

Archaeological evaluation on Phase 1 land at Fiveways Fruit Farm, Dyer's Road, Stanway, Essex, CO3 0QR

November 2016



by Laura Pooley

with contributions by Adam Wightman
figures by E Holloway and L Pooley

fieldwork by Nigel Rayner, with Sarah Carter, Ben Holloway,
Jane Roberts, Alec Wade and Adam Wightman

commissioned by
S Williams (Hills) & B Davies (Mersea Homes)
on behalf of Hills Building Group & Mersea Homes

NGR: TL 9531 2234 (centre)

Planning ref.: pre-application

CAT project ref.: 16/10I

CHER code: ECC3890

Colchester Museum accession code COLEM: 2016.106

OASIS ref.: colchest3-267233



Colchester Archaeological Trust

Roman Circus House,
Roman Circus Walk,
Colchester,
Essex, CO2 7GZ

tel.: 01206 501785

email: lp@catuk.org

CAT Report 1042

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1 Summary

An archaeological evaluation (25 trial-trenches) was carried out on Phase 1 land at Fiveways Fruit Farm, Stanway, Essex during pre-application investigative work. The site is located west of the late Iron Age and Roman Colchester Dykes and Gosbecks site, and only 600m northwest of the nationally important Stanway elite burial site. It is also located immediately to the north of two Iron Age enclosures excavated at the Fruit Farm in 2015. However, only one prehistoric pit, two undated features (a linear and pit) and one tree-throw were present in the trenches. Indicating that the concentration of Iron Age and Roman activity identified nearby does not continue into land on Phase 1 of the development site.

2 Introduction (Fig 1)

This is the archive report for an archaeological evaluation by trial-trenching on Phase 1 land at Fiveways Fruit Farm, Essex which was carried out 28th-29th November 2016. The work was commissioned by B Davies, on behalf of Mersea Homes, and S Williams, on behalf of Hills Building Group, during pre-application investigative work, and was undertaken by Colchester Archaeological Trust (CAT).

In response to consultation with Colchester Borough Council Planning Services (CBCPS), Colchester Borough Council Archaeological Advisor Jess Tipper advised that in order to establish the archaeological implications of this application, the applicant should be required to commission a scheme of archaeological investigation in accordance with paragraphs 128, 129 and 132 of the *National Planning Policy Framework* (DCLG 2012).

All archaeological work was carried out in accordance with a *Brief for Archaeological Trenched Evaluation*, detailing the required archaeological work, written by Jess Tipper (CBCPS 2016), and a written scheme of investigation (WSI) prepared by CAT in response to the brief and agreed with CBCPS (CAT 2016).

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

3 Archaeological background

The following archaeological background draws on the major published sources for Colchester archaeology (listed below), the Colchester Historic Environment Record (CHER) and the Essex Historic Environment Record (EHER).

A desk-based assessment of the archaeological remains on and around the development site (Phase 1 and Phase 2) has already been completed (CAT Report 996, by Howard Brooks 2016).

The following general summary is taken from CAT Report 996 (1):

The proposed development site (PDS) is in an area of the highest archaeological sensitivity, situated west of the late Iron Age and Roman Colchester Dykes and Gosbecks site, and only 600m north of the nationally important Stanway elite burial site. Further, recent excavations on the Fruit Farm immediately south of the PDS have revealed two Iron Age enclosures of the type excavated at Stanway in the 1980s and 1990s.

One of the Iron Age boundaries excavated in 2015 continues north towards the PDS. There is therefore a strong possibility that archaeological features will be present on the PDS – quite possibly an Iron Age enclosure similar to those excavated in 2015.

Two previous surveys coincide partially with the PDS. First, a geophysical survey in 2008, produced no significant results in Field 5 of the 2008 evaluation site, which also forms part of the 2016 PDS. Second, the 2008 evaluation also covered part of the southern edge of the PDS. In fact, this evaluation revealed only seven significant archaeological features, all post-medieval and including at least three possible recent field boundaries.

The following archaeological summary is also taken from CAT Report 996 (22-23):

Prehistory and the Roman period

The proposed development site lies in an area of high archaeological potential, due to its location on the edge of the oppidum of Camulodunum, and close to the Colchester Dykes and the Stanway élite burial site.

The Colchester dykes are among the most important prehistoric monuments in Britain. They define the extent of the pre-Roman 'proto-town' (or oppidum in Latin) of Camulodunum. This was the capital and home of Cunobelin, who was arguably the most important leader in Britain in the decades leading up to the Roman invasion of AD 43.

There have been several studies of and excavations on the dykes, which are described fully in the two principal reference works: Camulodunum, by CFC Hawkes and MR Hull (1947), and Camulodunum 2, Colchester Archaeological Report 11, by CFC Hawkes and Philip Crummy (1995). There is no need to repeat the detailed accounts which can be found in those volumes, but a brief summary is given here.

Camulodunum, as defined by the dykes, covers approximately 12 square miles of land around modern Colchester's town centre. The only above-ground traces of this oppidum are the linear banks and ditches of the defensive dykes.

As presently understood, the oppidum had two centres of activity: one at modern Gosbecks Farm, which was a Late Iron Age and Roman rural farmstead (and probably the home of Cunobelin); and a second at Sheepen (2km to the north-east of the search area), which was the industrial and trading centre.

Most of the land contained within the dykes was undoubtedly open farmland, pasture or woodland. Dotted around this landscape were other smaller farming sites such as the one at Kirkee & McMunn barracks (TL 987 231: Shimmin 1998) which developed into a Roman villa-type estate, but other similar sites may await discovery.

The potential for the existence of important, previously undiscovered archaeological sites within and close to Camulodunum has now been realised by the 2015 excavations on the Fruit Farm. The existence of important Iron Age remains to the south of the PDS is a strong indicator that important archaeological features may be present on the PDS, perhaps another Iron Age enclosure like the two excavated in 2015.

It should be noted that two previous surveys coincide with the PDS. First, a geophysical survey in 2008, produced no significant results in Field 5 of the

2008 evaluation site, which also forms part of the 2016 proposed development (Northamptonshire Archaeology 2008, page 3 and fig 6). Second, the 2008 evaluation also covered part of the southern edge of the current site (specifically, Trenches 48-58 in Field 5). In fact, this evaluation revealed only seven real archaeological features, all post-medieval and including at least three possible recent field boundaries.

The eastern edge of the site adjoins Grymes Dyke.

Anglo-Saxon and medieval periods.

The evidence from Stanway for these periods is largely in the form of place-names such as the early 11th century reference to 'Stanwaegun' (i.e. Stanway), and the names of the Stanway manor house at the time of Domesday – Stanwega and Bertuna. The first almost certainly coincided with Stanway Hall, and the second probably with Olivers (outside our search area at TL 967 214).

The current site probably lay in the lands farmed from the Stanway Hall manor site in the centuries before and following Domesday.

The post-medieval period

The Chapman and André map of 1777 and the 1st Edition Ordnance Survey of 1896 show that during the 18th and 19th centuries, Stanway was essentially a rural parish with isolated farms and settlement along the two principal roads – the London Road and the Maldon Road. The major change is the enclosure of Lexden Heath, which formed a substantial part of the parish in 1777. The only visible surviving fragment is the area immediately around Grymes Dyke where it doglegs through Stanway Green. The rest was apparently arable land in 1896. During these centuries, the current site lay in farmland.

