

Archaeological monitoring on land at Fiveways Fruit Farm, Dyers Road, Stanway, Essex

September 2018 – July 2021



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1 Summary

Archaeological monitoring was undertaken on land at Fiveways Fruit Farm, Dyers Road, Stanway, Colchester, Essex from September 2018 to July 2021 prior to the development of the site for mineral extraction. The site lies in an area of high archaeological significance some 500m northwest of the Gosbecks complex, the focus of the Iron Age oppidum of Camulodunum and later site of several major Roman public and other buildings including a Romano-Celtic and a theatre. Approximately 400m to the south was a series of five enclosures, consisting of an Iron Age farmstead and four Late Iron Age high-status funerary enclosures. In 2015, excavations immediately to the south of the site uncovered the remains of two interlinked Middle Iron Age farmsteads as well as evidence of limited Neolithic, Bronze Age, and Early Iron Age occupation.

Further Middle Iron Age remains were found during the present investigation, including a ditch which linked the two farmsteads uncovered during the 2015 excavations around which were a number of pits and tree-throws containing pottery, loomweight fragments and heat-affected stone and possibly indicates the presence of a further enclosure in the vicinity. Evidence of Roman occupation was also encountered within this part of the site. An isolated Late Bronze Age pit and worked flints of Mesolithic, Neolithic and Bronze Age date evidenced a presence at the site during these earlier periods too. There were no features dating to the medieval or post-medieval periods and only a limited quantity of modern remains, which were most likely the product of agricultural or horticultural activity.

2 Introduction (Fig 1)

This is the report on monitoring carried out on land at Fiveways Fruit Farm, Dyers Road, Stanway, Colchester, Essex, in advance of the development of the site for mineral extraction. The archaeological work was commissioned by Tarmac, and carried out by Colchester Archaeological Trust (CAT) in four phases, from 11th September to 15th October 2018, 15th-26th April 2019, 1st July to 9th August 2019 and 5th-30th July 2021.

The requirement for archaeological work was prompted by an extension of Stanway Quarry. In response to consultation with Essex County Council Place Services (ECCPS) Historic Environment Advisor Adrian Gascoyne advised that in order to establish the archaeological implications of the proposed expansion, the applicant should be required to commission a scheme of archaeological investigation in accordance with the National Planning Policy Framework (DCLG 2012 & MCHLG 2019).

All archaeological work was carried out in accordance with a *Brief for Archaeological Excavation and Detailed Monitoring and Recording*, detailing the required archaeological work, written by Adrian Gascoyne (ECC 2015), and a written scheme of investigation (WSI) prepared by CAT in response to the brief and agreed with CBCPS (CAT 2015).

In addition to the brief and WSI, all fieldwork and reporting was done in accordance with *Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment (MoRPHE)* (Historic England 2016), 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

The following archaeological background draws on the Essex Historic Environment Record (EHER) held at Essex County Council, County Hall, Chelmsford:

The EHER shows that the proposed development lies in an area of known archaeological potential. The site lies close to Gosbecks, the centre of the Iron Age *oppidum* of Camulodunum. The focus of the Gosbecks site was an enclosed farmstead connected to the corresponding

field systems by a network of droveways, and protected by a series of earthwork fortifications or dykes. The outermost of these defensive earthworks, Grymes Dyke (EHER 11637) is located close to the east boundary of the proposed quarry extension. The Gosbecks site is thought to contain a funerary enclosure, and after the Roman invasion saw the construction of a Romano-Celtic temple complex (EHER 11649), along with other large public buildings including a theatre (EHER 11646, 11647). Both the Gosbecks site and Grymes Dyke are designated scheduled ancient monuments. Some 500m to the south of the extension area excavation work in advance of sand and gravel extraction recorded a series of five enclosures (EHER 12552) consisting of an Iron Age farmstead and four Late Iron Age funerary enclosures of high-status individuals (Crummy *et al* 2007).

Prior to a planning proposal for a further expansion of the aggregate quarry on the site, a geophysics survey by was carried out by Northamptonshire Archaeology (Fisher & Walford 2008). This was followed by a 5% trial trenching evaluation conducted by Colchester Archaeological Trust comprising of 99 trenches totalling 2,960m in length. The majority of the excavated features were post-medieval and modern ditches, and natural features. Significant archaeological features were concentrated on the southern edge of the eastern part of the evaluation area as defined. There were two principal phases of occupation, Middle Iron Age and Roman. There was evidence of a Middle Iron Age occupation, possibly connected with a possible curvilinear enclosure detected during an earlier geophysical survey, and this included significant quantities of pottery, and loom-weight fragments indicating cloth-weaving. A number of ditches cut in the Roman period, probably in the 2nd century AD, may have defined a rectilinear enclosure. Small fragments of ditches were thought to have represented parts of a contemporary field system (CAT Report 493). A subsequent excavation carried out by CAT in 2015 revealed extensive Middle Iron Age occupation, comprising of two interlinked enclosed farmsteads and an associated field system with stock control enclosures. There was also evidence of Neolithic, Bronze Age and Early Iron Age occupation in the form of flints and pottery sherds present in tree-throws and pits. Field boundary ditches, pits and tree-throws which were the product of medieval, post-medieval and modern agricultural activity were also found (CAT Report 1070).

4 Aim

The main aim of the archaeological monitoring was to excavate and record any archaeological remains likely to be destroyed by the mineral extraction.

5 Results (Figs 2-8)

Feature numbers used during the current investigation follow on from those assigned during the first phase of monitoring and excavation carried out at Fiveways Fruit Farm by CAT in 2015 (CAT Report 1070). A new sequence of finds numbers was adopted for this investigation, commencing at no. 1000.

An area measuring 7.04 ha was stripped under the supervision of a CAT archaeologist. The area was reduced through modern topsoil (L1, c 0.15-0.17m) and subsoil (L2, c 0.15-0.18m thick) onto natural (L3, encountered at a depth of 0.31-0.33m below current ground level).

Mesolithic/Neolithic/Bronze Age

Pit F1036 was located within the eastern half of the monitored area. It had steeply-sloping sides and a flat base and was 0.61m wide and 0.25m deep. The feature produced an assemblage of fifteen sherds of Late Bronze Age pottery as well as a flint backed knife blade of Neolithic or Bronze Age date which was likely residual. A residual flint flake of Neolithic or Bronze Age date was also recovered from Middle Iron Age ditch F1039 and another residual flint flake of Mesolithic date was retrieved from Middle Iron Age pit F1046.



Photograph 1 F1036 – looking north-east

Middle Iron Age

A number of features of Middle Iron Age date were concentrated within the easternmost part of the monitored area. A ditch previously recorded during the 2015 excavation at Fiveways Fruit Farm passed through the area on a north-east/south-west alignment. An earlier ditch, F1051, was recut to the north (F1039) and the south (F1050). The ditch's profile varied between a V- and a U-shape and was 1.4-2.34m wide and 0.21-0.69m deep. F1039 yielded a substantial assemblage of pottery which was probably Middle Iron Age in date, including sherds derived from slack-shouldered jars, two wider thicker-walled vessels with upright rims and two jars with vertical slightly outflaring rims. A single sherd of Roman pottery was recovered from F1051, however, indicating that the ditch remained a feature of the landscape through to this period.



Photograph 2 F1039 – looking east



Photograph 3 F1050 – looking south-south-west



Photograph 4 F1051 – looking south-south-west

To the north-west of F1039/F1050/F1051 were four Middle Iron Age pits – F1043, F1044, F1046 and F1048 – which were 0.45-1.1m wide and 0.09-0.21m deep. Small amounts of Middle Iron Age pottery and several fragments of loomweight were recovered from F1043, while F1044 produced a large assemblage of 163 sherds of Middle Iron Age pottery. F1048 contained 93 loomweight fragments as well as a fragment of worked sandstone.



Photograph 5 F1044 – looking west-north-west



Photograph 6 F1048 – looking west

To the south, F1039/F1050/F1051 cut tree-throw F1041, which yielded two sherds of Middle Iron Age pottery. A further tree-throw, F1038, lay to the west of F1039/F1050/F1051, and produced two further sherds of Middle Iron Age pottery.

Roman

Two Roman quarry pits were located in the midst of the Middle Iron Age features described above. Quarry pit F1042 lay immediately to the north of F1039/F1050/F1051. The feature was 11.2m across; two exploratory slots were excavated into the feature, one to a depth of 0.64m, the second to a depth of 0.82m. It contained four fragments of Roman CBM. A further quarry pit, F1049, was situated to northwest of the aforementioned cluster of Middle Iron Age pits. It was 9.1m across. An exploratory slot was excavated to a depth of 0.49m. The feature yielded single sherds of Roman pottery and CBM, and a single sherd of Middle Iron Age pottery.



Photograph 7 Slot through F1042 – looking south

Post-medieval/modern

A number of post-medieval/modern ditches passed through the monitored area. Two ditches, F1033 and F1035, ran parallel to one another through the eastern half of the site on a north-north-west/ south-south-east alignment. The former feature had a V-shaped profile, and was 0.92-1.25m wide and 0.27-0.4m deep while the latter had a U-shaped profile and was 0.75-1m wide and 0.12-0.2m deep. Both of these features were determined to be post-medieval during the previous evaluation but a fragment of 19th-century brick was recovered from F1033, indicating that it remained in use during the modern period.



Photograph 8 F1035 – looking south

Three further post-medieval/modern ditches were located in the western half of the monitored area. F1053a extended through this part of the site on a north-north-west/ south-south-east alignment before terminating at a large topographical feature (possibly a dry valley). It represented a continuation of post-medieval/modern field boundary ditch F441/F616, which was

recorded during the excavation carried out by CAT to the south in 2015 and so was not excavated. F1052a was situated to the west of F1053a. It was oriented north-east/south-west and also terminated at the aforementioned topographical feature. The feature was determined to be post-medieval in date during the evaluation previously carried out at the site and was not excavated either. Post-medieval or modern ditch F1061, in turn, lay to the west of F1052a. It was aligned north-north-west/ south-south-east and was 0.5-0.89m wide and 0.16-0.38m deep with a U-shaped profile.

