

**An archaeological evaluation by test-pitting  
on the putting green and in the nursery,  
Upper Castle Park, Colchester, Essex  
April 2007**

**report prepared by  
Kate Orr**

**on behalf of  
Colchester Borough Council**

CAT project ref.: 07/4c

NGR: TL 99931 25429

Colchester and Ipswich Museums accession code: COLEM 2007.43



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

*tel.:* (01206) 541051  
(01206) 500124

*email:* [archaeologists@catuk.org](mailto:archaeologists@catuk.org)

**CAT Report 422**  
June 2007

## Contents

1	Summary	1
2	Introduction	1
3	Archaeological background	1
4	Aims	1
5	Methods	2
6	Results	2
7	Finds	
7.1	Roman pottery <i>by Stephen Benfield</i>	2
7.2	The clay tobacco pipes <i>by Nina Crummy</i>	5
7.3	The coins and the nails <i>by Nina Crummy</i>	5
7.4	List of other finds	6
8	Discussion	7
9	Archive deposition	7
10	Acknowledgements	7
11	References	7
12	Abbreviations	8
13	Glossary	8

Figures after p 9

EHER summary sheet

## List of figures

Fig 1 Test-pit location plan (Test-pits 1-5) in relation to Roman and Norman remains.

Fig 2 Test-pits 1-5: sections.

## 1 Summary

*Five test-pits were excavated by hand on the putting green and in the nursery of Upper Castle Park in April 2007. Those on the putting green did not encounter any Roman deposits or features, being dug through topsoil and post-Roman dark earth. The two pits dug in the nursery did reach Roman archaeology, ie a late Roman demolition layer starting at between 820mm and 950mm below ground-level.*

## 2 Introduction (Fig 1)

- 2.1** This is the report on an archaeological evaluation by test-pitting which was carried out on the putting green and in the nursery of Upper Castle Park. This archaeological evaluation was requested by site owners Colchester Borough Council, who are planning to move the existing playground northwards to the area of the current putting green and nursery. The evaluation was required to establish the position and depth of the top of the Roman archaeological remains, in order to inform the siting of the proposed new playground equipment. This information is to be used to apply for scheduled monument consent.
- 2.2** The site is located in Upper Castle Park, at NGR TL 9997 2550. It is currently two sites divided by a hedge; a flat grassed putting green and an area to the north which is used as a plant nursery.
- 2.3** The archaeological work was carried out by the Colchester Archaeological Trust (CAT) in late April 2007.
- 2.4** All fieldwork was undertaken in accordance with a specification agreed with Colchester Borough Council's Monument Officer (Alex Richards), who also monitored the project. This report mirrors standards and practices contained in the Institute of Field Archaeologists' *Standard and guidance for archaeological field evaluation* (IFA 1999) and *Standard and guidance for the collection, documentation, conservation and research of archaeological materials* (IFA 2001), and Colchester Borough Council's *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). Other sources used are *Management of research projects in the historic environment* (MoRPHE), and *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).

## 3 Archaeological background (Fig 1)

The Castle Park is protected as a Scheduled Ancient Monument (Essex SAM no 1) due to the wealth of its Roman and medieval archaeology. Its most significant archaeological monument is the Roman temple dedicated to the emperor Claudius, the foundations of which survive below the Norman castle keep. The test-pits were excavated within Insula 7 of the Roman town. Within this *insula*, tessellated pavements of houses have been recorded as well as street metalling (Hull 1958; CAR 6, 15).

## 4 Aims

The general aim of the evaluation was to locate, identify, and assess the quality of any surviving archaeological features, specifically to characterise and assess the depth and survival of any Roman buildings or streets.

## 5 Methods

- 5.1 The five test-pits (Test-pits 1-5) were excavated by hand down to 1m depth. Each test-pit measured 1m<sup>2</sup>.
- 5.2 Test-pits were located to test the areas that will be affected by items of playground equipment.
- 5.3 Potential archaeological deposits which were exposed were cleaned by hand. Individual records of layers were entered on CAT pro-forma record sheets.
- 5.4 Section drawings were made at a scale of 1:10. The test-pits were plotted using an electronic distance measuring device (EDM).
- 5.5 Finds and small finds were registered on CAT pro-forma record sheets and assigned finds numbers according to context. Finds were washed, marked and bagged according to context.
- 5.6 Colour photographs of the test-pits were taken with a digital camera.
- 5.7 A metal detector was used to check spoil heaps.

