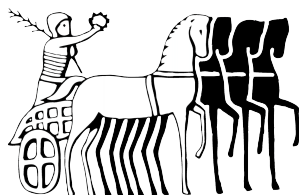


Colchester Archaeological Trust



**CAT Report 2294
issued July 2026**

**Archaeological excavation at 5 The Street, Sheering,
Harlow, Essex, CM22 7LS: May 2026**



**CAT project ref.: 2026/04r
ECC code: EEX63691**

**Archaeological excavation at 5 The Street, Sheering,
Harlow, Essex, CM22 7LS: May 2026**

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1 Summary

An archaeological excavation was carried out at 5 The Street, Sheering, Harlow, Essex, in advance of construction of two detached dwellings. Sheering was first recorded in the Domesday Book, with a medieval linear green and 16th- and 17th-century listed buildings nearby. An archaeological evaluation on the development site in 2025 revealed two medieval pits. This excavation revealed the continuation of a 15th-16th-century pit from the evaluation and several areas of modern disturbance.

2 Introduction (Fig 1)

This is the report for an archaeological excavation carried out by Colchester Archaeological Trust (CAT) at 5 The Street, Sheering, Harlow, Essex on 11th May 2026. Work was commissioned by Bill Poulton on behalf of Chelsteen Homes and took place in advance of the construction of two detached dwellings with access, parking, gardens and infrastructure.

In response to consultation with the Essex County Council Historic Environment Advisor (ECCHEA), it was advised that, in order to establish the archaeological implications of the application, the applicant should be required to commission a scheme of archaeological investigation in accordance with the *National Planning Policy Framework* (MHCLG 2025). The initial recommendation was for an archaeological trial-trench evaluation, which was undertaken by CAT in December 2025 (CAT Report 2240). The results of this evaluation led to this subsequent recommendation for archaeological excavation.

All archaeological work was carried out in accordance with a written scheme of investigation (WSI) prepared by CAT (2026b) and agreed with the ECCHEA.

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

- *Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment (MoRPHE)* (Historic England 2015),
- Professional standards of the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists, including its *Code of Conduct* (CIfA 2020a-b, 2023a-b, 2025),
- 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 2026a).

3 Archaeological background

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

The development site is located within the historic settlement of Sheering. Sheering is first recorded in the Domesday Book, with a population of seventeen households in 1086. The historic cartographic evidence suggests that the site is located within a former linear green of probable medieval origin. There are a number of listed buildings of 16th- and 17th-century date in the immediate vicinity of the site, attesting to the historic origins of this part of Sheering, listed below:

- 45m south is Crown House (NHLE 1147156), an early 17th-century Grade II listed timber-framed house with later extensions,
- 50m south-west and west of the site are two moated enclosures near Daubneys Farm (EHER 4339), most likely of a medieval date,
- 100m north-west is Daubneys Farmhouse, a Grade II* listed timber-framed house (NHLE 1111369) dating from the mid-16th century. Associated with the farm is a Grade II timber-framed barn (NHLE 1147135), dating from the late 16th-century to early 17th-century,
- Approximately 140m east of the site are two Grade II listed cast iron pumps from the 19th-century (EHER 33894, 33899),
- 170m south-west of the site is The Cock Public House, a Grade II listed timber-framed house from the 17th-century (NHLE 1147163),
- A further 285m east of the site there is the Grade II listed 18th-century domestic building Little Thatches (NHLE 1337192),
- St Mary's Church is Grade I listed with Norman origins (NHLE 1146947), located 340m south-west of the proposed site. A Saxon building is thought to have been there before.

Several cropmarks of field boundaries are located 285m north of the development site and west of Hatfield Heath. Most of these are shown on 1st edition OS map (EHER 19405).

In December 2025, CAT carried out an archaeological evaluation at the site, consisting of two trenches. This revealed pottery from two of the three pits discovered, which was dated to the medieval period (13th- to 15th-century) (CAT Report 2240).

In 1990 a watching brief for a new church hall near Church Lane, 195m south-west of the current site revealed two pits, four shallow ditches, three narrow slots and a possible post-hole (EHER 9128). Dating was limited but some Late Bronze Age/Early Iron Age pottery was found (Gilman & Bennett 1990). Approximately 330m south-west of the site archaeological monitoring at Greenacres, The Street revealed only a single post-medieval pit.

In 2017 an archaeological trial trench evaluation on land west of Church Lane, 440m south-west of the current site revealed two undated pits and a furrow, the latter containing fragments of modern ceramic building material (AS 2017).

The Geology of Britain viewer (1:50,000 scale¹) shows the bedrock geology of the site to be London Clay Formation (clay, silt and sand) with superficial deposits of Lowestoft Formation (chalky till, together with outwash sands and gravels, silts and clays).

