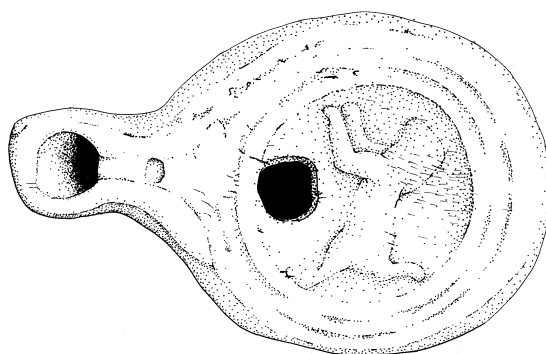


**An archaeological excavation
on the Abbey Field car-park,
Circular Road North, Colchester, Essex
January-February 2007**



**report by CAT in association with RPS
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on behalf of
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1 Summary

This site lies within the oppidum of Camulodunum. An area of land measuring approximately 28m by 56m was excavated on the site of the new car-park on the south-western side of the Colchester Garrison athletics track, Circular Road North, Colchester, Essex at the Abbey Field.

The principal discovery was a double-ditched Roman track or driveway heading north-south. Between the track or driveway ditches were a number of patches of gravel, which may be the remnants of a more extensive metalled surface.

To the east of the east ditch of the track or driveway were five urned and two unurned Roman cremation burials. Four recent and presumably Army-related pits were left unexcavated due to ordnance risk. A large area of recent disturbance along the southern edge of the site was also left unexcavated.

A number of excavations or evaluations have taken place in the vicinity as part of the Garrison Alienated Land project, including an evaluation on this site in 2006.

This report also includes a brief report on a negative watching brief which was held on the digging of a cable trench along the north side of the Garrison athletics track.

2 Introduction (Figs 1-2)

This is the archive report on an archaeological excavation on the proposed site of a new car-park south-west of the Abbey Field athletics track (garrison building CGG04).

The excavated 1,456 m² site (centred on National Grid Reference or NGR TL 9931 2427) is located immediately adjacent to Circular Road North, on the western edge of the Abbey Field. In terms of topography, the site area is flat, but it is located on the north side of a dry valley which slopes down from north to south to a plateau where the now-demolished military hospital was sited. The base of the valley is followed by the line of the Circular Road South extending east-west. Drift geology of the area is predominantly sands and gravel. This is occasionally in a clay matrix, and is sometimes capped by (reworked) cover loam approximately 0.3m in depth.

The archaeological attendance comprised a single archaeologist in attendance during the topsoil-strip for the car-park and subsequent recording of archaeological features by an archaeological team. The fieldwork was commissioned by J F Knight (Roadworks) Ltd on behalf of Atkins Global, was carried out by the Colchester Archaeological Trust (CAT) under RPS project management from 21st January to 2nd February 2007, and was monitored by the Colchester Borough Council Archaeology Officer (CBCAO) and RPS.

The excavation was conducted in accordance with a Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) prepared by RPS on behalf of Atkins Global and their contractors J F Knight (Roadworks) Ltd in 2006 (RPS 2006). The WSI was approved by the Colchester Borough Council Archaeology Officer.

This report mirrors the standards and practices contained in Colchester Borough Council's *Guidelines on standards and practices for archaeological fieldwork in the Borough of Colchester* (CM 2002) and *Guidelines on the preparation and transfer of archaeological archives to Colchester Museums* (CM 2003), and the Institute of Field Archaeologists' *Standard and guidance for archaeological excavation* (IFA 1999) and *Standard and guidance for the collection, documentation, conservation and research of archaeological materials* (IFA 2001). Other sources used are *Management of archaeological projects*, 2nd edition (MAP 2), *Research and archaeology: a framework for the Eastern Counties 1. Resource assessment* (EAA 3), *Research and archaeology: a framework for the Eastern Counties 2. Research agenda and strategy* (EAA 8), and *Standards for field archaeology in the East of England* (EAA 14).

3 Aims and objectives

The aims and objectives of the archaeological excavation were to preserve by record the location, extent, date, character, condition, quality and importance of any surviving archaeological features or deposits. This excavation had the following objectives:

- to establish the presence/absence of human burials,
- to establish whether the site was rural or domestic in character,
- to establish whether there are the remains of any buildings or other structures on site, in the form of post-holes, gullies, etc.

4 Archaeological background (Fig 2)

The Abbey Field has traditionally been used for Army training, with the Cavalry Barracks and Le Cateau Barracks to the west of Circular Road North in use since the 19th century. The excavation site is located in the north-western corner of the Abbey Field. Maps pre-dating the garrison show no features in or near the excavation site, which suggests that the area was farmland in the 17th century. The OS 1st edition 1:10,560 map (surveyed 1875-76, published 1881) shows that, after the construction of barrack blocks to the west, the area continued to be open land and part of the Abbey Field, and was used as the Army drill ground. However, the 2006 evaluation (CAT Report 358) encountered services and flimsy foundations, which indicate that some 20th-century buildings had been present on the site. These may have resembled the temporary wooden structures still standing on the Abbey Field, eg the building to the south of the site.

Records of previous archaeological finds within the site are held by the Essex Historic Environment Record (EHER, held by the ECC) and by the Urban Archaeological Database (UAD, held by Colchester Borough Council at Colchester Museums).

The archaeological context of the location is now relatively well understood following a series of evaluations and excavations in adjacent areas since 2000 (CAT Report 54; CAT Report 138 revised; CAT Report 412 forthcoming), and an evaluation on this site in 2006 (CAT Report 358).

There is some evidence for prehistoric activity within the area: Middle Bronze Age vessels, probably burial urns, were found on the north-western boundary of the Garrison Urban Village (GUV, elsewhere referred to as the Alienated Land) redevelopment Area J1 in 2004-5 (UAD event no 1247). Several Bronze Age to Early Iron Age features were also excavated close to the earlier finds in 2005 during the GUV archaeological excavations for Taylor Woodrow at the former Le Cateau Barracks, adjacent to Le Cateau Road (Area J1 North; CAT Report 412 forthcoming). In addition, Bronze Age pits were found in 2004 in Areas C1 and C2 of the same project, to the west and south of Flagstaff House respectively (CAT Report 271). No prehistoric features were revealed during the evaluation.

Roman Colchester is particularly significant for the study of cemeteries and funerary practices in Britain, because the town may be seen as having been a fusion of two different populations, ie the indigenous, largely Romanised British community and an immigrant 'Roman' one, each of which had its own beliefs and funerary practices. There is a clear grouping of observations from the northern corner of GUV Area J1, close to the entrance of Le Cateau Barracks (UAD ref nos 1022-1023, 1095). These appear to be on the southern fringe of a wide area of burials focused on the Butt Road cemetery (CAR 9, 4-202). Other informative excavations of Roman cemeteries in Colchester to date have been at the Abbey Field (CAT Report 138 revised), Turner Rise (Shimmin forthcoming a), and at Handford House (CAT Report 323 in prep). Further concentrations of Roman burials, including both inhumations and cremations, have been excavated in 2004 and 2005 in GUV Area J1 North (360 burials) and Area C2 (66 burials).

Although the Area J1 investigations identified a dense area of burials at the northern end of the site, only five cremations were found in the excavation conducted in the paddocks opposite the current site, on Area J1 South. The excavation is, however, significant in this context since a 20m-wide ditch-defined track or driveway with some surviving gravel metalling extended north to south through the site. This is apparently a route connecting Area J1 North (where the 360 excavated burials were found adjacent to it) and which continued on to the Lexden area where further burials and cemetery structures have also been found next to it. The evaluation demonstrated that the route continued south across the line of the modern Circular Road North into the area of the

new car-park area. Notably, burials appear to have been placed in clusters on the east side of the track or driveway. No Roman burials were located within the evaluation trenches for the car-park site, although the eastern ditch of the track or driveway was identified, and contained pyre debris. The western ditch of the track or driveway, in Area J1 South, produced a hoard of 41 silver Roman coins and part of a funerary inscription. The projected line of this ditch could not be investigated during the evaluation because of the presence of modern services on its projected route.

The archaeological context of the north-western area of the Abbey Field itself with regard to cemetery areas is reasonably well understood. At least 28 Roman burials were found during construction of the athletics ground and sports pitches north-east of the site in 1925 (Hull 1958; UAD event no 1099; TL 9940 2430). Trial-trenching and excavation for the all-weather hockey pitch (immediately to the north of the athletics track) by CAT in 2000 recovered 78 cremation burials and cremation-related features, some only 300mm below existing ground-level (CAT Report 138 revised; TL 9954 2441). A north-south ditch-defined track or driveway was also plotted, extending approximately through the middle of this area of burials.

A 450m-long Roman circus was identified during the archaeological investigations managed by RPS and conducted by CAT in 2004-5 in GUV Areas C1, C2 and J1 (CAT Report 412 forthcoming). The starting gates at the western end were located in what is now the garden of the Sergeants' Mess (250m NNE of the current site), and the semi-circular east end in what is now the garden of Flagstaff House. CAT also located the probable line of the central barrier at the northernmost point of the Abbey Field, in September 2005 (CAT Report 412 forthcoming). Details of the near turning post were revealed by excavation in Circular Road North in 2007 (Shimmin forthcoming b). The circus is unique in Britain, and as such is of national importance.

No traces of the Late Iron Age *oppidum* landscape (the Catuvellaunian royal estate of Camulodunum) have been identified within the area by the investigations, and it is therefore considered unlikely that significant prehistoric remains are located in this particular area.

A previous archaeological evaluation by means of geophysical survey and trial-trenching (5% sample - three 20m-long trial-trenches) was undertaken in 2006 (CAT Report 358). The evaluation indicated fifteen features, seven of which were modern and likely to be of military origin. The remaining eight consisted of six ditches including a continuation of the Roman roadside ditch JSF19 (first identified as part of the Alienated Land excavations on Area J South in 2004). Gravel metalling of the road itself was also encountered, while the roadside ditch contained a concentration of smashed Roman pottery and cremated human and animal bone derived from pyre debris, which was probably associated with nearby Roman burials.

5 The excavation

5.1 The Roman track or driveway (Figs 2-3, 9)

F3 and F17 were deep ditches defining either side of a north-south Roman track or driveway. Ditch F17 was 3.4m wide and a maximum of 0.80m deep below the excavated site level. Its profile was not smooth, but had a slightly steeper-sided central section which may indicate that the ditch had, not surprisingly, been cleaned out. Ditch F3 was 3.0m wide, and a maximum of 1.20m deep below the excavated site level. Its profile was smoother than F17, and it had a flat bottom which was 0.40m wide. Ceramic dating evidence for the two ditches differs. F3 contained Roman sherds of the 1st or 2nd century AD and an intrusive post-medieval sherd, whereas F17 contained sherds of the early to mid 2nd to the late 3rd or 4th century AD. As it is assumed that the ditches were contemporary, it can be argued that they were probably first dug in the 1st-2nd century AD and probably remained open (with numerous cleanings-out?) until at least the late 3rd century, after which they were filled in. This is broadly similar to the dating of the finds from the excavated segments of these ditches in Alienated Land Area J1 South and Area J1 North on the other side of Circular Road North. Notably, a 2nd-century coin hoard was recovered within the western roadside ditch in Area J1 South.

Several patches of gravel or 'metalling' (F1, F3-F7, F10) were recorded in between the two ditches of the track or driveway. F4 and F7 are described in the site notes as 'hard gravel with pea grit on top', a good sign of a solid surface. It is presumed that these were either fragments of an original metalled surface, or else small patches of metalling laid down to cover local wet patches. Similar patches of gravel or metalling were noted where this track or driveway continues north and north-west into Alienated Land Area J1.

5.2 The Roman burials (Figs 3-8)

Seven Roman burials were recorded to the east of the track or driveway. Five of these (F8, F12-F15) contained Roman cremation urns, complete but fragmentary, and often with damaged tops. The other two (F9 and F11) were deposits of broken potsherds with small finds, bone and various metal objects. Human bone was extracted from only five of the burials, ie F8-F9 and F13-F15. A catalogue of the contents of each burial is given here, with a comment on the composition of the burial. For further detail on small finds (SFs), pottery, and human bone, see reports by Nina Crummy, Stephen Benfield and Francesca Boghi respectively (below).

Catalogue

F8 (Fig 4)

This was a simple cremation burial with cremated bone inside an urn.

finds number 10, largely intact but broken Cam 241/242 carinated urn, 1st century AD

finds number 10, cremated human bone, 492g

Date: defined by cremation urn to 1st century AD.

F9 (Figs 4, 11-12)

This consisted of an inverted cremation urn, with fragments from a wooden box used to contain clothes or jewellery underneath it. The recovery of only one ring, no hinges and no hasp for the box shows that it had been deliberately broken and only some elements were deposited in the burial. The cremated bone was found primarily beneath the remains of the box.

finds number 7, sherds of a broken Cam 219 carinated bowl, 1st-2nd century AD

finds number 13, other potsherds, early to mid 2nd century AD

finds number 13, cremated human bone (275g)

Partial fragments from a wooden box with a lock-plate with lion-headed studs, probably late 1st or early 2nd century:

finds number 13, iron nails associated with box, and fragments (SF12)

finds number 14, copper-alloy lock-plate, studs and lock mechanism (SF9)

finds number 14, iron straps associated with lock-plate (SF 10)

finds number 15, copper-alloy and iron split spike loop (SF 11)

Date: defined by the date of residual sherds to early to mid 2nd century; this means that the wooden box might have been already old when deposited.

F11 (Fig 5)

This burial consisted of many fragmentary vessels, but no bone. There was no obvious cremation urn, but instead there were 94 sherds from nine different vessels.

finds number 19, 94 sherds from nine different vessels, dating from the early to mid 2nd century AD

finds number 19, iron nail, probably derived from the wood used on the pyre

Date: group date for all the pottery is mid 2nd to mid 3rd century.

F12 (Fig 6)

This burial was represented by a single inverted pot, without bone.

finds number 9, largely intact but broken Cam 268 jar, early/mid 2nd-late 3rd/early 4th century

Date: defined by pot to early/mid 2nd-late 3rd/early 4th century.

F13 (Figs 7, 13)

This was a simple burial with cremated bone inside a pot, accompanied by an armlet and a possible box (nails).

finds number 20, largely intact but broken grey ware bowl, Roman

finds number 20, cremated human bone, 112g

finds number 21, copper-alloy cable armband, unburnt but broken before being placed in urn (SF 2)
finds number 20, fragments of five iron nails; at least one has the uncorroded surface often found
on nails that have been burnt on a pyre.
Date: Roman.

F14 (Figs 7, 10, 13)

This was a single pot with cremated bone, accompanied by a pottery picture lamp,
bone, copper-alloy spoon and iron objects.

Fig 10.1, SF 1, finds number 12, copper-alloy round-bowled spoon with the point of the handle
bent upwards. Length 117 mm. Roman

finds number 11, largely intact but broken shouldered jar, 1st-early 2nd/2nd century

finds number 11, cremated human bone, 696g

finds numbers 26, 29, 30, fragmentary burnt bone handle (from a knife or other tool) (SFs 3, 6, 8)

finds numbers 27, 29, heat-affected iron objects (SFs 4, 7)

finds number 28, complete picture pottery lamp with image of a running lion made between AD
50 and AD 60/1 (SF 5)

Date: 1st-2nd century.

