

**A watching brief at
Colchester New Garrison (Phase 1),
Colchester, Essex
February 2004-August 2005**

**report prepared by
Howard Brooks and Robert Masefield**

**on behalf of
RMPA and MoD**

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Colchester Archaeological Trust
12 Lexden Road,
Colchester,
Essex CO3 3NF

tel.: (01206) 541051
tel./fax: (01206) 500124
email: archaeologists@catuk.org

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1 Summary

During 2002-03, large-scale evaluation (over 12km of trial-trenching) and excavation (approx 3 hectares over three areas) was carried out in advance of the construction of the 'New Garrison' at Colchester. These works were designed to identify and record the most significant areas of archaeology within the New Garrison development area. The sites included a ditch-enclosed Middle Iron Age site (with the first round-house to be excavated within the Late Iron Age oppidum stronghold of Camulodunum); elements of Late Iron Age landscape with settlement-related activity (including a relatively rich burial); and paddocks, tracks, burials and a barn of a Roman farm and associated landscape. Collectively the works comprise the largest single intrusive investigation (covering an area of 101 ha) to have taken place within the oppidum.

A watching brief was subsequently conducted during construction work in 2004-05 in concert with Phase 1 of the New Garrison construction programme (largely affecting former farmland and public open space areas between the existing military barracks). The watching brief was intended to provide supplementary information on the archaeological landscape within the oppidum and to provide a mechanism to identify and record any significant remains that had not previously been identified. Although the watching brief revealed 72 archaeological features and a number of stray finds, no further settlement areas were identified. Some of the features identified, principally Roman linear ditches, are parts of field ditches and trackways which were already known as cropmarks (or revealed in previous evaluations or excavations), whereas others are important new additions to the previously-known network of fields and tracks within the oppidum of Camulodunum. Other features included a Roman burial, and a number of undated or modern features.

2 Introduction (Figs 1-3)

- 2.1 This is the report on an archaeological watching brief conducted during the construction of Phase 1 of the 'New Garrison' at Colchester. Phase 2 (the final phase) of the development will take place from May 2006 and will also be accompanied by an archaeological watching brief during groundworks. This will be reported separately.
- 2.2 The watching brief was carried out between February 2004 and December 2005 by the Colchester Archaeological Trust (CAT) under the archaeological project management of RPS Planning, Transport and Environment (RPS) and was conducted on behalf of RMPA Services and the MoD. Post-excavation work was carried out between December 2005 and April 2006.
- 2.3 Work described here was informed by or carried out according to three documents specific to this project. These documents were prepared by RPS in association with CAT and were approved by the development control archaeologists of Colchester Borough Council (CBC). *Colchester Garrison PFI archaeological project strategy proposal* (RPS 2002) provided the overall strategy for the implementation of Stage 1 evaluations, Stage 2 excavations and the Stage 3 watching brief. Stages 1 and 2 were completed in 2002 and 2003 respectively. A *Research design for archaeological excavations and watching brief at the New Garrison, Colchester* (RPS/CAT 2002) provided the aims of the archaeological project within a site-specific, regional and national research framework. These reports were supplemented by a detailed method statement for the implementation of the Stage 3 works entitled *Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) for an archaeological watching brief at the New Garrison, Colchester Garrison* (RPS 2003).
- 2.4 Apart from the three documents above, other guidelines consulted include *Guidelines on standards and practices for archaeological fieldwork in the Borough of Colchester* (CM 2002) and *Guidelines on the preparation and transfer of archaeological archives to Colchester Museums* (CM 2003), English Heritage's *Management of Archaeological Projects*, 2nd edition (MAP 2), the Institute of Field Archaeologists' *Standard and Guidance for the collection, documentation, conservation and research of archaeological materials* (IFA 2001) and *Standard and guidance for an archaeological watching brief*

(IFA 1999). Other documents used include *Research and archaeology: a framework for the Eastern Counties 1. Resource assessment* (EAA 3), *Research and archaeology: a framework for the Eastern Counties 2. Research agenda and strategy* (EAA 8), and *Standards for field archaeology in the East of England* (EAA 14).

- 2.5 The proposed development of the Colchester Garrison PFI site involves the building of a new 101 hectare garrison between the existing Kirkee McMunn, Goojerat and Roman Barracks, the demolition and refurbishment of existing barracks, and the redevelopment of the areas released by demolition, primarily for residential use. This linked 'Alienated Land' project (by Taylor Woodrow) is reported separately. The construction process is likely to impact upon low levels of archaeological resources throughout the New Garrison, as defined by the evaluation process. In response to the proposed redevelopment, an appropriate programme of archaeological watching brief was agreed between MoD, RMPA Services, RPS (the archaeological project managers), the Colchester Archaeological Trust (CAT) (the archaeological contractor), the Colchester Borough Council Archaeological Officer (CBCAO), and English Heritage. The preceding stages of archaeological evaluation, upon which the scope of the watching brief is based, comprised desk-based assessment (CAT Report 97 of 2000), fieldwalking, magnetometer survey (CAT Report 184 of 2002), trial-trenching (CAT Reports 197, 203, 205, 206 and 207, all 2002), and area excavation (Areas 2, 6, 10: CAT/RPS Report 292 of 2005). A brief summary of the evaluation and excavation results is provided in section 3 below.
- 2.6 The Phase 1 New Garrison development site was largely open green field, with smaller areas of brown field. The Phase 2 development (from May 2006) will include redevelopment of former garrison areas including Kirkee McMunn Barracks and the northern area of Roman Barracks. The Phase 1 watching brief excluded those areas which were previously the subject of archaeological excavation (Areas 2, 6 and 10; Fig 1).
- 2.7 RPS maintained regular contact with the New Garrison development team throughout the groundworks phases, including RMPA, the Principal Contractors Sir Robert McAlpine Limited (SRML) and their construction sub-contractors. CAT and RPS maintained regular contact via site meetings. These communications ensured that all aspects of the groundworks that might impact buried archaeological remains were monitored within a safe working environment and that archaeological recording did not delay the construction programme. The Phase 1 development is divided numerically into areas for development purposes. These are at odds with the alphabetic area designations used at the earlier stages of the project (including for archaeology). To avoid confusion for the reader, cross-referencing the various archaeological reports for the overall project the original system of areas is maintained in this report. Figure 2 shows how the two systems relate to one another and the archaeology mitigation areas. In summary, the areas equate as follows:

Development Area 1 = Archaeology Area C (part), Area D, and YP (part) (includes archaeology mitigation Area 2)
Development Area 2 = Area C (part) and Area YP (part)
Development Area 3 = Area E (part), F (part) and C (part)
Development Area 4 = Area F (part)
Development Area 5 = Area E (part) and F (part) (includes archaeology mitigation Area 6)
Development Area 6 = Area DR (includes archaeology mitigation Area 10) and RO (part)
Development Area 7 = E (part), F (part) and YP (part)
Development Area 8 = GJ (part) and KR (part)
Development Area 9 = KR (part)
Development Area 10 = KR (part)
Development Area 11 = Area G (part)
Development Area 12 = RO (part) and
Development Area 13 = G (part), M, P and R

- 2.8** Construction methodology for the site-wide topsoil-stripping generally used bulldozers, with subsequent reductions often made using 360-degree tracked excavators. Service trenches, foundations and other facilities were excavated using 360-degree tracked excavators. Archaeologists were afforded safe access to all areas of intrusive works by the construction contractors to enable examination for archaeological features. Archaeological features were excavated and recorded in accordance with the procedures set out within the Written Scheme of Investigation.

3 Site location and description (Fig 1)

- 3.1** The Colchester Garrison PFI site occupies an extensive area on the eastern flank of a plateau capped with Pleistocene gravels and sand clay/silt. In terms of the modern town, the site lies between the suburbs of Shrub End and Blackheath.
- 3.2** The view to the north is of the southern flanks of the modern town (overlying the Roman town). To the south, the garrison stretches as far as Maypole Green, with views down to Friday Woods and on to the Roman River valley.
- 3.3** In general, ground level slopes gently down from north to south, from 34.4m south of Le Cateau Barracks to 32.9m near Roman Barracks. The only exceptions to this gentle slope are a dip down to the north at the extreme north end of the project area (at St John's abbey), where ground level drops to 22.8m, and at the south end of the project area where the ground rises slightly to 34.7m on Berechurch Road before falling to 33.2m on Berechurch Hall Road (the southern limit of the project area).
- 3.4** Drift geology of the area is predominantly sands and gravel. This is occasionally in a clay matrix, and is capped by cover loam to a depth of approximately 0.3m.
- 3.5** NGR for the centre of the watching brief area (south edge of Area F) is at TL 9930 2300.

4 Archaeological background

The site in its broader context

- 4.1** The archaeological and historical setting of the proposed New Garrison development area has already been comprehensively explored in *An archaeological desk-based assessment of the Colchester Garrison PFI site* (CAT Report 97), and will only be summarised here.
- 4.2** The New Garrison watching brief site (like much of the land south and south-west of Colchester's modern town centre) falls within the area of the pre-Roman *oppidum* of Camulodunum. The only above-ground traces of this *oppidum* are the linear banks and ditches of the defensive dyke system that surrounded it (EHER nos 11631-11638). The Garrison area occupies the eastern edge of the *oppidum*, and one of the defensive dykes (the Berechurch Dyke: EHER no 11633) crosses the extreme south-eastern edge of the Garrison (on the east edge of Roman Barracks).
- 4.3** As presently understood, the *oppidum* had two main centres of activity: at modern Gosbecks Farm (2km south-west of the Garrison), which was a Late Iron Age and Roman rural farmstead (and possibly the home of Cunobelin: 11643-52); and Sheepen (2km north-west of the Garrison), which was the industrial and trading centre (EHER nos 11673-81). Apart from these two large centres (above), it is likely that there were a number of smaller domestic and farming sites in the *oppidum*. One of these may have been identified by the field boundaries, paddocks and other features recorded at Kirkee McMunn Barracks in 1994 (Shimmin 1998, figs 8, 11). A large area of cropmarks is recorded over the southern part of the Garrison area. Geophysical survey has confirmed and added to the pattern of linear cropmark features (CAT Report 184). An informed interpretation based on previous work indicates that they are late prehistoric to Romano-British in date, and represent the trackways, paddocks and field boundaries of a rural settlement of that period.

Previous archaeological investigation at the ‘New Garrison’ site

- 4.4 Following on from the desk-based assessment (CAT Report 97 of 2000), Stage One evaluation in 2002 included extensive fieldwalking and magnetometer survey (CAT Report 184 of 2002), and approximately 12km of trial-trenching (CAT Reports 197, 203, 205, 206 and 207, all 2002). Approximately 3 hectares of open area archaeological excavations were undertaken for Stage 2 of the archaeological project in 2003. The watching brief described here is Stage 3 of archaeological investigation at the ‘New Garrison’ site.

Stage 1 evaluation

- 4.5 The extensive Stage 1 evaluations are summarised below (sections 4.6 to 4.15) and included fieldwalking survey, geophysical survey and approximately 12km of trial-trenching in 2002.

Neolithic to Middle Bronze Age evidence

- 4.6 Evidence for early prehistoric activity was notably sparse and there was a very low incidence of the ubiquitous flint tools and flakes associated with Mesolithic, Neolithic and Early Bronze Age activities. An isolated pit in Area M produced a little possibly Neolithic pottery, and several soft hammer flint flakes of probable Neolithic date. The pit resembled a waterhole or well with fills of relatively low-grade inorganic sediments containing a small artefact assemblage, apparently in a secondary context. The primary fill was not encountered.

As only one feature of Neolithic date was located within the 12km of trial-trenches, Neolithic period activity is clearly at a very low level.

Late Bronze Age/Iron Age settlement and field boundaries

- 4.7 Evidence for Late Bronze Age/Early Iron Age activity, both in terms of landscape divisions and settlement areas, was also found to be at a low level. This is demonstrated by occasional pits and residual pottery and flint recovered from later features. Areas of higher concentrations of Late Bronze Age/Early Iron Age pottery, indicative of associated settlement, were encountered within Areas R and E.

The features contained relatively low-grade inorganic sediments containing isolated sherds/flints or groups of sherds apparently in a secondary context. All of the listed features have been subject to plough truncation.

Middle Iron Age landscape boundary, field system and isolated pits

- 4.8 Middle Iron Age features and finds were found sparsely across the site. Isolated pits have been identified in Area C and Area E. Middle Iron Age pottery has also been found residually in Area F. Area C produced a substantial north-south orientated ditch, 2.84m in width and 1.3m in depth, running for 13.11m through the trench which produced an assemblage of Middle Iron Age pottery in addition to burnt flint. This area of high potential was targeted for excavation in Stage 2 (Area 2; see below, section 4.17).

Middle Iron Age pottery in fresh condition was recovered from a gully or ditch and post-hole in Area R, close to an east-west-orientated cropmark with which the gully may be affiliated. A further similar sherd of Iron Age pottery was recovered from within a ditch in Area R, again close to the line of a linear cropmark feature. The cropmarks within Area R (west) are of particular interest since at least two phases of landscape are represented by a major north-east/south-west-orientated trackway cutting through or cut by a north-south/east-west-orientated coaxial field system. The pre-Late Iron Age pottery within linear features similarly aligned to the field system indicate the possibility that this north-south/east-west field system is of pre-*oppidum* date, whilst the major curvilinear trackway is likely to be associated with the *oppidum* (although dating from archaeology mitigation Area 10 now suggests it may be solely Roman (CAT/RPS Report 292). Area RO included an intersection of the main trackway with ditches potentially belonging to an earlier landscape. Further north-south- and east-west-orientated but undated features

within Area M and Area C may also relate to a pre-*oppidum* landscape of potential Middle Iron Age date.

The Middle Iron Age features contained relatively low-grade inorganic fills, although one ditch in Area C contained a charcoal-rich sediment potentially derived from hearth clearance.

Late Iron Age/ Romano-British curvilinear droeway

- 4.9** The major landscape feature to be examined during the trenching exercise comprised a double-ditched trackway, identified by aerial photography and geophysical survey running from south-west to north-east through Areas R, P, RO, DR (development Area 6) and Q (now part of the Alienated Land development project by Taylor Woodrow). The track was intersected by ten evaluation trenches, but few finds were present within the excavated segments. Small sherds of probable Iron Age pottery were recovered from four ditch segments, and as a result it appeared likely that it was contemporary with the Late Iron Age *oppidum* as a line of communication through its eastern area. As mentioned above, new dating now suggests a Roman date for the track. A connecting track was confirmed by trenching in Areas M and P. This area of high potential was targeted for excavation in Stage 2 (Area 6; section 4.17 below). Several undated ditches in Areas RO, M and P are aligned at right angles to the main trackway may represent contemporary field boundaries.

Any metalling or rutting between the flanking ditches of these trackways and evidence for banks had been removed by ploughing, which had also reduced the original depth of the ditches. The ditches were filled with low-grade homogeneous sandy silt deposits. The trackway has been impacted by development Area 6 and was the subject of an excavation in 2003 to mitigate the impact (see section 4.12 below).

Probable Late Iron Age/Roman rectilinear enclosure

- 4.10** A sub-rectangular enclosure with a central possible pit was noted as a cropmark in the area of the Musket Club (Area T). The previously plotted cropmark was identified on an oblique aerial photograph and was re-rectified for the purposes of the evaluation. Evaluation trench T1 was positioned to intersect the defining ditch of the feature within an area of tarmac within the part-tarmac and part-brick car-park adjacent to the Musket Club. The feature was not found in the trench, although its original position was indicated by a wide dip within the underlying terrace gravels. Subsequent investigations for Stage 2 of the archaeological project in 2004-2005 (CAT Report 311: see Appendix 2) provided further evidence of its form and date. The cropmark enclosure is paralleled by numerous rectilinear settlement enclosures of Late Iron Age or Romano-British date in southern Britain. The presence of a central pit-like feature (not impacted) probably indicates that the site was utilised as a mortuary enclosure, as found locally at Stanway and dated to the Late Iron Age (Crummy *et al* forthcoming).

Late Iron Age/Roman farm and coaxial field system

- 4.11** Field divisions on a north-east/south-west and north-west/south-east alignment within Areas C, DR, F and G appear to be directly associated with a previously known early Romano-British settlement at Kirkee McMunn Barracks. Whilst similar in form to the earlier prehistoric fields, the scale is far greater and is best regarded as a type described by English Heritage (1988) as a coaxial field system. The farm buildings which are located in the south-east corner of Kirkee McMunn Barracks (development Area 9), included significant occupation finds material within coaxial ditches on the same alignment as those within Areas C, DR, F and G, and a Romano-British hypocaust (under-floor heating system) pit containing box flue and Romano-British tile categories indicative of a Romanised farmstead (Shimmin 1998). Fragments of Romano-British landscape were also represented by coaxial ditches in Areas C and YP. The dating evidence within these ditches was, however, limited to Romano-British tile.

- 4.12** The elements of the Late Iron Age/early Romano-British landscape are particularly clearly defined within areas adjacent to Kirkee McMunn Barracks by two north-east/south-west-orientated trackways crossing evaluation Areas E and F. These trackways are approximately 12m in width. A linked north-west/south-east-orientated track was recorded within Area F, where the ditches were approximately 4m apart. This track is demonstrated by geophysical survey and as cropmarks and clearly extends to the south-east where it was intercepted in Area G. A further, wider north-east/south-west-orientated track connected with this trackway within Area F as a routeway leading to the south-west and towards the Roman town to the north. Further ditches within Areas E, F and G were probably elements of this landscape. Fragments of amphora of the Late Iron Age period were found in Area F, adjacent one of the trackways. The dating for this landscape is based upon pottery including 'grog-tempered wares' typical of the Late Iron Age in combination with early Romano-British pottery and tile. These finds were typically found to be concentrated within ditches adjacent to Kirkee McMunn Barracks. Furthermore, Romano-British tile finds from these trackway ditches included box-flue tile which almost certainly derived from the Romano-British hypocaust from Kirkee McMunn Barracks.
- 4.13** Less well-defined evidence of contemporary fields within Areas M, P and R suggested that this area was also farmed during the *oppidum* period. However, the variable alignments of these features may indicate a less structured landscape character than was laid out immediately adjacent to the Kirkee McMunn Barracks settlement. Mitigation Areas 6 and 10 were specifically designed to excavate intersect key elements of the Late Iron Age to Romano-British landscape in order to provide high-quality data to address the project aims (CAT/RPS Report 292).
- 4.14** The Romano-British building investigated in 1994 (Shimmin 1998) has subsequently been covered by garrison buildings that are to be retained by the present development and the major archaeological feature of this phase is not at significant risk. Nevertheless, the area of the known Roman site was flagged as a sensitive area, and any groundworks this area were subject to an enhanced level of watching brief and recording.

World War I and II training and defence

- 4.15** The three World War II concrete and brick pill-boxes and concrete gun emplacement adjacent to Berechurch Road (southern extent of Area F) and on the edges of Areas G and P respectively will be unaffected by the development. The line of a World War II tank-trap ditch was recorded running from east to west through Areas DR and G and was detected by both aerial photography and geophysical survey as a negative feature. In addition to these, a number of military features were encountered during the trial-trenching. These comprised both linear trenches, sometimes revetted, and horseshoe-shaped ditches whose upcast was presumably intended to protect military positions. These features were concentrated within Area F (east) which is identified as a focal area for military training during World War I. Military bunkers were identified within Roman Barracks. The condition of these features was poor. The features within Area F, including practice communication trenches and a fire trench, required munitions clearance ahead of the New Garrison redevelopment. An archaeological watching brief was conducted under the management of RPS for this process (see Appendix 1: CAT Report 246).

Stage 2 excavations: Areas 2, 6, 10 (2003) (Figs 1, 7)

- 4.16 The excavations followed extensive Stage 1 evaluations (including approximately 12km of trial-trenching in 2002). Collectively the works comprise the largest single intrusive investigation (covering an area of 101 ha) to have taken place within the Late Iron Age *oppidum* of Camulodunum.
- 4.17 Following the evaluations, excavations were carried out in three areas, ie Areas 2, 6 and 10. In **Area 2**, there was an impressive Middle Iron Age enclosure with an internal round-house, at the centre of which was a pottery vessel (a placed deposit). A hollow way track led to the enclosure from the east. The enclosure was put out of use before a ditched trackway was constructed through it by the early Roman period. **Area 6** was dominated by trackways and field boundaries associated with the *oppidum* field layout. Fringe activities from the adjacent Kirkee McMunn Barracks Roman farmstead (including burials and a stock corral or barn) spilled out into this area. **Area 10** contained Iron Age cremation burials and structures and a complex sequence of Late Iron Age/Roman trackways and field boundaries.

**Results of Stage 2 excavations: Areas 2, 6, and 10 (2003: CAT/RPS Report 292)
Settlement before the Early Iron Age.**

- 4.18 There is limited evidence for habitation and farming before the Early Iron Age, and it is probable that until then the area was predominantly forested.

The Early-Middle Iron Age

- 4.19 The Early Iron Age burials, 4-post structures and artefacts that were found in excavation Area 10 suggest an intensification of settlement and farming, at least in the eastern area of the New Garrison. A significant Middle Iron Age moderate-status enclosed round-house was excavated in Area 2 and this, combined with a residual pottery scatter in Area 6 (indicating manuring and therefore arable farming), suggests that wider tracts of land were now open than had been the case previously. The Area 2 enclosure is similarly dated to later Middle Iron Age round-house enclosures recently excavated at the Stanway and Abbotstone sites (Crummy *et al* forthcoming; CAT Report 312). Taken collectively, these moderate-status enclosures suggest that the area was not a blank canvas upon which the later *oppidum* of Camulodunum was imposed, but rather was already relatively productive and affluent, albeit fairly sparsely populated.

Late Iron Age settlement

- 4.20 Late Iron Age settlement of the *oppidum* period appears to have centred on a farmstead at or near the Roman settlement at Kirkee McMunn Barracks. Widespread associated farmland is probably demonstrated by several field boundaries that were probably originally Late Iron Age but were recut in the Roman period and by manuring pottery scatters in Areas 6, 2 and 10.

