Archaeological evaluation on land at Petersfield, The Endway, Great Easton, Essex, CM6 2HG

November 2016

by Laura Pooley

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commissioned by Dave Farrow
on behalf of James Francis, R E Butler

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Contents

List of photographs, tables and figures

Cover: general site shot

1 Summary

An archaeological evaluation (extended trial-trench) was carried out on land at Petersfield, The Endway, Great Easton, Essex in advance of the construction of a replacement dwelling and garage. The development site is located 30m west of a 2011 excavation interpreted as the southeastern side of a Late Iron Age – Roman enclosure, probably surrounding a rural farmstead, with an external track or droveway. This evaluation revealed Late Iron Age and Roman pits, postholes and a ditch all probably associated with the occupation of the farmstead. A post-Roman ditch might be related to the medieval motte and bailey castle, medieval farmstead and/or the 15th-16th century Easton Hall all located 70-90m to the west/southwest.

2 Introduction (Fig 1)

This is the archive report for an archaeological evaluation by trial-trenching on land at Petersfield, The Endway, Great Easton, Essex carried out on 14th and 23rd November 2016. The work was commissioned by Dave Farrow, on behalf of James Francis of R E Butler, in advance of the construction of a replacement dwelling and garage, and was undertaken by Colchester Archaeological Trust (CAT).

In response to consultation with Essex County Council Place Services (ECCPS), Historic Environment Advisor Richard Havis 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 the *National Planning Policy Framework* (DCLG 2012).

All archaeological work was carried out in accordance with an *Archaeological* b*rief for trial trenching and excavation*, detailing the required archaeological work, written by Richard Havis (ECCPS 2016), and a Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) prepared by CAT in response to the brief and agreed with ECCPS (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 field 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 utilises the Essex Historic Environment Record (EHER) held at Essex County Council, County Hall, Chelmsford.

The proposed development site lies in a highly sensitive area of historic environment assets. To the immediate west of the site lies the Scheduled Monument of Great Easton Castle (SM 31221). This comprises a Motte and Bailey Castle in the grounds of Easton Hall which was partially excavated in the 1960s. Four phases of construction were identified in the excavations with a 12th century date for the original construction and occupation, continuing through till the 14th century. There is a high potential for archaeological deposits of medieval date relating to settlement around the castle being identified.

In 2011, excavations 30m east of the development area at Brown's Garage on the Dunmow to Thaxted Road identified evidence of Roman settlement (EHER 48060) (CAT Report 608) (see Fig 3). A large ditch dating to the Roman period was excavated across the northwest corner of the site. Curving towards the far NW corner, this ditch was interpreted as the south-eastern line of an enclosure ditch, probably surrounding a rural farmstead. To the west, a second V-shaped ditch ran parallel to the enclosure

ditch and was interpreted as the eastern edge of a trackway that ran around or alternatively alongside this part of the enclosure (Fig 3). Occupation evidence (including cess/rubbish pits) found immediately to the west of the enclosure ditch and is likely to continue into the current development site which, if the 2011 interpretation is accurate, is located inside this Roman enclosure. The 2011 Brown's site also identified prehistoric activity dated to the Bronze Age through to the Iron Age. Similarly this has the potential to extend into this proposed development.

4 Results (Figs 2-4)

An L-shaped trench was initially laid along the side and front of the existing property. It measured 20m long by 1.8m wide. The density of archaeological features meant that, at the request of ECC monitor, the trenches were extended towards the house to cover an area totalling 62m². The trench and subsequent extension were machine stripped under archaeological supervision.

Modern topsoil (L1, *c* 320mm thick) sealed a silty-clay subsoil (L3, *c* 220mm thick) and patchy interface layer (L4, *c* 100mm thick), which sealed natural sands and gravels (L2).

Prehistoric: Pit F13 contained a single later prehistoric flint flake.

Photograph 1 Site shot, looking SE

Late Iron Age/Roman: Pit F1 is the only feature of a Late Iron Age date. Of early Roman date (early/mid 1st – early 2nd century) are pit F4 and postholes F15 and F18. Pit F20 and posthole F21 are probably also of earlier Roman date as they are cut by later ditch F10.

Of later Roman date (early/mid 2nd – 4th century) are ditch F10, pit F2 and posthole F17. Ditch F10 was aligned NW/SE and measured approximately 0.7m wide by 0.21m deep. Postholes F5-F9 are probably related to posthole F17, and are therefore probably also of a later Roman date.

Postholes F19 and F21, and pits F14 and F20, could only be dated as 'Roman'.

The pits each contained a small quantity of waste material and were probably rubbish pits.

Late medieval/post-medieval: Ditch F11/F16 contained a single fragment of late medieval/post-medieval peg-tile along with residual Roman pottery sherds. It was aligned NE/SW and measured 0.5m wide by 0.20m deep. Undated pit F12 cut this ditch.

Tree-throws: There was one single undated tree-throw (F3).

5 Finds

by Stephen Benfield

Introduction

The types of bulk finds material and the total quantities recovered are set out in Table 1. All of the finds listed and described by context and finds number in Appendix 2.

Bulk finds types	No	Wt/g
Pottery	113	1765
Ceramic building material (CBM)	1	16
Worked flint	2	
Burnt stone	1	6
Iron nails	1	
Slag	1	700
Animal bone	18	274

Table 1 Type and quantities of finds

Prehistoric

Finds dated to the prehistoric period consist of two flint flakes, one from F13 (13), the other unstratified (US (21)). A small burnt flint (F4) might also be of prehistoric date as these are relatively common finds from prehistoric sites.

Both of the flints are modified, that from F13 is modified by retouch to enhance a naturally pointed tip, the other has a small retouched notch on one of the proximal corners. Neither are closely dated, but the broad striking platforms and hard hammer striking indicate a probable later prehistoric (Late Neolithic/Bronze Age) date. It can be noted that a significant number of flints, primarily of Bronze Age date with a few dated to the Early Neolithic, were also recovered from the adjacent site at Brown's Garage in a previous excavation (CAT Report 608).

Pottery

Introduction

In total there are 112 sherds of pottery (1731g) which can be dated to the Late Iron Age and Roman period and one sherd of medieval pottery (34g). The sherd count and weight was recorded by fabric type for each finds number by context. The quantity of pottery for each fabric type are listed in Table 2. The Roman pottery fabrics and forms refer, where possible, to the Essex (Chelmsford) fabric series (Going 1987). Many of the coarse wares, broadly corresponding to Going's Fabric 47 but possibly including sherds from other fabric types, have been described as black surface wares (BSW) (Martin 2003). Where possible vessel forms have also been identified with the Colchester, Camulodunum (Cam) series (Hawkes & Hull 1947, Hull 1958). The medieval pottery fabrics refer to the Essex fabric series for post-Roman (Cunningham 1985).

