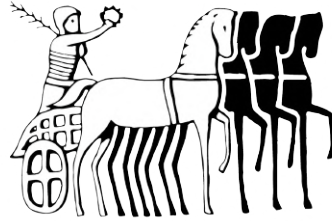


Colchester Archaeological Trust



**CAT Report 2115
issued December 2024**

**Archaeological evaluation on land to the west of
Clacton Road, Elmstead Market, Essex, CO7 7DF:
November 2024**



**CAT project ref.: 2024/10d
ECC code: EEX60501**

**Archaeological evaluation on land to the west of
Clacton Road, Elmstead Market, Essex, CO7 7DF:
November 2024**

NGR: TM 07284 23707 (centre)

**Planning district: Tendring
Planning ref.: 24/01363/FUL**

**CAT project ref.: 2024/10d
CAT Report 2115**

**ECC code: EEX60501
OASIS id: colchest3-529108**

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**commissioned by Stephen Williams
on behalf of Hills Residential Construction Ltd**

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1 Summary

An archaeological evaluation (seven trial-trenches) was carried out on land to the west of Clacton Road, Elmstead Market, Essex in, advance of the construction of a new residential development. Recent archaeological investigations surrounding the development site have revealed evidence for Late Bronze Age/Early Iron Age activity that included a ring-ditch, and a substantial Roman landscape with enclosures, at least four trackways or droveways, evidence for agricultural activity and possibly a pottery kiln.

The current evaluation revealed two ditches and two pits that produced pottery of early Roman and 2nd-century date showing that features associated with the wider Roman agricultural landscape do continue into the development site. Also excavated were a medieval ditch and a post-medieval to modern field boundary ditch. Undated features included eight pits, four pit/post-holes, two ditches and a tree-throw.

2 Introduction (Fig 1)

This report presents the results of an archaeological evaluation undertaken by the Colchester Archaeological Trust (CAT) on land to the west of Clacton Road, Elmstead Market, Essex on the 11th and 12th November 2024. The work was commissioned by Stephen Williams on behalf of Hills Residential Construction Ltd and took place ahead of the construction of a residential development.

In response to consultation with Essex County Council Planning Services (ECCPS), the Historic Environment Advisor advised that, to establish the archaeological implications of this application, the applicant should be required to commission a scheme of archaeological investigation in accordance with the *National Planning Policy Framework* (MHCLG 2023).

All archaeological work was carried out in accordance with a *Brief for archaeological evaluation at land west of Clacton Road, Elmstead Market* (ECCPS 2024), and a written scheme of investigation (WSI) prepared by CAT (2024a).

In addition to the project brief and WSI, all fieldwork and reporting was undertaken in accordance with:

- *Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment (MoRPHE)* (Historic England 2015),
- Professional standards of the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists, including its *Code of Conduct* (CIfA 2020a-b, 2022, 2023a-b),
- East of England standards and frameworks published by East Anglian Archaeology (Brown & Glazebrook 2000; Gurney 2003; Medlycott 2011) and the recent review updates on <https://researchframeworks.org/eoe/>
- Relevant health and safety guidelines and requirements (CAT 2024b).

3 Archaeological and geological background (Figs 2-3)

The following archaeological background includes extracts from the project Brief (ECCPS 2024), CAT's report library and Essex Historic Environment Records (EHER) held at Essex County Council, County Hall, Chelmsford, Essex (accessed via <http://www.heritagegateway.org.uk>).

Geology

The site lies within the south-western edge of the Tendring plateau, a high flat area largely characterised by large areas of former heathland (Medlycott 2008). The Geology of Britain viewer (1:50,000 scale¹) shows the bedrock geology for the site is Thames Group (clay silt and sand), with superficial deposits of cover sand (clay, silt and sand) covering most of the site

¹ British Geological Survey – <https://geologyviewer.bgs.ac.uk/?>

except a strip at the most southerly boundary which has deposits of Kesgrave Catchment Subgroup (sand and gravel).

Cropmarks

The proposed development site lies amid multiple cropmarks, many of which extend into the development site. These include cropmarks of trackways, pitting, field boundaries and other linear features (EHER 2593). The results of recent excavations to the south-east of the site suggest these cropmarks indicate the presence of significant prehistoric and Roman archaeological remains.

Find spots

Roman coins, dating to the 1st and 2nd century, and a medieval copper-alloy mount have been found close to the site by metal-detectorists.

Blue Barn Farm evaluation and monitoring 2017-2018

In 2017, CAT conducted evaluations and archaeological monitoring at Blue Barn Farm, immediately adjacent to the current site on the south-eastern boundary. Excavations at this site revealed a series of ditches, two of which were dated to the 12th to the 14th centuries and were taken to represent the remains of a medieval agricultural landscape. A modern pit and an undated pit were uncovered during a second phase of the evaluation (CAT Reports 1094, 1209, 1319).

'Forres' evaluation 2020

CAT carried out an evaluation at 'Forres', c 330m north-west of the development site, where a similar collection of medieval or post-medieval ditches were uncovered, including two which corresponded to the cropmark of an apparent trackway which extended through the site (CAT Report 1527).

Lanswood Park and Grange Park evaluation and excavation 2020-2021

More extensive archaeological investigations of the area occurred in 2020-21, when an archaeological evaluation and excavation were conducted at Lanswood Park, surrounding the current development site to the north-west, west and south (CAT Report 1575). A small scattering of prehistoric flints indicating sporadic activity in the Mesolithic and Neolithic periods was recovered. Other prehistoric remains included a group of 51 pits arranged in two or three overlapping oval patterns, of which 19 contained Late Bronze Age and Early Iron Age pottery. These were situated near to a ring-ditch containing an off-centre cremation burial (neither of which produced dating evidence, but which probably also originated during the Late Bronze Age or Early Iron Age).

The beginning of a sustained period of activity was found to have commenced here in the 1st century AD, when a Late Iron Age/early Roman enclosure was laid out. Two unurned cremation burials, as well as a small number of features could be dated to this phase. The late 1st and early 2nd century witnessed a considerable increase in activity which continued into the 3rd century, with the establishment of an enclosure (half of which lay within the excavated area, the other half in the current development site), approached by at least four trackways or droveways. Remains of particular significance dating to this period included a Roman timber well.

The large assemblage of Roman brick and tile recovered during the excavation suggests the presence of a Roman masonry structure with a tiled roof and a hypocaust nearby, potentially within the current development area. It seems likely that the excavated site was a farmyard belonging to an adjacent and substantial Roman period structure which most likely had its origins in the 1st century, and which was associated with the earlier enclosure and cremation burials. A large assemblage of pottery was also recovered, and this was presumably used by the inhabitants of this building and then dumped as waste in the adjacent farmyard. Significantly, the fact that brick, roof tile and flue-tile fragments from the building found their way into the farmyard ditches imply that the building was demolished or at least remodelled during the existence of the farmstead.

Land north of Clacton Road evaluation 2022

In 2022, CAT carried out an evaluation on land to the north of Clacton Road, opposite the current site (CAT Report 1880). Excavations revealed a handful of features dating from the Early Bronze Age to the Early Iron Age, one of which contained a Late Bronze Age barbed-and-tanged flint arrowhead, as well as a few features only datable more broadly to the prehistoric period. These features tended to cluster towards the southeastern part of the site and were interpreted as an extension of contemporary activity previously uncovered to the south.

Remains dating to the early Roman period were similarly concentrated in the southeastern section of the site. Two features contained large assemblages of kiln wasters, and one of these was located near a feature exhibiting evidence of *in situ* burning which, although left unexcavated, was interpreted as a kiln or kiln-related feature. These features were taken to evidence the existence of a pottery manufacturing industry which operated at the site during AD 43-69. Other significant Roman remains included the driveway previously uncovered during the 2020-21 excavations to the south. A small scatter of medieval features and several post-medieval or modern agricultural features and quarry pits were also recorded.

Land north of Beth Chatto's Gardens evaluation 2024

In March 2024, CAT carried out an evaluation on land north of Beth Chatto's Gardens, approximately 470m north-west of the current site (CAT Report 2036). The 44 trial-trenches revealed evidence of sporadic occupation at the site during the Late Neolithic or Early Bronze Age, and the Middle or Late Bronze Age. A further phase of activity occurred during the early Roman period, with evidence of occupation and of animal husbandry and crop processing. An urned Roman cremation burial may belong to this phase of activity. A driveway associated with the farmstead at Lanswood Park was further excavated, along with Roman ditches which might represent the remains of a field system located to the west of this settlement.