Roman period

- 4.21 These field systems were extended and augmented to form a trackway-dominated (and therefore probably predominantly pastoral landscape) following the Roman invasion and institution of the colony. The Roman farmlands appear to have been at least partially managed from a farmstead that appears to have been placed at or close to the site of its Iron Age predecessor, at the Kirkee McMunn Barracks site.
- 4.22 It is unclear whether this tract of land was confiscated for allocation to the colonists. There is no proper 'centuriation' of the landscape, whilst the continued use of the Kirkee McMunn Barracks farmstead in the Roman period may indicate that the area continued to be farmed by descendants of the Late Iron Age farmers.

- 4.23** The Roman field ditches within all areas of the New Garrison site had silted up by or in the 3rd century. This phenomenon corresponds with the apparent abandonment of the farmstead at the Kirkee McMunn Barracks site and the similar abandonment periods of farmsteads to the south-west and south of the Roman town, ie at the Abbotstone and Stanway sites and Area E of the 'Alienated Land' scheme. It appears possible that the civil war and 'barbarian' raiding of the late Roman period caused the farmers to retreat to the safety of the town walls, thus leaving their estate ditches, if not the farmlands themselves, unattended.

Late Roman, Anglo-Saxon and medieval activity

- 4.24** There was virtually no trace of 4th-century, Anglo-Saxon or medieval activity within the sample excavation areas, although post-medieval ditches in Area 2 may have medieval origins. This does not necessarily mean that the landscape reverted to forest, since the gravel plateau is so well drained that archaeologically traceable drainage ditches may simply not have been required.

5 Aims

- 5.1** **The projects' aims and objectives**, in addition to the full archaeological background, are given in the *Research design for archaeological excavations and watching brief at the New Garrison, Colchester* (RPS/CAT 2002) and within the WSI. This document is specifically designed to provide a sound basis for the fieldwork and post-fieldwork practice for the watching brief over the entire area of the New Garrison development.

- 5.2 The overarching research themes**, as stated in the research design are to:

- 1) inform how the landscape was used and to what level of intensification, prior to the construction of Camulodunum,
- 2) elucidate the nature of spatial organisation within the *oppidum*, and
- 3) address the question of the effect of the establishment of the Roman town on the agricultural hinterland.

The Project Aims and Objectives are as follows:

Overarching Research Objective: To characterise the nature of landscape utilisation and change from the Neolithic (or earlier) to the Romano-British period.

Project Aim 1. What was the nature of small scale agricultural Neolithic and early-middle Bronze Age activities within the site, and in particular can ritual and/or settlement areas be identified?

Project Aim 2. What was the nature of later Bronze Age/early Iron Age activities and in particular is there evidence of the emergence of more permanent settlements and field systems within the proposal site?

Project Aim 3. What was the nature of the Middle Iron Age settlement within the area of the later oppidum and are there indications of landscape division and settlement which might allude to the origins of the oppidum?

Project Aim 4. To elucidate the nature of spatial organisation within the oppidum, establish how this relates to general agricultural settlement expansion at this time and establish what inferences can be made from the distribution of coins.

Project Aim 5. To clarify the form/function and duration of the trackways with respect to the oppidum and to establish which elements of the social landscape they connected.

Project Aim 6. To establish the role of the Berechurch Dyke with regard to the chronology of the layout of other internal oppidum features such as the curvilinear trackways and the co-axial track/field systems.

Project Aim 7. To establish whether there are any surviving remains of the cropmark enclosure or associated external features within the proposal site footprint, and to characterise the function of the enclosure within the oppidum complex.

Project Aim 8. To clarify the date, form and function of the co-axial field system, to establish the nature of its development within the oppidum and/or the Roman town's hinterland and to establish the evidence for association with the farmstead at Kirkee McMunn Barracks.

Project Aim 9. What was the nature of Saxon and medieval landscape within the development site and what was the relationship of the landscape to Saxon and medieval Colchester?

Project Aim 10. To record and contextualise any modern military features within the New Garrison site for which there are insufficient current records.

6 Monitoring locations and results

6.1 Area C (Figs 1, 4, 6-7, 9)

Area C (split between development Areas 1, 2, 3 and 4) is bounded by archaeology project Areas F and D, with its northern edge formerly defined by Ypres Road. Previous archaeological work here included geophysical survey in 2001 (CAT Report 184; the area was not fieldwalked because it was an area of grass pasture), Stage 1 evaluation trenching in 2002 (CAT Report 197), and the excavation of mitigation Area 2 in 2003 (located on the northern edge of Area C). The installation of the perimeter fence was monitored from March 2004 as part of the enabling works. No archaeological features were noted within the post-holes (300mm wide and to 0.5m depth). The groundworks in this area comprised an initial topsoil-strip from April 2004 that proved too shallow to expose archaeological features, and the subsequent groundworks for access roads/parade grounds and foundations and services for structures B02, B04, C01, C02, C03, G01 which encountered sparse archaeological remains (in April and May 2005). The most substantial area of developer excavation comprised an 80m by 80m area, 5m in depth, for the NCOs' mess. This work, conducted in July 2004, produced no archaeological finds. Environmental soil surveys within Area C were also archaeologically monitored in April 2004. The archaeological features recorded during watching brief in this area were identified between April 2004 and April 2005.

6.1.1 Description of archaeological contexts and finds

The archaeological material recorded in Area C consisted of five ditches, none of which were substantial. Two were dated to the Roman period by finds (WBF18, WBF49), a third is probably similarly dated because it was parallel to Roman ditch (WBF17) and had a generally similar fill. A fourth ditch (WBF74) was undated, but its general SW-NE alignment means it may also be Late Iron Age/Roman. Finally, ditch WBF19 was cut by Roman ditch WBF18, and is probably dated to the Middle Iron Age by associated pottery.

Modern military trenches had been defined during the munitions clearance works previously and their locations are shown on figure 1 of the attached Appendix 1 (trenches E1, E2, DTI1-DT13 and dt172).

Table 1: Area C contexts and finds

Context	Interpretation	Finds bag nos	Finds types	Context date
WBF17	ditch			Roman
WBF18	ditch	58	Roman tile, including <i>tegula</i> flange	Roman
WBF19	ditch	59	Middle Iron Age sherds	Middle Iron Age

WBF49	ditch	42	Roman <i>tegula</i> , and ?peg-tile (intrusive?)	Roman?
WBF74	ditch			undated-Roman?

Table 2: Area C unstratified finds

Finds bag no	Finds types
60	1 Roman sherd, 1st-2nd or 3rd century
62	Late Iron Age sherd
15	2nd- to 3rd-century sherd
14	two Neolithic blades
61	Mesolithic or Neolithic blade
30 (sf12)	copper-alloy loop, post-medieval

6.1.2 Area C interpretation (Figs 6-9)

The dated ditches fall into two periods, ie Middle Iron Age and Late Iron Age/Roman. The short stretch of north-south ditch WBF19 is quite close to the alignment of the Middle Iron Age enclosure excavated in 2003 (CAT Report 270), and may be a small surviving fragment of an associated Middle Iron Age field system (although no associated field boundaries were found in 2003). It is possible that the Middle Iron Age pottery is residual within a Late Iron Age or Roman feature, since it contained small and abraded sherds (nine fragments).

The next event in the sequence here is laying out of a pair of parallel ditches WBF17 and WBF18, with WBF18 cutting the earlier Middle Iron Age ditch WBF17. These ditches, investigated in June 2004, align very closely to the trackway defining the north-western edge of Field 2 in Area F to the east of Kirkee McMunn Barracks (other elements of the field were excavated in Area 6), and also with several short sections of its flanking ditches found in Area E in the Stage 1 evaluations. Although there is a slight question mark over parts of the middle of the trackway, taken together the newly-discovered ditches suggest that the Late Iron Age/early Roman ditched trackway just west of Area 6 runs farther to the north-east than had been previously proven (approximately 720m). To judge by the alignment, it passed to the north-west of the site of the Area 2 Middle Iron Age enclosure, and must come to a junction with the Late Iron Age/Roman trackway cutting the Middle Iron Age enclosure to the north of the enclosure. Another wide trackway/road was discovered in Area J1 (former Cavalry Barracks) of the linked Alienated Land project, about 0.7km further to the north, and it is tempting to suggest that the New Garrison route kinked slightly northwards through Area YP to ultimately link with that route. This would then have provided a link between the Roman town and its agricultural hinterland (Fig 8).

If the extension of the trackway and its junction north of Area 2 is accepted, then this brings into play another pair of ditch fragments found 180m to the south-east of ditches WBF17/WBF18 in Area C in Stage 1 evaluation of Area F. These clearly suggest the possibility of another previously unrecognised trackway running parallel to the WBF17/WBF18 trackway, which includes ditch fragments found in 2001 and 2004 and links into the trackway separating Fields 2 and 5 in excavation Area 6. Clearly, there is a gap in the middle of this hypothetical trackway, but, given the general configuration of fields and ditches in this part of the *oppidum*, the hypothesis seems very reasonable.

Several ditch fragments now appear to run parallel or at right angles to this extended field system, including the undated ditch WBF74, and a long (though unconfirmed by trenching) cropmark ditch running NW to SE just to the west of the trackway cutting the Area 2 enclosure.

Unstratified finds help to fill out the settlement picture slightly. Whereas the few unstratified Late Iron Age and Roman sherds do not introduce any previously unknown landscape elements, the flints add a little detail to our knowledge of the earlier prehistoric period, and show that people were active in this area possibly in the Mesolithic and certainly in the Neolithic period.

6.2 Area E (Figs 1, 4, 6-7, 9-10)

Area E (split between development Areas 3, 5 and 7) lies east of Kirkee McMunn Barracks (Area KR), amongst the fields and trackways of the *oppidum*. Being an area of modern pasture, Area E was not fieldwalked, but was subject to the geophysical survey of 2001 (CAT Report 184), followed by Stage 1 evaluation trenching in 2002 (CAT Report 203). There were no later (2003) area excavations within Area E, although the excavated site Area 6 lies due south. However, the proximity of the 1994 Kirkee McMunn Barracks site means there is a potential for features related to the Iron Age and Roman farmstead. The intrusive development works here have included the site-wide topsoil-strip in the spring/early summer of 2004, the subsequent cutting of foundations for buildings K02, K07, K08 and K09 in Area 5 and D06 and D10 in Area 3, associated service trenches/drainage installation (July/August 2004), and roads and hardstandings (summer 2004). A double-ditched Roman track (described below) was identified and excavated to the immediate east of Kirkee McMunn Barracks in May and June 2004.

6.2.1 Description of archaeological contexts and finds

The Area E features consisted of five ditches and one pit/ditch. Three of the ditches (the pair WBF11 and WBF12, and WBF62) are part of the trackway system previously known as cropmarks and subsequently intercepted in the 2002 Stage 1 evaluations (CAT Report 197) and subsequently excavated in Area 6 (CAT/RPS Report 292).

WBF11 and WBF12 actually fall between the parts of the trackway intercepted by 2002 evaluation trenches E2 and E3, thus filling in a blank in the previous plan. The find from WBF11 is probably a pot from a displaced cremation burial. This relationship between a boundary ditch and a burial mirrors the possible cremation burial in the same ditch recovered in the 1994 watching brief at Kirkee McMunn Barracks. There were no finds from WBF12, but it is unquestionably Roman. Ditch F62 was recorded at three points. Its position suggests that it is another new length of ditch on the line of the same trackway as WBF11 and WBF12, but it appears to block off a gap in the trackway giving access into the Kirkee McMunn Barracks site. The Roman date of the ditch is confirmed by two Roman sherds.

Undated ditch WBF59 was recorded close to the line of the trackway dividing Fields 2 and 5 (Fig 6). Unfortunately, no alignment could be discerned, so it is not possible to confirm the likelihood that WBF59 is actually a previously-known trackway ditch.

WBF20 is a linear ditch containing Roman pottery and CBM. There is also a piece of peg-tile, which may be intrusive. However, this ditch does not follow the alignment of the *oppidum* landscape.

Ditch WBF60 was the only undated context from Area E reflecting its position adjacent to settlement.

Table 3: Area E contexts and finds

Context	Interpretation	Finds bag nos	Finds types	Context date
WBF11	Trackway ditch (paired with WBF12)	51	part of 1st- to 2nd- century pot (displaced from burial?); grog-tempered Late Iron Age /1st -century sherd	Roman
WBF12	Trackway ditch (paired with WBF11)			Roman

WBF20	Ditch	12, 28	Roman CBM and peg-tile; 1st -century(?) sherds	Roman (with intrusive peg-tile?)
WBF59	Ditch?			undated
WBF60	Pit/ditch			undated
WBF62	Ditch	46	Roman sherds	Roman

Table 4: Area E unstratified finds

Bag no	Finds type
49 (sf14)	copper-alloy button with pattern, post-medieval or modern garrison material
50 (sf15)	copper-alloy button with pattern, post-medieval or modern garrison material
11	early Neolithic blade, prehistoric burnt flints
23	single piece of flint sickle, Neolithic
25	two prehistoric flints
29	Mesolithic, Neolithic and Bronze Age flints
64	burnt flint, prehistoric
65	two prehistoric flints

6.2.2 Area E interpretation (Figs 6-8)

More unstratified flints came from Area E than anywhere else during the watching brief. This shows a human presence, however transitory, in this area in the Mesolithic, Neolithic and Bronze Age periods. These included a rare flint sickle fragment of Neolithic date suggestive of early arable farming.

The newly-discovered fragments of Roman ditch have filled in blank areas in previously known trackways close to the Kirkee McMunn Barracks site, and complement other newly-discovered features on the Kirkee McMunn Barracks site itself (ie Area KR here). The north-east/south-west-orientated trackway, east of Kirkee McMunn Barracks, has been discussed above with regard to its extension (via Area F) into Area C running to the north-west of mitigation Area 2, and possibly linking to the trackway recently excavated in Area J1 of the linked Alienated Land project at the former Saddle Club on the west side of Circular Road North. Other features appear to represent paddock ditches, pits and burial associated with the Kirkee McMunn Barracks Roman farmstead. One possibly Roman ditch (WBF20) does not follow the general alignment of the *oppidum* landscape which could suggest that the fragment of peg-tile within it was not intrusive, but rather dates this feature to the post-medieval period.

Two copper-alloy buttons bear witness to Army presence in this area although training trenches were absent in this area.

6.3 Area F (Figs 1, 4, 6-7, 10)

On its south side, Area F (split between development Areas 3, 4 and 5) was bounded by Berechurch Road and Earlswood Way. Part of its east side was also bounded by Berechurch Road. The area stretches north alongside Area E as far as the sports pitches west of the former Ypres Road. Like Area E, Area F intercepted some of the fields and trackways of the *oppidum*. Archaeological work here included the initial fieldwalking and geophysical survey of 2001 (CAT Report 184) followed by Stage 1 evaluation trenching in 2002 (CAT Report 203).

Area F (west) also includes the excavated Area 6 site, which was dominated by trackways and field boundaries associated with the *oppidum* field layout. Fringe activities, such as burials, home farm paddocks and a stock-holding area, spilled out into this area from the adjacent Kirkee McMunn Barracks Roman farmstead.

Construction works within Area F East (parts of construction Area 2 and 4) comprised the site-wide topsoil-strip, fence construction, construction of the road bridge across Berechurch Road to Area G including ramp construction (spring/summer 2004 - construction Area 11), buildings D03, D04, D05, F01 and K24 and associated hardstandings, services and roads.

Construction in Area F West (parts of construction Areas 3, 4 and 5) included fence construction, the topsoil strip for the temporary works compound to the north of Earlswood Way and subsequent foundation/ service cutting for these buildings (part of the enabling works from 10th February 2004), site-wide topsoil stripping, foundation cutting for buildings G03, G10, G11, G12, K02, K04, K21, K22, K23, L05, L06 and P01, associated hardstandings, services (including stormwater drains) and roads.

6.3.2 Area F description of archaeological contexts and finds

Modern features include pit WBF16, service trenches WBF28-F29, and charcoal patch F30. These typically contain very modern finds such as peg-tile, coal, iron nails and modern glass. The largest modern group is WBF25, which was probably dug during recovery of EOD in 2002-3 by Bactec, the EOD engineers. Apart from modern pottery and coal, this also contained residual Neolithic/Early Bronze Age flints, burnt flints, and two Middle Iron Age scraps. Appendix 1 to this document demonstrates the density of modern military training trenches within Area F East, including World War I fire and communication trenches (labelled B1-B8 and F4 on Appendix 1 fig 1), and within the central area of Area F West (trenches labelled A1-A8 on Appendix 1 fig 1). During these works, two practice 'sappers' tunnels' were also located (Appendix 1 figs 2 and 8). The contractors (Keltbray) located a further sappers' tunnel during the construction works in Area F East in May 2004. Further military tunnels were identified during works for the bridge across Berechurch Road in June 2004 (group number WBF4; Fig 6).

Undated features include pits WBF15, WBF16 (F East) and WBF24 (F West), and ditches WBF43 (F West) and WBF68 (south of building F01 in F East). However, ditch WBF43 is aligned NNE-SSW and might be part of the oppidum/Roman landscape, perhaps a field boundary running off a trackway at right angles.

Dated features include three ditch fragments. WBF75 is the southern ditch of the SSW-NNE trackway separating Fields 2 and 5 as defined within excavation Area 6 (Fig 6), which had already been identified as a cropmark both north and south of this position. A sherd of Roman pottery of the 1st century AD was recovered from the fill. The two other ditches are WBF76 and WBF77 (at the western end of the construction compound in F West) are located immediately west of the west edge of excavated Area 6, and the same ditches were recorded on site as F4 and F2 respectively (CAT/RPS Report 292, fig 14). There was no independent dating evidence from WBF76-F77, but they are dated to early-to mid Roman on Area 6 (with the southern ditch WBF77 being a possible recut of an earlier ditch line).

One cremation grave and a possible inhumation cut were excavated in February 2004 during the enabling works for the construction compound in F West (Figs 7, 9). Pit WBF1 was a squarish cut containing six iron nails. All the iron nails show signs of scorching, which strongly suggests that they are pyre debris, similar to examples from early Roman cemetery sites in Colchester (CAR 9). No human remains or grave goods were recorded from WBF1. Though this cannot be proved to be a grave, the deposit of pyre debris suggests that WBF1 is a deliberate burial of significant material (a burnt box with iron nails). Whether there were ever any cremated human remains in the cut must remain an open question, but the absence of bone may be explained by the acidic nature of the subsoil.

Pit WBF1 cut through WBF2, a rather baggy-shaped cut aligned NW-SE. No human remains or grave goods were recorded from WBF2, but its general shape suggests that it may be an inhumation grave cut (again, with the absence of bone being due to the acidic soil).

Features probably of natural origin include tree-throw pit WBF33.

Table 5: Area F contexts and finds

(Fabric descriptions for post-Roman pottery are taken from CAR 7.)

Context	Interpretation	Finds bag nos	Finds types	Context date
WBF01	cremation	03, 04-10	five Roman sherds 1st-2nd century; iron nails	Roman, 1st?
WBF02	inhumation			Roman
WBF15	pit			undated
WBF16	pit	55	coke/coal	modern
WBF24	pit			undated
WBF25	Bactec trench	33, 34	Neolithic/EBA flints; two Middle Iron Age scraps; post-medieval glass; Fabric 48d ironstone; coal scraps	21st century
WBF28	service trench	67	PMRE sherds; peg-tile; coally bits; iron nail; modern glass	modern
WBF29	service trench or ditch			modern
WBF30	charcoal patch		animal bone	modern?
WBF33	tree-throw pit			undated
WBF39	pit			undated
WBF43	ditch			undated
WBF68	ditch			undated
WBF75	ditch	47	sherd from Roman storage jar	Roman 1st century AD
WBF76	ditch			Late Iron Age /Roman
WBF77	ditch			Late Iron Age/ Roman

Table 6: Area F unstratified finds

Finds bag nos	Finds types
53 (sf7)	copper-alloy object
1	1st- to 3rd-century sherd
24	three Roman sherds, mid 2nd +? to mid 3rd-4th century
13	complete recent gunflint

6.3.3 Area F interpretation (Figs 6-8)

The residual Neolithic/Early Bronze Age flints, burnt flints, and two Middle Iron Age scraps in modern trench F25 show that there was activity in those periods close to this spot. The expectation is that the soil tipped back into this hole came from nearby, but it may in fact be from anywhere within a close radius.

Leaving aside the modern and natural features, the principal remains on Area F confirm previously-known Roman field ditches, or fill in missing sections of those ditches. The limited amount of material recovered during the watching brief confirms the previously known Roman date (probably early to mid Roman initially) for these elements of the *oppidum* landscape.

The discovery of probable burials is interesting on two counts. First, F1 and F2 are in fact immediately east of the east edge of excavation Area 6, and quite close to the location of the five inhumations found aligned along a field boundary between Fields 2 and 4/5 (CAT/RPS Report 292, fig 24). It is true that F2 does not seem so close to or

so tightly aligned to (the projected line of) the field boundary as those excavated in 2003, but its general shape does suggest an inhumation. The second point of interest is that we have a probable cremation in F1, whereas all the 2003 burials were inhumations. Having said that, there was an initial impression after the stripping of the Area 6 site that there were some charcoally patches in the south-east corner of the site which might have been the truncated remains of cremation burials, but excavation did not prove this to be the case. Perhaps the discovery of F1 raises the possibility that there were cremations here which have been very badly affected by ploughing.

No doubt these burials are those of various inhabitants of the Kirree McMunn Barracks farmstead, who had been buried in the fields where they worked.

6.4 Area G (Figs 1, 4, 5)

Area G (construction Area 11) lies east of Berechurch Road and west of the Driving School (Area DR), amongst the fields and trackways of the *oppidum*. The construction area was used as a works area including car-parking in Phase 1 but construction in this area is not due for completion until Phase 2. Archaeological work here includes the initial fieldwalking and geophysical survey of 2001 (CAT Report 184), followed by Stage 1 evaluation trenching in 2002 (CAT Report 207). There were no later (2003) area excavations within Area G.

