

Colchester Archaeological Trust



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**Archaeological monitoring and recording at
Hall Street Methodist Church, Hall Street,
Chelmsford, CM2 0HG: June-July 2025**



CAT project ref.: 2025/01b
ECC code: EEX61733

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**Commissioned by Warren Brodie
on behalf of Brodie Smith Ltd**

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1 Summary

Archaeological monitoring and recording was carried out at Hall Street Methodist Church, Hall Street, Chelmsford, Essex in advance of the conversion of the church building into five dwellings. Monitoring revealed probable Roman post-packing material, a post-medieval brick wall and a post-medieval pit. Finds included pottery, ceramic building material, animal bone and a hairpin. The features of post-medieval date are likely associated with the church itself. Roman finds attest to the Roman activity within the vicinity.

2 Introduction (Fig 1)

This is the report for archaeological monitoring and recording at Hall Street Methodist Church, Hall Street, Chelmsford, which was carried out from the 30th June to 7th July 2025. The work was commissioned by Warren Brodie of Brodie Smith Ltd and was carried out by Colchester Archaeological Trust (CAT) in advance of the conversion of the church building into domestic dwellings.

As the site lies within an area highlighted by the CHER as having a high potential for archaeological deposits, an archaeological condition was recommended by the Essex County Council Place Services (ECCPS). The recommended archaeological condition was based on the guidance given in the *National Planning Policy Framework* (MHCLG 2023).

All work was carried out in accordance with a *Brief for Archaeological Monitoring and Building Recording at Hall Street, Methodist Church, Hall Street, Chelmsford*, written by Mark Baister (ECCPS 2025). A Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) was prepared by CAT (2025a) in response to the brief and agreed with the ECCPS in advance of the groundworks.

In addition to the project Brief and WSI, all fieldwork and reporting was undertaken in accordance with:

- *Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment (MoRPHE)* (Historic England 2016),
- Professional standards of the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists, including its *Code of Conduct* (CIfA 2020a-b, 2022, 2023a-b),
- East of England standards and frameworks published by East Anglian Archaeology (Brown & Glazebrook 2000, Gurney 2003, Medlycott 2011) and the recent review updates on <https://researchframeworks.org/eoe/>
- Relevant health and safety guidelines and requirements (CAT 2025b).

3 Archaeological and geological background

The following archaeological background includes extracts of the ECC Brief (ECCPS 2025) and Essex Historic Environment Records (EHER) held at Essex County Council, County Hall, Chelmsford, Essex (accessed via <http://www.heritagegateway.org.uk>).

The building proposed for conversion is locally listed and considered a non-designated heritage asset. The Methodist church, which dates to 1863, was designed by Thomas Moss Snr and constructed by Thomas Moss Jnr. The building survives largely intact and represents a good example of a mid-19th century non-conformist church. The church is currently disused.

The Historic Environment Record shows that the church is within the area of the Roman Town of *Caesaromagus*, not far from the site of a 4th-century extra-mural Romano-Celtic temple and a Roman mansio or posting station. The town was probably established around a fort, constructed in the aftermath of the Boudiccan revolt of 60-61 AD. It grew to its largest during the mid-2nd century and had earthwork defences constructed c 160-175 AD.

A number of archaeological discoveries have been made in the immediate area around the development site. Excavations immediately to the west of the site, in 1972-73, revealed features dating from the 2nd to the 4th century, including part of an inhumation cemetery (EHER 5861). Features included pits, ditches and post-holes, as well as timber posts and graves containing poorly preserved human bone. On the site there was also evidence of residual prehistoric pottery and flintwork (EHER 5859, EHER 5860). Just north of this excavation, two timber-framed buildings, thought to pertain to the military, were discovered within the area of a modest turfed bank (EHER 5884). These predate the London to Colchester Roman road as the road was built over the levelled turfed bank. Later medieval pits and ditches (EHER 5885) were also found in this area, relating to the Moulsham Street frontage properties. Less than 50m to the south of the development site is the location of a Roman mansio (EHER 5843). Excavations in 1849 uncovered a wall of a building that was later identified as a mansio, a substantial structure dedicated to the rest and refreshment of passing travellers. Subsequent excavations later found further walls including a circular *laconicum* with a *praefurnium*, a 'hot' room with a furnace. In 1975 further excavations were undertaken, which uncovered evidence to suggest the baths and the *laconicum* predated the mansio (EHER 5835). A ditch associated with the mansio is projected to cross the proposed development site.

A 1st-century religious precinct is located approximately 125m north-east of the development (EHER 5865), which has evidence of religious practice within the temple from the mid-late 1st century through to the 5th century. The temple precinct was reorganised in the 4th century, through the construction of a Romano-Celtic temple dedicated to Mercury. During excavations of the temple site, the outline of a prehistoric mound-like earthwork was discovered (EHER 5864) measuring over 38m long and between 6 and 9m wide. After being deserted in the 5th century the temple site was used for a dyer's establishment (EHER 5866), although this occupation seems to have been ended by flooding in the

13th century. The main features were tanks, mostly lined with timber, as well as a boundary ditch. The site was gradually lost to silt accumulation and by the 16th century was under cultivation.

