

Archaeological excavation at Hammonds, land north of Elmstead Road/east of Swan Close, Colchester, Essex, CO4 3BL

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Contents

1	Summary	1
2	Introduction	1
3	Archaeological background	1
4	Aims	2
5	Results	2
6	Finds	5
7	Environmental assessment	10
8	Discussion	13
9	Acknowledgements	14
10	References	14
11	Abbreviations and glossary	15
12	Contents of archive	16
13	Archive deposition	16
Appendix 1 Context list		17
Appendix 2 Finds catalogue		20

Figures after p24

CAT wsi
OASIS summary sheet

List of photographs, tables and figures

Cover: general site shot

Photograph 1	Medieval ditches F4/F12 and F5/F11, looking SSE	4
Photograph 2	Quarry pit F25/F40, looking E	4
Photograph 3	F29 (37), two joining pieces of fired clay, flat base with abraded, rounded curving edge.	8
Table 1	Worked flints	5
Table 2	Medieval pottery by fabric	6
Table 3	Sample details	12
Table 4	Plant remains	12

Fig 1	Site location
Fig 2	Results of the CAT 2014 evaluation (T1-T6) and 2018 evaluation (T7-T8)
Fig 3	Excavation results, including features from the 2014 and 2018 evaluations
Fig 3	Sections
Fig 4	Sections

1 Summary

An archaeological excavation (following two phases of evaluation) was carried out at Hammonds, land north of Elmstead Road/east of Swan Close, Colchester, Essex in advance of the construction of residential dwellings and associated works. The site is located close to a series of Late Iron Age and Roman ditches, pits and burials, medieval ditches and pits, and pottery spreads dated to the medieval and post-medieval periods. The 18th-century Salarybrook Farmhouse is also situated close by.

Archaeological investigation has revealed that historic activity on the development site dates to the medieval period, c late 12th to 16th century. Features included nine ditches aligned NNW/SSE and ENE/WSW, a quarry pit and several smaller pits. The ditches may form field boundaries delineating a number of agricultural fields or, together with the finds, could represent evidence for domestic occupation/settlement.

A small quantity of residual prehistoric and Roman material was also recorded along with a number of undated pits.

2 Introduction (Fig 1)

This is the archive report for an archaeological excavation at Hammonds, land north of Elmstead Road/east of Swan Close, Colchester, Essex which was carried out 8th to 16th May 2018. The work was commissioned by Mark Swindall on behalf of Osborne Development and Investment in advance of the construction of eighteen residential units with associated works and was carried out by Colchester Archaeological Trust (CAT).

As the site lies within an area highlighted by the EHER/CHER as having a high potential for archaeological deposits, an archaeological condition was recommended by the Colchester Borough Council Archaeological Advisor (CBCAA). This recommendation was for an archaeological excavation and was based on the guidance given in the *National Planning Policy Framework* (DCLG 2012).

All archaeological work was carried out in accordance with a *Brief for a Trenched Archaeological Excavation (strip, map and record)*, detailing the required archaeological work, written by Jess Tipper (CBCAA 2018), and a written scheme of investigation (WSI) prepared by CAT in response to the brief and agreed with ECCPS (CAT 2018).

In addition to the brief and WSI, all fieldwork and reporting was done in accordance with English Heritage's *Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment (MoRPHE)* (English Heritage 2006), and with *Standards for field archaeology in the East of England* (EAA 14 and 24). This report mirrors standards and practices contained in the Institute for Archaeologists' *Standard and guidance for archaeological excavation* (CIfA 2014a) and *Standard and guidance for the collection, documentation, conservation and research of archaeological materials* (CIfA 2014b).

3 Archaeological background

The following archaeological background draws on the Colchester Archaeological Trust report archive and the Colchester Historic Environment Record (CHER) accessed via the Colchester Heritage Explorer (www.colchesterheritage.co.uk).

The CHER shows that the development site is located within an area of archaeological significance. To the south of the site are four prehistoric ring-ditches (CHER MCC8972) and a number of Late Iron Age and Roman ditches and postholes have been excavated with traces of earlier prehistoric activity (MCC5389). Evaluation in 2004 confirmed that one of the four ring-ditches was man-made, and artefacts recovered indicated a Late Iron Age or Roman use, probably of an existing Bronze Age

monument (Ennis 2004). Undated and undetermined cropmarks have been recorded to the northeast (MCC8976).

Recent archaeological investigations further to the southeast at the University of Essex have revealed: evidence of Late Iron Age/Roman activity, including ditches, pits, postholes and burials (CAT Reports 638, 678 and 974, MCC3103-4 & MCC9328); medieval and post-medieval pottery spreads (CAT Report 638 and 753, MCC3102); and a number of field boundary ditches, pits and postholes of early/mid 13th to mid 14th century date, suggesting the existence of a small medieval farmstead close-by (CAT Reports 918 and 998, MCC10072).

Also to the south of the development site is Salarybrook Farmhouse, an 18th-century listed building (MCC3331; NHLE no. 1337705), and to the southeast the possible remains of an anti-tank ditch (MCC5222).

Previous archaeological investigations (Fig 2)

Two previous archaeological investigations have been carried out by Colchester Archaeological Trust on the development site.

In 2014, six evaluation trenches (T1-T6) revealed a medieval pit (F1), three medieval ditches (F2, F4 and F5) and a natural pit (F3). The medieval ditches were thought to be associated with a medieval phase of Salarybrook Farmhouse, to the south. See CAT Report 759.

In February 2018, two evaluation trenches (CAT Report 1233) revealed five medieval ditches, one medieval gully, one medieval pit, one medieval pit or ditch and an undated pit in two trial-trenches (T7-T8). Both trenches were positioned to target the projected routes of the three parallel ditches uncovered during 2014, which were identified continuing to the north and south. See CAT Report 1233.

4 Aim

The aim of this investigation was to excavate and record all archaeological horizons due to be destroyed during the proposed development.

5 Results (Figs 3-5)

This work represents the third phase of an archaeological investigation at this site, begun in 2014 (see CAT Reports 759 and 1233). All feature, layer and finds numbers used during the current excavation follow on from numbers assigned during these previous investigations.

As some of the features excavated during previous phases of evaluation were reinvestigated during this current work, the findings of all three phases of investigation have been discussed here.

Excavation of an area measuring 1402m² occurred through modern topsoil (L1, c 0.23-0.31m thick) and in places a post-Roman accumulation layer (L3, c 0.1-0.15m thick) onto natural sands and gravels (L2), encountered at a depth of c 0.23-0.46m below current ground level.

Prehistoric and Roman

Three pieces of prehistoric worked flint were the only finds recovered from pits F20 and F50, of which the flint from F20 could date to the Mesolithic or (more likely) the Early Neolithic. However, these two pits are in a cluster with other pits of a medieval date, and the prehistoric finds could be residual in these features. In addition, a sherd of prehistoric pottery (Bronze Age to Early Iron Age) and eight prehistoric worked flints

were residual finds in later-dated contexts. Burnt stone from four later features could also be associated with this prehistoric activity.

Seven fragments of residual Roman CBM were recorded from five later-dated contexts. A sherd of very-abraded Roman pottery was the only find recovered from pit F17 but the sherd is likely to be residual in this context.

Medieval, c 12th to 16th century

The earliest feature on the development site is small pit F26, containing late 11th- to 12th-century pottery.

Containing finds of a late 12th to 14th century date were three ditches/gullies. Ditch F5/F11 was aligned NNW to SSE and crossed the centre of the development site. It was U-shaped, measuring on average 0.82m wide by 0.41m deep. Parallel to F5/F11 and 4.5m apart, was gully F7, measuring on average 0.44m wide by 0.14m deep. Approximately 5.1m to the east of, and at a right angle to, ditch F5/F11, was ditch F21. The ditch, aligned ENE to WSW, measured on average 0.67m wide and 0.23m deep.

Pit F25 was recorded as an oval feature with steep sides and a flat base, and F40 was a deeper feature with irregular edges and base. However, it is likely that these two features represent more than one cut of a single large quarry pit. This quarry pit along with nine other pits (F1, F13, F26, F24, F29, F33, F35, F38 and F45) contained material dating from the late 12th to 14th century. The pits were round or oval features, ranging in size from 3.2m long by 2.75m wide by 0.2m deep (F1) to 1.1m long by 0.93m wide by 0.24m deep (F13).

By the later medieval period, at least two of the earlier ditches had been recut. Ditch F4/F12 appears to be a recut of F5/F11 and it is likely that ditch F2/F8 is a recut of F7. Both recuts contained finds of 15th to 16th/early 17th century date. Ditch F4/F12 measured on average 1.4m wide by 0.4m deep and ditch F2/F8 1.05m wide by 0.32m deep.

To the west, and at a right angle to ditch F4/F12, were ditches F14 and F42, aligned ENE to WSW, which also contained finds of a later medieval date. They measured 1.34m wide by 0.41m deep (F14) and 1.57m wide by 0.43m deep (F42), with two gaps 0.5m and 0.7m wide.

Only two other features contained finds of a 15th to 16th century date. They were pits F6 and F43.

Five other features of medieval or probable medieval date are pits F39 and F44, erosion hollow F47, and ditches F48 and F52. Ditch F48 was aligned N to S and measured 0.74m wide by 0.27m deep. Ditch F52 was aligned NNW to SSE and measured 0.82m wide by 0.13m deep. It was cut by later medieval ditch F14 so could belong to the earlier phase of medieval activity, but could also be aligned with the terminal of later medieval ditch F2/F8. These have not been highlighted on Fig 3 as no firm dating evidence was recovered to assign them to a phase of medieval activity.

Several of the pits contained large quantities of material and were probably dug as rubbish pits (F1, F6, F22, F24, F29, F33, F35, F39, F43, F44 and F45). Other pits (ie F26 and F38) contained only single or a few small items, which may have been included as incidental backfill in these features.

Undated

A small number of undated features were also excavated.



Photograph 1 Medieval ditches F4/F12 and F5/F11, looking SSE



Photograph 2 Quarry pit F25/F40, looking E

6 Finds

by Stephen Benfield

6.1 Introduction

The excavation produced finds of prehistoric, Roman, medieval and post-medieval date. The majority are medieval pottery sherds with a date range of c 11th to early/mid 16th century but with the majority probably dating to the late 11th to late 13th/early 14th century. The finds catalogue can be found in Appendix 2.

6.2 Prehistoric

Pottery

A single abraded sherd of hand-made flint-tempered pottery, which is a residual find from F21 (25) is not particularly diagnostic and is broadly dated as Neolithic to Early Iron Age.

Flints by Adam Wightman

The lithic assemblage recovered during the archaeological fieldwork comprised a total of 10 worked flints. All of the flints were recovered during the excavation phase of the investigations. One flint was unstratified and the others were recovered from a medieval ditch (F4), four medieval pits (F25, F29, F40, F45), a hollow of probable medieval date (F47) and two small, undated features (F20 & F50) which could be prehistoric in date. The flints recovered from medieval features are all considered to be residual in these contexts.

Two flakes (F47, U/S) and a blade (F45) are retouched, but are not typologically diagnostic tool types. The retouch on all three pieces appears to have been done to strengthen edges prior to use. Both flakes were detached from their parent core with a hard hammer and have semi-abrupt retouch on their lateral edges. They can only be broadly dated to the later prehistoric period (Mesolithic-Bronze Age). The blade is retouched on both lateral edges on the ventral face. The retouched blade and a small bladelet from F20 date to either the Mesolithic or (more likely) the Early Neolithic.

The remaining worked flints are all unmodified flakes, some of which are broken or are waste pieces. One flake has been detached with a soft hammer, is very thin and has numerous previous removals (F4). It is possible that this flake is an axe-thinning flake from the production of a Neolithic axe.

Fifty-six worked flints were recovered during a watching brief carried out by CAT on land to the south of the development area in 2010/2011 (CAT Report 638) and small quantities of worked flints have also been recovered from sites recently investigated by CAT to the south-east (CAT Reports 678 & 998). It is probable that the worked flints from all of these sites are associated with activity on the flood plain and valley slope of the river Colne from the Mesolithic or Early Neolithic periods through the Bronze Age.

context	finds no.	artefact type	cortex %	soft/hard hammer	modification
F4	54	flake (?axe thinning)	0	soft	
F20	23	flake	0	hard	
		bladelet	0	soft	
F29	37	broken flake/waste piece	0	hard	
F40	49	?flake	0		
F45	61	retouched blade	0	soft	semi-abrupt retouch on both lateral edges ventral face
F47	64	retouched flake	15	hard	semi-abrupt retouch on the right lateral edge ventral face

F50	70	broken flake/waste piece	30	hard	
L5 (F25/F40)	50	broken flake/waste piece	15		
U/S	73	retouched flake	0	hard	semi-abrupt retouch on the left lateral edge dorsal face

Table 1 Worked flints

6.3 Roman

Only a few finds can be dated to the Roman period, consisting of a single sherd of pottery and a few pieces of ceramic building material (CBM).

A single, small pottery sherd of imported Central Gaulish samian (Fabric BACG) was recovered from F17 (21). This is the base from a cup form dated to the 2nd century and was the only find from this feature.