Site topsoil-stripping for Area G was undertaken from February to March 2004 using a combination of 360-degree mechanical excavators and bulldozers. Few archaeological features were identified during this period, largely due to stripping remaining at the interface with the gravel below, at which point archaeological visibility is poor. Other major works comprised bridge construction including construction of piers (summer 2004 to February 2005) and installation of major services (June 2005). The latter elements provided the opportunity to identify several archaeological features (F65-F67 below).

6.4.1 Description of Area G archaeological contexts and finds

The archaeological discoveries on Area G were undated and not easy to interpret. They consisted of an isolated pit (WBF61), a ditch (WBF65), 1m wide and running east-west, another ditch (WBF66), approximately 1.4m wide and running east-west, and a pit WBF66, 0.35m deep. The recorded orientation means they are probably not part of the Late Iron Age /Roman landscape, which is generally orientated SW-NE or NW-SE, and the lack of finds means they are essentially undated.

Table 7: Area G contexts and finds

Context	Interpretation	Finds bag nos	Finds types	Context date
WBF61	pit?			undated
WBF65	ditch			undated
WBF66	ditch			undated
WBF67	pit			undated

Table 8: Area G unstratified finds

Finds bag nos	Finds types
21	early Neolithic blade
22	two Middle Iron Age scraps and one flint-tempered sherd (Late Bronze Age-Early Iron Age)

6.4.3 Area G interpretation (Figs 5, 8)

Loose flints typical of both the Mesolithic/Early Neolithic and Late Neolithic and Bronze Age and pottery demonstrate a human presence here in the Neolithic, Bronze Age or Iron Age. The only cut features are a number of undated ditches and pits which are probably not part of the Late Iron Age /Roman landscape.

6.5 Area KR (Figs 1, 4, 6-7, 11)

Area KR coincides with the Kirkee McMunn Barracks (construction Areas 8, 9 and 10 and westernmost projection of construction Area 3). This was not available for the fieldwalking or geophysical survey of 2001, but was subjected to a limited programme of trenching in the Stage 1 evaluation in 2002 (CAT Report 205). The relatively minor works within the barracks to date have included construction of services (gas diversion, cable and drainage) soakaways and fence relocation from March to July and September 2004, cutting of foundations, services and hardstandings associated with building A04, and part of building D10 (development Area 3). Archaeological features associated with D10 (F13-F14) were identified in May 2005. A gas service trench along the east side of the workshop/hanger in the south-east area of the barracks, immediately inside the former eastern perimeter fence, and more extensive service trenching in development Area 5 (close to the known site of a Roman farm below the workshop/hanger), were undertaken in late 2004/early 2005. These latter works proved particularly valuable. Archaeological monitoring was also conducted following removal of the Logistic Support Unit (LSU) floor in July 2005.

6.5.1 Description of Area KR archaeological contexts and finds

The material recovered in the watching brief at Kirkee McMunn Barracks is a combination of modern Army-related features and Late Iron Age or Roman features connected with the *oppidum* landscape.

Several features were recorded east of the modern Kirkee McMunn Barracks workshop building, and immediately north-east of the area excavated and recorded by CAT in 1994 (Shimmin 1998). In one respect, therefore, these features can be regarded as part of the Kirkee McMunn Barracks farmstead. A clay floor WBF37 (presumably Roman) sealed two features: first a series of burnt and charcoally layers, which must be a hearth (WBF34), and second, a pit (WBF38). The dating evidence for this sequence is a scrap of Middle Iron Age pottery from WBF34. However, given the 1st- to 3rd-century date of the other material at Kirkee McMunn Barracks, it must be a possibility that the pottery is residual, and the hearth and floor sequence is Roman.

Isolated Roman pit WBF26 (possibly used for storage) may be an extreme outlier of the Kirkee McMunn Barracks site.

Modern or undated material includes a large group of material from a rubbish pit WBF71 (containing items datable to World War I and afterwards), a ditch and pit WBF13/14, post-medieval gully WBF27, a probable Army practice 'fox hole' WBF51, and an undated ditch WBF31. WBF71 was excavated by the EOD team but was then recorded by the archaeological team. The pit was 29m long from north-south by 25m east-west and was approximately 3.3m deep. The finds included abundant china, glass, stoneware, iron buckets and several practice rounds and it appears to have been one of the main rubbish pits for the barracks.

Features of possible natural origin include a tree-throw pit F56. Undated features include pit WBF35 and ditch WBF48.

Table 9: Area KR contexts and finds

Context	Interpretation	Finds bag nos	Finds types	Context date
WBF13	pit			probably modern
WBF14	ditch?			probably modern
WBF26	pit			Roman?

WBF27	gully	66	probable post-medieval brick	post-medieval
WBF31	ditch	36	iron scraps (nails)	Roman?
WBF34	hearth?	37	Middle Iron Age pot scrap	potentially prehistoric, probably Roman
WBF35	pit?			undated
WBF37	clay layer (floor?)			Roman?
WBF38	pit sealed by F37			Roman?
WBF48	ditch			Roman?
WBF51	'fox hole'		modern finds	modern
WBF56	tree-throw pit			undated
WBF71	rubbish pit	48	sherds of Fabric 48d inscribed '1917' and '1918'; other 20th-century sherds; clay tobacco pipes; marble-stopper bottle	modern

6.5.2 Area KR interpretation (Figs 6-8)

The Roman material recovered from Area KR can be considered as part of the Kirkee McMunn Barracks Roman farmstead. The hearth WBF34 may be paralleled by Roman oven F8 recorded in 1994 only 30m to the south-west of WBF34, and both reflect the mixture of domestic activity taking place on that site. Ditch WBF48, though undated, was probably Roman (judging by its fill), and ran WNW-SSE. It may therefore be a fragment of *oppidum*/early Roman landscape. Pit WBF26, although some way to the north, may be an outlier of the Kirkee McMunn Barracks farmstead site.

Other features are of the modern 'Army' period, principally a large pit WBF71 containing WWI rubbish, a probable 'fox hole' WBF51, and ditches WBF13/WBF14. Undated features include pit WBF35 and tree-throw pit WBF36.

6.6 Area M (Figs 1, 4-5, 12)

Area M (part of development Area 13) lies east of Berechurch Road and west of the Driving School (Area DR), amongst the fields and trackways of the *oppidum*.

Archaeological work here includes the initial fieldwalking and geophysical survey of 2001 (CAT Report 184), followed by Stage 1 evaluation trenching in 2002 (CAT Report 207). There were no later (2003) area excavations within Area M. The construction works within this area comprised raised level sports pitches and a 10m-wide topsoil strip for a works haul road as part of the enabling works (March-April 2004). The construction of sports pitches included minor impacts to 'natural' ground level via drainage, although the footings for the new sports pavilion E01 provided an opportunity to record archaeological features (F72-F73) in July 2005.

6.6.1 Description of Area M archaeological contexts and finds

In the north-west corner of Area M, a group of three features was exposed during the construction of the haul road. Superficially, these appear to be a ditch (WBF3) running NW-SE, with a ditch (WBF2) and a pit (WBF1) parallel to it. However, it may be more reasonable to interpret this as a trackway, with one side defined by a continuous ditch and the other by a discontinuous ditch. The ditch (WBF3) is probably dated by a sherd of Roman pottery, possibly 1st century. The parallel features have no finds except for a surface find of post-medieval red earthenware (WBF2), which is regarded as unstratified and not relevant to the underlying ditch. The ditches run north-west to south-east, at approximate right angles to the main curvilinear trackway running east of this point, through Areas R, M, P, RO, DR and Q.

A second pair of features in the north-east corner of Area M was WBF72-WBF73, another pair of parallel ditches approximately 4.5m apart. These contained no finds (apart from charcoal), but the fact that they align quite well with the cropmark trackway farther south in Area M (and continuing in Area G to the north) means there is very little doubt that they are part of the same narrow Late Iron Age/Roman trackway.

Table 10: Area M contexts and finds

Context	Interpretation	Finds bag nos	Finds types	Context date
WBF1	pit			
WBF2	ditch	69	sherd Fabric 40 (PMRE)	Roman with intrusive post-medieval sherd
WBF3	ditch	68	Roman sherd, 1st century?	Roman
WBF72	ditch			Roman
WBF73	ditch			Roman

6.6.2 **Area M interpretation** (Figs 7-8)

Two pairs of parallel trackways were recorded. The first shared the alignment of a previously known trackway running through Areas M and G, and was parallel to the main curvilinear trackway (known to date to the Roman period within Area DR1), and the second was at approximate right angles to those two trackways. Both trackways can be regarded as part of the Late Iron Age or Roman landscape found elsewhere at the Garrison. This is supported by the date of associated pottery. The trackway defined by ditches WBF1/WBF2 defines the third side of a field measuring 288m on its long axis. It is of some interest that this is close to twice the width of Field 2 within excavation Area 6 at 138m.

6.7 **Area P** (Figs 1, 4-5, 8, 12)

Area P (part of development Area 13) lies west of Roman Way, and is surrounded on its other sides by project Areas G, M and R, amongst the fields and trackways of the *oppidum*. Archaeological work here includes the initial fieldwalking and geophysical survey of 2001 (CAT Report 184), followed by Stage 1 evaluation trenching in 2002 (CAT Report 207). There were no later (2003) area excavations within Area G. The construction works within this area comprised raised level sports pitches with some minor impacts to natural ground levels via drainage trenches. The excavation of a perimeter trench around the northernmost sports pitch in April 2005 exposed one ditch feature whilst a drainage ditch in the south-west corner of Area P in the same month produced elements of previously known archaeological features (see curvilinear track below).

6.7.1 **Description of Area P archaeological contexts and finds**

Ditch WBF47 was seen in section in a construction trench (but was not visible on the surface). There were no finds. At the point plotted, this is directly in line with a Late Iron Age/Roman ditch intercepted by trenching in Area P in 2002, and proves that the ditch continues slightly to the north.

Another ditch (WBF63) must be the southern ditch of the main curvilinear trackway. This was previously known as a cropmark, and was confirmed as such in the 2002 evaluation (CAT Report 207, 18-20). There were no finds.

Table 11: Area P contexts and finds

Context	Interpretation	Finds bag nos	Finds types	Context date
WBF47	ditch			Roman
WBF63	trackway ditch			Roman

6.7.2 Area P interpretation (Fig 8)

Two ditches were found which confirm and slightly extend previously known Late Iron Age/Roman ditches.

6.8 Area Q (Figs 1, 4, 8)

Area Q (part of the Alienated Land project but included very minor works for the New Garrison in the southern area) lies east of Berechurch Road and north of the Driving School (Area DR), amongst the fields and trackways of the *oppidum*. Archaeological work here includes the initial fieldwalking and geophysical survey of 2001 (CAT Report 184), followed by Stage 1 evaluation trenching in 2002 (CAT Report 207). There were no later (2003) area excavations within Area Q. An excavation for the Alienated Land project (Taylor Woodrow) was undertaken in 2004. The minor works under the jurisdiction of the New Garrison project comprised a service trench from DR1 linking into Area Q.

6.8.1 Description of Area Q archaeological contexts and finds

No archaeological features were recorded on Area Q. However, a watching brief recovered a combination of Roman and medieval sherds from the subsoil (WBL2).

Table 12: Area Q finds

Context	Interpretation	Finds bag nos	Finds types	Context date
WBL2	subsoil	1, 41	Roman sherds 1st to mid/late 3rd century; Fabric 20 medieval sandy grey ware sherds (12th/13th century); CBM scraps	mixture of medieval and Roman; cultivated soil erasing earlier (Roman) features

6.8.2 Area Q interpretation

The recovery of Roman and medieval sherds from the subsoil shows that there was activity here in those periods. However, the mixed nature of the finds shows that there may have been some contamination here, and the soil may have been disturbed.

6.9 Area R (Figs 1, 4-5, 13)

Area R (part of development Area 13) lies east of Berechurch Road and north of the Berechurch Hall Road, amongst the fields and trackways of the *oppidum*. Archaeological work here includes the initial fieldwalking and geophysical survey of 2001 (CAT Report 184), followed by Stage 1 evaluation trenching in 2002 (CAT Report 207). There were no later (2003) area excavations within Area R. The development has had little impact upon archaeological levels in this large area. The construction activities have comprised a single sports pitch, planting, a continuation of the haul road through Area M, and the footings for the new Officers' Housing (K26-K32) with an access link to Roman Way (on the eastern side of Area R). The haul road was undertaken in April 2004 as part of the enabling works whilst the construction activities associated with the new Officers' Housing (by Trax) including services (mains water and drainage ditches) were monitored from May to July 2004. Drainage trenches for the new sports pitch were monitored in September 2004.

6.9.1 Description of Area R archaeological contexts and finds

Two typical field boundary ditches were recorded (WBF22, WBF23) within the Officers' Housing site, both running approximately east-west. One was dated by Roman brick (WBF22). The other is undated – it may be Roman in date – but it is too far away from WBF22 to be part of a double-ditched trackway.

Table 13: Area R contexts and finds

Context	Interpretation	Finds bag nos	Finds types	Context date
WBF22	ditch	27	Roman brick	Roman
WBF23	ditch			Roman?

6.9.2 Area R interpretation (Fig 8)

Two fragments of east-west ditch were recovered. They do not form part of a trackway, being too far apart, but at least one of them is a fragment of the Roman landscape not sharing the general SW-NE alignment.

6.10 Area RO (comprising Roman Way) (Figs 1, 4-5, 8, 14)

Area RO (part of construction Areas 6, 11, 12 and 13) lies east of Berechurch Road and south of the Driving School (Area DR). Being a completely built-up area of barracks, this area was not suitable for the initial fieldwalking or geophysical survey of 2001, but was subject to a limited programme of trenching in the Stage 1 evaluation of 2002 (CAT Report 207). There were no later (2003) area excavations within Area RO. Phase 1 development within the area comprised of services along Roman Way, the access link to the Officers' Housing (undertaken in July 2004), and Phase 1 works within the northern area of Roman Barracks (part of development Area 6). Specifically the works included monitoring for the NBC chamber in April 2004, new service trenches/diversion of water main, and installation of a new roundabout and associated services pits at the junction of Roman Way with Berechurch Hall Road in May 2004 and winter 2004/5, a north-south service trench close to Berechurch Dyke on the east side of Roman Barracks in June 2004, test-pitting and soakaway excavations in the northern area of Roman Barracks in September 2004, and groundworks associated with the extensions to the Roman Way assault course in July 2005.

6.10.1 Description of Area RO archaeological contexts and finds

WBF40 was a post-medieval ditch, and its position, close to the junction of Roman Way with Berechurch Hall Road, indicates that it may be an old ditch and hedge line on the north side of the latter road.

Two features located during works adjacent the Army assault course on the west side of Roman Way seem to be part of the Late Iron Age/Roman landscape, ie ditches WBF69 and WBF70. These were aligned north-west to south-east. They may be part of a previously unknown approximately 5m-wide trackway at right angles to the general SW-NE-aligned landscape, although they have not been seen beyond the plotted position. A further ditch WBF10, located during access road works for the Officers' Housing, may also belong to this landscape although it was undated by finds.

Undated or natural features include tree-throw WBF36 (located during works in the north-east area of Roman Barracks), pit WBF41 (adjacent to Berechurch Hall Road), and ditches or pits WBF42 (at the southern end of Roman Way), WBF50 and WBF52-WBF55 (all located at the northern extent of Roman Barracks).

Table 14: Area RO contexts and finds

Context	Interpretation	Finds bag nos	Finds types	Context date
WBF10	ditch			undated
WBF36	tree-throw pit			undated
WBF40	ditch	38	post-medieval and ?Roman brick	post-medieval
WBF41	pit			undated
WBF42	ditch or natural feature			undated
WBF50	ditch			undated

WBF52	ditch			undated
WBF53	ditch			undated
WBF54	ditch			undated
WBF55	ditch			undated
WBF69	ditch			Roman
WBF70	ditch			Roman

6.10.2 Area RO interpretation

A large number of the recovered features were undated or of natural origin, and are not considered further. However, a pair of ditches running north-west to south-east are probably a previously unknown ditched trackway at right angles to the main curvilinear trackway running south-west to north-east through Areas R, M, P, RO, DR and Q which ultimately led to the south-east gate of the Roman town. The ditches at the northern extent of Roman Barracks (F50 and F52) appear to those of the main curvilinear trackway itself.

6.11 Area T (Musket Club) (Fig 1)

Unlike the other project areas, Area T (affiliated with development Area 4) is in a built-up and residential area, east of Homefield Road and south-east of the Musket Club. The car-parking area south-east of the Musket Club lies over an archaeological 'cropmark site' recorded in the 1970s, a sub-rectangular enclosure of suspected Iron Age date (EHER no 11839).

The enclosure is paralleled by numerous rectilinear settlement enclosures of Late Iron Age or Romano-British date in southern Britain. The presence of a central pit-like feature probably indicates that the site was a mortuary enclosure, like the local Late Iron Age enclosure at Stanway (Crummy *et al* forthcoming).

A trench was positioned to intercept the enclosure ditch during the 2002 Stage 1 evaluation. The ditch was not found in the trench, but its original position may be indicated by a wide dip within the underlying terrace gravels (CAT Report 207).

6.11.1 Description of Area T archaeological context

In 2005, a watching brief was carried out on various minor service works. In addition, an area which coincided with the northern arm of the enclosure was archaeologically excavated (mitigation Area 4) and three sections were cut across the ditch. The ditch was recorded in contractors' trenches at a further three points on its circuit. Modern service trenches had caused much disturbance to the ditch, but a small quantity of pottery indicated a possible Middle Iron Age date for the enclosure (CAT Report 311 detailing these works is provided as Appendix 2). The feature documented below was located during the watching brief phase of these works.

Table 15: Area T context

Context	Interpretation	Finds	Context date
WBF64	ditch	none	undated

6.11.2 Area T interpretation

WBF64, a small undated probable ditch running north-west to south-east north of the Musket Club (and approximately 30m north of the north ditch of the enclosure) may be of man-made or natural origin. It does not materially add to our understanding of the Late Iron Age/Roman enclosure.

6.12 Area YP (Figs 1, 4, 6, 15)

Area YP (parts of development Areas 1, 2, 3 and 7) lies north of Ypres Road. Being a completely built-up area of Army-related (former officers') housing, this area was not suitable for the initial fieldwalking or geophysical survey of 2001, but was subject to a

limited programme of trenching in the Stage 1 evaluation of 2002 (CAT Report 206). There were no later (2003) area excavations within Area YP, although mitigation Area 2 (the Middle Iron Age round-house and enclosure) lies due south. The construction activities here comprised demolition of the Officers' Housing and associated removal of Ypres Road (June/July 2004), removal of the wooded area to the north (enabling works), topsoil-stripping (from June 2004), construction of buildings A02, B01, C01 and C04 (including two 80m by 80m and 5m-deep basements), associated roads, hardstandings and services/soakaways (summer and September 2004), and a new sports pitch including drainage. The most prolific period for the identification of archaeological features was in April 2005 when several ditches were identified between the northern perimeter fence (to the east of building A02) and the new sports pitch (see F44-F46 and F57/F58 below). It should be noted that Area YP now also includes some areas originally identified as Area O in Stages 1 and 2 of the archaeology project.

6.12.1 Description of Area YP archaeological contexts and finds

The largest context was CBM and pot scatter (WBF21) containing a mixture of Roman and later finds, which was located during topsoil-stripping in June 2004. Although it is tempting to interpret this as a single later (post-Roman) item which was intrusive into a Roman group, the fact that the medieval handle is a substantial piece, and that the group also contains peg-tile, shows that the context is likely to be medieval or later.

Two of the features were undated ditch WBF57 and a pit WBF58. However, the ditch WBF57 shares the alignment of the Late Iron Age/Roman landscape, and may be considered as a fragment of one of its ditches.

A cluster of three other Roman features may also have a bearing on the same landscape. Ditch WBF44 runs NW to SE, and has another joining it at an oblique angle (WBF45). It is not certain whether this is contemporary with WBF44 or of a different period. Whereas WBF44 is dated by two probably Roman sherds, WBF45 is only dated by daub lumps, which are perhaps more likely to be Roman but not definitely so. A separate pit WBF46 lies north of ditch WBF45. Though containing no bones or finds, it was a grave-like shape, and is interpreted as a possible inhumation grave cut.

Table 16: Area YP contexts and finds

Context	Interpretation	Finds bag nos	Finds types	Context date
WBF21	CBM/pot scatter	16, 17 (sf4), 18 (sf5), 19 (sf6), 21	Roman sherds 1st to mid 3rd/4th century; large group Roman CBM (26 pieces, 4.9kg); rubbing stone (Fig 16); lava quern fragment (Fig 16); Fabric 20 or 21 handle (13th-16th century); peg-tile with peg hole	medieval or later
WBF44	ditch	39	?Roman sherds	Roman
WBF45	ditch	40	dauby lumps	Roman
WBF46	inhumation grave			Roman
WBF57	ditch			Roman?
WBF58	pit			undated

Table 17: Area YP unstratified finds

Finds bag nos	Finds
56	one Roman sherd (1st-2nd century)
20	one Late Iron Age sherd

6.12.2 Area YP interpretation (Fig 8)

Despite the mixed composition of WBF21, the implication of the Roman finds (brick and tile and lava quern fragments) is that there are the remains of a demolished Roman building somewhere in this area. In support of this is the fact that a very large group of Roman brick and tile was recovered from a spot only 100m south-east of here in the Stage 1 evaluation trench C5 (CAT Report 197, fig 2). In that case, too, the material was probably redeposited, but the two groups of finds do indicate the remains of a nearby Roman structure. It is, however, possible that the building concerned was actually the Romanised farmstead at Kirkee McMunn Barracks rather than an unlocated building.

