Medieval Remains in Area X, Beaulieu, Chelmsford

Excavation Report

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July 2015
Medieval Remains in Area X, Beaulieu, Chelmsford

Archaeological Excavation

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Summary

Oxford Archaeology east carried out an open area excavation (Area X) within the route of Haulage Road 2b, Beaulieu ahead of the proposed development of residential housing. The works were carried out between the 24/8/14 and 27/8/14.

A small pit or posthole of potential Early/Middle Iron Age date was excavated and recorded in the middle of the excavation. To the north of the area was a slight concentration of medieval settlement-related features, comprising three ditches and two pits. These are likely to relate to ancillary activities of the nearby manor at Belstead Hall.
1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Project Background
1.1.1 Between the 6th and 10th September 2014 Oxford Archaeology East carried out an archaeological excavation at Beaulieu, Chelmsford: Haulage Road 2b (TL 7236 1048) (see fig. 1). In advance of construction of a new neighbourhood planned for North-East Chelmsford, known as Beaulieu. Chelmsford City Council has resolved to grant outline planning permission (ref: 09/01314/EIA) for a new neighbourhood at Beaulieu of up to 3,600 new homes and up to 62,300m² of mixed use development including new schools, leisure and community facilities, employment areas, new highways and associated ancillary development, including full details in respect of roundabout access from Essex Regiment Way and a priority junction from White Hart Lane.

1.1.2 These archaeological excavations were undertaken to mitigate construction impacts of an area of haulage road and infrastructure.

1.1.3 This work was carried out in accordance with the Beaulieu Archaeological Investigation Strategy (URS 2013a), the Beaulieu Zone A Archaeological Mitigation Design (URS 2014) and an Archaeological Method Statement (Mortimer 2104).

1.1.4 This excavation is part of an ongoing archaeological project, across a phased development. The time-scale for this development is dependant on many factors and so cannot be accurately determined at the present time. The work presented in this Post-Excavation Assessment will eventually be incorporated into wider Analysis and Publication Reports.

1.1.5 This assessment has been conducted in accordance with the principles identified in English Heritage’s guidance documents Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment, specifically The MoRPHE Project Manager's Guide (2006) and PPN3 Archaeological Excavation (2008).

1.2 Geology and topography
1.2.1 Beaulieu (the Site) is located approximately 4km to the north-east of Chelmsford, Essex (centred on TL 7230 1014; Figure 1). The Site encompasses an area of high ground surrounded on three sides by river valleys. To the west and south is the River Chelmer, and to the east is Boreham Brook. North of the Site the ground rises towards the village of Terling. From the southern part of the Site there are views south towards the Chelmer Valley and Danbury Hill.

1.2.2 The superficial geology consists of boulder clay of the Lowestoft Till formation underlain by London Clays. To the south of the area lay a mixture of head deposits and sand and gravels (British Geological Survey).

1.3 Archaeological and historical background
Neolithic
1.3.1 Essex has some of the earliest surviving evidence of settlement, mainly concentrated to the north-east along the River Crouch at Lawford and Lemarsh (Hedges, 1984). Evidence for possible domestic settlement within the vicinity of Beaulieu was recorded at Court Road, 1km to the north-west, in the form of several pits with Neolithic pottery within their fills (SMR 6142).

Bronze Age
1.3.2 Settlement continued to be concentrated along the river valleys of the Chelmer and Crouch, however during the Bronze Age the landscape was enclosed by field systems for the first time, such as those found at Great Wakering (Kemble, 2001). These enclosed field systems would have continued in use through into the early Iron Age. It has been suggested that these Bronze Age field systems form the basis for the modern landscape in the Chelmer Valley (Drury & Rodwell, 1980).

1.3.3 Several crop-marks have been recorded by aerial photography to the south of Belstead Hall and interpreted as part of a Bronze Age settlement (SMR 16888), with further domestic dwellings excavated at Springfield Lyons, 2.5km to the south-west. Further occupation sites are attested to by the recovery of artefacts, such as at New Hall School, to the south-east and Pratt's Farm, to the north.

Iron Age

1.3.4 The settlement pattern during the Iron Age would have been of nucleated settlements within a larger farming landscape. Evidence of this, within the vicinity of the development area, was seen to the south of Belstead Hall (SMR 17438). This comprised a large enclosure with associated pits and smaller ditches (Drury, 1978).

