
ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOLUTIONS LTD

**LAND ADJACENT TO 128 ELM ROAD, MARCH,
CAMBRIDGESHIRE**

AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION

CHER: ECB 3561

Authors: Gareth Barlow (Fieldwork and Report) Andy Peachey (Research)	
NGR: TL 4199 9842	Report No: 3791
District:	Site Code: AS1403
Approved:	Project No: 3806
Signed:	Date: April 2011

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OASIS SUMMARY SHEET

Project details			
Project name	<i>Land adjacent to 128 Elm Road, March, Cambridgeshire</i>		
<p><i>In April 2011 Archaeological Solutions Ltd (AS) conducted an archaeological evaluation at land adjacent to 128 Elm Road, March, Cambridgeshire (NGR TL 4199 9842; Figs. 1-2). The evaluation was conducted in compliance with a planning condition attached to planning approval for construction of eight residential units (Planning ref. F/YR09/0436/0).</i></p> <p><i>Based on the known evidence the site had the potential for prehistoric and Roman remains. The Fen Causeway passes c. 10m south of the development area (Historic Environment No. MCB 15033). It is possible that a Roman settlement extends under the site, as evidenced in 1985 when an investigation by English Heritage to the east revealed Bronze Age, Iron Age and Roman remains.</i></p> <p><i>In the event an undated ditch (F1009 (Tr.1)) and two modern gullies (F1003 = F1005 & F1007) were recorded. Residual abraded Romano-British CBM was found in Gully F1003 (=F1005).</i></p>			
Project dates (fieldwork)	<i>11 – 14 April 2011.</i>		
Previous work (Y/N/?)	<i>N</i>	Future work	
P. number	<i>P3806</i>	Site code	<i>AS1403</i>
Type of project	<i>An archaeological evaluation</i>		
Site status	<i>-</i>		
Current land use	<i>Vacant plot</i>		
Planned development	<i>Residential</i>		
Main features (+dates)	<i>Modern gullies (2) and an undated gully (1)</i>		
Significant finds(+dates)	<i>-</i>		
Project location			
County/ District/ Parish	<i>Cambridgeshire</i>	<i>Fenland</i>	<i>March</i>
HER/ SMR for area	<i>Cambridge Historic Environment Record (CHER)</i>		
Post code (if known)	<i>-</i>		
Area of site	<i>c.1900m2</i>		
NGR	<i>TL 4199 9842</i>		
Height AOD (max/ min)	<i>c.3m AOD</i>		
Project creators			
Brief issued by	<i>Dan McConnell (CAPCA) Cambridgeshire County Council</i>		
Project Officer	<i>Gareth Barlow</i>		
Funded by	<i>James Development Co Ltd</i>		
Full title	<i>Land adjacent to 128 Elm Road, March, Cambridgeshire. An archaeological evaluation</i>		
Authors	<i>Barlow, G., & Peachey, A.</i>		
Report no.	<i>3791</i>		
Date (of report)	<i>April 2011</i>		

LAND ADJACENT TO 128 ELM ROAD, MARCH, CAMBRIDGESHIRE AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION

SUMMARY

In April 2011 Archaeological Solutions Ltd (AS) conducted an archaeological evaluation at land adjacent to 128 Elm Road, March, Cambridgeshire (NGR TL 4199 9842; Figs. 1-2). The evaluation was conducted in compliance with a planning condition attached to planning approval for construction of eight residential units (Planning ref. F/YR09/0436/0).

Based on the known evidence the site had the potential for prehistoric and Roman remains. The Fen Causeway passes c. 10m south of the development area (Historic Environment No. MCB 15033). It is possible that a Roman settlement extends under the site, as evidenced in 1985 when an investigation by English Heritage to the east revealed Bronze Age, Iron Age and Roman remains.

In the event an undated ditch (F1009 (Tr.1)) and two modern gullies (F1003 = F1005 & F1007) were recorded. Residual abraded Romano-British CBM was found in Gully F1003 (=F1005).

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 In April 2011 Archaeological Solutions Ltd (AS) conducted an archaeological evaluation at land adjacent to 128 Elm Road, March, Cambridgeshire (NGR TL 4199 9842; Figs. 1-2). The evaluation was commissioned by James Development Co Ltd and was conducted in compliance with a planning condition attached to planning approval for construction of eight residential units (Planning ref. F/YR09/0436/0).

1.2 The evaluation was carried out in accordance with a brief issued by the Cambridgeshire Archaeology Planning and Countryside Advice, Cambridgeshire County Council (CAPCA) (Dan McConnell) and dated 26/01/2010, and a specification compiled by AS (dated 09/02/2010), and approved by CCC. The documents *Standards for Field Archaeology in the East of England*, East Anglian Archaeology Occasional Paper 14 (Gurney 2003) and the Institute of Archaeologists' (IFA) *Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Evaluations* (1994, revised 2008) were used for guidance.

1.3 The aim of the archaeological evaluation was to determine, as far as was possible, the location, extent, date, character, condition, significance and quality of any surviving archaeological remains liable to be threatened by the proposed development. In addition it was hoped to clarify the nature and extent of existing disturbance and intrusions and hence assess the degree of survival of buried deposits and surviving structures of archaeological significance.

Planning policy

1.4 PPS5 states that those parts of the historic environment that have significance because of their historic, archaeological, architectural or artistic interest are heritage assets. The Planning Policy Statement aims to deliver sustainable development by ensuring that policies and decisions that concern the historic environment recognise that heritage assets are a non-renewable resource, take account of the wider social, cultural, economic and environmental benefits of heritage conservation, and recognise that intelligently managed change may sometimes be necessary if heritage assets are to be maintained for the long term. It aims to conserve England's heritage assets in a manner appropriate to their significance. It states that opportunities to capture evidence from the historic environment and to contribute to our knowledge and understanding of our past, and to make this publicly available, should be taken, particularly where a heritage asset is to be lost.

2 DESCRIPTION OF THE SITE (Figs.1-2)

2.1 The site is located on the northern edge of the town of March in the Fenland district of Cambridgeshire, situated 13km to the south of Wisbech, 10km to the north of Chatteris, and 21km to the north-west of Ely. The town is situated on a long dry-land island, immediately to the south of an area known as the 'silt fen' (Hall 1996). The 'old course', actually on artificial channel, if the River Nene flows through the town c.1.4km to the south of the site, while the Twenty Foot River passes c.1.6km to the north.

2.2 The site is located on the north-west corner of the junction of Elm Road and Dagless Way. Elm Road (B1101), the eastern boundary of the site, forms the principle north-south arterial route through the town, with the A141 passing to the west of March. Dagless Way forms the southern boundary of the site, and the residential development lining this road also bounds the west of the site. Further residential development along Elm Road bounds the north of the site, although industrial buildings are also adjacent to the north-west. The assessment site comprises an approximately rectangular plot of maintained grassland with occasional trees in the northern half of the site. It is not within an archaeological priority area or conservation area as defined by Cambridgeshire County Council.

3 METHODOLOGY (DESK BASED RESEARCH)

Information was sought from a variety of available sources in order to meet the objectives of the assessment.

3.1 Archaeological databases

3.1.1 The standard collation of all known archaeological sites and find spots within Hertfordshire comes from the Cambridgeshire Historic Environment Record (CCC HER). Significant entries within an approximate 1km radius of

the site are listed in Appendix 1 and plotted in Fig. 3. Where relevant, these sites and finds have been discussed in Section 4.2.

3.2 Historical and cartographic sources

3.2.1 The principal sources for this type of evidence were the Cambridgeshire Archives (CA). Relevant documents are listed in Appendix 2.

3.3 Secondary sources

3.3.1 The principal sources of secondary material were the Cambridgeshire Archives, the Fenland Survey (Hall 1987; 1996) as well as AS's own in-house library. Unpublished sources regarding the assessment area, such as previous field evaluation reports and desk-based assessments, have also been consulted. All sources are listed in the bibliography.

3.4 Geological/geotechnical information

3.4.1 A description of the superficial and solid geology of the local and surrounding area was compiled in order to assess the likely presence and potential condition of any archaeological remains on the site. This information was drawn from appropriate maps published by the Geological Survey of Great Britain (BGS 1978) and the Soil Survey of England and Wales (SSEW 1983).

4 THE EVIDENCE

4.1 Topography, Geology & Soils

4.1.1 March is located at the northern end of a long dry-land island in the fenland, described in detail by the Fenland Survey (Hall 1996), and incorporating a chain of settlements that extend as far south as Doddington. The assessment site lies at c.3m AOD and is relatively flat. This part of the island has always appeared to be dry-land, as mapped by the Fenland Survey although it has always been close to sea level with the March Island rising to a maximum height of c.4m AOD and dipping into the surrounding fen at 0m AOD.

