

Archaeological excavations at Castle House, Castle Bailey, Colchester, Essex, CO1 1TH June-July 2014 & April-June & December 2015

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Contents

1	Summary	1
2	Introduction	1
3	Archaeological background	2
4	Aims	3
5	Methods	3
6	Phasing	5
7	The Roman arcade	5
8	Later remains	19
9	Finds	23
9.1	Introduction	23
9.2	Small finds <i>by Laura Pooley</i>	23
9.3	The pottery <i>by Stephen Benfield</i>	25
9.4	Column bricks: their shapes and their use <i>by Philip Crummy</i>	28
9.5	The petrology of two pieces of worked stone <i>by Kevin Hayward with Penny Coombe</i>	29
10	Discussion	30
11	Abbreviations and glossary	36
12	References	36
13	Acknowledgements	38
14	Archive deposition	38
15	Appendices	38
	Appendix 1: finds list	38
	Appendix 2: list of Roman column brick	47
	Appendix 3: list of brick and tile (other than column brick)	50
	Appendix 4: contents of archive	56

Figures after p 57

Appended documents:

2014 Written Scheme of Investigation

2015 Written Scheme of Investigation

OASIS project entry

EHER summary sheet

Lists of photographs and figures

Photo 1	The remains of the Roman arcade exposed under the modern floor, viewed from the east.	front cover
Photo 2	The remains of the Roman arcade after excavation, viewed from the east.	6
Photo 3	Pier F17 on the foundation platform F2, viewed from the north-west.	7
Photo 4	Pier F3, viewed from the north.	8
Photo 5	Revetting wall F4, viewed from the north.	9
Photo 6	Revetting wall F13, viewed from the north.	10
Photo 7	Revetting wall F14, viewed from the north.	11
Photo 8	The south face of revetting wall F14, viewed from the south-west.	11
Photo 9	Revetting wall F20, viewed from the north.	12
Photo 10	The fragment of collapsed column/pier F23, viewed from the west.	15
Photo 11	Vertical view of the collapsed Roman attached column F8.	16
Photo 12	Detail of the collapsed attached column F8, viewed from the south-east.	17
Photo 13	Demolition debris L10 during excavation in T3, viewed from the north.	18
Photo 14	Gully F7 and charcoal-rich deposit L3, viewed from the south.	19
Photo 15	The large stone slab, viewed from the south-west.	30
Photo 16	Photomicrograph of Ham Hill stone.	30
Photo 17	The ground floor of Castle House, viewed from the north-east.	35
Photo 18	Part of the remains of the Roman arcade, viewed from ground floor level.	35

- Fig 1 Site location.
- Fig 2 Site plan.
- Fig 3 Plan of the 2014-15 excavation areas and an east-west profile of the Roman arcade.
- Fig 4 T3: plan.
- Fig 5 T4: plan.
- Fig 6 Plans of post-Roman features at the eastern end of the 2015 excavation area.
- Fig 7 Section 1 and feature profiles at the eastern end of the 2015 excavation area.
- Fig 8 T3: section 2.
- Fig 9 T3: sections 3, 7 & 8.
- Fig 10 Above: outline of the collapsed column F8.
Below: section of collapsed column F18 and gully F22.
- Fig 11 T4: section 4.
- Fig 12 T4: sections 5-6.
- Fig 13 Medieval pottery from F7.
- Fig 14 Roman quarter-circle column brick.
- Fig 15 Outlines of the Roman column brick with finds numbers.
- Fig 16 Analysis of the Roman column brick in terms of radii: sheet 1.
- Fig 17 Analysis of the Roman column brick in terms of radii: sheet 2.
- Fig 18 Reconstruction of the attached column F8 with a diameter of 3 pM.
- Fig 19 Reconstruction of the attached column F8 with brick fragments.
- Fig 20 Illustration showing how the column fragment F8 could have tumbled to the ground.
- Fig 21 Above: the 1964 section showing the deposits to the south of the Roman arcade.
Below: annotated detail of the 1964 section.

1 Summary

Previous archaeological work had established that a monumental Roman arcade crossed the Castle House site from east to west. The arcade formed the impressive south front of a large rectangular precinct within which stood the Temple of Claudius.

In 2014, prior to the redevelopment of the site, two trenches were dug in the northern part of the site. This area lay immediately to the north of the arcade and was previously largely unexcavated. In the more westerly trench, CAT uncovered part of a Roman attached column that must have fallen from the arcade. It lay in thick deposits of demolition debris dating from the 11th and/or 12th centuries. In the other trench, a quantity of pottery of probable 12th-century date, as well as many fragments of animal bone and shell, were recovered from a gully and associated deposits. An inhumation burial, of probable 16th- or 17th-century date, was partially uncovered at the northern end of the more westerly trench.

Excavation resumed in 2015 beneath the floor of Castle House, while construction work was still in progress. Three rectangular holes for glazed viewing panels were built into the modern concrete floor. This enabled the remains of the Roman arcade to be uncovered under the floor and put on permanent display. The foundation platform that supported the Roman arcade was uncovered for approximately 12.7 m east-west. The remains of three piers and four revetting walls were exposed on top of the foundation platform. Much of the 2015 site had been excavated previously in 1964, so most of the archaeological deposits that overlay the arcade had already been removed. However, undisturbed deposits survived in a few places, and these were recorded and, where necessary, excavated. A review of the evidence for the date of construction of the arcade indicates that it was probably built before the Boudiccan revolt of AD 61.

2 Introduction

[Figs 1-3]

2.1 Archaeological excavations took place at Castle House, Castle Bailey, Colchester, Essex, CO1 1TH, during the redevelopment of the site. The excavations were commissioned by Flying Trade Group plc, and were carried out by Colchester Archaeological Trust (CAT) in June-July 2014 and in April-June and December 2015.

2.2 The site is situated in Colchester town centre, at the rear of properties on the northern side of the High Street (NGR: TL 9985 2524). It lies immediately to the south of Castle Bailey, and on the western side of a narrow lane known as Crowther's Entry. The Castle Bailey street frontage lies at approximately 26.24 m AOD, although it slopes downwards slightly from west to east. Crowther's Entry slopes downwards from north to south.

Colchester Castle Park lies immediately to the north of Castle Bailey. Upper Castle Park, which includes Colchester castle and the site of the Temple of Claudius, is a scheduled ancient monument. The scheduled area was recently extended southwards to include the Roman arcade (SAM 1002217). The Castle House site also falls within the Colchester Town Centre Conservation Area.

2.3 The Castle House redevelopment consists of commercial premises at ground floor level, with flats above on three floors (CBC Planning Application No.121738/9). The building covers an area of approximately 260 sq m. The site was previously occupied by a 1960's office block, which had car parking at street level on the northern side of the site and a yard area to the south at a lower level. The office block was demolished in stages between 2010 and 2014.

The site has been referred to by various names over the years. Recently it has usually been known as 97 High Street, although at the time of the 1964 excavation it was called 98-99 High Street (Hebditch 1971). The current address of the ground floor property is: Claudius Gateway, One Castle Park, Castle House, Castle Bailey, Colchester, Essex, CO1 1TH.

2.4 The archaeological excavations took place in two main phases, in 2014 and 2015. Two trenches were dug in 2014 in response to a planning condition that required the applicant to commission an archaeological excavation in the northern part of the site before building work started. This was within an area that was previously largely unexcavated, but which would be impacted by a relatively dense layout of piles.

The 2015 excavation area lay inside the new building, beneath the modern concrete floor. Three rectangular glazed 'windows' or viewing panels (VP1-VP3) were built into the floor, so that visitors can see the remains of the Roman arcade below (Photos 17-18).

- 2.5** The excavation and recording methods used were outlined in two Written Schemes of Investigation for the site, which were produced by CAT in 2014 and in 2015 (WSI 2014 & WSI 2015). The WSIs also set out proposals for post-excavation work, the production of a report, an archive, and (if necessary) publication texts. The WSIs followed a brief written by Colchester Borough Council's Archaeological Officer (CBCAO) in June 2013 (CBC 2013).
- 2.6** This report follows the standards set out in Colchester Borough Council's *Guidelines on standards and practices for archaeological fieldwork in the Borough of Colchester* (CIMS 2008a), and also those in the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists' *Standard and guidance for an archaeological excavation* (ClfA 2014a), and *Standard and guidance for the collection, documentation, conservation and research of archaeological materials* (ClfA 2014b). The guidance contained in English Heritage's *Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment* (MoRPHE 2006), and in the documents *Research and archaeology: a framework for the Eastern Counties 1. Resource assessment* (EAA 3), *Research and archaeology: a framework for the Eastern Counties 2. Research agenda and strategy* (EAA 8), *Standards for field archaeology in the East of England* (EAA 14), and *Research and archaeology revisited: a revised framework for the Eastern Counties. Research agenda and strategy* (EAA 24), was also followed.

3 Archaeological background

[Figs 1-3]

- 3.1** The redevelopment site is located approximately 45 m to the south of the site of the Temple of Claudius, which lies directly beneath the Norman castle. The temple stood within a large rectangular precinct, which occupied the whole of Insula 22 in the Roman town. The impressive south front of the precinct consisted of a massive arcade with a gateway in the middle of it. Their remains have been investigated in a series of excavations going back over 80 years. The more significant and relevant of these investigations are summarised briefly below.
- 3.2** An excavation took place immediately to the east of the Castle House site in 1931-2 (Hull 1958, 169-70). This revealed part of the western side of a Roman monumental arch, which formed the gateway into the temple precinct. The remains of Roman drains were found to the south of the gate (Hull 1958, fig 86).
- 3.3** Archaeological investigations took place in 1953 at the former premises of Kent Blaxill on the High Street following a fire (Hull 1955, 24-61; Hull 1958, 171-75). The investigations revealed the well-preserved remains of the monumental Roman arcade. It was supported on a large 'foundation platform', which was traced for approximately 22 m east-west. The foundation platform was 15 feet wide (4.57 m) and over 4 feet deep (Hull 1955, 24-26). It was surmounted by the remains of piers that supported the arcade. A series of 'blocking' or revetting walls extended between the piers (Hull 1955, 28-34). In all, parts of 5 piers and 5 revetting walls were uncovered.
- Part of a collapsed column (presumably attached), approximately 8 feet in length, was uncovered to the north of the foundation platform (Hull 1955, 41). To the south, traces were found of Roman drains and a Roman gravelled street (Hull 1955, 36-39). Limited evidence was found for the Norman inner bailey ditch to the south of the arcade (Hull 1955, 44-45) and for the Norman inner bailey rampart, which overlay the remains of the Roman arcade (Hull 1955, 39-40). The eastern edge of the Kent Blaxill site lay only about 5 m from the western edge of the Castle House site.
- 3.4** An archaeological excavation took place on the Castle House site in 1964 (Hebditch 1971), in advance of the construction of an office block. Evidence was found in two trenches (Trenches I & II) for the Roman arcade, including the foundation platform with remains of three piers and three later revetting walls. To the south of the arcade, several phases of west-east Roman drains were revealed, as well as layers of gravel from an east-west street. The remains of the Norman inner bailey rampart had largely been destroyed, although the northern edge of the bailey ditch was located (Hebditch 1971, 121 & 124).

Also in 1964, a small trench was dug in the northern part of the site (Trench III; Drury 1983, 339-41), although it was not mentioned in Max Hebditch's site report. Part of a large fragment of collapsed Roman masonry, which probably derived from the arcade, was uncovered in this trench.

- 3.5 In 2006, several evaluation trenches (T1-T3) were dug by CAT at the rear of 95-6 High Street (CAT Reports 360 & 380). These lay immediately to the east of Crowther's Entry, close to the eastern edge of the Castle House site. Part of the gateway found in 1931 (Hull 1958, 169-70) was re-exposed in the 2006 trenches. It lay 1.55-2.00 m below the modern ground level and probably comprised the carriageway through the arch.
- 3.6 Later in 2006, Roman remains were exposed in a builder's trench at the rear of 99 High Street (CAT Report 440). This lay immediately to the south of the Castle House site. A well-preserved feature constructed of Roman brick set in *opus signinum* was uncovered. It was aligned roughly west-east and probably formed the north side of a Roman drain, situated to the south of the Roman arcade. Also, a sequence of Roman layers was visible in the sides of the trench. These included deposits of Boudiccan destruction debris, from which a fragment of human bone was recovered.
- 3.7 An archaeological watching brief took place on the Castle House site in March 2010 during the excavation by machine of a series of test pits by the developers (CAT Report 587). Traces of the Roman arcade were uncovered close to the modern ground level in the southern, lower part of the site. Little of archaeological significance was reached in the northern part of the site where the ground level had been considerably made-up in modern times.
- 3.8 In June 2012, CAT excavated two narrow trial trenches (T1 & T2) in the southern part of the Castle House site (CAT Report 701). These were dug in order to locate precisely the position and depth of the Roman arcade, so that the proposed building could be designed in such a way that the archaeological remains would not be disturbed. In both trenches, the northern edge of the foundation platform (F2) for the arcade was located just over a metre below the former yard surface. In the more easterly trial trench (T2) the remains of a pier (F3) were uncovered on top of the foundation platform, while in the other trench (T1) part of a revetting wall (F4) sealed F2.

4 Aims

- 4.1 The aim of the 2014 excavation was to recover sufficient evidence to establish the depth, extent, date and significance of any archaeological remains in the northern part of the site. The 2014 trenches lay to the north of the Roman arcade, in an area that was previously largely unexcavated.
- 4.2 The aim of the 2015 excavation was to expose and record the remains of the Roman arcade beneath the modern concrete floor, so that the remains were visible through three rectangular holes for glazed viewing panels built into the floor. Within the 2015 excavation area, any significant archaeological deposits that survived overlying the remains of the arcade were to be recorded in detail and, where necessary, excavated.
- 4.3 It is hoped in this report to avoid any undue repetition of the description of the archaeological remains given in the 1964 excavation report (Hebditch 1971). As the remains of the arcade are well preserved below the modern floor, they are available for further examination and recording, if necessary.

5 Methods

[Figs 2-3]

- 5.1 The 2014 archaeological excavation took place in the northern part of the site. This measured approximately 21 m by 5 m and was formerly used for car parking/garaging. It was agreed with CBCAO that two trenches would be dug in this area, in order to establish the depth and significance of the latest archaeological deposits, and to retrieve dating evidence from them. The work was carried out by CAT from 9th June to 10th July 2014. Demolition of the 1960's office block had by this time been completed, and its concrete floors broken out and removed.
- 5.2 The two trenches (T3 & T4) were aligned north-south and were about 8 m apart. They were approximately 3.4 m long and 1.5-1.6 m wide. The size and position of the trenches were constrained by the need to minimize the risk of the sides collapsing. The upper

edges of the trenches, which consisted of modern rubble make-up a metre or so deep, were angled to produce a splay of roughly 45 degrees from the vertical. A reserved strip, approximately 1.5 m wide, was left unexcavated along the northern margin of the area, adjacent to Castle Bailey. The trenches were also positioned at a safe distance from the eastern and western edges of the site.

- 5.3** The deposits in the trenches were stripped by mini-digger with a toothless bucket under the supervision of a CAT archaeologist in June 2014. Mechanical excavation continued until significant archaeological remains were reached. Excavation then continued by hand in order to clarify the date and significance of the archaeological deposits. It was hoped to extend the more easterly trench (T4) southwards by several metres, in order to locate the northern edge of the Roman arcade and/or to establish whether significant archaeological deposits survived overlying the remains of the arcade in this area. However this did not prove possible due to the extent of the modern disturbance at the southern end of T4.
- 5.4** On the west side of T3, a small sondage was dug by CAT on 12th June 2014 to try to establish the depth of the Norman deposits. Almost immediately, part of a collapsed attached Roman column (F8) was uncovered. In early July 2014, the sondage was enlarged to approximately 2.4 m north-south by 800-900 mm east-west. Within this area, excavation then continued a further 700-800 mm deep.
- 5.5** Subsequently, the remains in T3 and T4 were given a protective covering and the trenches were backfilled. Later, the site was levelled, a piling mat was laid down, and the piling operation went ahead. The piling layout and methodology were finalised in agreement with CBCAO, and took into account the latest information about the position and depth of the underlying archaeological remains. The piles were each approximately 350 mm in diameter and were arranged either singly or in twos. Within the area investigated by CAT in 2015, no damage was caused to the remains of the Roman arcade by the piling. Architect's plans are available in the site archive.
- 5.6** The 2015 excavation took place inside the building, while construction work was still in progress. The excavated area lay below three large rectangular holes that were built into the concrete slab at ground floor level. These holes were for glazed viewing panels (VP1-VP3). They were each roughly 3 metres square, although they were all slightly different in size, with a combined area of just under 28 sq m. The surface of the floor slab lay at approximately 26.08 m AOD, and the projected finished floor level was at 26.25 m AOD.
- 5.7** The concrete floor slab was reinforced and 'floating', supported on the pile caps. It was therefore possible to excavate safely beneath the concrete floor between the holes for the panels. Around the edges of the excavated area, the holes in the concrete floor were undercut by up to a metre where the remains of the Roman arcade were present. This was to increase the amount of the arcade that was visible to people at ground floor level. Where necessary, the deposits in the sides of the trench were sloped at approximately 45° down to the arcade. The area that was opened up for excavation in 2015 measured up to 12.8 m east-west by 4.5 m north-south, and totalled roughly 53 sq m. The limits of excavation were constrained in part by the presence of ground beams and services, as well as by the layout of the piles.
- 5.8** Because much of the area under the holes in the floor had been excavated previously, it was possible to remove most of the modern excavation backfill and other recent overburden by machine. This was carried out between 28th April and 1st May 2015, using a mini-digger with a toothless bucket, under the continuous supervision of a CAT archaeologist. The modern deposits were stripped down to the uppermost surviving level of archaeological significance. Over most of the area, this was the remains of the Roman arcade. Machining was stopped as soon as there was the slightest possibility of damage to the arcade.
- 5.9** Excavation by hand started on 11th May 2015. As not all of the backfill of the 1960's trenches was accessible by machine, it was first of all necessary to dig out any remaining backfill by hand. Work then began on the excavation of any significant archaeological deposits that survived overlying the remains of the Roman arcade. These were cleaned, recorded, and, where necessary, excavated by CAT staff. A mechanical ladder hoist was used to remove most of the hand-dug spoil from the excavated area.

Several modern structural features, such as concrete foundations and pads, were left over from the demolished 1960's building. These were carefully broken out and removed by hand, using where necessary a hand drill. One concrete pad cut the western end of the Roman revetting wall F13, and part of this pad was left *in situ* to prevent further damage to the Roman remains.

- 5.10** Excavation continued until the beginning of June 2015. Recording of the arcade continued until 17th June 2015. A final photographic session, involving cleaning and a small amount of excavation, took place on 21st-23rd December 2015. Individual records of archaeological contexts, such as layers or features, as well as finds, were entered on CAT pro-forma record sheets. The context numbers used in the 2014 and 2015 excavations were a continuation of the series started for the 2012 evaluation trenches (CAT Report 701). Site plans were usually drawn at 1:20 and section drawings were made at 1:10. Standard record shots of the trenches and of individual contexts were taken on a digital camera. Further details of the recording methods used can be found in the WSIs (WSI 2014 & WSI 2015) and in the CAT document *Policies and procedures* (CAT 2014).

6 Phasing

The sequence of periods identified during the 2014-15 excavations can be summarised as follows:

1	Roman (c 43 - c 410)
1a	c 49/55 - c 57/60
1b	c 61 - c 200+
post-Roman	c 410 - c 2015
2	medieval (c 1066 - c 1500)
2a	c 1066 - c 1100/1150
2b	c 1100/50 - c 1200+
post-medieval	c 1500 - c 1850
modern	c 1850 - c 2015

7 The Roman arcade

7.1 Introduction

[Figs 2-3]

- 7.1.1** In 2015, the remains of three piers and four revetting walls were uncovered on top of the foundation platform that supported the arcade. The area that was excavated in 2015 consisted mainly of the northern part of the arcade. Much of this area, although not all, had already been excavated in 1964. The southern edge of the foundation platform lay beyond the limits of the 2015 excavation, but it was exposed in 1964.
- 7.1.2** Most of the significant archaeological deposits that overlay the remains of the Roman arcade had already been removed in 1964. However they did survive undisturbed in a few places in 2015, such as where a baulk was left between Trench I and Trench II in 1964 (Hebditch 1971, 116). Undisturbed deposits also survived along the northern and eastern edges of the site, where these lay beyond the limits of the 1964 excavation (Fig 2). Those deposits that remained on top of the arcade were excavated in 2015. However, those that survived to the north of the arcade were only partially examined. Here excavation stopped before *in situ* Roman deposits were reached.
- 7.1.3** The remains of collapsed piers, each with attached columns, lay to the north of the arcade. They extended both over the foundation platform and over the area well to the north of it. Two collapsed piers/columns were uncovered in 2015 overlying the remains of the arcade, although parts of both of these must already have been removed in 1964. A large well-preserved fragment from a collapsed column was found in a trench in the northern part of the site in 2014. It was probably from the upper part of one of the piers/columns found further south in 2015.
- 7.1.4** The natural subsoil was not reached during the excavations in 2014 and 2015, although it was located during earlier investigations on the site. In 1964, it was observed that the trench for the foundation platform of the Roman arcade was dug approximately 900 mm into natural sand (Hebditch 1971, 117 & fig 4). During a watching brief in 2006, the natural was exposed in a trench along the southern edge of the Castle House site (CAT Report 440, fig 3). It consisted of sand and gravel, sealed in places by shallow pockets of cover loam, and lay at approximately 23.5 m AOD. This is roughly 780 mm below the top of the Roman foundation platform and 2.58 m below the modern concrete floor slab inside Castle House.

7.2 The foundation platform (Period 1a)

[Fig 3]

- 7.2.1** The massive 'foundation platform' (Feature or F2) that supported the Roman arcade extended roughly east-west across the site. It was constructed of a hard, pale brown mortar containing fragments of septaria. A few water-worn pebbles and pieces of Roman brick/tile were also observed. Only the upper surface of the northern part of the foundation platform and its northern edge were uncovered in 2015. The full depth of the foundation was not revealed, but in the 1964 excavation it was found to be approximately 1.6 m (5.25 feet) deep (Hebditch 1971, 117).
- 7.2.2** Within the 2015 excavation area, the northern edge of the foundation platform F2 was uncovered for approximately 12.5 m. It was faced with roughly-dressed blocks of septaria, although only the uppermost surviving couple of courses were exposed in 2015 (Photos 2, 3 & 10). The southern edge of the foundation platform lay beyond the limits of the 2015 excavation, but in the 1964 excavations its width was established at 4.57 m (15 feet) (Hebditch 1971, 117).

The upper surface of the foundation platform sloped slightly downwards from west to east. At the western end of the excavated area, the top of the foundation platform lay at approximately 24.33 m AOD (1.75 m below the top of the concrete slab). At the eastern end it was at approximately 24.23 m AOD (1.85 m below the top of the concrete slab). This difference in height perhaps reflects the underlying natural slope of the ground.



Photo 2 The remains of the Roman arcade after excavation, viewed from the east.
Part of one of the piers (F12) is visible in the foreground.

- 7.2.3** Much of the surface of the foundation platform F2 was degraded and had been damaged by later activity. In places there were slight depressions in the surface, approximately 100-120 mm deep. It seems likely that these were the result of later damage, rather than the remains of structural features, such as postholes. In a few places, the upper surface of the foundation platform was less damaged. For example, a small area of flat, smooth mortared surface survived immediately north of the easternmost pier F12 (Photo 2). The upper surface of F2 was also well preserved beneath the revetting walls (Hebditch 1971, 117). There was evidence that F2 was resurfaced in the Roman period (L31 & L33; see section 7.5), although the resurfacing was badly damaged by later activity.
- 7.2.4** A small patch of reddish-pink burning was observed on the surface of the foundation platform F2. This burnt area extended out for approximately 200-300 mm from the west section, close to the northern edge of F2. It was sealed in section by a thin charcoal-rich layer, approximately 120 mm thick, containing a few oyster shells. The burnt area and the charcoal-rich lens may just indicate the position of a small hearth of uncertain date. The

survival of the charcoal-rich lens perhaps indicates that the burning was unlikely to be Boudiccan in date.

7.3 The piers (Period 1a)

[Fig 3]

- 7.3.1** The remains of three piers (F17, F3 & F12) were uncovered during the 2015 excavations. They extended for approximately 600-800 mm above the top of the foundation platform F2 (1.0-1.2 m below the top of the modern concrete slab). Only the cores of the piers survived, as the facing stones had been almost completely robbed out, probably in Norman times (Hebditch 1971, 118 & 121). The core of F3 was of similar stone-and-mortar construction to F2, although F17 and F12 were less hard and, as excavated, possibly included some redeposited or dislodged material.
- 7.3.2** The westernmost pier (F17; Photo 3) was partly uncovered in 1964, although most of it lay under the baulk between Trench I and Trench II (Hebditch 1971, fig 2). After the removal of the overlying demolition debris (L32/L15) in 2015, it was evident that much of the stone-and-mortar material that remained was not well cemented. Excavation was stopped at this point, although further digging may possibly have revealed a harder masonry core.



Photo 3 Pier F17 on the foundation platform F2, viewed from the north-west.

This also shows the large carved stone block on the western side of F17 and the fragment of collapsed column F18 close to the northern edge of F2.

- 7.3.3** A large worked stone block was uncovered on the western side of F17 in 2015 (Fig 3; Photos 3 & 15). The stone lay on the surface of the foundation platform. It was roughly rectangular in shape and was aligned east-west. It measured approximately 700 mm in length. At its east end, it was approximately 340 mm wide by up to 190 mm thick. It tapered slightly from east to west, so that at its west end, it was approximately 270 mm wide by 170 mm thick. The upper face was worked smooth. There was a slight 'lip' along its northern edge, approximately 50 mm below the upper smooth surface. The other faces were left rough.

The stone appeared to lie within the limits of Trench I in the 1964 excavation, although there does not seem to be any record of it in the 1964 site report. Initially, therefore, it was thought not to be *in situ*, but further investigation suggested that it was attached with ancient mortar to the surface of F2. The block was thus probably a reused Roman building stone that had been incorporated into the face of the pier F17. It presumably originally formed part of an architectural feature, such as an architrave or lintel, in an earlier Roman structure. The stone was examined on site by Kevin Hayward, who identified it as Ham Hill stone (see section 9.5). The stone was left undisturbed *in situ*. A

large similar-looking stone block was incorporated in one of the piers found on the Kent Blaxill site (Hull 1955, 31 & Plate I).

- 7.3.4** The best preserved of the three piers excavated in 2015 was the middle one (F3). This was fully uncovered in 1964 (Hebditch 1971, 118 & Plate I), and was re-exposed in 2015. The remains of this pier consisted of a hard stone-and-mortar core that survived approximately 800 mm above the level of the top of the foundation platform F2. It measured approximately 1.06 m east-west by 900 mm north-south.

On the east side of F3, a small piece of limestone facing stone was observed in 1964 (Hebditch 1971, 118 & Plate IIa). It survived *in situ* in 2015 (to the left of F3 in Photo 4). This piece of limestone was re-examined by Kevin Hayward, who identified it as Ham Hill stone (see section 9.5).



Photo 4 Pier F3, viewed from the north.

- 7.3.5** The easternmost pier (F12; Photo 2) lies in the south-eastern corner of the site, under VP3. Its eastern edge was cut by a modern foundation (F11/F15). Only the western edge of F12 was exposed during the 1964 excavation. Like the westernmost pier (F17), the remains of F12 were not well cemented and further digging may have revealed a harder core.

7.4 The revetting walls (Period 1b)

[Figs 3 & 7]

- 7.4.1** During the 2015 excavations, the remains of four east-west 'blocking' or revetting walls (F4, F13, F14 & F20) were uncovered. These lay on top of the foundation platform (F2) between the piers. They were called 'blocking walls' by Max Hebditch (Hebditch 1971, 119). However, the term 'retvetting walls' is perhaps more appropriate and the use of this term is justified in section 10.8. The revetting walls survived between 600 mm and 900 mm high (approximately 1.0-1.3 m below the top of the modern concrete slab). The more westerly three of the revetting walls (F4, F13 & F14) lay within the limits of the 1964 excavation (Hebditch 1971, 118-9). The revetting walls F13 and F14 were fully exposed both in 1964 and in 2015. The westernmost revetting wall (F4) was partially uncovered in 1964 and in 2015, and was also revealed in an evaluation trench in 2012 (CAT Report 701, 3-5). The easternmost revetting wall (F20), which lay beyond the limits of the 1964 excavation, was partially uncovered in 2015.

The revetting walls F4, F13 and F20 were approximately 800 mm wide, while F14 was slightly narrower with a width of approximately 740 mm. It was possible to record the full lengths of revetting walls F13 and F14, which were 2.25 m and 2.0 m long respectively.

The ends of the revetting walls had usually suffered some damage, so it was difficult to be sure about their original lengths.

- 7.4.2** The revetting walls appeared to be all broadly similar in construction. Their northern faces consisted of courses of septaria and Roman brick/tile. The septaria was often roughly dressed. The Roman brick/tile consisted mainly of brick, much of which appeared to be broken fragments of varying sizes. A few *tegulae* with their flanges outermost were also observed. Small offsets were formed in the northern faces of the walls, usually where there was a change in the type of building material used.

The sequence of courses in the northern faces of F4, F13 and F14 was recorded in 1964 (Hebditch 1971, 119). It is clear from these lists that slight damage had been caused to the uppermost courses of the revetting walls since 1964.

- 7.4.3** By contrast, the southern faces of the revetting walls were coated with layers of *opus signinum*, plaster and mortar rendering. Typically these sloped inwards slightly (e.g. F20 in Sx1, Fig 7). The *opus signinum* coatings did not extend down to the level of the foundation platform; perhaps indicating that they were applied after the ground level to the south of the revetting walls had built up slightly. An alternative explanation is that the lower part of the *opus signinum* had flaked off. The *opus signinum* was presumably used for its strength and waterproofing qualities.

Where visible, the cores of the revetting walls consisted of pale brown mortar containing fragments of septaria and pieces of Roman brick/tile, with some gravels.



Photo 5 Revetting wall F4, viewed from the north.

The *opus signinum* resurfacing (L33) can be seen immediately to the north of F4, extending out from the west section.

- 7.4.4** The westernmost revetting wall (F4) extended for approximately 1.3 m out from the west section (Photo 5). The lowest course in the northern face of F4 appeared to seal a thin layer of greyish-brown soil, approximately 60 mm thick, on the surface of the foundation platform F2. The two lowest stone courses were sealed by four courses of Roman brick and tile, which were offset by 60-70 mm to the south and were set in *opus signinum*. On the uppermost brick/tile course lay a piece of stone, offset by a further 40 mm to the south. This was possibly all that remained of two further stone courses that were recorded in 1964 (Hebditch 1971, 119).

The upper 470-480 mm of the southern face of F4 was coated with a thick layer of *opus signinum*. The lower 240 mm was coated with a pale greyish mortar rendering. There were possible traces of burning on the south face.

- 7.4.5** The revetting wall F13 extended between piers F17 and F3 (Photo 6). It survived approximately 2.25 m long, although its western end was damaged by a modern concrete

pad. The two lowest stone courses in the northern face of F13 were sealed by four to five courses of Roman brick and tile, offset slightly to the south. Only one further stone course was observed in 2015, although two stone courses were recorded in 1964, sealed by a brick/tile course (Hebditch 1971, 119). It was clear therefore that the top of F13 had been damaged following the 1964 excavation. It was also observed in 1964 that a possible post socket cut the uppermost brick/tile course (Hebditch 1971, 119), but this was barely, if at all, visible in 2015.



Photo 6 Revetting wall F13, viewed from the north.

The upper 350 mm or so of the southern face of F13 was coated with a thick layer of *opus signinum*. At the eastern end of F13, several thin fragments of Roman brick/tile, probably from *tegulae*, were visible set vertically within this coating. The lower 220 mm of the southern face consisted of a pale greyish mortar rendering.

A large squarish stone block, with traces of *opus signinum* adhering, protruded from under the modern concrete pad at the south-west corner of F13. It was canted at a slight angle and was probably a loose block. The stone block measured approximately 230 x 230 x 150 mm, and was left *in situ*.

- 7.4.6** The revetting wall F14 extended between piers F3 and F12 (Photos 7, 8 & front cover). In the northern face of F14, the lowest couple of courses of stone were badly degraded. These courses appeared to seal a thin layer of soil on the surface of the foundation platform. They were sealed by six courses of Roman brick and tile, each of which was offset slightly to the south. The face of the lowest brick/tile course was also slightly degraded. The brick and tile courses were sealed by two further stone courses, offset slightly to the south. These in turn were sealed by another brick/tile course, and a further stone course was recorded in 1964 (Hebditch 1971, 119). No facing stones from this stone course survived in 2015, although fragments of both brick/tile and stone were visible back from the face.

Much of the southern face of F14 was initially coated with a layer of *opus signinum*, approximately 40 mm thick. Overlying this were traces of three separate layers of pale brown plaster, each approximately 20 mm thick (Photo 8). In places, the lower parts of the coatings appeared to have flaked off.

It was observed in 1964 that a post socket cut the top of F14 (Hebditch 1971, 119), and possible traces of this survived in 2015 (below 'F14' in Fig 3). Immediately to the south of F14, some deposits (L24 & L26), of probable Roman date, survived on top of the foundation platform (F2). These layers lapped up against the south face of F14, although they were possibly sealed by the latest replastering. It was observed in 1964 that F14 sealed a burnt area on the surface of F2 (Hebditch 1971, 118), but no trace of this was visible in 2015.



Photo 7 Revetting wall F14, viewed from the north.
The wall survives 2 m in length.



Photo 8 The south face of revetting wall F14, viewed from the south-west.
This shows the layers of *opus signinum* and plaster applied to the face.

7.4.7 The easternmost revetting wall (F20; Sx 1; Fig 7) extended out for approximately 700 mm from the east section of the excavated area (Photo 9). It lay beyond the limits of the 1964 excavation. The west end of F20 was cut by a modern foundation (F11/F15), and this exposed the core of F20. While the upper part of the core was of the usual stone-and-mortar construction with occasional fragments of Roman brick/tile, the lower part was much more gravelly. In the northern face of F20, the two lowest courses were of stone. The lower of these was largely masked by the resurfacing (L33) of the foundation platform (F2). The stone courses were sealed by four courses of Roman brick and tile, offset slightly to the south. These were sealed by the remains of two further stone courses, offset slightly to the south.

The upper 460 mm or so of the southern face of F20 was coated with a thick layer of *opus signinum*, while the lower 230 mm of the south face was rendered with a whitish

plaster. The latter appeared to seal the earliest surviving Roman layer (L26) that overlay the foundation platform.



Photo 9
Revetting wall F20,
viewed from the north.
The *opus signinum*
resurfacing (L33) can be seen
to the north of F20.

7.5 The resurfacing of the foundation platform (Period 1b)

[Figs 3 & 7]

- 7.5.1** There was evidence that the northern part of the foundation platform (F2) was resurfaced during the Roman period. The resurfacing (L33) was approximately 150-160 mm thick and was laid directly on the stone-and-mortar surface of the foundation platform. It consisted of a layer of *opus signinum*, 70-80 mm thick, set on a bedding layer of rubble in pale brown mortar, also 70-80 mm thick. The rubble included small to medium-sized stones and fragments of Roman brick and tile. Within the 2015 excavated area, the resurfacing was not well preserved. Two small areas survived, one at either end of the site.
- 7.5.2** At the western end of the site, the resurfacing (L33) extended for approximately 540 mm to the north of the revetting wall F4, which it lapped up against (Photo 5). It protruded from the west section for approximately 500 mm. This area of resurfacing was also observed during the 1964 excavation, but it seems to have been slightly more extensive at that time (Hebditch 1971, fig 3). There were slight traces of reddish burning on the surface of L33. Its significance was unclear, but it probably post-dated the Boudiccan revolt.
- A small patch of possible resurfacing lay on top of the foundation platform approximately 800 mm to the north-east of the revetting wall F4 (Fig 3 & Photo 3).
- 7.5.3** The other small area of resurfacing (L33) extended for up to 450 mm to the north of revetting wall F20, which it lapped up against (Photo 9). It protruded from the east section for approximately 700 mm (Sx 1, Fig 7). This area of resurfacing lay beyond the limits of the 1964 excavation.
- 7.5.4** The resurfacing was described in the report on the 1964 excavation as a 'concrete floor' 'founded on rubble and broken tiles' (Hebditch 1971, 119). Max Hebditch placed the revetting walls and the resurfacing in the same phase (called Period 3 in 1964), and suggested that they were broadly contemporary (Hebditch 1971, 118-9). Another, larger area of resurfacing is shown on plan and in a photograph in the report on the 1964 excavation (Hebditch 1971, fig 3 & Plate I). It extended for approximately a metre to the

north of revetting wall F13, and measured approximately 2 m east-west. However no trace of this area of resurfacing survived in 2015, and it was presumably removed in the 1960s.

