

Archaeological evaluation on land east of Richard Avenue, Wivenhoe, Essex

September 2021



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**commissioned by Rob Masefield, RPS
on behalf of Taylor Wimpey East London**

NGR: TM 04549 23344 (centre)
Planning ref.: pre-planning
CAT project ref.: 2021/08c
CHER code: ECC4659
OASIS ref.: colchest3-433484



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CAT Report 1714
October 2021

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1 Summary

An archaeological evaluation (forty-eight trenches) was carried out on land east of Richard Avenue, Wivenhoe, Essex in advance of the construction of a new residential development. The development site is located within an area which previous archaeological investigations have identified as one of Bronze Age and Iron Age activity, and lies adjacent to the historic Wivenhoe Heath, which had its origins in the medieval period. The investigation revealed evidence of settlement here during the Late Iron Age and early Roman periods, including an urned cremation burial and artefactual evidence indicating that the site of a daub structure lies nearby. A handful of features dating to the medieval or post-medieval periods, which were almost certainly the product of an earlier pattern of land division, were uncovered. Finally, sparse 19th- or 20th-century remains, including those of an old field boundary ditch, were also recorded.

2 Introduction (Fig 1)

This is the report for an archaeological evaluation carried out by Colchester Archaeological Trust (CAT) on land east of Richard Avenue, Wivenhoe, Essex. The work was commissioned by Rob Masefield of RPS on behalf of Taylor Wimpey East London in advance of the construction of a new residential development with associated landscaping and infrastructure, and was carried out during 13th-30th September 2021 by Colchester Archaeological Trust (CAT).

As the site lies within an area highlighted by the EHER/CHER as having a high potential for archaeological deposits, an archaeological condition was recommended by the Colchester Borough Council Archaeological Advisor (CBCAA). This recommendation was for an archaeological evaluation by trial-trenching and was based on the guidance given in the *National Planning Policy Framework* (MHCLG 2019).

RPS consulted with CBCAA Dr Richard Hoggett who approved the programme of investigation. All archaeological work was carried out in accordance with a Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) prepared by RPS and agreed with CBCPS (RPS 2021).

In addition to the 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 field evaluation* (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 Colchester Archaeological Trust report archive, the Colchester Historic Environment Record (CHER, ECC/MCC numbers) accessed via the Colchester Heritage Explorer (www.colchesterheritage.co.uk) and the Written Scheme of Investigation compiled by RPS.

The site lies in an area of considerable prehistoric remains. Excavations undertaken at Fen Farm, Elmstead Market uncovered a Middle Bronze Age barrow cemetery, several pits of Early Iron Age date, and Late Iron Age features including a curving boundary ditch with gully land divisions to the east, and with two four-post structures (EEX54409; Field Archaeology Unit 2008). An Iron Age inhumation burial was also revealed during groundworks associated with gravel extraction southwest of Keelars Farm between 1934 and 1936 (MCC7095).

A number of findspots of prehistoric material also lie within the vicinity. Two flint flakes of Palaeolithic date were recovered from Near Broad Lanes, c 220m east of the site (MCC6937). A flint blade of Palaeolithic to Neolithic date and a sherd of Iron Age pottery was found west of Keelars Farm, c 360m to the east of the site (MCC7118; MCC7120). A Late Iron Age coin was found via metal-detecting c 50m to the east of the site while a further Late Iron Age to early Roman coin was discovered c 750m to the north-west of the site (MCC6796; MCC10348).

No archaeological deposits dating to the Roman period have been uncovered in the vicinity of the site but a sherd of Roman pottery has been recovered west of Keelars Farm, 360m to the east of the site, while a late 3rd-century coin was found approximately 850m to the west (MCC7117; MCC9486). Further Roman artefacts were also recovered at Fen Farm, c 600m northeast of the site (Field Archaeology Unit 2008).

The origins of Wivenhoe Park deer park, c 650m northwest of the site, lay in the medieval period (MCC8658). It was later converted to a 34-hectare landscaped park surrounding an associated post-medieval country house (Wivenhoe Park Registered Park and Garden – National List 1000371). Wivenhoe Heath, situated c 50m northwest of the site, is also medieval in origin (MCC9167). St Mary's Church, located 1.65km south southwest of the site, dates to between the 13th and 15th century and was extensively restored during the 19th century. Several medieval coins and tokens have also been found within the area (MCC5795, MCC6086, MCC6277, MCC6229, MCC6230, MCC6467, MCC6467, MCC6467, MCC6537 and MCC9932).

The remains of Second World War-era defences are located near to the site. A former spigot mortar position at Colchester Road lies c 200m southwest of the site and a destroyed ammunition centre at Tower Road lies c 300m to the southwest (MCC5533; MCC5534).

A number of cropmark complexes surround the area, and some of these extend into the site. Cropmarks indicate the presence of linear features in the southern part of the site, including a possible curvilinear enclosure and a trackway, which likely date to Iron Age or the Roman period (ECC4411; MCC9022). A further cropmark of a large enclosure of possible Iron Age or Roman date, the northwestern corner of which enters the eastern part of the site, is centred some 175m to the east.

A geophysical survey of the site was carried out in 2019 and 2021. This investigation identified the abovementioned cropmarks in the southern part of the site as possessing archaeological potential, and identified the possible presence of a further enclosure in the western area of the site (SUMO 2021).

4 Aims

The aims of the archaeological evaluation were to record the extent of any surviving archaeological deposits and to assess the archaeological potential of the site to allow the CBCAA to determine if further investigation is required.

5 Results (Figs 2-12 and Fig 14)

Forty-eight trial-trenches were machine-excavated under the supervision of a CAT archaeologist. The trenches were 30m long and 1.8m wide except trench T47, which was 20m long and 1.8m wide. They were cut through modern ploughsoil (L1, c 0.26-0.47m thick) onto natural (L2). Sondages were excavated in trenches T2, T15, T17, T35 and T37 to confirm the identification of L2 as natural.

There were no archaeological features in trenches T1, T2, T3, T4, T8, T9, T10, T11, T12, T13, T14, T15, T16, T18, T19, T20, T21, T23, T26, T32, T36 and T45.

Trench 5 (T5):

Treethrow F1 was excavated.

Trench 6 (T6):

Ditch F2, which was of 19th- or 20th-century date, lay on a ENE-WSW alignment and was 1.66m wide and 0.48m deep with a somewhat irregular profile and even base.



Photograph 1 T6 trench shot – looking northwest

Trench 7 (T7):

Undatable pit/treethrow F3 extended beyond the limit of excavation (LOE), and so its full dimensions could not be ascertained, but its exposed extent was 0.96m wide and 0.39m deep. The feature was sub-round and had gently-sloping sides and an even base.

Trench 17 (T17):

Undatable ditch F4 was oriented E-W and was 0.92m wide and 0.06m deep.

Trench 22 (T22):

Undatable pit F5 extended beyond the LOE; its exposed dimensions were 0.74m wide and 0.34m deep. The feature was sub-oval had steeply-sloping sides and a concave base.

Trench 24 (T24):

Modern ditch F14 was aligned NE-SW and was 1.8m wide and 0.35m deep. It had an irregular profile and a concave depression at its base.

Trench 25 (T25):

Post-medieval or modern ?pit F12 was uncovered at the eastern end of the trench. It extended beyond the LOE; its exposed extent was 1.79m wide and 0.49m deep. The feature had gently-sloping sides with a concave depression at the northeastern side of its base.

Ditch F13, lay at the western end of the trench. It dated to the 19th-20th century, was oriented NW-SE and was 1.61m wide and 0.23m deep. The feature continued on to T34, to the southeast, where it was recorded as F24. It had gently-sloping sides and an uneven base.



Photograph 2 T25 trench shot – looking east northeast

Trench 27 (T27):

Undatable ditch F9 was oriented WNW-ESE and was 1.25m wide and 0.49m deep. The feature continued on to T28, to the east, where it was recorded as F6. It had steeply-sloping sides and a concave depression at its base.

Trench 28 (T28):

Undatable ditch F6 was oriented WNW-ESE and was 0.91m wide and 0.34m deep. It was a continuation of ditch F9 in trench T27, to the west. The feature had steep-sloping sides and an even base.

Trench 29 (T29):

Medieval/post-medieval ditch F16 was oriented NE-SW and was 2.3m wide and 0.55m deep. It had gently-sloping sides and a depression at its base.

Trench 30 (T30):

Undatable ditch F17, at the northern end of the trench, lay on a E-W alignment, was 1.6m wide and 0.48m deep and had a V-shaped profile.

A further ditch, F18, was situated within the southern half of the trench. It was oriented NE-SW, was 2.31m wide and 1.1m deep and also had a V-shaped profile. The feature produced no dating evidence.

Trench 31 (T31):

Post-medieval or modern ditch F21 was oriented ENE-WSW and was 1.15m wide and 0.48m deep. It too had a V-shaped profile.

Trench 33 (T33):

Late Iron Age or early Roman ditch F36 lay on a ENE-WSW alignment. The feature was 1.77m wide and was excavated to a depth of 0.84m whereupon excavation ceased due to the need to stay within safe working depths.

Trench 34 (T34):

Ditch F24 was aligned NNW-SSE and was 1.71m wide and 0.32m deep. It had gently-sloping sides and a slightly concave base. A single sherd of Middle Iron Age pottery was recovered from the feature, but it likely represented a continuation of modern ditch F13 in trench T25, to the north.

Undatable ditch F25 was oriented WNW-ESE and was 1.3m wide and 0.41m deep. It had moderately-sloping sides and a slightly concave base.

Trench 35 (T35):

Medieval/post-medieval ditch F28 lay on a WNW-ESE alignment, was 1.27m wide and 0.49m deep and had a somewhat irregular profile.

Trench 37 (T37):

Late Iron Age ditch F23 lay on a NNW-SSE alignment and was 3.56m wide and 0.7m deep. It had an irregular profile with a concave depression at the northeastern side of its base. A very large assemblage of 179 pieces of daub and baked clay was recovered from this feature. Some of the daub fragments had stakeholes, including one piece with two stakeholes positioned at right-angles to one another. Only three sherds of pottery were recovered from this context however, one dating to the Late Iron Age, the others likely to the Middle Iron Age.



Photograph 3 T37 trench shot – looking west northwest

Trench 38 (T38):

Medieval or post-medieval ditch F30 was oriented NNW-SSE and was 2.01m wide and 0.6m deep. The feature had gently-sloping sides with a slight concave base.

Undatable ditch F31 was aligned NNE-SSW, was 1.81m wide and 0.27m deep and had a slightly U-shaped profile. The feature continued on to trench T41, to the south, where it was recorded as F27.

Trench 39 (T39):

Roman ditch F19 extended along the trench on a ENE-WSW alignment, was 1.32-1.51m wide and 0.17-0.23m deep and also had a slightly U-shaped profile. The feature continued on to trench T40, to the east, where it was recorded as F20.

Trench 40 (T40):

Roman ditch F20 was oriented ENE-WSW, was 0.89m wide and 0.09m deep and had a U-shaped profile. It represented a continuation of F19 in trench T39, to the west.

Trench 41 (T41):

Undatable ditch F26 was aligned NE-SW, was 1.15m wide and 0.47m deep and also had a U-shaped profile.

Undatable ditch F27 lay on a NNE-SSW alignment. The feature extended beyond the LOE; its exposed extent was 1.1m wide and 0.3m deep. It had gently-sloping sides and an even base. The feature represented a continuation of F31 in T38, to the north.

Trench 42 (T42):

Undatable ditch/natural feature F29 was aligned NNW-SSE and was 0.91m wide and 0.23m deep with a U-shaped profile.

?Middle Iron Age pit or ditch F32 was oriented NNW-SSE and was 3.13m wide and 1.01m deep. The feature had uneven sides and a concave base. The feature contained another large assemblage of daub and baked clay, comprising of some 151 fragments, with a number of pieces of daub again having stakeholes. Only one pottery sherd, of likely Middle Iron Age date, was recovered from this feature.

Undatable charcoal-rich pit F35 was 0.6m across, 0.79m wide and 0.15m deep. The feature was sub-round and had gently-sloping sides and an even base.

Trench 43 (T43):

Late Iron Age or early Roman ?ditch F22 was oriented E-W, was 0.55m wide and 0.08m deep and had a U-shaped profile. The feature yielded a large assemblage of 189 sherds of pottery. These primarily dated to the Late Iron Age and early Roman periods, and included pieces of a Cam 259 jar and a Cam 270B storage jar, but two sherds of pottery likely originating from the Middle Iron Age were also present. Thirty-six fragments of daub and seven heat-affected stones were also recovered from this feature.



Photograph 4 T43 trench shot – looking south southeast

Trench 44 (T44):

Medieval or post-medieval ditch F15 was aligned NE-SW, was 1.55m wide and 0.3m deep and had gently-sloping sides and a slightly concave base. The feature continued on to T47, to the south, where it was recorded as F10.

Undatable pit/ditch terminus F34 was 1.92m wide and 0.22m deep with a U-shaped profile.

Trench 47 (T47):

Medieval or post-medieval ditch F10 extended along the trench on a NNE-SSW alignment and was 1.25m wide and 0.24m deep. It had gently-sloping sides and a slightly uneven base. The feature represented a continuation of F15 in T44, to the north.

Treethrow F11 was excavated. The feature interacted with ditch F10 but the relationship between the two could not be ascertained.

Trench 48 (T48):

Late Iron Age cremation burial F7 was uncovered at the centre of the trench. It was 0.38m wide and 0.14m deep with a U-shaped profile. The cremated bone was placed in a burial urn which had been broken into fifty-two pieces, most likely by ploughing of the site. Approximately 264g of human bone were recovered from the feature, less than would be expected from an adult cremation and therefore the remains were possibly those of a neonate or juvenile, a view supported by the presence of an unfused vertebral body, which is typical of a child under five years of age. Some of the lower limb fragments were also the correct size for those of a child. Also recovered from this feature were the remains of two brooches, likely dating from the mid 1st century BC to the mid 1st century AD and placed within the burial as grave goods.

Late Iron Age charcoal-rich pit F8 lay just north of F7. It was 1.02m wide and 0.26m deep with a slightly irregular profile and a concave base. The feature produced twenty-nine sherds of Late Iron Age grog-tempered ware, including some derived from a Cam 222 bowl.



Photograph 5 F7 partially-excavated – looking northwest

6 Finds

6.1 Pottery

by Dr Matthew Loughton

The evaluation uncovered 761 sherds of pottery and ceramic building material (henceforth CBM) with a weight of just over 8kg and EVE of 1.42 (Table 1). CBM, particularly baked clay and daub, accounts for a large proportion of the assemblage by sherd weight.

Ceramic material	No.	Weight (g)	MSW (g)	EVE
Pottery	370	2,220	5	1.42
CBM	391	5,841	15	-
All	761	8,061	11	1.42

Table 1 Details on the main types of ceramics and pottery

Sherds of pottery and CBM were recovered from 18 features although three features (?ditch F22, ditch F23, ditch F33) between them contained the bulk of the assemblage by sherd count and sherd weight. The largest assemblage by sherd count is the 189 sherds with a weight of 831g from ?ditch F22, while the largest assemblage by sherd weight came from pit or ditch F32 at 2.6kg (152 sherds). Another significant assemblage came from ditch F33 with 96 sherds weighing 453g. All of the ceramic finds from cremation F7 (52 sherds at 974g) came from one vessel.

Context	Description	No.	Weight (g)	MSW (g)
F2	Ditch	3	597	199
F7	Cremation burial	52	974	19
F8	Charcoal-rich pit	29	95	3
F10	Ditch	3	219	73
F13	Ditch	1	7	7
F14	Ditch	2	7	4
F15	Ditch	3	31	10
F16	Ditch	5	31	6
F19	Ditch	9	92	10
F21	Ditch	1	2	2
F22	?Ditch	189	831	4
F23	Ditch	182	1,916	11
F24	Ditch	1	21	21
F28	Ditch	2	8	4
F30	Ditch	10	65	7
F32	Pit/ditch	152	2,586	17
F33	Ditch	96	453	5
F36	Ditch	21	126	6
Total		761	8,061	11

Table 2 Quantities of pottery and CBM from specific features

Prehistoric pottery

There is a small assemblage of handmade prehistoric pottery with 35 sherds weighing 188g and an EVE of 0.15 (Table 4). Small quantities of prehistoric pottery was recovered from eight features although ditch F36 produced a slightly larger-sized assemblage of 18 sherds at 113g and an EVE of 0.15 (Table 5). Most of the prehistoric pottery was recovered from features which also contained quantities of Late Iron Age to early Roman pottery. There were, however, a couple of exceptions: the sherd (21g) of handmade sand- and mica-tempered pottery (HMMS) from ditch F24, and the very small sherd of handmade sand-tempered (HMS) pottery from pit or ditch F32.

The bias towards pottery tempered with fine sand (HMS) and fine sand and mica (HMMS) (Table 4) suggests that most of this material dates to the later prehistoric period and possibly to the Middle Iron Age. Diagnostic sherds were sparse except for a possible lug handle (HMGS) from ditch F10 and an everted rim jar (EVE: 0.15) in fabric HMS from ditch F36.

Fabric code	Fabric description	Fabric date range guide
HMF	Handmade flint tempered	Prehistoric
HMGS	Handmade grog and sand tempered	Prehistoric
HMS	Handmade sand tempered	Prehistoric
HMMS	Handmade sand and mica tempered	Prehistoric

Table 3 Prehistoric pottery fabrics recorded

Fabric Group	Fabric description	No.	Weight (g)	MSW (g)	EVE
HMF	Handmade flint tempered	1	2	2	0.00
HMGS	Handmade grog and sand tempered	4	15	4	0.00
HMS	Handmade sand tempered	14	45	3	0.15
HMSM	Handmade sand and mica tempered	16	126	8	0.00
Total		35	188	5	0.15

Table 4 Details on the prehistoric pottery

Context	Description	No.	Weight (g)	MSW (g)	EVE
F10	Ditch	1	8	8	0.00
F19	Ditch	5	18	4	0.00
F22	?Ditch	3	7	2	0.00
F23	Ditch	2	5	3	0.00
F24	Ditch	1	21	24	0.00
F32	Pit/ditch	1	1	1	0.00
F33	Ditch	4	15	4	0.00
F36	Ditch	18	113	6	0.15
Total		35	188	5	0.15

Table 5 Quantities of prehistoric pottery from specific features**Late Iron Age/early Roman pottery**

The Late Iron Age/early Roman pottery was recorded using the fabric groups from Stanway (Benfield 2007) and Colchester Institute (Loughton in prep.) (Table 3) alongside the fabric groups outlined in *CAR 10* (1999) for the Roman pottery. The Romanising coarse ware fabric group (RCW) has been further sub-divided into the following groups:

RCW 1: Black surface ware, typically thin-walled, micaceous, with very smooth burnished surfaces

RCW 2: Pimply ware (sand and grog) often with a black outer surface

RCW 6: Black surface, grey core with frequent black grog

Roman vessel types were classified via the Colchester (*Camulodunum*), henceforth Cam, type series (Hawkes & Hull 1947; Hull 1958; *CAR 10*, 468-87). The pottery was recorded by sherd count, the number of rims, handles, and bases, and weight, for each fabric group. The number of vessels was determined by rim EVE (estimated vessel equivalent).

The bulk of the pottery dates to the Late Iron Age/early Roman period (Table 7) and there is very little material in post-conquest Roman pottery fabrics except for three sherds with a weight of 44g of coarse, principally locally-produced grey wares (fabric GX) from ditch F10 and ditch F19. The assemblage consists of 332 sherds with a weight of just over 2kg and EVE of 1.37. This pottery was recovered from 10 features although only four (cremation burial F7, charcoal-rich pit F8, ?ditch F22, ditch F33) contained more substantial assemblages (Table 9). The largest assemblage with 150 sherds with a weight of 405g and EVE of 0.68 came from ?ditch F22 (Table 9).

Fabric code	Fabric description	Fabric date range guide
CSOW	Coarse sandy oxidized ware	Late Iron Age-early Roman
FMW	Fumed micaceous ware	Late Iron Age-early Roman
FSOW	Fine sandy oxidized ware	Late Iron Age-early Roman
FSW/EGW	Fine sandy ware/early Greyware	Late Iron Age-early Roman
GTW	Late Iron Age 'Belgic' grog-tempered ware	Late Iron Age-early Roman
GTW (BG)	Late Iron Age 'Belgic' grog-tempered ware with black-grog	Late Iron Age-early Roman

GX	Other coarse, principally locally-produced grey wares	Roman
RCW	Romanising coarse wares	Late Iron Age-early Roman
RCW 1	Romanising coarse wares	Late Iron Age-early Roman
RCW 2	Romanising coarse wares	Late Iron Age-early Roman
RCW 6	Romanising coarse wares	Late Iron Age-early Roman
ROW	Romanising Oxidized ware	Late Iron Age-early Roman
SW	Sandy ware	Late Iron Age-early Roman

Table 6 Late Iron Age-early Roman pottery fabrics recorded

Fabric Group	Fabric description	No.	Weight (g)	MSW (g)	EVE
CSOW	Coarse sandy oxidized ware	22	66	3	0.08
FMW	Fumed micaceous ware	21	54	3	0.14
FSOW	Fine sandy oxidized ware	32	113	4	0.12
FSW/EGW	Fine sandy ware/early Greyware	19	40	2	0.23
GTW	Late Iron Age 'Belgic' grog-tempered ware	104	1,223	12	0.11
GTW (BG)	Late Iron Age 'Belgic' grog-tempered ware with black-grog	9	113	13	0.08
GX	Other coarse, principally locally-produced grey wares	3	44	15	0.00
RCW	Romanising coarse wares	10	47	5	0.00
RCW 1	Romanising coarse wares	81	239	3	0.39
RCW 2	Romanising coarse wares	4	36	9	0.00
RCW 4	Romanising coarse wares	7	24	3	0.25
ROW	Romanising Oxidized ware	3	11	4	0.00
SW	Sandy ware	17	12	1	0.00
Total		332	2,022	6	1.37

Table 7 Details on the Late Iron Age-early Roman pottery

Fabric Group	Form	EVE
CSOW	All	0.08
	Cam 264	0.08
FMW	All	0.14
	Bowl/dish?	0.14
FSOW	All	0.12
	Cam 116	0.12
FSW/EGW	All	0.23
	Cam 219	0.23
GTW	All	0.11
	Cam 222	0.03
	Cam 259	0.05
	Cam 270B	0.03
GTW BG	All	0.08
	Cam 264	0.08
RCW 1	All	0.36
	Cam 218	0.21
	Cam 231-232	0.07
	Cam 266	0.08
RCW 4	All	0.25
	Cam 228	0.25

Total	1.37
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Table 8 Late Iron Age-early Roman pottery quantification via vessel form

Context	Description	No.	Weight (g)	MSW (g)	EVE
F7	Cremation burial	52	974	19	0.00
F8	Charcoal-rich pit	29	95	3	0.03
F10	Ditch	1	7	7	0.00
F15	Ditch	2	9	5	0.00
F19	Ditch	3	39	13	0.00
F22	?Ditch	150	405	3	0.68
F23	Ditch	1	40	40	0.00
F30	Ditch	6	38	6	0.14
F33	Ditch	85	402	5	0.45
F36	Ditch	3	13	4	0.07
Total		332	2,022	6	1.37

Table 9 Quantities of Late Iron Age-early Roman pottery from specific features

Late Iron Age grog-tempered pottery accounts for 34% of the assemblage by sherd count and 66% by sherd weight and 14% of the EVE (Table 7). All the grog-tempered pottery from cremation burial F7 came from one vessel although part of the upper body along with the rim is missing so it is not possible to identify the vessel type (Fig 14.1). Other grog-tempered vessels included a Cam 222 bowl (EVE: 0.03) from charcoal-rich pit F8, a Cam 259 jar (EVE: 0.05) from ?ditch F22, Cam 264 bowl (EVE: 0.08) from ditch F33 and a Cam 270B storage jar (EVE: 0.03) from ?ditch F22 (Table 8). These forms, except for the Cam 270B, are found on the Sheepen and Institute sites (Hawkes & Hull 1946; Loughton in prep.) but are generally absent from the later Roman fortress and colonia (*CAR 10*).