4 Aims

The aims of the archaeological evaluation were to record the location, extent, character and significance of any surviving archaeological deposits and to assess the archaeological potential of the site to allow the ECCHEA to determine if further investigation is required.

Specific project aims were to record:

- Evidence relating to the medieval green.
- Evidence of medieval to post-medieval settlement activity.
- Evidence relating to earlier settlement and occupational activity.

Research questions for this evaluation as per the Regional Research Framework (Medlycott 2011; <https://researchframeworks.org/eoe/>) are the following:

- Med (Rural) 13: Can we clarify the dating, form and function of medieval rural moated sites?
- Med (Rural) 17: How can we characterise medieval rural farms and farmsteads?
- P-Med 14: How can we characterise the post-medieval historic landscape and the factors which affected it?
- Multi 06: How do we interpret and ground-truth cropmark evidence?

5 Results (Figs 2-4)

Two areas - henceforth west plot and east plot – were machine excavated under the supervision of a CAT archaeologist. The west plot measured 60.37m² and the east plot 103.81m². Both were excavated to depths of c. 0.65-0.7m below current ground level (bcgl).

As with the evaluation, three horizons were noted. Topsoil (L1, c. 0.22m thick) covered subsoil (L2, c. 0.23m thick). This sealed a chalky-clay natural (L3, from c 0.45m bcgl). Numbering of features and finds continued from the evaluation, i.e. F5 and (10), respectively, onwards.

¹ <https://geologyviewer.bgs.ac.uk/>

West plot

The west plot was centred over evaluation trench T1. In this trench, a steep-edged, elongated pit (F3) was encountered, containing 15th-16th-century pottery. The pit included some slight modern disturbance on the surface of the feature.

During this excavation phase, the entire length of F3 was exposed and a second section excavated through it, which was numbered F5. Pit F3/F5 measured 5m by 1.5m and 0.95m deep. Mid-late 13th century pottery was recovered from the fill of F5.

Pit F5 was slightly overcut on its northern edge to investigate a nearby feature, which proved to be part of a service trench cut vertically into the ground.

Excavations also revealed that F2 from the evaluation was in fact a modern service trench, orientated west-south-west/east-north-east, that was recorded crossing both excavation plots. A modern service trench and an area of disturbance to the south of the plot, from the demolition of the former house, were also recorded.



Photograph 1 Working shot of the west plot, showing excavation of pit F5, and service trench F2 in the background, view south-east.



Photograph 2 Pit F5, view west.



Photograph 3 Completed west plot, view south-west.

East plot

The east plot was centred over evaluation trenches T2 and T3. In T3, a small sub-circular medieval pit (F1) was encountered, which produced mid-15th century pottery. This feature was uncovered again in the excavation phase. No other archaeological features were identified within the east plot.

Service trench F2 was recorded crossing the plot along with a large area of ground disturbance (4.5m by 4.8m) from the recent removal of a large tree.



Photograph 4 Area of disturbance caused by tree removal in east plot, view south.



Photograph 5 Completed east plot, with pit F1 seen in the centre, and pipe trench F2 seen in background to the right, view east.

6 Finds

6.1 Pottery and ceramic building material

by Dr Matthew Loughton

The excavation at Sheering produced a small assemblage of pottery and ceramic building material (henceforth CBM) at 111 pieces with a weight of 391g and MSW of 3.5 (Table 1). All of this material came from pit F5 (finds nos. 10 and 11).

Ceramic material	No.	Weight (g)	MSW (g)	EVE
Pottery	54	348	6.4	0.27
CBM	57	43	0.8	-
All	111	391	3.5	0.27

Table 1 Quantification of pottery and CBM recovered.

Medieval pottery

Pit F5 contained an assemblage of medieval pottery which was recorded according to the fabric groups from *CAR 7* (Cotter 2000) (Table 2), while the number of vessels was determined by rim EVE (estimated vessel equivalent). The assemblage consists of fifty-four sherds with a weight of 348g and EVE of 0.27 (Table 3). The earliest pottery, dating to the 11th- and 12th-centuries, are sherds of early medieval sandy wares and related material (fabrics F13, F13T) and included type H1 cooking pots (EVE:0.11) dating to 1150/1175-1225. Most of the assemblage consists of sherds of Colchester-type ware (fabric F21), dating to 1200-1550, although the only diagnostic material are examples of storage jars (EVE:0.12). In medieval sandy greyware (fabric F20) there is a cooking pot of type H1 (EVE:0.04). Finally, the assemblage contains rare sherds of Mill Green (fabric F35) and London-type (fabric F36) wares.

Fabric code	Fabric description	Fabric date range guide
F13	Early medieval sandy wares	1000-1225
F13T	Early medieval sandy wares transitional	1100-1225
F20	Medieval sandy greyware	c.1150-1375/1400
F21	Colchester-type ware	1200-1550
F35	Mill Green ware	c.1240/1270-1350/1400
F36	London-type ware	1050/1075-1375

Table 2 Pottery fabrics recorded.

