Report on an archaeological evaluation by test-pitting at Williams & Griffin, 147-155 High Street, Colchester, Essex November 2011

report prepared by
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on behalf of
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1 Summary

In advance of the proposed redevelopment of the eastern side of the Williams & Griffin department store, seven test-pits were excavated to ascertain the depth and level of survival of archaeological deposits beneath the existing store. In addition, four boreholes were undertaken by geotechnical investigators and monitored and recorded by a CAT archaeologist. The investigations took place within the store, on surrounding land, and in the adjacent Colchester Borough Council (CBC) car park.

Near the High Street frontage, the construction of the basement beneath the south-western part of the store was found to have removed all potential archaeological deposits. Further to the east, evidence for a possible backfilled basement on the High Street frontage was identified. However, previous investigations during the construction and conversion of the former Jacklins store on the High Street (currently within the proposed development area), found a substantial medieval stone building and the remains of a Roman pottery shop destroyed in the Boudican rebellion of AD 61. The survival of these remains suggests that at least some of the High Street frontage has not been previously basemented. The construction of the current buildings on the eastern side of the modern store appears to have had little impact on archaeological remains. Away from the High Street this is primarily due to the depth of 19th/20th-century deposits beneath it. Within the boundary of the department store, the 19th/20th-century deposits associated with the oldest iron foundry to be built in Essex (1792) were c 1.4m deep. In the CBC car park, the floor surfaces and wall foundations from the outbuildings of the former Cups Hotel were c 1m deep.

A layer of dark soil containing finds dating to the medieval and post-medieval periods underlay the 19th/20th-century contexts, and only three archaeological features dating to these periods were identified. This suggests that most of the area evaluated was located in open area behind the buildings that fronted the High Street during the medieval and post-medieval periods. However, the presence of a medieval stone building within the development area and the depth of the 19th/20th-century deposits indicate that archaeological contexts dating to these periods will be present in the development area stratified beneath later deposits.

Roman contexts were identified across the evaluation site at an average depth of 2m below modern ground level (between 1.1m and 2.7m), although in some instances it is possible that deposits described as Roman could be later truncations. The uppermost Roman deposits were overlain by a dark earth containing late Roman finds. No Anglo-Saxon or early medieval finds were recovered from the dark earth or as residual finds in later contexts.

It is probable that extensive Roman building remains survive beneath the existing store. Most of the deposits assigned to the Roman period contained significant quantities of brick/tile fragments and mortar, and have been interpreted as debris from the demolition of Roman buildings. Solid deposits, probably building remains, were encountered, and fragments of a mosaic pavement were identified during borehole sampling to the north of the store. Based on the findings of the evaluation, the thickness of the surviving Roman deposits beneath the development area could be between 1m and 1.5m, which would be thick for Colchester if this is the case.

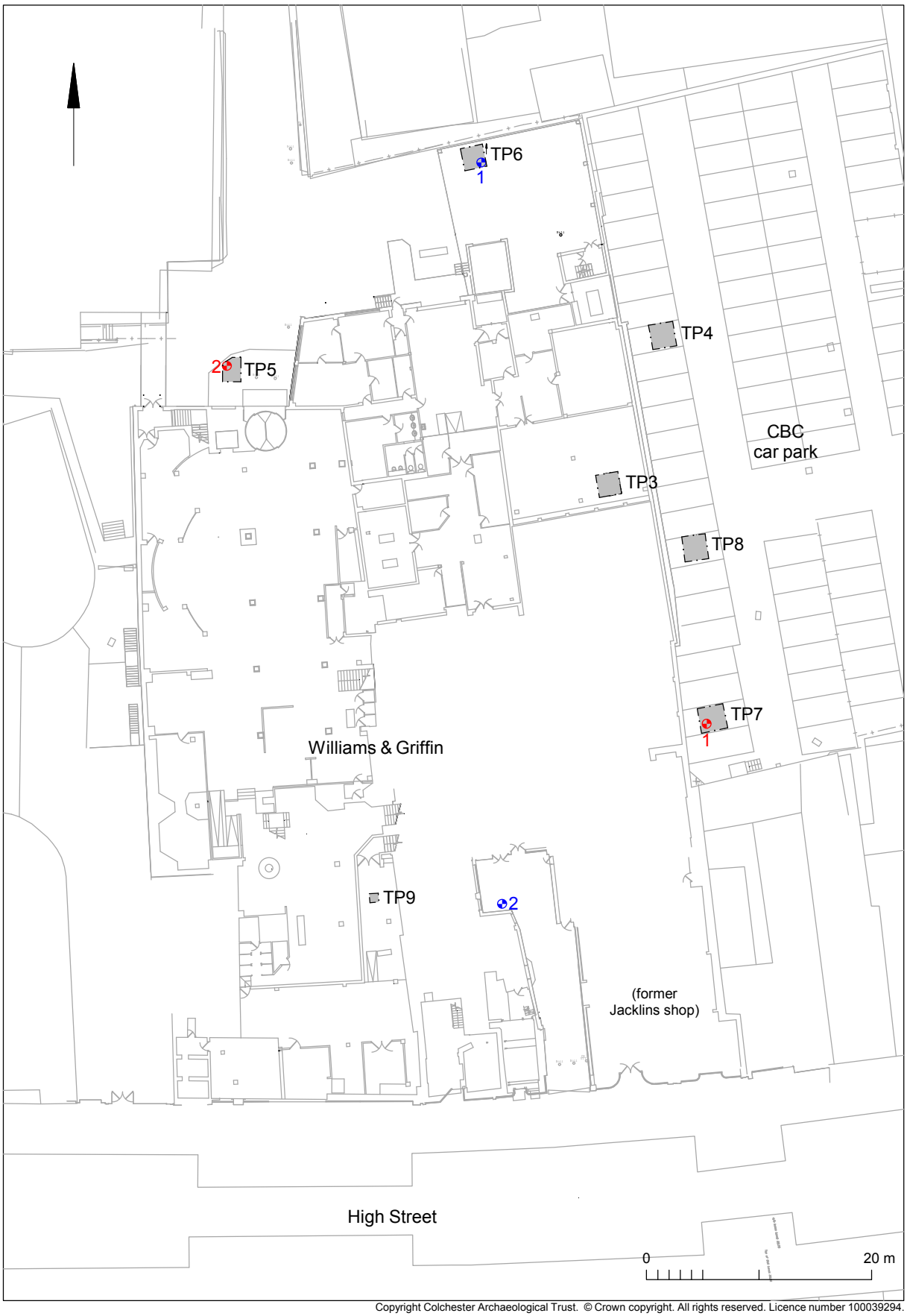


Fig 1 Site plan showing location of test-pits and boreholes.

- Window sample borehole.
- Cable percussive borehole.

2 Introduction (Fig 1 & Fig 15)

This is the archive report on an archaeological evaluation by test-pitting carried out on behalf of Fenwick Ltd by the Colchester Archaeological Trust (CAT). The evaluation was centred on the site of Williams & Griffin, a department store on the north side of the High Street in Colchester, Essex (NGR TL 9950 2525). The Williams & Griffin store was built largely in the 1960s, but includes elements of earlier buildings. The development area is roughly rectangular in shape and is 80m north-south and 50m east-west (*c.*4000m²) (Fig 1). The site slopes down to the north from 31.2m AOD at the High Street to *c* 28m AOD (Fig 15).

The archaeological work was undertaken pre-planning in advance of the proposed redevelopment of the eastern part of the department store. The redevelopment will involve the insertion of a new basement in an area presently unbasemented and the addition of a new building with extensive piled foundations. Due to the significance of the known archaeological deposits in the immediate area, Colchester Borough Council recommended that an archaeological evaluation by test-pitting should be carried out.

Seven test-pits, initially 2m x 2m in size, were excavated. Two within the internal store rooms of the existing store (TP3 & TP9), one within the rear loading bay area (TP6), one to the west of the rear pedestrian access to the store (TP5) and three in the Colchester Borough Council car park to the east of the store itself (TP4, TP7 & TP9) (Fig 1). In addition, two cable percussion boreholes (CPBH1 & CPBH2) and two window sample boreholes (WSBH1 & WSBH2) were undertaken by geotechnical investigators (Soil Consultants) and monitored and recorded by a CAT archaeologist. Three of the boreholes were located within test-pits (TP5, TP6, & TP7) and the fourth was located in the front pedestrian access passageway of the store (Fig 1).

The archaeological evaluation was undertaken in October/November 2011 in accordance with a Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) prepared by Mills Whipp Projects and CAT (Mills Whipp 2011a) and agreed with the Colchester Borough Council Archaeological Officer (CBCAO). In addition to the WSI, all fieldwork and reporting was done in accordance with CAT's *Policies and procedures* (CAT 2008). This report follows the standards set out in Colchester Borough Council's *Guidelines on standards and practices for archaeological fieldwork in the Borough of Colchester* (CIMS 2008a), and also those in the Institute for Archaeologists' *Standard and guidance for archaeological field evaluation* (IFA 2008a) and *Standard and guidance for the collection, documentation, conservation and research of archaeological materials* (IFA 2008b). The guidance contained in English Heritage's *Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment* (MoRPHE 2006), and in the documents *Research and archaeology: a framework for the Eastern Counties 1. Resource assessment* (EAA 3), *Research and archaeology: a framework for the Eastern Counties 2. Research agenda and strategy* (EAA 8), and *Standards for field archaeology in the East of England* (EAA 14), was also followed.

3 Archaeological background (Fig 2)

The following is taken from the desk-based assessment prepared by Mills Whipp Projects (Mills Whipp 2011b).

The site lay at the central crossroads of the initial Roman legionary fortress and then at the heart of Roman Colchester. Numerous Roman finds from the site and surrounding area demonstrate intense Roman occupation from the foundation of the Roman town until its decline in the 5th century.

There is evidence that the Anglo-Saxon settlement of Colchester was centred on the High Street. In the medieval period the High Street was again the focus of the town. Timber-framed buildings occupied the frontage and a rare 12th-century masonry building stood behind the frontage. To the north, as the ground sloped down, there would have been outbuildings, yards, wells and rubbish pits.

In the post-medieval period a similar pattern of settlement existed. In the late 18th century, the first iron foundry in Essex was established on the site.

4 Aim

The aim of the archaeological evaluation was to determine the archaeological potential of the proposed redevelopment area and inform a decision regarding the appropriate mitigation strategy pre-determination.

5 Methodology (Fig 1)

Seven test-pits (numbered TP3-TP9) were dug by CAT (Fig 1). Four of the test-pits were within the Williams and Griffin premises, two within the internal store areas of the existing store [TP03 and TP09], one within the tarmacadam store loading bay [TP06], and one in the block paving to the west of the rear pedestrian access [TP05]. The hardstanding and associated modern layers were excavated by hand (with the assistance of breaking-out tools) by Soil Consultants. Once the uppermost level of soil was encountered, the remainder of the test-pit was hand-excavated by CAT employees. Modern structural remains were recorded by CAT before removal by Soil Consultants.

Three test-pits (TP04, TP07 and TP08) were located within the CBC owned tarmacadam car park to the east of the store (Fig 1). These test-pits were excavated with the assistance of a mechanical excavator equipped with a toothless ditching bucket. The modern hardstanding and underlying modern layers were removed using the mechanical excavator under archaeological supervision. All modern structural remains and surfaces were recorded before removal. As above, once the uppermost level of soil was encountered the remainder of the test-pit was hand-excavated by CAT employees.

Five of the test-pits (TP3, TP4, TP6, TP7 & TP8) were 2m x 2m in size with smaller exploratory pits excavated in the centre of the pit once a depth had been reached at which it would no longer be safe to excavate the full test-pit without the use of shoring. A small hand-auger was then used to excavate a further 'core' within the exploratory pit. Test-pit 5 was smaller at the top (1.5m x 2m) and bottom (1m x 1.75m) of the test-pit due to the depth of concrete encountered in this location. Test-pit 9 was also smaller (0.8m x 0.8m) as it was clear that no deposits of archaeological significance survived in this location (see below).

Two cable percussive boreholes (CPBH1 & CPBH2) and two window sample boreholes (WSBH1 & WSBH2) (Fig 1) were excavated by geotechnical investigators (Soil Consultants) to obtain geotechnical parameters for the design of the new building. All four boreholes were monitored by a CAT archaeologist and the deposits encountered were recorded and examined for possible dating material.

The cable percussive boreholes were undertaken using a trailer-mounted cable percussion tripod rig. The proposed borehole within the front pedestrian access passageway (CPBH1) was not possible due to the size of the rig and the presence of numerous services. CPBH1 was relocated to within TP7 in the Colchester Borough Council car park. The second borehole (CPBH2) was located near the rear store access within TP5. The drilling system used the weight of a heavy tube dropped from height to recover samples. The material was knocked out of the corer onto a plastic sheet and changes in the 'soil' were recorded and samples taken.

The window sample boreholes were carried out using hand-held equipment at two locations, one in the rear store loading bay within TP6 (WSBH1) and one in the front pedestrian access passageway (WSBH2). It was necessary for the geotechnical investigators to hand-excavate an inspection pit 1.2m deep prior to excavating the borehole at the WSBH2 location to ensure that no services or surface obstructions were encountered. The drilling system used a jack hammer and compressor to drive in 1m-long hollow sample tubes of variable diameter which provided a near-continuous sequence of samples down to a depth of 4m (at which point natural sand had been reached).

6 Results

For each test-pit and borehole an archaeological summary, a tabulation of context and finds dating information (ordered stratigraphically), section drawings and plans follows below. In the identification of archaeological contexts, the context number is prefixed by either 'F' indicating a feature, or 'L' indicting a layer. The finds have been listed and described by finds number and context for each test-pit in Appendix 2. A number of finds were individually recorded as small finds (SF) (ie SF1-15). These are listed and described in Appendix 3.

Test-pit 3 (TP3): summary (Figs 2, 3, 16, 17 & 18)

Directly beneath the concrete floor of the store room (L1), structural remains and waste deposits associated with the earliest iron foundry to be built in Essex (1792) were encountered. Two parallel red brick structures (F1) separated by a 0.4m wide channel filled with ash and clinker were uncovered in the eastern half of TP3 (Fig 3a). The bricks had a shallow rectangular frog and were laid in a stretcher bond in a cement mortar. Abutting the western edge of the brickwork was an earth and mortar layer (L2) which also covered the ash and clinker deposit and is presumed to post-date the foundry remains, perhaps deriving from the demolition of foundry buildings (Fig 2i). To the west of F1, L2 overlay a fine-grained black material with an abundance of coal (L3) (Fig 2i & ii). This sealed a line of fire-bricks which abutted the western edge of F1 (Fig 2i & 3a). The brickwork structures of F1 rested upon loosely packed post-medieval bricks and re-used building stone (Fig 2i). The building stone included large blocks of limestone, broken Yorkstone flags and several examples of moulded blocks that appear to have formed parts of door and window surrounds. It is possible these came from the 1878 demolition of the nearby St Runwald's Church. The deposits described above are associated with the foundry smithy which was constructed in this location after 1865 (Booker 1974, 11). Test-pit 3 was located close to the south wall of the smithy (Fig 17 & Fig 18) suggesting that the brick structures were part of internal features associated with smithing processes, possibly forges.

The above foundry deposits overlay/cut a layer of demolition debris (L4). This layer was cut by a pit containing predominantly broken peg-tile fragments (F4) and sealed a shallow pit (F3) with a predominantly clay and sand fill from which numerous finds were recovered (Fig 2ii & Fig 3b). The pit F3 is 19th century in date but contained Roman, medieval and post-medieval finds. Similarly, the soil layer beneath L4 (L7) (which was cut by F3) also contained residual earlier finds (Figs 2i & ii). The layers beneath F3 and L7 date to the 19th century, which suggests both deposits were imported from elsewhere. Beneath L7, a layer of peg-tile and limestone fragments (L8) covered the extents of the test pit (Fig 2ii). The peg-tile was predominantly flat, having presumably been discarded onto a floor surface along with the limestone nodules. (Limestone is used as a flux in foundry furnaces.) Another layer of flat peg-tile fragments (L9), though this time more compact and without limestone nodules, underlay L8 (Fig 2ii).

One would expect the deposits of soil and demolition debris described above to have been deposited outside of a building and not within a smithy. It is probable therefore, that they pre-date the smithy which was built after 1865 (see above) but before 1876 (Fig 17). The two layers containing flat peg-tiles may even be the debris from a period of rebuilding requested by the owners Catchpool and Thompson in 1866 who claimed that the roof tiles had 'perished by natural decay' and needed replacing with slates (Booker 1974, 11).

A dark soil layer (L10) and a ?pit (F12 which contained layers L15 & L16) were identified in the exploratory hole excavated in the centre of the test-pit (Figs 2ii & 3b). These deposits contained predominantly post-medieval finds but also 19th-20th-century pottery sherds which identify that at least the uppermost 1.42m of stratigraphy in TP3 is 19th or 20th century in date. L10 and F12 are probably contemporary with the early stages of the foundry but are outside of its early boundaries (Fig 16) and probably relate to another business in the vicinity.

The ?pit F12 cut a thick layer of dark soil (L17) containing medieval/post-medieval finds as well as residual Roman finds (Fig 2ii). Investigations with the hand-auger indicated that L17 overlay a layer of probable Roman demolition debris (L18) at a

depth of 2.05m below modern ground level. L17 was probably post-Roman 'dark earth', a topsoil which overlies Roman remains in Colchester and other urban localities. Beneath L18 a deposit of sandy-silt with rare Roman brick and tile fragments (L19) was identified (Fig 2ii) but, at a depth of 2.55m below modern ground level, it was not possible to go any deeper with the hand-auger.

TP3: context and finds data.