## 6 Results (Fig 2)

### 6.1 Test-pit 1

Test-pit 1 was positioned on the putting green. Turf and a thick layer of modern topsoil (L3) was found to seal a post-Roman dark earth (L4). There was no clear distinction between these two layers, but the dark earth is thought to start at approximately 800mm below ground-level. The dark earth continued to the base of the test-pit and no features were encountered. Both layers contained Roman brick, tile and pottery.

### 6.2 Test-pit 2

Test-pit 2 was also located on the putting green and shared the same soil profile as Test-pits 1 and 3, ie approximately 800mm of modern topsoil (L5) and 200mm of post-Roman dark earth (L6). No features were observed.

### 6.3 Test-pit 3

Test-pit 3 was also positioned on the putting green and shared the same soil profile as Test-pits 1 and 2, ie turf and approximately 800mm of modern topsoil (L1) sealing 200mm of post-Roman dark earth (L2). A silver Roman coin (SF 1) was found in L2. No features were revealed.

### 6.4 Test-pit 4

Test-pit 4 was positioned just north of the hedge, within the nursery. Turf and 600mm of modern topsoil (L7) merged into post-Roman dark earth (L8). The layer of dark earth was 350mm thick and contained much Roman pottery plus a silver Roman coin (SF 2). The dark earth sealed a grey silt, mottled with orangey brown silty clay and flecked with charcoal (L12). L12 was encountered at 950mm depth and contained oystershell and fragments of tile. It is presumed to be the upper layer of Roman deposits.

### 6.5 Test-pit 5

Test-pit 5 was excavated within the nursery. Turf and 540mm of modern topsoil (L9) sealed approximately 280mm of post-Roman dark earth (L10). There was a large amount of Roman tile at the bottom of L10, at approximately 800mm below ground-level. The tile sealed a mottled clayey layer of late Roman date (L11), similar to L12 in Test-pit 4. L11 started at 820mm below ground-level. It produced a large quantity of finds including oystershell, Roman brick and tile, septaria, animal bone, and Roman glass.

## 7 Finds

### 7.1 Roman pottery

*by Stephen Benfield*

#### 7.1.1 Pottery fabrics and recording

The Roman pottery has been recorded using the Roman pottery fabric type series devised for CAR 10 in which the fabrics are recorded as two-letter codes. These

letter codes, together with the full fabric name, are set out in Table 1. Where appropriate, the fabric code for the National Roman Fabric Reference Collection has been included (Tomber & Dore 1998). The pot forms were recorded, where possible, using the Camulodunum (Cam) Roman pottery form type series (Hawkes & Hull 1947; Hull 1958). Samian vessels are recorded using Dragendorff (Dr) form numbers or other common form type references following those used in Webster 1996. Dating of the pottery broadly follows the dating of pottery fabric and forms in CAR 10. The full Roman pottery archive forms part of the site archive.

**Table 1: Roman pottery fabrics.**

Fabric code	Fabric name	National Roman Fabric Reference Collection fabric code
AA	amphoras, all excluding Dressel 20 and Brockley Hill/Verulamium region amphoras	
AJ	amphoras, Dressel 20	BAT AM 1, BAT AM 3
BA	plain samian forms	
SG	South Gaulish plain samian	LGF SA
CG	Central Gaulish plain samian	LEZ SA 2
EG	East Gaulish plain samian	
CB	Colchester red colour-coated roughcast ware	COL CC2
CH	oxidised Hadham wares	HAD OX
CZ	Colchester and other red colour-coated wares	COL CC2
DJ	coarse oxidised and related wares	COL WH
EA	Nene Valley colour-coated ware	LVN CC
FJ	Brockley Hill/Verulamium region oxidised ware	VER WH
GA	BB1: black-burnished ware, category 1	DOR BB1
GB	BB2: black-burnished ware, category 2	COL BB2
GX	other coarse wares, principally locally-produced grey wares	
HD	shell-tempered and calcite-gritted wares	
HG	Eifelkeramic/Mayen ware	MAY CO
HZ	large storage jars and other vessels in heavily-tempered grey wares	
KX	black-burnished ware (BB2) types in pale grey ware	
MQ	white slipped fine wares and parchment wares	
TZ	mortaria, Colchester and mortaria imported from the Continent	
WA	silvery micaceous grey wares	

### 7.1.2 Catalogue of Roman pottery

#### Test-pit 1

L3, finds no 4 (18 g); Fabric BA(EG), 1 sherd, early/mid 2nd-mid 3rd century;  
Fabric ?CH, 1 sherd, abraded, late 3rd-4th century;  
Fabric GX, 2 sherds, Roman.

Pottery dated ?late 3rd-4th century.