Seven pieces (810g) of mostly abraded Roman brick and tile were recovered from F25 (34), F33 (40) F42 (66) F48 (69) and L5 (53). These pieces are relatively undiagnostic, although one piece is possibly from a *tegula* roof tile. However, there is an absence of *imbrex* roofing pieces, which would be able to be identified, suggesting that possibly much of the Roman CBM was brought onto the site as thick tile pieces for use in unmortared construction or perhaps in manure scatter.

6.4 Medieval

Pottery

A small assemblage of medieval pottery consisting of 120 sherds with a combined weight of 1664g and a total Estimated Vessel Equivalent (EVE) of 0.60 was recovered from the site. The pottery is listed by fabric in Table 2. The fabrics and vessel forms refer to the Colchester post-Roman fabric series and form types (CAR 7).

Code	Fabric name	No	Wt/g	EVE
13	Early medieval sandy wares (general)	12	56	5
13T	Early medieval sandy wares -Transitional	23	254	18
20	Medieval sandy greywares (general) - elsewhere 'medieval coarseware'	72	874	25
21	Sandy orange wares	8	226	
21A	Colchester-type ware	3	190	
22	Hedingham ware	2	64	12

Table 2 Medieval pottery by fabric

The date range of the assemblage is c 11th to late 15th/early 16th century. Much of the pottery is probably of relatively local origin, although there are two fineware sherds from the Hedingham potteries.

The great majority is made up of medieval coarsewares spanning the period c late 11th to 14th century. Most of this consists of Fabrics 13, 13T and 20. Fabrics 13 and 13T are broadly current in the late 11th to late 12th/early 13th century (CAR 7, 40-41). Fabric 20 is broadly current from the late 12th/13th to 14th century and this is the largest fabric group among the assemblage (Table 1). In the absence of diagnostic sherds, these fabrics are differentiated primarily on sand content and hardness, which on occasion makes clear distinctions between the fabric groups difficult.

Pottery of late 11th to early 13th century date is present as diagnostic rim sherds from cooking pots corresponding to Type C1/B2 from F26 (36) and Type B2 from F24 (29) and F40 (52). All of these are in a sandy fabric consistent with Fabric 13 or Fabric 13T.

More broadly, all of the recorded rims from cooking pots are necked vessels (as opposed to the later neckless-type) which suggests that much of the medieval coarseware pottery should date to before the late 13th century (CAR 7, 94). Two of these pots in Fabric 20 have squared, flat-topped rims, from F40 (52) and F42 (66), with one squared flat-topped rim from F45 (61). Also of note are a rim sherd from a bowl in Fabric 13, recovered from F43 (67) and which are relatively uncommon in this fabric (CAR 7, 52-53), another sherd from a bowl in Fabric 20 from L5 (50) and a jug handle in Fabric 20 from F35 (42).

A small number of sherds of medieval oxidised ware were also recovered (Fabric 21) and much of this seems likely to originate from the Colchester potteries. The vessels represented are jugs from F14 sx2 (68) and F43 (67) which include a handle that might come from a Cheam-copy jug (c late 14th to 15th century) and a bowl from F43 (67) with an internal green glaze in the base dated as mid 15th to mid 16th century. Three sherds were identified as Colchester-type ware (Fabric 21A), one from F42 (65) with green glaze over a white slip (c 13th to 14th century), and part of a faceted pedestal base probably from a drinking vessel dated c 15th/late 15th to early 16th century (CAR 7, 149-150).

There are two sherds of Hedingham fine ware (Fabric 22). One is the rim from a glazed jug which came from F3 sx3 (43) and is notable for two small holes, spaced a little apart made pre-firing on the rim and located directly above the area of the handle attachment. The other, a body sherd, came from F40 (52). They are both dated broadly as c late 12th to early 14th century (CAR 7, 91).

Post-Roman ceramic building material

The post-Roman ceramic building material consists mostly of piece of peg-tiles, with one small piece from a medieval floor tile.

Roof tiles

In total 29 pieces of relatively thin, flat peg-tile, were recovered. These have a combined weight of 1182g. Where there is associated dating evidence a small number of pieces (six in total) come from features where the latest-dated pottery is of late 12th/13th to 14th century date: F3 (43), F14(45) and F48 (69). A few (9 pieces) came from features associated with pottery dated as c 15th to 16th century: F42 (66) and F43 (67). There is also a small group of six piece from F4 sx2 (44) which produced pottery dated as c 14th to 15th century and a piece of brick dated c 15th to early 17th century. Two pieces of plain, curving tile, one each from F14 (45) and F42 (66) are probably from plain ridge tiles.

Peg-tiles were in use from the medieval into the post-medieval and modern periods. Although large nibbed tiles appear from c late 12th/early 13th century associated with certain ecclesiastical buildings, roofing tiles, and certainly peg-tiles, are not considered to have been in common use in Essex before the 14th century (Ryan 1993). This suggests that contexts in features in which the latest pottery is of c late 12th/13th to 14th century date which also contains peg-tile are more likely to date to the 14th century.

Floor tile

A single piece from a plain (unglazed) medieval floor tile with slightly chamfered edges was recovered from F42 (66) associated with pottery of mid 15th to 16th century.

Brick

A corner piece consistent with coming from a Tudor 'place' brick (Ryan 1996, 95) was recovered from F4 sx2 (44) and is dated as c 15th to early 17th century. In addition an unusual piece of shaped brick (37mm thick) with a flat top, sloping, slightly concave edge and with small rounded edge foot, was recovered from F35 (46). The latest dated

pottery from the feature is of c late 12th to 14th century date, but the brick piece appears most likely to be of post-medieval date or later.

Fired clay

There is a significant amount of fired clay from the site which totals 5483g, most coming from just a few features.

There are particular concentrations in pits F22, F29 and F43, each producing more than 1kg of fired clay, with smaller groups in pit F24 (591g) and pit F45 (180g). Three of these features (F22, F24 and F29) are located close together by the northeast edge of the site. Another (F45) is located a little to the south of these. The remaining feature (F43) is located at some distance from these in the southwest corner of the site. These groups of fired clay consists of visually-similar material, having an orange-coloured fabric containing common small sand, with some medium sand and occasional streaks of pale clay/silt. There are no wattle voids on any of the pieces, which are mainly abraded small-medium size pieces lacking any clear original surfaces, although the shape of some of these suggests that they may originally have had relatively flat surfaces. However, a large piece from F22 (27) has an area of a flat, possibly hand-moulded original surface and possibly the remains of a rounded edge with this. Also, two joining, slightly-abraded pieces from F29 (37) appear to come from a rounded curving edge (Photograph 3) and a broad piece from the same context has a curving surface. The large piece from F22 was originally greater than c 70mm in thickness and some of the medium size pieces from F29 were originally greater than c 60mm thick although most of the pieces recovered are up to c 30mm thick.



Photograph 3 F29 (37), two joining pieces of fired clay, flat base with abraded, rounded curving edge.

All of the significant fired clay was recovered from pits. Where there is associated dating evidence this is pottery dated as c late 12th/13th to 14th century (F24, F29 F45), although one pit (F43) produced sherds dated as c mid 15th to mid 16th century. The fired clay from several of these features – F22, F24, F29 and possibly F45 – appears to be related both by the nature of the material and by proximity of the features. The fired clay from F43 appears very similar, but this feature is situated at some distance away from the group and has pottery of later date suggesting another probably unrelated source. Apart from description of the pieces, interpretation is difficult. The lack of any structural support in the form of wattle voids on any of the pieces recovered does not suggest it is related to buildings or similar structures requiring a frame on which to apply it. The apparent rounded edges of some pieces could indicate thick clay objects or portable pieces. However, its relative fragility and the thick nature of some of the pieces suggest it is most likely associated with some form of hearth(s) or oven structure(s), either domestic (although there appears to be little direct evidence of domestic buildings here) or light industrial.

Other finds

Quernstone

Three pieces of imported lava quernstone (85g), almost certainly originating from Mayen in the Rhineland, were recovered from F24 (30) associated with c late 12th- to 14th-century pottery. The pieces are in moderately good condition with no serious flaking or crumbling. As these stones were imported from the early Roman period to the medieval period, with a hiatus in the early Saxon period, the pieces here could date to any time within that period. Very speculatively, the condition might indicate a possible medieval rather than Roman date as Roman quern pieces on later sites are quite often degraded.

Heat altered (burnt) stone

A small amount of heat-affected and crazed (part calcified) flint was recovered as one or a few pieces from four features: F14 (45), F24 (29 & 72), F40 (52 & 54) and F43 (67). In total there are seven pieces weighing 358g. Pottery associated with these features is mostly of c late 12th to 14th century, while that from F43 is c 15th to 16th century. Burnt flints are commonly associated with prehistoric activity, but some of the flints here suggest incidental heating and may date to any period, the associated finds suggesting a date not later than the medieval period.

In addition there are two small pieces of sandstone/quartzite from F33 (40) which appear possibly to be heat affected.

Slag

A single large piece of slag (692g) was recovered from F21 sx1 (25). This is a grey-green, vesicular 'glassy' slag with some red fired clay adhering to it. Single, small pieces of dark, vesicular 'glassy' slag were also recovered from F14 (45) and from F33.

Oyster shell

There was very little oyster shell on the site. A single shell was recovered from F42 (66) and two shells from F43 (67).

Animal bone by Adam Wightman

Six bone fragments (70g) were collected from two 15th- to 16th-century contexts. The contexts were adjacent to each other in the south-western corner of the site. The bone is relatively solid in structure with some erosion to the cortical surface.

A cattle 1st phalanx and a fragment of large mammal rib were recovered from ditch F42. The cattle 1st phalanx appears to have been gnawed by a canid and there is a probable cut mark on the rib fragment. Four fragments of bone were recovered from pit F43, a sheep mandible, a rib fragment, a fragment of large mammal tibia and a ?pelvis fragment which had also been gnawed by a canid.

In addition, fragments of tooth were recovered from ditch F5 during the first phase of evaluation at the site (CAT Report 759) and a sheep tooth (F11), a near complete metatarsal from an adult deer (F8) and a small abraded piece of long bone (F12) were recovered from the second phase (CAT Report 1233).

The animal bone assemblage is small, particularly when compared to the quantity of pottery recovered from the site (see above). There is also a disproportionate amount of tooth fragments which are the hardest part of the skeleton. Together this would suggest that bone has not survive well on the site because of the acidic ground conditions. It is likely that the bone is food waste from an area of habitation in close vicinity where meat from domesticates (cattle and sheep) was consumed. They supplemented their diet by hunting (deer) and kept dogs who were fed left-over bones.

7 Environmental assessment

by Lisa Gray MSc MA ACIfA Archaeobotanist

Introduction

Sixteen samples (see Table 3) were taken from ditches, pits and a posthole. This report follows assessment of five samples from an evaluation on the same site (CAT Report 1233).

Sampling and processing methods

A total of 480 litres of soil was sampled and processed by Colchester Archaeological Trust. All samples were completely processed using a Siraf-type flotation device. Flot was collected in a 300 micron mesh sieve then dried.

Once with the author the flots were scanned under a low powered stereo-microscope with a magnification range of 10 to 40x. The whole flots were examined. The abundance, diversity and state of preservation of eco- and artefacts in each sample were recorded. A magnet was passed across each flot to record the presence or absence of magnetised material or hammerscale.

Identifications were made using modern reference material (author's own and the Northern European Seed Reference Collection at the Institute of Archaeology, University College London) and reference manuals (such as Beijerinck 1947; Cappers et al. 2006; Charles 1984; Fuller 2007; Hillman 1976; Jacomet 2006). Nomenclature for plants is taken from Stace (Stace 2010). Latin names are given once and the common names used thereafter. Low numbers of non-charcoal charred plant macro-remains were counted. Uncharred plant remains, fauna and magnetic fragments were given estimated levels of abundance unless, in the case of seeds, numbers are very low in which case they were counted.

Results (Table 4)

The plant remains

Uncharred, probably recent, root/rhizome fragments were present in abundance in every sample.

The charred plant remains consisted of grains, charcoal and seeds. Eleven samples contained low numbers of charred grain, some of these were identifiable as rye (*Secale cereale* L.) and oat (*Avena* sp.). Less well-preserved grains of wheat (*Triticum* sp.) and barley (*Hordeum* sp.) were also present. Charred seeds were found in seven samples. Seeds resembling the large cultivated legume, Celtic/broad bean (*Vicia faba* L.) were found in pit F24 <9>, quarry pit F25 <10>, slump L5 (over F25/F40) <16> and ditch terminal F42 <18>. Smaller seeds of segetals were found in four samples. Low numbers of grass (Poaceae) seeds were found in F24 <9>, F25 <10>, pit F34 <13>, L5 <16> and pit F45 <19>. Low numbers of seeds of stinking mayweed (*Anthemis cotula* L.) were found in quarry F25 <10> and F45 <19>.

No cereal chaff was recovered.

Identifiable charcoal fragments were found in fourteen samples. Fragments of charred twig were found in five samples.

Low numbers of uncharred, probably preserved by waterlogging and subsequently dried, seeds were found in six samples. These were the ruderals hedge/lady's bedstraw (*Galium verum/mollugo*), fat hen (*Chenopodium album* L.), elderberry (*Sambucus nigra* L.) and goosefoot/orache (*Chenopodium/Atriplex* sp.).

The plant remains in the samples from the excavation phase are similar to those found in the evaluation phase (CAT Report 1233) in terms of type, quality of preservation and number.

The faunal remains

One terrestrial snail shell was found in pit F22 <8>. Earthworm cocoons were found in six samples.

