

# Archaeological trial-trenching evaluation: land rear of Chapel House, Chapel Green, Little St Mary's, Long Melford, Suffolk

March 2014



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**on behalf of Elizabeth Hayward-MacLeish**

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NGR: TL 863 450 (centre)



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## 1 Summary

*An archaeological trial-trenching evaluation was carried out on a proposed residential development to the rear of Chapel House in Long Melford. The evaluation identified nineteen archaeological features (pits, post-holes and ditches), almost all of which can be dated to the Roman period. The Roman pits contained broken domestic debris and construction material, and some evidence for industrial waste in the form of horn cores. There may have been a post-built structure in the southern part of the site, but whether this was a fence or a building is not known. The more closely-dated Roman finds are of 1st and 2nd-3rd century date - there is no indication of Late Roman (mid/late 3rd-4th century) activity. There is some evidence that the Roman settlement follows Late Iron Age occupation, and a few prehistoric flints and a sherd may indicate earlier prehistoric activity. There was one late medieval pit.*

*The depth and nature of the soils sealing the archaeological features is consistent with soil generated by normal horticultural and market gardening activities. No archaeological strata or features were exposed which would be considered for preservation in situ.*

*The results from the evaluation are broadly consistent with those from other sites investigated in areas rear of the street frontage along the main road through Long Melford. Although Roman burials have been found on other Long Melford sites, there were none here.*

*It is considered very likely that further archaeological work will be required by Suffolk County Council Archaeological Service (SCCAS). The nature, timing and scope of such work will be given in a Brief to be issued by SCCAS after receipt of this report and consideration of its contents and conclusions..*

## 2 Introduction (Fig 1)

- 2.1 This is the report on the archaeological trial-trenching evaluation carried out (March 24-25) to the rear of Chapel House, Little St Mary's, Long Melford, on behalf of Mrs Elizabeth Hayward-MacLeish by Colchester Archaeological Trust (CAT). Post-excavation work was carried out in March and April 2014.
- 2.2 The site centre is at TL 863 450.
- 2.3 The proposed development, in the garden east of Chapel House, is the construction of two new dwellings with outbuildings and associated infrastructure.
- 2.4 The Planning Authority (Babergh District Council) was advised by Suffolk County Council Archaeology Service (SCCAS) that this proposal lies in an area of high archaeological importance, and that, in order to establish the archaeological implications of the application, the applicant should be required to commission a scheme of archaeological investigation in accordance with paragraphs 128, 129 and 132 of the *National Planning Policy Framework* (NPPF: DCLG 2012).
- 2.5 All archaeological work was carried out in accordance with a *Brief and Specification* detailing the required archaeological work (evaluation trenching) written by Jude Plouviez (SCCAS 2014) and a Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) prepared by CAT in response to the SCCAS brief and agreed with SCCAS (CAT 2014).
- 2.6 In addition to the Brief and WSI, all fieldwork and reporting was done in accordance with the CAT's *Policies and procedures* (CAT 2012), with English Heritage's *Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment* (MoRPHE 2006), and with *Standards for field archaeology in the East of England* (EAA 14 and 24). This report mirrors standards and practices contained in the Institute for Archaeologists' *Standard and guidance for archaeological field evaluation* (IfA 2008a) and *Standard and guidance for the collection, documentation, conservation and research of archaeological materials* (IfA 2008b).

### 3 Archaeological background

This section is based on records held at the Suffolk County Historic Environment Record (SCHER).

As set out in the Suffolk Heritage Statement (SCCAS 2012) the proposal lies within and archaeologically sensitive area, specifically within a substantial Roman settlement recorded on the county Historic Environment Record as LMD 172. The line of a Roman road has been defined to the south at Chapel Field (LMD 031), and if projected might run close to or cross the current site. Both buildings and burials are commonly found alongside roads in (or close to) Roman settlements. There is also a possible area of medieval activity (LMD 183, LMD 006) in this part of the town.

The site had not previously been the subject of systematic investigation, and there was therefore a high potential for previously unknown archaeological remains to be present. In view of its topographic location, and the surrounding sites, there is high potential for significant archaeological deposits, particularly of Roman or later date within the proposed development area.

### 4 Aims

The aims of the evaluation were to:

- Establish whether any archaeological deposit exists in the area, with particular regard to any which are of sufficient importance to merit preservation in situ.
- Identify the date, approximate form and purpose of any archaeological deposits within the application area, together with their likely extent, localised depth and quality of preservation.
- Evaluate the likely impact of past land uses, and the possible presence of masking colluvial/alluvial deposits.
- Establish the potential for the survival of environmental evidence.
- Provide sufficient information to construct an archaeological conservation strategy, dealing with preservation, the recording of archaeological deposits, working practices, timetables and orders of cost.

### 5 Results (Figs 2-5)

This section gives an archaeological summary of the trenching, with a tabulation of context and finds dating information.

#### Evaluation trenching summary

The three evaluation trenches were 1.8m wide. T1 and T3 were 20m long and T2 was 13m long. The trenches were positioned as close to the footprints of the proposed new builds as possible (on site, some changes had to be made due to trees and dense hedges). T1-3 were dug through a modern topsoil horizon (L1) approximately 250-300mm thick, an earlier topsoil horizon (L2) approximately 200-250 mm thick, and an accumulation horizon (L3) approximately 150 mm thick. L3 sealed natural geological material L4, a silt-clay containing occasional gravel patches (Fig 5).

#### Trench 1: Summary

T1, on the northern site edge contained twelve archaeological features (visible at the base of the trench at a depth of approximately 600 mm). There were eight pits (F8-9, F11-15, and F19), two ditches (F10 and F18) and two small post- or stake-holes (F16 and F17).



**Plate 1. Trench 1, view east**

The eight medium-large size pits in T1 contained substantial quantities of Roman pottery and animal bone. One pit (F9) contained pottery which can be dated as late medieval. Three of the larger pits (F8, F11 and F13) were not fully excavated (due to safety considerations) and so auger probes were used to show that the bottoms of these features were 500-700 mm deeper than the hand-excavated levels. These were probably domestic rubbish pits, although the horn cores from F8 may be waste from an industrial process.

The two shallow ditches F10 & F18 were probably plot boundaries, although the post- or stake-holes in its terminus (F16 & F17) may indicate that F18 was structural (a fence?). There was not much inter-cutting of features: Roman pit F12 cut large Roman pit F11, and late medieval pit F9 cut Roman ditch F10.

Feature	Type	Associated finds	Period
F8	pit	pottery, animal bone, tile	Roman
F9	pit	pottery, tile	late medieval
F10	ditch?	--	undated (Roman?)
F11	pit	pottery, animal bone	Roman
F12	pit	pottery	Roman
F13	pit	pottery, tile, animal bone	Roman
F14	pit	pottery, tile, animal bone	Roman
F15	pit	pottery	Roman
F16	post-hole	pottery, animal bone	Roman
F17	post-hole	pottery	Roman
F18	ditch	pottery	Roman
F19	pit	pottery, animal bone	Roman

**Trench 1: Context and dating information**

**Trench 2: Summary**

T2, located on the eastern site edge, contained one archaeological feature – pit F11 which was also seen in T1.



**Plate 2. Trench 2, view north**

The exposed surface of the pit (F11) in this trench could be seen to contain pottery and pieces of animal bone as recorded for this same feature in T1.

Feature	Type	Associated finds	Period
F11	pit	pottery	Roman

**Trench 2: Context and dating information**

### Trench 3: Summary

T3, on the southern site edge, contained seven archaeological features (visible in the base of the trench at a depth of approximately 350 mm). The features included a pit (F1), two ditches (F2, F7), and four post-holes or small pits (F3-F6).

