM6 3EF
Sitename	Land at Watch House Green, Felsted, Essex, CM6 3EF
Activity type	Excavation
Project Identifier(s)	2022/02i
Planning Id	UTT/20/2375
Reason For Investigation	Planning: Post determination
Organisation Responsible for work	Colchester Archaeological Trust
Project Dates	22-Jul-2022 - 05-Aug-2022
Location	Land at Watch House Green, Felsted, Essex, CM6 3EF NGR : TL 69198 21101 LL : 51.8628360568213, 0.455824702637199 12 Fig : 569198,221101
Administrative Areas	Country : England County : Essex District : Uttlesford Parish : Felsted
Project Methodology	Archaeological open-area excavation following an from archaeological evaluation. The excavation was carried out as per the conditions of the brief and WSI.
Project Results	An archaeological excavation was carried out on land at Watch House Green, Felsted, Essex in advance of the construction of a residential development. The site lies adjacent to The Watch House, which has its origins in the 17th century, and is in the midst of a number of cropmark complexes. Excavation revealed: 1) a Late Iron Age/early Roman ditch and associated gullies; 2) an area of metalling with ditches, gullies and pits likely representing an agricultural landscape close to a Roman farmstead or villa dating from the late 2nd into the early/mid 4th century; and 3) a post-medieval field boundary ditch.

Keywords	Ditch - ROMAN - FISH Thesaurus of Monument Types Gully - ROMAN - FISH Thesaurus of Monument Types Rubbish Pit - ROMAN - FISH Thesaurus of Monument Types Feature - ROMAN - FISH Thesaurus of Monument Types Field Boundary - POST MEDIEVAL - FISH Thesaurus of Monument Types Sherd - MIDDLE IRON AGE - FISH Archaeological Objects Thesaurus Sherd - ROMAN - FISH Archaeological Objects Thesaurus Brick - ROMAN - FISH Archaeological Objects Thesaurus Roof Tile - ROMAN - FISH Archaeological Objects Thesaurus Flue Tile - ROMAN - FISH Archaeological Objects Thesaurus Rotary Key - ROMAN - FISH Archaeological Objects Thesaurus Rotary Quern - ROMAN - FISH Archaeological Objects Thesaurus Animal Remains - ROMAN - FISH Archaeological Objects Thesaurus Sherd - MEDIEVAL - FISH Archaeological Objects Thesaurus Sherd - POST MEDIEVAL - FISH Archaeological Objects Thesaurus Token - POST MEDIEVAL - FISH Archaeological Objects Thesaurus
Funder	
HER	Essex HER - unRev - STANDARD
Person Responsible for work	E, Hicks
HER Identifiers	HER Monument No - WHSW21
Archives	Digital Archive - to be deposited with Archaeology Data Service Archive; Physical Archive, Documentary Archive - to be deposited with Saffron Walden Museum;

Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) for an archaeological excavation on land at Watch House Green, Felsted, Essex, CM6 3EF

NGR: TL 69198 21101 (centre)

District: Uttlesford

Parish: Felsted

Planning reference: UTT/20/2375/FUL

Commissioned by: Darren Stevens

Client: Dengie Construction Ltd

Curating museum: Saffron Walden

Museum accession number: tba

ECC project code: tba

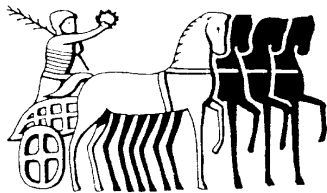
CAT project code: 2022/02i

Oasis project ID: colchest3-504761

Site manager: Chris Lister

ECC monitor: Katie Lee-Smith

This WSI written: 18/02/2022



COLCHESTER ARCHAEOLOGICAL TRUST,
Roman Circus House,
Roman Circus Walk,
Colchester,
Essex, CO2 7GZ

tel: 01206 501785

email: cl@catuk.org

Site location and description

The proposed development site currently comprises a small field to the east of Watch House Green, Felsted, Essex (Fig 1). Site is centred at National Grid Reference (NGR) TL 69198 21101.

Proposed work

The planning application proposes the construction of four detached dwellings and garages with new access off Braintree Road.

Archaeological background

The following archaeological includes extracts of the ECC brief and the Essex Historic Environment Records (EHER) held at Essex County Council, County Hall, Chelmsford, Essex (accessed via <http://www.heritagegateway.org.uk>).

