

# Archaeological investigation (Phases 1 & 2) on works along Middleborough and Balkerne Hill, Colchester, Essex, CO1 1TG

July 2019 – February 2020



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## 1 Summary

Archaeological monitoring was carried out during groundworks along Middleborough and Balkerne Hill, Colchester, Essex for external lighting to illuminate the Roman town wall and Balkerne Gate, both scheduled monuments (NHLE no. 1003772 & 1002187). Groundworks largely occurred through modern and some post-medieval layers, showing that soil layers against this section of the Roman town wall are largely of modern date to a depth of c 0.6-0.7m below current ground level. The only significant archaeological remains were present 2m to the south of Balkerne Gate, where a small section of Roman gravel surface was uncovered. First identified during excavations in the 1970s, this surface is part of the *via sagularis*, the street around the inside of the defences of the Roman legionary fortress.

## 2 Introduction (Fig 1)

This report presents the results of Phase 1 and Phase 2 archaeological investigations carried out along Middleborough and Balkerne Hill, Colchester, Essex by Colchester Archaeological Trust (CAT). The work was commissioned by Colchester Borough Homes Ltd and carried out during groundworks for the installation of external lighting to illuminate the Roman town wall and Balkerne Gate. Phase 1 took place from 22nd to 30th July 2019 and Phase 2 from 26th November 2019 to 18th February 2020.

The development site is located within two scheduled ancient monuments: the Roman town wall (NHLE no. 1003772) and Balkerne Gate (NHLE no. 1002187). An application for scheduled monument consent was submitted to Historic England and granted. Within the consent Maria Medlycott, acting Inspector of Ancient Monuments East of England, advised that a scheme of archaeological investigation should be implemented under the overall archaeological supervision of Dr Jess Tipper, Colchester Borough Council Archaeological Advisor at Colchester Borough Council Place Services.

Phase 1: All archaeological work was carried out in accordance with a *Brief for Archaeological Investigation* written by Dr Jess Tipper and detailing the required archaeological work (Tipper July 2019). A written scheme of investigation (WSI) was prepared by CAT (July 2019) in response to the brief and was agreed with Dr Tipper prior to groundworks commencing.

Phase 2: All archaeological work was carried out in accordance with a *Brief for Archaeological Investigation* written by Dr Jess Tipper and detailing the required archaeological work (Tipper October 2019). A written scheme of investigation (WSI) was prepared by CAT (October 2019) in response to the brief and was agreed with Dr Tipper prior to groundworks commencing.

A Heritage Impact Assessment was carried out by CAT in October 2019 as was submitted to Dr Jess Tipper as an appendix to the Phase 2 WSI.

In addition to the briefs and WSIs, 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 watching briefs* (ClfA 2014a) and *Standard and guidance for the collection, documentation, conservation and research of archaeological materials* (ClfA 2014b).

## 3 Archaeological background (Fig 2)

The following archaeological background draws on the major published sources for Colchester archaeology and the Colchester Historic Environment Record, accessed via Colchester Heritage Explorer (<https://colchesterheritage.co.uk/map>).

The proposed development site is located immediately outside the northwest corner and western side of the Roman town of *Colonia Claudia Victricensis* (CHER MCC9314), adjacent to

the Roman town wall (scheduled monument, NHLE no. 1003772) and Balkerne Gate (scheduled monument, NHLE no. 1002187).

The Roman town wall (CHER MCC859) was built around the town in the later 1st century AD following the revolt led by Boudica. It is constructed of a core of layered septaria and mortar faced with coursed septaria and brick. A recent study has concluded that the wall has an average width of 2.67m (including offsets) which is equivalent to precisely nine Roman feet (*pedes Monetales*). A hypothetical cross-section of the wall shows the foundations as being 3.77m wide (Crummy 2003). Some previous work shows that the wall foundations were surprisingly shallow at 600mm deep (Hull 1958, 25-6). Work by CAT at the Sixth Form College in 2005 (adjacent to the development site) shows the stone foundations to be 1.2m deep with wooden piles below (CAT Report 347), although, being water-logged, ground conditions here presumably explain their exceptional depth. Trial-holes confirmed that survival of the foundations varies. Where they have not been robbed away, the foundations extend 2.1m from the existing face of the wall and are in a sound state of preservation. Above ground, the survival of the wall is very patchy as up to 2.4m width of wall has been lost and nothing of the original exterior facing of the wall survives, only the core.

Balkerne Gate (CHER MCC555) is the main west gate of the former Roman town of Colchester and is the best preserved Roman gateway in Britain. It was originally built as a free-standing monumental arch (probably in the AD 50s) before being incorporated into a gateway when the Roman town wall was built later in the 1st century AD (CAR 3).



**Photograph 1** 1970s excavations along Balkerne Lane, looking southeast towards The Hole in the Wall pub.

The archaeology of Balkerne Hill (originally known as Balkerne Lane) was comprehensively excavated in the 1970s and reported on in CAR 3 (Photograph 1) (CHER ECC332). These excavations were the result of a large-scale redevelopment of the road into a dual-carriageway

(A134) which effectively removed the top of the hill to a depth of up to 6m over an area of about 1ha (CAR 3, 1). Roman discoveries during the excavations included the early legionary ditch and later defensive ditch, streets leading to the west gate, a number of workshops and buildings, a water-main / possible aqueduct, a Romano-Celtic temple and probable shrine; and a monumental arch later incorporated into Balkerne Gate (CAR 3, 93-154). At this time, ground level either side of the proposed new road was subject to continuous piling to form retaining walls between which the carriageway was excavated (Philip Crummy, pers comm). This means that the ground levels either side of the retaining walls are potentially the same as they were in the 1970s and significant archaeological remains are likely to be preserved underneath the current footpath and grassed areas immediately outside the town wall.



**Photograph 2** 1970s excavation trench to the south of Balkerne Gate (Site C) showing the Roman street metalling (the *via sagularis*), looking east

As part of the Balkerne Hill excavations, a small area (Site C) immediately to the south of Balkerne Gate was excavated to natural (CAR 3, Fig 103, sx 64) (Photograph 2). Within this area significant archaeological horizons, including street metalling, were encountered at depths of between 0.05-0.3m below 1970s ground level. The street metalling was identified as the *via sagularis*, the street around the inside of the defences of the legionary fortress dating to c 44-49 AD (CAR 3, 94; CAR 6, Fig 2.10; Crummy 1997, 46). Two test-pits excavated in the same general vicinity of 'Site C' in 2016 (CAT Report 915; CHER ECC3714) revealed modern layers to a depth of 0.3m below current ground level (where excavation ceased). Most of these modern layers were probably backfill from the 1970s excavations and associated groundworks.

#### 4 Aims

Archaeological investigation was undertaken to excavate and record any archaeological deposits which were exposed by the groundworks.

## 5 Results (Figs 3-11)

All groundworks were carried out by the contractors under the supervision of a CAT archaeologist.

### 5.1 Phase 1 – July 2019 (Figs 3-5 and 10)

A service trench approximately 240m long, 0.4m wide and 0.6m deep was excavated so a new power cable could be laid. The trench was located within the grassed area between the Middleborough and Balkerne Hill footpaths and the Roman town wall. A 'joint hole' at the start of the trench (next to 'A' on Fig 3) was 1.5m long, 1m wide and 0.6m deep.

All groundworks occurred through modern contexts, see Figs 3-5 for locations (trenches shown in red) and Table 1 for descriptions:

- Cable trench from point A to point B (Fig 3 & Fig 10 sx1) was excavated through: L1 (0.12-0.15m thick), L2 (0.28-0.3m thick) and L3 (0.4m thick) onto L4.
- B to C (Fig 3 & Fig 10 sx2): L1 (0.15m thick), L7, (0.45m thick) and L8 (0.06m thick) onto L4. Modern cobbled surface F1 was uncovered.
- C to D (Fig 3 & Fig 10 sx3): L1 (0.15m thick) onto L9.
- D to E (Fig 3): L1 (0.15m thick), L2 (0.25m thick) and L5 (0.05m thick) onto L9.
- E to F (Figs 3-4 & Fig 10 sx4): L1 (0.15m thick), L2 (0.21-0.28m thick) and L3 (0.05-0.1m thick) onto L9.
- F to G (Fig 4 & Fig 10 sx5): L1 (0.15m thick) onto L2.
- G to H: (Fig 4 & Fig 10 sx6) L1 (0.26-0.29m thick) onto L10.

Context	Finds no.	Context type	Context description	Date
L1	1	Topsoil/turf	Soft dry medium grey/brown loamy silt	Modern
L2	-	Make-up layer	Soft dry medium yellow/brown loamy silt with brick flecks, tile flecks	Modern
L3	-	Tarmac surface	Tarmac surface	Modern
L4	-	Demolition layer	Demolition layer full of brick	Modern
L5	-	Concrete	Concrete	Modern
L6	-	Modern rubble foundation?	Very hard mortar and rubble	Modern
L7	-	Buried topsoil	Friable moist dark grey/brown/black loamy silt	Modern
L8	-	Levelling material for F1	loose light yellow/orange/green/ brown sand	Modern
L9	-	Backfill?	soft/friable dry medium orange/grey/brown loamy silt	Modern
L10	-	Levelling layer	soft dry orange sand	Modern
F1	-	Cobbled surface	Cobbled road surface with trace of yellow lines still painted onto it	Modern

**Table 1** Phase 1 context list



**Photograph 3** Phase 1 power cable trench along Middleborough, looking west.



**Photograph 4** Phase 1 power cable trench along Balkerne Hill to the north of Balkerne Gate, looking north.



## 5.2 Phase 2 (Figs 5-11)

See Figs 5-9 for locations (trenches shown in green) and Table 2 for context descriptions.

Context	Finds no.	Context type	Context description	Date
L1	-	Topsoil/turf	Soft dry medium grey/brown loamy silt	Modern
L10	-	Levelling layer	soft dry orange sand	Modern
L11	-	Make-up layer (equivalent to L2)	firm moist dark orange/grey silty sand with oyster flecks and inclusions of: gravel 1% stone 3%	Modern
L12	-	Make-up/levelling layer (equivalent to L16)	soft moist light dark grey/brown silty sand with oyster flecks and inclusions of: stone 4%	Probably post-medieval/modern
L13	-	Surface	hard dry light/medium orange/grey/brown silty sand with patches of gravel metalling.	Roman
L14	-	Bedding layer / part of surface L13?	soft moist light/medium orange/brown silty sand and inclusions of: stone 1%	Roman
L15	-	Levelling / dump	firm moist medium orange/grey/brown silty sand with brick flecks, tile flecks and inclusions of: stone 3%	Modern
L16	-	Make-up/levelling layer (equivalent to L12)	soft moist orange/brown silty sand with oyster flecks and inclusions of: stone 2%	Modern
F2	-	?Pit	Moist, firm dark brown with common oyster shell	Post-medieval/modern
F3	-	Brick wall	Brick wall, 0.5m wide by 0.55m deep	Post-medieval/modern
F4	-	1970s excavation area	Steep-sided cut backfilled with modern debris = edge of the 1970s excavation area	1970s

**Table 2** Phase 2 context list

### **North of Balkerne Gate (Figs 4-6 and 10-11)**

Three sections of shallow trench for new lighting cables were excavated along (and 0.7m from) the Roman town wall. Totalling 139m in length, they were 0.25m wide and 0.25m deep, and were excavated through modern topsoil L1 (Fig 11 sx9).

The associated power cable trench from Phase 1 was continued south for a further 84m at 0.3m wide by 0.55m deep. It was excavated through L1 (c 0.1-0.2m thick) and L11 (c 0.45m thick) into L10, and included possible pit F2 partially recorded in section (Fig 10 sx8).

In addition, three small areas were excavated for the instillation of termination cabinets. For each, an area 1.5m by 0.55m was stripped to 0.1m deep, with a smaller internal area 0.55m by 0.4m reduced by a further 0.4m. The 'cabinet' excavations occurred through L1 (c 0.1-0.2m thick) into L11. Connecting trenches were excavated across the footpath, through paving slabs (0.5m thick) and concrete (0.25m thick) into bedding sand (Fig 10 sx7).



**Photograph 5** Phase 2 North of Balkerne Gate - lighting cable trench along Balkerne Hill excavated through L1, looking south.



**Photograph 6** Phase 2 North of Balkerne Gate - power cable trench along Balkerne Hill, looking north.



**Photograph 7** Phase 2 North of Balkerne Gate – cabinet strip showing central area already backfilled, looking west.



**Photograph 8** Phase 2 North of Balkerne Gate – trench across the footpath, looking north.

### **Around Balcerne Gate (Fig 7)**

To impact the monument as little possible none of the groundworks exceeded the depth of the modern paving slabs (0.1m thick) and sub-base (0.25m thick). The power cable trench totalled 28m in length and was 0.25m wide and 0.35m deep. For the lighting cable, grout was removed from between the paving slabs and the cable laid in between (0.1m deep). Similarly, four paving stones and part of the sub-base were removed for each of the lights to be positioned. The lights are shown on Fig 7 but the position of the cable between the paving slabs was not recorded.



**Photograph 9** Photograph showing position of lights around the southern side of Balcerne Gate (after backfilling and reinstatement), looking south-east

### **South of Balcerne Gate (Figs 8-9 and 11)**

A shallow trench for lighting cables was excavated along (and 0.7m from) the Roman town wall. Totalling 145m in length, it was 0.25m wide and 0.25m deep, and was excavated through modern topsoil L1 (Fig 11 sx11). A lot of modern services were visible in the trench along with an east/west post-medieval/modern brick wall (F3, 0.5m wide) spanning both the lighting and power trench. This wall is probably related to the properties previously located in this area (see Photograph 1).

The associated power cable trench was located within the grassed area between the Balcerne Hill footpath and Balcerne Gate/the Roman town wall. Totalling 143m in length, the trench was 0.25m wide and 0.55m deep. It was largely excavated through modern and post-medieval layers L1, L11 and L12/L16 (Fig 11 sx12), but a lot of modern services visible within the trench made the layers difficult to distinguish. Four 'feeder pillars' excavated along this length of trench were also dug through L1, L11 and L12/L16.

A large cable 'joint hole' 2m to the south of Balcerne Gate was 1.6m by 0.9m and 0.75m deep. To the north of the hole the backfilled 1970s excavation area was identified (F4) and a lot of modern services were present. However, along the western edge of the 'joint hole' and truncated by modern services was gravel surface L13 (c 0.15m thick), recorded at a depth of

0.38-0.56m below current ground level and overlaying possible bedding layer L14 (Fig 11 sx10 with plan). Gravel surface L13 is probably the remains of the *via sagularis* first identified in this location during the 1970s excavations (see p3 above and Photograph 2). Modern layers (L15 and L16) were recorded in the eastern section. Excavations for a cabinet to the southwest of the 'joint hole' occurred through modern layers.



**Photograph 10** Phase 2 South of Balkerne Gate - power and lighting cable trenches along Balkerne Hill, looking south.



**Photograph 11** Brick wall foundation F3, looking southeast



**Photograph 12** Joint hole with Roman street surface L13 and bedding layer L14, looking west.

## 6 Finds

by Dr Matthew Loughton

### 6.1 Phase 1

**L1, finds no.1:** One sherd of Roman BB1 black-burnished, category 1 (GA) pottery from a Cam 305A which dates from AD 275 until the end of the Roman period (Bidwell & Croom 1999, 481).

### 6.2 Phase 2 (Appendix 1)

Phase 2 monitoring produced 35 sherds of pottery and ceramic building material (henceforth CBM) with a weight of 1,501g and 1.72 vessels (rim EVE) (Table 3). All of this material was unstratified from spoil heaps (finds nos 2-3).

#### Roman pottery

The Roman pottery was classified according to the fabric groups outlined in *CAR 10* (Symonds & Wade 1999) and vessel types via the Colchester (*Camulodunum*), henceforth Cam, type series (Hawkes & Hull 1947; Hull 1958; *CAR 10*, 468-487). The number of vessels was determined by rim EVE (estimated vessel equivalent). Evidence for the use and modification of pottery vessels and sherds (sooting, organic deposits, mineral deposits, burning, abrasion, holing/piercing, etc.) was also briefly noted.

