Archaeological monitoring at The Stockwell, 18 West Stockwell Street, Colchester, Essex July-August 2012

report prepared by
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on behalf of
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1 Summary

An archaeological watching brief took place at The Stockwell, 18 West Stockwell Street, Colchester during the renovation of the late 15th-century building and the construction of a new extension to the rear.

During the reduction of the floor level inside the historic building, the remains of a beaten clay floor and a possible medieval hearth were recorded. A significant assemblage of 15th-century Colchester-ware pottery was also recovered from a deposit in the centre of the medieval hall.

The remains of a north-south-orientated Roman Street and a medieval/post-medieval well were uncovered in the area of the new extension. The well had been backfilled with a large quantity of modern/post-medieval pottery and bone. The bone assemblage from the well and from two pits in close proximity to the well contained a disproportionately high number of sheep metapodials which indicates that a tawyer or possibly a fellmonger operated in this area.

2 Introduction (Fig 1)

2.1 This is the archive report on archaeological monitoring carried out on behalf of Robert Morgan by the Colchester Archaeological Trust (CAT) at The Stockwell, 18 West Stockwell Street, Colchester, Essex (NGR TL 6101 2542).

2.2 The site lies within the historic 'Dutch Quarter' in Colchester town centre on the corner of Stockwell Street and West Stockwell Street (Fig 1).

2.3 The Stockwell is a restaurant and real ale hall which occupies the former Stockwell Arms public house. The historic building, part of which dates back to the 15th century, has been repaired and refurbished. Modern extensions added to the rear of the building have all been demolished and replaced with a single extension which incorporates the kitchen, dining area and toilets. The new extension also occupies part of the beer garden/yard of the former public house, which included areas of concrete hard standing and outbuildings. The remaining garden to the rear of the new extension has been landscaped.

2.4 Due to the proximity and significance of the known archaeological deposits in the immediate vicinity of the development site, the Colchester Borough Council Archaeological Officer (CBCAO) recommended that archaeological monitoring should be carried out. The archaeological monitoring was undertaken by CAT in July/August 2012

2.5 This report mirrors standards and practices contained in the Institute for Archaeologists' Standard and guidance for archaeological evaluation (IfA 2008a) and Standard and guidance for the collection, documentation, conservation and research of archaeological materials (IfA 2008b), and Colchester Borough Council's Guidelines on standards and practices for archaeological fieldwork in the Borough of Colchester (CIMS 2008a) and Guidelines on the preparation and transfer of archaeological archives to Colchester and Ipswich Museums (CIMS 2008b). Other sources used are Management of research projects in the historic environment (MoRPHE) and Standards for field archaeology in the East of England (EAA **14**).

3 Archaeological background (Fig 1)

3.1 The site is situated on the northern edge of the site of the Roman legionary fortress, with part of the site situated over the projected line of the infilled ditch which formed its northern boundary (Fig 1).

3.2 When the fortress was converted to a Roman colonia, streets were laid out on a grid system enclosing areas called *Insulae*. The site is situated on the projected line of one of the north-south Roman streets and straddles Insula 3 and Insula 4 (Fig 1). There was clear potential for the discovery of

Roman buildings on the site which would have fronted onto the Roman street.

3.3 In the Late Saxon period, a new street pattern was established with houses on the street fronts and yards, outhouses and pits to the rear. The surviving historic building (Fig 1, shaded dark grey) is part of a series of small medieval buildings which fronted West Stockell Street. It is a Grade II listed late-15th-century, two storey, timber-framed and plastered building with a peg-tile roof. Later crosswings have been added to an inline hall, with further alterations occurring over the years contributing to the buildings historic and architectural character. There was a clear potential for rubbish pits and ancillary structures associated with this building to be present to in the former garden/yard.

4 Aims

The aim of the watching brief was to record the location, date, character, and significance of any surviving archaeological remains or deposits that may be disturbed by the groundworks.

5 Results (Figs 1-5)

5.1 Introduction

The archaeological monitoring took place over a period of 3 weeks and consisted of 13 site visits at suitable intervals during the groundworks. Prior to the arrival of the CAT archaeologist, the modern extensions and outbuildings on the eastern side of the historic building had been demolished and the back garden had been cleared. The renovation of the inside of the historic building was also at an advanced stage. In the following section, the results of the archaeological monitoring in the area of the new extension and inside the historic building will be presented separately.

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 context and finds number in Appendix 2. Some of the finds were individually recorded as 'small finds' (SF) (ie SF1-11). These are listed and described in Appendix 3. The internal layout of the historic building follows the building recording report by Richard Shackle (2009).

5.2 External groundworks for the new extension

Archaeological monitoring took place during the reduction of the ground level in the area of the proposed extension (Fig 2). These groundworks were undertaken using a tracked excavator equipped with a toothless ditching bucket under intermittent archaeological supervision.

The site was covered in a layer of modern topsoil (L1). L1 was a loose, dark grey sandy-silt which contained frequent gravel and modern building materials (Plate 1). The depth of L1 was variable, ranging from *c* 400mm near the historic building to *c* 850mm at the eastern side of the site. It is probable that this topsoil had been imported to landscape the beer garden of the former public house.

L1 overlaid a homogenous buried topsoil (L2- 400mm-700mm) which was lighter in colour than L1 (Plate 1) and contained no modern finds or inclusions. Despite close examination, it was not possible to define different periods of activity or accumulation within this soil deposit. It is probable that L2 began to accumulate on the site following the reduction in urban occupation at the end of the Roman period (and can therefore be described as 'dark earth') and continued accumulating into the medieval and post-medieval periods when it may well have been cultivated.

Finds recovered from the upper part of the topsoil (L1/L2) included post-medieval pottery, clay pipe fragments (including a datable pipe bowl) and animal bones. A worked flint, animal bones, peg-tile and Roman pottery and building materials were all recovered from the buried topsoil L2.

The results of the external groundworks will be further divided based on the period that the archaeological remains have been ascribed to.

Plate 1 L1 & L2, facing south.

5.2.1 Roman

The surface of a Roman street (F3) was uncovered in the north-eastern corner of the extension (Fig 2). In this area, the soft, moist topsoil was removed to a greater depth so that it could be replaced with hardcore to create a solid surface for the piling rig.

The uppermost level of the street was constructed of compacted gravel (metalling) consisting of small-medium sized rounded flint pebbles. Occasional CBM fragments were also pressed into the street surface. The street had been truncated by later pitting (F2 & F6-F11, Fig 2). Two of the pits (F5 and F6) were partially excavated so that the make-up of the Roman street could be examined. The uppermost layer of compacted gravel appeared to be *c* 400mm thick with no discernable layers or 'bedding'. A layer of silty-sand *c* 150mm thick was identified beneath the compacted gravel. Unfortunately, a more extensive examination of the make-up of the street was not possible due to the high water table in this area.

The surface of the street was covered in a layer of pea grit *c* 15mm thick, which in turn was overlaid by the 'dark earth' (L2). Overall, the street was overlain by 1.6m of soil at the northern limit of the site (14.08m AOD) but only 1.3m of soil 6m to the south (14.39 AOD). This is due to the Roman street surface sloping downwards to the north with the slope of the hill. In the north-eastern corner of the excavation area, the surface of the street was situated below the water table.

No finds were recovered from the surface of the street. However, numerous finds, in particular CBM fragments, were recovered from the dark earth (L2) above the street (see section 6). Some of these finds may derive from the post-Roman pits which cut the street surface as it was not possible to discern the fills of the pits from the buried topsoil.

It was initially supposed that the eastern edge of the north-south street had been identified near the eastern edge of the development area. However, upon further examination it became apparent that the street had actually been truncated by the post-Roman pits F2, F7 & F10 (Fig 2). Small isolated excavations were undertaken elsewhere in the area of the extension to attempt to distinguish the western edge of the street but no further areas of compacted gravel were uncovered. This may be due to extensive post-Roman pitting in this area or perhaps because the gravel from the street had been quarried away for use elsewhere.

No other Roman contexts were identified during the monitoring, but a significant quantity of residual Roman finds were recovered (see section 6).

Plate 2 The Roman street F3, facing east.

5.2.2 medieval/post-medieval

A well (F13) was uncovered in the south-eastern corner of the new extension (Fig 2) *c* 500mm below the existing ground level. The well was roughly 2m in diameter (1.4m internal diameter). It was lined with a rubble wall (c 300mm thick) constructed primarily of septaria and Kentish ragstone bound together by a cream/yellow mortar (Plate 3). The stone used in the wall was a mixture of irregular pieces and ashlar blocks (Plate 4). Occasional Roman brick/tile fragments, peg-tiles and lumps of Roman mortar (*opus-signinum*) were also used in the construction of the well lining. The use of peg-tile and the absence of post-Roman bricks suggests that the well was built in the medieval or early post-medieval period.

During the excavation of the backfill from the upper portion of the well, it became apparent that the south-western segment of the well lining had been repaired using undressed ragstone in a white mortar (Fig 3 & Plate 4).

Plate 3 The medieval/post-medieval well F13, facing south-west.

Plate 4 The repair to the well lining, facing south.

Once the well was no longer needed, it was backfilled with a loose medium grey/brown sandy-silt soil and a significant quantity of domestic and industrial waste. The backfill was hand-excavated down to the construction level for the piling mat (c 1m below the uppermost course of the well lining). A large quantity of finds was recovered from the backfill. Of particular interest is a large assemblage of sheep metapodials and a flat piece of imported lava quern stone which may be medieval in date (see section 6). Based on the finds dating evidence and the homogeneity of the soil, it is probable that the well was backfilled in one episode or over a very short period of time, probably sometime in the mid 19th century.

The uppermost *c* 1m of the well lining was dismantled and the materials retained so that the well could be reconstructed to the east of the new extension.

A probable wall foundation (F4) was identified in the northern edge of the new extension beneath the existing site boundary (Fig 3 & Plate 5). The ?foundation was *c* 250mm deep and constructed of the same materials as the rubble wall lining the well F13 (septaria and Kentish ragstone bound in a cream/yellow mortar with occasional Roman bricks/tiles and peg-tiles). The top of the ?foundation was situated at a similar depth to the uppermost course of the well (Fig 3). It is probable that the ?foundation and the well are contemporary and that F4 is all that remains of either an ancillary building or a boundary wall which separated two garden-plots.

Based on the depth at which it was encountered, a small triangular-shaped patch of compacted mortar, CBM and stone (F15; Fig 3) may also date to this period. However, this area of the new extension had been extensively truncated by post-medieval/modern pitting and it was not possible to ascertain whether F15 was the remains of a wall, a floor or whether it was simply a pit fill.

Plate 5 The ?wall foundation F4, facing north-west.

5.2.3 post-medieval/modern

A significant proportion of the excavation area had been truncated by post-medieval/modern pitting. For the most part, the dark grey sandy-silt pit fills were not distinguishable from the topsoil layers L1 & L2 into which they were cut. However, due to high concentrations of charcoal, building materials or finds such as bones in their fills, four pits were during distinguished during the topsoil stripping (F2, F14, F16 & F17; Fig 2).

Pit F14 was located to the south of the well F13, partly outside of the limit of excavation (Fig 3). The fill of F14 consisted almost exclusively of sheep metapodials (90% of 367 bones) interspersed with a loose sandy-silt soil. Peg-tile, post-medieval brick fragments and an iron nail were also recovered from F14. The upper fill of F14 was located above the uppermost surviving course of the well lining F13 (c 300mm below modern ground level). This would suggest that either the pit was excavated and infilled after the well had been backfilled or that the well was originally taller and the upper courses have been removed. The backfill of the well also contained a large quantity of sheep metapodials. Therefore, it is probable that F14 was infilled at a similar time to the well.

The fill of pit F16 was mostly comprised of post-medieval brick and peg-tile fragments, but also contained pottery sherds (L18th/19th-20th century) and a significant number of animal bones. Once again the majority of bones were metapodials.

The Roman street (F3) was cut by nine pits (F2, F5-F12), the dark sandy-silts fills of which were easily distinguished cutting the gravel of the street surface (Fig 3 & Plate 2). The pits were identified below the construction level for the new extension so it was not necessary to excavate them. However, two of the pits (F5 and F6) were partially excavated so that the make-up of the Roman street could be examined. As well as numerous residual Roman finds, two fragments of probable peg-tile were recovered from F5 and two sherds of modern pottery were recovered from F6. Post-Roman finds were also collected from the exposed surfaces of F7 and F8 (post-medieval pottery dated late 16th to 18th century), F9 (peg-tile and coal) and F10 (modern pottery dated 18th to 20th century).

The brick foundation of an old privy (F1) was also recorded during the watching brief. The modern pottery and ironwork used as backfill within the surviving brickwork indicate the privy was demolished sometime in the early 20th century. An unfrogged brick recovered from the foundation has been dated to the 16th-17th to early 18th century (see section 6).