Undated

A lack of artefactual evidence meant that the vast majority of the features could not be dated. Within the western half of the site, two undated pits – F1045 and F1047 – lay in the midst of the cluster of Middle Iron Age pits described above and were 0.66m wide and 0.16m deep and 0.75m wide and 0.11m deep respectively. Neither yielded any artefactual evidence but the former feature was lined with clay. A further isolated undated pit, F1034, lay to the east of F1035. It had a U-shaped profile and was 0.66m wide and 0.14m deep.



Photograph 9 F1045 showing clay lining – looking south-south-east

Further large clusters of undated pits or tree-throws were uncovered in the western half of the site. Pits F1052, F1053, F1054, F1055, F1056, F1057, F1058, F1059 and F1060, were uncovered in the northern half of this area. They were 0.98-1.19m wide and quite shallow at 0.09-0.18m deep. Pits F1062, F1063, F1064, F1065, F1066, F1067, F1068, F1069, F1070, F1071, F1072, F1074 and F1075 lay in the southern half of the area. They were 0.92-1.36m wide and also rather shallow at 0.11-0.29m deep. Only one of these pits, F1062, produced any artefactual evidence, consisting of fifteen heat-affected stones. An undated ditch, F1073, extended into this part of the site for a short distance on a north/south alignment. It had gently-sloping sides and an uneven base, and was 1.06m wide and 0.23m deep.



Photograph 10 F1052 – looking south



Photograph 11 F1062 – looking west-north-west

Natural features or tree-throws F1030, F1031 and F1032 and natural feature F1029 were located in the western part of the monitored area, while tree-throws F1037, F1038 and F1040 were uncovered in its eastern half.

6 Finds

6.1 Pottery

by Dr Matthew Loughton

The excavations uncovered 355 sherds of pottery and ceramic building material (henceforth CBM) with a weight of just over 3.6kg and 1.44 vessels (Table 1). The majority of the material consists of prehistoric pottery alongside a small quantity of Roman pottery and CBM (Table 1).

Sherds of pottery and CBM were recovered from 11 features although most of this material came from ditch F1039 and pit F1044 (Table 2). Together these two features produced 83% of the pottery assemblage by sherd count and 61% by sherd weight and 96% of the EVE.

Ceramic material	No.	Weight/g	MSW/g	EVE
Prehistoric	337	2,846	8	1.39
Roman	2	39	20	0.05
CBM	7	787	112	-
Total	346	3,672	11	1.44

Table 1 Details on the main types of ceramics and pottery

Context	Description	No.	Weight/g	MSW/g	EVE
F1033	Ditch	1	482	482	0.00
F1036	Pit	15	350	23	0.02
F1038	Tree-throw	2	7	4	0.00
F1039	Ditch	131	1,811	14	0.79
F1041	?Tree-throw	2	16	8	0.00
F1042	Quarry pit	10	285	29	0.00
F1044	Pit	163	488	3	0.54
F1046	Pit	10	66	7	0.00
F1049	Quarry pit	4	74	19	0.05
F1050	Ditch	6	30	5	0.04
F1051	Ditch	2	63	32	0.00
Total		346	3,672	11	1.44

Table 2 Quantities of pottery, CBM and baked clay from specific features and contexts

Prehistoric pottery

The prehistoric pottery was classified according to the type of inclusions (flint, sand, grog, organic), their size, frequency, and sorting, and is based upon the system developed by Brown (1988) to record prehistoric pottery from Essex. The Roman pottery was classified according to the fabric groups outlined in CAR 10 (1999).

There were 337 sherds of handmade prehistoric pottery with a weight of 2,846g while the mean sherd weight (MSW) is only 8g (Table 3). The rim EVE is 1.39 (Table 3). The majority of prehistoric pottery is in sand-tempered fabrics (HMS) sometimes with coarse flint (HMFS) (Table 3). Together these fabrics account for the bulk of the assemblage by sherd count and by sherd weight. The bias towards sand-tempered fabrics and the identifiable vessel forms, discussed below, suggest that much of the prehistoric pottery dates to the Middle Iron Age.

There is a small quantity of earlier flint-tempered pottery (HMF) with 19 sherds with a weight of 393g (Table 3). This was recovered from the following features: ditch F1039, quarry pit F1042 and ditch F1050; although most of this material came from pit F1036 which also contained one sherd with an applied finger-impressed horizontal cordon, possibly from a Late Bronze Age bucket urn. Previous archaeological investigations at Fiveways Fruit Farm have produced small quantities of Neolithic and Middle to Late Bronze Age/Early Iron Age pottery (CAT Report 1070).

Fabric Group	Description	No.	Weight/g	MSW/g	Rim	Base	EVE
HMF	B Flint fine to medium	4	37	9	2	0	0.06
	D Flint fine to coarse, poorly sorted	15	356	22	0	0	0.00
HMFS	E Flint and sand, fine to medium	1	4	4	0	0	0.00
HMS	F Sand small to medium with occasional large flint	216	1,406	7	21	4	0.60
	H Sand fine, common	18	107	6	0	1	0.00
	I Sand fine to medium	71	840	12	11	3	0.61

	J	Sand fine to medium with voids	10	66	7	2	0	0.12
	P	Rare fine sand, rare medium-coarse flint, voids	1	24	24	0	0	0.00
HMG	M	Grog, flint, or sand	1	6	6	0	0	0.00
Total			337	2,846	8	36	8	1.39

Table 3 Details on the prehistoric pottery fabrics represented in the assemblage

Prehistoric pottery was recovered from nine features (Table 4) although most contained 15 or fewer sherds. Ditch F1039 and pit F1044 contained more substantial assemblages and together they account for 87% of the assemblage by sherd count and 81% by sherd weight. Ditch F1039 contained 0.79 vessels according to the EVE and pit F1044 0.54 vessels (Table 4).

Context	Description	No.	Weight/g	MSW/g	Rim	Handle	EVE
F1036	Pit	15	350	23	1	0	0.02
F1038	Tree-throw	2	7	4	0	0	0.00
F1039	Ditch	131	1,811	14	15	7	0.79
F1041	?Tree-throw	2	16	8	0	0	0.00
F1042	Quarry pit	6	71	12	0	0	0.00
F1044	Pit	163	488	3	19	0	0.54
F1046	Pit	10	66	7	0	0	0.00
F1049	Quarry pit	2	7	4	0	0	0.00
F1050	Ditch	6	30	5	1	1	0.04
Total		337	2,846	8	36	8	1.39

Table 4 Quantities of pottery, CBM and baked clay from specific features and contexts

Middle Iron Age pottery

Ditch F1039

This ditch produced the only significant assemblage of prehistoric pottery from the evaluation with 131 sherds with a weight of just over 1.8kg and 0.79 vessels (EVE) (Table 4). Most of the sherds are in sand-tempered fabrics (HMS) and typically have black cores with brown or orange surfaces. Occasional sherds are slightly burnished but otherwise there are no traces of decoration. The lack or rarity of decoration is a feature of Middle Iron Age pottery from northern Essex and East Anglia (Sealey 2007, 62; Percival 1999, 177-179).

Of the identifiable vessel forms most appear to be of slightly rounded, slack-shouldered jars with vertical or slightly everted rims and are similar to Middle Iron Age jars of types F1, F2 and F4 from Little Waltham (Drury 1978, 53-54 fig. 37) and jars of type B1 from Abingdon 'Ashville Trading Estate', Oxfordshire (DeRoche 1978, 41, 43 fig. 32). One of the slack-shouldered jar rim fragments has patches of burning on its inner and outer surfaces. At Abingdon, these jars were common in Period 1 (c 550-300 BC) and Period 2 (c 300-1 BC) (DeRoche 1978, 70 table IV, 72-73). Other forms include two wider thicker-walled vessels with upright rims which are similar to jars of type B0 from Abingdon ditch 13, which is assigned to Period 2 (c 300-1 BC) (DeRoche 1978, 55 fig. 44 no. 162). There were two large jars with vertical slightly outflaring rims of the Little Waltham type F6 and jars of type F10 (Drury 1978, 52-56 figs. 37-38). All the bases from this assemblage are flat and plain. Finally, there was one small sherd of grog-tempered pottery which is thin-walled, has orange wiped surfaces and a grey core.

Pit F1044

The 163 sherds of prehistoric pottery with a weight of 488g from this pit all appear to be from a slack-shouldered jar of Little Waltham type 3 (Drury 1978, 53-54 fig. 37) with slightly burnished surfaces.

Ditch F1050

The small collection of prehistoric pottery from this ditch included a bowl of Little Waltham type F20 (Drury 1978, 55-56 fig. 38).

Residues

Three prehistoric pottery sherds from ditch F1039 (1022) have traces of a black burnt organic deposit on their interior surfaces. Two sherds from the ditch F1050 (1011) were slightly encrusted with a sandy/mineral deposit on their surfaces.

Roman pottery

There were only two sherds of Roman pottery with a weight of 39g. Firstly, there was a rim (EVE: 0.05) of from an unidentifiable vessel in Brockley Hill/Verulamium region oxidised ware (fabric FJ) which came from quarry pit F1049. Production of these wares started by c AD50, although at Colchester they were rare and only became slightly more common from the late 1st to the middle of the 2nd century AD (CAR 10, 347). Secondly, there was a base in a coarse oxidised ware (fabric DJ) which came from ditch F1051.