The modest quantity of FSW/EGW (fine sandy ware/early greyware) included a Cam 219 (EVE: 0.23) bowl from ?ditch F22. The Romanising coarseware fabrics (RCW, RCW 1, RCW 2, RCW 6) together account for a significant proportion of the assemblage and 31% of the assemblage by sherd count, 17% by sherd weight and 45% of the EVE. A variety of vessels are represented with examples of the Cam 218 bowl (EVE: 0.21) from ?ditch F22, Cam 228 (EVE: 0.25) bowl from ditch F33, Cam 231-232 (EVE: 0.07) jar from ditch F36, Cam 266 (EVE: 0.08) jar from ? ditch F22, and Cam 298 sieve from ?ditch F22 (Table 8).

Ditch F33 contained a local butt-beaker copy (Cam 116) in a fine sandy oxidized ware (FSOW) which is slightly similar to Hawkes and Hull's TR4 fabric (Hawkes & Hull 1947, 204, 239-240) although it is not fumed (FMW). A fumed bowl/dish? (FMW) was recovered from ditch F30 (EVE: 0.14) which is decorated with rouletted lines on the upper rim surface (Fig 13.1).

A sherd of Romanising coarseware (RCW) from ditch F33 has been cut down into a rough disc-shaped sherd which has been pierced vaguely centrally with a small hole (c 2.3mm in diameter). Given the rough shape of the sherd and placement of the hole which is under 5mm in diameter, this is unlikely to have been used as a spindlewhorl (Crummy 1983, 67).

Post-Roman pottery

Post-Roman pottery was recorded according to the fabric groups from *CAR 7* (2000) while the number of vessels was determined by rim EVE (estimated vessel equivalent). There were only three sherds of post-Roman pottery, all of Staffordshire-type white earthenwares (fabric 48D) with a weight of 10g dating to the 19th/20th century. This material was recovered from ditch F2, ditch F13 and ditch F14. A Staffordshire-type white earthenware bowl (EVE: 0.05) was recovered from ditch F13.

Ceramic building material (CBM)

There were 391 sherds of CBM with a weight of 5.8kg (Table 10) which was recovered from 13 features (Table 11). The bulk of the CBM was recovered from just three features: ditch F23,

pit/ditch F32 and ?ditch F22. The largest assemblage by sherd count is the 179 sherds with a weight of just over 1.8kg from ditch F23, followed by 151 sherds with a weight of nearly 2.6kg from pit/ditch F32.

CBM code	CBM type	No.	Weight (g)	MSW (g)
<i>Roman</i>				
RT	Roman tegulae	1	35	35
<i>Post-Roman</i>				
BR	Brick	7	777	111
PT	Peg-tile	7	99	14
<i>Undated</i>				
Baked clay		255	2,841	11
Daub		121	2,089	17
Total		391	5,841	15

Table 10 Ceramic building material by period and type

Context	Description	No.	Weight (g)	MSW (g)
F2	Ditch	2	595	298
F10	Ditch	1	204	204
F14	Ditch	1	6	6
F15	Ditch	1	22	22
F16	Ditch	5	31	6
F19	Ditch	1	35	35
F21	Ditch	1	2	2
F22	?Ditch	36	419	12
F23	Ditch	179	1,871	10
F28	Ditch	2	8	4
F30	Ditch	4	27	7
F32	Pit/ditch	151	2,585	17
F33	Ditch	7	36	5
Total		391	5,841	15

Table 11 Quantities of CBM from specific features

Baked clay and daub together account for the bulk of the CBM (Table 12). This material was recovered from five features although most of it came from ditch F23 and pit/ditch F32 (Table 12). Some of the daub fragments from ditch F23 and pit/ditch F32 have preserved stake-holes with diameters of between 12-18mm (Figs 13.2, 13.3 & 13.4). One fragment of daub from ditch F23 has stake-holes in two different directions at right angles to each other and a slightly burnt and vitrified/glassy upper surface (Fig 13.4).

Context	Description	No.	Weight (g)	MSW (g)
F22	?Ditch	36	419	12
F23	Ditch	179	1871	10
F30	Ditch	3	19	6
F32	Pit/ditch	151	2585	17
F33	Ditch	7	36	5
Total		376	4,930	13

Table 12 Quantities of baked clay and daub from specific features

A small sherd of Roman tegula came from ditch F19 while there was a small collection of post-Roman CBM with sherds of peg-tile and brick. Peg-tile was recovered from ditches F2, F14, F15, F21, F28 and F30. Post-Roman brick fragments were recovered from ditches F2, F10 and F16. The brick from ditch F2 was unfrogged with dimensions of ?mm x 95mm x 50/52mm.

Conclusion

Table 13 summarizes the dating evidence for the features which contained dateable pottery and ceramics. The presence of a small quantity of Middle Iron Age pottery suggests that some of the features, for example pit/ditch F32 and ditch F36, could date from the 2nd-early 1st century BC. Most of the pottery suggests that the activity on the site dates to the Late Iron Age to early Roman period, and the rarity of Roman pottery and Roman CBM suggests that the settlement was abandoned early in the Roman period. The presence of a Gallo-Belgic butt-beaker from ditch F33 provides a TPQ of c 30 BC and the start of the Augustan period for this assemblage. The large quantity of baked clay, including daub, suggests that a daub structure is to be found close by. The bias towards cooking vessels and the absence of imported fineware pottery from northern (Gallo-Belgic wares) and southern Gaul (Samian) and amphorae, suggests that the settlement was of relatively low status.

Context	Iron Age & Roman	Post-Roman	CBM	Date approx.
F2	-	F48D	PT BR (un-frogged)	19th-20th century
F7	GTW	-	-	Late Iron Age
F8	GTW (CAM 222)	-	-	Late Iron Age
F10	HMGs, GX	-	BR	medieval/post-medieval
F13	-	F48D (bowl)	-	19th-20th century
F14	-	F48D	PT	19th-20th century
F15	ROW	-	PT	medieval/post-medieval
F16	-	-	BR	medieval/post-medieval
F19	HMS, CSOW, GX	-	RT	Roman
F22	CSOW (CAM 264), FMW, FSOW, FSW/EGW (CAM 219), GTW (CAM 259, CAM 270B), HMGs, RCW (CAM 298), RCW 1 (CAM 218, CAM 266), ROW, SW	-	PT (intrusive?)	Late Iron Age-early Roman
F23	HMF, HMS, GTW	-	-	Late Iron Age
F24	HMSM	-	-	19th-20th century ¹
F28	-	-	PT	medieval/post-medieval
F30	FMW (Bowl/dish?), RCW	-	PT (intrusive?)	Late Iron Age-early Roman
F32	HMS	-	-	Middle Iron Age?
F33	FSOW (CAM 116), FSW/EGW, GTW, GTW BG (CAM 264), HMS, RCW, RCW 1 (CAM 218), RCW 2, RCW 4 (CAM 228)	-	-	Late Iron Age-early Roman
F36	HMS, HMSM, RCW 1 (CAM 231-232)	-	-	Late Iron Age-early Roman

Table 13 Approximate dates for the individual features

6.2 Small finds

by Laura Pooley

Evaluation produced two incomplete iron brooches (SF1), a complete ring and stud fastener or fitting and the remains of a possible second (SF2), and a piece of lava quernstone (SF3).

The remains of two iron brooches were found amongst the cremated remains within urned burial F7 (Figs 14.2 and 14.3). Although highly fragmented none show evidence of being heat-affected so must have been added to the urn after the individual had been cremated. Sixteen fragments of brooch were found in total including two pieces of head/spring and bow, two fragments of

¹ Updated due to feature being identified as a continuation of modern ditch F13.

framed catch-plate and twelve fragments of bow or pin. Both are one-piece sprung brooches and fall within Mackreth's *Drahtfibel* group, Mackreth type D1.b. Made from circular-sectioned wire with springs of four coils they have internal chords and framed catch-plates (Mackreth 2011, 13-14, 21-22). A fairly rare brooch in Britain, they generally date from 50 BC to AD 50 (*ibid*, 21-22).

An iron ring and stud fitting or fastener, and the partial remains of what looks like a second similar object, were also recovered from pit F8 (Fig 15.1-2). The complete fitting/fastener has a pointed oval loop with a forward-facing attachment stud on a short shank at the pointed end. These objects have been variously interpreted as baldric rings or strap fittings, but also as harness rings, with examples in copper-alloy known from a number of sites including Hengistbury Head in Dorset (Cunliffe 1987, 153, ref. 41-42) and at Elms Farm in Essex (<https://intarch.ac.uk/journal/issue40/1/3-7-12.html>). Likely of Late Iron Age date.

The final object was an abraded lump of lava quernstone from ditch F24 (SF3). 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 (CAR 2, 73-79).

Figs 14.2 & 14.3 SF1, urned cremation burial F7, finds no. 2. Sixteen fragments of iron from two iron bow brooches (total weight 20.1g, plus one piece corroded onto a piece of cremated bone). Two of the fragments include the head/spring, partial bow and partial pin of the brooches, both have springs of four coils and in internal chord. A further two fragments come from framed triangular catch-plates and the final twelve fragments from the bow or pin. All 16 fragments are of circular cross-section, and all are too corroded to satisfactorily form a good join to another. Mackreth type D1.b (2011, 21-22), 50 BC to AD 50. The most complete fragment is c 35.4mm long, the spring is c 12.5mm in diameter and 12.2mm across, the bow is c 5.6mm in diameter and the pin c 4.2mm in diameter.

SF2, pit F8, sample no. 1.

Fig 15.4 a) Ring and stud fitting/fastener with a pointed oval loop (loop: c 35mm long by 31mm wide) and short shank (c 18mm long) with forward facing stud (12mm long, 12mm diameter). Loop has a circular cross-section. Total: 58.6mm long, 37.1mm wide, 13.0mm thick, 31.6mm long, 31.6g. Late Iron Age.

Fig 15.5 b) Two joining fragments forming half of a loop, circular-cross section, very similar in size and shape to SF2a, broken at both ends. 40.3mm long, 22.4mm wide, 10mm thick, 8.1g.

c) Five small fragments of iron, most of circular cross-section, 2.5g.

SF3, ditch F24, finds no. 16. Fragment of abraded lava quernstone (now in two joining pieces, modern break), 62.0mm long, 52.2mm wide, 43.1mm thick, 198.8g.

6.3 Miscellaneous finds

by Laura Pooley

Twelve pieces of burnt flint (321.6g) were recovered from Late Iron Age ditch F23 and Late Iron Age/early Roman ditches F22 and F36. All were cracked and crazed and burnt various shades of white, grey and red.

A small fragment of post-medieval/modern glass (2g) was also found in ditch F21.

Context	Finds or <sample> no.	Description
Burnt (heat-altered) stone (discarded)		
F22	14	Seven pieces of flint, small- and medium-sized, cracked and crazed, burnt various shades of white and grey, 198.1g.
F23	<5>	One piece of flint, very small, cracked and crazed, burnt various shades of white and grey, 5.6g.
F36	24	Four pieces of flint, small- and medium-sized, cracked, burnt various shades of red, 117.9g.
Glass (discarded)		
F21	6	One fragment of glass, pale green, 2.0g, post-medieval/modern

Table 14 Miscellaneous finds listed by find type and context**6.4 Worked flint***by Adam Wightman*

A prehistoric flint flake was recovered from ditch F21 (finds no.6), it had usewear/edge damage on the left lateral edge.

6.5 Human bone*by Megan Seehra*

A single deposit of cremated human bone (cremains) was recovered during the excavation. The cremated bone was recovered from pit F7 and the remains had been deliberately buried within a burial urn. A full (100%) sample of the fill from the vessel was taken, and all bone recovered from the sample is included in this report.

The total amount of bone recovered was 263.8g, well below the average weight of an adult cremation (1,650g, McKinley 2000, 25). This may mean the individual was a neonate/juvenile, or the cremains deposited into this vessel are just a small representation of the whole individual. The burial urn had also been truncated, probably during more recent ploughing, meaning some cremains may have been lost. A mix of bone fragments and stones under 2mm were weighed but not analysed, and therefore not included in the total weight of bone.

Fragmentation size (mm)	Weight (g)	% of total analysed bone
10mm+	224.3g	85%
7-10mm	18.6g	7.05%
5-7mm	12.5g	4.74%
2-5mm	8.4g	3.18%
Total	263.8g	100%
<2mm and misc stones	135.2g	-

Table 15 Breakdown of weight for each fragmentation size group

Skeletal Element	No. of fragments	Weight (g)	Notes
Cranium	33	48.4g*	*small fe object corroded to one fragment
Femur/tibia/fibula (lower limb)	13	37.3g	-
Long bones, general	36	51.4g	-
Ribs	4	5.9g	-
Miscellaneous	200	79.8g	-
Total	286	222.8g	-

Table 16 Identifiable skeletal elements

Fragments over 10mm made up the majority of the assemblage (Table 15). There were 561 fragments counted for the 10mm+ cremated remains. The largest fragment size was 90mm long. Cremains were not counted individually for fragments under 10mm due to extremely high fragmentation. Bone fragmentation can be caused by post-depositional disturbance, age-related changes (brittle bones) at the time of cremation, type of burial deposit and cremation method. The maximum fragment size here corresponds with similar urned burials (McKinley 1994); an undisturbed, lidded urn burial would produce larger bone fragments as the urn provides protection *in situ*.

The vast majority of the bone fragments were white, with five or six fragments being of white and blue colour, and only 1g of bone being of black/brown in colour. This bone was therefore likely burnt at a temperature of at least 700°C for at least 1 hour (Ubelaker 2015). The high

percentage of white (oxidised) bone indicates an efficient cremation process, i.e. the distribution of heat.

There was significant fracturing, shrinkage and warping (photo 7) to many fragments. Based on fracture classifications by Symes *et al* (2008), longitudinal (or thumbnail) (photo 6), transverse (photo 7), step (photo 7), patina, splintering and delamination (photo 8) fractures were all found in this assemblage. When several types are present, interpretation is difficult. Warping and curved transverse fractures indicate the remains were burnt with flesh, however thumbnail fractures and splintering indicate the remains were burnt without flesh.

The minimum number of individuals (MNI) is one. One partial fragment of an unfused vertebral centrum was found. As diagram 1 shows, the centrum does not ossify even at 3 years old, however is complete by the age of 16-18 years old. Radiographic assessments by Bagnall *et al* (1977, in Schaefer *et al* 2009) concluded that the centrum fuses to the rest of the vertebra by 5 years old. Therefore it can be concluded the individual represented in this cremation is under 5 years old. Unfortunately the vertebra fragment was not complete, so a more specific age estimation could not be made.

A degree of bone shrinkage during the cremation process should be expected, however some of the lower limb fragments identified appear to be the correct size for a juvenile. Sex is unable to be determined for juveniles.

Certain pathologies were not found. However, possible widespread lesions interior cranium were seen on many cranial fragments. It is unclear whether these occurred during the cremation process, or whether the individual suffered from an infection or disease.



Photograph 6 An example of longitudinal (thumbnail) fracturing on a diaphysis fragment



Photograph 7 Examples of transverse fractures (black arrows), warping (white arrow), and step fractures (red arrows)



Photograph 8 Example of delaminating and splintering

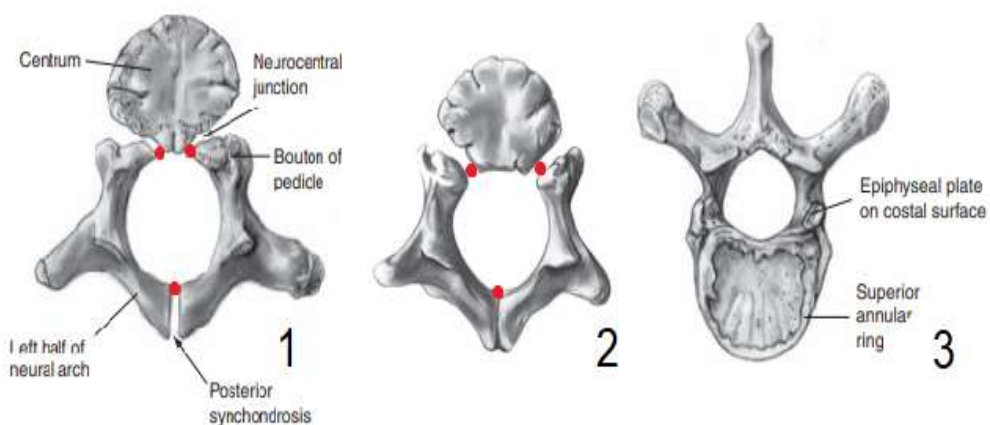


Diagram 1 1: thoracic vertebra of a c 1.5 year old child. 2: thoracic vertebra of a 2-3 year old. 3: thoracic vertebra of a 16-18 year old. The primary ossification centres are shown by the red dots. From Bagnall *et al* 2009

7 Environmental assessment

by Lisa Gray

Six samples (Table 17) were taken during the evaluation. Sample 3, taken from inside the cremation urn from F7, did not produce any environmental remains. The aims of this assessment are to evaluate the preservation of plant macro-remains, make recommendations for future sampling and determine the significance and potential of the plant macro-remains.

Sample no.	Feature no.	Feature Type	Sampling notes	Provisional date	Sample volume (L.)
1	F8	Pit	50% sampled	Late Iron Age	40
2	F22	Dutch/gully	-	Late Iron Age	40
3	F7	Urned cremation	VOID	Late Iron Age	VOID
5	F23	Ditch	-	Late Iron Age	40
6	F32	Pit/ditch	-	Middle Iron Age	40
7	F35	Pit	-	Undated	20

Table 17 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 18)

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.

Bioturbation and contamination

Evidence of possible bioturbation present in the form of modern rootlet fragments and earthworm cocoons but not in abundant quantities. No mollusca were found in the flots.

The plant remains

Charcoal fragments were the most frequent charred plant remain in these samples with fragments of identifiable size present in each. A fragment of roundwood was found in ditch/gully F22 (sample 2). There were some items that were difficult to properly determine during this assessment scan. Pit F8 (sample 1) contained low numbers of possible dung pellets. Samples 1, 5 and 6 contained items with the morphology of Brassicaceae seeds but these may also be spores. Ditch F23 (sample 5) contained one hulled asymmetrical barley grain.

Uncharred testas and endocarps of ruderal seeds were found in samples 1, 2 and 6. These included seeds of orache (*Atriplex* sp.) and knotgrass (*Polygonum aviculare* L.). Given the presence of rootlets in each samples these seeds may be intrusive.

Sample	Feature	Feature Type	Sample volume (L.)	Flot volume (L.)	CPR – Grain	CPR – Seeds	CPR – Miscellaneous	CPR – charcoal flecks <4mm Ø	CPR – Identifiable charcoal > 4mm Ø	UPR – Seeds
1	F8	Pit	40	0.8	-	2	2	-	3	1
2	F22	Dutch/gully	40	0.3	-	-	-	3	3	1
5	F23	Ditch	40	0.05	-	1	-	2	3	
6	32	Ditch	40	0.015	-	1	-	1	1	1
7	35	Pit	20	0.35	-	-	-	3	3	-

Table 18 Plant macro-remains and faunal remains. Key: Abundance 1 = 1-10, 2 = 11-100, 3 = >100; CPR = Charred Plant Remains; UPR: Uncharred/dried waterlogged plant remains

Potential, significance and recommendations

The soil type is ‘Soilscape 8’, slightly acid loamy and clayey soils with impeded drainage (Cranfield University 2021). These soil conditions preserve charred and mineralised plant macro-remains (Campbell *et al.* 2011, 5).

It is clear that charred plant remains are present at this site so whole-earth/bulk soil sampling should be continued if further archaeological work takes place. Further analysis may allow the items in samples 1, 5 and 6 to be identified, but this could take place alongside any future archaeological work.

The charcoal fragments in each sample are of identifiable size. These may provide information about fuel use and some of these fragments may be suitable for radiocarbon dating.

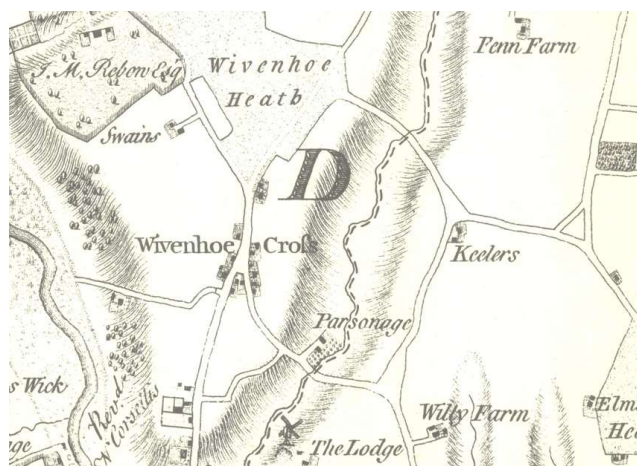
8 Discussion

Thirty-six features were uncovered during evaluation at this site: twenty-six ditches, two pits, two charcoal-rich pits, a cremation burial, a pit or ditch terminus, a ditch or natural feature, a pit or treethrow and two treethrows. Most of the features produced artefactual evidence but thirteen were undatable. These remains were mostly located within the southern half of the site, with only five uncovered in its northern half. The investigation identified three phases of activity at the site, the first extending from the Late Iron Age to the early Roman period, the second from the medieval to the post-medieval period and the third during the modern period.

