

An excavation at 47 Butt Road, Colchester

March 1998

Archive report

On behalf of Beaumont Seymure

Contents

List of figures

Summary

Introduction

The excavation

-The large Roman pit

-The Roman burials

The Human and animal bone

The small finds

Discussion

Abbreviations

References

Appendix 1: Illustrations of the decapitated skull from Grave 3

Appendix 2: List of animal bone from the site

Appendix 3: Archive tables of finds

-Table 1: general site finds

-Table 2: small finds and coffin nails from burials

-Table 3: finds of skeletal material from the graves

List of figures

Fig. 1 Site location

Fig. 2 Plan of excavation area

Fig. 3 Section

Fig. 4 Illustrated small finds from Grave 3

An excavation at 47 Butt Road, Colchester

By Stephen Benfield

With contributions from Nina Crummy and Alec Wade. Small find illustrations by Jason Walker.

(COLEM accession number 1998.14)

Summary

A small excavation on the site of an extension to the rear of 47 Butt Road revealed three late Roman inhumation burials, two of which were cut into the back-fill of a large Roman pit, possibly a sand quarry. The burials conformed to the east-west alignment of the main late Roman cemetery at Butt Road, dated after AD 320/40, and two had nailed wooden coffins. One of these was that of a young adult female, accompanied by 4 copper-alloy armlets indicating a probable burial date in the late 4th century. The other coffined burial was a decapitated adult male, and the skull, with articulated jaw and vertebrae, had been placed slightly higher in the grave fill above the area of the left knee. This decapitation appears to have been carried out in the manner of, and may represent, an execution as one of several blows causing cuts to the back of the skull had obliquely severed through one of the neck vertebrae. The third burial, that of a young adult, had been partly disturbed by later pit cutting, though there was no indication that a coffin had been present. The burial area in which the three graves are located appears separate from that of the main, probably Christian, cemetery at Butt Road.

Introduction (Fig 1)

In March 1998 a small excavation was carried out by Colchester Archaeological Trust, on behalf of Beaumont Seymour & Co, at 47 Butt Road Colchester (TL99272476) in advance of the building of an extension in the yard to the rear of the existing property. The site lies within one of the extra-mural cemetery areas of the Roman town, and the excavation followed from an evaluation showing the presence of at least one inhumation burial on the site (CAT Report 11). Large numbers of Roman burials have previously been recorded from this area from the mid 19th century onwards. More recently between 1976 - 79 the Colchester Archaeological Trust excavated over 700 Roman burials, almost all inhumations, and a Roman rectangular apsidal building just to the north of the site (CAR 9 fig 2.1). There were two main phases of burials with earlier graves aligned north - south, and later 4th century, possibly Christian burials aligned east - west and associated with the rectangular building which is thought to be a church. In addition a small number of early Saxon artefacts have also come from this area, probably from burials (CAR 1 p12 - 14). Other archaeological features recorded from the area include at least one Roman kiln, and a Roman well, ditches and pits (Hull 1963 kilns 5 & 6 and 12 & CAR 9 p.12 - 15). In the immediate area of the excavation two Roman burials were recorded in 1845, one in a lead coffin and another described as the 'remains of tile tomb', which have an approximate location within the northern part of the yard (Fig 1).

The evaluation had shown that there was no significant depth of deposits surviving on the site with natural sand occurring directly beneath the make-up for the yard surface, while the in-situ remains of a Roman inhumation (Grave 1) also lay directly beneath the yard make-up. Other features present were all of post-medieval, probably modern, date indicating that the ground level had been significantly reduced by terracing, probably in 1845 when the two burials from the yard area were recorded. Any other surviving burials could be vulnerable to even small levels of disturbance, and as a consequence the whole of the building foot-print of the extension, except for the site of the south wall, was subject to a selective excavation concentrating primarily on potential remaining graves. The south wall foundation was considered too close to the existing property party wall to allow excavation and was instead the subject of a later watching brief, though no additional significant finds were made during this (Fig 2)

The excavation (Fig 2 & section)

The features on the site can be divided into two groups: Roman, and those of post-medieval date which probably post date 1845. Only the Roman features are described.

