

# **Stages 2 & 3 archaeological monitoring and excavation on the Napier Road car parks and footpath (GAL Area B1b and C2), Colchester Garrison, Essex**

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**on behalf of Taylor Wimpey**

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## 1 Summary

*Archaeological monitoring and excavation was carried out on three sites on the northern and southern sides of the eastern end of Napier Road during ground-works for two car parks (Phase 1 & Phase 2), and for a new footpath along the northern side of Napier Road (Phase 3).*

*The northern car park (ie, the Phase 1 site) revealed a large early or mid-Roman quarry pit, evidence of iron working (smithing) and possibly bone working. In the mid-late Roman period the site was primarily used for burial (two cremations and twenty-seven inhumations, some of which were intercutting, with one cremation cut into the backfill of one of the inhumations). The graves can be divided into groups which share distinct alignments, possibly in small areas reflecting either socially-related groups, or (over a wider areas) chronological patterns of burials. The variation in the alignment of graves is similar to that of graves on the southern car park (Phase 2 here). An unusual line of intercutting burials on the southern edge of the site may mark the cemetery boundary, and may follow an otherwise invisible boundary (one side of a trackway?). Of significant interest is the skeleton of a juvenile which has physical traits indicative of a possible Negroid ancestry or origin.*

*The Phase 2 area (south of Napier Road) produced a small quantity of residual Neolithic-Early Iron Age finds. During the mid-late Roman period the site was primarily used for burials (three cremations and thirteen inhumations). While the variation in grave alignment is similar to that on the northern car park (Phase 1 site), there are no east-west aligned burials here. Unusually, one cremation had been placed at the centre of a ring-ditch. This burial post-dates several of the inhumations, one of which can be dated to after the late 2nd century.*

*The footpath watching brief (Phase 3) revealed traces of the Roman circus. Spreads of building materials from the circus stands (cavea) were uncovered surprisingly close to the modern ground level. The rubble spread associated with the outer cavea wall contained mainly large stones, probably from the dismantling of the circus in later Roman times. The rubble spread near the inner cavea wall consisted of mortar debris with stone chips and a few small fragments of Roman brick. This was probably waste from the robbing of larger pieces of stone and brick for reuse in medieval times. The rubble spreads were left intact and given a protective covering.*

## 2 Introduction (Figs 1, 2)

This is the archive report on an archaeological watching brief carried out by Colchester Archaeological Trust (CAT) on behalf of Taylor Wimpey in association with RPS Planning. The work was undertaken during the construction of new car parking facilities off of Napier Road, Colchester. Two car parks, one to the north of Napier road (Napier Road North) – Phase 1 (TL 9986 2452) and one to the south (Napier Road South) – Phase 2 (TL 9977 2449) were constructed by Anderson Construction Ltd between February 2011 and January 2013. The widening of the footpath on the northern side of Napier Road – Phase 3, was also archaeologically monitored (TL 9966 2454-9982 2450). All groundworks were undertaken using a mechanical excavator equipped with a toothless ditching bucket under continuous archaeological supervision.

Napier Road extends from the crossroads with Flagstaff Road, Circular Road East and Circular Road North eastwards to the junction with Mersea Road. It lies between 470m and 525m south of the Roman walled town. The road slopes slightly from west to east.

The northern car park is located within the former Flagstaff House car park, part of the Taylor Wimpey land parcel Garrison Alienated land (GAL) Area B1b and the southern



car park is located on the site of the former car park next to the Abbey Field cricket pavilion, within Taylor Wimpey land parcel GAL Area C2. The car park areas were constructed under the ownership of Taylor Wimpey but will be passed to Colchester Borough Council.

The monitored groundworks were located within the area of the Scheduled Roman Circus (SAM 35614) and the cemetery zone that flanks its eastern end. The SAM states that all buried elements of the Roman circus, including the racetrack and a 10m buffer around the exterior *cavea* wall, are included. This covers all of the ground beneath the modern non-scheduled standing buildings, surfaces and services. The presence of below ground archaeology in these scheduled areas was confirmed by the 2002 and 2007 trenching (CAT Reports 206 & 438).

The medieval abbey of St John (SAM 26307) is situated immediately north of the northern car park (Area B1b), with the southern precinct wall of the abbey forming the northern boundary of the car park.

An overall archaeological strategy was provided for the project by RPS (RPS 2004). This provides an outline framework for the archaeological mitigation of the development impact on the Alienated Land.

All archaeological work was carried out in accordance with a Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) written by RPS Planning (RPS 2010), and agreed with Colchester Borough Council's Archaeological Officer (CBCAO).

In addition to the WSI, all fieldwork and preparation of reports was undertaken in accordance with the Colchester Archaeological Trust's *Policies and Procedures* (CAT 2012), Colchester Borough Council's Guidelines on standards and practices for archaeological fieldwork in the Borough of Colchester (CIMS 2008a) and Guidelines on the preparation and transfer of archaeological archives to Colchester Museums (CIMS 2008b), the Institute of Field Archaeologists' Standard and guidance for archaeological watching brief (IfA 2008a) and Standard and materials (IfA 2008b). The guidance contained in *Management of research projects in the historic environment* (EH 2006), and *Standards for field archaeology in the East of England* (EAA 14) and *Research and archaeology revisited: A revised framework for the East of England* (EAA 24) was also followed.

### 3 Archaeological background (Fig 2)

The archaeological and historical setting of the Garrison redevelopment area has been comprehensively explored in an earlier report (CAT Report 97) and in the Written Scheme of Investigation for the watching brief (RPS 2010).

#### *Prehistoric*

A Neolithic/Early Bronze Age beaker (UAD event/SMR 1249) was known prior to 2000 from the vicinity of Flagstaff Road. Further evidence for activity during this period recorded during an excavation in Taylor Woodrow Area C1 in 2004 which investigated a cluster of approximately 1m-diameter pits containing pottery of a similar nature, and together these suggest small-scale although potentially intermittent or seasonal occupation (CAT Report 361). In addition, a Late Bronze Age pit was excavated beneath Flagstaff Road during the installation of the storm-water drain by the Anderson Group in January 2006 and several Late Bronze Age settlement-related features were excavated in 2005 during the archaeological excavations for Taylor Woodrow at the northern edge of Area J1 (North; CAT Report 412).

#### *Roman circus*

Part of a monumental, stone-built Roman circus (currently unique to Britain) intercepts the southern car park and the remains in this area are situated to the immediate west of the northern (B1b) car park. The circus was discovered during excavation on Alienated

Land Areas C1, C2 and J1 to the NE of Area J2 in 2004 and 2005, with further walls and a monument base uncovered during service works at Napier Road immediately north of the southern car park in 2006 (CAT Reports 361 & 412) and within B1b in 2007 (CAT Report 438). English Heritage scheduled the site of the circus in late 2007. The east-west orientated circus was approximately 450m in length and 70m wide with a *spina* (central barrier) and was used for chariot-racing. Elements identified to date include the seating *cavea* with internal and external (buttressed) walls, two entrance ways through the southern *cavea*, a racetrack dirt surface, a segment of the semicircular end of the circus, a fragment of the starting gates structures, a monument base on the line of the *spina*, and further elements of the *spina* including its western end and a fragment of a turning-post pillar (*meta*).

A small trench was excavated in the southern car park site over the line of the circus walls in October 2010 for the BBC. The trench uncovered the robbed-out foundations of the outer *cavea* wall of the Roman circus. The circus walls and interior have also been previously excavated within Area C2 to the west of the southern car park and within Napier Road. The outer *cavea* wall foundation was found partially intact at both locations and the inner *cavea* wall was found to be robbed-out. The intact wall remains were preserved *in situ* at both locations.

#### *Roman burials*

Numerous Roman burials have been found in areas surrounding the circus during fieldwork on the Taylor Wimpey development areas. In close proximity to the proposed car parks these include within Area C2 (CAT Reports 361 and 412) to the south of the circus and west of the southern car park, within Napier Road between the two proposed car parks (CAT Report 412) and east of the eastern end of the circus, and within the B1b proposed car park itself. The burials identified in the area of the northern car park were identified during an evaluation undertaken in 2007 (CAT Report 438). Five evaluation trenches were excavated within the proposed northern car park. Trenches 24 and 30-33 uncovered evidence for Roman and post-medieval activity. Roman inhumation burials were identified in Trench 33 and left *in situ* (F16, F17 & F19). An urned cremation burial was also found in Trench 31 cut into a Roman quarry (CAT Report 438). These burials are believed to be part of the same Roman cemetery area excavated in Area C2 (located 150m WSW of this site) close to Napier Road.

#### *Medieval*

The medieval remains of St John's Abbey are located to the north of the car parks. The following text for the medieval period is taken from CAT Report 97 (p 23, here with amendments):

*The abbey was built by the Benedictine Order by 1115 but burnt down in 1133. It was rebuilt in the early 13th century. The cruciform-shaped church is thought to have stood in the northern part of the abbey precinct. A foundation was seen during investigations at the north end of the precinct in 1972 and 1986 which might be part of the church. Human remains, certainly medieval burials associated with the abbey have been recorded several times in this area (CAR 9, 203-221). The church was added to and altered in the 14th and 15th centuries. To the south of the church were the cloister, chapel house and domestic buildings. Some of the domestic buildings were said to have been moved to the south side of the church after 1133 and this has been backed up by archaeological evidence (CAR 1, 28-30) ...*

*The abbey and St Giles' Church were surrounded by a precinct wall with towers. The wall dates from before the 13th century and was refaced in parts in the 16th century. It was partly demolished during the building of the St Botolph's roundabout in the early 1970s, but it was recorded before its destruction (CAR 9, 219). Surviving stretches (some refaced in brick) can still be seen in various places ...*

*The surviving abbey gatehouse was built in the 15th century as the main gatehouse, giving access to the town. The upper storey was blown up during the Siege in 1648 and was rebuilt, probably in the 1840s. The building is Grade 1 Listed and is also scheduled. It is possible that there may have been a second gatehouse located in the Flagstaff House area.*

## 4 Phases of archaeological work

For the purposes of the report the Napier Road groundwork are divided into the three phases of work:

- Phase 1** - the northern car park (Area B1b).
- Phase 2** - the southern car park (Area C2).
- Phase 3** - Napier footpath watching brief

While the excavations for Phase 1 and Phase 2 are presented as separate reports (4 & 5) both the human remains and faunal remains from these two Phases are presented as single, integrated reports (6 & 7).

## 5 The northern Napier Road car park (ie, Phase 1)

*by Adam Wightman and Stephen Benfield*

### 5.1 The excavation (Fig 2)

In December 2010, the ground level in the south-western corner of the existing Area B1b car park was reduced by the contractors to create a new vehicular entrance. Due to the proximity of the new entranceway to the western end of the Roman circus, all of the groundworks were monitored by a CAT archaeologist. The existing ground level was reduced by c 400 mm near to the roadway (Napier Road) and by c 100 mm further into the car park creating a ramped entranceway to the site. The tarmac surface and underlying modern make-up of crushed brick and stone (L1) were removed across the whole area. Nearer to the road where the excavations were deeper, the underlying soil (L2) was exposed. An east-west orientated modern concrete foundation was also uncovered but no features or finds of archaeological significance were encountered.

In January 2011, work began on the installation of surface water drainage beneath the car park. Existing drains were re-used as part of the new system. However, these needed to be connected to a new stormwater drain previously installed beneath Napier Road. Further works included a series of new manholes, a bypass interceptor and a large attenuation tank as part of the new drainage section.

A trench was excavated beneath the pavement on the north side of Napier Road to uncover the connection to the stormwater drain. The area beneath the pavement was found to have been heavily disturbed by the installation of modern services. Following this, the topsoil was removed from the adjacent area of grass verge between the pavement and the edge of the car park. The topsoil contained numerous fragments of modern building materials but no significant archaeological finds. Near to the car park area, pale brown/orange natural sand (L3) was uncovered but no archaeological features were observed cut into it. Just within the site boundary, under archaeological supervision an area was reduced down to the natural sand in advance of the excavation of a 2.5m deep hole for the construction of a new inspection chamber. Machine excavation ceased when inhumation burials (F1-F4) were identified cut into the natural. These burials correspond with inhumations identified during the 2007 evaluation (CAT Report 438). Two of the burials (F3 & F4) were fully excavated, the other two (F1 & F2) were only partially exposed, but were later excavated during the area excavation for the attenuation tank.

The main excavation took place on the area required for the siting of an attenuation tank. This required the archaeological investigation and excavation of 80 m<sup>2</sup>. The whole of this area was stripped onto natural by machine under archaeological supervision. Subsequently the area was extended in two directions, to the north to encompass the area of the bypass interceptor and two manholes, and to the west to encompass two further inspection chambers and a stretch of connecting pipework. The western extension was mostly located within the line of the evaluation trench T33 (Fig 2). The car park surface was tarmac over concrete which, in turn, rested on layers of modern hardcore and crushed brick make-up (L1). Beneath the make-up was a buried

topsoil which contained no modern or post-medieval finds and no distinct archaeological horizons. The topsoil sealed natural sand (L3) in which the cuts of surviving features could be observed. The exposed features were explored and excavated to achieve the aims set out in Section 4.

In May 2012, seven large pits were excavated in the northern car park area to facilitate the planting of new trees (Fig 2). The tree planting-pits (TPP1-7) were approximately 3m square and 1.2m deep. Three tree-pits located along the eastern boundary of the car park were all excavated into modern made-ground (TPP1, TPP6 and TPP7) while the tree planting-pit in the south-western corner of the car park (TPP7) was excavated into a large modern feature. The pits TPP3 and TPP4 were located within the fill of a Roman quarry pit identified during the 2007 evaluation (CAT Report 438, F28) and within the excavation area to the east (see F18 below). No burials were observed in the quarry fill and the only finds were of small pieces of Roman brick and tile. The natural sand was only encountered in one pit (TPP2), at a depth of 0.9m below modern ground level.

## 5.2 Interpretation

The archaeology and its interpretation relates almost exclusively to the excavation carried out within the area of the car park (Fig 3).

### Prehistoric

Very little evidence of any prehistoric activity was encountered and no features dating to the prehistoric period were identified. Individual flint flakes were recovered as residual, finds from two later features (F8 & F9). The two flakes are not closely dated within the later prehistoric period but are most probably Late Bronze Age.

### Roman

#### *Early-Mid Roman*

A number of features can be attributed to the early-mid Roman period based on their relation to later Roman inhumation burials which cut them. These features are predominantly large pits and ditches.

At the northern end of the site was a large pit, F18, which extended beyond the site limits. The feature had previously been identified in an earlier evaluation (CAT Report 438, T31 F28) and appears to be a large quarry pit. During the evaluation a Roman cremation burial, provisionally dated to the 3rd or 4th century, was uncovered cut into its lower fill (CAT Report 438, T31 F32). No further cremation burials were identified within the pit during the excavation, although the upper fill was found to be cut by a Roman inhumation burial (F41) at the west edge of the excavation.

A large quantity of Roman finds were recovered from the small section of F18 which was able to be excavated. These included pottery, ceramic building materials (brick & tile), building stone, animal bone, shells, and iron nails. Two moderately corroded iron bars (SF8 and SF9) and a cut antler tine (SF10) were also recovered. These finds suggest they derive from the discarding of rubbish here; while the Red Deer antler piece, initially almost certainly acquired from hunting (6), indicates working waste, possibly from local light industrial activity. Of particular interest is a terret (SF1) which is almost certainly to be associated with activity at the circus (Plate 1).



**Plate 1: Terret (SF1)**

The more closely datable finds from the quarry pit indicate that it remained an open feature into the late Roman period of the 3rd-4th century, although the pit must have been mostly filled up by the time an inhumation burial (F41) was cut into it.

Located in the centre of the excavation area and extending beyond the west edge was another large pit, F8. This had been cut by four Roman inhumation burials (F13, F29, F30 & F34) and on its south side by a medieval/post-medieval ditch (F5). The pit had a charcoal rich fill, while the quantity of finds recovered, which include pottery sherds, ceramic building material, animal bones (some exhibiting dog gnawing) and oyster shells, suggest accumulated rubbish.

The more closely dated pottery from the pit is primarily of 2nd century date so the fill probably dates to the period of the later 2nd or early 3rd century. A sherd from a Nene Valley colour-coated beaker of probable later 3rd or 4th century date may be intrusive and relate to the later features cutting the pit. Of particular interest among the pottery are sherds from several decorated samian bowls, some representing significant parts of bowls. Sherds from one of these bowls were also recovered from the fill of inhumation burials F10 & F31. It is possible that the samian vessels were used during funeral rites, although not placed with any of the burials.

A significant quantity of smithing slag, including several smithing hearth bases and other irregular slag lumps were recovered from the fill of the pit and hammer-scale was recovered from the soil. These result from iron forging and indicate that this activity was almost certainly taking place on or in the immediate area of the site. More generally, pieces of slag were relatively common finds across the site, small quantities being recovered from twelve other features including residual pieces from the fill of Roman graves. If all of the slag is closely related to one period of working, which might be indicated by its strong association with pit F8, this suggests it probably dates to the 2nd or early 3rd century.

To the south of the large quarry pit was an east-west ditch, F16, which was cut by a cluster of Roman inhumation burials (F10, F26 & F31). The ditch had a U-shaped profile and a small post-hole, F17, was located at its base in the section dug across it. The finds again indicate a range of domestic rubbish and building material, including pottery, Roman brick & tile and animal bone. Pottery from the fill of the ditch suggests that it remained an open, or partly open feature into the late Roman period (mid/late 3rd-4th century).

Several other features can also be attributed to Phase 1 as they predate inhumation burials. These are the small pit F11 which was cut by inhumation F12, but contained no finds; pit F27 which was cut by the ditch F16 and which contained the butchered upper limb of a horse and F32 which was cut by inhumation burial F26.

#### *Mid-late Roman*

The late Roman period is dominated by burials and a total of twenty-seven features are, or probably represent burials (see below section 5.4). These features consist of two cremation burials and twenty-six inhumations, or probable parts of inhumation grave cuts. All of the more closely dated burials are Roman and there is no reason to believe that any of the burials are other than of Roman date. A full catalogue of burials is provided below.

Close dating of many of the burials is difficult as some have no dated grave furnishings. Others have furnishings with a relatively broad date range, or furnishings, such as coins, which may have been old when buried.

One cremation (F6) included, in addition to the pottery urn, a coin. Together these suggest a mid-late 2nd century date for the burial. The other cremation (F28) included a pottery urn, a Cam 268 jar which can be only broadly dated to the early/mid 2nd-late 3rd/early 4th century. This burial also cut one of the graves (F33) oriented north-south which possibly indicates a 2nd-3rd century date rather than later for the inhumation.

The dating of some of the inhumation burials relies on residual finds from the grave fill which provide a *terminus post quem*. However, there are several placed pottery vessels (F1, F6, F26 & F28) ranging in date from the 2nd-3rd and 3rd-4th century, a late 1st-early 2nd century coin (F7/F20) and a 2nd century brooch (F33) (although this might just possibly derive from the cremation F28 cut into it). Overall, the finds suggest that the inhumations broadly date to the period of the late 2nd/3rd-4th century and two (F29 & F30) can be more closely dated to the period of the mid/late 3rd-4th century. Several of the inhumations (F2/F22, F3, F4, F12, F22) were also accompanied by footwear represented by the surviving iron hobnails from the soles but which are not closely dated. Although none of the finds associated with the graves need date to the later 4th century, the dating evidence is not sufficient to exclude a 4th century date for some. The finds dating evidence relating to the burials is summarised in Table 1.

Burial	Burial type	Dating evidence from placed grave objects	Other finds dating evidence from grave/grave fill	Finds spot date
F1/F14	inhumation	Indented beaker Cam 408-410 (Fabric CZ)	Fe nails (F14)	Early/mid 3rd-late 3rd/early 4th century
F2	inhumation		Fe nail fragment	Roman (no closely dated finds)
F3	inhumation	Hobnails		Roman (no closely dated finds)
F4	inhumation		Roman pottery	mid 1st-2nd/3rd century
F6	cremation (amphora burial?)	Jar Cam 278 (disturbed grave furnishing?) Coin (worn) AD138-161		mid 2nd-3rd century
F7/F20	inhumation	Coin (worn) AD 98-117		(Early 2nd century+)
9	inhumation		Roman pottery	mid 2nd-mid 3rd century
F10	inhumation		Roman pottery	Mid-Late 2nd century+, probably Mid 3rd-4th century
F12	inhumation			Roman (no closely dated finds)
F13	inhumation		Roman pottery	mid 2nd-late 3rd/early 4th century
F15	inhumation	Beaker Cam 407 (sherds from		mid/late 3rd-4th century

Burial	Burial type	Dating evidence from placed grave objects	Other finds dating evidence from grave/grave fill	Finds spot date
		disturbed grave pot?)		
F19	inhumation		Roman pottery	early/mid 2nd-3rd century
F21/23	inhumation		Fe nails	Roman (no closely dated finds)
F22	inhumation	Hobnails (placed?)		Roman (no closely dated finds)
F24	inhumation		Roman pottery	early/mid 2nd-3rd century
F25	inhumation		Residual fired clay	Roman (no closely dated finds)
F26	inhumation	Flask/narrow-mouth jar Cam 281		late 2nd-3rd/4th century
F27	inhumation?		pottery	Roman
F28	cremation	Jar Cam 268		Early/mid 2nd-late 3rd/early 4th century
F29	inhumation		Roman pottery	Late 3rd-4th/4th century
F30	inhumation		Residual Roman pottery	mid/late 3rd-4th century
F31	inhumation?			Roman (No associated finds)
F32	inhumation			Roman (no closely dated finds)
F33	inhumation	(?) Brooch (2nd century)	Cut by Cremation F28	2nd century
F34	inhumation		Roman pottery	Late 2nd-early 3rd/3rd century
F41	inhumation			Roman (No associated finds)
F42	inhumation		Fe nails	Roman (no closely dated finds)
F43	inhumation?			Roman (No associated finds)
F44	inhumation?			Roman (No associated finds)

**Table 1: Summary of finds dating evidence from burials**

#### *Cremations*

One of the two cremations, F6 (Plate 2) appears to have been an amphora burial as joining sherds from the wall and base of a broken Dressel 20 amphora were found lining the grave pit. This type of burial makes use of an amphora, commonly Dressel 20, to house the cremated remains/cremation urn and any accessory grave furnishings (Philpott 1991, 22). In this instance, a concentration of cremated bone was recovered from the bottom of the burial pit and was overlaid by sherds from the broken amphora. The body of the amphora here was probably placed in the ground as a complete shell, but was later cracked and the sherds displaced by pressure. None of the neck or rim of the amphora was recovered and may not originally have been present as a complete (broken) Roman brick (16 & 18) found on top of the burial could have been placed to cover the neck hole. The position of the brick pieces in the ground with the pieces lying flat overlying one another might possibly rather indicate a post pad, although one piece of tile is partly covered by an amphora sherd (see Plate 2). Sherds from a broken jar (Cam 278) found with it may represent an urn or possibly an accessory vessel. The burial was also accompanied by a glass vessel (13 & 41) found with the broken amphora. Overall, the finds suggest a date in the mid 2nd-mid 3rd century. The condition of the pottery and glass vessels indicate that the burial has been heavily disturbed and damaged by soil pressure.

It can be noted that three amphora burials using Dressel 20 amphorae have been excavated in Colchester in recent years. There are two from close to the site of the Roman Circus (JSF9 & JSF10) and a third from Hanford House, Beverly Road (CAT Report 323, F137). Previously another burial made in a Dressel 20 amphora has also been excavated from Colchester at Lexden (Hull 1963, 144-46 Grave 302). All of these are dated to the mid 2nd-early 3rd century or late 2nd-early 3rd century and conform to the general date range of similar amphora burials (mid-late 2nd-early 3rd century) from sites in the south-east of Britain (Philpott 1991, 22).



**Plate 2: Cremation burial F6, showing remains of amphora & tile cover (?) (view north)**

The cremation F28 was contained within a pottery jar of form Cam 268, which can be dated to the period of the early/mid 2nd to late 3rd/4th century. The cremation was excavated in spits to ascertain whether bone had been deposited in a sequence in relation to recovery of skeletal elements from the pyre, but appeared to be randomly deposited within the pot.

As this cremation is cut into the fill of one of the inhumation burials (F33) it demonstrates that the two burial rites were in use here during the same period. A brooch (SF3) was recovered from beneath the area where the urn was located. It is not absolutely clear if this was associated with the cremation or with the inhumation burial below. Its position could allow it to be associated with either burial, although on balance it is thought to be probably associated with the inhumation. Two nails recovered with the urn are most probably disturbed nails from the inhumation.

Both cremations (F6 & F28) produced a substantial quantity of cremated bone which does not represent a whole body. This may show that the process of collecting bone from the pyre site was incomplete and to some extent may have been a symbolic act.

#### *Inhumations*

All of the inhumation grave pits were sub-rectangular in plan and had generally vertical sides and flat bases. The size of the cuts for the graves varied considerably, ranging from approximately 1.6 m-2.60 m long and 0.6 m-1.1 m wide (presumably determined by the size of the body and/or the coffin) with surviving depths of between approximately 0.03 m-0.60 m. In general the grave fills consisted of a dark-brown coloured sand/silt loam with common stones, presumably mostly derived from the deposits of brickearth overlying sands and gravels into which the graves were cut.

There was no evidence for the use of burial markers at the site, although truncation or reworking of the upper deposits on the site may have removed all traces of any built features with shallow footings or more ephemeral features such as post-holes. That many of the graves were clustered together and inter-cutting may be indirect evidence for the absence of markers, although the clusters may also mark deliberately associated groups of inhumations suggesting their location was visible or marked.

The preservation of elements of the skeleton varied considerably, probably effected by very localised differences in the soil acidity. Bone from the bodies survived in fifteen of the inhumation burials, although the bone from eleven of these was very fragmentary and poorly preserved. Twelve of the graves did not contain any surviving bone at all, but where bone was present all appear to have been laid on their backs (supine) in an extended position (Plate 3).





**Plate 3. Skeleton showing supine extended position of body – Burial F26 (view south)**

Given the relatively poor survival of skeletal elements in many of the burials, the orientation of the body in the grave is known or can be inferred for just ten. The orientation is either known from the position of the skull and other surviving skeletal remains, or can be inferred from the position of groups of hobnails from footwear, usually placed at the foot of the grave. Three of the bodies were buried with the head to the north-west, three with the head to the north, two with the head to the south and two and with the head to the west.

Many of the graves can be divided between one of three groups based on their alignment (Fig 4). Most on the north half of the site are broadly aligned north-south (N-S), on the south half of the site several are aligned southeast-northwest (SE-NW) and with a few on the middle part of the site aligned east-west (E-W). Burials which can be grouped under these alignments are N-S: F10, F25, F26, F29, F30, F31, F33 & F41; SE-NW: F1/F14, F2, F3, F4, F7 & F31/F23 and E-W F12, F13, F15, F22 & F34. These may relate to distinct chronological phases; however, this is difficult to demonstrate, although where there are relationships between graves - apart from those in a linear intercutting group on the south of the site which may be influenced by other topographical features (see below) - the E-W burials are the latest in date. The alignments here may also relate in part to lineage groups and the clustering of burials on the same, or very similar alignments noticeable. A lineage relationship may also account for groups of intercutting burials. Alignments present among burials over a wider area would be more suggestive of chronological phases, but the limited extent of the excavation area makes this possibility difficult to assess.

Thirteen of the burials were, or appear to have been made in nailed wooden coffins. The coffins are identified by the location of the surviving iron nails used in their construction. No coffin stains were recorded. In the clearest cases the nails relate to a rectangular outline within the grave. Nails associated with burials which were found in positions likely to relate to a coffin infer the presence of one, but with lesser degrees of confidence. The number of coffin nails present varied considerably, possibly indicating the use in some cases of other jointing methods (wooden pegs or dovetail joints) in conjunction with nails. The apparent absence of nails in some graves does not

necessarily mean that no coffin was present as it may have been formed of an all wood construction.

Nine inhumations were accompanied by burial goods, four of these where a coffin can be shown to have been present and five where no clear trace of a coffin was found. The burial goods consisted of two pottery vessels, one coin, one copper-alloy sprung trumpet brooch (although this may possibly be associated with cremation F28) and five sets of hobnails representing the remains of decayed footwear. Footwear placed in graves where significant parts of the skeleton survived was found in burials both to be worn (F30) and placed as a pair close to the feet inside the coffin (F12). One pot was found at the end of a grave close to the corner (F1/F14) and another in the centre of a grave (F26). The pot from the grave corner could have been placed outside of a coffin; that from the centre may have been within a coffin or put on top, although in this instance there is no indication (in the form of nails) that a coffin had been present. Three of the graves also contained animal bone. Much or all of the animal bone is probably residual as there is no clear evidence of placement of the bone, although it is noted it may be possible that some was put into the grave as an offering (Aldhouse-Green, 2001).

The linear group of inter-cutting graves close to the southern end of the site may mark the south edge of the burial area as no burials were recorded to the south of this line, nor during the watching brief or the excavations beneath Napier Road in 2006 (CAT Report 412). These graves appear possibly to reflect a boundary which has otherwise not left any physical trace, possibly indicating a hedge or tree-line. However, some of the excavated graves here did not contain any funeral related finds, such as coffin nails and as such it may be possible that some of these features are part of a ditch pre-dating the burials along its length. The most obvious candidate for such a possibility is F43. The east end of this alignment, aligned southeast-northwest, is also reflected by the group of burials immediately to the north-east (F1/14, F2 & F21/23). The overall alignment of these graves is towards the eastern end of the Roman circus, perhaps indicating that there was a track in this location.

Elsewhere the burials extend beyond the edges of the excavation. The presence of a cremation burial in Trench 31 (T31) of the 2007 evaluation (CAT Report 438) indicates that the burials continue to the west for at least another 5m; but their absence in the 2007 evaluation trenches T32 and T24 and in the tree planting-pits monitored here suggests that the area of more intensive burials is relatively small with areas where they are not present or become quite spaced apart.

The general poor preservation of bone limits the data available for analysis of the individuals buried on the site (7). The relatively few burials able to be analysed indicate a predominance of adult males and in relation to both sexes a predominance of adult individuals. The physical skeletal traits of the surviving inhumations indicate there are three male, with a further two possible males and two possible females. No sex could be determined or suggested for eight of the inhumation burials. The age estimations show seven of these are adult and three are juveniles, with five individuals where the age could not be determined. Of significance is one juvenile (burial F41) as pieces from the skull could indicate a Negroid ancestry or origin and representing the wide ethnic diversity which might be present within the local population during the Roman period, especially in major towns or associated with military establishments. The two cremations are identified as that of an adult and a juvenile or sub adult.

#### **Period 4 Post-Roman (medieval- post-medieval)**

A single feature can be dated as post-Roman. This is a ditch, F5, running east-west across the centre of the site and which had a V-shape profile. This cut two of the Roman inhumation burials (F13 & F15). Two sherds of medieval pottery dated to the late 12th-13th/early 14th century were recovered from the fill along with some pieces of slate, which is probably roof slate and most likely to be of post-medieval date.

## 5.3 Finds

by Stephen Benfield

### Introduction

The types of bulk finds recovered are listed below (Table 2). In addition a small number of individually recorded small finds (SF) were recovered. The most closely dated and more significant of the small finds are reported below. The small finds are listed in Appendix 2. All of the iron objects have been X-rayed. Hobnails and iron nails are listed in Appendix 3.

Finds type	No.	Wt. g
Pottery (including pottery from burials)	670	27,225
CBM	244	25,734
Fired clay	9	190
Glass	46	67
Slag	360	25,643
Flint	2	-
Stone	39	6,225
Mortar	1	67
Shell	14	286

**Table 2: Quantities of bulk finds types recovered**

Almost all of the finds are of Roman date or can be dated to the Roman period. Apart from burials (cremations and inhumations), there is also evidence of Roman industrial activity on the site in the form of iron smithing waste. Two pieces of antler tine which have been sawn through probably also represent waste from manufacture. In addition there are a few prehistoric worked flints and a small quantity of post-Roman finds of medieval and later date. All of the finds were recoded by count and weight for each finds number by context.

### Prehistoric finds

There are only two finds that can be dated to the prehistoric period. Both are worked flints of later prehistoric (Neolithic-Bronze Age) date. The very small quantity of prehistoric finds does not suggest any significant occupation or activity here.

Two residual, small flint flakes were recovered, one each from F8 & F9. Both are tertiary flakes and have bulbs of percussion. One (F9) has a prominent hinge fracture. While not closely dated within the later prehistoric period (Neolithic-Bronze Age) they appear to probably represent a relatively unstructured napping commonly associated with flint assemblages dating to the Mid-Late Bronze Age or possibly later.

### Roman and post-Roman Pottery

The Roman pottery fabrics refer to the Colchester Roman fabric series (*CAR 10*) and to the National Roman Fabric Reference Collection (Tomber & Dore 1998). Vessel forms refer to the Colchester Camulodunum (Cam) pottery type series (Hawkes & Hull 1947, Hull 1958). The post Roman pottery was recorded with reference to the Colchester post-Roman fabric series (*CAR 7*). All pottery fabrics recorded are listed in Table 3 below.

Fabric	Description
<i>Roman:</i>	
AA	amphorae, all (excluding Dressel 20 and Brockley Hill/Verulamium region amphorae)
AJ	amphorae (Dressel 20)
BA(SG)	South Gaulish plain samian
BA(CG)	Central Gaulish plain samian
BA(EG)	East Gaulish plain samian
BX(MV)	Les Martres-de-Veyre decorated samian
BX(CG)	Central Gaulish mould decorated samian
CB	Colchester red colour-coated, roughcast ware
CH	oxidised Hadham ware

<b>Fabric</b>	<b>Description</b>
CL(NJ)	Central Gaulish and 'Rhenish-type' fine colour-coated wares (other later fabrics)
CZ	Colchester and other red colour-coated wares
DJ	coarse oxidised and related wares
DZ	Fine oxidised wares
EA	Nene Valley colour-coated ware
EE(SJ)	marbled wares (Rhineland <i>marmorierte</i> ware)
GA	BB1: black-burnished ware, category 1
GB	BB2: black-burnished ware, category 2
GX	other coarse wares, principally locally-produced grey wares
HZ	large storage jars and other vessels in heavily-tempered grey wares
KX	black-burnished ware (BB2) types in pale grey ware
MQ	white-slipped fine wares and parchment wares
RCW	Romanising coarse wares
TZ	mortaria, Colchester and mortaria imported from the continent
<i>Post-Roman:</i>	
13	Early medieval sandy wares
20	Medieval sandy greywares (general)

**Table 3: Roman and post-Roman pottery fabrics**

Excluding the pots identified as placed vessels as accompanying burials, the pottery assemblage from the site totals 587 sherds with a combined weight of 10,103g. Almost all of the assemblage is Roman, with just two sherds (23g) of medieval pottery, recovered from F5 (Sx 2). All of the pottery was counted and weighed by fabric for each numbered finds bag and vessel forms recorded. The quantities of pottery by fabric are listed in Table 4. The Roman pottery used as funerary urns, placed as funerary accessories or closely associated with burials is listed and described with the other finds from the burials.

<b>Fabric</b>	<b>no</b>	<b>wt (g)</b>	<b>Vessel forms recorded</b>
<i>Roman:</i>			
AA	5	77	Cam 189
AJ	12	1493	Dressel 20
BA(SG)	1	6	Dr 24/25
BA(CG)	13	190	Dr 31, Dr 33, Dr 45
BA(EG)	5	48	Dr 31, Dr 33
BX(MV)	1	10	Dr 37
BX(CG)	36	667	Dr 37
CB	5	15	Cam 391
CH	5	24	
CL(NJ)	1	3	
CZ	11	37	Cam 391, Cam 407
DJ	35	267	Cam 198
DZ	1	6	
EA	5	86	Cam 308, Cam 407
EE(SJ)	1	13	
GA	5	48	Cam 40A
GB	43	546	Cam 37A, Cam 37B, Cam 40A, Cam 40B, Cam 278
GX	357	4241	Cam 243-244/246, Cam 268, Cam 299, Cam 308
HZ	7	258	Cam 270B
KX	18	327	Cam 37B, Cam 278
MQ	1	3	
RCW	6	34	
TZ	9	658	Cam 497
<i>Sub total</i>	<i>585</i>	<i>10080</i>	
<i>Post-Roman:</i>			
13	1	13	
20	1	10	
<i>Sub total</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>23</i>	

Fabric	no	wt (g)	Vessel forms recorded
<b>Total</b>	<b>587</b>	<b>10103</b>	

**Table 4: Pottery quantity and vessel form types by fabric**

#### *Roman and post-Roman pottery*

There is very little among the Roman pottery that can be closely dated to the 1st-early 2nd century, although a sherd from a samian cup of form Dr 24/25 is pre-Flavian. The bowl form Cam 243-244/246 (Fabric GX) is of mid 1st-early/mid 2nd century date and some of the sherds of Romanising coarse ware (Fabric RCW) might also date to the mid 1st-early 2nd century. However, the impression is that most of the pottery dates to the period of the early/mid 2nd-mid/late 3rd century. The latest closely dated pottery is a few sherds of oxidised Hadham ware (Fabric CH) which begins to appear in Colchester from the mid/late 3rd-century, but is most common in the 4th century. The absence of late Roman shell-tempered ware (late 3rd-4th century) which is not uncommon on Late Roman sites in Colchester, is noticeable as is the absence of the vessel form Cam 305 (flanged bowl) which dates to the late 3rd-4th century and is also relatively common among Late Roman assemblages. This probably relates to the use of the area for burial in the late Roman period which would not necessarily produce any significant assemblage of contemporary pottery and it can be noted that a sherds of oxidised Hadham ware (Fabric CH) dating to the late 3rd-4th century were recovered from one of the grave fills (F29) and from another feature (F18). Also a sherd of late Argonne red slip ware (Fabric ARG RS), dated to the early/mid 4th-early 5th century was recovered from the watching brief on the adjacent Napier Road Footpath site (Phase 3).

The only post-Roman pottery recovered consists of two sherds of medieval coarse wares which can be dated to the late 11th-early 13th century (Fabric 13) and to the late 12th-13/early 14th century (Fabric 20). Of themselves, these two sherds do not indicate any significant activity on the site in the post-Roman period.

#### **The Samian pottery (with comments on a potter's stamp by Gwladys Monteil)**

##### **Introduction**

The samian recovered is unusual in that a significant proportion consists of decorated sherds (Table 5). The decorated pieces account for approximately 66% by count and 73% by weight of the samian recovered from the site.

Fabric	no	% no	wt (g)	% wt
BA (SG)	1	1.7	6	0.6
BA (CG)	13	23.2	190	20.6
BA (EG)	5	8.9	48	5.2
<i>subtotal</i>	<i>19</i>	<i>33.9</i>	<i>244</i>	<i>26.4</i>
BX (MV)	1	1.7	10	1.0
BX (CG)	36	64.5	667	72.4
<i>subtotal</i>	<i>37</i>	<i>66.3</i>	<i>677</i>	<i>73.4</i>
<b>total</b>	<b>56</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>921</b>	<b>99.8</b>

**Table 5:Quantities of plain (BA) and decorated (BX) samian by production area**

The decorated samian consists of sherds from a small number of decorated bowls of form Dr 37, of which a minimum of four vessels can be identified (Fig 30 & Fig 31). Three of the bowls are Central Gaulish (Fabric BX(CG)). Sherds from the Central Gaulish bowls were recovered from pits F8 & F10. There is a large part of one bowl (P1) from F8 and sherds from two others from the same pit (P2 & P3). A group of joining sherds forming a significant part of one of the bowls (P2) were recovered from pit F10. It can be noted that the surface of the sherds from F10 are dull by comparison to the sherds of the same bowl from F8 which is assumed most probably to results from a difference in the nature of the soil fill in the two pits, but might result from a different depositional history. This bowl has a name stamp in the mould, placed among the decoration. The stamp is that of Laxtucissa (S1) and can be closely dated to c AD 150-175. One bowl from F8 had been repaired using lead rivets, one rivet surviving in the

vessel wall just below the rim (P3). There is also one decorated bowl sherd (form Dr 37) from Les Martres-de-Veyre (BX(MV)) from the backfill of grave F30(146).

#### *Discussion*

The samian recovered from the site makes up approximately 8.3% by count and 3.4% by weight of the Roman pottery assemblage. Much of the samian is made up of the sherds from the Dr 37 central Gaulish bowls of which a minimum of four are represented. It is possible that some of the plain rim sherds might be from other different bowls of this form, but this appears unlikely. Overall, sherds from the decorated bowls account for approximately 64% by count and 72% by weight of all of the samian recovered (Table 4). In terms of quantity the samian assemblage (both plain and decorated ware) is relatively small, so that the influence of the decorated sherds is proportionally far greater than the actual number of vessels they represent. The number of plain vessels, while difficult to gage accurately, appears to be a minimum of eight, of which four are cups of form Dr 33. This indicates that in terms of the number of vessels, decorated samian bowls make up approximately 33% of the samian from the site.

The quantity of decorated bowls sherds in this small assemblage appears unusual. This is reinforced by the generally small numbers of samian sherds recovered from some extra-mural sites and the small numbers of decorated sherds among them. Two quantified assemblages from Oxford Road and the Colchester Garrison Alienated Land (GAL) site L/N (CAT Report 588), which can be compared by sherd count, are similar to each other, but differ from Napier Road:

- among a moderately large pottery assemblage from Oxford Road there are 121 sherds of samian. These make up approximately 4% of the Roman pottery assemblage by count. Of these sherds forty-seven sherd, approximately 39% of all the samian (by count), are from decorated samian vessels.
- Colchester Garrison Alienated Land (GAL) site L/N produced twenty-seven samian sherds which together are less than 1.5% of the whole pottery assemblage by count. Of these ten sherds, approximately 37% of all the samian (by count), are from decorated vessels.

The overall proportion of samian in the pottery assemblage at Napier Road (by count) is slightly higher than these two sites and the proportion which is decorated ware is much larger. Decorated samian is most common among urban assemblages and is also considered to have been more valued than plain samian but it is difficult to demonstrate this, although military and major civil settlements have the highest proportions of decorated ware (Willis 1998, 105 & 108). As such the presence of significant parts of two decorated part pots on this extra mural site is of interest; especially as the site appears to be used for light industry and burials rather than occupation.

The decorated partial vessels were recovered from a pit (F8) and a pit or grave (F10). The pit F8 is cut by later inhumation burials. A significant group of fine and coarse pottery was also recovered from F8 and is listed in Table 6.

<b>Fabric</b>	<b>no</b>	<b>Wt (g)</b>	<b>forms recorded</b>
<i>Plain samian:</i>			
BA(CG)	7	88	Dr 33, Dr 45
BA(EG)	2	14	Dr 33
<i>Decorated samian:</i>			
BX(CG)	24	463	Dr 37 (sherds from 3 bowls)
<i>sub total</i>	<b>33</b>	<b>565</b>	
<i>Other pottery:</i>			
AA	2	24	Cam 189?
AJ	8	820	D 20
CB	2	4	
CL(NJ)	1	3	

Fabric	no	Wt (g)	forms recorded
DJ	12	142	
DZ	1	6	
EA	1	21	Cam 407
GB	19	183	Cam 37A, Cam 37B, Cam 40A, Cam 278
GX	170	1845	Cam 234-244/246, Cam 268, Cam 299
HZ	2	120	
KX	12	183	Cam 278
MQ	1	3	
<i>sub total</i>	<i>231</i>	<i>3354</i>	
<i>total</i>	<i>264</i>	<i>3919</i>	

**Table 6: Samian and other pottery from pit F8**

Many of the pottery types in F8 first appear in the 2nd century but include a sherd from a Nene Valley colour-coated beaker and a Black burnished ware dish of form Cam 37B which indicate a probable early/mid-late 3rd century date for the latest fill. Very little pottery was recovered from F10, but includes a sherd of Nene Valley colour-coated ware which most probably dates to after the early-mid 3rd century.

As most of sherds from one of the samian bowls from F8 (P1) join together and are not noticeably abraded, this suggests it may not have been long broken when deposited. The surface appearance of the sherds of the other broken, part bowl (P2) varies between the two features from which they were recovered. The sherds from F8 are bright, but the sherds from F10 are dull. This possibly results from different depositional environments in the two pits although a more complex depositional history for the sherds recovered from F10 may have produced this difference.

Why these decorated vessels were deposited on the site is not clear, although a number of points can be made and speculative possibilities suggested.

It is possible that all of the decorated samian may originally have been deposited in one pit (F8). This was cut by later burials and it appears possible that part one bowl was disturbed as a large sherd which was further broken when incorporated in to the fill of F10. Elsewhere large groups of samian have been recovered from pit fill and appear possibly to represent some form of deliberate deposition, notably Pit D II 29A at Alcester from which a total of sixty-nine decorated and plain vessels were recovered, primarily of mid-late 2nd century (Hartley *et al* 1994, 106-110). However, the quantity from the Napier Roads pits is quite small and the mass of other broken pottery recovered from F8 suggests it is rubbish incorporated into the pit fill. Some of this could derive from a possible Roman settlement site located approximately 200 m to the south at GAL Area E (CAT Report 607, 12). However, given the distance to the settlement this may be unlikely and the decorated samian vessels might rather have been used on or close to the site. One possibility may be that they are associated with the funerary activity here.

The pit F8 was cut by inhumation burials and so predates them. However, pottery from two cremation burials (F6 & F28) indicates that they date to the mid 2nd-mid 3rd century and could be current with the use life of the decorated samian. Mould-decorated samian vessels rarely appear as grave goods in Britain although, exceptionally, one cemetery at Brougham, Cumbria, has produced a relatively large number of samian vessels including six mould-decorated bowls (Dickinson *et al* 2004). At Colchester, among the large number of recorded burials plain samian vessels are occasionally present, but mould-decorated samian is extremely rare, consisting of a Dr. 29 bowl from the 'Doctor's' burial at Stanway (Crummy *et al* 2007, 213 & fig 108) and a Dr. 30 bowl associated with a burial at St Clare Road, Colchester (Hull, Inventory of graves at Colchester, unpublished - Grave 188, 3938.20). As such the samian vessels from F8 appear very unlikely represent disturbed grave pots. However, it may be possible that the decorated bowls were used at the grave in the funerary rites or during meals honouring the departed. The potential wider use of samian in Romano-British funerary practices has recently been discussed (Cool & Leary 2012).

At the London Eastern cemetery samian (plain and decorated) was not recovered as grave pots or sherds from any of the burials but made up approximately 6.7% of the non-burial pottery from the site (Barber & Bowsher 2000, 123). It is difficult to connect this pottery with the funerary rites there and there appears to be no significant correlation between samian and the pyre sites (Barber & Bowsher 2000, 124). However, at Trentholme Drive, York, there is some evidence that samian may have been associated with pyres, but not was not clearly placed with the excavated burials there (Simpson & Birley 1968, 52).

As such, it appears possible that some samian vessels from non burial contexts in Roman cemetery areas may have been used during the funeral rites, but were not committed to burial. Some of these vessels may have been accidentally or deliberately broken, or in some circumstances may have been viewed as being polluted. This would probably lead to their disposal at the burial ground. It can be noted that one of the decorated bowls from Napier Road was not pristine, but had been broken and repaired previously (P3). While not necessarily viewed as different, or less valuable than an unbroken one, as such it might be more suitably or easily given up; although in some instances there may be a connection between riveted/repared vessels and more richly furnished graves (Cool & Leary 2012, 315). Small numbers of sherds from mould-decorated samian bowls have been recovered from Roman cemetery areas around Colchester. There are several decorated sherds (Dr. 29 & Dr. 37), including a sherd from beaker of form Dechelette 64, from a recent excavation at the site of the Longinus tombstone in Beverly Road (Mallinson *et al*, 2012) and there are two (Dr 30 or Dr 37 and Dr 37) from excavations at Handford House (now Handford Place) (CAT Report 323, 53). Although these sherds could simply have been deposited there as rubbish, the part vessels from Napier Road could indicated that these are from pots used during funeral rites and then placed or left around the site of the burial.

#### Decorated samian:

Illustrated Fig 30 P1 F8(19, 37, 46, 99, 100)

Dr 37 Central Gaulish (Fabric BX(CG)) Ovolo, astragalus border with figures in bead bordered panels, interior base slip abraded from use, approximately one third of pot present mostly joining sherds, some non-joining rim sherds may be part of this pot. Dated mid-late 2nd century.

Illustrated Fig 31 P2 F8 (37, 100) & F10(77)

Dr 37 Central Gaulish (Fabric BX(CG)). Small name stamp of Laxtucissa (S1) among moulded decoration. Ovolo (Laxtucissa B206), beaded border with figures in astragalus bordered panels. Recovered as two sherds and a group of joining sherds but with no sherds joins between the two features, approximately one third of pot present, mostly joining sherds, Dated AD 150-175.

