Colchester Archaeological Trust

CAT Report 2116
issued December 2024

Archaeological evaluation on land north-east of Colchester Road, West Bergholt, Essex, CO6 3JG: November 2024

CAT project ref.: 2024/09k
CHER code: ECC4880

Archaeological evaluation on land north-east of Colchester Road, West Bergholt, Essex, CO6 3JG: November 2024

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Commissioned by Will Vote
On behalf of Rose Builders

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Cover: Trench 20, looking west.

1 Summary

An archaeological evaluation (16 trial-trenches) was carried out on land north-east of Colchester Road, West Bergholt, Essex during groundworks for the construction of a new housing development. Archaeological features included three ditches and four charcoal-rich pits. All three of the ditches are post-medieval field boundaries visible on the first edition OS map of 1875. One of the charcoal-rich pits produced medieval pottery sherds but the others were undated. They could be associated with charcoal production (as seen elsewhere in northern Colchester) but are perhaps more likely to be related to land clearance. Also excavated were a modern pit, undated pit and three undated tree-throws.

2 Introduction (Fig 1)

This is the report for archaeological evaluation on land north-east of Colchester Road, West Bergholt, Essex, which was carried out on 11th to 13th November 2024. The work was commissioned by Will Vote of Rose Builders and was carried out by Colchester Archaeological Trust (CAT) during groundworks for the construction of a housing development and associated access, parking and utilities.

As the site lies within an area highlighted by the CHER as having a high potential for archaeological deposits, an archaeological condition was recommended by Colchester City Place Services (CCCPS). This recommendation was for archaeological monitoring and was based on the guidance given in the *National Planning Policy Framework* (MHCLG 2023).

No archaeological brief was provided as this project is a continuation of the 2021 evaluation on land immediately to the south of the current site (CAT Report 1672). However, in consultation with Dr Richard Hoggett of CCCPS, a written scheme of investigation (WSI) (CAT 2024a) was prepared by CAT in response to his recommendation and agreed before groundworks began.

In addition to the WSI, all fieldwork and reporting was undertaken in accordance with:

- *Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment* (*MoRPHE*) (Historic England 2015),
- Professional standards of the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists, including its *Code of Conduct* (CIfA 2020a-b, 2022, 2023a-b),
- East of England standards and frameworks published by East Anglian Archaeology (Brown & Glazebrook 2000, Gurney 2003, Medlycott 2011) and the recent review updates on https://researchframeworks.org/eoe/
- Relevant health and safety guidelines and requirements (CAT 2024b).

3 Archaeological and geological background

The following archaeological background draws on the Colchester Archaeological Trust Report 1672 and the Colchester Historic Environment Record (CHER accessible via Colchester Heritage Explorer (https://colchesterheritage.co.uk/map).

The settlement of West Bergholt is recorded in the Domesday Book of 1086 as consisting of nineteen households detailed under four separate entries. The records list a sizeable allocation of meadow and woodland associated with the settlement, in addition to a single mill (Open Domesday, https://opendomesday.org/place/TL9528/west-bergholt/, accessed 21st May 2021). The location of a now-demolished windmill lies some 175m south-east of the study site (MCC5687).

By the late 18th century, the study site was located centrally within Bergholt Heath (MCC9145). Historic Ordnance Survey mapping indicates that the site remained undeveloped between the late 19th and early 20th centuries.

A Palaeolithic flint axe was found in the grounds of Heathland School in 1915, approximately 200m south-west of the proposed development site (MCC7665). Mesolithic or Neolithic worked flint has been recovered some 500m north-west of the site (MCC8259).

The Pitchbury Ramparts Iron Age Hillfort Scheduled Monument is situated approximately 850m north-east of the site (HE ref. 1019959). An Iron Age coin was found around 350m to the north of the site (MCC8148) while several sherds of Iron Age pottery were recovered from an archaeological feature excavated around 550m to the west (MCC7705).

A number of undated cropmarks lie within the area of the site, including a large rectangular enclosure located some 350m to the west (MCC8635) and others indicating the possible presence of pits and probable field boundaries approximately 650m to the east (MCC7769, MCC8634).

2021 evaluation
An initial phase of the site, fronting onto Colchester Road, was carried out by CAT in May 2021 (CAT Report 1672). Six trial-trenches (T1-T6a) revealed a modern pit, an undatable charcoal-rich pit and two natural features. For the most part, the trenches were cut through modern topsoil (L1, 0.09-0.18m thick), and subsoil (L2, c 0.13-0.27m thick) onto natural (L3, encountered at a depth of 0.26-0.37m below current ground level).

The Geology of Britain viewer (1:50,000 scale[1]) shows the site has a bedrock geology of London Clay Formation (bioturbated or poorly laminated, blue-grey or grey-brown, slightly calcareous, silty to very silty clay, clayey silt and sometimes silt, with some layers of sandy clay). With superficial deposits of Cover Sand (periglacial aeolian blanket deposits of lowland areas comprising fine- to very fine-grained sand, usually horizontally bedded although they may form subaerial dunes with large-scale cross-bedding).

4 Aim

The aim of the evaluation was to record the extent of any surviving archaeological deposits and to assess the archaeological potential of the site to allow the ECCHEA to determine if further investigation is required.

5 Results (Figs 2-6)

Sixteen trial-trenches (T6b-T21) were machine excavated under the supervision of a CAT archaeologist. Trench numbers continue from the 2021 evaluation of six trial-trenches (CAT Report 1672) however all other context numbers started again from 1. Most trenches were 30m long, with T6b 25m long and T11 20m long, all at 1.8m wide.

There were three soil horizons across the site. Topsoil (L1, 0.10-0.25m thick) sealed subsoil (L2, 0.08-0.38m thick) above natural geology (L3, identified at 0.27-0.57m below current ground level). Sondages were excavated in trenches T6b, T13, T18, T19 and T21 to confirm the identification of L3 as natural. There were no archaeological remains in trenches T10, T11, T13, T14 and T19, all the other trenches are described below. A full context list, with soil descriptions and dimensions, can be found in Appendix 1.

Trench 6b (T6b)
Post-medieval field boundary ditch F2 was north-east/south-west oriented, and 0.92m wide and 0.14m deep with a shallow U-shaped profile. It is shown on the first edition 6-inch OS map of 1875 and was extant until at least the mid-1940s as it is still shown on the 1946 OS map. Pit F1 produced modern ceramic building material, slate and charcoal, none of which were retained for post-excavation analysis.

[1] British Geological Survey – https://geologyviewer.bgs.ac.uk/?

Photograph 1 Trench 6b, ditch F2, looking north-east.

Trench 7
Undated tree-throws F3 and F5 were excavated with modern service trench F4 also recorded.

Photograph 2 Trench 7, looking north-east.

Trench 8
North-west/south-east oriented ditch F6 had a shallow U-shaped profile and was 0.46m wide and 0.12m deep. It was recorded for a distance of 66.92m across the site, also appearing in T12 where it was recorded F10. The ditch also appears on the first edition 6-inch OS map of 1875 and was still shown on the 1946 OS map.

Photograph 3 Trench 8, ditch F6, looking north-west.

Photograph 4 Trench 9, ditch F13, looking south-west.

Trench 9 (T9)
Ditch F13 was north-east/south-west oriented and continued the length of the site (>101m), also appearing in T15 where it was recorded as F15. The ditch was 0.55m wide, 0.13m deep with a steep U-shaped profile. This ditch is also present on the first edition 6-inch OS map of 1875 and still on the 1946 OS map.

Trench 12 (T12)
North-west/south-east oriented ditch F10 was 0.57m wide by 0.13m deep. It was recorded for a distance of 66.92m across the site, also appearing in T8 where it was recorded F6. As above, this ditch is present on the first edition 6-inch OS map of 1875 and still on the 1946 OS map. To the south of the ditch was charcoal-rich pit F9, 0.93m by 0.86m and 0.1m deep. The pit was irregular in shape with an irregular base that included a small area of *in situ* scorching. Fragments of a medieval cooking pot were recovered from the pit.

Photograph 5 Trench 12, looking west.

Photograph 6 Trench 12, charcoal-rich pit F9, looking south.

Trench 15 (T15)
Ditch F15 was north-east/south-west oriented and continued the length of the site (>101m), also appearing in T9 where it was recorded as F13. The ditch was 0.73m wide and 0.13m deep with a steep U-shaped profile. As above, this ditch is present on the first edition 6-inch OS map of 1875 and still on the 1946 OS map.

Photograph 7 Trench 15, ditch F15, looking south-west.

Trench 16 (T16)
Charcoal-rich pit F8 was irregular both in shape and profile. It was 1.24m by 1.21m and 0.23m deep, and produced a fragment of clay tobacco pipe.

Photograph 8 Trench 16, charcoal-rich pit F8, looking south.

Trench 17 (T17)
Undated tree-throw F11 was excavated.

Photograph 9 Trench 17, looking east.

Trench 18 (T18)
Undated pit F7 included daub flecks were within the backfill.

Trench 20 (T20)
Undated charcoal-rich pit F12 was 1.0m by 0.87m and 0.13m deep.

Photograph 9 Trench 20, charcoal-rich pit F12, looking east.

Trench 21 (T21)
A fragment of daub was the only find recovered from undated charcoal-rich pit F14, 0.99m by 0.95m and 0.27m deep.

6 Finds

6.1 Pottery and ceramic building material

by Dr Matthew Loughton

The evaluation uncovered a small assemblage of pottery and ceramic building material (henceforth CBM) at 11 sherds with a weight of 169g and mean sherd weight (henceforth MSW) of 15g. This material was recovered from three features (Table 1).