4.1.2 The underlying geology of the area comprises Kimmeridge Clay, upon which the March Island is formed from a bed of Boulder Clay overlain by a north-south band of gravels known as the March Gravels (a product of interglacial action). The fen deposits surrounding the island are formed of silt, peat and alluvium.

4.2 Archaeological & Historical Background

Prehistoric

4.2.1 The earliest occupation of the northern part of the March island is poorly-defined by scatters of late Mesolithic/early Neolithic flint focussed on a limited area c.1km to the west (HER MCB18211, ECB2965 and ECB3027). Subsequent evidence of earlier prehistoric activity is limited to sparse earlier Neolithic worked flints recorded in a pit and tree throw c.700m to the north-west (HER 02010), while a Neolithic flaked axe (HER MCB18547) was also recorded c.0.5km to the north in 1973 although the precise location of the find remains unclear.

4.2.2 In contrast, archaeological investigation on the island has begun to realise the large extent of Bronze Age activity and occupation, notably in the Westry and Flaggrass Hill areas close to the west and north of the assessment site respectively. These areas were previously thought to be too low-lying, with settlement focussed on the gravel band running under the modern town, therefore the full extent of settlement and land exploitation in these areas and on the whole island remains unknown. The most extensive early and late Bronze Age archaeology comprising ditches, pits and postholes containing pottery, flint, animal and environmental remains was recorded c.300m to the west in Whitemoor Sidings (HER ECB2014, MCB16673 and MCB16674). Late Bronze Age to middle Iron Age features, including a crouched inhumation burial recorded c.700m to the south-west at the Northern Office, March (HER CB15266 and ECB928) may be related to this settlement, while sparse features recorded adjacent to Estover Road (HER 07936B) less than 100m from the assessment site suggest that Bronze Age activity may extend across the area of the assessment site. Bronze Age occupation including cremations and watering holes have also been recorded further west on Hundred Road (HER MCB18213, ECB2965 and ECB3027), while a fine handled Beaker was recorded c.500m to the south (HER 05924).

4.2.3 Iron Age occupation of the March Island appears to have been reflected by the subsequent Roman settlement pattern, with occupation sites on the west and east sides of the island at Grandford and Flaggrass, notably including a late Iron Age rectilinear enclosure c.100m to the east of the assessment site adjacent to Estover Road (HER 07936A), aligned with a prehistoric track or drove way that preceded the Fen Causeway

Romano-British

4.2.4 The Roman landscape immediately surrounding the assessment site is shaped by the influence of the Fen Causeway, which passes c.10m to the south of the assessment site on an approximately east to west route (HER CB15033). The Roman archaeology of the March island is dominated by three sites: the settlement at Stonea Grange c.5km to the south-east, Grandford where the Fen Causeway leaves the west of the island, and Flaggrass where the Fen Causeway leaves the east of the island, in the vicinity of the assessment site. The Fen Causeway is believed to have

originated as a canal running either side of March island. After it silted up it appears to have been converted to a road with the addition of a metalled surface. Settlement around Flaggrass has been estimated as covering approximately 4.5ha, and includes in the vicinity of the assessment site probable stock enclosures and the possible northern edge of the Fen Causeway (HER 07936 and ECB497) and pottery vessels (HER MCB17742 and MCB17743) c.50m to the east. Evaluation excavations c.10-20m to the south of the assessment site also recorded the Fen Causeway (HER MCB16828 and ECB1929) and noted the northern roadside ditch may be located to the north of their extent, possibly in the area of the assessment site. Extensive Roman agricultural field systems have also been the subject of archaeological investigation c.300-500m to the west, south-west, north-west and north (HER CB15267, MCB16675, 08972 and 08978).

4.2.5 Roman salt production was also a major industrial component surrounding the settlement at Flaggrass, exploiting the saline water that then flowed into the fen, and the availability of peat for fuel. Archaeological investigations c.1km to the north-west have recorded settlement, storage pits and enclosures associated with this industry (HER MCB18546, ECB1437 and ECB3085), while further south on the March island extensive layers of briquetage have been recorded (Roberts 2003).

Medieval

4.2.6 The place name of March suggests Anglo-Saxon origins (Taylor 1973, 51), and although no Saxon archaeology has been recorded on the island, any settlement may be situated under the modern town. Doddington was the main settlement in the area until 1700 (Hall 1992, 55), but it is likely that the course of the River Nene was diverted through the centre of March during the Saxon period, and that a port or *hithe* was situated at the river crossing here, reflected in the 14th century place name of *Marchford*. A small settlement, named *Merc*, is recorded as established at March in the Domesday Survey of 1086.

4.2.7 March was thriving as a trading port by the 13th century, with markets and quays either side of the canalised river, which formed an important route to the major inland port at Yaxley. However field walking has suggested that the main settlement, now a deserted medieval village, may have been located around the medieval manor and church at Knights End on the southern edge of the modern settlement. Elm Road and the assessment site are situated significantly to the north of this settlement in an area that aerial photography suggests is devoid of ridge and furrow cropmarks, and therefore may have been dedicated to the raising of livestock. The earliest taverns and barns in modern March, and the enclosure of land at Knights End suggest the settlement had moved by the early 16th century. Cropmarks of rectilinear enclosures c.250m to the east of the assessment site on Estover Road (HER 09381) and a series of ditches and postholes recorded c.800m to the south-west (HER CB15268) may be related to one of these phases of medieval settlement at March.

Post-medieval

4.2.8 The town grew up as a major centre after c.1700, culminating in it being one of the larger settlements of the area by the 20th century. The arrival of the railway in the 19th century was a catalyst to development of March as centre of this part of the fenland. The bulk of the post-medieval HER entries refer to components of the railway, notably the Whitemoor marshalling yards to the west (HER MCB16676) or religious buildings and funerary structures in the core of modern March.

4.3 Cartographic Sources

Pre-1819 Cartographic Sources

4.3.1 A map of 1630 (Hall 1987) depicts the area of the site on the periphery of the main settlement, in an apparently agricultural area, to the west of 'Easterforth' (Estover). The 1794 Enclosure Map depicts the site as in agricultural use in the western side of Elm Road, a major local thoroughfare, with the remnants of medieval strip field arrangements still partially preserved in the boundaries of the surrounding field patterns.

Ordnance Survey Map, 1819 and the Tithe Map, 1840

4.3.2 The first detailed cartographic survey was undertaken in 1819 by Thomas Yekell for the Ordnance Survey. Elm Road and Flagrass Hill Road can be clearly identified, and the site located as within a single large agricultural field on the western side of Elm Road, substantially to the north of the settlement at March. The Tithe Map of 1840 continues to show the site as within this field arrangement.

Ordnance Survey Maps, 1886, 1900 and 1925, Cambridgeshire Sheet XII.13

4.3.3 The 1886-1925 Ordnance Survey maps do not depict any alterations or developments to the assessment site, which remains part of an elongate field on the western side of Elm Road, but the map does depict the dramatic transformation of the local landscape by the construction of the railway that passes to the south and west of the assessment site, first depicted on the 1886 map. The development of the town of March in the vicinity is limited to the construction of residential properties along Norwich Road to the south, and by 1925 the first properties on Highfield Road, but the assessment site remained as agricultural land into the mid 20th century.

5 METHODOLOGY (TRIAL TRENCH EVALUATION)

5.1 Four trenches (each 12 x 1.60m) were mechanically-excavated using a mechanical excavator fitted with a smooth bladed ditching bucket, under the close supervision of an Archaeological Project Officer (Fig.2). The topsoil and subsoil were removed by machine, thereafter all further investigation was undertaken by hand.

5.2 Exposed surfaces were cleaned as appropriate and examined for archaeological features and finds. Deposits were recorded using *pro forma* record sheets, drawn to scale and photographed. The soil heaps were scanned for finds and metal detected.

6 DESCRIPTION OF RESULTS

Individual trench descriptions are presented below:

Trench 1 Fig.3

<i>Sample Section 1; centre, north facing</i> <i>0.00 = 3.75m AOD</i>		
0.00 – 0.16m	L1011	Made Ground. Gravel
0.16 – 0.30m	L1012	Made Ground. Tarmac
0.30 – 0.65m	L1001	Subsoil. Pale orange, firm, silty clay with occasional small & medium subangular flint.
0.65m+	L1002	Natural. Mid orange brown, firm, silty clay with occasional small & subangular flint.

Description: Trench 1 contained undated Ditch F1009.

Ditch F1009 was linear in plan (1.60m+ x 0.46 x 0.28m) orientated NE/SW. It had steep sides and a concave base. Its fill, L1010, was a mid orange grey, friable, silty clay. It contained no finds.