The EHER shows that the proposed development site lies in an area of known archaeological remains. It is located to the east of The Watch House, a 17th-century or earlier timber-framed house (EHER 37001) and to the south-east of a 16th-century timber-framed barn associated with the house (EHER 370000). Both buildings are listed. The site is also located to the north/north-west of an area of recorded cropmarks which include a square enclosure, linear features and pits (EHER 1356).

An archaeological evaluation c 300m to the north of the site revealed a Roman ditch, medieval ditches, gullies and pits, and post-medieval/modern field boundary ditches (EHER 49073). Another evaluation c 350m north-east revealed medieval, post-medieval and undated ditches (EHER 49494).

Trial-trenching undertaken in advance of the proposed development was carried out by Colchester Archaeological Trust (CAT) in April 2021 (CAT Report 1660). This evaluation identified twelve cut features (eleven ditches and one post-hole) and a metalled surface. The predominant phase of activity present was from the Roman period, except three ditches and a post-hole that were post-medieval or later in date.

Planning background

The original planning application (UTT/20/2375) was submitted to Uttlesford District Council in September 2020 proposing the *construction of 4 no. detached dwellings and garages with new access off Braintree Road*

As the site lies within an area highlighted by the EHER as having a high potential for archaeological remains a phased full archaeological condition was recommended. This follows the guidelines given in National Planning Policy Framework (MHCLG 2019).

As the archaeological evaluation carried out by CAT in April 2021 revealed archaeological features the ECCHEA requested a further phase of archaeological work in the form of an area excavation.

Requirement for work (Fig 1)

The required archaeological work is for an open area excavation of an area highlighted by the evaluation as having a concentration of archaeological features.

Specifically a 716m² area will be investigated. There will be a contingency for expanding the area should significant remains be found.

Specific project aims include:

- Potential continuation of features shown in cropmark evidence in the adjacent areas

- Evidence for Roman occupation and activity

General methodology

All work carried out by CAT will be in accordance with:

- professional standards of the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists, including its *Code of Conduct* (CIfA 2014a-c)
- Standards and Frameworks published by East Anglian Archaeology (Gurney 2003, Medlycott 2011)
- relevant Health & Safety guidelines and requirements (CAT 2021)
- the Project Brief issued by ECC Historic Environment Advisor (ECCPS 2020)

Professional CAT field archaeologists will undertake all specified archaeological work, for which they will be suitably experienced and qualified.

Notification of the supervisor/project manager's name and the start date for the project will be provided to ECCHEA one week before start of work.

Unless it is the responsibility of other site contractors, CAT will study mains service locations and avoid damage to these.

At the start of work (immediately before fieldwork commences) an OASIS online record <http://ads.ahds.ac.uk/project/oasis/> will be initiated and key fields completed on Details, Location and Creators forms. At the end of the project all parts of the OASIS online form will be completed for submission to EHER. This will include an uploaded .PDF version of the entire report.

A project or site code will be sought from ECCHEA and/or the curating museum, as appropriate to the project. This code will be used to identify the project archive when it is deposited at the curating museum.

Staffing

The number of field staff for this project is estimated as follows: One CAT project officer and three archaeologists for ten days.

In charge of day-to-day site work: Harvey Furniss

Excavation methodology

Where appropriate, modern overburden and any topsoil stripping/levelling will be performed using a mechanical excavator equipped with a toothless ditching bucket under the supervision and to the satisfaction of a professional archaeologist. If no archaeologically significant deposits are exposed, machine excavation will continue until natural subsoil is reached.

All archaeological features and deposits revealed will be excavated by hand in an archaeologically controlled and stratigraphic manner, in order to establish their extent, form, date, function and relationship to other features.

There will be sufficient excavation to give clear evidence for the period, depth and nature of any archaeological deposit. For linear features 1m wide sections will be excavated across their width to a total of at least 10% of the overall length. Discrete features, such as pits, will have 50% of their fills excavated, although certain features may be fully excavated. Complex archaeological structures such as walls, kilns, ovens or burials (see human remains section) will be carefully cleaned, planned and fully recorded, but where possible left in situ. Only if it can be demonstrated that the complex structure/feature is likely to be destroyed by groundworks, and only then after discussion with the ECCHEA, will it be removed.

Fast hand-excavation techniques involving (for instance) picks, forks and mattocks will not be used on complex stratigraphy.

If required, a provision shall be made for shoring to facilitate the ability in excavate deep archaeological deposits.