The site lies in an area identified by previous archaeological investigations as one rich in prehistoric remains, and the results of this evaluation mirror these findings. No evidence of activity during the Neolithic period, Bronze Age or Early Iron Age was encountered, but remains dating to the Late Iron Age and early Roman periods, as well as sparse evidence of Middle Iron Age activity were uncovered. These deposits were clustered together in the southwestern corner of the site. They mostly consisted of ditches, and more work is required here to trace the alignments of these features and whether they represent the remains of field systems. Some of these features produced large assemblages of pottery, with several containing sherds of identifiable vessels recovered from other Late Iron Age sites around Colchester but not evident at excavations of the Roman fortress and colonia. Several features also contained substantial amounts of daub and baked clay – with some pieces of daub having stakeholes – which almost

certainly represented the remains of a wattle and daub structure, the site of which clearly lies nearby. Also excavated in this area was an urned cremation burial, likely that of a young child, which contained two brooches dating to the mid 1st century BC to the mid 1st century AD. Together, these remains indicate that this site was occupied during the Late Iron Age to early Roman period, although the recovery of occasional sherds of Middle Iron Age pottery suggests that some of the features, (such as F32 and F36) might have their origins in this earlier period. The frequency of sherds derived from cooking vessels and the absence of imported fineware pottery suggests that this was a low-status settlement, and the rarity of Roman pottery and CBM indicates that it was abandoned early in the Roman period.

The second phase of activity at the site extended through the medieval and post-medieval periods during which time the site lay adjacent to the historic Wivenhoe Heath, which would have represented a focus of human activity (see Map 1 below). Again, remains dating to this period were mostly ditches, along with one possible pit. These features produced rare sherds of medieval or post-medieval peg-tile and brick, but no pottery dating to these periods was recovered. This artefactual evidence does not indicate human habitation nearby, but instead suggests that these ditches represent the remains of an older pattern of land division, and that the pit is likely the product of associated agricultural activity.



Map 1 Extract from Chapman and André's map of Essex (1777) showing the area of the site



Map 2 Extract from Ordnance Survey map (1897) showing the area of the site. The excavated field boundary ditch is indicated by the blue arrow

The final phase of activity at the site occurred during the 19th and 20th centuries and was again represented by a handful of ditches. During these centuries the site stood within the middle of

fields and two of these ditches represent the remains of an old field boundary ditch depicted on late 19th-century Ordnance Survey mapping of the area (see Map 2 below). The other ditches dating to this period are also likely related to agricultural activity here.

Some of the trenches were positioned to target a number of cropmarks within the southwestern part of the site, and a number of features which might correspond to these cropmarks were uncovered (see Fig 16) but further investigation is required at the site to confirm this. A number of anomalies identified by geophysical surveying of the area were also investigated, but only one corresponding feature, F23 in T37, was found, and it is possible that the rest are natural in origin.

9 Acknowledgements

CAT thanks Taylor Wimpey East London for commissioning and funding the work, consultants for the client were Rob Masefield of RPS. The project was managed by C Lister, fieldwork was carried out by R Mathieson with S Veasey, E Hicks, Z Eksen, N Pryke, M Perou, A Smith, B Quinn, O Windridge and W Bateson. Figures are by C Lister, R Mathieson and E Holloway. The project was monitored for Colchester Borough Council by Dr Simon Wood.

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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
CBC	Colchester Borough Council
CBCAA	Colchester Borough Council Archaeological Advisor
CBM	ceramic building material, ie brick/tile
CHER	Colchester Historic Environment Record
CifA	Chartered Institute for Archaeologists
context	specific location of finds on an archaeological site
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
Iron Age (Late)	Late Iron Age (LIA), period from c 100 – 50 BC to Roman invasion of AD 43
layer (L)	distinct or distinguishable deposit (layer) of material
medieval	period from AD 1066 to c 1500
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	O nline A ccess to the I ndex of A rchaeological I nvestigations, http://oasis.ac.uk/pages/wiki/Main
Palaeolithic	period c 800,000 BC to c 10,000BC
prehistoric	pre-Roman
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

Finds: one box

Paper record

One A4 document wallet containing:

The report (CAT Report 1714)
CAT written scheme of investigation
Original site record (trench sheets, sections)
Site digital photos and log

Digital record

The report (CAT Report 1714)
CAT written scheme of investigation
Site digital photographs, thumbnails and log
Graphic files
Survey data
Site data

13 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 project ref. ECC4659.

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Essex Historic Environment Record



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Essex, CO2 7GZ

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email: eh2@catuk.org

Checked by: Philip Crummy
Date: 29.10.2021

Appendix 1 Context list

Context number	Trench number	Finds number	Feature / layer type	Description	Date
L1	All	-	Plough soil	Hard, dry light grey silty-loam with charcoal and CBM flecks and frequent stones	Modern
L2	All	-	Natural	Hard, dry light orange/grey silty-clay	Post-glacial
F1	5	-	Tree-throw	Firm, dry/moist light grey sandy-clay with charcoal flecks and occasional stones	Undatable
F2	6	1	Ditch	Friable/firm, dry light grey/brown silty-loam with CBM flecks with occasional gravel and frequent stones	19th-20th century
F3	7	-	Pit / tree-throw	Soft, firm dry light grey/brown silty-clay with frequent gravel	Undatable
F4	17	-	Ditch	Soft, dry light grey/brown silty-clay with occasional gravel	Undatable
F5	22	-	Pit	Hard, dry medium grey/brown silt and abundant stones	Undatable
F6	28	-	Ditch	Friable, dry medium orange/brown clayey-silt with frequent gravel	Undatable
F7	48	2	Cremation burial	n/a	Late Iron Age
F8	48	<1>	Charcoal-rich pit	Soft, dry dark grey/black sandy-silt with charcoal flecks	Late Iron Age
F9	27	-	Ditch	Upper fill: firm, moist medium orange/brown clayey-silt with occasional gravel Middle fill: firm, moist light/medium brown/grey clayey-silt Lower fill: firm, moist light grey clayey-silt	Undatable
F10	47	3, 4, 5	Ditch	Soft, dry/moist light/medium grey sandy-silt	Medieval / post-medieval
F11	47	-	Tree-throw	Friable, dry light grey silty-clay	Undatable
F12	25	6	?Pit	Hard, dry medium grey/brown clayey-silt with frequent gravel	Post-medieval / modern
F13	25	7	Ditch	Soft, dry medium grey silt with frequent stones	19th-20th century
F14	24	8	Ditch	Friable/firm, dry light/medium grey/brown silt with charcoal flecks, occasional gravel and occasional stones	19th-20th century
F15	44	9	Ditch	Firm, dry light grey/brown sandy-silt with 1% stones	Medieval / post-medieval
F16	29	25	Ditch	Friable, dry light grey/brown silt with CBM flecks, frequent gravel, frequent stones and occasional CBM pieces	Medieval / post-medieval
F17	30	-	Ditch	Friable, dry light grey/brown silty-clayey-sand with charcoal flecks, frequent gravel and very frequent	Late Iron Age / early Roman

				stones	
F18	30	-	Ditch	Friable, dry medium grey/brown silt with occasional stones	Undatable
F19	39	10, 11, 12	Ditch	Soft, dry medium grey/brown sandy-silt with charcoal, daub and CBM flecks, frequent gravel and very frequent stones	Roman
F20	40	-	Ditch	Firm, dry light grey/brown sandy-silt	Roman
F21	31	13	Ditch	Friable, dry medium brown silty-sand with frequent stones	Late Iron Age / early Roman
F22	43	14, <2>	?Ditch	Soft, moist dark grey/brown clayey-silt with charcoal and daub flecks	Late Iron Age / early Roman
F23	37	15, <4>, <5>	Ditch	Soft, hard dry light grey/brown/black sandy-silt with charcoal, daub and CBM flecks, very frequent gravel, frequent stone and frequent CBM pieces	Late Iron Age
F24	34	16, 17	Ditch	Friable, moist light orange/brown sand with frequent stones	19th-20th century
F25	34	-	Ditch	Soft/friable, moist light grey/brown silty-clay with charcoal flecks, frequent gravel and frequent stones	Medieval / post-medieval
F26	41	-	Ditch	Firm, dry very light orange/grey/brown sandy-silt	Medieval / post-medieval
F27	41	-	Ditch	Firm, dry medium/dark grey/brown sandy-silt	Undatable
F28	35	18	Ditch	Firm, dry light/medium grey silt with CBM flecks	Medieval / post-medieval
F29	42	-	Ditch / natural feature	Firm, dry light orange/grey/brown sandy-silt with very frequent gravel and frequent stones	Undatable
F30	38	19, 20	Ditch	Friable, moist light orange/grey silty-clay with charcoal flecks and frequent stones	Late Iron Age / early Roman
F31	38	-	Ditch	Firm, dry medium orange/brown sandy-silt with frequent stones	Undatable
F32	42	21, <6>	Pit/ditch	Firm, moist medium grey sandy-clayey-silt	Late Iron Age / early Roman
F33	43	22, 23	Ditch	Firm, light/medium grey/brown sandy-silt with occasional stones	Late Iron Age / early Roman
F34	44	-	Pit / ditch terminus	Firm, dry medium orange/brown sandy-silt with frequent stones	Undatable
F35	42	<7>	Charcoal-rich pit	Soft, moist dark grey/brown sandy-silt with charcoal flecks	Undatable
F36	33	24	Ditch	Soft, moist light sandy silty-loam with charcoal and daub flecks and very frequent stones	Late Iron Age / early Roman

Appendix 2 Pottery list

Cxt	Feature type	Find no.	Soil S no.	Section	TR	NR	GR.	MSW	Dis-card	Rim	Handle	Base	Soot	Burn	Overfired	Modif.	Hole	Disc	Fabric Grp	Typology	EVE	Diam.	Comments	Date
F2	Ditch	1			6	1	2	2	X										F48D					19th-20th c.
F7	Cremation burial	2			48	41	601	15						X					GTW					LIA
F7	Cremation burial	2			48	3	371	124		0	0	2							GTW					LIA
F7	Cremation burial	12			48	8	2	0											GTW					LIA
F8	Charcoal-rich pit		1			1	1	1											GTW				? Crumb	LIA
F8	Charcoal-rich pit		1			28	94	3		2	0	1							GTW	Cam 222	0.03	?		LIA
F10	Ditch	3		1	47	1	8	8											HMGS	Lug handle?			Brown surf, black core, grog & sand	Prehistoric
F10	Ditch	4		2	47	1	7	7					X						GX					Roman
F13	Ditch	7			25	1	7	7	X	1	0	0							F48D	BOWL	0.05	180		19th-20th c.
F14	Ditch	8			24	1	1	1	X										F48D					19th-20th c.
F15	Ditch	9			44	2	9	5											ROW				Oxid, grey core, rare S & micaceous	LIA - early Roman
F19	Ditch	11			39	1	2	2						X					CSOW					LIA - early Roman
F19	Ditch	12			39	1	13	13											HMS				Patchy br surf, black core, abundant fine sand	Iron Age
F19	Ditch	12			39	4	5	1											HMS				v br surf, black core, abundant fine sand	Iron Age
F19	Ditch			1	39	2	37	19		0	0	2			X				GX				v of, grey core, speckled or surface, sand, hard	Roman
F22	?Ditch	14			43	2	5	3											FSOW				H&H TR4 fabric, red surface, soft, grey/black core, sand, some mica & fine BG	LIA - early Roman
F22	?Ditch	14			43	3	20	7		1	0	0							GTW	Cam 259	0.03	120		LIA
F22	?Ditch	14			43	4	24	6		2	0	0							FSW/EGW	Cam 219	0.23	160		LIA - early Roman
F22	?Ditch	14			43	17	82	5		4	0	0							RCW 1	Cam 218	0.21	140		LIA - early Roman
F22	?Ditch	14			43	3	10	3											RCW 1	Cam 266	0.08	180	Black v smooth surf, grey core	LIA - early Roman
F22	?Ditch	14			43	6	41	7		0	0	2							GTW					LIA
F22	?Ditch	14			43	12	46	4		1	0	0		X					CSOW	Cam 264	0.08	120		LIA - early Roman

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Cxt	Feature type	Find no.	Soil S no.	Section	TR	NR	GR.	MSW	Dis-card	Rim	Handle	Base	Soot	Burn	Overfired	Modif.	Hole	Disc	Fabric Grp	Typology	EVE	Diam.	Comments	Date	
F22	?Ditch	14			43	2	14	7											GTW					LIA	
F22	?Ditch	14			43	10	16	2											RCW 1	Cam 218				LIA - early Roman	
F22	?Ditch	14			43	1	2	2		1	0	0							GTW	Cam 259	0.02	120		LIA	
F22	?Ditch	14			43	9	18	2						X					CSOW					LIA - early Roman	
F22	?Ditch	14			43	2	20	10		1	0	0							GTW	Cam 270B	0.03	220		LIA - early Roman	
F22	?Ditch	14			43	1	1	1											RCW					LIA - early Roman	
F22	?Ditch	14			43	2	5	3											FSOW					LIA - early Roman	
F22	?Ditch	14			43	1	2	2											ROW					LIA - early Roman	
F22	?Ditch	14			43	3	7	2											HMGS				Brown surf, black core, grog & sand	Prehistoric	
F22	?Ditch	14			42	1	8	8											RCW					LIA - early Roman	
F22	?Ditch	14			42	1	14	14											RCW					LIA - early Roman	
F22	?Ditch		2		43	21	24	1											RCW 1					LIA - early Roman	
F22	?Ditch		2		43	1	1	1									X		RCW	Cam 298			Sieve 5 small holes (pre-f) 2 mm diam.	LIA - early Roman	
F22	?Ditch		2		43	4	4	1											FSW/EGW					LIA - early Roman	
F22	?Ditch		2		43	7	6	1											FSW/EGW					LIA - early Roman	
F22	?Ditch		2		43	16	19	1											FMW				Soft brown, darker surf, thin-w	LIA - early Roman	
F22	?Ditch		2		43	2	4	2											FSW/EGW					LIA - early Roman	
F22	?Ditch		2		43	4	3	1											RCW					LIA - early Roman	
F22	?Ditch		2		43	1	4	4											GTW					LIA	
F22	?Ditch		2		43	17	12	1						X					SW				Black, thin-w, some sand, wheel-made	LIA - early Roman	
F23	Ditch	15			37	1	40	40							X				GTW					Slightly combed	LIA
F23	Ditch		5		37	1	2	2						X					HMF					Orange coarse fl	Prehistoric
F23	Ditch		5		37	1	3	3						X					HMS					Grey black sand	Prehistoric
F24	Ditch	17			34	1	21	21											HMSM				Grey surface, black core, fine sand & mica	Iron Age	
F30	Ditch	20			38	5	35	7		2	0	0							FMW	?	0.14	220	Soft, buff smooth, with darker surface, lines on int of rim, slightly similar Drag 36?	LIA - early Roman	

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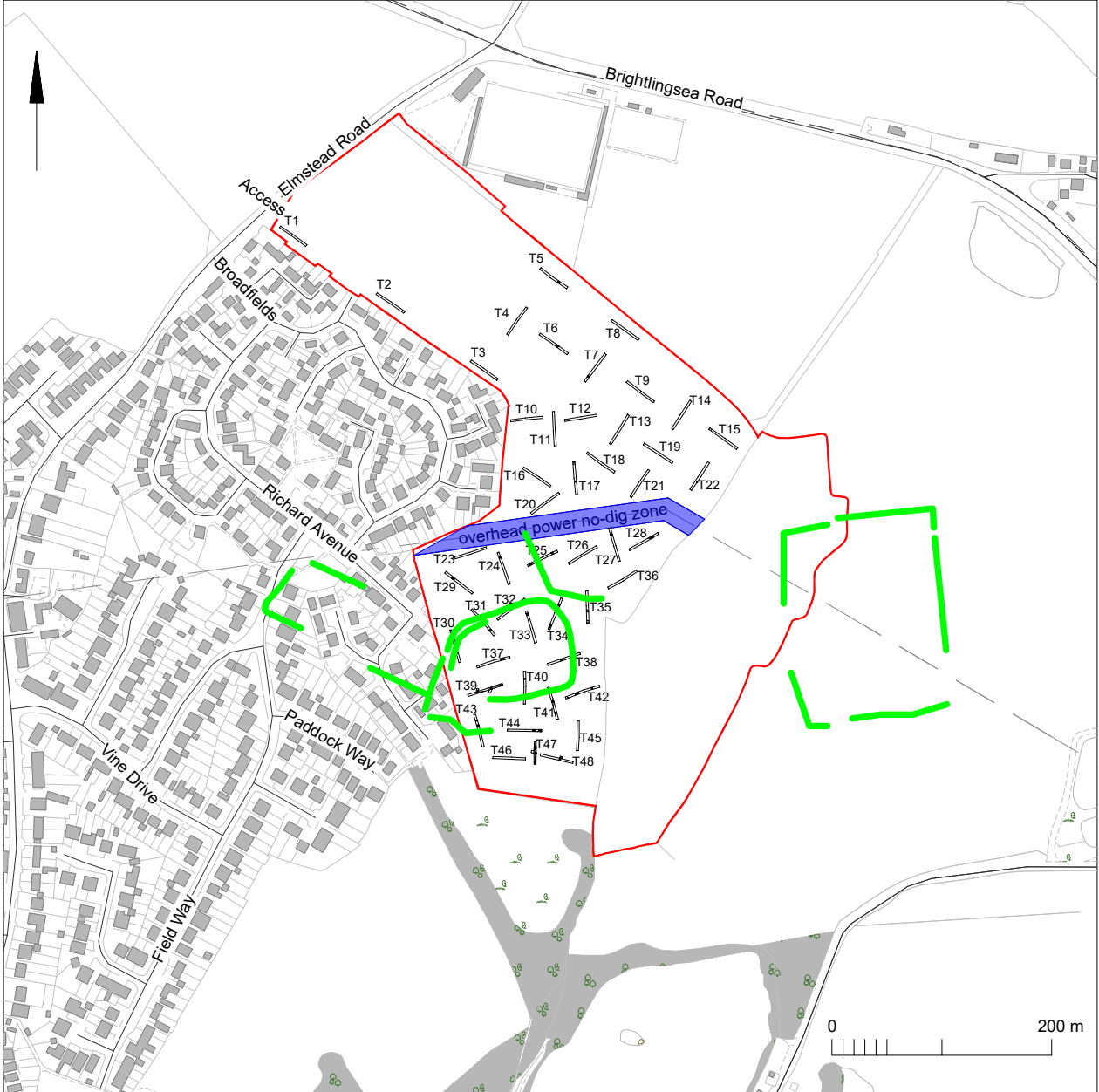
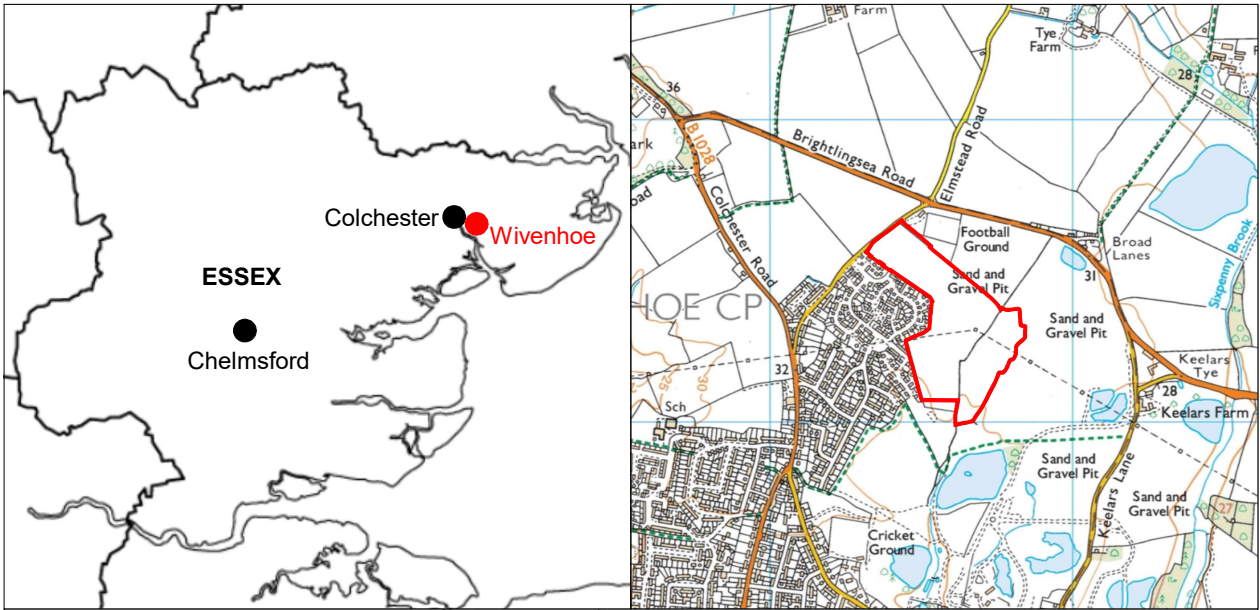
Cxt	Feature type	Find no.	Soil S no.	Section	TR	NR	GR.	MSW	Dis-card	Rim	Handle	Base	Soot	Burn	Overfired	Modif.	Hole	Disc	Fabric Grp	Typology	EVE	Diam.	Comments	Date
F30	Ditch	20			38	1	3	3											RCW					LIA - early Roman
F32	Pit/ditch		6		42	1	1	1											HMS				Br surf, black core, fine sand	Prehistoric
F33	Ditch	22			43	27	94	3											RCW 1	CAM 218				LIA - early Roman
F33	Ditch	22			43	4	36	9											RCW 2					LIA - early Roman
F33	Ditch	22			43	1	17	17								X	X	X	RCW				Irred disc with central hole 3mm diam.	LIA - early Roman
F33	Ditch	22			43	2	2	1											FSW/EGW					LIA - early Roman
F33	Ditch	22			43	27	100	4		4	0	0							FSOW	CAM 116	0.12	190	H&H TR4 fabric, red surface, soft, grey/black core, sand, some mica	LIA - early Roman
F33	Ditch	22			43	7	24	3		6	0	0							RCW 4	CAM 228	0.25	190	Grey fine sand, darker orange surf	LIA - early Roman
F33	Ditch	22			43	6	12	2											GTW					LIA
F33	Ditch	22			43	4	16	4		1	0	0							GTW BG	CAM 264	0.08	110		LIA - early Roman
F33	Ditch	22			43	1	3	3		0	0	1							FSOW				Brown/buff, thin-w, micaceous, oxid	LIA - early Roman
F33	Ditch	22			43	2	8	4											HMS				Black core, brown surf, sand	Iron Age
F33	Ditch	22			43	1	1	1											GTW					LIA
F33	Ditch	23			43	5	97	19											GTW BG					LIA
F33	Ditch	23			43	2	7	4											HMS				Br surf, black core, abundant fine sand	Iron Age
F36	Ditch	24			33	15	105	7											HMSM				Black slightly grey wiped surface, black core, mod burnished int, fine s & mica	Iron Age
F36	Ditch	24			33	3	13	4		2	0	0							RCW 1	CAM 231-232	0.07	190		LIA - early Roman
F36	Ditch	24			33	3	8	3		3	0	0							HMS	EVERTED RIM JAR	0.15	120	Grey black core, thin-w, thumbbed top rim, common fine sand	Iron Age

Appendix 3 CBM list

Cxt	Feature type	Find no.	Soil Sample no.	Section	Trench	NR	GR.	MSW	Discard	Typology	Sub-type	MNI	L.	BR.	TH.	Burnt	Abraded	Comments	Date
F2	Ditch	1			6	1	53	53	X	PT		0							Medieval / post-medieval
F2	Ditch	1			6	1	542	542		BR	UNFROGGED	0	?	95	50-52			Brown to red rounded top & bottom	Medieval / post-medieval
F10	Ditch	5		3	47	1	204	204		BR		0	?	?	?		X	Or/red voids & black nod	Medieval / post-medieval
F14	Ditch	8			24	1	6	6	X	PT		0							Medieval / post-medieval
F15	Ditch	9			44	1	22	22		PT		0							Medieval / post-medieval
F16	Ditch	25		1	29	3	5	2		BR		0						Red sandy	Medieval / post-medieval
F16	Ditch	25		1	29	2	26	13		BR		0						Orange slightly marbled	Medieval / post-medieval
F19	Ditch	12		3	39	1	35	35		RT		0							Roman
F21	Ditch	13			31	1	2	2	X	PT		0							Medieval / post-medieval
F22	?Ditch	14			43	7	38	5		Baked clay		0							?
F22	?Ditch	14			43	10	183	18		Baked clay		0						Poss obj	?
F22	?Ditch	14			43	2	132	66		Baked clay		0							?
F22	?Ditch		2		43	9	42	5		Baked clay		0				X			?
F22	?Ditch		2		43	7	21	3		Baked clay		0				X			?
F22	?Ditch		2		43	1	3	3		Baked clay		0				X			?
F23	Ditch		5		37	10	85	9		Daub		0				X		Stake hole 15 mm diam.	?
F23	Ditch		5		37	1	40	40		Daub		0				X		Poss stake hole	?
F23	Ditch		5		37	1	61	61		Daub		0				X		Stake hole 16 mm, flat area	?
F23	Ditch		5		37	1	51	51		Daub		0				X			?
F23	Ditch		5		37	1	13	13		Daub		0				X		4 stake holes (11-15 mm diam.) in 2 dir (at right angles). Glassy nr vitrified surf	?
F23	Ditch		5		37	6	59	10		Daub		0				X		Traces of stake holes	?
F23	Ditch		5		37	31	394	13		Daub		0				X			?
F23	Ditch	15			37	22	141	6		Baked clay		0				X			?
F23	Ditch	15			37	90	633	7		Baked clay		0				X			?

