

**Archaeological evaluation by
trial-trenching at 'Hunter's Rough',
Chitts Hill, Colchester, Essex
March 2013**



**fieldwork by
Ben Holloway**

**report prepared by
G Adams**

**on behalf of
Vaughan & Blyth**

CAT project ref.: 13/02i

NGR: TL 96024 25513

Colchester and Ipswich Museums accession code: COLEM 2013.6



Colchester Archaeological Trust

Roman Circus House,
Circular Road North,
Colchester,
Essex CO2 7GZ

tel.: 07436273304

email: archaeologists@catuk.org

CAT Report 687
March 2013

**Essex Historic Environment Record/
Essex Archaeology and History**

**An archaeological evaluation by
trial-trenching at 'Hunter's Rough',
Chitts Hill, Colchester, Essex
March 2013**

CAT Report 687

Summary sheet

Address: 'Hunter's Rough', Chitts Hill, Colchester, Essex	
Parish: Colchester	District: Colchester
NGR: TL 96024 25513 (c)	Site codes: CAT project code – 13/02i Museum accession code – COLEM 2013.6
Type of work: Evaluation by trial-trenching	Site director/group: Colchester Archaeological Trust
Date of work: 4th March 2013	Size of area investigated: 1.39 ha
Location of curating museum: Colchester and Ipswich Museums	Funding source: Developer
Further seasons anticipated? No	Related EHER numbers: 11914
Final report:	CAT Report 687
Periods represented:	-
<p>Summary: <i>The Colchester Archaeological Trust (CAT) undertook an evaluation by trial-trenching at 'Hunter's Rough', Chitts Hill, Colchester, Essex, on the 4th March 2013.</i> <i>The site is currently an area of open ground, mainly laid to grass, shrubs and trees, which includes a detached dwelling with five outbuildings. The proposed development works involve the construction of sixteen new houses and an access road. The site is located to the west of Colchester town centre and immediately to the east of Chitts Hill (Fig 1).</i> <i>The evaluation was required to establish the character, extent, date, significance and condition of any archaeological remains and deposits likely to be affected by the groundworks associated with the proposed development on the site.</i> <i>The site lies outside the historic core of Colchester but is in an area of archaeological potential, where Roman and prehistoric remains survive. The principal archaeological feature is Gryme's Dyke, which was a defensive</i></p>	

earthwork along the west side of Camulodunum. The dyke lies about 85 m to the west of the site. Part of a Bronze Age cemetery was excavated in 1977 to the north of the site during mineral-extraction works (Crummy 1977). Other remains are known from cropmarks. These include a Roman road to the west of the site and a rectilinear enclosure to the south (EHER no 11914).

Nine trial-trenches (T1-T9) were excavated during the evaluation using a mechanical excavator equipped with a toothless ditching bucket, under the supervision of a CAT archaeologist (Fig 2). The trenches were 295 m long x 1.6 m wide, and excavated to a depth of between 35 cm and 67 cm. Four layers were identified (Fig 3). These were (uppermost to lowest): L1 (100 mm of topsoil; L2 (160 mm of subsoil); and L3 (natural gravel in T1-T2) or L4 (natural clay in T3).

The only archaeological feature discovered was a north-east/south-west linear feature (F1) in T5, T7 and T9. This contained fragments of peg-tile and is likely to represent a field ditch of post-medieval date.

The fieldwork was undertaken by Ben Holloway, Chris Lister and Mark Baister and monitored by Martin Winter for Colchester Borough Council. The Trust is grateful to Vaughan & Blyth for commissioning CAT to undertake the work.

