

Archaeological monitoring at Colchester County High School for Girls, Norman Way, Colchester, Essex, CO3 3US

April 2019



by Dr Elliott Hicks

With contributions by Dr Matthew Loughton and Laura Pooley
figures by Chris Lister and Sarah Carter

fieldwork by Alec Wade

**commissioned by Lyndon Hopkin, Colchester County High
School for Girls**

NGR: TL 9800 2468 (centre)

CAT project ref.: 19/04c

CHER ref: ECC4354

OASIS reference: colchest3-356786



Colchester Archaeological Trust

Roman Circus House,
Roman Circus Walk,
Colchester,
Essex, CO2 7GZ

tel.: 01206 501785

email: eh2@catuk.org

CAT Report 1438

June 2019

Contents

1	Summary	1
2	Introduction	1
3	Archaeological background	1
4	Aim	2
5	Results	2
6	Finds	5
7	Conclusion	6
8	Acknowledgements	7
9	References	7
10	Abbreviations and glossary	8
11	Contents of archive	8
12	Archive deposition	8

Appendix 1	Context list	
Appendix 2	Ceramic and pottery list	

Figures after p12

EHER summary sheet

CAT WSI

OASIS summary

List of photographs, tables, maps and figures

Cover: site shot

Photograph 1	F8 oblique view, looking northwest	3
Photograph 2	F10 sx, looking north	4
Photograph 3	F12 and F13 sx, looking north northeast	4
Table 1	Details on the main types of ceramics and pottery	5
Table 2	CBM by period and type	5
Table 3	Approximate dates for the individual features and layers	6
Table 4	Glass and clay pipes by context	6
Map 1	Extract from the 1842 tithe map	7
Fig 1	Site location	
Fig 2	Results	
Fig 3	Feature and representative sections	

1 Summary

Archaeological monitoring was carried out at Colchester County High School for Girls, Norman Way, Colchester, Essex, during exploratory excavations to locate existing electrical cables servicing an old electrical substation and further excavations to construct a new electrical cable conduit to connect a new electrical substation to the school building. Two features of possible Roman date – a ditch and an irregular feature – and three post-medieval features – a ditch, a pit and a pit/ditch – were exposed by the groundworks. A number of modern features were also observed.

2 Introduction (Fig 1)

This report presents the results of archaeological monitoring at Colchester County High School for Girls, Norman Way, Colchester, Essex which was carried out by Colchester Archaeological Trust between 10th and 18th April 2019. The work was commissioned by Lyndon Hopkin of Colchester County High School for Girls and took place during:

- 1) exploratory excavations to locate existing electrical cables servicing an electrical substation; and
- 2) excavations by the contractors so as to lay a new electrical cable conduit to connect a new electrical substation to the school building.

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 watching brief (ClfA 2014a)* and *Standard and guidance for the collection, documentation, conservation and research of archaeological materials (ClfA 2014b)*.

3 Archaeological background

The following archaeological background draws on the Colchester Archaeological Trust report archive, the Colchester Historic Environment Record (CHER) accessed via the Colchester Heritage Explorer (www.colchesterheritage.co.uk):

The development site is located within the grounds of Colchester County High School for Girls, a purpose-built complex of buildings opened in 1957 on land that was formerly part of the estate of Altnacealgach House (locally listed), a Victorian mansion designed by acclaimed local architect Horace Darken, built in 1888 to be the home of Arthur Thomas Osborne, heir to a successful brewing business. The school lies to the southwest of the house.

The Altnacealgach estate was located within the Late Iron Age *oppidum* of Camulodunum, to the west of the Roman walled town within an area of Roman cemeteries termed 'the western cemetery' by Hull (1958), more generally considered the Lexden cemetery and the area of Colchester Royal Grammar School (CHER MCC7525-9 and MCC7647). This is an area of Iron Age and Roman burial grounds to either side of Lexden Road (the main Roman road leading from the walled town to London). Many Roman burials and cremations have been found and reported on in this area (see Hull 1958 and CAR 11). In particular a Roman amphora burial was found to the west of Altnacealgach House (CHER MCC7676) and a trial-trench evaluation on a site south of Park Road in 2006 defined Roman occupation remains, including two cremation burials (CHER MCC3091, ECC FAU report 1711). The school lies some 425m east of Lexden Tumulus (CHER MCC1356 & MCC7523) an Iron Age barrow excavated in 1924 which produced a rich Late Iron Age burial with the remains of bronze, gold and silver objects and a coin with the head of Augustus mounted as a medallion. Various pottery finds date the burial (a cremation) to just before the Roman

conquest. The burial mound has variably thought to be that of Addedomarus (CAR 11, 85-94 and Foster 1986) or Tasciovanus (Philip Crummy, pers comm).

Excavations in 1939 revealed an early Roman curving ditch, possibly the corner of a fort, to the north of the school (CHER ECC851 and MCC2173). The same excavations revealed two parallel ditches, thought by Hull to represent an annexe lying to the south of this fort (Hull 1958, 273). It was later shown that these form a continuation of Heath Farm Dyke North (CAR 11, 32). CAT monitored an area on the corner of Norman Way and Park Road for a car park in February 1996 (CAT Report 1000). A ditch was recorded running east-west parallel to the footpath but was thought to be medieval or later and not associated to Hull's ditch.

In 1955, prior to the construction Colchester County High School for Girls, a 'triple-ditched dyke' was recorded by R.J. Martin beneath what was to become the main school building. The ditches were 4m wide, although their depths are unknown (CHER ECC714, MCC2177, CAR 11, 127). In addition to this, on the south edge of the school, post holes and a ditch indicated the possible presence of a building with wooden posts surrounded by a diagonal ditch dated to the 2nd century and a large 4.3m deep pit, also dated to the 2nd century. In 1956, excavations undertaken by John Wacher to the east of the school revealed palisade trenches, an irregular wattle-and-daub structure, gullies and pits (CHER ECC970, MCC8175 and MCC2064-5, CAR 11, 124-126).