Fabric Group	Fabric description	No.	Weight (g)	MSW (g)	EVE
F13	Early medieval sandy wares	6	37	6.2	0.00
F13T	Early medieval sandy wares transitional	8	104	13.0	0.11
F20	Medieval sandy greyware	3	27	9.0	0.04
F21	Colchester-type ware	35	155	4.4	0.12
F35	Mill Green ware	1	1	1.0	0.00
F36	London-type ware	1	24	24.0	0.00
Total		54	348	6.4	0.27

Table 3 Details on the pottery recovered.

Ceramic building material (CBM)

The CBM consists of fifty-seven sherds of heavily fragmented baked clay with a weight of only 43g.

Conclusion

Pit F5 dates to the medieval period and the latest dateable pottery dates from the mid/late 13th-century onwards, while the absence of post-medieval red earthenwares (fabric F40) suggests that the assemblage predates 1500.

Context	Medieval	Date Approx.
F5	F13, F13T (cooking pot H1), F20 (cooking pot H1), F21 (storage jar), F35, F36	Mid-late 13th century

Table 4 Summary of approximate date for F5.

6.2 Animal bone

by Alec Wade

The animal bone assemblage from medieval pit F5 comprised a small and highly fragmented group of remains recovered through both hand collection and sampling. In total, 251 fragments weighing 42g were recorded. The material was dominated by very small, undiagnostic pieces, which significantly limited detailed interpretation.

Among the identifiable remains, there was a single fragment from a large mammal, probably horse- or cattle-sized, likely representing part of a limb bone. Evidence of sheep or goat was present in the form of a deciduous incisor, indicating a young animal. Bird bones were also identified, represented by two indeterminate pieces, while a small number of very small mammal bone fragments were also noted.

Most of the pieces produced by the environmental sample could not be identified to species. This material consisted of both burnt and unburnt fragments, including approximately twenty pieces that had been exposed to high temperatures, as indicated by their grey or white coloration, as well as around 220 very small fragments that were too undiagnostic for identification.

Overall, the assemblage was characterised by its small size, poor preservation, and high degree of fragmentation. The presence of domestic livestock, together with bird and small mammal remains and evidence of burning, suggested that the material represented general domestic refuse, likely associated with everyday food consumption and waste disposal rather than any specialised activity.

Finds or <sample> number	Sample or hand collected	Bone condition	Taxon	No. of pieces	Weight (g)	Comments
8	Hand	Fair	Horse or cow sized	1	17	(1) Diaphysis fragment, possibly from a metacarpal?
<1>	Sample	Fair with natural colour	Sheep or goat	1	<1	(1) Deciduous incisor.
		Fair with natural colour	Bird	2	<1	(1) Femur fragment, small bird. (1) Tibio-tarsus fragment.
		Fair with natural colour	Very small mammal	7	<1	(7) Diaphysis and rib fragments (5-11mm).
		Poor, burnt grey/white	Unidentified	20	6	(20) Unidentified fragments (6-16mm) including pieces of diaphysis.
		Fair with natural colour	Unidentified	220 (approx.)	16	(220) Small undiagnostic pieces ranging in size from 3mm to 16mm.

Total	251	42	
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Table 5 Animal bone recovered from F5.

6.3. Metalwork and shell

by Laura Pooley

Non-ceramic finds recovered from pit F5 consisted of two small fragments of copper-alloy, three fragments of iron nail shank and small pieces of both oyster and mussel shell. These finds have been recorded in Table 6 and discarded.

Finds no.	Description
8	Iron nail: Fragment of square-sectioned shank, 10.9g.
9	Copper-alloy: 1) Crumpled fragment of sheet, damaged and broken on all edges, no surface detail, 2.1g, c. 36mm long, max. 18.4mm wide, 0.8mm thick. 2) Small rectangular strip fragment, broken at both ends, includes a rivet hole (3.1mm diameter), 0.2g, 12.9mm long, 7.3mm wide, 1.2mm thick.
10	Oyster shell: Fragment, 10.5g.
<1>	Iron nails: Two shank fragments, one rectangular-sectioned, one square-sectioned, 4.9g. Mussel shell: Twenty-three fragments, 2.9g. Oyster shell: Five fragments, 3.2g.

Table 6 Metalwork and shell from F5, listed by finds number.

7 Environmental assessment

by Lisa Grey MSc MA ACIfA (Creekside Archaeobotany)

Introduction

One sample was taken from medieval pit F5 (<1>) during excavations. This report will assess the potential and significance of plant macro-remains at this site.

Methodology

Sampling and processing were carried out by Colchester Archaeological Trust. Flotation was carried out by Siraf-type flotation with flot collected in a 250-microns for the flot and 1mm for the residue. Flot and floral remains from residues were presented for assessment from one 80 litre sample.

