Archaeological monitoring and excavation at Wickham Hall Farm, Hadham Road, Bishop's Stortford, Hertfordshire, CM23 1JG

October 2018 - May 2019



by Dr Elliott Hicks

with contributions by Dr Matthew Loughton, Alec Wade, Laura Pooley, Adam Wightman and Julie Curl figures by Chris Lister, Ben Holloway and Emma Holloway

fieldwork by Mark Baister and Ben Holloway with Emma Holloway, Sarah Carter, Chris Lister, Robin Mathieson, Nigel Rayner, Elliott Hicks, Alec Wade, Adam Tuffey and James Keeble

commissioned by Sworders on behalf of David Harvey

NGR: TL 47452 22985 (centre) Planning ref.: 3/17/0407/FUL CAT project ref.: 18/07m OASIS ref.: colchest3-329804



Colchester Archaeological Trust

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

tel.: 01206 501785 email: <u>eh2@catuk.org</u>

CAT Report 1339 April 2019

Contents

2 Ir 3 A 4 A 5 R 6 F 7 E 8 D 9 A 10 R 11 A 12 C	aims Results Finds Environme Discussion Acknowled References	ntal assessment gements s ons and glossary f archive	1 1 4 4 9 22 24 25 26 27 28
Apper Apper Apper Apper	ndix 2 ndix 3	Context list Ceramic and pottery list Animal bone Catalogue of small finds and iron nails	30 33 43 44
Figure	es		after p44

HHER summary sheet

List of photographs, tables and figures

Cover: working shot

Photograph 1 Photograph 2 Photograph 3 Photograph 4 Photograph 5	L7 and L8 checkerboard sections, looking north Ditch F42, looking north northwest Ditch F49 sx 3, looking north northwest Pit F44, looking southeast Pit F56 fully-excavated, looking west	5 7 7 7 8
Table 1	Details on the main types of ceramics and pottery	9
Table 2	Number and weight of ceramic and pottery from Features	9
Table 3	Roman pottery fabrics recorded	11
Table 4	Details on the Roman pottery	11
Table 5	Roman pottery quantification	12
Table 6	Roman vessel form quantification	12
Table 7	Details on the pottery discs	13
Table 8	Details on the Roman pottery from the ditch F42	13
Table 9	Details on the Roman pottery from the pit F44	14
Table 10	Details on the Roman pottery from the ditch F49	14
Table 11	Details on the Roman pottery from the pit F56	15
Table 12	Roman CBM by type	15
Table 13	Quantities of Roman CBM by feature	16
Table 14	Details of the Roman tegulae lower cutaways	16
Table 15	Feature dating summary	17
Table 16	POSAC and species distribution by context and date	18
Table 17	Worked flints	21
Table 18	Stone by context	21
Table 19	Samples assessed	22
Table 20	Contents of flots	23

- Site location
- Development site shown in relation to nearby archaeological and historic monuments
- Fig 1 Fig 2 Fig 3 Fig 4 Area A and B results
- Evaluation trenching overlaid on excavation Areas A and B
- Fig 5 Area A results

- Fig 6 Area A: plan of surface L8 grid square 1
 Fig 7 Area A: long profiles across surface L8
 Fig 8 Area B: results
 Fig 9 Monitoring results
 Fig 10 Feature sections
 Fig 11 Feature sections

1 Summary

An archaeological excavation was carried out at Wickham Hall, Hadham Road, Bishop's Stortford, Hertfordshire in advance of the change of use of a barn from agriculture to B1 (Office) and the erection of one no. B1 (Office) building and one A3 (Cafe/Restaurant) to include parking.

The site is located within the grounds of a 16th- or 17th-century farmstead with purported medieval origins, much of which has been converted for commercial purposes. Excavations uncovered a metalled surface, multiple pits and ditches and considerable Roman building materials and domestic waste which together evidence the existence of a Roman villa which stood on this site during the 3rd and 4th centuries. Other features and material found during the course of the excavation also demonstrate periodic activity at this site from the Neolithic period to the 1st or 2nd centuries AD.

Finally, in spite of the purported medieval origins of Wickham Hall Farm and the fact that the farmstead was constructed during the post-medieval period, the only evidence of activity at the site during the medieval period consisted of a single sherd of pottery, while no features dating to the post-medieval period were encountered.

2 Introduction (Fig 1)

This is the report on an archaeological excavation at Wickham Hall, Hadham Road, Bishop's Stortford, Hertfordshire which was carried out during 2nd-23rd October 2018 and archaeological monitoring undertaken at the site on 30th May 2019. The work was commissioned by Sworders on behalf of David Harvey in advance of the change of use of a barn from agriculture to B1 (Office) and the erection of one no. B1 (Office) building and one A3 (Cafe/Restaurant) to include parking and was carried out by Colchester Archaeological Trust (CAT).

In response to consultation with Hertfordshire County Council Environmental Resource Planning (HCCERP), Historic Environment Advisor Alison Tinniswood advised 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 the *National Planning Policy Framework* (DCLG 2012). This was to take the form of archaeological monitoring of all groundworks.

In response to this condition a written scheme of investigation (WSI) was prepared by CAT (CAT, 2017) and agreed with the Historic Environment Advisor. All work was carried out in accordance with this WSI.

In addition to the 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 Institute for Archaeologists' *Standard and guidance for archaeological excavation* (CIfA 2014a) and *Standard and guidance for the collection, documentation, conservation and research of archaeological materials* (CIfA 2014b).

3 Archaeological background (Fig 2)

The following archaeological background draws on information supplied by the Hertfordshire Historic Environment Record, request number 257/19.

The proposed development site is located to the northwest of the Roman and medieval town of Bishop's Stortford and within Area of Archaeological Significance No. 115, as identified in the Local Plan.

The Hertfordshire Historic Landscape Characterisation (HLC) shows that the development site is located within an area characterised as informal parkland (type code ip) associated with Wickham Hall. To the immediate south is a landscape characterised as post-1950s enclosure (te), with later enclosure (18th century or later) (le) to the southwest. Beyond the A120 (mr, communications – motorways) to the southeast, the landscape within the search area is characterised largely as post-1950s enclosure (te) and a built-up area (urban development) (ba) with smaller areas of ancient woodland (aw), pre-18th century 'irregular' enclosure (if), 19th-20th century woodland plantation (wp), enclosed meadow pasture (mp), allotments (ag), mineral extraction (me) and industrial (in) use.

Wickham Hall Farm is a post-medieval farmstead with medieval origins consisting of a Grade II-listed 16th/17th-century timber-framed farmhouse, two 17th-century aisled barns and an outbuilding arranged around a central courtyard (NHLE no. 10916-9), also including a 17th-century dovecote (NHLE no. 10920; HER 6291, now a house). These buildings, along with a small number of mid to late 19th- to 20th-century farm buildings, have all been converted into retail units within the last decade.

There are references to a probable manorial site at this location dating back as far as 1487, suggesting that Wickham Hall had medieval origins with the original manor house being replaced sometime in the 16th or 17th century. There are also references to an earlier medieval settlement, possibly a deserted village, related to earthworks to the southeast of the farm/northwest of the farmhouse, and pottery has been recovered from this area (HER 1024) (Letch 2010). The settlement may even have had Saxon origins as Wickham is mentioned in the Domesday Book of 1086 and the place-name is an Old English form (*ibid*).

The site has already been the subject of several archaeological investigations:

- 1) Roman pottery was recovered from test-pits excavated prior to the construction of a stable block in 1999 (Heritage Network Report 80). This building was subsequently demolished.
- 2) A comprehensive archaeological desk-based assessment, site inspection and preliminary trial-trenching was carried out by the Essex County Council Field Archaeology Unit in October 2010 (Letch 2010). Although documentary evidence and pottery finds suggested the possibility of Roman, Saxon and medieval remains, no archaeological remains were identified in the three trial-trenches. Two trenches showed a build-up of 0.4-0.5m of subsoil and topsoil above natural and the third suggested that parts of the central area of the farm may have been levelled with clay within the modern era (*ibid*).
- 3) A comprehensive historic building recording of all farm buildings due to be converted was carried out by CAT in 2012 (CAT Report 733).
- 4) A small test-pit evaluation was simultaneously carried out during the historic building recording. Five test-pits were dug through the floors of the buildings highlighted for conversion to assess the impact of groundworks required for new floors, underpinning works, etc (CAT unpublished summary report by A Wightman 2012). This work concluded that, with the possible exception of the larger of the aisled buildings, any trace of original floors has been destroyed by subsequent activity (ie. the laying of

concrete floors), and that it was unlikely that groundworks would have any significant impact on underlying archaeology.

5) An archaeological evaluation comprising four 30m-long trenches was carried out in June 2018 (CAT Report 1288). Little evidence was found that relates to the historical 16th/17th-century farmstead. The only discovery that may have been associated with it was a backfilled pond, that occupied the majority of one of the trenches. There were, however, multiple Roman features uncovered during the evaluation, with most dating from the late 3rd/4th century. These were largely pits and ditches, including two ditches that may form the corner of an enclosure. A larger Roman feature was tentatively identified as a quarry pit and was cut through by several later Roman features. A single Bronze Age/Iron Age ditch indicated the possibility of earlier activity on the site.

Beyond the development site are a number of significant prehistoric, Roman, medieval, post-medieval and modern archaeological deposits, a summary of which is included below (see Fig 2 for locations).

Prehistoric

Significant prehistoric archaeological remains close to the development site include a Late Bronze Age pit with residual Neolithic pottery (HHER 30302, 560m ESE); two Late Bronze Age/Early Iron Age pits (30788, 580m S); a Late Iron Age circular enclosure/barrow (30299, 690m ESE); an Early to Middle Iron Age D-shaped enclosure linked by a long ditch with a second enclosure, with associated roundhouses and four-post structures (17569, 725m SSW); and Late Bronze Age pits, postholes and three urned cremations (30298, 950m SSW). Over 1km away were Late Bronze Age to Middle Iron Age pits, hearths, ditches and a trackway (30415, 1.1km S); a Late Bronze Age enclosure (30300, 1.1km E); a possible Mesolithic site and Early Iron Age finds (2834, 1.16km SSW); Middle Iron Age and undated pits/postholes (31374, 1.65km E); with Early Neolithic flint, a Late Bronze Age ring-ditch and Late Bronze Age/Early Iron Age ditches and pits (18775-7, 1.7km E).

Roman

Roman Stane Street runs east to west 1.14km to the south of the development site (4680). Other Roman monuments nearby include early Roman cultivation ditches (30416, 700m S); Late Iron Age/Roman ditches and pits (17995, 1.06km SE; 30301, 1.1km SE); a 1st century cremation within an enclosure defined by ditches and by Stane Street (30786, 1.1km S); and finds scatters (127, 1.23km SSE).

Medieval

Medieval monuments include a pit (17641, 760m SSE) and fields with ridge and furrow (15647, 1.05km S).

Post-medieval

Post-medieval monuments include farmsteads (11100, 1.04m SSE; 15327, 1.16km SE; 15398, 1.3km ESE; and 30721, 1.2km SSE); an avenue of lime trees (17578, 1.07km SE); brickfields and gravel pits (6858, 1.3km ESE; 6860, 1.7km ESE; and 18778, 1.9km E); field boundaries and pits (17570, 500m SE; 30417, 840m SE; 17996, 1.14km SE; 31496, 1.35km SE; and 31532, 1.8km ESE).

Modern

Modern military remains are numerous and include the barracks of the 1st Hertfordshire Light Horse Volunteer Corps (10760, 1.02km S with target butt and rifle range 10759, 940m SE); a World War I rifle range (18708, 730m SW), foxholes and practice trenches (30787, 950m SSW) and graffiti on a culvert (18745, 1.5km E); and World War II fighter plane crash site (18660, 900 SW), air raid shelter (30303, 985m

SE), pill-box (6946, 1.17km SSE) and spigot mortar base (6947, 1.7km ESE). A 20th-century arts and crafts country house is located 1.03km SE (17933) and a lime kiln 1.4km NE (15482).

Undated

Fifty metres to the southwest of the development site are undated cropmarks of pits and possible cut features (16756), and two undated pits were identified 1.5km E (31487).

4 Aims

The aim of this investigation was to excavate and record all archaeological horizons due to be destroyed during the proposed development.

5 Results (Figs 3-11)¹

Two excavation areas were laid out over the development site. Both were machine stripped under the supervision of a CAT archaeologist.

5.1 Excavation Area A (Figs 5-7 & 10)

Excavation Area A measured 439m². It was located over evaluation trench T3. The area was reduced through modern topsoil (L1, c 0.35m thick) which, in the centre of the area, sealed a post-Roman accumulation layer (L6, c 0.56m thick) and outside the area covered by L6, sealed another post-Roman accumulation layer (L2, c 0.1m thick). In the centre of the site, L6 and L2 overlay 4th- or 5th-century build-up or occupation layer (L7, 0.02-0.13m thick), which in turn sealed a 3rd- or 4th-century Roman metalled surface (L8, 0.04-0.08m thick) constructed directly upon natural (L3). Outside the area covered by L7 and L8, L2 overlay L3.

Prehistoric

A number of prehistoric artefacts were residually present in later contexts within Area A. Two flint flakes broadly dated from the Neolithic to the Bronze Age, as well as a single sherd of Late Iron Age pottery, were recovered from 4th- or 5th-century build-up/occupation layer L7. Another sherd of Late Iron Age pottery was found in 2nd- to 4th-century pit F23.

1st-2nd century

The earliest feature within Area A was 1st- or 2nd-century pit F34, which was 0.48m wide and 0.08m deep. Evidence of activity on the site during this period otherwise consisted of residual artefacts in later contexts. Sherds of 1st- or 2nd-century pottery were retrieved from pit F38, ditch F39, and occupation/build-up layer L7. Pottery dating to the 2nd or 3rd centuries was found in F24 and in L7.

3rd-4th century

The primary phase of activity within Area A occurred during the 3rd and 4th centuries. A number of features yielded material dating to the 2nd to the 4th centuries, but the concentration of remains dating to the 3rd and 4th centuries suggests that their origins lie towards the end of this date range and for this reason they are described here.

The predominating feature representing this phase of activity at this site was 3rd- or 4th-century metalled surface L8. Located in the centre of the excavation area, the

¹ Context numbers (features [F] and layers [L]) and finds numbers follow on from those used in the evaluation (see Appendix 1 and CAT Report 1288).

exposed extent of the surface was approximately 32m long and 20m wide. This surface, and the overlying L7, was excavated in checkerboard sections.

Most of the features within the excavation area were clustered together at its northern end. This area contained a series of pits. Two of these, F32 and F37, were quite large, measuring 1.95m wide by 0.35m deep and 1.99m wide by 0.3m deep, respectively, and may have been used for clay quarrying. The remainder (F23, F25, F27, F29, F30, F35 and F36) were 0.58-1.56m wide and 0.08-0.26m deep. A further pit, F24, was cut into metalled surface L8, and was 0.41m wide and 0.11m deep.

A number of ditches also passed through the excavation area. Ditch F33 – dating to the 3rd or 4th century, aligned WSW-ENE and 0.6m wide and 0.11m deep – projected from the northeast corner of the excavation area into the concentration of features, where it terminated. F33 was recorded as F48 in excavation Area B, to the northeast. 3rd- or 4th-century ditch F26, 0.65m wide and 0.17m deep, ran along the northwestern edge of the area on a NNE-SSW alignment, and at its southern end joined another 3rd- or 4th-century ditch, F22, which was aligned NW-SE, measured 1.61m wide and 0.32m deep, and terminated around the centre of the excavation area. Ditch F22 cut L8 and so this part of the ditch system – and perhaps all of the ditches revealed during these excavations – post-dates this surface. A further ditch of 3rd- or 4th-century date, F39, ran on a WNW-ESE alignment along the southern edge of the excavation area. The ditch extended beyond the limit of excavation, but its exposed extent was 1.45m wide and 0.63m deep.



Photograph 1 L7 and L8 checkerboard sections, looking north

Roman

Two small pits, F27 and F30, which were 0.58m wide and 0.14m deep and 0.65m wide and 0.2m deep respectively, could only be dated as Roman.

Undated

A number of undated features were excavated. Pits F28 and F31 measured 0.49m wide by 0.2m deep and 0.89m wide by 0.22m deep, respectively. Although no dating evidence was retrieved from either of these features, they were both cut by 3rd- or 4th-century ditch F26, and so must therefore be 4th-century in date at the latest.

Ditch F47 ran through the southern part of the area on an NNW-SSE alignment and was 0.5m wide and 0.18m deep.

5.2 Excavation Area B (Figs 8 & 11)

Excavation Area B was comprised of two separate areas totalling 375m² and was located over the area of evaluation trench T2. The area was reduced through modern concrete and sub-base (L4, 0.07-0.15m thick), L1 (0.17-0.24m thick) and L2 (0.07-0.14m thick) onto L3.

Prehistoric

A number of residual prehistoric artefacts were recovered within Area B. Two Early Neolithic blade core flints were found within ditch F49. Neolithic to Bronze Age flint flakes were present in pits F44 and F41, ditch terminus F57 and ditch F54. Ditch F53 also contained a flint flake of Neolithic to Bronze Age date. While this feature produced no other dating evidence it is likely that this flake, like the others, was residual in a later context. A single residual sherd of Late Bronze Age pottery was retrieved from pit F41, while ditch F42 contained a sherd of Late Iron Age pottery.