4 Results (Figs 2-5, Appendix 1-2)

Twenty-five archaeological trial-trenches were excavated across the Phase 1 development site (totalling 2.81ha). All of the trenches were dug by mechanical excavator under archaeological supervision.

All but two trenches measured 30m long by 1.8m wide with trenches T5 and T14 measuring 15m long by 1.8m wide. The total area investigated within the trenches is 1296m² (0.129ha, 5% sample).

The trenches were excavated through two layers of modern topsoil (L1, c 190-400mm thick and L2, where present c 100-210mm thick) sealing natural sands (see Appendix 2). Hillwash/cover loam was noted covering L3 in trenches T10-T14, T16 and T20-T21 which were located in a natural hollow in the field.

No significant archaeological features or horizons were identified in twenty-one of the trenches. The four remaining trenches are listed below.

Trench 2 (T2): Tree-throw F4 was excavated.

Trench 9 (T9): Undated linear F3 was aligned NW/SE and measured 900mm wide by 200mm deep. However, this linear was not traced in any of the other trenches to the NW or SE.

Trench 19 (T19): Prehistoric pit F2 measured 900mm long by 400mm wide by 200mm deep.

Trench 25 (T25): Undated pit F1 measured 600mm wide by 200mm deep.



Photograph 1 T9 with ditch F3, looking E



Photograph 2 T19 with pit F2, looking W

5 Finds

The only archaeological finds from the site were two flints recorded from pit F2 (finds number 1 and 2). The first was a piece of burnt flint (20g) recorded from the surface of the pit. This might be of prehistoric date as these are relatively common finds from prehistoric sites. The second was a worked flint flake (see identification below).

Flint identification by Adam Wightman: The flint is a retouched tertiary hard hammer flake with no evidence of platform preparation. There is a retouched notch on the left lateral edge and invasive retouch along both lateral edges forming a point which may have been used for piercing. Alternatively, the overall leaf-shape of the piece could indicate that it was intended to be used as an arrowhead (an Early Neolithic leaf-shaped arrowhead). However, the retouch is limited to the dorsal face, and the bulb of percussion and striking platform are still present, so it is more likely to be an unfinished piece or a roughout than a finished arrowhead.

6 Discussion

Despite being located in an area of significant Iron Age and Roman archaeology only one prehistoric pit, two undated features (a linear and a pit) and a tree-throw were

present within the evaluation trenches. The evidence would suggest that the main focus of Iron Age and Roman activity was further to the SE/SSE and that little to no activity continued to the N/NW into land on Phase 1 of the development site. This would seem to confirm evidence from Fields 1, 4 and 5 of the 2008 evaluation (located along the southern edge of Phase 2 of the present development site, see Fig 2). Located between the development site and the Iron Age enclosures excavated in 2015, only seven significant archaeological features were revealed in these fields, all post-medieval and including at least three possible recent field boundaries (CAT Report 493 and 996).

7 Acknowledgements

CAT thanks B Davies, Mersea Homes and S Williams, Hills Building Group for commissioning and funding the work. The project was managed by C Lister, fieldwork was carried out by N Rayner, with S Carter, B Holloway, J Roberts, A Wade and A Wightman. Figures are by L Pooley and E Holloway. The project was monitored for CBCPS by Jess Tipper.

8 References

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

CAR Report 11	1995	<i>Colchester Archaeological Report 11: Camulodunum II</i> , by Hawkes and Crummy
CAT	2014	<i>Health & Safety Policy</i>
CAT	2016	<i>Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) for a trenched archaeological evaluation at Fiveways Fruit Farm, Dyer's Road, Stanway, Essex, CO3 0QR</i>
CAT Report 493	2009	<i>An archaeological evaluation at Fiveways Fruit Farm, Dyer's Road, Stanway, Colchester, Essex September-October 2008</i>
CAT Report 996	1996	<i>A desk-based assessment of the archaeological remains on and around a site at Fiveways Fruit Farm, Stanway, Essex</i>
CBCPS	2016	<i>Brief for an Archaeological Trial-Trenched Evaluation at Fiveways Fruit Farm, Dyer's Road, Stanway</i> by J Tipper
ClfA	2014a	<i>Standard and Guidance for an archaeological evaluation</i>
ClfA	2014b	<i>Standard and guidance for the collection, documentation, conservation and research of archaeological materials</i>
DCLG	2012	<i>National Planning Policy Framework</i>
English Heritage	2006	<i>Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment (MoRPHE)</i>
Gurney, D	2003	<i>Standards for field archaeology in the East of England</i> . East Anglian Archaeology Occasional Papers 14 (EAA 14).
Hawkes, C & Hull, M	1947	<i>Camulodunum, first report on the excavations at Colchester 1930-39</i> , RRCSAL, 14
Hull, M	1958	<i>Roman Colchester</i> , RRCSAL 20
Medlycott, M	2011	<i>Research and archaeology revisited: A revised framework for the East of England</i> . East Anglian Archaeology Occasional Papers 24 (EAA 24)
Shimmin, D	1998	'A late Iron Age and Roman occupation site at Kirkee McMunn Barracks, Colchester', <i>Essex Archaeological and History</i> 29, 260-269

9 Abbreviations and glossary

CAT	Colchester Archaeological Trust
CBC	Colchester Borough Council
CBCAA	Colchester Borough Council Archaeological Advisor
CBCPS	Colchester Borough Council Planning Services
CHER	Colchester Historic Environment Record (previously UAD)
ClfA	Chartered Institute for Archaeologists
context	specific location of finds on an archaeological site

feature (F)	an identifiable thing like a pit, a wall, a drain: can contain 'contexts'
Iron Age	period from 700 BC to Roman invasion of AD 43
layer (L)	distinct or distinguishable deposit of soil
medieval	period from AD 1066 to Henry VIII
modern	period from c AD 1800 to the present
natural	geological deposit undisturbed by human activity
NGR	National Grid Reference
post-medieval	from Henry VIII to c AD 1800
prehistoric	pre-Roman
residual	something out of its original context, eg a Roman coin in a modern pit
Roman	the period from AD 43 to c AD 410
Section	(abbreviation sx or Sx) vertical slice through feature/s or layer/s
WSI	Written Scheme of Investigation

10 Contents of archive

Finds: one flint

Paper and digital record

One A4 document wallet containing:

The report (CAT Report 1042)

ECC Evaluation Brief, CAT Written Scheme of Investigation

Original site record (Feature and layer sheets, Finds record, plans)

Site digital photos and log, Architectural plans, Attendance register, Risk assessment

11 Archive deposition

The paper and digital archive is currently held by the Colchester Archaeological Trust at Roman Circus House, Roman Circus Walk, Colchester, Essex CO2 7GZ, but will be permanently deposited with Colchester Museum under accession code COLEM: 2016.106.