Illustrated Fig 31 P3 F8 (19)

Dr 37 Central Gaulish (Fabric BX (CG)). Ovolo, beaded boarder below with part of scroll motif, lead rivet repair in rim

Illustrated Fig 31 P4 F30 (146).

Dr 37 Les Martres-de-Veyre (Fabric BX(MV)). Single sherd, ovolo, beaded border and griffin inside double ring medallion, surfaces black presumed burnt

#### Potters stamps on samian:

Illustrated Fig 31 S1 L](A)XTVCIS[F Small name stamp of Laxtucissa (retrograde) from bowl mould amid decorated area on Central Gaulish Dr 37 bowl. (Fabric BX (CG)), (F10(77))

The stamp identification has been confirmed by Gwladys Monteil who comments: '...the die 5a of Laxtucissa (without a bar in the A but the beginning is blurred) dated 150-175 AD (Hartley and Dickinson 2009, 33). The ovolo looks like B206, his usual ovolo and'...without detailed study...'all the other motifs look like ones he would use'.

Illustrated Fig 30 S2 JIVS End of broken name stamp (unidentified) on Central Gaulish bowl Dr 31 (mid-late 2nd century) (F34(131)).



## Ceramic building material (CBM)

### Introduction

A total of 244 pieces of CBM were recovered with a combined weight of 25,734 g. All of this appears to be Roman; although it can be noted that there are two thin, flat pieces of tile from F18 and F34 which might possibly be peg-tile. Details of the CBM are listed by context in Appendix 1.

The Roman brick & tile was recovered from sixteen features and one layer context (F4, F5, F8, F10, F11, F12, F13, F14, F16, F18, F19, F24, F26, F29, F30, F34 & L1/L2). The largest quantities in terms of both count and weight come from two pits: F8 (89 pieces weighing 6,169) and F18 (33 pieces weighing 3,357 g). The backfill of two of the graves also produced significant quantities of CBM: F24 (32 pieces weighing 1,428 g) and F30 (21 pieces weighing 1,906 g). Almost all is in red, sandy fabrics. There are a small number of pieces in cream coloured fabrics from F8 (total 3), F19 (total 3) & F24 (total 2) and single pieces in pale red fabrics come from F5, F8, F12 & F18.

Apart from one complete (but broken) brick from a cremation burial (F6), all of the CBM consists of broken pieces or *tesserae* (small floor tile cubes). The broken pieces come from roof tiles (*tegulae* & *imbrex*), Roman brick and two pieces from hypocaust flue tiles. The types of Roman CBM present are listed by count and weight in Table 7. Roman CBM which could not be more closely identified is listed as Roman brick/tile. Two of the *tesserae* (F18(111) & F30(123)) had clearly been set as part of a floor as there is white, fine mortar on the lower parts. All are red in colour apart from one cream coloured *tesserae* from F24(100). Mortar was only noted on the surface of one of the other tile piece, part of an *imbrex* tile from F18(143) which had white mortar on the upper surface.

Roman tile type	no.	wt (g)
Roman brick	25	11797
Flue tile (combed)	2	76
<i>imbrex</i>	36	2687
<i>tegulae</i>	15	1541
<i>tesserae</i>	39	1311
Roman brick/tile	127	8322

**Table 7: Quantities of Roman CBM types**

Most of the CBM (of itself) cannot be closely dated other than as Roman. Two of the *tegula* tiles (F8 (37) & F18 (11)) have lower cut-aways. Both cut-aways are Warry (2006) Type C5, which he suggested as dating to the period of the mid 2nd-mid 3rd century (c. AD 160-260); although it should be noted that this dating typology is not considered secure in all cases. Other finds from the fill of the pit F8 indicate a date in the late 2nd or more probably early 3rd century. The finds from the quarry pit F18 indicate it dates to the late Roman period (3rd-4th century) or remained an open feature into that period. Two pieces of combed flue tile (F8 (19 & 46)) can be dated to after the late 1st century. There is one complete, but broken Roman brick from the cremation burial F6 (16 & 18) which is dated to the late 2nd or early 3rd century. This is a *Lydion* type tile which had been broken approximately in half (across its width) in antiquity had been placed into the cremation burial pit. It was recovered as one half piece of tile and a second half below which broke into three pieces on recovery. The complete dimensions of the tile are 420/430 mm x 300/310 mm x 34 mm. It can be noted that single tiles or more commonly tile pieces were not infrequently used to protect the burial as covers for vessels containing the cremation ashes.

Seven pieces of CBM had been burnt. These are four pieces of brick/tile from F8 (72, 99 & 100), although one of these may be a piece which was overfired. There were also two pieces of brick from F30 and one from F29.

### CBM Discussion

All the CBM is Roman or probably Roman. Apart possibly from one complete (broken) Roman brick from F6, all of the CBM from the site is probably residual in the contexts from which it was recovered.

Some of the Roman CBM is consistent with demolition material from a building(s) with a tile roof and tessellated floor. The absence of the remains of a building on the site itself shows that this material is from a nearby building or is from a mix of sources and was possibly imported onto the site as salvage for reuse. The presence of the *tesserae* indicate that at least some of this material probably derives from a building nearby as these would have little value for general reuse other than for floors. The two pieces of flue tile indicate a hypocausted room, but as just two pieces they could have been brought in from elsewhere. A number of heat damaged (burnt) pieces of Roman CBM suggests that some of the tile had been brought to the site for reused in structures such as ovens but the small quantity makes this speculative. In contrast the complete (broken) *lydion* tile from burial F6 appears to have been selected to place with the burial and was possibly brought to the site for this purpose.

The near or complete absence of any significant quantity of medieval or post-medieval roof tile and brick could indicate that there were no significant buildings in the immediate area of the site in the post-Roman period.

#### **Fired clay**

Only a very small quantity of fired clay was recovered consisting of nine pieces (190 g) from five contexts (F6, F8, F9, F13 & F25). None of the contexts produced more than two pieces. Almost all are abraded, rounded pieces in red or brownish-orange/orange-buff fabrics. There are no wattle voids or other indications of the original purpose or use of any the fired clay, although one piece from F25 retains part of a rounded edge and might be part of a fired clay object or moulded edge from a structure. It can be noted that some fired clay was recovered with a vitrified surface and this has been included with the slag.

#### **Glass**

A small quantity of Roman vessel glass (46 pieces weighing 67g) was recovered from five contexts. Single pieces of blue-green glass (36g) of probable mid 1st-3rd century date were recovered from three features (F8, F15 & F19) and a total of forty-three pieces of lightly tinted glass (31g) was recovered from three features (F6, F8 & F30). It appears possible that most or all of this glass is connected with the use of this area for cremation burials.

Lightly tinted glass began to appear from the early 2nd century and continued into the Late Roman period. There are single sherds from two contexts (F30 (123) & F8 (48)) and a number of sherds from a broken vessel from the cremation burial F6 (13 & 41). The sherds from the cremation F6 (29 sherds weighing 24 g) are almost certainly are from the same, thin walled, round bodied vessel. The vessel type is not identified as the remaining sherds are all plain body sherds, although the curvature indicates that the vessel is probably a cup or bowl. Some (possibly all) of these sherds (F6 (41)) fit together showing that the vessel (or the surviving portion) was broken within the grave. Pottery from F6 indicates a mid 2nd-mid 3rd century date for this burial. The sherds from the other contexts are all plain body sherds with one neck sherd (F8 (48)) which shows a faint ridge running around it and appears to be from a small bowl or cup with a slightly flaring neck/rim.

The blue green glass includes the corner of a prismatic (square) bottle (F8 (48)). Another flat, thicker sherd is probably also from another prismatic bottle (F19 (86)). These vessels are current from the later 1st century until the early 3rd century and the large vessels were not infrequently used as cinerary urns in burials. One small piece of blue green glass, recovered from the backfill of a grave (F15 (55)), has been heated sufficient to melt it.

## Slag and vitrified oven/kiln lining pieces

### Slag

A total of 25,643 g of slag (360 pieces) was recovered from thirteen contexts. The quantity of slag by weight for each context is shown in Table 5. This can be identified as smithing slag, consisting of recognisable smithing hearth bases (with convex undersides and commonly dished upper surfaces) and irregular smithing slag lumps, some of which may be from broken hearth bases. The slag is only very weakly magnetic. The more complete hearth bases among the debris are quite small weighing between approximately 500 g-1000 g, the heaviest being 975 g (F10). That a number of hearth bases (minimum four) and other hearth base pieces could be identified indicates the debris represents repeated working of iron, with the possibility that this could derive from more than one smithing hearth, perhaps operating together. A significant quantity of debris is associated with the pit F8.

Magnetic debris from a sub-sample of each of three bulk soil samples taken from the pit F8 (Sample 2 (44), Sample 3(45) & Sample 4 (71)) were found to contain common-moderate amounts of small pieces of hammer-scale (Table 8). The hammer-scale consists of flakes indicating forge working of hot iron and a lesser numbers of spheroids indicating fire welding of iron (Starley 2003, 132). Hammer-scale spheroids were also noted among the processed residue from Sample 4 (see Charred plant macrofossils and other remains). Magnetic debris from soil adhering to smithing slag from seven contexts with the largest weights of slag (F8, F10, F18, F19, F24, F30 & F34) was also examined (Table 9). This was also found to contain common-moderate amounts of small pieces of hammer-scale flakes, including hammer-scale spheroids from three contexts (F8, F30 & F34).

That hammer-scale was recovered from soil from pit F8 as well as from the slag itself indicates the smithing was probably taking place either on the site or adjacent to it, although apart from the smithing debris no indication of any hearth(s) was located on the site itself.

Bulk sample	hammer scale flakes	hammer scale spheroids
2 (F8)	*	*
3 (F8)	*	*
4 (F8)	**	*

**Table 8: Hammer-scale from bulk samples (Key: \*\* common, \* present)**

Feature	Wt (g)	no	hammer scale flakes	hammer scale spheroids	notes
F5	499	5			
F6	21	3			
F8	10434	180	**	*	Hearth base pieces and smithing slag lumps, some spheroids present among larger amount of hammer scale and from bulk soil sample Sample 4
F10	3061	33	*		Several hearth bases and smithing slag lump, very low level of hammer scale. No spheroids recovered - but very small soil sample only from pieces
F12	615	3			
F13	2243	39			Hearth base pieces and smithing slag lumps
F15	52	2			
F18	223	4	*		Hearth base piece and smithing slag lumps, very low level of hammer scale and no spheroids recovered. Also three pieces with vitrified surface with some red-brown fired clay from wall or base of hearth

Feature	Wt (g)	no	hammer scale flakes	hammer scale spheroids	notes
F19	1464	23	*		Very low level of hammer scale. No spheroids recovered - but small soil sample only from pieces
F24	2091	26	*		Hearth base pieces and smithing slag lumps, low level of hammer scale. No spheroids recovered - but small soil sample only from pieces
F29	219	3			
F30	3399	19	**	*	Hearth base pieces and smithing slag lumps, some spheroids present among larger amount of hammer scale
F34	1322	20	**	*	Hearth base and smithing slag lumps, some spheroids present among larger amount of hammer scale

**Table 9 Quantities of slag by feature (Key: \*\* common, \* present)**

Most of the features with a significant quantity of slag contain pottery dated to the mid 2nd-3rd century, with two containing pottery dated as mid 3rd-4th century. Only small quantities of slag were recovered from features with pottery dated to the late 3rd-4th century (F18 & F29). This suggests that the slag was deposited during the period of the mid 2nd-mid/late 3rd century. The largest quantity is associated with pit F8 which also contained soil with quantities of hammer-scale waste. The latest dated pottery from F8 is of mid/late 2nd to 3rd century date, with residual earlier (mid 1st-2nd century) sherds also present. That slag pieces occur in many of the grave fills suggests that, although much of the smithing waste was dumped into F8, residual slag pieces were common around the site. As such, if all of the slag is closely related to one period of working, which might be indicated by its strong association with pit F8, then this would suggest that the smithing activity here dates to the mid-later 2nd or earlier 3rd century. However, it might also be that smithing activity on or around the site might also have extended over a longer period in the 3rd century.

#### *Oven/kiln lining*

In addition to the smithing slag there are also a small number of pieces of hearth or kiln lining which were recovered from the same contexts as some of the slag. These have vitrified (glassy) surfaces with a red-brown, fired clay backing. Most are from F8 (7 pieces, 292 g), with a few pieces from F18. These pieces are probably most likely to have come from a flue or fire chamber surface/lining and indicate the presence of an otherwise undiscovered oven/kiln located in the area.

#### **Stone**

Pieces of limestone, septaria, limestone/chalk and slate were variously recovered from eight features. Where closely examined the limestone is a greensand limestone and therefore is most probably Kentish Ragstone. All the stone is listed in Table 10. The total weight of stone recovered is 6,225 g. The stone is scattered between features with the largest quantities coming from the pit F8 & F30. The small piece of slate recorded from the cremation burial F6 is almost certainly intrusive.

Feature	Limestone (greensand)	septaria	Limestone/ Chalk	slate	unident.	total wt (g)
F5		2		7		108
F6				4		123
F8	8	1?	1		3	3960
F10		1				77
F18	1		1			270
F26		1				108
F30	5					841
F34	3	1				738

**Table 10: Types of stone recovered, by context**

The most common of the identified stone types is greensand limestone, which is likely to date to the 2nd century or later when large quantities were imported for the construction of the Roman circus (Crummy 2008, 19). The source of this stone is almost certainly north Kent, although the greensand outcrops in an arc as far west as Farnham (Surrey) and returning to south coast at Eastbourne (Sussex). The small quantity of septaria is also likely to be of Roman date. This is a locally occurring stone, probably sourced from coastal locations. It was in use from the early Roman period and much probably dates from the period of the late 1st century when large quantities were imported into the town for the construction of the town wall (CAR 6, 30). The use of greensand in the construction of the circus could imply that in the 2nd century septaria had become difficult to obtain in large quantities. The pieces of slate recovered are most likely to date to the post-medieval or modern period.

### **Mortar**

A single piece (67 g) of *opus signinum* mortar (a type of lime mortar containing crushed tile) was recovered from the fill of grave F30.

### **The small finds and bulk metalwork**

by Nina Crummy

The assemblage is small and chiefly consists of items either deliberately deposited in funerary features as grave goods or residual in the backfill and of a small number of items from pit fill. The objects are catalogued below by context type and feature number.

Unless stated otherwise, all the nails are of Manning's Type 1b (1985, 134), short nails with round flat or slightly convex head.

### *Burials*

A worn mid 2nd century *as* of Antoninus Pius (AD 138-161) placed in cremation F6 as the ferryman's fee is likely (as with the coin in inhumation F7) to have been in circulation well into the 3rd century. The coin was probably minted in Britain and the image of Britannia on the reverse may have had personal significance for the deceased or the mourners (Crummy 2010, 69-74). The heap of stones on which she sits is sometimes thought to represent the Antonine Wall (Reece 2002, 121-2, fig. 17).

A coin, an *as* of Trajan, AD 98-117 (98-101?) had been deposited in inhumation grave F7 as the ferryman's fee. Located inside and close to the southern edge of the coffin, it had probably been placed in the left hand of the deceased. It is very worn and more likely to have been deposited in the mid-late 3rd century, possibly even later, rather than close to the period of minting. Hoard and site-find evidence both in Britain and on the continent shows that the good-sized copper-alloy coinage of the later 1st to early 3rd century continued in circulation at least until the late 3rd century if not into the early 4th (Davies and Gregory 1991, 67-8; Reece 2002, 42-4) and were therefore available for use as grave deposits until that time.

A brooch of Mackreth (2011), Type 3.2b/Hull (in prep.) Type 176B (Fig 24, F33.1) recovered from Grave F33. Brooches of this form are not numerous but can be dated along with the other subtypes of Hull Type 167B to the 2nd century. The type is of British manufacture and has a generally eastern distribution, with outliers in Wales, Northumberland and Scotland. The outliers suggest some connection with troop movements or the use of military supply lines by civilian traders (Hattatt 1989, 89, fig. 45; Mackreth 2011, 125). The iron nails found in the cremation pit probably derive from timber used to construct the pyre, or from reused timber utilised as fuel.

An offcut of copper-alloy sheet, found close to the left thigh in grave F13, is likely to be residual.

### Pits

A copper-alloy terret from quarry pit F18 (Plate 1) no doubt derives from activity at the circus, coming either from a chariot or larger processional vehicle. As with many Roman-period terrets it has only minimal decoration, and its base is only roughly fettled where it would have been hidden within the wood of a yoke. A fragment of a copper-alloy shaft from the same pit is probably part of a hairpin or toilet instrument. A plain bone counter from pit F8 may also have some connection with the circus, as boards have been found scratched into the stone of the stadium at Aphrodisias and others close to the theatre and stadium at Ephesus (Schädler 2008, 172).

Illustrated Fig. 29. SF 1. (107) F18, fill of quarry pit. Copper-alloy terret, tapering in thickness from base to top. The base, which would have been set into the harness is only roughly fettled. The ring is smooth and well polished, and is decorated on both sides around the central guide hole for the rein with fine radiating notches. In general the notches show little wear, but the lower right hand edge of the hole and the adjacent notch are more worn than the rest. Height 51 mm, 5 mm thick at the base tapering to 1 mm at the top of the ring, diameter 43 mm.

SF 10.(152) F18, fill of quarry pit. Copper-alloy shaft, broken at each end, possibly from a toilet instrument or hairpin. The section is round and tapers slightly, and the broken upper end is slightly flattened. Length 67 mm.

SF 6. (39) F8, pit fill. Bone counter with dished centre bearing a lathe-centre mark. The underside is bevelled on one side where cancellous tissue from the inner part of the bone is exposed. Diameter 20 mm, 4 mm thick. Counters of this type were made throughout the Romano-British period (CAR 2, 91).

### Shell

A small quantity of oyster shell was recovered from three features: pit F8 (3, weight 19 g), pit F18 (10, weight 251 g) & grave F30 (1, weight 16 g). Closely dated finds from the pit F8 indicate a date in the late 2nd or more probably early 3rd century, while finds from the quarry pit F18 are of Late Roman date (3rd-4th century) indicating it was an open feature into the Late Roman period. Both of the pits pre-date one or more of the Roman inhumation burials made on the site which could suggest that at least some of the shell recovered may have been deposited in the period pre-dating the inhumations.

### Charred plant macrofossils and other remains

by Val Fryer

#### Introduction and method statement

Excavations at Napier Road, undertaken by the Colchester Archaeological Trust, recorded a limited number of features of Roman date. Samples for the retrieval of the plant macrofossil assemblages were taken from cremation deposit F6 (Sample 1) and from F8 a large pit containing industrial residues (Sample 4).

The samples were processed by manual water flotation/washover and the flots were collected in a 300 micron mesh sieve. The dried flots were scanned under a binocular microscope at magnifications up to x16 and the plant macrofossils and other remains noted are listed in Table 11. Nomenclature follows Stace (1997). All plant remains were charred. Modern fibrous roots were recorded within both assemblages.

The non-floating residues were collected in a 300 micron mesh sieve and were sorted when dry. All artefacts/ecofacts were retained for further specialist analysis.

Sample No.	1	4
Finds No.	42	71
Feature No.	F6	F8
<i>Corylus avellana</i> L.	x	
Charcoal <2mm	xx	xxxx
Charcoal >2mm	x	xxxx
Charcoal >5mm		xx
Charred root/stem	x	
Black porous and tarry residues	xx	
Bone	x xxb	x
Ferrous globules and concretions		xx

Fish bone	x	
Small coal frags.	x	
Vitreous material		x
Sample volume (litres)	28	16
Volume of flot (litres)	<0.1	0.2
% flot sorted	100%	50%

**Key to Table:** x = 1-10 specimens: xx = 11-50 specimens: xxx = 51-100 specimens xxxx = 100+ specimens b = burnt

**Table 11. Phase 1 Charred plant macrofossils and other remains**

#### *Interpretation*

Although charcoal/charred wood fragments were present within both assemblages, the only other plant macrofossils recorded were a single fragment of hazel (*Corylus avellana*) nutshell and a small piece of charred root or stem. Burnt bone fragments from the cremation deposit were noted within the assemblage from Sample 1 along with black porous and tarry residues, which may be bi-products of the cremation process. Sample 4 contained a moderate number of ferrous spherules, which were probably indicative of some nearby smithing activity.

In summary, although the assemblages are both relatively small, they each contain remains pertinent to specific activities. However as neither assemblage contains a sufficient density of material for quantification (i.e. 100+ specimens), no further analysis is recommended.

## **5.4 Burial catalogue (Figs 5-27)**

*(Identification and description of human bone by Julie Curl).*

### **Burial F1/F14 inhumation**

No human bone recovered.

The presence of two iron nails in the grave may indicate the presence of a coffin.

Finds:

(52) Iron nails j & k (40 g).

Placed grave goods:

**F1.1** Pottery (80) Fabric CZ Whole indented beaker (115 g). Located at the south-eastern end of the grave. two joining rim sherds recently-broken, loose, pale brown fabric, dark surface, colour-coat very abraded inside and out caused by local soil conditions. (Dated E/M3-L3/?4C)

Residual finds: (117) Roman brick/tile (157g).

### **Burial F2 inhumation**

Human bone (78 & 79) Adult ?male. Good but fragmented condition and incomplete.

Iron nails show that the body had been buried within a coffin.

Finds:

Iron nails: Nails a-l, l (178g); (88) Iron coffin nail (3@41g) (90); Iron coffin nail (4@47g).

(87) Scatter of 19 hobnails (44 g).

SF 17 (3) iron object.

SF18 (90) iron object (52g) not marked on plan

### **Burial F3 inhumation**

Human bone (2) Age and sex not determined. Poor and fragmented condition.

Location of hobnails from footwear indicate burial was probably laid with the head at the north end.

Finds:

Iron (coffin?) nail (8) (6g)

Placed grave goods:

**F3.1** (1) A group of sixteen hobnails (42g) from nailed footwear was found at one end (south) of the grave, presumably the foot of the grave. The forms of the two soles could not be distinguished, perhaps because they were worn on feet placed so close together so that as the leather of the shoes or sandals decayed the hobnails dropped into a single heap.

#### **Burial F4 inhumation**

Human bone (6 & 9) Age and sex not determined. Poor condition, fragmented and eroded

Location of hobnails from footwear indicates burial was probably laid with the head at the north end.

Finds:

(5, 7, 10) Three iron nails

Placed grave goods:

**F4.1** (4) A group of thirteen hobnails (32 g) from nailed footwear was found at one end of the grave, presumably the foot. The forms of the two soles could not be distinguished, perhaps because they were worn on feet placed so close together so that as the leather of the shoes or sandals decayed the hobnails dropped into a single heap.

Other finds:

Pottery (11) 1@ 6 g Fabric DJ Cam 198 (*tazza*) (M1-2/3C)

CBM (11) 1@ 222 g Roman brick/tile

#### **Burial F6 cremation**

Cremation F6 (42), produced 116 g of bone, consisting of 325 fragments; with remains including fragments of skull, vertebrae, limb. The level of fusion of the sutures of the skull and size of elements would suggest these are the remains of an older juvenile or sub-adult.

Grave goods:

**F6.1** SF2 , F6(50). Coin - worn copper-alloy *as* of Antoninus Pius, AD 154, as *RIC* 934.

Obverse: -/NINVS AVG PI VS P/-, laureate head right. Reverse: -/AN/-, Britannia seated left on rocks, S C in exergue. Diameter 25 mm, weight 11.22 g. Found with cremated bone.

Possible disturbed grave furnishings:

**F6.2** Pottery (30, 40) Fabric AJ (70@ 16320 g) - significant part of a Dressel 20 amphora (body & base sherds) lining the grave pit (dated M1-2C).

**F6.3** Fabric KX (10@ 71 g), sherds from a Cam 278 jar (dated mid 2nd-3rd century) possible disturbed urn or accessory vessel.

**F6.4** Glass (13, 41), body sherds (29@ 24 g), lightly tinted, some clear joins, probably all part of one thin walled, round bodied vessel.

**F6.5** CBM (16, 18) Complete (broken) *Lydion* type tile (Brodribb 1987, 37-40) 4 joining pieces (8250 g), faint diagonal double groove across tile, dimensions 42-43 mm x 30-31 mm x 34 mm, possible cover for burial.

Other finds:

CBM (19, 23) brick & tile fragments (8@ 154 g).

Fired clay (23) (1@ 13 g)

Slag (17) small piece of glassy slag (1@ 11 g), slightly magnetic, one side smooth, other rough.

Stone (24) slate (4@ 123 g) probably modern

#### **Burial F7/F20 inhumation**

Human bone (25) Age and sex not determined. Poor condition, fragmented and eroded.

Iron nails show that the body had been buried within a coffin.

Finds

(14) Iron coffin nails c-e and i-k (135g).

Grave goods:

**F7.1** SF7 (26) Coin of Trajan. *as*, rev. image of seated female left; AD 98-117 (probably AD 98-101).



### **Burial F9 inhumation**

No human bone had survived.

Iron nails shows the position of the coffin.

Iron coffin nails (14) Iron nails a,b,f-h (126g), (27) Iron nail (28g); (28) Iron nail(s) (49g), (29) Iron nails a-g (184g).

Other finds:

Pottery (83) 11@ 37 g Fabric BA(EG) (dated M2-M3C); Fabric DJ; Fabric GX

Fired clay (83) 1@ 5 g

Worked flint (083)

### **Burial F10 inhumation**

No human bone had survived although based on the location of hobnails from footwear the burial was probably laid with the head at the north end.

Grave goods:

**F10.1** (76) Iron hobnails. A group of eleven hobnails (53 g) from nailed footwear was found at one end of the grave, presumably the foot. The form of the sole could not be distinguished.

Other finds:

Pottery (15@ 742 g) Fabric AJ; Fabric BX(CG), Dr 37 (pot 2) sherds include name stamp Laxtucissa (S1) (dated AD 150-175); Fabric EA (dated mid-late 3rd-4th century) Fabric GB; Fabric GX (one sherd scorched by heat)

CBM 1@ 176 g, Roman imbrex

Slag 33@ 3061 g, smithing slag

Stone 1@ 24 g, septaria

(77) Five fragments of cattle bone (72 g) . The butchered cattle bones here may indicate 'ritual' offerings (Aldhouse-Green, 2001).

SF14 (31), small piece of corroded iron (1@ 171g)

### **Burial F12 inhumation**

Human bone (102, 103 & 141) Adult male. Poor condition, fragmented and eroded.

Skull fragments show fusion of sutures and strong muscle attachments, isolated teeth show cavities, wear and erosion. Strong muscle attachments on femur, robust femur.

Head at the western end of grave

Finds

(96) Iron coffin nails a-ff (790g); (140) Iron coffin nails a-e (25g); (142) Iron coffin nail (24g). (137 & 138). Corroded iron objects (*unident.*) (306g). Recovered from central area of the coffin

Grave goods:

**F12.1 & F12.2** (126, 134 & 139) Iron hobnails (86@ 201g). Hobnails from a pair of shoes or sandals laying at one end of the grave inside coffin. From their disposition they do not appear to have been worn at the time of burial.

Other finds:

(142) CBM (2@ 153 g) Roman brick/tile

(142) Slag 615 g

### **Burial F13 inhumation**

Human bone (33, 61, 63 and 108) Adult male. Age estimated at around 35 years from wear on teeth. Pronounced brow ridge, strong muscle attachments, robust bones and head. Very worn teeth, cavities and lower right molars 1 and 2 and lower left molar 2 abscessed, missing and healed over. Head at the western end of grave.

Finds

Iron nails (33) Iron coffin nails (3@ 42g); (34) Iron coffin nails a-u (446g).

SF4 (059) An offcut of copper-alloy sheet, tapering to a point at one end, length 26mm, maximum width 4mm.

Other finds:

Pottery (33, 61, 62, 67) (14@ 57 g) Fabric BA(CG); Fabric GB; Fabric GX (Cam 268, dated mid 2nd-early 4th century)

CBM (33, 61, 62, 67) (5@ 577 g) Roman brick/tile  
Fired clay (2@ 15 g)  
Slag 2243 g

#### **Burial F15 inhumation**

Most of the grave was located outside of the limit of excavation or had been cut away by a modern feature and F5. No bone recovered.

054 Iron coffin nails a-g (145g).

Other finds:

Pottery (53) (5@ 23 g) Fabric CZ Cam 407 red/grey fabric, poor surface slip, surface appears more like a greyware (dated mid/late 3rd-4th century)

#### **Burial F19 inhumation**

No human bone surviving

Finds

(78) Iron coffin nails d-g, j-k (314g).

Other finds:

Pottery (82) (5@ 14 g) Fabric CZ (early/mid 2nd-3rd century), Fabric GX Cam 227-228 (dated 1st-early 2nd century)

CBM (82) 4@ 137 g, includes *imbrex* & *tessera*

Glass (86) 1@ 10 g, blue-green, flat piece from a jar/bottle (dated 1st-3rd century)

Slag (82) 1464 g

Residual human bone (81) in fill

Animal Bone (82) 2 g

#### **Burial F21/F23 inhumation**

Human bone (92) Juvenile/young adult. Isolated teeth

Coffin indicated by nails

Finds

(93) Iron coffin nails (2@ 15g)

(94) Iron coffin nail (1@ 19g).

#### **Burial F22 inhumation**

No bone had survived.

Grave goods

**F22.1** (87) Hobnails (19@ 44 g)

SF18 (90) unidentified, small, corroded iron object/piece of iron

#### **Burial F24 inhumation**

Human bone (85). Age and sex not determined. Poor and fragmented condition.

Coffin indicated by nails

Finds

(84) Iron coffin nails a-f, l-p (20@ 399g).

Other finds:

(95) Pottery (17@ 150 g) Fabric BA(EG), Fabric RCW (dated mid 1st- early/mid 2nd century), Fabric CZ (dated early/mid 2nd-3rd century), Fabric DJ, Fabric GB (dated early/mid 2nd-3rd century), Fabric GX, Fabric HZ

(95, 100) CBM (4@ 137 g), includes *imbrex*, Roman brick & *tessera*

(24, 95) Slag 2091 g

(84) Fe (1@ 29 g), unident. small lump/piece

#### **Burial F25 inhumation**

Human bone (97). Adult, sex not determined (may have been disturbed from burial F26).

Most of the grave was located outside the limit of excavation

Finds:

Fired clay (2@26g) (097).

**Burial F26 inhumation**

Human bone (105, 106) Adult male. Good condition, but some fragmentation. Robust head and limbs. Metrical data suggests an individual of approximately 170 cm or 68 inches tall, or 5 feet 2 inches high. Several pathologies noted – a healed fracture on the mid-distal left radius shaft, arthritis and degenerative wear between cervical vertebrae 3 and 4, wear on the left pelvis acetabulum, wear in the left femur head, wear on the articular surface of the patella. Loss of lower left 1st molar and abscess and some healing of mandible. One upper left incisor lost and healed over. Low level of calculus on teeth. Head at the southern end. No coffin nails present.

Grave goods

**F26.1** (104) Jar. Cam 281 flask/narrow-necked jar with small cordon at base of neck. Fabric GX. Whole pot (332g), although has a small sherd missing from rim, ancient break and missing sherd not recovered, almost certainly ritual damage as clearly seen on grave pots at Dunmow (Essex) (Wickendon 1988). Pot located on its side with mouth angled down (fallen over?). Ovoid body, dark grey with traces of darker abraded surface finish, abrasion probably due to soil conditions. (Dated Late 2nd/3rd to 4th century).

Other finds

**Fe nails** (106) 1 (2 pieces) @ 2 g

*Residual finds:* Roman pottery sherds (4@20g), brick/tile fragments (2@742g), iron nail (2g), sepalaria (108g) (106).

**Burial(?) F27 inhumation grave cut(?)**

Small part of a larger cut feature, possibly a grave on the west side of the site.

**Burial F28 cremation**

The urned cremation F28 (151), produced 370 g of bone, consisting of 460 fragments, including pieces of skull, limb and other elements. Initial observations show the level of fusion of the skull sutures and the size of the limb bones present would indicate the urn contains remains of an adult.

Finds:

**Grave goods**

**F28.1** Cremation urn (109), Cam 268 jar (Illustrated Fig 00.0), complete to shoulder double groove with 17 small loose sherds, part of double grooved on intact body and on loose sherds, rim missing. Fabric GX (1284 g) (dated E/M2-L3/E4C).

Other finds:

Fe nails

(110) F28. Iron nails and shank fragments. A) clenched nail shank, length 47 mm; B) nail with mineralised wood on the point, the longitudinal grain at right angles to the shank, length 79 mm; C) incomplete nail, length 19 mm; D) shank fragment, length 22 mm; E) incomplete nail, length 33 mm; F) shank fragment, length 54 mm.

(118) F28. Iron nail, complete?, length 60 mm. Also (-) F28/F33. One incomplete nail and two shank fragments, possibly all part of the same nail broken in antiquity. Lengths 40, 33, 14 mm.

**Burial F29 inhumation**

Due to the absence of human bone and the similarity in the fills of F29 and F8, it was not possible to discern a clear edge for F29 where it cut into the pit.

Finds

(119) Iron coffin(?) nail (18g).

Other finds

Pottery (120) 6@ 53 g, Fabric CH (late 3rd-4th/4th century), Fabric GX Cam 268 jar (mid 2nd - late 3rd/4th century)

CBM (120) 3@ 181 g, includes imbrex & Roman brick

Slag (120) 219 g

### Burial F30 inhumation

Human bone: (147). Adult. Sex not determined. Good condition, but some fragmentation and erosion of surfaces. Copper staining noted on phalanges 1 and 2 on right foot.

#### Finds

123 Iron coffin nail (20g).  
124 Iron coffin nails a-k (435g).

#### Grave goods

**F30.1 & 30.2** (148) Iron hobnails (18@41g). Hobnails from footwear worn at the time of burial.

#### Other finds:

Pottery (123, 146) 72@ 942 g, Fabric AA, Cam 189 (dated mid-late 1st century), Fabric AJ, Fabric BA(SG) Dr 24/25 (dated pre-Flavian), BA(CG) Dr 33 (dated 2nd century), Fabric BX(MDV), Dr 37, Fabric BX (CG) Dr 37, Fabric CB, Cam 391 (dated early/mid 2nd-early 3rd century), Fabric CZ, Fabric DJ, Fabric EA (dated mid/late 3rd-4th century), Fabric GB, Cam 278 (dated mid 2nd-3rd century), Fabric GX Cam 243-244/246 (dated mid 1st-early 2nd century), Cam 268 (dated mid 2nd-late 3rd/early 4th century)  
CBM (123, 128, 146, 147) 21@ 1906 g, includes *imbrex*, *tegula*, Roman brick & *tessera*  
Fired clay (123) 4@ 172 g, includes piece of hearth/kiln lining with vitrified surface (152 g)  
Glass (123) 1@ 1g, clear glass body sherd from thin walled, round bodied vessel (similar to F6 13 & 41) & (similar to sherds from F8 (48))  
Slag (123, 128, 145) 3399 g  
Mortar (146) 1@ 67 g *op. sig.*  
Stone (123, 146) 5@ 841 g, greensand-limestone  
Fe nails (123, 124a-k, 147) 20@ 474 g  
Shell (146) 1@ 16 g (oyster)  
Animal bone (123, 146) (296g).  
Fragment of antler working waste. Also an equid hoof and cattle bones exhibiting butchery marks. The inclusion of animal bones, particularly the antler working waste, may possibly represent 'ritual' offerings (Aldhouse-Green, 2001). It may be possible that the antler waste indicates the burial was that of someone who worked antler.

### Burial F31 inhumation

Most of the grave was cut away by F10, F26 and a modern service. No bone had survived.

(31) unident Iron object (171g).

### Burial F33 inhumation

Human bone (118, 133) Adult ?male (133) and ?female (118). Double burial or residual bone?

Head at the northern end.

A brooch (SF3) is most probably associated with this burial, but may possibly associated with a cremation (F28) which was cut into the grave fill or (probably less likely as a complete brooch) be residual in the fill.

#### Finds:

(110) Iron coffin nails a, c-i, k-l (232g).  
(118) Iron coffin nail (26g).

#### Grave goods(?)

**F33.1** SF3 (121) (originally attributed to F28). Complete copper-alloy sprung trumpet brooch. Mackreth 2011 Type 3.2b, Hull in prep. Type 167B, with a pelta at the midpoint of the bow and a peltate foot.

### Burial F34 inhumation

Human bone (132, 135) Age and sex not determined Poor and fragmented condition.

#### Finds

(127) Iron coffin nails a-c (84g).

#### Other finds:

SF 5 (129) Possible pottery counter (23.8g). Base of pot ('kettle' scale on inside surface), all of sides roughly broken/chipped away but edges not smoothed. 47mm diameter. Fabric GX.

Pottery Roman (130, 131) Fabric AA, Cam 189(?), Fabric CB, Fabric CZ, Cam 391 (dated early/mid 2nd-early 3rd century), Fabric BX(CG) Dr 31, Dr 37 (later 2nd century), Fabric DJ, Fabric GB, Cam 37A, Cam 40B (dated early/mid 2nd-early 3rd/3rd century), Fabric GX, Fabric HZ

CBM (130, 131) 13@ 824 g, includes *tegula* & *tessera*

Slag (130, 131) 3650 g

Stone (130, 131) 4@ 738 g, greensand-limestone, septaria

Animal bone 130, 131) (75g). A sheep/goat mandible, a cattle metapodial II exhibiting butchery marks and four unidentified fragments were recovered.

#### **Burial F41 inhumation**

Human bone: (161) Juvenile skeleton. Age approximately 10 years old estimated from bone fusion and tooth eruption. Skull shows a dense texture, palette and mandible wide.

Approximate estimation of height from bones suggests child was around 126 cm or 4 feet 3 inches high.

Head at the northern end.

Finds:

SF10 (152) Copper-alloy shaft, broken at each end, possibly from a toilet instrument or hairpin.

The section is round and tapers slightly, and the broken upper end is slightly flattened.

Length 67mm

Roman pottery sherds (2@8g), slag (223g) (152).

#### **Burial F42 inhumation**

Burial F42 (81)

Bone associated with grave cut

Human bone (81) Child - teenage, Female? Enamel hypoplasia

Human bone (81) Age and sex not determined. Poor and fragmented condition.

(78) Iron coffin nails a-c, h-i, l-r (451g)

#### **Burial(?) F43 inhumation grave cut (?)**

*(it may be possible that this feature is part of a ditch pre-dating the burials here)*

No bone present. No associated finds

#### **Burial F44 inhumation grave cut**

No bone had survived.

Finds:

(84) Iron coffin nails g-k, q (209g).

## 6 The southern Napier Road car park (ie, Phase 2)

*by Stephen Benfield and Ben Holloway*

### 6.1 The excavation (Fig 2)

The site lies within the north-west part of GAL Area C2, adjacent to Napier Road. The archaeological work was carried out in advance of the construction of a car park and associated drainage works from December 2012-January 2013.

All the hard-standing was stripped by contractors onto the soil below to form the construction level across most of the site. The strip revealed the top of a Roman cremation burial on the east side of the site, but otherwise no significant archaeological remains survived at this level.

The main excavation took place on the area required for the sitting of an attenuation tank (Plate 4). This area, approximately 41 m<sup>2</sup>, was stripped under archaeological supervision by machine onto the top of the natural revealing a number of features, primarily Roman graves. The depth of this construction required the full archaeological excavation of all of the features.



**Plate 4 Excavation on the area of the attenuation tank (view south-west)**

Smaller areas close to the north edge, consisting of two tree planting pits (TPP) and a pit excavated for a man-hole, were also subject to archaeological observation and recording, producing parts of more Roman graves. Subsequently a service trench excavated from the central west edge of the site to the attenuation tank revealed more Roman graves.

## 6.2 Interpretation (Fig 32, 33)

### **Prehistoric**

Only a few prehistoric (pre- Late Iron Age) finds were recovered - a sherd of flint-tempered pottery (Fabric HMF) and some worked flints (all residual in later features). The finds are not closely dated, but all are of later prehistoric (Neolithic-Early Iron Age) date. The style of retouch working on one flint suggests that it may be Neolithic.

### **Roman**

Almost all of the features encountered are burials which can be dated to the Roman period. In total sixteen features can be identified as burials. These consist of two cremations, one inside a small ring-ditch, and fourteen inhumation graves or parts of inhumation grave cuts. It can be noted that overall the burials here, consisting of a small number of cremations with a larger number of inhumations, many lacking any placed, accompanying funerary accessories, are similar in character to that those located on the adjacent Phase 1 site (GAL Area B1b).

The small numbers of objects associated with the burials and the broad date range of some of the finds, including some coins which might have been quite old when deposited, make close dating difficult. Finds associated with the two cremation burials indicate a 2nd-3rd century date, one (F48) can be shown to post date an inhumation burial (F58) which was not made earlier than the late 2nd century. For several of the inhumation burials dating relies on residual finds from grave fill providing a *terminus post quem*. Overall these suggest that the inhumations broadly date to the period of the mid/late 2nd/3rd-4th, although three graves (F45, F54 & F62) contained placed pottery vessels dating to the late Roman period of the mid/late 3rd-4th century. The finds dating evidence for the burials is summarised in Table 12.

Burial	Burial type	Dating evidence from placed grave objects	Other finds dating evidence from grave/grave fill	Finds spot date
F45	inhumation	Beakers Cam 407 (x 2) (Fabric EA)		mid/late 3rd-4th century
F46	cremation	Jar Cam 268		mid 2nd-late 3rd/early 4th century
F48	cremation	Coin (very worn) AD 98-117 Coin (very worn) AD 139-61	Roman pottery	M2-3C
F49	inhumation?			
F50	inhumation		(cut by inhumation F45)	(mid/late 3rd-4th century)
F51	inhumation	Jar Cam 268		mid 2nd-late 3rd/early 4th century
F54	inhumation	Jar Cam 279 (copper-alloy toilet spoon)	Roman pottery	later 2nd century-late 3rd/early 4th century
F55	inhumation			
F56	inhumation		Roman pottery, Glass?	mid 2nd-3rd century
F58	inhumation		Roman pottery	Late 2nd-3rd century
F61	cremation			
F62	inhumation		Roman pottery	Late 3rd-4th century
F63	inhumation	Beaker Cam 392		mid/late 2nd-late 3rd century
F64	inhumation			
F65	inhumation		Greensand limestone	prob. early 2nd century+
F66	inhumation		Greensand limestone	prob. early 2nd century+

**Table 12: Summary of finds dating evidence for burials**

### *Cremations*

One of the cremation burials, F46, had been made in a pottery urn consisting of a jar of form Cam 268 (dated early/mid 2nd-late 3rd/early 4th century).

The other cremation, F48, is one of the latest closely dated features on the site. There was no surviving container but the ashes were accompanied by two coins, one of late 1st century date and the other of mid-late 2nd century date (SF20 & SF21) and which must have been quite old when buried. The burial was located at the centre of a small, relatively shallow ring ditch (F47) which cut several of the inhumation graves and as such appears to ignore the earlier burials altogether. One of the earlier graves (F58) contained residual pottery dated to the late 2nd -3rd century. Pottery from the fill of the ring-ditch itself can be dated to the period of the early/mid 2nd-3rd century.

A second small, penannular ditch, F60, located to the southwest and which has an opening toward the southeast, is later than one of the inhumations (F53). This may represent another late cremation broadly contemporary with F48, but for which otherwise the evidence is entirely lost.

One feature, F49, of sub-rectangular outline (orientated north-south) and located on the central area of the site, contained some charcoal with some slight evidence of possible scorching of the soil. It was thought this might represent a *bustum*, but the absence of any significant finds which might support this (*i.e.* cremated bone or broken, scorched pieces from objects) indicates it is most probably a grave.

### *Inhumations*

The inhumation grave pits were sub-rectangular in plan and in general had vertical or near vertical sides and flat bases. The size of the cuts for the graves varied, the smaller ranging from approximately 1.4 m-1.5 m long and between 0.6 m-0.8 m wide with the larger cuts up to approximately 2.4 m-2.5 m long and between 0.9 m-1.1 m wide. The surviving depth of the graves cuts varied between approximately 0.2 m-0.7 m, but was generally about 0.5 m. The smaller graves are generally narrower and among the more shallow in depth. In general the backfill of the graves consisted of a stony medium- to dark-brown coloured sand or silt loam. There was no evidence for the use of burial markers at the site, although truncation or reworking of the upper site deposits may have removed all traces of any built features with shallow footings or more ephemeral features such as post-holes. As only one grave (F54) was cut by another (F58) this could imply that the graves were either marked or were visible in some way, possibly through mounded earth.

The preservation of elements of the skeleton varied considerably, probably effected by very localised differences in the soil acidity. Part of the skeleton survived in seven of the burials (F45, F56, F63, F64, F65 & F66), although there little or no trace of any bone in the others. Where bone was present all the burials appear to have been laid on their backs (supine) in an extended position (Plate 5).





**Plate 5. Skeleton showing supine extended position of body – Burial F56 (view west)**

The burials appear to be made, or can be grouped together following three broad alignments which are distinct in relation to each other (Fig 33). These are: north-south (N-S), northeast-southwest (NE-SW) and southeast-northwest (SE-NW) (F58 & F63 & probably F69). Burials which can be grouped under these alignments are - N-S: F49, F66 & F68 & probably F67; NE-SW: F45, F50, F51, F54, F55, F56, F64 & F65; and SE-NW: F58 & F63 & probably F69. These may relate to distinct chronological phases; however, this is difficult to demonstrate, although the SE-NW burial F58 is later than one aligned NE-SW (F54). The alignments here may be influenced by other topographical features which are not now apparent, or relate to lineage groups. Some of the alignments appear to extend across the site area and are intermixed which is more suggestive of chronological phases. However, the limited size of the site makes these possibilities difficult to assess in relation to each other.

Given the relatively poor survival of skeletal elements in many of the burials, the orientation of the body within the grave is known or can be inferred for just six. The orientation is either known from the position of surviving parts of the skeletal, or in one instance (F58) can probably be reliably inferred from the position of groups of hobnails from footwear which is commonly located toward the foot of the grave. Two of the bodies were buried with the head to the northwest (NW) (F58 & F63), one with the head to the southwest (SW) (F45 & F56).

A number of the burials can be seen to have had a wooden coffin identified from significant numbers of coffin nails close to the base of the graves, mostly concentrated around the edge of the burial. These are F45, F51, F54, F55, F56, F58, F62, F63 & F65. In the clearest cases the nails relate to a rectangular outline within the grave, while nails which were found in positions likely to relate to a coffin strongly infer the presence of one. The numbers of coffin nails present varied, but generally, where present there are significant numbers of nails with the burials here. The apparent absence of nails in some graves does not necessarily mean that no coffin was present as it may have been formed of an all wood construction. No coffin stains were recorded.

Placed grave furnishings consist of pots, recovered from three graves (F45, F51 & F63) and groups of iron hobnails from graves (F51, F58 & F63), representing the remains of footwear. The pots consist of two scale decorated beakers from one grave (F45), both of form Cam 407 and dated to the late 3rd-4th century; a beaker of form Cam 392 (dated mid/late 2nd-late 3rd century) from another (F63) and a greyware jar of form Cam 268 (dated early/mid 2nd-late 3rd/early 4th century) from a third (F51). Beakers and jars are among the most common forms of pottery vessels found accompanying inhumation burials north of the Thames, others being flagons and dishes, and are especially common provisions in the 3rd-4th century (Philpott 1991, 108).

All of the placed pots were located toward the ends of graves and appear to have been probably put onto the coffin. One pot could be seen to be at the head end of a grave (F45), while that from another burial (F63) was at the foot. Of the three pairs of footwear, two were located toward one end of graves (F51 & F63) of which one pair could be seen as being toward the foot end of the grave (F63). These clearly were not worn at the time of burial. The third pair, recovered from grave F56, were in a position where it is possible that they may have been worn.

As with Phase 1, the general poor preservation of bone limits the data available for analysis of the individuals buried on the site (7). Among the small number of individuals for which bone survived, as with Phase 1, adult males appear to predominate and in relation to both sexes there is a predominance of adult individuals. The physical skeletal traits of the surviving inhumations indicate that two are male, with a further two possible males and one possible female. No sex could be determined or suggested for two of the inhumation burials. The age estimations show five of these are adult with two of uncertain age. No sexing or age information was obtained from the two cremation burials, although one (Burial F48) has evidence of trauma.

## 6.3 Finds

by Stephen Benfield

### Introduction

The types of bulk finds recovered are listed below (Table 13). In addition a small number of individually recorded small finds (SF) were recovered. Human remains were recovered from a number of cremation and inhumation burials.

Finds type	No.	Wt g
pottery		
CBM	40	2191
Glass	4	14
Worked flint	4	-
Slag & vitrified clay	9	1,181
stone	10	669

Table 13 Bulk finds types recovered

### Pottery

The Roman pottery fabrics refer to the Colchester Roman fabric series (*CAR 10*) and to the National Roman Fabric Reference Collection (Tomber & Dore 1998). These are listed in Table 14. Vessel forms refer to the Colchester Camulodunum (Cam) pottery type series (Hawkes & Hull 1947 & Hull 1958).