Ceramic Building Material (CBM)

There was a small collection of Roman and post-Roman CBM with seven sherds with a weight of 787g and a mean sherd weight of 112g (Table 5). This material came from ditch F1033, quarry pits F1042 and F1049 and ditch F1051 (Table 6). Small pieces of Roman brick and Roman brick/tile came from quarry pits F1042 and F1049 and ditch F1051, while ditch F1033 contained a piece of 19th century unfrogged brick.

CBM code	CBM type	No.	Weight/g	MSW/g
<i>Roman</i>				
RB	Roman brick	4	206	52
RBT	Roman brick or tile (general)	2	99	50
<i>Post-Roman</i>				
BR	Brick	1	482	482
Total		7	787	112

Table 5 CBM by period and type

Context	Feature type	No.	Weight (g)	MSW/g
F1033	Ditch	1	482	482
F1042	Quarry pit	4	214	54
F1049	Quarry pit	1	47	47
F1051	Ditch	1	44	44
Total		7	787	112

Table 6 Quantities of CBM by features

Summary

Table 7 provides a brief dating summary for the feature which produced dateable ceramic finds. The majority of features date to the Middle Iron Age with rare Bronze Age and Roman features and one modern feature.

Context	Prehistoric	Roman	CBM	Overall date approx.
F1033	-	-	BR unfrogged	19th century
F1036	HMF	-	-	Late Bronze Age
F1038	HMS	-	-	Middle Iron Age
F1039	HMS, HMG	-	-	Middle Iron Age
F1041	HMS	-	-	Middle Iron Age
F1042	HMS, HMFS	-	RB, RBT	Roman
F1044	HMS	-	-	Middle Iron Age
F1046	HMS	-	-	Middle Iron Age
F1049	HMS	FJ	RBT	Roman
F1050	HMF, HMS	-	-	Middle Iron Age
F1051	-	DJ	RB	Middle Iron Age ¹

Table 7 Approximate dates for the individual features

6.2 Small finds

by Laura Pooley

Six bags of small finds were recorded during monitoring works, all of fired clay or stone. Four of the bags, SF1-SF4, contained fragments of fired clay loomweight totalling 1,945.4g. Most of the fragments, 93 at 1,782.7g (92% by count and weight), came from pit F1048 (SF3 and SF4). The fragments from F1048 ranged in size from very small to medium and most were abraded, but some could be partially reconstructed and are from at least one triangular loomweight. The reconstructed pieces include approximately half of one side (Fig 6.1) and a corner with a groove or saddle across it (Fig 6.2). Grooves or saddles (wider grooves) have been recorded on triangular loomweights from the Middle Iron Age farmstead at the Stanway élite burial site (Crummy *et al* 2007, 43), with Late Iron Age/early Roman examples known from Orsett 'Cock' in Essex (Major 1998, 106) and Maxey in Cambridgeshire (Crowther 1985, 174-9). Two small fragments of loomweight were also recovered from Middle Iron Age ditch F1039 (SF1) and another six came from pit F1043 (SF2). In general, the loomweight fragments were made from a fine sandy fabric with some gritty inclusions and occasional organic matter, most were an orange-red or creamy-orange colour and some had a brownish-black or grey core.

Triangular loomweights originated within the Middle Iron Age and continued in use into the early Roman period (Crummy *et al* 2007, 43). Similar triangular loomweights have been recovered from previous archaeological investigations on the quarry site, c 740m southwest at the Middle Iron Age farmstead at the Stanway élite burial site and during the 2015 excavation of the Middle Iron Age enclosures immediately adjacent to the south (CAT Report 1070; Crummy *et al* 2007, 38-45). Both sites also included features containing dense concentrations of loomweights similar to that from F1048, suggesting that the loomweights from the current site are also likely to be of Middle Iron Age date. The presence of these loomweights is indicative of the use of an upright warp-weighted loom for weaving textiles (*ibid*, 43).

Also recovered from pit F1048 was a fragment of worked stone with L-shaped profile (SF5) and a fragment of imported lava quernstone from ditch F1052a. The quernstone probably dates to the Roman period and would have been imported from quarries in the Rhineland during the mid 1st to 2nd century AD (Buckley & Major 1983).

SF1, F1039, finds no. 1022. Two fragments of fired clay loomweight, broken but joining, including a small part of one original surface surviving. Fabric: fine sandy, some gritty inclusions with organic matter, orange-red surface, brownish-black core. Length: 51.7mm, width: 46.3mm, thickness: 36.2mm, weight: 71.0g.

SF2, F1043, finds no. 1008. Six fragments of fired clay loomweight. Includes a corner piece with two flat surfaces and the partial remains of a perforated hole, length: 49.8mm, width: 45.8mm, thickness: 33.8mm, weight: 68.7g. The other five pieces are small fragments weighing 23.0g. Fabric: fine sandy, some gritty inclusions, orange-red surface, brown/black core.

SF3, F1048, finds no. 1015. Ninety-three fragments of fired clay from at least one triangular loomweight, totalling 1,782.7g.

Fig 6.1 a) Six fragments join to form part of one side of the weight with two curved edges. Fabric: fine sandy, some gritty inclusions, creamy-orange surface and interior with grey band. Length: 112.4mm, width: 95.7mm, thickness: 37.2mm, weight: 364.5g.

Fig 6.2 b) Three fragments join to form part of the corner with a groove/saddle across it. Fabric: fine sandy, some gritty inclusions, creamy-orange surface with grey core. Length: 73.5mm, width: 83.4mm, thickness: 60.7mm, weight: 154.2g.

c) The remaining 77 fragments range in size from medium to very small. Fabric: mostly fine sandy fabric with some gritty inclusions, some with organic matter, ranging from orange-red to creamy-orange, and some have grey or brown/black cores. Total weight: 906.3g.

1 The Roman artefacts recovered from this feature were residual.

SF4, F1048, finds no. 1021. Seven fragments of fired clay loomweight with some original surfaces surviving. Fabric: fine sandy, some gritty inclusions, some with organic matter, ranging from orange-red to creamy-orange, and some have grey or brown/black cores. Total weight: 357.7g.

SF5, F1048, finds no. 1017. Fragment of sandstone worked into a corner with L-shaped profile. Length: 102.7mm, widths: 46.6mm and 41.3mm, thickness: c 20.0mm, weight: 190.2g.

SF6, F1052a, finds no. 1024. Fragment of lava quernstone (now in two pieces after a modern break), includes part of the thicker curved edge, the flat upper surface and the dressed lower surface (worn). Length: 134.5mm, width: 67.6mm, thickness: 22.9mm, weight: 238.8g.

6.3 Burnt (heat-altered) stone by Laura Pooley

Four contexts produced pieces of burnt (heat-altered) stone totalling 45 pieces at 3,665.6g. Sandstone/quartzite pebbles dominated the assemblages from Middle Iron Age pit F1046, Roman pit F1048 and undated pit F1045, with flint recovered from undated pit F1062 (see Table 8). The burnt flints were small- to medium-sized, irregular broken pieces which had been cracked and crazed from the heat and discoloured various shades of white (calcified) and grey. The sandstone/quartzite were small- to medium-sized rounded stones or cobbles. They were generally less broken-up, having better thermal properties and being less prone to fracture, and had been heat-discoloured to shades of pink, red and grey.

Burnt stone is commonly associated with prehistoric occupation, often occurring as groups in pits. They can be created incidentally during other processes, for example when in close association with ovens, hearths or cremations, but deliberately heated stones could be used as an indirect method for heating water. Because of this they are often referred to as 'pot boilers', although their precise use is debated. The stones utilised here occur in the underlying gravel deposits and would have been available to collect from the surrounding area.

Context	Finds no.	Description	Qt.	Wt. (g)
F1045	1016	Twelve slightly heat-affected sandstone/quartzite pebbles, most slightly discoloured, two cracked, others show some surface crazing.	12	1,444.2
		One fragment of quartzite, cracked/crazed and burnt slightly pink.	1	34.4
F1046	1014	Two slightly heat-affected sandstone/quartzite pebbles, one burnt grey with a slightly crazed and crumbling surface, the other burnt a reddish-brown	2	143.8
F1048	1017	Fourteen slightly heat-affected sandstone/quartzite pebbles, most slightly discoloured pink or grey, several cracked with some surface crazing.	14	1,828.6
		One heat-affected flint nodule, discoloured grey on the outside and white on the inside with surface cracking and crazing.	1	133.0
F1062	<2>	Fifteen pieces of burnt flint, cracked and crazed, discoloured various shades of white and grey.	15	81.6

Table 8 Burnt (heat-altered) stone listed by context

6.4 Worked flints by Adam Wightman

Seven worked flints were collected during the fieldwork. Four of the worked flints were recovered from topsoil L1. Two of the worked flints were recovered from features dated to the Middle Iron Age (ditch F1039 and pit F1046) and are considered to be residual in these contexts. The backed knife recovered from pit F1036 could be contemporary with the pottery

recovered from the feature (Late Bronze Age). However, this type of flint tool is rare in Later Bronze Age assemblages (Butler 2006, 185) so is likely to also be residual.

Sixty-four worked flints dating to the Neolithic and Bronze Age were recovered during the 2015 excavation to the south and a small number of features were dated to the Bronze Age based on the pottery dating evidence (CAT Report 1070). The addition of this small assemblage of worked flints further supports the conclusion that limited activity took place in this area during the Neolithic and Bronze Age with the main focus of activity taking place during the Middle Iron Age.

L1, finds no. 1023. Broken ?knife. Dark grey flint. Retouched flake retaining c 35% cortex on the dorsal face. Large, thin flake broken at the proximal end with a small break at the distal end. Continuous semi-abrupt retouch along the left lateral edge on the dorsal face with cortex left on the opposing edge. Neolithic or Bronze Age (rare in later Bronze Age assemblages).

L1, finds no. 1023. Secondary flake. Dark grey flint. Short, thick flake retaining c 40% cortex on dorsal face. Hard-hammer struck. Neolithic (probably Late Neolithic) or Bronze Age.