Trench 2 Fig.3

<i>Sample Section 2; centre, east facing</i> <i>0.00 = 3.58m AOD</i>		
0.00 – 0.30m	L1000	Topsoil. Mid grey brown, firm, clayey silt with occasional small & medium subangular flint
0.30 – 0.40m	L1001	Subsoil. As above, Tr.1.
0.40m+	L1002	Natural. As above, Tr.1

Description: Trench 2 contained no archaeological features or finds.

Trench 3 Fig.3

<i>Sample Section 3; centre, west facing</i> <i>0.00 = 3.51m AOD</i>		
0.00 – 0.40m	L1000	Topsoil. As above, Tr.2.
0.40 – 0.48m	L1001	Subsoil. As above, Tr.1
0.48m+	L1002	Natural. As above, Tr.1.

Description: Trench 3 contained Gullies F1005 & F1007.

Gully F1005 was linear in plan (1.60+ x 0.43 x 0.25m) orientated E/W. It had steep sides and a concave base. Its fill, L1006, was mid grey brown, firm, clayey silt. It contained late 18th – 19th C pottery (1g) and abraded Romano-British CBM (42g). F1005 likely equals Gully F1003 (Tr.4)

Gully F1007 was linear in plan (1.60+ x 0.27 x 0.17m) orientated E/W. It had steep sides and a concave base. Its fill, L1008, was dark/mid grey brown, firm, clayey silt. It contained no finds, but was probably modern. F1007 was parallel to Gully F1005.

Trench 4 Fig.3

<i>Sample Section 4; centre, south facing</i> <i>0.00 = 3.55m AOD</i>		
0.00 – 0.33m	L1000	Topsoil. As above, Tr.2.
0.33m+	L1002	Natural. As above, Tr.1.

Description: Trench 4 contained Gully F1003

Gully F1003 was linear in plan (3.75 x 0.33 x 0.23m) orientated E/W. It had steep sides and a concave base. Its fill, L1004, was a mid grey brown, firm, clayey silt with occasional small and medium sub angular flint and lenses of re-deposited natural. It contained abraded Romano-British CBM (94g) and burnt flint (7g). F1003 likely equals Gully F1005 (Tr.3). The latter was modern.

7 CONFIDENCE RATING

7.1 It is not felt that any factors inhibited the recognition of archaeological features and finds.

8 DEPOSIT MODEL

8.1 Where the site was undisturbed (Tr.2 & 3) Topsoil L1000 was uppermost, and comprised a mid grey brown, firm, clayey silt with occasional small & medium subangular flint (0.30-0.40m thick). L1000 overlay Subsoil L1001, a pale orange, firm, silty clay with occasional small & medium subangular flint (0.08- 0.35m thick). In Trench 1 Made Ground, L1011 & L1012, overlay Subsoil L1001, and in Trench 4 the topsoil directly overlay the natural.

8.2 At the base of the stratigraphic sequence was Natural Drift Geology L1002, and it comprised a mid orange brown, firm, silty clay with occasional small & subangular flint.

9 DISCUSSION

9.1 Features were recorded in Trenches 1, 3 and 4:

Trench	Context	Description	Spot Date
1	F1009	Ditch	Undated
3	F1005 = F1003	Gully	Modern
	F1007	Gully	?Modern
4	F1003 = F1005	Gully	?Modern

9.2 Based on the known evidence the site had the potential for prehistoric and Roman remains. The Fen Causeway passes c. 10m south of the development area (Historic Environment No. MCB 15033). It is possible that a Roman settlement extends under the site, as evidenced in 1985 when an investigation by English Heritage to the east revealed Bronze Age, Iron Age and Roman remains.

9.3 In the event an undated ditch (F1009 (Tr.1)) and two modern gullies (F1003 = F1005 & F1007) were recorded. Residual abraded Romano-British CBM was found in Gully F1003 (=F1005).

ARCHIVE DEPOSITION

Archive records, with an inventory, will be deposited with the finds from the site at the Cambridgeshire County Archaeology Store. The archive will be quantified, ordered, indexed, cross-referenced and checked for internal consistency. In addition to the overall site summary, it will be necessary to produce a summary of the artefactual and ecofactual data.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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APPENDIX 1 SITES AND MONUMENTS RECORD DATA

The following sites are those that lie within a 1km radius of the assessment site. The table has been compiled from data held by the Cambridgeshire County Council Historic Environment Record (CCC HER).

HER	NGR SP	Description
Prehistoric		
<i>Mesolithic</i>		
MCB18211	TL 4099 9847	Late Mesolithic/early Neolithic activity, Hundred Road, March. A small lithic assemblage was recovered from the top soil and later features during evaluation. No clear concentrations were evident, but a significant later Mesolithic/early Neolithic component to the assemblage indicates activity in the vicinity. Further to previous evaluation, an area excavation was undertaken on land at March Highways depot. The most extensive remains dated to the Bronze Age period (see MCB18212) but an assemblage including 58 residual worked flints was recovered from across the site.
<i>Neolithic</i>		
02010	TL 42 99	Neolithic axe find, Hundred Road, March. A flaked flint axe found in 1973 near the old Roman Causeway, Hundred Road, March; Length 17.3cm, maximum width 4.5cms. Presented by H Brighty 23/07/1977.
MCB18547	TL 4155 9916	Neolithic pit, Foundry Way, March. An archaeological excavation undertaken at land south of Foundry Way, March revealed a number of features of early Roman date. 16 later prehistoric worked flints were also found, several grouped together in a tree throw and also in a small pit to the very southern end of the site, which suggests that there is a level of background Neolithic occupation and further Neolithic activity may be present south of the excavation area.
<i>Bronze Age</i>		
05924	TL 418 979	Bronze Age urn, March. Small urn with one handle, found just N of March station. Elaborately decorated with cross-hatchings, oblong hexagonal compartments, and a broad zigzag around the lower part. Found with other pottery in the ballast pit worked at the time of the construction of the Peterborough and Ely branch of the Great Eastern Railway. Not found in gravel, but in the overlying soil. Compact, well wrought ware, light-brown in colour. A BA, single-handled beaker was found "some years" prior to 1862. Listed by Clarke as a Handled Southern beaker (Group SH2 (B)). Sketch on PRC.
07936B	TL 421 984	Bronze Age features, Estover Road. A few middle to late Iron Age and BA features were revealed, but insufficient to suggest the presence of any substantial prehistoric site.

08459	TL 4210 9932	Bronze Age flint scatter, March. This site is on the fen edge. Ref MCH S38.
MCB16673	TL 4145 9838	Early Bronze Age remains, Whitemoor sidings, March. A programme of evaluation, mitigation excavation and monitoring were undertaken in advance of and during the redevelopment of the former marshalling yard. Although the construction and use of the marshalling yards had truncated much of the site, three areas of surviving archaeological remains were identified and investigated. A number of Early Bronze Age features were identified in a trench in area 9, which was subsequently expanded to allow area excavation. The remains are characterised by ditches, small shallow pits and postholes, containing small quantities of early Bronze Age pottery, a couple of thumbnail scrapers and several flint flakes. The pottery assemblage includes fragments from a small collared urn and two beakers with incised decoration. The abraded nature of the pottery suggests it have been redeposited. The former extent of the remains was not ascertained owing to high levels of disturbance in the surrounding area.
MCB16674	TL 4154 9868	Late Bronze Age remains, Whitemoor sidings, March. A programme of evaluation, mitigation excavation and monitoring were undertaken in advance of and during the redevelopment of the former marshalling yard. Although the construction and use of the marshalling yards had truncated much of the site, three areas of surviving archaeological remains were identified and investigated. A considerable number of Late Bronze Age features were identified within area 4, which was subsequently investigated with area excavation. The remains comprise a line of three large pits on a E-W alignment, containing Late Bronze pottery, flint flakes and burnt stone. The central pit contained a sequence of organic rich fills, containing burnt animal and fish bone, along with charred cereals, weed seed and nut fragments. Two groups of postholes were identified in proximity to the pit alignment, and a further two intercutting pits occurred to the south, one containing late Bronze Age pottery and a complete loom weight. Another group of small pits and a posthole were identified to the north of the alignment. A substantial ditch and two sections of gully were recorded in the vicinity of the pits and postholes, although no relationships between the features could be established, and these are interpreted as probably boundary features. No clear evidence was provided for the function of the pits, and possible interpretations include wells that were later used as refuse pits, or cooking pits.
CB15266	TL 41556 97726	Prehistoric and undated features, Northern Office, March. Evaluation of the site revealed a number of