5.3 Groundworks inside the historic building

The internal ground level was reduced by *c* 300mm to facilitate the installation of a new floor with services beneath. The hand reduction of a c 11m² area in the hall between crosswing 1 and crosswing 2 (Fig 4) was continually monitored by an archaeologist. A layer of sandy-silt soil mixed with a light yellow/orange clay (L101) covered most of the floor area (Plate 6). L101 was between 100mm and 200mm thick and was the uppermost surviving layer beneath the floor boards/joists of the former Stockwell Arms public house. L101 contained frequent charcoal and daub flecks, but the only find recovered from this layer was a fragment of glazed floor tile. It is possible that L101 could have been the remains of a medieval/post-medieval beaten clay floor.

L101 overlaid a loose, dark sandy-silt soil (L102, Plate 6). Medieval pottery, peg-tile, animal bone, shell, slag, residual Roman CBM and post-medieval sherds (which could be intrusive) were all recovered from L102.

Plate 6 L101 & L102, facing east.

A dense concentration of pottery sherds and brick and peg-tile fragments (L103) was excavated near the centre of the medieval hall (Fig 4). It is possible that L103 was actually a pit which cut the floor layer L101. However, L103 was the same thickness as L101 and appeared to have been deposited at the same time. The large pottery assemblage recovered from L103 included a significant group of Colchester-ware pottery, most of which is dated to the 15th to early 16th centuries (see section 6).

During the reduction of the internal floor level, the foundation or 'plinth' on which the buildings timber-frame rests was exposed (F101, Fig 4). Two distinct masonry levels were observed (a & b, Fig 5). The uppermost masonry level (a) was constructed of ?brick and stone in a cream/white mortar. The lower masonry level (b) was constructed of stone and peg-tile in a cream/yellow mortar (Fig 5). A fragment of peg-tile and a fragment of glazed floor tile were recovered from the surface of F101a, perhaps indicating that this is a former floor level (Fig 5).

An area of burnt clay (F102) was identified 0.8m from the western wall of crosswing 2 (Fig 4 & Plate 7). This area of the internal floor had been reduced prior to the arrival of the CAT archaeologist. The top of the burnt clay was located just above the reduced floor level and it continued below the limit of excavation (Plate 8). The burnt clay appeared to have been covered in a thick layer of ash (Plate 8). This would suggest that the clay was burnt *in situ*. During the installation of a drain-run (Fig 4), a whole Roman *bessalis* brick and four large fragments of ?*Lydion* type bricks were recovered from beneath the burnt clay, by the groundworkers. The bricks were laid flat and presumably abutted one another. By inserting the tip of a trowel into the burnt clay it was possible to ascertain that more

bricks lay *c* 50mm beneath the reduced ground level. The approximate area of the bricks is marked on Fig 4. These bricks remain *in situ* preserved beneath the new floor.

The reduction of the ground level in crosswing 3 (Fig 4) was also periodically monitored by CAT. The floor level in crosswing 3 was notably higher than the floor level in crosswing 2 and the hall. A dark grey/brown silt with patches of clay, charcoal and daub flecking (L104) was hand reduced by *c* 300mm. Animal bone, medieval pottery (13th-14th century), and residual Roman finds were all recovered from L104.

The ground reduction in crosswing 3 exposed a brick offset on the internal face of the western wall (Fig 4). The bricks were unfrogged and the courses were laid in header bond.

Plate 7 F102, facing north.

Plate 8 F102 in section, facing east.

A patch of wall plaster was also removed from the external face of the northern wall (Fig 4). The exposed wall was constructed of septaria, Kentish ragstone and peg-tile in a cream/yellow mortar (Plate 9).

Plate 9 External face of the northern wall, facing south.

6 The finds

A significant quantity of finds were recovered during the archaeological monitoring. While the earliest-dated finds (two worked flints) are prehistoric, probably dating the period of the Neolithic-Bronze Age, the vast majority of the finds are of Roman, medieval, post-medieval and modern date. All of the bulk finds are quantified and listed by context in Appendix 2, where a spot date is also provided for each numbered finds bag by context. In addition, there are a small number of individually-numbered small finds (SF), primarily metal objects, which are listed in Appendix 3. The finds are discussed below by finds type.

6.1 Roman pottery

by Stephen Benfield

The Roman pottery fabrics in this report refer to the Colchester Roman pottery fabric series (*CAR* **10**) and to the National Roman Fabric Reference Collection (Tomber & Dore 1998). Roman vessel forms refer to Colchester Camulodunum (Cam) pottery type series (Hawkes & Hull 1947 & Hull 1958).

Table 1 Roman pottery fabrics.

Fabric	Description
AJ	amphorae (Dressel 20)
BA(CG)	Central Gaulish plain samian
CZ	Colchester and other red colour-coated wares (except Fabric CB)
DJ	coarse oxidised and related wares
EA	Nene Valley colour-coated ware
EE	marbled wares
GX	other coarse wares, principally locally-produced grey wares
HD	shell-tempered and calcite gritted wares
HZ	large storage jars and other vessels in heavily-tempered grey wares
MP	Oxfordshire-type red colour-coated wares

Small quantities of Roman pottery were recovered from most of the contexts. Most, if not all of this is residual in these contexts. The date ranges of the pottery fabrics recovered span the whole Roman period (mid 1st-4th century). The latest-dated pottery is a sherd of Oxford colour-coated ware (Fabric MP) which first appears in contexts at Colchester dated to the late 3rd century, but mostly dates to the late 4th or early 5th century (*CAR* **10**, 304).Two Roman pottery sherds are of intrinsic interest:

L2(2) Amphora handle in late Spanish (Baetican) Fabric (BAT AM 2) (Tomber & Dore 1998). The handle is the same shape as that of Dressel 20, which is made in this fabric, but the handle size is small in relation to that usually encountered with Dressel 20. This handle may represent the smaller, late development of this amphora type classified as Dressel 23 which appears in the 3rd century (Tyers 1996, 87). Dressel 20 amphorae were containers principally used to transport olive oil in bulk although occasionally the contents appear to have been preserved olives (Tyers 1996, 87). It is most probable that Dressel 23 amphorae would have been used to transport these same products.

US(45) Flagon in greyware (Fabric GX). The flagon is a narrow-necked form with a disc above a pair of handles and the exposed surfaces are pale grey and burnished smooth. This is essentially form Cam 377, which is usually in a fineware (Hull 1958, 290) and its occurrence in a greyware fabric is unusual. The fabric and indication of vertical burnishing on the small fragment which remains of the lower neck suggests it is possibly a product of the Roman potteries at Hadham in Hertfordshire, located close to the Essex border.

6.2 Post-Roman pottery

by Stephen Benfield

The post-Roman pottery was recorded using the Colchester post-Roman fabric series (*CAR* **7**). It should be noted that post-Roman Fabric 45 is generic for all German stonewares not identified to a specific production source. The pottery fabrics recorded are listed in Table 2 below

Table 2 Post-Roman pottery fabrics.

Fabric	Description
Post-Roman:	
13	Early medieval sandy wares
13S	Shell dusted early medieval sandy wares
20	Medieval sandy greywares (general)
21A	Colchester-type ware
22	Hedingham ware
23F	Coarse Border ware
40	Post-medieval red earthenwares (general)
40A	Metropolitan slipwares
45	German stonewares (general)
45M	Modern English stoneware
48D	Staffordshire-type white earthenwares
98	Miscellaneous unidentified medieval/post-medieval ?English wares (general)

Medieval

Small quantities of pottery of early medieval date were recovered from several contexts. All of these sherds are small and all are residual in the contexts from which they were recovered. Sherds of Fabric 13 & Fabric 13S (dated late 11th-13th century) were recovered from L102(18 & 21) and L104(47). A few of these sherds have wavy, combed decoration typical of vessels in these fabrics. Sherds of Fabric 20 (dated 12th-14th century) were recovered from F7(8), F13(25), L102(18 & 21), L103(23 & 35) & L104(47). The most significant medieval/early post-medieval pottery recovered is a large group of Colchester-ware (Fabric 21A) which came from L103, located within the historic building.

Pottery from L103(23 & 35)

A significant group of Colchester-ware pottery (Fabric 21A) was recovered from L103(23 & 35) (Plate 10). Colchester-ware is current from the late 12th or early 14th century in small quantities, but is much more common from the late 14th century until the mid 16th century (*CAR* **7** 11-113). This fabric makes up 88% by count and 92% by weight of all the pottery from this layer (Table 3). There is also a few residual sherds of Roman greyware (Fabric GX) and medieval greyware (Fabric 20) as well as four sherds of post-medieval red earthenware (Fabric 40) (possibly from one vessel), which appear to be intrusive in this context

Plate 10 Colchester-ware pottery from L103.

Table 3 Pottery from L013(23) by fabric

Fabric	Description	no	wt(g)
Fabric GX	Roman coarse greywares	2	16
Fabric 20	Medieval greyware	1	16
Fabric 21A	Colchester-ware	60	3098
Fabric 40	Post-medieval red earthenware	4	240
Fabric 98	Post-Roman (unidentified)	1	5

Overall, most of the Colchester-ware sherds are in red, oxidised, fabrics (62% by count, 77% by weight). Sherds with reduced (grey) surfaces are less common (37% by count, 25% by weight). There is also one sgraffito decorated glazed storage jar or cistern. All of the Colchester-ware sherds are catalogued below.

The sherds represent a minimum of nine different pots. Recognisable different vessels are a dripping tray (P1), storage jar (P2), cistern or storage jar (P3 & P4), cistern (P5) cooking pot (P6) and small jar/bowl (P7). These are all in oxidised fabrics and there are two further vessels represented by different bases from pots with reduced (grey) surfaces. It can be noted that there are possibly nine different handles and base sherds from seven vessels. The storage jar vessel (P2) can be positively identified because of a thumb strip applied just below the rim which does not appear on cisterns. Several of the handles also suggest they are possibly from handled storage jars as they are decorated with thumb impressions.

Five of the identified vessels (including the glazed sgraffito pot (P4)) and one of the miscellaneous body sherds are decorated with white slip.

Some of the pots show signs of use. Two sherds from the dripping tray (P1) have a soot deposit and one of the bases is flaking and degraded, possibly from having been heated.

Close dating of the pottery is difficult. While the dominance of sandy, oxidised wares indicates that much of the Colchester-ware could belong to the earlier period of production in the 13th-14th century (*CAR* **7**, 108), the relatively few examples of white slip decoration suggests a later date. The dripping pan probably dates to the period of the late 13th-15th century

(*CAR* **7**, 156), the sgraffito jar or cistern (P4) can be dated to the period of the 14th-15th century (*CAR* **7**, 168) and the slip dashes on the rim of a cistern or storage jar (P3) indicate a 15th-to early 16th-century date. Overall, while a few earlier dated pieces are probably present, a date in the 15th century for the group appears likely. The few sherds of post-medieval red earthenware (Fabric 40) recovered, which dates to the late 16th/17th-18th century, appear probably to be intrusive in this context.

Identified Colchester-ware pottery vessels from L103(23 & 35):

Dripping pan
P1 Fabric 21A Four sherds: two joining sherd pairs. Wall sherds extending to base. Internal white slip in base extending in uneven wave along walls with splashes of clear glaze. Plain flat rim with change of angle in external wall. Two of the sherds have external sooting extending over rim and upper interior and some external traces of sooting on the corner sherd. The corner of this vessel is distinctly rounded, whereas most examples of corners from dripping pans appear squarer, although it can be noted that there is one example which might be an oval shaped pan (*CAR* **7**, 156). Red fabric (weight 356g).

Storage jar
P2 Fabric 21A Single rim sherd. Rim and neck. Neck is decorated with thumb strip below rim. Rim expanded externally with flat top. White slip below thumb strip. Red fabric (EVE 0.10, rim dia. 270mm, weight 80g).

Cistern or handled storage jar
P3 Fabric 21A Single rim sherd. Rim, neck and top of handle. Flat topped rim with external groove. Handle, attached to rim, with single central groove (furrow). White slip decoration of line around neck below handle and spaced, angled lines (dashes) on top of rim. Reduced (grey) surface (EVE 0.10, rim dia. 140mm, weight 89g).

Storage jar or cistern in sgraffito ware
P4 Fabric 21A Single rim sherd. Rim, neck and small area of upper body. Cornice rim; rim top slightly concave. Incised line running around vessel below rim. Intersecting, slightly angled incised lines on body, possibly forming a pattern of x crosses. External white slip extending across rim and into neck of vessel, covered in clear glaze below rim giving a yellow colour. (EVE 0.10, rim dia. 190mm, weight 44g).

Cistern
P5 Fabric 21A Single rim sherd. Rim and neck/upper body area. Pointed (triangular) rim with rounded top, triangular cordon below. Red fabric (insufficient to measure EVE, weight 31g).

Cooking pot.
P6 Fabric 21A Single rim sherd. Rim and small part of upper body. Everted rim, slightly concave with flat edge. White slip on rim tip and edge, extending unevenly a short distance into the body of the pot with runs trailing down into the body. Some splashed of clear glaze at edge of rim. Red fabric. (EVE 0.13, rim dia. 170mm, weight 24g).

Small jar /bowl
P7 Fabric 21A Four body sherds from unidentified small jar/bowl, two join. Thin walled vessel with low ripple bands on surface. Red fabric (weight 26g).