A cluster of three other Roman features also have a bearing on the same landscape. Ditch WBF44 runs NW to SE and aligns with both a short and previously unconnected cropmark ditch and also the trackway crossing Area 2. There now seems good reason to see these as all one and the same feature, at least a field boundary if not the actual continuation of the trackway to the north. Further, this should also link into the 'crossroads' between two trackways which seems inevitable given the orientation of the mitigation Area 2 track and the orientation of the newly discovered trackway in Area C running north-east from just east of Kirkee McMunn Barracks – the two tracks must coincide somewhere just to the north of the Area 2 site. As noted earlier, it is probable that these led further north to connect with the major track or road leading south from Alienated Land Area J1 through the Abbey Field.

The presence of a possible grave cut, and the suggested crossroads between two trackways, suggests a slightly 'busier' area than had previously been imagined. The possible grave is of interest in the context of the road leading south from Alienated Land Area J1 as in that area the road was flanked by Roman burials. The road may have continued to be associated with burials as it continued south into the area of the New Garrison. This, in combination with the material in pit WBF21 and the earlier redeposited Roman brick and tile, contributes to an impression that there was a Roman structure of some sort somewhere in the vicinity (although possibly the known building at Kirkee McMunn Barracks).

6.13 Area DR1 (Figs 1, 4)

This area (part of development 6) was investigated via a Stage 2 excavation in 2003 which identified several Early Iron Age features including two 4-post structures and two cremations, a junction of tracks spanning the latest Iron Age to early Roman periods, and a slightly later Roman trackway that was a section of the 'curvilinear trackway' leading to the Roman town, known from cropmarks and 2002 evaluation trenching in DR1, Roman Way, Area P and Area R. No further archaeological features were identified during the topsoil-stripping in 2004 or foundation cutting for buildings J01, J03, J16-J19 and J22, its associated roads, hardstandings or services, although the main trackway was re-identified in May 2005 just to the north of building J15, south of Area DR1 within the northern area of Roman Barracks (the southern extent of development Area 6).

7 Finds

7.1 The small finds and bulk metalwork

by Nina Crummy

Cremation Area WBF F1

All these iron objects show signs of scorching. That from context 9 is clean of the usual surface corrosion seen on nails of any antiquity. Similar uncorroded nails have been recovered from pyre debris on early Roman cemetery sites in Colchester.

(4) WBF1. Iron nail with flat round head. Length (incomplete) 21 mm.

(5) WBF1. Iron nail with damaged flat round head. Length 48 mm.

(6) WBF1. Iron nail with flat round head. Length (incomplete) 24 mm.

- (7) WBF1. Iron nail with flat round head. Length (incomplete) 31 mm.
- (8) WBF1. Iron nail with flat or slightly convex round head (in two pieces). Length 33 mm.
- (9) WBF1. Iron nail with flat round head. Length (bent) 35 mm.
- (10) WBF1. Iron corrosion bubble that has flaked away from the parent object. 29 by 22 mm.

Other finds

The iron and baked clay fragments from the ditches WBF31 and WBF45 are probably Iron Age or Roman and may be the earliest objects in this assemblage. A Mayen lava quernstone fragment sourced from the Eifel Hills of Germany, a second lava fragment with no worked surfaces surviving, and a piece of Millstone grit from the Pennines are probably all originally from Roman quernstones, though lava quernstones were also imported in the Saxon and medieval periods. The piece of Millstone grit has been recycled as a palm-held tool, used for either grinding, polishing or rubbing and the larger piece of Mayen lava may also have been used in this way (Fig 16, 1-2). All three fragments come from the finds scatter WBF21. Fragments of broken Roman quernstones were often recycled as building stone or hard core both in the Roman period and later, and examples of pieces that have been recycled as hand-held rubbing tools have been recovered from medieval sites in Colchester.

The other items are modern, with two stud or button fragments relating to the military use of the area.

Area F (36) WBF31. Ditch. Two small fragments of iron shanks, probably from nails. Lengths 18.5 and 19 mm.

Area YP (40) WBF45. Ditch. Three small fragments of baked clay, probably structural daub. Total weight 55 g.

Fig 16, 1. SF 4. Area YP (17) WBF21. Finds scatter. Small block of Millstone grit; the surfaces are all smooth but weathered, and the edges are rounded, so that it fits comfortably into the palm; probably a recycled fragment of a rotary quernstone used as a hand-held grinding, polishing or rubbing stone. Maximum dimensions

Fig 16, 2. SF 6. Area YP (19) WBF21. Finds scatter. Fragment of a Mayen lava rotary quernstone with traces of tooling on the grinding surface; probably from a lower stone. Wear on the broken edges suggest that this piece was recycled as a hand-held grinding, polishing or rubbing stone. Maximum dimensions 110 by 65 mm, 30 mm thick.

SF 5. Area YP (18) WBF21. Finds scatter. Small fragment of Mayen lava with no original worked surfaces; originally from a rotary quernstone, but not the same one as SF 6 above, which is less vesiculate and weathered. Maximum dimensions 43 by 40 by 27 mm.

SF 12. Area C (30), unstratified. Copper-alloy U-shaped fitting, probably used as a suspension loop, though one arm is slightly shorter than the other. The central part is circular in section, the terminals are flattened, round and perforated. Length 30 mm, maximum width 20 mm. Modern.

SF 14. Area E (49), unstratified. The upper part of a composite convex military button or stud with a design in relief of a tower, with flag, flanked by two turrets above a ground line. The number 6 lies in the exergue. Diameter 17.5 mm, height 6 mm.

SF 15. Area E (50), unstratified. The lower part of a composite military stud, consisting of a flat disc with sunken centre. A short piece of wire passes through two holes in the centre and its ends are turned out to secure the stud in place. Diameter 15 mm.

SF 7. Area F (53), unstratified. Fragment of a small cake of green pigment. Maximum dimensions 13 by 13 mm, 5 mm thick.

7.2 The prehistoric pottery

by Paul R Sealey

Bag 37: WBF34 (Area E)

1 Middle Iron Age scrap.

Bag 59: WBF19 (Area C)

9 Middle Iron Age scraps.

Bag 33: WBF24 (Area S)

2 Middle Iron Age scraps, and 1 flint-tempered sherd with natural clay pellets – could be any date from Late Bronze Age to Middle Iron Age.

Bag 22: unstratified (Area G)

2 Middle Iron Age scraps, and 1 flint-tempered sherd - could be any date from Late Bronze Age to Middle Iron Age.

Comment

The watching brief produced fourteen small abraded sherds of Middle Iron Age pottery, evidently residual to judge by its condition (rounded, little in the way of original surfaces, tiny size, low average weight). The two sherds of flint-tempered ware could be of much the same date, unless it is Late Bronze Age or Early Iron Age. There are no sherds that require drawing. As an assemblage, this is typical 'background noise' for the later features on the site, and is not really even enough to postulate manured pre-Late Iron Age fields.

The Middle Iron Age sherds are all in a fine sand-tempered reduced fabric, once or twice with oxidised (red) surfaces. The sand is rounded and represents original inclusions in the clay matrix rather than added sand.

All sherds have the fine silver mica typical of Essex and East Anglian pottery.

7.3 The Late Iron Age and Roman pottery

by Stephen Benfield

Introduction

A small quantity of Late Iron Age and Roman pottery, just over 1.3 kg in total (1373 g, 67 sherds), was recovered. All of the pottery is listed by area in Table 19. Vessel form numbers follow those of the Camulodunum (Cam) Roman pottery type series (Hawkes & Hull 1947; Hull 1958) and samian forms refer to Dragendorff (Dr) form numbers. Late Iron Age and Roman pottery fabrics (Table 18) follow those devised for CAR 10 with the addition of the Fabric GTW (Late Iron Age grog-tempered ware). Two additional sub-codes have also been used, one for Romanising coarse wares Fabric GX (RCW) and another for large storage jar fabric which includes grog temper Fabric HZ(GT). The Fabrics of GTW and GX(RCW) are described below.

Fabric GTW Grog-tempered wares

Generally thick sherds, with patchy red-brown to dark-brown surfaces. Fabric contains various quantities of crushed fired clay (grog) and is grey to brown.

Fabric GX (RCW) Romanising coarse ware

Sherds thickness is generally medium-thin. Surfaces are dark grey-brown. The fabric is grey-brown with red-brown margins and contains various amounts of fragments of burnt organic matter and grog. The fabric sometimes has a tendency to laminate.

Table 18: Roman pottery fabric codes and corresponding fabric name used in this report

Fabric code	Fabric name
AJ	amphora, Dressel 20
DJ	coarse oxidised and related wares
EA	Nene Valley colour-coated ware
GB	BB2: black-burnished ware, category 2
GTW	Late Iron Age grog-tempered ware
GX	other coarse wares, principally locally-produced grey wares
RCW	Romanising coarse ware
HZ	large storage jars and other vessels in heavily-tempered grey wares
GT	large storage jars and other vessels with in heavily-tempered grey wares with grog temper
KX	black-burnished ware (BB2) types in pale grey ware

Table 19: pottery from watching brief soil strip by areas

Area	find bag	Context	fabric CAR 10	Form, pot type	qt	wt (g)	eve	Comments	date
6	3	WBF1	DJ		4	9	0.00	abraded sherds	1st-2nd century
6	3	WBF1	GX		1	4	0.00		Roman
YP	56	US	HZ, GT		1	40	0.00	abraded, grey fabric, probably post-conquest	1st-2nd century
E	51	WBF11	GX	Cam 266?, jar	25	483	0.15	25 sherds + several fragments (many joining sherds), much of a jar (60%+), though only a little of the uppermost part of the pot, laminating sandy fabric with some rare burnt organic temper fragments. possibly displaced from a burial?	Roman 1st-early 2nd century
E	51		GTW		1	8	0.00	abraded sherd with moderate grog temper	Late Iron Age, 1st century AD
E	51		GX		3	9	0.00	oxidised grey ware ?burnt	Roman
C	60	US	HZ		1	77	0.00	sandy grey fabric	1st-2nd century/ 3rd century
C	62		GTW		1	24	0.00	lightly abraded moderately thick sherd	Late Iron Age
YP	20		GTW		1	22	0.00	lightly abraded, moderately thick sherd, fine dark grog temper	Late Iron Age
C	15		GB	Cam 278, jar	1	15	0.00	broad lattice decoration	early 2nd to mid-late 3rd century
field C/D/F	31		GX		2	22	0.00		Roman
A6/field F	1	US	HZ		1	85	0.00	sandy grey fabric, slightly abraded	1st-2nd century/3rd century
	16	WBF21	EA	beaker	1	10	0.00	abraded base sherd	mid 3rd-4th century
	16	WBF21	AJ		1	143	0.00	Abraded	1st-early 3rd century
	16	WBF21	GX		5	111	0.00	sherds from 2 – 3 pots, some slightly abraded but not all, some sherds vesicular, possibly with some grog temper, some or all may be early Roman	Roman ?1st-2nd century
Q	1	L2	KX?		2	17	0.00		early 2nd to mid-late 3rd+?

Area	find bag	Context	fabric CAR 10	Form, pot type	qt	wt (g)	eve	Comments	date
Q	1	L2	GX		1	3	0.00		Roman 1st century
F	24	US	GX	Cam 268?, jar	2	33	0.03	1 sherd rim from jar other sherd ?early Roman	mid 2nd century+?
F	24	US	EA	beaker	1	4	0.00	small sherd, pale pastel fabric dark colour coat, probably Nene Valley (Fabric EA)	mid 3rd-4th century
	28	WBF20	GX, RCW		4	4	0.00	4 fragments	Roman 1st century
	28	WBF20	GX		1	19	0.05	rim in soft sandy grey ware ?early Roman	Roman ?1st century
	46	WBF62	GX		2	5	0.00	2 sherds of hard fired sandy grey ware ?Roman	Roman
	68	WBF3	GX		1	4	0.00	sherd in soft sandy grey ware ?early Roman	Roman ?1st century
	39	WBF44	GX		2	1	0.00	fragments, probably Roman	Roman
	47	WBF75	HZ:GT		1	96	0.00	soft, abraded sherd with sparse grog temper, probably from a large storage jar	1st century AD
YP	26		HZ	Cam 273 large storage jar	1	125	0.03	abraded rim, some grog temper	1st-2nd century

Pottery from the watching brief areas

Of the 1.3 kg or so of pottery recovered, 484g (19 sherds) is unstratified. That is to say that about one-third of the pottery can only be assigned to one of a number of large areas, apart from two sherds which are identified as being from the Area F excavation (Area 6). However, all of the 25 stratified potsherds (weighing 483g), are from one pot (Area E F11); excluding this one find, approximately half of the pottery is unstratified.

Pottery from Area C

All of the pottery (three sherds) is unstratified. One sherd is of Late Iron Age date, and the other two sherds are early-mid Roman and mid Roman in date, c 1st-3rd century AD.

Pottery from Area E

Most of the pottery is from three features, ie F11, F20 and F62. It is interesting that much of this is coarse ware of probable early Roman (1st- to early 2nd-century) date. Also there is one unstratified sherd of Late Iron Age grog-tempered ware. However, the sherds from F62 are hard fired sandy grey ware which can only be dated as Roman. Possibly the most interesting single find is much of the lower part of a Roman jar from F11, broken in sherds. This could represent the remains of a pot displaced from a burial, though this is entirely speculative.

Pottery from Area F

Two features were identified, F1 and F75, which produced sherds of Roman pottery. One of the features (F1) is located within the Area 6 excavation site. The four sherds from F1 can only really be dated as Roman although three of them, in Fabric DJ, are likely to dated from the 1st-2nd/3rd century. Only one sherd was recovered from F75 and is grog-tempered fabric from a large storage jar. This sherd could date from the late Iron Age or early Roman period of the 1st century AD. Three of four unstratified sherds are from the early-mid and mid-late Roman period, c 1st-3rd century AD. The third sherd is late Roman, c mid 3rd-4th century AD.

Pottery from Area M

There is one Roman sherd from Area M. This came from a feature F3, and is possibly of early Roman date, c 1st-early 2nd century AD.

Pottery from Area Q

There are two unstratified sherds collected from Area Q. One is probably of 1st- to early 2nd-century date, the other is mid Roman and of early 2nd- to 3rd-century date.

Pottery from Area YP

About a third of all the pottery by weight, and about one quarter of the sherds (excluding the 25 sherds from the single jar base on Area E, F11), came from Area YP (452 g, 10 sherds). All periods, from Late Iron Age to late Roman, are represented by one or more pottery sherds. The latest dated sherd is from a Nene Valley colour-coated beaker, dated to the mid 3rd-4th century, and this sherd is abraded. The only amphora sherd recovered is also among the small group of sherds from this Area.

Discussion

The quantity of pottery is very small, and about half of the finds are unstratified. Almost all of the pottery is from the northern half of the site with only a single sherd of early Roman coarse ware coming from the southern half, from Area M.

There are sherds of Late Iron Age pottery from Areas C, E and YP, and one sherd from Area F is either Late Iron Age or early Roman. The Roman pottery, where datable, is almost entirely of 1st- to 3rd-century date, with possibly the greater quantity of coarse ware sherds being of probable early Roman, 1st- to early 2nd-century date. There are only two closely-dated sherds associated with the late Roman period. Both are colour-coated beaker sherds from the Nene Valley potteries and can be dated to the mid 3rd- mid 4th/4th century. One is from Area F, and the other from Area YP. Also these two Nene Valley sherds represent the only fine ware recovered, and there is no samian ware among the pottery. The only imported vessel represented is a Dressel 20 amphora (dated 1st-early 3rd century), one sherd of which was recovered from Area YP.

Given the very small quantity, overall the Late Iron Age and Roman pottery can be said to approximate to the pottery of the same periods recovered from earlier surveys, evaluations and excavations on the Garrison. For the southern half of the site, the quantity of pottery (a single sherd from Area M) mirrors the surprisingly low quantities of Roman pottery recovered during fieldwalking and trial-trenching on this Area (CAT Report 184; CAT Report 207). Over the northern half, the date range of the pottery is consistent with the Late Iron Age and 1st century to 3rd- to mid 4th-century Roman date range of the previously recovered and excavated pottery, with no specifically later 4th century pottery recorded. (CAT Report 203; CAT Report 205; CAT Report 206; CAT/RPS Report 292).

Area E and much of Area F are toward the north-east of the site. Area E and parts of Area F are close to the Late Iron Age and Roman settlement at Kirkee McMunn Barracks (Shimmin 1998). Area F also contains the 2003 excavation Area 6 where Late Iron Age sherds were proportionally slightly more common than on other Areas (CAT/RPS Report 292). A Late Iron Age sherd from Area E and a Late Iron Age/early Roman storage jar sherd from Area F are in keeping with the Late Iron Age origins of the settlement, and it is noticeable that much of the coarse ware from Area E is probably of early Roman, 1st-early 2nd-century, date. The settlement at Kirkee McMunn Barracks could account for the broken-up pot base (possibly displaced from a burial) recovered from Area E (F11), as there are indications of burials associated with this settlement (Shimmin 1998, 266).

7.4 Medieval and later pottery

by Howard Brooks

Introduction

This is a small group of 37 medieval and later sherds, weighing 2.5kg. Of this group, eleven sherds (244g) are unstratified (9.7% of the group by sherd weight). Fabric descriptions (after CAR 7), weights and quantities are given in Table 20, below.

Discussion

The largest medieval or later pottery group here is from a pit in the Kirkee McMunn Barracks (WBF02). This group of twelve sherds (2042g) accounts for 32% of the whole group by sherd count, and 96% of the group by sherd weight. The material is appropriately representative of the activities of soldiers in barracks. It includes ink pots (correspondence with family and friends?), pots containing blacking (usually for hearths, stoves, and kitchen equipment, but in this case also for personal equipment?), and other sundry pots and cups. There is also an example of a dated piece, in this case dated to 1918, typical of MoD issue pottery.

Other sherds are a post-medieval red earthenware sherd (17th-18th century), which is residual in a modern service trench (WBF28), and a modern ironstone sherd (Fabric 48d) from a modern pit (WBF24).

A scatter of building debris WBF21 (including residual Roman material) is dated by a handle in 15th- to 16th-century Colchester-type ware (Fabric 21a).

The unstratified sherds range in date from the 13th to the 20th century, and although small in number, they demonstrate activity on the garrison site over the medieval and later periods, which (in some cases) is better represented elsewhere in the Garrison area by cut features.

Table 20: medieval and post-medieval pottery weights and quantities

Bag no	Context	Area	Qt	Wt	Description
69	WBF02 pit	M	1	3	post-medieval red earthenware, Fabric 40
16	WBF21 CBM/pot scatter	YP	2	156	handle fragments in Fabric 20 and 21a; 13th-16th century.
33	WBF24 Pit	S	1	1	Fabric 48d
67	WBF28 service trench	F2	2	14	post-medieval red earthenware, Fabric 40
48	WBF71 rubbish pit	KM	4	819	Fabric 48d bowls. Inscriptions "A.C.C.", "Burslem Pottery Co. 1917. Leadless Glaze" (2 examples), "W. Adams & Sons. 1918"
48	WBF71 rubbish pit	KM	4	410	four Fabric 45m modern stoneware inkpots, one with cork stopper. 46mm high, 48mm diameter
48	WBF71 rubbish pit	KM	1	346	Fabric 45m modern stoneware blacking bottle or ink bottle, 115mm high, diameter 60mm
48	WBF71 rubbish pit	KM	1	167	Fabric 45m modern stoneware blacking bottle or ink bottle, top broken, 50mm diameter. Applied label "Magic" REG ^D JET STAIN FOR STAINING ALL KINDS OF LEATHER JET BLACK. SOLE MAKERS THE MAGIC POLISH CO. LD. LEICESTER, ENG.
48	WBF71 rubbish pit	KM	1	219	rectangular box in Fabric 48d transfer-printed blue-and-white. No lid. On base, applied label "View in Geneva. DAVENPORT"

Bag no	Context	Area	Qt	Wt	Description
48	WBF71 rubbish pit	KM	1	81	bottom of cup or small bowl, Fabric 48d plain white; on base NACB or NAGB with anchor overstamped with a letter B
41	L02	Q north- east	8	49	Fabric 20 medieval sandy grey wares, includes a flat-topped rim; probably 13th century
45	L02		1	27	sherd from base/wall junction of Fabric 20 bowl; 13th-14th century
01	U/S	F1	1	88	modern, base of stoneware jar Fabric 45m
31	U/S	C/D/F	1	5	speckled green glaze on orange fabric with grey interior. Probably a Colchester-type ware Fabric 21a; 13th-15th century?
31	U/S	C/D/F	3	12	glazed post-medieval red earthenware sherds. Fabric 40; 17th-18th century
31	U/S	C/D/F	1	82	handle of post-medieval red earthenware Fabric 40 tripod pipkin (see CAR 7)
31	U/S	C/D/F	2	23	Fabric 51b flowerpot sherds; 19th-20th century
57	U/S	E north	2	7	sherds of Fabric 20 medieval sandy grey ware; 13th-14th century

7.5 Flints

by Hazel Martingell

Key to date column

BA = Bronze Age EB = Early Bronze Age EN = Early Neolithic
 M = Mesolithic N = Neolithic

Table 21: stratified flints

Bag no	Context	Area	Qt	Wt	Description	Date
33	WBF24	F	1	18	Scraper on secondary flake, retouch along left edge, worn	N/EB
33	WBF24	F	2	41	Burnt flints	

Table 22: unstratified flints

Bag no	Area	Qt	Wt	Description	Date
11	E	1	4	Notched blade, thin section, tertiary, good	EN
13	F	1	13	Gunflint, complete, good	recent
14	C	2	23	1) retouched blade-flake, secondary fine retouch across distal end and right edge 2) retouched and notched flake, tertiary	N
21	G	1	2	Blade, converging, tertiary, 30mm long	EN
23	E	1	1	Bifacial fragment, probably single piece sickle rather than arrowhead	N
25	E	1	2	Retouched converging fragment, secondary	
25	E	1	2	Blade, butt part, secondary	
29	E	3	12	1) blade, tertiary, fine (microlith blank?), 2) knife? Fragment in banded flint, dorsal and ventral retouch along left edge, 3) blade fragment, butt part, tertiary, 45mm long, good black flint	M BA N

Bag no	Area	Qt	Wt	Description	Date
31	CDF	2	11	1) Blade flake, secondary, utilised right edge? 2) flake, converging, secondary	
56	YP	1	27	Flake, secondary, large, rough	
61	C	1	5	Blade, fine, tertiary, thin section, 52mm long	M/EN
64	E	1	62	Burnt nodule	
65	E	2	15	1) flake, butt part, tertiary, good flint 2) fragment, tertiary	

Table 23: flint artefact types

No	type
1	Gunflint
1	Scraper – Neolithic to Early Bronze Age
1	Bifacial fragment
1	Knife fragment
1	Notched blade
3	Retouched blades and flakes
5	Blades
1	Blade-flake utilised
3	Flakes
1	Fragment
Total 18 worked flints	

Comment

Eighteen unstratified pieces of flint and three stratified pieces from pit WBF24 were recovered during the watching brief. Of these 21 flints, three were burnt natural pieces, two of them from pit WBF24.