Ceramic material	No.	Weight (g)	MSW (g)	Rim EVE
Pottery	32	1,041	33	1.72
Ceramic Building Material (CBM)	3	460	153	-
<b>All</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>1,501</b>	<b>43</b>	<b>1.72</b>

**Table 3** Pottery and CBM summary

This material is nearly all of Roman date and includes early, middle and later material (Appendix 1). Noteworthy sherds included:

- Terra nigra base with a stamp of ]XXXXXV?
- Drag. 27 samian cup from central Gaul (fabric BACG) with a stamp of SOLLEMNI[.OF. The potter Sollemnis i was active at Lezoux during AD 125-150 and this stamp has previously been reported from Colchester (CAR 10, 135 S777-778).
- Colchester flanged mortarium (fabric TZ) of Cam 195A type with a herringbone-type stamp dateable to AD 130-170 (CAR 10, 204-209).

### Post-Roman pottery

The post-Roman pottery was recorded using the fabric groups from CAR 7 (Cotter 2000) and Cunningham (1985). There was one sherd of Border ware (fabric F42) from a porringer with an internal green glaze dating from the late 16th to the 18th century (Pearce 1992, 15-17, 55 fig. 26). Finally, there were two Post-medieval red earthenware dishes (fabric 40).

### Ceramic Building Material (CBM)

There were only three pieces of CBM, two pieces of imbrex and one tegula with a lower cut away of type D1 dating to AD 240-380.

*Note: As per CAT finds retention policy (agreed with Colchester Museum), all of the finds have been discarded as they came from modern topsoil.*

## 7 Discussion

Groundworks along Middleborough and Balkerne Hill largely occurred through modern and some post-medieval layers to depths of at least 0.6-0.7m below current ground level. The modern layers likely date from the 1970s when the whole area was redeveloped and the road now known as Balkerne Hill constructed. Cobbled surface F1 and brick wall F3 predate this development, with F3 probably associated with properties on the former Balkerne Lane that backed onto the Roman town wall (see Photograph 1). The only significant area of archaeology was located in a 'joint hole' 2m to the south of Balkerne Gate where a truncated Roman gravel street surface and bedding layer. The gravel surface is probably part of *via sagularis*, the street around the inside of the defences of the legionary fortress (see Photograph 2) (CAR 3, 94; Crummy 1997, 46). The *via sagularis* was first identified in this location during archaeological excavations in the 1970s that took place before the Balkerne Hill redevelopment.

## 8 Acknowledgements

CAT thanks UK Power Network for commissioning and funding the work. The project was managed by C Lister and carried out by E Holloway, R Mathieson, B Quinn and A Wade. Figures were prepared by S Carter and L Pooley. The project was monitored for the CBCPS by Jess Tipper.

## 9 References

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

- |                       |                   |   |
|-----------------------|-------------------|---|
| Bidwell, P & Croom, A | 1999              | 'The <i>Camulodunum</i> /Colchester type series', in R Symonds & S Wade (eds.), <i>Colchester Archaeological Report 10: Roman pottery from excavations in Colchester, 1971-86</i> , 468-487. Colchester: Colchester Archaeological Trust Ltd. |
| Brown, D              | 2011<br>(2nd ed.) | <i>Archaeological Archives: A guide to best practice in creation, compilation, transfer and curation</i>  |
| CAT                   | 2019              | <i>Health &amp; Safety Policy</i>   |
| CAT                   | July<br>2019      | <i>Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) for an archaeological investigation (Phase 1) on works along Balkerne Hill and Middleborough, Colchester, Essex, Co1 1TG</i>   |
| CAT                   | October           | <i>Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) for an archaeological</i>  |

	2019	<i>investigation (Phase 2) on works along Balkerne Hill, Colchester, Essex, Co1 1TG</i>
CAT Report 347	2009	<i>Roman buildings, the rear face of the Roman town wall and archaeological investigations in Insulas 1a, 1b, 9a and 9b, at the Sixth Form College, North Hill, Colchester, Essex: April 2005-March 2006</i>
CAT Report 915	2016	<i>Archaeological test-pit evaluation at Balkerne Gate, Colchester, Essex, CO3 3AA: February 2016</i>
Tipper, J	July 2019	<i>Brief for Archaeological Investigation at Works on Balkerne Hill to illuminate the Town Wall, Balkerne Hill, Colchester.</i> Colchester Borough Council Place Services.
Tipper, J	October 2019	<i>Brief for Archaeological Investigation at Works on Balkerne Hill to illuminate the Town Wall, Balkerne Hill, Colchester.</i> Colchester Borough Council Place Services.
CIfA	2014a	<i>Standard and Guidance for an archaeological watching brief</i>
CIfA	2014b	<i>Standard and guidance for the collection, documentation, conservation and research of archaeological materials</i>
Cotter, J P	2000	<i>Colchester Archaeological Report 7: Post-Roman pottery from excavations in Colchester, 1971-85.</i> Colchester: Colchester Archaeological Trust Ltd.
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Pearce, J	1992	<i>Border Wares.</i> London: HMSO.
Symonds, R & Wade, S (eds)	1999	<i>Colchester Archaeological Report 10: Roman pottery from excavations in Colchester, 1971-86,</i> 120-136. Colchester: Colchester Archaeological Trust Ltd.

## 10 Abbreviations and glossary

CAT	Colchester Archaeological Trust
CBCAA	Colchester Borough Council Archaeological Advisor
CBCPS	Colchester Borough Council Planning Services
CHER	Colchester Historic Environment Record
CIfA	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'
layer (L)	distinct or distinguishable deposit (layer) of material
modern	period from c AD 1800 to the present
natural	geological deposit undisturbed by human activity
NGR	National Grid Reference
OASIS	<b>O</b> nline <b>A</b> ccess <b>S</b> to the <b>I</b> ndex of <b>A</b> rchaeological <b>I</b> nvestigations <b>S</b> , <a href="http://oasis.ac.uk/pages/wiki/Main">http://oasis.ac.uk/pages/wiki/Main</a>
Roman	the period from AD 43 to c AD 410
Section	(abbreviation sc or Sx) vertical slice through feature/s or layer/s
ws	written scheme of investigation



## 11 Contents of archive

**Finds:** none retained

### **Paper record**

One A4 document wallet containing:

The report (CAT Report 1455)

CBCPS brief, CAT written scheme of investigation

Original site records (sections and plans)

Site digital photographic archive and log

### **Digital record**

The report (CAT Report 1455)

CBCPS brief, CAT written scheme of investigation

Graphic files

Photographs, photographic archive and log

Survey data

## 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 Colchester Museum under ref. ECC4358

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Date: 20.3.2020

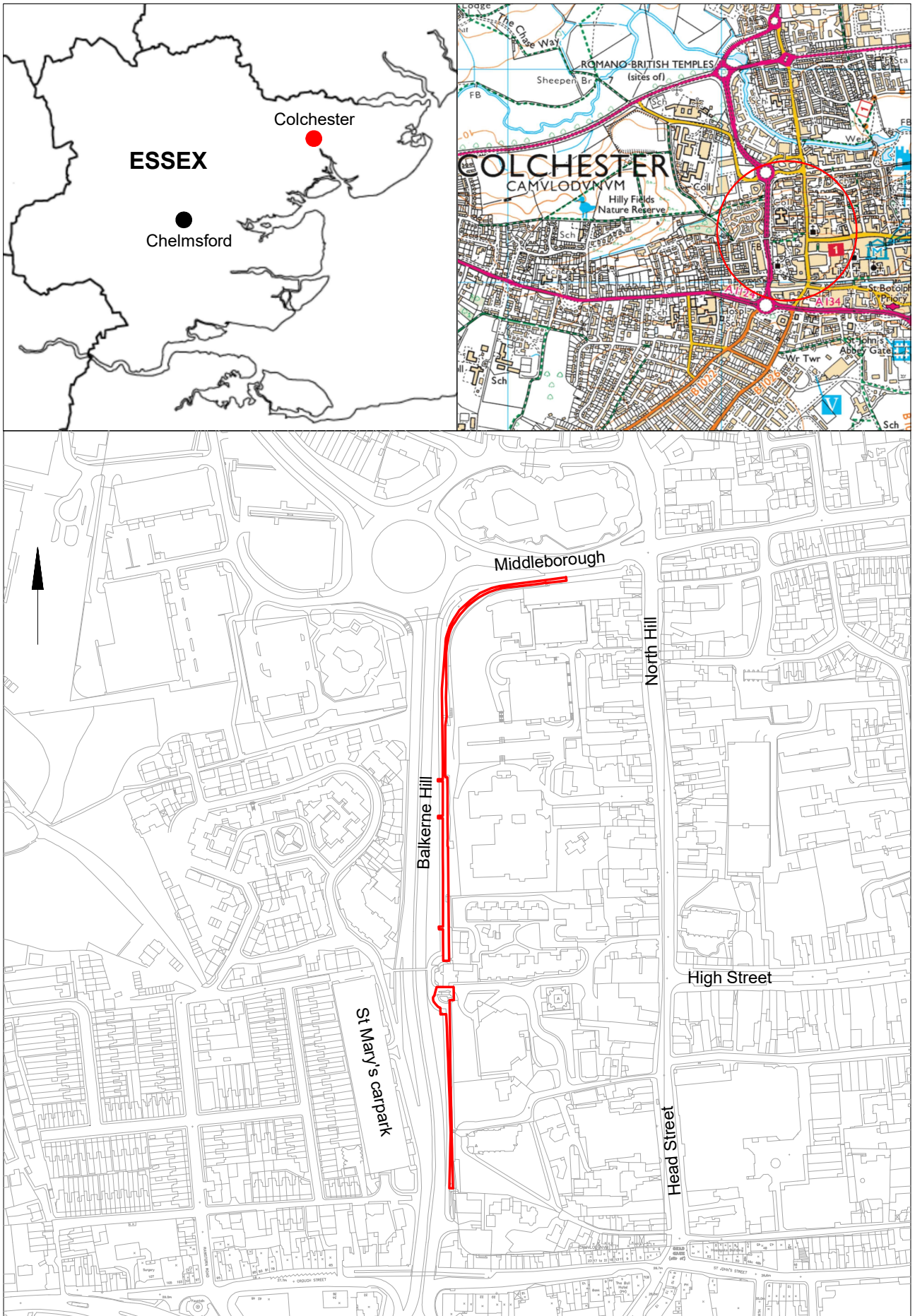
Appendix 1 Pottery and ceramic building material catalogue

Pottery

Cxt	Feature type	Find no.	NR	Wt.	MSW	Rim	Handle	Base	Dec.	STAMP	GRAF Pre-F	GRAF Post-F	Wind Int	Wind Ex	Soot Int	Soot Ex	Burn Int	Burn Ext	Overfired	Residue	Abraded	Modif	Mark	Repair hole	Hole	Disc	Polishing	Fabric Grp	Typology	EVE	Diam.	Comments	Date
US	-	3	2	35	18	0	1	1																		DJ					Roman		
US	-	3	1	20	20	0	0	1		X																TN B				stamp: XXXXXA?	Late Iron Age-Early Roman		
US	-	3	1	31	31	1	0	0																		GB	Cam 37B/38B	6	200		AD 180-275		
US	-	3	1	16	16	1	0	0																		GB	Cam 37B/38B	4	260		AD 180-275		
US	-	3	8	170	21	8	0	0																		GX	Cam 268	21	150		AD 125/150-280/320		
US	-	3																								GX	Cam 243-244/246	13	210		AD 49-138		
US	-	3																								GX	Cam 268	11	150		AD 125/150-280/320		
US	-	3																								GX	Cam 266	7	210		AD 5-80		
US	-	3																								GX	Cam 266	7	170		AD 5-80		
US	-	3																								GX	Cam 108	8	130		AD 44-130/140/200?		
US	-	3																								GX	?	15	140		Roman		
US	-	3	1	16	16	1	0	0																		GA	Cam 279A/B	8	150		AD 220-380		
US	-	3	1	8	8	1	0	0																		KX	Cam 40B	2	?		AD 110-275		
US	-	3	1	2	2																					CB					Roman		
US	-	3	1	14	14	1	0	0	GRGL																	F42	Porringer	15	140	Green int. glaze	late 16th-18th century		
US	-	3	1	7	7																					BXSG					AD 44-80		
US	-	3	2	6	3	2	0	0																		BASG	Drag. 29	3	240		AD 14-85		
US	-	3																								BASG	?	5	160		AD 14/40-69/100		
US	-	3	1	2	2	1	0	0																		BASG	?	4	260		AD 14/40-69/100		
US	-	3	2	14	7	2	0	0																		BASG	Rit. 12	6	160		AD 44-80		
US	-	3																								BASG	Drag. 15/17	2	?		AD 14/40-69/100		
US	-	3	1	8	8	1	0	0																		BAEG	Drag. 37	6	190		AD 180-250		
US	-	3	1	4	4	0	0	1																		BACG					AD 120-180		
US	-	3	1	4	4	0	0	1																		BASG					AD 14/40-69/100		
US	-	3	1	36	36	0	0	1		X																BACG	Drag. 27			stamp: SOLLEMN[.I.OF]	AD 125-150		
US	-	2	3	165	55	2	0	0																		F40	Dish	3	400	slip/glaze int.	c.1500-19th/20th century		
US	-	2																								F40	Dish	6	540	slip/glaze int.	c.1500-19th/20th century		
US	-	2	1	8	8																					BASG	Drag. 27	5	140		AD 14/40-69/100		
US	-	2	1	475	475	1	0	0		X																TZ	Cam 195A	15	380	Herringbone-type stamp	AD 130-170		

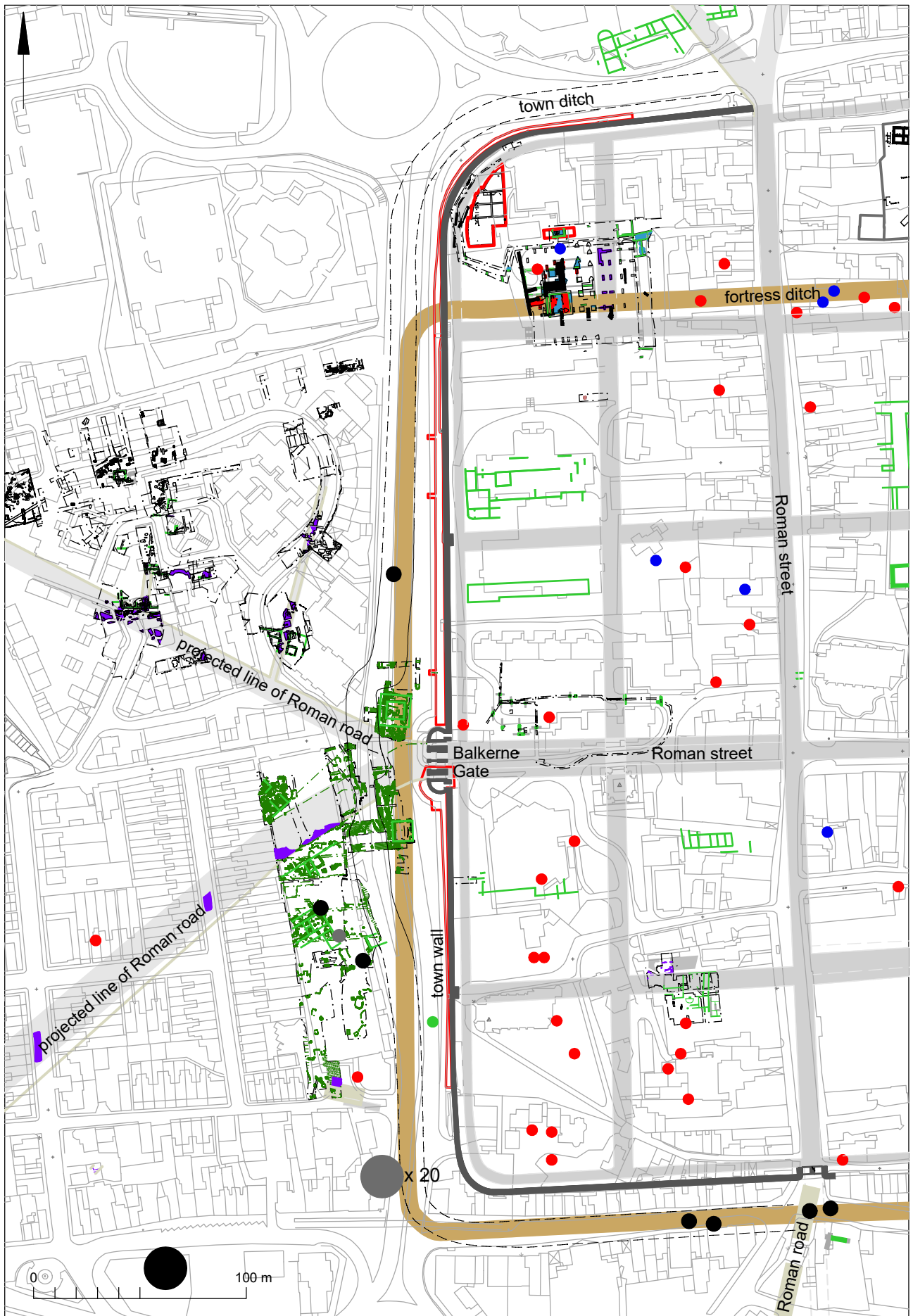
### Ceramic building material

Cxt	Feature type	Find no.	NR	Wt.	MSW	Typology	Sub-type	Flange					Cut Aways				Marks 1					Marks 2		Flue tile					Peg-tile			Brick dim.			M	B	A	M	Comments	Date
								NR FL	MNI	FL H.	FL W.	FL TH.	LCA	LCA L.	UCA	UCA L.	Stamp	Sign	Tally	Graf PF	Animal	Shoe	Scored	Comb	Roller	Circ. VT	Ret. VT	Bl. VT	PH R	PH SQ	2 PHS	Blind	L.	BR.						
US	-	2	2	156	78	RI		0	0																													Roman		
US	-	2	1	304	304	RT		0	0	45	35	20	D1																									AD 240-380		










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Fig 1 Site location



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Fig 2 Area of monitoring (outlined in red) shown in relation to surrounding archaeology.