1.3.5 The Later Iron Age witnessed an expansion of settlement onto the heavier clay soils and the continued occupation of the estuaries. These estuarine sites are seen to become more complex in nature over time, with higher population density and sustained occupation, such as has been found at Little Waltham (Drury 1980).

1.3.6 By the end of the Iron Age sites such as Gosbecks oppida show that portions of the population were highly structured and of high status. These sites would have relied on farming communities scattered around the environs to supply agricultural commodities. (Crummy 1997).

Roman

1.3.7 During the Roman period a small market town would have grown up around the Mansio, located 5km to the south-west at Moulsham Street. The area surrounding this would have formed an agricultural hinterland to supply produce to the town.

1.3.8 This agricultural landscape would have comprised of large farms and villa complexes, such as those at Great Holts Farm and Bulls Farm Lodge. Smaller domestic sites would also have formed part of the landscape. Evidence for these has been recorded during evaluation work at Greater Beaulieu. Evidence for pottery making, associated with domestic use was also recorded.

Anglo-Saxon

1.3.9 In the immediate post-Roman period, the Roman town at Chelmsford was abandoned and much of the surrounding landscape reverted to rough pasture or woodland (Hunter, 2003). No known remains of Anglo-Saxon date are recorded within the application site although this is more likely to reflect the relatively poor archaeological visibility of Anglo-Saxon settlement sites rather than a lack of activity during the period.

1.3.10 Two records dating to the Anglo-Saxon period are held by the EHER; both of which are documentary records for Late Saxon manors, Belestedam (Belstead Hall) is recorded in the Domesday survey of AD 1086 (Reaney, 1035).

Medieval

1.3.11 The medieval town of Chelmsford was founded at the end of the 12th century, by the Bishop of London, to the north of the earlier Roman settlement at Moulsham.
Throughout the medieval period the site was located within the rural hinterland of Chelmsford in a landscape populated by scattered farmsteads and manors.

1.3.12 To the south-east lay the manor of New Hall on the site of the current New Hall School. It is first mentioned by name (as 'Nova Aula') in documents dating to AD1301 when the site formed part of the lands owned by the Canons of Waltham Abbey and was used as the summer residence of the Abbott. It was later transferred to the Regular Canons under Henry II (Burgess & Rance, 1988).

1.3.13 The first deer park surrounding New Hall was created during the medieval period with the manor at its centre (Tuckwell, 2006). Under Henry VII, New Hall was granted to Thomas Boteler, Earl of Ormond, who received a licence to crenellate (fortify) it in AD1481 (E41/420) and who, in all likelihood, rebuilt or remodelled the original medieval hall in the latest architectural style. The new structure came to the attention of Henry VIII who visited New Hall in 1510 and 1515, shortly before Ormond’s death. Subsequently, the property passed to Thomas’ daughter and thus into the Boleyn family through her husband Sir Thomas Boleyn, from whom Henry VIII acquired the hall in 1516, changing its name to the ‘Palace of Beaulieu’. Shortly after 1518 he rebuilt the Ormond’s medieval hall on a quadrangular plan with gatehouse in the south range, great hall in the east and chapel in the west ranges. Mary Tudor took residency at New Hall intermittently between 1532 and her ascendency to the crown in 1553.

1.3.14 Evidence for a further moated manor is recorded at Belstead. This manor was occupied throughout the medieval period. By 1325 it was called Belested, in 1354 it was recorded as Belestede Hall and by 1504 it was known as Belestede Hall. The name is thought to derive from ‘the site of the bell house’ (P.H Reaney 1935).

1.3.15 Analysis of aerial photographs and geophysical survey identified a number of features which, when investigated by trial trench evaluation, were found to comprise a possible enclosure ditch or moat. A cobbled surface (possibly representing a house platform or yard surface), pit and several further ditches were recorded within the enclosure. Pottery recovered from the features suggests an occupation date of the 12-13th century (ECC FAU 2009). These remains have been interpreted as a medieval farmstead or manor, possibly the precursor to the later manorial site at Belstead Hall c.160m to the north-east of site 7.

Post-Medieval

1.3.16 The development of New Hall and its deer park dominated the landscape of the application site and the surrounding area until the park contracted in size and the fields were enclosed for agriculture in the early 18th century. As the deer park was reduced in size the former medieval manors or lodges developed into farms, creating an essentially agricultural landscape.