The large Roman pit (F3)

The earliest feature encountered on the site was a large Roman pit (F3) which covered all of the western end of the excavation area, and which had been cut by two of the Roman graves, G2 & G3. Because of the size of the pit only a small section could be excavated into it and it was not bottomed, though the base of the feature was seen in the sides of both graves and appeared to slope gently down to a depth of at least 0.8 m (see section). The direction of the slope into the feature at the south side of the excavated portion and the possible turn at the east end of Grave 2 may indicate that the feature is not much larger east - west than is represented on site at just over 4.0 m, while it extends in excess of 2.5 m north - south. It was filled with a medium - pale brown silty sand and produced only a very few finds, some fragments of animal bone, a sherd of Roman grey ware and a fragment of Roman tile. A few sherds from a Tazze which can be dated to the mid 1st - early 3rd century (CAR 10, CAM 198 p 476) were recovered from its surface during the evaluation.

The Roman Burials

There were three inhumation burials on the western half of the site all of which were aligned east - west, slightly biased towards southwest - northeast. They appeared to have been laid out as a row of graves parallel to one another.

Grave 1 (G1)

The inhumation in Grave 1, lying immediately below the make-up for the present yard surface, was that of a young adult, though the sex could not be determined. This burial had suffered considerable damage as the skull was missing, having presumably been removed during terracing, though part of the mandible was present, and much of the lower part of the skeleton had been cut away by two small modern pits which contained some of the displaced bones. Many of the undisturbed bones apart from the long bones were absent, having presumably been corroded away in the acid sandy soil, however the remaining bone showed the burial posture as supine with the lower part of the left arm folded across the chest and the lower part of the right arm flexed towards the left pelvic area. Though part of the outline of the grave cut remained there was no indication that a coffin had been present.

Grave 2 (G2)

Grave 2, that of an adult male, had been cut into the fill of the earlier Roman pit F3 just inside its southern edge. Approximately 0.4 m of the grave shaft remained and the burial itself was undisturbed. The most interesting aspect of this burial is that while the surviving bones showed the body had been interred in a coffin at the base of the shaft, the skull, with articulated mandible and uppermost vertebrae, was encountered slightly higher in the grave fill, located above the area of the left knee. The skull was resting on its left side facing the foot of the grave, and the shaft of an iron nail was located just below the level of the chin pointing towards, and almost touching, the centre of the surviving vertebrae column. The surviving remains of the body in the base of the grave shaft consisted mainly of the long bones in a supine position with the lower right arm flexed towards the right hip, and the coffin outline was indicated by iron nails and a soil colour change on the north side of the grave. The body appeared to have been placed in the coffin allowing usual space for the skull to have occupied its normal position. Though none of the vertebrae with the body had survived, so that the skull and body could not be securely reunited, those articulated with the skull showed that it had been detached with a single oblique chop from behind severing the 4th cervical vertebrae, while there were at least three other cut wounds to the lower back of the skull. There were also some indications of infection above the right eye socket. The latest dated

material from the grave fill was a sherd of Oxidised Hadham Ware of the mid-late 3rd or 4th century.

Grave 3 (G3)

Only the western end of Grave 3, that of a young adult female, fell within the site area, and this was considerably deeper than the other burials with just over 1.0 m of the grave shaft surviving. As with Grave 2 the burial had been provided with a coffin constructed using iron nails, and the position of the south side of this appeared to be indicated by a change in soil colour. The body was supine, and preservation of the bone appeared to be better than in either of the other two graves as, together with the long bones of the upper arms and the skull, several rib bones were also present. The skull, which had suffered damage from exposure to the acid soil, was resting at an angle tilted slightly onto its left side, while to its immediate right and extending slightly beneath it were four inter-locked copper-alloy armlets (Fig 00) which can be dated to the late 4th century.

The Human and animal bone by Alec Wade, incorporating comments by Mary Reidy (Dental surgeon) on the human mandibles and teeth.

This report describes the results of a brief examination of the bone recovered from three late Roman graves discovered during a watching brief in Butt Road, Colchester. Particular detail is given to a decapitation victim found in grave 2 and in Appendix 1.

All three inhumations were in poor condition with typically only the limb bones and mandibles surviving. Graves 2 and 3 however also contained complete skulls though that of grave 2 (the decapitation) had been compressed and was badly fragmented. Where possible estimation of age at death was made for each individual based upon molar wear and epiphyseal union (Brothwell1981). Estimation of sex was also made where possible though given the paucity of diagnostic elements this should only be regarded as a guide.