-  = buildings
-  = tessellated pavement
-  = observed gravel
-  = op sig surface
-  = town drain
-  = burials
-  = approx. burials (large circle = many)

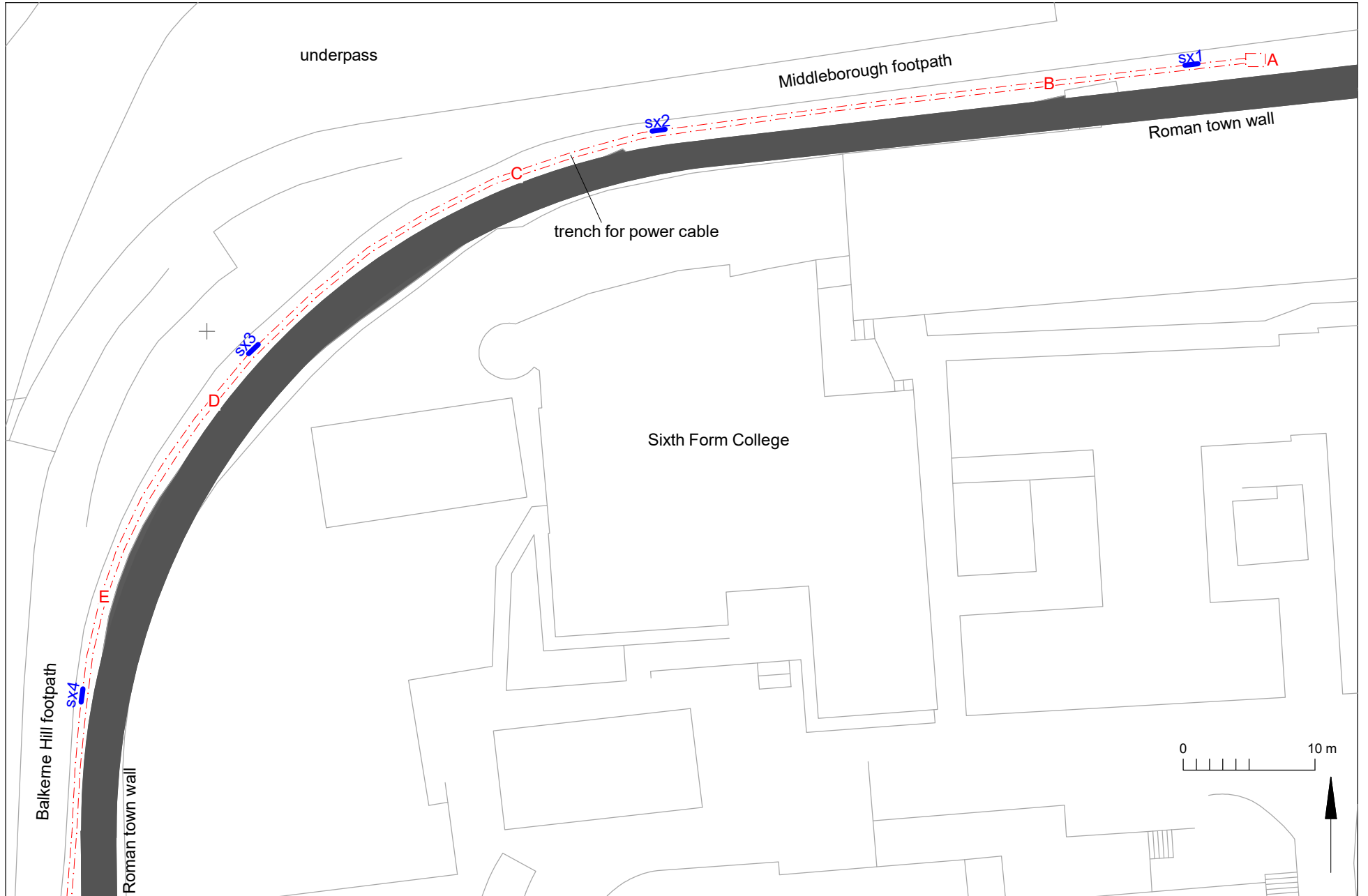
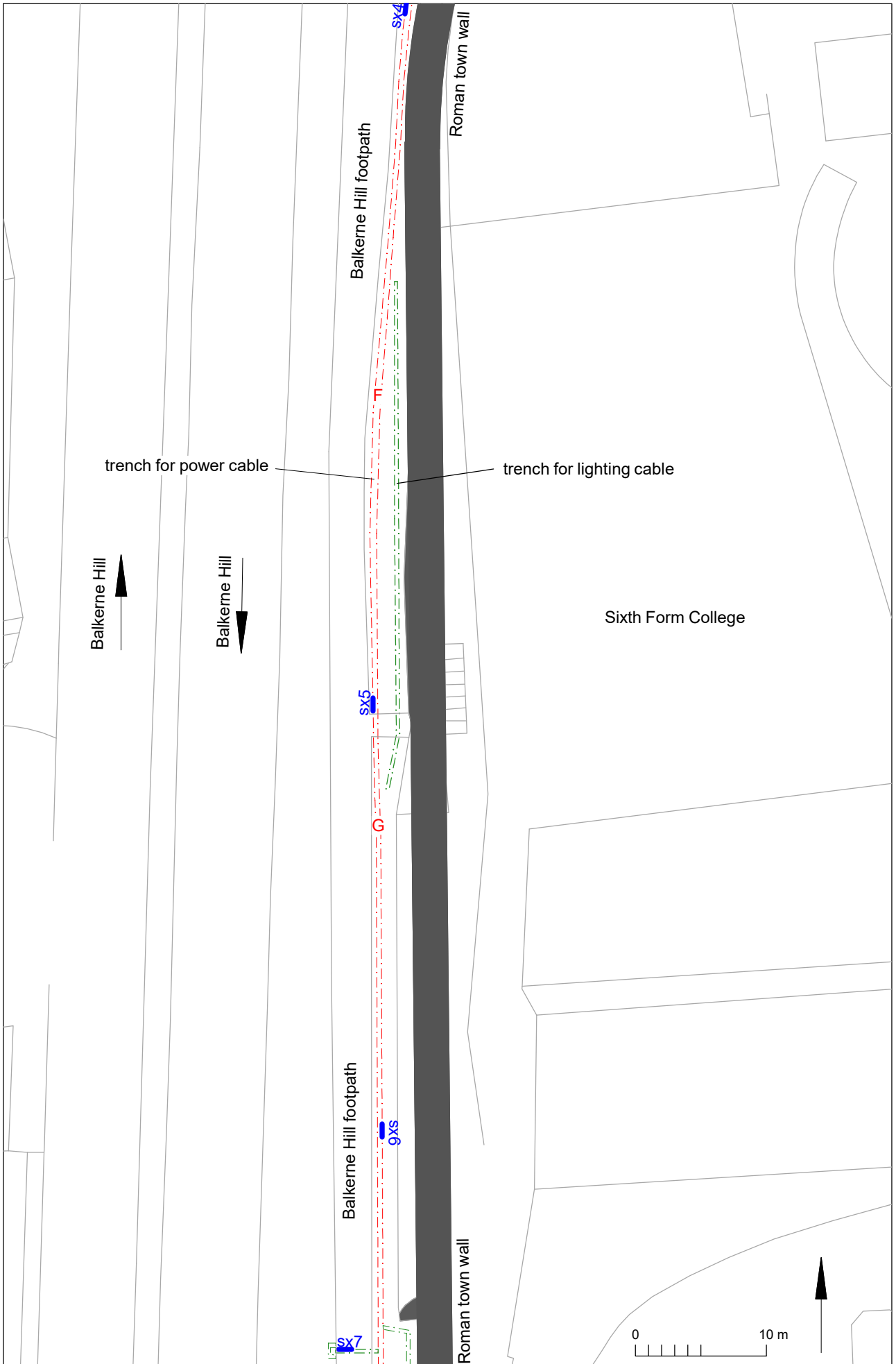


Fig 3 Plan 1 (Phase 1 groundworks are shown in red)



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Fig 4 Plan 2 (Phase 1 groundworks are shown in red and Phase 2 in green)

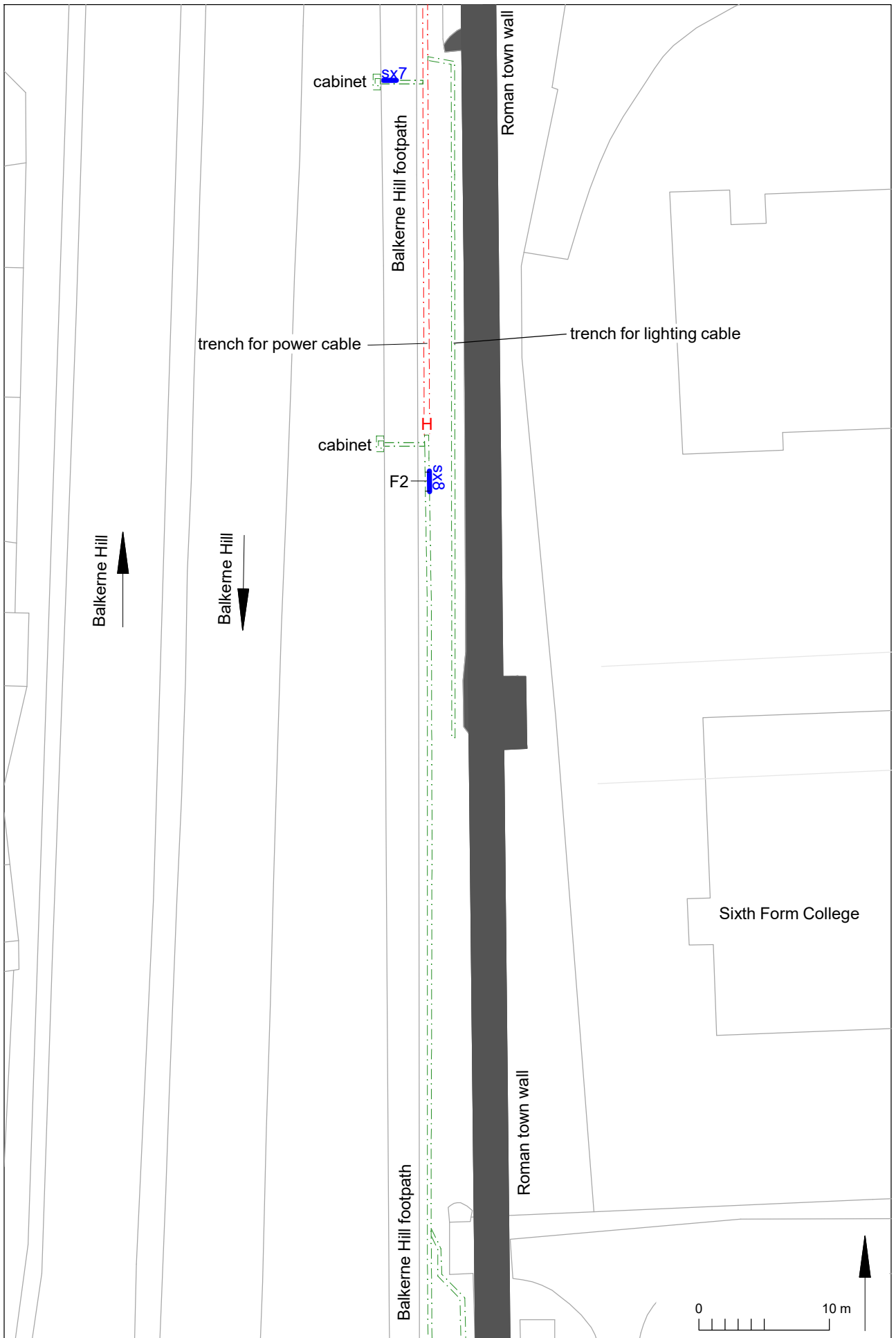
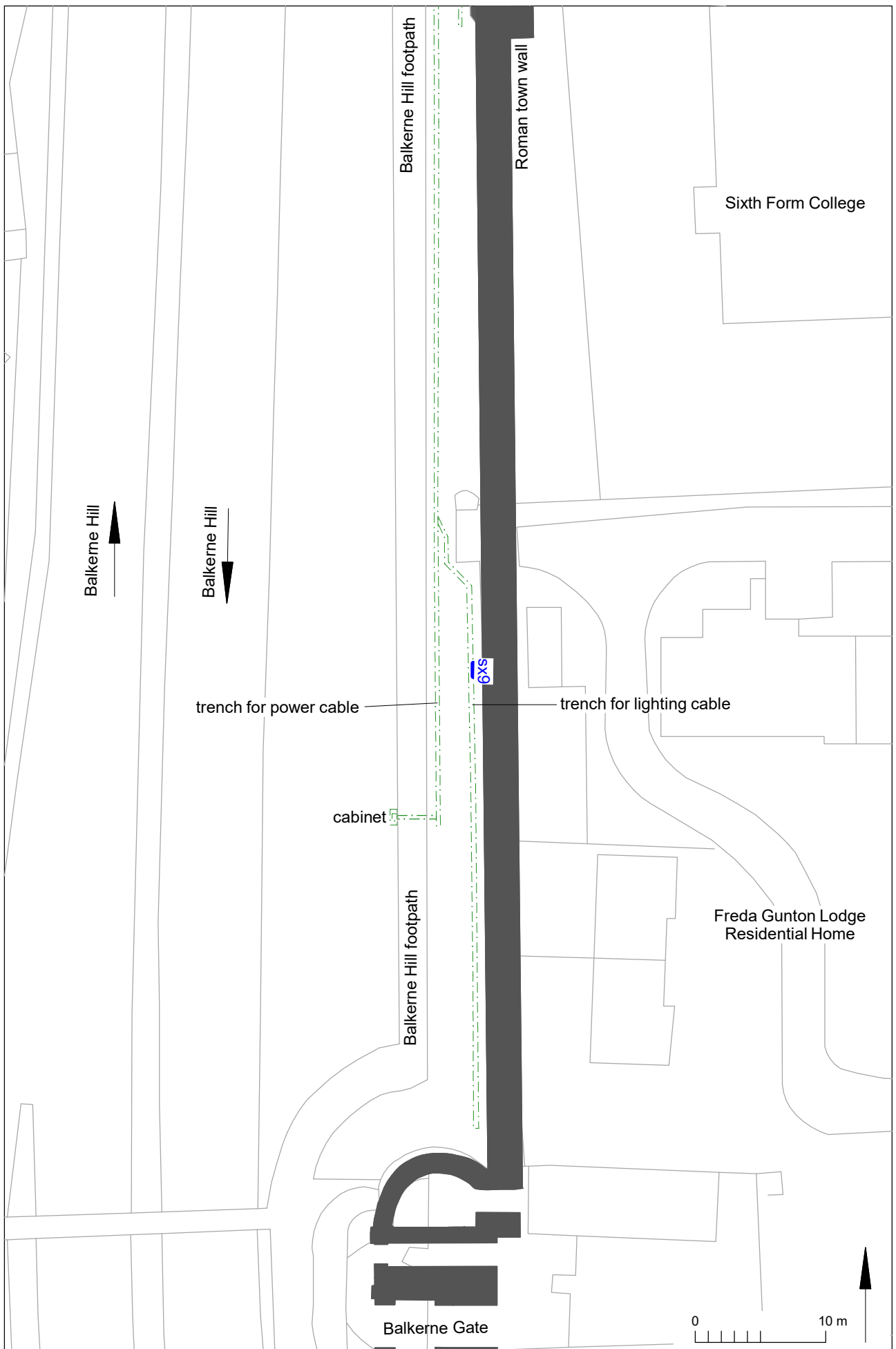