1.3.17 Since the medieval period, New Hall had been set within the largest deer park in Essex; once totalling some 1,500 acres. The EHER records that the enclosed area actually comprised four separate parks surrounding New Hall and its gardens. Within the Great or Old Park located to the north of New Hall. The remaining parks were known as the Red Deer Park located to east of New Hall, the Dukes Park (located further east beyond the study area; EHER 47226) and the New or Little Park situated to the south and west of New Hall. The application site is located within this latter area.

Previous Archaeological Investigations

Geophysical Surveys
1.3.18 Geophysical magnetic susceptibility and detailed magnetometer surveys were carried out to evaluate the potential for important archaeological remains that may be buried within the Site. The magnetic susceptibility survey provided a rapid assessment of likely areas for previous settlement and industrial activity. The survey identified six areas of high potential, ten areas of medium potential and seven areas of low potential (Scott Wilson 2008). The magnetic susceptibility survey was followed by a detailed magnetometer survey of c.50% of the Beaulieu scheme. This survey provided a greater level of detail and identified individual features such as pits and ditches, field boundaries, buildings and structures, kilns or hearths and buried iron objects. The detailed magnetometer survey identified ten areas of high archaeological potential; six of medium potential and 19 of low potential (Scott Wilson 2008).

_Trial trench Evaluation (2008)_

1.3.19 A limited programme of targeted trial trench evaluation was undertaken between June and August 2008. The purpose of the trial trenching was to confirm the presence/absence and significance of archaeological remains at eight sites identified by an assessment of the combined results of the desk-based studies and non-intrusive surveys (Scott Wilson 2007).

1.3.20 The trial trenching confirmed the presence of archaeological remains dating from the late prehistoric to post-medieval periods. This included a Late Iron Age and Early Romano-British settlement (Site 8); an Iron Age ditch (Site 5); medieval rural settlement possibly indicative of a precursor to Belstead Hall (Site 7); a possible medieval/early post-medieval warrener’s lodge associated with the former deer park (Site 10); early post-medieval moated enclosure (Site 11); Tudor fishpond and associated earthwork damn (Site 2); a brick making site comprising two scove or clamp kilns of possible Tudor date (Site 3) and evidence for associated quarrying activity (Site 4).

_Beaulieu Minerals trial trench evaluation_

1.3.21 A trial trench evaluation was undertaken in September/October 2011 to inform and support the planning application for the Beaulieu Minerals Extraction scheme. The evaluation identified a concentration of archaeological remains to the north-west of New Hall School. These remains appear to represent a rural settlement and possible metalworking activity dating from the Late Bronze Age through to the end of the Roman period. Metal detecting of the plough soil revealed several Early Roman coins and fragments of Early Roman brooches within the main area of activity.

_Beaulieu 1st Mitigation evaluation and excavations 2013_

1.3.22 Recent archaeological trial trench evaluation of the proposed Essex Regiment Way roundabout, White Hart Lane junction and connecting access road identified four locations of significant archaeological remains (Stocks-Morgan, 2013).

1.3.23 Site 5, located within the footprint of the proposed Essex Regiments Way roundabout, identified part of a Middle Iron Age settlement comprised a single round-house, surviving only as the remains of an eaves-drip gully. Several small pits and postholes were identified outside the roundhouse and were likely to be associated with domestic activity contemporary with the building. This settlement was surrounded by a large oval enclosure.

1.3.24 In Area A1 a single east to west aligned field boundary ditch of possibly Late Iron Age date attests to a wider agricultural landscape of field systems. A second, probably medieval, ditch was encountered on a north-west to south-east alignment (Stocks-Morgan, 2013a).
1.3.25 Site 11 and Zone D1 identified evidence of two High Medieval house platforms and their surrounding enclosures. Thought to be a medieval settlement associated with Belstead Manor estate (Stocks-Morgan, 2013b).

*Beaulieu Zone A Housing Evaluation and Excavations, 2014*

1.3.26 Four areas of significant archaeological remains were identified on land to the south of Belstead Manor (Zone A Housing) (Stocks-Morgan 2014a).

1.3.27 A Middle Bronze Age boundary ditch, aligned north-east to south-west, was identified in Site 7; whilst an Early Iron Age open settlement comprising of ten pits containing a large assemblage of pottery and fired clay, and medieval animal husbandry remains were present in the excavation area. Sparse domestic activity is suggested from the five Late Iron Age pits that were revealed in areas A3 and A4 along the side of a brook to the south of Zone A. In contrast, Area A2 revealed the presence of a Late Iron Age/Early Roman enclosure ditch and later medieval ditch.