The Geology of Britain viewer (1:50,000 scale¹) shows the bedrock geology of the site to be the Thames Group, comprised mainly of clays and silty clays, some sandy or gravelly, with some silts, sands, gravels and calcareous mudstones. River Terrace Deposits form superficial deposits composed of sand and gravel.

4 Aims

The aim of the archaeological monitoring was to identify and record any archaeological context revealed during the groundworks. The monitoring took place in all areas where topsoil stripping or ground reduction would have potential to disturb the archaeological horizon including foundation trenches, services and soakaways.

Specific research aims for the monitoring included:

- The identification of any features associated with the Roman town and the features and finds uncovered nearby,
- To record the stratigraphic sequence of deposits affected by the development.

5 Results (Figs 2-3)

A series of foundation trenches were excavated under the supervision of a CAT archaeologist. Plots 1 and 2 were located within the interior of the church and plot 3 in the former garden.

Plot 1

The foundation trench totalled 12m long, 0.6m wide and 1.2-1.4m deep. It cut through topsoil L1 (approximately 0.6m) and subsoil L2 (approximately 0.6m) into natural sands and gravels L3 (encountered at approximately 1.2m below current ground level [bcgl]). A small deposit of clay, F1, was identified in the base of the trench. It measured 0.46m in length and 0.37m in width and was cut into natural; the thickness was not recorded. Associated with some Roman CBM it was identified as possible post-packing (F1) material, and was subsequently machined out during groundworks.

Plot 2

The trench totalled 10.2m long, 0.6m wide and 1.1m deep. Levelling layer L4 (1.5-1.6m thick) sealed natural L3. No archaeological features or material were encountered.

¹ British Geological Survey – <https://geologyviewer.bgs.ac.uk/>

Plot 3

The foundation trenches totalled 25.6m long, 0.6m wide and 1.6-1.8m deep. The trenches cut through levelling layer L4, (1.5-1.6m deep) and into natural (L3).

A brick wall with concrete foundation (F2) was encountered in plot 3. This is post-medieval and may relate to the garden or atrium chamber. The wall was partially removed in the centre of plot but retained on the eastern edge. A pit (F3) sealed by L4 was encountered in the southern area of the trenching. The top of the pit was machine excavated, with only a small slot (c 0.15m thick) excavated by hand at the base of the trench. Excavation ceased at formation level and the base of the pit was not established. A mix of Roman and post-medieval find were recovered from the hand-excavated slot. The pit measured at least 4.0m by 3.6m.

Context	Finds no.	Type	Description	Date
L1	1	Topsoil	Friable dry medium grey/brown sandy silt with brick flecks, tile flecks	Modern
L2	2	Historic subsoil	Firm dry dark grey/brown sandy silt with brick flecks, tile flecks	Post-medieval
L3	-	Natural	Hard dry medium yellow/orange sand and inclusions of: gravel 10%	Post-glacial
L4	-	Levelling layer	Soft moist dark grey/brown sandy silty clay with brick flecks and inclusions of: tile/brick 5%	Post-medieval/modern
F1	3	Post-packing material	Packed clay	Roman
F2	-	Brick wall	Brick wall with concrete foundation	Post-medieval/modern
F3	5	Pit	Soft moist light yellow/brown sandy silty clay with charcoal flecks, brick flecks, tile flecks and inclusions of: tile/brick 2% pot 2%	Post-medieval

Table 1 Context list.



Photograph 1 Trench in plot 1, facing south-east.



Photograph 2 Post-packing material F1 in plot 1, facing north-west.



Photograph 3 Trench in plot 2, facing north-east.



Photograph 4 Levelling layer L4 in plot 2, facing south.



Photograph 5 Pit F3 in plot 3, facing south-west.



Photograph 6 Brick wall F2 and levelling layer L4 in plot 3, facing east.

6 Finds

6.1 Pottery and ceramic building material (Appendix 1-2)

by Dr Matthew Loughton

Monitoring uncovered a small assemblage of pottery and ceramic building material (henceforth CBM) at 55 sherds with a weight of 6,177g and EVE (rim estimated vessel equivalent) of 1.55 (Table 1). The mean sherd weight high at 112.3g which reflect the greater contribution of heavier CBM to the assemblage weight (Table 1).

Ceramic material	No.	Weight (g)	MSW (g)	EVE
Pottery	37	1,146	31.0	1.55
CBM	18	5,031	279.5	-
All	55	6,177	112.3	1.55

Table 2 Summary of the pottery and CBM.

Roman pottery

Roman pottery was classified according to the fabric groups outlined in *CAR 10* (Symonds & Wade 1999) (Table 2) and vessel types via the Colchester (*Camulodunum*), henceforth Cam, type series (Hawkes & Hull 1947; Hull 1958; *CAR 10*, Bidwell & Croom 1999, 468-487) and the Chelmsford type series (Going 1987). 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 EVE (estimated vessel equivalent).