The samples were assessed using the standard methodology outlined in the Historic England *Guidelines for Environmental Archaeology* (Historic England 2025). Each flot was fully scanned under a stereomicroscope with magnification of 10-45x.

At assessment level the abundance of plant macro-remains is estimated unless the number of items is few (less than ten). The diversity of plant taxon types is also estimated. Level of preservation of plant macro-remains is given as identifiable to family, genus or species. Faunal remains seen in the flots are noted in general terms with only abundance noted. This is not a zooarchaeological report but the presence of faunal remains in the flots will be commented on.

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; Cappers *et al.* 2023; Jacomet 2006). At assessment level full identifications are only made of significant plant macro-remains. Where given the nomenclature for the plant macro-remains follows Stace (Stace 2010). Scientific names are used once and English common names thereafter. English common names are used in the table for clarity.

Quantities were estimated as shown in Table 7.

Code	Abundance	Diversity	Preservation
1	Low = <10	Low = <3 taxon types	Identifiable to family
2	Moderate = 10-100	Moderate = 3-10 taxon types	Identifiable to genus
3	Abundant = >100	High = >10 taxon types	Identifiable to species

Table 7 Codes for abundance, diversity and level of preservation as used in results table.

The estimated quantity of identifiable charcoal >4mm in diameter has been noted. Fragments of 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 & Hoffman, 1988, 178-179). Charred wood flecks <4mm diameter have been quantified but not recommended for further analysis unless twigs or roundwood fragments larger than 2mmØ were present.

Results

No contamination or disturbance of the sampled context has been reported. This sample contained abundant modern rootlets and low numbers of terrestrial mollusca that can be indicative of aeration of the soil.

Charring was the only form of archaeobotanical preservation at the site. Charring occurs when plant material is heated under reducing conditions where oxygen is largely excluded, leaving a carbon skeleton resistant to decay (Boardman & Jones 1990, 2). Charred grains, seeds, nutshell and charcoal fragments were present.

Ten free-threshing type wheat (*Triticum aestivum/durum/turgidum*) grains, one cleavers (*Galium aparine* L.) seed and moderate quantities of identifiable charcoal were recovered from the sample.

Conclusion

The cereal and weed are typical of the type of plant remains found for the date and region (Carruthers & Hunter-Dowse 2019).

The density of charred plant remains in the sample is very low compared to the large sample taken (80L), meaning that it could just be general background waste from anywhere at the site or in the vicinity, rather than associated with the sampled feature.

The significance of this assemblage is local and its potential is low. No further work is recommended on this sample.

8 Conclusion

Archaeological evaluation and excavation at 5 The Street, Sheering, Harlow, Essex revealed two medieval pits, both of which produced pottery dated to the 15th-16th century, along with some earlier 13th century pottery from F3/F5. The finds and environmental remains recovered from both pits suggest that they are likely refuse pits associated with medieval settlement in the area. Unfortunately, the limited nature of the results mean they do not contribute to any of the wider East of England Regional Research Framework questions.

9 Acknowledgements

CAT would like to thank Bill Poulton and Chelsteen Homes for commissioning and funding the project. The project was managed by A Wightman and C Lister, with fieldwork carried out by C Lister and X Smith. Figures were compiled by C Lister and M Beale. The project was monitored for ECCPS by Robin Mathieson.

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

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11 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
EVE	estimated vessel equivalent
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 present day
msw	mean sherd weight
natural	geological deposit undisturbed by human activity
NGR	National Grid Reference
NHLE	National Heritage List for England
OASIS	Online Access to the Index of Archaeological Investigations, http://oasis.ac.uk/pages/wiki/Main
post-medieval	period from AD 1540 to 1901
Roman	period from AD 43 to 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: Pottery only

Digital:

CAT Report 2294

ECC evaluation brief, CAT written scheme of investigation

Digital photographs

Site data

Survey data

13 Archive deposition

The archive is currently held by the Colchester Archaeological Trust but will be permanently deposited with Epping Forest District Museum (finds) and the Archaeology Data Service (digital).