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Cxt	Feature type	Find no.	Soil Sample no.	Section	Trench	NR	GR.	MSW	Discard	Typology	Sub-type	MNI	L.	BR.	TH.	Burnt	Abraded	Comments	Date
F23	Ditch	15			37	15	355	24		Daub		0						Slightly marbled fabric, stake hole 18 mm diam.	?
F23	Ditch	15			37	1	39	39		Daub		0				X			?
F28	Ditch	18			35	2	8	4	X	PT		0							Medieval / post-medieval
F30	Ditch	19			38	1	8	8	X	PT		0							Medieval / post-medieval
F30	Ditch	19			38	3	19	6		Baked clay		0							?
F32	Pit/ditch	21			42	97	1593	16		Baked clay		0						Daub?	?
F32	Pit/ditch		6		42	54	992	18		Daub		0						Traces of stake holes 12-18 mm diam.	?
F33	Ditch	22			43	7	36	5		Baked clay		0				X		Object?	?



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Fig 1 Site location (cropmarks in green)

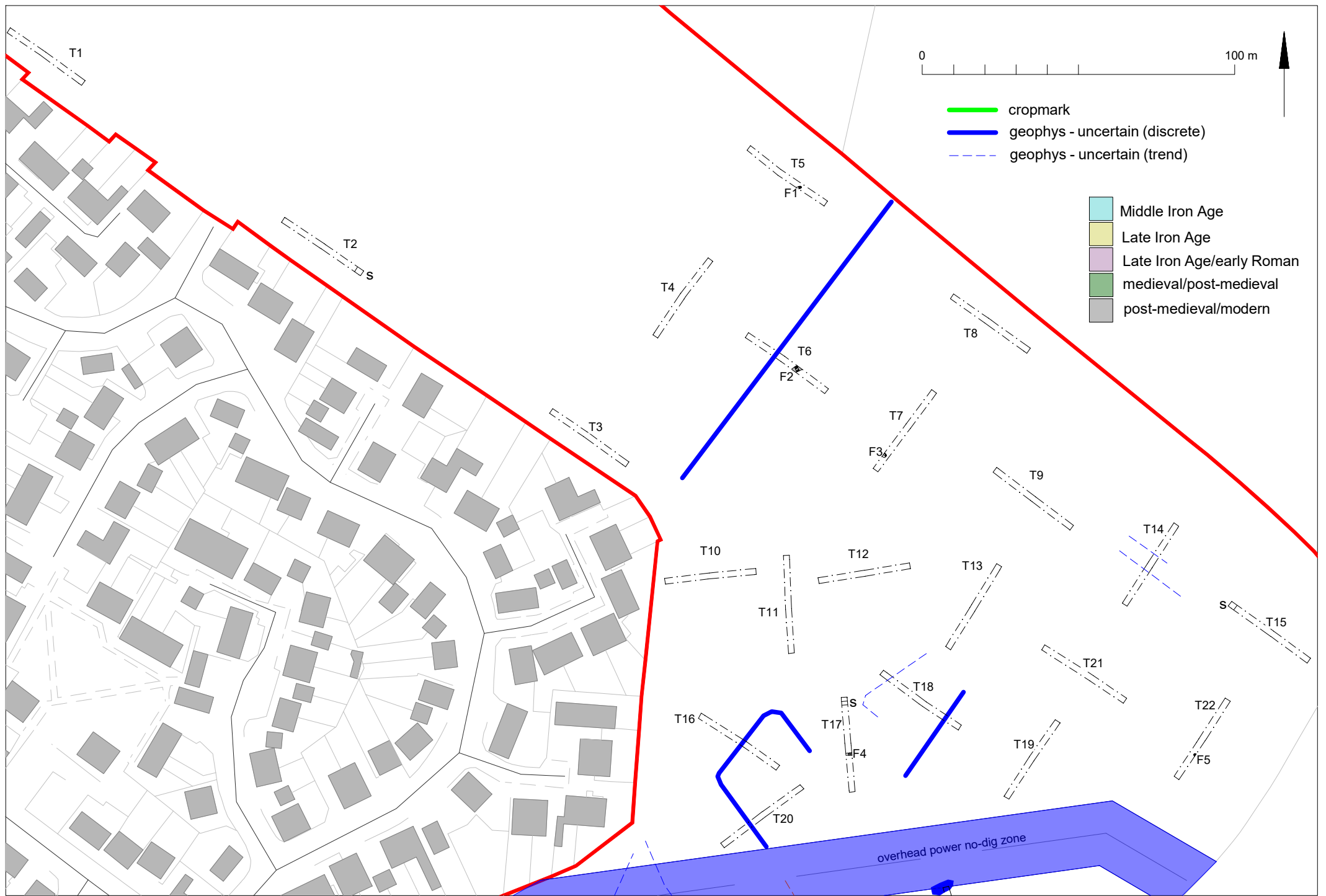


Fig 2 Results, Trenches 1-22.

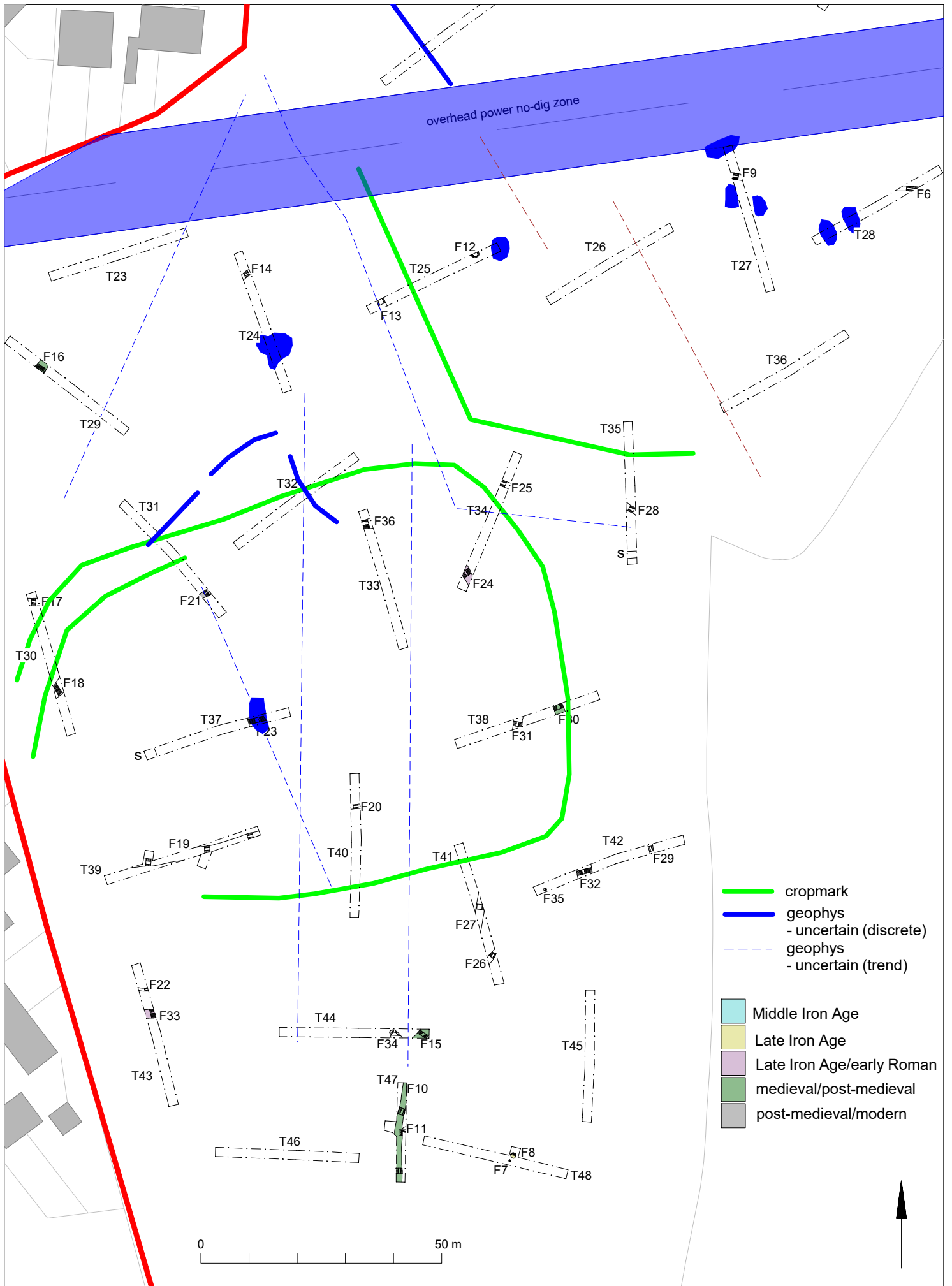


Fig 3 Results, Trenches 23-48.

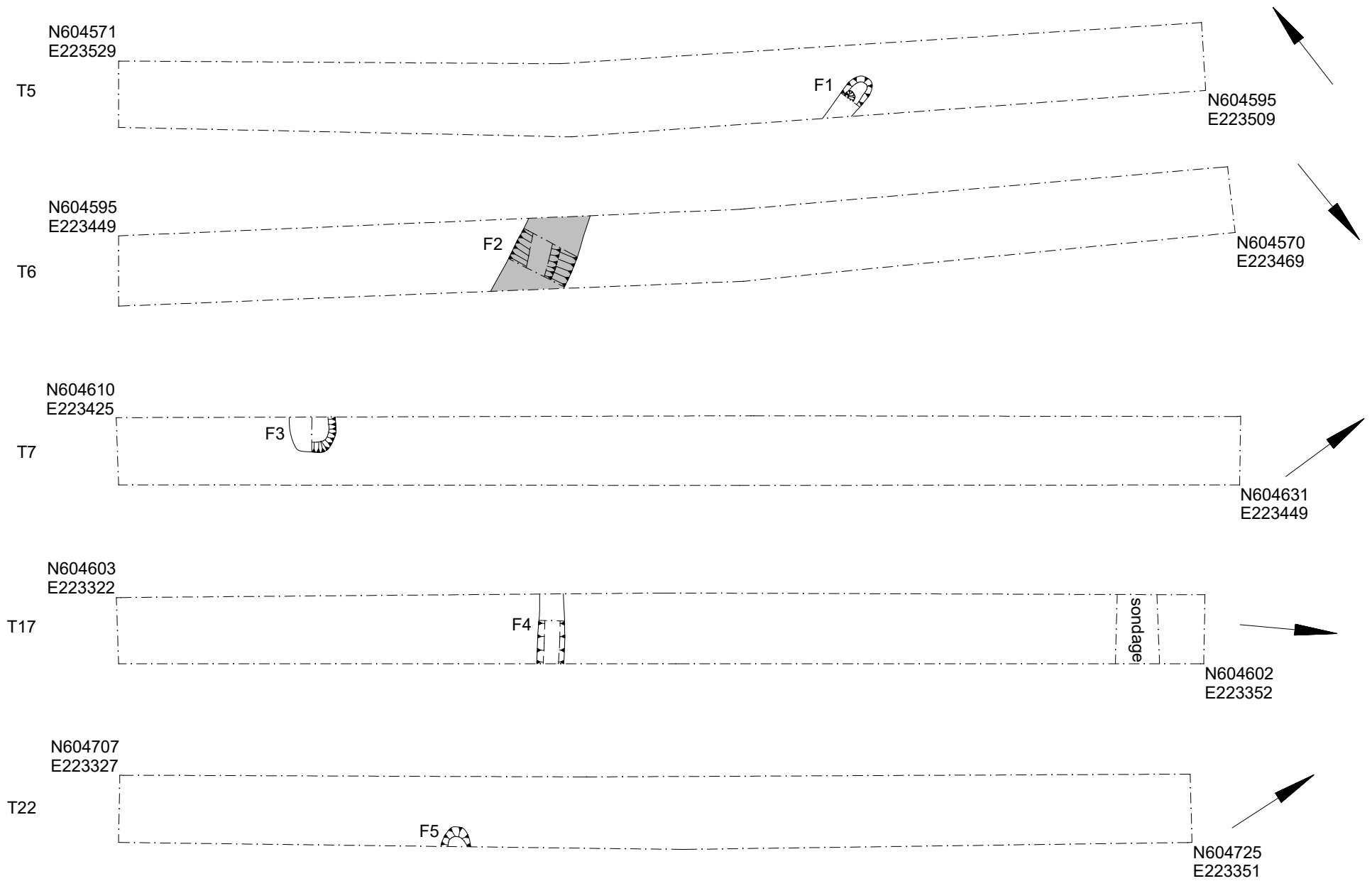


Fig 4 Trench plans: T5, T6, T7, T17 and T22.