- 7.5.5** There was no evidence for a resurfacing layer, comparable to L33, on the foundation platform (F2) to the south of the piers and revetting walls, although not much of this part of F2 was available for excavation. However, in places, there were traces of a thin mortar layer (L31). It consisted of pale brown mortar, approximately 60-70 mm thick, that was not as hard as F2. It was most noticeable to the south of revetting wall F4. Traces of loosish mortar overlying F2 were also observed to the south of F14. This thin resurfacing is perhaps what was referred to in the report on the 1964 excavation as 'a new mortar floor on the south side of the foundation platform' (Hebditch 1971, 119).

7.6 Roman deposits on the southern part of the foundation platform (Period 1b)
[Figs 3 & 7]

- 7.6.1** A sequence of brownish, gravelly layers (L26, L24, L23 & L18), of probable Roman date, was excavated in 2015 in the south-eastern corner of the site. These layers survived mainly in a narrow strip to the south of the easternmost Roman revetting wall (F20; Sx 1, Fig 7). Immediately to the west of this, they had been destroyed by a modern north-south foundation (F11/F15; Fig 6). Slightly to the west of this, traces of L26 and L24 survived south of the eastern end of revetting wall F14. Further west, any comparable deposits overlying the foundation platform to the south of the piers and revetting walls had been removed during the 1964 excavation.

- 7.6.2** The earliest layer in the sequence was a light brownish, fairly sandy layer (L26), with some mortar flecks. This was approximately 50 mm thick and overlay the foundation platform F2. It was sealed by a greyish-brown, gravelly layer (L24), 170-180 mm thick, with some sandier patches. A couple of probable Roman potsherds was recovered from L24.

Next in the sequence was a greyish-brown layer (L23), approximately 180 mm thick, which was less gravelly and more clayey than L24. Several fragments of Purbeck marble veneer (SF9.1-SF9.3) were recovered from L23. It also contained a couple of Roman potsherds and a spread of oyster shells. The latest Roman layer (L18) in the sequence was 200-300 mm thick and was more gravelly than L23.

- 7.6.3** Not much of these deposits was available for excavation in 2015. The few potsherds recovered from them were not closely dated, but were probably 2nd century or later in date. These layers were fairly gravelly, but they were probably too sandy and friable to be *in situ* metalling from the east-west street that lay to the south of the arcade. Perhaps they included material that was scraped up off the street or that was cleaned out of the drains alongside the street. An alternative explanation is that they formed part of a footway immediately to the north of the street.

Slightly further west, the deposits excavated on the south side of the foundation platform in 1964 included two layers of gravel sealed by a mortar surface (Hebditch 1971, 120). In 2015, traces of gravel and mortar were observed in the west section, to the south of revetting wall F4 and sealing the mortar layer L31. However, not enough was visible to make much sense of them.

7.7 Demolition debris overlying the Roman arcade (Period 2a)
[Figs 3, 6, 7 & 10]

- 7.7.1** Thick deposits of greyish-brown dereliction and/or demolition debris that derived mainly from the Roman arcade were found on the site. They contained large quantities of loose mortar fragments, as well as other pieces of Roman building materials, such as brick, tile, stone, *opus signinum*, and plaster. Most of the stone was septaria. Also in these deposits were some larger fragments of masonry that were probably the remains of collapsed piers with attached columns. Within those parts of the site excavated in 1964, the layers of demolition debris, which were evidently up to 1 m thick, had already been removed (Hebditch 1971, 120-1 & fig 4).

- 7.7.2** In the western part of the 2015 excavation area, deposits of demolition debris survived where a baulk had been left between Trench I and Trench II in 1964. In the northern end of this baulk, part of a collapsed attached column (F18) was uncovered in 2015, overlying the foundation platform F2 (Photo 3). The remains of the collapsed column were approximately 900 mm in length, 500 mm wide and 300-400 mm high. The column fragment consisted of courses of Roman column brick and septaria set in hard, pale brown mortar. The courses lay vertically, presumably where they fell (Fig 10 below). They

appeared to rest on a thin layer of demolition debris, 150-200 mm thick, that sealed the foundation platform. Roughly ten courses were visible. Towards the middle of F18, two courses of brick alternated with two courses of stone. To either side of these, single courses of brick alternated with those of stone. More of the column was probably removed during the 1964 excavation (Hebditch 1971, 118). A stone block lay immediately to the north of F18 (Photo 3), on the northern edge of F2. A post-Roman gully (F22) cut the southern end of F18.

The collapsed column fragment F18 presumably fell from the pier that projected from pier stump F17, which lies a metre or so to the south. Another collapsed fragment (F8) that probably came from the same column as F18 was uncovered further north in 2014 (see section 7.8). Following the 2015 excavation, F18 was left *in situ* and is visible under the western viewing panel (VP1).

- 7.7.3** In 2015, several layers of demolition debris (L32/L15/L14) were excavated in the baulk left in 1964. These layers overlay the remains of the pier F17 and the fragment of collapsed column F18, as well as the foundation platform F2. A dark, fairly loamy deposit (L32) that contained fragments of mortar and other Roman building materials was excavated between the pier F17 and the south section. It was dug 300-400 mm deep, but was only partially excavated in order to help define F17.

A more extensive layer of demolition debris (L15) sealed L32 and was found over much of the baulk area. It was 300-500 mm thick, and contained larger amounts of loose mortar fragments than L32.

- 7.7.4** A post-Roman feature (F22) was excavated in 2015 within the 1964 baulk. It lay between the pier F17 and the collapsed column F18, and it cut L15. Only a small part of this feature was available for excavation, but it was probably a gully that extended east-west. It survived 650-700mm wide and 450-500 mm deep (Fig 10 below). In 2015, a similar-looking feature, which was probably part of the same gully, was observed in the west section approximately 2.5 m due west of F22. This was probably the same gully that was excavated at the northern end of Trench I in 1964 (labelled F19 in 1964; Hebditch 1971, 120 & fig 4; Drury 1983, 341). A small quantity of late 11th- to 12th-century potsherds was recovered in 2015 from the mortary backfill of F22, although this was possibly later sinkage. Paul Drury suggested the feature found in 1964 was pre-Norman (Drury 1983, 341).

Another layer of demolition debris (L14) sealed L15 and F22. It survived approximately 200 mm thick, but had probably been truncated by later activity. This deposit was darker, more consolidated and soily, with less mortar fragments and other inclusions, than L15.

- 7.7.5** Approximately 3.5 m to the east of F18, a large fragment of Roman masonry (F23; Photo 10) overlay the northern edge of the foundation platform F2. This fragment was probably part of a collapsed Roman pier and/or attached column, lying face down. It lay immediately to the north of 1964 Trench II, and the southern end of F23 must have been removed during the 1964 excavation. In 2015, the surviving part of F23 measured roughly 1.5 m east-west by 1 m north-south, although it extended into the north section. It consisted of fragments of septaria and Roman brick/tile set in pale brown mortar. What was exposed was probably mainly core material, although traces of a possible face, lying face down, were discernible in the north-western corner of F23. Some fragments of plaster seemed to have become detached from this ?face, and were lying nearby.

The collapsed fragment F23 presumably derived from the pier that projected from pier stump F3, which lies approximately 1.85 m to the south. Some loose rubble was removed from around the edges of F23, but otherwise it was left *in situ* and is visible below the northern end of the middle viewing panel (VP2). Among the rubble removed on the western side of F23 were a couple of fragments of *opus signinum* with a white-painted, flattish surface (112).

- 7.7.6** The fragment of collapsed column/pier (F23) was associated with thick deposits of demolition debris (L29 & L27). These layers were found beyond the northern edge of the 1964 excavation. Originally they must have extended further south, before they were removed within Trench II in 1964. The earlier of these deposits (L29) partially enveloped F23. It was a thick greyish-brown deposit that contained large quantities of mortar fragments and flecks, as well as pieces of Roman brick/tile and septaria. In 2015 L29 was dug 400-450 mm deep, although it was not fully excavated. Only a single late Roman sherd was recovered from L29. While it is probable that this sherd was residual and that L29 was post-Roman in date, it remains a possibility that the deposit started to accumulate in the late Roman period.



Photo 10
The fragment of collapsed pier and/or column F23, on the northern edge of the foundation platform F2, viewed from the west.

- 7.7.7** Another layer of demolition debris (L27) sealed L29. It was darker and contained less mortar fragments than L29. In addition to the usual inclusions in L27, there were some fragments of greensand, as well as a few large pebbles and chalky lumps. This layer was approximately 500 mm thick. A quantity of 11th- to 12th-century potsherds was recovered from L27, as well as some residual Roman sherds. There were a few small amorphous lumps of Roman masonry in both L27 and L29. Among a group of Roman brick/tile fragments (89) in L27 were two joining Roman brick fragments with an unusual chamfered edge, perhaps derived from an entablature. To the east of F23, L27 and L29 were traced for 2-3 m, although here they had been disturbed as a result of modern activity.
- 7.7.8** A couple of small burnt patches (L28; not on plan) were observed on the surface of L27. One patch was close to, and the other extended into, the north section; immediately to the north-east of F23, although at a higher level. These patches were light reddish-brown in colour and were associated with thin ashy lenses, 10-20 mm thick. It is possible that they were much later in date than L27, as the layer (L25) that sealed them appeared to be post-medieval in date.
- 7.7.9** A mixed reddish-brown clayey deposit (L30; not on plan) also overlay L27. It extended out for approximately 350 mm from a short length of east-facing section to the west of F23 (Fig 3). The deposit (L30) was 150-200 mm thick and contained fragments and mottles of burnt daub. These probably derived from daub walls that had been burnt: It seems likely that L30 was redeposited Boudiccan debris, similar to the Boudiccan destruction layers observed elsewhere in Colchester (Crummy 2001, 79). Perhaps L30 was upcast from the Norman bailey ditch, although it possibly resulted from modern disturbance as it lay immediately to the east of a pile cap.
- 7.7.10** Further deposits of dereliction and/or demolition debris that derived from the arcade were uncovered in 2015 in the eastern part of the site. These deposits lay beyond the area excavated in 1964. They were found mainly to the east of a modern north-south foundation F11/F15 (Fig 6). Here they extended into the east section (Sx 1, Fig 7), and included a series of layers (L21, L20 & L19) to the north of the Roman revetting wall F20.

Overlying the foundation platform F2 was a dark greyish-brown layer (L21) with some lighter patches and small amounts of mortar fragments. It was approximately 150 mm thick, but became thicker towards the north section. A couple of fragments of Roman painted wall-plaster came from L21. A lighter layer of demolition debris (L20), approximately 300-350 mm thick and with more mortar fragments, sealed L21. Small quantities of probable late Roman sherds were recovered from L21 and L20. While these sherds may have been residual, it remains a possibility that L21 and L20 started to accumulate in the late Roman period. A darker layer of demolition debris (L19), approximately 300 mm thick, sealed L20 and contained a large quantity of mortar fragments.

7.7.11 To the south of revetting wall F20, the latest probable Roman deposit (L18) was cut by several shallow scoops (F21a-d; Figs 6-7). These were roughly 100-180 mm deep and were probable post-Roman in date. Their fills were dark greyish-brown in colour and contained small amounts of mortar fragments. A fairly extensive, dark greyish-brown layer of demolition debris (L17) sealed F21 and also extended over the top of the revetting wall F20. It was approximately 200 mm thick and contained moderate amounts of mortar fragments. This layer probably sealed L19, although this could not be confirmed due to the extent of later disturbance. A small quantity of 11th- to 12th-century potsherds was recovered from L17.

7.7.12 Some patches of demolition debris (L16), up to 400 mm thick, were excavated to the west of the modern north-south foundation F11/F15. They were found mainly close to and overlying the remains of the pier F12, although they had been disturbed as a result of later activity. A few probable late Roman sherds, a sherd of Thetford-type ware, and a sherd of late 11th- to early 12th-century date were recovered from L16. Also from L16 was a small fragment of plaster with a whitish painted surface (96) of probable Roman date.

7.8 Collapsed Roman column to the north of the Roman arcade (Period 2a) [Figs 3-4, 9-10, 18-20]

7.8.1 A large fragment of collapsed Roman attached column (F8) was uncovered in 2014 in a trench (T3) in the northern part of the site (Photo 11).



Photo 11
Vertical view of the collapsed Roman attached column F8.
North lies at the bottom of the photograph.

Initially, the top of F8 was exposed in a small sondage that was dug in the bottom of T3. Subsequently, the western part of T3 was excavated deeper in order to uncover more of F8 and to investigate the deposits associated with it (Photo 13). In the limited area

available, the eastern side of the attached column was exposed for approximately 1.3 m north-south by 400-600 mm east-west. It extended into the north and west sections of the trench. The column fragment was uncovered approximately 550 mm deep, although more of it lay below the bottom of the trench (Sxs 7 & 8, Fig 9).

- 7.8.2** The western part of the same fragment of collapsed column was revealed in a small trench dug in 1964 (Trench III; Drury 1983, 339-41). This part of the attached column survived to a height of approximately 1 m above the sandy surface on which it lay. The 2014 trench T3 was located immediately to the east of the 1964 Trench III (Fig 3), and what was probably the sandy backfill of the latter was visible in the west section of T3.
- 7.8.3** The large fragment of column that was exposed in 2014 had a curving face (Photos 11-12). It was constructed of alternate courses of septaria and Roman column brick. At least nine courses were identified; five of stone alternating with four of brick. The upper four courses in the face, measuring 200-220 mm high, appeared to be set in a hard whitish mortar. Below this, the face was coated with *opus signinum*, which partially masked the lower courses. This large curving fragment formed part of a semi-circular, attached (also known as half-engaged) column. Columns of this type would have projected from the front and/or rear of the large rectangular piers that supported the Roman arcade (Hebditch 1971, 122).



Photo 12 Detail of the collapsed attached column F8, viewed from the south-east.
The alternate courses of stone and column brick are visible.

- 7.8.4** At the northern end of the trench, the curved column fragment was found still attached to part of the face of the rectangular pier with which it had been built as one. Only a small portion of this face was exposed, although more of it lay beyond the limits of excavation. It consisted of a large brick fragment set in whitish mortar that sealed a further stone course and another brick course below that. Some fragments of plaster survived in places on the pier face and also at the angle where the column joined the pier. This plaster, which did not appear to be painted, presumably indicates how the columns and piers were finished off.
- 7.8.5** The collapsed attached column F8 lay approximately 3.5 m to the north of the Roman arcade. It probably derived from the pier/column that projected from pier stump F17, which lay roughly 5 m to the south of F8. The column fragment was lying at a slight angle in the ground, but it was possible to estimate that it had a diameter of slightly less than a metre (Figs 10 above & 18). Its position and the way it was lying in the ground suggest that it was dislodged from the upper part of the pier; then it flipped over and came to rest upside down (Fig 20). Although there is little to indicate directly when this occurred, the

limited dating evidence from the deposits of demolition debris associated with the column fragment F8 suggests that it fell in the late 11th or early 12th century.

The top of F8 lies at 24.23 m AOD (Sxs 7 & 8; Fig 9). This is roughly 2 m below the modern street level in Castle Bailey and about 100 mm lower than the surface of the foundation platform (F2) to the south. Following the 2014 excavation, F8 was covered over and left *in situ*. It is now buried under the ground floor in the north-west corner of Castle House.

7.9 Demolition debris to the north of the Roman arcade (Period 2a)

[Figs 3-4, 8-9, 12 & 14]

- 7.9.1 Unlike over the Roman arcade, where the demolition debris had already largely been removed in 1964, thick deposits of demolition and/or robbing debris survived *in situ* in the northern part of the site. In 2014, these deposits (L9 & L10) were excavated in T3, where they sealed the collapsed attached column F8 (Photo 13). Demolition debris L10 was at least 500 mm thick, although it was not fully excavated and continued below the bottom of the trench (Sx 2, Fig 8). It was a greyish-brown, friable deposit consisting of large quantities of mortar fragments and flecks, including a few pieces of *opus signinum*, as well as fragments of Roman brick/tile and septaria. There were lenses consisting almost entirely of loose mortar. The deposit also contained some lumps of Roman masonry (Photo 13; Fig 4 & Sx7, Fig 9). These were smaller than F8, but were also constructed of septaria and Roman brick, including column brick, set in whitish mortar. Like F8, they presumably derived from the Roman arcade. These fragments of Roman masonry were mostly left *in situ* and covered over, prior to the trench being backfilled.



Photo 13
Demolition debris L10
during excavation in T3,
viewed from the north.

The top of the collapsed column F8 is visible in the right foreground.

Datable finds from L10 were sparse, but there were one or two potsherds of probable 12th-century or later date. Probable residual Roman finds from L10 included a few fragments of plaster with white-painted surfaces (finds numbers 36 & 43), a small fragment of *opus signinum* with a red-painted surface (44), and a complete quarter-size Roman column brick (43; Fig 14).

7.9.2 A greyish-brown layer (L9), approximately 500 mm thick, sealed L10 in T3 (Sx 2, Fig 8). It contained fewer mortar fragments and other inclusions than L10, although there were some patches of brownish-yellow loamy sand. A small quantity of late 11th- to 12th-century potsherds was recovered from L9.

A thin, patchy yellowish-brown, clayey layer (L8; Sx 2, Fig 8), 80-100 mm thick, sealed L9. It contained fragments and flecks of chalk and patches of redeposited cover loam. It was perhaps upcast from the digging of the Norman ditch to the south.

7.9.3 The more easterly trench (T4) in the northern part of the site was not dug as deep as T3, and thick deposits of Norman demolition debris were not excavated. However the upper part of a layer (L12), which contained fragments of mortar and other Roman building materials, was exposed in the bottom of gully F7 (Sx 6, Fig 12). This layer remained unexcavated, but it was probably comparable to demolition debris L9 in T3. A thin layer of yellowish sand (L11; Sx 6), approximately 80 mm thick, sealed L12. It was perhaps upcast from the digging of the Norman ditch to the south.

8 Later remains

8.1 Medieval deposits in the northern part of the site (Period 2b)

[Figs 3, 5, 8-9, 11-12]

8.1.1 In 2014, a narrow east-west trial section was dug across the middle of T4 (Fig 5). This revealed a series of medieval deposits (Sx 6, Fig 12). On the eastern side of T4, a dark greyish, charcoal-rich layer (L3), approximately 150 mm thick, sealed the thin, sandy layer L11 (Photo 14). The finds from L3 included potsherds of late 11th- to 12th-century date, as well as many fragments of animal bone and shell, mainly oyster shell.

Another charcoal-rich layer L6, approximately 120-150 mm thick, extended slightly from the east section of T4 (Sx 4, Fig 11). It was stratigraphically later than L3, with in places a thin brownish layer between them.



Photo 14 Gully F7 and charcoal-rich deposit L3, viewed from the south.

8.1.2 On the western side of T4, a shallow feature (F7) was excavated in the trial section (Photo 14). It was approximately 350 mm deep and was probably a gully (Sx 6, Fig 12). The lower fill of this gully was approximately 150 mm thick, and was dark greyish-brown in colour with a slight olive hue and with charcoal-rich patches. The upper fill was a lighter brownish colour, again with a slight olive hue, and was approximately 200 mm thick. Between the upper and lower fills on the western side of F7 was a thin yellowish, sandy lens, approximately 50 mm thick (Sx 5, Fig 12).

A probable stake hole (F9), approximately 160 mm deep, was excavated on the eastern edge of F7. Although the gully F7 appeared to cut the charcoal-rich deposit L3,

traces of L3 were observed on the western edge of F7; suggesting perhaps that F7 and L3 were broadly contemporary.

8.1.3 A large quantity of finds was recovered from the narrow section that was dug across F7. This included potsherds of late 11th- to 12th-century date. There were also many fragments of animal bone, including fish and bird bone, and mollusc shells. The latter were mainly oyster shells. There were a few residual fragments of Roman building materials, such as brick/tile, mortar, and *opus signinum*, although no Roman potsherds. Only a small part of the probable gully F7 was excavated, but there were indications on the surrounding surface that it extended in a slight curve from south-west to north-east (Fig 5). The gully F7 and charcoal-rich layer L3, and the abundance of finds from them, provide evidence for a phase of activity of probable 12th-century date. These deposits were perhaps located immediately inside the Norman inner bailey rampart. No comparable deposits were observed in T3.

8.1.4 A note on the animal bone from F7 and L3

by Adam Wightman

Although only small parts of the 11th- to 12th-century deposits F7 and L3 were excavated, they produced comparatively large quantities of animal bone, including significant bird bone and fish bone assemblages. In gully F7, the bird and fish bone each represent roughly 20% of the bone assemblage by number. A variety of different types of fish and bird bone are present, including some very large and some very small fragments. Also of interest is the presence of small mammal bones in the assemblage. However very little large mammal bone is present in F7. The rest of the assemblage is composed largely of medium mammal bones. This probably comprises more pig than sheep/goat bone. Many of the bones appear to have come from very young individuals. Some of the mammal bone is burnt and others have butchery marks.

The assemblage from L3 contains little or no large mammal bone. Approximately 40% of the bone from L3 is bird bone and about 10% is fish bone, including fragments from large fish species. The rest is medium mammal bone, some pieces of which are unfused.

8.1.5 There were further deposits of probable medieval date in the two trenches (T3 & T4) in the northern part of the site. In T3, a thick greyish-brown layer (L7; Sx 2, Fig 8) sealed the layers of Norman demolition debris. Unlike the latter, inclusions such as building rubble were sparse in L7. A couple of late 11th- to 12th-century potsherds were recovered from L7, which was approximately 500-550 mm thick. In T4, the probable 12th-century deposits (F7 & L3) were sealed by a greyish-brown layer (L5) that was similar to L7. At the southern end of T4, L5 was up to 700 mm thick, but it tapered off to the north (Sx 5, Fig 12). A single potsherd of late 11th- to 12th-century date was recovered from L5.

A lighter, yellowish-brown layer (L4), 400-500 mm thick, sealed L5 over the northern part of T4 (Sx 4, Fig 11; Sx 5, Fig 12).

8.1.6 Not much of these deposits (i.e. L7 in T3, & L5 & L4 in T4) was excavated by hand, but they were probably medieval in date. It seems unlikely that they formed part of the Norman inner bailey rampart. Thus, they appeared to be slightly too far north for the rampart and to not include material that was derived from the digging of the Norman ditch to the south. Also, as L5 and L4 sealed probable 12th-century deposits (F7 & L3), it seems likely that they post-dated the building of the rampart. Perhaps they accumulated inside the rampart during the medieval period. The lighter layer L4 in T4 could of course be significantly later in date than L5. The top of these deposits lay just over a metre below the modern street level in Castle Bailey. They were sealed by modern make-up (L2), and so it is possible that they had been truncated as a result of terracing in post-medieval and/or modern times.

8.2 Medieval deposits overlying the Roman arcade (Period 2a-b)

[Figs 6-7]

8.2.1 A couple of features (F16 & F19) and a layer (L13) were excavated at the eastern end of the site in 2015. They lay to the east of a modern north-south foundation (F11/F15) and beyond the area excavated in 1964. These were probably medieval in date, but post-dated the layers of Norman demolition debris associated with the arcade. The demolition debris L17 was cut by an oval-shaped pit (F19; Figs 6 above & 7). A small quantity of late 11th- to 12th-century potsherds was recovered from F19, and among the inclusions in its dark greyish-brown fill were several large septaria blocks. A yellowish-brown, clayey layer

(L13) sealed F19. It was 100-150 mm thick, although it thinned to 50 mm close to the east section (Sx 1, Fig 7). It contained a small copper-alloy Roman coin (SF3) and a couple of residual Roman potsherds, as well as a late 11th- to 12th-century sherd. Perhaps it was upcast from the digging of the Norman ditch to the south.

- 8.2.2** In the south-east corner of the site, L13 was cut by a shallow pit (F16; Fig 6 above; Sx 1, Fig 7). It had a dark greyish-brown fill with a slight olive hue. A small quantity of medieval potsherds was recovered from the fill, and these suggest a late 12th- to early 13th-century or later date for F16. A small copper-alloy mount (SF7) also came from F16.

Little definite evidence was found for the Norman inner bailey rampart in either 2015 or in 1964 (Hebditch 1971, 121 & 124). If, as expected, it did extend over the remains of the arcade, it must have been truncated as a result of later activity. Interpretation of F16, F19 and L13 is therefore difficult. Perhaps F19 and L13 pre-dated the main body of the rampart, but it remains a possibility that the pit F16 was cut into it.

8.3 Post-medieval inhumation burial

[Figs 4 & 9]

- 8.3.1** During machine trenching in the more westerly of the 2014 trenches (T3) in the northern part of the site, an inhumation burial (F5) was partially uncovered. It was revealed at the northern end of the trench, although most of it lay under the north section (Sx 3, Fig 9). The grave survived 250-300 mm deep and cut L7. It was sealed by modern make-up (L2) and it seems likely that the upper part of the grave had been truncated as a result of later activity. It lay approximately 1.1 m below the modern street level.

- 8.3.2** The backfill of the grave was dark greyish-brown in colour. This looked similar to deposits of post-Roman topsoil or 'dark earth' excavated on other sites in Colchester town centre (CAR 3, 92). A small amount of articulated human remains was exposed *in situ* during cleaning of the north section. This included probable fragments of ribs, pelvis, femur, ?clavicle, and finger bones. A few small fragments of human bone were dislodged during machining, including some fragments of rib and of ?arm bone. These were reburied on site, alongside the *in situ* human bone in F5. The position of the bones in the ground and of the grave cut indicated that the burial was most likely aligned east-west, with the head to the west.

- 8.3.3** The dead person had probably been a prisoner in the castle and had died in custody. The castle was in use as a prison over many years (VCHE 9, 246-7), although the burial of prisoners in the castle bailey seems to have taken place mainly during the 16th and 17th centuries (Drury 1983, 406-7). No dating evidence was recovered from F5, but it is likely to date to around this time. Most of the burials that have been found in the castle bailey were aligned east-west, although other alignments were also recorded (Drury 1983, 333). There were no traces of coffins. In 2010, human bone was found approximately 27 m to the west of F5, at the northern end of Museum Street (CAT Report 521, 10). This probably also derived from a burial of 16th- or 17th-century date.

8.4 Other post-medieval and modern deposits

[Figs 3-9 & 11-12]

- 8.4.1** Approximately half a metre to the east of the burial F5, part of another feature (F6; Fig 4) was exposed in 2014 at the northern end of T3. It was probably a pit, although most of it lay under the east section (Sx 2, Fig 8). It only extended out from the section for about 100 mm (Sx 3, Fig 9). The excavated part of F6 was approximately 500 mm deep, but its upper edges were difficult to define. The fill of F6 was dark greyish-brown in colour, similar to the fill of F5. Like F5, F6 cut L7.

A quantity of animal bone fragments was concentrated in a lens within the pit. Most of the bone remained in section (Sx 2, Fig 8), although a few pieces were recovered and these mainly came from a horse mandible. It seems likely that most of the bone in the section was also horse. No dating evidence was recovered from F6, but, like F5, it was probably post-medieval in date.

- 8.4.2** A dark greyish-brown, charcoal-rich deposit (L25; not on plan) extended out from the north section of the 2015 excavation area for just over a metre. It sealed the Norman demolition debris (L27) that overlay the collapsed pier/column F23. It also sealed the undated burnt patches L28, under the northern end of the middle viewing panel (VP2). The charcoal-rich deposit L25 was approximately 100 mm thick, but it thinned to 50 mm by the north section. More of L25 had probably been removed during the 1964 excavation.

As well as some Roman and medieval sherds, three joining sherds of 'Border' ware (Fabric 42), of probable late 16th or 17th century date, were recovered from L25. A fragment of slate also came from L25.

A yellowish sandy layer (L22), with pale greyish-brown clayey patches, sealed L25. It was approximately 150 mm thick. As well as a few Roman and medieval potsherds, a modern earthenware sherd was recovered from L22.

- 8.4.3** The sandy layer (L22) and the charcoal-rich layer (L25) were probably post-medieval and/or modern in date, although they overlay Norman demolition debris (L27). Perhaps any deposits that accumulated in the intervening years had been terraced away. This could have occurred when the inner bailey ditch was backfilled and the site built over in the second half of the 17th century (Morant 1748, I, 7-8; Hull 1958, 169).

Other post-medieval and modern remains on the site, pre-dating the 1964 excavation, were sparse. In the northern part of the site, an east-west brick wall protruded slightly from the section at the north end of T4 (Fig 5; Sx 5, Fig 12), but was not examined further. It lay immediately below modern make-up (L2), and was presumably the remains of a post-medieval/modern garden or property wall.

- 8.4.4** The 1964 excavation trenches (Trenches I & II) were fairly easy to recognise and re-excavate in 2015. The backfill of the 1964 trenches consisted mainly of dark greyish-brown fill, up to 1 m thick (F1). It contained large quantities of rubble, often in bands, including fragments of modern brick and concrete. Among the finds from F1 were a modern penny (SF2), a ceramic spindlewhorl (SF5), and a fragment of marble (SF14), as well as quantities of Roman brick and tile, including fragments of column brick.
- 8.4.5** In several places remains survived of the office block that was built on the site following the archaeological excavations in 1964. The 2014 trenches (T3 & T4) confirmed that the ground level in the northern part of the site had been raised by over a metre with modern make-up (L2; Sx 2, Fig 8; Sx 3, Fig 9; Sx 4, Fig 11). This consisted mainly of rubble, such as fragments of concrete, brick, tile, tarmac, and stone. Hardstanding for car parking was laid on top of the make-up. This surface consisted of reinforced concrete (L1), 100-200 mm thick, bedded on a thin layer of yellowish sand.

Along the southern edge of the raised area was an east-west brick retaining wall. Remains of the wall and its concrete foundation were encountered at the southern ends of T3 and T4 (Figs 3-5; Sx 2, Fig 8; Sx 4, Fig 11; Sx 5, Fig 12).

- 8.4.6** Further south, at the eastern end of the 2015 excavated area, were the remains of a modern north-south foundation (Fig 6) that also belonged to the post-1964 office block. It consisted of a foundation (F15) constructed of reinforced concrete. This lay in the bottom of a foundation trench (F11) that was approximately 1.2 m wide and survived in places almost a metre deep. The concrete foundation F15 varied in depth, but was roughly 250-300 mm thick. It rested on, or in places was set slightly into, the Roman foundation platform (F2) for the arcade.

A brick wall (F10), 270 mm wide, was built on top of the modern concrete foundation F15. The brick wall survived approximately 730 mm (9 courses) high. The bricks were frogged and measured 220 x 105 x 65 mm. Above the foundation F15 and to either side of the brick wall F10, the foundation trench F11 was backfilled with a dark greyish-brown rubbly deposit. Within the 2015 excavation area, the brick wall F10 was demolished and the concrete foundation F15 was broken out and removed by hand.

- 8.4.7** Two modern concrete pads were uncovered at the southern edge of the site. These probably supported pillars belonging to the 1960's office block. One of the pads lay in the south-eastern part of the site, immediately to the west of the modern foundation F15/F11 (Fig 6). This pad was broken out and removed by hand. The other concrete pad lay approximately 2.6 m further west and cut the Roman revetting wall F13 (Fig 3; Photo 6). Most of this pad was left *in situ*, in order to avoid causing further damage to F13. The pads measured approximately 900 mm east-west by 700-800 mm north-south, and were 400 mm deep.

In a photograph of the 1964 excavation (Hebditch 1971, Plate I), another concrete pad is shown overlying F13, slightly to the east of the pad exposed in 2015. Presumably it belonged to an earlier phase of building and was removed in the 1960's after the photograph was taken.

- 8.4.8** The reinforced concrete slab (L1; Sx 1, Fig 7) that was installed inside the building in 2015 was approximately 250 mm thick. It sat on a layer of modern make-up (L2), approximately 400 mm thick, that was laid on a geotextile membrane.

9 Finds

9.1 Introduction

A quantity of finds was recovered during the excavations. Where appropriate the finds were washed, marked and bagged according to context, in line with the recommendations in *Standard and guidance for the collection, documentation, conservation and research of archaeological materials* (ClfA 2014b). The small finds are described in section 9.2. In section 9.3 there is an explanation of the pottery fabric and form codes used, followed by a discussion of the pottery. The Roman column brick is discussed in section 9.4, and the fragments of column brick are listed by context in Appendix 2. The other fragments of ceramic building material that were retained on site are listed by context in Appendix 3. The petrology of two pieces of worked stone is discussed in section 9.5. A note on the animal bone fragments from F7 and L3 is given in section 8.1.4. The remaining finds, as well as brief descriptions of the pottery, are listed by context in Appendix 1. Further details are available in the site archive. The finds numbers are a continuation of the series used in the 2012 evaluation trenches (CAT Report 701).

9.2 The small finds

by Laura Pooley

9.2.1 Seventeen small finds were recovered from excavations at Castle House. Eleven were of worked stone, three of copper-alloy, two of worked animal bone, and one was ceramic.

9.2.2 Worked stone

Ten fragments of Roman marble were recorded from six different contexts. Only three were recorded from Roman contexts, but all are likely to be Roman in date. The others are residual finds from post-Roman deposits relating to the demolition of the Roman arcade.

Five of the fragments are of Purbeck marble. The remaining pieces are white marble (2), white marble with black veins (2 joining), and a fragment of porphyry (1). Further analysis would be needed to identify the types of marble and where they originated. Eight of the fragments (SF9.2-.3, SF10.1-.2, SF11, SF12, SF13 and SF14) are relatively thin, between 4-25mm thick, and are likely to be marble veneers (thin slabs of decorative, high-status wall covering), although the thicker fragments could be pieces of paving slabs. Two of the fragments of Purbeck marble are very thick (SF8 and SF9.1: 49mm and 59mm) and are probably more likely to be fragments of wall cladding or architectural stone. During production, individual pieces of marble were sawn to size and detached from the main sheet with a sharp blow of a hammer (Pearson 2006, 64). Both SF10.1 and SF11 show evidence of this production technique.

Previous investigations on the Castle House site revealed reused fragments of Purbeck marble in an east-west drain (Hebditch 1971, 120), and single fragments of Purbeck marble veneer were recovered by CAT during the 2010 watching brief (CAT Report 587, SF1) and the 2012 evaluation (CAT Report 701, SF1). Over 200 fragments of marble slabs were also recorded during 1953 excavations a short distance to the west of the site (Hull 1955, 45-9) where at least eight different types of marble were present:

The material is chiefly Purbeck, but there are red, yellow, white, and mottled marbles from Italy, Africa, and Greece. The pieces are mostly from sawn slabs, but a few are from carved panelling, and some in the form of leaves, tendrils, or geometric pieces are from inlaid patterns.... The slabs are thick or thin, presumably for floors and walls. The latter have small dowel-holes in the edges for the iron T-pieces by which they were secured to the walls (Hull 1958, 173-4).

According to Rex Hull this marble derived from the Roman arcade that he thought was probably sheathed with marble (Hull 1955, 60). It seems perhaps more likely that much of the decorative marble came from other buildings located nearby (Shimmin, *pers com*). However, Purbeck marble paving slabs were used elsewhere in the precinct of the Temple of Claudius where they were bedded in *opus signinum* (Hull 1958, 188-9).

SF8 (92) L25. Post-medieval dump. Fragment of Purbeck marble. One smooth face, one original edge. Traces of mortar on original edge. Very thick, probably a piece of wall cladding or architectural fragment. 99mm long, 66mm wide and 49mm thick, 519g.

SF9 (83) L23. Period 1b dump/make-up. Three fragments of Purbeck marble.

- SF9.1 One smooth edge, two rough faces, very thick, probably a piece of wall cladding or architectural fragment. 129mm long, 70mm wide, 59mm thick, 806g.
- SF9.2 Fragment of marble veneer, two smooth faces. 76mm long, 48mm wide, 25mm thick, 152g.
- SF9.3 Fragment of marble veneer, one smooth face, opposing face left rough. 80mm long, 59mm wide, 22mm thick, 158g.

SF10 (68) F19. Period 2a/b pit. Two fragments of marble veneer.

- SF10.1 Fragment of white marble veneer, two smooth faces, one edge shows evidence of having been partially sawn to size and then broken off a larger slab with a hammer blow. Similar to SF11. 70mm long, 49mm wide, 20mm thick, 126g.
- SF10.2 Fragment of marble veneer, white with black veins, two smooth faces. Modern break on one edge joins to SF12, the two joining pieces measure 41mm long by 21mm wide. 22mm long, 20mm wide, 7mm thick, 6g.

SF11 (94) L2. Modern make-up/dump. Fragment of white marble. Two smooth faces, one edge shows evidence of having been partially sawn to size and then broken off a larger slab with a hammer blow. Second original edge at right-angle, tapered with rough diagonal tool marks and remains of mortar. Similar to SF10.1. 86mm long, 46mm wide, 20mm thick, 104g.

SF12 (67) F19. Period 2a/b pit. Fragment of marble veneer, white marble with black veins, two smooth faces. Modern break on one edge, joins to SF10.2, the two joining pieces measure 41mm long by 21mm wide. 28mm long, 21mm wide, 7mm thick, 6g.

SF13 (37) T4, L3. Period 2b dump. Fragment of Purbeck marble veneer, one smooth face with parallel tooling marks, part of one original edge. 54mm long, 34mm wide, 12mm thick, 30g.