Context	Type	Finds	Date
L01	concrete	-	20th century
L02	?foundry building demolition debris	-	20th century
L03	forge/smithy waste	-	19th/20th century
F01	brick structures constructed over a rubble base	**CBM** modern 1@2500g **Small finds**: SF15 iron cap or ladle(?)	19th/20th century
L04	building demolition debris in soil	-	19th century
F04	pit filled with peg-tile fragments	-	19th century
F03	shallow ?pit	**Pottery** Roman 3@50g; medieval 1@10g; post-medieval 3@50g; modern 1@3g **CBM** Roman 1@1350g; medieval or later 3@65g; modern(?) 2@921g **Clay pipe** 2@11g **Glass** 1@25g **Slag** 1@4g **Animal bone** 11@266g **Shell** 1@18g **Small finds:** SF1 post-medieval traders token(?)	19th century
L07	imported soil (?make-up)	**Pottery** Roman 2@7g; medieval 3@24g; post-medieval 7@70g; modern 1@3g **CBM** Roman 2@70g; medieval or later 6@210g **Clay pipe** 9@25g **Slag** 1@176g **Stone** slate 3@14g **Animal bone** 2@27g **Shell** 1@18g	19th century
L08	building demolition debris and possible furnace flux	**Pottery** Roman 1@15g; modern 4@43g **CBM** post-medieval/modern 1@162g **Clay pipe** 2@4g **Glass** 5@27g **Stone** 2@712 **Animal bone** 3@89g **Small finds**: SF13 polished stone veneer	19th century
L09	peg-tile layer (?from re-roofing)	**Pottery** modern 1@8g **CBM** medieval or later 6@1328g; post-medieval 1@534 modern 1@939g **Clay pipe** 1@3g **Stone** limestone 1@193g (architectural, medieval?)	19th century
L10	imported soil (make-up) or upper fill of F12	**Pottery** medieval/post-medieval 1@48g; post-medieval 11@161g **CBM** Roman 2@613g; medieval or later 1@57g; post-medieval 1@885 **Clay pipe** 2@4g **Glass** 3@13 **Shell** 1@97g **Other** metal bracket (appears modern) 1@432g	19th century
F12	pit containing fills L15 & L16	***L15*** **Pottery** post-medieval 10@775g **Clay pipe** 1@2g **Animal bone** 3@28g ***L16*** **Pottery** medieval-post-medieval 2@55g; post-medieval 7@100g; modern 5@101g **CBM** Roman 4@725g; medieval or later 2@749g; post-medieval 6@1551 **Clay pipe** 2@5g **Shell** 1@62g	19th century
L17	post-Roman soil (?dark earth)	**Pottery** Roman 2@8g; medieval-post-medieval 2@29g; post-medieval 2@48g **CBM** Roman 6@769g; medieval or later 2@119g	post-Roman (*?worked until the 16/17th-18th century*)
L18	?demolition debris	-	?Roman
L19	sandy-silt deposit	-	?Roman

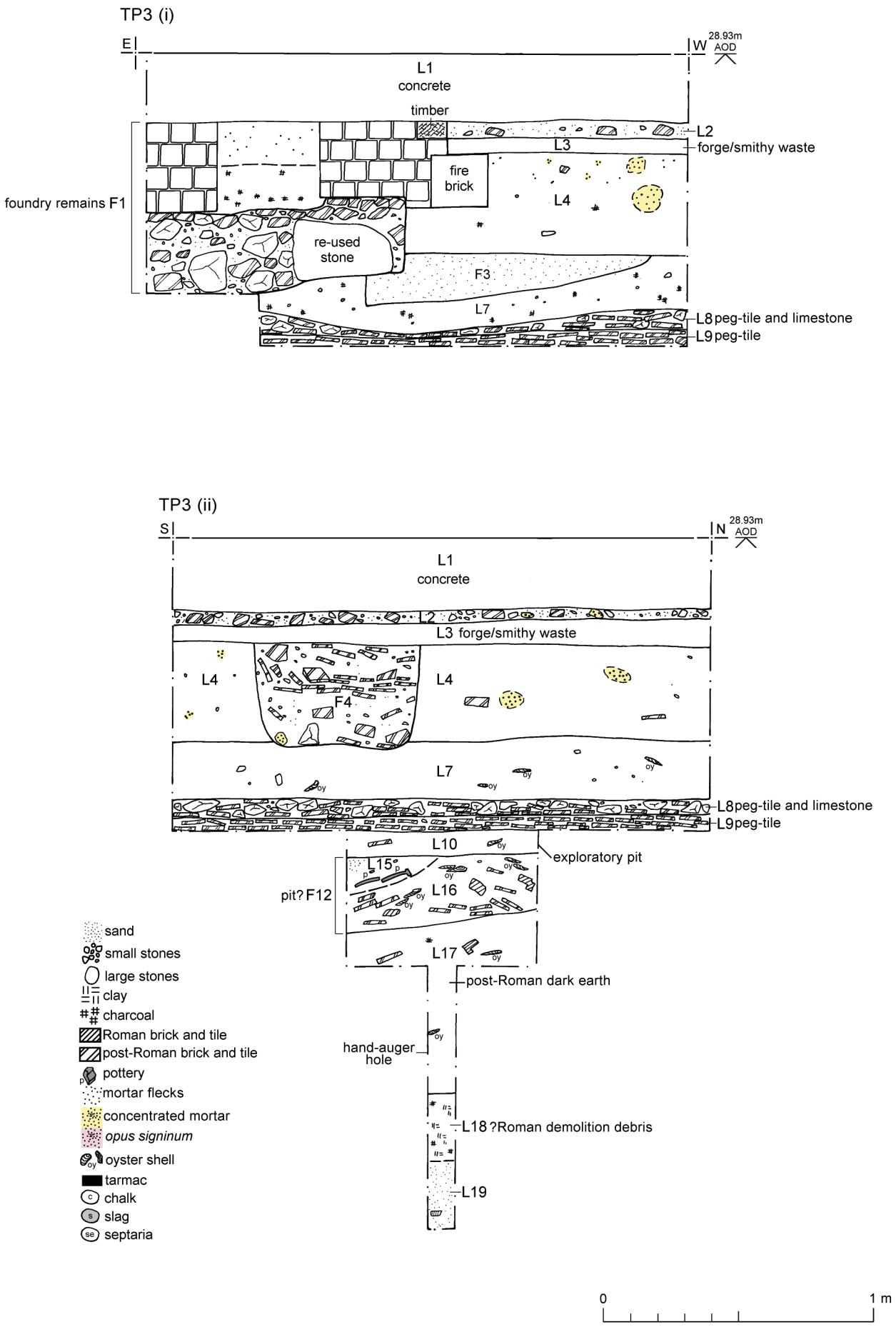


Fig 2 TP3 (i-ii): sections.

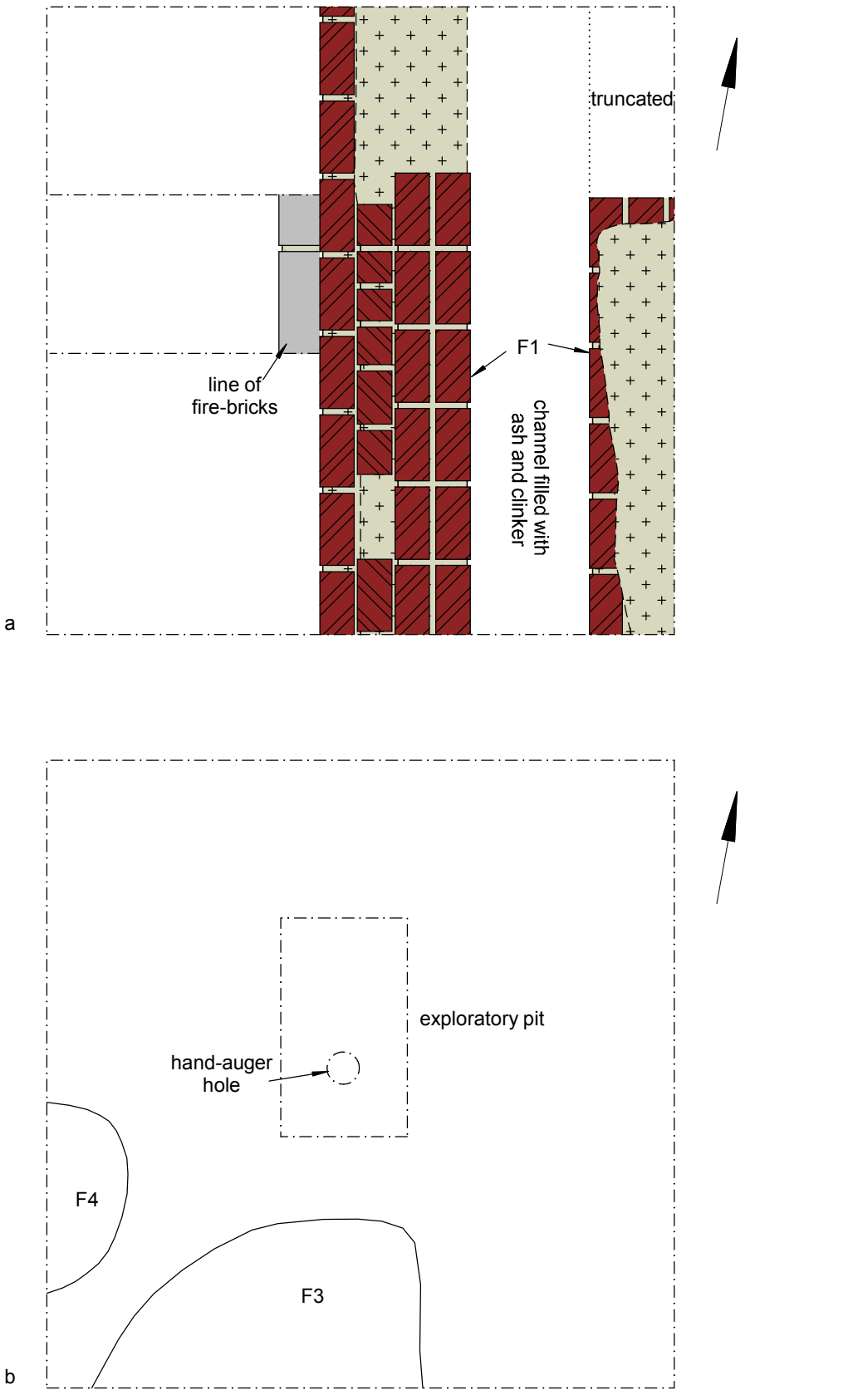


Fig 3 TP3: plans.

Test-pit 4 (TP4): summary (Figs 4, 5 & 18)

Modern tarmac (L32) directly overlay a brick surface (L33). The surface was constructed of yellow bricks laid on their narrow sides over a thick layer of sand (Figs 4 & 5a). The brick surface was worn and uneven and is probably the floor of a stable block associated with the Cups Hotel (Fig 18). The brick surface abutted a wall foundation (F14) at the northern edge of the test-pit (Figs 4 & 5a). It is uncertain whether L33 was the original floor surface associated with F14 as the foundations continued for another 1.2m below the bricks (Fig 4).

Beneath L33, a layer of made-up ground (L34) which consisted of frequent brick and peg-tile fragments in a dry loose soil, abutted the wall foundation F14 (Fig 4). L34 overlay a surface of compacted orange sand and gravel hoggin over a crushed brick base (L35) (Fig 4). It is possible that L35 been beneath a surface which was subsequently removed before the L34 material was used to raise the ground level. L35 was cut by the wall foundation and thus must have pre-dated the wall (Fig 4).

A third probable surface level was identified below L35 (L36). Compacted crushed mortar fragments overlay a layer of mortar-rich soil with brick and tile fragments (Fig 4). This layer was probably deposited on to the underlying dark soil (L37) during the construction or demolition of a building in the late post-medieval period or 19th century. The uppermost 1.2m of stratigraphy in TP4 consists of surfaces and made-up ground associated with buildings which stood on the site from the late post-medieval period to the 20th century.

A thick deposit of dark soil (L37 & L38) was stratified beneath the sequence described above. The upper 0.5m of dark soil was almost black (L37) and contained post-medieval as well as residual Roman and medieval finds (Fig 4). It is probable that this soil was cultivated in the post-medieval period. The 0.65m of lighter soil beneath L37 contained exclusively late Roman finds and may be the post-Roman dark earth (L38) (Fig 4). The dark earth overlay a deposit of mortar and sand (L39) at a depth of 2.5m below modern ground level (Fig 4). This deposit is presumed to be Roman in date. At about 0.4m further down, something solid was encountered and excavation with the hand-auger had to cease. It is uncertain what the solid material was but the clean tines on the hand-auger suggest it was not ceramic building material.

TP4: context and finds data.

Context	Type	Finds	Date
L32	tarmac	-	20th century
L33	brick surface and underlying sand	-	19th century
F14	brick wall foundation	**-**	19th century
L34	imported material (make-up)	**Pottery** medieval-post medieval 2@119g; post-medieval 1@189g; modern 1@21g	19th century
L35	orange sand and gravel hoggin and underlying crushed brick	-	19th century
L36	mortar rich deposit (?demolition or construction debris)	-	19th century/ late post-medieval
L37	cultivated (garden) soil	**Pottery** Roman 5@67g; medieval 1@3g; medieval-post medieval 1@19g; post-medieval 1@339g **CBM** Roman 7@1094g **Clay pipe** 3@15g **Iron** nail 1@7g **Stone** 2@27g (slate; septaria) **Animal bone** 2@32g **Small finds**: SF8 copper-alloy twist loop	post-medieval 16th/17th-18th century
L38	post-Roman soil (?dark earth)	**Pottery** Roman 10@86g **CBM** Roman 11@906g **Mortar** 1@159g **Plaster** 1@17g (painted) **Stone** 1@20g (septaria) **Animal bone** 4@30g **Charcoal** 1@1g **Small finds**: SF11 4 copper-alloy fragment; SF12 3 copper-alloy fragments	post-Roman *(finds are Roman late 4th-century)*
L39	Roman ?demolition debris	**Small finds**: SF9 copper-alloy fragment	Roman

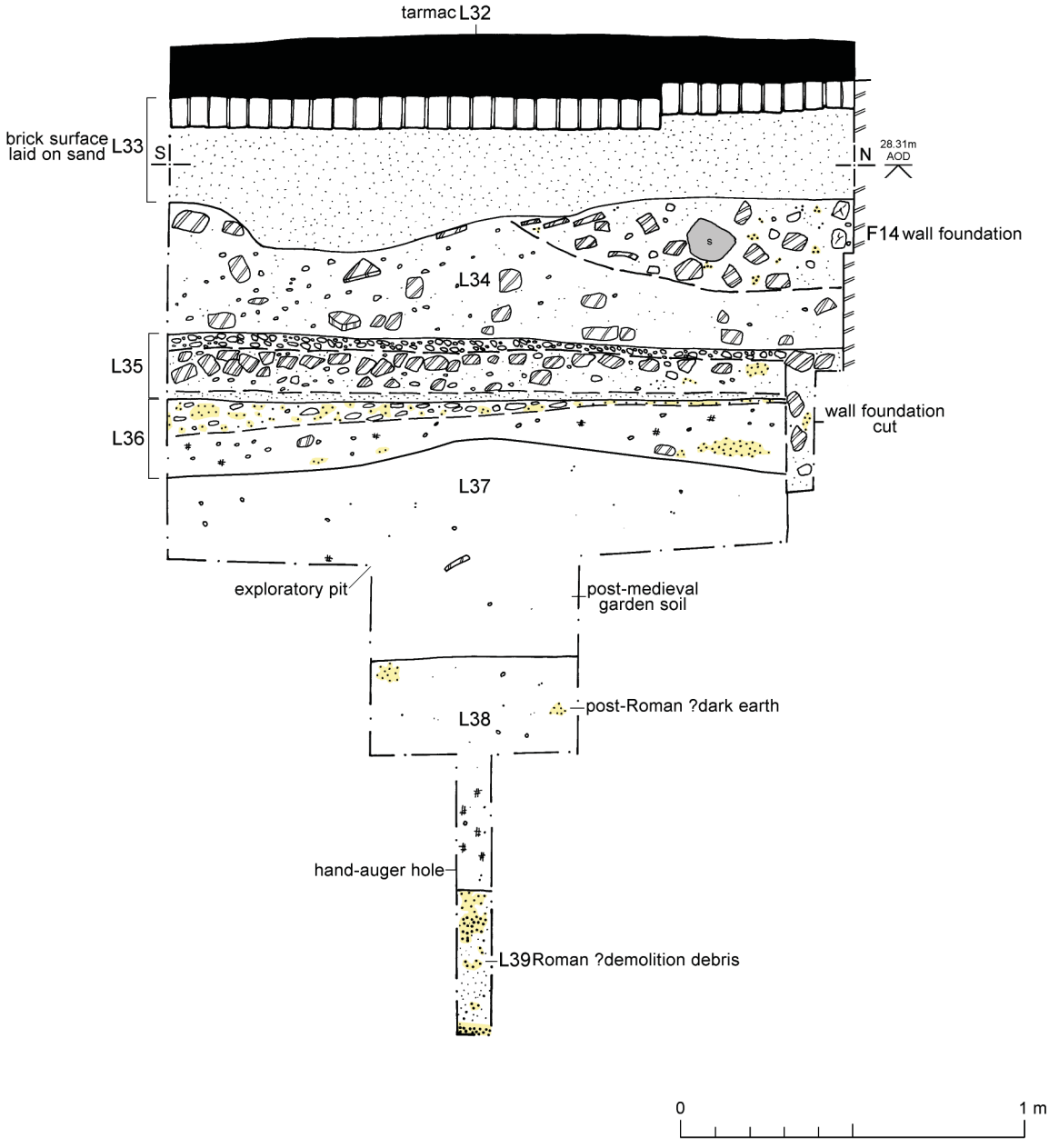


Fig 4 TP4: section.