Fig 5 Plan 3 (Phase 1 groundworks are shown in red and Phase 2 in green)





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Fig 6 Plan 4 (Phase 2 groundworks are shown in green)

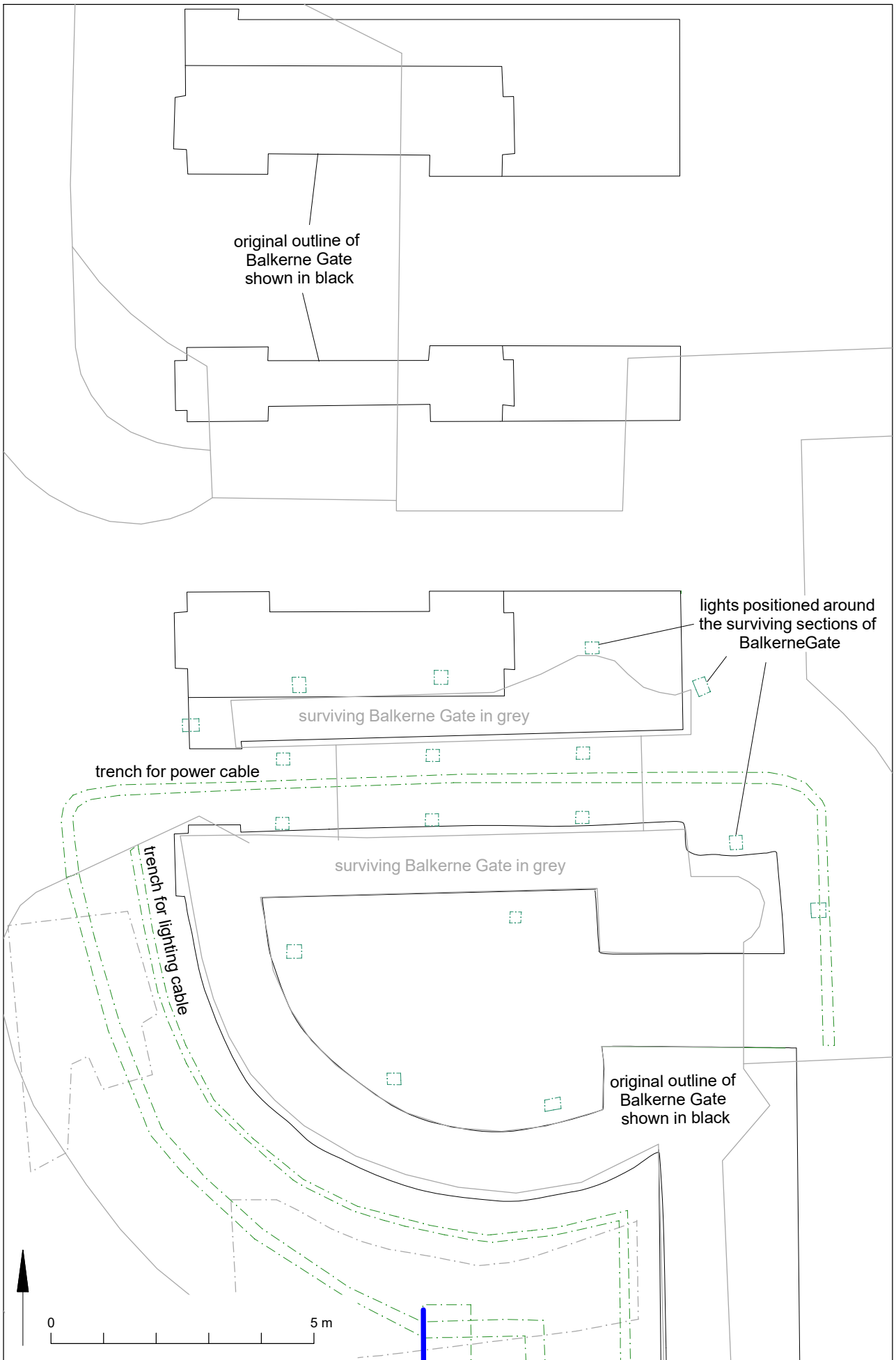
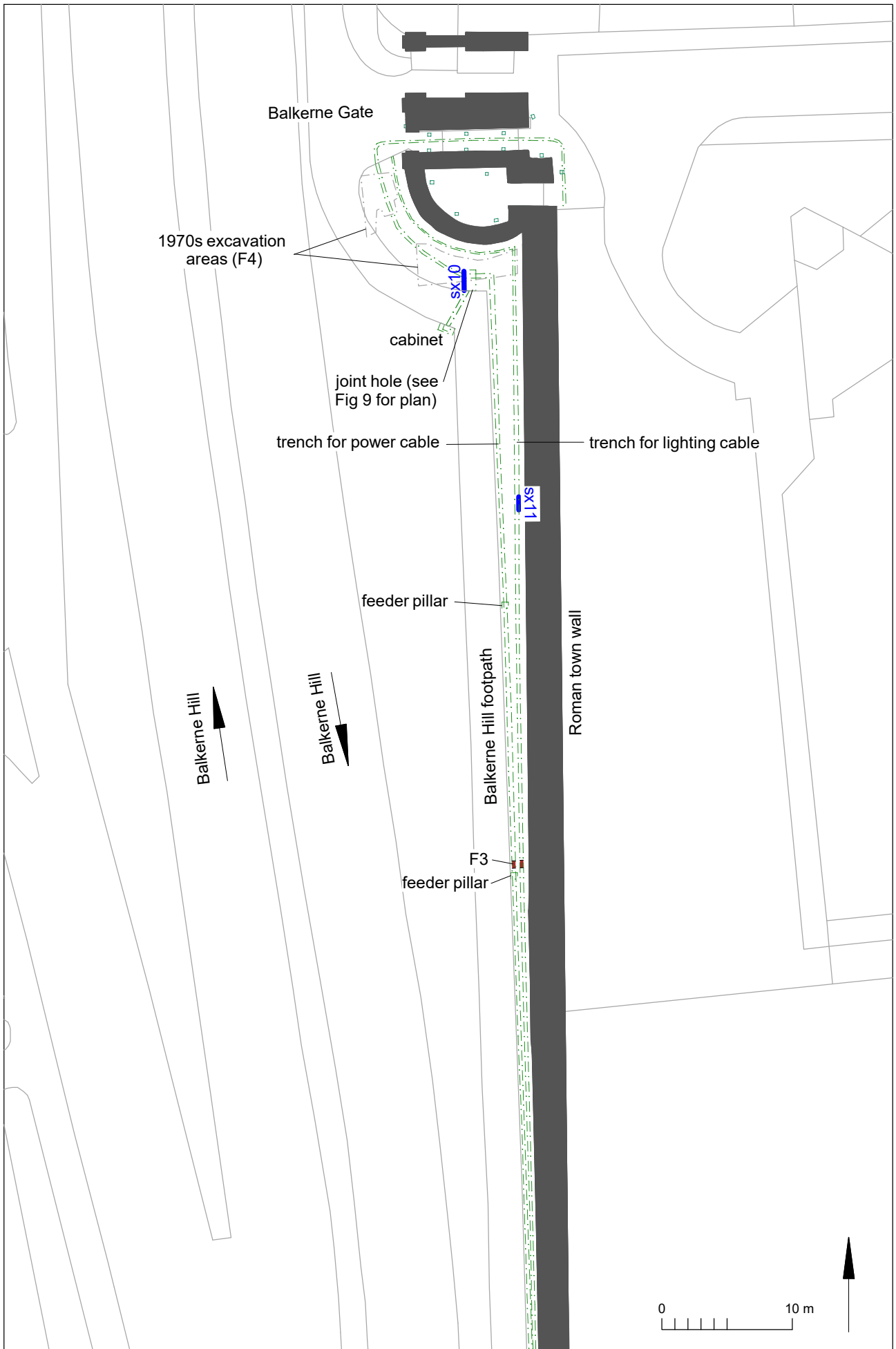


Fig 7 Plan 5 (Phase 2 groundworks are shown in green)



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Fig 8 Plan 6 (Phase 1 groundworks are shown in green)

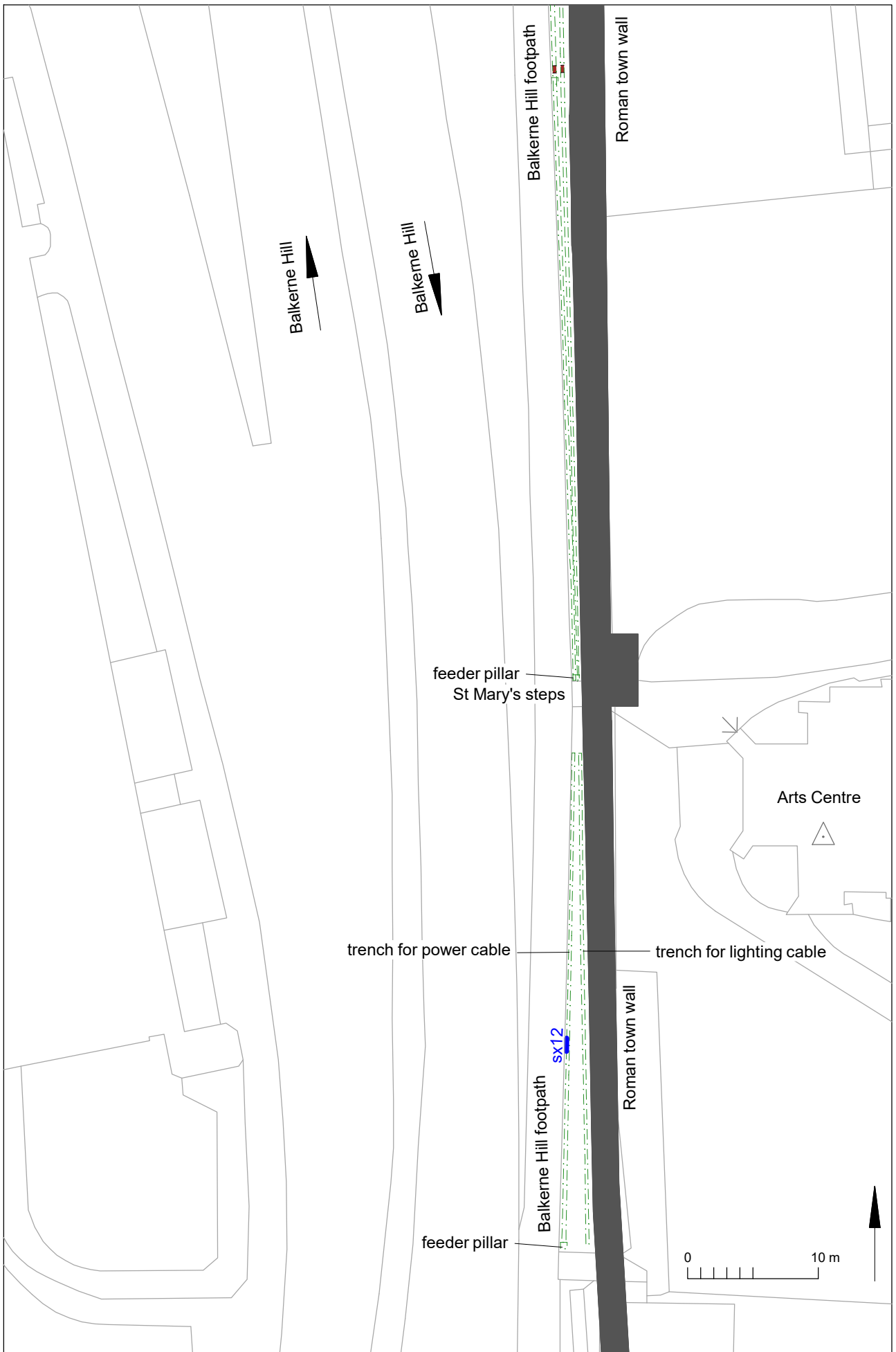


Fig 9 Plan 7 (Phase 1 groundworks are shown in green)

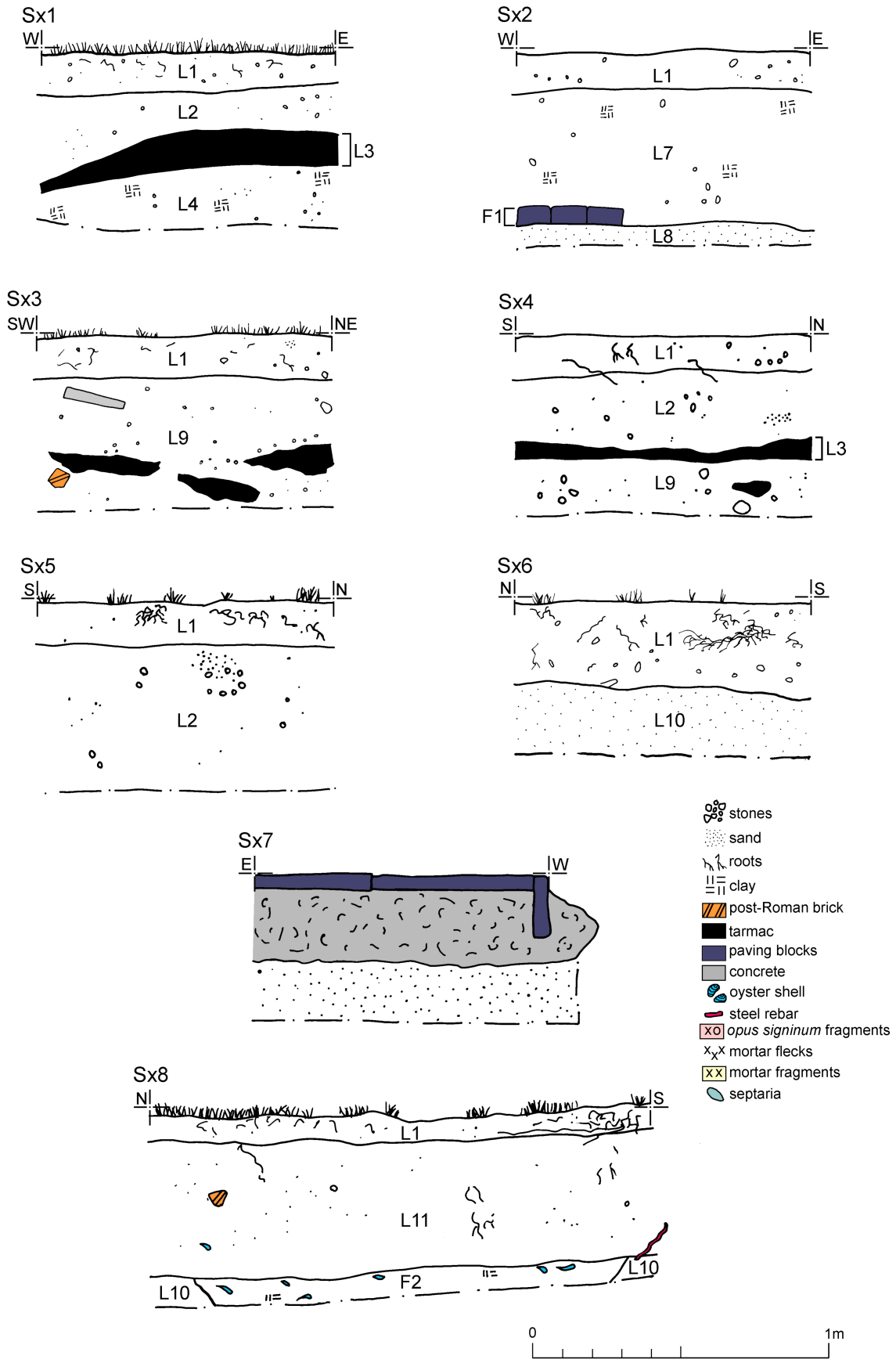


Fig 10 Representative sections, Sx1-Sx8.