Handles decorated with thumbing and possibly from storage jars:
Fabric 21A Two joining sherds. Much of the upper part of a handle, decorated with low, central thumb strip ridge (sides plain). The type of decoration suggests it is most likely from a storage jar. Red fabric. (weight 152).

Fabric 21A Single sherd. Lower part of a handle, decorated with low, central thumb strip ridge and spaced, shallow thumb impressions on handle sides. The type of decoration suggests it is most likely from a storage jar. Red fabric. (weight 106).

Fabric 21A Four sherds, two joining. Base of handle and three sherds from mid section, two joining. Decorated with central furrow, with thumb impressed low ridges

to each side and thumb impressions on handle edge. The type of decoration suggests it is most likely from a storage jar. Red fabric (weight 187g).

Fabric 21A Single sherd. Upper part of handle and part of rim at handle top. Decorated with central furrow, with thumb impressed low ridges to each side. The type of decoration suggests it is most likely from a storage jar. Red fabric (weight 155g).

Handles which are possibly from cisterns:
Fabric 21A Three sherds, two joining. Much of the lower part of a handle with multiple external grooves. Red fabric. (weight 420g).

Fabric 21A Two non-joining sherds. Base of handle and part of med section, probably from the same vessel. Large single thumb indentation at handle base. Two grooves on underside of handle. Red, sandy fabric. (weight 206g).

Other handle pieces:
Fabric 21A Handle base, Red fabric (weight 119g).

Fabric 21A Handle base, Red fabric (weight 85g).

Fabric 21A Handle base. Reduced (grey) fabric (weight 58g).

Vessel bases
Fabric 21A Four base sherds, two join. Probably all from the same vessel. Slightly sagging base. Red fabric. Underside flaking and degraded from heating? (base dia approximately 210mm, weight 282g)

Fabric 21A Single base sherd. Slightly sagging base. Red fabric (weight 49g).

Fabric 21A Two base sherds. Slightly sagging base. Red fabric, grey interior (weight 83g).

Fabric 21A Single base sherd. Slightly sagging base. Reduced (grey) surfaces (weight 177g).

Fabric 21A Single base sherd. Slightly sagging base. Reduced (grey) surfaces (base dia. Approximately 210mm, weight 73g).

Fabric 21A Single base sherd. Slightly sagging base. Reduced (grey) fabric (weight 29g).

Fabric 21A Single base sherd. Slightly sagging base. Reduced (grey) fabric, oxidised (reddish-brown) interior (weight 37g).

Body Sherds:
Fabric 21A Seven miscellaneous body sherds in red fabric, Two sherds decorated with broad, white slip lines (weight 241g).

Fabric 21A Seventeen miscellaneous body sherds. Reduced (grey) surfaces. One sherd decorated with broad, white slip lines (weight 345g).

Other post-medieval and modern pottery

Post-medieval and modern pottery was recovered from a number of pit features F7(14), F8(13), & F16(43), the well F13 (24, 25 & 34), from L1/L2 (1 & 11), L102 (36) and probably as intrusive sherds from L103 (23 & 35). Most of this pottery consists of post-medieval red earthenwares (Fabric 40) (dated late 16th/17th-18th century) and Staffordshire-type white earthenwares (Fabric 48D) (dated late 18th/19th-20th century). Large sherds in both these fabrics, some joining to form part of vessels, were recovered from the backfill of the well F13 (Plate 11). These include a significant part of a glazed, handled bowl (chamber pot) in post-medieval red earthenwares (Fabric 40) of 17th-18th century date.

Plate 11 Post-medieval red earthenware and Staffordshire-type white earthenware from the well F13.

6.3 Roman ceramic building materials (CBM)

by Stephen Benfield

The Roman CBM recovered from the site consists of pieces of *tegulae* and *imbrex* roof tiles, combed box flue tile from a hypocaust, Roman flat building tiles/bricks (including a complete brick) and a few *tesserae* floor tile cubes. Pieces which could not be closely identified were recorded as Roman brick/tile. Most if not all of this is residual in later dated contexts.

The Roman brick and tile recovered could indicate the presence of a well-appointed building, probably with a hypocusted room(s) on or adjacent to the site. None of several large pieces of brick show any indication of re-use in any mortared construction. The box flue tiles have mortar on the combed surfaces but not over tile breaks and the *tesserae* cubes are unlikely to represent material reused in the post-Roman period. However, it is noted that although some of the mortar could have come from a building of some status (see below), there is an absence of painted-wall plaster among the finds which would be expected from a well-appointed Roman building here. The large Roman brick pieces were probably brought onto the site in the post-Roman period because they were recovered from beneath a layer of beaten clay floor clay which is scorched (F102) and together are thought to represent a the site of a medieval hearth.

The Roman tile is not closely dated within the Roman period. The clearly identified *tegulae* tiles all have bases which are approximately 17mm-18mm thick which indicates they probably date to the late 2nd century or after (Black forthcoming). None of the *tegulae* preserve any lower cut-aways. The combed box-flue tile can be dated to after the late 1st century (Black 1992, 268).

Several large pieces from Roman bricks are worthy of comment as a substantial part of each original bricks survives (Plate 12). A complete *bessalis* comes from F102(42) is also of interest. This type of brick is square and is primarily used to form the isolated pillars used to support floors in rooms with hypocausts (Brodribb 1987, 34-36). The other large pieces of bricks come from F102(42) & L2(3). These are probably *lydion* type bricks which are commonly used in wall bonding courses (Brodribb 1987, 37-40) but have wider more general uses in construction, such as paving the base of drain channels. One brick (L2(3)) has a small pre-firing hole made close to one corner. This is similar to nail fixing holes which appear on some *tegula* tiles (Warry 2006, 102-104) but would not appear to serve any purpose on a brick. One of the large pieces of brick, L2(45), has several animal feet impressions on its surface. These animals would have wandered across the tile while it was drying on the ground. One set of

impressions appears to be probably that of a small pig, another that of a dog. The significant pieces of Roman brick include:

F102(42) Complete *bessalis* brick 200mm x 200mm x 50mm (weight 3500g). There is mortar on the upper surface.

F102(42) Large part of a Roman brick. The brick is 300mm x 30mm with a maximum surviving length (MSL) of 400mm.

L2(3) Two large pieces of Roman flat bricks. One is 50mm thick with a maximum surviving width (MSW) of 230mm and maximum surviving length (MSL) of 310mm. There is a small pre-firing hole (12mm diameter at upper tile surface narrowing to 5mm through the body of the tile to the base) made through the brick close to one corner. The other is 30mm thick and has a MSW of 220mm and MSL of 275mm.

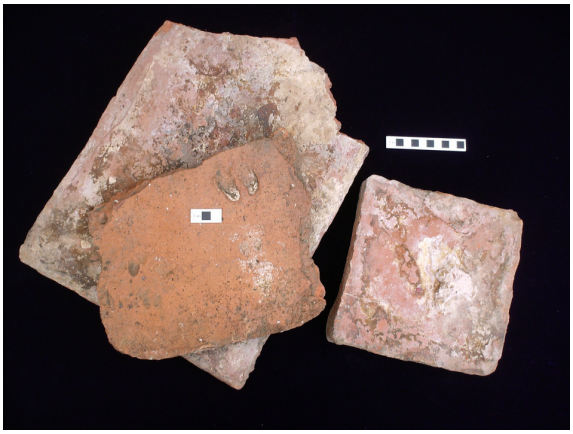

Plate 12 A complete *bessalis* brick and several large pieces of Roman bricks.

6.4 Post-Roman ceramic building materials (CBM)

by Stephen Benfield

Peg-tile

Pieces of peg-tile were recovered from many of the contexts. Of themselves these tiles are not closely dated, being current in the medieval and post-medieval periods and into the modern era, although in Essex there does not appear to be much use of these on houses in the towns prior to the 14th century (Ryan 1993, 96). The largest quantities and generally the largest size pieces of these tiles come from contexts forming the back-fill of the well F13 (dated to the late 18th/19th-20th century), pit F14(33) (dated post-medieval) and layer L103(22) (dated *c* 15th century with some intrusive post-medieval) within the existing building of the Stockwell Arms.

Brick

Pieces of brick were recovered from seven contexts F6(7), F8(13), F13(27), F14(33), L2(4), L103(22) & L103(23). A brick sample from F1(41) and a brick from F13(27) are complete, or are complete enough for all three dimensions to be recorded. There is no indication of a frog indent on any of the bricks or brick pieces. Where there is other dating evidence from the contexts, they are dated as post-medieval or modern, although layer L103 is probably late medieval (15th century). Apart from L103, the bricks are likely to be residual in these contexts. Of themselves the bricks are not closely dated but where a thickness can be measured (F1, F6, F13 & F14) they are between 45mm - 55mm thick. This suggests that are of post-medieval (c 16th-17th/18th century) date (Ryan 1996, 94-96).

Floor tile (glazed and unglazed floor tile)

Pieces of floor tiles were recovered from three contexts: F13 (25 & 34), F101 (19), L103 (22, 23 & 35). Most of these are glazed on the upper surface either a dark, olive green (F13 & F101) or yellow (F13 & L103). There are also some plain pieces of tile which appear to be from either unglazed portions of tiles, or similar size tiles which were not glazed (L103). The tiles are between 20mm-40mm thick. The only measurements of length are 125mm for an olive-glazed tile from F13(25) and 120mm for a yellow tile from F13(34). It is assumed that all of the tiles are square.

These types of plain glazed and unglazed floor tiles were produced in England in the medieval-early post-medieval period and were also imported from the Low Countries from the 14th to mid-16th centuries. Examples of both olive-green, yellow glaze floor tiles and plain (unglazed) pieces of floor tile were recovered from two probable medieval contexts (L101 & L103), which suggests that all the tiles here could be medieval in date and are residual in later dated (post-medieval and modern) contexts although it should be noted that of these two contexts only L103 contained other closely dated finds consisting of pottery which is primarily of 15th century date, but with a small quantity of post-medieval pottery which is thought to be intrusive. Unglazed tiles, considered to be local products, are recorded from tile floors in a building dated to the 16-17th century excavated at Osbourne Street, Colchester (Crummy & Hind 1994, 58-59).

There is also one thin, yellowish-cream coloured floor tile or floor brick (120mm x 20mm), dated as post-medieval/modern, from the backfill of the well (F13(34)).

6.5 Animal bone

by Adam Wightman

A total of 863 fragments of animal bone (weighing 18.86kg) were hand-collected from twelve contexts during the archaeological monitoring.

The level of bone preservation in the assemblage can be described as good. The bone is solid in structure but erosion to the cortical surface of the bone is commonplace, especially on the bones from the well F13. This could be due to acidity levels in the soil or because the bones were sub-aerially exposed or boiled/soaked prior to deposition. The majority of the bone was collected during machine excavation. As a result, there has been considerable modern fragmentation of the bones.

96.5% of the animal bone assemblage dates to the modern/post-medieval period and 2.5% of the assemblage came from medieval deposits inside the building. A small number of bones could be Roman in date (c 1% from L2), but are more likely to derive from modern/post-medieval pits.

Methodology

All of the bone was examined to determine the range of species and elements present. Species identifications were made using the author's comparative collections. All identifiable elements were recorded. However, certain elements were not identified to exact taxon but rather to the level of unidentified small, medium or large taxon. These comprise carpals, tarsals (apart from the astragalus and calcaneus), cranial fragments, ribs, and vertebrae. Fragments recorded as medium-sized taxon will predominantly be from sheep (*Ovis sp.)* and pig *(Sus sp.)* although goats (*Capra sp.*), dog (*Canis familiaris*) and smaller deer species (*Cervus sp.*) may also be represented. Fragments of unidentified large taxa will derive primarily from cattle (*Bos sp.*) although may also include horse (*Equus sp.)*, and larger deer species. If the determination of the element from which a small fragment originated was not possible, it was noted whether the fragment was from the appendicular skeleton (limbs) or the axial skeleton (vertebrae, ribs, cranial skeleton, etc).

Each bone was inspected to determine if any evidence of bone-, horn- or antler-working was present in the assemblage. Evidence of butchering and any indications of skinning were recorded. When available, the fusion state of identifiable bones was also recorded and ages were assessed following Silver (1969). A record was made of any other relevant information such as pathologies. Counts and weights were taken and recorded for each context. The side of the body from which the bones were derived was also noted. The completeness and parts represented for each specimen were noted using Serjeantson's eight-zone method of recording (Z1-Z8 in Table 1; Serjeantson 1996). Only fragments that accounted for at least 50% of a single zone were recorded. The zone was not noted for elements that are not identified to exact taxon (ie ribs, vertebrae, etc). Recently broken bones were joined where possible and have been counted as single fragments.

An examination of a selection of sheep/goat metapodials using the criteria for distinguishing between the two species outlined by Boessneck (1969) identified the bones as belonging to sheep. It has been assumed that the rest of the sheep/goat bones in this assemblage are probably sheep due to the greater frequency of this species in this country.