F15 (Fig 8)

This was a simple burial with cremated bone in an urn.

finds number 16, largely intact but broken Cam 270b storage jar used as cremation urn, 1st-
2nd/3rd century

finds numbers 16-17, cremated human bone (194g)

finds number 16, other pot sherds, 1st-2nd/3rd century

finds number 16, 1 glass shard (Roman?)

Date: 1st-2nd/3rd century.

5.3 Other Roman features (Fig 3)

F18 was a suspected Roman pit or cremation burial which produced no finds. The fill of
this feature looked like a potential cremation burial. A single Roman pit (F16) was
excavated in between burials F15 and F18.

5.4 Post-medieval and modern features (Fig 3)

A large post-medieval ditch F2 crossed the site from north to south, cutting Roman
track or driveway ditch F17 and Roman metallurgy patches F8 and F10. F2 was 1.9m
wide and 0.65m deep, with a slightly flat bottom. This feature contained a large group
of finds, including residual Roman material, but was dated to the post-medieval period
by finds of peg-tile and sherds of Fabric 40 post-medieval red earthenware (17th-18th
century). This would imply that F2 was a pre-Army garrison field ditch.

Four unnumbered modern features (presumably Army-related) were left
unexcavated because of ordnance risk. They could generally be assigned to the
modern period by the colour of their fills. There was also a large area of modern
disturbance along the south edge of the site. This was left unexcavated.

6 The finds (Figs 10-13)

6.1 The clay tobacco pipe

by Nina Crummy

Finds number 3, F2

Post-medieval ditch. Unmarked stem fragment. Length 35mm, stem bore diameter 3 mm.

Fragments such as this cannot be closely dated, but such a wide stem bore is most likely to
belong to a pipe of the late 17th or 18th century.

6.2 General site finds

by Nina Crummy

The assemblage is very small and has no distinctive character. The nails are of
Manning's type 1b (Manning 1985, 134).

F16 pit, finds number 18, iron nail. Length 39 mm. Roman.

Unstratified, finds number 1, iron nail. Length 84 mm.

F2 post-medieval ditch, finds number 23, worn worked fragment of tufa from a quarter-round moulding or pilaster base, probably residual Roman. 65 by 44 mm, 33 mm high.

6.3 The grave deposits

by Nina Crummy

Only four of the burials contained deposits other than pottery vessels. Of these four, only two can be dated: F14 contained a locally-made lamp of pre-Boudican date and a copper-alloy spoon, and F9 contained fragments of a box deposited sometime in the late 1st or 2nd century. These deposits are typical for the period and are indicative of an immigrant population or of fully Romanised Britons.

Cremation burial F9 (Figs 11-12)

All the metalwork from this burial derives from the remains of a wooden box with the boards pegged together with small nails. It was fitted with a lock-plate with debased lion-headed studs and with strap-rings with a distinctive channelled or faceted section. Where rings of this type were fitted with two split-spike loops, as here, they acted as hinges or secured a leather strap used as a hinge (Crummy & Hogarth 2004). They were used on early Roman boxes used for clothes, jewellery and other personal equipment that were introduced from the Continent soon after the conquest and whose distribution mirrors the advance of Roman, or Romano-Gallic, influence across southern Britain. Repairs on some examples testify to a prolonged period of use, and this example, with its debased lion-headed studs, was probably deposited in the late 1st or early 2nd century. The recovery of only one ring, no hinges and no hasp for the box from F9 shows that it had been deliberately broken and only some elements deposited in the burial.

Fig 11.1, Fig 12.1, Fig 12.2, F9, SF 9, finds number 14

a) Copper-alloy rectangular lock-plate with plain edges and eight composite attachment studs, with three set along each side. 105 by 80 mm; diameter of studs 16 mm. The plate is marked with two concentric grooves centred on the top of the keyhole, which is for a rotary key. The studs are of debased lion head type, the lion's mask being reduced to a raised triangle and the mane to nicks around the rim (cf Riha 2001, Taf 48, 634, 636). The hollow interior of each stud is filled with lead-tin solder used to secure the iron shank and reinforce the attachment of the stud to the lock-plate (Fig 11.1).

b) Fittings from the lock mechanism: a copper-alloy lock-bolt (63 by 11 mm), a narrow iron strip with an integral rivet at each end (54 by 6 mm; Fig 12.1), and a rectangular copper-alloy plate (25 by 17 mm; Fig 12.2). There are traces of mineralised wood on the iron strip.

Fig 12.3-4, F9, SF 10, finds number 14

Two iron strip fragments, each tapering to a terminal with integral rivet. They were found beneath the lock-plate and were probably used to secure the inner plate of the lock mechanism to the front board of the box. a) Length 94 mm, width 13 mm; b) 104 mm, width 15 mm.

Fig 12.5, F9, SF 11, finds number 15

a) Copper-alloy ring of faceted or channelled section with two iron split-spike loops attached. Diameter of ring 29 mm. Length of best-preserved split-spike loop 33 mm. Fig 12.6 b-c) Thin nail with small oval head and a fragment of another; used to peg together the sides of the box. Lengths 30 and 20 mm.

F9, SF 12, finds number 13

Three thin nails with small oval heads (as SF 11) and two shank fragments. Traces of mineralised wood on the best-preserved example shows the board thickness to have been 6.5 mm. Lengths 28 (complete), 25, 19 (clenched), 12 and 20 mm.

Cremation burial or pyre debris F11

Only a single nail deriving from the wood used on the pyre came from this burial.

F11, finds number 19

Iron nail with traces of charcoal incorporated into the corrosion. Length 45 mm.

Urned cremation burial F13 (Fig 13)

Several nails from this cremation are probably all primary deposits; at least one has the uncorroded surface often found on nails that have been burnt on the pyre. A fragment of a cable armband (Fig 13.1) does not appear to have been burnt, but it seems to have been deliberately broken before being placed in the urn.

F13, finds number 20

Three iron nails and two nail shaft fragments. a-b) Two nails corroded together side by side but head to tip. Length (head to head) 42 mm. c) Complete well-preserved nail, with the lack of corrosion typical of ironwork burnt on the pyre. Length 62 mm. d-e) Nail shank fragments. Lengths 31 and 29 mm.

Fig 13.1, F13, SF 2, finds number 21

Fragment (in two pieces) of a three-strand copper-alloy cable armband. The condition of the fragment shows that the armband was probably deliberately broken before being placed in the burial. Length 89 mm.

Urned cremation burial F14 (Fig 13)

This burial contained a part of an iron ferrule and some nails, all burnt primary deposits, and a secondary deposit of an unburnt lamp, a copper-alloy spoon (possibly from a disturbed burial), and a bone handle. The handle (Fig 13.2) may be from a knife or some other tool. The discus image, fabric and debased form of the nozzle and volutes show the lamp (Fig 13.3) to be a product of the Colchester lamp factory, made between AD 50 and AD 60/1. It was probably selected for its discus image of a lion, which represented the all-devouring jaws of death and, by association with Dionysus/Bacchus, could be seen as the protector of the soul. A parallel to this usage comes from a grave at Béruges, France, which contained a coin of Philip I pierced so that its reverse image, a walking lion, was upright when the coin was suspended, while the emperor's bust was upside down (Henig & Wickenden 1988, 107; Bertrand 2003, fig 68). In Colchester, spoons such as Figure 10, number 1 occur in both bone and copper-alloy from the mid 1st century into the 2nd century AD. The bowls often retain traces of tinning (eg *CAR 6*, 156, no 527). In graves, the close association of these spoons with jewellery and toilet equipment implies that they were not only used for eating, but had some alternative function associated with the female toilette (Cool 2004, 28).

Fig 10.1, F14, SF 1, finds number 12

Copper-alloy round-bowled spoon with the point of the handle bent upwards. Length 117 mm. Roman.

Fig 13.2, F14, SFs 3/6/8, finds numbers 26/29/30

Burnt round-section bone handle, in fragments; only the largest fragment is illustrated. The sides are straight. The surviving terminal is marked with a pair of fine grooves and is topped with a flattened knob which has a single fine groove around the circumference and a sunken centre on the top where it was attached to a lathe for turning. Maximum surviving length 41.5 mm, diameter 10 mm. The centre is not pierced to take a tang, but, by comparison with similar intact examples, the original length would have been much greater, probably between 81 and 104 mm, and the tang would not need to penetrate the full length of the handle (Mikler 1997, Taf 47, 7-9).

F14, SF 4, finds number 27

Iron shaft or ferrule made from rolled thin iron sheet. Length 16 mm; diameter 2.5 mm. Roman.

F14, SF 7, finds number 29

Iron nail and three shank fragments, all heat-affected. Lengths 16, 18, 23 and 30 mm.

Fig 13.3. F14, SF 5, finds number 28

Complete pottery picture lamp with the very worn relief image of a running lion on the discus (Bailey 1988, 67, fig. 82; Eckardt 2002a, fig 6, L1807; Eckardt 2002b, fig 133, 701). The fabric is buff and there is a trace of red slip on one side. Length 80 mm, discus diameter 52 mm.

6.4 The prehistoric pottery

by Stephen Benfield

Introduction

The recording of the prehistoric pottery follows the description of fabric types devised for the recording of prehistoric pottery in Essex (Brown 1988). Only one fabric type was recorded, ie Fabric C, which contains common small-medium flint temper (from less than 1 mm and up to 2 mm) and occasional large pieces of flint temper (over 2 mm).

Prehistoric pottery discussion

Only two small sherds (20 g) of prehistoric pottery were recovered, both from F16. Each of the sherds is flint-tempered and moderately thin, and could possibly come from the same vessel. They are probably part of one, possibly two, Late Bronze Age, post-Deverel-Rimbury, plain ware pots. It can be noted that an assemblage of Late Bronze Age plain ware (dated c 1000-900 BC) is known from Site J1 North, a few hundred metres north-west of the current site (Sealey 2006).

Catalogue of prehistoric pottery

F16, finds number 18 (10 g); Fabric C, slightly abraded body sherd, up to 5 mm thick, brown exterior surface and black interior.

F16, finds number 18 (10 g); Fabric C, base sherd, up to 4 mm thick, dark brown exterior surface, brown and dark brown interior.

6.5 The Roman pottery

by Stephen Benfield

Introduction

There was just under 1 kg (9,186 g) of pottery from the excavation, of which about 8,000g was stratified. The pottery has been recorded using the Roman pottery fabric type series devised for *CAR 10*, in which the fabrics are recorded as two-letter codes. These letter codes, together with the full fabric name, are set out in Table 1. In addition, a code for Late Iron Age grog-tempered wares (Fabric GTW) has been introduced. This fabric is described below. Where appropriate, the fabric code for the national Roman fabric reference collection has been included (Tomber & Dore 1998). The pot forms were recorded, where possible, using the Camulodunum (Cam) Roman pottery form type series (Hawkes & Hull 1947; Hull 1958). Samian vessels were recorded using Dragendorff (Dr) form numbers or other common form type references following those used in Webster (1996). The pottery fabrics and the vessel forms present in each site context were recorded for each finds number. The number of sherds was recorded and the identifiable pottery forms present for each fabric type. The total weight of pottery and an overall spot date was recorded for each finds number. This information is set out in the catalogue of Roman pottery below.

Fabric descriptions other than fabrics contained in *CAR 10*:

Fabric GTW Grog-tempered wares

Generally rather thick sherds, with patchy red-brown to dark brown surfaces. Fabric contains various quantities of crushed fired clay (grog) and is grey to dark brown.

Table 1: Roman pottery fabric codes and fabric names used in this report (after *CAR 10*).

Fabric code	Fabric name	National Roman Fabric Reference Collection fabric code
AA	amphoras, all excluding Dressel 20 and Brockley Hill/ Verulamium region amphoras	
AJ	amphoras, Dressel 20	BAT AM 1, BAT AM 3
BA	plain samian	
SG	South Gaulish plain samian	LGF SA
CG	Central Gaulish plain samian	LEZ SA2

Fabric code	Fabric name	National Roman Fabric Reference Collection fabric code
BX	decorated samian	
SG	South Gaulish decorated samian	LGF SA
CH	oxidised Hadham wares	HAD OX
DJ	coarse oxidised and related wares	COL WH
FJ	Brockley Hill/Verulamium region oxidised ware	VER WH
GB	BB2: black-burnished ware, category 2	COL BB2
GTW	grog-tempered ware	SOB GT
GX	other coarse wares, principally locally-produced grey wares	

Roman pottery discussion

The stratified Roman pottery was recovered from cremation burials, ditches and a pit. Of specific interest is the fact that the individual pots accompanying two of the cremation burials were inverted.

The pottery from six of the cremation burials (F8, F9, F12, F13, F14, F15) consisted of single pots. One associated feature (F11) contained several partial pots and sherds from a number of others. Some of the sherds from F11 had been burnt. The closely datable pottery from the cremation burials is mostly of 1st- to mid 2nd-century date, although the date range of some of the pots extends to the late 2nd-3rd/early 4th century. The cremation urn from the burial F12 dates from after the early 2nd century and was current until the late 3rd/early 4th century. Also, although the cremation urn from F9 is dated to the 1st-early 2nd century, a single sherd of samian from the fill is of early to mid 2nd-century date.

Four of the vessels placed with the cremation burials could be identified to specific form types. These are a Cam 241/242 biconical carinated bowl, dated 1st/early 2nd century (from F8); a Cam 219 carinated bowl with bulged shoulder cordon, dated 1st-early 2nd century (from F9); a Cam 268 jar, dated early/mid 2nd-late 3rd/early 4th century (from F12); and a Cam 270B storage jar, dated 1st-2nd/3rd century (from F15). The pot from F13 could only be identified as a grey ware jar or narrow-necked bowl. The pot from F14 is a shouldered jar with everted rim that is not directly paralleled in the Cam type series, but can be attributed to Cam form 260B. Although the jar form Cam 260B usually has a rilled body (Hawkes & Hull 1947, 270 & plate LXXXIII), the form can also be plain. A similar plain jar to that from F14 and attributed to Cam form 260B was recovered from a pit (Pit 1) in Insula 7 (Hull 1958, fig 56, no 48). The form 260B is virtually absent among assemblages from the *colonia*; none were recorded among the very large quantity of pottery from the *colonia* published in *CAR 10* (*CAR 10*, 479; Hull 1963, 183), and almost all are recorded from Sheepen (Hawkes & Hull 1947, 270). The pottery group from Pit 1 in Insula 7 is dated as *c* AD 100 (Hull 1958, 125) and the pot from F14 can therefore be dated as 1st-?early 2nd century. A residual sherd from the cremation burial F9 can also be identified. It is a dish of form Dr 18/31 from Central Gaul (Fabric BA(CG)) dated early-mid 2nd century.