The most interesting artefact from this group is the complete scraper from pit WBF24. It has retouch along the left curving edge (Area F, 33). Scrapers of this type are usually associated with the Neolithic to the Early Bronze Age period. What is unusual about this piece is the worn surfaces; not only are the edges smoothed, but the crests of the flake removals are also very worn and rounded. This wear, it has been suggested, could be the result of working leather.

The earliest artefacts are the blades, two of which are very thin in section, and may be rejected blanks for microliths (Area E, 29; Area C, 61). These blades would then be Mesolithic in date. Nearly all the remaining retouched artefacts appear to be Neolithic. The bifacial fragment (Area E, 23) has the criteria for a single-piece sickle, rather than an arrowhead (this analysis is based on the position of the bulb). It is most likely that the bifacially-edge-retouched fragment (Area E, 29) is a section of a 'knife'. It is made on banded flint, which tends to be used for artefacts of special importance. Another possible 'knife' is the blade-flake with fine retouch across the distal end and along the right edge (Area C, 14).

The gunflint (Area F, 13) would have been made during the 18th or 19th century. It is of 'wedge' type, the earlier of the two types of gunflint (Lotbinerie 1977; Lotbinerie 1980). Another gunflint was found in Area 10, about 200 m to the south-west.

Summary

As so often happens, the more interesting artefacts have come from the unstratified contexts; these are the earlier prehistoric retouched pieces. This is probably because these distinctive pieces catch the eye and are easily picked up from unstratified layers and surfaces, whereas all the flint material from features is usually retained. This collection demonstrates the importance of unstratified flints; they may not date the

features, but certainly confirm prehistoric activity in the landscape which would otherwise be invisible.

In comparing these flints with those previously reported on from Areas 2, 6, and 10 (CAT/RPS Report 292), there is a noticeable increase in the recovery of earlier prehistoric artefacts. Altogether, they form a thin scatter in Areas C, D, E, F, G, YP, 2, 6 and 10. These nine areas are adjacent to each other; they are bordered to the south and west by Areas M, O, P, R, S and KR, from where no worked flints were recovered. Probably, there were environmental and geological reasons for the preference, during prehistoric times, for these areas.

7.6 Other finds by Howard Brooks

Note: this table lists all finds from the watching brief. However, for detailed comment on Small finds, prehistoric pottery, Late Iron Age and Roman pottery, and Flints, see sections 7.1 to 7.5 above.

Table 24: other finds

Bag no	Context	SF	Area	Qt	Wt	Description	Discarded
04	WBF01		6	1	4	iron nail from burial	
05	WBF01		6	1	6	iron nail from burial	
06	WBF01		6	1	2	iron nail from burial	
07	WBF01		6	1	4	iron nail from burial	
08	WBF01		6	1	4	iron nail from burial	
09	WBF01		6	1	1	iron nail from burial	
10	WBF01		6	1	3	iron nail from burial	
69	WBF02		M	1	3	pot: post-medieval	
68	WBF03		M	1	4	pot: Roman	
03	WBF01		F	5	13	pot: Roman	
51	WBF11		E	52	601	pot: Roman	
55	WBF16		F	1	2	cokey bit	
58	WBF18		C	2	715	tile: Roman (inc 1 flange)	
59	WBF19		C	9	9	pot: prehistoric	
12	WBF20		E	2	50	peg-tile?	
12	WBF20		E	3	102	brick/tile: Roman?	
16	WBF21		YP	2	156	pot: medieval	
16	WBF21		YP	9	265	pot: Roman	
16	WBF21		YP	6	416	peg-tile (one with peg hole)	
16	WBF21		YP	6	725	tile: Roman imbrex	
16	WBF21		YP	4	850	tile: Roman <i>tegula</i> flanges	
16	WBF21		YP	2	160	tile: Roman <i>tegula</i> buff fabric	
16	WBF21		YP	2	214	tile: Roman box tile	
16	WBF21		YP	3	1426	brick: Roman brick	
16	WBF21		YP	1	265	brick: abraded Roman brick 34mm thick	yes
16	WBF21		YP	7	1045	tile: Roman, sundry flat <i>tegula</i> bits	yes
16	WBF21		YP	1	303	brick?: Roman?	
17	WBF21	04	YP	1	263	Oolitic limestone rubbing stone?	
17	WBF21		YP	4	446	tile: Roman	
17	WBF21		YP	1	249	brick: Roman	
18	WBF21	05	YP	1	47	Lava quern fragment	
19	WBF21	06	YP	1	358	Lava quern stone fragment	
27	WBF22		R	3	428	brick: Roman	
32	WBF25			5	39	peg-tile	yes
33	WBF25	18	YP	1	18	flint: scraper	

Bag no	Context	SF	Area	Qt	Wt	Description	Discarded
33	WBF25		YP	2	41	burnt flints	
33	WBF25		YP	1	1	pot: Fabric 48d	
33	WBF25		YP	3	3	pot: prehistoric	
33	WBF25		YP	4	1	coal: tiny scraps	yes
34	WBF25		YP	1	9	glass: base of post-medieval bottle	
28	WBF20		E	6	25	pot: Roman	
66	WBF27		E2	1	40	brick: undated, looks post-medieval	
67	WBF28		F2	7	21	burnt coally bits	yes
67	WBF28		F2	1	9	peg-tile	yes
67	WBF28		F2	2	14	pot: post-medieval Fabric 40	
67	WBF28		F2	1	10	iron nail	yes
67	WBF28		F2	2	3	glass: modern	
36	WBF31		E	2	2	iron: tiny scraps	
37	WBF34		E	1	1	pot: prehistoric	
38	WBF40		RO	2	57	brick: post-medieval and ?Roman	
39	WBF44		YP	2	2	pot: probably Roman	
40	WBF45		YP	3	58	dauby lumps	
42	WBF49		C east	1	32	Roman <i>tegula</i> flat fragment	
42	WBF49		C east	1	21	peg-tile?	
46	WBF62		E	1	5	pot: Roman grey ware	
48	WBF71		KM	4	819	pot: Fabric 48d bowls, inscriptions "A.C.C.", "Burslem Pottery Co. 1917; Leadless Glaze" (2 examples), "W. Adams & Sons. 1918"	
48	WBF71		KM	1	15	clay tobacco pipe stem, stamped "QUEEN", "MARY"	
48	WBF71		KM	4	410	pot: four Fabric 45m modern stoneware inkpots, one with cork stopper; 46mm high, 48mm diameter.	
48	WBF71		KM	1	346	pot: Fabric 45m modern stoneware blacking bottle or ink bottle, 115mm high, diameter 60mm.	
48	WBF71		KM	1	167	pot: Fabric 45m modern stoneware blacking bottle or ink bottle, top broken, 50mm diameter; applied label "Magic" REG ^D JET STAIN FOR STAINING ALL KINDS OF LEATHER JET BLACK. SOLE MAKERS THE MAGIC POLISH CO. LD. LEICESTER, ENG.	
48	WBF71		KM	1	219	pot: rectangular box in Fabric 48d transfer-printed blue-and-white, no lid; on base, applied label "View in Geneva. DAVENPORT"	
48	WBF71		KM	1	81	pot: bottom pf cup or small bowl, Fabric 48d plain white; on base NACB ort NAGB with anchor overstamped with a letter B	
48	WBF71		KM	1	633	marble stopper bottle. Embossed "B&C	

Bag no	Context	SF	Area	Qt	Wt	Description	Discarded
						COLCHESTER MINERAL WATER CO".	
48	WBF71		KM	2	180	green glass ink bottles	
48	WBF71		KM	4	363	green glass medicine bottles, one with cork stopper	
48	WBF71		KM	1	183	fancy glass bottle with twisted profile.	
41	WBL02		Q (NE)	2	42	CBM: scraps	
41	WBL02		Q (NE)	11	70	pot: Roman and medieval	
45	L02			1	27	pot: medieval	
01	U/S		F1	1	88	pot: modern, base of stoneware jar Fabric 45m	
01	U/S		F1	2	85	pot: Roman	
11	U/S	03	E	1	4	flint: blade	
13	U/S	01	F	1	13	flint: gunflint?	
14	U/S	09	C	2	23	flint: two waste flakes	
15	U/S		C	1	15	pot: Roman	
20	U/S		YP	1	23	pot: Roman	
21	U/S	08	G	1	2	flint: pointed blade	
22	U/S		G	3	14	pot: prehistoric	
22	U/S		G	1	35	brick: Roman	
23	U/S	10	E	1	1	flint: Mesolithic arrow head?	
24	U/S		F	3	39	pot: Roman	
25	U/S	11	E	1	2	flint: broken blade	
25	U/S	11	E	1	2	flint: waste flake	
29	U/S	13	E	1	2	flint: thin blade	
29	U/S	13	E	1	4	flint: arrowhead	
29	U/S	13	E	1	6	flint: blade	
30	U/S	12	D	1	3	copper-alloy loop	
31	U/S	19	CDF	2	11	flint: one blade, one waste flake	
31	U/S		C/D/F	2	22	pot: Roman	
31	U/S		C/D/F	1	5	pot: medieval	
31	U/S		C/D/F	6	116	pot: post-medieval	
35	U/S		F (E)	3	54	peg-tile	yes
35	U/S		F (E)	3	457	brick: Roman	yes
49	U/S	14	E	1	1	copper-alloy button with pattern	
50	U/S	15	E	1	1	copper-alloy button with pattern	
52	U/S		F	2	167	tile: Roman	Yes
53	U/S	7	F	1	0.5	copper-alloy object	
54	U/S		F	2	62	tile: peg-tile	yes
54	U/S		F	1	0.5	coal bit	yes
56	U/S	2	YP	1	27	flint: waste flake	
56	U/S		YP	1	40	pot: Roman	
57	U/S		E (N)	1	68	tile: peg-tile	yes
57	U/S		E (N)	2	7	pot: medieval	
60	U/S		C	1	78	pot: Roman	
60	U/S		C	1	57	brick: Roman, 39mm thick	yes
61	U/S	16	C	1	5	flint: blade with notch	
62	U/S		C	1	25	pot: Roman	
63	U/S		YP	1	105	animal bone: large mammal bos?, shin, fragmentary	yes
64	U/S		E	1	62	burnt flint	
65	U/S	17	E	2	15	flint: two waste flakes	

8 Discussion

The nature of the watching brief evidence

8.1 Archaeological finds and features recovered during the watching brief are necessarily fragmentary, due to the nature of the construction activities, and, with the exception of four possible burials, consist almost entirely of cut features such as pits and ditches. The feature types can be classified as below.

Table 25: breakdown of watching brief features

	undated or natural features	post-medieval or modern features	pre-modern features
Total	32	12	28
% of total contexts	44%	17%	39%

8.2 Although a high proportion of the features are undated or natural/'grubbing out' tree holes (44%), or modern and mainly Army-related (17%), there is a high proportion of pre-modern features (39%). These are primarily fragments of Roman field ditches, the discovery of which has either confirmed the course of previously-known trackways or ditches or has filled in gaps in the field system.

8.3 It is convenient to discuss the results of the watching brief in relation to the Project Aims and Objectives (as defined in 'Research design for archaeological excavations and watching brief at the New Garrison, Colchester' (RPS/CAT 2002)).
Overarching Research Objective: *To characterise the nature of landscape utilisation and change from the Neolithic (or earlier) to the Romano-British period.*

The evidence from the watching brief is varied. From the **earlier prehistoric period**, the evidence consists entirely of worked flints. The earliest flint artefacts are Mesolithic microliths from Areas C and E. A number of other flints (single-piece sickle and knife fragments) are Neolithic (also from Areas C and E). These flints demonstrate human activity in this area, before the start of any continuous occupation.

As Hazel Martingell points out in her report, flints are relatively abundant across the middle of the Garrison area (Areas C, D, E, F, G, YP), but are relatively or completely absent from the outer areas (Areas M, O, P, R, S, KR). Whereas one has to take into account differences in the recovery of artefacts due to different ground conditions, and larger volumes of soil actually excavated in various parts of the garrison, there may be a genuine pattern here. In fact, the spread of flints (taken as an indicator of prehistoric activity) matches the area from which the greatest weight of prehistoric pottery was recovered during the Stage 1 evaluations of 2002 (CAT Report 207, fig 37). It seems that this area was slightly favoured as an area of activity in the Mesolithic and Neolithic periods, and as an area of occupation from the Middle Iron Age onwards; both the Middle Iron Age enclosure (Area 2) and the Kirkee McMunn Barracks farmstead (Area KR, Area 6) are in this zone. A small fragment of ditch in Area C may be a fragment of a relict Middle Iron Age landscape associated with the enclosure and round-house excavated in 2003 mitigation Area 2.

In the **later prehistoric and Roman** periods, the watching brief evidence has generally confirmed the system of trackways and fields already known from cropmarks, geophysical survey, evaluation and excavation. However, there are two areas in which the picture has been enlarged. First, a previously unknown trackway has been identified in Area RO (Fig 5), apparently heading towards an unknown destination in the Roman Way Camp (Area S). Although the junction has not been found, it seems to link into the main curvilinear trackway which leads ultimately to the Roman town, and it must be a route to a Roman farm or settlement of some kind which is otherwise

unknown to us. The second area is the probable extension of another main trackway running from Kirkee McMunn Barracks towards Ypres Road (and the area of the earlier) Middle Iron Age enclosure (ie across Areas KR, E, F, C; Fig 6). This trackway provides more emphasis than was previously evident for a rather 'banded' arrangement to the field systems in the *oppidum*, with sets of fields marked out between major trackways, and the whole field system following the general sweep of the main trackway up towards the Roman town (Figs 7-8). It is clear that the Roman landscape was generally orientated north-east/south-west and north-west/south-east in most of the New Garrison Phase 1 areas but kinked to the north, closer to the Roman town, to follow a north/south and east/west alignment in common with the Roman town itself.

There is no watching brief evidence for activity in the **Anglo-Saxon or medieval** periods. There were a few medieval sherds from Areas YP and Q, but not in significant locations or quantities.

Watching brief finds have confirmed the main **post-medieval** land use as Army-related. A large and interesting group of WWI Army practice trenches was recorded in Area F in a separate watching brief (report in Appendix 1 to this report). By comparison, the watching brief material is rather sparse. There was a large group of material dumped into a pit in Area KR (some actually stamped with the dates 1917 and 1918), and an Army practice 'fox hole' was also recorded in Area KR (ie both these contexts are actually within the Kirkee McMunn Barracks area). Practice 'sappers' tunnels' were also encountered during the construction within Area F East.

Project Aim 1. *What was the nature of small scale agricultural Neolithic and early-middle Bronze Age activities within the site, and in particular can ritual and/or settlement areas be identified?*

Human activity in the Mesolithic and Neolithic periods is evident through the distribution of struck flints (there is no pottery or settlement evidence from these periods). The distribution of flints is higher in Areas C and E, showing a bias in favour of activity in these areas. Whether this activity was hunting or farming is difficult to say. On balance, the Mesolithic microliths are more likely to be derived from hunting equipment, which would support the concept that the area was a largely wooded environment (with a few clearings) in which Mesolithic people hunted their quarry. On the other hand, the Neolithic sickle would normally be associated with the cutting of cereal crops, which would suggest agriculture, perhaps within temporary woodland clearances. The previous evidence for Neolithic activities included a possible well or waterhole in Area M which with the sickle may suggest at least a degree of attachment to the land, although since Neolithic agriculture was based on shifting cultivation the agricultural clearances at the Garrison and their associated settlements may have been transient and short-lived, a notion that is perhaps supported by the relatively low concentration of both finds and features. Perhaps areas closer to the River Colne and Roman River were more favoured for early settlement as may be indicated by Late Neolithic pitting within Alienated Land Areas C1/C2.

Project Aim 2. *What was the nature of later Bronze Age/Early Iron Age activities and in particular is there evidence of the emergence of more permanent settlements and field systems within the proposal site?*

No settlements or other significant sites were encountered. Although there was a single unstratified sherd of pottery of this period from Area G, there is very little to add to the information compiled for the period in the Stage 2 archaeological report (CAT/RPS Report 292). The Stage 2 report noted that evidence for occupation and farming was sparse apart from the locality of Area 10 (DR1/development Area 6) which produced

burials, structures and a pottery scatter. Together these indicate open farmland in the period in the eastern area of the Garrison. It seems once more that the areas closer to the rivers may have been favoured in these periods and it is therefore unsurprising that the ridge to the south of the River Colne in the northern area of the former Garrison (Alienated Land Area J1) has now provided firm evidence for settlement. This adds to the previously known settlement area at Sheepen adjacent to the river.

Project Aim 3. *What was the nature of the Middle Iron Age settlement within the area of the later oppidum and are there indications of landscape division and settlement which might allude to the origins of the oppidum?*

The watching brief has not materially altered the picture gained by the excavation of the Middle Iron Age round-house and enclosure in Area 2 (ie south of Ypres Road). It is notable, however, that no settlements or other significant sites were identified.

However, there is one small additional piece of information. It has been speculated that there are two forms of landscape visible among the cropmarks and excavated field ditches in the *oppidum* (CAT/RPS Report 292; Fig 8 here). The first (Landscape Form 1) was a pre-*oppidum* layout with fields aligned more or less north to south, and the second (Landscape Form 2) was associated with the layout of the *oppidum* and is aligned much more south-west to north-east in its main axes, with subsidiary tracks and fields at right angles to that. In connection with Landscape Form 1, there was one ditch fragment of north-south-aligned ditch on Area C (cut by a later trackway) which may be a small surviving fragment of an associated Middle Iron Age field system in the general scheme of Landscape Form 1. This matches other ditch fragments, principally identified in the 2002 evaluation stage, which are probably fragments of the same pre-*oppidum* landscape (Landscape Form 1).

Small numbers of Middle Iron Age sherds came from Areas C, KR, F and G. These potsherds, some only tiny scraps, may be derived from domestic occupation, disturbed burials or manure scatter. Without further information, it is difficult to comment on these beyond saying that they support the idea of a low-level but probably increasing amount of human activity in a Middle Iron Age landscape which appears to centre around individual farms (such as the Area 2 round-house and enclosure), operating within a landscape which may be unenclosed for the most part, but the (arable?) fields of which are principally aligned north-south/east-west.

Project Aim 4. *To elucidate the nature of spatial organisation within the oppidum, establish how this relates to general agricultural settlement expansion at this time and establish what inferences can be made from the distribution of coins.*

Project Aim 5. *To clarify the form/function and duration of the trackways with respect to the oppidum and to establish which elements of the social landscape they connected.*

Elements of the trackways have been recorded over most of the watching brief area, specifically in Areas C, E, F, M, P, R, RO and Y. However, these ditch fragments have mainly confirmed the route of previously known trackways. There are two exceptions to this: first, a new trackway has been identified in Area RO, apparently heading towards a destination in or beyond the Roman Way Camp (Area S). Though the junction has not been found, it presumably links into the main curvilinear trackway which leads ultimately to the Roman town, and it must be a route to a Roman farm or settlement of some kind which is otherwise unknown to us. Second, newly discovered trackway ditches in Area C allow the trackway running north-east from the Kirkee McMunn Barracks farmstead to be extended much farther to the north-east.

These new trackways define further parts of Landscape Form 2. As with the previous phases of archaeological work, the ditches, where dated, contain Roman rather than Late Iron Age sherds. Although it is possible that the Roman sherds represent the recut versions of earlier ditches, the present evidence more strongly suggests that the majority of these ditches are early Roman in origin, albeit probably extending and augmenting an earlier field pattern. No Late Iron Age or Roman coins

were found during the Phase 1 watching brief which is indicative of the rural nature of the areas in those periods.

Project Aim 6. To establish the role of the Berechurch Dyke with regard to the chronology of the layout of other internal oppidum features such as the curvilinear trackways and the co-axial track/field systems.

No watching brief evidence from this project addresses this project aim.

Project Aim 7. *To establish whether there are any surviving remains of the cropmark enclosure or associated external features within the proposal site footprint, and to characterise the function of the enclosure within the oppidum complex.*

The watching brief in Area T has identified a small undated ditch running north-west to south-east north of the Musket Club (and approximately 30m north of the north ditch of the enclosure). This may be of man-made or natural origin. The ditch may be associated with the probable Iron Age enclosure that has been partially excavated at the former Musket Club as part of Stage 2 of the New Garrison archaeological project (report provided here as Appendix 2). The Musket Club enclosure bears a close resemblance to Late Iron Age mortuary enclosures at Stanway and the low levels of domestic pottery recovered from its ditches during the investigation are more typical of ritual enclosures than those associated with settlement.

Project Aim 8. *To clarify the date, form and function of the co-axial field system, to establish the nature of its development within the oppidum and/or the Roman town's hinterland and to establish the evidence for association with the probable villa at Kirkee McMunn Barracks.*

The co-axial field system

See comments in Overarching Research Priority and Project Aim 5, above.