Grave 1

The grave of a young adult of indeterminate sex. Tooth decay was noted in the surviving teeth of the mandible.

find	description	age	sex
4	shaft fragment from right tibia and one other unidentified piece	-	-
6	incomplete mandible, 2 molars in jaw	17-25	-
7	two fragments of right humerus shaft	-	-
8	five fragments of unidentified limb bone	-	-
9	a fragment of an ulna, a ?radius, and 4 other unidentified pieces	-	-
10	two unidentified fragments, most likely rib bones	-	-
11	three small unidentified pieces of bone	-	-
12	approximately 40 small unidentified pieces of bone	-	-
13	shaft fragment from femur and four amorphous bone lumps	-	-
14	shaft fragment from a left tibia	-	-

Grave 2

The grave of an adult male. The skull was absent from its correct position in the grave but

was instead located above the inhumations left knee with the mandible and 1st to 4th vertebrae still articulated. The skull was intact but was crushed laterally to approximately 2/3rds its normal volume and lay on its left side facing the foot of the grave. Examination revealed that the head had been severed by a single oblique chop through the 4th cervical vertebrae. The 3rd cervical vertebrae may also have been damaged by this action. At least three other cut marks were found around the back of the skull. In addition evidence of possible infection above the right eye orbit and of a miss-shaped (fractured or broken?) nasal bone was noted, though the latter observation may be found to be in error upon reconstruction of the skull. The mandible exhibited periodontal disease (gum disease) and abnormal lingual bone growth.

It should be noted that the poor condition of the post-cranial skeleton precludes a definite conclusion (based objectively upon the skeletal remains) that the skull either does or does not belong with them.

find	description	age	sex
24	complete skull with mandible, atlas and 3rd and 4th cervical vertebrae, vertebrae have been chopped through and the skull bears cut marks.	24-45	male
30	dog gnawed fragment from a sheep/goat tibia	-	-
51	dog tooth and possible ulna fragment with two other unidentified pieces	-	-
52	fragment of left radius and left ulna	-	-
53	fragment of right radius and of left ulna	-	-
54	complete left femur with fused proximal and distal epiphysis	16-23+	-
	complete left tibia with fused proximal and distal epiphysis	16-23+	-
	fragments of pelvis (with acetabulum), fibula, 6 tarsals, 2 metatarsals and a ?phlange with fused distal and proximal epiphysis	-	-
55	incomplete right femur with fused distal epiphysis	16-23+	-
	incomplete right tibia with fused distal epiphysis	16-23+	-
	fragment of proximal femur ?epiphysis and one other unidentified fragment, possibly a pelvis	-	-

Grave 3

The grave of a young adult female. The back and top of the skull displayed an unusual pattern of pitting which penetrated the cortex of the cranium in places. While this may be an unusual erosion pattern it could also be associated with the perforations caused by secondary cancer*. Evidence of periodontal disease was noted in the mandible.

find	description	age	sex
66	complete skull with mandible, atlas and axis, back of skull displays unusual pitting/erosion pattern, possibly diseased	17-25	female
73	shaft fragment of left humerus	-	-
74	seven fragments of rib and an incomplete left scapula	-	-
75	shaft fragment of a right humerus	-	-

* note: the skull from Grave 3 has since been examined by Charlotte Roberts and Anthea Boylston of the University of Bradford Department of Archaeological Science who are satisfied that the changes to the skull are entirely postmortem rather than caused by disease.

The Animal Bone

The small quantity of animal bone recovered from all of the site contexts was briefly examined for any signs of bone working waste as Butt Road has previously been identified as the site of a late Roman bone working industry (CAR 2 p.152). Although several pieces had been cut none can reliably be identified as being associated with bone working rather than butchery. Details of the animal bone recovered are given in appendix 2.