The pottery from F11 consists of partial vessels or sherds from at least ten different pots. The most complete, in terms of the proportion of the vessel represented, are the lower part of a pot that is probably a flagon and one or two small plain cups copying pre-Flavian form Cam 62B. Other identifiable sherds include a Dr 18/31 dish, dated late 1st/early 2nd-mid 2nd century, although this piece may be South Gaulish (Fabric BA(SG)) and date to *c* AD 90-110. There are also sherds from a Cam 328 bead rim jar dated Hadrianic/early Antonine-late 2nd century, and the abraded lower part of a colour-coated beaker (Fabric CZ) dated early 2nd-mid 3rd century. Two of the pots represented had been burnt, ie the Cam 62B cup and the base of the colour-coated beaker. The beaker appears to have been burnt after breakage. It can be noted that F11 contained sherds representing a larger number of vessels than are usually recovered from a cremation burial, in common with other sites at the Garrison where features with significant amounts of pyre debris, including pyre sites and *busta*, have been recorded (Benfield forthcoming).

It is possible that a broken but partial pot from the pit F16, a bowl of form Cam 37A and dated early 2nd-late 2nd/early 3rd century, may have been disturbed from an otherwise unknown burial.

An interesting aspect of two of the burials, F12 and F9, is the way in which the single pots from these two features were placed in the grave pit. The pot in F12 was placed in an inverted position in the burial pit, and this is also almost certainly the same as the pot in F9. The near-complete pot in F12 was recovered upside down, the base having been damaged prior to or during machine-stripping of the site. The pot from F9 is completely broken up, but was recorded, when excavated, as appearing to be upside down in the feature. The base and lowest part of the body are entirely missing, and this is consistent with the pot having been placed in an upside-down position, the base having been lost to ploughing or machine-stripping. Since 2000, a large number of cremations with pottery vessels have been excavated in the surrounding area. Among these, the only pots which have been recorded as inverted are those that were used as lids on top of cremation urns, and no cremation urns, or placed ancillary vessels, have previously been found in an inverted position (Benfield 2001; Benfield forthcoming). This inversion of pottery vessels appears to be a rare occurrence among Roman cremations. Most of the pottery vessels are either cremation urns, ie containers for the cremated remains, or ancillary vessels whose function was as containers for food and drink, either containing real food or simply being laid out representational of a meal setting. Platters or bowls were sometimes inverted to act as lids covering the mouths of cremation urns, although, elsewhere, dishes have occasionally been recorded as inverted in burials and some have been recorded as being tipped on edge to fit into a small grave pit (Philpott 1991, 36). The only recently recorded instance of the deliberate inversion of a pot in a cremation burial at Colchester, other than when used as a lid, is a Gaulish amphora (CAR 10, Fabric AA, 139, pot 140, fig 3.7). However, this amphora had been placed this way, with the neck and shoulder carefully disconnected from the body of the vessel, so that it could serve as a container for a cremation urn that had been placed upright inside it.

There is a small quantity of pottery from the ditches of the Roman track or droveway, ie F3 and F17. The pottery from F3 was recovered from near to the base of the ditch. The sherds are all grey ware and not clearly identified or well dated. One sherd is possibly from a bowl of form Cam 218, dated 1st-early 2nd century, and a base sherd with a well-cut footring suggests that it was part of a beaker of probable 1st- to 2nd-century date. Of two sherds recorded from F17, the more datable sherd (finds no 24) is probably from a Cam 268 jar, dated early/mid 2nd-late 3rd/early 4th century. However, it should be noted that this particular sherd is not certainly associated with F17. The other sherd (finds no 25) is a base sherd with a cut footring, suggesting that it was part of a beaker of probable 1st- to 2nd-century date.

From the unstratified pottery there is a sherd from a 1st-century, probably pre-Flavian vessel. This is from a Dr 29 decorated samian bowl (Fabric BX(SG)). There is also a sherd dating to the late 3rd or more probably 4th century. This is from a Cam 317 dish, from the Hadham potteries (Fabric CH). Also of interest is an amphora rim sherd in a cream-yellow limestone rich fabric. This is possibly from a Cam 184 (Rhodian) amphora, dated 1st/early 2nd century. There is also an abraded sherd of Late Iron Age grog-tempered ware. Late Iron Age grog-tempered wares have proved surprisingly rare among the pottery assemblages recovered from sites on the Garrison (Sealey forthcoming).

Catalogue of Roman pottery

F3 (ditch), finds number 6 (44 g); Fabric GX, 5 sherds, inc lattice cordon from a ?Cam 218 bowl, dated 1st-early 2nd century, also base sherd with footring from beaker or possibly small jar, probably 1st-2nd century, also rim from a large jar or bowl, Roman.

F8 (urned cremation burial), finds number 10 (747 g); largely intact but broken, Fabric HZ, Cam 241/242, biconical carinated bowl, almost all of lower part of vessel in sherds and some sherds above carination, 1st century.

F9 (urned cremation burial), finds numbers 7, 13 (2,286 g); Fabric GX, much of a Cam 219 carinated bowl with bulged shoulder cordon, in sherds, vessel very broken up, sherds from rim shoulder and body but no base sherds present and the pot is recorded as having been in an

inverted position in the burial pit, cordon decorated with burnished chevron pattern, 1st-early 2nd century.

Residual sherds: Fabric BA(CG), 1 sherd, Dr 18/31 dish, early-mid 2nd century; Fabric DJ 1 sherd, 1st-2nd/3rd century.

Pottery dated early-mid 2nd century.

F11 (urned cremation burial/pyre debris), finds number 19 (389 g) – at least 10 pots represented; Fabric BA(?SG), 1 sherd, Dr 18/31, dated early-mid 2nd century, this sherd possibly c AD 90-110; Fabric ?CZ, 1 sherd, base of small beaker with pedestal foot, abraded and burnt after breakage, ?early 2nd-mid 3rd century; Fabric DJ, 20 sherds, with 18 sherds probably from a flagon, 1 other sherd from small pedestal-footed beaker or jar, 1st-2nd/3rd century; Fabric ?GX, 5 sherds from two small cups copying pre-Flavian fine ware forms (one, of form Cam 62B, is burnt internally and externally across the rim); Fabric GX, 24 sherds, 1 sherd Cam 328 (*CAR 10*, Fabric GX, Type 141), very sandy fabric, Hadrianic/early Antonine-late 2nd century, 23 other sherds from three or more pots.

Pottery dated Hadrianic/early Antonine to early 2nd/mid 3rd century.

F12 (urned cremation burial), finds number 9 (1,051 g); Fabric GX, Cam 268 jar, almost complete pot, upper body intact but cracked, base and lower body recently broken with small part of base missing, pot recovered upside-down and had been inverted in the burial pit, early/mid 2nd-late 3rd/early 4th century.

F13 (urned cremation burial), finds number 20 (1,149 g); Fabric GX, base and lower body of grey ware jar or narrow-necked bowl in sherds, Roman.

F14 (urned cremation burial), Fig 13.4, finds number 11 (1,044 g); Fabric DJ or oxidised Fabric GX, shouldered plain jar with narrow base and simple everted rim, not directly paralleled in the Cam type series or *CAR 10* but can be attributed to Cam form 260B as there is a similar vessel attributed to this from Pit 1 in Insula 7 (Hull 1958, fig 56, pot 48) – partial pot, almost certainly complete when buried, one side intact to base of rim, upper part of other side in sherds and recently broken, sherds missing from rim, probably 1st-?early 2nd century.

F15 (urned cremation burial), finds number 16 (924 g); Fabric GX, much of the lower part of a Cam 270B storage jar, in sherds, mottled red-brown and grey-brown surfaces, some coarse temper burnt out in the surface, only 2 rim sherds remain, these are burnished, and there are 2 sherds from shoulder which have a line of stab decoration, 1st-2nd/3rd century; Residual sherds: Fabric DJ, 3 small sherds, 1st-2nd/3rd century; Fabric GX, 1 small sherd from a small pot in dark grey ware.

F16 (pit), finds number 18 (280 g); Fabric ?FJ, very abraded rim, very sandy fabric, 1st-mid 2nd century; Fabric GB, 21 sherds, Cam 37B bowl, a partial pot with several joining sherds, possibly a disturbed grave vessel, late 2nd to mid-late 3rd century; Fabric GX, 1 sherd, Roman.

F17 (ditch), finds number 24, pottery possibly disturbed from F17 (12 g); Fabric GX rim sherd, probably from a Cam 268 jar, dated early-mid 2nd to late 3rd/early 4th century.

Finds number 25 (12 g); Fabric GX, 1 sherd, base with footring, beaker or small jar, ?1st-2nd century.

Unstratified Roman pottery:

Finds number 1 (1,250 g); Fabric AA, large beaded rim sherd in cream-yellow fabric with abundant fragments of ?limestone, ?Cam 184 Rhodian amphora, dated 1st century, also 1 other sherd from a different vessel; Fabric AJ complete rim from a Dressel 20 of 2nd-century type; Fabric BX(SG) Dr 29 decorated bowl sherd, mid-late 1st century; Fabric CH, 1 sherd, Cam 317 dish, late 3rd-4th century; Fabric GTW (46 g), 1 sherd with rippled surface, abraded, Late Iron Age; Fabric GX, 4 sherds, Roman.

6.6 Post-Roman pottery

by Howard Brooks

Post-Roman pottery fabric descriptions are after *CAR 7*. Fabrics present include Fabric 21a (Colchester-type ware), Fabric 40 (PMRE or post-medieval red earthenware), and Fabric 40bl (black-glazed PMRE).

Catalogue

F2, finds number 2, 1 sherd (27g), Fabric 40bl, 17th century.

F2, finds number 3, 1 sherd (31g), Fabric 40. 17th/18th century.

F2, finds number 4, 1 sherd (2g), Fabric 40, 17th/18th century.
F2, finds number 13, 3 sherds (27g) Fabric 40 PMRE, 17th-18th century;
1 sherd (32 g), Fabric 21a Colchester-type ware, 15th-16th century.

6.7 The cremated human bone ¹

by Francesca Boghi (Norfolk Archaeological Unit)

Five features containing a total of 1,715g of cremated bone were recovered during the excavation (Table 2). The assemblage comprised bone from four of the urned cremation burials and one of the unurned cremation burials, all provisionally dated to the Roman period. The analysis of the cremated bone followed the guidelines drafted by McKinley (2004). All the features were found to contain fully cremated human bone. A summary and a description of each feature (Tables 5-6) are given in Appendix 1.

Table 2: bone fragmentation.

	10mm (%)	5mm (%)	2mm (%)	residue (%)	max fragment size (mm)	Total weight (g)
COUNT (n)	5	5	5	5	5	5
MIN	30.3	10.2	0.8	0.2	50.0	112.0
MAX	88.8	53.6	15.2	3.2	100.0	696.0
AVERAGE	61.8	31	5.6	1.2	73.6	348.8

The amount of bone found in each feature was medium (100-999g). The quantity of cremated bone per feature varied considerably, from 112g (F13) to 696g (F14), with an average weight of 348.8g (Table 2). The amount of bone falls within the size range (57-3,000g) for archaeological cremations (McKinley 2000, 408-9), though it is largely incomplete in comparison to a modern cremation (1,000-3,600g; McKinley 2000, 404).

The average maximum fragment size (74mm) was large and ranged from 50mm to 100mm (Table 7, Appendix 1). The bone was, on average, in large fragments, as 62% of bone fragments were over 10mm in size, in comparison to an average of 50% of bone fragments over 10mm in archaeological cremations (McKinley 1994, 340).

The bone showed the typical pattern of fissuring, cracking and warping found in cremated fresh bone. The predominantly buff white colour found across the whole assemblage indicates the full oxidisation of bone, which occurs when a temperature in excess of 600° is reached (Shipman *et al* 1984). The small amounts of blue/grey noted in the shielded areas of the medullary cavity of the long bones indicates that a slightly lower temperature was attained in these areas and follows the typical pattern of burning on the bones of a skeleton (Table 8, Appendix 1).

It was possible to identify some skeletal elements in all the features (Table 9, Appendix 1). Bone elements from all four skeletal areas were identified, apart from in F15 where no upper limb bones were identified. Fragments were considered identifiable when they could be attributed to a specific bone element rather than to a generic skeletal area. Identifiable bone was separated, quantified and classified into four skeletal areas: skull, axial skeleton, upper limbs and lower limbs. On average, 50% of bone fragments could be identified. This figure falls within the expected range (20-50%) of an archaeological cremation that is normally identifiable (McKinley 1989, 68). With respect to the relative representation of skeletal areas, elements from the skull were most represented, followed by the axial skeleton and lower limb fragments. Upper limb fragments were the least represented (Table 10, Appendix 1). The collection of the cremated remains at the pyre site appears to have been meticulous enough to include bone elements from at least three skeletal areas in all the features. No bias in the collection of skeletal elements was detected.

No multiple burials were identified in this sample, as there was no evidence for duplication of bone elements or discrepancies of age at death within any of the features. No evidence for bone deposition in anatomical order was found in the two

¹ Table 2 is in the main text, Tables 5-16 are in Appendix 1

features (F8 and F14) that were excavated in spits in an attempt to ascertain whether the bone was distributed in a deliberate order (Table 11, Appendix 1).

The estimation of precise age at death was difficult as most ageing features and criteria for sex determination were unavailable. One individual (F9) was classified as middle adult (35-50 years) and another (F14) was classified as a young adult (20-35 years) on the basis of the morphology of the auricular surface and the rate of cranial suture closure. The remaining individuals could only be generically classified as adults (>20 years) from the rate of epiphyseal union.

A few morphological criteria for sex determination in skeletal material as in Buikstra and Ubelaker (1994) were available in this sample. Most of the metric criteria for sexing cremated material devised by Gejvall (1969) were either absent or insufficiently complete. The measurement of the external occipital protuberance could be taken in one case (F8) and the diameter of the radial head was present in another (F14), but the large overlap between the female and male range meant that the metric criteria could not be used. The remains from the site were classified as one probable male (F8), one female (F14), one probable female (F9) and two individuals of uncertain sex.

A few pathological changes were observed in this sample. These consisted of one instance of non-specific infection affecting the periosteum (F9); dental disease (ante mortem tooth loss) in F9 and spinal pathology (Schmorl's nodes) in F14. Periostitis (ie infection of the periosteum) can occur secondarily to soft tissue lesions with bacterial infection, repeated minor trauma, leg ulcers and varicose veins or through blood-stream spread. Ante-mortem tooth loss may be caused by trauma, periodontal disease, continued eruption, extraction of carious teeth or to relieve acute periapical inflammation (abscesses). Schmorl's nodes result from the prolapse of intervertebral disc material into the vertebral body and reflect the weakening of the intervertebral bodies as a consequence of ageing and/or trauma associated with an overload of the weight-bearing capacity of the spine (Roberts & Manchester 1995).