SF14 (55) F1. Modern excavation trench. Fragment of porphyry veneer, two smooth faces, one rough edge. 34mm long, 29mm wide, 4mm thick, 6g.

One fragment of black marble is probably of post-medieval/modern date (SF6).

SF6 (53). Unstratified. Bar-shaped fragment of black marble with rectangular cross-section. Two smooth surfaces, one polished to a high shine. Two original edges, one smoothed, one scored with tiny diagonal cross-hatched lines showing evidence of having been filed. Broken at both ends. 47mm long, 40mm wide (complete width), 20mm thick, 104g. Probably post-medieval/modern.

9.2.3 Worked animal bone

Two pieces of worked bone were recovered from contexts of medieval date. One was probably a bone scraper or scraping tool (SF1) and the other a piece of bone sheet/plate (SF4).

SF1 (15) T4, F7. Period 2b gully. Worked bone shoulder blade (scapula) from a medium-sized mammal (possible a sheep or pig). The scapula spine has been worked/sliced flat. The broad proximal end has been worked on both sides to create a blade-like edge. The distal end has been cut diagonally away. Probably a bone scraper or scraping tool. 97mm long, 53mm wide (proximal end) and 26mm wide (distal end), 11mm thick, 22g.

SF4 (111) L16. Period 2a demolition debris. Worked bone sheet/plate. It has been worked into a rectangular shape with one elongated, slightly curving corner. A small notch is visible on the front face of the elongated corner with another tiny cut on the back face of another corner. 58mm long, 40mm wide (max.) and 23mm wide (min.), 2mm thick, 6g.

9.2.4 Ceramics

A spindlewhorl made from late Roman pottery was recovered from the backfill of a modern excavation trench (SF5).

SF5 (47) F1. Modern excavation trench. Ceramic spindlewhorl, incomplete, made from a thick sherd of Oxford red colour-coated pottery. Circular in shape with smoothed edges, one face formed by the red colour-coated surface of the pottery, other face shattered and

broken giving irregular appearance. Drilled central hole, c 8mm diameter. 38.5mm diameter, 10mm thick, 14g. Roman, 4th/late 4th century.

9.2.5 Metalwork

A 20th-century bronze coin (SF2), Roman copper-alloy coin (SF3), and copper-alloy mount (SF7) were the only metal objects recovered during the excavation.

SF2 (57) F1. Modern excavation trench. Copper-alloy (bronze) penny of Edward VII dating from 1901-1910. Obverse: bare headed bust looking right, [EDWARDVUS VII DEI GRA BRITT] **OMN REX FID DEF** [IND IMP]. Reverse: Britannita seated left, **ONE PEN**[NY], date illegible. Much obscured by corrosion and mortar. 31mm diameter, 10g.

SF3 (62) L13. Period 2a/b dump/make-up. Small copper-alloy coin, probably a 4th-century Roman *nummus*, but now completely illegible. 11mm diameter, <1g.

SF7 (60) F16. Period 2b pit. Small cast copper-alloy mount. Now square-shaped but broken on one edge so probably originally rectangular. Slightly convex with two integral rivets on underside. No visible surface decoration. 22mm long (incomplete), 22mm wide, 2mm thick, rivets 5-8mm diameter, 10g.

9.3 The pottery

by Stephen Benfield

9.3.1 Introduction

Pottery of Roman, medieval and post-medieval/modern date was recovered from a range of contexts. In total there are 599 sherds together weighing 7,871 g. The great majority of the pottery is medieval and most of this is in fabrics that can be broadly dated to the 11th or 12th centuries. The Roman pottery was recorded using the Colchester Roman fabric type series (*CAR 10*); Roman pottery vessel forms refer to the Colchester - *Camulodunum* (Cam) - pottery type series (Hawkes & Hull 1947 & Hull 1958). The medieval and post-medieval pottery fabrics refer to the Colchester post-Roman fabric type series (*CAR 7*). The pottery fabric codes used are listed in Table 1. The pottery is quantified by fabric and listed by context in Appendix 1.

Table 1: list of pottery fabrics

Fabric codes	Fabric name
<i>Roman:</i>	
AA	Amphorae (other than Dressel 20 and Brockley Hill/ <i>Verulamium</i> amphorae)
BACG	Central Gaulish plain samian
BSW	Black-surfaced ware
BXCG	Central Gaulish decorated samian
CH	Oxidised Hadham wares
DJ	Coarse oxidised wares (general)
EA	Nene Valley colour-coated ware
GX	Other coarse wares, principally locally-produced grey wares
HD	Shell-tempered wares
KX	Black-burnished ware (BB2) types in pale greywares
MP	Oxford red colour-coated ware
TG	Oxford red colour-coated mortaria
TK	Oxford white/cream mortaria (unslipped)
UX	Romano-Saxon grey ware and types in similar fabric
RET	Rettendon-type ware
<i>Post-Roman:</i>	
9	Thetford-type ware
12A	Early medieval sandy shelly wares (without sand)
12B	Early medieval sandy shelly wares (slightly sandy)
12C	Early medieval sandy shelly wares (sand predominant)
13	Early medieval sandy wares
13S	Early medieval shell-dusted sandy wares
13T	Transitional sandy wares (grey)
20	Medieval sandy greywares (general)
21A	Colchester-type ware
<i>Post-medieval & modern:</i>	
42	Surrey/Hampshire Border ware

Fabric codes	Fabric name
45D	Frechen stoneware
51B	Flowerpot (modern)

9.3.2 Roman pottery

Small quantities of Roman pottery were recovered from several contexts. Most of the sherds are small-medium in size and, though not particularly abraded, appear fairly typical of residual pottery. Two contexts (L23 & L24) were probably of Roman date. These were Period 1b build-up overlying the foundation platform of the arcade. Both only produced a few sherds; L23 included a piece of 2nd-century samian. One of two sherds from L24 can only be dated as Roman and the other (also greyware) is probably Roman given the context, but appears to be a base sherd with a rounded edge and might possibly be Thetford-type ware. Roman pottery from other contexts includes 1st- to 3rd-century material, although the only closely dated early Roman (1st century) pottery is a ribbed body sherd from an amphora in a sandy, orange-brown fabric, which is probably from a Cam 189 ('Carrot'-type) amphora. The majority of the more closely datable Roman sherds are of 3rd- to 4th-century date. The 3rd- to 4th-century sherds included Nene Valley colour-coated wares (Fabric EA), sherds from Oxford mortaria (Fabric TG & Fabric TK), and a sherd from an Oxford red-colour coated bowl (Fabric MP) from L16. The bowl sherd is decorated with small impressed rosettes and can be dated to the mid-late 4th or early 5th century at Colchester. Of interest is a single rim sherd from L13 (63) that has prominent flint grit that can probably be classified as Rettendon-type ware (Fabric RET). This appears to be rare as a fabric type in Colchester, but is more common further south in the county; the nearest kiln associated with this fabric being at Inworth (Going 1987, 78-89). A few late Roman sherds came from deposits of demolition debris (L20, L21 & L29) that were probably post-Roman in date, but possibly started to accumulate late in the Roman period.

9.3.3 Medieval pottery

Sherds of medieval pottery were associated with most contexts. Only one feature had a group of pottery with significantly large pieces from several pots to warrant illustration; this is the gully F7 in T4 (see below).

Potentially the earliest dated of the medieval pottery is Thetford-type ware (Fabric 9). A few sherds can be identified as Thetford-type ware, with one or two that are possibly Thetford-type. However sherds of this fabric are on occasion difficult to distinguish from Roman greyware and identification is sometimes tentative. Thetford-type ware is broadly current in the period c AD 850-1150 but in Colchester probably is not later than c AD 1100 (CAR 7, 31; CAR 1, 32-40). Pottery identified as Thetford-type ware was recovered as a single or just one or two sherds from several contexts; the low sherd numbers and the generally small sherds suggesting that most of this is residual. The only recognised form is a medium-sized jar with ripple shoulder; represented by a sherd from L9 (35) in T3; although a body sherd from L16 (71) suggests the presence of a larger vessel. There are also a few sherds from shell-tempered pots (Fabric 12A/B & Fabric 12C) broadly dating to the 11th or 12th centuries. Most sherds appear not to be particularly sandy and can be identified as Fabric 12A/12B. Again, most of this fabric occurs as one or two small sherds and most is probably residual, although part of a shell-tempered cooking pot with a hand-made body and wheel-turned rim was recovered from the fill of Period 2b gully F7 (14).

The great majority of the pottery consists of sherds from cooking pots in sandy wares (Fabric 13). These are commonly partly oxidised, especially on the pot interior, and also often shell-dusted (Fabric 13S). Fabric 13 is broadly current from the mid/late 11th century to the 12th/early 13th century (CAR 7, 40-41; CAR 1, 32-40). Shell-dusted sandy wares (Fabric 13S) are similarly current from the late 11th to the 12th centuries (CAR 7, 40), although as a fabric type appearing in any quantity it is generally considered more redolent of the 12th century than earlier. Many of the Fabric 13 sandy ware sherds recovered have dark external surfaces, rather than being oxidised, possibly reflecting unevenly fired pots of late 11th- to early 12th-century date (CAR 7, 40). However, a number of sherds appear more grey (Fabric 13T); a trait anticipating the transition to medieval sandy greywares (Fabric 20) during the late 12th to early 13th centuries. Decoration on the pots includes a limited number of examples of comb or incised wavy lines, thumbing on a few rim tops and edges with stab decoration to the rim of one pot

(from F7), and there are several examples of applied thumb strips on the bodies of vessels.

9.3.4 Early medieval pottery from the gully F7

A small but significant group of pottery was recovered from the fill of the Period 2b gully F7. In total 238 sherds weighing 3,698 g (EVE 1.12) were recovered (finds numbers 14, 16, 18, 22, 25, 28 & 32). The pottery consists of sherds from cooking pots in early medieval shell-tempered wares (Fabric 12A/B), early medieval sandy wares (Fabric 13), shell-dusted wares (Fabric 13S), and transitional sandy wares (Fabric 13T). The pottery is listed by fabric in Table 2.

Table 2: Pottery from F7 by fabric

Fabric code	Fabric name	No.	Wt/g	EVE
12A/B	Early medieval sandy shelly wares	7	56	0.06
13	Early medieval sandy wares	175	2116	0.33
13S	Early medieval shell-dusted sandy wares	52	1492	0.73
13T	Transitional sandy wares	4	34	

The pottery from the feature contains a number of large- and medium-sized sherds and the average sherd weight is 15 g. Sherds from several of the cooking pots were able to be joined together, although many of these joins are from recent breaks, and rims with upper-body profiles were obtained for three pots. While three joining sherds in Fabric 13 from the same base (22) are slightly abraded, overall the good condition of the pottery suggests it is relatively contemporary with the feature and is not significantly residual in relation to it.

Much of the pottery is sandy with grey/black exteriors and oxidized interior surfaces or is oxidized. While the few sherds of shell-tempered ware (Fabric 12A/B) are easily separated from the rest of the fabrics, a significant proportion of the pottery is shell-dusted (Fabric 13S) and where sparsely applied, this is difficult to distinguish from the untreated sand-tempered pottery (Fabric 13). A small number of sherds tend toward a greyware appearance, notably part of a base from the surface of the feature (28). This base is also the only pottery that shows any significant abrasion and might be of later date.

Rim tops on several of the pots are beaded (*CAR 7*, fig 27, rim types A4 & C1) – four examples (including the two decorated rims): Fabric 12A/B (14), Fabric 13 (14 & 18); flat-topped and squared (*CAR 7*, B2) – three examples Fabric 13S (32); and thickened flat-topped with internal bead (*CAR 7*, B2a) – one example Fabric 13 (32). One rim (18) has a row of stabbing, a type of decoration that also occurs on pots from the Middlebrough kilns (tentatively dated c AD 1175-1225), although the examples there are made by a comb (groups of stab marks) rather than individual stabs (*CAR 7*, 64 & 67). Decoration of the bodies of pots is limited to small sherds with parts of incised decoration (32), probably parts of wavy-line type, and thumb strips on four sherds, probably all different pots (14 & 18).

In terms of dating the pottery from F7 as a group, Fabric 12A/B is broadly dated to the 11th to 12th/early 13th centuries. The dominant fabric within the group, Fabric 13, is current in the period of the mid/late 11th to late 12th/early 13th centuries, although surfaces become more commonly reduced (as here) and the fabric harder during the early 12th century (*CAR 7*, 40). Some early sandy fabric sherds can be grey and these are probably transitional toward medieval greywares. The grey sherds are catalogued as Fabric 13T and are likely to date to the later 12th century, but the only sherds attributed to the fabric come from the top of the feature (28). A single late rim type, broadly corresponding to Type B2a (*CAR 7*, fig 27) and probably dating to the late 12th century, is associated with the lower fill (32) (Fig 13, no. 5). Shell-dusted pottery (Fabric 13S) also appears in Colchester in the late 11th-early 12th centuries (*CAR 7*, 40) and is absent from the dump layer in the base of the Saxo-Norman town ditch at Lion Walk (Colchester) dated c AD 1050-1075 (*CAR 7*, 311, Group 4 F2101). There are no obvious examples of Thetford-type ware (Fabric 9), which is probably not current in Colchester after the 11th century (*CAR 7*, 32), and there are no examples of later medieval fabrics (Fabric 20 & Fabric 21A), which develop from Fabric 13 in the late 12th century. The rim forms include both beaded and squared with squared flat-tops corresponding to Type B2 (*CAR 7*, fig 27). The latter invites comparison with the later groups in the Lion Walk ditch sequence dating to after c AD 1075 and which appear to become more common during the 12th

century (*CAR 1*, figs 34-35 & *CAR 7*, 311-316). Also (as noted above), there is no shell-dusted ware (Fabric 13S) present in the earliest group at Lion Walk, but which is well represented here. Overall, the pottery suggests that the group can be dated to *c* 1100- *c* 1175, and a date within the 12th century is probably most likely. Material from the upper fill/surface (14 & 28) is probably of late 12th-century date.

Illustrated pottery from F7

Fig 13.1 F7 (14). Fabric 13, cooking pot with thumbled rim (*CAR 7*, fig 27, rim type C1).

Fig 13.2 F7 (14). Fabric 13, cooking pot rim (*CAR 7*, fig 27, rim type B2).

Fig 13.3 F7 (18). Fabric 13S, cooking pot rim (*CAR 7*, fig 27, rim type C1).

Fig 13.4 F7 (18). Fabric 13, cooking pot rim decorated with stab row on rim top and internal wavy line (*CAR 7*, fig 27, rim type A4).

Fig 13.5 F7 (32). Fabric 13, cooking pot rim (*CAR 7*, fig 27, rim type B2a).

Fig 13.6 F7 (32). Fabric 13S, cooking pot (*CAR 7*, fig 27, rim type B2).

Fig 13.7 F7 (14). Fabric 12A/B, cooking pot (*CAR 7*, fig 27, rim type B2).

9.3.5 Post-medieval and modern pottery

Only a few sherds of post-medieval/modern pottery were recovered. Three joining sherds of 'Border' ware (Fabric 42), broadly dating to the late 16th-17th centuries (although commonly 17th century at Colchester (*CAR 7*, 228)), came from L25. A single small sherd of imported German stoneware, probably from Frechen (Fabric 45D) and dated 16th-17th century, came from a modern construction trench (F11). There is also a small sherd of 19th- to 20th-century date that is from the rim of a modern flowerpot (Fabric 51B) and comes from L22.

9.4 Column bricks: their shapes and their use

by Philip Crummy

9.4.1 The shape and likely intended sizes of the column bricks

One complete column tile (43i; Fig 14) and 31 fragments were retained from our excavations of 2014-15. All fragments with part of at least one edge were retained. Being part of the outer face of the brick, most of these edges were curved.

All the fragments with straight and curved edges were drawn in outline so as to help determine their likely shapes and intended sizes. Of the 15 bricks treated in this way (Fig 15), 13 of them have one straight side and one curved, another (no 67) has two straight sides to form a pointed end, and the final one is in the shape of a complete quarter-circle (no 43i).

Six of the fragments (nos 12i, 12ii, 45iii, 55iii, 80ii, and 93) seemed to match 2 pM diameter columns. One (no 70) seemed significantly bigger at *c* 2.25 pM, one (no 102i) provided a good fit for a 1.5 pM diameter column, while the rest (nos 45iv, 23ii, 31, 80i and 45ii) fell between 1.5 and 2.0 pM (Figs 16 & 17).

The straight and curved sides of all the brick fragments are slightly irregular and mostly quite short so that we cannot be certain what the intended dimensions of the bricks would have been. In fact the variations are such that conceivably all the bricks were meant to be the same size (1.5 or 2 pM would be the obvious choice) and the variations could have been taken up by varying as necessary the thickness of the finishing plaster applied to their external curved surfaces.

9.4.2 Broken bricks: re-used from elsewhere or deliberately broken when new?

Despite the uncertainty in the intended size or sizes of the bricks, one thing is clear. Their actual size did not necessarily determine the diameters of the columns they formed if, as seems to have happened here, the columns were made from bits of broken column bricks rather than complete ones. A hypothetical section through one of the attached columns (Fig 18, based in this case on F8 in T3) illustrates this point. This large collapsed fragment of attached column clearly measured 3 pM across (Fig 19) yet the bricks which made it up were apparently only 2 pM or so in diameter.

This is not the first time column-like structures in Colchester have been found to be made up of broken column bricks. Part of one of the *metae* of the Roman circus was

discovered in 2007 and it turned out not only to have been made entirely of broken column bricks but ones of a smaller diameter than the *metae* themselves. We did, at the time, assume that the column bricks had been recovered from an earlier building and broken as part of the recovery process (CAT Report 412, 1108). In other words they were reused.

Similarly (and incredibly), the brick used to make the town wall seems to have been laid entirely as fragments. This is apparent from careful inspection of the brick coursing where it survives (Crummy 2003, 44-5). The same puzzling issue applies here. Was the brick broken because it was salvaged from earlier buildings or was it deliberately broken presumably to strengthen the bond?

The column brick fragments from the arcade give the same impression, although only one of the retained pieces has the remnants of mortar over a broken edge as if they had been recovered from another building and reused here. Of course, the low incidence of mortar on broken edges is not that helpful because it could also be taken to suggest that the bricks were not in fact used in a broken state at all, a conclusion at variance with what we could see in the collapsed fragment of attached column F8 in T3.

9.4.3 Architectural reconstruction

The presence of the complete quarter-circle brick (no 43i) strongly hints at a more complicated situation since, being unbroken, it must surely have been used to make complete or attached columns 2 rather than 3 pM in diameter. Where columns of this size would have fitted in the architectural design is hard to say given their apparent scarcity. On the front or rear of the monumental arch is an obvious possibility.

9.5 The petrology of two pieces of worked stone

by Kevin Hayward with Penny Coombe

9.5.1 Introduction

A worked limestone slab and a smaller fragment of limestone, both from Castle House, Colchester, were examined in order to determine their geological character and if possible their geological source. Geological hand specimen and thin-section analysis of limestone paving and inscription had already identified a number of limestone types from the temple precinct area (Hayward 2009). These included part of a large letter inscription sourced to Calcaires à Polypiers from the Bajocian (Middle Jurassic) of the Moselle Valley, paving slabs made from Ham Hill stone (Toarcian – Somerset), and rubble fragments in Lower Lincolnshire Limestone (Bajocian – Basal Beds – Lincoln).

In the light of this, the purpose of this visit was to identify whether a large worked slab or block (length 700 mm, width 340 mm and height 190 mm max) was in fact Roman material derived from the Roman arcade or was a later addition, associated with 20th-century activity on the site (see section 7.3.3). The side of the slab that faced north was slightly curved and on this face there was a flange/protrusion, now broken off. The back of the slab was worked with a point chisel. A second objective was to identify the petrology of a smaller fragment of limestone (see section 7.3.4). This possible facing stone was previously uncovered during the 1964 excavation (Hebditch 1971, 118 & Plate IIa).

9.5.2 Results

In hand specimen, the larger rock sample (Photos 3 & 15) was identified as a hard grey earthy shelly limestone (bioclastic limestone) with numerous small hollowed out bivalve fragments, termed by quarrymen as featherstone. This is Ham Hill stone (Grey Bed) from Somerset.

The second piece had a comparable hard lithology, although this can be described as a banded yellow–grey comminuted skeletal grainstone (Dunham 1962), comparable in hand specimen to outcrop samples of Ham Hill stone (Yellow Bed) from Somerset. Existing thin sections of this material (Photo 16), obtained from worked stone from Roman levels at Colchester (e.g. Colchester Castle Temple Precinct CC77) (Hayward 2009), show the rock to contain broken oyster fragments.

These observations confirm earlier work from the arcade site that Ham Hill stone had been identified in the ashlar of the piers that formed the base of the arcade (Hull 1955, 50), of which this smaller block was one identified. Tests on outcrop samples have shown a very low porosity (13.5%) and the most resistant level of durability (Level A+) (Leary, 1989, 34), which means it is only suitable for ashlar and especially paving. Bringing in

fresh consignments of stone from such a great distance for use in an impressive monumental building project like the Temple of Claudius precinct was one of a number of quarry sources along the Middle Jurassic ridge of south-central England to be exploited, as well as the tried and tested continental source of Calcaires à Polypiers.

A yellow pavement or facing, in contrast to the white inscriptions from the precinct and the red brick, would have only increased the grandeur and setting of this, the earliest monumental building programme in the province of Roman Britain.



Photo 15
The large stone slab,
viewed from the south-west.

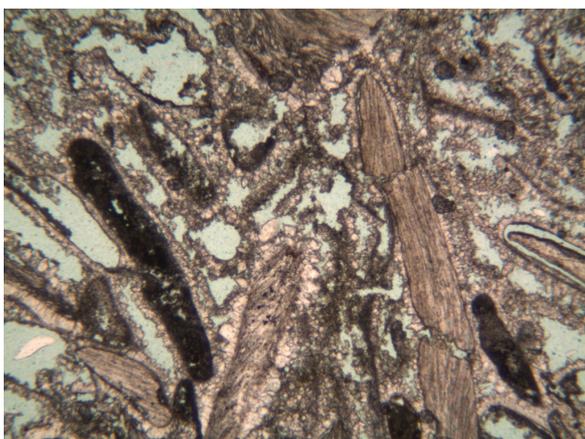


Photo 16
Photomicrograph of Ham Hill stone.
This was obtained from previous excavations of the temple precinct.
Field of View 4.8 mm
plane polarised light.

10 Discussion

- 10.1** Castle House lies in the heart of the historic town and sits directly on top of the remains of the massive Roman arcade. The remains of the arcade and the monumental arch that was situated in the middle of it extend east-west across the area between the Castle Park and the High Street. This strip of land is of outstanding archaeological interest. It was recently added by Historic England to the scheduled area that includes Upper Castle Park, Colchester castle and the site of the Temple of Claudius.
- 10.2** The results of previous archaeological investigations on the site, including the 1964 excavation (Hebditch 1971) and the more recent work by CAT, were used to help assess the impact of the Castle House redevelopment on the archaeological remains, and in particular on the Roman arcade. As a result, changes were made to the plan and piling layout of the proposed building. Also, the ground floor of the building was raised significantly above the remains of the arcade, which were therefore unaffected by ground reduction on the site.
- 10.3** The Roman arcaded screen was built on a grand scale and is unique in Britain. It was over 100 m long and perhaps 8 m or more in height. Previous work had confirmed that the foundation platform that supported the Roman arcade was 4.6 m wide, which was huge for a Roman foundation. By comparison, the foundation for the outer wall of the stands at the Roman circus in Colchester was only a metre or so wide, plus external buttresses.

Attempts to work out the overall length and design of the arcade have been hampered by the difficulties of correlating accurately the plans of previous archaeological investigations with those of the recent work. However, preliminary analysis suggests that there were 13 or so arches to either side of the centrally-placed monumental arch and that it is possible to rationalise the plan of the arcade in terms of Roman feet (pM) (*Col Arch* 28, 6-7). The arcade was laid out on the early colonial alignment, rather than the slightly different one of the legionary fortress (*CAR* 3, 8).

- 10.4** Only the cores survived of the three arcade piers that were examined in 2015. The facing stones had been almost completely robbed out, probably in Norman times. However it seems likely that, at ground floor level, the shape of the piers and the type of facing were different from that higher up. Max Hebditch suggested that limestone facings extended upwards for about a metre; above which they were probably of brick, presumably rendered (Hebditch 1971, 122). The evidence from the 2014-15 excavations suggested that brick courses alternated with those of septaria.

Impressions indicating the original extent of the piers on the surface of the foundation platform were apparently visible in 1964 (Hebditch 1971, 117-8), although little trace of these was discernible in 2015. Max Hebditch suggested that the foundation platform may originally have been paved (Hebditch 1971, 117), but again little evidence for this was found in 2015.

10.5 The date of construction of the Roman arcade

- 10.5.1** Rex Hull suggested that work on the arcade need not have begun before the Boudiccan revolt of AD 61, and was certainly not finished until after that date (Hull 1955, 60). Max Hebditch concluded that the arcade was probably constructed in the years after the Boudiccan revolt (Hebditch 1971, 122 & 129). Little additional evidence for the construction date of the arcade was found in 2014-15, although the conclusions from the earlier excavations can be reconsidered in the light of more recent work.
- 10.5.2** In the 2014-15 excavations, the stone used in the construction of the arcade was septaria with a few water-worn pebbles. Also, a couple of pieces of Ham Hill limestone were recorded from the surviving pier stumps. However, greensand (also known as Kentish ragstone) was absent from the foundation platform and the piers, although a few fragments were observed in post-Roman contexts. Greensand as a building material in Roman Colchester seems to have been a relatively late introduction, post-dating the construction of the town wall in c AD 65-80 (CAT Report 412, 1353). The absence of greensand in the remains of the arcade suggests that building work started before this date, rather than after.
- 10.5.3** In 1964, a north-south trench (Trench I) was excavated through the complex sequence of deposits to the south of the arcade (Hebditch 1971, 116 & fig 4). These deposits were not investigated in 2014-15, but in 2006 an east-west builder's trench was dug immediately to the south of the Castle House site at the rear of 99 High Street (CAT Report 440). The north side of a well-constructed Roman drain was exposed in the builder's trench (Fig 2). Also, early Roman layers that pre-dated the drain were observed in the sides of the trench (CAT Report 440, 2-3). It is possible to relate these layers to the sequence of deposits excavated in 1964, and this has implications for the date of these deposits.
- 10.5.4** Overlying the natural subsoil in the bottom of the 2006 trench was a layer of septaria chips (CAT Report 440, 3 & Sx 3, fig 3). In 1964, this layer (labelled 22 in 1964) was traced further north, where it extended over the top of the foundation trench (labelled F17 in 1964) for the foundation platform of the Roman arcade (Hebditch 1971, 117 & fig 4). The septaria chips were perhaps mason's waste from the construction of the arcade, and they served as a base for the first concrete surface (labelled 26 in 1964) to the south of the arcade (Hebditch 1971, 118 & fig 4). These deposits accumulated on a fairly flat surface, indicating perhaps that the area to the south of the arcade was terraced prior to the laying-out of the east-west street. More significantly, the layer of septaria chips in the 2006 trench was stratified approximately 500 mm below deposits of Boudiccan destruction debris (labelled L1 in 2006; CAT Report 440, 2 & fig 3). This indicates that construction work on the arcade probably at least started before AD 61.
- 10.5.5** The Boudiccan debris recorded in 2006 lay at roughly the same level as a quantity of burnt building debris (labelled 19 in 1964; Hebditch 1971, 118 & fig 4) found in 1964. This burnt debris was deposited on the outer edge of a drain (labelled F12 in 1964), and was interpreted as probably resulting from a fire of late 2nd-century date (Hebditch 1971, 122-

3 & 129). However, as it lay at the same level as the Boudiccan debris seen in 2006 (Fig 21), it seems more likely that the burnt debris found in 1964 was also Boudiccan in date.

A fragment of human pelvis was found in the Boudiccan deposit in the 2006 trench (CAT Report 440, 3), while among the finds recovered from the burnt debris in 1964 was a human femur fragment (Drury 1984, 29). These two pieces can be added to the small list of human remains recovered from deposits of Boudiccan destruction debris in Colchester (Crummy 2001, 80; *Col Arch* 27, 31; CAT Report 1150, 228-32 & 250).

10.5.6 In the 1964 trench, other significant deposits were stratified between the layer of septaria chips (22 in 1964) and the burnt debris in the top of the drain (F12 in 1964). These deposits were probably also pre-Boudiccan in date and included an earlier phase of drain (labelled F16 in 1964), two phases of 'concrete apron' (labelled 26 and 25 in 1964), and metalling (labelled 17 in 1964, and possibly also 16) (Hebditch 1971, 118 & fig 4). There thus appears to have been much activity and a rapid accumulation of deposits in the area to the south of the arcade prior to AD 61 (Fig 21).

10.5.7 The construction of the arcade would no doubt have taken a considerable time to complete, but it seems likely that building work was at least well advanced by the time of the Boudiccan revolt in AD 61. Perhaps work began on the arcade around the same time as it started on the Temple of Claudius, in the years after AD 49 (Crummy 2001, 56-60, 99-100). Like the temple, work may not have started on the arcade, and on the monumental arch in the middle of it, until after the death of Claudius in AD 54 (Crummy 2001, 60).

10.6 The layer of septaria chips that was observed in 1964 and 2006 lay approximately 750-800 mm below the top of the foundation platform. The level of the septaria chips coincided with a change in the way the south face of the foundation platform was constructed. The upper part was faced with roughly-dressed blocks of septaria. The lower part consisted of a poorly-mixed stone-and-mortar deposit that was probably poured straight into the foundation trench (Hebditch 1971, 117, Plate IIIa & fig 4). Initially therefore the upper part of the foundation platform probably projected above the Roman ground level on the south side of the arcade, although deposits quickly built up in this area (Fig 21).

10.7 Similarly, a change was observed in 1931 on the south face of the foundation of the monumental arch, immediately to the east of the Castle House site (Hull 1958, 169-170 & fig 86). The upper part was neatly-faced with squared-off blocks of septaria. At a depth of approximately 760 mm there was an offset, below which were three rough stone courses and then an unfaced stone-and-mortar deposit. By contrast, the north face of the foundation of the gate was left unfaced and rough, and presumably did not project above ground level (Hull 1958, 170). Little definite evidence is available for the height of the Roman ground level on the north side of the arcade, within the temple precinct (Hebditch 1971, 117-8).

10.8 A few fragments of burnt structural daub were found on the Castle House site during the 2014-15 excavations, and these are listed in Appendix 1. They were found in post-Roman contexts, but were probably residual. It seems likely that they derived from the daub walls of structures burnt during the Boudiccan revolt in AD 61 (Crummy 2001, 79), although undisturbed Boudiccan deposits were not found on the Castle House site in 2014-15. Some fragments of burnt structural daub were recovered in 2006 from Boudiccan destruction debris in the builder's trench at the rear of 99 High Street (CAT Report 440, 2).

Which structures these fragments of burnt daub came from is unclear, but evidence of buildings with daub walls that were burnt in the Boudiccan revolt has been found in this part of town. For example, *in situ* daub-block walls were identified in 2008 at the northern end of Queen Street (CAT Report 498, 3-5), approximately 90 m to the south-east of the Castle House site. They were associated with thick deposits of Boudiccan destruction debris. The daub walls probably belonged to one or more buildings that lay inside the annexe to the legionary fortress, and which were substantial and significant enough to be retained in the early *colonia*.

10.9 The revetting walls

10.9.1 The remains of four east-west walls, which extended between the piers on top of the foundation platform, were uncovered in 2015. They were called 'blocking walls' in 1964 (Hebditch 1971, 118-9), but perhaps a more appropriate term is 'revetting walls'. This is because they were probably intended to counteract the build-up of deposits on the south side of the arcade. This build-up resulted primarily from the resurfacing of the Roman

east-west gravelled street. Streets were frequently resurfaced in the Roman town, but this was done by putting fresh gravel on top of the existing surfaces. As a result, the surface of the roads and their associated footways gradually rose over the years, so that by the end of the Roman period they could be as much as a metre higher than when they were made.

10.9.2 Most of the east-west gravelled street that lay along the south side of the arcade was probably destroyed when the Norman inner bailey ditch was dug. However, the series of deposits that was excavated in Trench I in 1964 showed how the ground level built up in this area, until eventually layers encroached onto the top of the foundation platform that supported the arcade (Hebditch 1971, 118-20 & fig 4). This build-up of layers would have created a problem because the surface of the open area to the north of the arcade needed to be maintained at its original level, if only to avoid the lowest of the steps into the Temple of Claudius getting buried over time. The remedy was to construct the revetting walls along the centre line of the arcade. Perhaps they were heightened when the street was remetalled. Thus, while deposits accumulated on the south side of the foundation platform during the Roman period, the north side appears to have been kept clean. It was however resurfaced, presumably because it became worn and damaged.

10.9.3 In 2015, the Roman layers that built up on the southern part of the foundation platform were found only in the south-eastern corner of the excavated area, to the south of revetting wall F20 (Sx 1, Fig 7). A few potsherds of probable 2nd century or later date were recovered from these layers. Other evidence to help establish when the revetting walls were built is slight. Max Hebditch wrote that they 'can only be relatively dated within very broad limits' (Hebditch 1971, 122), and he suggested that they were probably inserted after the late 2nd century (Hebditch 1971, 123 & 129). However, in the 1964 section (Fig 21), deposits seemed to have accumulated on the south side of the foundation platform fairly soon after the deposition of the burnt debris in the top of the drain (labelled F12 in 1964). If it is conceded that the burnt debris was probably Boudiccan in date, then perhaps a late 1st- or early 2nd-century date for the building of the revetting walls is more plausible.

10.10 Large quantities of Roman building materials were recovered from the site in 2014-15 and are listed in Appendices 1-3. Much of these were residual in post-Roman contexts, although they presumably derived mostly from the Roman arcade. Many fragments of Roman brick/tile, including pieces of column brick, appear to have been used as broken pieces because they had mortar over broken edges. Whether these were reused fragments or deliberately broken pieces is uncertain. It is also unclear where the fragments of roofing tile originally came from. It seems unlikely that they derived from the arcade, although a few pieces were built into the revetting walls. Presumably they came mainly from buildings nearby, possibly including the Temple of Claudius.

10.11 Among the building materials recovered in 2014-15 were a few pieces of plaster, some of which were painted. These came from post-Roman contexts and are listed in Appendix 1. Most of the fragments were painted white. They could originally have derived from the Roman arcade, as it was clear from the collapsed column F8 in T3 that plaster was applied to the piers/columns. However, a small fragment of painted wall-plaster from a coloured decorative scheme that was found in L21 presumably derived from a Roman building nearby. Probably also from the arcade were two fragments of *opus signinum* with a white-painted surface from rubble associated with the collapsed pier/column fragment F23 and a fragment of *opus signinum* with a red-painted surface from L10 in T3.

10.12 The demolition of the arcade

10.12.1 In the 2015 excavation area, much of the dereliction and/or demolition debris that overlay the remains of the Roman arcade had already been removed during the 1964 excavations. In 2014, in the northern part of the site, demolition debris was only excavated in one trench (T3). Thus, the evidence found in 2014-15 for the dilapidation of the arcade was limited. Where deposits of debris were examined they seemed largely to date to the years after the Norman conquest. The extent of any pre-conquest layers of debris is therefore uncertain. Some of the earlier deposits of dereliction and/or demolition debris excavated in 2015 (e.g. L20, L21 & L29) contained only late Roman potsherds. These sherds may of course be residual, but it's conceivable that the deposits started to accumulate in late Roman times.

A few sherds of Thetford-type ware were recovered from demolition debris in 2014-15. Although Thetford-type ware was present in Colchester in the pre-conquest period (CAR

7, 31), the Castle House sherds were found in contexts that also contained sherds of probable post-conquest date.

10.12.2 How much of the Roman arcade was still standing at the time of the Norman conquest is unclear. However, the remains of the arcade were so substantial that they created a problem when the Normans came to dig the inner bailey ditch around the south side of the castle. The solution was to pull much of the arcade down, probably in the late 11th and/or early 12th centuries. Some of the building materials, especially the better-quality facing stones from the piers, were robbed and reused in the building of the castle (Hebditch 1971, 121). No good evidence was found in 2015 for robbing pits around the base of the piers as postulated by Paul Drury (Drury 1983, 339-41).

10.12.3 Although part of any remaining debris must have been cleared away, many arcade fragments were probably left more or less where they fell. The remaining superstructure appears to have been pulled over from the north by the Norman demolition crews. This of course kept the debris away from the line of the bailey ditch. Several fragments of collapsed piers/columns were found in 2014-15, extending both over the northern side of the arcade and over the area well to the north of it. These added to the fragments of collapsed columns found in previous excavations (Hull 1955, 41; Hebditch 1971, 118).