The analysis was carried out following a modified version of guidelines by English Heritage (Davis 1992) and also with reference to Cohen & Serjeantson 1996, Hillson 1986, Outram 2001, and Payne 1987. A catalogue of the faunal remains is included in the site archive.

Results

For the purposes of the following analysis the animal bone assemblage has been divided into three groups, the medieval contexts within the historic building, the modern/post-medieval pits and topsoil, and the modern/post-medieval contexts which contained a disproportionately high frequency of metapodials (metacarpals and metatarsals, Plate 13).

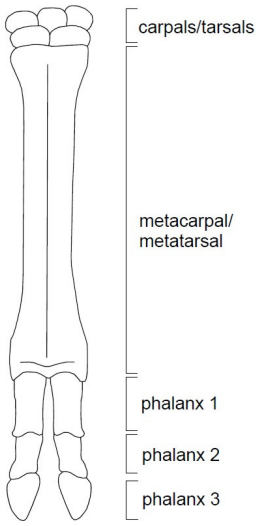

Plate 13 The lower-leg/foot of sheep and cattle.

Medieval contexts within the historic building (L102, L103 & L104)

Twenty-two animal bones (433g) were recovered from three contexts. Cattle, sheep and pig bones were all identified, although over half of all the bone was not identifiable to exact taxon (Table 4). Based on the mixture of skeletal elements represented, the presence of large cuts marks and filleting scoops on the bone surfaces and the fact that they were recovered from within a building, it is probable that these bones derive from table waste.

Table 4 Animal bone from within the historic building (L102, L103 & L104)

	cattle	sheep	pig	lrg mammal	med mammal	Total
1st phalanx	3		2			5
phalanx					1	1
calcaneus					1	1
metacarpal	1					1
mandible	1	1				2
premolar	1					1
rib				2		2
vertebrae					3	3
axial				1		1
diaphysis				5		5
Total	6	1	2	8	5	22

Modern/post-medieval pits (F5, F6, F8 & F10) and topsoil (L1 & L2)
A total of 20 animal bones (1538g) were recovered from these contexts. Almost three quarters of the bone fragments were identified as cattle or large mammal (Table 5), five of which exhibited cut and chop marks indicative of butchery/meal waste. Four sheep bones were identified in this group. These included two adult sheep mandibles (M3 in wear) and a sawn metatarsal. A metacarpal from an adult horse and a cat mandible were also recovered from these contexts.

Table 5 Animal bone from modern/post-medieval pits (F5, F6, F8 & F10) and topsoil (L1 & L2)

	cattle	sheep	horse	cat	lrg mammal	Total
metacarpal			1			1
metapodial	1					1
metatarsal	1	1				2
tibia		1				1
horncore	1					1
mandible	3	2		1		6
molar	1					1
pelvis	1				1	2
rib					2	2
scapula	1					1
vertebrae					1	1
diaphysis					1	1
Total	9	4	1	1	5	20

Modern/post-medieval contexts F13, F14 and F16
Although the three contexts being examined here are all different (F13 (well backfill) F14 (pit filled almost exclusively with bone) and F16 (general rubbish pit)), the disproportionately high number of metapodials recovered from each of them suggests that all three contain the waste from a specific carcass processing procedure.

The 821 bones from these contexts account for over 95% of the total animal bone assemblage (F13 (374 bones), F14 (367 bones) & F16 (50 bones)). Unfortunately it was not possible to fully excavate any of the three contexts, so the assemblage detailed below should be considered as a sample.

Almost 90% of the bone was identifiable as sheep and 9% was identifiable as cattle (Table 6). Only three pig bones were identified, two of which were metapodials (one exhibiting cut marks). A red deer (*Cervus*

elaphus) metacarpal and a dog femur were also recovered from the well backfill (F13).

Table 6 Animal bone from the modern/post-medieval contexts F13, F14 & F16

	cattle	sheep	pig	dog	deer	lrg mammal	Total
1st phalanx	4	7					11
3rd phalanx	1						1
metacarpal	24	365			1		390
metatarsal	19	312					331
metapodial	6	26					32
metatarsal III			1				1
metatarsal IV			1				1
carpal	1						1
femur	4	5		1			10
humerus	2	7	1				10
radius	1	1					2
tibia	2	2					4
ulna	1	1					2
pelvis	5	4					9
rib						2	2
scapula		3					3
vertebrae						3	3
cranial frags						2	2
mandible	4						4
molar	1	1					2
Total	75	734	3	1	1	7	821
Total %	9.1%	89.4%	0.4%	0.1%	0.1%	0.9%	

703 fragments of sheep metapodial were recovered from the three contexts (303 from F13, 378 from F14 and 22 from F16). Many of the metapodials were broken during recovery, but 248 were recovered whole.

365 of the sheep metapodials fragments were from metacarpals and 312 were from metatarsals (Table 6). The mixture of right/left sided elements was also relatively even (Table 7). Based on the number of proximal ends identified (which were greater in number than the distal ends), a minimum of 282 metacarpals and 238 metatarsals are represented by the assemblage (Table 7), which derive from a minimum of 146 sheep.

All of the proximal epiphyses of the metapodials were fused. However, half of the distal epiphysis of the metacarpals and roughly one third of the distal epiphysis of the metatarsal were unfused (Table 7). The distal metapodial fuses at between 18-24 months (Silver, 1969, 285) indicating that many of the sheep died as juveniles, perhaps having been primarily killed for their meat. The rest of the sheep appear to have died or been killed in maturity.

A significant proportion of the metapodials exhibited cut marks indicative of skinning (96 in total). The majority of the cut marks appear to have been made with a small, sharp knife, mostly around the proximal epiphysis of the bone (Table 8). It is probable that the knife was run around the end of the epiphysis to detach the bone from the skin. Chop marks and scoop marks (which usually result from filleting) were also identified on the metapodials (table 8). A significant number of the metapodials also exhibited evidence of canine gnawing (Table 7).

Table 7 Sheep metapodials; side, fusion and gnawing data.

	proximal epiphysis present			whole bones	distal epiphysis		gnawed
	left	right	Total		fused	unfused	
metacarpal	136 (48%)	146 (52%)	282	129	160	80	62
metatarsal	131 (55%)	107 (45%)	238	119	158	55	31

Table 8 Butchery evidence on the sheep metapodials.

	metacarpal	metatarsal	metapodial	Total
chop marks	16	19		35
cut marks	25	14		39
proximal cut marks	18	39		57
scoop marks	1			1
no butchery evidence	305	240	26	571
Total	365	312	26	703

Seven sheep 1st phalanges were also recovered from F13, F14 and F16. It is possible that these bones were transported onto the site with the metapodials and that the absence of 2nd and 3rd phalanges, carpals and tarsals is attributable to excavation bias. However, it is more likely that, for the most part, the metapodials were brought onto the site without the phalanges, tarsals and carpals.

Sheep long bones, pelvis and scapula fragments, some of which exhibited butchery marks indicative of domestic/butchery waste (saw, chop & cut marks), were also recovered from these contexts (Table 6). Many of these bones had unfused epiphyseal ends, including early fusing elements such the coracoid process of the scapula, which indicates that they are from juvenile sheep. With the exception of the metapodials, canine gnawing was only identified on one sheep radius.

The second most common species represented was cattle (Table 6). Cattle bones accounted for 50% of the animal bone recovered from pit F16, but made up only a small percentage of the assemblages from F13 (11%) and F14 (2%).

Just over 73% of the cattle bones (Table 6) were from the area of the lower-leg/foot (Plate 13). 20 of the 49 cattle metapodials exhibited cut and chop marks, many of which were located at the proximal end of the bone. In contrast to the sheep bones from these contexts, chop marks were found to be as frequent as cut marks.

11 of the metapodials had unfused distal epiphyses and 16 were missing the distal end of the bone either due to damage to the distal end of the bone or gnawing. It is probable that most if not all of these bones came from young animals aged under 24-30 months.

The other cattle bones recovered from these contexts were a mixture of long bone and axial elements which exhibited occasional butchery marks (cut marks, chop marks and evidence of sawing).

Plate 14 Volunteer Brenda May washing a selection of the sheep metapodials.

Animal bones discussion

Of particular interest in this animal bone assemblage is the disproportionately high number of sheep metapodials recovered from the backfill of the well F13 and from the two pits F14 and F16 (Plate 14). The identification of a large number of one specific skeletal element is indicative of the waste generated from industrial carcass processing rather than general domestic waste. Significant numbers of lower-leg/foot bones have been recovered from other urban archaeological sites in Great Britain including Walmgate in York (O'Connor 1984) and St Peters Street in Northampton (Williams 1979), and there is historical and archaeological evidence to suggest that this is the waste associated with the conversion of raw hides into leather (Serjeantson 1989, 137).

The term 'tanning' is used generally to describe this process. However, leather dressers have traditionally been divided into tanners and tawyers (or tawers). The heavy trade of 'tanning' involves the treatment of cowhides by immersion in a solution of vegetable tannin (usually oak bark) for a period of many months in large, foul smelling pits. The lighter trade of 'tawing' was generally used for treating the smaller skins of animals including sheep, goats, deer, horses and dogs, often casualty skins recovered from animals which had died naturally (Thompson 1981, 171). The tawyer (otherwise known as whittawer because they make 'white' leather) would work a combination of alum mixed with oil, flour or egg yolk into the skin to produce softer leather for clothing, in particular shoe uppers, laces and gloves.

Although a significant number of cattle foot/lower-leg bones were recovered from the area of the extension, there were notably more sheep metapodials than cattle. This suggests that the bones are actually the waste product from the tawing process. A tawyer may have also treated the skins of cattle calves (Serjeantson et *al* 1986, 232), which may explain the presence of numerous unfused cattle metapodials in the assemblage. Although low in number, it is probable that the deer and pig metapodials in the assemblage also derive from skin processing.

During the skinning of a carcass, the horns, feet and metapodials of the animal were usually removed with the skins, probably to aid in moving, hanging and stretching the hides (Yeomans 2004, 73). These elements would subsequently be removed and often the horns would be passed to the horn worker, the foot bones would be passed to the gluemaker/oil

producer, whilst the metapodials would be discarded as waste (Heard 2000, 140).

The sheep metapodials regularly exhibited cut marks associated with skinning. These were mostly made with a small sharp knife and were often located at the proximal end of the bone. Coupled with the absence of any tarsals or carpals in the assemblage, this is taken to be evidence that the foot was generally detached at the joint between the tarsals/carpals and the metatarsals/metacarpals (Plate 13). There was also a low number of bones from the lower foot (phalanges) recovered. This indicates that the feet were being removed and disposed of elsewhere. It is possible that the lower foot bones were used in the production of neatsfoot oil (Serjeanston 1989, 141), which is a thin animal oil obtained from the phalanges of cow, horse, sheep or goats. Neatsfoot can be used with alum and often other organic ingredients, in the tawing process (Baxter 1998, 59). However, caution should be noted as the absence of sheep carpals/tarsals and the low number of phalanges in the assemblage could be attributable to excavation bias as the bones were all hand collected and these bones are particularly small.

The sheep bones appear to have come from animals of greatly varying ages. A large proportion of the metapodials come from juvenile animals which were presumably slaughtered primarily for their meat. The rest of the skins come from adult sheep, perhaps older individuals which had been kept for wool and died of old age.

It is probable that dogs were kept on the site as canine gnawing was identified on a large number of the metapodials recovered.

The rest of the animal bones recovered during the archaeological investigations are a mixture of anatomical elements from domestic ungulates and probably represent butchery and meal waste rather than primary slaughter waste. Further discussion of the assemblages from within the building and from the topsoil and post-medieval pits is not possible due to the small number of fragments recovered from these contexts.

Further work on the sheep metapodial assemblage could be undertaken to determine the size and maybe the breed of sheep and to further examine whether there are any goat bones present in the assemblage.

6.6 Other finds

by Stephen Benfield

Clay pipe

Small quantities of clay pipe pieces were recovered from F13(24 & 25) and L1(1). These are mostly pieces of pipe stems and date to the post-medieval period or modern period. The only piece that is closely dated is a pipe bowl from L1. The bowl form corresponds with Type 12 (*CAR* **5**, 52) which is dated *c* 1780-1820. There are the letters **S c** in relief on either side of the foot which are the initials of Stephen Chamberlain (1728-1808), pipe maker, who is recorded as working at George Street, Colchester (*CAR* **5**, 64). It is known that these same initial marks were also used by Stephen Chamberlain Rand for a while after the death of Stephen Chamberlain (*CAR* **5**, 64).

Fired clay

A piece of fired clay (33g) from a wattle and daub construction, with close spaced vertical & horizontal wattle holes, was recovered from the pit F5(10). The piece probably comes from a wall. Closely-dated finds from this context (F5) are Roman with a few small pieces of probable post-Roman (medieval or later) tile. A nondescript piece of fired clay (16g) was also recovered from L103(23).

Glass
Both vessel glass and window glass were recovered. All of this was recovered from the backfill of the well F13(24, 25 & 30) which is dated to the late 18th/19th-20th century.

The vessels consist of the neck (F13(24)) and bases of wine bottles in dark green glass (F13(24, 25 & 30)). The form of these indicates a probable 18th-early 19th century date, or slightly later. There is also a small bottle (F13(25)) and the stem and lower body of a fluted glass (F13(30)) in clear glass.