		<p>archaeological features. Firstly a series of ditches on three main alignments, which may represent three phases of activity, or alternatively different functions for each group. A pair post holes were also found adjacent to one of the ditches. No finds were recovered from these features, suggesting a prehistoric date. A 19th-20th century ditch and pit were also identified, the latter possibly a back-filled gravel pit. A phase of excavation was carried out to further investigate the site. A number of features dating to the Late Bronze Age-Mid Iron Age were recorded, including a crouched inhumation in the southern part of the site. A series of ditches and gullies were found aligned on a NNE/SSW axis, together with two undated parallel ditches traversing the site. It is unlikely that these would have facilitated drainage, so it is suggested that these might have been part of agricultural enclosures or droveways. A series of undated features may also belong to this phase of activity. The presence of Bronze Age to Middle Iron Age remains on the site, situated on March island gravels, suggests that settlement and field systems were not limited to the Fen edge.</p>
MCB18213	TL 4099 9849	<p>Prehistoric and Roman remains, Hundred Road, March. An evaluation revealed at least two phases of field system in the eastern part of the proposed development area, including a truncated pre-Roman field system thought to be of Bronze Age date. A number of closely spaced linear features were recorded in the northern part of area 2, interpreted as a system of cultivation trenches, possibly associated with intensive Romano-British horticulture. Also a four-post structure and pit were also recorded, providing some evidence for prehistoric activity in this area of the site. Further to previous evaluation, an area excavation was undertaken on land at March Highway s depot. The most extensive remains dated to the Bronze Age period (see MCB18212) but further investigation of the field system and cultivation beds dating to the Roman period was undertaken.</p>
ECB928	TL 41571 97718	<p>Excavation at Northern County Offices, March, 2002. Following evaluation in 2001, an open area excavation was carried out. A series of features relating to occupation in the Late Bronze Age through to Medieval periods was identified.</p>
ECB2014	TL 41487 98638	<p>Evaluation and monitoring at Whitemoor Sidings, March. A programme of evaluation, mitigation excavation and monitoring were undertaken in advance of and during the redevelopment of the former marshalling yard. Although the construction and use of the marshalling yards had truncated much of the site, three areas of surviving archaeological</p>

		remains were identified and investigated. The first, of Early Bronze Age, was characterised by shallow ditches, pits and post holes. A second featured a series of large pits, post holes and gullies, indicative of Late Bronze Age settlement in the vicinity, and the third was a field system, of probable Roman date. No evidence of the Fen Causeway was identified in any of the trenches.
ECB2965	TL 40892 98465	Evaluation at Trading Park, Hundred Road, March, 2008. A total of nineteen trenches were excavated to evaluate the site in advance of the proposed construction of a highways depot and waste transfer station. Evidence for Late Mesolithic/early Neolithic activity was demonstrated through the recovery for flint artefacts from the top soil and in secondary contexts. A dense concentration of Bronze Age features, comprising watering holes, pits, urned cremations and land enclosures was identified in the NW area of the site. In contrast evidence for a Roman field system and cultivation pits was recorded in the eastern half of the site, which aligned perpendicular with the Fen Causeway. A small number of prehistoric post holes, pits and a truncated field system were also identified.
ECB3027	TL 40892 98465	Excavation at Highways Depot, Hundred Road, March. Further to previous evaluation, an area excavation totalling 2.2ha was undertaken on land at March Highways depot, prior to development. Archaeological evidence from the Mesolithic to the post medieval period was recorded. The most extensive remains dated to the Bronze Age period and included a sequence of large watering holes and pits to the northern western part of the site, seven cremations, a post built structure, a ring gully and linear gullies. A series of enclosures were recorded across the site, dating from the Roman period. A substantial boundary ditch dating to the Roman period was also located running around the area of the watering holes.
<i>Iron Age</i>		
07936A	TL 421 984	Late Iron Age remains, Estover Road. The enclosures exhibit a precise rectilinear lay out, which is aligned on the trackway, not the Roman road. Therefore, they are probably pre-causeway , i.e. very early Roman or more likely late Iron Age and continued in use into the Roman period, when some additions were made. There is no indication of a contemporary domestic settlement in the enclosures. The latter are more likely stock enclosures than arable fields. There are signs of some industrial activity. A small quantity of pottery was recovered from the backfilled ditches ... of coarse local fabrics, of late Iron Age or early Roman date. See also RN 07936 Roman details and RN 07936b

		Iron Age /BA details
<i>Other non-determinate prehistoric</i>		
CB15633	TL 42281 97560	Prehistoric ditches and pits, Creek Road, March. Seventeen trenches were excavated to evaluate the 4ha site, nine of which were found to contain archaeological remains. These comprised ditches and two pits, none of which contained any datable finds. An alluvial sequence interrupted by a peat formation episode was observed in area 1, and it is evident that some of the ditches predate this inundation, and are thus likely to be prehistoric, and others post date it.
Roman		
06001	TL 42 99	Roman inhumation, March. In a field at March (Cambs), 14 year old Janet Frost of Robin Goodfellow's Lane, March, has unearthed treasures which have excited the archaeologists. When Mr. Harry Smith decided to plough up his grass field at Flaggrass Hill - for the first time in living memory - Janet, who is a keen student of archaeology, in spite of her youth, decided to investigate. She had always viewed the mounds in the field with interest, wondering why they were there. Hearing that a plough had unearthed what appeared to be part of a Roman burial urn, she called in 13 year old Joan Harvey and using tools which included a small trowel and a dessert spoon, they began to excavate. Their discoveries suggest they have uncovered a Roman burial ground or camp. Among the discoveries are bone instruments believed to have been used by the Roman in making footwear; early Roman pottery; silver and copper coins; and a skeleton, believed to be that of a Roman soldier. Janet, who is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. F Frost, and a March High School girl, turned up her first "finds" on her 14th birthday. "My best birthday present," she said.". From an examination, the field might be either at TL/4211/9905 or at TL/4231/9890; more probably the latter as that appears to have some irregularity of surface.
07936	TL 421 984	Roman enclosures, Estover Road. An unploughed earthwork site, covering c 4Ha. Fourteen trenches and small areas were machine-stripped, and revealed features sampled. Conclusions: The Fen Causeway was later than the trackway. Provisionally, the Roman road is at this point early, probably C1 AD. The enclosures exhibit a precise rectilinear lay out, which is aligned on the trackway , not the Roman road. Therefore, they are probably pre-causeway , i .e. very early Roman or more likely late IA, and continued in use into the Roman period, when some additions were made. There is no indication of a contemporary domestic settlement in the enclosures. The latter are more likely stock

		enclosures than arable fields. There are signs of some industrial activity. A small quantity of pottery was recovered from the backfilled ditches... of coarse local fabrics, of late Iron Age or early Roman date. An isolated unaccompanied burial was also located ... its location, immediately next to the Roman road ditch, is the only clue to its date, and suggests it is one of the isolated rural burials frequently placed along field boundaries in the Roman period. Enclosures, settlement or fields on gravelly boulder clay. Fenland Survey ref MAR S28, record no 462.R2, R3, TL/422-/984.Earthwork enclosures lying N of (? and modified by course of) Fen Causeway. Road runs E to field system between this site and Flaggrass. Ditches of field system suggest change of plan - two phases apparent in parts.(R Palmer 04/10/1989).See also RN 07936a - Iron Age and RN 07936b - Iron Age / BA.
08445	TL 4185 9939	Roman salt works, March. Area of dark occupation with sherds (early C3 -late C4). Saltern not seen but sherds collected. Cropmark to N. Ref MCH S27. Record no 461.See also RN 08444 - small Roman site in the area 06016 - cropmark site and excavation
08972	TL 416 989	Ditches and enclosure, March. Parallel ditches heading N from three sides of a rectilinear enclosure towards an area of cropmarks and finds of Romano-British date.(T Malim 08/11/1988, NMR AP TL4199/2/301 used for sketch).O1, TL/418-/991-, Wide spaced double ditched lane leading towards area of Fenland Survey site MAR 27 (Potter excavation). Lies in area of polygons but there are other features which align on it. Suspect, but probably archaeological.(R Palmer 04/10/1989, sketched but this sketch not on CCC overlay). Incomplete enclosures and linear features as cropmarks to W. Sketch plotted on to 1:10,000 overlay in pencil. (BRC --/08/1994).See RN 06016 - Roman site nearby.
08978	TL 423 993	Romano-British agricultural remains, March. Romano-British agriculture (lanes, streams, field boundaries). (A Spedding 14/05/1984, CUCAP APs ACL 13, 15 used). Extensive field system of rectilinear ditches and curvilinear tracks and a group of neat ditches in the north west forming a rectangular enclosure with rounded corners. Old watercourses can also be seen, but were not plotted. It seems possible that the modern field boundary "Hundred Drove" follows the line of an ancient road from Flaggrass Roman settlement. NB: BA site found by field walking here. (T Malim 10/11/1988, NMR AP TL4299/4/311 used). Further cropmark of ditched trackway to north east which may link to one noted earlier. Sketch plotted on