Significant inorganic remains and artefacts

No significant inorganic remains were observed.

Discussion

Biases in recovery, residuality, contamination

Nothing with regards biases in recovery, residuality or contamination was highlighted for any of these samples. Uncharred root/rhizome fragments, terrestrial mollusca and earthworm cocoons can indicate that bioturbation is possible. Worm action can carry small items such as seeds and small stones up to a metre down into the soil (Canti 2003, 143).

Quality and type of preservation

Preservation was by charring and possibly waterlogged conditions that have since dried. Charring occurs when plant material is heated under reducing conditions where oxygen is largely excluded leaving a carbon skeleton resistant to decay (Boardman and Jones 1990, 2; English Heritage 2011, 17). These conditions can occur in a charcoal clamp, the centre of a bonfire or pit or in an oven or when a building burns down with the roof excluding the oxygen from the fire (Reynolds, 1979, 57).

Preservation by waterlogging occurs when plant remains are in anoxic conditions such as sealed pits or layers, or a high water-tables (English Heritage 2011, 13).

No plant remains were preserved by mineralisation (Green 1979, 281) or silicification (Robinson and Straker 1990), which means that there is no archaeobotanical evidence for the cess disposal or slow-burning aerated fires.

Significance and potential of the samples and recommendations for further work

These samples produced results like those from the evaluation phase. The plant remains, aside from the uncharred root/rhizome fragments, were present in low numbers relative to sample size. These are small and durable enough to have been moved about the site in backfill, re-working and bioturbation so cannot be guaranteed to be the same date as or originate from the sampled feature or context unless the excavators are sure the sampled contexts were stratigraphically secure.

A recent study of intrusion and residuality in the archaeobotanical record for southern England (Pelling *et al.* 2015) has highlighted the problem of assigning charred plant remains such as these to the dated contexts they were taken from, because it is possible that these durable charred plant remains survived being moved between contexts by human action and bioturbation, so cannot be properly interpreted unless radiocarbon dates are gained from the plant macro-remains themselves. That is the only way to secure a genuine date for the charred plant macro-remains like these (Pelling *et al.* 2015, 96).

If the stratigraphic integrity of the sampled contexts containing charred plant remains are secure then they are evidence of cereals consumed and associated crop weeds. But they are very low in number relative to the volume of sampled soil. It should also be acknowledged that seeds found among cereal remains where successive crops may have been processed or stored cannot be directly linked to any crop (Moffett 1994, 57-58).

Sample	Finds number	Context	Date
<6>	20	F16 pit	Undated
<7>	26	F21 ditch	Medieval, late 12th to 14th century
<8>	28	F22 pit	Medieval
<9>	31	F24 pit	Medieval, late 12th to 14th century
<10>	32	F25 quarry pit	Medieval, late 12th to 14th century
<11>	38	F29 pit	Medieval, late 12th to 14th century
<12>	39	F30 pit	Undated
<13>	41	F34 pit	Undated
<14>	55	F40 (Fill A) quarry pit	Medieval, late 12th to 14th century
<15>	56	F40 (Fill B) quarry pit	Medieval, late 12th to 14th century
<16>	57	L5 slump into quarry pits F25 & F40	Medieval, 13th to 14th century
<17>	60	F44 pit	Medieval, 13th/14th to 15th century
<18>	65	F42 ditch terminal	Medieval, 15th/late 15th to early 16th century
<19>	62	F45 pit	Medieval, late 12th to 14th century
<20>	63	F46 pit	Undated
<21>	71	F50 posthole	Undated

Table 3 Sample details

Samp le	Bulk sample size (L)	Flot volume (ml)	Charred plant remains											Waterlogged plant remains				Fauna	
			Grain			Seed			Plant tissue	Charcoal >4mmØ	Charcoal <4mmØ	Twig fragment	Seed			Root/rhizome fragments	Terrestrial	Earthworm cocoons	
a	d	p	a	d	p	a	a	a	a	a	d	p	a	a	a				
<6>	40	5	1	1	2	-	-	-	1	1	1	-	1	1	2	3	-	3	
<7>	40	10	1	1	3	-	-	-	-	1	3	1	-	-	-	3	-	3	
<8>	40	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	1	1	3	3	1	3	
<9>	40	5	-	-	-	1	1	3	-	1	2	-	-	-	-	3	-	-	
<10>	20	10	1	1	2	1	1	3	1	1	3	-	-	-	-	3	-	1	
<11>	40	10	1	1	3	1	1	1	-	2	3	1	-	-	-	2	-	1	
<12>	20	50	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	3	-	1	1	2	3	-	-	
<13>	10	15	1	1	3	1	1	1	-	2	3	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	
<14>	20	0	1	1	2	-	-	-	-	1	3	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	
<15>	20	5	1	1	3	-	-	-	-	1	2	-	1	1	3	2	-	-	
<16>	20	10	1	1	2	1	1	1	-	2	3	1	-	-	-	2	-	-	
<17>	40	5	1	1	2	-	-	-	-	1	2	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	
<18>	40	20	1	1	1	1	1	2	-	2	3	1	1	1	3	3	-	-	
<19>	40	5	-	-	-	1	1	2	-	-	2	1	-	-	-	2	-	-	
<20>	40	5	1	1	1	-	-	-	-	1	3	-	1	1	2	3	-	-	
<21>	10	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	3	-	-	

Table 4 Plant remains

Key:

a = abundance [1 = occasional 1-10; 2 = moderate 11-100; and 3 = abundant >100]

d = diversity [1 = low 1-4 taxa types; 2 = moderate 5-10; 3 = high]

p = preservation [1 = poor (family level only); 2 = moderate (genus); 3 = good (species identification possible)]

8 Discussion

Two phases of archaeological evaluation and an excavation on the development site revealed a small quantity of prehistoric and Roman material that was largely residual. This material is likely associated with prehistoric and Roman activity to the south and southeast, which includes four prehistoric ring-ditches (CHER MCC8972).

The investigations have shown that historic activity on the development site is primarily medieval, dating from the late 12th to 16th century. The most significant contexts are a number of ditches aligned NNW/SSE and ENE/WSW. At least one large quarry pit, probably used to quarry sand and gravel, and a number of smaller pits were also present. This activity appears to have begun in the earlier medieval period, c late 12th to the 14th century, with a second phase of activity in the late medieval period, c 15th to 16th century.

The ditches recorded on the development site may represent field boundaries, delineating agricultural fields to the east and west of the main NNW/SSE ditches and to the north and south of the smaller ENE/WSW ditches. Furthermore, parallel ditches F5/F11 and F7 may represent a 4.5m wide driveway leading to the north. The later medieval phase of ditch recutting may represent a rearrangement of the field system as new ditches were added and older ditches allowed to silt-up.

However, another interpretation is that the ditches could suggest the presence of domestic occupation/settlement on the site. No building foundations were identified, but such a structure might not have had foundations and would not have left any trace if the floor surfaces were destroyed. The finds recovered during the evaluations and excavations, and the presence of rubbish pits, certainly do suggest domestic occupation either on the site or in the immediate vicinity. This material includes pottery sherds from cooking pots, bowls, jugs and drinking vessels, a lost belt buckle and a broken iron knife (both recovered from the evaluation phases, see CAT Reports 759 & 1233), fragments of quernstone and (limited) animal bone. Of special significance is the large quantity of fired clay recovered from several features, which may indicate the possible presence of a hearth or oven nearby. However, very few other finds of a structural nature were present.

In 2004 an archaeological evaluation was carried out on land immediately to the south of the development site (Ennis 2004). If projected to the SSE, ditches F4/F12 and F5/F11 should have passed through 2004 evaluation trenches T14 and T19. No significant archaeological remains were recorded in either trench, with very little medieval evidence recovered from the whole site. However, Elmstead Road (on the southern edge of the development site) originated as a Roman road and would have been in existence in the medieval period. It therefore, appears that Elmstead Road acted as a southern boundary for the medieval activity on the development site.

It is also interesting to note that located on the southern edge of Elmstead Road, and immediately to the south of the development site, is Salarybrook Farmhouse, an 18th-century listed building (MCC3331; NHLE no. 1337705) that possibly has earlier origins. It is possible that the features and finds recorded on the development represent the remains of an earlier medieval farmstead.

Medieval activity has also been recorded between 170-425m to the ESE. This included two scatters of 13th- to 14th- (CAT Report 638) and 15th- to 16th-century pottery (CAT Report 753), and field boundary ditches, pits and post-holes of an early/mid 13th to mid 14th century date (CAT Reports 918 and 998). This evidence also suggested the existence of a small medieval farmstead somewhere nearby.

9 Acknowledgements

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

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| CIfA | 2014c | <i>Standard and guidance for the collection, documentation, conservation and research of archaeological materials</i> |
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11 Abbreviations and glossary

Bronze Age	period from c 2500 to 700 BC
CAT	Colchester Archaeological Trust
CBCAA	Colchester Borough Council Archaeological Advisor
CHER	Colchester Historic Environment Record
ClfA	Chartered Institute for Archaeologists
context	specific location of finds on an archaeological site
feature (F)	an identifiable thing like a pit, a wall, a drain: can contain 'contexts'
Iron Age	period from 700 BC to Roman invasion of AD 43
layer (L)	distinct or distinguishable deposit (layer) of material
medieval	period from AD 1066 to c 1500
modern	period from c AD 1800 to the present
natural	geological deposit undisturbed by human activity
NGR	National Grid Reference
OASIS	Online Access to the Index of Archaeological Investigations, http://oasis.ac.uk/pages/wiki/Main

post-medieval	period from c AD 1500 to c 1800
prehistoric	pre-Roman
residual	something out of its original context, eg a Roman coin in a modern pit
Roman	the period from AD 43 to c AD 410
section	(abbreviation sx or Sx) vertical slice through feature/s or layer/s
wsj	written scheme of investigation

12 Contents of archive

Finds: one box

Paper and digital record

One A4 document wallet containing:

The report (CAT Report 1296)

ECC evaluation brief, CAT written scheme of investigation

Original site record (feature and layer sheets, finds record, plans)

Site digital photos and log

13 Archive deposition

The paper and digital archive is currently held by the Colchester Archaeological Trust at Roman Circus House, Roman Circus Walk, Colchester, Essex CO2 7GZ, but will be permanently deposited with Colchester Museum under accession code COLEM: 2018.14.

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Appendix 1 Context list

disc = flot discarded (not viable)

Context Number	Finds Number	Feature Type	Description	Date
L1	-	Topsoil	Firm, wet, dark grey/brown silty-clay	Modern
L2	-	Natural	Firm, wet, medium yellow/grey silty-clay	Post-glacial
L3	-	Accumulation layer	Firm, moist, medium grey/brown silt with charcoal fleck inclusions	Post-medieval or later
L4	-	?Hillwash	Firm, moist medium grey/brown silty-clay with frequent stone piece inclusions	Post-medieval
2014 archaeological evaluation (CAT Report 759)				
F1	1	Pit	Firm, moist, medium grey/brown silty-clay with charcoal flecks	Medieval, 12th-14th century
F2	2	Ditch	Firm, moist, medium grey/brown silty with charcoal flecks. Same ditch as 2018 evaluation F8.	Medieval, 15th-16th century
F3		Pit / tree-throw	Firm, moist, medium grey silt	Undated
F4	5, 6	Ditch	Friable, dry, medium brown sandy-silt, 2% stone. Same ditch as 2018 evaluation F12.	Medieval, 15th to early 17th century
F5	3, 4	Ditch	Friable, dry, medium brown sandy-silt, 3% stone. Same ditch as 2018 evaluation F11.	Medieval, 12th-14th century
2018 archaeological evaluation (CAT Report 1233)				
F6	6, 7, 9	Pit	Firm, moist, medium grey/brown sandy-silt with charcoal flecks	Medieval, 14th/15th to early 16th century
F7	10	Gully	Firm, moist, medium grey/brown sandy-silt with charcoal flecks	Medieval, late 12th to late 14th century
F8	11, 12	Ditch	Firm, moist, medium grey/brown sandy-silt with charcoal flecks. Same ditch as 2014 evaluation F2.	Medieval, 15th-16th century
F9	13a	Ditch	Firm, moist medium grey/brown sandy-silt with charcoal flecks	Medieval
F10	-	Pit	Firm, moist, medium grey/brown sandy-silt with charcoal flecks	Undatable
F11	13b, 14	Ditch	Firm, moist medium grey/brown sandy-silt with charcoal flecks. Same ditch as 2014 evaluation F5.	Medieval, 12th-14th century
F12	15, 16	Ditch	Firm, moist, medium grey/brown sandy-silt with charcoal flecks. Same ditch as 2014 evaluation F4.	Medieval, 15th to early 17th century
F13	17	Pit	Firm, moist medium grey/brown sandy-silt with charcoal flecks	Medieval, 13th to 14th century
F14	18, 19	Ditch	Firm, moist medium grey/brown sandy-silt with charcoal flecks	Medieval, 14th to 15th century
2018 archaeological excavation				
L5	50, 53 57<16>	Slump in top of F25 and F40	Soft, friable, moist, medium to dark grey/brown silty-clay, very occasional charcoal and daub flecks, <1% stone	Medieval, 13th-14th century
F2	-	Ditch	See above	Medieval, 15th-16th century
F4	44	Ditch	See above	Medieval, 15th to early 16th century
F5	43	Ditch	See above	Medieval, 12th-14th century
F7 sx2	-	Gully	See above	Medieval, late 12th to late 14th century
F14 sx2	45, 68	Ditch	See above	Medieval, 13th/14th to 15th century
F15	-	Pit	Soft, friable, moist, medium grey/brown	Undated