3rd-4th century

As in excavation Area A, the main period of activity in Area B was located in the 3rd and 4th centuries. Again, those features yielding material giving a date range of the 2nd to the 4th centuries are detailed in this section, as are a number dated to the 4th or 5th centuries.

Several ditches dating to the 3rd and 4th centuries cut across the excavation area. Ditch F42 ran through its northeastern and southeastern corners on a NNW-SSE alignment, and was 0.9-1.73m wide and 0.31-0.63m deep. Another ditch dating to this period, F49, passed through the centre of the area on a NNE-SSW alignment before turning to the west as it approached the southern boundary of the area. It was 0.5-1.32m wide and 0.31-0.6m deep. Ditch F57 extended into the southern part of the excavation area before terminating. It was aligned NNE-SSW and was 0.53m wide and 0.13m deep.

A series of pits dating to this period (F40, F43, F44, F45, F56 and F58), varying from 0.58-1.21m in width and 0.06-0.36m in depth, were uncovered across the excavation area. A series of intercutting pits, F59, was located towards the southern boundary of the excavation area, adjacent to F49, and was 1.79m wide and 0.39m deep.



Photograph 2 Ditch F42 sx 2, looking north northwest



Photograph 3 Ditch F49 sx 3, looking north northwest



Photograph 4 Pit F44, looking southeast



Photograph 5 Pit F56 fully-excavated, looking west

Roman

Some features uncovered could only be dated to the Roman period more broadly. Pits F51 and F52 were located toward the north of the excavation area and were 1.06m wide and 0.21m deep and 0.26m wide and 0.07m deep, respectively. Posthole F46, within the centre of the excavation area, was 0.21m wide and 0.04m deep. Finally, ditch F54 extended into the southerly part of the excavation area on a E-W alignment, and appeared to terminate before it reached the northerly part of the excavation area. This feature was 1.14m wide and 0.3m deep.

12th-14th century

A single intrusive sherd of pottery dating to the period from the 12th to the 14th century was found in 4th- or 5th-century pit F43.

Undatable

A number of undatable features was also excavated. Ditch F48 extended through the centre of Area B on an ENE-WSW alignment, and was 0.72m wide, 0.12m deep. While no dating evidence was retrieved from this feature, it was cut by 4th-century ditch F49, meaning F48 was 4th-century in date at the latest. Pit F50, which was 0.99m wide and 0.14m deep, and pit F53, which was 0.4m wide and 0.05m deep, were uncovered at the northern end of the excavation area.

5.3 Monitoring (Fig 9)

On 30 May 2019, a CAT archaeologist monitored the excavation of a drainage run for the forthcoming development to the east of Excavation Area B.

The drainage run was approximately 60m long, 0.5m wide, and was excavated to a depth of 1-1.1m. Six layers were recorded. The northern section of the trenching was excavated through topsoil (L9, c 0.31-0.35m thick) and subsoil (L10, c 0.21-0.23m thick) onto natural (L11a). In places in the northern section of the trenching, a distinct subsoil (L13, c 0.48m thick) lay between L10 and L11a, and at its northern end, a modern make-up layer (L12) lay between L9 and L10. The southern part of the trenching was excavated through L9 and L10 onto a distinct natural (L11b) except the very southern end, where a modern crush or make-up layer (L14, c 0.36-0.41m thick) overlay L10.

Undatable ditch F60 was aligned NW-SE and was 0.58m wide and 0.3m deep.

6 Finds

6.1 Pottery and ceramic finds

by Dr Matthew Loughton

A total of 988 sherds of pottery, ceramic building material (henceforth CBM) and baked clay with a weight of just over 33kg were retrieved during the excavation (Table 1). The mean sherd weight (henceforth MSW) at 34g is relatively high and much of the Roman pottery is relatively fresh. The vast majority of the pottery is of Roman date except for rare prehistoric and medieval/post-medieval sherds. There is also a large collection of Roman CBM including some substantial pieces, and this is reflected in the high MSW of nearly 100g (Table 1).

The small quantity of prehistoric pottery was briefly classified into fabric groups on the basis of the type of inclusions (flint, sand, grog). The Roman pottery was classified according to the fabric groups and form series used by Going (1987, 3-54) to record the material from Chelmsford, Essex (Table 3) and also by Benfield (2018) for the material from the archaeological evaluation at Wickham Hall. This was supplemented with occasional fabric groups from *CAR* **10** (1999). The post-Roman pottery was classified according to the fabric groups from *CAR* **7** (2000) and Cunningham (1985). The pottery was recorded by sherd count, the number of rims, handles and bases, and weight, for each fabric group. The number of vessels was determined by rim EVREP (estimated vessel representation) and rim EVE (estimated vessel equivalent).

Ceramic material	No.	%	Weight (g)	%	MSW/g	No.	Rim EVE	Rim
						Rim		EVREP
Prehistoric	5	0.5	12	0.0	2	0	0.00	0
Roman	754	76.3	11,104	33.4	15	113	10.99	94
Medieval/post-	1	0.1	10	0.0	10	0	0.00	0
medieval								
Ceramic Building	226	22.9	21,902	66.0	97	0	-	-
Material (CBM)								
Baked clay?	2	0.2	168	0.5	84	0	-	-
All	988		33,196		34	113	10.99	94

Table 1 Details on the main types of ceramics and pottery

Ceramics and pottery were recovered from 33 features although one, F55, was voided, and two layers (L7 and L8) (Table 2). However, the majority of features contained only modest assemblages with typically less than 25 sherds (Table 2). Assemblages with 49 or more sherds were recovered from the ditch F42, pit F44, pit F45 and pit F56 while the two largest assemblages came from the ditch F49 (no. 123/1.9 kg) and the occupation layer L7 (no. 321/9.8 kg). The metalled surface L8 also contained the second largest assemblage by weight (7.8 kg) on account of the large quantity of Roman CBM.

Context	Context type	No.	%	Weight (g)	%	MSW/g
F22	Ditch	19	1.9	1,326	4.0	70
F23	Pit?	14	1.4	599	1.8	43
F24	Pit	8	0.8	136	0.4	17
F25	Pit	3	0.3	88	0.3	29
F26	Ditch	9	0.9	598	1.8	66
F27	Pit?	3	0.3	88	0.3	29
F29	Pit	6	0.6	146	0.4	24
F30	Pit	2	0.2	10	0.0	5
F32	Pit	9	0.9	832	2.5	92
F33	Ditch	16	1.6	122	0.4	8
F34	Pit	6	0.6	48	0.1	8

F35	Pit	23	2.3	778	2.3	34
F36	Pit	18	1.8	440	1.3	24
F37	Pit	15	1.5	218	0.7	15
F38	Pit	6	0.6	190	0.6	32
F39	Ditch	4	0.4	78	0.2	20
F40	Pit	6	0.6	160	0.5	27
F41	Pit	7	0.7	20	0.1	3
F42	Ditch	88	8.9	3,655	11.0	42
F43	Pit	15	1.5	244	0.7	16
F44	Pit	58	5.9	778	2.3	13
F45	Pit	49	5.0	1,014	3.1	21
F46	Pit/post-hole	2	0.2	2	0.0	1
F49	Ditch	123	12.4	1,999	6.0	16
F51	Pit	3	0.3	40	0.1	13
F52	Pit	4	0.4	118	0.4	30
F53	Ditch	2	0.2	168	0.5	84
F54	Ditch	6	0.6	140	0.4	23
F55	voided	14	1.4	218	0.7	16
F56	Pit	73	7.4	680	2.0	9
F57	Ditch terminus	9	0.9	122	0.4	14
F58	Pit	2	0.2	22	0.1	11
F59	Multiple intercutting	20	2.0	406	1.2	20
	pits					
L7	Occupation layer	321	32.5	9,835	29.6	31
L8	Metalled surface	25	2.5	7,878	23.7	315

Table 2 Number and weight of ceramic and pottery from features

Prehistoric pottery

There was a small collection of prehistoric hand-made pottery with five sherds with a weight of 12 g. There were no rim, base, or decorated sherds. Most of this material is tempered with grog and is presumably of Late Iron Age date. There were also two flint-tempered sherds which could be of Late Bronze Age or Early Iron Age date. This material was recovered from the following features: F23 (pit?), F41 (pit), F42 (ditch), F55 (voided) and L7 (occupation layer). This material is best seen as residual and it is worth noting that the evaluation also uncovered one or two sherds of Late Bronze Age and Iron Age pottery (Benfield 2018).

Roman pottery

There was a good-sized assemblage of Roman pottery with 754 sherds with a weight of just over 11 kg (Table 4). The sherds are typically in a good condition with limited signs of wear and this reflected in the mean sherd weight of 15 g. There were 113 rim fragments from a minimum of 94 vessels (rim EVREP/10.99 rim EVE) (Table 5). Sherds from 15 different fabrics were recorded (Table 4) and examining the totality of the assemblage shows it to be dominated by wares (Fabrics: 4, 14, 35, 36) from the nearby Hadham pottery kilns and various coarse sandy grey wares (fabrics: 47, 47A, 47B). The latter group, which in all likelihood are also local products or from the surrounding area, account for 65% by sherd count and 59% by weight of the assemblage. Other notable features of the assemblage are the absence of amphorae and the quasi-absence of imported fine wares with only two sherds of samian (Table 4). The absence of colour-coated wares from Colchester and other sources, which are dated from approximately AD 150 until AD 250 (CAR 10, 266-267), is worth noting.

Most of the Roman pottery can be dated to the 3rd and 4th centuries AD, and perhaps just to the 4th century, while there appears to be very little earlier and/or residual material. For example, the Hadham oxidised red wares (Fabric 4) appear around the mid 3rd century and last until the 4th century AD (Tyers 1996, 168; Going 1987, 3). At Colchester most of these wares were recovered from PEGs 16-18 with end dates of AD 350, AD 400 and AD 425+ (Going in *CAR* **10**, 297). At Chelmsford, Essex, this ware

appears in large number during phase 7 (AD 300/10-360/370) with a decline during phase 8 (AD 360/70-400+) (Going 1987, 107 Table 9, 115-116). Similarly, the Hadham (?) black-surfaced wares (fabric 35) and Hadham grey wares (fabric 36) also broadly date to the 3rd and 4th centuries AD (Going 1987, 7-8). The rare sherds of colour-coated products from the Nene Valley are also worth noting as these products are common at Chelmsford, Essex, during the later 4th century AD (Going 1987, 3). Finally, the Late 'shell-tempered' ware (fabric 51) at Chelmsford it is restricted to phases 7-8 and from AD 300/310 until 400+ (Going 1987, 107 Table 9, 115-116).

Fabric code	Fabric description	Fabric date range guide
2	Nene Valley colour-coat	Mid 2nd-late 4th century
4	Hadham oxidised red wares	3rd-4th century
14	Hadham white-slipped wares	2nd-4th century
17	Miscellaneous slipped red wares	Late 1st-2nd century
21	Miscellaneous oxidised red wares	Roman (primarily mid 1st-2nd century)
31	Unspecified buff wares	Roman (primarily 1st-2nd century)
35	?Hadham black-surfaced wares	3rd-4th century
36	Hadham grey wares	4th century
40	Black-Burnished 1	Early 2nd-4th century
41	Black-Burnished 2	Early 2nd-mid 4th century
44	Storage jar fabrics	Roman (1st-4th century)
47	Sandy grey wares	Roman (primarily 2nd-4th century)
47A	Hard coarse sandy greyware	Roman (primarily 2nd-4th century)
47B	Moderate-hard coarse sandy greyware,	Roman (primarily 2nd-4th century)
	tending to buff/red-brown in break	
51	Late 'shell-tempered' ware	4th-5th century
BACG	Central Gaulish plain samian	2nd century
BAEG	Eastern Gaulish plain samian	2nd-3rd century

Table 3 Roman pottery fabrics recorded

Fabric	Fabric	No.	%	Weight	%	MSW/g	Rim	Handle	Base
code	description			(g)					
2	Nene Valley colour-coat	3	0.4	38	0.3	13	0	0	1
4	Hadham oxidized red wares	93	12.3	1,242	11.2	13	16	1	12
14	Hadham white- slipped wares	3	0.4	44	0.4	15	0	0	0
17	Miscellaneous slipped red wares	2	0.3	32	0.3	16	1	0	0
21	Miscellaneous oxidized red wares	67	8.9	474	4.3	7	8	0	2
31	Unspecified buff wares	5	0.7	114	1.0	23	1	1	0
35	?Hadham black- surfaced wares	32	4.2	910	8.2	28	6	0	6
36	Hadham grey wares	5	0.7	76	0.7	15	5	0	0
40	Black-Burnished 1	1	0.1	10	0.1	10	1	0	0
41	Black-Burnished 2	15	2.0	194	1.7	13	4	0	1
44	Storage jar fabrics	18	2.4	1,138	10.2	63	3	0	1
47	Sandy grey wares	332	44.0	3,720	33.5	11	42	0	25
47A	Hard coarse sandy greyware	148	19.6	2,688	24.2	18	22	0	14
47B	Moderate-hard coarse sandy greyware, tending to buff/red-brown in break	12	1.6	178	1.6	15	2	0	1

51	Late 'shell-	16	2.1	238	2.1	15	1	0	0
	tempered' ware								
BACG	Central Gaulish	1	0.1	4	0.0	4	0	0	0
	plain samian								
BAEG	Eastern Gaulish	1	0.1	4	0.0	4	1	0	0
	plain samian								
	Total	754		11,104		15	113	2	63

Table 4 Details on the Roman pottery

Of the 94 vessels (rim EVREP) the majority are in the fabrics 47, 47A and 47B followed by Hadham oxidised red wares with 13 vessels (Table 5). Of the identifiable vessel forms the most common types are: B1 (rimless shallow dish), B6 (fully-flanged dish/bowl), E6 (necked, high shouldered bowl-jar with slightly inturned, vertical or flaring neck and bead rim), G24 (oval-bodied jars with oval, pointed, and sometimes slightly undercut bead rims), and G35 (narrow-necked jars with bead rims) (Table 6). Most of the identifiable vessel forms are broadly datable to the 3rd and 4th centuries AD while some, such as the forms B1.2, C8.2/1 D12.2/1, and G35, are more likely of 4th-century date (Table 6). As regards the small collection of Samian there was a slightly worn sherd possibly from a Drag. 27B/Bet 28 from Lezoux, central France which is datable to the 2nd century AD (Webster 1996, 38). There was also a Drag 32 rim, again the sherd is slightly abraded, from eastern Gaul (?) which can date from the late 2nd to the mid 3rd century AD (Webster 1996, 44). Finally, there was a rim from a very large (diam. 400 mm) coarse ware (Fabric 44) storage vessel/dolium of the form G44 from the metalled surface L8.

Fabric	Fabric description	Rim	Rim
code		EVREP	EVE
4	Hadham oxidized red wares	13	1.85
17	Miscellaneous slipped red wares	1	0.10
21	Miscellaneous oxidized red wares	6	0.75
31	Unspecified buff wares	1	0.76
35	?Hadham black-surfaced wares	4	0.46
36	Hadham grey wares	3	0.27
40	Black-Burnished 1	1	0.05
41	Black-Burnished 2	4	0.19
44	Storage jar fabrics	2	0.39
47	Sandy grey wares	34	3.54
47A	Hard coarse sandy greyware	21	2.42
47B	Moderate-hard coarse sandy greyware, tending to buff/red-brown in break	2	0.06
51	Late 'shell-tempered' ware	1	0.11
BAEG	Eastern Gaulish plain samian	1	0.04
	Total	94	10.99

Table 5 Roman pottery quantification

Form	Date range	Fabric code	Rim EVREP	Rim EVE
B1	Late 1st-4th century	20, 40, 41	4	0.18
B1.2	4th century	47A	1	0.08
B1.3 or B1.4	2nd-4th century	35, 47	2	0.16
B2?	AD 125/50-230/50	36, 41, 47	3	0.14
B4	2nd-3rd century	4	1	0.08
B6	Mid 3rd-4th century	41, 47, 47A, 47B	12	1.29
B6.2/1	Late 3rd-4th century	47, 47A	2	0.17
C7.2/1	Late 3rd-4th century	4	1	0.13
C8.2/1	4th century	4	1	0.00
C16	Mid 1st-mid 2nd century	47	1	0.09
D3.3/1	AD 160-200	4	1	0.05
D12.2/1	AD 360-400+	4	2	0.12
E3?	Late 4th century	4	1	0.07
E5	AD 250-350	47, 47A	2	0.28

E6	AD 270/80-400+	4, 47, 47A	6	1.23
G19?	AD 50-120	47, 47A	2	0.17
G21	1st-4th century	47A	3	0.33
Braughing jar				
G24	2nd-4th century	36, 47, 47A	7	0.62
G25	2nd-early 4th century	47, 47A	3	0.29
G26.1	3rd-4th century	47	1	0.04
G27.2/1	AD 360/70-400	51	1	0.11
G35	4th century	35, 47A	3	0.65
G44	1st-4th century	44	1	0.09
J3	AD 20-120	17	1	0.10
Drag. 32	Late 2nd-mid 3rd century	BAEG?	1	0.04

Table 6 Roman vessel form quantification (form series and dates are from Going 1987).

Pottery discs

Three complete pottery discs were noted in the assemblage (Table 7). They were made out of Roman pottery bases (Fabrics 4, 21) with the body wall being cut and chipped away and then smoothing down the broken edge. The diameters of these objects range from 85mm to 130mm which suggests that they functioned as vessel lids rather than as counters. Three pottery discs made out of Roman pottery and tile were also noted in the evaluation pottery assemblage (Benfield 2018).