The small finds by Nina Crummy

The grave group Fig 4, 1-5, found in a pile close to the right side of the skull, conforms to a pattern of deposition noted in several late 4th-century graves in the Butt Road cemetery (CAR 9, 136-40). It is probable that they were laid in the grave in a leather or cloth bag, or simply wrapped in cloth (Wild 1970, 1983). Similar piles of jewellery accompany the remains of children and young females in other late Roman cemeteries, for example at Lankhills, Winchester, Hampshire (Clarke 1979, Table 2). Deposits of jewellery with a young female may represent a dowry (CAR 9, 130), though the influence of fashion over this particular age and sex group is very strong and it may be that the mourners were simply conforming to the ritual of burying the dead with objects important to them in life.

Evidence from both inhumations and occupation sites suggests that the popularity of bangle-type armlets such as these rose markedly in the 4th century and they occur most frequently as grave deposits in the second half of the century (*ibid*, 136-7). Copper-alloy examples were decorated in a variety of ways, and parallels can often be found, though need not be exact. Thus, Fig 4, 1 is precisely matched by CAR 2, fig 43, 1654, and Fig 4, 2 by *ibid*, fig 41, 1601. The S decoration of Fig 4, 3, and the festoon design on Fig 4, 4 are found at Butt Road and Lankhills respectively (*ibid*, fig 44, 1700; Clarke 1979, fig 83, 265), but on both the armlets from Grave 3 the decoration alters towards the terminals. The use of more than one style of decoration links these two armlets to those with multiple motifs (*ibid*, Type E), though the latter are of much better quality.

These parallels, from Butt Road Graves 69 and 378 and Lankhills Grave 268, point to a date in the last third of the 4th century for the group from G3. The Colchester graves date to later than AD 360 (CAR 2, table 2.67) and the Winchester one to AD 350-70.

Fig 4, 1-5. SF 1. (67) Grave 3 (F9). Grave deposit. Four interlinked copper-alloy armlets and the sleeve of a bone or ivory armlet. 1) Rectangular section set at right angles to arm, with the outer edge cut with small alternating notches. Soldered lap joint, now sprung apart, and with a repair on the hoop. Internal diameter approximately 59 mm, height 1.5 mm, thickness 2.5 mm. 2) Single-strand wire with twisted clasp. Internal diameter 60 mm, circular section tapering slightly to the terminals, maximum diameter 2 mm. 3) Rectangular section with continuous S decoration and plain and transversely grooved panels before the terminals. Hook-and-eye clasp, with hatched decoration beyond the eye. Internal diameter 57 mm, height 3.5 mm, thickness 1 mm. 4) Rectangular section with festoon decoration and transverse grooves before the terminals. Hook-and-eye clasp, the hooked terminal with a cross before it passes beneath the 'eye terminal, which is marked with a cross both before and after the hole. 5) Copper-alloy ribbed sleeve with traces of organic material inside. Length 16 mm, height 5 mm, thickness 4 mm. Such sleeves were used to hold together armlets made of strips of bone bent into a circle (Clarke 1979, 313-4) and perhaps to repair shale armlets (CAR 2, fig 38, 1566).

Not illustrated. SF 2. (5) G2. Grave fill. Fragment of an antler tine trimmed down slightly and cut across at the tip and crudely shaped to a smooth rounded base. A hole has been bored into the tip, though not for any great distance. Length 120 mm. The curved shape of antler tines is an ideal shape for tool handles, and the smooth base of this object shows that it has undergone considerable use. It is probably a handle for a tool with only a short tang, perhaps with the working section as much bound on to the handle as fixed within it.

Not illustrated. SF 3. (57) G3. Grave fill. Fragment of a bone pin of Type 1, which dates to the 1st and 2nd century (CAR 2, 20). Length 52.5 mm. The head is almost flat rather than conical.

Discussion

The large Roman pit F3 pre-dates the late, Roman burials on the site, though in the absence of significant quantities of finds it can only be broadly dated to the 1st - 3rd/4th century. Its size invites comparison with two large Roman pits from the 1971 - 88 Butt Road excavation to the north which were thought to have been used for sand and gravel extraction and are dated 1st - 3rd century (CAR 9 p.9 & fig 2.2).