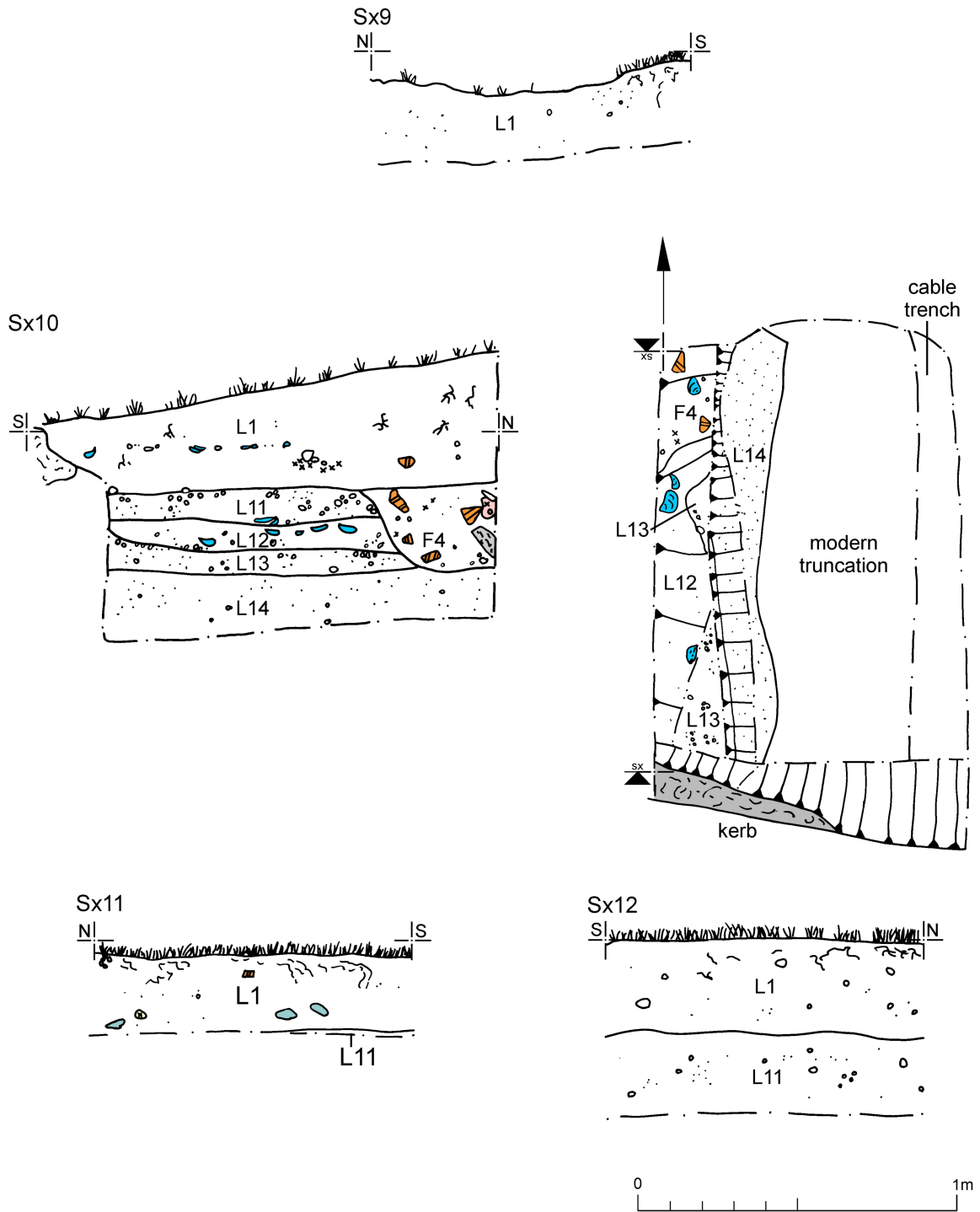


Fig 11 Representative sections, Sx9-Sx12, and plan of L13 and L14

# Essex Historic Environment Record/ Essex Archaeology and History

## Summary sheet

<b>Address:</b> Balkerne Hill and Middleborough, Colchester, Essex, CO1 1TG	
<b>Parish:</b> Colchester	<b>District:</b> Colchester
<b>NGR:</b> TL 99239 25283 (centre)	<b>Site code:</b> CAT project ref.: 2019/07c & 2019/10g CHER ref: ECC4358 OASIS ref: colchest3-360089
<b>Type of work:</b> Monitoring	<b>Site director/group:</b> Colchester Archaeological Trust
<b>Date of work:</b> July 2019 – February 2020	<b>Size of area investigated:</b> 0.15h
<b>Location of curating museum:</b> Colchester museum	<b>Funding source:</b> Owner
<b>Further seasons anticipated?</b> Not known	<b>Related CHER/SMR number:</b> Scheduled Monuments NHLE no. 1002187 (CHER MCC555) and 1003772 (CHER MCC859).
<b>Final report:</b> CAT Report 1455	
<b>Periods represented:</b> -	
<p><b>Summary of fieldwork results:</b> Archaeological monitoring was carried out during groundworks along Middleborough and Balkerne Hill, Colchester, Essex for external lighting to illuminate the Roman town wall and Balkerne Gate, both scheduled monuments (NHLE no. 1003772 &amp; 1002187). Groundworks largely occurred through modern and some post-medieval layers, showing that soil layers against this section of the Roman town wall are largely of modern date to a depth of c 0.6-0.7m below current ground level. The only significant archaeological remains were present 2m to the south of Balkerne Gate, where a small section of Roman gravel surface was uncovered. First identified during excavations in the 1970s, this surface is part of the via sagularis, the street around the inside of the defences of the Roman legionary fortress.</p>	
<b>Previous summaries/reports:</b> None	
<b>CBC monitor:</b> Jess Tipper	
<b>Keywords:</b> <i>via sagularis</i>	<b>Significance:</b> *
<b>Author of summary:</b> Laura Pooley	<b>Date of summary:</b> March 2020

# Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) for an archaeological investigation (Phase 1) on works along Balkerne Hill and Middleborough, Colchester, Essex, CO1 1TG

**NGR:** TL 99239 25283 (centre)  
**Parish:** Colchester

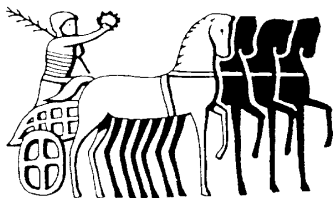
**Planning references:** n/a

**Commissioned by:** UK Power Networks

**Curating museum:** Colchester  
**CHER number:** [tbc](#)  
**CAT project code:** 2019/07c  
**OASIS project number:** colchest3-360089

**Site manager:** Chris Lister  
**CBC monitor:** Jess Tipper

**This WSI written:** 18.7.2019



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Roman Circus House,  
Roman Circus Walk,  
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*tel:* 01206 501785

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



## Site location and description

The proposed development site is located within Colchester town centre immediately outside the northwest corner of the Roman town wall, along the footpath of Middleborough and Balkerne Hill (Fig 1). The site is centred at National Grid Reference (NGR) TL 99239 25283.

## Proposed work

The development comprises groundworks by UK Power Networks along Middleborough and Balkerne Hill for external lighting to illuminate the Roman town wall.

## Archaeological background

The following archaeological background draws on the major published sources for Colchester archaeology and the Colchester Historic Environment Record, accessed via Colchester Heritage Explorer (<https://colchesterheritage.co.uk/map>).

The proposed development site is located immediately outside the northwest corner of the Roman town of *Colonia Claudia Victricensis* (CHER MCC9314), adjacent to the Roman town wall (scheduled monument, NHLE no. 1003772) and Balkerne Gate (scheduled monument, NHLE no. 1002187).

The Roman town wall (CHER MCC859) was built around the town in the later 1st century AD following the revolt led by Boudica. It is constructed of a core of layered septaria and mortar faced with coursed septaria and tile. A recent study has concluded that the wall has an average width of 2.67m (including offsets) which is equivalent to precisely nine Roman feet (*pedes Monetales*). A hypothetical cross-section of the wall shows the foundations as being 3.77m wide (Crummy 2003). Some previous work shows that the wall foundations were surprisingly shallow at 600mm deep (Hull 1958, 25-6). Work by CAT at the Sixth Form College in 2005 (adjacent to the development site) shows the stone foundations to be 1.2m deep with wooden piles below (CAT Report 347), although, being water-logged, ground conditions here presumably explain their exceptional depth. Trial-holes confirmed that survival of the foundations varies. Where they have not been robbed away, the foundations extend 2.1m from the existing face of the wall and are in a sound state of preservation. Above ground, the survival of the wall is very patchy as up to 2.4m width of wall has been lost and nothing of the original exterior facing of the wall survives, only the core.

Balkerne Gate (CHER MCC555) is the main west gate of the former Roman town of Colchester and is the best preserved Roman gateway in Britain. It was originally built as a free-standing monumental arch (probably in the AD 50s) before being incorporated into a gateway when the Roman town wall was built later in the 1st century (*CAR 3*).

The archaeology of Balkerne Hill (originally known as Balkerne Lane) was comprehensively excavated in the 1970s and reported on in *CAR 3* (Photograph 1) (CHER ECC332). These excavations were the result of a large-scale redevelopment of the road into a dual-carriageway (A134) which effectively removed the top of the hill to a depth of up to 6m over an area of about 1ha (*CAR 3*, 1). Roman discoveries during the excavations included the early legionary ditch and later defensive ditch, streets leading to the west gate, a number of workshops and buildings, a water-main / possible aqueduct, a Romano-Celtic temple and probable shrine; and a monumental arch later incorporated into Balkerne Gate (*CAR 3*, 93-154). At this time, ground level either side of the new carriageway was subject to continuous piling to form abutment walls through which the carriageway was excavated (Philip Crummy, pers comm). This means that the ground levels either side of the abutment wall are roughly the same as they were in the 1970s and significant archaeological remains are likely to be preserved underneath the current footpath and grassed areas immediately outside the town wall.



**Photograph 1** 1970s excavations along Balcerne Lane, looking southeast towards The Hole in the Wall pub.



**Photograph 2** 1970s excavation trench to the south of Balcerne Gate (Site C) showing Roman street metalling, looking east.

As part of the Balcerne Hill excavations, a small area (Site C) immediately to the south of Balcerne Gate was excavated to natural (CAR 3, Fig 103, sx 64) (Photograph 2). Within this area significant archaeological horizons, including street metalling, were encountered at depths of between 0.05-0.3m, although depths were measured below existing ground level at the time (ie in the 1970s) which will be different from ground levels today). Two test-pits excavated in the same general vicinity in 2016 (CAT Report 915, CHER ECC3714) revealed modern ground levels to a depth of 0.3m below current ground level (where excavation ceased), indicating that ground level had been raised since the 1970s excavation, probably as a result of the backfilling of the excavation trench dug at that time. If the current proposed works (see Requirement for Work below) are located within the area of this 1970s trench no significant archaeological horizons will be encountered. If it is located outside the area of the trench then significant archaeological horizons could potentially have survived.

### **Planning background**

As the site lies adjacent to two Scheduled Monuments and therefore in an area highlighted as having a high potential for archaeological deposits, an archaeological condition was recommended by the Colchester Borough Council Archaeological Advisor (CBCAA). The recommended archaeological condition is based on the guidance given in the *National Planning Policy Framework* (MHCLG 2019).

### **Requirement for work**

The required archaeological work is for an archaeological investigation of all groundworks. Details are given in a Project Brief written by CBCAA (CBC 2019).

Specifically, the investigation is being undertaken to identify and record any surviving archaeological deposits that may exist on site.

Phase 1 of groundworks consists of:

- 1) A joint hole immediately to the south of Balcerne Gate (Fig 1, location marked A), 1.5m long by 1m wide and 0.6m deep and a trench c 1m long.
- 2) A service trench running from Balcerne Hill to Middleborough (Fig 1, locations marked B & C), c 250m long, 0.4m wide and 0.5m deep. Joint holes at each end of the service trench will be 1.5m long by 0.4m wide and 0.6m deep. The trench will mainly be in the footway but some areas may dip into the grass area nearer to the wall.

If unexpected remains are encountered the CBCAA will be informed immediately and the CBCAA will decide if amendments to the brief are required to ensure adequate provision for archaeological recording.

In the exceptional circumstances that important, well-preserved remains are discovered, which cannot otherwise be avoided by the development (and satisfactorily preserved in situ), a contingency will be required for the block-lifting of these archaeological remains and for subsequent conservation and presentation. A decision about the need for conservation and lifting of important archaeological remains will be made in consultation with specialist stakeholders (e.g, Historic England, Colchester Museum and Norfolk Museums Service, Conservation and Design Services).

The method and form of development will also be monitored to ensure that it conforms to previously agreed locations and techniques upon which the brief and this wsi is based.

### **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, b)

- Standards and Frameworks published by East Anglian Archaeology (Gurney 2003, Medlycott 2011)
- relevant Health & Safety guidelines and requirements (CAT 2018)
- the Project Brief issued by the CBCAA (CBC 2019).

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.

At the start of work (immediately before fieldwork commences) an OASIS online record <http://ads.ahds.ac.uk/project/oasis/> will be initiated and key fields completed on Details, Location and Creators forms. At the end of the project all parts of the OASIS online form will be completed for submission to Essex Historic Environment Record (EHER). This will include an uploaded .PDF version of the entire report.

A unique HER event number will be obtained from the CBCAA prior to the commencement of fieldwork. The curating museum will be notified of the details of the project and the event code, which will be used to identify the project archive when depositing at the end of the project.

## **Staffing**

The number of field staff for this project is estimated as follows: One CAT officer for the duration of the groundworks.

## **Investigation methodology**

There will be sufficient on-site attendance by CAT staff to maintain a watch on all contractors' ground works to record, excavate or sample (as necessary) any archaeological features or deposits. The investigation will involve monitoring of all groundworks and inspection of upcast soil.

All topsoil removal and ground reduction will be done with a toothless bucket.

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

If any features or deposits uncovered are to be destroyed by the proposed development, time will be allowed for these features to be excavated by hand. This includes a 50% sample of discrete features (pits, etc), 10% of linear features (ditches, etc) and 100% of all complex features and burials (see Human Remains policy below).

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 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.

## **Site surveying**

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 and trenches 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 micromorphical and other pedological sedimentological analysis. Environmental bulk samples will be 40 litres in size (assuming the context is large enough).

Sampling strategies will address questions of:

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

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

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

### **Human remains**

CAT follows the policy of leaving human remains *in situ* unless there is a clear indication that the remains are in danger of being compromised as a result of their exposure or unless advised to do so by the project osteologist or CBCAA.

CBCAA will be notified immediately if any human remains are encountered during the investigation.

If circumstances indicated it were prudent or necessary to remove remains from the site during the monitoring, the following criteria would be applied; 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 Department of Justice for a licence to remove them and seek advice from the project osteologist. Human remains removed from site for analysis this may involve radiocarbon dating (see finds section).

Following HE guidance (HE 2018) if the human remains are not to be lifted, the project osteologist should be available to record the human remain *in situ* (i.e. a site visit). Conditions laid down by the DoJ license will be followed. If it seems that the remains are not ancient, then the coroner, the client, and the 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. Digital site photographs will be taken and archived as

per Historic England guidelines (HE 2015a)

## Finds

All significant finds will be retained.

All finds, where appropriate, will be washed and marked with site code and context number. CAT may use local volunteers to assist the CAT Finds Officer with this task.

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

small finds, metalwork, coins, etc: Laura Pooley

non-ceramic bulk finds: Laura Pooley

animal bones (small groups): Alec Wade / Adam Wightman

flints: Adam Wightman

or to outside specialists:

animal bones (large groups): Julie Curl (*Sylvanus*)

project osteologist (human remains): Julie Curl (*Sylvanus*)

environmental processing and reporting: Val Fryer / Lisa Gray

conservation of finds: staff at Norfolk Museums Service, Conservation and Design Services / Laura Ratcliffe (LR Conservation)

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

Roman brick/tile: Ernest Black / Ian Betts (MOLA)

Roman glass: Hilary Cool

Prehistoric pottery: Stephen Benfield / Paul Sealey / Nigel Brown

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

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

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

A contingency will be made in the budget for scientific assessment/analysis. This can include soil micromorphological assessment, absolute dating in the event that archaeomagnetic and/or (more probably) radiocarbon dating is required, if burning is encountered or human remains (in which case it might be necessary to lift a small sample for absolute dating). The Historic England Regional Science Advisor will be consulted for advice on this.