10.12.4 One of the reasons why the remains of the Roman arcade were still relatively well preserved was because they were 'insulated' by the Norman inner bailey rampart that was piled-up on top of it. The deposits of demolition debris perhaps provided a base for the rampart, but presumably most of it consisted of upcast from the digging of the inner bailey ditch. However, apart from a few thin layers of possible ditch upcast (L8, L11 & L13), little definite evidence was found for the bank in 2014-15. It appears to have been truncated as a result of later activity (Hebditch 1971, 121 & 124). Further west, the bank survived slightly better on the Kent Blaxill site in 1953 (Hull 1955, 39-40, 42-3 & fig 3).

No trace was found in 2014-15 of the curtain wall that was apparently built on top of the rampart (Morant 1748, I, 7-8; *VCH* 9, 244). This was probably added in the 12th century and replaced an earlier timber palisade.

10.13 The remains of the Norman bailey ditch lie mainly under the buildings fronting onto the High Street, to the south of Castle House. The digging of the ditch necessitated the diversion of the High Street southwards, and the curve in the road is still visible today (Fig 1). The ditch was backfilled and built over in the second half of the 17th century (Morant 1748, I, 7-8; Hull 1958, 169). Presumably the remains of the Norman bank were among the deposits used to backfill the ditch. Also in the late 17th century, a bowling green was laid out to the south of the castle (Drury 1983, 407, Plate XLII). This probably extended up to the northern edge of the Castle House site, and perhaps much of this area was terraced around the same time.

Cartographic evidence, such as Morant's map of Colchester in 1748 and Chapman and André's map of 1777, records subsequent developments. Properties are shown fronting onto the High Street (often called King Street at this location), with gardens to the rear. Early Ordnance Survey maps illustrate how the gardens were gradually built over.

10.14 The redevelopment of the Castle House site provided the opportunity to put the remains of the Roman arcade on permanent view under glass within the new building (Photos 17-18). Apart from the town wall, the circus, and the theatre, there was not too much for townspeople and visitors to see of Colchester's Roman heritage *in situ*. The strategically-placed glass panels set in the ground floor of Castle House have put on display genuine, well-preserved Roman remains, which must in their day have been a very impressive and imposing sight. This has enhanced not only the ground floor premises at Castle House, but also Colchester's tourism 'portfolio'. The site is well placed in relation to Colchester Castle Museum, especially now that the side gate from Castle Bailey into the Castle Park has been re-opened. Nearby, there is also the Berryfield mosaic that is set into the floor of Firstsite gallery, close to the site of its discovery in 1923.



Photo 17 The ground floor at Castle House, viewed from the north-east.
This shows the viewing panels set into the floor and the large projector screen on the back wall.



Photo 18 Part of the remains of the Roman arcade, viewed from ground floor level.
This shows the remains visible below the western viewing panel (VP1), looking from the north-west.

11 Abbreviations and glossary

amphora	large Roman pottery storage jar, used especially for oil and wine
AOD	above Ordnance Survey datum point based on mean sea level at Newlyn, Cornwall
arcade	a series of arches supported on columns or piers
attached column	see 'half-engaged'
Boudiccan	dating to the time of the native uprising led by Boudicca in AD 60/1
CAT	Colchester Archaeological Trust
CBC	Colchester Borough Council
CBCAA	Colchester Borough Council Archaeological Advisor
CBCAO	Colchester Borough Council's Archaeological Officer
CBM	ceramic building material
CIfA	Chartered Institute for Archaeologists
CIMS	Colchester and Ipswich Museums Service
context	specific location on an archaeological site, especially one where finds are made; usually a layer or a feature
cover loam	a natural, wind-blown deposit, probably formed towards the end of the last Ice Age
dark earth	post-Roman topsoil; probably the result of long-term cultivation, refuse disposal and pit-digging.
EHHER	Essex Historic Environment Record, held at Essex County Council, County Hall, Chelmsford
feature	an identifiable context, such as a pit, a wall or a posthole
greensand	a form of sandstone, also known as Kentish ragstone, imported from south of the Thames
half-engaged	a half-engaged column is a column embedded in a wall or pier that partly projects from the surface of the wall/pier; also known as half-columns, engaged columns, or attached columns.
<i>imbrex</i>	curved Roman roof tile
<i>insula</i>	an area or block within the grid pattern of a Roman town (plural <i>insulae</i>)
medieval	period from AD 1066 to c AD 1500
modern	period from c 1850 onwards to the present
natural	geological deposit undisturbed by human activity
NGR	National Grid Reference
Norman	relating to the period from AD 1066 to c AD 1154
OASIS	Online AccesS to the Index of archaeological investigationS
<i>opus signinum</i>	Roman 'concrete' with a pinkish appearance due to the addition of brick/tile fragments
peg-tile	rectangular roof tile of medieval or later date; intact examples usually have two peg-holes
<i>pM</i>	Roman feet (<i>pedes monetales</i>)
post-medieval	period from c 1500 to c 1850
residual	finds that were deposited earlier than the context in which they were found
Roman	the period from AD 43 to c AD 410
RRCSAL	Reports of the Research Committee of the Society of Antiquaries of London
SAM	scheduled ancient monument
samian	glossy Roman fine reddish pottery, used mainly as tableware
septaria	calcareous, clay concretions found on the Essex and Suffolk coast
<i>tegula</i>	flanged Roman roof tile (plural <i>tegulae</i>)
<i>tessera</i>	small ceramic cube used to make Roman tessellated and mosaic floors (plural <i>tesserae</i>)
UAD	Urban Archaeological Database, maintained by Colchester Museums
U/S	unstratified, ie without a well-defined context
WSI	Written Scheme of Investigation

12 References

Note: all CAT reports (except DBAs) are available online in .pdf format at <http://cat.essex.ac.uk/>

CAR 1	1981	<i>Aspects of Anglo-Saxon and Norman Colchester</i> , Colchester Archaeological Report 1, CBA Research Report, 39, by P Crummy
CAR 3	1984	<i>Colchester Archaeological Report 3: Excavations at Lion Walk, Balkerne Lane, and Middleborough, Colchester, Essex</i> , by P Crummy
CAR 5	1988	<i>Colchester Archaeological Report 5: The post-Roman small finds from excavations in Colchester 1971-85</i> , by N Crummy

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CAT Report 380	2006	Stage 2 of an archaeological evaluation at the rear of 95-96 High Street, Colchester, Essex, July 2006, CAT archive report, by Donald Shimmin
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CAT Report 587	2011	An archaeological watching brief at 97 High Street, Colchester, Essex, March 2010, CAT archive report, by Donald Shimmin
CAT Report 701	2013	An archaeological evaluation at 97 High Street, Colchester, Essex, June 2012, CAT archive report, by Donald Shimmin
CAT Report 1150	2017	An archaeological excavation and watching brief at Fenwick Colchester (formerly Williams & Griffin), 147-151 High Street, Colchester, Essex: April-August 2014, CAT draft archive report, by Adam Wightman
CBC	2013	<i>Brief for archaeological recording and excavation, 97 High Street, Colchester, Essex</i> , CBC brief, June 2013, by Martin Winter
ClfA	2014a	<i>Standard and guidance for an archaeological excavation</i>
ClfA	2014b	<i>Standard and guidance for the collection, documentation, conservation and research of archaeological materials</i>
ClfA	2014c	<i>Standard and guidance for the creation, compilation, transfer and deposition of archaeological archives</i>
CIMS	2008a	<i>Guidelines on standards and practice for archaeological fieldwork in the Borough of Colchester (CBC)</i>
CIMS	2008b	<i>Guidelines on the preparation and transfer of archaeological archives to Colchester & Ipswich Museums (CBC)</i>
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EAA 14	2003	<i>Standards for field archaeology in the East of England</i> , ed by D Gurney, ALGAO East
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VCHE 9	1994	<i>A history of the County of Essex, 9: the Borough of Colchester</i> , ed by J Cooper, The Victoria History of the Counties of England
WSI	2014	Written Scheme of Investigation for archaeological recording and excavation at 97 High Street, Colchester, Essex, February 2014, by Donald Shimmin
WSI	2015	Written Scheme of Investigation for archaeological recording and excavation at 97 High Street, Colchester, Essex, April 2015, by Donald Shimmin

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14 Archive deposition

The archive from the excavations, including the site records, photographs and finds, will be permanently deposited with Colchester and Ipswich Museums under accession code COLEM 2012.23, in accordance with *Guidelines on the preparation and transfer of archaeological archives to Colchester & Ipswich Museums* (CIMS 2008b) and *Standard and guidance for the creation, compilation, transfer and deposition of archaeological archives* (ClfA 2014c). The contents of the archive are listed in Appendix 4.

15 Appendices

Appendix 1: finds list

The finds are listed by context. All weights are in grammes. For the pottery fabric and form codes, see section 9.3 (identifications by Stephen Benfield); mb = modern breaks.

Samian vessels are catalogued using Dragendorff (Dr) form numbers. Animal bone identifications are by Adam Wightman. The clay tobacco pipe types follow those used in CAR 5. The glass is clear, unless stated otherwise.

A single series of context numbers was used for the 2012 evaluation (CAT Report 701), the 2014 trenches, and the 2015 excavation.

Context	Trench or panel no	Find no	Qty	Description	Wt (g)	Comments
F1	VP2	45	3	animal bone fragments	158	
			1	clay pipe stem fragment	8	
	VP2	49	1	animal bone fragment	12	
			1	clay pipe stem fragment	4	
			2	mollusc shells	2	terrestrial snail shells
	VP3	51	1	medieval pottery sherd	20	Fabric 13S
			1	animal bone fragment	16	
			7	clay pipe bowl and bowl/stem fragments	120	4 rims rouletted, 1 probably Type 6 (c 1660-1680), 3 probably Type 7 (c 1670-1700); 3 with rims missing
			3	clay pipe stem fragments	16	
	VP2	54	4	Roman pottery sherds	102	Fabric AA: 1 sherd, 20g, probably Cam 189 'carrot' amphora. Fabric BXCG: 1 sherd, 22g, base from a Dr 37 bowl. Fabric GX: 2 sherds, 60g.
			4	medieval pottery sherds	64	Fabric 13S: 1 sherd, 16g. Fabric 13: 2 sherds, 30g. Fabric 13T: 1 sherd, 18g, sandy grey fabric
			4	animal bone fragments	80	
			1	clay pipe stem fragment	8	some iron staining
			1	oyster shell	36	
	VP2	55	3	medieval pottery sherds	94	Fabric 12C: 1 sherd, 24g, wheel turned. Fabric 13: 2 sherds, 70g, EVE 0.11, including a simple everted rim, type A1/A4 (CAR 7, fig 27), from cooking pot
			4	animal bone fragments	174	
			1	clay pipe bowl fragment	16	rim rouletted, probably Type 7 (c 1670-1700),
			4	clay pipe stem fragments	22	1 with foot
	VP1	58	1	Roman pottery sherd	10	Fabric CH
			3	animal bone fragments	38	
			1	post-medieval/modern glass fragment	208	green glass bottle fragment, with kick-up base
			4	clay pipe bowl fragments	70	1 rim rouletted, probably Type 6 (c 1660-1680), 1 probably Type 7 (c 1670-1700), 2 with rims missing, 1 with incised line across base
	VP2	61	2	animal bone fragments	12	
	VP2-VP3	64	1	Roman pottery sherd	8	Fabric DJ
			6	clay pipe stem fragments	18	
	VP1-VP2	76	2	animal bone fragments	54	
			1	clay pipe stem fragment	4	burnt
VP2-VP3	80	1	?medieval pottery sherd	18	Fabric ?9: base sherd, wheel cut, thick, sandy medieval-type fabric	
		3	animal bone fragments	142		
		1	clay pipe bowl/stem fragment	14		
VP2	101	3	animal bone fragments	88		
F6	T3	11	13	animal bone fragments	174	mainly horse mandible, with 4 teeth
F7	T4	14	93	medieval pottery sherds	1,566	Fabric 12A: 6 sherds, 52g, EVE 0.06, several joining sherds (mb) from a

Context	Trench or panel no	Finds no	Qty	Description	Wt (g)	Comments
						cooking pot (illustrated Fig 13, no 7). Fabric 13: 79 sherds, 1140g, EVE 0.21, necked cooking pot with thumbbed (decorated) rim, joining sherds (mb), (illustrated Fig 13, no 1); rims from two other cooking pots including one with squared rim (illustrated Fig 13, no 2); two sherds from different pots with applied thumbstrips; base sherds (8 sherds) from minimum of two pots. Fabric 13S: 8 sherds, 374g, several base sherds and a few body sherds. <i>Group date for F7: late 11th-12th century; the significant presence of Fabric 13S & relatively developed squared rims suggests 12th century</i>
			194	animal bone fragments	809	
			8	mollusc shell fragments	120	4 oyster shells (116g) & 4 small fragments, probably including fragments from a whelk, a winkle shell & an oyster shell
		16	27	medieval pottery sherds	458	Fabric 13: 19 sherds, 154g, body & base sherds, one small body sherd decorated with incised surface pattern(s) (broadly wavy line-type). Fabric 13S: 8 sherds, 304g, large base sherd & body sherds.
			24	animal bone fragments	58	
		18	51	medieval pottery sherds	710	Fabric 13: 38 sherds, 442g, EVE 0.12, rims from 2 cooking pots, both decorated, one with thumb impressions, one with stab hole row around rim top and internal wavy line (illustrated Fig 13, no 4); two sherds from different pots with applied thumb strips. Fabric 13S: 13 sherds, 268g, EVE 0.08, sherds include rim from a necked cooking pot (illustrated Fig 13, no 3)
			30	animal bone fragments	66	
			2	iron fragments	5	corroded, probably joining fragments; slight ?wood impression
			1	oyster shell	16	
		19	340	animal bone fragments	12	mainly fish bone
		22	3	medieval pottery sherds	86	Fabric 13: 3 slightly abraded, joining sherds from base of a cooking pot (1 with mb)
		25	14	medieval pottery sherds	144	Fabric 12A/B: 1 sherd, 4g). Fabric 13: 8 sherds, 80g. Fabric 13S: 5 sherds, 60g.
			37	animal bone fragments	84	
			6	mollusc shell fragments	58	2 oyster shells (57g) & 4 small fragments probably from one winkle shell
		28	4	medieval pottery sherds	34	Fabric 13T: 4 joining base sherds, grey fabric (some mb), probably late 12th century
			12	animal bone fragments	54	
		30	22	animal bone fragments	106	
			1	oyster shell	14	
		32	46	medieval pottery sherds	700	Fabric 13: 28 sherds, 214g, EVE 0.05, 2 small body sherds with incised decoration (wavy line-type), sherds from 2 bases. Fabric 13S: 18 sherds, 486g, EVE 0.60, includes rim sherds from 2

Context	Trench or panel no	Finds no	Qty	Description	Wt (g)	Comments
						cooking pots both with flat-topped rims, one with joining shoulder & rim sherds (mb) rim form B2 (illustrated Fig 13, no.6) (see CAR 7, fig 23 no.10 & fig 27); the other rim of form B2a (illustrated Fig 13, no.5); also cooking pot base sherds in this fabric
			196	animal bone fragments	484	including approximately 93 small ?fish bones (4g) & 6 articulated vertebrae (112g)
			7	mollusc shell fragments	80	3 oyster shells (74g); 1 whelk fragment and 3 small fragments probably also from a whelk
F9	T4	40	2	animal bone fragments	12	medium mammal skull and rib fragment
F11	VP3	56	1	post-medieval/modern pottery sherd	8	Fabric 45D: imported German stoneware
			2	medieval pottery sherds	10	Fabric 13: joining body sherds
F16	VP3	59	11	medieval pottery sherds	106	Fabric ?9: 1 sherd, 4g. Fabric 13: 4 sherds, 58g, EVE 0.04, including simple rim type B1b (CAR 7, fig 27). Fabric 20: 6 sherds, 44g, EVE 0.06, including flat flange-rim bowl (see CAR 7, fig 62) <i>Group date: the presence of the Fabric 20 sherds indicate a date after the late 12th-early 13th centuries</i>
			13	animal bone fragments	182	fragments from both medium and large mammals, and some bird bones
F19	VP3	67	18	medieval pottery sherds	154	Fabric 12C: 1 sherd, 12g. Fabric 13: 5 sherds, 36g, EVE 0.06, some orange-red sherds. Fabric 13S: 1 sherd, 26g. Fabric 13T: 7 sherds, 56g. Fabric 13T/20: 4 sherds, 24g. <i>Group date for F19: late 11th-12th century</i>
			5	animal bone fragments	50	
		69	3	medieval pottery sherds	32	Fabric 13: 3 sherds, 32g, EVE 0.07, all orange-red sherds, including rim type A4 (CAR 7, fig 27) with thumbing
			3	animal bone fragments	22	
			2	oyster shells	26	
F21	VP3	74	2	Roman pottery sherds	10	Fabric GX
			1	animal bone fragment	4	
F22	VP1	66	9	medieval pottery sherds	106	Fabric 13: 8 sherds, 96g, EVE 0.07, including rim from a cooking pot, type C1 (CAR 7, fig 27) with thumbing edge. Fabric 13S: 1 sherd, 10g <i>Group date: late 11th-12th centuries</i>
			4	animal bone fragments	36	2 large and 2 medium mammal bones
F23	VP2	112	2	fragments of painted <i>opus signinum</i>	672	both with white-painted flattish surface, approximately 90 x 50 mm (45 sq cm) & 60 x 40 mm (24 sq cm); in both cases the <i>opus signinum</i> was approximately 50mm thick
			3	animal bone fragments	6	
L2	VP3	48	7	medieval pottery sherds	80	Fabric 13: 2 sherds, 48g. Fabric 13S: 1 sherd, 2g. Fabric 13T: 2 sherds, 20g. Fabric 20: 2 sherds, 10g.
	VP3	50	1	Roman pottery sherd	14	Fabric GX
			2	medieval pottery sherds	36	Fabric 13: 1 sherd, 22g. Fabric 20: 1 sherd, 14g.

Context	Trench or panel no	Finds no	Qty	Description	Wt (g)	Comments		
	VP2-VP3	93	1	animal bone fragment	10			
			1	modern glass shard	2			
			1	clay pipe stem fragment	8			
			1	Roman pottery sherd	4	Fabric UX: hard, burnished black surface		
			3	animal bone fragments	54			
L3	T4	8	18	medieval pottery sherds	152	Fabric 12A/B: 2 sherds, 20g. Fabric 13: 14 sherds, 78g, EVE 0.05, including simple, everted rim, type A1a (CAR 7, fig 27). Fabric 13S: 2 sherds, 54g). <i>Group date for L3: surface collection/cleaning (8 & 29) include significant quantities of Fabric 13S (predominantly 12th century); the excavated section (33 & 39) lacks Fabric 13S so can be dated as late 11th-12th century. L3 includes two probably early (simple everted) rims in Fabric 13.</i>		
			7	animal bone fragments	26			
		29	16	medieval pottery sherds	170	Fabric 12A/B: 2 sherds, 10g, EVE 0.02. Fabric 13: 13 sherds, 138g, EVE 0.05, including large decorated body sherd with combed wavy line. Fabric 13S: 1 sherd, 22g, including cooking pot rim, type B2 (CAR 7, fig 27).		
		33	30	medieval pottery sherds	190	Fabric 13: 25 sherds, 152g, EVE 0.03, including cooking pot rim B2A (CAR 7, fig 27). Fabric 13S: 5 sherds, 38g.		
			89	animal bone fragments	244			
		39	1	mollusc shell	1	winkle		
			21	medieval pottery sherds	234	Fabric 13: 20 sherds, 228g, EVE 0.19, including large rim sherds from cooking pot, form C1 (CAR 7, fig 27) one other rim sherd form B2a (<i>ibid</i>). Fabric 13T; 1 sherd, 6g.		
		39	19	animal bone fragments	42			
			1	oyster shell	40			
			1	iron fragment	14	amorphous corroded fragment		
		L5	T4	27	1	medieval pottery sherd	78	Fabric 13T: EVE 0.16, large sherd from a cooking pot with a thumbled rim (different to F7 (18)), grey/black surfaces, sandy grey core (late 11th-12th century).
		L7	T3	26	2	medieval pottery sherds	18	Fabric 13 <i>Late 11th-12th century</i>
		L9	T3	31	3	medieval pottery sherds	50	Fabric 13: 2 sherds, 30g. Fabric 13T: 1 sherd, 20g. <i>Group date for L9: early medieval sherds, including Fabric 13S (late L11th-early 12th century; possibly 12th century rather than earlier)</i>
31	animal bone fragments				208	large and medium mammal bones, and some fish bone		
34	1			Roman pottery sherd	28	Fabric EA: wheel-thrown base of a beaker, grey colour-coat, thick, off-white fabric, with vitrified/melted glass deposit on exterior (mid 3rd-4th century)		
3	medieval pottery sherds			44	Fabric 13: 1 sherd, 22g. Fabric 13S: 2 sherds, 22g.			
35	3			medieval pottery sherds	34	Fabric 9: 1 sherd, 18g, grey body sherd		

Context	Trench or panel no	Finds no	Qty	Description	Wt (g)	Comments
			4	animal bone fragments	106	with rilled body. Fabric 13: 1 sherd, 8g. Fabric 13S: 1 sherd, 8g.
		38	3	medieval pottery sherds	66	large and medium mammal bones Fabric 13: 2 sherds, 4g, including thumbstrip on cooking pot. Fabric 13T: 1 sherd, 26g, cooking pot base.
L10	T3	36	3	?Roman pottery sherds	16	Fabric GX: 2 sherds, 8g (Roman). Greyware sherd (8 g) slightly abraded, possibly Roman (Fabric GX) or Fabric 20 (c 13th-14th century). <i>Group date for L10: residual Roman sherds, with includes possible late 12th-13th century sherd</i>
			4	fragments of Roman plaster	512	3 fragments with traces of white painted, flattish surface, total painted surface area approximately 42 sq cm, 1-3mm thick; other large fragment (328g) with smoothed surface but no paint, 30mm thick; all with impressions of organic inclusions (straw?) in plaster
		43	1	medieval pottery sherd	4	Fabric 13T/20
			3	animal bone fragments	16	3 medium mammal bones
			9	fragments of Roman plaster	542	with traces of weathered white painted, flattish surface; total painted surface area approximately 108 sq cm; larger plaster fragments 22-24mm thick, smaller fragments 10-14mm thick; impressions of organic inclusions (straw?) in plaster
		44	1	fragment of painted <i>opus signinum</i>	38	with red-painted flat surface, approximately 45 x 30mm (13.5 sq cm)
L13	VP3	63	2	Roman pottery sherds	22	Fabric DJ: 1 sherd, 8g. Fabric RET: 1 sherd, 14g, EVE 0.07, rim with prominent flint inclusions. <i>Group date for L13: residual late Roman sherds & Fabric 13 sherd (late 11th-12th century)</i>
			1	medieval pottery sherd	14	Fabric 13: EVE 0.06, thumbled rim from a cooking pot.
			4	animal bone fragments	L13	
L14	VP1	65	6	animal bone fragments	72	
L16	VP3	71	1	Roman pottery sherd	88	Fabric TG: base sherd <i>Group date for L16: mainly residual late Roman sherds, with possible Thetford-type ware sherd and Fabric 13S sherd (late 11th-early 12th century)</i>
			1	medieval pottery sherd	64	Fabric 9: body sherd from large jar
			2	animal bone fragments	40	
			1	slate fragment	44	
		96	5	Roman pottery sherds	42	Fabric DJ: 1 sherd, 8g, rilled surface. Fabric GX: 3 sherds, 30g, greyware, probably all Roman. Fabric MP: 1 sherd, 4g, bowl with small rosette stamp decoration (late 4th-early 5th century)
			1	medieval pottery sherd	12	Fabric 13S: EVE 6, cooking pot rim
			1	fragment of Roman plaster	44	with weathered white painted flattish surface; total painted surface approximately 15 sq cm; plaster 17mm thick, including traces of 2 layers (12 & 5 mm thick); impressions of organic

Context	Trench or panel no	Finds no	Qty	Description	Wt (g)	Comments
						inclusions (straw?) in plaster
			5	fragments of <i>opus signinum</i>	606	2 fragments bear impressions of the angled surfaces to which they adhered
		110	2	Roman pottery sherds	22	Fabric GX: one with incised wavy line decoration
			11	animal bone fragments	50	
L17	VP3	72	2	Roman pottery sherds	18	Fabric GX: 1 sherd, 10g. Fabric KX: 1 sherd, 8g, EVE 0.05, form Cam 37B (late 2nd-3rd century). <i>Group date for L17: early medieval (late 11th-12th centuries) and single sherd (Fabric 20) dated to after late 12th-13th century</i>
			11	medieval pottery sherds	76	Fabric 13: 3 sherds, 20g. Fabric 13S: 5 sherds, 42g, EVE 0.08. Fabric 13T: 2 sherds, 6g. Fabric 20: 1 sherd, 8g, cooking pot shoulder (grey).
			5	animal bone fragments	108	1 with ?butchery mark & copper-alloy staining
		73	1	Roman pottery sherd	36	Fabric GX: thick wheel-thrown, fine light-grey fabric
			1	medieval pottery sherd	4	Fabric 9
			2	animal bone fragments	38	
L19	VP3	77	4	animal bone fragments	120	includes 2 large mammal bone & 1 bird bone
L20	VP3	78	10	Roman pottery sherds	86	Fabric GX: 5 sherds, 22g. Fabric KX: 1 sherd, 8g, EVE 0.03. Fabric TK: 3 joining sherds, 52g, EVE 0.10. One sherd, 4g, possibly Roman Fabric GX or medieval Fabric 13/13T. <i>Group date for L20: late Roman sherds, with possible early medieval sherd, late 11th-12th century</i>
			15	animal bone fragments	382	50% large mammal including 3 joining scapula fragments, 50% medium mammal
L21	VP3	79	6	Roman pottery sherds	90	Fabric GX: including 2 rim sherds, EVE 0.21, from a greyware jar (Cam 268-type) <i>Group date for L21: Roman, after c AD 125</i>
			6	animal bone fragments	82	80% large mammal, 20% medium mammal
			1	fragment of painted wall-plaster	6	white, painted area roughly 3 sq cm, approximately 10mm thick
		81	3	Roman pottery sherds	58	Fabric GX
			6	animal bone fragments	84	
			1	fragment of painted wall-plaster	26	weathered/degraded; painted area approximately 10 sq cm; red and pinkish buff areas separated by a white stripe; plaster 14mm thick
L22	VP2	85	1	modern pottery sherd	6	Fabric 51B: flower pot rim <i>Group date for L22: small quantity of Roman sherds, 1 medieval sherd, with 1 modern sherd, (19th-early 20th century)</i>
			2	fragment of burnt daub	376	possibly Boudiccan destruction debris
		97	3	Roman pottery sherds	68	Fabric AA: 1 sherd, 42g, EVE 0.07, buff fabric. Fabric DJ: 1 sherd, 16g, flagon neck. Fabric GX: 1 sherd, 10g..
			1	medieval pottery sherd	12	Fabric 13S
			1	animal bone fragment	20	

Context	Trench or panel no	Find no	Qty	Description	Wt (g)	Comments
L23	VP3	84	2	Roman pottery sherds	12	Fabric BACG: 1 sherd, 2g. Fabric GX: 1 sherd, 10g. <i>Group date: Roman, 2nd century+</i>
			2	oyster shells	150	
			1	stone fragment	225	amorphous chalky lump
L24	VP3	86	2	Roman pottery sherds	26	Fabric BSW: 1 sherd, 2g. Roman Fabric GX or medieval ?Fabric 9: 1 sherd, 24g.
L25	VP2	87	1	medieval pottery sherd	14	Fabric 13S <i>Group date for L25: Roman & medieval sherds, including a later medieval (Fabric 21A) sherd; but also post-medieval sherds (Fabric 42), late 16th-17th century</i>
			88	7	Roman pottery sherds	46
		31	medieval pottery sherds	230	Fabric ?9: 2 sherds, 10g. Fabric 12C: 2 sherds, 6g. Fabric 13: 21 sherds, 160g. Fabric 13S: 5 sherds, 48g, EVE 0.09, simple flat-topped rim with light thumbing on rim edge, internal burnt residue. Fabric 21A: 1 sherd, 6g.	
		3	post-medieval pottery sherds	20	Fabric 42: 3 sherds, 20g, joining sherds, partial yellow glaze	
		1	fragment of Roman plaster	40	with weathered white painted flattish surface; total painted surface approximately 12 sq cm; plaster 14-16mm thick	
		19	animal bone fragments	66		
		1	slate fragment	10		
		1	fragment of burnt daub	256	possibly Boudiccan destruction debris	
		1	oyster shell	18		
L27	VP2-VP3	90	4	Roman pottery sherds	27	Fabric EA: 1 sherd, 8g. Fabric GX: 1 sherd, 1g. Fabric HD (late): 2 sherds, 18g, rilled surfaces. <i>Group date for L27: some residual late Roman; medieval sherds are mostly Fabric 13, including simple everted rim (probably late 11th-early 12th century); some Fabric 13S (99), probably 12th century</i>
			10	animal bone fragments	110	medium mammal bones, 1 burnt, & 1 bird bone
			1	glass shard	12	6mm thick, possibly Roman
	VP2	91	4	Roman pottery sherds	24	Fabric GX
			2	medieval pottery sherds	52	Fabric ?9: 1 sherd, 48 g, EVE 0.20, jar rim sherd (see CAR 7, fig 9, nos 1-5). Fabric 12C: 1 sherd, 4 g.
			2	animal bone fragments	10	
	VP3	95	3	animal bone fragments	20	
	VP3	99	2	Roman pottery sherd	12	Fabric DJ: 1 sherd, 8 g) Fabric GX: 1 sherd, 4 g.
			19	medieval pottery sherds	242	Fabric 9: 3 sherds, 40 g. Fabric 13: 9 sherds, 134g, EVE 0.20, including cooking pot rim (CAR 7, fig 27, type A4), plain-rimmed dish (see CAR 7, fig 30, no. 58), also decorated body sherds (joining) in oxidised ware with scored curving lines. Fabric 13S: 4 sherds, 46g. Fabric 13T/20: 3 sherds, 22g.
			10	animal bone fragments	116	mainly medium mammal bones

Context	Trench or panel no	Find no	Qty	Description	Wt (g)	Comments
						(including juveniles), & 1 bird bone
			3	fragments of burnt daub	158	3 joining fragments, possibly Boudiccan destruction debris
			1	slate fragment	34	
L29	VP2	109	1	Roman pottery sherd	8	Fabric EA: EVE 0.11 (late Roman)
			2	animal bone fragments	94	
			1	mollusc shell	1	terrestrial snail shell
			1	iron nail fragment	22	65mm long, rounded head
L30	VP2	100	2	fragments of burnt daub	660	possibly Boudiccan destruction debris
L32	VP1	113	3	medieval pottery sherds	26	Fabric 13/13T: 2 sherds, 20g. Fabric 20: 1 sherd, 6g. <i>Group date: includes Fabric 20, probably after late 12th-early 13th centuries</i>
			8	animal bone fragments	100	
U/S	T3	9	6	medieval pottery sherds	118	Fabric 13: 2 sherds, 44 g.. Fabric 13T: 1 sherd, 8 g. Fabric 20: 2 sherds, 8 g. Fabric 21A: 1 sherd, 58 g, handle
			8	animal bone fragments	184	
			1	clay pipe bowl fragment	16	rim rouletted, foot missing; probably Type 7 (c 1670-1700)
			2	clay pipe stem fragments	8	1 burnt
			1	slate fragment	24	
U/S	T3	21	29	medieval pottery sherds	384	Fabric 13: 5 sherds, 38g, 1 sherd with incised/combed wavy decoration. Fabric 13S: 17 sherds, 276g, EVE 0.06, includes rim with thumbed top (CAR 7, fig 27, Type C1). Fabric 13T: 7 sherds, 70g
			29	animal bone fragments	460	
			1	clay pipe bowl/stem fragment	16	some iron staining; rim rouletted, probably Type 6 (c 1660-1680)
U/S	T3	24	3	medieval pottery sherds	62	Fabric 13: 2 sherds, 46g. Fabric 13S: 1 sherd, 16g, grey medium sand fabric but shell dusted. All sherds from cooking pots.
			6	animal bone fragments	24	
U/S	T3	42	1	Roman pottery sherd	12	Fabric BACG: EVE 0.05, rim sherd, slightly orange colour but fabric probably Central Gaulish
U/S	VP2	46	1	Roman pottery sherd	8	Fabric GX: wheel-made, probably Roman
			4	medieval pottery sherds	60	Fabric 13S
			2	animal bone fragments	110	
			1	oyster shell	24	
U/S	VP3	52	1	Roman pottery sherd	44	Fabric GX: EVE 0.15, Cam 243-244/246, thickened reeded rim, 2nd century
			1	medieval pottery sherd	19	Fabric 13T
			3	animal bone fragments	9	
U/S	VP1	75	1	clay pipe bowl fragment	14	rim rouletted, probably Type 6 (c 1660-1680),
			5	clay pipe stem fragments	32	
U/S	VP3	98	1	iron nail fragment	12	40mm long
U/S	VP1	104	2	clay pipe stem fragments	18	both with part of foot
			1	oyster shell	22	
U/S	?VP1-VP2	106	1	Roman pottery sherd	16	Fabric EA: lidded bowl, Cam 308
			7	animal bone fragments	50	
			8	clay pipe stem fragments	28	
U/S	VP2	114	1	Roman pottery sherd	27	Fabric DJ: possibly burnt/scorched

Appendix 2: list of Roman column brick

Key:

Listed by context. All weights are in grammes.

A 5-15/20 **B** 15/20-25/30 **C** 25/30-40/45 **D** 40/45-50/55 **E** 50/55+ mm thick

The fabrics of the column bricks were mainly orangey-red in colour and were often poorly wedged (fabric type **c**). A couple of bricks were more uniformly reddish in colour (fabric type **a**). A few column brick fragments were uniformly orange in colour with a more homogeneous consistency (fabric type **b**). Several bricks were reddish-brown in colour (fabric type **d**).

The triangular-shaped, pointed, inner end of the column brick is referred to as the angular inner end, as opposed to the curved, outer end.

context	finds no	trench or panel no	Qty	thickness A B C D E	maximum surviving edge mm	total weight g	fabric type	other comments
F1	45 i	VP2	1	E (70-72mm)	250 curved edge incomplete	2,910	c	curved outer end, with whitish mortar adhering on upper surface, slight traces of <i>opus signinum</i> on curved face
F1	45 ii	VP2	1	E (60mm)	210 curved edge incomplete	3,904	b	curved outer end with part of a straight edge, much very pale brown mortar adhering to underside
F1	45 iii	VP2	1	E (70mm)	290 curved edge incomplete	3,984	a	curved outer end with part of a straight edge, whitish mortar adhering to upper surface and traces of <i>opus signinum</i> on curved face; possibly quarter or sixth size
F1	45 iv	VP2	1	D (55mm)	180 curved edge incomplete	1,252	c	curved outer end with part of a straight edge, slight traces of whitish mortar adhering
F1	54	VP2	1	E (70mm)	200 curved edge incomplete	2,334	b	curved outer end, with slight traces of whitish mortar adhering
F1	55 i	VP2	1	D (55mm)	125 curved edge incomplete	1,286	c	curved outer end
F1	55 ii	VP2	1	E (62mm)	230 curved edge incomplete	4,332	c	curved outer end, with slight traces of very pale brown mortar adhering
F1	55 iii	VP2	1	E (70mm)	250 curved edge incomplete	2,248	b	curved outer end with part of a straight side
F1	61	VP2	1	E (60mm)	200	1,446	c	curved outer end

context	finds no	trench or panel no	Qty	thickness A B C D E	maximum surviving edge mm	total weight g	fabric type	other comments
					curved edge incomplete			
F1	70	VP1	1	E (60-62mm)	200 curved edge incomplete	2,418	c	curved outer end with part of a straight side, slight traces of whitish mortar adhering
F1	80 i	VP2-VP3	1	E (60-65mm)	250 curved edge incomplete	3,006	c	curved outer end with part of a straight side, slight traces of whitish mortar on upper surface
F1	80 ii	VP2-VP3	1	E (60-65mm)	300 curved edge incomplete	3,610	c	curved outer end with part of a straight side, whitish mortar adhering
F8	23 i	T3	1	D (50-53mm)	190 curved edge incomplete	1,924	c	curved outer end, with whitish mortar adhering including over broken edges (ie reused)
F8	23 ii	T3	1	E (65-68mm)	170 curved edge incomplete	2,516	c	curved outer end with part of a straight side, whitish mortar adhering including over broken edges (ie reused)
F19	67	VP3	1	E (70mm)	160 straight edge incomplete	1,676	c	angular inner end (60°), traces of very pale brown mortar on upper surface, probably one sixth size
L2	50	VP3	1	E (70mm)	130 curved edge incomplete	2,580	d	probably part of curved outer end, with whitish mortar adhering
L2	93	VP2-VP3	1	E (55-60mm)	220 curved edge incomplete	3,018	c	fragment of curved outer end with part of a straight edge, slight traces of whitish mortar adhering including over broken edge (ie reused), two vertical incised lines on straight edge
L9	31	T3	1	E (62-65mm)	190 curved edge incomplete	2,548	c	curved outer end with part of a straight edge, whitish mortar adhering and also slight traces of <i>opus signinum</i> on curved edge
L10	41	T3	1	E (66mm)	220 curved edge incomplete	4,540	d	curved outer end, whitish mortar adhering to upper surface, trace of ?signature on underside
L10	43 i	T3	1	D (50-52mm)	450, curved edge complete; 290, straight edge complete	6,352	a	complete, quarter-size column brick (Figs 14), with whitish mortar adhering, vertical incised line on curved edge; length of straight edge = roughly 1 Roman foot
L10	43 ii	T3	1	E (60mm)	150 incomplete	4,012	d	2 edges visible, at least 1 edge curved, other edge damaged; whitish mortar adhering to underside; possibly quarter-size, perhaps roughly

context	finds no	trench or panel no	Qty	thickness A B C D E	maximum surviving edge mm	total weight g	fabric type	other comments
								shaped for reuse
L27	91	VP2	1	D (45mm)	260 curved edge incomplete	1,612	c	fragment of curved outer end, with very pale brown mortar adhering including over broken edges
L27	99 i	VP3	1	E (60mm)	180 curved edge incomplete	1,324	c	curved outer end
L27	99 ii	VP3	1	E (65mm)	150 curved edge incomplete	2,818	c	curved outer end, with whitish mortar adhering to upper surface
L27	99 iii	VP3	1	E (68mm)	200 curved edge incomplete	2,394	c	curved outer end
L27	99 iv	VP3	1	D (45mm)	140 curved edge incomplete	438	c	small fragment probably from the curved outer end of a column brick; traces of whitish mortar adhering including over broken edge
L29	109	VP2	1	D (45mm)	180 curved edge incomplete	1,062	c	curved outer end, slight traces of whitish mortar adhering to underside
U/S	12 i	T4	1	E (60-2mm)	220 curved edge incomplete	4,104	b	curved outer end with part of a straight edge, whitish mortar adhering to upper surface and traces of <i>opus signinum</i> on curved edge; finger marks and signature on upper surface
U/S	12 ii	T4	1	E (70mm)	280 curved edge incomplete	2,862	c	curved outer end with part of a straight edge, whitish mortar adhering; signature on upper surface
U/S	102 i	VP2-VP3?	1	E (60mm)	180 curved edge incomplete	2,376	c	fragment of curved outer end with part of a straight side, slight traces of very pale brown mortar adhering
U/S	102 ii	VP2-VP3?	1	E (60-64mm)	160 curved edge incomplete	3,368	c	fragment of curved outer end, thick (35-50mm) layer of very pale brown mortar adhering to underside
U/S	104	VP1	1	D (50mm)	150 curved edge incomplete	846	b	worn, curved outer edge piece, with traces of whitish mortar adhering including over broken edges, reused

Appendix 3: list of brick and tile (other than column brick)

Key:

Listed by context. All weights are in grammes.