CAT have carried out a number of watching briefs and evaluations in this area. A watching brief undertaken by CAT in 2001 on an extension to the school revealed no trace of the ditches of the triple dyke seen in 1955 (CAT Report 155). A further watching brief in 2005 for a new music and careers block recorded four undatable pits or ditches (CAT Report 348). At least two of the ditches of the 'triple-ditched dyke' should have been visible within the footprint of the new building and one of its soakaways, but were not observed. A substantial ditch recorded in a second soakaway was not in alignment with those seen in 1955 and it was concluded that the 'triple-ditched dyke' either turns a corner or in fact does not actually exist.

An evaluation at the County High School for Girls in 2014 in the area of the proposed rear or southern car park revealed a Roman ditch dating to the late 1st century AD (CAT Report 762). The ditch was aligned parallel to the ditches seen in the 1939 excavations (ie. Heath Farm Dyke North). It is unclear is whether the 2014 ditch is merely an agricultural field ditch, or whether it is part of a wider defensive scheme including the Heath Farm Dyke and the 'triple-ditched dyke' on the school site. An evaluation undertaken by CAT in 2016 towards the centre of the County High School for Girls identified a Roman ditch aligned north-east to south-west (CAT Report 975). This was recorded along with five modern and two natural features. Another evaluation at Colchester County High School for Girls was carried out in January 2018 in advance of the construction of a multi-functional hall and two additional car parks (CAT Report 1211). The evaluation uncovered three undated pits, two post-Roman pits and two natural features. As during previous investigations at this site, no trace of the triple-ditch dyke was found.

4 Aim

Archaeological monitoring was undertaken to excavate and record any archaeological deposits which were exposed by the groundworks.

5 Results (Figs 2-3)

The following groundworks were carried out at the site:

1) Approximately 80m of service trenching, which was 1.2-1.3m wide and 0.7-0.8m deep. Some 24m of this trench was excavated without monitoring.

2) Two exploratory holes to locate an electrical conduit. EH1 was 3.5m by 0.7m and 1.35m in depth; EH2 was 3.2m by 2m and 1.3-2m in depth. Both exploratory holes were excavated without archaeological supervision.

3) Three cable pits to connect cables with the new electrical sub-station. CP1 was 2.5m by 1.6m and 1m in depth; CP2 was 2.7m by 2m and 0.8m in depth; CP3 was 2.8m by 3.8m and 1.1m in depth.

Eight layers were recorded in the service trenches.¹ At its western end, the service trench was excavated through modern topsoil (L5, c 0.26-0.3m thick) and a modern make-up layer or spread of material (L6, c 0.3-0.34m thick) onto subsoil (L7). Within the central and eastern sections of the trenching, excavations occurred through a modern concrete surface (L8, c 0.28-0.42m thick) and a levelling layer (L9, c 0.34-0.4m thick) onto natural (L4, encountered at a depth of 0.66-0.77m below current ground level [bcgl]). A small branch of trenching extending northwards from the centre of the main body of trenching was excavated through L5 (c 0.25-0.29m thick) and subsoil (L3, c 0.4-0.45m thick) onto L4 (encountered at a depth of c 0.7m bcgl).

EH1 was excavated through L5 (c 0.38-0.42m thick), L3 (c 0.25-0.3m thick) and a distinct layer of subsoil (L11, c 0.14-0.2m thick) onto L4 (encountered at a depth of 0.8-0.9m bcgl). The northern half of EH2 was initially excavated through a levelling layer (L9, c 0.4m thick), while its southern half was excavated through L5 (c 0.3m thick). L5 and L9 sealed L3 (c 0.7-0.4m thick) which was situated above L4 (encountered at a depth of c 0.8-1m bcgl).

CP1 was excavated through L5 (c 0.35m thick) and L3 (c 0.48m thick) onto L11. CP2 was excavated through L5 (0.45-0.52m thick) and L6 (0.12-0.23m thick) onto L4 (encountered at a depth of c 0.7m bcgl). CP3 was excavated through L8 (c 0.25m thick), L9 (c 0.57m thick) and L10 (c 0.2m thick) onto L4 (encountered at a depth of c 1m bcgl).

Possible pit F8, which was of 17th- or 18th-century date, was uncovered towards the western end of the service trenching. The feature was not excavated and it extended beyond the limit of excavation (LOE) but it was at least 3.6m wide.



Photograph 1 F8 oblique view – looking northwest

¹ Layer and feature numbers follow on from those assigned to the contexts recorded during the evaluation conducted by CAT at Colchester County High School for Girls in January 2018 (CAT Report 1211).

Post-medieval pit F10 was located around the mid-point of the service trenching. It was 0.5m wide and 0.13m deep.



Photograph 2 F10 sx – looking north

Ditches F12 and F13 were situated slightly to the east of F10 within the service trench. F13, which was of possible Roman date, was aligned NNE-SSW and was 1.44m wide and 0.39m deep. F12, which was of post-medieval date, cut F13. The feature lay on a WNW-ESE alignment and was 0.83m wide and 0.07m deep.



Photograph 3 F12 and F13 sx – looking north northeast

Undatable ditch F17 was located in the N-S aligned section of trenching branching off from the main body of trenching. It was aligned NW-SE and was 1.09m wide and 0.23m deep.

?Roman irregular feature F15 was observed in the south-facing section of CP2. The feature extended beyond the LOE, but its exposed extent was 1.28m wide and 0.33m deep.