Fabric	Description
<i>Prehistoric:</i>	
HMF	Hand made flint-tempered
<i>Roman:</i>	
BA(CG)	Central Gaulish plain samian
CB	Colchester red colour-coated, roughcast ware
CH	oxidised Hadham ware
CZ	Colchester and other red colour-coated wares
DJ	coarse oxidised and related wares
EA	Nene Valley colour-coated ware

<b>Fabric</b>	<b>Description</b>
GA	BB1: black-burnished ware, category 1
GB	BB2: black-burnished ware, category 2
GP	fine grey wares (Colchester, London-type and north Kent wares)
GX	other coarse wares, principally locally-produced grey wares
HZ	large storage jars and other vessels in heavily-tempered grey wares
KX	black-burnished ware (BB2) types in pale grey ware
RCW	Romanising coarse wares
TZ	mortaria, Colchester and mortaria imported from the continent

**Table 14 Roman and post-Roman pottery fabrics**

#### *Prehistoric*

A single piece (11 g) of hand-made flint-tempered pottery (Fabric HMF) was recovered. This was residual in the fill the burial F62. As a single sherd this is not more closely datable with any significant degree of confidence other than as Neolithic-Early Iron Age.

#### *Roman*

Apart from the placed grave pots (described with the burials) much of the pottery was recovered as residual sherds from the fill of graves or associated pen-annular gullies. Most of the pottery vessel types and fabrics recorded date to the 2nd-3rd century. There is little among the residual pottery that need date to the late 3rd-4th century, although there are sherds of Hadham oxidised ware (Fabric CH) from the fill of burial F62 which can be dated to the late 3rd-4th/4th century.

Of individual interest are a sherds from a Central Gaulish samian dish of form Ludowici Tg (dated c160-end of the 2nd century) from the fill of grave F54 and a graffiti of three closely spaced scratches on the chamfer of a Cam 37B bowl from the fill of grave F67(219). Also of note are sherds from a Cam 498 mortaria and the base from a second mortaria which were recovered as residual finds from the fill of grave F67. Mortaria are not usually associated with funerary activity, although a few have been recorded placed with burials at Colchester - Hull Grave inventory nos. 163 (mortaria with herringbone stamp), 262, 373, 386, 419 & 524 (mortaria with herringbone stamp) (Inventory of graves at Colchester, unpublished). However, they appear to be quite rare in funerary contexts. As such the sherds here are possibly either stray rubbish or relate to other activity on the site; although it can be noted that of the few burials with mortaria recorded at Colchester most appear to be broadly of mid 2nd-3rd century date.

#### **Ceramic building material (CBM)**

A total of 40 pieces of CBM were recovered with a combined weight of 2,191 g. All of this is Roman or appears to be Roman. Details of the CBM are listed by context in Appendix 1. Most of the CBM comes from the backfill of inhumation graves and from an associated ring gully (F60) and is residual in these contexts. The associated finds from the grave fills are of mid/late 2nd-3rd century date. There are identifiable pieces from *imbrex* and *tegula* roof tiles, pieces of Roman brick and a single *tessera* cube from a tessellated floor. All are in red sandy fabrics.

#### **Flint**

Four prehistoric flints were recovered as residual finds. Three are from the backfill of inhumation burials (F45/50, F56, & F62) and one is from ditch fill (F59). Three are flakes, two without any remaining cortex, the other a small secondary flake. The fourth piece (F62) appears to be the distal end of a snapped blade. There is cortex along one side and the edge here is unworked, while the other edge has fine retouch along it. At the end of the piece a small flake has been removed forming a V shaped notch which also has retouch along its sides. The nature of the piece suggests it is probably Neolithic.

#### **Glass**

A small quantity of glass (4 pieces weighing 14 g), representing three vessels (Vessels 1-3) was recovered from the upper-mid fill of grave F56 (190). Other finds (pottery) from the fill are Roman and dated mid 2nd-3rd century with residual mid 1st-early/mid

2nd century. However, two of the vessels (Vessel 1 & Vessel 2) are, or almost certainly are of modern date and intrusive. The remaining piece (Vessel 3) might possibly be Roman, but a later (modern) date is also possible and may be more likely.

Vessel 1 - Two sherds (one large piece and a small sherd), both from same vessel - probable join. Angular piece from a platter/dish, clear glass with dulled (frosted) surface, small impressed circle on exterior (11 g) (dated modern)

Vessel 2 - Single small sherd, probably from a bowl, pale mauve colour with light decoration consisting of small, shallow, moulded(?) indentations (2 g) (dated modern)

Vessel 3 - Single plain sherd, thin, greenish-yellow coloured glass with dulled surface (1 g) (dated ?Roman or modern)

### **Slag and oven/kiln lining pieces**

#### **Slag**

A total of 1171 g of slag (8 pieces) was recovered as residual finds from the backfill of four of the inhumation burials (F54, F56, F58 & F62). This material can be identified as smithing slag, consisting of parts of smithing hearth bases and irregular slag lumps - possibly including parts of broken hearth bases. The slag can be associated with the larger quantity of smithing slag (including hammer-scale) recovered from Phase 1. The other finds from the grave fills here suggest a mid/late 2nd-3rd century date for the slag being deposited in these contexts.

#### **Oven/kiln lining**

A piece (10 g) of hearth or kiln lining, probably from a flue or fire chamber, was recovered from the fill of a ring gully (F60). The piece has a vitrified (glassy) surface and a red-brown, fired clay backing. This is similar to pieces of oven/kiln lining from Phase 1 (5.3) and indicates the presence of an otherwise undiscovered oven/kiln located in the area.

### **Stone**

In total 669 g of stone (10 pieces) were recovered. The stone types present are identified as greensand limestone, septaria, limestone tufa and limestone/chalk. There is also one unidentified stone type. Although not certainly identified the greensand limestone appears most likely to be Kentish Ragstone from the Hythe formation in North Kent. The stone was recovered from the backfill of inhumation burials (F45, F45/50, F54, F65, F66) and from an associated ring gully (F47) and is residual in these contexts. It can be noted that pieces identified as probably greensand limestone from F54 appear quite degraded. Of itself, none of the stone is closely dated, although the greensand limestone is probably likely to date to the 2nd century or later as this was extensively used, and was possibly first imported on a significant scale, for the construction of the circus. The associated finds from the grave fills are of mid/late 2nd-3rd century date.

### **The metalwork**

*by Nina Crummy*

The assemblage is small and consists of items either deliberately deposited in funerary features as grave goods or residual in the backfill. The objects are catalogued with the burials or associated burial features from which they were recovered.

#### **Cremations:**

Two copper-alloy coins from cremation deposit F48 date to the 2nd century but are extremely worn and so more likely to have been deposited in the mid-late 3rd century, possibly even later. Hoard and site-find evidence both in Britain and on the continent shows that the good-sized copper-alloy coinage of the later 1st to early 3rd century continued in circulation at least until the late 3rd century if not into the early 4th (Davies and Gregory 1991, 67-8; Reece 2002, 42-4) and were therefore available for use as grave deposits until that time.

#### *Inhumations:*

A long-handled toilet spoon from burial F54 was used for extracting perfumes, unguents or medicinal preparations from glass or pottery flasks (F54.2). It lay near the pottery jar and is presumed to be a deliberate deposit, although as the top of the handle is missing, it may be residual. A spoon-probe and tweezers and miniature black-burnished ware jar in an inhumation at West Tenter Street, London, have been interpreted as the burial of a healer, perhaps an eye doctor (Eckardt and Crummy 2008, 82-3), and the combination of similar equipment in F54 raises the possibility that this individual was also a healer of some kind. The shaft of at least one long-handled copper-alloy toilet instrument found outside the coffin in grave F63 may be residual in the grave fill.

Two groups of iron hobnails from F51 are all that remain of a pair of leather shoes or sandals with lightly-nailed composite soles found on the north side of the grave pit, placed either outside the coffin or perhaps on its lid. Some hobnails were in a well-preserved line, pointing to nailing around the outside of the sole or down the centre.

A group of hobnails from F58 represent nailed footwear worn by the deceased when buried. The nailing of the right sole was comparatively undisturbed, showing an outline of hobnails around the sole and a line down the centre. This type of pattern occurred over a long period of time, but appears to have become used increasingly at Vindolanda in the mid Roman period, where it was seen as evidence for a greater presence of civilians, particularly women and children, at the fort (van Driel-Murray 1995, Type 1a).

Two groups of iron hobnails, nearly 250 in total, represent the deposition in F63 of one or more sets of heavily-nailed leather footwear. They were found lying along the right leg, SF 25 (206) close to the tibia, SF 26 (27) level with the knee and lower part of the femur. With 158 hobnails found in the upper group and only 84 in the lower, and from the absence of hobnails within the coffin, then it seems likely that the burial had been furnished with indoor shoes or sandals (worn) and two pairs of outdoor footwear (by the leg). The nailed items may have been sandals and more heavily nailed shoes, two pairs of shoes, one more heavily nailed than the other, or one pair of boots and one of shoes (*cf.* Rhodes 1980, fig. 59; MacConnoran 1986, 218, 221-6).

Two worn iron hobnails were residual in the fill of the ditch F47. They may represent casual loss, or a disturbed earlier funerary feature.

A fragment of iron sheet from F45, possibly part of box cladding, was residual in the grave fill. A second fragment of iron sheet, which may also represent a piece of box cladding, was residual in the fill of the grave F58.

### **Charred plant macrofossils and other remains**

*by Val Fryer*

#### **Introduction and method statement**

Three samples were analysed for the retrieval of the plant macrofossil assemblages. They were taken from two un-urned cremations and a large burial deposit of possible pyre debris dated to the Roman period.

The samples were processed by manual water flotation/washover and the flots were collected in a 300 micron mesh sieve. The dried flots were scanned under a binocular microscope at magnifications up to x 16 and the plant macrofossils and other remains noted are listed in Table 1. Nomenclature within the table follows Stace (1997). All plant remains were charred. Modern roots and seeds were also recorded within all three assemblages.

The non-floating residues were collected in a 1mm mesh sieve and were sorted when dry. Artefacts were not recorded, but samples 1 (un-urned cremation F48) and 3 (un-urned cremation F61) both contained bone fragments from the cremation deposits.

### Results

Charcoal/charred wood fragments were present throughout, being particularly abundant within the assemblage from sample 2 (burial deposit/pyre debris F49), where numerous fragments >10mm in size were recorded. Most pieces were well preserved, showing little evidence for weathering/abrasion or thermal damage, although it was noted that some fragments within sample 2 were fringed with tarry droplets, probably indicating that at least some of the material had been exposed to reasonably high temperatures during combustion. Other plant macrofossils were exceedingly scarce comprising a single black bindweed (*Fallopia convolvulus*) seed from sample 1 and a piece of charred root/rhizome from sample 3.

Other remains were also relatively scarce although all three assemblages did include black porous and tarry residues, all of which were probable bi-products of the cremation processes. Bone fragments, some of which were burnt/calced, were also present, occurring at a particularly high density within the assemblage from Sample 1. Other remains included small fragments of burnt or fired clay, splinters of heat-shattered stone and minute pieces of coal (coal 'dust'), although it was considered most likely that the latter were intrusive within the feature fills.

### Interpretation

In summary, although the assemblages from samples 1 and 3 are both typical of Roman un-urned cremation deposits in that they contain little other than fuel detritus and the remains of the bodies of the deceased, the material from sample 2 is more enigmatic. There is little to categorically prove that *in situ* burning occurred within pit F49, and while the whole assemblage could be derived from the burial of pyre debris, bone fragments are all but absent, as are the black residues which are frequently recorded within pyre deposits. However, notwithstanding these issues, it is still, perhaps, most likely that the deposit is ritual/funerary in nature, if only because of its close proximity to the known cremations.

Although charcoal/charred wood fragments are abundant, other macrofossils are so scarce that none of the assemblages are quantifiably viable. Therefore, no further analysis is recommended.

## 6.4 Burial catalogue (Figs 34-47)

(Identification and description of human bone by Julie Curl)

### Burial F45 Inhumation (finds nos. 156, 158, 159, 164)

Human bone (160) Age and sex uncertain. Very poor condition

#### Finds:

Placed grave goods

Fig 34 **F45.1** (156) Placed grave pot Cam 407 scale decorated indented beaker, whole pot (428 g), Fabric EA, dark brown surfaces, damage to rim with two, small loose sherds from neck, rim sherd missing and this is old damage with abraded edges, similar to ritual damage recorded pots from other Roman burial sites (dated mid/late 3rd-4th century)

Fig 34 **F45.2** (159) Placed grave pot Cam 407 scale decorated indented beaker, near complete (370 g), Fabric EA, slightly abraded brown-grey colour coat, approximately 70% of rim present, base missing (dated mid/late 3rd-4th century)

#### Other finds:

Pottery Roman (158, 164) Fabric GX, sherd (7 g) from a small jar or beaker in fine grey fabric (dated late 1st-2nd century)

CBM Roman (158) (18 mm thick) probably *tegula* roof tile

Stone (158) limestone tufa piece (19 g)

Fe nails (153, 158) 13 nails

Small finds

SF 19. (155) F45, inhumation. Fragment of a thin rectangular thin iron plate, with a small rivet in the surviving corner; probably box cladding. 47 by 42 mm, 1 mm thick.

**Burial F46 Cremation** (find nos. 154)

No human bone recovered

Pottery Roman

Fig 35 **F46.1** (154) Cam 268 jar, Fabric GX, much of pot present, parts of rim and neck missing (475 g), base is one large sherd, presumed whole when buried (dated mid 2nd-late 3rd/early 4th century)

**Burial F48 Cremation** located at centre of ring gully F47

The cremation F48 (170), produced 17 g of bone and consists of seventeen pieces of bone. The bone was burnt to a white/grey colour. Many rib fragments were identified, including one fragment of rib that had clearly been cut (Plate 6). It is not certain if this cut was as a result of ante-mortem injury (for example, from stabbing) or from post-mortem butchering. There was clearly no healing on the bone.

Finds

Placed grave goods

**F48.1** SF 20. (178a), from cremation deposit. Very worn *sestertius* of Marcus Aurelius as Caesar, AD 139-61. Obverse legend worn, -/AES AR/-, bare head right; reverse legend worn away, S C in field, standing female figure, right hand raised, holding cornucopia in left (?Hilaritas). Diameter 30 mm, weight 24.6 g.

**F48.2** SF 21. (178b) from cremation deposit. Very worn as of Trajan, AD 98-117. Obverse legend missing, radiate head right; reverse legend missing, standing figure, ?female. Diameter 27 mm, weight 10.6 g.

Pottery Roman (169) Fabric GX 1 sherd, 4 g.

**Penannular ring gully F47**

Pottery Roman (163, 167, 168, 179 194) Fabric GA 1 sherd, 30 g (dated mid 2nd-4th century), Fabric GX 23 sherds, 359 g, includes Cam 278 jar (date mid 2nd-3rd century)

CBM Roman (166, 157) 3 pieces 52 g

Stone (166) 2 pieces, 38 g, one piece limestone tufa (dated as probably Roman), other unidentified

Fe nails 3 nails

Small finds

SF 30.(167) F47, ring ditch. Two worn iron hobnails, maximum surviving length 12 mm.

**Burial F49 Inhumation(?)**

Sub-rectangular cut (orientated north-south); contained some charcoal with some limited evidence of scorching of the soil. It was thought this might represent a bustum, but the absence of any significant finds which might support this the shape indicates it is almost certainly a grave with no surviving bone. No bulk finds were recovered.

**Burial F50 Inhumation** (finds no. 165)

No bone recovered

Finds:

Fe nails (165) 2 nails

Finds from intercut fill Burial F50 or Burial F45

Pottery Roman (157 Fabric BA(CG) 1 sherd, 15g, Dr 31 (mid-late 2nd century), Fabric CB 1 sherd, 4g) Cam 391 (dated early/mid 2nd-early 3rd century), Fabric DJ 1@ 2g, Fabric GX 4 sherds, 21g), includes form Cam 37 dish (dated early/mid 2nd-3rd century)

CBM Roman (157) 6 pieces, 365g, includes *tegula* & *imbrex* pieces

Flint (157) small tertiary flake 1 piece, 5 g

Stone (157) limestone (chalk) 1 piece 46 g

### **Burial F51 Inhumation**

No human bone recovered

#### **Finds**

##### **Placed grave goods**

Fig 39 **F51.1** (177) Placed grave pot, Cam 268 type-jar (lacking clear groove below rim), complete (broken) (1286 g), Fabric GX, slightly abraded brown-grey surface, orange fabric with grey core (dated mid 2nd century-late 3rd/early 4th century)

##### **Small finds**

F51.2 SF 28. (174) F51, inhumation. Nineteen iron hobnails, most missing the shank, maximum surviving length 14 mm.

F51.3 SF 29. (175) F51, inhumation. Twenty iron hobnails, most missing the shank, maximum surviving length 13 mm.

##### **Other finds:**

Pottery Roman (176) Fabric GX 1 sherd, 10 g, heavily sooted exterior, Fabric HZ, 2 sherds, 48 g (mid 1st-2nd/3rd century).

CBM Roman (176) 1 piece 26 g

Fe nails (172) 20

### **Burial F54 Inhumation**

Human bone (196) Age and sex uncertain. Very poor condition

#### **Finds**

##### **Placed grave goods**

Fig 40 **F54.1** (200) Complete Cam 279C (dated M/L3-4C) or grave vessel deposited at north end of the grave

Fig 40 F54.2, SF 22. (183) F54, inhumation. Copper-alloy long-handled toilet spoon with the round flat scoop set at a slight angle; the top of the handle is missing. Length 74 mm, scoop diameter 5 mm.

##### **Other finds**

Pottery: (195) Fabric BA(CG) 2 sherds, 6 g, Ludowici Tg (dated late 2nd century), Fabric CB, 1 sherd, 5 g (dated early/mid 2nd-mid 3rd century), Fabric GX, 5 sherds, 71 g, Cam 268 (dated mid 2nd-late 3rd/early 4th century), Fabric HZ, 1 sherd, 64 g (dated mid 1st-2nd/3rd century).

CBM Roman (195) 4 pieces, 631 g

Stone (195) greensand-limestone 3 pieces, 55 g (dated probably early 2nd century+)

Slag (195) 3 pieces, 757 g, probably smithing slag (1 large piece and two small pieces)

Fe nails (find 197) 8 nails

### **Burial F55 Inhumation**

Human bone (187) Adult ?male

Fe nails (181) 15 nails

### **Burial F56 Inhumation**

Human bone (187) Adult ?male. Some fusion of skull sutures

#### **Finds:**

Pottery Roman (190) Fabric GP, 1 sherd, 5 g (dated mid 1st-2nd/3rd century), Fabric GX, 2 sherds, 12 g, Cam 243-44/246 (dated mid 1st-early/mid 2nd century), Fabric GX, 7 sherds, 53 g, Fabric KX, 1 sherd 13 g, Cam 278 (dated mid 2nd-3rd century), Fabric HZ, 1 sherd 57 g, (dated mid 1st-2nd/3rd century).

CBM Roman (190) 2 pieces 57 g, includes *tegula* (roof tile) piece (16 mm thick base)

Glass modern and ?Roman (190) Glass from 3 vessels (Vessels 1-3) Two are modern or almost certainly so, the other (Vessel 3) might be Roman

Flint (190) Small, snapped tertiary flake with large platform (dated prehistoric)

Fe nails (181) 15 nails

Slag 3 pieces, 328 g, 2 pieces prob parts of hearth bases, all is probably smithing slag.



### Burial F58 Inhumation

No human bone recovered

#### Finds

Placed grave goods

**F58.1** SF 27. (189). Fifty-two iron hobnails and twelve detached shank fragments, maximum surviving length 19 mm.

**F58.2** SF 30 (188) Sixty-nine iron hobnails and eight detached shank fragments, maximum surviving length 18-20 mm.

#### Other finds

SF 23. (185). Fragment of iron sheet, possibly box cladding. Thicker at one side than the other, it has the head of an attachment nail *in situ* on the narrower side. 34 by 27 mm, 1-4 mm thick.

Pottery Roman (186) Fabric CZ, 1 sherd 3 g, barbotine decorated - probably representing part of the legs of an animal (dated mid 2nd-3rd century), Fabric GB, 5 sherds 69 g, Cam 37b (dated late 2nd-3rd century), Cam 278 (dated early/mid 2nd-3rd century), Fabric GP 1 sherd, 3 g (dated mid 1st-2nd/3rd century), Fabric GX 17 sherds, 117 g (misc. sherds), Fabric HZ 1 sherd, 6 g (dated mid 1st-2nd/3rd century)  
CBM Roman (186, 190, 191) 5 pieces 105 g,  
Slag (186) 1 pieces, 5 g, probably smithing slag.  
Fe nails (184) 40 nails, (find 186) 1 nail

### Burial F61 Cremation

The cremation F61 (198) produced 152 g of bone, which is in poor condition. Seventy-three fragments were seen, of which only thirteen were fully oxidised and burnt to a grey/white colour, the rest of the fragments were unburnt. There is no determination of age or sex possible with this cremation.

### Burial F62 Inhumation

No human bone recovered

#### Finds

Pottery prehistoric (202) Fabric HMF, 1 sherd, 11 g, moderate-sparse small/medium flint with some large flint, (8 mm thick)  
Pottery Roman (202) Fabric CH 1 sherd, 6 g (late 3rd-4th century), Fabric CZ, 2 sherds 5 g (unidentified colour-coat/slipped fabric, red sandy fabric (similar to Fabric DJ) with traces of red slip), Fabric DJ, 2 sherds, 35 g (possibly oxidised coarse ware (Fabric GX), Fabric GX, 5 sherds, 38 g (dated probably mid/late 2nd-4th century)  
CBM Roman (202)1@ 28 g, *imbrex* tile  
Flint (203) 1 piece, 7 g, snapped piece, part of secondary broad blade with light retouch along one edge, retouched notch at distal end of blade (dated Neolithic)  
Slag 1 piece, 48 g, probably smithing slag  
Fe nails (204) 7 nails

### Burial F63 Inhumation

Human bone (211) Adult ?male. Poor condition. Age estimated at 25 to 35 years old. Little wear on isolated teeth.

#### Finds

Placed grave goods

**F63.1** Illustrated (208) Placed grave pot, Cam 392 beaker, whole pot (173 g), Fabric GX, slightly ovoid mouth and slightly poor overall finish, pressure crack on one side extending down from rim (dated mid/late 2nd-3rd century)

**F63.2** SF 24. (210) F63, inhumation. a) Part of the bent shaft of a copper-alloy toilet instrument, probably a ligula, with characteristic moulded rectangular section at one end. Length (bent) 80 mm. b) Plain shaft fragment, 62 mm long; probably part of a second toilet instrument as the combined length of a and b would be unusually great.

**F63.3** SF 25. (206) F63, inhumation. Eighty-four iron hobnails and five detached shank fragments, maximum surviving length 17 mm.

**F63.4** SF 26. (207) F63, inhumation. One hundred and 58 iron hobnails and five detached

shank fragments, maximum surviving length 15 mm.

Other finds:

CBM Roman (212) 1 piece, 7 g

Fe nails (209) 13 nails

#### **Burial F64 Inhumation**

Human bone (213) Adult male. Good to fragmented condition and incomplete. Age from sutures indicates individual <50 years, tooth wear suggests 25 to 35 years old. Pathologies evident with erosion of teeth at the gum line/periodontal disease, well worn teeth. A very robust mandible, which is flared at the chin.

#### **Burial F65 Inhumation** (finds nos. 184, 186, 215)

Human bone (214) Adult ?female. Poor, eroded condition. Slightly curved femur - ? rickets. Femur suggests light build. Adult female?

Finds:

CBM Roman (215) 3 pieces 180 g, includes two pieces of *tegula* (17 mm & 18 mm base thickness)

Stone (215) 3 pieces, 511 g, consisting of septaria (1 piece), and greensand limestone (2 pieces) (greensand dated probably early 2nd century +)

Fe nails (184) 40 nails, (186) 1 nail

#### **Burial F66 Inhumation**

Human bone (216) Adult male. Strong muscular attachments to femurs, quite long femurs. Estimated height 168 to 176 cm/mean 172cm (68 inches/5 feet 6-7 inches). Adult male

Finds:

CBM Roman (217) 1@ 124 g,

Stone (217) 1@ 230 g greensand-limestone (dated probably Roman- early 2nd century+)

#### **Burial F67 Inhumation** (finds nos. 219)

No human bone recovered

Finds

Illustrated **F67.1** (219) Cam 37B bowl (single sherd, 107 g) rounded bead rim, dull surface, with faint graffiti consisting of group of three deliberate, parallel scratches on base chamfer (dated late 2nd-3rd century)

Other finds:

Fabric CB, 1 sherd, 5 g Cam 391 beaker (dated early/mid 2nd-early 3rd century), Fabric CZ 1 sherd 2 g (dated early/mid 2nd-early 3rd century), Fabric GX 8 sherds, 113 g, (misc. sherds), Fabric HZ 1 sherd, 19 g (dated mid 1st-2nd/3rd century), Fabric TZ Cam 498 mortaria, 3 sherds, 283 g (dated mid 2nd-mid 3rd century), Fabric TZ 1 sherd, 49 g

CBM Roman (219) 10 pieces, 629 g, includes *tegula* (base 13 mm thick), *imbrex* and Roman brick (35 mm thick)

#### *Other features associated with burials:*

#### **Penannular ring gully F60** (finds nos. 190, 193, 205)

Pottery Roman (205) Fabric GX 3 sherds, 38 g, Fabric RCW 1 sherd, 10 g, micaceous, black surface (dated mid 1st-early 2nd century?)

CBM Roman (193, 205) 3 pieces 93 g, includes *tegula* (base 16 mm thick) and *imbrex*

Slag (190) 1 piece, 10 g, part of vitrified hearth/kiln lining with fired red clay adhering

## 7 Faunal remains (Phase 1 & Phase 2)

by Julie Curl

### Introduction & methodology

A small assemblage of faunal remains was recovered from a variety of fills during excavations at the two sites (Phase 1 & Phase 2). Seven species were identified and the remains include antler working waste from Red Deer and remains from a small breed of dog.

The assessment was carried out following a modified version of guidelines by English Heritage (Davis, 1992). All of the bone was examined to determine range of species and elements present. A note was also made of butchering and any indications of skinning, hornworking and other modifications. When possible a record was made of ages and any other relevant information, such as pathologies. Counts and weights were noted for each context with additional counts for each species identified, counts were also taken of bone classed as 'countable' (Davis, 1992) and measurable bone following Von Den Driesch (1976). All information was recorded directly into Excel for quantification and assessment. A basic catalogue is included in the written report and the full assessment database, with measurements and additional counts, is available in the digital archive. A table of measurable bone is included in the appendix.

### The assemblage

#### *Quantification, provenance and preservation*

A total of 1,937g of faunal remains, consisting of one hundred and thirty-four pieces was recovered. All of the remains were in good, sound condition, although fragmented from butchering and wear. The remains were recovered from a variety of features - inhumations, pit and ditch fills – while a small quantity was recovered as unstratified pieces from soils. Many of the finds are of a Roman or possible Roman date, although two ditch fills are of medieval or Post-Medieval date. Quantification by weight, count and feature type can be seen in Table 15

Feature	Total weight	Total number of pieces
Ditch	145g	19
Inhumation	611g	25
Pit	618g	61
Quarry Pit	548g	28
Unstratified	15g	1
<b>Totals</b>	<b>1937g</b>	<b>134</b>

**Table 15: Quantification of the faunal assemblage by weight, count of pieces and feature type.**

Finds from pit F8 (19) and quarry pit F18 (111) produced fragments that showed canid gnawing, suggesting some scavenging or remains of meat given to domestic dogs. One ditch F16 (56) produced a fragment of bone which had been burnt for a short period or at relatively lower temperature (resulting in blackened bone), which might suggest domestic waste.

#### *General butchering and modifications*

Butchering was seen throughout most of the assemblage. Most butchering is in the form of cleaver chops from dismemberment of the carcass and finer knife cuts from the initial skinning and from removal of the meat. Sawing marks were noted on two fragments – on a rib in pit F8 (19) and on an antler fragment from the inhumation F30 (123). Sawing is a common method used in the division of the carcass (and hence, through the ribs) and a common method for removing antlers from the skull and dividing into sections.

A Red Deer antler found in F30 (123) had been removed from the deer skull and was not naturally shed, suggesting the whole animal had been utilised. The base of the brow tine had been chopped to remove the tine. The main body of the antler (and additional tines with it) had been removed by sawing. A further sawn tine (?Brow tine) was recovered from the quarry pit F18 (211).

*Species range and modifications and other observations*

Seven species were identified in this assemblage, with a range of domestic mammals and one domestic bird; one wild species was recorded; over a third of the assemblage was too fragmentary and lacking in diagnostic features to identify to species and recorded simply as 'mammal'. Quantification of the species (by NISP) by feature type can be seen in Table 16.

Species	Inhumation	Ditch	Pit	Quarry Pit	Unstratified	Species Total
Bird - Fowl			2	1		3
Cattle	11	1	33	11		56
Dog/Wolf				1		1
Equid	4					4
Mammal	7	17	21	9		54
Pig/boar	1	1	1	4	1	8
Red Deer	1		1			2
Sheep/goat	1		4	1		6
<i>Feature Type Total</i>	<i>25</i>	<i>19</i>	<i>62</i>	<i>27</i>	<i>1</i>	<i>134</i>

**Table 16: quantification (NISP) of species, by feature type**

Cattle are the most common species in this assemblage, with remains recovered from all feature types. The majority of the cattle remains are of adults, including at least one mature animal, with just one juvenile element from pit F8 (100). The range of cattle elements largely consisted of a range of primary and a greater number of secondary elements, which might suggest processing and consumption in close proximity or the consumption of lesser cuts of meat as well.

Small quantities of porcine and ovicaprid remains were seen, both in pit and ditch fills, a sheep mandible was seen in the inhumation F34 (130). Two inhumations, F30 (146) and F32 (136), produced remains of equid, the former producing a single hoof, and F32 yielding a piece of butchered upper limb.

A fragment of antler working waste was found in the inhumation F30 (123) and a further sawn ?brow tine was recovered from the quarry pit F18 (211). Both pieces of antler are from Red Deer, with a possibility that both are from the same antler rack.

Two pits F8 (48) & (99) and F18 (111) yielded single bones of fowl, two of which were butchered, attesting to their probable use for meat.

A single ulna from a small dog was found in the pit F18 (111). The bone is from a bow-legged breed, the metrical data suggests an animal with a shoulder height of approximately 31cm, which is well within the range for several breeds of terrier; precise determination of the breed is not possible from the remains in this assemblage. The dog ulna did show slight arthritis at the proximal end of the bone, which would have caused some pain and limping; such pathologies usually indicate an elderly dog.

*Pathologies*

Pathologies in this assemblage were restricted to remains in one pit fill – F18 (111). This fill produced a cattle mandible with heavily worn teeth, calculus and periodontal disease, all generally indicating an elderly animal. The same fill produced the single

dog ulna, from a small breed of bow-legged dog did show slight arthritis at the proximal end of the bone, which would have caused some pain and limping; such pathologies usually indicate an elderly dog.

### **Discussion and conclusions**

Despite the small size of this assemblage, there is a good range of species present. The dominance of cattle in the remains is typical of most assemblages as this species provides traction, breeding, milk, meat, hides and other by products. For all of the food mammals, there is generally a greater disposal of the main meat producing bones, which may suggest that at least some initial processing is carried out elsewhere. The butchering of the equid found in the inhumation burial might be from an animal prepared for meat; although once thought rare in Roman remains (Luff, 1993), but have been seen elsewhere in Roman contexts (Maltby, 1979) and may be from skinning or even dismemberment of such a large carcass for burial in a more confined space.

The clear removal of the Red Deer antler from the skull certainly indicates both hunting and antler working waste and the further sawn tine confirms that working was carried out, even on a small scale. Antler would have been a commonly used material at many Roman sites for the production of tools, pottery stamps, combs and other objects.

The inclusion of animal bones, particularly the butchered equid and the antler working waste, in inhumations may suggest 'ritual' offerings, which was a known practice in Roman Britain (Aldhouse-Green, 2001), where cuts of meat were provided for the dead in the afterlife. It is possible that the antler waste may possibly suggest the burial was that of someone who worked antler. Without firm proof of dating evidence to confirm that the animal waste is contemporary with the human burial, it is possible that the animal remains associated with burials are residual.

The bow-legged dog in this assemblage (F18) is interesting. Smaller breeds of dog were introduced into Britain by the Romans and such breeds have been previously seen in Colchester (Luff, 1993; Curl, 2008). These dogs may well have been kept for vermin control, hunting or even fighting, the later was certainly suggested by the number of remains and incurred skull damage in one pit fill at the St Mary's Hospital site in Colchester (Curl, 2008).

## **8 Human remains and cremated/burnt bone (Phases 1 & 2)** *by Julie Curl*

### **Introduction and methodology**

Bone from a total of twenty-two inhumations, four cremations and other isolated human remains recorded during the Phase 1 & Phase 2 (Napier Road Car Park) excavations was submitted for analysis. All of the remains are dated to the Roman period. A range of adult and juvenile remains were seen, some exhibiting numerous pathological conditions. One individual gives some indications as to the possible ethnic diversity present in the population buried at this site.

The human remains were recorded following modified guidelines produced by English Heritage (Mays, 2004) and the IFA (Brickley and McKinley 2004). All of the bones were quantified by skeleton number or context and an estimate of the minimum number of individuals was recorded based on counts of the most frequent elements recorded, estimation of sex and ages of those present. Bones were scanned for any pathologies, genetic traits and modifications which were recorded. Fusion of bone and tooth eruption and wear were noted when possible to allow estimation of ages following Brothwell (1981). Where complete and suitable, elements were measured for estimation of stature using the regression formulae of Trotter and Gleser (1952 and 1958) and for estimation of ethnicity and features.

For cremations, the contents were dry-sieved through a stack of 10 mm, 5 mm & 2 mm sized mesh to maximise recovery and assess the degree of fragmentation. Fragments measuring over 5 mm were manually separated. Notes were made on the degree of fragmentation, levels of burning, damage and modifications and notes made on body zones represented.

All of the information for this analysis report was input directly into an Excel database for analysis. Summary catalogue and tables of results are provided in this report and in the appendix and the full assessment data, including additional counts and measurements, is available in the digital archive.

#### *Overall assemblage – quantification, provenance and preservation*

The human remains in the examined assemblage total 7,739 g and consist of 1,851 pieces, recovered from a total of twenty-two inhumations and four cremations; in addition four further features produced human remains. All of these remains are of a Roman date range. The quantification weights and counts does not include two bones – a right femur from F13, (103) and the right femur from F26 (105), which were removed at the time of excavation for DNA analysis.

The condition of the bone in this assemblage varies, with some in a good and robust state, while other remains are fragmentary and showing wear and erosion, some of the bone has been reduced to heavily fragmented remains and powder. Possible rodent gnawing was seen on one bone from F33 (133), such gnawing is most likely to occur sometime after burial and decay, with the rodent gnawing to wear its teeth or even to obtain calcium from the bone and are not of archaeological significance. Generally there was similar preservation across the site and no notable variation.

#### **Inhumations**

Of the inhumation graves recorded on Phase 1 (Napier Road North) surviving bone was recovered from fifteen (F2, F3, F4, F7, F12, F13, F21, F24, F25, F26, F30, F33, F34, F41 & F42). This produced 3 x males, 2 x ?males, 2 x ?females and 8 burials where sex could not be determined. The age estimations show 7 adults and 3 juveniles, with 5 individuals where the age could not be determined. On Phase 2 (Napier Road South) sixteen inhumation graves were discovered of which seven had surviving bone (F45, F54, F56, F63, F64, F65 & F66). This produced 5 adults and 2 skeletons of uncertain age. The sexes of these skeletons show 2 x ?male, 2 x male, 1 ?female and 2 of uncertain sex. In addition, four other features produced fragments of unburnt human bone.

The inhumations vary in condition, with some surviving quite well, while others have yielded only small amounts of bone and ten inhumations at Napier Road North did not yield any bone and a further eight of the inhumations from Napier Road South have no bone surviving. Preservation and recovery was considerably better in features F13, F26, and F41, located on the Phase 1 site. Observations made during the analysis would suggest a greater number of males than females and a larger number of adults than juveniles in this assemblage.

Although this is a relatively small group of inhumations, there is a wealth of information with the better preserved remains in particular. Numerous dental problems, non-metrical traits and other pathologies were seen. One cremated individual showed evidence of trauma.

Several bones are sufficiently well preserved to take measurements, following Trotter and Gleser (1952 and 1958), to estimate stature and determine sex. One inhumation showed some features that might indicate ethnicity.

#### *Ages*

Most of the inhumations represent adults. A juvenile skeleton was recovered from F41(161), with the sequence of tooth formation and eruption (Bass, 1995; Ubelaker,

1978) indicating a child of approximately ten years old and two other juveniles (from the lack of bone fusion) were seen.

#### *Stature*

Three skeletons produced sufficiently complete elements for measurements. Metrical data was analysed and estimations of height were made following Trotter and Gleser (1952 and 1958).

The Skeleton from burial F26 suggested a height range of 164 cm-176 cm, with a mean height of 170cm (68 inches) or a height of approximately 5 feet 6 inches.

That from burial F66 indicates a height of between 168 cm-176 cm, with a mean height of 172cm (68.5 inches) or with a height of approximately 5 feet 7 inches.

An attempt was made to estimate the height of the child (burial F41) in the assemblage. An approximate estimation suggests a child of around 126 cm (50.5 inches), indicating a height of 4 feet 3 inches.

#### *Pathologies*

The majority of pathologies related to tooth problems, with wear evident on many individuals, which was probably as a result of a coarse diet. Calculus deposits were low, which would suggest a diet low in sugars and carbohydrates and perhaps combined with relatively good dental hygiene.

The skeleton from burial F26 showed several pathologies - a healed fracture on the mid-distal left radius shaft, arthritis and degenerative wear between cervical vertebrae 3 and 4, wear on the left pelvis acetabulum, wear in the left femur head, wear on the articular surface of the patella. There was a loss of the lower left 1st molar and abscess and some healing of mandible. One upper left incisor had been lost and the mandible bone had healed over. A low level of calculus was seen on the teeth. The pathologies would suggest arthritic changes in the neck and pelvis/femur and resulting wear on the bones and may be as a result of many occupational activities. The severity of tooth problems might suggest a poor diet and perhaps one more dominated by bread.

Skeleton in burial F13 showed a similar loss of teeth and abscesses to those seen with F26, again suggesting a poor diet or poor hygiene.

Skeleton from burial F64 showed erosion of the teeth at the gum line, which suggests periodontal disease and the teeth were very worn, indicating a coarse diet.

Strong muscular attachments were noted with the burials in F12, F13, F26 & F66 indicating more physical activity for these men.

One skeleton, the ?female burial F65, showed some curvature of the femur, which might suggest this individual suffered with rickets. Rickets can occur with a lack of sunlight and calcium deficiency as a result of malabsorption; full confirmation of the condition is difficult without examination of other elements, which were missing from this individual.

#### *Ethnicity*

The juvenile skeleton from burial F41 (161) has skull fragments that are of a dense texture, which can be an indication of Negroid ancestry or origins. There is also a wide palate and mandible with this child, which would further suggest this child might have Negroid origins or may be of mixed race. Such features do not suggest a direct link with Africa, but perhaps a descendant of an African(s) in the Roman population.

### **Cremation burials**

*Bone from four cremation burials (F6, F28, F48 & F61) was submitted for analysis. In total between them these burials produced a total 655 g of cremated bone, consisting of 875 pieces. The bone from each cremation is described in the catalogue of burials (4.3 & 5.3).*

#### *Fragmentation*

The fragmentation of bone resulting from the cremation process may be increased by funerary practices such as raking and tending of the pyre, collection of bone at the pyre site, deliberate crushing prior to burial, as well as a result of post-depositional processes, excavation and processing (McKinley, 1989).

The largest proportion of bone fragments were from the 5mm and 10mm sieves. The degree of bone fragmentation is higher in some cases than that generally seen in archaeological cremations where an average of 50% of bone fragments are over 10 mm in size (McKinley, 1993).

The cremation/pyre debris F6 (42), was fragmented, but c. 50% of the remains were of 10mm or greater length. The urned cremation F28 (151), produced over 50% fragments which were of 10 mm or more in length. Some quite large and robust pieces from this particular cremation, which might suggest little disturbance between burning and collection and placing in the urn.

#### *Cremation colour*

The colour of cremated bone depends on a range of factors including the maximum temperature reached, the length of the cremation process, the type and amount of fuel, the quantity of oxygen, the amount of body fat as well as on the degree of uniformity of exposure to the heat across the body. A correlation has been found between the temperature attained and colour changes. Cremated bone can exhibit a large range of heat-induced colour variation from browns or orange coloured (unburnt), to black (charred: c.300°C), through hues of blue and grey (incompletely incinerated: up to c.600°C) to fully oxidised white (> c.600°C) (McKinley, 2004).

With cremation/pyre debris F6 (42), approximately 90% of the bone had been burnt to blue/grey or white. The level of burning in the urned cremation F28 (151), varied, although the majority were burnt to grey-white.

#### *Surface Changes*

Surface changes such as warping, cracking and fissuring are characteristics of cremated bone and are produced during the process of dehydration undergone by bone exposed to heat. The pattern of heat-induced bone changes in colour and texture can be exploited to infer the technological aspects of the ritual, the condition of the body at the time when the cremation process took place and the nature of post-depositional disturbance (Shipman *et al*, 1984).

Both the urned cremation F28 (151) and the cremation/pyre debris F6 (42), showed warping, fissuring and cracking that is characteristic of heavily burnt bone.

#### *Trauma*

One possible trauma was seen with the cremated material from Phase 2. The cremation F48 (170) produced several rib fragments, one of which showed a knife cut (Plate 6). The cut had not healed suggesting this was either an ante-mortem cut from an incident such as stabbing or perhaps an attempt at surgery or from post-mortem butchering prior to burning.





**Plate 6: Unhealed cut on human rib – cremation burial F48**

### **Interpretation**

The relatively poor condition of the assemblage and incomplete skeletal preservation has somewhat limited the information that can be obtained. The results show most of the burials were adults, with just three juveniles present. Most of the burials are from males or probable males, with only three probable females seen. One feature produced the remains of a ?male and ?female, which might suggest a shared grave if some of the remains are not residual.

The physical appearances and pathologies of many of the men in the burial area would suggest a working population engaged in physical activity. The state of the teeth of many in the assemblage would suggest a poor diet and coarse material that caused a good deal of wear. Another suggestion of a poor diet and perhaps deficiencies is seen with a possible case of rickets with one probable female skeleton.

Some suggestion of the diverse ethnic groups present in the Roman period is seen with one of the juvenile skeletons, which shows some Negroid characteristics.

One of the cremated individuals, the urned burial F48, shows one bone that has been cut. The unhealed cut may have occurred prior to death and might suggest the individual was stabbed or that this person had undergone some unsuccessful surgery. It might be possible that the person in this burial has been butchered or dismembered prior to cremation and perhaps suggest some additional ritual activity involved with this burial.

## 9 Napier Road footpath watching brief (ie, Phase 3).

by Don Shimmin

### Introduction (Fig 1)

The watching brief took place during the enlargement and resurfacing of the footpath along the northern side of Napier Road (Fig 2). The street furniture was also upgraded, which involved the laying of cable ducts. Roughly halfway along Napier Road, an entrance for an access road into the redevelopment area (GAL Area B1b) was remodelled. The total length of the area investigated was approximately 180 m. This extended from the crossroads with Flagstaff Road, Circular Road East and Circular Road North eastwards to the access road into the newly-formed car park at the corner of Mersea Road and Napier Road. The watching brief was carried out by CAT between 18th May and 3rd June 2011.

### Archaeological background to the site (Fig 2)

The archaeological context of the site was relatively well understood following a series of evaluations, excavations and watching briefs conducted in adjacent areas since 2000. The more significant of these are outlined below.

Napier Road bisects the eastern end of the Roman circus discovered during evaluations and excavations in GAL Areas C1, C2 and J1 East in 2002, 2004 and 2005. The size and location of the circus was confirmed by more recent work. This is the first Roman circus to be positively identified in Britain and its site is now a Scheduled Ancient Monument (SAM no 46327).

An area excavation took place in Napier Road in 2006 in advance of the installation of foul and storm-water drains along Napier Road, followed by the resurfacing of the road and the south pavement (CAT Report 412, 1048-1101). The inner and outer foundations of the south *cavea* were observed in Napier Road, including the start of the curved eastern end. The outer *cavea* wall survived largely unrobbed to Roman ground level and included parts of two external buttresses. The stretch of inner *cavea* wall was robbed, probably in medieval times. A scatter of loose stones from the inner *cavea* wall lay on the *arena* surface. A layer of demolition debris, left over from the dismantling of the outer wall, sealed a patchy gravel surface around the outside of the circus. There was also a gravelled surface between the inner and outer *cavea* walls. An earlier ditch mirrored the line of the outer *cavea* wall, including the curve at the eastern end.

A short distance to the west of the site, part of a probable monument base within the central barrier of the circus was uncovered beneath the crossroads in 2006 (WBT3; CAT Report 412, 73).

Napier Road is situated in an area of Roman burials (CAR 9, 262). In particular the southern side of the circus was flanked by Roman burials (eg Hull 1958, 255; CAT Report 138; CAT Report 412, 57-9, 73-4 & 1110-2). Five inhumation burials, one pit with pyre debris, and one empty pot (presumably a placed deposit) were excavated in Napier Road in 2006 (*ibid*, 1052-3). In 2004 excavation in the area immediately to the south of Napier Road (GAL Area C2) uncovered a large late Roman cemetery of 68 Roman burials and burial-related features, some of which were located inside ring-ditches (*ibid*, 26-36).

To the north of the site (GAL Area B1b), archaeological work took place in 2002 (CAT Report 206), 2005 (FHT1-4; CAT Report 412, 1328-9) and 2007 (CAT Report 438). This confirmed the position of the eastern end of the Roman circus. Outside the circus were Roman burials and traces of Roman extra-mural buildings, as well as evidence of Roman and later quarrying. Remains probably associated with St John's Abbey, as well as possible post-Dissolution buildings, were also uncovered in Area B1b.

Evidence for the robbing of Roman foundations for building materials, mainly in the 12th-13th centuries, has been found on many sites in and around Napier Road. Much of the area was probably farmland prior to the construction of the Garrison in the 19th century. Napier Road had been laid out by the time of the OS map of 1874 1876.

### The groundworks

The contractors, Anderson Group, started stripping at the eastern end of the footpath area, using a JCB with a toothless ditching bucket. The width of the stripped area was approximately 2.8 m, measured from the kerb. Of this, a narrow strip 0.85-0.9 m wide alongside the kerb was cleared to a depth of roughly 100 mm. The remainder of the area to the east of the entrance was stripped approximately 300 mm deep. To the west of the entrance, the footpath area was only stripped 100-200 mm deep.

The machine stripping in the entrance area was deeper than in the footpath areas. The stripped surface in the entrance sloped up slightly from south to north, from approximately 850 mm to 700 mm below the modern ground level. Modern services, often redundant, were frequently encountered in both the footpath and entrance areas.

The trenches for the cable ducts were dug into the stripped surface using a JCB with a narrow trenching bucket. They were linked up to ducts which extended under Napier Road at the eastern edge of the entrance. To the east of this, the trench was 300-350 mm wide and approximately 350 mm deep (ie roughly 650 mm below the modern ground level). It was only necessary to dig this trench eastwards for 29 m. To the west of the entrance, the trench was 400-450 mm wide and 500-600 mm deep (approximately 650-700 mm below the modern ground level).

In order to avoid damage to the circus-related deposits to the east of the entrance, the line of the trench was diverted through areas of modern disturbance along the southern edge of the footpath. In the most archaeologically sensitive areas the trench was dug by hand. The circus-related deposits were subsequently given a protective covering, consisting of a plastic lining sealed by a layer of sand.

Natural subsoil (L8) was reached in the southern part of the entrance area and in the bottom of the trench for the cable duct to the east of the entrance. It lay at a depth of approximately 650 mm below the modern ground level, and consisted of brownish-yellow sand and gravels, capped in places by shallow pockets of pale brown cover loam.