L1, finds no. 1026. Secondary flake. Mottled grey flint. Wide, thick flake retaining c 50% cortex on dorsal face. Broken at the proximal end/left lateral edge with a hinge fracture at the distal end. Possible use-wear or edge damage on the right lateral edge. Neolithic or Bronze Age.

L1, finds no. 1026. Secondary flake. Dark grey flint. Short, wide, thick flake retaining c 30% cortex on dorsal face. Hard-hammer struck. Evidence of previous miss-hits on striking platform and on left lateral edge. Use-wear or edge damage on distal end. Probably Late Neolithic or Bronze Age.

F1036, finds no. 1000. Backed knife. Dark grey flint. No cortex on dorsal face. Long, hard-hammer struck flake (74mm long, 30mm wide and 8mm thick). Continuous semi-abrupt/abrupt retouch around all edges on the dorsal face forming an elongated oval shape. Abrupt retouch on left lateral edge (the thicker of the two edges) and semi-abrupt retouch on right lateral edge. Neolithic or Bronze Age (rare in later Bronze Age assemblages).

F1039, finds no. 1022. Secondary flake. Dark grey flint. Thin flake retaining c 30% cortex on dorsal face. Broken at proximal end. Probably Neolithic or Bronze Age.

F1046, finds no. 1014. Tertiary flake. Light grey flint. Small, thin flake retaining no cortex on dorsal face. Probable evidence of preparation of the striking platform prior to removal from parent core. Use-wear or edge damage on distal end. Probably Mesolithic or Early Neolithic.

7 Environmental Assessment

by Lisa Gray

Introduction

Two samples (see table 9) were taken during monitoring from pits F1036 and F1063.

Sample	Feature No.	Feature Type	Sampling notes	Provisional date	Sample volume (L.)
1	F1036	Pit	50% sampled	Late Bronze Age	40
2	F1063	Pit	50% sampled	Undated	20

Table 9 Samples presented for assessment

Sampling and processing methods

Samples were taken and processed by Colchester Archaeological Trust. Once with the author the flots were scanned under a low powered stereo-microscope with a magnification range of 10 to 45x. The whole flots were examined. The abundance, diversity and state of preservation of eco- and artefacts in each sample were recorded.

Identifications were made using uncharred reference material (author's own and the Northern European Seed Reference Collection at the Institute of Archaeology, University College London) and reference manuals (such as Beijerinck 1947; Cappers *et al.* 2006; Charles 1984; Jacomet

2006). Nomenclature for plants is taken from Stace (Stace 2010). Latin names are given once, and the common names used thereafter.

At this stage, to allow comparison between samples, numbers have also been estimated but where only a low number of items are present, they have been counted. Identifiable charred wood >4mm in diameter has been separate from charred wood flecks. Fragments this size are easier to break to reveal the cross-sections and diagnostic features necessary for identification and are less likely to be blown or unintentionally moved around the site (Asouti 2006, 31; Smart & Hoffman, 1988, 178-179). Charred wood flecks <4mm diameter have been quantified but not recommended for further analysis unless twigs or roundwood fragments larger than 2mmØ were present.

Results (Table 2)

Quality and type of preservation

The plant remains in these samples were preserved by charring. Charring occurs when plant material is heated under reducing conditions where oxygen is largely excluded leaving a carbon skeleton resistant to decay (Boardman & Jones 1990, 2; Campbell *et al.* 2011, 17). There was no evidence of waterlogging or mineralisation. Uncharred, anaerobically preserved testas and endocarps of seeds were present in low numbers in Late Bronze Age pit F1036 (sample 1). These were seeds of common fumitory (*Fumaria officinalis* L.), black nightshade (*Solanum nigrum* L.) and blackberry/raspberry (*Rubus* sp.). Due to the abundance of modern rootlets, these seeds may be intrusive.

Bioturbation and contamination

Evidence of possible bioturbation present in the form of modern rootlet fragments. No faunal remains were found in the flots.

The plant remains

Charcoal fragments were the only plant macro-remains in these samples. Fragments of charcoal of identifiable size were found in both flots, and further analysis may provide information about fuel use. Some of these fragments may be suitable for radiocarbon dating.

Sample number	Feature number	Feature type	Sample volume (Litres)	Flot volume (Litres)	CPR – Charcoal flecks <4mm Ø	CPR – Identifiable charcoal > 4mm Ø	UPR – Rootlet fragments	UPR – Seeds	ADDITIONAL INFORMATION
1	F1036	Pit	40	0.25	3	2	2	2	UPR – seeds of common fumitory, black nightshade and blackberry/raspberry
2	F1062	Pit	20	0.125	3	1	-	-	-

Table 10 Plant macro-remains and faunal remains

Key: Abundance: 1 = 1-10, 2 = 11-100, 3 = >100; CPR = Charred Plant Remains; UPR: Uncharred/dried Plant Remains

8 Discussion

Forty-seven features were uncovered during the course of this investigation – seven ditches, ten pits (including two quarry pits), 22 pits/tree-throws and eight tree-throws/ natural features. The

most significant remains were concentrated within the eastern extremity of the site. Only sparse remains were uncovered within the central section of the monitored area, while a large number of features, primarily consisting of clusters of pits, were situated in the western part of the site. Some of these features produced significant assemblages of dating evidence but thirty-five could not be dated.

Mesolithic/Neolithic/Late Bronze Age

The earliest phase of activity at the site was evidenced by seven flints of Mesolithic, Neolithic and Bronze Age date, including a backed knife blade and a further possible knife blade, which were recovered from the topsoil or were residually present within Late Bronze Age and Middle Iron Age contexts. A second phase of activity was represented by an isolated pit producing fifteen sherds of Late Bronze Age pottery which was uncovered in the centre of the monitored area, but no further material of this date was recovered elsewhere across the site. Mesolithic and Early Neolithic worked flints and Late Bronze Age pottery was also recovered during excavations carried out by CAT to the south in 2015.

Middle Iron Age

The main phase of activity at the site occurred during the Middle Iron Age, and was represented here by three pits, two tree-throws and a ditch located along the eastern edge of the monitored area. During the excavation previously carried out by CAT to the south, two interlinked Middle Iron Age farmsteads were uncovered, the northernmost of which was situated some 95m south southwest of the cluster of contemporary features recorded during the present investigation. These two enclosures were found to be linked by a ditch which extended from the northeast corner of Enclosure B to the southeast corner of Enclosure A indicating that these enclosures might be organised in a 'washing line' arrangement along this ditch, and that a further enclosure might lie further to the northeast. While this ditch was excavated during this investigation (F1039/F1050/F1051), a further enclosure was not present in this location, although the abovementioned contemporary features, some of which yielded substantial assemblages of pottery, fragments of loomweight and heat-affected stones, are indicative of domestic occupation in the vicinity. The two tree-throws, which suggest some degree of land clearance during this period, imply that an enclosure might lie further on to the northeast. Considered in relation to the dense concentration of Middle Iron Age features uncovered to the south, however, aside from this cluster of remains within the eastern section of the site, the general picture is of a thinning out of Middle Iron Age activity towards the north.

Roman

As in the excavation to the south, no evidence of Late Iron Age activity was uncovered during the present investigation. However, two Roman quarry pits were situated in the midst of the cluster of Middle Iron Age features described above. The two features contained very sparse amounts of Roman pottery and CBM, suggesting that activity in this area was only very fleeting. Artefacts of Middle Iron Age date were residually present in these features, attesting further to the concentration of Middle Iron Age activity within this part of the site.

A sherd of Roman pottery was also retrieved from Middle Iron Age ditch F1039/F1050/F1051. This mirrors the findings of the excavation to the south, during which this ditch produced small amounts of early Roman pottery from its upper fill, indicating that, despite the abandonment of the site before the end of the Middle Iron Age, it still remained a feature of the landscape during the early Roman period.

Post-Roman

Medieval activity across the monitored area appears to have been minimal, and no features or artefacts dating to this period was encountered. A number of ditches dating to the post-medieval or modern periods were excavated, however, some of which are depicted as field boundary ditches in late 19th-century Ordnance Survey mapping of the area (see Map 1 below). A series of post-medieval features thought to have been ditches were uncovered during the evaluation previously carried out at this site; further investigation has determined that these features are actually pits.

Undated

The majority of features uncovered produced no artefactual evidence and so could not be dated. Within the eastern half of the site was a series of tree-throws. These features, like those within the easternmost part of the monitored area, might be related to land clearance undertaken as part of the construction of the Middle Iron Age settlement located to the south, but equally this land clearance could have occurred later in the modern period, during which the site was utilised for agricultural purposes. These results mirror those of the previous evaluation, during which numerous tree-throws were recorded.

Within the westernmost part of the site were two clusters of pits, nine to the north of this area and thirteen to the south, only one of which produced any artefactual evidence, an assemblage of fifteen heat-affected stones. It is likely that this feature, and possibly some of the others, are prehistoric in date, but it is obvious that they were not used for waste disposal, given the absence of material within the pits, which also suggests they were not open for a great period of time. It may be that they relate to some form of horticulture.

Several apparently linear features of natural origin were excavated during the evaluation which preceded this investigation. Further stripping of the site has instead established that these features were in fact pits.



Map 1 Extract from Essex XXVII.SE; rev. 1896, pub. 1898. The field boundary ditches are indicated by the blue arrows.