Trained CAT staff will use a metal detector to scan all areas of investigation and spoil heaps. CAT senior site staff Adam Wightman, Ben Holloway and Nigel Rayner have been trained in the use of metal-detectors and used them for more than five years. CAT also works in partnership with Geoff Lunn as a metal-detecting advisor. Geoff has over four years experience detecting and has worked with CAT to recover finds from recent excavations including the Mercury Theatre site in Colchester, and who has also worked with the Colchester Archaeological Group, Suffolk Archaeology, Access Cambridge Archaeology, The Citizen Project (MOLA) and others. Individual records of excavated contexts, layers, features or deposits will be entered on proforma record sheets. Registers will be compiled of finds, small finds and soil samples.

Individual records of excavated contexts, layers, features or deposits will be entered on proforma record sheets. Registers will be compiled of finds, small finds and soil samples. All features and layers or other significant deposits will be planned, and their profiles or sections recorded. A representative section will be drawn to include ground level and the depth of machining. The normal scale will be site plans at 1:20 and sections at 1:10, unless circumstances indicate that other scales would be appropriate.

The photographic record will consist of general site shots, and shots of all archaeological features and deposits. A photographic scale (including north arrow) shall be included in the case of detailed photographs. Standard "record" shots of contexts will be taken on a digital camera. A photographic register will accompany the photographic record. This will detail as a minimum feature number, location, and direction of shot.

Individual records of excavated contexts, layers, features or deposits will be entered on proforma record sheets. Registers will be compiled of finds, small finds and soil samples.

The excavation will not be backfilled until it has been signed off by the ECCHEA.

Site surveying

The excavation area and any features will be surveyed by Total Station or GPS, unless the particulars of the features indicate that manual planning techniques should be employed. Normal scale for archaeological site plans and sections is 1:20 and 1:10 respectively, unless circumstances indicate that other scales would be more appropriate.

The site grid will be tied into the National Grid. Corners of excavation areas will be located by NGR coordinates.

Environmental sampling policy

The number and range of samples collected will be adequate to determine the potential of the site, with particular focus on palaeoenvironmental remains including both biological remains (e.g. plants, small vertebrates) and small sized artefacts (e.g. smithing debris), and to provide information for sampling strategies on any future excavation. Samples will be collected for potential micromorphical and other pedological sedimentological analysis. Environmental bulk samples will be 40 litres in size (assuming context is large enough).

Sampling strategies will address questions of:

- the range of preservation types (charred, mineral-replaced, waterlogged), and their quality

- concentrations of macro-remains
- and differences in remains from undated and dated features
- variation between different feature types and areas of site

CAT has an arrangement with Val Fryer / Lisa Gray whereby any potentially rich environmental layers or features will be appropriately sampled as a matter of course. Trained CAT staff will process the samples and the flots will be sent to Val Fryer or Lisa Gray for analysis and reporting.

Should any complex, or otherwise outstanding deposits be encountered, VF or LG will be asked onto site to advise. Waterlogged 'organic' features will always be sampled. In all cases, the advice of VF/LG and/or the Historic England Regional Advisor in Archaeological Science (East of England) on sampling strategies for complex or waterlogged deposits will be followed, including the taking of monolith samples.

Human remains

CAT follows the policy of leaving human remains in situ except in those cases where damage or desecration are to be expected, or in the event that analysis of the remains is shown to be a requirement of satisfactory investigation of the site.

If circumstances indicated it were prudent or necessary to remove remains from the site during excavation, the following criteria would be applied. If it is clear from their position, context, depth, or other factors that the remains are ancient, then normal procedure is to apply to the Department of Justice for a licence to remove them. In that case, conditions laid down by the license will be followed. If it seems that the remains are not ancient, then the coroner, the client and ECCHEA will be informed, and any advice and/or instruction from the coroner will be followed.

Following Historic England guidance (2018) all archaeological human remains excavated during the course of the project will either be analysed and reported by CAT project osteologist Megan Seehra or will be sent to external specialist Julie Curl.

Photographic record

Will include both general and feature-specific photographs, the latter with scale and north arrow. A photo register giving context number, details, and direction of shot will be prepared on site, and included in site archive.

Finds

All significant finds will be retained.

All finds, where appropriate, will be washed and marked with site code and context number. CAT may use local volunteers to assist the CAT Finds Officer with this task.