Undatable possible pit F9 was observed in the south-facing section of EH2. It was approximately 0.4m wide and 1m deep.

A number of modern features were also uncovered. Electrical conduit F11 extended along the western half of the service trench. Two areas of machine disturbance, F14,

were located around CP2. They were each 1m long by 0.4m wide, and of uncertain depth. An unidentified feature, F16, was observed in section in the area of service trenching immediately west of the new electrical sub-station. It was at least 2.2m wide and 0.6m deep. Modern pit F18 was uncovered in the N-S aligned section of trenching branching off from the main body of trenching. It was not excavated but it was at least 2.3m wide. Modern disturbance F19 was observed in section at the eastern end of the service trenching. It was approximately 2.5m wide and 0.4m deep.

6 Finds

6.1 Pottery and ceramics

by Dr Matthew Loughton

The watching brief uncovered 19 sherds of pottery and building material with a weight of 807g (Table 1).

Ceramic material	No.	Weight (g)	MSW/g
Roman	4	6	2
Post-Roman	4	138	35
Building Material	11	663	60
All	19	807	42

Table 1 Details on the main types of ceramics and pottery

Roman

There were four small worn sherds of Roman coarse, locally-produced grey ware pottery with a weight of 6g. These sherds came from the pit/ditch F8, ditch F13 and the ?irregular features F15.

Post-Roman pottery

This material was classified using the fabric groups from *CAR 7* (2000) and consists of three sherds of post-medieval red earthenware pottery (Fabric F40) with a weight of 130g and one sherd of Staffordshire-type white earthenware (Fabric 48D) with a weight of 8g. This material came from the pit/ditch F8 and the subsoil L3. The post-medieval red earthenware pottery includes the pierced base from a 17th-18th century flower pot (*CAR 7*, 215-217) and the handle from a Tripod pipkin or Tripod skillet (*ibid*, 207-210) which dates from c 1550 to the early 18th century.

Building material

The ceramic building material includes Roman brick, peg-tile, medieval / post-medieval brick and baked clay, while there was also one piece of roofing slate (Table 2).

CBM code	CBM type	No.	Weight (g)	MSW
Roman				
RB	Roman brick	1	287	287
Post-Roman				
PT	Peg-tile	4	68	17
BR	Brick	3	281	94
	Baked clay	2	7	4
	Roofing slate	1	20	20
	Total	11	663	60

Table 2 CBM by period and type

Summary

Table 3 provides a brief dating summary for the features and layers which produced datable ceramic finds. Most of the features and layers can be dated to the post-medieval period and the 19th-20th century. The ditch F13 and the ?irregular features F15 could be of Roman date. However it is more likely that these features are also post-medieval or modern given the small quantity of worn Roman pottery recovered from them.

Feature	Feature type	Roman pottery	Post-Roman pottery	CBM	Overall date approx.
F8	Pit or ditch	GX	F40 (Flower pot)	PT BR	17th-18th century
F10	Pit	-	-	BR	Post-medieval
F12	Ditch	-	-	PT Slate	Post-medieval
F13	Ditch	GX	-	-	Roman?
F15	?Irregular features	GX	-	-	Roman?
L3	Accumulation	-	F40 F48D	RB	19th-20th century
L11	?Subsoil	-	-	BR Baked clay	19th-20th century

Table 3 Approximate dates for the individual features and layers

6.2 Glass and clay pipe

by Laura Pooley

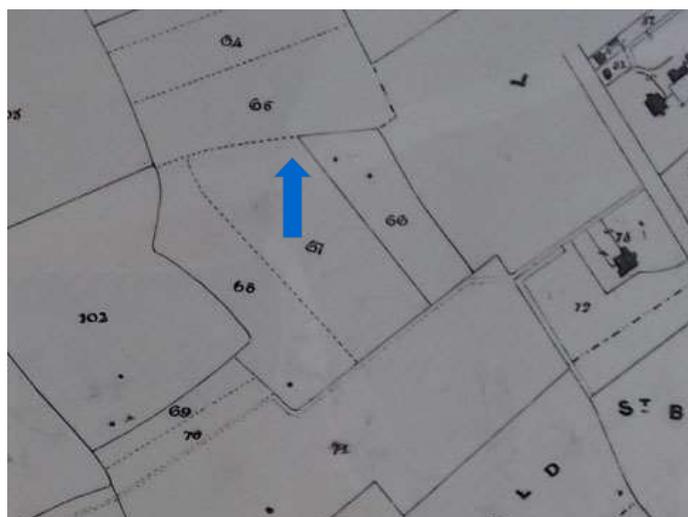
Three fragments of clay pipe stem and a fragment of glass stirring rod came from F8 and L3. All were of post-medieval date and have been discarded.

Context	Finds no.	Description
F8	9	Clay tobacco pipe: Stem fragment, 1.4g, post-medieval.
L3	10	Clay tobacco pipe: Two stem fragments, 3.8g, post-medieval. Glass: Fragment of green glass stirring rod, 3.5g, tapers (7-8mm diameter), post-medieval.

Table 4 Glass and clay pipes by context

7 Conclusion

While being located in an historic landscape rich in Roman remains, only two features of possible Roman date – a ditch and an irregular-shaped feature – were exposed during the groundworks. However, the other datable features recorded were post-medieval in date, and predated the construction of Altnacealgach House in (built in 1888), prior to which the present-day grounds of the school formed part of a field system (see Map 1 below). It is therefore likely that the post-medieval features uncovered were related to agricultural activity. A number of modern features were also uncovered.



Map 1 Extract from the 1842 tithe map. The approximate location of the site is indicated by the blue arrow.