Incompletely oxidised animal bone from a large mammal (horse or cattle) was found in one feature (F8) alongside fully oxidised human bone, indicating that part or whole animal carcasses had been placed on the pyre with the deceased as pyre goods, and were selected later for inclusion in the grave. Incomplete oxidisation may indicate that the animal remains had been placed on the pyre after the human remains or at the edges of the pyre, although it may just reflect differences in body size. The inclusion of cremated animal bone is common in burials and the animal remains generally represent pyre goods, food, amulets, pets, indicators of status, or remnants of funeral feasts (McKinley 2000, 416). Pyre debris and other inclusions were also found. A small unidentified cremated object was found in F14.

Summary and conclusion

Five Roman cremation burials (four Roman urned and one unurned) were found containing human bone. These contained a total of 1,715g of fully oxidised human bone. The assemblages were medium, with an average bone quantity of 349g, which is within the normal range for archaeological cremations. An average of 50% of fragments could be identified as a large proportion (62%) of the fragments was large (>10mm). All the skeletal areas were represented in four of the features, indicating that bone collection at the pyre site was very meticulous. The urn vessels probably acted as a protective factor resulting in a large average fragment size and in the good preservation rate of normally easily decayed bone elements such as the vertebrae.

6.8 The faunal remains²

by Julie Curl (Norfolk Archaeological Unit)

Introduction

A total of 4.435kg of faunal remains, consisting of 264 pieces, was recovered from the site. The remains of cattle, sheep/goat and equid were identified.

Methodology

All of the bone was examined, primarily to determine range of species and elements present and the amount of material that could produce measurable, ageable bone.

² Tables 3-4 are in the main text; Table 17 is in Appendix 2

Bone was scanned to determine if evidence of bone-, horn- or antler-working was present in the assemblage. Evidence of butchering and any indications of skinning, horn working and other modifications were recorded. When possible, a record was made of ages and any other relevant information, such as pathologies. Counts and weights were taken and recorded for each context and counts taken for the number of bones for each species identified (Tables 3-4). Due to the small size of the assemblage, measurements were not taken as there would have been too little data for any meaningful interpretation. All information was input directly into an Excel database for analysis. The analysis was carried out following a modified version of guidelines by English Heritage (Davis 1992). A catalogue of the assemblage is included as Table 17 in Appendix 2.

The assemblage

The faunal remains assemblage consists of 264 pieces, weighing a total of 4.435kg. Animal bone was produced from ditch and pit fills (mostly of a Roman date) with a small quantity (0.021kg) from post-Roman fills. Almost 70% of the assemblage was derived from Roman pit F16. Some canid and rodent gnawing was evident on cattle bone from F16, suggesting remains of food given to dogs, discarded with other bone and later scavenged by rodents, probably after being deposited in the pit.

The assemblage is in a reasonable condition, although surfaces of some bones are worn and are powdery. Bone from ditch F17 and pit F16 included some burnt remains. The remains in F17 included bone that had been burnt at a fairly high temperature, resulting in bone of a grey to white colour, with some cracking of the surfaces.

Table 3: weights of faunal remains from each feature/layer.

Feature/Layer no	Weights (in kg)
F16	3.024
F17 Sx 2	0.886
F17?	0.269
F2 Sx 2	0.019
F2 Sx 3	0.002
U/S	0.235
Total	4.435

Table 4: quantities of bones identified to species for each feature.

Feature/Layer no	Cattle	Equid	Mammal	Sheep/Goat	Total
F16	16	2	95		113
F17 Sx 2	18		38		56
F17?		1	85	4	90
F2 Sx 2			2	1	3
F2 Sx 3			1		1
U/S	1				1
Total	35	3	221	5	264

Species, butchering and uses

Cattle, sheep/goat and equid were identified, with cattle the most frequent; all species recovered had been butchered.

The cattle remains are from adult and sub-adult bovines and from larger and robust animals, either indicating bulls or castrates which tend to attain a larger size than those which are not castrated. Remains of the cattle had been butchered with chops and cuts; knife cuts were noted at the proximal end of the large, complete cattle metatarsal (unstratified finds no 1) which indicates skinning.

The sheep remains were from ditch F2 and ditch F17; the butchered humeri, femur and tibia suggest good-quality meat remains. Equid foot bones were recorded from ditch F17 and pit F16, all of which had been butchered, suggesting that these equids were at least skinned; the remains in F17 had also been burnt.

Conclusions and comparisons with other assemblages

This is a small assemblage that appears to represent butchering and food waste, some of which had been burnt. The elements present indicate some skinning, but largely good-quality cuts of meat.

The remains are quite typical of faunal assemblages in other parts of Roman Colchester. Equid meat is not always popular for human consumption but it may have been used for feeding dogs or for people if other meat was in short supply. Evidence of butchered equids seems to be relatively common in Roman deposits in Colchester and have been previously found at 22-24 High Street, Colchester (Wade 2004) and in Roman deposits at 29-39 Head Street, Colchester (Curl 2004). Butchered equid has also been recorded further afield at Exeter (Maltby 1979).

6.9 Other finds

by Howard Brooks

This list includes finds not reported on separately above (sections 6.1-6.6).
(D = discarded.)

F2, finds number 2, 4 peg-tile fragments, 69g, D.

F2, finds number 3, clay tobacco-pipe stem fragment; six peg-tile fragments, 112g, D.

F2, finds number 4, 2 peg-tile fragments, 21g D.

F2, finds number 13, 3 Roman tile fragments, 122g, D; six peg-tile fragments, 175g, D; slate, 13g.

F2, finds number 23, ?tufa fragment; two Roman brick fragments, 348g, D; two Roman tile fragments, 122g, D; four peg-tile fragments, 138g, D.

F15, finds number 16, 1 glass shard, slightly frosted; not absolutely convincingly Roman.

F17, finds number 25, 1 burnt flint, 75g; three Roman tile fragments, 60g, D.

7 Discussion

This excavation exposed a Roman track or droveway with a metalled surface, seven Roman burials, and a number of post-medieval or modern features of no archaeological significance.

The track or droveway has been sampled in previous excavations or evaluations in this area. First, its east ditch F17 was excavated in 2002 as JF803 (CAT Report 206, 30, and figs 8, 11). Second, when the area directly north of the current site was excavated as Area J1 South in 2004-5, both its east and west ditches were excavated (as JSF19 and JSF20, and JSF5 respectively; CAT Report 412 forthcoming). Third, in the 2006 evaluation on this site, F17 was excavated in evaluation trench T2 (as F11) and in evaluation trench T1 (as F8). Fourth, the eastern ditch was excavated as F53/F54 and the western ditch as F56 during the Circular Road North excavation in 2007.

Thus, the track or droveway has been recorded over a distance of approximately 300m, north to south. It is possible to speculate where it goes beyond this short stretch. To the north, it appears to head directly for the Roman crossroads, the site of which is under what is now the Colchester Royal Grammar School, where it would give a link to the main Roman road system (Hull 1958, 5, fig 1). To the south its course is not so obvious, except that it most probably heads towards the tracks/droveways and fields of the *oppidum* of Camulodunum.

A number of patches of compacted gravel show that the track or droveway was at least partially metalled, if not in its entirety. The width of the track or droveway in both

Area J1 North and Area J1 South was 24m. On this site, it was slightly smaller at 19.0m to 19.5m, measured from the inner edges of the ditches. This may show that the track or driveway was gradually reducing in size the further it led away from the main Roman road system in the Roman town, where the width of roads may have been influenced by the width of town gates.

Seven Roman burials or deposits of pyre debris were found to the east of the track or driveway. Five were urned, and two were unurned deposits of pyre debris. Accompanying pottery dates the burials to between the 1st and the 3rd century, although there is no specific reason why any of them should date to later than the mid 2nd century AD. The contents of the burials varied considerably. Only two were similar, in that they consisted of a single pot with cremated bone (ie F8, F15). F13 and F14 each had a single pot with cremated bone, plus grave goods such as a copper-alloy armlet and a Colchester-made picture pottery lamp. Two of the burials were simply deposits of pyre debris (F9, F11). These sometimes contained sherds from a variety of pots, and one contained the fragments from part of a decorated wooden box. Two burials consisted of urns without human bone.

The nature of this group of burials reflects a burial rite which involved the burning of a variety of goods on a nearby pyre site, and then depositing the goods in a grave cut. However, there is an important point to be made here. The fact that only part of a wooden box was deposited in F9, that F9 and F11 contained a variety of pot sherds, and that F11 and F12 contained no bone, make it clear that it was not the practice to scrupulously collect all the material from a pyre site and deposit it as a closed group in the grave cut. Clearly, various bits were left behind, and will have been incorporated into other later pyre deposits or burials (whether this was deliberate or not is hard to judge). Thus, the various potsherds from F9 and F11 could well be derived from a number of quite separate and earlier cremations.

The position of the burials on the east side of the track or driveway shows that it was, in effect, the cemetery boundary. Similarly, the Area J1 North cemetery was also concentrated on the east or north-east side of the same track or driveway. Admittedly, the area to the west of the track or driveway in Area J1 North was beyond the excavated area, but there were no burials in the evaluation trenches dug in that area in 2002 (CAT Report 206, 27-30 and fig 8).

The pottery dating of the ditches of the track or driveway on this site is quite late, ie mid-2nd to mid/late 3rd century, but that material dates the time when the ditches were beginning to silt up. Presumably they were originally cut in the 1st century AD, and the burials were subsequently laid out on the east side of the track or driveway from the later 1st century to the mid 2nd century, and possibly beyond.

Post-Roman features consist of a post-medieval north-south ditch which may be a pre-Army garrison field ditch. Modern features consisted of four unnumbered pits which were left unexcavated to minimise ordnance risk.

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10 Glossary and abbreviations

AOD	above Ordnance Datum
Bronze Age	c 2000 BC-700 BC
<i>bustum</i>	full body cremation pit (plural <i>busta</i>)
CBA	Council for British Archaeology
CBCAO	Colchester Borough Council Archaeology Officer
context	specific location on an excavation, especially where finds are concerned
droveway	route along which animals could be moved from farm to market or between fields
EHER	Essex Historic Environment Record, held by Essex County Council
EOD	Explosive Ordnance Disposal
Iron Age	7th century BC to Roman invasion of AD 43
Late Iron Age	c 200 BC-AD 43
medieval	from AD 1066 to Henry VIII
modern	19th century until the present
MoLAS	Museum of London Archaeological Services
NGR	National Grid Reference
<i>oppidum</i>	LIA or early Roman defended area, associated with powerful ruler
post-medieval	after Henry VIII and to the end of the 19th century
prehistoric	pre-Roman, or generally the years BC
residual	something out of its original context (ie a Roman coin in a Victorian pit)
Roman	the period from AD 43 to c AD 410
RPS	RPS
RRC SAL	Report of the Research Committee of the Society of Antiquaries of London
UAD	Urban Archaeological Database, held by Colchester Museums

11 Archive deposition

The finds, paper and digital archive are held by the Colchester Archaeological Trust at 12 Lexden Road, Colchester, Essex CO3 3NF, but will be permanently deposited with Colchester Museums under accession code COLEM 2007.36.

12 Cable trench watching brief (Fig 14)

A watching brief was held on the digging of a cable trench along the north side of the Garrison athletics track (see Fig 14 for route) in 2007. The trench was approximately 0.2m wide and 0.5m deep. No archaeological features or deposits were recorded. No finds were retrieved.

13 Context list

Feature number	Feature type	Date
F1	Road metalling	Roman
F2	Ditch	post-medieval
F3	Road ditch	Roman
F4	Road metalling	Roman
F5	Road metalling	Roman
F6	Road metalling	Roman
F7	Road metalling	Roman
F8	Urned cremation burial	Roman
F9	Cremation burial	Roman
F10	Road metalling	Roman
F11	Cremation burial or pyre debris	Roman
F12	Urned cremation burial	Roman
F13	Urned cremation burial	Roman
F14	Urned cremation burial	Roman
F15	Urned cremation burial	Roman
F16	Pit	Roman
F17	Ditch	Roman
F18	Pit or ?cremation burial	?Roman
L1	Turf and topsoil	modern
L2	Buried topsoil	modern
L3	Silt layer	
L4	Natural	

14 Appendices

Appendix 1: cremated human remains

Table 5: summary.

No	Feature no and type	Human/ animal	Bone state ³	MNI ⁴	Age class ⁵	Sex	Pathologies	Inclusions	Total weight in g (inclusions included)
1	F8, Urned cremation	HUMAN	FO	1	ADULT (> 20 years)	PROBABLE MALE	None visible	Incompletely oxidised animal bone (29g)	492
2	F9, Cremation burial	HUMAN	FO	1	MIDDLE ADULT (35-50 years)	PROBABLE FEMALE	Non-specific infection; dental disease	unburnt pottery (7g)	257
3	F13, Urned cremation	HUMAN	FO	1	ADULT (> 20 years)	UNCERTAIN	None visible	none	112
4	F14, Urned cremation	HUMAN	FO	1	YOUNG ADULT (20-35 years)	FEMALE	Spinal pathology (Schmorl's nodes)	Cremated glass?/metal?; iron encrusted bone (<1g)	696
5	F15, Urned cremation	HUMAN	FO	1	ADULT	UNCERTAIN	None visible	One small fragment unburnt glass (<1g)	194

³ Bone state categories: FO = fully oxidised; IO = incompletely oxidised; unburnt = not exposed to heat

⁴ MNI = Minimum Number of individuals

⁵ Age class categories: ADULT? = probably adult; ADULT = > 20 years; YOUNG ADULT (20-35 years); MIDDLE ADULT (35-50 years); MIDDLE/OLD ADULT (> 35 years); OLD ADULT (>50 years); JUVENILE (<20 years).

Table 6: context description (size⁶, type of bone⁷, degree of oxidisation⁸, MNI⁹, skeletal areas represented¹⁰, age¹¹, sex, pathologies, inclusions).

No	Feature	Feature type	Total weight (inclusions included) (in g)	Provisional date	Description
1	F8	Urned cremation	492	Roman	Medium assemblage containing human fully oxidised bone from a minimum of 1 probable male adult individual. The identified portion of bone (58%) included bone elements from all the skeletal areas. This assemblage was excavated in 3 spits which revealed a mixed anatomical deposition. Inclusions: incompletely oxidised large mammal (equid or cattle) bone.
2	F9	Cremation burial	257	Roman	Medium assemblage containing human fully oxidised bone from a minimum of 1 probable female middle adult (35-50 years) individual. The identified portion of bone (72%) included bone elements from all the skeletal areas. Pathologies: non-specific infection of the lower limbs and dental disease (Ante Mortem Tooth Loss).
3	F13	Urned cremation	112	Roman	Medium assemblage containing human fully oxidised bone from a minimum of 1 adult individual of indeterminate sex. The identified portion of bone (19%) included bone elements from all the skeletal areas.
4	F14	Urned cremation	696	Roman	Medium assemblage containing human fully oxidised bone from a minimum of 1 young adult (20-35 years) female individual. The identified portion of bone (65%) included bone elements from all the skeletal areas. This assemblage was excavated in 4 spits which revealed a mixed anatomical deposition throughout. Pathologies: spinal disease (Schmorl's nodes).
5	F15	Urned cremation	194	Roman	Medium assemblage containing human fully oxidised bone from a minimum of 1 adult individual of indeterminate sex. The identified portion of bone (37%) included bone elements of skull, axial and upper limbs.