Later post-medieval and modern features were likely related to agricultural activity and included several field boundary ditches depicted on mid 19th-century tithe mapping of the area.

4 Aims

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

Specific aims:

- Look for evidence relating to the identified prehistoric and Roman occupation activity in the vicinity.
- Look for evidence related to the known cropmarks on the site.
- Look for evidence related to any other settlement activity.

5 Results (Figs 2-6)

Seven trenches were machine excavated under the supervision of a CAT archaeologist. The trenches all cut through a modern hardcore/sub-base surface (L1, 0.10-0.32m thick), a buried modern topsoil layer, partially truncated by hardstanding (L2, 0.3m thick), and a post-Roman subsoil deposit, observed to seal Late Iron Age and Roman features (L3, 0.1-0.15m thick), onto natural (L4, encountered at a depth of 0.60-0.62m below current ground level). A full context list with soil descriptions and dimensions can be found in Appendix 1.

Trench 1a and 1b

Trench 1 was L-shaped on a north/south (T1a) and west/east (T1b) alignment totalling 21m long and 2.0m wide. It was deliberately positioned to target the north-east/south-west aligned cropmark, which was identified and numbered F5.



Photograph 1 Trench 1, ditch F5 sx1, looking south-west.

North-east/south-west aligned ditch F5 was excavated in T1a and T1b. The ditch had a V-shaped profile and narrow gully-like base, with sx1 measuring 1.75m wide by 0.62m deep. The ditch produced 32 pottery sherds dating to the early Roman period, including a somewhat distorted Cam 221 bowl.

Pit F6 was uncovered in the eastern half of T1a next to F5 sx1. It was sub-rounded in plan, 0.42m by 0.36m and 0.10m deep with an evenly concave profile. The feature did not contain dating evidence. Tree-throw F1 lay to the south of T1b (1.3m by 0.75m and 0.15m deep). None of the possible cropmarks identified on the 2018 Google satellite image of the site proved to be archaeological features.

Trench 2

Trench T2 was 13m long and 2.0m wide. Ditch F3 was on a north-east/south-west alignment but was not found to continue into T4 to the south-west. It had an evenly concave profile, was 0.61m wide and 0.21m deep, and did not contain any dating evidence. Undated pit F2 was partly exposed in the north-east corner of T2. It was 0.2m deep by at least 1.2m by 0.8m with a broad, approximately U-shaped profile. Undated pit F4 was uncovered in the southern half of the trench. It was sub-circular in plan, 0.77m by 0.72 and 0.15m deep, with concave and shallow sides.

As with T1, none of the possible cropmarks identified on the 2018 Google satellite image of the site proved to be archaeological features.

Trench 3

Trench T3 was 13m long and 2.0m wide. There were no archaeological remains.



Photograph 2 Trench 2, looking north.



Photograph 3 Trench 4, pit F8, looking east.

Trench 4

Trench 4 was 20m long and 2.0m wide, revealing four pits. Pit F8 was at least 1.4m by >1.27m and 0.20m deep with a slightly concave base. The feature contained an early Roman copy of a *terra nigra* platter (Cam 30) and some lava quern fragments. Pit F10 was sub-circular in plan, 0.68m by 0.61m and 0.15m deep with concave, moderately steep sides. The feature also produced lava quern fragments. Pits F7 (2.3m by >1.2m and 0.2m deep) and F9 (1.0m by >0.65m and 0.38m deep) did not produce any finds.

Trench 5

Trench T5 was 19m long and 2m wide. Ditch F21 extended through the trench on a north-west/south-east alignment, cutting pit F22. The ditch was 1.33m wide and 0.46m deep with a slightly irregular, approximately V-shaped base. The feature produced sherds of Roman pottery of early/mid-2nd century date and some Roman CBM. Undated pit F22 was sub-circular, >0.83m by 0.81m and 0.30m deep, with a concave base and shallow sides.

Pit F18 had slightly irregular, moderately steep, sides and was >1.2m by 1.2m and 0.32m deep. It produced two sherds of 2nd-century AD pottery. Features F15 (0.35m diameter by 0.21m deep), F16 (0.37m diameter by 0.14m deep), F17 (0.36m diameter and 0.13m deep) and F20 (0.44m by 0.36m and 0.09m deep) were small undated pits or post-holes. The cropmark that passes through the southwestern end of the trench was not identified as a cut feature, unless it somehow relates to F18.



Photograph 4 Trench 5, looking north-east.



Photograph 5 Trench 5, ditch F21 and pit F22, looking south-east.



Photograph 6 Trench 6 with ditch F14, looking north-west.

Trench 6

Trench 6 was T-shaped and totalled 18m long and 2m wide. Ditch F14 passed through the western end of the trench on a west-north-west/east-south-east alignment. It had an asymmetrical, slightly irregular U-shaped section at 0.65m wide by 0.21m deep. It produced one sherd of early Medieval sandy ware (fabric F13), dating to c 1000-1225. Feature F13 to the east of the ditch was probably of natural origin.

This trench was positioned to target a cropmark aligned north-north-east/south-south-west which crossed the development site. This cropmark was identified as ditch F12 which continued to the north-north-east as ditch F11 in T7. Ditch F12 was 0.95m wide and 0.31m deep and was void of finds, with finds recovered from F11 of 19th to 20th century date. This field boundary ditch is depicted on the 1841 Tithe Map.

Trench 7

Trench 7 were 18m long and 2m wide. Cropmark ditch F12 from T6 continues on a north-north-east/south-south-west alignment through T7 where it was recorded as ditch F11. The ditch was 1.35m wide and 0.46m deep with a narrow basal gulley that exhibited waterlogging characteristics (grey-blue colouration). Finds from F11 included a Codd bottle and cylindrical glass bottle of late 19th to early 20th century date. This field boundary ditch is depicted on the 1841 Tithe Map.

Undated ditch F19 to the east of the trench was aligned north-east/south-west at 1.07m wide by 0.25m deep with concave and shallow sides.



Photograph 7 Ditch F11, looking north-east.

6 Finds

6.1 Ceramic and Pottery finds

by Dr Matthew Loughton

The evaluation uncovered a small assemblage of pottery and ceramic building material (CBM) at 72 sherds with a weight of 892g and 0.98 vessels according to the rim EVE (Table 1). The mean sherd weight is 12g. This material was recovered from five features (Table 6).

Ceramic material	No.	Weight (g)	MSW (g)	EVE
Pottery	69	660	10	0.98
CBM	3	232	77	-
All	72	892	12	0.98

Table 1 Summary of the pottery and CBM.

Roman pottery

Roman pottery was classified according to the fabric groups outlined in CAR 10 (Symonds & Wade 1999) (Table 2). Roman vessel types were classified via the Colchester (*Camulodunum*), henceforth Cam, type series (CAR 10, Bidwell & Croom 1999, 468-487). 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).

There was a small assemblage of Roman pottery at 67 sherds with a weight of 648kg and EVE of 0.96 (Tables 3-4). The mean sherd weight is 10g. This material was recovered from four features although the bulk of the pottery came from ditches F5 and F21 (Table 5). The pottery ranges in date from the Late Iron Age/early Roman period until the 2nd century AD while wares, such as Nene Valley colour-coated wares (fabric EA), Oxidised Hadham wares (fabric CH) and Oxfordshire-type red colour-coated ware (fabric MP), which appeared during the course of the 3rd century AD are absent. Ditch F5 produced an assemblage of early Roman pottery including a large part of a slightly deformed (kiln second?) Cam 221 bowl (EVE:0.40) in fabric GX which could be a product of a nearby suspected Roman pottery kiln/kilns (CAT Report 1880). An early Roman copy of a *terra nigra* platter (Cam 30) in fabric UR (WA) was recovered from pit F8.

Second century AD pottery including some Colchester colour-coated ware (fabric CZ), local BB2 bowls and jars (fabric GB), Cam 268 jars (fabric GX) and imported Lezoux samian (fabric BACG) was recovered from the pit F18 and the ditch F21.