			silty-clay with rare CBM flecks, 2% stone	
F16	20<6>	Pit	Firm, moist, light grey/brown silty-clay, charcoal and daub flecks, 5% stone	Undated
F17	21	Pit	Firm, moist, medium grey/brown silty-clay, charcoal and daub flecks, 5% stone	Post-Roman
F18	22 (disc)	Pit/ posthole	Soft, friable, moist, medium grey/brown silty-clay, occasional charcoal flecks, 1% stone	Undated
F19	-	?Posthole	Soft, friable, moist, medium orange/grey/ brown silty-clay, 2% stone	Undated
F20	23, 24 (disc)	Pit	Soft, friable, moist, medium grey/brown silty-clay, 1% stone	Contains prehistoric material but likely to be of a later date
F21	25, 26<7>	Ditch	Firm, moist, medium grey/brown silty-clay, charcoal and daub flecks, 7% stone	Medieval, late 12th to 14th century
F22	27, 28<8>	Pit	Firm, moist, medium orange/red/grey/ brown silty-clay, charcoal and daub flecks, 3% stone	Medieval
F23	-	Pit	Soft, friable, moist, medium orange/grey/ brown silty-clay, <1% stone	Undated
F24	29, 30, 31<9>, 72	Pit	Firm, moist, medium to dark yellow/ orange/red/grey/brown/black silty-clay, charcoal and daub flecks, 3% stone	Medieval, late 12th to 14th century
F25	32<10>, 33 (disc), 34, 35	Quarry pit	Soft, friable, moist, medium grey/brown silty-clay, very occasional charcoal and daub flecks, 1% stone	Medieval, late 12th to 14th century
F26	36, 75	Pit	Firm, moist, medium grey/brown silt, charcoal flecks	Medieval, late 11th to 12th century
F27	-	Pit	Firm, moist, medium grey/brown silt, charcoal flecks	Undated
F28	-	Pit	Firm, moist, medium grey/brown silt, charcoal flecks	Undated
F29	37, 38<11>	Pit	Firm, moist, medium grey/brown silty-clay, charcoal and daub flecks, 3% stone	Medieval, late 12th to 14th century
F30	39<12>	Pit	Firm, moist, medium brown silt, charcoal flecks	Undated
F31	-	Pit	Firm, moist, medium brown silt, daub flecks	Undated
F32	-	Pit	Firm, moist, medium grey/brown silty-clay, charcoal flecks, 3% stone	Undated
F33	40	Pit	Firm, moist, medium grey silt, charcoal flecks	Medieval, late 12th to 14th century
F34	41<13>	Pit	Firm, moist, medium grey/brown silty-clay, charcoal and daub flecks	Undated
F35	42, 46	Pit	Firm, moist, medium brown silt.	Medieval, late 13th to 14th century
F36	-	Natural	Friable-firm, dry-moist, light-medium grey/brown silty-clay	Post-glacial
F37	-	Pit	Firm, moist, dark brown sandy-silt	Undated
F38	47	Pit	Firm, moist, dark grey/brown sandy-silt, charcoal flecks	Medieval, late 12th to 14th century
F39	48	Pit	Firm, moist, dark grey/brown sandy-silt	Medieval
F40	49, 51, 52, 54, 55<14> 56<15> 58 (disc)	Quarry pit	Fill A (upper): Medium grey/brown silty-clay with frequent patches of orange/ brown silty-clay, occasion charcoal and daub flecks. Finds no. 52, 55<14>. Fill B (mid): As Fill A but greyer with fewer patches of clay. Finds nos. 49, 51, 54, 56<15>. Fill C (lower): Compact, firm, yellowish brown silty-clay. Finds no. 58(disc)	Medieval, late 12th to 14th century

F41	-	Pit/ posthole	Soft, friable, moist, medium grey/brown silty-clay, very occasional charcoal, 1% stone	Undated
F42	65<18> 66	Ditch	Friable, moist, medium grey/brown silty-clay, very occasional charcoal, 1% stone	Medieval, 15th/late 15th to early 16th century
F43	67	Pit	Friable, dry, dark greyish-brown sandy-silt, flecks of oyster shell, daub, CBM, <4% stone	Medieval, mid 15th to mid 16th century
F44	59 60<17>	Pit	Firm, moist, medium grey/brown silty-clay, charcoal and daub flecks, 5% stone	Medieval, 13th/14th to 15th century
F45	61 62<19>	Pit	Firm, moist, light orange/grey/brown silty-clay, charcoal and daub flecks, 3% stone	Medieval, late 12th to 14th century
F46	63<20>	Pit	Firm, moist, light grey/brown silty-clay, charcoal flecks, 5% stone	Undated
F47	64	Ground hollow	Loose, dry, medium greyish-brown, sandy-silt, daub and CBM flecks	Probably medieval
F48	69	Ditch	Friable, moist, light-medium brown sandy-clay, CBM flecks, 5% stone	Medieval, 14th century +
F49	-	Silt patch / erosion hollow	Friable, firm, dry, medium brown sandy-silt, 5-10% stone	Undated
F50	70 71<21>	Pit	Friable, firm, moist, medium grey/brown silty-clay, very occasional charcoal flecks, 1% stone	Contains prehistoric material but likely to be of a later date
F51	74 (disc)	Pit/ posthole	Soft, friable, moist, medium grey/brown silty-clay, 1% stone	Undated
F35		Ditch	Friable, dry, medium greyish-brown sandy-silt, flecks of degraded daub and brick, >10% stone	Medieval, late 12th to late 14th century
U/S	73	-	Flint found while cleaning around F25/F40.	

Appendix 2 Finds catalogue

Key:

prehist = prehistoric; Rom = Roman; med = medieval; p-med = post-medieval; E = early; L = late; C = century

CBM = Ceramic Building Material; RBT = Roman brick or tile; PT = peg-tile; PRRT = post-Roman ridge tile; BR = medieval or modern brick; FLT = floor tile

Context	Find no.	Find type	Find period	Fabric	Description	Form	No.	Wt/g	EVE	Spot date
F4 sx2	44	CBM	med		Brick corner, damaged and abraded, 45mm thick, orange, pock-marked surface, fine sand with pieces black of black ironsand(?) inclusions (Tudor type, 15-E17C – Ryan 1996, Appendix 1)	BR	2	444		c 15-E17C
F4 sx2	44	pot	med	21			2	78		c 14-15C
F4 sx2	44	CBM	med/p-med		Peg-tile, small pieces, fairly fine, no or little visible sand/sand free fabric.	PT	6	154		Med/p-med (prob c 14C+)
F5 sx3	43	CBM	med/p-med		Two small pieces of thin orange coloured peg-tile, c 10mm thick.	PT	2	34		Med/p-med (prob c 14C+)
F5 sx3	43	pot	med	22	Rim from a jug, fine sand orange fabric with grey core, some mica (although some mica-like material is fine quartz), patchy, dark speckled green glaze applied direct to surface, ribbed oval handle, thumb marks to each side at top, two small holes on rim top directly above handle (CAR 7, 84)	jug	1	56	12	L12-13/E14C
F14	45	pot	med	20			5	78		c L12-14C
F14	45	pot	med	20	Jug handle base, abraded		1	112		c L12-14C
F14	45	CBM	med/p-med		Peg-tile, one square peg-hole	PT	2	82		Med/p-med
F14	45	CBM	med/p-med		Piece of ridge tile, similar to imbrex but probably med/p-med	PRRT				Med/p-med
F14	45	burnt stone			Burnt flint		1	100		
F14	45	slag			Small piece of vesicular dark 'glassy' slag		1	2		
F14 sx 2	68	pot	med	20			3	22		c L12-14C
F14 sx 2	68	pot	med	21	Includes jug neck		2	36		c 13/14-15C
F14 sx 2	68	pot	med	13T	Sandy fabric	cooking pot	1	26		c 12-E13C
F14 sx 2	68	CBM	med		Sandy orange, irregular abraded piece		1	18		
F17	21	pot	Rom	BACG	Very abraded base from a cup form, abraded	cup	1	4		Roman, 2C
F20	23	flint	prehist				2			Prehistoric
F21 sx1	26	pot	med	20			1	12		c L12-14C
F21 sx1	25	slag			Large piece (obscured by dirt) grey-green vesicular 'glassy' slag, some red fired clay adhering		1	692		
F21 sx1	25	pot	prehist	V	Small sherd, appears to be pottery, abraded, sparse burnt flint, dark grey surface (Neolithic to Early Iron Age)		1	4		Prehistoric
F22	27	fired clay			Orange fired clay, small-medium sand fabric with streaks of pale clay/silt, no wattle voids; one large piece 130mm x 80mm x 70mm (596g) with flat original(?) surface and rounded edge(?); medium piece c 60mm(sq) by 30mm thick with one flat uneven surface; rest small to medium or small abraded pieces (average		63	1424		

Context	Find no.	Find type	Find period	Fabric	Description	Form	No.	Wt/g	EVE	Spot date
					weight 22.6g or without large piece 13.5g)					
F24	29	burnt stone		flint	Small burnt flint		1	6		
F24	29	pot	med	20	Body sherds, one grey, one damaged by head (flaking) possibly from use		3	40		c L12-14C
F24	29	pot	med	13T	Necked cooking pot, small rim sherd, orange fabric with grey core, similar to Fabric 21 but with indented/frilled rim edge (CAR 7 fig 27 form B2)	cooking pot	1	8	5	c 12-E13C
F24	30	quern			Broken imported lava quernstone pieces (moderately good condition – not heavily flaking/degraded)		3	85		Roman/medieval
F24	31	fired clay			Abraded, rounded lump, sandy brownish-orange fabric		1	16		
F24	72	burnt stone			Pieces of heat affected (burnt) flint		2	42		
F24	72	pot	med	20	Sherd, very abraded		1	6		L12-14C
F24	72	fired clay			Orange fired clay, small-medium sand fabric with streaks of pale clay/silt, no wattle voids & no clear original surfaces surviving, thickest surviving piece c 30mm, mostly small abraded pieces (average weight 11.5g)		50	575		
F25	34	pot	med	20			4	34		L12-14C
F25	34	pot	med	20	Quite abraded, small flat-topped rim from a pot or bowl		1	4	5	L12/13-14C
F25	34	CBM	Rom		Probably part of a tegula flange		1	36		Roman
F25	35	flint	prehist		Flint flake (nat?) possibly utilised		1			Prehistoric?
F25	35	pot	med	13	Cooking pot base sherds	cooking pot	4	24		c 11-12C
F25	35	pot	med	13T	Sooting from use		3	12		c 12-E13C
F25	35	fired clay			Moderate fine-medium sand, orange exterior, grey interior, abraded		2	2		
F26	36	pot	med	13	Necked cooking pot, small rim sherd, thumbled rim edge (CAR 7 fig 27 B2/C1)		1	6	5	L11-12C
F29	37	flint	prehist				1			Prehistoric
F29	37	fired clay			Orange fired clay, small-medium sand fabric with streaks of pale clay/silt, no wattle voids; includes several medium-sized pieces (up to c 60-70 mm); one piece with slightly curving flat surface, another with small part of flat surface and abraded curving (rounded) edge possibly suggesting an original rounded edge; average weight 40.6g		53	2152		
F29	37	pot	med	13T	Sandy coarseware, sooted surfaces from use, some burnt residue on external surfaces, one grey sherd, abraded		7	66		c 12-E13C
F29	37	pot	med	20	One with internal burnt deposit		4	20		c L12-14C
F33	40	CBM	Rom		Fine sand orange fabric, most probably Roman, abraded	RBT	1	106		Roman
F33	40	pot	med	20	Abraded		2	14		c L12-14C
F33	40	slag			Small piece of grey 'glassy' vesicular slag (broken in two pieces)		1	22		
F33	40	stone			Small pieces of grey sandstone/quartzite, possibly heat affected		2	36		
F35	42	pot	med	13T	Rim from a cooking pot, necked with squared rim, wheel-turning marks, sandy fabric, abraded	cooking pot	1	60	7	c L12-mid 13C