Fabric code	Fabric name	No	Wt/g	EVE
LIA & Roman:				
GTW (53)	Grog-tempered ware	3	130	
21	Miscellaneous oxidised red wares	3	16	0.21
35	Hadham black-surface ware	3	33	0.1
36	Hadham grey wares	8	54	0.04
39	Fine grey wares	1	6	
40	Black-burnished ware 1	1	34	0.13
44	Storage jar fabrics	11	500	0.19
45	Romanising coarse ware	9	218	0.36
BSW (45/47)	Black surface wares (including Romanising coarse wares)	49	444	0.08
47	Sandy grey wares	24	296	1.09
	Total	*112*	*1731*	*2.2*
Medieval:				
20	Medieval coarsewares (general)	1	34	

Table 2 Quantity of pottery by fabric

Late Iron Age and Roman pottery

The pottery was recovered from the fills of linear features (ditches, small ditches/gullies), pits and post-holes. The average sherd weight is good at 15.5g indicating that the pottery is not particularly broken-up and suggests it is reasonably contemporary with the features. The largest quantity of pottery comes from ditch F10 (61 sherds, weight 897g). A smaller quantity was recovered from pit F4 (13 sherds, weighing 226g). Other features produced ten sherds or less.

There are three sherds of grog-tempered pottery typical of the Late Iron Age (F1 and F4) which can be broadly dated to the period of the early-mid 1st century. One (F1) is a base from a jar (recently broken). All of the Roman pottery consists of coarseware and there are no sherds from specialist pots such as mortaria of flagons. The great majority of sherds are from greyware jars or jar/bowl forms. These include mid-late 1st/early 2nd century forms G16/G20, G18, G19 (Cam 218) and probably G20 (Cam 221). Later dated ovoid bodied jars of form G24, current from the early/mid 2nd-4th century, are also present, and there is a small group of rims from five different jars of this form from ditch F10 (23). Rilled sherds almost certainly from the shoulders of Broughing-type jars, form G21, were also recovered. There are sherds from heavily-tempered, large storage jars, including the form G44.51 (Cam 273) which are typical of the period of the mid1st-2nd/early 3rd century. The only other forms recorded are a beaker (L3 (17)) dish of form A2 of mid-late 1st century date (F4 (3)), a bowl with a flange rim (F17 (19)) and the rim of a black-burnished ware dish/bowl of form B4.21/22 (Cam 37A) (F10 (9)). The black-burnished ware pot has a dark fabric speckled with translucent/white quartz sand which is most typical of the Dorset potteries (BB1) but the form appears more typical of BB2 and this might be a Colchester-type product. There is sooting under the rim of this pot from use in cooking and sooting was also noted on several of the jars, notably the jar rims from ditch F10, also indicating these had been used in cooking.

Almost all of the coarsewares are not closely sourced, but are all likely to be local or regional products. A black-burnished ware dish/bowl is not closely sourced (see above) but certainly will have been imported from some distance onto the site. The only other source represented in the pottery appears to be Hadham, and sherds representing several pots are probably from this source including the dish of form A2 (F4) and the flanged bowl with a black, slipped surface (F17).

Discussion of the Late Iron Age and Roman pottery

Of itself the Roman pottery would represent a low status site, possibly with a Late Iron Age background, with an assemblage dominated by coarseware jars of local and regional origin showing little interaction with the wider trade and exchange networks; its inhabitants having little interest in, or ability to invest in Gallo-Roman cultural norms

present in the wider social environment. This, however, in not the whole story. A previous excavation, immediately adjacent at Brown's Garage in 2011 (CAT Report 608) produced a larger assemblage (314 sherds, weight 6348g). That assemblage, while broadly similar in composition, included a few sherds of imported samian of 1st and 2nd-3rd century date (one an unusual form) and possible amphora sherds of unidentified form, but not from the relatively common Dressel 20. It also included sherds from pots from the Late Roman industries in the Nene Valley (Nene Valley colour-coated ware) and nearby at Hadham (Hadham oxidised ware) indicating activity/occupation here extending into the late 3rd-4th century, a period not clearly recognisable in the current assemblage. The pottery from Brown's Garage does not drastically alter the impression of a low or relatively modest status, and specialist vessels such as mortaria remain absent among the pottery associated with the site, as do any significant numbers of sherds that might suggest the common use of flagons. But it does go some way to presenting a broader picture where some Gallo-Roman imports were being brought onto the site. The Late Iron Age pottery from that site also includes a ripple shouldered bowl and possible pedestal base, both likely to be of pre-conquest date, so that a Late Iron Age background to the site appears likely. Also, occupation here can be seen to extend at least the late 3rd to early 4th century.

Medieval pottery
A single sherd (34g) from the slumping base of a medieval greyware cooking pot (Fabric 20) broadly dating to the late 12th/13th-14th century, was recovered from pit F4. The fact that the remainder of the pottery finds from this feature consist of thirteen sherds of Roman pottery that appears to be primarily of Early Roman date suggests the medieval sherd is probably intrusive.

Other finds
Small amounts of animal bone were recovered from ditch F10 (9 and 23), pit F12 (11) and subsoil layer L3 (12). The bone from F10, which is associated with Roman pottery of mid-late Roman date, is cattle including part of a mandible. The bone from L3 is also cattle. The bone from F12 was the only find from the feature and includes part of a dog pelvis along with a few mammal rib bones.

A moderately large piece of heavy, vesicular iron based slag was recovered from pit F2 associated with two small sherds of Roman pottery.

A single nail was recovered from ditch F10 and (unless intrusive) can be assumed to be of Roman date based on the other finds from the feature.

The only ceramic building material recovered was a small piece of relatively thin tile, almost without doubt a piece of peg-tile, which came from ditch F16. The piece is not closely dated but most probably dates to the late medieval (late 13th/14th century or later) or post-medieval period.

6 Environmental report

by Lisa Gray, MSc MA ACIfA Archaeobotanist

Introduction – aims and objectives
These samples were taken during an evaluation that revealed Roman features.

Sampling and processing methods
Samples were taken and processed by Colchester Archaeological Trust. All samples were completely processed using a Siraf-type flotation device. Flot was collected in a 300 micron mesh sieve then dried.