### Interpretation

#### *Circus-related deposits (Figs 49-51)*

During the digging of the trench for the cable duct in the eastern part of the site, a layer of rubble was encountered, L7 (Fig 50). This lay just outside the footprint of the Roman circus. It consisted mainly of medium-large blocks of greensand. There were also fragments and flecks of mortar and a few pieces of septaria. The rubble was embedded in a greyish-brown loamy deposit which sealed natural sand (L8). It was 100-150 mm thick and lay approximately 500 mm below the modern ground level. The rubble spread extended for approximately 1.65 m wide east-west. It was uncovered for up to 0.8 m north-south, but continued beyond the northern limit of the trench. Along the southern edge of the trench, L7 had been destroyed as a result of modern activity.

The rubble spread was situated several metres to the east of the outer *cavea* wall with its external buttresses. The rubble was presumably derived from this wall. It was probably demolition debris left over after the wall was taken down in order to salvage the materials for reuse elsewhere. Alternatively it could have been material fallen from the wall during its gradual dilapidation and dereliction. The rubble spread remained unexcavated and no dating evidence was recovered from L7. It was probably late Roman, rather than medieval, in date. Similar layers have been found around the perimeter of the circus elsewhere; for example, in GAL Areas C1, C2 and J1 East, and in Napier Road and Circular Road North (CAT Report 412, 1361).

The trench for the cable duct was diverted through the area of modern disturbance along the southern edge of L7, leaving it intact. In the limited section exposed, there was no visible trace below L7 of a gravelled surface, comparable to the surfaces observed around the outside of the circus at other sites; for example, in GAL Areas C1, C2 and J1 East, and in Napier Road (CAT Report 412, 1349). There was also no definite evidence for the outer *cavea* wall in the trench for the cable duct to the west of L7. It was unclear whether this stretch of the wall was intact or had been robbed out. In either case the remains of the wall appeared to lay below the level of the bottom of the trench. On the adjacent Napier Road site excavated in 2006, the outer *cavea* wall was 0.8 m - 1 m wide and the buttresses projected out for approximately 1 m.

During the initial stripping of the footpath area, a mortar and rubble spread L6 (Fig 51 & Plate 7) was uncovered approximately 13 m west of L7. It lay only 300 mm below the modern ground level. This layer consisted mainly of mortar debris and greensand chips. There were also a few pieces of Roman brick/tile, *opus signinum* and septaria, as well as gravels and occasional oyster shells. The large amount of mortar present and the small size of the stone fragments in L6 contrasted with L7. The presence of small quantities of septaria in both L6 and L7 is unusual, but not unique, in circus-related deposits (CAT Report 412, 1319 & 1353).



**Plate 7. The mortar and rubble spread L6, viewed from the west**

The mortar and rubble spread L6 survived approximately 1.45 m north-south and up to 3.6 m east-west. The northern, western and southern edges of L6 had been cut by modern features. The western 1.8 m of L6 consisted of fragments and flecks of light greyish mortar, approximately 100 mm thick, containing many greensand chips as well as the other inclusions listed above. In the eastern 1.8 m of L6 the mortar debris and the other inclusions were less abundant and were mixed with greyish-brown fill.

The mortar and rubble spread L6 lay above and immediately to the west of the projected position of the inner *cavea* wall. The material in L6 was probably waste left over from the robbing of large pieces of stone and brick from this wall. There was a roughly straight edge, aligned south-west to north-east, along the eastern side of L6. This was possibly the eastern edge of a robber trench (F35) for the inner *cavea* wall. However as L6/F35 remained unexcavated, this was not confirmed. In the adjacent stretch of Napier Road excavated in 2006, the robber trench for the inner *cavea* wall was 0.6 m - 0.9 m wide. In this area, any comparable layers to L6 would have been terraced away, probably in Victorian times during the construction of the road.

No dating evidence was recovered from L6, although its closeness to the modern ground level suggests that it was probably post-Roman in date. This is reinforced by the evidence from other sites within the circus at Colchester. This suggests that the inner *cavea* wall was left to gradually decay and disintegrate during the later Roman period (CAT Report 412, 1353). Most of the robbing of the circus probably took place in the late 12th or early 13th century (*ibid*). The likelihood of this in the case of L6 is perhaps increased by its proximity to St John's Abbey.

It was possible to divert the trench for the cable duct along the southern edge of L6, through an area of modern disturbance. This part of the trench was dug by hand and L6 was left intact to the north. In places the modern disturbance was fairly shallow and here it was observed that L6 sealed a brown clayey layer (L4), which probably represented accumulation on the surface of the circus *arena*. A large greensand block (marked on Fig 51) was removed from this layer during the digging of the trench.

The brown clayey layer (L4) was recorded elsewhere on the site. It was 150-200 mm thick and sealed the natural subsoil (L8). Its depth below the modern ground level varied from approximately 600 mm at the western end of the site to 300-400 mm in the central and eastern parts of the site. This layer was probably largely subsoil, reworked and redeposited mainly in post-Roman times.

No traces were observed of the central barrier of the Roman circus in its projected position under the western end of the footpath, close to Flagstaff Road. It probably lay below the level of the bottom of the trench for the cable duct or had been destroyed by later activity.

#### *Post-medieval and modern remains (Figs 49 & 52-53)*

Following machine stripping at the eastern end of the footpath area, a loose spread of rubble, L5 (Fig 52) was uncovered. This lay 250-300 mm below the modern ground level and extended for approximately 5 m east-west. It was located roughly 10 m east of the footprint of the circus. The rubble included reused Roman building materials, probably derived from the circus, such as greensand blocks, a few pieces of septaria, and fragments of Roman brick/tile. However there were also pieces of modern frogged and unfrogged brick, and fragments of mortar and modern concrete.

After cleaning, the rubble that was earthfast, rather than loose, was found to be concentrated in two clusters by the north section (Fig 52). After recording, these were left intact and were subsequently covered over. The rubble was perhaps the remains of a layer of make-up laid down in the late 19th or 20th century and was probably associated with the former garrison.

Along the southern edge of the stripped area, near the eastern end of the footpath and to the south of L5, there was a line of small modern features. These had rubble packing, which included some reused Roman material as well as modern material such as peg-tile and pieces of tarmac. They remained unexcavated and only one of them, F40 (Fig 52) was recorded in detail. They were probably post holes for a modern boundary fence.

During machine stripping in the south-eastern part of the entrance area, several post-Roman features were exposed - F36-9 (Fig 53). They cut natural sand (L8) and remained largely unexcavated. The finds from pit F36 included peg-tile and slate, indicating it was late medieval or, more likely, post-medieval/modern in date. F37 contained modern industrial brick and greensand 'packing', as well as pieces of tarmac, and was possibly a post hole. Pit F38 contained pieces of tarmac. No finds were recovered from F39, but the central part of the fill was very soft, which suggests this was probably the post-pipe of a modern post hole.

Over most of the site there was a layer of dark greyish-brown modern topsoil (L3), 200-250 mm thick. This was sealed by the modern surfaces and associated make-up (L1), 100-150 mm thick.

#### *Finds*

A small quantity of Roman and medieval/post-medieval or modern finds was recovered during the watching brief. The finds were unstratified except for a few fragments from a post-medieval or modern pit (F36). All of the finds were recorded by count and weight for each finds number by context and are listed in Appendix 1, and further details are available in the site archive. Where appropriate the finds were washed, marked and bagged according to context, in line with the recommendations in IfA 2008b.

Stephen Benfield of CAT prepared the following comment on the finds from the new footpath:

The majority of the finds are of limited archaeological significance. However, of note are two unstratified sherds (11g) from a roller-stamp decorated, Argonne red-slipped ware bowl (US(159)). Argonne red-slipped wares appear in limited quantities in the south of England in the late Roman period, possibly from the late 3rd century (Tyers 1996, 136), although most are associated with contexts dated to the mid-late 4th century. The most common vessel type encountered is the bowl form Chenet 320 and the sherds here are almost certainly of this form. They would probably not be current in Britain before c. 320-330 (Bird 2010, 122) and can be dated to the period of the early/mid 4th-early 5th century.

## 10 Contents of archive

### Finds

Bulk finds: 14 boxes

Small finds: 5 x plastic sealer boxes

### Paper archive

#### One A4 document wallet containing:

The project report (CAT Report 652)

CBCAO brief

RPS WSI

Original site record (feature, layer, finds sheet)

Site digital photographic record on CD

Digital photo index

Digital photo log

Attendance register

Finds reports and data

Risk assessment

1 x A3 (plastic) & 1 x A4 (paper) sheets of section drawings

## 11 Archive deposition

The paper and digital archive and finds are currently held by CAT at Roman Circus House, Roman Circus Walk, Colchester, C02 7GZ, but it will be permanently deposited with Colchester and Ipswich Museums, under accession code COLEM 2011.21.

## 12 Acknowledgements

CAT is grateful to the developers, Taylor Wimpey, for commissioning and funding the watching brief, to the contractors, Anderson Group, for their help on site, and to Rob Masfield of consultants RPS.

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The project was monitored by Martin Winter (Archaeology Officer) for Colchester Borough Council (CBC).

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## 14 Abbreviations and glossary

AOD	above Ordnance Survey datum point based on mean sea level at Newlyn, Cornwall
<i>arena</i>	race track of a Roman circus
Bronze Age	period from c 2000 to 700 BC
CAT	Colchester Archaeological Trust
<i>cavea</i>	seating area of Roman circus
CBC	Colchester Borough Council
CBCAO	Colchester Borough Council's Archaeological Officer
CBM	Ceramic Building Material (ie brick and tile)
CIMS	Colchester and Ipswich Museums
circus	an arena in which chariot racing was held
context	specific location on an archaeological site, especially one where finds are made, usually a layer or a feature
cover loam	a natural, wind-blown deposit, probably formed towards the end of the last Ice Age
<i>EAA</i>	<i>East Anglian Archaeology</i>
ECC	Essex County Council
faunal	animal
feature	an identifiable thing like a pit, a wall, a drain, a floor; can contain 'contexts'
GAL	Garrison Alienated Land
Greensand limestone	a form of limetone, also known as Kentish Ragstone, imported from south of the Thames
IfA	Institute for Archaeologists (formerly the Institute of Field Archaeologists)
<i>imbrex</i>	(plural <i>imbrices</i> ) curved Roman roof tile placed over the junction between two <i>tegulae</i>
Iron Age	period from 700 BC to Roman invasion of AD 43
Late Bronze Age	c 1,000-800 BC
Late Iron Age	c 150 BC-AD 43
layer	distinct or distinguishable deposit of soil
make-up	material dumped to raise ground-level
medieval	period from AD 1066 to c 1500
modern	period from the 19th century onwards to the present
natural	geological deposit undisturbed by human activity
Neolithic	period from <i>circa</i> 4,500 to 2,500 BC
<i>opus signinum</i>	Roman 'concrete' with a pinkish appearance due to the addition of brick/tile fragments
peg-tile	rectangular roof tile of medieval or later date
post-medieval	period from c 1500 to c 1850
post-pipe	the remains of the post within a posthole; usually softer than the surrounding fill and often containing decayed wood
prehistoric	the years BC
residual	something out of its original period context (eg, a Roman coin in a modern pit)
Roman	the period from AD 43 to c AD 410
RRCSAL	Report of the Research Committee of the Society of Antiquaries of London
SAM	scheduled ancient monument
septaria	calcareous, clay concretions found on the Essex and Suffolk coast
<i>tegula</i>	(plural <i>tegulae</i> ) flat Roman roof tile with edge flanges, which were covered by <i>imbrices</i>
UAD	Urban Archaeological Database, maintained by Colchester Museums
unstratified	without a well-defined context
WSI	Written Scheme of Investigation

## Appendix 1 Napier Road north and south car parks (ie, Phase 1 & Phase 2) bulk finds catalogue

Key: CBM: RT-Rom. *tegula*; RI-Rom. *imbrex*; RFT-Rom flue tile RBT-Rom. brick & tile; TE-*tesserae* PT-peg-tile (dated 13/14C+), OB-other brick, OT-other tile; LCA-lower cut away; UCA-upper cut away; FH-flange height, MSL-maximum surviving length; Fabric: r –red, pr-pale red/cream, c-cream cream/white; inclusions s-sand, fs-fine sand; cs-coarse sand, pc-pale clay, sf-sparse flint; sq-sparse quartz, is-ironstone, rs-red ?sandstone, o-other (described); Fired clay fabrics as CBM with ss-small stones

ctxt	finds no.	material	type/form	description	fabric	no.	wt (g)	thick (mm)	abr.	period	spot date
F001/F014	080	pot	Cam 408-410	comp. indented beaker, two joining rim sherds recently broken, pale brown fabric, dark surface, colour-coat very abraded inside and out which must be due to soil conditions, located upright at east end of grave F001/F14	CZ	1	115		*	Rom	E/M3-L3/?4C
F001/F014	117	CBM	RBT		r fs	1	157	14		Rom	Rom
F004	011	CBM				1	222				Rom
F004	011	pot	Cam 198	Tazza - rouletted body sherd	DJ	1	6			Rom	M1-2/E3C
F005	012	bone	Pig, mam			5	10				
F005	012	CBM	RBT	cream/ pale red	pr fs	1	122	20	*	Rom	Rom
F005	012	CBM	RB		r fs	1	46	38		Rom	Rom
F005	012	CBM	RBT	burnt grey	r cs	1	19	16		Rom	Rom
F005	012	CBM	RBT		r fs	2	64	14-16		Rom	Rom
F005	012	CBM	RBT	frags	r fs	3	58			Rom	Rom
F005	012	pot			GX	1	3			Rom	Rom
F005	012	pot	Cam 37B		KX	1	10			Rom	L2-M/L3C
F005	012	slag					116				
F005	012	stone	sep?			1	57				
F005	012	stone	slate			7	32				
F005	023	bone				1	1				
F005	023	pot			GX	2	22			Rom	Rom
F005	023	pot		base - coarse sandy with oxidised interior	GX	1	26			Rom	Rom
F005	023	slag					383				
F005	023	stone	sep			1	19				
F005	024	bone				3	93				
F005 sx 2	023	pot		rim - coarse sandy with oxidised surface & reduced core, unusual lid-seated rim	13	1	13			med	11-13C
F005 sx 2	024	CBM	RI		r fs	1	32	15		Rom	Rom

ctxt	finds no.	material	type/form	description	fabric	no.	wt (g)	thick (mm)	abr.	period	spot date
F005 sx 2	024	CBM	RBT		r fs	1	106	14		Rom	Rom
F005 sx 2	024	CBM	RBT	frags	r fs	6	184			Rom	Rom
F005 sx 2	024	pot			GX	1	3			Rom	Rom
F005 sx 2	024	pot			20	1	10			med	12-14C
F006	013	glass		Clear glass body sherds from thin walled, round bodied vessel (prob SV same as F6 41) (similar to sherds from F8 (48))		12	5			Rom	Rom
F006	016	CBM	RB	complete <i>Lydion</i> type tile, broken, 42-43 mm x 30-31 mm x 34 mm one piece (half of the tile) this find number, three pieces (other half) finds number 18, all join, faint diagonal double groove across tile	r fs	4	8250	34		Rom	Rom
F006	017	CBM	TE		r fs	1	19			Rom	Rom
F006	017	CBM	RBT	frags	r fs	2	22			Rom	Rom
F006	017	pot	D 20	D 20 sherd flakes	AJ	4	69			Rom	M1-2/E3C
F006	017	pot		prob same pot as 030	KX	2	14			Rom	M2-M3C
F006	017	slag		small piece of glassy slag, slightly magnetic, one side smooth, other rough		1	11	8			
F006	017	slag					10				
F006	018	CBM	RB	three joining pieces see finds number 016	-	0	00	0		Rom	Rom
F006	023	f clay				1	13				
F006	024	stone	slate			4	123				
F006	030	pot		sv. lattice decorated body	KX	8	57			Rom	M2-M3C
F006	040	pot	D 20	sherds from body of Dressel 20 amphora, base present, neck and handles missing, found as sherds lying with outer surface down but overlapping so appears to be large sherds from a vessel placed into pit or sherds used to line it which have slid down over each other, comp, broken brick was located on top of sherds	AJ	50	16000			Rom	M1-2/E3C
F006	041	glass		Clear glass body sherds from thin walled, round bodied vessel (prob SV same as F6 13) (similar to sherds from F8 (48))		29	24			Rom	Rom
F006	051	CBM	RBT	abraded	r fs	1	20		*	Rom	Rom
F006	051	pot	D 20?	sherds 10mm thick, base sherds, poss cut? laminating, mostly small flakes	AJ	16	251			Rom	M1-2/E3C
F006 sx 2	023	CBM	RBT	RI?	r fs	2	16	12		Rom	Rom

ctxt	finds no.	material	type/form	description	fabric	no.	wt (g)	thick (mm)	abr.	period	spot date
F006 sx 2	023	CBM	RBT	frags	r fs	2	77		*	Rom	Rom
F008	019	bone	mammal			2	15				
F008	019	CBM	TE		r fs	3	62	20-25		Rom	Rom
F008	019	CBM	TE		c fs	1	18	20-25		Rom	Rom
F008	019	CBM	RI		r fs	2	152	13 & 17		Rom	Rom
F008	019	CBM	RFT	frag of combed surface	r fs	1	38	15		Rom	Rom
F008	019	CBM	RBT		r fs	1	61	19		Rom	Rom
F008	019	CBM	RBT	frags	r fs	5	202			Rom	Rom
F008	019	pot	D20		AJ	1	101			Rom	M1-2/E3C
F008	019	pot			CB	1	3			Rom	E/M2-M/L3C
F008	019	pot	Cam 268	Cam 268 rim, other misc sherds	GX	45	424			Rom	E/M2-3/4C
F008	019	pot			RCW	1	2			Rom	M1-L1/E2C
F008	019	pot	Cam 278	rim & lattice dec sherds	GB	6	29			Rom	E/M2-M/L3C
F008	019	pot	Cam 278	rim prob Cam 278	KX	2	26			Rom	E/M2-M/L3C
F008	019	pot			DJ	1	15			Rom	M1-2/3C
F008	019	pot		brown-buff coloured, coarse sandy, sherds 8 mm thick, poss amphora?	DJ	2	21			Rom	M1-2/3C
F008	019a	pot	Dr 37	bowl rim, 2 joining sherds, ovolo, beaded boarder below, part of winding scroll motif, lead rivet repair in rim (Pot 3)	BX(CG)	2	41			Rom	?M-L2C
F008	019	pot	Dr 33	cup	BA(CG)	1	9			Rom	2C
F008	019b	pot	Dr 37	lower part of frieze, part of figures in bead bordered panels, join with pot find 37a (Pot 1)	BX(CG)	1	28			Rom	2C
F008	019	stone					499				
F008	021	slag					3000				
F008	022	slag		Hearth or kiln lining, glassy surface with fired clay backing		7	292				
F008	037	bone	Cattle, mam			8	51				
F008	037	CBM	RT	UCW	r fs	1	43	17		Rom	Rom

ctxt	finds no.	material	type/form	description	fabric	no.	wt (g)	thick (mm)	abr.	period	spot date
F008	037	CBM	RT	part of LCW, Warry type C5	r fs	1	90			Rom	M2-3/4C?
F008	037	CBM	RT	FH 32 mm	r fs	1	62	17		Rom	Rom
F008	037	CBM	RI		r fs	4	414	14-15		Rom	Rom
F008	037	CBM	RI		r sq	1	46	10		Rom	Rom
F008	037	CBM	TE	no mortar, prob tess	r fs	2	42	25		Rom	Rom
F008	037	CBM	RBT		r fs	1	166	16		Rom	Rom
F008	037	CBM	RBT		pr fs	1	50	20		Rom	Rom
F008	037	CBM	RBT	thin	r fs	1	35	14		Rom	Rom
F008	037	CBM	RBT	frags	r fs	5	182			Rom	Rom
F008	037	CBM	RB	34-38 mm thick, have edges, prob brick fags	r fs	4	567	34-38		Rom	Rom
F008	037	CBM	RBT		c cs	1	291			Rom	Rom
F008	037	f clay	PRB	poss soft brick??		2	83				
F008	037	pot	mortarium	base	TZ	1	138			Rom	M1-2/3C
F008	037	pot	Cam 268 (2)	Cam 268 rim/shoulder, other misc sherds	GX	31	527			Rom	E/M2-3/4C
F008	037	pot	Cam 37		GB	2	36			Rom	E/M2-M/L3C
F008	037	pot	Cam 189	rim, micaceous	AA	1	16			Rom	M-L1C
F008	037	pot			DJ	6	39			Rom	M1-2/3C
F008	037	pot	LSJ?	thick finely sanded sherd with sparse red grog-temper, red-brown surfaces, poss part of a large storage jar	HZ	1	32			LIA/E Rom	1C
F008	037	pot	D 20		AJ	1	11			Rom	M1-2/E3C
F008	037a	pot	Dr 37	6 sherds sv, 5 join, astragalus boarder ovolo & figures in bead bordered panels, interior base slip abraded away from use, join with sherd from find 19b (Pot 1)	BX(CG)	6	210			Rom	2C
F008	037	pot		poss EG sherd, interior base worn away by use	BA(EG)	1	6			Rom	M2-M3C
F008	037	pot	Dr 37	rim sherd, no joins	BX(CG)	1	5			Rom	2C
F008	037b	pot	Dr 37	4 sherd, 3 join, prob all sv, ovolo and figures, bead below ovolo, (poss Pot 2 but prob differnt pot)	BX(CG)	4	53			Rom	2C
F008	037	stone	gs/lime				1604				
F008	038	stone	limestone, greensand			1	385				

ctxt	finds no.	material	type/form	description	fabric	no.	wt (g)	thick (mm)	abr.	period	spot date
F008	043	slag					1995				
F008	046	bone	sheep			2	24				
F008	046	CBM	RT	UCA	r sq	1	105	19		Rom	Rom
F008	046	CBM	RFT	combed	r fs	1	38	15		Rom	2-3/4C
F008	046	CBM	RBT	one with signature frag	r fs	2	100	19-22		Rom	Rom
F008	046	CBM	RBT		r pc	1	106	22		Rom	Rom
F008	046	CBM	RBT	frag	r fs	1	69			Rom	Rom
F008	046	CBM	RBT	frag	r pc sq	1	20			Rom	Rom
F008	046	CBM	TE		r fs	5	95			Rom	Rom
F008	046	pot	mortarium		TZ	1	7			Rom	1-2/3C
F008	046	pot	Cam 278	also sherd from a bowl/dish	GB	3	43			Rom	E/M2-M/L3C
F008	046	pot	Cam 278		KX	5	97			Rom	E/M2-M/L3C
F008	046	pot	amphora	poss Cam 189, but prob not same as find 037	AA	1	8				
F008	046	pot			GX	12	103			Rom	Rom
F008	046	pot		fine grey beaker with everted rim and fine vertical, spaced cut line decoration	GX	1	5			Rom	M1-2C
F008	046	pot	Dr 37	part of pot 37a join with 37a (Pot 1)	BX(CG)	5	51			Rom	2C
F008	046	pot		poss cup Dr 33	BA(CG)	1	3			Rom	2C
F008	046	stone	limestone, greensand			3	620				
F008	047	slag					776				
F008	048	bone	Bird, mam			2	4				
F008	048	CBM	RT	flange	r fs	1	41			Rom	Rom
F008	048	CBM	RB		r fs	1	359	40		Rom	Rom
F008	048	CBM	RBT	frags	r fs	2	53			Rom	Rom
F008	048	glass		Clear glass from wide mouthed, necked vessel prob a cup or beaker (similar to sherds from F6 (13, 41))		1	1			Rom	Rom
F008	048	glass		Blue green glass, rounded corner from a square jar/bottle		1	24			Rom	1-3C
F008	048	pot			DJ	1	14			Rom	M1-2/3C
F008	048	pot		sherd from ?rim/flange of a ?mortarium	TZ	1	11			Rom	M1-2/3C
F008	048	pot	D 20		AJ	1	13			Rom	M1-2/E3C
F008	048	pot	Cam 37B		GB	1	6			Rom	L2-M3C

ctxt	finds no.	material	type/form	description	fabric	no.	wt (g)	thick (mm)	abr.	period	spot date
F008	048	pot	Cam 299	bowl plus other sherds	GX	12	107			Rom	M2-4C
F008	048	pot	Dr 37	rim	BX(CG)	1	15			Rom	2C
F008	048	pot	Dr 33	rim & body sherd	BA(CG)	2	10			Rom	2C
F008	049	slag					70				
F008	064	bone	Cattle, pig			13	216				
F008	064	CBM	RI		c fs	1	61	15		Rom	Rom
F008	064	CBM	RT		r fs	1	112	19		Rom	Rom
F008	064	CBM	RBT		r fs	1	54	19		Rom	Rom
F008	064	CBM	RBT	poss TE	r sq	1	17			Rom	Rom
F008	064	flint				1	1				
F008	064	flint				1	2				
F008	064	pot	D 20		AJ	2	221			Rom	M1-2/E3C
F008	064	pot		?flagon base	DJ	2	53			Rom	M1-2/3C
F008	064	pot	Cam 40A	other sherds	GB	4	23			Rom	E/M2-M/L3C
F008	064	pot			GX	7	58			Rom	Rom
F008	064	pot	Cam 278	rim prob Cam 278	KX	1	31			Rom	E/M2-M/L3C
F008	064	stone	greensand			2	50				
F008	065	slag					148				
F008	072	bone	Cattle, sheep			5	44				
F008	072	CBM	RBT	burnt	r fs	1	40			Rom	Rom
F008	072	CBM	TE		r fs	6	83			Rom	Rom
F008	072	pot		bowl/dish base	GB	1	9			Rom	E/M2-M/L3C
F008	072	pot	Cam 234-244/246		GX	3	30			Rom	M1-E2C
F008	072	pot		narrow mouth jar/flask plus other sherds	GX	6	130			Rom	M1-3/4C
F008	072	pot			RCW	4	31			Rom	M1-E2C
F008	072	stone	greensand			1	161				
F008	073	slag					2578				
F008	073	slag					289				
F008	099	bone	Bird, cattle			11	66				
F008	099	CBM	RB		r fs	1	228	37		Rom	Rom



ctxt	finds no.	material	type/form	description	fabric	no.	wt (g)	thick (mm)	abr.	period	spot date
F008	099	CBM	RI		r fs	1	108	16		Rom	Rom
F008	099	CBM	RBT		r fs	4	497	15-30		Rom	Rom
F008	099	CBM	RBT	overfired/heated	r fs	1	42			Rom	Rom
F008	099	CBM	RBT	frags	r fs	3	81			Rom	Rom
F008	099	CBM	TE		r fs	2	48			Rom	Rom
F008	099	f clay				1	48				
F008	099	pot	Dr 45	dated to after c AD 170-200	BA(CG)	1	60			Rom	L2C (c AD 170-200)
F008	099	pot	Dr 37	base of dec frieze, mask figure type (part of Pot 1)	BX(CG)	1	3			Rom	2C
F008	099	pot	D 20		AJ	1	59			Rom	M1-2/E3C
F008	099	pot	Cam 37A		GB	1	15			Rom	E/M2-E3C
F008	099	pot	Cam 278		KX	4	29			Rom	M2-M3C
F008	099	pot		grey fabric, cream slip	MQ	1	3			Rom	Rom
F008	099	pot		mostly BSW poss M1-2C date, folded beaker sherds (2C+)	GX	27	221			Rom	2-3C?
F008	099	pot		Fine white ware sherd, 3mm thick poss import, NOG WH1 or eggshell	DZ	1	6			Rom	pre-Flavian
F008	099	pot			HZ	1	49			Rom	1-2/3C
F008	099	slag					422				
F008	099	stone	gs			2	220				
F008	099	stone	sep/lime	sep & chalk?		1	247				
F008	100	bone	cattle			18	193				
F008	100	CBM	RB	MSL 11mm	r sq	1	534	38		Rom	Rom
F008	100	CBM	RT	UCA	r fs	1	135	19		Rom	Rom
F008	100	CBM	RBT		f fs	4	224	16-23		Rom	Rom
F008	100	CBM	RBT	burnt 1@19mm, one very burnt/heated brick frag	r fs	2	151	19		Rom	Rom
F008	100	CBM	RBT	frag	r fs	1	15			Rom	Rom
F008	100	CBM	RI		r fs	2	165	12-16		Rom	Rom
F008	100	CBM	RBT	frags	r fs	3	67			Rom	Rom
F008	100	pot	D 20	top of handle & part of neck	AJ	1	397			Rom	M1-2/E3
F008	100	pot			HZ	1	39			Rom	1-2/3C
F008	100	pot	bowl	hemi-spherical? bead rim bowl, brown fabric with black colour-coat, slightly abraded, poss an import	CL(NJ)	1	3			Rom	M2-3C

ctxt	finds no.	material	type/form	description	fabric	no.	wt (g)	thick (mm)	abr.	period	spot date
F008	100	pot			GX	8	87			Rom	Rom
F008	100	pot	mortarium		TZ	1	71			Rom	M1-2/3C
F008	100	pot	Dr 37	2 sherds, astragalus boarder, ovolo sherds joins with other pot, sherd from lower part of frieze not join (Pot 1)	BX(CG)	2	49			Rom	2C
F008	100	pot	Dr 37	sherd, ovolo, festoon, rim sherd (Pot 2)	BX(CG)	1	8			Rom	2C
F008	100	pot	Dr 33	rim	BA(EG)	1	8			Rom	M2-M3C
F008	100	pot			BA(CG)	2	6			Rom	2C
F008	100	pot	Cam 407		EA	1	21			Rom	M/L3-4C
F008	100	pot	Cam 37A		GB	1	22			Rom	E/M2-E3C
F008	100	pot			CB	1	1			Rom	E/M2-M/L3C
F008	100	pot	D 20	sherd flake	AJ	1	18			Rom	M1-2/E3C
F008	100	pot	Mortarium	some red ?tile frags in fabric	TZ	1	37			Rom	Rom
F008	100	pot	Mortarium	fine grit	TZ	1	43			Rom	1-2/3C
F008	100	pot			GX	18	153			Rom	Rom
F008	100	shell	oyster			3	19				
F008	100	slag					1156				
F008	100	stone	sep			1	130				
F008	100	stone	greensand			1	44				
F009	083	f clay				1	5				
F009	083	pot			BA(EG)	1	2			Rom	M2-M3C
F009	083	pot			DJ	4	11			Rom	M1-2/3C
F009	083	pot			GX	6	24			Rom	Rom
F010	032	slag					756				
F010	035	slag					979				
F010	036	pot			EA	1	8			Rom	M/L3-4C
F010	036	pot		dish or bowl	GB	1	6			Rom	E/M2-M/L3C
F010	036	pot		one sherd scorched by heat	GX	4	39			Rom	Rom
F010	075	slag					1034				
F010	077	bone	cattle			5	72				
F010	077	CBM	RI		r fs	1	176	15		Rom	Rom
F010	077	pot	D 20	scorched by heat	AJ	2	547			Rom	M1-

ctxt	finds no.	material	type/form	description	fabric	no.	wt (g)	thick (mm)	abr.	period	spot date
											2/E3C
F010	077	pot	Dr 37	7 sherds, sv, (samian - Pot 2) 6 join, rim, ovolo & figures, bead row below ovolo with astragalus bordered panels, potters name stamp in decoration frieze, abraded and difficult to read but is L (A)XTVCIS F	BX(CG)	7	142			Rom	AD 150-175
F010	077	slag					292				
F010	077	stone	sep			1	21				
F012	142	CBM	RI		pr pc	1	134	16		Rom	Rom
F012	142	CBM	TE		r pc	1	19			Rom	Rom
F012	142	slag					615				
F013	033		Cam 268	rim and other sherds, one with 'kettle' scale	GX	3	10			Rom	E/M2-L3/E4C
F013	033	bone		frags			3				
F013	033	CBM	RBT		r fs cp	1	316	20		Rom	Rom
F013	033	CBM	RBT		r fs	1	103	14		Rom	Rom
F013	033	slag					148				
F013	033	slag		glassy		1	6				
F013	033	slag				1	32				
F013	061	bone					3				
F013	061	slag					130				
F013	062	CBM	RB		r pc	1	37	35		Rom	Rom
F013	062	f clay				2	15				
F013	062	pot			GX	4	11			Rom	Rom
F013	062	slag					216				
F013	067	CBM	RBT		r fs	1	37	20		Rom	Rom
F013	067	pot		dish/bowl	GB	1	12			Rom	E/M2-M/L3C
F013	067	pot			BA(CG)	1	3			Rom	2C
F013	067	pot		one sherd with post-firing hole made through it	GX	3	11			Rom	Rom
F013	068	slag					1439				
F013	108	bone					11				
F013	108	slag					272				
F013 upper	061	CBM	RBT		r fs	1	84	17		Rom	Rom
F013	061	pot			GX	2	10			Rom	Rom

ctxt	finds no.	material	type/form	description	fabric	no.	wt (g)	thick (mm)	abr.	period	spot date
upper											
F015	053	pot	Cam 407	red/grey fabric, poor slip, surface appears more like a greyware	CZ	5	23			Rom	M/L3-4C
F015	053	pot			GX	2	7			Rom	Rom
F015	053	slag					52				
F015	055	glass		Blue green glass, small, melted piece		1	2			Rom	1-3C
F016	056	bone	mammal	inc burnt bone		10	40				
F016	056	CBM	RB		r fs	1	205	42		Rom	Rom
F016	056	pot	Cam 308	rim of bowl	EA	1	6			Rom	M/L3-4C
F016	056	pot	Cam 40A	burnt	GA	5	48			Rom	M2-4C
F016	056	pot			DJ	1	8			Rom	M1-2/3C
F016	056	pot	Cam 268		GX	11	109			Rom	E/M2-L3/E4C
F017	058	pot			GX	1	7			Rom	Rom
F018	111	Bone	Cattle, sheep, pig, bird, dog			23	482				
F018	111	CBM	RBT	frag	r cs	1	28			Rom	Rom
F018	111	CBM	RBT	frag	c fs	1	11			Rom	Rom
F018	111	CBM	RBT		r fs	1	56	21		Rom	Rom
F018	111	CBM	RBT		r fs	1	21	19		Rom	Rom
F018	111	CBM	TE	white mortar	r fs	2	40	15-20		Rom	Rom
F018	111	CBM	RT	LCA C5, L 55mm, FH 40mm	r fs	2	410	22		Rom	Rom
F018	111	CBM	RI		r fs	2	190	11-15		Rom	Rom
F018	111	CBM	RI		pr fs	1	32	12		Rom	Rom
F018	111	CBM	RBT?	poss PT	r fs	1	36	11		Rom/p-Rom?	Rom/p-Rom?
F018	111	CBM	RBT	frags	r fs	3	207			Rom	Rom
F018	111	CBM	RBT		r fs	9	642	15-22		Rom	Rom
F018	111	pot	Dr 31		BA(EG)	1	29			Rom	M2-M3C
F018	111	pot	Cam 308	Cam 308 lid and a rouletted beaker sherd	EA	1	48			Rom	M/L3-4C
F018	111	pot	Cam 407	Cam 407 scale beaker and rouletted beaker sherd	CZ	2	6			Rom	M-L3C
F018	111	pot			CH	4	17			Rom	L3-4C
F018	111	pot			GX	28	479			Rom	Rom
F018	111	pot		prob German marble ware (LOR MA)	EE(SJ)	1	13			Rom	M3-4C
F018	111	pot		includes pedestal base	DJ	4	44			Rom	M1-2/3C

ctxt	finds no.	material	type/form	description	fabric	no.	wt (g)	thick (mm)	abr.	period	spot date
F018	111	pot	Cam 37B (3) Cam 40A, cam 278	other bowl/dish sherds	GB	13	194			Rom	L2-M/3C
F018	111	pot	Cam 37		KX	4	81			Rom	M2-3/4C
F018	111	pot	Cam 497	prob Cam 497, part rim & part of wall only	TZ	1	84			Rom	M2-E/M3C
F018	111	shell	oyster			10	251				
F018	111	stone	limestone	(chalk?)		1	167				
F018	111	stone	greensand			1	103				
F018	116	bone	Cattle, pig			1	21				
F018	116	pot		SV base of thick-walled jar in joining sherds	GX	10	329			Rom	Rom
F018	143	bone	cattle			3	16				
F018	143	CBM	RI	white mortar on upper surface	r fs	1	362	14		Rom	Rom
F018	143	CBM	RT		rfs	1	99	19		Rom	Rom
F018	143	CBM	RB		rfs	1	195	45		Rom	Rom
F018	143	CBM	RBT		rfs	3	617	20-22		Rom	Rom
F018	143	CBM	RBT	frag	rfs	1	75			Rom	Rom
F018	143	pot			BA(CG)	1	8			Rom	2C
F018	143	pot	270B		HZ	1	16			Rom	1-2/3C
F018	143	pot	Cam 37B		GB	1	21			Rom	L2-M/L3C
F018	143	pot	Cam 278		GB	1	31			Rom	M/L2-M3C
F018	143	pot		sherds from 2 pots	TZ	2	267			Rom	M1-2/3C
F018	143	pot	Cam 37B		KX	1	53			Rom	L2-M/L3C
F018	143	pot	Cam 268		GX	3	124			Rom	M2-4C
F018	143	shell	oyster			1	32				
F018	144	pot	Dr 37, Cam 37	ovolo	BACG, GB	2	30				
F018	144	shell	oy			1	35				
F018	151	CBM	RT	UCA, prob both ST, FH 36mm	r fs	2	336	14		Rom	Rom
F018	161	bone	Cattle, pig			4	58				
F019	082	bone	mammal			1	3				
F019	082	CBM	RI	join ST	c pc	2	93	19		Rom	Rom

ctxt	finds no.	material	type/form	description	fabric	no.	wt (g)	thick (mm)	abr.	period	spot date
F019	082	CBM	RBT	poss RI	c pc	1	20	18		Rom	Rom
F019	082	CBM	TE		r fs	1	24			Rom	Rom
F019	082	pot		Cam 227-228?	GX	4	13			Rom	Rom
F019	082	pot			CZ	1	1			Rom	M2-M3C
F019	082	slag					1452				
F019	082	slag					12				
F019	086	glass		Blue-green, flat piece from a jar/bottle		1	10			Rom	1-3C
F024	024	slag					111				
F024	095	CBM	RB		r fs	1	81	35		Rom	Rom
F024	095	CBM	RI		r fs	6	242	15-18		Rom	Rom
F024	095	CBM	RI		r fs	6	242	15-18		Rom	Rom
F024	095	CBM	RBT		r sq	1	92	25		Rom	Rom
F024	095	CBM	RBT		r fs	4	263	15-25		Rom	Rom
F024	095	CBM	RBT	frags	r fs	4	56			Rom	Rom
F024	095	CBM	RBT		r fs	4	263	15-25		Rom	Rom
F024	095	CBM	TE		r fs	2	39	24-26		Rom	Rom
F024	095	CBM	RI	prob RI	c pc	1	53	14		Rom	Rom
F024	095	CBM	RBT	frag	c pc	1	55			Rom	Rom
F024	095	pot		rim, bowl?	BA(EG)	1	3			Rom	M2-M3C
F024	095	pot		fine silty fabric	RCW	1	1			Rom	M1-E2C
F024	095	pot			CZ	1	2			Rom	E/M2-M/L3C
F024	095	pot			DJ	1	4			Rom	M1-2/3C
F024	095	pot			GX	10	46			Rom	Rom
F024	095	pot		bowl/dish	GB	1	7			Rom	E/M2-M/L3C
F024	095	pot			HZ	2	87			Rom	1-2/3C
F024	095	slag					1980				
F024	100	CBM	TE		r fs	1	29			Rom	Rom
F024	100	CBM	TE		c pc	1	13			Rom	Rom
F025	097	f clay				2	26				
F026	104	pot	Cam 281	flask/narrow-necked jar with small cordon at base of neck, ovoid body, dark grey with traces of darker abraded surface finish, abrasion probably due to soil conditions, small sherd missing from rim, ancient break and missing sherd not recovered, almost	GX	1	332		*	Rom	L2-3/?4C

ctxt	finds no.	material	type/form	description	fabric	no.	wt (g)	thick (mm)	abr.	period	spot date
				certainly ritual damage as clearly seen on pots at Dunmow (Essex), located on its side with mouth angled down (fallen over?) alongside right thigh of inhumation burial F26							
F026	106	bone				1	3				
F026	106	CBM	RB	crazed from heat?	r fs	1	692			Rom	Rom
F026	106	CBM	RBT		r fs	1	51	37		Rom	Rom
F026	106	pot			DJ	1	1			Rom	M1-2/3C
F026	106	pot			GB	1	5			Rom	M2-M3C
F026	106	pot			GX	3	14			Rom	Rom
F026	106	stone	sep			1	108				
F027	098	pot			GX	1	30			Rom	Rom
F028	109	pot	Cam 268	cremation urn, complete to shoulder double groove with 17 small loose sherds, part of double grooved on intact body and on loose sherds, rim missing	GX	1	1284			Rom	E/M2-L3/E4C
F029	120	CBM	RI		r fs	1	52			Rom	Rom
F029	120	CBM	RBT		r fs	1	81	14		Rom	Rom
F029	120	CBM	RB	RB?	r fs	1	48	33		Rom	Rom
F029	120	pot			CH	1	7			Rom	L3-4C
F029	120	pot	Cam 268		GX	5	46			Rom	E/M2-L3/E4C
F029	120	slag					219				
F030	123	bone	Red deer antler			1	130				
F030	123	CBM	RT	flange	r fs	1	31			Rom	Rom
F030	123	CBM	RBT		r sq	1	415	30		Rom	Rom
F030	123	CBM	RI		r fs	2	133	15-18		Rom	Rom
F030	123	CBM	RBT		r fs	4	448	19-24		Rom	Rom
F030	123	CBM	RB	one burnt/heated	r fs	2	280	34		Rom	Rom
F030	123	CBM	TE	one with fine white mortar	r fs	2	31	25		Rom	Rom
F030	123	f clay		kiln lining, vitrified		3	152				
F030	123	glass		Clear glass body sherd from thin walled, round bodied vessel (similar to F6 13 & 41) & (similar to sherds from F8 (48))		1	1			Rom	Rom
F030	123	pot	Dr 37	flake with complete ovolo	BX(CG)	1	1			Rom	2C
F030	123	pot	Dr 24/25	cordon	BA(SG)	1	6			Rom	pre-

ctxt	finds no.	material	type/form	description	fabric	no.	wt (g)	thick (mm)	abr.	period	spot date
											Flavian
F030	123	pot	Dr 33		BA(CG)	1	6			Rom	2C
F030	123	pot			BA(CG)	1	11			Rom	2C
F030	123	pot		rouletted beaker	EA	1	3			Rom	M/L3-4C
F030	123	pot		folded beaker	CB	1	4			Rom	E/M2-M/L3C
F030	123	pot			CZ	1	2			Rom	E/M2-M/L3C
F030	123	pot			DJ	1	4			Rom	M1-2/3C
F030	123	pot	Cam 268		GX	17	296			Rom	Rom
F030	123	slag					1838				
F030	123	stone	limestone, greensand			4	760				
F030	128	CBM	RT	flange	r fs	1	24			Rom	Rom
F030	128	CBM	RBT		r pc	1	85	32		Rom	Rom
F030	128	CBM	RBT	frags	r fs	2	80			Rom	Rom
F030	128	pot			GX	5	87			Rom	Rom
F030	128	pot	Cam 278		GB	1	21			Rom	M2-M3C
F030	128	pot			DJ	1	4			Rom	M1-2/3C
F030	128	slag					86				
F030	145	pot			GX	1	4			Rom	Rom
F030	145	slag					1475				
F030	146	bone	Equid, cattle			3	147				
F030	146	CBM	RB	one burnt	r fs	2	275	30-36		Rom	Rom
F030	146	CBM	RBT	frags	r fs	2	58			Rom	Rom
F030	146	CBM	tess	cream tile tessera, no mortar		1	20				
F030	146	mortar	op sig			1	67				Rom
F030	146	pot	Dr 37	ovolo, griffin figure, burnt black	BX(MDV)	1	10				
F030	146	pot	Dr 37	rim, ovlo, joins with F8(46) (Pot 1), second rim sherd, SV??	BX(CG)	2	27			Rom	2C
F030	146	pot	D 20		AJ	2	126			Rom	M1-2/E3C
F030	146	pot	Cam 189	rim	AA	1	44			Rom	M-L1C
F030	146	pot		sherd	AA	1	3			Rom	1-2C?
F030	146	pot			DJ	5	30			Rom	M1-2/3C
F030	146	pot	Cam 391		CB	1	4			Rom	E/M2-



ctxt	finds no.	material	type/form	description	fabric	no.	wt (g)	thick (mm)	abr.	period	spot date
											E3C
F030	146	pot		misc sherds inc. lid sherd	GX	23	230			Rom	Rom
F030	146	pot	Cam 243-244/246		GX	1	10			Rom	M1-E2C
F030	146	pot	Cam 268(?)	small, micaceous grey/black surface ware	GX	1	6			Rom	E/M2-M3C
F030	146	shell	oyster			1	16				
F030	146	stone	greensand			1	81				
F030	147	CBM	RBT	frag	r cs sq	1	46			Rom	Rom
F030	147	pot			GX	1	3			Rom	Rom
F032	136	bone	Equid, mam			5	105				
F034	130	bone	sheep			1	5				
F034	130	CBM	TE		r fs	1	51	30		Rom	Rom
F034	130	CBM	RBT		r fs	2	339	30		Rom	Rom
F034	130	pot	Dr 37	rim, joins with F8(37) (Pot 2)	BX(CG)	1	13			Rom	2C
F034	130	pot		prob part of a lid	DJ	1	3			Rom	M1-2/3C
F034	130	pot			GX	10	154			Rom	Rom
F034	130	pot	LSJ	rim	GX	1	33			Rom	Rom
F034	130	slag					1322				
F034	130	stone	limestone, greensand			1	316				
F034	130	stone	sep			1	14				
F034	131	bone	mammal			5	70				
F034	131	CBM	RBT		r fs	3	199	15-20		Rom	Rom
F034	131	CBM	RT	FH 35	r fs	1	53	20		Rom	Rom
F034	131	CBM	RBT?	poss PT?	r fs	1	68	12		Rom?	Rom?
F034	131	CBM	RBT	frags	r fs	2	18			Rom	Rom
F034	131	CBM	TE	cut from teg?	r fs	2	69	25		Rom	Rom
F034	131	CBM	TE	pale red/cream	c pc	1	27			Rom	Rom
F034	131	pot	Dr 31	part stamp <b>JVS</b>	BA(CG)	1	71			Rom	M-L2C
F034	131	pot	Dr 37	rim, joins with Pot 2 F10(77)	BX(CG)	1	21			Rom	2C
F034	131	pot			BA(CG)	1	3			Rom	2C
F034	131	pot	Cam 37A, Cam 40B		GB	2	36			Rom	E/M2-M/L3C
F034	131	pot			DJ	3	10			Rom	M1-2/3C
F034	131	pot	Cam 189?		AA	1	6			Rom	M-L1C

ctxt	finds no.	material	type/form	description	fabric	no.	wt (g)	thick (mm)	abr.	period	spot date
F034	131	pot	Cam 391		CZ	1	3			Rom	E/M2-E3C
F034	131	pot			CB	1	3			Rom	E/M2-M/L3C
F034	131	pot		inc. folded beaker sherd and 2 jar rims	GX	23	212			Rom	Rom
F034	131	pot			HZ	1	35			Rom	1-2/3C
F034	131	slag					2328				
F034	131	stone	limestone, greensand			2	408				
F036	158	bone		sheep tibia?		1	37				
F036	158	bone				1	38				
F036	158	CBM	RBT			1	37			Rom	
F036	158	CBM	PRBT	PT		2	42			Med-p-med/mod	?14C+
F036	158	coke				1	9			Mod?	
F036	158	stone	slate			1	4			Prob p-med/mod	
F041	152	pot	Cam 308	lid edge, rouletted, rare form in GX (CAR 10 GX Type 219 (nos 726 & 727, both bowl body sherds)	GX	1	7			Rom	L2/3-?4C
F041	152	pot			GX	1	1			Rom	Rom
F041	152	slag					223				
U/S (NRN)	066	CBM			r fs	1	74			Rom	Rom
U/S (NRN)	149	bone	pig			1	15				
U/S (NRF)	155	flint	flake			1	14			preh	
U/S (NRF)	156	stone	greensand	Squared blocks		2	8500			Rom	2-4C
U/S (NRF)	157	c pipe	stem	stem mouth piece (p-med/mod)		1	1			p-med	
U/S (NRF)	157	fe	nail			1	4				
U/S (NRF)	157	glass		Rom, blue-green, jar rim		1	6			Rom	2-3/4C
U/S (NRF)	159	bone	human?	human femur ball top?		1	20				
U/S (NRF)	159	bone		two other bone pieces		2	25				
U/S (NRF)	159	c pipe		stem		1	2			p-med	
U/S (NRF)	159	CBM	PRBT	Thick tile PT?		1	55			Med-p-med/mod	?14C+
U/S (NRF)	159	CBM	PRBT	PT		2	42			Med-p-med/mod	?14C+
U/S (NRF)	159	pot	Bowl form	two sherds from a roller-stamp decorated bowl (L3-		2	11			Rom	M-L4C

ctxt	finds no.	material	type/form	description	fabric	no.	wt (g)	thick (mm)	abr.	period	spot date
			Chenet 320?	4C, prob M-L4C)							
U/S (NRF)	160	CBM	RBT			1	87			Rom	
U/S (NRF)	160	flint		thick ?core piece, large flake removed		1	46			preh	
U/S (NRF)	160	pot		abraded, LIA/E Roman		1	16			LIA	L1C BC-M1C AD
F045	156	pot	Cam 407	scale decorated indented beaker Cam 407, whole pot (428 g) Fabric EA, dark brown surfaces, damage to rim with two, small loose sherds from neck, rim sherd missing and this is old damage with abraded edges, similar to ritual damage recorded pots from other Roman burial sites	EA		428			Rom	M/L3-4C
F045	158	CBM	RT	(18 mm thick) prob teg	r	1	18		*	Rom	
F045	158	pot		small jar or beaker in fine grey fabric	GX	1	7			Rom	L1-E2/3C
F045	158	stone	limestone	limestone tufa		1	19		*	Rom	
F045	159	pot	Cam 407	near complete scale decorated indented beaker Cam 407, Fabric EA, slightly abraded brown-grey colour coat, approximately 70% of rim present, base missing	EA		370			Rom	M/L3-4C
F045	164	pot			HZ	1	306			Rom	M1-2/3C
F045/ 50	157	pot	Dr 31	prob Dr 31	BA(CG)	1	15			Rom	M-L2C
F045/ 50	157	pot	Cam 391		CB	1	4			Rom	E/M2-E3C
F045/ 50	157	pot			GX	3	14			Rom	
F045/ 50	157	pot			DJ	1	2			Rom	
F045/ 50	157	pot		Cam 37 type dish	GX	1	7			Rom	2-3C
F045/50	157	CBM	RT	part of lower cut-away (20 mm thick)	r	1	124			Rom	
F045/50	157	CBM	RBT		r	4	182			Rom	
F045/50	157	CBM	RI		r	1	59			Rom	
F045/50	157	flint	flake	small tertiary flake		1	5			preh	
F045/50	157	stone	limetone	chalk		1	46		*		
F046	154	pot	Cam 268	Cam 268 jar, much of pot, parts of rim and neck missing, base is one large sherd, presumed whole when buried	GX		475			Rom	M2-L3/E4C
F047	166				GX	1	4			Rom	

ctxt	finds no.	material	type/form	description	fabric	no.	wt (g)	thick (mm)	abr.	period	spot date
F047	166	stone	limestone	limestone tufa		1	19			Rom	
F047	166	stone	unident			1	19				
F047	179	pot		misc	GX	3	59			Rom	
F047	194	pot			GX	2	63			Rom	
F047 Sx 3	167	pot		misc,	GX	10	173			Rom	
F047 Sx1	163	pot			GX	4	23			Rom	
F047 SX1	163	pot	Cam 278		GX	1	14			Rom	M2-M3C
F047 Sx1	168	pot			GX	2	23			Rom	
F047 Sx1	168	pot		chamfered base	GA	1	30			Rom	M2C+
F047 Sx2	166	CBM	RBT	abraded	r	1	21		*	Rom	
F047 Sx3	167	CBM	RBT		r	2	31			Rom	
F048	169	pot			GX	1	4			Rom	
F051	176	CBM	RBT		r	1	26			Rom	
F051	176	pot	Cam 270B		HZ	2	48			Rom	M1-2/3C
F051	176	pot		one sherd with heavily sooted exterior	GX	2	10			Rom	
F051	177	pot	Cam 268	Complete jar Cam 268 (broken), slightly abraded brown-grey surface, orange fabric with grey core	GX		1286			Rom	M2-L3/E4C
F054	195	CBM	RB	(36 mm thick)	r	2	518		*	Rom	
F054	195	CBM	RBT	(pale red)	r	1	91		*	Rom	
F054	195	CBM	RBT		r	1	22			Rom	
F054	195	stone	limestone	identified as greensand, degraded		3	55		*	Rom	E2C+
F054	195	pot	Lud Tg	rim of dish (joining sherds)	BA(CG)	2	6			Rom	L2C (c AD 160+)
F054	195	pot	beaker		CB	1	5			Rom	E/M2-M3C
F054	195	pot	Cam 270B	grey fabric	HZ	1	64			Rom	M1-2/3C
F054	195	pot	Cam 268	misc, inc Cam 268	GX	5	71			Rom	M2+
F054	195	slag	smithing	prob smithing slag, 1 large piece and two small pieces		3	757				
F054	200	pot	Cam 278 or 279	<b>Missing</b>		1					
F056	190	CBM	RT	(16 mm thick)	r	1	48		*	Rom	
F056	190	CBM	RBT		r	1	9			Rom	
F056	190	flint	flake	small tertiary flake with large platform, snapped		1	5			preh	
F056	190	glass		pale mauve with ?moulded decoration		1	2			p-med/	

ctxt	finds no.	material	type/form	description	fabric	no.	wt (g)	thick (mm)	abr.	period	spot date
										mod?	
F056	190	glass		faintly greenish-yellow		1	1				
F056	190	glass		clear, angular piece from platter/dish?, small impressed circle on exterior?, plus small piece from same vessel		2	11				
F056	190	pot		abraded	HZ	1	57		*	Rom	M1-2/3C
F056	190	pot	Cam 278	(acute lattice decoration)	KX	1	13			Rom	M2-3C
F056	190	pot	Cam 243-44/246		GX	2	12			Rom	M1-E2C
F056	190	pot			GX	7	53			Rom	
F056	190	pot			GP	1	5			Rom	M1-2/3C?
F056	190	slag	smithing	prob smithing slag, 2 pieces prob parts of hearth bases		2	252				
F056	190	slag	smithing	prob smithing slag		1	76				
F057	182	pot		common small/med flint with sand (7 mm thick), brownish-red surface	HMF	1	11		*	preh	LBA-EIA?
F058	186	CBM	RBT		r	4	100		*	Rom	
F058	186	pot	Cam 37B		GB	3	55			Rom	L2-M3C
F058	186	pot	Cam 278		GB	2	14			Rom	M2-M3C
F058	186	pot		misc	GX	14	103			Rom	
F058	186	pot		barbotine dec, prob legs of an animal	CZ	1	3		*	Rom	M2-M3C
F058	186	slag	smithing	prob smithing slag		1	38				
F058	190	CBM	RBT	(thickness 13 mm) prob Rom but might be later	r	1	5			Rom	
F058	191	pot			HZ	1	6		*	Rom	M1-2/3C
F058	191	pot			GX	3	14			Rom	
F058	191	pot		fine greyware sherd	GP	1	3			Rom	M1-2/3C?
F059	192	flint	flake	small secondary flake		1	5			preh	
F060	190	slag		with fired red clay adhering, part of hearth/kiln lining		1	10				
F060	193	CBM	RI	(16 mm thick)	r	1	26			Rom	
F060	205	CBM	RI		r	1	19			Rom	
F060	205	CBM	RT	flange	r	1	48			Rom	
F060	205	pot			GX	3	38			Rom	
F060	205	pot		fine BSW, micaceous	RCW	1	10			Rom	M1-E2C?