Pieces of window glass come from F13(24, 25 & 30). One piece has a rounded edge and is was probably caste (F13(30)) and another piece from the same context and finds number has staining which indicates that it was at one time part of a diamond lattice, leaded window.

Mortar
Significant pieces of mortar which can be closely dated as Roman were recovered from the well wall lining F13(44) and from L2(2). The Roman mortar recovered from F13 has pink *opus-signinum* layered over cream coloured lime mortar and suggests it is possible from the base for a mosaic floor or possibly a hypocaust. The piece from L2 is *opus-signinum* indicating either masonry work or floors of some quality.

Worked flint
Two flint flakes (both with secondary edge working) were recovered, one from F13(24) and one from L2(27). They can be broadly dated as Neolithic-Bronze Age, although the flint from F13, which is notched and made on a broken or shatter piece, is probably more likely to be Late Bronze Age than earlier.

Stone
Three pieces of unworked or roughly shaped stone were recovered. The stone pieces have a combined weight of 2861g. There is one piece each from the pit F2(65) & the well F13(27) and one unstratified piece (US(45)). The unstratified stone and the piece from F2 are both greensand, a stone type which was probably first imported (certainly in any significant quantity) in the 2nd century when large quantities were brought from north Kent to construct the Roman circus. The stone from F13 is an unidentified pale, grey-green limestone which has been used in construction as there is a small piece of mortar surviving on one face.

Slag
Two small pieces of dense slag (up to 1.4mm, thick) were recovered from a medieval context which contained pottery dated to the 15th century L102(18). The slag is only very weakly magnetic and has been formed on a rough surface, while the upper surface is smooth and undulating or rippled. The upper surface suggests flow before setting and indicates this is probably a tap slag. Both pieces are edge pieces.

6.7 Small finds

by Stephen Benfield

Eleven finds were given individual small find(SF) numbers (SF1-11). These are listed and described in Appendix 3. Most of these finds are not closely dated. Some are unstratified (US) finds with no associated context dating, the remainder come from contexts dated to the post-medieval and modern periods.

There are several copper-alloy small finds. The only clearly identifiable objects are a small stud or tack (SF3) and part of a ring (SF5). Both come from the backfill of the well F13 which is dated to the late 18th/19th-20th century, but which also contained a few residual finds of Roman, medieval and post-medieval date. A number of the copper-alloy finds are quite

corroded. These include two small discs of copper-alloy (SF1 & SF9) which might possibly be coins. One (SF1) comes from the pit F6 dated to the late 18th/19th-20th century, the other is unstratified. Two (SF2 & SF4) appear to be simply corrosion deposits rather than objects, the latter (SF4) possibly preserving the shape of organic fibres which have decayed leaving voids in the copper deposits.

One unstratified, small bone object (SF7) is probably part of the shaft of a pin. The rounded shaft is broken at both ends and is flattened on one side so that it has possibly been reworked at some point. If this is a shaft from a bone pin it is probably of Roman, Anglo-Saxon or early medieval date, probably dating no later than the 12th century (based on the dating of bone pins from archaeological contexts in London).

There is also a tile counter (SF10) which was recovered from the fill of the well F13. The counter disc has been cut from a tile in a red sandy fabric and is about 12mm -13mm thick. The shaping is good, but the edges have not been smoothed. Counters manufactured from tile, as well as pottery and bone, are not uncommon in the Roman period. Bone and pottery counters also continue to be manufactured in the post-Roman period (*CAR* **5**, 45), but tile counters appear to be less common. However, while this might be from a Roman tile, the thinness of the body and the fine sanding on the underside suggests that it is peg-tile and therefore of probable medieval or post-medieval date.

Of interest is a large, flat piece of imported lava quern stone (SF11). The estimated diameter (approximately 720mm) indicates this is probably part of a large quern, or possibly part of a powered millstone. The lava stone most probably comes from the region of the Eifel Hills in Germany, although some might possibly come from the Auvergne region in France (*CAR* **2**, 75). Lava stone, or lava-stone querns were widely imported into Britain during the Roman period; the trade was re-established in the mid-late Saxon period and continued through the Middle Ages. The grinding surface is worn very smooth, with the worn surface extending onto the lip of the slightly rounded edge. The other face and edge have been roughly dressed, although the edge of the stone is slightly more smooth than this face. There is no indication of any other working on this piece. The stone is 55mm thick and the breaks through it appear sharp and clean. There is no sign of reuse on the piece, for example as a building material. It is difficult to date closely, but is not later than medieval in date. It was recovered from the backfill of a well (F13) with finds dated to the 18th/19th-20th century with residual finds of Roman and medieval date among these.

7 Discussion (Figs 4, 6 & 7)

For the purpose of the following discussion, the results of the watching brief have been divided into sections as follows:

Roman
Post-Roman
- *The area of the new extension*
- *Inside the historic building*

Roman

The identification of what is presumed to be the north-south Roman street is of particular interest as it allows us the opportunity to refine its position in the town street-grid. The same street has been identified in two locations to the north of The Stockwell (Fig 6). Roughly 30m to the north, a compacted gravel surface was identified during an excavation undertaken in 1961 to explore an area where the modern street plan was thought to denote the presence of the Roman amphitheatre (Blake *et al* 1961, 41). A north-south-orientated trench *c* 1.5m wide and 25m long was excavated within the

footprint of a demolished house shown on the 1876 O.S Map (Fig 6). It is presumed that the metalled surface was present throughout the trench as no mention is made of an edge of the street being identified.

An excavation undertaken in 2008 to the north of the Roman town wall at no 21 St Peters Street, uncovered a series of well preserved Roman wooden drains which flanked a north-south-orientated street (CAT report 559) (Fig 6). Although no direct evidence was found, it was presumed that there must have been a gate in the town wall in this location and that the street identified lined up with the Town Period 2 pre-Boudican street grid inside the town walls (see CAR 6, 7-15).

Based on the evidence detailed above, it is probable that the Roman street uncovered during this watching brief is located a little further to the west than was previously thought (Fig 6). It would therefore line up with the street identified at 21 St Peters Street and further support the notion that there was a gateway in the Roman wall in this location.

Post-Roman

the area of the new extension

The use of stone and peg-tile in the construction of the well lining and the absence of post-Roman brick suggests that the well was built no later than the 16th or 17th century. Other examples of similar wells in the town include those at 7-15 Long Wyre Street (*CAR* **6**, 365) and at Middleborough (*CAR* **3**, 209).

The well would have supplied water to a medieval/post-medieval property situated to the south of the Stockwell building (Fig 7). Indeed the southernmost part of the current Stockwell building (crosswing 3) originally belonged to this neighbouring property (Fig 4), the hall and southern crosswing of which were demolished in the early-19th century and mid-20th century respectively (Shackle 2009) (Fig 7).

Based on the high water table in this area (c 1.4m below ground level), it is probable that the well is relatively shallow. This may explain why it was backfilled rather than being capped with bricks as wells often are elsewhere in the town (ie Firstsite, CAT Report 599). It is probable that the well was backfilled sometime in the mid-late 19th century. This would have been after it had become redundant following the installation of the mains water supply.

Of particular interest amongst the finds from the backfill of the well was the large quantity of sheep metapodials. Along with a similarly disproportionate volume of bone in two other pits, these provide compelling evidence for the presence of a tawyers yard to the rear of the southern property (Fig 7). It is probable that the tawyers' yard was still operating when the well was backfilled. Alternatively, as the tawing process would have required access to a good water supply, it is possible that the infilling of the well was connected to the demise of the tawyers' yard.

No structures or pits were identified during the watching brief that can be linked with the process of tawing. Although tawing was a much faster, cleaner process than tanning, it still required the hides to be covered in slaked lime to remove any remaining hair or flesh and then be soaked in an alum solution. Traditionally, this was undertaken in tubs, which like tanning pits, were often sunk into the ground. Clusters of rectangular pits believed to housed these tubs have been identified during the excavation of other tawyers' yards, for example Bonners Lane in Leicester (Baxter 1998) and Walmgate, York (O'Connor 1984). At Vinegar Yard in Bermondsay, London, the pits lined were lined with wooden casks and stave-built vessels (Heard 2000). It is possible that similar subterranean casks have been removed from the site in West Stockwell Street, perhaps when the yard was landscaped into a beer garden. Alternatively, they may have been set on the ground surface leaving no archaeological trace. Another possibility is that the sheep metapodials may be evidence for a fellmonger operating on the premises rather than a tawyer. A fellmonger

was an intermediary who bought and sold hides or skins, particularly sheepskins, and often removed the feet before passing the skins on to the tawyer or tanner (Serjeantson *et al* 1986, 232).

West Stockwell Street is located in an area of the town known as the Dutch Quarter, named after the Flemish weavers that settled the area during the reign of Elizabeth I. Other industries associated with the manufacture of clothing and footwear would have subsequently been attracted to this area of the town and this would have included tradesmen who dealt with animal hides. Indeed, the extant deeds for the Stockwell building record a bootmaker called John Hyam occupying a section of the building in the 1840's (John Hyam is also mentioned in Whites Directory 1848) (Wendy Smedley *pers comm.)*. It is possible that John Hyam used hides procured from the neighbouring property. A tawyer or fellmonger operating in this area of the town would have also been ideally situated for obtaining a ready supply of skins from the butchers and for selling their produce at the market on the High Street.

Inside the historic building

Two finds of particular significance were made inside the historic building, an assemblage of 15th-century Colchester-ware pottery sherds and a possible hearth. These finds were located in the part of the historic building which documentary evidence may suggest was part of an inn as far back as the 14th century (Wendy Smedley *pers comm*.).

The assemblage of Colchester-ware pottery sherds are from vessels used to store, prepare, cook and serve food and drink and would almost certainly have been used and subsequently broken on the premises. They may have simply been discarded on the floor at the same time as the surrounding beaten clay floor was laid down. However, the deposit was located in the area where it would be expected that the hearth of the original medieval hall would have been situated (Richard Shackle *pers comm*.). Therefore, it is possible that the remains of the hearth were removed from the building sometime in the 15th century and the resulting void was filled with the pottery sherds and building materials.

The original hearth may have been located to the south-east where an area of scorched clay and flat Roman bricks was identified. However, this would be an unusual location for a hearth it would have been located in the service end of the medieval hall, or within a carriage arch beneath a high status room if the hearth post-dated the construction of crosswing 2 (Shackle 2009).

8 Archive deposition

The paper archive and finds are currently held by CAT at Roman Circus House, off Circular Road North, Colchester, Essex, but will be permanently deposited with Colchester and Ipswich Museum under accession code COLEM 2012.45 in accordance with *Guidelines on the preparations and transfer of archaeological archives to Colchester & Ipswich Museums* (CIMS 2008b).

9 Acknowledgements

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Martin Winter (CBCAO) monitored the project for Colchester Borough Council.

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Note: all CAT fieldwork reports are available online in .pdf format at http://cat.essex.ac.uk

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11 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
Bronze Age	period from *c* 2,500 to 700 BC
CAT	Colchester Archaeological Trust
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
EAA	East Anglian Archaeology
faunal	animal
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
medieval	period from AD 1066 to *c* 1500
modern	period from the 19th century onwards to the present
Neolithic	period from *c* 4,500 to 2,500 BC
NGR	National Grid Reference
post-medieval	period from *c* 1500 to *c* 1850
prehistory	the years BC
quernstone	stone for grinding corn into flour
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
U/S	unstratified, ie without a well-defined context

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12 Appendices

Appendix 1: contents of archive

One A4 document wallet containing;

1 Introduction
1.1 Risk assessment
1.2 Soil investigation report
1.3 4 x A3 site plans provided by developer

2 Site archive
2.1 Site digital photo. record
2.2 Attendance register
2.3 Context sheets (F1-F18, L1-L2, F101-F102, L101-L104)
2.4 Finds register
2.5 Site photographic record on CD