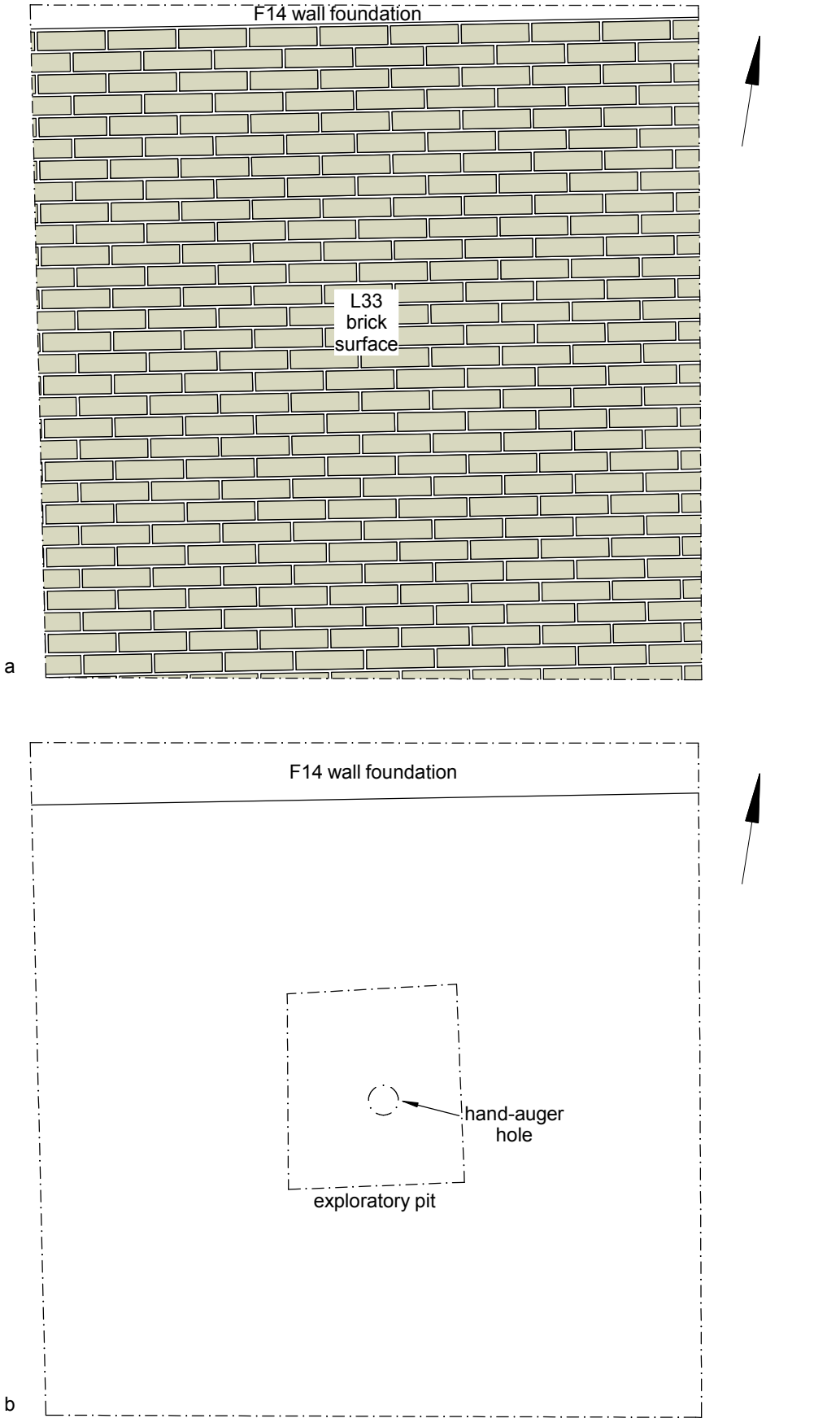


Fig 5 TP4: plans.

Test-pit 5 (TP5)
& Cable Percussive Borehole 2 (CPBH2): summary (Figs 6 & 7)

A substantial layer of concrete overlain by block paving (L1) covered a deposit of dark soil (L5) which contained modern material such as fibreglass sheeting as well as late Roman finds (Fig 6). It is possible that this is post-Roman dark earth which had been disturbed in modern times presumably when the store was constructed. Beneath L5, a layer of probable Roman demolition debris containing frequent Roman brick/tile fragments, mortar (L6) and late Roman pottery sherds was identified (Fig 6). The removal of L6 uncovered what appeared to be a Roman 'surface' (F2) (Fig 6 & Fig 7). Located at a depth of 1.2m below modern ground level, F2 was flat, relatively solid and consisted of *opus signinum* and cream mortar with a few Roman brick and tile fragments pressed into the surface (Fig 7). However, isolated excavations at the southern end of the test-pit where the 'surface' appeared to have been disturbed (Fig 7), found it to be relatively loose with pockets of soil and fragments of Roman brick/tile and septaria in a cream mortar suggesting that F2 is more likely to be a dense layer of Roman demolition material than an intentionally laid surface.

Observations made during the excavation of the cable percussive borehole (CPBH2) (Fig 7) indicated that F2 was roughly 0.4m thick and overlay a mosaic pavement (F13) at a depth of 1.6m below modern ground level (Fig 6). The tesserae cubes from the mosaic were all grey stone (septaria) and some were quite large. This suggests that the borehole may have been located at the border of the mosaic or possibly within a large 'black' area in a geometric black and white mosaic. The tesserae were set in a white mortar onto an *opus signinum* base, fragments of which were recovered with the tesserae cubes. The *opus signinum* appeared to overlay a cream mortar layer with broken-up brick and tile fragments beneath (Fig 6). It is possible that the mosaic is not *in situ* and was broken up in antiquity when the building was demolished so that fragments of the pavement became mixed up with the demolition debris. The borehole samples from beneath the mosaic pavement remains contained fragments of Roman brick and tile in a soft white mortar for a depth of *c* 0.9m (L43) (Fig 6). L43 overlay the natural sand (L44) at a depth of *c* 2.8m below modern ground level (Fig 6).

It is probable that the Roman building remains and demolition debris identified in this test-pit and borehole are associated with the Roman public building known to have stood in this location.

TP5 & CPBH2: context and finds data.

Context	Type	Finds	Date
L1	concrete	-	20th century
L5	?disturbed post-Roman soil (?dark earth)	**Pottery** Roman 4@55g **Animal bone** 1@7g **CBM** Roman 25@5640g; Unidentified 3@160 **Mortar** 3@107 *(op sig)* **Stone** 1@863 (septaria) **Small finds**: SF14 small, slate piece with bevelled edge and sawn edge, possibly part of an object but probably from a roofing slate	20th century disturbance of post-Roman soil. *(finds are Roman late 3rd-4th-century)*
L6	?demolition debris	**Pottery** Roman 19@335g **CBM** Roman 12@3271g **Mortar** 2@94 (*op-sig*) **Iron nail** 1@16g **Stone** 1@21g (unidentified) **Animal bone** 7@206g	Roman *(late 3rd-4th-century)*
F2	demolition debris	-	Roman
F13	mosaic	**Mosaic** grey stone (septaria) tesserae with white mortar on sides & base, 11@ 64g largest 20 x 18 x 15mm, rest smaller; *op-sig* mortar base frags 6@60g, fragment of RBT 1@ 125g	Roman
L43	?demolition debris /robber trench	**CBM** Roman 1@167g	Roman
L44	natural sand	-	geological

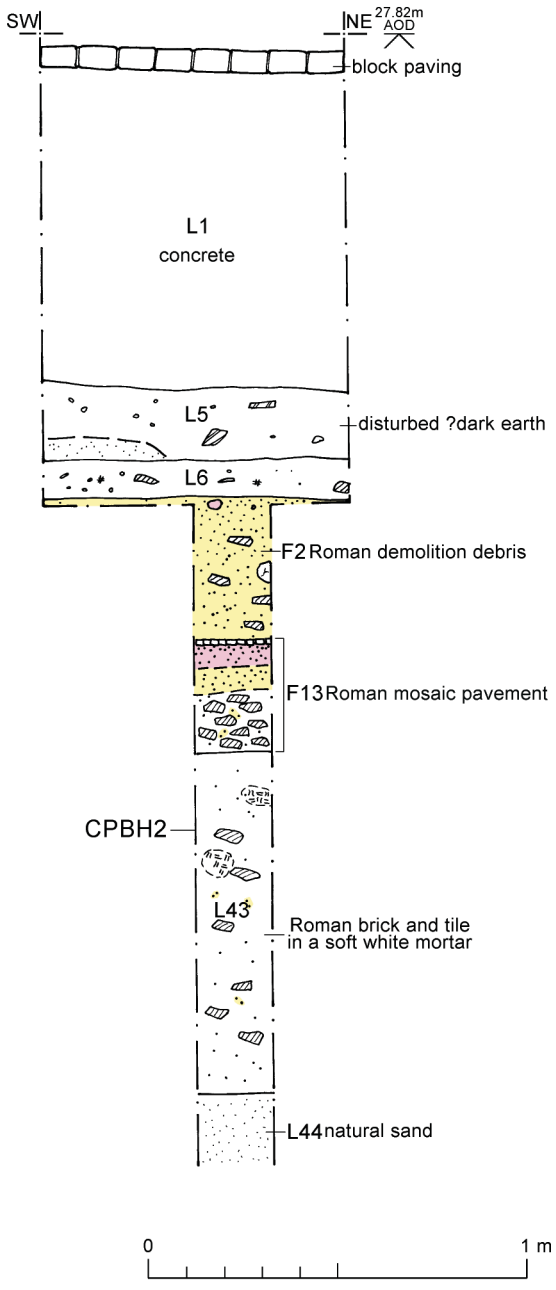


Fig 6 TP5 and CPBH2: section.

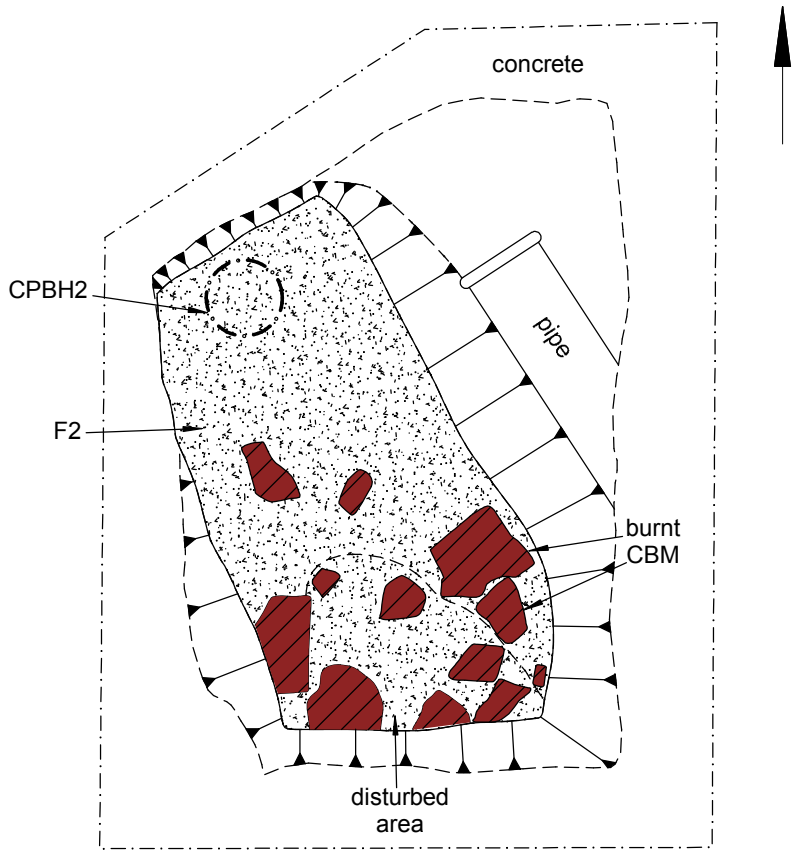


Fig 7 TP5 and CPBH2: plan.

Test-pit 6 (TP6)
& Window Sample Borehole 1 (WSBH1): summary (Figs 8, 9 & 18)

Tarmac had been laid onto a thick deposit of crushed modern brick and concrete which in turn had been deposited onto an old concrete surface (L11) (Fig 8). It is presumed that this was done to significantly raise the ground level of the store loading bay. The 20th-century surfacing overlay a dark soil (L12) which contained metal-working waste (Fig 8). L12 overlay a deep deposit of dark black silty sand which appeared to be burnt and contained no inclusions other than rare fragments of iron and slag (L13) (Fig 8). Both layers are interpreted as waste deposits associated with the iron foundry, and more specifically the casting process based on the location of the test-pit on the former site of the casting shed (Fig 18).

Beneath the foundry deposits, at a depth of 2.1m below modern ground level, a dark soil (L14) was identified, firstly with the hand-auger (Fig 9) and then in WSBH1 (Figs 8 & 9). Examination of the compressed L14 material in the window sample core indicated that it was fairly homogenous for a depth of roughly 1.1m. L14 contained inclusions of oyster shell, mortar, brick/tile fragments and a sherd of late Roman pottery. This soil deposit could be the same post-medieval cultivated soil or post-Roman dark earth identified in other test-pits (ie TP4). At a depth of 3.2m below modern ground level, the soil became lighter and patches of clay, charcoal and brick/tile fragments became frequent. This deposit is interpreted as a layer of possible Roman demolition debris or the fill of a robber trench (L45) (Fig 8). L45 was *c* 1m thick and overlay natural sand (L46) at a depth of 4.2m below modern ground level (Fig 8).

TP6 & WSBH1: context and finds data.

Context	Type	Finds	Date
L11	modern surfacing	-	20th century
L12	foundry waste in a dark soil	-	19th/20th century
L13	foundry waste, burnt sand	-	19th/20th century
L14	?post-Roman soil (?dark earth)	**Pottery** Roman 1@2g **CBM** Roman 8@51g **Animal bone** 1@1g **Shell** 1@1g	post-Roman *(finds are Roman late 3rd-4th-century)*)
L45	?demolition debris/ robber trench fill	-	Roman
L46	natural sand	-	geological

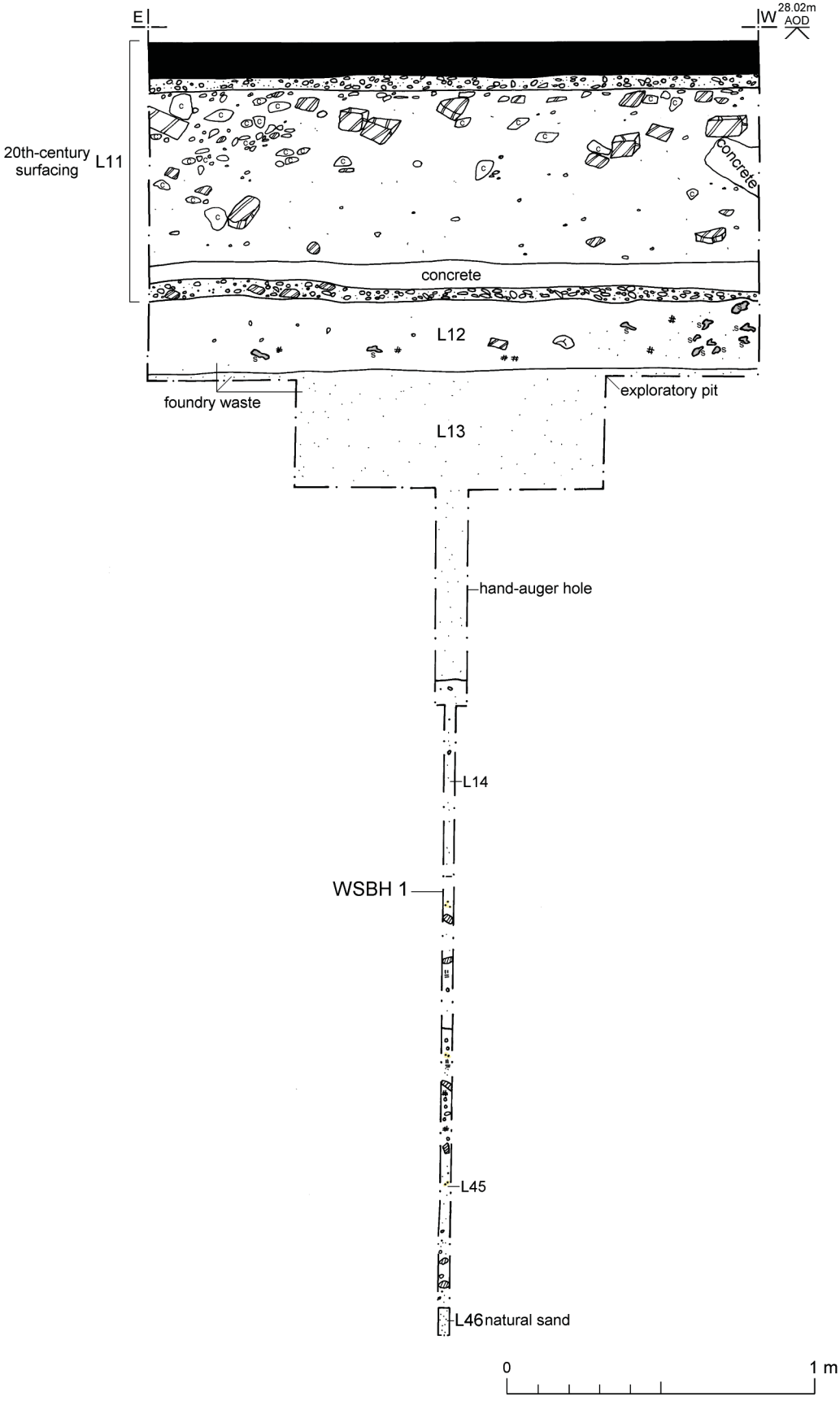


Fig 8 TP6 and WSBH1: section.