There was a small assemblage of Roman pottery at thirty-two sherds with a weight of 1,031g and EVE of 1.46 (Tables 3-4). The mean sherd weight is 32.2 g. This material was recovered from two contexts although most of the material came from the pit F3 (Table 5).

Fabric code	Fabric description	Fabric date range guide
BARH	Rheinzabern plain samian	AD 150-260
BXRH	Rheinzabern decorated samian	AD 150-260
BXEG	East Gaulish decorated samian	AD 150-260
BSW 1	Black surface ware (smooth, micaceous)	Roman
BSW 2	Black surface ware (sandier, coarser)	Roman
GB	BB2: black-burnished ware, category 2	AD 110/125-300
GX	Other coarse, principally locally-produced grey wares	Roman
HZ	Large storage jars and other vessels in heavily-tempered wares	Late Iron Age-Roman
HZ OX	Large storage jars and other vessels in heavily-tempered oxidised wares	Late Iron Age-Roman
KX	Black-burnished ware (BB2) types in pale grey ware	AD 125/150-300

Table 3 Roman pottery fabrics recorded

Fabric Group	Fabric description	No.	Weight (g)	MSW (g)	EVE
BARH	Rheinzabern plain samian	1	120	120.0	0.28
BXRH	Rheinzabern decorated samian	1	49	49.0	0.00
BXEG	East Gaulish decorated samian	3	15	5.0	0.00
BSW 1	Black surface ware (smooth, micaceous)	14	464	33.1	0.58
BSW 2	Black surface ware (sandier, coarser)	5	133	26.6	0.30
GB	BB2: black-burnished ware, category 2	4	40	10.0	0.25
GX	Other coarse, principally locally-produced grey wares	1	28	28.0	0.00
HZ	Large storage jars and other vessels in heavily-tempered wares	1	58	58.0	0.00
HZ OX	Large storage jars and other vessels in heavily-tempered oxidised wares	1	110	110.0	0.05
KX	Black-burnished ware (BB2) types in pale grey ware	1	14	14.0	0.00
Total		32	1,031	32.2	1.46

Table 4 Summary of the Roman pottery.

Fabric Group	Form	EVE
BARH	All	0.28
	DRAG 32	0.28
BSW 1	All	0.58
	H34	0.58
BSW 2	All	0.30
	G24	0.10
	G45	0.20
GB	All	0.25
	CAM 37A/38A	0.08
	CAM 40A	0.17
HZ OX	All	0.05
	CAM 273	0.05
Total		1.46

Table 5 Roman pottery quantification via vessel form.

Context	Feature type	No.	Weight(g)	MSW (g)	EVE
F3	Pit	27	933	34.6	1.29
L2	Subsoil	5	98	19.6	0.17
Total		32	1,031	32.2	1.46

Table 6 Quantities of Late Iron Age-Roman pottery from specific contexts.

Pit F3 produced a Cam 273 storage jar (EVE:0.05) in fabric HZ which dates to AD 43-200/300 and a Cam 37A/38A black-burnished (fabric GB) bowl (EVE:0.08) dating to AD 120-180/220. In black surface wares (fabrics BSW 1, BSW 2) there was a H34 folded-beaker (EVE:0.58), dating to c AD 180/190-230/250, which is similar to the Cam 405/406, a G24 jar (EVE:0.10) and G45 jar (EVE:0.20). The G24 and G45 jars are relatively long-lived dating from c AD 100 onwards until the later Roman period (c AD

300/400). There was a small quantity of east Gaulish samian including a large part of a Rheinzabern Drag. 32 dish (EVE:0.28) and a sherd from a Rheinzabern Drag. 37 bowl decorated in the style of Comitalis IV & V dating to AD 170-240 (Ricken 2005). Subsoil L2 contained examples of the black burnished (fabric GB) Cam 40A dish (EVE:0.17) dating to c AD 110/125-275.

Post-medieval and modern pottery

Post-medieval and modern pottery was recorded according to the fabric groups from CAR 7 (Cotter 2000) (Table 6) while the number of vessels was determined by rim EVE (estimated vessel equivalent). There was a small assemblage at five sherds with a weight of 115g and EVE of 0.09 (Table 7). The mean sherd weight is 23.0g. Post-medieval/modern pottery was recovered from one feature and two layers (Table 8). Modern Staffordshire-type white earthenware (fabric 48D) including a jar (EVE:0.09) came from topsoil L1, while a Frechen stoneware jug came from subsoil L2.

Fabric code	Fabric description	Fabric date range guide
F40	Post-medieval red earthenwares	1500-1800/1900
F45D	Frechen stoneware	1500-1700
F48D	Staffordshire-type white earthenware	1800-2000

Table 7 Post-medieval and modern pottery fabrics recorded.

Fabric Group	Fabric description	No.	Weight (g)	MSW (g)	EVE
F40	Post-medieval red earthenwares	1	64	64.0	0.00
F45D	Frechen stoneware	1	18	18.0	0.00
F48D	Staffordshire-type white earthenware	3	33	11.0	0.09
Total		10	83	8.3	0.15

Table 8 Summary of the post-medieval and modern pottery.

