

**LAND EAST OF BERRYFIELD,  
MARCH,  
CAMBRIDGESHIRE**

**NGR REF: TL 4230 9850**



***ARCHAEOLOGICAL INVESTIGATION***

**(OASIS ID: independ1-335143)**

**(EVENT NR: ECB5295)**

**MARCH-JULY 2018**

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## Summary

*An archaeological investigation was conducted by Independent Archaeology Consultants for a new development on Land east of Berryfield, March, Cambridgeshire. The site was stripped and excavated in two steps during the period March to July 2018. The investigation followed an archaeological evaluation which was carried out by Archaeological Solutions Ltd in 2015 (Bull, K and Wilson, L., 2015).*

*The earliest period represented within the investigation area was Prehistoric, and occasional residual struck flint was found in some contexts. The ceramic dating evidence was also fairly sparse. The majority of dated features contained between 1 and 5 sherds. The pottery was largely Iron Age, but a small number of features within the site also contained Roman pottery. This makes it possible that we have a continuation of the site from the Late Iron Age into the Roman period.*

*The site was located within an area of archaeological potential, where known extensive evidence of multi-period landscape activity is recorded in the Cambridgeshire Historic Environment Record (HER). The site lied within a known cropmark area, covering some 8ha, and extending to the east, north, south and west. It was partially investigated prior to the construction of the adjacent Berryfield development in the mid 1980s. Then features were found to date mainly to the late pre-Roman Iron Age, though with some evidence of preceding Neolithic and Bronze Age activity, with a trackway with aligned enclosures along its northern side (HER 9561). Roadside ditched stockades were excavated, along with a small number of human burials.*

*Following this phase of occupation, the Roman Fen Causeway road was built in the early 2<sup>nd</sup> century. The road ran between Peterborough and Denver, Norfolk, across the Fenland (HER MCB15033). The road runs to the south of Berryfield. Where excavated along its length, it is shown to have been a partly gravelled road (not metalled on islands and only gravel patches infilling potholes and ruts) with roadside ditches on the higher ground, and initially, in the north-eastern section, a canal on the lower-lying fenland areas, before silting necessitated its replacement.*

*The site described in this report contained a large number of well-preserved archaeological features, such as ditches, pits and ponds dating mainly to the Iron Age and Roman periods. A find material, consisting mostly of pottery, animal bones, flint and worked stone was collected from the various features. The site is thought to have been located on the edge of a larger settlement, as some of the ditches and linear features may have formed stock enclosures adjacent to such a settlement. The excavated ponds may have been used for watering the animals. The purpose of this report is to describe and report the findings of the full-scale archaeological investigation which was carried out on land east of Berryfield, March, Cambridgeshire between March and July 2018.*

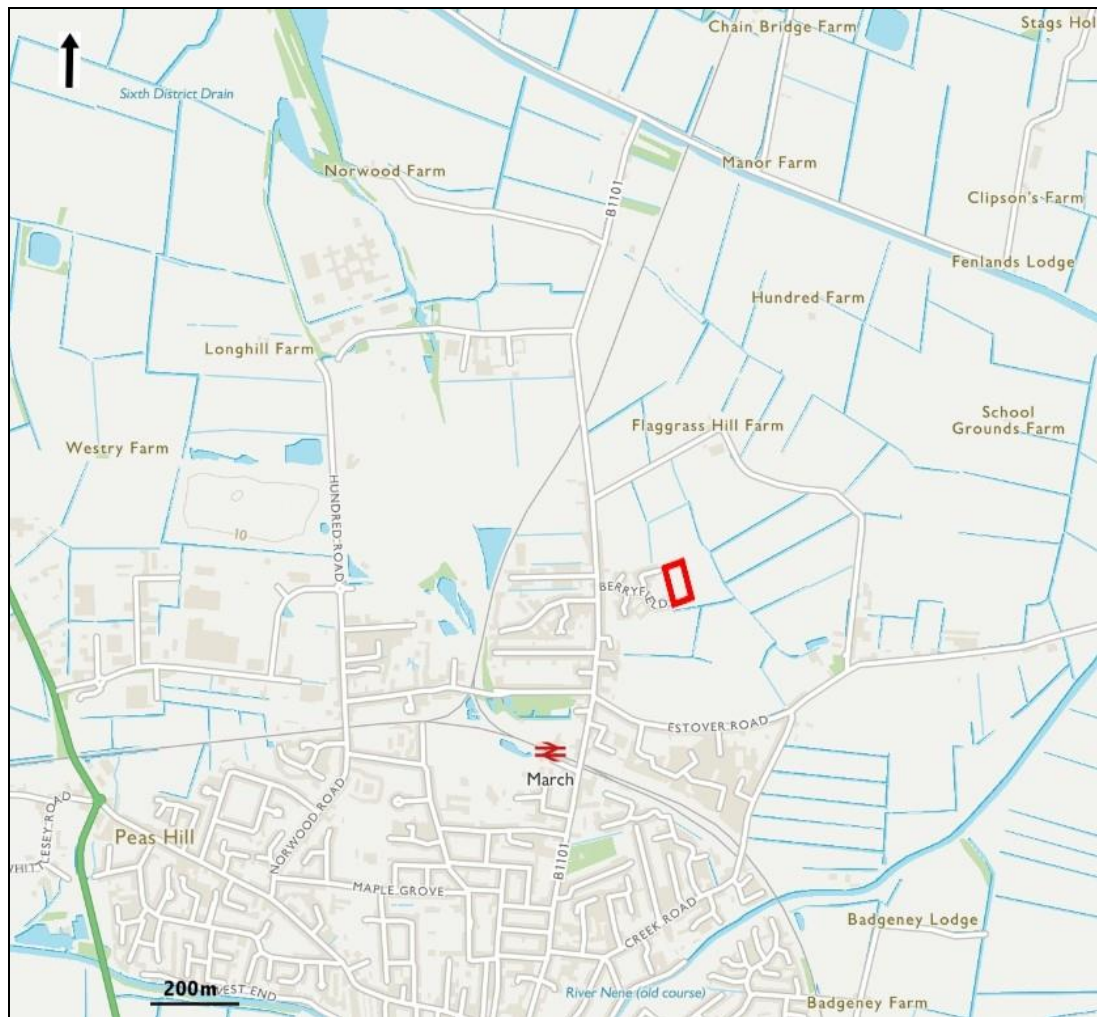
## 1 INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 An archaeological investigation was carried out on land east of Berryfield, March, Cambridgeshire (NGR: TL 4230 9850) (Figure 1-2). The investigation was carried out in accordance with the *Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Investigations* issued by the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (2014), as well as a brief issued by the CHET at Cambridgeshire County Council (CHET 2016).
- 1.2 Independent Archaeology Consultants is an archaeological consultancy company based in Peterborough, Cambridgeshire. The company subscribes to the *Code of Conduct, the Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Excavation* (CifA 2014), *Standards for Field Archaeology in the East of England* (EAA Occasional Paper 14) and *Research and Archaeology Revisited: a revised framework for the East of England* (EAA Occ. Paper No 24, 2011). All relevant CifA Codes of Practice were adhered to throughout the course of the project.

## 2 PROJECT BACKGROUND

- 2.1 Planning Permission has been granted (F/YR14/1020/O) for a new development on land east of Berryfield, March, Cambridgeshire. The development comprised the construction of 30 houses with associated access, landscaping and new services for Fink Developments.
- 2.2 The site was surrounded by arable fields in the north, east and south and an existing residential area along the roads Berryfield and Burnet Gardens in the west.
- 2.3 The site enclosed an area of some 12000m<sup>2</sup> at an average height of 3.5m AOD. The development was located northeast of the historic core of March, on an outcrop of March Gravels where they overlie Ampthill Clay (British Geological Survey 2018).
- 2.4 The site was located within an area of archaeological potential, as defined by the CHER and an earlier archaeological evaluation in 2015 (Bull, K and Wilson, L., 2015). An archaeological investigation was therefore required prior to any construction within the site. This condition was mentioned in the Planning Permission granted by Fenland District Council and was in line with standards described in the NPPF.

**Land east of Berryfield, March, Cambridgeshire: Archaeological Investigation**



*Figure 1. The location of March in England. (Ordnance Survey maps produced with Licence nr: Ordnance Survey 0100031673).*



Figure 2. The site outline and all features and slots present within the site are shown. More detailed trench plans are presented at the end of the report.

### 3 ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND

- 3.1 The proposed development site was located about 1 mile northeast of the historical core of March. This area of Cambridgeshire is rich in archaeological remains, and a number of archaeological investigations have been carried out in the landscape in recent years.
- 3.2 In March 2015 a geophysical survey (Baker, M., Bescoby, D., & Summers, J., 2014) (Appendix 1) was undertaken on land east of Berryfield, March. The survey identified several anomalies including linear features and several sub-circular anomalies. There was slight magnetic disturbance along the western most section of the survey which may have masked further archaeological features.
- 3.3 In June 2015 an aerial photography assessment was undertaken on the land east of Berryfield, March, in advance of an evaluation of the site (Cox 2015) (ECB4500). This survey found extensive traces of buried enclosures, tracks and boundaries recorded as cropmarks and seen in the earlier geophysical survey. There was an E-W system of boundaries within the site, likely to have been former fields, with associated tracks and small enclosures. Further evidence of cropmarks was found to the east of the site, as well as parallel ditches (CB15033).
- 3.4 An archaeological evaluation undertaken in June 2015 (Bull, K and Wilson, L., 2015) identified the features observed in the previous Aerial Photographic Survey and the Geophysical Survey as several multi-period features (MCB20684) and (ECB4642). These features included postholes, ditches of Roman and Modern date, pits, a gully, possible wells and quarries of Roman date and a metalled surface which contained highly abraded mid-to-late Iron Age pottery and struck flint. The investigation also showed evidence of well-preserved waterlogged remains suitable for environmental sampling etc.
- 3.5 At Estover Road, some 100m west of the site, English Heritage investigated in 1985 an un-ploughed earthwork site which was covering ca 4ha (James, S. T. and More, K. 1985). The site was partially excavated in advance of housing development. Fourteen trenches and small areas were machine-stripped, and the revealed features were sampled. It was concluded that the Fen Causeway was later than the trackway. Provisionally, the Roman road was at this point early, probably 1st century AD. The enclosures exhibit a rectilinear layout, which seemed to be aligned on the trackway rather than the Roman road. Therefore, the enclosures are probably pre-causeway, i.e., very early Roman or more likely late Iron Age, and continued to be in use into the Roman period, when some additions were made. No indication of a contemporary domestic settlement within the enclosures was found. This suggests the enclosures functioned as stock enclosures rather than arable fields, but due to the limited nature of the work in 1985 we cannot be sure about this. There were also occasional signs of industrial activity and inhumations (ECB497).
- 3.6 At Elm Road, some 300m northwest of the site, a two-trial trench evaluation revealed features relating to post-medieval drainage and evidence of former

greenhouses that occupied the site during the 1960s. A single pit containing a small polished Neolithic axe was discovered, although the pit also contained fragments of coal and other potentially modern detritus so the date of the pit remains unclear (ECB3737).

- 3.7 Some 100-150m southwest of the site a number of archaeological investigations have also been carried out in recent years. An evaluation comprising four trial trenches was undertaken in advance of construction of 8 residential dwellings, and an undated ditch and two modern gullies were identified. Residual Roman ceramic building material was recovered from one of the gullies (ECB3561).
- 3.8 A desk-based assessment and trial trenching at Dagless Way and Elm Road revealed the site to have been largely in agricultural use over the last 250 years. Despite proximity to the reputed course of the Roman Fen Causeway and the site's location on the edge of the March 'island', no archaeological features or finds were identified (ECB408).
- 3.9 At 53 Elm Road an archaeological evaluation was undertaken in advance of development, but no archaeological features or finds were recovered (ECB 283).
- 3.10 Remains of the Fen Causeway were nevertheless found in the Dagless Way area during an archaeological evaluation in 2005. The Fen Causeway was located in the northern end of the site and was characterised by a layer of gravel with a large roadside ditch on its southern side (ECB1929).

## **4 AIMS**

- 4.1 The aims of the archaeological investigation, as defined by the CHET Brief, were achieved through pursuit of the following specific objectives:
  - i) To preserve the archaeological evidence contained within the site by record and to attempt a reconstruction of the history and use of the site.
  - ii) To determine the gap, if one exists, in occupation evidence between the Iron Age and Roman periods. The pottery recovered from the evaluation work consisted largely of Roman coarse and table wares of 2<sup>nd</sup>-4<sup>th</sup> century AD date, but residual Iron Age pottery was also present.
  - iii) To provide a reliable chronology for the development of the Fen Causeway and to see how this section relates to other 'on-island' sections excavated across it in the locality. Given the realignment of earlier trackways and the development of the Fen Causeway in a known area of salt and grain production, what can be understood of the periodic development of supply farms along its route.
  - iv) To sample the excavated features across the site but especially in the waterlogged ponds in order to gain a full understanding of the variety and



quantities of animals used at the site - in diet, traction and secondary product capacities.

4.2 The investigation also considered the general investigative themes outlined by: Medlycott, M. 2011 (ed.) *Research and Archaeology Revisited: a Revised Framework for the East of England*, East Anglian Archaeology Occasional Paper 24; *Research and Archaeology: A Framework for the Eastern Counties* (Glazebrook 1997; Brown & Glazebrook 2000), *English Heritage Archaeology Division Research Agenda* (1997); *Discovering the Past, Shaping the Future: Research Strategy 2005 - 2010* (English Heritage 2005).

4.3 Specifically, the following investigative aims were accommodated in the programme of archaeological work:

- \*investigation and documentation of the archaeology present within the site;
- \*characterisation of the site in the broader landscape;
- \*characterisation of the activities identified on the site;
- \*characterisation of changes affecting land-use through time.

## **5 METHODOLOGY**

The investigation aimed at determining the location, extent, date, character, condition, significance and quality of any surviving archaeological remains liable to be threatened by the proposed development. A complete investigation and documentation of all areas where archaeological remains are potentially threatened by the development was therefore carried out.

### **5.1 Stripping of Topsoil**

The investigation area was searched for live cables and other potential threats prior to the investigation, and the management of spoil heaps was planned carefully. Considering the large scale of the investigation area the site was stripped, mapped and investigated in two steps; where the southern end was stripped first while the spoil heaps were being stored in the northern half of the site. During the second step of fieldworks the southern half of the site was backfilled while the northern half was being stripped, mapped and excavated.

The site was stripped using a 13-tonne tracked mechanical excavator, equipped with a flat bladed ditching bucket. Two 5-tonne dumpers were used during the project to assure that the spoil was dealt with in an effective way. At no times were machines allowed to track over stripped areas.

The investigation area was stripped to the upper interface of secure archaeological deposits or, where these were not present, to the upper interface of natural deposits. Thereafter hand-excavation was required to investigate any features exposed.

The investigation area was not backfilled without the approval of CHET. The field investigation was not carried out at the expenses of the heritage assets of the site.

## **5.2 Metal Detecting**

Metal detector sweeps of exposed features and spoil heaps were carried out in advance of and during the excavation. The metal detector was not set to discriminate against iron. The metal detecting was carried out by metal detector specialist Trevor Southgate. Only modern iron nails were found within the site.

## **5.3 Mapping of the site using a GPS**

Once the stripping of the investigation area had been completed a digital plan of the site was created using an accurate GPS. The plan contained all potentially archaeological and modern features present within the site, and was used to plan the archaeological investigation.

## **5.4 Hand Excavation**

All man-made features were investigated. Apparently natural features were sampled sufficiently to establish their origin and to characterise any related human activity. Hand excavation was sufficient to establish the date and character of various deposits and features, and to allow appropriate levels of recording.

Deposits and layers were sampled sufficiently to enable a confident interpretation of their character, date and relationships with other features. The artefact contents of the ploughsoil and any lower soil horizons was examined as part of the fieldworks, and the field data quantified and spatially illustrated within the report. Unstratified artefacts were also sought and recovered from the spoil heaps.

All exposed features were subject to a minimum of 50% excavation. At least 15% (or a percentage sufficient to achieve information on the character, function and dating) of linear features and/or very large and deep features were hand excavated. All slots through linear features were at least 1m wide. Particular attention was given to terminals and intersections, to ascertain stratigraphic and physical relationships.

Structural remains, such as stake holes, post holes and gullies, were excavated fully and in plan/phase, as appropriate to the requirements of the project.

The investigation provided a complete documentation of the site's archaeology. The post-excavation assessment contains a full analysis of the excavated pottery-, skeletal-, stone- and environmental material from the site.

## **5.5 Palaeoenvironmental Sampling**

The site was located in a well preserved and low-lying cultural landscape and had, as such, good potential for the preservation of faunal/plant remains and/or waterlogged timber. For this reason, viable bulk samples were collected from a selection of suitable deposits in order to characterise plant remains/charred plant remains, molluscs, small faunal remains and pollen sequences present within the site.

Special care was taken to understand the stratigraphy of the site: Were the investigated deposits created in dry or wet conditions, and what could this, in that

case, tell us about the development and history of the site? Waterlogged timber was kept wet to prevent cracking and shrinking, and to facilitate dating and analysis of the wood.

Buried soils and associated deposits were inspected on site by Val Fryer, whose advice was sought as to whether soil micromorphology or other analytical techniques would enhance understanding of depositional processes and transformations at the site.

The assessment of the potential to inform on the general environmental and dietary evidence of the inhabitants of the site through examination of suitable deposits was also arranged with a suitably qualified specialist. Special attention was paid to: i); the retrieval of charred plant macro & microfossils, faunal remains and land molluscs from former dry-land palaeosols and cut features, ii); the retrieval of plant macro & microfossils, insect, faunal remains, molluscs, pollen and other biological remains from waterlogged deposits; iii); provision for the absolute dating of critical contacts: e.g., the basal contacts of peats over former dryland surfaces; distinct landuse or landmark change in rural contexts.

The investigation also carefully considered the retrieval, characterisation and dating of artefacts and buried economic evidence to assist in the characterisation of the site's development.

The project manager ensured that the results of the palaeoenvironmental investigation, industrial residue assessments/analyses & scientific analyses were included in the assessment report and sent to the Historic England Science Advisor.

All samples were extracted and recorded in accordance with the following publications: *Environmental Archaeology. A Guide to the Theory and Practice and Methods, from Sampling and Recovery to Post-excavation* (English Heritage 2011), *Association for Environmental Archaeology, 1995, Environmental archaeology and archaeological investigations. Recommendations concerning the environmental archaeology component of archaeological investigations in England (1995), A working classification of sample types for environmental archaeology (1992 for 1991), A guide to sampling archaeological deposits for environmental analysis (1994)*, and in consultation with the appointed specialist and Historic England.

The appointed Plant Remains and Environmental Samples Expert Val Fryer was available to assist throughout the project. Fryer was given the opportunity to visit the ongoing investigations, but was mainly contracted for processing and studying the samples during the Post-excavation stage.

The following guidance documents were consulted in order to provide an adequate strategy for the excavation, field treatment and conservation of any delicate organic materials: English Heritage, 2012, *Waterlogged Organic Artefacts: Guidelines on Their Recovery, Analysis and Conservation*; English Heritage, 2008, *Investigative Conservation: Guidance on How the Detailed Examination of Artefacts from Archaeological Sites Can Shed Light on Their Manufacture and Use*; English Heritage, 2010, *Waterlogged Wood: Guidelines on the Recovery, Sampling, Conservation and Curation of Waterlogged Wood*.

## 5.6 Recording

A numbered single context-based recording system, written on suitable forms and indexed appropriately, was used for all elements of the archaeological recording programme.

Measured plans were produced to show all exposed features (including natural features and modern features etc.) and excavated areas. Individual measured plans and sections were produced for all excavated features and deposits. These were accurately tied into site plans/site location plans that in turn were accurately related to the Ordnance Survey grid and to suitably mapped local features, such as boundaries, buildings and roads. All sections and plans were related accurately to Ordnance Datum. Samples were marked up and transported to laboratories as soon as possible to prevent contamination.

A photographic record comprising monochrome and digital photos formed part of the excavation record. A selection of digital photographs was used in this assessment report (a maximum of two photographs per A4 sheet). Appropriate photo scales and north arrows were used in all photographs throughout the excavation process.

## 6 FINDS AND SAMPLING ASSESSMENTS

### **Pottery Assessment (By Jeremy Evans. Contributions by Gwladys Monteil)**

- 6.1 Some 92 sherds of Iron Age and Roman pottery were presented for examination, along with three fragments of daub. There were 13 sherds of Roman pottery, weighing 3311g, giving an average sherd weight of 254.7g.
- 6.2 There were 79 sherds of Iron Age and Transitional pottery weighing 906g, giving an average sherd weight of 11.5g.
- 6.3 The reason for the apparently ludicrous average sherd weight of the Roman material was the presence of a complete Nene Valley colour coated ware jar (cf Perrin 1999, nos 278-279) and the lower half of a Roman shell-gritted ware storage jar from context (277). The storage jar had a hole made through the century of its base. The purpose of this hole is unknown.