Previous summaries/reports: None

Keywords: -

Significance: neg

Author of summary:
G Adams

Date of summary:
March 2013

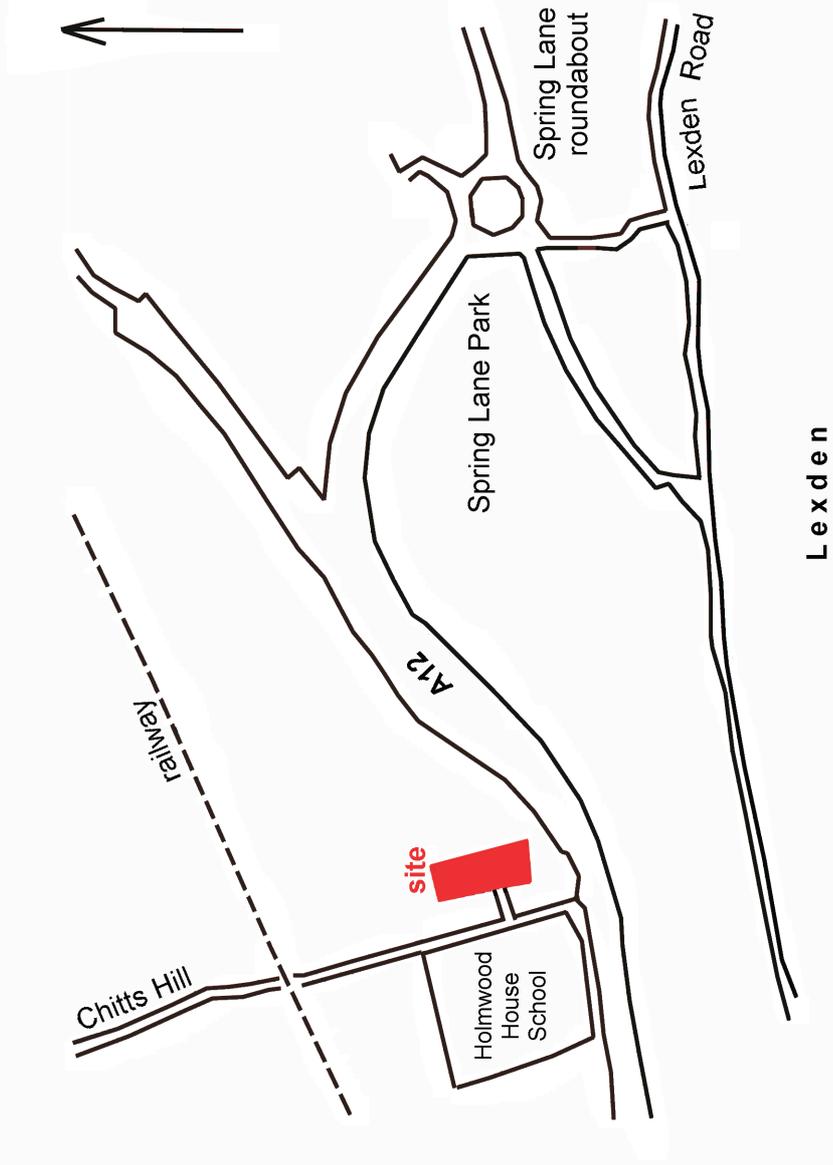


Fig 1 Site location plan.

