

Archaeological evaluation at Fingringhoe Ranges, Lodge Lane, Langenhoe, Essex, CO5 7LX

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1 Summary

An archaeological evaluation (twenty-two trial-trenches) was carried out at Fingringhoe Ranges as part of the Fingringhoe Ranges Enhancement, on land off Lodge Lane, Langenhoe, Essex, in advance of the construction of two new firing ranges along with access tracks, a series of swales for flood mitigation purposes and three attenuation ponds.

Significant contexts included a Late Iron Age/Roman red hill in trench T6 and a concentration of Roman features in trench T1 consisting mainly of ditches and a large number of pits, 0.24-0.3m below current ground level. Finds from the features in T1 included pottery sherds, briquetage, ceramic building material, animal bone, five copper-alloy coins, two iron bolt-heads and the remains of a spearhead.

There were three Bronze Age/Late Bronze Age features in trenches T3, T4 and T11 and two medieval features in trenches T5 and T6. There were no significant archaeological remains in twelve of the trenches.

2 Introduction (Fig 1)

This is the archive report for an archaeological evaluation by trial-trenching at Fingringhoe Ranges, undertaken as part of the Fingringhoe Ranges Enhancement located on land off Lodge Lane, Langenhoe, Essex. The work was carried out from 18th June to 6th July 2018. The work was commissioned by Alex Godden of WYG Environment Planning Transport Ltd, on behalf of the Defence Infrastructure Organisation, in advance of the construction of two new firing ranges along with access tracks, a series of swales for flood mitigation purposes and three attenuation ponds, and was carried out by Colchester Archaeological Trust (CAT).

The site lies within an area highlighted by the Colchester Historic Environment Record (CHER) as having a high potential for archaeological deposits (as indicated by the Desk-Based Assessment undertaken by WYG in 2017). Pre-application advice from the Colchester Borough Council Archaeological Advisor (CBCAA) recommended that archaeological investigations be undertaken to establish the survival and character of any archaeology within the proposed development. This recommendation was for an archaeological evaluation by trial-trenching and was based on the guidance given in the *National Planning Policy Framework* (DCLG 2012).

All archaeological work was carried out in accordance with a *Brief for a Trenched Archaeological Evaluation*, detailing the required archaeological work, written by Dr Jess Tipper (CBCAA 2017), and a Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) prepared by WYG in response to the brief and agreed with CBCAA (WYG 2017).

In addition to the brief and WSI, all fieldwork and reporting was done in accordance with English Heritage's *Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment (MoRPHE)* (English Heritage 2006), and with *Standards for field archaeology in the East of England* (EAA 14 and 24). This report mirrors standards and practices contained in the Institute for Archaeologists' *Standard and guidance for archaeological field evaluation* (CIfA 2014a) and *Standard and guidance for the collection, documentation, conservation and research of archaeological materials* (CIfA 2014b).

3 Archaeological background

Most of the following archaeological background was taken from the wsi for the project (Godden 2017).

Prehistoric (to 43 AD)

There is no direct evidence for prehistoric activity within the proposed site, and little within the wider area. However, previous surveys along the Essex coastline have

identified Mesolithic sites and buried Neolithic land surfaces in other locations along the Colne, Crouch and Blackwater estuaries. However, the potential for archaeological remains for these periods is considered to be low. Similarly, little Bronze Age activity has been recorded in the wider area although occupation evidence exists some 3km to the north, and 'burnt mound' sites have been identified in the coastal surveys mentioned above. It is possible that the 'Red Hill' salt production sites recorded within the immediate and surrounding area may originate in the Iron Age, with continuing usage into the Roman period.

Romano-British (43-450 AD)

It has been suggested that Fingringhoe may have acted as a harbour and supply base for Colchester during the early military phase of Roman settlement (Crummy 1997). Quarrying on land now known as the Fingringhoe Wick Nature Reserve (3km NE) in the 1930s (followed by subsequent excavations) revealed Claudian-Neronian material from pits, parts of a cemetery, two timber-lined wells and a possible landing place, as well as at least three Roman period houses with hypocausts and tessellated pavements (CHER MCC8785, MCC8790). Military equipment and substantial quantities of pottery and coins were found (Crummy 1997).

The proposed development site and immediate surrounding area is the location of an extensive salt production industry, dating to the Roman period, but possibly of Late Iron Age origin. Evidence of this industry primarily takes the form of 'red hills'; mounds of red earth deriving from the rubble of clay structures used in the salt-making process that have been scorched red by fires used to evaporate sea water to make salt.

Anglo-Saxon/early medieval (450-1066 AD)

There are no recorded sites or finds dating to this period within the site itself or surrounding area; it is probable that this part of the coastline was used for seasonal sheep pasturage, as well as activities such as fowling, fishing and foraging.

Medieval (1066-1540 AD)

The Domesday Survey records the settlement of Langenhoe to the west as having meadow, pasture, woodland, a mill and salthouse, as well as recorded livestock including 300 sheep. The place name 'wick' appears on historic mapping immediately adjacent to the site, meaning a dairy associated with sheep's cheese making. This suggests that the immediate area was utilised as sheep pasturage, following the reclamation of the salt marshland.

Post-medieval (1540-1750 AD), industrial (1750-1900 AD) and modern (1900-present)

The reclamation of the salt marsh and use of the area for pasturage continued until the late 19th century, when the Fingringhoe Ranges were created by the War Office. This usage has continued up until the present day, with the site having been recently used as a grenade firing range.

In summary, the proposed development site has the potential to contain significant archaeological evidence, in particular relating to the Late Iron Age to Romano-British salt production industry.

4 Aims

Archaeological evaluation was primarily undertaken at Fingringhoe Ranges due to the potential presence of Iron Age and Roman 'Red Hill' salt production sites, and because of Fingringhoe's possible role as a harbour during the early phase of Roman settlement. More generally, the investigation sought to determine the extent of any archaeological deposits which may exist on the site.

5 Results (Figs 2-7)

Twenty-two trial-trenches were excavated under the supervision of a CAT archaeologist. Each trench was 60m long and 4m wide and was excavated through modern topsoil/turf (L1, 0.13-0.42m thick) onto natural clay (L2). All archaeological features were cut into L2 and sealed by L1.

There were no significant archaeological remains in trenches T2, T7 (apart from a line of decayed wooden fence posts of modern date), T8, T9, T10, T13, T14, T15, T18, T19, T20 or T22. Those trenches with significant archaeological remains are described below.

Trench 1 (T1)

Twenty-five Roman period features were uncovered within this trench. Most of the features were relatively shallow indicating truncation, possibly caused by periods of flooding.

F4 was situated at the western end of the trench. It was unclear whether this feature was an irregular ditch, two or three parallel ditches, or multiple intercutting quarry pits for clay extraction. It had been truncated by machining along part of its length with edges extending beyond the limit of excavation, making identification difficult. As exposed it measured up to 13m long, in places up to 4.4m wide, and ranged in depth from 0.21-0.43m. If this feature is a ditch, it is aligned WSW/ENE and would have formed a substantial boundary.

Ditch F19 was uncovered in the base of F4. As ground conditions were very poor, with the silty-clay fills being hard, dry, bleached, cracked and fissured, interpretation was difficult, but F19 appeared to have been cut into the lower fill of F4 and sealed by the upper fill. It was aligned WSW/ENE and measured up to 0.86m wide and 0.19m deep.

Undated ditch or elongated pit F29 extended NNW from F4, although the relationship between the two features could not be discerned. The feature was only partially-sectioned and so its exact dimensions could not be ascertained, but its exposed extent measured 0.36m in width and 0.13m in depth.

Additionally, two undated post-holes, F20 (0.13m wide and 0.1m deep) and F28 (0.12m deep and 0.05m deep), were observed cut into the base of F4, and their relationship with this feature could not be established.

To the east of F4 were two Roman features, both possibly ditches, F9 and F10. Feature F10 was aligned roughly NE/SW and measured c 2.06m wide with a bulbous terminal by 0.37m deep. It appeared to have cut possible ditch F9 but this could not be determined definitively. Feature F9 was aligned roughly E/W and measured c 0.8m wide and 0.18m deep, also with a bulbous terminal.

At the eastern end of the trench was Roman ditch F6, aligned NNW/SSE and measuring 0.95m wide by 0.25m deep. Ditch F6 had been cut by pit F7. Feature F13, may be the terminal of a ditch aligned N/S, but it could also be a pit. It measured 1.22m wide by 0.1m deep.

Also excavated were twelve Roman pits (F5, F7, F11, F14, F15, F16, F17, F18, F22, F23, F26 and F27), three undated pits (F8, F12 and F21) and one pit (F24) of a possible modern date (although the fragment of land drain contained within this could be intrusive in this context). The Roman pits ranged in size from 3m long by 2.7m wide and 0.27m deep (F18) to 0.52m diameter and 0.16m deep (F12).

Many of the features within trench T1 contained pottery sherds (ranging in date from the mid 1st to the late 2nd/early 3rd century) and included small quantities of ceramic building material, fired clay, animal bone, burnt stone and metal small finds.



Photograph 1 Trench 1, F4 and F19 sx1-sx3, looking east.



Photograph 2 Trench 1, pits F8, F18, F21 and F22, looking north-east



Photograph 3 Trench 3, looking east

Trench 3 (T3)

Undated ditch F33 was aligned N/S and measured 1m wide by 0.24m deep. Late Bronze Age pit F34 measured c 1.1m in diameter by 0.11m deep.

Trench 4 (T4)

Prehistoric, possibly Late Bronze Age, ditch F31 was aligned E/W and measured 0.57m wide by 0.16m deep. Roman pit F32 measured 1.2m long and 0.80m wide by 0.11m deep.

Trench 5 (T5)

Undated ditch F2 was aligned N/S and measured 0.53m wide by 0.31m deep. Medieval pit F3 measured 2.67m long by at least 1.85m wide and 0.25m deep.

Trench 6 (T6)

Modern drainage ditch F1 (which is still in use) was aligned NW/SE across. A ground hollow to the south of F1 was filled with subsoil L3.

Trench 11 (T11)

Modern drainage ditch F30 (which is still in current usage) was aligned NE/SW across the eastern end of the trench but was not excavated. Medieval pit F38 was partially located outside the trench but measured at least 2.73m long by 2m wide and 0.45m deep.

Trench 12 (T12)

Undated pit F37 measured 1.47m long by 1.27m wide and 0.26m deep, and contained a small quantity of fired clay and a piece of burnt stone.



Photograph 4 Trench 8, looking north.



Photograph 5 Trench 13, looking west

Trench 16 (T16)

The remains of a Late Iron Age/Roman red hill were recorded in Trench T16, consisting of scorched reddish-coloured layers L4, L5 and L6, and including a possible hearth F35 within the red hill. The red hill had been truncated and damaged by modern military activity (F36 and F39, with F40 further to the south) and there was no surviving mound. The extent of the red hill (as visible through topsoil at ground level) was plotted at roughly 16m NW/SE and 9m SW/NE.



Photograph 6 Trench 16, red hill L4, looking north-west



Photograph 7 Trench 16, hearth F35 within the red hill, looking north-west



Photograph 8 Trench 21, looking north-east

Trench 17 (T17)

Undated pit F25 measured 0.68m long by 0.52m wide and 0.25m deep.

Trench 21 (T21)

Pits F41, F42, F43 and F44 ranged in size from 0.22m to 0.6m in diameter and 0.05-0.17m deep. No dating evidence was recovered from three of the pits, but F44 contained three sherds of Late Bronze Age pottery.

6 Finds

6.1 Pottery and ceramic finds

by Matthew Loughton

6.1.1 Introduction

1,527 sherds of pottery, ceramic building material and briquetage with a weight of 12,240kg was uncovered (Table 1). The mean sherd weight (henceforth MSW) is low and the assemblage as a whole is heavily fragmented. The majority of the pottery is of Roman date with a small quantity of prehistoric and medieval to post-medieval material (Table 1). The Roman pottery was classified according to the fabric groups (Table 2) outlined in *CAR 10* (Symonds and Wade 1999) supplemented with fabric groups from the National Roman Fabric Reference Collection, henceforth NRFRC (Tomber and Dore 1998). Roman vessel types were classified via the Colchester (*Camulodunum*), henceforth Cam, type series (Hawkes and Hull 1947; Hull 1958; *CAR 10*, 468-487) (Table 2). The post-Roman pottery was classified according to the fabric groups from *CAR 7* (Cotter 2000) and Cunningham (1985) (Table 2). The pottery was recorded by sherd count, the number of rims, handles and bases, and weight, for each fabric group. The number of vessels was determined by rim EVREP (estimated vessel representation) and rim EVE (estimated vessel equivalent). See Appendix 3 for a full catalogue.

Ceramic material	No.	Weight/g	MSW/g
Prehistoric	38	207	5
Roman	1,345	6,799	5
Medieval to post-medieval	19	272	14
Ceramic Building Material (CBM)	16	1,328	83
Briquetage	109	3,634	33
All	1,527	12,240	8

Table 1 Details on the main types of ceramics and pottery

Fabric code	Fabric description	Fabric date range guide
Prehistoric:		
HMF	Hand-made flint-tempered (general)	Prehistoric (Neolithic-Bronze Age)
HMFS	Hand-made flint & sand-tempered (general)	Prehistoric (Neolithic-Early Iron Age)
HMS	Hand-made sand-tempered (general)	Prehistoric (Iron Age)
Roman:		
GTW	Late Iron Age 'Belgic' grog-tempered wares	Late 1st century BC-mid 1st century AD
AA	Amphorae (all excluding Dressel 20)	Mid 1st-2nd/early 3rd century
AJ	Dressel 20 amphorae	Mid 1st-2nd/early 3rd century
BASG	South Gaulish plain samian	Mid-late 1st century
BAMT	Montans samian	Mid-late 1st century
BACG	Central Gaulish plain samian	2nd century
CB	Colchester red colour-coated, roughcast ware	Early 2nd-3rd century
CZ	Colchester and other red colour-coated wares	Early 2nd-3rd century
DJ	Coarse oxidised and related wares	Roman (primarily mid 1st-2nd century)
DZ	Fine oxidised wares	Mid 1st-early 2nd century
FJ	Brockley Hill/ <i>Verulamium</i> region oxidised ware	Mid 1st-2nd/early 3rd century
GA	BB1: black-burnished ware, Category 1	Early 2nd-4th century
GB	BB1: black-burnished ware, Category 2	Early 2nd-3rd century
GX	Other coarse wares, principally locally produced grey wares	Roman
HZ	Large storage jars and other vessels in heavily-tempered wares	Mid 1st-2nd/3rd century
MP	Oxfordshire-type red colour-coated wares	Mid 3rd-late 4th century
NOG WH 3*	North Gaulish white ware	c 1st century
TZ	Mortaria Colchester	Mid 1st-early 3rd/3rd century
UR	<i>Terra nigra</i> -type wares	c 1st century
WA	Silvery micaceous grey wares	Roman
Post-Roman:		
20	Medieval sandy grey ware (general) – elsewhere medieval coarse ware	c 13th-14th century
21	Sandy orange wares (general)	c 13th/14th-15th century
21A	Colchester-type ware	c 13th/14th-15th century
22	Heddingham ware	c 1140-1325/50
40	Post-Medieval (glazed) red earthenware	16th/17th-18th century
45	English stoneware	17th-18th century
45M	Modern English stoneware	19th-early 20th century
48B	English porcelain	19th century

Table 2 Pottery fabrics recorded. *NRFRC

6.1.2 Prehistoric Pottery

38 sherds of handmade flint and flint and sand tempered prehistoric pottery with a weight of 207g was uncovered (Table 3). These sherds are generally small and heavily abraded and the MSW is only 5g. Most of the sherds, notably those from Trench T1, are residual and were associated with assemblages of Roman pottery. In contrast, the sherds from F31 (linear feature), F34 (pit) and F44 (pit) were not, suggesting that these features date to the later prehistoric period (Late Bronze Age?). It is worth noting the 14 sherds with a weight of 48g and one rim with fingernail impressions along the top, from the linear feature F31 in Trench T4.