The single pit (F1) contained a small quantity of pottery, animal bone and CBM which would be consistent with discarded domestic rubbish. The two ditches may be boundary features (although neither aligns with the ditches in T1). The post-holes or small pits were approximately aligned along the southern edge of the trench. They may be structural, but it is not possible to say what they represent or whether they are contemporary.



**Plate 3. Trench 3, view south-west**

#### Trench 3: Context and dating information

Feature	Type	Associated finds	Period
F1	pit	pottery	Roman
F2	ditch	pottery	Roman
F3	pit/post-hole	--	undated (Roman?)
F4	post-hole	pottery	Roman
F5	post-hole	pottery, Fe nail	Roman
F6	pit/post-hole	pottery	Roman
F7	ditch	pottery, animal bone, tile	Roman

## 6 Finds

by Stephen Benfield (ceramic, metal) and Adam Wightman (flints, animal bone)

### Introduction

Bulk finds of prehistoric, Late Iron Age, Roman and late medieval date came from features in T1 and T3. The great majority of these are Roman. Finds types and quantities are listed in Table 1.

Bulk finds types	no.	wt (g)
pottery	193	6089
ceramic building material (CBM)	21	2533
fired clay	10	57
flint	7	90
iron (fe) nails	2	26
slag	1	15
burnt stone	1	52
animal bone	52	2179

Table 1. Types and quantities of bulk finds

### Pottery

#### Introduction

Pottery of prehistoric, Iron Age, Roman and late medieval date was recovered as bulk finds. In total there are 193 sherds of pottery with a combined weight of 6,089 g and total estimated vessel equivalent (EVE) of 1.96. The great majority is of Roman date. The pottery is listed by fabric in Table 2 and is quantified and characterised by context in Appendix 1.

The pottery was recorded using the Suffolk pottery fabric series (unpublished) and the Roman vessel forms were recorded using the Suffolk Roman pottery type series (unpublished) supplemented by the Colchester, *Camulodunum* (Cam) type series (Hawkes & Hull 1947; Hull 1958).

Fabric	Fabric code	No	% No	Wt/g	% Wt	EVE
<b>Prehistoric:</b>						
Hand made flint and quartz-temper	HMFQ	1	0.5	3	<0.1	
Hand made sand-tempered	HMS	1	0.5	11	0.2	
<i>sub-total</i>		2	1.0	14	0.2	
<b>Late Iron Age:</b>						
Grog-tempered ware	GTW	14	7.2	339	5.5	0.15
<b>Roman:</b>						
<i>Fineware imports-</i>						
South Gaulish samian	SASG	1	0.5	3	<0.1	
Central Gaulish samian	SACG	1	0.5	6	0.1	
<i>sub-total</i>		2	1.0	9	0.1	
<i>Coarseware imports-</i>						
Amphorae	AA	4	2.3	2432	39.9	
<i>Local and regional finewares-</i>						
Colchester colour-coated ware	COLC	1	0.5	7	0.1	
<i>Local and regional coarsewares-</i>						
Buff wares	BUF	3	1.5	26	0.4	
Buff ware mortaria	BUFM	6	3.1	532	8.7	0.39
Colchester buff wares	COLB	6	3.1	70	1.1	
Grey micaceous wares (Black surface)	GMB	23	11.9	282	4.6	0.47
Grey micaceous wares (grey surface)	GMG	15	7.8	162	2.6	0.14
Coarse grey wares	GX	90	46.6	1073	17.6	0.73
Coarse oxidised wares	RX	4	2.3	31	0.5	
Storage jar fabrics	STOR	19	9.8	1083	17.8	0.04
	WX	1	0.5	10	0.1	
<i>sub-total</i>		167	86.6	3269	53.4	1.77
<b>Medieval- post-medieval:</b>						
Medieval coarseware	MCW	1	0.5	4	<0.1	0
Late medieval transitional wares	LMT	2	1	15	0.2	0.04



Fabric	Fabric code	No	% No	Wt/g	% Wt	EVE
<i>sub-total</i>		3	1.5	19	0.3	0.04
<i>Total</i>		193	100.1	6089	99.5	1.96

Table 2. Quantity of pottery by fabric

#### *Prehistoric pottery*

Two small sherds of prehistoric pottery (14g) were recovered. One is a small sherd (3g) of oxidised, hand-made flint & quartz-tempered pottery. This came from F9(15) in T1. The sherd is not closely dated but is probably of later prehistoric (Bronze Age-Iron Age) date. The other (11g) is sand-tempered and of later Iron Age date.

#### *Late Iron Age and Roman pottery*

The great majority of the pottery recovered is of Late Iron Age and Roman date (189 sherds weighing 6067g) and the majority of this (174 sherds weighing 5717g) can be dated to the post-conquest (Roman) period.

The Late Iron Age pottery consists of grog-tempered ware (Fabric GTW), although a single hand made sand-tempered sherd (above) may also belong with this assemblage. Most comes from features in T1 and was recovered as just one or two sherds from any one feature. Almost all is associated with Roman pottery and some sherds are abraded suggesting a high residual component. Only two vessels could be identified. One is a jar/bowl rim with ripple cordons on the shoulder from F8(16) in T1 which has a small post-firing hole in the neck. The other is a storage jar with a heavily combed surface from F11(12) in T1. The remainder consists of various body sherds. Grog-tempered wares were probably most common among Late Iron Age assemblages dating to after the late 1st century BC and remained current into the mid 1st century AD, overlapping with the Early Roman (conquest) period.

Roman pottery was recovered from almost all of the features. The contexts from which it was recovered are mostly pit fill with a few from sections of ditches. The largest quantities associated any single feature are from pit F8 in T1 and pit F11 in T1 but which extends into T2.

The pottery from pit F8(16) includes a large sherd from a flat-rimmed bowl (Cam 243-244/246) of mid 1st-early 2nd century date. Other sherds, including bead-rimmed bowls of black-burnish ware type forms, a Colchester colour-coated beaker and part of a broken mortarium with a bead rim and rolled-under flange date to after the early 2nd century and a mid-late 2nd or early 3rd century date appears likely for the fill. A substantial body sherd from a Dressel 20 amphora was also recovered from the pit.

Closely date pottery associated with F11 is limited to a sherd of Central Gaulish samian of early-mid 2nd century date. Other pottery from the fill, which includes Colchester buff ware and a sherd from a Dressel 20 amphora, need not date later than the early 3rd century.

Other closely dated pottery includes a 1st century South Gaulish samian sherd from pit F13 in T1 a shoulder cordon bowl from F14 in T1 of mid 1st-early 2nd century date and a sherd from a Colchester colour-coated beaker from ditch F2 in T3 dating to the early/mid 2nd-mid 3rd century or slightly later.

Large sherds and part pots clearly derive from occupation on or immediately adjacent to the site during the period of the mid-late 1st century. Other pottery is closely dated to the early/mid 2nd-early 3rd century, but there is nothing which needs date later than this. Pottery of the major Late Roman (late 3rd and 4th century) industries, specifically the Nene Valley, Hadham and Oxford potteries is not present and late shell-tempered pottery is also absent. This strongly indicates that the occupation and activity behind the creation and infilling of the features had effectively ceased by the later 3rd century. Traces which appear to represent heating or burning on some of the sherds of Dressel 20 amphora many indicate secondary use either domestic or possibly light industrial.

In general the assemblage appears fairly typical of that from many Roman rural or small nucleated settlements in the mid 1st-3rd century, although the proportion of imports and regional pottery products is more apparent than on most lower status sites. Although overall the assemblage is heavily dominated by local or regionally produced coarse greywares, there are some imports (samian and oil amphorae) and regionally important products (Colchester). Coarseware sherds with conspicuous fine mica (Fabric GMB & GMG) are typical of assemblages in East Anglia and most typified by products from the Wattisfield potteries located in the Waveney valley, although other East Anglian kilns may have produced coarsewares in similar fabrics.