T = tegula **I** = imbrex **B** = Roman brick **F** = box flue **PEG** = peg-tile **B/T** = misc. Roman brick/tile

A 5-15/20 **B** 15/20-25/30 **C** 25/30-40/45 **D** 40/45-50/55 **E** 50/55+ mm thick

The fabrics of the CBM are reddish in colour, unless stated otherwise.

context	finds number	trench or panel no	tile type	Qty	thickness A B C D E	maximum surviving edge mm	total weight g	other comments
F1	45	VP2	T	6	5 x B, 1 x C	-	2,280	all with flanges, which vary in thickness from 20-30mm wide; 2 with cutaway & 1 of which has mortar adhering
F1	45	VP2	B	2	B, D	130 & 160 incomplete	3,168	both with mortar adhering, 1 with signature
F1	45	VP2	F	1	-	-	50	small sliver with keying
F1	45	VP2	B/T	1	A	80 incomplete	180	possibly part of <i>tegula</i>
F1	54	VP2	T	1	B	-	270	buff fabric, with flange 25mm wide
F1	54	VP2	B/T	2	1 x A, 1 x B	-	476	1 with slight traces of mortar adhering on underside
F1	55	VP2	T	5	2 x A, 3 x B	-	1,508	all with flanges (2 x 20mm & 3 x 25mm wide); 2 with mortar adhering, including over broken edges
F1	61	VP2	B	1	C (45mm)	90 wide complete; 200 long incomplete	1,296	oblong brick; slight traces of mortar adhering
F1	61	VP2	B	1	E (52mm)	170 straight edge incomplete	2,692	corner fragment, with thick layer (40mm) of mortar adhering
F1	64	VP2-VP3	T	2	1 x A, 1 x B		544	1 with flange (20mm wide), other with cutaway
F1	80	VP2-VP3	T	4	B		3,580	all with flanges (15-6, 23-7, 26 & 30mm wide); 1 with cutaway; 1 with mortar adhering including over broken edges, very slight traces of mortar on other pieces
F1	101	VP2	T	1	B		674	with flange (14mm wide) & cutaway
F1	101	VP2	B	1	D (50mm)		962	with mortar adhering

context	finds number	trench or panel no	tile type	Qty	thickness A B C D E	maximum surviving edge mm	total weight g	other comments
F1	101	VP2	B/T	1	B		26	small fragment, possibly irregularly-shaped <i>tessera</i>
F7	14	T4	B/T	1	A		24	small fragment, possibly from <i>imbrex</i>
F7	16	T4	B/T	1	C		294	
F7	18	T4	B	1	D (50mm)		658	fired a reddish-grey colour
F7	18	T4	B/T	1	C		1,326	corner piece, possibly from thin brick, incised line along one side
F7	32	T4	?PEG	1	A		14	small fragment
F11	56	VP3	B	2	D (50 & 52mm)	260 & 270 complete width	10,930	both with mortar adhering; 1 with a small paw print & part of a larger print
F16	59	VP3	B/T	1	20mm incomplete	-	156	small fragment in buff fabric; discarded
F19	67	VP3	T	1	B		590	with flange (25mm wide); ?thumb imprint
F19	67	VP3	B/T	1	B		344	probably from <i>tegula</i>
F23	112	VP2	T	3	B		1,882	all with flanges (2 x 20mm & 1 x 35mm wide); 2 with cutaways, 2 in brownish fabric
F23	112	VP2	B	1	C (40mm)		680	corner piece, small part of signature
F23	112	VP2	B/T	1	B		110	with signature, possibly fragment of <i>tegula</i> , traces of mortar adhering including over broken edges
L2	48	VP3	T	1	B		838	with flange (35-40mm wide)
L2	48	VP3	B	2	C & D	250 complete; 215 incomplete	5,882	the end of one brick & the corner of another with mortar adhering
L2	50	VP3	B	2	C (40mm), E (50-60mm)	200 & 130 incomplete	3,638	1 with paw prints; 1 with mortar adhering
L2	93	VP2-VP3	T	5	B		2,752	all with flanges (1 x 15mm, 2 x 22mm, 2 X 30mm wide); 2 with cutaways & 1 with possible start of cutaway
L2	93	VP2-VP3	B	1	C (40mm)		870	
L2	93	VP2-VP3	B/T	1	B		352	possible fragment of <i>tegula</i> , with paw prints
L3	33	T4	B/T	1			98	small, amorphous fragment
L9	31	T3	B/T	1	B (30mm)		1,414	possibly from thin brick, traces of signature

context	finds number	trench or panel no	tile type	Qty	thickness A B C D E	maximum surviving edge mm	total weight g	other comments
L9	31	T3	B/T	1	C (40mm)		792	1 blob of fired clay on upper surface, projects approx 12mm high, possible fragment of <i>tegula mammata</i>
L9	34	T3	B	1	D (50mm)		778	
L10	36	T3	T	1	B		262	with flange (20mm wide) with traces of cutaway & signature
L10	36	T3	B	1	C (40mm)		234	
L10	43	T3	B	2	D (50mm)		2,702	joining fragments, with slight traces of mortar adhering, including on broken edges
L10	43	T3	B/T	1	A		104	
L13	63	VP3	I	3	1 x A, 2 x B		542	
L13	63	VP3	B	1	C	90 wide complete; 140 long incomplete	774	oblong brick,
L14	65	VP1	T	1	B		224	with flange (20mm wide)
L16	71	VP3	I	2	A	210 long incomplete	586	2 joining fragments, traces of mortar adhering
L16	71	VP3	T	3	A		450	all with flanges (30mm wide), 2 joining fragments in buff fabric including 1 with cutaway
L16	71	VP3	B	1	C	170 incomplete	958	
L16	71	VP3	PEG	2	A		102	1 modern-looking
L16	96	VP3	I	2	A		302	joining fragments
L16	96	VP3	T	3	B		706	all with flanges (20, 25 & 30mm wide), 1 with cutaway, 2 with slight traces of mortar adhering
L16	96	VP3	B	2	D		400	
L16	96	VP3	B/T	4	B		1,024	1 with mortar adhering; possibly <i>tegulae</i> fragments
L16	110	VP3	I	2	A & B		534	
L16	110	VP3	F	1	A		212	with keying, sealed by traces of mortar
L16	110	VP3	B	1	D	210 incomplete	4,696	corner piece, with slight traces of mortar

context	finds number	trench or panel no	tile type	Qty	thickness A B C D E	maximum surviving edge mm	total weight g	other comments
L16	110	VP3	B/T	2	B & C		2,740	both with slight traces of mortar adhering & possibly from <i>tegulae</i> ; thicker fragment has signature
L18	82	VP3	I	1	A		136	
L19	77	VP3	B/T	1	11mm incomplete	-	42	small sliver in buff fabric; discarded
L20	78	VP3	F	1	A		76	with keying; surface fired to a brownish-grey hue
L20	78	VP3	I	1	A		74	traces of mortar, including on broken edges
L20	78	VP3	B/T?	2	A		140	small fragments in buff fabric, incl 1 sliver; possibly parts of <i>tegulae</i>
L21	79	VP3	I	1	A		230	
L21	79	VP3	F	1	A		90	
L22	85	VP2	I	2	A		380	
L22	85	VP2	T	2	B & C		1,024	both with flanges (25mm & 35mm wide); 1 with trace of cutaway
L22	85	VP2	B/T	3	2 x B, 1 x C		794	possibly 2 fragments of <i>tegulae</i> , incl 1 in buff fabric, & 1 of brick
L22	97	VP2	T	1	B		1,068	with flange (35mm wide) & cutaway
L22	97	VP2	B	2	D & E		4,348	both corner pieces & both with traces of mortar especially on underside
L23	84	VP3	I	3	A		364	3 probable <i>imbrex</i> fragments, 1 in buff fabric
L23	84	VP3	PEG?	1	A		54	possibly Roman, <i>imbrex</i> ?
L24	86	VP3	T	1	-	-	98	small flange fragment (25mm wide)
L24	86	VP3	B/T	2	1 x B		492	1 possible <i>tegula</i> fragment; thickness of other fragment not recordable
L25	87	VP2	T	2	B		758	1 with flange (30mm wide) & mortar adhering including over broken edge; other with cutaway
L25	87	VP2	B/T	2	A & C		588	possibly fragments of <i>imbrex</i> & brick
L25	88	VP2	I	2	A & B	-	522	
L25	88	VP2	B	2	E	-	3,154	

context	finds number	trench or panel no	tile type	Qty	thickness A B C D E	maximum surviving edge mm	total weight g	other comments
L27	89	VP2-VP3	B	2	E (65mm)	300 incomplete	5,474	2 joining fragments forming corner of large brick with chamfered edge, perhaps from an entablature; upper surface pockmarked during manufacture; with mortar adhering 15-25mm thick on underside
L27	89	VP2-VP3	B	1	E	-	2,534	corner fragment, with mortar adhering up to 60mm thick
L27	90	VP2-VP3	I	3	A		407	1 in buff fabric
L27	90	VP2-VP3	T	4	2 x A, 2 x B		2,646	all with flanges, 1 with cutaway
L27	90	VP2-VP3	T?	3	1 x A, 2 x B		1,210	2 with signatures, 1 with mortar adhering
L27	90	VP2-VP3	B	1	D		1,674	
L27	91	VP2	T	2	B		1,966	1 with flange (30mm wide), 1 with cutaway
L27	91	VP2	B	1	E		2,708	slight traces of mortar on underside
L27	95	VP3	T	1	B		540	with flange (20mm wide) & cutaway
L27	95	VP3	B	1	D		574	corner fragment, with mortar adhering to underside & straight edge
L27	99	VP3	T	2	B		610	both with flanges (25 & 30mm wide)
L27	99	VP3	B	1	B (30mm)	180 incomplete	992	corner fragment in buff fabric
L27	99	VP3	B/T	1	B		122	small fragment in dark grey fabric
L29	103	VP2	B	1	E	-	1,880	associated with fragments of whitish plaster, approx 15mm thick; slight traces of mortar/plaster adhering to brick
L29	107	VP2	B/T	5?	B		8,424	large lump of mortar, containing at least 5 fragments of Roman brick/tile, 1 with signature; mortar measured approximately 260 x 240 x 12mm
L29	109	VP2	I	1	A		110	
L29	109	VP2	T	14	1 x A, 12 x B		4,408	13 with flanges (1 x 10/12, 1 x 15, 2 x 18, 5 x 20, 3 x 25, 1 x 30mm wide); 1 very degraded
L29	109	VP2	B/T	1	B		90	small area of signature or keying, slight traces of mortar adhering
L30	100	VP2	B/T	3	2 x B, 1 x C		492	3 small fragments, 1 in greyish fabric

context	finds number	trench or panel no	tile type	Qty	thickness A B C D E	maximum surviving edge mm	total weight g	other comments
U/S	7	T4	T	2				2 small fragments, discarded
U/S	9	T3	B/T	1	C		262	buff fabric, slight trace of mortar adhering
U/S	13	T3	B	1	E (50-65mm)	275 wide, complete	8,040	with mortar adhering to underside
U/S	13	T3	B	1	E (60mm)	300 incomplete	5,770	with mortar adhering, especially to underside, up to 50mm thick
U/S	52	VP3	I	2	A		190	2 joining pieces
U/S	75	VP1	T	1	B	-	852	with flange 30mm wide; mortar adhering, including over broken edges
U/S	98	VP3	I	1	A	-	90	
U/S	104	VP1	T	5	B	-	2,792	all with flanges (3 x 20mm, 12mm & 16mm wide); 4 with cutaways, 1 with signature, 2 with traces of mortar
U/S	105	VP1	T	2	B	-	690	1 in buff fabric, both with flanges (20 & 30mm wide)
U/S	108	VP1-VP2	T	2	B	-	824	both with flanges (15 & 22mm wide), 1 with cutaway, other with signature

Appendix 4: contents of archive

One A4 archival box containing:

1 Project management archive

- 1.1 Copy of the brief issued by CBCAO, on CD.
- 1.2 Copies of the 2014 WSI and 2015 WSI produced by CAT, on paper and CD.
- 1.3 Copies of the risk assessments produced by Safetyboss and CAT, on paper and CD.
- 1.4 Copies of plans and elevations provided by the architects and structural engineers, on paper and CD.
- 1.5 Copies of figures relating to previous archaeological discoveries, on paper and CD.
- 1.6 Copies of correspondence, emails etc, on paper and CD.
- 1.7 Copies of text and figure relating to the extension of the Castle Park SAM, on CD.

2 Site archive

- 2.1 Attendance register sheets.
- 2.2 Context sheets.
- 2.3 Photographic record sheets.
- 2.4 Site photographs on CD.
- 2.5 List of site plans/sections, on paper.

3 Research archive

- 3.1 Copies of specialist reports, on paper and CD.
- 3.2 List of small finds, on paper and CD.
- 3.3 List of pottery sherds, on paper and CD.
- 3.4 Lists of brick and tile fragments, on paper and CD.
- 3.5 Context list, on paper and CD.
- 3.6 Copies of stratigraphic matrices, photographs, and a newspaper cutting, on paper.
- 3.7 Copies of draft plans and sections, on paper and CD.
- 3.8 Copies of reconstruction drawings and CGI of the Roman arcade, on paper and CD.
- 3.9 Copies of reconstruction drawings of the Roman arcade at Pont-Sainte-Maxence, on paper and CD.
- 3.10 Copies of final report (CAT Report 1092), on paper and CD.

Not in A4 archival box:

4 Drawings archive

- 4.1 Site plans/sections on 10 sheets of A3 drafting film.
- 4.2 Detailed site plans on 3 sheets of drafting film (2 x A1; 1 x A2), incl. 2 small overlays.
- 4.3 Site profiles on 3 sheets of A2 drafting film.
- 4.4 Copy of list of site plans/sections, on paper.
- 4.5 Miscellaneous drawings for publication, on drafting film.

5 Finds archive

- 5.1 One medium-sized plastic box containing the small finds.
- 5.2 Three crates of brick and tile.
- 5.3 Three museum boxes containing the other finds.

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Distribution list:

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Date: 02.05.18

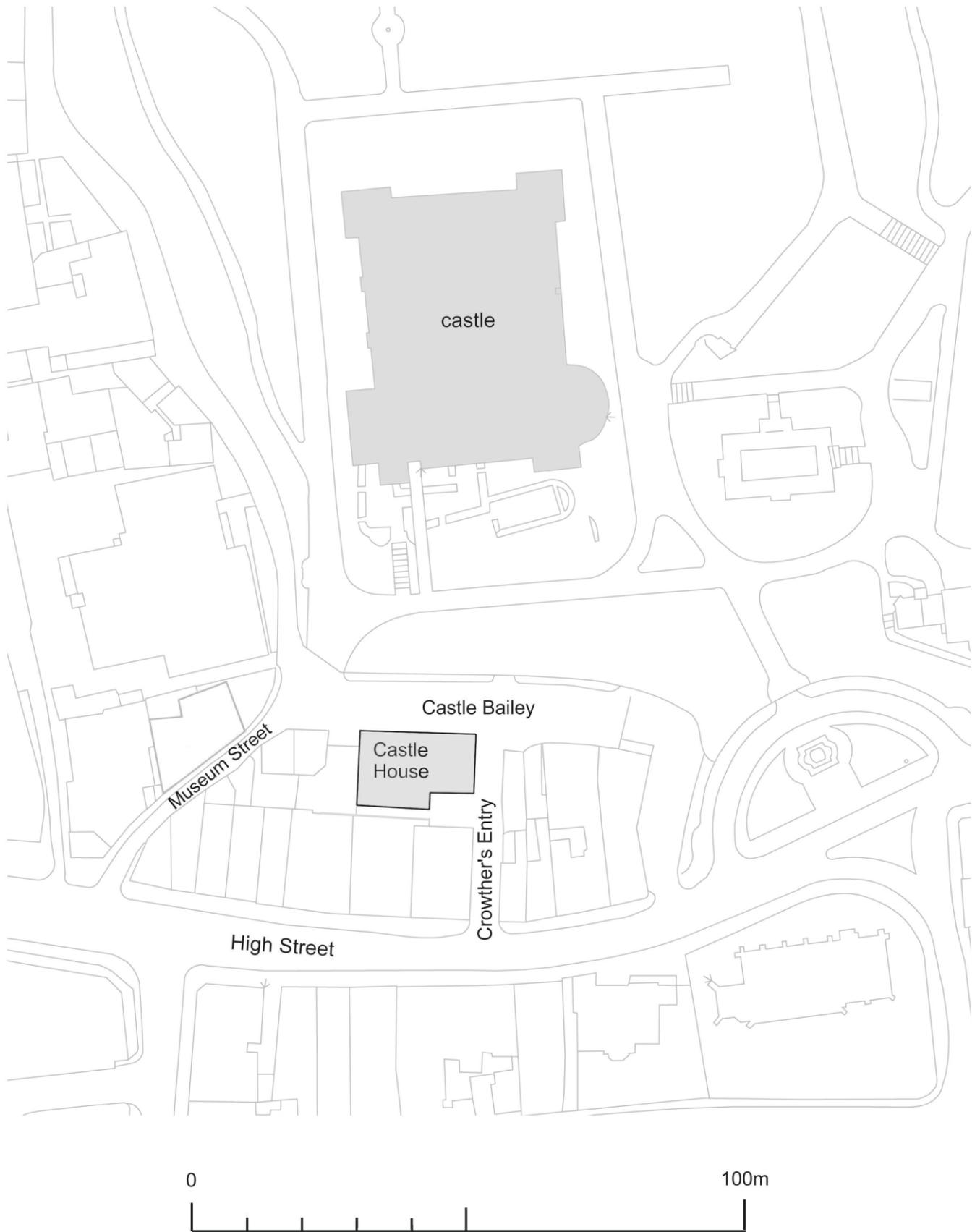


Fig 1 Site location.

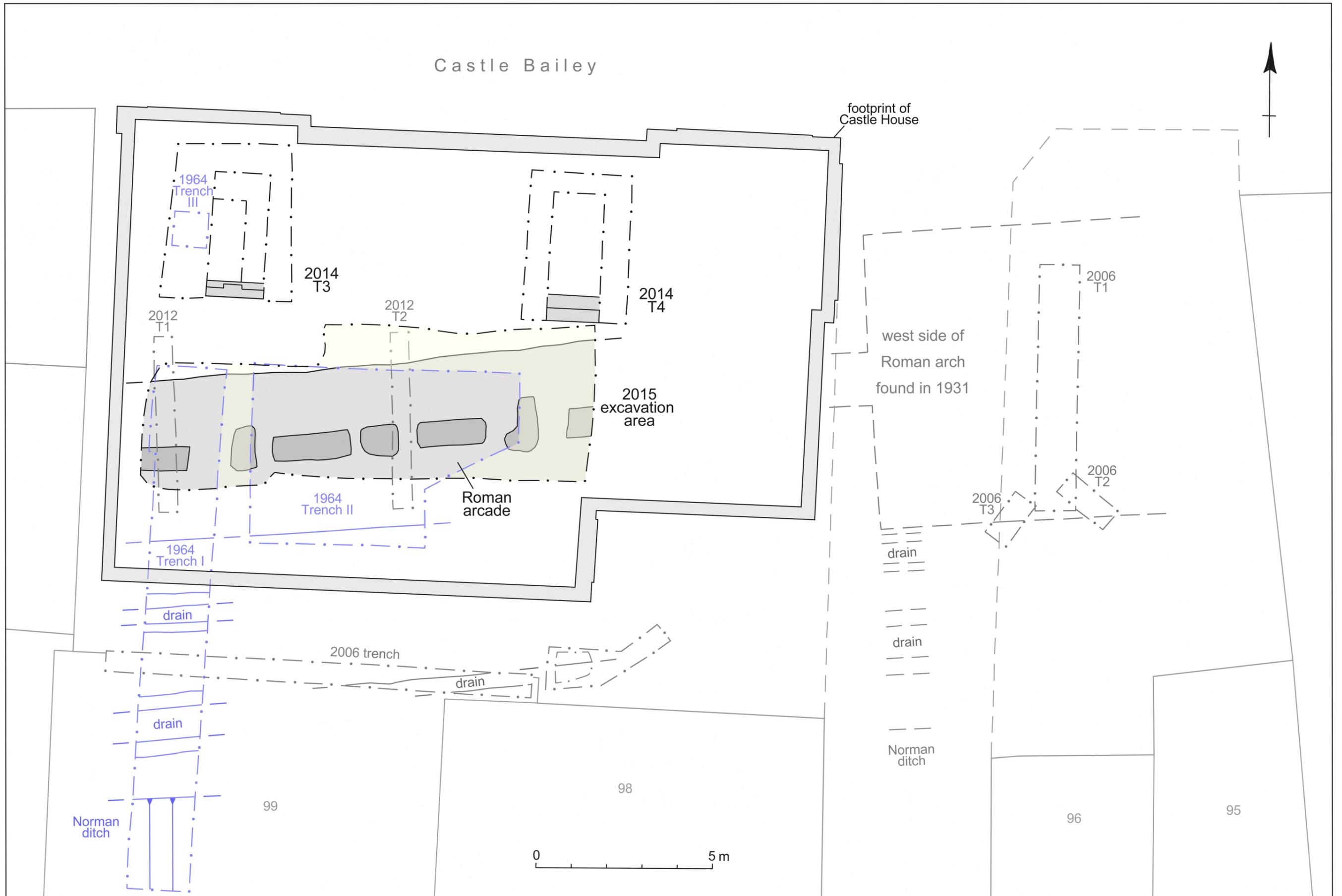


Fig 2 Site plan.

The 1964 excavation trenches are shown in blue and other previous excavations in grey. The parts of the 2015 excavation area that had not been excavated in 1964 are shown in pale yellow.

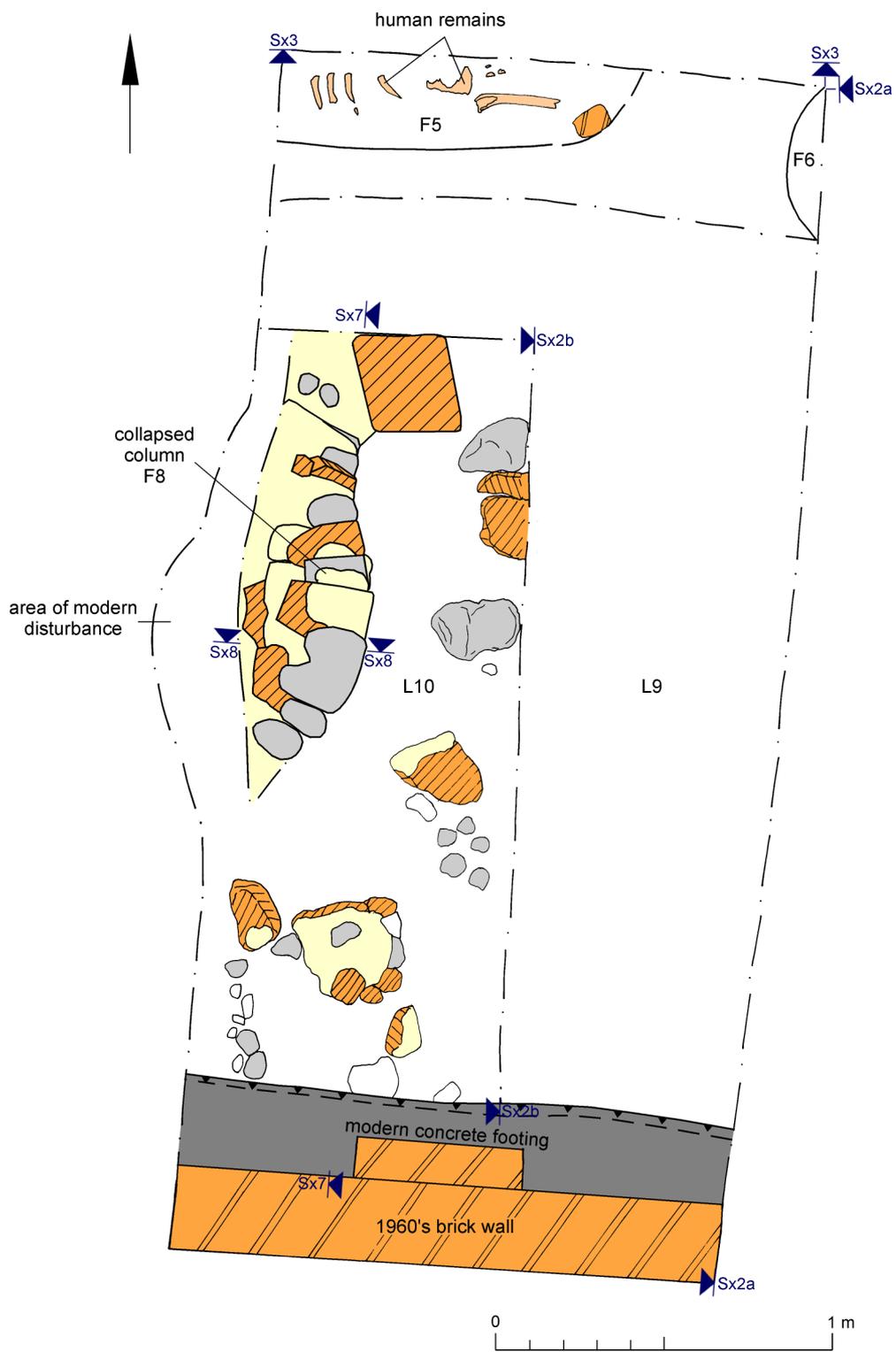


Fig 4 T3: plan.

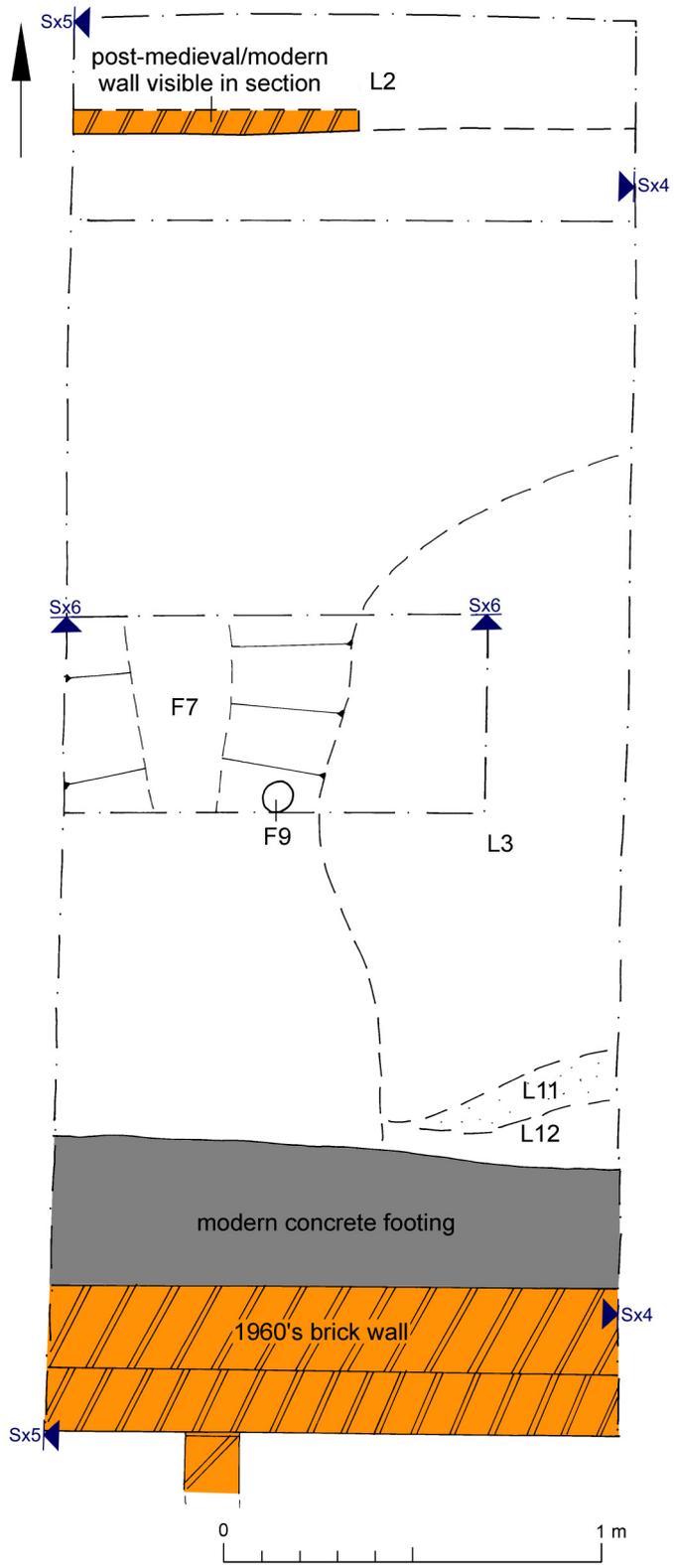


Fig 5 T4: plan.

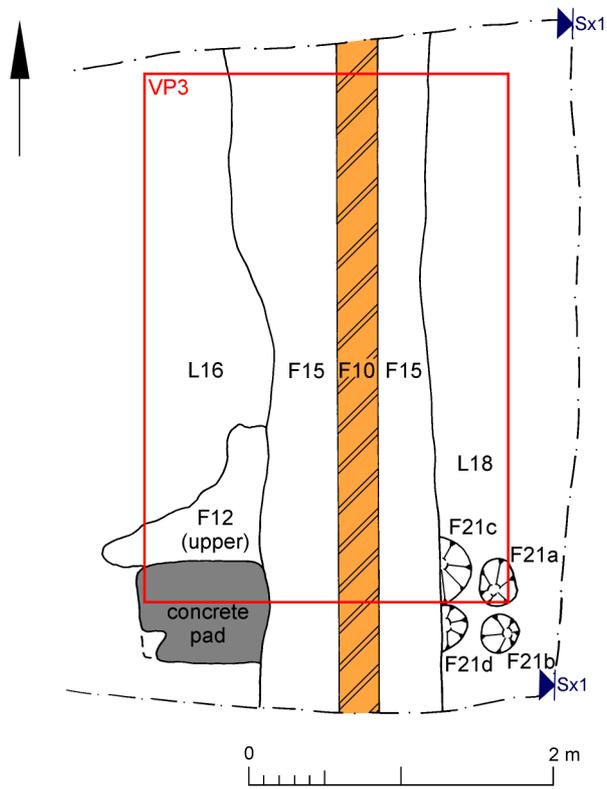
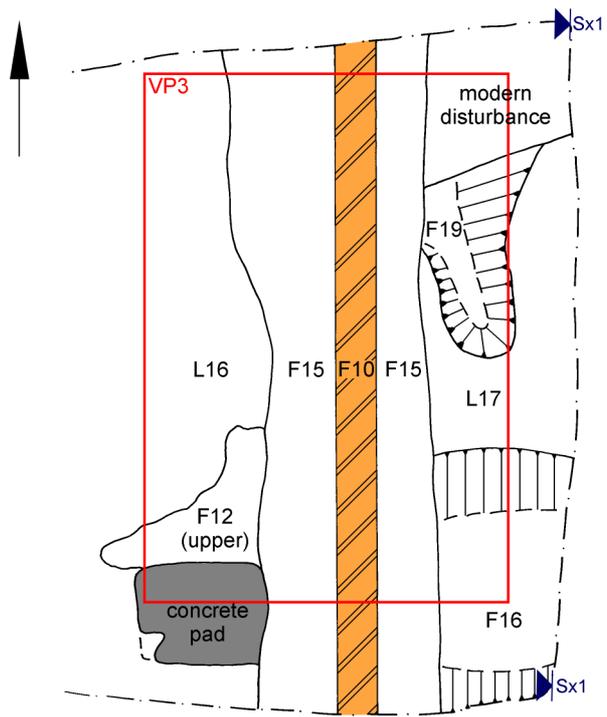


Fig 6 Plan of post-Roman features at the eastern end of the 2015 excavation area (above) with overlay showing earlier features (below).

Section 1

VP3

26.08m
AOD

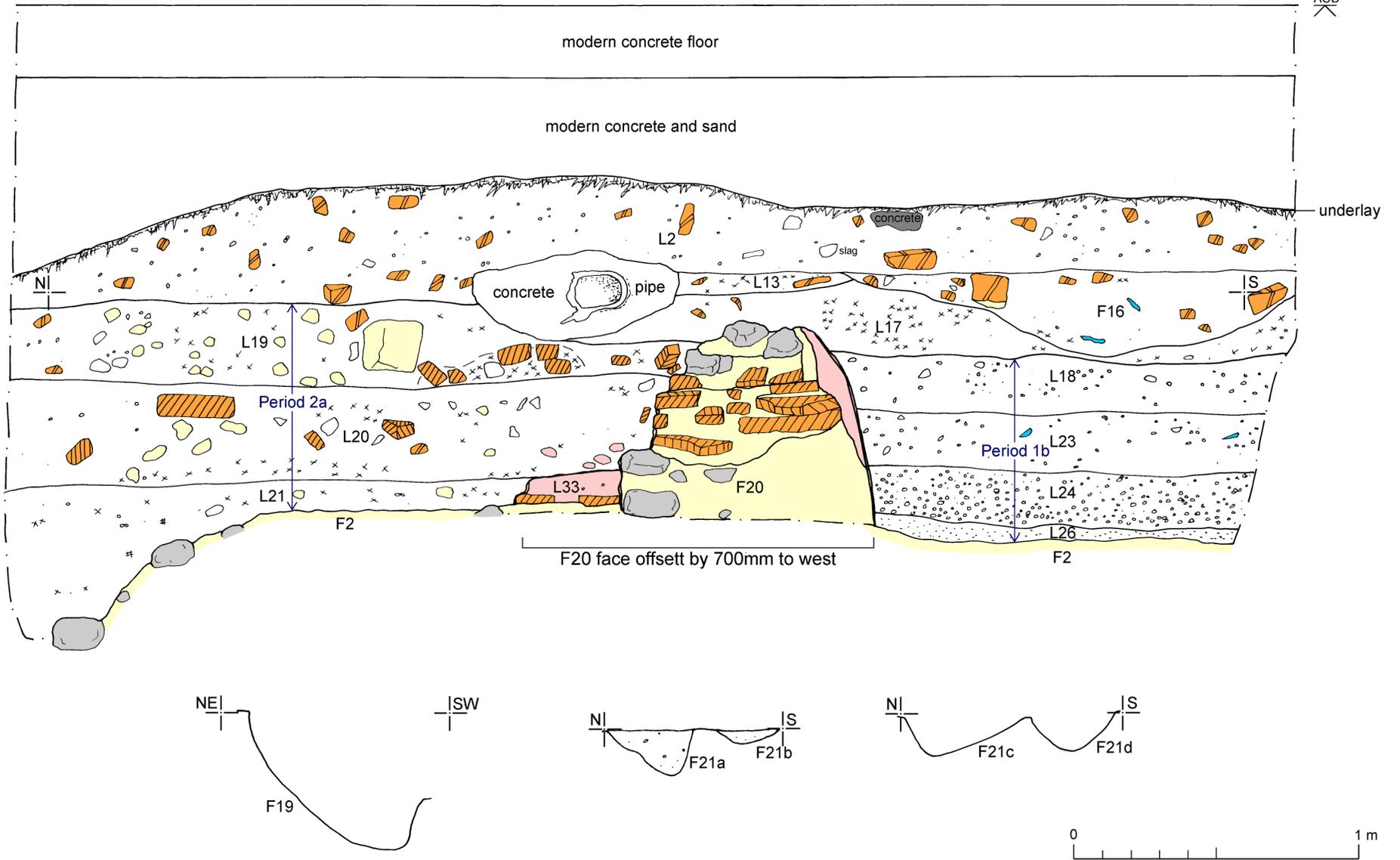


Fig 7 T7: Section and feature profiles at the eastern end of the 2015 excavation area.