Feature	Feature Type	Fabric code	Fabric description	Diam.	Weight (g)
F32	Pit	21	Miscellaneous oxidized red wares	85 mm	86
F49	Ditch	4	Hadham oxidized red wares	130 mm	148
L8	Metalled surface	4	Hadham oxidized red wares	95 mm	182

Table 7 Details on the pottery discs

Assemblages from features

Five features (F42, F44, F49, F56 and L7) accounted for the majority of the Roman pottery by count and weight from the evaluation (Table 2) and these assemblages will be briefly examined here.

Ditch F42

This ditch produced 77 sherds of Roman pottery with a weight of just under 2 kg from 15 vessels (rim EVREP) (Table 8). The assemblage is dominated by sherds in fabrics 47 and 47A while Hadham products (fabrics 4, 35, 36) are also well represented. There was also one sherd from a Nene valley colour-coated vessel which are common at Chelmsford, Essex, during the later 4th century AD (Going 1987, 3). The identifiable vessel forms include examples of the B6, E6 and G24 which are broadly datable from the mid/late 3rd to 4th century AD.

Fabric Group		No.	%	Weight (g)	%	MSW/ g	Rim	Handle	Base	Rim EVREP	Rim EVE
2	Nene Valley col- our-coat	1	1.3	12	0.6	12	0	0	0	0	0.00
4	Hadham oxidized red wares	6	7.8	12	0.6	2	1	0	0	1	0.07
21	Miscellaneous oxidized red wares	2	2.6	12	0.6	6	0	0	0	0	0.00
35	?Hadham black- surfaced wares	15	19.5	590	31.3	39	3	0	0	2	0.19
36	Hadham grey wares	2	2.6	38	2.0	19	2	0	0	1	0.14

47	2 Sandy grey	42	54.5	828	43.9	20	8	0	3	7	0.85
	wares										
47A	Hard coarse	8	10.4	330	17.5	41	4	0	2	4	0.25
	sandy greyware										
	Total	77		1,888		25	18	0	12	15	1.50

Table 8 Details on the Roman pottery from the ditch F42

Pit F44

This pit contained 58 sherds of Roman pottery with a weight of 0.8 kg from the fabric groups 47 and 47A (Table 9). The 37 sherds of the hard coarse sandy greyware (fabric 47A) appear to consist of the large part of a 'Braughing' jar (form G21), a form which is datable from the 1st until the 4th century AD (Going 1987, 25).

Fabric	Fabric	No.	%	Weight	%	MSW/	Rim	Handle	Base	Rim	Rim
Group	description			(g)		g				EVREP	EVE
47	Sandy grey wares	21	36.2		25.7	10	0	0	0	0	0.00
47A	Hard coarse sandy greyware	37	63.8	578	74.3	16	1	0	3	1	0.08
Total		58		778		13	1	0	3	1	0.08

Table 9 Details on the Roman pottery from the pit F44

Ditch F49

This feature contained the largest assemblage of Roman pottery from the excavation with 112 sherds with a weight of nearly 1.5 kg. and 16 vessels (rim EVREP) (Table 10). This assemblage is dominated by the fabrics 4, 47, and 47A while it is also worth noting the presence of some Black-Burnished 1 (fabric 40) and Black-Burnished 2 (fabric 41) sherds with examples of the vessel forms B1 and B2? (Table 10). Most of the identifiable vessel forms can be dated to the 4th century AD, such as the fabric 4 vessel forms C8.2/1 and D12.2/1. Some of the Black-Burnished material could be of 3rd-century date and at Chelmsford, Essex, most of the Black-Burnished 2 wares came from 3rd- to mid 4th-century contexts (Going 1987, 8). It is worth noting a sherd refit for the C8.2/1 Hadham oxidised red ware with the pit F43.

Fabric	Fabric	No.	%	Weight	%	MSW/	Rim	Handle	Base	Rim	Rim
Group	description			(g)		g				EVREP	EVE
4	Hadham oxidized red wares	19	17.0	388	26.4	20	2	0	6	2	0.05
21	Miscellaneous oxidized red wares	10	8.9	113	7.7	11	3	0	0	3	0.32
35	?Hadham black- surfaced wares	2	1.8	22	1.5	11	0	0	0	0	0.00
40	Black-Burnished 1	1	0.9	10	0.7	10	1	0	0	1	0.05
41	Black-Burnished 2	6	5.4	54	3.7	9	3	0	0	3	0.13
44	Storage jar fabrics	1	0.9	78	5.3	78	0	0	0	0	0.00
47	Sandy grey wares	47	42.0	460	31.3	10	6	0	3	6	0.57
47A	Hard coarse sandy greyware	26	23.2	344	23.4	13	2	0	0	1	0.15
Total	· -	112		1,469		13	17	0	9	16	1.27

Table 10 Details on the Roman pottery from the ditch F49

Pit F56

This feature contained 72 sherds of Roman pottery with a weight of 652 gr. from 4 vessels (rim EVREP) (Table 11). This modest assemblage is dominated by Hadham oxidized red wares (fabric 4) and Sandy grey-wares (Fabric 47), while it is also worth noting the presence of 9 sherds of the Late 'shell-tempered' ware (fabric 51) which at Chelmsford are dated from AD 300/310 until 400+ (Going 1987, 107 Table 9, 115-116) (Table 10). At Chelmsford, Essex, the Hadham oxidized red wares generally only appear from AD 270/80 onwards and they become common during phases 7 (AD 300/10-360/70) and 8 (AD 360/70-400+) (Going 1987, 3, 107 Table 9, 115-116). Sadly, none of the vessel forms could be identified. A 4th-century AD date for this assemblage is likely.

Fabric	Fabric	No.	%	Weight	%	MSW/	Rim	Handle	Base	Rim	Rim
Group	description			(g)		g				EVREP	EVE
4	Hadham oxidized red wares	24	33.3	156	23.9	7	2	1	1	2	0.11
21	Miscellaneous oxidized red wares	5	6.9	40	6.1	8	1	0	0	1	0.25
31	Unspecified buff wares	2	2.8	32	4.9	16	0	0	0	0	0.00
35	?Hadham black- surfaced wares	1	1.4	4	0.6	4	0	0	0	0	0.00
41	Black-Burnished 2	2	2.8	16	2.5	8	0	0	0	0	0.00
47	Sandy grey wares	29	40.3	246	37.7	8	1	0	1	1	0.12
51	Late 'shell- tempered' ware	9	12.5	158	24.2	18	0	0	0	0	0.00
Total		72		652		9	4	1	2	4	0.48

Table 11 Details on the Roman pottery from the pit F56

Post-Roman pottery

The post-Roman pottery was recorded using the fabric groups from $CAR\ 7$ (Cotter 2000) and Cunningham (1985). There was only one sherd of medieval/post-medieval pottery. This was of fabric 20 (medieval sandy greyware) and was recovered from the pit F43. This ware is dated from $c\ 1150/75$ until 1375/1400 ($CAR\ 7$, 91-92).

Ceramic Building Material

There was a good collection of CBM with 226 sherds with a weight of just under 22 kg (Table 12) including some large pieces of CBM from the occupation layer (L7) and the metalled surface (L8). All of this material appears to be of Roman date and there is no obvious medieval or post-medieval CBM.

CBM code	CBM type	No.	Weight (g)	MSW/g
Roman				
RI	Roman <i>Imbrex</i> tile	49	5,060	103
RT	Roman <i>Tegulae</i> tile	43	9,292	216
RFT	Roman Flue tile	3	528	176
RBT	Roman brick/tile (general)	120	5,472	46
?		5	38	8
	Total	226	21,902	97

Table 12 Roman CBM by type

CBM was recovered from most of the features on the excavation although the two largest assemblages by sherd count and weight came from the occupation layer (L7) and the metalled surface (L8) (Table 13).

Feature	Feature Type	No.	Weight (g)	MSW/g
F22	Ditch	8	1,230	154
F23	Pit	7	392	56
F25	Pit	2	78	39
F26	Ditch	6	592	99
F27	Pit?	3	88	39
F30	Pit	2	10	5
F32	Pit	4	714	179
F33	Ditch	3	36	12
F35	Pit	3	408	136
F36	Pit	8	196	25
F37	Pit	2	96	48
F38	Pit	1	96	96
F39	Ditch	1	36	36
F40	Pit	1	60	60
F42	Ditch	10	1,766	177
F43	Pit	2	106	53
F45	Pit	12	680	57
F46	Pit/post-hole	2	2	1
F49	Ditch	11	530	48
F51	Pit	1	26	26
F52	Pit	4	118	30
F54	Ditch	3	124	41
F55	Voided	5	182	36
F56	Pit	1	28	28
F57	Ditch terminus	3 5	100	33
F59	9 Multiple		334	67
	intercutting pits			
L7	Occupation layer	98	6,984	71
L8	Metalled surface	18	6,890	383

Table 13 Quantities of Roman CBM by feature

Three pieces of box flue tile with combing decoration were recovered from the pit F23, ditch F42 and F55 (voided). One of the box flue tiles was decorated with an example of die 44b which is also known at Chelmsford, Essex, from a context dating from AD 200 onwards (Betts *et al* eds. 1997, 113-114). Some of the CBM is found in a very distinctive fabric with many medium- to coarse-sized red and orange clay nodules giving a 'mottled' or 'marbled' aspect to the fabric.

Five pieces of Roman *tegulae* have lower cutaways which can be dated according to the chronological scheme developed by Peter Warry (2006) (Table 14).

Lower cut away: Warry type	Feature	Feature Type	Date approx.
B6	L7	Occupation layer	AD 100-180
B6	L7	Occupation layer	AD 100-180
C4	F42	Ditch	AD 160-180
D1	F25	Pit	AD 240-380
D5	L8	Metalled surface	AD 240-380

Table 14 Details of the Roman tegulae lower cutaways (after Warry 2006)

Firstly, it is worth noting the various dates provided by the tile cutaways, which range from the start of the 2nd century AD until the end of the 4th century AD (Table 13), given that the majority of the Roman pottery dates to the 3rd and 4th centuries AD. For example, the pottery from the ditch F42 is dated to the mid/late 3rd to 4th century AD while the tile cutaway is considerably earlier with a suggested date of AD 160-180.

However, it has recently been argued that the start date for Warry's cutaway type C in Britain is latter and examples are known from 3rd-century AD contexts including Wellington Row, York, and the rural site of Owslebury in Hampshire (Mills 2013, 458-459). Tile cutaways of Warry types D1 and D5 are also known from late Roman sites, for example the 4th-century AD villa at Bottisham (Mills 2013, 459). Finally, it is worth noting that most of the examples of the tile cutaway type B6 are from sites with a military presence (Mills 2013, 456-457).

Baked clay

Two pieces of baked clay or daub, with a weight of 168g were recovered from the ditch F53.

Conclusion

The assemblage of Roman pottery from Wickham Hall, Bishops Stortford, is relatively homogeneous spanning from the 3rd until the 4th century AD. Although there is a small quantity of earlier material from the 2nd if not the later 2nd century AD, nearly all the features can be dated to the late Roman period and possibly within the late 3rd and 4th century AD (Table 15). The pit F34 might be earlier (2nd or 3rd century AD). However this is determined from a small assemblage of sherds and only one vessel which could not be identified with certainty (G19?). The same problems also apply to the possible 1st-century AD pit F38.

Context	Context	Prehistoric	Roman	СВМ	M-PM	Overall date
	type					approx.
F22	Ditch	-	2nd-4th cent	Roman	-	2nd-4th cent
F23	Pit?	LIA	2nd-4th cent	Roman	-	2nd-4th cent
F24	Pit	-	2nd-4th cent	-	-	4th cent
F25	Pit	-	Roman	AD 240-380	-	3rd-4th cent
F26	Ditch	-	2nd-4th cent	Roman	-	2nd-4th cent
F27	Pit?	-	-	Roman	-	Roman
F29	Pit	-	2nd-4th cent	Roman	-	4th cent
F30	Pit	-	-	Roman	-	Roman
F32	Pit	-	2nd-4th cent	Roman	-	2nd-4th cent
F33	Ditch	-	3rd-4th cent	Roman	-	3rd-4th cent
F34	Pit	-	1st-2nd cent	-	-	1st-2nd cent
F35	Pit	-	2nd-4th cent	Roman	-	3rd-4th cent
F36	Pit	-	3rd-4th cent	Roman	-	3rd-4th cent
F37	Pit	-	2nd-4th cent	Roman	-	3rd-4th cent
F38	Pit	-	1st-4th cent	Roman	-	2nd-4th cent
F39	Ditch	-	1st-4th cent	Roman	-	3rd-4th cent
F40	Pit	-	2nd-4th cent	Roman	-	2nd-4th cent
F41	Pit	LBA/EIA	2nd-4th cent	-	-	3rd-4th cent
F42	Ditch	LIA	2nd-4th cent	AD 160-180	-	4th cent
F43	Pit	-	2nd-5th cent	Roman	1150/75-	4th-5th cent with
					1375/1400	intrusive med.
						pottery
F44	Pit	-	1st-4th cent	Roman	-	2nd-4th cent
F45	Pit	-	2nd-4th cent	Roman	-	4th cent
F46	Pit/posthole	-	-	Roman	-	Roman
F49	Ditch	-	1st-4th cent	Roman	-	4th cent
F51	Pit	-	Roman	Roman	-	Roman
F52	Pit	-	-	Roman	-	Roman
F53	Ditch	-	-	-	-	?
F54	Ditch	-	Roman	Roman	-	Roman
F55	voided	LBA/EIA	2nd-4th cent	AD 200+	-	2nd-4th cent
F56	Pit	-	2nd-5th cent	Roman	-	4th-5th cent
F57	Ditch	-	2nd-4th cent	Roman	-	3rd-4th cent
	terminus					
F58	Pit	-	3rd-4th cent	-	-	3rd-4th cent
F59	Multiple	-	2nd-4th cent	Roman	-	2nd-4th cent

	intercutting					
	pits					
L7	Occupation	LIA	1st-5th cent	Roman	-	4th-5th cent
	layer					
L8	Metalled	-	2nd-4th cent	Roman	-	3rd-4th cent
	surface					

Table 15 Feature dating summary

6.2 Animal bone

by Alec Wade

A total of 234 pieces of animal bone weighing 4.92 kg was recovered by hand from nine contexts, all of late Roman date. Layer L7, a widespread build-up or occupation layer of 3rd to 4th century date, produced more of the material than any other single context (40% by number of pieces).

The assemblage was recorded using a system based upon the rapid method devised by S.J.M. Davis (Ancient Monuments Laboratory Report 19/92). All of the bone and teeth fragments are examined but only a restricted suite of skeletal parts are recorded as a matter of course – these being chosen because they are relatively easy to identify and represent most regions of the mammalian body (head, girdles, limbs and feet). When these parts are present in sufficient numbers, they can provide the maximum useful information regarding sex, age, butchery practice and metrical data. These skeletal parts are referred to here as the **Parts of Skeleton Always Counted** or POSAC for short.

The remaining pieces of bone are referred to as **Non-Countable Specimens** (NCS) and consist largely of undiagnostic fragments. Beyond a basic level of quantification (see Quantification of assemblage table in Appendix 3), these are of no further interest unless they are found to offer the only evidence for the presence of a species otherwise not represented amongst the POSACs. Where this is the case, the presence of the species is noted by a (+) sign in the following distribution table.

The bone was found to be in poor surface condition and quite fragmented, resulting in only 19 POSAC elements. The following table shows their distribution by context, species and period.

				Date	/ No. of POS	SACs
Context	Туре	Finds number	Species	Mid/Late 3rd to 4th century	3rd to 4th century	4th century
F24	Pit	27	Cattle			1
F37	Pit	43	Cattle		2	
F42 sx2	Ditch	66	Cattle	1		
F43	Pit	58	Cattle		3	
F44	Pit	59	Cattle		(+)	
F49	Ditch	89	Horse		1	
F56	Pit	91	Sheep/goat		(+)	
L7	Build-up / occupation layer	49	Cattle		(+)	
L7 sq5	Build-up /	45	Cattle	-	3	

	occupation layer					
L7 sq12	Build-up / occupation layer	53	Cattle		1	
L7 sq14	Build-up / occupation layer	52	Cattle Sheep/goat		1 1	
L7 sq16	Build-up / occupation layer	51	Cattle Pig		1 (+)	
L7 sq23	Build-up / occupation layer	54	Cattle		(+)	
L7 sq30	Build-up / occupation layer	68	Cattle		1	
L7 sq32	Build-up / occupation layer	67	Cattle		3	
			Total POSACs	1 cattle	15 cattle 1 horse 1 sheep/goat (+) pig	1 cattle

Table 16 POSAC and species distribution by context and date. (+) denotes the presence of the species noted amongst the otherwise non-countable specimens (NCS) from the context.

As well as being found in most of the contexts also yielding POSACs, non-countable specimens were present in pits F33, F44, F56 and ditch F49 sx4.

The main domestic species of cattle, horse and sheep/goat (no distinction being made due to a lack of diagnostic features being present) were all identified in the assemblage as well as the presence of pig amongst the non-countable specimens. No wild species were identified.

Cattle bone was by far the most common type, accounting for 88% of the 3rd- to 4th-century material and over 89% of the total POSACs from the site. It should be noted, however, that finds of individual mandibular teeth represent much of the recovered cattle bone as shown in the skeletal parts recovered by context table (see Appendix 3).