Fabric code	Fabric description	Fabric date range guide
BACG	Central Gaulish plain samian	AD 110-220
BSW 1	Black surface ware (smooth, micaceous)	Roman
CZ	Colchester and other red colour-coated ware	c AD 100-300
DJ	Coarse oxidised and related wares	Roman
EC	Early Colchester colour-coated ware	c AD 43-90
GB	BB2: black-burnished ware, category 2	AD 110/125-300
GTW	Late Iron Age 'Belgic' grog-tempered ware	Late Iron Age-early Roman
GX	Other coarse, principally locally-produced grey wares	Roman
GX (S)	Other coarse, principally locally-produced grey wares (sandy)	Roman
GX/47	Other coarse, grey wares with buff/orange core/patchy surface. Local but non-Colchester products?	Roman
HZ	Large storage jars and other vessels in heavily-tempered wares	Late Iron Age-Roman

RCW 1	Romanising coarse wares 1 (Black surface ware)	Late Iron Age-early Roman
UR (WA)	Copies of Terra nigra-wares (Silvery micaceous wares)	Late Iron Age-early Roman

Table 2 Roman pottery fabrics recorded. *NRFRC.

Fabric code	Fabric description	No.	Weight (g)	MSW (g)	EVE
BACG	Central Gaulish plain samian	1	4	4	0.00
BSW 1	Black surface ware (smooth, micaceous)	2	13	7	0.00
CZ	Colchester and other red colour-coated ware	1	22	22	0.00
DJ	Coarse oxidised and related wares	3	8	3	0.00
EC	Early Colchester colour-coated ware	4	17	4	0.00
GB	BB2: black-burnished ware, category 2	4	28	7	0.08
GTW	Late Iron Age 'Belgic' grog-tempered ware	1	8	8	0.00
GX	Other coarse, principally locally-produced grey wares	22	280	13	0.51
GX (S)	Other coarse, principally locally-produced grey wares (sandy)	5	32	6	0.00
GX/47	Other coarse, grey wares with buff/orange core/patchy surface. Local but non-Colchester products?	14	67	5	0.27
HZ	Large storage jars and other vessels in heavily-tempered wares	1	82	82	0.00
RCW 1	Romanising coarse wares 1 (Black surface ware)	4	11	3	0.00
UR (WA)	Copies of Terra nigra-wares (Silvery micaceous wares)	5	76	15	0.10
Total		67	648	10	0.96

Table 3 Summary of the Roman pottery.

Fabric code	Form	EVE
GB	All	0.08
	Cam 278	0.08
GX	All	0.51
	Cam 218	0.10
	Cam 221	0.40
	?	0.01
GX/47	All	0.27
	Cam 243-244/246	0.05
	Cam 268	0.22
UR (WA)	All	0.10
	Cam 30	0.10
Total		0.96

Table 4 Late Iron Age-Roman pottery quantification via vessel form.

Context	Feature type	No.	Weight(g)	MSW (g)	EVE
F5	Ditch	32	327	10	0.51
F8	Pit	5	76	15	0.10
F18	Pit	2	29	15	0.00

Context	Feature type	No.	Weight(g)	MSW (g)	EVE
F21	Ditch	28	216	8	0.35
Total		67	648	10	0.96

Table 5 Quantities of Late Iron Age-Roman pottery from specific features.

Medieval pottery

Medieval pottery was recorded according to the fabric groups from *CAR 7* (Cotter 2000) and consisted of one sherd (10g) of early Medieval sandy ware (fabric F13), dating to c 1000-1225 which was recovered from ditch F14.

Ceramic building material (CBM)

CBM was uncommon with only three fragments with a weight of 232g and mean sherd weight of 77g. All the CBM was recovered from ditch F21, and the only diagnostic material was sherds of Roman CBM including a brick.

Conclusion

Table 6 summarizes the dating evidence for the features and layer which contained dateable pottery and ceramics. The evaluation indicates evidence for significant early to mid-Roman occupation which is in-keeping with the findings from other recent archaeological investigations undertaken at nearby (see archaeological background).

Context	Description	Roman	Medieval	CBM	Date Approx.
F5	Ditch	EC, GTW, GX (CAM 218, CAM 221, JAR), GX (S), RCW	-	-	Early Roman
F8	Pit	UR (WA) (CAM 30)	-	-	Early Roman
F14	Ditch	-	F13	-	Early medieval
F18	Pit	CZ, GB	-	-	Roman, early 2nd century
F21	Ditch	BACG, BSW 1, DJ, GB (CAM 278), GX, GX (S), GX/47 (CAM 243-244/246, CAM 268), HZ	-	RB	Roman, early/ mid-2nd century

Table 6 Approximate dates for the individual features.

6.2 Stone and glass

by Laura Pooley

Very small and abraded fragments of lava quernstone (36 fragments at 123g) were recovered from Roman ditch F21.

From modern ditch F11 were two bottles from Talbot & Co Ltd, Ipswich and a fragment of granite.

Context	Finds no.	Description
F11	5	Glass: Late 19th to early 20th century bottles. 1) Incomplete Codd bottle with neck broken to retrieve the marble. Embossed on the body TALBOT & CO L^{TD} / IPSWICH with the trademark. Embossed on the base K B L^{TD} 2514 . Over 215mm high, 64mm diameter. Discarded. 2) Complete cylindrical bottle. Embossed on the body TALBOT & CO L^{TD} / IPSWICH with the trademark. Embossed on the base K.B.L^D 503 . 217mm high, 63mm diameter. Stone: Fragment of granite, 543.6g. Discarded.
F21	8	Lava quernstone: 14 very small and abraded fragments, 14.9g. Discarded.
	10	Lava quernstone: 22 very small and abraded fragments, 108.1g. Discarded.

Table 7 Stone and glass listed by context.

7 Conclusion

An archaeological evaluation carried out on land west of Clacton Road, Elmstead Market, Essex, revealed 22 features, seven dated to the Roman, medieval and post-medieval/modern periods with the rest undated.

In the north-west corner of the development site, north-east/south-west aligned ditch F5 corresponded to a known cropmark. The ditch produced the largest assemblage of finds from the site which consisted of 32 sherds of early Roman pottery. It is aligned at a right-angle to Roman ditch F87 from the Lanswood excavation (see CAT Report 1575) and may be related, however ditch F87 produced later pottery dating from the 2nd to 3rd century. Further excavation of F5 may better establish the relationship between these two features. Among the pottery assemblage from ditch F5 was part of a distorted Cam 221 bowl indicative of a pottery waster. Sizable assemblages of early Roman pottery wasters were recently discovered in two features (a pit and ditch) during an evaluation on land on the opposite site of Clacton Road, suggesting the presence of a pottery kiln or kilns close by (CAT Report 1880). Pit F8 also produced pottery of early Roman date, with ditch F21 and pit F18 producing pottery dating to the 2nd century. Ditch 21 was the only feature on site to produce fragments of Roman CBM along with some very small and abraded fragments of lava quernstone.

Of post-Roman date was ditch F14 in T6 which produced a single fragment of medieval pottery. Post-medieval field boundary ditch (and cropmark) F11/F12 (Trenches 6 and 7) is visible on the Tithe Map of 1841 and is still present on OS maps until at least the 1930s. The west-north-west/east-south-east alignment of this field boundary was identified during the 2021 excavation on land to the south of the current development site (see CAT Report 1575).

Undated features included eight pits, four pit/post-holes, two ditches and a tree-throw. All four of the pit/post-holes were in Trench 6, close to Roman features F18 and F21. If post-holes they could represent part of a structure, but more archaeological work would need to be completed around this trench to determine if they are post-holes, and if so to establish their date and what they represent.

Previous archaeological excavations to the south and west of the development site at Lanswood (CAT Report 1575) provided evidence for an initial phase of 1st century AD activity (Period 2a) associated with a Late Iron Age/early Roman enclosure. Subsequent intensification in activity took place in the later 1st and early 2nd century AD (Period 2b) with the laying out of a larger enclosure and associated droveways. The current investigation has revealed that early Roman and 2nd-century features representative of both Periods 2a and 2b continue into the current development site.

Archaeological investigations at Lanswood also revealed a large quantity of Roman pottery, brick and tile from the site which indicated that at least one masonry structure had formed a component of an assumed wider farmed estate. This was taken to indicate the probable existence a Roman-period structure in the immediate vicinity, perhaps on the current development site. But the present evaluation only revealed an eastern continuation of the Roman field system with no definite sign of a structure, although the pits/post-holes will need further investigation to determine if they are structural and of Roman date.