L4, finds no 5 (304 g); Fabric BA(CG) 1 sherd, Dr 33 2nd century;  
Fabric CB, 1 sherd, Cam 391, early 2nd-late 2nd/early 3rd century;  
Fabric ?CH, 1 sherd, late 3rd-4th century;  
Fabric DJ, 6 sherds, includes a very thick sherd and a lid sherd, 1st-2nd/3rd century;  
Fabric EA, 2 sherds, Cam 308 lid, mid 3rd-4th century;  
Fabric GX, 19 sherds, one rim has cracks along it which are firing defects.

Pottery dated mid 3rd-4th century.

#### Test-pit 2

L5, finds no 6 (80 g); Fabric CH, 2 sherds, lid, late 3rd-4th century;  
Fabric GA, 1 sherd, lid (CAR 10 Fabric GA Type 153), early 2nd-4th century;  
Fabric GX, 6 sherds, Roman.

Pottery dated late 3rd-4th century.

**L5**, finds no 7 (500 g); Fabric BA(EG), Dr 33, early/mid 2nd-early/mid 3rd century;  
Fabric DJ, 1 sherd, 1st-2nd/3rd century;  
Fabric EA, 1 sherd, mid 3rd-4th century;  
Fabric GB, 4 sherds, Cam 37, early 2nd to mid-late 3rd century;  
Fabric GX, 16 sherds, Roman;  
Fabric HZ, 2 sherds, Cam 273, 1st-2nd/3rd century;  
Fabric KX, 1 sherd, Cam 37A/38A plain, early 2nd-mid-late 3rd century.  
Pottery dated mid 3rd-4th century.

**L6**, finds no 8 (74 g); Fabric DJ, 1 sherd, abraded, 1st-2nd/3rd century;  
Fabric EA, 1 sherd, probably late 3rd-4th century;  
Fabric GX, 4 sherds, Roman;  
Fabric KX, 1 sherd, Cam 37A/38A, early 2nd-3rd century.  
Pottery dated late 3rd-4th century.

### Test-pit 3

**L1**, finds no 1 (40 g); Fabric GX, 3 sherds, Roman;  
Fabric KX, 1 sherd, abraded, Cam 305, late 3rd-4th century.  
Pottery dated late 3rd-4th century.

**L2**, finds no 2 (166 g); Fabric CZ, 1 sherd, Cam 407, early/mid-late 3rd century;  
Fabric GB, 2 sherds, Cam 37, early 2nd to mid-late 3rd century, Cam  
39B, early 2nd-3rd century;  
Fabric GX, 10 sherds, Roman;  
Fabric HD, 1 sherd, ?4th century.  
Pottery dated 3rd century, probably 4th century.

### Test-pit 4

**L7**, finds no 9 (48 g); Fabric ?AA, 1 sherd, ?Gaulish amphora, 1st-2nd/3rd century;  
Fabric GX, 4 sherds, Roman.  
Pottery dated Roman.

**L8**, finds no 11 (1,195 g); Fabric AA, 1 sherd, ?Gaulish amphora, 1st-2nd/3rd century;  
Fabric BA(EG), 2 sherds, Dr ?33, early/mid 2nd-early/mid 3rd  
century Dr 36 rim with barbotine leaf decoration, early/mid 2nd to  
early-mid 3rd century;  
Fabric CH, 1 sherd, late 3rd-4th century;  
Fabric CZ, 3 sherds, Cam ?407, ?early 3rd to mid-late 3rd century;  
Fabric DJ, 3 sherds, 1st-2nd/3rd century;  
Fabric EA, 6 sherds, 1 sherds decorated with cream barbotine, 1  
sherd decorated with dark barbotine and white paint, Cam ?407,  
Cam 408-410, mid 3rd-4th century;  
Fabric GA, 5 sherds, Cam 303 with lattice decoration, early 2nd-  
early 3rd century;  
Fabric GB, 14 sherds, Cam 37B, late 2nd/early 3rd to mid-late 3rd  
century, Cam 40B, early 2nd to mid-late 3rd century;  
Fabric GX, 46 sherds, Cam 268, early/mid 2nd-late 3rd/early 4th  
century;  
Fabric HZ, 2 sherds, 1 abraded, 1st-2nd/3rd century;  
Fabric KX, 1 sherd, Cam 305, late 3rd-4th century;  
Fabric MQ, 1 sherd, probably late 3rd-4th century;  
Fabric WA, 2 sherds, Roman.  
Pottery dated late 3rd-4th century.