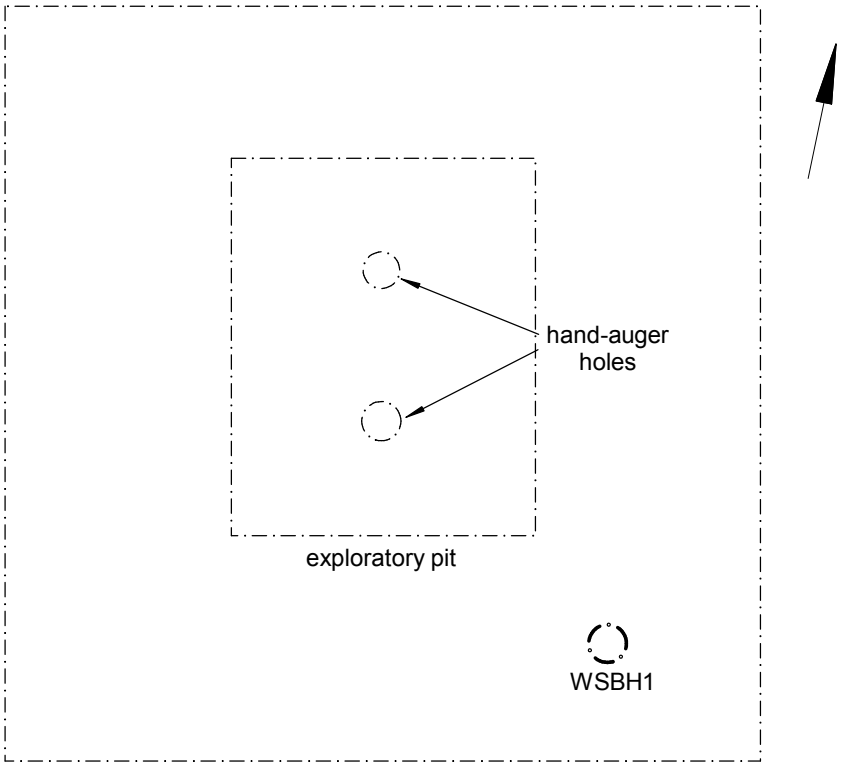


Fig 9 TP6 and WSBH1: plan.

Test-pit 7 (TP7)
& Cable Percussive Borehole 1 (CPBH1): summary (Figs 10 & 11)

Tarmac (L26) directly overlay a tiled floor set on crushed brick in concrete (L27) and a brick wall-foundation (F11) (Fig 10). The foundation and the floor appeared to be contemporary as the tiles continued up to the wall although the crushed brick in concrete appeared to be disturbed in proximity to the wall (Fig 10). A dark soil (L29) underlay L27 in the north of the test-pit (Fig 10). In the south of the test-pit, L29 was cut by two large pits (F9 & F10) (Fig 11a) with soft, wet fills. F9 had a straight, east-west orientated edge (Fig 11a) and a relatively straight cut (Fig 10) and may be better described as a trench rather than a pit. Based on the finds recovered from F9, the absence of modern finds and its stratigraphical positioning beneath the wall foundation, the excavation of this large, deep feature could have taken place in the medieval or post-medieval periods. The pit F10 may have been a distinct pit as its profile (Fig 10) and the finds recovered from it (dated to the late 17th and 18th centuries) indicate. Alternatively, F10 may have been a fill of F9. The backfill material in F9 is of particular interest as it contained a high proportion of redeposited clay, septaria blocks, mortar and fragments of Roman brick, tile and painted wall plaster. Pit F9 extended deeper than 1.7m below modern ground level (Figs 10 & 11b) and it is presumed that it cut through Roman building remains which were subsequently incorporated in the backfill material.

L29 contained frequent peg-tile fragments as well as other post-medieval finds and may have been a pit fill rather than a layer of cultivated soil. The underlying dark soil (L30) (Fig 10) had notably fewer inclusions and contained exclusively Roman finds. L30 may be the post-Roman dark earth. A light grey soil containing Roman brick/tile fragments (L31) was identified with the hand-auger at a depth of 2.15m below modern ground level (Fig 10). This deposit continued to a depth of at least 2.8m below modern ground level, the point at which the hand-auger could reach no deeper.

The cable percussive borehole (CPBH1) was located in the southern half of TP7 (Fig 11b) and was undertaken once TP7 had been backfilled. Clean sand, which looked like the natural sand, was encountered as a depth of 1.6m below modern ground level. Based on the findings of TP7, it is improbable that sand at this depth would be undisturbed natural. It is possible that the sand is from the lower fill of F9. However, it is also possible that L30 and L31 are actually fills in a post-medieval/medieval pit and that undisturbed natural may be less than 3m below modern ground level in this location. It was noted that the sand became more compact at a depth of *c* 3m below modern ground level (L53), at which point it would almost certainly be undisturbed natural sand.

TP7 & CPBH1: context and finds data.

Context	Type	Finds	Date
L26	tarmac	-	20th century
L27	tiled floor over crushed brick in concrete	-	20th century
F11	brick and concrete wall foundation	-	19th/20th century
F10	?pit	**Pottery**; post-medieval 2@109; Roman 1@85g **CBM** Roman 5@2270g; medieval or later 1@349g; post-medieval 2@2257 **Animal bone** 1@257g **Small finds**: SF3 coin(?)	late 17th-18th century
F9	?trench or large pit	**Pottery** medieval 1@71 **CBM** Roman 2@385g; medieval or later 1@82g **Stone** 2@2841 **Plaster** 3@106 (painted) **Small finds**: SF10 small copper-alloy lump	medieval-post-medieval
L29	?cultivated (garden) soil or pit fill	**Pottery** Roman 2@20g; post-medieval 1@50 **CBM** medieval or later 2@162g; post-medieval 1@116 **Clay pipe** 1@2g **Stone** 2@6g (slate) **Small finds**: SF2 coin (Roman?); SF7 pin shaft(?)	post-medieval
L30	post-Roman soil (?dark earth)	**Pottery** Roman 2@20g **CBM** Roman 2@53g	post-Roman *(finds are Roman)*
L31	?demolition debris	-	Roman
L53	natural sand	-	geological

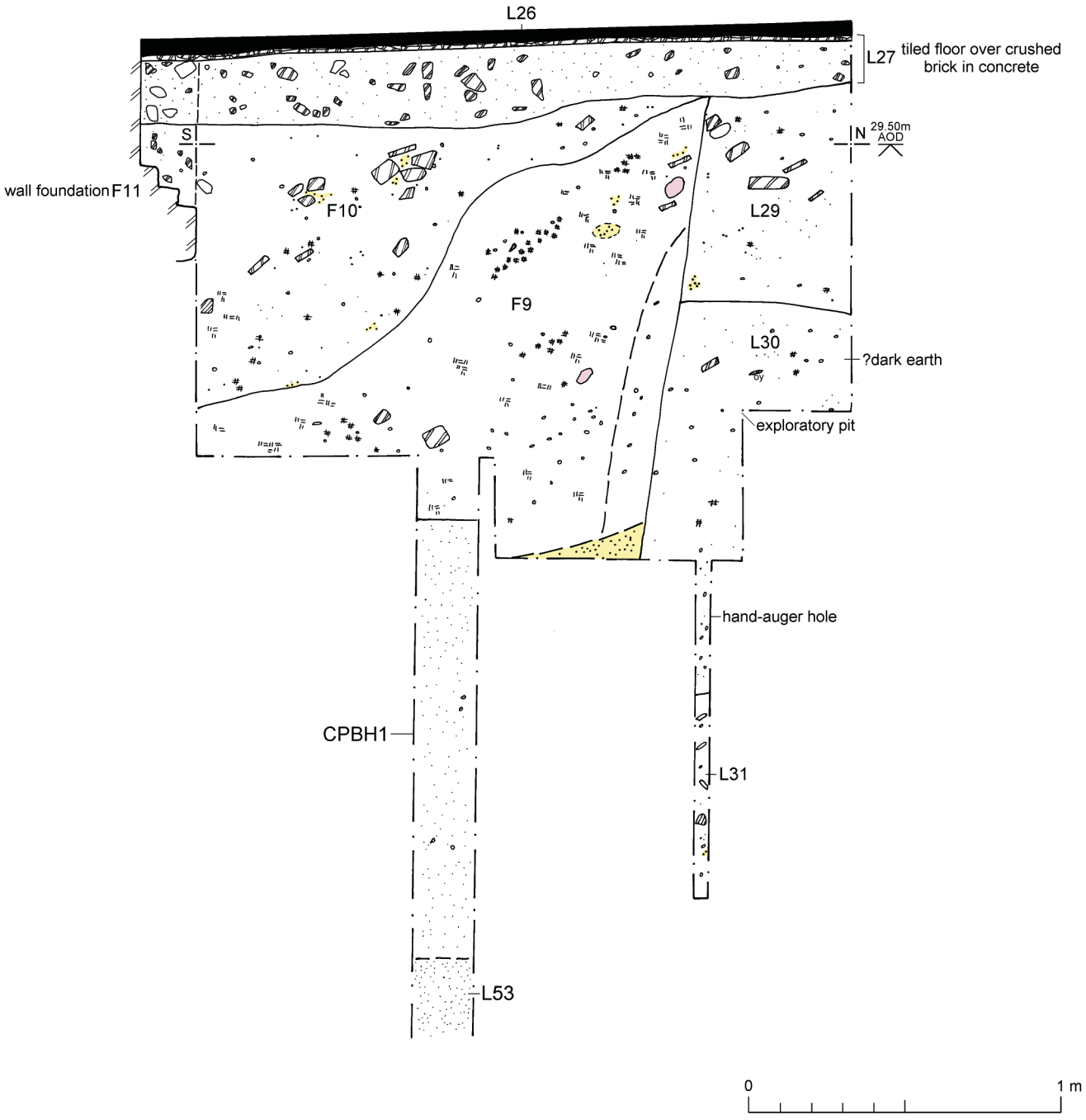
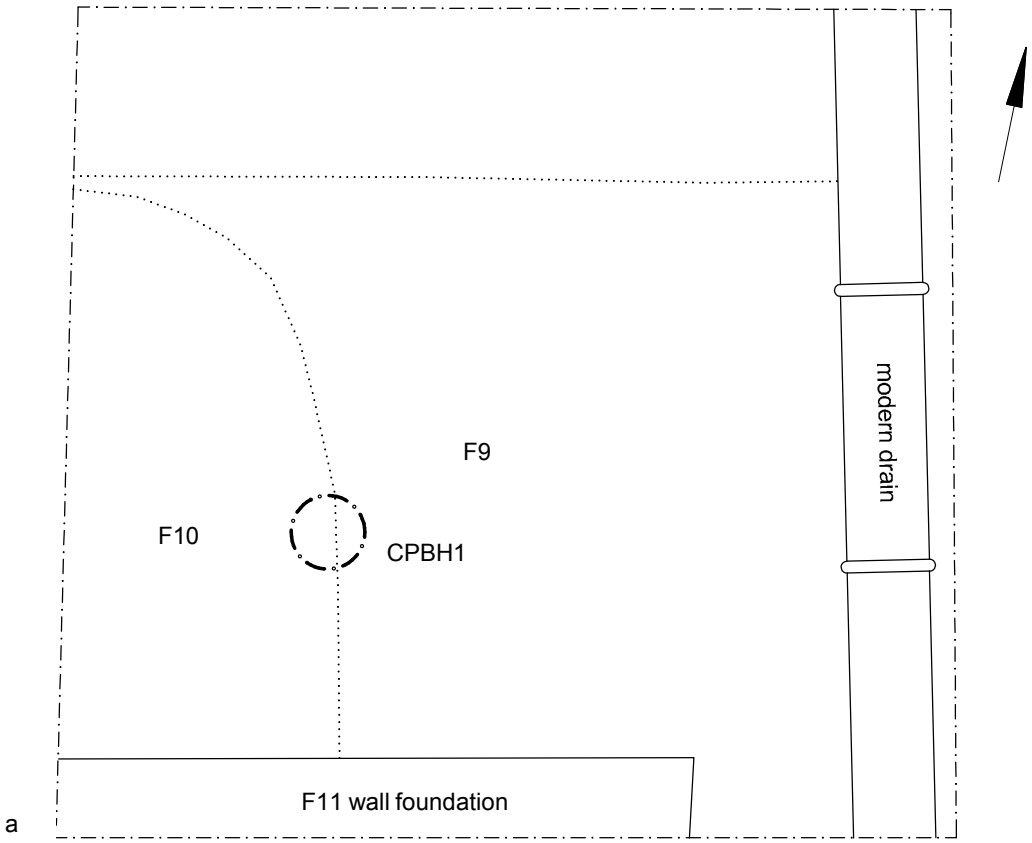
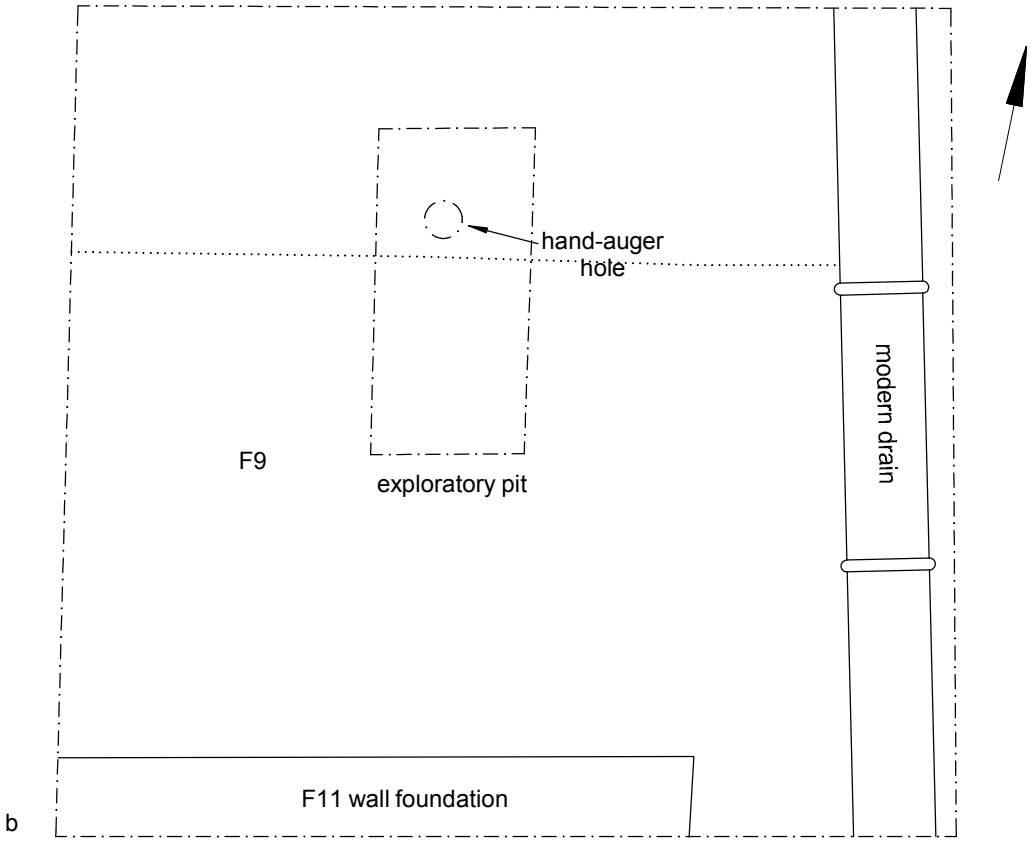


Fig 10 TP7 and CPBH1: section.





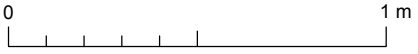


Fig 11 TP7 and CPBH1: plans.

Test-pit 8 (TP8): summary (Figs 12, 13, 18 & 19)

Tarmac (L26) directly overlay crushed brick in concrete (L27) identical to that seen in TP7 (Fig 12). Beneath L27, a layer of modern make-up (L20) covered a brick foundation (F5) and a brick surface (L21) (Fig 12 & 13a). The wall foundation F5 was shallow (probably an internal wall) and floor bricks from L21 were incorporated in its lowest course. The brick surface L21 was constructed of yellow floor bricks laid on their narrow sides onto crushed brick and sand (L22). This surface was very similar to the surface identified in TP4 (L33). However, the bricks in surface L21 were north-south orientated (east-west in L33) and were considerably more heavily worn. A Staffordshire stable brick was also placed face down in surface L21 (Fig 13a). The brick surface is almost certainly the floor of a stable block belonging to the Cups Hotel which fronted onto the High Street (Fig 18). The brick wall F5 appears to match a north-south orientated wall on the 1909 map, although the east-west wall that crosses the test-pit on this map was not identified (Fig 18).

Beneath L22, two pits (F6 and F7) cut the uppermost dark soil layer (L23) (Fig 12 & Fig 13b). Pit F6 contained frequent ash, charcoal, fragments of post-medieval brick and pan-tiles and had a deposit of chalk nodules as its uppermost fill (Fig 12). Pit F7 had a light grey fill containing frequent mortar, small brick/tile fragments and a pottery sherd which dates it to the 19th century. Pit F7 was cut by pit F6 (Fig 12).

A notable change in the dark soil was recorded at a depth of 1.1m below modern ground level. The lighter soil beneath L23 (L24) also contained notably more inclusions and finds (Fig 12). L24 may be the upper fill of F8, a pit which was identified in the exploratory pit in the centre of the trench. F8 cut a layer of Roman demolition debris (L25) at a depth of 1.8m below modern ground level (Fig 12). The finds recovered from the pit F8 suggest the Roman layer was cut in the late 17th to 18th/19th centuries.

A small section of L25 was hand-excavated (Fig 12). Roman brick/tile and lumps of clay were recovered from the mortar rich soil along with Roman pottery sherds dating from the mid 2nd to mid 3rd century. A sherd from an unusually large and special bowl with part of a large barbotine animal figure, almost certainly a dog, was recovered from L25 (Fig 19). The dog, rather unusually, appears to be standing still and has a decorative band or harness depicted around the chest. Two fragments of post-medieval/modern brick recovered during the excavation of L25 probably came from the pit F8.