The cropmark to the south-west of the site was not apparent in Trench 5 but did correspond roughly to pit F18 and pit/post-hole F17. None of the possible cropmarks identified on the 2018 Google satellite image of the site, and targeted in Trenches 1-2, proved to be archaeological features.

8 Acknowledgements

CAT would like to thank Stephen Williams and Hills Residential Construction Ltd for commissioning and funding the project. The project was managed by A Wightman and C Lister, with fieldwork carried out by B Holloway, M Perou, A Parker and P Spencer. Figures were

compiled by B Holloway, L Pooley and E Holloway. The project was monitored for ECCPS
Teresa O'Connor.

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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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| CAR 10 | 1999 | <i>Colchester Archaeological Report 10: Roman pottery from excavations in Colchester, 1971-86</i> . Colchester: Colchester Archaeological Trust Ltd. |
| CAT | 2024a | <i>Written scheme of investigation for an archaeological evaluation by trial-trenching on land to the west of Clacton Road, Elmstead market, Essex, CO7 7DF</i> , by Emma Holloway. Colchester: Colchester Archaeological Trust. |
| CAT | 2024b | Health and Safety Policy. Colchester: Colchester Archaeological Trust. |
| CAT Report 1094 | 2017 | <i>Archaeological evaluation at Blue Barn Farm, Clacton Road, Elmstead Market, Essex, Co7 7DF: April 2017</i> , by L Pooley. Colchester: Colchester Archaeological Trust. |
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| CAT Report 1319 | 2018 | <i>Archaeological monitoring at Blue Barn Farm, Clacton Road, Elmstead Market, Essex, Co7 7DF: September 2017-June 2018</i> , by L Pooley. Colchester: Colchester Archaeological Trust. |
| CAT Report 1527 | 2020 | <i>Archaeological evaluation at Forres, Clacton Road, Elmstead Market, Essex, CO7 7DD: February 2020</i> , by E Hicks. Colchester: Colchester Archaeological Trust. |
| CAT Report 1575 | 2022 | <i>A prehistoric ring-ditch and Roman landscape at Lanswood Park, Elmstead Market, Essex: evaluation and excavation (June-July 2020, and March-June 2021)</i> , by H Brooks. Colchester: Colchester Archaeological Trust. |
| CAT Report 1880 | 2022 | <i>Archaeological evaluation on land north of Clacton Road, Elmstead, Essex, CO7 7FD: November-December 2022</i> , by E Hicks & L Pooley. Colchester: Colchester Archaeological Trust. |
| CAT Report 2036 | 2024 | <i>Archaeological evaluation on land north of Beth Chatto's Gardens, Elmstead Market, Essex, CO7 7DB: March 2024</i> , by E Hicks. Colchester: Colchester Archaeological Trust. |
| CifA | 2020a | <i>Standard and guidance for the creation, compilation, transfer and deposition of archaeological archives</i> . CifA Chartered Institute for Archaeologists; published 2014, revised 2020. |
| CifA | 2020b | <i>Standard and guidance for the collection, documentation, conservation and research of archaeological materials</i> . CifA Chartered Institute for Archaeologists; published 2014, revised 2020. |
| CifA | 2022 | <i>Code of Conduct</i> . CifA Chartered Institute for Archaeologists; published 2014, revised 2022. |
| CifA | 2023a | <i>Standard for archaeological field evaluation</i> . CifA Chartered Institute for Archaeologists. |
| CifA | 2023b | <i>Universal guidance for archaeological field evaluation</i> . CifA Chartered |

		Institute for Archaeologists.
Cotter, J P	2000	<i>Colchester Archaeological Report 7: Post-Roman pottery from excavations in Colchester, 1971-85</i> . Colchester: Colchester Archaeological Trust Ltd.
ECC	2024	<i>Brief for archaeological evaluation at land west of Clacton Road, Elmstead Market</i> , by Teresa O'Connor. Chelmsford: Essex County Council Place Services.
Gurney, D	2003	<i>Standards for field archaeology in the East of England</i> . East Anglian Archaeology Occasional Papers 14 (EAA 14).
Historic England	2015	<i>Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment</i> (MoRPHE).
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10 Abbreviations and glossary

CAT	Colchester Archaeological Trust
CIfA	Chartered Institute for Archaeologists
context	a single unit of excavation, which is often referred to numerically, and can be any feature, layer or find
ECC	Essex County Council
ECCHEA	Essex County Council Historic Environment Advisor
ECCPS	Essex County Council Place Services
EHHER	Essex Historic Environment Record
feature (F)	an identifiable thing like a pit, a wall, a drain: can contain 'contexts'
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
NGR	National Grid Reference
OASIS	Online Access to the Index of Archaeological Investigations, http://oasis.ac.uk/pages/wiki/Main
post-medieval	from c AD 1500 to c 1800
Roman	the period from AD 43 to c AD 410
section	(abbreviation sx or Sx) vertical slice through feature/s or layer/s
WSI	written scheme of investigation

11 Contents of archive

Finds: part of one box (pottery only)

Digital:

CAT Report 2115

ECC evaluation brief, CAT written scheme of investigation

Digital photographs

Site data

Survey data

12 Archive deposition

The archive is currently held by the Colchester Archaeological Trust at Roman Circus House, Roman Circus Walk, Colchester, Essex CO2 7GZ, but will be permanently deposited with the Archaeology Data Service (digital archive).

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Distribution list:

Stephen Williams and Hills Residential Construction Ltd
ECC Place Services Historic Environment Advisor
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Appendix 1 Context list

Context	Trench no.	Finds no.	Identification	Description	Date
L1	All	-	Hard standing and sub-base	hardcore/sub-base surface.	Modern
L2	All	-	Topsoil	Topsoil, partially truncated but hardstanding (L1), with occasional coal and CBN inclusions.	Modern
L3	All	-	Subsoil	Post-Roman subsoil that seals Late Iron Age and Roman features and is cut by post-medieval and modern deposits.	Post-Roman
L4	All	-	Natural	Sand and gravel with silt patches and frequent iron oxide/manganese oxide staining.	Post-glacial
F1	T1	-	Tree-throw	Orange-brown sand. Occasional small iron pan structures. Evidence of root disturbance.	Undated
F2	T2	-	Pit	Firm, medium orange/brown silty with areas of manganese dioxide staining and numerous inclusions of stones.	Undated
F3	T2	-	Ditch	Firm, medium orange/grey/brown silty sand with frequent stones and some areas of iron and manganese staining.	Undated
F4	T2	-	Pit	Friable, light/medium orange/brown silty sand with numerous stone inclusions. Some patches of manganese and iron staining occur.	Undated
F5	T1	1, 2, 3	Ditch	Three fills present, comprised of moist light orange-brown sand with frequent stones. Roman pot sherds in upper and middle fills in sx1 and throughout the fill in sx2.	Early Roman
F6	T1	-	Pit	Firm, dry/moist medium orange/grey Sandy silt.	Undated
F7	T4	-	Pit	Friable, moist light/medium orange/brown silty sand, stained in patches with manganese and iron oxides.	Undated
F8	T4	8	Pit	Firm medium moist orange/grey/brown sandy silt, stained in patches with manganese and iron oxides.	Early Roman
F9	T4	-	Pit	Firm, grey-brown sandy silt.	Undated
F10	T4	-	Pit	Silty sand with frequent stones and patches of iron oxide and manganese staining.	Undated
F11	T7	5	Ditch	Slightly sandy mid-brown silt with numerous small sub-angular stones.	Post-medieval-modern
F12	T6	-	Ditch	Grey-brown sandy silt with frequent small stones.	Post-medieval-modern
F13	T6	-	Pit	Grey- to orange-brown sandy wild with manganese inclusions.	Undated
F14	T6	6	Ditch	Light/medium grey/brown silty-sand.	Early medieval
F15	T5	-	Pit or posthole	Firm, medium grey/brown sandy silt.	Undated
F16	T5	-	Pit or posthole	Firm, medium grey/brown sandy silt with rare small stone inclusions.	Undated
F17	T5	-	Pit or posthole	Firm, medium grey/brown sandy silt.	Undated

F18	T5	7	Pit	Firm, medium grey/brown sandy silt with some iron oxide and manganese staining.	Early 2nd century AD
F19	T7	-	Ditch	Firm, moist, mid orange/grey sandy silt with occasional small- to medium sized sub-angular to rounded stones.	Undated
F20	T5	-	Pit or posthole	Firm, medium grey/brown sandy silt with occasional small stone inclusions.	Undated
F21	T5	8, 9, 10	Ditch	Firm, grey-brown silty sand with small- to medium-sized stones.	Early/mid 2nd century AD
F22	T5	-	Pit	Firm, grey-brown silty sand with frequent small- to medium-sized stones.	Undated