ctxt	finds no.	material	type/form	description	fabric	no.	wt (g)	thick (mm)	abr.	period	spot date
F062	202	CBM	RI		r	1	28			Rom	
F062	202	pot			CH	1	6			Rom	L3-4/4C
F062	202	pot		unidentified colour-coat/slipped fabric, red sandy fabric (similar to Fabric DJ) with traces of red slip	CZ	2	5			Rom	
F062	202	pot		prob oxidised coarse ware (GX)	DJ	2	35			Rom	
F062	202	pot		misc, prob M/L2-4C	GX	5	38			Rom	M/L2-4C
F062	202	pot		moderate-sparse small/med flint with some large flint, (8 mm thick)	HMF	1	11			preh	
F062	202	slag	smithing	prob smithing slag		1	48				
F062	203	flint	flake	snapped, part of secondary broad blade with light retouch along one edge, retouched notch at end of blade		1	7			preh	Neo?
F063	208	pot	Cam 392	beaker Cam 392, whole pot (173 g), Fabric GX, slightly ovoid mouth and slightly poor finish. Pressure crack on one side extending down from rim	GX		173			Rom	M-L2-M3C
F063	212	CBM	RBT		r	1	7		*	Rom	
F065	215	CBM	RT	(18 mm thick) prob teg	r	1	40			Rom	
F065	215	CBM	RBT		r	1	16			Rom	
F065	215	stone	limestone	greensand		1	270		*	Rom	E2C+
F065	215	stone		septaria		1	11		*	Rom	
F066	217	CBM	RT	flange (17 mm thick)	r	1	124			Rom	
F066	217	stone	limestone	greensand		1	230			Rom	E2C+
F067	219	CBM	RT	one with part of lower cut-away (13 mm thick)	r	2	134			Rom	
F067	219	CBM	RB	(35 mm thick)	r	4	406			Rom	
F067	219	CBM	RI		r	1	30		*	Rom	
F067	219	CBM	RBT		r	2	31			Rom	
F067	219	CBM	TE		r	1	28			Rom	
F067	219	pot	Cam 37B	rounded bead rim, dull surface, faint graffiti - group of 3 deliberate scratches on base chamfer	GB	1	107			Rom	L2-L3C
F067	219	pot	Cam 391		CB	1	5			Rom	E/M2-E3C
F067	219	pot	Cam 391	abraded	CZ	1	2		*	Rom	E/M2-E3C
F067	219	pot			HZ	1	19			Rom	M1-2/3C
F067	219	pot		misc jars/bowls inc large jar	GX	8	113			Rom	

ctxt	finds no.	material	type/form	description	fabric	no.	wt (g)	thick (mm)	abr.	period	spot date
F067	219	pot	Cam 498	rim	TZ	3	283			Rom	M2-M3C
F067	219	pot		base	TZ	1	49			Rom	2-3C

## Appendix 2 : Napier Road small finds list

SF	ctxt	find no.	ctxt type	material	obj type	description	no.	wt (g)	lgth (mm)	width (mm)	thick (mm)	spot date	context date
01	modern service trench	107	modern service trench	metal	terret	main part is circular ring (dia 43 mm) with circular central hole (dia 16 mm), small indentations visible around upper part of hole, rectangular attachment extension to one side (14 x 22 mm) with rectangular central hole (10 x 7 mm), note: appears heavy in weight for its size	1	41.5	50	43	3-4	Rom	modern
02	F006	050	cremation	ae	coin	coin, corroded - as of Antoninus Pius (AD 138-161)	1	11.6		25		Rom AD 138-161	M2-3C
03	F033 (F28)	121	inhumation	ae	brooch	complete trumpet-head type brooch, decorated with pierced plate on curve of bow Mackreth 2011, Type 3.2b/Hull (in prep.) Type 176B	1	9.6	50	18		2C	E/M2-L3/E4C
04	F013	059	inhumation	ae	Sheeting offcut	thin ae strip, hooked over at one end, poss frag. of a brooch	1	0.4	27	4		Rom	M2-3C
05	F034	129	inhumation	pot	?counter	base of pot ('kettle' scale inside), all of sides roughly broken/chipped away, edges not smoothed, poss counter (Fabric GX, dated Roman)	1	23.8		47		Rom	M2-3C
06	F008	039	pit	bone	counter	circular bone counter with central dot/depression, damage on one side of upper face	1	1.6		22		Rom	M-L3C+
07	F007	026	inhumation	ae	coin	coin, corroded - as of Trajan,	1	12.2		27		Rom, AD	Rom

SF	ctxt	find no.	ctxt type	material	obj type	description	no.	wt (g)	lgth (mm)	width (mm)	thick (mm)	spot date	context date
						AD 98-117 (98-101?)						98-117	(M2-4C)
08	F018	113	Quarry pit	fe	obj	moderately corroded rectangular bar, broken at one end, expanding at other end into kite/arrow shape, tip of arrow shape missing	1	47.7	69	30	10	p-med/mod	M-L3C+
09	F018	114	Quarry pit	fe	bar	flat fe bar, moderately corroded	1	111	150	14	3	p-med/mod	L3-4C
10	F041	152	Inhumation	ae	Hairpin or toilet instrument	bent ae shaft/thick wire	1	2.3	70	2			L3-4C
11	F018	112	Quarry pit	antler	tine	cut tine end, otherwise unworked	1	49.5	150				L3-4C
12	F012	137	Inhumation	fe	obj(s)	two pieces	2	128					Rom
13	L002	154	Mod surface & make-up	fe	obj	rect bar in hook shape	1	44	11-12				
14	F010	031	Inhumation	fe	obj	Small piece of corroded iron	1	171					M2-3C
15	F008	049	pit	fe	obj	strip/obj in twp pieces	2	22					M-L3C+
16	F012	138	Inhumation	fe	obj?	corroded rounded lump	1	176					Rom
17	F002	003	inhumation	fe	obj?	small, flat piece	1						Rom (M2-4C)
18	F002	090	inhumation	fe	obj?	corroded piece	1						Rom (M2-4C)
19	F045	155	inhumation	fe	plate	Piece of rectangular iron plate, broken away at one end	1			45			M/L3-4C
20	F048	178a	Cremation	ae	coin	<i>sestertius</i> of Marcus Aurelius as Caesar, AD 139-61.	1	25				Rom AD 139-61	Rom
21	F048	178b	Cremation	ae	coin	Very worn as of Trajan, AD 98-117. Obverse legend missing, radiate head right; reverse legend missing, standing figure, ?female.	1	~10 ?				Rom AD 98-117	Rom
22	F054	183	inhumation	ae	Toilet spoon	Small, circular flat spoon end on long, round shaft, end of shaft broken away	1	2	75			Rom	E/M2-3C
23	F058	185	inhumation	fe	Obj.	Rectangular piece of iron plate,	1	14	35	28	8		M2-M3C



SF	ctxt	find no.	ctxt type	material	obj type	description	no.	wt (g)	lgth (mm)	width (mm)	thick (mm)	spot date	context date
						possibly folded							
24	F063	210	inhumation	ae	Obj.	Two pieces of thin, plain, round rod, poss. part of one object, parts are corroded	2	3	100 & 45			Rom	M/L2-3C
25	F063	206	inhumation	fe	hobnails	footwear	86					Rom	M/L2-3C
26	F063	207	inhumation	fe	hobnails	footwear	158					Rom	M/L2-3C
27	F058	189	inhumation	fe	hobnails	footwear	60					Rom	M2-M3C
28	F051	174	inhumation	fe	hobnails	footwear	19					Rom	E/M2-L3/E4C
29	F051	175	inhumation	fe	hobnails	footwear	20					Rom	M2-M3C
30	F047 Sx3	167	Ring ditch (funerary)	fe	Hobnails?	Two small fe pieces, appear to be prob hobnails from footwear	2					Rom	M2-3C

## Appendix 3

### Fe nails and hobnails

All corroded unless otherwise stated; comp – complete or with just tip missing, h – head, s – shank; Manning Type (M)

ctxt	find no.	ctxt type	obj type	description	no.	wt (g)	lgth mm
F001/ F014	052 j	inhumation	nail	h & part s, T head M3	1	19	50
F001/ F014	052 k	inhumation	nail	part s bent 90 deg	1	9	50
F002	003	inhumation	frag		1	3	20
F002	052 a	inhumation	nail	h & s, M1b	1	22	50
F002	052 b	inhumation	obj	bone in corrosion?	1	54	60
F002	052 c	inhumation	nail	s, bone on one side	1	4	22
F002	052 d	inhumation	nail	comp h & s, M1b	2	37	70
F002	052 e	inhumation	nail	h & s, same nail?	2	18	105
F002	052 f	inhumation	nail	h & s with tip bent 180 deg, M1b	1	55	22
F002	052 g	inhumation	nail	comp h & s, M1b	1	31	60
F002	052 h	inhumation	nail	comp h & s, M1b	1	34	65
F002	052 i	inhumation	nail	h & part s, M1b	1	20	50
F002	052 l	inhumation	nail	h	1	11	
F002	087	inhumation	hobnails		19	44	
F002	088	inhumation	nail?	prob nail, 2 pieces, s	2	28	70
F002	090	inhumation	nails	2-3 nails, pieces	5	60	
F003	001	inhumation	hobnails		16	42	
F003	008	inhumation	nail?	s	1	6	23
F004	004	inhumation	hobnails		13	32	
F004	005	inhumation	nail		1	31	75
F004	007	inhumation	nail	comp? h & part? s, M1b or 3?	1	27	60
F004	007	inhumation	nail	comp? h & part? s, M 3/4?	1	29	65
F004	010	inhumation	nail	obscured, corroded	1	6	
F007	014 c	inhumation	nail	h?	1	22	
F007	014 d	inhumation	nail?	h? & s frags	2	11	
F007	014 e	inhumation	nail	comp h & s, M1b	1	82	85
F007	014 i	inhumation	nail		1	38	70
F007	014 j	inhumation	nail	comp? M 1b	1	21	65
F007	014 k	inhumation	nail		1	16	65
F008	037	pit	nail		1	122	90
F008	099	pit	nail	comp (broken in 2), M1b	1	26	70
F008	099	pit	nail	comp?, tip missing, M1b	1	22	65
F008	100	pit	nail	comp?, tip missing, M1b	1	21	70
F009	014 a	inhumation	nail	h & part s, 1 other frag	2	9	
F009	014 b	inhumation	nail	s frag	1	10	
F009	014 f	inhumation	nail	h & part s M1b	1	23	50
F009	014 g	inhumation	nail	comp h & s M1b	1	23	65
F009	014 h	inhumation	nail?	h	1	6	
F009	027	inhumation	nail		1	25	55
F009	028	inhumation	nails	irregular lump, prob 2 nails	1/2	49	
F009	029 a	inhumation	nail		1	25	40
F009	029 b	inhumation	nail		1	34	60
F009	029 c	inhumation	nail	bent 90 deg	1	37	80
F009	029 d	inhumation	nail?	shaft, bent 90 deg	1	10	55
F009	029 e	inhumation	nail?	h? or s?, small lump	1	15	
F009	029 f	inhumation	nail		1	18	48
F009	029 g	inhumation	nail		1	20	45
F010	076	inhumation	hobnails	hobnails ?9, larger (small) lumps 2	11	53	
F012	096 a	inhumation	nail	h & part s, M1b	1	14	30

ctxt	find no.	ctxt type	obj type	description	no.	wt (g)	lgth mm
F012	096 b	inhumation	nail?	h & part s?	1	21	35
F012	096 c	inhumation	nail	comp h & s, M1b	1	31	77
F012	096 d	inhumation	nail	comp h & part s, M1b	1	36	70
F012	096 e	inhumation	nail	comp h & s, M1b	1	20	60
F012	096 f	inhumation	nail	comp? h & s bent 45 deg	1	8	45
F012	096 g	inhumation	nails??	irregular lump	1	93	
F012	096 h	inhumation	nail	h & part s, M1b	1	40	55
F012	096 i	inhumation	nail	comp h & s, M1b	1	38	70
F012	096 j	inhumation	nail	h & part s, M1b	1	18	40
F012	096 k	inhumation	lump	nail??	1	33	
F012	096 l	inhumation	nail	h & s, bent 90 deg	1	96	55
F012	096 m	inhumation	nail	comp h & s, M1b	1	28	63
F012	096 n	inhumation	lump	slag?	1	50	
F012	096 o	inhumation	nail?	lump	1	27	
F012	096 p	inhumation	nail	h & part s, M1b	1	23	32
F012	096 q	inhumation	nail	comp h & s, M1b	1	43	77
F012	096 r	inhumation	nail	h & part s, M1b	1	22	40
F012	096 s	inhumation	nail	h? part s	1	8	30
F012	096 t	inhumation	nail	h & part s, M1b	1	13	37
F012	096 t	inhumation	nail??	lump	1	9	
F012	096 u	inhumation	nail?	lump	1	15	
F012	096 v	inhumation	nail	part s	1	3	30
F012	096 w	inhumation	nail	comp? with shaft bent 90 deg	1	3	35
F012	096 x	inhumation	nail	head & shaft	1	4	30
F012	096 y	inhumation	nail	h & part s, ?M1b	1	13	35
F012	096 z	inhumation	nail	comp h & s, M1b	1	6	40
F012	096 aa	inhumation	nail	flat T head, M3	1	2	40
F012	096 bb	inhumation	nail	part s to tip	1	2	30
F012	096 cc	inhumation	nail	comp h & s, M1b	1	15	55
F012	096 dd	inhumation	nail	comp? h & s	1	24	23
F012	096 ee	inhumation	nail??	shaft? bent 180 deg	1	22	80
F012	096 ff	inhumation	nail	h? & part s ben 90 deg, M1b?	1	10	40
F012	126	inhumation	hobnails	Found together as outline of shoe (right side)	32	58	
F012	134	inhumation	hobnails	Found together as outline of shoe (left side)	34	59	
F012	134	inhumation	nail?	shaft, poss boot nail	1	1	20
F012	139	inhumation	hobnails		20	30	
F012	140	inhumation	nails	a-e 3 h & 4 s pieces, M1b	5	25	
F012	142	inhumation	nail?	broken shaft piece, prob nail	1	24	
F013	033	inhumation	nail		2	38	95
F013	033	inhumation	nail	shaft	1	4	28
F013	034 a	inhumation	frag	small lump, slag?	1	4	30
F013	034 b	inhumation	nail	shaft frag	1	3	15
F013	034 c	inhumation	frag	small lump	1	9	
F013	034 d	inhumation	nail?	nail head? or lump?	1	16	30
F013	034 e	inhumation	nail?	flat, nail head or lump?	1	15	
F013	034 f	inhumation	nail	h? s M1b?	1	35	60
F013	034 g	inhumation	nail	h? part s M2? (triangular head)	1	7	30
F013	034 h	inhumation	frag	flat, nail head?	1	16	
F013	034 i	inhumation	nail	shaft	1	25	
F013	034 j	inhumation	nail??	lump	1	20	
F013	034 k	inhumation	nail	h? part s	1	14	
F013	034 l	inhumation	lump		1	58	50
F013	034 m	inhumation	nail	h part s M4 (small nail)	1	1	20
F013	034 n	inhumation	nail?	small lump	1	24	
F013	034 o	inhumation	nail?	h? small lump	1	12	
F013	034 p	inhumation	nail?	irregular lump	1	53	
F013	034 q	inhumation	nail??	lump	1	68	65
F013	034 r	inhumation	nail	h? s	1	13	40
F013	034 s	inhumation	nail	h? s bent near 180 deg M3/4?	1	11	40
F013	034 t	inhumation	nail	h? s	1	30	45

ctxt	find no.	ctxt type	obj type	description	no.	wt (g)	lgth mm
F013	034 u	inhumation	nail?	h? flat small piece	1	3	
F013	034 v	inhumation	nail?	frag	1	9	
F015	054 f	inhumation	nail	comp h & s, M1b	1	30	70
F015	054 a	inhumation	nail	h & part s, M1b?	1	30	60
F015	054 b	inhumation	nail	h? & part s	1	23	55
F015	054 c	inhumation	nail	h & part s, M1b?	1	24	55
F015	054 d	inhumation	nail	h? & s, same nail?	2	28	70
F015	054 e	inhumation	nail	h? & part s	1	22	50
F015	054 g	inhumation	nail	comp h & part s, M1b	1	18	55
F017	058	p-hole	lump	small lump	1	16	
F018	111	quarry pit	nail	comp, broken in two,	1	21	40
F018	111	quarry pit	nail	head 8 mm, tip/end of shaft missing M1b?	1	8	45
F018	111	quarry pit	nail	head 14 mm, tip/end of shaft missing M1b?	1	23	76
F018	111	quarry pit	nail	bent 45 deg	1	18	60
F018	115	quarry pit	nail	round head, tip missing, moderate corrosion	1	11	60
F018	115	quarry pit	nail	tip missing	1	11	50
F018	151	quarry pit	nail	tip/end missing, bent 90 deg, small ?M1b	1	6	40
F019	078 d	inhumation	nail	h? & part s, bent 90 deg	2	16	50
F019	078 e	inhumation	nail	h & ?part s, bent 90 deg, M1b	1	21	55
F019	078 f	inhumation	nail?	h & s, M1a/b, very large, poss obj?	1	208	140
F019	078 g	inhumation	nail	s frag	1	1	
F019	078 j	inhumation	nail??	flattish lump, poss nail	1	11	32
F019	078 k	inhumation	nail	h & part s M1b?	1	57	80
F019	082	inhumation	nail	comp, bent 45 deg, M1b	1	7	45
F021/23	093	inhumation	nail	comp h & part s, M1b	2	15	60
F021/23	094	inhumation	nail	h & part s, M1b	1	19	50
F024	084 a	inhumation	nail	h & part s, M1b	1	7	22
F024	084 b	inhumation	nail	comp? h?, s	1	20	55
F024	084 c	inhumation	nail?	corroded small lump	1	9	
F024	084 d	inhumation	nail?	corroded small lump	1	22	
F024	084 e	inhumation	nail?	corroded rounded lump	1	72	
F024	084 f	inhumation	nail?	small lump, poss h? & s,	1	17	
F024	084 l	inhumation	nail	s	1	8	30
F024	084 m	inhumation	nail?	corroded small lump	1	3	
F024	084 n	inhumation	nail?	corroded small lump	1	23	
F024	084 o	inhumation	nail	h & part s, M1b	1	8	30
F024	084 p	inhumation	nail?	corroded small lump	1	11	
F026	106	inhumation	nail	shaft	2	2	
F028	110 b	cremation	nail	comp h & s, M1b	1	37	80
F028	110 J	cremation	nail		3	30	90
F029	119	inhumation	nail?	s? irreg lump	1	18	
F030	123	inhumation	nail	comp?, point end missing, M1b	1	17	55
F030	124 a	inhumation	nail	comp h & s, M1b?	1	40	80
F030	124 b	inhumation	nail	shaft	1	26	50
F030	124 c	inhumation	nail	h & part s, M1b	1	6	25
F030	124 d	inhumation	nail	h? & part s, M1b?	1	38	80
F030	124 e	inhumation	nail	comp h & s, M1b	1	94	80
F030	124 f	inhumation	nail	comp h & s, M1b, bone frag in corrosion	1	56	90
F030	124 g	inhumation	nail	comp h & s, M1b	2	64	
F030	124 h	inhumation	nail	h? & s bent 90 deg, M1b	1	7	50
F030	124 i	inhumation	nail	comp h & s (4 frags), M1b	5	31	80
F030	124 j	inhumation	nail	h & part s, M1b	2	16	50
F030	124 j	inhumation	lump	small lump	1	23	
F030	124 k	inhumation	lump	small lump	1	34	
F030	147	inhumation	nail?	small lump, prob nail	1	22	
F030	148	inhumation	hobnails		18	41	14

ctxt	find no.	ctxt type	obj type	description	no.	wt (g)	lgth mm
F033	110 a	inhumation	nail	s, bent 45 deg	1	42	55
F033	110 b	inhumation	nail	comp h & s, M1b	1	37	
F033	110 c	inhumation	nail	h & part s, M1b	1	5	20
F033	110 d	inhumation	nail	small nail or shaft piece	1	48	22
F033	110 e	inhumation	nail?	small lump	1	22	
F033	110 f	inhumation	nail	h & s, M1b?	1	19	55
F033	110 g	inhumation	nail		1	28	45
F033	110 h	inhumation	nail		1	30	75
F033	110 i	inhumation	nail	shaft frag	1	5	27
F033	110 j	inhumation	nail	comp h & s, ?M1b	1	23	50
F033	110 l	inhumation	nail	shaft	1	10	45
F033	118	inhumation	nail		1	26	60
F034	127 a	inhumation	nail	h & part s, M1b?	1	31	50
F034	127 b	inhumation	nail	h & s, M1b	1	13	
F034	127 c	inhumation	nail	comp h & s, M1b	1	40	75
F042	078 a	inhumation		frag	1	2	
F042	078 b	inhumation	hobnail?	h & s small nail	1	3	
F042	078 c	inhumation	nail?	s?/?h (M3)	1	3	
F042	078 h	inhumation	nail	h & part s M1b	1	17	43
F042	078 i	inhumation	nail	h & part s M1b	1	18	40
F042	078 j	inhumation	nail	h & ?part s	1	30	40
F042	078 l	inhumation	nail??	small lump ?h	1	13	
F042	078 m	inhumation	nail	h? & part s	1	24	55
F042	078 n	inhumation	nail??	small lump ?h	1	13	
F042	078 o	inhumation	nail?	small frag	1	2	
F042	078 p	inhumation	nail?	small lump	1	5	
F042	078 q	inhumation		crumbs – missing??	4	0	
F042	078 r	inhumation	nail?	h? poss small lump	1	7	
F044	084 g	inhumation	nail?	corroded small lump	1	17	
F044	084 h	inhumation	nail	h & part s, M1b	2	13	70
F044	084 i	inhumation	nail	h, part s M1b?	1	11	40
F044	084 j	inhumation	nail?	corroded small lump	1	45	
F044	084 k	inhumation	nail?	corroded small lump	1	24	
F044	084 k	inhumation	nail?	corroded small lump	1	27	
F044	084 q	inhumation	nail	h & s, M1b	1	43	60
F044	084 q	inhumation	lump		1	29	
F045	153	inhumation	nails		10		
F045	158	inhumation	nails		3		
F047 Sx4	168	Ring ditch	nail		3		
F050	165	Grave (inhum)	nails		2		
F051	172	inhumation	nails		20		
F054	197	inhumation	nails		8		
F055	180	Grave (inhum)	nail		1		
F056	181	inhumation	nails		15		
F058	184	Grave (inhum)	nails		40		
F058	186	Grave (inhum)	nail		1		
F058	191	Grave (inhum)	nail		1		
F062	204	inhumation	nails		7		
F063	209	grave	nails		13		

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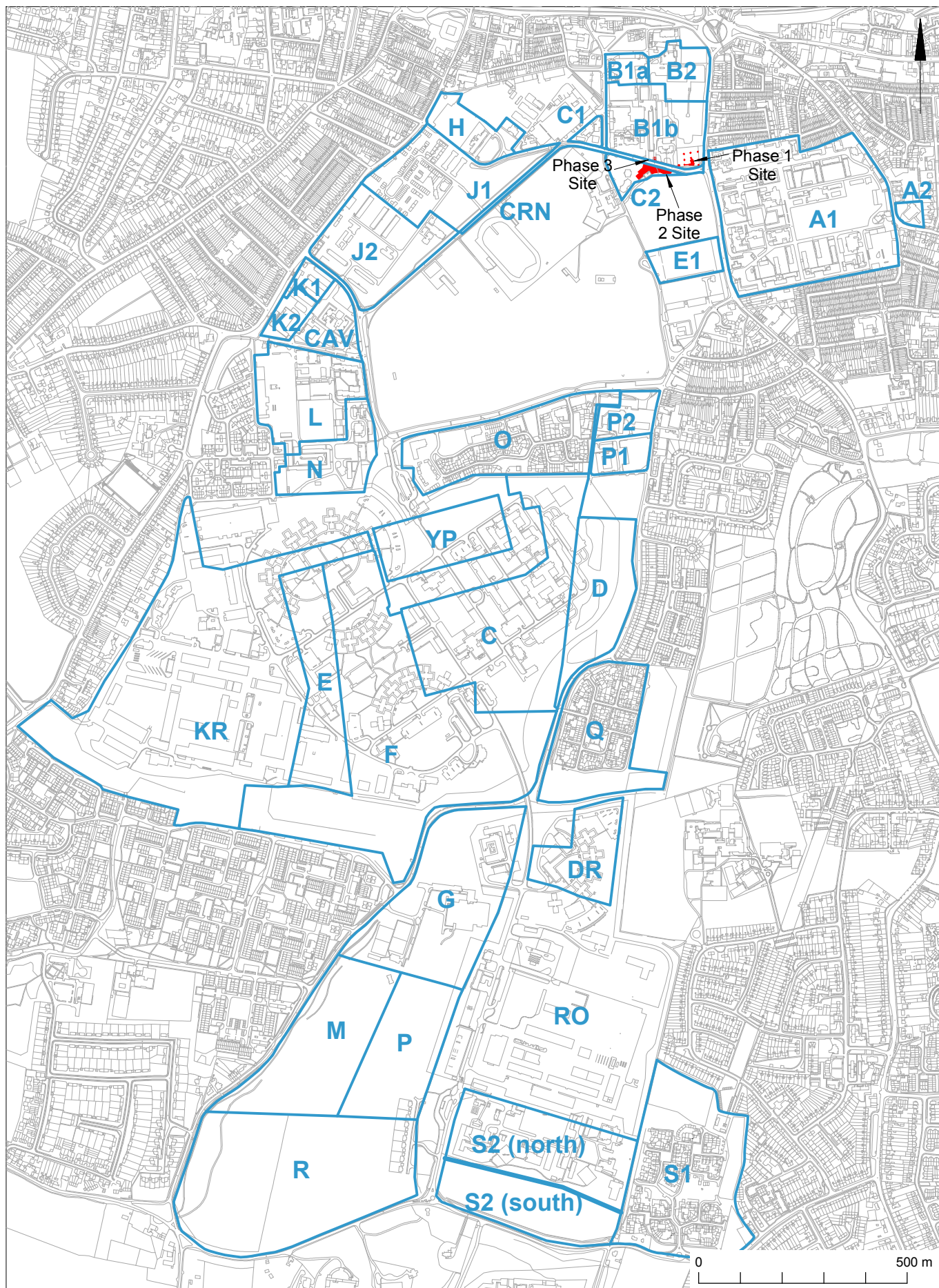


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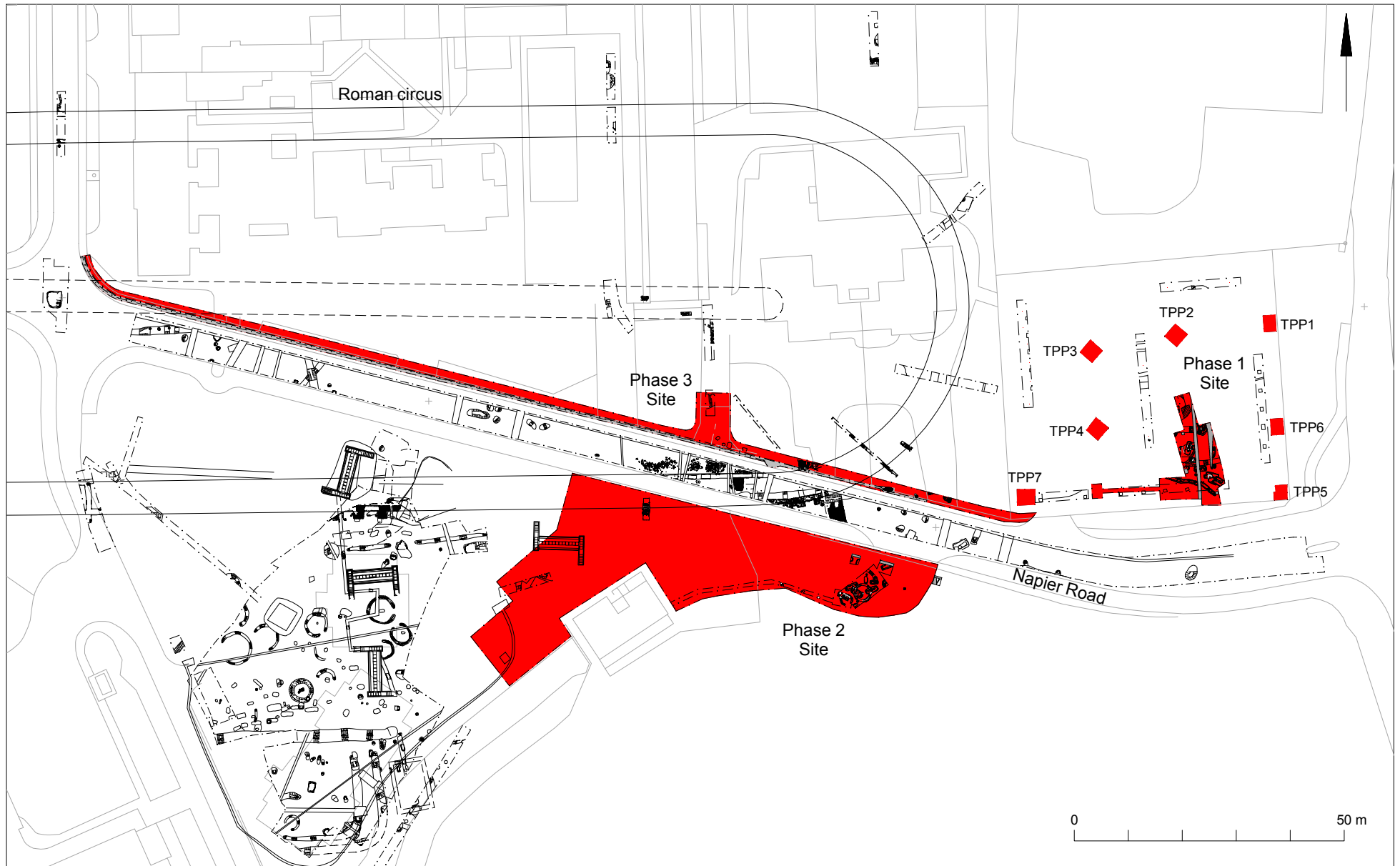
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date: 29/09/2014



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Fig 1 Phases 1-3 Site locations





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Fig 2 Phases 1-3 Sites in relation to surrounding archaeology



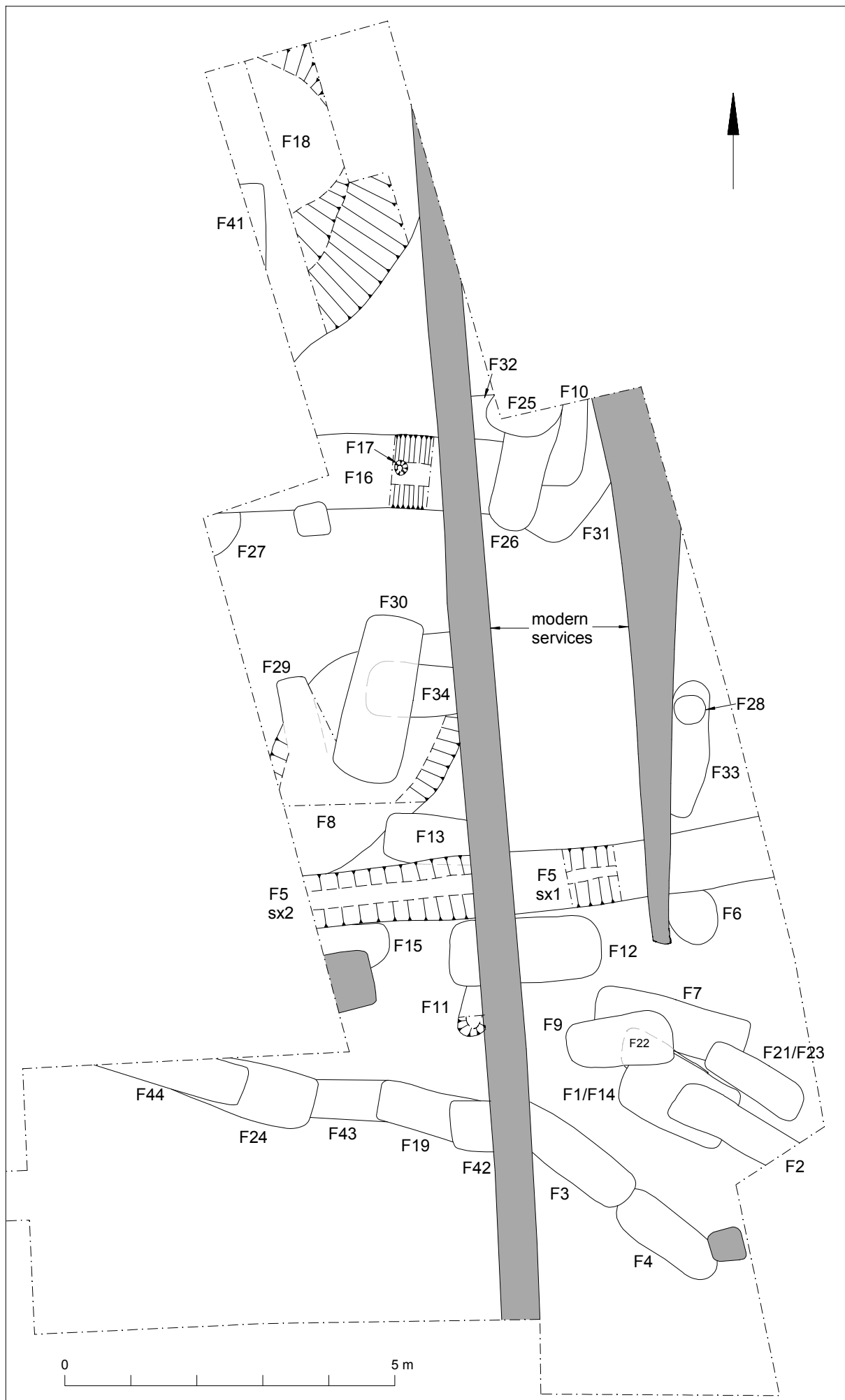


Fig 3 Site plan (Phase 1)

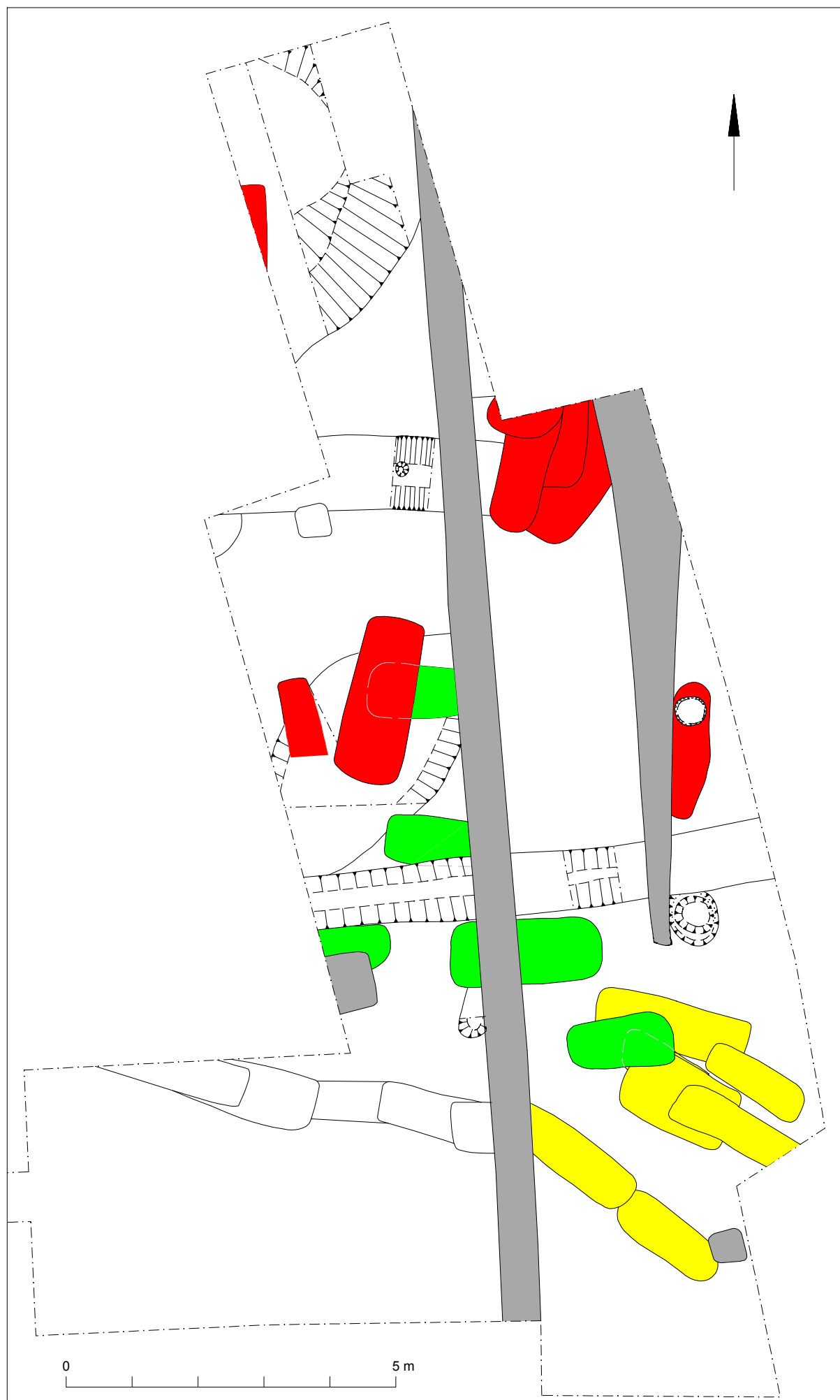


Fig 4 Burial alignments (Phase 1)