Though a very small amount of butchered, burnt and dog gnawed bone was noted amongst the non-countable specimens, none of the POSAC elements were found to be affected. However, it should be noted that the generally-poor condition of the material made this determination difficult.

6.3 Small finds and iron nails

by Laura Pooley

Two small finds and eleven iron nails were recovered from late Roman features and layers. See Appendix 4 for a full catalogue of all the metal finds from the excavation.

A copper-alloy nummus (SF1) from ditch F33 was a City of Rome commemorative coin, issued 330-335 AD, from the Trier mint. On the obverse, the helmeted bust of Roma wearing an imperial mantle faces left with the inscription [VRBS] RO[MA]. The reverse features an images of Romulus and Remus suckling from the she-wolf with a wreath between two stars above. The mint mark TRS is in exergue.

A fragment of unidentified iron (SF2) was found in ditch F49 with iron nails from pits F29, F35, F44, F52 and F56, ditch F49 and occupation layer L7. Where the nails could be identified five were of Manning (1985) Type 1b being under 150mm long with square-sectioned shanks and round or sub-rectangular heads. One nail from F49 (89) could possibly be a Manning (1985) Type 2 with flat rectangular-sectioned, tapering shank and expanded shoulders of the same thickness as the shank. The head appears flat rather than diamond-shaped but has been damaged. Another from L7 (50) has a short shank and discoidal head (damaged), probably a Manning (1985) Type 7 tack, identified by Manning as 'probably used in upholstery work'.

6.4 Worked flint

by Adam Wightman

The lithic assemblage recovered during the excavation phase of the archaeological investigations at Wickham Hall farm comprised a total of ten worked flints (Table 17). They were recovered from three Roman ditches (F49, F54, F57), two Roman pits (41 and F44), a build-up layer dated to the Roman period (L7) and an undated pit (F53). The worked flints from the Roman contexts are considered to be residual, but the worked flint from the undated pit could have been discarded in this feature. Four worked flints were also recovered during the archaeological evaluation which preceded the excavation phase (CAT Report 1288). Three of the flints from the earlier phase of work came from Roman contexts and one was recovered from a pit containing pottery of Bronze Age or Iron Age date.

Eleven of the fourteen worked flints recovered during both phases of work are flakes, of which six are retouched. A possible piercer/borer tool and a retouched notch were found during the evaluation (F8 in T3 and F18 in T1 respectively) and two retouched notches were found during the excavation (F57 and L7 SQ1). The retouched flakes from F53 and F54 both had short stretches of semi-abrupt retouch on their lateral edges. None of the retouched flakes are typologically diagnostic, although a Neolithic to Bronze Age date is most likely based on the quality of the retouch and the size and knapping characteristics of the flakes on which they were made (relatively small, thin flakes detached from the parent core with a hard hammer). With the exception of one unusually large flake from F44, the unmodified flakes are similarly small, thin and have also been detached using a hard hammer without any preparation of the platform.

There are no blades in the assemblage, but two blade cores were recovered from the Roman ditch F49. One is a single-platform core and the other has two platforms at right-angles to each other. Both are roughly pyramidal in shape. It is probable that both cores date to the Early Neolithic rather than the Mesolithic as both are both relatively large, the platforms are not abraded and the negative scars on their surfaces are quite large and deep.

In conclusion, it is probable that the worked flints belong to a period of activity on the site in the Early Neolithic and/or Bronze Age with both tool use (retouched flakes) and blade production occurring in the vicinity.

Context	Finds no.	Artefact type	Cortex %	Soft/hard hammer	Modification
F41	56	flake	100	hard	
F44	59	flake	10	hard	
F49	65	flake	65	hard	
	89	blade core	40		
		blade core	10		
F53	73	flake (retouched)	0	hard	semi-abrupt retouch both laterals
F54	79	flake (retouched)	0	hard	semi-abrupt right lateral ?notch
F57	87	flake (retouched notch)	45	hard	small, shallow retouched notch
L7 SQ1	40	flake (retouched notch)	0	hard	small, shallow retouched notch
L7 SQ32	67	flake (?flaked flake)	0	hard	

Table 17 Worked flints (a more detailed catalogue can be found in the site archive)

Note: Unworked (natural) flints from F49 (find no. 63) and L7 (finds nos. 68 and 70) were discarded.

6.5 Other finds

by Laura Pooley

Glass: A single sherd of Roman blue-green glass (3.8g) came from 4th-century pit F56.

Slag: Five fragments of slag (600g) were recovered from pit F34 with two fragments (22g) from pit F35.

Stone: A fragment of millstone grit quern from pit F3 (42) and a fragment of Mayan lava quern from ditch F49 (90) were the only pieces of worked stone recovered during the excavation. Small and unworked pieces of sandstone, tufa and chalk were recorded and discarded.

Context	Finds no.	Description
F36	42	Fragment of millstone grit quern, 236.7g, 70mm by 60mm by 60mm.
F49	90	a) Roughly triangular fragment of Mayan lava quern, degraded, 373.5g, 105mm by 85mm by 36mm.b) Natural piece of sandstone. Discarded.
L7	67	a) Piece of tufa, unworked, 7.2g, 34mm by 28mm by 22mm. Discarded. b) Two small pieces of chalk, unworked, 8.7g. Discarded.

Table 18 Stone by context

Burnt flint: There was a single piece of burnt flint (29.3g) from pit F51 and two pieces (45.1g) from pit F56. All discarded.

Charcoal: Three charcoal fragments came from pit F56, totalling 24.5g (finds nos. 81 and 91).

Shell: Five pieces of oyster shell, totalling 49.6g, were found in late Roman pit F35 (finds no. 38) and occupation layer L7 (finds nos. 40, 45, 52 and 68).

7 Environmental assessment

by Lisa Gray MSc MA ACIfA Archaeobotanist

Introductions - aims and objectives

Six samples were presented for assessment (Table 19). The aims of this assessment were to determine the significance and potential of the plant macro-remains in the samples and consider their use in providing information about diet, craft, medicine, crop-husbandry, feature function and environment.

Sample	Finds No.	Feature No.	Feature type	Date	Flot volume (L)
1	34	F29	pit	Roman, 3rd-4th century	10
2	39	F35	pit	Roman, 3rd-4th century	10
3	96	F42 sx2	ditch	Roman, 3rd-4th century	20
4	84	F49 sx4	ditch	Roman, 3rd-4th century	20
5	95	F49	ditch	Roman, 3rd-4th century	20
6	82	F56	pit	Roman, 4th century	20

Table 19 Samples assessed

Sampling and processing methods

Samples were taken and processed by Colchester Archaeological Trust. All samples were completely processed using a Siraf-type flotation device. Flot was collected in a 300 micron mesh sieve then dried.

Once with the author the flots were scanned under a low powered stereo-microscope with a magnification range of 10 to 40x. The whole flots were examined. The abundance, diversity and state of preservation of eco- and artefacts in each sample were recorded. A magnet was passed across each flot to record the presence or absence of magnetised material or hammerscale.

Identifications were made using uncharred reference material (author's own and the Northern European Seed Reference Collection at the Institute of Archaeology, University College London) and reference manuals (such as Beijerinck 1947; Cappers et al 2006; Charles 1984; Fuller 2007; Jacomet 2006). Nomenclature for plants is taken from Stace (Stace 2010). Latin names are given once and the common names used thereafter. Low numbers of non-charcoal charred plant macro-remains were counted. Uncharred plant remains, fauna and magnetic fragments were given estimated levels of abundance unless, in the case of seeds, numbers are very low in which case they were counted.

At this stage numbers given are estimates but where only one item is present that has been noted. Identifiable charred wood >4mm in diameter has been described as that. Charred wood <4mm diameter are described as 'flecks'. Samples this size are easier to break to reveal the cross-sections and diagnostic features necessary for identification and are less likely to be blown or unintentionally moved around the site (Asouti 2006, 31; Smart and Hoffman, 1988, 178-179). Fragments smaller than this and larger then 2mmØ were scanned in case any fragments of twig or roundwood survived.

Results

The plant remains (Table 20)

Low numbers of charcoal of identifiable size were found in samples 4, 5 and 6. Charred grain was only found in low numbers in one sample, ditch F49 sx4 (sample 4). These grains were one straight barley (*Hordeum* sp.) grain and two spelt/bread (*Triticum spelta/aestivum*) grains. No chaff was present. Low numbers of dried waterlogged seeds were found in samples 1, 2, 3, 5, and 6. These consisted of low numbers of seeds of the ruderal plants such as blackberry/raspberry (*Rubus fruiticosus/idaeus*) and fat hen (*Chenopodium album* L.). Each sample also contained low to abundant

quantities of root/rhizome fragments so these seeds may be intrusive.

Fauna

No faunal remains were found.

Inorganic artefacts

No artefacts were found.

			(L)		*		С	harr	ed				Unch	arred	
Sample	Finds no.	Feature number	Bulk sample size (I	Flot volume (L)	Estimated density*	Grains		Charcoal >4mmØ	Charcoal <4mmØ	Seeds		ments Root/rhizome	Stem/leaf fragments		
						а	d	р	а	а	а	d	р	а	а
1	34	F29	10	0.04	<1	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	2	3	3
	-00	E05	40	0.005	-4		_		_		1	1	2	3	_
2	39	F35	10	0.005	<1	-	_	_	_	_			_		
3	96	F42 sx2	20	0.005	<1	-	-	-	-	1	1	1	2	3	-
			_					- 2			1	1 -			-
3	96	F42 sx2	20	0.01	<1		-	- 2 -	-	1	ı	1 - 1	2	3	

Table 20 Contents of flots. *(estimated charred plant macro-remains per litre of sample excluding charcoal flecks, root/rhizome fragments and stem/leaf fragments)

Key:

- a = abundance [1 = occasional 1-10; 2 = moderate 11-100; and 3 = abundant >100];
- d = diversity [1 = low 1-4 taxa types; 2 = moderate 5-10; 3 = high];
- p = preservation [1 = poor (family level only); 2 = moderate (genus); 3 = good (species identification possible)

Discussion

Biases in recovery, residuality, contamination

Nothing with regards biases in recovery, residuality or contamination was highlighted for any of these samples at the time of writing. Modern root/rhizome fragments were present in each sample so bioturbation is possible. Faunal evidence of bioturbation was absent.

Quality and type of preservation

The plant remains in these samples were preserved by charring and possibly by waterlogging. Sample 1 does have plant remains in it typical of organic material that has been waterlogged and later, dried. Preservation by waterlogging occurs when plant remains are in anoxic conditions such as sealed pits, layers or a high water-table (Campbell *et al* 2011, 13). Charring of plant macrofossils occurs when plant material is heated under '...reducing conditions...' where oxygen is largely excluded (Boardman and Jones 1990, 2) leaving a carbon skeleton resistant to biological and chemical decay (Campbell *et al* 2011,17). These conditions can occur in a charcoal clamp, the centre of a bonfire or pit or in an oven or when a building burns down with the roof excluding the oxygen from the fire (Reynolds, 1979, 57).

No plant remains were preserved by mineralisation (Green 1979, 281) or silicification (Robinson and Straker 1990), which means that there is no archaeobotanical evidence for the cess disposal or slow-burning aerated fires.

Potential and significance

The possible deposition rates (density of plant remains per litre of sampled soil) of each sample was calculated by dividing the estimated number of charred plant macroremains (excluding charcoal flecks, stem/leaf fragments and root/rhizome fragments) in a sample by the number of litres taken for that sample. At assessment stage charred plant macro-remains are not counted like they are at analysis level so estimated amounts were calculated by giving a value of 10 to an abundance of '1', 100 to an abundance of '2' and 200 to an abundance of '3' unless actual numbers were known. Although these are estimates they help give an idea of the productivity of the samples. The meaning of these densities here is based on the work of Kate Nicholson, who based her interpretations of Romano-British archaeobotanical assemblages from a villa site (Nicholson 2014) on the work of Professor Marijke Van der Veen and Professor Glynis Jones (Van der Veen & Jones 2006; Van der Veen 2007). (Nicholson 2014, 158). Nicholson's density value interpretations are given as follows below:

High density = >/ 21 items per litre of sampled soil = rapid/single event deposition. Low density = 3-13 items per litre of deposit = gradual accumulation in day to day activities.

Very-low density = <3 items per litre of deposit = accidentally incorporated (e.g. wind-blown) into fills of features they no longer have association with. (Nicholson, 2014, 157-158).

The estimated densities for all these samples are low suggesting that they arrived in the sampled contexts accidentally into the fills of features they no longer have any association with. They may, however, be general background waste from activities taking place in the area.

Nevertheless, any significance such low numbers of charred plant remains may have is limited by the fact that these durable charred plant remains survive being moved between contexts by human action and bioturbation so cannot be properly interpreted unless radiocarbon dates are gained from the plant macro-remains themselves (Pelling *et al* 2015, 96).

Recommendations

Further work is not recommended on these samples.

8 Discussion

Archaeological excavation at Wickham Hall Farm determined that the primary period of activity on this site occurred during the 3rd and 4th centuries. The predominating feature on the site dating to this period was a metalled surface, which extended across much of excavation Area A, and which most likely formed an area of hardstanding associated with animal husbandry. Although no further structural remains were uncovered, the presence of large quantities of Roman building materials within a number of features across the site, as well as a considerable amount of domestic waste (pottery sherds, pig, sheep/goat, cattle and horse bones, nails and a single coin), provide further evidence for the existence of a Roman farmstead or villa within the close vicinity of the excavation areas. A single pit dating to the 1st or 2nd centuries, as well as a quantity of pottery dating to this period do evidence some level of activity at this site during the early phase of the Roman occupation, however. This activity appears to have preceded settlement of the site.

The remainder of the features excavated across the site consisted of a series of ditches and pits. While the size of two of the pits within Area A suggest that they were used for quarrying purposes, the considerable amount of waste material recovered from these features, as well as their proximity to the metalled surface, suggests that these pits were associated with domestic activity at the villa. The ditches appear to have been related to agricultural activity, forming field boundaries or an irrigation system. Further ditches were uncovered in evaluation trenches T1 and T4, and taken together, these give the impression of a field system extending out to the north, south, and west. One of these ditches, F6 in T4, appears to be ditch F42, recorded to the north in excavation Area B. Another feature from the evaluation, F7, interpreted as a ditch, was also established instead to have been a pit and ditch, recorded as F23 and F22 respectively. The close clustering of these features, many of which are cut by subsequent features, particularly to the north of excavation Area A, adjacent to the metalled surface, evidence considerable and concentrated activity at this site during the late Roman period, a period not well-represented in the results of other archaeological investigations carried out within the vicinity.

Given the apparent medieval origins of Wickham Hall Farm, which is first referred to in the historical record in 1487, and whose core buildings date to the 16th or 17th centuries (see CAT Report 733), it is significant that no post-medieval features were encountered, while the evidence for activity on this site during the medieval period consisted of a single sherd of 12th- to 14th-century pottery which was intrusive in an earlier context. This absence of evidence relating to the medieval and post-medieval periods is not easily explained. It may have been that activity at the site during these years was concentrated further to the north, around the current core of the farmstead, but without further archaeological investigation, the paucity of medieval and post-medieval remains across the site can only be speculated upon. The current investigation, then, cannot cast any further light on the supposed medieval origins of the farmstead, nor upon the medieval settlement purported to lie in the vicinity.

Excavations at this site did yield evidence of significant prehistoric activity, however. Three sherds of Late Iron Age pottery and a single sherd of Late Bronze Age pottery – all residually-present in later contexts – were found, evidencing at least an intermittent human presence at the site during these periods. Most significant, however, was the lithic assemblage which was recovered during excavations, which consisted of two Early Neolithic blade cores as well as eight flint flakes dated to the period from the Early Neolithic to the Bronze Age, and implied not only that flint tools were being used in the vicinity of the site during these periods, but that the production of such tools was occurring nearby.

In conclusion, then, archaeological excavations at Wickham Hall Farm have uncovered the remains of a Roman farmstead or villa which stood at this site during the 3rd and 4th centuries, as well as evidence of periodic activity during the prehistoric era and the early period of the Roman occupation of Britain. While this investigation did not cast any light upon medieval activity at this supposedly medieval farmstead, it has demonstrated that the origins of this settlement can be dated much further back, to the late Roman period.

9 Acknowledgements

CAT thanks Sworders and Mr David Harvey for commissioning and funding the work. The project was managed by C Lister, fieldwork was carried out by B Holloway with M Baister, E Holloway, S Carter, R Mathieson, N Rayner, E Hicks, A Wade, A Tuffey and J

Keeble. Figures are by C Lister, B Holloway and E Holloway. The project was monitored for Hertfordshire County Council by Alison Tinniswood.