Distribution list:

B Davies, Mersea Homes

S Williams, Hills Building Group

Jess Tipper, Colchester Borough Council Planning Services

Essex Historic Environment Record



Colchester Archaeological Trust

Roman Circus House,

Roman Circus Walk,

Colchester,

Essex, CO2 7GZ

tel.: 01206 501785

email: lp@catuk.org

Checked by: Philip Crummy

Date: 12.12.2016

Appendix 1 Context list

Trench	Feature No.	Type	Description	Date
T2	F4	Tree-throw	Medium yellow/grey/brown sandy-silt	Undated
T9	F3	Linear	Aligned NW/SE; soft, moist, dark yellow/grey/brown sandy-silt with rare charcoal flecks	Undated
T19	F2	Pit	Soft, dry-moist, medium-dark grey/brown/black sandy-silt with charcoal flecks; burnt flint found on surface	Undated
T25	F1	Pit	Soft, dry-moist, medium-dark grey/brown sandy-silt	Undated
	L1	Topsoil	Soft, moist, dark yellow/grey/brown sandy-loam with abundant gravel and stone; occasional modern pottery, brick and peg-tile (none retained)	Modern
	L2	Topsoil	Essentially still topsoil; soft, moist, medium-dark yellow/grey/brown sandy-loam and patches of mottled orange sand	Modern
	L3	Natural	Natural sands, with hillwash/cover loam covering L2 in T10-T14, T16 and T20-T21 where these trenches lie in a natural hollow within the field	-

Appendix 2 Depth of layers by trench

Trench	Description
T1	L1 – 350mm thick, seals L3
T2	L1 – 350mm thick, seals L3
T3	L1 – 260-300mm thick, seals L2 – 120-190mm thick, seals L3
T4	L1 – 200-390mm thick, seals L2 – 130-140mm thick, seals L3
T5	L1 – 270-360mm thick, seals L2 – 0-160mm thick, seals L3
T6	L1 – 190-390mm thick, seals L2 – 160mm thick, seals L3
T7	L1 – 190-270mm thick, seals L2 – 140-160mm thick, seals L3
T8	L1 – 210-250mm thick, seals L2 – 190-210mm thick, seals L3
T9	L1 – 300mm thick, seals L3
T10	L1 – 300mm thick, seals L3 (layer of natural hillwash covering L3 at south end)
T11	L1 – 300mm thick, seals L3 (layer of natural hillwash covering L3)
T12	L1 – 220-270mm thick, seals L2 – 100-180mm thick, seals L3 (layer of natural hillwash covering L3)
T13	L1 – 240-400mm thick, seals L3 (layer of natural hillwash covering L3 at west end)
T14	L1 – 300mm thick, seals L3 (layer of natural hillwash covering L3)
T15	L1 – 340-400mm thick, seals L3
T16	L1 – 310-330mm thick, seals L3 (layer of hillwash covering L3 at north end)
T17	L1 – 300-350mm thick, seals L3
T18	L1 – 320-400mm thick, seals L3
T19	L1 – 200-210mm thick, seals L2 – 180-200mm thick, seals L3
T20	L1 – 300-400mm thick, seals L3 (layer of natural hillwash covering L3)

T21	L1 – 300mm thick, seals L3 (layer of natural hillwash covering L3 at north end)
T22	L1 – 400mm thick, seals L3
T23	L1 – 400mm thick, seals L3
T24	L1 – 300-340mm thick, seals L3
T25	L1 – 250-300mm thick, seals L2 – 150-170mm thick, seals L3

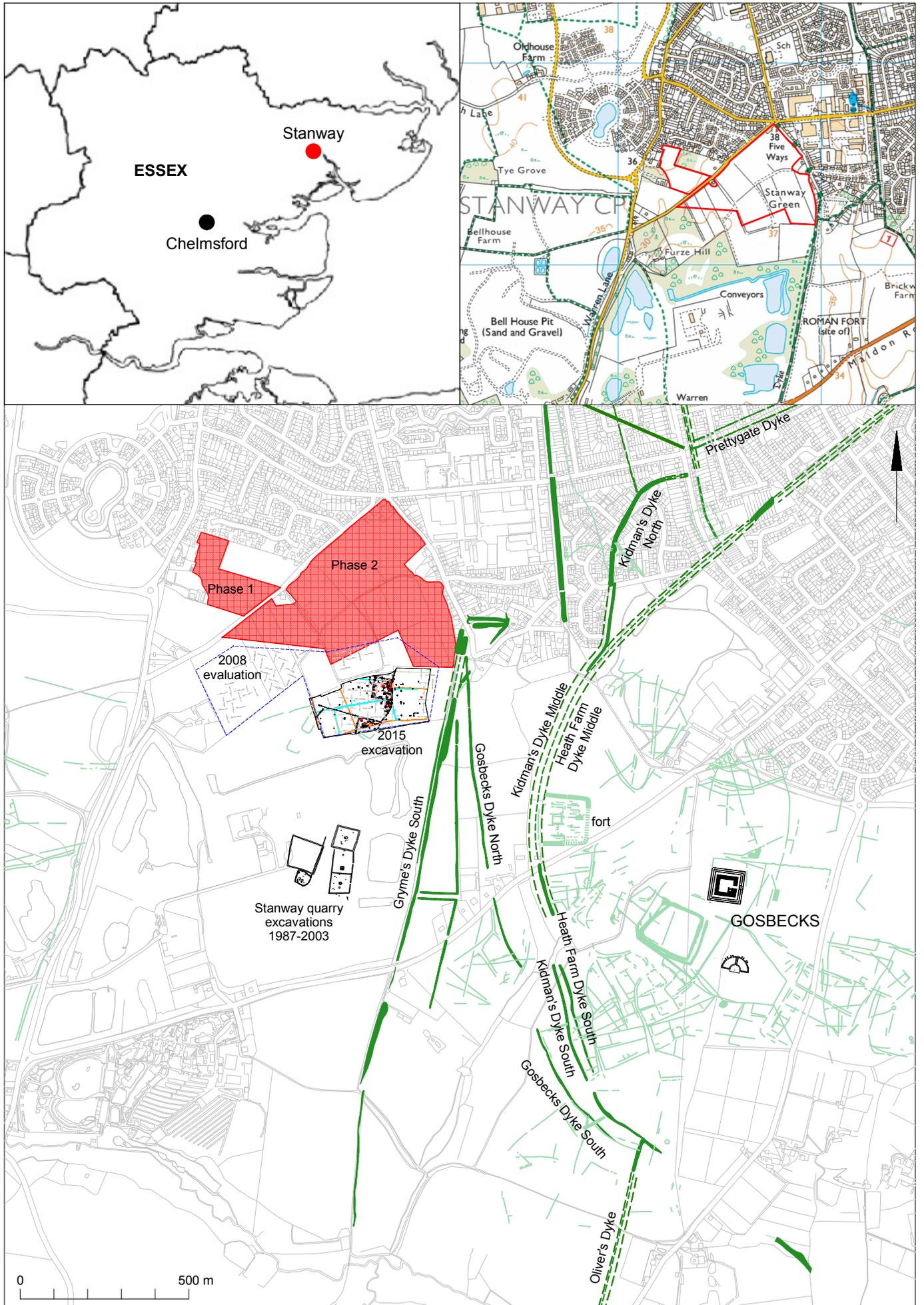


Fig 1 Site location, shown in relation to nearby archaeological sites

Phase 1 trenching: 5% requirement = 736m linear (Nov 16)
 Phase 2 trenching: 5% requirement = 4,560m linear
 Red trenches = 1,315m linear (Nov 2016)
 Green trenches = 660m linear (Jan 2017)
 Combined Phase 2 trench total (red & green trenches) = 1,975m linear
 Shortfall of 2,585m linear or 86 x 30m trenches
 Pink and blue areas unavailable until Jan 2018/2019