Context	Feature type	No.	Weight(g)	MSW (g)	EVE
F3	Pit	1	64	64.0	0.00
L1	Topsoil	3	33	11.0	0.09
L2	Subsoil	1	18	18.0	0.00
Total		5	115	23.0	0.09

Table 9 Quantities of post-medieval and modern pottery from specific contexts.

Ceramic building material (CBM)

There were eighteen fragments of CBM with a weight of 5,031g with a mean sherd weight of 279.5g (Table 9). CBM consists of a variety of Roman, medieval and post-medieval/modern material (Table 9) which was recovered from two features and two layers (Table 10). The largest assemblage is the thirteen fragments at 4,140g from pit F3.

CBM code	CBM type	No.	Weight (g)	MSW (g)
Roman				
RB	Roman brick	2	2,412	1,206.0

RI	Roman imbrex	4	888	222.0
RT	Roman tegulae	6	841	140.2
Op sig.	Opus signum	1	64	64.0
Post-Roman				
PT	Peg-tile	1	23	23.0
PANT	Pan-tile	1	86	86.0
BR	Brick	1	714	714.0
Un-dated				
Mortar		2	3	1.5
Total		18	5,031	279.5

Table 10 Building material by period and type.

Context	Description	No.	Weight (g)	MSW (g)
F1	Post-packing material	2	415	207.5
F3	Pit	12	4140	345.0
L1	Topsoil	1	86	86.0
L2	Subsoil	5	432	86.4
Total		20	5073	253.7

Table 11 Quantities of CBM from specific contexts.

Roman CBM was recovered from post-packing material F1, pit F3 and subsoil L2. A sherd of medieval/post-medieval peg-tile came from subsoil L2, while a fragment of pan-tile, dating from the 17th-century onwards, came from topsoil L1. An un-frogged late 18th- to 19th-century brick came from pit F3.

Conclusion

Table 11 summarizes the dating evidence for the features and layers which had dateable pottery and CBM. The contexts are Roman, post-medieval and modern, with pit F3 containing a large assemblage of residual Roman pottery dating from the late 2nd and the 3rd century.

Context	Description	Roman pottery	Post-Roman pottery	CBM	Date Approx.
F1	Post-packing material	-	-	RI RT	?
F3	Pit	BARH (DRAG 32) BXRH (DRAG 37) BSW 1 (G21, H34) BSW 2 (G45) GB (CAM 37A/38A) GX HZ OX (CAM 273)	F40	RB RI RT OP SIG BR	Late 18th-19th century
L1	Topsoil		F48D (JAR)	PANT	Modern
L2	Subsoil	GB (CAM 40A) HZ KX	F45D (JUG)	RT PT	16th century

Table 12 Approximate dates for the individual features and layers.

6.2 Small finds

by Laura Pooley

Two bone small finds were recovered from pit F3. The first (SF1) was the lower half of a tapering bone shaft, which could be the end of a hairpin or needle and is probably of Roman date. The second (SF2) was an incomplete polished bone handle. The handle is flat with parallel sides and a rounded terminal. Dating to the post-medieval period it could have been from a piece of cutlery or a similar handled object.

SF1, F3, finds no. 5. Bone shaft, 61.6mm long, 3.0mm diameter, 0.7g. Lower tapering shaft and tip, circular-sectioned. Probably Roman.

SF2, F3, finds no. 5. Bone handle, 61.4mm long, 11.6mm wide, 4.0mm thick, 4.5g. Incomplete, polished, broken at one end. Flat handle, parallel-sided with a rounded terminal. Post-medieval.

6.3 Glass, clay tobacco pipe, shell and animal bone

by Laura Pooley (animal bone identified by Alec Wade)

A fragment of olive-green bottle glass was recovered from L1, a fragment of clay pipe stem and a piece of animal bone from L2, and fragments of animal bone and a piece of oyster shell from F3. These finds have been recorded in the table below.

Context	Finds no.	Description
L1	1	Glass: Fragment of olive-green bottle glass, 15.5g, post-medieval/modern.
L2	2	Clay tobacco pipe: Stem fragment, 5.3g, post-medieval. Animal bone: Fragment of skull from a large mammal, 7.0g.
F3	5	Oyster shell: Fragment, 8.0g. Animal bone: Four fragments, 92.5g, a sheep/goat tibia and rib fragment and two fragments of a cow metatarsal.

Table 13 Glass, clay tobacco pipe, shell and animal bone listed by context.

7 Conclusion

Archaeological monitoring and recording was carried out at Hall Street Methodist Church, Hall Street, Chelmsford, Essex in advance of the conversion of the church building into five dwellings. Monitoring revealed probable Roman post-packing material, a post-medieval brick wall and a post-medieval pit. Finds included pottery, ceramic building material, animal bone and a hairpin. The features of post-medieval date are likely associated with the church itself. Roman finds attest to the Roman activity within the vicinity.

8 Acknowledgements

CAT thanks Warren Brodie on behalf of Brodie Smith Ltd for commissioning and funding the work. The project was managed by A Wightman and C Lister, fieldwork was carried out by X Smith and Z Eksen. Figures are by C Hill, Z Eksen, X Smith and T Lawrence. The project was monitored for CCC by Mark Baister.