Medieval, post-medieval and modern pottery
Medieval, post-medieval and modern pottery was recorded according to the fabric groups from *CAR* **7** (Cotter 2000) (Table 2). The assemblage consists of nine sherds with a weight of 81g and EVE of 0.19 (Table 3). The MSW is 9g. This material was recovered from ditch F2 and fire-pit F9.

Eight sherds (73g) from a medieval sandy greyware (fabric F20) cooking pot (EVE:0.19) with a square flanged rim and upright neck (type H1), dating to *c* 1150-1375/1400, came from fire-pit F9. One sherd (8g) of 19th- to 20th-century Staffordshire-type white earthenware (fabric F48D) was recovered from ditch F2.

Ceramic building material (CBM)
The CBM consist of two sherds (88g) of medieval/post-medieval peg-tile which was recovered from ditches F2 and F13.

Conclusion
Table 1 summarizes the dating evidence for the features which contained dateable pottery and CBM. Only the Medieval cooking pot was retained for archiving.

Context	Description	Medieval, post-medieval and modern pottery	CBM	Date Approx.
F2	Ditch	F48D	PT	Modern
F9	Fire pit	F20 (cooking pot H1)	-	Medieval
F13	Ditch	-	PT	Medieval/post-medieval

Table 1 Approximate ceramic dates for the individual features.

6.2 Glass, iron, coal and metal-working debris
by Laura Pooley

A very small fragment of metal-working debris was recorded from F6, a piece of clay tobacco pipe from F8, an incomplete Codd bottle from F10 (Fig 7) and an iron strip and coal fragments from F15. These finds have been recorded in Table 2 below and discarded.

Context	Finds no.	Sample no.	Description
F6	2	-	**Metal-working debris:** One very small fragment, 8.2g. Discarded.
F8	-	<1>	**Clay tobacco pipe:** Fragment of bowl with rouletted rim, 0.8g, post-medieval. Discarded.
F10	3	-	**Glass:** Incomplete Codd bottle with neck smashed to retrieve the marble, late 19th-early 20th century, see Fig 7. Embossed on front – C NICHOLL & Co LTD / TRADE MARK / COLCHESTER. Embossed on back (base of body) – KILNER BRO^{S} LTD / MAKERS / LONDON. Embossed on base – N&C^{O}. Discarded.
F15	9	-	**Iron strip:** Modern, bent, 630mm long, 33mm wide, 3mm thick, 236g. Discarded. **Coal:** 22 fragments, 181.3g. Discarded.

Table 2 Glass, iron, coal and metal-working debris listed by context.

6.3 Worked flint
by Tabitha Lawrence

One flint flake was recovered from L1. The flake is in fairly good condition and exhibits no patination or staining but does exhibit evidence of post-depositional damage as the proximal end has been broken off and edge-chatter is visible on the left lateral edge. The flake is not chronologically diagnostic.

Context	Finds no.	Context type	Type	Cortex %	Hard/ soft hammer	Platform preparation	Modification
L1	7	Topsoil	Flake	15	Hard	No	Use-wear, edge-damage

Table 3 Flints listed by context.

The analysis of this flint has been completed in accordance with the *Standard and guidance for the collection, documentation, conservation and research of archaeological materials* (CIfA 2020b). The principal works cited include *Prehistoric Flintwork* (Butler 2005) and the *Classification of Lithic Artefacts from the British Late Glacial and Holocene Periods* (Ballin 2021). The measurement of the flake follows the methodology as devised by Saville (1980) and outlined by Butler (2005).

6.4 Heat-affected flint
by Laura Pooley

Soil samples from charcoal-rich pits F8, F9, F12 and F14 produced only a small quantity of flint which showed slight signs of being heat-affected. These finds have been recorded in Table 4 below and discarded.

Context	Sample no.	Description
F8	1	Natural flint pieces, some very slightly heat-affected (discoloured and cracked, no crazing seen), 38 pieces at 63g.
F9	2	Natural flint pieces, some very slightly heat-affected (discoloured and cracked, no crazing seen), 8 pieces at 18g.
F12	3	Natural flint pieces, some very slightly heat-affected (discoloured and cracked, no crazing seen), 22 pieces at 31g.
F14	5	Natural flint pieces, some very slightly heat-affected (discoloured and cracked, no crazing seen), 31 pieces at 58g.

Table 4 Heat-affected flint.

7 Environmental Assessment

By Bronagh Rae-Quinn

Introduction

Five soil samples were taken during the evaluation, all of which came from undated fire pits barring Sample 2 (F9) which was medieval in date. Overall, the samples produced minimal environmental material, similar to those taken nearby in 2021 (CAT Report 1672).

Sampling and processing methods

All samples were floated by a trained member of CAT staff and analysed by the author. Nomenclature for all plant remains is taken from Stace (2010). All samples were processed using a serif-style flotation device which produced a flot and a larger residue, both of which were analysed by the author. Flots were collected in a 300-micron mesh and scanned using a microscope (magnification x10), while the larger residues were scanned by eye and any charcoal/charred wood removed by hand.

Results

The samples produced minimal environmental evidence. Sample 1 from post-medieval pit F8 produced a single small fragment of acorn cupule fragment (*Quercus sp.*), and samples 1, 2, 3 and 5 contained small amounts of charred mustard/cabbage type seeds (*Brassica sp.*).

Large amounts of modern intrusive material was present throughout the samples, most commonly Fat Hen type (Chenpodium sp.), with small quantities of Saltbush (*Atriplex sp.*), Black Bindweed, (*Fallopia convolvulus L., Fallopia sp.*) *Persicaria sp.*, Bramble type (*Rubus sp.*), Ivy-leaved Speedwell (*Veronica hederifolia L.*) and seeds of Birch (*Betula sp.)* and Elderberry (*Sambucus nigra*).

Charcoal was present in large densities in all samples.

Sample No.		**1**	**2**	**3**	**4**	**5**
Context No.		**F8**	**F9**	**F12**	**F14**	**F14**
Cereals						
Indet. Grains						
Dryland herbs						
Atriplex sp.	Saltbush	x	x			x
Brassicaceae indet.	Mustard/cabbage	x	x	x		x
Chenpodium sp.	Fat hen type	xxxx	xxx	xxxxx	xxxxx	xxxxxx
Fallopia convolvulus L.	Black bindweed				x	
Fallopia sp.		xcf				
Persicaria sp.				x		
Rubus sp.	Bramble type	x	x			
Veronica hederifolia L.	Ivy-leaved speedwell	x				
Indet. Seeds		x	x			x

Tree/shrub macrofossils						
Betula sp.	Birch			x		x
Quercus sp.	Oak (cupule fragment)	x				
Sambucus nigra L.	Elderberry	x	x			
Other remains						
Charcoal >10mm		xx	x	xxxxx	x	xxxx
Charcoal 4-10mm		xxxxx	xxxxx	xxxxx	xxxx	xxxxx
Charcoal <4mm		xxxxx	xxxxx	xxxxx	xxxxx	xxxxx
Charred twigs/ roundwood			x	x		x
Coal		x		x	x	x
Insect larvae		xxx		x		x
Modern plant material (rootlets)		xxxxx	xxxxx	xxxxx	xxxxx	xxxxx
Mollusc					x	
Plastic (<1mm)		x	x			x
Sample volume (litres)		**40**	**20**	**40**	**10**	**30**
Volume of flot (litres)		**1.2**	**0.4**	**1.2**	**0.1**	**1.6**
% flot sorted		**100%**	**100%**	**100%**	**100%**	**100%**

Table 5 Environmental results, blue indicates modern intrusive seeds.

Key to Table 5

x	0-10
xx	10-25
xxx	25-50
xxxx	50-100
xxxxx	100+
cf	uncertain identification

Potential and significance

Overall the samples taken have minimal environmental remains. The presence of charred *Brassica sp*. seeds, however, can provide further evidence that the fire pits are representative of agricultural clearing on the site. Renfrew (1973) notes that Charlock (*Brassica arvensis*) was one of "the worse weeds of arable land" prior to the invention of modern herbicides in the 20th century. Whilst the presence of the acorn cupule is interesting, it is unlikely to represent anything more than land clearance.

8 Conclusion

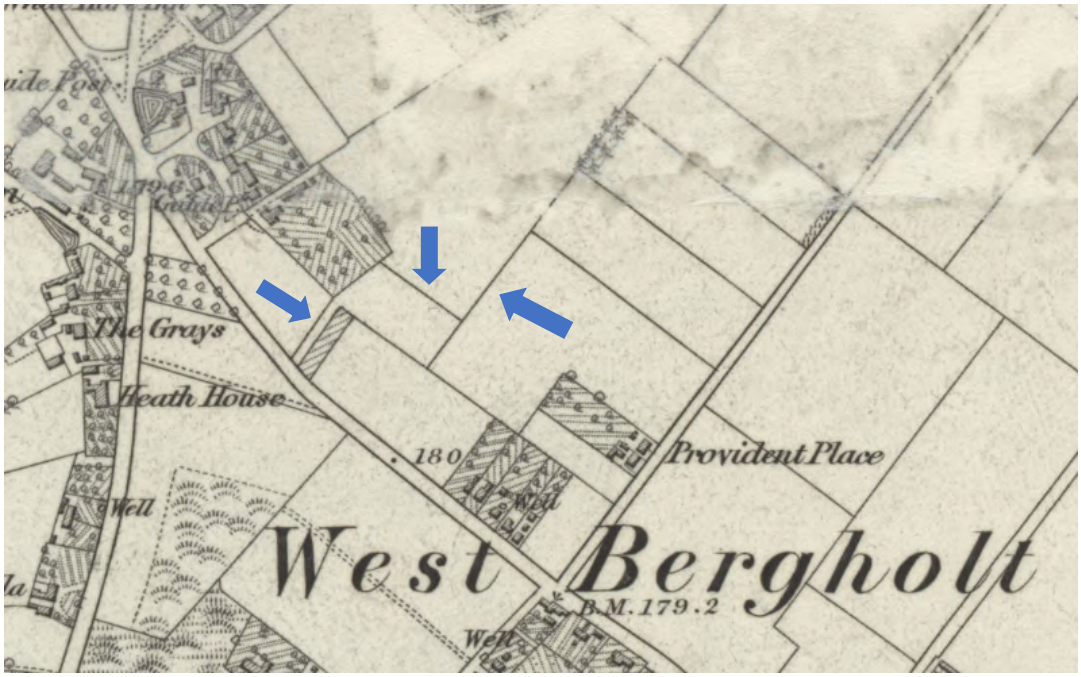
Archaeological evaluation on land north-east of Colchester Road, West Bergholt, Essex revealed three ditches, two pits, four charcoal-rich pits, three tree-throws and a service trench. All three of the ditches are post-medieval field boundaries visible on the first edition 6-inch OS map of 1875 (see Map 1) and extant until at least the mid-1940s as they are all still shown on the 1946 OS map.