## 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* (HE 2015b).

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:

- Location plan of the groundworks in relation to the proposed development. At least two corners of the site will be given 10 figure grid references.
- Section/s drawings showing depth of deposits from present ground level with Ordnance Datum, vertical and horizontal scale.
- 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 and provision must be made for additional recording (e.g. photography, illustration and analysis) as appropriate.

The archive will be deposited with Colchester & Ipswich Museum or an alternate repository (approved by COLEM and CBCAA) within 3 months of the completion of the final publication report, with a summary of the contents of the archive supplied to CBCAA. Digital archives will be curated with the Archaeology Data Service, or similar accredited digital archive repository, that safeguard the long-term curation of digital records.

The CBCAA will be notified of the archiving timetable throughout the project and once deposition has occurred.

A digital / vector drawing of the site be given to the CBCAA for integration into the HER.

### **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**

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

Brown, D	2011	<i>Archaeological Archives: A guide to best practice in creation, compilation, transfer and curation</i> . 2nd edition.
CAT	2018	<i>Health &amp; Safety Policy</i>
CAT Report 347	2009	<i>Roman buildings, the rear face of the Roman town wall and archaeological investigations in Insulas 1a, 1b, 9a and 9b, at the Sixth Form College, North Hill, Colchester, Essex: April 2005-March</i>

		2006.
CAT Report 915	2016	<i>Archaeological test-pit evaluation at Balkerne Gate, Colchester, Essex, CO3 3AA: February 2016</i>
CBCAA	2019	<i>Brief for Archaeological Investigation at Works on Balkerne Hill to illuminate the Town Wall, Balkerne Hill, Colchester.</i> By J Tipper
CifA	2014a	<i>Standard and Guidance for an archaeological watching brief</i>
CifA	2014b	<i>Standard and guidance for the collection, documentation, conservation and research of archaeological materials</i>
Gurney, D	2003	<i>Standards for field archaeology in the East of England.</i> East Anglian Archaeology Occasional Papers 14 (EAA <b>14</b> ).
Historic England (HE)	2015a	<i>Digital Image capture and File Storage: Guidelines for best practice.</i> By S Cole & P Backhouse
Historic England (HE)	2015b	<i>Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment (MoRPHE)</i>
Historic England (HE)	2018	<i>The Role of the Human Osteologist in an Archaeological Fieldwork Project.</i> By S Mays, M Brickley and J Sidell
Hull, M R	1958	<i>Roman Colchester, RRCSAL, 20</i>
Medlycott, M	2011	<i>Research and archaeology revisited: A revised framework for the East of England.</i> East Anglian Archaeology Occasional Papers 24 (EAA <b>24</b> )
MHCLG	2019	<i>National Planning Policy Framework.</i> Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government.

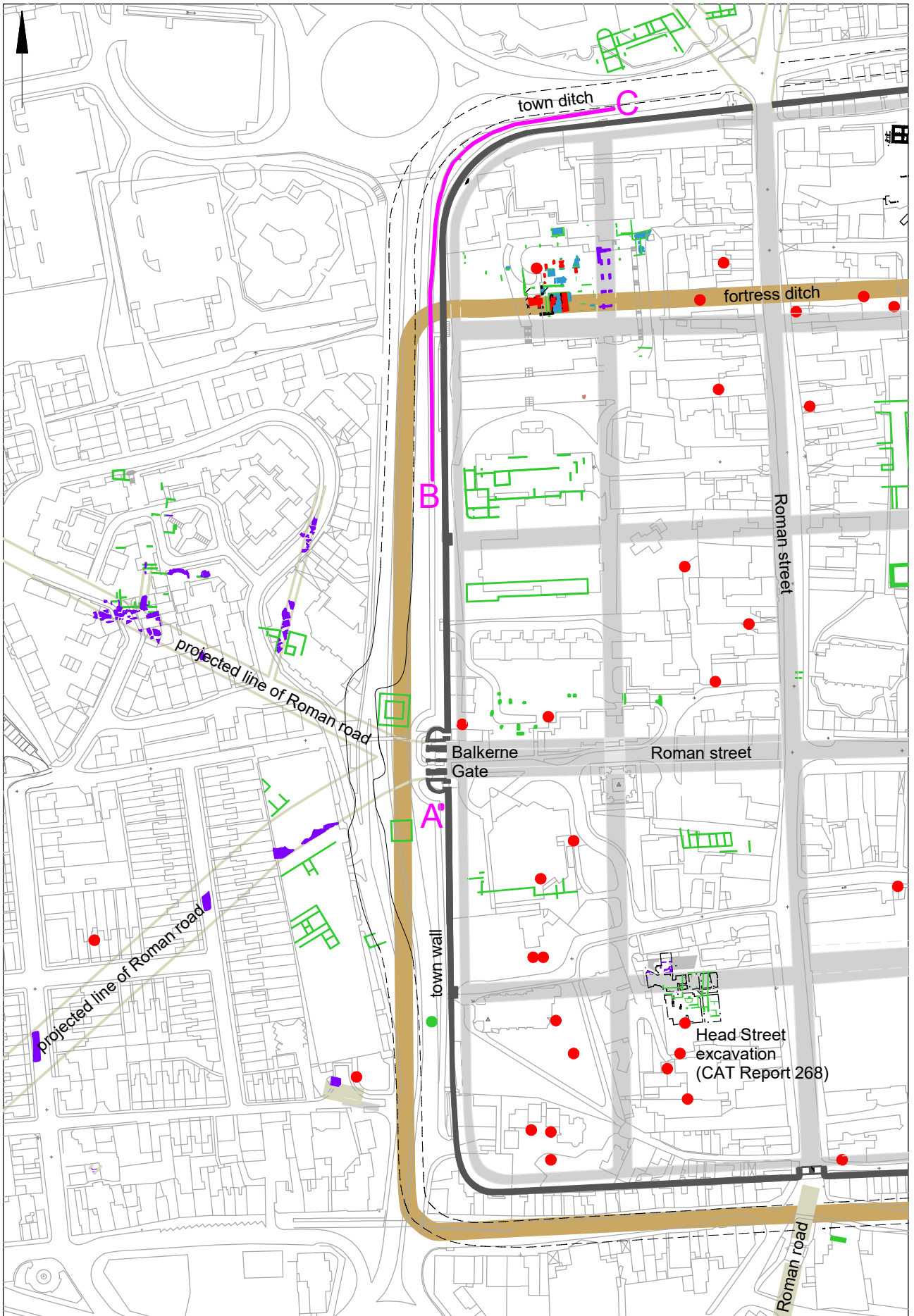
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Fig 1 Site location, showing surrounding archaeology.

0 100 m

- L = buildings
- = tessellated pavement
- = observed gravel
- = op sig surface
- = town drain

# **Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) for an archaeological investigation (Phase 2) on works along Balkerne Hill, Colchester, Essex, CO1 1TG.**

**NGR:** TL 99239 25152 (centre)

**District:** Colchester

**Planning references:** n/a

**Commissioned by:** Mark Wicks (Colchester Borough Homes Ltd)

**On behalf of:** Colchester Borough Homes Ltd

**Curating museum:** Colchester

**CHER number:** tbc

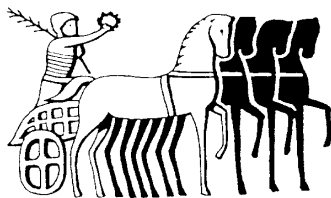
**CAT project code:** 2019/10g

**OASIS project number:** colchest3-360089

**Site manager:** Chris Lister

**CBC monitor:** Jess Tipper

**This WSI written:** 16/10/2019



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## Site location and description

The proposed development site is located within Colchester town centre on the eastern side of Balkerne Hill along the edge of the Roman wall (Fig 1). The site is centred at National Grid Reference (NGR) TL 99239 25152 (combined areas). The northern stretch is TL 99236 25346 and the southern stretch TL 99240 25060.

## Proposed work

The development comprises groundworks along Balkerne Hill for external lighting to illuminate the Roman town wall.

## Archaeological background

The following archaeological background draws on the major published sources for Colchester archaeology and the Colchester Historic Environment Record, accessed via Colchester Heritage Explorer (<https://colchesterheritage.co.uk/map>).

The proposed development site is located immediately outside the northwest corner of the Roman town of *Colonia Claudia Victricensis* (CHER MCC9314), adjacent to the Roman town wall (scheduled monument, NHLE no. 1003772) and Balkerne Gate (scheduled monument, NHLE no. 1002187).

The Roman town wall (CHER MCC859) was built around the town in the later 1st century AD following the revolt led by Boudica. It is constructed of a core of layered septaria and mortar faced with coursed septaria and tile. A recent study has concluded that the wall has an average width of 2.67m (including offsets) which is equivalent to precisely nine Roman feet (*pedes Monetales*). A hypothetical cross-section of the wall shows the foundations as being 3.77m wide (Crummy 2003). Some previous work shows that the wall foundations were surprisingly shallow at 600mm deep (Hull 1958, 25-6). Work by CAT at the Sixth Form College in 2005 (adjacent to the development site) shows the stone foundations to be 1.2m deep with wooden piles below (CAT Report 347), although, being water-logged, ground conditions here presumably explain their exceptional depth. Trial-holes confirmed that survival of the foundations varies. Where they have not been robbed away, the foundations extend 2.1m from the existing face of the wall and are in a sound state of preservation. Above ground, the survival of the wall is very patchy as up to 2.4m width of wall has been lost and nothing of the original exterior facing of the wall survives, only the core.

Balkerne Gate (CHER MCC555) is the main west gate of the former Roman town of Colchester and is the best preserved Roman gateway in Britain. It was originally built as a free-standing monumental arch (probably in the AD 50s) before being incorporated into a gateway when the Roman town wall was built later in the 1st century (CAR 3).

The archaeology of Balkerne Hill (originally known as Balkerne Lane) was comprehensively excavated in the 1970s and reported on in CAR 3 (Photograph 1) (CHER ECC332). These excavations were the result of a large-scale redevelopment of the road into a dual-carriageway (A134) which effectively removed the top of the hill to a depth of up to 6m over an area of about 1ha (CAR 3, 1). Roman discoveries during the excavations included the early legionary ditch and later defensive ditch, streets leading to the west gate, a number of workshops and buildings, a water-main / possible aqueduct, a Romano-Celtic temple and probable shrine; and a monumental arch later incorporated into Balkerne Gate (CAR 3, 93-154). At this time, ground level either side of the new carriageway was subject to continuous piling to form abutment walls through which the carriageway was excavated (Philip Crummy, pers comm). This means that the ground levels either side of the abutment wall are roughly the same as they were in the 1970s and significant archaeological remains are likely to be preserved underneath the current footpath and grassed areas immediately outside the town wall.



**Photograph 1** 1970s excavations along Balcerne Lane, looking southeast towards The Hole in the Wall pub.



**Photograph 2** 1970s excavation trench to the south of Balcerne Gate (Site C) showing Roman street metalling, looking east.

As part of the Balcerne Hill excavations, a small area (Site C) immediately to the south of Balcerne Gate was excavated to natural (CAR 3, Fig 103, sx 64) (Photograph 2). Within this area significant archaeological horizons, including street metalling, were encountered at depths of between 0.05-0.3m, although depths were measured below existing ground level at the time (ie in the 1970s) which will be different from ground levels today). Two test-pits excavated in the same general vicinity in 2016 (CAT Report 915, CHER ECC3714) revealed modern ground levels to a depth of 0.3m below current ground level (where excavation ceased), indicating that ground level had been raised since the 1970s excavation, probably as a result of the backfilling of the excavation trench dug at that time. If the current proposed works (see Requirement for Work below) are located within the area of this 1970s trench no significant archaeological horizons will be encountered. If it is located outside the area of the trench then significant archaeological horizons could potentially have survived.

During Phase 1 of the illumination work CAT monitored groundworks for UKPN. The groundworks consisted of a joint hole immediately to the south of Balcerne Gate and a service trench running from Balcerne Hill to Middleborough. A modern cobbled surface was recorded adjacent to the Roman wall along Middleborough. The groundworks did not penetrate below modern layers (CAT Report 1455).

### **Planning background**

As the site lies adjacent to two Scheduled Monuments and therefore in an area highlighted as having a high potential for archaeological deposits, an archaeological condition was recommended by the Colchester Borough Council Archaeological Advisor (CBCAA). The recommended archaeological condition is based on the guidance given in the *National Planning Policy Framework* (MHCLG 2019).

### **Requirement for work**

The required archaeological work is for an archaeological investigation of all groundworks. Details are given in a Project Brief written by CBCAA (CBC 2019).

Specifically, the investigation is being undertaken to identify and record any surviving archaeological deposits that may exist on site.

Phase 2 of groundworks consists of:

- 1) Excavation of ducting/cables from the UK Power Network cabinet to feeder pillars (c. 0.75m deep). Feeder pillars are to be recessed 0.4m and floor pits 0.67m.
- 2) Excavation of ducting/cables from the feeder pillars to lighting power supplies (c. 0.75m deep)
- 3) Excavation of ducting/cables from the lighting power supplies to the luminaries (c. 0.3m deep).

The area is divided into two sections. The northern stretch of the scheme covers an area 231m in length and includes the installation of 41 luminaries. The southern stretch covers an area 143m in length and includes the installation of 41 luminaries. Each luminary measures 0.23 x 0.23m and are to be located 0.75m west of the Roman wall.

See Appendix 1 for an archaeological impact assessment on the groundworks.

If unexpected remains are encountered the CBCAA will be informed immediately and the CBCAA will decide if amendments to the brief are required to ensure adequate provision for archaeological recording.

In the exceptional circumstances that important, well-preserved remains are discovered, which cannot otherwise be avoided by the development (and satisfactorily preserved in situ),

a contingency will be required for the block-lifting of these archaeological remains and for subsequent conservation and presentation. A decision about the need for conservation and lifting of important archaeological remains will be made in consultation with specialist stakeholders (e.g, Historic England, Colchester Museum and Norfolk Museums Service, Conservation and Design Services).

The method and form of development will also be monitored to ensure that it conforms to previously agreed locations and techniques upon which the brief and this wsi is based.

## **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, b)
- Standards and Frameworks published by East Anglian Archaeology (Gurney 2003, Medlycott 2011)
- relevant Health & Safety guidelines and requirements (CAT 2018)
- the Project Brief issued by the CBCAA (CBC 2019).

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.

At the start of work (immediately before fieldwork commences) an OASIS online record <http://ads.ahds.ac.uk/project/oasis/> will be initiated and key fields completed on Details, Location and Creators forms. At the end of the project all parts of the OASIS online form will be completed for submission to Essex Historic Environment Record (EHER). This will include an uploaded .PDF version of the entire report.

A unique HER event number will be obtained from the CBCAA prior to the commencement of fieldwork. The curating museum will be notified of the details of the project and the event code, which will be used to identify the project archive when depositing at the end of the project.

## **Staffing**

The number of field staff for this project is estimated as follows: One CAT officer for the duration of the groundworks.

## **Investigation methodology**

There will be sufficient on-site attendance by CAT staff to maintain a watch on all contractors' ground works to record, excavate or sample (as necessary) any archaeological features or deposits. The investigation will involve monitoring of all groundworks and inspection of upcast soil.

All topsoil removal and ground reduction will be done with a toothless bucket under the supervision and to the satisfaction of a professional archaeologist. If no archaeologically significant deposits are exposed, machine excavation will continue until natural subsoil is reached.

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

If any features or deposits uncovered are to be destroyed by the proposed development, time will be allowed for these features to be excavated by hand. This includes a 50% sample of discrete features (pits, etc), 10% of linear features (ditches, etc) and 100% of all complex features and burials (see Human Remains policy below).

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 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.

### **Site surveying**

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 and trenches 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 micromorphical and other pedological sedimentological analysis. Environmental bulk samples will be 40 litres in size (assuming the context is large enough).

Sampling strategies will address questions of:

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

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

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

### **Human remains**

CAT follows the policy of leaving human remains *in situ* unless there is a clear indication that the remains are in danger of being compromised as a result of their exposure or unless advised to do so by the project osteologist or CBCAA.

CBCAA will be notified immediately if any human remains are encountered during the investigation.