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Distribution list:

Chelsteen Homes

ECC Place Services Historic Environment Advisor

Essex Historic Environment Record, Essex County Council

Appendix 1 Context list

Context	Phase	Trench no.	Finds no.	Sample no.	Interpretation	Description	Date
L1	All	All	-	-	Topsoil	Soft, moist, dark grey/ brown sandy loam and inclusions of: stone 5%	Modern
L2	All	All	1, 3	-	Subsoil	Firm, moist, medium grey/brown silty clay and inclusions of: stone 5%	Medieval
L3	All	All	-	-	Natural	Firm, moist, medium orange/ brown silty clay and inclusions of: stone 5%	Post-glacial
F1	All	2	2	-	Pit	Firm, moist, medium grey/ brown silty clay and inclusions of: stone 10%	Medieval, c. 1450-1550
F2	All	3	-	-	Pipe trench	Loose/ soft, moist, dark grey/ brown/ black silty loam with brick flecks, tiles flecks and inclusions of: stone 5%, tile/ brick 10% and pottery 5%	Modern
F3	All	1	4	-	Pit	Friable, hard, moist, medium orange/ grey/ brown silty clay with charcoal flecks and inclusions of: stone 5%	Medieval, c. 1450-1550
F4	-	-	-	-	VOID	VOID	-
F5	Exc.	-	8, 9, 10, 11	1	Pit	Firm moist medium/dark grey/brown silty clay with charcoal flecks, brick flecks, tile flecks and inclusions of: stone 5%	Medieval, mid-late 13th century

Appendix 2 Pottery list

Feature no.	Feature type	Find no.	Soil sample no.	Quantity	Weight (g)	MSW	Discard	Rim	Handle	Base	RBH	Sooting (ext)	Burning	Overfired	Star cracks	Fabric Group	Typology	Function	EVE	Diameter mm	Comments	Start Date	End Date
F5	PIT	8	-	1	9	9.0		0	0	1	1					F21					DRK GR EXT	1200	1550
F5	PIT	8	-	1	6	6.0					0					F21					WHITE-SLIP	1200	1550
F5	PIT	8	-	1	2	2.0					0	X				F21						1200	1550
F5	PIT	8	-	1	3	3.0					0					F21					WHITE-SLIP	1200	1550
F5	PIT	8	-	1	3	3.0					0					F21					WHITE-SLIP & GLAZE	1200	1550
F5	PIT	8	-	3	17	5.7		1	0	0	1					F21	STORAGE JAR	STORAGE JAR	0.06	170		1200	1550
F5	PIT	8	-	1	2	2.0					0					F21					GLAZE	1200	1550
F5	PIT	8	-	1	21	21.0		1	0	0	1					F20	COOKING POT H1	COOKING POT	0.04	210		1150/1175	1375/1400
F5	PIT	8	-	1	15	15.0		0	0	1	1					F13					THUMBED BASE	1000	1225
F5	PIT	8	-	3	30	10.0		2	0	0	2			X		F13T	COOKING POT H1	COOKING POT	0.08	170		1150/1175	1225
F5	PIT	8	-	1	7	7.0					0					F13					SPARSE WHITE CHALK?	1000	1225
F5	PIT	8	-	1	41	41.0					0					F13T						1000	1225
F5	PIT	8	-	1	9	9.0					0	X			X	F21						1200	1550
F5	PIT	8		1	2	2.0					0					F21					? VG GREEN GL OVER WHITE-SLIP	1200	1550
F5	PIT	10	-	1	4	4.0					0					F21					GLAZE SPLASHES EXT	1200	1550
F5	PIT	10	-	2	10	5.0					0					F21					DRK GR EXT	1200	1550
F5	PIT	10	-	1	8	8.0		0	0	1	1					F13						1000	1225
F5	PIT	10	-	1	5	5.0					0					F21					WHITE-SLIP	1200	1550
F5	PIT	10	-	1	4	4.0					0					F21					WHITE-SLIP & GLAZE	1200	1550
F5	PIT	10	-	1	18	18.0		0	0	1	1		X			F21					BURNT UNDERSIDE OF BASE, GLAZE SPLASHES	1200	1550
F5	PIT	10	-	2	31	15.5		2	0	0	2					F21	STORAGE JAR	STORAGE JAR	0.06	280		1200	1550
F5	PIT	10	-	3	29	9.7		2	0	1	3					F13T	COOKING POT H1	COOKING POT	0.03	?		1150/1175	1225
F5	PIT	10	-	1	24	24.0		0	0	1	1					F36					WHITE-SLIP & GREEN GLAZE, GREY CORE, SANDY	1050/1075	1375
F5	PIT		1	3	7	2.3	X				0					F13						1000	1225
F5	PIT		1	5	8	1.6	X				0					F21						1200	1550
F5	PIT		1	1	2	2.0	X				0					F21					W-SLIP & GLAZE	1200	1550
F5	PIT		1	2	6	3.0	X				0					F20						1150	1375/1400
F5	PIT		1	10	20	2.0	X				0					F21						1200	1550
F5	PIT		1	1	4	4.0	X				0					F13T						1100	1225
F5	PIT		1	1	1	1.0	X				0					F35						1240/1270	1350/1400

Appendix 3 CBM list

Context	Feature type	Finds No.	Soil Sample no.	Quantity	Weight (g)	MSW (g)	Discarded	Typology	Burnt	Comments	Start Date	End Date
F5	PIT		1	4	2	0.5	X	BAKED CLAY		PINK, WHITE CHALK NODULES	?	?
F5	PIT		1	6	2	0.3	X	BAKED CLAY	X		?	?
F5	PIT		1	47	39	0.8	X	BAKED CLAY			?	?