### **Chronology**

- 6.4 There were six rimsherds amongst the Iron Age pottery all of which appeared to be of Mid- to Late Iron Age date. There was also a handmade grog tempered ware sherd from context (303) and a Scored Ware sherd from context (454).
- 6.5 The small quantity of Roman material (from contexts (228), (233), (242), (260), (277) and (336) would all fit minimally in a second century date span. Lower Nene Valley greyware was relatively common and the two contexts

with the best TPQs date to the second half of the second century (or later). The ‘ritual’ deposit in context (277) must date after ca. AD 170, but could be considerably later in date.

### The Iron Age pottery

- 6.6 Table 001 shows a breakdown of the Iron Age pottery by principal temper type. Some 40-50% (Nosh or Wt) of the sherds were in handmade shell-tempered ware with abundant shell temper (Iron Age shell-gritted ware), which probably came to the site from the west. This contrasts with sites like the Period 1 group from Monument 97 (Rollo 2001) where IASG were completely dominated the assemblage. Some 23% of sherds had other calcareous temper, generally much less frequent than in IASG. The other two major groups were sand tempered sherds, often hand-burnished at 15% (Nosh) and 20% (Nosh) of sherds with white quartz temper.
- 6.7 It may be of note that the Scored Ware sherd was in fabric P23 with calcareous inclusions and quartz, not the LIASG fabric P21.

Table 001 Major temper types amongst the pre-Roman pottery

Temper type	Sum of NOSH	Sum of WT
E00 Grog	1%	1%
P10 Sand	15%	7%
P20 Calcareous/shell	13%	25%
P20? Calcareous/shell	1%	3%
P21 IASG	11%	16%
P21? IASG	29%	34%
P22 Calcareous voids & some flint	3%	2%
P23 Some calcareous temper & quartz	1%	3%
P24 Some very fine shell	5%	0.1%
P30 White quartz	20%	8.7%
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>79</b>	<b>906</b>

### Bibliography

Perrin, J, R., 1999. Roman pottery from excavations at and near to the roman small town of Durobrivae, Water Newton, Cambridgeshire, 1956-58, **Journal of Roman Pottery Studies**, 8, 1-141

Rollo, L., 2001. The Iron Age and Roman pottery, in Mackreth, D.F. Monument 97, **Orton Longueville, Cambridgeshire: a late pre-Roman Iron Age and early Roman farmstead**, East Anglian Archaeology 97, 46-79

#### Abbreviations

b-s bodysherd

IASG – Iron Age shell-gritted ware

Context	Quantity of pot	Date	Dating evidence
(111)	1	IA	IASG b-s
(113)	1	LIA/C1	IASG/TSG b-s

(118)	21	M-LIA	Vertical rim jar, P30, cf Rollo (2001) no 7
(124)	1	M-LIA	IASG b-s
(165)	7	LIA	Beaded jar rim & burnished, sandy jar rim
(166)	14	M-LIA	IASG b-s & quartz tempered IA
(166)	1	M-LIA	Burnished sandy IA sherd
(166)	4	IA-C1	P24 b-s
(181)	2	M-LIA	IASG SJ b-s
(183)	8	M-LIA	Simple barrel jar, cf Rollo (2001) no 14.
(210)	7	M-LIA	IASG b-s & 2 jars, cf Rollo (2001) no 7
(211)	1	LIA	Sandy reduced IA b-s
(226)	0		Fired clay fragment
(228)	1	AD100+	NVGW b-s
(233)	1	AD70+	Greyware b-s
(240)	1	M-LIA?	B-s w some shell & calcareous inclusions
(242)	1	AD70+	Greyware b-s
(260)	3	AD120+	Samian – Dr31R bowl rim, CGS, AD150-200
(277)	2	AD170+	Complete NVCC jar, c AD170+ & complete RSG storage jar base w hole cut through base. This must be a 'ritual deposit'
(301)	1	M-LIA	IASG b-s
(303)	1	AD1+	Reduced handmade grog tempered ware (AD1-50/70)
(327)	1	M-LIA?	Quartz tempered b-s (P30)
(336)	3	AD100+	NVGW b-s
(337)	4	M-LIA	Quartz tempered b-s (P30)
(377)	2	IA	B-s w calc voids & some flint
(454)	1	MIA	Scored ware b-s, C3-C1 BC
(483)	1	Roman?	Oxidized b-s, probably Roman

## Animal Bone Assessment (By Tania Kausmally)

### Introduction

6.8 The archaeological excavation at Berryfield, March, Cambridgeshire yielded a total of 381 fragments of animal bone (Table 1). The site was predominantly a series of pits, ditches and ponds dated to the Iron Age with two Roman ditches cutting through the southern part of the site. A majority of the animal bones derived from Iron Age pits. The number of fragments identified to species was 32.02% (122/381), though this figure is inflated as many fragments formed part of single elements disintegrated during recovery. For example, 84% (11/13) of the fragments identified from Iron Age pond contexts were pieces of a single cattle mandible. Of the 72 identified fragments from the Iron Age only 12 discreet elements were identified. The undated fragments have not been included in any further analysis but made up a similar pattern of domesticates as seen in the Iron Age assemblage.

Date	Feature	No of context	No. of features	NISP	Identified to species	Percent identified to species
?	Layer	1	1	21	1	4.76%
Iron Age	Pits	14	12	175	40	22.86%
Iron Age/Roman	Ponds	3	2	23	13	56.52%
?	Layer	2	0	20	18	90.00%
Roman	Ditches	6	2	77	41	53.24%
Undated	Ditches	6	4	57	5	8.77%
?	Linear features	1	1	8	4	50.00%
		33	22	381	122	32.02%

Table 1 Number of identified fragments by period and feature type.

## Methods

- 6.9 Animal bone fragments were identified using Schmid (1972) and Hillson (1996). Recording was carried out following criteria specified in the York Zooarchaeology database. Distinction of equids was made through morphological variations in skeletal elements, following Johnstone (2004). Fragments not identified to Taxon were separated into size categories; Small (Cat/rodent size), medium (sheep/goat/pig/dog size) and large (cattle/horse size). Some elements were not identifiable to size and were simply classified as unidentifiable. This was to determine the least number of individuals present on site and was calculated across features that could be estimated to be from the same period.
- 6.10 The fragments were recorded as Number of Identified Specimens (NISP) and from this the Minimum Number of Elements (MNE) were calculated as well as the Minimum Number of Individuals (MNI). Timing of epiphyseal fusion was based on Sisson and Grossman (Getty 1975). Dental eruption ages were based on Silver (1969) and tooth wear stages (TWS) were based on Grant (1982) as seen in Hillson (1990). Skeletal completeness was recorded by zonation according to Dobney and Rielly (1988).
- 6.11 The positions of butchery marks were described distinguishing between knife, chop and saw marks as well as evidence of burning, helical breaks and marrow extraction following Binford (1987) and Seetha (2000). Evidence for gnawing, was observed and described following Binford (1987). Worked bone was also included in this category of bone modifications.
- 6.12 State of preservation was recorded in a four-stage system of preservation from Excellent (surface clearly visible), Good (surface clearly visible with slight erosion), Fair (surface not fully visible) to Poor (unobservable surface). Weathering and erosion was further observed. Skeletal completeness was recorded in 20% intervals.

6.13 Measurements were taken as described by Von den Driesch (1976) for mammals. Metrical data accumulated in the Animal Bone Metrical Archive Project (ABMAP) (Centre for Human Ecology 1995) for contemporary sites in central England were used for comparisons. No pathological bones were noted in this assemblage. The analysis has been recorded onto an MS Excel Spreadsheet following the criteria from the York system, Zooarchaeological database (Harland *et al.* 2003).

## Results

### Preservation

6.14 The skeletal assemblage consisted of 381 fragments. Preservation was mainly excellent (61%) allowing reliable observations on butchery and animal activity. The level of fragmentation was however, very high (87.1% <20% complete) and consisted predominantly of very small unidentifiable fragments.

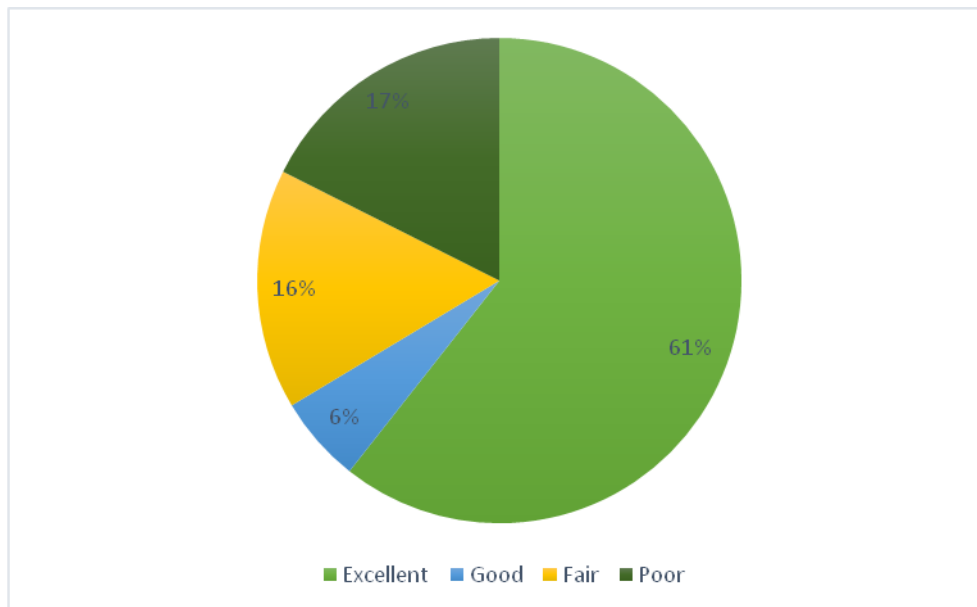


Figure 1 skeletal preservation (N=381).

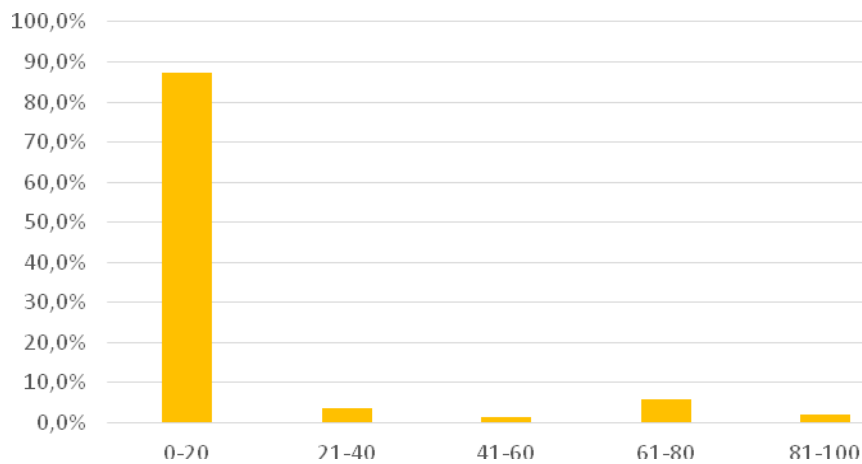


Figure 2 skeletal completeness (N=381)



- 6.15 There was no evidence of weathering or trampling suggesting the elements may have been buried shortly after disposal. Root etching was only evident in 0.79% (3/381) of the elements that were recovered from potential Iron Age features. Carnivore gnawing was only identified in one element of a large mammal recovered from context (336). There was no evidence of variations in preservation or completeness across the different features, except from the more complete horse bones in the Roman ditch [174] (see below).

### **Species Distribution**

- 6.16 Only mammal was identified in the bone assemblage from the site apart from a few fragments of oyster shell dated to the Roman period. There was little evidence of any birds, fish or amphibians on site (Table 2 and Table 3), but Val Fryer was however able to spot small remains of fish and amphibians in some of the environmental samples she was studying.

### ***Iron Age***

- 6.17 From supposed Iron Age contexts a total of four species were identified, and three of these were identified as domesticated cattle, pig and sheep/goat. One tibia of a badger was also identified. The most frequent species was cattle with at least four individuals present, recovered from all deposit types. The long bones suggested cattle of younger than 36-42 months of age whilst two mandibles with dental wear suggesting adult cattle. The majority of fragments was of the extremities and may be classified as butchery waste including mandible, horn and metapodials. Two radii were also recovered from pond context (234) and alluvium layer (189). It is possible that some of the pits had a different purpose than that of domestic waste disposal. One context (337) from pit [338] contained two complete metacarpals of young cattle (<24-36 months) and one horn core of juvenile cattle. These elements may be waste products from industries producing products of leather and horns.
- 6.18 One pig mandible was recovered from the supposed Iron Age pit [360]. Dentition suggested a mature individual above the age of 35 months (Lemoine *et al.* 2014). The only evidence of sheep/goat was a distal tibia recovered from pit [164] fill (166), with an age estimate of >18-28 months.
- 6.19 One tibia of a badger was recovered from context (234) and most likely a natural deposition rather than a direct consequence of human utilisation.

### ***Roman***

- 6.20 Only two domesticate mammals were identified from the Roman ditches. One head of femur from cattle was recovered from context (177) this animal was aged as older than 36-48 months. Ditch [174] fill (296) revealed an associated body group making up the front leg of a pony. This consisted of the right scapula, humerus, radius and ulna. The elements were fully fused suggesting an age of above 36-42 months. The morphology suggested this was a pony as opposed to a mule or donkey (Johnstone 2004). Wither's height was calculated to a height of 139.77cm (340mm (radius) x 4.111) (Johnstone 2004).

6.21 Fragments of oyster shell were present in alluvium layer (224) and pond [236]. It was not possible to provide an age estimate or any interpretation due to the absence of umbo and high fragmentation.

	Possibly Iron Age			Possibly Roman		
	NISP	MNE	MNI	NISP	MNE	MNI
<b>Cattle (<i>Bos.</i>)</b>	41	8	4	1	1	1
<b>Horse (<i>Equus.</i>)</b>				36	4	1
<b>Pig (<i>Sus.</i>)</b>	29	3	1			
<b>Sheep/Goat (<i>Ovis/Capra.</i>)</b>	1	1	1			
<b>Badger (<i>Meles meles.</i>)</b>	1	1	1			
<b>Oyster (<i>Ostrea edulis</i>)</b>				4	1	1
<b>Small mammal</b>	1					
<b>Medium mammal</b>	63			14		
<b>Large mammal</b>	54			12		
<b>Unidentified</b>	49			10		
<b>Total</b>						

Table 2 Identification of fragments

	Possibly Iron Age			Possibly Roman	
	Cattle	Pig	Sheep/goat	Cattle	Horse
<b>Horn core</b>	1				
<b>Skull</b>					
<b>Mandible/teeth</b>	19	29			
<b>Atlas</b>					
<b>Axis</b>					
<b>Scapula</b>					31
<b>Humerus</b>					2
<b>Radius</b>	19				2
<b>Ulna</b>					1
<b>Pelvis</b>					
<b>Sacrum</b>					
<b>Femur</b>				1	
<b>Tibia</b>			1		
<b>Fibula</b>					
<b>Astragalus</b>					
<b>Calcaneum</b>					
<b>Carpal</b>					
<b>Tarsal</b>					
<b>Metacarpal</b>	2				
<b>Metatarsal</b>					
<b>Lat. Metapodial</b>					

<b>Phalanx I</b>					
<b>Phalanx II</b>					
<b>Phalanx III</b>					
<b>Lateral phalanx</b>					
<b>Ribs</b>					
<b>Vertebrae</b>					
<b>Long bone</b>					
<b>Unidentified</b>					
<b>Total</b>	41	29	1	1	36

Table 3 Body part distribution (NISP)

6.22 Evidence of butchery was extremely limited in this assemblage. No actual cut marks were noted in any of the fragments, whilst skinning marks were noted in two elements. One long bone from the Iron Age pit context (166) from a large mammal had a series of parallel marks on the surface. Another rib fragment with fine marks on the surface was recovered from Roman ditch context (228). Helical breaks were only noted in two elements, but this may be due to the very high fragmentation pattern and the high level of fragmentation during recovery stage.

6.23 Metric analysis was limited to the Roman horse elements (Table 4). The Greatest Length (GL) of the radius was slightly larger than the mean value on ABMAP for horse in the Roman period (325mm) but well within the range recorded on other sites.

<b>Context</b>	<b>Species</b>	<b>Element</b>	<b>Measurements</b>			
(296)	Horse	Radius	BFd=59	Bd=69.4	GL=~340	
(296)	Horse	Humerus	BD=67.4	BT=67.1		
(296)	Horse	Scapula	GLP=79.2	SLC=58.5	bg=44.2	LG=51.5

Table 4 Metric results

### Conclusion

6.24 Due to high fragmentation the number of animal bones identifiable to species was very limited. Many of the identified elements were groups making up a single element. This was a result of high fragmentation following excavation. The interpretative value of the assemblage is limited by the number of individuals present.

6.25 Two discrete periods were identified with the majority of the fragments present in deposits dated to the Iron Age. Two Roman ditches cutting the Iron Age features contained 20.21% of the fragments and 17.06% of the fragments were not allocated a date at the time of analysis. The low number of identified bones from Berryfield, March, Cambridgeshire provided very speculative evidence of relative importance of species and site function, but does provide and insight into species present on site.

- 6.26 The supposed Iron Age features revealed the presence of cattle, pig and sheep/goat with a dominance of cattle. Cattle appeared to be young adults and juveniles based on fusion, but the dentition present suggested fully mature animals. One pig was an older individual and one sheep/goat was identified from a fully fused tibia. The distribution of bones in different features did not suggest any specific use, though one pit with two unfused metacarpals and one horn core of a juvenile may suggest small scale leather or horn industry. The dominance of cattle appears consistent with findings at Huntingdon Road, Cambridge (Maltby 2015). Davis (1995) found a dominance of sheep at Edix Hill, Barrington, Cambridgeshire and suggested that a very low presence of pig was indicative of a lower status site. Both sites had quite a high prevalence of sheep, whilst only a single element of sheep/goat was uncovered from Berryfield, March, Cambridgeshire. This may be due to the very poor preservation and low number of identified bones present on site, certainly medium mammal bones were present in larger number than large mammal bones in the unidentified assemblage.
- 6.27 The supposed Roman contexts revealed the presence of one cattle element and an associated body group of a front leg of a pony. The pony was of average height (139cm) and was morphologically more consistent with a horse rather than a mule or donkey. Both the cattle and pony were fully fused and estimated to be older than three years of age. Davis (1995) reported the presence of horse with estimated wither's height of 124cm, suggesting they were smaller than that at Berryfield, March, Cambridgeshire whilst ABMAP results showed horses of similar size. Albarella (1997) reported the findings of a larger number of horse bones from Roman deposits at Tort Hill East, Cambridgeshire. He reported the findings of associated body groups of a horse foot and noted that horses are common in smaller numbers on Roman sites and appear to be more frequent than donkeys. Albarella (1997) also noted that butchered horse bones were not uncommon. There were no butchery marks on the horse bones uncovered from Berryfield, March, Cambridgeshire.