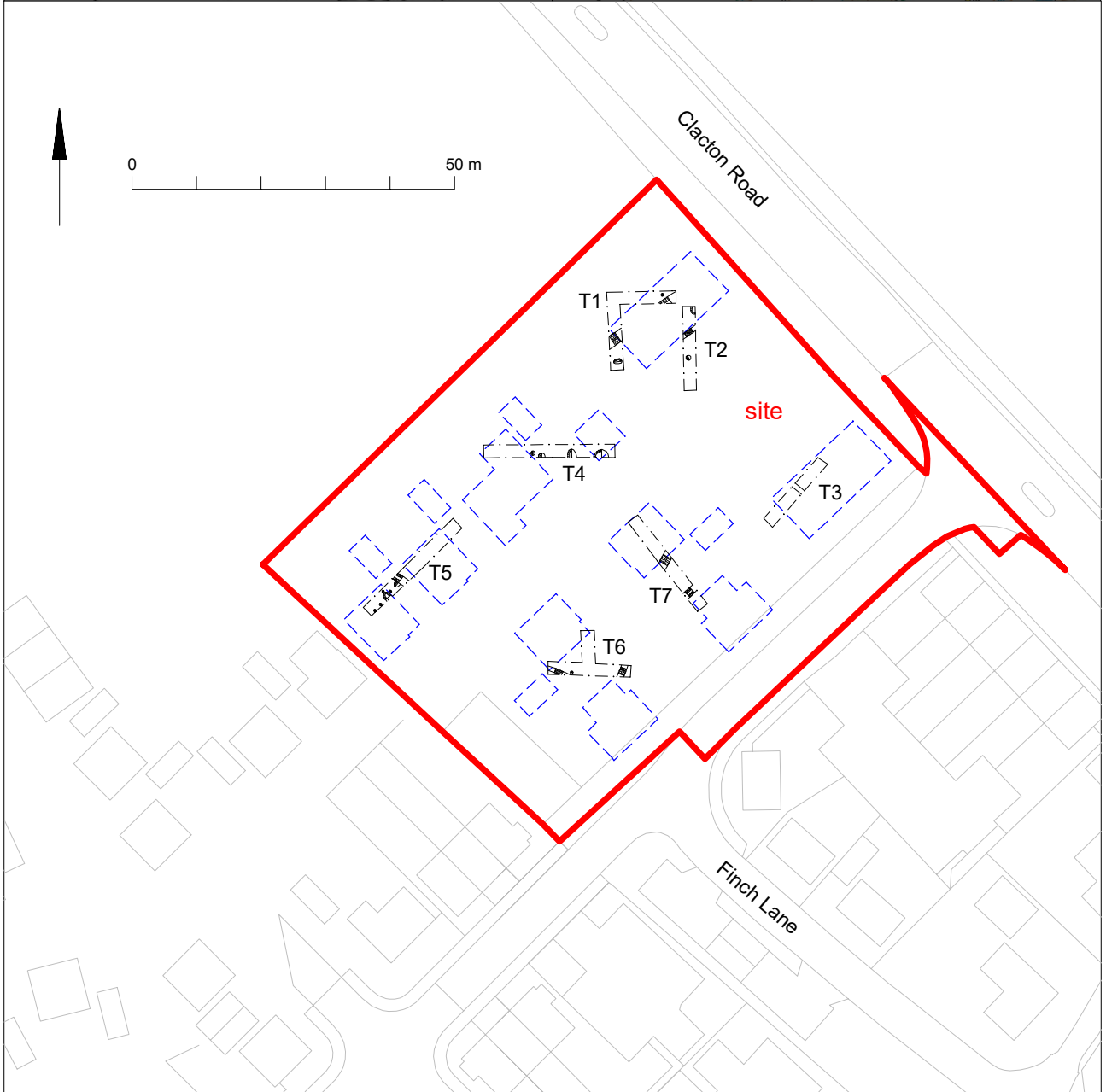
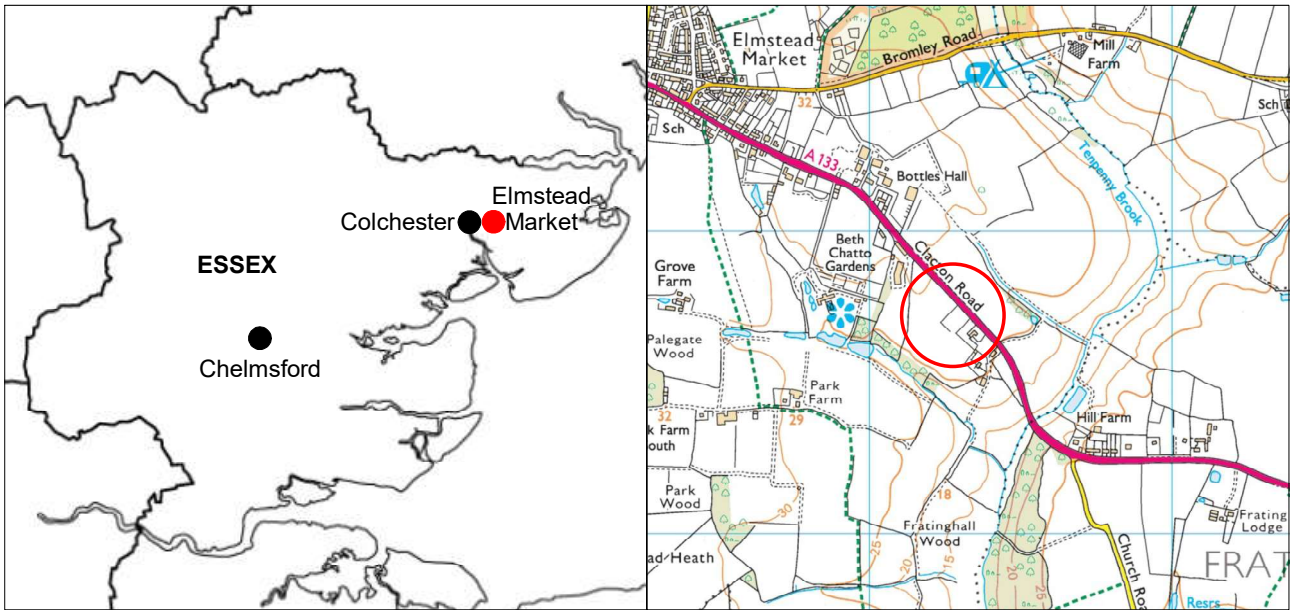
Appendix 2 Pottery list

Context	Feature type	Find number	NR	GR	MSW	Discard	Rim	Handle	Base	Wmd	Sooting (ext)	Charing (int)	Burning	Misfired	Deformed	Kiln second	Organic Residue	Gritted	Abrasion	Repair hole	Hole	Hole diam	Fabric Group	Typology	Function	EVE	Diam	Comments	Start Date	End Date	
F5	DITCH	1	4	11	3		0	0	1														RCW 1						-20	54	
F5	DITCH	1	14	167	12		1	0	2						X	X							GX	CAM 221	BOWL	0.40	130	WARPED RIM/DEFORMED, VG GREY SURF., OR CORE, SAND	43	80/120	
F5	DITCH	1	1	8	8																		GTW						-100	43	
F5	DITCH	1	1	8	8																		GX (S)						43	425	
F5	DITCH	1	1	6	6						X												GX (S)						43	425	
F5	DITCH	1	1	21	21		1	0	0														GX	CAM 218	BOWL	0.10	170	FINE S&MICA, VERY OR CORE	43	120	
F5	DITCH	1	4	17	4		0	0	2														EC						43	100	
F5	DITCH	2	4	8	2		1	0	0														GX	?	?	0.01	?			43	425
F5	DITCH	3	2	81	41		2	0	0														GX	?	JAR			JAR EVERTED RIM, GREY PATCHY OR MARGINS, F S & MICA	43	425	
F8	PIT	4	5	76	15		2	0	0														UR (WA)	CAM 30	PLATTER	0.10	180		43	85	
F14	DITCH	6	1	10	10																		F13						1000	1225	
F18	PIT	7	1	22	22		0	0	1														CZ						100	300	
F18	PIT	7	1	7	7		0	0	1														GB						110/125	300	
F21	DITCH	8	1	8	8		0	0	1														GB						110/125	300	
F21	DITCH	8	1	82	82	X																	HZ						-100	200/300	
F21	DITCH	8	6	30	5		1	0	0		X												GX/47	CAM 268	JAR	0.10	160	GREY, BR/BUFF CORE, COARSER ROUND SAND	125/150	280/320	
F21	DITCH	8	3	7	2		1	0	0														GX/47	CAM 243-244/246	BOWL	0.05	220		43	140	
F21	DITCH	8	2	14	7																		GX (S)						43	425	
F21	DITCH	8	1	4	4								X										GX (S)						43	425	
F21	DITCH	8	1	4	4													X	X	X	6		BACG						110	220	
F21	DITCH	8	2	13	7		0	0	1														BSW 1						43	425	
F21	DITCH	8	1	4	4		1	0	0														GB	CAM 278	JAR	0.08	110		120	250/260	
F21	DITCH	9	3	8	3																		DJ						43	425	
F21	DITCH	9	1	9	9		0	0	1														GB						110/125	300	
F21	DITCH	9	5	30	6		1	0	0		X												GX/47	CAM 268	JAR	0.12	160	BR/BUFF CORE, COARSER ROUND SAND	125/150	280/320	
F21	DITCH	9	1	3	3						X												GX						43	425	