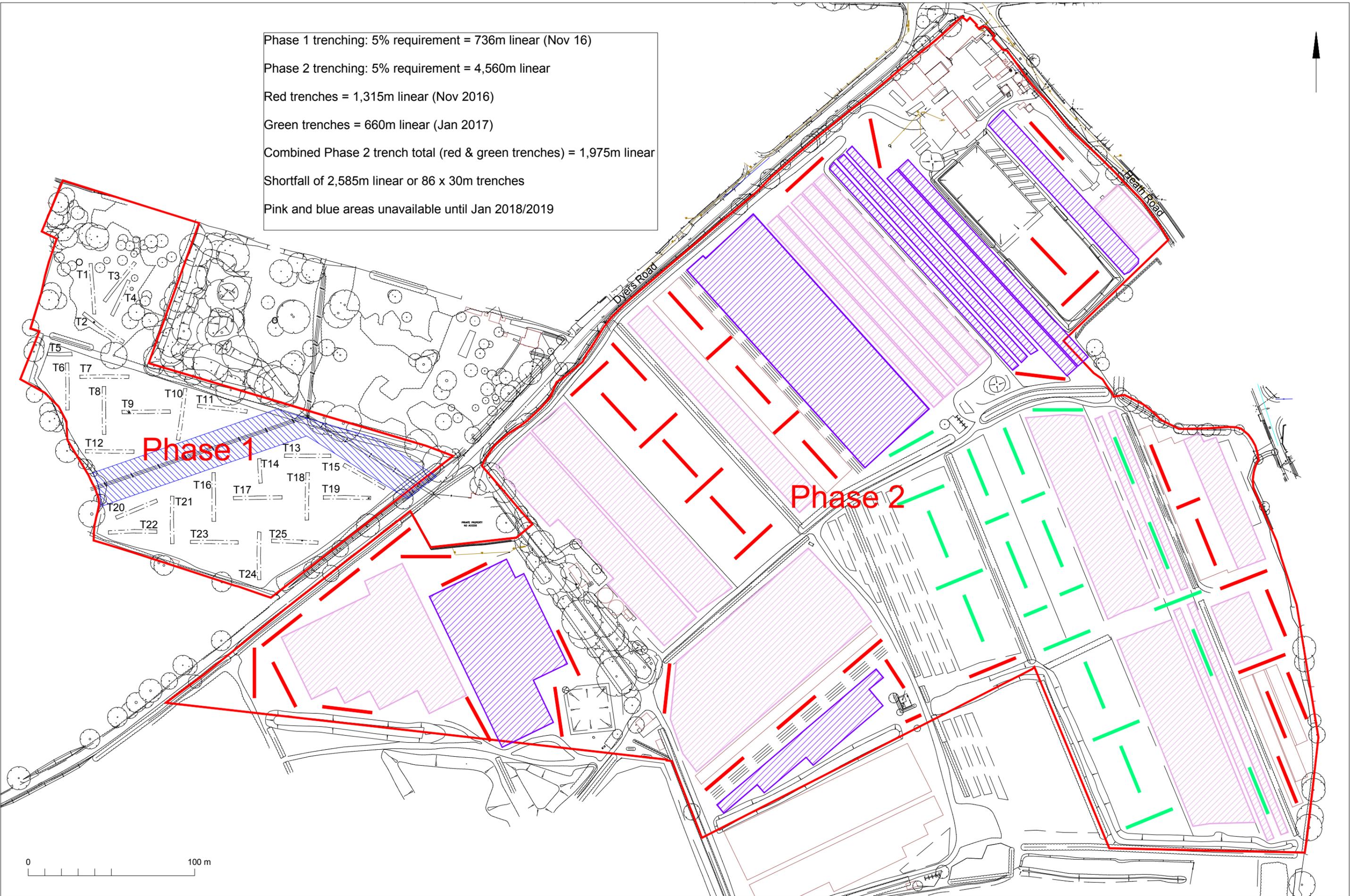


Fig 2 Phase 1 results in relation to Phase 2 land



Fig 3 Phase 1 results

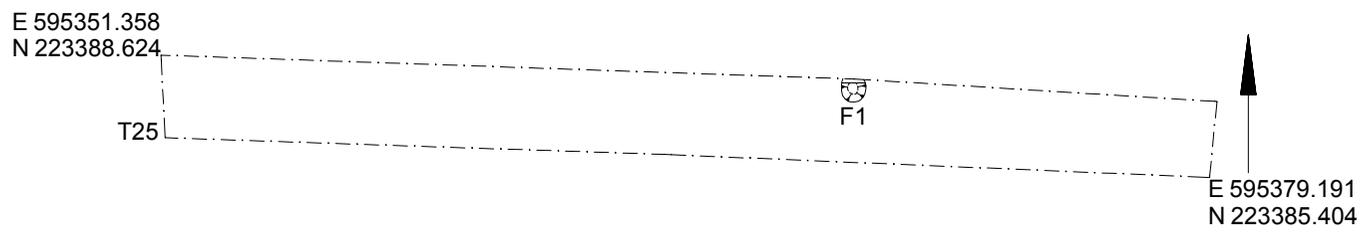
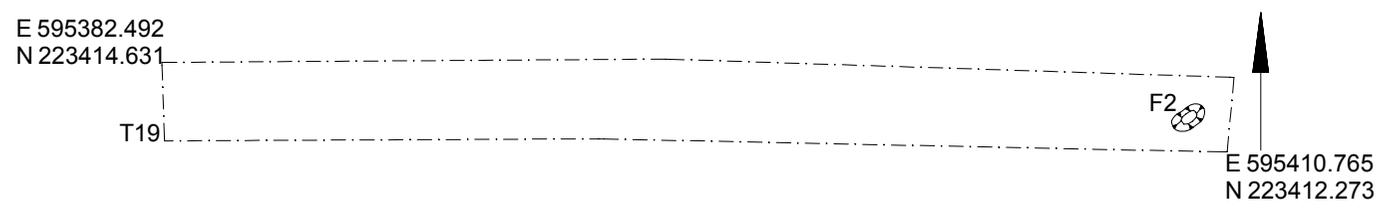
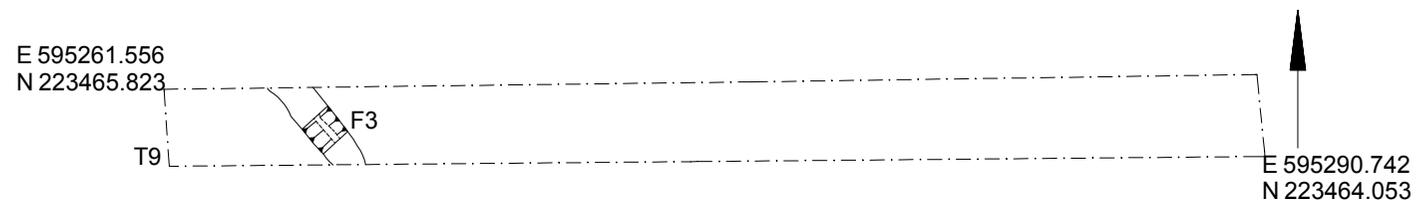
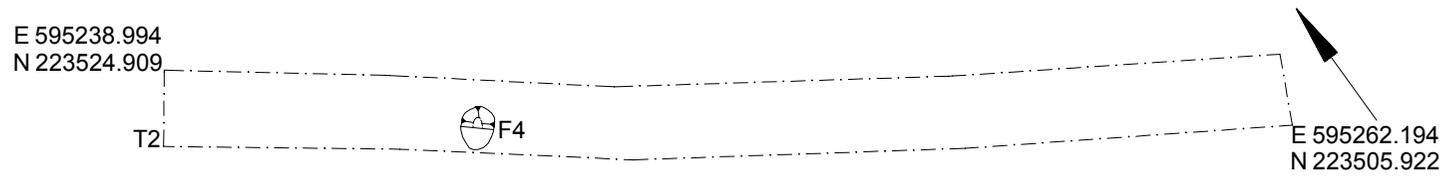