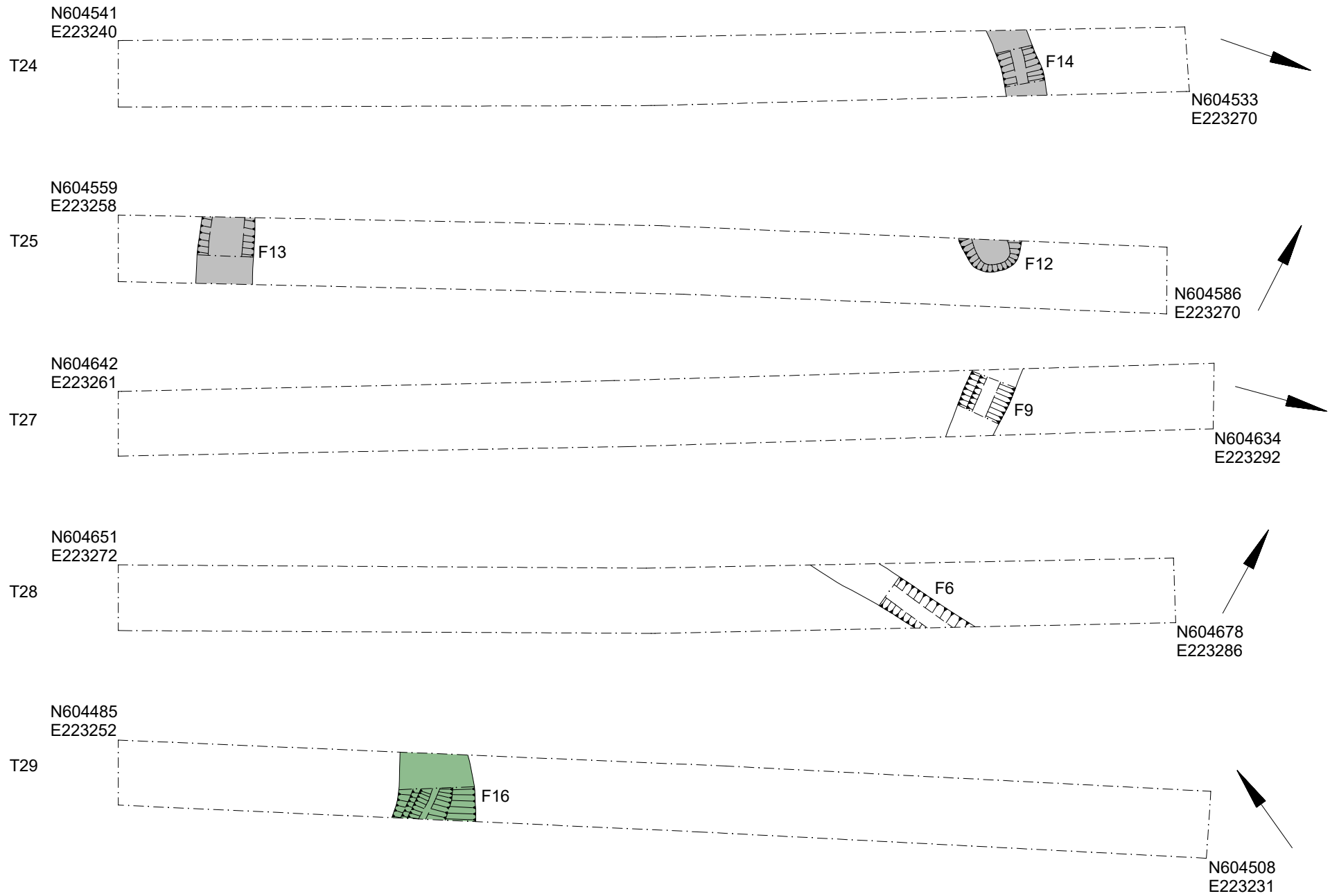


Fig 5 Trench plans: T24, T25, T27, T28 and T29



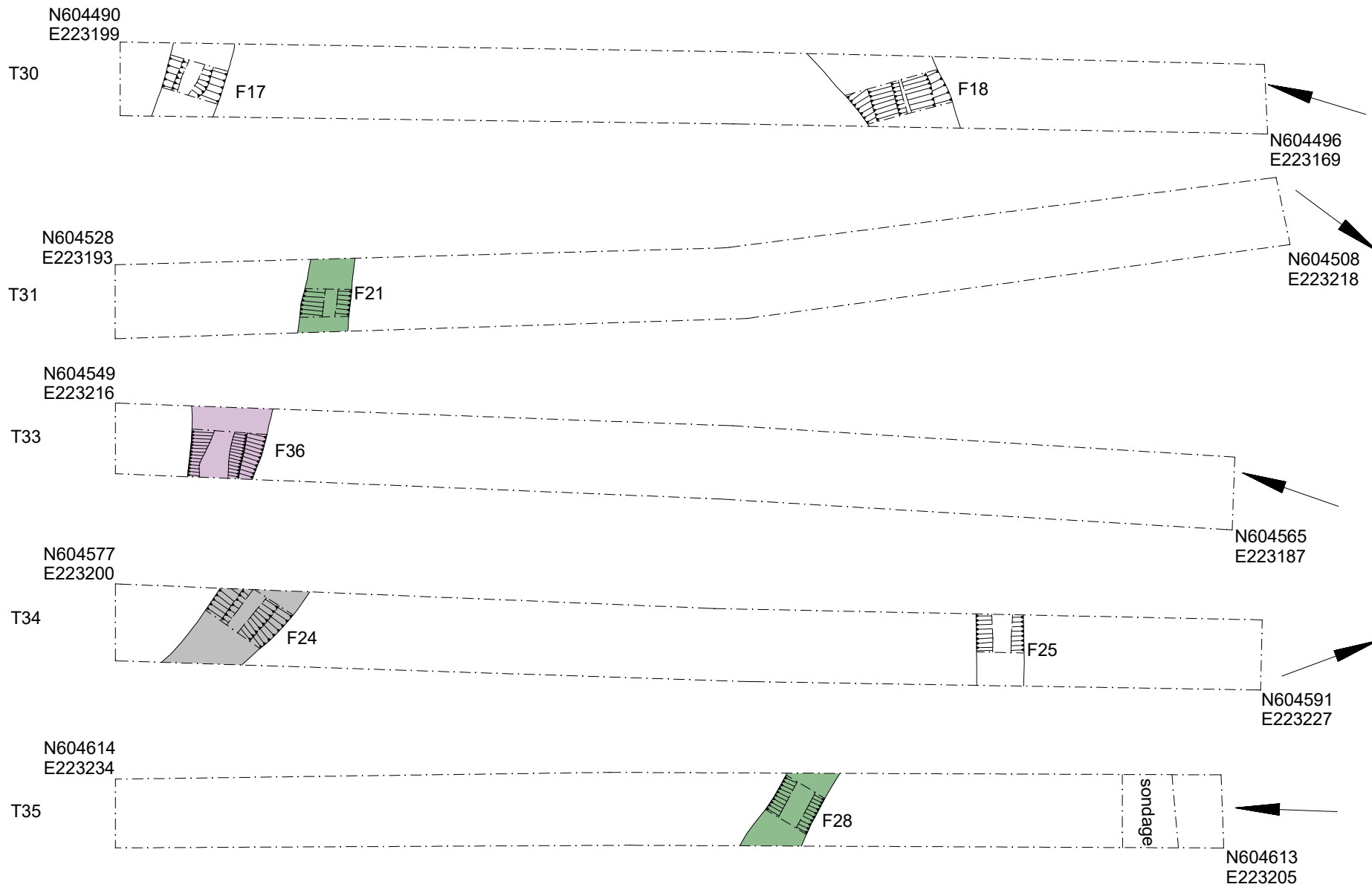


Fig 6 Trench plans: T30, T31, T33, T34 and T35

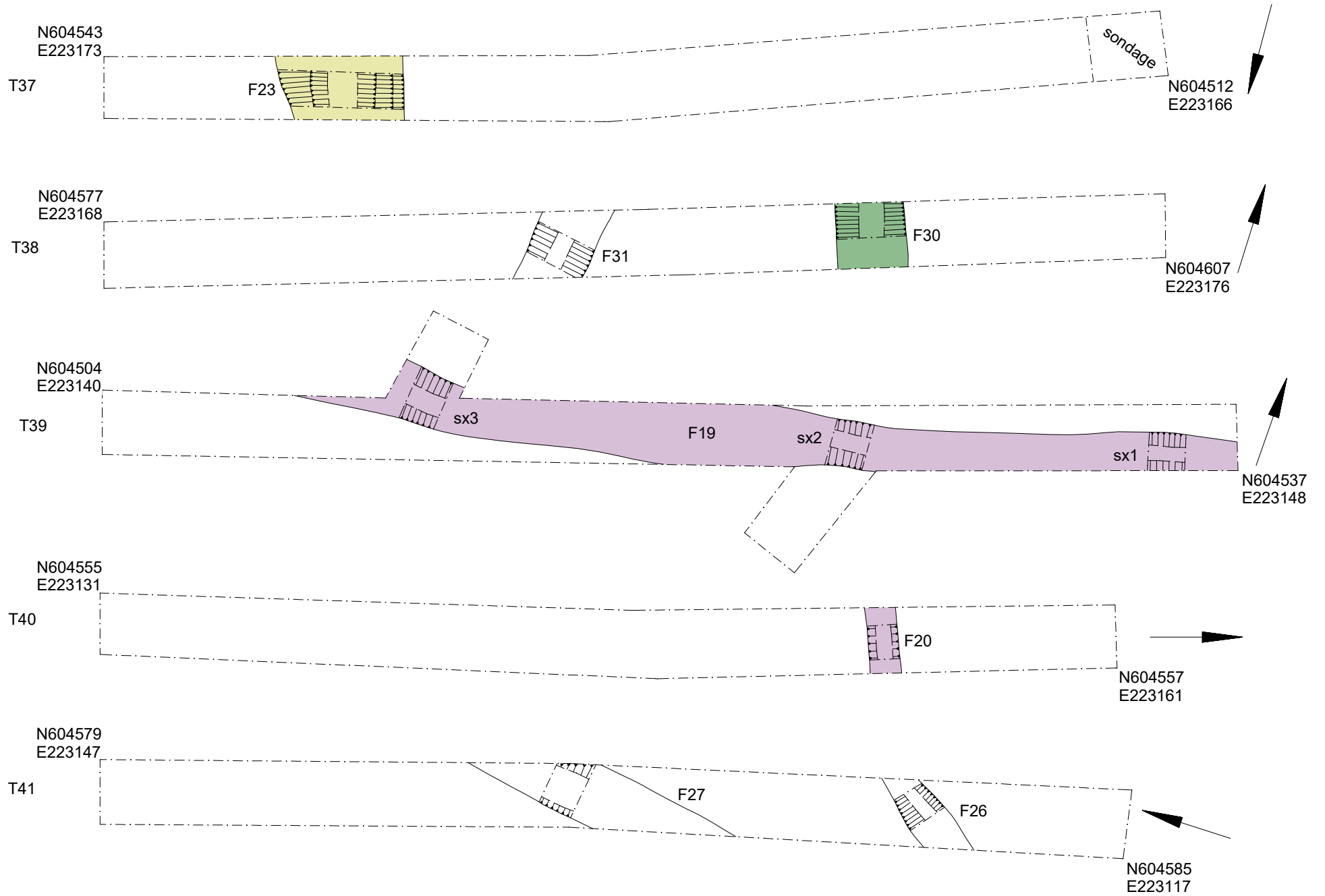


Fig 7 Trench results: T37, T38, T39, T40 and T41



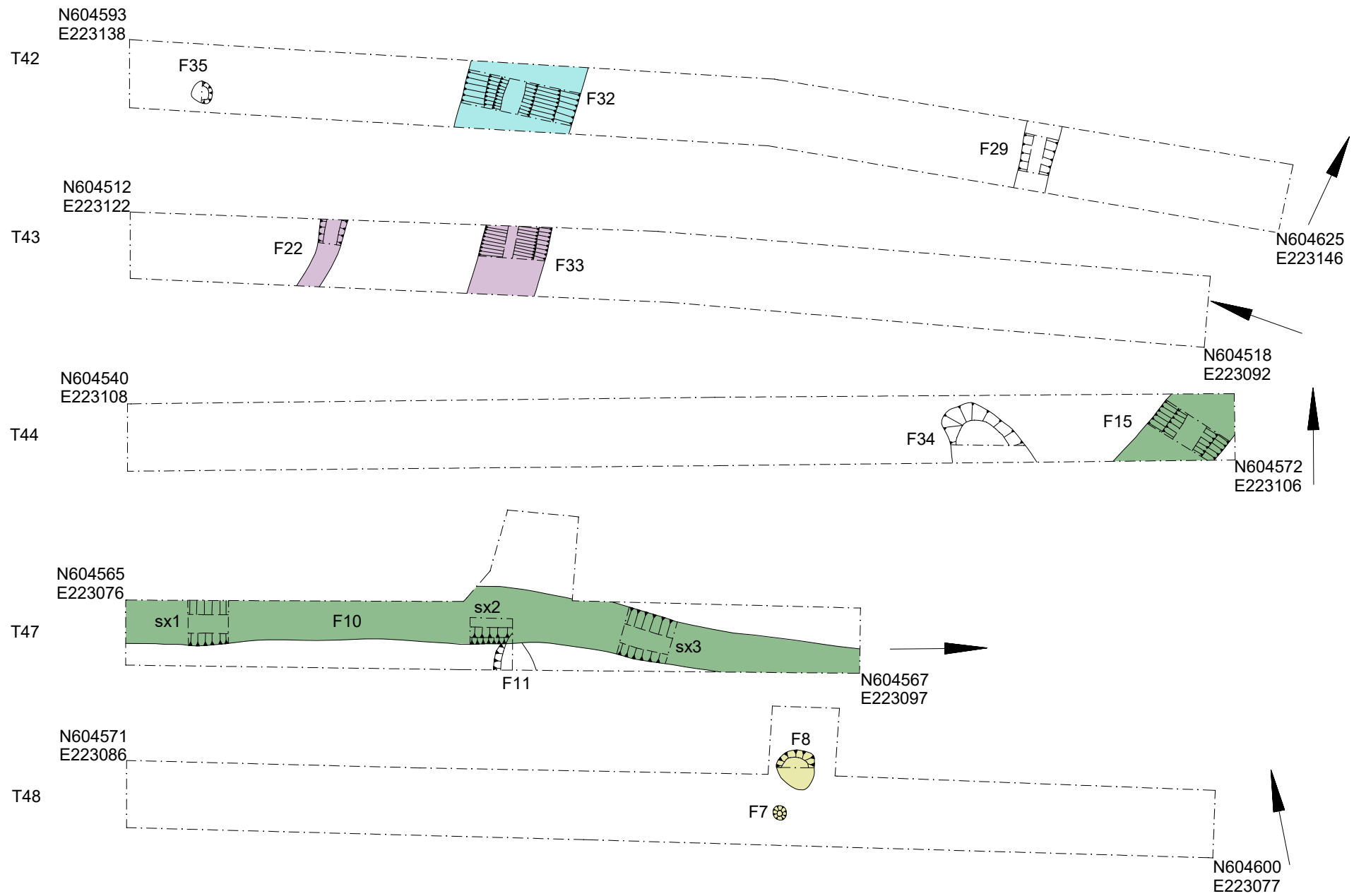


Fig 8 Trench plans T39, T43, T44, T47 and T48

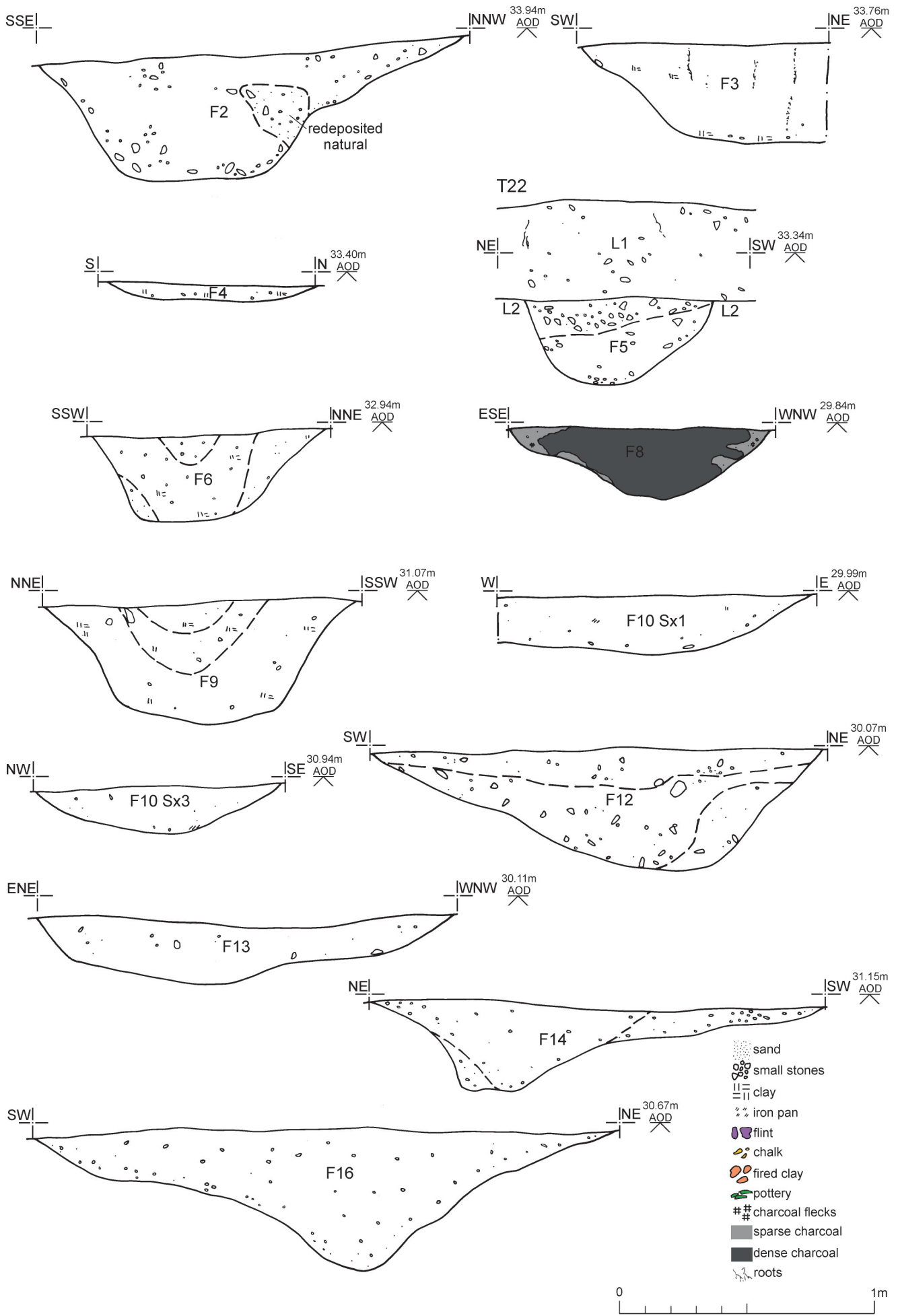


Fig 9 Feature sections.

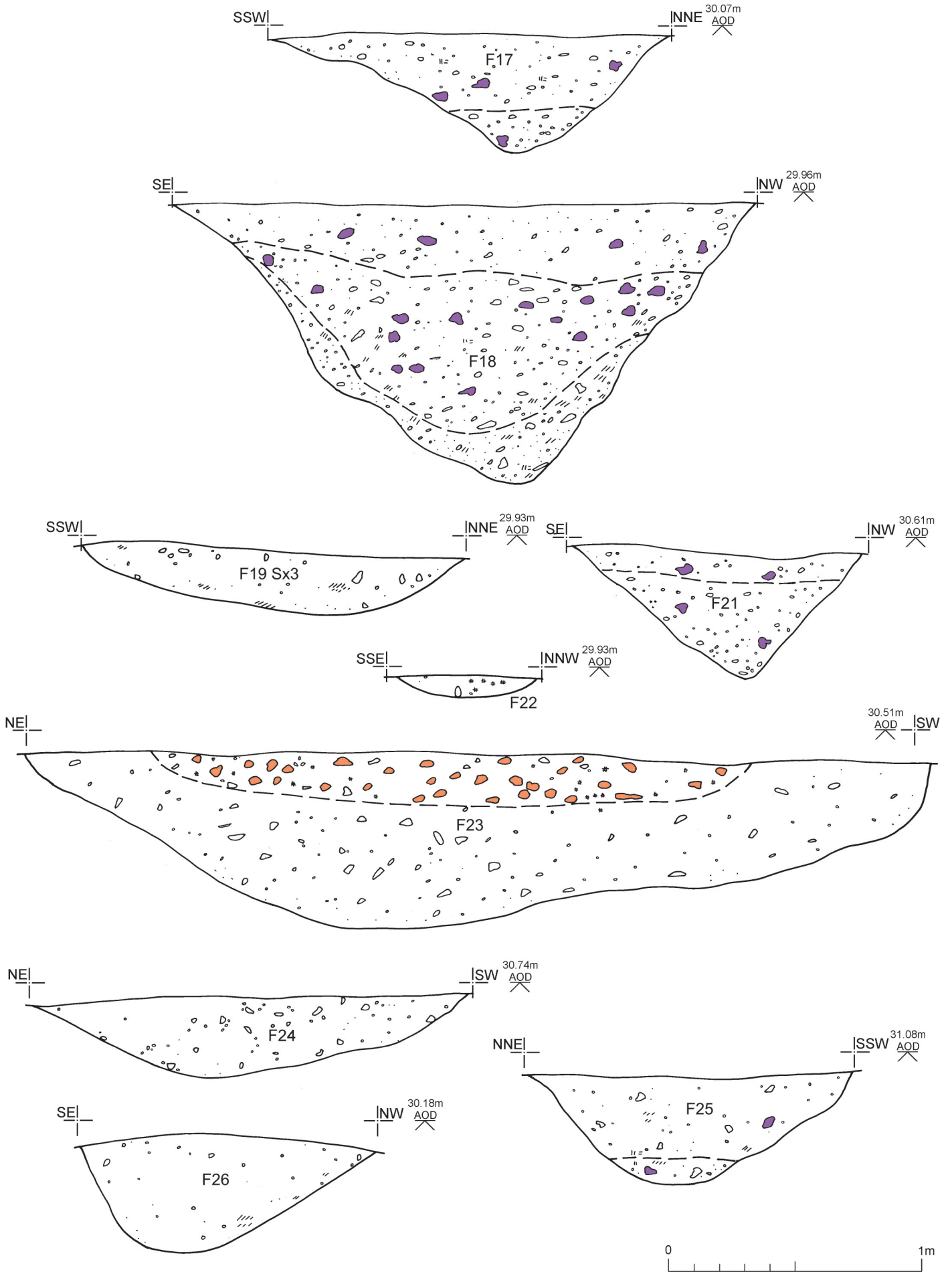


Fig 10 Feature sections.

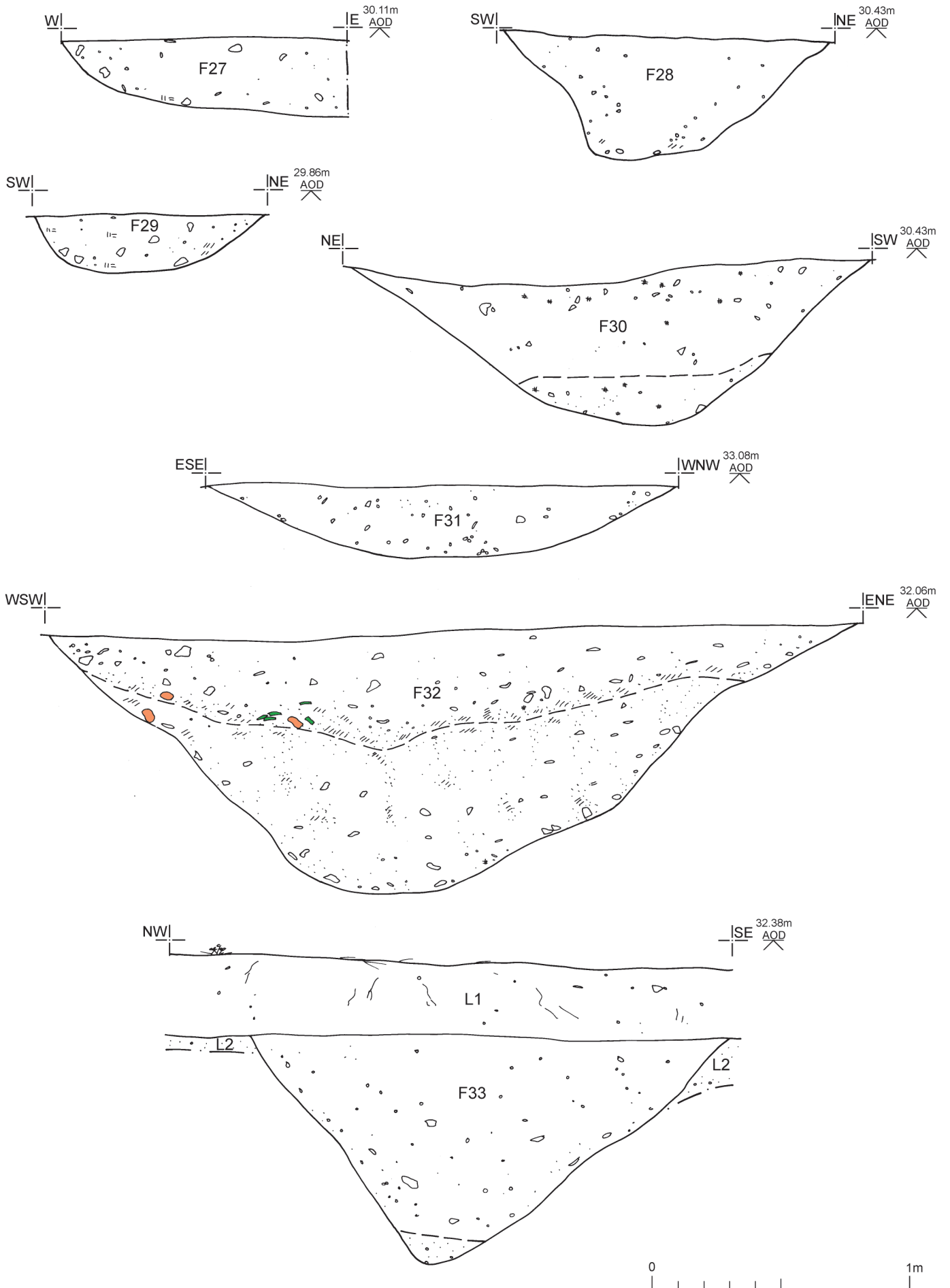


Fig 11 Feature sections.

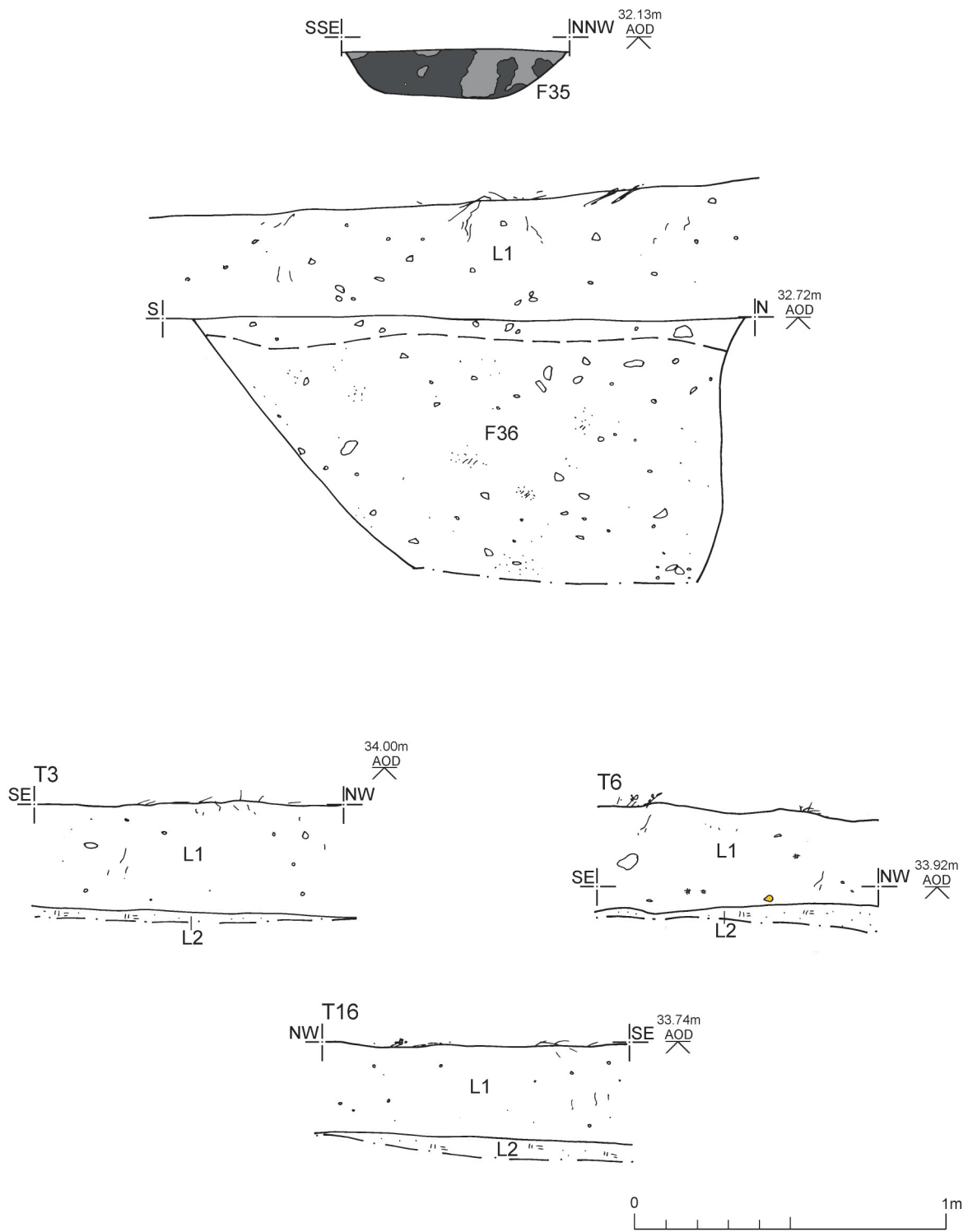


Fig 12 Feature and representative sections.