Context	Find no.	Find type	Find period	Fabric	Description	Form	No.	Wt/g	EVE	Spot date
F35	42	pot	med	13T	Neck sherd, sandy fabric		1	10		c 12-E13C
F35	42	pot	med	20	Jug(?) handle, oval in cross section		1	70		c L12-14C
F35	46	pot	med	20	Sandy sherds including sherds from cooking pot base, sagging bottom, external sooting from use	cooking pot	9	124		c L12-14C
F35	46	pot	med	20	Medium sand fabric, several pale grey sherds, some sherds with external sooting from use	(cooking pot)	6	38		c L12-14C
F35	46	CBM	late med/p-med		Brick piece of unusual form, flat top, sloping, slightly concave edge with small rounded edge foot (37mm thick), after c late 13th/early 14th century, probably late med/p-med.	BR	1	304		Late med/p-med?
F38	47	pot	med	20	abraded		1	6		L12-14C
F39	48	CBM	med/p-med		Pieces in sandy fabric (2), medium sand fabric (3) and finer fabric sometimes with grey core (3)	PT	8	380		Med/p-med
F40	49	pot	med	20	External sooting/residue from use		1	12		c L12-14C
F40	49	flint	prehist		Flint flake		1			Prehistoric
F40	51	pot	med	13T			1	6		c 12-E13C
F40	51	pot	med	20	Joining sherds, external sooting from use		2	20		c L12-14C
F40	52	pot	med	20	Some sooting from use		5	36		L12-14C
F40	52	pot	med	22	Body sherd		1	8		L12-13/ E14C
F40	52	pot	med	20	Necked cooking pot rim small sherd, squared, flat-topped rim	cooking pot	1	10	3	c L12-13C
F40	52	pot	med	13T	Rim sherd, necked cooking pot, orange surface, grey sandy fabric, abraded (CAR 7 fig 27 form B2)	cooking pot	1	10	6	c 12-E13C
F40	52	pot	med	13T	Base sherd		1	14		c 12-E13C
F40	52	burnt stone		flint	Discoloured & whitened, clearly heat affected		1	24		
F40	54	flint	prehist				1			Prehistoric
F40	54	burnt stone			Heat affected flint		1	30		
F40	54	pot	med	13	Sandy fabric, small sherds all from same pot, one surface abraded/flaked off		6	20		c 11-12C
F42	65	pot	med	20			1	8		L12-14C
F42	66	Animal bone			Cattle 1st phalanx (gnawed by a canid) and a fragment of large mammal rib (with cut mark)		2	28		
F42	66	CBM	med/p-med		Peg-tile, medium-coarse sand and fine sand fabrics	PT	4	152		Med/p-med (prob c14C+)
F42	66	CBM	med/p-med		Piece of ridge tile	PRRT	1	90		Med/p-med (prob c14C+)
F42	66	CBM	med/p-med		Corner from a plain (unglazed) floor tile with slightly chamfered edges, indications of a possible shallow score in the surface parallel to edge on one broken side at 120mm, thickness 30mm, sparse sand fabric with occasional small stones	FLT	1	568		Med
F42	66	CBM	Rom		Small piece of probable Roman brick/tile, abraded	RBT	1	60		Roman
F42	66	pot	med	21A	Green glaze over white underslip (external only)		1	8		c 13-14C
F42	66	pot	med	21A	Faceted (pedestal?) base, fine light brownish-orange fabric (dating see CAR 7 149-150)	drinking vessel	1	60		c 15/L15-E16C

Context	Find no.	Find type	Find period	Fabric	Description	Form	No.	Wt/g	EVE	Spot date
F42	66	pot	med	20	Fine sand coarseware (late)		4	70		c 14C
F42	66	pot	med	20	Necked cooking pot rim sherd, squared, flat-topped (slightly dished), rim c 300mm diameter	cooking pot	1	24	5	c L12-13C
F42	66	pot	med	21A	Sherd from large handle, sandy orange-brown fabric with grey core, abraded, central depression vertical along midline of handle – probably Fabric 21A	jug	1	122		c 13-14C
F42	66	shell		oyster			1	12		
F43	67	pot	med	13T			1	10		c 12-E13C
F43	67	pot	med	13	Bowl rim (relatively uncommon in Fabric 13 – CAR 7 52-55)	Bowl	1	6		c L12-13C
F43	67	pot	med	21	Base edge sherd from a bowl/large bowl, green glaze in base only (dating see CAR 7 146)	Bowl/ large bowl	1	28		c M15-M16C
F43	67	pot	med	20			1	18		L12-14C
F43	67	pot	med	21	Sherd from a jug handle, single central groove, flat-oval in cross section	jug	1	54		c 13-14C
F43	67	pot	med	21	Oval handle, buff-orange fabric with splash glaze – Cheam copy type?		1	28		c L14-15C
F43	67	shell		oyster	Two pieces		2	5		
F43	67	burnt stone			Piece of heat affected flint		1	156		
F43	67	CBM	med/p-med		One piece with sub-square peg-hole, small part of a round peg-hole, medium sand fabric and fine sand/silt fabric some with with grey core	PT	5	284		Med/p-med (prob c 14C+)
F43	67	fired clay			Orange fired clay, small-medium sand fabric, some pale firing clay/silt streaks, abraded, no wattle voids, a few pieces suggest relatively flat undulating surfaces (abraded), one piece with slightly rounded surface (average weight 29.9g)		37	1108		
F43	67	animal bone			A sheep mandible; rib fragment; fragment of large mammal tibia; and a ?pelvis fragment which had been gnawed by a canid		4			
F44	59	pot	med	13T	External sooting from use		1	4		c 12-E13C
F44	59	pot	med	20	External sooting from use		1	6		c L12-14C
F44	59	pot	med	21	Sandy fabric, possibly earlier date		1	2		c 13/14-15C
F44	60	pot	med	20			1	16		c 12-E13C
F45	61	flint	prehist		(blade)		1			Prehistoric
F45	61	pot	med	20	Necked cooking pot rim sherd, squared, flat-topped rim, sooted externally from use (rim diameter c 180mm)	cooking pot	1	14	8	L12-14C
F45	61	pot	med	20			1	6		c L12-14C
F45	61	fired clay			Orange fired clay, small-medium sand fabric, small abraded piece, very similar to other fired clay although there is little or no clear streaks of pale clay/silt (may result from small number of pieces), no wattle voids and no clear original surfaces surviving		27	180		

Context	Find no.	Find type	Find period	Fabric	Description	Form	No.	Wt/g	EVE	Spot date
					although one or two pieces tending to flat (average weight 6.6g)					
F47	64	flint	prehist				1			Prehistoric
F48	69	pot	med	20			1	2		L12-14C
F48	69	CBM			Fine sand fabric, one with occasional white flint/quartz & grey core	PT	2	96		Med/p-med (c 14C+)
F48	69	CBM	Rom?		Abraded lumps, no edges, orange with fine sand fabric possibly Roman	RBT?	2	234		Roman?
F50	70	flint	prehist				1			Prehistoric
L5	50	flint	prehist				1			Prehistoric
L5	50	pot	med	20			5	30		L12-14C
L5	50	pot	med	20	Small flange/rim from a bowl (dating see CAR 7 98)	bowl	1	4	4	c 13-14C
L5	50	fired clay			Red/orange sandy fabric, abraded		1	18		
L5	53	CBM	Rom		Fine sand orange fabric, part of curved 'signature', abraded	RBT	1	284		Roman
L5	53	CBM	Rom?		Irregular piece with slightly undulating surface, fine sand fabric, possibly burnt	RBT?	1	90		Roman?
L5	53	fired clay			Small abraded piece, orange moderate medium sand fabric, abraded		1	8		
L5	53	pot	med	20			3	18		c L12-14C
L5	53	pot	med	13T	Sooted exterior on some sherds		4	28		c 12-E13C
U/S	73	flint	prehist				1			Prehistoric

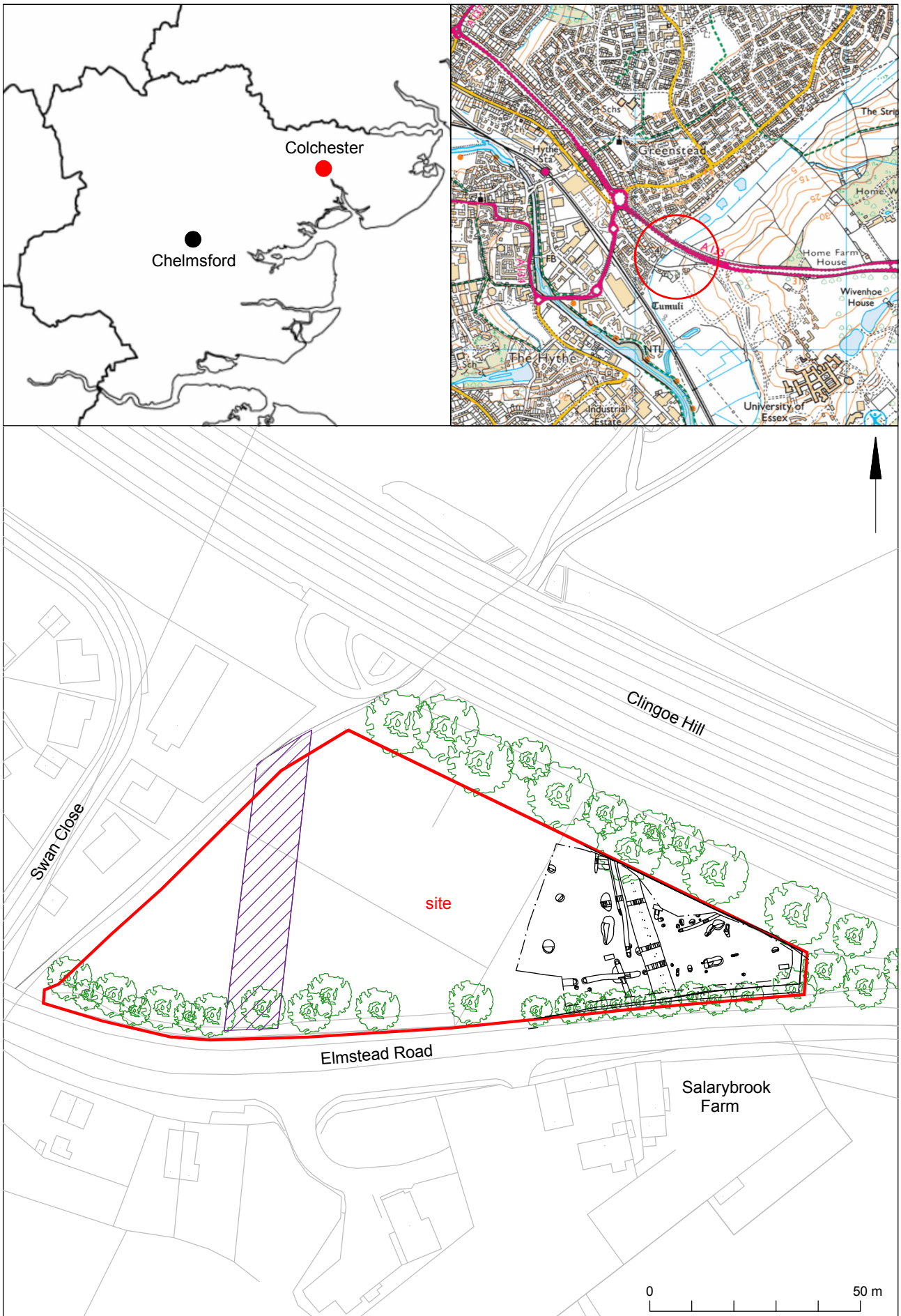
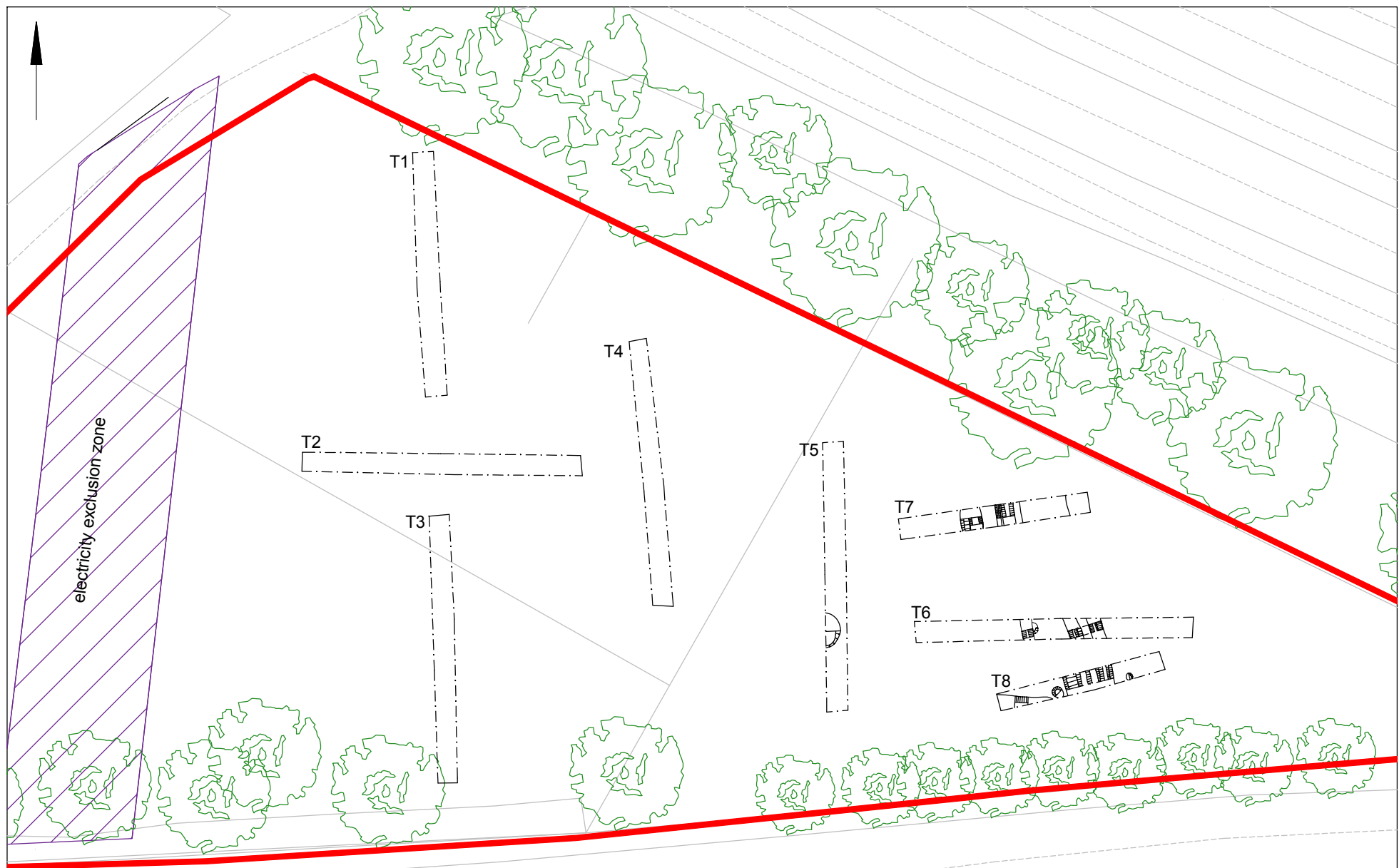