The four charcoal-rich pits were all of a similar size and shape ranging from 0.93-1.24m by 0.86-1.21m and 0.1-0.27m deep, with a fifth from the 2021 evaluation similar at 0.84m by 0.79m and 0.13m deep. All five pits produced a quantity of charcoal, with only F9 showing evidence of slight *in situ* burning on the base of the pit. Pit F9 produced sherds from a medieval cooking pot and pit F8 a fragment of post-medieval clay tobacco pipe. The other three features were undated.

Since 2001 archaeological investigations *c* 2-4km to the north-east, east and south-east of the development site have revealed approximately 300 charcoal-rich pits (see CAT Report 1479 for a summary of most of these investigations and Fig 2 of this report for a location map). These charcoal-rich pits were of a similar size, shape and profile to the examples from this current site, containing high concentrations of oak charcoal and usually including evidence of *in situ* burning.

Dating evidence from the pits was sparse across all the archaeological investigations, but analysis of the dating suggested three main phases of activity: Phase 1 – Early Iron Age to early Roman (1st century AD); Phase 2 – Early medieval to medieval (10th-14th centuries); and Phase 3 – post-medieval (16th century onwards). Many of these pits have been interpreted as evidence of charcoal production, although some might be related to stump burning and woodland clearance with others, particularly those of Phase 3, possibly being camp fires (see CAT Report 1479 for a full discussion). While the charcoal-rich pits from this current site may be related to charcoal production, the presence of weed remains within the backfill may suggest that the pits are associated with land clearance.

Also excavated during the evaluation were a modern pit, an undated pit and three undated tree-throws.



Map 1 1875 6-inch OS map. The blue arrows indicate the post-medieval field boundary ditches identified on the development site.

9 Acknowledgements

CAT thanks Will Vote and Rose Builders for commissioning and funding the work. The project was managed by C Lister, L Pooley and A Wightman, fieldwork was carried out by N Rayner with K Anderson, J Ecker-Fierstone, X Smith and D Spenner. Figures are by B Rae-Quinn and M Beale. The project was monitored for CCCPS by Dr Richard Hoggett.

10 References

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

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Brown, N & Glazebrook, J	2000	*Research and Archaeology: A Framework for the Eastern Counties 2. Research agenda and strategy.* East Anglian Archaeology Occasional Paper **8** (EAA **8**).
Butler, C	2005	*Prehistoric flintwork.* London: Tempus Publishing Ltd.
CAR **7**	2000	*Colchester Archaeological Report 7: Post-Roman pottery from excavations in Colchester, 1971-85*, by Cotter, J P. Colchester: Colchester Archaeological Trust Ltd.

CAT	2024a	*Written Scheme of Investigation for an archaeological evaluation by trial-trenching on land to the north-east of Colchester Road, West Bergholt, Essex, CO6 3JG* by Emma Holloway. Colchester: Colchester Archaeological Trust.
CAT	2024b	*Health & Safety Policy.* Colchester: Colchester Archaeological Trust.
CAT Report 1479	2020	*Archaeological excavation, evaluation and monitoring at Colchester Northern Gateway Sports Hub, Plots 2-3, east of Colchester Park and Ride, Mile End, Colchester, Essex, CO4 5JA: July 2018 – June 2019*, by L Pooley. Colchester: Colchester Archaeological Trust.
CAT Report 1672	2021	*Archaeological evaluation on land at Colchester Road, West Bergholt, Essex, CO6 3JG* by Dr Elliott Hicks. Colchester: Colchester Archaeological Trust.
CIfA	2020a	*Standard and guidance for the creation, compilation, transfer and deposition of archaeological archives*. CIfA Chartered Institute for Archaeologists; published 2014, revised 2020.
CIfA	2020b	*Standard and guidance for the collection, documentation, conservation and research of archaeological materials.* CIfA Chartered Institute for Archaeologists; published 2014, revised 2020.
CIfA	2022	*Code of Conduct.* CIfA Chartered Institute for Archaeologists; published 2014, revised 2022.
CIfA	2023a	*Standard for archaeological evaluation.* CIfA Chartered Institute for Archaeologists.
CIfA	2023b	*Universal guidance for archaeological evaluation.* CIfA Chartered Institute for Archaeologists.
Cotter, J P	2000	*Colchester Archaeological Report 7: Post-Roman pottery from excavations in Colchester, 1971-85.* Colchester: Colchester Archaeological Trust Ltd.
Gurney, D	2003	*Standards for field archaeology in the East of England.* East Anglian Archaeology Occasional Papers **14** (EAA **14**).
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Medlycott, M	2011	*Research and archaeology revisited: A revised framework for the East of England*. East Anglian Archaeology Occasional Papers **24** (EAA **24**).
MHCLG	2023	*National Planning Policy Framework.* Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government.
Saville, A	1980	'On the measurement of stuck flakes and flake tools', *Lithics* **1**, 16-20.

11 Abbreviations and glossary

CAT	Colchester Archaeological Trust
CCC	Colchester City Council
CCCAA	Colchester City Council Archaeological Advisor
CCCPS	Colchester City Council Planning Services
CHER	Colchester Historic Environment Record
CIfA	Chartered Institute for Archaeologists
context	specific location of finds on an archaeological site
early medieval	period from AD 410 to 1066
feature (F)	an identifiable thing like a pit, a wall, a drain: can contain 'contexts'
Iron Age	period from 800 BC to AD 43
Early Iron Age	period from 800 BC to 300 BC
layer (L)	distinct or distinguishable deposit (layer) of material
medieval	period from 1066 to 1540
modern	period from 1901 to current
natural	geological deposit undisturbed by human activity
NGR	National Grid Reference
OASIS	**O**nline **A**cces**S** to the **I**ndex of Archaeological Investigation**S**, http://oasis.ac.uk/pages/wiki/Main
post-medieval	period from AD 1540 to 1901

Roman	period from AD 43 to AD 410
section	(abbreviation sx or Sx) vertical slice through feature/s or layer/s
wsi	written scheme of investigation

12 Contents of archive

Finds: none retained
Digital record:
CAT Report 2116
CAT WSI
Digital photographs
Site data (including scans of original plans/sections)
Survey data

13 Archive deposition

The 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 the Archaeological Data Service (Digital).

Distribution list:
Will Vote, Rose Builders
Dr Richard Hoggett, Colchester City Council
Essex Historic Environment Record

Appendix 1 Context list

Context	Trench no.	Finds no.	Sample no.	Context type	Description	Date
L1	All	7	-	Topsoil	Soft, moist, dark grey/brown sandy loam with charcoal flecks	Modern
L2	All	-	-	Subsoil	Soft, moist, medium grey/brown sandy silty loam with charcoal flecks, brick flecks, and tile flecks	Undated
L3	All	-	-	Natural	Firm/hard, dry, light/medium/dark yellow/orange/brown sandy silt with inclusions of: stone 30%	Post-glacial
F1	T6b	-	-	Pit	Soft, moist, medium/dark grey/brown/black silty loam. L: >0.45m, W: 0.84m, D: 0.34m	Modern
F2	T6b	1	-	Ditch	Very soft, moist, light orange/brown silt with tile flecks. W: 0.92m, D: 0.14m	Modern
F3	T7	-	-	Tree-throw	Friable, moist, light grey/brown sandy silt with charcoal flecks and inclusions of: stone 1%. L: 0.85m, W: 0.65m, D: 0.06m	Undated
F4	T7	-	-	Pipe-trench	Soft, moist, medium grey/brown sandy silt. W: 0.86m, D: -	Modern
F5	T7	-	-	Tree-throw	Firm, moist light yellow/brown silty sand with inclusions of: stone 1%. L: >1.80m, W: 2.51m, D: 0.10m	Undated
F6	T8	2	-	Ditch	Same as ditch F10. Friable, moist, medium/dark grey/brown silt. L: 66.92m, W: 0.46m, D: 0.12m	Modern
F7	T18	-	-	Pit	Friable, moist, medium grey/brown clayey silt with charcoal flecks and daub flecks. L: 0.91m, W: 0.83m, D: 0.11m	Undated
F8	T16	-	<1>	Charcoal-rich pit	Soft, firm, dry/moist very dark grey clayey silt with charcoal flecks. L: 1.24m, W: 1.21m, D: 0.23m	Post-medieval
F9	T12	4	-	Charcoal-rich pit	Friable, moist, medium/dark grey/brown clayey silt with charcoal flecks. L: 0.93m, W: 0.86m, D: 0.10m	Medieval
F10	T12	3	-	Ditch	Same as ditch F6. Friable, moist, medium/dark grey/brown silt. L: 66.92m, W: 0.57m, D: 0.13m	Modern
F11	T17	-	-	Tree-throw	Soft, firm, moist dark grey/brown silty loam sand with charcoal flecks. L: 1.54m, W: 1.05m, D: 0.21m	Undated
F12	T20	-	<3>	Charcoal-rich pit	Loose/soft, moist, dark grey/black silty loam sand with charcoal flecks. L: 1.00m, W: 0.87m, D: 0.13m	Undated
F13	T9	6	-	Ditch	Same as ditch F15. Firm, very dark brown silt. L: >101.01m, W: 0.55m, D: 0.13m	Modern
F14	T21	8	<4>, <5>	Charcoal-rich pit	Fill A: Soft, dry, light grey with flecks of charcoal. Fill B: Very dark brown/black with daub and charcoal.	Undated