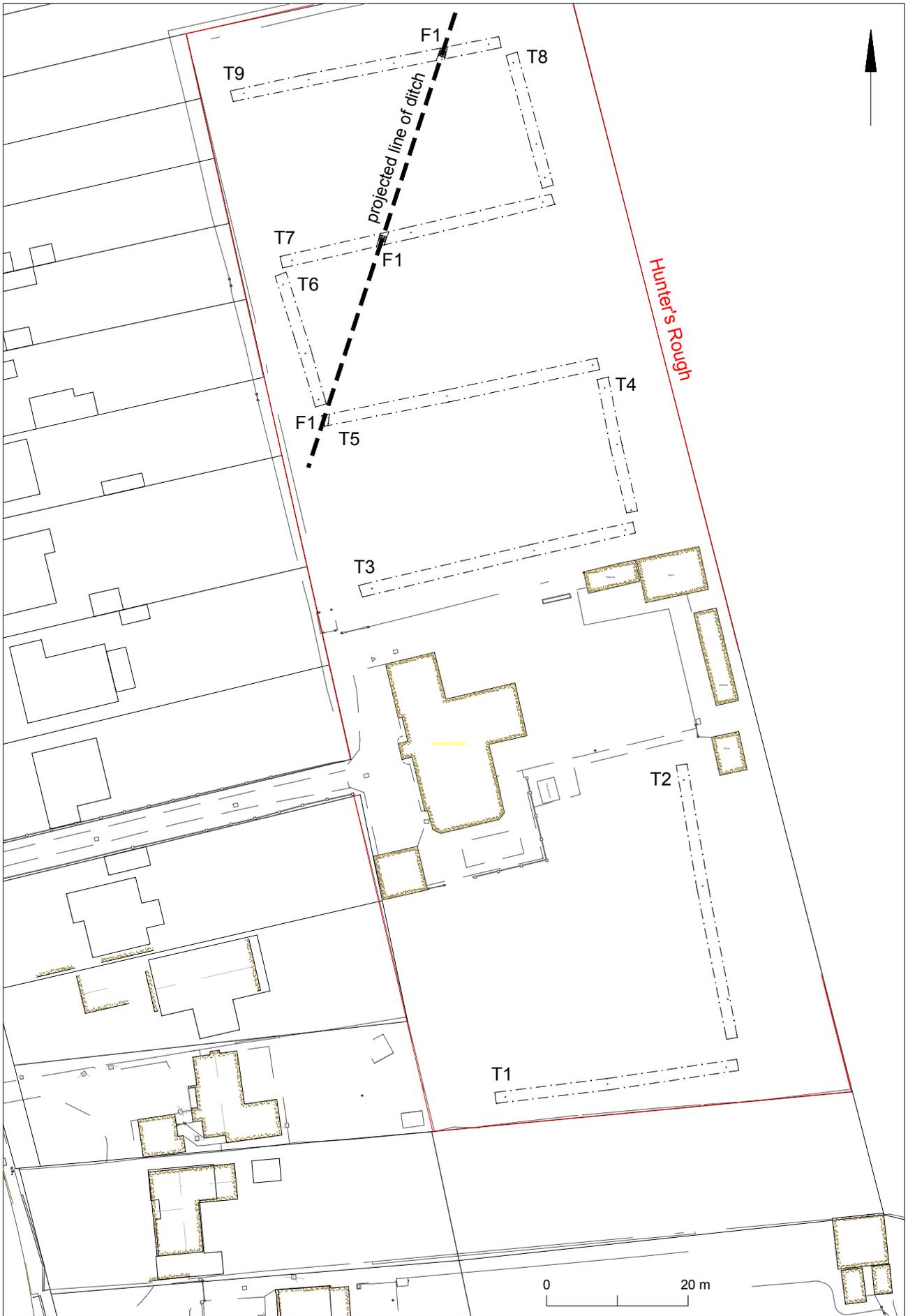
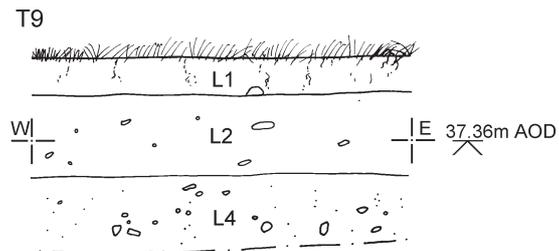
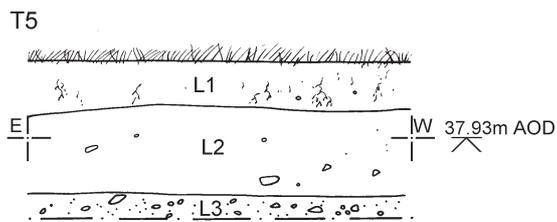
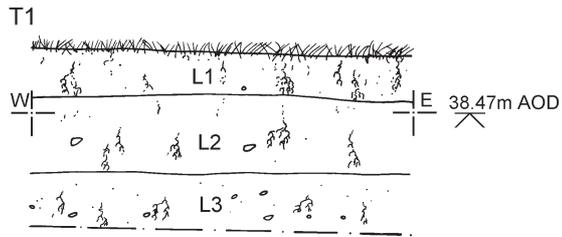
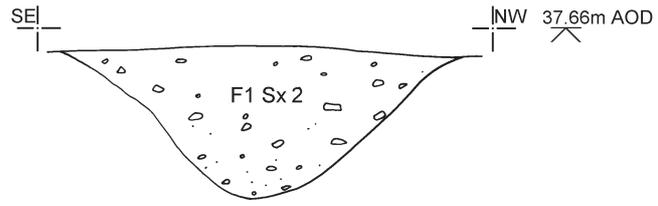


Fig 2 Site plan, showing the results.



-  sand
-  small stones
-  roots



Fig 3 Ditch section (F1 Sx 2) and representative trench sections (T1, T5, T9).