Context	Trench	Feature type	No.	Wt/g	MSW/g	Rim	Rim EVREP	Rim EVE
F4	T1	Ditch/pits	4	46	12	0	0	0.00
F6	T1	Linear feature	1	4	4	0	0	0.00
F9	T1	Linear feature	1	6	6	0	0	0.00
F19	T1	Ditch	1	3	3	0	0	0.00
F22	T1	Pit?	1	10	10	0	0	0.00
F23	T1	Pit	2	6	3	0	0	0.00
F31	T4	Linear feature	14	48	3	1	1	0.05
F34	T3	Pit	2	12	6	0	0	0.00
F44	T21	Pit	3	14	5	0	0	0.00
L1	T6, T7, T22	Topsoil	8	52	7	0	0	0.00
Total			38	207	5	1	1	0.05

Table 3 Details of the prehistoric pottery

6.1.3 Late Iron Age and Roman pottery

The assemblage of Late Iron Age and Roman pottery consists of 1,345 sherds with a weight of nearly 6.8kg (Table 4). The mean sherd weight is only 5g. The estimate vessel equivalent (EVREP) is 11.42 while the estimated vessel representation (EVE) is 93 (Table 5).

There is a small quantity of Late Iron Age and early Roman material including 13 sherds of Late Iron Age 'Belgic' grog-tempered wares (GTW), an imported Butt-Beaker (Cam 113), and a samian cup of Drag. 24/25 which according to Webster (1996, 37) is typically recovered from pre-Flavian contexts in England (Table 4). Whilst 'Belgic' grog-tempered wares are recovered from the Late Iron Age and early Roman occupation at Sheepen (Niblett 1985, 48-52) it is rare or absent from the Roman fortress and the early *Colonia* (Hawkes and Hull 1947). There was also a small collection of *terra nigra*-type wares (UR), which appear to be local copies (in grey reduced fabrics), including examples of the Cam 13/27, 14, 14/28, and 16/30? These could be of Late Iron Age to mid 1st century AD date, most of these forms are typically pre-Flavian (CAR 10, 469).

The majority of the Roman pottery can be dated from the mid 1st century to the late 2nd or early 3rd century AD. The samian shows a bias to southern Gaul and of forms datable to the mid to late 1st century AD. Examples of early Roman forms (mid 1st to early 2nd century AD) include: Cam 120B eggshell *terra nigra* beaker (F4, F6), Cam 155 flagon (F4), Cam 108 beaker (F4, F10, F11, F14), Cam 243-244/246 flanged-bowl (F4, F10, F14), and the large number of examples of the carinated bowl Cam 218B/C (F4, F6, F8, F10, F14, F15). Black-burnished ware is rare (Table 4) with only two sherds of BB1 (Fabric GA) from a Cam 279A/B in F6, and six sherds of BB2 (Fabric GB) with an example of the Cam 37B/38A from F4. There was also a local greyware copy (Fabric GX) of a BB2 Cam 37/38 from F6. While a few sherds can be dated to the

late 2nd or early 3rd century AD, such as the Cam 406 ovoid folded-beaker in F4, there is no material which can be reliably dated to after the mid 3rd century. The exception is the possible sherds of Oxfordshire-type red-colour coated ware (?) from a copy of the Drag. 18/31, which came from the surface of the ditch/pits F4.

Fabric Group	Fabric description	No.	%	Wt/g	%	MSW/g	Ri m	Handle	Base
GTW	Late Iron Age 'Belgic' grog-tempered wares	13	1.0	230	3.4	18	1	0	0
AA17	Amphorae Cadiz Dressel 7-11	1	0.1	180	2.6	180	0	0	0
AJ	Amphorae Baetican (Guadalquivir) Dressel 20	4	0.3	164	2.4	41	0	0	0
BA	Decorated and plain samian	2	0.1	2	0.0	1	0	0	0
BASG	South Gaulish plain samian	21	1.6	143	2.1	7	6	0	8
BACG	Central Gaulish plain samian	4	0.3	54	0.8	14	3	0	0
BAMT	Montans samian	1	0.1	2	0.0	2	0	0	0
CB	Colchester red colour-coated, roughcast ware	7	0.5	19	0.3	3	0	0	0
CZ	Colchester and other red colour-coated ware	186	13.8	538	7.9	3	19	0	3
DJ	Coarse oxidised and related wares	134	10.0	400	5.9	3	5	0	9
DZ	Fine oxidised wares	16	1.2	60	0.9	4	4	0	1
FJ	Brockley Hill/Verulamium region oxidised ware	1	0.1	4	0.1	4	0	0	1
GA	BB1: black-burnished ware, category 1	6	0.4	12	0.2	2	1	0	0
GB	BB2: black-burnished ware, category 2	2	0.1	68	1.0	34	1	0	0
GX	Other coarse wares, principally locally produced grey wares	903	67.1	4,203	61.8	5	77	1	55
HZ	Large storage jars and other vessels in heavily -tempered grey wares	14	1.0	426	6.3	30	0	0	2
MP	Oxfordshire-type red colour-coated wares	2	0.1	10	0.1	5	2	0	0
NOG WH 3	North Gaulish white ware	2	0.1	2	0.0	1	0	0	0
TZ	Mortaria Colchester	9	0.7	138	2.0	15	0	0	0
UR	<i>Terra nigra</i> -type wares	11	0.8	112	1.6	10	5	0	5
WA	Silvery micaceous ware	6	0.4	32	0.5	5	1	0	0
Total		1,345		6,799		5	124	1	84

Table 4 Details on the Late Iron Age and Roman pottery

Fabric Group	Fabric description	Rim EVREP	Rim EVE
GTW	Late Iron Age 'Belgic' grog-tempered wares	1	0.06
BASG	South Gaulish plain samian	6	1.15
CZ	Colchester and other red colour-coated wares	8	2.54
DJ	Coarse oxidised and related wares	3	0.39
DZ	Fine oxidised wares	2	0.75
GA	BB1: black-burnished ware, category 1	1	0.05
GB	BB2: black-burnished ware, category 2	1	0.09
GX	Other coarse wares, principally locally produced greywares	64	5.93
MP	Oxfordshire-type red colour-coated wares	1	0.07
UR	<i>Terra nigra</i> -type wares	5	0.34
WA	Silvery micaceous ware	1	0.05
Total		93	11.42

Table 5 Late Iron Age and Roman pottery quantification

Assemblages from features

Four features (F4, F6, F10 and F14) accounted for the majority of the Late Iron Age and Roman pottery by count and weight from the evaluation (Table 6).

Context	Trench	Feature type	No.	Wt/g	MSW/g	Rim	Handle	Base	Rim EVREP	Rim EVE
F4	T1	Ditch/pits	637	2,880	5	56	0	37	35	6.11
F4/F10	T1	Ditch/pits	69	308	5	9	1	4	7	0.69
F4/F19	T1	Ditch/pits	5	24	5	0	0	1	0	0.00
F5	T1	Pit	8	44	6	1	0	1	1	0.04
F6	T1	Linear feature	93	340	4	9	0	4	9	0.51
F7	T1	Pit	16	60	4	1	0	1	1	0.07
F8	T1	Ditch/pits	10	38	4	1	0	0	1	0.09
F9	T1	Linear feature	11	150	14	1	0	2	1	0.06
F10	T1	Pit/linear feature	116	722	6	16	0	19	12	1.38
F11	T1	Pit	8	180	23	1	0	0	1	0.09
F14	T1	Pit	264	1,271	5	21	0	13	16	1.83
F15	T1	Pit	30	326	11	2	0	0	2	0.11
F17	T1	Pit	2	6	3	0	0	0	0	0.00
F18	T1	Pit	18	114	6	1	0	2	1	0.11
F22	T1	Pit?	3	20	7	0	0	0	0	0.00
F23	T1	Pit	29	221	8	1	0	0	1	0.05
F24	T1	Pit	6	22	4	1	0	0	1	0.06
F26	T1	Pit	1	2	2	0	0	0	0	0.00
F27	T1	Pit	4	14	4	0	0	0	0	0.00

Table 6 Quantities of Late Iron Age and Roman pottery

F4: This feature produced the largest assemblage of Late Iron Age and Roman pottery with 637 sherds (47% by count) with a weight of nearly 2.9kg (42% by weight) and 35 vessels according to the rim EVREP (Table 7). Unsurprisingly this assemblage is dominated by locally produced coarse greywares (Fabric GX) which account for 61.5% of the total number of sherds. Forms include a copy of the BB2 Cam 37/38 (2nd to early 3rd century AD), as well as examples of the Cam 46/311, 108, 119, 218B/C and 243-244/46. The quantity of Colchester red colour-coated ware (Fabric CZ) from this feature is notable and it accounts for nearly a quarter of the total number of sherds from this assemblage (Table 7). There were examples of cornice-rim beakers with barbotine and rouletted decoration (Cam 391A/B, 392). There was also three sherds of Lezoux samian from a Bet 36/Drag. 33. Much of this material, especially the Colchester red colour-coated wares, can be dated to the mid 2nd to early 3rd century AD although there is also a small quantity of earlier material (Late Iron Age 'Belgic' grog-tempered wares, *Terra nigra*-type wares, La Graufesenque samian) from the early/mid to late 1st century AD.

Fabric Group	Fabric description	No.	%	Wt/g	%	MSW/g	Rim	Handle	Base	Rim EVREP	Rim EVE
GTW	Late Iron Age 'Belgic' grog-tempered wares	2	0.3	66	2.3	33	0	0	0	0	0.00
BASG	South Gaulish plain samian	6	0.9	27	0.9	5	1	0	1	2	0.08
BACG	Central Gaulish plain samian	3	0.5	52	1.8	17	3	0	0	1	0.90
BAMT	Montans samian	1	0.2	2	0.1	2	0	0	0	0	0.00
CB	Colchester red colour-coated, roughcast ware	4	0.6	7	0.2	2	0	0	0	0	0.00
CZ	Colchester and other red colour-coated ware	151	23.7	436	15.1	3	15	0	3	4	2.14
DJ	Coarse oxidised and related wares	45	7.1	126	4.4	3	4	0	4	2	0.34
DZ	Fine oxidised wares	14	2.2	52	1.8	4	4	0	1	2	0.75
GB	BB2: black-burnished ware, category 2	2	0.3	68	2.4	34	1	0	0	1	0.09
GX	Other coarse wares, principally locally produced grey wares	392	61.5	1720	59.7	4	26	0	22	22	1.74
HZ	Large storage jars and other vessels in heavily-tempered grey wares	3	0.5	244	8.5	81	0	0	2	0	0.00
MP	Oxfordshire-type red colour-coated wares	2	0.3	10	0.3	5	2	0	0	1	0.07
NOG WH 3	North Gaulish white ware	2	0.3	2	0.1	1	0	0	0	0	0.00
TZ	Mortaria	6	0.9	30	1.0	5	0	0	0	0	0.00

	Colchester										
UR	<i>Terra nigra</i> -type wares	4	0.6	38	1.3	10	0	0	4	0	0.00
Total		637		2,880		5	56	0	37	35	6.11

Table 7 Details on the Late Iron Age and Roman pottery from F4

F6: A total of 93 sherds with a weight of 340g and nine vessels (rim EVREP) (Table 8). Again, the assemblage is dominated by locally produced coarse greywares (Fabric GX) with examples of the Cam 120B, 218B/C as well as a copy of the *terra nigra* Cam 13/27. It is worth noting the presence of one sherd of BB1: black-burnished ware, category 1 (Fabric GA) from a Cam 279A/B (2nd to early 3rd century AD?). There is also a greyware (Fabric GX) copy of a black-burnished vessel (Cam 37/38) which is datable to the late 2nd to 3rd century AD. Finally, it is worth noting the presence of one Dressel 20 sherd (Fabric AJ). Most of this material dates to the late 2nd to early 3rd century AD.

Fabric Group	Fabric description	No.	%	Wt/g	%	MSW/g	Rim	Handle	Base	Rim EVREP	Rim EVE
AJ	Amphorae Baetican (Guadalquivir) Dressel 20	1	1.1	28	8.2	28	0	0	0	0	0.00
BA	Decorated and plain samian	2	2.2	2	0.6	1	0	0	0	0	0.00
BASG	South Gaulish plain samian	1	1.1	12	3.5	12	0	0	1	0	0.00
CZ	Colchester and other red colour-coated ware	2	2.2	6	1.8	3	0	0	0	0	0.00
DJ	Coarse oxidised and related wares	5	5.4	12	3.5	2	0	0	0	0	0.00
DZ	Fine oxidised wares	2	2.2	8	2.4	4	0	0	0	0	0.00
GA	BB1: black-burnished ware, category 1	6	6.5	12	3.5	2	1	0	0	1	0.05
GX	Other coarse wares, principally locally produced grey wares	73	78.5	250	73.5	3	8	0	2	8	0.46
UR	<i>Terra nigra</i> -type wares	1	1.1	10	2.9	10	0	0	1	0	0.00
Total		93		340		4	9	0	4	9	0.51

Table 8 Details on the Late Iron Age and Roman pottery from F6

F10: This feature produced 116 sherds with a weight of 722g and 12 vessels (rim EVREP) (Table 9). The presence of La Graufesenque samian (Fabric BASG) with examples of the Drag. 18B and Drag. 24/25, the small assemblage of *Terra nigra*-type wares (UR) with examples of the Cam 13/27, 14/28 and 16/30, coupled with the absence of Colchester red colour-coated ware (Fabric CZ), which dates from the early 2nd to 3rd century AD, suggests that this assemblage dates to the mid to late 1st century AD (Neronian-Flavian).