					L: 0.99m, W: 0.95m, D: 0.27m	
F15	T15	9	-	Ditch	Same as ditch F13. Loose, firm, dry medium brown clayey silt with inclusions of: stone 2%. L: >101.01m, W: 0.73m, D: 0.15m	Modern

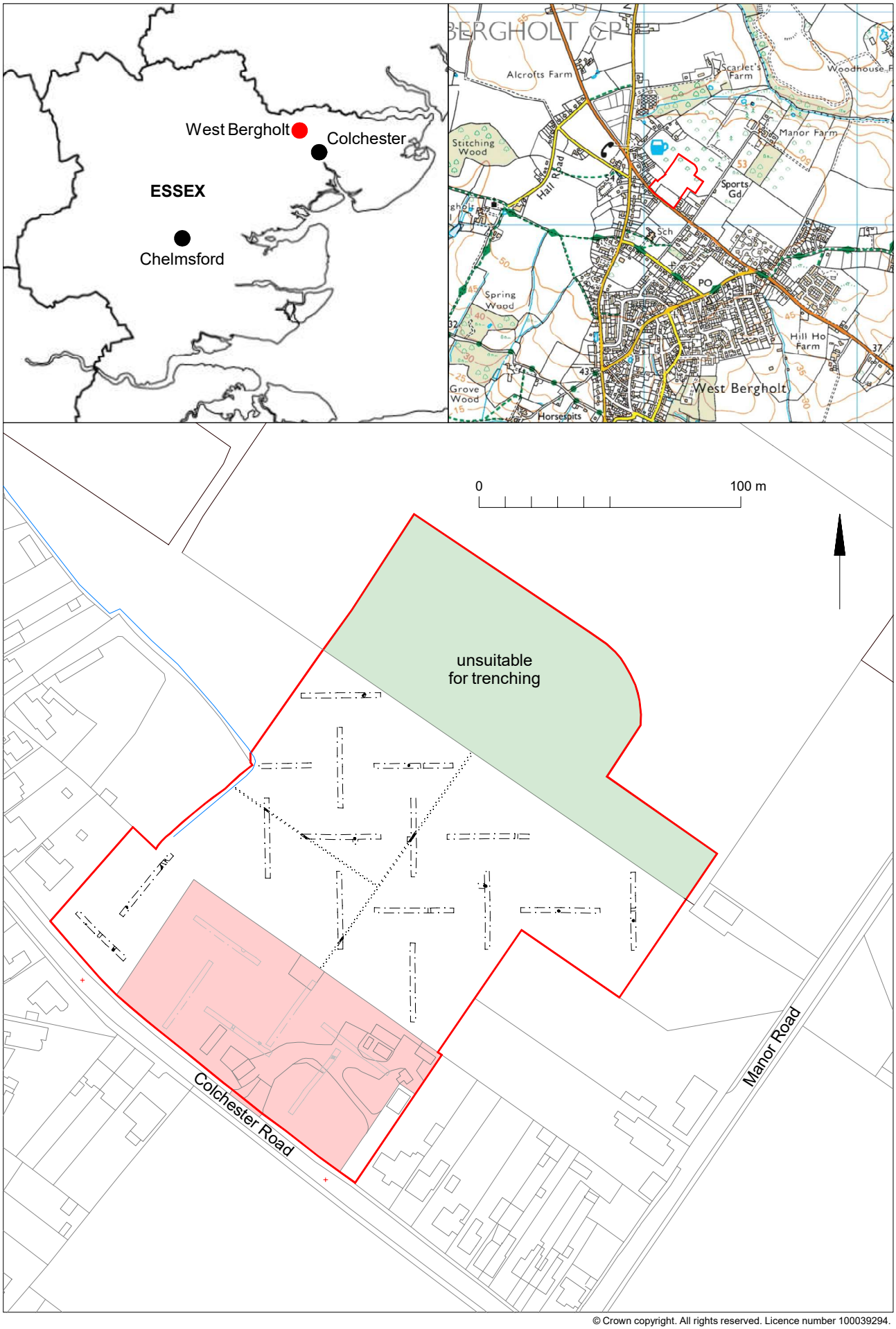


Fig 1 Site location and trench layout in relation to previously evaluated area (red) and orchard area (green).

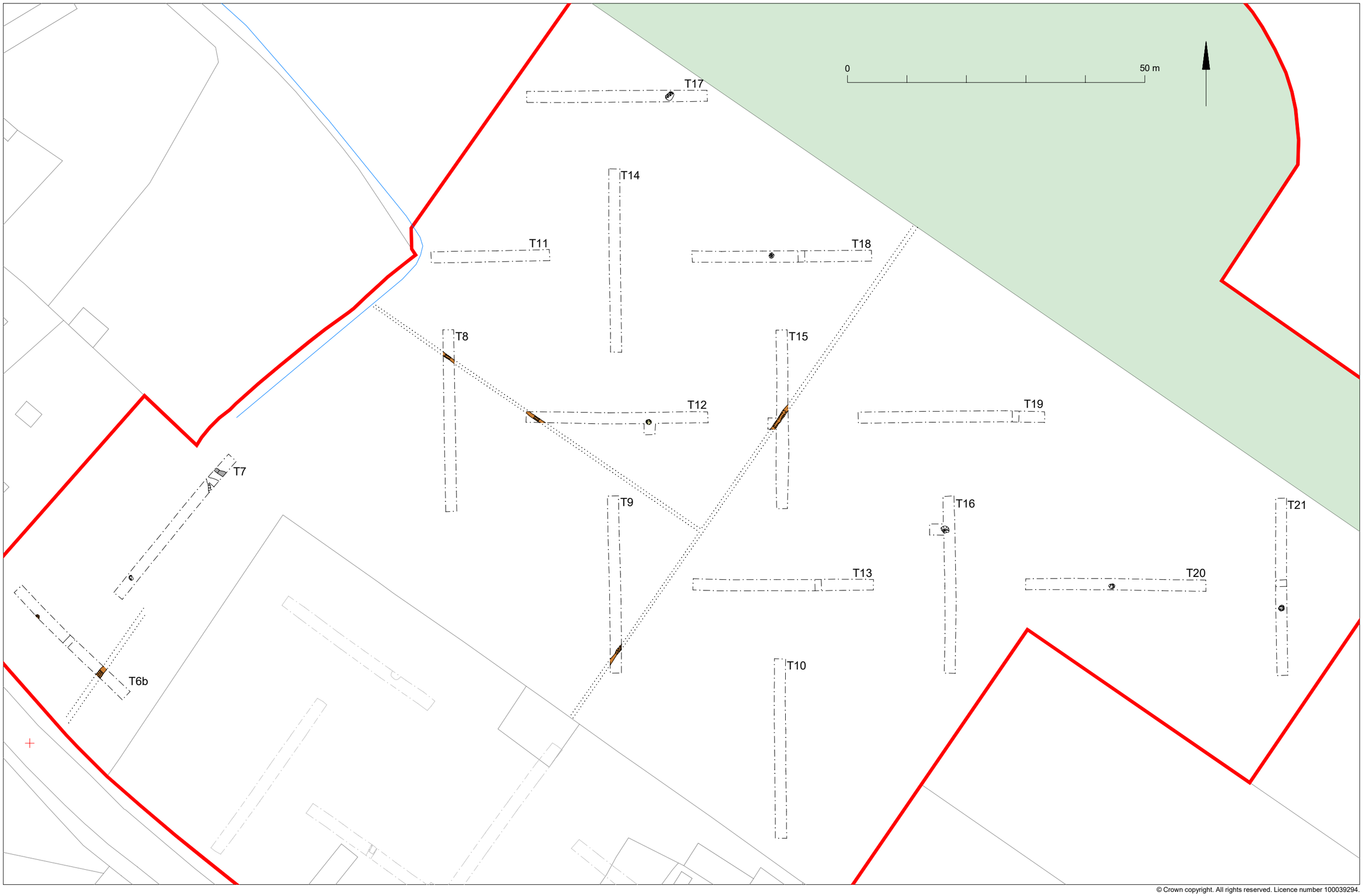


Fig 2 Results. See phasing key on Fig 5.