Fig 4 Detailed trench plans: T2, T9, T19 and T25



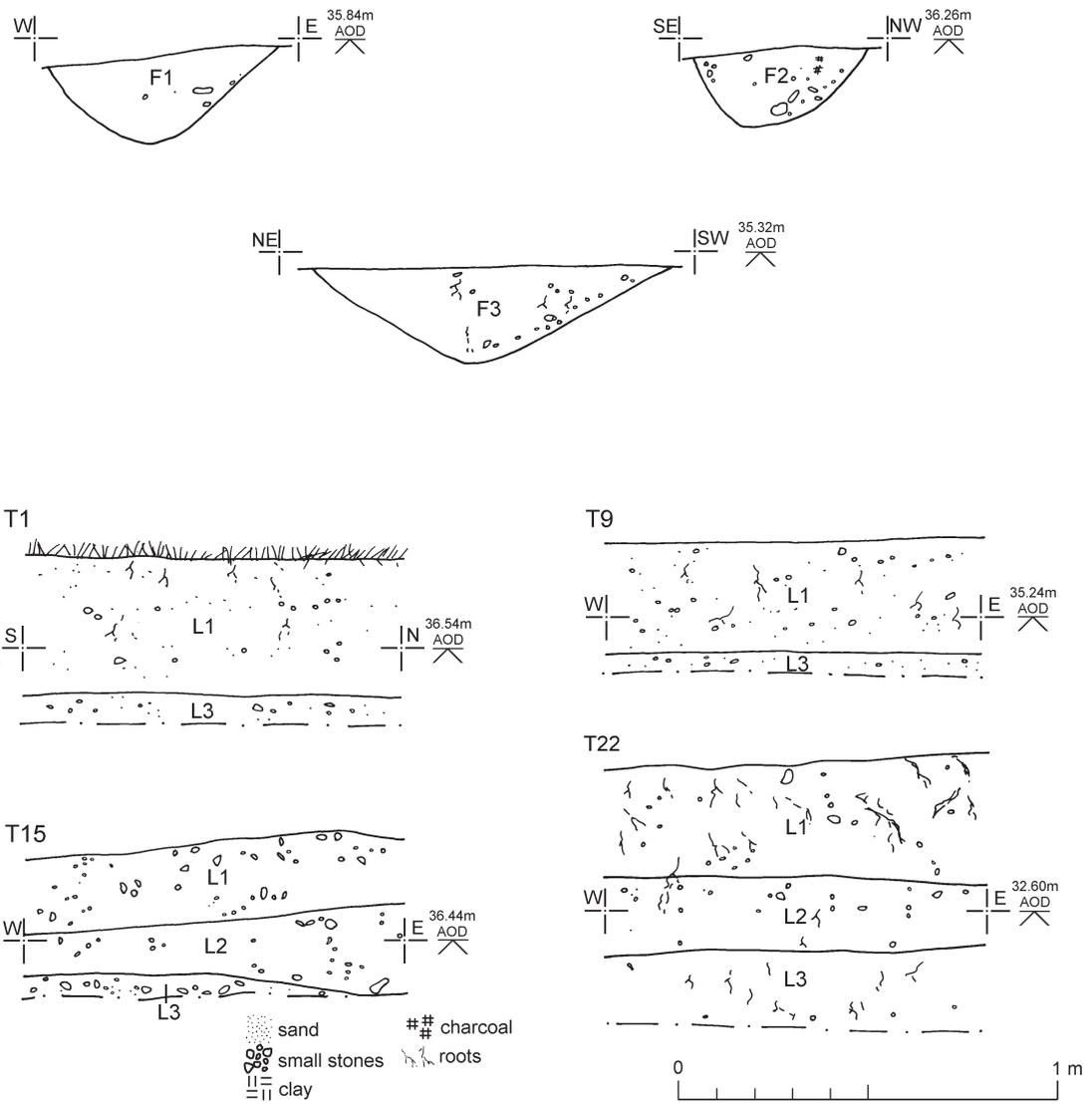


Fig 5 Feature and representative trench sections.

Essex Historic Environment Record/ Essex Archaeology and History

Summary sheet

Address: Phase 1 land, Fiveways Fruit Farm, Dyer's Road, Stanway, Essex, CO3 0QR	
Parish: Stanway	District: Colchester
NGR: TL 9531 2234 (centre)	Site code: CAT project code: 16/101 ECC project code: ECC3890 OASIS project ID: colchest3-267233
Type of work: Evaluation	Site director/group: Colchester Archaeological Trust
Date of work: 28th-29th November 2016	Size of area investigated: 2.81ha; twenty-five trenches totalling 1296m ²
Location of curating museum: Colchester Museum accession code COLEM: 2016.106	Funding source: developer
Further seasons anticipated? Not known	Related EHER number:
Final report: CAT Report 1042	
Periods represented: prehistoric, undated	
Summary of fieldwork results: An archaeological evaluation (25 trial-trenches) was carried out on Phase 1 land at Fiveways Fruit Farm, Stanway, Essex during pre-application investigative work. The site is located west of the late Iron Age and Roman Colchester Dykes and Gosbecks site, and only 600m northwest of the nationally important Stanway élite burial site. It is also located immediately to the north of two Iron Age enclosures excavated at the Fruit Farm in 2015. However, only one prehistoric pit, two undated features (a linear and pit) and one tree-throw were present in the trenches. Indicating that the concentration of Iron Age and Roman activity identified nearby does not continue into land on Phase 1 of the development site.	
Previous summaries/reports: CAT Reports 493 and 996	
Keywords: –	Significance: –
Author of summary: Laura Pooley	Date of summary: December 2016

Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) for a trenched archaeological evaluation at Fiveways Fruit Farm, Dyer's Road, Stanway, Essex, CO3 0QR