Fabric Group	Fabric description	No.	%	Wt/g	%	MSW/g	Rim	Handle	Base	Rim EVREP	Rim EVE
BASG	South Gaulish plain samian	8	6.9	26	3.6	3	4	0	3	2	0.12
DJ	Coarse oxidised and related wares	23	19.8	96	13.3	4	0	0	4	0	0.00
GX	Other coarse wares, principally locally produced grey wares	78	67.2	482	66.8	6	8	0	12	6	1.01
HZ	Large storage jars and other vessels in heavily-tempered wares	3	2.6	76	10.5	25	0	0	0	0	0.00
UR	<i>Terra nigra</i> -type wares	4	3.4	42	5.8	11	4	0	0	4	0.26
Total		116		722		6	16	0	19	12	1.39

Table 9 Details on the Late Iron Age and Roman pottery from F10

F14: This pit contained 264 sherds with a weight of 1,271g and 16 vessels (rim EVREP) (Table 10). This assemblage is dominated by locally-produced coarse greywares (Fabric GX) which account for nearly 86% of the sherd count (Table 10). There are examples of the Cam 108, 119, 218B/C, 243-244/246 and 266. There was one samian Drag. 27G cup from La Graufesenque which typically dates to the 1st century AD. The rare sherds of Colchester red colour-coated (fabric CZ) and red colour-coated roughcast ware (fabric CB) suggests that this assemblage dates to the early 2nd century AD.

Fabric Group	Fabric description	No.	%	Wt/g	%	MSW/g	Rim	Handle	Base	Rim EVREP	Rim EVE
BASG	South Gaulish plain samian	4	1.5	34	2.7	9	1	0	2	1	0.05
CB	Colchester red colour-coated, roughcast ware	1	0.4	4	0.3	4	0	0	0	0	0.00
CZ	Colchester and other red colour-coated ware	1	0.4	1	0.1	1	1	0	0	1	0.07
DJ	Coarse oxidised and related wares	27	10.2	46	3.6	17	0	0	0	0	0.00
FJ	Brockley Hill/Verulamium region oxidised ware	1	0.4	4	0.3	4	0	0	1	0	0.00
GX	Other coarse wares, principally locally produced greywares	226	85.6	1,134	89.2	5	18	0	10	13	1.63
HZ	Large storage jars and other	1	0.4	20	1.6	20	0	0	0	0	0.00

	vessels in heavily-tempered wares										
UR	<i>Terra nigra</i> -type wares	2	0.8	22	1.7	11	1	0	0	1	0.08
WA	Silvery micaceous greywares	1	0.4	6	0.5	6	0	0	0	0	0.00
Total		264		1,271			21	0	13	16	1.83

Table 10 Details on the Late Iron Age and Roman pottery from F14

Further details on some specific wares

Amphorae (Fabrics AA, AJ)

There were five amphora body sherds with a weight of 344g although there were no diagnostic elements (Table 4). Two southern Spanish vessels are represented: the Dressel 7-11 from Cadiz (F15), which contained garum/salted fish, and the Dressel 20 olive oil amphorae from inland Baetica (Guadalquivir) (F6, F23).

Samian (Fabric BA)

There was a small assemblage of samian with 28 sherds with a weight of 201g and a MSW weight of 7g. The majority of sherds are from southern Gaul and La Graufesenque while there was also one sherd in a pale limestone rich fabric from Montans in southern Gaul (Table 4). There were only four sherds from Lezoux, central Gaul. The vessels from southern Gaul can be assigned to the 1st century AD and possibly the pre-Flavian to Flavian period (Table 11). The vessels from central France are of 2nd century AD date and possibly within the first half of this century (Table 11).

Context	Feature type	BASG Southern Gaul / La Graufesenque	Date approx.	BACG Central Gaul Lezoux	Date approx.
F4	Ditch/pits	Drag. 24/25 (1)	1-100, most pre-Flavian	Bet 36/Drag. 33 (1)	110-140/180
		Drag. 27 (1)	1-150/160		
		Drag. 27 (base)	1-150/160		
F6	Linear feature	Drag. 27G (base)	1-100		
F7	Pit			Bet 28/Drag. 27 (base)	110-140
F10	Pit/linear feature	Drag. 18B (1)	50-80/100		
		Drag. 24/25 (1)	Most are pre-Flavian		
		Drag. 27 (base)	1-150/160		
F14	Pit	Drag. 27G (1)	1-100		
F18	Pit	Drag. 35 (base)	40-80		

Table 11 Samian forms. In brackets the number of vessels represented by rim EVREP. Dates are taken from Webster (1996) and Delage (2010a, 2010b).

It is worth noting the frequency of the Drag. 27 cup, several examples of which were stamped:

1. F10: [LI]CINI (die 39a), Drag. 27 base. The potter *Licinus* is found stamped on samian vessels manufactured at La Graufesenque in southern Gaul. Apparently, the

“most plentiful represented potter” at Colchester with at least 35 stamps (Hawkes and Hull 1947, 200) with further examples reported in *CAR 10* (Dickinson 1999, 125 nos. S195-198). Examples are also known from Cirencester (Hartley and Dickinson 1982, 120 no. 17-18, die 23b), Waddon Hill, Fishbourne, and Silchester (Dickinson 2000, 195 no. 12). Well-dated examples of this stamp include AD 50-60 at Narbonne and AD 45-65 at La Graufesenque (Dickinson 2000, 195) while examples from Colchester are dated to AD 45-65.

2. F6: [LICIN]?, Drag. 27G base, see previous entry.

3. F14: L[LICIN]?, Drag. 27G base, see previous entry.

Colchester and other red colour-coated wares (Fabric CZ)

There was an important collection of 186 sherds (14%) (Table 4) from locally-produced red colour-coated beakers (*CAR 10*, 266-274). Eight vessels (Table 5) are represented of which two, a barbotine hunt cup (Cam 392) decorated with running dogs, deer and hare (*CAR 10*, 268 fig. 5.34 nos. 90-98, 485-486), and a Cam 391A/B cornice-rim beaker with rouletting (*CAR 10*, 268 fig. 5.33 nos. 72-88), are substantially intact although heavily fragmented. Both of these vessels came from F4 and date from the early/mid 2nd century until the mid/late 3rd century AD.

Fine oxidised and related wares (Fabric DZ)

From F4 was a large part of a miniature (?) thin-walled ovoid folded beaker (Cam 406).

North Gaulish white ware (Fabric NOG WH 3)?

From F4 were two possible sherds from an imported Butt-beaker (Cam 113) from northern Gaul (Tomber and Dore 1998, 24; *CAR 10*, 253, 256 fig. 5.24).

6.1.4 Post-Roman pottery

Only a modest assemblage of post-Roman pottery was recovered with 19 sherds with a weight of 272g (Table 12). Most of this material (no. 15/214g) came from the topsoil. However, three features (F1, F3, F38) which contained rare sherds of medieval sandy greyware (Fabric 21) or Colchester-type ware (Fabric 21A), but no Roman pottery, can be dated to the 13th/14th to 15th century AD. It is worth noting the barley-twist handle from a Heddingham jug (fabric 22) from the topsoil of late 12th to 13th century AD date.

Fabric Group	Fabric description	No.	Wt/g	MSW/g	Rim	Handle	Base
20	Medieval sandy greyware (general) – elsewhere medieval coarse ware	6	44	7	1	0	0
20/21	-	1	4	4	0	0	0
21	Sandy orange wares (general)	2	12	6	0	0	1
21A	Colchester-type ware	1	10	10	0	0	0
22	Heddingham ware	1	48	48	0	1	0
40	Post-Medieval (glazed) red earthenware	4	90	23	0	0	0
45	English stoneware	1	14	14	0	0	0
45M	Modern English stoneware	2	48	24	0	0	0
48B	English porcelain	1	2	2	0	0	0
	Total	19	272	14	1	1	1

Table 12 Details on the post-Roman pottery

6.1.5 Ceramic building material (CBM)

There was relatively little ceramic building material with only 16 sherds with a weight of 1,328g (Table 13). Roman CBM was limited to 10 sherds, mostly of *tegula*, including one sherd from pit F24 which can be assigned to Warry's Type D16, which he dates from the 3rd to 4th century AD (Warry 2006). Two large pieces of *tegula* with a weight of 462g came from the surface of F4. Another noteworthy piece, although from the topsoil (T5 L1), is a possible *tesserae* cube made out of CBM. There were two sherds of late medieval/post-medieval peg-tile although both came from the topsoil.

CBM code	CBM type	No.	Weight/g	MSW/g
Roman				
RT	Roman <i>Tegula</i> tile	7	706	101
RBT	Roman brick/tile (general)	3	60	20
Total		10	766	77
Post-Roman				
PT	Peg-tile	2	74	37
MODB	Modern brick	3	468	156
UNC	Modern land-drain?	1	20	20
Total		6	562	94
Grand Total		16	1,328	83

Table 13 CBM by period and type

6.1.6 Briquetage

Small amounts of briquetage was recovered from various features on the site although the largest assemblage came from the 'red hill' in trench T16 (L4) (Table 14). Some of the briquetage pieces from L4 and from pit F40 contained stake-hole voids.

Context	Feature type	No.	Weight/g	MSW/g
F4	Ditch/pits	7	124	18
F6	Linear feature	5	104	21
F7	Pit	1	2	2
F10	Pit/linear feature	3	86	29
F14	Pit	1	10	10
F15	Pit	3	12	4
F23	Pit	5	14	3
F26	Pit	6	28	5
F27	Pit	1	4	4
F32	Pit	2	10	5
F35	Hearth?	12	750	63
F37	Pit	9	174	19
F38	Pit	1	18	18
F40	Pit	8	736	92
L1	Topsoil	15	148	10
L4	Redhill deposit	30	1,414	47
Total		109	3,634	33

Table 14 Details on the quantity of briquetage by feature

6.2 The small finds

by Laura Pooley (with thanks to Nina Crummy for assistance in identifying the bolt-heads and spearhead)

Nineteen individually numbered small finds came from four Roman features in trench T1: three copper-alloy coins (SF5, SF6 & SF17) and two iron objects (SF15-SF16) from ditch/pits F4; a copper-alloy coin from pit F8 (SF7); an iron hobnail from pit F9; a lead weight (SF1) and sheet (SF2) from ditch F10; two iron bolt-heads (SF9-SF10), an iron spearhead (SF11-SF13) and an iron nail (SF14) from pit F14; an iron nail(s) from pit F15; and a copper-alloy coin (SF4) from pit F18.

The copper-alloy coins from F4, F8 and F18 were in a poor condition. The only identifiable coin was a sestertius of Caligula (37-41 AD) from F18 (SF4). The coins from F4 could only be identified as two asses (SF5-SF6) issued between 23 BC and AD 260 and a probable base-metal radiate (SF17) issued between c 260 to 315 AD, and the coin from F8 as a reduced 4th century nummus (SF7).

SF4, F18 (20). Roman copper-alloy sestertius of Caligula (37-41 AD), poor condition. Obverse: laureate bust of Caligula looking left, [C CAESAR A]VG GERMANICVS PON M [TR POT]. Reverse: inscription in four lines within Corona Civica oak wreath, S[PQR / P P] / O[B] CIVE[S] / S[ERVA]TOS. Probably struck at the mint of Rome. RIC 37. Die axis: 7; diameter: 32mm; weight: 18.9g.

SF5, F4 (32). Roman copper-alloy as, unidentified, poor condition. Obverse: laureate bust right, [I]M[P CAE]SAR [...]. Reverse: (virtually illegible) a building/alter/temple with S [C] either side, otherwise illegible. Die axis: 6; diameter: 25mm; weight: 8.5g. Asses were issued between 23 BC and AD 260.

SF6, F4 (33). Roman copper-alloy as, poor condition, virtually illegible. Obverse: bust right, otherwise illegible. Reverse: possibly a standing figure, otherwise illegible. Diameter: 25mm; weight: 5.5g. Asses were issued between 23 BC and AD 260.

SF7, F8 (23). Roman copper-alloy reduced nummus, illegible, 4th century. Diameter: 11mm; weight: 0.5g.

SF17, F4 (44). Roman copper-alloy coin, completely illegible, probably a base-metal radiate issued c 260-315 AD. Diameter: 20mm; weight: 2.6g.

In addition to the four Roman coins from F4 was an iron sheet folded into an open tube (SF15) and iron fragment (SF16). Other iron objects included a hobnail from F6 (SF18) and a nail or nails from F15 (SF19). From ditch F10 was a perforated lead weight (SF1) and fragment of folded lead sheet (SF2).

SF1, F10 (21). Complete perforated lead weight. It has a circular base which is very slightly concave and a domed profile. A 6mm perforation through the weight is located slightly off-centre, suggesting it is unlikely to be a spindlewhorl as the stability of the rotation of the spindle would be affected (CAR 2, 67). Diameter: 27.5mm; height: 11mm; weight 35.8g. Roman.

SF2, F10 (21). Folded lead sheet. Length: 42mm; width: 30mm; thickness: 12mm; weight: 29.9g. Probably Roman.

SF15, F4 sx2 (30). Iron sheet folded into an open, tapering iron tube, appears to be complete, 10mm diameter at one end, slightly more oval at the other measuring 15mm by 11mm. Length: 50mm; weight: 11.6g. Probably Roman.

SF16, F4 (28). Roughly triangular fragment of iron with one curved original edge and two broken diagonal edges forming the triangle. Length: 45; width: 37mm; thickness: 15mm; weight: 24g. Probably Roman.

SF18, F6 (12). Complete iron hobnail. Length: 16mm; weight: 2.3g. Probably Roman.

SF19, F15 (19). Two pieces of iron nail, possibly part of the same nail but the join is not clear as it is an old break.

- 1) Manning Type 1b (1985) nail with square-sectioned shaft and flat round head (c 15mm diameter), tip missing. Length: 41mm; weight: 17.9g. Roman.
- 2) Square-sectioned nail shaft, head missing. Length: 39mm; weight: 6.3g. Probably Roman.