⁶ Size categories: 0-99g: small; 100-999g: medium; >999g: large

⁷ type of bone categories: human/animal

⁸ degree of oxidisation categories: unburnt, charred, incompletely oxidised, fully oxidised

⁹ MNI: Minimum Number of Individuals

¹⁰ skeletal areas: skull, axial skeleton, upper limbs, lower limbs

¹¹ age class categories: ADULT? = probably adult; ADULT = > 20 years; YOUNG ADULT (20-35 years); MIDDLE ADULT (35-50 years); MIDDLE/OLD ADULT (> 35 years); OLD ADULT (>50 years); JUVENILE (<20 years)

Table 7: bone fragmentation.

No	Feature	10mm (in g)	%	5mm (in g)	%	2mm (extracted weight in g)	%	residue (in g)	%	% of bone in the residue	Total (human bone only, in g)	Total weight in g (inclusions included)	max. fragment size (in mm)
1	F8/Total	408	88.1%	50	10.7%	4	0.8%	1	0.2%	60%	463	492	83
2	F9	164	65.6%	68	27.2%	10	4%	8	3.2%	80%	250	257	80
3	F13	34	30.3%	60	53.6%	17	15.2%	1	0.9%	80%	112	112	55
4	F14/Total	565	81.2%	107	15.4%	15	2.1%	9	1.3%	60%	696	696	100
5	F15	84	43.3%	96	49.5%	12	6.2%	2	1.0%	30%	194	194	50
Total	-	1,171	-	559	-	58	-	29	-	-	1,715	1,751	-

Table 8: bone colour¹² and colour changes distribution (exocranial/endocranial/diploë; cortical/medullary surface; skeletal area/side).

No	Feature	Colour (visual estimate of % affected)	Degree of oxidation and estimated temperature
1	F8	Human bone: predominant colour: BUFF/WHITE. BLUE/GREY (1%) cortical bone. Soil staining. Green staining on one unidentified fragment. Animal bone: Predominant colour: BLACK. BUFF/WHITE (10%) CORTICAL BONE; BLUE/GREY (10%) cortical bone. Soil staining. Green staining on one unidentified fragment	Human bone: fully oxidised (>600°). Animal bone: incompletely oxidised (up to 600°)
2	F9	Predominant colour: BUFF/WHITE. BLACK (10%) cancellous bone, some articular surfaces, sphenoid. Soil staining	Fully oxidised (>600°)
3	F13	Predominant colour: BUFF/WHITE. BLACK (1%) cancellous bone. Soil staining	Fully oxidised (>600°)
4	F14	Predominant colour: BUFF/WHITE. BLACK (5%) medullary cavity of long bones. P1/3 femur. Soil staining	Fully oxidised (>600°)
5	F15	Predominant colour: BUFF/WHITE. BLUE/GREY (5%) medullary cavity. Soil staining. Green staining on one unidentified fragment	Fully oxidised (>600°)

¹² colour categories and corresponding estimated temperature: BROWN/ORANGE: unburnt; BLACK: charred (approx 300°); BLUE/GREY: incompletely oxidised (up to 600°); BUFF/WHITE; fully oxidised (> 600°)

Table 9: skeletal elements.

No	Feature	SKULL	AXIAL SKELETON	UPPER LIMBS	LOWER LIMBS	UNCLASSIFIABLE
1	F8	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Parietal • R and L mandible (14 sockets; 2 dental roots; L mandibular ramus) • zygomatic 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1 thoracic body • Ilium body (including sciatic notch) • R ischium • 1 rib fragment 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ulna P1/3 • Radius M1/3 • Scapula (body) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fibula M1/3 • R femur • DEPI • Femur M1/3 • Tibia M1/3 • R TIBIA P1/3 • 2 metatarsals • DEPI and D1/3 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Long-bone fragments • Articular surfaces
2	F9	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Parietal • R frontal (socket) • Sphenoid • Temporal bone • R maxilla (5 sockets for teeth 8-4 i.e. R upper incisor to second premolar) • Mandible (mental spine) • Dental roots • Occipital 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2 cervical vertebrae bodies (part of) • 2 Spinous processes • 2 transverse process (lumbar vertebra) • Ilium body • L auricular surface (apex) • Iliac crest 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • L humerus DEPI (olecranon fossa, trochlea) • R ulna P1/3 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Femur M1/3 • Tibia PEPI, M1/3, DEPI • R talus 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Long-bone fragments • Articular surfaces
3	F13	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Parietal • R ramus mandible • 2 dental roots • Petrous temporal (part of) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Spinous process vertebra 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Radius M1/3 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tibia M1/3 • Femur distal EPI 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Long-bone fragments • Articular surfaces

Table 9: skeletal elements (continued).

No	Feature	SKULL	AXIAL SKELETON	UPPER LIMBS	LOWER LIMBS	UNCLASSIFIABLE
4	F14	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> L zygomatic arch (part of) R mandible (part of alveolar / no teeth.) Head and neck of R mandibular condyle R parietal (including parietal foramen) Anterior part of R maxilla (including nasal notch, incisive canal, 4 sockets) Sphenoid (part of) Temporal (part of) L zygomatic bone 92 frags) Occipital R temporal (including mastoid process (score 1)) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 2 rib fragments 2 cervical vertebra: atlas (facet for dens of axis) and axis (dens) 9 thoracic vertebrae (bodies) 1 lumbar vertebra) Vertebral fragments (1 pedicle, 2 spinous processes, articular processes) L pelvis (auricular surface) R ischium acetabulum Sacrum S1 (unfused) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> L scapula (part of spine and part of glenoid fossa) R scapula (lateral border and part of spine) Radius M1/3 L radius PEPI, P1/3 2 hand proximal phalanx (DEPI) R ulna P1/3 Humerus P1/3 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Femur M1/3 (linea aspera), DAS L femur P1/3 (including lesser trochanter) Tibia Proximal Articular surface (part of); M1/3 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Articular surfaces Long bone fragments Small fragments
5	F15	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Parietal Zygomatic sphenoid 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1 cervical vertebra 3 rib fragments Ilium (part of body) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Humerus M1/3 Radius M1/3 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Long bone fragments

Table 10: bone identification.

N	Feature	SKULL (g)	AXIAL SKELETON (g)	UPPER LIMBS (g)	LOWER LIMBS (g)	TOTAL IDENTIFIED (in g)	% IDENTIFIED	WEIGHT (g)
1	F8	39	35	32	161	267	57.7%	463
2	F9	73	27	14	65	179	71.6%	250
3	F13	12	1	5	3	21	18.7%	112
4	F14	137	132	80	102	451	64.8%	696
5	F15	39	13	19	0	71	36.6%	194

Table 11: bone anatomical distribution by spit¹³.

Feature	SPIT 1	SPIT 2	SPIT 3	SPIT 4	DEPOSITION ORDER
F8	SK AX UL LL	SK AX UL LL	SK AX UL LL	-	MIXED
F14	SK AX UL LL	SK AX UL LL	SK AX UL LL	SK AX UL LB	MIXED

¹³ SK = skull; AX = axial skeleton; UL = upper limbs; LL = lower limbs; LB = unidentified limb bones

Table 12: OX COXAE MORPHOLOGY¹⁴.

Skeleton	Subpubic concavity (1-9)	Subpubic angle (1-9)	Ischio-pubic ramus ridge (1-9)	Ventral arc (1-9)	Pubic region morphology (5-1) ¹⁵	Arc compose (1-9)	Sciatic notch (5-1)	Pre-auricular sulcus (0-4)	Metric data ¹⁶	SUMMARY SEX ¹⁷ (1-9)
F8							4		Occipital (14mm) (?)	4 PROBABLE MALE
F14									Diameter head of radius. 17mm (eroded) (?)	-

Table 13: cranial morphology¹⁸.

Skeleton	Nuchal Crest (5-1)	Mastoid process (5-1)	Supraorbital margin (5-1)	Prominence of glabella (5-1)	Mental eminence (5-1)	Mandible morphology (2-1) ¹⁹	SUMMARY SEX (1-9)
F9	3		1				6 PROBABLE FEMALE
F14		1					9 DEFINITE FEMALE

¹⁴ sexing criteria from the Global History of Health project *Data collection codebook* (AAVV 2005) unless otherwise specified

¹⁵ Brickley & Mckinley 2004, IFA paper, n.7

¹⁶ from Bass 1987

¹⁷ Summary sex categories from the Global History of Health project *Data collection codebook* (AAVV 2005): 1 = Definite Male; 2, 3, 4 = Probable Male; 5 = Sex Uncertain; 6, 7, 8 = Probable Female; 9 = Definite Female

¹⁸ sexing criteria from Buikstra & Ubelaker 1994 unless otherwise stated. Summary sex categories from the Global History of Health project *Data collection codebook* (AAVV 2005): 1 = Definite Male; 2, 3, 4 = Probable Male; 5 = Sex Uncertain; 6, 7, 8 = Probable Female; 9 = Definite Female

Table 14: age at death²⁰ .

FEATURE	EPIPHYSEAL UNION	AURICULAR SURFACE (SUCHEY-BROOKES)	PUBIC SYMPHYSIS	CRANIAL SUTURES	SUMMARY AGE CODE:
F8	Adult				ADULT
F9	Adult	Phase 6		Significant closure	MIDDLE ADULT (35-50 years)
F13	Adult			OPEN	ADULT
F14	Adult	Phase 1		OPEN	YOUNG ADULT (20-35 years)
F15	Adult			OPEN	ADULT

Table 15: subadults age at death comparison table²¹ .

FEATURE	EPIPHYSEAL UNION	DENTAL DEVELOPMENT	METRIC DEVELOPMENT	ESTIMATED AGE AT DEATH	AGE CLASS
F14	S1-S2 fragment. Appears open though very fragmentary. Could be retained. Fuses at puberty Radius proximal epiphysis fused (fuses 11.5-13 in females/ 14-17 males)				YOUNG ADULT

¹⁹ Brickley & Mckinley 2004, IFA paper, n.7

²⁰ ageing criteria and age categories from Buikstra & Ubelaker 1994

²¹ stages of fusion from Buikstra & Ubelaker 1994; code key: 0 = open; 1 = initial fusion; 2 = fused; ageing according to Scheuer & Black 2000

Table 16: pathological conditions.

Context	Side	Bone	Section	Aspect	Description	Extent	Healing state	Distribution	Pathology	Pathology Class
F9	R	maxilla	-	-	Resorbing socket for tooth 5 (R 1 st maxillary premolar)	-	Healing	-	AMTL (Ante Mortem Tooth Loss)	Dental disease
F9	-	tibia	M1/3		Abnormal bone formation. Deposit of lamellar bone	<1/3	Healed		Periostitis	Non-specific infection
F14		Thoracic vertebra	body	-	1 instance of Schmorl's nodes (moderate expression)	<1/3	-		Schmorl's nodes	Spinal disease

Appendix 2: catalogue of the faunal remains

Table 17: catalogue of the faunal remains listed in order of by finds number.

F/L no	Find no	Qty	Wt (kg)	Species	Species Qty	Age	Butchering	Comments
U/S	1	1	0.235	cattle	1	adult	knife cuts	large metatarsal, complete, knife cuts at proximal end
F2 Sx 2	13	3	0.019	sheep/ goat	1	adult	chopped	tibia
F2 Sx 2	13			mammal	2			
F16	18	113	3.024	cattle	16	sub adult	butchered	metacarpal, femur heads, humeri, scapula, canid and rodent gnawed
F16	18			equid	2	adult	chopped	talus x 2
F16	18			mammal	95		butchered	fragmentary, powdery surfaces, one burnt black
F2 Sx 3	23	1	0.002	mammal	1			
F17?	24	90	0.269	sheep/ goat	4	adult	butchered	humerus, vertebrae, femur, burnt high temp
F17?	24			equid	1	adult	butchered	proximal phalange, burnt at high temperature
F17?	24			mammal	85			
F17 Sx 2	25	56	0.886	cattle	18		butchered	
F17 Sx 2	25			mammal	38		butchered	fragmentary and some burnt black to grey, some cracking

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Distribution list:

J F Knight (Roadworks) Ltd (Tony Wyatt)
Atkins Global (Mark Jackson)
Rob Masefield of RPS
Martin Winter, Colchester Borough Council Archaeology Officer
Essex Historic Environment Record, ECC



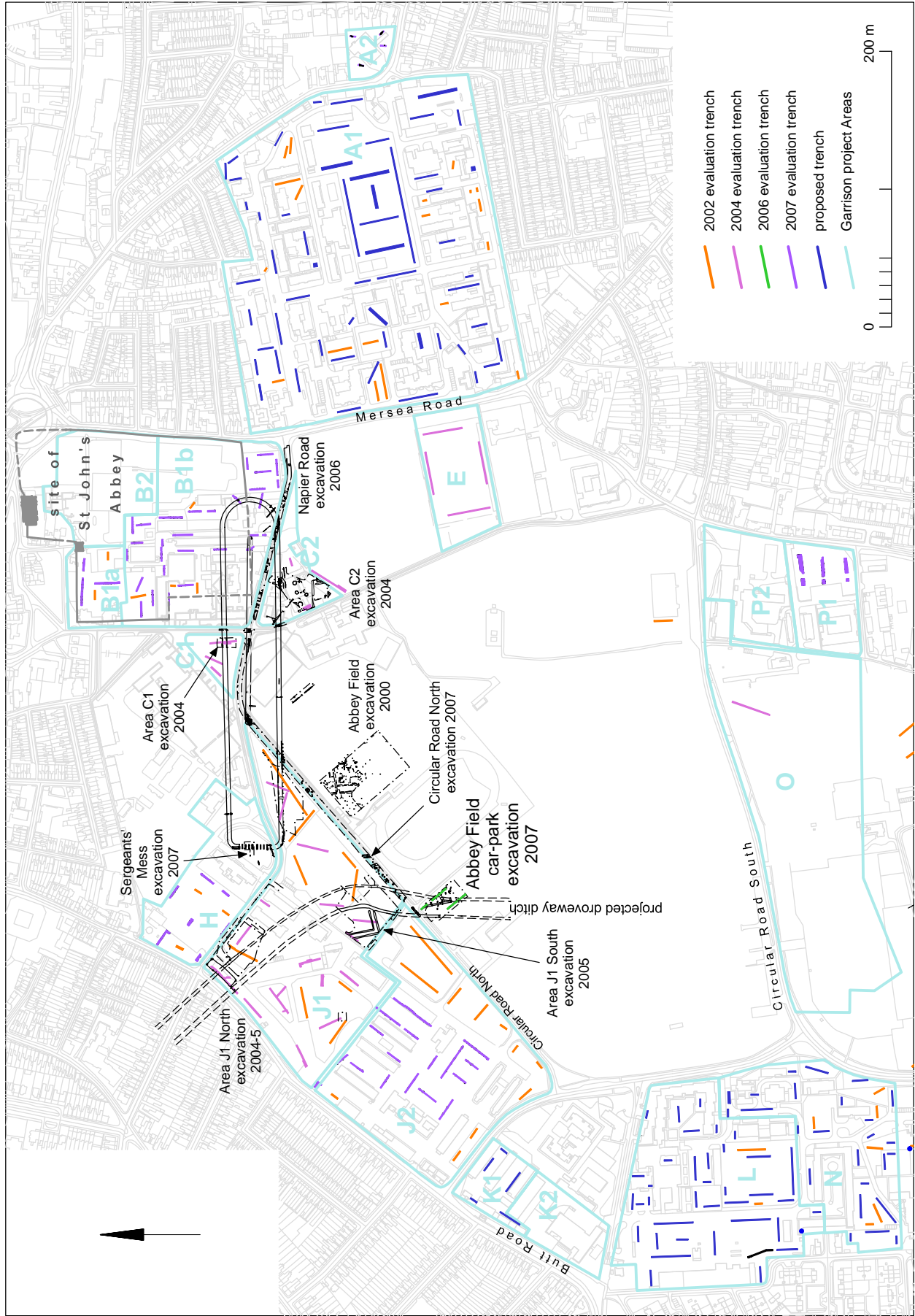
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Date: 12.10.07

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Fig 1 Site location.