*Beaulieu CPPLC PH3 and PD Land Sale Trench Evaluation, 2014*

1.3.28 An archaeological evaluation in 2014 revealed six discrete charcoal-rich Early Iron Age pits to the north and north-west of the development area. To the south-east of the development area Late Iron Age settlement was evident through the remains of an enclosure, two parallel ditches, small gullies, and a possible roundhouse. The large assemblage of pottery recovered from the Late Iron Age enclosure ditch indicated continuing occupation when taking into account the residual Early Iron Age finds that were also recovered. Late medieval activity – consisting of a brick platform/surface and two pits containing compacted brick rubble – concentrated in the south-east of the site.

1.4 **Acknowledgements**

1.4.1 The author would like thank Iain Williamson of URS and Countryside Zest (Beaulieu Park) LLP who respectively commissioned and funded the archaeological work. The project was managed by Richard Mortimer and the illustrator was Charlotte Davies. The project was monitored by Richard Havis and Alison Bennett of Essex County Council. The machining was undertaken by Steve Simonokswi of Danbury Plant Hire.
2 AIMS AND METHODOLOGY

2.1 Aims

2.1.1 The main aim of the excavation was to preserve by record the archaeological remains present within the development area and to reconstruct the history and use of the site.

2.1.2 The current project will be incorporated within the wider archaeological investigations at Beaulieu. The research objectives that are applicable to this specific site are detailed below.

2.2 Regional Research Aims

There are a number of regional research objectives that have been identified by English Heritage (English Heritage, 1997) which provide a framework for investigation and can be applied to the Medieval evidence recovered at Beaulieu.

The Medieval Period (AD 1066-1540)

- The study of medieval rural settlement diversity across East Anglia
- The characterisation of settlement forms, function, chronology, structure and the investigation rural settlement type and morphology.
- The understanding of agrarian regimes on the geology of the rural sites, through the use of environmental sampling
- The characterisation and chronology of medieval field systems and understanding how the size and shape of fields can be related to agricultural regimes.
- The study of the evolution of the medieval house and farmstead and agrarian economy.
- To Understand the form that farms take and the type of building present and whether functions can be attributed to them.

2.3 Site Specific Research Objectives

2.3.1 A number of site specific research objectives were identified based on the results of the evaluation (URS, 2013)

- Preserve by record the nature, extent, form, function and longevity of medieval / early post-medieval activity
- to investigate how the medieval settlement on Haulage Road 2b relates to the manorial complex at Belstead Hall to the south-east

2.4 Methodology

2.4.1 The methodology used was carried out in accordance with the Beaulieu Archaeological Investigation Strategy (URS 2013a), the Beaulieu Zone A Archaeological Mitigation Design (URS 2014) and an Archaeological Method Statement (Mortimer 2104).

2.4.2 One excavation area was opened, targeting multi-period remains recorded during previous evaluation works (OA East Report No. 1661). The total area excavated is 2085sq m.

2.4.3 Machine excavation was carried out by a 360° type excavator using a 2m wide flat bladed ditching bucket. under constant supervision of a suitably qualified and experienced archaeologist.
2.4.4 Spoil, exposed surfaces and features were scanned with a metal detector. All metal-detected and hand-collected finds were retained for inspection, other than those which were obviously modern.

2.4.5 All archaeological features and deposits were recorded using OA East's *pro-forma* sheets. Trench locations, plans and sections were recorded at appropriate scales and monochrome photographs were taken of all relevant features and deposits.

2.4.6 A total of three bulk samples were taken, from deposits considered most appropriate for environmental sampling, while also considering feature type and period.