### Test-pit 5

**L9**, finds no 12 (17 g); Fabric GX, 1 sherd, Roman.

**L10**, finds no 13 (785 g); Fabric AA, 1 sherd, Gaulish amphora, 1st-2nd/3rd century;  
Fabric AJ, 2 sherds, 1st-early 3rd century;  
Fabric BA(CG), 1 sherd, Dr 18/31, early-mid 2nd century;  
Fabric CZ, 3 sherds, legs of barbotine-depicted animal, early 2nd-  
mid 3rd century;  
Fabric ?DJ, 1 sherd, Roman;  
Fabric GA, 2 sherds, early 2nd-4th century;  
Fabric GB, 4 sherds, Cam 37B, late 2nd/early 3rd to mid-late 3rd  
century, Cam 305, late 3rd century;

Fabric GX, 20 sherds, Roman;  
Fabric HZ, 3 sherds, 1st-2nd/3rd century;  
Fabric KX, 2 sherds, early 2nd-3rd century; Fabric TZ, 1 sherd, 1st-3rd century.

Pottery dated late 3rd century.

**L10**, finds no 17 (479 g); Fabric AJ, 2 sherds, 1st-early 3rd century;  
Fabric BA(SG), 1 sherd, Dr 27, 1st century, ?late 1st century;  
Fabric DJ, 1 sherd, 1st-2nd/3rd century;  
Fabric FJ, 1 sherd, 1st to early-mid 2nd century;  
Fabric GB, 5 sherds, Cam 37B, late 2nd/early 3rd to mid-late 3rd century;  
Fabric GX, 13 sherds, Cam 268, early/mid 2nd-late 3rd/early 4th century;  
Fabric HG, 1 sherd, late 4th/early 5th century;  
Fabric KX, 2 sherds 2nd-3rd/4th century;  
Fabric TZ, 1 sherd, **CAR 10** Fabric TZ Type 139, 2nd-early 3rd century.

Pottery dated late 4th/early 5th century.

**L11**, finds no 18 (464 g); Fabric AJ, 1 sherd, 1st-early 3rd century;  
Fabric BA(CG), 1 sherd, Dr 33 base with stamp, end of stamp missing although partial letter visible at the break, stamp appears to read **PRISCIN**, 2nd century;  
Fabric BA(EG), 1 sherd, Dr 27, early-mid 2nd century;  
Fabric CB, 1 sherd, early 2nd-mid 3rd century;  
Fabric GA, 4 sherds Cam 303, early 2nd-late 2nd/early 3rd century;  
Fabric GB, 3 sherds, Cam 278, early/mid 2nd to mid/late 3rd century;  
Fabric GX, 16 sherds, Roman; Fabric TZ, 1 sherd, end of a mortarium spout, 1st to early-mid 3rd century.

Pottery dated early/mid 2nd to mid/late 3rd century.

### 7.2 The clay tobacco pipes

by Nina Crummy

(numbers in brackets are finds numbers)

The clay pipe assemblage consists only of plain stem fragments that cannot be closely dated.

(14) L1. Modern topsoil. Three plain stem fragments. Bore diameters 2.5, 3 and 3 mm.

(4) L3. Modern topsoil. Two plain stem fragments. Bore diameters 2 and 3 mm.

### 7.3 The coins and the nails

by Nina Crummy

(numbers in brackets are finds numbers)

The majority of the finds are nails, most of which have small heads and belong to the post-medieval period, while wire nails are modern. There is also a 1942 halfpenny of George VI. In contrast, two Roman coins were recovered from the dark earth. Both are *denarii*, one of Tiberius dated to AD 26-37 and the other of Antoninus Pius, dated AD 147-8. The only other certain Roman finds are two nails from L11. It is unusual for an assemblage of this size to contain two silver coins but none of copper-alloy, particularly given the absence of any other Roman copper-alloy objects, and this may indicate the presence of a dispersed hoard in the area.

SF 2. (10) L8. Post-Roman dark earth. Silver coin. Tiberius, *denarius*, reverse *Pontif Maxim*, seated female right, with ornamented legs on the chair and a single line beneath. Diameter 18 mm, weight 2.84 g. As *RIC* 48-60; AD 26-37.

SF 1. (3) L2. Post-Roman dark earth. Silver coin. Antoninus Pius, *denarius*, reverse *Salus, COS IIII*. Diameter 17 mm, weight 2.35 g. *RIC* 623; AD 147-8 (TR.P. X1).

(2) L2. Post-Roman dark earth. Iron nail with small damaged head. Length 45 mm.

(4) L3. Modern topsoil. Four iron nails and two shank fragments. a-c) Wire nails with small round head. Lengths 54, 69 and 70 mm. d) Round flat head. Length, incomplete, 25 mm. e-f) Lengths 63 and 55 mm.

(5) L4. Modern topsoil. Iron nail and shank fragment. a) Square head. Length, incomplete, 51 mm. b) Hooked tip. Length 41 mm.