At a depth of 2.5m below modern ground level, a layer of dark soil (L28) containing charcoal, oyster, mortar, and fragments of Roman brick/tile and pottery, was identified using the hand-auger (Fig 12 & Fig 13b). At a depth of 2.8m below modern ground level, something solid was encountered and excavation with the hand-auger had to cease. It is uncertain what the solid material was but the clean tines on the hand-auger suggest it was not ceramic building material.

TP8: context and finds data.

Context	Type	Finds	Date
L26	tarmac	-	20th century
L27	crushed brick in concrete	-	20th century
L20	make-up	-	20th century
F5	brick wall foundation	-	19th century
L21	brick surface	-	19th century
L22	sand & crushed brick	-	19th century
F6	pit	-	19th century
F7	pit	**Pottery** post-medieval/modern 1@23g; modern 1@12g **CBM** medieval or later 1@325g; post-medieval/modern 1@245 **Glass** 1@546 **Animal bone** 2@494g	19th century
L23	soil deposit or pit	-	19th century
L24	?upper fill of pit F8	**Pottery** Roman 2@13g; post-medieval 4@59g **CBM** Roman 8@1918g; medieval or later 1@92g; modern 1@901g **Fired clay** 1@227g **Glass** 2@42g **Mortar** 1@42 (*op-sig*) **Stone** 1@9g (slate) **Animal bone** 5@122g **Small finds**: SF4 dress pin (med-modern); SF5 copper-alloy fitting; SF6 copper-alloy sheet	late 18th-19th century
F8	pit	**Pottery** Roman 1@10g; post-medieval 1@18g **CBM** Roman 12@3133g; medieval or later 3@192g; post-medieval 1@350g post-medieval/modern 2@113g **Animal bone** 5@232g	late 17th-18th/19th century
L25	demolition debris	**Pottery** Roman 4@11g **CBM** Roman 9@2363g; post-medieval/modern 1@91g; unidentified 1@11g (probably post-Roman) **Mortar** 2@34 (*op-sig*) **Stone** 1@309g (septaria) **Animal bone** 2@9g	Roman
L28	?pit fill/ demolition debris	**Pottery** Roman 1@8g	Roman

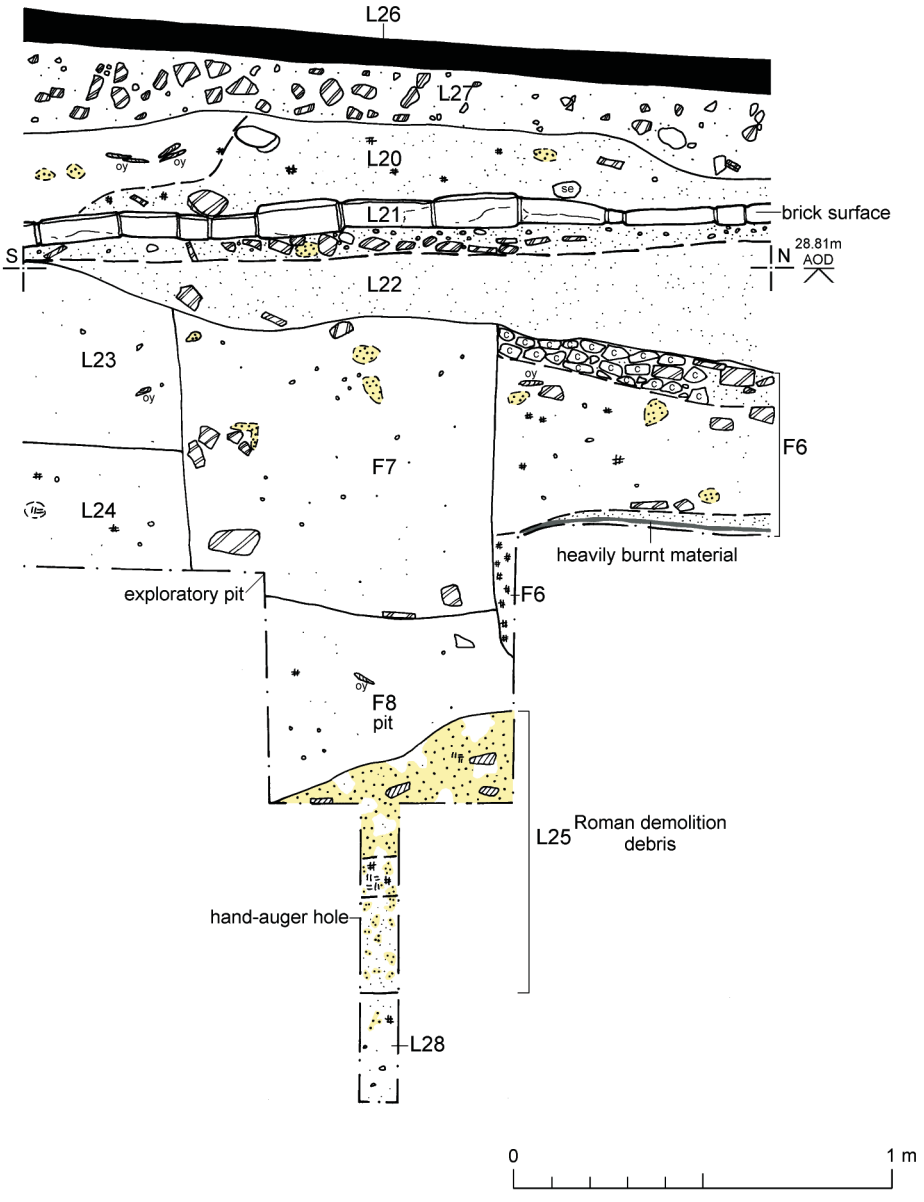


Fig 12 TP8: section.

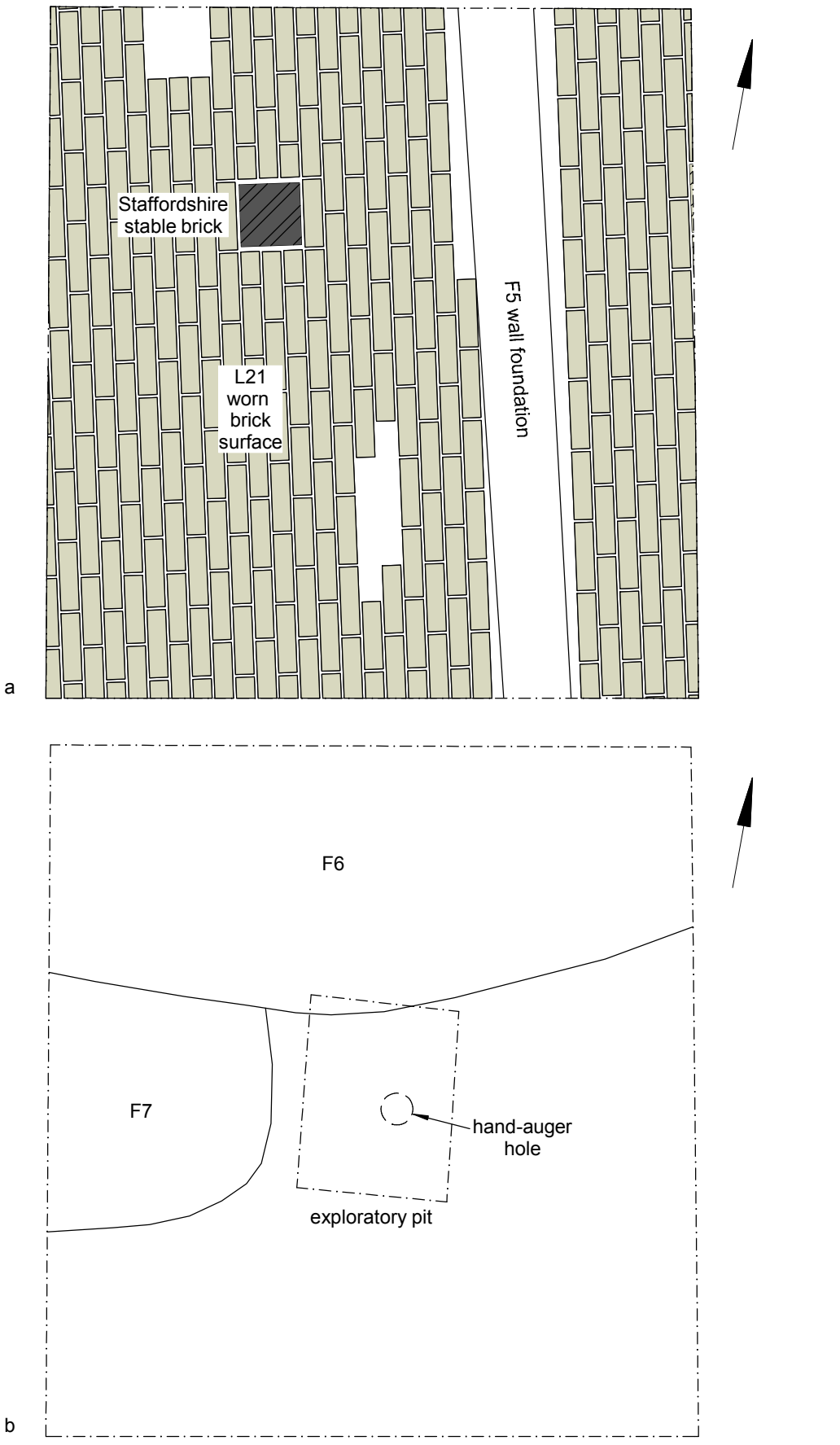


Fig 13 TP8: plans.

Test-pit 9 (TP9): summary (Fig 14)

Test-pit 9 was located in a store room in an area of the store already basemented. The concrete floor and underlying sand (L40) overlay a dark soil containing modern building materials (L41), which in turn directly overlay the natural sand (L42) (Fig 14). A small sondage was excavated in the centre of the test-pit before it had been fully excavated confirming it was undisturbed natural sand. A comparison of the height of the natural sand in TP9 with the height of the natural sand in WSBH2 (see below) confirmed that the construction of the basement has removed any potential archaeological deposits from this location.

TP9: context and finds data.

Context	Type	Finds	Date
L40	concrete	-	20th century
L41	soil containing construction debris	-	20th century
L42	natural sand	-	geological

Window Sample Borehole 2 (WSBH2): summary (Fig 14)

Paving slabs and concrete (L47) overlay an imported dark soil deposit (L48) which continued to a depth of *c* 1m below modern ground level (Fig SX). Beneath L48 was a dark, loose soil deposit 1.6m thick (L49) which contained a large quantity of metal working waste (mostly slag) (Fig 14). At a depth of 2.5m below modern ground level, crushed brick was observed in the borehole sample (L50) (Fig 14). The crushed brick appeared to be post-Roman based on the colour of the brick fabric. It is possible that the crushed brick is from a cellar floor and that the overlying layer of metal working waste and soil is waste material from the foundry used to backfill the cellar. Beneath the brick, 0.4m of sandy-silt containing oyster shell and mortar (L51) overlay the natural sand (L52) at a depth of *c* 3.1m below modern ground level (Fig 14).

WSBH2: context and finds data.

Context	Type	Finds	Date
L47	paving and concrete	-	20th century
L48	imported dark soil	-	19th/20th century
L49	foundry waste (?used as backfill)	-	19th/20th century
L50	brick (?cellar floor)	-	post-medieval/ modern
L51	dark soil (lots of oyster shell)		?post-medieval/ modern
L52	natural sand	-	geological

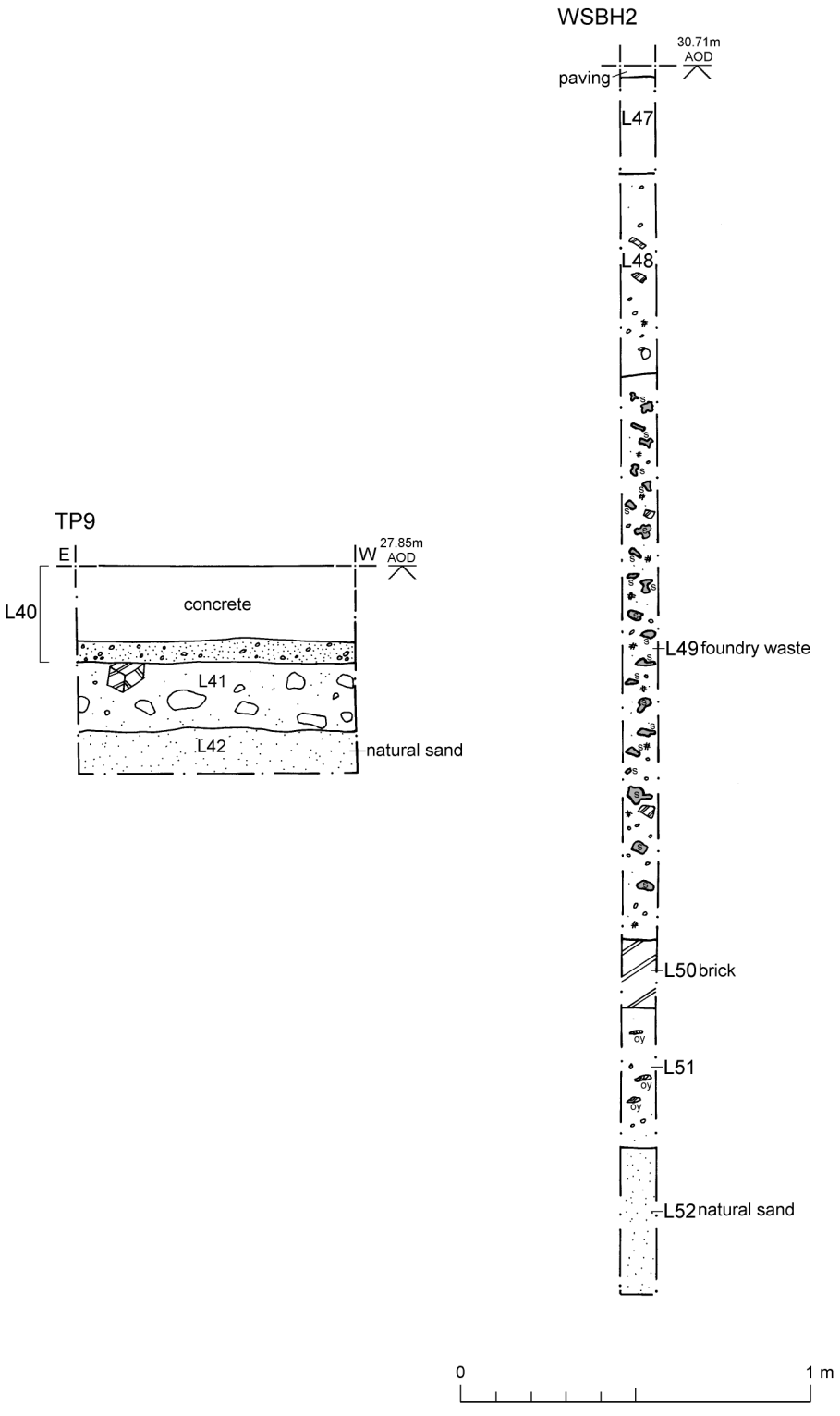


Fig 14 TP9 and WSBH2: sections.

7 Finds

by Stephen Benfield

Sherd with a barbotine animal figure from a large Roman pot (Fig 19)

Of specific interest among the finds is a sherd from a large decorated Roman pottery vessel recovered from TP8 L25(23) (Fig 19). The vessel fabric is orange-red with a dark brown colour-coat (Fabric CZ) and is almost without doubt a product of the local Colchester pottery industry. The sherd preserves the tail, back legs and body (up to the shoulder and neck) of a barbotine animal figure, almost certainly a dog. The posture appears static. There is a harness strap or decorative band depicted around the chest of the animal. A trail from the edge of the harness continues up and over the top of the shoulder. The figure is of unusually large size with a height of 55 mm from the feet to ridge of its back and 80 mm from the surviving end of the tail (the tip is missing) to the base of the neck. The size of the figure is related to the size of the vessel from which it came, the curve of the sherd indicating a diameter of about 250 mm. The large size of the vessel shows that this is an unusual and special pot.

The Colchester potteries produced a number of colour-coated vessels decorated with animal and human figures depicted using a trailed clay slip (barbotine). Most commonly this is used to decorate beakers. The figured decoration frequently depicts animated hunting scenes featuring running deer, hunting dogs and hares as well as imagery of the amphitheatre with scenes of gladiators and beast hunts and of the circus depicting chariots racing (Hull 1963, fig 53 no. 8, no. 12). Other pieces with various phallic imagery (sometimes anthropomorphised) or unidentified scenes and figures are more difficult to categorise (Hull 1963, fig 53 no. 1 & no. 13).The best known of these Colchester barbotine decorated beakers is the 'Colchester Vase' (Hull 1963, fig 51 no. 3). As well as beakers, bowls were also decorated in the same way. The two previously known examples are both lidded bowls similar to form Cam 308 (Hull 1963, fig 55 no. 2; fig 79 no. 3) although only one retains its lid which is also decorated. It appears possible from a mould found at one of the kiln sites that moulded, applied figures may also have been used (Hull 1963, 91), although no examples of this type of applied decoration have so far come to light.

The size of the vessel indicated here suggests that it is most probably a bowl. Of the two previously known examples one is quite small (maximum diameter approximately 92 mm) (Hull 1963, fig 79 no. 3). However, the larger bowl has a maximum diameter of approximately 240 mm (Hull 1963, fig 55 no. 2). This is similar to that indicated for the bowl here and also similar to larger bowls of form Cam 308 from Colchester (*CAR* **10**, fig 5.44, nos. 237, 238 & 241).

The animal figure has two unusual traits which contrast with other known barbotine animal figures from the Colchester potteries and from other production centres, notably Cologne in Germany and the Nene Valley in Britain. These are the harness strap or decorative band around its chest and the apparent rather static posture. Other depictions of dogs either have no harnessing at all or just a neck collar, and this type of chest band or harness is difficult to parallel, although there is an example of an East Gaulish samian figure type of a dog which appears to have a similar chest band/harness as well as a collar (Oswald 1937, plate LXXVIII, no. 1958). This might suggest that a special type of harness is being depicted. The posture, with the back legs vertical, lacks apparent animation and could suggest a standing or walking pose, although the absence of the front legs makes it difficult to be certain. The depiction of action or movement is common to barbotine animal figures and a standing posture appears unusual. Some samian figure types from moulded bowls depict lying, sitting, standing or browsing animals, and there are also a few walking dogs (Oswald 1937, plate LXXIX, no 2036-39) which might be the case with the figure here.