9 References

Note: all CAT reports, except for DBAs, are available online in PDF format at <https://catuk.org/online-reports/>

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10 Abbreviations and glossary

CAT	Colchester Archaeological Trust
CIfA	Chartered Institute for Archaeologists
context	a single unit of excavation, which is often referred to numerically, and can be any feature, layer or find.
ECC	Essex County Council
ECCHEA	Essex County Council Historic Environment Advisor
ECCPS	Essex County Council Place Services
EHHER	Essex Historic Environment Record
feature (F)	an identifiable thing like a pit, a wall, a drain: can contain 'contexts'
layer (L)	distinct or distinguishable deposit (layer) of material
medieval	period from AD 1066 to 1540
modern	period from AD 1901 to the present
natural	geological deposit undisturbed by human activity
NGR	National Grid Reference
OASIS	O nline A cces S to the I ndex of Archaeological Investigation S , http://oasis.ac.uk/pages/wiki/Main
post-medieval	from AD 1540 to 1900
Roman	the period from AD 43 to c AD 410
section	(abbreviation sx or Sx) vertical slice through feature/s or layer/s
ws	written scheme of investigation

11 Contents of archive

Finds: Returned to landowner at their request.

Digital:

CAT Report 2191

ECC brief, CAT written scheme of investigation

Digital photographs

Site data

Survey data

12 Archive deposition

The 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 the Archaeology Data Service.

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Distribution list:

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Essex Historic Environment Record

Appendix 1 Pottery list

Context	Feature type	Find no.	Number	Weight (g)	Mean Sherd Weight (g)	Sooting (ext)	Burning	Abraison	Fabric Group	Typology	Function	Category	EVE	Diam	Whole/nearly whole pot	Comments	Start Date	End Date
F3	PIT	5	1	64	64.0				F40							C-FL GLAZE INT & EXT	1500	1800/1900
F3	PIT	5	1	110	110.0		X		HZ OX	CAM 273	STORAGE JAR		0.05	360		CHELMF G44 BURNING TOP RIM	43	200/300
F3	PIT	5	1	28	28.0				GX								43	425
F03	PIT	5	1	14	14.0				GB	CAM 37A/38A	BOWL		0.08	170		CHELMF B2 3	120	180/220
F3	PIT	5	1	120	120.0			X	BARH	DRAG 32	DISH		0.28	180	X	LARGE PART VESSEL, WORN UNDERSIDE OF BFR	150	220
F3	PIT	5	1	49	49.0				BXRH	DRAG 37	BOWL					LION (OS 1456) & LEAF COMITIALIS IV & V	170	240
F3	PIT	5	3	15	5.0		X		BXEG								150	260
F3	PIT	5	1	14	14.0	X			BSW 2	G24	JAR		0.10	140		? VS&PIMPLY WITH PK/RED SAND, BL EXT	100	400
F3	PIT	5	13	417	32.1	X			BSW 1	H34	BEAKER		0.58	145		SPARSE S EXT, FOLDED BK SIM C406, HADHAM LIKE	180/190	230/250
F3	PIT	5	3	40	13.3				BSW 2								43	425
F3	PIT	5	1	79	79.0				BSW 2	G45	JAR		0.20	190			100	300
F3	PIT	5	1	47	47.0	X			BSW 1	G21	JAR					RILLING/GROOVES ON SHLD	100	400
L1	TOP SOIL	1	1	7	7.0				F48D							BPT	1800	200
L1	TOP SOIL	1	1	3	3.0				F48D							BLUE TINGE PEARLSWARE?	1800	200
L1	TOP SOIL	1	1	23	23.0				F48D	JAR	JAR		0.09	220			1800	200
L2	SUB SOIL	2	1	58	58.0				HZ								43	200/300
L2	SUB SOIL	2	2	17	8.5				GB	CAM 40A	DISH		0.13	210			110/125	275
L2	SUB SOIL	2	1	9	9.0				GB	CAM 40A	DISH		0.04	190			110/125	275
L2	SUB SOIL	2	1	14	14.0				KX								125/150	300
L2	SUB SOIL	2	1	18	18.0				F45D	JUG	JUG						1500	1700