10 References

Note: all CAT reports, except for DBAs, are available online in PDF format at $\frac{\text{http://cat.essex.ac.uk}}{\text{otherwise}}$

Asouti, E	2006	'Factors affecting the formation of an archaeological wood charcoal assemblage.' Retrieved on 13th February 2015 from World Wide Web:
Delle vise de M	4047	http://pcwww.liv.ac.uk/~easouti/methodology_application.htm
Beijerinck, W	1947	Zadenatlas der Nederlandsche Flora
Benfield, S	2018	Finds. In Bishops Stortford, Wickham Hall Evaluation, June 2018
Betts, I, Black,	1997	A Corpus of Relief-Patterned Tiles in Roman Britain
EW and Gower, J	1000	"Experiments on the effect of charring on servel plant
Boardman, S &	1990	'Experiments on the effect of charring on cereal plant
Jones, G	0044	components', in <i>Journal of Archaeological Science</i> 17, 1-11
Brown, D H	2011	Archaeological Archives – a guide to best practice in creation,
Dunium Namel	2000	compilation, transfer and curation, 2nd ed.
Brown, N and	2000	Research and Archaeology: a frame work for the Eastern
Glazenbrook, J.		Counties 2 Research agenda and strategy, East Anglian
0 1 11 0	0044	Archaeological, occasional papers 8 (EAA 8)
Campbell, G,	2011	Environmental Archaeology. A Guide to the Theory and Practice
Moffett, L &		of Methods, from Sampling and Recovery to Post-excavation
Straker, V		
Cappers, R J T ,	2006	Digital Zadenatlas Van Nederlands - Digital Seeds Atlas of the
Bekker, R M &		Netherlands
Jans, J E A		
CAR 7	2000	Colchester Archaeological Report 7: Post-Roman pottery from
		excavations in Colchester, 1971-85, by J Cotter
CAR 10	1999	Colchester Archaeological Report 10: Roman pottery from
		excavations in Colchester, 1971-86, by R Symonds and S Wade
CAT	2014	Health & Safety Policy
CAT	2017	Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) for an archaeological
		excavation at Wickham Hall, Hadham Road, Bishop's Stortford,
		Hertfordshire, CM23 1JG
CAT Report 733	2013	Historic building recording at Wickham Hall, Hadham Road,
		Bishop's Stortford, Hertfordshire: August 2012
CAT Report 1288	2018	Archaeological evaluation at Wickham Hall, Hadham Road,
		Bishop's Stortford, Hertfordshire, CM23 1JG: June 2018
Charles, M	1984	'Introductory remarks on the cereals', in Bulletin on Sumerian
		Agriculture 1 , 17-31
CIfA	2014a	Standard and Guidance for an archaeological evaluation
ClfA	2014b	Standard and guidance for the collection, documentation,
		conservation and research of archaeological materials
ClfA	2014c	Standard and guidance for the creation, compilation, transfer
		and deposition of archaeological archives.
Cunningham, CM	1985	'A typology for post-Roman pottery in Essex', in Cunningham,
		CM and Dury, PJ (eds.), Post-medieval sites and their pottery:
		Moulsham Street, Chelmsford AD 1450-1750, 1-16
Davis, S J M	1992	A rapid method for recording information about mammal bones
		from archaeological sites. Ancient Monuments Laboratory
		Report 19/92, English Heritage
DCLG	2012	National Planning Policy Framework
English Heritage	2006	Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment
	0007	(MoRPHE)
Fuller, D	2007	'Cereal Chaff and Wheat Evolution'. Retrieved on 12th February
		2010 from World Wide Web:
		http://www.homepages.ucl.ac.uk/~tcrndfu/archaeobotany.htm
Going, CJ	1987	The Mansio and other sites in the south-eastern sector of
		Caesaromagus: the Roman pottery

Green, F J	1979	'Phosphatic mineralization of seeds from archaeological sites', in <i>Journal of Archaeological Science</i> 6 , 279–284
Gurney, D	2003	Standards for field archaeology in the East of England. East Anglian Archaeology Occasional Papers 14 (EAA 14).
Hertfordshire Museums	2017	Hertfordshire Archaeological Archive Standards: A countywide standard for the creation, compilation, and transfer of archaeological archives in Hertfordshire.
Jacomet, S	2006	Identification of cereal remains from archaeological sites, 2nd ed.
Medlycott, M	2011	Research and archaeology revisited: A revised framework for the East of England. East Anglian Archaeology Occasional Papers 24 (EAA 24)
Mills, P	2013	'The Supply and Distribution of Ceramic Building Material in Roman Britain' in L Lavan (ed.), Local Economies? Production and Exchange of Inland Regions in Late Antiquity, 451–469
Nicholson, K	2014	'The Archaeobotanical Samples', in A S Newton Land south of Tunbridge Hall Farm, Tunbridge Lane, Bottisham, Cambridgeshire Research Archive Report, 157-182
Pelling, R, Campbell, G, Carruthers, W, Hunter, K & Marshall, P	2015	'Exploring contamination (intrusion and residuality) in the archaeobotanical record: case studies from central and southern England', in <i>Vegetation History and Archaeobotany</i> 24 , 85-99
Reynolds, P Robinson, M & Straker, V	1979 1990	The Iron Age Farm: The Butser Experiment 'Silica skeletons of macroscopic plant remains from ash' in Renfrew, J,M, New light on early farming. Recent Developments in Palaeoethnobotany, 3-13
Smart T L, and Hoffman, E S	1988	'Environmental Interpretation of Archaeological Charcoal', in C A Hastorf & V S Popper, <i>Current Palaeobotany</i>
Stace, C	2010	New Flora of the British Isles, 3rd ed.
Tyers, P Van Der Veen, M	1996 2007	Roman Pottery in Britain 'Formation processes of desiccated and carbonised remains – the identification of routine practice', Journal of Archaeological Science 34, 268-290
Van De Veen, M & Jones, G	2006	2006. 'A re-analysis of agricultural production and consumption: implications for understanding the British Iron Age', <i>Vegetation History and Archaeobotany</i> 15 , 217–228
Warry, P	2006	Tegulae: Manufacture, typology and use in Roman Britain
Webster, P Wightman, A	1996 2012	Roman Samian Pottery in Britain Summary of test-pitting at Wickham Hall, Bishop's Stortford, Hertfordshire

11 Abbreviations and glossary

Anglo-Saxon	period from <i>c</i> 500 – 1066
Bronze Age	period from <i>c</i> 2500 – 700 BC
CAT	Colchester Archaeological Trust
CBM	ceramic building material, ie brick/tile
CIfA	Chartered Institute for Archaeologists

context a single unit of excavation, which is often referred to numerically, and can be

feature (F) an identifiable thing like a pit, a wall, a drain: can contain 'contexts' HCCERP Hertfordshire County Council Environmental Resource Planning

Iron Age period from 700 BC to Roman invasion of AD 43 layer (L) distinct or distinguishable deposit (layer) of material

medievalperiod from AD 1066 to c 1500Mesolithicperiod from c 10,000 – 4000BCmodernperiod from c AD 1800 to the present

natural geological deposit undisturbed by human activity

Neolithic period from *c* 4000 – 2500 BC NGR National Grid Reference

OASIS Online AccesS to the Index of Archaeological InvestigationS,

http://oasis.ac.uk/pages/wiki/Main

post-medieval period from *c* AD 1500 to *c* 1800

residual something out of its original context, eg a Roman coin in a modern pit

Roman the period from AD 43 to c AD 410

section (abbreviation sx or Sx) vertical slice through feature/s or layer/s

wsi written scheme of investigation

12 Contents of archive

Finds: 7 boxes
Paper record

One A4 document wallet containing: The report (CAT Report 1339) CAT written scheme of investigation

Original site record (feature and layer sheets, finds record, sections)

Site digital photos and log

Digital record

The report (CAT Report 1339)
CAT written scheme of investigation
Site digital photographs, thumbnails and log
Graphic files
Survey data

13 Archive deposition

The paper and digital archive is currently held by the Colchester Archaeological Trust at Roman Circus House, Roman Circus Walk, Colchester, Essex CO2 7GZ, but will be permanently deposited with Bishop Stortford Museum under accession code: 18/07m.

© Colchester Archaeological Trust 2019

Distribution list:

Hester Dalton, Sworders Mr Nicholas Buxton Simon Wood, Hertfordshire County Council Environmental Resource Planning Hertfordshire Historic Environment Record



Colchester Archaeological Trust

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

tel.: 01206 501785 email: <u>eh2@catuk.org</u>

Checked by: Philip Crummy

Date: 25.04.2019

Appendix 1 Context list

Context Number	Finds Number	Feature / layer type	Description	Date
L1	-	Topsoil	Loose/soft, moist very dark grey/brown loam with common stones	Modern
L2	-	Subsoil	Firm, moist medium grey/brown clayey-silt	Post-Roman
L3	-	Natural	Firm, dry light yellow/brown silty-clay with occasional stones	Post-glacial
L4	-	Concrete and sub-base	Sub-base contains rubble hardcore with frequent CBM fragments	Modern
L5	-	?Subsoil	Firm, dry dark grey/brown silty-clay with rare daub and charcoal pieces	Roman (late 3rd to 4th century)
L6	-	Backfill of pond	Friable/firm, moist dark grey/brown clayey- silt	Undated (?post- medieval)
L7	40, 45, 46, 47, 49, 50, 51, 52, 53, 54, 62, 67, 68, 70, 71, 74, 75	Build-up / occupation layer	Friable/firm, grey/brown silty-clay with frequent stones	3rd to 4th century
L8	76	Stone surface	Friable, wet orange/brown clay with 10% gravel and 80% stones	3rd to 4th century
L9	-	Topsoil	Friable, dry medium grey/brown loam	Modern
L10	-	Subsoil	Friable, dry/moist dark grey loam	Undatable
L11a	-	Natural	Firm, moist medium beige clay	Post-glacial
L11b	-	Natural	Firm/hard, dry medium orange sand with frequent gravels	Post-glacial
L12	-	Make-up layer	Firm, dry/moist medium yellow clay	Modern
L13	-	Subsoil	Friable, dry medium grey/brown loamy-clay	Undatable
L14	-	Crush/make- up	Firm/hard, dry concrete crush with frequent CBM pieces lying on a tarpaulin sheet	Modern
F22	24, 25	Ditch	Soft/friable, moist, light/medium orange/brown clay	2nd to 4th century
F23	26, 77	?Pit	Soft/friable, moist, light/medium orange/brown clay	2nd to 4th century
F24	27	Pit	Friable, moist medium grey/brown loamy- silty-clay	4th century
F25	28	Pit	Soft/friable, dry dark brown/black silty-clay	3rd to 4th century
F26	29	Ditch	Firm, moist medium grey silty-clay	2nd to 4th century
F27	30	?Pit	Soft, moist light/medium grey/brown silty- clay with chalk flecks and 1% stones	Roman

F28	-	Pit	Firm, moist, medium brown clay	Undatable
F29	31, 34	Pit	Firm, moist dark grey/brown silty-clay with charcoal flecks	4th century
F30	32	Pit	Firm, moist dark grey/brown silty-clay	Roman
F31	-	?Natural feature	Soft, moist medium grey/brown silty-clay with chalk flecks and 3% stones	Undatable
F32	33	Pit	Firm, moist medium grey/brown silty-clay	2nd to 4th century
F33	35, 36	Ditch	Soft, moist medium grey/brown silty-clay with 7% stones	3rd to 4th century
F34	37	Pit	Firm, moist medium grey/brown silty-clay	1st to 2nd century
F35	38, 39	Pit	Firm, moist dark grey/brown silty-clay with charcoal flecks	3rd to 4th century
F36	41, 42	Pit	Firm, moist dark grey/brown silty-clay	3rd to 4th century
F37	43	Pit	Firm, moist medium grey/brown silty-clay with charcoal and CBM flecks an 7% stones	3rd to 4th century
F38	44	Pit	Firm, moist dark grey/brown silty-clay with charcoal flecks	2nd to 4th century
F39	48	Ditch	Firm, moist medium/dark grey/brown silty-clay	3rd to 4th century
F40	55	Pit	Soft, moist dark grey/brown clay with rare stones	2nd to 4th century
F41	56	Pit	Soft, wet medium grey clay with daub flecks and 3% stones	3rd to 4th century
F42	57, 64, 65, 66, 69	Ditch	Firm, moist dark grey/brown silty-clay with 2% stones	4th century
F43	58	Pit	Friable/firm, moist, dark grey/black silty- clay with charcoal flecks	4th to 5th century
F44	59	Pit	Soft, moist dark grey/brown clay	2nd to 4th century
F45	60	Pit	Soft, moist medium grey/brown clay with rare stones	4th century
F46	61	Pit / posthole	Soft, moist dark grey/brown clay with rare stones	Roman
F47	-	Ditch	Firm, dry/moist medium grey/brown silty-clay with 1% stones	Undatable
F48	-	Gully	Firm, moist medium grey/brown silty-clay with 10% stones and 5% gravel	Undatable
F49	63, 64, 65, 78, 83, 84, 85, 86, 89, 90	Ditch	Friable, dry/moist dark grey silty-clay with <1% gravel, <6% stones and >6% charcoal pieces	4th century
F50	-	Pit	Firm, moist light grey/blue silty-clay	Undatable
F51	71	Pit	Soft, moist dark mottled orange/grey/brown clay with rare stones	Roman
F52	72	Pit	Soft, moist dark brown/black silty-clay	Roman
F53	73	Pit	Soft, moist dark grey/brown clay	?Neolithic to Bronze Age

F54	79	Ditch	Firm, moist dark grey silty-clay	Roman						
F55	FEATURE	FEATURE VOIDED								
F56	81, 82, 91, 92	Pit	Firm, moist dark grey/black silty-clay	4th to 5th century						
F57	87	Ditch terminus	Firm, moist dark grey/black silty-clay with <2% charcoal flecks	3rd to 4th century						
F58	88	Pit	Upper fill: firm, moist dark grey/black clay with frequent charcoal and daub flecks; lower fill: firm, moist medium yellow/brown clay with frequent charcoal and daub flecks	3rd to 4th century						
F59	93, 94	Multiple intercutting pits	Firm, moist medium/dark orange/grey/brown silty-clay with occasional charcoal and very occasional daub flecks and 1% stones	2nd to 4th century						
F60	-	Ditch	Firm, dry/moist dark grey silty-clay	Undatable						

Appendix 2 Ceramic and Pottery list

Cxt	Feature type	Find no.	Find type	Fabric group	Nr.	Weight	Rim	Handle	Base	Form	Spot date approx.
F22	Ditch	24	Pottery	47	7	76	1	C) 2	G2	4 2nd-4th cent
F22	Ditch	24	СВМ		2	586				F	Roman
F22	Ditch	24	CBM		1	384				R	T Roman
F22	Ditch	24	CBM		4	256				RB	T Roman
F22	Ditch	25	Pottery	21	2	6					Roman
F22	Ditch	25	Pottery	47	2	14	0	C) 1		2nd-4th cent
F22	Ditch	25	СВМ		1	4				RB	T Roman
F23	Pit?	26	Pottery	21	1	4					Roman
F23	Pit?	26	Pottery	HMG	1	1					Late Iron Age
F23	Pit?	26	CBM		4	44				RB	T Roman
F23	Pit?	77	Pottery	47	5	202	3	C) 1		? 2nd-4th cent
F23	Pit?	77	CBM		1	108				F	Roman
F23	Pit?	77	CBM		1	170				RF	T Roman
F23	Pit?	77	CBM		1	70				RB	T Roman
F24	Pit	27	Pottery	47A	. 1	20	1	C) (B1.2/	1 4th cent
F24	Pit	27	Pottery	4	6	112	1	C) 1	В	4 AD 140-250
F24	Pit	27	Pottery	21	1	4					Roman
F25	Pit	28	CBM		2	78				R	T Cutaway D1, AD 240-380
F25	Pit	28	Pottery	21	1	10					Roman
F26	Ditch	29	CBM		1	74				F	Roman
F26	Ditch	29	CBM		1	514				R	Roman
F26	Ditch	29	Pottery	47	2	4					2nd-4th cent
F26	Ditch	29	Pottery	21	1	2					Roman
F26	Ditch	29	CBM		4	4				RB	T Roman
F27	Pit?	30	CBM		3	88				RB	T Roman
F29	Pit	31	Pottery	47	4	30	2	C) (G3	5 4th cent
F29	Pit	31	Pottery	47A	2	116					2nd-4th cent
F30	Pit	32	CBM		2	10				RB	T Roman
F32	Pit	33	CBM		1	422				R	T Roman
F32	Pit	33	CBM		1	252				RB	T Roman
F32	Pit	33	CBM		2	40				RB	T Roman
F32	Pit	33	Pottery	47A	1	6					2nd-4th cent
F32	Pit	33	Pottery	21	3	26	O	C) 1		Roman
F32	Pit	33	Pottery	21	1	86	0	C) 1		Roman