Most of our finds reports are written internally by CAT Staff under the supervision and direction of Philip Crummy (Director) and Howard Brooks (Deputy Director). This includes specialist subjects such as:

ceramic finds (pottery and ceramic building material): Matthew Loughton

animal bones: Alec Wade (or Adam Wightman, small groups only)

small finds, metalwork, coins, etc: Laura Pooley

non-ceramic bulk finds: Laura Pooley

flints: Adam Wightman

environmental processing: Bronagh Quinn

project osteologist (human remains): Meghan Seehra

or to outside specialists:

animal and human bone: Julie Curl (*Sylvanus*)

environmental assessment and analysis: Val Fryer / Lisa Gray

radiocarbon dating: SUERC Radiocarbon Dating Laboratory, Glasgow
conservation/x-ray: Laura Ratcliffe (LR Conservation) / Norfolk Museums Service,
Conservation and Design Services

Other specialists whose opinion can be sought on large or complex groups include:

flint: Hazel Martingell

prehistoric pottery: Stephen Benfield / Nigel Brown / Paul Sealey

Roman pottery: Stephen Benfield / Paul Sealey / Jo Mills / Val Rigby /
Gwladys Monteil

Roman brick/tile: Ian Betts (MOLA)

Roman glass: Hilary Cool

small finds: Nina Crummy

other: EH Regional Adviser in Archaeological Science (East of England).

All finds of potential treasure will be removed to a safe place, and the coroner informed immediately, in accordance with the rules of the Treasure Act 1996. The definition of treasure is given in pages 3-5 of the Code of Practice of the above act. This refers primarily to gold or silver objects.

Requirements for conservation and storage of finds will be agreed with the appropriate museum prior to the start of work, and confirmed to ECCHEA.

A contingency will be made in the budget for scientific assessment/analysis if suitable deposits are identified. This can include soil micromorphological and geochemical analysis of floors and dark earth deposits and/or absolute dating (such as archaeomagnetic and radiocarbon). The Historic England Regional Science Advisor will be consulted for advice.

Post-excavation assessment

An updated post-excavation assessment will be submitted within 2 months or at an alternatively agreed time with the ECCHEA.

Where archaeological results do not warrant a post-excavation assessment then agreement will be sought from the ECCHEA to proceed straight to grey literature / publication.

Results

Notification will be given to ECCHEA when the fieldwork has been completed.

An appropriate archive will be prepared to minimum acceptable standards outlined in *Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment* (HE 2015).

The report will be submitted within 6 months of the end of fieldwork, with a copy supplied to the Historic Environment Advisor as a single PDF.

The report will contain:

- Location plan of trenches in relation to the proposed development. At least two corners of each excavated area will be given a 10 figure grid reference.
- Section/s drawings showing depth of deposits from present ground level with Ordnance Datum, vertical and horizontal scale.
- Archaeological methodology and detailed results including a suitable conclusion and discussion. Appropriate discussion and results section assessing the site in relation to the Regional Research Frameworks (Brown and Glazebrook 2000, Medlycott 2011).
- All specialist reports or assessments
- A concise non-technical summary of the project results.

An OASIS summary sheet shall be completed at the end of the project and supplied to the ECCHEA. This will be completed in digital form with a paper copy included with the archive. A copy (with trench plan) will also be emailed to the Hon. Editor of the Essex Archaeology and History Journal for inclusion in the annual round-up of projects (paul.gilman@me.com).

Publication of the results at least a summary level (i.e. round-up in *Essex Archaeology & History*) shall be undertaken in the year following the archaeological fieldwork. An allowance will be made in the project costs for the report to be published in an adequately peer reviewed journal or monograph series.

A PDF copy of the full report will be uploaded by CAT to the OASIS website and the Colchester Archaeological Trust's Online Report Library (<http://cat.essex.ac.uk/>), both of which are publicly accessible.

Archive deposition

The requirements for archive storage shall be agreed with the Curating museum.

The paper archive will be deposited with the appropriate museum within two months of the completion of the final publication report and confirmed in writing to the ECCHEA.

The digital archive resulting from the work will be deposited with the Archaeology Data Service (www.archaeologydataservice.ac.uk) to safeguard the long-term curation of the digital records. The ECCHEA will be notified when the digital archive has been deposited. Prior to deposition CAT's data management plan (based on the official guidelines from the Digital Curation Centre [DCC 2013]) will ensure the integrity of the digital archive. A summary of the contents of the archives shall be supplied to the ECCHEA at the time of their deposition.

Monitoring

ECCHEA will be responsible for monitoring progress and standards throughout the project, and will be kept regularly informed during fieldwork, post-excavation and publication stages.