Of the Roman inhumation burials, though Grave 1 is not directly dated there seems little doubt that its shared alignment with Graves 2 & 3, and that all three graves appeared to form part of a related parallel burial row, indicates that it is broadly contemporary with the others and of late Roman date. The dating evidence for Graves 2 & 3 shows that these burials are of at least mid-late 3rd century and late 4th century date respectively, and their approximate east - west alignment is within the variation seen in other late Roman burials at Butt Road which are dated circa 320/40 - 400+ (Fig 1 & CAR 9 p.4). However the concentration Roman burials to the north appears to define a distinct cemetery area suggesting that the three burials here lie in an area outside of the main late Roman cemetery (CAR 9 fig 2.1 & p.55). Though other burials here could have been entirely removed by terracing (two were uncovered in 1845 and Grave 1 had been badly damaged in the post-medieval period) there is no indication that the area had been as intensively used for burial as the main cemetery.

That these three burials were made in an essentially separate from the main cemetery is supported by the decapitation burial Grave 2 and by other unusual burials from this area. Though the head from Grave 2 could not be securely connected with the body as it was located in the grave fill a little above the rest of the skeleton and the vertebrae within the coffin had been eaten away by the acid soil, there seems little doubt that they belong to the same individual. Roman burials involving decapitation normally involve the severing of the head by cutting between, usually, the 3rd and 4th cervical vertebrae (Philpot 1991 p.78), though there is considerable variation in decapitations recorded from Roman cemeteries. At Lankhills, Winchester, decapitations were accomplished from front to back using a small sharp implement such as a knife (Clarke 1979 p.415), while at Bath Gate, Cirencester, there were instances where it had been enacted both from behind and from the front using a sharp weapon, presumed to be a sharp sword or axe, either between or through vertebrae (McWhirr et al 1982 p.108-109). That in Grave 2 had been removed by a blow using a large heavy sharp edged implement such as a sword or axe directed from behind, slicing obliquely through the 4th cervical vertebrae, and possibly damaging the 3rd. A possible parallel for this is a burial recorded from Godmanchester in which a male, who while exhibiting various leg, pelvic and nose injuries, had been decapitated by a blow from a 'sword or similar implement' which also damaged the shoulder blades, the head had been placed near the feet (Green 1986 p.53 & fig 9). The method of removal of the head at Butt Road is that which would be employed in an execution, and the other three small glancing cut and chop marks on the back of the lower skull are reminiscent of that found on one of the skulls from the legionary ditch at Balkerne Lane, considered to be the remains of executions (CAR 3 p.94 - 98). In this respect it is of interest that two of three unusual burials from this southern burial area, recorded in the 1976 - 79 excavations were of uncoffined prone burials of adult males, probably with bound wrists, placed together in a pit rather than a carefully dug grave (CAR 9 Graves 41, 43 p.105 - 106 & fig 2.59). However Grave 2 was provided with a coffin and the remains were clearly carefully buried with some respect. In decapitation burials the head is usually placed with the body but is removed to the lower body area (Philpot 1991 p.78), the head in Grave 2 had been placed in the lower grave fill resting above the area of the left knee in relation to the skeleton below. Though not common, the placing of the head in the grave fill, or outside of the coffin, is recorded for two other decapitations (Philpot 1991 Table 13). Of the other two burials, while Grave 1 did not have a coffin the burial of the young adult female in Grave 3 is not distinguishable from similar burials in the main cemetery, and all three graves appear to form part of an ordered row of burials oriented within the variation seen in the burials from the main cemetery. This suggests that while this area appears to have been used for individuals, or social groups, who were excluded from the main, probably Christian, cemetery, there may be some connection or relation in burial rite between the two areas for these three burials.

It has previously been suggested that the area of the excavation was on the line of a Roman road running from the area of the Grammar School in the direction of the River Colne at the

Hythe (CAR 9 Fig 2.1 & p.55), however the presence of the three Roman burials would seem to preclude this possibility, certainly for the late Roman period, and there was no evidence of a former road on the site area.

Abbreviations

CAR 1 Philip Crummy, Aspects of Anglo-Saxon and Norman Colchester, CBA Research Report, 39

CAR 2 The Roman small finds from excavations in Colchester 1971-9 by N Crummy, Colchester Archaeological Report 2, 1983

CAR 3 Philip Crummy, Excavations at Lion Walk, Balkeene Lane and Middleborough, Colchester, Essex.