Significantly, two incomplete iron bolt-heads (SF9-SF10), the remains of an iron spearhead (SF11-SF13) and a nail (SF14) came from pit F14. All three of the weapon tips are dated to the mid-1st century. The two iron bolt-heads are of Manning (1985) Type IIB (Fig 8). Bolt-heads would have been fixed onto a wooden shaft, and were made to be fired from catapults with most made to a standard pattern with square-sectioned, tapering point, a neck of varying length and a socket (Type I). Type II bolt-heads are described by Manning (1985, 170) as cruder pieces with relatively thin points and either closed (Type IIA) or flanged sockets (Type IIB), that were probably rapidly made when there was a shortage of Type I bolt-heads. Only the partial remains of the spearhead were found (made from joining pieces SF11 and SF12, with SF13 possibly also being part of the spearhead).

There is evidence that a harbour and supply base for Colchester during the early military phase of Roman settlement is located 3km to the northwest (Crummy 1997, 49), and the presence of military equipment on the development site may be associated with this activity. Although it should be noted that weapons found on smaller settlement sites may have been acquired for reuse by the occupants (Manning 1985, 176), especially as most weapons could also have been used for hunting (Allason-Jones 2011).

Fig 8.1 SF9 F14 (17) Incomplete Roman iron bolt-head of Manning Type IIB (1985, p. 176, pl. 85, ref. V259-279) dated to the mid 1st century AD. The bolt-head has a flat triangular blade and a crudely-made flanged socket. The tip of the blade is broken and missing. Total length: 48mm; total width: 19mm; blade: 18mm long; flanged socket: 30mm long with an opening 12mm by 7mm; weight: 10.4g.

Fig 8.2 SF10 F14 (17) Incomplete Roman iron bolt-head of Manning Type IIB (1985, p. 176, pl. 85, ref. V259-279) dated to the mid 1st century AD. The bolt-head has a flat triangular blade and a crudely-made flanged socket with mineral-replaced wood in the socket. The end of the socket is broken and missing. Total length: 52mm; total width: 18mm; blade: c 27mm long; incomplete socket: c 25mm long with an opening c 10mm by 10mm; weight: 21g.

SF11-SF12 F14 (17) Heavily-corroded fragment of a Roman iron spearhead consisting only of part of the solid shank above part of the closed socket (Manning 1985, 160, pl. 76) dated to the 1st century AD. SF12 appears to be a joining fragment. Length: 65mm; width: 50mm; thickness: 28mm ; weight: 111.1g.

SF13 F14 (17) Fragment of curved iron, probably from the socket of an object, possibly part of SF11. Length: 22mm long; width: 20mm; thickness: 9mm; weight: 3.9g. Probably Roman.

SF14 F14 (17) Iron nail head, shank incomplete, Manning Type 1A with square-section shank and pyramid head. Length: 23mm; head: 20mm by 20mm; weight: 11.8g. Probably Roman.

All trenches and spoil heaps were scanned with a metal-detector. A further two small finds were found in the trench T1 spoil heap. A copper-alloy crotal bell (SF3) is of post-medieval date and a lead ring is likely to be a post-medieval or modern binding/fitting (SF8).

SF3 U/S (26) An incomplete cast copper-alloy crotal bell, probably of medieval or post medieval date. The bell is composed of two hemispherical halves with a circumferential joint line. The lower hemisphere has a sound slit, which is broken along the edge on one side with the broken piece missing. The upper hemisphere has two circular holes (these function as sound holes but may have also formed part of the casting process). There is an integrally-cast suspension lug, rectangular in shape (10mm wide by 7mm high) with a 3mm cast hole. The bell is undecorated. Weight: 19g, diameter: 28mm, height with suspension lug: 35mm. Based on the shape of the

suspension lug it probably dates from the 15th to the early 17th century (Bailey, G 1999 *Detector Finds*. Greenlight Publishing).

SF8 U/S (9) Lead ring, complete, now slightly oval in shape. Ridged interior suggests it had been used as a fitting/binding. Length: 24mm; width: 22mm; thickness: 8mm; weight: 6.9g. Post-medieval/modern.

6.3 Animal bone by Alec Wade

The evaluation produced a small assemblage of 177 pieces of animal bone weighing 0.531kg.

All of the material was produced by ditches or possible clay extraction pits of Roman date from trench T1. The domestic species of horse, sheep/goat (no distinction being made) and pig were all present. There was no positive identification of cattle in the assemblage but this species may be represented amongst the otherwise unidentified large mammal bone. Although as sheep have traditionally been grazed in marshes an absence of cattle bone may be not unusual.

A tentative identification of a badly fragmented metatarsal from ditch/clay extraction pit F4 as belonging to one of the larger deer species (either Fallow or Red deer) could potentially be an unusually slender cattle metapodial.

Although the quantity of affected material was generally low, gnawing by dogs and discolouration caused by burning was fairly widespread amongst the animal bone with many of the finds groups having examples. Evidence of dog gnawing is usually a good indicator of residuality within a context.

Only two pieces of bone showed signs of butchery – a possible cut mark on a fragment of a large sized mammal's scapula (also from ditch/clay extraction pit F4) and a chop mark across a sheep or goat's calcaneus from pit F7.

Context & finds nos.	Animal bone
F4, 10 Roman ditch/pits	Quantity: 37; weight; 38g. The identified species included sheep/goat (15 pieces), pig (1) and a highly fragmented large mammal metatarsal that may be deer. The remaining unidentified material was mostly medium and large sized mammal bone. Dog gnawing was noted on two pieces of bone.
F4 sx1, 27 Roman ditch/pits	Quantity: 43; weight; 138g. Species identified as being present included sheep/goat (10 pieces) and pig (2). A couple of the bone fragments (including a sheep/goat scapula) had been burnt and dog gnawing was noted on several other pieces (7). A possible cut mark was found on a fragment of large sized mammal bone.
F4 sx2, 30 Roman ditch/pits	Quantity: 26; weight; 56g. Sheep/goat (10 pieces) and pig (2) were identified. Most of the remaining material was of medium sized mammals, probably sheep or goat. Signs of burning were noted on three pieces of bone.
F4 sx3, 43 Roman ditch/pits	Quantity: 7; weight; 5g. Included some fragments of medium sized mammal bone, probably sheep or goat. All had been burnt.
F6, 12 Roman ditch	Quantity: 45; weight; 240g. The identified species included horse (1 piece), pig (2) and sheep/goat (7). The unidentified material included medium and large sized mammal bone. Signs of dog gnawing (7 pieces) and burning (1) were noted.
F7, 13	Quantity: 12; weight; 32g.

Roman pit	Three pieces of sheep or goat bone including a calcaneus with an oblique chop mark. The remaining material included both medium and large sized mammal fragments.
F9 sx2, 50 Roman ditch	Quantity: 1; weight; 6g. Sheep/goat tooth.
F10, 14 Roman ditch	Quantity: 6; weight; 16g. The only identified species was sheep/goat (2 pieces). The remaining material included medium sized mammal bone. Dog gnawed (1 piece) and burnt bone fragments (2) were noted.

Table 15 All animal bone by context

6.4 Worked flint by Adam Wightman

Nine prehistoric flints, none closely-datable, were found in a prehistoric ditch (F31), Roman ditch/pit (F4) and modern topsoil (L1). All are listed by context in Table 16.

Trench, context and finds nos.	Description
T1, F4, 10 Roman ditch/pits	Two flints, one is a scraper with abrupt retouch on the left lateral edge and distal end on a large hard-hammer flake, the other is a small broken/waste flake, 40g
T2, L1, 73 Modern topsoil	Flake core, probably Neolithic-Early Bronze Age rather than later but not closely datable, 22g
T4, F31, 47 ?Late Bronze Age ditch	Small, narrow ?flake, 2g
T7, L1, 3 Modern topsoil	Three flints, one small hard-hammer flake, one small, thin flake with possible usewear/edge damage and one larger probable flake, 20g
T8, L1, 2 Modern topsoil	Proximal end of a thick flake, 16g
T17, L1, 76 Modern topsoil	Small flake core, 18g

Table 16 All worked flint by context

6.5 Other finds by Laura Pooley

Burnt (heat-altered) stone

There was a total of 111 pieces of burnt (heat-altered) stone (2,370g). Thirty-nine came from Roman features, four from a medieval pit, three from modern contexts or as unstratified finds, and 65 from undated pits (64 of which (780g) came from undated pit F16).

Most of the burnt flints are whitened (calcified) and crazed from the heat although a few are discoloured various shades (many red), some with surface crazing while others are simply discoloured. The burnt flints are mostly small-medium size, irregular broken pieces, consistent with having been originally sourced in the local gravel deposits. The sandstone-quartzite is less broken-up, having better thermal properties, and probably represent parts of rounded stones or small cobbles.

Burnt stones are commonly associated with prehistoric occupation, often occurring as groups in pits or sometimes in large quantities as mounds of burnt stones. Where not created incidentally during other processes (for example in close proximity with ovens, hearths or cremations), deliberately heated stones had probably been primarily used as

an indirect method for heating water. Because of this they have often been referred to as 'pot boilers' although their precise use is debated.

The high quantity of heat-altered stone from undated pit F16 might indicate a prehistoric date for this feature. Some of the other pieces may be residual in later dated contexts, although the 19 pieces from Roman pit F24 would suggest that at least some of this material is of a Roman date.

Context and finds no.	Description
Trench T1	
F4, 18, Roman ditch/pits	Piece of flint, burnt red and crazed, 12g
F4 sx2, 30 (upper fill) Roman ditch/pits	Piece of burnt flint, 6g
F4 sx3, 43, Roman ditch/pits	Piece of flint, burnt red and crazed, 46g
F5, 11, Roman pit	Piece of flint, burnt red, 22g
F7, 13, Roman pit	Piece of burnt flint, 58g
F15, 19, Roman pit	Six pieces of burnt flint, 76g
F16, 24, Undated pit	64 pieces of burnt flint & burnt sandstone/quartzite, 780g
F23, 39, Roman pit	Piece of sandstone/quartzite, burnt red, moderately large, 488g
F24, 38, Roman pit	19 pieces of burnt flint with some burnt sandstone/quartzite, 442g
F26, 41, Roman pit	Two pieces of burnt flint, 22g
U/S, 9, Spoil heap from area over F4/F10	Piece of burnt flint, 6g
Other trenches	
T7, L1, 3, Modern topsoil	Piece of burnt flint, 50g
T11, F38, 61, Medieval pit	Four pieces of burnt flint, 258g
T12, F37, 56, Undated pit	Piece of burnt flint, 34g
T16, F35, 55 LIA/Roman hearth in red hill	Six pieces of burnt flint, 60g
T21, L1, 75, Modern topsoil	Piece of burnt flint, 10g

Table 17 All burnt (heat-altered) stone by context

Glass and shell

The only finds of note are four small fragments (<1g) of pale blue-green Roman vessel glass from ditch/pits F4 and two pieces of oyster shell from ditch F6.

Trench, context and finds nos.	Description
T1, F4 sx3, 43, Roman ditch/pits	Roman glass: four small pieces of thin pale blue-green curving vessel glass, air bubbles in glass, <1g
T1, F6, 12, Roman ditch	Shell: two pieces of oyster shell.
T1, U/S, 9, spoil heap from area over F4/F10	Modern glass: modern glass fragment, 14g

Table 18 All glass and shell by context

7 Environmental assessment

by Lisa Gray MSc MA ACIfA Archaeobotanist

Introduction – aims and objectives

Eight environmental samples (see Table 19) were taken during a large evaluation that revealed a concentration of Roman ditches and pits in one corner of the field along with a Late Iron Age/Roman red hill to the south.

Sample no.	Findings no.	Feature no.	Feature	Date	Sample volume (L)
<1>	34	F4 sx1	Ditch	Roman	40
<2>	46	F4 sx3	Ditch	Roman	40
<3>	62	F10	Pit	Roman (mid-late 1st century)	40
<4>	40	F25	Pit	Undated	30
<5>	49	F31	Ditch	Prehistoric (?Late Bronze Age)	40
<6>	63	F38	Pit	Medieval	40
<8>	60	L4 in F35	Hearth in red hill F35	Late Iron Age/Roman	10
<9>	59	L5 in F35	Hearth in red hill F35	Late Iron Age/Roman	10

Table 19 Sample details (sample <7> was discarded)

Sampling and processing methods

Eight environmental samples, totalling 250 litres of soil, were taken and processed by Colchester Archaeological Trust. All samples were processed using a Siraf-type flotation device. Flot was collected in a 300 micron mesh sieve then dried.

Once with the author the flots were scanned under a low powered stereo-microscope with a magnification range of 10 to 40x. The whole flots were examined. The abundance, diversity and state of preservation of eco- and artefacts in each sample were recorded. A magnet was passed across each flot to record the presence or absence of magnetised material or hammerscale.

Identifications were made using modern reference material (author's own and the Northern European Seed Reference Collection at the Institute of Archaeology, University College London) and reference manuals (such as Beijerinck 1947; Cappers *et al.* 2006; Charles 1984; Fuller 2007; Hillman 1976; Jacomet 2006). Nomenclature for plants is taken from Stace (Stace 2010). Latin names are given once and the common names used thereafter. Low numbers of non-charcoal charred plant macro-remains were counted. Uncharred plant remains, fauna and magnetic fragments were given estimated levels of abundance unless, in the case of seeds, numbers are very low in which case they were counted.

Results

The plant remains (see Table 20)

Charred and uncharred/dried water-logged or intrusive plant macro-remains were present in each sample. Each sample contained low to abundant quantities of modern root/rhizome fragments and charcoal flecks. Fragments of identifiable charcoal (>4mmØ) were found in eight samples with the most interesting assemblages being from layers in Late Iron Age/ Roman hearth F35, sample <9> contained a low number of roundwood fragments and sample <8> a low number of twig fragments. Charred grains were found in low numbers in four samples. Grains of free-threshing type wheat (*Triticum aestivum/durum/turgidum*) were found in Roman ditch F4 sx3 (sample <2>), Roman pit F10 (sample <3>), medieval pit F38 (sample <6>) and Late Iron Age/Roman hearth L4 in F35 (sample <8>). A grain of straight hulled barley (*Hordeum distichon/vulgare* L.) was also found in F38 (sample <6>). No charred cereal chaff or seeds were present.