3 Research archive
3.1 Monitoring (client) report
3.2 Finds reports and data

Not in file

The finds occupy 8+ boxes

Appendix 2: Catalogue of bulk finds by context with spot dates

CBM=ceramic building material, Teg=tegula, Imb=inbrex, BFT=box flue tile, RB=Roman brick, RT=Roman tile, RBT=Roman brick/tile, PT= peg tile, FT=post-Roman floor tile, Br=post-Roman brick, MSL maximum surviving length

ctxt	find	finds	finds spot date
F001	041	**CBM post-Roman** (1@ 2000 g) Br (200 mm x 100 mm x 45 mm) unfroged (16-17/E18C)	post-med
F002 upper	005	**Pottery Roman** (3@ 42 g) Fabric DJ, Fabric GX (dated Roman, M1-E2C?) **Stone** (1@ 1275 g) greensand, irregular lump (stone type first imported into Colchester in the Roman period, probably after E2C)	Roman 2C+
F002 lower	015	**Pottery Roman** (4@ 92 g) Fabric BA(CG), Fabric CZ, Fabric GX, Fabric HZ (M2-M3C) **CBM Roman** (1@ 37 g) RBT	Roman 2C+
F004 wall fabric	046	**CBM Roman?** (1@ 455 g) thick tile or brick, poss. Rom. covered in mortar **CBM post-Roman** (1@ 156 g) PT (covered in mortar)	med-p-med/mod
F005	006	**Pottery Roman** (4@ 98 g) Fabric GX, Fabric HD (late) (L3-4C/4C), Fabric HZ (1-2/3C) **CBM Roman** (9@ 560 g) Imb, BFT, RBT (one piece with edge cut to curve), poss. *tesserae* cube **CBM post-Roman**?(1@ 13 g) thin tile, poss. PT, (1@ 10 g) thin tile (10 mm) piece, poss. peg-tile (med-p-med/mod?) **Fired clay** (1@ 33 g) close spaced vertical & horizontal wattle holes, from a daub wall **Animal bone** 6@ 158g, *Bos* horncore, metapodial & pelvis	med-p-med/mod (poss. late Rom)
F006	007	**Pottery Roman** (3@ 31 g) Fabric EA, Fabric EE, Fabric GX (dated 3-4C); **Pottery post-Roman** (2@ 4 g) Fabric 48D (dated L18/19-20C) **CBM post-Roman** 2@ 1000 g, PT, Br (55 mm thick) (16-17/E18C) **Animal bone** 2@ 60g, *Ovis* metatarsal (sawn) & *Bos* molar	mod(L18/19-20C) (residual Rom.)
F007	008	**Pottery post-Roman** (1@ 72 g) Fabric 20 (dated 12-14C)	med 12-14C
F007	014	**Pottery Roman** (1@ 24 g) Fabric KX (dated L3-4C); **Pottery post-Roman** (3@ 122 g) Fabric 21A, Fabric 40(?) (L16/17-18C)	L med/post-med (16-18C) (residual Rom.)
F008	013	**Pottery Roman** (1@ 59 g) Fabric GX (dated Roman); **Pottery post-Roman** (2@ 59 g) Fabric 21A, Fabric 40 (L16/17-18C) **CBM Roman** (2@ 192 g) RBT, one possibly Rom. **CBM post-Roman** (2@ 173 g) Br one piece appears certainly to be post-Roman (poorly dated, post-med-mod) **Animal bone** 1@ 28g, *Ovis* tibia	post-med (16-18C) (residual Rom.)
F009	012	**CBM post-Roman** (2@ 38 g) PT (med-p-med/mod) **Coal** (1@ 1 g) (L med-mod?)	med(?)-p-med/mod
F010	017	**Pottery post-Roman** (3@ 37 g) Fabric 22, Fabric 40, Fabric 48D (dated 18/19-20C) **CBM Roman** (2@ 53 g) Imb RBT **Animal bone** 2@ 34g, large mammal pelvis with cut marks	mod(L18/19-20C) (residual Rom. CBM)
F013 upper	024	**Pottery Roman**(?) (1@ 2 g) Fabric GX (dated Roman?); **Pottery post-Roman** (74@ 2794 g) Fabric 40, Fabric 50, Fabric 45, Fabric 48D (dated 18/19-20C) **CBM post-Roman** (6@ 331 g) PT (dated med-p-med/mod)	mod(L18/19-20C) (residual preh. & Rom.)

ctxt	find	finds	finds spot date
		Clay pipe (2@ 6 g) stem pieces **Glass** (5@ 414 g) neck and base of round wine bottle(s) in green glass (18-E19C), other bottle glass, window glass **Fe object** (1@ 467 g) corroded piece of an caste iron object, recessed ledge (modern) **Flint** (1@ 27 g) irregular shatter(?) piece with two notches on one edge with secondary working/retouch - one notch primarily worked from ventral other the dorsal face (prehistoric, Neo-BA, poss. LBA) **Animal bone**15@ 379g, *Ovis, Cervus,* & *Bos* mix of elements, some metapodials, some gnawing.	
F013 middle	025	**Pottery Roman** (1@ 4 g) Fabric GX (dated Roman); **Pottery post-Roman** (57@ 3000 g) Fabric 20, Fabric 21A, Fabric 23F, Fabric 40, Fabric 50, Fabric 45, Fabric 45F, Fabric 45M, Fabric 48D (dated 18/19-20C) **CBM post-Roman** (12@ 1947 g) PT, several with round fixing holes, one with two fixing holes, FT (glazed) (125 mm x 25 mm) dark, olive green (med-p-med/mod) **Clay pipe** (16@ 90 g) stem pieces, one with squat, oval, broad foot **Glass** (7@ 533 g), wine bottle base in green glass, round (18-E19C) also small bottle and window glass	mod(L18/19-20C) (residual Rom & med.)
F013 middle	026	**Animal bone** 321@ 6255g, mostly *Ovis* metapodials, lots of gnawing and proximal cut marks, high number of juvenile bones, some *Bos* metapodials and mixture of other elements (all *Ovis & Bos* except 1 *Canis* bone) many displaying butchery marks.	
F013 middle	027	**Pottery Roman** (1@ 925 g) Fabric AJ, (dated M1-2C) **CBM post-Roman** (9@ 5500 g) PT (6@ 1500 g) (length 250 mm) round & square fixing perforations, Br (@1750 g) (95 mm x 58 mm), Br (1@750 g) 95 x 40 mm, Br (1@ 1500 g) complete (210 x 100 x 50 mm), all bricks are unfroged (16-17/E18C) **Stone** (1@ 2000 g) pale grey-green limestone, some natural smooth faces, broken lump, used in construction as mortar on one face	med-p-med/mod (residual Rom)
F13 middle	030	**Glass** (5@ 107 g), base of wine glass, fluted body with round base, short stem, heavy leaded glass, post dates late 17th century (prob. 18-E19C); window glass, one piece with straight rounded edge, another which has prob. come from a leaded window	p-med/mod(?)
F013 lower	034	**Pottery post-Roman** (60@ 4000 g) Fabric 40 (includes a large part of a chamber pot), Fabric 45M (large part of small mug), Fabric 48D (dated 18/19-20C) **CBM post-Roman** (2@ 750 g) PT, FT yellowish cream floor tile or floor brick (120 mm x 20 mm) (post-med/modern) **Animal bone** 47@ 1180g, mostly *Ovis* metapodials many gnawed and some with cut marks, mix of other elements displaying butchery marks	mod(L18/19-20C) (residual p-med.)
F013 well fabric	044	**CBM Roman** (3@ 1250 g) RBT with mortar over breaks (1@ 357 g) Thick tile covered in mortar **CBM post-Roman** (3@ 1000 g, 10mm thick) PT with mortar over breaks (dated med-post-med) **Mortar Roman** (4@ 1207 g) *op sig.* and white mortar, one piece with a layer of each mortar type	med-p-med (residual Rom)
F014	032	**Animal bone** 397@ 6371g, over 90% *Ovis* metapodials, lots of proximal cut marks, some gnawing, some juvenile bones, mostly adult, rest of the bones are mostly *Ovis* planagies or *Bos* metapodials.	p-med/mod
F014	033	**CBM post-Roman** (14@ 2000 g) PT, Br (45 mm thick), Br (30 mm thick), brick is unfroged (16-17/E18C?)	p-med/mod (16-17/E18C?)

ctxt	find	finds	finds spot date
		Fe nail (1@ 24 g)	
F016	043	**Pottery post-Roman** (11@ 622 g) Fabric 40, Fabric 48D (dated 18/19-20C) **Animal bone** 50@ 2709g, mostly *Ovis* metapodials & *Bos* metapodials- lots of cut marks (particularly @ proximal end) and lots of gnawing.	mod(L18/19-20C)
L001/ L002	001	**Pottery post-Roman** (@ 230 G) Fabric 40, Fabric 45 (dated 16/17-18C) **Clay pipe** (4@ 26 g) pipe bowl, **S C** in relief on sides of foot, Crummy type 12 (dated *c*. 1780-1820) (*CAR* **5**), stem with squat, round foot; 2 other stem pieces **Animal bone** 4@ 73.5g, *Ovis* mandibles (butchery) & *Felis* mandible (pet?)	p-med/mod (L18C+)
L001/ L002	011	**Pottery post-Roman** (1@ 218 g) Fabric 40A (dated 17-18C)	p-med
L002	002	**Pottery Roman** (4@ 431 g) Fabric AJ (BAT AM 2) poss. Dressel 23 (3-4C), Fabric DJ, Fabric GX (M1-2C), Fabric MP (dated 4C/L4C) **CBM Roman** (10@ 3750 g), Teg, 5 flanges (bases 17-18 mm thick), BFT, one piece combed and with mortared surface; 3 pieces RBT **Mortar Roman** (1@ 283 g) *op. sig.* **Animal bone** 12@ 1026g, *Bos* & *Equus* some butchery on *Bos*	Roman (4/L4C)
L002	003	**CBM Roman** (2@ 8750 g) RB (5500 g) (50 mm thick MSL 310 mm) pre-firing hole in one corner, similar to a *tegulae* fixing hole, 12mm at top, 5 mm dia.; RB (3250 g) 275 mm MSL, mortar on surfaces (dated Rom)	Roman
L002	004	**Pottery Roman** (5@ 83 g) Fabric BA(CG), Fabric DJ, Fabric GX (dated 2C+) **CBM Roman** (2@ 39 g) possible *tesserae* but one thin tile & poss. Post-Roman PT **CBM post-Roman** (1@ 35 g) Br (poorly dated, but appears to be post-medieval)	post-medieval(?) (residual Rom)
L002	016	**Pottery Roman** (3@ 1065 g) Fabric AJ, Fabric GX, Fabric HZ (dated Rom, M1-2C?) **CBM Roman** (2@ 656 g) Teg **Animal bone** 1@ 157g *Bos* mandible, adult, butchery marks	Roman
L002	037	**Flint** (1@13 g) broad, secondary flake with some cortex, previous flake removals on dorsal face, hinge fracture, retouch along one edge (dated prehistoric, Neo-BA)	prehistoric (Neo-BA)
L002	045	**Pottery Roman** (2@ 149 g) Fabric GX (unusual in this Fabric - top of narrow neck, two handled flagon, the flagon form is essentially that of Cam 377 but in greyware with a burnished surface), Fabric HZ **CBM Roman** (4@ 2992 g) Imb, RBT 35 mm thick (2500 g), prints from 3 animals in surface: small pig(?), dog and other small animal (not identified) **CBM post-Roman** (1@ 63 g) PT **Stone** (1@ 586 g) greensand piece (stone type first imported into Colchester in the Roman period, prob, after E2C), copper-alloy object corroded onto surface (**SF 9**)	med-p-med/mod and Roman
F101a	019	**CBM post-Roman** (2@ 887 g) PT, FT (glazed) (28 mm thick) corner of tile with dark greenish grey glaze surface, reused as surface part covered with mortar (med-p-med?)	medieval?
F102	042	**CBM Roman** (5@ 16750 g), RT (3500 g) complete square tile, *bessalis* (200 mm x 50 mm) mortar on top surface; RB (7250 g) (300 mm x 30 mm, MSL 400 mm) mortar on top surface, RBT (3@ 6000 g) one with mortar & *op. sig*. mortar on surface (dated Rom)	(Roman)
L101	020	**CBM post-Roman** (1@ 339 g) FT(glazed) black	

ctxt	find	finds	finds spot date
		surface (40 mm thick) (med-p-med?)	
L102	018	**Pottery post-Roman** (18@ 140 g) Fabric 13S, Fabric 13(?), Fabric 20 (dated 12-13/14C) **CBM Roman** (10@ 381 g) lmb, RBT, *tesserae*, some thin tile and some broken pieces which are prob. *Tesserae* **CBM post-Roman** (2@ 32 g) PT (dated med- p-med/mod) **Slag** (2@ 49 g) 1.4 mm thick, dense, formed on a rough surface, upper surface is smooth and undulating, only very weakly magnetic **Stone Roman?** (1@ 26 g) poss. stone *tesserae* **Shell** (4@ 38 g) oyster, whelk **Animal bone** 18@ 174g, *Bos, Ovis* & *Sus* , axial bone, some cut marks	med (12-13/14C) (residual Rom)
L102	021	**Pottery post-Roman** (4@ 244 g) Fabric 13, Fabric 20, Fabric 21A (13-15/17C)	med (13-15/16C)
L102	036	**Pottery post-Roman** (5@ 228 g) Fabric 21A (13-15/17C), Fabric 40 (16/17-18C) **CBM Roman** 1@ 168 g lmb **CBM post-Roman** (1@ 126 g) PT (reused) (dated med- p-med/mod)	post-med (residual Rom)
L103	022	**CBM post-Roman** (38@ 4204 g) PT, Br (sort, orange fabric), FT(not glazed) (30 mm thick) two pieces (one might poss. be Rom.) mortar over break of the certain FT (reused)	medieval?/post-medieval
L103	023	**Pottery Roman** (2@ 16 g) Fabric GX (dated Rom) **Pottery post-Roman** (57@ 3027 g) Fabric 20, Fabric 21A, Fabric 40 (3 large sherds, 212 g) (L16/17-18C with residual 13-15/16C) (Fabric 98 - 1 sandy greyware sherd unident.) **CBM post-Roman** (22@ 1881 g) PT, Br (glazed), FT (glazed) 2 yellow 30 mm thick), 1 grey with yellow (40 mm thick), FT (not glazed) 2 plain (25 mm thick) (med-p-med) **Fired clay** (1@ 16 g) poss. soft brick, pink-buff, two sides (width 55 mm) **Shell** (2@ 8 g) oyster **Animal bone** 1@ 2g, lrg mammal axial	*c.* 15C(?) (with intrusive(?) 16-18C)
L103	035	**Pottery post-Roman** (13@ 682 g) Fabric 20?, Fabric 21A, Fabric 40 (1 sherd) (dated 16/17-18C with residual? 13-15/16C) **CBM Roman** (1@ 238 g) Teg (burnt) **CBM post-Roman** (4@ 630 g) PT, FT (glazed) (40 mm thick) appear burnt (clean, smooth edges suggest a poss. late med-post-med date); also thick sherd poss. from a ceramic object? such as a chimney pot, but sooted externally **Animal bone** 1@ 23g, lrg mammal diaphysis	*c.* 15C(?) (with intrusive(?) 16-18C)
L104	047	**Pottery Roman** (15@ 135 g) Fabric GX , Fabric KX (dated L3-4C); **Pottery post-Roman** (6@ 41 g) Fabric 13?, Fabric 20, Fabric 21A (Rouen-type decoration) (dated 13-14 C) **CBM Roman** (8@ 773 g) BFT (combed), RBT **Animal bone** 5@ 235g, *Bos* & *Sus*, four bones from the foot, one tooth (*Bos*)	Med (13-14C) (residual Rom)