9 Acknowledgements

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

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11 Abbreviations and glossary

Bronze Age	period from c 2500 – 700 BC
CAT	Colchester Archaeological Trust
CBM	ceramic building material, ie brick/tile
CHER	Colchester Historic Environment Record
CIfA	Chartered Institute for Archaeologists
context	a single unit of excavation, which is often referred to numerically, and can be any feature, layer or find.
ECC	Essex County Council
ECCHEA	Essex County Council Historic Environment Advisor
ECCPS	Essex County Council Place Services
EHHER	Essex Historic Environment Record
feature (F)	an identifiable thing like a pit, a wall, a drain: can contain 'contexts'
Iron Age	period from 700 BC to Roman invasion of AD 43
layer (L)	distinct or distinguishable deposit (layer) of material
medieval	period from AD 1066 to c 1500
Mesolithic	period from c 10,000 – 4000BC
modern	period from c AD 1800 to the present
natural	geological deposit undisturbed by human activity
Neolithic	period from c 4000 – 2500 BC
NGR	National Grid Reference
OASIS	Online Access to the Index of Archaeological Investigations , http://oasis.ac.uk/pages/wiki/Main
post-medieval	from c AD 1500 to c 1800
prehistoric	pre-Roman
residual	something out of its original context, eg a Roman coin in a modern pit
Roman	the period from AD 43 to c AD 410
section	(abbreviation sx or Sx) vertical slice through feature/s or layer/s
ws	written scheme of investigation

12 Contents of archive

Findings: one box (pottery, loomweights, quernstone, flints, worked stone)

Paper record

One A4 document wallet containing:

The report (CAT Report 1478)

CAT written scheme of investigation

Original site record (feature sheets, finds record, section drawings)

Inked section drawings

Site digital photographic thumbnails and log

Digital record

The report (CAT Report 1478)

Site digital photographs, photographic thumbnails and log

Graphics

Survey data

13 Archive deposition

The archive is currently held by the Colchester Archaeological Trust at Roman Circus House, Roman Circus Walk, Colchester, Essex CO2 7GZ, but will be permanently deposited with Colchester Museum under accession code COLEM: 2018.120.

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Date: 16.12.2021

Appendix 1 Context list

Context	Finds no. ²	Context type	Description	Date
L1	-	Topsoil	Firm, moist dark brown sandy-silt with charcoal flecks	Modern
L2	-	Subsoil	Firm, moist medium grey/brown silt	Undated
L3	-	Natural	Firm, moist medium orange sandy-silt	Post-glacial
F1029	-	Natural feature	Firm, dry light yellow/brown sandy-silt with rare stones	Undated
F1030	-	Natural feature/ tree-throw	Firm, dry light grey sandy-silt with occasional stones	Undated
F1031	-	Natural feature/ tree-throw	Firm, dry light yellow/brown sandy-silt with occasional stones	Undated
F1032	-	Natural feature/ tree-throw	Firm, dry light yellow/brown sandy-silt with occasional stones	Undated
F1033	1002	Field boundary ditch	Loose, dry light yellow/grey/brown sandy-silt with occasional stones	Post-medieval / modern
F1034	-	Pit	Loose, dry medium grey/brown sandy-silt with occasional stones	Undated
F1035	-	Field boundary ditch	Loose, dry light yellow/brown sandy-silt with occasional stones	Post-medieval / modern
F1036	1000, 1001	Pit	Loose/soft, medium grey/brown/black sandy-silt with occasional charcoal flecks and frequent stones	Late Bronze Age
F1037	-	Tree-throw	Loose/soft, moist light/medium yellow/brown sandy-silt with rare stones	Undated
F1038	1003	Tree-throw	Friable, dry light yellow/grey/brown sandy-silt with frequent stones	Middle Iron Age
F1039	1004, 1005, 1009, 1019, 1022	Ditch (same as F1050 and F1051)	Soft, moist medium grey/brown sandy-silt with 20% gravel	Middle Iron Age
F1040	-	Tree-throw	Soft, moist medium/dark grey/brown sandy-silt	Undated
F1041	1006	?Tree-throw	Soft, moist medium grey/brown sandy-silt with 10% gravel	Middle Iron Age
F1042	1007, 1012	Quarry pit	Soft, moist dark brown sandy-silt with 10% gravel	Roman
F1043	1008	Pit	Soft, moist medium orange/brown sandy-silt with rare stones	?Middle Iron Age
F1044	1013	Pit	Soft, moist dark grey/brown sandy-silt with rare charcoal flecks and stones	Middle Iron Age
F1045	1016	Pit	Soft, moist medium orange/grey/brown sandy-silty-clay	Undated
F1046	1014	Pit	Firm, moist dark grey/brown sandy-silt with charcoal flecks and rare stones	Middle Iron Age
F1047	-	Pit	Soft, moist light/medium grey/brown sandy-silty-clay	Undated
F1048	1015, 1017, 1021	Pit	Upper fill: medium/dark grey/brown silty-sand with frequent heat-affected stones and occasional stones; lower fill: light yellow/grey	Middle Iron Age

² Find no. 1023 was not assigned to a context

			clay	
F1049	1018	Quarry pit	Soft, moist medium yellow/grey/brown sandy-silty-loam with 10% stones	Roman
F1050	1011, 1020	Ditch (same as F1039 and F1051)	Soft, moist medium yellow/grey/brown sandy-silt	Middle Iron Age
F1051	1010	Ditch (same as F1039 and F1050)	Soft, moist medium grey/brown sandy-silt with 25% gravel	Middle Iron Age
F1052a	1024	Field boundary ditch	Firm, dry medium/dark yellow/grey/brown sandy-loam with charcoal and CBM flecks and common stones	Post-medieval
F1053a	-	Field boundary ditch	Soft, moist dark grey/brown/black sandy-loam with charcoal and CBM flecks	Post-medieval / modern
F1052b	-	Pit / tree-throw	Firm, moist dark grey/brown sandy-silt	Undated
F1053b	-	Pit / tree-throw	Firm, moist dark grey/brown sandy silt	Undated
F1054	-	Pit / tree-throw	Firm, moist medium grey/brown sandy-silt	Undated
F1055	-	Pit / tree-throw	Firm, moist dark grey/brown sandy-silt	Undated
F1056	-	Pit / tree-throw	Firm, moist dark grey/brown sandy-silt	Undated
F1057	-	Pit / tree-throw	Firm, moist dark grey/brown sandy-silt	Undated
F1058	-	Pit / tree-throw	Firm, moist dark grey/brown sandy-silt	Undated
F1059	-	Pit / tree-throw	Firm, moist dark grey/brown sandy-silt	Undated
F1060	-	Pit / tree-throw	Firm, moist dark grey/brown sandy-silt	Undated
F1061	-	Field boundary ditch	Firm, moist medium grey/brown sandy-silt	Post-medieval / modern
F1062	<1>	Pit / tree-throw	Firm, moist black sandy-silt with 25% stones	Undated
F1063	-	Pit / tree-throw	Firm, moist medium grey/brown sandy-silt	Undated
F1064	-	Pit / tree-throw	Firm, moist dark grey/brown sandy-silt	Undated
F1065	-	Pit / tree-throw	Firm, moist medium grey/brown sandy silt	Undated
F1066	-	Pit / tree-throw	Firm, moist dark grey/brown sandy-silt	Undated
F1067	-	Pit / tree-throw	Firm, moist dark grey/brown sandy-silt	Undated
F1068	-	Pit / tree-throw	Firm, moist dark grey/brown sandy-silt	Undated
F1069	-	Pit / tree-throw	Firm, moist dark grey/brown sandy-silt	Undated
F1070	-	Pit / tree-throw	Firm, moist dark grey/brown sandy-silt	Undated
F1071	-	Pit / tree-throw	Firm, moist dark grey/brown sandy-silt	Undated
F1072	-	Pit / tree-throw	Firm, moist dark grey/brown sandy-silt	Undated
F1073	-	Ditch	Firm, moist dark grey/brown sandy-silt	Undated
F1074	-	Pit / tree-throw	Firm, moist dark grey/brown sandy-silt	Undated
F1075	-	Pit / tree-throw	Firm, moist dark grey/brown sandy-silt	Undated

Appendix 2 Pottery list

Context	Feature type	Find no.	No.	Weight (g)	MSW	Rim	Handle	Base	Residue	Fabric Grp	Typology	EVE	Diam.	Comments	Date
F1036	Pit	1000	1	22	22	1	0	0		HMF B	Jar F3	0.02	230	Oxidised sherd	Late Bronze Age
F1036	Pit	1000	14	328	23	0	0	0		HMF D	Um			Applied cordon with finger imp., grey core, brown surf.	Late Bronze Age
F1038	Tree-throw	1003	2	7	4	0	0	0		HMS F				Black core, orange surface, rare coarse flint	?Middle Iron Age
F1039	Ditch	1004	1	10	10	0	0	0		HMS I				Very burnished I & Ext, brown core	Middle Iron Age
F1039	Ditch	1004	2	15	8	0	0	0		HMS J				Very black core, brown surfaces	Middle Iron Age
F1039	Ditch	1005	10	76	8	1	0	2		HMS F	?	0.03	80	Black core, orange surfaces	Middle Iron Age
F1039	Ditch	1005	17	359	21	1	0	0		HMS F	Large jar F6	0.03	300	Black core, brown/orange surfaces	Middle Iron Age
F1039	Ditch	1005	10	135	14	0	0	0		HMS F				Black core, brown/orange surfaces	Middle Iron Age
F1039	Ditch	1005	9	84	9	0	0	0		HMS I				Black core, orange/brown surfaces	Middle Iron Age
F1039	Ditch	1005	9	76	8	3	0	2		HMS I	Jar F2	0.07	140	Black core, some more completely oxidised	Middle Iron Age
F1039	Ditch	1005								HMS I	Jar F6	0.05	80	Black core, some more completely oxidised	Middle Iron Age
F1039	Ditch	1005								HMS I	?	0.03	130	Black core, some more completely oxidised	Middle Iron Age
F1039	Ditch	1005	4	23	6	0	0	0		HMS J				Black core, orange/brown surfaces	Middle Iron Age
F1039	Ditch	1009	2	9	5	0	0	0		HMF B				Orange surface, brown-black core	Middle Iron Age
F1039	Ditch	1009	1	6	6	0	0	0		HMG				Softer wiped surface, grog, orange surf., grey core, thin	Middle Iron Age
F1039	Ditch	1009	1	11	11	0	0	0		HMS F				Orange surface	Middle Iron Age
F1039	Ditch	1009	3	23	8	0	0	0		HMS F				Black to dark brown	Middle Iron Age
F1039	Ditch	1009	6	49	8	3	0	0		HMS I	Jar F2	0.08	220	Black with brown surfaces	Middle Iron Age
F1039	Ditch	1009								HMS I	Jar F10	0.05	180	Black with brown surfaces	Middle Iron Age
F1039	Ditch	1019	3	12	4	0	0	0		HMS I				Black core, brown/orange surfaces	Middle Iron Age
F1039	Ditch	1019	1	3	3	0	0	0		HMS J					Middle Iron Age
F1039	Ditch	1022	9	296	33	0	0	2		HMS F				Rare coarse inclusions (flint, pebbles)	Middle Iron Age
F1039	Ditch	1022	20	273	14	4	0	0		HMS I	Bowl F15A or F16	0.09	200	Black/dark grey some brown surfaces	Middle Iron Age
F1039	Ditch	1022								HMS I	Bowl F15A or F16	0.05	260	Black/dark grey some brown surfaces	Middle Iron Age
F1039	Ditch	1022								HMS I	Jar F2 or F4	0.06	190	Black/dark grey some brown surfaces	Middle Iron Age
F1039	Ditch	1022	3	26	9	0	0	0	X	HMS I				Black organic deposit on inside surfaces	Middle Iron Age
F1039	Ditch	1022	17	300	18	1	0	1		HMS I	Jar F9 or F4	0.07	80	Grey dark brown, lighter brown surface	Middle Iron Age

