

Essex Historic Environment Record/ Essex Archaeology and History

Summary sheet

CAT Report 516
An archaeological watching brief
at the nursery and ranger station,
Upper Castle Park, Colchester, Essex

Parish: Colchester	District: Colchester
NGR: TL 9994 2555 (c)	Site code: Accession code - COLEM 2009.30 CAT - 09/5c
Type of work: Watching brief	Site director/group: Colchester Archaeological Trust
Date of work: 18th-27th May 2009	Size of area investigated: Approximately 10m ² of levelling; 10m of drainage trenching @ 300mm wide; 15 post-holes for fencing, each 300mm wide x 600mm deep
Location of finds/curating museum: Colchester and Ipswich Museums	Funding source: CBC
Further seasons anticipated? No	Related EHER/UAD nos: -
Periods represented: modern	
Final report: CAT Report 516 (summary sheet only)	
<p>Summary of fieldwork results: <i>The site is located in the northern edge of Upper Castle Park to the west of Duncan's Gate, within Insula 7 of the Roman walled town (Figs 1-2). The site is protected as part of a Scheduled Ancient Monument (Essex SAM no 1). As a consequence of the site's location, a watching brief was undertaken and observations made at the site during levelling, drainage and associated fencing work to create a formal garden and seating area outside the ranger station for public access. The first phase of work involved the excavation of a French drain and the reduction and levelling of ground to the east of the ranger station between it and some workshops further east. The second phase required the monitoring of fencing designed to separate the public from the nursery yard. The excavation of post-holes for the fencing was carried out through a thin layer of rough patchy tarmac (L1) into modern topsoil (L2). The depth of excavation carried out in all instances was highly limited. Maximum depth for the drainage was 400mm, and for the post-holes 600mm. Levelling reduction was limited to between 400mm on the east edge of the site and 30mm on the west. None of the</i></p>	

groundworks impacted upon archaeological deposits, which previous archaeological investigations have indicated lie at a depth of approximately 1m below the ground surface. Modern material was observed during the excavation, ie peg-tile and brick fragments, but this was not retained.

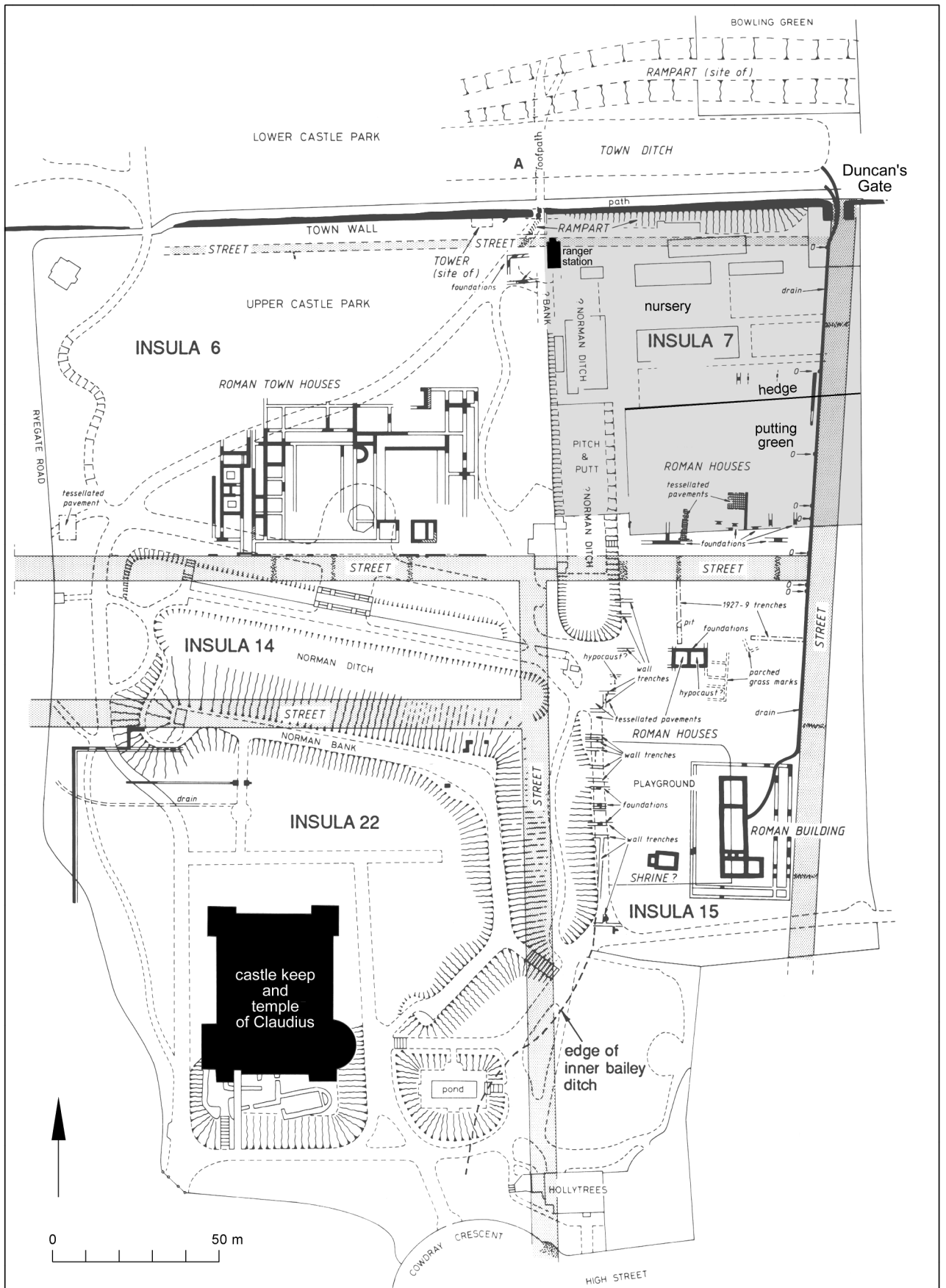
Previous summaries/reports: CAT Report 422