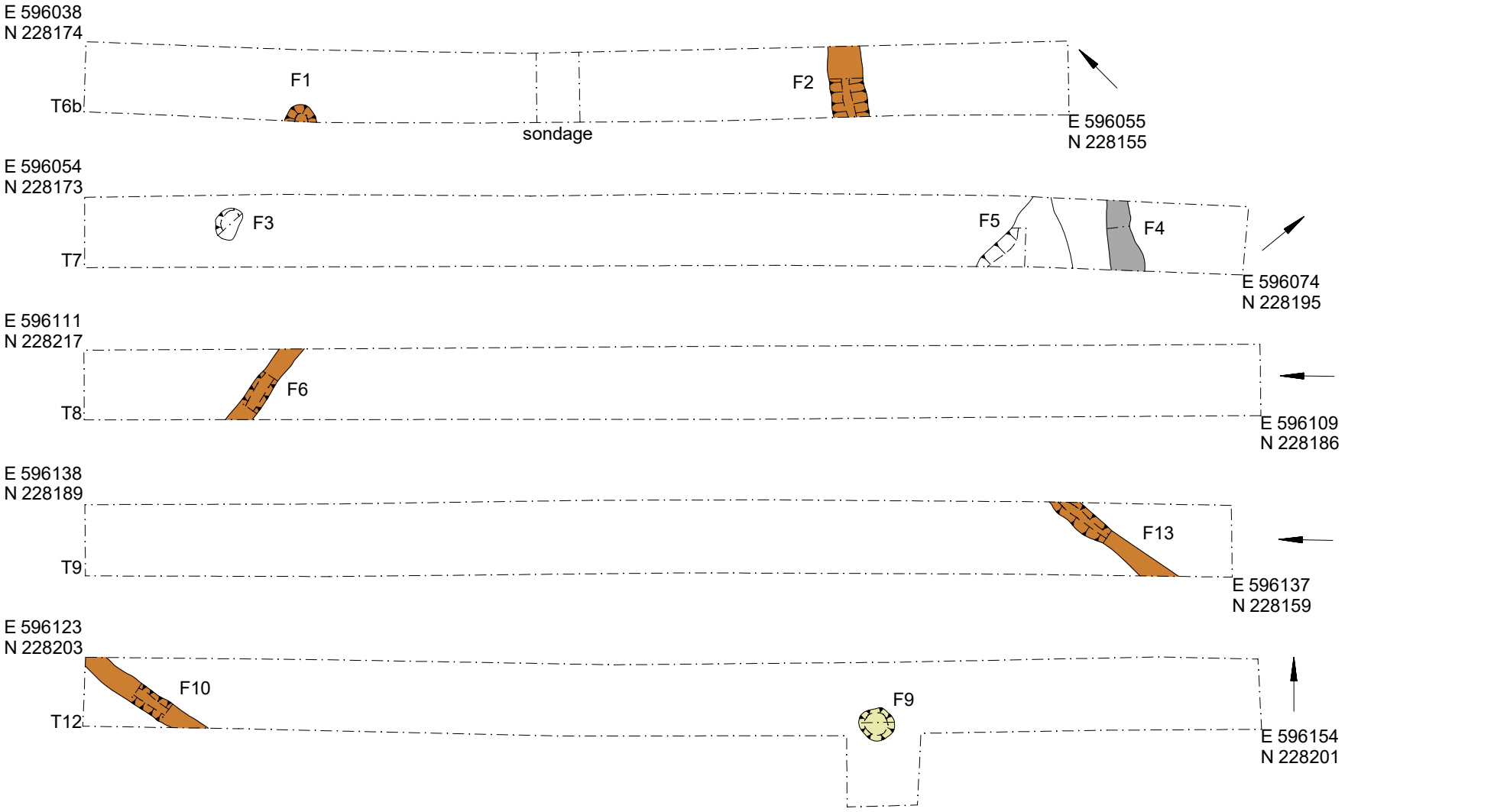


Fig 3 Detailed trench results. Phasing key on Fig 5.

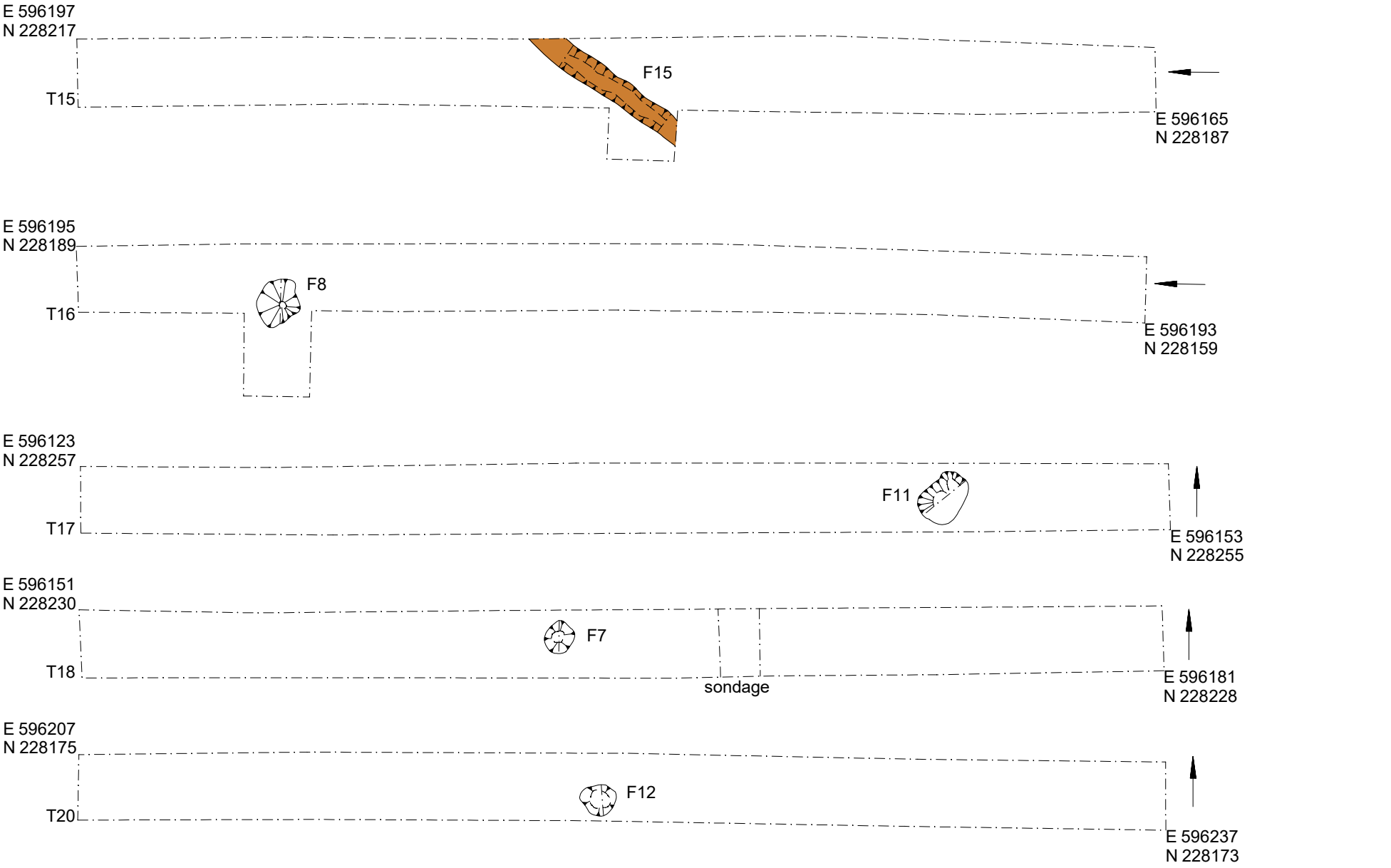


Fig 4 Detailed trench results. Phasing key on Fig 5.

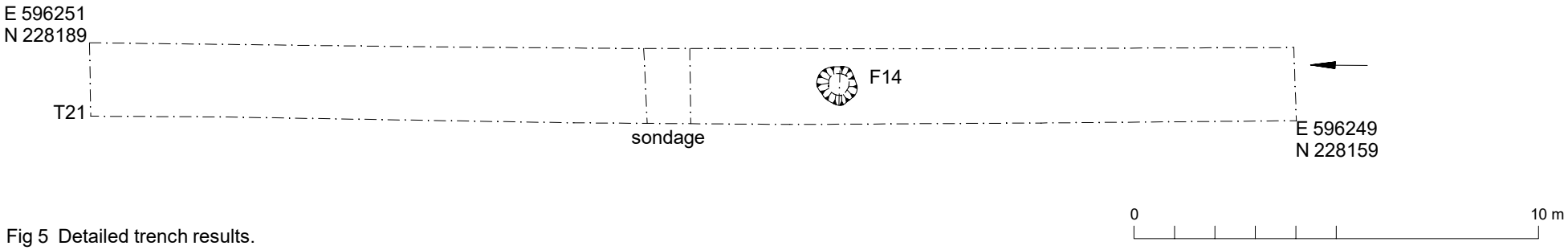


Fig 5 Detailed trench results.