If circumstances indicated it were prudent or necessary to remove remains from the site during the monitoring, the following criteria would be applied; 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 Department of Justice for a licence to remove them and seek advice from the project osteologist. Human remains removed from site for analysis this may involve radiocarbon dating (see finds section).

Following HE guidance (HE 2018) if the human remains are not to be lifted, the project osteologist should be available to record the human remain *in situ* (i.e. a site visit). Conditions laid down by the DoJ license will be followed. If it seems that the remains are not ancient, then the coroner, the client, and the 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. Digital site photographs will be taken and archived as per Historic England guidelines (HE 2015a)

## Finds

All significant finds will be retained.

All finds, where appropriate, will be washed and marked with site code and context number. CAT may use local volunteers to assist the CAT Finds Officer with this task.

Most of our finds reports are written internally by CAT Staff under the supervision and direction of Philip Crummy (Director) and Howard Brooks (Deputy Director). This includes specialist subjects such as:

ceramic finds (pottery and ceramic building material): Matthew Loughton

animal bones: Alec Wade (or Adam Wightman, small groups only)

small finds, metalwork, coins, etc: Laura Pooley

non-ceramic bulk finds: Laura Pooley

flints: Adam Wightman

environmental processing: Robin Mathieson/Bronagh Quinn

project osteologist (human remains): Meghan Seehra

or to outside specialists:

animal and human bone: Julie Curl (*Sylvanus*)

environmental assessment and analysis: Val Fryer / Lisa Gray

radiocarbon dating: SUERC Radiocarbon Dating Laboratory, Glasgow

conservation/x-ray: Laura Ratcliffe (LR Conservation) / Norfolk Museums Service, Conservation and Design Services

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

flint: Hazel Martingell

prehistoric pottery: Stephen Benfield / Nigel Brown / Paul Sealey

Roman pottery: Stephen Benfield / Paul Sealey / Jo Mills / Val Rigby / Gwladys Monteil

Roman brick/tile: Ernest Black / Ian Betts (MOLA)

Roman glass: Hilary Cool

small finds: Nina Crummy

other: EH Regional Adviser in Archaeological Science (East of England).

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

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

A contingency will be made in the budget for scientific assessment/analysis. This can include



soil micromorphological assessment, absolute dating in the event that archaeomagnetic and/or (more probably) radiocarbon dating is required, if burning is encountered or human remains (in which case it might be necessary to lift a small sample for absolute dating). The Historic England Regional Science Advisor will be consulted for advice on this.

## 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* (HE 2015b).

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:

- Location plan of the groundworks in relation to the proposed development. At least two corners of the site will be given 10 figure grid references.
- Section/s drawings showing depth of deposits from present ground level with Ordnance Datum, vertical and horizontal scale.
- 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 and provision must be made for additional recording (e.g. photography, illustration and analysis) as appropriate.

The archive will be deposited with Colchester & Ipswich Museum or an alternate repository (approved by COLEM and CBCAA) within 3 months of the completion of the final publication report, with a summary of the contents of the archive supplied to CBCAA. Digital archives will be curated with the Archaeology Data Service, or similar accredited digital archive repository, that safeguard the long-term curation of digital records. Prior to deposition CAT's data management plan (based on the official guidelines from the Digital Curation Centre [DCC 2013]) will ensure the integrity of the digital archive.

The CBCAA will be notified of the archiving timetable throughout the project and once deposition has occurred.

A digital / vector drawing of the site be given to the CBCAA for integration into the HER.

## 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

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

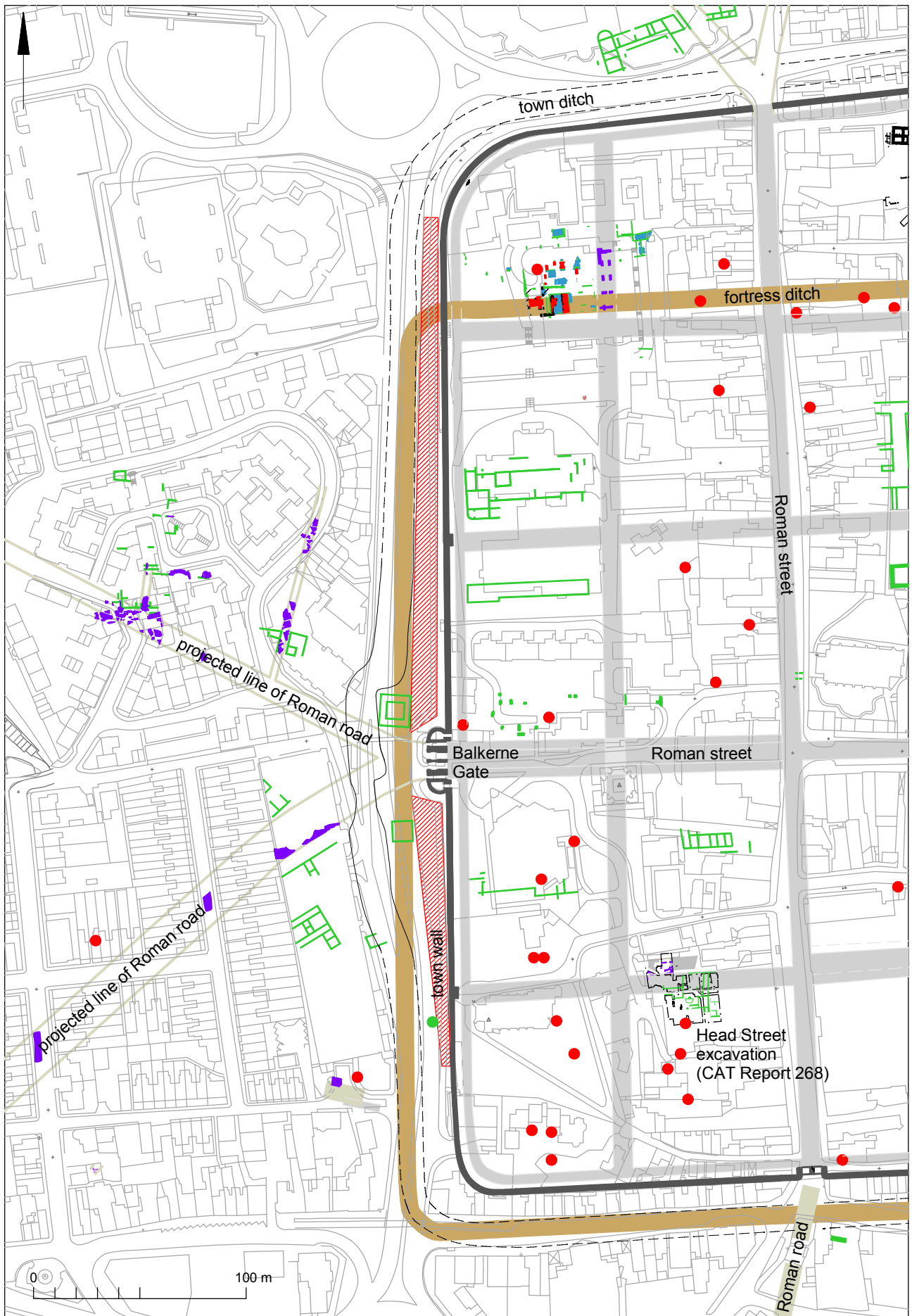
Brown, D	2011	<i>Archaeological Archives: A guide to best practice in creation, compilation, transfer and curation.</i> 2nd edition.
CAR 3	1984	<i>Colchester Archaeological Report 3: Excavations at Lion Walk, Balkerne Lane, and Middleborough, Colchester, Essex.</i> By P Crummy
CAT	2018	<i>Health &amp; Safety Policy</i>
CAT Report 347	2009	<i>Roman buildings, the rear face of the Roman town wall and archaeological investigations in Insulas 1a, 1b, 9a and 9b, at the Sixth Form College, North Hill, Colchester, Essex: April 2005-March 2006.</i>
CAT Report 915	2016	<i>Archaeological test-pit evaluation at Balkerne Gate, Colchester, Essex, CO3 3AA: February 2016</i>
CAT Report 1455	forthcoming	<i>Archaeological investigation on works along Balkerne Hill and Middleborough, Colchester, Essex, CO1 1TG.</i> By E Hicks
CBCAA	2019	<i>Brief for Archaeological Investigation at Works on Balkerne Hill to illuminate the Town Wall, Balkerne Hill, Colchester.</i> By J Tipper
CIfA	2014a	<i>Standard and Guidance for an archaeological watching brief</i>
CIfA	2014b	<i>Standard and guidance for the collection, documentation, conservation and research of archaeological materials</i>
Crummy, P	2003	'Colchester's town wall' in <i>The archaeology of Roman towns: studies in honour of John S Wachter</i> , ed by P Wilson
Gurney, D	2003	<i>Standards for field archaeology in the East of England.</i> East Anglian Archaeology Occasional Papers 14 (EAA 14).
Historic England (HE)	2015a	<i>Digital Image capture and File Storage: Guidelines for best practice.</i> By S Cole & P Backhouse
Historic England (HE)	2015b	<i>Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment (MoRPHE)</i>
Historic England (HE)	2018	<i>The Role of the Human Osteologist in an Archaeological Fieldwork Project.</i> By S Mays, M Brickley and J Sidell
Hull, M R	1958	<i>Roman Colchester, RRCSAL, 20</i>
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)
MHCLG	2019	<i>National Planning Policy Framework.</i> Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government.

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Fig 1 Area to be monitored (shown red), showing surrounding archaeology.

-  = buildings
-  = tessellated pavement
-  = observed gravel
-  = op sig surface
-  = town drain

# Appendix 1: HERITAGE IMPACT ASSESSMENT

By Dr Pip Parmenter

## Introduction

This is a Heritage Statement and Impact Assessment (HSIA) for the immediate area of the Roman Town Wall along Balkerne Hill in advance of the proposed installation of lighting. The proposed development comprises the installation of 74 luminaries along the route of and 0.75m from the Roman Town Wall and associated groundworks comprising trenching for the cable/ducting runs (667m – 423m of which will be 0.75m deep, 244m of which will be 0.3m deep), two service termination cabinets (0.8m x 0.45m and 0.4m deep), six feeder pillars (0.6m x 0.45m and 0.4m deep) and six luminaire power supply units (0.5m x 0.2m, 0.3m deep) (Appendices 1A & 1B). This short report was commissioned by David Greene on behalf of UK Power Networks and was researched and written by Dr Pip Parmenter in October 2019. This report follows the standards set out in the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists' Standard and guidance for historic environment desk-based assessment (CIfA 2017).

It should be noted that the survival of archaeological remains is difficult to predict. This assessment is based on the available evidence. However, without further below-ground investigation of the site, there can be no absolute certainty as the presence/absence, form, date or condition of any archaeological remains discussed here.

## Aim and Content

This Heritage Statement and Impact Assessment includes a brief summary of the archaeological background of Balkerne Hill before considering the potential impact that the proposed development will have on below-ground archaeological remains. It also considers the visual impact of the lighting on the Town Wall.

The primary sources for the HSIA are:

- The Colchester Historic Environment Record (CHER) - which is the primary source for a survey of this type, listing all recorded find-spots of archaeological material in Colchester, whether excavated sites or loose finds and is accessed via Colchester Heritage Explorer (<https://colchesterheritage.co.uk>)
- The Historic England database – which provides detailed descriptions of heritage assets
- Other major published sources.

## Archaeological Context

The proposed development spans the length of the western Roman Town Wall (scheduled monument, NHLE no. 1003772) and incorporates the Balkerne Gate (scheduled monument, NHLE no. 1002187).

The Balkerne Gate was originally built as a stand-alone monumental arch on the western limits of the town sometime after the Boudiccan revolt (probably around c 50AD). When the wall was built (120-150AD) it was taken up to the arch which was then rebuilt as the Balkerne Gate facing the London road. Originally it would have been c 107ft in length with two central carriageways 17ft wide flanked by two footways 6ft wide, together with guard houses. It still stands to c 15ft and has two complete arches. It appears that during the Roman period, the northern half of the gateway was destroyed, apparently by fire. It was rebuilt but its size was reduced and before the end of the 3rd century a ditch had been dug across the entranceway and it ceased to function as an entrance to the town.

The Roman town wall (CHER MCC859) was built around the town c 120 – 150 AD. A rampart was constructed slightly later, c 150 – 175 AD. It appears to be of uniform construction, was built of predominantly local materials including a core of layered septaria and mortar faced with coursed septaria and tile. The lowest course of bricks extends right through the wall and is an average width of 8ft. It is strengthened by a series of internal rectangular towers, each 17.6ft long projecting 6ft. A recent study has concluded that the wall has an average width of 2.67m (including offsets) which is equivalent to precisely nine Roman feet (*pedes Monetales*). Near the Balkerne Gate are remains of an internal earthen rampart c.20ft in width. Where they have not been robbed away, the foundations extend 2.1m from the existing face of the wall and

are in a sound state of preservation. Above ground, the survival of the wall is very patchy as up to 2.4m width of wall has been lost and nothing of the original exterior facing of the wall survives, only the core.

During the 1970s the road over Balkerne Hill was redeveloped to make it a dual-carriageway and as a result the whole area was comprehensively excavated over an area of roughly 1ha, and up to 6m deep and are reported on and in *CAR 3* (CHER ECC332). These excavations effectively removed the top of the hill and, unsurprisingly Roman discoveries were many and various, including the early legionary ditch and later defensive ditch, streets leading to the west gate, a number of workshops and buildings, a water-main/possible aqueduct, a Romano-Celtic temple and probable shrine; and a monumental arch later incorporated into Balkerne Gate (*CAR 3*, 93-154).

As part of the Balkerne Hill excavations, a small area (Site C) immediately to the south of Balkerne Gate was excavated to natural (*CAR 3*, Fig 103, sx 64). Within this area significant archaeological horizons, including street metalling, were encountered at depths of between 0.05-0.3m, although depths were measured below existing ground level at the time (ie. in the 1970s) which will be different from ground levels today). Two test-pits excavated in the same general vicinity in 2016 (CAT Report 915, CHER ECC3714) revealed modern ground levels to a depth of 0.3m below current ground level (where excavation ceased). The watching brief for the initial phase of work from which this proposed development continues (See Appendix 1C) revealed only modern layers to a depth of 0.6m.

### **Statement of archaeological impact**

The proposed development runs along the western edge of the Roman Town Wall and as such is in an area of high archaeological significance. Over the last fifty years, much of Balkerne Hill has been subject to extensive development including the duelling of Balkerne Lane during the 1970s (*CAR 3*, 93 - 154). During these works, the Town Wall was protected by shuttering. The ground level either side of the new carriageway was subject to continuous piling to form abutment walls through which the carriageway was excavated (Philip Crummy, pers comm). Excavations since the 1970s, including for the first phase work from which the proposed development follows on, have not revealed further significant archaeology and have revealed modern deposits to depths of up to 0.6m in some areas. It is thought that this may be the result of the ground level having been raised by the banking up of material from the original excavations. Prior to these developments, old photos show us that there was housing, now demolished, right up to the Town Wall in the southern part of Balkerne Lane. These modern developments will undoubtedly have caused significant levels of disturbance to the below ground deposits along Balkerne Hill.