Appendix 4 Flot contents

Feature no.	Sample no.	Feature type	Period	Sample volume (L.)	Flot volume (L.)	CHARRED - Grains			CHARRED - Seeds			IDENTIFIABLE CHARCOAL	INDETERMINATE CHARCOAL FLECKS	MODERN/INTRUSIVE - Rootlets	FAUNA - Terrestrial mollusca	Potential for analysis - Charcoal?	Potential for analysis - General Macros?	Potential for Scientific Dating?	Comments
						abundance	diversity	preservation	abundance	diversity	preservation	abundance	abundance	abundance	abundance				
F5	1	Pit	Medieval	80	30	1	1	3	1	1	3	2	2	3	1	No	No	No	CHD: Grains> 10 free-threshing type wheat (<i>Triticum aestivum/durum/turgidum</i>), Seeds> 1 cleavers (<i>Galium aparine</i> L.)



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Fig 1 Site location and location of excavation areas.

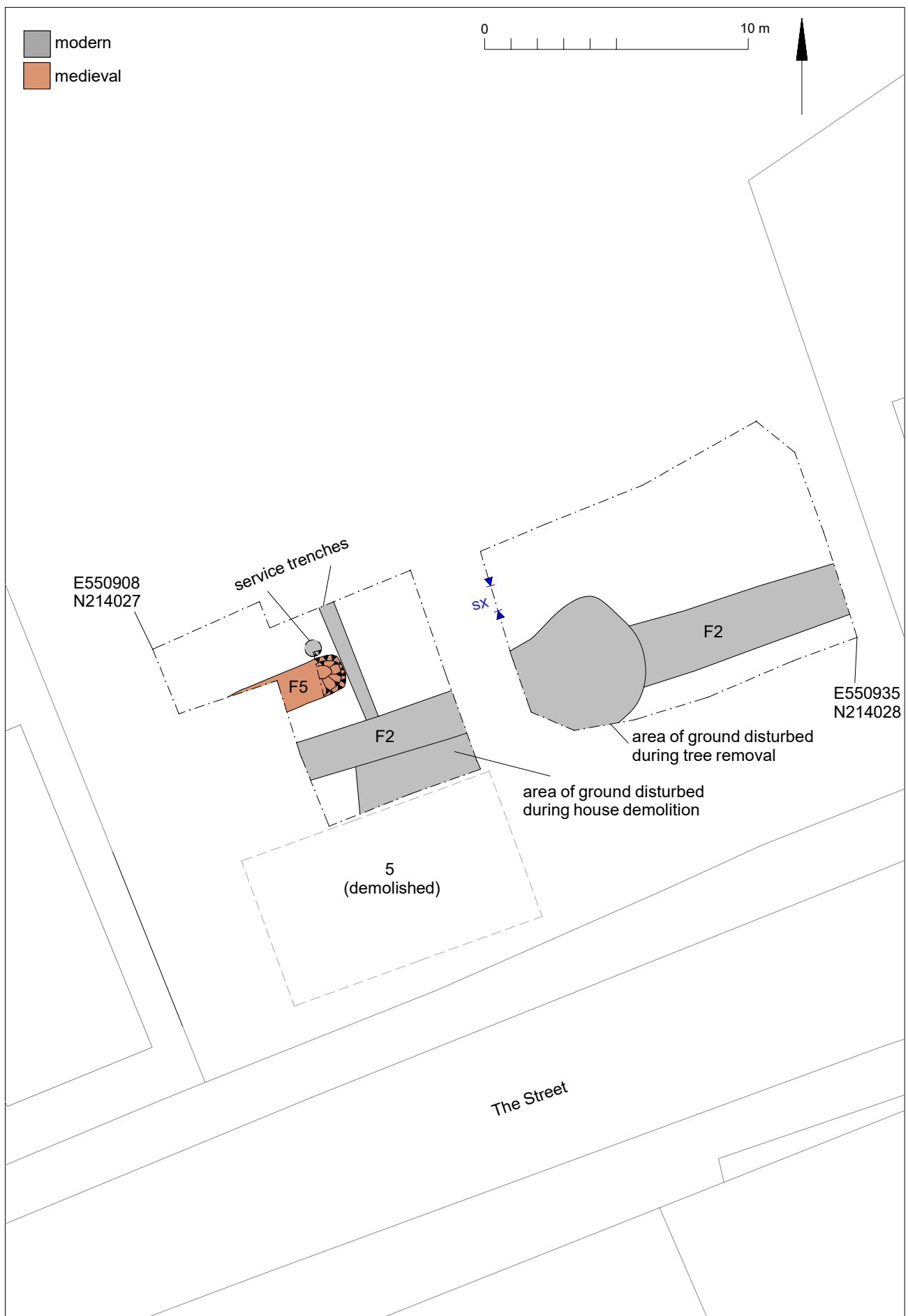


Fig 2 Excavation results.