(6) L5. Modern topsoil. Iron nail with small square convex head. Length 67 mm.

(8) L6. Post-Roman dark earth. Iron nail with small damaged head. Length 44 mm.

(11) L8. Post-Roman dark earth. Four iron nails and one shank fragment. a) Small ?square head. Length 67 mm. b) ?Square head. Length 50 mm. c) Damaged ?round head. Length, incomplete, 30 mm. d) Small square head. Length 42 mm. e) Length 36 mm.

(18) L11. Roman layer. Two iron nails of Manning's type 1b (Manning 1985, 134), with round slightly convex head. Lengths 44 (with clenched tip) and 47 (incomplete) mm.

(16). Unstratified. Iron nail with flat oval head and curved shank. Length 76 mm.

#### 7.4 List of other finds

**Table 2: list of other finds by test-pit (TP = test-pit).**

Test-pit	Context	Finds no	Description	Weight (in g)
TP 1	L3	4	Burnt slate	8
TP 1	L3	4	septaria	150
TP 1	L3	4	Roman <i>tesserae</i>	55
TP 1	L3	4	Animal bone	15
TP 1	L3	4	Roman brick and tile	1,000
TP 1	L4	5	Septaria	201
TP 1	L4	5	Glass	10
TP 1	L4	5	Roman tile fragments	1,590
TP 1	L4	5	Animal bone	6
TP 1	L4	5	Animal bone	158
TP 1	L4	5	1 struck flint	14
TP 1	L4	5	Roman brick and tile	3,000
TP 2	L5 - upper	6	Septaria	248
TP 2	L5 - lower	7	Roman tile and peg-tile	932
TP 2	L5 - upper	6	Glass - modern	65
TP 2	L5 - upper	6	Animal bone	50
TP 2	L5 - upper	6	Roman brick and tile	1,100
TP 2	L5 - lower	7	Animal bone	55
TP 2	L6	8	Roman tile	667
TP 2	L6	8	Animal bone	33
TP 3	L1	1	Slate	21
TP 3	L1	1	Charcoal	9
TP 3	L1	1	Roman <i>tesserae</i>	205
TP 3	L1	1	Roman tile and medieval-modern peg-tile	33
TP 3	L2	2	Animal bone	29
TP 3	L2	2	Roman brick and tile	2,500
TP 4	L7	9	Glass - post-medieval?	3
TP 4	L7	9	Roman tile and medieval-modern peg-tile	490
TP 4	L8	11	Slate	38
TP 4	L8	11	Tufa and septaria	434
TP 4	L8	11	Stone	272
TP 4	L8	11	Flint and stone	158
TP 4	L8	11	Septaria	113
TP 4	L8	11	Roman brick and tile	2,300
TP 4	L8	15	Charcoal	9
TP 4	L8	14	Glass	5
TP 4	L8	11	Animal bone	179
TP 4	L8	11	Animal bone	8



TP 4	L8	11	Animal bone	5
TP 4	L8	11	Roman brick and tile	2,500
TP 5	L9 - upper	12	Roman brick and tile	700
TP 5	L10	17	Mortar	1,04
TP 5	L10 - lower	17	Large piece of ?sandstone	779
TP 5	L10 - lower	17	Roman brick and tile	3,900
TP 5	L10 - lower	17	Roman <i>tesserae</i>	155
TP 5	L10 - lower	17	Animal bone	237
TP 5	L10 - upper	13	Roman <i>tessera</i>	21
TP 5	L10 - upper	13	Roman brick and tile	6,000
TP 5	L10 - upper	13	Animal bone	86
TP 5	L11	18	Mortar	148
TP 5	L11	18	Charcoal	5
TP 5	L11	18	Roman tile	2,100
TP 5	L11	18	Roman brick and tile	640
TP 5	L11	18	Animal bone	42
TP 5	L11	18	Animal bone	97

## 8 Discussion

The three test-pits dug on the putting green did not encounter any Roman deposits or features, being dug through topsoil and post-Roman dark earth. Quantities of Roman tile, *tesserae* and pottery appearing residually in these layers hint at Roman occupation features below the limit of excavation, perhaps 100mm deeper down. There was at least 200mm more topsoil in these test-pits than in those in the nursery, indicating a deliberate making up of the ground surface.

The two test-pits dug in the nursery did reach Roman archaeology, ie L11 and L12, representing a late Roman demolition layer starting at between 820mm and 950mm below ground-level.

Two silver Roman coins were recovered. It is unusual for an assemblage of this size to contain two silver coins but none of copper-alloy, particularly given the absence of any other Roman copper-alloy objects, and this may indicate the presence of a dispersed hoard in the area.