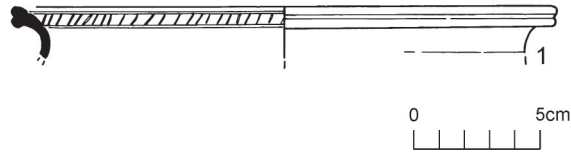


Fig 13 Roman bowl/dish from F30 (2) and daub with stake holes from F23 (3-5).

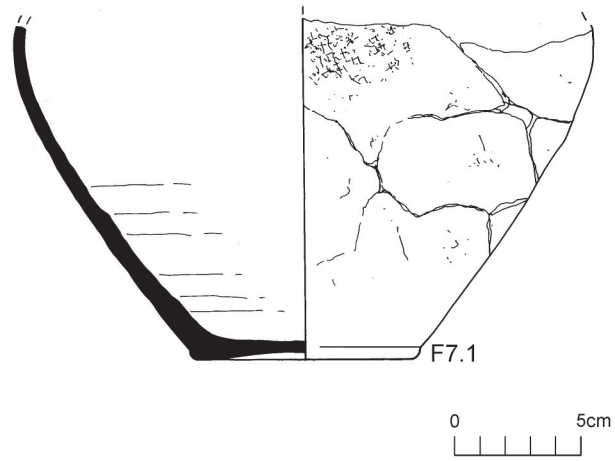
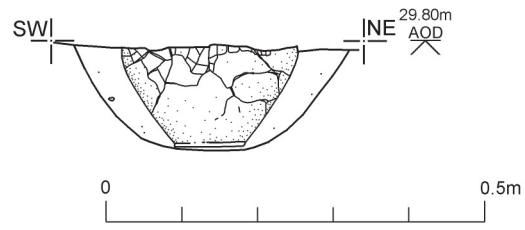
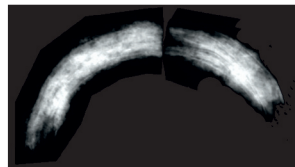
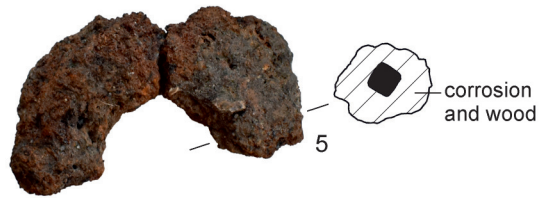
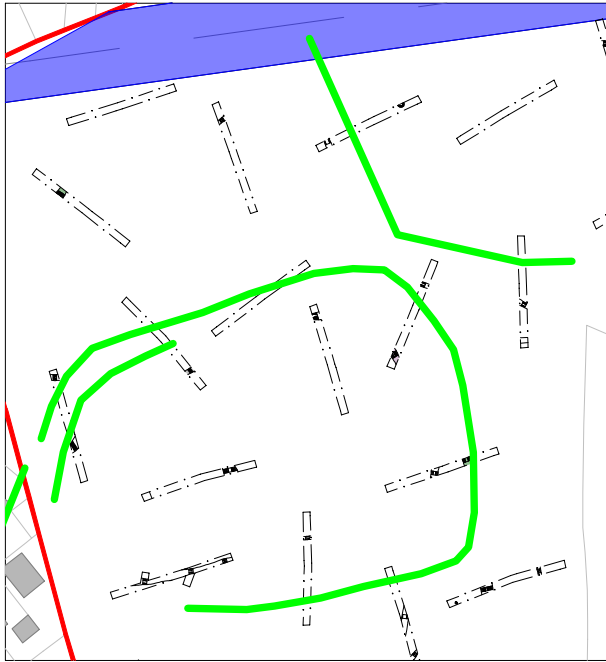


Fig 14 Late Iron Age burial F7: section and burial goods.



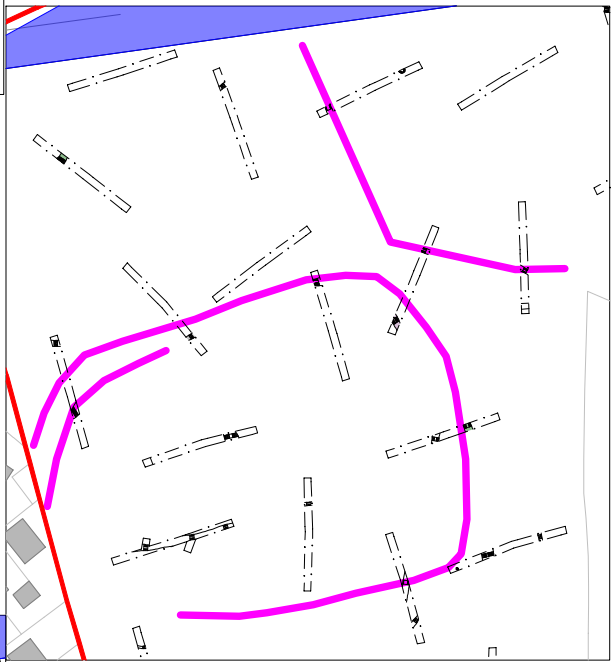
0 2cm

Fig 15 Small finds from F8.



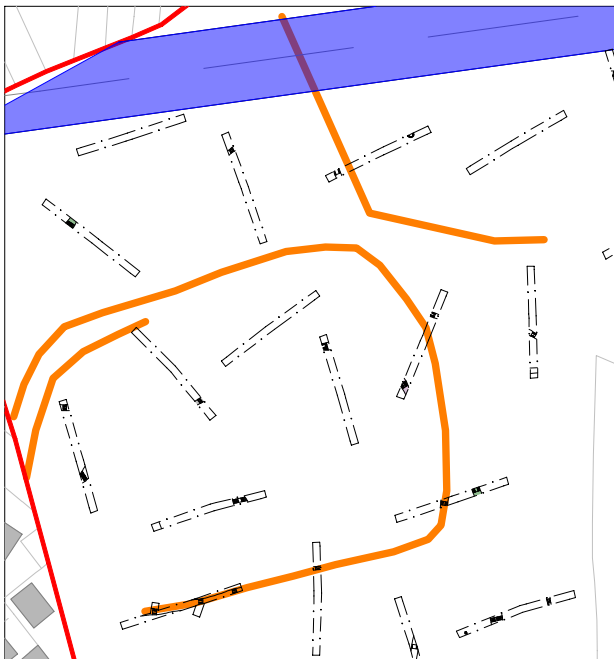
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a. Cropmark alignment as plotted in the WSI



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b. Possible cropmark alignment if moved c 11m to the southwest



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c. Possible cropmark alignment if moved c 15m to the north-north-west

Fig 16 Three possible cropmark alignments



Essex Historic Environment Record/ Essex Archaeology and History

Summary sheet

Address: Archaeological evaluation on land east of Richard Avenue, Wivenhoe, Essex	
Parish: Wivenhoe	District: Colchester
NGR: TM 04549 23344 (centre)	Site code: CAT project ref.: 2021/08c CHER ref: ECC4659 OASIS ref: colchest3-433484
Type of work: Evaluation	Site director/group: Colchester Archaeological Trust
Dates of work: 13th-30th September 2021	Size of area investigated: 15.24ha
Location of curating museum: Colchester museum	Funding source: Developer
Further seasons anticipated? Not known	Related CHER/SMR number: CHER MCC5533, MCC5534, MCC5795, MCC6086, MCC6277, MCC6229, MCC6230, MCC6467, MCC6467, MCC6467, MCC6537, MCC6796, MCC6937, MCC7095, MCC7117, MCC7118, MCC7120, MCC8658, MCC9022, MCC9167, MCC9486, MCC9932, MCC10348; ECC4411
Final report: CAT Report 1714	
Periods represented: Late Iron Age, Roman, medieval, post-medieval, modern	
Summary of fieldwork results: An archaeological evaluation (forty-eight trenches) was carried out on land east of Richard Avenue, Wivenhoe, Essex in advance of the construction of a new residential development. The development site is located within an area which previous archaeological investigations have identified as one of Bronze Age and Iron Age activity, and lies adjacent to the historic Wivenhoe Heath, which had its origins in the medieval period. The investigation revealed evidence of settlement here during the Late Iron Age and early Roman periods, including an urned cremation burial and artefactual evidence indicating that the site of a daub structure lies nearby. A handful of features dating to the medieval or post-medieval periods, which were almost certainly the product of an earlier pattern of land division, were uncovered. Finally, sparse 19th- or 20th-century remains, including those of an old field boundary ditch, were also recorded.	
Previous summaries/reports: -	
CBC monitor: Dr Simon Wood	
Keywords: -	Significance: ***
Author of summary: Dr Elliott Hicks	Date of summary: October 2021

WRITTEN SCHEME OF INVESTIGATION (WSI) FOR ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION

Land behind Broadfields, Wivenhoe, Essex

JAC26990
Land behind Broadfields,
Wivenhoe WSI
V1
May 2021

Quality Management

Version	Status	Authored by	Reviewed by	Approved by	Review date
V1	Draft	Robert Masefield		Robert Masefield	20/05/21

Approval for issue

Robert Masefield



20 May 2021

File/Model Location

Document location: S Drive: Archaeology / Projects / 26000-26999 / 26990/ Reports / Eval WSI / Draft 1

Model / Appendices location:

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Figure 1 Site location

Figure 2 HER Plot

Figure 3 Proposed trench locations (existing layout)

Figure 4 Trench plan overlaid on layout plan

1 INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 This Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) has been prepared by RPS Consulting on behalf of Taylor Wimpey East London.
- 1.2 The proposed development is located at land behind Broadfields, Wivenhoe (Fig. 1). The proposed area of residential development is approximately 3.5ha out of the 11.58ha site, including the northern open space, and is centred at TM 04549 23344 (Fig. 1) within the administrative area of Colchester Borough Council (Figs 3-4).
- 1.3 The proposed development comprises construction of residential development (Use Class C3), access, landscaping, public open space, and associated infrastructure works (Fig. 16). The eastern field area, east of the residential zone, will remain undeveloped open space.
- 1.4 The WSI details archaeological trial trenching to be conducted following determination of the associated planning application following the results of an archaeological desk-based assessment (RPS 2021) and geophysical survey (SUMO 2021).
- 1.5 The CBC Archaeological Officer, in a communication of 19th May 2021 following provision of the above reports, and a proposed trenching layout (see Fig. 3) stated:

“Many thanks for sending me your proposed trench layout... I’ve just recommended an evaluation condition to the planning case officer, and would be very happy to see the evaluation undertaken in accordance with the plan which you have put forward. With regard to the POS, I think that we would want to see some kind of management agreement or fencing being used to ensure that these areas weren’t impacted accidentally.”
- 1.6 This WSI is therefore provided for pre agreement of the CBC Archaeological officer in advance of the draft Condition and will be updated with the condition wording and formally submitted in accordance with the condition in due course.
- 1.7 This document is specifically designed to provide a sound basis for excavation and post excavation practice for the completion of the trial trenches. The WSI sets out proposals for the archaeological work including treatment of finds, production of a report, and deposition of the archive. The WSI mirrors standards and practices contained in Guidelines on Standards and Practices for Archaeological Fieldwork in the Borough of Colchester (Colchester Borough Council 1996 revised 1999).
- 1.8 The Colchester Borough Council Local Development Framework Development Policies Document (adopted in October 2010) contains Policy DP14: Historic Environment Assets with which this WSI is in accordance.
- 1.9 The Colchester Borough Council Archaeological Officer (CBCAO) requires this document in order to formally approve the scope and the aims and methods for archaeological recording and reporting. The WSI is prepared by RPS Consulting and will be adhered to by the nominated archaeological contractor.
- 1.10 Further mitigation excavations may be required following the post-determination trenching and prior to development of the relevant Site areas. These works, in accordance with the anticipated condition, would take place following provision of a further mitigation WSI.

2 ARCHAEOLOGICAL & HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

- 2.1 The Site is generally relatively level at c.33m OD in the northern area of proposed development, 31.75m OD in the central southern area and c. 30.5m OD at southern extent.
- 2.2 The solid geology of the London area is shown by the British Geological Association (BGS Online 2021) to comprise “Thames Group - Clay, Silt And Sand. Sedimentary Bedrock formed approximately 34 to 56 million years ago in the Palaeogene Period. Local environment previously dominated by deep seas” (<https://mapapps.bgs.ac.uk/geologyofbritain/home.html>).
- 2.3 These deposits are sealed by a layer of “Cover Sand - Clay, Silt And Sand. Superficial Deposits formed up to 3 million years ago in the Quaternary Period. Local environment previously dominated by wind blown deposits.”
- 2.4 Whilst there is no site-specific geotechnical data available, a borehole sequence is recorded at the extreme northern extent of the study site from a surface level of 33.5m OD, according to the British Geological Survey (BGS Online 2021; BGS ID: 558019; BGS Reference: TM02SW14 British National Grid (27700): 604450,223660). The record describes – ‘Loam’ to 4m in depth comprising ‘soil and gravel contaminated by black clay and silt’ above a 0.6m deposit of ‘Grey silt’ in turn sealing 2.7m of ‘Glacial Sand and Gravel’ comprising ‘sandy gravel; gravel- fine with some coarse, sub-angular to sub-rounded flints and sub-rounded quartzites and quartz sand; pale brown mostly medium’ above London Clay (brown weathered Clay).

Palaeolithic and Mesolithic

- 2.5 There is only one findspot of confirmed Palaeolithic date within the study area comprising two flakes found in an organic deposit of Cromerian (ie pre-Clacton) age, from Near Broad Lanes c.220m to the east of the Site (MCC6937 on Fig. 2 with the blue outline showing the quarry extent). A surface find of a flint blade from West of Keelars Farm, c.360m to the east of the Site might be of (later) Palaeolithic or Mesolithic to Neolithic date (MCC7120).
- 2.6 Essex County Council have characterised the potential for Palaeolithic remains for Essex including Colchester Borough (Zone 3 Kesgrave Gravels – Colchester). The mapping indicates these large areas, which includes the Site, have a moderate potential generally (see O’Connor 2015, Fig. 21).
- 2.7 Despite this geological context, which underlies the Site, the presence of Palaeolithic material is notoriously difficult to predict and is rarely found within shallow impact development contexts (such as residential developments). Gravel quarries tend to prove more productive. Overall, given the paucity of evidence from the nearby area, the archaeological potential at the site for the Palaeolithic period is considered to be low.
- 2.8 There are currently no confirmed Mesolithic finds within the study area although the aforementioned blade find from West of Keelars Farm, c.360m to the east of the Site might be this date (MCC7120). The paucity of local Mesolithic finds to date suggests a generally low potential for the presence of occupation evidence such as camp sites (most usually identified by dense scatters of worked flintwork) and although stray finds of worked flint may be present in the ploughsoil there is a low potential for more significant evidence.

Neolithic and Bronze Age

- 2.9 A Neolithic arrowhead is recorded from the parish (British History Online). However (with the possible exception of the above flint blade find that could alternatively be of early Neolithic date) there are no Neolithic sites or finds within the study area or the Site. Although this may reflect a lack of local investigation, at present a low potential is appropriate for the presence of Neolithic occupation evidence at the Site itself.

- 2.10 Evidence for more permanent settlement associated with the emergence of field-systems of the Bronze Age is similarly scarce do date within the study area. However, evaluation and excavation ahead of mineral extraction at Fen Farm, Elmstead Market (EEX54409; Field Archaeology Unit 2008) identified a sequence of land use and development dating back as far as the Middle Bronze Age (c.1500-1000BC). This included a small Middle Bronze Age barrow cemetery built on a slight slope overlooking a small brook in the south-east area. Some Late Neolithic to Early Bronze Age worked flint at that site may indicate activity prior to the creation of the cemetery. A bronze spearhead which may be of Bronze Age date is also recorded from the parish (British History online).
- 2.11 There are no other finds of Bronze Age date currently recorded for the remainder of the study area on the Colchester HER and the potential for field-system or settlement evidence to be present is considered to be no more than low-moderate. It should be noted that the aerial photographic evidence for cropmarks (see ECC4411 on Fig. 2) and the geophysical surveys undertaken for the project (SUMO 2021; see Figure 3) indicate several ditches of unknown date in the southern zone of the Site. However, Bronze Age ditches (excluding ring-ditches of barrows) are usually shallow, with a low organic content, they are often not identified by geophysics, and it is therefore considered most likely that these features post-date the Bronze Age.

Iron Age

- 2.12 Within the study area, an Iron Age inhumation burial associated with a loom weight and Iron Age sherds was found between 1934 and 1936 during gravel extraction to the south-west of Keelars Farm, Wivenhoe, c.550m to the south of the Site (MCC7095). Early to Middle Iron Age burial practices usually leave little trace in the archaeological record as exposure burial (excarnation) seems to have been generally preferred, but as cremation was the favoured means of Late Iron Age burial this burial probably pre-dated Late Iron Age Camulodunum (where urned cremations are commonly found).
- 2.13 A sherd of Iron Age pottery was also found west of Keelars Farm, 360m to the east of the Site (MCC7118).
- 2.14 A later Iron Age coin reported to date to (circa) 91BC was found via metal-detecting c.50m to the east of the central eastern edge of the Site (MCC10348). A Late Iron Age to earlier Roman coin was also found at c.750m to the north-west of the Site (MCC6796).
- 2.15 The excavation at Fenn Farm, from c.600m to the north-east of the Site (EEX54409; Field Archaeology Unit 2008) was mainly concerned with mitigation of impacts to Iron Age archaeology. Several pits of Early Iron Age date (c.700-300BC) contained burnt flint and after a gap min activity of c.300 years Late Iron Age features of c.100BC to AD43 included a curving boundary ditch with gully land divisions to the east, along with two four-post structures (possible fodder stores or granaries).
- 2.16 A large undated rectangular enclosure is shown by cropmarks from c.175m to the east of the Site. This would be typical of the Iron Age or Roman periods (see Fig. 2).
- 2.17 The Site itself has some potential for similar evidence of Iron Age landscape and the presence of settlement-related activities cannot be ruled at this stage. In particular it is possible that linear features identified in the southern area of the Site as cropmarks on aerial photographs (MCC9022) including a possible 115m diameter 'curvilinear enclosure, partially surrounded by a ditched trackway, irregular shape and indistinct', and as faint traces by the geophysical survey (ECC4411), might date to the Iron Age or Roman periods. The geophysical survey also suggests the possibility of enclosures in the central and north-western areas of proposed residential development (SUMO 2021; see Fig. 3).
- 2.18 Overall a moderate potential for Iron Age agricultural features and/or settlement at Site is predicted.

Roman

- 2.19 The HER contains several finds of Roman date including a pottery sherd from west of Keelars Farm 360m to the east of the Site (MCC7117). Metal-detecting finds include a later 3rd century coin (AD 260-296) from 850m to the west of the Site (MCC9486).
- 2.20 A few more Roman artefacts were found at Fen Farm, from c.600m to the north-east of the Site, which would be consistent with agricultural use of this area (Field Archaeology Unit 2008).
- 2.21 Although no Roman period finds have been made at the Site itself, as noted for the Iron Age above, it is possible that linear features identified as cropmarks on aerial photographs including a possible enclosure (MCC9022) and as feint traces by the geophysical survey (ECC4411) (Appendix 2), might date to the period. Therefore, a moderate potential for Roman period agricultural features and/or settlement traces at Site is currently predicted.

Saxon and Medieval

- 2.22 The place name of Wivenhoe has an Old English meaning of Wifa's ridge or spur of land, and it has been suggested this refers to early Anglo-Saxon settlement (British History Online accessed January 12 2021). The parish of Wivenhoe in the Hundred of Lexden dates from the late Saxon period. The Saxon Lord of the manor in 1066 was recorded as Aefric (or Alvrice) (ibid). In 1066 Wivenhoe Manor within the parish comprised a population of 1 (heads of households).
- 2.23 No archaeological remains or finds of Anglo-Saxon date have been recorded within the study area (including within the Fen Farm excavation).
- 2.24 As the present-day village pattern was established in the late Saxon period the main focus of local activity was concentrated at the historic core of Wivenhoe itself.
- 2.25 Overall, the Site is likely to have remained within marginal to settlement foci in the Anglo-Saxon period. Therefore, a generally low archaeological potential is considered at the Site for the Saxon period.
- 2.26 As with the late Saxon period the medieval main settlement of the period was around the historic core been around the Wivenhoe. The surrounding landscape, probably including the Site will have formed the agricultural hinterland within which individual farmsteads operated, much as today. The post-medieval map regression does not suggest the potential for any known post-medieval farms that might have had their roots in the medieval period, at the Site.
- 2.27 Medieval entries on the HER include Wivenhoe Park deer park (MCC8658) c. 650m to the north-west of the Site (MCC8658) which later became a 34-hectare landscaped park around the associated post-medieval country house (Wivenhoe Park Registered Park and Garden – National List 1000371).
- 2.28 Wivenhoe Heath (MCC9167), from some 50m north-west of the extreme northwest extent of the Site, is also of medieval origin. It was first shown on the 1777 Chapman & Andre Historic Map occupying an area north of Wivenhoe when it covered an irregular area of c.121ha. The heath is not shown subsequently but was enclosed by 1800.
- 2.29 The Parish Church of St. Mary within Wivenhoe dates to between the 13th century and c.AD1500 with extensive 19th century restoration. Like several the churches within Colchester it incorporates Roman brick in its fabric (British History Online accessed 12th January 2021).
- 2.30 Medieval (or Medieval to early Post-medieval) metalwork including coins and tokens have also been found from various locations within the study area by metal-detecting (MCC5795, MCC6086, MCC6277, MCC6229, MCC6230, MCC6467, MCC6467, MCC6467, MCC6537 and MCC9932).
- 2.31 Although agricultural boundaries (potentially those identified by aerial photographs and geophysics) may be present (moderate potential), the Site is likely to have remained within marginal to settlement foci in the period, a low archaeological potential for settlement is considered appropriate.