Phasing key

Medieval

Post-medieval/modern

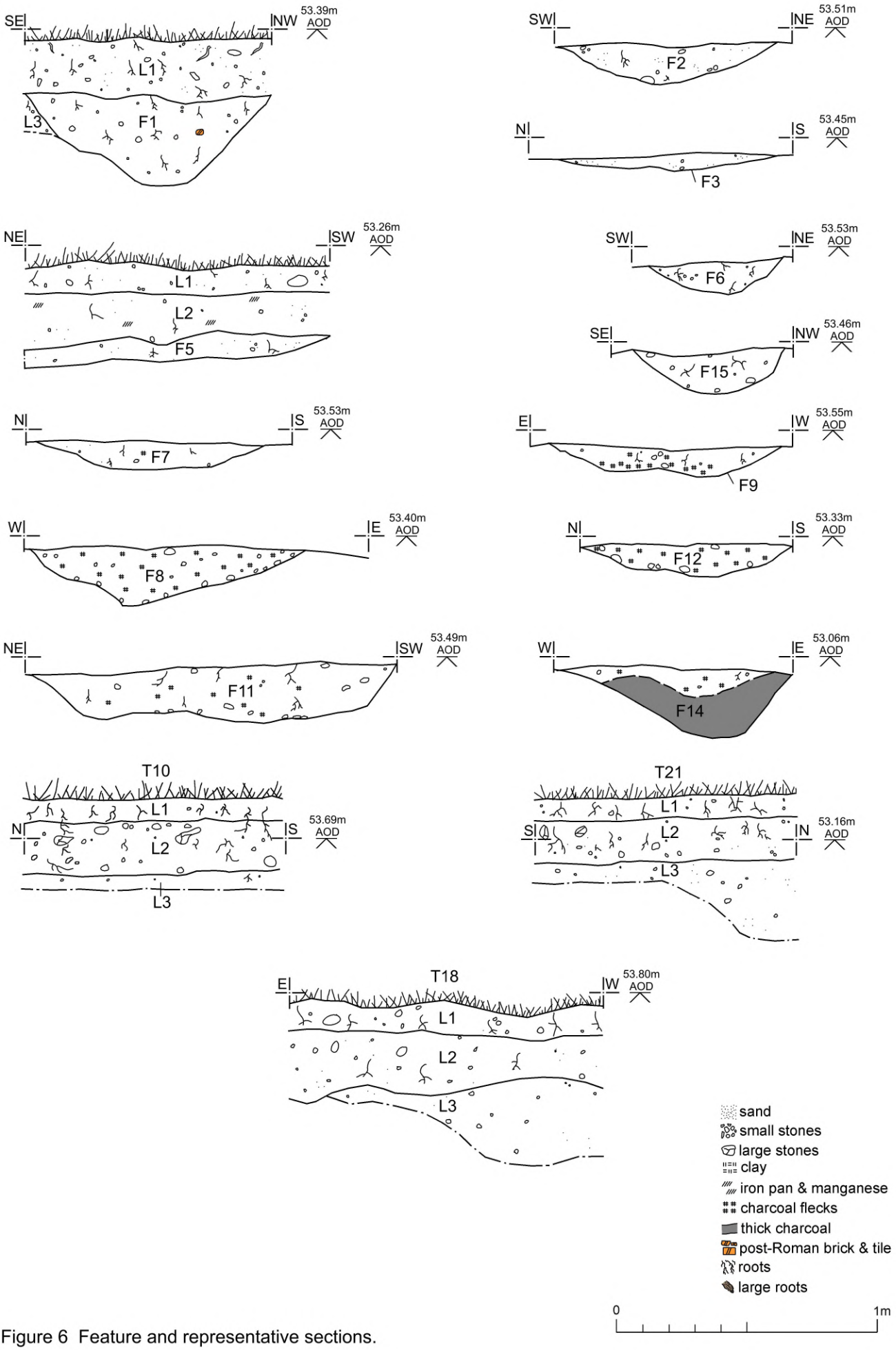


Figure 6 Feature and representative sections.

a

N&Co.

b

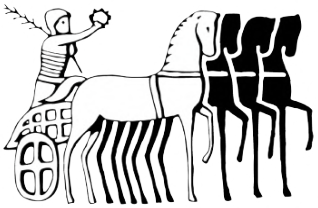
Fig 7 Glass codd bottle from F10, showing the detail from the front (a) and the base (b).

Essex Historic Environment Record/
Essex Archaeology and History

Summary sheet

Address: **Land north-east of Colchester Road, West Bergholt, Essex, CO6 3JG**	
Parish: Colchester	***District:*** Colchester
NGR: TL 96160 28196 (centre)	***Site code:*** CAT project ref.: 2024/09k CHER ref.: ECC4480 OASIS ref.: colchest3-528490
Type of work: Evaluation	***Site director/group:*** Colchester Archaeological Trust
Date of work: 11th-13th November 2024	***Size of area investigated:*** 1.16ha
Location of curating museum: Archaeology Data Service	**Funding source:** Developer
Further seasons anticipated? No known	***Related CHER/SMR number:*** ECC4629
Final report: CAT Report 2116	
Periods represented: Medieval, post-medieval, modern	
Summary of fieldwork results: *An archaeological evaluation (16 trial-trenches) was carried out on land north-east of Colchester Road, West Bergholt, Essex during groundworks for the construction of a new housing development. Archaeological features included three ditches and four charcoal-rich pits. All three of the ditches are post-medieval field boundaries visible on the first edition OS map of 1875. One of the charcoal-rich pits produced medieval pottery sherds but the others were undated. They could be associated with charcoal production (as seen elsewhere in northern Colchester) but are perhaps more likely to be related to land clearance. Also excavated were a modern pit, undated pit and three undated tree-throws.*	
Previous summaries/reports: CAT Report 1672	
CBC monitor: Dr Richard Hoggett	
Keywords: -	***Significance:*** *
Author of summary: Bronagh Rae-Quinn	***Date of summary:*** December 2024

Colchester Archaeological Trust



Written Scheme of Investigation
for an archaeological evaluation by trial-trenching on land to the north-east of Colchester Road, West Bergholt, Essex, CO6 3JG

October 2024

CAT project ref.: 2024/09k
CHER code: tbc

Written Scheme of Investigation for an archaeological evaluation by trial-trenching on land to the north-east of Colchester Road, West Bergholt, Essex, CO6 3JG.

October 2024

NGR: TL 96160 28196 (centre)

Planning district.: Colchester
Planning ref.: pre-planning

CAT project ref.: 2024/09k

CHER code: tbc
CCC monitor: Dr Richard Hoggett
OASIS id: colchest3-528490

WSI prepared by: Emma Holloway
Figure by: Chris Lister

commissioned by: Will Vote (Rose Builders)
on behalf of: Rose Builders

Prepared by:	Emma Holloway	Project Officer (Post-excavation & Illustration)
Reviewed and approved by:	Chris Lister	Director, Business Operations
Issued:	09/10/2024	

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

tel.: 01206 501785
web: www.catuk.org
email: services@catuk.org

Site location and description (Fig 1)

The site proposed for development is located on the northern edge of the village of West Bergholt, on land to the north-east of Colchester Road, Essex, CO6 3JG. The site is centred on National Grid Reference (NGR) TL 96160 28196.

Proposed work

The proposed work comprises the construction a small housing development and associated access, parking and utilities.

Geological background

The Geology of Britain viewer (1:50,000 scale[1]) shows the site has a bedrock geology of The London Clay Formation (bioturbated or poorly laminated, blue-grey or grey-brown, slightly calcareous, silty to very silty clay, clayey silt and sometimes silt, with some layers of sandy clay). With superficial deposits of Cover Sand (periglacial aeolian blanket deposits of lowland areas comprising fine- to very fine-grained sand, usually horizontally bedded although they may form subaerial dunes with large-scale cross-bedding).

Archaeological and Geological background

The following archaeological background draws on the Colchester Archaeological Trust Report 1672 and the Colchester Historic Environment Record (CHER accessible via Colchester Heritage Explorer (https://colchesterheritage.co.uk/map).

A Palaeolithic flint axe was found in the grounds of Heathland School in 1915, approximately 200m south-west of the proposed development site (MCC7665). Mesolithic or Neolithic worked flint has been recovered some 500m north-west of the site (MCC8259).

The Pitchbury Ramparts Iron Age Hillfort Scheduled Monument is situated approximately 850m north-east of the site (HE ref. 1019959). An Iron Age coin was found around 350m to the north of the site (MCC8148) while several sherds of Iron Age pottery were recovered from an archaeological feature excavated around 550m to the west (MCC7705).

The settlement of West Bergholt is recorded in the Domesday Book of 1086 as consisting of nineteen households detailed under four separate entries. The records list a sizeable allocation of meadow and woodland associated with the settlement, in addition to a single mill (*Open Domesday*, https://opendomesday.org/place/TL9528/west-bergholt/, accessed 21st May 2021).

The location of a now-demolished windmill lies some 175m south-east of the study site (MCC5687).

By the late 18th century, the study site was located centrally within Bergholt Heath (MCC9145). Historic Ordnance Survey mapping indicates that the site remained undeveloped between the late 19th and early 20th centuries.

A number of undated cropmarks lie within the area of the site, including a large rectangular enclosure located some 350m to the west (MCC8635) and others indicating the possible presence of pits and probable field boundaries approximately 650m to the east (MCC7769, MCC8634).

2021 evaluation

An initial phase of the site, fronting onto to Colchester Road, was carried out by CAT in May 2021. This related to planning application 181458 for the construction of 13 new dwellings. Six trial-trenches were sampling the site revealed a modern pit, an undatable charcoal-rich pit and two natural features. For the most part, the trenches were cut through modern topsoil

[1] British Geological Survey – https://geologyviewer.bgs.ac.uk/?

(L1, 0.09-0.18m thick), and subsoil (L2, *c* 0.13-0.27m thick) onto natural (L3, encountered at a depth of 0.26-0.37m below current ground level).

Project background

A planning application (232572) was submitted to Colchester City Council in November 2023 proposing the demolition of stable building and erection of 4 no. detached dwellings and garages.

As the site lies within an area highlighted by the CHER as having a high potential for archaeological remains, an archaeological evaluation was recommended. This follows the guidelines given in National Planning Policy Framework (MHCLG 2023).

Requirement for work (Fig 1)

The archaeological work will consist of a 5% sample trial-trenched evaluation. There was no archaeological brief issued for this phase of work by the CCCAA.

Specifically, CAT proposes to excavate 16 liner trial-trenches, in a systematic array, covering a 5% sample of the *c* 3.2 hectares minus the 2021 evaluated area and the orchard area.

The trenches will each measure 30m long (except T12 which will measure 15m long), by 1.8m wide. This equates to a total length of 465m of linear trenching covering an area of 837m^2. Trench numbers will start at T7 to continue the numbering from the 2021 evaluation.

The evaluation will be followed by a site meeting with the CCCAA. Further archaeological excavation work may be required, this will be decided by the CCCAA on completion of the evaluation and report.

General methodology

All work carried out by CAT will be in accordance with:

- Professional standards of the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists, including its *Code of Conduct* (CIfA 2020, 2022 & 2023 a-b)
- East of England Standards and Frameworks published by East Anglian Archaeology (Gurney 2003, Medlycott 2011) and the recent review updates on https://researchframeworks.org/eoe/
- Relevant Health & Safety guidelines and requirements (CAT 2024)

Professional CAT field archaeologists will undertake all specified archaeological work, for which they will be suitably experienced and qualified.