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Appendix 1

Context	cut number	Date	feature	Species	Element	No of frag
(118)	[120]	IA	pit	Large Mammal	Longbone	8
(121)	[123]	IA	pit	Unidentified	Longbone	14
(124)	[125]	IA	pit	Medium mammal	ribs	14
(124)	[125]	IA	Pit	Unidentified	fragment	7
(128)	[130]	IA	pit	Medium mammal	Longbone	1
(155)	[158]	IA	pit	Medium mammal	Pelvis	2
(165)	[164]	IA	pit	cattle	Mandible	1
(165)	[164]	IA	pit	cattle	Mandible	6
(165)	[164]	IA	pit	Large Mammal	Ribs	3
(165)	[164]	IA	pit	Medium mammal	Longbone	5
(166)	[164]	IA	pit	Sheep/Goat	Tibia	1
(166)	[164]	IA	pit	Medium mammal	Tibia	1
(166)	[164]	IA	pit	Large Mammal	Longbone	1
(166)	[164]	IA	pit	Medium mammal	Ribs	2
(166)	[164]	IA	pit	small mammal	Ribs	1
(166)	[164]	IA	pit	Large Mammal	Longbone	2
(167)	[164]	IA	pit	Medium mammal	Ribs	24
(167)	[164]	IA	pit	Large Mammal	Ribs	1
(171)	-	IA?	Layer	cattle	Man.molar	1
(171)	-	IA?	Layer	Large Mammal	Longbone	19
(171)	-	IA?	Layer	Medium mammal	Longbone	1
(189)	-	IA?	Layer	cattle	Radius	18
(195)	[199]	IA	Pit	Large Mammal	Longbone	9
(195)	[199]	IA	Pit	Unidentified	fragment	27
(210)	[164]	IA	Pit	Large Mammal	femur	2
(234)	[236]	Roman	pond	cattle	Radius	1
(234)	[236]	Roman	pond	Medium mammal	ribs	2
(234)	[236]	Roman	pond	Medium mammal	ribs	6
(234)	[236]	Roman	pond	Badger?	Tibia	1
(237)	[236]	Roman	pond	Large Mammal	Ribs	1
(303)	[304]	Roman	pond	cattle	Mandible	11
(303)	[304]	Roman	pond	Medium mammal	ribs	1
(309)	[310]	Roman	pit	Medium mammal	Longbone	4
(327)	[328]	IA	pit	Large Mammal	Ribs	3
(327)	[328]	IA	pit	Unidentified	fragment	1
(337)	[338]	IA	pit	cattle	Metacarpal	1
(337)	[338]	IA	Pit	cattle	Metacarpal	1
(337)	[338]	IA	Pit	Cattle	Horn	1
(337)	[338]	IA	Pit	Large Mammal	Radius	2
(337)	[338]	IA	Pit	Large Mammal	Longbone	1

**Land east of Berryfield, March, Cambridgeshire: Archaeological Investigation**

(358)	[360]	IA	Pit	pig	tooth	2
(358)	[360]	IA	Pit	Pig	Mandible	1
(358)	[360]	IA	Pit	Pig	Mandible	26
(387)	[388]	IA	Pit	Large Mammal	fragment	2
(177)	[174]	Roman	ditch	cattle	femur	1
(177)	[174]	Roman	ditch	Large Mammal	Longbone	2
(177)	[174]	Roman	ditch	Unidentified	fragment	10
(226)	[225]	Roman	ditch	Medium mammal	Longbone	1
(226)	[225]	Roman	ditch	Medium mammal	tooth	1
(226)	[225]	Roman	ditch	OYSTER	fragment	3
(228)	[225]	Roman	ditch	Medium mammal	Ribs	6
(240)	[174]	Roman	ditch	Large Mammal	Humerus	6
(240)	[174]	Roman	ditch	Medium mammal	Ribs	6
(240)	[174]	Roman	ditch	OYSTER	fragment	1
(242)	[174]	Roman	ditch	Large Mammal	Longbone	4
(296)	[174]	Roman	ditch	Horse	Radius	2
(296)	[174]	Roman	ditch	Horse	Humerus	2
(296)	[174]	Roman	ditch	Horse	Scapula	1
(296)	[174]	Roman	ditch	Horse	Ulna	1
(296)	[174]	Roman	ditch	Horse	Scapula	30
(183)	[185]	IA	Pit	Large Mammal	Humerus	15
(184)	[185]	IA	Pit	Large Mammal	Mandible	6
(208)	[209]	Undated	ditch	cattle	Man.molar	2
(208)	[209]	Undated	ditch	Medium mammal	Longbone	1
(216)	[185]	IA	Pit	Large Mammal	Pelvis	1
(216)	[185]	IA	Pit	Sheep/Goat	Metatarsal	1
(216)	[185]	IA	Pit	Medium mammal	Longbone	3
(336)	[334]	Roman	linear feature	Pig	Humerus	2
(336)	[334]	Roman	linear feature	Horse?	Pelvis	2
(336)	[334]	Roman	linear feature	Large Mammal	Tibia	1
(336)	[334]	Roman	linear feature	Large Mammal	Axis	3
(445)	[415]	Undated	ditch	Unidentified	fragment	7
(446)	[415]	Undated	ditch	cattle	Mandible	2
(446)	[415]	Undated	ditch	Large Mammal	Longbone	17
(446)	[415]	Undated	ditch	Medium mammal	Longbone	2

**The Struck Flint (By Andrew Peachey)**

6.28 The archaeological investigation on land east of Berryfield, March in Cambridgeshire recovered a total of five pieces of struck flint (153g) in an un-patinated condition. They were all scrapers and flakes (Table 1) whose technological traits are indicative of an early Bronze Age, or possibly late Neolithic, date. This interpretation fits with the results of the flint material that was found during the excavations further to the west (James, S. T. and More, K. 1985).

Implement/Flake type	Frequency	Weight (g)	Context
Scraper	1	31	(214)
Flake	1	35	(196)
Heavily utilized scraper	1	45	(166)
Flakes	2	42	(210)
Total	5	153	

Table 1: Quantification of struck flint

### Methodology & Terminology

6.29 The flint was quantified by fragment count and weight (g), with all data entered into a Microsoft Excel spreadsheet that will be deposited as part of the archive. Flake type (see ‘Dorsal cortex,’ below) or implement type, patination, colour and condition were also recorded as part of this data set, along with free-text comments. Terms used to describe the implement and the scraper and flake types follow the system adopted by Healy (1988, 48-9). The term ‘cortex’ refers to the natural weathered exterior surface of a piece of flint, and the term ‘patination’ to the colouration of a flaked surface exposed by human or natural agency. Dorsal cortex is categorised after Andrefsky (2005, 104 & 115) with ‘primary flake’ referring to those with cortex covering 100% of the dorsal face; ‘secondary flake’ with 50-99%; ‘tertiary’ with 1-49% and ‘uncorticated’ to those with no dorsal cortex.

### Discussion

6.30 The assemblage was predominantly manufactured using dark grey flint with, where extant a thin white, fairly smooth cortex. It included two retouched implements, all manufactured on small, hard-hammer struck flakes, however, only one can be categorized as a formal scraper type with the remainder simply cruder utilized flakes. The implement contained in the pit [215] fill (214) comprised a scraper, manufactured neatly with semi-invasive retouch, and characteristic of early Bronze Age assemblages in the region. Although similarly sized the utilized flakes are noticeably cruder, with one example in pit [199] fill (196) and two in pit [164] fill (210). Pit [164] fill (166) contained a single scraper of a slightly harder, greenish flint, which showed signs of being heavily utilized.

6.31 Each of the utilized flakes exhibits a limited extent of abrupt retouch to the distal end or corner of one lateral edge, perhaps functioning as a crude scraper or graver. The flakes from the site belonged to a group consistent with the decline in skill evident in flint technology from the later Neolithic/early Bronze Age, if not later in the Bronze Age.

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## Environmental Samples Assessment (By Val Fryer)

### Introduction and method statement

- 6.32 Excavations at Berryfield, March, Cambridgeshire undertaken by Independent Archaeology Consultants, recorded pits, ditches, linears and ponds of Iron Age and Roman date. Samples for the retrieval of the plant macrofossil assemblages were taken from across the excavated area, with a total of twenty-one being submitted for assessment.
- 6.33 The samples were processed by manual water flotation/washover, with the flots being collected in a 300-micron mesh sieve. Although a number of assemblages were seen to contain waterlogged/de-watered remains, all appeared reasonably robust and, therefore, the flots were air dried prior to scanning under a binocular microscope at magnifications up to x 16. All plant macrofossils and other remains noted are listed in Tables 1 and 2 below, with nomenclature following Stace (2010) for the plant remains, and Kerney and Cameron (1979) and Macan (1977) for the mollusc shells. Both charred and de-watered plant macrofossils are recorded, with the latter being denoted within the tables by a lower case 'w' suffix.
- 6.34 The non-floating residues were collected in a 1mm mesh sieve and sorted when dry. All artefacts/ecofacts were retained for further specialist analysis.

### Results

- 6.35 The recovered assemblages are mostly small (i.e., 0.1 litres in volume or less), although that from Roman ditch [174], context (212), is larger at approximately 0.5 litres in volume. Of the twenty-one assemblages twelve are very limited in composition, with many of the Iron Age pit samples containing little other than charcoal/charred wood fragments. However, occasional cereals are noted along with seeds of dry land herbs, wetland/aquatic plants and tree/shrub species. Preservation is moderately good, although much of the charred material appears rounded and abraded, possibly suggesting that it was exposed to the elements prior to incorporation within the feature fills.
- 6.36 Charred cereals (namely, a single possible oat (*Avena* sp.), two specimens of wheat (*Triticum* sp.), and two indeterminate grains) only occur within the fills of pit [125], linear [209] and pond [326]. All are very puffed and distorted, probably as a result of high temperature combustion. Cereal chaff is entirely absent.
- 6.37 Similarly, charred weed seeds are exceedingly scarce, comprising a single specimen of black bindweed (*Fallopia convolvulus*) from pit [114], context (113), and a possible rose (*Rosa* sp.) seed from pit [164], context (165). Both features are of probable Iron Age date. De-watered seeds occur far more frequently, particularly within the assemblages from Roman ditch [174], pond [236], pit [382] and pond [455]. Dry land herbs occur throughout, with taxa noted including orache (*Atriplex* sp.), musk thistle (*Carduus* sp.), mint (*Mentha* sp.), knotgrass (*Polygonum aviculare*), silver weed (*Potentilla*

*anserina*), buttercup (*Ranunculus* sp.), dock (*Rumex* sp.), sow-thistle (*Sonchus asper*), chickweed (*Stellaria media*) and stinging nettle (*Urtica dioica*). Small seeds of sainfoin (*Onobrychis viciifolia*), noted within the fills of pond [236], add to the growing number of early (Iron Age and Roman) records of a species which was originally thought to have been a later medieval introduction.

- 6.38 Wetland/aquatic plant remains are also common, especially within the pond fills. Taxa noted most frequently include sedge (*Carex* sp.), duck-weed (*Lemna* sp.), water crowfoot (*Ranunculus* subg. *Batrachium*) and horned pondweed (*Zannichellia* sp.). Tree/shrub macrofossils occur less frequently, but do include alder (*Alnus* sp.), fruits and cone fragments, bramble (*Rubus* sect. *Glandulosus*) ‘pips’ and elderberry (*Sambucus nigra*) seeds. Charcoal/charred wood fragments are present within almost all samples. The highest densities of charred material occur within the Iron Age pit fills. De-watered root/stem fragments are common or abundant within the fills from pond [236], pit [382], pond [455], pit [280] and linear [209]. Other plant macrofossils are generally scarce, but do include indeterminate culm nodes, moss fronds, prickles, thorns and twigs.
- 6.39 Other remains are present within all assemblages, although rarely at a high density. Anthropogenic detritus is scarce, but does include black porous and tarry residues (possibly derived from the high temperature combustion of organic remains), burnt bone fragments, splinters of burnt stone and small pieces of marine mollusc shell. Other ecofacts, including caddis larval cases, water flea egg cases (Cladoceran ephippia), small mammal/amphibian bones and waterlogged arthropod remains, are all thought to be indicators of the local environment. Small pieces of coal (coal ‘dust’) are also noted, but it is thought most likely that all are intrusive, being derived from either post-Medieval night soil or the use of steam implements during the early modern era.
- 6.40 Occasional shells of terrestrial, marsh/freshwater slum and freshwater obligate molluscs are noted within eleven of the assemblages studied. Most specimens are abraded and fragmented, probably suggesting that they are contemporary with the features from which the samples were taken. As the density of shells recovered is relatively low, only broad statements of their potential environmental significance can be given (see below).

### **Discussion**

- 6.41 For the purposes of this discussion the samples have been divided by feature types and estimated dates.

#### **Iron Age pit assemblages**

- 6.42 Ten samples were taken from pits of probable Iron Age date. Although charcoal/charred wood fragments are present throughout, other remains are very scarce, and it would appear most likely that the material which is present is derived from scattered detritus/midden waste, much of which was probably accidentally incorporated within the feature fills. The abraded condition of much of the charcoal would certainly appear to support this hypothesis. The

assemblages from pit [280], context (291), and pit [114], context (113), do contain some de-watered macrofossils, which appear to suggest that both features were possibly situated within a disturbed grassland habitat, with the pits themselves being muddy and damp. In the case of pit [114], this interpretation is also supported by the composition of the mollusc assemblage. The snail assemblage from pit [125], context (124), may indicate that the feature was partially shaded and/or overgrown, possibly as it fell into disuse.

### **Roman ditches/linears**

- 6.43 The de-watered assemblage from Roman ditch [174] is of note, as it appears to indicate that the feature was situated within a damp, rough grassland habitat, areas of which may have used either as pasture or for the disposal of human/animal ordure. Both the plant macrofossils and the limited mollusc assemblage also suggest that the ditch was at least seasonally wet, with muddy margins and possible small pools of standing, stagnant water. The assemblage from the linear [209] is extremely sparse and is probably largely derived from a very low density of scattered detritus.

### **Ponds**

- 6.44 Eight samples were taken from pond fills of probable Roman date. The assemblages from pond [326], contexts (300) and (325), are perhaps unusual as, with the exception of occasional cereal grains and charcoal fragments, plant macrofossils are entirely absent. It is assumed that the charred remains which are recorded are (along with the bone fragments) largely derived from small quantities of midden waste, possibly domestic in origin. The assemblage from pond [304], context (303), is also very sparse, although occasional de-watered remains may indicate that the feature was damp. Pond [236] appears to have been situated within an area of relatively well managed grassland. The feature itself had muddy margins and was almost certainly semi-permanently filled with still, stagnant water. This pond was probably very little disturbed, as fill (233) is largely composed of densely compacted organic material, which would have formed naturally over an extended period of time.
- 6.45 The assemblages from the ponds are somewhat similar, with evidence for a grassland habitat, muddy margins to the features and stands of still, stagnant water. However, pit [382], context (380), was almost certainly surrounded or overgrown by alder trees, as alder fruits are abundant.

### **Conclusions and recommendations for further work**

- 6.46 In summary, although a number of the assemblages from Berryfield, March contain abundant evidence about the nature of the local habitat, indicators for specific on-site activities are extremely sparse. It is assumed that the charred remains within both the Iron Age and Roman assemblages are derived from midden waste, although there is little or nothing to suggest that any of the features were being used for the primary deposition of refuse. Instead, it would appear that the material was scattered and/or wind dispersed across a wide area prior to accidental incorporation within the feature fills. Rough grassland

conditions appear to have been locally prevalent, although there is some suggestion (in the comparatively low density of tree/shrub macrofossils) that this environment may have seen some degree of management. Many of the features appear to have been water-filled, with marginal wetland plants colonising the muddy edges of the pits, ditches and ponds.

- 6.47 Although a number of the current assemblages do contain sufficient material for quantification (i.e., 100+ specimens), analysis would probably add very little to the data already contained within this assessment. Therefore, no further work is recommended at this stage. However, a summary of this report should be included within any publication of data from the site.

### **References**

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### **Key to Tables**

x = 1 – 10 specimens    xx = 11 – 50 specimens    xxx = 51 – 100 specimens  
xxxx = 100+ specimens    cf = compare    w = waterlogged/de-watered    tf =  
testa fragment    b = burnt    LF = lower fill

**Table 1**

Sample No.	2	13	14	16	17	18	19	20	21	23
Context No.	198	300	325	303	233	233	233	234	380	454
Feature No.	[199]	[326]	[326]	[304]	[236]	[236]	[236]	[236]	[382]	[455]
Feature type	Pit	Pond	Pond	Pond	Pond	Pond	Pond	Pond	Pit	Pond
Descriptor	LF	LF	LF							LF
<b>Cereals</b>										
<i>Triticum</i> sp. (grains)			x							
Cereal indet. (grains)			x							
<b>Dry land herbs</b>										
<i>Aethusa cynapium</i> L.										xw
Apiaceae indet.						xxw	xw	xw		
<i>Atriplex</i> sp.							xw	xw		xw
Brassicaceae indet.						xw				
<i>Bupleurum</i> sp.						xcfw				
<i>Carduus</i> sp.							xw			
<i>Chaerophyllum</i> sp.								xcfw		
<i>Chenopodium album</i> L.								xw		xw
<i>C. polyspermum</i> L.							xcfw			
Chenopodiaceae indet.										xw
<i>Fumaria officinalis</i> L.							xw		xw	
<i>Lamium</i> sp.										xw
<i>Mentha</i> sp.									xxw	
<i>Onobrychis viciifolia</i> Scop.							xw	xw		
<i>Persicaria maculosa/lapathifolia</i>										xw
Small Poaceae indet.							xcfw			

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<i>Polygonum aviculare</i> L.							xw	xw	xw	xw
<i>Potentilla anserina</i> L.							xw			xxw
<i>Ranunculus acris/repens/bulbosus</i>							xw		xw	xw
<i>R. sardous</i> Crantz.										xcfw
<i>Rumex</i> sp.							xxw		xxw	
<i>Sochus asper</i> (L.)Hill									xw	xw
<i>Solanum</i> sp.										xtfw
<i>S. nigrum</i> L.										xw
<i>Stellaria graminea</i> L.										xw
<i>S. media</i> (L.)Vill				xw		xw	xw			
<i>Urtica dioica</i> L.						xw	xw	xw	xw	xw
<b>Sample No.</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>23</b>
<b>Context No.</b>	<b>198</b>	<b>300</b>	<b>325</b>	<b>303</b>	<b>233</b>	<b>233</b>	<b>233</b>	<b>234</b>	<b>380</b>	<b>454</b>
<b>Wetland/aquatic plants</b>										
<i>Alisma plantago-aquatica</i> L.						xw				
<i>Apium</i> sp.						xcfw				
<i>Bolboschoenus/Schoenoplectus</i> sp.							xxw			
<i>Carex</i> sp.							xw	xxw	xxw	xxw
<i>Eleocharis</i> sp.							xw	xw		xw
<i>Eupatorium cannabinum</i> L.						xw				
<i>Filipendula ulmaria</i> L.						xcfw				
<i>Hydrocotyle vulgaris</i> L.										xw
<i>Lemna</i> sp.				xw	xxw	xxxw	xxxxw	xxxxw		xxw
<i>Montia fontana</i> L.										xw
<i>Oenanthe aquatica</i> L.						xw		xxw		
<i>Persicaria hydropiper</i> L.							xw		xw	

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<i>Potamogeton</i> sp.							XW			
<i>Ranunculus</i> subg. <i>Batrachium</i> (DC)A, Gray						XW	XXXXW	XXXW	XW	XXXXW
<i>R. flammula</i> L.									XW	
<i>Sparganium</i> sp.								XW		
<i>Typha</i> sp.									XW	
<i>Zannichellia</i> sp.						XW	XXXXW	XXXW		XXXW
<b>Tree/shrub macrofossils</b>										
<i>Alnus</i> sp. (fruits)									XXXXW	
(cone frags.)									xcfw	
<i>Rubus</i> sp.						XW		XW		
<i>R. sect. Glandulosus</i> Wimmer & Grab				XW			XXXW		XW	XW
<i>Sambucus nigra</i> L.					XW	XW	XW	XW		
<b>Sample No.</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>23</b>
<b>Context No.</b>	<b>198</b>	<b>300</b>	<b>325</b>	<b>303</b>	<b>233</b>	<b>233</b>	<b>233</b>	<b>234</b>	<b>380</b>	<b>454</b>
<b>Other plant macrofossils</b>										
Charcoal <2mm	XXXX	XXX	XX	XXX	X	X	X	X	X	XX
Charcoal >2mm	XXXX	XX	X	XX	X	X	X		X	X
Charcoal >5mm	XX	X	X		X					X
Charcoal >10mm	X								X	
Charred root/stem				X						
Waterlogged root/stem				X	X	XX	XXXX	XX	XXXX	XXX
Mineral replaced root channels				X						
Indet. Bud							XW		XW	
Indet. cone/catkin frags.				XW					XW	
Indet. culm nodes				XW	XW		XW			
Indet. Seeds		X	X				XW		XW	

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Indet. thorns ( <i>Rosa</i> sp. type)									xw	
Indet. twig frags.									xw	xw
Characeae indet.								xw		
Wood frags.>10mm							xw		xw	
<b>Other remains</b>										
Black porous material		x								
Bone	x xb	x	x xb	x	x					
Burnt/fired clay				x						
Caddis larval cases					xw	xw	xw	xxw		xw
Cladoceran ephippia						xw	xxw	xxw		xxxxw
Indet. cocoon frag.						xw				
Compacted organic soil concretions						xxxx				
Fish bone				x				x		
Marine mollusc shell			x				x	x	x	
Mineralised concretions	x				xxxx					
Ostracods							x	x		x
Small coal frags.	x		x		x			x		
Small mammal/amphibian bones	x			x						
Waterlogged arthropod remains					xx	xx	xx	xxx	x	x
<b>Sample No.</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>23</b>
<b>Context No.</b>	<b>198</b>	<b>300</b>	<b>325</b>	<b>303</b>	<b>233</b>	<b>233</b>	<b>233</b>	<b>234</b>	<b>380</b>	<b>454</b>
<b>Mollusc shells</b>										
<b>Woodland/shade loving species</b>										
<i>Clausilia</i> sp.				x						
<b>Catholic species</b>										
<i>Cochlicopa</i> sp.							xcf			