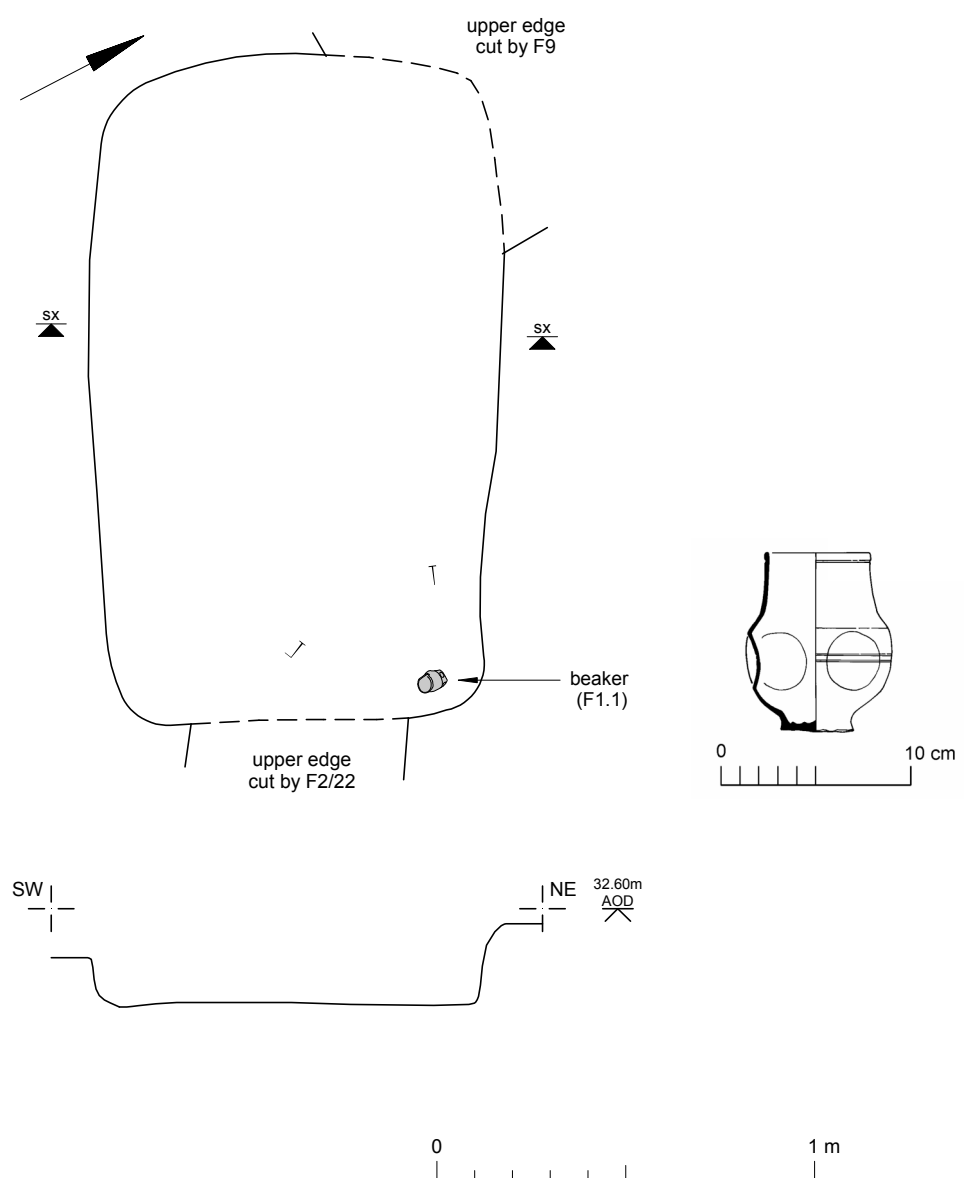


Fig 5 Burial F1/F14

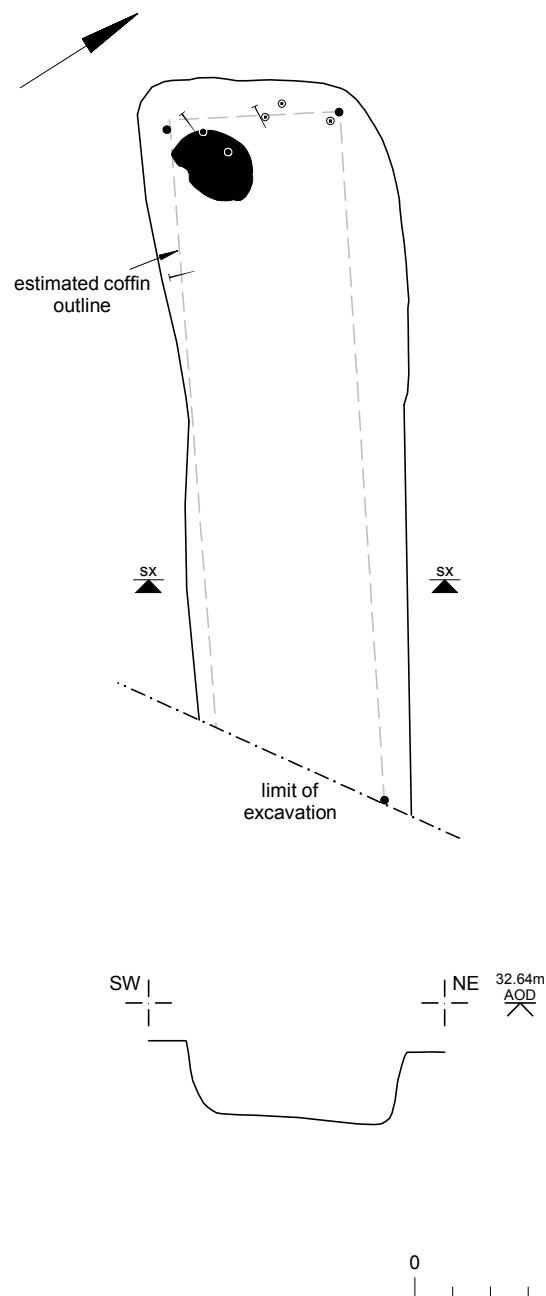


Fig 6 Burial F2

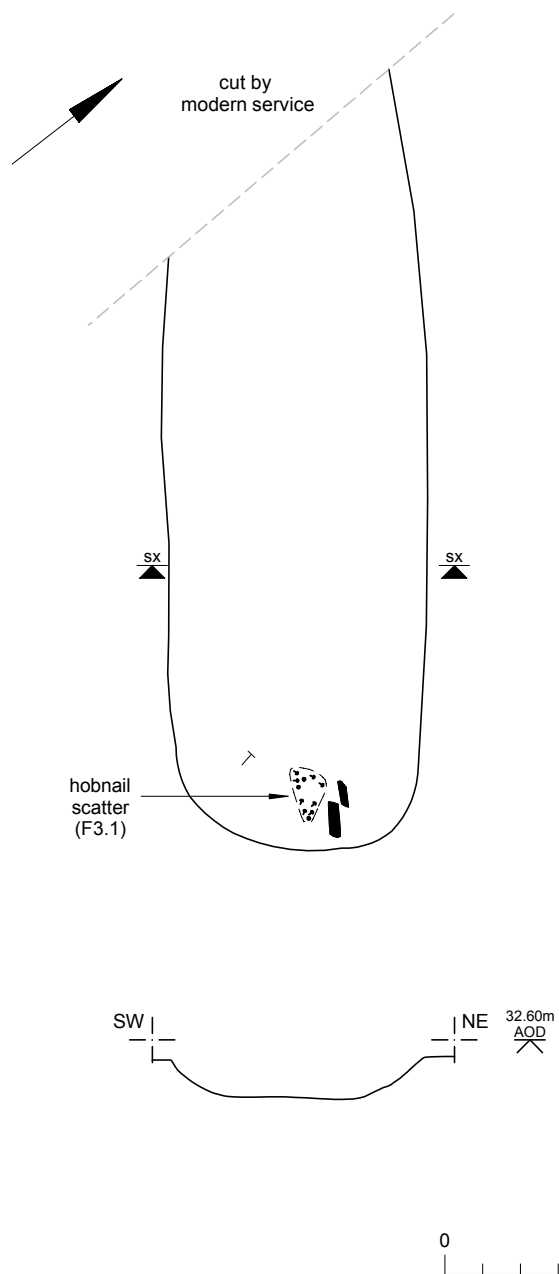


Fig 7 Burial F3

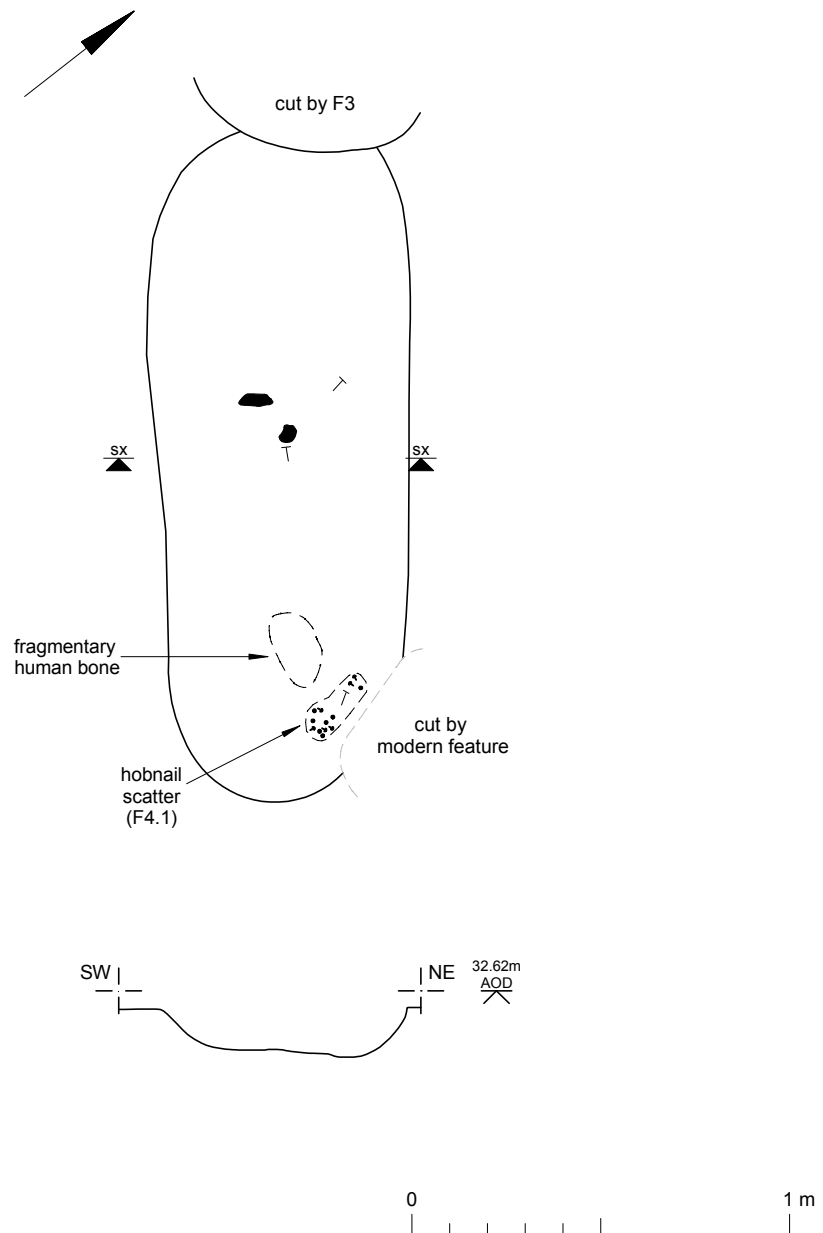
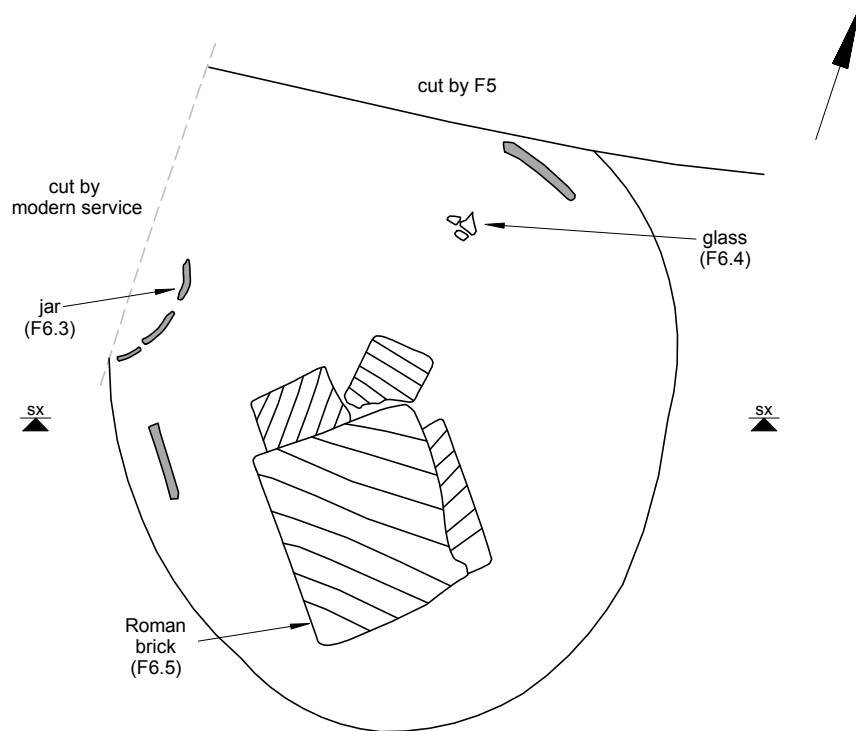
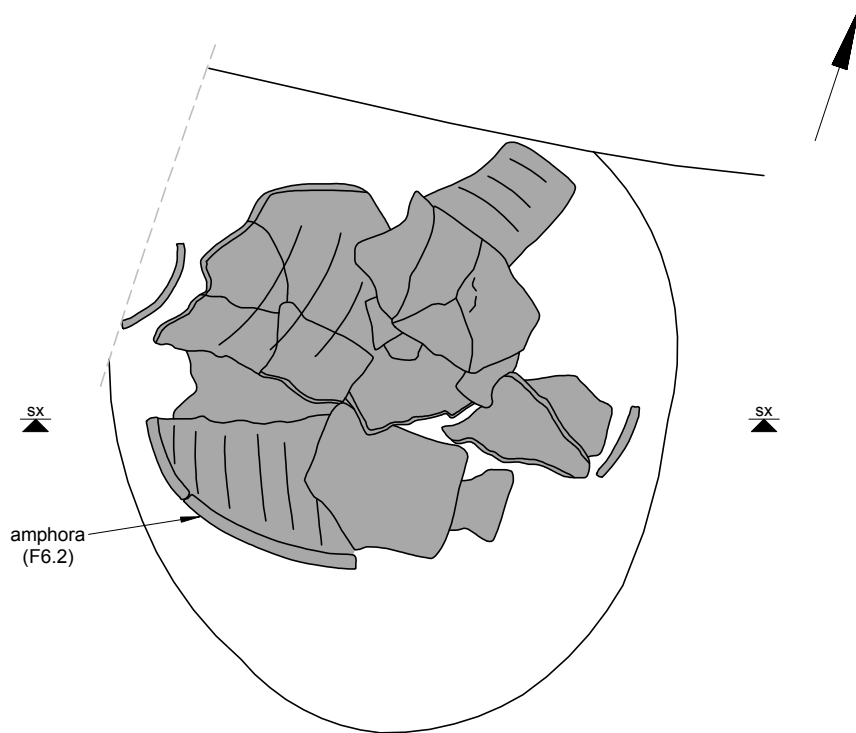


Fig 8 Burial F4

a)



b)



0 0.5 m

Fig 9 Burial F6  
F6a upper fill plan  
F6b amphora plan

c)

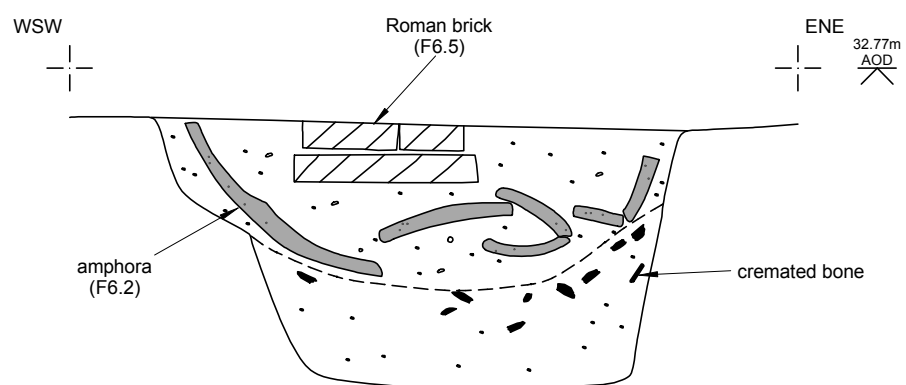
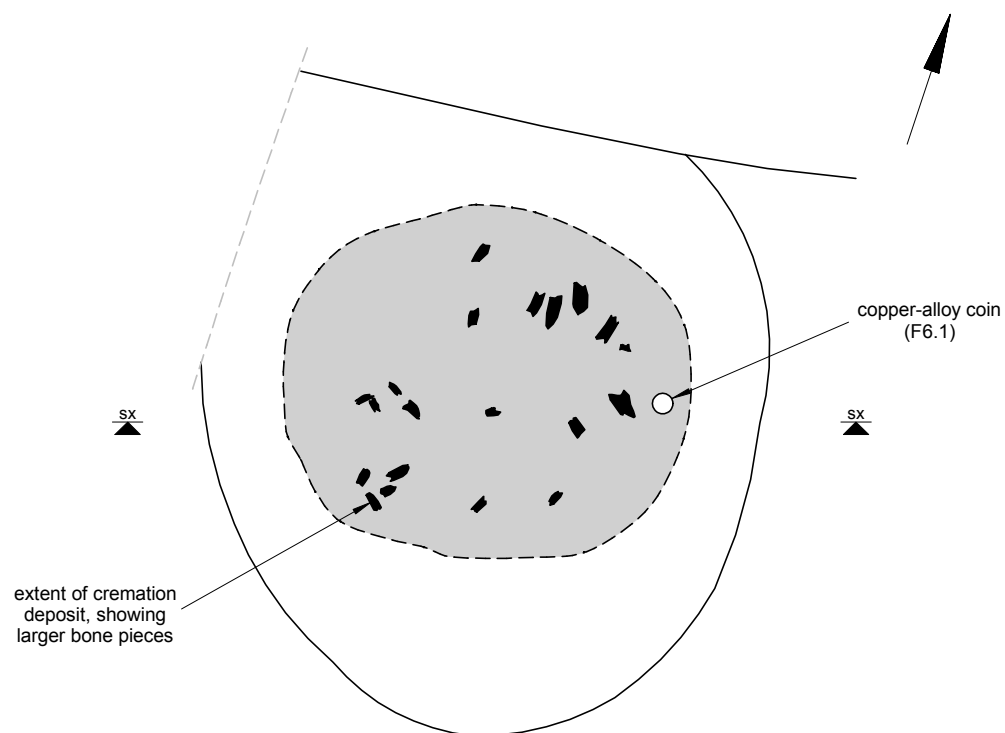


Fig 10 Burial F6  
F6c lower fill plan & section



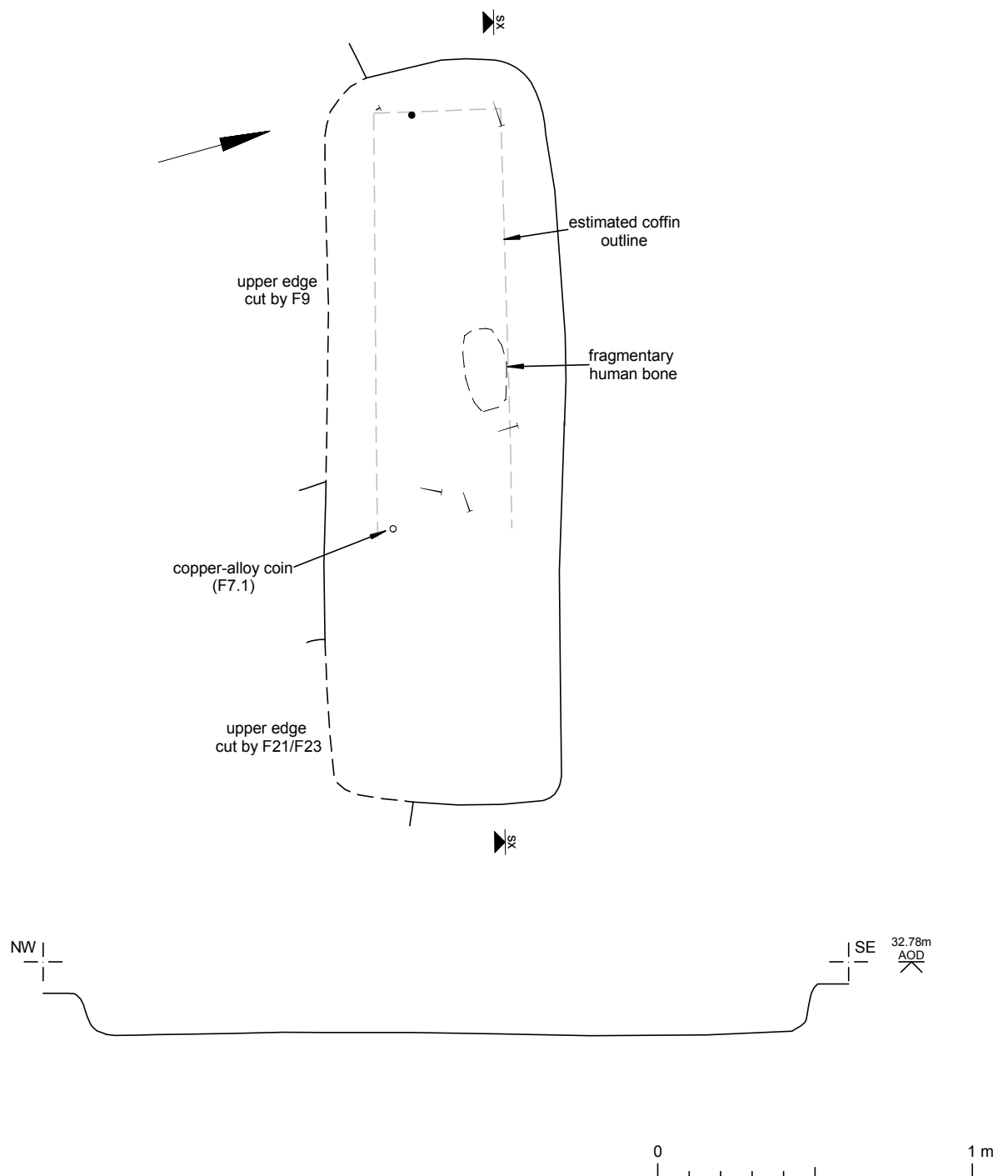


Fig 11 Burial F7/F20

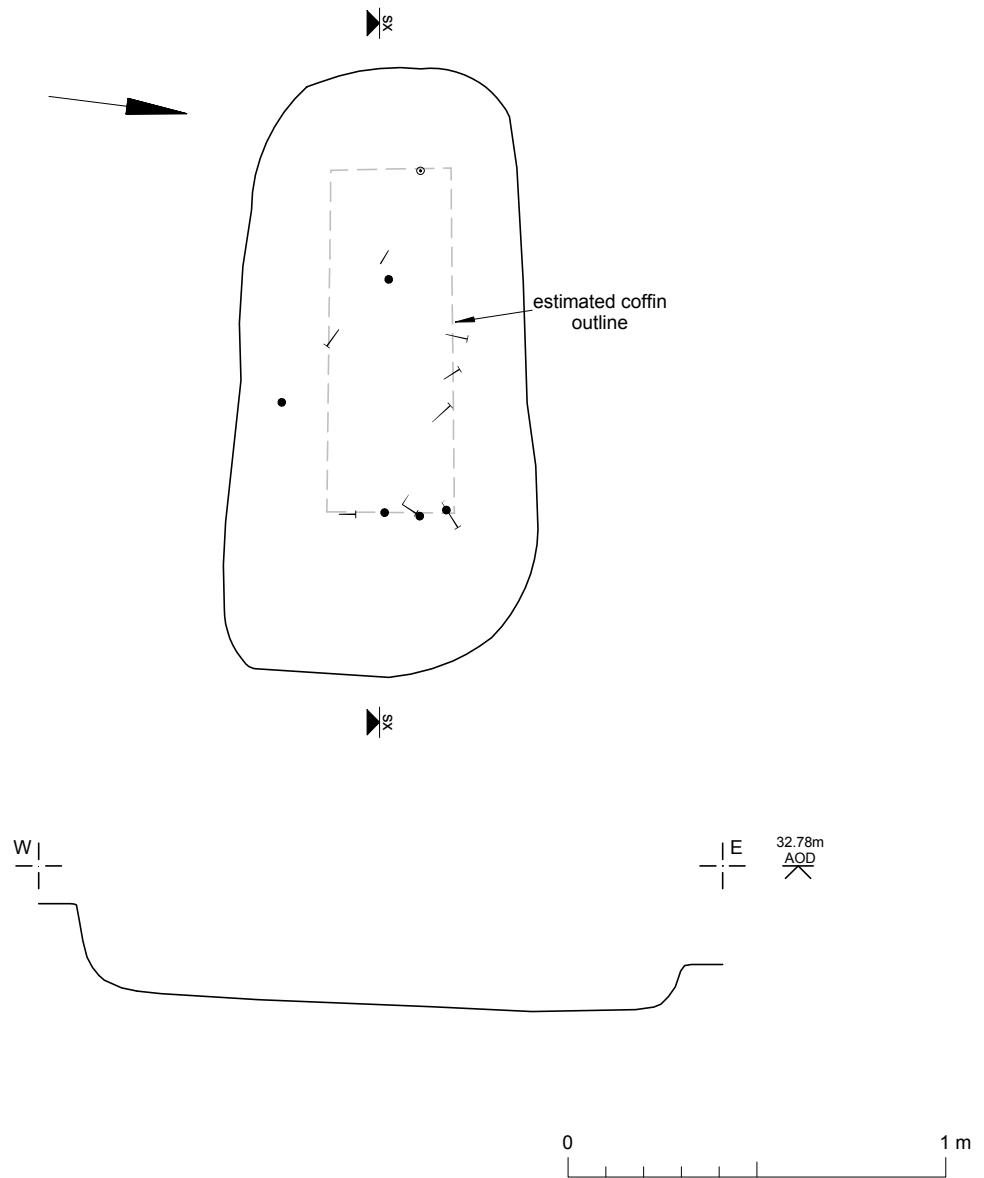


Fig 12 Burial F9

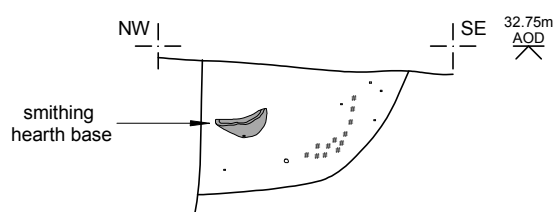
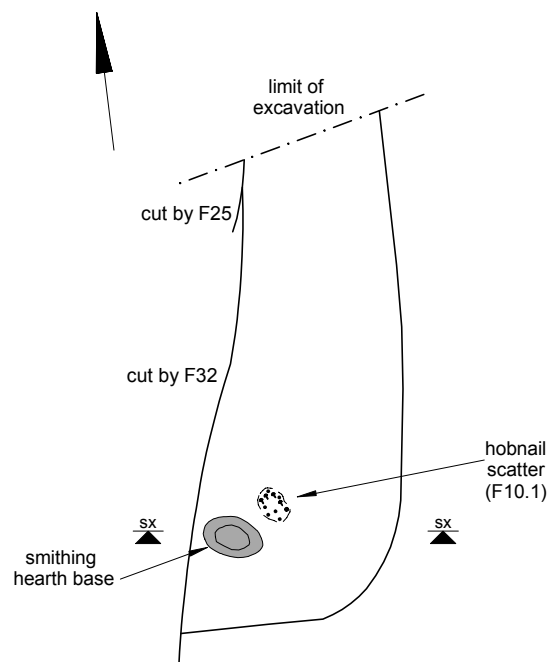


Fig 13 Burial F10

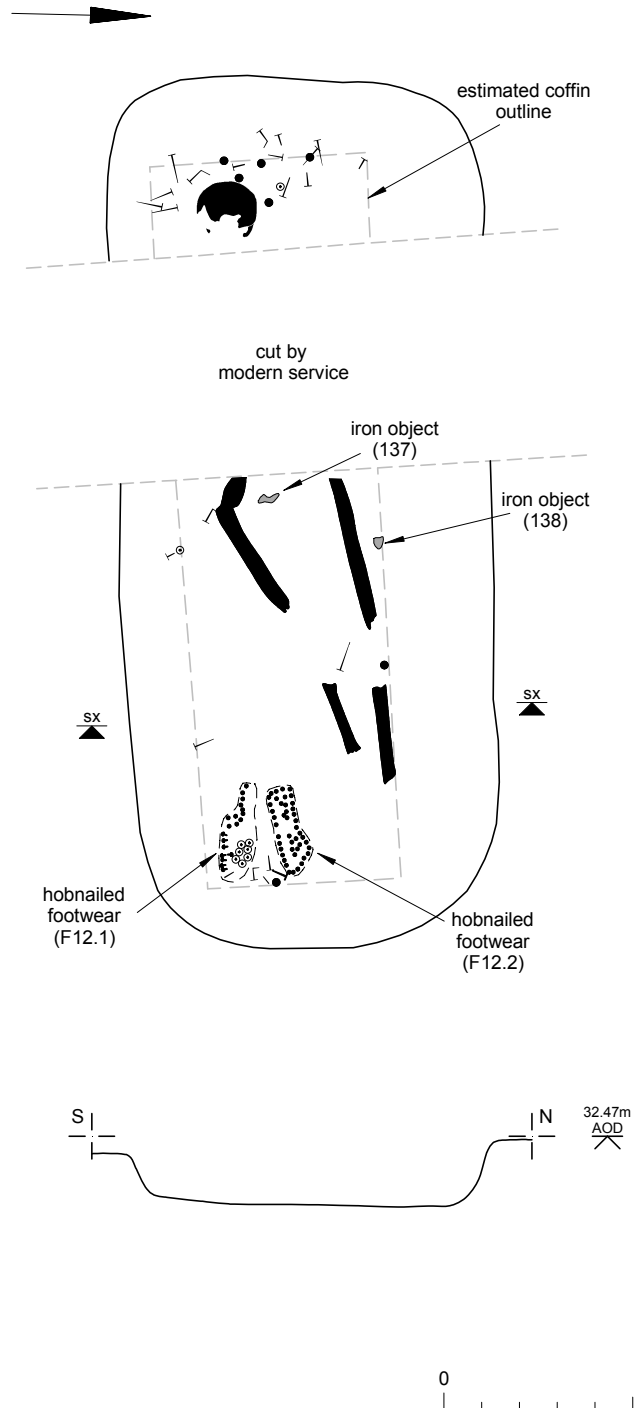


Fig 14 Burial F12

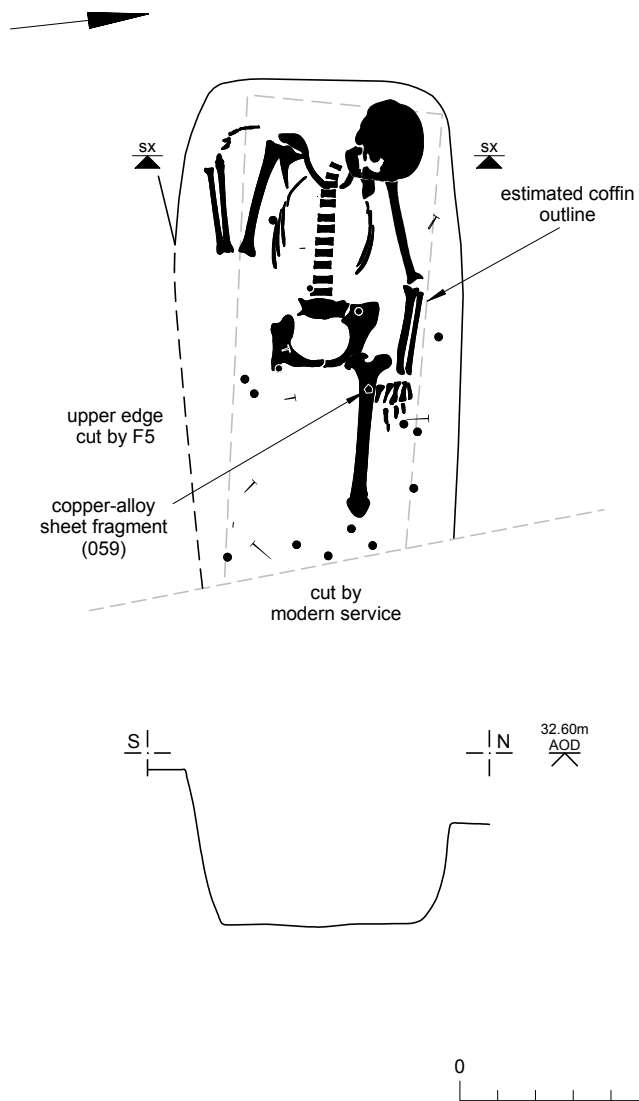


Fig 15 Burial F13

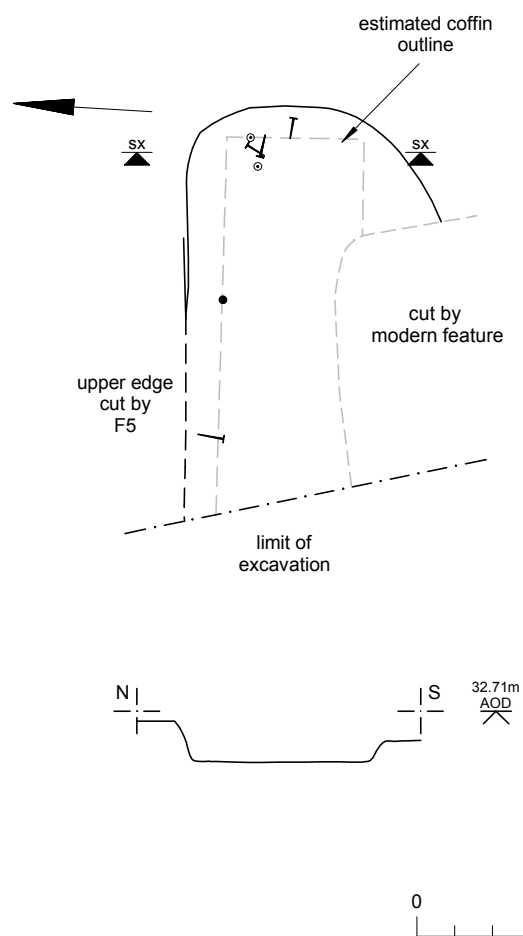


Fig 16 Burial F15

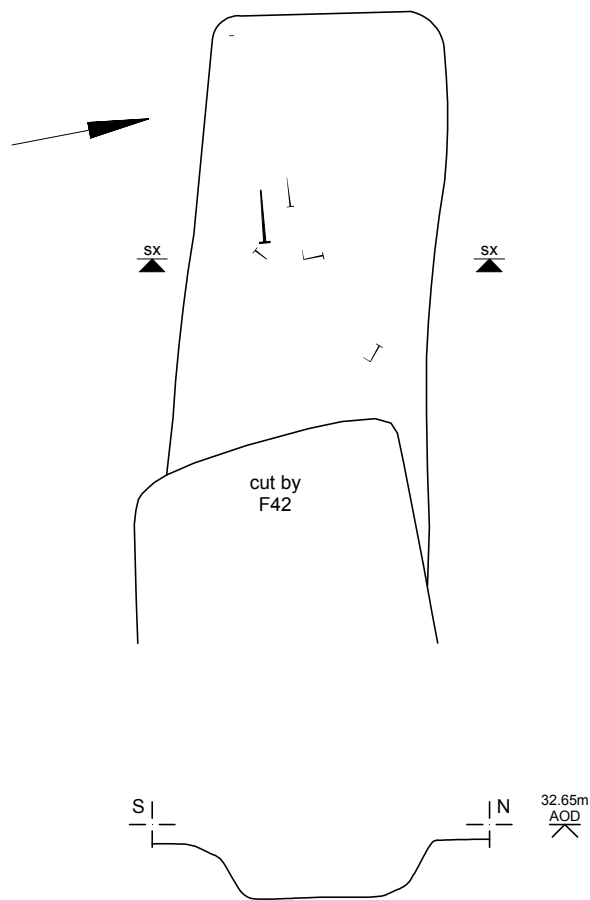


Fig 17 Burial F19

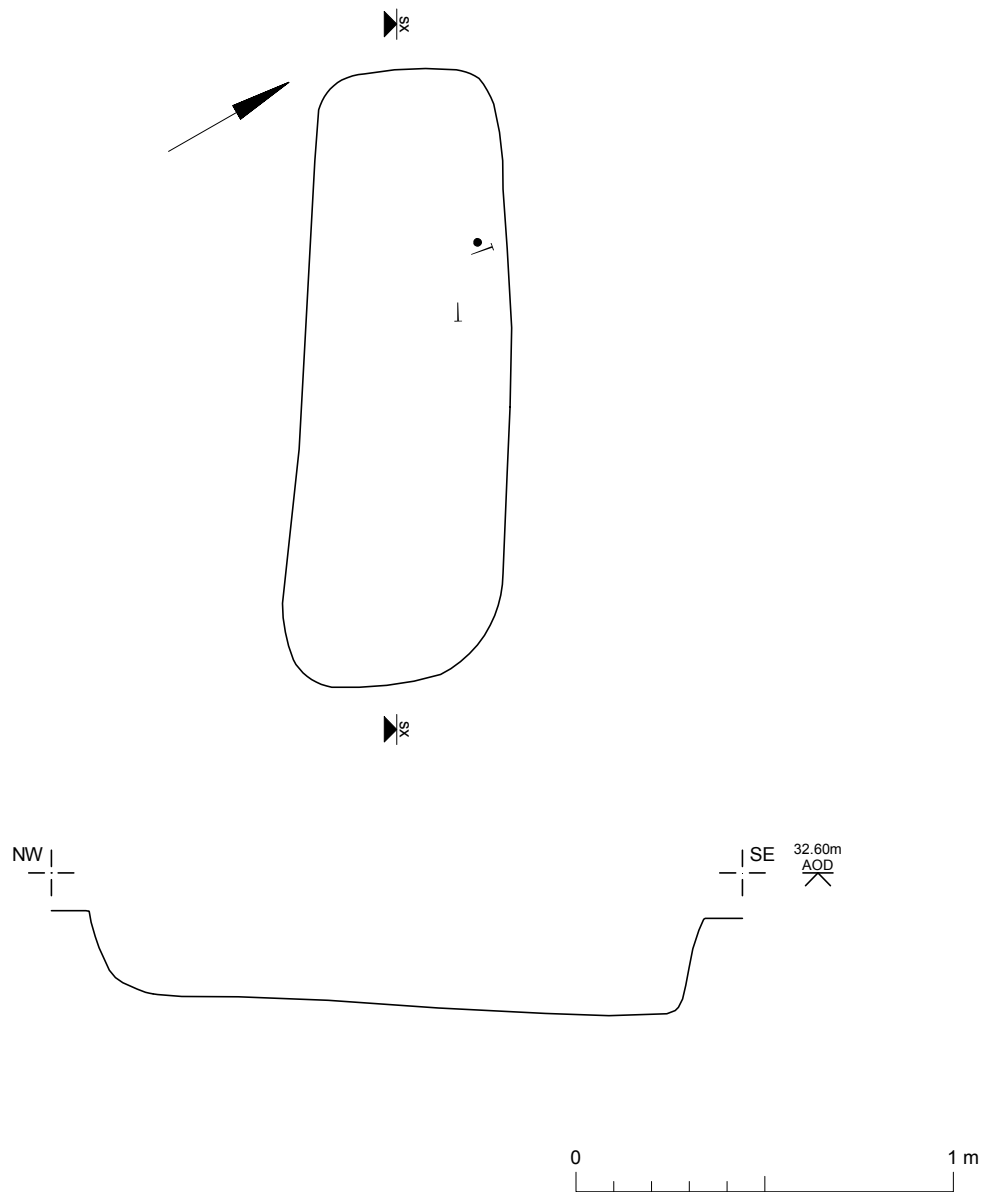


Fig 18 Burial F21/F23



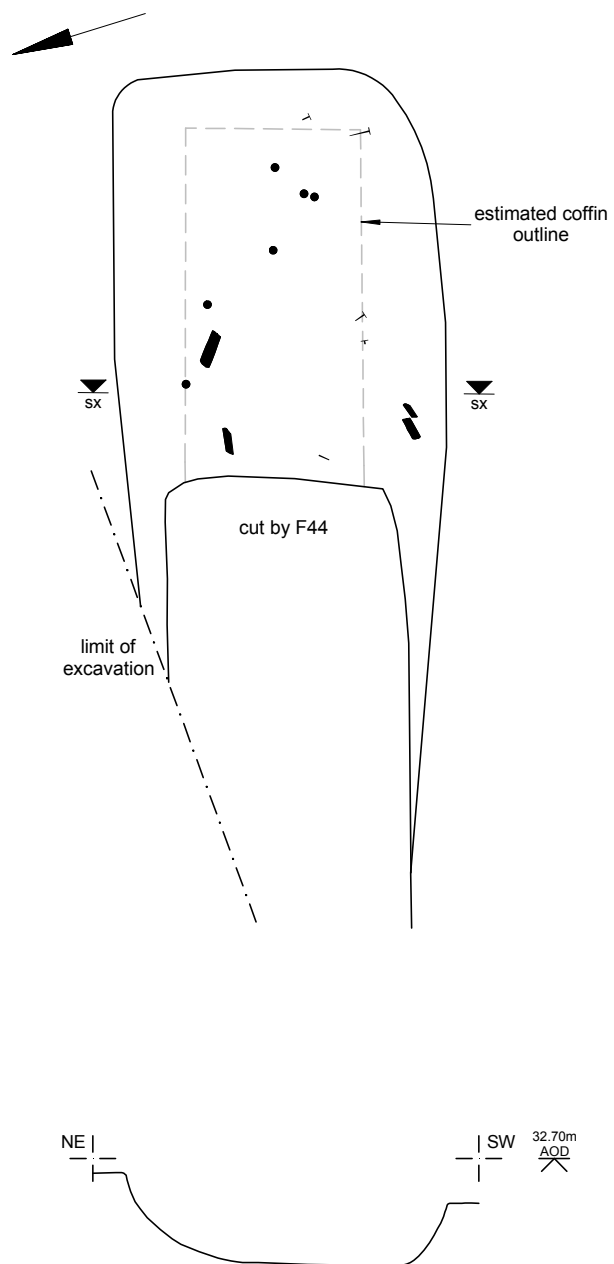


Fig 19 Burial F24

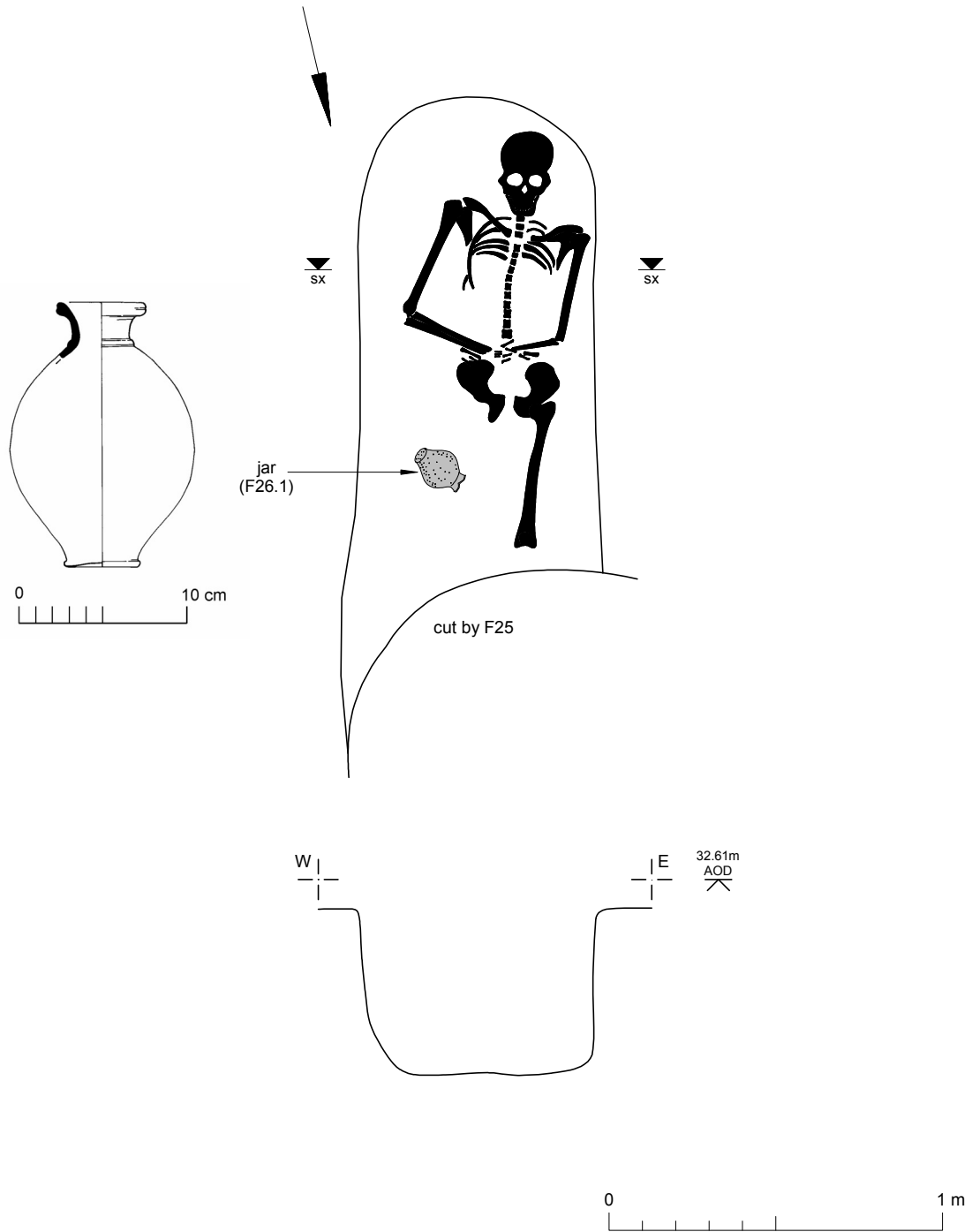


Fig 20 Burial F26

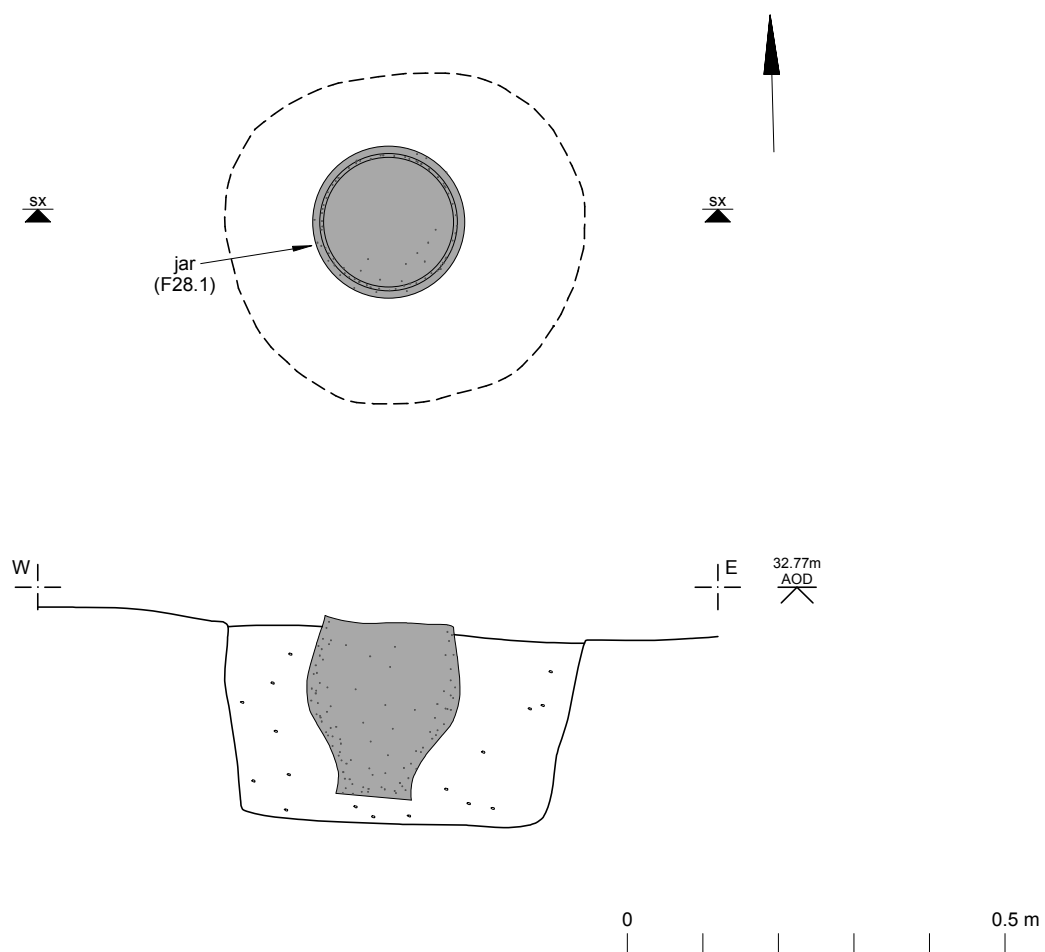


Fig 21 Burial F28

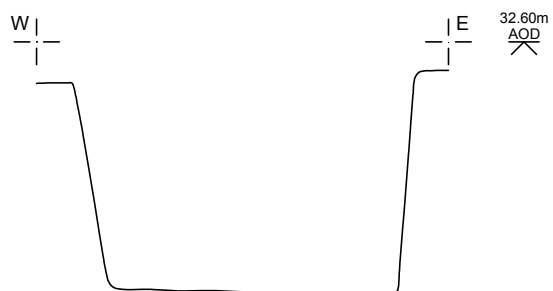
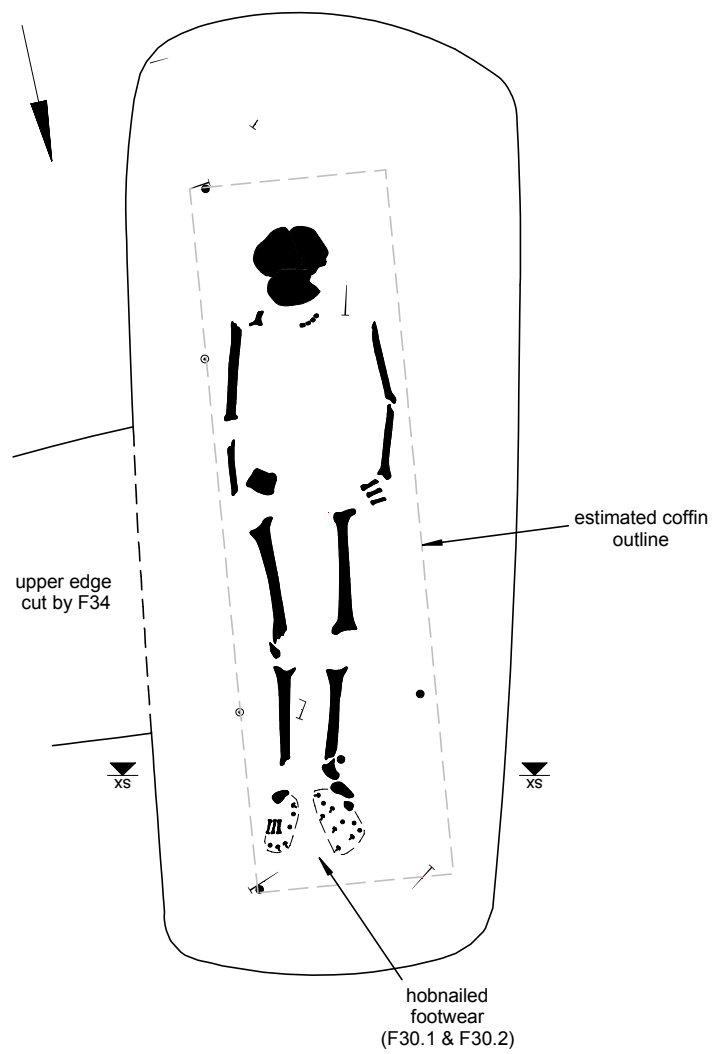