Notification of the supervisor/project manager's name and the start date for the project will be provided to the CCCAA one week before start of work.

Unless it is the responsibility of other site contractors, CAT will study mains service locations and avoid damage to these.

At the start of the project (when the WSI is written) an OASIS online record http://ads.ahds.ac.uk/project/oasis/ will be initiated and key fields completed (Activity type, Location and Reviewers/Admin areas). At the end of the project all parts of the OASIS online form will be completed for submission to the EHER. This will include an uploaded .PDF version of the entire report.

A project or site code will be sought from the CCCAA and/or the curating museum, as appropriate to the project. This code will be used to identify the project archive when it is deposited at the curating museum.

Staffing

The number of field staff for this project is estimated as follows.

Archaeological evaluation: one CAT project officer and four archaeologists for five days.
In charge of day-to-day site work: Nigel Rayner/Sarah Veasey.

Evaluation and excavation methodology

Where appropriate, modern overburden and any topsoil stripping/levelling will be performed using a mechanical excavator equipped with a toothless ditching bucket under the supervision and to the satisfaction of a professional archaeologist. If no archaeologically significant deposits are exposed, machine excavation will continue until natural geology is reached.

Where necessary, areas will be cleaned by hand to ensure the visibility of archaeological deposits.

If archaeological features or deposits are uncovered time will be allowed for these to be excavated, planned, and recorded.

There will be sufficient excavation to give clear evidence for the period, depth, and nature of any archaeological deposit. All features or deposits will be excavated by hand. This includes a 50% sample of discrete features (pits, etc), at least 10% of linear features (ditches, etc) in 1m wide sections. Complex archaeological structures such as walls, kilns or ovens will be carefully cleaned, planned, and fully recorded, but where possible left *in situ*. Only if it can be demonstrated that the complex structure/ feature is likely to be detrimentally affect by reburial, and only then after discussion with the CCCAA, will it be removed.

Fast hand-excavation techniques involving (for instance) picks, forks and mattocks will not be used on complex stratigraphy.

The depth and nature of colluvial or other masking deposits will be established. Therefore, a sondage will be excavated in each trench to test the stratigraphy of the site. This will occur in every trench unless it can be demonstrated that a feature excavated within a particular trench has clearly penetrated the natural geology.

A representative section will be drawn of each evaluation trench, to include ground level, the depth of machining within the trench and the depth of any sondages.

Trained CAT staff will use a metal detector to scan all trenches both before and during excavation. All spoil heaps will also be scanned and finds recovered.

Individual records of excavated contexts, layers, features, or deposits will be entered on proforma record sheets. Registers will be compiled of finds, small finds, and soil samples.

All features and layers or other significant deposits will be planned, and their profiles or sections recorded. The normal scale will be site plans at 1:20 and sections at 1:10, unless circumstances indicate that other scales would be appropriate.

The photographic record will consist of general site shots, and shots of all archaeological features and deposits. A photographic scale (including north arrow) shall be included in the case of detailed photographs. A photographic register will accompany the photographic record. This will detail as a minimum feature number, location, and direction of shot.

Evaluation trenches will not be backfilled until they have been signed off by the CCCAA.

Site surveying

The evaluation trenches and any features will be surveyed by Total Station or GPS, unless the particulars of the features indicate that manual planning techniques should be employed. Normal scale for archaeological site plans and sections is 1:20 and 1:10 respectively, unless circumstances indicate that other scales would be more appropriate.

The site grid will be tied into the National Grid. Corners of excavation areas will be located by NGR coordinates.

Environmental sampling policy

The number and range of samples collected will be adequate to determine the potential of the site, with particular focus on palaeoenvironmental remains including both biological remains (e.g. plants, small vertebrates) and small sized artefacts (e.g. smithing debris), and to provide information for sampling strategies on any future excavation. Samples will be collected for potential micromorphological and other pedological sedimentological analysis. Environmental bulk samples will be 40 litres in size (assuming context is large enough).

Sampling strategies will address questions of:

- The range of preservation types (charred, mineral-replaced, waterlogged), and their quality.
- Concentrations of macro-remains.
- Differences in remains from undated and dated features.
- Variation between different feature types and areas of site.

Environmental samples will be processed by trained CAT staff and the flots will be analysed and reported by CAT Senior site/post-excavation assistant Bronagh Rae-Quinn or sent to external specialists Val Fryer / Lisa Gray.

Should any complex, or otherwise outstanding deposits be encountered, BRQ, VF or LG will be asked onto site to advise. Waterlogged 'organic' features will always be sampled. In all cases, the advice of BRQ/VF/LG and/or the Historic England Regional Advisor in Archaeological Science (East of England) on sampling strategies for complex or waterlogged deposits will be followed, including the taking of monolith samples. Where necessary, BRQ, VF or an appropriate specialist will be invited to site to advise on sampling strategies.

Human remains

CAT follows the policy of leaving human remains *in situ* unless there is a clear indication that the remains are in danger of being compromised as a result of their exposure or unless advised to do so by the project osteologist or the CCCAA. If circumstances indicated it were prudent or necessary to remove remains from the site during the evaluation, the following criteria would be applied; if it is clear from their position, context, depth, or other factors that the remains are ancient, then normal procedure is to apply to the Department of Justice for a licence to remove them and seek advice from the project osteologist. Following Historic England guidance (2018) if the human remains are not to be lifted, the project osteologist should be available to record the human remain *in situ* (i.e. a site visit). Conditions laid down by the Department of Justice licence will be followed. If it seems that the remains are not ancient, then the coroner, the client, and the CCCAA will be informed, and any advice and/or instruction from the coroner will be followed.

Photographic record

Will include both general and feature-specific photographs, the latter with scale and north arrow. A photographic register giving context number, details, and direction of shot will be prepared on site, and included in the site archive.

Finds

All significant finds will be retained.

All finds, where appropriate, will be washed and marked with site code and context number.

Most of our finds reports are written internally by CAT staff under the supervision and direction of Adam Wightman (Director of Archaeology), Howard Broks (Senior Associate) and Laura Pooley (Post-excavation Manager). This includes specialist subjects such as:

ceramic finds (pottery and ceramic building material): Matthew Loughton
animal bones: Alec Wade (or Adam Wightman/Pip Parmenter - small groups only)
small finds, metalwork, coins, etc: Laura Pooley
non-ceramic bulk finds: Laura Pooley
flint: Adam Wightman, Tabitha Gulliver Lawrence
environmental processing and assessment: Bronagh Rae-Quinn
osteology: (human remains): Megan Beale

or to outside specialists:

animal and human bone: Julie Curl (*Sylvanus*)
environmental assessment and analysis: Val Fryer / Lisa Gray
archaeometallurgy: David Dungworth
radiocarbon dating: SUERC Radiocarbon Dating Laboratory, Glasgow
conservation/x-ray: Laura Ratcliffe (LR Conservation) / Norfolk Museums Service, Conservation and Design Services

Other specialists whose opinion can be sought on large or complex groups include:
Historic England Regional Adviser in Archaeological Science (East of England).

All finds of potential treasure will be removed to a safe place, and the coroner informed immediately, in accordance with the rules of the Treasure Act 1996. The definition of treasure is given in pages 3-5 of the Code of Practice of the above act. This refers primarily to gold or silver objects.

Requirements for conservation and storage of finds will be agreed with the appropriate museum prior to the start of work and confirmed to the CCCAA.

A contingency will be made in the budget for scientific assessment/analysis if suitable deposits are identified. This can include soil micromorphological and geochemical analysis of floors and dark earth deposits and/or absolute dating (such as archaeomagnetic and radiocarbon). The Historic England Regional Science Advisor will be consulted for advice.

Results

An appropriate archive will be prepared to minimum acceptable standards outlined in *Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment* (Historic England 2015).

The report will be submitted within 2 months of the end of fieldwork, with a copy supplied to the Historic Environment Advisor as a single PDF.

The report will contain:

- Location plan of trenches in relation to the proposed development. At least two corners of each excavated trench area will be given a 10 figure grid reference.
- Section/s drawings showing depth of deposits from present ground level with Ordnance Datum, vertical and horizontal scale.
- Archaeological methodology and detailed results including a suitable conclusion and discussion.
- Appropriate discussion and results section assessing the site in relation to the Regional Research Frameworks (Brown and Glazebrook 2000, Medlycott 2011. https://researchframeworks.org/eoe/).

- All specialist reports or assessments
- A concise non-technical summary of the project results.

An OASIS summary sheet will be completed at the end of the project and supplied to the CCCAA. This will be completed in digital form with a paper copy included with the archive. A copy (with trench plan) will also be emailed to the Hon. Editor of the Essex Archaeology and History Journal for inclusion in the annual round-up of projects (paul.gilman@me.com).

Publication of the results at least a summary level (i.e. round-up in *Essex Archaeology & History*) shall be undertaken in the year following the archaeological fieldwork.

A PDF copy of the full report will be uploaded by CAT to the OASIS website and the Colchester Archaeological Trust's Online Report Library (**http://cat.essex.ac.uk/**), both of which are publicly accessible.

Archive deposition

The requirements for archive storage shall be agreed with the Curating museum.

If finds are retained from the site they will be deposited with Colchester Museum, unless otherwise agreed in advance. A full digital archive (to include scans of any paperwork) will be deposited with the Archaeology Data Service (ADS).

The requirements for archive storage will be agreed with the curating museum.

If finds are to remain with the landowner, additional uploads to the ADS could include photography, illustration and detailed analysis (as appropriate).