Post-medieval and modern

- 2.32 A number of the HER records within the study area refer to Post Medieval and Modern standing buildings and archaeological remains which are not discussed in detail here unless relevant to the Site but are listed in Appendix 1 and located on Figure 2. Many of the finds relate to metal-detecting finds recorded by the Portable Antiquities Scheme. Of note with regard to World War II defences is a former spigot mortar position at Colchester Road c.200m to the south-west of the Site (MCC5533) and a destroyed ammunition centre at Tower Road c.300m to the south-west (MCC5534). However, no World War II defences are noted on the HER for the Site.
- 2.33 During the later Post Medieval and Modern periods, our understanding of settlement, land-use and the utilisation of the landscape is enhanced by cartographic and documentary sources, which can give additional detail to data contained within the HER. Historic mapping provided in the DBA (RPS 2021) demonstrates that the Site remained farmland throughout the later post-medieval period. There is a high potential for post-medieval agricultural remnants and but a low potential for settlement and/or industrial archaeology within the Site.

Undated

- 2.34 Undated ditch-like features recorded as cropmarks on aerial photographs in the southern area of the Site include a possible 115m diameter 'curvilinear enclosure, partially surrounded by a ditched trackway, irregular shape and indistinct' (MCC9022). These cropmarks are also potentially also defined as faint traces by the geophysical survey (ECC4411) and might theoretically date to the Iron Age or Roman periods.
- 2.35 A large undated rectangular enclosure is shown by cropmarks c.175m to the east of the proposed residential areas of the Site, with its north-west corner entering the eastern edge of the proposals eastern open space. This would be typical of the Iron Age or Roman periods but could also be later in date (see Fig. 2).

Geophysical Surveys at the Site

- 2.36 A geophysical survey was undertaken on the Site by SUMO for this project in 2019 (SUMO 2019; ECC4411 on Fig. 2) in order to assess the potential of possible cropmarks previously known on the Site (MCC9022 on Fig. 2). The conclusions of the report read as follows:
- "No anomalies have been detected that could be interpreted as being of archaeological origin. A number of responses of uncertain origin have been detected, one of which corresponds to a cropmark visible on aerial mapping. The other uncertain responses are likely to be due to modern agricultural practices or natural causes. The majority of features which are visible in the aerial imagery and that are recorded in the HER are not visible in the magnetic data; therefore, it is possible that these features are related to agricultural or funerary practices rather than settlement activity. This could explain the lack of magnetic differentiation between the natural and fill of the features."
- 2.37 Despite the apparent clarity from the aerial photographs of an L-shaped ditch, which is shown on 19th century maps between 1838 and 1936 as a field boundary (see RPS 2021's figs 5 – 7), and the putative enclosure to the south-west of the connection of the L-ditch (see Figure 2); the geophysical survey report was uncertain of their derivation. It did, however, confirm features that appeared to correspond to those cropmarks.
- 2.38 This survey was updated in 2021 with a further c.2ha of survey to the immediate north of the previous survey, to account for the proposed northern extent of the development as shown on Figure 4. The western zone of this survey suggests the possibility of another possible rectilinear enclosure aligned on a north-east/south-west axis (see SUMO 2021 and Fig. 3 of this report).
- 2.39 The geophysical survey therefore provides some supporting evidence for cropmark evidence within the southern area of the Site (a possible sub-square enclosure, along with potentially associated field boundaries and/or trackways), with another possible enclosure identified in the western

northern area of the proposed zone of residential development (SUMO 2019, updated 2021 – see Fig 3). Based on form the enclosures may be of later prehistoric or Roman date, although later derivations are also possible.

3 STRATEGY AND AIMS

Trial Trenching (Fig. 3)

- 3.1 Figure 3 shows a trenching layout of thirty nine 30m long by 2m wide trenches providing a 4% sample for the housing area. A further 1% contingency is available for further trenching if required to answer specific archaeological questions following the opening of the 4% trenching.
- 3.2 A further grid of six trenches provides a 2% is positioned over an area to the north of the housing where topsoil stripping for sports pitches and a works compound is likely to be required (NB there is no cropmark evidence of note in this area). In addition a haul route would be required along the edge of the northern field for access and three further trenches are located along its line.
- 3.3 The trench layout was agreed with the CBC Archaeological Officer in an email to RPS of 19th May 2021.

Aims

- 3.4 The evaluation Brief has the following aims, to:
- To recover sufficient evidence to characterise the nature, date, function and importance of the archaeological features within the affected area;
 - Identify the date, approximate form and purpose of any archaeological deposit, together with its likely extent, localised depth and quality of preservation;
 - Evaluate the likely impact of past land uses, and the possible presence of masking colluvial/alluvial deposits;
 - Establish the potential for the survival of environmental evidence; and
 - Provide sufficient information to construct an archaeological conservation strategy, dealing with preservation, the recording of archaeological deposits, working practices, timetables and orders of cost.'
- 3.5 The specific project aims have to an extent been informed by previous investigations as follows:
- To establish the presence/absence Neolithic to Early Bronze Age activity – are there artefact scatters or pits containing artefactual and/or environmental evidence for the period?;
 - To establish the presence/absence of later Bronze Age/ earlier Iron Age activity and in particular whether geophysical survey and aerial photographic anomalies date to the period;
 - Inform how the landscape was used and to what level of intensification in the Iron Age and Roman periods - and in particular whether geophysical survey and aerial photographic anomalies date to the period;
 - To establish whether there is clear evidence for domestic occupation at the Site; and
 - To identify presence/absence elements of the Roman to post-Roman landscape.

3.6 A final aim is to hold discussions with the CBC Archaeological Officer following the evaluation and its reporting, to facilitate detailed understanding of any required mitigation works.

4 METHOD STATEMENT

- 4.1 This method statement is in accordance with the research design developed in consultation with CBC and complies with the guidelines laid down in Planning Policy Guidance on Archaeology and Planning (NPPF) and with the Chartered Institute of Field Archaeologist's Standards and Guidance for Archaeological Evaluation (ClfA 2014). The archaeological contractor will liaise closely with RPS (the Archaeological Project Managers and advisors to Taylor Wimpey East London) with respect to all important matters concerning the co-ordination and management of the project. The CBC archaeological officer (CBCAO) will be kept fully informed of all archaeological developments.
- 4.2 All archaeological trenches will be monitored and 'signed off' by the RPS Archaeological Project Manager and the CBCAO monitor prior to backfilling.

Machining

- 4.3 The nominated archaeological contractor will accurately survey the location of the trial trenches.
- 4.4 Should significant constraints to the location of particular trenches be identified, then trenches will be moved to a new location as close to the original as possible. At present an exclusion corridor is required for the overhead HV cables running east west across the Site but further service information to be supplied to the nominated archaeological contractor may require further trench repositioning.
- 4.5 The trenches will be excavated using a 360 degree mechanical excavator equipped with a c.2m wide toothless (ditching) bucket. Care will be taken to ensure that machines used do not rut, compact or otherwise damage buried or exposed archaeological features and deposits ahead of recording. No potentially significant archaeological deposits will be removed prior to recording and sampling (if necessary) to provide an adequate understanding of their character.
- 4.6 The archaeological contractor will then undertake their investigation and recording work as set out below.
- 4.7 Backfilling of trenches will be undertaken following completion.

Recording

- 4.8 Surveying: Following the overburden stripping temporary bench marks will be surveyed with respect to an Ordnance Survey datum and all features and deposits will be recorded relative to their OD height. The TBM's will be shown on the site location plans.
- 4.9 The exposed surface of the natural will be hand cleaned sufficiently to define any archaeological features present. This process will facilitate accurate planning and allow for metal detected finds to be correctly assigned following an initial scan of the site.
- 4.10 Complex areas (areas of intercutting features, surviving layers, where features are complex in form or where surface finds may be plotted) will be planned by hand, usually at a scale 1:20. These plans will be located via total station, scanned, vectorised and imported via a CAD programme on the OS grid-based plan. Less complex areas of the site (where features are absent or rare and of simple form) will be planned using a total station with the data input directly onto CAD and the OS tiles. There will be no site grid on the ground. All site plans will show OS grid points and spot levels and will be fully indexed and related to adjacent plans. It is not anticipated that single context recording will be appropriate. However, should particularly complex sequences of deposits or features be encountered, then single context recording will be undertaken. A uniform site plan will be produced showing all site features.
- 4.11 Archaeological investigation will be by hand and will respect the stratigraphy of archaeological layers, features, deposits and structures. Each context will be excavated in sequence. Occasionally further use of the mechanical excavator may be required. Such techniques are only appropriate for the removal of homogenous low-grade deposits that may give a "window" into underlying levels. They will not be used on complex stratigraphy and the deposits to be removed must have been properly recorded first. If encountered horizontal deposits (e.g. layers) should be hand excavated or sample excavated in 1m grid squares and should not be removed by machine.
- 4.12 The following sampling strategy will be adopted to ascertain the nature, depth, date and state of preservation of archaeological features as well as the stratigraphical relationships of these deposits and features to one another.
- (i) Normally 50% of the fills of all pits and other discrete archaeological features will be excavated. However, in the event that complex areas of pitting are encountered a representative sample will be excavated (although all will be planned). Tree throw holes will not normally be investigated.
 - (ii) At least 20% of the exposed lengths of ditches will be excavated (although in practice within the narrow trenches 50% or the full exposed length may need to be excavated). The segments will be placed to provide adequate coverage of the ditches and will include excavation of all terminals and intersections. A flexible approach will be adopted to the location of excavation samples such that areas of exposed ditch fill with higher artefact or ecofact content may be targeted. A lower excavation sample ratio of ditches will only be acceptable in the event that the research aims will not be further advanced. Any such reduction in sample ratio will be agreed with CBC and RPS.
 - (iii) At least 50% excavation of ring gullies will include excavation of the terminals and sections at each side to the rear of the gully. Special regard will be given to significant stratigraphical relationships and concentrations of artefactual material.
 - (iv) In the event that stone structures, hearth or kilns are encountered, these will be cleaned in sufficiently to establish their basic plan within the trench, function and date with stratigraphic associations recorded where clear in plan. Should floor levels be encountered, these will be fully exposed within the trench confines.
 - (v) Human remains (if encountered) will only be excavated after obtaining the relevant Ministry of Justice Licence, as required by the Burials Act of 1857 (amended 1981). The discovery of human remains will be reported to the local coroner. Other structured or placed deposits will

be recorded and retained as “small finds”. Should sufficient human bone be exposed to warrant specialist examination *in situ*, a human bone specialist may be required to attend to examine the remains (subject to CBCAO requirements). NB the latest Historic England guidance ‘The Role of the Osteologist in an Archaeological Fieldwork Project (HE 2018) indicates a preference to lift burials encountered at evaluation stage. However, the Advisory Panel on the Archaeology of Burials in England 2017 ‘Guidance for Best Practice of the Treatment of Human Remains Excavated from Christian Burial Grounds’ (Second Edition), which also deals with non-Christian burials, indicates that retention *in situ* is the best option. For the purposes of the present project following discussion with the CBCAO it is considered that a case-by-case approach will be taken to the appropriate lifting of any human remains, although cremations will normally be lifted at evaluation stage due to their sensitivity to damage during subsequent mitigation.

- (vi) Metal detectors will be used to scan for metallic finds on spoil heaps, vacated areas, areas of modern disturbance and during the excavation of key archaeological features or deposits.
- (vii) Any ‘dark earth’ deposits will be subject to hand excavation and environmental sampling.

4.13 The following recording procedures will always be initiated:

- (i) All features will be planned either by means of a total station or hand drawn plans where appropriate.
- (ii) Sections: all sectioned and excavated archaeological features will be drawn at a scale of 1:20 or 1:10, or at a smaller scale (if appropriate). All sections will be levelled to ordnance datum.
- (iii) All archaeological features, layers or deposits will be allocated unique context numbers prior to any hand excavation including contexts for which there is no archaeological interpretation or definition. All archaeological features, layers or deposits will be recorded on pro-forma context sheets detailing: character, contextual relationships, a detailed description, associated finds, interpretation and cross referencing to the drawn, photographic and finds records. On-site matrices will be compiled during the excavation such that the results of the written stratigraphical records may be fully analysed and phased.
- (iv) An adequate photographic record of the investigation will be made of all archaeological features and deposits. Standard record shots of contexts will be taken on a digital camera. The record will include working and promotional shots to illustrate more generally the nature of the archaeological operations. All photographic records will include information detailing: site code; date; context(s); section number; a north arrow and a scale. All photographs will be listed and indexed on context record sheets.
- (v) A record of the full extent in plan of all archaeological features, deposits or layers encountered will be produced. The detailed hand drawn plans will be related to the site, and O.S. national grid and be drawn at an appropriate scale, generally 1:20. Where necessary e.g. when recording an inhumation, additional plans at 1:10 scale, or where appropriate 1:20 will be drawn. The O.D. height of all principal strata and features will be calculated and indicated on the appropriate plans and sections.
- (vi) A record or index will be maintained of all site drawings and these will form part of the project archive. All site drawings will contain the following information: site name; site number and code; scale; plan or section number; orientation, date and compiler.

Treatment of Samples

- 4.14 Industrial residues will be recorded and sampled in accordance with the Society of Museum Archaeologists (SMA, 1993) guidelines. The presence of such residues will always be recorded and quantified fully, even where comprehensive retention is considered to be inappropriate. Large technological residues will be collected by hand. Separate samples (c.10ml) will be collected where appropriate for identification of hammer scale and spherical droplets. The advice provided in the Historic England/ Metallurgy Society document Archaeometallurgy in archaeological projects, will be referred to. Structural remains will be similarly recorded in accord with the SMA guidelines.
- 4.15 The environmental sampling policy is as follows. The nominated archaeological contractor will be advised by the Historic England Regional Advisor in Archaeological Science. The nominated archaeological contractor will bulk sample any potentially rich environmental layers or features in addition to all reliably dated deposits for specialist assessment, and future sampling policy on other excavations areas will follow their advice. If any complex or outstanding deposits are encountered, then the Historic England Regional Advisor in Archaeological Science will be asked onto site to advise. Pollen is not expected to survive within these soils, but should deep deposits with pollen preservation potential be encountered column samples will be retrieved for laboratory analysis.
- 4.16 In addition to retrieving environmental evidence (above), bulk sampling will be used to collect charcoal for potential C14 dating.
- 4.17 The procedures set in 'A guide to sampling deposits for environmental analysis' (Murphy and Wiltshire 1994) and 'Environmental Archaeology. A Guide to the Theory and Practice of Methods, from Sampling and Recovery to Post-excavation (second edition)' (English Heritage 2011) will be consulted. The following procedures will be followed unless otherwise amended following consultations between RPS, the Historic England Advisor in Archaeological Science, the bioarchaeologist and the nominated archaeological contractor's site Supervisor/ Director:
- (i) 40 litre bulk samples (or 100% of smaller contexts) of anthropogenic concentrations will be taken and of selected deposits where remains are not visible (but may nevertheless occur). These shall include well sealed deposits, floors, hearths etc.
 - (ii) Monoliths for pollen analysis will be taken as appropriate to answer specific research questions.
 - (iii) 40 litre bulk samples will be taken (if possible) from a selected sample of closely dated pits and from undated features. These deposits will be sampled regardless of whether or not there are visible macrofossils or molluscs.
 - (iv) Whole fill samples from a selection of post-holes of definable structures will taken for assessment.
 - (v) Cremations and other "special deposits" will be 100% sampled and sieved for the retrieval of remains.
 - (viii) 100% recovery of animal bones will be undertaken from the soil samples. It is possible that 100 litre samples for bone may also be necessary in some circumstances.

General Methodology

- 4.18 All works will be undertaken by a team of professional archaeologists. The proposed team structure is given in the appendix (end of document).
- 4.19 All work will be informed by Management of Archaeological Projects (English Heritage 1991), the MoRPHE Project Managers Guide (English Heritage, 2006) and Guidelines on Standards and Practices for Archaeological Fieldwork in the Borough of Colchester (Colchester Borough Council 1996, revised 1999).
- 4.20 Animal and human burials, including cremations, will only be excavated should they have been damaged by their exposure. A Ministry of Justice (MOJ) licence is required for the excavation of human remains. Where a licence for their excavation is issued by the MOJ, the requirements of that licence will be followed.
- 4.21 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.
- 4.22 For purposes of deposition of the archive, a museum accession code will be obtained through Colchester Museum. This will be used this as the site code.
- 4.23 The Code of Conduct of the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (CIfA) will be followed.
- 4.24 Following completion of the manual excavation and recording the trenches will be backfilled flush with ground level. There are no proposals to reinstate the surfaces with simple backfilling of trenches the agreed method.
- 4.25 Industrial residues will be recorded and sampled in accordance with the Society of Museum Archaeologists (SMA, 1993) guidelines. The presence of such residues will always be recorded and quantified fully, even where comprehensive retention is considered to be inappropriate. Large technological residues will be collected by hand. Separate samples (c.10ml) will be collected where appropriate for identification of hammer scale and spherical droplets. The advice provided in the English Heritage/ Metallurgy Society document Archaeometallurgy in archaeological projects, will be referred to. Structural remains will be similarly recorded in accord with the SMA guidelines.
- 4.26 In addition to retrieving environmental evidence (above), bulk sampling will be used to collect charcoal for potential C14 dating. A contingency for absolute dating is allowed for (should it be required). A contingency will also be set aside for archaeomagnetic dating, should appropriate in situ burnt remains be encountered.

5 PUBLIC ARCHAEOLOGY

- 5.1 Public access will not normally be provided to the trenches although the archaeological works will be visible from adjacent public areas.

6 HEALTH AND SAFETY

- 6.1 The archaeological contractor will provide a detailed Risk Assessment for the project for the agreement of Taylor Wimpey and RPD Heritage prior to the commencement of the works.
- 6.2 This will include full Covid-19 risk assessment in accordance with latest Government guidance, and COSHH assessment.
- 6.3 The nominated archaeological contractor's standard safety policies will be adhered to.
- 6.4 All the latest Health and Safety guidelines will be followed on prior to commencement and on site.
- 6.5 No personnel will work in deep or unsupported excavations. The sides of all excavations or trenches deeper than 1.2 metres will be stepped or battered. Due to the difficulty of working in shored trenches, shoring will be avoided wherever possible. Safety helmets will worn by personnel in deep trenches or other potentially unsafe positions. All deep trenches shall be fenced off and will be clearly indicated by "deep excavation" signs.
- 6.6 The archaeologist(s) will not enter an area under machine excavation without alerting the machine driver to his/her intention.
- 6.7 The archaeologist(s) shall remain alert and take due care not to impede the progress of moving machinery. He/she shall stand well back from the turning circle of an excavator' buckets and cabs.
- 6.8 Spoil will be stored at a safe distance away from trench edges.
- 6.9 Suitable accommodation will be provided for staff to shelter from inclement weather and during breaks. Hand washing facilities will be provided.
- 6.10 The nominated archaeological contractor will provide any necessary protective footwear, high-visibility jackets, and safety helmets. All staff and visitors to the site will be expected to wear full PPE at all times.
- 6.11 The HV Over-head power line across the northern area of the Site will be cordoned off at the necessary distance either side (to be confirmed by UKPN). Goal post will be required at a single plant crossing point, with height restrictions to be agreed with UKPN prior to commencement of the evaluation.
- 6.12 The RPS project manager will be provided with a list of all personnel working on site each day by the nominated archaeological contractor Supervisor.
- 6.13 CAT scanning will be undertaken prior to and during machine excavation.

7 FINDS

- 7.1 Unstratified finds will only be collected where they contribute significantly to the research aims or are of intrinsic interest. All finds will be exposed, lifted, cleaned, conserved, marked, bagged and boxed according to the United Kingdom Institute for Conservation's Conservation Guidelines No.2, the Council for British Archaeology's First Aid for Finds (Third Edition, 1998) and the Institute of Field Archaeologist's Guidelines for Finds Work (1992). Iron finds may require X-rays prior to conservation and similarly residues on pottery may require study ahead of any conservation which may be appropriate.
- 7.2 All finds and bones will be recorded, collected and labelled according to their individual stratigraphical context. Finds from each archaeological context will be allocated an individual finds tray and waterproof labels will be used for each tray to identify unique individual contexts. Each label will be marked with the appropriate context number in waterproof ink and will be securely attached to each tray.
- 7.3 A policy of marking for pottery and other finds will be agreed with Colchester Museum. Marking will include the site code and context number.
- 7.4 All lifting, conservation or other on-site treatment of delicate finds will be done by Colchester Museums' staff. It is anticipated that robust items such as intact cremations will be lifted by site staff.
- 7.5 The site archive will be presented to Colchester Museums in accordance with the requirements for conservation and storage as outlined in Guidelines on the Preparation and Transfer of Archaeological Archives to Colchester Museums (Colchester Borough Council 1996).
- 7.6 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. Any other finds remain for the landowner to assess and dispose of.
- 7.7 Finds work will be to accepted professional standards and adhere to the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists' published booklet Guidelines for Finds Work.
- 7.8 Agreement with the landowner will be sought for deposition of the finds and paper archive. Arrangements for the finds to be viewed by the landowner will be made if he/she wishes.
- 7.9 The nominated contractor will confirm the specialists they will use for artefact and environmental analysis with the CBCAO in advance of the evaluation.

8 REPORTING

- 1.1 At the start of work an OASIS online record <http://ads.ahds.ac.uk/project/oasis/> must be initiated and key fields completed on Details, Location and Creators forms. When the project is completed, all parts of the OASIS online form must be completed and a .pdf version of the entire report should be uploaded to the OASIS website. A copy of the OASIS online form should be included as an appendix to the report. A copy of the WSI should be included as an appendix to the report.
- 1.2 A Colchester Historic Environment Record (CHER) Event number must be obtained the CBCAO; this will be the unique reference number for the work in the CHER.
- 1.3 Following completion of fieldwork an evaluation report will be completed within 4-6 weeks and submitted to RPS for distribution to the CBCAO for his approval. The report will be marked DRAFT until agreed. Following acceptance, a single digital and hard copy of the report should be presented to both the CHER and Essex HER. A hard copy of the report should be deposited with the archive at Colchester and Ipswich Museum.
- 1.4 Copies of the final report will also be issued to the RPS and Taylor Wimpey East London.
- 1.5 Expert advice and reporting (in relation to cultural artefacts and ecofacts) will be provided by individual Specialists appointed as appropriate.
- 1.6 All records and materials will be compiled in a structured archive in accordance with the guidelines of Appendix 3 in the Historic England procedural document, Management of Archaeological Projects (1991).
- 1.7 The MoRPHE Project Managers Guide (EH 2006) will be adhered to with regard to post-excavation management in relation to this and any subsequent mitigation that may be required.
- 1.8 The report should include relevant background context information.
- 1.9 At the end of the project, a copy of the digital vector plan, which must be compatible with MapInfo GIS software, will be sent by the nominated archaeological contractor to CBC for integration in the CHER. AutoCAD files should be exported and saved into a format that can be imported into MapInfo (for example, as a .dxf or .TAB files).

Publication

- 1.10 The evaluation stage reporting will be summarised in an overall publication for the Site should mitigation result.