CAR 9 Nina Crummy, Philip Crummy & Carl Crossan, Excavations of Roman and later cemeteries, churches, and monastic sites in Colchester

CAR 10 Robin Symonds & Sue Wade, Roman pottery from excavations in Colchester, 1971 - 86

CAT Report 11 Stephen Benfield, An archaeological evaluation at 47 Butt Road Colchester

References

Bass, W, M, 1987 Human Osteology, Missouri Archaeological Society

Brothwell, D, R, 1981 Digging Up Bones, British Museum (Natural History)

Clarke, G, 1979 *The Roman cemetery at Lankhills*, Winchester Studies **3, II**

Green, H, J, M, 1986, Religious Cults at Roman Godmanchester, in Pagan Gods and Shrines of the Roman Empire, edited by Martin Henig & Anthony King

Hull M R, 1963 The Roman Potters' Kilns of Colchester, Society of Antiquaries Report 21

Manchester, K, 1983 The Archaeology of Disease, University of Bradford

McMinn, R, M, H, & Hutchings, R, T, 1986 A Colour Atlas of Human Anatomy, Wolfe Medical Publications

McWhirr, A, Viner, L, and Wells, C, 1982 Cirencester Excavations II, Romano-British Cemeteries At Cirencester, Cirencester Excavation Committee

Philpot, R, 1991 Burial Practices in Roman Britain, A survey of grave treatment and furnishing AD 43-410, BAR British Series 219

Wild, J P, 1970 *Textile manufacture in the northern Roman provinces*

Appendix 1

Illustrations of the decapitated skull from Grave 3

Appendix 2

List of animal bone from the site

<u>FINDS NO/FEATURE</u>		<u>DESCRIPTION</u>
F2	(61)	Unidentified animal
F3	(63)	3 unidentified animal
	(79)	Cow metatarsal. Poor condition. Distal G. Frags x 2
F4	(2)	Chicken femur, large mammal vertebrae
F5	(1)	Sus metapodial frag?, burnt limb bone & ? Frag
F6	(22)	5 unid, 1 large mammal rib frag.
	(3)	2 unid
	(50)	3 unid
	(37)	Sheep goat tooth; medium ? ? metapodial frag, 1 unidentified. Dog clawed
	(20)	Large mammal limb/shaft fragment
	(36)	Cattle radius shaft frag.
	(21)	Cattle phalange. Small cut mark on top of barrel.
F7	(23)	Shaft fragment
	(5)	Sheep/goat tooth. Medium metatarsal metapodial fragment, 1 void, frag, cattle hoof (3rd phalange), large mammal rib fragment with cut mark.
F8	(28)	Large mammal skull frag.
	(31)	9 skull(?) frags, animal, 3 limb bone fragments. Some dog gnawed
F8	(29)	Large mammal skull fragment. Occipital condyle & L9
	(32)	1 limb bone frag, medium sized mammal, 5 skull frags, animal, 5 unident. frags
F11	(77)	1 piece of pottery. 6 unident pieces, 1 medium mammal shaft fragment, 1 bos metacarpal fragment, distal. Large mammal tibia fragment (shaft)
F9	(72)	Red deer metacarpal, prox, ? Large mammal tibia shaft frag, horse 1st phalange, gnawed? 3 cow teeth & 1 in maxilla fragment. 2 cow frontlet/horncore fragments. 1 bos radii fragment, proximal, cut mark. 1 bos 2nd phalange. 1 ovicapra mandible, immature ?? Sus mandible fragment, 1 sus metapodial. 1 bird tibia. 1 dog metapodial? 10 large mammal skull frag. 1 vertebrae, 2 medium mammal limb bone frag, 3 medium mammal ribs. 3 other large mammal unident.

Appendix 3

Archive tables of finds:

Table 1: General finds from features (Roman pottery fabric codes as CAR 10).