Context	Feature type	Find number	NR	GR	MSW	Discard	Rim	Handle	Base	Wmd	Sooting (ext)	Charing (Int)	Burning	Misfired	Deformed	Kiln second	Organic Residue	Gritted	Abraision	Repair hole	Hole	Hole diam	Fabric Group	Typology	Function	EVE	Diam	Comments	Start Date	End Date
F21	DITCH	9	1	2	2		1	0	0														UNID CRUMB	?	?	0.02	?	OR/BR, SAND SIMILAR F13?	?	?

Appendix 3 CBM list

Cxt	Feature type	Find no.	NR	GR.	MSW	Discard	Typology	Sub-type	FL CORN.	MINI	FL H.	FL W.	FL TH.	Scored	Comb.	Roller	Die	Circ. Vt.	Rect. Vt.	Bl. vt.	PH R	PH SQ	2 Phs	Blind	PH diam. mm	L.	BR.	TH.	Mortar	Burnt	Abraded	Modif.	Comments	Date
F21	DITCH	8	1	3	3	X	RBT																											ROMAN
F21	DITCH	8	1	25	25	X	BAKED CLAY																											?
F21	DITCH	9	1	204	204	X	RB																				38	X					ROMAN	



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Fig 1 Site location in relation to the proposed development (dashed blue).

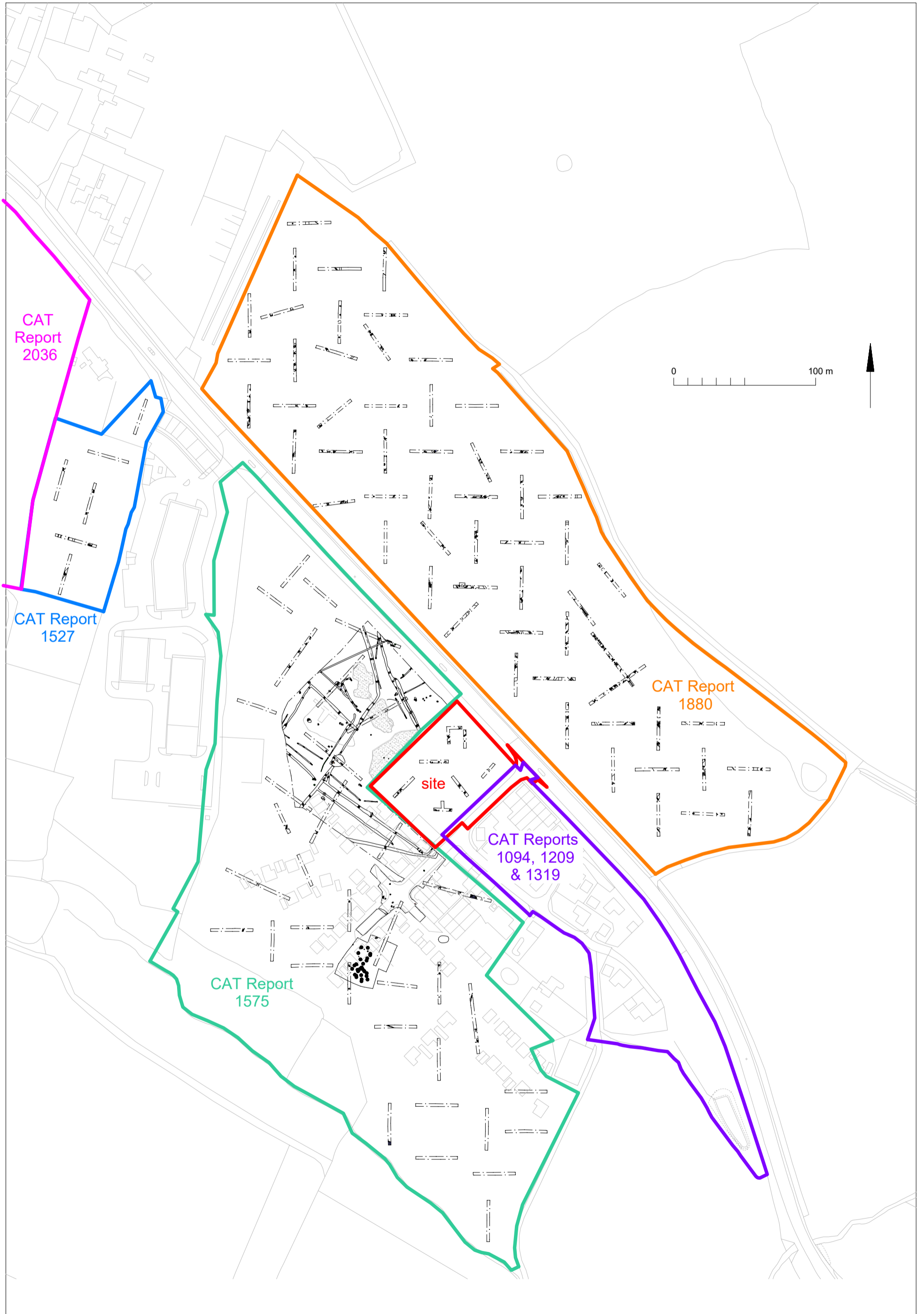


Fig 2 Site location in relation to adjacent archaeological sites.