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Context	Feature type	Find no.	No.	Weight (g)	MSW	Rim	Handle	Base	Residue	Fabric Grp	Typology	EVE	Diam.	Comments	Date
F1039	Ditch	1022	3	25	8	2	0	0		HMS J	Jar F2 or F4	0.12	120	Very black core, brown	Middle Iron Age
F1039	Ditch	1022								HMS J	Jar F1	0.07	170	Very black core, brown	Middle Iron Age
F1041	?Tree-throw	1006	1	11	11	0	0	0		HMS F				Black	Middle Iron Age
F1041	?Tree-throw	1006	1	5	5	0	0	0		HMS H				Grey , brown/orange patches on surfaces	Middle Iron Age
F1042	Quarry pit	1007	2	9	5	0	0	0		HMS H					Middle Iron Age
F1042	Quarry pit	1012	1	28	28	0	0	0		HMF D				Brown oxidised	Middle Iron Age
F1042	Quarry pit	1012	1	4	4	0	0	0		HMFS E					Middle Iron Age
F1042	Quarry pit	1012	1	6	6	0	0	0		HMS H					Middle Iron Age
F1042	Quarry pit	1012	1	24	24	0	0	0		HMS P				Rare grog, softer fabric, grey core, orange/brown surface	Middle Iron Age
F1044	Pit	1013	163	488	3	19	0	0		HMS F	Jar F3r	0.54	180		Middle Iron Age
F1046	Pit	1014	10	66	7	0	0	0		HMS H					Middle Iron Age
F1049	Quarry pit	1018	1	20	20	1	0	0		FJ	?	0.06	270	?	Roman
F1049	Quarry pit	1018	2	7	4	0	0	0		HMS I				Red surface, haemitite coating	Middle Iron Age
F1050	Ditch	1011	1	6	6	1	0	0	X	HMF B	Bowl F15	0.03	170	crusty/sandy mineral deposit on surfaces	Middle Iron Age
F1050	Ditch	1011	1	3	3	0	0	0	X	HMS I				crusty/sandy mineral deposit on surfaces	Middle Iron Age
F1050	Ditch	1020	4	21	5	0	0	1		HMS H					Middle Iron Age
F1051	Ditch	1010	1	19	19	0	0	1		DJ					Roman

Appendix 3 CBM list

Context	Feature type	Find no.	No.	Weight(g)	MSW	Typology	Sub-type	Brick dim.			Date
								L.	BR.	TH.	
F1033	Ditch	1002	1	482	482	BR	Unfrogged	?	?	64	19th century
F1042	Quarry pit	1007	3	162	54	RB					Roman
F1042	Quarry pit	1007	1	52	52	RBT					Roman
F1049	Quarry pit	1018	1	47	47	RBT					Roman
F1051	Ditch	1010	1	44	44	RB					Roman



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Fig 1 Site location shown in relation to nearby cropmarks (light green), dykes (dark green) and other excavated sites.

0 500 m

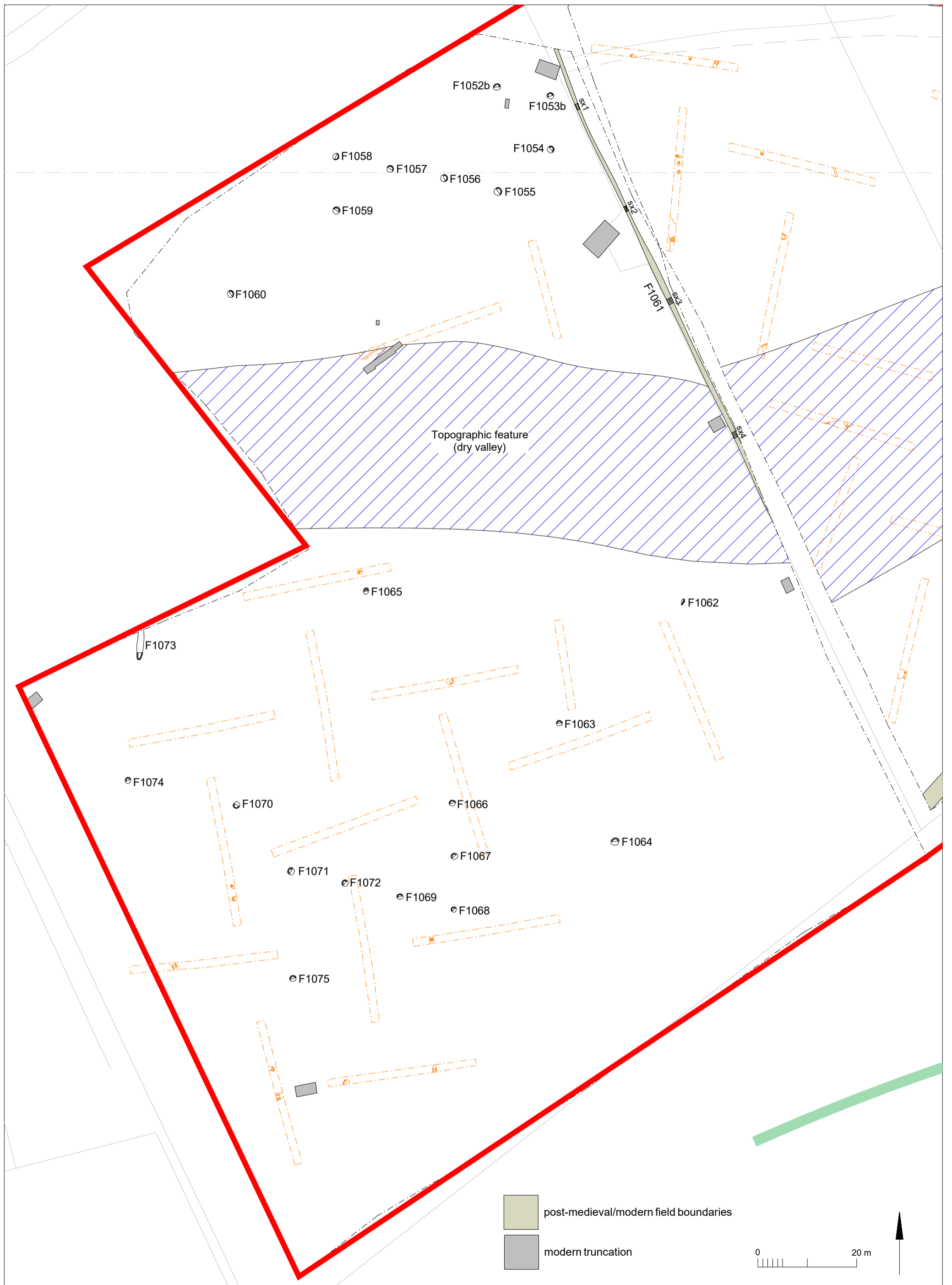


Fig 2 Results, plan 1 (west of site). 2008 evaluation trenches (CAT Report 493) shown in orange.