Once with the author the flots were scanned under a low powered stereo-microscope with a magnification range of 10 to 40x. The whole flots were examined. The

abundance, diversity and state of preservation of eco- and artefacts in each sample were recorded. A magnet was passed across each flot to record the presence or absence of magnetised material or hammerscale.

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

Results (Appendix 3)

The plant remains

The most frequent plant remain type in these samples was fragments of uncharred root/rhizomes. Samples <1> (pit F2) and sample <5> (pit F20) were unproductive with sample <1> containing just root/rhizome fragments and sample <5> also containing charred woof flecks too small to identify.

Sample <4> (posthole F15) contained two fragments of charred hazelnut (*Corylus avellana*) shell in addition to low numbers of identifiable charred wood and three uncharred elderberry (*Sambucus nigra*) seeds.

Samples <2> (pit 4) and <3> (pit F10) contained small charred assemblages consisting of grains and seeds. The grains in both samples were those of spelt (*Triticum spelta*) and bread/club/rivet (*T.aestivum/durum/turgidum*). Also present were poorly preserved grains only identifiable to genus and fragmentary. The seeds were those of grass (Poaceae) seeds. Sample <3> also contained uncharred seeds of elderberry, bramble (*Rubus fruticosus*) and fat hen (*Chenopodium album*).

Faunal remains

Low numbers of terrestrial mollusca were found in samples <1> and <2>. One fragment of uncharred bone was found in sample <3>.

Inorganic remains

No inorganic remains were found in these samples.

Discussion

Biases in recovery, residuality, contamination

Nothing with regards biases in recovery, residuality or contamination was highlighted for any of these samples. On microscopic examination of was clear that bioturbation was likely due to the presence of root/rhizome fragments and terrestrial mollusca.

Significance and potential of the samples and recommendations for further work

It is likely that the uncharred/dried waterlogged plant macro-remains are intrusive. If the stratigraphic integrity of the sampled contexts for pit F4, ditch F10 and posthole F15 is secure then the charred remains in these samples may be Roman as they are a common find in Iron Age and Romano-British samples in Eastern England (Parks 2012, I).

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

themselves. That is the only way to secure a genuine date for the charred plant macro-remains like these (Pelling *et al.* 2015, 96).

It is not wise to assume that the contexts in which the charred plant macro-remains were found during excavation was the context in which they were originally deposited, especially when the preservation of the plant remains are poor, numbers are very low relative to the amount of soil sampled and there is evidence of bioturbation, truncation or backfilling. At this site evidence for bioturbation was present in the form of modern root/rhizome fragments.

No further work is necessary on these samples because the charred plant remains have been counted and identified as far as their level of preservation allows.

7 Discussion

Prehistoric

Prehistoric evidence from the site consists of two later Prehistoric flint flakes probably dating to the Late Neolithic/Bronze Age. One was the only find in pit F13 and the other was unstratified. A piece of burnt flint from from Roman pit F4 may also be prehistoric.

A small assemblage of worked flints (dated Early Neolithic and Bronze Age) and prehistoric pottery sherds (dated Late Bronze Age – Middle Iron Age) were recorded during the Brown's Garage excavation (CAT Report 608). Two pits, a posthole and a gully contained prehistoric material with the rest found residually in later features. The prehistoric evidence from both sites increasingly suggests the possibility of nearby domestic, but probably intermittent, occupation from the Neolithic period through the Bronze Age and into the Iron Age.

Late Iron Age and Roman

The main phase of activity at Brown's was dated to the Late Iron Age and early Roman period (mid 1st – mid 2nd century AD). Ditches were interpreted as the south-eastern side of an enclosure, probably for a rural farmstead, with external track or droveway (*ibid*). The enclosure was unlikely to have been used for defence but seemed to define the boundary of the farmstead and was used to help manage livestock. Immediately to the west of/inside the enclosure ditch occupation evidence consisted of a series of rubbish pits and cess-pits/latrines. Located 30m further to the west, the Petersfield site produced two pits and two postholes (F1, F4, F15 and F18) of a similar early date which are likely to be contemporary with the occupation evidence found at Brown's.

Of a later date were Petersfield features ditch F10, pit F2 and posthole F17, all dating from the early-mid 2nd – 4th century. This also confirms findings from Brown's that shows occupation continued into the mid-late Roman period. Although at Brown's the enclosure/trackway ditches themselves appear to have been mostly infilled by the end of the 2nd century.

No further evidence for the size or extent of the enclosure, or the alignment of the associated track/droveway, was revealed during this evaluation. The presence of ditches, pits and postholes containing domestic rubbish shows that occupation evidence found at Brown's does continue west into the current development site. Therefore, the Petersfield site would seem to be located within the rural farmstead/ enclosure.

Little structural evidence was found at Petersfield. Postholes F5-F9 may also be associated with 3rd century posthole F17 and therefore of a similar later Roman date. However, none of the postholes appear to be associated with structures but likely formed internal fences. There was also a complete absence of Roman CBM. Structural evidence at Brown's was equally sparse indicating that buildings associated

with the farmstead were probably constructed from wood, wattle and daub rather than brick and tile, and this evaluation would seem to confirm those findings. Similarly, the finds from Petersfield supports the interpretation that the inhabitants of the farmstead were probably of low or relatively modest economic status.

Later medieval/post-medieval
Later medieval/post-medieval ditch F11/F16 may have been associated with the medieval motte and bailey castle, medieval farmstead and/or the 15th-16th century Easton Hall, all located 70-90m to the west/southwest (see Fig 3).

It is likely that the long history of human occupation in the area, as indicated by the findings of this evaluation, the excavation at Brown's and the extant medieval remains in close proximity, is attributable to the geographical location of this piece of land on the eastern slope of the valley of the River Chelmer near to a small tributary. River valleys were of great importance due to the fertility of the soil and the proximity of a water source.

8 Acknowledgements

CAT thanks Dave Farrow and James Francis of R E Butler for commissioning and funding the work. The project was managed by C Lister, fieldwork was carried out by M Baister, B Holloway and A Wade. Figures are by BH, E Holloway and L Pooley. The project was monitored for ECCPS by Richard Havis.