Fig 1 Site location



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Fig 2 Results of the CAT 2014 evaluation (T1-T6) and 2018 evaluation (T7-T8)

0 20 m

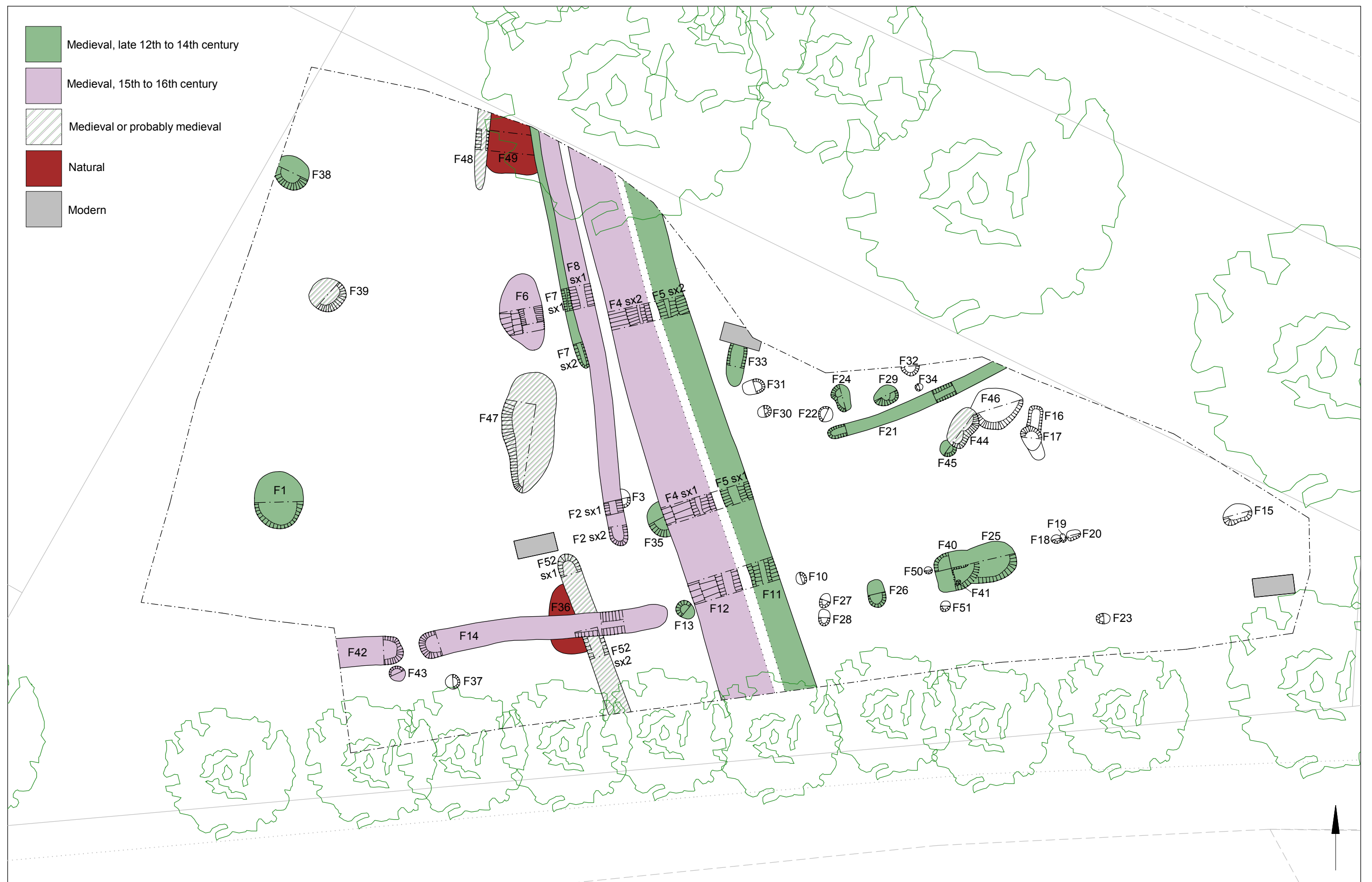


Fig 3 Excavation results, including features from the 2014 and 2018 evaluations

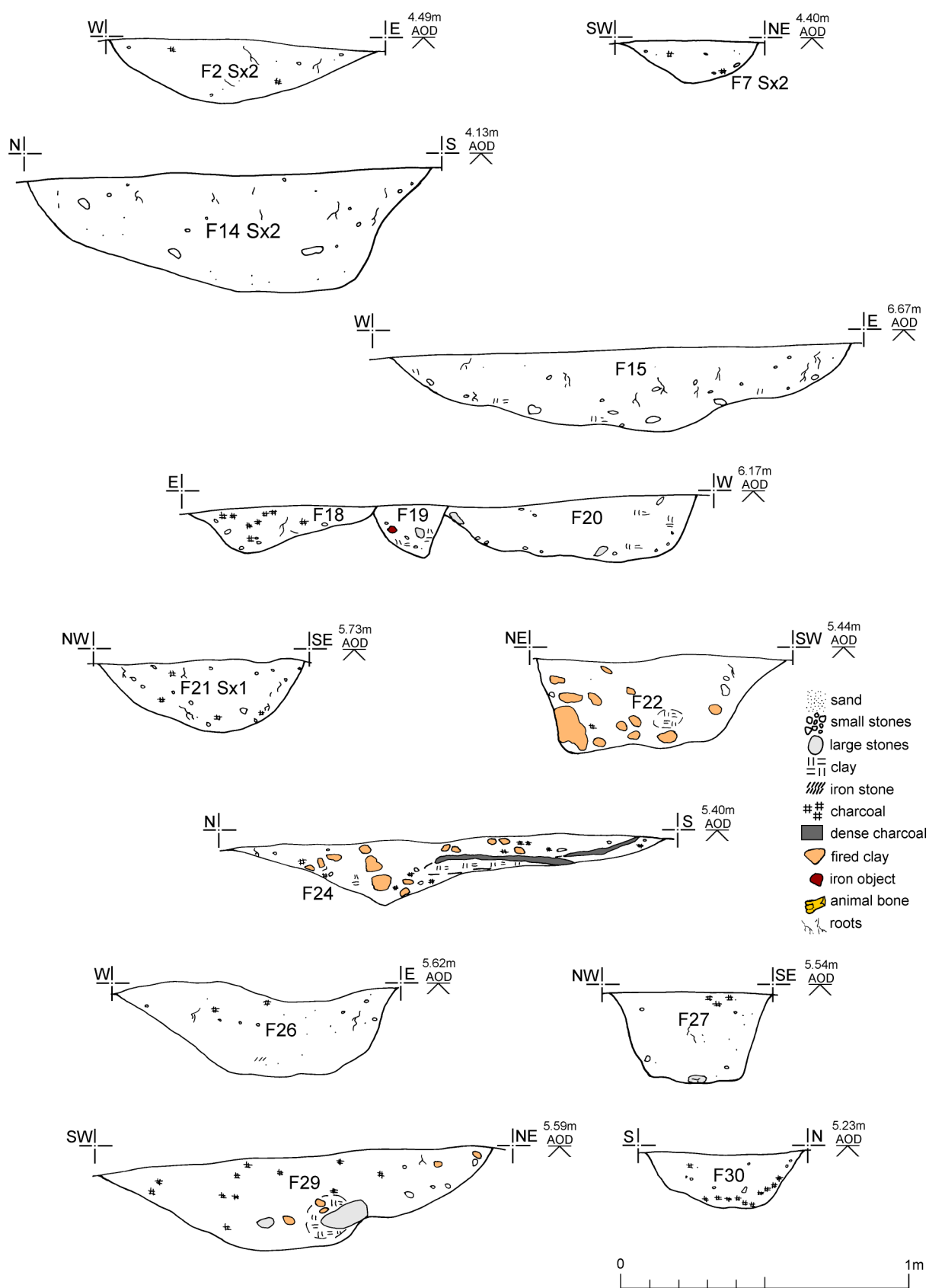


Fig 4 Sections.

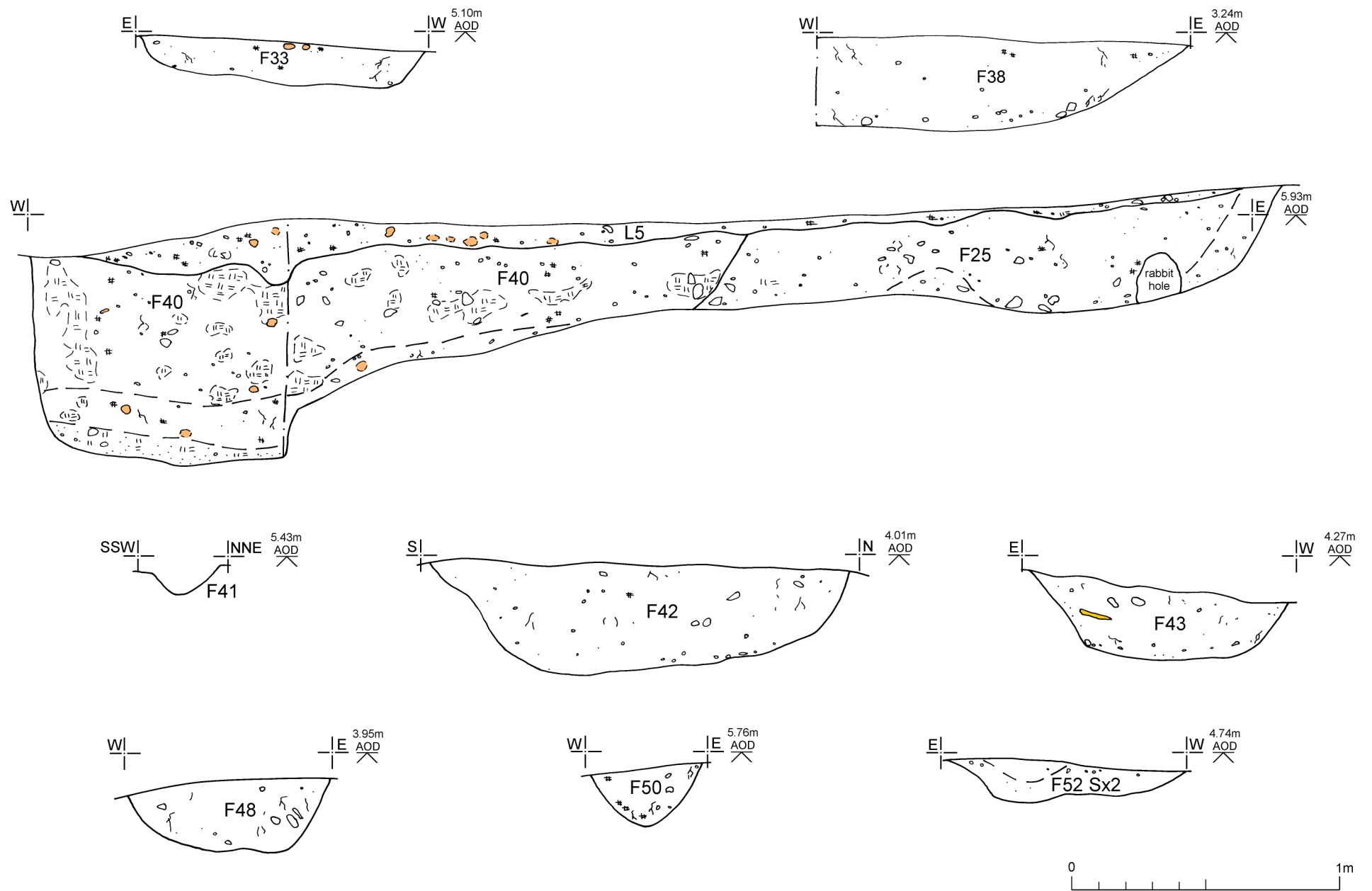


Fig 5 Sections.