The association with the Kirkee McMunn Barracks site

The major additional information provided by the watching brief is that the route from the Kirkee McMunn Barracks site to the Roman town now seems clearer than before. Assuming that a Roman farmer from the Kirkee McMunn Barracks farmstead wishing to take a cart to town would not head south until he picked up the main curvilinear trackway and head north again, it was suggested that there was some more direct link (and a speculative route was shown on figure 42 of CAT/RPS Report 292). It now seems that there were two trackways running north-east towards the town. They seem to have headed towards a northerly trackway, the ditches of which cut across the Middle Iron Age enclosure and another fragment of which was recorded to the north on Area YP.

There may be a more direct route from the Kirkee McMunn Barracks site to the Roman town than was previously thought. Before, it looked like the route would involve a journey south to connect with the main curvilinear trackway, and then a journey north to the Roman town. On reflection, this looks like a rather circuitous route. It now appears that there was a direct northerly route from the Kirkee McMunn Barracks site swinging northwards from around the latitude of the former Ypres Road to ultimately link with the newly discovered Roman route in Alienated Land Area J1/the western area of the Abbey Field (ie to the south and west of the Roman circus). Still further to the north-west, this route connected with the main route into Colchester from the south-west (and leading to London to the south-west). The road was associated with burials in the Garrison redevelopment Area J1, and it is interesting to note that another probable burial was found close to its projected line within the New Garrison area. Interestingly an antiquarian discovery of a Roman lead coffin is also recorded in this area (UAD no 1055: CAT Report 361).

As stated above, the majority of dated ditches located during the Phase 1 watching brief are 1st- to 3rd-century Roman. This provides further confirmation of agricultural intensification in the Roman period and for a lack of maintenance of the landscape in

the late Roman (4th-century) period. It is speculated that this is associated with a depopulation of the landscape in the late 3rd-4th century, potentially due to civil war and barbarian raiding. At this time the occupants of the landscape may have moved their homes into the walled town for safety. It is, however, quite likely that they continued to farm the land, albeit with less emphasis on its maintenance, as indicated by the lack of 4th-century use of farmland ditches.

Further, additional details of the Roman use of the landscape adjacent to the known Roman farmstead at Kirkee McMunn Barracks include a Roman clay floor sealing an earlier hearth and pit, and a separate outlying storage pit and possible displaced pottery grave good. These have added detail to our understanding of the Kirkee McMunn Barracks site.

Project Aim 9. *What was the nature of Anglo-Saxon and medieval landscape within the development site and what was the relationship of the landscape to Anglo-Saxon and medieval Colchester?*

No watching brief evidence addresses this project aim. Again, the negative evidence supports the notion that either the landscape was allowed to revert to woodland in the post-Roman period, or, and more probably, that the well-drained nature of the landscape and pre-existing field system meant few new ditches were dug and new alignments of fields were not required.

Project Aim 10. *To record and contextualise any modern military features within the New Garrison site for which there are insufficient current records.*

The principal area of modern and Army-related features and finds were Area F East (see Appendix 1) and Area KR, immediately east of the site of one of the principal Kirkee McMunn Barracks buildings. Here, a large pit contained a variety of rubbish including ceramics, some of which are dated by transfer printed labels to the years 1917, and a probable 'fox hole'.

Two copper-alloy buttons from **Area E** bear witness to Army presence in this area. They were presumably lost during training exercises.

A number of modern ditches were recorded during the watching brief. These are likely to have been dug by the Army for a variety of purposes, but are not considered to be important.

A large number of practice trenches and other related features were recorded as a separate watching brief exercise (principally in Area F). These are detailed in full in Appendix 1.

9 Archive deposition

The finds, paper and digital archive are held by CAT at 12, Lexden Road, Colchester, CO3 3NF, but will be permanently deposited at Colchester Museums under accession code 2004.191.

10 Acknowledgements

The project was commissioned by RMPA Services. Special thanks to Ruari Maybank and Oliver Hornett (RMPA Services) and Terry Starr and Steve Pyatt of SRML. The project was monitored by Martin Winter and Philip Wise, archaeology officers for Colchester Borough Council.

Thanks to RPS EOD staff for assistance on site and munitions briefings for CAT staff.

The fieldwork was carried out by CAT team members and their contribution to the project is acknowledged.

11 Abbreviations

CAT	Colchester Archaeological Trust
context	specific location on an archaeological site
CBM	ceramic building material
EHER	Essex Historic Environment Record
EOD	explosive ordnance disposal
<i>in situ</i>	in its original position
intrusive	an incongruous later find in an earlier feature
LBA	Late Bronze Age
LIA	Late Iron Age
MIA	Middle Iron Age
PMRE	post-medieval red earthenware
redeposited	not <i>in situ</i>
residual	an earlier find in a later context (eg Roman coin in Victorian pit)
RPS	RPS Planning Transport and Environment

12 References

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- CAT Report 197 An archaeological evaluation by trial-trenching on Area C at Colchester Garrison PFI site, Colchester, Essex, unpublished CAT archive report, by H Brooks, 2002
- CAT Report 203 An archaeological evaluation by trial-trenching on Areas E and F at Colchester Garrison PFI site, Colchester, Essex, unpublished CAT archive report, by H Brooks, 2002
- CAT Report 205 An archaeological evaluation by trial-trenching on Area KR at Colchester Garrison PFI site, Colchester, Essex, unpublished CAT archive report, by H Brooks, 2002
- CAT Report 206 An archaeological evaluation by trial-trenching in Areas A, B, D, GJ, H, J, N, V and YP of the Colchester Garrison PFI site, June-July 2002, unpublished CAT archive report, by H Brooks, 2002
- CAT Report 207 An archaeological evaluation by trial-trenching on Areas DR, G, M, P, Q, R, RO, S, and T at the Colchester Garrison PFI site, Colchester, Essex: May-September 2002, unpublished CAT archive report, by H Brooks, 2002
- CAT Report 312 Excavations at Abbotstone field, Bell House Pit, Tarmac Colchester Quarry, Warren Lane, Colchester, Essex, 1999-2001, unpublished CAT archive report, by L Pooley, 2005

CAT Report 361		Assessment report on the archaeological investigations carried out on Areas C1, C2, E, J1, O, Q and S1 of the Alienated Land, Colchester Garrison, including the Time Team trenches and the Alienated Land watching brief, unpublished CAT archive report, by Laura Pooley, Ben Holloway, Philip Crummy and Rob Masefield, 2006
CAT/RPS Report 292		The Colchester Garrison PFI project, Colchester, Essex: a report on the excavation of Areas 2, 6, 10. August-November 2003, unpublished CAT/RPS archive report, by Howard Brooks (CAT) and Robert Masefield (RPS), 2006
CM	2002	<i>Guidelines on standards and practices for archaeological fieldwork in the Borough of Colchester</i>
CM	2003	<i>Guidelines on the preparation and transfer of archaeological archives to Colchester Museums</i>
Crummy, P, Benfield, S, Crummy, N, Rigby, V, & Shimmin, D	forth-coming	Stanway: excavations at Colchester Quarry (Stanway Hall Farm), Colchester, Essex, 1987-2003
EAA 3	1997	<i>Research and archaeology: a framework for the Eastern Counties 1. Resource assessment</i> , East Anglian Archaeology, Occasional Papers, 3 , ed by J Glazebrook
EAA 8	2000	<i>Research and archaeology: a framework for the Eastern Counties 2. Research agenda and strategy</i> , Eastern Anglian Archaeological Occasional Papers, 8 , ed by N Brown & J Glazebrook
EAA 14	2003	<i>Standards for field archaeology in the East of England</i> , East Anglian Archaeological Occasional Papers, 14 , ed by D Gurney
English Heritage	1988	<i>Coaxial Field Systems</i> (by F Raymond)
Hawkes, C F C, & Hull, M R	1947	<i>Camulodunum, first report on the excavations at Colchester 1930-39</i> , RRCSAL, 14
Hull, M R	1958	<i>Roman Colchester</i> , RRCSAL, 20
IFA	1999	<i>Standard and guidance for archaeological excavation</i>
IFA	2001	<i>Standard and guidance for the collection, documentation, conservation and research of archaeological materials</i>
Lotbiniere, S de	1977	'Gunflint recognition' (letter in <i>Country Life</i> , August 25th, p 488)
Lotbiniere, S de MAP 2	1980	'Gunflint enquiry', <i>Kent Archaeological Review</i> , 59 , 198
	1991	<i>Management of archaeological projects</i> , 2nd edition (English Heritage)
RPS	2002	<i>Colchester Garrison PFI archaeological project strategy proposal</i>
RPS	2003	<i>Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) for an archaeological watching brief at the New Garrison, Colchester Garrison</i>
RPS/CAT	2002	<i>Research design for archaeological excavations and watching brief at the New Garrison, Colchester</i>
Shimmin, D	1998	'A Late Iron Age and Roman occupation site at Kirkee McMunn Barracks, Colchester', <i>Essex Archaeology and History</i> , 29 , 260-69

13 Site context data

Note: The original intention was to have different feature numbers for each different area. This was done for Area F and M, after which it was decided to only have one set of feature numbers. Hence the Area F numbers only go as far as F2. F4-F9 in the main Feature number series are unused contexts.

Context	Interpretation	Location	Finds	Context date
WBF1	Cremation	Area F	Roman pot (1st-2nd century), iron nails	Roman
WBF2	Inhumation	Area F		Roman
WBF1	Pit	Area M		post-med?
WBF2	Ditch	Area M	Post-medieval pot	post-med
WBF3	Ditch	Area M	Roman pot, 1st century?	Roman
WBF4	WWI tunnel	Area F		WWI
WBF5-WBF9	not used			
WBF10	Ditch	Area RO		undated
WBF11	Droveway ditch	Area E	Roman pot (displaced from burial?)	Roman
WBF12	Droveway ditch	Area E		Roman
WBF13	Pit	Area KR		probably modern
WBF14	Ditch?	Area KR		probably modern
WBF15	Pit	Area F		undated
WBF16	Pit	Area F	Coke/coal	modern
WBF17	Ditch	Area C		Late Iron Age/Roman
WBF18	Ditch	Area C	Roman CBM	Late Iron Age/Roman
WBF19	Ditch	Area C	Prehistoric pottery (residual?)	Late Iron Age/Roman
WBF20	Ditch	Area E	CBM inc possible peg tile. Roman pot, 1st century?	Roman (with intrusive peg-tile?)
WBF21	CBM/pot scatter	Area YP	CBM (inc peg-tile), medieval pot, Lava quern	medieval
WBF22	Ditch	Area R	Roman CBM	Roman
WBF23	Ditch	Area R		Roman, presumably
WBF24	Pit	Area F		undated
WBF25	BACTEC trench	Area F	residual prehistoric pot & flint , peg-tile, 19th- to 20th-century pot	21st century
WBF26	Pit	Area KR		Roman
WBF27	Gully	Area KR	CBM, prob post-medieval	post-med
WBF28	Service trench	Area F	Modern finds – glass, coke, post-medieval pot	modern
WBF29	Linear	Area F		undated
WBF30	Charcoal patch	Area F	Animal bone	modern?
WBF31	Ditch	Area KR	Iron nails	Roman?
WBF32	Not used			
WBF33	Tree throw pit	Area F		?
WBF34	Hearth ?	Area KR	Prehistoric pot	prehistoric
WBF35	Pit ?	Area KR		undated
WBF36	Tree throw pit?	Area RO		?
WBF37	Clay floor?	Area KR		Roman?

Context	Interpretation	Location	Finds	Context date
WBF38	Pit	Area KR		undated
WBF39	Pit	Area F		undated
WBF40	Ditch	Area RO	Daub	post-med
WBF41	Pit	Area RO		undated
WBF42	Ditch or natural feature	Area RO		?
WBF43	Ditch	Area F		undated
WBF44	Ditch	Area YP	CBM, Roman pot	Roman
WBF45	Ditch	Area YP	daub	Roman?
WBF46	Pit (poss grave)	Area YP		Roman?
WBF47	Ditch	Area P		Roman?
WBF48	Ditch	Area KR		Roman?
WBF49	Ditch	Area C	CBM, including peg-tile?	Late Iron Age/Roman?
WBF50	Ditch/pit	Area RO		undated
WBF51	Fox hole	Area KR	Modern finds	modern
WBF52	Ditch	Area RO		undated
WBF53	Ditch	Area RO		undated
WBF54	Ditch	Area RO		undated
WBF55	Ditch	Area RO		undated
WBF56	Tree throw pit?	Area KR		?
WBF57	Ditch	Area YP		undated
WBF58	Pit	Area YP		undated
WBF59	Ditch?	Area E		undated
WBF60	Pit/ditch	Area E		undated
WBF61	Pit?	Area G		undated
WBF62	Ditch	Area E	Roman pot	Roman
WBF63	Droveway ditch	Area P		Late Iron Age/Roman
WBF64	Ditch	Area T		undated
WBF65	Ditch	Area G		undated
WBF66	Ditch	Area G		undated
WBF67	Pit	Area G		undated
WBF68	Ditch	Area F		undated
WBF69	Ditch	Area RO		undated
WBF70	Ditch	Area RO		undated
WBF71	Rubbish pit	Area KR	Modern pottery and glass	modern
WBF72	Ditch	Area M		Late Iron Age/Roman
WBF73	Ditch	Area M		undated
WBF74	Ditch	Area C		undated
WBF75	Ditch	Area F	Roman pottery	Roman
WBF76	Ditch	Area F		Late Iron Age/Roman
WBF77	Ditch	Area F		Late Iron Age/Roman

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Colchester Archaeological Trust

12 Lexden Road,
Colchester,
Essex CO3 3NF

tel.: (01206) 541051
tel./fax: (01206) 500124
email: archaeologists@catuk.org

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14 Appendices

Appendix 1: An archaeological watching brief on munitions clearance at Colchester Garrison, Essex, July-October 2002



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Fig 1 Colchester New Garrison Phase 1 watching brief, showing area boundaries and 2003 excavations (Areas 2, 6 and 10).

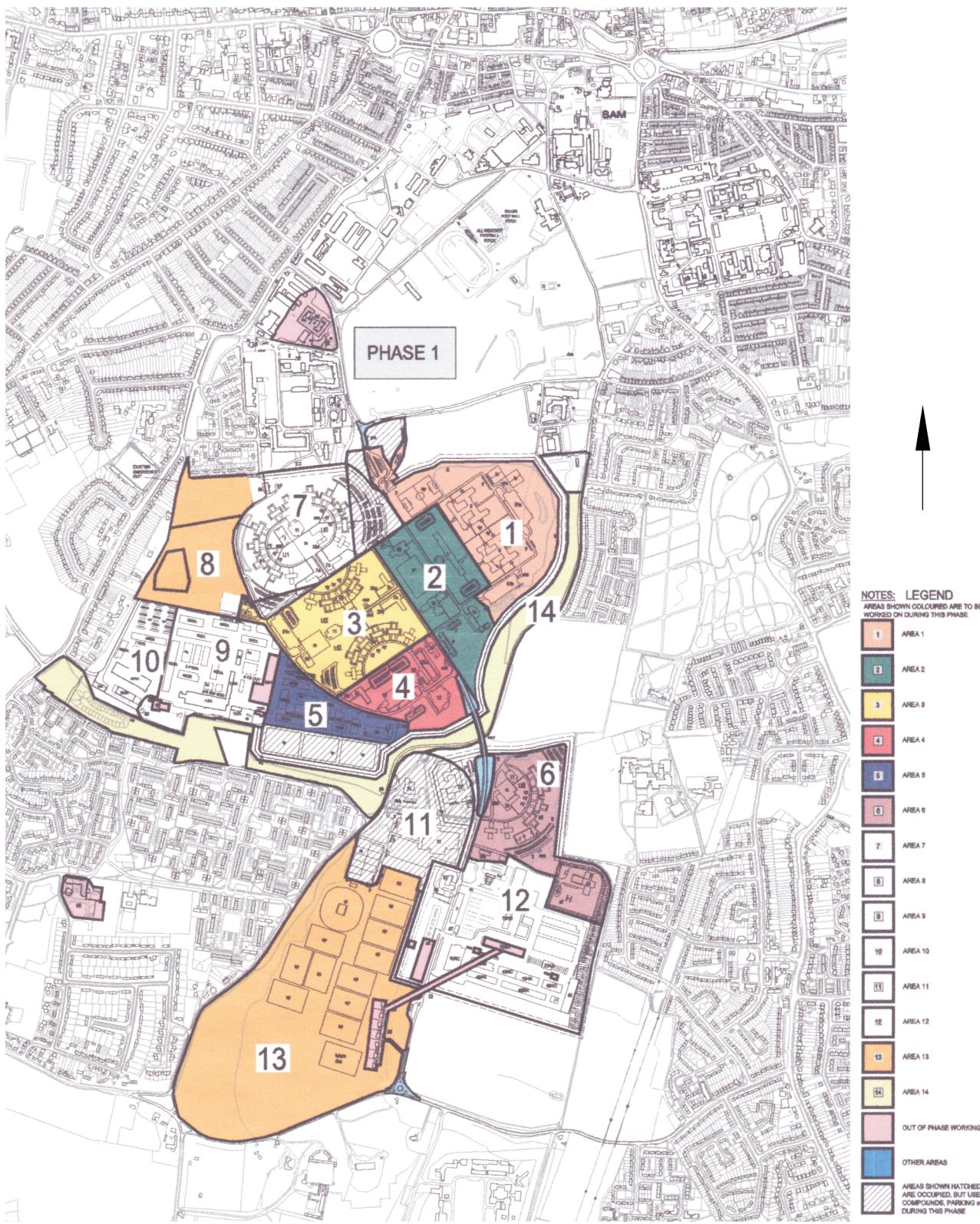


Fig 2 Colchester New Garrison PFI project: development phase plan. (Not to scale.)

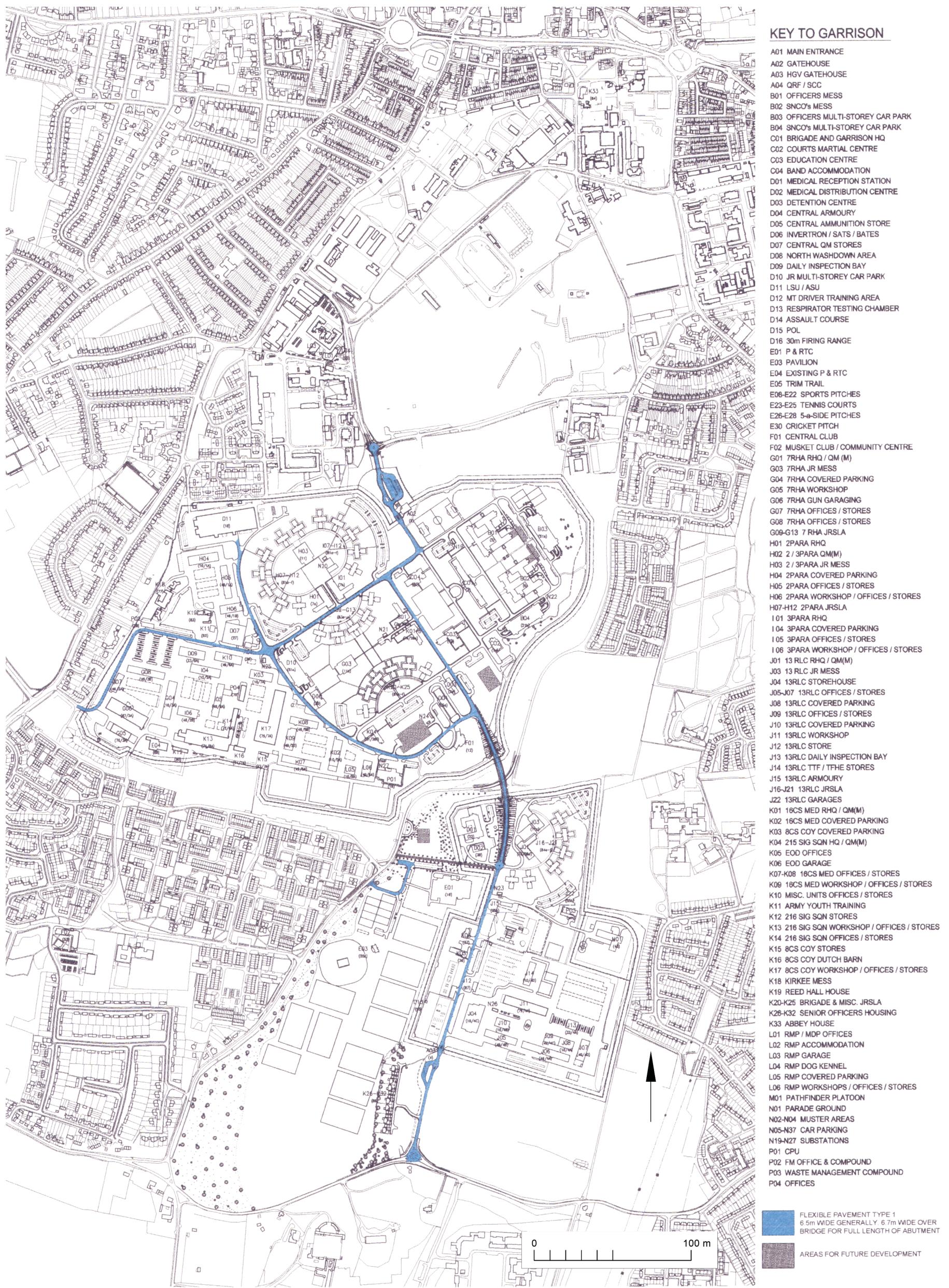


Fig 3 Colchester New Garrison PFI project: detailed building layout plan.