		to 1:10,000 overlay in pencil. (BRC --/08/1994).
CB15033	TL 36993 98594	<p>The Fen Causeway. 1. Excavations in 1999-2000 identified Romano-British activity across the site, mainly comprising of linear features which were mostly concentrated in the northern half of the site. A road oriented roughly north- south passed across the site over a distance of 107m. The road comprised two parallel ditches that flanked a metalled surf ace. A single inhumation and a pit were identified close to the roadside ditch. A sunken oval-shaped kiln was located on the opposite side of the road. A small rectangular building and a ring ditch appear to have been contemporary with the road and may have been associated with a shrine, given their roadside location. Paddocks, enclosures and related features were identified along both sides of the road. Over time the road became less important, and its surf ace saw a gradual accumulation of debris. Fen Causeway running between TL/308-988- and TL/317-/988-. Road shows as a mixture of side ditches and metalling /bank. (R Palmer 04/10/1989). Sketched by R Palmer at 1:10560, but that sketch not on CCC overlay . Short length (c200m) of the Fen Causeway showing as side ditches and having a very slight change of alignment. Not quite in position shown by OS. (R Palmer 04/10/1989). Sketched by R Palmer at 1:10560 but not on CCC overlay . See RN 04155 - cropmarks nearby</p> <p>5. Evaluation & rescue excavation in advance of clay extraction. Investigation demonstrated that the present line of the Fen Causeway at this point dates only from the C19th. Funded by London Brick Co. Ltd. (Fenland Research 9 specifies this work as having been undertaken in Stonald Field. OS 1:2500 1973, however, shows Stonald Field lying some distance to the E at TL 250 979). Fen Causeway showing as a soilmark bank. Probable drainage to its S. (R Palmer 04/10/1989). Sketched by R Palmer (on OS alignment) at 1:10560 but not on CCC overall. TL/442-/984. Ro agriculture. Fen Causeway runs E - W across site. Roman road?. (A Spedding 16/05/1984, CUCAP AP ZG 102 used). TL/440-/983-. Fen causeway running on broad (? double) roddon with fields running perpendicularly to the N and (lesser numbers) S. (R Palmer 04/10/1989) 1:10560 map not held by CCC Archaeology . From PRN 00197 - The field centred TL/4947/9760, on the N side of West's Farm is under permanent pasture and contains earthworks comprising about 200,0m length of sunken trackway with alternative side paths and the remnants of adjoining field enclosure ditches. These works are almost certainly Roman and the trackway can be seen on AP to be part of the Fen Causeway (RR 25). Possible forking of Fen Causeway at a) TL/3888/9977</p>

		<p>on W side of Grandford with branch falling to S and running into the settlement. (R Palmer 04/10/1989, NMR APs TL3999/28/16 - 20, CUCAP APs RC8-AU 63 - 64 refer). TL/393-/996-.Enclosures and roads plus probable fort / camp within system. Fen Causeway approaches settlement on S and W but is not clearly followed among settlement ditches. An evaluation has revealed elements of Bronze Age unenclosed settlement (pits and postholes), a Roman road and parts of a Roman field system, as well as post-medieval field boundaries. The new Roman road represents an alternative route of the Fen Causeway that corresponds with a trackway earthwork north of Moreton's Leam. Excavations at Stonald Field (Mortimer 1996, Knight 2000) revealed a 1st C AD route that pre-dated roadside settlement and adjoining field system. The Bradley Fen route ran parallel to the Stonald Field stretch, and contained remnants of a metalled agger equal to that of the Fen Causeway over the Flag Fen platform. An evaluation was undertaken along the route of the Fen Causeway at 92 Elm Road, March. The causeway was located at the northern side of the site, and characterised by a layer of gravel overlying a thin alluvial soil. A large roadside ditch was excavated on the south side of the causeway, but no ditch was found on the north site, although this may exist outside the evaluation area. The roadside ditch was surprisingly shallow, and was not located at towards the western side of the site, probably due to ground reduction.</p>
CB15267	TL 41587 97786	<p>Roman features, Northern Office, March. 1. Evaluation of the site revealed a number of archaeological features. Firstly a series of ditches on three main alignments, which may represent three phases of activity, or alternatively different functions for each group. A pair post holes were also found adjacent to one of the ditches. No finds were recovered from these features, suggesting a prehistoric date. A 19th-20th century ditch and pit were also identified, the latter possibly a back-filled gravel pit. A phase of excavation was carried out to further investigate the site. Some evidence of Late Iron Age-Roman activity was found, including a ditch containing Late Iron Age and Roman pottery. A further ditch containing Roman pottery was located, following the same alignment as the LBA/MIA ditches, suggesting a continuity of use. Pits and gully containing Roman material were also recorded in the north of the site. A series of undated postholes containing iron objects may date to the post-Roman period.</p>
MCB16675	TL 4129 9904	<p>Field system, Whitemoor sidings, March. A programme of evaluation, mitigation excavation and monitoring were undertaken in advance of and during</p>

		<p>the redevelopment of the former marshall yard. Although the construction and use of the marshall yards had truncated much of the site, three areas of surviving archaeological remains were identified and investigated. A number of NW-SE and NE-SW orientated ditches were identified in area 2 at the northern end of the site, west of the water tower. Two of which were found to contain Romano-British pottery, and the features are interpreted as a probable Romano-British field system. No other Romano-British activity was identified on the site, and no evidence for the Fen Causeway was found, although it is possible that all traces of this have been destroyed due to the level of truncation on site.</p>
MCB16828	TL 4200 9838	<p>Roman roadside ditch, Elm Road, March. An evaluation was undertaken along the route of the Fen Causeway at 92 Elm Road, March. The causeway was located at the northern side of the site, and characterised by a layer of gravel overlying a thin alluvial soil. A large roadside ditch was excavated on the south side of the causeway, but no ditch was found on the north site, although this may exist outside the evaluation area. The roadside ditch was surprisingly shallow, and was not located at towards the western side of the site, probably due to ground reduction. A few modern features were recorded in the southern half of the site, but no other roadside activity or evidence of Roman settlement was located.</p>
MCB17742	TL 42189 98469	<p>Roman pottery, Burnet Gardens, March. A collection of Roman Nene Valley ware and grey ware collected from the garden of 12 Burnet Gardens, March. Much of the pottery is in good condition. At least one bowl was represented and several of the sherds appear to be from the same vessel.</p>
MCB17743	TL 42149 98372	<p>Roman pottery, The Hollies, March. A collection of Roman Nene Valley ware and grey ware collected from the garden of 5 The Hollies, March. Among the sherds were the base of a globular vessel and the rims of a small flagon, a grey ware jar and a grey ware bowl.</p>
MCB18546	TL 4155 9924	<p>Early Roman features, Foundry Way, March. 1. An archaeological excavation undertaken at land south of Foundry Way, March revealed 24 features in total including pits, postholes, several ditches and a watering hole. Many of the features had experienced modern truncation to the upper levels prior to the import of another topsoil which had previously been laid across the site. Undated but potentially Roman features included two pits that were possible wells and a series of postholes aligned northeast-southwest towards a group of intercutting pits, which may have been part of a related structure. The majority of the features were</p>

		confirmed to be early Roman in date and along with animal and plant remains, a large amount of Roman pottery was retrieved suggesting a continuation of the activity found to the north in 2003. A fragment of Hertfordshire puddingstone rotary quern was found in the large watering hole feature along with 92% of the total pottery found across the site. Modern disturbance affected many features on the site and included disused service trenches and 5 field drains.
ECB497	TL 42152 98428	Evaluation at Estover Road, Fen Causeway, 1985. An unploughed earthwork site, covering c 4 ha was partially excavated in advance of housing development. Fourteen trenches and small areas were machine-stripped, and revealed features sampled. It was concluded that the Fen Causeway was later than the trackway. Provisionally, the Roman road is at this point early, probably 1st century AD. The enclosures exhibit a precise rectilinear layout, which is aligned on the trackway, not the Roman road. Therefore, they are probably pre-causeway, i.e. very early Roman or more likely late Iron Age, and continued in use into the Roma period, when some additions were made. No indication of a contemporary domestic settlement in the enclosures was found, suggesting these are more likely stock enclosures than arable fields. There are signs of some industrial activity.
ECB282	TL 40791 98887	Evaluation at Barn Farm, Hundred Road, March, 1995. An evaluation identified a series of probable field boundary ditches peripheral to a concentration of activity north of the development area. No structural evidence or concentrations of occupation debris were identified, and only 6 pottery sherds were recovered. No dates can be attributed with certainty, but nearby sites are Roman, and that date may apply here. A D-shaped feature seen in the aerial photo assessment may be naturally formed, perhaps the course of a meandering low-energy watercourse.
ECB143	TL 41512 99220	Evaluation at Longhill Road, March, 2003. Thirteen trenches were machine excavated prior to development, uncovering evidence of a major early Roman salt mating site and associated settlement, dating to the first and second centuries AD. The remains were extensive and well preserved, comprising structural evidence and industrial features including a kiln with flue. Much briquetage and salt making objects was recovered. Soil sample evidence suggests grass and reeds were used as fuels.
ECB1929	TL 41992 98375	Evaluation at 92 Elm Road, March, 2005. Five trenches were excavated to evaluate the site in advance of proposals to redevelop the land for residential use. The Fen Causeway was located in the northern part of the site, aligned E-W and