Uncharred, dried waterlogged or recent intrusive seeds were found in five samples. Seeds of ruderals fat hen (*Chenopodium album* L.) were found in Roman ditch F4 sx1 (sample <1>), F10 (sample <3>) and Late Iron Age/Roman hearth L5 in F35 (sample <9>). Seeds of grassland plant buttercup-type (*Ranunculus acris/repens/bulbosus*) and hedgerow/scrub plant blackberry/raspberry (*Rubus fruticosus /idaeus*) were found in F10 (sample <3>). Seeds of scrub/woodland plant sloe (*Prunus spinosa* L.) were found in F38 (sample <6>) and L5 in F35 (sample <9>). Dried waterlogged wood was found in sample <9>.

Sample	Bulk sample size (L)	Flot volume (L)	Estimated density*	Charred						Uncharred					
				Grains			Charcoal >4mmØ		Roundwood	Twig fragment	Seeds			Wood	Root/rhizome fragments
				a	d	p	a	a			a	a	d		
<1>	40	0.01	0.25	-	-	-	1	2	-	-	2	1	3	-	3
<2>	40	0.005	0.5	1	1	2	1	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	3
<3>	40	0.03	2.75	1	1	2	2	2	-	-	2	1	3	-	3
<4>	30	0.01	0.3	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
<5>	40	0.002	0.25	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
<6>	40	0.01	0.25	1	1	2	-	1	-	-	1	1	3	-	2
<8>	10	0.02	0.75	1	1	2	1	1	-	1	1	1	3	-	3
<9>	10	0.3	2.75	-	-	-	2	-	1	-	1	1	3	2	1

Table 20 Plant macro-remains in samples

Key for Table 20:

*(charred plant macro-remains per litre of sample excluding charcoal flecks)

a = abundance [1 = occasional 1-10; 2 = moderate 11-100; and 3 = abundant >100];

d = diversity [1 = low 1-4 taxa types; 2 = moderate 5-10; 3 = high];

p = preservation [1 = poor (family level only); 2 = moderate (genus); 3 = good (species identification possible)]

Faunal remains

Low numbers of earthworm cocoons were found in F4 sx1 (sample <2>), F38 (sample <6>) and L4 in F35 hearth (sample <8>).

Significant inorganic remains and artefacts

No significant inorganic remains were observed.

Discussion

Biases in recovery, residuality, contamination

Topsoil on the site was very shallow, with a lot of modern root intrusion in the features and the red hill had suffered a lot of disturbance during the use of the site as a live firing range (*pers. comm.* Laura Pooley 2018). Uncharred root/rhizome fragments and earthworm cocoons can indicate that bioturbation is possible. Worm action can carry small items such as seeds and small stones up to a metre down into the soil (Canti 2003, 143).

Quality and type of preservation

Preservation was by charring and possibly waterlogged conditions that have since dried. Charring occurs when plant material is heated under reducing conditions where oxygen is largely excluded leaving a carbon skeleton resistant to decay (Boardman and Jones 1990, 2; Campbell *et al.* 2011, 17). These conditions can occur in a charcoal clamp, the centre of a bonfire or pit or in an oven or when a building burns down with the roof excluding the oxygen from the fire (Reynolds, 1979, 57).

No plant remains were preserved by mineralisation (Green 1979, 281) or silicification (Robinson and Straker 1990), which means that there is no archaeobotanical evidence for the cess disposal or slow-burning aerated fires.

Significance and potential of the samples and recommendations for further work

The deposition rates (density of plant remains per litre of sampled soil) of each sample was calculated by dividing the estimated number of charred plant macro-remains (excluding charcoal flecks) in a sample by the number of litres taken for that sample. At assessment stage charred plant macro-remains are not counted like they are at analysis level so estimated amounts were calculated by giving a value of 10 to an abundance of '1' and of 100 to an abundance of '2'. Although these are estimates they help give an idea of the productivity of the samples. The meaning of these densities here is based on the work of Kate Nicholson, who based her interpretations of Romano-British archaeobotanical assemblages from a villa site (Nicholson 2014) on the work of Professor Marijke Van der Veen and Professor Glynis Jones (Van der Veen & Jones 2006; Van der Veen 2007).

Nicholson's density value interpretations (Nicholson 2014, 157-8) are given as follows below:

High density = >21 items per litre of sampled soil = rapid/single event deposition
Low density = 3-13 items per litre of deposit = gradual accumulation in day to day activities
Very low density = <3 items per litre of deposit = accidentally incorporated (e.g. wind-blown) into fills of features they no longer have association with.

All the samples at Fingringhoe Ranges have a very low estimated densities of charred plant remains, so are likely to be present in the samples as wind-blown or accidentally incorporated items. An exception to these may be the two samples taken from the Late Iron Age/Roman heath (samples <8> and <9>), but only if the samples came from a visibly stratigraphically secure layer. Aside from these samples it is likely that the charred plant remains in the other samples cannot be guaranteed to be associated with the feature they were taken from. Charred plant remains are very durable and survive being moved about a site in backfill, re-working and bioturbation. A recent study of intrusion and residuality in the archaeobotanical record (Pelling *et al.* 2015) has highlighted the problem of assigning charred plant remains such as these to the dated contexts they were taken from because it is possible that these durable charred plant remains survived being moved between contexts by human action and bioturbation so cannot be properly interpreted unless radiocarbon dates are gained from the plant macro-remains themselves. That is the only way to secure a genuine date for the charred plant macro-remains like these (Pelling *et al.* 2015, 96). This means that the potential of most of these plant remains to provide useful information is low.

If samples <8> and <9> are stratigraphically secure, they could have local and regional significance due to the roundwood and twig fragments in them that may provide useful information about fuel for salt-making and taxa suitable for radiocarbon dating. No further work is recommended on the remaining samples.

Note from the author: During excavation it was noted that there was a lot of modern truncation and damage of the Late Iron Age/Roman red hill. As the samples and therefore the charcoal from them cannot be guaranteed stratigraphically secure, it was decided not to send this material for further analysis, identification or (if suitable) radiocarbon dating. If future archaeological investigations are to take place on the development site, the red hill should be investigated fully and secure environmental samples taken from this important feature for further analysis.

8 Discussion

Archaeological evaluation on land at Fingringhoe Ranges has revealed a number of significant features and finds.

The earliest archaeological evidence is three Bronze Age/Late Bronze Age features in trenches T3 (F34), T4 (F31) and T21 (F44). A small number of prehistoric pottery sherds, prehistoric worked flints and pieces of burnt flint were also found in later dated contexts spread across the development site (trenches T1, T2, T4, T6-T8, T11-T12, T16-T17 and T21). These features and finds appear to be relatively isolated, possibly suggesting small-scale exploitation of the marshland in the prehistoric period but particularly the Bronze Age/Late Bronze Age.

One of the most significant features on the site is a Late Iron Age/Romano-British red hill located in the northern part of trench T16. A red hill is a small mound of a reddish-colour found in the coastal and tidal river areas of East Anglia and Essex. They are formed as a result of salt-making, their colour deriving from the rubble of clay structures used in the salt-making process that have been scorched red by fires used to evaporate sea water to make salt.

Five red hills are known in the immediate vicinity of this example, as catalogued by Fawn, Evans, McMaster and Davies (1990, nos. 70, 71, 72, 76 and 78), with a further five examples to the north and many more to the southwest and around Mersea Island. All five of the red hills mentioned by Fawn *et al* are given grid references in the publication and as plotted are located around the edges of the current development site. Therefore, the red hill located in trench T16 appears to be a new discovery.

The modern use of the development site as a firing range has truncated and damaged the red hill, although the remains of at least one hearth was present in the evaluation trench. As the environmental samples taken from the red hill could not be classed as 'stratigraphically secure', no further work was undertaken aside from the initial assessment. Future archaeological work on the development site should focus on defining the extent and character of the red hill, and to determine if other features such as settling tanks and flues are present, as well as identifying evidence of briquetage vessels and other kiln furniture. Environmental samples from secure contexts may also provide useful information about fuel for salt-making and taxa suitable for radiocarbon dating.

A significant concentration of Romano-British ditches, pits and two possible postholes were present in Trench T1, with finds including pottery sherds, ceramic building material, animal bone, coins, iron bolt-heads and other small finds. As few other features of this date were recorded in the evaluation trenches, other than an isolated pit in T4 and the red hill in T16, it is likely that most of the Roman period activity is focussed in the northwestern corner of the development site. This activity is likely to be closely associated with the red hill and others known to be located nearby, and is possibly indicative of occupation/settlement either in this northwest corner or very close to it.

Dating of the features and finds from trench T1 indicates that most of the Roman activity was focussed on the mid 1st to late 2nd/early 3rd century, possibly originating in the Late Iron Age. None of the pottery needs date to later than the mid 3rd century, but two coins of mid 3rd to early 4th and 4th century date came from F4 and F8, indicating some continued activity on the site into the later Roman period.

The pottery evidence also suggests the presence of a relatively wealthy site with a number of ceramic imports and fineware beakers. Other significant finds included five Roman coins and the iron remains of three weapons. The mid 1st-century iron bolt-heads and spearhead from pit F14 could suggest that the Roman army was active in the area, perhaps associated with the early Roman harbour and possible military supply

base at Fingringhoe 3km to the northwest (Crummy 1997). However, such weapons may also have been acquired for reuse by the occupants of smaller settlement sites for activities like hunting (Allason-Jones 2011; Manning 1985, 176).

Two medieval pits identified in trenches T5 (F3) and T11 (F38) appear to be relatively isolated features dating from the 13th/14th to 15th century. They probably indicate small-scale exploitation of the marshland in this period. Records from the Domesday Survey and historic mapping shows activity around the development site particularly associated with sheep pasturage on the marshland (Godden 2017).

9 Acknowledgements

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Note: all CAT reports, except for DBAs, are available online in PDF format at <http://cat.essex.ac.uk>

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11 Abbreviations and glossary

Bronze Age	period from c 2500 to 700 BC
CAT	Colchester Archaeological Trust
CBCAA	Colchester Borough Council Archaeological Advisor
CBM	ceramic building material, ie brick/tile
CHER	Colchester Historic Environment Record
CIfA	Chartered Institute for Archaeologists
context	specific location of finds on an archaeological site
feature (F)	an identifiable thing like a pit, a wall, a drain: can contain 'contexts'
Iron Age	period from 700 BC to Roman invasion of AD 43
Late Bronze Age	period from c 1000 to 700 BC
layer (L)	distinct or distinguishable deposit (layer) of material
medieval	period from AD 1066 to c 1500
modern	period from c AD 1800 to the present
natural	geological deposit undisturbed by human activity
NGR	National Grid Reference
OASIS	O nline A ccess to the I ndex of A rchaeological I nvestigations, http://oasis.ac.uk/pages/wiki/Main
post-medieval	period from c AD 1500 to c 1800
prehistoric	pre-Roman
residual	something out of its original context, eg a Roman coin in a modern pit
Roman	the period from AD 43 to c AD 410

wsj written scheme of investigation

12 Contents of archive

Finds: 3 boxes

Paper record

One A4 document wallet containing:

The report (CAT Report 1299)

WYG written scheme of investigation

Original site records (feature and layer sheets, finds record, section drawings)

Inked sections drawings and illustrations

Site digital photographic thumbnails and log

Digital record

The report (CAT Report 1299)

WYG written scheme of investigation

Site digital photographs, photographic thumbnails and log

Graphic files

Survey data

13 Archive deposition

The paper and digital archive is currently held by the Colchester Archaeological Trust at Roman Circus House, Roman Circus Walk, Colchester, Essex CO2 7GZ, but will be permanently deposited with Colchester Museum under accession code COLEM: 2018.54.

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Date: 2.11.2018

Appendix 1 Context list

Trench	Context no.	Finds no.	Context	Description	Date
All	L1	1, 2, 3, 5, 6, 7, 18, 53, 64, 67	Topsoil	Very hard, dry grey/brown silty-clay	Modern
All	L2	-	Natural	Firm/hard, dry/moist light/medium/dark orange/grey/brown silty-clay with <1% stone piece inclusions	Post-glacial
T6	L3	-	Subsoil	Dry, light/medium yellow/grey silty-clay	
T16	L4	57, 58	'Red hill'	Loose, dry medium yellow/orange/brown/red/pink fired clay with rare fire-cracked flint/stone piece inclusions	Late Iron Age/Roman
T16	L5	58?, 59	Layer associated with L4	Friable, moist dark grey/black silty-clay with frequent charcoal fleck inclusions	Late Iron Age/Roman
T16	L6	-	Layer associated with L4	Dry, dark orange/brown/red silty-clay	Late Iron Age/Roman
T6	F1	4	Ditch	Firm, moist medium orange/grey/brown mottled silty-clay with <1% stone piece inclusions	Modern
T5	F2	-	Ditch	Firm, moist medium orange/grey/brown silty-clay with <1% stone piece inclusions	Undated
T5	F3	8	Pit	Firm, dry light/medium yellow/grey silty-clay with <1% stone piece inclusions	Medieval, c 13th/14th-15th century
T1	F4	10, 27, 28, 29, 30, 32, 33, 34, 43, 44, 45, 46, 51	Ditch / clay extraction pits	Lower fill: light/medium orange/grey silty-clay with manganese fleck inclusions; upper fill: dark brown/grey silty-clay	Roman, mid/late 3rd to early 4th
T1	F5	11	Pit	Firm, dry light grey silty-clay	Roman
T1	F6	12	Ditch	Firm, dry medium grey/brown silty-clay with charcoal, oyster and daub fleck inclusions and 3% stone piece inclusions	Roman, late 2nd-early 3rd century
T1	F7	13	Pit	Firm, dry light grey/brown clay with charcoal and daub fleck inclusions and 3% stone piece inclusions	Roman, early 2nd-mid 3rd century
T1	F8	23	Pit	Very firm/hard, dry medium orange/brown silty-clay with <5% stone and <2% pottery piece inclusions	Roman, 4th century
T1	F9	22	Ditch	Very hard, dry medium grey/brown silty-clay	Roman
T1	F10	14, 21, 62	Ditch	Firm, dry medium/dark grey/brown silty-clay with <8% stone piece inclusions	Roman, mid-late 1st century
T1	F11	15, 16	Pit	Firm, dry medium grey/brown silty-clay with <2% stone piece inclusions	Roman, mid 1st-early 2nd century (intrusive post-medieval)
T1	F12	-	Pit	Firm, dry medium grey/brown silty-clay	Undated
T1	F13	-	?Ditch	Firm, dry light orange/grey/brown	Undated