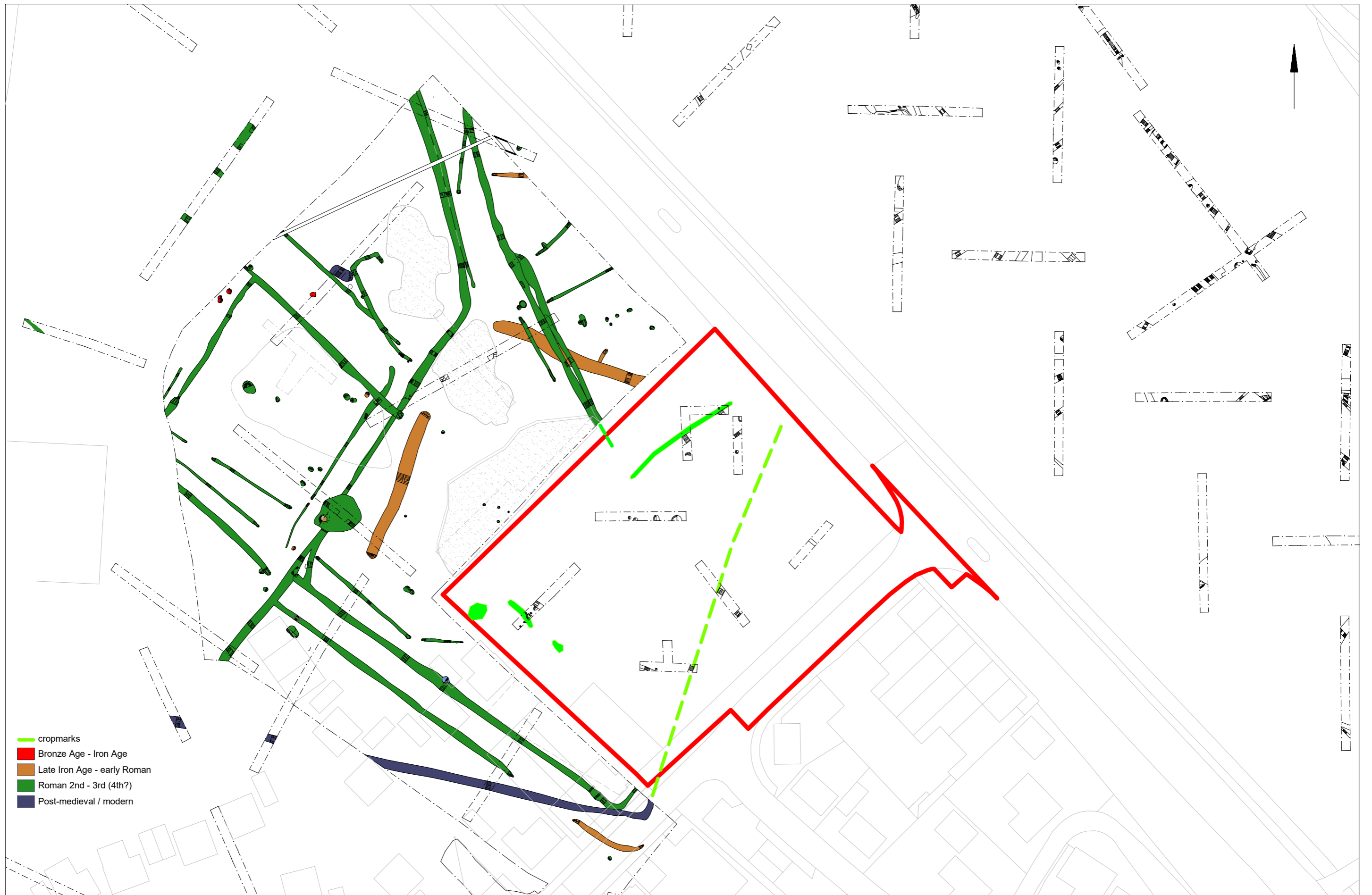


Fig 3 Results in relation to adjacent archaeological investigations and the cropmarks.

0 50 m

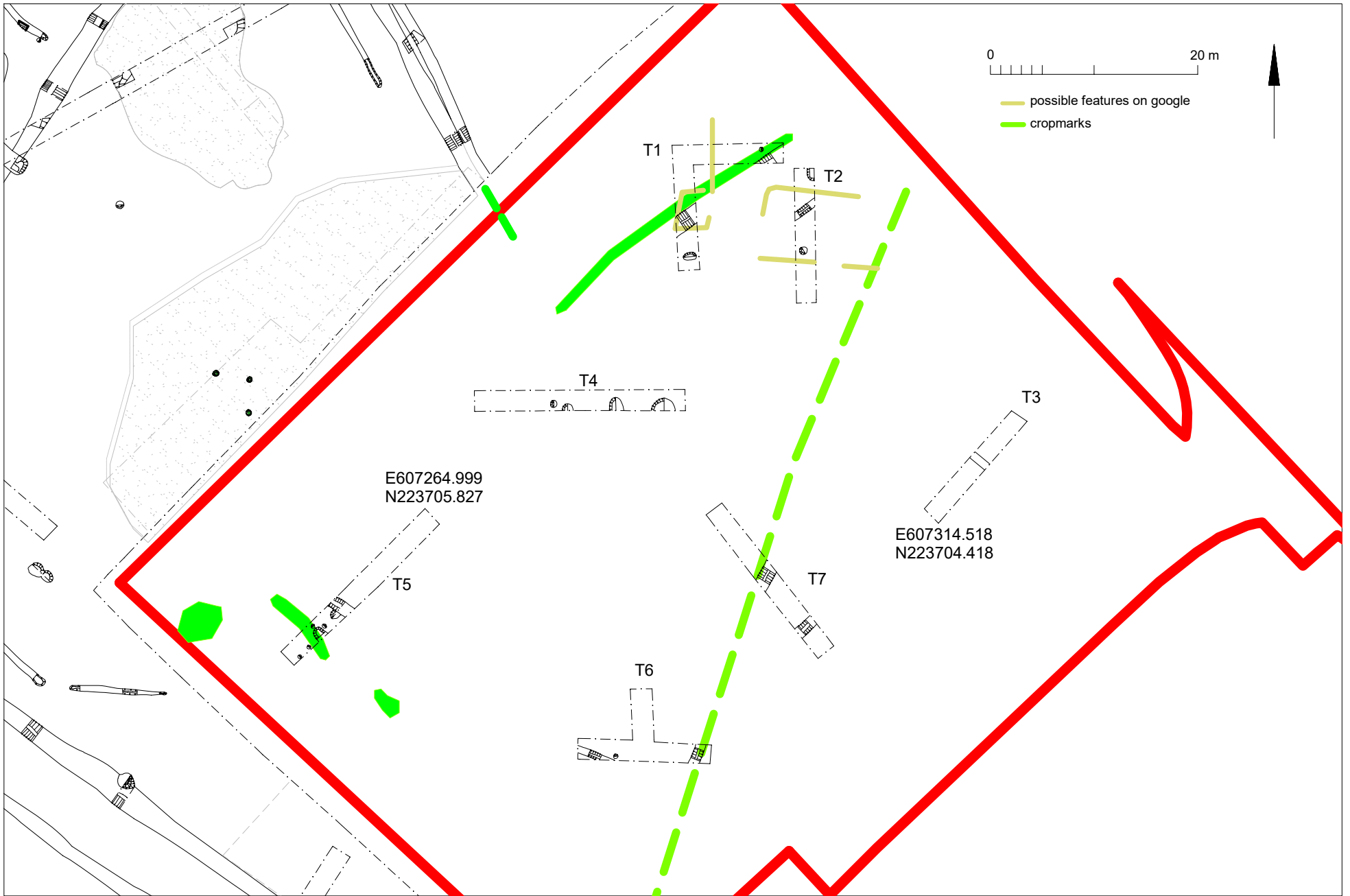


Fig 4 Results.