9 References

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

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10 Abbreviations and glossary

CAT	Colchester Archaeological Trust
CIfA	Chartered Institute for Archaeologists
context	specific location of finds on an archaeological site
ECCHEA	Essex County Council Historic Environment Advisor
ECCPS	Essex County Council Place Services
EHER	Essex Historic Environment Record
feature (F)	an identifiable thing like a pit, a wall, a drain: can contain 'contexts'
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
OASIS	**O**nline **A**cces**S** to the **I**ndex of Archaeological Investigation**S**, http://oasis.ac.uk/pages/wiki/Main
post-medieval	from Henry VIII to *c* AD 1800
residual	something out of its original context, eg a Roman coin in a modern pit
Section	(abbreviation sx or Sx) vertical slice through feature/s or layer/s
WSI	Written Scheme of Investigation

11 Contents of archive

Finds: ⅓ box

Paper and digital record

One A4 document wallet containing:
The report (CAT Report 1047)
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

12 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 Saffron Walden Museum under accession code SAFWM: 2016.31

Distribution list:
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Appendix 1 Context list

Feature number	Feature type	Description	Date
F1	Pit	Firm, moist, dark grey/brown silt	Late Iron Age, early to mid 1st century
F2	Pit	Firm, moist, dark grey/brown silt with charcoal flecks	Roman, early/mid 2nd to 4th century
F3	Tree-throw	Firm, moist, medium grey silty-clay	-
F4	Pit	Firm, moist, dark grey/brown silt with charcoal flecks	Roman, mid/late 1st to early 2nd century
F5-F9	Postholes	Firm, moist, dark grey/brown silt with charcoal flecks	Roman
F10	Ditch	Firm, moist, dark grey/brown silt with charcoal flecks	Roman, early/mid 2nd to 4th century
F11/F16	Ditch	Soft, friable, dark grey silty-clay with <2% stone	Medieval/ post-medieval
F12	Pit	Soft, friable, dark grey silty-clay with <1% stone	Medieval/ post-medieval
F13	Pit	Soft, friable, moist, dark grey silty-clay with <2% stone	Later prehistoric
F14	Pit	Soft, friable, dark grey/brown silty-clay with <1% stone	Roman
F15	Posthole	Friable, firm, moist, dark grey sandy/silty clay with mottled orange sand and <2% stone	Roman, mid 1st to 2nd century
F17	Posthole	Friable, firm, moist, dark grey sandy/silty clay with <2% stone	Roman, 3rd century
F18	Posthole	Friable, firm, moist, dark grey sandy/silty clay with <2% stone	Roman, mid 1st to 2nd century
F19	Posthole	Firm, moist, dark grey/brown silt with charcoal flecks	-
F20	Pit	Soft, moist, medium-dark yellow/grey sandy/silty clay with rare charcoal flecks and <2% stone	Roman
F21	Posthole	Soft, medium-dark mottled yellow/grey sandy-silt with <1% gravel and <2% stone	-
L1	Topsoil	Firm, moist, dark grey/brown silt	Modern
L2	Natural	Natural sands and gravels	-
L3	Subsoil	Dark grey silty-clay with <5% stone and lots of root disturbance	-
L4	Interface	Mixed interface between L3 and L2; friable, firm, moist, light-medium grey/brown sandy-silty clay	-

Appendix 2 Finds list

NR=not retained

Ctxt	Ctxt type	Find no	Find type	Find period	Fabric	Description	Form	No	Wt/g	EVE	Ab/ B	Finds spot date
F1	pit	1	pot	LIA	GTW	Jar base, recently broken into tree sherds (counted as 1 sherd)	jar	1	120			E-M1C
F2	pit	2	pot	Rom	BSW	Jar/bowl rim		1	10	8		Rom
			pot	Rom	47	Jar rim		1	10	6		E/M 2-4C
			slag			Moderately large piece of recently broken, moderately heavy iron slag, vesicular grey core, brownish-orange surfaces		1	700			
F4	pit	3	pot	med	20	Sherd from the base of a cooking pot, sagging base, pale grey surface orange-red fine-medium sand fabric	Cooking pot (med)	1	34			13-14C
			pot	E Rom	45	Bowl with tall neck and carinated body, black surface, some grog and black organic matter fragments in fabric, some mica, wheel made. Significant part of pot in several large sherds	G18	4	146	12		M-L1/E2C
			pot	Rom	35	Rim from a dish, burnished internally (the burnishing indicates it is not a lid sherd)	A2	1	10	10		M-L1/E2C
			pot	E Rom	45	Two small rim sherds, some grog and black organic matter fragments in fabric,		2	10	15		M-L1/E2C
			pot	E Rom	47	Small rim sherd from thick walled pot with simple flat-topped rim similar to some Essex shell-tempered pots, some organic-temper?		1	12	5		M-L1C?
			pot	E Rom	GTW	Two body sherds, grog and some black ?organic temper		2	10			E-M1C
			pot	E Rom	45	Base sherd, some grog and black organic matter fragments in fabric		1	12			M-L1/E2C
			BS		flint	Small piece of thermally fractured flint – not heavily burnt (NR)		1	6			
			pot	(LIA/ Rom)	44	One sherd quite heavy in organic matter with coarse surface drag and possibly hand made and turned/wheel finished		2	26			M-L1/2C
F5	p-hole	6	pot	Rom	39	Slipped grey ware, possibly of Hadham origin		1	6			Rom
F7	p-hole	7	pot	Rom	47	Jar base		1	24			Rom
F8	p-hole	8	pot	Rom	47	Small abraded sherd, probably Roman		1	2		*	Rom?
F10	ditch	9	pot	Rom	44	Storage jar rim (Cam 273)	G44.51	1	130	10		M1-2C
			pot	Rom	40	Possibly Fabric 41, triangular rim, burnt residue under rim (Cam 37A)	B4. 21/22	1	34	13		E2-L2/E3C
			pot	Rom	BSW	Misc sherds, probably mostly from two jars (Cam 218 & probably Cam 221), some have noticeable fine mica showing in the surfaces, one or two sherds have some black smuts from burnt organic matter, traces of external sooting on one or two sherds from use	G19 G20?	44	406		(*)	M/L1-E2C
			pot	Rom	47	Roman greyware, includes sherd from a rilled pot probably a Broughing-type jar (Form G21?), one sherd with burnt residue/sooting from use on surface	G21?	3	26	38		Rom
			pot	Rom	35	Single sherd in sandy fabric, probably Hadham product		1	5			Rom