#### *Late medieval- post-medieval pottery*

A small sherd of probable medieval coarse ware (Fabric MCW), dating to the period of the late 12th-14th century and two sherds of Late medieval (transitional) pottery (Fabric LMT), dating to the 15th-16th century, were recovered from F9(15) in T1.

### **Ceramic building material (CBM)**

#### *Introduction*

A total of twenty-one pieces of CBM were recovered from the site, together weighing 2,533 g. Although one small piece from F7(6) in T3 might possibly be peg tile it appears more likely that it is Roman or is intrusive to the context and all of the other CBM is Roman or appears to so.

The Roman CBM was divided between broad categories based on type: roof tiles (*tegula* & *imbrex*), bricks (generally over 30 mm thick) and flue tiles; with a general category for flat Roman brick/tile (pieces generally less than 30 mm thick). The quantities of these types by count, are listed in Table 3. The general fabric characteristics and colour were also noted. All of the CBM is listed by context in Appendix 1.

<b>CBM type</b>	<b>CBM code</b>	<b>no</b>	<b>Wt/g</b>
Roman <i>tegula</i>	RT	2	473
Roman <i>imbrex</i>	RI	3	617
Roman flue tile	RFT	3	305
Roman brick	RB	3	841
Roman brick/tile	RBT	10	297
<i>Total</i>		21	2533

Table 3. Roman CBM by type

#### *Finds discussion*

The majority of the Roman CBM was recovered from pit F8 in T1. Associated pottery finds from the fill of the pit are dated to the 1st-2nd and 2nd-3rd century. One or two pieces of CBM were also recovered from three other features, F9 & F13 in T1 and F7 in T3.

The CBM fabrics are mostly fine and fine-medium sand with few or no other visible inclusions and oxidised red. A few pieces from the same brick/tile, all from F9(15) in T1, have a pale buff surface. The only pieces with a significantly different fabric visually are the pieces of Roman brick from F8 which also contain pale clay/silt, one of the pieces of flue tile from the same feature also contains some pale clay and the buff surface pieces from F9 which have some red clay(?) pellets in the fabric. The occurrence of pale clay in CBM fabrics is not unusual among many assemblages in Suffolk. The observable difference in fabrics does not appear to be related directly to the different CBM types. It could suggest more than production site, although might simply represent variation in available clay sources close to one production site.

While including pieces from the more common roofing tiles and flat bricks there are also three pieces from box hypocaust tiles (RFT), two from F8 and one from F7. Two

are combed and one has a score keyed face. These can be broadly dated to after the late 1st-early 2nd century.

The small assemblage is difficult to interpret in relation to the site. The pieces could originate from buildings nearby. In which case, if they represent demolition material, this could indicate a well appointed building with hypocausted rooms, either a dwelling or a bath building. However, there is no other indication in the form of wall plaster, mortar or other building material among the finds assemblage which might support this. Although one piece of *imbrex*, from F8 represents a significant part of one side of a tile, most consists of fairly broken-up pieces and do not indicate a primary dump of demolition materials. It appears more likely that the CBM, or most of it, was brought to the area as salvage and certainly one of the pieces of flue tile appears to have been reused as there is mortar across a broken edge. This is also the only mortar appearing on any of the pieces of CBM. The absence of any *tesserae* cubes from well appointed floor surfaces can also be noted as these would probably not be salvaged for general use. If the CBM was associated with nearby buildings these probably were of more modest standing than the flue tile pieces might suggest and may have served in light construction such as post packing or as rubble in unmortared construction.

### **Fired clay**

Small pieces of fired clay were recovered from three features, F8, F14 & F15 in T1. The pit 15 which produced eight pieces (35 g), the other two features produced only single pieces. Apart from one small piece from F15 all appear identical in terms of fabric - containing common small-medium size chalk fragments – and probably these all derive from one, larger broken piece. All are associated with Roman finds, but as the fired clay appears to be almost entirely from one structure/object and is quite broken-up, being scattered between the features, it probably has some depositional history before arriving in these contexts.

### **Flint (AW)**

A small quantity of flints came from three contexts, F8 & F9 in T1 and F7 in T3. The two flints from F8 are natural pieces (completely patinated, irregular broken stone & a frost shatter piece) and are not discussed further.

The flints from pit F9 include a flake broad striking platform, obtuse flaking angle and use wear/retouch, another flake (snapped) with a hinge fracture, an irregular core piece and small shatter pieces, one with a bruised edge. The irregular working and limited technique demonstrated by the flints indicates a later prehistoric (Late Bronze Age or Iron Age) date. Although a sherd of prehistoric pottery was associated with this feature, the latest dated pottery from it is medieval- post-medieval.

The single flint from ditch F7 appears to be a shatter piece which has working on one edge consisting of adjacent notches and some retouch/use wear in and around them. This again indicates limited opportunistic working and is probably also of later prehistoric date. Other finds from this feature are Roman.

### **Miscellaneous**

#### *Iron Nails*

There are two iron nails from features in T3, one from F5 and the other from F7. Both are primarily associated with finds of Roman date and are presumed Roman. The one from F5 is complete and is of Manning (1985) Type 1B. The other, from F7, is a complete, thicker shank with part of the head remaining. The head is not flat but is either T or possibly a diamond shape represented by Manning Type 2 and Type 3. It should be noted that a small piece of CBM from this feature might possibly be peg tile so that a post-Roman date for this nail cannot be entirely excluded.

#### *Slag*

A small, thin piece of non magnetic slag (15 g) was recovered from F8 in T1. The piece has an undulating, smooth surface and a rough underside. The nature of the probable

industrial activity is results from is not certain, although it most likely represents waste from small scale iron forging.

*Heat altered (burnt) stone*

A single burnt flint was recovered from F8 in T1.

## **Animal Bone**

*by Adam Wightman*

Fifty-two pieces of animal bone were recovered (combined weight: 2,179g). All the bone is from domesticates (cattle, sheep, pig) and is in a generally good condition. The bone is listed by species in Table 4.

<b>Species</b>	<b>no.</b>	<b>Wt/g</b>
<i>Cattle</i>	38	2006
<i>Sheep</i>	7	94
Pig	1	37
Unidentified (medium mammal)	3	24
Unidentified	3	18
<i>Total</i>	<i>52</i>	<i>2179</i>

*Table 4. Animal bone by species*

The bone assemblage is associated with the Roman activity on the site, most of the bone being recovered from two pits, F8 & F14, in T1.

The assemblage is not large so that discussion and conclusions are to some extent tentative. The greatest proportion of bone which could be identified to a specific species is from cattle and which dominates the assemblage. There are a few bones identified from sheep and a single instance of pig. Just over 10% of the bone could not be closely identified. The presence of dogs on the site is indicated by two incidences of gnawing typical of that by dogs on sheep bones from pits F13 & F14 in T1.

Overall, the butchery evidence on the bones suggests they are from a domestic assemblage. However, there is a significant number of cattle horn-cores from pit F8 (4 cores) and pit F14 (1 core), both in T1 and a horn-core fragment in ditch F7 in T3. These appear to provide a good indication of probable horn working in the vicinity during the Early-Mid Roman period.

## **7 Conclusions**

This evaluation has demonstrated that significant archaeological remains survive on the proposed development site. They consist of the lower surviving parts of earth-cut features (pits, ditches, post-holes), almost all of which can be dated to the Roman period. Apart from the Roman features, there was a single late medieval pit. There was also a small quantity of residual prehistoric finds. These are not closely dated, but are probably Bronze Age-Iron Age.

While the late medieval pit may relate to medieval activity noted in the archaeological background provided by SCCAS, the most important features here are those of the Roman period.