8 Acknowledgements

CAT thanks Lyndon Hopkins of Colchester County High School for Girls for commissioning and funding the work. The project was managed by C Lister and carried out by A Wade. Figures were prepared by C Lister, B Holloway and S Carter. The project was monitored for CBCPS by Jess Tipper.

9 References

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

Brown, D	2011	<i>Archaeological Archives: A guide to best practice in creation, compilation, transfer and curation</i>
	(2nd ed.)	
CAR 7	2000	<i>Colchester Archaeological Report 7: Post-Roman pottery from excavations in Colchester, 1971-85</i> , by J Cotter
CAR 11	1995	<i>Colchester Archaeological Report 11: Camulodunum II</i> , by CFC Hawkes and P Crummy
CAT	2018	<i>Health & Safety Policy</i>
CAT Report 155	2001	<i>An archaeological watching brief at the County High School for Girls, Norman Way, Colchester, Essex: September 2001</i>
CAT Report 348	2005	<i>An archaeological watching brief at the Colchester County High School for Girls, Norman Way, Colchester, Essex: May-November 2005</i>
CAT Report 762	2014	<i>Archaeological trial-trenching evaluation at Colchester County High School for Girls, Norman Way, Colchester, Essex: March 2014</i>
CAT Report 975	2016	<i>Archaeological evaluation at Colchester County High School for Girls, Norman Way, Colchester, Essex, CO3 3US: June 2016</i>
CAT Report 1000	forthcoming	<i>miscellany of unpublished Colchester and Essex sites: 1984-2000 (sites not published in any Colchester Archaeological Report, or in the CAT Report Series from 1997)</i>
CAT Report 1211	2018	<i>Archaeological evaluation at Colchester County High School for Girls, Norman Way, Colchester, Essex: January 2018</i>
ClfA	2014a	<i>Standard and Guidance for an archaeological watching brief</i>
ClfA	2014b	<i>Standard and guidance for the collection, documentation, conservation and research of archaeological materials</i>
Gurney, D	2003	<i>Standards for field archaeology in the East of England</i> . East Anglian Archaeology Occasional Papers 14 (EAA 14).

Historic England	2006	<i>Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment (MoRPHE)</i>
Hull, MR	1958	<i>Roman Colchester, RRCSAL, 20</i>
Medlycott, M	2011	<i>Research and archaeology revisited: A revised framework for the East of England. East Anglian Archaeology Occasional Papers 24 (EAA 24)</i>
MHCLG	2019	<i>National Planning Policy Framework. Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government.</i>

10 Abbreviations and glossary

CAT	Colchester Archaeological Trust
CBCAA	Colchester Borough Council Archaeological Advisor
CBCPS	Colchester Borough Council Planning Services
CBM	ceramic building material, ie brick/tile
CHER	Colchester Historic Environment Record
ClfA	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
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 Index of Archaeological Investigation S , http://oasis.ac.uk/pages/wiki/Main
peg-tile	rectangular thin tile with peg-hole(s) used mainly for roofing, first appeared c AD1200 and continued in use to present day, but commonly post-medieval to modern
post-medieval	from c AD 1500 to c 1800
Roman	the period from AD 43 to c AD 410
section	(abbreviation sx or Sx) vertical slice through feature/s or layer/s
ws	written scheme of investigation

11 Contents of archive

Finds: none retained

Paper record

One A4 document wallet containing:

The report (CAT Report 1438)

Original site record (feature and layer sheets, finds record, sections)

Site digital photos and log

Digital record

The report (CAT Report 1438)

Site digital photographs, thumbnails and log

Graphic files

Survey data

12 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.

Distribution list

Lyndon Hopkins of Colchester County High School for Girls
Jess Tipper, Colchester Borough Council Planning Services
Essex Historic Environment Record



Colchester Archaeological Trust

Roman Circus House,
Roman Circus Walk,
Colchester,
Essex, CO2 7GZ

tel.: 01206 501785

email: eh2@catuk.org

Checked by: Philip Crummy

Date: 23.08.2019

Appendix 1 Context list

Context Number	Finds Number	Feature / layer type	Description	Date
L1	-	Tarmac surface and hoggin	Tarmac surface with underlying hard, dry medium orange sand	Modern
L2	-	Buried topsoil	Firm, wet, dark brown-black silty-clay	?Modern
L3	10	Accumulation	Firm, moist, medium grey/brown silty-clay with 1%< stone piece inclusions	19th-20th century
L4	-	Natural	Firm, moist, medium orange/brown sand	Post-glacial
L5	-	Topsoil	Loose, dry dark brown loam	Modern
L6	-	Make-up / spread of material	Firm, dry/moist, dark orange/grey/brown	Post-medieval / modern
L7	-	Subsoil	Soft, moist, medium orange/brown sandy-silty-clay with <1% stones	Undatable
L8	-	Concrete surface and base	Concrete surface with underlying sub-base	Modern
L9	-	Levelling layer	Firm, moist dark grey/brown silty-clay with rare charcoal flecks, very rare CBM flecks and 1% stones	Modern
L10	-	?Subsoil	Soft, moist medium orange/grey/brown sandy-silty-clay with very occasional CBM flecks and 1% stones	?Post-medieval
L11	14	Accumulation	Firm, moist light grey/brown sandy-silty-clay with very rare charcoal and daub flecks and <1% stones	19th-20th century
F8	9	Pit / ditch	Soft, moist dark grey sandy-silt with occasional charcoal flecks, rare CBM flecks and 1% stones	17th-18th century
F9	-	?Pit	Soft, moist medium grey/brown sandy-silty-clay with <1% stones	Undatable
F10	11	Pit	Soft, moist dark brown sandy-silt with rare charcoal flecks, 1% gravel and 1% stones	Post-medieval
F11	-	Electrical conduit	Tile and brick capped conduit for four large electrical cables	Modern
F12	12	Ditch	Soft, moist medium/dark brown sandy-silt with very occasional charcoal flecks, 1% gravel and 1% stones	Post-medieval
F13	13	Ditch	Soft, moist medium grey/brown sandy-silty-clay with 1% stones	?Roman
F14	-	Machine disturbances	Soft, moist medium/dark orange/grey/brown sandy-silty-clay with 1% stones	Modern
F15	15	?Irregular features	Firm, dry light yellow/brown silty-clay with 1% stones	?Roman
F16	-	Unidentified feature	Hard, dry medium/dark orange/grey/brown sandy-silty-clay with very occasional	Modern