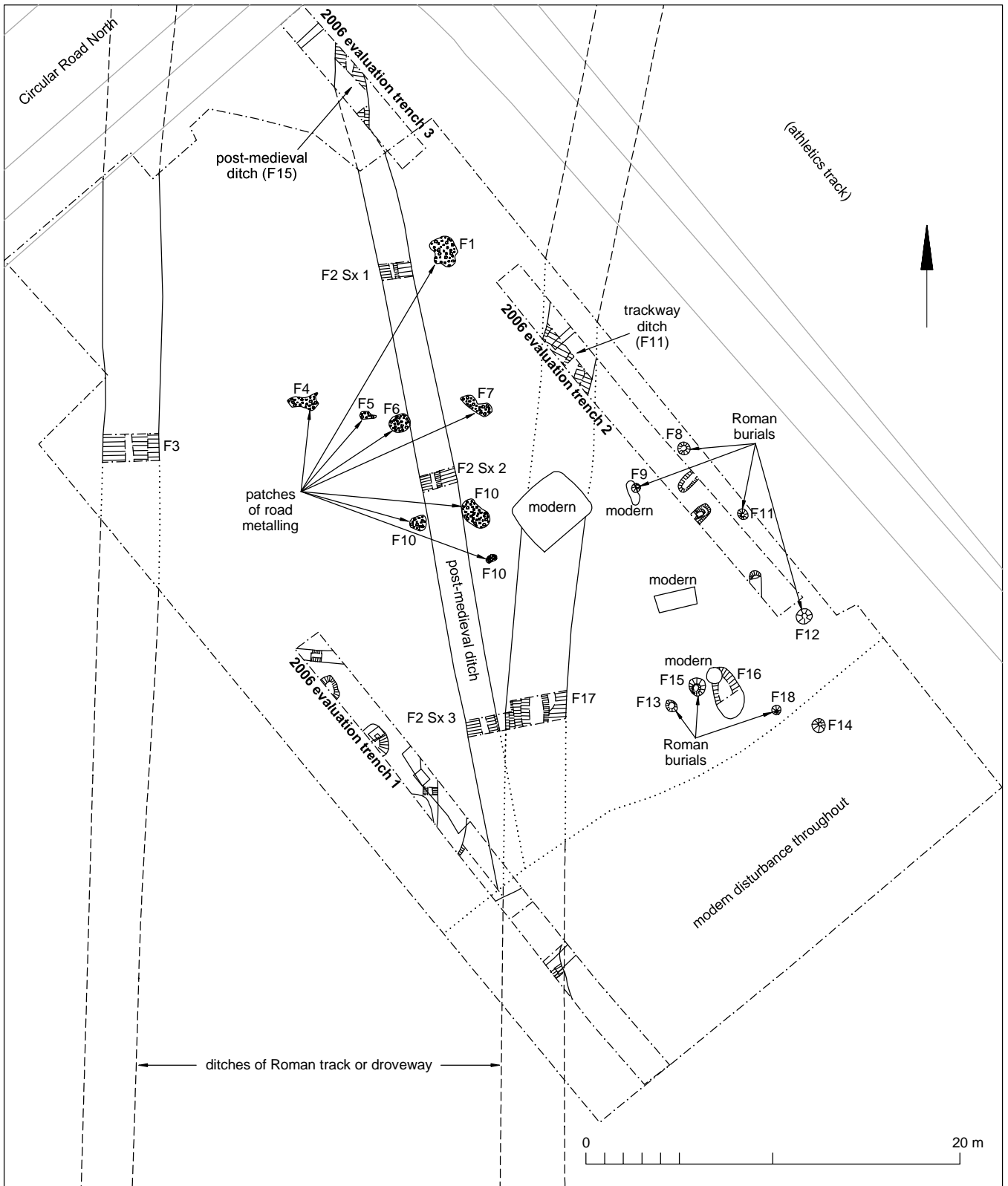


Fig 3 Plan of features.

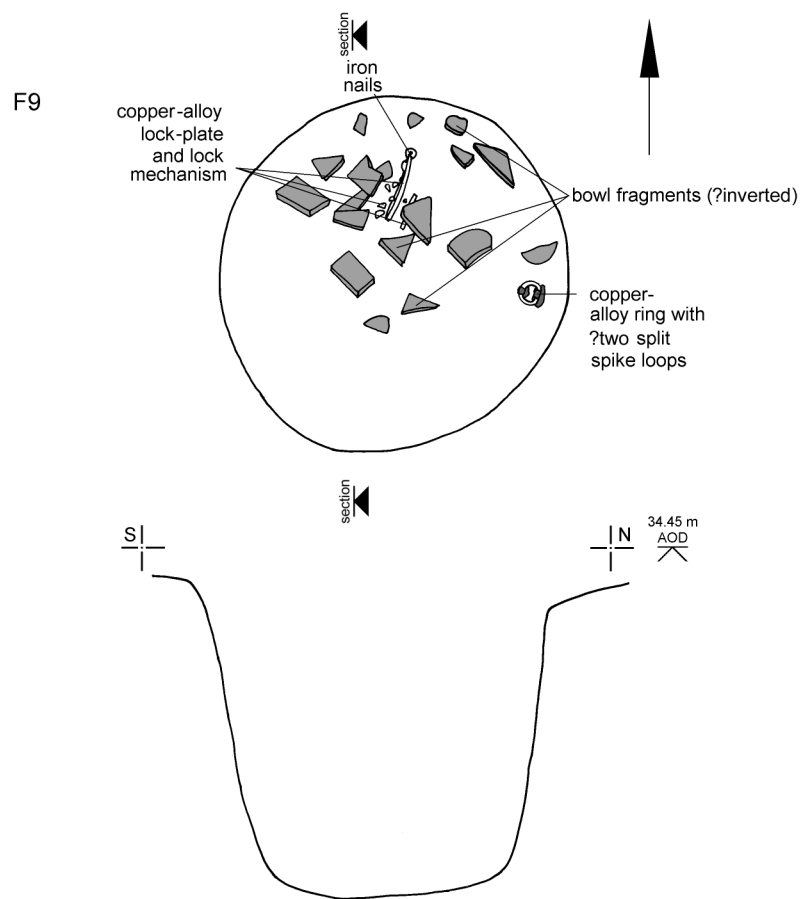
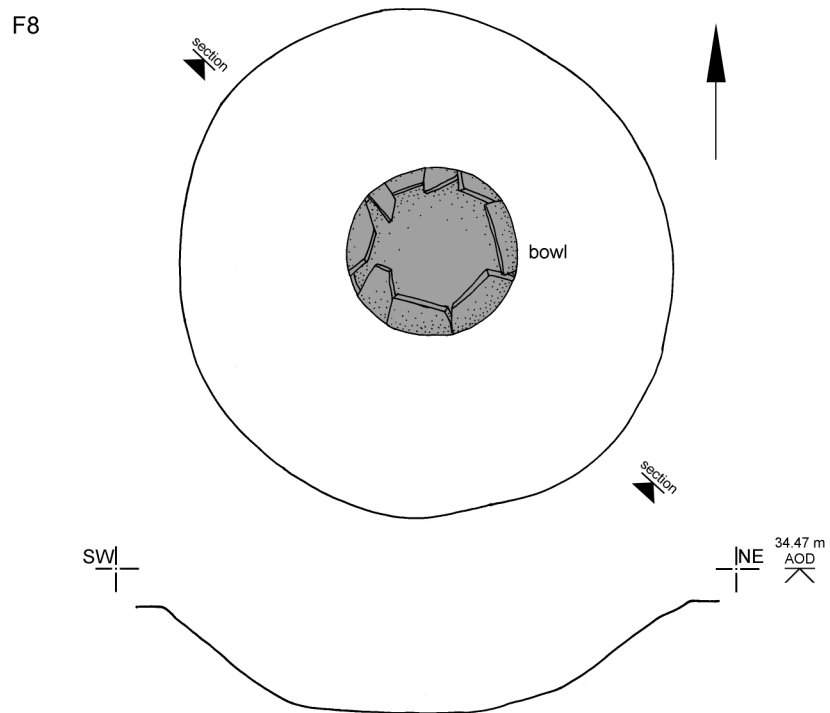
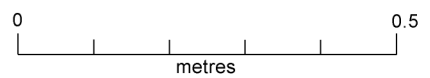


Fig 4 Cremation burials F8 and F9: plans and profiles.



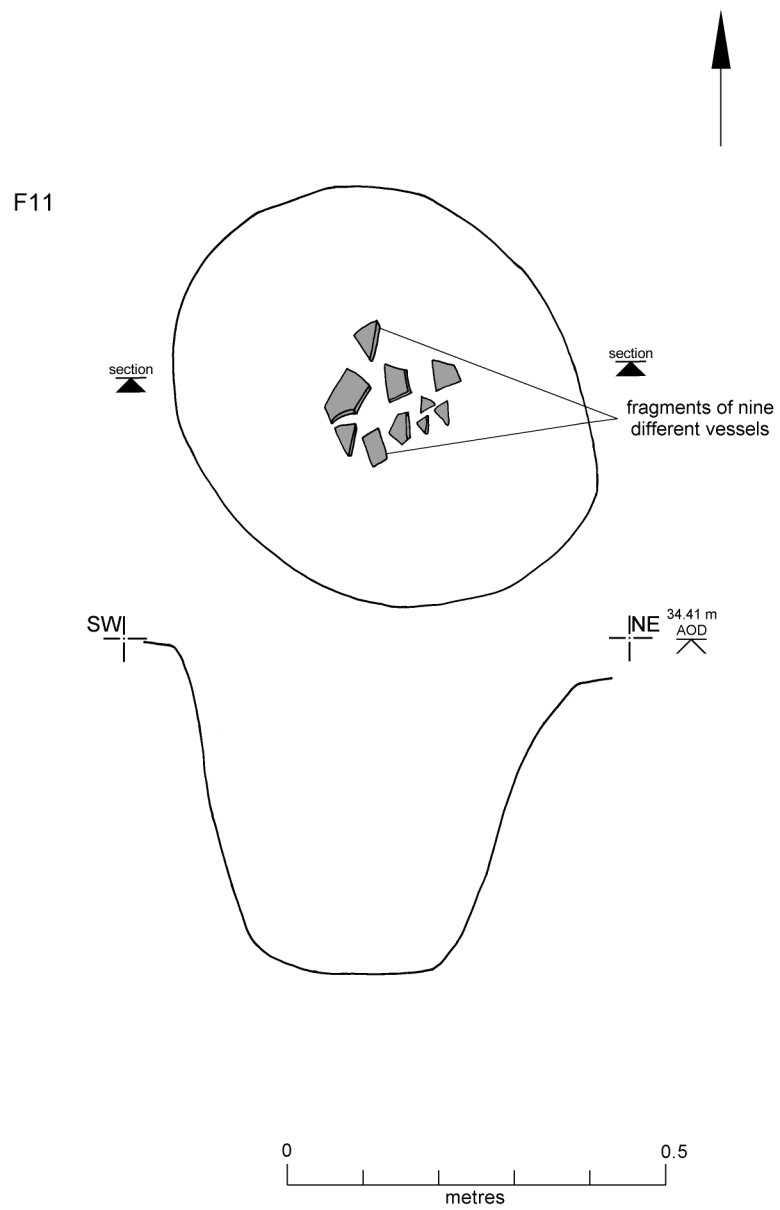


Fig 5 Cremation burial F11: plan and profile.

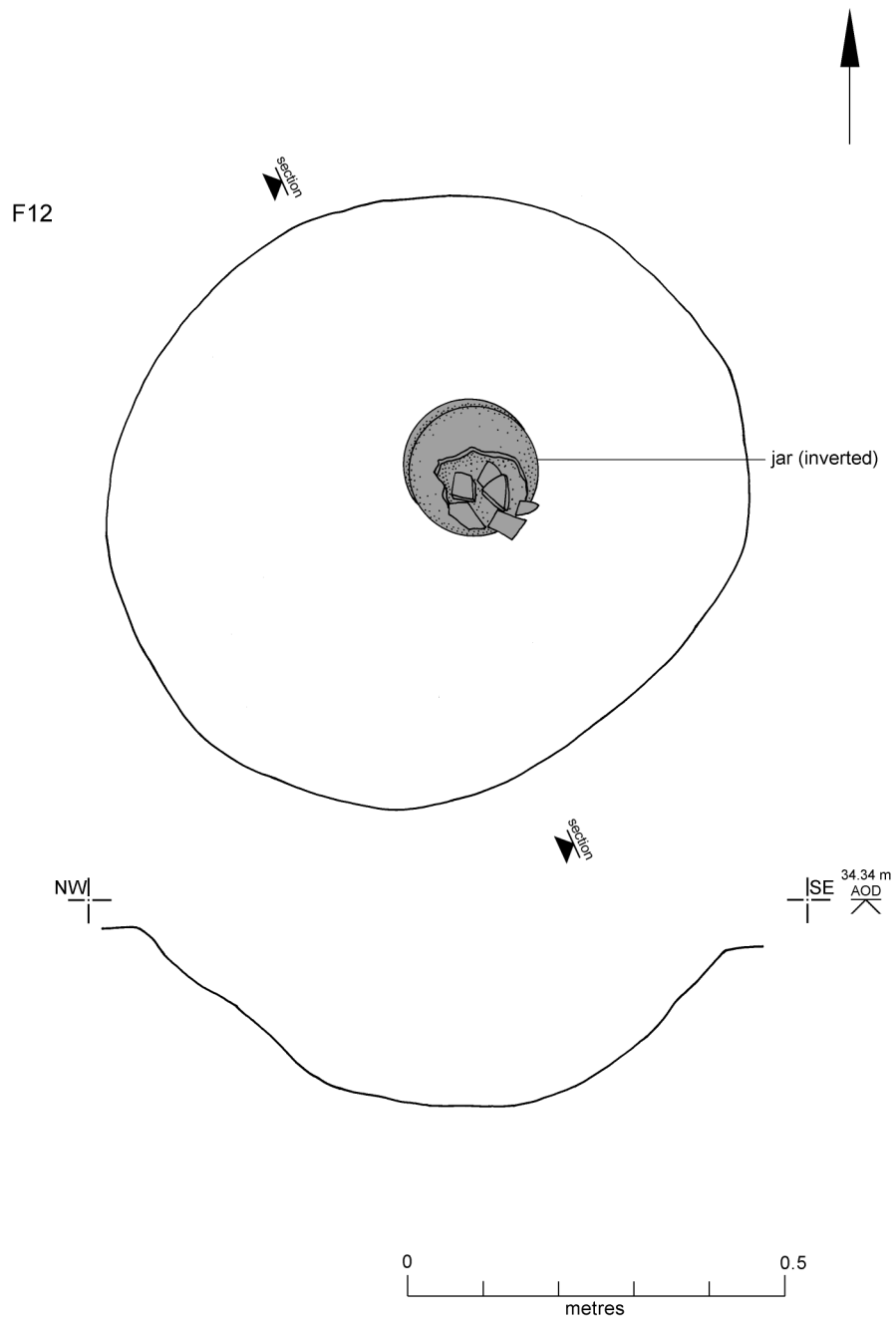


Fig 6 Cremation burial F12: plan and profile.