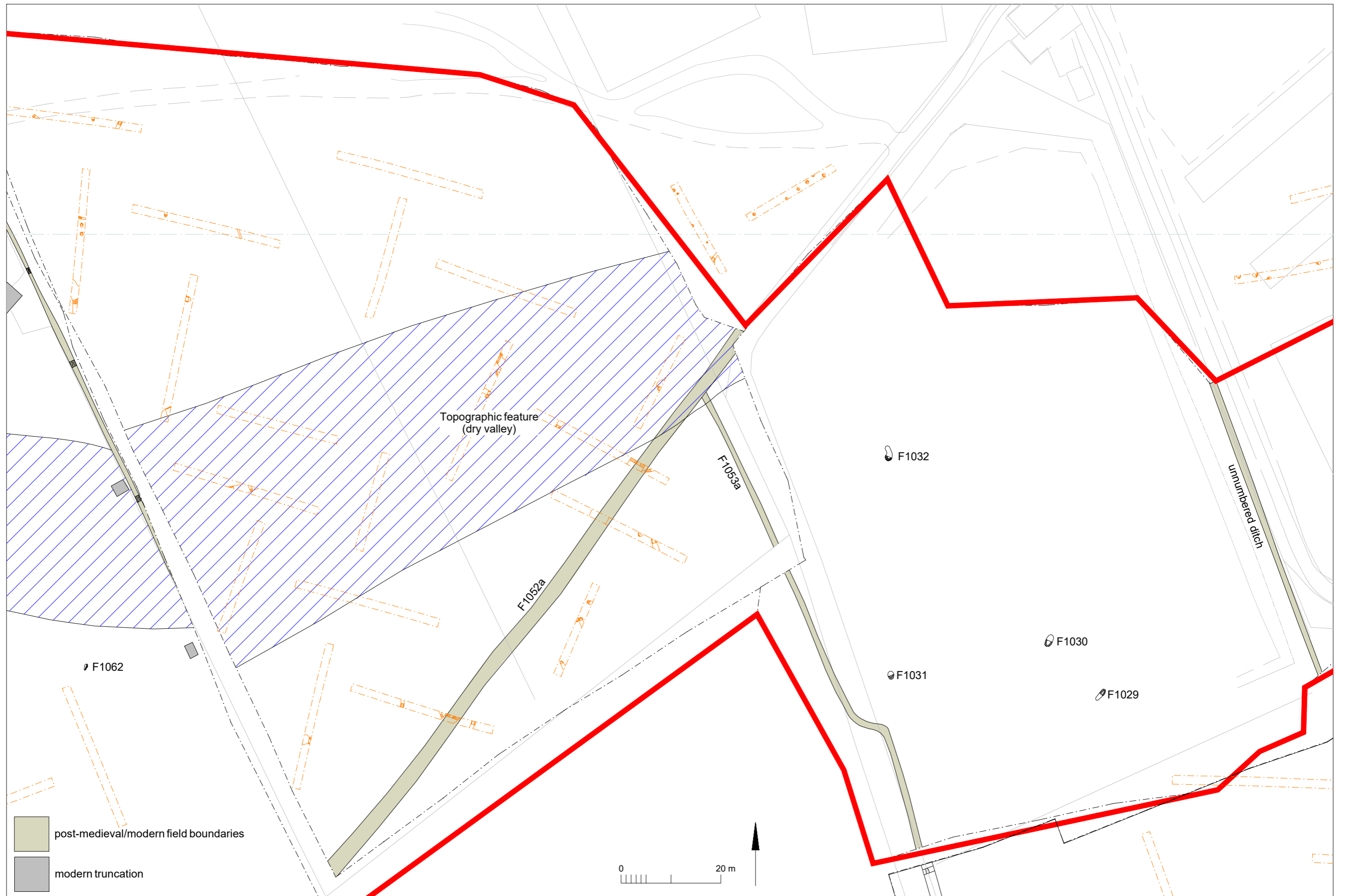


Fig 3 Results, plan 2 (centre of site). 2008 evaluation trenches (CAT Report 493) shown in orange.

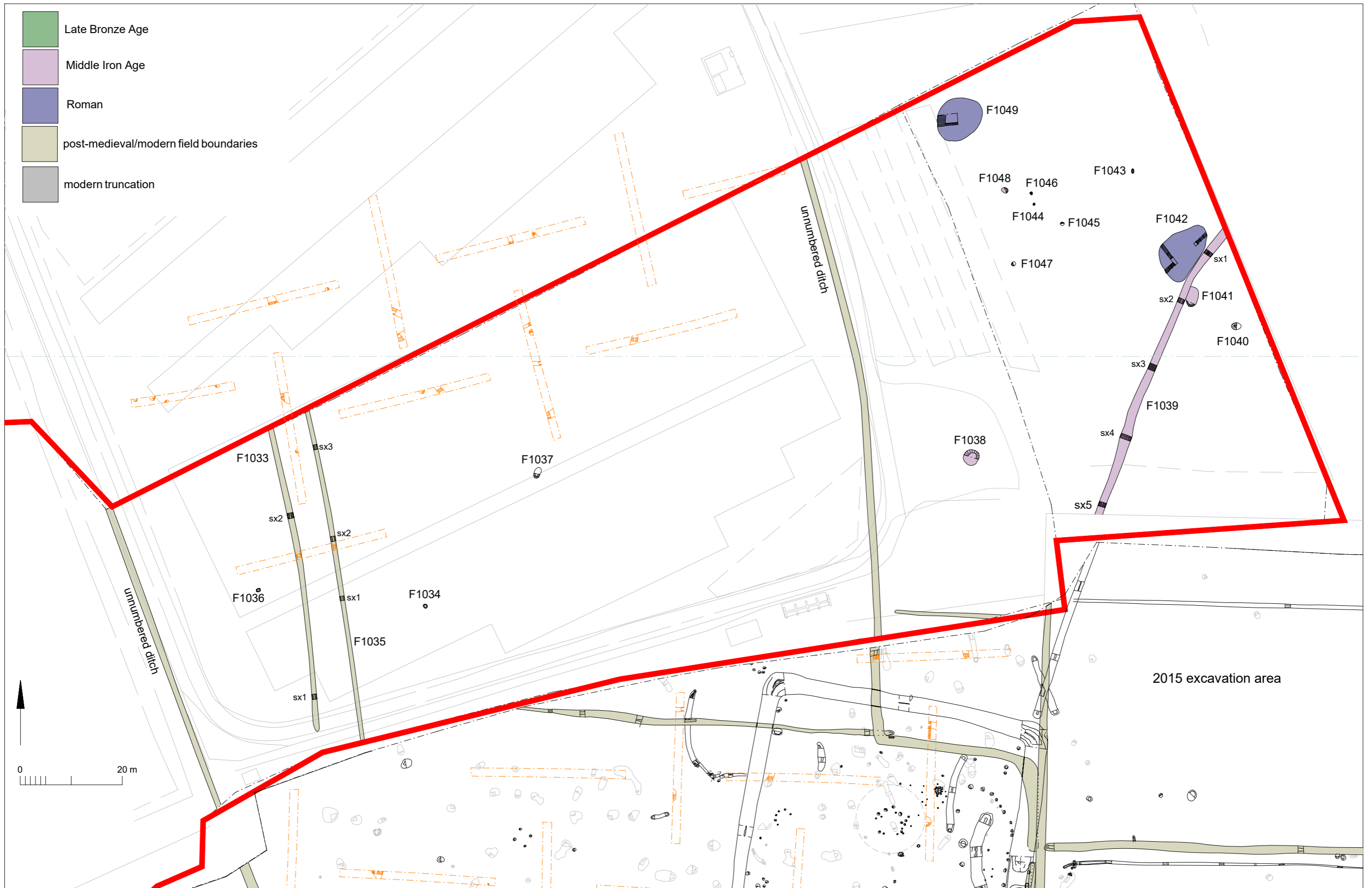


Fig 4 Results, plan 3 (east of site). 2008 evaluation trenches (CAT Report 493) shown in orange.

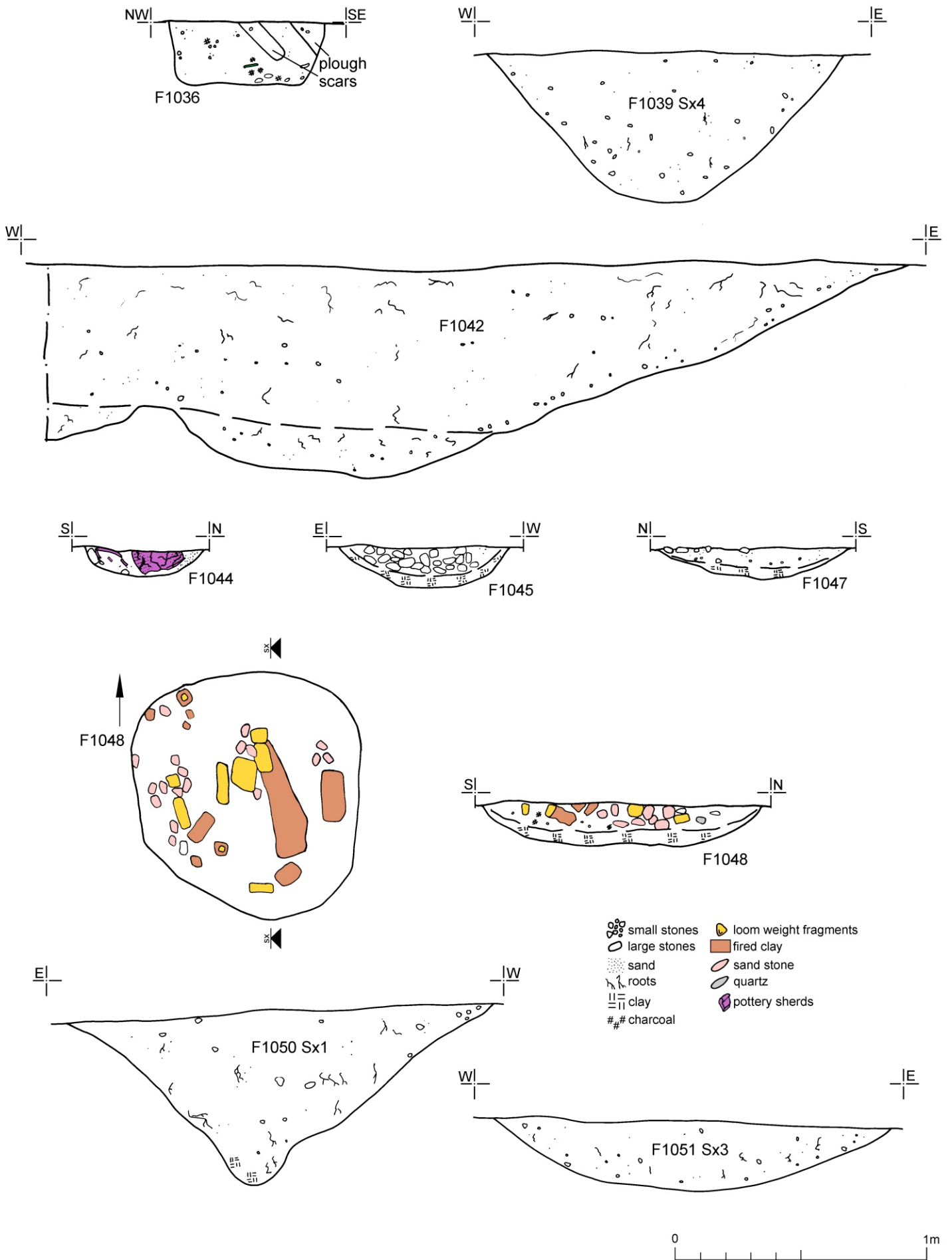


Fig 5 Feature sections and plan.