Although there is a significant history of archaeological investigation and recording in Long Melford, many aspects of the important Roman settlement here remain obscure (Moore *et al* 1988, 34-48). It is thought that the course of the Roman road running through the Roman settlement corresponds approximately to that of the existing main road through the town (Little St Mary's), which is 70 m west of the current site. The current site is therefore not on the Roman street frontage, but is in the back plots to the east of the road line.

The more closely-dated of the Roman finds recovered (primarily pottery) are of 1st-2nd/early 3rd century date. A small quantity of Late Iron Age (grog-tempered) pottery suggests a possible Late Iron Age (early 1st century AD) background to the Roman occupation. However, none of the features can be confidently dated to the Late Iron Age, and this type of pottery probably remained current in the mid 1st century AD (during the conquest period). The Roman activity (based on the finds dating) appears to stop in the late 2nd-early 3rd century, or soon after, and there is no Late Roman (mid/late 3rd-4th century) pottery among the finds.

Although both Roman cremation and inhumation burials have commonly been encountered in the areas of the back plots of the Roman settlement, none were found here.

Most of the Roman finds came from a number of closely-grouped pits on the northern site edge (T1). Although some of the finds are of 1st-century date, the pits with larger collections of finds do not date earlier than the early-mid 2nd century. Part of one of the largest pits was located at the northern end of T2, but there are no pits in the southern end of that trench and they are virtually absent from the trench in the southern part of the site (T3). This could indicate specific areas of activity relating to different property areas or plots of land. This could also be consistent with Roman land divisions which would be orientated approximately at right-angles to the main N-S road. However, no clear division in the form of an E-W ditch between the area of pits and the much less intensively-pitted area to the south. The only ditches run approximately N-S, approximately parallel to the line of the main Roman road. These may be N-S divisions within E-W plots, or divisions between street-frontage plots and those further away.

Any purpose for the excavation of the pits, other than as rubbish pits is obscure, although one, F11 (T1 & T2) is quite extensive and may have originally been a quarry pit before being used as a rubbish dump. Some of the other (smaller) pits may have a similar origin and later use. The finds from the pits include significant parts individual broken Roman vessels, which indicates they were used close-by and must result from occupation in this area. There does not appear to be anything particularly significant in the pottery assemblage, other than that it reflects a common range of vessels available and in use in a small settlement. A large sherd from a Dressel 20 amphora (with faint traces of heat discolouration on this and other sherds in the same fabric) might indicate the reuse of this pot in a domestic or industrial setting. The bone assemblage, which is generally well preserved, is heavily dominated by cattle. More significant (given the small size of the bone assemblage) is the presence of several complete horn-cores, which implies horn working taking place in this area of the Roman settlement.

There were quantities of Roman ceramic building material (CBM) - broken tiles, bricks and several flue-tile pieces. Given the absence of any plaster, mortar or *tesserae* these do not appear to relate directly to a well-appointed building here, although such a building is known from another site in the town (Moore *et al* 1988, 43). These finds appear to be salvaged material probably for reuse in other buildings or structures. Part of a timber structure or building may possibly be represented by the post-holes in T3 on the southern edge of the site.

## 8 Acknowledgements

CAT is grateful to Mrs Elizabeth Hayward-MacLeish for commissioning this project. Site work was managed by B Holloway, and undertaken with M Baister. The project was monitored by Jude Plouviez for Suffolk County Council Archaeological Services.

## 9 References

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

CAT	2012	<i>Policies and procedures</i>
CAT	2014	<i>Written Scheme of Investigation for an archaeological evaluation by trial trenching on land rear of Chapel House, Chapel Green, Little St Mary's, Long Melford, Suffolk.</i> by E Holloway, February 2014.
DCLG	2010	Planning Policy Statement 5: Planning for the Historic Environment (PPS 5), Dept of Communities and Local Government, March 2010
EAA 14	2003	<i>Standards for field archaeology in the East of England</i> , East Anglian Archaeology, Occasional Papers, <b>14</b> , ed by D Gurney
EAA 24	2011	<i>Research and archaeology revisited: A revised framework for the East of England</i> . East Anglian Archaeology, Occasional Papers, <b>24</b> , by Maria Medlycott
Hawkes, CFC, & Hull, M	1947	<i>Camulodunum, first report on the excavations at Colchester 1930-39</i> . Report of the Research Committee of the Society of Antiquaries of London, volume <b>14</b>
Hull, M	1958	<i>Roman Colchester</i> , RRCSAL <b>20</b>
IfA	2008a	<i>Standard and guidance for archaeological field evaluation</i>
IfA	2008b	<i>Standard and guidance for the collection, documentation, conservation and research of archaeological materials</i>
Manning, W	1985	<i>Catalogue of the Roman-British iron tools, fittings and weapons in the British Museum</i>
Moore, I, West, S, & Plouviez, J	1988	<i>The archaeology of Roman Suffolk</i>
MoRPHE	2006	<i>Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment</i> (English Heritage)
SCCAS	2012	<i>Suffolk Heritage Statement for land rear of Chapel House, Little St Mary's, Long Melford, Suffolk.</i> By Jude Plouviez
SCCAS	2014	<i>Brief for a trenched archaeological evaluation to the rear of Chapel House, Little St Mary's, Long Melford, Suffolk.</i> By Jude Plouviez

## 10 Abbreviations and glossary

CAT	Colchester Archaeological Trust
CBM	ceramic building material, ie brick and tile
context	specific location of finds on an archaeological site
feature (F)	an identifiable thing like a pit, a wall, a drain; can contain 'contexts'
IfA	Institute for Archaeologists
layer (L)	distinct or distinguishable deposit of soil
medieval	period from AD 1066 to Henry VIII
modern	period from c AD 1800 to the present
natural	geological deposit undisturbed by human activity
peg-tile	rectangular thin tile with peg-hole(s) used mainly for roofing, first appeared c AD 1200 and continued in use to present day, but commonly post-medieval to modern
post-medieval	after Henry VIII to around the late 18th century
prehistoric	pre-Roman
residual	something out of its original context, eg Roman coin in modern pit
Roman	the period from AD 43 to c AD410
SCCAS	Suffolk County Council Archaeological Services
SCHER	Suffolk County Historic Environment Record
section	(abbreviation sx or Sx) vertical slice through feature/s or layer/s
U/S	unstratified, ie without a well-defined context
WSI	Written Scheme of Investigation

## 11 Archive deposition

The paper archive and finds are currently held by CAT at Roman Circus House, Circular Road North, Colchester, Essex, but will be permanently deposited with SCCAS under project code LMD 232.

## 12 Contents of archive

### Finds

1 museum box containing all finds.

### Paper and digital record

One A4 document wallet containing:

This report (CAT Report 766)

SCCAS Evaluation Brief

CAT Written Scheme of Investigation

Original site record (Feature and layer sheets, Finds record)

Site digital photographic log

Site photos on CD

Sundries (attendance register, benchmark data, risk assessment)

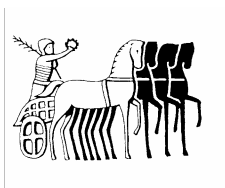
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checked by: H Brooks  
date: 22/04/2014

## Appendix 1: Finds by context (LMD 232)

key: LIA-Late Iron Age; Bone-animal bone; CBM-ceramic building material; FC- fired clay; BS-burnt stone

Trench	ctxt no.	ctxt type	finds no	Find type	sherd	Period	Finds description	Fabric code	form	col	no	Wt/g	EVE	abr	Period/ spot date
T1	F008		16	CBM		Rom	Combed flue tile	fs-cp	RFT	r	1	111			Rom L1C+
T1	F008		16	CBM		Rom	Imbex thickness 16-18 mm	f-ms	RI	r	3	617			Rom
T1	F008		16	CBM		Rom	Prob all from same brick, 50 mm thick	fs-cp	RB	r	3	841			Rom
T1	F008		16	CBM		Rom	Probably a tegiula, finger wipe mark upper surface	f-ms	RT(?)	r	1	377		(*)	Rom
T1	F008		16	CBM		Rom	Scored surface, reused, mortar across break, 15-18 mm thick	fs	RFT	r	1	168			Rom 1-2/3C
T1	F008		16	CBM		Rom	Tegula flange, base thickness 20 mm, height at flange 50 mm	fs	RT	r	1	96			Rom
T1	F008		16	CBM		Rom	18 mm thick, one piece burnt	fs	RBT	r	4	112			Rom
T1	F008		16	FC			Rounded lump, quite well fired, buff-red fabric with common chalk frags (same as 14 & 15)	Fs c		r	1	11		(*)	
T1	F008		16	flint	r	Rom	One irregular, patinated (natural), other irregular frag par of a frost fracture	GX			2	33			Natural (discarded)
T1	F008		16	pot	b	Rom	Inc one very large body sherd with slight indication of heating/ burning on interior near edge, also probable handle scar on smaller sherd. Poss later fabric type	AA	D 20		2	2271			M1/2-E3C
T1	F008		16	pot	r	Rom	Large profile sherd from a bowl (Cam 243-	GX	6.3		1	104	0.2		M1-E2C



Trench	ctxt no.	ctxt type	finds no	Find type	sherd	Period	Finds description	Fabric code	form	col	no	Wt/g	EVE	abr	Period/ spot date
							244/246)								
T1	F008		16	pot	b	Rom	Bead rim bowl Cam 37A	GMG	6.18		1	37	0.09		E/M2-E3/3C
T1	F008		16	pot	b	Rom	Bead rim bowl Cam 37B	GX	6.18		1	20	0.1		M/L2-3C
T1	F008		16	pot	b	Rom	Mortarium, several joining sherds, part vessel, small upright rim with rolled bead flange, predominantly white and dark quartz gritting	BUFM	-7.2		6	532	0.39		2-3C
T1	F008		16	pot	b	Rom	Prob Colchester	COLB	flagon		1	26			M1-2/3C
T1	F008		16	pot	b	LIA	Ripple shouldered pot with bead rim, small post-firing hole in neck	GTW			1	38	0.07		LIA
T1	F008		16	pot	b	LIA		GTW			2	19			LIA
T1	F008		16	pot	b	Rom		STOR			10	454			M1-2/3C
T1	F008		16	pot	Ba b	Rom		GX			38	380			Rom
T1	F008		16	pot	Ba b	Rom		GMB			2	35			Rom
T1	F008		16	pot	r	Rom		GMB			1	22	0.07		2-3C?
T1	F008		16	pot	b	Rom		GMG			2	11			Rom
T1	F008		16	pot	ba	Rom		WX			1	10			Rom
T1	F008		16	pot	b	Rom	Sandy fabric, part worn grey surface internally, poss GX	RX			1	16			Rom
T1	F008		16	pot	r	Rom	Neckless jar, similar to Cam 268(?)	GX			1	23	0.11		2-3/4C(?)
T1	F008		16	pot	r	Rom	Gritty grey ware	GX			1	24	0.1		Rom
T1	F008		16	pot	Ba b	Rom	BSW, lattice decoration	GX			2	52			Rom (1/2-2C?)
T1	F008		16	pot	b	Rom	Poss grey ware (GX), pale orange grey	RX			2	12			Rom
T1	F008		16	pot	r	Rom		GMG			1	6	0.07		Rom
T1	F008		16	pot	r	Rom		GX			1	5	0.06		Rom
T1	F008		16	slag			Light slag with undulating melted surface, non magnetic				1	15			
T1	F008		16	Bone		Rom	<b>Cattle</b> -1st phalanx (1), metacarpal (1),				34	1841			Presumed Rom

Trench	ctxt no.	ctxt type	finds no	Find type	sherd	Period	Finds description	Fabric code	form	col	no	Wt/g	EVE	abr	Period/ spot date	
							metatarsal (2), humerus (5), vertebrae (3), scapula (3), horncore (4), skull (3), mandible (1), rib (4) and unidentified bone (2). Chop marks on vertebra and horncore, cut marks on 1st phalanx, scapula and humerus fragments, distal epiphysis of humerus chopped axially. <b>Sheep</b> - mandible (?subadult) (1), metapodial (1), radius (1). <b>Pig</b> - tibia exhibiting cut marks (1). Medium mammal humerus (1).									
T1	F009		15	CBM		Rom		f-ms			1	42			Rom	
T1	F009		15	CBM		Rom?	Fragments, probably CBM, cream surface	fsrcp			2	8			Rom(?)	
T1	F009		15	flint		preh	Tertiary flake with percission bulb, broad striking platform and obtuse angle of removal, light retouch/ use wear on both side edges				1	5			Later prehistoric	
T1	F009		15	flint		preh	Secondary flake, small, snapped and with hinge fracture				1	4			Later prehistoric	
T1	F009		15	flint		preh	Small irregular core with a number of unstructured small flake removals, some cortex				1	48			Later prehistoric	
T1	F009		15	flint		preh	Irregular shatter piece				1	19			Later	

Trench	ctxt no.	ctxt type	finds no	Find type	sherd	Period	Finds description	Fabric code	form	col	no	Wt/g	EVE	abr	Period/ spot date
							with cortex								prehistoric(?)
T1	F009		15	flint		preh	Two small shatter pieces, one with a bruised edge				2	9			Later prehistoric(?)
T1	F009		15	pot	b	preh	Small oxidised sherd with flint and quartz-temper	HMFQ			1	3			Preh (not closely dated)
T1	F009		15	pot	b	LIA		GTW			1	3			LIA
T1	F009		15	pot	b	Rom		GX			5	24			Rom
T1	F009		15	pot	r	Lmed	Squared rim, top(?) broken away, red sandy fabric, grey core	LMT			1	8			15-16C
T1	F009		15	pot	b	Lmed	Orange-red sandy fabric	LMT			1	7			15-16C
T1	F009		15	pot	b	med	Grey sandy fabric, probably med	MCW			1	4			L12-14C
T1	F009		15	Bone			cattle humerus (1@35g).				1	35			
T1	F011		12	pot	b	LIA	Combed surface	GTW	jar		1	13		*	LIA
T1	F011		12	pot	b	Rom	cup	SACG	Dr 27		1	6			E-M2C
T1	F011		12	pot	b	Rom	burnt	AA	D 20		1	113			M1-E3C
T1	F011		12	pot	b	Rom	Prob Colchester (COLB)	COLB	Flagons(?)		3	38			M1-2/3C
T1	F011		12	pot	b	Rom		STOR	jar		4	211			M1-2/3C
T1	F011		12	pot	b	Rom	More than one pot, one lattice dec.	GMB	Jar/bowl		4	24			2-3C(?)
T1	F011		12	pot	b	Rom	Sherds from one pot, dec. with vertical burnish lines	GMG	jar		3	27			M1-2/3C
T1	F011		12	pot	B ba	Rom		GX			8	60			Rom
T1	F011		12	pot	r	Rom		GX	Jar/bowl		1	17	0.1		Rom
T1	F011		12	Bone			cattle 1st phalanx (1), medium mammal rib fragment (1).				2	24			
T1	F012		11	pot	r	LIA		GTW			1	7	0.04		LIA
T1	F012		11	pot	b	Rom	Stab decorated	GMB	beaker		1	6			M1-E/M2C
T1	F012		11	pot	b	Rom		GMG			1	8			Rom
T1	F013		10	CBM		Rom	Flake, pale buff-red fabric	fs		r	1	6			Rom

Trench	ctxt no.	ctxt type	finds no	Find type	sherd	Period	Finds description	Fabric code	form	col	no	Wt/g	EVE	abr	Period/ spot date
T1	F013		10	CBM		Rom	Edge piece, dull red fabric, 25 mm thick	fs		r	1	118		*	Rom
T1	F013		10	pot	b	Rom		SASG	Cup/bowl		1	3			M-L1C
T1	F013		10	pot	ba	Rom		BUF	Flagon?		1	9			M1-2/3C
T1	F013		10	pot	b	LIA		GTW			1	16		*	LIA
T1	F013		10	pot	r	LIA		GTW			1	8	0.05	(*)	LIA
T1	F013		10	pot	Ba b	Rom		GX			3	50			Rom
T1	F013		10	pot	r	Rom	Jar/bowl, undercut rim	GX			1	7	0.06		Rom (M1-2/3C?)
T1	F013		10	Bone			sheep metatarsal exhibiting dog gnawing				1	6			
T1	F014		8	BS				fint			1	52			
T1	F014		8	FC			Flat surface, quite well fired, buff-red fabric with common chalk frags (same as F15)	Fs c			1	11			
T1	F014		8	pot	b	IA		HMS			1	11			Later IA
T1	F014		8	pot	r	LIA		GTW	jar		1	10	0.06	(*)	LIA
T1	F014		8	pot	b	LIA		GTW			1	18			LIA
T1	F014		8	pot	b	Rom	Prob Colchester (COLB)	COLB	Flagon?		2	6			M1-2/3C
T1	F014		8	pot	b	Rom	Thick shed	BUF			1	14			Rom
T1	F014		8	pot	b	Rom	Wavy comb dec.	GX			8	39			Rom (1-2/3C)
T1	F014		8	pot	b	Rom		GMG			2	21			Rom
T1	F014		8	pot	r	Rom		GMG	5.2		1	25	0.1		Rom
T1	F014		8	pot	b	Rom	Inc shoulder cordon bowl	GMB	5.1		4	39			Rom (M1-E2C)
T1	F014		8	pot	r	Rom	Necked jar/bowl	GMB	jar		1	23			M1-2C(?)
T1	F014		8	Bone			<b>Cattle</b> - scapula (1), rib (2), tibia (1), 2nd phalanx (1), skull fragments (1), horncore fragment (1). Cut marks on rib fragments and the tibia. <b>Sheep</b> - mandible (juvenile) (1), metacarpal (1), tibia exhibiting dog gnawing (1).				10	223			Presumed Rom

Trench	ctxt no.	ctxt type	finds no	Find type	sherd	Period	Finds description	Fabric code	form	col	no	Wt/g	EVE	abr	Period/ spot date
T1	F015		9	FC			quite well fired, buff-red fabric with common chalk frags (same as 14)	Fs c			7	25			
T1	F015		9	FC			burnt	f-ms			1	10			
T1	F015		9	pot	Ba b	Rom		STOR			2	163			M1-2/3C
T1	F015		9	pot	r	Rom		STOR	Cam 273		1	74	0.04		M1-2C
T1	F015		9	pot	b	Rom		GMG			1	11			Rom
T1	F015		9	pot	b	Rom		GMB			4	61			Rom
T1	F015		9	pot	r	Rom		GMB			1	20	0.25		Rom (M1-2/3C)
T1	F015		9	pot	r	Rom		GMB			2	39	0.15		Rom (M1-2/3C)
T1	F015		9	pot	Ba b	Rom		GX			13	160			Rom
T1	F015		9	pot	b	Rom		RX			1	3			Rom
T1	F015		9	Bone			medium mammal rib (1), cattle skull (1).				2	30			
T1	F016		13	pot	b	Rom		GX			2	16			Rom
T1	F016		13	pot	b	Rom	Carinated bowl/beaker	GMG	6.9		1	9			M-L1C
T1	F016		13	pot	ba	Rom		STOR			1	89			M1-2/3C
T1	F016		13	Bone			unidentified axial fragment				1	4			
T1	F017		14	pot	b			GMB			1	4			Rom
T1	F017		14	pot	b		Poss Colchester (COLB)	BUF			1	3			M1-2/3C
T1	L003		7	pot	b			GX	Large jar		1	63			Rom
T1	L003		7	pot	b			STOR			1	92			M1-2/3C
T3	F001		1	pot	b		Heavily combed surface, storage jar, joining sherds	GTW	Storage jar		3	188			LIA, E-M1C
T3	F002		2	pot	b		Probably E/M2-E3C (body suggests Cam 391)	COLC	beaker		1	7			E/M2-E3C
T3	F002		2	pot	b		Possibly burnt	AA	D 20?		1	48			M1-2/E3C
T3	F002		2	pot	b		Burnt residue	GX			1	15			Rom
T3	F004		3	pot	b			GMB			1	4			Rom
T3	F005		4	Fe nail			Complete iron nail, corroded, length 65 mm,				1	12			Rom(?)

Trench	ctxt no.	ctxt type	finds no	Find type	sherd	Period	Finds description	Fabric code	form	col	no	Wt/g	EVE	abr	Period/ spot date
							small round flat head, presumed Roman, Manning Type 1B								
T3	F005		4	pot	b	LIA		GTW			1	19		(*)	LIA
T3	F006		5	pot	b			GX			1	7		(*)	Rom
T3	F007		6	CBM		Rom	Combed flue tile, 18 mm thick	f-ms		r	1	26			Rom L1C+
T3	F007		6	CBM			Flat tile, 14 mm thick, Rom/ p-med; poss peg tile (if so likely to date to 13/14C+)	f-ms		r	1	11			Rom/ p-Rom (Med-p-med?)
T3	F007		6	Fe nail			Near complete iron nail, corroded, shank length 50 mm, head (not flat) partly broken away, presumed Roman, possibly Manning Type 2 or Type 3				1	14			Rom(?)
T3	F007		6	flint			No cortex, no striking platform, irregular with dulled surfaces, probably a shatter piece with small double notched area with some retouch/ use wear - probably utilised				1	5			Later prehistoric
T3	F007		6	pot	ba	Rom		GX			1	7			
T3	F007		6	pot	b	Rom		GMB			1	5			Rom
T3	F007		6	pot	b	Rom		GMG			1	4			Rom
T3	F007		6	pot	r	Rom	Small jar, burnt/ sooted on rim	GMG	Jar(?)		1	3	0.04		Rom
T3	F007		6	Bone			cattle horncore fragment				1	6			

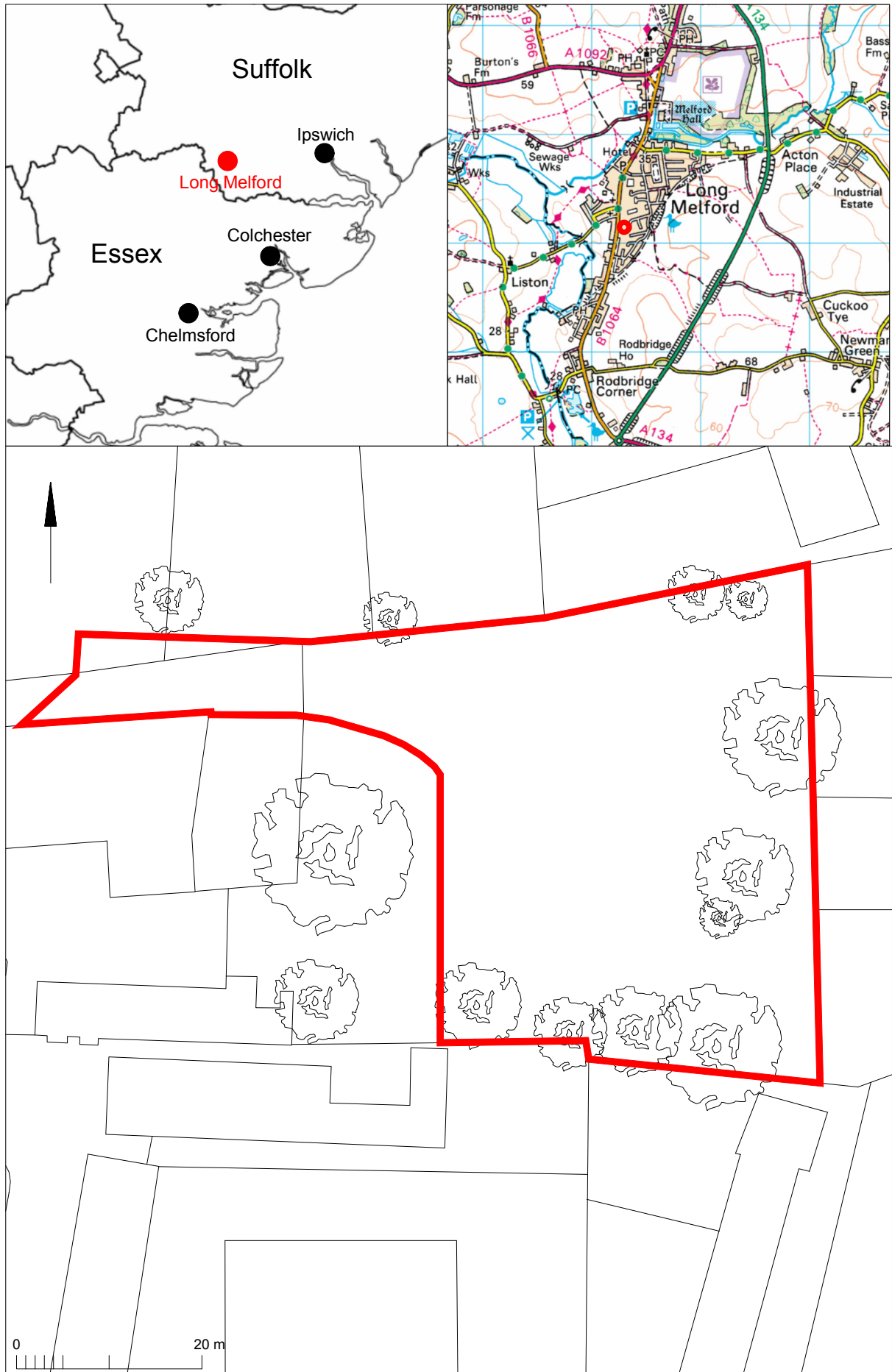


Fig 1 Site location.

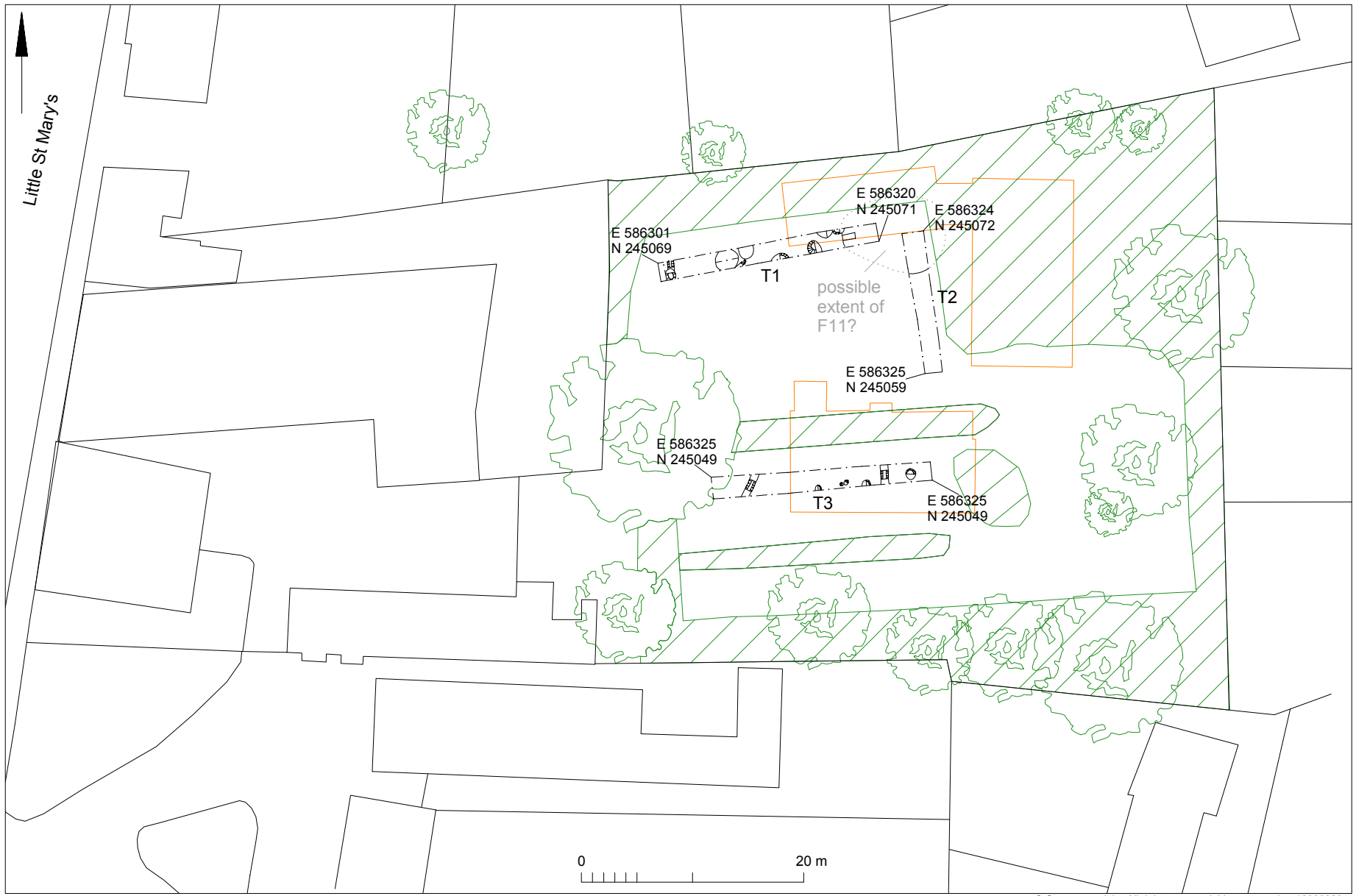


Fig 2 Trench plan. Proposed buildings shown in orange, hedges and other undergrowth shown in green.



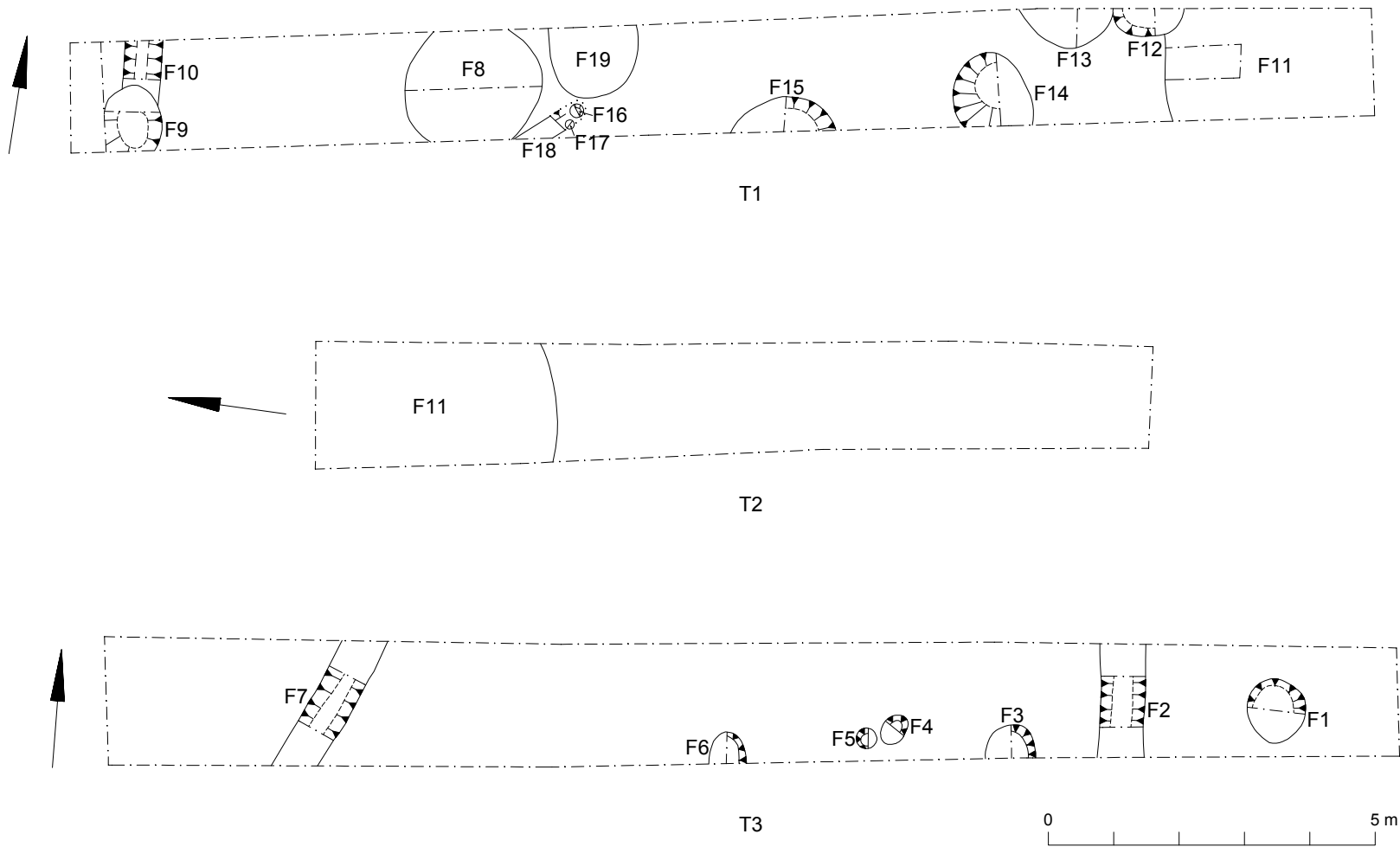


Fig 3 T1-T3: Detailed trench plan.

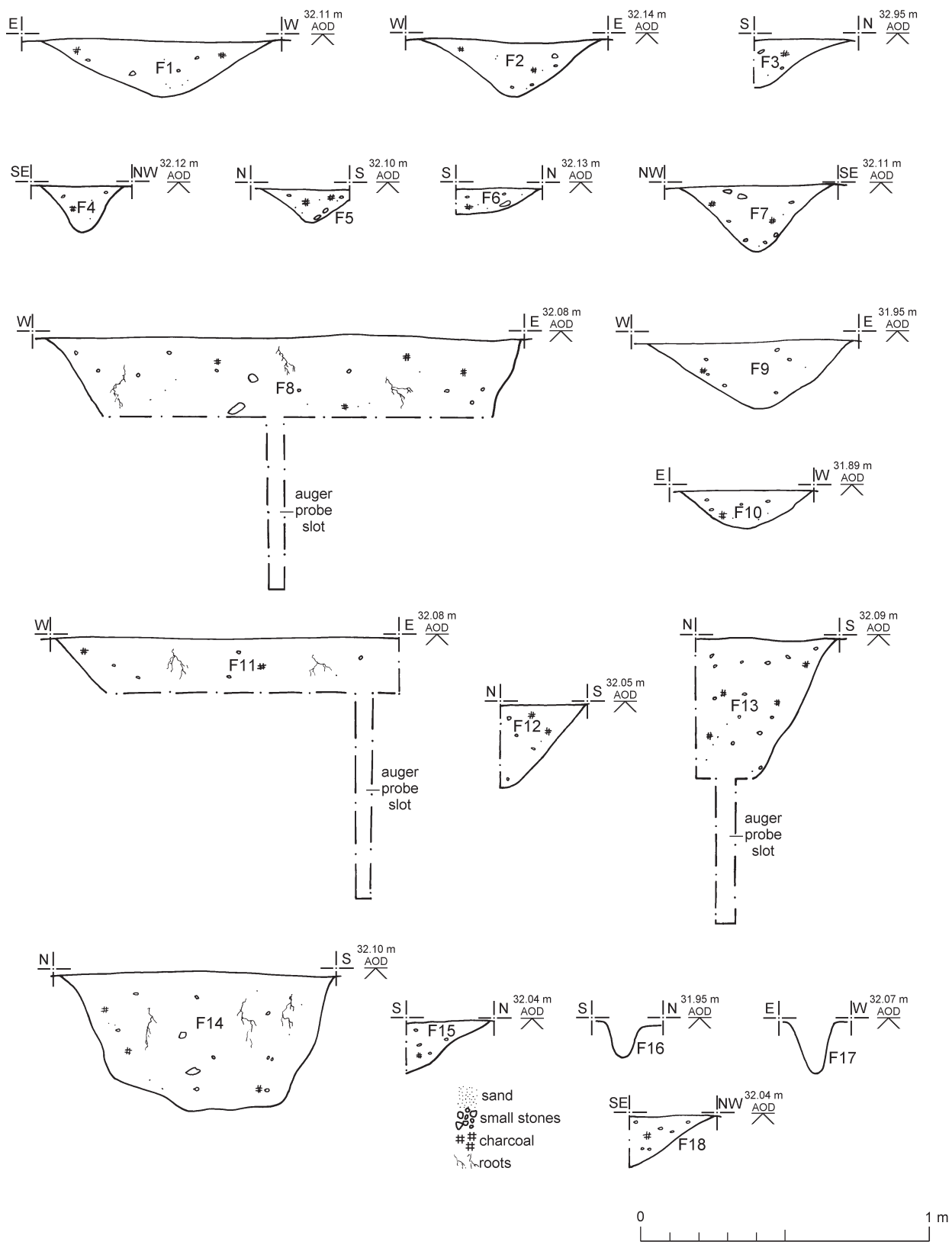


Fig 4 Feature sections.

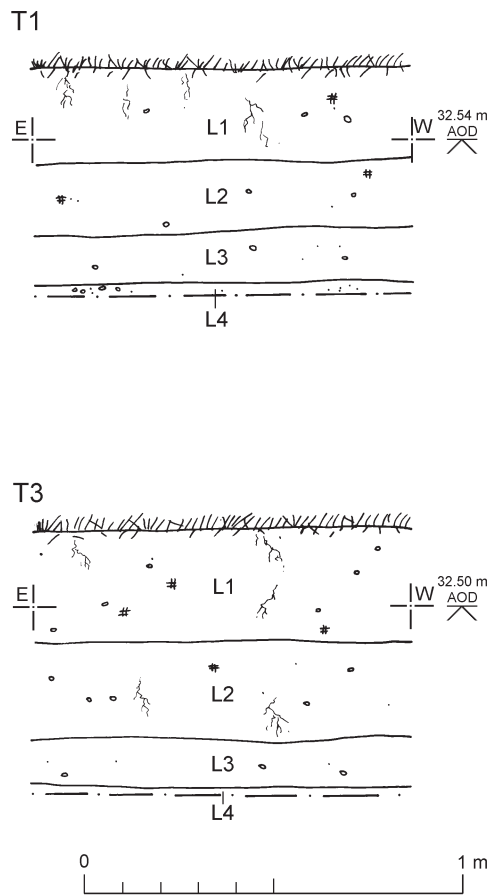


Fig 5 Representative trench sections.