Appendix 2 CBM list

Context	Feature type	Find no.	Number	Weight (g)	Mean Sherd Weight (g)	Typology	Sub-type	FL H.	FL W.	FL TH.	Sign.	Sign type	L.	BR.	TH.	Mortar	Burnt	Overfired	Comments	Start Date	End Date
F1	POST-PACKING MATERIAL	3	1	311	311.0	RI											X		OR FINER MORE MICACEOUS	43	425
F1	POST-PACKING MATERIAL	3	1	104	104.0	RT		48	20	28										43	425
F3	PIT	5	1	714	714.0	BR	UNFROGGED						?	?	68	X			RED/PURPLE, ROUGH VS&DARK GRAINS	1775	1850
F3	PIT	5	3	577	192.3	RI														43	425
F3	PIT	5	3	331	110.3	RT														43	425
F3	PIT	5	1	195	195.0	RB					X	?								43	425
F3	PIT	5	1	64	64.0	OP SIG														43	425
F3	PIT	5	1	2217	2217.0	RB					X	S X 3	?	?	42			X	LAMINATED	43	425
L1	TOP SOIL	1	1	86	86.0	PANT														1600	2000
L2	SUB SOIL	2	1	253	253.0	RT					X	?								43	425
L2	SUB SOIL	2	2	3	1.5	MORTAR														1500	1900
L2	SUB SOIL	2	1	23	23.0	PT														1200	1600
L2	SUB SOIL	2	1	153	153.0	RT													OR, SMOOTH, FINER, ,ORE MICA	43	425

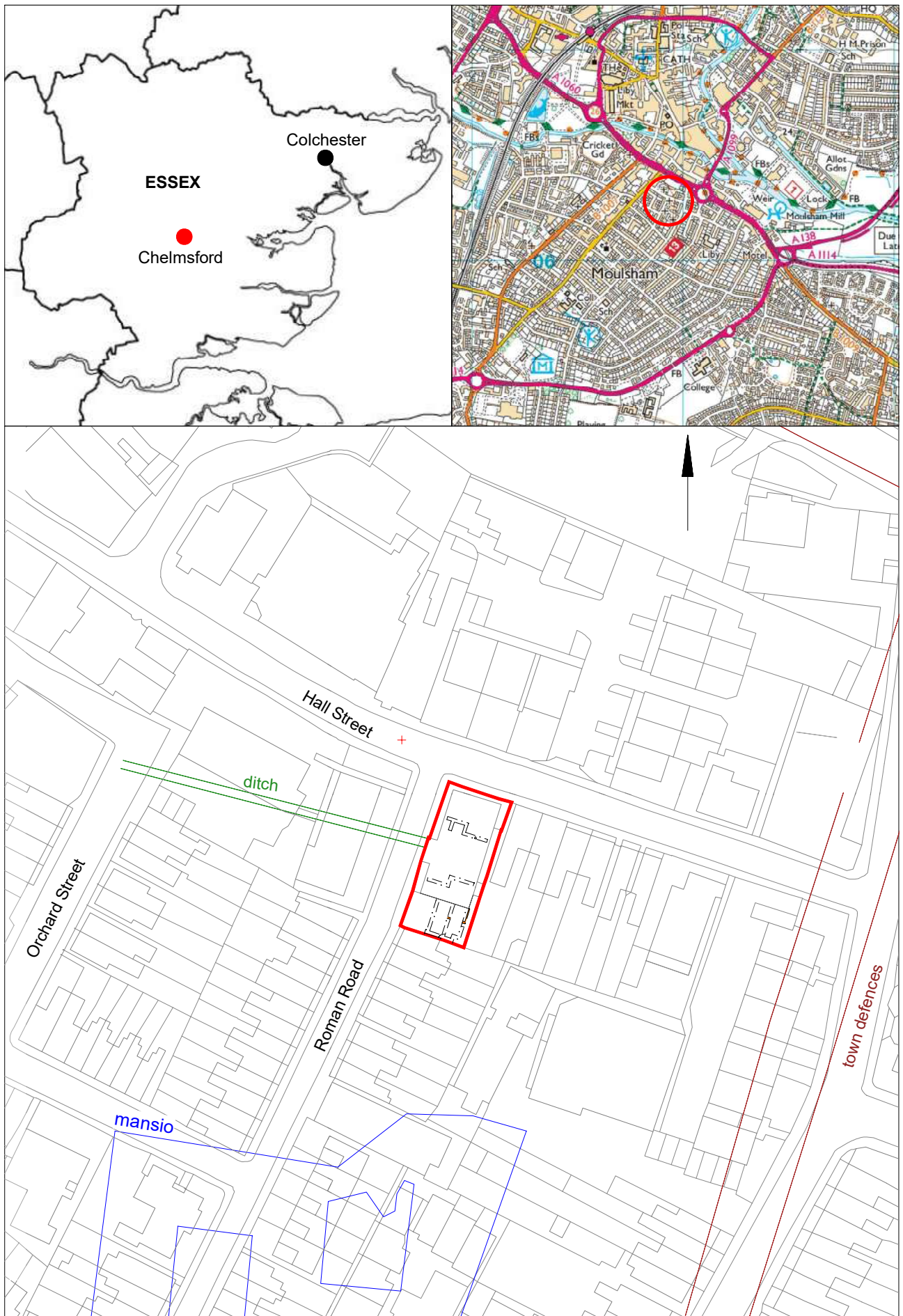


Fig 1 Site location, also showing Roman mansio, town defences and a ditch.