(note: F1=Grave 1, F6=Grave 2, F9=Grave 3)

F	find	type	wt grms	notes	date	discarded
2	61	bone	2	1 piece		
	61	Roman tile	150	2 fragments	Roman	*
	61	?brick	20	small fragments (2 brick types)	post-medieval ?modern	*
	61	Roman pottery	40	CAM 268 jar (GX)	2nd century+	
	61	nail	2	corroded fragment		*
3	63	bone	10	4 pieces		
		Roman pottery	2	1 small sherd (GX)	Roman	
		Roman tile	1	1 tiny fragment	Roman	*
	79	bone	35	1 piece		
4	2	bone	25	3 pieces		
	2	oyster shell	35	2 shells		*
	2	cinder	1	friable ashy cinder	?modern	*
5	1	bone	10	2 piece		
	1	brick	80	4 fragments	post-medieval ?modern	*
	1	slate	1	fragment	post-medieval	*
	1	modern pottery	175	2 sherds	modern	*
	1	Roman pottery	5	1 sherd (GX)	Roman	
	1	nail	5	8 cm long with round head	probably modern	*
	1	Glass	10	three pieces, probably modern	?modern	
6	3	bone	1	2 fragments		
	3	post-med. pot	5	1 sherd	post-medieval	
	3	Roman pot	1	CB, Col c.c. (CB)	early-mid 2nd - mid 3rd	
	3	Rom pot	20	DJ, 2 sherds		
	3	Rom pot	50	GX, sq, CAM 268	2nd+	
6	5	bone	25	vsq		
	5	Romen tile	200	2 frags	Roman	*
	5	slag	20	2 small pieces		*
	5	nail	5	head fragment		*
	5	Roman pottery	2	CB Col c.c.	early-mid 2nd - mid 3rd	
	5	Rom pot	5	GB, BB2 rim sherd	early-mid 2nd+	
	5	Rom pot		GX, CAM 108 (1st - early 2nd)	Roman	
6	20	bone	60	1		
6	21	bone	15	1		
6	22	bone	10	sq		

F	find	type	wt grms	notes	date	discarded
	22	septaria	225	2 lumps		*
	22	tesserae	20	1 cube		*
	22	Roman tile	1250	q, brick & roof tile	Roman	*
	22	nail	5	fragment		*
	22	Roman pottery	5	1, samian BX, Drag 37, Lezoux (CG)	2nd	
	22	Rom pot	10	1, CB, Col c.c	early-mid 2nd - mid 3rd	
	22	Rom pot	1	1, CZ Col c.c.	early mid 2nd - mid 3rd	
	22	Rom pot	5	1, ?CH Hadham	?mid-late 3rd+	
	22	Rom pot	5	1 GB BB2	early-mid 2nd+	
	22	Rom pot	50	sq,	Roman	
6	25	nail	5	1, from throat area of Skull (Grave 2l) see plan	Roman	
6	36	bone	30	1		
6	37	bone	1	vsq, fragments		
	37	unident stone	55	1		*
	37	Roman tile	200	vsq	Roman	*
	37	Roman pottery	5	1, BX, base ?East Gaul	2nd	
	37	Rom pot	5	1, CH, Hadham	mid-late 3rd+	
	37	Rom pot	5	1, CZ, Col c.c.	early-mid2nd - mid 3rd	
	37	Rom pot	30	vsq, GX	Roman	
6	50	bone	2	vsq		
	50	Roman tile	360	2 pieces	Roman	*
	50	daub	25	1		*
	50	Roman pottery	20	1, GA, BB1, CAM 39	early-mid 2nd+	
	50	Rom pot	5	vsq, GX	Roman	
	50	nail shaft	5	1		*
7	23	post-med brick	1200	2	post-med - modern	*
	23	coal	5	1	?modern	*
	23	bone	5	1		
	23	oyster shell	10	1		*
	23	Roman tile	125	1		*
	23	post-med pottery	15	2, flowerpot & modern glazed piece	modern	
	23					
8	26	nail	15	head & part of shaft		*
8	27	nail	15	head & part of shaft		*
8	28	bone	25	1		
8	29	bone	60	1		