Essex Historic Environment Record/ Essex Archaeology and History

Summary sheet

Address: Hammonds, land east of Elmstead Road/ east of Swan Close, Colchester, Essex, CO4 3BL	
Parish: Colchester	District: Colchester
NGR: TM 0224 2442 (centre)	Site code: CAT project ref.: 18/04i CHER ref: ECC4198 OASIS ref: colchest3-314949
Type of work: Excavation	Site director/group: Colchester Archaeological Trust
Date of work: 8th-16th May 2018	Size of area investigated: 0.76 ha
Location of curating museum: Colchester museum accession code COLEM: 2018.14	Funding source: Developer
Further seasons anticipated? No	Related CHER/SMR number: CHER MCC3102-4, MCC3331, MCC5222, MCC5389, MCC8972, MCC8976, MCC9328 & MCC10072. NHLE no. 1337705.
Final report: CAT Report 1296	
Periods represented: Medieval	
Summary of fieldwork results: An archaeological excavation (following two phases of evaluation) was carried out at Hammonds, land north of Elmstead Road/east of Swan Close, Colchester, Essex in advance of the construction of residential dwellings and associated works. The site is located close to a series of Late Iron Age and Roman ditches, pits and burials, medieval ditches and pits, and pottery spreads dated to the medieval and post-medieval periods. The 18th-century Salarybrook Farmhouse is also situated close by. Archaeological investigation has revealed that historic activity on the development site dates to the medieval period, c late 12th to 16th century. Features included nine ditches aligned NNW/SSE and ENE/WSW, a quarry pit and several smaller pits. The ditches may form field boundaries delineating a number of agricultural fields or, together with the finds, could represent evidence for domestic occupation/settlement. A small quantity of residual prehistoric and Roman material was also recorded along with a number of undated pits.	
Previous summaries/reports: CAT Reports 759 & 1233	
CBC monitor: Jess Tipper	
Keywords: -	Significance: *
Author of summary: Laura Pooley	Date of summary: July 2018

Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) for an archaeological excavation (strip, map and excavate) at Hammonds, Land North of Elmstead Road/East of Swan Close, Colchester, Essex, CO4 3BL

NGR: TM 0224 2442 (centre)

Planning reference: 143740 & 172943

Commissioned by: Mark Swindall

Client: Osborne Development and Investment

Curating museum: Colchester

Museum accession code: COLEM: 2018.14

CHER number: [tbc](#)

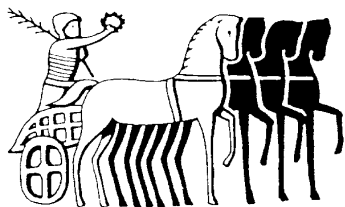
CAT project code: 18/04i

OASIS project id: colchest3-314949

Site manager: Chris Lister

CBC monitor: Jess Tipper

This WSI written: 19.4.2018



COLCHESTER ARCHAEOLOGICAL TRUST,
Roman Circus House,
Roman Circus Walk,
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tel: 01206 501785

email: lp@catuk.org

Site location and description

The proposed development site lies approximately 2.4km SE of Colchester town centre at Hammonds, on land to the north of Elmstead Road and east of Swan Close, Colchester (Fig 1). The site is centred on NGR TM 0224 2442.

Proposed work

The development comprises a residential development.

Archaeological background

The following archaeological background draws on the Colchester Archaeological Trust report archive, the Colchester Historic Environment Record (CHER) accessed via the Colchester Heritage Explorer.

The CHER shows that the development site is located within an area of archaeological significance. To the south of the site are four prehistoric ring-ditches (CHER MCC8972) and a number of Late Iron Age and Roman ditches and postholes have been excavated with traces of earlier prehistoric activity (MCC5389). Evaluation in 2004 confirmed that one of the four ring-ditches was man-made, and artefacts recovered indicated a Late Iron Age or Roman use, probably of an existing Bronze Age monument (FAU 2004). Undated and undetermined cropmarks have been recorded to the northeast (MCC8976).

Recent archaeological investigations further to the southeast at the University of Essex have revealed: evidence of Late Iron Age/Roman activity, including ditches, pits, postholes and burials (CAT Reports 638, 678 and 974, MCC3103-4 & MCC9328); medieval and post-medieval pottery spreads (CAT Report 638 and 753, MCC3102); and a number of field boundary ditches, pits and postholes of early/mid 13th to mid 14th century date, suggesting the existence of a small medieval farmstead close-by (CAT Reports 918 and 998, MCC10072).

Also to the south of the development site is Salarybrook Farmhouse, an 18th century listed building (MCC3331; NHLE no. 1337705), and to the southeast the possible remains of an anti-tank ditch (MCC5222).

In 2014 an archaeological evaluation was carried out on the development site (CAT Report 759) (see Figs 1-2). Six evaluation trenches (T1-T6) revealed a medieval pit, three medieval ditches and a natural pit. The medieval ditches were thought to be associated with a medieval phase of Salarybrook Farmhouse, to the south.

A second phase of evaluation in February 2018 (CAT Report 1233) revealed five medieval ditches, one medieval gully, one medieval pit, one medieval pit or ditch and an undated pit in two trial-trenches (T7-T8) (see Fig 2). Both trenches were positioned to target the projected routes of the three parallel ditches uncovered during 2014, which were identified continuing to both the north and south. Dating evidence recovered during this phase also demonstrated that these features are not contemporary with one another, with some dating to between the late 12th century to late 14th century, and others to the 15th and 16th century.

Planning background

A planning application was first made to Colchester Borough Council in April 2014 (application no.143740) proposing the erection of residential units and engineering operations to raise ground levels on part of site.

As the site lies within an area highlighted by the EHER / CHER as having a high potential for archaeological deposits, an archaeological condition was recommended by the Colchester Borough Council Archaeological Advisor (CBCAA). This recommendation was for an archaeological evaluation by trial-trenching and was based on the guidance given in the *National Planning Policy Framework* (DCLG 2012).

This initial archaeological evaluation took place in February 2014 (CAT Report 759). Following an application to Colchester Borough Council in October 2017 (application no. 172943) for the approval of reserved matters following outline approval of 143740, it was recommended by the CBCAA that further archaeological evaluation work take place. This second phase of archaeological evaluation took place in February 2018 (CAT Report 1233).

As significant archaeological remains were identified during both phases of archaeological evaluation, the CBCAA recommended that further archaeological investigation take place. This recommendation was for an archaeological excavation and was based on the guidance given in the *National Planning Policy Framework* (DCLG 2012).

Requirement for work

The required work is for an archaeological excavation (strip, map and record) to be carried out in advance of any groundworks. Details are given in a Project Brief written by CBCAA (CBC 2018).

Specifically, a controlled strip, map and sample excavation will take place within the eastern half of the development site, east of the boundary aligned NE/SW. This will be an area measuring c 2,000m² (Fig 2).

If unexpected or unusual remains are encountered the CBCAA will be informed immediately, and who may decide that amendments to the brief, and this wsi, are required to ensure adequate provision for archaeological recording.

General methodology

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

- Professional standards of the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists, including its *Code of Conduct* (CIfA 2014a-c)
- Standards and Frameworks published by East Anglian Archaeology (Gurney 2003, Medlycott 2011)
- Relevant Health & Safety guidelines and requirements (CAT 2014)
- The Project Brief issued by CBCAA (CBC 2018)

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

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

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

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

Staffing

The number of field staff for this project is estimated as follows: one supervisor plus three archaeologists for seven days.

In charge of day-to-day site work: Nigel Rayner

Excavation methodology

Where appropriate, modern overburden and any topsoil stripping/levelling will be performed using a mechanical excavator equipped with a toothless ditching bucket under the

supervision and to the satisfaction of a professional archaeologist. If no archaeologically significant deposits are exposed, machine excavation will continue until natural subsoil is reached.

Where necessary, areas will be cleaned by hand to ensure the visibility of archaeological deposits.

If archaeological features or deposits are uncovered, time will be allowed for these to be excavated, planned and recorded.

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

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

Trained CAT staff will use a metal detector to scan all areas of the strip and map both before and during excavation. All features and spoil heaps will be scanned and finds recovered.

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

All features and layers or other significant deposits will be planned, and their profiles or sections recorded. A representative section will be drawn to include ground level and the depth of machining. The normal scale will be site plans at 1:20 and sections at 1:10, unless circumstances indicate that other scales would be appropriate.

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

Site surveying

The evaluation trench and any features will be surveyed by Total Station, unless the particulars of the features indicate that manual planning techniques should be employed. Normal scale for archaeological site plans and sections is 1:20 and 1:10 respectively, unless circumstances indicate that other scales would be more appropriate. Any significant features, ie burials, will be planned by hand.

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

Environmental sampling policy

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

Sampling strategies will address questions of:

- the range of preservation types (charred, mineral-replaced, waterlogged), and their quality
- concentrations of macro-remains
- and differences in remains from undated and dated features
- variation between different feature types and areas of site

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

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

Human remains

CAT follows the policy of leaving human remains *in situ* unless there is a clear indication that the remains are in danger of being compromised as a result of their exposure. As the requirement for work is for full excavation any human remains encountered on the site will be subject to the following criteria: if it is clear from their position, context, depth, or other factors that the remains are ancient, then normal procedure is to apply to the Ministry of Justice for a licence to remove them. In that case, conditions laid down by the license will be followed. If it seems that the remains are not ancient, then the coroner, the client, and CBCAA will be informed, and any advice and/or instruction from the coroner will be followed.

Photographic record

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

Finds

All significant finds will be retained.

All finds, where appropriate, will be washed and marked with site code and context number.

Stephen Benfield (CAT) normally writes our finds reports. Some categories of finds are automatically referred to other CAT specialists:

small finds, metalwork, coins, etc: Laura Pooley

animal bones (small groups): Alec Wade

flints: Adam Wightman

or to outside specialists:

animal bones (large groups) and human remains: Julie Curl (*Sylvanus*)

environmental processing and reporting: Val Fryer / Lisa Gray

conservation of finds: staff at Colchester Museum / Laura Ratcliffe (LR Conservation)

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

Roman brick/tile: Ernest Black

Roman glass: Hilary Cool

Prehistoric pottery: Paul Sealey

Other: Historic England Regional Adviser in Archaeological Science (East of England).

All finds of potential treasure will be removed to a safe place, and the coroner informed immediately, in accordance with the rules of the Treasure Act 1996. The definition of treasure

is given in pages 3-5 of the Code of Practice of the above act. This refers primarily to gold or silver objects.

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

Post-excavation assessment

Once fieldwork has finished the need for a post-excavation assessment will be discussed and agreed with CBCAA.

If a post-excavation assessment is required by CBCAA, it will be normally be submitted within 2 months of the end of fieldwork, or as quickly as is reasonably practicable and at a time agreed with CBCAA. It will be a clear and concise assessment of the archaeological value and significance of the results, and will identify the research potential in the context of the Regional Research Framework. It will include an Updated Project Design, with a timetable, for analysis, dissemination and archive deposition.

Where archaeological results do not warrant a post-excavation assessment, preparation of the normal site report will begin.

Results

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

An appropriate archive will be prepared to minimum acceptable standards outlined in *Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment* (English Heritage 2006).

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

The report will contain:

- The aims and methods adopted in the course of the archaeological project.
- Location plan of area stripped, mapped and excavated in relation to the proposed development. At least two corners of the area will be given 10 figure grid references.
- A section drawing showing depth of deposits from present ground level with Ordnance Datum, vertical and horizontal scale (if this can be safely done)
- Archaeological methodology and detailed results including a suitable conclusion and discussion and results referring to Regional Research Frameworks (Medlycott 2011).
- All specialist reports or assessments
- A concise non-technical summary of the project results.

An EHER summary sheet will also be completed and supplied to CBCAA.

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

Archive deposition

It is a policy of Colchester Borough Council that the integrity of the site archive be maintained (i.e. all finds and records should be properly curated by a single organisation), with the archive available for public consultation. To achieve this desired aim it is assumed that the full archive will be deposited in Colchester Museums *unless otherwise agreed in advance*. (A full copy of the archive shall in any case be deposited).

By accepting this WSI, the client agrees to deposit the archive, including all artefacts, at Colchester & Ipswich Museum.

The requirements for archive storage will be agreed with the curating museum.

If the finds are to remain with the landowner, a full copy of the archive will be housed with the curating museum.

The archive will be deposited with Colchester & Ipswich Museum within 3 months of the completion of the final publication report, with a summary of the contents of the archive supplied to CBCAA.

Monitoring

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

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

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

CBCAA will be notified when the fieldwork is complete.