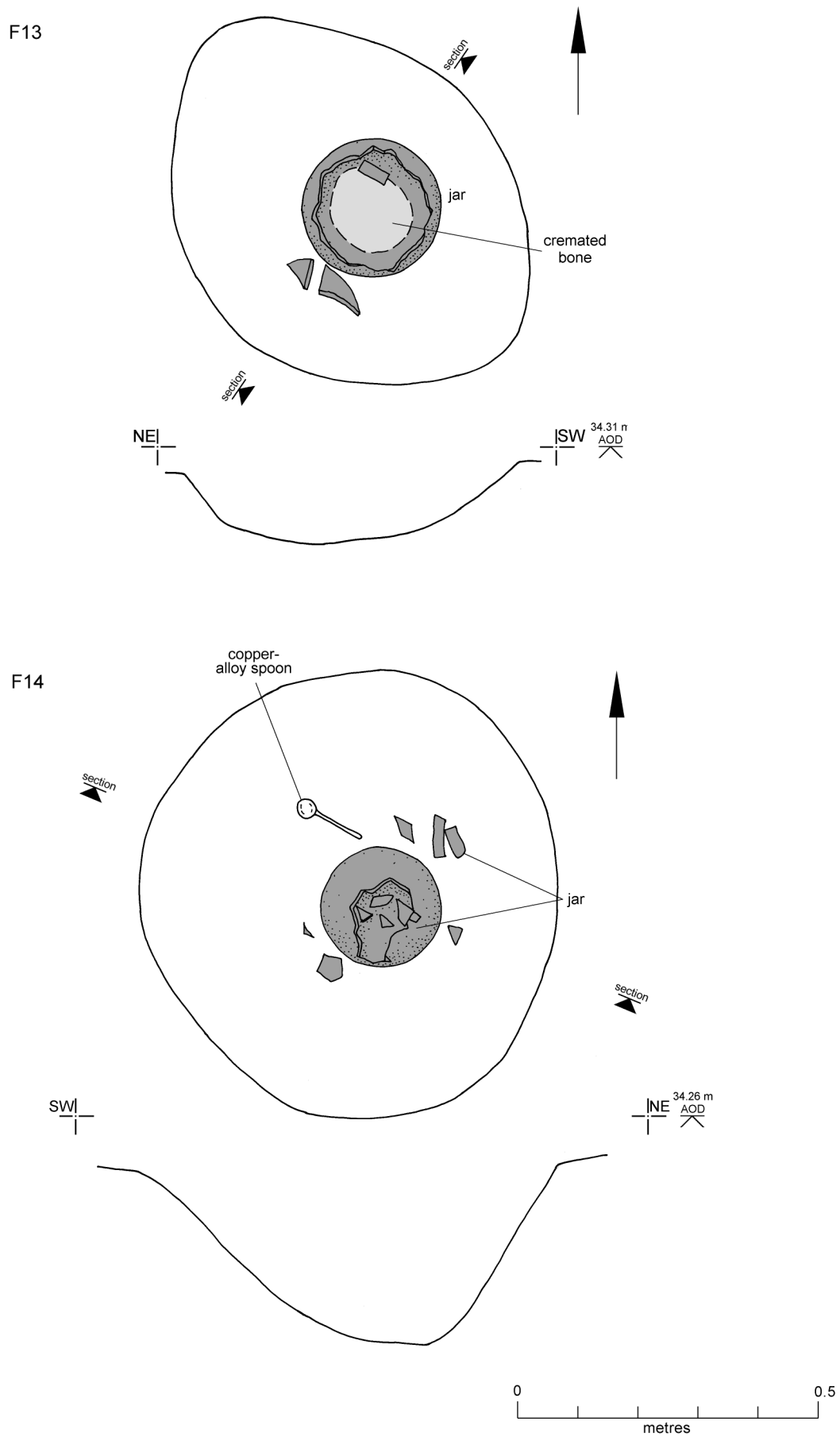


Fig 7 Cremation burials F13 and F14: plans and profiles.

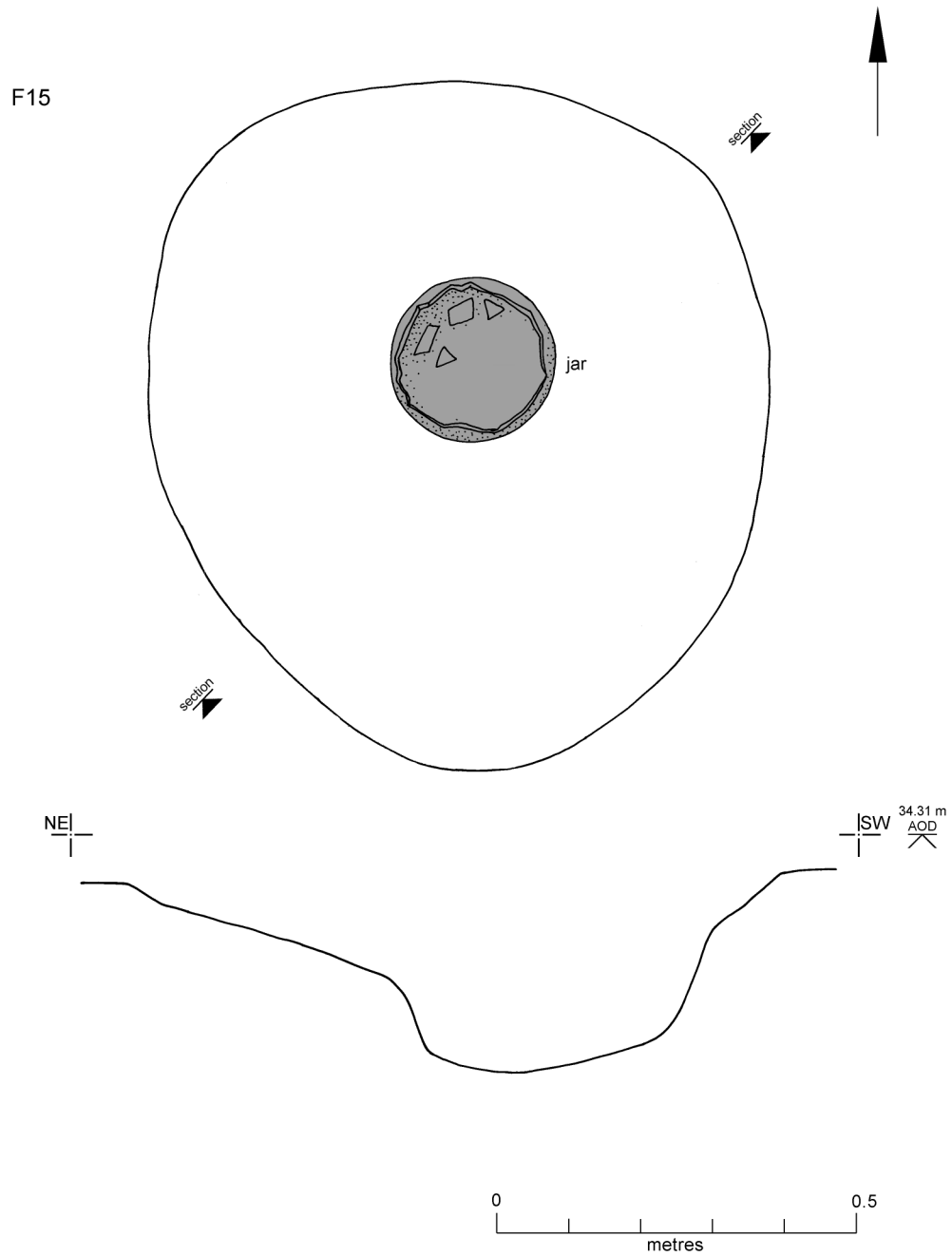


Fig 8 Cremation burial F15: plan and profile.

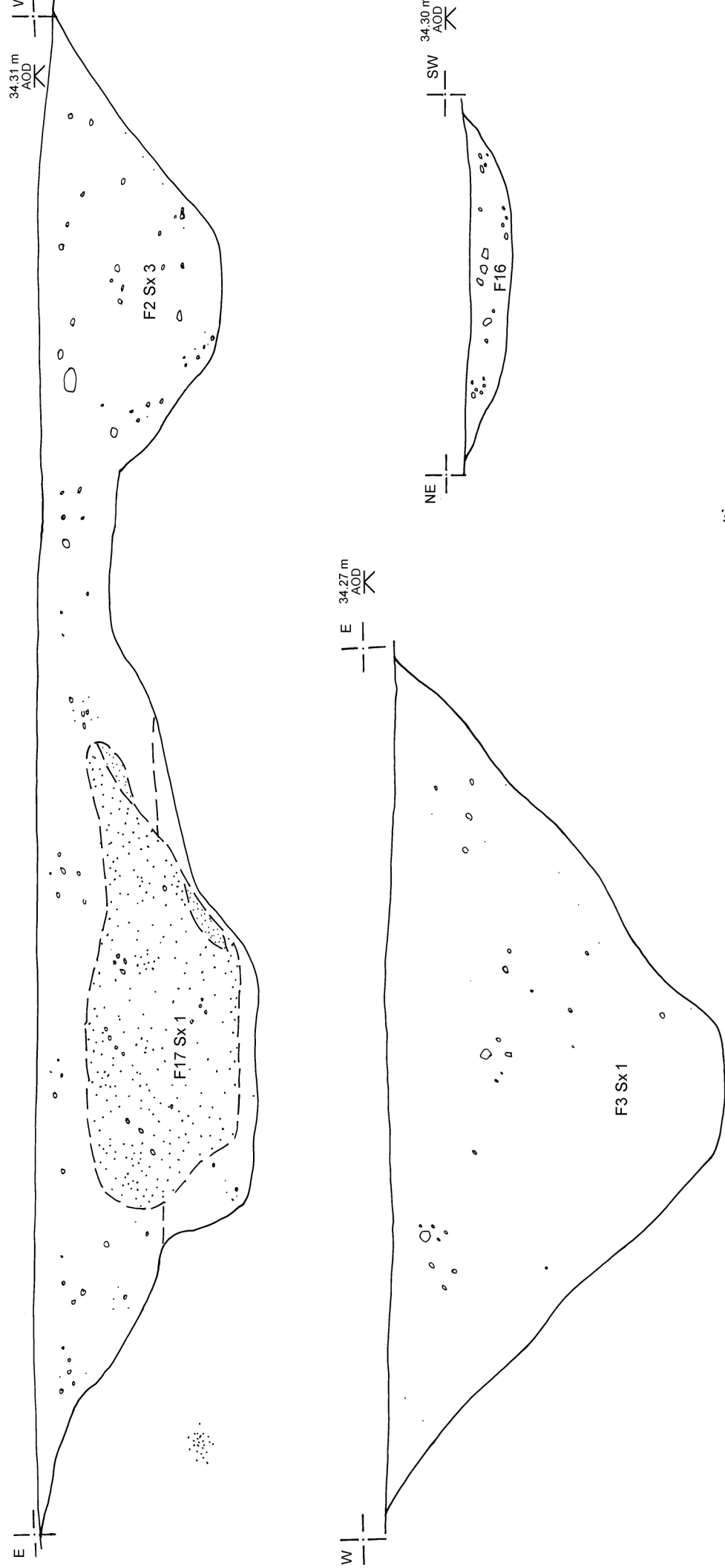


Fig 9 F2, F3, F16, F17: sections.

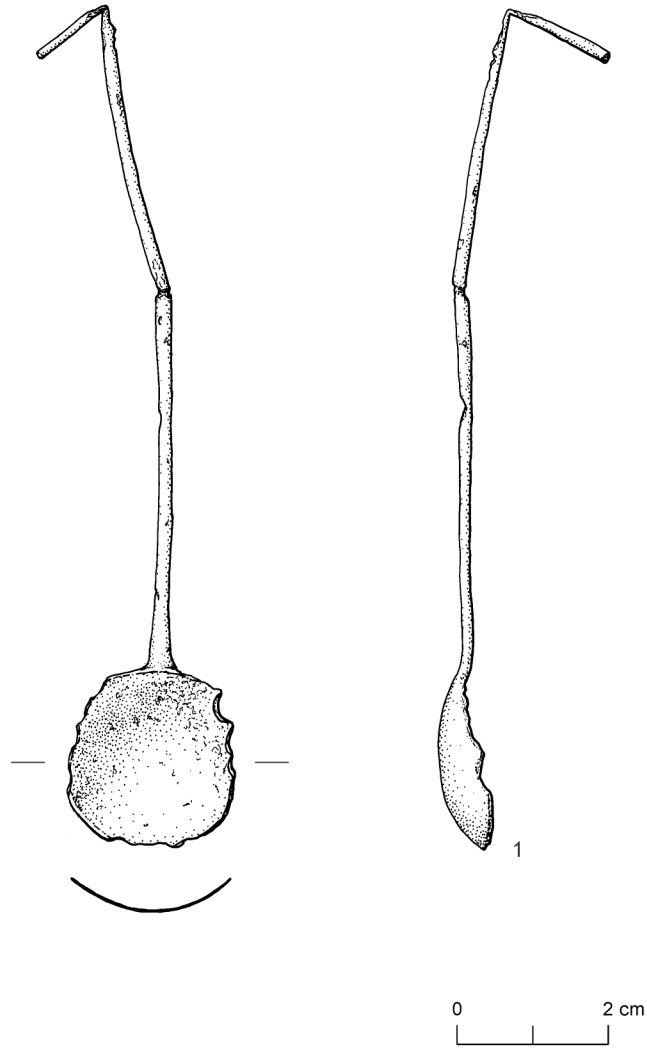
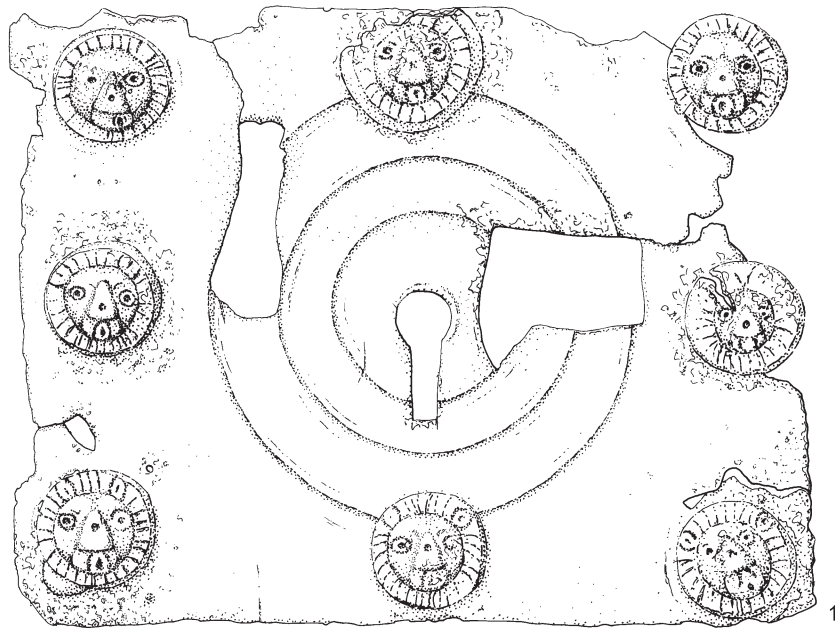


Fig 10 Cremation burial F14: spoon (1).