Cxt	Feature type	Find no.	Find type	Fabric group	Nr.	Weight	Rim	Handle	Base	Form	Spot date approx.
F33	Ditch	35	Pottery	47	10	74	1	0	2	B6	Mid 3rd-4th cent
F33	Ditch	35	Pottery	21	2	2					Roman
F33	Ditch	35	CBM		2	32				RBT	Roman
F33	Ditch	35	СВМ		1	4				RBT	Roman
F33	Ditch	35	Pottery	21	1	10					Roman
F34	Pit	37	Pottery	47	6	48	1	0	0	G19?	AD 50-120
F35	Pit	38	CBM		2	310				RT	Roman
F35	Pit	38	CBM		1	98				RI	Roman
F35	Pit	38	Pottery	47	12	150	2	0	1	B6, G24?	2nd-4th cent
F35	Pit	38	Pottery	47A	3	76	1	0	0	G25?	2nd-early 4th cent
F35	Pit	38	Pottery	41	1	16	1	0	0	B6	Mid 3rd-4th cent
F35	Pit	38	Pottery	21	1	8	1	0	0	?	Roman
F35	Pit	38	Pottery	2	1	18	0	0	1		Mid 2nd-late 4th century
F35	Pit	39	Pottery	47A	2	102	1	0	0	B6	Mid 3rd-4th cent
F36	Pit	41	CBM		8	196				RT	Roman
F36	Pit	41	Pottery	4	1	36	1	0	0	E6	AD 270/80-400+
F36	Pit	41	Pottery	47	9	208	2	0	1	B6	Mid 3rd-4th cent
F37	Pit	43	Pottery	51	2	22	1	0	0	G27.2/1	AD 360/70-400
F37	Pit	43	СВМ		1	70				RBT	Roman
F37	Pit	43	Pottery	35	1	20					3rd-4th cent
F37	Pit	43	Pottery	4	1	24					3rd-4th cent
F37	Pit	43	Pottery	47	5	32	0	0	1		2nd-4th cent
F37	Pit	43	Pottery	47B	2	12					2nd-4th cent
F37	Pit	43	CBM		1	26				RBT	Roman
F37	Pit	43	Pottery	36	1	6	1	0	0	G24	2nd-4th cent
F37	Pit	43	Pottery	21	1	6					Roman
F38	Pit	44	Pottery	47A	2	12					2nd-4th cent
F38	Pit	44	CBM		1	96				RT	Roman
F38	Pit	44	Pottery	31	3	82	1	1	0	Flagon	1st cent?
F39	Ditch	48	CBM		1	36				RT	Roman
F39	Ditch	48	Pottery	4	2	14	2	0	0	E6	AD 270/80-400+
F39	Ditch	48	Pottery	17		28					1st-2nd cent
F40	Pit	55	CBM		1	60				RBT	Roman
F40	Pit	55	Pottery	21	1	2					Roman
F40	Pit	55	Pottery	47	3						2nd-4th cent
F40	Pit	55	Pottery	44	1	72					Roman

Cxt	Feature type	Find no.	Find type	Fabric group	Nr.	Weight	Rim	Handle	Base	Form	Spot date approx.
F41	Pit	56	Pottery	HMF	1	2					Late Bronze Age?
F41	Pit	56	Pottery	47	1	4					2nd-4th cent
F41	Pit	56	Pottery	47A	2	8	0	0	1		2nd-4th cent
F41	Pit	56	Pottery	4	3	6	0	0	1		3rd-4th cent
F42	Ditch	57	Pottery	47	2	32					2nd-4th cent
F42	Ditch	57	Pottery	47	1	20	1	0	0	B1.3/4	2nd-4th cent
F42	Ditch	65	Pottery	4	2	10					3rd-4th cent
F42	Ditch	65	CBM		1	6				RBT	Roman
F42	Ditch	65	Pottery	47A	1	16	1	0	0		2nd-4th cent
F42	Ditch	65	Pottery	35	4	36	1	0	1		3rd-4th cent
F42	Ditch	65	Pottery	36	1	18	1	0	0		4th cent
F42	Ditch	65	Pottery	47	10	78					2nd-4th cent
F42	Ditch	65	Pottery	2	1	12					Mid 2nd-late 4th cent
F42	Ditch	65	Pottery	HMFSG	1	1					Late Iron Age
F42	Ditch	65	СВМ		1	50				RI	Roman
F42	Ditch	65	Pottery	21	1	4					Roman
F42	Ditch	65	Pottery	4	3	10	1	0	0	E3	Late 4th cent
F42	Ditch	65	Pottery	47A	7	314	3	0	2	E6, G24	2nd-4th cent
F42	Ditch	65	Pottery	47	18	424	3	0	2	E6	AD 270/80-400+
F42	Ditch	65	Pottery	36	1	20	1	0	0	C16?	Flavian-mid 2nd cent
F42	Ditch	65	Pottery	35	10	550	2	0	5	?	3rd-4th cent
F42	Ditch	65	Pottery	41	1	56	0	0	1		2nd-4th cent
F42	Ditch	65	СВМ		2	338				RT	Roman
F42	Ditch	65	CBM		1	186				RB	Roman
F42	Ditch	65	СВМ		1	26				RBT	Roman
F42	Ditch	65	CBM		1	252				RFT	Roman
F42	Ditch	66	Pottery	4	1	2					3rd-4th cent
F42	Ditch	66	Pottery	21	1	8					Roman
F42	Ditch	66	Pottery	47	8	110	3	0	0	B6, B6	Mid 3rd-4th cent
F42	Ditch	66	Pottery	35	1	4					3rd-4th cent
F42	Ditch	66	Pottery	47	1	28	0	0	1		2nd-4th cent
F42	Ditch	66	CBM		2	570				RBT	Roman
F42	Ditch	66	СВМ		1	338				RT	Cutaway C4, 160-180 AD
F42	Ditch	69	Pottery	47	2	136	1	0	0	B6	Mid 3rd-4th cent
F43	Pit	58	Pottery	4	2		1	0	0		Rim from vessel in F49 (83)
F43	Pit	58	Pottery	51							4th-5th cent

Cxt	Feature type	Find no.	Find type	Fabric group	Nr.	Weight	Rim	Handle	Base	Form	Spot date approx.
F43	Pit	58	Pottery	47	2	2 8					2nd-4th cent
F43	Pit	58	Pottery	4							3rd-4th cent
F43	Pit	58	Pottery	41	1	14					2nd-4th cent
F43	Pit	58	CBM		1	80				RBT	Roman
F43	Pit	58	CBM		1	26				RI	Roman
F43	Pit	58	Pottery	47A	1	32					2nd-4th cent
F43	Pit	58	Pottery	F20	1	10					1150/75-1375/1400
F44	Pit	59	Pottery	47A	37	578	1	0	3	G21	1st-4th cent
F44	Pit	59	Pottery	47	21	200					2nd-4th cent
F45	Pit	60	Pottery	47A	2	. 18					2nd-4th cent
F45	Pit	60	Pottery	47B	1	6					2nd-4th cent
F45	Pit	60	СВМ		3	100				RBT	Roman
F45	Pit	60	СВМ		1	220				RT	Roman
F45	Pit	60	CBM		1	114				RI	Roman
F45	Pit	60	Pottery	4	8	66	1	0	0	C7.2/1	Late 3rd-4th cent
F45	Pit	60	Pottery	47	5	52	1	0	2	B6.2/1	Late 3rd-4th cent
F45	Pit	60	Pottery	35	1	4					4th century
F45	Pit	60	Pottery	2	1	8					2nd-4th cent
F45	Pit	60	CBM		7	246				RBT	Roman
F45	Pit	60	Pottery	47A	2	. 6					2nd-4th cent
F45	Pit	60	Pottery	4	4	16	1	0	0	E6.1/1	AD 270/80-400+
F45	Pit	60	Pottery	47	8	40	0	0	1		2nd-4th cent
F45	Pit	60	Pottery	35	3	108	1	0	0	B1.3/4	2nd-4th cent
F45	Pit	60	Pottery	4	1	4					3rd-4th cent
F45	Pit	60	Pottery	36	1	6	1	0	0	B2?	2nd-3rd cent
F46	Pit/post-hole	61	CBM		2	. 2				RBT	
F49	Ditch	63	Pottery	4	4	148	0	0	2		3rd-4th cent
F49	Ditch	63	Pottery	21	2	60	1	0	0	?	Roman
F49	Ditch	63	Pottery	21	2	. 22					Roman
F49	Ditch	63	Pottery	47A	6	74					2nd-4th cent
F49	Ditch	63	Pottery	47			0	0	2		2nd-4th cent
F49	Ditch	63	Pottery	41		8	1	0	0	B1	Late 1st-4th cent
F49	Ditch	63	CBM		1	110				RI	
F49	Ditch	64	Pottery	47A	2						2nd-4th cent
F49	Ditch	64	Pottery			78					Roman
F49	Ditch	64	Pottery								2nd-4th cent

Cxt	Feature type	Find no.	Find type	Fabric group	Nr.	Weight	Rim	Handle	Base	Form	Spot date approx.
F49	Ditch	78	CBM		1	82				RBT	Roman
F49	Ditch	78	Pottery	47	2	20					2nd-4th cent
F49	Ditch	83	Pottery	40	1	10	1	0	0	B1	Late 1st-4th cent
F49	Ditch	83	CBM		1	4				?	Roman
F49	Ditch	83	Pottery	4	6	34	1	0	0	D12.2/1	AD 360-400+
F49	Ditch	83	Pottery	4	3	76	1	0	0	C8.2/1	4th cent
F49	Ditch	83	Pottery	47	12	82	1	0	0	?	2nd-4th cent
F49	Ditch	83	Pottery	47	4	18					2nd-4th cent
F49	Ditch	83	Pottery	21	1	6	1	0	0	?	Roman
F49	Ditch	85	CBM		1	56				RI	Roman
F49	Ditch	85	CBM		1	102				RBT	Roman
F49	Ditch	86	Pottery	47	1	12	1	0	0	?	2nd-4th cent
F49	Ditch	86	Pottery	4	1	4					3rd-4th cent
F49	Ditch	89	CBM		4	34				?	Roman
F49	Ditch	89	CBM		2	142				RBT	Roman
F49	Ditch	89	Pottery	4	5	126	0	0	4		3rd-4th cent
F49	Ditch	89	Pottery	21	4	- 24	1	0	0	?	Roman
F49	Ditch	89	Pottery	47	13	146	2	0	1	B2, B6	2nd-4th cent
F49	Ditch	89	Pottery	47A	4	- 66	2	0	0	B6	Mid 3rd-4th cent
F49	Ditch	89	Pottery	41	3	38	2	0	0	B1, B2?	2nd-4th cent
F49	Ditch	89	Pottery	35	1	4					3rd-4th cent
F49	Ditch	89	Pottery	47	2	34	2	0	0	G25?	2nd-early 4th cent
F49	Ditch	92	Pottery	21	1	1					Roman
F49	Ditch	92	Pottery	41	1	2					2nd-4th cent
F49	Ditch	92	Pottery	47	4	. 12					2nd-4th cent
F49	Ditch	92	Pottery	47A	14	176					2nd-4th cent
F49	Ditch	95	Pottery	35	1	18					3rd-4th cent
F49	Ditch	95	Pottery	47	3	16					2nd-4th cent
F51	Pit	71	CBM		1	26				RBT	Roman
F51	Pit	71	Pottery	21	2	. 14					Roman
F52	Pit	72	CBM		4	. 118				RBT	Roman
F53	Pit	73	Baked clay	-	2	168					-
F54	Ditch	79	CBM		3	124				RI	Roman
F54	Ditch	79	Pottery	21	3	16					Roman
F55	Voided	80	Pottery	HMF	1	4					Late Bronze Age
F55	Voided	80	Pottery	47A	2	2 4					2nd-4th cent

Cxt	Feature type	Find no.	Find type	Fabric group	Nr.	Weight	Rim	Handle	Base	Form	Spot date approx.
F55	Voided	80	Pottery	47	6	28	0	0	1		2nd-4th cent
F55	Voided	80	CBM		1	66				RT	Roman
F55	Voided	80	CBM		1	106				RFT	Roman
F55	Voided	80	СВМ		3	10				RBT	Roman
F56	Pit	81	Pottery	51	5	92					4th-5th cent
F56	Pit	81	Pottery	4	3	18	1	0	0	?	3rd-4th cent
F56	Pit	81	Pottery	21	1	6					Roman
F56	Pit	81	Pottery	35	1	4					3rd-4th cent
F56	Pit	81	Pottery	47	1	4					2nd-4th cent
F56	Pit	91	Pottery	51	4	66					4th-5th cent
F56	Pit	91	Pottery	41	2	16					2nd-4th cent
F56	Pit	91	CBM		1	28				RBT	Roman
F56	Pit	91	Pottery	31	2	32					Roman
F56	Pit	91	Pottery	4	21	138	1	1	1	?	3rd-4th cent
F56	Pit	91	Pottery	21	1	2					Roman
F56	Pit	91	Pottery	47	3	18					2nd-4th cent
F56	Pit	91	Pottery	47	25	224	1	0	1	?	2nd-4th cent
F56	Pit	91	Pottery	21	3	32	1	0	0	?	Roman
F57	Ditch terminus	87	CBM		3	100				RBT	Roman
F57	Ditch terminus	87	Pottery	44	1	6					Roman
F57	Ditch terminus	87	Pottery	4	4	. 2					3rd-4th cent
F57	Ditch terminus	87	Pottery	47	1	14					2nd-4th cent
F58	Pit	88	Pottery	4	2	22	2	0	0	E6.1	AD 270/80-400+
F59	Multiple intercutting pits	93	СВМ		1	12				RBT	Roman
F59	Multiple intercutting pits	93	Pottery	47	7	38	2	0	0	G24	2nd-4th cent
F59	Multiple intercutting pits	94	Pottery	47	3	18					2nd-4th cent
F59	Multiple intercutting pits	94	Pottery	21	5	16					Roman
F59	Multiple intercutting pits	94	CBM		1	16				RI	Roman
F59	Multiple intercutting pits	94	СВМ		3	306				RBT	Roman
L7	Occupation layer	40	CBM		2	102				RI	Roman
L7	Occupation layer	40	СВМ		3	70				RBT	Roman
L7	Occupation layer	40	Pottery	47B	1	22					2nd-4th cent
L7	Occupation layer	40	Pottery	21	6	16					Roman
L7	Occupation layer	40	Pottery	47	5	34					2nd-4th cent
L7	Occupation layer	40	Pottery	47A	3	48	1	0	1	B6.2/1	Late 3rd-4th cent
L7	Occupation layer	40	Pottery	17	1	4	1	0	0	J3	AD 50-120

Cxt	Feature type	Find no.	Find type	Fabric group	Nr.	Weight	Rim	Handle	Base	Form	Spot date approx.
L7	Occupation layer	45	Pottery			1	1	0	0	D3.3/1	AD 160-200
L7	Occupation layer	45	Pottery	21	2	2 4					Roman
L7	Occupation layer	45	Pottery	HMFSG	1	4					Late Iron Age
L7	Occupation layer	45	СВМ		5	88				RBT	Roman
L7	Occupation layer	45	Pottery	47	7	26					2nd-4th cent
L7	Occupation layer	45	Pottery	47A	3	42	1	0	0	G21	1st-4th cent
L7	Occupation layer	45	Pottery	BAEG	1	4	1	0	0	Drag. 32	Late 2nd-mid 3rd cent
L7	Occupation layer	46	CBM		1	4				RBT	Roman
L7	Occupation layer	46	Pottery	21	1	12					Roman
L7	Occupation layer	46	Pottery	47A	6	160	3	0	1	В6	Mid 3rd-4th cent
L7	Occupation layer	46	Pottery	47	11	80					2nd-4th cent
L7	Occupation layer	46	Pottery	41	1	4					2nd-4th cent
L7	Occupation layer	46	CBM		3	62				RBT	Roman
L7	Occupation layer	46	CBM		1	22				RI	Roman
L7	Occupation layer	47	CBM		1	38				RI	Roman
L7	Occupation layer	47	CBM		1	254				RT	Roman
L7	Occupation layer	47	CBM		1	132				RBT	Roman
L7	Occupation layer	47	Pottery	47	4	20					2nd-4th cent
L7	Occupation layer	47	Pottery	47B	4	50	2	0	0	В6	Mid 3rd-4th cent
L7	Occupation layer	47	Pottery	47B	1	56	0	0	1		2nd-4th cent
L7	Occupation layer	47	Pottery	14	1	30					2nd-4th cent
L7	Occupation layer	47	Pottery	21	2	12	1	0	0	?	Roman
L7	Occupation layer	47	Pottery	36	1	26	1	0	0	?	4th cent
L7	Occupation layer	49	Pottery	47A	8	126	3	0	0	B6	2nd-4th cent
L7	Occupation layer	49	Pottery	47	5	54	1	0	0	?	2nd-4th cent
L7	Occupation layer	49	СВМ		5	540				RI	Roman
L7	Occupation layer	49	CBM		2	394				RB	Roman
L7	Occupation layer	49	CBM		8	594				RBT	Roman
L7	Occupation layer	49	Pottery	4	1	38	0	0	1		3rd-4th cent
L7	Occupation layer	49	Pottery	21	1	14	1	0	0	B1	Late 1st-4th cent
L7	Occupation layer	50	Pottery	47A	1	24					2nd-4th cent
L7	Occupation layer	50	Pottery	47	3	12					2nd-4th cent
L7	Occupation layer	50	CBM		3	90				RBT	Roman
L7	Occupation layer	50	СВМ		2	150				RI	Roman
L7	Occupation layer	50	СВМ		3	398				RT	Roman
L7	Occupation layer	51	Pottery	41	2	24					2nd-4th cent