Appendix 3: Catalogue of small finds by context with spot dates

SF	ctxt	find no.	material	obj type	description	no.	wt (g)	Lgth mm	Width/ dia mm	thick mm	spot date	context date
1	F006	009	Copper-alloy	(Disc)	Dirty, quite heavily corroded disc, damaged edge, possibly a ?coin	1	3.5		20			Mod (18/19-20C) (residual Rom.)
2	F006	010	Copper-alloy	Fused corrosion deposits	Pointed, flat stone? with copper-alloy corrosion deposits across both surfaces (discard)	1	5.6	26		2		Mod(18/19-20C) (residual Rom.)
3	F013	028	Copper-alloy	Stud/tack	Small copper-alloy stud or tack with domed head and square shank (broken) probably a decorative furniture tack	1	0.4	10	7			Principally mod (18/19-20C) (residual Rom & Med.)
4	F013	028	Copper-alloy	Cord impressions?	Irregular lumps of copper-alloy, several fragmented pieces broken at both ends, longest surviving piece 33 mm, up to four small voids of about 1-2 mm dia. bore with neat, tight spiral? pattern interiors. These appear to be casts of neat, tightly wound cord or wool threads preserved in the corrosion	6	19					Principally mod (18/19-20C) (residual Rom & Med.)
5	F013	029	Copper-alloy	ring	Approximately half (semi circle) of what appears to be a copper-alloy ring, sub -square cross section, internal dia 25 mm,	1	2.2		32 mm external 25 mm internal			Principally mod (18/19-20C) (residual Rom & Med.)
6	L002	038	Copper-alloy	Small lump	Piece/fragment, small elongated lump	1	2.1	20	6			
7	L002	039	bone	pin	Fragment from a pin? Shaft only, broken at both	1	0.4	32	2-3		Rom -med	

SF	ctxt	find no.	material	obj type	description	no.	wt (g)	Lgth mm	Width/ dia mm	thick mm	spot date	context date
					ends, rounded but one face flattened and poss. secondary worked?. If this is a pin it probably dates no later than the 12th century (based on dates from London contexts)							
8	F007	040	Copper-alloy	wire	Piece of wire bent into a semi-circle.	1	0.1	17				L med/post-med (16-18C) (residual Rom.)
9	L002	045	Copper-alloy	Disc? Possible coin?	Corroded onto piece of greensand	-	-		18			
10	F013	025	CBM	tile counter disc	Counter disc, chipped edges (not smoothed), thin tile (9 mm), appears to be peg-tile (dated med.-post-med./mod.)	1	12		63			Principally mod (18/19-20C) (residual Rom & Med.)
11	F013	031	Lava stone	millstone	Edge section from a large imported lava stone quern or probable millstone. Flat, worn grinding surface, curvature of edge suggests a large stone of about 720 mm dia., probably a millstone	1	3000 (approx)	(240)	Dia. 720 (est)	55		Principally mod (18/19-20C) (residual Rom & Med.)

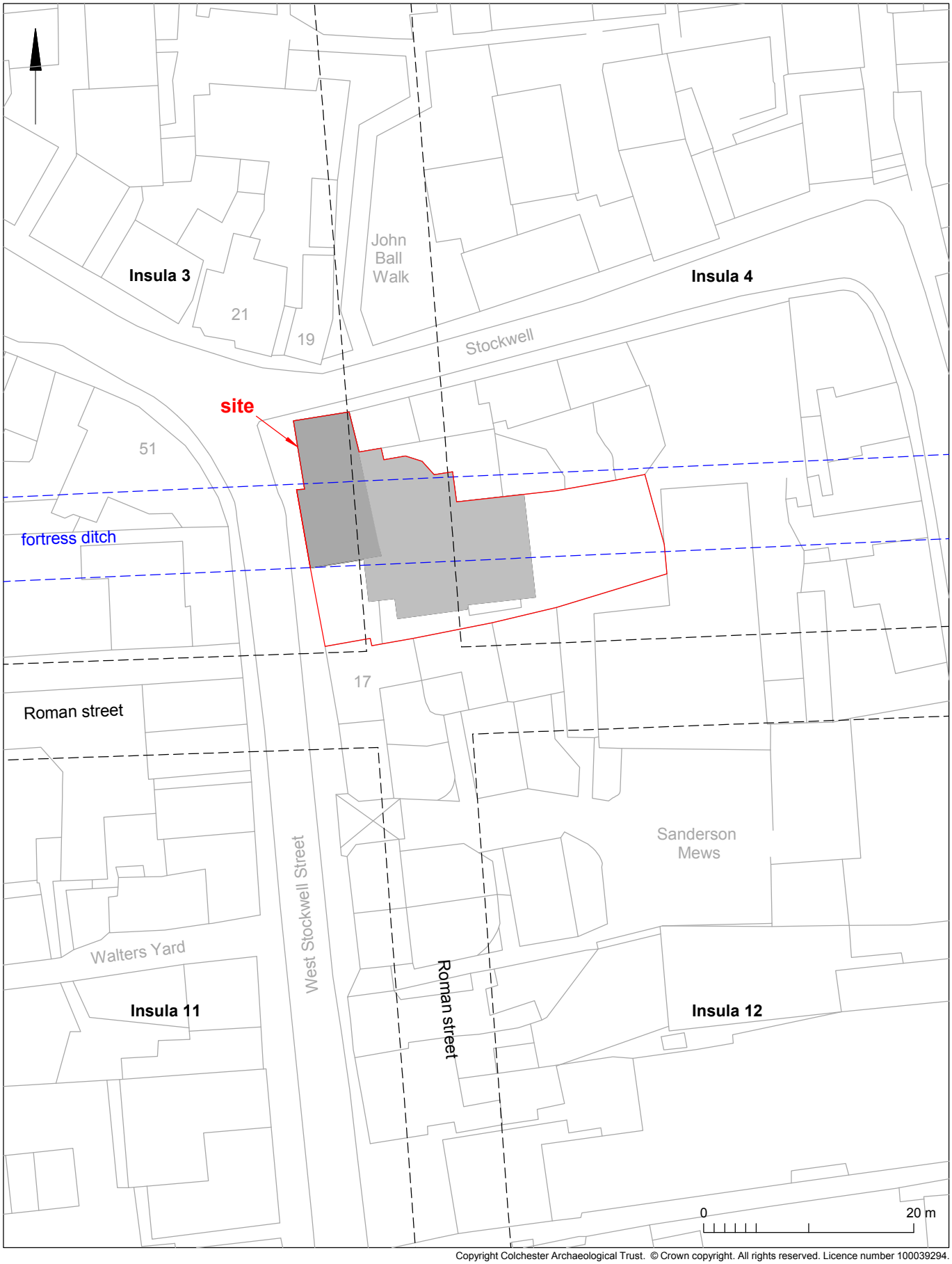

Fig 1 Site location in relation to the modern street layout and the projected Roman street-grid.

Fig 2 Site plan showing the archaeological features and deposits identified during the external groundworks.

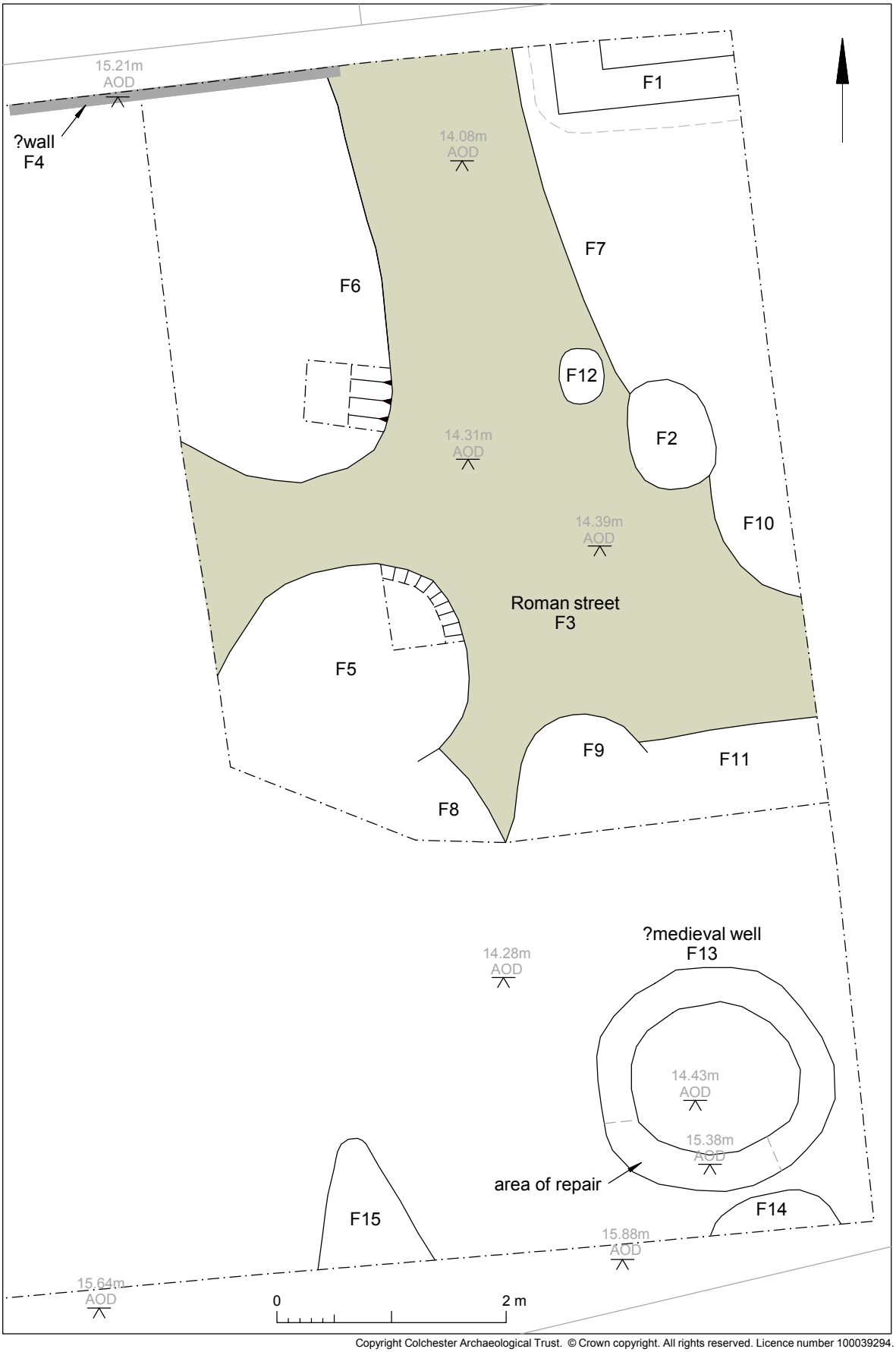

Fig 3 Site plan showing the extent of the Roman street and the location of the medieval/post-medieval well.