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<i>Trichia hispida</i> group								xcf		
<b>Open country species</b>										
<i>Vallonia</i> sp.							x			
<b>Marsh/freshwater slum species</b>										
<i>Anisus leucostoma</i>							x			
<i>Lymnaea</i> sp.							x			x
<i>Succinea</i> sp.							xcf			
<b>Freshwater obligate species</b>										
<i>Armiger crista</i>							x			
<i>Bathyomphalus contortus</i>							xcf			
<i>Bithynia</i> sp. (operculum)							x	xcf		
<i>Gyraulus albus</i>							xcf			
<i>Planorbis</i> sp.							x			
<i>P. planorbis</i>							x			
<b>Sample volume (litres)</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>10</b>
<b>Volume of flot (litres)</b>	<b>&lt;0.1</b>	<b>&lt;0.1</b>	<b>&lt;0.1</b>	<b>&lt;0.1</b>	<b>0,1</b>	<b>&lt;0.1</b>	<b>&lt;0.1</b>	<b>&lt;0.1</b>	<b>0,1</b>	<b>0,1</b>
<b>% flot sorted</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>50%</b>	<b>50%</b>

Table 2

Sample No.	1	5	6	7	8	9	10	12	15	4	11
Context No.	309	212	305	124	165	166	122	291	113	269	208
Feature No.	[310]	[174]	[306]	[125]	[164]	[164]	[123]	[280]	[114]	[225]	[209]
Feature type	Pit	Ditch	Pit	Pit	Pit	Pit	Pit	Pit	Pit	Ditch	Linear
Descriptor							LF				
<b>Cereals</b>											
<i>Avena</i> sp. (grain)							xcf				
Cereal indet. (grains)											x
<b>Dry land herbs</b>											
Apiaceae indet.								xw		xw	
<i>Atriplex</i> sp.								xw	xw	xxw	
Brassicaceae indet.								xtfw			
<i>Carduus</i> sp.									xw	xw	
<i>Chenopodium album</i> L.										xw	
<i>Cirsium</i> sp.										xcfw	
<i>Epilobium</i> sp.										xcfw	
<i>Euphrasia/Odontites</i> sp.										xcfw	
<i>Fallopia convolvulus</i> (L.)A.Love		x									
<i>Lapsana communis</i> L.										xw	
<i>Mentha</i> sp.										xw	
<i>Papaver dubium</i> L.										xw	
<i>Polygonum aviculare</i> L.										xw	
<i>Prunella vulgaris</i> L.										xcfw	
<i>Ranunculus</i> sp.										xcfw	
<i>Rumex</i> sp.										xxw	

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<i>Sonchus asper</i> (L.)Hill										xw	
<i>Stellaria graminea</i> L.										xcfw	
<i>S. media</i> (L.)Vill										xw	
<i>Urtica dioica</i> L.								xw		xxw	
<b>Wetland/aquatic plants</b>											
<i>Alisma plantago-aquatica</i> L.										xw	
<i>Bolboschoenus/Schoenoplectus</i> sp.										xw	
<i>Carex</i> sp.										xw	
<i>Eleocharis</i> sp.										xw	
<i>Lemna</i> sp.								xxw	xw	xxxw	
<i>Ranunculus</i> subg. <i>Batrachium</i> (DC)A.Gray								xw		xxw	
<b>Sample No.</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>11</b>
<b>Context No.</b>	<b>309</b>	<b>212</b>	<b>305</b>	<b>124</b>	<b>165</b>	<b>166</b>	<b>122</b>	<b>291</b>	<b>113</b>	<b>269</b>	<b>208</b>
<b>Tree/shrub macrofossils</b>											
<i>Rosa</i> sp.					xcf						
<i>Rubus</i> sect. <i>Glandulosus</i> Wimmer & Grab								xw			
<b>Other plant macrofossils</b>											
Charcoal <2mm	xxxx	xx	xx	xxxx	xxxx	xxxx	xxxx	xxw	x		xx
Charcoal >2mm	xxx	x	x	xxxx	xxx	xxx	xxxx		x		x
Charcoal >5mm	x		x	xxx	x	xx	xxxx				
Charcoal >10mm	x		x	x	x	x	xx				
Charred root/stem		x	x	x	x	x		x	x		
Waterlogged root/stem								xxx	x	xxxx	
Minerally preserved organics (?wood)	xx										
Mineralised root channels							x				
Indet. culm nodes									xw		

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Indet. Fruit										xw	
Indet. Moss								xw			
Indet. Prickle										xw	
Indet. Seeds		x				x	x			xw	
<b>Other remains</b>											
Black porous/tarry material	x	x	x		x			x			x
Bone		x		x	x xb	x	x xb		x		
Burnt stone					x	xx					
Cladoceran ehippia										xw	
Fish bone									x		
Marine mollusc shell		x	x				x			x	
Mineralised concretions	x			xx							
Ostracods										x	
Small coal frags.		x		x		x		x	x		x
Small mammal/amphibian bone		x			x	x	x				
Waterlogged arthropod remains								xx	xx	x	
<b>Sample No.</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>11</b>
<b>Context No.</b>	<b>309</b>	<b>212</b>	<b>305</b>	<b>124</b>	<b>165</b>	<b>166</b>	<b>122</b>	<b>291</b>	<b>113</b>	<b>269</b>	<b>208</b>
<b>Mollusc shells</b>											
<b>Woodland/shade loving species</b>											
<i>Aegopinella</i> sp.				x							
<i>Carychium</i> sp.				xx					xcf		
<i>Clausilia</i> sp.				x							
<i>Discus rotundatus</i>				x							
<i>Ena</i> sp.				x							
<i>Punctum pygmaeum</i>									x		

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<b>Open country species</b>											
<i>Pupilla muscorum</i>						X			X		
<i>Vallonia</i> sp.				X	X	X		X	X		
<i>V. costata</i>				X		X			X		X
<i>V. excentrica</i>									xcf		
<i>Vertigo pygmaea</i>									X	X	X
<b>Catholic species</b>											
<i>Cochlicopa</i> sp.				X		X			X		X
<i>Nesovitrea hammonis</i>				X							
<i>Trichia hispida</i> group				XX					X	X	
<b>Marsh/freshwater slum species</b>											
<i>Anisus leucostoma</i>								X	XX	X	
<i>Lymnaea</i> sp.				X					X	X	X
<i>Succinea</i> sp.								X			
<b>Freshwater obligate species</b>											
<i>Armiger crista</i>										X	
<i>Bithynia</i> sp.									X		
<i>Planorbis</i> sp.										X	
<i>P. planorbis</i>										X	
<b>Other</b>											
Limacid plates									X		
<b>Sample volume (litres)</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>10</b>
<b>Volume of flot (litres)</b>	<b>&lt;0.1</b>	<b>&lt;0.1</b>	<b>&lt;0.1</b>	<b>&lt;0.1</b>	<b>&lt;0.1</b>	<b>&lt;0.1</b>	<b>0,1</b>	<b>&lt;0.1</b>	<b>&lt;0.1</b>	<b>0,5</b>	<b>&lt;0.1</b>
<b>% flot sorted</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>25%</b>	<b>100%</b>

## 7 DISCUSSION

### **Southern part of the site (Overview Site Plan 1)**

- 7.1 The southern part of the site was stripped and investigated between March and June 2018. During the stripping a large number of features were uncovered. These features consisted mainly of pits, ditches/linears and ponds with various fills (Figure 3).
- 7.2 In the south-east corner of the site a concentration of pits with very pale fills were noted (Figure 4). Many of these features had not been observed during the evaluation in 2015. Some of the pits could during the investigation in 2018 nevertheless be dated to the Iron Age as they proved to contain sherds of Iron Age pottery and animal bones.
- 7.3 In this concentration the pits [104], [106], [108], [110], [112], [114], [246], [250], [252], [254], [256], [280], [282], [284], [286], [288], [290] and [293] were all investigated and the most suitable pit-fills were chosen for environmental sampling (Figure 5).
- 7.4 The concentration of Iron Age pits continued further to the west, where a smaller group of pits in a low-lying area of the site had been sealed by alluvium layer (224). This alluvium layer was investigated through a number of hand-excavated testpits in a grid, before the remaining parts of the layer was carefully removed using a mechanical excavator. None of the testpits that were excavated through the alluvium layer contained any finds, possibly indicating that it had been naturally formed within a relatively short period of time.
- 7.5 The pits that had been sealed by the alluvium deposit (224) were contexts [215], [306], [308], [310], [312], [314], [316], [318], [320], [322] and [324]. These pits were all excavated and environmental samples were collected from suitable contexts. Fill (309) in pit [310] contained some animal bones while fill (214) in pit [215] contained one piece of worked flint.
- 7.6 The stratigraphic relationship of these pits is interesting, as they had clearly been sealed by alluvium layer (224), while the alluvium had in turn been cut by the southernmost of two large Roman ditches which were present in the southern part of the site. From a chronologically point of view the alluvium deposit must therefore have been created after the digging of the Iron Age pits but before the construction of Roman ditch [174].
- 7.7 The Roman ditch [174] was running east-west across the site, and formed together with ditch [225] the Fen Causeway. The ditch was investigated through a large number of slots. Finds and samples were collected throughout this process (Figure 6). The ditch proved to have up to four different fills, where the contexts (240) and (242) contained Roman pottery while contexts (240), (242) and (296) all contained well preserved animal bones.

- 7.8 Running parallel to ditch [174] was another east-west orientated Roman ditch, context [225]. This ditch was located about 12m north of the first ditch. Like the first Roman ditch this ditch was investigated through a large number of slots, and samples and finds were collected during the process. The ditch proved to have up to four different fills. The two ditches formed together the Fen Causeway.
- 7.9 Especially fill (277) in ditch [225] turned out to be of interest as it contained well preserved Roman pottery vessels and a part of a millstone (Figure 7). The pottery consisted of a Nene Valley colour coated ware jar and the lower half of a Roman shell-gritted ware storage jar. The storage jar had a hole made through the centre of its base, but the exact purpose of the hole is unknown. The millstone is evidence of cereals being processed in the area, and is preserved to about 50%. The stone had a hole in the middle and weights ca 4.3kg. It should be seen in context together with the fragment of the quernstone which was found during the evaluation in 2015 (Bull, K and Wilson, L., 2015. p. 54).
- 7.10 Associated with the two Roman ditches was also the north-south orientated ditch [209] in the southern part of the site. This ditch turned out to have been dug in a right angle toward ditch [174], and was clearly cut by ditch [174]. The single fill (208) of ditch [209] did contain some animal bones but no pottery could be spotted. Since ditch [209] could not be more closely dated it is difficult to know if it is a Prehistoric or Roman feature.
- 7.11 In the southwest corner of the site was located the large pond [455], as well as the pits [448], [450], [455], [452], [490], [492] and [494]. These pits contained no finds and could therefore not be more closely dated. Their shapes, appearances and pale fills, however, made them similar to the previous discussed pits in the southern half of the site and it is possible that all these pits are contemporary.
- 7.12 The pond [455] was thoroughly investigated as it was one of the major features in the southern part of the site. A number of test pits on a grid were hand-excavated, and finds and samples were collected from the various fills (Figure 8). Pond [455] may be of Prehistoric date, as Iron Age pottery was found in context (454) at the bottom of the pond. The pond may however have been backfilled by the Romans. The nearby ditch [174], located just north of the pond [455], was slightly cutting into pond [455], proving the stratigraphic relationship between the two features.
- 7.13 In the southern half of the site there was also the pond [236]. This pond was investigated using the same technique as in pond [455], with hand-excavated test pits on a grid (Figure 9), while finds and samples were collected during the process. This pond proved to contain occasional Roman pottery in one of the lower fills (233). The pond also contained occasional animal bones in contexts (234) and (237) and waterlogged wood in context (235). The wood was studied by environmental sample expert Val Fryer, but the wood did not appear to have been worked and no tool marks were identified.

- 7.14 Pond [236] had also partly been investigated during the 2015 evaluation of the site, and was then named F1035. The pottery from L1036 suggested a possible period of deposition during the 2<sup>nd</sup>-4<sup>th</sup> centuries AD, a date which fits well with the excavation results from 2018. The plant taxa indicated waste ground and damp/ wet conditions. A small number of seeds from probable water-starwort, an aquatic plant, indicated still or slow-moving fresh water. This was also reflected by the mollusc assemblage. A small number of terrestrial molluscs of grassland, wet grassland and ground litter were also recognised. Waterlogged wood within the deposit included oak and a diffuse porous wood type, mostly present as small diameter roundwood. Apart from a wooden stopper, no evidence of wood working was noted.
- 7.15 Just north of the Roman ditch [225] there were also the two intercutting pits [192] and [199]. These two pits remained undated, but one piece of residual worked flint was found in context (196) in pit [199].
- 7.16 North of Roman ditch [225] was also the pit [120]. This pit contained occasional animal bones and Iron Age pottery in context (118). It also had a rich inclusion of charcoal and may be dated to the Iron Age.
- 7.17 Northeast of pond [304] there was another concentration of pits consisting of the contexts [125], [139], [158], [161], [163], [182], [185] and [187]. Fill (124) in pit [125] contained Iron Age pottery and animal bones while fill (155) in pit [158] contained occasional animal bones. Fill (181) in pit [182] also contained some Iron Age pottery while fill (183) in pit [185] contained Iron Age pottery and animal bones and fill (184) in pit [185] contained occasional animal bones. Pits [139], [161], [163] and [187] contained no finds and could not be more closely dated. The whole concentration of pits is, however, likely to be of Iron Age date. Close to these pits was also the undated posthole [201] with its single fill (200).
- 7.18 Immediately to the west of the concentration of pits were the two pits [164] and [302]. Pit [164] turned out to be one of the most interesting features within the whole site with its three distinct fills. Fills (165), (166) and (210) contained Iron Age pottery and animal bones, while contexts (166) and (210) contained occasional, residual worked flint. The lowest fill (167) in pit [164] also contained waterlogged wood. This wood was studied by environmental sample expert Val Fryer but showed no signs of having been worked. The considerable depth of pit [164] of over 1m makes it possible that it served the purpose of being some kind of clay extraction pit. The nearby, but much smaller, pit [302], with its single fill (301), contained one piece of Iron Age pottery and is likely to be from that period.
- 7.19 The nearby pond [304] is also of interest as its single fill (303) contained Roman pottery and animal bones. In contrast to the two nearby pits [164] and [302] the pond [304], therefore, seems to be of Roman origin. This result fits well with the interpretation of the other ponds within the investigation area as being primarily of Roman date.



- 7.20 Just to the west of pond [304] there was also the north-south orientated ditch [434]. This ditch made a 90 degree turn in the north and may be interpreted as a part of same kind of stock enclosure. This enclosure continued in that case towards the west, and into an area outside the actual site. The ditch had three fills, but no finds were recovered from any of these contexts. Inside this potential stock enclosure was also the undated pit [438], with its single fill (437), located.
- 7.21 Another concentration of pits was located some 7m northeast of pit [164] and consisted of the three undated and partly intercutting pits [123], [130] and [132]. No finds were found in any of these pits, but the fills were similar to the Iron Age pits present elsewhere within the site.
- 7.22 In the southern half of the site could also be seen the beginning of the shallow and north-south orientated gully [127]. This gully proved to continue toward the north when the northern half of the site had been stripped. The gully contained the single fill (126) but could not be more closely dated. It is however possible that the gully formed a part of some kind of stock enclosure system.
- 7.23 The pit [116] was located southeast of gully [127] and contained the single fill (115). The pit contained no finds but its shape and appearance was similar to the Iron Age pits in the southern half of the site. The pit may therefore be dated to the same period.
- 7.24 In the northeast corner of the southern half of the site was located yet another concentration of pits. The pits [134], [141], [143], [145], [150] and [152] all remained undated, but had fills that reminded of the Iron Age pits investigated elsewhere within the site. This concentration of pits is therefore likely to be of Prehistoric date and further pits, belonging to the same concentration, were uncovered during the stripping of the northern half of the site.

### **Northern part of the site (Overview Site Plan 2)**

- 7.25 The northern part of the site was stripped and investigated between June and July 2018. During the stripping a large number of features were uncovered. These features consisted mainly of pits, ditches/linears and ponds with various fills (Figure 10).
- 7.26 In the northwest corner of the northern half of the site there were located the pits [328] and [338]. Both these pits are likely to be from the Iron Age as fill (327) in pit [328] and fill (337) in pit [338] both contained Iron Age pottery and animal bones. The undated pit [340] and the undated posthole [413] were also located in this area.
- 7.27 In the north western part on the site were also located the two east-west orientated linears [330] and [334]. These parallel linears are likely to have formed parts of some kind of stock enclosure, which possibly carried on into the area west of the actual site. It appears as there were narrow openings in the enclosure, possibly for the purpose of leading the stock in and out of the

enclosure. The two linears were possibly contemporary with the north-south orientated linears [415] and [467], which were running parallel to each other along the western side of the site.

- 7.28 Here in the west were also the north-south orientated linears [418], [422], [428], [441] and [467] located. These linears might have formed part of a larger stock enclosure system which is better described below. Just to the west of linear [422] were also the two undated pits [425] and [462].
- 7.29 A bit further to the east there was the north-south orientated linear [342] with its four fills (341), (343), (344) and (345). The soft texture of these fills gave the impression that this particular linear was somewhat later than the other linears within the investigation area. It is therefore possible that this linear was in fact a fairly modern drainage ditch. This impression was also given by the fact that the linear cut the earlier pit [480], which was located just east of linear [342].
- 7.30 Even further to the east was the north-south orientated linear [347]. This linear was most likely a continuation of linear [352], located further to the south, as the two features appeared to be in line with each other. Both features were similar to other linears in the area, but as no finds were discovered in their fills they remained undated.
- 7.31 Just south of linear [352] there were the two, partly intercutting, pits [357] and [360]. The upper fill (358) of pit [360] did contain occasional animal bones, and based on their sizes and depths of about 1m it is possible that the features were some kind of clay extraction pits (Figure 11).
- 7.32 South of the two pits was the north-south orientated linear [368] and the east-west orientated linears [370], [372] and [482]. All these features might have formed individual parts of one large stock enclosure system, and it is possible that they should be seen together with the already described linear [330] in the north and linears [415], [422], [428] and [467] in the west. Altogether these linears appear to form one large and almost rectangular enclosure.
- 7.33 South of linears [368], [370], [372] and [482] was another concentration of pits consisting of the contexts [382], [384], [386], [388], [390], [392] and [395]. Most of these pits did not contain any finds, but their shapes and appearances were similar to the previously investigated Iron Age pits in the area.
- 7.34 The only pit in this concentration that could be more closely dated was pit [382], with its five distinct fills (377), (378), (379), (380) and (381). While the upper fill (377) contained occasional Iron Age pottery the lowest fill (381) contained frequent waterlogged wood (Figure 12). This wood was studied by environmental sample expert Val Fryer, but no worked wood or tool marks could be identified. Based on the considerable depth of over 1m of pit [382] it is possible that it functioned as some kind of clay extraction pit, which was later filled up by wood and silt which was thrown into the feature.

- 7.35 Further pits were found in another yet concentration some 15m to the south. This concentration consisted of the pits [397], [399], [401], [403], [405], [407], [409], [411], [506] and [508]. None of these pits could be more closely dated, as no finds were recovered from their fills. Their shapes and appearances, however, were similar to the Iron Age pits within the investigation area.
- 7.36 A few random posthole/stakeholes were also found in the northern half of the site. These were represented by contexts [374], [376] and [457] but they were to spread out to form any kind of common context or construction.
- 7.37 In the central parts of the northern half of the site there were also the two north-south orientated and undated gullies/ditches [485] and [488]. These two features most likely formed a continuation of the gully [127], which was previously described above.
- 7.38 Running along the western side of the site there was also the north-south orientated ditch [496] with its three fills (495), (497) and (498). The western side of this ditch was located outside the investigation area, and the ditch could not be more closely dated as none of the three fills contained any finds. The ditch [496] can most probably be interpreted as either a drainage ditch or a part of the stock enclosure system which continued into the area to the west of the site.
- 7.39 Along the eastern side of the site there were the two similar north-south orientated and partly intercutting ditches [500] and [503]. None of these ditches contained any finds and the eastern edges of the two features were located outside the investigation area. The ditches [500] and [503] can most probably be interpreted as either drainage ditches or parts of a stock enclosure system which continues into the area east of the actual investigation area.