		characterised by a layer of gravel with a large roadside ditch on its southern site. A few modern features were recorded in the southern part of the site, but no other roadside activity or evidence of Roman settlement was found.
ECB2346	TL 41210 97716	Evaluation at Norwood Road, March, 2006. An archaeological evaluation was undertaken on land to the east of Norwood Road, March in 2006 prior to residential development. Evidence of Roman and possible prehistoric activity were encountered, particularly to the northwest and southwest parts of the site. An east-west aligned ditch was excavated, running across the northwestern part of the site along with a series of large finds rich ditches thought to have been part of a field system or property boundaries for nearby settlement on the fringes of March. One large pit, also in the northwestern part of the site contained an assemblage of struck flints.
ECB3085	TL 41554 99222	Excavation at Foundry Way, March, 2008. An archaeological excavation totalling 0.17ha was undertaken at land south of Foundry Way, March following an trial trench evaluation in 2003 and prior to redevelopment of the site. The site was split into 3 areas arranged around the existing industrial units on site. 24 features including pits, postholes, several ditches and a watering hole were revealed across the site, although many of these had experienced modern truncation to the upper levels prior to the import of another topsoil which had previously been laid across the site. The majority of the features were confirmed to be early Roman in date and along with animal and plant remains, a large amount of Roman pottery was retrieved suggesting a continuation of the activity found to the north in 2003. A number of later prehistoric worked flints were also found, several grouped together in a tree throw and also in a small pit to the very southern end of the site, which suggests that there is a level of background Neolithic occupation and further Neolithic activity may be present south of the excavation area. Modern disturbance affected many features on the site and included disused service trenches, 5 field drains and the removal of topsoil as mentioned earlier.
Saxon and Medieval		
09381	TL 422 984	Cropmarks nr Estover Cottage (Dagless Way, Elm Rd), March. Estover Cottage: small rectilinear enclosures under grass suggest settlement N of drove near probable line of Fen Causeway. (?) Medieval earthworks. (A Spedding 14/05/1984, CUCAP AP BLT 21 used).
CB15268	TL 41609 97769	Medieval and Post-Medieval features, Northern Office, March. Evaluation of the site revealed a number of archaeological features. Firstly a series of ditches on three main alignments, which may

		represent three phases of activity, or alternatively different functions for each group. A pair post holes were also found adjacent to one of the ditches. No finds were recovered from these features, suggesting a prehistoric date. A 19th-20th century ditch and pit were also identified, the latter possibly a back-filled gravel pit. A phase of excavation was carried out to further investigate the site. One Medieval ditch was recorded, in addition to a number of post-medieval and modern features associated with agricultural field drainage and the disposal of dead animals.
Post-medieval		
CB14866	TL 4196 9756	Saint John's Church, March. 1. The Doddington Rectory Division Act of 1856 allowed for the creation of a separate parish for the town of March, previously a chapelry to Doddington. The Act was enacted when Doddington parish became vacant in 1868, and the parish of St John was formed in 1872. Parish Church. 1872 by T. H. Wyatt. Rock faced rustication with cement tiled roofs surmounted at West end, by diagonally set bell turret with timber spirelet. Nave, North and South aisles, South porch. Similar C13 style fenestration and openings as St Peter's and St Mary's both in March and by same architect. North and South arches each have four gabled windows of two trefoil lights with foiled heads. Inside: nave arcade in four bays. Two centred arches of one roll and one hollow moulded border on short, round columns with crocketed capitals. Two centred chancel arch with inner order on short, ring shafted columns carried on moulded corbels. Nave has scissor braced roof. Marble pulpit and C13 style font. Pevsner entry heavily utilised by Listed Building description. Reference to provision of new parochial areas in March (formerly Doddington) parish. Also gives material as Ancaster stone with Bath stone dressings, roof of Collyweston slates. EUS report compiled on town, referencing Anglican churches and other ecclesiastical buildings.
12168	TL 419 975	Saint John's Church Rectory, March. Rectory gardens associated with St John's Church. Trees and lawns - different house
MCB16618	TL 418 979	March railway station. Platform canopy supported by cast-iron columns with decorative spandrels at top. Cast-iron footbridge over tracks. Use of multicolour paint scheme produces an attractive appearance. Main building rebuilt in red brick in 1860s, but suffering from many alternations since
MCB16619	TL 4198 9782	March signal box. March East Junction signal box. This large box handled normal passenger traffic, and in addition traffic between the south and the Whitemoor marshalling yards, one of the largest in the

		country.
MCB16676	TL 414 988	<p>Whitemoor marshalling yard, March. The site was first developed as a railyard sidings in the 1850s as a result of March's strategic location close to the inland port of Wisbech. The Eastern Counties railway Company had opened a line between St. Ives and March in 1847, and were keen to exploit the possible European connections at the port of Wisbech. The first depiction of the rail sidings is on the 1886 First Edition Ordnance Survey map. The yards appear as loop lines of the Great Northern and Great Eastern Joint Railway line, and an engine shed, good sheds and smaller structures are also depicted on the site. The siding progressively expanded westwards, with the marshalling area comprising four individual yards with capacity for 1265 wagons. In 1929 the LNER opened a new marshalling yard at March as a response to the increased rail freight traffic. The new yard was the first to use the Fröhlich system of hydraulic brakes, and had 43 sorting sidings with the capacity to process 4000 wagons daily. The new yard was referred to as the 'Up Yard' and was situated on the eastern side of the main line. Expansion of the yard continued, with the replacement of the former sidings with the 'Down Yard', giving March the capacity to process 8000 wagons per day, making it the largest marshalling yard in Great Britain at the outbreak of World War II. Further expansion occurred during World War II, as the yard was required to transport munitions. The yard largely avoided raids due to the construction of a series of decoy lights to the west of Whitemoor. The yard continued to thrive in the 1950s, when it was processing 7000 wagons daily. However, in 1972 the 'Down Yard' was closed, as a result of the decline in rail freight transport, and the entire marshalling yard was closed in the early 1990s. On its closure the site was largely dismantled, and the only visible evidence remaining is a layer of ballast, a concrete faced ramp at the NE corner of the site, and a grade II listed water tower. In 2003-4 a programme of evaluation, mitigation excavation and monitoring were undertaken in advance of and during the redevelopment of the former marshalling yard. Considerable evidence of the former use of the site as a marshalling yard was identified during the course of works, including the brick and concrete foundations of a former railway building, thought to be a goods shed shown on OS maps of 1889. A layer of redeposited gravel was identified in several trenches, thought to be the bedding for rail lines, and a large cut was revealed next to Three Corner Cut, thought to be a borrow pit dug to provide material for levelling the site, and which had subsequently been infilled as the marshalling yard expanded in the period up to the</p>

		1950s.
MCB16833	TL 41922 97650	Former Congregational Chapel, Station Road, March. Non-conformist chapel built in 1836, now used as a meeting hall. When built it had a capacity of 450 worshippers. Congregationalist Chapel built in 1836.
MCB16841	TL 41987 97489	Cemetery Chapel and Mortuary, Station Road, March. Chapel and mortuary. 1867-8. By G W Stephenson. Rusticated stone with steeply pitched gabled roof s with end parapets. Roadway flanked by mortuary and chapel and spanned by bell turret surmounted by ashlar faced spire. Fenestration and openings with C14 style mouldings and reticulated tracery. Chapel and Mortuary in civic cemetery built in 1867.
MCB16842	TL 41928 97475	Cemetery Lodge, Station Road, March. Lodge built 1867-8 by G W Stephenson. Rusticated stone with steeply pitched slate roofs, end parapets and stone stacks. Asymmetrical plan. One storey and attic. Elevation to roadway entry has gable with lancet above canted bay with cross frame casements some with original leaded lights. Doorway in four centred chamfered arch. Cemetery lodge built as part of civic cemetery complex
MCB16844	TL 41923 97467	Gates, gate piers and walls at cemetery, Station Road, March. Gate piers, gates and flanking walls. 1867-8. by G W Stephenson. Rusticated stone with dressed stone details, and cast iron. Square piers with gabled coping surmounted by large foliated finials. Lower flanking walls, embattled with cast-iron work to the voids. Walls and gates to cemetery built at same time as lodge, chapel and mortuary house
MCB16845	TL 42032 97492	Civic Cemetery, Station Road, March. March civic cemetery opened in 1867 and now disused. In 1886 the cemetery was mapped as containing a conifer avenue leading to the chapel, with further walks, paths and a tree belt within the cemetery itself . In 1904 the cemetery was described as beautifully laid out with a mortuary chapel with tower and spire. Adjoining the cemetery were 2 acres of land reserved for extension.
DCB1787	TL 41931 97474	Lodge, at Entry to Cemetery. 1867-8. By G. W. Stephenson. Rusticated stone with steeply pitched slate roofs, end parapets and stone stacks. Asymmetrical plan. One storey and attic. Elevation to roadway entry has gable with lancet above canted bay with cross-frame casements some with original leaded lights.