## 9 Archive deposition

The paper and digital archive is held by the Colchester Archaeological Trust at 12 Lexden Road, Colchester, Essex CO3 3NF, but it will be permanently deposited with Colchester and Ipswich Museums under accession code COLEM 2007.43.

## 10 Acknowledgements

The Trust would like to thank Colchester Borough Council for funding the work, and Steve Collis, Andy Fulcher and the Service Team of Colchester Borough Council for their assistance on site.

The project was monitored by Alex Richards and Philip Wise of Colchester and Ipswich Museums. The fieldwork was supervised by K Orr, and undertaken by B Hurrell, C Lister and D Ross.

## 11 References

- |        |      |  |
|--------|------|--|
| CAR 6  | 1992 | <i>Colchester Archaeological Report 6: Excavations at Culver Street, the Gilbert School, and miscellaneous sites in Colchester, 1971-85</i> , by P Crummy  |
| CAR 10 | 1999 | <i>Colchester Archaeological Report 10: Roman pottery from excavations in Colchester, 1971-86</i> , by R P Symonds and S Wade, ed by P Bidwell and A Croom |

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>
EAA 3	1997	<i>Research and archaeology: a framework for the Eastern Counties 1. Resource assessment</i> , East Anglian Archaeology, Occasional Papers, <b>3</b> , ed by J Glazebrook
EAA 8	2000	<i>Research and archaeology: a framework for the Eastern Counties 2. Research agenda and strategy</i> , East Anglian Archaeology, Occasional Papers, <b>8</b> , ed by N Brown and J Glazebrook
EAA 14	2003	<i>Standards for field archaeology in the East of England</i> , East Anglian Archaeology, Occasional Papers, <b>14</b> , ed by D Gurney
Hawkes, C F C, & Hull, M R	1947	<i>Camulodunum, first report on the excavations at Colchester 1930-39</i> , RRCSAL, <b>14</b>
Hull, M R	1958	<i>Roman Colchester</i> , RRCSAL, <b>20</b>
IFA	1999	<i>Standard and guidance for archaeological field evaluation</i>
IFA	2001	<i>Standard and guidance for the collection, documentation, conservation and research of archaeological materials</i>
Manning, W H	1985	<i>Catalogue of the Romano-British iron tools, fittings and weapons in the British Museum</i>
MoRPHE	2006	<i>Management of research projects in the historic environment</i> (English Heritage)
Tomber, R, & Dore, J	1998	<i>The National Roman Fabric Reference Collection, a handbook</i> , MoLAS, Monograph, <b>2</b>
Webster, P	1996	<i>Roman samian pottery in Britain</i> , CBA, Practical handbook in archaeology, <b>13</b>

## 12 Abbreviations

AOD	Above Ordnance Datum
NGR	National Grid Reference
RIC	<i>Roman Imperial Coinage of Britain</i>
SF	Small Find
U/S	unstratified, ie without any context

## 13 Glossary

feature	an identifiable thing like a pit, a wall, a drain, a floor; can contain 'contexts'
layer	distinct or distinguishable deposit of soil
medieval	period from AD 1066 to c AD 1500
modern	period from the 19th century onwards to the present
natural	geological deposit undisturbed by human activity
peg-tile	rectangular thin tile with peg-hole(s) used mainly for roofing, first appeared c AD 1200 and continued to present day, but commonly post-medieval to modern
post-medieval	from c AD 1500 to around the late 18th century
Roman	period of assimilation of Britain as part of the Roman empire, c AD 43-410
tesserae	small ceramic cubes used for floors in Roman buildings

**Distribution list:**

Philip Wise, Colchester and Ipswich Museums  
Alex Richards, Colchester and Ipswich Museums  
Essex Historic Environment Record, Essex County Council