Notification of the start of work will be given ECCHEA one week in advance of its commencement.

Any variations in this WSI will be agreed with ECCHEA prior to them being carried out.

ECCHEA will be notified when the fieldwork is complete.

The involvement of ECCHEA shall be acknowledged in any report or publication generated by this project.

References

Note: all CAT reports, except for DBAs, are available online in PDF format at <http://cat.essex.ac.uk>

- | | | |
|-------------------------------|-------|--|
| Brown, N & Glazebrook, J | 2000 | <i>Research and Archaeology: A Framework for the Eastern Counties 2. Research agenda and strategy.</i> East Anglian Archaeology Occasional Paper 8 (EAA 8) |
| CAT | 2021 | <i>Health & Safety Policy</i> |
| CAT | 2021 | <i>CAT Report 1660: Archaeological evaluation on land at Watch House Green, Felsted, Essex, CM6 3EF – May 2021</i> |
| CIfA | 2014a | <i>Standard and Guidance for archaeological excavation.</i>
Updated Oct 2020 |
| CIfA | 2014b | <i>Standard and guidance for the collection, documentation, conservation and research of archaeological materials.</i>
Updated Oct 2020 |
| CIfA | 2014c | <i>Code of Conduct.</i> Revised July 2021 |
| Digital Curation Centre (DCC) | 2013 | <i>Checklist for Data Management Plan v. 4.0</i> |
| ECCPS | 2020 | <i>Brief for Trial Trenching & Excavation on land at Watch House Green, Felsted</i> by K Lee-Smith |