				clay with charcoal fleck inclusions and 2% stone piece inclusions	
T1	F14	17	Pit	Firm, dry light grey silty-clay	Roman, early 2nd century
T1	F15	19	Pit	Hard, dry medium grey/brown silty-clay with charcoal fleck inclusions and 2% stone piece inclusions	Roman, 1st-2nd/3rd century
T1	F16	24	Pit	Firm, dry orange/grey/brown/black silty-clay with 2% stone piece inclusions	-
T1	F17	25	Pit	Firm, dry light orange/grey silty-clay	Roman, 1st-2nd century
T1	F18	20, 36	Pit	Very firm, very dry light/medium grey silty-clay	Roman, 2nd-3rd century
T1	F19	29, 31	Ditch	Firm, moist light orange/grey/brown silty-clay	?Prehistoric, Bronze Age
T1	F20	-	Posthole	Firm, moist medium orange/grey silty-clay with <1% stone piece inclusions	Undated
T1	F21	-	Pit / hollow	Very hard, dry medium grey/brown silty-clay with <4% stone piece inclusions	Undated
T1	F22	35	?Pit	Very hard, dry medium grey/brown silty-clay	Roman, 1st-2nd century
T1	F23	37, 39	Pit	Hard, dry light grey silty-clay with daub fleck inclusions	Roman, early 2nd-mid 3rd century
T1	F24	38	Pit	Hard, dry light grey silty-clay	Roman or Modern
T17	F25	40	Pit	Firm, dry medium grey/brown silty-clay with 2% charcoal and <1% daub fleck inclusions	Undated
T1	F26	41	Pit	Hard, dry light grey silty-clay	Roman
T1	F27	42	Pit	Hard, dry medium grey silty-clay	Roman
T1	F28	-	?Posthole	Firm, moist medium orange/grey silty-clay	Undated
T1	F29	-	?Ditch / pit	Firm/hard, moist medium grey/brown silty-clay with <1% stone piece inclusions	Undated
T11	F30	-	Ditch	Firm, dry medium grey/brown silty-clay with rare charcoal and occasional daub fleck inclusions and rare stone piece inclusions	Modern
T4	F31	47, 49	Ditch	Hard, dry medium yellow/green/brown clay with rare charcoal inclusions	Late Bronze Age
T4	F32	48	Pit	Firm, dry medium grey/brown silty-clay	Late Iron Age/Roman
T3	F33	-	Ditch	Friable, moist dark orange/grey/brown mottled loamy-clay with rare stone piece inclusions	Undated
T3	F34	52	Pit	Hard, dry medium grey/brown silty-clay with rare stone piece inclusions	Late Bronze Age
T16	F35	54, 55, 59, 60	Hearth	Upper fill: loose, dry medium yellow/orange/brown/red/pink fired clay with rare fire-cracked flint/stone piece inclusions; lower fill: friable, moist dark grey/black silty-clay with frequent charcoal fleck inclusions	Late Iron Age/Roman
T16	F36	-	Modern disturbance	Redeposited 'red hill' deposit (medium yellow/orange/brown/red/pink fired clay with rare fire-cracked flint/stone piece	Modern

				inclusions) and natural (light/medium/dark orange/grey/brown silty-clay with <1% stone piece inclusions)	
T12	F37	56	Pit	Very firm, dry light/medium grey/brown silty-clay with >6% daub fleck inclusions	Late Iron Age/Roman
T11	F38	61, 63	Pit	Soft, moist medium grey/brown silty-clay with rare charcoal fleck inclusions	Medieval, c 13th-14th century
T16	F39	-	Modern disturbance	Loose/soft, dry/moist medium grey/brown silt	Modern
T16	F40	65, 68	Modern disturbance	Very soft, moist dark brown silty-clay	Modern
T21	F41	-	Shallow cut feature	Firm, dry medium orange/grey/brown mottled silty-clay with rare charcoal and occasional daub fleck inclusions	Undated
T21	F42	-	Shallow cut feature	Hard, dry medium orange/grey/brown silty-clay with rare/very occasional daub and very occasional manganese fleck inclusions	Undated
T21	F43	-	Pit	Hard, dry light/medium grey/brown silty-clay with rare charcoal and rare manganese fleck inclusions	Undated
T21	F44	66	Pit	Hard, dry light/medium orange/grey/brown silty-clay	?Late Bronze Age

Appendix 2 Depth of layers by trenches

Trench	Depth of L1 onto natural L2		Trench	Depth of L1 onto natural L2
T1	0.24-0.3m		T12	0.24-0.28m
T2	0.2-0.3m		T13	0.2-0.28m
T3	0.26-0.3m		T14	0.25-0.3m
T4	0.2-0.26m		T15	0.25-0.35m
T5	0.34-0.37m		T16	0-0.12m
T6	0.27-0.36m, subsoil layer L3 was recorded in this trench in a ground hollow and measured c 0.33m deep.		T17	0.28m
T7	0.35-0.53m		T18	0.3-0.35m
T8	0.33-0.46m		T19	0.25-0.27m
T9	0.26-0.42m		T20	0.25-0.3m
T10	0.13-0.24m		T21	0.3-0.32m
T11	0.3-0.32m		T22	0.3m

Appendix 3 Pottery and ceramic catalogue

Context	Find no.	Find type	Fabric Group	No.	Weight/ g	Rim	Handle	Base	Form	Spot date approx.
Trench T1										
F4, ditch/pits (surface)	10	Pottery	BACG	3	52	3	0	0	Bet 36/Drag. 33	2nd c. AD
		Pottery	BASG	4	24	0	0	1	Drag. 27	1st c. AD
		Pottery	CZ	3	12	1	0	0	Cam 392	Early 2nd-mid 3rd c. AD
		Pottery	CZ	10	22				Cam 392	Early 2nd-mid 3rd c. AD
		Pottery	CZ	4	6				Cam 392	Early 2nd-mid 3rd c. AD
		Pottery	CZ	1	6	1	0	0	Cam 391A/B	Early 2nd-mid 3rd c. AD
		Pottery	CZ	43	254	4	0	2	Cam 392	Early 2nd-mid 3rd c. AD
		Pottery	DJ	3	8					1st-2nd c. AD
		Pottery	DJ	5	6					1st-2nd c. AD
		Pottery	DJ	5	18					1st-2nd c. AD
		Pottery	DZ	6	24	2	0	0	Cam 113/119	1st c. AD
		Pottery	DZ	8	28	2	0	1	Cam 406	2nd-3rd c. AD
		Pottery	GTW	1	54					LIA
		Pottery	GX	7	66	1	0	1		Roman
		Pottery	GX	1	4				eggshell TN	1st c. AD
		Pottery	GX	25	102	0	0	2		Roman
		Pottery	GX	5	22	0	0	3		Roman
		Pottery	GX	36	196	4	0	0	Cam 46/311, 108, 218B/C, lid	1st-2nd c. AD
		Pottery	GX	4	2				eggshell TN	1st c. AD
		Pottery	HZ	2	218	0	0	2		Roman
		Pottery	HZ	1	26					Roman
		Pottery	MP	2	10	2	0	0	Drag. 18/31	Mid 3rd-4th c. AD
		Pottery	NOG WH 3	1	1					1st c. AD
Pottery	TZ	1	2					Roman		
CBM		2	462					RT	Roman	
F4, ditch/pits	27	Pottery	BAMT	1	2					1st c. AD

Context	Find no.	Find type	Fabric Group	No.	Weight/ g	Rim	Handle	Base	Form	Spot date approx.
(upper fill)		Pottery	BASG	1	2				Drag. 27	1st c. AD
		Pottery	DJ	7	28	1	0	0	Lid?	1st-2nd c. AD
		Pottery	GX	60	346	4	0	7	Cam 37-38, 218 B/C	1st-2nd c. AD
		Pottery	UR	4	38	0	0	4	Cam. 14	1st c. AD
F4, ditch/pits (lower fill)	28	Pottery	GX	3	10					Roman
		Pottery	HMF	1	12					Prehistoric
		Pottery	HMS	3	34					Prehistoric
F4, ditch/pits (upper fill)	30	Pottery	BASG	1	1	1	0	0	Drag. 24/25	1st c. AD
		Pottery	CB	4	7					Early 2nd-mid 3rd c. AD
		Pottery	CZ	70	106	6	0	1	Cam 391A/B	Early 2nd-mid 3rd c. AD
		Pottery	CZ	1	2					Early 2nd-mid 3rd c. AD
		Pottery	CZ	3	2					Early 2nd-mid 3rd c. AD
		Pottery	CZ	9	14					Early 2nd-mid 3rd c. AD
		Pottery	DJ	14	18	3	0	0	Cam 155	1st-2nd c. AD
		Pottery	DJ	10	42	0	0	3	Cam 155	1st-2nd c. AD
		Pottery	GB	2	68	1	0	0	Cam 37B/38B	2nd-early 3rd c. AD
		Pottery	GX	52	130	2	0	1	Cam 243-244/246	1st-early 2nd c. AD
		Pottery	GX	64	324	0	0	4		Roman
		Pottery	GX	96	426	9	0	4	Cam 46/311, 218B/C, 218C, 227, lid	1st-2nd c. AD
		Pottery	GX	17	20				egg shell TN	1st c. AD
		Pottery	NOG WH 3	1	1				Cam. 113	1st c. AD
		Pottery	TZ	2	12					Roman
		Pottery	TZ	2	6					Roman
Briquetage		7	124							
F4, ditch/pits	43	Pottery	DJ	1	6			1		1st-2nd c. AD
		Pottery	GX	19	52	4	0	0	Cam 108, 119	1st-2nd c. AD
		Pottery	TZ	1	10					Roman
F4, ditch/pits	45	Pottery	GTW	1	12					Late Iron Age

Context	Find no.	Find type	Fabric Group	No.	Weight/ g	Rim	Handle	Base	Form	Spot date approx.	
(lower fill)		Pottery	GX	1	2					Roman	
F4, ditch/pits	51	Pottery	CZ	7	12	3	0	0	Cam 391A/B	Early 2nd-mid 3rd c. AD	
		Pottery	GX	2	18					Roman	
F5, pit	11	Pottery	GX	3	18	0	0	1		Roman	
		Pottery	WA	5	26	1	0	0	Cam 316	Roman	
F6, ditch	12	Pottery	AJ	1	28				Dressel 20	1st-3rd c. AD	
		Pottery	BA	2	2					Roman	
		Pottery	BASG	1	12	0	0	1	Drag. 27G	1st c. AD	
		Pottery	CZ	1	2					Early 2nd-mid 3rd c. AD	
		Pottery	CZ	1	4					Early 2nd-mid 3rd c. AD	
		Pottery	DJ	5	12					1st-2nd c. AD	
		Pottery	DZ	2	8					Roman	
		Pottery	GA	6	12	1	0	0	Cam 279A/B	2nd-4th c. AD	
		Pottery	GX	73	250	8	0	2	Cam 13/27, 37/38, 120, 218B/C	1st-2nd c. AD	
		Pottery	HMS	1	4					Prehistoric	
		Pottery	UR	1	10	0	0	1		1st c. AD	
		Briquetage		5	104						
F7, pit	13	Pottery	BACG	1	2				Bet 28/Drag. 27	2nd c. AD	
		Pottery	CB	1	4				Cam 391A/B	Early 2nd-mid 3rd c. AD	
		Pottery	CB	1	4				?	Early 2nd-mid 3rd c. AD	
		Pottery	CZ	1	2					Early 2nd-mid 3rd c. AD	
		Pottery	DJ	1	10					1st-2nd c. AD	
		Pottery	GX	11	38	1	0	1		Roman	
		Briquetage		1	2						
F8	23	Pottery	GX	10	38	1	0	0	Cam 218B/C	1st-early 2nd c. AD	
F9, ditch	22	Pottery	HMFS	1	6					Prehistoric	
		50	Pottery	GTW	5	90					Late Iron Age
			Pottery	GTW	1	34	1	0	0	Storage jar	Late Iron Age

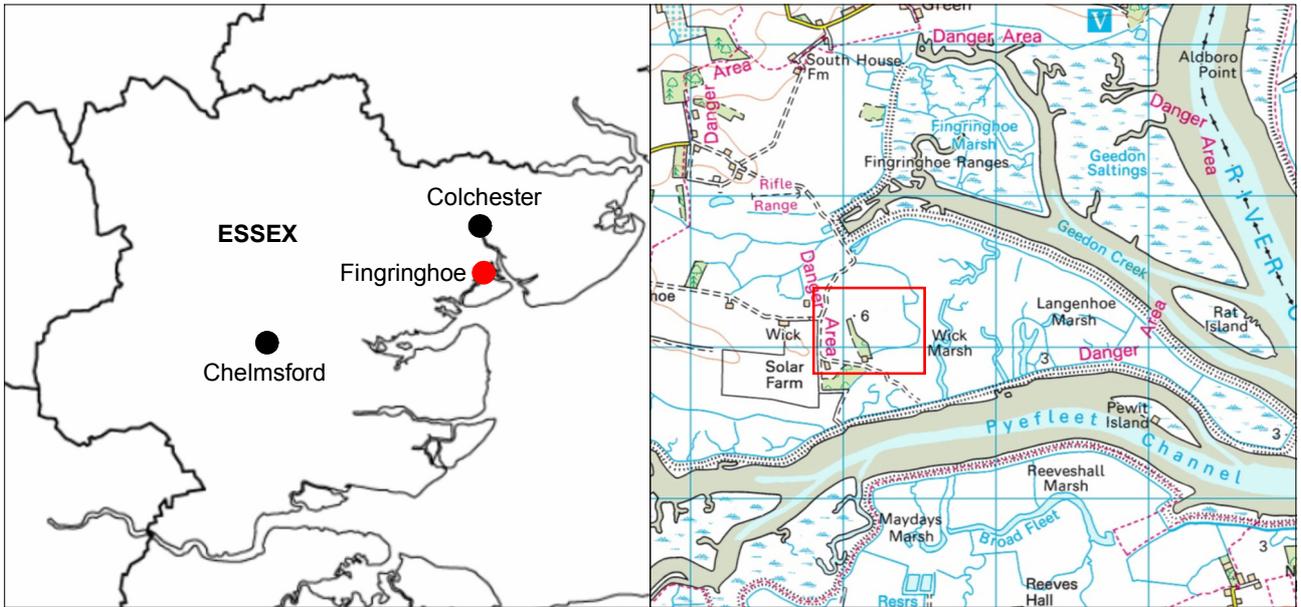
Context	Find no.	Find type	Fabric Group	No.	Weight/ g	Rim	Handle	Base	Form	Spot date approx.
		Pottery	GX	5	26	0	0	2		Roman
F10, ditch	14	Pottery	BASG	8	26	4	0	3	Drag. 24/25, Drag.27, Drag.18B	1st c. AD
		Pottery	DJ	23	96	0	0	4		1st-2nd c. AD
		Pottery	GX	78	482	8	0	12	Cam 108, 218B/C, 266, 243-244/46	1st c. AD
		Pottery	HZ	3	76					Roman
		Pottery	UR	4	42	4	0	0	Cam 13/27, 14/28, 16/30?	1st c. AD
		Briquetage		3	86					
F11, pit	15	Pottery	GX	2	16	1	0	0	Cam 108	Mid 1st-early 2nd c. AD
		Pottery	HZ	1	50					Roman
		Pottery	TZ	3	108					Roman
	16	CBM		1	16				RBT	Roman
		CBM		2	6				BR	Medieval/post-medieval
		Pottery	DJ	1	2					1st-2nd c. AD
		Pottery	GX	1	4					Roman
F14, pit	17	Pottery	BASG	4	34	1	0	2	Drag. 27G stamp	1st c. AD
		Pottery	CB	1	4	0	0	0		Early 2nd-mid 3rd c. AD
		Pottery	CZ	1	1				Cam 391A/B	Early 2nd-mid 3rd c. AD
		Pottery	DJ	27	46					1st-2nd c. AD
		Pottery	FJ	1	4	0	0	1	?	Mid 1st-early 2nd c. AD
		Pottery	GX	100	340	3	0	3		Roman
		Pottery	GX	60	540	13	0	6	Cam 108, 119, 218B/C, 243-244/246, 266, lid	1st c. AD
		Pottery	GX	66	254	2	0	1		Roman
		Pottery	HZ	1	20					Roman
		Pottery	UR	2	22	1	0	0	Cam 14/28 local copy	1st c. AD
		Pottery	WA	1	6					Roman
		Briquetage		1	10					
		CBM		1	116					RT