The digital archive resulting from the work will be deposited with the Archaeology Data Service (www.archaeologydataservice.ac.uk) to safeguard the long-term curation of the digital records. The CCCAA will be notified when the digital archive has been deposited. Prior to deposition CAT's data management plan (based on the official guidelines from the Digital Curation Centre [DCC 2013]) will ensure the integrity of the digital archive. A summary of the contents of the archives shall be supplied to the CCCAA at the time of their deposition.

The CCCAA will be notified when the digital archive has been deposited.

Monitoring

The CCCAA will be responsible for monitoring progress and standards throughout the project, and will be kept regularly informed during fieldwork, post-excavation and publication stages.

Notification of the start of work will be given to the CCCAA one week in advance of its commencement.

Any variations in this WSI will be agreed with the CCCAA prior to them being carried out.

The CCCAA will be notified when the fieldwork is complete.

The involvement of the CCCAA shall be acknowledged in any report or publication generated by this project.

Public outreach

As part of CAT's public outreach programme, CAT is committed to engaging our local community with their archaeological resource. Among other activities, CAT regularly invites volunteers to engage in finds processing tasks at our office, such as washing, marking,

sorting and packing bulk archaeological finds from commercial archaeological projects. Our volunteer programme is not designed to replace the work of paid archaeologists but to complement it, and to provide greater public benefit by means of community engagement and participation.

CAT volunteers are fully trained in all tasks they are engaged in and are fully supervised by a CAT employee at all times. Finds processing volunteers are managed and supervised by a Junior Project Officer, whose role is to ensure that all volunteer processing is carried out to the highest possible standard and within professional guidelines. This is overseen by the Post-Excavation Manager and Director of Archaeology.

CAT will never use volunteers in place of employees when funding is agreed for the latter, or if doing so would disadvantageously affect the timetable of works agreed between CAT and our clients.

CAT's liability insurance policies cover the activities of volunteers and liability towards them. All activities are carried out according to CAT's 'Volunteer and work experience policy' and 'Outreach, public relations and publicity policy'.

Events, activities, and social media

In addition, the CAT website (**www.catuk.org)** and social media sites are updated regularly with information on our events and activities, with copies of our archaeological reports freely available at **http://cat.essex.ac.uk/**. Staff regularly give talks/lectures to groups, societies and schools, information on which (including any fees) is available by contacting the office on 01206 501785. CAT also works in partnership with both the Colchester Archaeological Group and Young Archaeologists Club providing venues for their meetings, advice and assistance.

References

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

Brown, N & Glazebrook, J	2000	*Research and Archaeology: A Framework for the Eastern Counties 2. Research agenda and strategy.* East Anglian Archaeology Occasional Paper 8 (EAA **8**)
CAT	2024	*Health & Safety Policy*
CAT Report 1672	2021	*Archaeological evaluation on land at Colchester Road, West Bergholt, Essex, CO6 3JG: May 2021,* by E Hicks
CIfA	2020	*Standard and guidance for the collection, documentation, conservation and research of archaeological materials.* Published 2014, revised October 2020
CIfA	2022	*Code of Conduct.* Published 2014, revised October 2022
CIfA	2023a	*Standard for archaeological field evaluation*. Published December 2023
CIfA	2023b	*Universal guidance for archaeological field evaluation*. Published December 2023
Digital Curation Centre (DCC)	2013	*Checklist for Data Management Plan v. 4.0*
Gurney, D	2003	*Standards for field archaeology in the East of England.* East Anglian Archaeology Occasional Papers 14 (EAA **14**).
Historic England	2015	*Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment (MoRPHE)*
Historic England	2018	*The Role of the Human Osteologist in an Archaeological Fieldwork Project*. By S Mays, M Brickley & J Sidell
Medlycott, M	2011	*Research and archaeology revisited: A revised framework for the East of England*. East Anglian Archaeology Occasional Papers 24 (EAA **24**)
MHCLG	2023	*National Planning Policy Framework.* Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government.

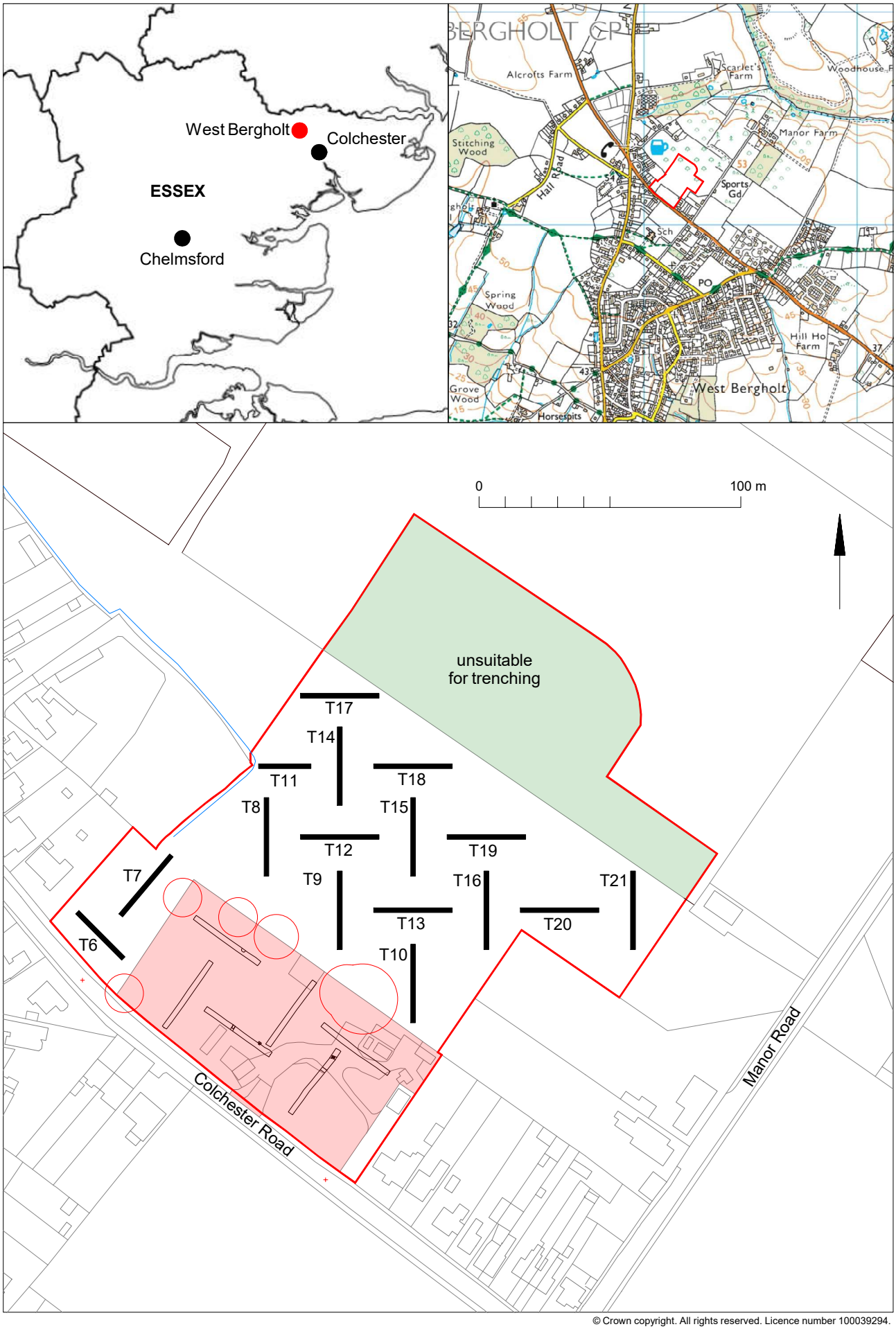


Fig 1 Site location and trench layout in relation to previously evaluated area (red) and orchard area (green).

OASIS Summary for colchest3-528490

OASIS ID (UID)	colchest3-528490
Project Name	Archaeological evaluation on land north-east of Colchester Road, West Bergholt, Essex, CO6 3JG: November 2024
Sitename	Land to the northeast of Colchester Road, West Bergholt, Essex, CO6 3JG
Sitecode	ECC4880
Project Identifier(s)	2024/09k
Activity type	Evaluation
Planning Id	
Reason For Investigation	Planning: Pre application
Organisation Responsible for work	Colchester Archaeological Trust
Project Dates	11-Nov-2024 - 13-Nov-2024
Location	Land to the northeast of Colchester Road, West Bergholt, Essex, CO6 3JG NGR : TL 96160 28196 LL : 51.91772885216616, 0.850933550349751 12 Fig : 596160,228196
Administrative Areas	Country : England County/Local Authority : Essex Local Authority District : Colchester Parish : West Bergholt
Project Methodology	Archaeological evaluation (16 trial-trenches) carried out as specified in the project WSI.
Project Results	An archaeological evaluation (16 trial-trenches) was carried out on land north-east of Colchester Road, West Bergholt, Essex during groundworks for the construction of a new housing development. Archaeological features included three ditches and four charcoal-rich pits. All three of the ditches are post-medieval field boundaries visible on the first edition OS map of 1875. One of the charcoal-rich pits produced medieval pottery sherds but the others were undated. They could be associated with charcoal production (as seen elsewhere in northern Colchester) but are perhaps more likely to be related to land clearance. Also excavated were a modern pit, undated pit and three undated tree-throws.
Keywords	Boundary Ditch - POST MEDIEVAL - FISH Thesaurus of Monument Types Pit - MEDIEVAL - FISH Thesaurus of Monument Types Pit - 20TH CENTURY - FISH Thesaurus of Monument Types Pit - UNCERTAIN - FISH Thesaurus of Monument Types
Funder	Private or public corporation developer
HER	Colchester Borough Council - unRev - STANDARD
Person Responsible for work	Adam Wightman, Chris Lister
HER Identifiers	HER Event No - ECC4880
Archives	Digital Archive - to be deposited with Archaeology Data Service Archive;

Report generated on: 17 Dec 2024, 10:58