0 2 cm

Fig 11 Cremation burial F9: lock-plate (1).

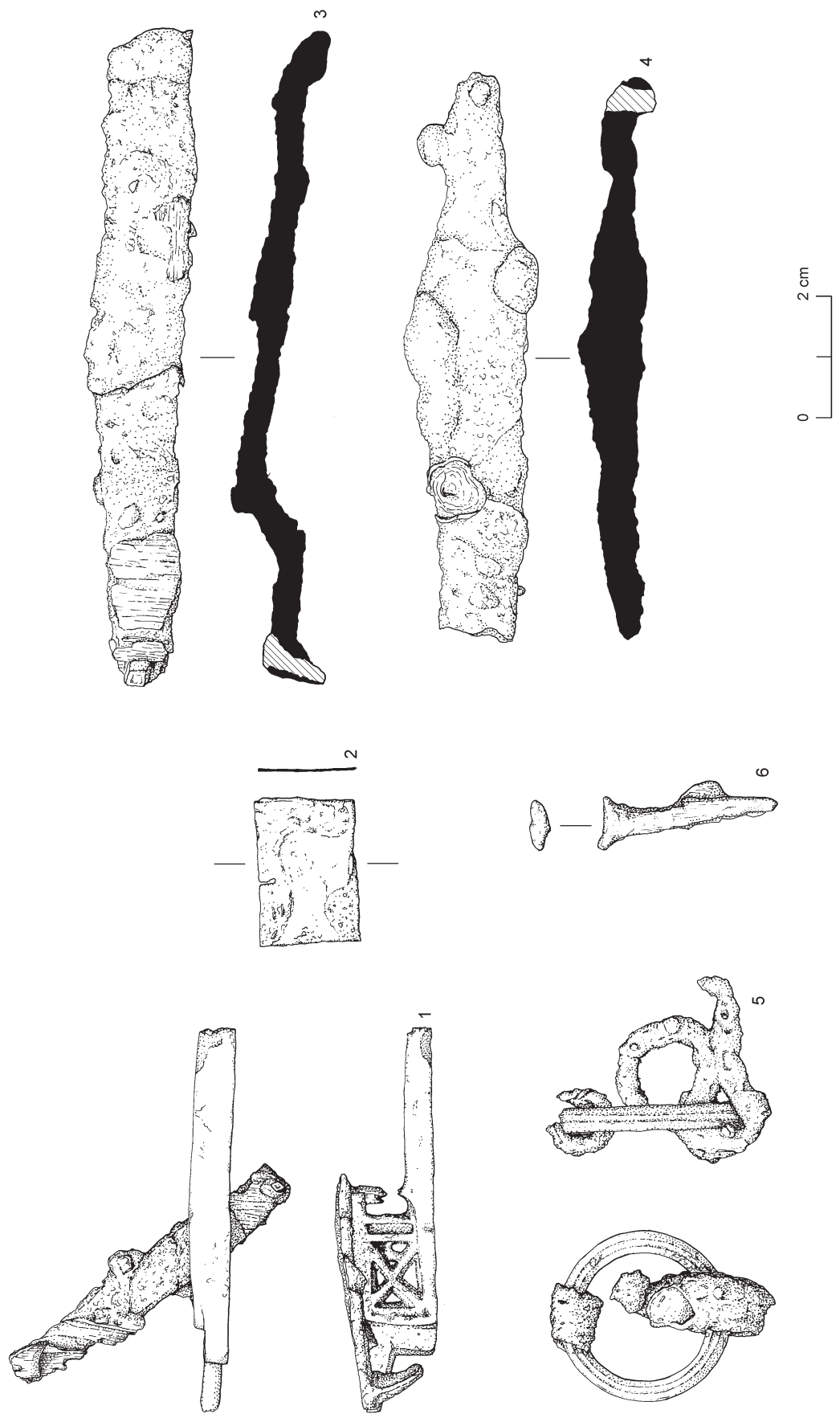


Fig 12 Cremation burial F9: iron strip (1); copper-alloy plate (2); iron strip fragments (3-4); ring (5); nail (6).

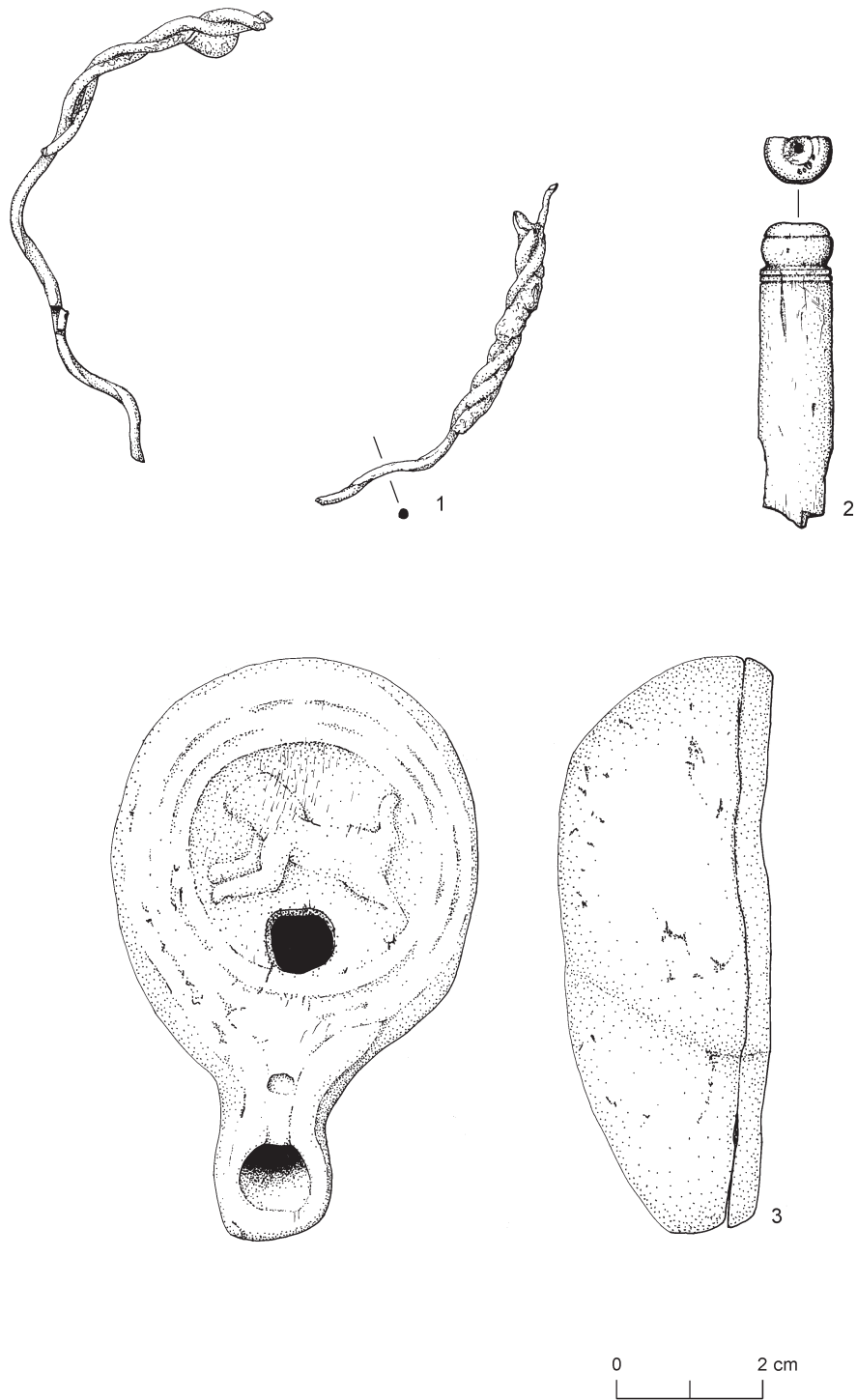
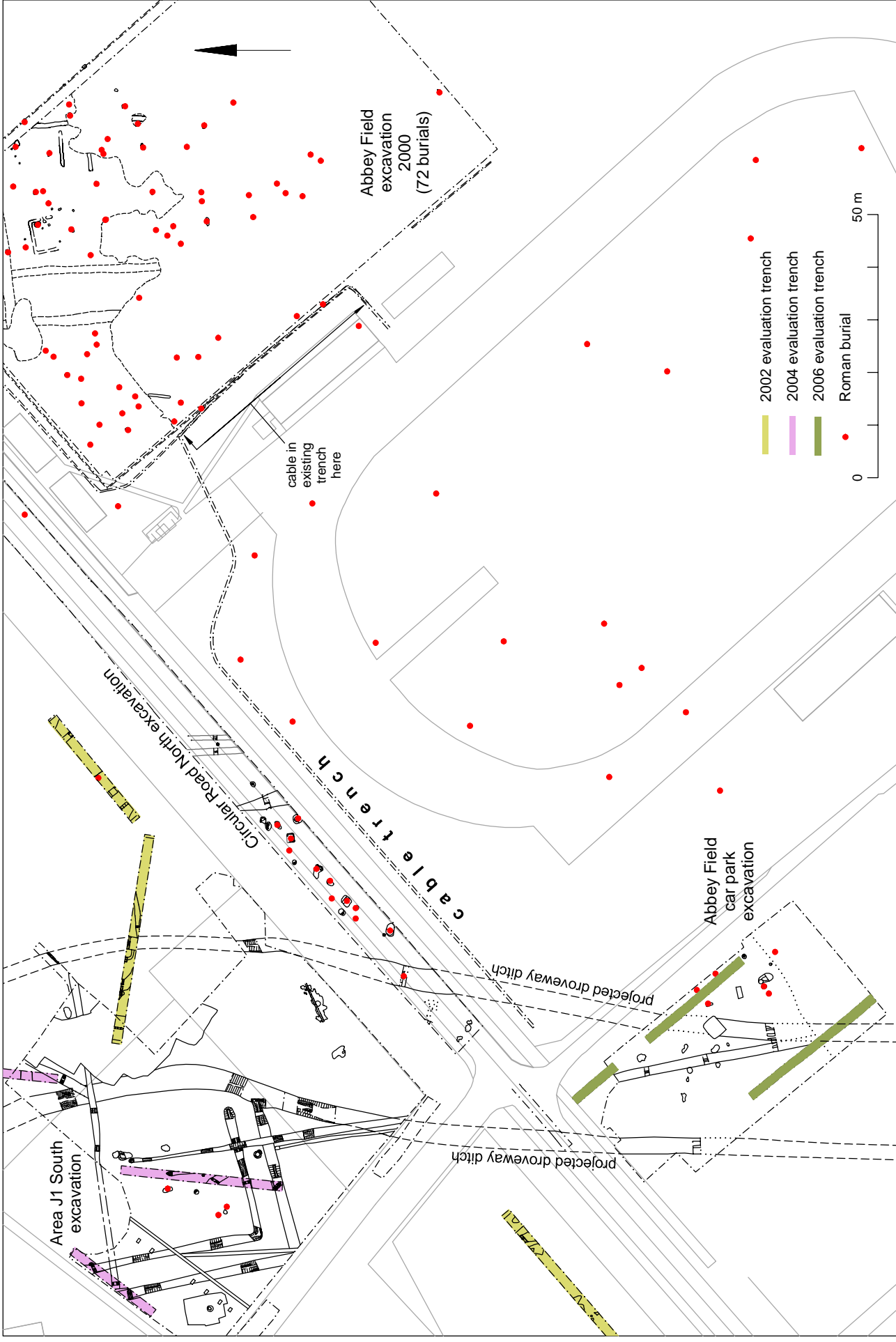


Fig 13 Cremation burial F13: armband (1) and cremation burial F14: bone handle (2) and Roman lamp (3).



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Fig 14 Route of the cable trench (negative watching brief).

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

Summary sheet

Site address: the Abbey Field car-park, Circular Road North, Colchester, Essex	
Parish: Colchester	District: Colchester
NGR: TL 9931 2427 (centre)	Site code: Museum accession code: 2007.36
Type of work: Excavation	Site director/group: Colchester Archaeological Trust
Date of work: January-February 2007	Size of area investigated: 1,456 square metres (approx)
Location of finds/curating museum: Colchester Museums	Funding source: Developer
Further seasons anticipated? No	Related UAD nos: 1022, 1023, 1095, 1099, 1247
Final report: CAT Report 424 and summary in <i>EAH</i>	
Periods represented: Roman, post-medieval, modern	
<p>Summary of fieldwork results: <i>This site lies within the oppidum of Camulodunum. An area of land measuring approximately 28m by 56m was excavated on the site of the new car-park on the south-western side of the Colchester Garrison athletics track, Circular Road North, Colchester, Essex at the Abbey Field.</i> <i>The principal discovery was a double-ditched Roman track or driveway heading north-south. Between the track or driveway ditches were a number of patches of gravel, which may be the remnants of a more extensive metalled surface.</i> <i>To the east of the east ditch of the track or driveway were five urned and two unurned Roman cremation burials. Four recent and presumably Army-related pits were left unexcavated due to ordnance risk. A large area of recent disturbance along the southern edge of the site was also left unexcavated.</i> <i>A number of excavations or evaluations have taken place in the vicinity as part of the Garrison Alienated Land project, including an evaluation on this site in 2006.</i> <i>This report also includes a brief report on a negative watching brief which was held on the digging of a cable trench along the north side of the Garrison athletics track.</i></p>	
Previous summaries/reports: CAT Report 358	
Authors of summary: H Brooks, B Holloway and R Masefield	Date of summary: October 2007