Context	Find no.	Find type	Fabric Group	No.	Weight/ g	Rim	Handle	Base	Form	Spot date approx.
F15, pit	19	Pottery	AA	1	180				Dressel 7-11	1st-2nd/3rd c. AD
		Pottery	DJ	1	2					1st-2nd c. AD
		Pottery	DJ	2	4					1st-2nd c. AD
		Pottery	GX	26	140	2	0	0	Cam 40B, 218B/C	1st-2nd c. AD
		Briquetage		3	12					
F17, pit	25	Pottery	DJ	1	2					1st-2nd c. AD
		Pottery	GX	1	4					Roman
F18, pit	36	Pottery	BASG	2	44	0	0	1	Drag.35	1st c. AD
		Pottery	DJ	8	26	0	0	0		1st-2nd c. AD
		Pottery	GX	8	44	1	0	1	Cam 268	2nd-early 4th AD
F19, ditch	31	Pottery	HMF	1	3					Prehistoric, ?Bronze Age
F22, ?pit	35	Pottery	DJ	2	16					1st-2nd c. AD
		Pottery	GX	1	4					Roman
		Pottery	HMF	1	10					Prehistoric
F23, pit	37	Pottery	AJ	3	136				Dressel 20	1st-3rd c. AD
		Pottery	CZ	1	1					Early 2nd-mid 3rd c. AD
		Pottery	DJ	12	32	1	0	0		1st-2nd c. AD
		Pottery	GX	13	52					Roman
		Pottery	HMF	2	6					Prehistoric
		Briquetage		5	14					
F24, pit	38	CBM		4	128				RT, LCA	Roman
		CBM		1	20					Modern
		Pottery	GX	6	22	1	0	0	Lid?	Roman
F26, pit	41	Briquetage		6	28					
		Pottery	GX	1	2					Roman
		Pottery	HMF	1	6					Prehistoric
F27, pit	42	Briquetage		1	4					
		Pottery	GX	4	14					Roman

Context	Find no.	Find type	Fabric Group	No.	Weight/g	Rim	Handle	Base	Form	Spot date approx.
L1, topsoil	18	Pottery	GX	2	12	2	0	0	Cam 218B/C	1st-2nd c. AD
U/S, spoil from F4 or F10	9	Pottery	40	1	10					16th/17th-18th c. AD
		Pottery	CZ	30	92	3	0	0	Cam 391A/B,392	Early 2nd-mid 3rd c. AD
		Pottery	DJ	1	10	0	0	1		1st-2nd c. AD
		Pottery	DJ	2	6				?	1st-2nd c. AD
		Pottery	GTW	1	28					Late Iron Age
		Pottery	GX	34	142	6	1	3	Cam 268, 391	2nd-4th c. AD
		Pottery	HZ	1	30					Roman
F4 or F19, ditch/pits	29	Pottery	DJ	3	10					1st-2nd c. AD
		Pottery	GX	2	14	0	0	1		Roman
Trench T2										
L1, topsoil	70	Briquetage		3	54					
		CBM		1	38				PT	Medieval/post-medieval
	73	Pottery	20/21	1	4					13th-14th c. AD
Trench T3										
F34, pit	52	Pottery	HMF	2	12	2	0	0	(mixed small-medium flint, occasional large flint, two rim sherds one with fingernail decoration around rim top)	Prehistoric, Late Bronze Age
L1, topsoil	53	Pottery	40	1	20					16th/17th-18th c. AD
		Pottery	45	1	14					19th-20th c. AD
Trench T4										
F31, ditch	47	Pottery	HMF, HMFS	14	48	1	0	0	(mixed small-medium flint, rim with fingernail impressions on top)	Prehistoric, ?Late Bronze Age
F32, pit	48	Briquetage		2	10					
L1, topsoil	72	Briquetage		1	12					
		Pottery	GX	1	1					Roman
Trench T5										
F3, pit	8	Pottery	21A	1	10					13th/14th-15th c. AD
L1, topsoil	6	Pottery	21	1	6	0	0	1		13th/14th-15th c. AD

Context	Find no.	Find type	Fabric Group	No.	Weight/ g	Rim	Handle	Base	Form	Spot date approx.
		Pottery	GX	1	12	1	0	0	?	Roman
		Briquetage		3	24					
		CBM		1	16				Tesserae cube	Roman
	7	Pottery	40	1	6					16th/17th-18th c. AD
	Pottery	GX	1	12						Roman
	Briquetage		1	14						
Trench T6										
F1, ditch	4	Pottery	21	1	6					13th/14th-15th c. AD
L1, topsoil	5	CBM		1	28				RBT	Roman
		Pottery	HMFS	1	4					Prehistoric
Trench T7										
L1, topsoil	3	Pottery	40	1	54					16th/17th-18th c. AD
		Pottery	GX	1	2	1	0	0	?	Roman
		Pottery	HMF	2	36					Prehistoric
		Pottery	HZ	5	6					Roman
Trench T8										
L1, topsoil	2	Briquetage		1	12					
	69	Briquetage		2	10					
		Pottery	GTW	4	12					Late Iron Age
Trench T10										
L1, topsoil	1	Briquetage		4	22					
Trench T11										
F38, pit	61	Pottery	20	1	32	1	0	0	Cooking pot	13th-14th c. AD
		Briquetage		1	18					
L1, topsoil	64	CBM		1	462				floor brick	Modern
Trench T12										
F37, pit	56	Briquetage		9	174					
Trench T13										

Context	Find no.	Find type	Fabric Group	No.	Weight/ g	Rim	Handle	Base	Form	Spot date approx.
L1, topsoil	71	Pottery	22	1	48	0	1	0	Hedingham Jug	12th-13th c. AD
Trench T16										
F35, hearth	54	Briquetage		2	506					
	55	Briquetage		10	244					
F40, modern disturbance	65	Briquetage		8	736				Stake hole void	
L4, redhill deposit	57	Briquetage		1	326				Stake hole void	
		Briquetage		29	1088				Stake hole voids	
Trench T20										
L1, topsoil	74	Pottery	45/45M	1	34				Modern English stoneware	Modern
Trench T21										
F44, pit	66	Pottery	HMFS	3	14				(essentially sand-tempered with some sparse fine flint, decorated with fingertip impressions)	Prehistoric, ?Bronze Age/Late Bronze Age
L1, topsoil	67	Pottery	20	2	6					13th-14th c. AD
		Pottery	20	3	6					13th-14th c. AD
		Pottery	45/45M	1	14					Modern
Trench T22										
L1, topsoil	75	Pottery	48b	1	2					Modern
		Pottery	HMF	5	12					Prehistoric
		CBM		1	36					Medieval/post-medieval



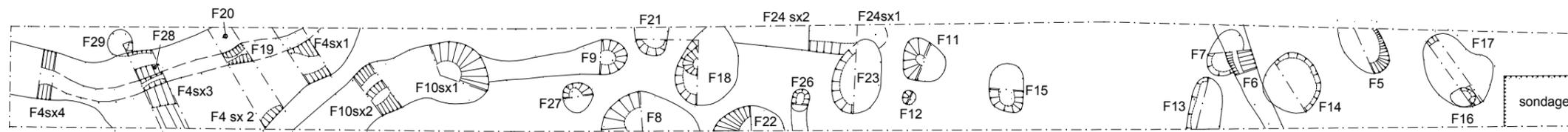
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Fig 1 Site location





Fig 2 Results



Trench 1

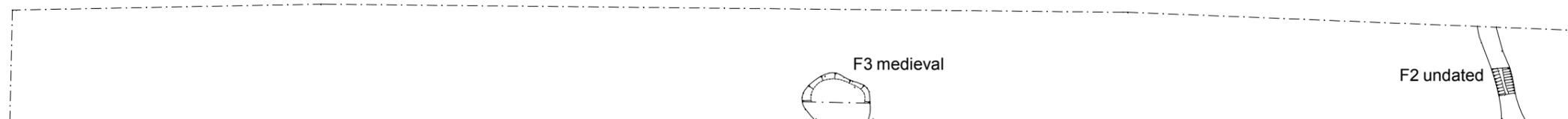
all features within trench dated to the Roman period