Fig 22 Burial F30

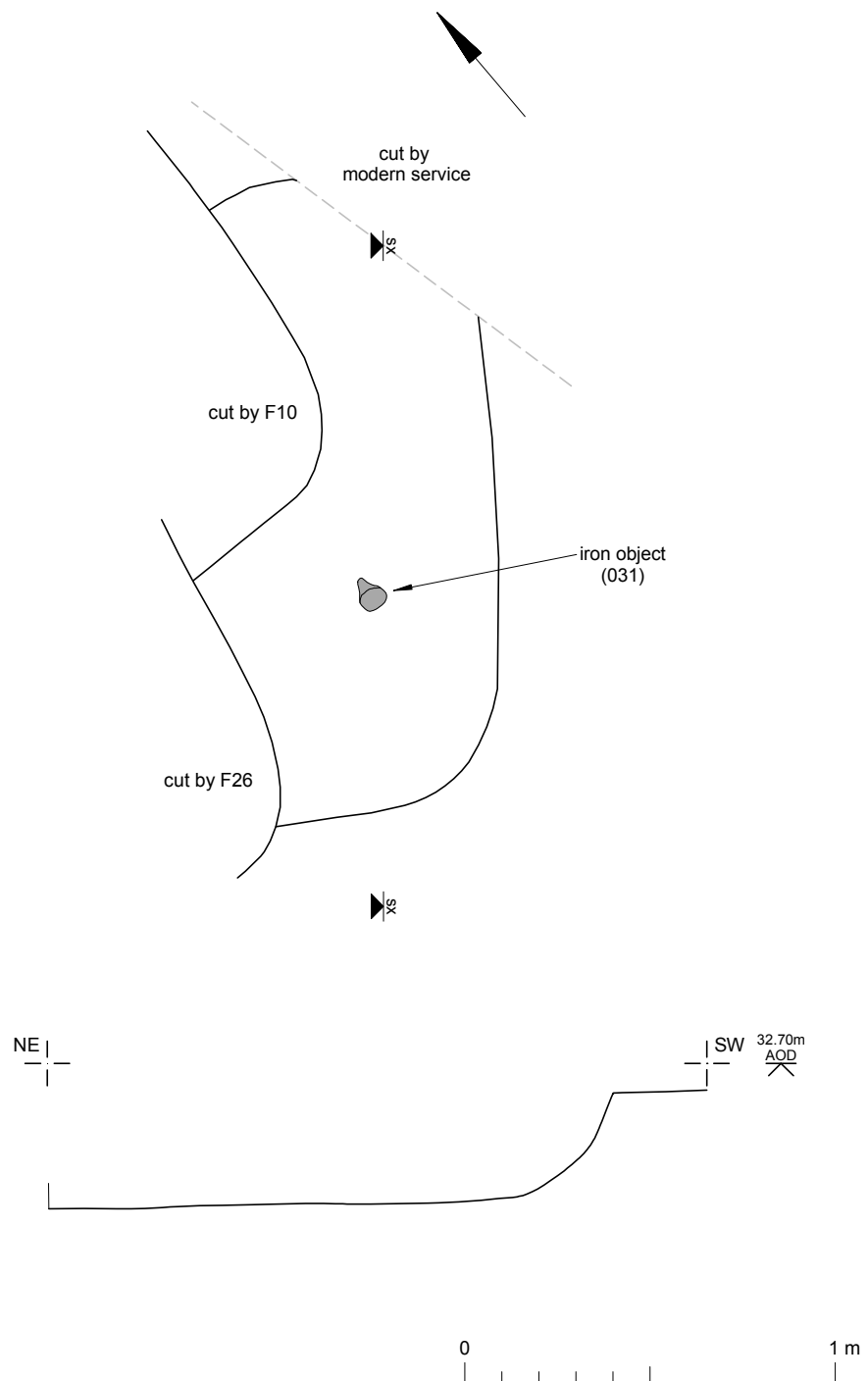


Fig 23 Burial F31

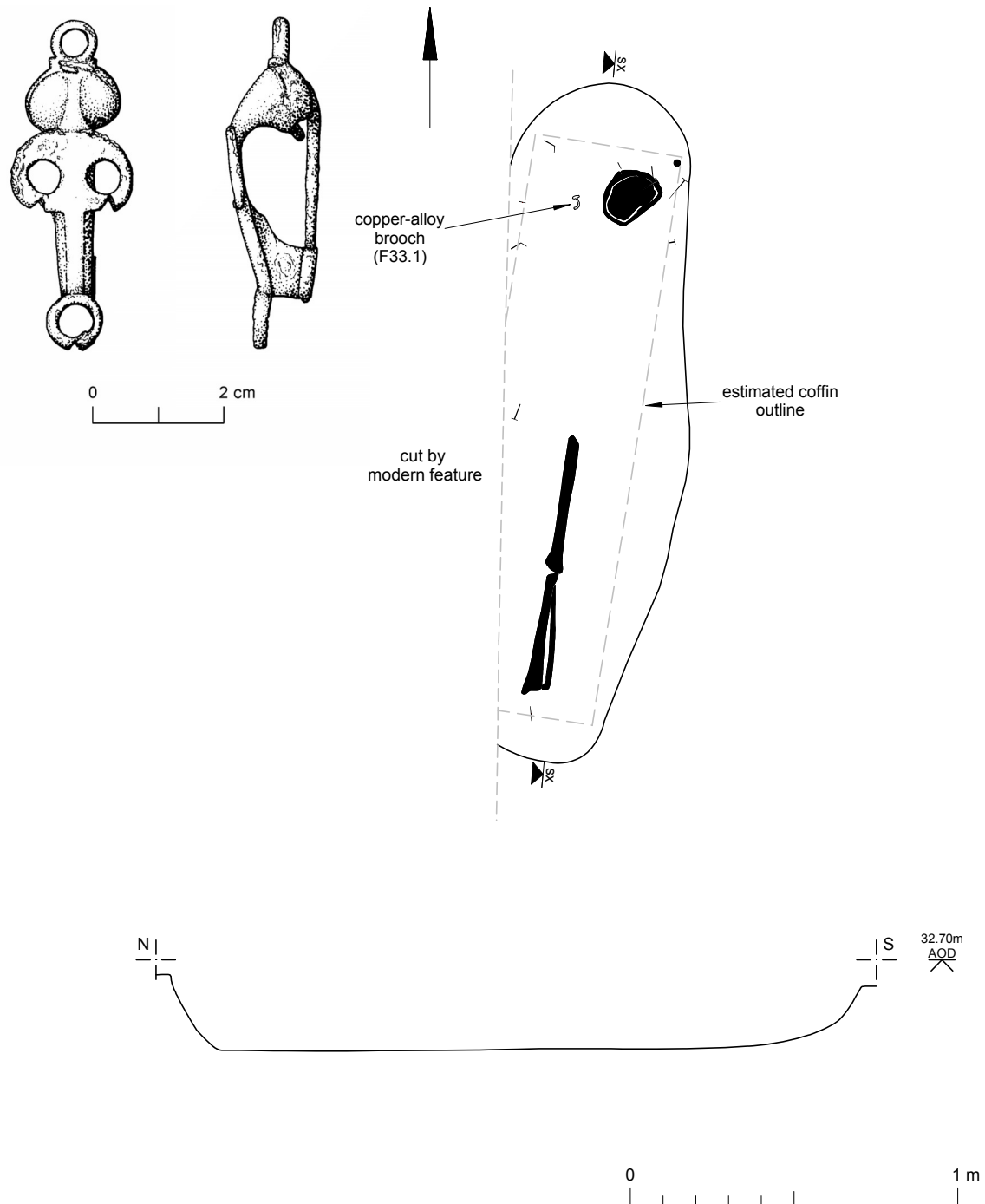


Fig 24 Burial F33

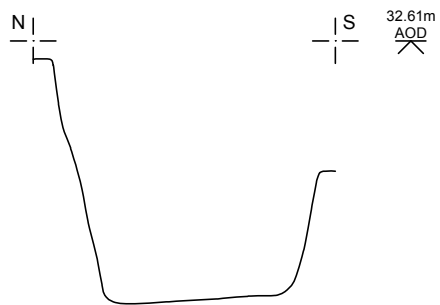
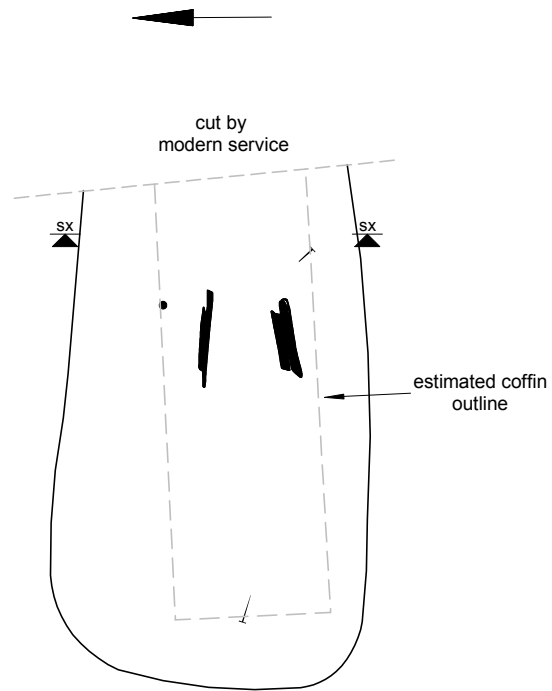


Fig 25 Burial F34

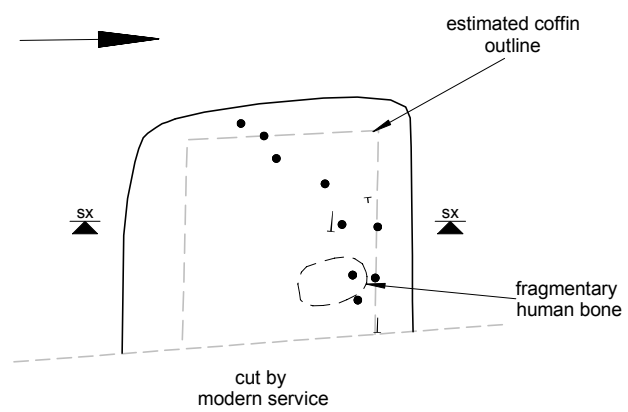


Fig 26 Burial F42



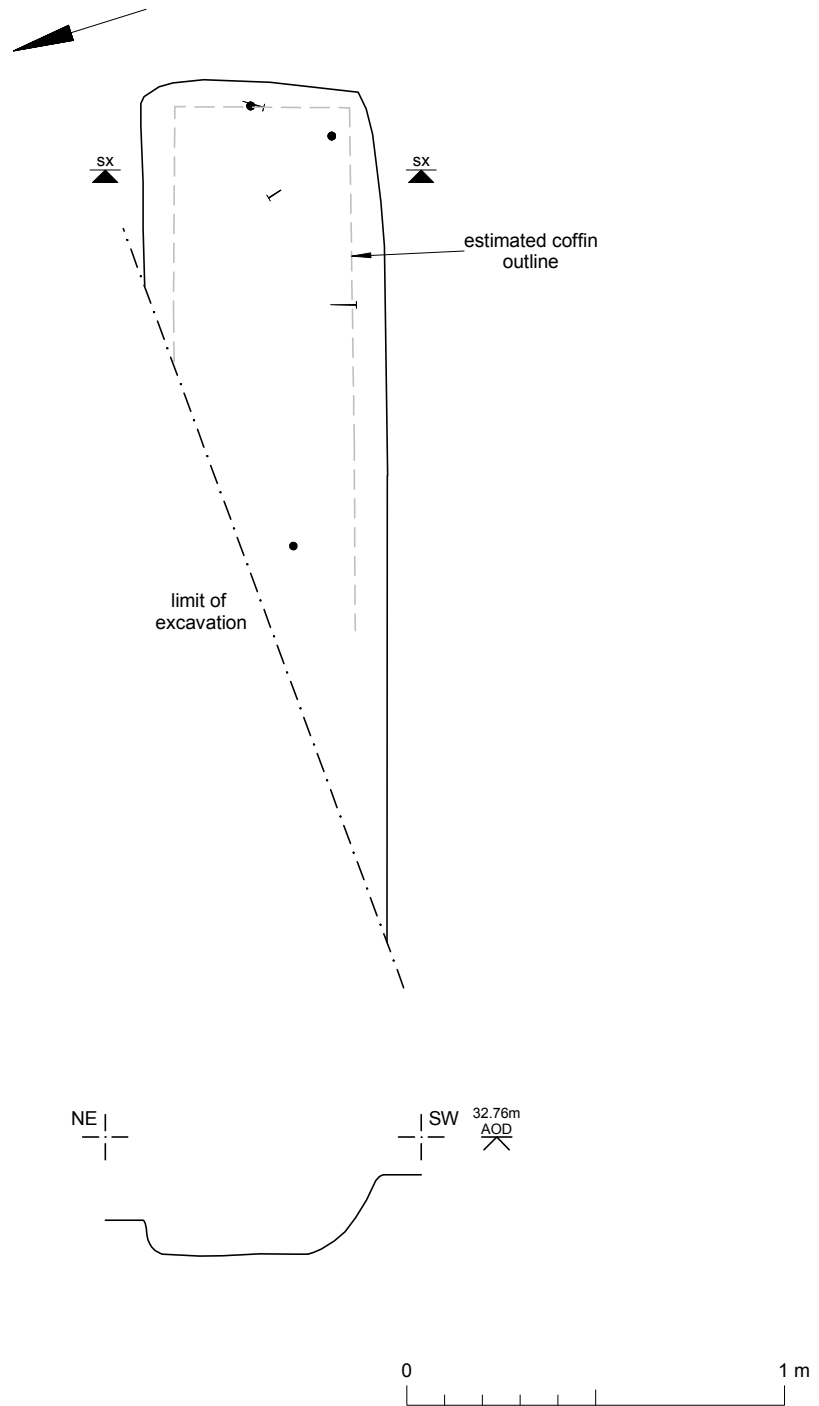


Fig 27 Burial F44

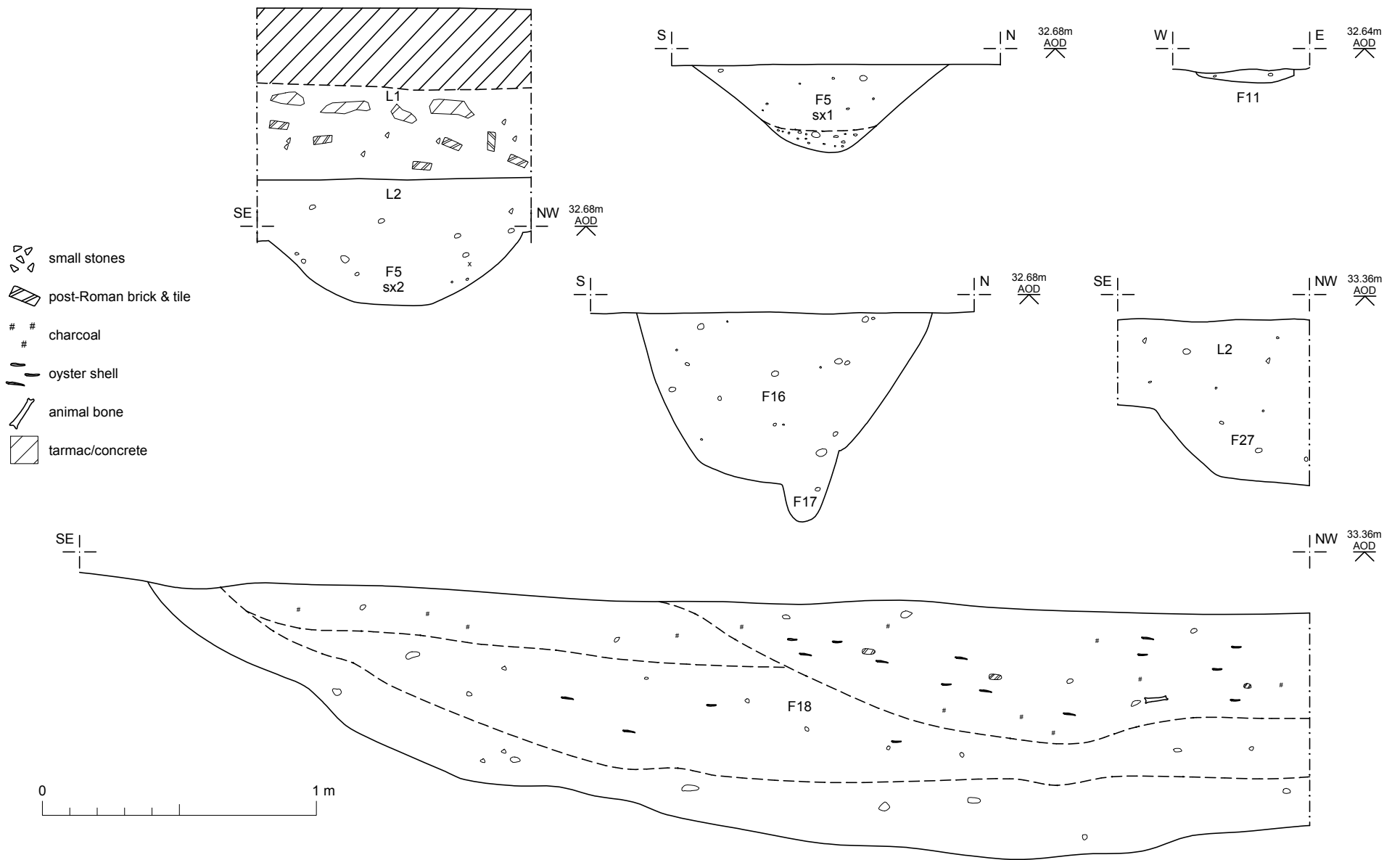


Fig 28 Non burial features, sections

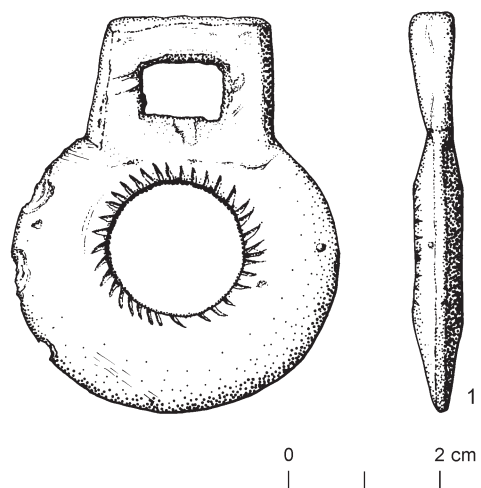


Fig 29 Non burial small finds



Fig 30 Samian pottery (P1) & potters stamp (S1)



Fig 31 Samian pottery (P2, P3 & P4) & potters stamp (S2)

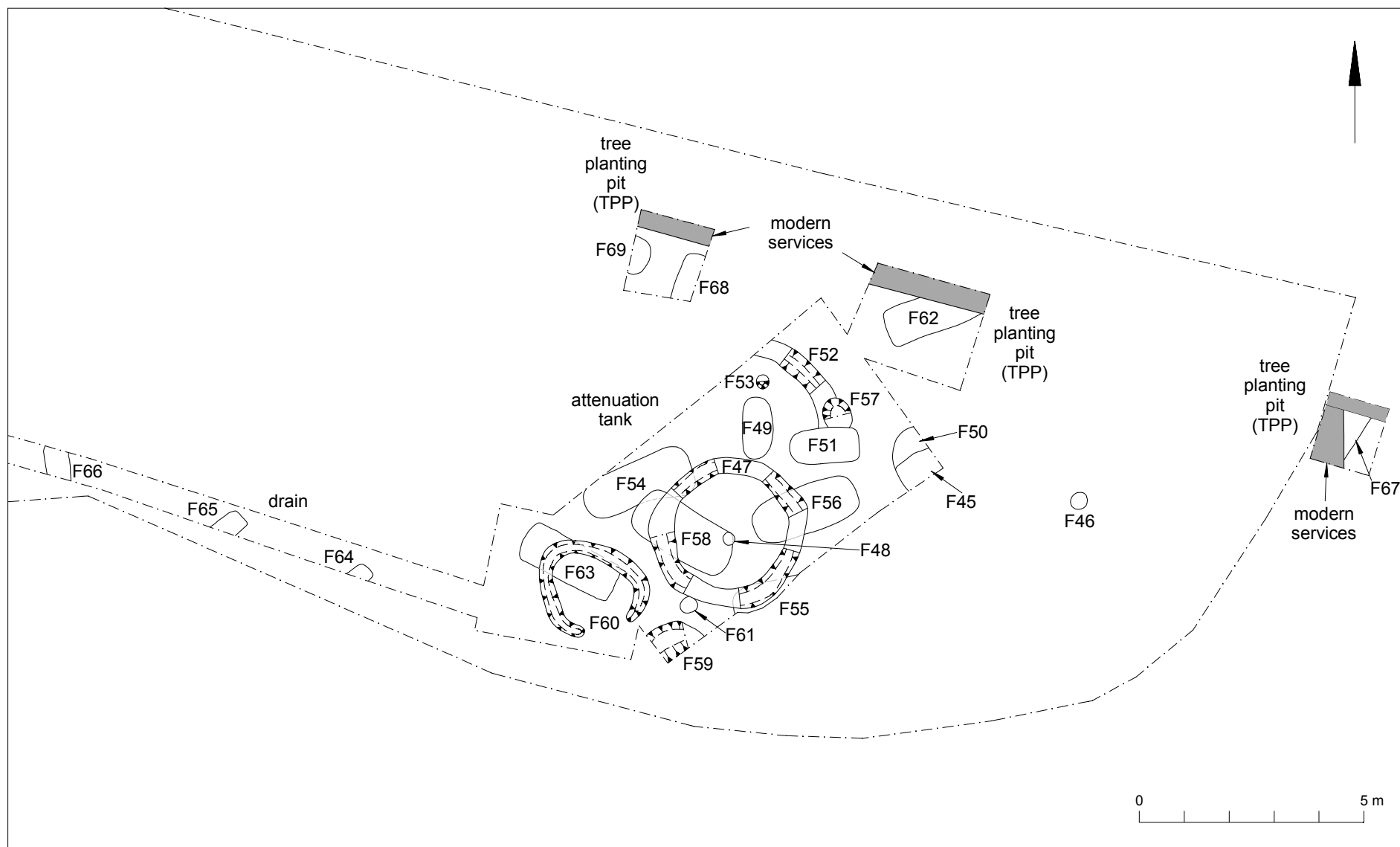


Fig 32 Site plan (Phase 2)

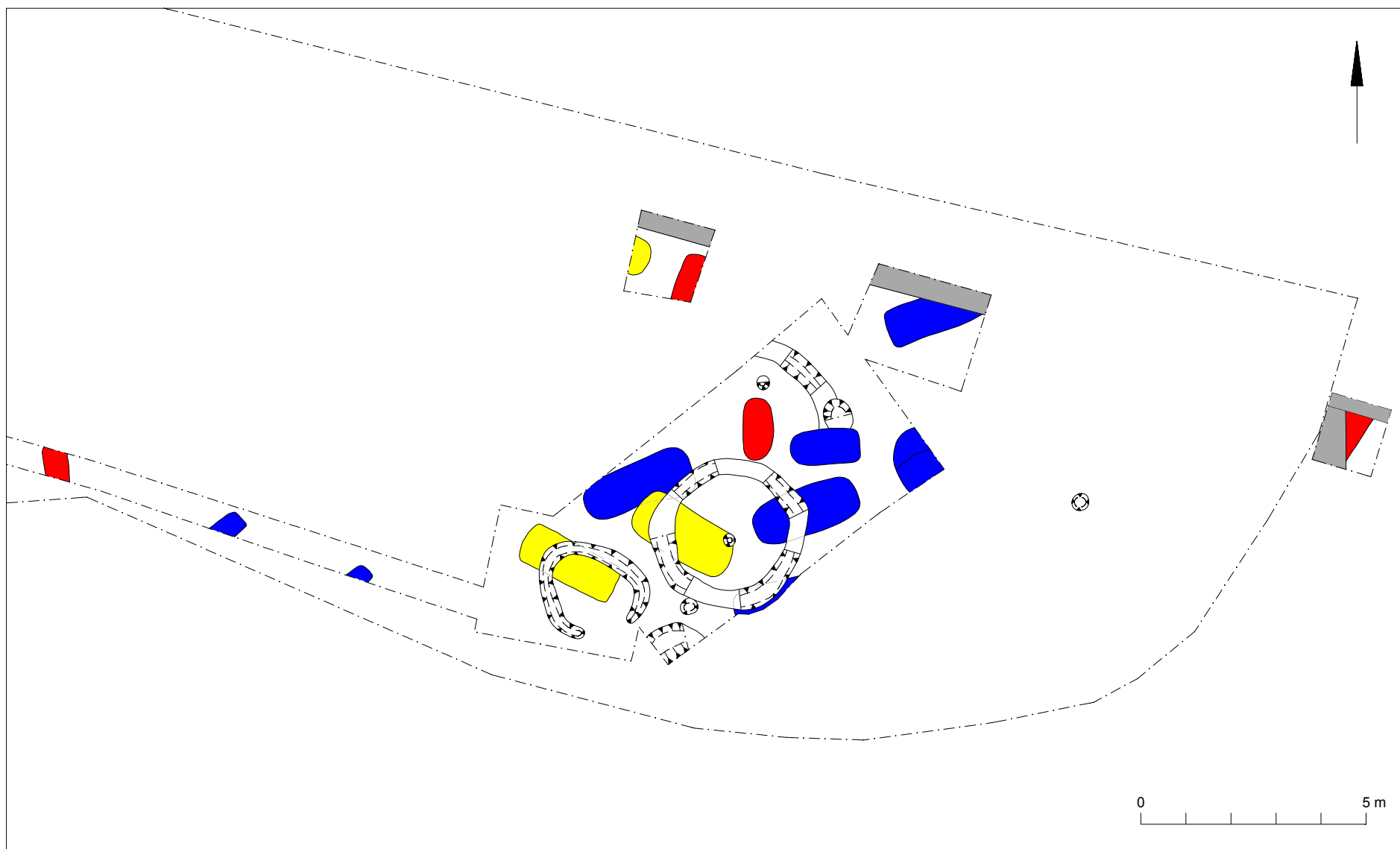


Fig 33 Burial alignments (Phase 2)