			charcoal and CBM flecks	
F17	-	?Ditch	Soft, moist medium grey/brown sandy-silt with 1% gravel and 1% stones	Undatable
F18	-	Pit	Soft, moist dark grey silty-clay with very occasional CBM pieces, 1% gravel and 2% stones	Modern
F19	-	Disturbance	Soft, moist/wet dark brown/black silty-clay with very occasional CBM pieces and 1% stones	?Modern

Appendix 2 Ceramic and pottery list

Cxt	Feature type	Find no.	Find Type	Fabric Group	Discard	No.	Weight g	Rim	Handle	Base	Form	Comments	Date
F8	Pit/ditch	9	Pottery	F40	-	1	111	0	0	1	Flower pot	Large hole c 40 mm diam.	17th-18th century
F8	Pit/ditch	9	CBM		X	1	51				BR		Medieval / post-medieval
F8	Pit/ditch	9	CBM		X	1	10				PT		Medieval / post-medieval
F8	Pit/ditch	9	Pottery	GX	X	1	1						Roman
F8	Pit/ditch	9	CBM		X	1	41				PT	Burnt	Medieval / post-medieval
F8	Pit/ditch	9	Pottery	F40	-	1	5						c 1500-19th/20th century
F10	Pit	11	CBM		X	1	9				BR		Medieval / post-medieval
F12	Ditch	12	CBM		-	1	20				Slate	Roofing slate	Medieval / post-medieval
F12	Ditch	12	CBM		X	2	17				PT		Medieval / post-medieval
F13	Ditch	13	Pottery	GX	X	1	3					Worn	Roman
F15	?Irregular features	15	Pottery	GX	X	2	2						Roman
L3	Subsoil	10	CBM		X	1	287				RB	35 mm thick	Roman
L3	Subsoil	10	Pottery	F40	-	1	14	0	1	0	Tripod pipkin or tripod skillet	Black glaze	c 1550-early 18th century
L3	Subsoil	10	Pottery	F48D	-	1	8						19th-20th century
L11	?Subsoil	14	CBM		-	1	221				BR	Cream/pale yellow, dense	Medieval / post-medieval
L11	?Subsoil	14	CBM		X	2	7				Baked clay		?