*Figure 3. Overview of the southern part of the site after stripping. This part of the site contained a large number of pits, ditches and some ponds.*



*Figure 4. Post excavation overview photo with the concentration of Iron Age pits in the south eastern part of the site.*



*Figure 5. The pit [114] in the south eastern part of the site was representative for the concentration of Iron Age pits in this area.*





*Figure 6. A slot through Roman ditch [174] in the southern part of the site.*





*Figure 7. A slot through Roman ditch [225] at the moment well preserved Roman vessels were recovered from one of its fills.*



*Figure 8. A number of test pits on a grid were opened up across pond [455] in the south western corner of the site.*



*Figure 9. Post excavation photo of the southern part of the site. A large number of slots and test pits had been hand-excavated through the various features. In the front of the picture are the test pits in pond [236].*





*Figure 10. Overview photo of the northern half of the investigation area after stripping.*



*Figure 11. Pits [360] in the northern half of the site was representative for the larger pits that were found in this area.*



*Figure 12. The pit [382] in the northern half of the investigation area contained well preserved waterlogged wood.*

## 8 CONCLUSIONS

- 8.1 The archaeological investigation on land east of Berryfield, March, Cambridgeshire consisted of the stripping of a 12000m<sup>2</sup> large area of previously undeveloped land. A large number of archaeological features were investigated and sampled. These features consisted mainly of pits, ditches/linears and ponds.
- 8.2 The large number of pits was unexpected, as the evaluation from 2015 documented only a limited number of such features. Most of the pits could, through the collected pottery material, be dated to the Iron Age. The considerable depths of some of the pits of over 1m may suggest they once filled the purpose of being some kind of clay- or silt-extraction pits rather than ordinary rubbish pits.
- 8.3 It is therefore possible that some of the pits had a different purpose than that of domestic waste disposal. Fill (337) in pit [338], for example, contained two complete metacarpals of young cattle and one horn core of juvenile cattle. These elements may be waste products from industries producing products of leather and horns.
- 8.4 Occasional residual worked flint from some of the pit fills may indicate an earlier human presence in the landscape, which may go back to the Neolithic or Bronze Age periods. The pottery from the ponds, on the other hand, could be dated to both the Roman and the Iron Age, something that may suggest that the pond were excavated during the late Iron Age, but backfilled during a re-shaping of the landscape in the Roman period.
- 8.5 The result of the environmental sampling indicated that most organic material had been preserved in slightly deeper and wetter contexts across the site. These were deposits that reached the watertable and whose lower fills have probably been constantly waterlogged for the last 2000 years. This has largely prevented the air from breaking down the organic material.
- 8.6 The preserved organic material was therefore mainly found in ponds and ditches in the southern, and slightly lower, part of the site. The organic material in waterlogged contexts consisted mainly of preserved wood, charcoal and various plant-remains, and was to 80% collected from features in the southern half of the site. Pottery and animal bones were, in contrast, collected from various archaeological deposits across the whole site.
- 8.7 The ponds were all located in the southern half of the site, while the features in the north largely consisted of various north-south and east-west orientated linears. These linears had most likely functioned as stock enclosures, and narrow openings in the linears might have been used to lead the stock in and out of the enclosures. The site could therefore roughly be split in two different halves, where stock was kept in enclosures within the slightly higher ground in the north while the animals could be watered from the ponds in the south.

- 8.8 The site, therefore, seems to mainly have functioned as an economy area, where animals were kept and fed, while there were only limited signs of a larger human settlement. The few postholes and stakeholes that were investigated across the site did not appear to form any common contexts or structures.
- 8.9 The fact that much Iron Age and Roman domestic waste in the form of pottery sherds and animal bones was found across the site indicates, nevertheless, that a human settlement must have been located close to the site during these two periods.
- 8.10 The part of a millstone, which was found in one of the Roman ditches in the southern half of the site, stresses the link to a nearby settlement even further. The millstone has been described in more detail above.
- 8.11 From an artefactual point of view there is, therefore, evidence for a continuation of the late Iron Age settlement into the early Roman period, even if the function of the site might have changed slightly. To discuss a continuation of activities from the late Iron Age into the Roman period within the site is therefore complicated. Few of the linear features and gullies in the north contained any pottery, a fact that makes it difficult to prove an unbroken continuation of the stock enclosures from the Iron Age into the Roman period.
- 8.12 In a similar way is it difficult to find evidence for an unbroken continuation of a human settlement within or near the investigation area. Even if slightly more Iron Age pottery than Roman pottery was found within the site, Roman pottery sherds does exist from a limited number of features within the site. The contexts that could be dated to the Roman period consisted, however, mainly of the fills in the two large ditches in the southern part of the site, as well as some of the pond fills. It is therefore a possibility that some of the ponds were actually constructed in the late Iron Age period, and that the Roman pottery ended up in the pond fills due to Roman backfilling of the ponds shortly after the Roman conquest.
- 8.13 If this is indeed the case it may be difficult to talk about the ponds as being “Roman”, as it is important to consider the possibility that the ponds might have been constructed by the late Iron Age inhabitants of the area, while the Romans simply re-shaped the landscape, and any related economic activities, by backfilling the ponds and shutting down the stock enclosures. The pottery evidence, however, makes it likely that the ponds were still in use during the late Iron Age period with the purpose of watering the animals that were held in the enclosures, rather than being used as fresh water supplies for a nearby human settlement.
- 8.14 Of interest is also to compare the results of the 2015 evaluation with the 2018 excavation. During the 2015 evaluation of the site some 68 sherds of pottery and 285 animal bones fragments were collected, while some 92 sherds of pottery and 381 animal bones fragments were uncovered during the 2018 excavation. If this result is due to pure coincidence or various excavation



techniques is difficult to estimate, but all visible artefacts were indeed collected during the 2018 excavation of the site.

- 8.15 It is clear, however, that the character of the archaeology in the area excavated in 2018 is both similar, and somewhat different, to the 1985 investigation further to the west: While both sites contained animal enclosures, the 2018 investigation did not come across any human burials. The 1985 investigation, on the other hand, had occasional signs of both industrial activity and inhumations. It was in 1985 also concluded that the Fen Causeway was later than the trackway. The enclosures exhibited a rectilinear layout, which seemed to be aligned on the trackway rather than the Roman road. Therefore, the enclosures are likely to pre-causeway, but might have continued to be in use into the early Roman period. No indication of a contemporary domestic settlement within the enclosures was found in 1985. This suggested the enclosures functioned as stock enclosures rather than arable fields (James, S. T. and More, K. 1985).
- 8.16 The two large Roman ditches in the southern part of the 2018 site, which are representing the Fen Causeway, had been cut through a thick silt deposit. This silt layer also sealed a number of earlier Iron Age rubbish pits, while there was no evidence for Roman rubbish pits being present within the site.
- 8.17 A desk-based assessment and trench evaluation discussed thoroughly the date and alignment of the Fen Causeway when dealing with the nearby site at Dagless Way, Elm Road, March (Last, J. and Murray, J. 2001). It seems as the road was largely running southwest-northeast. Provisionally, the Roman road was at this point early, probably 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> century AD.
- 8.18 The break between the Iron Age and Roman activity within the site at Berryfields may be indicated by the fact that the two ponds [236] and [455] in the southern part of the site appears to have been slightly cut by the two later Roman ditches [174] and [225]. This would suggest that the two ponds, where at least pond [236] contained occasional Roman pottery, might have been backfilled by the Romans shortly before the construction of the two ditches.
- 8.19 The results of the 2018 investigation, therefore, fit well with the conclusions from the English Heritage investigation, which was carried out some 100m to the west of the site in 1985: A number of stock enclosures were being used in the late Iron Age period, with a possible, but uncertain, continuation into the early Roman period. The ponds for watering the animals had largely been backfilled in the Roman period, while there were few indications of an actual human settlement after the first century A.D, as there is for instance a lack of Roman rubbish pits. The results of the 2018 investigation also fit the results of the evaluation which was carried out within the site in 2015, even if a larger number of Iron Age features than expected were uncovered and investigated once the whole site had been stripped.
- 8.20 The archaeological investigation which was carried out on land east of Berryfield, March, Cambridgeshire between March and July 2018 has, therefore, complemented and increased our understanding of the development

in the area during the Iron Age and early Roman periods. The investigation has also contributed to a much better understanding of potential future archaeological investigations and research projects in this part of Cambridgeshire.

## 9 ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

- 9.1 Independent Archaeology Consultants would like to thank FPP Facades for funding the works and Maxey Grounds & Co for commissioning the project. Their kind assistance throughout the project has been of great importance.
- 9.2 Independent Archaeology Consultants would also like to thank Kasia Gdaniec of Cambridgeshire County Council for her advice and input.

## 10 ARCHIVE

The archive consists of the following (The exact number of boxes is pending due to Corona):

### Paper Record

The project brief	The project report
Written Scheme of Investigation	The primary site records
The photographic and drawn records	Finds

The archive will be deposited following the gaining of the transfer of title (pending due to Corona), and will be transferred to:

The Archaeological Collections for Cambridgeshire County Council.

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Paper 24*





## Land east of Berryfield, March, Cambridgeshire: Archaeological Investigation

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### ***OASIS ID: independ1-335143***

#### **Project details**

Project name	Land east of Berryfield, March, Cambridgeshire
Short description of the project	An archaeological investigation of a 12000m2 large area. The site contained a large number of features, such as pits, ditches and ponds, from the Iron Age and Roman periods.
Project dates	Start: 20-03-2018 End: 15-07-2018
Previous/future work	Yes / No
Any associated project reference codes	F/YR14/1020/O - Planning Application No.
Any associated project reference codes	BMC17 - Sitecode
Type of project	Recording project
Site status	Local Authority Designated Archaeological Area
Current Land use	Vacant Land 2 - Vacant land not previously developed
Monument type	CL NT Roman
Monument type	CL NT UF SN Late Prehistoric
Significant Finds	SN CL UF SN Late Prehistoric
Significant Finds	SN CL UF SN Roman
Investigation type	"Full excavation"
Prompt	Planning condition

#### **Project location**

Country	England
Site location	CAMBRIDGESHIRE FENLAND MARCH Land east of Berryfield, March, Cambridgeshire
Postcode	PE15 8PN
Study area	12000 Square metres

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Site coordinates TL 4230 9850 52.565309099339 0.099690100558 52 33 55 N 000 05 58 E Point

Height OD / Depth Min: 1m Max: 3m

### Project creators

Name of Organisation Independent Archaeology Consultants

Project brief originator Local Authority Archaeologist and/or Planning Authority/advisory body

Project design originator Independent Archaeology Consultants

Project director/manager Christer Carlsson

Project supervisor Christer Carlsson

Type of sponsor/funding body Developer

### Project archives

Physical Archive recipient Cambridgeshire HER

Physical Contents "Animal Bones", "Ceramics", "Environmental", "Worked stone/lithics"

Digital Archive recipient Cambridgeshire HER

Digital Contents "Animal Bones", "Ceramics", "Environmental", "Worked stone/lithics"

Digital Media available "Images raster / digital photography", "Images vector"

Paper Archive recipient Cambridgeshire HER

Paper Contents "Animal Bones", "Ceramics", "Environmental", "Worked stone/lithics"

Paper Media available "Context sheet", "Photograph", "Plan", "Report", "Section"

### Project bibliography 1

Publication type Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)

Title Land east of Berryfield, March, Cambridgeshire

Author(s)/Editor(s) Carlsson, C

Date 2018

## Land east of Berryfield, March, Cambridgeshire: Archaeological Investigation

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Issuer or publisher	Independent Archaeology Consultants
Place of issue or publication	Peterborough
Entered by	Christer Carlsson (contact@independentarchaeology.co.uk)
Entered on	28 November 2018

## Context List

Context Nr	Type of Feature	Finds	Suggested Date
(101)	Topsoil. Light grey, plastic silty clay with occasional roots.		
(102)	Subsoil. Light grey, plastic silty clay with occasional roots, small stones and charcoal.		
(103)	Fill of pit [104]. Dark grey plastic silty clay.		Iron Age
[104]	Cut of pit [104].		Iron Age
(105)	Fill of potential posthole [106]. Dark grey, plastic silty clay.		?
[106]	Cut of potential posthole [106].		?
(107)	Fill of pit [108]. Dark grey, plastic silty clay, occasional stones		Iron Age
[108]	Cut of pit [108].		Iron Age
(109)	Fill of pit [110]. Dark grey, sandy silt, occasional charcoal.		Iron Age
[110]	Cut of pit [110].		Iron Age
(111)	Fill of pit [112]. Dark grey, plastic silty clay, occasional stones	Iron Age Pottery	Iron Age
[112]	Cut of pit [112].		Iron Age
(113)	Fill of pit [114]. Dark grey, plastic silty clay, occasional stones and pottery.	Iron Age Pottery	Iron Age
[114]	Cut of pit [114].		Iron Age
(115)	Fill of pit [116]. Dark grey, sandy silt, occasional charcoal.		Iron Age
[116]	Cut of pit [116].		Iron Age
(117)	Upper fill of pit [120]. Dark, plastic grey silty clay.		Iron Age
(118)	Middle fill of pit [120]. Dark grey, plastic silty clay. Rich charcoal inclusions.	Iron Age pottery, animal bones	Iron Age

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(119)	Lower fill of pit [120]. Dark grey, plastic silty clay.		Iron Age
[120]	Cut of pit [120].		Iron Age
(121)	Upper fill of pit [123]. Light grey, plastic silty clay.	Animal bones	
(122)	Lower fill of pit [123]. Dark grey, plastic silty clay		Iron Age
[123]	Cut of pit [123].		Iron Age
(124)	Fill of pit [125]. Dark grey, plastic silty clay.	Iron Age pottery, animal bones	Iron Age
[125]	Cut of pit [125].		Iron Age
(126)	Fill of gully [127]. Light grey, plastic silty clay.		
[127]	Cut of gully [127].		
(128)	Upper fill of pit [130]. Light grey, plastic silty clay.	Animal bones	Iron Age
(129)	Lower fill of pit [130]. Dark grey, plastic silty clay.		Iron Age
[130]	Cut of pit [130].		Iron Age
(131)	Fill of pit [132]. Light grey, plastic silty clay.		
[132]	Cut of pit [132].		
(133)	Fill of pit [134]. Light grey, plastic silty clay.		
[134]	Cut of pit [134].		
(135)	Upper fill of pit [139].		
(136)	Second fill of pit [139]. Light grey, plastic silty clay.		
(137)	Third fill of pit [139]. Mid-grey, plastic silty clay		
(138)	Fourth fill of pit [139]. Dark, grey, plastic silty clay.		
[139]	Cut of pit [139].		
[141]	Cut of pit [141].		

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(142)	Fill of pit [141]. Light grey, plastic silty clay.	
[143]	Cut of pit [143].	
(144)	Fill of pit [143]. Light grey, plastic silty clay.	
[145]	Cut of pit [145].	
(146)	Fill of pit [145]. Light grey, plastic silty clay.	
(147)	Upper fill of pit [150]. Light grey, plastic silty clay.	
(148)	Middle fill of pit [150]. Mid-dark grey, plastic silty clay.	
(149)	Lower fill of pit [150]. Dark grey, plastic silty clay.	
[150]	Cut of pit [150].	
(151)	Fill of pit [152]. Light grey, plastic silty clay.	
[152]	Cut of pit [152].	
(153)	Fill of pit [158]. Light grey, plastic silty clay.	Iron Age
(154)	Fill of pit [158]. Mid-grey, plastic silty clay.	Iron Age
(155)	Fill of pit [158]. Dark grey, plastic silty clay. Animal bones	Iron Age
(156)	Fill of pit [158]. Mid-dark grey, plastic silty clay.	Iron Age
(157)	Fill of pit [158]. Dark grey, plastic silty clay.	Iron Age
[158]	Cut of pit [158].	Iron Age
(159)	Upper fill of pit [161]. Light grey, plastic silty clay.	
(160)	Lower fill of pit [161]. Dark grey, plastic silty clay.	
[161]	Cut of pit [161].	

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(162)	Fill of pit [163]. Light grey, plastic silty clay.		
[163]	Cut of pit [163].		
[164]	Cut of pit [164].		Iron Age
(165)	Upper fill of pit [164]. Light grey, plastic silty clay.	Iron Age pottery, animal bones	Iron Age
(166)	Middle fill of pit [164]. Dark grey, plastic silty clay.	Iron Age pottery, worked flint, animal bones,	Iron Age
(167)	Lower fill of pit [164]. Dark grey, silty clay with rich organic inclusions.	Animal bones, waterlogged wood	Iron Age
(171)	Alluvium layer of light grey, plastic, silty clay with occasional charcoal.	Animal bones	Iron Age
(172)	Upper fill of southern Roman ditch [174].		Roman
(173)	Third fill of southern Roman ditch [174].		Roman
[174]	Cut of southern Roman ditch [174].		Roman
(175)	Second fill of southern Roman ditch [174].		Roman
(176)	Lowest fill of southern Roman ditch [174].		Roman
(177)	Upper fill of southern Roman ditch [174].	Animal bones	Roman
(178)	Second fill of southern Roman ditch [174].		Roman
(179)	Third fill of southern Roman ditch [174].		Roman
(180)	Lowest fill of southern Roman ditch [174].		Roman
(181)	Fill of pit [182]. Light grey, plastic silty clay.	Iron Age pottery	Iron Age
[182]	Cut of pit [182].		Iron Age
(183)	Upper fill of possible pit [185]. Light grey, plastic silty clay.	Iron Age pottery, animal bones	Iron Age
(184)	Lower fill of possible pit [185]. Dark	Animal bones	Iron Age



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	grey, plastic silty clay.		
[185]	Cut of possible pit [185].		Iron Age
(186)	Fill of pit [187]. Light grey, plastic silty clay.		Iron Age
[187]	Cut of pit [187].		Iron Age
(188)	Alluvium layer of light grey, plastic silty clay.		Iron Age
(189)	Alluvium layer of light, grey plastic silty clay.	Animal bones	Iron Age
(190)	Upper fill of pit [192]. Light grey, plastic silty clay.		
(191)	Lower fill of pit [192]. Dark grey, plastic silty clay.		
[192]	Cut of pit [192].		
(193)	Fill of posthole [194]. Light grey, plastic silty clay.		
[194]	Cut of posthole [194].		
(195)	Fill of pit [199]. Light grey, plastic silty clay.	Animal bones	Iron Age
(196)	Fill of pit [199]. Mid-grey, plastic silty clay.	Worked flint	Iron Age
(197)	Fill of pit [199]. Dark grey, plastic silty clay.		Iron Age
(198)	Fill of pit [199]. Mid-dark grey, plastic silty clay.		Iron Age
[199]	Cut of pit [199].		Iron Age
(200)	Fill of posthole [201]. Light grey, plastic silty clay.		
[201]	Cut of posthole [201].		
(202)	Alluvium layer of light grey, sandy silt with occasional shells.		
(208)	Fill of ditch [209]. Light grey, plastic silty clay.	Animal bones	Roman/Iron Age
[209]	Cut of ditch [209].		Roman/Iron Age

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(210)	Fill of pit [164]. Light grey, plastic silty clay.	Iron Age pottery, worked flint, animal bones	Iron Age
(211)	Upper fill of southern Roman ditch [174].	Roman pottery	Roman
(212)	Upper fill of southern Roman ditch [174].		Roman
(213)	Upper fill of southern Roman ditch [174].		Roman
(214)	Fill of pit [215]. Light grey, plastic silty clay.	Worked flint	Iron Age
[215]	Cut of pit [215].		Iron Age
(216)	Upper fill of pit [185]. Light grey, plastic silty clay.	Animal bones	Iron Age
(224)	Alluvium layer of light grey, plastic silty clay covering many Iron Age pits in the southern part of the site.		Between Iron Age and Roman
[225]	Cut of northern Roman ditch.		Roman
(226)	Fill of northern Roman ditch [225]. Light grey, plastic silty clay.	Roman pottery, animal bones	Roman
(227)	Fill of northern Roman ditch [225]. Dark grey, plastic silty clay.		Roman
(228)	Fill of northern Roman ditch [225]. Orange grey, plastic silty clay.	Roman pottery, animal bones	Roman
(229)	Fill of northern Roman ditch [225]. Grey orange, plastic silty clay.		Roman
(230)	Fill of northern Roman ditch [225]. Mid-dark, black-grey plastic silty clay with occasional organics.		Roman
(231)	Fill of pond [236].		Roman
(232)	Fill of pond [236].		Roman
(233)	Fill of pond [236].	Roman pottery	Roman
(234)	Fill of pond [236].	Animal bones	Roman
(235)	Fill of pond [236].	Waterlogged wood	Roman
[236]	Cut of pond [236].		Roman

## Land east of Berryfield, March, Cambridgeshire: Archaeological Investigation

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(237)	Base fill of pond [236].	Animal bones	Roman
(238)	Fill of northern Roman ditch [225].		Roman
(239)	Lowest fill of northern Roman ditch [225].		Roman
(240)	Fill of southern Roman ditch [174].	Roman pottery, animal bones	Roman
(242)	Fill of southern Roman ditch [174].	Roman pottery, animal bones	Roman
[246]	Cut of pit [246].		
(247)	Lower fill of pit [246]. Dark grey, plastic silty clay.		
(248)	Middle fill of pit [246]. Mid-grey, plastic silty clay.		
(249)	Upper fill of pit [246]. Light grey, plastic silty clay.		
[250]	Cut of pit [250].		
(251)	Fill of pit [250]. Light grey, plastic silty clay.		
[252]	Cut of pit [252].		
(253)	Fill of pit [252]. Light grey, plastic silty clay.		
[254]	Cut of pit [254].		
(255)	Fill of pit [254]. Light grey, plastic silty clay.		
[256]	Cut of pit [256].		
(257)	Fill of pit [256]. Light grey, plastic silty clay.		
(258)	Upper fill of northern Roman ditch [225].		Roman
(259)	Middle fill of northern Roman ditch [225].		Roman
(260)	Lower fill of northern Roman ditch [225].	Roman pottery	Roman
(261)	Upper fill of northern Roman ditch [225].		Roman
(262)	Middle fill of northern Roman ditch [225].		Roman
(263)	Lower fill of northern Roman ditch		Roman

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(264)	[225]. Upper fill of northern Roman ditch		Roman
(265)	[225]. Middle fill of northern Roman ditch		Roman
(266)	[225]. Lower fill of northern Roman ditch		Roman
(267)	[225]. Upper fill of northern Roman ditch		Roman
(268)	[225]. Middle fill of northern Roman ditch		Roman
(269)	[225]. Lower fill of northern Roman ditch		Roman
(270)	[225]. Upper fill of northern Roman ditch		Roman
(271)	[225]. Middle fill of northern Roman ditch		Roman
(272)	[225]. Lower fill of northern Roman ditch		Roman
(273)	[225]. Upper fill of northern Roman ditch		Roman
(274)	[225]. Middle fill of northern Roman ditch		Roman
(275)	[225]. Lower fill of northern Roman ditch		Roman
(276)	[225]. Upper fill of northern Roman ditch		Roman
(277)	[225]. Middle fill of northern Roman ditch	Roman pottery and a part of a millstone	Roman
(278)	[225]. Lower fill of northern Roman ditch		Roman
(279)	Fill of pit [280]. Light grey, plastic silty clay.		
[280]	Cut of pit [280].		
(281)	Fill of pit [282]. Light grey, plastic silty clay.		
[282]	Cut of pit [282].		
(283)	Fill of pit [284]. Light grey, plastic silty clay.		
[284]	Cut of pit [284].		