Cxt	Feature type	Find no.	Find type	Fabric group	Nr.	Weight	Rim	Handle	Base	Form	Spot date approx.
L7	Occupation layer	51	Pottery		7	82	1	0	0	G21?	1st-4th cent
L7	Occupation layer	51	Pottery	47A	1	2					2nd-4th cent
L7	Occupation layer	51	Pottery	47	3	20	0	0	1		2nd-4th cent
L7	Occupation layer	51	Pottery	47	2	26	1	0	0	E5	AD 250-350
L7	Occupation layer	51	Pottery	BACG	1	4					2nd cent AD
L7	Occupation layer	52	Pottery	47B	2	26					2nd-4th cent
L7	Occupation layer	52	CBM		2	148				RT	Roman
L7	Occupation layer	52	CBM		3	162				RBT	Cutaway B6, AD 100-180
L7	Occupation layer	52	Pottery	4	1	28	0	0	1		3rd-4th cent
L7	Occupation layer	52	Pottery	47A	2	34	1	0	0	G35	4th cent
L7	Occupation layer	52	Pottery	47A	3	86	0	0	3		2nd-4th cent
L7	Occupation layer	52	Pottery	47	1	78					2nd-4th cent
L7	Occupation layer	52	Pottery	35	5	88	2	0	0	G35	4th cent
L7	Occupation layer	52	Pottery	35	1	56					3rd-4th cent
L7	Occupation layer	52	Pottery	47	1	32					2nd-4th cent
L7	Occupation layer	53	Pottery	21	1	4					Roman
L7	Occupation layer	53	CBM		8	292				RBT	Roman
L7	Occupation layer	53	CBM		1	266				RB	Roman
L7	Occupation layer	53	Pottery	21	3	14					Roman
L7	Occupation layer	53	Pottery	47A	3	100					2nd-4th cent
L7	Occupation layer	53	Pottery	47	8	52	2	0	0	G26.1	3rd-4th cent
L7	Occupation layer	54	Pottery	47A	3	32					2nd-4th cent
L7	Occupation layer	54	Pottery	44	1	50					Roman
L7	Occupation layer	54	CBM		2	252				RT	Roman
L7	Occupation layer	54	CBM		1	76				RBT	Roman
L7	Occupation layer	54	Pottery	47	8	44	0	0	1		2nd-4th cent
L7	Occupation layer	54	Pottery	35	1	8					3rd-4th cent
L7	Occupation layer	54	Pottery	47	1	28					2nd-4th cent
L7	Occupation layer	54	Pottery	4	1	32	1	0	0	Flagon	1st-2nd cent
L7	Occupation layer	62	CBM		4	632				RBT	Roman
L7	Occupation layer	62	CBM		5	462				RI	Roman
L7	Occupation layer	62	Pottery	47	3	46	1	0	0	?	2nd-4th cent
L7	Occupation layer	62	Pottery	4	1	10	1			D12.2/1	AD 360-400+
L7	Occupation layer	62	Pottery	51	2	40					4th-5th cent
L7	Occupation layer	67	Pottery	47	16	90	3	0	0	E5	AD 250-350
L7	Occupation layer	67	Pottery	47A	7	70	1	0	0	G19?	AD 50-120

Cxt	Feature type	Find no.	Find type	Fabric group	Nr.	Weight	Rim	Handle	Base	Form	Spot date approx.
L7	Occupation layer	67	Pottery	35		10					3rd-4th cent
L7	Occupation layer	67	Pottery	44	6	152	0	0	1		Roman
L7	Occupation layer	67	Pottery	44	3	8					Roman
L7	Occupation layer	67	СВМ		4	100				RBT	Roman
L7	Occupation layer	67	Pottery	21	2	12					Roman
L7	Occupation layer	67	Pottery	14	1	8					2nd-4th cent
L7	Occupation layer	67	Pottery	14	1	6					2nd-4th cent
L7	Occupation layer	68	CBM		3	570				RT	Roman
L7	Occupation layer	68	CBM		3	82				RI	Roman
L7	Occupation layer	68	CBM		3	104				RBT	Cutaway B6, AD 100-180
L7	Occupation layer	68	CBM		1	152				RB	Roman
L7	Occupation layer	68	Pottery	21	1	6					Roman
L7	Occupation layer	68	Pottery	47	7	80	3	0	1	G25	2nd-early 4th cent
L7	Occupation layer	68	Pottery	4	1	22					3rd-4th cent
L7	Occupation layer	70	Pottery	21	1	2					Roman
L7	Occupation layer	70	Pottery	4	1	6					3rd-4th cent
L7	Occupation layer	70	Pottery	47B	1	6					2nd-4th cent
L7	Occupation layer	70	Pottery	41	1	10					2nd-4th cent
L7	Occupation layer	70	Pottery	47A	3	32					2nd-4th cent
L7	Occupation layer	70	Pottery	47	5	102	1	0	1		2nd-4th cent
L7	Occupation layer	70	CBM		5	434				RI	Roman
L7	Occupation layer	70	CBM		3	114				RBT	Roman
L7	Occupation layer	70	CBM		2	94				RT	Roman
L7	Occupation layer	74	Pottery	47	2	36					2nd-4th cent
L7	Occupation layer	74	Pottery	47A	3	64	0	0	2		2nd-4th cent
L7	Occupation layer	74	CBM		5	36				RBT	Roman
L7	Occupation layer	75	Pottery	47A	3	100	0	0	1		2nd-4th cent
L7	Occupation layer	75	Pottery	47	3	60	0	0	1		2nd-4th cent
L7	Occupation layer	75	CBM		2	70				RI	Roman
L8	Metalled surface	76	Pottery	44	1	224					Roman
L8	Metalled surface	76	Pottery	4	1	182	0	0	1		3rd-4th cent
L8	Metalled surface	76	Pottery	44	2	170	1	0	0	Lid	?
L8	Metalled surface	76	Pottery	44	1	348	1	0	0	G44	1st-4th cent
L8	Metalled surface	76	Pottery	44	1	30	1	0	0	Lid	?
L8	Metalled surface	76	CBM		3	442				RI	Roman
L8	Metalled surface	76	Pottery	47A	1	34	1	0	0	G24?	2nd-4th cent

Cxt	Feature type	Find no.	Find type	Fabric group	Nr.	Weight	Rim	Handle	Base	Form	Spot date approx.
L8	Metalled surface	76	СВМ		1	104				RI	Roman
L8	Metalled surface	76	CBM		1	448				RT	Roman
L8	Metalled surface	76	CBM		2	832				RT	Roman
L8	Metalled surface	76	CBM		3	706				RI	Roman
L8	Metalled surface	76	CBM		1	382				RI	Roman
L8	Metalled surface	76	CBM		4	2040				RT	Cutaway D5, AD 240-380
L8	Metalled surface	76	CBM		1	164				RI	Roman
L8	Metalled surface	76	CBM		1	640				RT	Roman
L8	Metalled surface	76	СВМ		1	1132				RT	Roman

Appendix 3 Animal bone

POSAC / Skeletal parts recovered by context

NISP – Number of Individual Skeletal Parts; F – Fused epiphysis; U – Unfused epiphysis

Context	Finds number	NISP	POSAC	Species
F24	27	1	Tibia - distal metaphysis U	Cattle
F37	43	1	Isolated mandibular tooth: M1/2	Cattle
F37	43	1	Scapula - Coracoid F	Cattle
F42 sx2	66	1	Humerus - distal F	Cattle
F43	58	1	Isolated mandibular tooth: P3/4	Cattle
F43	58	1	Isolated mandibular tooth: M1/2	Cattle
F43	58	1	Isolated mandibular tooth: M3	Cattle
F49	89	1	Metacarpal - distal F	Horse
L7 sq12	53	1	Isolated mandibular tooth: M1/2	Cattle
L7 sq14	52	1	Humerus - distal F	Cattle
L7 sq14	52	1	Humerus - distal F	Sheep/Goat
L7 sq16	51	1	Scapula - Coracoid F	Cattle
L7 sq30	68	1	Humerus - distal F	Cattle
L7 sq32	67	1	Isolated mandibular tooth: P3/4	Cattle
L7 sq32	67	1	Isolated mandibular tooth: M1	Cattle
L7 sq32	67	1	Ischium	Cattle
L7 sq5	45	1	Isolated mandibular tooth: M3	Cattle
L7 sq5	45	1	Metatarsal - distal F	Cattle
L7 sq5	45	1	Humerus - distal F	Cattle

Appendix 4 Catalogue of small finds and iron nails

SF	Context	Find no.	Object type	Description	Qt.	Wt. g	Length mm	Width mm	Thickness mm	Diameter mm	Date
1	F33	36	Coin	Roman copper-alloy nummus. A City of Rome commemorative coin, 330-335 AD, Trier mint. Obverse: helmeted bust of Roma left wearing an imperial mantle, [VRBS] RO[MA]. Reverse: Romulus and Remus suckling from wolf, wreath between two stars above, mint mark in exergue TRS. RIC VII, die axis: 1.	1	2.4	-	-	-	16	Roman, 4th century
2	F49 sx4	83	Object	Fragment of iron, no discernable features on the x-ray.	1	16.3	41	13	12	-	-
	F29 F35	31 38	Nail Nail	Iron nail shaft, square-sectioned shank Iron nail, complete, square-sectioned shank with a small, very slightly domed, round head c 7mm diameter, possibly a Manning Type 1B (1985)	1 1	4.1	36 81	-	-	-	Roman Roman
	F44	59	Nail	Iron nail, almost complete with tip missing, square-sectioned shank, flat round head c 11mm diameter, Manning Type 1B (1985)	1	8.1	39	-	-	-	Roman
	F49	89	Nail	Incomplete iron nail, tip missing, with flat rectangular-sectioned, tapering shank and expanded shoulders of the same thickness as the shank. The head appears flat (11mm wide) but has been damaged on one side. Possibly either a variant of a Manning Type 2 (1985) nail, or a Manning Type 2 with damaged head.	1	7.7	45	-	-	-	Roman
	F49 sx4	92	Nail	Iron nail shank, square-sectioned, clenched at 90 degrees	1	6.2	35	_	-	_	Roman
	F52	72	Nails	Three modern iron nails (discarded)	3	23.2	-	-	-	-	Modern
	F56	81	Nail	Iron nail shaft, square-sectioned shank	1	7.8	40	-	-	-	Roman
	L7	40	Nail	Iron nail, complete, square-sectioned shank, small flat round head c 7mm diameter, Manning Type 1B (1985)	1	9.1	71	-	-	-	Roman
	L7	50	Nail	Two iron nails: 1) Complete, square-sectioned shank, flat round head <i>c</i> 11mm diameter, the head is slightly off-set so that the shank is not in the middle of the head but off to one side, ?Manning Type 1B (1985).	1	5.2	50	-	-	-	Roman
				2) Complete, short (could be described as a tack), flat round head damaged but <i>c</i> 13mm diameter, Manning Type 7 (1985).	1	4.1	26				
	L7	54	Nails	Two iron nails: 1) Incomplete, clenched square-sectioned shank with tip missing, top of head missing but is round and <i>c</i> 15mm diameter, the head is off-set so that the shank is not in the middle of the head but off to one side, ?Manning Type 1B (1985).	1	12	51	-	-	-	Roman
				2) Incomplete, square-sectioned shank with head missing.	1	11.9	55				

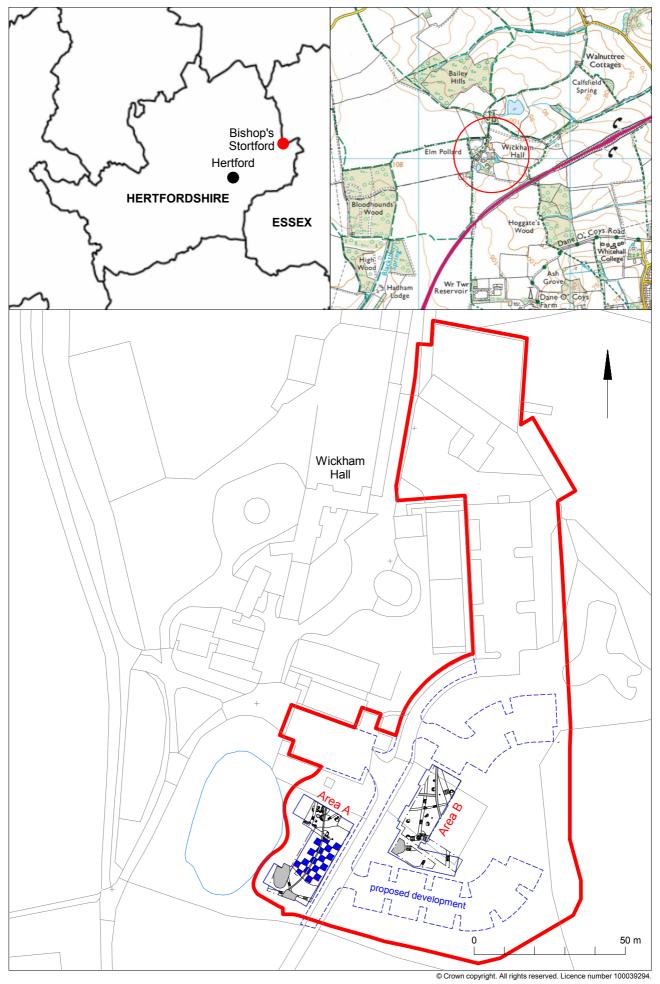


Fig 1 Site location



Fig 2 Development site shown in relation to nearby archaeological and historic monuments recorded on the Hertfordshire Historic Environment Record

Imagery ©2019 Google, Map data ©2019 Google HER data ©2019 Hertfordshire Historic Environmentl Record



Fig 3 Area A and B results

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



Fig 4 Evaluation trenching (in green) overlaid on excavation Area A and B

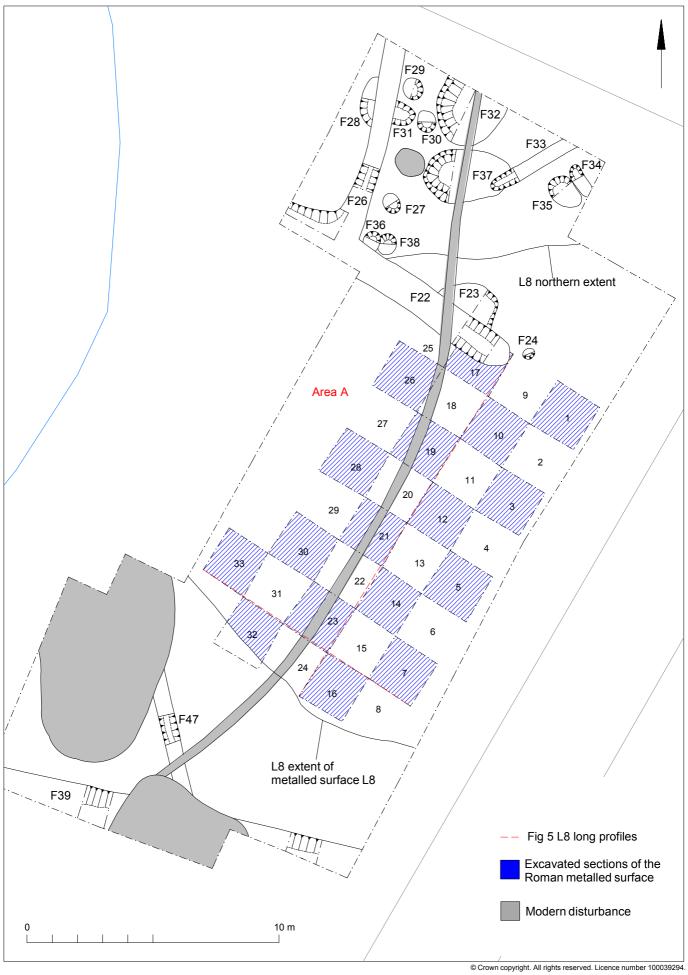


Fig 5 Area A results

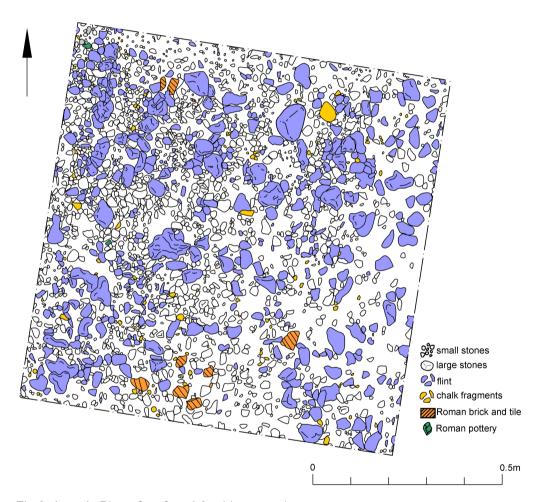


Fig 6 Area A: Plan of surface L8 grid square 1.