2.4.7 Site conditions were good and dry.
3 Results

3.1 Provisional Site Phasing

3.1.1 For consistency with all previous and forthcoming reports, features will be attributed to the following periods where dating is available. Features have not been identified for each individual period during this current phase of archaeological works, but have been included to allow comparisons in later reports. Features have been assigned phases based on stratigraphic and spatial relationships, alongside artefact dating.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Period</th>
<th>Early Neolithic (3500 – 2900 BC)</th>
<th>Middle Neolithic (2900-2500 BC)</th>
<th>Later Neolithic (2500 - 2000 BC)</th>
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<td>Neolithic (3500 – 2000 BC)</td>
<td>Early Bronze Age (2000 - 1500 BC)</td>
<td>Middle Bronze Age (1500 - 1000 BC)</td>
<td>Later Bronze Age (1000 – 700 BC)</td>
</tr>
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<td>Iron Age (700 BC – AD 43)</td>
<td>Early Anglo-Saxon (AD 410 – 650)</td>
<td>Middle Anglo-Saxon (AD 650 – 850)</td>
<td>Late Anglo-Saxon (AD 850 – 1066)</td>
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<td>Early Medieval (AD 1066 – 1200)</td>
<td>High Medieval (AD 1200 – 1450)</td>
<td>Transitional (AD 1450 - 1650)</td>
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<td>Post-Medieval (AD 1650 - 1800)</td>
<td>Modern (AD 1800 – present)</td>
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<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table 1: Chronology used in this report

3.2 Area X

3.2.1 A linear excavation, measuring 139m long and 15m wide, was excavated north to south ahead of the construction of haulage road 2b. The results of the excavation are shown in Fig. 2.

3.3 Iron Age

3.3.1 Towards the centre of the excavation lay a a small pit or posthole (2124), which was sub-square in shape. The sides were slightly undercut and irregular and it had a flat base. At the surface it measured 0.4m wide and was 0.2m deep. The fill was a dark grey clay (2123) with frequent charcoal fragments and a sherd of Early / Middle Iron Age pottery.

3.4 Medieval

3.4.1 At the northern end of the excavation area was a west-southwest to east-northeast ditch (2105). The ditch had straight sides and a concave base, measuring 1.2m wide
and 0.3m deep. The primary silting fill was a mid greenish grey silty clay fill (2103), between 0.05 – 0.1m thick, which contained two sherds of medieval sandy greyware (fabric 20), followed by a deliberate episode of backfilling with a dump of dark blackish grey silty clay, with frequent charcoal and CBM fragments (2104), 0.2m thick. This was limited to the western part of the ditch and tailed off within the excavated slot (2015).

3.4.2 To the south of this ditch was a cluster of three pits or postholes and a possible beamslot. Two pits/postholes immediately were adjacent to each other and similar in shape and size, suggesting either that they were contemporary and associated or that one was the replacement of the other. Both of these were sub-circular with concave sides and a flattish base. The western (2118) measured 0.75m in diameter and 0.2m deep and was filled by a 0.2m thick, mid brownish grey silty clay (2129), overlain by a dark grey silty clay (2117) which contained moderate CBM fragments. The eastern (2116) was 0.8m in diameter and 0.2m deep with a dark brownish grey silty clay (2115) containing CBM fragments.

3.4.3 To the north posthole (2114) was sub-square, with near vertical sides and a flattish base. It measured 0.45 wide and 0.35m deep and was filled by a dark greyish brown silty clay (2013). This was truncated by a beamslot (2110) which was aligned northwest to southeast. The beamslot had concave sides, with a flat base and was 0.95m wide and 0.13m deep. It was filled by a dark blackish grey silty clay (2109), with frequent charcoal and CBM fragments, similar in nature to the backfilling of ditch 2105.

3.4.4 To the south was a northeast to southwest aligned ditch (2120), 0.9m wide and 0.25m deep. It had steep sides and a flattish base and was filled by a mid greyish brown silty clay (2119). This is the same ditch that was encountered during the evaluation (2012) where medieval pottery was recovered. It was unclear whether the ditch continued further northeast beyond the evaluation trench.

3.5 Undated
3.5.1 At the northern end of the excavation area lay a sub-circular pit (2102), which had gradually sloping sides and a concave base. The pit measured 1m long, 0.8m wide and was 0.2m deep. This pit was initially filled by a 0.1m thick, dark greyish black silty clay (2100) which contained frequent charcoal and burnt clay, possibly associated with the pits use. The pit was then filled by a secondary deposit of mid brownish grey silty clay (2101), 0.05m thick.

3.5.2 Towards the centre of the excavation a small sub-circular posthole (2122), 0.25m wide, was encountered. The posthole was severely truncated with only the bottom 0.05m remaining, however the surviving evidence showed it to have vertical sides and a flat base and was filled by a dark brown silty clay (2111).

3.6 Modern
3.6.1 At the southern end of the excavation area was a north to south ditch (2128), which had steep sides and a concave base. It measured 0.8m wide and was 0.3m deep. It was filled by a dark greyish brown silty clay (2127) which contained a fragment of modern glass.