## Land east of Berryfield, March, Cambridgeshire: Archaeological Investigation

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(285)	Fill of pit [286]. Light grey, plastic silty clay.		
[286]	Cut of pit [286].		
(287)	Fill of pit [288]. Light grey, plastic silty clay.		
[288]	Cut of pit [288].		
(289)	Fill of pit [290]. Light grey, plastic silty clay.		
[290]	Cut of pit [290].		
(291)	Upper fill of pit [280]. Light grey, plastic silty clay.		
(292)	Fill of pit [293]. Dark grey, plastic silty clay.		
[293]	Cut of pit [293].		
(294)	Upper fill of southern Roman ditch [174].		Roman
(295)	Middle fill of southern Roman ditch [174].		Roman
(296)	Lower fill of southern Roman ditch [174].	Animal bones	Roman
(297)	Upper fill of southern Roman ditch [174].		Roman
(298)	Middle fill of southern Roman ditch [174].		Roman
(299)	Lower fill of southern Roman ditch [174].		Roman
(300)	Fill of dark grey, plastic silty clay in pond [326] in southern part of the site.		Roman
(301)	Fill of pit [302]. Light grey, plastic silty clay.	Iron Age pottery	Iron Age
[302]	Cut of pit [302].		Iron Age
(303)	Fill of pond [304].	Roman pottery, animal bones	Roman
[304]	Cut of pond [304].		Roman

**Land east of Berryfield, March, Cambridgeshire: Archaeological Investigation**

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(305)	Fill of pit [306]. Dark grey, plastic silty clay.		
[306]	Cut of pit [306].		
(307)	Fill of pit [308]. Light grey, plastic silty clay.		
[308]	Cut of pit [308].		
(309)	Fill of pit [310]. Light grey, plastic silty clay.	Animal bones	Iron Age
[310]	Cut of pit [310].		Iron Age
(311)	Fill of pit [312]. Light grey, plastic silty clay.		
[312]	Cut of pit [312].		
(313)	Fill of pit [314]. Light grey, plastic silty clay.		
[314]	Cut of pit [314].		
(315)	Fill of pit [316]. Light grey, plastic silty clay.		
[316]	Cut of pit [316].		
(317)	Fill of pit [318]. Light grey, plastic silty clay.		
[318]	Cut of pit [318].		
(319)	Fill of pit [320]. Light grey, plastic silty clay.		
[320]	Cut of pit [320].		
(321)	Fill of pit [322]. Light grey, plastic silty clay.		
[322]	Cut of pit [322].		
(323)	Fill of pit [324]. Light grey plastic silty clay.		
[324]	Cut of pit [324].		
(325)	Fill of pond [326] in south. Mid-grey, plastic silty clay with occasional organics.		
[326]	Cut of pond [326] in south.		

## Land east of Berryfield, March, Cambridgeshire: Archaeological Investigation

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(327)	Fill of pit [328]. Light grey, plastic silty clay.	Iron Age pottery, animal bones	Iron Age
[328]	Cut of pit [328].		Iron Age
(329)	Upper fill of linear [330]. Dark grey, plastic silty clay.		
[330]	Cut of linear [330].		
(331)	Middle fill of linear [330]. Light grey, plastic silty clay.		
(332)	Lower fill of linear [330]. Mid grey, plastic silty clay with occasional charcoal.		
(333)	Upper fill of linear [334]. Dark grey, plastic silty clay.		Roman
[334]	Cut of linear [334].		Roman
(335)	Middle fill of linear [334]. Mid grey, plastic silty clay.		Roman
(336)	Lower fill of linear [334]. Light grey, plastic silty clay.	Roman pottery, animal bones	Roman
(337)	Fill of pit [338]. Light, grey plastic silty clay.	Iron Age pottery, animal bones	Iron Age
[338]	Cut of pit [338].		Iron Age
(339)	Fill of pit [340]. Light grey, plastic silty clay.		
[340]	Cut of pit [340].		
(341)	Upper fill of linear [342]. Light grey, plastic silty clay.		
[342]	Cut of linear [342].		
(343)	Middle fill of linear [342]. Light grey, plastic silty clay.		
(344)	Lower fill of linear [342]. Light grey, plastic silty clay.		
(345)	Lower fill of linear [342]. Mid grey, plastic silty clay.		
(346)	Upper fill of linear [347]. Dark grey,		

## Land east of Berryfield, March, Cambridgeshire: Archaeological Investigation

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	plastic silty clay.		
[347]	Cut of linear [347].		
(348)	Middle fill of linear [347]. Mid-dark grey, plastic silty clay.		
(349)	Lower fill of linear [347]. Light grey, plastic silty clay.		
(350)	Lower fill of linear [347]. Grey, plastic silty clay.		
(351)	Upper fill of linear [352]. Light grey, plastic silty clay.		
[352]	Cut of linear [352].		
(353)	Lower fill of linear [352]. Dark, grey, plastic silty clay.		
(354)	Upper fill of pit [357]. Light grey, plastic silty clay.		
(355)	Middle fill of pit [357]. Mid-dark grey, plastic silty clay.		
(356)	Lower fill of pit [357]. Dark grey, plastic silty clay.		
[357]	Cut of pit [357].		
(358)	Upper fill of pit [360]. Light grey, plastic silty clay.	Animal bones	Iron Age
(359)	Lower fill of pit [360]. Dark grey, plastic silty clay with frequent preserved organics.		Iron Age
[360]	Cut of pit [360].		Iron Age
(367)	Fill of linear [368]. Light grey, plastic silty clay.		
[368]	Cut of linear [368].		
(369)	Fill of linear [370]. Light grey, plastic silty clay.		
[370]	Cut of linear [370].		
(371)	Fill of linear [372]. Light grey, plastic silty clay.		



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[372]	Cut of linear [372].		
(373)	Fill of posthole [374]. Light grey, plastic silty clay.		
[374]	Cut of posthole [374].		
(375)	Fill of stakehole [376]. Light grey, plastic silty clay.		
[376]	Cut of stakehole [376].		
(377)	Upper fill of pit [382]. Light grey, plastic silty clay.	Iron Age pottery	Iron Age
(378)	Second fill of pit [382]. Mid-grey, plastic silty clay.		Iron Age
(379)	Third fill of pit [382]. Mid-dark grey, plastic silty clay.		Iron Age
(380)	Fourth fill of pit [382]. Dark grey, plastic silty clay.		Iron Age
(381)	Fifth fill of pit [382]. Dark grey, plastic silty clay with preserved organics.	Waterlogged wood.	Iron Age
[382]	Cut of pit [382].		Iron Age
(383)	Fill of pit [384]. Light grey, plastic silty clay.		
[384]	Cut of pit [384].		
(385)	Fill of pit [386]. Light grey, plastic silty clay.		
[386]	Cut of pit [386].		
(387)	Fill of pit [388]. Light grey, plastic silty clay.	Animal bones	Iron Age
[388]	Cut of pit [388].		Iron Age
(389)	Fill of pit [390]. Light grey, plastic silty clay.		
[390]	Cut of pit [390].		
(391)	Fill of pit [392]. Light grey, plastic silty clay.		
[392]	Cut of pit [392].		
(393)	Upper fill of pit [395]. Light grey,		

## Land east of Berryfield, March, Cambridgeshire: Archaeological Investigation

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	plastic silty clay.
(394)	Lower fill of pit [395]. Dark grey, plastic silty clay.
[395]	Cut of pit [395].
(396)	Fill of pit [397]. Light grey, plastic silty clay.
[397]	Cut of pit [397].
(398)	Fill of pit [399]. Light grey, plastic silty clay.
[399]	Cut of pit [399].
(400)	Fill of pit [401]. Light grey, plastic silty clay.
[401]	Cut of pit [401].
(402)	Fill of pit [403]. Light grey, plastic silty clay.
[403]	Cut of pit [403].
(404)	Fill of pit [405]. Light grey, plastic silty clay.
[405]	Cut of pit [405].
(406)	Fill of pit [407]. Light grey, plastic silty clay.
[407]	Cut of pit [407].
(408)	Fill of pit [409]. Light grey, plastic silty clay.
[409]	Cut of pit [409].
(410)	Fill of pit [411]. Light grey, plastic silty clay.
[411]	Cut of pit [411].
(412)	Fill of posthole [413]. Light grey, plastic silty clay.
[413]	Cut of posthole [413].
(414)	Upper fill of ditch [415]. Light grey, plastic silty clay.
[415]	Cut of ditch [415].

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(416)	Lower fill of ditch [415]. Dark grey, plastic silty clay.
(417)	Fill of shallow ditch/gully [418]. Light grey, plastic silty clay.
[418]	Cut of shallow ditch/gully [418].
(419)	Fill of shallow ditch/gully [418]. Mid-grey, plastic silty clay.
(420)	Fill of shallow ditch/gully [418]. Mid-dark, plastic silty clay.
(421)	Fill of ditch [422]. Light grey, plastic silty clay.
[422]	Cut of ditch [422].
(423)	Fill of ditch [422]. Dark grey, plastic silty clay.
(424)	Fill of pit [425]. Light grey, plastic silty clay.
[425]	Cut of pit [425].
(426)	Fill of ditch [422]. Light grey, plastic silty clay.
(427)	Fill of shallow gully/ditch [428]. Light grey, plastic silty clay.
[428]	Cut of shallow gully/ditch [428].
(429)	Fill of shallow gully/ditch [428]. Light grey, plastic silty clay.
(430)	Fill of ditch [422]. Light grey, plastic silty clay.
(431)	Fill of ditch [422]. Dark grey, plastic silty clay.
(432)	Lower fill of ditch [422]. Dark, grey, plastic silty clay with occasional organics.
(433)	Upper fill of ditch [434]. Light grey, plastic silty clay.
[434]	Cut of ditch [434].

## Land east of Berryfield, March, Cambridgeshire: Archaeological Investigation

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(435)	Middle fill of ditch [434]. Mid-dark grey, plastic silty clay.		
(436)	Lower fill of ditch [434]. Dark grey, plastic silty clay.		
(437)	Fill of pit [438]. Light grey, plastic silty clay.		
[438]	Cut of pit [438].		
(439)	Fill of ditch [434]. Dark grey, plastic silty clay.		
(440)	Upper fill of linear [441]. Light grey, plastic silty clay.		
[441]	Cut of linear [441].		
(442)	Fill of linear [441]. Light grey, plastic silty clay.		
(443)	Fill of ditch [415]. Light grey, plastic silty clay.		
(444)	Fill of ditch [415]. Dark grey, plastic silty clay.		
(445)	Fill of ditch [415]. Mid grey, plastic silty clay.	Animal bones	
(446)	Fill of ditch [415]. Dark grey plastic silty clay.	Animal bones	
(447)	Fill of pit [448]. Light grey, plastic silty clay.		
[448]	Cut of pit [448].		
(449)	Fill of pit [450]. Light grey, plastic silty clay.		
[450]	Cut of pit [450].		
(451)	Fill of pit [452]. Light grey, plastic silty clay.		
[452]	Cut of pit [452].		
(453)	Upper fill of pond [455]. Light grey, plastic silty clay.		Iron Age/Roman
(454)	Lower fill of pond [455]. Dark grey,	Iron Age pottery	Iron Age/Roman

## Land east of Berryfield, March, Cambridgeshire: Archaeological Investigation

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	plastic silty clay with occasional organics.	
[455]	Cut of pond [455].	Iron Age/Roman
(456)	Fill of posthole [457]. Light grey, plastic silty clay.	
[457]	Cut of posthole [457].	
(458)	Fill of ditch [434]. Light grey, plastic silty clay.	
(459)	Fill of ditch [422]. Light grey, plastic silty clay.	
(460)	Fill of ditch [428]. Light grey, plastic silty clay.	
(461)	Fill of pit [462]. Light grey, plastic silty clay.	
[462]	Cut of pit [462].	
(463)	Fill of ditch [441]. Light grey plastic silty clay.	
(464)	Fill of ditch/gully [418]. Light grey plastic silty clay.	
(465)	Fill of ditch [415]. Light grey, plastic silty clay.	
(466)	Fill of ditch/gully [467]. Light grey, plastic silty clay.	
[467]	Cut of ditch/gully [467].	
(468)	Fill of ditch/gully [467]. Mid-grey, plastic silty clay.	
(469)	Fill of ditch/gully [467]. Mid-dark grey, plastic silty clay.	
(470)	Fill of ditch/gully [467]. Dark grey, plastic silty clay.	
(471)	Fill of ditch/gully [467]. Dark grey, plastic silty clay.	
(472)	Fill of ditch/gully [467]. Dark grey, plastic silty clay.	

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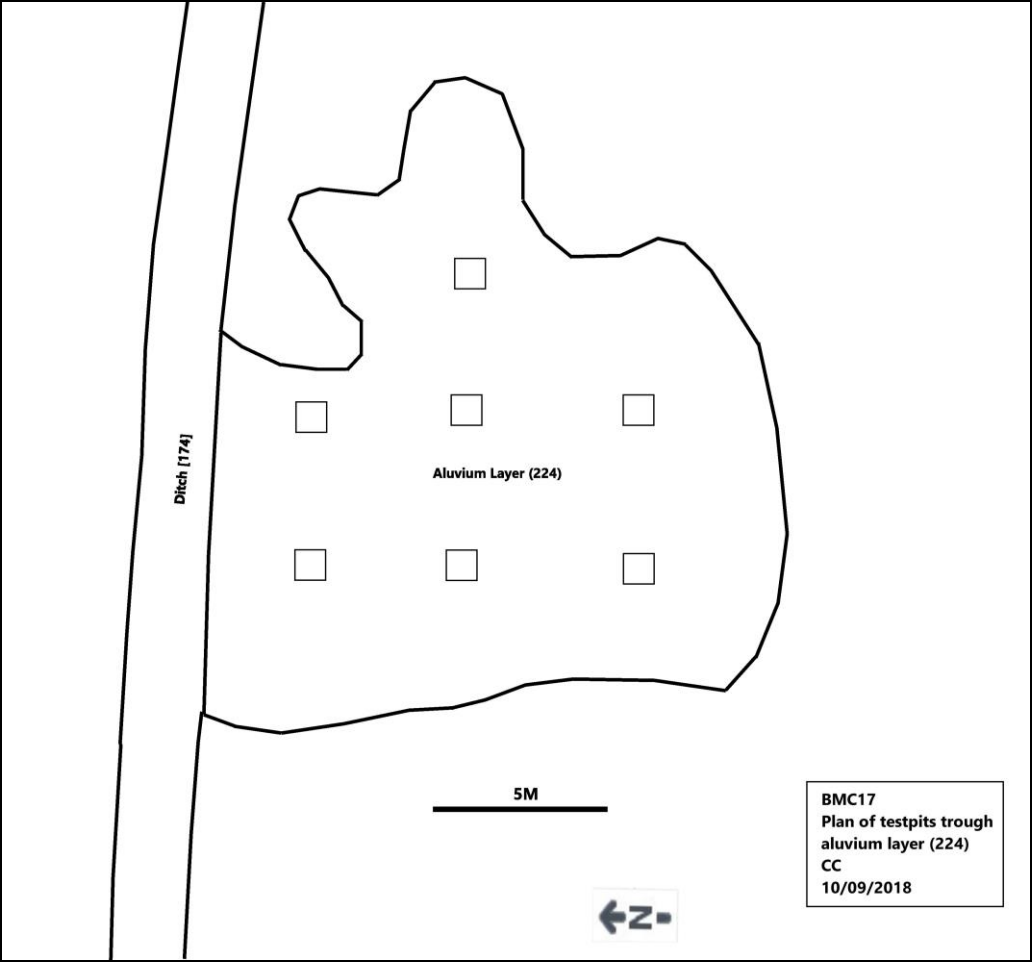
(473)	Fill of ditch/gully [467]. Dark grey plastic silty clay.		
(474)	Fill of ditch/gully [330]. Light grey, plastic silty clay.		
(475)	Fill of ditch/gully [330]. Dark grey, plastic silty clay.		
(476)	Fill of pit [328]. Dark grey, plastic silty clay.		
(477)	Fill of ditch/gully [330]. Light grey, plastic silty clay.		
(478)	Fill of linear [334]. Light grey, plastic silty clay.	Roman pottery	Roman
(479)	Fill of pit [480]. Light grey, plastic silty clay.		
[480]	Cut of pit [480].		
(481)	Upper fill of ditch [482]. Light grey, plastic silty clay.		Roman?
[482]	Cut of ditch [482].		Roman?
(483)	Lower fill of ditch [482]. Mid grey, plastic silty clay.	Roman pottery	Roman?
(484)	Fill of gully/ditch [485]. Dark grey, plastic silty clay.		
[485]	Cut of gully/ditch [485].		
(486)	Fill of gully/ditch [485]. Light grey plastic silty clay.		
(487)	Fill of gully/ditch [488]. Light grey, plastic silty clay.		
[488]	Cut of gully/ditch [488].		
(489)	Fill of pit [490]. Light grey, plastic silty clay.		
[490]	Cut of pit [490].		
(491)	Fill of pit [492]. Light grey, plastic silty clay.		
[492]	Cut of pit [492].		