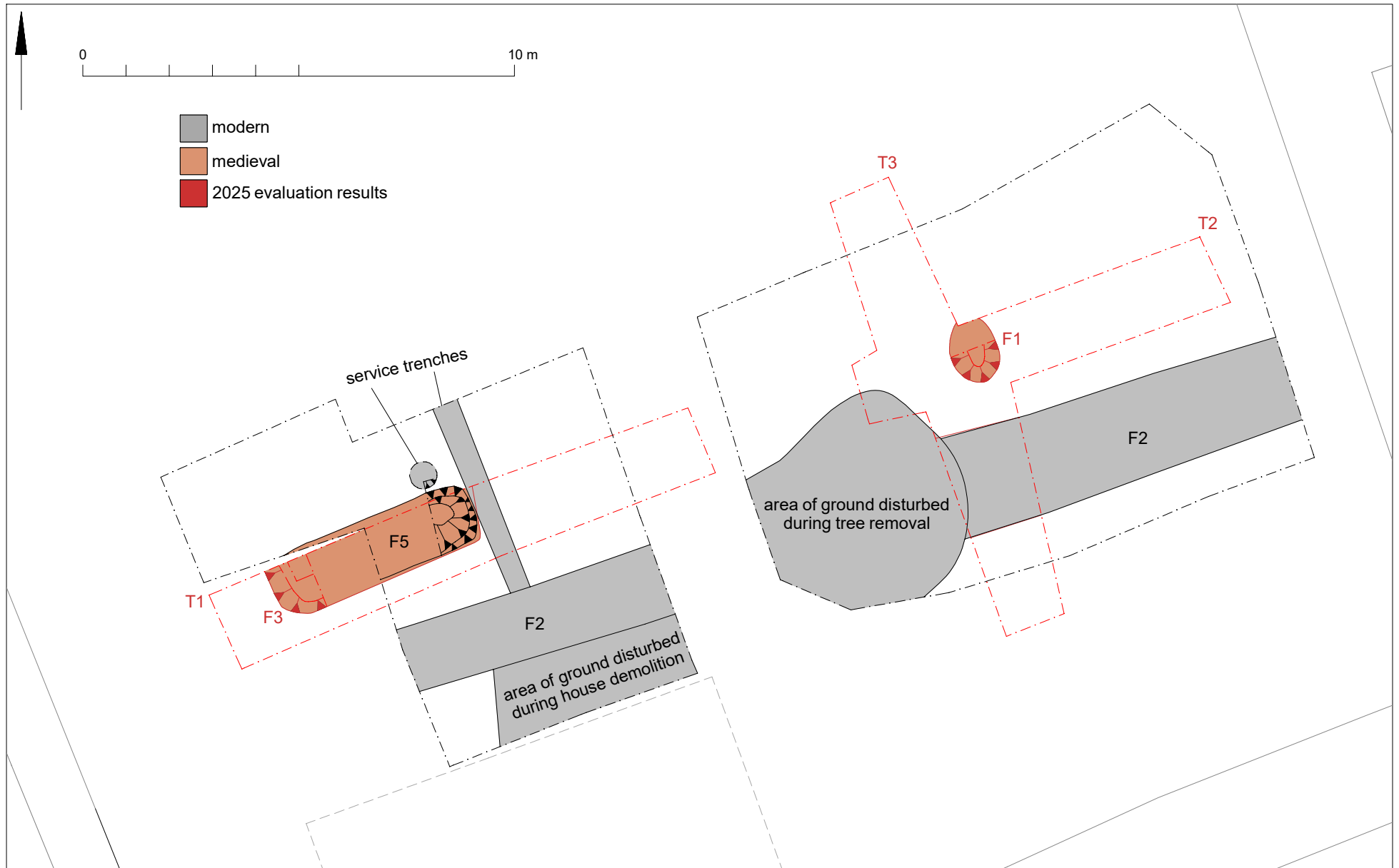


Fig 3 Evaluation results (in red) overlaying excavation results.