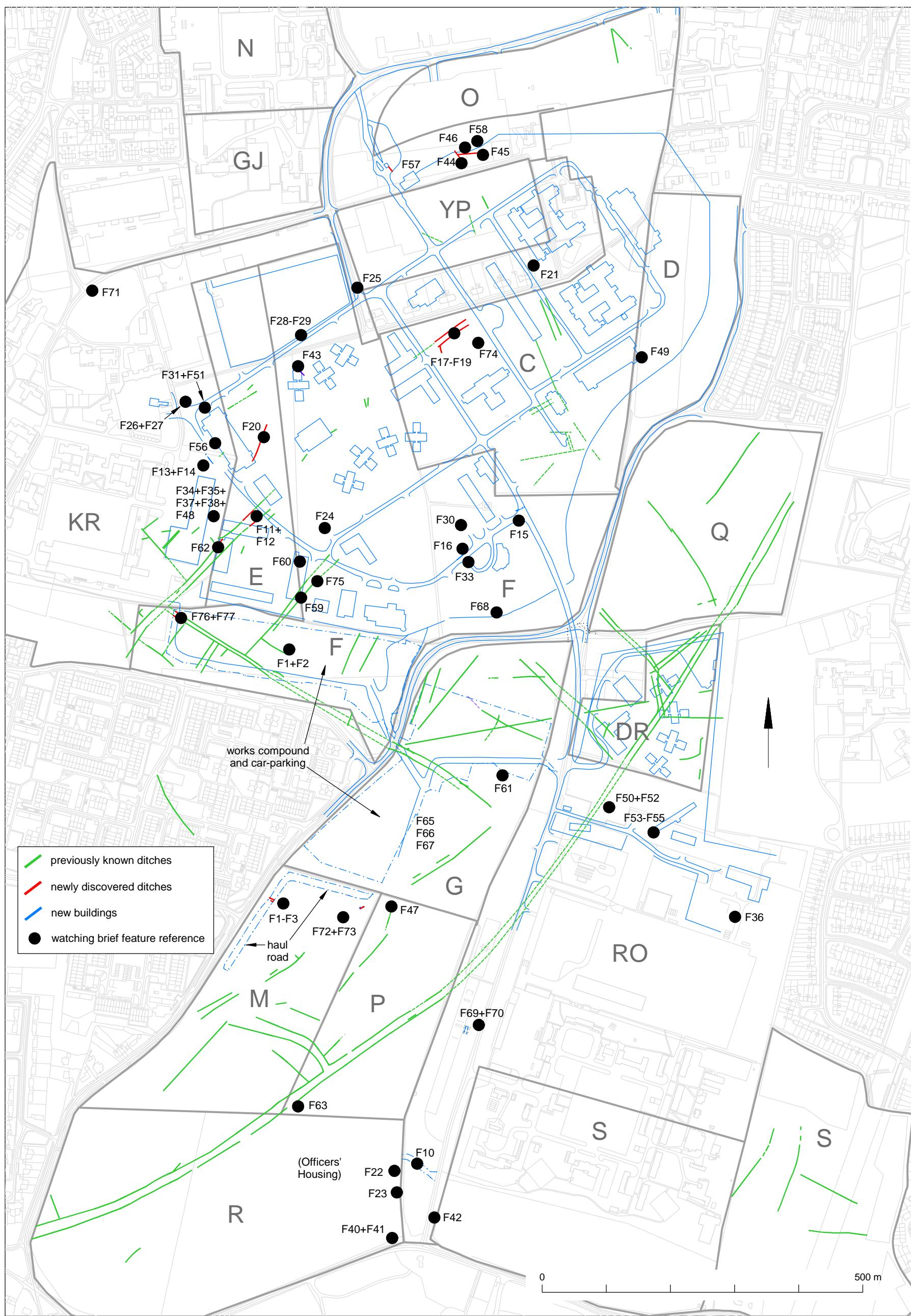


Fig 4 Finds with cropmarks (new buildings shown blue).

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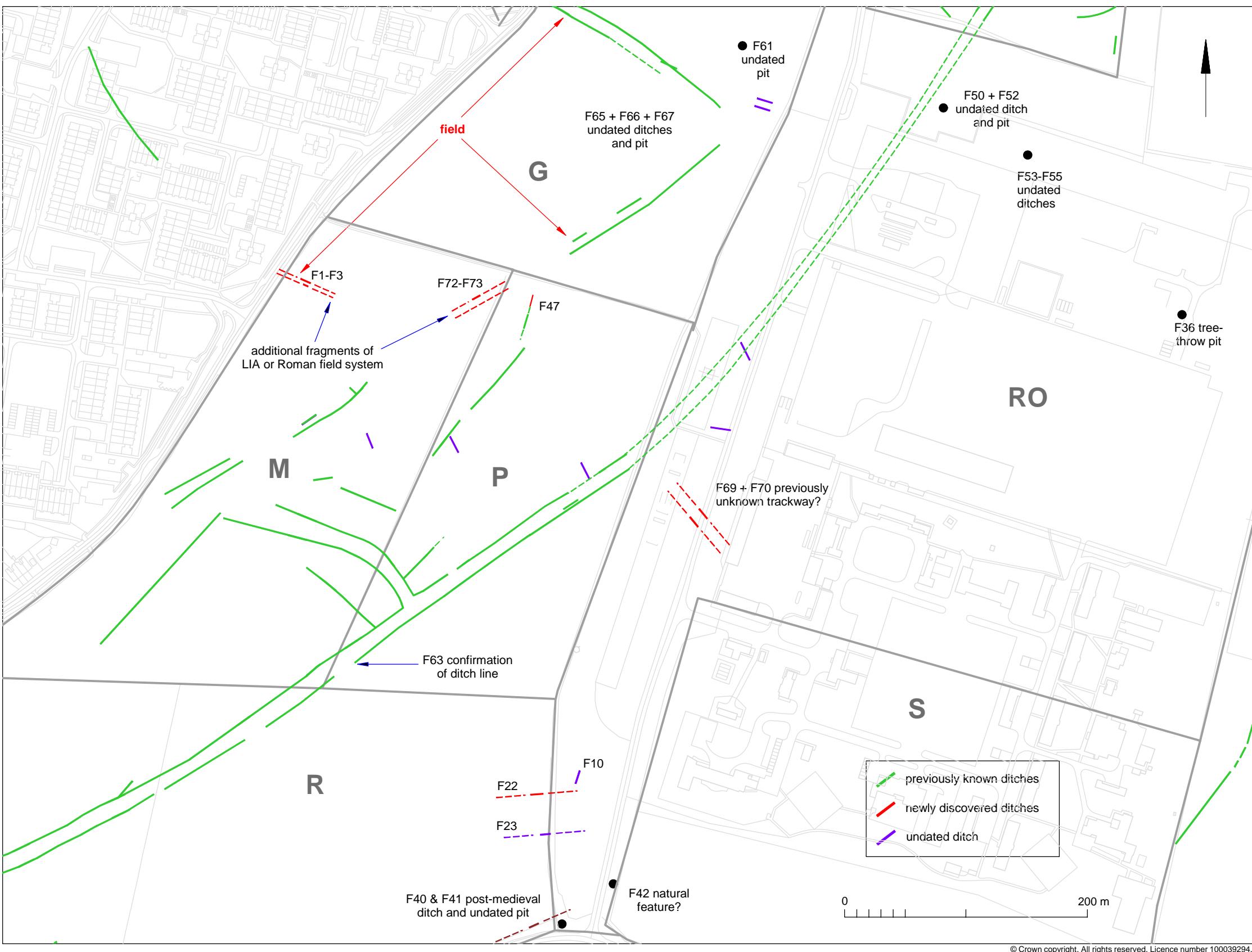


Fig 5 Detail of Areas G, M, P, R and RO.

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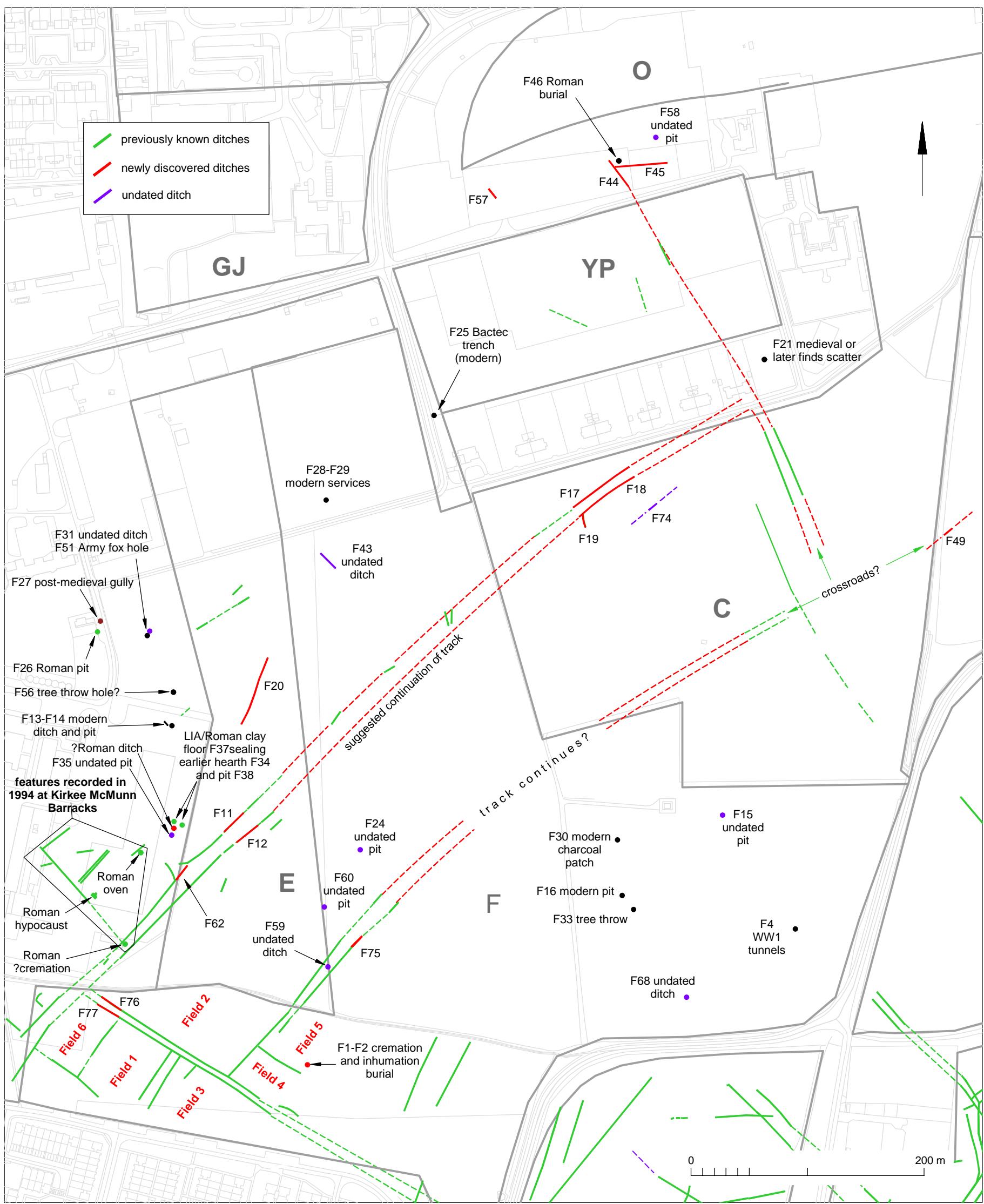


Fig 6 Detail of Areas C, E, F and YP.

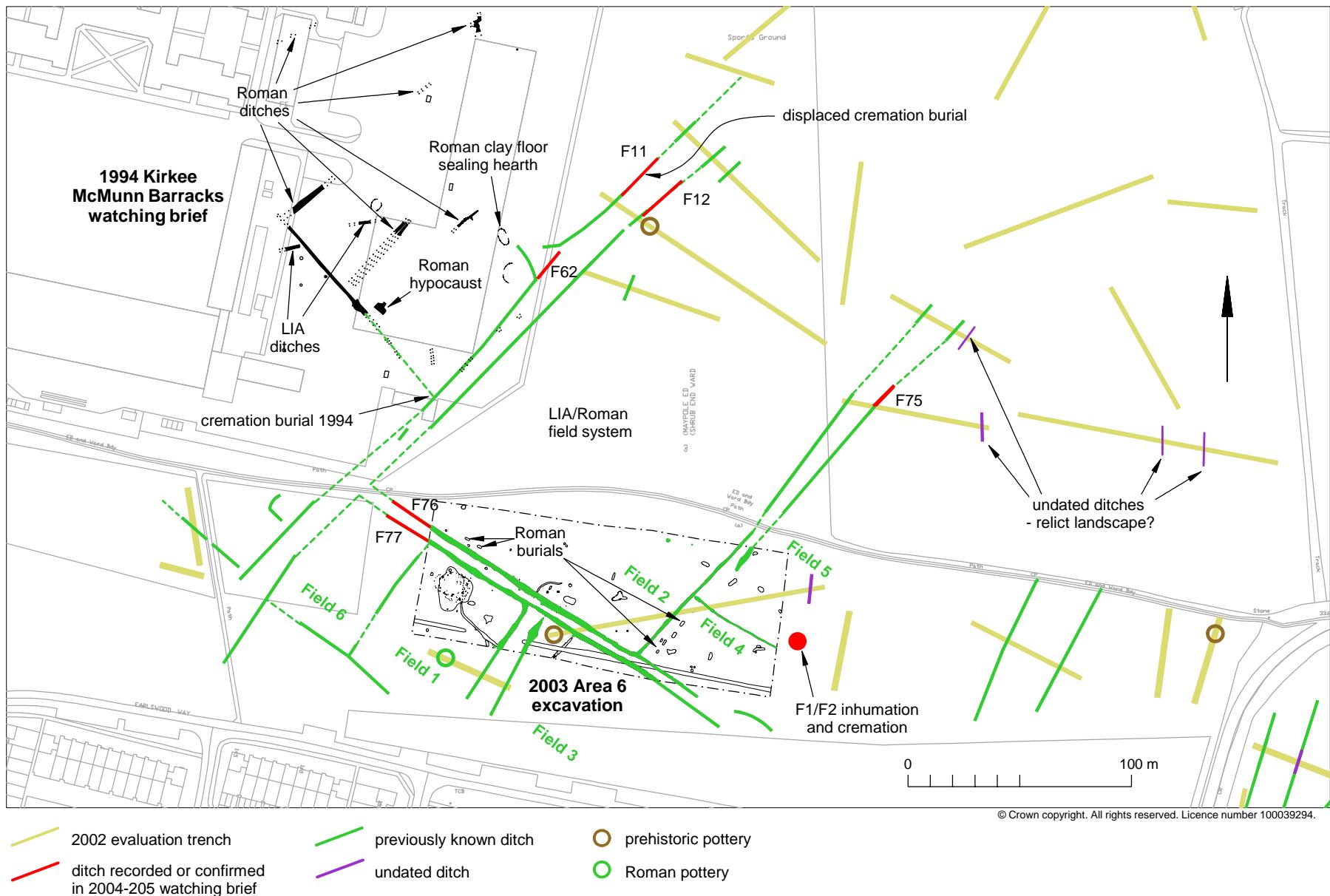
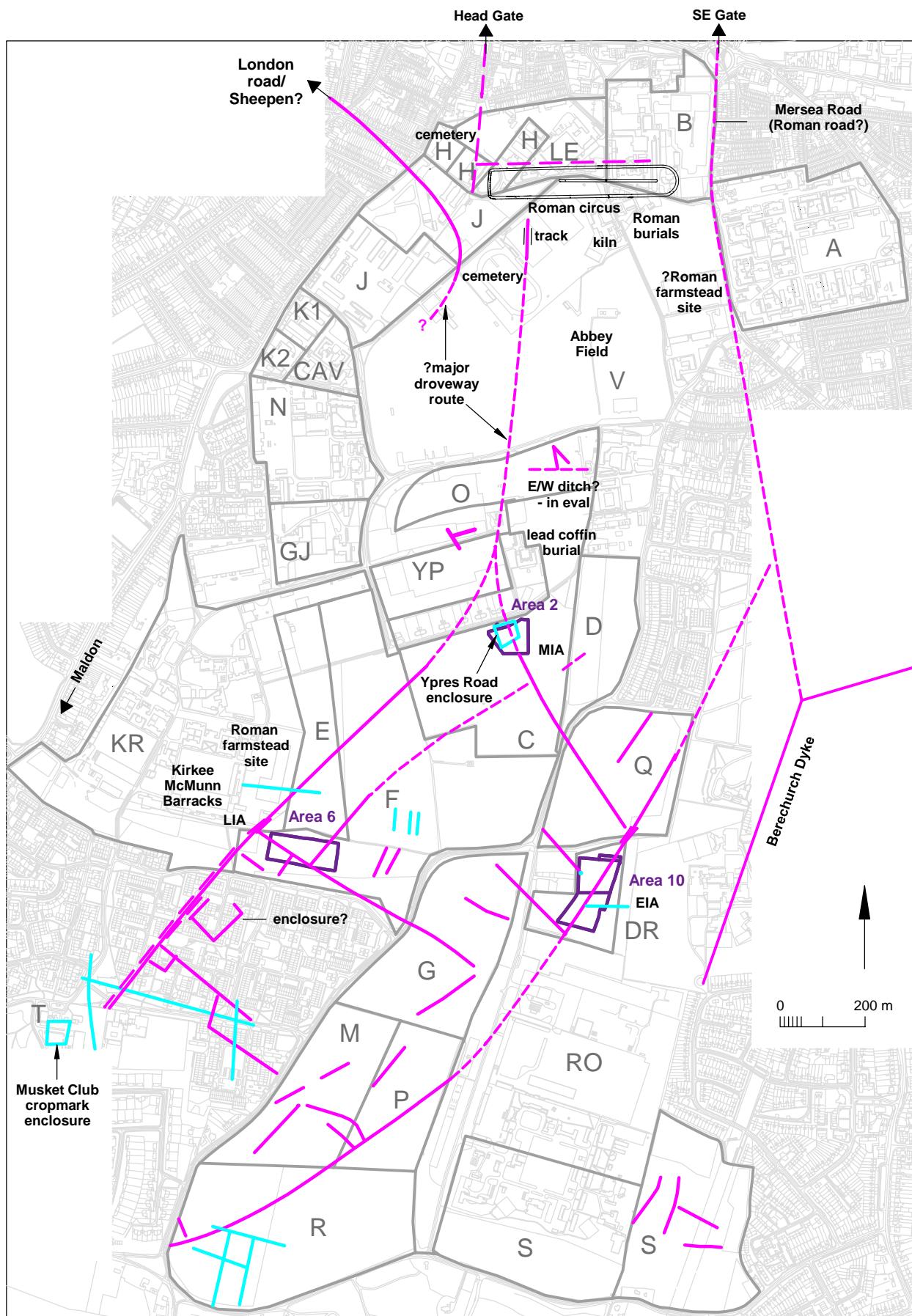


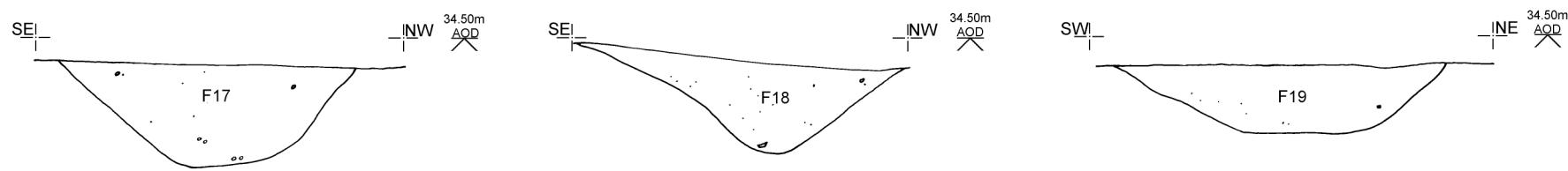
Fig 7 New discoveries in context of Area 6 excavation.



— Landscape Form 1
 — Landscape Form 2
 — excavation
 - - - projected alignments (conjectural)

Fig 8 Late Iron Age/Roman landscape context.

Area C



Area E

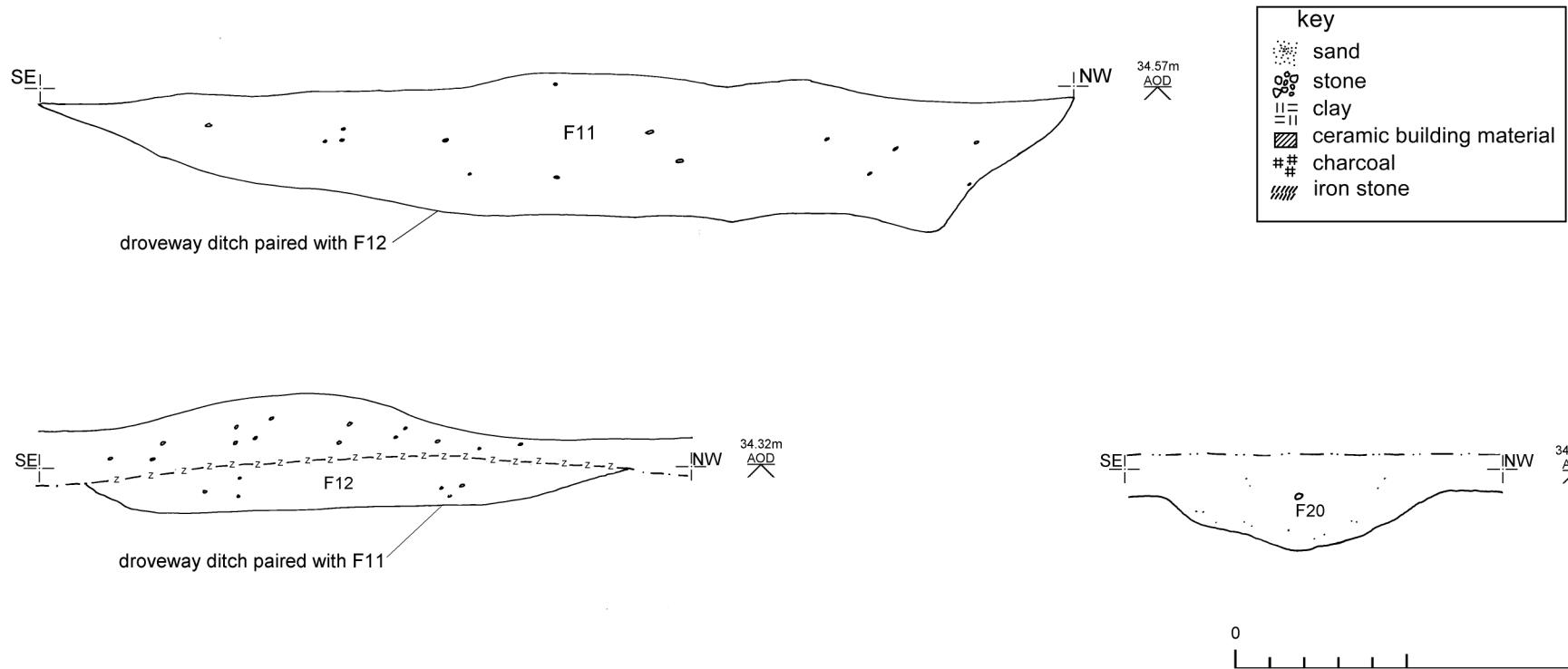


Fig 9 Areas C and E, sections.