NGR: TL 9562 2350 (centre)

Planning reference: pre-application

Commissioned by: S Williams (Hills) & B Davies (Mersea Homes)

Client: Hills Building Group & Mersea Homes

Curating Museum: Colchester

Museum accession code: [tbc](#)

UAD Event number: [tbc](#)

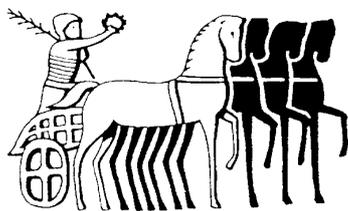
CAT Project code: 16/010I

OASIS Project id: colchest3-267233

Site Manager: Nigel Rayner

CBC Monitor: Jess Tipper

This WSI written: 1.11.2016



COLCHESTER ARCHAEOLOGICAL TRUST,
Roman Circus House,
Roman Circus Walk
Colchester,
Essex, CO2 7GZ
tel: 01206 501785
email: lp@catuk.org

Site location and description

The proposed development site (19.05ha in total) lies approximately 3m southwest of Colchester town centre at the Fiveways Fruit Farm, Heath Road, Stanway (Fig 1). The site is centred on NGR TL 9562 2350.

Proposed work

The proposed development comprises the construction of new dwellings.

Archaeological background (Fig 2)

The following archaeological background draws on the Colchester Archaeological Trust report archive, the Colchester Essex Historic Environment Record (CHER) (formerly the UAD) and the Essex Historic Environment Record accessed via the Heritage Gateway:

A desk-based assessment of the archaeological remains on and around the development site has already been completed (CAT Report 996, by Howard Brooks 2016).

The following general summary is taken from CAT Report 996 (1):

The proposed development site (PDS) is in an area of the highest archaeological sensitivity, situated west of the late Iron Age and Roman Colchester Dykes and Gosbecks site, and only 600m north of the nationally important Stanway élite burial site. Further, recent excavations on the Fruit Farm immediately south of the PDS have revealed two Iron Age enclosures of the type excavated at Stanway in the 1980s and 1990s.

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The Colchester dykes are among the most important prehistoric monuments in Britain. They define the extent of the pre-Roman 'proto-town' (or oppidum in Latin) of Camulodunum. This was the capital and home of Cunobelin, who was arguably the most important leader in Britain in the decades leading up to the Roman invasion of AD 43.

There have been several studies of and excavations on the dykes, which are described fully in the two principal reference works: Camulodunum, by CFC Hawkes and MR Hull (1947), and Camulodunum 2, Colchester Archaeological Report 11, by CFC Hawkes and Philip Crummy (1995). There is no need to repeat the detailed accounts which can be found in those volumes, but a brief summary is given here.

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As presently understood, the oppidum had two centres of activity: one at modern Gosbecks Farm, which was a Late Iron Age and Roman rural farmstead (and probably the home of Cunobelin); and a second at Sheepen (2km to the north-east of the search area), which was the industrial and trading centre.

Most of the land contained within the dykes was undoubtedly open farmland, pasture or woodland. Dotted around this landscape were other smaller farming sites such as the one at Kirkee & McMunn barracks (TL 987 231: Shimmin 1998) which developed into a Roman villa-type estate, but other similar sites may await discovery.

The potential for the existence of important, previously undiscovered archaeological sites within and close to Camulodunum has now been realised by the 2015 excavations on the Fruit Farm. The existence of important Iron Age remains to the south of the PDS is a strong indicator that important archaeological features may be present on the PDS, perhaps another Iron Age enclosure like the two excavated in 2015.

It should be noted that two previous surveys coincide with the PDS. First, a geophysical survey in 2008, produced no significant results in Field 5 of the 2008 evaluation site, which also forms part of the 2016 proposed development (Northamptonshire Archaeology 2008, page 3 and fig 6). Second, the 2008 evaluation also covered part of the southern edge of the current site (specifically, Trenches 48-58 in Field 5). In fact, this evaluation revealed only seven real archaeological features, all post-medieval and including at least three possible recent field boundaries.

The eastern edge of the site adjoins Grymes Dyke. As this is a Scheduled Ancient Monument (SAM), English Heritage (EH) will have a view on this. To follow recent good practice (where the Colchester Garrison PFI development included land adjacent to Berechurch Dyke), EH may be satisfied if a corridor of undeveloped land is left between the dyke and the development. EH should be consulted on this point.

Anglo-Saxon and medieval periods.

The evidence from Stanway for these periods is largely in the form of place-names such as the early 11th century reference to 'Stanwaegun' (i.e. Stanway), and the names of the Stanway manor house at the time of Domesday – Stanwega and Bertuna. The first almost certainly coincided with Stanway Hall, and the second probably with Olivers (outside our search area at TL 967 214).

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The Chapman and André map of 1777 and the 1st Edition Ordnance Survey of 1896 show that during the 18th and 19th centuries, Stanway was essentially a rural parish with isolated farms and settlement along the two principal roads – the London Road and the Maldon Road. The major change is the enclosure of Lexden Heath, which formed a substantial part of the parish in 1777. The only visible surviving fragment is the area immediately around Grymes Dyke where it doglegs through Stanway Green. The rest was apparently arable land in 1896. During these centuries, the current site lay in farmland.

Planning background

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

Requirement for work

The required archaeological work is for archaeological evaluation by trial-trenching. Details are given in a Project Brief written by CBCAA (CBC 2016).

Specifically, a 5% systematic sample is required to enable the archaeological resource, both in quality and extent, to be accurately quantified:

Phase	Grid Reference	Size (ha)	Notes
Phase 1	TL 9531 2343	2.65	736m of trenching (at 1.8m wide)
Phase 2	TL 9562 2345	16.4	4560m of trenching (at 1.8m wide)

Due to current ongoing use of the site as a working fruit farm, a staged approach to the trial-trenched evaluation has been agreed. The Phase 1 trenching will be completed prior to determination of any planning application. For Phase 2, 1975m of trial-trenching will be required in advance of the granting of planning consent (followed by 2585m of trenching post-consent, if planning permission is granted) (see Fig 2).

The trial-trenching is required to:

- Identify the date, approximate form and purpose of any archaeological deposit, together with its likely extent, localised depth and quality of preservation.
- Evaluate the likely impact of past land uses, and the possible presence of masking colluvial/alluvial deposits.
- Establish the potential for the survival of environmental evidence
- Provide sufficient information to construct an archaeological conservation strategy, dealing with preservation, the recording of archaeological deposits, working practices, timetables and orders of cost.

If unusual, significant or unexpected remains are encountered the CBCAA will be informed immediately and further evaluation may be required, which would be the subject of an additional brief.

General methodology

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

- Professional standards of the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists, including its *Code of Conduct* (CIfA 2014a-c)
- Standards and Frameworks published by East Anglian Archaeology (Gurney 2003, Medlycott 2011)
- Required standards of fieldwork in Colchester Borough (CM 2008a, b)
- Relevant Health & Safety guidelines and requirements (CAT 2014)
- The Project Brief issued by CBCAA (CBC 2016)

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

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

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

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

Staffing

The number of field staff for this project is estimated as follows: one supervisor and four archaeologists for 19 days in total (Phase 1 – 5 days; Phase 2 – 14 days).
In charge of day-to-day site work: Nigel Rayner

Evaluation methodology

All topsoil removal and ground reduction will be done with a toothless bucket under the supervision of an archaeologist.