Trench 3



Trench 4



Trench 5



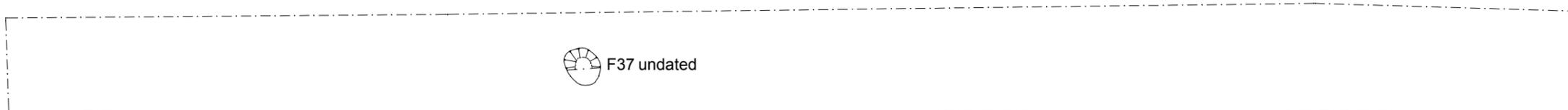
Trench 6

Fig 3 Trench plans: T1, T3-T6

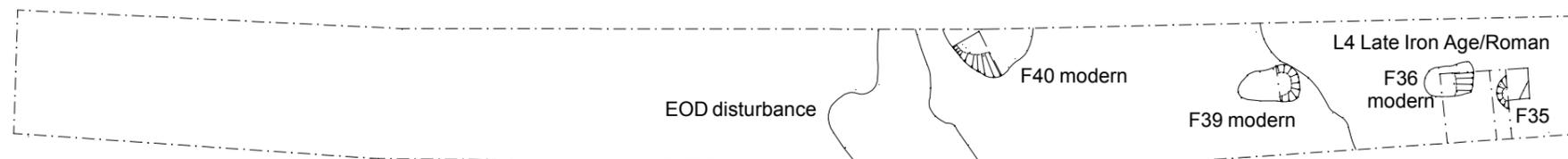




Trench 11



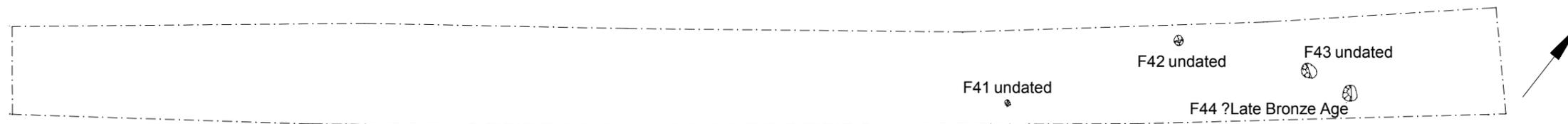
Trench 12



Trench 16



Trench 17



Trench 21

Fig 4 Trench plans: T11-T12, T16-T17 & T21



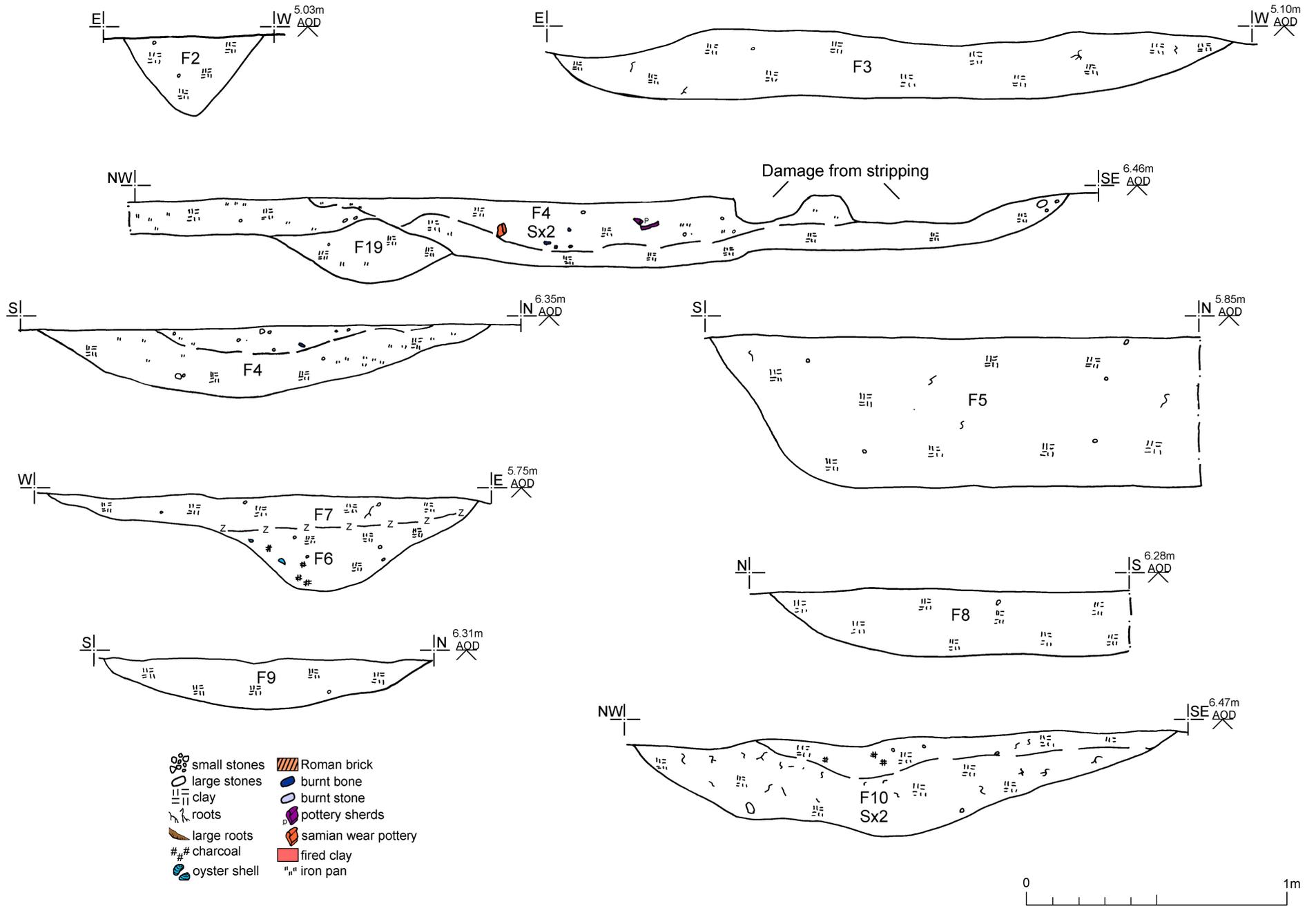


Fig 5 Feature sections

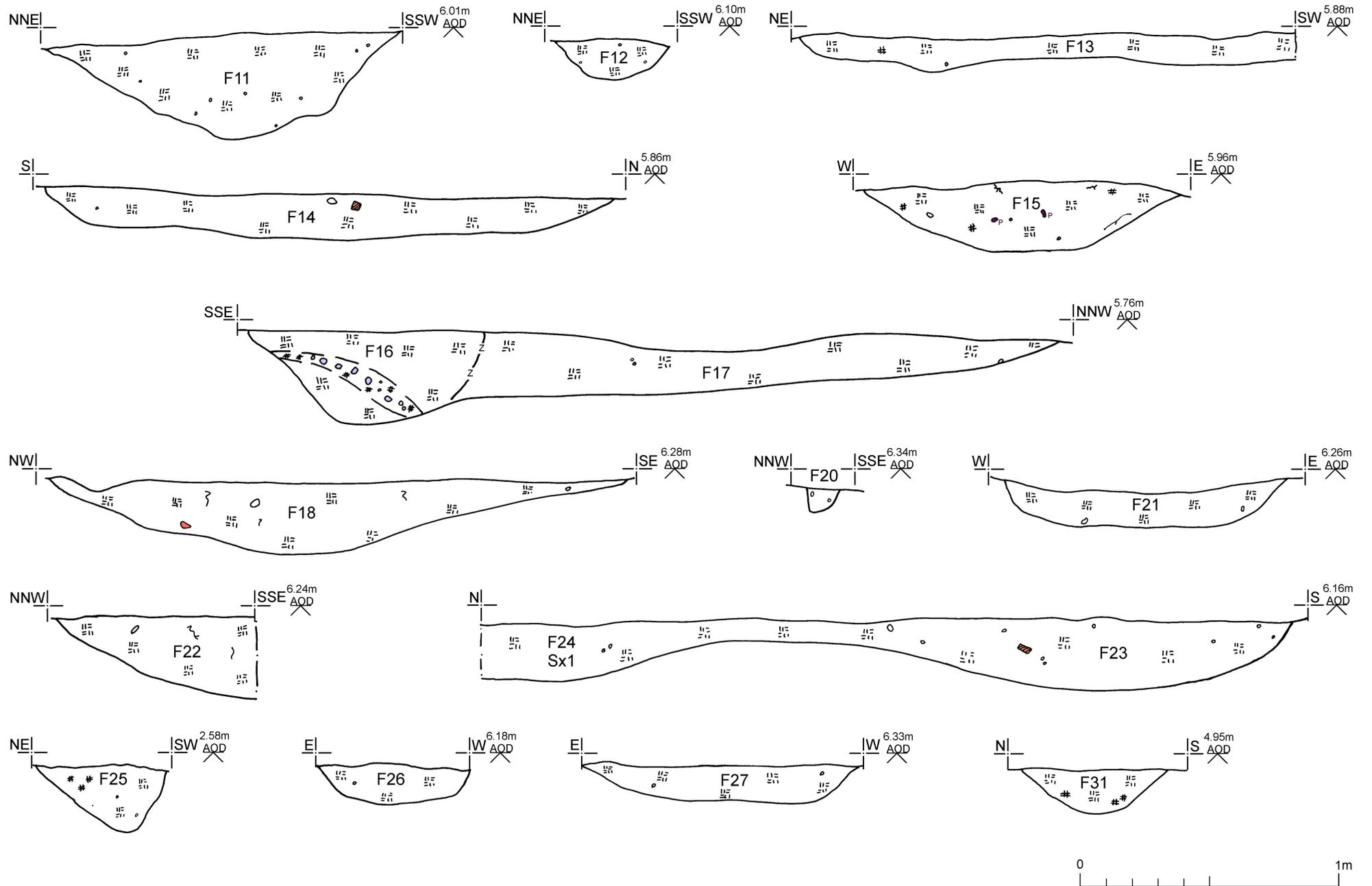


Fig 6 Feature sections

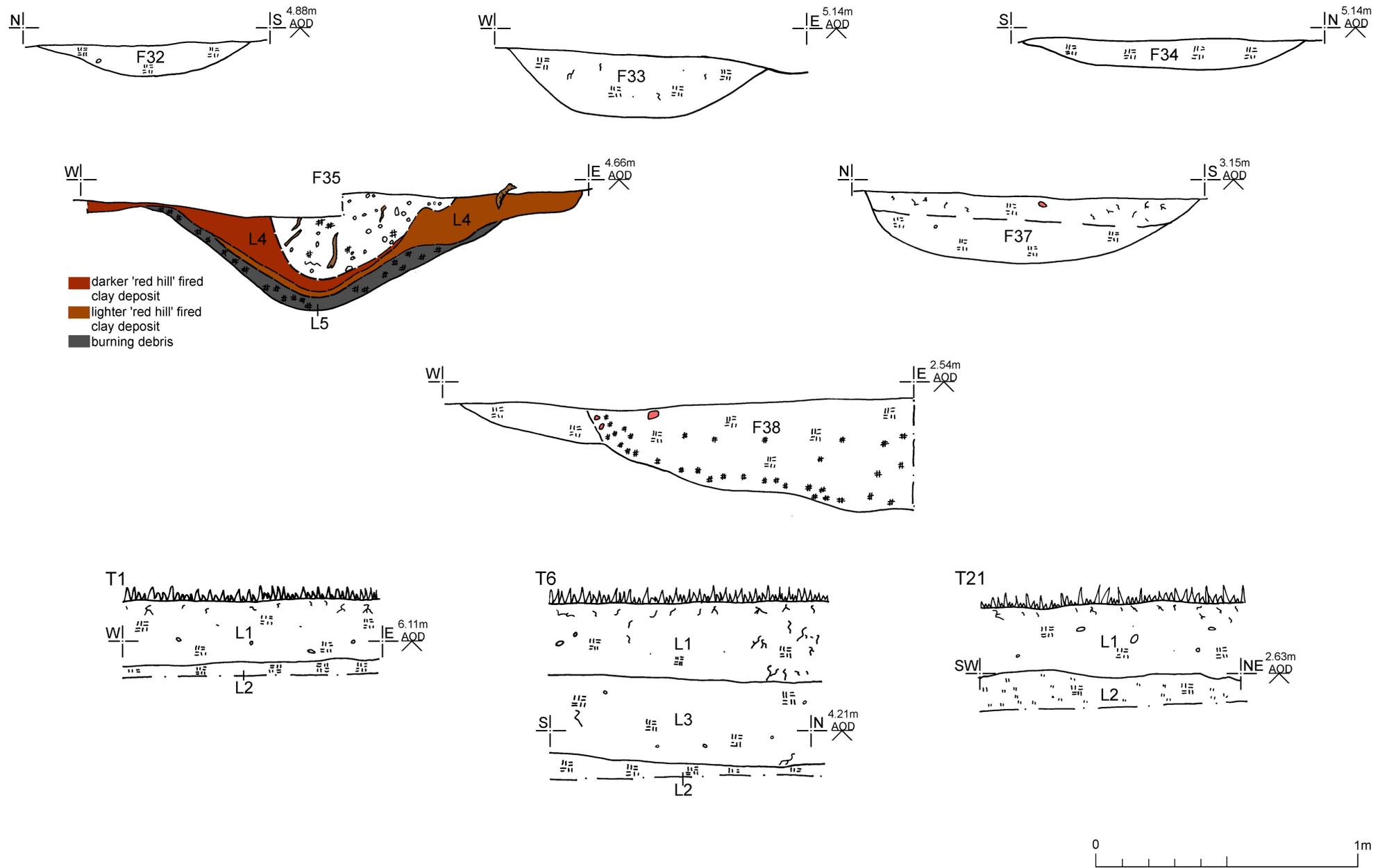


Fig 7 Feature and representative sections

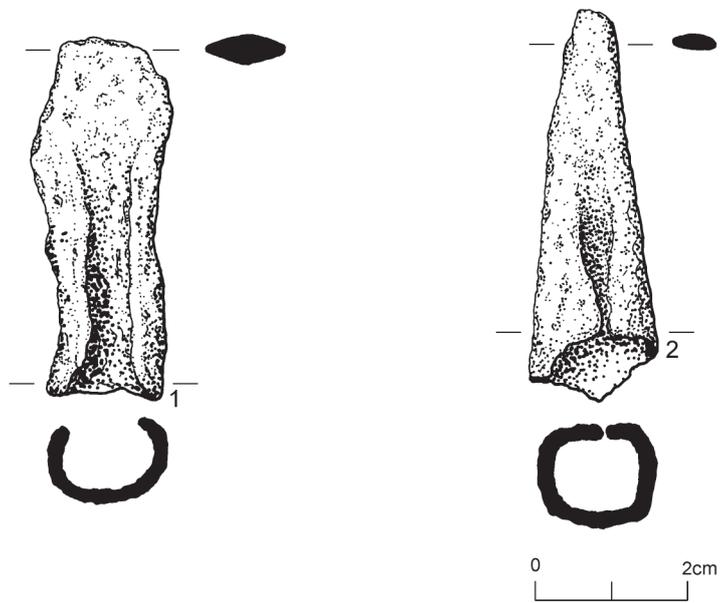


Fig 8 Iron bolt-heads from F14 (SF9-SF10)

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Project details

Project name	Archaeological evaluation at Fingringhoe Ranges, Lodge Lane, Langenhoe, Essex, CO5 7LX
Short description of the project	An archaeological evaluation (twenty-two trial-trenches) was carried out at Fingringhoe Ranges as part of the Fingringhoe Ranges Enhancement, on land off Lodge Lane, Langenhoe, Essex, in advance of the construction of two new firing ranges along with access tracks, a series of swales for flood mitigation purposes and three attenuation ponds. Significant contexts included a Late Iron Age/Roman red hill in trench T6 and a concentration of Roman features in trench T1 consisting mainly of ditches and a large number of pits, 0.24-0.3m below current ground level. Finds from the features in T1 included pottery sherds, briquetage, ceramic building material, animal bone, five copper-alloy coins, two iron bolt-heads and the remains of a spearhead. There were three Bronze Age/Late Bronze Age features in trenches T3, T4 and T11 and two medieval features in trenches T5 and T6. There were no significant archaeological remains in twelve of the trenches.
Project dates	Start: 18-06-2018 End: 06-07-2018
Previous/future work	No / Yes
Any associated project reference codes	18/05f - Contracting Unit No.
Any associated project reference codes	181189 - Planning Application No.
Any associated project reference codes	ECC4231 - HER event no.
Any associated project reference codes	COLEM: 2018.54 - Museum accession ID
Type of project	Field evaluation
Site status	None
Current Land use	Coastland 4 - Saltmarsh
Monument type	PITS Bronze Age
Monument type	DITCH Bronze Age
Monument type	RED HILL Late Iron Age
Monument type	RED HILL Roman
Monument type	DITCHES Roman
Monument type	PITS Roman
Monument type	POSTHOLES Roman
Monument type	PITS Medieval
Significant Finds	POTTERY Late Prehistoric
Significant Finds	WORKED FLINT Late Prehistoric
Significant Finds	POTTERY Late Bronze Age
Significant Finds	POTTERY Late Iron Age
Significant Finds	POTTERY Roman
Significant Finds	BRIQUETAGE Late Iron Age
Significant Finds	BRIQUETAGE Roman
Significant Finds	CERAMIC BUILDING MATERIAL Roman
Significant Finds	COPPER-ALLOY COINS Roman
Significant Finds	IRON BOLT-HEADS Roman
Significant Finds	IRON SPEARHEAD Roman
Significant Finds	LEAD WEIGHT Roman
Significant Finds	POTTERY Medieval
Methods & techniques	""Sample Trenches""
Development type	Military development
Prompt	Planning condition
Position in the planning process	Between deposition of an application and determination

Project location

Country	England
Site location	ESSEX COLCHESTER LANGENHOE Fingringhoe Ranges Enhancement

Postcode CO5 7LX
Study area 20 Hectares
Site coordinates TM 03143 17124 51.815229031402 0.947567161067 51 48 54 N 000 56 51 E Point
Height OD / Depth Min: 1.7m Max: 7m

Project creators

Name of Organisation Colchester Archaeological Trust
Project brief originator CBC Archaeological Officer
Project design originator WYG
Project director/manager Chris Lister
Project supervisor Nigel Rayner
Type of sponsor/funding body Ministry of Defence

Project archives

Physical Archive recipient Colchester Museum
Physical Archive ID COLEM: 2018.54
Physical Contents "Animal Bones","Ceramics","Glass","Metal","Worked stone/lithics"
Digital Archive recipient Colchester Museum
Digital Archive ID COLEM: 2018.54
Digital Contents "other"
Digital Media available "Images raster / digital photography","Spreadsheets","Survey","Text"
Paper Archive recipient Colchester Museum
Paper Archive ID COLEM: 2018.54
Paper Contents "other"
Paper Media available "Context sheet","Miscellaneous Material","Photograph","Plan","Report","Section"

Project bibliography 1

Publication type Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)
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