Section 2 (a & b)

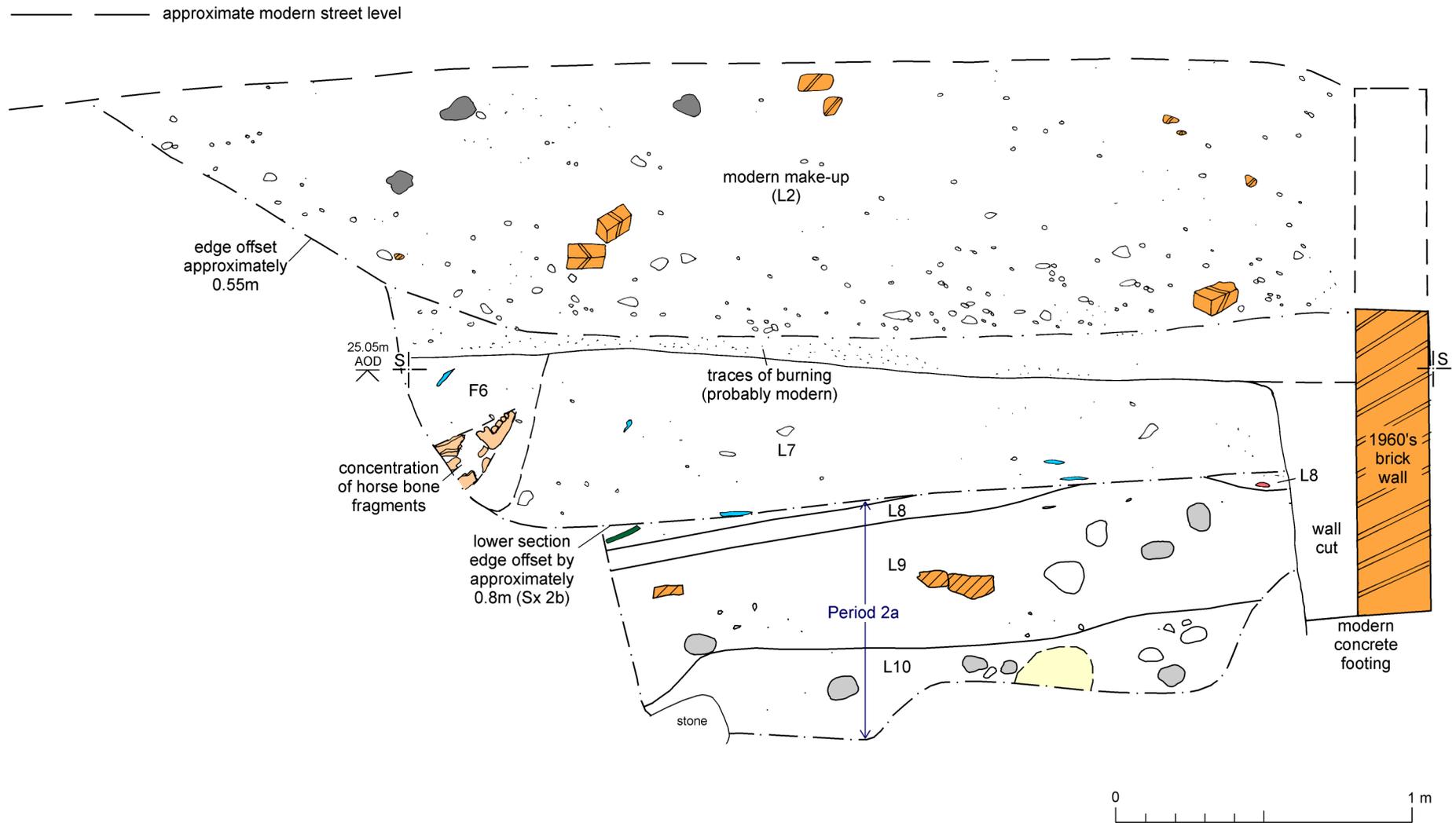
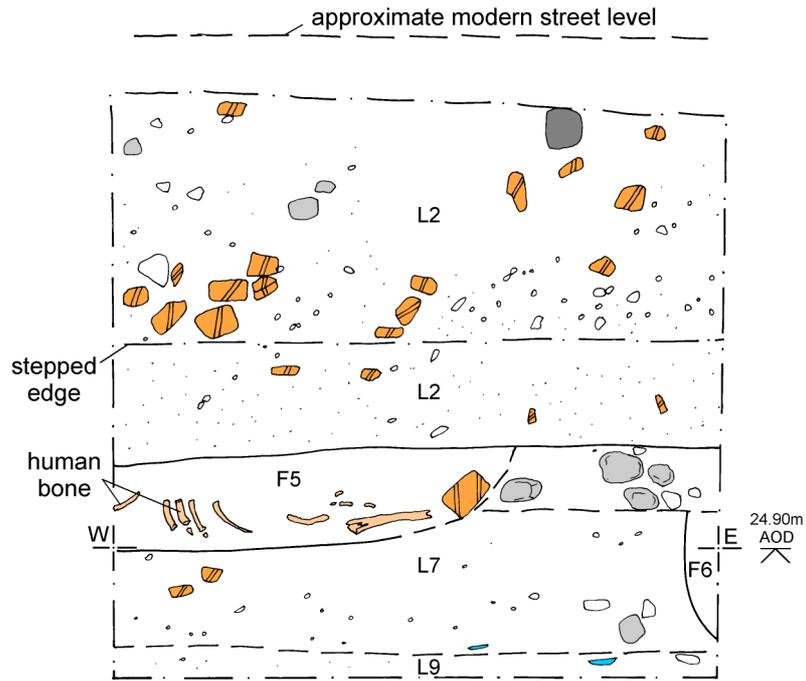
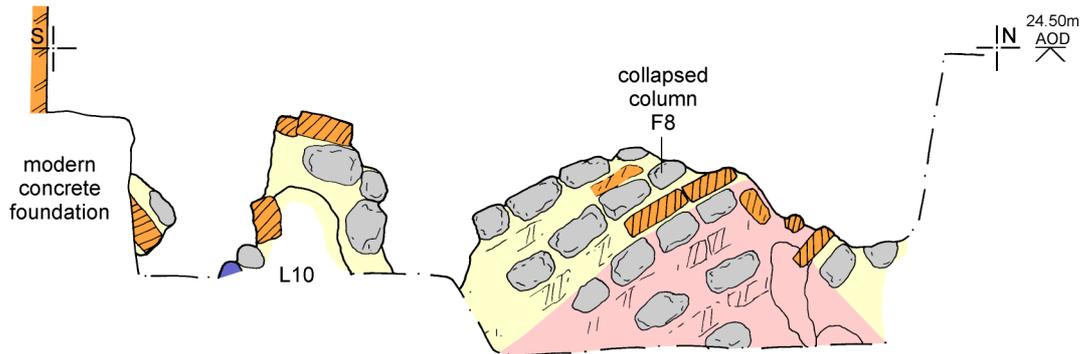


Fig 8 T3: section 2.

Section 3



Section 7



Section 8

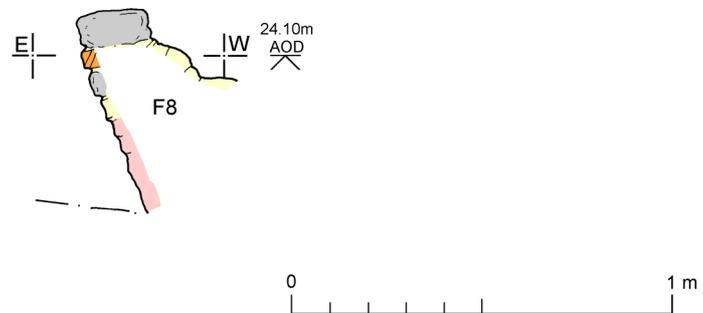


Fig 9 T3: sections 3, 7 and 8.

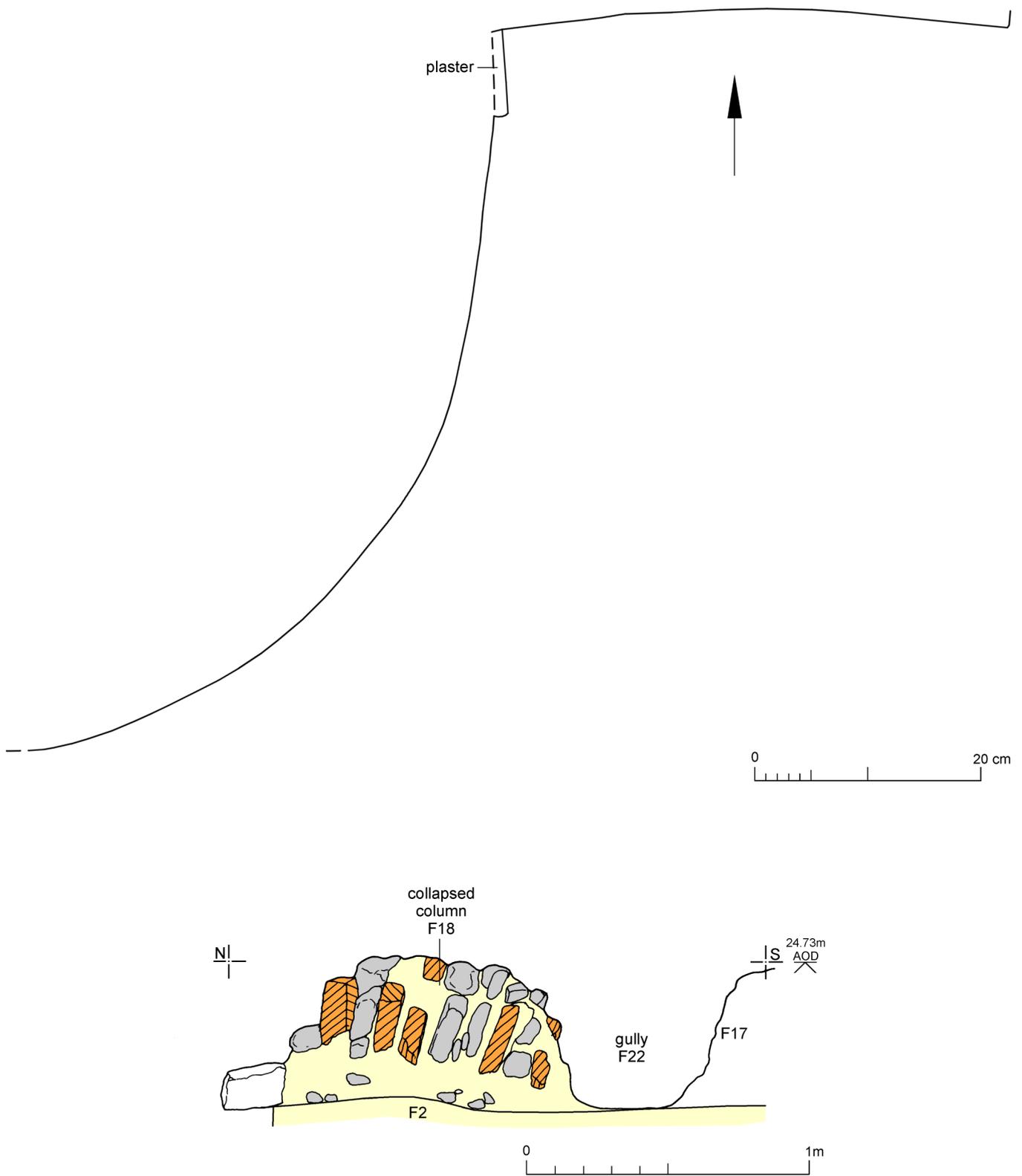


Fig 10 Above: outline of the collapsed column F8. The outline follows one course, and as F8 lay at a slight angle in the ground, the southern end of the curved face lay approximately 150mm lower than the northern end. Below: section of collapsed column F18 and gully F22.

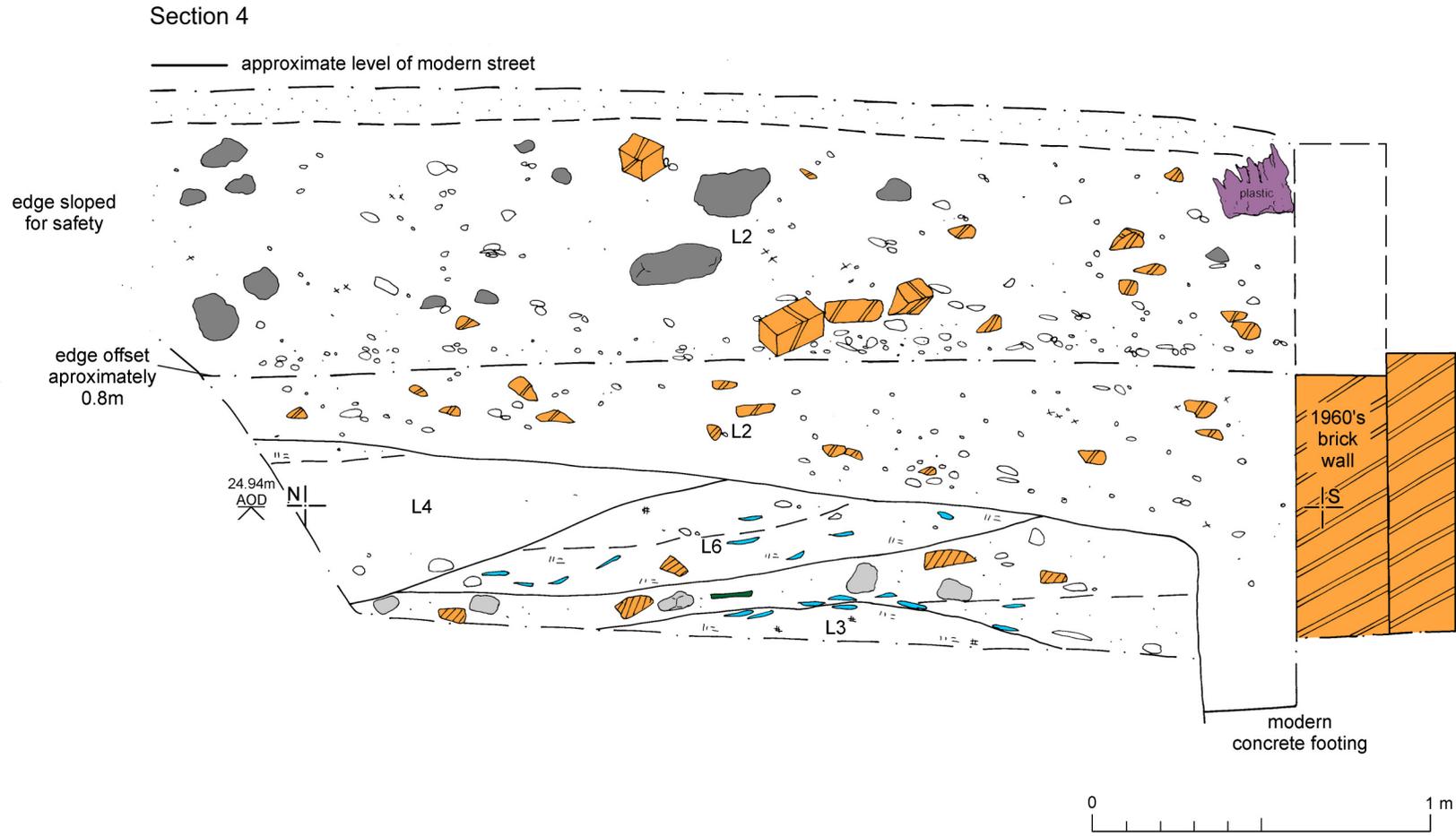
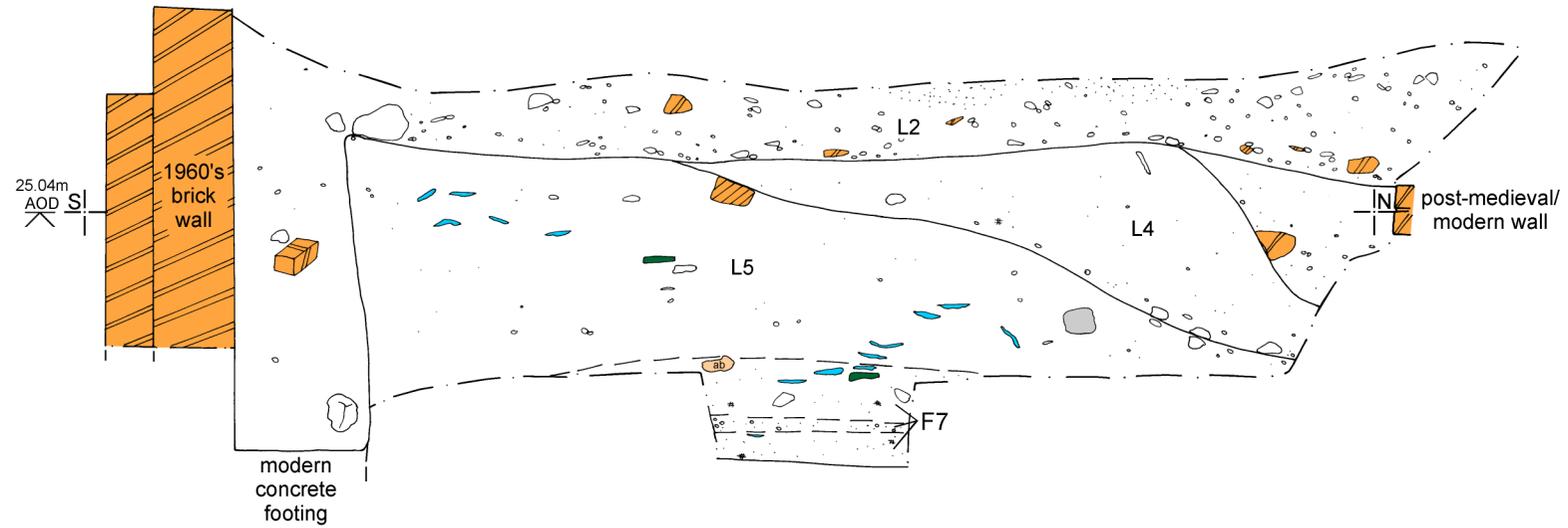


Fig 11 T4: section 4.

Section 5



Section 6

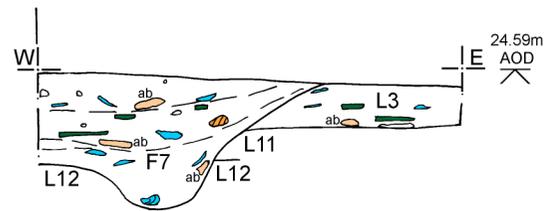


Fig 12 T4: sections 5-6.

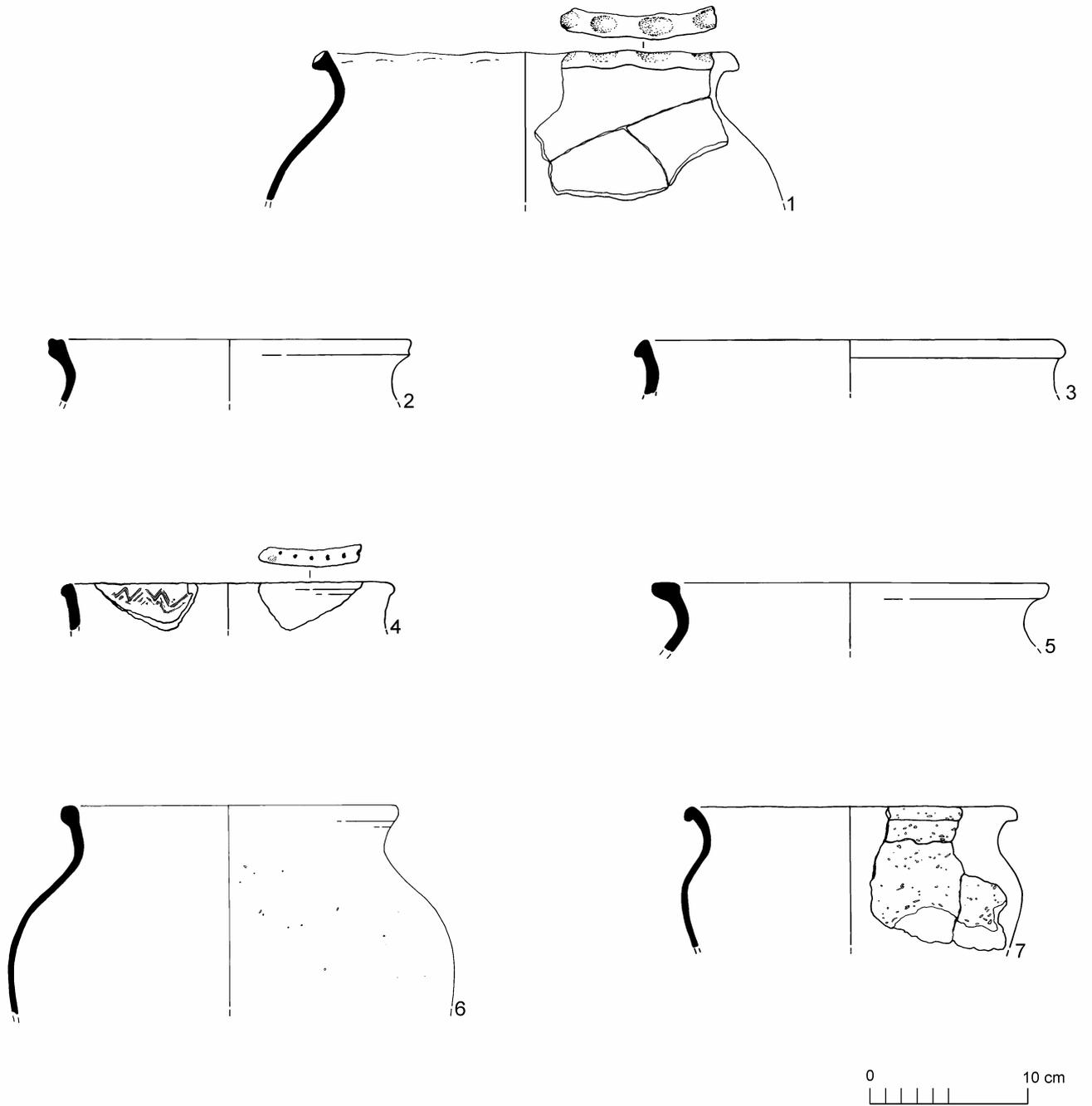


Fig 13 Medieval pottery from F7.

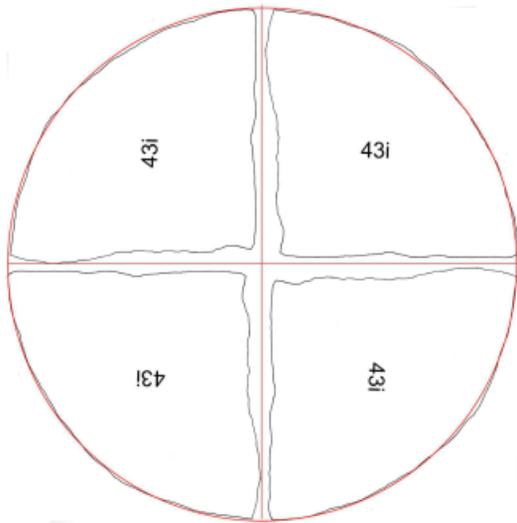


Fig 14 Roman column quarter-brick (find no. 43, L10).

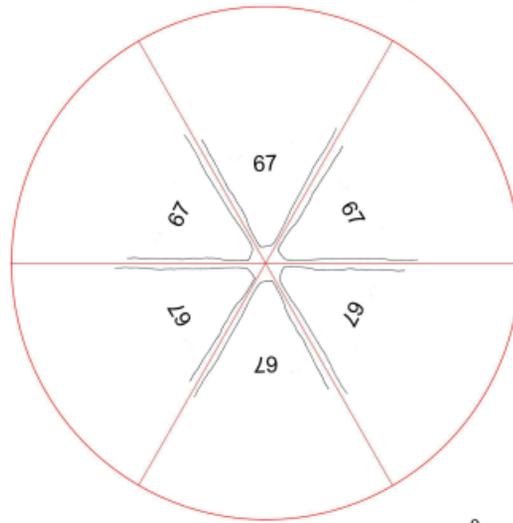


Fig 15 Outlines of the Roman column brick with finds numbers.

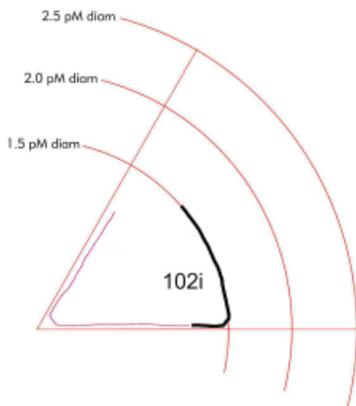
Quarter-circle type (2 pM diameter)



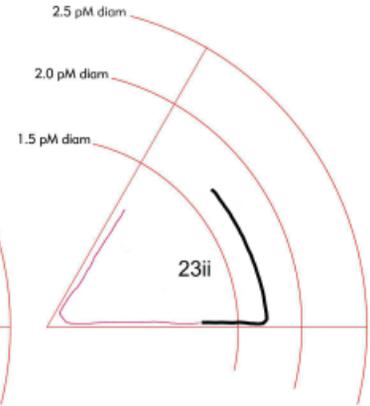
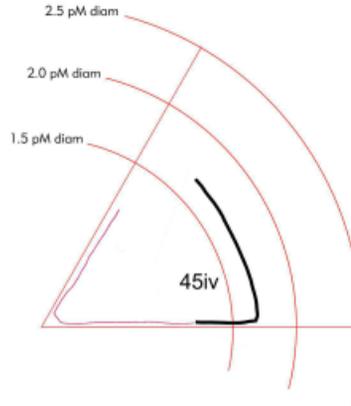
One-sixth-circle type (2 pM diameter)



1.5 pM diameter _____



1.5-2.0 pM diameter _____



1.5-2.0 pM diameter _____

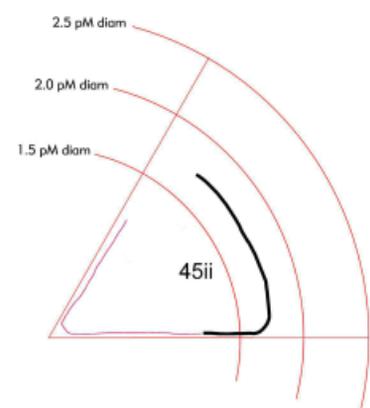
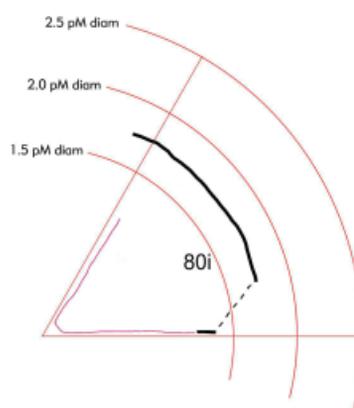
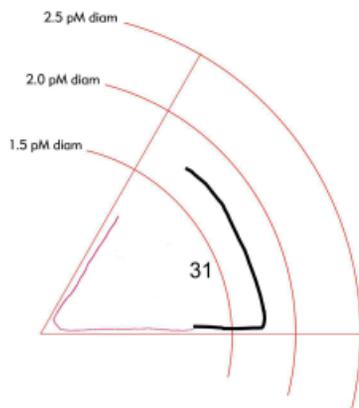
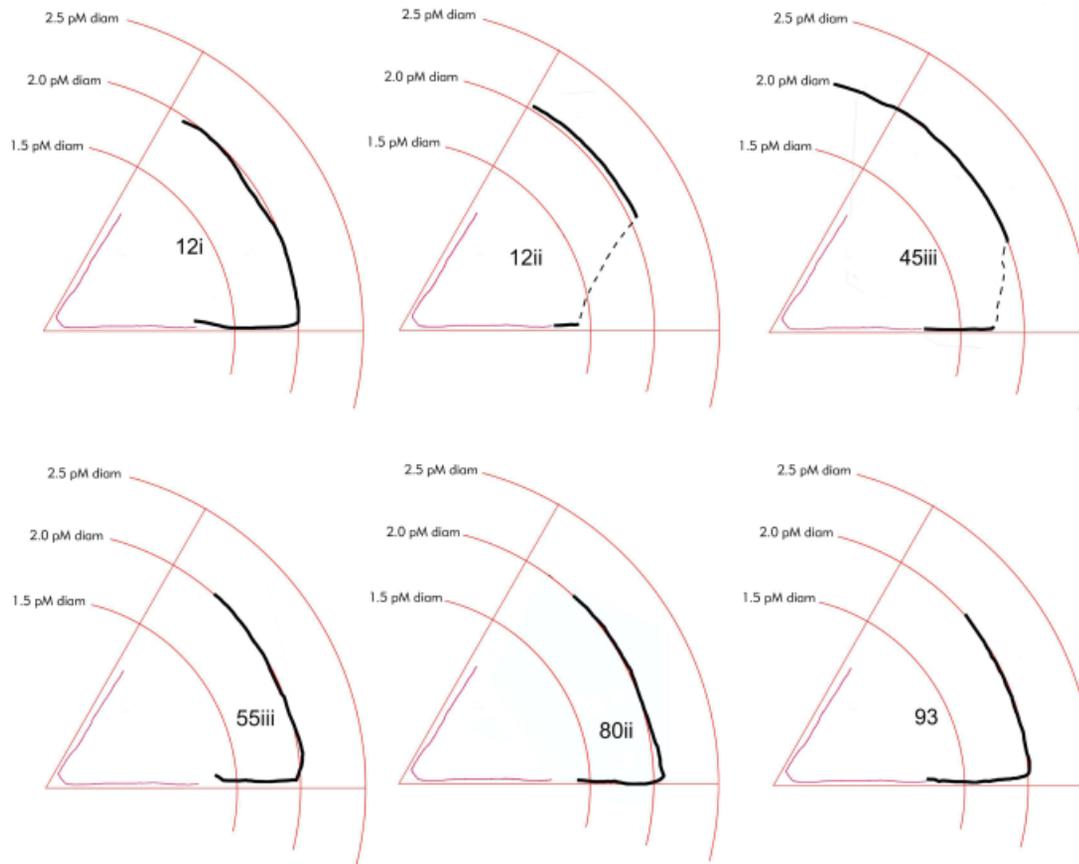


Fig 16 Analysis of the Roman column brick in terms of radii: sheet 1.

2.0 pM diameter



2.0-2.5 pM diameter

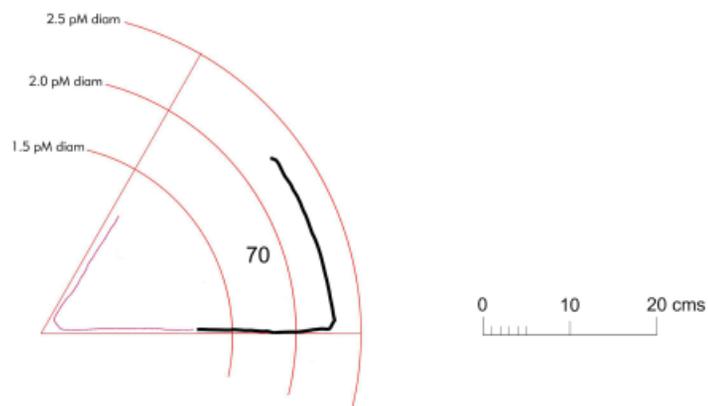


Fig 17 Analysis of the Roman column brick in terms of radii: sheet 2.

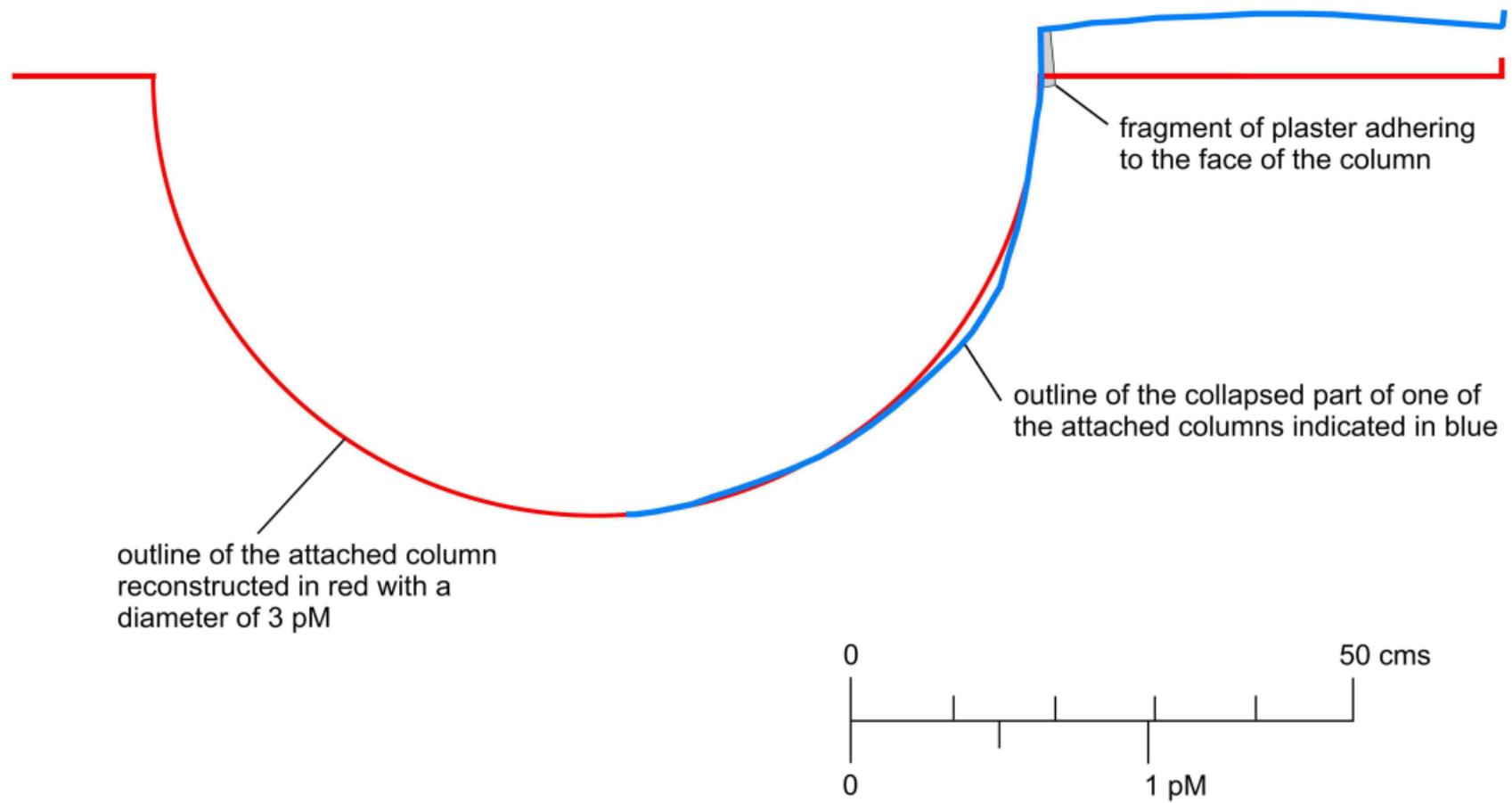


Fig 18 Reconstruction of the attached column F8 with a diameter of 3 μM .