9 ARCHIVES AND FINDS DEPOSITION

- 1.11 All retained artefacts will be cleaned, conserved and packaged in accordance with the requirements and guidelines of the United Kingdom Institute for Conservation's' Conservation Guidelines No. 2, the Council for British Archaeology's First Aid for Finds (Second Edition, 1987), the Chartered Institute for Archaeologist's Guidelines Standard and guidance for the creation, compilation, transfer and deposition of archaeological archives Published December 2014. Small finds will be boxed separately from the bulk finds. Plans will be presented on hanging strips to fit Colchester Museum storage systems. A full archive will be prepared to standards outlined in Management of Archaeological Projects: 2 (English Heritage 1991).
- 1.12 The full archive will be deposited at Colchester Museums, subject to Taylor Wimpey East London consent and subject to the guidelines and requirements of MAP 2, as soon as is practicable, and within six months of completion of publication text on the project. All requirements for archive storage as given in Colchester Borough Council's Guidelines for the standards and practice of archaeological fieldwork in the Borough of Colchester, will be followed.
- 1.13 Finds (and other retained materials) will be bagged and boxed in the manner recommended by Colchester Museums.
- 1.14 Photographic archive is to be presented as follows: original digital data on CD Roms, hard copies of digital photos on high quality paper, or as otherwise requested by Colchester Museums.
- 1.15 CD Roms of material held on computers will be presented to Colchester Museums, along with bound copies of printouts.
- 1.16 Deposition of the archive will be confirmed in writing to CBCAO, and a summary of the contents of the archive shall be supplied to CBCAO.
- 1.17 The digital archive will be deposited with the Archaeological Data Service, or similar digital archive repository (<http://ads.ac.uk/project/policy.html>).
- 1.18 All artefacts recovered from the archaeological excavation shall be deposited at the Colchester Museums. All recovered artefacts shall be fully catalogued, shall constitute one single deposit and shall be deposited within two years of the completion of the archaeological evaluation.

10 STAFFING, TIMETABLE AND INSURANCE

- 1.19 The overall archaeological project will be managed by Robert Masefield CMifA (CgMs Heritage part of RPS). The archaeological contractor team structure will be advised to CBCAO following their appointment.
- 1.20 The timing of the demolition, and hence the archaeological trenching, is yet to be confirmed but will be provided to the CBCAO, with an associated programme, in due course.
- 1.21 The nominated archaeological contractor will be a full member of the ClfA.
- 1.22 The nominated archaeological contractor shall be insured against liability for professional negligence and against third party liability in the amount of £5,000,000.

11 MONITORING

- 1.23 A programme of monitoring of the project in the field shall be agreed in advance between RPS, the nominated archaeological contractor Taylor Wimpey and CBCAO.
- 1.24 Any variation or modification to the project programme in terms of working or recording either on site or off will be fully discussed and agreed with RPS, Taylor Wimpey and CBC in advance.
- 1.25 The CBCAO and Rob Masefield will meet with the archaeological contractor to review and sign off trenches as appropriate.
- 1.26 Any variations of the WSI shall be agreed between RPS, Taylor Wimpey, CBCAO and the nominated archaeological contractor prior to their being carried out.
- 1.27 The involvement of CBCAO shall be acknowledged in any report or publication generated by this project.

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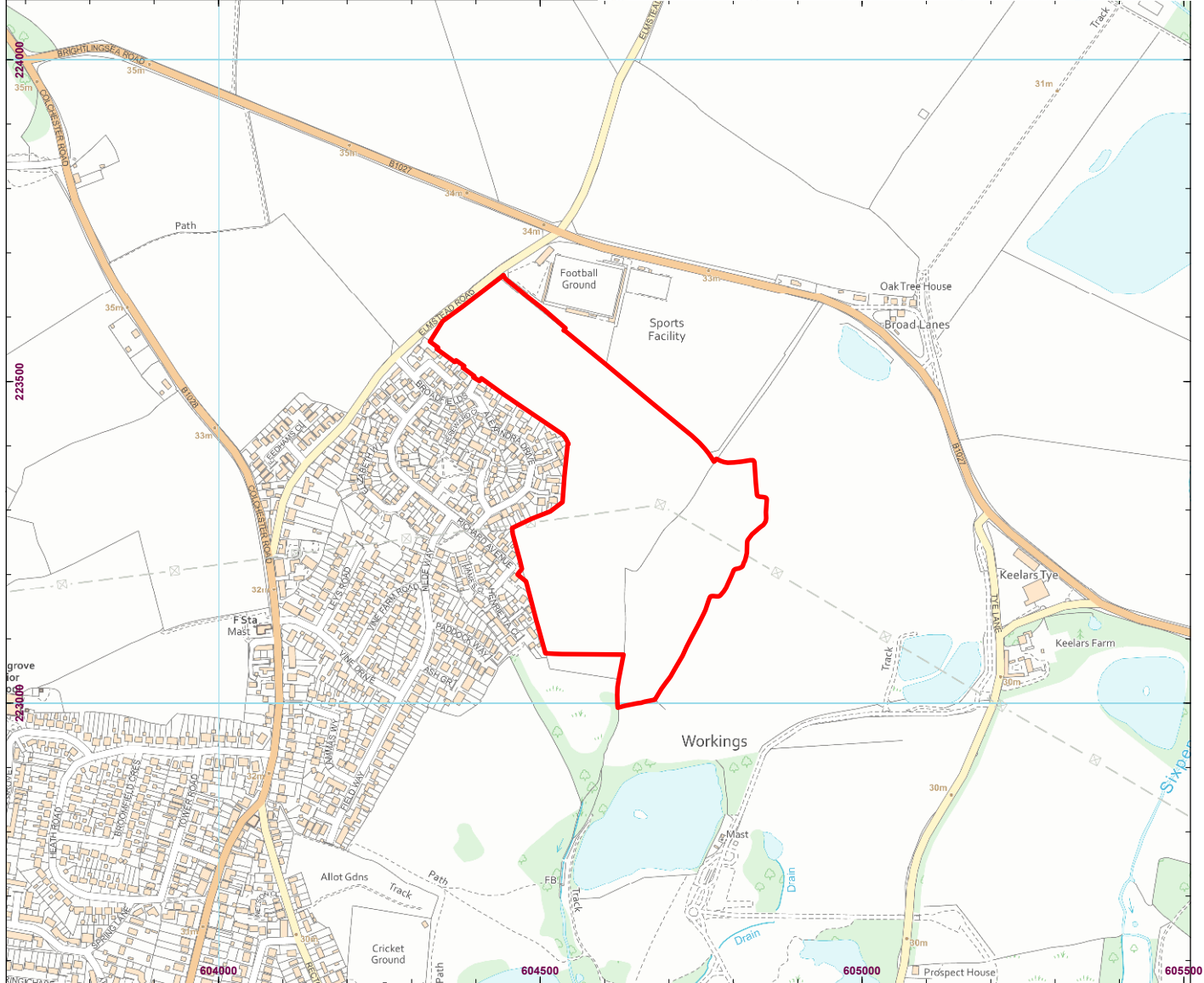
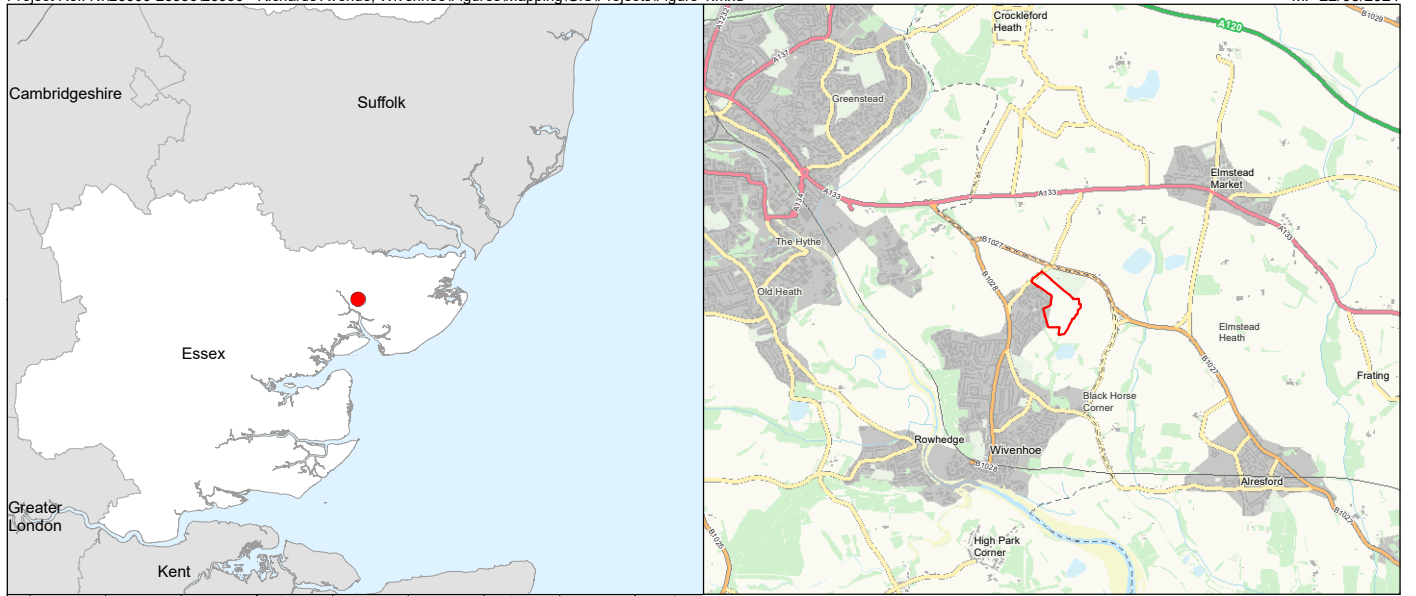
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FIGURES



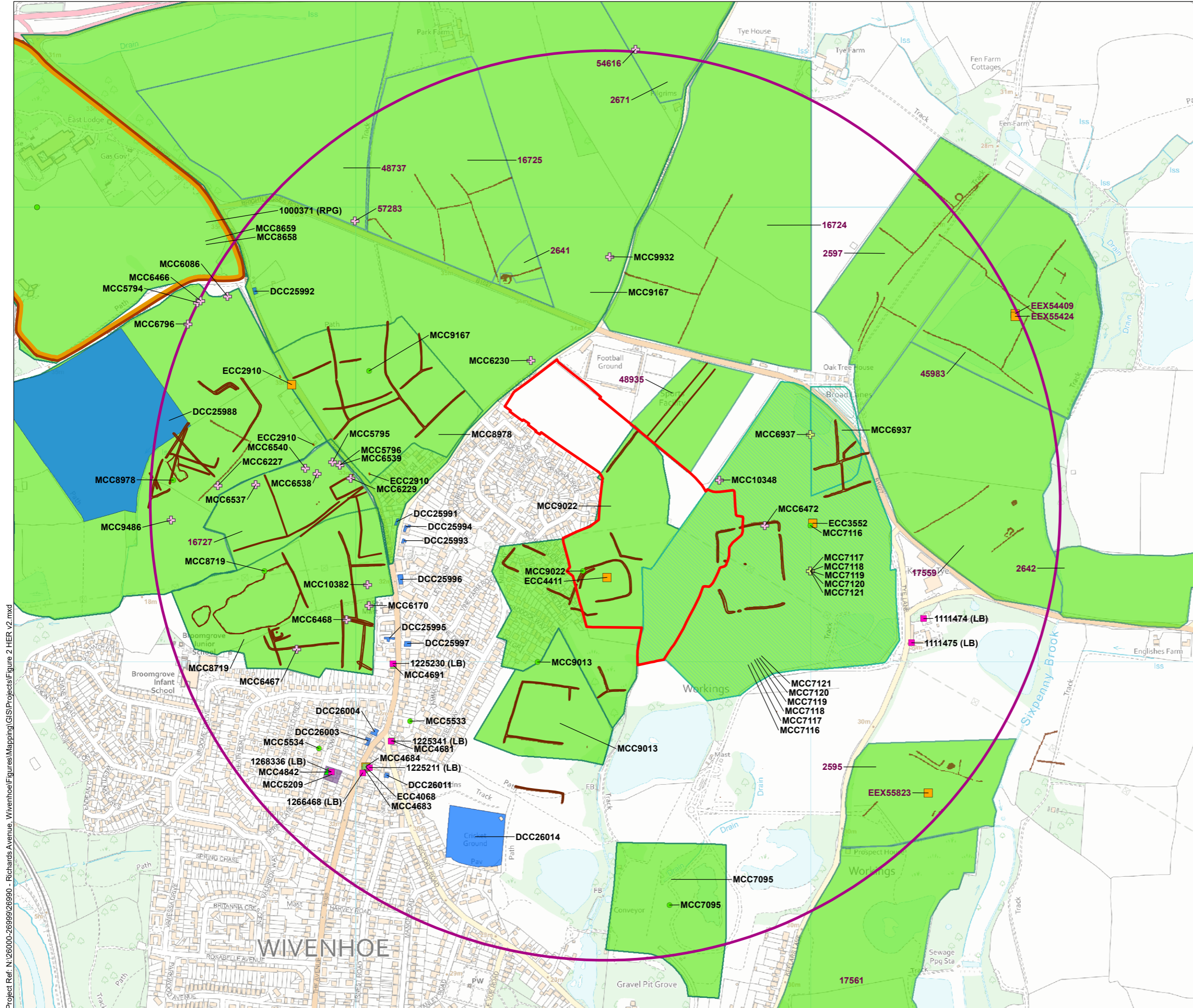
 Site Boundary



0 100 200m
Scale at A4: 1:10,000



Figure 1
Site Location



Legend

- Site Boundary
- Search Radius 1km

Designated Heritage Assets:

- Registered Park & Garden
- Grade II Listed Building

Non-designated Heritage Assets:

- Locally Listed Building

HER Record (Point)

- Portable Antiquities Scheme
- Find Spot
- Monument
- Industrial
- Building

HER Record (Polygon)

- Find Spot
- Monument
- Industrial

Previous Archaeological Work:

- HER Event (Point)
- HER Event (Polygon)
- NMP Feature

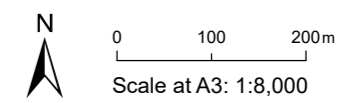


Figure 2
HER Plot

Project Ref: N:\26000-26999\26990 - Richards Avenue, Wivenhoe\Figures\Mapping\GIS\Projects\Figure 2 HER v2.mxd



Legend

- ▭ Site Boundary
- ▭ Trench Location
- Geophysical Survey Results:**
- Geophysical Survey Extents
- Ferrous
- Uncertain (Discrete)
- Uncertain (Trend)

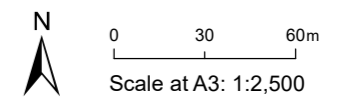
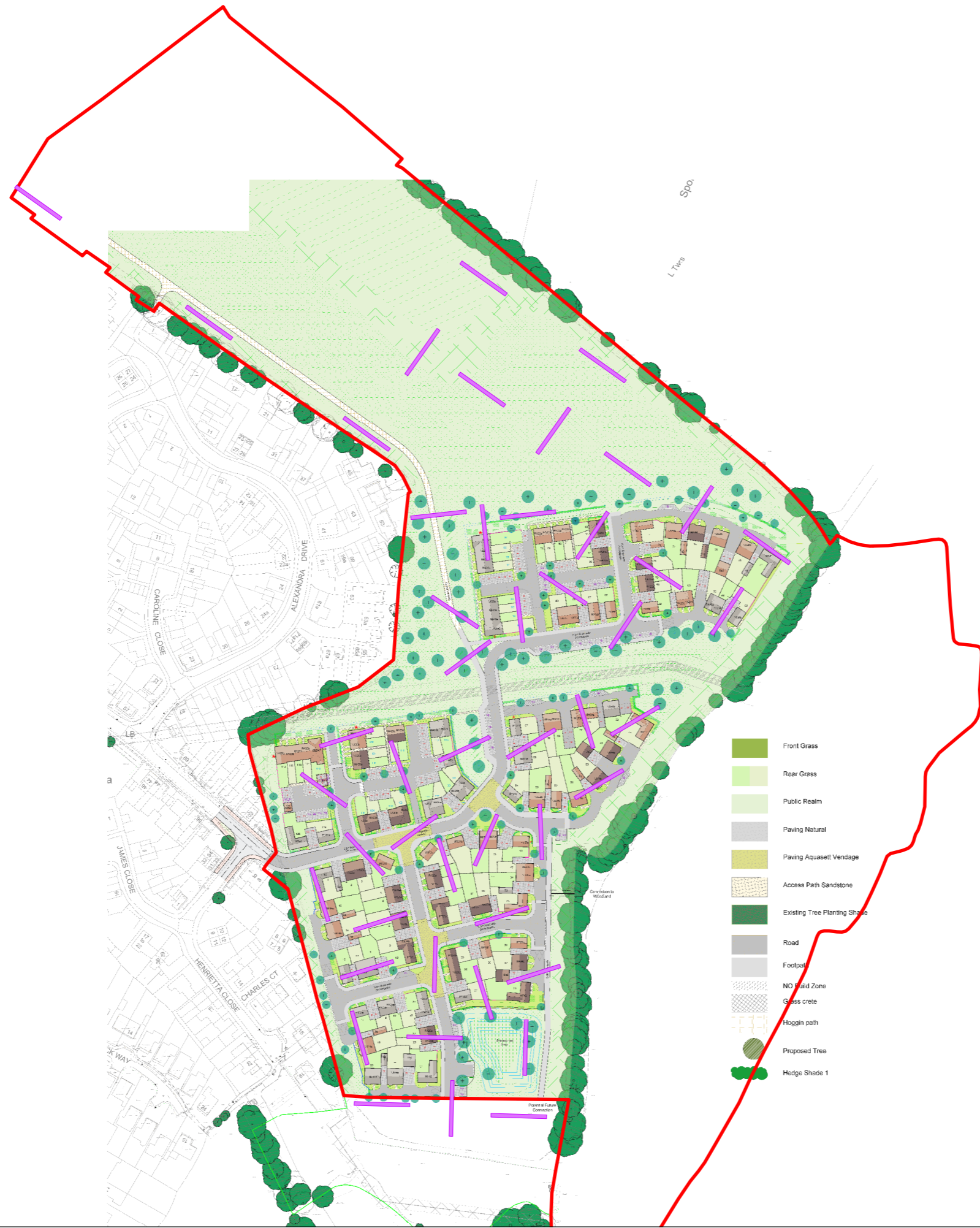


Figure 3
Proposed Trench Locations
(Existing Layout)



Legend

- Site Boundary
- Trench Location

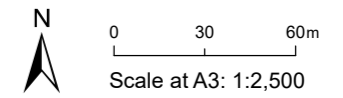


Figure 4
Trench plan overlaid on layout plan



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OASIS ID: colchest3-433484

Project details

Project name	Archaeological evaluation on land east of Richard Avenue, Wivenhoe, Essex: September 2021
Short description of the project	An archaeological evaluation (forty-eight trenches) was carried out on land east of Richard Avenue, Wivenhoe, Essex in advance of the construction of a new residential development with associated landscaping and infrastructure. The development site is located within an area which previous archaeological investigations have identified as one of Bronze Age and Iron Age activity, and lies adjacent to the historic Wivenhoe Heath, which had its origins in the medieval period. Excavation of the site revealed evidence of settlement here during the Late Iron Age and early Roman periods, including an urned cremation burial and artefactual evidence indicating that the site of a daub structure, likely a roundhouse, lies nearby. A handful of features dating to the medieval or post-medieval periods, which were almost certainly the product of an earlier pattern of land division, were uncovered. Finally, sparse 19th- or 20th-century remains, including those of an old field boundary ditch, were also recorded.
Project dates	Start: 13-09-2021 End: 30-09-2021
Previous/future work	No / Not known
Any associated project reference codes	ECC4659 - Sitecode
Any associated project reference codes	2021/08c - Contracting Unit No.
Type of project	Field evaluation
Current Land use	Grassland Heathland 2 - Undisturbed Grassland
Monument type	TREETHROW Uncertain
Monument type	DITCH Post Medieval
Monument type	DITCH Modern
Monument type	PIT Uncertain
Monument type	DITCH Uncertain
Monument type	CREMATION BURIAL Late Iron Age
Monument type	CHARCOAL-RICH PIT Late Iron Age
Monument type	DITCH Medieval
Monument type	PIT Post Medieval
Monument type	PIT Modern
Monument type	DITCH Late Iron Age
Monument type	DITCH Roman
Monument type	NATURAL FEATURE Uncertain

Monument type	CHARCOAL-RICH PIT Uncertain
Monument type	DITCH Middle Iron Age
Significant Finds	POTTERY Late Prehistoric
Significant Finds	POTTERY Late Iron Age
Significant Finds	POTTERY Roman
Significant Finds	POTTERY Post Medieval
Significant Finds	POTTERY Modern
Significant Finds	CBM Roman
Significant Finds	CBM Medieval
Significant Finds	CBM Post Medieval
Significant Finds	DAUB Uncertain
Significant Finds	BAKED CLAY Uncertain
Significant Finds	BROOCH Late Iron Age
Significant Finds	IRON OBJECT Uncertain
Significant Finds	QUERNSTONE Roman
Significant Finds	HEAT-AFFECTED STONE Uncertain
Significant Finds	GLASS Post Medieval
Significant Finds	GLASS Modern
Significant Finds	FLINT Late Prehistoric
Significant Finds	HUMAN BONE Late Iron Age

Project location

Country	England
Site location	ESSEX COLCHESTER WIVENHOE Land east of Richard Avenue
Postcode	CO7 9JQ
Study area	15.24 Hectares
Site coordinates	TM 04549 23344 51.870568096836 0.97161710576 51 52 14 N 000 58 17 E Point
Height OD / Depth	Min: 29.76m Max: 33.91m

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	Robin Mathieson
Type of sponsor/funding body	Developer

Project archives

Physical Archive recipient	Colchester Museum
Physical Archive ID	ECC4659

Physical Contents	"Ceramics","Human Bones","Metal","Worked stone/lithics"
Digital Archive recipient	Colchester Museum
Digital Archive ID	ECC4659
Digital Media available	"Images raster / digital photography","Survey","Text"
Paper Archive recipient	Colchester Museum
Paper Archive ID	ECC4659
Paper Media available	"Context sheet","Miscellaneous Material","Photograph","Report","Section"

Project bibliography 1

Publication type	Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)
Title	Archaeological evaluation on land east of Richard Avenue, Wivenhoe, Essex: September 2021
Author(s)/Editor(s)	Hicks, E.
Other bibliographic details	CAT Report 1714
Date	2021
Issuer or publisher	Colchester Archaeological Trust
Place of issue or publication	Colchester
Description	A4 loose-leaf ringbound
URL	http://cat.essex.ac.uk
Entered by	Dr Elliott Hicks (eh2@catuk.org)
Entered on	27 October 2021

OASIS:

Please e-mail Historic England for OASIS help and advice

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