Ctxt	Ctxt type	Find no	Find type	Find period	Fabric	Description	Form	No	Wt/g	EVE	Ab/ B	Finds spot date
			AB			Part of the jaw from a cow, some bone fragmenting, all pieces counted as part of one bone		1	176			
			nail			Iron nail, complete (90 mm) round flat head bent up at edges, lower part of shaft bent at a right angle. Not closely dated but not necessarily Roman and possibly later in date (intrusive?)		1				
		23	pot	Rom	44	Rim from a large storage jar, rim edge broken away, grey slightly vesicular fabric, one other sherd	(Storage jar)	2	108	9		M1-2C
			pot	Rom	47	Rims from five different jars, rounded shoulders, sooting on external surface of three from use as cookig/boiling pots, essentially G24	G24	5	110	60		E/M2-4C
			pot	Rom	47	Body sherds from jars, one with external sooting		4	40			Rom
			pot	Rom	21	Small jar rim, oxidised surface with light burnishing, dark sandy fabric		1	4	6		Rom (M1-2/3C?)
			AB			Part of a large mammal scapula, almost certainly cattle		3	54			
F11	ditch	10	pot	Rom	36	Fabric suggests Hadham		3	16			Rom
			pot	Rom	BSW	Shoulder sherd from a jar with some light rilling		1	6			Rom
F12	pit	11	AB			Small part of a dog pelvis, also medium-large size mammal rib bone		4	18			
F13	pit	13	flint			Secondary flake, broad striking platform, sharp with tip retouched on one edge into a point		1				Preh (later preh)
F14	pit	15	pot	Rom	36	Some mica showing in fabric surface		1	12			Rom
F15	p-hole	14	pot	Rom	21	Neck sherd, row of stab impressions below, orange sandy fabric with		1	10			M1-2C
F16	ditch	20	pot	Rom	47	Two sherds, possibly Hadham		2	14			Rom
			pot	Rom	47	Sandy sherd, most probably Roman		1	4			Rom
			CBM	Med-p-med	47	Orange relatively coarse sand fabric, small piece almost certainly from a peg tile		1	16			med-p-med
F17	p-hole	19	pot	Rom	36	Bowl with triangular, incipient flange rim, black polished slipped surface. The flange bowl of this type is typical of the late 3rd-4th century		1	12	4		C 3C?
			pot	Rom	BSW	Sherd with burnt organic matter in fabric		1	6			Rom
F18	p-hole	16	pot	Rom	44	Base sherds from a storage jar		2	140		*	Rom (M1-2C?)
F20	pit	24	pot	Rom	36	Body sherd from a jar, possibly Hadham greyware		3	14			Rom
L3	subsoil	12	pot	Rom	47	Misc greyware sherds from jars/deep bowls, one sherd with grooves/rilled area at edge, possibly from a Broughing-type jar (Form G21?), some mica in surfaces	G21?	5	54		(*)	Rom
			pot	Rom	44	Sherds from two small-medium size storage jars		2	26		(*)	Rom
			pot	Rom	BSW	Sherds from two pots, one with stab decoration below neck, mica showing in surfaces		2	16			Rom
			pot	Rom	35	Abraded sherd with fine sand fabric, some mica, possibly a Hadham product, oxidised surface		1	18		*	Rom

Ctxt	Ctxt type	Find no	Find type	Find period	Fabric	Description	Form	No	Wt/g	EVE	Ab/ B	Finds spot date
			pot	Rom	44	Abraded, orange surfaces, grey sandy fabric, some faint scratches/lines on surface, possible traces of combing?		1	26		*	M/M-L1C?
			AB	Rom		Small pieces, most if not all from a long bone of a large mammal, probably cow		10	26			
		17	pot	Rom	44	Sherd from a storage jar		1	44			M1-2/3C
			pot	Rom	45	Some grog and black organic matter fragments in fabric, sooting on surface from use		1	14			M1-E2C
			pot	Rom	21	Rim from a small beaker, beaded rim, sherd abraded, fabric similar to Hadham but with some chalk fragments	(beaker)	1	2	15	*	Rom
US	US	21	flint			Small, squat, tertiary flake, broad striking platform with some patination on platform surface, various flaking scars on ventral face, some edge wear/damage, possible small notch made at one corner on proximal end		1				Preh (later preh)
		26	pot	Rom	45	Rim from shouldered jar/bowl, common black burnt organic matter with some ?grog. From a modern pipe trench, possibly displaced from F11	G16/G20	1	36	9		M-L1C

Appendix 3 Sample contents

Key: + = 1-10, ++ = 11-50, +++ = 51-150, ++++ = 151-250, +++++ = >250

Sample	**1**	**2**	**3**	**4**	**5**
Feature number	**F2**	**F4**	**F10**	**F15**	**F20**
Finds number	**4**	**5**	**18**	**22**	**25**
Description	**Pit**	**Pit**	**Ditch**	**Posthole**	**Pit**
Period	**Roman, early/mid 2nd to 4th century**	**Roman, mid/late 1st to early 2nd century**	**Roman, early/mid 2nd to 4th century**	**Roman, mid 1st to 2nd century**	**Roman**
Initial volume	**20L**	**30L**	**40L**	**10L**	**10L**
Flot volume	**20ml**	**15ml**	**75ml**	**50ml**	**2ml**
Counted items per litre of sampled soil	**0**	**<0.5**	**0.6**	**0.5**	**0**
Charred plant remains					
Poaceae indet. (poorly preserved seed)			**2**		
Rye grass/ Brome *(Lolium/Bromus* sp.) seed	**-**	**2**	**-**	**-**	**-**
Triticum dicoccum/spelta (grain)	**-**	**-**	**1**	**-**	**-**
Spelt *(Triticum spelta* L.) grain	**-**	**1**	**6**	**-**	**-**
Wheat (*Triticum* sp.) poorly preserved grains	**-**	**2**	**-**	**-**	**-**
Triticum aestivum/durum/turgidum L (grain)	**-**	**-**	**7**	**-**	**-**
Corylus avellana L. (fruit 'nutshell')	**-**	**-**	**-**	**2**	**-**
Grain tissue fragments	-	4	6	-	-
>4mmØ charred wood	-	+	-	+	-
<4mmØ charred wood	-	-	+++	++	+
Uncharred plant remains					
Elderberry (*Sambucus nigra* L. fruit endocarp	-	-	1	3	-
Bramble *(Rubus fruticosus* L.agg.*)* fruit fragment	-	-	1	-	-
Fat hen *(Chenopodium album* L.) fruit)	**-**	**-**	**1**	**-**	**-**
Root/rhizome fragments	+++++	+++++	+++++	+++++	+++++
Faunal remains					
Uncharred small fauna bone (vertebrae)	-	-	1	-	-
Terrestrial mollusca	+	+	-	-	-