If archaeological features or deposits are uncovered, these will be excavated by hand, planned and recorded. This includes a 50% sample of discrete features (pits, etc) and 10% of linear features (ditches, etc) in 1m sections where this is possible.

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

A metal detector will be used to examine the site, spoil heaps, and the finds recovered.

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

All features and layers or other significant deposits will be planned, and their profiles or sections recorded. The normal scale will be site plans at 1:20 and sections at 1:10, unless circumstances indicate that other scales would be appropriate.

Samples will be taken based on the strategy requested by CBCAA (see 'Environmental Sampling Policy' below)

Site surveying

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

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

Environmental sampling policy

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

Sampling strategies will address questions of:

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

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

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

Human remains

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

Photographic record

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

Finds

All significant finds will be retained.

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

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

animal bones (small groups): Pip Parmenter

flints: Adam Wightman

or to outside specialists:

small finds, metalwork, coins, etc: Pip Parmenter

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

environmental processing and reporting: Val Fryer (Loddon); Lisa Gray (Kent)

conservation of finds: staff at Colchester Museum

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

Roman brick/tile: Ernest Black

Roman glass: Hilary Cool

Prehistoric pottery: Paul Sealey

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

All finds of potential treasure will be removed to a safe place, and the coroner informed immediately, in accordance with the rules of the Treasure Act 1996. The definition of treasure is given in pages 3-5 of the Code of Practice of the above act. This refers primarily to gold or silver objects.

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

Post-excavation assessment

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

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

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

Results

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

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

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

The report will contain:

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

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

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

Archive deposition

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

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

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

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

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

Monitoring

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

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

Any variations in this WSI will be agreed with CBCAA prior to them being carried out. CBCAA will be notified when the fieldwork is complete.

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

References

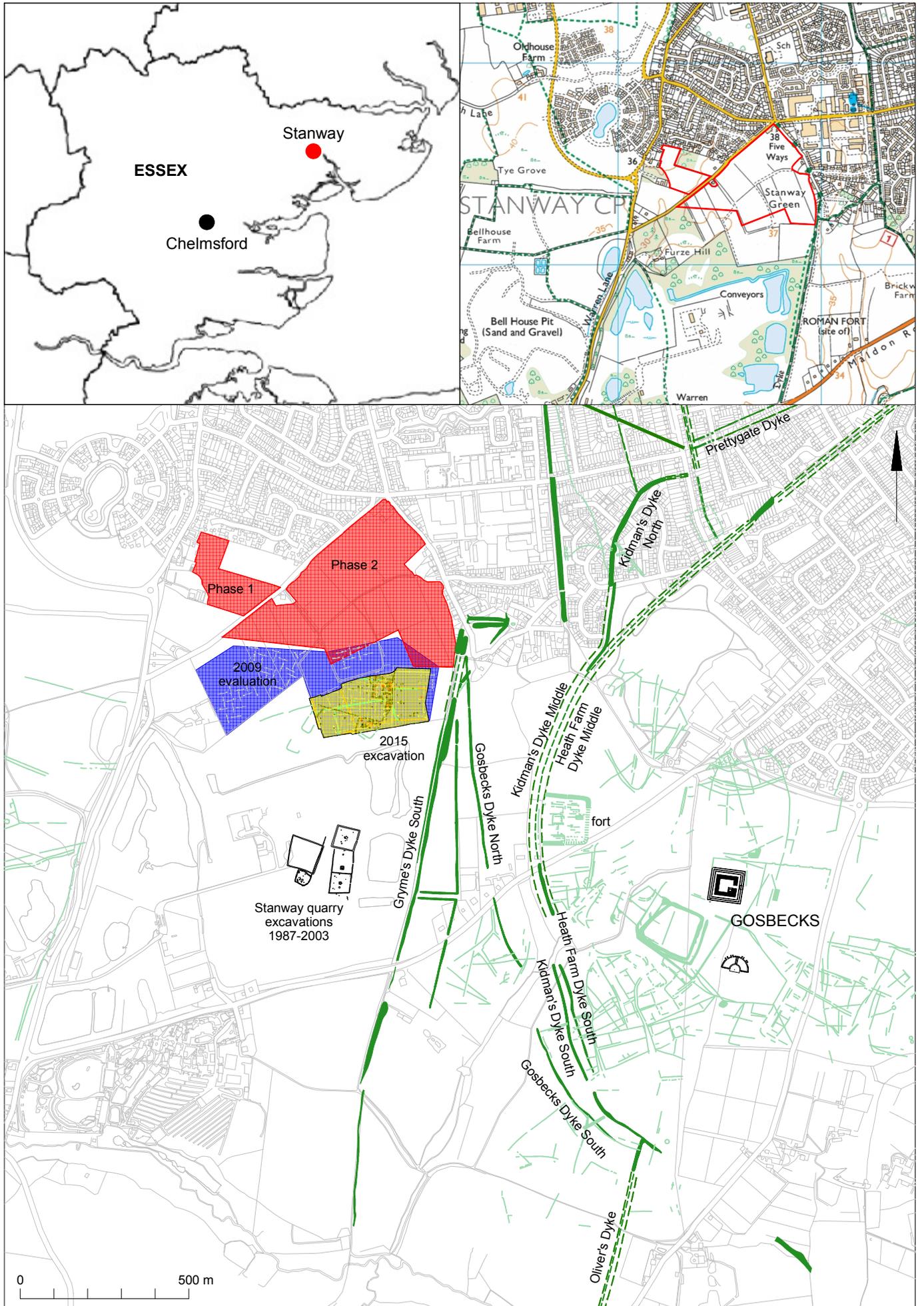
CAR Report 11	1995	<i>Colchester Archaeological Report 11: Camulodunum II</i> , by Hawkes and Crummy
CAT Report 996	1996	<i>A desk-based assessment of the archaeological remains on and around a site at Fiveways Fruit Farm, Stanway, Essex</i>
CBCAA	2016	<i>Brief for an Archaeological Trial-Trenched Evaluation at Fiveways Fruit Farm, Dyer's Road, Stanway</i> by J Tipper
ClfA	2014a	<i>Standard and Guidance for an archaeological evaluation</i>
ClfA	2014b	<i>Standard and guidance for the creation, compilation, transfer and deposition of archaeological archives</i>
ClfA	2014c	<i>Standard and guidance for the collection, documentation, conservation and research of archaeological materials</i>
DCLG	2012	<i>National Planning Policy Framework</i>
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L Pooley



Colchester Archaeological Trust
 Roman Circus House
 Roman Circus Walk
 Colchester
 Essex
 CO2 2GZ

tel: 01206 501785
 email: lp@catuk.org



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Fig 1 Site location.