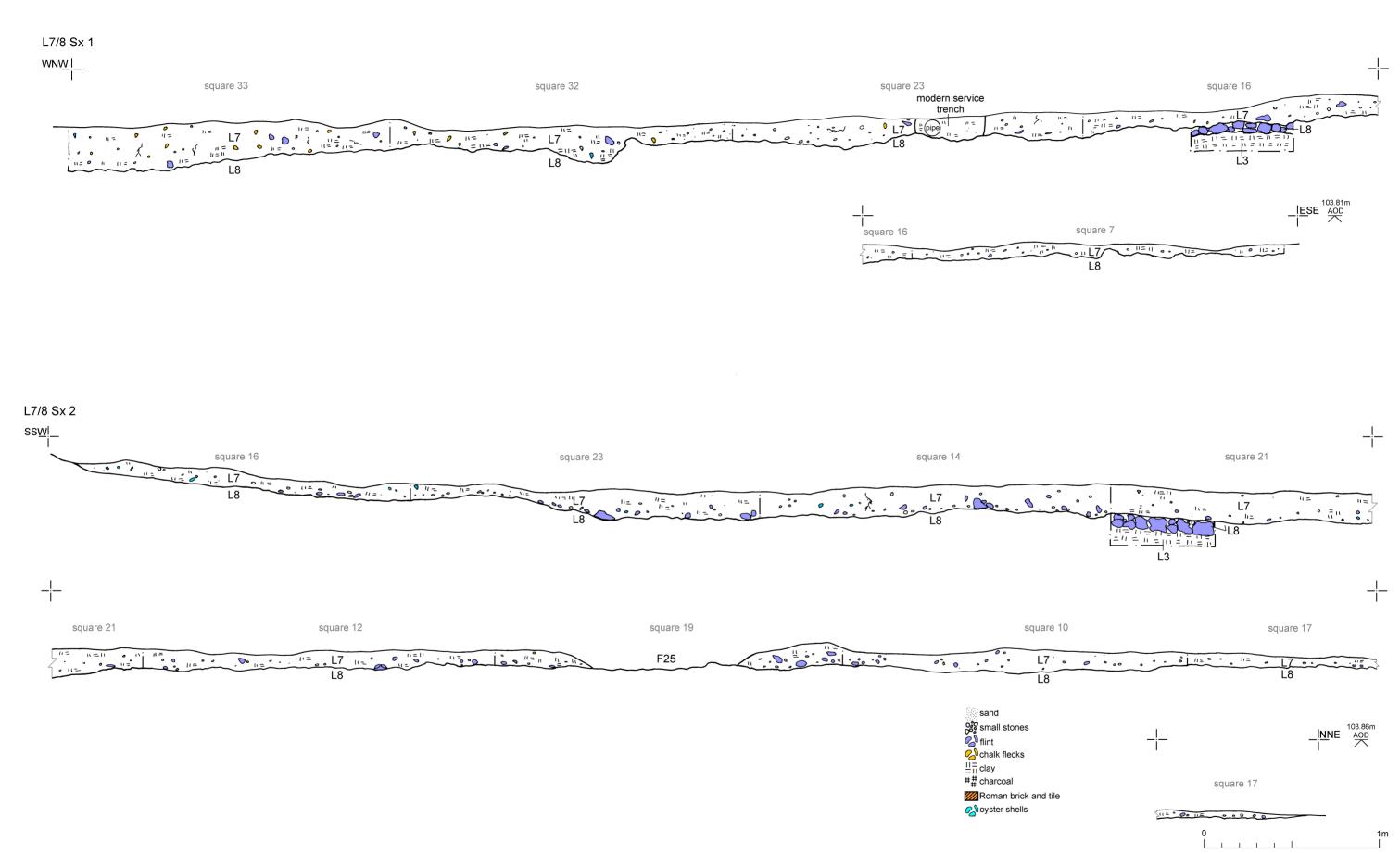


Fig 7 Area A: Long profiles across surface L8.

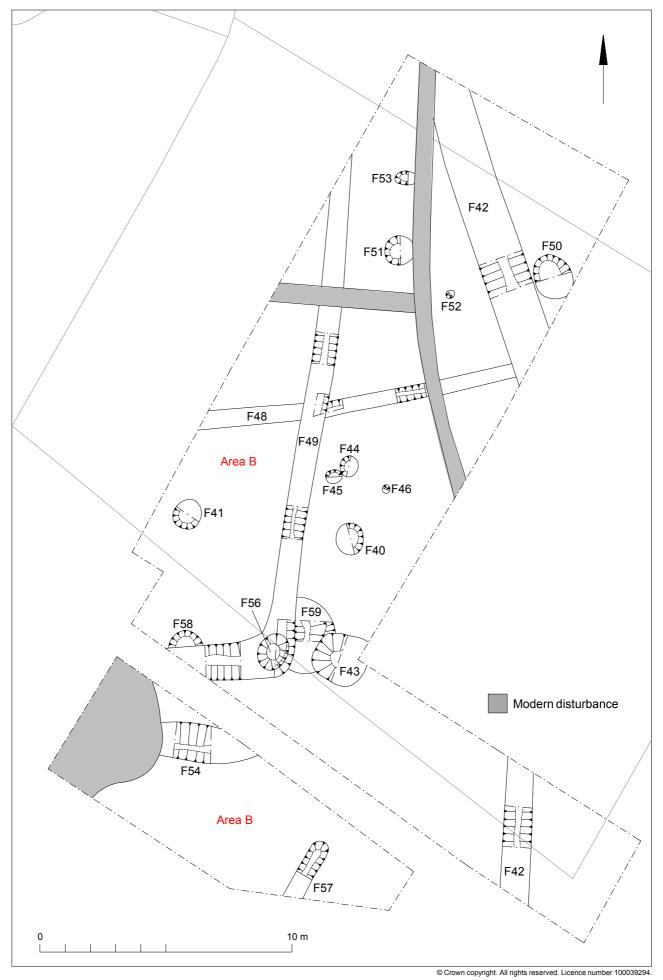
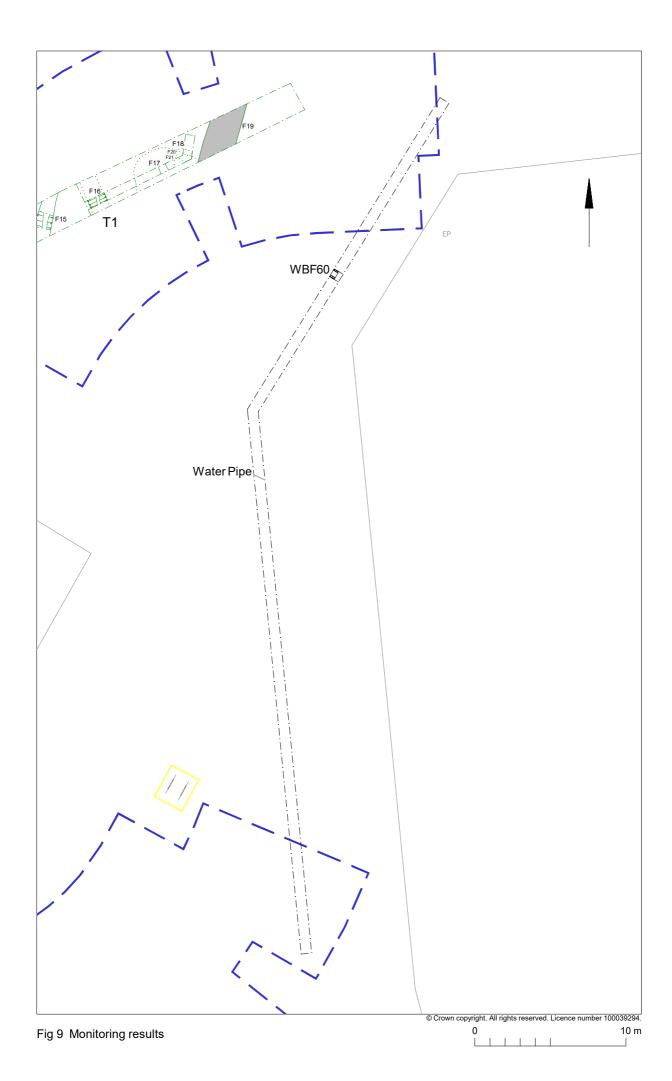


Fig 8 Area B results



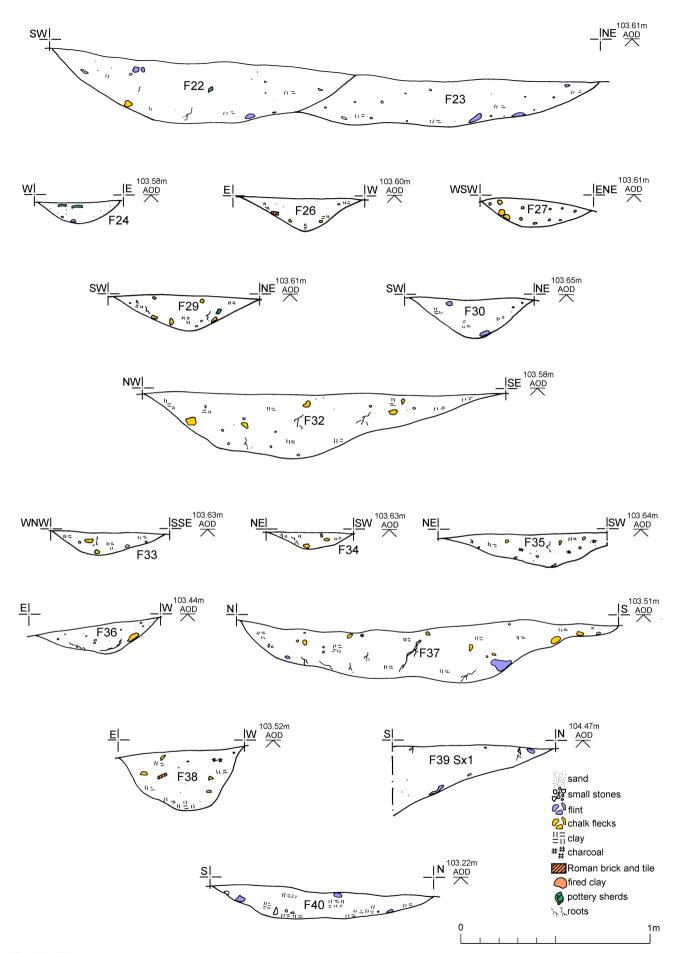


Fig 10 Feature sections.

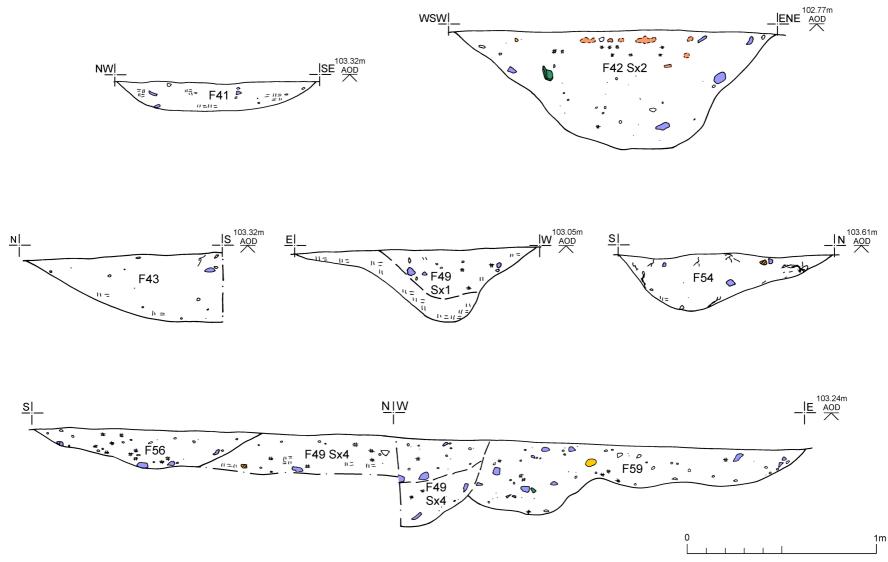


Fig 11 Feature sections.

HERTFORDSHIRE HISTORIC ENVIRONMENT RECORD SUMMARY SHEET

Site name and address: Wickham Hall, Hadham Road, Bishop's Stortford, Hertfordshire, CM22 1JG County: Hertfordshire District: East Hertfordshire Village/Town: Wareside Parish: Bishop's Stortford Planning application reference: 3/17/0407/FUL HER Enquiry reference: Funding source: Developer Nature of application: Change of use of the barn from agriculture to B1 (Office) and the erection of one no. B1 (Office) building and one A3 (Cafe/Restaurant) to include parking. Present land use: Car park Size of application area: 1.21ha Size of area investigated: 814m² NGR (to 8 figures minimum): TL 47452 22985 (centre) Site code (if applicable): CAT project code 18/07m Site director/organisation: Colchester Archaeological Trust (CAT) Type of work: Archaeological monitoring and excavation Date of work: Start: Finish: October 2018 – May 2nd October 2018 30th May 2019 2019 Location of finds & site archive/curating museum: East Hertfordshire, Bishop's Stortford Museum Related HER Nos: HER 30299, 30301 Periods represented: Neolithic, Bronze Age, Iron Age, Roman, Medieval Relevant previous summaries/reports: CAT Report 1288

Summary of fieldwork results:

An archaeological excavation was carried out at Wickham Hall, Hadham Road, Bishop's Stortford, Hertfordshire in advance of the change of use of the barn from agriculture to B1 (Office) and the erection of one no. B1 (Office) building and one A3 (Cafe/Restaurant) to include parking.

The site is located within the grounds of a 16th- or 17th-century farmstead with purported medieval origins, much of which has been converted to commercial purposes. Excavations uncovered a cobbled yard surface, multiple pits and ditches and considerable Roman building materials and domestic waste which together evidence the existence of a Roman villa which stood at this site during the 3rd and 4th centuries. Other features and material found during the course of the excavation also demonstrate periodic activity at this site from the Neolithic period to the during the 1st or 2nd centuries.

Finally, in spite of the purported medieval origins of Wickham Hall Farm, and the fact that the farmstead was constructed during the post-medieval period, the only evidence of activity at the site during the medieval period consisted of a single sherd of pottery, while no features dating to the post-medieval were encountered.

Author of summary: Dr Elliott Hicks Date of summary: 13.09.2019

OASIS DATA COLLECTION FORM: England

List of Projects | Manage Projects | Search Projects | New project | Change your details | HER coverage | Change country | Log out

Printable version

OASIS ID: colchest3-329804

Project details

Archaeological monitoring and excavation at Wickham Hall, Hadham Road, Bishop's Project name

Stortford, Hertfordshire, CM23 1JG

Short description An archaeological excavation was carried out at Wickham Hall, Hadham Road, Bishop's Stortford, Hertfordshire in advance of the change of use of a barn from agriculture to B1 of the project

(Office) and the erection of one no. B1 (Office) building and one A3 (Cafe/Restaurant) to include parking. The site is located within the grounds of a 16th- or 17th-century farmstead with purported medieval origins, much of which has been converted for commercial purposes. Excavations uncovered a metalled surface, multiple pits and ditches and considerable Roman building materials and domestic waste which together

evidence the existence of a Roman villa which stood on this site during the 3rd and 4th centuries. Other features and material found during the course of the excavation also demonstrate periodic activity at this site from the Neolithic period to the 1st or 2nd centuries AD. Finally, in spite of the purported medieval origins of Wickham Hall Farm and the fact that the farmstead was constructed during the post-medieval period, the only evidence of activity at the site during the medieval period consisted of a single sherd of

pottery, while no features dating to the post-medieval period were encountered.

Project dates Start: 02-10-2018 End: 30-05-2019

Previous/future work

Yes / Yes

Any associated project reference codes

18/07m - Contracting Unit No.

Type of project Recording project

Site status

Current Land use Industry and Commerce 3 - Retailing

Monument type **DITCH Roman** Monument type PIT Roman Monument type PIT Uncertain

Monument type NATURAL FEATURE Uncertain

Monument type PIT/POSTHOLE Roman

Monument type **DITCH Uncertain GULLY Uncertain** Monument type Monument type PIT Neolithic

Monument type PIT Bronze Age

1 of 3 13/09/2019, 15:02 Monument type DITCH TERMINUS Roman

Significant Finds POTTERY Roman

Significant Finds CBM Roman

Significant Finds POTTERY Late Iron Age
Significant Finds POTTERY Late Bronze Age

Significant Finds POTTERY Medieval

Significant Finds ANIMAL BONE Roman

Significant Finds COIN Roman

Significant Finds IRON OBJECT Uncertain

Significant Finds NAIL Roman
Significant Finds NAIL Modern

Significant Finds BAKED CLAY Uncertain

Significant Finds FLINT Neolithic
Significant Finds FLINT Bronze Age

Investigation type ""Open-area excavation""

Prompt National Planning Policy Framework - NPPF

Project location

Country England

Site location HERTFORDSHIRE EAST HERTFORDSHIRE BISHOPS STORTFORD Wickham Hall

Postcode CM23 1JG Study area 1.21 Hectares

Site coordinates TL 47452 22985 51.885432587465 0.142725018521 51 53 07 N 000 08 33 E Point

Height OD / Depth Min: 102.14m Max: 103.63m

Project creators

Name of Organisation

Colchester Archaeological Trust

Project brief originator

HEM Team Officer, HCC

Project design originator

Mark Baister

Project

Chris Lister

director/manager

Project supervisor Ben Holloway

Type of

Developer

sponsor/funding body

Project archives

Physical Archive recipient

Bishop's Stortford Museum

Physical Archive

ID

18/07m

Physical Contents "Animal Bones", "Ceramics", "Metal", "Worked stone/lithics", "other"

2 of 3 13/09/2019, 15:02

OASIS FORM - Print view

recipient

Bishop's Stortford Museum

18/07m Digital Archive ID

Digital Media available

Digital Archive

"Images raster / digital photography", "Survey", "Text"

Paper Archive recipient

Bishop's Stortford Museum

Paper Archive ID

18/07m

Paper Media available

"Context sheet", "Drawing", "Photograph", "Report"

Project bibliography 1

Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)

Publication type

Title Archaeological monitoring and excavation at Wickham Hall Farm, Hadham Road, Bishop's

Stortford, Hertfordshire, CM23 1JG: October 2018 - May 2019

Author(s)/Editor(s) Hicks, E.

Other bibliographic CAT Report 1339

details

Date 2019

Issuer or publisher Colchester Archaeological Trust

Place of issue or

publication

Colchester

Description A4 loose-leaf ring-bound **URL** http://cat.essex.ac.uk

Entered by Dr Elliott Hicks (eh2@catuk.org)

Entered on 13 September 2019

OASIS:

Please e-mail Historic England for OASIS help and advice © ADS 1996-2012 Created by Jo Gilham and Jen Mitcham, email Last modified Wednesday 9 May 2012 Cite only: http://www.oasis.ac.uk/form/print.cfm?id=366955 for this page

Cookies Privacy Policy

3 of 3 13/09/2019, 15:02