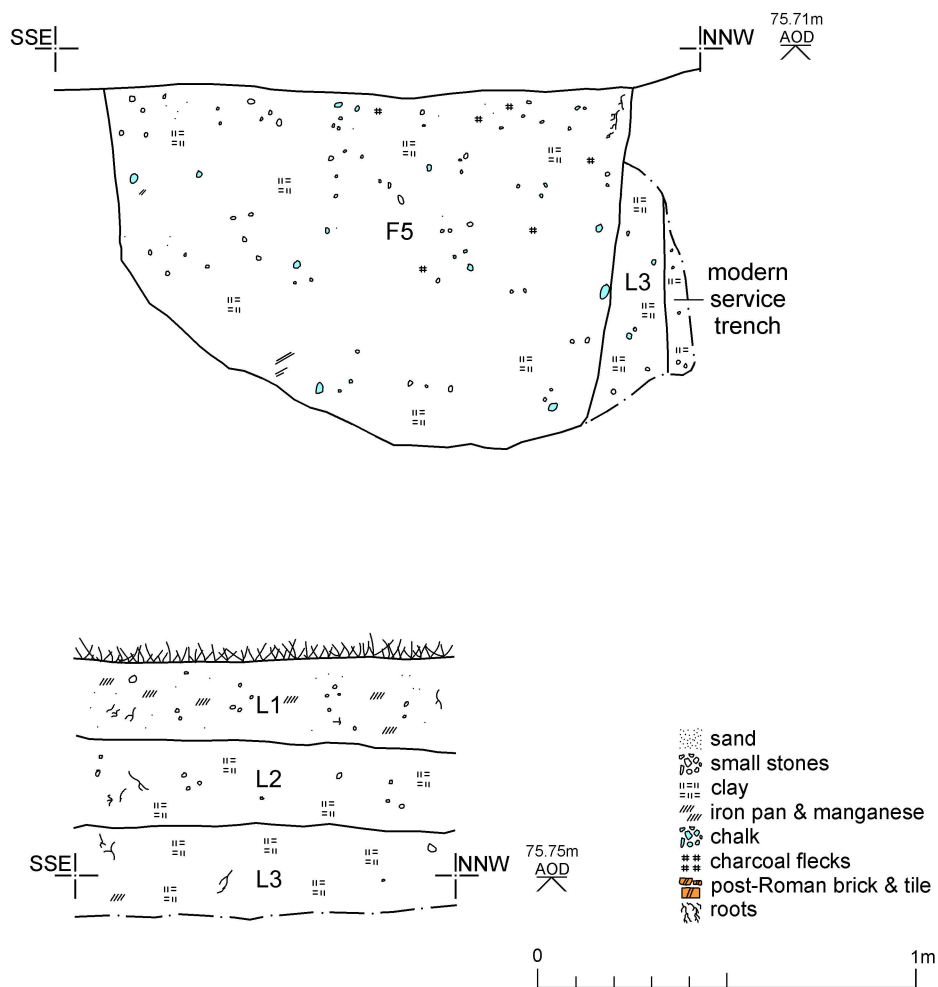


Fig 4 Feature and representative sections.

OASIS Summary for colchest3-542515

OASIS ID (UID)	colchest3-542515
Project Name	Archaeological Excavation at 5 The Street, Sheering, Essex, CM22 7LS, United Kingdom
Sitename	5, The Street, Sheering, Essex, CM22 7LS, United Kingdom
Sitecode	EEX63691
Project Identifier(s)	2026/04r
Activity type	Open Area Excavation
Planning Id	EPF/0809/25
Reason For Investigation	Planning requirement
Organisation Responsible for work	Colchester Archaeological Trust
Project Dates	11-May-2026 - 11-May-2026
Location	5, The Street, Sheering, Essex, CM22 7LS, United Kingdom NGR : TL 50968 14046 LL : 51.804677503926165, 0.188219935692928 12 Fig : 550968,214046
Administrative Areas	Country : England County/Local Authority : Essex Local Authority District : Epping Forest Parish : Sheering
Project Methodology	Two areas measuring 60.37m2 and 103.81m2, respectively, were machine excavated under the supervision of a CAT archaeologist. All work was carried out in accordance with the Brief and WSI.
Project Results	An archaeological excavation was carried out at 5 The Street, Sheering, Harlow, Essex, in advance of construction of two detached dwellings. Sheering was first recorded in the Domesday Book, with a medieval linear green and 16th- and 17th-century listed buildings nearby. An archaeological evaluation on the development site in 2025 revealed two medieval pits. This excavation revealed the continuation of a 15th-16th-century pit from the evaluation and several areas of modern disturbance.
Keywords	Pit - Medieval - FISH Thesaurus of Monument Types
Funder	Private or public corporation Chelsteen Homes
HER	Essex HER - unRev - STANDARD
Person Responsible for work	Adam Wightman, Chris Lister
HER Identifiers	HER Event No - EEX63691
Archives	Physical Archive - to be deposited with Epping Forest District Museum; Digital Archive - to be deposited with Archaeology Data Service Archive;
OASIS+ Animal remains	Alec Wade - Animal bone was recovered from F5, revealing 251 fragments weighing 42g. The material was dominated by very small, undiagnostic pieces
OASIS+ Plant remains	Lisa Grey - Small quantities of charred wheat, cleavers and moderate charcoal was recovered from F5, from 80L of sample