F	find	type	wt grms	notes	date	discarded
8	31	tile	15	1, ?peg-tile	?post-medieval	
	31	Roman tile	680		Roman	*
	31	septaria	65	1		*
	31	Roman pottery	10	1, ?BX, probably CG	2nd	
	31	Rom pot	10	?CZ Col c.c. ?lid	early-mid 2nd - mid 3rd	
	31	Rom pot	5	1	Roman	
	31	Rom pot	60	sq, GX	Roman	
	31	Rom pot	5	1, HZ		
8	32	bone	10	sq		
	32	peg-tile	40	2, 1 with peg-hole	post-medieval	*
	32	Roman tile	1000	vsq	Roman	*
	32	Roman pottery	20	1, GX, CAM 268	2nd+	
8	33	Roman tile	50	1		*
	33	Roman pottery	5	1, GX, BB form	early 2nd+	
9	72	bone	570	q		
	72	septaria	210	2		*
	72	tesserae	100	4	Roman	*
	72	Roman tile	750	q	Roman	*
	72	nail	25	1, large round falt head & part of shaft	?Roman	*
	72	Roman pottery	110	1, BA, Drag. 18/31 or 31, stamp ...RF, probably CG.	2nd (?earlier 2nd)	
	72	Rom pot	2	1, BA	?2nd	
	72	Rom pot	25	1, AJ	1st - early 3rd	
	72	Rom pot	110	1, TZ, late wall sided mortaria	late 2nd - earlier 3rd	
	72	Rom pot	10	vsq, CB	early-mid 2nd - mid 3rd	
	72	Rom pot	5	1, EA, barbotine decorated	early-mid 3rd+	
	72	Rom pot	2	1, CH	mid-late 3rd+	
	72	Rom pot	35	vsq, DJ		
	72	Rom pot	300	q, GX		
	72	Rom pot	70	1, HZ		
10	62	Roman pottery	110	vsq, all one pot, GX	?2nd+	
11	77	tile	5	peg-tile fragment	post-medieval	*
	77	Roman tile	90		Roman	*
	77	Roman pottery	10	1, AJ	1st - early 3rd	
	77	post-med pottery	35	1, fabric 40 glazed	post-medieval, 17th - 19th	
11	78	Roman tile	650		Roman	*

F	find	type	wt grms	notes	date	discarded
	78	nails	15	vsq, fragments		*
	78	Roman pottery	230	1, AJ	1st - early 3rd	
	78	Rom pot	5	1, GX		

Table 2: small finds and coffin nails from burials

find	Grave / F	small find	description
5	Grave 2 (F6)	2	?worked antler piece
15	Grave 2		Fe nail
16	Grave 2		Fe nail
17	Grave 2		Fe nail
18	Grave 2		Fe nail
19	Grave 2		Fe nail
25	Grave 2		Fe ?nail from throat area of skull (see plan) Grave 2
34	Grave 2		Fe nail
35	Grave 2		Fe nail
38	Grave 3 (F9)		Fe nail
39	Grave 2 (F6)		Fe nail
40	Grave 2		Fe nail
41	Grave 2		Fe nail
42	Grave 2		Fe nail
43	Grave 2		Fe ?nail
44	Grave 2		Fe nail
45	Grave 2		Fe nail
46	Grave 2		Fe nail
47	Grave 2		Fe nail
48	Grave 2		Fe nail
49	Grave 3 (F9)		Fe nail
56	Grave 3		Fe nail
57	Grave 3 (F9)	3	bone pin shaft
58	Grave 3		Fe nail
59	Grave 3		Fe nail
64	Grave 3		Fe nail
65	Grave 3		Fe nail
67	Grave 3 (F9)	1	Ae armlets (sent for immediate conservation at COLEM)
68	Grave 3		Fe nail
69	Grave 3		Fe nail
70	Grave 3		Fe nail
71	Grave 3		Fe nail

Table 3: finds of Skeletal material from Graves

Grave	feature	finds nos	description
1	?1	4	long bone fragments (from fill of F5, cuts F1)
	?1	14	long bone fragments (from fill of F5, cuts F1)
	1	6	jaw fragments
		7	long bone fragments, right upper arm
		8	long bone fragments, left upper arm & shoulder
		9	rib & long bone fragments, left arm (radius & ulna) chest area
		10	?rib fragments, right lower arm, chest & pelvic area
		11	fragments, pelvic area
		12	fragments, upper left leg
		13	long bone & other fragments, upper left leg
2	6	24	skull with attached vertebrae (find 25, nail, in throat area, see plan & tabel 2)
		30	long bone fragment
		51	fragments, area of burial & surrounding soil
		52	long bones, left arm
		53	long bones, right arm
		54	long bones, left leg, foot & pelvis
		55	long bones, right leg & pelvis area
3	9	66	skull & vertebrae
		73	long bone, left upper arm
		74	rib bones & other bones, upper torso mid bones
		75	long bone, right upper arm