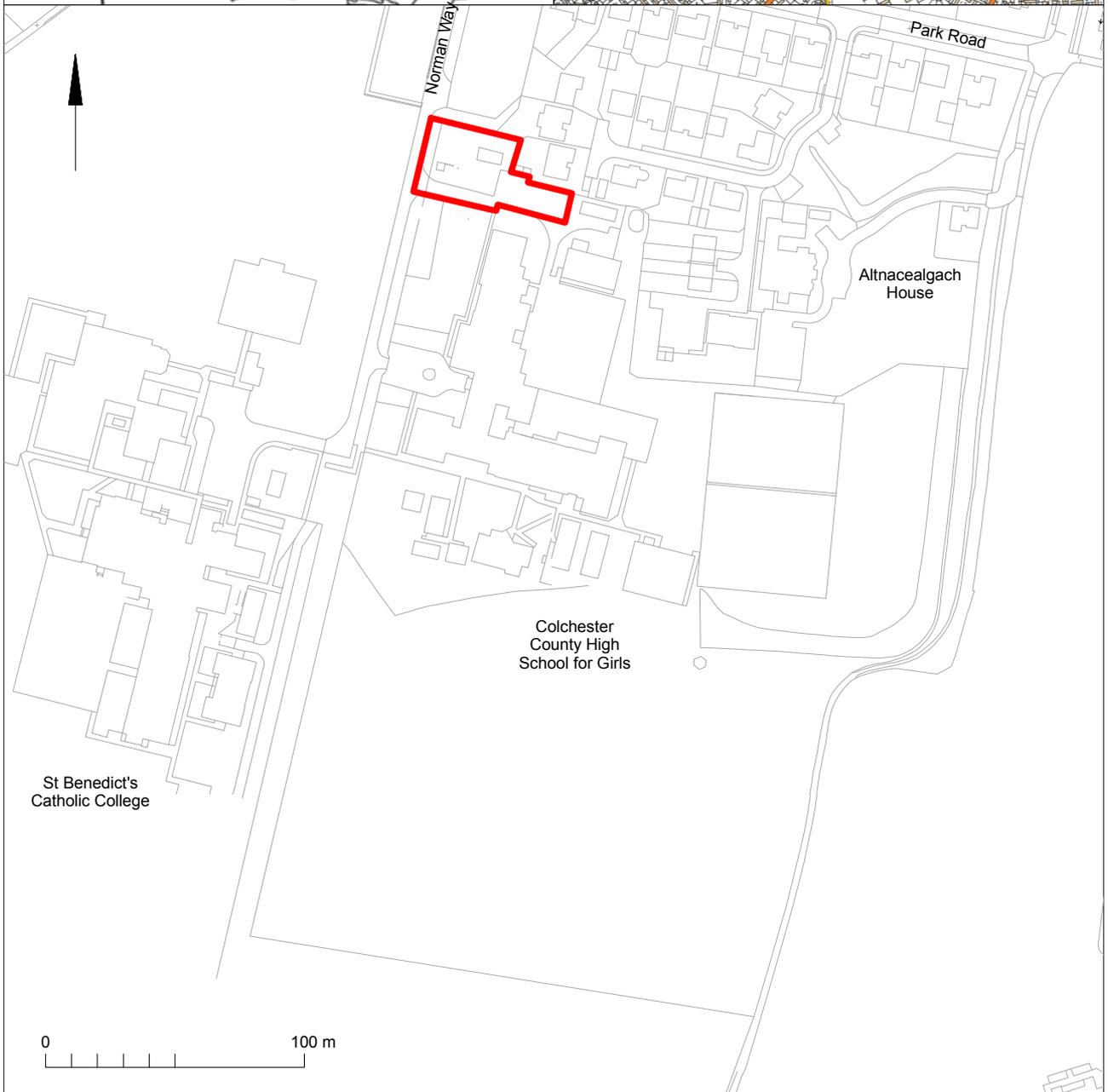
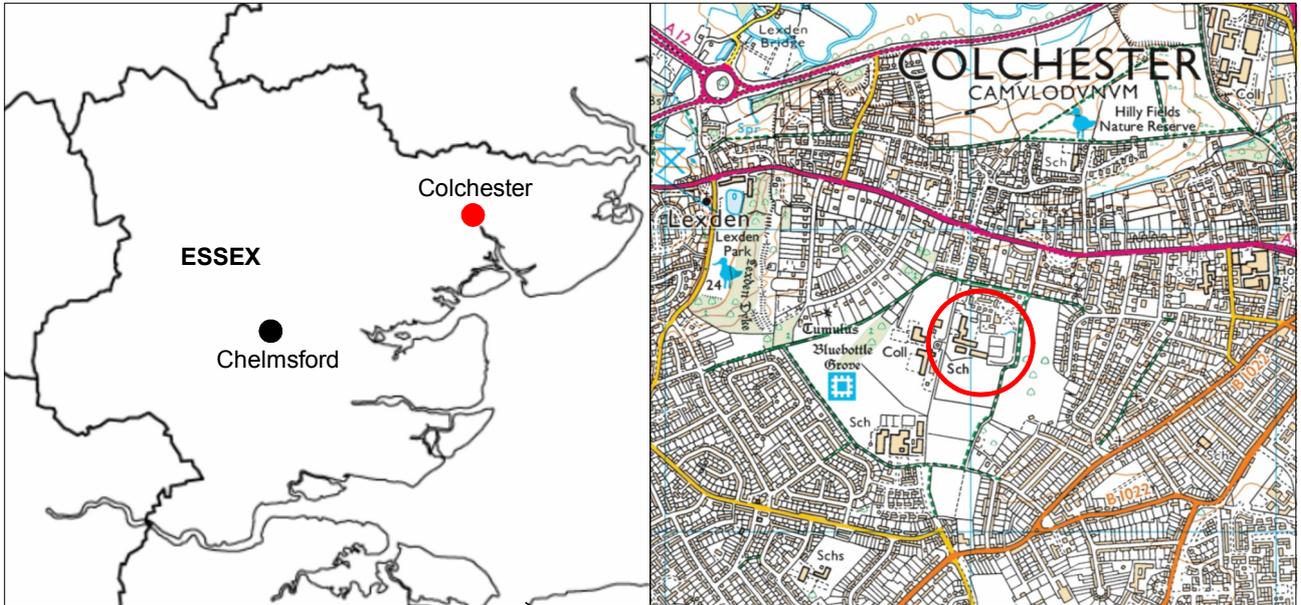


Fig 1 Site location.