## Land east of Berryfield, March, Cambridgeshire: Archaeological Investigation

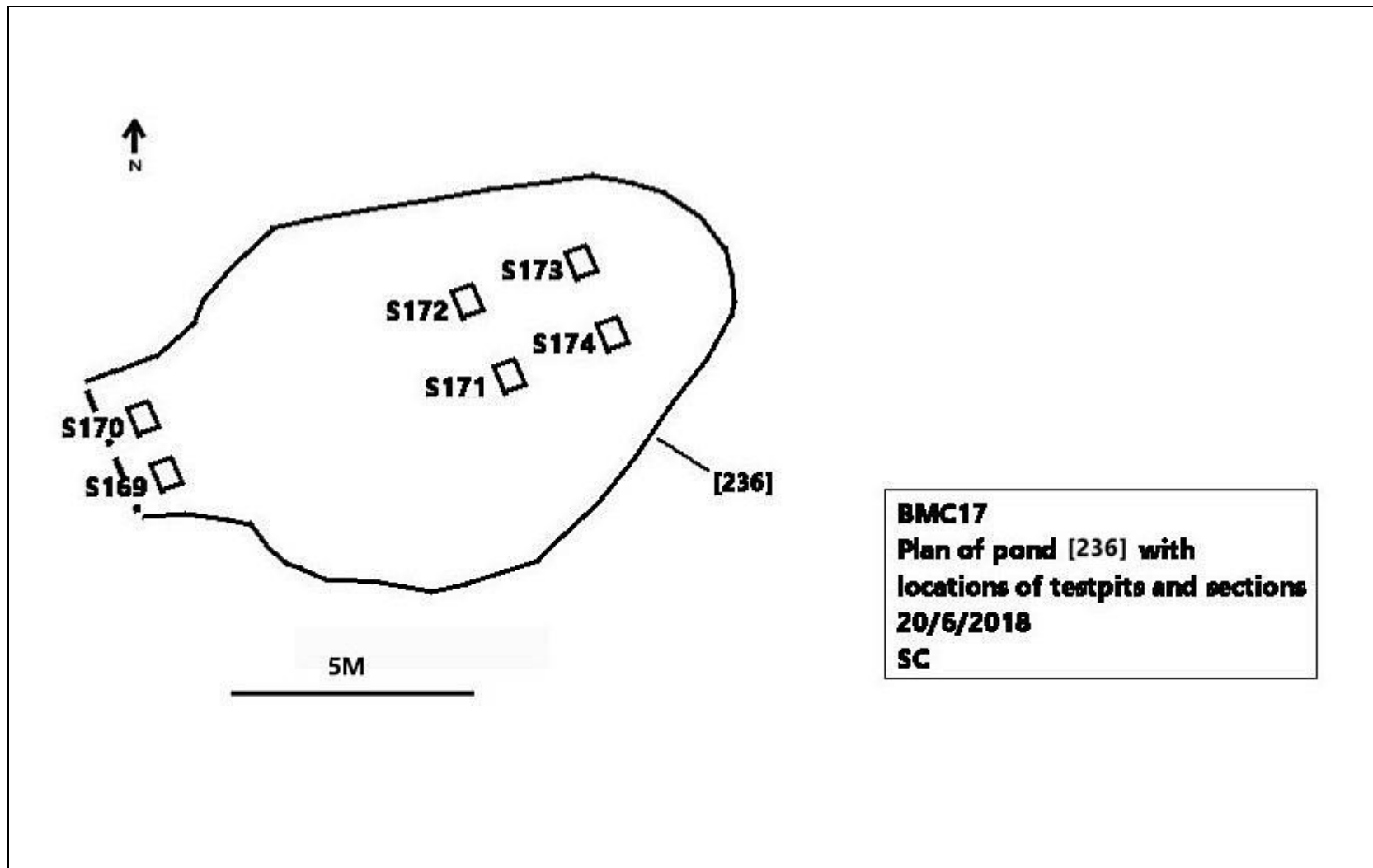
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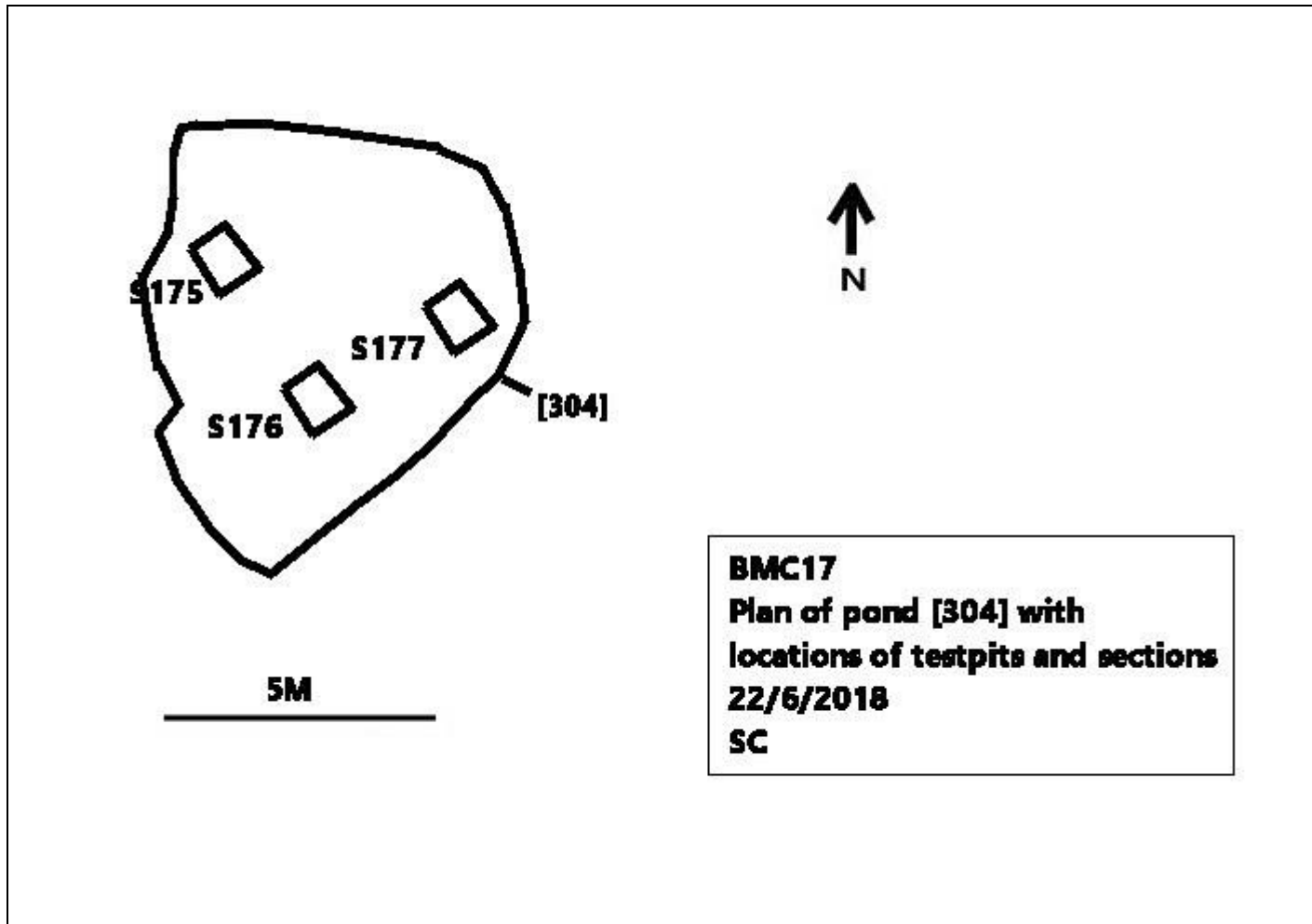
(493)	Fill of pit [494]. Light grey, plastic silty clay.
[494]	Cut of pit [494].
(495)	Fill of ditch [496]. Light grey, plastic silty clay.
[496]	Cut of ditch [496].
(497)	Fill of ditch [496]. Mid-dark grey, plastic silty clay.
(498)	Fill of ditch [496]. Dark grey, plastic silty clay.
(499)	Fill of ditch [500]. Light grey, plastic silty clay.
[500]	Cut of ditch [500].
(501)	Fill of ditch [500]. Light grey, plastic silty clay.
(502)	Fill of ditch [503]. Light grey, plastic silty clay.
[503]	Cut of ditch [503].
(504)	Fill of ditch [503]. Dark grey, plastic silty clay.
(505)	Fill of pit [506]. Light grey, plastic silty clay.
[506]	Cut pit [506].
(507)	Fill of pit [508]. Light grey, plastic, silty clay.
[508]	Cut of pit [508].