0 1 m

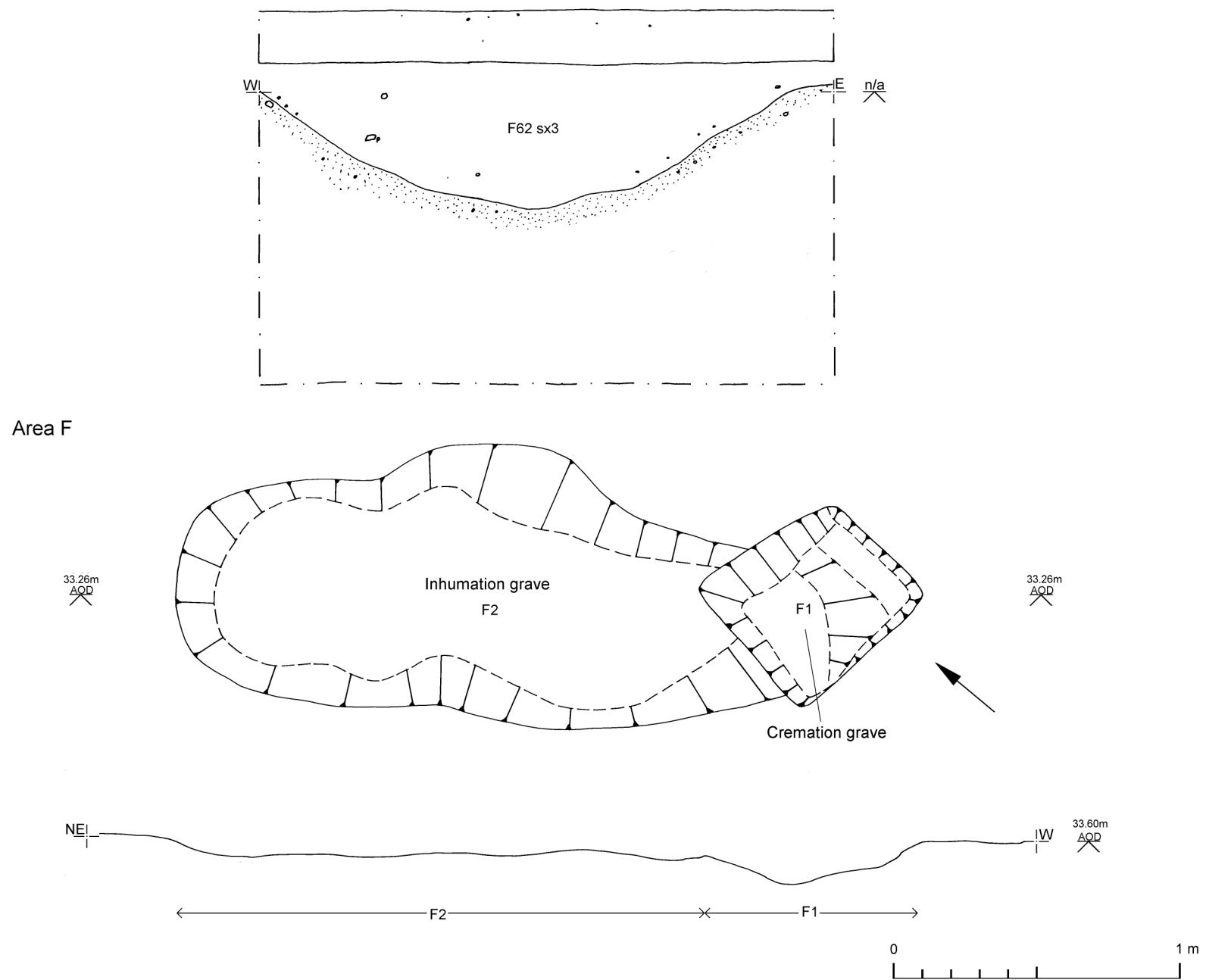


Fig 10 Area E section, and area F plan and profile.

Area KR

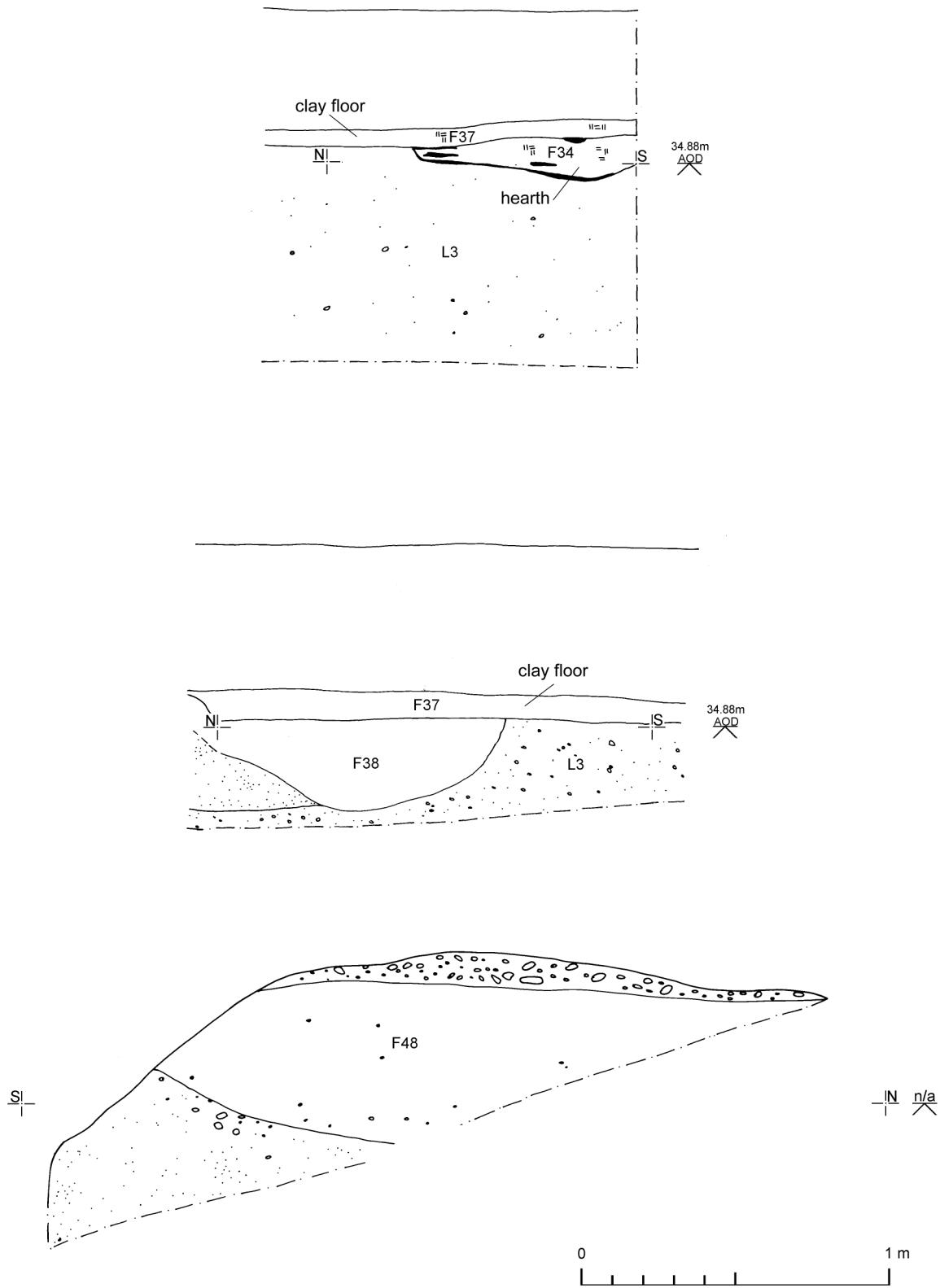
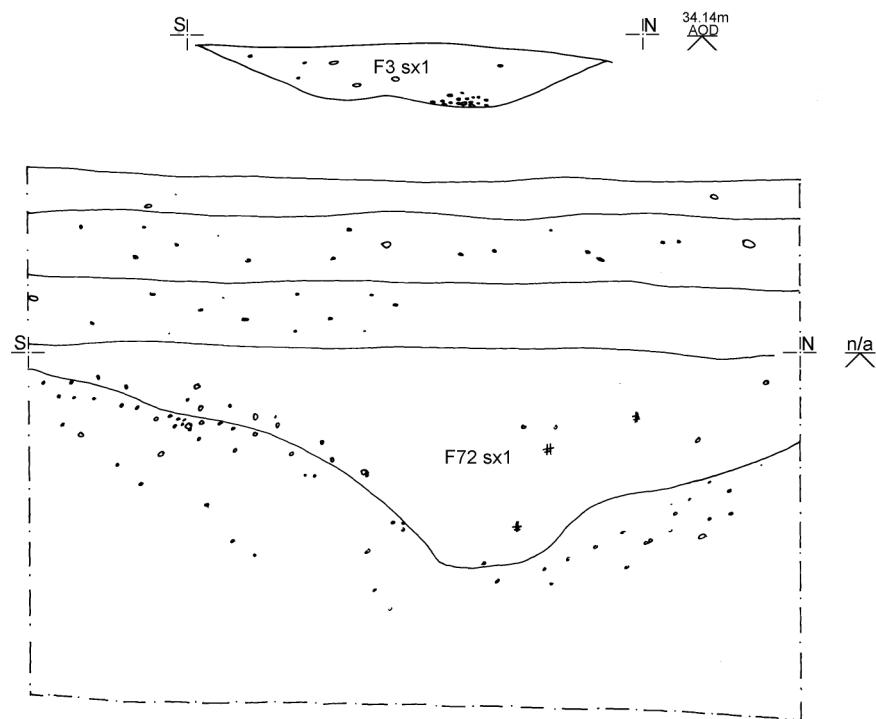


Fig 11 Area KR sections.

Area M



Area P

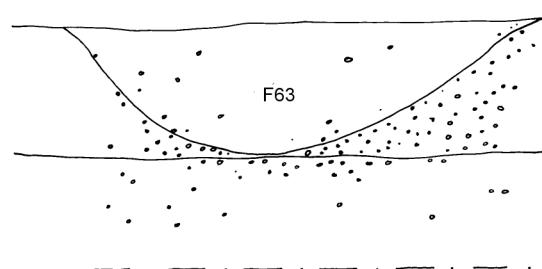
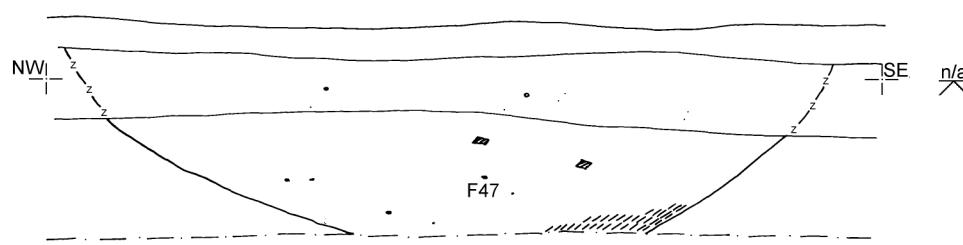


Fig 12 Areas M and P, sections.

Area R

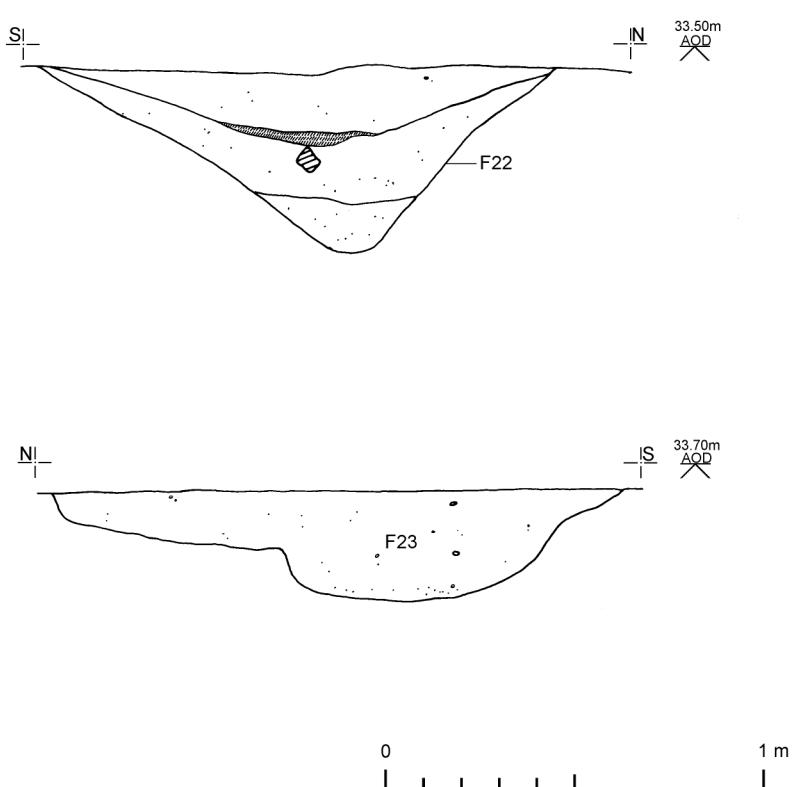


Fig 13 Area R sections.

Area RO

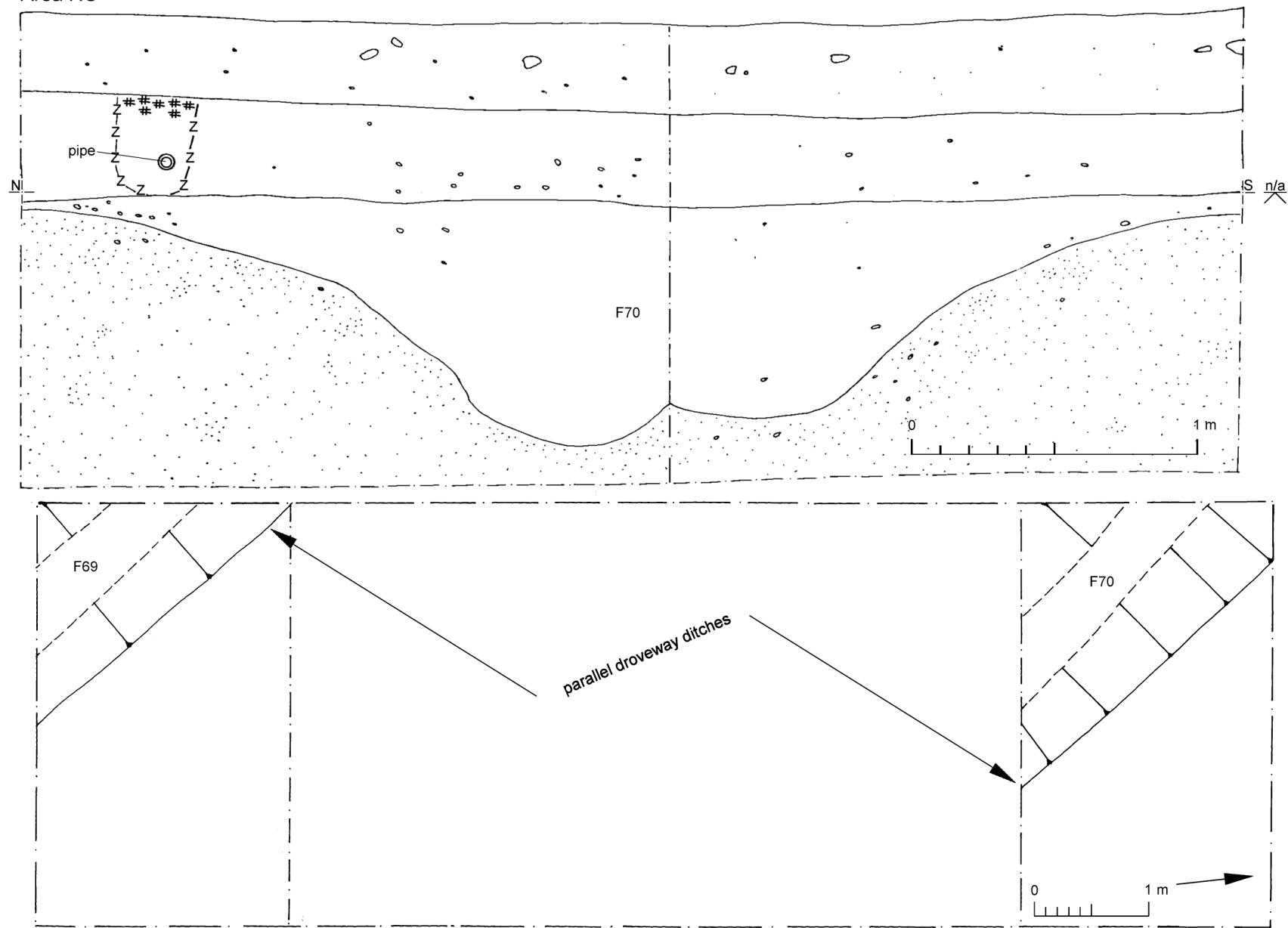


Fig 14 Area RO section and plan.

Area YP

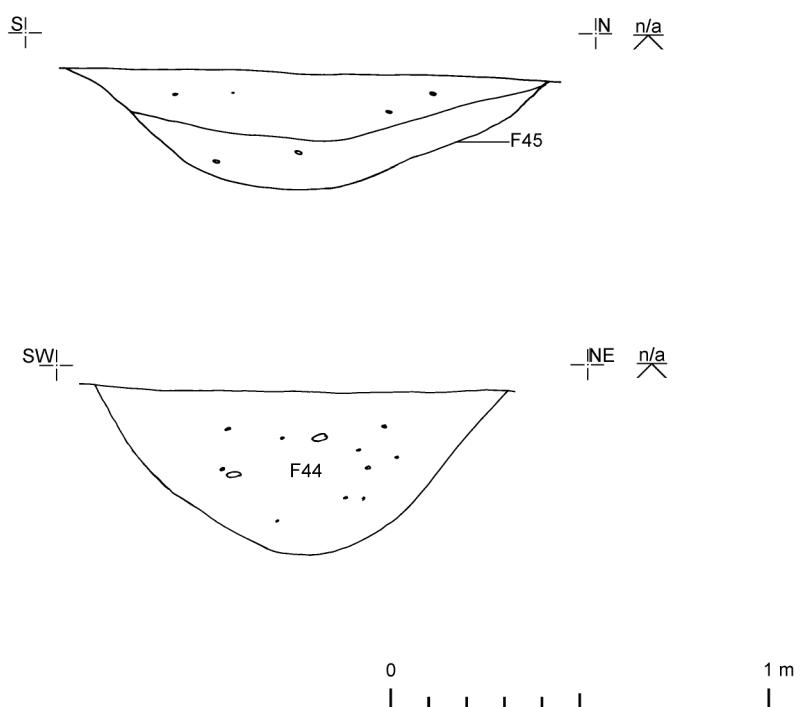
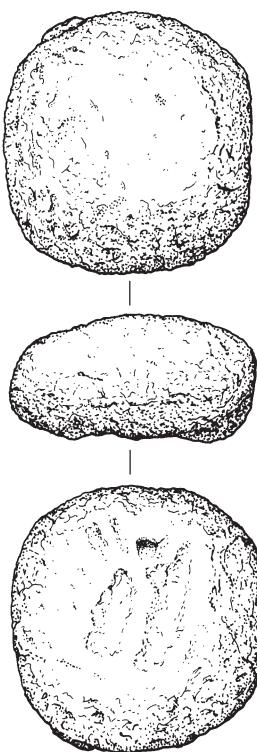


Fig 15 Area YP sections.

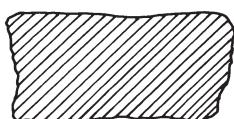
1.



2.



|



0 2 cm

Fig 16 Stone small finds.

Essex Historic Environment Record/ Essex Archaeology and History

Summary sheet

Site address: Colchester Garrison Phase 1, Colchester, Essex	
Parish: Colchester	District: Colchester Borough
NGR: TL 9930 2300 (centre)	Site code: Museum accession code 2004.349
Type of work: Watching brief	Site director/group: Colchester Archaeological Trust
Date of work: February 2004-August 2005	Size of area investigated: approx 3 km ²
Location of finds/curating museum: Colchester Museums	Funding source: Developer
Further seasons anticipated? uncertain	Related EHER nos: 11631-11638, 11643-11652, 11673-11681
Final report:	CAT/RPS Report 357 and summary in EAH
Periods represented: Mesolithic, Neolithic, Bronze Age, Iron Age, Roman, post-medieval, modern	
Summary of fieldwork results: <i>During 2002-03, large-scale evaluation and excavation was carried out in advance of the construction of the 'New Garrison' at Colchester. A watching brief held during construction work in 2004-05 revealed 72 archaeological features and a number of loose finds. Some of the features, principally Roman linear ditches, are parts of field ditches and trackways already known as cropmarks (or revealed in previous evaluations or excavations), whereas others are additions to the previously-known network of fields and tracks within the oppidum of Camulodunum. Other features are undated, or of modern origin.</i>	
Previous summaries/reports: None	
Authors of summary: Howard Brooks and Robert Masefield	Date of summary: April 2006