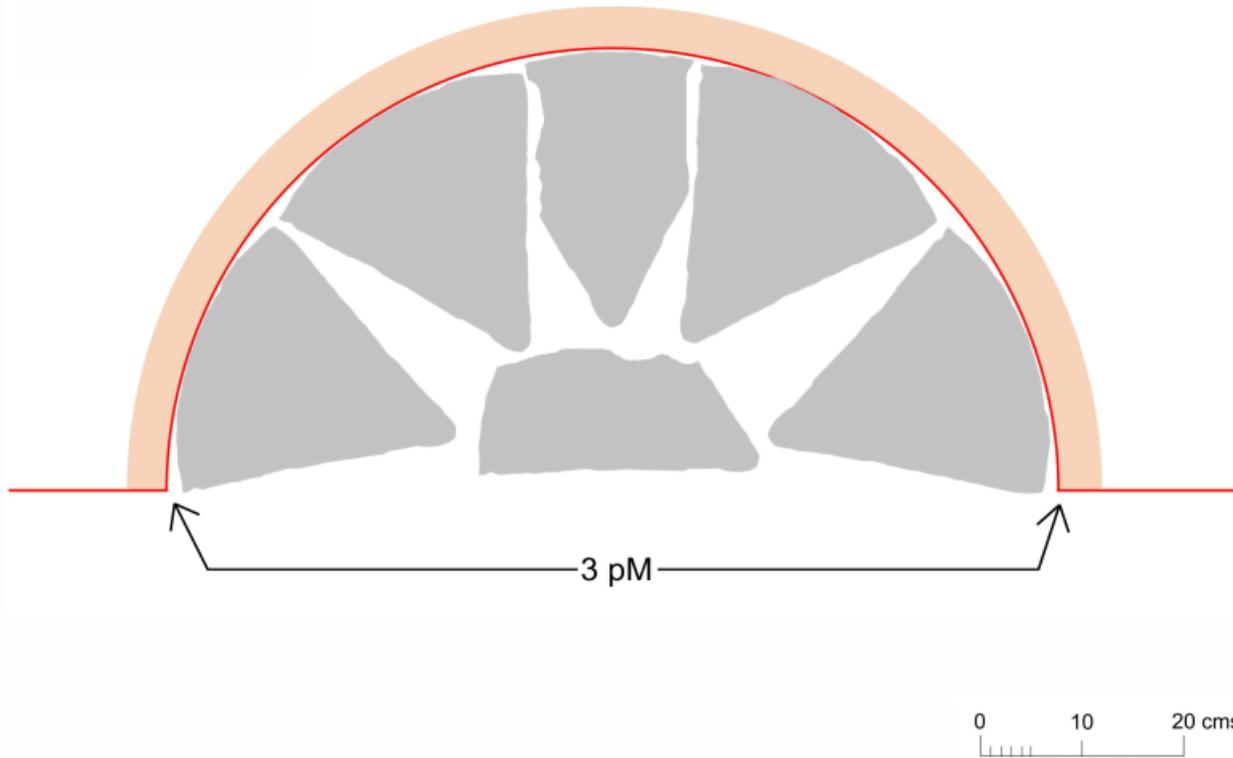


Fig 19 Reconstruction of the attached column F8 with brick fragments.

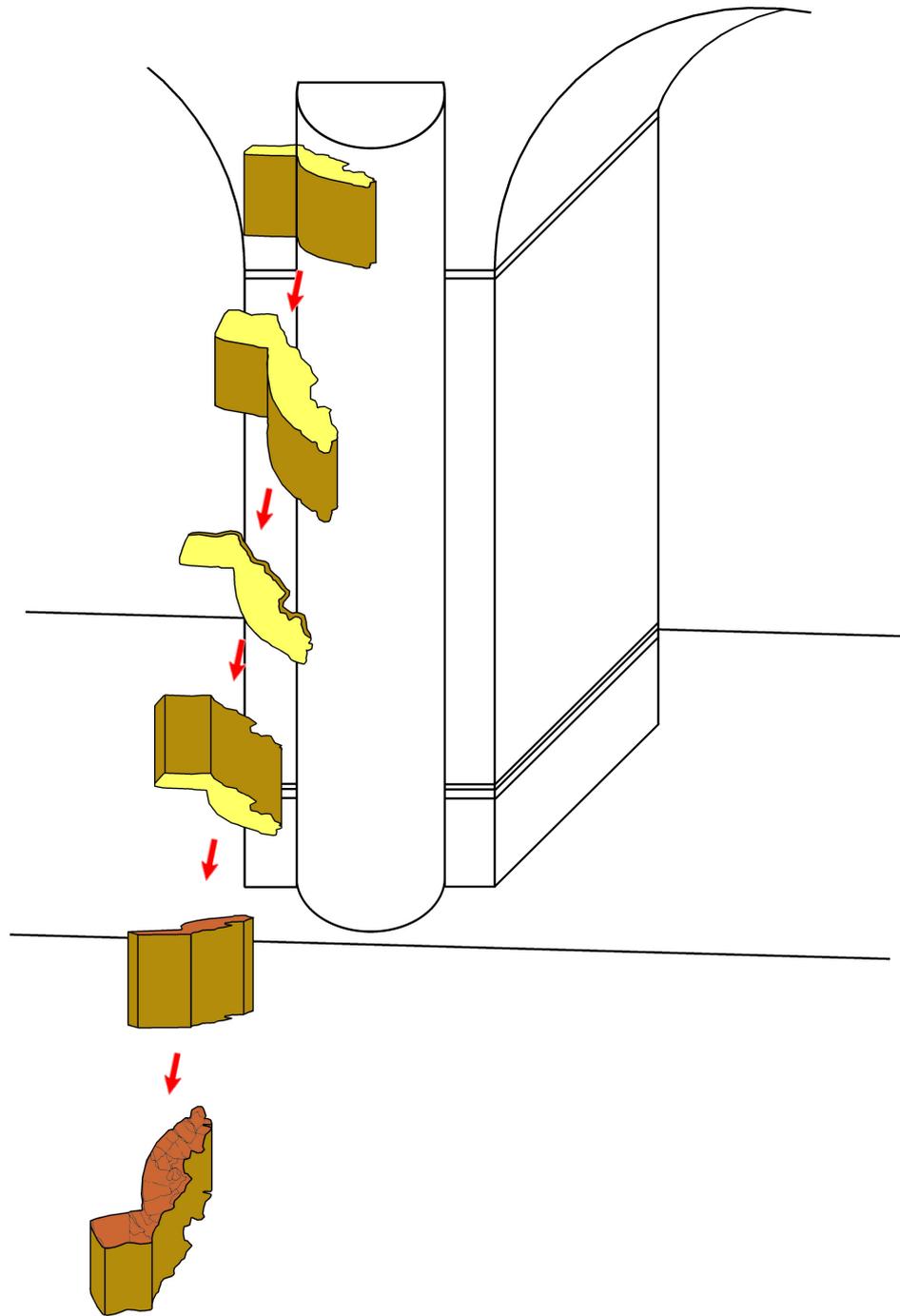


Fig 20 Illustration showing how the column fragment F8 could have tumbled to the ground.

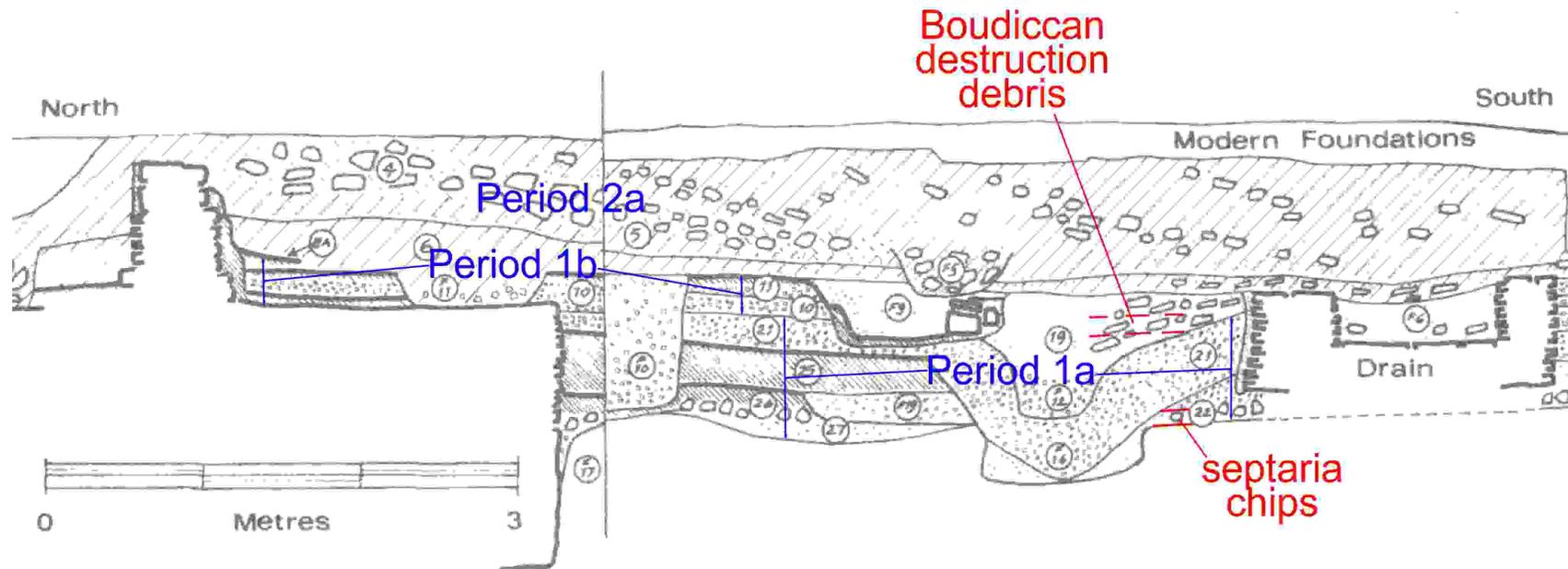
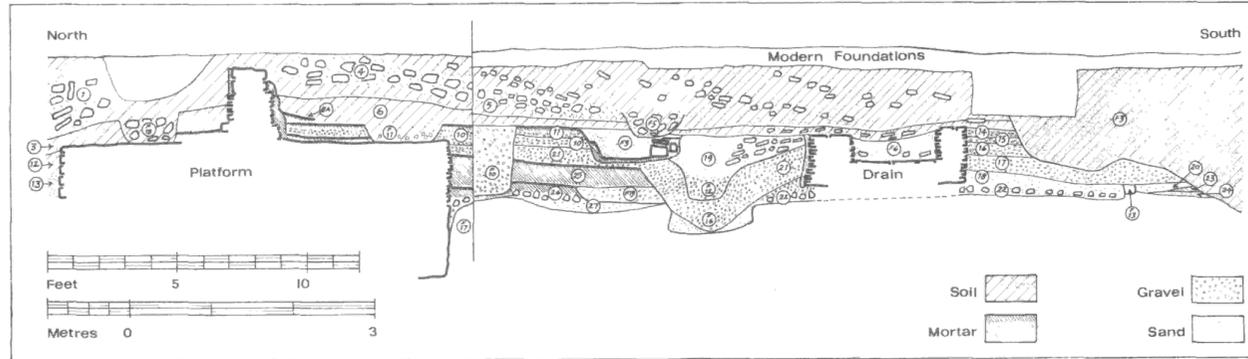


Fig 21 Above: the 1964 section showing the deposits to the south of the Roman arcade. It was published as fig 4 in Hebditch (1971) and is reproduced with permission from the Essex Society for Archaeology and History. Below: annotated detail of the 1964 section. The levels of key deposits in the 2006 trench (CAT Report 440) are shown in red. The annotation in blue is based on the phasing of the 2014-15 excavations.

Written Scheme of Investigation
for archaeological recording and excavation

at

97 High Street,
Colchester, Essex

February 2014

commissioned by
Flying Trade Group plc



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ROMAN CIRCUS HOUSE,
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1 Introduction

- 1.1 This is a Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) for archaeological recording and excavation at 97 High Street, Colchester, Essex, in advance of redevelopment.
- 1.2 97 High Street (NGR TL 9985 2524) is situated in Colchester town centre, at the rear of properties on the north side of the High Street. It lies to the south of Castle Bailey and on the western side of a narrow lane known as Crowther's Entry (Fig 1).
- 1.3 The site formerly consisted of a late 1960's office block with car parking on the ground floor in the northern part of the site and with a yard area to the south. The office block has largely been demolished, except for its steel frame. The whole redevelopment site covers an area of approximately 315 sq m.
- 1.4 The proposed redevelopment comprises a ground floor restaurant/cafe with nine flats on the three floors above (LPA No.121738/9). A planning condition requires the applicant to commission an archaeological excavation of the northern area of the redevelopment site, approximately 21m x 5m in size. This area will be impacted by a relatively dense piling grid.
- 1.5 This WSI has been written by the Colchester Archaeological Trust (CAT). It sets out proposals for archaeological recording and excavation, and for post-excavation work including the production of a report, an archive and (if necessary) publication texts. It follows a brief produced by Colchester Borough Council's Archaeological Officer (CBC 2013).
- 1.6 Any variations in this WSI will be agreed beforehand with Colchester Borough Council's Archaeological Officer (CBCAO).

2 Archaeological background

- 2.1 The site is located in Insula 22 of the Roman town and is in an area of outstanding archaeological interest. An archaeological excavation took place on the site in 1964 and revealed part of the well-preserved south precinct wall of the Temple of Claudius. Even after the depredations of Norman stone robbers, the foundation platform survived 15 feet wide (4.57 m). It was surmounted by the remains of pier bases for a large arcaded screen (Hebditch 1971, 122), and also by a series of later blocking walls (*ibid*, 122-3). To the south of the precinct wall, in a trench dug in 1964 along the western side of the site, traces of several phases of west-east Roman drains were uncovered. The well-preserved north side of one of these drains, constructed of brick set in *opus signinum*, was exposed in 2006 during rebuilding work along the southern edge of the site (CAT Report 440).
- 2.2 The 1964 excavations confirmed the results of work carried out nearby in 1931 and 1953 (Hull 1955; Hull 1958, 169-75). The 1931 excavation revealed, immediately to the east of the site, the remains of the western part of a monumental arch centrally placed in the south precinct wall. Part of the archway was also uncovered in evaluation trenches at the rear of 95-6 High Street in 2006 (CAT Reports 360 & 380).
- 2.3 One of the reasons why the south precinct wall was so well-preserved was because it was 'insulated' by the Norman inner bailey rampart which was piled-up on top of it. The rampart was surmounted by a curtain wall, which was probably built in the 12th century and replaced an earlier timber palisade (*VCHE 9*, 244). The digging of the inner bailey ditch to the south of the rampart necessitated the diversion of the High Street southwards, and the curve in the road is still visible today.
- 2.4 As a result of later activity, the remains of the curtain wall and much of the rampart were destroyed, while the ditch was backfilled and built over (Hebditch 1971, 121; Drury 1983, 407-8). In the late 17th century, a bowling green was laid out to the south of the castle (*ibid*). Subsequent cartographic evidence shows properties fronting onto the High Street (often called King Street at this location), with rear gardens, which have been built over in more recent times.
- 2.5 An archaeological watching brief took place on the site in March 2010 during the machine excavation of a series of test pits by the developer (CAT Report 587). The remains of the south precinct wall of the Temple of Claudius were uncovered close to the modern ground level in the southern part of the site. Little of archaeological significance was reached in the northern part of the site where the ground level had been considerably

made-up in modern times. Thick deposits of post-Roman topsoil or 'dark earth' also appeared to survive in this area.

- 2.6 An archaeological evaluation took place on the site in June 2012. Two narrow trial trenches were dug by CAT in order to accurately record the position and depth of the south precinct wall of the Temple of Claudius (Fig 1). The northern edge of the foundation platform for the precinct wall was located in both trenches. The top of the foundation platform lay approximately 1 m below the modern yard surface. In one of the trial trenches, the remains of a pier base, which formed part of the monumental arcade, was uncovered on top of the foundation platform. In the other trench, the foundation platform was sealed by part of a later Roman blocking wall.

3 Aims

The aims of the monitoring and excavation are to recover sufficient evidence to characterize the depth, extent, date and significance of any archaeological remains within the affected area. Also it is hoped to uncover and record parts of the south precinct wall of the Temple of Claudius, prior to their being put on permanent display under glass 'windows' in the floor of the proposed building.

4 General Methodology

- 4.1 All works will be undertaken by professional archaeologists employed by CAT. The field officer(s) will have a level of experience appropriate to the work.
- 4.2 All the latest Health and Safety guidelines will be followed on site. CAT has a standard health and safety policy, which will be adhered to (CAT 2012).
- 4.3 For the purposes of the deposition of the archive, a museum accession code will be obtained through Colchester & Ipswich Museums. The code used will be quoted in any reports arising from the work.
- 4.4 The relevant document of the Institute for Archaeologists (IfA) will be followed, i.e. *Standard and guidance for an archaeological excavation* (IfA 2008a), including its 'code of conduct'. The 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 & Ipswich Museums* (CIMS 2008b) and English Heritage's *Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment* (MoRPHE 2006) will be adhered to throughout the course of the project. Other guidelines followed are those published in EAA 3, EAA 8, EAA 14 and EAA 24.
- 4.5 At the start of work an OASIS online record will be initiated and key fields completed on Details, Location and Creators forms.
- 4.6 Environmental sampling policy. CAT has an arrangement with Val Fryer whereby any potentially rich environmental layers or features will be appropriately sampled as a matter of course, but only if they are datable. Any processing and reporting will be done by Val Fryer. If any complex or outstanding deposits are encountered VF will be asked onto site to advise. If further advice is required, Helen Chappell, the English Heritage regional science advisor, will be consulted.

5 Excavation and recording methodology

- 5.1 The main area to be subject to archaeological excavation and recording is that part of the redevelopment site immediately to the north of the Roman temple precinct wall. This area measures a maximum of 21 x 5 m. However, the actual size of any trench or trenches within this area will be constrained by the need to minimize the risk of the sides collapsing. If necessary, reserved strips, approximately 800 mm wide, will be left unexcavated along the northern, western and eastern margins of the area.
- 5.2 Initially, two north-south trenches will be dug within the excavation area (T3 & T4, Fig 1). The trenches will each be approximately 1.7 m wide, although the upper parts of the trenches will probably need to be widened to reduce any risk of the sides collapsing. This will depend on the stability of the sides and the depth of the latest significant archaeological deposits. In general, where the sides of the trenches are deeper than 1.2m, they will be stepped or angled to produce a splay of 45 degrees from the vertical. If

- possible, the more easterly trench (T4) will be extended slightly southwards, in order to locate the northern edge of the foundation platform for the south precinct wall.
- 5.3 CAT will obtain information about existing service locations from the client. If no such information is available, a CAT scan will be undertaken prior to and during excavation. In general, cable and service positions will not be excavated, but will be left as upstanding baulks.
 - 5.4 After removing the modern overburden, a mechanical excavator will be used to progressively strip the deposits down to the uppermost surviving level of archaeological significance, under the continuous supervision of a CAT archaeologist. All machine excavation shall use a toothless bucket. Stripping will be by shallow spits of approximately 15 cm.
 - 5.5 If it is safe to do so, any exposed archaeological features will then be manually cleaned, recorded, and if necessary excavated. Usually, a minimum of 50% of the fills of pits and other discrete archaeological features will be excavated. Up to 10% of the exposed lengths of linear features, such as ditches, will be excavated. Fast excavation techniques involving (for instance) picks, forks and mattocks will not be used on complex stratigraphy.
 - 5.6 In the event that stone structures are encountered, these will be excavated in sufficient detail to establish their construction sequence and the sequence of any repairs or extensions. Full excavation of hearths, furnaces or kilns in all cases, where these are identified, will be undertaken. Animal and human burials, including cremations and/or inhumations, will be fully excavated.
 - 5.7 A site meeting will take place following the initial phase of archaeological excavation and recording; i.e. after the depth and significance of the latest archaeological deposits has been established. This will involve CBCAO, CAT and representatives of the client, and will review how much further archaeological work will be required.
 - 5.8 At a later stage, probably after piling has taken place, excavation will be undertaken of those parts of the south precinct wall of the Temple of Claudius, which it is hoped to permanently display under glass. In particular, the Roman temple precinct wall under the easternmost viewing panel (Fig 1) will be investigated. This part of the precinct wall has not been extensively excavated in the past. It is possible that significant archaeological deposits survive overlying the precinct wall, and these will need to be recorded in detail.
 - 5.9 Any ground disturbance, which threatens the archaeological remains on the redevelopment site, will be monitored by CAT staff. This will include, if necessary, the removal of the foundations for the existing frame, as well as subsequent groundwork. Sufficient time shall be allowed by the building contractor for archaeological recording to be fully completed. Monitoring of ground disturbance will normally be done by CAT staff during intermittent site visits.
 - 5.10 Individual records of excavated contexts, layers, features or deposits will be entered on pro-forma record sheets. Registers will be compiled of finds, small finds and soil samples.
 - 5.11 All features and layers or other significant deposits will be planned, and their profiles or sections recorded. The normal scale for site plans will be at 1:20 and for sections at 1:10, unless circumstances indicate that other scales would be more appropriate.
 - 5.12 The photographic record will consist of general site shots, and shots of all archaeological features and deposits taken on a digital camera. The photographic record shall be accompanied by a register detailing, as a minimum, feature number, location and direction of shot.
 - 5.13 A metal detector will be used to check spoil heaps and any finds recovered. This will not normally be done on demonstrably modern strata.
 - 5.14 The site boundaries, features and levels will be tied into Ordnance Datum using a Total Station.

6 Finds

- 6.1 The policy with regard to human remains depends on how old they are. If it is clear, from their position, context, depth, or other factors that the remains are ancient, then the normal procedure is to apply to the Home Office (Ministry of Justice) for a licence to

- remove them. In that case, conditions laid down by the licence will be followed. If it seems that the remains are not ancient, then the coroner and CBCAO will be informed, and any advice and/or instruction from the coroner will be followed. **Note:** As the relevant legislation is currently in a state of flux, advice will be sought from CBCAO and MoJ on best practice.
- 6.2 All finds of archaeological relevance will be retained. Policies for later disposal of any finds will be agreed with CBCAO and Colchester & Ipswich Museums.
 - 6.3 All finds, where appropriate, will be washed.
 - 6.4 A policy of marking for pottery and other finds will be agreed with Colchester & Ipswich Museums. Marking will include the site code and context number.
 - 6.5 Provision for conservation and storage will be agreed with Colchester & Ipswich Museums in accordance with their requirements.
 - 6.6 All finds of potential treasure will be removed to a safe place, and the coroner informed immediately, in accordance with the rules of the Treasure Act 1996. The definition of treasure is given in pages 3-5 of the Code of Practice of the above act. This refers primarily to gold or silver objects.
 - 6.7 Finds work will be to accepted professional standards as presented in *Standard and guidance for the collection, documentation, conservation and research of archaeological materials* (IfA 2008b).
 - 6.8 A list of specialists available for consultation is given at the end of this WSI.

7 Results

- 7.1 Notification will be given to CBCAO when the fieldwork has been completed.
- 7.2 The full report, including full reports on artefacts, will be submitted to the CBCAO within a length of time not exceeding 3 months from the end of fieldwork.
- 7.3 A digital copy of the report will be supplied to the Essex Historic Environment Record EHER as a PDF on completion. An EHER summary sheet will be submitted within four weeks of work finishing on site.
- 7.4 The report will include:
 - The aims and methods adopted in the course of the archaeological work.
 - Location plan of recorded areas. At least two corners of each recorded area shall be given 10 figure grid references.
 - A section drawing showing the depth of deposits including present ground-level related to Ordnance Datum.
 - The recording methodology and results with a suitable conclusion and discussion.
 - All specialist reports and assessments.
 - A concise non-technical summary of the project results.
- 7.5 An appropriate archive will be prepared to minimum acceptable standards outlined in *Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment* (MoRPHE 2006).
- 7.6 If, after discussion with CBCAO, the results are considered worthy of publication, a report (at least at a summary level) will be submitted to *Essex Archaeology and History*.

8 Archive deposition

- 8.1 The full archive will be deposited at Colchester & Ipswich Museums within 6 months of the completion of the final publication report on the project, in accordance with *Guidelines on the preparations and transfer of archaeological archives to Colchester & Ipswich Museums* (CIMS 2008b). The guidance in *Archaeological archives: a guide to best practice in creation, compilation, transfer and curation* (IfA 2007) will also be followed.
- 8.2 Finds (and other retained materials) will be bagged and boxed in the manner recommended by Colchester & Ipswich Museums. The storage of the archive will accord with Colchester & Ipswich Museums guidelines.
- 8.3 Plans will be presented on hanging strips to fit Colchester & Ipswich Museums storage systems.
- 8.4 The photographic archive is to be presented as follows: original digital data on disk and hard copies of digital photo logs.

- 8.5 A summary of the contents of the archive shall be supplied to CBCAO at the time of deposition at the museum.
- 8.6 All parts of the OASIS online form will be completed for submission to CBCAO. This will include an uploaded PDF version of the entire report.
- 8.7 It is a policy of Colchester Borough Council that the integrity of the site archive be maintained (i.e. all finds and records should be properly curated by a single organization), with the archive available for public consultation. To achieve this desired aim it is assumed that the full archive will be deposited in Colchester Museums *unless* otherwise agreed in advance. (A full copy of the archive shall in any case be deposited). Arrangements for the long term storage and deposition of the archive, including all artefacts, will be agreed with the landowner and the recipient museum prior to the commencement of fieldwork.

9 Monitoring

- 9.1 CBCAO will be responsible for monitoring progress and standards throughout the project, and will be kept regularly informed during fieldwork, post-excavation and publication stages.
- 9.2 Notification of the start of work will be given to CBCAO, if possible, one week in advance of its commencement.
- 9.3 Any variations of the WSI shall be agreed with CBCAO in writing prior to them being carried out.
- 9.4 CBCAO will be notified when the fieldwork is complete.
- 9.5 The involvement of CBCAO shall be acknowledged in any report or publication generated by this project.

10 References

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

CAT	2012	<i>Health and Safety Policy</i>
CAT Report 360	2006	An archaeological evaluation rear of 95-96 High Street, Colchester, Essex, January 2006, unpublished CAT archive report, by Howard Brooks
CAT Report 380	2006	Stage 2 of an archaeological evaluation at the rear of 95-96 High Street, Colchester, Essex, July 2006, unpublished CAT archive report, by Donald Shimmin
CAT Report 440	2007	An archaeological watching brief at 99 High Street, Colchester, Essex, December 2006, unpublished CAT archive report, by Donald Shimmin
CAT Report 587	2011	An archaeological watching brief at 97 High Street, Colchester, Essex, March 2010, unpublished CAT archive report, by Donald Shimmin,
CBC	2013	<i>Brief for archaeological recording and excavation, 97 High Street, Colchester, Essex</i> , CBC brief, June 2013, by Martin Winter
CIMS	2008a	<i>Guidelines on standards and practice for archaeological fieldwork in the Borough of Colchester</i> (CBC),
CIMS	2008b	<i>Guidelines on the preparation and transfer of archaeological archives to Colchester & Ipswich Museums</i> (CBC)
Drury, P	1983	'Aspects of the origins and development of Colchester Castle', in <i>Archaeol J</i> , 139 (1982), 302-419
EAA 3	1997	<i>Research and archaeology: a framework for the Eastern Counties 1. Resource assessment</i> , ed by J Glazebrook
EAA 8	2000	<i>Research and archaeology: a framework for the Eastern Counties 2. Research agenda and strategy</i> , ed by N Brown and J Glazebrook
EAA 14	2003	<i>Standards for field archaeology in the East of England</i> , ed by D Gurney, ALGAO East
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Hebditch, M	1971		'Excavations on the south side of the temple precinct at Colchester', <i>Transactions of the Essex Archaeological Society</i> , 3 (3rd series), part 1, 115-130
Hull, M R	1955		'The south wing of the Roman 'forum' at Colchester: recent discoveries', in <i>TEAS</i> , 25 , Part 1, 24-61
Hull, M R	1958		<i>Roman Colchester</i> , RRCSAL, 20
IfA	2007		<i>Archaeological archives: a guide to best practice in creation, compilation, transfer and curation</i>
IfA	2008a		<i>Standard and guidance for an archaeological excavation</i>
IfA	2008b		<i>Standard and guidance for the collection, documentation, conservation and research of archaeological materials</i>
MoRPHE	2006		<i>Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment</i> , English Heritage
<i>VCHE 9</i>	1994		<i>A history of the County of Essex, 9: the Borough of Colchester</i> , ed by J Cooper, The Victoria History of the Counties of England

Donald Shimmin 3/2/2014

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APPENDIX: TEAM STRUCTURE

List of team members

Site supervision and recording

Donald Shimmin, Ben Holloway

Assistants

Mark Baister

Finds consultants

Stephen Benfield (CAT): Prehistoric and Roman pottery

Joanna Bird (Guildford): Samian ware

Ernest Black (Colchester): Roman brick/tile

Howard Brooks (CAT): Medieval and Post-Medieval pottery

Dr Hilary Cool (Nottingham): Roman glass

Nina Crummy (Colchester): Small finds

Julie Curl (NAU): Animal bone

John Davis (Norwich Museum): Roman coins

Val Fryer (UEA/Loddon): Environmental samples

Helen Chappell (English Heritage): Regional Science Advisor

Hazel Martingell (Braintree): Lithics

Valerie Rigby (British Museum): LIA ceramics

Dr Paul Sealey (Colchester Museums): Roman amphoras

Patricia Ryan (Chelmsford): Medieval and later brick and tile

Sue Tyler (ECC): Saxon Pottery.

Adam Wightman (CAT): small animal bone and lithic assemblages

Graphics

E Holloway, G Adams, C Lister

Report writing

D Shimmin

Senior Site Staff

Don Shimmin MA MIfA

Donald has worked on sites in Colchester since the 1970's, initially as a digger and supervisor at Lion Walk and Balkerne Lane as well as several smaller sites. He also dug at Southampton, Chester and sites in the Western Isles and Shetland. After graduating from Christ's College, Cambridge with an MA in Archaeology and Anthropology, he returned to work for CAT at Culver Street, and went on to direct and publish excavations on sites such as the Gilbert School, Angel Yard, Stanway and Osborne Street. During summer months in the 1990's he was Assistant Director on the long-running Udal excavations in the Western Isles. In recent years he has continued to carry out evaluations, watching briefs and excavations in and around Colchester, including the Asda site and sites within the former Colchester Garrison.

Ben Holloway BSc AlfA

Ben joined CAT staff in June 2000, a graduate in Archaeology from Bournemouth University. Ben has conducted fieldwork in Scotland and the Isle of Man. Since joining the Trust Ben has carried out extensive work in Colchester at various supervisory and project positions including evaluations and excavations at Colchester Garrison PFI (including the circus), St Marys Hospital and Colchester 6th Form College. His work in Essex includes the Sandon Park and Ride Site, Skyline 120 Business Park at Great Notley, Dry Street, Basildon and the Stanhope industrial park Stanford-le-hope.

Finds Specialists

Stephen Benfield BA, Cert Archaeol (Oxon) (CAT) Prehistoric and Roman pottery

Steve's first involvement with Colchester archaeology was in 1985, working on a Manpower Services Commission sponsored project to assist in processing the enormous collection of Roman pottery from excavations in the town. He graduated from Reading University with a degree in archaeology and subsequently studied for his post-graduate Certificate in Archaeology at Oxford. Returning to CAT, he has since worked on many CAT projects at various supervisory and directorial positions, including the major projects at Stanway Iron Age burial site and Gosbecks Roman temple/theatre complex. Stephen has also, through much hands-on experience, built up a considerable working knowledge of LIA and Roman ceramics. He now completes ceramic assessments and full reports for CAT, drawing on the unrivalled catalogues provided by the standard Colchester works *Camulodunum* (Hawkes & Hull 1947), *Roman Colchester* (Hull 1958) and now *CAR 10*, and by examining the fabric series held at CAT headquarters.

Joanna Bird FSA (Guildford) Samian

Joanna is one of the country's top samian specialists. Among her large corpus of work is a contribution to the publication *Colchester Archaeological Report 10: Roman pottery from excavations in Colchester 1971-1986*.

Ernest Black (Colchester) Roman brick/tile

Ernest is a Colchester schoolteacher with a wide interest in archaeology and the classical world. In this sense, he is following in the footsteps of A.F. Hall, and Mike Corbishley who were also local schoolmasters. He has developed his specialism by large scale hands-on experience with Roman brick and tile, and has contributed to the *Arch J*, *CAR 6: Excavations at Culver Street, the Gilbert School, and other sites in Colchester 1971-1985*.

Howard Brooks BA, MIfA (CAT) Medieval and Post-Medieval pottery

Howard's involvement in Essex archaeology goes back to 1970 when he dug at Sheepen, Colchester with Rosalind Dunnett (now Niblett). He studied archaeology at the University of Wales, and graduated in 1975. He worked for Colchester Archaeological Trust between 1976 and 1981, and again in 1985, where he was involved at various levels of responsibility (up to Co-Director) in the excavation of deeply stratified urban remains in Roman Colchester and suburbs (Colchester Archaeological Report 3, 1984). Between 1992 and

1995 he worked for Essex County Archaeology Section, first in directing the fieldwalking and excavation project at Stansted Airport (East Anglian Archaeology 107, 2004), and then in Development Control. Howard then left ECC to set up and run HBAS, the county's smallest contracting team, in which capacity he carried out over twenty field projects and wrote a dozen consultancy reports. He rejoined CAT in 1997. He regularly contributes to Essex Archaeology & History, and teaches University evening classes on archaeology.

Dr Hilary Cool FSA MIfA (Nottingham) Roman glass

Yet another graduate of the University of Wales, Hilary is now a freelance glass and finds specialist, and has written many reports on glass from Colchester sites, including contributions to *Colchester Archaeological Report 6: Excavations at Culver Street, the Gilbert School, and other sites in Colchester 1971-85*, and *Colchester Archaeological Report 9: Excavations on Roman and later cemeteries, churches and monastic sites in Colchester 1971-88 (1993)*. Among her major works is the internationally selling *Colchester Archaeological Report 8: Roman vessel glass from excavations in Colchester 1971-85*.

Nina Crummy (Colchester) Small finds

Nina first worked in the early 1970s as finds assistant on the major urban excavations in Colchester for the Colchester Excavation Committee (later the Trust). Over the next twenty years she built up an unrivalled working knowledge of small finds of all types. She has collaborated in most of the *Colchester Archaeological Reports*, and was principal author of the best-selling *Colchester Archaeological Reports 2 (Roman small finds)*, 4 (*The coins from excavations in Colchester 1971-9*) and 5 (*The post-Roman small finds from excavations in Colchester 1971-85*). She recently worked for the Museum of London, and was instrumental in the recent transfer of and the massive improvement in accessibility to archaeological archives in London. She now works freelance on small finds reports for CAT, HBAS, and other bodies including Winchester Excavation Committee.

Julie Curl AlfA (Sylvanus: Archaeological, Natural History and Illustration Services) Human and Animal Bone

Julie has over 16 years of experience in archaeology and in particular finds for the Norfolk Archaeological Unit and Norfolk Museums Service. After many years working as both a bone specialist and in graphics for the NAU Julie has recently established her own freelance company Sylvanus in which she specialises in Archaeological and Natural History illustrations as well as being a freelance animal and human bone specialist. She has been producing faunal remains reports for many years and produces assessments and analysis reports for clients across the East Anglian region. She has her own extensive bone reference collection built up over many years. Her particular interests in faunal remains are animal husbandry and pathologies. She has also worked as a conservator, particularly on Pleistocene vertebrates and a wide variety of archaeology and natural history projects at the Norwich Castle Museum. Julie is also an extra-mural lecturer with the University of East Anglia, teaching Animal bones in Archaeology.

Dr John A Davies (Norwich Museum) Roman coins

John has, for some years, written reports on Roman coins from Colchester excavations. He specializes in barbarous radiates, and has contributed to *British Numismatic Journal* on that topic. Among his other publications is a contribution to *Colchester Archaeological Report 4: The coins from excavations in Colchester 1971-9*, and *CAR 9: Excavations on Roman and later cemeteries, churches and monastic sites in Colchester 1971-88 (1993)*.

Val Fryer (Norfolk) Environmental Archaeologist BA, MIfA

Val has fifteen years experience in environmental archaeology, working for English Heritage, County Units and independent archaeological bodies across the United Kingdom and Southern Ireland. She has published reports in *East Anglian Archaeology* (including occasional papers), *Proceedings of the Prehistoric Society*, *Medieval Archaeology* and *Norfolk Archaeology*. Specialist work for various police authorities across England and Northern Ireland. Val is a Member of the Institute of Field Archaeologists with special accreditation for environmental archaeology and she is also a Member of the Association of Environmental Archaeologists.

Helen Chappell (English Heritage) Regional Science Advisor

Helen Chappell is English Heritage's Regional Science Advisor (RSA) for the East of England, providing regionally-based advice on all aspects of archaeological science: geophysics, scientific dating, hydrology, geoarchaeology, analysis of biological remains and technological residues, artefact analysis and conservation. RSAs give advice to a range of organizations and also produce good practice standards and guidelines. RSAs are all actively involved in research, and applying new methodologies to site investigation and management.