8 Discussion (Figs 1 & 15)

Three test-pits (TP3, TP5 and TP6) and three boreholes (WSBH1, WSBH2 and CPBH2) were excavated within the grounds of the Williams and Griffin store. No archaeological deposits survive in the basemented part of the western side of the store (TP9) and a probable backfilled basement in the front pedestrian access passageway (WSBH2) may also have destroyed potential archaeological deposits on the High Street frontage. Excavations undertaken by CAT in 1973 at the site of the former Cups Hotel (now Greytown House, located on the High Street 30m east of the proposed development) also found that extensive basements, which ranged in date from the medieval period to the 18th/19th century, had destroyed areas of high archaeological potential on the High Street frontage (*CAR* **6**, 328). However, Roman remains were found to survive beneath the shallower basements on the site. North of the rear store access, Roman archaeological remains were found to survive just below the make-up for the floor of the store (TP5/CPBH2). Directly beneath the floor of the storeroom and the hardstanding of the store loading bay (TP3 and TP6/WSBH1 respectively), waste deposits and structural remains associated with the an iron foundry were uncovered. These deposits were deep (over 1.4m deep in both locations) and may survive across much of the proposed development area. The foundry deposits appears to have accumulated on top of any earlier remains as opposed to having truncated them so that the 19th/20th-century material has provided a thick protective layer between the modern store buildings and the archaeological deposits.

In the CBC car park, tarmac had been laid directly onto the surviving floor surfaces and foundations of 19th/20th-century buildings associated with the former Cups Hotel. Once again these later deposits were deep (*c* 1m) and in places overlay earlier remains without truncating them.

The only archaeological features identified during the evaluation which are dated to the medieval or post-medieval periods are three pits excavated in the CBC car park (F8, F9 and F10). The rest of the finds dating to these periods were residual in later contexts or were recovered from a buried topsoil which underlay the 19th/20th-century deposits in most of the test-pits. This suggests that most of the area evaluated had been open land behind the buildings that fronted the High Street during the medieval and post-medieval periods. Archaeological investigations by CAT in 1997 during the incorporation of the former Jacklins premises into the Williams and Griffin department store (Fig 1), uncovered the remains of a substantial medieval stone building and other medieval and post-medieval contexts directly below the contemporary shop floor (CAT Report 12). This confirms that at least some of the High Street frontage has not been basemented. The former Jacklins shop was only partially excavated so important archaeological remains still survive here. At the site of the former Cups Hotel, the remains of medieval and post-medieval buildings which had formerly fronted the High Street were also located just below contemporary ground level (*CAR* **6** and its microfiche). Similar building remains as well as rubbish pits, wells and other associated Roman features probably survive beneath unbasemented areas near to the High Street frontage. No early medieval (pre-13th century) or Anglo-Saxon features or finds were recovered during the evaluation. However, pits and robber trenches dating to these periods were uncovered during the Cups Hotel excavations (*CAR* **6,** 333).

Roman deposits were found in the bottom of two of the test-pits (TP5 & TP8). In four of the test-pits, the uppermost Roman material was tentatively identified using a hand-auger or during the borehole sampling due to the significant depth of the deposits and the constraints upon time which prohibited shoring the test-pits and excavating deeper. Roman contexts were identified at an average depth of 2m below modern ground level (between 1.1m and 2.7m), although in some instances it is possible that deposits described as Roman could be later truncations. The uppermost Roman level appeared, in most instances, to have been covered by a dark earth containing late Roman finds. The dark earth is interpreted as the soil which accumulated following the reduction in urban occupation at the end of the Roman period. This soil, whilst exposed, may then have been cultivated in later periods. It is probable that buildings, whether themselves occupied or not, have continuously occupied the High Street frontage since the early Roman period and

therefore the stratigraphy near the High Street frontage is likely to be dominated by building remains and floor surfaces with little, if any, intervening soil accumulation.

Most of the deposits assigned to the Roman period contained significant quantities of brick/tile fragments and mortar, and have been interpreted as demolition debris. Solid deposits, possibly building remains, were also encountered with the hand-auger. Fragments from a mosaic pavement were identified during borehole sampling to the north of the store (TP5). It is not known whether there is a complete floor in this location or whether it is broken up. The mosaic pavement was almost certainly from the Roman building excavated in 1965 in the north-east corner of Insula 18 (Dunnet 1967, 39). A geometric black and white mosaic discovered in 1849 20m to the south-west is probably also from the same building (Hull 1958, 150). The remains of a Roman pottery shop which had been destroyed in the Boudican rebellion of AD 61 was discovered by workmen excavating the foundation trenches for the Jacklins premises In 1927 (Hull 1958, 153-8; Millett 1987, 105-6). A dense deposit of broken pottery and glass of international significance was discovered at a depth of 2-4ft (0.6m-1.2m) below contemporary ground level, and It was believed at the time that the pottery recovered was only 'a hundredth part of what remains (Hull 1958, 153)'. The pottery shop would have fronted onto the High Street (the contemporary *decumanus maximus*) and it is likely that more of the remains of this shop survives in the area of the proposed basement.

A conjectural cross-section of the archaeological deposits beneath the store has been created by plotting in relation to the modern ground level, the depths at which archaeological deposits were encountered and the depths of the natural sand as observed in the boreholes (Fig 15). The equivalent depths on the Cups Hotel site and in the 1997 borehole in Jacklins have been included in the cross-section to complete the profile up to the High Street frontage.

In conclusion, it is probable that immediately adjacent to the High Street, between any post-Roman basements, post-medieval and medieval building remains will be encountered directly below the modern floor level and that stratified archaeological deposits will continue down onto the natural sand. Moreover, deep cut features will continue down into the natural sand. For example, at the site of the Cups Hotel, the earliest Roman building to have occupied the site had two sunken rooms or 'semi-basements', the deepest of which was located 2.15m below the highest surviving Roman layers (*CAR* **6**, 332). Further north, behind the remains of buildings which would have fronted the High Street, this evaluation has shown that Roman deposits survive at a considerable depth beneath buried topsoil layers and a thick build-up of 19th/20th century deposits. In addition, the findings of the evaluation and the conjectural cross-section (Fig 15) indicate that the thickness of the surviving Roman deposits beneath the development area could be between 1m and 1.5m. If this is the case, this would be notably thick for Roman deposits in Colchester.

9 Archive deposition

The paper and digital archive is held by the Colchester Archaeological Trust at 12 Lexden Road, Colchester, Essex CO3 3NF, but it will be permanently deposited with Colchester and Ipswich Museums under the accession code COLEM 2011.76 in accordance with *Guidelines on the preparations and transfer of archaeological archives to Colchester & Ipswich Museums* (CIMS 2008b).

10 Acknowledgements

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The project was monitored for Colchester Borough Council by Martin Winter (CBCAO) and for Fenwick Ltd by Mike Hutchinson of Mills Whipp Projects.

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Garrard, I	1995	'Miscellaneous objects of stone' in Blockley et al, *Excavations in the Marlowe car park and surrounding areas, Part II the finds*, The archaeology of Canterbury Volume **5**
Hawkes, C, & Hull, M	1947	*Camulodunum, first report on the excavations at Colchester 1930-39*, RRCSAL, **14**
HPM	1980	Howe, M., Perrin, J., and Mackreth, D., *Roman pottery from the Nene valley, a guide*, Peterborough City Museum, Occasional Paper **2**
Hull, M	1958	*Roman Colchester*, RRCSAL **20**
Hull, M	1963	*The Roman potters' kilns of Colchester*, RRCSAL **21**
IfA	2008a	*Standard and guidance for archaeological field evaluation*
IfA	2008b	*Standard and guidance for the collection, documentation, conservation and research of archaeological materials*
Mills Whipp	2011a	*Williams & Griffin, High Street, Colchester; Archaeological Evaluation Project Design (Written Scheme of Investigation)*
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MoRPHE	2006	*Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment* (English Heritage)
Oswald, F	1937	*Index of figure-types on terra sigillata ('samian ware'), University of Liverpool 1936-37, reprinted 1964*
RCHM	1962	*Eboracum, Roman York*
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Webster, P	1996	*Roman samian pottery in Britain,* CBA Practical handbook in archaeology **13**

12 Glossary

Anglo-Saxon	period from *c* AD 410 to Norman conquest of AD 1066
AOD	above Ordnance Survey datum point based on mean sea level at Newlyn, Cornwall
CAT	Colchester Archaeological Trust
CBA	Council for British Archaeology
CBC	Colchester Borough Council
CBM	Ceramic Building Material, ie brick and tile
context	specific location on an archaeological site, especially one where finds are made, usually a layer or a feature
daub	clay used in construction (eg, of a wall), often found burnt
dark earth	dark coloured, homogenous urban occupation deposit which overlies Roman remains in Colchester and other urban localities.
EAH	*Essex Archaeology & History*
ECC	Essex County Council
EHER	Essex Historic Environment Record, held by the ECC
feature	an identifiable thing like a pit, a wall, a drain, a floor; can contain 'contexts'
IfA	Institute for Archaeologists (formerly the Institute of Field Archaeologists)
layer	distinct or distinguishable deposit of soil
make-up	material dumped to raise ground-level
medieval	period from AD 1066 to c 1500
modern	period from the 19th century onwards to the present
natural	geological deposit undisturbed by human activity
NGR	National Grid Reference
peg-tile	rectangular roof tile of medieval or later date
post-medieval	period from after *c* 1530 and up to *c* 1800
residual	something out of its original period context (eg, a Roman coin in a modern pit)
Roman	the period from AD 43 to c AD 410
tegula	(plural *tegulae*) flat Roman roof tile with edge flanges, which were covered by *imbrices*
U/S	unstratified, i.e. without a well-defined context
WSI	Written Scheme of Investigation

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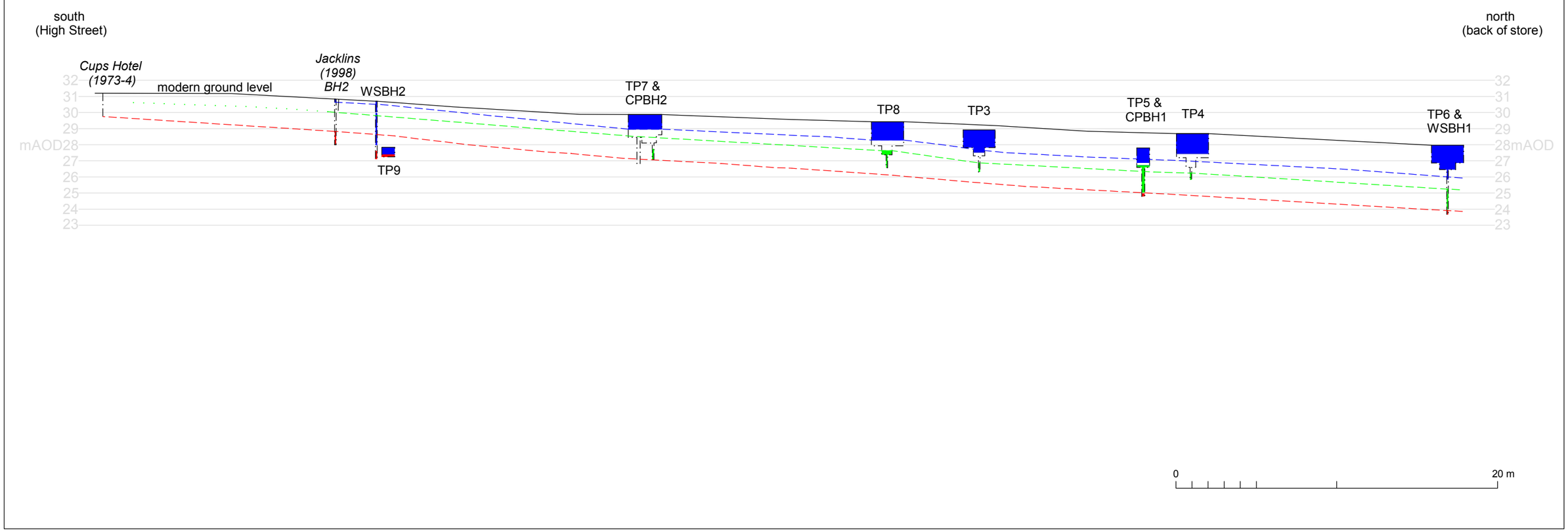

Fig 15 Conjectural cross-section of the archaeological deposits beneath the Williams and Griffin development area illustrated by approximate lines of best fit.

Key: 19th-20th century Roman Natural sand

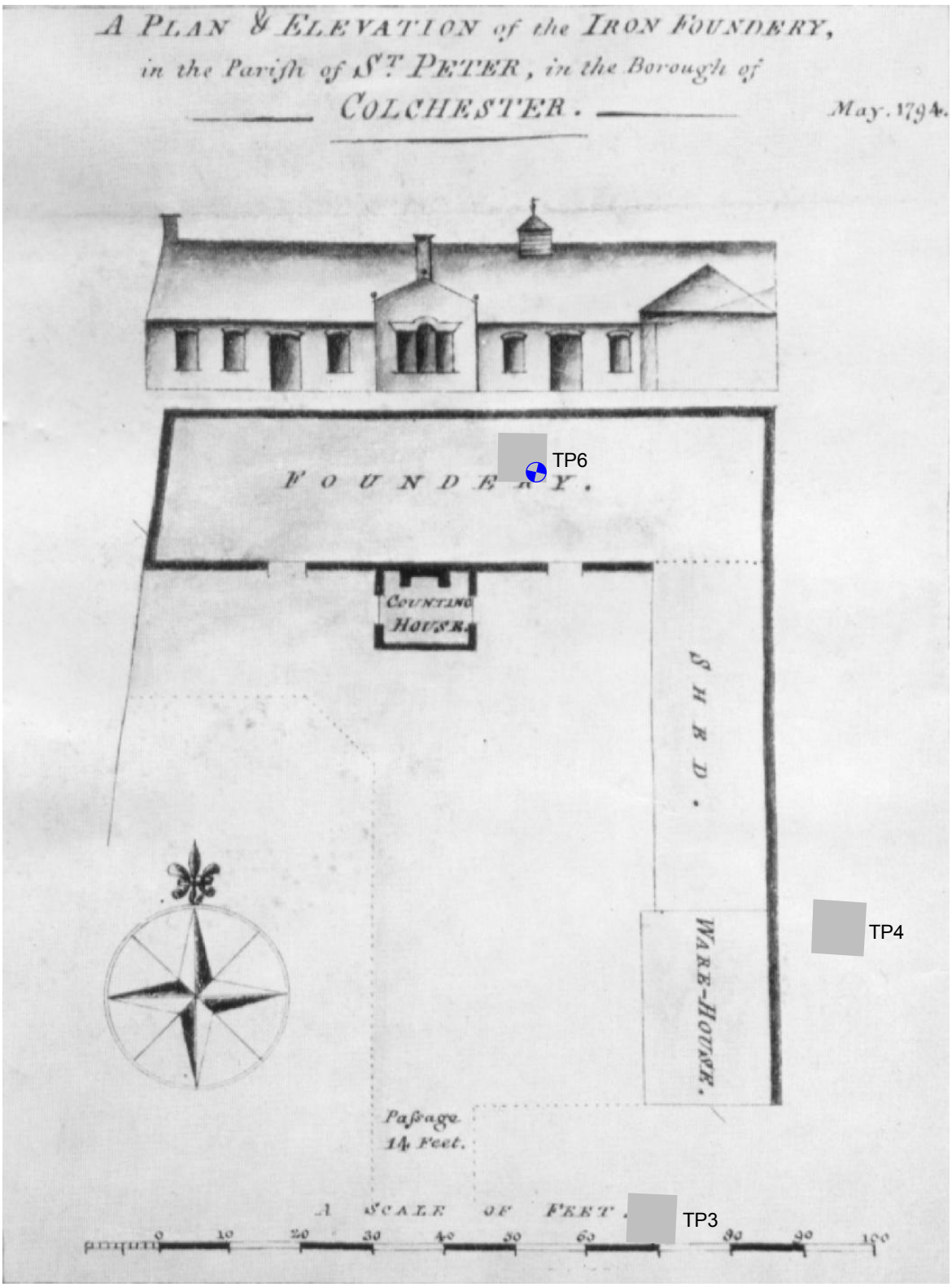

Fig 16 The first iron foundry in Essex, built in 1792, in relation to test-pits and boreholes (ERO D/Q 31//1/2).