3.7 Finds Summary
3.7.1 The pottery assemblage comprised three sherds weighing 40g. One of these sherds dated to the Early or Middle Iron Age and the remaining two were medieval in date. No other artefactual evidence except a fragment of modern glass was retrieved during the excavation.
3.8 Environmental Summary

3.8.1 Two bulk samples were collected from archaeological features. The results are limited with only charcoal present.
4 DISCUSSION AND CONCLUSIONS

4.1 Early – Middle Iron Age
4.1.1 The earliest phase of occupation in this area comprised a small pit or posthole of potential Iron Age date, located in the middle of the excavation area. The charcoal-rich fill may be the result of the post being burnt in situ. No other features dating to this period were encountered.

4.2 Medieval
4.2.1 The medieval remains consisted of two ditches (2110,2120), perpendicular to each other and forming a sub-square enclosed area, which extends beyond the excavation area. Within this area were two large postholes, or small pits (2116, 2118), another posthole and a possible beamslot. These remains are likely to form part of an ancillary settlement to Belstead Hall, c. 75m to the south. They were bounded to the north by a northeast to southwest aligned ditch (2105) which could represent the outer boundary for this settlement.

4.3 Significance
4.3.1 The limited nature of this excavation area does not lend itself to comprehensive interpretation of the archaeological remains, however further work is expected in the areas adjacent, so clarification of these features and potential settlement areas may be possible at a future date.
### APPENDIX A. TRENCH DESCRIPTIONS AND CONTEXT INVENTORY

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<td>Posthole</td>
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<td></td>
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<td>2123</td>
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<td>Posthole</td>
<td>Early Iron Age</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
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<td>2124</td>
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<td>Posthole</td>
<td>Early Iron Age</td>
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<td></td>
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<td>Topsoil</td>
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APPENDIX B. FINDS REPORTS

B.1 Pottery

By John Cotter

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Context</th>
<th>Spot Date</th>
<th>Sherds</th>
<th>Weight (g)</th>
<th>Comments</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2103</td>
<td>c1175-1400</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>Fresh F20 cpot rim. Small squared form</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2107</td>
<td>C1175-1400</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>Fresh shelly-sandy cpot rim - prob13C?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Sub-squared/angled</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2123</td>
<td>Early-Mid Iron Age</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>Fresh plain rim from bucket-sized vessel with</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>series of fingernail nicks or knife-slashes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>along ext of lip. Very harshly flint</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>tempered [Ident by Lisa Brown]</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| Total   |               | 3      | 40         |                                                   |

Table 2: Medieval pottery catalogue
APPENDIX C. ENVIRONMENTAL REPORTS

C.1 Environmental samples

By Rachel Fosberry

Introduction

C.1.1 Two bulk samples were taken during recent excavations in Area x at Beaulieu Park. Both samples were taken from undated pits that contained visual evidence of burning.

Methodology

C.1.2 The total volume (10 and 13 litres) of each of the samples was processed by tank flotation using modified Siraff-type equipment. The floating component (flot) of the samples was collected in a 0.3mm nylon mesh and the residue was washed through 10mm, 5mm, 2mm and a 0.5mm sieve. A magnet was dragged through each residue fraction prior to sorting for artefacts. Any artefacts present were noted and reintegrated with the hand-excavated finds.

Results

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sample No.</th>
<th>Context No.</th>
<th>Cut No.</th>
<th>Feature Type</th>
<th>Volume processed (L)</th>
<th>Flot Volume (ml)</th>
<th>Charcoal &lt;2mm</th>
<th>Charcoal &gt; 2mm</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>Pit</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>Pit</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>+++</td>
<td>+++</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Table 3: Environmental Samples from Area x

C.1.3 Sample 1, fill 22 of pit 23 is devoid of preserved plant remains or artefacts. Sample 2, fill 20 of pit 29 contains a significant quantity of wood charcoal including fragments measuring up to 4cm x 2cm.