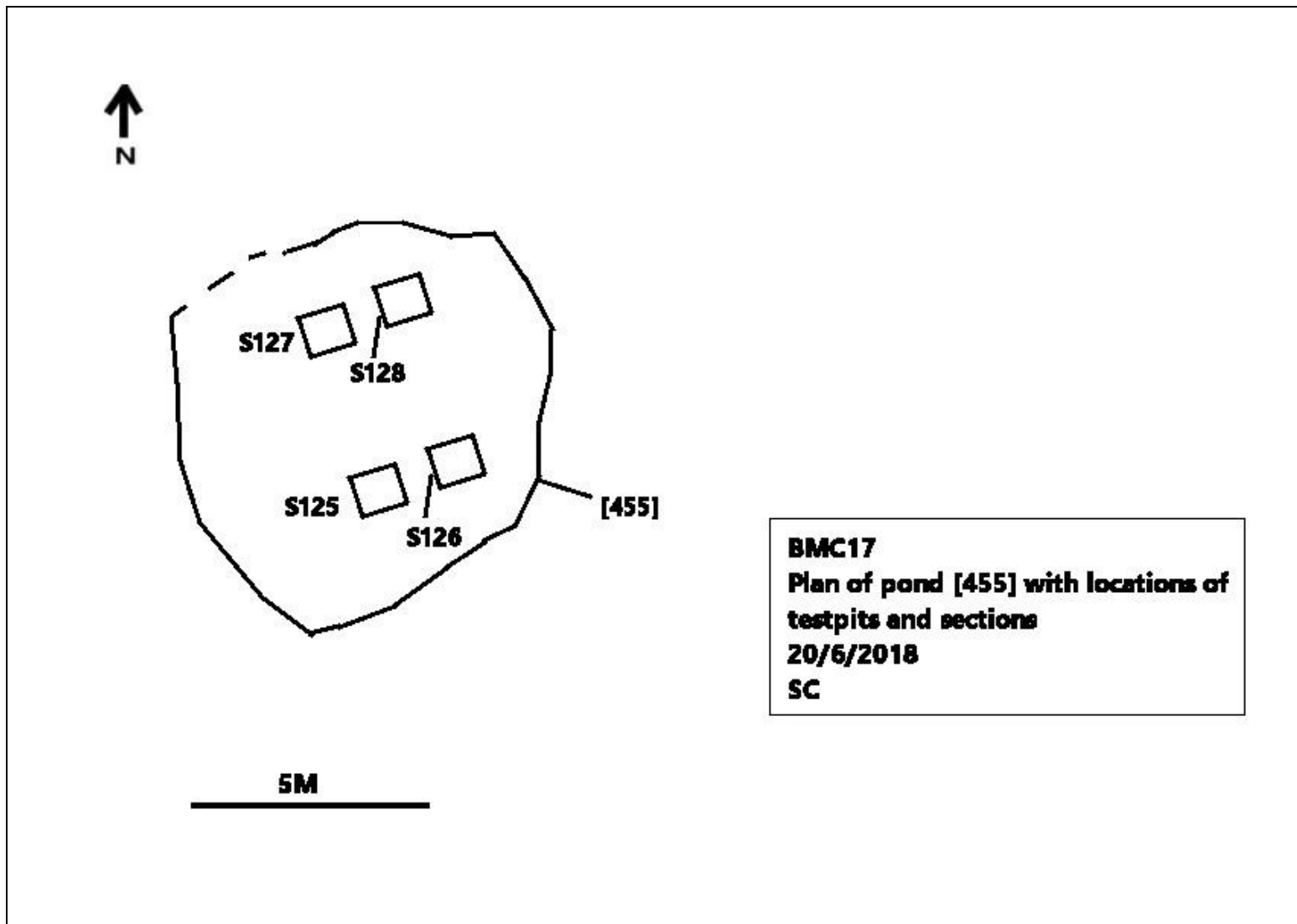
Site Plans of Ponds and Alluvium Layer



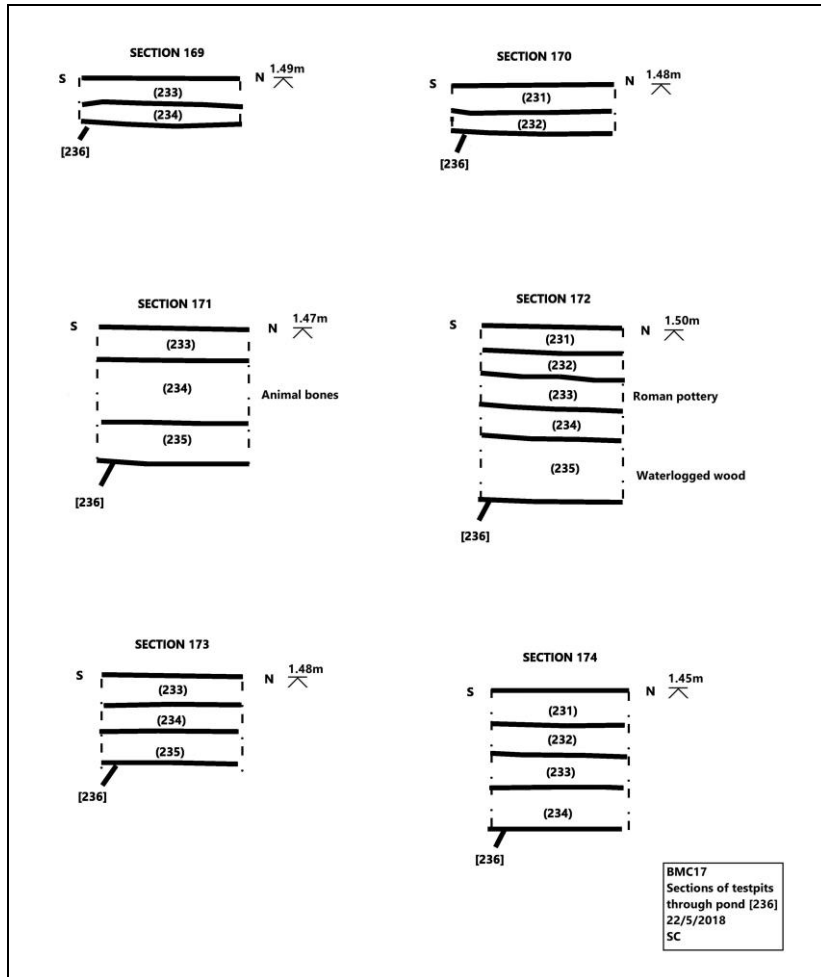


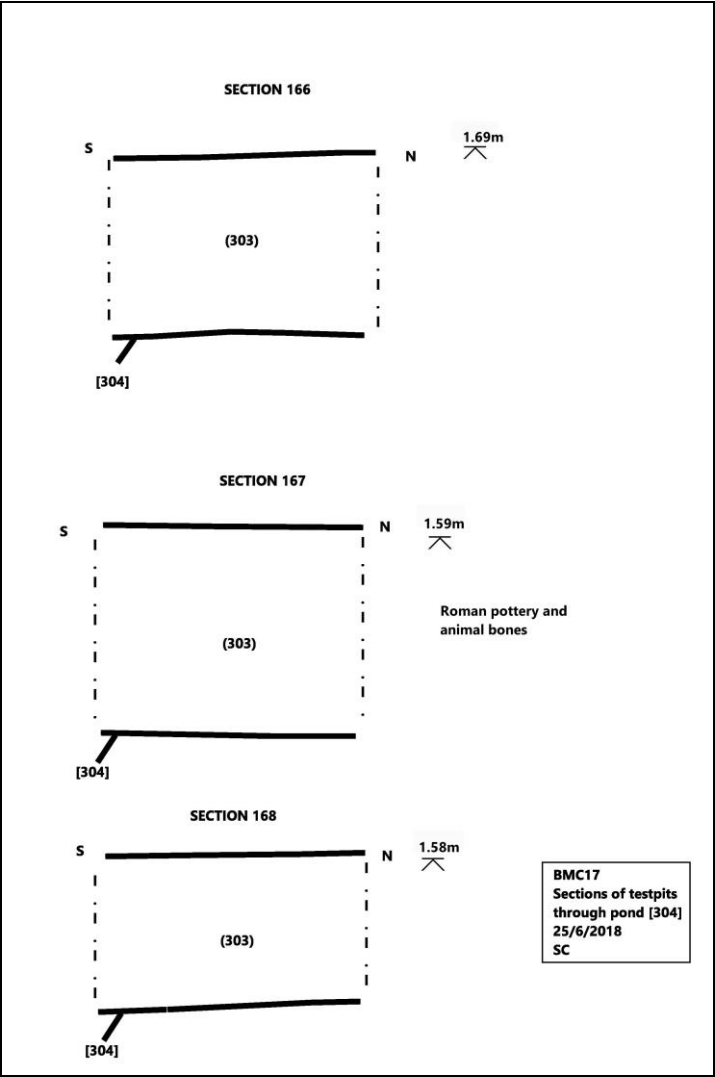


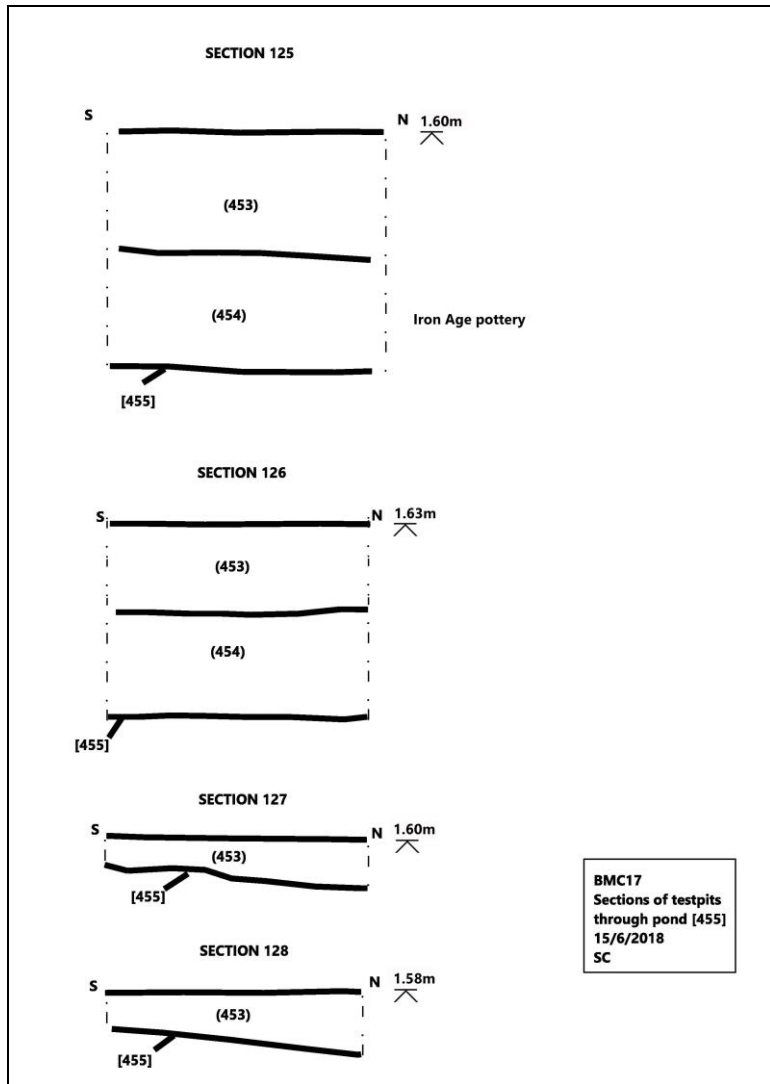




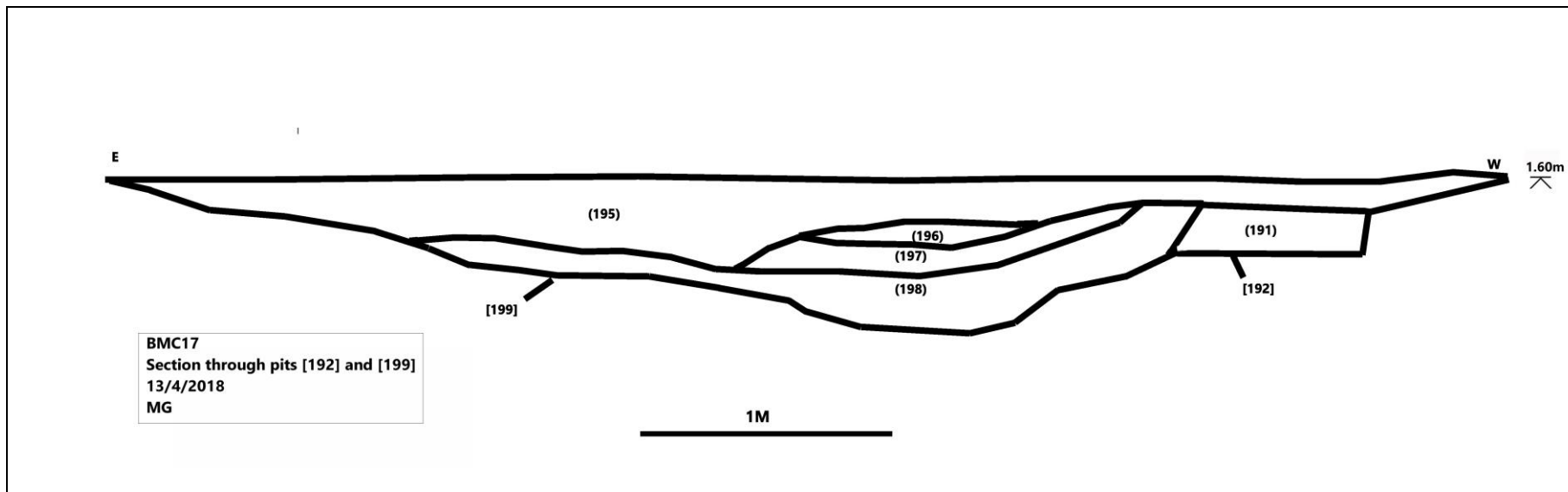
## Sections of Testpits through Ponds

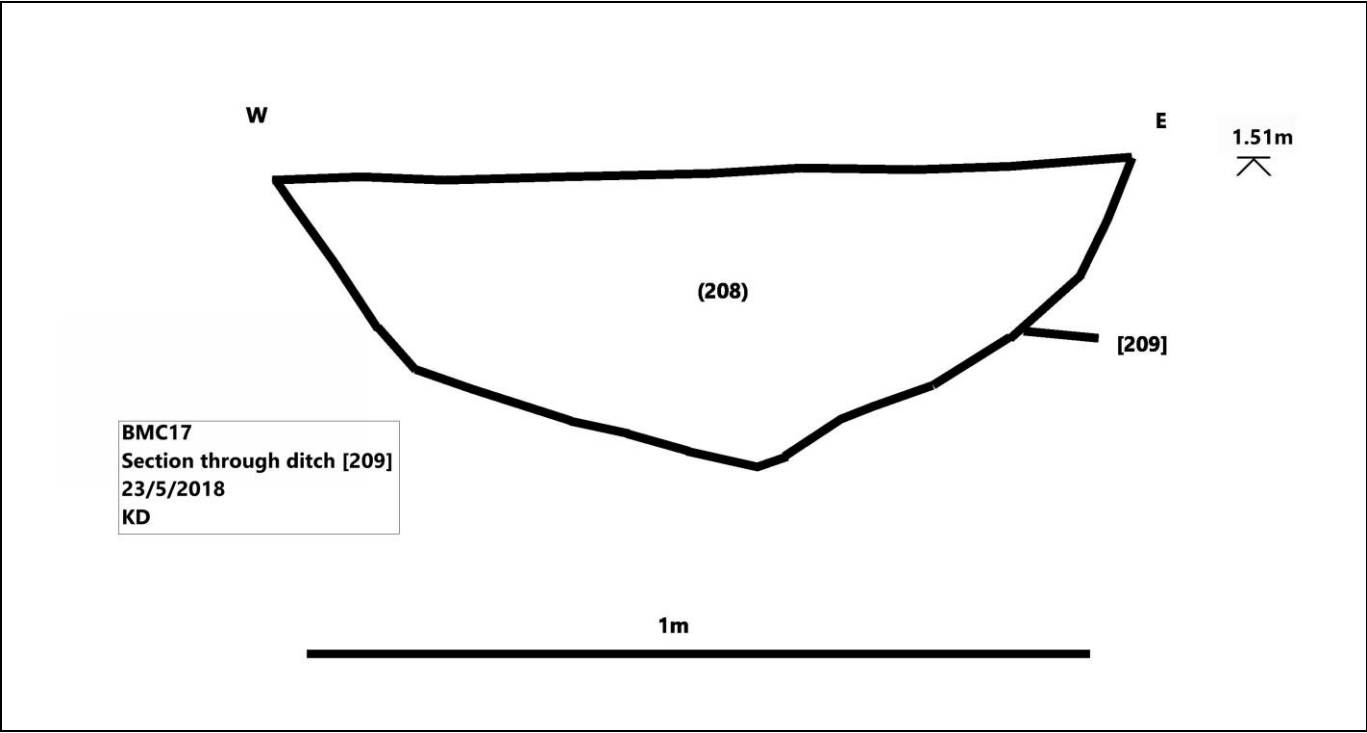






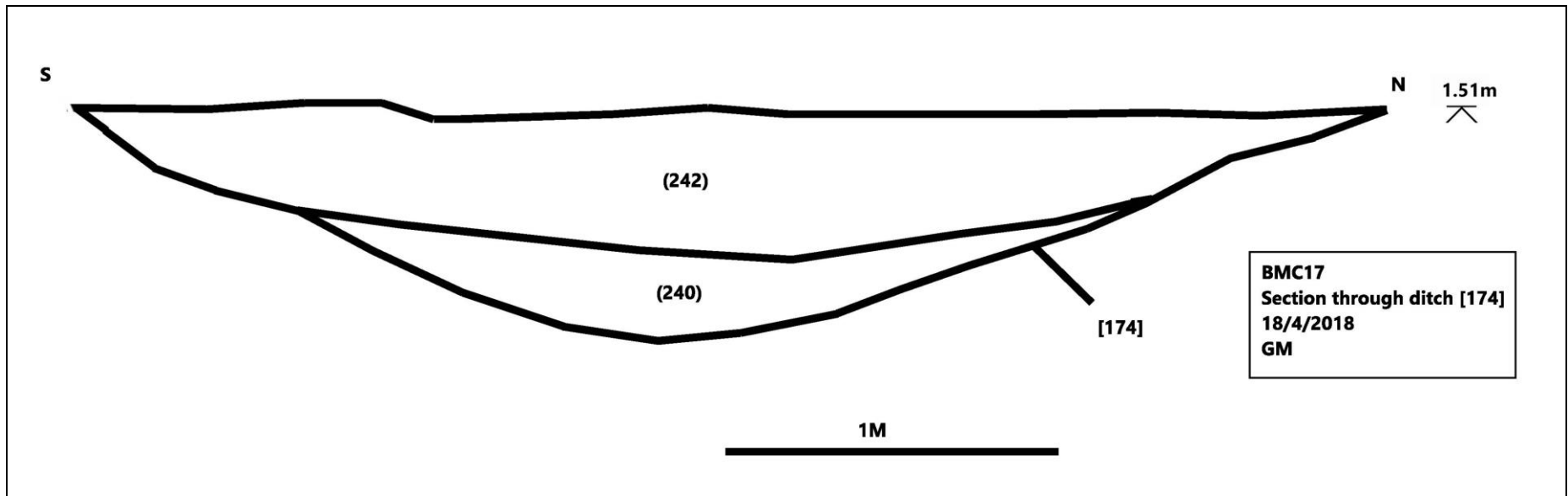
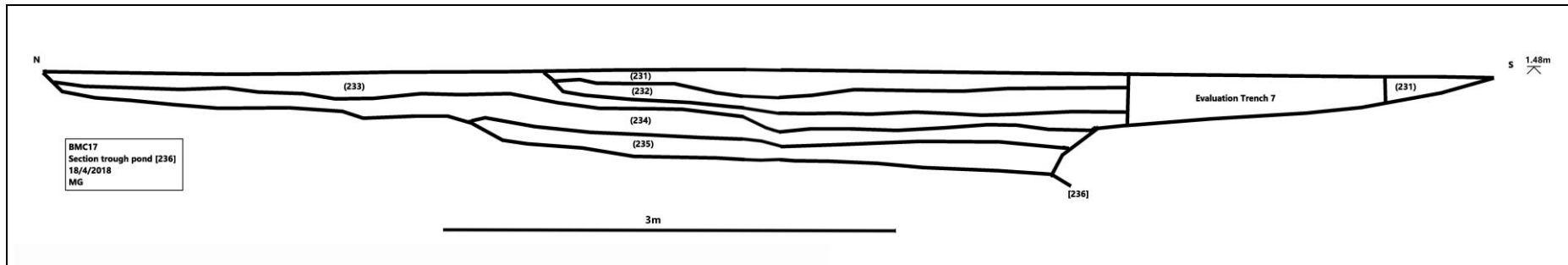
## Sections

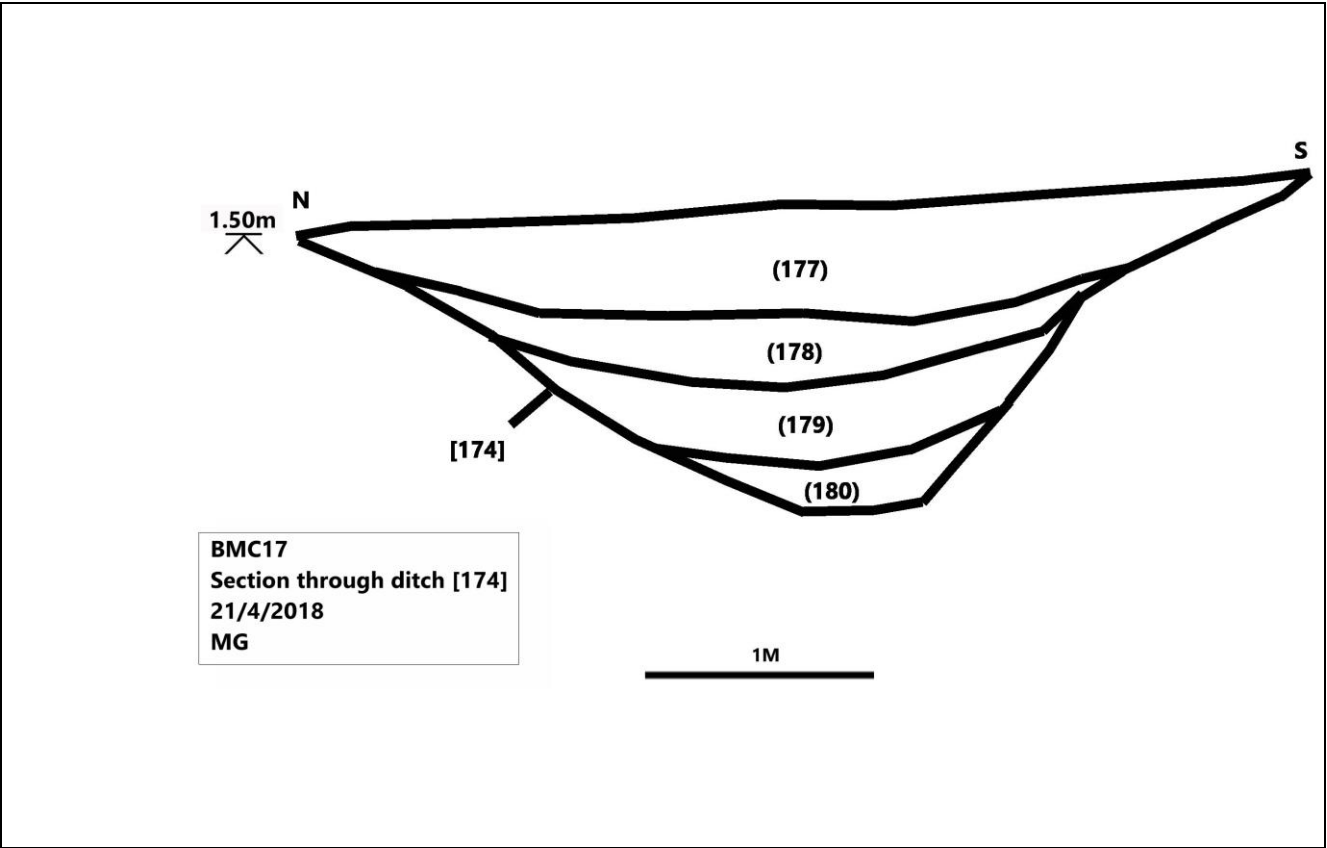


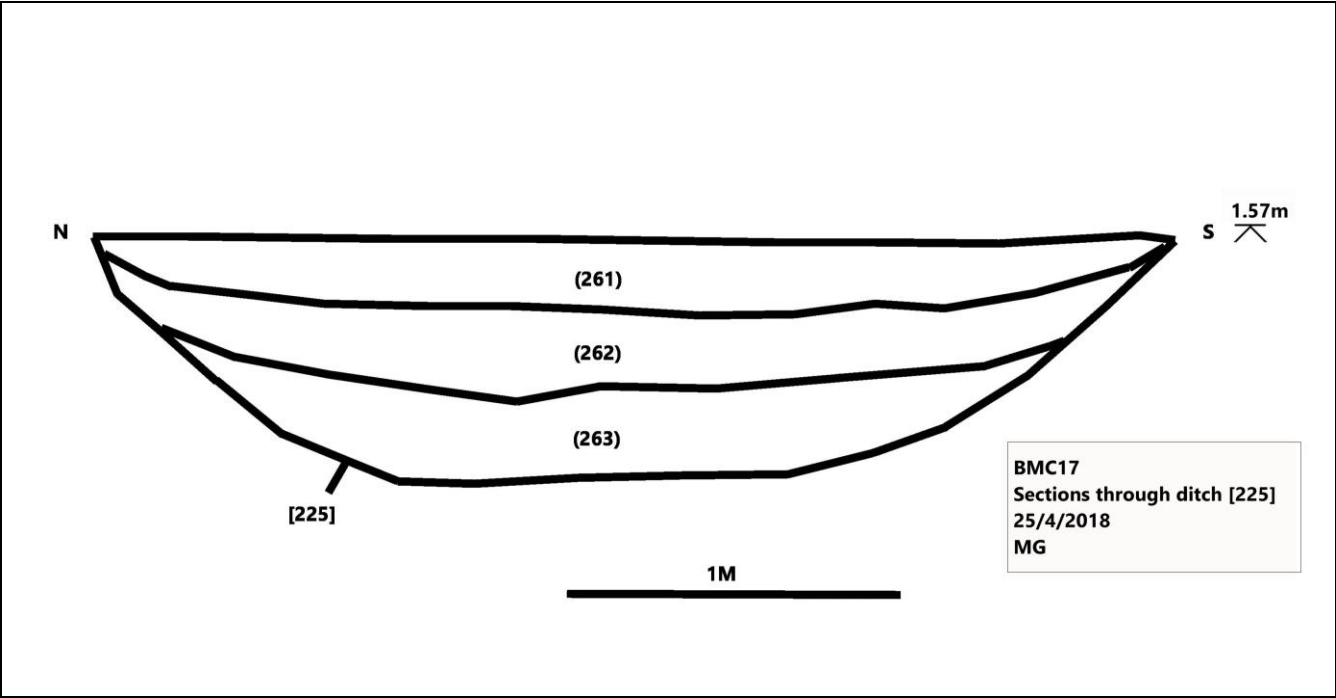




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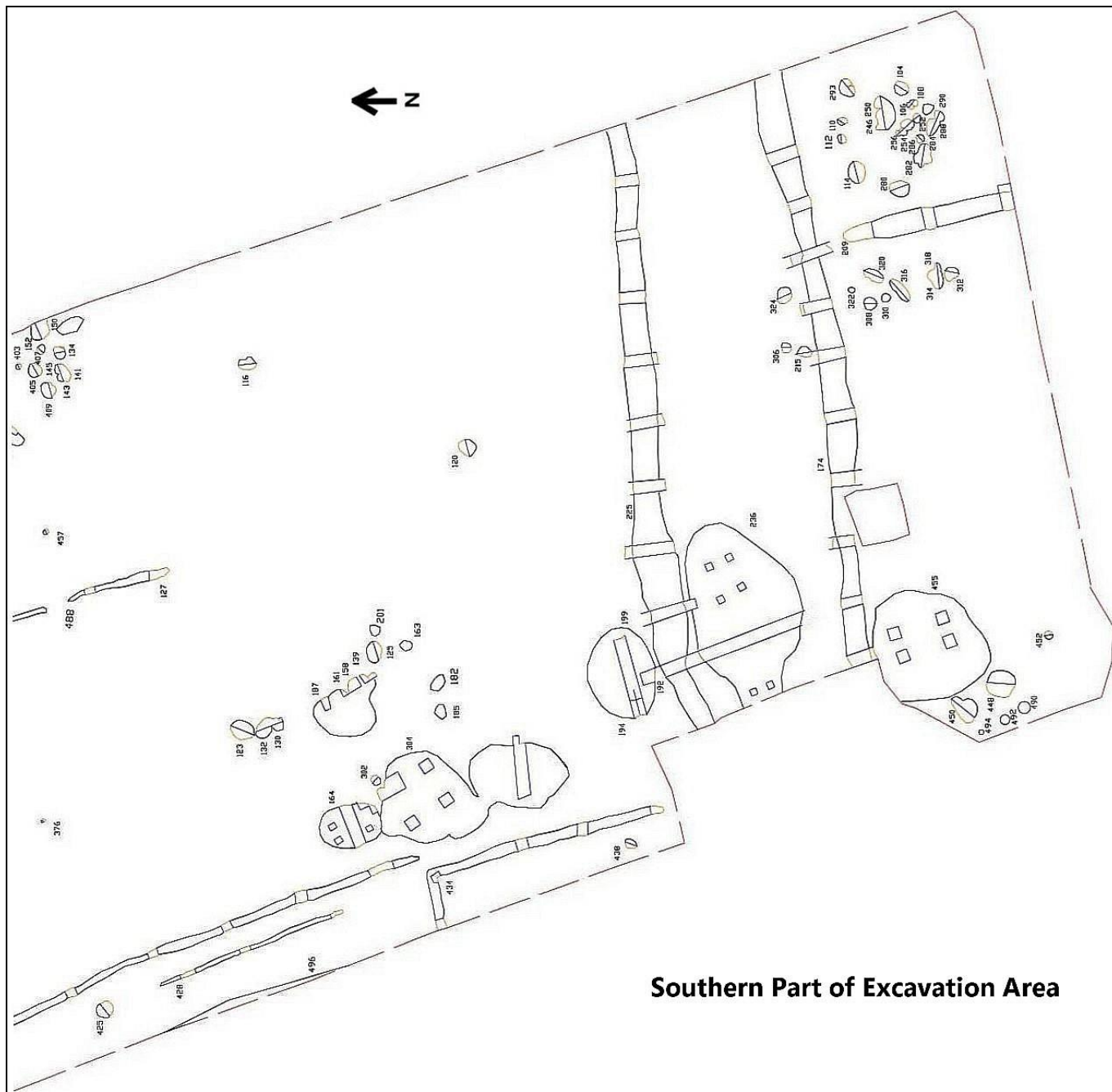






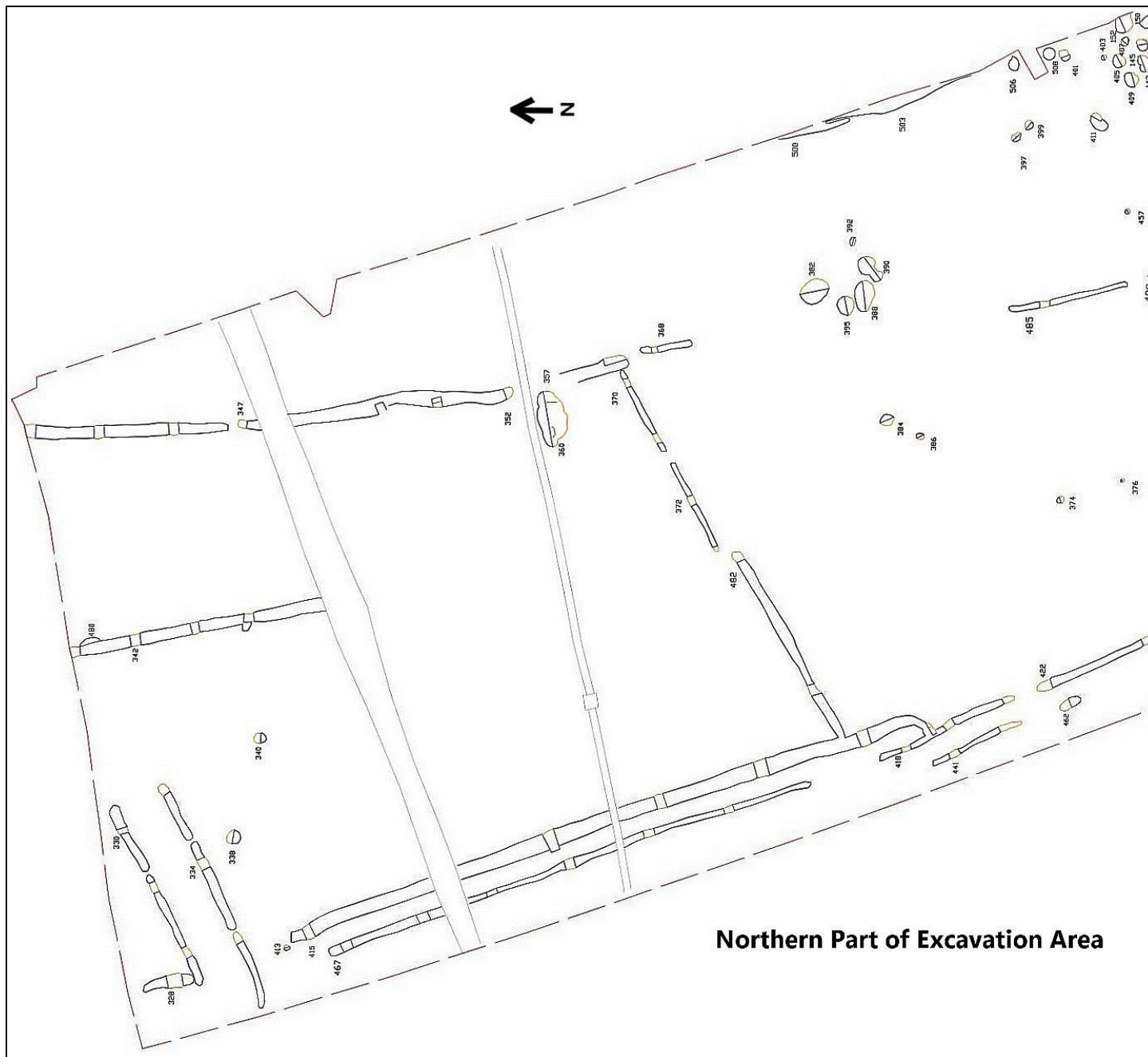


Land east of Berryfield, March, Cambridgeshire: Archaeological Investigation



Southern Part of Excavation Area

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Northern Part of Excavation Area