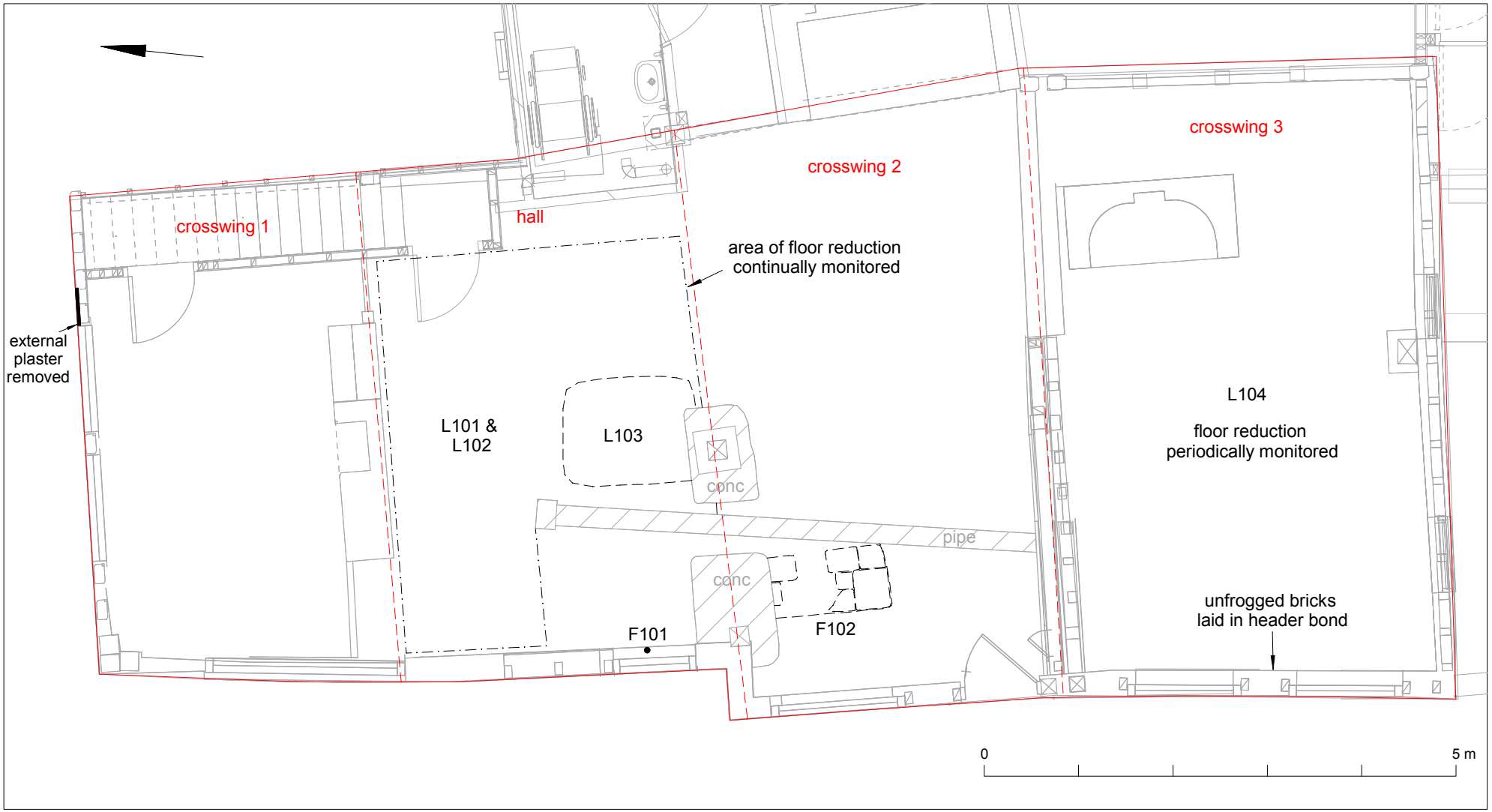

Fig 4 Plan of the inside of the historic building showing the archaeological features and deposits identified during the internal groundworks.

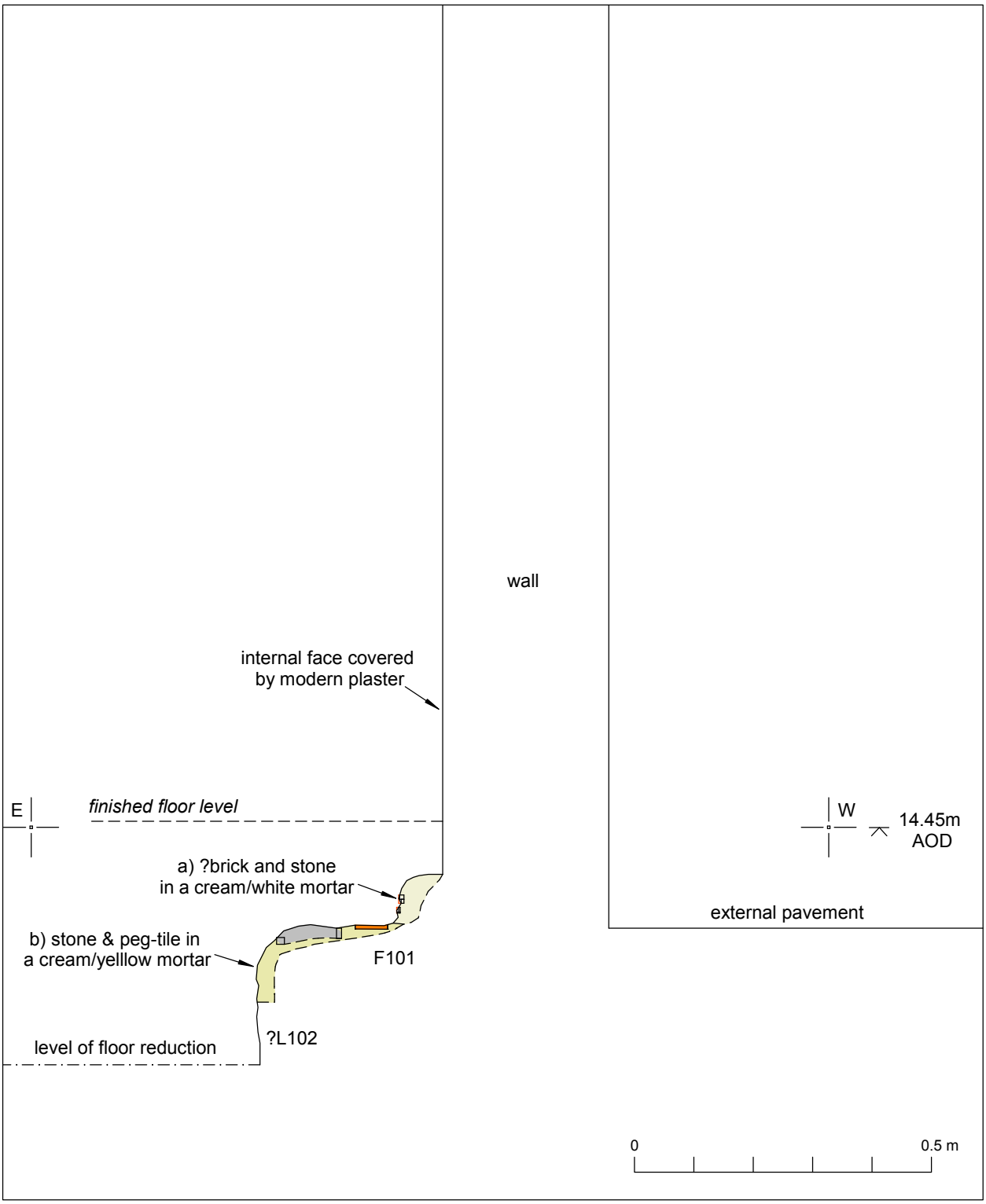

Fig 5 South-facing section showing the exposed foundation of the western wall of the historic building.

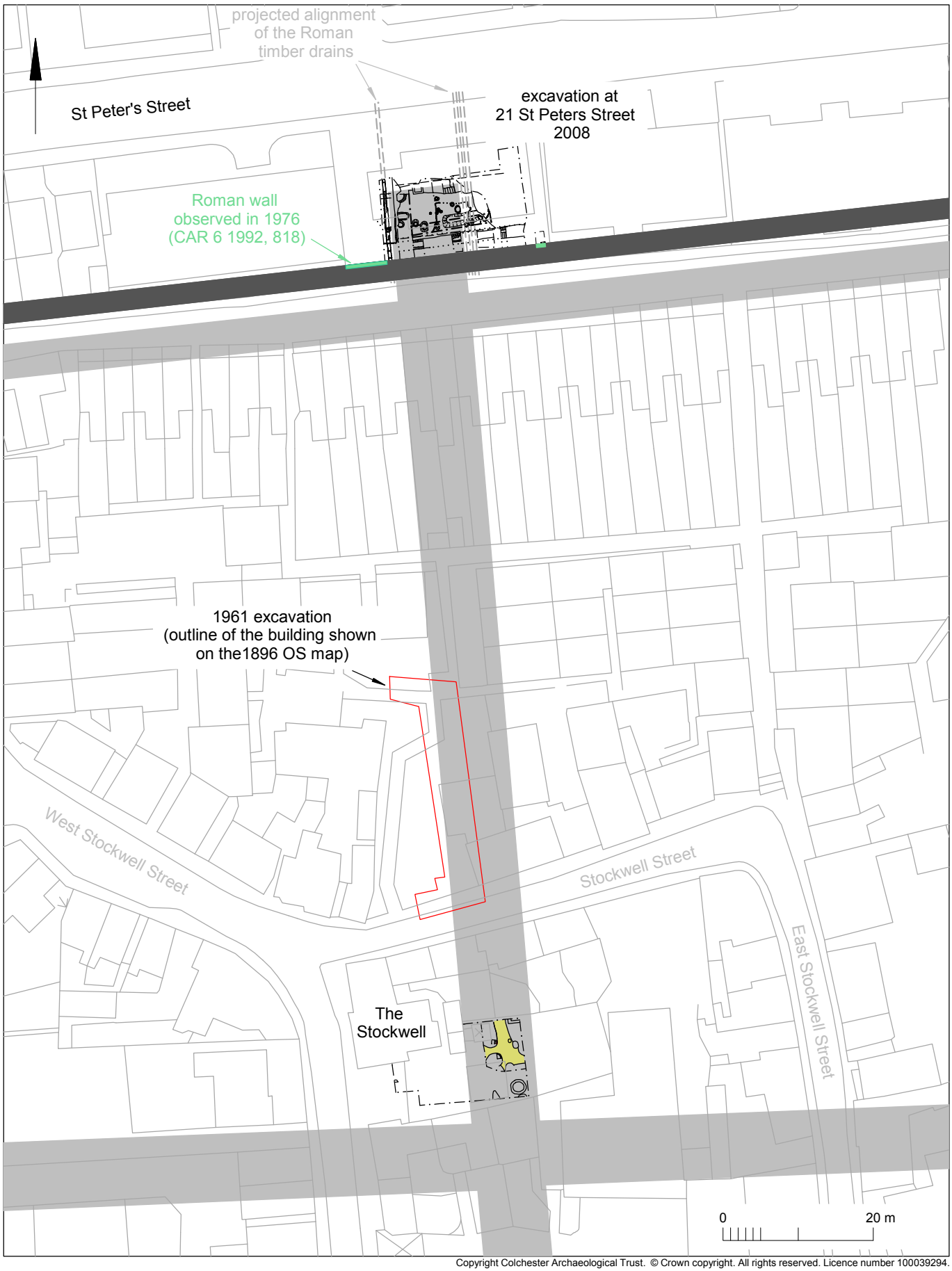

Fig 6 Plan showing the revised location of the north-south Roman street.

Fig 7 Plan showing the interpretation of the post-Roman deposits in the area of the new extension.

Essex Historic Environment Record/
Essex Archaeology and History

Summary sheet

Address: The Stockwell, 18 West Stockwell Street, Colchester, Essex	
Parish: Colchester	***District:*** Colchester
NGR: TL 6101 2542 (c)	***Site codes:*** CAT project – 12/07f Museum accession – COLEM 2012.45
Type of work: Archaeological monitoring	***Site director/group:*** Colchester Archaeological Trust
Date of work: August 2012	***Size of area investigated:*** c 300 sq m
Location of curating museum: Colchester & Ipswich Museum	**Funding source:** Developer
Further seasons anticipated? No	***Related EHER numbers:***
Final report: CAT Report 670	
Periods represented: Roman, medieval, post-medieval, modern	

Summary:

An archaeological watching brief took place at The Stockwell, 18 West Stockwell Street, Colchester during the renovation of the late 15th-century building and the construction of a new extension to the rear.

During the reduction of the floor level inside the historic building, the remains of a beaten clay floor and a possible medieval hearth were recorded. A significant assemblage of 15th-century Colchester-ware pottery was also recovered from a deposit in the centre of the medieval hall.

The remains of a north-south-orientated Roman Street and a medieval/post-medieval well were uncovered in the area of the new extension. The well had been backfilled with a large quantity of modern/post-medieval pottery and bone. The bone assemblage from the well and from two pits in close proximity to the well contained a disproportionately high number of sheep metapodials which indicates that a tawyer or possibly a fellmonger operated in this area.

Previous summaries/reports: None	
Keywords: Roman street, Roman finds, medieval or post-medieval well, beaten clay floor, hearth, post-medieval/modern pits, tawyers yard	***Significance:*** ***
Author of summary: Adam Wightman	***Date of summary:*** August 2013