Phase 1 trenching: 5% requirement = 736m linear (Nov 16)
Phase 2 trenching: 5% requirement = 4,560m linear
Red trenches = 1,315m linear (Nov 2016)
Green trenches = 660m linear (Jan 2017)
Combined Phase 2 trench total (red & green trenches) = 1,975m linear
Shortfall of 2,585m linear or 86 x 30m trenches
Pink and blue areas unavailable until Jan 2018/2019

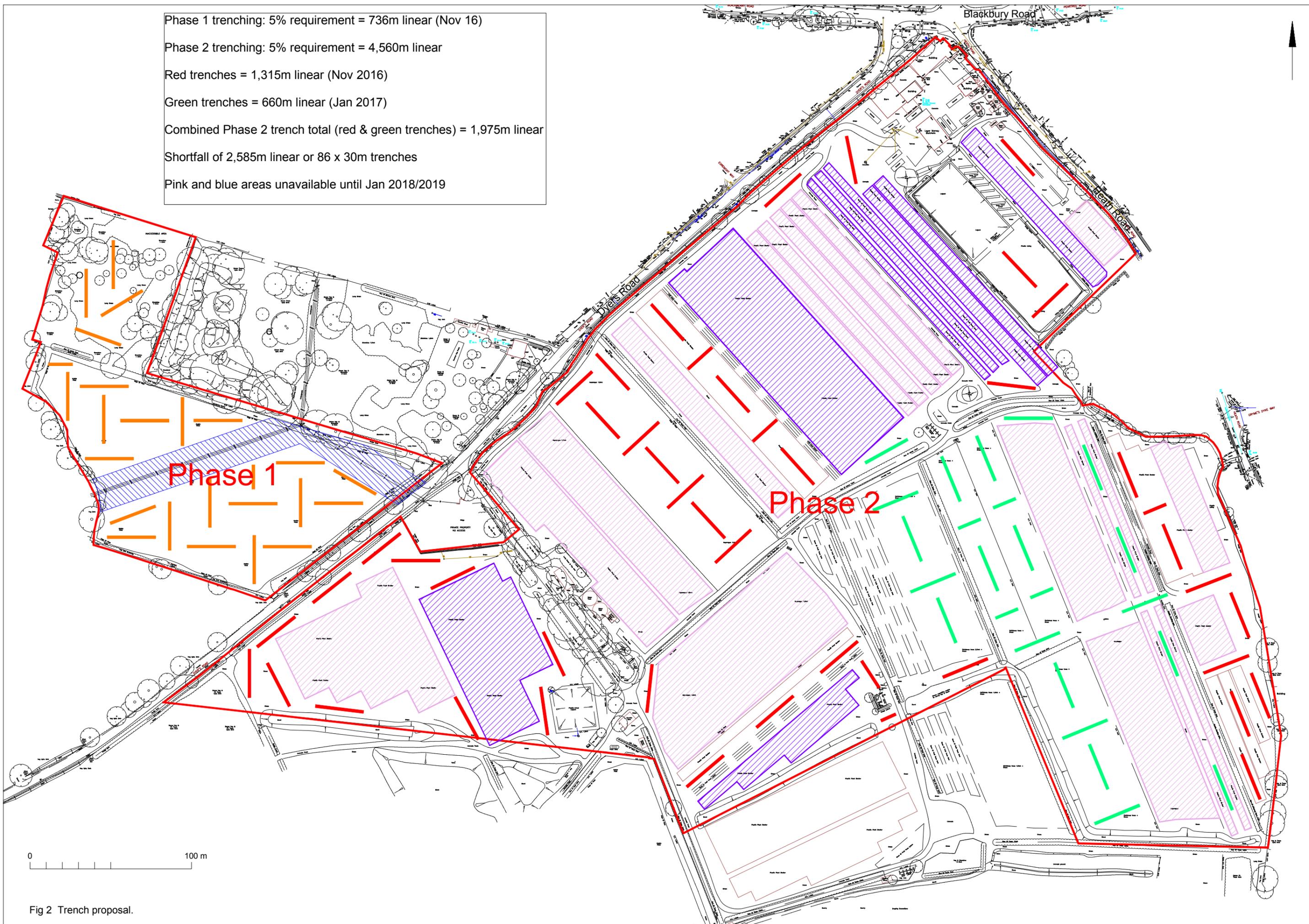


Fig 2 Trench proposal.

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OASIS ID: colchest3-267233

Project details

Project name	Archaeological evaluation on Phase 1 land at Fiveways Fruit Farm, Dyer's Road, Stanway, Essex, CO3 0QR
Short description of the project	An archaeological evaluation (25 trial-trenches) was carried out on Phase 1 land at Fiveways Fruit Farm, Stanway, Essex during pre-application investigative work. The site is located west of the late Iron Age and Roman Colchester Dykes and Gosbecks site, and only 600m northwest of the nationally important Stanway élite burial site. It is also located immediately to the north of two Iron Age enclosures excavated at the Fruit Farm in 2015. However, only one prehistoric pit, two undated features (a linear and pit) and one tree-throw were present in the trenches. Indicating that the concentration of Iron Age and Roman activity identified nearby does not continue into land on Phase 1 of the development site.
Project dates	Start: 28-11-2016 End: 29-11-2016
Previous/future work	No / Not known
Any associated project reference codes	16/10I - Contracting Unit No.
Any associated project reference codes	ECC3890 - HER event no.
Any associated project reference codes	COLEM: 2016.106 - Museum accession ID
Type of project	Field evaluation
Site status	None
Current Land use	Other 10 - Orchard
Monument type	PIT Late Prehistoric
Monument type	PIT Uncertain
Monument type	DITCH Uncertain
Significant Finds	WORKED FLINT Late Prehistoric
Methods & techniques	"Sample Trenches"
Development type	Urban residential (e.g. flats, houses, etc.)
Prompt	Planning condition
Position in the planning process	Pre-application

Project location

Country	England
Site location	ESSEX COLCHESTER STANWAY Fiveways Fruit Farm
Postcode	CO3 0QR
Study area	2.81 Hectares
Site coordinates	TL 9531 2234 51.864878723469 0.837009997903 51 51 53 N 000 50 13 E Point
Height OD / Depth	Min: 32.49m Max: 36.42m

Project creators

Name of Organisation	Colchester Archaeological Trust
Project brief originator	CBC Archaeological Officer
Project design originator	Laura Pooley
Project director/manager	Chris Lister
Project supervisor	Nigel Rayner
Type of sponsor/funding body	Developer

Project archives

Physical Archive recipient	Colchester Museum
Physical Archive ID	COLEM: 2016.106
Physical Contents	"Worked stone/lithics"
Digital Archive recipient	Colchester Museum
Digital Archive ID	COLEM: 2016.106
Digital Contents	"none"
Digital Media available	"Images raster / digital photography", "Survey"
Paper Archive recipient	Colchester Museum
Paper Archive ID	COLEM: 2016.106
Paper Contents	"none"
Paper Media available	"Context sheet", "Miscellaneous Material", "Photograph", "Plan", "Report", "Section", "Survey "

Project bibliography 1

Publication type	Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)
Title	Archaeological evaluation on Phase 1 land at Fiveways Fruit Farm, Dyer's Road, Stanway, Essex, CO3 0QR: November 2016
Author(s)/Editor(s)	Pooley, L.
Other bibliographic details	CAT Report 1042
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