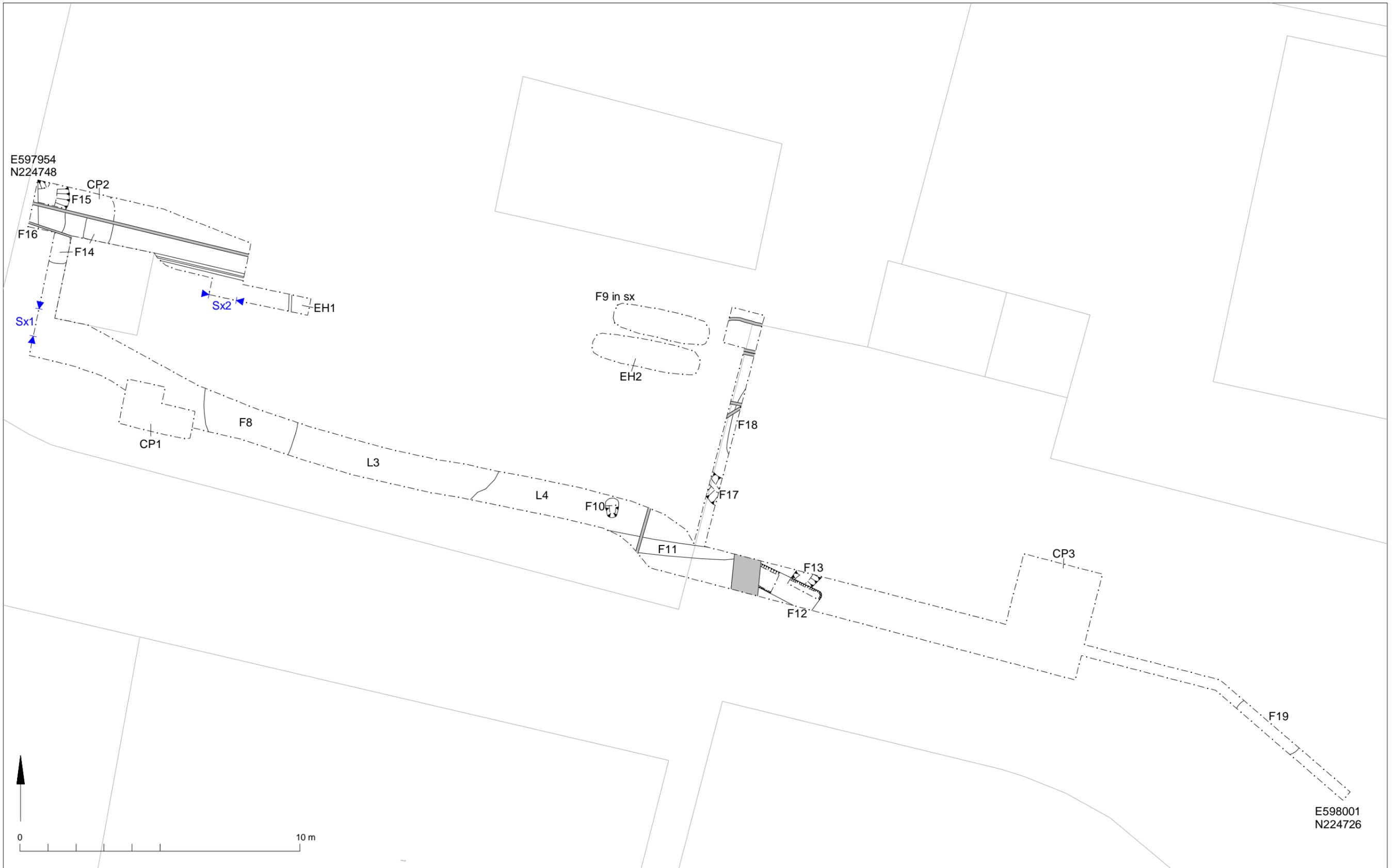


Fig 2 Monitoring results.

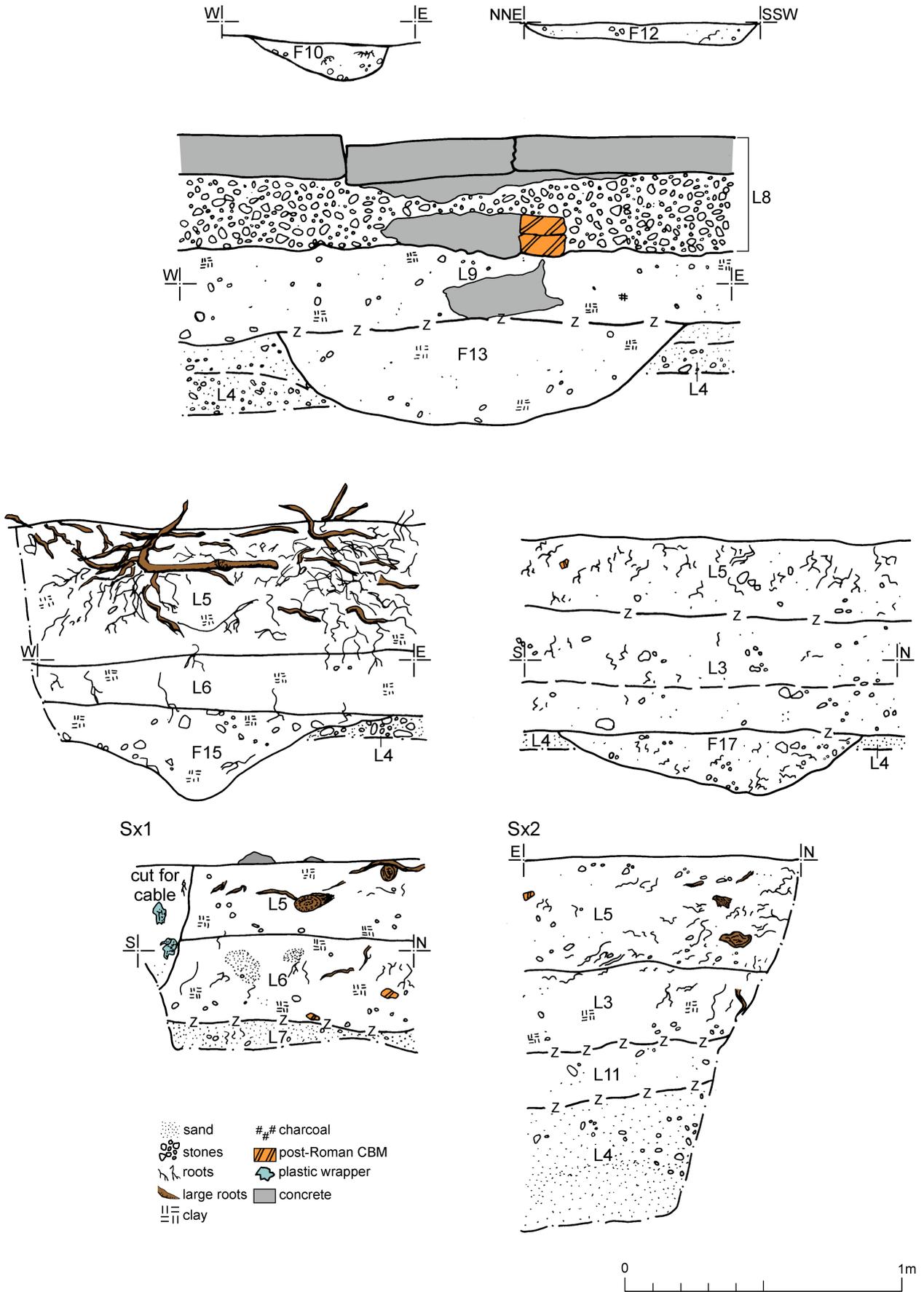


Fig 3 Feature and representative sections.