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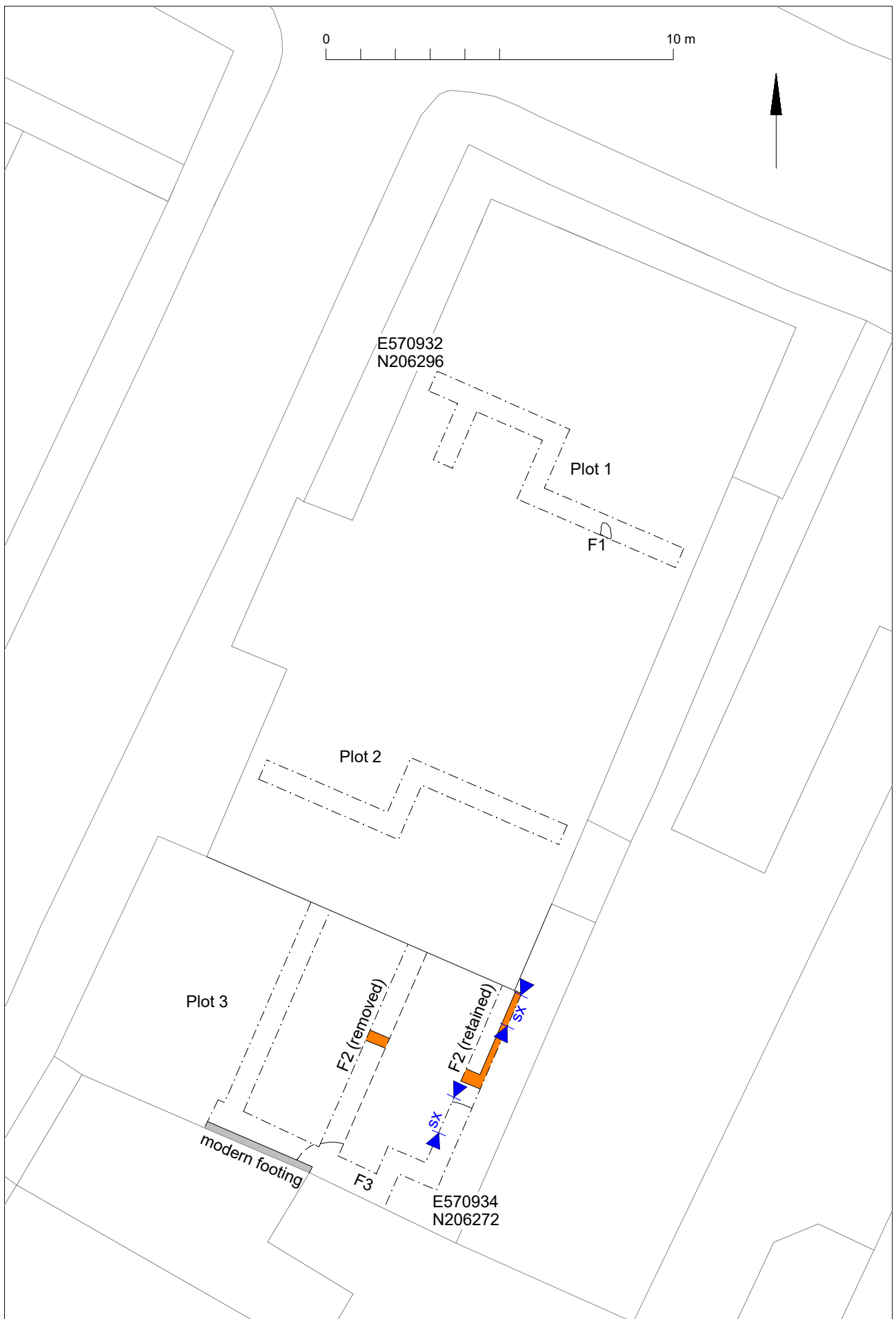


Fig 2 Results.