Hazel Martingell BA, FAAIS (Braintree): Lithics

Hazel has for many years worked as a lithics illustrator and specialist, undertaking work for The British Museum, ECC Field Archaeology Unit and for London and Cambridge Universities, to name but a few. Since 1987 she has been self-employed and has excavated at a Middle Stone Age site at Gorham's Cave, Gibraltar as well as writing and illustrating worked flint reports for CAT, ECC FAU, and the British Museum. Her impressive publication record includes reports on sites from around the globe. Closer to home she has published work in *Essex History and Archaeology*, The *East Anglian Archaeology* Monograph series, *Antiquity* and *British Museum Occasional Papers*. Hazel is a fellow of the Association of Archaeological Illustrators and Surveyors and a founder member of the Lithics Study Group, London.

Valerie Rigby (Hertfordshire) LIA ceramics

Formerly working for the British Museum, Val is one of the country's leading authorities on later prehistoric ceramics in general, and traded wares in particular. She has published widely. Her major work include *Baldock : the excavation of a Roman and pre-Roman settlement, 1968-72 (Britannia Monograph Series 7, with Ian Stead)*. On a more local level, she has contributed to the magisterial *Colchester Archaeological Report 10: Roman pottery from excavations in Colchester 1971-88*, and to Ros Niblett's *Sheepen: an early Roman industrial site at Camulodunum* (CBA Research Report 57, 1985).

Patricia Ryan (Chelmsford) Medieval and later brick and tile

Pat has for many years been examining excavated collections of brick and tile from Essex sites, and contributing reports which are usually consigned to the gloomier parts of archive reports, or as footnotes in published texts. Her regular contributions to *Essex Archaeology & History*, therefore, under-represent the devoted study which Pat has put in over the years. Nobody knows more about local brick and tile, except for David Andrews, with whom she collaborated on significant sections of *Crissing Temple: A Templar and Hospitaller Manor in Essex* (1993).

Dr Paul Sealey (Colchester Museum) Amphoras

Paul has worked at Colchester Museum since the late 1970s. His PhD specialism was Roman amphoras, a topic on which he writes specialist reports. His main areas of interest are prehistory and the Roman period, and he has developed a familiarity with those periods and their ceramics. He has published widely. His major works include *Amphoras from the 1970 excavations at Colchester Sheepen* (BAR 142, 1985), contributions to Ros Niblett's *Sheepen: an early Roman industrial site at Camulodunum* (CBA Res Rep 57, 1985). He regularly contributes to *Essex Archaeology & History*.

Sue Tyler (ECC) Saxon Pottery

Sue is the County authority on Saxon material, especially pottery. She has had several spells working with Essex County Archaeology Section, interrupted by a late-1980s spell in Hertfordshire. She has written reports on Saxon material for many Essex Projects, and contributes regularly to *Essex Archaeology & History*, including the Anglo-Saxon cemetery at Prittlewell (*Essex Archaeol Hist* 19 (1988)).

Adam Wightman BSc, MA Small animal bone and lithic assemblages

After graduating from the University of Sheffield in 2004 with a BSc Hons in Archaeology and Prehistory, Adam worked for CAT during the Roman Circus excavations at Colchester Garrison in 2004/5. He then went on to work for Cambridge Archaeological Unit before completing a Masters in the Archaeology of Human Origins at the University of Southampton where he focused on lithic and animal bone analysis. Since returning to CAT in 2006 Adam has carried out evaluations and excavations at the Great Dunmow Salesrooms, 143-147 High Street Maldon, Firstsite Newsite in Colchester town centre, and at 21 St Peters Street adjacent to Colchester's Roman wall. He now completes assessments and full reports on small assemblages of animal bone and lithics for CAT.

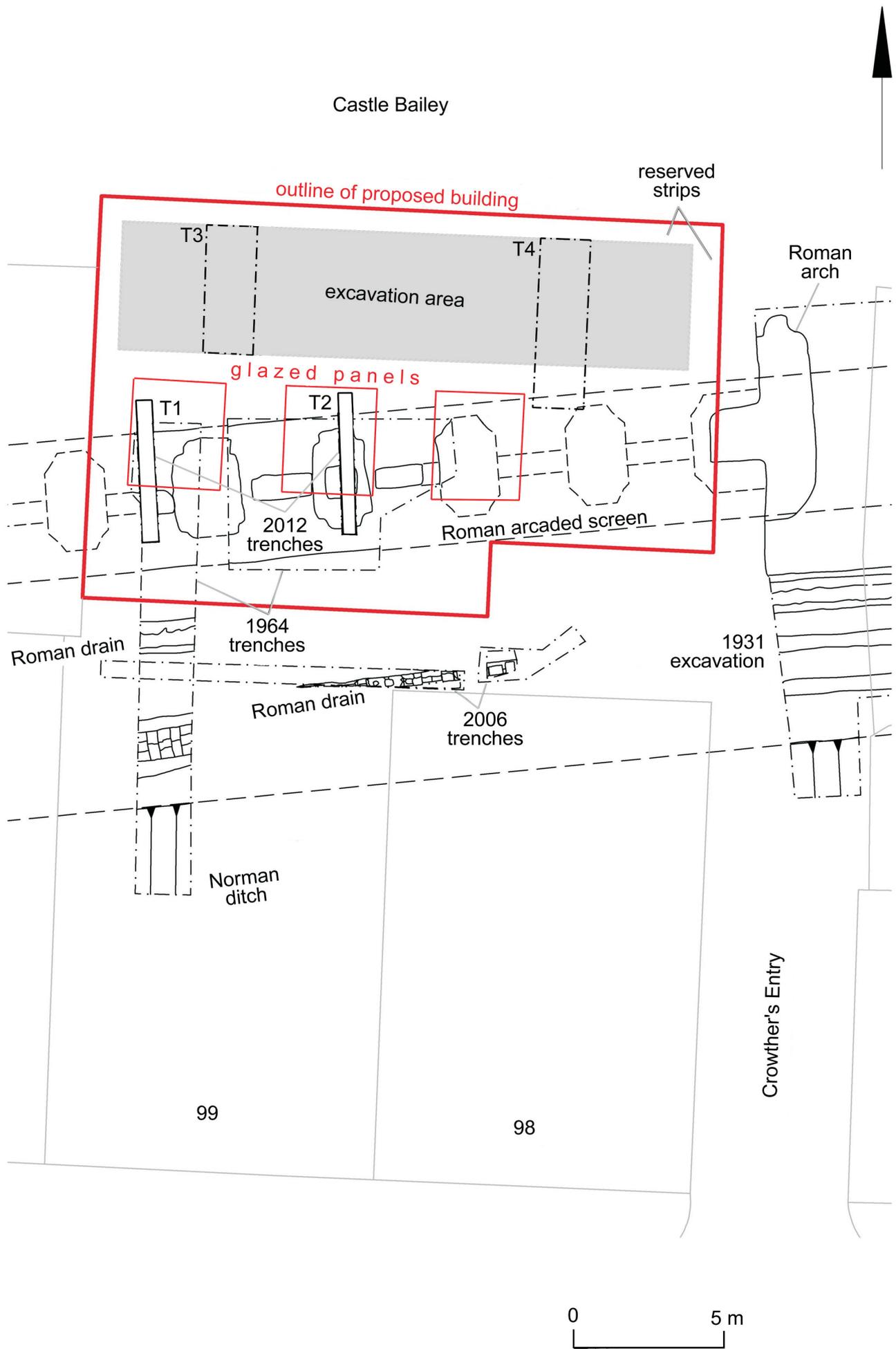


Fig 1 Site plan, showing excavation area, trenches (T3 and T4), and glazed panels, in relation to earlier archaeological work.

Written Scheme of Investigation

for archaeological recording and excavation at
97 High Street, Colchester, Essex

April 2015

commissioned by
Flying Trade Group plc

NGR: TL 9985 2524
CAT project ref.: 13/09g
Colchester and Ipswich Museums accession code: COLEM 2012.23



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1 Introduction

- 1.1 This is a Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) for archaeological recording and excavation at 97 High Street, Colchester, Essex, during redevelopment.
- 1.2 The site is situated in Colchester town centre, at the rear of properties on the north side of the High Street (NGR: TL 9985 2524). It lies to the south of Castle Bailey and on the western side of a narrow lane known as Crowther's Entry (Fig 1).
- 1.3 Previously, the site was occupied by a 1960's office block. This had car parking at street level in the northern part of the site and a yard area to the south at a slightly lower level. This building has now been demolished.
- 1.4 The redevelopment comprises ground floor commercial premises, probably a café, with nine flats on three floors above (Planning Application No.121738/9). The building covers an area of approximately 270 sq m. Three glazed viewing panels will be set into the ground floor, so that remains of the underlying Roman arcade can be put on permanent display.
- 1.5 This WSI has been written by the Colchester Archaeological Trust (CAT), at the request of Colchester Borough Council's Archaeological Advisor (CBCAA). It sets out proposals for archaeological recording and excavation, and for post-excavation work including the production of a report, an archive and (if necessary) publication texts.
- 1.6 Any variations in this WSI will be agreed beforehand with CBCAA.

2 Archaeological background

- 2.1 The site is located in Insula 22 of the Roman town and is in an area of outstanding archaeological interest. An archaeological excavation took place on the site in 1964 and revealed the remains of a monumental Roman arcade. This formed the impressive south front of a large rectangular precinct within which stood the Temple of Claudius. Even after the depredations of Norman stone robbers, the foundation platform survived 15 feet wide (4.57 m). It was surmounted by the remains of pier bases for the large arcaded screen (Hebditch 1971, 122), and also by a series of later blocking walls (*ibid*, 122-3).
- 2.2 The 1964 excavations confirmed the results of work carried out nearby in 1931 and 1953 (Hull 1955; Hull 1958, 169-75). The 1931 excavation revealed the remains of a square monumental gate, immediately to the east of the site. This was flanked on each side by 12 or so arches. Part of the gateway was uncovered in evaluation trenches at the rear of 95-6 High Street in 2006 (CAT Reports 360 & 380).
- 2.3 To the south of the arcade, in a trench dug in 1964 along the western side of the site, traces of several phases of west-east Roman drains were uncovered. The well-preserved north side of one of these drains, constructed of brick set in *opus signinum*, was exposed in 2006 during rebuilding work along the southern edge of the site (CAT Report 440).
- 2.4 An archaeological watching brief took place on the site in March 2010 during the machine excavation of a series of test pits by the developer (CAT Report 587). Remains of the Roman arcade were uncovered close to the modern ground level in the southern, lower part of the site. Little of archaeological significance was reached in the northern part of the site, where the ground level had been considerably made-up in modern times.
- 2.5 An archaeological evaluation was carried out on the site by CAT in June 2012 (CAT Report 701). This consisted of two narrow trial trenches, which were excavated in order to accurately record the position and depth of the Roman arcade (T1 & T2, Fig 1). The northern edge of the foundation platform for the precinct wall was located in both trenches. The top of the foundation platform lay approximately 1 m below the modern yard surface. In one of the trial trenches, the remains of a pier base from the arcade were uncovered on top of the foundation platform. In the other trench, the foundation platform was sealed by part of a later Roman blocking wall.
- 2.6 Further excavation was carried out on the site by CAT in June-July 2014. This consisted of two trenches located to the north of the Roman arcade (T3 & T4, Fig 1), in an area that was not excavated in 1964. These trenches revealed that the ground level had been raised by over a metre in modern times. Immediately below the modern make-up were extensive and well-preserved Norman deposits. These produced a large quantity of 11th- to 12th-century pottery, as well as many fragments of animal bone and shell.

The Norman deposits probably formed part of the bank around the inner bailey. One of the reasons why the remains of the Roman arcade were relatively well-preserved was because they were 'insulated' by the Norman bank that was piled-up on top of it. The

- digging of the inner bailey ditch to the south of the rampart necessitated the diversion of the High Street southwards, and the curve in the road is still visible today.
- 2.7 In one of the trenches (T3) a small sondage was dug by CAT to try to establish the depth of the Norman deposits. Almost immediately, part of a collapsed Roman column was uncovered, the top of which was approximately 2 m below the modern ground level. The sondage was enlarged, and further excavation revealed that the column fragment lay in a thick deposit of loose mortar fragments. This mortary layer contained many pieces of Roman building materials, such as brick, tile, stone, and plaster; as well as some large lumps of masonry. It also contained 11th- to 12th-century potsherds.
- The column fragment and the mortary layer probably resulted from an episode of Norman demolition and robbing of the Roman arcade, which must have been still standing, at least in part, in AD 1066. The column fragment was semi-circular in shape and was constructed of alternate courses of stone and Roman column brick. Although not fully uncovered, it was probably of the half-engaged type, which projected from the front or rear of one of the large rectangular piers that supported the arcade. Fragments of plaster showed how the column and pier were finished off.
- 2.8 Cut into the Norman bank, in one of the 2014 trenches (T3), was a later inhumation burial. The dead person was probably an unfortunate inmate of the castle, who died in custody when it was in use as a prison in the 16th and 17th centuries.
- 2.9 As a result of later activity, the remains of the Norman bank were truncated, while the ditch was backfilled and built over (Hebditch 1971, 121; Drury 1983, 407-8). In the late 17th century, a bowling green was laid out to the south of the castle (*ibid*). Subsequent cartographic evidence shows properties fronting onto the High Street (often called King Street at this location), with rear gardens, which have been built over in more recent times.

3 Aims

The aims of the 2015 excavation are to expose and record the remains of the Roman arcade under the position of three glass viewing panels in the ground floor of the building under construction. Any significant archaeological deposits which survive overlying the remains of the arcade under the panels will be excavated and recorded in detail.

4 General Methodology

- 4.1 All works will be undertaken by professional archaeologists employed by CAT. The project officer(s) will have a level of experience appropriate to the work.
- 4.2 All the latest Health and Safety guidelines will be followed on site. CAT has a standard health and safety policy, which will be adhered to (CAT 2014). A risk assessment will be prepared in conjunction with health and safety consultant Tim Randell of Safetyboss.
- 4.3 For the purposes of the deposition of the archive, a museum accession code has been obtained through Colchester & Ipswich Museums. The code used will be quoted in any reports arising from the work.
- 4.4 The relevant document of the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (CIfA) will be followed, i.e. *Standard and guidance for archaeological excavation* (CIfA 2014a), including its 'code of conduct'. The 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 & Ipswich Museums* (CIMS 2008b), as well as English Heritage's *Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment* (MoRPHE 2006), will be adhered to throughout the course of the project. Other guidelines followed are those published in EAA 3, EAA 8, EAA 14 and EAA 24.
- 4.5 At the start of work an OASIS online record will be initiated and key fields completed on Details, Location and Creators forms.

5 Excavation and recording methodology

- 5.1 In 2014, the site was levelled out, a piling mat was laid down, and the piling work was carried out. More recently, the frame of the building was erected and the floors put in place. The 2015 archaeological excavation will take place on the ground floor, where holes for three glass viewing panels (T5-T7, Fig 1) have been left in the concrete floor. These measure in total 28.25 square metres.

- 5.2 The extent of the archaeological excavation will not be confined just to the limits of holes T5-T7, but will include a metre or so under their upper edges. This is to increase the amount of the arcade visible to people on the ground floor. Undercutting the concrete floor will not affect its stability, as the floor is reinforced and ‘floating’, supported on the pile caps.
- The limits of excavation will be constrained in part by the presence of ground beams and services. These are absent in the area between T6 and T7, so it should be possible to fully expose the remains of the arcade from T6 through to T7. Elsewhere, where possible, the holes for the panels will be undercut by approximately a metre where the arcade is present. The north sides of the holes probably lie beyond the northern edge of the foundation of the arcade. Here the deposits will slope at approximately 45° down to the arcade.
- 5.3 Much of the area under the holes was examined previously in 1964 and 2012. In these areas, exposing the remains of the Roman arcade will only involve removing modern excavation backfill. As much as possible of any overlying modern deposits will be removed by mini-digger. The work will be under the continuous supervision of a CAT archaeologist. All machine excavation shall use a toothless bucket. Stripping will be by shallow spits of approximately 15 cm. Where possible, the modern deposits will be progressively stripped down to the uppermost surviving level of archaeological significance. Machining will stop as soon as there is the slightest possibility of damage being caused to the remains of the arcade. Particular care will be taken in the removal of any modern structural features, such as foundations or concrete pads. If necessary, these will be removed by hand.
- 5.4 All further excavation will be carried out by hand. In places, significant archaeological deposits may survive undisturbed overlying the remains of the Roman arcade, particularly under the easternmost viewing panel (T7). Any exposed archaeological deposits overlying the remains of the arcade will be manually cleaned, recorded in detail, and if necessary fully excavated. Fast excavation techniques involving (for instance) picks, forks and mattocks will not be used on complex stratigraphy. Sufficient time shall be allowed by the building contractor for the archaeological recording and recording to be fully completed.
- 5.5 A significant amount of spoil will be removed during the excavation of T5-T7; estimated at 20-30 cubic metres. It will be removed, probably mainly by wheelbarrow, to a safe distance from T5-T7. The spoil will be stockpiled temporarily on the ground floor of the building and/or placed directly into a dumper or similar vehicle parked at the entrance to the building. The spoil will then be removed to another part of the site, from where it will be taken off-site, probably by ‘grab’ lorry.
- 5.6 Individual records of excavated contexts, layers, features or deposits will be entered on pro-forma record sheets. Registers will be compiled of finds, small finds and soil samples.
- 5.7 All features and layers or other significant deposits will be planned, and their profiles or sections recorded. The normal scale for site plans will be at 1:20 and for sections at 1:10, unless circumstances indicate that other scales would be more appropriate.
- 5.8 The photographic record will consist of general site shots, and shots of all archaeological features and deposits, taken on a digital camera. The photographic record shall be accompanied by a register detailing, as a minimum, feature number, location and direction of shot.
- 5.9 A metal detector will be used to check spoil heaps and any finds recovered. This will not normally be done on demonstrably modern strata.
- 5.10 The site boundaries, features and levels will be tied into Ordnance Datum using a Total Station.

6 Finds

- 6.1 The policy with regard to human remains depends on how old they are. If it is clear, from their position, context, depth, or other factors that the remains are ancient, then the normal procedure is to apply to the Home Office (Ministry of Justice) for a licence to remove them. In that case, conditions laid down by the licence will be followed. If it seems that the remains are not ancient, then the coroner and CBCAA will be informed, and any advice and/or instruction from the coroner will be followed. **Note:** As the relevant legislation is currently in a state of flux, advice will be sought from CBCAA and MoJ on best practice.

- 6.2 Environmental sampling policy. CAT has an arrangement with Val Fryer whereby any potentially rich environmental layers or features will be appropriately sampled as a matter of course, but only if they are datable. Any processing and reporting will be done by Val Fryer. If any complex or outstanding deposits are encountered VF will be asked onto site to advise. If further advice is required, Zoe Outram, the English Heritage regional science advisor, will be consulted.
- 6.3 All finds of archaeological relevance will be retained. Policies for later disposal of any finds will be agreed with CBCAA and Colchester & Ipswich Museums.
- 6.4 All finds, where appropriate, will be washed.
- 6.5 A policy of marking for pottery and other finds will be agreed with Colchester & Ipswich Museums. Marking will include the site code and context number.
- 6.6 Provision for conservation and storage will be agreed with Colchester & Ipswich Museums in accordance with their requirements.
- 6.7 All finds of potential treasure will be removed to a safe place, and the coroner informed immediately, in accordance with the rules of the Treasure Act 1996. The definition of treasure is given in pages 3-5 of the Code of Practice of the above act. This refers primarily to gold or silver objects.
- 6.8 Finds work will be to accepted professional standards as presented in *Standard and guidance for the collection, documentation, conservation and research of archaeological materials* (ClfA 2014b).
- 6.9 A list of specialists available for consultation is given at the end of this WSI.

7 Results

- 7.1 The full report, including reports on artefacts, will be submitted to CBCAA as a single PDF within a length of time not exceeding 6 months from the end of fieldwork.
- 7.2 The report will include:
- The aims and methods adopted in the course of the archaeological work.
 - Location plan of the recorded areas.
 - A section drawing showing the depth of deposits including present ground-level related to Ordnance Datum.
 - The recording methodology and results with a suitable conclusion and discussion.
 - All specialist reports and assessments.
 - A concise non-technical summary of the project results.
- 7.3 A digital copy of the report will be supplied to the Essex Historic Environment Record EHER as a PDF on completion. An EHER summary sheet will be completed in digital form and a copy will be attached to the final report.
- 7.4 If, after discussion with CBCAA, the results are considered worthy of publication, a report (at least at a summary level) will be submitted to *Essex Archaeology and History*.
- 7.5 All parts of the OASIS online form will be completed for submission to CBCAA. This will include an uploaded PDF version of the entire report.

8 Archive deposition

- 8.1 The full archive will be deposited at Colchester & Ipswich Museums within 6 months of the completion of the final publication report on the project, in accordance with *Guidelines on the preparations and transfer of archaeological archives to Colchester & Ipswich Museums* (CIMS 2008b). The guidance in *Standard and guidance for the creation, compilation, transfer and deposition of archaeological archives* (ClfA 2014c) and MoRPHE (EH 2006) will also be followed.
- 8.2 Finds (and other retained materials) will be bagged and boxed in the manner recommended by Colchester & Ipswich Museums. The storage of the archive will accord with Colchester & Ipswich Museums guidelines.
- 8.3 Plans will be presented on hanging strips to fit Colchester & Ipswich Museums storage systems.
- 8.4 The photographic archive is to be presented as follows: original digital data on disk and hard copies of digital photo logs.
- 8.5 A summary of the contents of the archive shall be supplied to CBCAA at the time of deposition at the museum.
- 8.6 It is a policy of Colchester Borough Council that the integrity of the site archive be maintained (i.e. all finds and records should be properly curated by a single organization), with the archive available for public consultation. To achieve this desired aim it is

assumed that the full archive will be deposited in Colchester Museums *unless* otherwise agreed in advance. Arrangements for the long term storage and deposition of the archive, including all artefacts, will be agreed with the landowner and the recipient museum prior to the commencement of fieldwork. If the finds are to remain with the landowner a full copy of the archive shall be housed with Colchester & Ipswich Museums.

9 Monitoring

- 9.1 CBCAA will be responsible for monitoring progress and standards throughout the project, and will be kept regularly informed during fieldwork, post-excavation and publication stages.
- 9.2 Notification of the start of work will be given to CBCAA, if possible, one week in advance of its commencement.
- 9.3 Any variations of the WSI shall be agreed with CBCAA in writing prior to them being carried out.
- 9.4 CBCAA will be notified when the fieldwork is complete.
- 9.5 The involvement of CBCAA shall be acknowledged in any report or publication generated by this project.

10 References

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

CAT	2014	<i>Health and Safety Policy</i>
CAT Report 360	2006	An archaeological evaluation rear of 95-96 High Street, Colchester, Essex, January 2006, CAT archive report, by Howard Brooks
CAT Report 380	2006	Stage 2 of an archaeological evaluation at the rear of 95-96 High Street, Colchester, Essex, July 2006, CAT archive report, by Donald Shimmin
CAT Report 440	2007	An archaeological watching brief at 99 High Street, Colchester, Essex, December 2006, CAT archive report, by Donald Shimmin
CAT Report 587	2011	An archaeological watching brief at 97 High Street, Colchester, Essex, March 2010, CAT archive report, by Donald Shimmin
CAT Report 701	2013	An archaeological evaluation at 97 High Street, Colchester, Essex, June 2012, CAT archive report, by Donald Shimmin
CifA	2014a	<i>Standard and guidance for archaeological excavation</i>
CifA	2014b	<i>Standard and guidance for the collection, documentation, conservation and research of archaeological materials</i>
CifA	2014c	<i>Standard and guidance for the creation, compilation, transfer and deposition of archaeological archives</i>
CIMS	2008a	<i>Guidelines on standards and practice for archaeological fieldwork in the Borough of Colchester (CBC)</i> ,
CIMS	2008b	<i>Guidelines on the preparation and transfer of archaeological archives to Colchester & Ipswich Museums (CBC)</i>
Drury, P	1983	'Aspects of the origins and development of Colchester Castle', in <i>Archaeol J</i> , 139 (1982), 302-419
EAA 3	1997	<i>Research and archaeology: a framework for the Eastern Counties 1. Resource assessment</i> , ed by J Glazebrook
EAA 8	2000	<i>Research and archaeology: a framework for the Eastern Counties 2. Research agenda and strategy</i> , ed by N Brown and J Glazebrook
EAA 14	2003	<i>Standards for field archaeology in the East of England</i> , ed by D Gurney, ALGAO East
EAA 24	2011	<i>Research and archaeology revisited: a revised framework for the Eastern Counties. Research agenda and strategy</i> , ed by M Medlycott
EH	2006	<i>Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment</i> , (MoRPHE), English Heritage
Hebditch, M	1971	'Excavations on the south side of the temple precinct at Colchester', <i>Transactions of the Essex Archaeological Society</i> , 3 (3rd series), part 1, 115-130
Hull, M R	1955	'The south wing of the Roman 'forum' at Colchester: recent discoveries', in <i>TEAS</i> , 25 , Part 1, 24-61
Hull, M R	1958	<i>Roman Colchester</i> , RRCSAL, 20

Donald Shimmin 22/4/2015

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ROMAN CIRCUS WALK, COLCHESTER, ESSEX C02 7GZ
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APPENDIX: TEAM STRUCTURE

List of team members

Site supervision and recording

Donald Shimmin

Assistants

A N Other

Finds consultants

Stephen Benfield (CAT): Prehistoric and Roman pottery

Joanna Bird (Guildford): Samian ware

Ernest Black (Colchester): Roman brick/tile

Howard Brooks (CAT): Medieval and Post-Medieval pottery

Dr Hilary Cool (Nottingham): Roman glass

Nina Crummy (Colchester): Small finds

Julie Curl (NAU): Animal bone

John Davis (Norwich Museum): Roman coins

Val Fryer (UEA/Loddon): Environmental samples

Zoe Outram (English Heritage): Regional Science Advisor

Hazel Martingell (Braintree): Lithics

Valerie Rigby (British Museum): LIA ceramics

Dr Paul Sealey (Colchester Museums): Roman amphoras

Patricia Ryan (Chelmsford): Medieval and later brick and tile

Sue Tyler (ECC): Saxon Pottery.

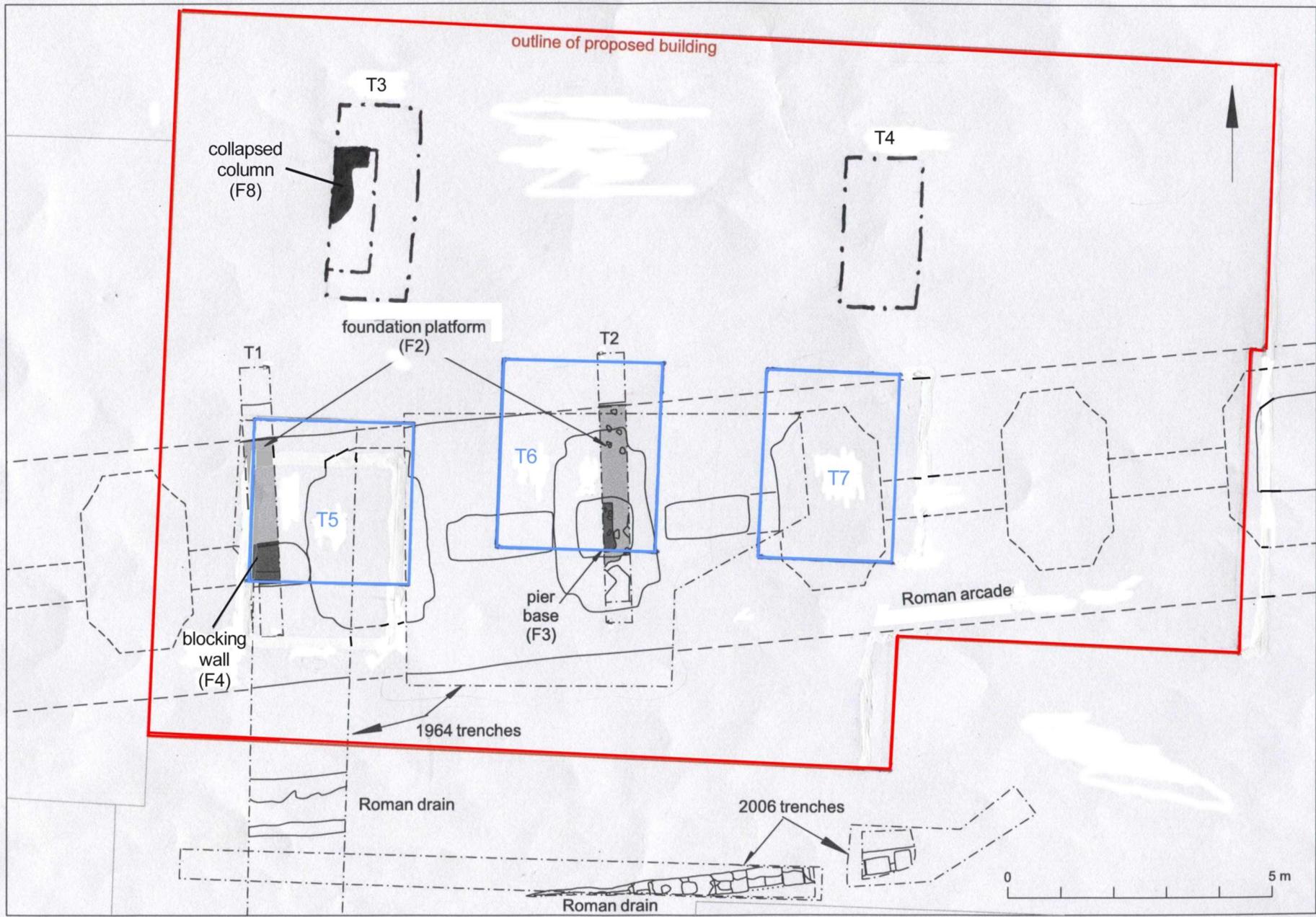
Adam Wightman (CAT): small animal bone and lithic assemblages

Graphics

G Adams, E Holloway

Report writing

D Shimmin



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Fig 1 Site plan, showing the position of the holes for the glazed panels (T5-T7), in relation to earlier archaeological work.

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OASIS ID: colchest3-180150

Project details

Project name	Castle House, 97 High Street, Colchester, Essex, excavations 2014-15
Short description of the project	<p>Previous archaeological work had established that a monumental Roman arcade crossed the Castle House site from east to west. The arcade formed the impressive south front of a large rectangular precinct within which stood the Temple of Claudius. In 2014, prior to the redevelopment of the site, two trenches were dug in the northern part of the site. This area lay immediately to the north of the arcade and was previously largely unexcavated. In the more westerly trench, CAT uncovered part of a Roman attached column that must have fallen from the arcade. It lay in thick deposits of demolition debris dating from the 11th and/or 12th centuries. In the other trench, a quantity of pottery of probable 12th-century date, as well as many fragments of animal bone and shell, were recovered from a gully and associated deposits. An inhumation burial, of probable 16th- or 17th-century date, was partially uncovered at the northern end of the more westerly trench. Excavation resumed in 2015 beneath the floor of Castle House, while construction work was still in progress. Three rectangular holes for glazed viewing panels were built into the modern concrete floor. This enabled the remains of the Roman arcade to be uncovered under the floor and put on permanent display. The foundation platform that supported the Roman arcade was uncovered for approximately 12.7 m east-west. The remains of three piers and four revetting walls were exposed on top of the foundation platform. Much of the 2015 site had been excavated previously in 1964, so most of the archaeological deposits that overlay the arcade had already been removed. However, undisturbed deposits survived in a few places, and these were recorded and, where necessary, excavated. A review of the evidence for the date of construction of the arcade indicates that it was probably built before the Boudiccan revolt of AD 61.</p>
Project dates	Start: 09-06-2014 End: 23-12-2015
Previous/future work	Yes / Not known
Any associated project reference codes	13/09g - Contracting Unit No.
Any associated project reference codes	COLEM 2012.23 - Museum accession ID
Type of project	Recording project
Site status	Conservation Area
Site status	Scheduled Monument (SM)
Current Land use	Industry and Commerce 2 - Offices
Monument type	GULLY Medieval
Monument type	ARCADE Roman
Monument type	COLLAPSED COLUMN Roman
Monument type	REVETTING WALL Roman
Significant Finds	WORKED STONE Roman
Significant Finds	POT Medieval
Significant Finds	ANIMAL REMAINS Medieval
Significant Finds	COLUMN BRICK Roman
Significant Finds	BRICK/TILE Roman

Investigation type ""Part Excavation"
Prompt Planning condition

Project location

Country England
Site location ESSEX COLCHESTER COLCHESTER Castle House, Castle Bailey
Postcode CO1 1TH
Study area 63 Square metres
Site coordinates TL 9985 2524 51.889306369078 0.904545301439 51 53 21 N 000 54 16 E Point

Project creators

Name of Organisation Colchester Archaeological Trust
Project brief originator CBC Archaeological Officer
Project design originator Colchester Archaeological Trust
Project director/manager Philip Crummy
Project supervisor D Shimmin
Type of sponsor/funding body Developer

Project archives

Physical Archive recipient Colchester Museum
Physical Archive ID COLEM 2012.23
Physical Contents "Animal Bones","Ceramics","Environmental","Glass","Metal","Worked bone","Worked stone/lithics"
Digital Archive recipient Colchester Museum
Digital Archive ID COLEM 2012.23
Digital Contents "Animal Bones","Ceramics","Metal","Survey","Worked bone","Worked stone/lithics","other"
Digital Media available "Images raster / digital photography","Survey","Text"
Paper Archive recipient Colchester Museum
Paper Archive ID COLEM 2012.23
Paper Contents "Animal Bones","Ceramics","Metal","Stratigraphic","Survey","Worked bone","Worked stone/lithics","other"
Paper Media available "Context sheet","Correspondence","Drawing","Map","Matrices","Miscellaneous Material","Photograph","Plan","Report","Section","Survey","Unpublished Text"

Project bibliography 1

Publication type Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)
Title Archaeological excavations at Castle House, Castle Bailey, Colchester, Essex, CO1 1TH: June-July 2014 and April-June and December 2015
Author(s)/Editor(s) Shimmin, D
Other bibliographic details CAT Report 1092

Date 2018
Issuer or publisher Colchester Archaeological Trust
Place of issue or publication Colchester
Description A4 comb-bound report
URL <http://cat.essex.ac.uk>

Entered by D Shimmin (ds@catuk.org)
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Essex Historic Environment Record/ Essex Archaeology and History

Summary sheet

Site address: Castle House, Castle Bailey, Colchester, CO1 1TH	
Parish: Colchester	District: Colchester
NGR: TL 9985 2524	Site codes: Museum accession code: COLEM 2012.23 CAT project code: 13/09g
Type of work: Excavation	Site director/group: Colchester Archaeological Trust
Dates of work: June-July 2014; April-June & December 2015	Size of area investigated: 63 sq m
Location of finds/curating museum: Colchester and Ipswich Museums	Funding source: Developer
Further seasons anticipated? No	Related EHER and UAD nos:
Final report: CAT Report 1092 and summary in <i>EAH</i>	
Periods represented: Roman, Norman, medieval and post-medieval	
<p>Summary of fieldwork results: Previous archaeological work had established that a monumental Roman arcade crossed the Castle House site from east to west. The arcade formed the impressive south front of a large rectangular precinct within which stood the Temple of Claudius.</p> <p>In 2014, prior to the redevelopment of the site, two trenches were dug by CAT in the northern part of the site. This area lay immediately to the north of the arcade and was previously largely unexcavated. Part of a Roman attached column, which must have fallen from the arcade, was uncovered in the more westerly trench. It lay in thick deposits of demolition debris dating from the 11th and/or 12th centuries. In the other trench, a quantity of pottery of probable 12th-century date, as well as many fragments of animal bone and shell, were recovered from a gully and associated deposits. An inhumation burial, of probable 16th- or 17th-century date, was partially uncovered at the northern end of the more westerly trench.</p> <p>Excavation resumed in 2015 beneath the floor of Castle House, while construction work was still in progress. Three rectangular holes for glazed viewing panels were built into the modern concrete floor. This enabled the remains of the Roman arcade to be uncovered under the floor and put on permanent display. The foundation platform that supported the Roman arcade was uncovered for approximately 12.7 m east-west. The remains of three piers and four revetting walls were exposed on top of the foundation. Much of the 2015 site had been excavated previously in 1964, so most of the archaeological deposits that overlay the arcade had already been removed. However, undisturbed deposits survived in a few places, and these were recorded and, where necessary, excavated. A review of the dating evidence indicates that the arcade was probably built before the Boudiccan revolt of AD 61.</p>	
Previous summaries/reports: Hebditch, M, 1971, 'Excavations on the south side of the temple precinct at Colchester', <i>Transactions of the Essex Archaeological Society</i> , 3 (3rd series), part 1, 115-130. CAT Reports 587 & 701.	
Keywords: Roman arcade, Temple of Claudius, collapsed Roman attached column, demolition debris, column brick, medieval gully, medieval pottery	Significance: ***
Author of summary: Donald Shimmin	Date of summary: May 2018