Essex Historic Environment Record/ Essex Archaeology and History

Summary sheet

Address: Colchester County High School for Girls, Norman Way, Colchester, Essex, CO3 3US	
Parish: Colchester	District: Colchester
NGR: TL 9800 2468 (centre)	Site code: CAT project ref.: 19/04c CHER ref: ECC4354 OASIS ref: colchest3-356786
Type of work: Monitoring	Site director/group: Colchester Archaeological Trust
Date of work: 10th to 18th April 2019	Size of area investigated: 0.13ha
Location of curating museum: Colchester museum	Funding source: Owner
Further seasons anticipated? no	Related CHER/SMR number: CHER ECC714, ECC851, ECC970; MCC1356, MCC2064, MCC2065, MCC2173, MCC2177, MCC3091, MCC7523, MCC7525, MCC7526, MCC7527, MCC7528, MCC7529, MCC7647, MCC7676, MCC8175
Final report: CAT Report 1438	
Periods represented: Roman, post-medieval, modern	
Summary of fieldwork results: <i>Archaeological monitoring was carried out at Colchester County High School for Girls, Norman Way, Colchester, Essex, during exploratory excavations to locate existing electrical cables servicing an old electrical substation and further excavations to construct a new electrical cable conduit to connect a new electrical substation to the school building. Two features of possible Roman date, a ditch and an irregular feature, three post-medieval features, a ditch, a pit and a pit/ditch, were exposed by the groundworks. A number of modern features were also observed.</i>	
Previous summaries/reports: none	
CBC monitor: Jess Tipper	
Keywords: –	Significance: *
Author of summary: Dr Elliott Hicks	Date of summary: August 2019

OASIS DATA COLLECTION FORM: England

[List of Projects](#) | [Manage Projects](#) | [Search Projects](#) | [New project](#) | [Change your details](#) | [HER coverage](#) | [Change country](#) | [Log out](#)

Printable version

OASIS ID: colchest3-356786

Project details

Project name	Archaeological monitoring at Colchester County High School for Girls, Norman Way, Colchester, Essex, CO3 3US: April 2019
Short description of the project	Archaeological monitoring was carried out at Colchester County High School for Girls, Norman Way, Colchester, Essex, during exploratory excavations to locate existing electrical cables servicing an old electrical substation and further excavations to construct a new electrical cable conduit to connect a new electrical substation to the school building. Two features of possible Roman date - a ditch and an irregular feature - and three post-medieval features - a ditch, a pit and a pit/ditch - were exposed by the groundworks. A number of modern features were also observed.
Project dates	Start: 10-04-2019 End: 18-04-2019
Previous/future work	Yes / Not known
Any associated project reference codes	ECC4354 - HER event no.
Any associated project reference codes	19/04 - Contracting Unit No.
Any associated project reference codes	colchest3-356786 - OASIS form ID
Type of project	Recording project
Site status	None
Current Land use	Community Service 1 - Community Buildings
Monument type	PIT Post Medieval
Monument type	ELECTRIC CONDUIT Modern
Monument type	DITCH/PIT Post Medieval
Monument type	PIT Uncertain
Monument type	DITCH Post Medieval
Monument type	DITCH Roman
Monument type	MACHINE DISTURBANCE Modern
Monument type	IRREGULAR FEATURE Roman
Monument type	UNIDENTIFIED FEATURE Modern

Significant Finds	POTTERY Roman
Significant Finds	POTTERY Post Medieval
Significant Finds	BRICK Roman
Significant Finds	BRICK Medieval
Significant Finds	PEG-TILE Post Medieval
Significant Finds	BAKED CLAY Uncertain
Significant Finds	BRICK Post Medieval
Significant Finds	PEG-TILE Medieval
Significant Finds	ROOFING SLATE Uncertain

Project location

Country	England
Site location	ESSEX COLCHESTER COLCHESTER Colchester County High School for Girls
Postcode	CO3 3US
Study area	0.13 Hectares
Site coordinates	TL 9800 2468 51.884940603981 0.877373422154 51 53 05 N 000 52 38 E Point

Project creators

Name of Organisation	Colchester Archaeological Trust
Project brief originator	none
Project design originator	Elliott Hicks
Project director/manager	Chris Lister
Project supervisor	Alec Wade
Type of sponsor/funding body	School

Project archives

Physical Archive Exists?	No
Digital Archive recipient	Colchester Museum
Digital Archive ID	ECC4354
Digital Media available	"Images raster / digital photography","Text"
Paper Archive recipient	Colchester Museum
Paper Archive ID	ECC4354
Paper Media available	"Context sheet","Drawing","Photograph","Report"

**Project
bibliography 1**

Publication type	Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)
Title	Archaeological monitoring at Colchester County High School for Girls, Norman Way, Colchester, Essex, CO3 3US: April 2019
Author(s)/Editor(s)	Hicks, E.
Other bibliographic details	CAT Report 1438
Date	2019
Issuer or publisher	Colchester Archaeological Trust
Place of issue or publication	Colchester
Description	A4 loose-leaf ring-bound
URL	http://cat.essex.ac.uk
Entered by	Dr Elliott Hicks (eh2@catuk.org)
Entered on	27 August 2019

OASIS:

Please e-mail [Historic England](#) for OASIS help and advice

© ADS 1996-2012 Created by [Jo Gilham and Jen Mitcham](#), email Last modified Wednesday 9 May 2012

Cite only: <http://www.oasis.ac.uk/form/print.cfm?id=364941> for this page

[Cookies](#) [Privacy Policy](#)