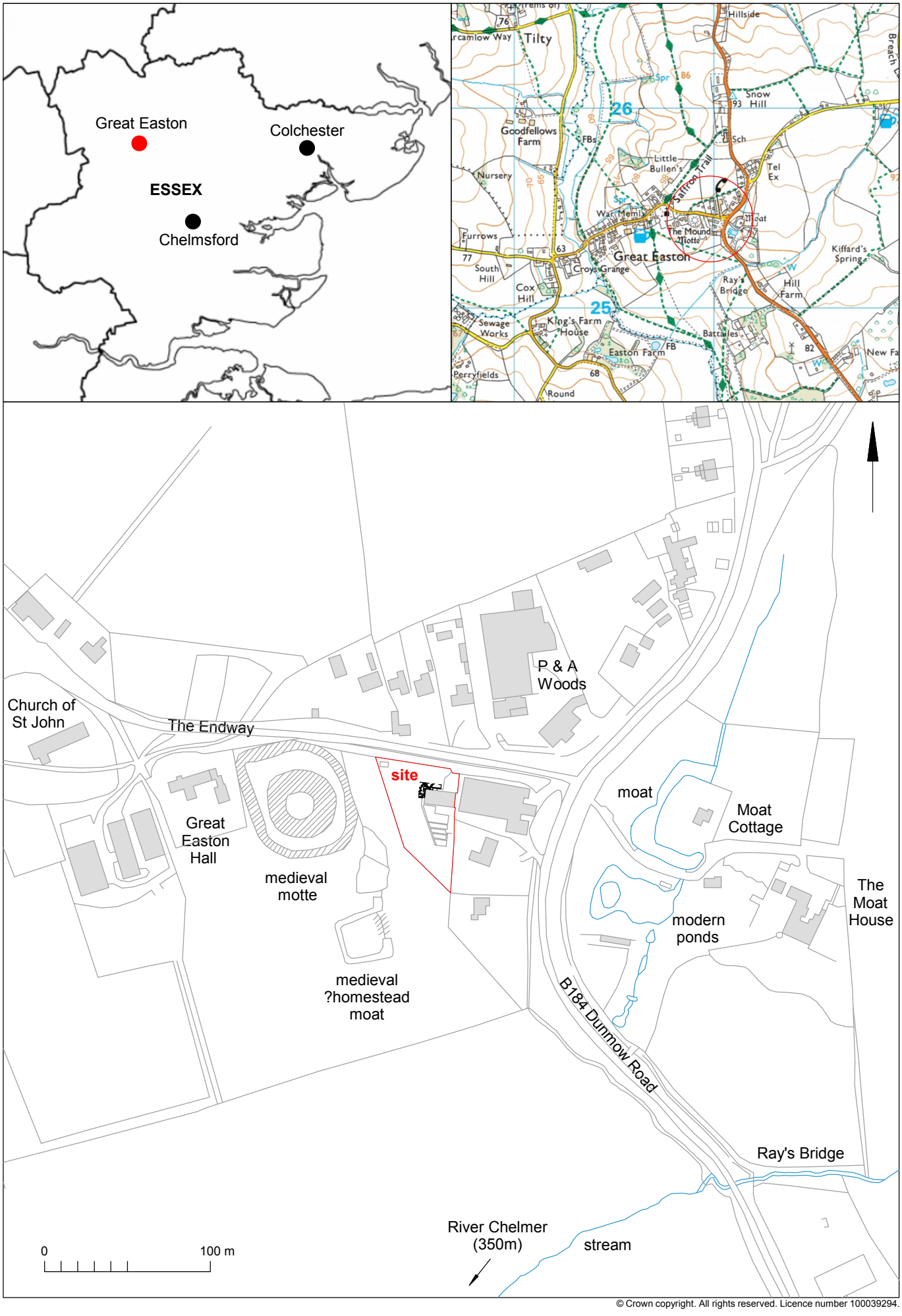

Fig 1 Site location.