		Doorway in four centred chamfered arch. Included for group value.
DCB1788	TL 41923 97467	Gate Piers, Gates and adjoining Wall, at Entrance to the Cemetery. 1867-8. by G. W. Stephenson. Rusticated stone with dressed stone details, and cast iron. Square piers with gabled coping surmounted by large foliated finials. Lower flanking walls, embattled with cast iron work to the voids. Included for group value.
DCB1789	TL 41987 97485	Cemetery Chapel and Mortuary. 1867-8. By G. W. Stephenson. Rusticated stone with steeply pitched gabled roofs with end parapets. Roadway flanked by mortuary and chapel and spanned by bell turret surmounted by ashlar faced spire. Fenestration and openings with C14 style mouldings and reticulated tracery.
DCB1790	TL 41965 97556	Church of St John. Parish Church. 1872 by T. H. Wyatt. Rock faced rustication with cement tiled roofs surmounted at West end, by diagonally set bell turret with timber spirelet. Nave, North and South aisles, South porch. Similar C13 style fenestration and openings as St Peter's and St Mary's both in March and by same architect. North and South arches each have four gabled windows of two trefoil lights with foiled heads. Inside: nave arcade in four bays. Two centred arches of one roll and one hollow moulded order on short, round columns with crocketed capitals. Two centred chancel arch with inner order on short, ring shafted columns carried on moulded corbels. Nave has scissor braced roof. Marble pulpit and C13 style font.
DCB1872	TL 41410 98843	Railway water tower. Late C19. Red brick in English bond with ashlar dressings. Welded steel tank. Rectangular plan. Sides have blind arcades; north and south of one bay, east and west two bays; with tall round arches with plain stone imposts. The east and west arches have large segmentally arched windows with cast-iron frames with glazing bars, the centre panes form a pivoted opening light. Brick cornice above and surmounted by large rectangular welded steel tank, probably a replacement. Interior not inspected. Note: March was a passenger interchange point and the Whitemoor Yard a major freight marshalling centre, which was substantially modernised in 1925 by the LNER, and covered an area of 68 acres.
ECB280	TL 41546 97693	Evaluation at Northern Office, March, 2001. Three trenches were machine excavated to evaluate the 1.2 ha site, revealing evidence for 19-20th C activity (a ditch and pit), together with undated features that may be prehistoric, including a double posthole, parallel ditches and ditched enclosures.
ECB3390	TL 4111 9885	Survey of Air Raid Shelters and Pill Boxes, Whitemoor sidings. Three air raid shelters and pill boxes were

		survey in advance of development in 2009. All three of the structures had been covered by made ground. Slit trenches had been opened on two of the structures prior to the survey.
MCB16451	TL 4212 9885	Home Guard Store, March. Entry in end wall
MCB16449	TL 424 979	Pillbox, March. Type 22, brick shuttered.
Undated		
08974	TL 427 983	Field system, Corner Farm, March. a) Corner Farm. Ditches of field system. Part of Fen Causeway showing as a bank. Otherwise ditches of field system grid. Sketch plotted.(T Malim 10/11/1988, NMR AP TL4298/5/403 used).b) TL/428-/983- Linear features plus probable enclosure. Continuation of field system described in RN 07936, DN Hall site MAR 28.(R Palmer 04/10/1984).
08979	TL 420 994	Enclosures, March. Partial enclosures, linear grouping (plotted at the same time as the cropmarks described in RN 06016).(A Spedding 1984, CUCAP AP ACL 9 used).At TL/419-/994- Partly recorded square or rectilinear enclosure system aligning with lane (TL/418-/991-) and adjacent to DN Hall, Fenland Survey site MAR S27.(R Palmer 04/10/1989, CUCAP AP ACL 9 ref ers). At TL/419-/996- Possible rectangular enclosure with rounded corners and adjacent enclosures (? fields). All may be geological although features on the west are more likely to be fields (having angular turns). (R Palmer 04/10/1989).
09379	TL 427 986	Field boundaries, March. Field boundaries; road is probably the Fen Causeway . (A Spedding 14/05/1984, CUCAP AP RC8-ED 232 used). See RN 09376 for full list of cropmark sites nearby
09380	TL 422 985	Enclosures, March. Enclosures. (A Spedding 14/05/1984, CUCAP AP BHF 65 used) Linear features, possibly geology, but more likely recent boundaries as alignment parallels modern field divisions. Not added at 1:10560.(R Palmer 04/10/1989).See RN 09376 - full list of cropmark sites in the area
11000	TL 425 988	Linear features, March. Linear features (? part of field system described in RN 07936) plus double ditched track. (R Palmer 04/10/1989). Sketched by R Palmer at 1:10560 but not on CCC overlay
12169	TL 421 981	Estover Farm, March. Estover Farm - possible relict grounds? Built over
ECB2787	TL 40750 98975	AP assessment at Hundred Road, March, 1995. An AP assessment was undertaken to examine an area of some 7 hectares, showing a number of possible cropmarked ditches which follow the same axial alignment of cropmarks in the area. A D shaped feature with broad ditches was recorded, which is likely to have an archaeological origin, with parallels identified elsewhere at March and Cottenham. Two lengths of bank have also been mapped which may

		be natural features.
ECB283	TL 42065 98237	Evaluation at 53 Elm Road, March, 2000. Evaluation was undertaken in advance of development. No archaeological features or finds were recovered.
ECB408	TL 41891 98372	Evaluation at Dagless Way, Elm Road, March, 2001. Desk-based assessment and trenching 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.
ECB1321	TL 42250 97554	Evaluation at Creek Road, March, 2003. Seventeen trenches were excavated to evaluate the 4ha site, nine found to contain archaeological remains. These comprised ditches and two pits, none of which contained any datable finds. An alluvial sequence interrupted by a peat formation episode was observed in area 1.
ECB2032	TL 40877 98332	Evaluation at Melbourn Avenue - Hundred Road, March. Three evaluation trenches were excavated in advance of the construction of an industrial link road and associated services. The evaluation revealed a truncated ditch and pit, although no datable evidence was recovered.
ECB2933	TL 42881 98259	Evaluation at Corner Farm, Flaggrass Hill Road, March. One trench was placed to establish the presence/absence of Fen Causeway Roman Road, but failed to locate any related features. A second trench to the south had been heavily disturbed by modern intrusions.
ECB3191	TL 41469 99233	Watching brief at Foundry Way, March, 2009. A watching brief was undertaken during ground reduction in preparation for an area of hardstanding. No archaeological features were encountered.
ECB3349	TL 4135 9782	Evaluation at land west of Robingoodfellows Lane. Two trenches were excavated in advance of proposed residential development. No archaeological finds or features were encountered.

**AS 1403: 128 Elm Road,
March**

Concordance of finds by
feature

Feature	Context	Trench	Description	Spot Date	Pottery	CBM (g)	Other
1003	1004	4	Gully			94	B.Flnt 7g
1005	1006	4	Gully	L18th – 19 th C	(1) 1g	42	

APPENDIX 3 SPECIALIST REPORTS

The Pottery

Peter Thompson

Gully F1005 (L1006) produced one fragment (1g) of a plate in Transfer Printed 'Willow Pattern' dating to the late 18th to 19th centuries.

The Ceramic Building Materials

Andrew Peachey

The trial trench evaluation recovered two fragments (136g) of abraded Romano-British CBM. Gully F1003 (L1004) contained a single fragment (94g) of 16mm thick flat tile with a partial comb-mark on one side, probably box flue tile, in an oxidised orange-pink fabric with inclusions of common quartz (0.2-0.5mm) and sparse red and white clay pellets. Gully F1005 (L1006) contained a single fragment (42g) of 12mm thick curved tile, probably part of an imbrex roof tile, in an off-white fabric with a comparable suite of inclusions to the box flue tile. Both fabric types were probably produced using locally available silty clay deposits in the fen land, and although present in only very limited quantities must originate from a Roman building or settlement in the local area.