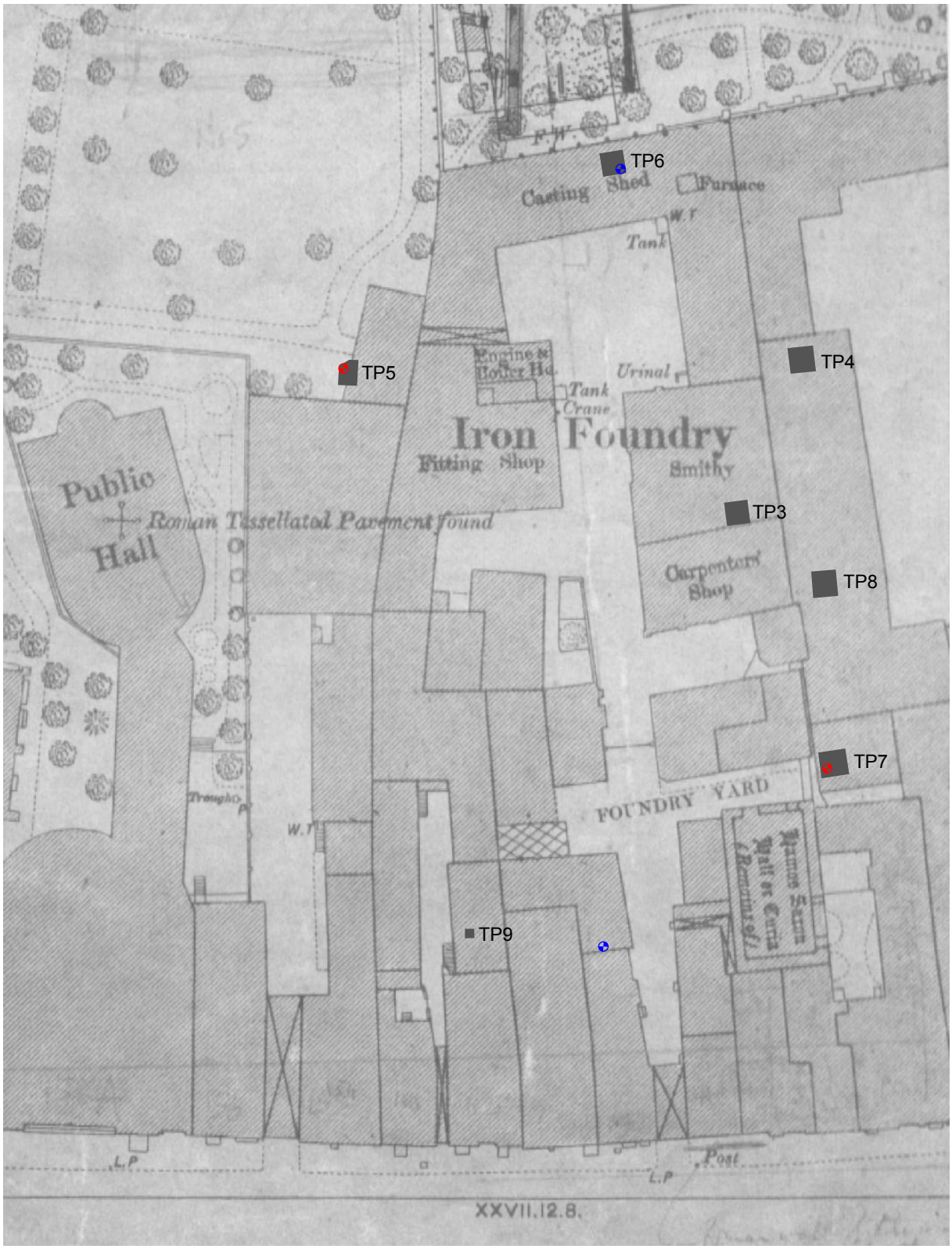

Fig 17 The iron foundry in 1876 in relation to test-pits and boreholes (1876 1:2500 edition Ordnance Survey, sheet 27).

Fig 18 The iron foundry in 1909 in relation to test-pits and boreholes (1909 insurance map).

Fig 19 Sherd with a barbotine animal figure from a large Roman pot.

Appendix 1: contents of archive

One A4 document wallet containing:

Introduction
Copy of the WSI produced by Mills Whip and CAT
CAT risk assessment
Soil Consultants method statement
Copy of Mills Whipp desk based assessment

Site archive
Digital photo record
Site attendance register
Context sheets (F1-F14, L1-L53)
Finds register
Site photographic record on cd

Research archive
Evaluation (client) report
Finds report

Not in file
The finds occupy 4+ boxes
7x A3 section sheets

Appendix 2: bulk finds

CBM: RT-Rom *tegula*; RI-Rom *imbrex*; RFT-Rom flue tile, RBT-Rom brick & tile; TE-Rom *tesserae*, PT-peg-tile (dated 13/14C+), PAT=pantile (dated L17C+), B-other brick, FB-flooring brick/tile OT-other tile; LCA-lower cut away; UCA-upper cut away; FH-flange height, MSL-maximum surviving length; Fabric: r –red, c-cream (white)

TP	ctxt	finds no.	material	type/form	description	fabric/ colour	thick (mm)	abr.	no.	wt (g)	period	spot date
3	F1	1	CBM	B	frogged red brick, 225 x 80 x 10 mm lime mortar				1	2500	mod	19-20C
3	F3	5	CBM	FB	buff/pale yellow colour, no mortar, corner piece, 40 mm thick, msl 155 x 110 mm, poss. a white flooring brick				2	921	mod(?)	19C(?)
3	F3	5	slag		small piece of light non magnetic slag				1	4		
3	F3	5	A bone		m-l mammal				11	266		
3	F3	7	CBM	RB	corner	r	40		1	1305	Rom	Rom
3	F3	7	CBM	PT	s pieces, mortar on surface & break	r			3	65	med-p-med/mod	
3	F3	7	ceramic	clay pipe	stem piece and stem with bowl foot, small oval foot, prob. L17-E18C				2	11	p-med/mod	L17-E18C
3	F3	7	glass	vessel	edge of rounded bottle base, dark brownish translucent. prob. L17-18C				1	25	p-med/mod	L17-18C
3	F3	7	shell	oyster	most of shell				1	18		
3	F3	7	pot	dish/plate	glossy – prob. Neronian	BA(SG)			1	21	Rom	M-L1C (Neronian)
3	F3	7	pot			GX			2	29	Rom	
3	F3	7	pot		mottled glaze	45D			1	3	med-p-med	15/16-17C
3	F3	7	pot			40			1	4	p-med	16/17-18C
3	F3	7	pot			45F			1	23	p-med	17-18C
3	F3	7	pot			48D			1	3	mod	19-20C
3	F3	7	pot			21			1	10	med	13/14-16C
3	L7	5	ceramic	clay pipe	stem pieces				9	25	p-med/mod	
3	L7	5	CBM	PT	s-m pieces, red, white mortar stain on upper surface of one, one with peg hole	r	10		6	210	med-p-med/mod	
3	L7	5	CBM	RBT	mortar over break	r			1	36	Rom	
3	L7	5	CBM	RI?	thin curved tile piece	r	10		1	44	Rom	
3	L7	5	stone	slate	thin frags.				3	14	p-med/mod?	
3	L7	5	pot			48D			4	10	mod	19-20C
3	L7	5	pot			GX			1	4	Rom	
3	L7	5	pot	jar?	GB(?)	GB			1	3	Rom	M2-M3C
3	L7	5	pot			45F			1	8	p-med	17-18C
3	L7	5	pot		mottled glaze	45D			1	9	p-med	16/17-18C

TP	ctxt	finds no.	material	type/form	description	fabric/ colour	thick (mm)	abr.	no.	wt (g)	period	spot date
3	L7	5	pot			40			4	51	p-med	16/17-18C
3	L7	5	pot			21A			1	7	med	13/14-16C
3	L7	5	pot			21			2	17	med	13/14-16C
3	L7	5	pot		green glaze	42			1	2	p-med	16-17C
3	L7	7	A bone		m-l mammal, one with deep cut/saw mark				2	27		
3	L7	7	slag		unidentified slag piece with ferrous (magnetic) content				1	176		
3	L8	8	stone	limestone	sandy limestone piece, pale greyish-cream colour, worked faces one with deep parallel tooling grooves, other smooth with rough edge band, (stone appears similar to L9(12))				1	504	med(?)	
3	L8	8	stone	unident.	greenish-grey, micaceous, slightly laminar				1	208		
3	L8	8	ceramic	clay pipe	stem piece and stem with bowl foot, small foot with initials SC one on each side of foot (see *CAR* **5** fig 58 no. 2891 & fig 59 no. 2907), prob. L18-E19C				2	4	p-med/mod	L18-E19C
3	L8	8	CBM	PAT	nib				1	162	p-med/mod	L17C+
3	L8	8	glass	window	s-m pieces, translucent, degrading surfaces		1-2		5	27	p-med/mod	
3	L8	8	pot	cup/bowl		48D			4	43	mod	19-20C
3	L8	8	pot			GB			1	15	Rom	M2-M3C
3	L8	8	A bone		m-l mamal				3	89		
3	L9	9	CBM	PT	m-l pieces, red, white mortar stain on upper surface, one with peg hole	r	10		4	969	med-p-med/mod	
3	L9	9	CBM	FLT	floor tile/brick, thin buff brick 115 x 25 mm, msl 106 mm	c			1	534	p-med	
3	L9	9	CBM	B	not frogged, pale yellowish coarse fabric, 110 x 50 mm, msl 160 mm, prob, London stock brick				1	939		L18-e20C
3	L9	12	CBM	PT	red, both with peg hole	r			2	359	med-p-med/mod	
3	L9	12	ceramic	clay pipe	stem piece				1	3	p-med/mod	
3	L9	12	stone	limestone	sandy limestone piece, pale greyish-cream colour, worked faces, one flat and smooth, other with a rounded edge, architectural piece, probably rounded moulding from a window or door surround, (appears similar to L8(8))				1	193	med(?)	
3	L9	12	pot	cup/bowl		48D			1	8	mod	19-20C
3	L10	10	ceramic	clay pipe	stem piece				1	2	p-med/mod	
3	L10	10	CBM	RB		r	35		1	564	Rom	
3	L10	10	shell	oyster	comp				1	97		
3	L10	10	pot			40			3	59	p-med	16/17-18C
3	L10	10	pot		yellow glaze	42			1	16	p-med	16-17C

TP	ctxt	finds no.	material	type/form	description	fabric/ colour	thick (mm)	abr.	no.	wt (g)	period	spot date
3	L10	10	pot	bowl		46			2	5	p-med/mod	16-17/18C
3	L10	10	pot		transitional(?)	21/40			1	48	med-p-med	15-16C(?)
3	L10	10	glass	vessel	clear glass with degraded iridescent surfaces				2	9	p-med/mod	
3	L10	13	ceramic	clay pipe	stem frag.				1	2	p-med/mod	
3	L10	13	CBM	PT					1	57	med-p-med/mod	
3	L10	13	CBM	RI					1	49	Rom	
3	L10	13	pot			40			3	65	p-med	16/17-18C
3	L10	13	pot			40A			1	7	p-med	L16-17C
3	L10	13	pot		rim, pale green internal glaze, exterior white paint over grey surface	42			1	9	p-med	16-17C
3	L10	13	glass		translucent green flake with iridescent, degraded surfaces				1	4		
3	L10	13	metal		large, cast metal bracket/fixing, appears modern				1	432	mod(?)	19-20C(?)
3	L10	13	CBM	B	not frogged, 10 x 45 mm, msl 120 mm, white lime mortar on surfaces				1	885	p-med	L17-E18C
3	L15	14	ceramic	clay pipe	stem piece				1	2	p-med/mod	
3	L15	14	pot		much of a large bowl or pancheon with bead rim, concave sides and flat base	40			9	762	p-med	16/17-18C
3	L15	14	pot		not part of bowl	40			1	13	p-med	16/17-18C
3	L15	14	A bone		m-l mammal, one with numerous cut marks				3	28		
3	L16	15	pot			40			3	31	p-med	16/17-18C
3	L16	15	pot		reddish specks in fabric, base shape suggests late date	45C			1	48	med-p-med	15/16-17C
3	L16	15	CBM	PT	one with two round holes, other two square holes, both holes paired off centre slightly to one side of tile	r			2	749	med-p-med/mod	
3	L16	15	CBM	RT	frags. one quite degraded, FH 50 mm base 25 mm; FH45 mm base 21 mm	r			2	332	Rom	
3	L16	15	CBM	B	not frogged ,95 x 40 mm, msl 80 mm, lime mortar on surfaces (joining pieces)	r			1	504	p-med	L17-E18C
3	L16	16	ceramic	clay pipe	stem pieces				2	5	p-med/mod	
3	L16	16	shell	oyster	comp				1	62		
3	L16	16	pot			48D			2	22	mod	19-20C
3	L16	16	pot			40			2	29	p-med	16/17-18C
3	L16	16	pot		black surface	40			1	8	p-med	16/17-18C
3	L16	16	pot			45M			3	79	mod	19-20C
3	L16	16	pot	jug	piece from a relief roundel	45E			1	7	med-p-med	15/16-17C
3	L16	16	CBM	RT	base 14 mm FH 40 mm; base 22 mm FH 50 mm	r			2	393	Rom	

TP	ctxt	finds no.	material	type/form	description	fabric/ colour	thick (mm)	abr.	no.	wt (g)	period	spot date
3	L16	16	pot			40			1	32	p-med	16/17-18C
3	L16	16	CBM	B	45 mm thick	r			1	361	p-med	L17-E18C
3	L16	16	CBM	B	50 mm thick, orange fabric	r			1	218	p-med	L17-E18C
3	L16	16	CBM	B	frags., no frogs	r			3	468	p-med/mod	
3	L17	17	pot		mottled glaze	45D			1	6	med-p-med	15/16-17C
3	L17	17	pot			40			2	48	p-med	16/17-18C
3	L17	17	pot		transitional(?)	21/40			1	23	med-p-med	15-16C(?)
3	L17	17	pot			DJ			2	8	Rom	
3	L17	17	CBM	PT	one overfired(?) with square peg hole	r			2	119	med-p-med/mod	
3	L17	17	CBM	RFT	combed	r			2	69	Rom	2-3/4C
3	L17	17	CBM	RB	prob. brick	r	32		1	417	Rom	
3	L17	17	CBM	RBT		r			3	283	Rom	
4	L34	33	pot	bowl		48D			1	21	mod	20C
4	L34	33	pot	bowl	large bowl	40			1	189	p-med	16/17-18C
4	L34	33	pot		base	45C			2	119	med-p-med	15/16-17C
4	L37	34	ceramic	clay pipe	stems				3	15	p-med/mod	
4	L37	34	CBM	RB		r	38		1	578	Rom	
4	L37	34	pot			40			1	339	p-med	16/17-18C
4	L37	34	pot			45D			1	19	med-p-med	15/16-17C
4	L37	35	pot			DJ			1	18	Rom	M1-2/3C
4	L37	35	pot			GX			3	47	Rom	
4	L37	35	pot	beaker		CZ			1	2	Rom	2-3C
4	L37	35	pot		prob. early Colchester, but poss. Mill Green (Fabric 35), both surfaces have green glaze over white slip with red sandy fabric	21A			1	3	med	13-14C
4	L37	35	stone	slate	thin piece				1	2	p-med-mod(?)	
4	L37	35	stone	septaria	frag.				1	25		
4	L37	35	CBM	RI		r			3	249	Rom	
4	L37	35	CBM	RB	frag.	r	30		1	118	Rom	
4	L37	35	CBM	R tess	damaged cube, white mortar on lower surfaces	r			1	14	Rom	
4	L37	35	CBM	RI	corner of a tile, Rom, prob, *imbrex*	r	14-15		1	135	Rom	
4	L37	35	A bone		rib of s-m mammal, other bone m-l mammal				2	32		
4	L37	35	fe	nail	round flat head(?) corroded, 40 mm shaft				1	7	Rom(?)	
4	L38	36	CBM	RT	part of LCA	r			1	142	Rom	
4	L38	36	CBM	RFT	combed	r			1	88	Rom	2-3/4C

TP	ctxt	finds no.	material	type/form	description	fabric/ colour	thick (mm)	abr.	no.	wt (g)	period	spot date
4	L38	36	CBM	RI		r			1	44	Rom	
4	L38	36	CBM	RB	thick frags., one is corner with mortar	r			2	142	Rom	
4	L38	36	CBM	RBT	prob. mostly teg. pieces, one with mortar over break				6	490	Rom	
4	L38	36	mortar	lime	thick mortar lump				1	159		
4	L38	36	stone	septaria	small piece				1	20		
4	L38	36	charcoal						1	1		
4	L38	36	pot	beaker		CZ			1	16	Rom	2-3C
4	L38	36	pot	amph. D 20	prob. Dressel 20	AJ			1	20	Rom	1-2C
4	L38	36	pot			GB			1	8	Rom	M2-M3C
4	L38	36	pot			GX			5	21	Rom	
4	L38	36	A bone		med size mammal				2	17		
4	L38	37	A bone		stained on all outer surfaces green, presumably by copper alloy frags. found with it (see L38(40))				1	2		
4	L38	39	pot	beaker	folded beaker	CZ			1	15	Rom	L2C-3C
4	L38	39	pot		Fabric UX(?)	UX			1	6	Rom	late 4C(?)
4	L38	40	A bone		saw cut butchery piece stained on all outer surfaces turquoise/green - by unknown material, poss. copper(?) (see L38(37))				1	11		
4	L39	42	plaster	lime	painted surviving patches of pink with red splash with white over – repainted(?)				1	17	Rom	
5	F13	44	mosaic		mosaic and mortar base: grey stone (septaria) tesserae with white mortar on sides & base, 11@ 64g largest 20 x 18 x 15mm, rest smaller; *op-sig* mortar base frags 6@60g, fragment of RBT 1@ 125g							
5	L5	2	CBM	RFT	combed, two corners both with traces of comb on two faces, some with mortar on combed face, one with round cut-out	r			11	953	Rom	2-3/4C
5	L5	2	CBM	RB	mortar over breaks	r	40		5	1867	Rom	
5	L5	2	CBM	RT	mortar over breaks	r			1	316	Rom	
5	L5	2	CBM	RB		c	38		2	790	Rom	
5	L5	2	CBM	RFB	Roman floor brick, *spicae*, incomplete, traces of op sig mortar on all lower surfaces/edges, top worn smooth, width 42 mm, thickness 35 mm (previous finds *in situ* at North Station Road, CAT Report 193, North Hill, Dunnett, 1967, also found lose at Culver Street excavations)	r	35		1	269	Rom	
5	L5	2	stone	septaria					1	863		
5	L5	2	CBM	RBT	one with mortar over breaks	r			3	656	Rom	