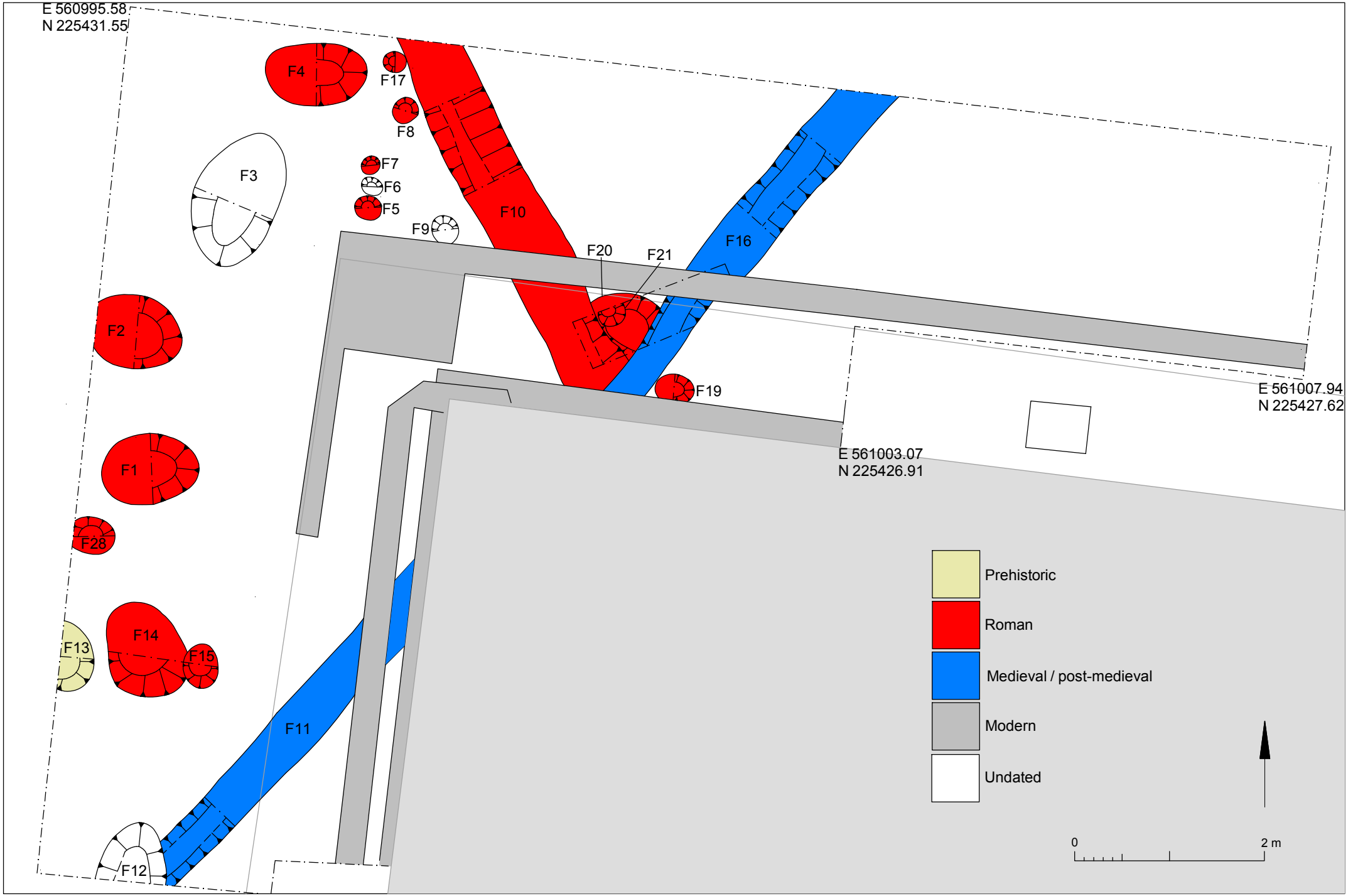

Fig 2 Phased results

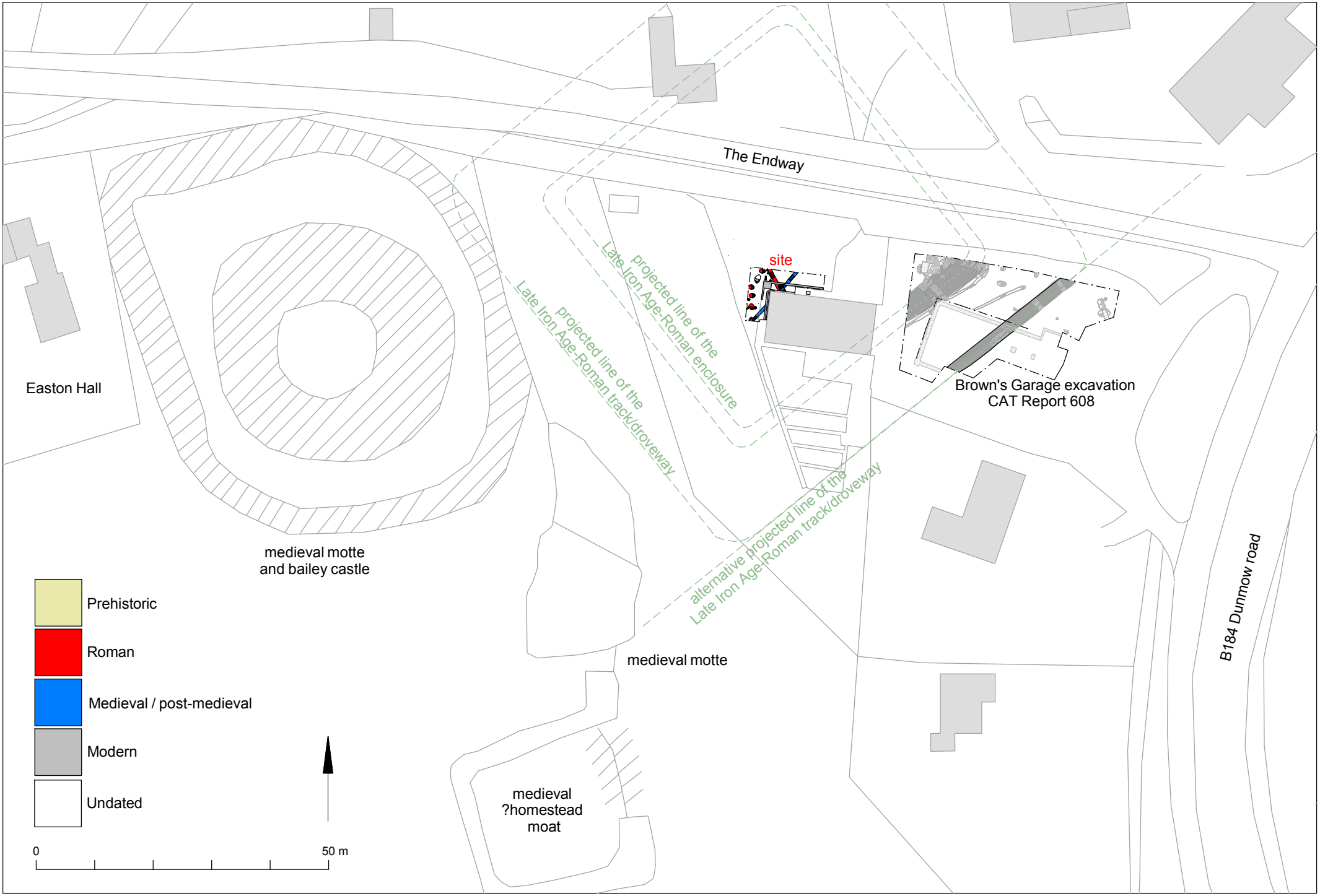

Fig 3 Results in relation to nearby archaeological sites

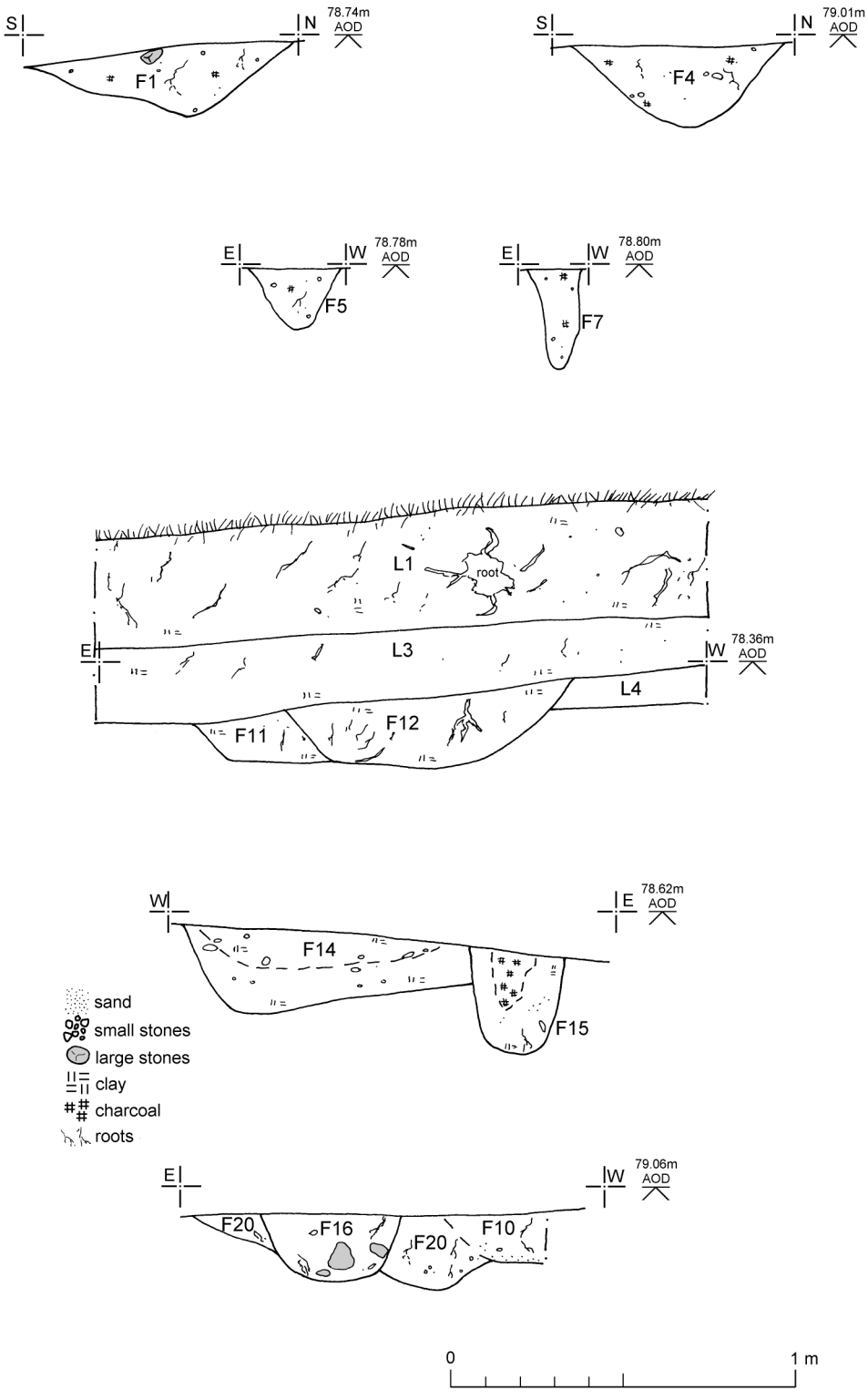

Fig 4 Feature sections.

OASIS DATA COLLECTION FORM: England

OASIS ID: colchest3-267073

Project details

Project name	Archaeological evaluation on land at Petersfield, The Endway, Great Easton, Essex, CM6 2HG
Short description of the project	An archaeological evaluation (extended trial-trench) was carried out on land at Petersfield, The Endway, Great Easton, Essex in advance of the construction of a replacement dwelling and garage. The development site is located 30m west of a 2011 excavation interpreted as the southeastern side of a Late Iron Age - Roman enclosure, probably surrounding a rural farmstead, with an external track or droveway. This evaluation revealed Late Iron Age and Roman pits, postholes and a ditch all probably associated with the occupation of the farmstead. A post-Roman ditch might be related to the medieval motte and bailey castle, medieval farmstead and/or the 15th-16th century Easton Hall all located 70-90m to the west/southwest.
Project dates	Start: 14-11-2016 End: 23-11-2016
Previous/future work	No / Not known
Any associated project reference codes	16/10n - Contracting Unit No.
Any associated project reference codes	UTT/16/0958/FUL - Planning Application No.
Any associated project reference codes	GEPF16 - HER event no.
Any associated project reference codes	SAFWM: 2016.31 - Museum accession ID
Type of project	Field evaluation
Site status	None
Current Land use	Residential 1 - General Residential
Monument type	PIT Late Iron Age
Monument type	DITCH Roman
Monument type	PITS Roman
Monument type	POSTHOLES Roman
Monument type	DITCH Medieval
Monument type	DITCH Post Medieval
Monument type	PIT Post Medieval
Monument type	PIT Late Prehistoric
Significant Finds	FLINT FLAKES Late Prehistoric