1

*Elm Road, March looking S.
Site is behind hedge on right.*



2

*Dagless Road, March, looking W.
Site is behind hedge on right.*



3

Ditch F1009, Trench 1. Looking SW.



4

Sample section 1, Trench 1. Looking S.



5

Trench 1 post excavation. Looking E.



6

Gully F1005, Trench 3. Looking W.



7

Gully F1007, Trench 3. Looking W.



8

Sample section 3, Trench 3. Looking E.



9

Trench 3 post excavation. Looking N.



10

Gully F1003, Trench 4. Looking E.



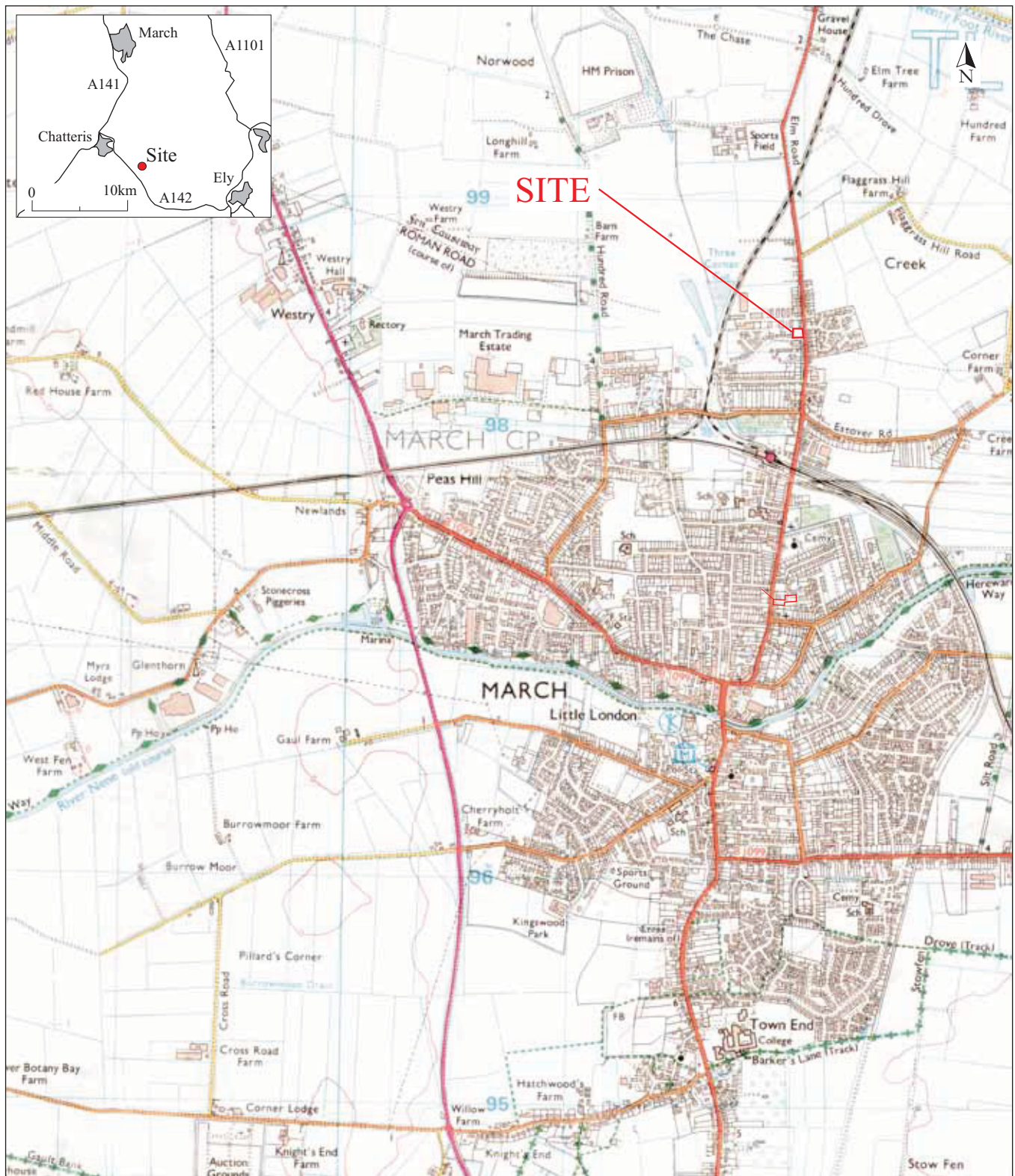
11

Sample section 4, Trench 4. Looking N.



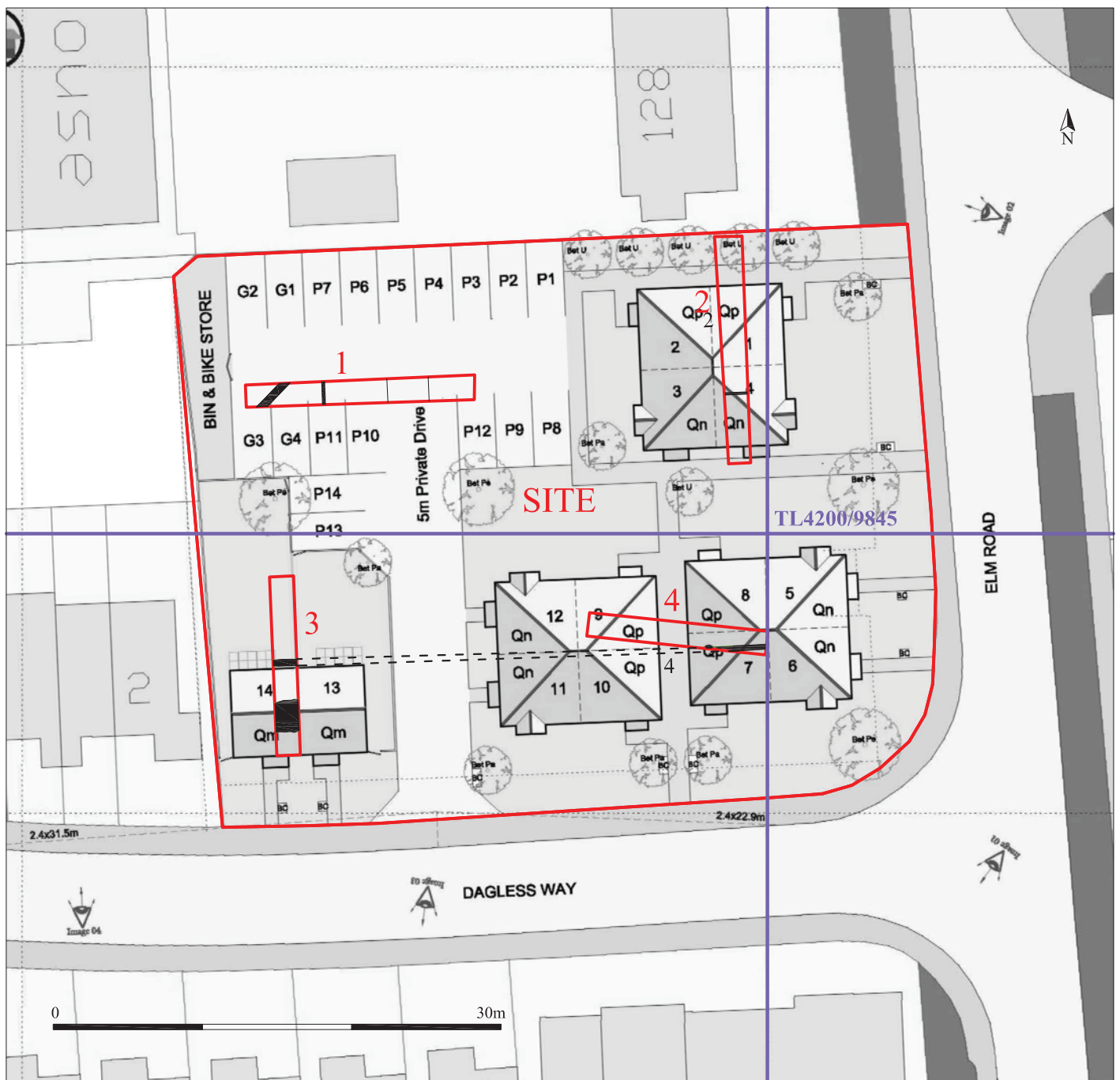
12

Trench 4 post excavation. Looking W.



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Fig. 1 Site location plan
 Scale 1:25,000 at A4



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Fig. 2 Detailed site location plan
 Scale 1:400 at A4