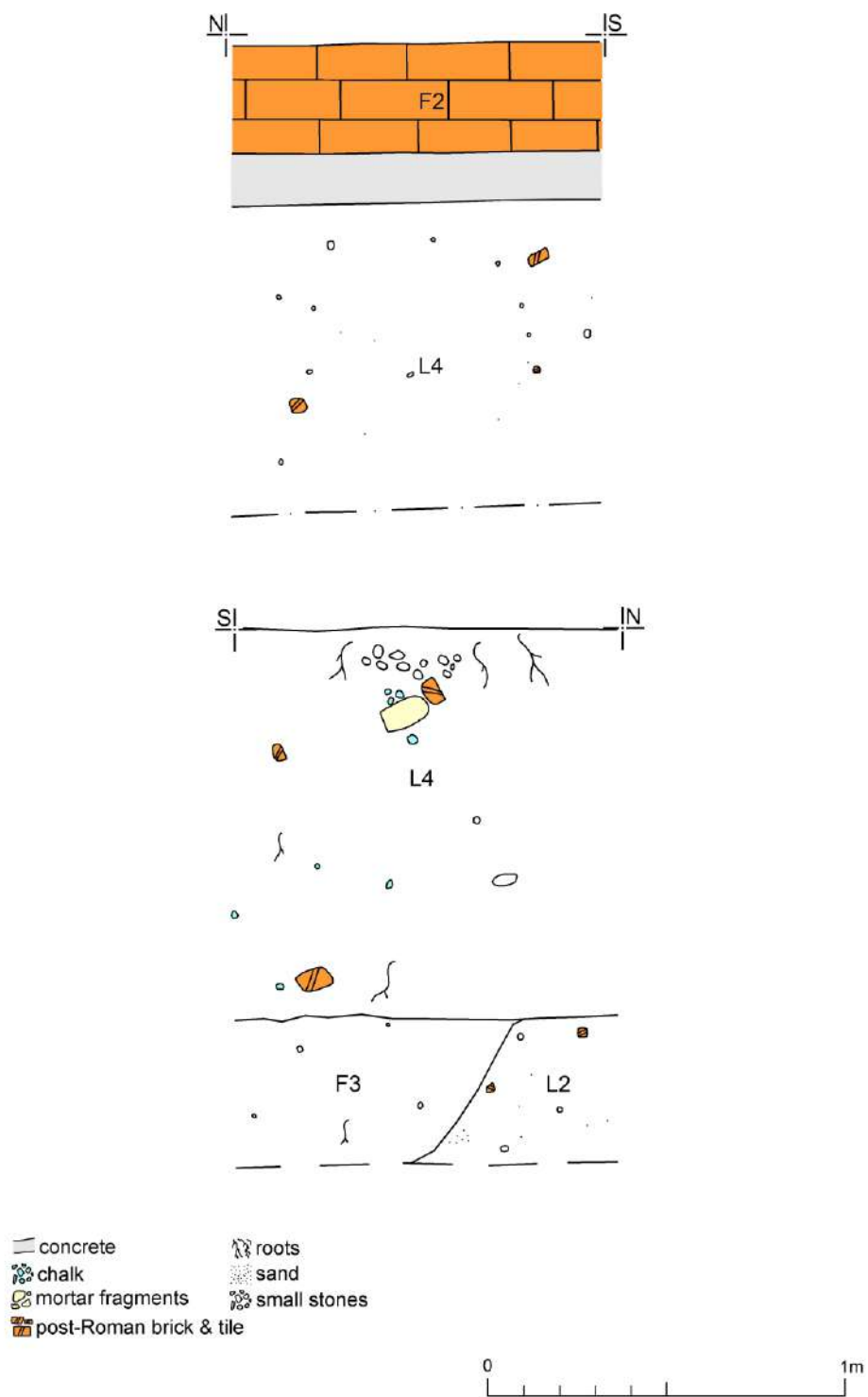


Fig 3 Feature and representative sections.

OASIS Summary for colchest3-530678

OASIS ID (UID)	colchest3-530678
Project Name	Archaeological monitoring and recording at Hall Street Methodist Church, Hall Street, Chelmsford, CM2 0HG
Sitename	Hall Street Methodist Church, Hall Street, Chelmsford, CM2 0HG
Sitecode	EEX61733
Project Identifier(s)	2025/01b
Activity type	Watching Brief
Planning Id	24/01644/FUL
Reason For Investigation	Planning: Between application and determination
Organisation Responsible for work	Colchester Archaeological Trust
Project Dates	30-Jun-2025 - 07-Jul-2025
Location	Hall Street Methodist Church, Hall Street, Chelmsford, CM2 0HG NGR : TL 70934 06288 LL : 51.72924816373895, 0.473716072248721 12 Fig : 570934,206288
Administrative Areas	Country : England County/Local Authority : Essex Local Authority District : Chelmsford Parish : Chelmsford, unparished area
Project Methodology	Archaeological monitoring and recording of all groundworks carried out as specified in the project brief and wsi.
Project Results	Archaeological monitoring and recording was carried out at Hall Street Methodist Church, Hall Street, Chelmsford, Essex in advance of the conversion of the church building into five dwellings. Monitoring revealed probable Roman post-packing material, a post-medieval brick wall and a post-medieval pit. Finds included pottery, ceramic building material, animal bone and a hairpin. The features of post-medieval date are likely associated with the church itself. Roman finds attest to the Roman activity within the vicinity.
Keywords	Wall - POST MEDIEVAL - FISH Thesaurus of Monument Types Rubbish Pit - POST MEDIEVAL - FISH Thesaurus of Monument Types Vessel - ROMAN - FISH Archaeological Objects Thesaurus Handle - POST MEDIEVAL - FISH Archaeological Objects Thesaurus Hair Pin - ROMAN - FISH Archaeological Objects Thesaurus Wine Bottle - POST MEDIEVAL - FISH Archaeological Objects Thesaurus Tobacco Pipe - POST MEDIEVAL - FISH Archaeological Objects Thesaurus Animal Remains - UNCERTAIN - FISH Archaeological Objects Thesaurus Oyster Shell - UNCERTAIN - FISH Archaeological Objects Thesaurus Post Hole - ROMAN - FISH Thesaurus of Monument Types
Funder	Private individual
HER	Essex HER - unRev - STANDARD

Person Responsible for work	A Wightman
HER Identifiers	HER Event No - EEX61733
Archives	Physical Archive - to be deposited with Chelmsford Museum; Digital Archive - to be deposited with Archaeology Data Service Archive;

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