Keywords: -

Significance: neg

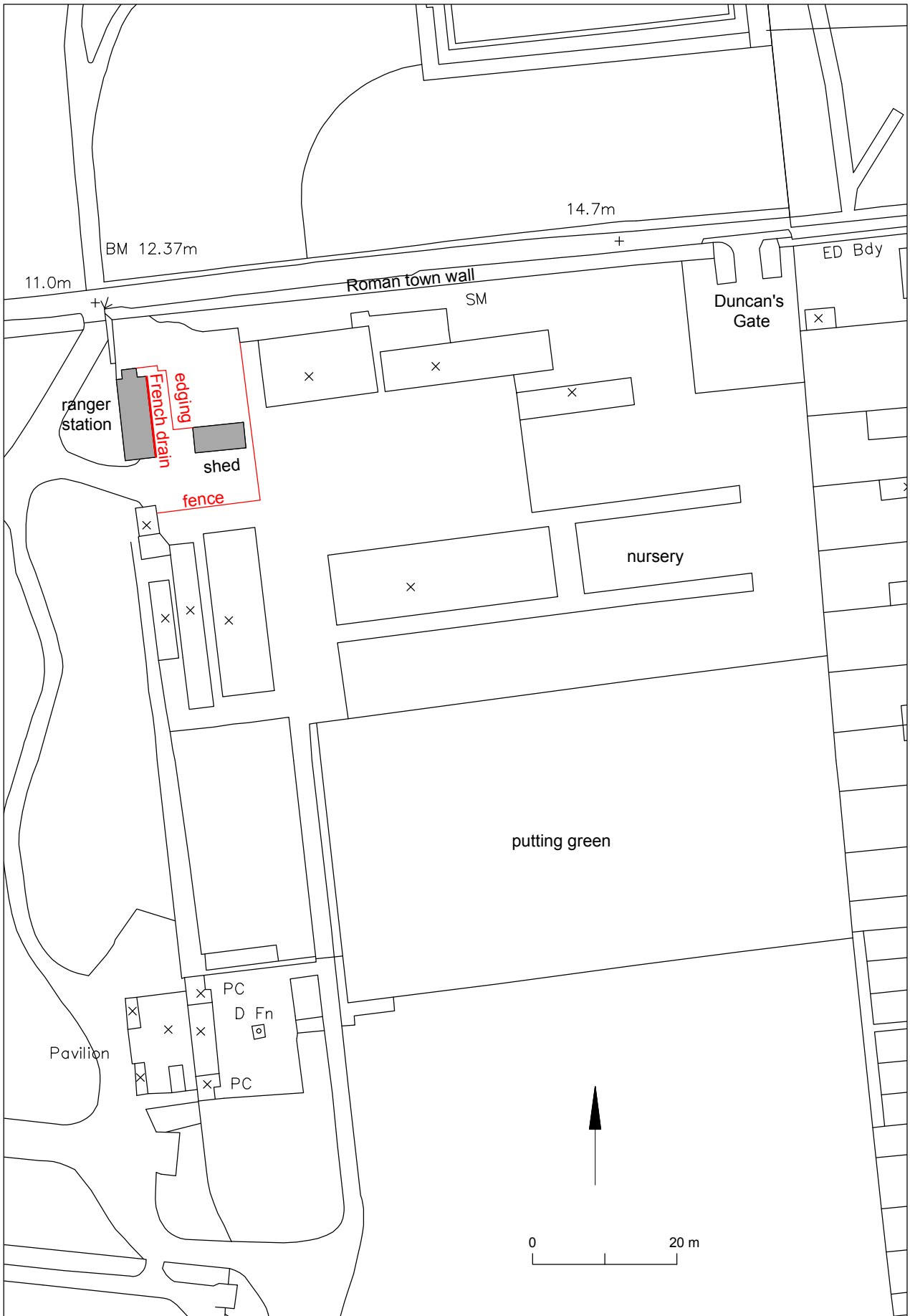
Author of summary: Ben Holloway

Date of summary: June 2009



© Crown copyright. All rights reserved. Licence number 100039294.

Fig 1 Site location plan (adapted from CAR 6, fig 13.225).



Copyright Colchester Archaeological Trust. © Crown copyright. All rights reserved. Licence number 100039294.

Fig 2 Site plan.