**Colchester Archaeological Trust**

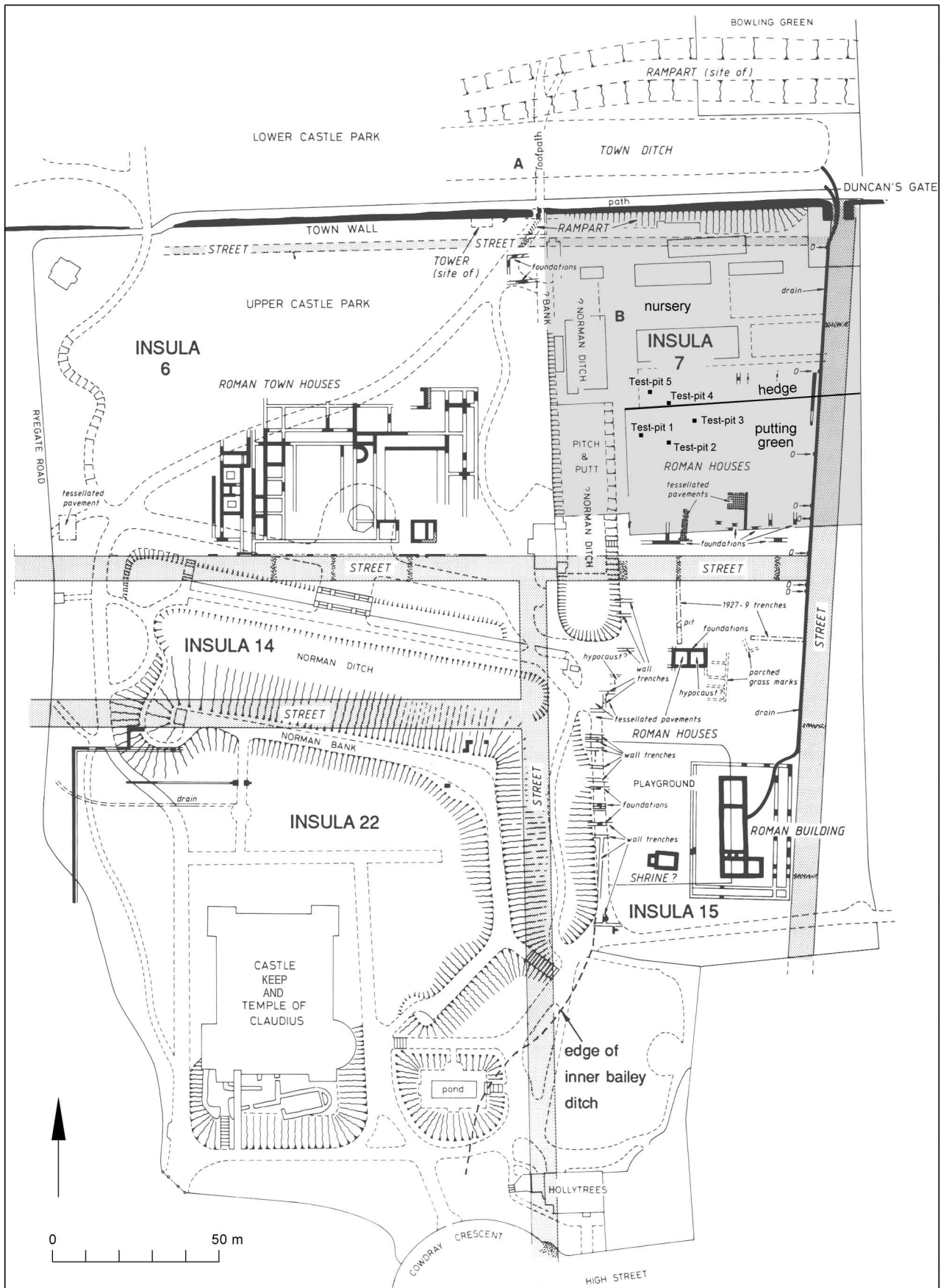
12 Lexden Road,  
Colchester,  
Essex CO3 3NF

tel.: (01206) 541051  
(01206) 500124

email: [archaeologists@catuk.org](mailto:archaeologists@catuk.org)

Checked by: *Philip Crummy*  
Date: *01.06.07*

*Adams c:/reports07/castle park test-pits/report422.doc*



© Crown copyright. All rights reserved. Licence number 100039294.

Fig 1 Test-pit location plan (Test-pits 1-5) in relation to Roman and Norman remains (adapted from CAR 6, fig 13.225).