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

References

- | | | |
|------------------|-------|---|
| CAT | 2014 | <i>Health & Safety Policy</i> |
| CAT Report 638 | 2012 | <i>An archaeological watching brief at the Knowledge Gateway, the University of Essex, Colchester, Essex: September 2010-August 2011.</i> |
| CAT Report 678 | 2013 | <i>Archaeological monitoring at 'The Meadows', University of Essex, Wivenhoe Park, Colchester, Essex: July-September 2012</i> |
| CAT Report 753 | 2014 | <i>Archaeological monitoring at the University of Essex Parkside Office Development, Wivenhoe Park, Colchester, Essex (Phase 1): September 2013</i> |
| CAT Report 759 | 2014 | <i>Archaeological trial-trenching on land north of Elmstead Road, Colchester, Essex: February 2014</i> |
| CAT Report 856 | 2015 | <i>A desk-based assessment of the archaeological remains around Project Area 2a, University of Essex, Wivenhoe Park, Colchester</i> |
| CAT Report 918 | 2016 | <i>Archaeological evaluation at the new Innovation Centre, University of Essex, Wivenhoe Park, Colchester, Essex, CO4 3SQ: February 2016</i> |
| CAT Report 974 | 2016 | <i>Archaeological strip, map and recording at Parkside (Phase 1a), University of Essex, Wivenhoe Park, Colchester, Essex, CO4 3SQ: November–December 2015</i> |
| CAT Report 998 | 2016 | <i>Archaeological excavation at the new Innovation Centre, University of Essex, Wivenhoe Park, Colchester, Essex, CO4 3SQ: July – August 2016</i> |
| CAT Report 1233 | 2018 | <i>Archaeological evaluation at Hammonds, land north of Elmstead Road/east of Swan Close, Colchester, Essex, CO4 3BL: February 2018</i> |
| CBCAA | 2016 | <i>Brief for Trenched Archaeological Evaluation at Hammonds, Land to North of Elmstead Road/East of Swan Close, Colchester, by J Tipper</i> |
| CIfA | 2014a | <i>Standard and Guidance for an archaeological evaluation</i> |
| CIfA | 2014b | <i>Standard and guidance for the creation, compilation, transfer and deposition of archaeological archives</i> |
| CIfA | 2014c | <i>Standard and guidance for the collection, documentation, conservation and research of archaeological materials</i> |
| DCLG | 2012 | <i>National Planning Policy Framework</i> |
| English Heritage | 2006 | <i>Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment (MoRPHE)</i> |
| Gurney, D | 2003 | <i>Standards for field archaeology in the East of England. East Anglian Archaeology Occasional Papers 14 (EAA 14).</i> |
| Medlycott, M | 2011 | <i>Research and archaeology revisited: A revised framework for the East of England. East Anglian Archaeology Occasional Papers 24 (EAA 24)</i> |

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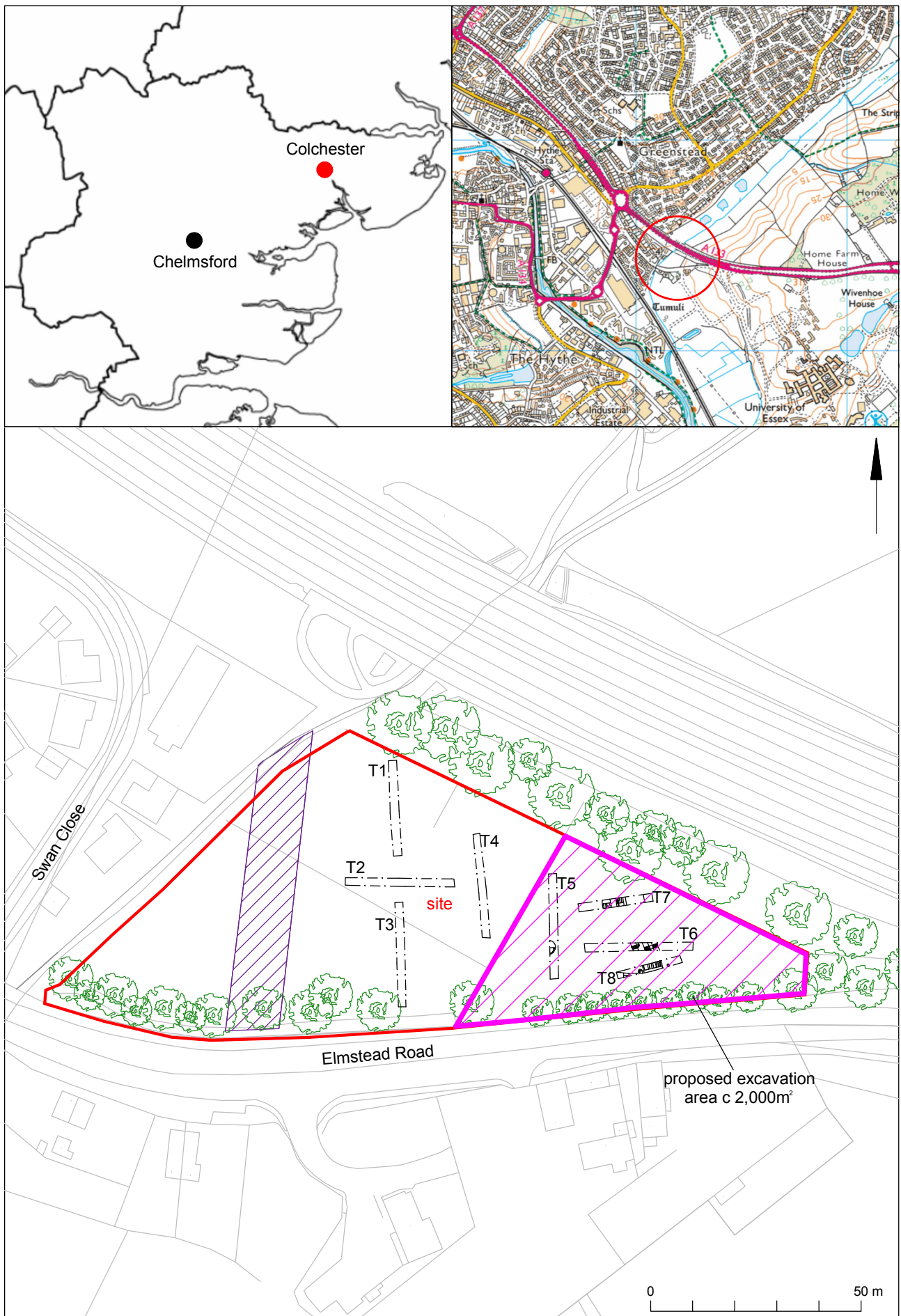


Fig 1 Site location showing proposed excavation area (in pink) in relation to evaluation trenches T1-T8

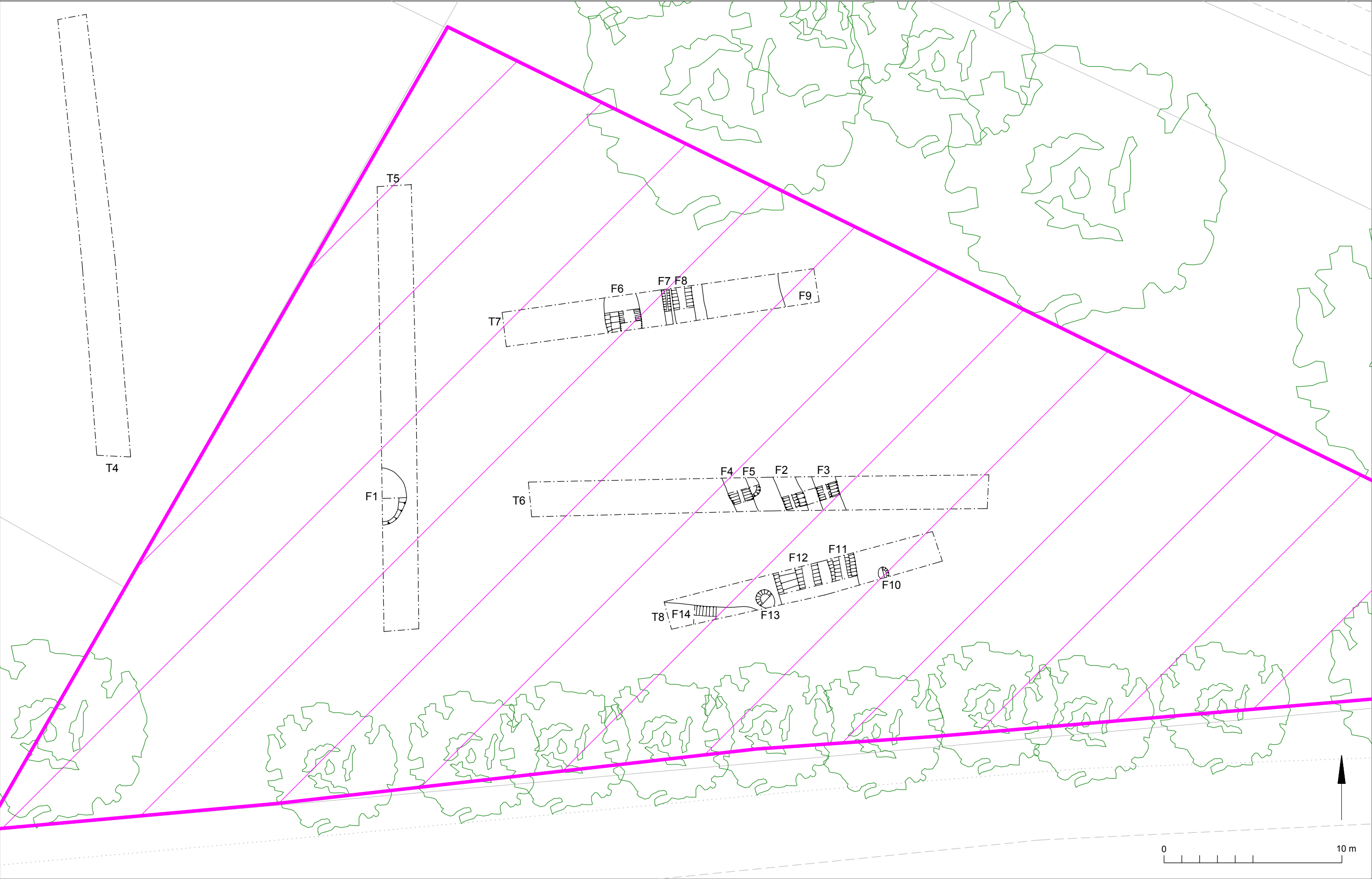


Fig 2 Excavation area shown in relation to the evaluation results

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OASIS ID: colchest3-314949

Project details

Project name	Archaeological excavation at Hammonds, land north of Elmstead Road, Colchester, Essex, CO4 3BL
Short description of the project	An archaeological excavation (following two phases of evaluation) was carried out at Hammonds, land north of Elmstead Road/east of Swan Close, Colchester, Essex in advance of the construction of residential dwellings and associated works. The site is located close to a series of Late Iron Age and Roman ditches, pits and burials, medieval ditches and pits, and pottery spreads dated to the medieval and post-medieval periods. The 18th-century Salarybrook Farmhouse is also situated close by. Archaeological investigation has revealed that historic activity on the development site dates to the medieval period, c late 12th to 16th century. Features included nine ditches aligned NNW/SSE and ENE/WSW, a quarry pit and several smaller pits. The ditches may form field boundaries delineating a number of agricultural fields or, together with the finds, could represent evidence for domestic occupation/settlement. A small quantity of residual prehistoric and Roman material was also recorded along with a number of undated pits.
Project dates	Start: 08-05-2018 End: 16-05-2018
Previous/future work	Yes / Not known
Any associated project reference codes	18/04i - Contracting Unit No.
Any associated project reference codes	143740 - Planning Application No.
Any associated project reference codes	172943 - Planning Application No.
Any associated project reference codes	COLEM: 2018.14 - Museum accession ID
Any associated project reference codes	ECC4198 - HER event no.
Type of project	Recording project
Site status	None
Current Land use	Vacant Land 2 - Vacant land not previously developed
Monument type	DITCHES Medieval
Monument type	PITS Medieval
Significant Finds	POTTERY Late Prehistoric
Significant Finds	WORKED FLINT Late Prehistoric
Significant Finds	POTTERY Roman
Significant Finds	CERAMIC BUILDING MATERIAL Roman
Significant Finds	POTTERY Medieval
Significant Finds	CERAMIC BUILDING MATERIAL Medieval
Significant Finds	FIRED CLAY Medieval
Investigation type	""Open-area excavation""
Prompt	Planning condition

Project location

Country	England
Site location	ESSEX COLCHESTER COLCHESTER Hammonds, land to the north of Elmstead Road/east of Swan Close
Postcode	CO4 3BL
Study area	0.76 Hectares
Site coordinates	TL 0224 2442 51.908479069691 -0.513564356043 51 54 30 N 000 30 48 W Point
Height OD / Depth	Min: 3.2m Max: 6.7m

Project creators

Name of Organisation	Colchester Archaeological Trust
Project brief originator	CBC Archaeological Officer
Project design originator	Laura Pooley
Project director/manager	Chris Lister
Project supervisor	Ben Holloway

Type of sponsor/funding body	Developer
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Project archives

Physical Archive recipient	Colchester Museum
Physical Archive ID	COLEM: 2018.14
Physical Contents	"Animal Bones","Ceramics","Worked stone/lithics"
Digital Archive recipient	Colchester Museum
Digital Archive ID	COLEM: 2018.14
Digital Contents	"Stratigraphic","Survey","other"
Digital Media available	"Images raster / digital photography","Survey","Text"
Paper Archive recipient	Colchester Museum
Paper Archive ID	COLEM: 2018.14
Paper Contents	"other"
Paper Media available	"Context sheet","Miscellaneous Material","Photograph","Plan","Report","Section"

Project bibliography 1

Publication type	Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)
Title	Archaeological excavation at Hammonds, land north of Elmstead Road/east of Swan Close, Colchester, Essex, CO4 3BL: May 2018
Author(s)/Editor(s)	Pooley, L.
Other bibliographic details	CAT Report 1296
Date	2018
Issuer or publisher	Colchester Archaeological Trust
Place of issue or publication	Colchester
Description	A4 ring-bound loose leaf
URL	http://cat.essex.ac.uk/all-reports.html
Entered by	Laura Pooley (lp@catuk.org)
Entered on	10 July 2018

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