TP	ctxt	finds no.	material	type/form	description	fabric/ colour	thick (mm)	abr.	no.	wt (g)	period	spot date
5	L5	2	CBM	RBT	cream tile frag.	c			1	53	Rom	
5	L5	2	CBM	RI		r			1	736	Rom	
5	L5	2	mortar	op sig.	thick lump and two thin raft pieces				3	107	Rom	
5	L5	2	pot	Cam 305	flanged bowl	GB			1	15	Rom	L3-4C
5	L5	2	pot	HPM 87	dish	EA			1	16	Rom	L3-4C
5	L5	2	pot		short pedestal type base	GX			1	18	Rom	
5	L5	2	pot			GX			1	6	Rom	
5	L5	2	A bone	tooth					1	7		
5	L5	2	CBM	unident.	pross. thin Rom tile or thick PT, mortar over breaks	r	12		1	86	Rom/p-Rom(?)	
5	L5	2	CBM	unident.	poss. prob. Roman, poss(?) post-Rom	c			1	7	Rom(?)	
5	L5	2	CBM	unident.	poss. RBT but may be post-Rom.	r			1	67	Rom(?)	
5	L6	4	CBM	RB	one with mortar over break	r	35-40		3	1944	Rom	
5	L6	4	CBM	RFT	combed, mortar on combing, unusually thick	r	28		1	324	Rom	2-3/4C
5	L6	4	CBM	RT	UCA	r	22		1	183	Rom	
5	L6	4	CBM	RI		r			1	137	Rom	
5	L6	4	CBM	RBT		r			1	472	Rom	
5	L6	4	CBM	RBT	burnt(?), blackened, severely heated(?) pieces				5	211	Rom	
5	L6	4	mortar	op sig.	one with surface from a wall(?) poss. painted cream or with thin later of white mortar bedding or paint				2	94	Rom	
5	L6	4	fe	nail	70 mm, flat head, Manning type 1b				1	16	Rom(?)	
5	L6	4	stone	unident.	thin tabular piece of fine limestone, not obviously worked or utilised				1	21		
5	L6	4	pot	*CAR* **10** HD Type 35/36	hook rim jar	HD(2)			2	78	Rom	L3-4C
5	L6	4	pot			CH			1	3	Rom	L3-4C
5	L6	4	pot			EA			1	3	Rom	L3-4C
5	L6	4	pot			MQ(E)			3	16	Rom	L3-4C
5	L6	4	pot	Cam 316		MP			1	8	Rom	L3-4C
5	L6	4	pot		several vessels	GX			9	156	Rom	
5	L6	4	pot	Cam 40A (x2)	2 bowls (Cam 40A) prob. late Roman	KX			2	71	Rom	(2-4C), prob late Roman L3-4C
5	L6	4	A bone		long bones, ribs, jaw, teeth				7	206		
5	L43	45	CBM	RBT		r			1	167	Rom	
6	L14	11	CBM	RBT	frags. all appear to be Roman				7	32	Rom	
6	L14	11	A bone		rib frag, medium size mammal				1	1		

TP	ctxt	finds no.	material	type/form	description	fabric/ colour	thick (mm)	abr.	no.	wt (g)	period	spot date
6	L14	11	shell	oyster	frag.				1	1		
6	L14	11	pot		shell tempered flake, probably Roman	HD(2)			1	2	Rom	L3-4C
6	L14	11	CBM	RBT	thick frag., sandy, abraded dark surface, possibly Roman				1	19	Rom(?)	
7	F9	31	CBM	RT	part of LCA, thin tile base	r	15		1	216	Rom	
7	F9	31	CBM	RBT					1	169	Rom	
7	F9	31	CBM	PT	with part of peg hole				1	82	med-p-med/mod	
7	F9	31	plaster	op sig	painted red				2	31	Rom	
7	F9	31	plaster	lime	painted red				1	75	Rom	
7	F9	31	pot	handle		21A			1	71	med	13/14-16C
7	F9	31	stone	septaria					1	865		
7	F9	31	stone	septaria(?)	numerous plant fossils on surfaces				1	1976		
7	F10	25	CBM	RI		r			2	719	Rom	
7	F10	25	CBM	RFT	combed	r			1	95	Rom	2-3/4C
7	F10	25	CBM	RT	FH 50 mm	c	20		1	591	Rom	
7	F10	25	CBM	PT	end with two round peg holes	r	11		1	349	med-p-med/mod	
7	F10	25	CBM	RB		r	40		1	865	Rom	
7	F10	25	CBM	B	not frogged, 95 x 45 mm msl 175 mm, slightly blackened on some faces, poss. firing but also might be heat affected	r			1	1479	p-med	L17-E18C
7	F10	25	pot			40			2	109	p-med	16/17-18C
7	F10	25	pot	Cam 270B	storage jar rim	HZ			1	85	Rom	1-2/3C
7	F10	25	A bone		cow, butchery cut mark				1	257		
7	F10	25	CBM	B	not frogged, 100 x 45 mm, msl 95 mm	r			1	778	p-med	L17-E18C
7	L29	26	stone	slate	thin frags.				2	6	p-med/mod(?)	
7	L29	26	ceramic	clay pipe	stem piece				1	2	p-med/mod	
7	L29	26	pot			GX			2	20	Rom	
7	L29	26	pot			40			1	50	p-med	16/17-18C
7	L29	26	CBM	PT		r			2	162	med-p-med/mod	
7	L29	26	CBM	B	not frogged, 115 x 50 mm, msl 85 mm	r			1	116	p-med	L17-E18C
7	L30	30	CBM	RT	base 25 mm	r	25		1	460	Rom	
7	L30	30	CBM	RBT	part of tile signature	r			2	201	Rom	
7	L30	30	pot			GX			1	15	Rom	
7	L30	30	pot		unusual flanged rim	GX			1	38	Rom	
8	F7	22	glass	vessel	bottle base, upright sides, dark greenish translucent. prob.				1	546	mod	19C

TP	ctxt	finds no.	material	type/form	description	fabric/ colour	thick (mm)	abr.	no.	wt (g)	period	spot date
					19C+							
8	F7	22	pot	plate/owl		48D			1	12	mod	19-20C
8	F7	22	pot	plate		46			1	23	p-med/mod	16-17/18C
8	F7	22	CBM	PAT		r			1	325	p-med/mod	L17C+
8	F7	22	pot	chimney pot	red sandy fabric, smoothed interior, coarse outside, not sooted, not used, prob. late date, Fabric 40 type	40			1	245	p-med/mod	18-19/20C
8	F7	22	A bone		cow, two complete leg bones				2	494		
8	F8	21	CBM	RI		r			3	212	Rom	
8	F8	21	CBM	RI		c			1	114	Rom	
8	F8	21	CBM	RBT		r			4	374	Rom	
8	F8	21	CBM	RT	LCA Type D15, base 30 mm, FH 50 mm, mortar on breaks	r			1	1375	Rom	
8	F8	21	CBM	RT	frag.	r			1	57	Rom	
8	F8	21	CBM	PT		r			3	192	med-p-med/mod	
8	F8	21	CBM	PAT	prob. pantile piece	r			1	52	p-med/mod	L17C+
8	F8	21	CBM	B	no frogg on pieces, 45 mm thick, prob. L17-E18C	r			1	350	p-med	L17-E18C
8	F8	21	CBM	RBT	appears to be part of an unusual bun(?) shape brick, fabric suggests Roman, shape does not appear to be the product of any unusual break or faulting in the fabric	r			1	242	Rom	
8	F8	21	pot	Cam 218	Cordoned vessel, prob. Cam 218, in Fabric GX (Black surfaced ware), prob. early Roman	GX			1	10	Rom	1-E2C
8	F8	21	A bone		mandible rib and foot bones from large mammal(s), rib frag. may be sawn through at one end; leg bone from small mammal				5	232		
8	F8	43	CBM	RBT		r	27		1	759	Rom	
8	F8	43	CBM	B	brick frag. orange red- fabric, prob. p-med-mod	r			1	61	p-med/mod	
8	F8	43	pot		glazed	40			1	18	p-med	16/17-18C
8	L24	18	glass	vessel	edge of bottle base, upright side, dark greenish translucent. prob. 19C+				1	34	mod	19C
8	L24	18	stone	slate	thin frag, some mortar on one face, ?from a damp course				1	9	p-med/mod(?)	
8	L24	18	CBM	PT	white mortar stain on upper surface	r			1	92	med-p-med/mod	
8	L24	18	CBM	RT	LCA Type D16, FH 40mm	r	20		1	432	Rom	
8	L24	18	CBM	RT	cream tile, part LCA present	c	24		1	463	Rom	
8	L24	18	CBM	RBT	prob. teg.	r	22		1	396	Rom	
8	L24	18	CBM	RTess.	no mortar, 30 x 25 x 15 mm	r			1	25	Rom	

TP	ctxt	finds no.	material	type/form	description	fabric/ colour	thick (mm)	abr.	no.	wt (g)	period	spot date
8	L24	18	fired clay	daub	brownish red, slightly rounded surface with groove cut across it when wet, possibly Boudican destruction material		30		1	227	Rom(?)	Boudican(?)
8	L24	18	pot			40			2	25	p-med	16/17-18C
8	L24	18	pot			GX			1	4	Rom	
8	L24	18	A bone		m-l mammal & avian				4	96		
8	L24	19	pot			DJ			1	9	Rom	M1-2/3C
8	L24	19	pot			40			1	29	p-med	16/17-18C
8	L24	19	pot		black glaze	40			1	5	p-med	16/17-18C
8	L24	19	CBM	RT	base 15 mm FH 40 mm; base 15 mm FH 45 mm	r			2	352	Rom	
8	L24	19	CBM	RI		c			2	250	Rom	
8	L24	19	CBM	B	no frog, 130 x 50 mm creased edges, msl 130 mm, lime mortar on surfaces, prob. a London Stock brick	c			1	901	mod	L18-19C
8	L24	19	glass	vessel	moderately thin, not from a thick bottle, rounded vessel body, pale greenish brown				1	8	p-med-mod	
8	L24	19	mortar	op sig	irregular lump				1	42	Rom	
8	L24	19	A bone		large mammal foot bone				1	26		
8	L25	23	CBM	RT	one - FH 45 mm, base 30 mm; one abraded with mortar over breaks	r			4	846	Rom	
8	L25	23	CBM	RI		r			2	561	Rom	
8	L25	23	CBM	RB	corner, discoloured by heat, possibly from a hypocaust	r	38		1	646	Rom	
8	L25	23	CBM	RBT		r			2	310	Rom	
8	L25	23	CBM	B	piece from a brick, poss. heat affected, from a chimney(?)	r	48		1	91	p-med/mod	
8	L25	23	stone	septaria					1	309		
8	L25	23	mortar	op sig	s lumps				2	34	Rom	
8	L25	23	CBM	unident.	laminar fragment, appears post-Roman, poss. PT or B	r			1	11	med(?)-p-med/mod	
8	L25	23	pot	Dr 45		BA(EG)			1	56	Rom	L2-M3C
8	L25	23	pot			GX			1	9	Rom	
8	L25	23	pot	Cam 37/38		KX			1	4	Rom	M2-M3C
8	L25	23	pot		sherd from a large bowl with part of a large barbotine animal figure, almost certainly a dog, all of body survives apart from front legs neck and head, unusually the animal appears to be standing still and there is a decorative band or harness depicted around the chest; part of a line/tendril scroll across base of sherd by dogs feet; the sherd indicates this is part of an unusually large and special vessel. See Hull 1963 fig 55	CZ			1	42	Rom	M2-E3C

TP	ctxt	finds no.	material	type/form	description	fabric/ colour	thick (mm)	abr.	no.	wt (g)	period	spot date
					no.2 (Fig 19)							
8	L25	23	A bone		m-l mammal, inc. tooth/tusk				2	9		
8	L28	24	pot			GX			1	8	Rom	

Appendix 3: small Finds

SF	ctxt	find no.	Tp	material	obj type	description	no.	wt (g)	lgth mm	width /dia mm	thick/ height mm	spot date	context date
1	F3	6	3	ae	token(?)	corroded, part of lettering/legend visible .**ABRAHAM.VO(L)**..Possibly post-medieval traders token (see Portable Antiquities database Find nos. HAMP-E64D23 & NMS-158624)	1	0.9		16		post-medieval	modern
2	L29	28	7	ae	coin	large slightly irregular shape coin, corroded, not legible prob. Roman. M1-M3C(?)	1	10.7		27		Rom(?)	post-medieval-modern
3	F10	27	7	ae	coin	small, slightly irregular shape coin, corroded, not legible	1	1.5		16			post-medieval
4	L24	20	8	ae	pin	dress pin, head & shaft, shaft bent 45 deg.	1	0.1	30			med-modern	modern
5	L24	20	8	ae	fitting	small, thin rectangular plate piece with fixing hole close to surviving end, also small loose frag. from it	1	0.2		12			modern
6	L24	20	8	ae	sheet	small sheet piece, corroded	1	0.9	17	9			modern
7	L29	29	7	ae	pin	part of a pin shaft. ends missing	1	0.1	35			med-modern(?)	post-medieval/ modern
8	L37	41		ae	twist loop	small circular wire loop, formed by twisting wire ends around each other	1	0.3		12			post-medieval-modern
9	L39	38	4	ae	frag.		1	0.7					Roman
10	F9	32	7	ae	frag.	small irregular lump	1	2					post-medieval
11	L38	37	4	ae	frags.	small frags., some mostly made up of mineralised fibres, possibly plant fibres(?), note: same context has green discoloured bone	4	2.6					Roman

SF	ctxt	find no.	Tp	material	obj type	description	no.	wt (g)	lgth mm	width /dia mm	thick/ height mm	spot date	context date
12	L38	37	4	ae	frags.	small frags/ irregular lumps	3	7.2					Roman
13	L8	8	3	stone		dark grey stone veneer or inlay(?) broken at both ends, cut faces, highly polished black surface, probably modern	1	170		53	30		modern
14	L5	3	5	stone	palette(?)	grey slate piece with bevelled (chamfered) edge and straight cut side, probably part of a roofing slate. The piece bears some resemblance to Roman mixing palettes. However, none recorded from Colchester are made of slate *CAR* **2**, 57, *CAR* **6** fiche) although slate ones appear to be recorded from elsewhere: York (RCHM 1962 Eboracum, Roman York, 134 & plate 64 no. 146) and Canterbury (Garrard 1995, 1216 no. 1432). Also all of the edges are normally bevelled on palettes and the straight cut edge here suggests it is probably not a mixing palette. Although the other finds from this context are dated as Roman the pieces is probably post-Roman and most likely of post-medieval-modern date. Intrusive?	1	16	(45)	(40)	4-5	post-Roman, post-medieval-modern(?)	Roman
15	F1	46	3	Fe	cap or ladle(?)	cone shaped, open loop bracket on one side of for	1	288		80	60	post-med-modern	modern

SF	ctxt	find no.	Tp	material	obj type	description	no.	wt (g)	lgth mm	width /dia mm	thick/ height mm	spot date	context date
						attachment which has small holes top and bottom for attachment fitting, ledge inside with fitting or ring of different material which has small vertical piercings, quite corroded							

Essex Historic Environment Record/
Essex Archaeology and History

Summary sheet

Address: Williams & Griffin, 147-155 High Street, Colchester, Essex	
Parish: Colchester	***District:*** Colchester
NGR: TL 9950 2525	***Site codes:*** CAT project – 11/10c Museum accession – 2011.76
Type of work: Evaluation	***Site director/group:*** Colchester Archaeological Trust
Date of work: November 2011	***Size of area investigated:*** *c.*4000m²
Location of curating museum: Colchester and Ipswich Museum	**Funding source:** Developer
Further seasons anticipated? Yes	***Related EHER numbers:***
Final report: CAT Report 622	
Periods represented: Roman, medieval, post-medieval, modern	

Summary:

In advance of the proposed redevelopment of the eastern side of the Williams & Griffin department store, seven test-pits were excavated to ascertain the depth and level of survival of archaeological deposits beneath the existing store. In addition, four boreholes were undertaken by geotechnical investigators and monitored and recorded by a CAT archaeologist. The investigations took place within the store, on surrounding land, and in the adjacent Colchester Borough Council (CBC) car park.

Near the High Street frontage, the construction of the basement beneath the south-western part of the store was found to have removed all potential archaeological deposits. Further to the east, evidence for a possible backfilled basement on the High Street frontage was identified.

The construction of the current buildings on the eastern side of the modern store appears to have had little impact on archaeological remains. Away from the High Street this is primarily due to the depth of 19th/20th-century deposits beneath it. Within the boundary of the department store, the 19th/20th-century deposits associated with the oldest iron foundry to be built in Essex (1792) were c 1.4m deep. In the CBC car park, the floor surfaces and wall foundations from the outbuildings of the former Cups Hotel were c 1m deep.

A layer of dark soil containing finds dating to the medieval and post-medieval periods underlay the 19th/20th-century contexts, and only three archaeological

features dating to these periods were identified. This suggests that most of the area evaluated was located in open area behind the buildings that fronted the High Street during the medieval and post-medieval periods.

Roman contexts were identified across the evaluation site at an average depth of 2m below modern ground level (between 1.1m and 2.7m), although in some instances it is possible that deposits described as Roman could be later truncations. The uppermost Roman deposits were overlain by a dark earth containing late Roman finds. No Anglo-Saxon or early medieval finds were recovered from the dark earth or as residual finds in later contexts.

It is probable that extensive Roman building remains survive beneath the existing store. Most of the deposits assigned to the Roman period contained significant quantities of brick/tile fragments and mortar, and have been interpreted as debris from the demolition of Roman buildings. Solid deposits, probably building remains, were encountered, and fragments of a mosaic pavement were identified during borehole sampling to the north of the store. Based on the findings of the evaluation, the thickness of the surviving Roman deposits beneath the development area could be between 1m and 1.5m. If this is the case, this would be notably thick for Roman deposits in Colchester.

Previous summaries/reports: CAT Report 12	
Keywords: Iron foundry, dark earth, Roman demolition debris, mosaic pavement	***Significance:*** **
Author of summary: Adam Wightman	***Date of summary:*** February 2012