Significant Finds	POTTERY Late Iron Age
Significant Finds	POTTERY Roman
Significant Finds	ANIMAL BONE Roman
Significant Finds	SLAG Roman
Significant Finds	IRON NAIL Roman
Significant Finds	POTTERY Medieval
Significant Finds	CERAMIC BUILDING MATERIAL Medieval
Significant Finds	CERAMIC BUILDING MATERIAL Post Medieval
Methods & techniques	"'Sample Trenches"'
Development type	Small-scale (e.g. single house, etc.)
Prompt	Planning condition
Position in the planning process	After full determination (eg. As a condition)

Project location

Country	England
Site location	ESSEX UTTLESFORD GREAT EASTON land at Peters Field, The Endway
Postcode	CM6 2HG
Study area	0.24 Hectares
Site coordinates	TL 69080 25437 51.9013022724 0.457926513069 51 54 04 N 000 27 28 E Point
Height OD / Depth	Min: 78.65m Max: 78.96m

Project creators

Name of Organisation	Colchester Archaeological Trust
Project brief originator	HEM Team Officer, ECC
Project design originator	Laura Pooley
Project director/manager	Chris Lister
Project supervisor	Ben Holloway
Type of sponsor/funding body	Developer

Project archives

Physical Archive recipient	Saffron Walden Museum
Physical Archive ID	SAFWM: 2016.31
Physical Contents	"Animal Bones","Ceramics","Worked stone/lithics"
Digital Archive recipient	Saffron Walden Museum
Digital Archive ID	SAFWM: 2016.31
Digital Contents	"none"
Digital Media available	"Images raster / digital photography","Survey"

Paper Archive recipient	Saffron Walden Museum
Paper Archive ID	SAFWM: 2016.31
Paper Contents	"none"
Paper Media available	"Context sheet","Miscellaneous Material","Photograph","Plan","Report","Section"

Project bibliography 1

Publication type	Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)
Title	Archaeological evaluation on land at Petersfield, The Endway, Great Easton, Essex, CM6 2HG: November 2016
Author(s)/Editor(s)	Pooley, L.
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OASIS: