

Archaeological excavation at St Helena School, Sheepen Road, Colchester

October - November 2014



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**commissioned by Ingleton Wood
on behalf of St Helena School**

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1 Summary

Archaeological excavation was carried out at St Helena School, Sheepen Road, Colchester. The school is situated within the Roman enclosed oppidum of Camulodunum (specifically the area of the trading depot at Sheepen), and is within a scheduled monument (List entry 1002173). The school grounds contain the remains of two Romano-British temples, and the site was within the precinct or temenos of a large post-Boudiccan temple dedicated to Jupiter (Colchester's Temple 2). The excavation revealed Roman activity comprising nine pits, one of which (F1) contained twenty-six low denomination 1st century AD coins. Also revealed were patches of the gravelled surface of the temple precinct and the cobble and mortar wall foundations of a small internal altar or similar structure.

2 Introduction

This report presents the results of archaeological excavation at St Helena School, Sheepen Road, Colchester, which was carried out in October and November 2014 (Figs 1 and 2). The work was commissioned by Ingleton Wood on behalf of St Helena School in advance of the construction of a new science and technology building, and was undertaken by Colchester Archaeological Trust (CAT).

Colchester Borough Council Archaeological Officer (CBCAO), Chris Lister, together with Sarah Poppy of English Heritage, advised that the proposed site lay in an area of high archaeological importance and that, in order to establish the archaeological implications of this 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).

All archaeological work was carried out with scheduled monument consent granted by English Heritage, and in accordance with the *Brief for Archaeological Excavation* detailing the required archaeological work written by Chris Lister (Colchester Borough Council Planning Department (CBCPD) 2014), and a written scheme of investigation (WSI) prepared by CAT in response to brief and agreed with CBCPD (CAT 2014).

In addition to the brief and WSI, all fieldwork and reporting was done in accordance with English Heritage's *Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment (MoRPHE)* (English Heritage 2006), and with *Standards for field archaeology in the East of England (EAA 14 and 24)*. This report mirrors standards and practices contained in the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists' *Standard and guidance for archaeological excavation (ClfA 2014a)* and *Standard and guidance for the collection, documentation, conservation and research of archaeological materials (ClfA 2014b)*.

3 Archaeological background

The proposed development site was within an area of high archaeological importance. It was situated within the enclosed *oppidum* of Camulodunum, and particularly within the area of the trading depot at Sheepen. St Helena School is located directly above the remains of two Romano-British temples and the proposed development is present within the precinct (*temenos*) of the larger one of these – Colchester Temple 2, a temple dedicated to Jupiter (Fig 2; Crummy 1980).

Excavations in the 1930s, prior to the construction of the Colchester Bypass (Avenue of Remembrance) showed that the area was an important focus of late Iron Age settlement and early Roman military activity (Hawkes and Hull 1947). More recent evaluations and watching briefs in and around the immediate vicinity of St Helena School have revealed the survival of significant Roman remains (CAT Reports 188, 349, 351, 384, 414, 451, 544). The most recent archaeological work to be carried out at the site has been a geophysical survey and an evaluation commissioned prior to the excavation being reported here. The geophysical survey partially covered the area of the excavation discussed in this report. It was noted that the survey was subject to heavy disturbance. In the eastern part of the survey area there linear features were revealed which were aligned NW-SE, and which align with field boundaries present on the site prior to the construction of the school. Possible Roman activity was identified in the western

part of the survey area (Dennis 2014) The evaluation revealed three Roman pits, a spread of gravel, ceramic building material and five low denomination Roman coins within the range c AD43 – 64 (CAT Report 699).

4 Results (Figs 3 - 5)

Nine pits (F1-F3, F5-F7, F9, F10 and F12), a gravel surface (L3) and two wall foundations (F4 and F11) as well as two spreads or dumps of building material (L5 and L6), were excavated. All activity present on site was dated to the Roman period, although residual late Iron Age material was present in some of the features. All of the pits on site contained the same firm, moist, dark grey/brown silty fill with charcoal inclusions.

The main focus of Roman activity was a compacted gravel surface (L3) present intermittently across the site. Its preservation was best in the eastern part of the site, and became patchier to the west. It is thought that this compacted gravel was the surface of the temple precinct or *temenos*. The gravel layer was overlain by L2, an accumulation layer that was present across the entire site. Pottery, animal bone, a coin and two metal objects were present in this layer, though date from the Late Bronze Age to the post-medieval period so cannot provide a helpful date before which the gravel surface was constructed.



Plate 1: View east across fully excavated Pit F1.

Pit F1 (plate 1) was a very large shallow feature that was located in the centre of the site. It was roughly circular in shape. It was initially revealed during the evaluation of the site, when five low denomination coins were excavated from it. It was fully excavated during the most recent phase of work and twenty-one further coins were recovered. The coins (plate 2) would appear to be part of a hoard, although they were distributed throughout the feature rather than clustered as one might expect from a hoard deposit. It is possible they represent a disturbed hoard that came to be included in F1 after its primary deposition elsewhere. As well as coins, pottery dating from the Iron Age to 2nd/3rd century pottery, animal bone, glass, pottery, pieces of peg-tile and brick were present within the feature. It cut pit F10 and sealed gully F8. Pit F10 was a relatively small circular pit, which contained late Iron Age/early Roman pottery, roof tile and a copper alloy coin. Gully F8 was a small linear feature with was aligned north-south. It contained no finds.

Pits F6 and F9 both contained traces of the overlying gravel surfaces within the upper fill, suggesting that they were pre-existing features into which the gravel had slumped. Pit F9 was located near the central part of the northern site boundary. It was a large round pit and contained pottery of predominantly mid-late 1st century date, roof tile and a copper-alloy belt pin. Pit F6 was a circular pit that was located in the western part of the site in a small separate area of excavation for the soak-away. It contained early-mid 1st century pottery, roof tile and animal bone. Pits F5 and F7 were adjacent to pit F6, but did not contain the gravel surface of the temple within their fills. Their proximity to pit F6, and the similarity in size and shape of pits

F6 and F7 make it seem likely that they were related. Pit F5 contained a small amount of roof tile very shallowly in its very upper fill.



Plate 2: Five of the coins from pit F1

Pits F2, F3 and F12 all seem to post-date the gravel surface of the precinct, though they are probably of Roman date. Pit F2 was a circular pit located in the south-eastern corner of the site. It contained pottery of a mid to late 1st century AD date, a large quantity of roof tile in its upper fill, an Icenian copper-alloy brooch and some glass. It cut the gravel surface of the temple precinct (L3). Pit F3 was located immediately to the north of pit F2. It was considerably smaller, but it cut the gravel surface of the temple precinct and contained roof tile. Pit F12 was located near the central part of the southern site boundary. It was roughly circular in shape and appeared to be sealed by a dump of roof tile (L5). As well as tile, it contained pottery of a largely mid to late 1st century AD date, a coin of Vespasian and animal bone.



Plate 3: Mortar and cobble wall foundation (F4) of the temple precinct, looking south-west.

Two sections of wall foundation were also excavated. F4 (plate 3) was located in the western part of the site in the soakaway excavation. It was a short straight stretch of cobble and mortar wall foundation which orientated roughly north-south. Some roof tile was associated with this feature. F11 (plate 4) was located on the central part of the northern site boundary. It was largely constructed of septaria and was orientated roughly north-south, similarly to F4. Roughly 3m of wall foundation was visible as F11, which turned through a right-angle at about its halfway point. F11 was associated with a large dump of tile and CBM (L6). It is thought that F11 possibly represented the remains of a shrine or internal feature of the temple precinct.



Plate 4: View of altar or shrine base (F11), looking north-west.

5 Finds

5.1 Pottery, CBM and miscellaneous

By Stephen Benfield

The finds primarily date to the late Iron Age/early Roman and Roman periods. A few prehistoric and probably prehistoric finds were also present. The types of bulk finds recovered are listed by quantity in Table 1 and are quantified and described for each find number by context in Appendix 1. In addition there are 48 individually numbered metal small finds (SF) including twenty-six closely associated coins interpreted as a hoard. The small finds are listed and discussed separately below.

Finds type	no.	wt (g)
Pottery	1037	18521
Ceramic building material (CBM)	739	83679
Fired clay	4	37
Glass	12	81
Flint	4	8
Heat altered (burnt) stone	13	138
Stone	5	356
Iron nails (pieces)	55	622
Slag	11	463
Mortar	3	100
Shell	1	2

Table1: Type and quantities of bulk finds

Prehistoric finds

There are only a few finds that can be dated to the prehistoric period. These consist of pottery, worked flints and a small quantity of heat-altered (burnt) stone.

Prehistoric pottery

Two small sherds (8g) of hand-made, flint-tempered prehistoric pottery were recovered. These come from L2(1) and F6(42). As single, small, plain sherds (not part of a larger assemblage), they are difficult to date closely within the period broadly spanning the Neolithic-Early Iron Age. However, their nature with common small-medium flint inclusions could indicate a Bronze Age-Early Iron Age date rather than earlier.

One small sand-tempered sherd from F9 (50) has a fabric similar to pottery more typical of the prehistoric period than later, but a Late Iron Age/Early Roman appears most likely.

Flints

Three flints were recovered, two from L2 and the other from L5. This is a very small collection with no significant diagnostic features such as to allow close dating. They are probably Neolithic/Bronze Age.

Heat altered (burnt) stone

Very small quantities of burnt stone (flint) were recovered from three contexts, F2, F12 and L2. It is not possible to ascertain the date of burning but, although stone can be incidentally heat. Deliberately heated stones are most commonly associated with prehistoric activity. The limited number of these stones among the large quantity of later occupation material here does not suggest that they were related to any significant activity or process in the later (historic) period and is more consistent with the low level of prehistoric activity otherwise attested on the site. It therefore appears likely that this material is of prehistoric date.

Discussion

The few sherds of prehistoric pottery are not closely dated, but the two flint-tempered sherds are likely to date to the period of Neolithic/Early Iron Age and Bronze Age/Early Iron Age. The few worked flints are possibly also of this period (Bronze Age) and a small quantity of burnt flint stones (if prehistoric) are also likely to be of the same period.

In relation to the prehistoric finds recovered, it can be noted that there are important prehistoric finds and significant prehistoric occupation recorded from the Sheepen site, located southwest of the present excavation. Beaker pottery and Middle Bronze Age finds including an important bronze cauldron have been recovered from Sheepen (Gascoyne & Radford 2013, 26-28) and Late Bronze Age flint-tempered pottery together with occupation features were recorded in an excavation in 1971 at Kiln Road (CAR 11, 131-137).

Roman and later finds

Fabric	Description
AA	Amphorae, all (excluding Dressel 20 & Verulamium region amphorae)
AJ	Amphorae, Dressel 20
PIS SA	Pisa, Italian sigillata
LYO SA	Lyon, Italian style sigillata
BASG	South Gaulish plain samian
BXSG	South Gaulish decorated samian
BAEG	East Gaulish plain samian
CS	Pompeian-red wares
CZ	Colchester and other red colour-coated wares
DJ	Coarse oxidised and related wares
FJ	Brockley Hill/Verulamium region oxidised wares
NOG WH 3	North Gaulish (Gallo-Belgic sandy) white ware 3
GAB TR	Gallia-Belgica Terra Rubra
TR4	Terra Rubra type 4
GAB TN 1	Gallia-Belgica (Vesle Valley) Terra nigra 1
UR	Terra nigra -type wares
GX	Other coarse wares, principally locally-produced grey wares
HZ	Large storage jars, and other vessels in heavily tempered grey wares
HZ(G)	Large storage jars with grog-temper

Fabric	Description
MQ	White-slipped fine wares and parchment wares
SOB GT	Southern British (Belgic) grog-tempered wares
TD	Verulamium region mortaria
TZ	Mortaria, Colchester and mortaria imported from the continent
EA	Nene Valley colour-coated wares

Table 2: Late Iron Age & Roman pottery fabrics

Pottery

Almost all of the pottery can be dated to the Late Iron Age/early Roman period. There are small quantities (amounting to just a few sherds) of mid-late Roman and modern pottery.

Late Iron Age and Roman pottery

Introduction

The Late Iron Age and Roman pottery was recorded with reference to the Colchester Roman pottery fabric series (Hawkes & Hull 1947 & CAR 10) and to the National Roman fabric reference collection (Tomber & Dore 1998). Roman vessel forms refer to the *Camulodunum* (Colchester) type series (Hawkes & Hull 1947, Hull 1963) and Samian forms refer to Webster 1996. The pottery fabrics recorded are listed in Table 2 and are quantified in Table 3.

Fabric	Sherd no.	% sherd	Wt (g)	% wt	EVE
AA	23	2.2	1543	8.3	0.12
AJ	32	3.1	2260	12.2	
PIS SA	2	0.2	18	0.1	0.06
LYO SA	5	0.5	162	0.9	0.2
BASG	49	4.7	559	3.0	1.19
BXSG	6	0.5	41	0.2	0.07
BAEG	1	0.1	2	<0.1	
CS	4	0.4	79	0.4	
CZ	1	0.1	1	<0.1	
DJ	261	25.2	3305	17.8	1.71
FJ	1	0.1	14	<0.1	
NOG WH 3	4	0.4	35	0.2	0.17
GAB TR	17	1.6	127	0.7	0.18
TR4	9	0.8	118	0.6	0.3
GAB TN 1	12	1.1	197	1.0	0.12
UR	4	0.4	65	0.3	0.28
GX	364	35.2	3239	17.5	3.91
HZ	11	1.1	387	2.0	0.05
HZ(G)	108	10.4	4224	22.8	0.27
MQ	12	1.2	173	0.9	
SOB GT	94	9.1	1142	6.1	0.88
TD	1	0.1	39	0.2	
TZ	12	1.2	750	4.0	0.34
EA	1	0.1	9	<0.1	
<i>Totals</i>	<i>1034</i>	<i>99.8</i>	<i>18489</i>	<i>99.6</i>	<i>9.85</i>

Table 3: Late Iron Age & Roman pottery fabric quantities

Almost all of the pottery recovered from the site is of Late Iron Age or early Roman date. The closely-dated fabrics and forms were current during the period of the late 1st century BC to the late 1st/early 2nd century AD. The Arretine samian, Gallo-Belgic wares & grog-tempered wares recorded indicate a significant Late Iron Age component to the assemblage, although close dating of this material is difficult. Overall, the early pottery fabrics can be dated to the period of the late 1st century BC-mid 1st century AD and slightly later. The forms recorded suggest that the majority of this pottery probably dates to the period of the early-mid 1st century AD and is current with the dating proposed for the nearby Sheepen site.

Arretine pottery

The earliest closely-dated pottery is Italian and/or Italian style sigillata, also referred to as 'Arretine'. A few sherds appear to be Italian sigillata recorded as Pisa sigillata (PIS SA) following Tomber & Dore (1998), while a slightly larger number can be identified as Lyon, Italian style sigillata (LYN SA). Arretine pottery in Britain may date from as early as c 20 BC, but the majority is considered to date to the early-mid 1st century AD (Tyres 1996, 111) and does not appear to be current or survive in use beyond the immediate conquest period. Some of the Arretine is residual in Roman period contexts, but the small group of sherds from F6(42) are associated with other pottery which could allow a pre-conquest late Iron Age date.

The vessels represented appear to be platters. Sherds from F6(42) include collared, undercut rims (form Cam S2) which can be associated with sigillata service Ib/c (Wells 1972, Appendix 1) and another rim (form Cam S4) with service II F6(42). One platter rim in an Italian fabric (L2(1)) has a flattened (faintly dished) top and lacks a concavity or mall off-set at the internal wall top (Fig 6.1). It appears to have a closer association with vessels associated with service Ia and may be the earliest of the Arretine pottery here, but is essentially of a platter type associated with service Ib/c (see Hawkes & Hull 1947, fig 42 no. 3).

Fig 6.1 L2(1) Arretine platter in Italian fabric (PIS SA). Rim sherd, undercut, hanging rim, rim top flat/faintly dished, lacks a concavity or mall off-set at the internal wall top, estimated platter dia. Approx. 300-320 mm (1 sherd, weight 16 g, EVE 0.06).

Samian

Most, if not all of the samian recovered (other than Arretine) is likely to date to the post-conquest period, although Tiberio-Claudian period vessels are present among the large assemblages from Sheepen (*Camulodunum*). Almost all of the samian recovered is South Gaulish. The plain forms recorded are Dr 15/17 (F1, F2, F9 & L2), Dr 18 (F1, F2, F9 & L5), Dr 24/25 (F2), Dr 33 (F1) & Ritterling 9 (F2 & L2). Forms Dr 24/25 & Ritterling 9 are typical of the pre-Flavian period while the others are typical of assemblages of mid-late 1st century date.

Potters stamps on plain samian

F1(52) Fabric BASG. Part of stamp on Dr 18 dish OFPRI[Primus (dated c AD 45/50-65/70)

F2(20) Fabric BASG. Beginning of stamp OF[(dated mid-late 1st century)

Pieces of decorated samian are primarily from Dr 29 bowls (F2, F12 & L2). The small areas of decorative schemes suggest a Claudio-Neronian date and the only piece with a central cordon lacks the rouletting typical of the earliest bowls. One sherd from a South Gaulish Dr 37 bowl, dating to c AD 70-100 was recovered from L2.

Gallo-Belgic pottery and locally produced Gallo-Belgic-type wares

Gallo-Belgic wares were imported from the late 1st century BC, but continued to be imported into the early post-conquest period. While *terra nigra* (GAB TN 1) and Gallo-Belgic sandy white ware (NOG WH 3) appear to have continued as current pottery types into the pre-Flavian period, *terra rubra* (GAB TR), which is relatively well represented here, is virtually absent from sites in London, which is considered to have been settled c AD 50, suggesting that any significant import of vessels in this fabric had ceased by that time. Recorded *terra rubra* fabrics are listed in Table 4.

Fabric code	no	Wt/g
GAB TR 1A	6	39
GAB TR 2	1	20
GAB TR (general, not TR 1A)	10	68
<i>Total</i>	<i>17</i>	<i>127</i>

Table 4: *Terra rubra* by fabric type

Two *terra rubra* vessels could be identified to form types, a Cam 5 platter (F1) and a Cam 56 cup (F6). Two forms could also be identified in *terra nigra*, a Cam 2 platter (F6) and Cam 13 platter (L2). Although Cam 2 had been standardised by c 10 BC, the other forms evolve in the

early 1st century AD and together with Cam 2 remain in production into the early Roman period, although in *terra rubra* fabric the form Cam 5 probably pre-dates AD 40 (Stead & Rigby 1989, Table 10). There is also a small quantity of Gaulish white ware in a fine sandy fabric (NOG WH 3), the only vessel form identified in this fabric being the Butt Beaker Cam 113.

Graffiti on Gallo-Belgic ware

Fig 6.2 F1(52) Cup base Fabric GAB TR 2, graffiti X (partly missing) cut into the underside within the area of the footring. There is the end corner of a potters block stamp surviving in the base interior.

In addition to the imported Gallo-Belgic wares there is a small number of sherds of local or regional production which follow Gallo-Belgic forms in *terra rubra* (Fabric TR4) and *terra nigra* (Fabric UR). The sherds in Fabric TR4 are all from beakers. The identified form types in Fabric UR include sherds from a Cam 59 cup (F1) and from a Cam 28 platter (L2).

Amphora

The most common amphora sherds are in coarse Spanish fabric (Fabric AJ) typical of Dressel 20 and Haltern 70 amphoras. Sherds were recovered from F1, F2, F3, F6, F9, F10, F12, L2 and L5. There are no diagnostic pieces, although the curvature and nature of many of the sherds suggest they are from Dressel 20 oil amphoras – as would be expected to dominate in the assemblage – and which broadly date from the mid 1st to early 3rd century.

Sherds from other amphora types (Fabric AA) were recovered from three features (F1, F2 & F8). These include a handle from a Dressel 2-4 wine amphora (F8). Amphora sherds were also recovered from L2 & L5. Amphora types from these layers were not closely identified, but some sherds appear to represent Dressel 2-4 and Dressel 7-11 (Salazon) amphoras including the lower part of one handle (L2) which has an oval section and appears to be from a Dressel 7-11 amphora. These could represent pre-conquest imports, but most are probably likely to date to the mid 1st-early 2nd century. Thick walled sherds with a micaceous fabric from F1 & L5 are possibly also from amphoras.

In addition, part of a disk-shaped 'lid' from an amphora was recovered from L2.

Pompeian-red wares

Sherds from platters in Pompeian-red ware (Fabric CS) were recovered from F1 and F10. A lid from F12 might possibly also be from a Pompeian-red ware dish. Pompeian-red wares were produced from the Augustan period, but are commonly of Neronian-Flavian date, although with production extending into the 2nd century. Probably imported, but with some local (Colchester) production in the post-conquest period (CAR 10, 238).

Grog-tempered wares

There is a moderate but significant quantity of locally or regionally produced grog-tempered wares of late Iron Age type (SOB GT) making up 9% of the assemblage by count and 6% by weight. Some 'Romanising' fabric sherds (containing some grog temper) may also be included in this total. This type of pottery probably remained in use into the early post-conquest period, especially on rural sites, but close to major Roman settlement in the south of Britain was probably rapidly superseded by coarse pottery in Roman or 'Romanising' fabrics. It is current from the mid-late 1st century BC and its presence here indicates Late Iron Age activity on or around the site. Forms recorded are cooking pot Cam 256, jar form Cam 266 (both from F9) and a butt beaker (L2). A bowl form, possibly Cam 43 is also present (F9) and there is the neck of a pedestal base of a bowl/jar from F1(52).

Local and regional coarsewares

The largest groups of pottery which can be broadly dated as post-conquest are Roman, sandy reduced coarsewares/grey wares (Fabric GX) which make up 35% of the assemblage by count and 17% by weight and coarse oxidised wares (Fabric DJ) which make up 25% of the assemblage by count and 17% by weight. The reduced coarsewares might include some 'Romanising' wares, although these would probably be of post-conquest date. The oxidised wares might possibly include some unrecognised early (pre- or post-conquest) imports but the

great majority are almost certainly of local or regional origin and can be dated to the Roman period.

Forms recorded among the pottery grouped under Fabric GX are beaker Cam 108, flat-rimmed bowl 243-244/246 bowl/jar Cam 218 & jar 266, all of which can be dated to the period of the mid 1st-early 2nd century. Forms recorded among the pottery grouped under Fabric DJ are flagons Cam 140 & Cam 155, honey pot Cam 177, *tazza* Cam 198 & flat-rimmed bowl 243-244/246 bowl/jar. Apart from the *tazza*, which could date as late as the late 2nd/early 3rd century, the remainder can be dated to the period of the mid 1st-early 2nd century.

Sherds from heavily-tempered jars, mostly large storage jars, also make up a significant part of the assemblage. The majority of these contain some grog-temper (Fabric HZ(G)) while a small number are in sandy fabrics. This suggests that either the storage jars are primarily residual, or more likely that more traditional based fabric types remained in use into the early Roman period. It is noted that a significant number of sherds had combing on the body surfaces. Forms recorded are Cam 270B, Cam 271 & Cam 273.

The only non-local, regional supplier to be clearly identified among the Roman assemblage is the Brockley Hill/Verulamium region kilns (Fabric FJ). Apart from a sherd from a mortarium (above) a single sherd from this source was recovered from F2. The main period of distribution of this pottery was from the mid 1st-early/mid 2nd century.

Mortaria

Sherds in buff or orange oxidised fabrics from mortaria (Fabric TZ) were recovered from F1, F2, F9, L2 & L5. Almost all of these can be assigned a post-conquest date and of these are two which could be identified to form types, one of which is probably Cam 193 (F1) (dated pre-Flavian) and the other Cam 195 (L2) (dated late 1st-Early 2nd century). A single sherd from a Brockley Hill/Verulamium region mortarium (Fabric TD) of mid/late 1st-early/mid 2nd century date was recovered from F9.

There is one large sherd from an early wall-sided mortarium type (lacking any internal gritting) of form Cam 191 which comes from F2. This could possibly be a pre-conquest import but is likely to date to be an import dating to the early conquest (Claudian) period.

Mid-late Roman pottery

A very few, small sherds could be dated to the mid-late Roman period. A sherd (weight 1g) of Colchester colour-coated ware (Fabric CZ) was among pottery recovered from F1, a sherd (weight 9 g) of Nene Valley colour-coated ware (Fabric EA) was recovered from F9 and a sherd (weight 2 g) of East Gaulish samian came from L2.

Modern pottery

A single sherd (weight 24g) which appears to from a modern (19th-20th century) flower pot (CAR 7, Fabric 51B) was among the finds recovered from L2(38).

Discussion

Almost all of the pottery recovered from the site is of Late Iron Age or early Roman date. Together, the more closely-dated fabrics and forms were current during the period of the late 1st century BC to the late 1st/early 2nd century AD. Closer dating is difficult but overall the assemblage can be seen as broadly similar to those recovered from earlier extensive excavations nearby at Sheepen (*Camulodunum*) (Hawkes & Hull 1947 & Niblett 1985) where the main period of occupation is currently dated to c AD 5-60/61 (Niblett 1985, 3). However, all of the features producing pottery appear to date to the early Roman (post-conquest) period indicating that the earliest-dated pottery is residual or dates to the immediate conquest period. In this respect it can be noted that during the 1970 excavations at Sheepen Late Iron Age contexts (Sheepen Period 1) were relatively few in number and much of the Late Iron Age pottery was recovered as residual material in later (early Roman) features (Niblett 1985, 48).

While some of the pottery can be dated to the pre-conquest period, or at latest the immediate conquest period, notably imported Italian-style Arretine pottery and grog-tempered fabrics of Late Iron Age type (Fabric SOB GT); overall the coarsewares are more heavily biased toward

sandy, wheel-thrown Roman fabrics (Fabric GX) rather than the grog-tempered fabrics of Late Iron Age type. This indicates that the majority of the assemblage is of post-conquest date. Most of the Roman period pottery does not date later than the mid-late 1st century, c AD 70-80 and the small quantity of decorated samian sherds consist mostly of form Dr 29 with only one example of Dr 37. A very few later dated sherds (2nd-3rd/4th century) are mostly small and appear probably to be intrusive single sherds into features with significant quantities of earlier pottery.

Ceramic building material (CBM)

Introduction

In total 739 pieces of CBM (total weight 83679g) were recovered and quantified. Apart from three pieces (102 g) all of this can be identified as Roman. The CBM consists primarily of pieces of broken Roman roof tiles, or flat pieces which are likely to derive from roof tiles, together with some thicker Roman brick pieces and a small number of cube pieces which appear to be *tessera*. The CBM was recovered from feature fills, a metalled surface (L5), a layer with dumped debris (L6) and an accumulation layer (L2). The CBM is most likely to represent demolition material, either relating to building(s) on the site or possibly brought in to use in surfacing. The quantities of CBM are shown by context in Table 5.

The assemblage is unusual in that a significant proportion of the tile, approximately 41% by count and 43% by weight, is cream (cream/buff) coloured rather than the much more common red (orange/red). The quantities of red and cream CBM are listed by feature in Table 6.

Context	no	Wt/g
F1	52	7070
F2	53	4562
F3	38	4265
F5	4	82
F6	2	242
F9	86	9670
F10	7	340
F11	1	7
F12	2	585
L2	363	25124
L5	103	22344
L6	22	7617
US	6	1771
<i>Total</i>	<i>739</i>	<i>83679</i>

Table 5: Quantity of CBM by context

The lower cut-aways (LCA) on *tegula* tiles were recorded, together with the base thickness of the tile (where measurable). These are listed by context in Table 7.

The LCA types were recorded as it is indicated (within a proposed dating scheme) that certain types are more typical of the early and the later Roman periods (Warry 2006). Although the dating scheme is contradicted by some tile finds from closely-dated early contexts (CAR 3, Appendix 5, 299-300 & fig 203), roof tiles from early contexts (dated as pre-Flavian) at two recent sites in Colchester – the former St Mary's Hospital and Williams & Griffins department store (not yet published) – indicate that tiles where the LCA does not penetrate the top of the flange (Warry Types A & B) predominate in these early groups. The base thickness was recorded as it has been proposed that after the mid 2nd century *tegula* tiles (at Colchester) were on average thinner than the earlier ones, commonly having a base thickness of 18 mm or less (Black 1998). The combination here of LCA types and recorded base thickness in terms of the two proposed dating schemes appears contradictory, with relatively thick tiles paired with later dated LCA types. This may possibly be a product of the small size of the group, although the unusual number of cream-coloured tiles might also have a bearing. However, apart from F1, where the only two LCA pieces are of types of possible early date, the other contexts,

predominantly layers, surfaces or dumped material, contain LCW types (Warry Types C & D) that are possibly more typical of the mid-late Roman period.

Context	Red fabric		Cream fabric	
	no	Wt/g	no	Wt/g
F1	34	5102	17	1954
F2	10	1105	35	2626
F3	37	4057	1	208
F5	2	47		
F6	2	242		
F9	65	8283	21	1387
F10			7	340
F12	1	540	1	45
L2	245	17475	114	7323
L5	9	1877	94	20467
L6	21	7448	1	169
US	3	983	3	788
	429	47159	294	35307

Table 6: Colour Roman of CBM by context (based on 98% of the total assemblage)

Most of the tile is quite broken-up, but there is one near complete *imbrex* in a red fabric which has a surviving length of 375 mm to the broken end and weighs 1768 g.

Five small tile cubes, one each from F1, F2 & L2 and two from L6, appear to be *tesserae*, although no mortar survives on them from a mortared-floor setting. All are in red fabric.

context	find no	colour	base mm	<i>tegula</i> LCA type
F1	52	R	22	A26
F1	52	R	24	A
F3	34	R		C/D (part only)
L2	3	C	25	D1
L2	1	R	18	C5? (part only)
L2	1	R	17	A28
L5	50	C	25	D1
L5	50	C	20	D1
L5	30	C	17	C5? (part only)
L5	30	C	28	C5
L5	30	C	20	C5
L5	30	C	24	C5
L6	63	C	20	C5
L6	63	R	20	C4

Table 7: Roman *tegula* tile lower cut-aways (LCA)
R=red, C=cream, (LCA types follow Warry 2006)

Discussion

The Roman CBM consists mostly of pieces from roof tiles with some brick and a few small cubes which appear to represent *tesserae* but which do not have any signs of having been mortared into a floor.

The number of cream coloured tile pieces among the assemblage (at just over 40% by count and weight) is unusual. These are predominantly from roof tiles and suggest an unusual concentration, probably relating to a building(s) on or close to the site. There is no indication of another source for this material, such as a tile kiln close by as there are no obvious waster pieces. Demolition material could have been brought onto the site from elsewhere, but the unusual nature of the assemblage appears to argue against this as tile/CBM noted from sites elsewhere is generally heavily dominated by red coloured pieces. All of the tile appears to be of local manufacture and there is no indication of any regional imports such as Eccles cream coloured tiles.

Close dating of the Roman CBM is difficult. Apart from tile from F1 which could date to the early Roman period, the larger quantities associated with the layers have lower cut-away (LCA) types which have a degree of homogeneity, consisting almost entirely of types which cut through the top of the tile flange. These suggest a possible mid-late Roman date, although the overall *tegula* base thickness recorded could indicate a date prior to the later 2nd century. Overall the majority of the Roman CBM appears probably to date later than the bulk of the pottery recovered.

Three small pieces of CBM appear to be, or are possibly of post-Roman date. These were recovered from F1, F3 & L2. If such it is presumed that they are probably intrusive to these contexts.

Glass

Pieces of Roman glass were recovered from four contexts. Apart from one piece of yellow (yellowish-brown), all of the glass is blue-green. Blue-green glass is most typical of the 1st -3rd century, while strongly coloured glass is most typical of the pre-Flavian period. Single pieces of blue-green glass from the body of vessels were recovered from F1, F2 & F12. The majority of the glass (nine pieces, including the sherd of yellow glass) come from L2.

Three vessels or vessel types could be identified from sherds, all are from L2. Dating of the glass vessels follows *CAR* 8. A pillar-moulded bowl is probably of 1st century date, These vessels are most common in the pre-Flavian period at Colchester, declining in the late 1st century and fading from assemblages (other than as residual or old pieces) in the early 2nd century. Another sherd is probably from an unguent bottle and can be dated to the 1st-2nd century, although a 1st century date is most likely. The third vessel is represented by part of a base from a bottle which has concentric circle footrings and which can be broadly dated to the period of the mid 1st-2nd/3rd century.

There is also a small piece of window glass (blue-green in colour) from L2, which is flat and retains the rounded edge to the sheet/pane.

Miscellaneous finds

Chalk tessera

A single, oblong *tessera* (25 x 12 x 10 mm) in hard, white chalk was recovered from L2. A large number of similar shaped chalk *tesserae* have been excavated from robbing contexts around the Roman temple building at Gosbecks (Colchester). They were first recorded by Hull (1950, 263) and later excavation recovered large quantities in association with similar numbers of corresponding dark stone *tesserae*, so that these two colours were presumably were laid together in geometric pattern. It is possible that this piece is associated with a floor in the (large) Sheepen Roman temple here.

Mortar

A single piece of pebbly, white lime mortar came from F4. Of itself this is of little significance, but highlights the paucity of mortar from the site. This may be connected to the interpretation of the Roman CBM, that much of the assemblage consists of roof tile, possibly relating to a

building(s) on the site. It could equally suggest that cleaned demolition material was brought to the site from elsewhere.

Slag

Pieces of slag were recovered from two contexts, F6 & L2. The finds from F6 (total 363g) consists of eight pieces, six of which are lumps of slaggy, ferrous material, but there are also two pieces which are probably from the internal surface of an oven or kiln. One of these two pieces has a slag material adhering to a fired clay (presumably the wall of a flue or combustion chamber) and the other is a green & dark-olive mottled, glassy slag which is possibly from the interior of a flue or combustion chamber. The finds from L2 (total 100 g) include a piece of grey, vesicular, medium slag and three pieces of glassy slag possibly from an oven or kiln.

Iron nails

Single nails or a few nails or nail pieces were recovered from seven contexts, F1, F2, F8, F9, F12, L2 & L5. Most of these are pieces from nail shafts. Corroded nails of between 55/60-80mm. The contexts suggest that the nails are Roman and the more diagnostic pieces (flat round heads with shafts up to 85mm long) suggests that most, if not all belong to Manning Type 1B (nails with a flat, sub-rectangular/round head and below 150 mm in length) (Manning 1985).

Fired clay, stone & oyster shell

Four pieces (37g) of fired clay were recovered from F9. This material consists of a grey, hardened or fired clay with some burnt organic material visible on surfaces. Small piece of septaria - first extracted and commonly used as a building stone in the Roman period at Colchester with later (post-Roman) reuse of robbed pieces - were recovered from F3 & L2. There is a single example of an oyster shell among the finds, which came from L2.

5.2 The Small Finds

By Pip Parmenter and Nina Crummy

Introduction

The small finds from St Helena largely comprised low-denomination copper-alloy coins, twenty-six of which were recovered from a single pit in the centre of the site and seem to form part of a hoard of some kind. Eleven further coins were recovered from across the site, though not all of these were in securely-dated Roman contexts. Other metal small finds include a Rearhook brooch and a number of very heavily-corroded iron objects, most of which were unidentifiable, but which included a needle and a joiners dog/staple. The iron objects could not be closely dated.

Coins

The majority of the small finds from the site comprised an apparent hoard of twenty-six low denomination copper-alloy coins dating from the Late Iron Age to c AD 79. Five were recovered during excavation of an evaluation trench that cut the edge of large shallow pit F1. Twenty-one further coins were recovered from across the rest of this feature during the full excavation of the site.

Of the twenty-six coins recovered from pit F1, nine *asses* and one *dupondius* were illegible due to surface wear and corrosion, and one fragment of coin was so degraded that it was unidentifiable to type but all date to the late 1st or early 2nd century AD and are most likely to be Claudian-Vespasianic. An unidentifiable Late Iron Age coin in the group may be residual but could have been deposited contemporaneously with the rest of the coins as issues of this date are sometimes found inside the town (CAR 4, 15-16). The remaining coins comprised an *as* of Agrippa minted under Caligula (c AD 37-41), four copies of Claudius I *asses* (c. AD 43-54), a *dupondius* of Antonia minted under Claudius I (c. AD 41-54), an *as* or a *dupondius* of Nero (c AD 64-68) and five Vespasianic *asses* (AD 69-79).

SF9 (24) F1. Late Iron Age coin. Marked with stylised horse moving right, but with head facing to the left. A pellet and ring decoration around circumference. Diameter 14mm; weight 1.46g.

[EVAL] SF 1 (10) F1. Illegible *as*, the surfaces largely missing. The profile of a left-facing Julio-Claudian head is visible on the obverse. Diameter 26mm, weight 5.4g.

[EVAL] SF 5 (14) F1. Agrippa, *as*. Obverse: -/A L F COS III, left-facing head with rostral crown. Reverse: Neptune standing left, draped, holding vertical trident and dolphin extended on right hand, S C in field. *RIC* (Caligula) 58. Diameter 26mm, weight 6.63g.

[EVAL] SF 2 (11) F1. Claudius I *as*, copy, incomplete and surfaces damaged. Obverse: illegible. Reverse: Minerva advancing right, brandishing spear and holding shield. *RIC* 100. Diameter 25mm; weight 3.96g.

[EVAL] SF 4 (13) F1. Claudius I *as*, copy, incomplete and surfaces damaged. A marked axial indentation on one face appears only as a slight ridge on the other. Lacking surface cracking on the ridged face, this mark is most likely to have been caused by pressure from hard edge such as a tool, booted foot or hoof. Obverse: illegible. Reverse: Minerva advancing right, brandishing a spear and holding a shield. *RIC* 100. diameter 23mm; weight 3.73g.

SF4 (10) F1. Claudius I *as*, copy, incomplete with some damage to surfaces. Obverse: right-facing head. Reverse: Minerva advancing right brandishing spear, S C in field. *RIC* 100. Diameter 25mm; 3.94g.

SF12 (27) F1. Claudius I *as*, copy, incomplete with some damage to surfaces. Obverse: right-facing head. Reverse: ?Minerva brandishing spear (?*RIC* 100). Diameter 27mm; weight 6.89g.

SF16 (32) F1. Vespasian *as*, incomplete with some damage to surfaces. Obverse: right-facing head, laureate. Reverse: illegible ?temple. Diameter 25mm; weight 7.9g.

[EVAL] SF 3 (12) F1. Antonia *dupondius*, incomplete and surfaces damaged. Obverse: illegible. Reverse: -/AR AVG P M TR P IMP, Claudius togate, standing left, S C in field. *RIC* (Claudius) 92. Diameter 29.5mm; weight 6.89g.

SF32 (46) F1. Nero *dupondius*, some damage to surface. Obverse: -/CLAUD CAE/-/PM TR P, right-facing head. Reverse: -/PACE PR TERRA MARIQ, Temple of Janus with latticed window on left and door on right. *RIC* 286. Diameter 29mm; weight 8.71g.

SF33 (49) F1. Nero *as*, incomplete with some damage to surface. Obverse: -/NERO CAESER AVG P MAX, right-facing head. Reverse: Victory flying left, holding shield inscribed SPQR. S C in field. Minted in Lyon. *RIC* 543. Diameter 27mm; weight 8.24g.

SF6 (12) F1. Nero, *as* incomplete with some damage to surfaces. Obverse: -/O CAES/-, left-facing head. Reverse: largely illegible, S C in field. Diameter 27mm, weight 8.9g.

SF14 (29) F1. Nero *as* – AD64 – 68. Obverse: Largely illegible. Right-facing head. Reverse: -/PONTIF MAX/- Nero as Apollo Citharoedus, advancing right, singing and playing lyre. S C in field. Diameter 26mm; weight 7.41g.

SF2 (8) F1. Vespasian *as*, incomplete with some damage to surfaces. Obverse: Inscription missing, right-facing head. Reverse: altar, S C in field (as *RIC* 315). Diameter 24mm; weight 4.32g.

SF13 (28) F1. Vespasian *as*, incomplete with some damage to surfaces. Obverse: -/VESPAS/- right-facing head. Reverse: illegible, altar, S C in field. Diameter 27mm; weight 7.92g.

SF8 (23) F1. Vespasian *as*, incomplete with some damage to surfaces. Obverse: -/VE/-/N AVG COS/-, right-facing head. Reverse: altar with thick pillars and central door, S C in field. ?*RIC* 315. Diameter 27mm; weight 6.27g.

SF7 (13) F1. Vespasian *as*, incomplete with some damage to surfaces. Obverse: right-facing head. Reverse: eagle standing on globe, S C in field. Diameter 27mm; weight 6.36g.

SF 1 (7) F1. Illegible ?*dupondius* with surfaces largely missing. Obverse: Illegible. Reverse: ?standing figure, S C in field. Diameter 30mm; weight 9.73g

SF31 (41b) F1. Illegible *as*, incomplete with some damage to surfaces. Obverse: right-facing head. Reverse: standing figure, facing forward, holding spear in left hand, S C in field. Diameter 26mm; weight 6.99g.

SF3 (9) F1. Illegible *as*, incomplete with surfaces largely missing. Obverse: left-facing head. Reverse: illegible. Diameter 22mm; 5.44g.

SF5 (11) F1. Illegible *as*, incomplete with significant damage to surfaces. Diameter 27mm; weight 6.51g.

SF10 (25) F1. Illegible *as*, incomplete with significant damage to surfaces. Diameter 25mm; weight 6.54g.

SF11 (26) F1. Illegible *as*, incomplete with significant damage to surfaces. Diameter 28mm; weight 7.61g.

SF15 (31) F1. Illegible *as*, incomplete with significant damage to surfaces. Diameter 29mm; weight 7.49g

SF17 (33) F1. Illegible *as*, incomplete with significant damage to surfaces. Reverse: ?standing figure. Diameter 22mm; weight 4.95g.

SF 30 (41a) F1. Fragment of highly corroded, entirely illegible coin. Diameter ?; weight 0.54g.

Four further copper-alloy coins were present in Roman contexts on the site. An illegible *as* was recovered from pit F9, a feature which is thought to have predated the construction of the gravel temple precinct surface. Two Claudius I *asses* were recovered from pit F10, which also contained roof tile. These two coins were identical to the Claudian copies found in pit F1. Pit F12 contained a Vespasianic *as*, which was recovered during the processing of an environmental sample from the pit.

SF 39 (48) F10. Claudius I *as*, incomplete with significant damage to obverse surface. Obverse: illegible ?left-facing head. Reverse: Minerva advancing right, holding shield in right-arm, S C in field. *RIC* 100. Diameter 21mm; weight 3.41g.

SF 40 (47) F10. Claudius I *as*, incomplete with significant damage to obverse surface. Obverse: illegible ?left-facing head. Reverse: Minerva advancing right, brandishing sword and holding shield in right-arm, S C in field. *RIC* 100. Diameter 27mm; weight 7.65g.

SF 48 (-) F12 ?Vespasian *as*, highly corroded. Obverse: -/VG T PR/-, right-facing head, laureate. Reverse: ?Altar S C in field. Diameter 26mm; weight 8,75g.

SF 41 (64) F9. Illegible *as*, incomplete with damage to surface. Diameter 27mm; weight 6g.

A further seven coins were found whilst metal-detecting within the site. They are attributed to layer 2, which was sandwiched between the topsoil and temple precinct surface. These coins comprised one entirely illegible 1st-early 2nd century *as*, three largely illegible, but likely Claudian *asses*, a Neronian *as*, a Vespasianic *as* and a much later silver-washed Philip II *antoninianus*.

SF 21 (17) L2. Illegible ?Claudian *as*, incomplete and damage to surface. Obverse: left-facing head. Reverse: Standing figure ?Minerva brandishing spear, sword on right arm. S C in field. ?*RIC* 100. Diameter 26mm; weight 7.52g.

SF 34 (59) L2. Illegible ?Claudian *as*, incomplete and damage to surface. Obverse: largely missing ?left-facing head. Reverse: ?standing figure ?Minerva brandishing spear, sword on right arm. S C in field. ?*RIC* 100. Diameter 24mm; weight 6.63g.

SF 35 (60) L2. Illegible ?Claudian *as*, incomplete and damage to surface. Obverse: Illegible. Reverse: standing figure ?Minerva brandishing spear, sword on right arm. S C in field. ?*RIC* 100. Diameter 30mm; weight 8.23g.

SF 19 (6) L2. Nero *as*, incomplete, some surface damage. Obverse: right-facing head. Reverse: Victory flying left, S C in field (as *RIC* 314). Diameter 28mm; weight 8.67g.

SF 18 (5) L2. Vespasian *as*, incomplete, some surface damage. Obverse: -/AES VESPASIAN AVG/-, right-facing head, laureate. Reverse: -/AEQVITAS, Aequitas standing left holding scale and rod, S C in field. *RIC* 287. Diameter 27mm; weight 7.75g.

SF 36 (62) L2. Illegible *as* (1st-early 2nd century), incomplete with significant damage to surfaces. Obverse: ?right-facing head. Reverse: illegible. Diameter 27mm; weight 9.14g.

SF 20 (14) L2. Philip II *antoninianus*, silver-washed copper-alloy. Obverse: -/IVL PHILIPPVS CAES right-facing head, laureate, draped. Reverse: PRINCIPI IV VENT, Philip standing holding globe and sceptre in right hand. *RIC* 218d. Diameter 22mm; weight 2.34g.

Other Roman small finds

A brooch, buckle tongue, staple or joiner's dog, an iron needle and an amorphous mass of corroded iron were also associated with securely-dated Roman contexts. The brooch is made of copper alloy and is of Rearhook type, with a rearward-facing hook holding the spring-chord in place behind the head. The type has a wide distribution centred on the Iceni and most, if not all, were probably made in that area. Brooches of this nature were introduced in c. AD 40 and remained in production until c AD 60/65 (Davies 2014, 30). A very similar brooch was found during Hawkes and Hull's excavations near the site in the 1930s (Hawkes and Hull 1947, Plate XCI No. 43). The buckle tongue was also copper alloy. It was slightly bent about halfway along the shaft, but was otherwise intact.

Figure 7.1: SF 29 (21) F2. Rearhook-type bow brooch. Both front piece and spring mechanism recovered. Front piece has rope decoration running down its spine, bordered by a channel either side running the length of the

length of the bow. Some evidence for a fixing on the right hand side of the reverse of the T-bar, possibly to secure sprung pin. Perforated catch plate. Likely date - AD 40-60/65. Length 59mm; width 27mm.

SF 38 (45) F9. Bent copper-alloy buckle tongue bent halfway along the shaft. Length 38mm; width 2mm; thickness 1.4mm.

Several fragments of Iron were too corroded to be precisely identified.

SF 42 (30) L5 Fragment of needle, missing eye and point.

SF 44 (30) L5 Amorphous mass of highly-corroded iron.

SF 45 (52) F1 Highly-corroded staple or joiners dog.

Eleven further finds were recovered whilst metal detecting the site. All were recovered from L2, which overlay the temple precinct surface and underlay the modern topsoil. The range of dates of these small finds (and those discussed above from the same context) is from Roman to post-medieval and implies the accumulation and disturbance of this layer over a long period of time. Only one is of certain Roman date, a fragment of a copper-alloy needle (SF23), bent in the middle and broken just below the eye. An iron drill bit (SF22), which was recovered from almost directly on top of the gravel surface of the temple precinct. It had an arrow-shaped head and its shaft, though broken, was c 100mm long. It is perhaps too well-preserved and heavy to be Roman, although its context suggests that it is contemporary with the gravel surface of the temple precinct.

SF 22 (19) L2 Highly corroded iron drill bit with thin arrow shaped head and thin shaft.

Figure 7.2: SF 23 (18) L2 Copper-alloy needle fragment. Bent half way along extant shaft, and fragmented below the eye.

A complete iron finger ring was found but is not closely datable. Part of an early post-medieval buckle, shaped much like a Tudor Rose, was recovered from the soil ramp into the trench.

SF 25 (15) L2 Complete iron ?finger ring.

SF 28 (28) L2 Copper-alloy buckle of Tudor-Rose style. Missing hinge bar and pin. Early post-medieval.

Six further objects were recovered from this layer. All were unidentifiable.

SF 24 (17) L2 Copper-alloy shank fragment. Broken at both ends. Length 133mm; width 2mm; thickness 2mm.

SF 26 (36) L2 Small copper-alloy bar, ?complete. Length 41mm; width 9.5mm; thickness 2.2mm.

SF 27 (16) L2 Very small, thin fragment of copper alloy sheet. Length 25mm; width 7mm; thickness <0.1mm.

SF 37 (61) L2 Amorphous mass of corroded iron. No visible features apparent under x-ray. Length 33mm; width 22mm; thickness 5mm.

SF 43 (1) L2 Amorphous mass of corroded iron. No visible features apparent under x-ray. Length 63mm; width 37mm; thickness 10mm.

SF 46 (38) L2 Amorphous mass of corroded iron. No visible features apparent under x-ray. Length 37mm; width 21mm; thickness 16mm.

SF 47 (4) L2 CBM fragment with some indication of wear. Length 91mm; width 41mm; thickness 18mm.

Discussion

The small finds from excavations at St Helena School suggest a post-Boudican date for the archaeological activity revealed, but there is a high number of pre-Boudican items present. The datable finds include thirty-seven coins, twenty-six of which were recovered from a single pit context (F1), though not in particularly close proximity to one another. The only other closely dateable find was a Rearhook brooch recovered from pit F2.

The hoard cannot be precisely dated, though the presence of Vespasianic coins that are considerably less worn than the earlier issues and the absence of any later Flavian items suggests it was deposited during his reign (AD 69-79). As Nero minted no base-metal coins before AD 64, Claudian issues remained the principal low denomination coinage in circulation until that date (CAR 4, 75, Hoard 24; Kenyon 1992, 306-7). The Agrippan *as* would also have

been in circulation in the Claudian and early Neronian periods; one (along with five Claudian coins) is part of a hoard from Culver Street dating to c AD 60/61. Kenyon had suggested that Colchester might have been a centre for the military production of Claudian copies after the invasion of AD 43. However it is now thought that this was not the case, and that Claudian coins found in Colchester are from Iberian mints which were opened specifically to supply the north-west provinces and that any debased locally-struck coins are copies of these Iberian products (Besomes and Barrandon 2000). The St Helena Claudian coins are very worn but appear to be local copies. The Rearhook brooch found in pit F2 is dateable to c AD 40-65, broadly in line with the overall date range of the of the coins from the site.

5.3 Animal Bone

By Pip Parmenter

Introduction

174 fragments of animal bone, including teeth, were hand-recovered from 8 archaeological features and 6 layers at St Helena School, Sheepen Road. Most of the bone is of moderate preservation, with some being heavily fragmented and eroded. The moderate preservation of the assemblage has allowed for the identification of bone processing (butchery and fragmentation) in many instances.

Method

Bones were identified and recorded to species and element when possible. The category sheep/goat has been used due to the difficulties in clearly identifying the species sheep (*Ovis* sp.) or goat (*Capra* sp.). Fragments that could not be identified to a particular species were recorded under the categories of 'large sized', consisting of cattle, large deer, and horse (*Equus* sp.), 'medium sized fragments' and 'small sized' consisting of sheep/goat, pig and dog (*Canis familiaris*) bone fragments. It is likely that the majority of 'large-sized' fragments are those of cattle. Fusion evidence was recorded where it was visible. The unidentifiable bone fragments were recorded. Evidence of bone processing including butchery, fracture, burning, and gnawing was recorded where visible, as was any bone pathology.

Results

Species	NISP
Cattle	64
Sheep/goat	18
Pig	7
Roe Deer	1
Domestic Fowl	1
Large sized	22
Small sized	7
Unidentifiable	54
Total	174

Table 8: Number of identified specimens/fragments (NISP) for each phase

Pit F1:

Nine fragments of bone were recovered from pit F1. Of these, seven were identifiable as belonging to cattle and two were indeterminate. The elements present in this feature consisted of exclusively head and feet elements and included a metacarpal, metatarsal, one fragment of crania and 3 cattle molars. One of these molars was extremely well worn, indicating that the animal to which it belonged was very old. No butchery was evident on any of the elements from this feature, though the metacarpal had been freshly fractured – likely for the extraction of bone marrow.

Pit F2:

Twenty-two fragments of bone were recovered from pit F2. Twelve were identified as being cattle, and three further as belonging to a large sized mammal (likely cattle). Four bones belonged to sheep/goat, one pig, one was small sized mammal and one was indeterminate.

There was a much broader spread of elements throughout this feature than feature one, with every body part being represented. Butchery marks were observed on six of the thirteen cattle/large sized elements upon which they would be expected to be visible. These were all chop marks rather than cut marks, and possibly indicate the portioning of meat at the site. Two of the cattle bones also displayed helical fractures indicative of bone marrow extraction. Two of the sheep bones and two of the cattle/large sized mammal bone were observed to belong to very young animals.

Pit F6:

Ten bones were recovered from pit F3; 7 cattle/large sized mammal, two sheep/goat and one pig. Of the seven cattle/large-sized fragments, four had evidenced for bone processing. An astragalus had been chopped and a rib had been both chopped and cut. The sheep/goat humerus was unfused, so must have belonged to an animal who was younger than 10-16months.

Pit F7

Just two fragments of large-sized mammal bone were present in pit F7. Neither of these could be identified to element.

Pit F8

A single sheep/goat radius was present in this feature. It displayed no evidence of bone processing.

Pit F9

Thirteen cattle bones, two sheep/goat bones and three indeterminate fragments were excavated from pit F9. Most body parts were represented by the cattle bone. Two cattle molars were present – one (an M2) was *in situ* with in a mandible, and was only just erupting aging the animal to 12-18months, the other was loose and extremely well worn and likely belonged to an old adult animal (Grant 1975). A cattle scapula displayed a chopmark. All of the indeterminate fragments from this feature had been burnt.

Pit F10

Pit F10 contained a single sheep/goat pelvis. Unfortunately the fragment did not include the acetabulum, so could not be sexed. No bone processing was visible on this fragment.

Pit F11

Pit F11 contained a sheep/goat humerus. This had no visible bone processing.

Pit F12

Nineteen bone fragments were recovered from pit F12; 12 cattle/large sized mammal fragments, two sheep/goat fragments, two pig fragments and three indeterminate small mammal fragments. Of the twelve cattle/large sized mammal fragments, three had been chopped and one (a vertebra), was unfused. One sheep/goat scapula displayed butchery evidence in the form of a chop mark. The small sized mammal fragments had all been burnt.

Accumulation Layer 2

Post-Roman accumulation layer 2 sealed the compacted Roman gravel surface of the temple precinct. It contained 21 bones identifiable as cattle, 5 sheep/goat and single pig mandible, roe deer humerus and domestic fowl ulna. As well as these identifiable specimens, it contained 10 indeterminate large mammal bones (likely cattle), 2 indeterminate small mammal bones, and 37 fragments of bone unidentifiable to species or element. The cattle bones present in this layer primarily come from the head and forequarters, with one metatarsal being the only hind limb element present.

Discussion

The animal bone recovered during excavations at St Helena School is unremarkable with the three primary domesticates (cattle, pig and sheep/goat) making up the vast majority of the assemblage with the exception of two elements – one of domestic fowl and one of roe deer. Butchery marks in the form of chop and cut marks were not uncommon and are indicative of

general processing of the carcasses rather than any unusual activity. Pits F1 and F9 contained only cattle bone, which is perhaps, though not necessarily significant. Cattle were by far the most prevalent species on site. However this is the pattern across Colchester more broadly and cannot be said to be specific of temple sites.

5.4 The Environmental Samples

By Val Fryer

Introduction and method statement

Various contexts were recorded by excavation. These were associated with the use and demolition of features within the precinct of Colchester Temple II. A sample for the retrieval of the plant macrofossil assemblage was taken from the charcoal rich fill of pit F12.

The sample was processed by manual water flotation/washover and the flot was collected in a 300micron mesh sieve. The dried flot was scanned under a binocular microscope at magnifications up to x 16 and the plant macrofossils and other remains noted are listed below in Table 9. All plant remains were charred. Modern fibrous and woody roots were also recorded.

The non-floating residue was collected in a 1mm mesh sieve and will be sorted when dry. Any artefacts/ecofacts will be retained for further specialist analysis.

Results

Although charcoal/charred wood fragments are common within the recovered assemblage, other plant macrofossils are absent. However, other remains include fragments of black porous and tarry material (possibly derived from the high temperature combustion of organic materials including wood), small pieces of burnt bone (including a small mammal bone) and a single piece of a burnt organic concretion with multiple sub-oval and elongated voids within its matrix.

Charcoal <2mm	xxxx	Key: x = 1 – 10 specimens xx = 11 – 50 specimens xxxx = 100+ specimens b = burnt
Charcoal >2mm	xx	
Charcoal >5mm	xx	
Charcoal >10mm	x	
Black porous and tarry residues	x	
Bone	x xb	
Burnt organic concretion	x	
Small coal frags. (modern)	x	
Small mammal bones	x xb	
Sample volume (litres)	10	
Volume of flot (litres)	<0.1	
% flot sorted	100%	

Table 9: Charred plant macrofossils and other remains from pit F12 (sample 1, finds no. 58)

Conclusions and recommendations for further work

In summary, the exact nature of the material within this assemblage is difficult to ascertain, but it would appear most likely that the remains are derived from a small deposit of burnt refuse or hearth waste. It is currently unclear whether this material was associated in any way with the temple or the rituals which took place within the precinct.

As the assemblage does not contain a sufficient density of material for quantification, no further analysis is recommended. However, a summary of this assessment should be included within any publication of data from the site.

6 Discussion (Figs 3 - 7)

As predicted, excavation at St Helena School yielded significant results. The excavation was in the precinct of Colchester's Romano-British Temple 2, dedicated to Jupiter (Crummy 1980, 252). It was the largest of at least four temples making up a temple complex at Sheepen. Excavations revealed part of the temenos wall, gravelled surface of the temple precinct, a possible altar or shrine and eleven other features.

Two features, pits F6 and F9, seemed to definitively pre-date the gravel surface of the temple precinct. These both had had a layer of gravel within their fills suggesting that the precinct surface had slumped into them. Pit F9 was located in the northern part of the site. A single, illegible coin and a copper-alloy buckle tongue were present in this feature, neither of which can be securely dated. Pottery from this feature has a date range of Late Iron Age to late 1st/early-2nd century. This range is typical of the pottery encountered at this site. Pit F6 contained a substantial amount of pottery, most of which fell within a date range of Late Iron Age/mid-1st century. Included in the assemblage from pit F6 were fragments of Arretine pottery, which was imported into Britain the early part of the 1st century AD, and may date from as early as c 20 BC, though is generally thought to range from the early to mid 1st century. It does not tend to be present, except residually, in contexts dating to after the immediate conquest period. Pits F5 and F7 were closely associated with F6, and may have been related, although they contain no evidence of the slumped gravel layer. Pit F5 contained a small amount of non-specific Roman pottery. Pit F10 was also possibly of an earlier date than the gravel surface – it was cut by large central pit F10 and contained pottery of much the same date range as pit F6. It is likely that the activity related to pits F6 and F9 at most ceased with the Boudiccan revolt c AD 61, though it may have been earlier than this.

The gravel surface of the temple precinct has been encountered on most excavations located within the temenos of Temple 2 (Hawkes & Hull 1947; Hull 1958; CAT 716). It was found in patches during this excavation, but was more concentrated in the eastern part of the site and extended for the entirety of the eastern site border. Further west into the site, it was represented by increasingly intermittent patches. It appears that most of the activity on the site post-dated the gravel layer as it was only present in the fill of the two features described above. Three features (F2, F3 and F12) and two layers (L4 and L5) clearly post-dated the gravel surface. Pits F2 and F3 were located near the eastern boundary of the site. They clearly cut the gravel surface. Pit F2 contained Roman glass and an Iceni rearhook brooch that dates to no later than c AD 65. It also contained pottery of a similar date. Pit F3 contained no finds. It is possible that the finds present in pit F2 were residual, though if we consider Hull's dating of the gravel layer this need not necessarily be the case (Hull 1958, 230). It is possible that the gravel layer had fallen into disuse by the late middle 1st century AD, or that the site was subject to a phase of clearing at around this time, possibly following its temporary abandonment as a result of the Boudiccan revolt (though this was a decade earlier) and prior to subsequent phases of construction or reconstruction. This notion is supported by the presence of roof tile in the tops of almost all of the features on the site.

Also on the eastern border of the site was L4, a natural layer that directly overlay the gravel layer. Pit F12 was located in the central part of the site. It contained a single Vespasian *as* and Nero-Flavian pottery. It cut the gravel surface and was sealed by a dump of CBM, almost exclusively roof tile.

Possibly contemporary with the gravel surface was a short stretch of wall foundation (F4), located in the far western part of the site. This wall foundation was part of the wall of the temenos or temple precinct, which enclosed the 'sacred' area within which the temple and its associated structures were situated. Like the gravel surface, the wall of the temenos has been encountered in numerous prior investigations. Hull postulates that this enclosing wall may have been erected under Domitian (AD 81-96), contemporaneously with a 'new temple' and altar (Hull 1958, 230), presumably following some kind of clearing or demolition of previous structures. However, the materials used in the construction of the temenos wall are not indicative of this later date of construction. Whereas Temple 2 is constructed of septaria and fine pink mortar (*ibid*, 227), the temenos wall has consistently been observed to be constructed of water-washed pebbles and mortar, which is commonly associated with military buildings

(Crummy pers. comm.) and might suggest an early date, possibly contemporary with the gravel layer at the site. It seems unlikely that a gravel layer would have been constructed without its boundaries being demarcated by some kind of enclosure.

The largest feature on the site, pit F1, was located in the centre of the site. It contained a large amount of fairly disparate pottery forms dating largely to the mid-1st to early-2nd centuries AD, but with some Late Iron Age and early-1st century forms present also. Twenty-six low denomination mid-late 1st century coins were found distributed throughout this feature. These largely corroborate the date range suggested by the pottery, and give an earliest date of c AD 70-71 for the feature. The dispersal of the coin within the fill of the pit was not what one might expect to result from the deposition of a closely associated hoard of coins. Rather than being closely bundled, as they might have been if contained within a purse or other container, they were spread throughout the feature and were at various depths within the single fill of the pit. A number of later coins were found in the lower parts of the pit as well as in the higher parts, which does not imply that they were the result of a gradual accumulation. It is perhaps more likely that they were retrieved from a context of secondary deposition. It is possible that the coins represent a hoard that became disturbed for some reason. This both supports and is supported by the earlier hypothesis that there may have been a temporary period of abandonment or diminished activity on the site, possibly following the Boudiccan revolt, before the clearing of the site in the early 70s AD and the construction of a 'new' temple (Temple 2) during the late Flavian period (possibly under Domitian).

Two features that possibly represent this later activity are wall foundation F11 and rooftile dump L6. They were located in the northern part of the site and cut/overlie the gravel precinct surface. Wall foundation F11 appears to represent a small three-sided structure, roughly 2.5m by 2m. It was largely constructed of septaria. It seems likely that this represented some kind of altar within the temple precinct. It was constructed of septaria – the same material as Temple 2 (Hull 1958, 227), and clearly post-dates the gravel surface of the temple precinct. Altars to Jupiter have been encountered previously, particularly at the fort of Maryport in Cumbria, where they stood within the temple precinct (Allason-Jones 2011, 273). It is not certain that the rooftile was related with the altar as rooftile is abundant across the site, though their proximity does suggest an association.

The layer (L2) that sealed all the pits and gravel surface has finds dating from the Late Bronze Age to the post-medieval period. This, combined with the widespread presence of rooftile across the site and the fact that much of the gravel layer appears to be absent from the site might suggest that subsequent activity at the site (eg cultivation) has caused a good deal of disturbance to the archaeological remains, and may have removed or dispersed evidence of activity from periods subsequent to the 'new' temple as proposed by Hull (1958).

7 Acknowledgements

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The project was monitored by Chris Lister for Colchester Borough Council Planning Department, and by Sarah Poppy for English Heritage.

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9 Abbreviations and glossary

Anglo-Saxon	period from c AD 410 to Norman conquest of AD 1066
BA	Bronze Age
CAT	Colchester Archaeological Trust
CBCAO	Colchester Borough Council Archaeological Officer
CBCPD	Colchester Borough Council Planning Department
CIfA	Chartered Institute for Archaeologists
context	specific location of finds on an archaeological site
feature (F)	an identifiable thing like a pit, a wall, a drain: can contain 'contexts'
IA	Iron Age
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

NGR	National Grid Reference
post-medieval	from Henry VIII to c AD1800
prehistoric	pre-Roman
residual	something out of its original context, e.g. a Roman coin in a modern pit
Roman	the period from AD 43 to c AD410
section	(abbreviation sx or Sx) vertical slice through feature/s or layer/s
WSI	Written Scheme of Investigation

10 Contents of archive

Finds

- 1 tupperware box containing small finds
- 1 museum box containing all bulk finds (pottery CBM, animal bone)

Paper and digital record

- One A4 document wallet containing:
 - The report (CAT Report 825)
 - CBC Evaluation Brief and Specification
 - CAT Written Scheme of Investigation
 - Original site record (Feature and layer sheets, Finds record)
 - Site digital photographic log
 - Site photographic record on CD
 - Attendance register
 - Trench record sheet
 - Benchmark data
 - Risk assessment

11 Archive deposition

The paper archive and finds are currently held by CAT at Roman Circus House, Roman Circus Walk, Colchester, Essex, but will be permanently deposited with Colchester Museum under project code 2014.108.

APPENDIX 1: SITE CONTEXT LIST

Context No.	Context Type	Pottery	CBM	Other	Notes	Date
L1	Topsoil	--	Peg-tile, brick	Coal	Playing field	Modern
L2	Accumulation horizon	Roman	Tile	Animal bone, copper alloy coins	Post-Roman accumulation material. Seals gravel L3.	Post-Roman
L3	Compacted gravel	Roman	Tile	Copper alloy and iron objects	Surface level of temple precinct	Roman
L4	Natural	--	--	--	Natural geological horizon	Post-glacial
L5	CBM dump deposit	Roman	Tile	Copper alloy coin	Dump of Roman CBM, almost exclusively roof-tile	Roman
L6	CBM dump deposit	Roman	Tile	--	Dump of Roman CBM, sealing F12	Roman
F1	Pit	Roman	Tile	26 copper alloy coins	Large, shallow feature and possible votive deposit. Substantial assemblage of Roman coins.	Roman
F2	Pit	Roman	Tile	Copper alloy brooch, glass	Pit cutting gravel layer (L3)	Roman
F3	Pit	Roman	Tile	--	Small pit feature, cuts gravel layer (L3). Contained large quantity of roof tile associated with temple structure.	Roman
F4	Wall foundation	--	Tile	--	Cobble and mortar wall foundation with some tile fragments - part of precinct wall.	Roman
F5	Pit	--	Tile		Small pit	Roman
F6	Pit	Roman	Tile	Animal bone	Large pit pre-dating temple precinct as L3 has slumped into its upper fill.	Roman
F7	Pit	Roman	Tile	Animal bone	Pit associated with pit F6?	Roman
F8	Linear (gully?)	Roman	--	--	?Gully predating temple precinct. Sealed by F1.	Roman
F9	Pit	Roman	Tile	Copper alloy buckle tongue	Pit pre-dating gravel layer (L3) as gravel has slumped into the upper fill.	Roman
F10	Pit	Roman	Tile	Copper alloy coin	Pit cut by west edge of F1	Roman
F11	Foundation	Roman	Tile	--	Partial foundation associated with tile dump (L6). Internal altar or shrine?	Roman
F12	Pit	Roman	Tile	Animal bone	Pit sealed by CBM dump (L5)	Roman

APPENDIX 2: BULK FINDS LIST

Ctxt type	ctxt no.	find no	Find type	Finds description	per	Fab inc	freq inc	Fabric code	form	co l	E ve	no	Wt/g	a b	Period/spot date	Pot no.
	F001	52	pot	Sherds from several pots				BASG	Dr 15/17, Dr 18, Dr 33		25	5	65		M-L1C, Claudian?	
	F001	52	pot	Misc, flagons mostly inc. handles, no tops, one grooved neck - 1C				DJ				43	393		M1-2C	
	F001	52	pot	Small abraded rouletted body sherd dating to after the E2C (intrusive?)				CZ				1	1	*	E/M2-3C	
	F001	52	pot	D 20 or Haltern 70				AJ				4	74		M1-2/E3C	
	F001	52	pot	Neck sherd prob. from an amph				AA				1	33		E/M1-E/M2C	
	F001	52	pot	SV 2 join				TZ				3	55		M1-2C	
	F001	52	pot	Micaceous (gold), dull/brownish-red, sandy fabric, import, prob. amph				AA				1	82		E/M1-E/M2C	
	F001	52	glass	Small curving sherd, pale green glass								1	1		Rom	
	F001	52	pot	Edge of base, internal red slip				CS				1	13		M-L1C	
	F001	52	pot	Coarse, sandy fabric (no shell), prob LIA				GX/HZ	Cam 254		10	1	34		LIA-ER	
	F001	52	pot	Part vessel in two sherds, local copy of GB form 58A/samian form Dr 24/25 cup				UR	Cam 59		25	1	34		E-M1C	
	F001	52	pot	Mostly grog-temp				HZ(G)	Cam 273		6	6	244		M-L1C	
	F001	52	pot	Primarily E Rom. Mostly sandy wares or Romanising coarsewares, poss some GTW inc. pedestal bowl, B Beaker with stab dec.				GX	Cam 218		47	59	627		M-L1C	
	F001	52	pot	Broken platter/dish Dr 18, SV, joining sherds. Potters stamp OPPRI [Primus c AD 45/50-65/70				BASG	Dr 18		17	6	141		Rom Claudio-Neronian	S
	F001	52	pot	Rim sherd Dr 18 plate				BASG	Dr 18		5	1	7		M-L1C	

Ctxt type	ctxt no.	find no	Find type	Finds description	per	Fab inc	freq inc	Fabric code	form	co l	E ve	no	Wt/g	a b	Period/spot date	Pot no.
	F001	52	pot	Platter rim, slip on visible surface only				GAB TR 1A	Cam 5		5	1	10		L1C BC-M1C AD	
	F001	52	pot	Platter sherds				GAB TN1				3	27	(*)	L1C BC-M1C AD	
	F001	52	pot	Part of rim and pouring spout, prob Cam 193				TZ	Cam 193		11	1	65		M/M-L1C	
	F001	52	pot	Traces of possible burning				AJ	D 20			3	502		M1-2/E3C	
	F001	52	pot					AA				2	82		E/M1-E2/2C	
	F001	52	pot	Micaceous (gold) fabric poss relatively thin amphora				AA				1	44		E/M1-2/3C	
	F001	52	pot	One sherd combed, appear most sherds with some grog				HZ(G)				6	189		1C	
	F001	52	pot	Cup base, end of potters block stamp in base, graffiti X on underside (inside footing)				GAB TR 2				1	20		L1C BC-M1C AD	S G
	F001	52	pot	Misc, includes flagons, tazza, flat-rimmed bowl, also beaker/jar with flattened bead rim, possibly a greyware (CAR 10 fig 6.11 no278, fig 6.70 no. 496, similar to Cam 249)				DJ	Cam 198, Cam 243-244/46, Cam 140 (2)		74	25	186		M-L1C	
	F001	52	CBM	Tessera cube (red), no mortar								1	14		Rom	
	F001	52	CBM	misc								51	7056		Rom	
	F001	52	pot	Platter footing				UR				1	9		E-M1C	
	F001	52	pot	Misc, primarily sand-temp fabrics, beaker, jar, cooking pot/jar, narrow-necked flask/jar				GX	Cam 108, Cam 266, Cam 257		34	33	393		M-L1C	
	F001	52	A bone	SQ												
	F001	52	pot	Large sherd				HZ(GT)				1	225		E/M1-E2C	
	F001	52	nails	Iron nails (up to 70-80 mm)								12	115			
	F001	52	nails	Iron nails, some moderately large (up to 70 mm)								7	85			
	F002	20	B stone	Flint (NR)								2	10			
	F002	20	glass	Blue-green body sherd, rounded body								1	9		Rom	
	F002	20	A bone	LQ												

Ctxt type	ctxt no.	find no	Find type	Finds description	per	Fab inc	freq inc	Fabric code	form	co l	E ve	no	Wt/g	a b	Period/spot date	Pot no.
	F002	20	stone	Septaria (NR)								1	107			
	F002	20	pot	Small part of upper & lower frieze				BXSG	Dr 29			1	5		C AD 45-70	
	F002	20	pot	Plate & cup forms – some are pre-Flavian types, beginning of potters stamp OF [BASG	Dr 15/17, Dr 18, Dr 24/25, Ritt 9		27	10	97		pre-Flavian	S
	F002	20	pot					AJ				2	128		M1-2/E3C	
	F002	20	pot					AA				6	183		M1-2C	
	F002	20	pot	Buff fabric, no gritting				TZ	Cam 191			1	214		E/M1C	
	F002	20	pot	Inc large flagon handle & flagon base				DJ	Cam 243-244/246		7	22	271		M1-E2C/2C	
	F002	20	pot					FJ				1	14		M1-E/M2C	
	F002	20	pot					HZ				1	35		M1-E2/2C	
	F002	20	pot	Most if not entirely sand-tempered Roman type wares, beaker, bowl, jars				GX	Cam 243-244/246		15	80	480		M1-E2/2C	
	F002	20	CBM	RT(2) (base thickness 22 mm), RI				C				3	696		Rom	
	F002	20	CBM	RBT frags (NR)				R				4	119		Rom	
	F002	20	CBM	TESS				R				1	16		Rom	
	F002	20	CBM	misc								45	3731		Rom	
	F002	20	nail	Iron nail (80 mm)								1	10			
	F003	34	pot	D 20				AJ	D 20			1	877		M1-2/E3C	
	F003	34	pot					GX				1	3		Rom	
	F003	34	CBM									1	55		Med -p-med	
	F003	34	CBM									37	4210		Rom	
	F004	39	mortar	Pebbly, white, lime mortar pieces								3	100			
	F005	37	CBM	Prob Rom				R				2	36		Rom	
	F005	37	CBM									2	46		Rom	
	F006	40	pot	Grog-temp, LIA-E-Rom				HZ(G)	Cam 271			13	465		LIA/ER	
	F006	40	pot	Orange-red fabric, white powdery slip				MQ				1	3		LIA/ER	
	F006	40	pot	GB import				SOB GT				2	22		LIA	

Ctxt type	ctxt no.	find no	Find type	Finds description	per	Fab inc	freq inc	Fabric code	form	co l	E ve	no	Wt/g	a b	Period/spot date	Pot no.
	F006	40	pot	Burnt? GB import				TR 1(A)			12	1	6		L1C BC-M1C AD	
	F006	40	A bone	2												
	F006	40	CBM									2	242		Rom	
	F006	42	pot	Sherds from platter walls/rims				LYO SA	S2 (x2), S4		20	4	160		E-M1C	Look at
	F006	42	pot	Rim, sheds from other platters				GAB TN1	Cam 2		5	4	44		L1C BC-E/M1C AD	
	F006	42	pot	rim				NOG WH 3	Cam 113		10	3	22		LIA-ER	
	F006	42	pot	Cup body sherds prob Cam 56				GAB TR	Cam 56			4	19		LIA-M1C	
	F006	42	pot	Red fabric, white slip				MQ				3	60		LIA-M/L1C	
	F006	42	pot	Mostly grog-temp, many sherds combed				HZ(G)	Cam 270B		8	34	1117		E/M-L1C	
	F006	42	pot	D 20 or Haltern 70				AJ				2	46		M1-L1/2C	
	F006	42	pot	B Beaker				TR4			6	3	10		E-M1C	
	F006	42	pot	Primarily LIA type fabrics. Misc, most if not all grog-temp				SOB GT			27	37	358		LIA-M1C	
	F006	42	pot	Flint-tempered, moderate/sparse flint		F	s-m	HMF				1	6		Preh LBA-EIA?	
	F006	42	pot	Grog-temp, burnished, base sherds				SOB GT				3	49		LIA-M1C	
	F006	42	slag	Poss oven or kiln lining with slag material adhering to a fired clay piece								1	21			
	F006	42	slag	Pale green & dark olive coloured glassy slag								1	62			
	F006	42	slag	Lumps of slaggy ferrous material								6	280			
	F008	55	pot	Double rod handle piece				AA	D 2-4			1	17		M1-E/M2C	
	F008	55	nail	Prob a corroded nail (length 85 mm)								1	50			
	F009	44	pot	Neck from large flagon				DJ				1	69		M-L1C	
	F009	44	pot	Part of base				TZ				1	52		M1-2/3C	
	F009	44	pot	Part of Dr 18 plate (joining sherds) & sherd Dr 15/17 platter				BASG	Dr 18 Dr 15/17		17	5	75		M-L1C	
	F009	44	pot	Decorated with white overslip scroll work (intrusive?)				EA	beaker			1	9		E/M3-E3/4C	
	F009	44	pot	Flange piece, Ver region				TD	mortaria		6	1	39	(*	M1-E/M2C	

Ctxt type	ctxt no.	find no	Find type	Finds description	per	Fab inc	freq inc	Fabric code	form	co l	E ve	no	Wt/g	a b	Period/spot date	Pot no.
				mortaria)		
	F009	44	pot	Misc, inc. ring-necked flagon				DJ	Cam 155		10	19	159		M1-E2/2C	
	F009	44	pot	Rim D 20, rounded				AJ	D 20		12	1	59		M-L1C	
	F009	44	A bone	Q												
	F009	44	pot	Fragment from flange				TZ				1	19		M1-2C	
	F009	44	pot	Inc. bowl rim, flat rim similar to Cam 43				SOB GT	Cam 43		8	3	63		LIA-M1C	
	F009	44	pot	B Beaker				TR4	B beaker		6	2	45		E-M1C	
	F009	44	pot	Misc inc. jar				GX	Cam 266		10	11	168		M1-E2C?	
	F009	44	iron	Prob a nail, broken (90 mm)								2	53			
	F009	44	CBM									86	9670		Rom	
	F009	50	pot					AA				2	132		M1-E2C	
	F009	50	pot	Platter sherds, 1 burnt				TR 1(A)				4	23		L1C BC-M1C AD	
	F009	50	pot	Platter sherd				GAB TN1				2	43		L1C BC-M1C AD	
	F009	50	pot	B Beaker				TR4	B Beaker		18	3	52		L1C BC-M1C AD	
	F009	50	pot	One combed body sherd				HZ(G)	Cam 270B		2	8	173		E-M/L1C AD	
	F009	50	pot	Handle from large flagon				MQ				8	110		L1C BC-M1C AD	
	F009	50	pot					DJ				6	13		M1-2C	
	F009	50	pot	Sandy fabric, moderately thick, poss preh or IA				GX				1	5		LIA?	
	F009	50	pot	SOB GT/RCW, misc Jar, bead rim jar,				SOB GT	Cam 266, Cam 256		25	10	151		E(?) -M1C	
	F009	50	F clay	Grey hardened or fire clay, some burnt organic material visible on surfaces								4	37			
	F009	50	nail	Prob a corroded nail (length 60 mm)								1	30			
	F010	51	pot	N Ital/S Gaul import				PIS SA				1	2		LIA/ER	
	F010	51	pot	More than one pot				DJ					819		LIA?-E/MR	
	F010	51	pot	rim				NOG	Cam		7	1	13		LIA-ER	

Ctxt type	ctxt no.	find no	Find type	Finds description	per	Fab inc	freq inc	Fabric code	form	co l	E ve	no	Wt/g	a b	Period/spot date	Pot no.
								WH 3	113							
	F010	51	pot	Most grogged				HZ(G)	LSJ				478		LIA-ER	
	F010	51	pot	Rom grey (stab shoulder) – prob post-conquest				HZ	LSJ			1	29		ER	
	F010	51	pot					SOB GT				3	65		LIA	
	F010	51	pot	Poss D 20 or Haltern 70 sherd? laminating				AJ	D 20?			1	13		ER?	
	F010	51	pot	GX/RCW, inc B Beaker? sherd				GX	Cam 266		17	3	10		ER	
	F010	51	pot	Base, internal – poor slip				CS	platter			1	49		ER?	
	F010	51	A bone	1												
	F010	51	Fe nails etc	SQ												
	F010	51	CBM									7	340		Rom	
	F011	56	CBM	Fragment RI (NR)				C				1	7		Rom	
	F011	56	pot					SOB GT	Cam 256		10	6	66		LIA-M1C	
	F011	56	pot	Narrow-necked jar				GX			33	2	27		Rom	
	F012	57	A bone	Q												
	F012	57	pot	Bowl. Rim and part of upper frieze (as Hawkes & Hull 1947 Plate XXXIII no 19)				BXSG	Dr 29		4	1	10		Claudio-Neronian c AD 50-70	
	F012	57	B stone	Heat altered flint								2	10			
	F012	57	glass	Curved, thin, pale blue-green								1	1		Rom	
	F012	57	pot	Prob D 20				AJ	D 20?			6	118		M1-2/E3C	
	F012	57	pot	Misc, prob mostly flagon pieces				DJ				14	100		M1-2C	
	F012	57	pot	Prob CS lid edge, Sooting around lip				CS	lid			2	17		M/M-L1C	
	F012	57	pot	Combed, some grog				HZ(G)				1	13		E/M-L1C	
	F012	57	pot	Misc, jar, base with small perforations				GX	Cam 266		11	20	109		M-L/E2C	
	F012	57	nails	Pieces – up to 40 mm								7	42			
	F012	57	CBM									2	585		Rom	
	L002	1	pot	Cup & plate forms, poss inc Ritt 9				BASG	Dr 27, Ritt 9		18	8	61		M-L1C	
	L002	1	pot	Platter rim, flattened rim top with undercut collar edge (service 1b/c)				PIS SA			6	1	16		E-M1C	Draw ?
	L002	1	pot					AJ				4	155		M1-2/E3C	
	L002	1	pot	Shoulder, prob D 2-4 wine				AA	D2-3			1	67		M1-E2C	

Ctxt type	ctxt no.	find no	Find type	Finds description	per	Fab inc	freq inc	Fabric code	form	co l	E ve	no	Wt/g	a b	Period/spot date	Pot no.
				amphora												
	L002	1	pot	Prob most flagons				DJ	Cam 140		10	39	411		M1-2C	
	L002	1	pot	Most appears grog-tempered, some combed body sherds				HZ(G)			4	11	547		E-M/L1C	
	L002	1	pot	Some SOB GT/RCW but most appears E Rom				GX	Cam 218, Cam 243-244/246, Cam 254		35	37	379		E/M1-L1/E2C	
	L002	1	pot					SOB GT				1	2		LIA-M1C	
	L002	1	pot					GX				8	33		Rom (M1-2C)	
	L002	1	pot	Small flint-tempered sherd		F	C s-m	HMF				1	2		Preh (Neo/BA-IA)	
	L002	1	pot					AA				1	12		M1-E/M2C	
	L002	1	pot	Cube shaped sherd, poss a tess cube (no mortar) (25x24x22 mm)				AJ				1	27		M1-2/E3C	
	L002	1	nail	Iron shaft piece								1	2			
	L002	1	nail	Small group of nails, up to 55mm long, flat round heads – prob Roman; although corroded one with a small head appears to be relatively modern wire nail								6	69		Rom & p-med/modern	
	L002	1	flint	Small, broad thin flake								1	2		preh	
	L002	1	glass	Rounded, plain rim, clear glass								1	1		Rom?	
	L002	1	shell	Oyster shell (NR)								1	2			
	L002	1	slag	Grey vesicular slag of medium weight								2	77			
	L002	1	CBM									97	6668		Rom	
	L002	2	A bone	SQ												
	L002	2	stone	Tess, white chalk (25x12x10 mm)								1	9		Rom	
	L002	2	pot	platter				GAB TN1	Cam 13		7	1	17		L1C BC-M1C AD	
	L002	2	pot	Prob D 20				AJ	D 20			1	99		M1C-2/E3C	

Ctxt type	ctxt no.	find no	Find type	Finds description	per	Fab inc	freq inc	Fabric code	form	co l	E ve	no	Wt/g	a b	Period/spot date	Pot no.
	L002	2	pot	Platter/bowl				UR				1	10		E-M1C	
	L002	2	pot	Base, orange fabric, flint & some quartz grits				TZ				1	96		M1-2C	
	L002	2	pot	Handle, oval cross-section, poss D 7-11				AA	D 7-11			1	284		M1-E/M2C	
	L002	2	pot	LIA-E Rom				HZ(G)				4	105		E/M-L1C	
	L002	2	pot	Most if not all appears Rom type				GX			7	9	113		M1-2C	
	L002	2	pot	Misc, inc. Large jar				SOB GT			5	5	56		LIA-M1C	
	L002	2	pot	Fine grog				SOB GT	B Beaker			1	11		LIA-M1C	
	L002	2	nail	Head & upper part of shaft								2	14			
	L002	2	CBM									68	3810		Rom	
	L002	3	pot	Dr 37 with two zones of decorative frieze – upper bird in swag below ovolo (3 pronged tongue), lower- foliate				BXSG	DR 29, Dr 37		3	2	16	(*)	C 70-90/100	
	L002	3	pot					BASG	Dr 18			4	46		M-L1C	
	L002	3	pot	Small sherd in yellowish-orange fabric (intrusive?)				BAEG				1	2	*	M2-M3C	
	L002	3	pot	Slightly orangey fabric poss SG but may date later				BASG				1	3		M-L1C	
	L002	3	pot	Part of a thick disc lid in buff fabric				AA				1	12		M1-E/M2C	
	L002	3	pot					DJ				8	100		M1-2C	
	L002	3	pot	Rim, 1 combed sherd, poss some grog				HZ	Cam 270B		5	4	103		M1-2C	
	L002	3	pot	Misc, most appears Roman				GX	Cam 266		25	17	129		M1-E2C	
	L002	3	pot	Platter rim				UR	Cam 28, Cam 59		3	1	12		M1-L1C	
	L002	3	nail	Iron, 1 shaft, 1 other broken min 50 mm								2	24			
	L002	3	A bone	1												
	L002	3	slag	Light, glassy slag (prob kiln/oven slag)								1	23			
	L002	3	pot	Prob E Rom				GX				3	38		Rom (M1-2C)	
	L002	3	nail	Iron nail (65 mm) flat round head								1	22			

Ctxt type	ctxt no.	find no	Find type	Finds description	per	Fab inc	freq inc	Fabric code	form	co l	E ve	no	Wt/g	a b	Period/spot date	Pot no.
	L002	3	CBM									130	9514			
	L002	4	A bone	Q												
	L002	4	Flint	Small, thin flake and small thick flake with cortex								2	4		preh	
	L002	4	B stone	Heat altered, crazed, discoloured, flints								7	102			
	L002	4	CBM	RT RI				C				3	279		Rom	
	L002	4	CBM									59	2603		Rom	
	L002	4	pot	Dish, platter, bowl				BASG	Dr 18, Dr 15/17			5	41		M-L1C	
	L002	4	pot	misc				DJ				30	142		M1-2C	
	L002	4	pot	Frag of rouletted top and upper frieze				BXSG	Dr 29			1	2		C 45-70	
	L002	4	pot					TZ			5	1	9		M1-2C	
	L002	4	pot	Solid spike				AA				1	335		M1-E2C	
	L002	4	pot					AA				2	41		M1-2C	
	L002	4	pot	Flange in orange fabric				TZ			6	1	12		M1-E/M2C	
	L002	4	pot	Most if not entirely sand-tempered Roman type wares, beaker, bowl, jars (1 grey rim possibly later Rom but prob not)				GX	Cam 108, Cam 243-244/246		35	37	278		M-L1/E2C	
	L002	4	pot					DJ				1	9		Rom	
	L002	4	glass	Fragment, very pale blue-green								1	1		Rom?	
	L002	4	stone	Septaria (not retained)								3	240			
	L002	4	nail	Iron nail shaft								1	6			
	L002	38	A bone	Q												
	L002	38	B stone	Heated flint stone								1	13			
	L002	38	pot	Prob D 20				AJ	D 20			1	21		M1-2/3C	
	L002	38	pot	Dr 29 bowl, part of upper frieze, vegetative scroll pattern				BXSG	Dr 29			1	8		(*) Claudio-Neronian	
	L002	38	pot	Large sherd, fabric some similarity to CG but is almost certainly SG, 1 other small sherd				BASG	Dr 33		8	2	19		M-L1C	
	L002	38	pot	Misc inc. early flagon rim				DJ	Cam 140		7	13	126		M-L1C/2C	
	L002	38	pot	Platter base sherd				GAB TN1	platter			2	66		L1C BC-M1C AD	
	L002	38	pot	Spout, part of broad flange				TZ	Cam		12	1	201		Flavian?	

Ctxt type	ctxt no.	find no	Find type	Finds description	per	Fab inc	freq inc	Fabric code	form	co l	E ve	no	Wt/g	a b	Period/spot date	Pot no.
									195							
	L002	38	pot	Misc, most with some grog, one comb piece, rim poss Cam 273				HZ(G)	Cam 273		7	8	360		E/M-L1C	
	L002	38	pot	Base, probably post-med or modern, possibly flower pot				51B				1	24		18/19-20C	
	L002	38	pot	Grog-tempered or poss some romanising, inc Cam 266 jar				SOB GT	Cam 266		8	18	230		LIA-M1C AD	
	L002	38	pot	misc				GX				10	130		Rom M1-2C	
	L002	38	pot	Some grog in the pieces				HZ(G)	LSJ			5	176		E/M1-L1C	
	L002	38	pot	B Beaker				TR4	B beaker			1	11		E-M1C	
	L002	38	pot	Misc, one sherd with some grog				GX				4	26		Rom	
	L002	38	nail	Shaft pieces probably from iron nails								2	15			
	L002	38	CBM									6	2250		Rom	
	L002	54	pot	Inc. Part of a 'honey pot', large flagon handle				DJ	Cam 177		50	7	216		M-L1C	
	L002	65	glass	Pillar moulded bowl, blue-green glass, ribbed body sherds								3	20		Rom 1C	
	L002	65	glass	Bottle/jar base with foot rings, blue-green glass								1	38		Rom M1-2C	
	L002	65	glass	Sherd, pale yellowish-brown glass								1	3		Rom	
	L002	65	glass	Window glass, flat, rounded edge, blue=green glass								1	6		Rom	
	L002	65	glass	Flaring top from a narrow flask, probably an unguent bottle, blue-green glass								1	1		Rom M1-2C	
	L005	30	pot	N Ital/S Gaul import, prob LYO				LYO SA				1	2		LIA/ER	
	L005	30	pot	Plate rim sherd				BASG	Dr 18		2	2	4		M-L1C	
	L005	30	pot					DJ				6	31		M1-2C	
	L005	30	pot	Prob D 20				AJ	D 20			3	97		M1-2/E3C	
	L005	30	pot	Almost all clearly sandy greyware, inc jar with upright bead rim, prob Cam 266, one other E Rom rim				GX	Cam 266		12	16	81		Rom M-L1/E2C	
	L005	30	B stone	Heated flint stone								1	3			
	L005	30	pot	Body sherd, rounded, buff fabric, prob D 7-11				AA	D 7-11			1	199		Mi-E2C	

Ctxt type	ctxt no.	find no	Find type	Finds description	per	Fab inc	freq inc	Fabric code	form	co l	E ve	no	Wt/g	a b	Period/spot date	Pot no.
	L005	30	pot	Haltern 70 or D 20				AJ				1	40		M-L1C/2-3C	
	L005	30	pot	Handle scar from large flagon				DJ				3	82		M-L1C/2C	
	L005	30	pot	Micaceous (gold) fabric, prob import, poss thin walled amphora				AA				1	20		1C-E2C?	
	L005	30	pot	Misc, prob most or all Rom				HZ				5	220		M1-2C	
	L005	30	pot	base				TZ				1	27		M1-2/3C	
	L005	30	pot	Dish rim, no holes CAR 10 fig 6.2 but also poss Cam 199, cheese press				DJ	dish		6	1	30		M1-2/3C	
	L005	30	pot	misc				SOB GT				3	41		LIA-M1C	
	L005	30	pot	misc				GX				4	33		Rom	
	L005	30	pot	Large sandy coarseware sherd, indication of shoulder, form not recognised				GX				1	98		Rom	
	L005	30	flint									1	2		preh	
	L005	30	A bone	2												
	L005	30	pot					DJ				12	124		M1-2/3C	
	L005	30	pot	Most have grog-temp				HZ(G)				6	132		M1-2/3C	
	L005	30	pot	Dish rim				SOB GT	dish		5	2	28		LIA-M1C	
	L005	30	pot	One RCW				GX				7	45		Rom	
	L005	30	pot					AJ				1	4		M1-E3C	
	L005	30	pot	Sandy fabric				DJ				1	24		Rom	
	L005	30	nails	Iron nails (pieces up to 40 mm)								9	85			
	L005	30	CBM									90	18704		Rom	
	L005	50	CBM									13	3640		Rom	
	L006	63	CBM									22	7617		Rom	
	US	53	CBM									6	1771		Rom	

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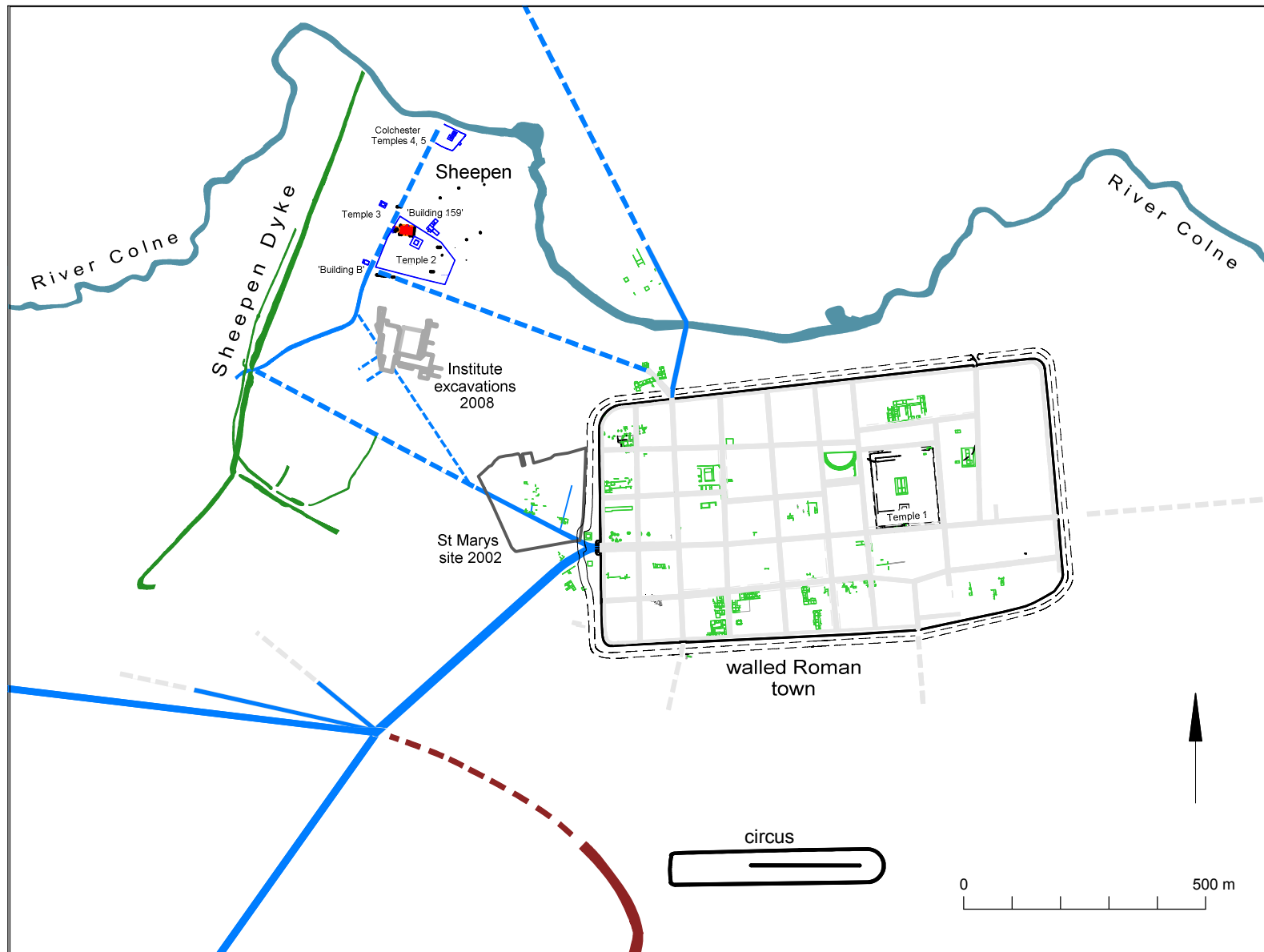


Fig 1 Location of St Helena School 2014 excavation (red box) in its local archaeological context

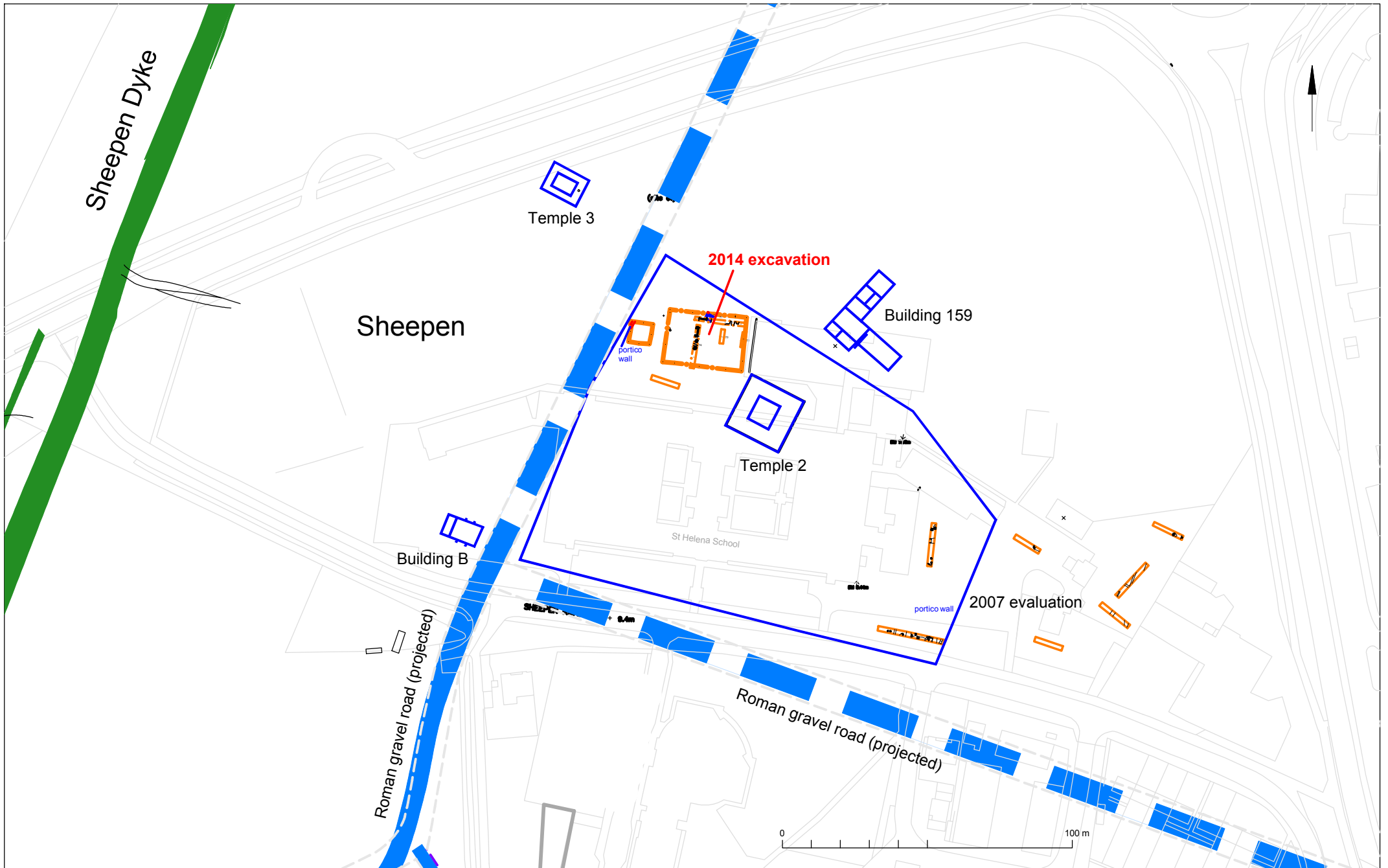


Figure 2 Location of 2014 excavation, showing detail of temples and previous archaeological work at St Helena School.

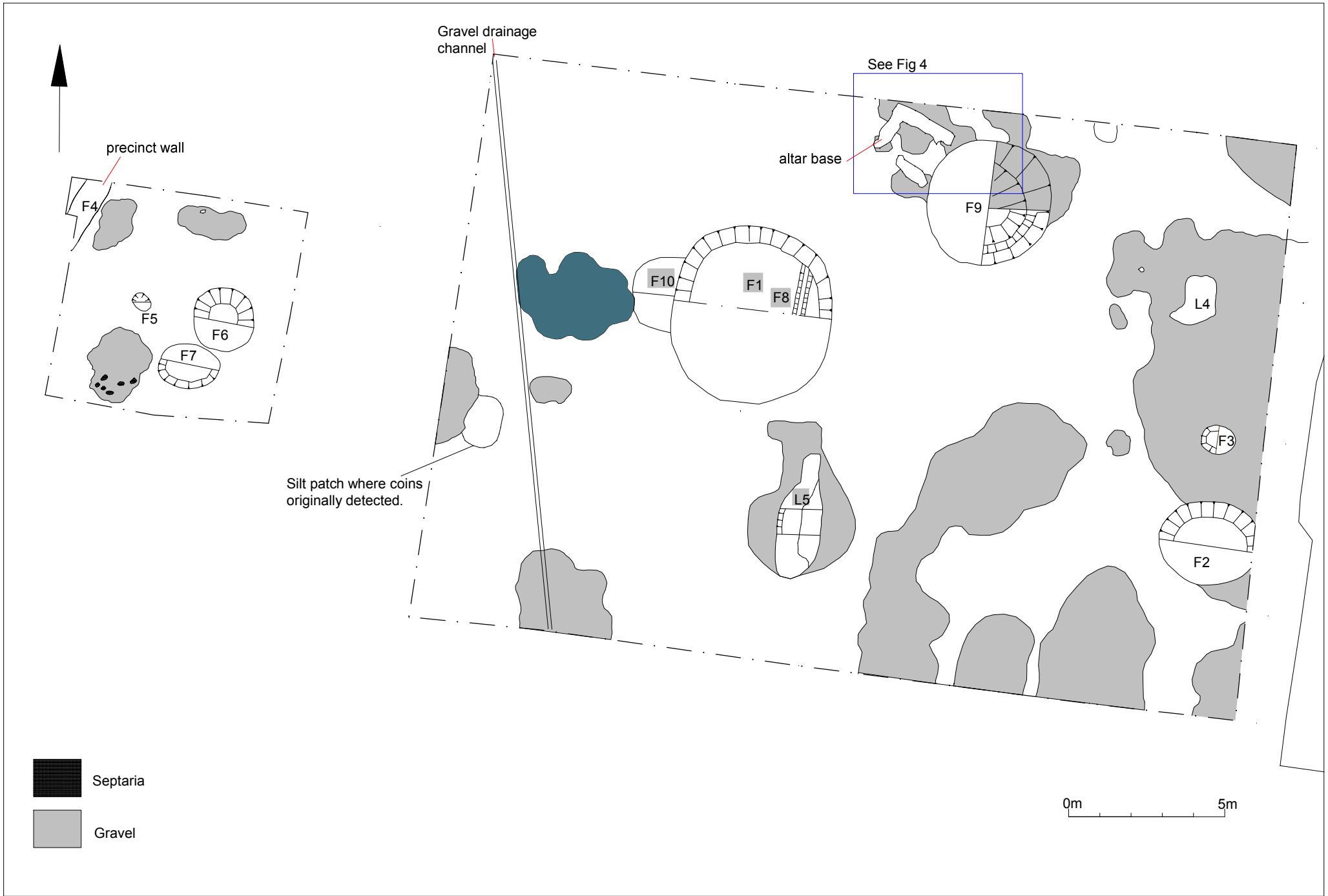


Fig 3 Plan of 2014 excavation

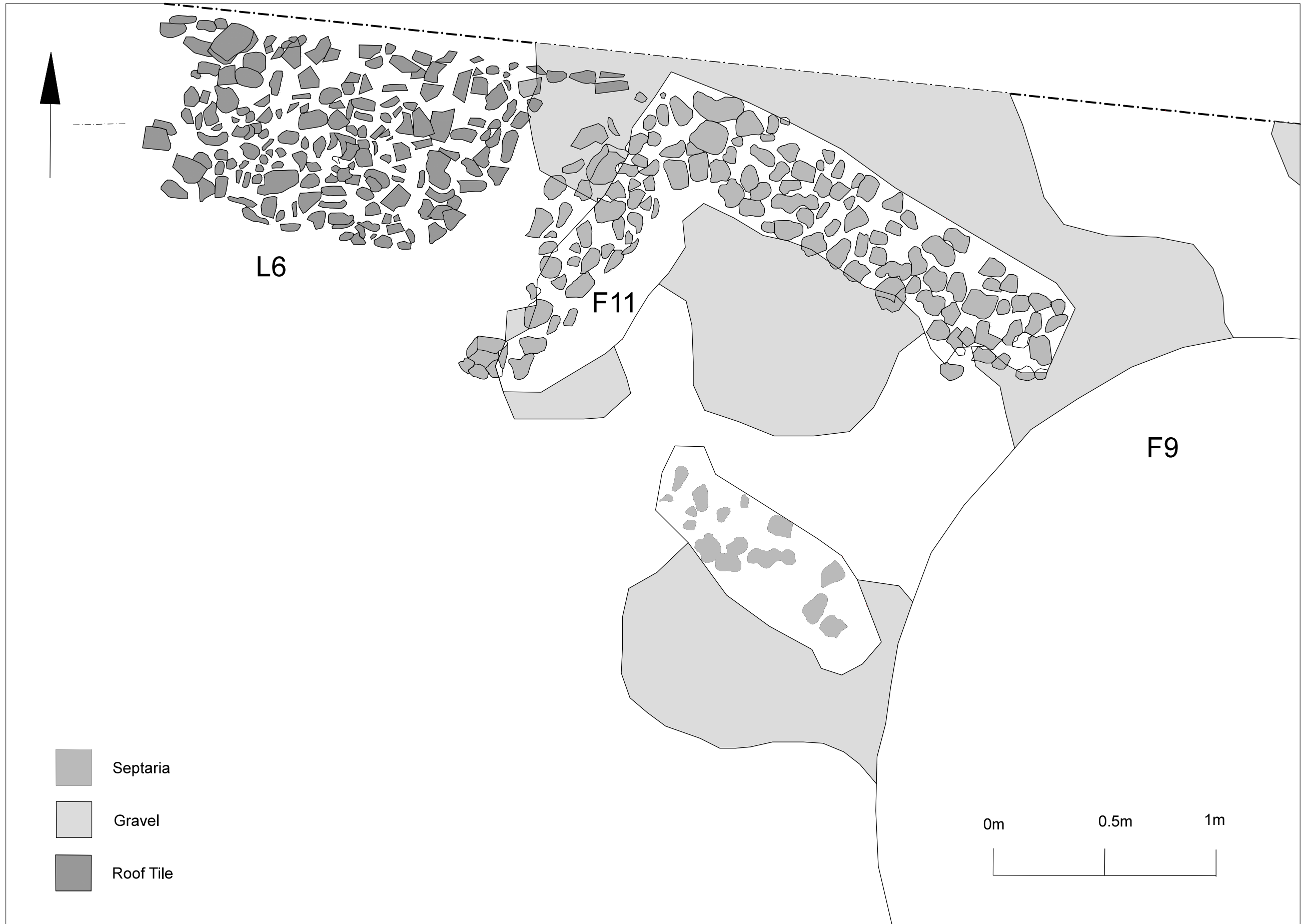


Fig 4 Detailed plan of 'altar' foundation and associated spread of roof tile.

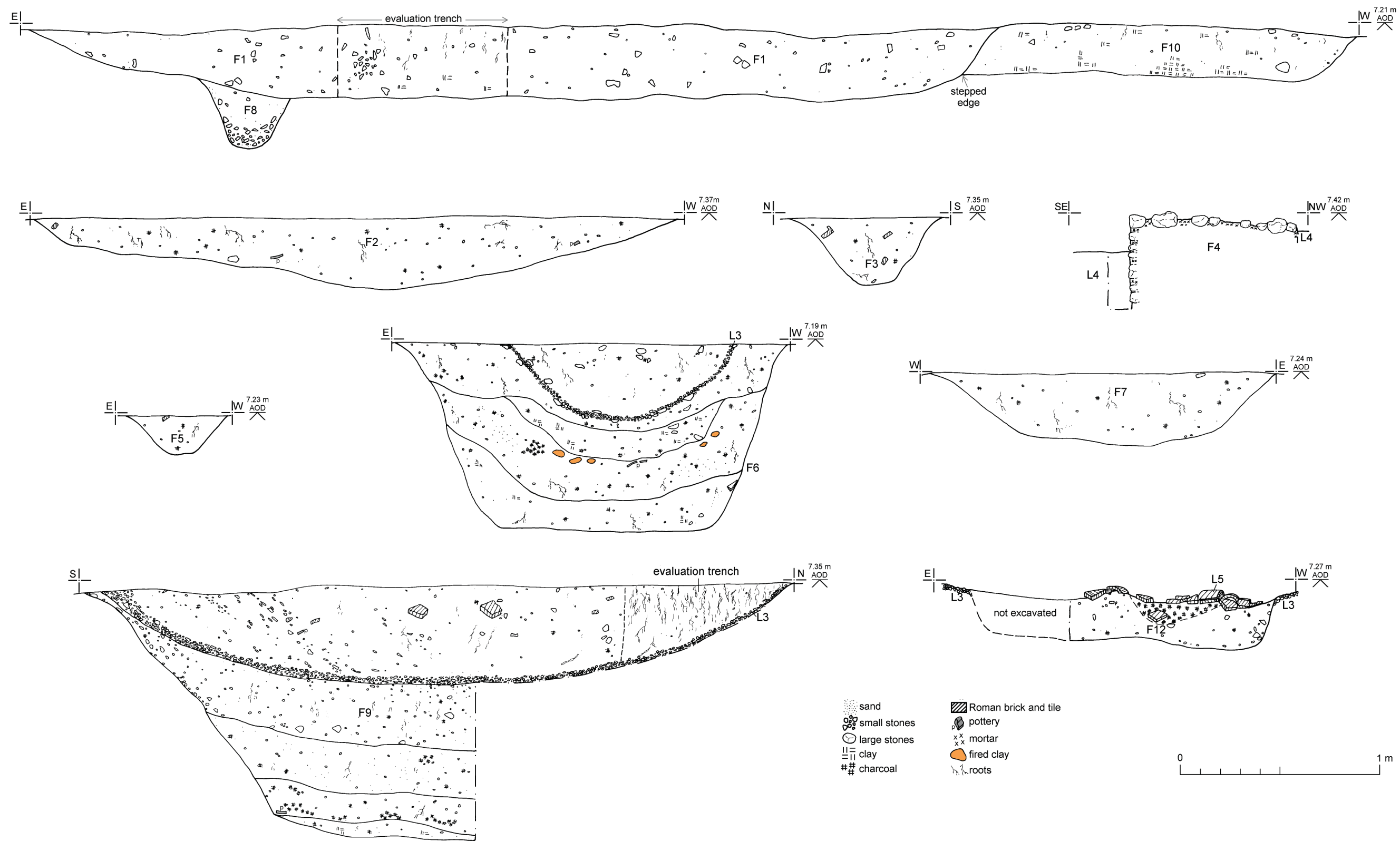


Fig 5 Sections.

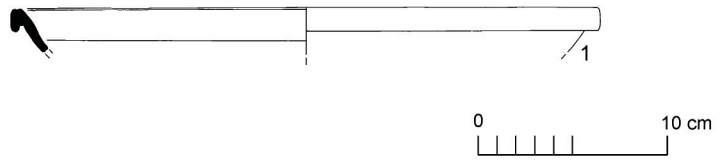


Fig 6 Pottery.

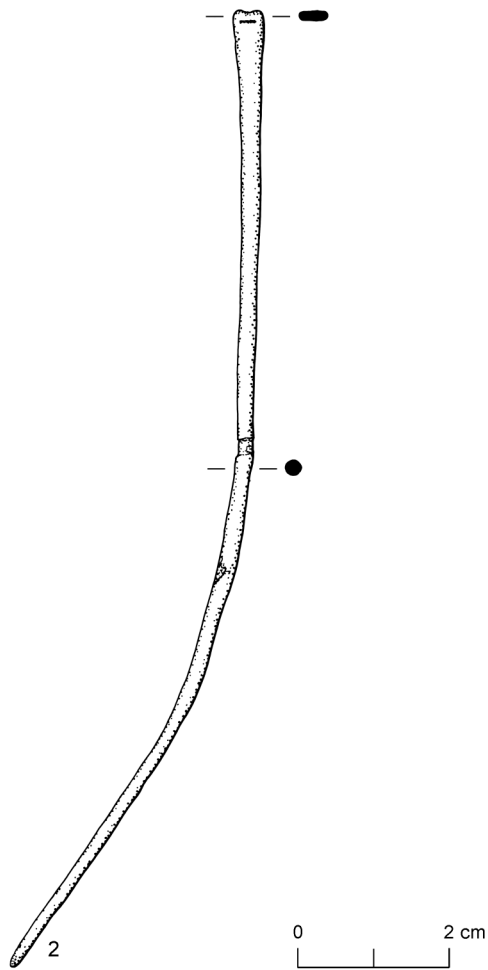
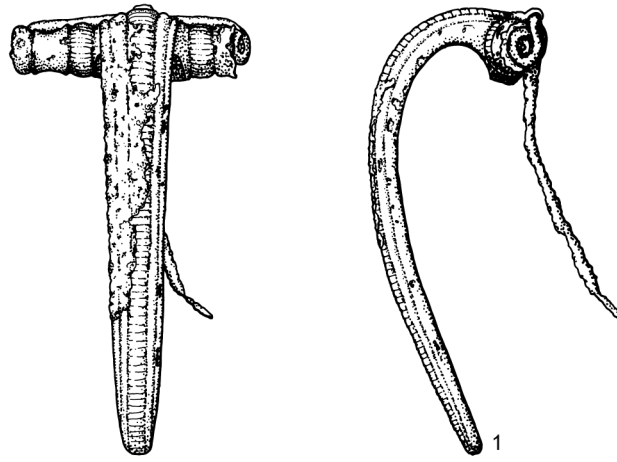


Fig 7 Small finds.

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OASIS ID: colchest3-208555

Project details

Project name	St Helena School Food Tech Building excavation
Short description of the project	Archaeological excavation was carried out at St Helena School, Sheepen Road, Colchester. The school is situated within the Roman enclosed oppidum of Camulodunum (specifically the area of the trading depot at Sheepen), and is within a Scheduled Monument (List entry 1002173). The school grounds contain the remains of two Romano-British temples, and the site was within the precinct or temenos of a large post-Boudican Temple of Jupiter (Colchester's Temple 2). The excavation revealed Roman activity comprising nine pits, one of which (F1) contained twenty-six low denomination 1st century AD coins. Also revealed were patches of the gravelled surface of the temple precinct and the cobble and mortar wall foundations of a small internal altar or similar structure.
Project dates	Start: 28-10-2014 End: 17-11-2014
Previous/future work	Yes / Yes
Any associated project reference codes	2014.108 - Museum accession ID
Any associated project reference codes	14/10k - Contracting Unit No.
Type of project	Recording project
Site status	Scheduled Monument (SM)
Monument type	TEMPLE Roman
Monument type	PITS Roman
Monument type	WALLS Roman
Monument type	GRAVEL SURFACE Roman
Significant Finds	COIN Roman
Significant Finds	POTTERY Late Iron Age
Significant Finds	POTTERY Roman
Significant Finds	BROOCH Roman
Significant Finds	ANIMAL BONE Roman

Project location

Country England
 Site location ESSEX COLCHESTER COLCHESTER St Helena School, Sheepen Road, Colchester
 Postcode CO3 3LE
 Study area 280.00 Square metres
 Site coordinates TL 9878 2582 51.8948993901 0.8893500148 51 53 41 N 000 53 21 E Point
 Height OD / Depth Min: 7.20m Max: 7.20m

Project creators

Name of Organisation Colchester Archaeological Trust
 Project brief originator CBC Archaeological Officer
 Project design originator Colchester Archaeological Trust
 Project director/manager Ben Holloway
 Project supervisor Ben Holloway

Project archives

Physical Archive recipient Colchester Museum
 Physical Archive ID 2014.108
 Physical Contents "Animal Bones", "Ceramics", "Environmental", "Glass", "Metal", "Worked stone/lithics"
 Digital Archive recipient Colchester Museum
 Digital Archive ID 2014.108
 Digital Media available "Images raster / digital photography", "Survey"
 Paper Archive recipient Colchester Museum
 Paper Archive ID 2014.108
 Paper Contents "Animal Bones", "Ceramics", "Environmental", "Glass", "Metal", "Worked stone/lithics"
 Paper Media available "Context sheet", "Drawing", "Notebook - Excavation", ' Research', ' General Notes', "Plan", "Report", "Section", "Survey "
 Entered by Howard Brooks (hb@catuk.org)
 Entered on 23 June 2015

OASIS:

Please e-mail Historic England for OASIS help and advice

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**Written Scheme of Investigation for
archaeological excavation and monitoring and
recording (a watching brief) at St Helena's
School, Sheepen Road, Colchester, Essex**

commissioned by
Ingleton Wood

on behalf of
St Helena School

October 2014



COLCHESTER ARCHAEOLOGICAL TRUST,
ROMAN CIRCUS HOUSE, CIRCULAR ROAD NORTH,
COLCHESTER, ESSEX C02 7GZ
tel: 07436273304
email: archaeologists@catuk.org

1 Introduction

- 1.1 This is a Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) for an archaeological excavation and monitoring and recording (a watching brief) at St Helena School, Sheepen Road, Colchester, Essex, in advance of the construction of a two-storey extension to existing science and food technology building.
- 1.2 The site (NGR: TL 8836 5850) is located north-west of Colchester town centre on the north side of Sheepen Road, and consists of school buildings, the earliest dating from 1938, set within extensive grounds of some 17 acres mainly laid to grass for playing fields, hard surface parking areas and an all weather sports pitch. The site is currently a reasonably level grassed area with young trees and 4 tarmac cricket wickets.
- 1.3 The proposed redevelopment comprises the construction of a two-storey extension located on the west side to the existing science and food technology building with dimensions of 29.3m in length and 18.2m in width.
- 1.4 The site is located within the nationally significant pre-Roman settlement at Sheepen (Scheduled Monument 1002173).
- 1.5 A planning application was submitted to Colchester Borough Council (CBC) in May 2013 (application number 130535). As the proposed development lies within a Scheduled Monument, advice was sought from English Heritage prior to the development. Discussions between the applicant, English Heritage and the Colchester Borough Council Archaeological Officer (CBCAO) resulted in a mitigation strategy for the archaeology and a brief was issued by CBC (Lister 2014).
- 1.6 In response to this brief, this Written Scheme of Investigation (for archaeological excavation and monitoring and recording (a watching brief)) has been prepared by Colchester Archaeological Trust (CAT). It sets out the proposals and methodologies for the undertaking of the archaeological fieldwork as well as for post-excavation work including the production of a report, an archive and (if necessary) publication texts.

2 Archaeological background

- 2.1 The site has been reported in depth in the major published works on Colchester by C F C Hawkes and Rex Hull (Hawkes & Hull 1947; Hull, 1958) and by Philip Crummy (Crummy 1980, 248-52; Crummy 1997; *CAR* 11 (with C F C Hawkes) 1995).
- 2.2 The site is within an area of high archaeological importance - the enclosed *oppidum* of Camulodunum, specifically within the trading depot at Sheepen (a Scheduled Monument, Listing 1002173), one of the two principal centres of the *oppidum*, the other being Gosbecks. In the 1930s, excavations prior to the construction of the Colchester Bypass (now the Avenue of Remembrance) showed that the area was an important focus of Late Iron Age settlement and early Roman military activity (Hawkes and Hull 1947). The school is located above the remains of two Romano-British temples (Hull 1958) and the proposed development is 20m north-west of one of the temples and within its *temenos* (sacred precinct).
- 2.3 Evaluations and watching briefs in and around the school have revealed the survival of substantial Roman deposits (CAT Reports, 188, 349, 351, 384, 414, 451, 544). An evaluation commissioned by Ingleton Wood in 2013 revealed three Roman pits, a compacted gravel surface and a dump of ceramic building material. One of the pits contained a group of five, low-denomination Roman coins dated to c AD 43-64 (CAT Report 699).

3 Aims

- 3.1 The aim of the archaeological excavation is to preserve, by record, the archaeological deposits which may be destroyed or damaged by the development of the site, prior to the installation of 100 piles and a soakaway.
- 3.2 An intensive watching brief will be carried out on all penetrative groundworks, demolition and new services: this will be reported on in a separate report.

4 Excavation methodology

- 4.1 The client or his agent will be responsible for obtaining any necessary approvals from Colchester and Ipswich Museum and English Heritage before the fieldwork is undertaken.
- 4.2 Machine-stripping will be undertaken, using a toothless ditching bucket, under the supervision of and to the satisfaction of a professional archaeologist to the top of the archaeological horizon. The exposed sub-soil or archaeological horizon will be cleaned by hand after machine-stripping (if required) and any archaeological deposits or negative features excavated and recorded.
- 4.3 All features and finds uncovered will be planned and excavation will be undertaken to characterise any surviving archaeological remains and to achieve the aims set out in section 3.
- 4.4 Fast excavation techniques involving (for instance) picks, forks and mattocks will not be used on complex stratigraphy.
- 4.5 Individual records of excavated contexts, layers, features or deposits will be entered on pro-forma record sheets. Registers will be compiled of finds, small finds and soil samples.
- 4.6 All features and layers or other significant deposits will be planned, and their profiles or sections recorded. Section drawings will be completed on all trenches identifying the depth of the archaeological deposits and the depth of the natural sub-soil. The normal scale will be site plans at 1:20 and sections at 1:10, unless circumstances indicate that other scales would be appropriate. The site will be located to the National Grid.
- 4.7 The photographic record will consist of general site shots, and shots of all archaeological features and deposits, a photographic scale (including north arrow) shall be included in the case of detailed photographs. Standard "record" shots of contexts will be taken on a digital camera. A photographic register should accompany the photographic record. This should detail as a minimum feature number, location, and direction of shot.
- 4.8 A metal detector will be used to check spoil heaps and any suitable strata, and the finds recovered. This will not normally be done on demonstrably modern strata.
- 4.9 The site boundary and features and site levels will be tied into Ordnance Datum.
- 4.10 As part of the topsoil strip a number of tree stumps will be removed by mechanical excavator, under archaeological supervision. Three stumps are located within the footprint, five on the periphery – all are to be removed under archaeological supervision

5 Sampling strategy

- 5.1 Archaeological excavation will be by hand and will respect the stratigraphy of archaeological layers, features, deposits and structures. Each context will be excavated in sequence.
- 5.2 The following sampling strategy will be adopted to ascertain the nature, depth, date and state of preservation of archaeological features as well as the stratigraphical relationships of these deposits and features to one another.
 - Normally 50% of the fills of all pits, post-holes and other discrete archaeological features will be excavated. Pits will be fully excavated if they are particularly rich in environmental or and/or artefactual evidence, should this contribute to the research aims.
 - 10% of the exposed lengths of ditches, will be excavated. The segments will be placed to provide adequate coverage of the ditches and will include excavation of all terminals and intersections. A flexible approach will be adopted to the location of excavation samples such that areas of exposed ditch fill with higher artefact or ecofact content may be targeted.
 - Up to 25% of ring gullies will include excavation of the terminals and sections at each side to the rear of the gully. Special regard will be given to significant stratigraphical relationships and concentrations of artefactual material.
 - Animal and human burials, including cremations, will be 100% excavated. A license will be acquired in the event of the discovery of any human remains.

The discovery of human remains will be reported to the local coroner. Other structured or placed deposits will be recorded and retained as “small finds”.

- In the event that stone structures are encountered these will be excavated in sufficient detail to establish their construction sequence and sequence of repairs or extensions.
- Full excavation of hearths, furnaces or kilns in all cases where these are identified will be undertaken.
- Metal detectors will be used to scan for metallic finds on spoil heaps, vacated areas, areas of modern disturbance and during the excavation of key archaeological features or deposits.

6 Watching brief methodology

6.1 The intensive watching brief is being undertaken to identify and record any surviving archaeological deposits that may be disturbed by the groundworks associated with the project. Specifically, but not exclusively, this shall include:

- The excavations for the support posts for the Woodscape external enclosure and the landscaping on the south side of the new building.
- The demolition of the east and west wings, in particular the removal of foundations and any works necessary to level the ground for the new hard standing.
- The foundations for the new lobby entrances.
- The removal of two existing gas pipes.
- The installation of a water supply from the main building to the new build and a new gas main from Sheepen Road to the new build.
- The installation of a new electricity cable from the main block to the Drama/Media block.
- The installation of a new electricity cable from the main block to the new build.
- Foul water drainage for the new build (including runs and chambers).
- Surface water drainage to the new soakaway (location and size to be approved by EH).
- Any other penetrative groundworks.

6.2 The scope for the watching brief may be altered pending future discussions with English Heritage and CBCAO.

7 General methodology

7.1 The relevant documents of the Institute for Archaeologists (IFA) will be followed, i.e. *Standard and guidance for the collection, documentation, conservation and research of archaeological materials* (2001 revised 2008), *Standard and Guidance for archaeological field excavations* (1995 revised 2008) and *Standard and Guidance for an archaeological watching brief* (1994 revised 2008). Other guidelines followed are those published in EAA 3, EAA 8, EAA 14 and EAA 24.

7.2 At the start of work an OASIS online record will be initiated and key fields completed on Details, Location and Creators forms.

7.3 All the latest Health and Safety guidelines will be followed on site. CAT has a standard health and safety policy, which will be adhered to (CAT 1999 updated 2012).

8 Finds

8.1 Should human remains be discovered the coroner will be informed and a license from the Home Office sought immediately; both the client and the monitoring officer will also be informed. Human remains will be left *in situ* except in those cases where damage or desecration are anticipated, or where analysis of the remains is considered to be a necessary requirement for satisfactory evaluation of the site. The

- preservation state of human bone will be recorded, so as to inform development of the WSI for any future excavation.
- 8.2 All finds of archaeological relevance will be retained. Policies for later disposal of any finds will be agreed with the CBCAO and the site owner.
 - 8.3 All finds, where appropriate, will be washed.
 - 8.4 A policy of marking for pottery and other finds will be agreed with Colchester and Ipswich Museum. Marking will include the site code and context number.
 - 8.5 The site archive will be presented to Colchester and Ipswich Museum in accordance with their requirements.
 - 8.6 All finds of potential treasure will be removed to a safe place, and the coroner informed immediately, in accordance with the rules of the Treasure Act 1996. The definition of treasure is given in pages 3-5 of the Code of Practice of the above act. This refers primarily to gold or silver objects.
 - 8.7 Finds work will be to accepted professional standards as presented in *Standard and Guidance for the collection, documentation, conservation and research of archaeological materials* (2001 revised 2008).
 - 8.8 A list of specialists available for consultation is given at the end of this WSI.

9 Environmental sampling strategies

- 9.1 Samples will be taken from any potentially rich environmental layer or feature with particular focus on palaeoenvironmental remains including both biological remains (e.g. plants, small vertebrates) and small sized artefacts (e.g. smithing debris). Samples will also be collected for potential micromorphical and other pedological sedimentological analysis.
- 9.2 Potential questions which the sampling strategy may address include:
 - The range of preservation types (charred, mineral-replaced, waterlogged), and their quality.
 - Concentrations of macro-remains.
 - Differences in remains from undated and dated features.
 - Variation between different feature types and areas of the site.
- 9.3 CAT has an arrangement with Val Fryer (Loddon, formerly UEA) whereby any potential environmental layers or features will be appropriately sampled as a matter of course. Generally, target contexts will be sampled by 40 litre bulk samples (where feature size allows), or 100% of smaller features. All processing and reporting will be done by Val Fryer. The Regional Science Advisor (RSA) of English Heritage is available for further advice.
- 9.4 Should any complex, or otherwise outstanding deposits be encountered, VF will be asked onto site to advise. Waterlogged 'organic' features will always be sampled. In all cases, the advice of VF and/or RSA on sampling strategies for complex or waterlogged deposits will be followed, including the taking of monolith samples.

10 Results

- 10.1 Two reports (one detailing the excavation phase of the work and one covering the archaeological monitoring and recording) will be submitted to the CBCAO within six months of the completion of the respective site work. These reports will contain;
 - The aims and methods adopted in the course of the investigation.
 - Location plan of excavated areas and/or other fieldwork in relation to the proposed development. At least two corners of the excavation area will be given 10 figure grid references.
 - A section/s drawing showing depth of deposits including present ground level with Ordnance Datum, vertical and horizontal scale.
 - Archaeological methodology and detailed results including a suitable conclusion and discussion. Appropriate discussion and result section assessing the site in relation to the Regional Research Frameworks (Brown and Glazebrook 2000, Medlycott 2011).
 - Specialist reports
 - A concise non-technical summary of the project results.

- 10.2 If, after discussion with the English Heritage Inspector of Ancient Monuments the results are considered worthy of publication, a report (at least at a summary level) will be submitted to *Essex Archaeology and History*.
- 10.3 An Oasis online form will be completed for submission to the EHER, which will include an uploaded .pdf version of the report.

11 Monitoring

- 11.1 The Archaeological Officer of Colchester Borough Council and the English Heritage Inspector of Ancient Monuments will be responsible for monitoring progress and standards throughout the project. This will include the fieldwork, reporting, and publication stages.
- 11.2 All excavations will be inspected by the CBCAO and EH inspector prior to their backfilling.
- 11.3 CBCAO and EH will be notified when the fieldwork is complete.
- 11.4 The involvement of CBCAO and EH shall be acknowledged in any report or publication generated by this project.

12 Archive deposition

- 12.1 The full archive will be deposited at Colchester and Ipswich Museum within six months of the completion of the report.
- 12.2 Finds (and other retained materials) will be bagged and boxed in the manner recommended by Colchester and Ipswich Museum. The storage of the archive will accord with the *Guidelines on the Preparation and Transfer of Archaeological Archives to Colchester & Ipswich Museums (2008)*.
- 12.3 A summary of the contents of the archive shall be supplied to CBCAO and English Heritage at the time of deposition at the museum.

13 References

Brown, D.	2007	<i>Archaeological Archives: A guide to best practice in creation, compilation, transfer and curation</i>
Brown, N and Glazenbrook, J.	2000	<i>Research and Archaeology: a frame work for the Eastern Counties 2 Research agenda and strategy</i> , East Anglian Archaeological, occasional papers 8 (EA8)
CAR 11	1995	<i>Colchester Archaeological Report 11: Camulodunum II</i> , by C F C Hawkes and P Crummy
CAT Report 188	2002	<i>An archaeological watching brief on the installation of tennis court floodlights at St Helena School, Sheepen Road, Colchester, Essex: March 2002</i> , by B Holloway
CAT Report 349	2005	<i>Report on a watching brief at St Helena School, Sheepen Road, Colchester, Essex: October 2005</i> , by K Orr
CAT Report 351	2005	<i>An archaeological evaluation of St Helena School Drama Block, Sheepen Road, Colchester, Essex: November 2005</i> , by K Orr
CAT Report 384	2006	<i>An archaeological excavation of a foundation trench at the drama block, St Helena School, Sheepen Road, Colchester, Essex: June 2006</i> , by K Orr
CAT Report 414	2007	<i>Archaeological evaluation at St Helena School: February 2007</i> , by L Pooley
CAT Report 451	2007	<i>An archaeological watching brief at St Helena School car-park, Sheepen Road, Colchester, Essex: July-August 2007</i> , by K Orr
CAT Report 544	2010	<i>An archaeological evaluation by trial-trenching at St Helena School, Sheepen Road, Colchester, Essex: March 2010</i> , by B Holloway and H Brooks
CAT Report 699	2013	<i>An archaeological trial-trenching evaluation at St Helena School, Sheepen Road, Colchester, Essex: April 2013</i> , by Ben Holloway and Howard Brooks
Colchester Archaeological	1999	<i>Policies and procedures</i> . 1999 (updated 2012)

Trust		
Colchester & Ipswich Museums	2008	<i>Guidelines on Standards and Practices for Archaeological Fieldwork in the Borough of Colchester</i>
Colchester & Ipswich Museums	2008	<i>Guidelines on the Preparation and Transfer of Archaeological Archives to Colchester & Ipswich Museums</i>
Crummy, P	1980	'The Temples of Roman Colchester', in <i>Temples, Churches and Religion (Recent Research in Roman Britain)</i> , ed by Warwick Rodwell, BAR, British Series, 77, 242-83
Crummy, P	1997	<i>City of Victory: the story of Colchester – Britain's first Roman town</i>
DCLG	2012	<i>National Planning Policy Framework</i> (Dept of Communities and Local Government)
Glazenbrook, J.	1997	<i>Research and Archaeology: a frame work for the Eastern Counties 1 resource assessment</i> , East Anglian Archaeological, occasional papers 3 (EAA3)
Gurney, D.	2003	<i>Standards for field archaeology in the East of England</i> East Anglian Archaeological, occasional papers 14 (EAA14)
Hawkes C F C, & Hull, M R	1947	<i>Camulodunum, first report on the excavations at Colchester 1930-39</i> , Report 14 of the Research Committee of the Society of Antiquaries of London
Hull, M R	1958	<i>Roman Colchester</i> , Report 20 of the Research Committee of the Society of Antiquaries of London
Institute for Archaeologists	1995 (Revised 2008)	<i>Standards and Guidance for Archaeological Excavation</i>
Institute for Archaeologists	1994 (Revised 2008)	<i>Standards and Guidance for an Archaeological Watching Brief</i>
Lister, C	2014	<i>Brief for Archaeological Excavation and Watching Brief at St Helena School, Colchester, Essex</i>
Medlycott, M.	2011	<i>Research and Archaeology Revised: A Revised Framework for the East of England</i> , East Anglian Archaeological, occasional papers 24 (EAA 24)

Colchester Archaeological Trust 28/10/14

Appendix - team structure and details

List of team members

Site supervision and Recording

Ben Holloway, Adam Wightman

Assistants

To be decided

Finds consultants

Stephen Benfield (CAT): Prehistoric and Roman pottery, other finds in small quantities

Joanna Bird (Guildford): Samian ware

Ernest Black (Colchester): Roman brick/tile

Howard Brooks (CAT): Medieval and Post-Medieval pottery

Dr Hilary Cool (Nottingham): Roman glass

Nina Crummy (Colchester): Small finds

Julie Curl: Human bone and large Animal bone assemblages

John Davis (Norwich Museum): Roman coins

Val Fryer (UEA/Loddon): Environmental remains

Helen Chappell (English Heritage): Regional Science Advisor

Hazel Martingell (Braintree): Lithics

Valerie Rigby (British Museum): LIA ceramics

Dr Paul Sealey (Colchester Museums): Roman Amphoras

Patricia Ryan (Chelmsford): Medieval and later brick and tile

Sue Tyler (ECC): Saxon Pottery.

Helen Walker: Saxon, Medieval and post-medieval pottery.

Adam Wightman (CAT): small animal bone and lithic assemblages

Graphics

Adam Wightman, Emma Holloway

Report writing

Adam Wightman & Howard Brooks

Senior Site Staff

Ben Holloway BSc AIFA

Ben joined CAT staff in June 2000, a graduate in Archaeology from Bournemouth University. Ben has conducted fieldwork in Scotland and the Isle of Man. Since joining the Trust Ben has carried out extensive work in Colchester at various supervisory and project positions including evaluations and excavations at Colchester Garrison PFI (including the circus), St Marys Hospital and Colchester 6th Form College. His work in Essex includes the Sandon Park and Ride Site, Skyline 120 Business Park at Great Notley, Dry Street, Basildon and the Stanhope industrial park Stanford-le-hope.

Adam Wightman BSc, MA

After graduating from the University of Sheffield in 2004 with a BSc Hons in Archaeology and Prehistory, Adam worked for CAT during the Roman Circus excavations at Colchester Garrison in 2004/5. He then went on to work for Cambridge Archaeological Unit before completing a Masters in the Archaeology of Human Origins at the University of Southampton where he focused on lithic and animal bone analysis. Since returning to CAT in 2006 Adam has carried out evaluations and excavations at the Great Dunmow Salesrooms, 143-147 High Street Maldon, Firstsite Newsite in Colchester town centre, and at 21 St Peters Street adjacent to Colchester's Roman wall. He now completes assessments and full reports on small assemblages of animal bone and lithics for CAT.

Finds Specialists

Stephen Benfield BA, Cert Archaeol (Oxon) (CAT) Prehistoric and Roman pottery

Steve's first involvement with Colchester archaeology was in 1985, working on a Manpower Services Commission sponsored project to assist in processing the enormous collection of Roman pottery from excavations in the town. He graduated from Reading University with a degree in archaeology and subsequently studied for his post-graduate Certificate in Archaeology at Oxford. Returning to CAT, he has since worked on many CAT projects at various supervisory and directorial positions, including the major projects at Stanway Iron Age burial site and Gosbecks Roman temple/theatre complex. Stephen

has also, through much hands-on experience, built up a considerable working knowledge of LIA and Roman ceramics. He now completes ceramic assessments and full reports for CAT, drawing on the unrivalled catalogues provided by the standard Colchester works *Camulodunum* (Hawkes & Hull 1947), *Roman Colchester* (Hull 1958) and now *CAR 10*, and by examining the fabric series held at CAT headquarters.

Joanna Bird FSA (Guildford) Samian

Joanna is one of the country's top samian specialists. Among her large corpus of work is a contribution to the publication *Colchester Archaeological Report 10: Roman pottery from excavations in Colchester 1971-1986*.

Ernest Black (Colchester) Roman brick/tile

Ernest is a Colchester schoolteacher with a wide interest in archaeology and the classical world. In this sense, he is following in the footsteps of A.F. Hall, and Mike Corbishley who were also local schoolmasters. He has developed his specialism by large scale hands-on experience with Roman brick and tile, and has contributed to the *Arch J*, *CAR 6: Excavations at Culver Street, the Gilbert School, and other sites in Colchester 1971-1985*.

Howard Brooks BA, FSA, MIFA, (CAT) Medieval and Post-Medieval pottery

Howard's involvement in Essex archaeology goes back to 1970 when he dug at Sheepen, Colchester with Rosalind Dunnett (now Niblett). He studied archaeology at the University of Wales, and graduated in 1975. He worked for Colchester Archaeological Trust between 1976 and 1981, and again in 1985, where he was involved at various levels of responsibility (up to Co-Director) in the excavation of deeply stratified urban remains in Roman Colchester and suburbs (Colchester Archaeological Report 3 [1994]). Between 1992 and 1995 he worked for Essex County Archaeology Section, first in directing the fieldwalking and excavation project at Stansted Airport (East Anglian Archaeology 107, 2004), and then in Development Control. Howard then left ECC to set up and run HBAS, the county's smallest contracting team, in which capacity he carried out over twenty field projects and wrote a dozen consultancy reports. He rejoined CAT in 1997. He regularly contributes to Essex Archaeology & History, and teaches University evening classes on archaeology.

Dr Hilary Cool FSA MIFA (Nottingham) Roman glass

Yet another graduate of the University of Wales, Hilary is now a freelance glass and finds specialist, and has written many reports on glass from Colchester sites, including contributions to *Colchester Archaeological Report 6: Excavations at Culver Street, the Gilbert School, and other sites in Colchester 1971-85*, and *Colchester Archaeological Report 9: Excavations on Roman and later cemeteries, churches and monastic sites in Colchester 1971-88* (1993). Among her major works is the internationally selling *Colchester Archaeological Report 8: Roman vessel glass from excavations in Colchester 1971-85*.

Nina Crummy BA FSA (Colchester) Small finds

Nina first worked in the early 1970s as finds assistant on the major urban excavations in Colchester for the Colchester Excavation Committee (later the Trust). Over the next twenty years she built up an unrivalled working knowledge of small finds of all types. She has collaborated in most of the *Colchester Archaeological Reports*, and was principal author of the best-selling *Colchester Archaeological Reports 2* (Roman small finds), *4* (*The coins from excavations in Colchester 1971-9*) and *5* (*The post-Roman small finds from excavations in Colchester 1971-85*). She recently worked for the Museum of London, and was instrumental in the recent transfer of and the massive improvement in accessibility to archaeological archives in London. She now works freelance on small finds reports for CAT, HBAS, and other bodies including Winchester Excavation Committee.

Julie Curl (Norfolk) Animal Bone

Julie has over 16 years of experience in archaeology and in particular finds for the Norfolk Archaeological Unit and Norfolk Museums Service. After many years working as both a bone specialist and in graphics for the NAU Julie has recently established her own freelance company Sylvanus in which she specialises in Archaeological and Natural History illustrations as well as being a freelance animal and human bone specialist. She has been producing faunal remains reports for many years and produces assessments and analysis reports for clients across the East Anglian region. She has her own extensive bone reference collection built up over many years. Her particular interests in faunal remains are animal husbandry and pathologies. She has also worked as a conservator, particularly on Pleistocene vertebrates and a wide variety of archaeology and natural history projects at the Norwich Castle Museum. Julie is also an extra-mural lecturer with the University of East Anglia, teaching Animal bones in Archaeology.

Dr John A Davies (Norwich Museum) Roman coins

John has, for some years, written reports on Roman coins from Colchester excavations. He specializes in barbarous radiates, and has contributed to *British Numismatic Journal* on that topic. Among his other publications is a contribution to *Colchester Archaeological Report 4: The coins from excavations in*

Colchester 1971-9, and *CAR 9: Excavations on Roman and later cemeteries, churches and monastic sites in Colchester 1971-88 (1993)*.

Val Fryer (Norfolk) Environmental Archaeologist BA, MIFA

Val has fifteen years experience in environmental archaeology, working for English Heritage, County Units and independent archaeological bodies across the United Kingdom and Southern Ireland. She has published reports in *East Anglian Archaeology* (including occasional papers), *Proceedings of the Prehistoric Society*, *Medieval Archaeology* and *Norfolk Archaeology*. Specialist work for various police authorities across England and Northern Ireland. Val is a Member of the Institute of Field Archaeologists with special accreditation for environmental archaeology and she is also a Member of the Association of Environmental Archaeologists.

Helen Chappell (English Heritage) Regional Science Advisor

Helen Chappell is English Heritage's Regional Science Advisor (RSA) for the East of England, providing regionally-based advice on all aspects of archaeological science: geophysics, scientific dating, hydrology, geoarchaeology, analysis of biological remains and technological residues, artifact analysis and conservation. RSAs give advice to a range of organizations and also produce good practice standards and guidelines. RSAs are all actively involved in research, and applying new methodologies to site investigation and management.

Hazel Martingell BA, FAAIS (Braintree): Lithics

Hazel has for many years worked as a lithics illustrator and specialist, undertaking work for The British Museum, ECC Field Archaeology Unit and for London and Cambridge Universities, to name but a few. Since 1987 she has been self-employed and has excavated at a Middle Stone Age site at Gorham's Cave, Gibraltar as well as writing and illustrating worked flint reports for CAT, ECC FAU, and the British Museum. Her impressive publication record includes reports on sites from around the globe. Closer to home she has published work in *Essex History and Archaeology*, *The East Anglian Archaeology Monograph series*, *Antiquity* and *British Museum Occasional Papers*. Hazel is a fellow of the Association of Archaeological Illustrators and Surveyors and a founder member of the Lithics Study Group, London.

Valerie Rigby (Hertfordshire) LIA ceramics

Formerly working for the British Museum, Val is one of the country's leading authorities on later prehistoric ceramics in general, and traded wares in particular. She has published widely. Her major work include *Baldock : the excavation of a Roman and pre-Roman settlement, 1968-72 (Britannia Monograph Series 7, with Ian Stead)*. On a more local level, she has contributed to the magisterial *Colchester Archaeological Report 10: Roman pottery from excavations in Colchester 1971-88*, and to Ros Niblett's *Sheepen: an early Roman industrial site at Camulodunum* (CBA Research Report 57, 1985).

Patricia Ryan (Chelmsford) Medieval and later brick and tile

Pat has for many years been examining excavated collections of brick and tile from Essex sites, and contributing reports which are usually consigned to the gloomier parts of archive reports, or as footnotes in published texts. Her regular contributions to *Essex Archaeology & History*, therefore, under-represent the devoted study which Pat has put in over the years. Nobody knows more about local brick and tile, except for David Andrews, with whom she collaborated on significant sections of *Cressing Temple: A Templar and Hospitaller Manor in Essex (1993)*.

Dr Paul Sealey (Colchester Museum) Amphoras

Paul has worked at Colchester Museum since the late 1970s. His PhD specialism was Roman amphoras, a topic on which he writes specialist reports. His main areas of interest are prehistory and the Roman period, and he has developed a familiarity with those periods and their ceramics. He has published widely. His major works include *Amphoras from the 1970 excavations at Colchester Sheepen* (BAR 142, 1985), contributions to Ros Niblett's *Sheepen: an early Roman industrial site at Camulodunum* (CBA Res Rep 57, 1985). He regularly contributes to *Essex Archaeology & History*.

Sue Tyler (ECC) Saxon Pottery

Sue is the County authority on Saxon material, especially pottery. She has had several spells working with Essex County Archaeology Section, interrupted by a late-1980s spell in Hertfordshire. She has written reports on Saxon material for many Essex Projects, and contributes regularly to *Essex Archaeology & History*, including the Anglo-Saxon cemetery at Prittlewell (*Essex Archaeol Hist* 19 (1988)).

Helen Walker BSc Medieval and post-medieval pottery.

Helen was Essex County Council Field Archaeology Group's medieval and post-medieval pottery specialist. Before joining ECC in 1985, she worked on finds in Carmarthen, and for Hampshire CC on projects in Winchester. Since 1985, she has contributed reports on ceramics to many other projects in the county. A regular contributor to *Essex Archaeology & History*, her principal publications include

reports on the Rayleigh kiln dump, and George Street and Church Street, Harwich (*Essex Archaeology & History*, 21 [1990]), and North Shoebury (*EAA* 75).

Essex Historic Environment Record/ Essex Archaeology and History

Summary sheet

Address: St Helena School, Sheepen Road, Colchester	
Parish: Colchester	District: Colchester
NGR: TL 9878 2582	Site code: CAT project code – 14/10k Museum Accession – 2014.108
Type of work: Excavation	Site director/group: Colchester Archaeological Trust
Date of work: October/November 2014	Size of area investigated: Main trench – 280m ²
Location of curating museum: Colchester Museum	Funding source: Developer
Further seasons anticipated? no	Related SMR or UAD numbers: 13121, 11688, 19724 MCC604, MCC602
Final report: CAT Report 825	
Periods represented: Roman	
Summary of fieldwork results: <i>Archaeological excavation was carried out at St Helena School, Sheepen Road, Colchester. The school is situated within the Roman enclosed oppidum of Camulodunum (specifically the area of the trading depot at Sheepen), and is within a scheduled monument (List entry 1002173). The school grounds contain the remains of two Romano-British temples, and the site was within the precinct or temenos of a large post-Boudiccan temple dedicated to Jupiter (Colchester's Temple 2). The excavation revealed Roman activity comprising nine pits, one of which (F1) contained twenty-six low denomination 1st century AD coins. Also revealed were patches of the gravelled surface of the temple precinct and the cobble and mortar wall foundations of a small internal altar or similar structure.</i>	
Previous summaries/reports: CAT 699	
English Heritage monitor: Sarah Poppy CBC monitor: Chris Lister	
Keywords: Roman, Temple, Precinct, Coins, Hoard, Brooch, Altar	Significance: ***
Author of summary: Pip Parmenter	Date of summary: June 2015