Discussion

C.1.4 Charcoal is evidence of the burning of wood and has the potential for species identification and for radiocarbon dating. The lack of any other plant remains or artefacts precludes further interpretation of the features sampled.
APPENDIX D. BIBLIOGRAPHY

Burgess, & Rance (eds) 1988 Boreham – History, Tales and Memories of an Essex Village. (Boreham Histories Project Group)

Crummy, P., 1997 City of Victory: the story of Colchester - Britain's first Roman town (Colchester: Colchester Archaeological Trust)


Drury, P. J., 1980 ‘The early and middle phases of the Iron Age in Essex’, in Buckley, B. G., (eds), The Archaeology of Essex to AD 1500, CBA Research Report 34

Drury, P. J. & Rodwell, W., 1986 'Settlement in the Later Iron Age and Roman periods', in Buckley, B. G., (eds), The Archaeology of Essex to AD 1500. CBA Research Report 34


Hunter, J., 2003 Field systems in Essex. (Essex Society for Archaeology and History, Colchester)


Kemble, J., 2001 Prehistoric and Roman Essex (Shroud: Tempus)


Reaney, P.H., 1933 Place names of Essex. (Cambridge)

Shaffrey, R. 2015 (forthcoming) Intensive milling practices in the Romano-British landscape of southern England. Using newly established criteria for distinguishing millstones from rotary querns, Britannia 46


<table>
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<tr>
<th>Author</th>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Title</th>
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<tr>
<td>Stocks-Morgan, H.</td>
<td>forthcoming</td>
<td>Middle Bronze Age, Early Iron Age and Medieval Remains at Zone A housing, Beaulieu, Chelmsford</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tuckwell, T.</td>
<td>2006</td>
<td><em>New Hall and its School</em> (Kings Lynn)</td>
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<td>URS</td>
<td>2013</td>
<td><em>Beaulieu Park, Chelmsford, Essex: Archaeological Investigation and Mitigation Strategy.</em> (Unpublished Archaeological Design)</td>
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APPENDIX E. OASIS REPORT FORM
All fields are required unless they are not applicable.

Project Details
OASIS Number: oxfordarchar3-218105
Project Name: Beaulieu, Chelmsford: Haulage Road 2b (area X)
Project Dates (fieldwork) Start: 06-09-2014 Finish: 10-09-2014
Previous Work (by OA East): Yes Future Work: Yes

Project Reference Codes
Site Code: SPBP14 Planning App. No.: 09/01314/EIA
HER No. Related HER/OASIS No.: oxfordarchar3-181898

Type of Project/Techniques Used
Prompt: Direction from Local Planning Authority - PPG15

Please select all techniques used:
- Field Observation (periodic visits)
- Full Excavation (100%)
- Full Survey
- Geophysical Survey
- Open-Area Excavation
- Part Excavation
- Part Survey
- Recorded Observation
- Remote Operated Vehicle Survey
- Salvage Excavation
- Salvage Record
- Systematic Field Walking
- Systematic Metal Detector Survey
- Test Pit Survey
- Watching Brief

Monument Types/Significant Finds & Their Periods
List feature types using the NMR Monument Type Thesaurus and significant finds using the MDA Object type Thesaurus together with their respective periods. If no features/finds were found, please state "none".

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<th>Period</th>
<th>Object</th>
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<td>pit</td>
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<td>bone</td>
<td>Uncertain</td>
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<td>posthole</td>
<td>Medieval 1066 to 1540</td>
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<td>Select period...</td>
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Project Location
County: essex
District: chelmsford
Parish: springfield
HER: SPBP14
Study Area: 0.2HA
Site Address (including postcode if possible): land of White Hart Lane, CHelmsford CM2 6TD
National Grid Reference: TL 7230 1014

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### Project Originators

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Organisation</th>
<th>OA EAST</th>
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<tr>
<td>Project Brief Originator</td>
<td>Richard HAvis (ECC HER)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Project Design Originator</td>
<td>Iain Williamson (URS)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Project Manager</td>
<td>Richard Mortimer (OA East)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Supervisor</td>
<td>Helen Stocks-Morgan (OA East)</td>
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### Project Archives

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#### Archive Contents/Media

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#### Digital Media

- Database (x)
- GIS
- Geophysics
- Images (x)
- Illustrations (x)
- Moving Image
- Spreadsheets
- Survey (x)
- Text
- Virtual Reality

#### Paper Media

- Aerial Photos
- Context Sheet (x)
- Correspondence
- Diary
- Drawing (x)
- Manuscript
- Map (x)
- Matrices
- Microfilm
- Misc.
- Research/Notes
- Photos
- Plans
- Report
- Sections
- Survey

### Notes:

---

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Figure 1: Site location plan showing Area X (red)
Figure 2: Plan of Area X
Figure 3: Selected sections
Plate 1: Area X, looking from north-west
Plate 2: Ditch 2114
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