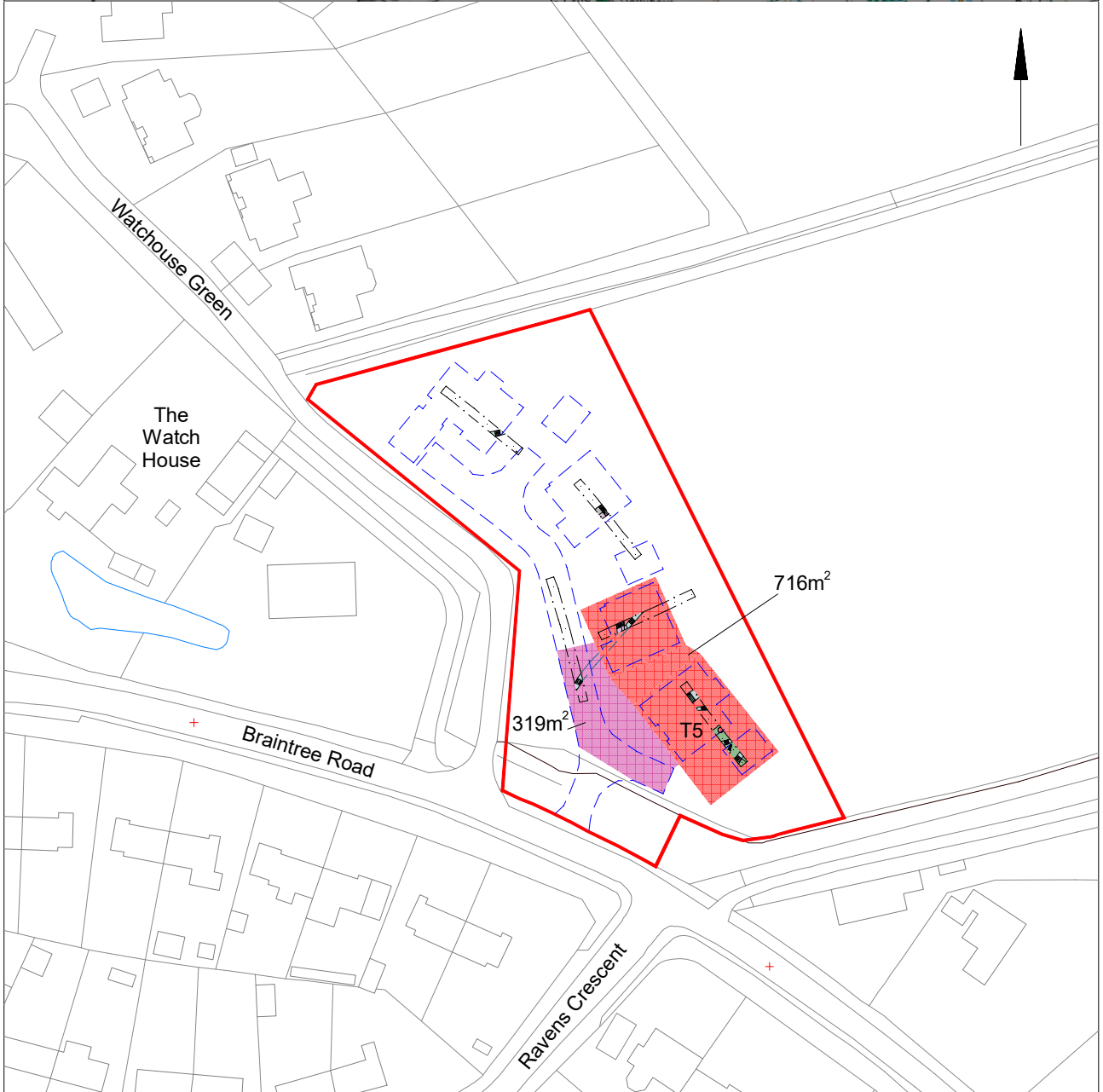
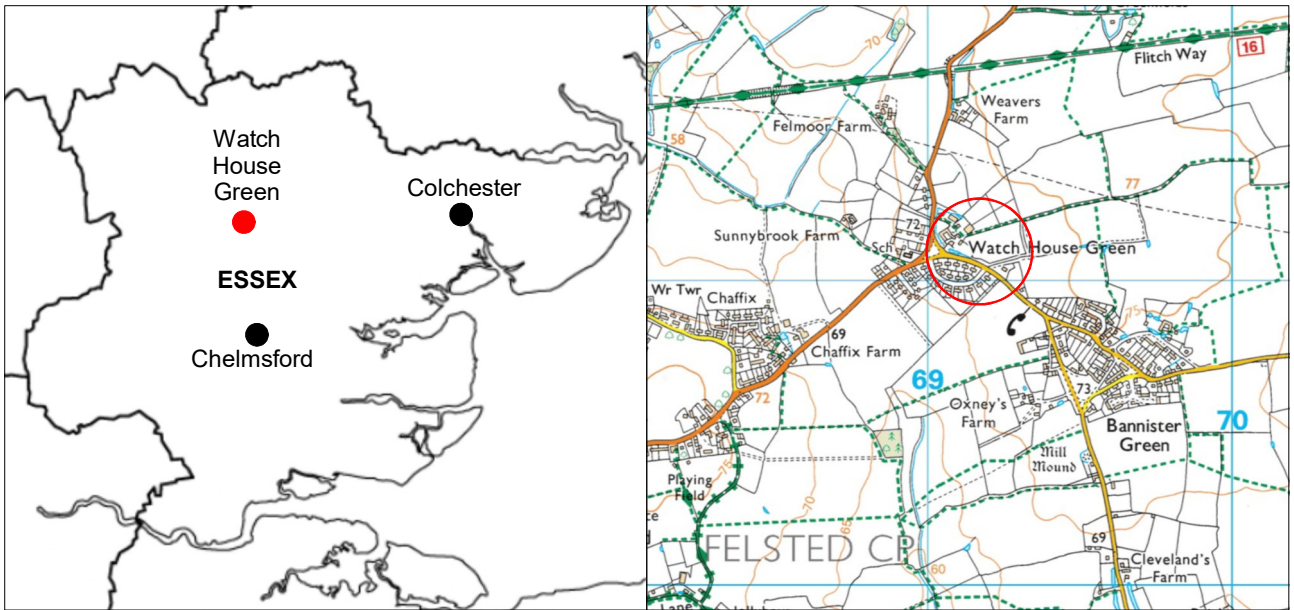
Gurney, D	2003	<i>Standards for field archaeology in the East of England</i> . East Anglian Archaeology Occasional Papers 14 (EAA 14).
Historic England (HE)	2015	<i>Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment (MoRPHE)</i>
Historic England (HE)	2018	<i>The Role of the Human Osteologist in an Archaeological Fieldwork Project</i> . By S Mays, M Brickley & J Sidell
Medlycott, M	2011	<i>Research and archaeology revisited: A revised framework for the East of England</i> . East Anglian Archaeology Occasional Papers 24 (EAA 24)
MHCLG	2019	<i>National Planning Policy Framework</i> . Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government.

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Fig 1 Site location and excavation area (red) in relation to proposed development (dashed blue lines) and evaluation results. The contingency to expand the excavation area is shown pink.