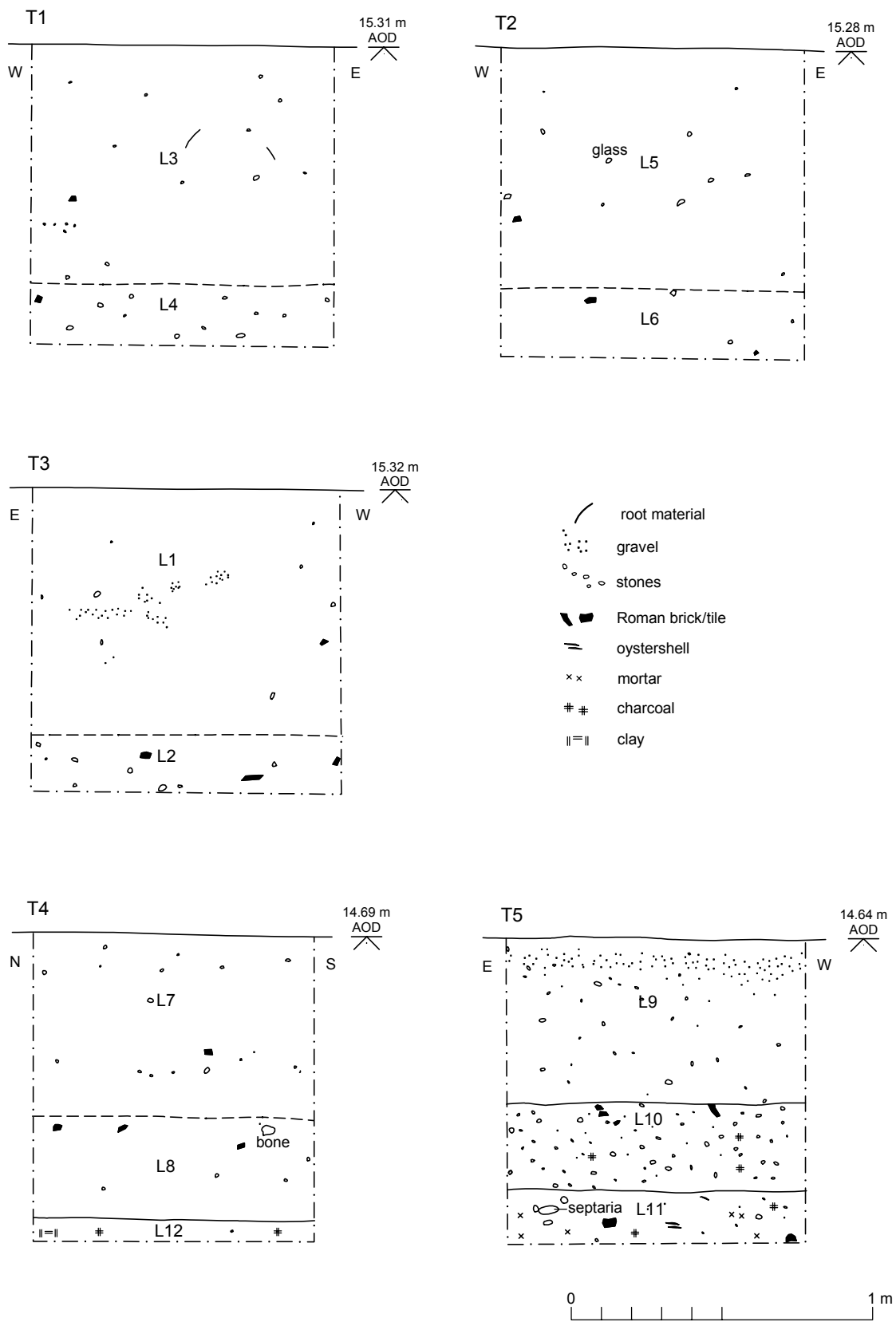


Fig 2 Test-pits 1-5: sections.

**Essex Historic Environment Record/  
Essex Archaeology and History**

**Summary sheet**

<b>Site address:</b> the putting green and nursery, Upper Castle Park, Colchester, Essex	
<b>Parish:</b> Colchester	<b>District:</b> Colchester Borough
<b>NGR:</b> TL 99931 25429	<b>Site code:</b> COLEM accession code 2007.43
<b>Type of work:</b> Evaluation by test-pitting	<b>Site director/group:</b> Colchester Archaeological Trust
<b>Date of work:</b> April 2007	<b>Size of area investigated:</b> 5 x test-pits each 1m <sup>2</sup>
<b>Location of finds/curating museum:</b> Colchester and Ipswich Museums	<b>Funding source:</b> Colchester Borough Council
<b>Further seasons anticipated?</b> Yes	<b>Related EHER nos:</b>
<b>Final report:</b> CAT Report 422 and summary in <i>EAH</i>	
<b>Periods represented:</b> Roman, post-medieval, modern	
<b>Summary of fieldwork results:</b> <i>Five test-pits were excavated by hand on the putting green and in the nursery of Upper Castle Park in April 2007. Those on the putting green did not encounter any Roman deposits or features, being dug through topsoil and post-Roman dark earth. The two test-pits dug in the nursery did reach Roman archaeology, ie a late Roman demolition layer starting at between 820mm and 950mm below ground-level.</i>	
<b>Previous summaries/reports:</b> CAT Reports 102, 191, 286, 416,	
<b>Author of summary:</b> Kate Orr	<b>Date of summary:</b> June 2007