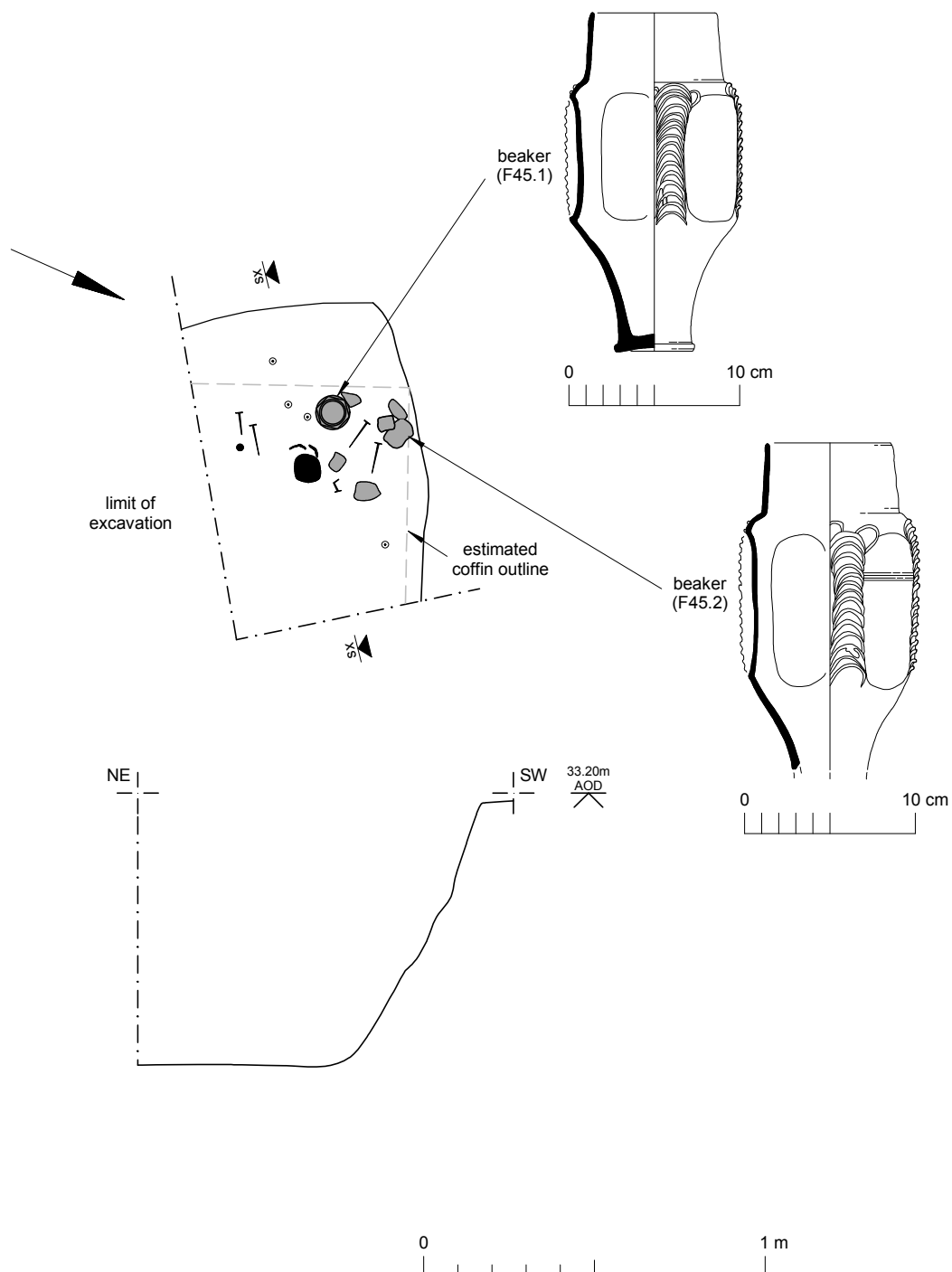


Fig 34 Burial F45



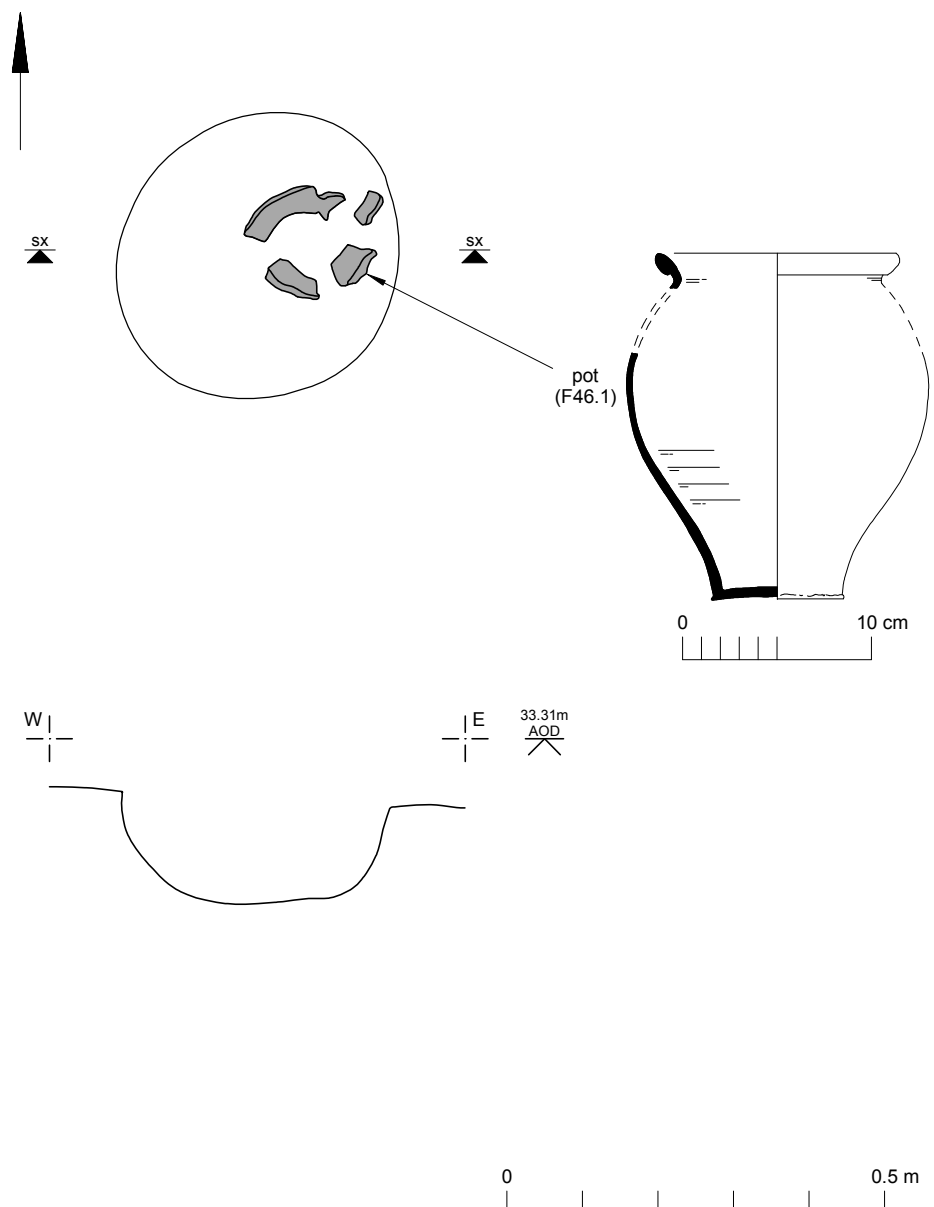


Fig 35 Burial F46

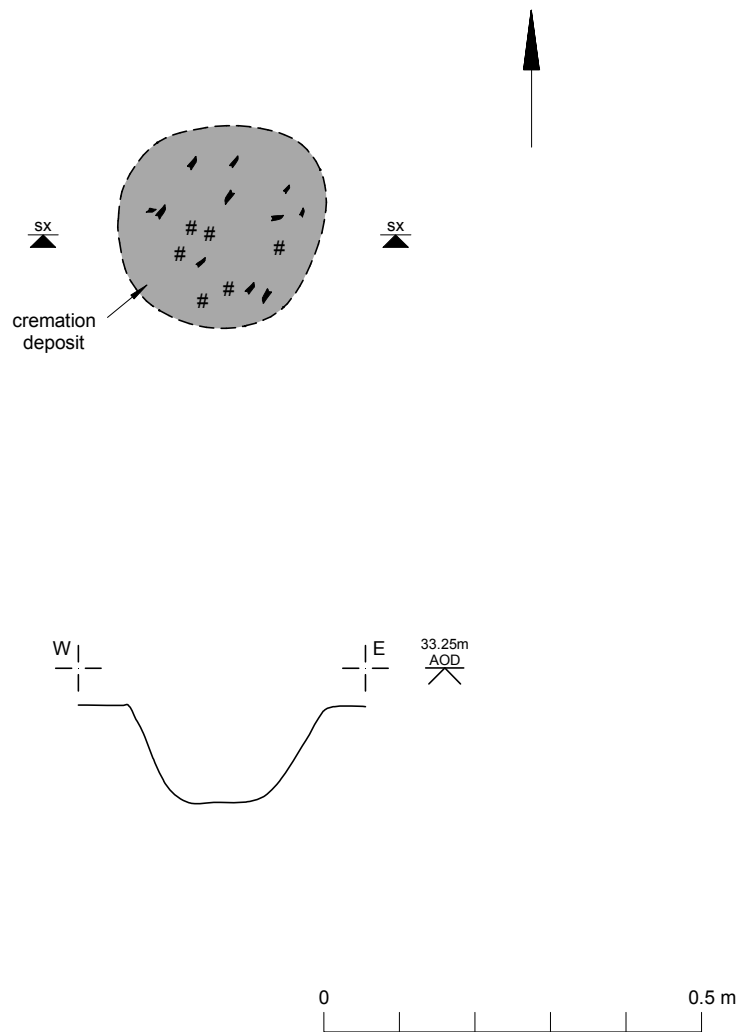


Fig 36 Burial F48

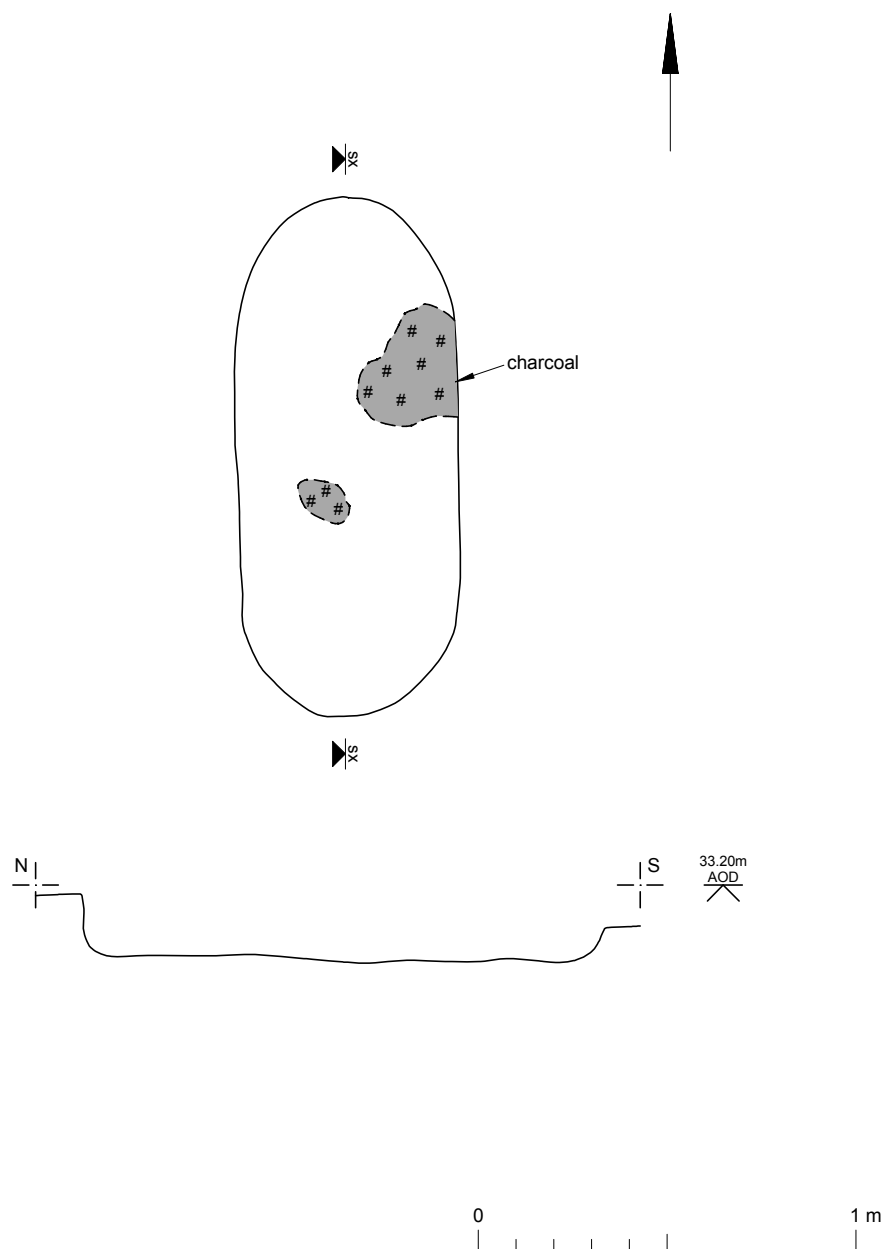


Fig 37 Burial F49

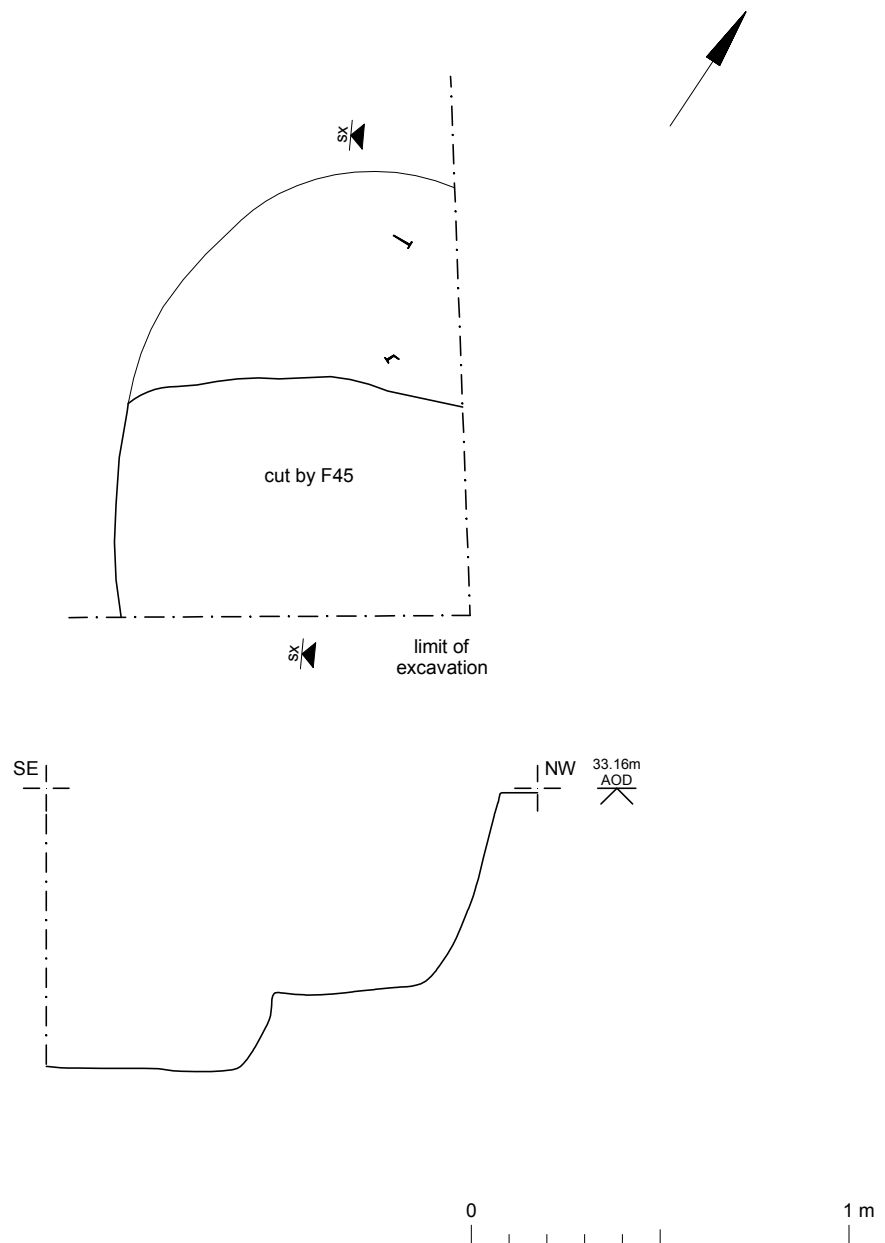


Fig 38 Burial F50

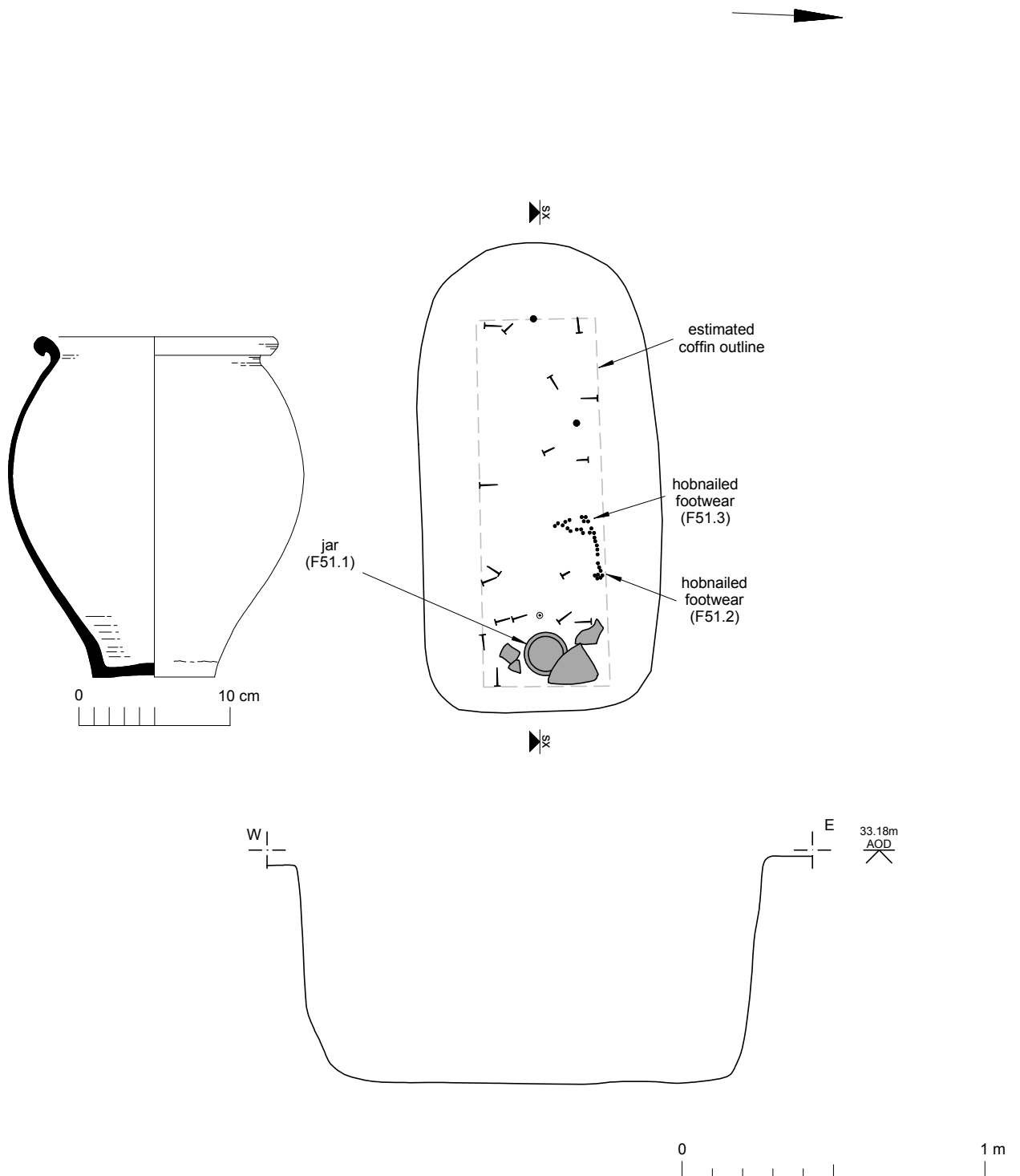


Fig 39 Burial F51

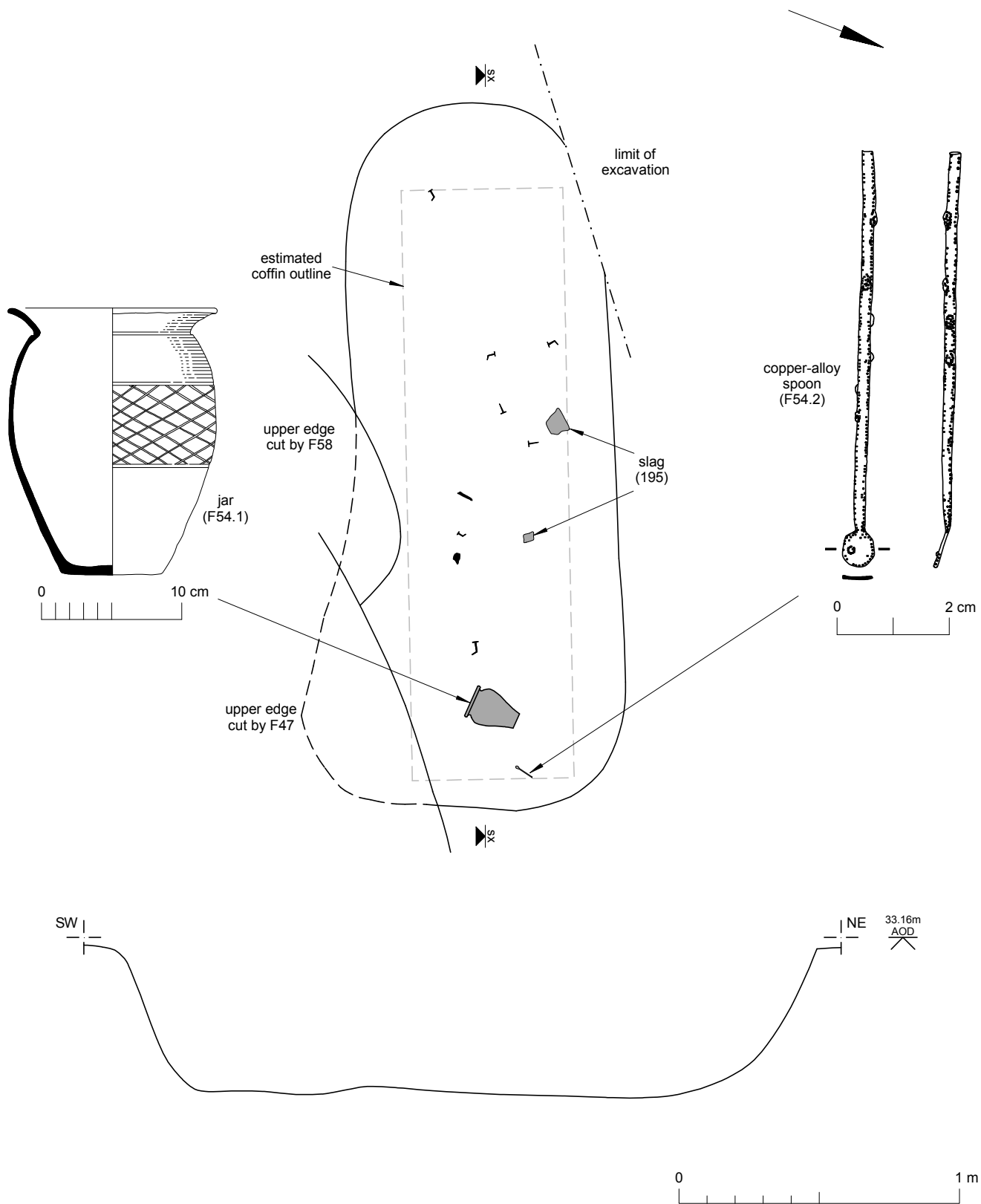


Fig 40 Burial F54

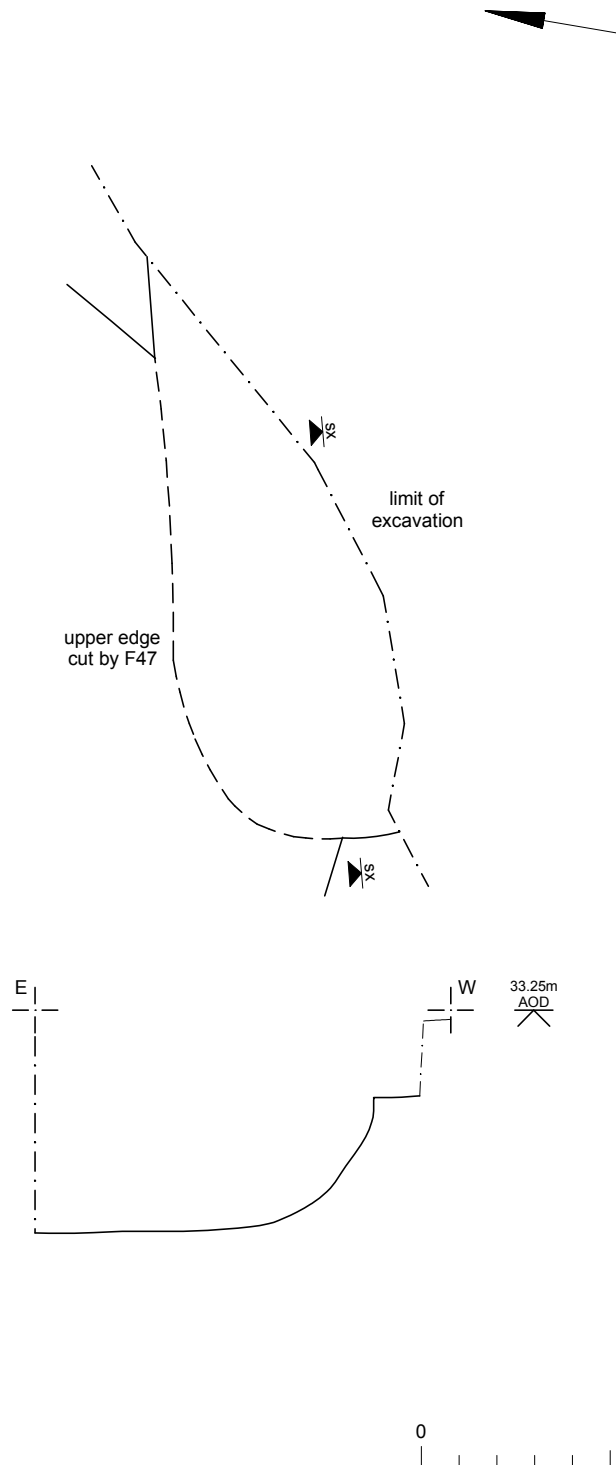


Fig 41 Burial F55

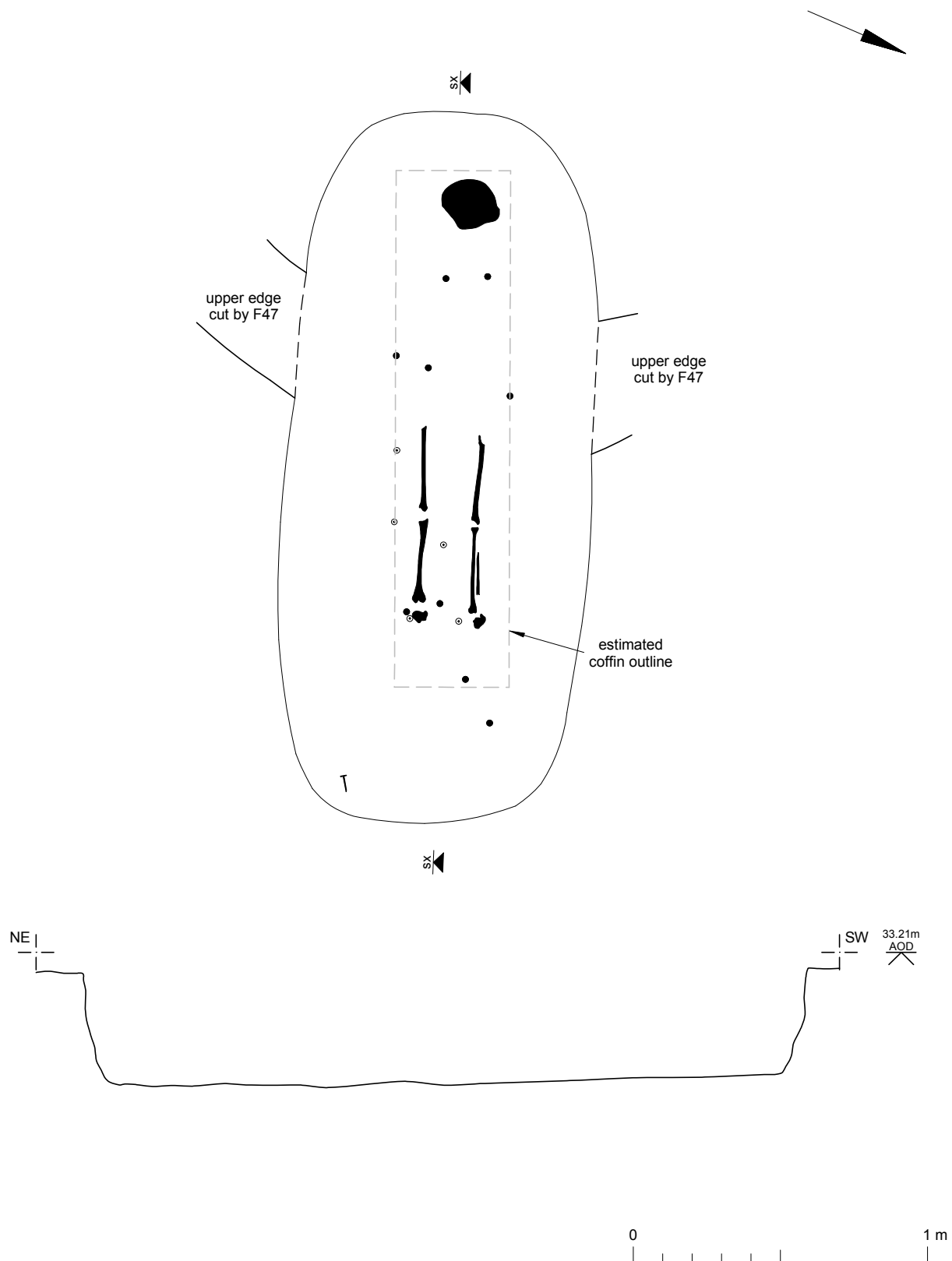


Fig 42 Burial F56



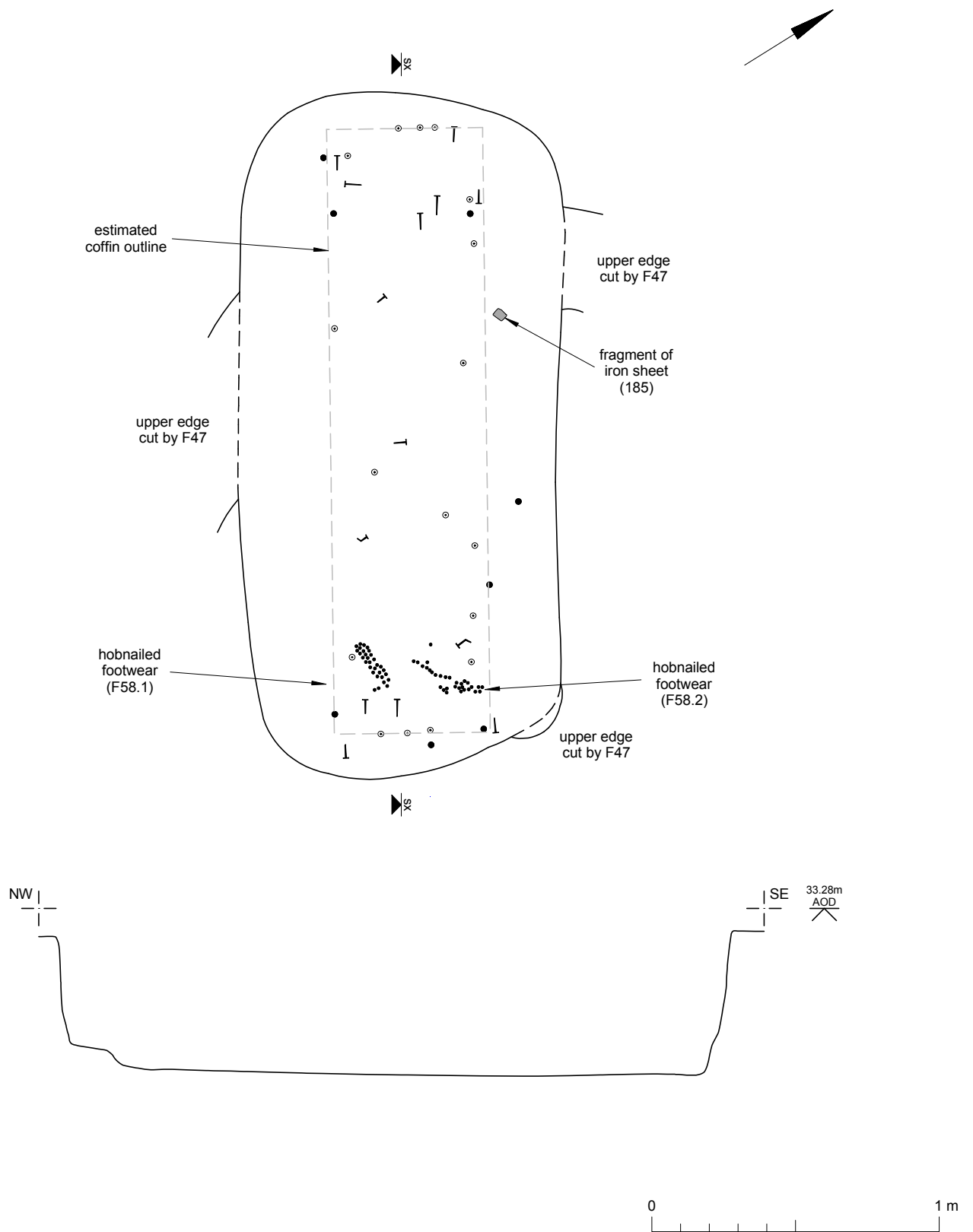


Fig 43 Burial F58

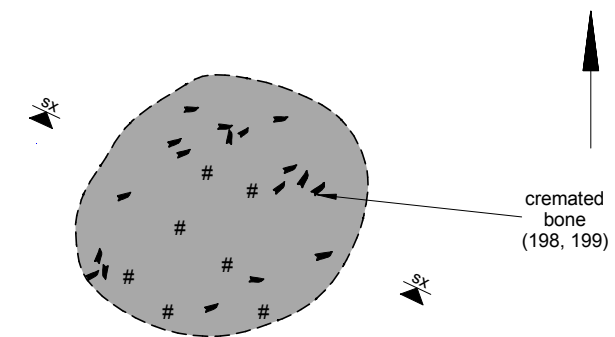


Fig 44 Burial F61

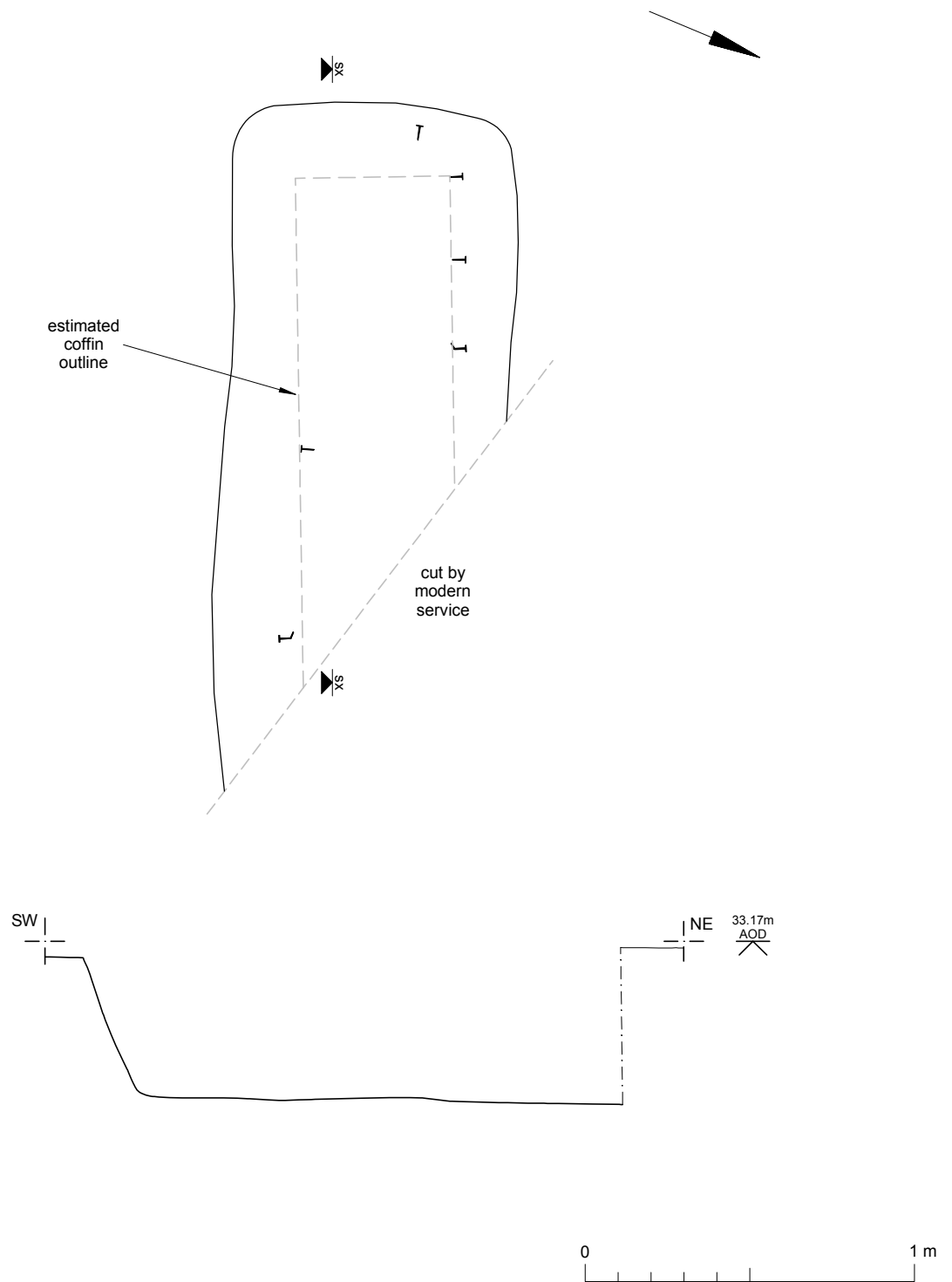


Fig 45 Burial F62

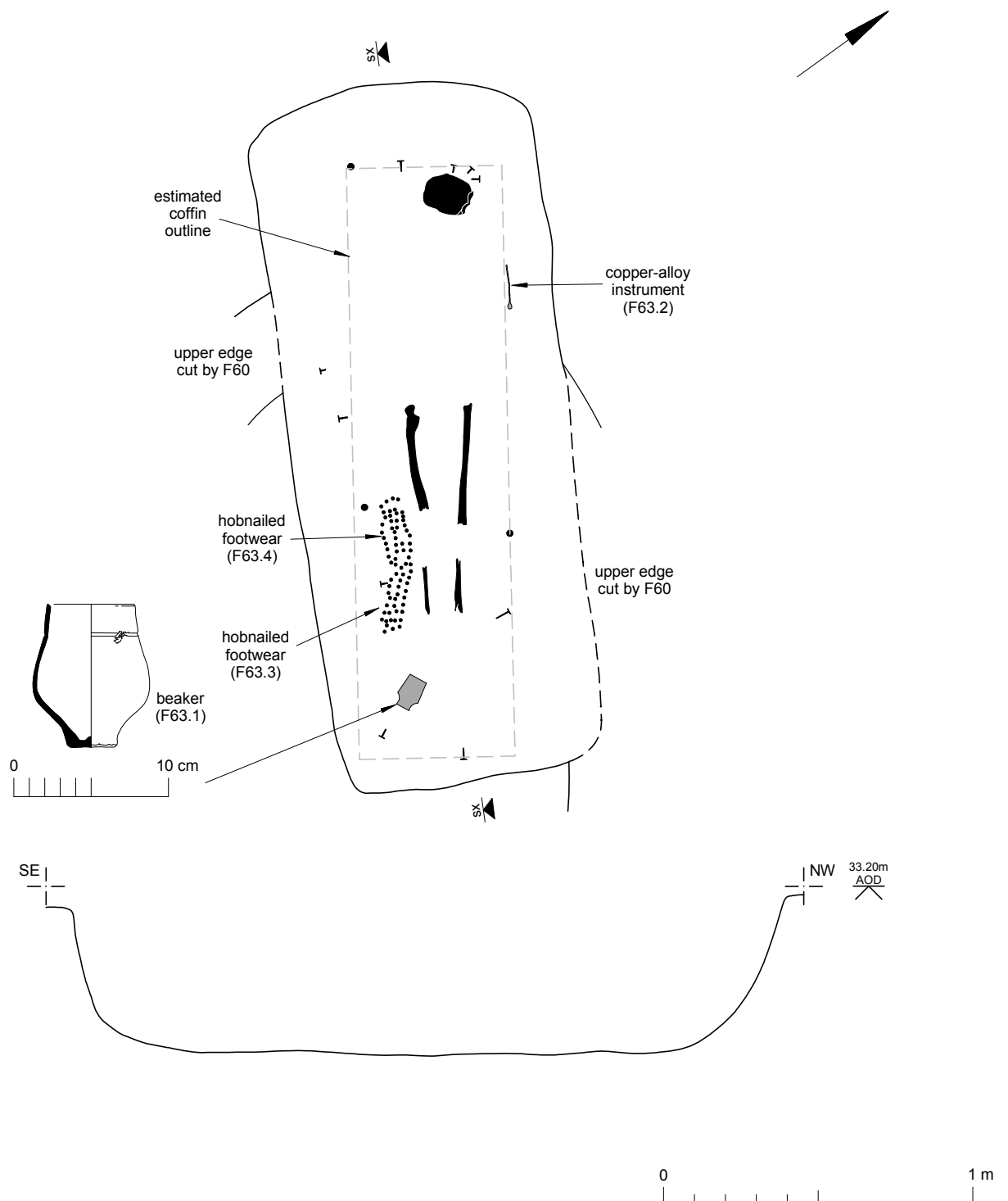
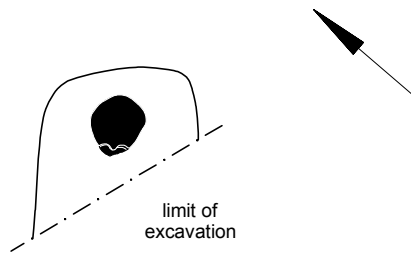
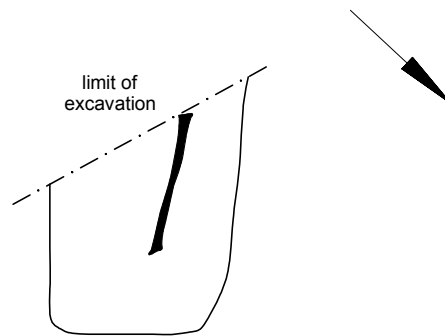


Fig 46 Burial F63

F64



F65



F66

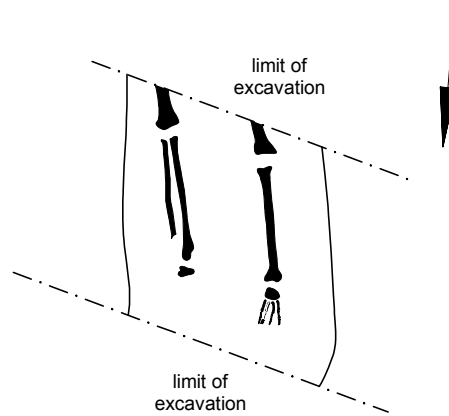


Fig 47 Burial F64, F65 & F66



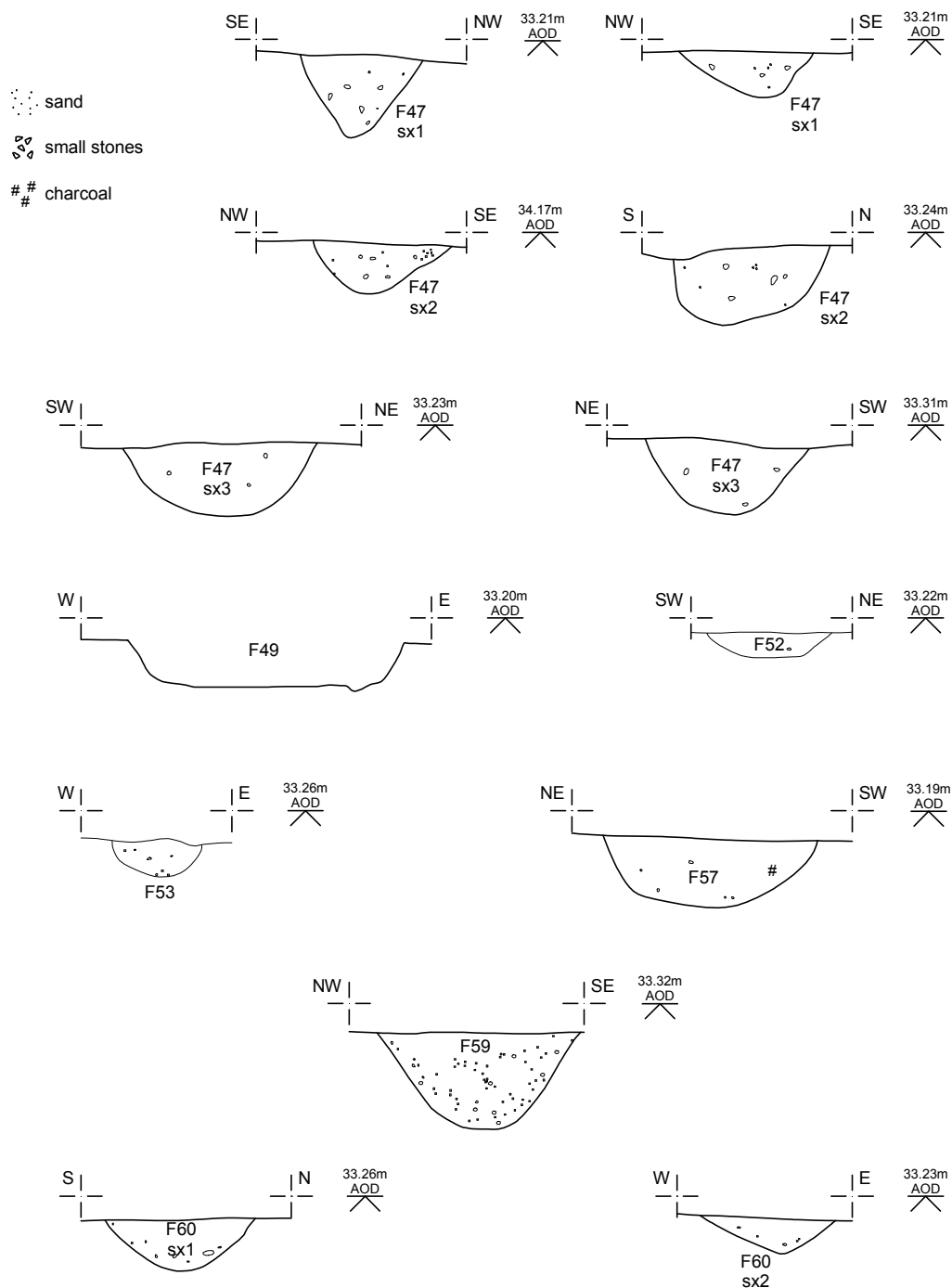


Fig 48 Non burial features, sections



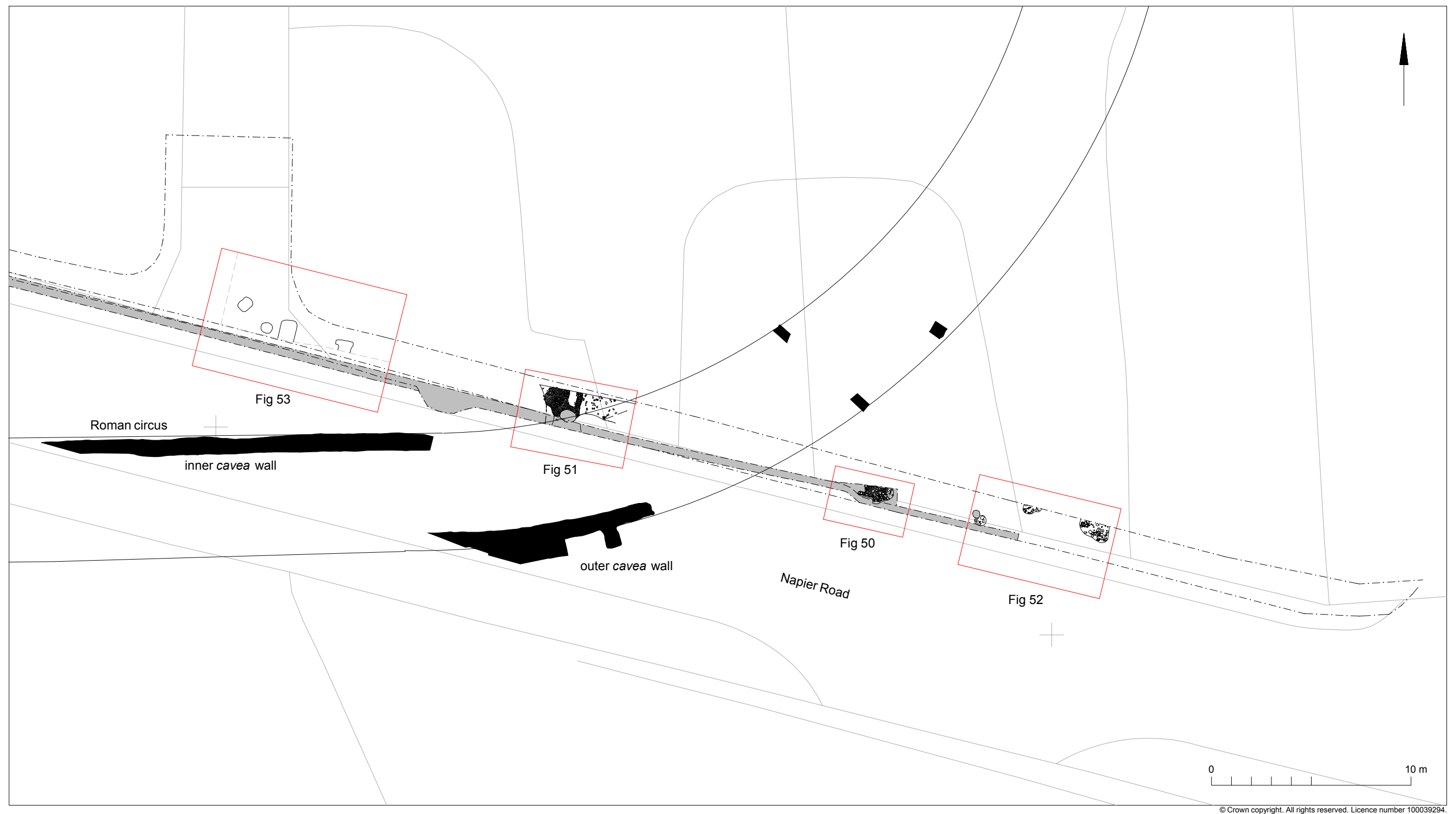


Fig 49 Site plan (Phase 3)

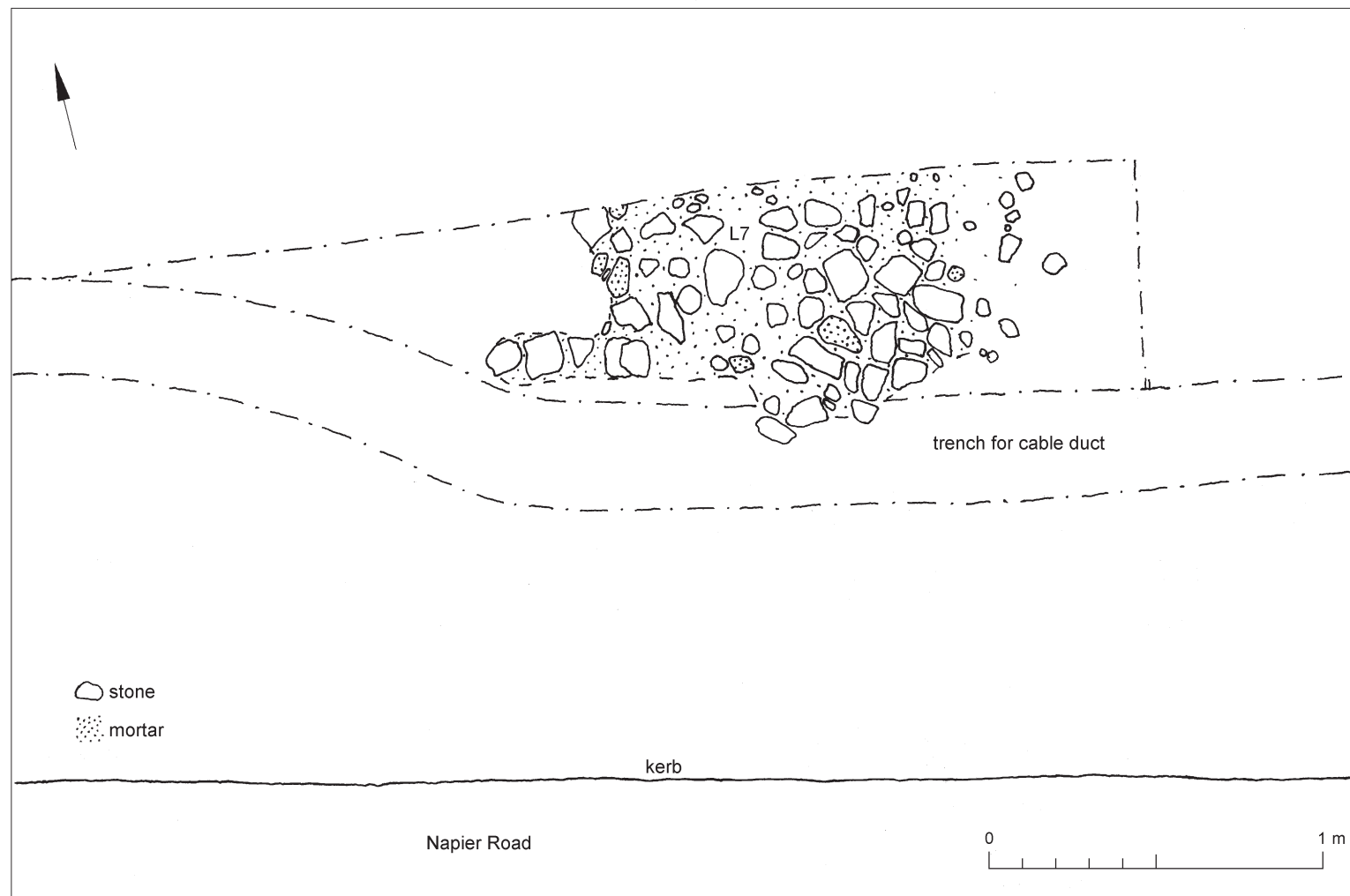


Fig 50 Detail plan of L7



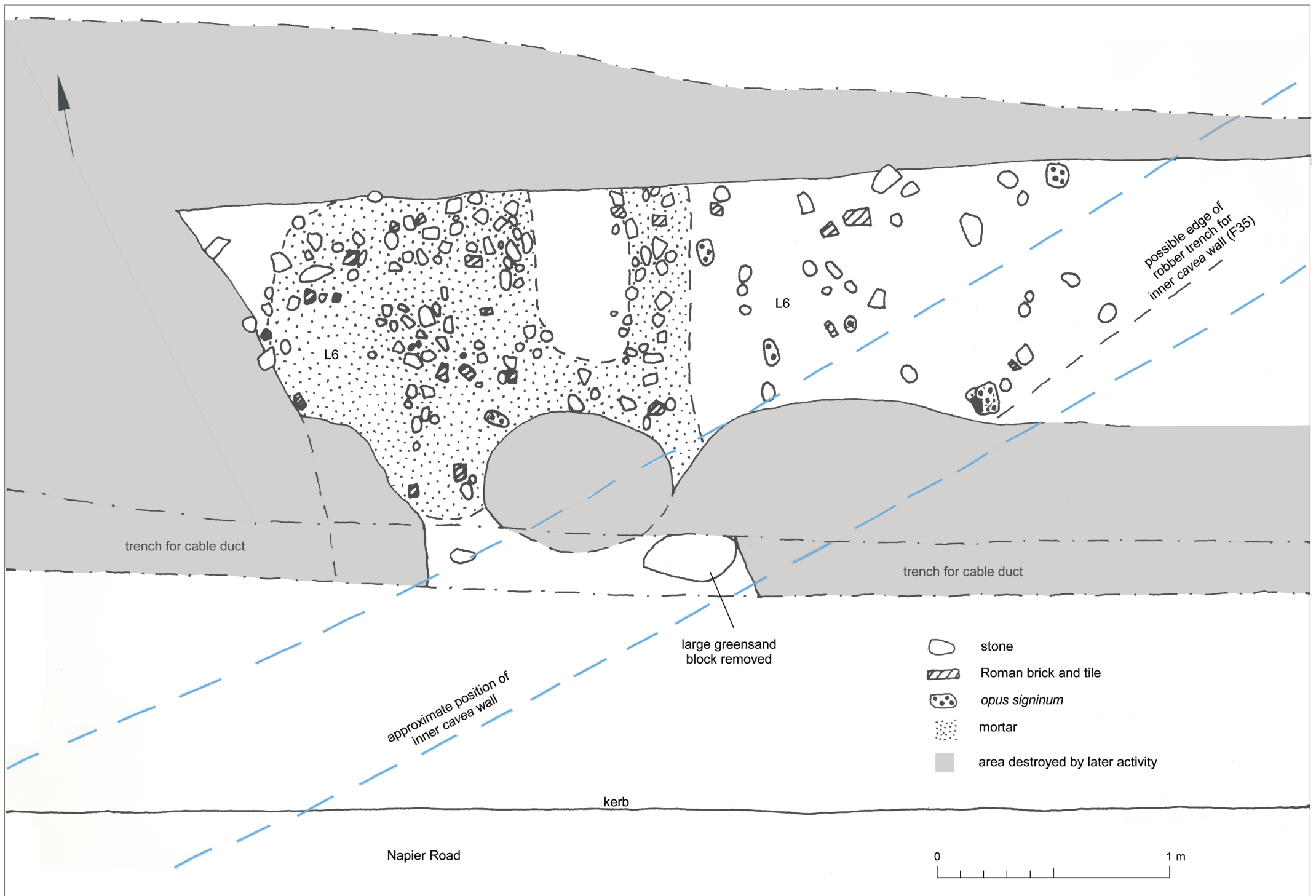


Fig 51 Detail plan of L6

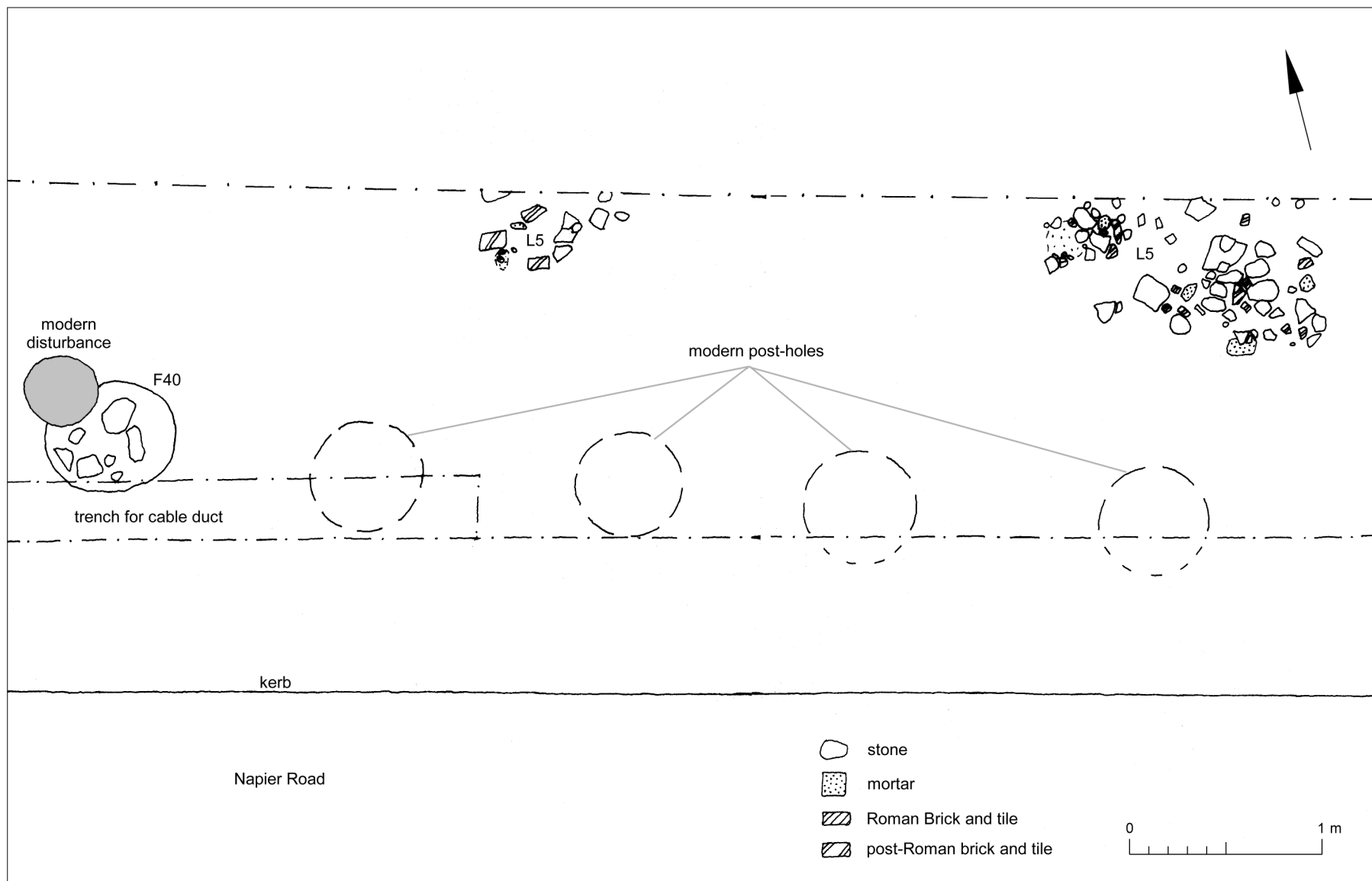


Fig 52 Detail plan of L5, F40 & other modern features

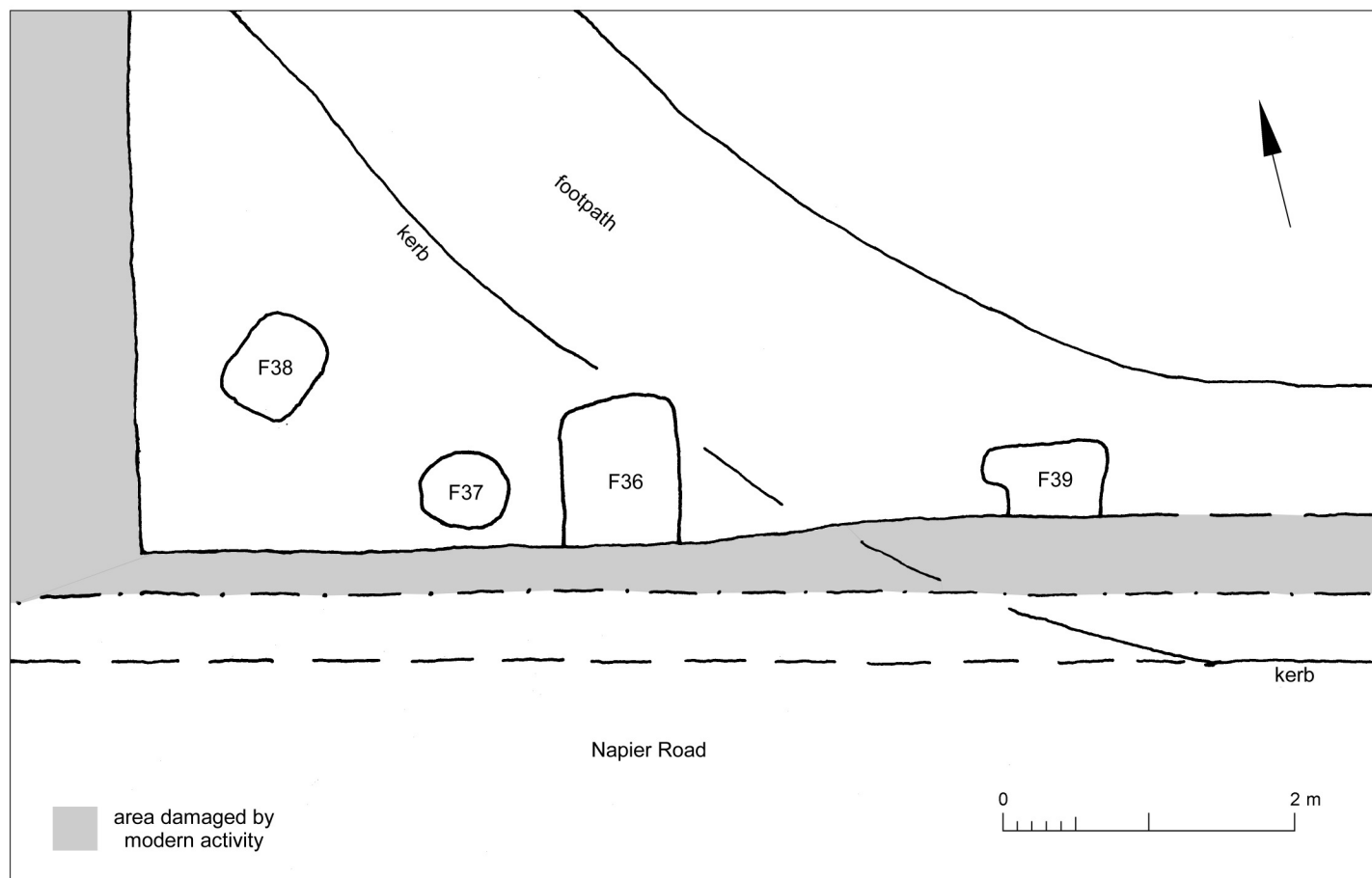


Fig 53 Plan of F36-9

# Essex Historic Environment Record / Essex Archaeology and History

## Summary sheet

<b>Site address:</b> Napier Road car parks and footpath, Napier Road, Colchester	
<b>Parish:</b> Colchester	<b>District:</b> Colchester
<b>NGR:</b> North car park (Phase 1): TL 9986 2452 South Car Park (Phase 2): TL 9977 2449 Napier Rd footpath (Phase 3): TL 9966 2454 to TL 9982 2450	<b>Site codes:</b> Museum accession code: COLEM 2011.21 CAT project code: 10/9b
<b>Type of work:</b> Monitoring and excavation	<b>Site director/group:</b> Colchester Archaeological Trust
<b>Date of work:</b> May-June 2011	<b>Size of area investigated:</b> 1) 80m2: 2) 40m2: 3) 550 sq m
<b>Location of finds/curating museum:</b> Colchester and Ipswich Museums	<b>Funding source:</b> Developer
<b>Further seasons anticipated?</b> No	<b>Related EHER and UAD nos:</b>
<b>Final report:</b> CAT Report 652 and summary in EAH	
<b>Periods represented:</b> Roman, medieval, post-medieval/modern	
<p><b>Summary of fieldwork results:</b> Archaeological monitoring and excavation was carried out on three sites on the northern and southern sides of the eastern end of Napier Road during ground-works for two car parks (Phase 1 &amp; Phase 2), and for a new footpath along the northern side of Napier Road (Phase 3).</p> <p>The northern car park (ie, the Phase 1 site) revealed a large early or mid-Roman quarry pit, evidence of iron working (smithing) and possibly bone working. In the mid-late Roman period the site was primarily used for burial (two cremations and twenty-seven inhumations, some of which were intercutting, with one cremation cut into the backfill of one of the inhumations). The graves can be divided into groups which share distinct alignments, possibly in small areas reflecting either socially-related groups, or (over a wider areas) chronological patterns of burials. The variation in the alignment of graves is similar to that of graves on the southern car park (Phase 2 here). An unusual line of intercutting burials on the southern edge of the site may mark the cemetery boundary, and may follow an otherwise invisible boundary (one side of a trackway?). Of significant interest is the skeleton of a juvenile which has physical traits indicative of a possible Negroid ancestry or origin.</p> <p>The Phase 2 area (south of Napier Road) produced a small quantity of residual Neolithic-Early Iron Age finds. During the mid-late Roman period the site was primarily used for burials (three cremations and thirteen inhumations). While the variation in grave alignment is similar to that on the northern car park (Phase 1 site), there are no east-west aligned burials here. Unusually, one cremation had been placed at the centre of a ring-ditch. This burial post-dates several of the inhumations, one of which can be dated to after the late 2nd century.</p> <p>The footpath watching brief (Phase 3) revealed traces of the Roman circus. Spreads of building materials from the circus stands (cavea) were uncovered surprisingly close to the modern ground level. The rubble spread associated with the outer cavea wall contained mainly large stones, probably from the dismantling of the circus in later Roman times. The rubble spread near the inner cavea wall consisted of mortar debris with stone chips and a few small fragments of Roman brick. This was probably waste from the robbing of larger pieces of stone and brick for reuse in medieval times. The rubble spreads were left intact and given a protective covering.</p>	
<b>Previous summaries/reports:</b> CAT Report 412	
<b>Keywords:</b> Roman circus, cavea wall, rubble spread, demolition debris, greensand	<b>Significance:</b> **
<b>Author of summary:</b> Donald Shimmin and Howard Brooks	<b>Date of summary:</b> September 2014