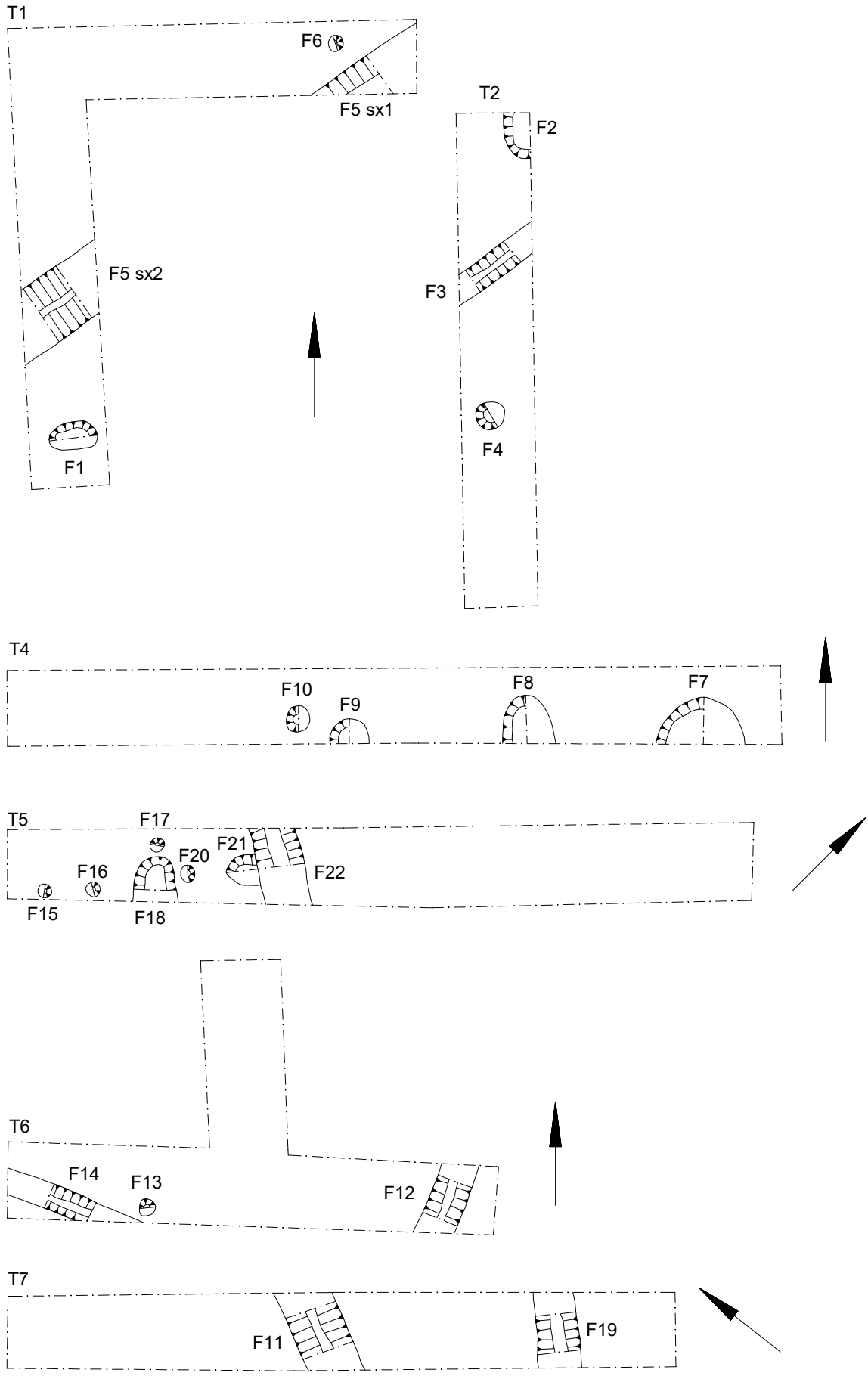


Fig 5 Detailed trench plans.



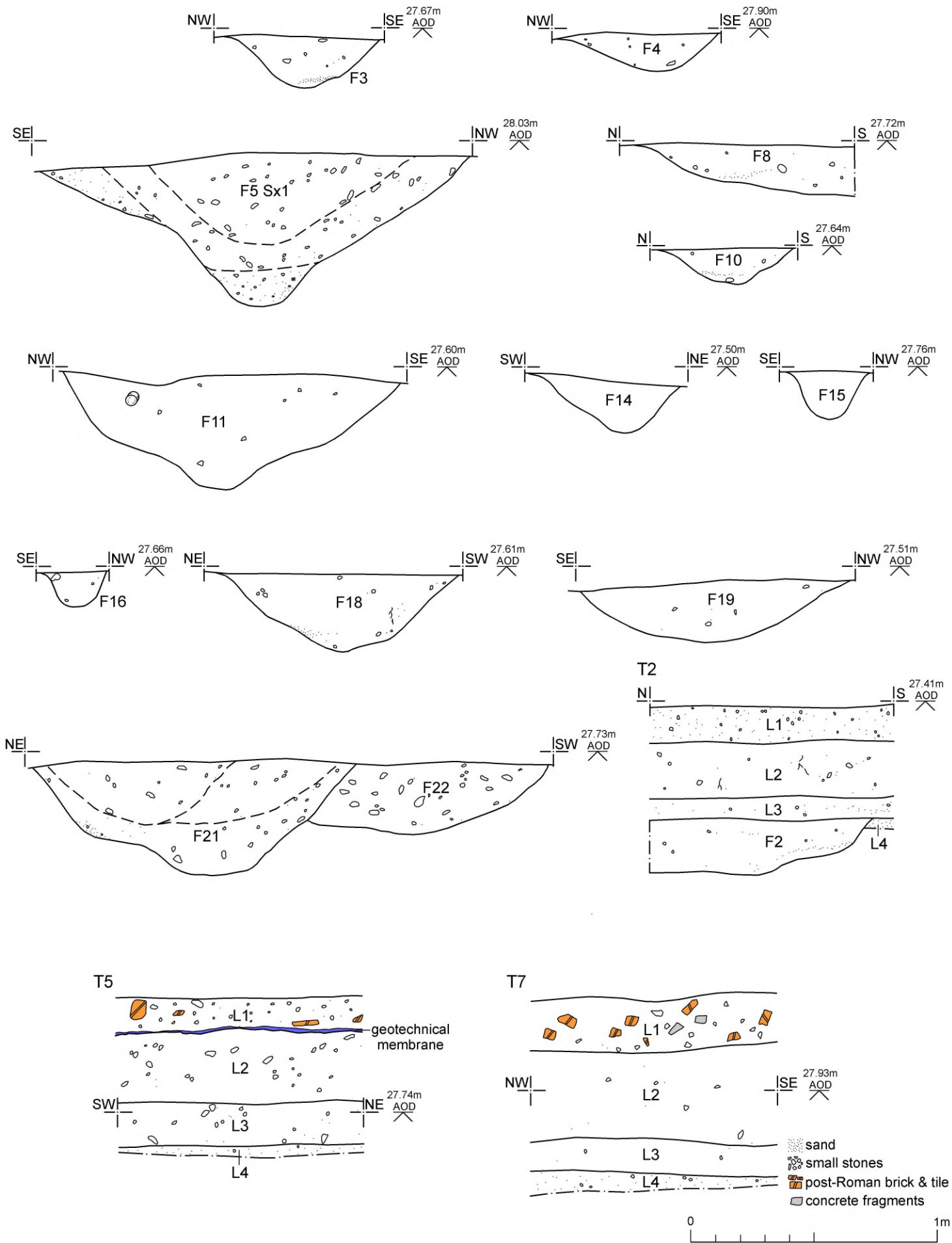


Fig 6 Feature and representative sections.

OASIS Summary for colchest3-529108

OASIS ID (UID)	colchest3-529108
Project Name	Archaeological evaluation at land to the west of Clacton Road, Elmstead Market, Essex, CO7 7DF: November 2024
Sitename	land to the west of Clacton Road, Elmstead Market, Essex, CO7 7DF
Sitecode	EEX60501
Project Identifier(s)	2024/10d
Activity type	Evaluation
Planning Id	24/01363/FUL
Reason For Investigation	Planning: Between application and determination
Organisation Responsible for work	Colchester Archaeological Trust
Project Dates	11-Nov-2024 - 12-Nov-2024
Location	land to the west of Clacton Road, Elmstead Market, Essex, CO7 7DF NGR : TM 07284 23707 LL : 51.873398812531, 1.009755383139704 12 Fig : 607284,223707
Administrative Areas	Country : England County/Local Authority : Essex Local Authority District : Tendring Parish : Elmstead
Project Methodology	Archaeological evaluation (seven trial-trenches) carried out as specified in the project brief and WSI.
Project Results	<p>An archaeological evaluation (seven trial-trenches) was carried out on land to the west of Clacton Road, Elmstead Market, Essex in, advance of the construction of a new residential development. Recent archaeological investigations surrounding the development site have revealed evidence for Late Bronze Age/Early Iron Age activity that included a ring-ditch, and a substantial Roman landscape with enclosures, at least four trackways or droveways, evidence for agricultural activity and possibly a pottery kiln.</p> <p>The current evaluation revealed two ditches and two pits that produced pottery of early Roman and 2nd-century date showing that features associated with the wider Roman agricultural landscape do continue into the development site. Also excavated were a medieval ditch and a post-medieval to modern field boundary ditch. Undated features included eight pits, four pit/post-holes, two ditches and a tree-throw.</p>

Keywords	Ditch - ROMAN - FISH Thesaurus of Monument Types Pit - ROMAN - FISH Thesaurus of Monument Types Ditch - MEDIEVAL - FISH Thesaurus of Monument Types Boundary Ditch - POST MEDIEVAL - FISH Thesaurus of Monument Types Ditch - UNCERTAIN - FISH Thesaurus of Monument Types Pit - UNCERTAIN - FISH Thesaurus of Monument Types Post Hole - UNCERTAIN - FISH Thesaurus of Monument Types Vessel - ROMAN - FISH Archaeological Objects Thesaurus Vessel - MEDIEVAL - FISH Archaeological Objects Thesaurus Bottle - 20TH CENTURY - FISH Archaeological Objects Thesaurus
Funder	Private or public corporation developer
HER	Essex HER - unRev - STANDARD
Person Responsible for work	Adam Wightman, Chris Lister
HER Identifiers	HER Event No - EEX60501
Archives	Physical Archive - to be deposited with Colchester & Ipswich Museum Service (Colchester Collection); Digital Archive - to be deposited with Archaeology Data Service Archive;