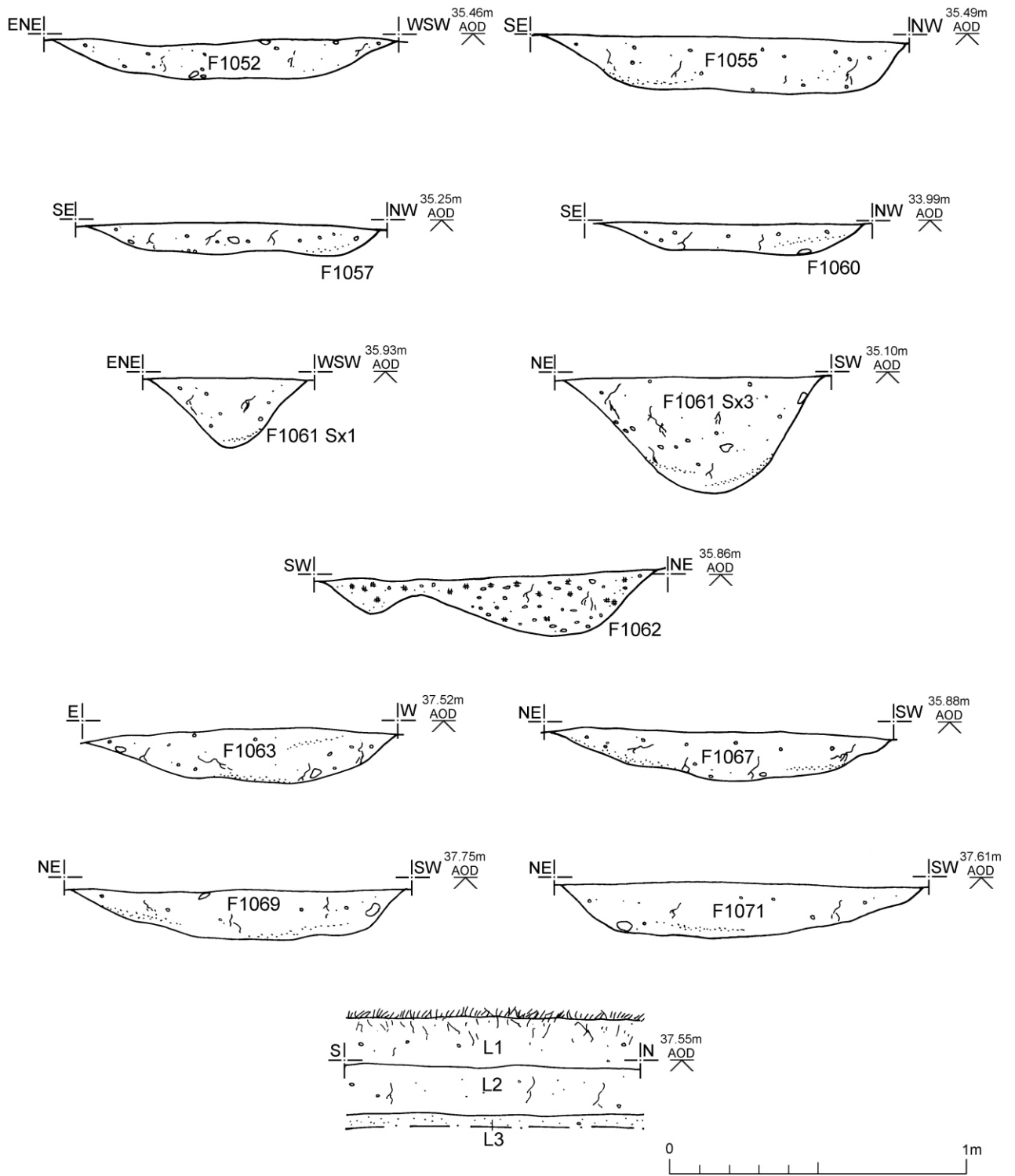


Fig 6 Feature and representative sections.



Fig 7 Clay triangular loomweight fragments from F1048.

Summary for colchest3-333876

OASIS ID (UID)	colchest3-333876
Project Name	Archaeological monitoring at Fiveways Fruit Farm, Dyers Road, Stanway, Essex, CO3 0QR
Activity type	WATCHING BRIEF
Project Identifier(s)	2015/03f
Planning Id	ESS/23/14/col
Reason For Investigation	Planning: Post determination
Organisation Responsible for work	Colchester Archaeological Trust
Project Dates	11-Sep-2018 - 30-Jul-2021
Location	Fiveways Fruit Farm, Dyers Road NGR : TL 95685 23209 LL : 51.8731136632611, 0.841207906887403 12 Fig : 595685,223209
Administrative Areas	Country : England County : Essex District : Colchester Parish : Stanway
Project Methodology	An area measuring 7.04ha was stripped under archaeological supervision. There was sufficient excavation to give evidence for the period, depth and nature of all archaeological deposits. For linear features 1m wide sections were excavated across their width to a total of 10% of the overall length. Discrete features, such as pits, were 50% excavated. There were no complex archaeological structures.
Project Results	<p>Archaeological monitoring was undertaken on land at Fiveways Fruit Farm, Dyers Road, Stanway, Colchester, Essex from September 2018 to July 2021 prior to the development of the site for mineral extraction. The site lies in an area of high archaeological significance some 500m northwest of the Gosbecks complex, the focus of the Iron Age oppidum of Camulodunum and later site of several major Roman public and other buildings including a Romano-Celtic and a theatre. Approximately 400m to the south was a series of five enclosures, consisting of an Iron Age farmstead and four Late Iron Age high-status funerary enclosures. In 2015, excavations immediately to the south of the site uncovered the remains of two interlinked Middle Iron Age farmsteads as well as evidence of limited Neolithic, Bronze Age, and Early Iron Age occupation.</p> <p>Further Middle Iron Age remains were found during the present investigation, including a ditch which linked the two farmsteads uncovered during the 2015 excavations around which were a number of pits and treethrows containing pottery, loomweight fragments and heat-affected stone and possibly indicates the presence of a further enclosure in the vicinity. Evidence of Roman occupation was also encountered within this part of the site. An isolated Late Bronze Age pit and worked flints of Mesolithic, Neolithic and Bronze Age date evidenced a presence at the site during these earlier periods too. There were no features dating to the medieval or post-medieval periods and only a limited quantity of modern remains, which were most likely the product of agricultural or horticultural activity.</p>

Keywords	<p>Natural Feature - None - FISH Thesaurus of Monument Types</p> <p>Tree Throw - None - FISH Thesaurus of Monument Types</p> <p>Ditch - POST MEDIEVAL - FISH Thesaurus of Monument Types</p> <p>Ditch - 20TH CENTURY - FISH Thesaurus of Monument Types</p> <p>Pit - UNCERTAIN - FISH Thesaurus of Monument Types</p> <p>Pit - LATE BRONZE AGE - FISH Thesaurus of Monument Types</p> <p>Tree Throw - MIDDLE IRON AGE - FISH Thesaurus of Monument Types</p> <p>Ditch - MIDDLE IRON AGE - FISH Thesaurus of Monument Types</p> <p>Gravel Pit - ROMAN - FISH Thesaurus of Monument Types</p> <p>Pit - MIDDLE IRON AGE - FISH Thesaurus of Monument Types</p> <p>Ditch - None - FISH Thesaurus of Monument Types</p> <p>Sherd - LATE BRONZE AGE - FISH Archaeological Objects Thesaurus</p> <p>Sherd - MIDDLE IRON AGE - FISH Archaeological Objects Thesaurus</p> <p>Sherd - ROMAN - FISH Archaeological Objects Thesaurus</p> <p>Ceramic - ROMAN - FISH Archaeological Objects Thesaurus</p> <p>Ceramic - POST MEDIEVAL - FISH Archaeological Objects Thesaurus</p> <p>Loomweight - MIDDLE IRON AGE - FISH Archaeological Objects Thesaurus</p> <p>Dressed Stone - MIDDLE IRON AGE - FISH Archaeological Objects Thesaurus</p> <p>Quern - ROMAN - FISH Archaeological Objects Thesaurus</p> <p>Pot Boiler - None - FISH Archaeological Objects Thesaurus</p> <p>Lithic Implement - NEOLITHIC - FISH Archaeological Objects Thesaurus</p> <p>Lithic Implement - MESOLITHIC - FISH Archaeological Objects Thesaurus</p> <p>Lithic Implement - BRONZE AGE - FISH Archaeological Objects Thesaurus</p> <p>Polished Knife - NEOLITHIC - FISH Archaeological Objects Thesaurus</p> <p>Polished Knife - BRONZE AGE - FISH Archaeological Objects Thesaurus</p>
HER	Colchester Borough Council - unRev - STANDARD
HER Identifiers	HER Event No - SYFF18
Archives	<p>Physical Archive, Documentary Archive - to be deposited with Colchester & Ipswich Museum Service (Colchester Collection)</p> <p>Digital Archive - to be deposited with Archaeology Data Service Archive</p>