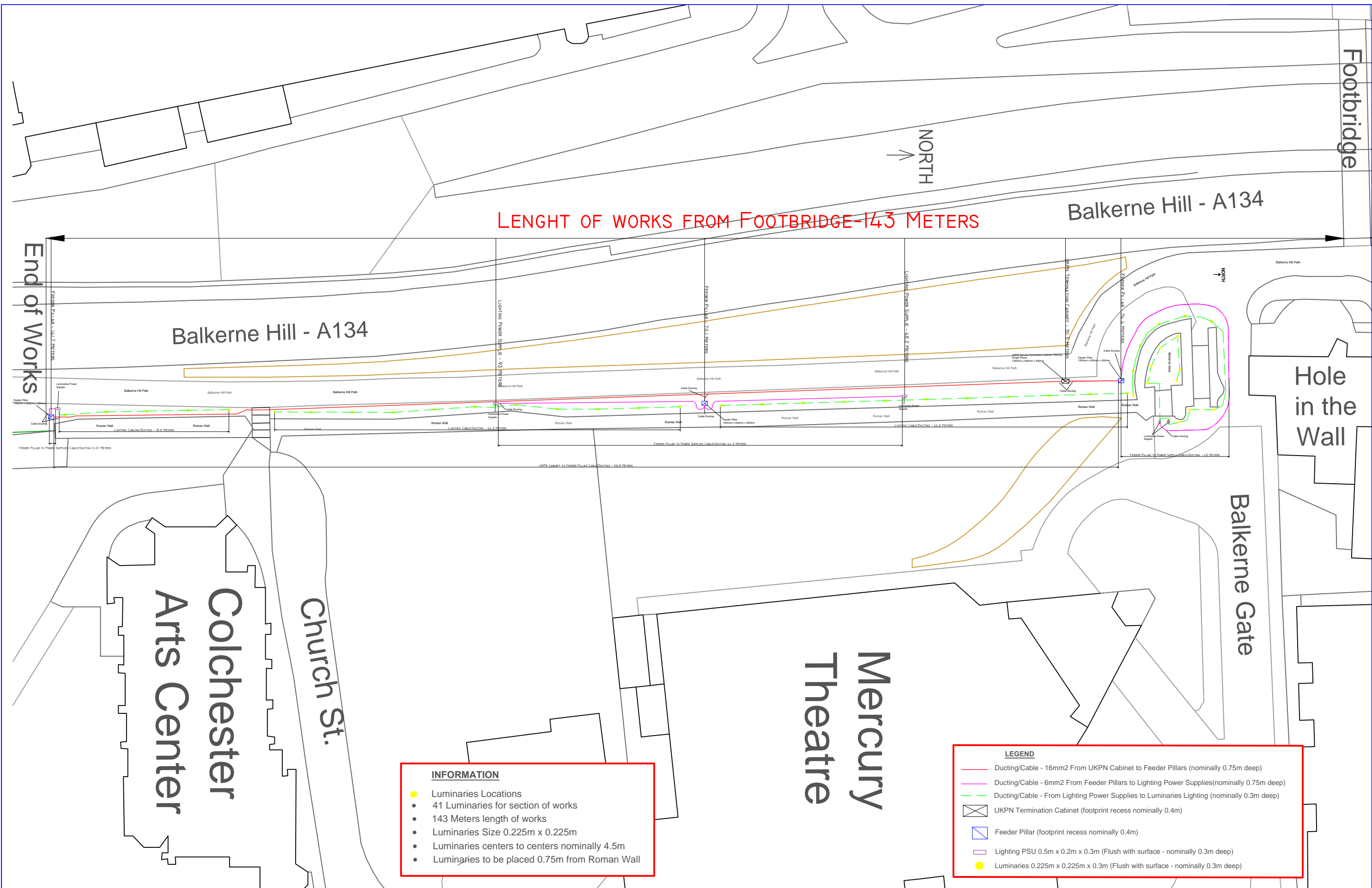
Despite this, it must be acknowledged that groundworks have the potential to reveal significant and important archaeological remains, particularly if carried out in areas along the Town Wall that have been hitherto unaffected by modern disturbance. It is known that where archaeological remains are still intact below the ground they are shallow and may include the wall foundations and Roman road surface as well as associated material (Philip Crummy, pers comm.).

### **Statement of visual impact**

It is the aim of the proposed development to enhance the visual impact of the Town Wall by lighting it. While it is inevitable that the placement of luminaries 0.75m in front of the wall will have some negative impact on how the wall is seen from the road and the footpath. It is thought that this will be outweighed by the positive enhancement that the Town Wall will gain from being well lit.

### **Conclusions**

The groundworks will be taking place in a archaeologically sensitive area and should be monitored accordingly as it is possible that they will incorporate areas that have not been previously disturbed. Archaeological investigations in the same general area have not found remains of any significance since the large-scale excavations of the Balkerne Gate and surrounding areas in the 1970s.



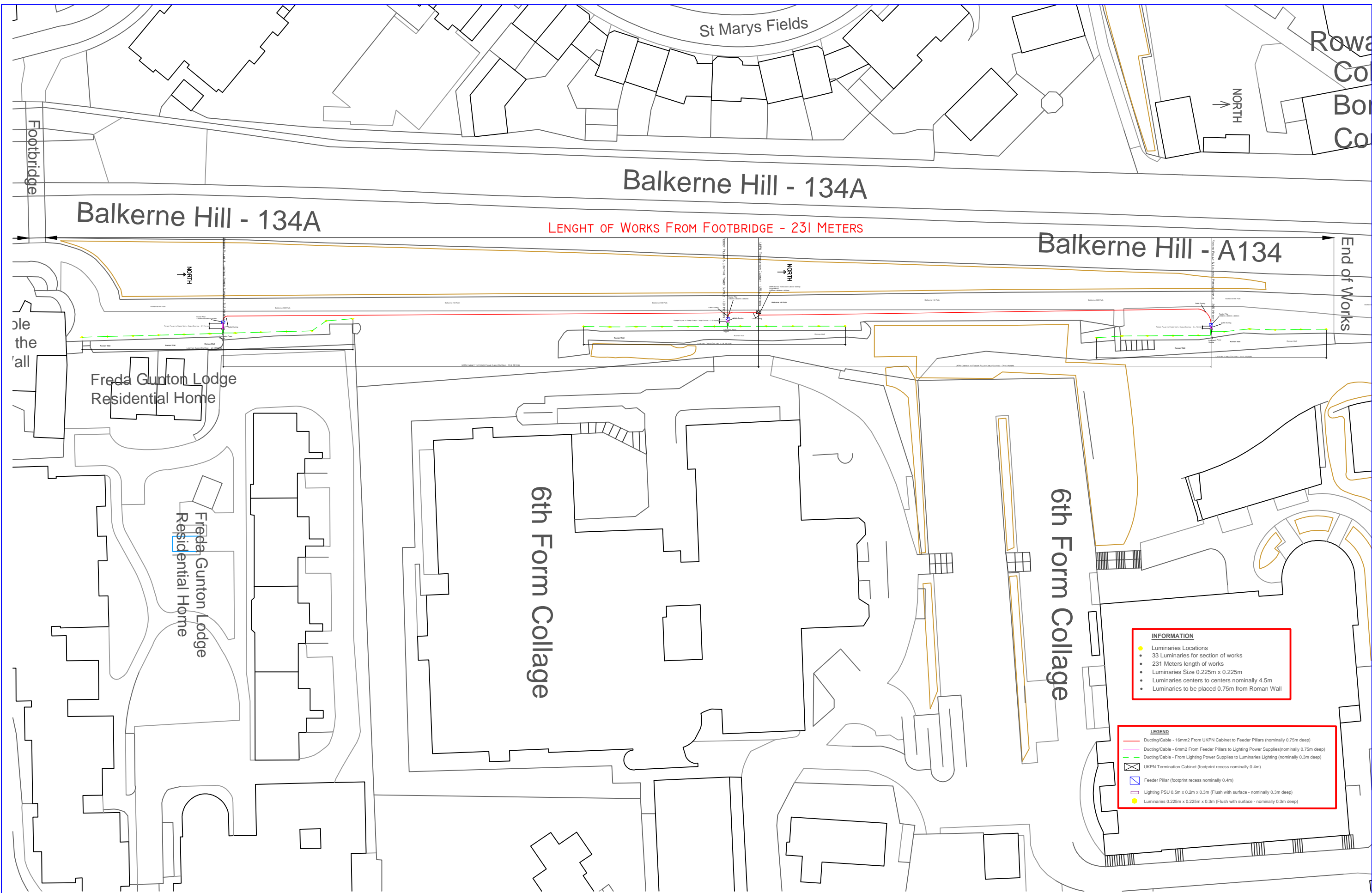
LENGHT OF WORKS FROM FOOTBRIDGE-143 METERS

**INFORMATION**

- Luminaries Locations
- 41 Luminaries for section of works
- 143 Meters length of works
- Luminaries Size 0.225m x 0.225m
- Luminaries centers to centers nominally 4.5m
- Luminaries to be placed 0.75m from Roman Wall

**LEGEND**

- Ducting/Cable - 16mm<sup>2</sup> From UKPN Cabinet to Feeder Pillars (nominally 0.75m deep)
- Ducting/Cable - 6mm<sup>2</sup> From Feeder Pillars to Lighting Power Supplies (nominally 0.75m deep)
- Ducting/Cable - From Lighting Power Supplies to Luminaries Lighting (nominally 0.3m deep)
- ⊠ UKPN Termination Cabinet (footprint recess nominally 0.4m)
- ⊠ Feeder Pillar (footprint recess nominally 0.4m)
- Lighting PSU 0.5m x 0.2m x 0.3m (Flush with surface - nominally 0.3m deep)
- Luminaries 0.225m x 0.225m x 0.3m (Flush with surface - nominally 0.3m deep)




LENGHT OF WORKS FROM FOOTBRIDGE - 231 METERS

- INFORMATION**
- Luminaries Locations
  - 33 Luminaries for section of works
  - 231 Meters length of works
  - Luminaries Size 0.225m x 0.225m
  - Luminaries centers to centers nominally 4.5m
  - Luminaries to be placed 0.75m from Roman Wall

- LEGEND**
- Ducting/Cable - 16mm<sup>2</sup> From UKPN Cabinet to Feeder Pillars (nominally 0.75m deep)
  - Ducting/Cable - 6mm<sup>2</sup> From Feeder Pillars to Lighting Power Supplies (nominally 0.75m deep)
  - Ducting/Cable - From Lighting Power Supplies to Luminaries Lighting (nominally 0.3m deep)
  - ⊠ UKPN Termination Cabinet (footprint recess nominally 0.4m)
  - ⊠ Feeder Pillar (footprint recess nominally 0.4m)
  - Lighting PSU 0.5m x 0.2m x 0.3m (Flush with surface - nominally 0.3m deep)
  - Luminaries 0.225m x 0.225m x 0.3m (Flush with surface - nominally 0.3m deep)

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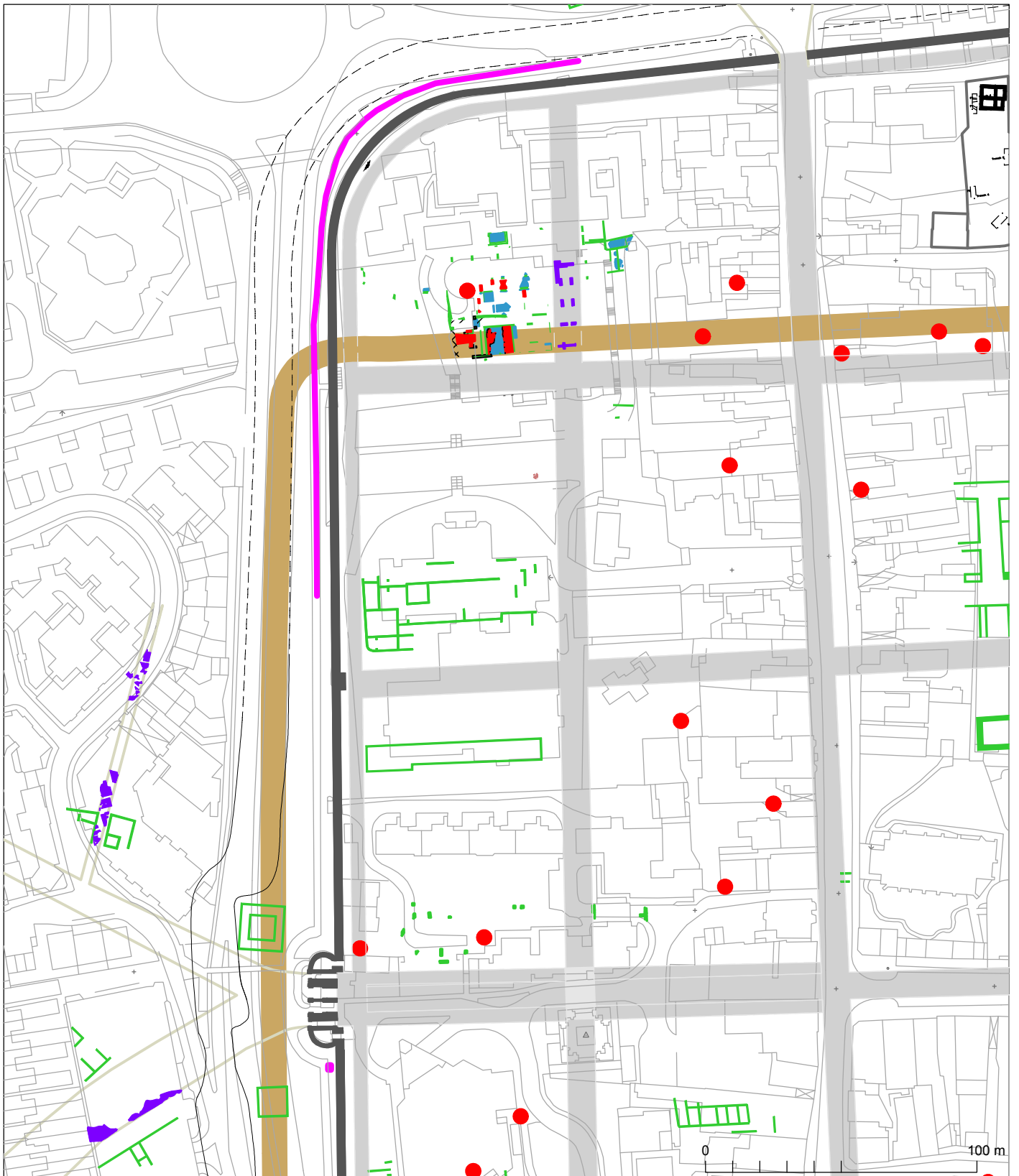
Client  
  
**Colchester Borough Council**

Project  
 Heritage Highlighted






Title  
 Section 50 Site Works/Location Plan  
 North Balcerne Hill Roman Wall Architectural Lighting

Original Size: A1	Scale: 1:100	Drawn: DG	Checked: --	Authorised: --
DO NOT SCALE		Date: 02/19	Date: mm/yy	Date: mm/yy
Project No. CBH377149	Drawing No. 12		Rev. #	





Appendix 1C - Area monitored during Phase 1 (pink), showing surrounding archaeology.

-  = buildings
-  = tessellated pavement
-  = observed gravel
-  = op sig surface
-  = town drain

# OASIS DATA COLLECTION FORM: England

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**OASIS ID: colchest3-360089**

## Project details

Project name	Archaeological investigations (Phase 1 and 2) on works along Balkerne Hill and Middleborough, Colchester, Essex, CO1 1TG
Short description of the project	Archaeological monitoring was carried out during groundworks along Middleborough and Balkerne Hill, Colchester, Essex for external lighting to illuminate the Roman town wall and Balkerne Gate, both scheduled monuments (NHLE no. 1003772 and 1002187). Groundworks largely occurred through modern and some post-medieval layers, showing that soil layers against this section of the Roman town wall are largely of modern date to a depth of c 0.6-0.7m below current ground level. The only significant archaeological remains were present 2m to the south of Balkerne Gate, where a small section of Roman gravel surface was uncovered. First identified during excavations in the 1970s, this surface is part of the via sagularis, the street around the inside of the defences of the Roman legionary fortress.
Project dates	Start: 22-07-2019 End: 18-02-2020
Previous/future work	Yes / Not known
Any associated project reference codes	2019/07c - Contracting Unit No.
Any associated project reference codes	2019/10g - Contracting Unit No.
Any associated project reference codes	ECC4358 - HER event no.
Type of project	Recording project
Site status	Scheduled Monument (SM)
Current Land use	Other 8 - Land dedicated to the display of a monument
Monument type	STREET Roman
Significant Finds	POTTERY Roman
Investigation type	"Watching Brief"
Prompt	Scheduled Monument Consent

## Project location

Country	England
Site location	ESSEX COLCHESTER COLCHESTER Land adjacent to Balkerne Hill and Middleborough
Postcode	CO1 1TG
Study area	0.15 Hectares
Site coordinates	TL 99239 25283 51.889912280254 0.8957023472 51 53 23 N 000 53 44 E Point

## 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	Emma Holloway
Type of sponsor/funding body	Borough Council

## Project archives

Physical Archive Exists?	No
Digital Archive recipient	Colchester Museum
Digital Archive ID	ECC4358
Digital Contents	"other"
Digital Media available	"Survey", "Text", "Images raster / digital photography"
Paper Archive recipient	Colchester Museum

Paper Archive ID ECC4358  
Paper Contents "other"  
Paper Media available "Photograph","Plan","Report","Section"

### Project bibliography 1

Publication type Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)  
Title Archaeological investigation (Phases 1 and 2) on works along Middleborough and Balkerne Hill, Colchester, Essex, CO1 1TG: July 2019 - February 2020  
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