

---

**ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOLUTIONS LTD**

**LAND EAST OF BERRYFIELD, MARCH, CAMBRIDGESHIRE, PE15 8PN**

**AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION**

Authors:	Kerrie Bull (Fieldwork & Report) Lauren Wilson (Background research)	
Illustrations:	Thomas Light	
NGR: TL 4227 9847	Report No: 4900	
District: Fenland	Site Code: CHER ECB4500	
Approved: Claire Halpin	Project No: P6153	
Signed:	Date: 30 July 2015 Revised 08/09/2015	

This report is confidential to the client. Archaeological Solutions Ltd accepts no responsibility or liability to any third party to whom this report, or any part of it, is made known. Any such party relies upon this report entirely at their own risk. No part of this report may be reproduced by any means without permission.

---

Archaeological Solutions is an independent archaeological contractor providing the services which satisfy all archaeological requirements of planning applications, including:

*Desk-based assessments and environmental impact assessments  
Historic building recording and appraisals  
Trial trench evaluations  
Geophysical surveys  
Archaeological monitoring and recording  
Archaeological excavations  
Post excavation analysis  
Promotion and outreach  
Specialist analysis*

## ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOLUTIONS LTD

**Unit 6, Brunel Business Court, Eastern Way,  
Bury St Edmunds IP32 7AJ  
Tel 01284 765210**

**P I House, Rear of 23 Clifton Road, Shefford,  
Bedfordshire, SG17 5AF  
Tel: 01462 850483**

e-mail: [info@ascontracts.co.uk](mailto:info@ascontracts.co.uk)  
[www.archaeologicalsolutions.co.uk](http://www.archaeologicalsolutions.co.uk)



[twitter.com/ArchaeologicalS](https://twitter.com/ArchaeologicalS)



[www.facebook.com/ArchaeologicalSolutions](http://www.facebook.com/ArchaeologicalSolutions)



## **CONTENTS**

### ***OASIS SUMMARY SHEET***

#### ***SUMMARY***

- 1 INTRODUCTION**
- 2 DESCRIPTION OF THE SITE**
- 3 TOPOGRAPHY, GEOLOGY AND SOILS**
- 4 ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND**
- 5 PREVIOUS ARCHAEOLOGICAL INVESTIGATIONS**
- 6 METHODOLOGY**
- 7 DESCRIPTION OF RESULTS**
- 8 CONFIDENCE RATING**
- 9 DEPOSIT MODEL**
- 10 DISCUSSION**
- 11 CONCLUSION**

#### **ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS**

#### **BIBLIOGRAPHY**

#### **APPENDICES:**

- 1 CONCORDANCE OF FINDS**
- 2 SPECIALIST REPORTS**
- 3 GEOPHYSICAL SURVEY REPORT**
- 4 ASSESSMENT OF AERIAL PHOTOGRAPHS FOR ARCHAEOLOGY**
- 5 OASIS DATA COLLECTION FORM**

**OASIS SUMMARY SHEET**

<b>Project details</b>			
Project name	Land east of Berryfield, March, Cambridgeshire PE15 8PN		
<p>In July 2015 Archaeological Solutions Limited (AS) conducted an archaeological evaluation of land east of Berryfield, March, Cambridgeshire PE15 8PN (NGR TL 4227 9847). The evaluation was undertaken in advance of the determination of the planning application for the construction of 30 dwellings (F/YR14/1020/O) based on advice from Cambridgeshire County Council Historic Environment Team.</p> <p>The evaluation revealed that the density of features varies largely across the site and is greater towards the southern end of the site (Trenches 4, 7 and 8). The range of features comprises postholes (6), pits (12), ditches (19) and gullies (3). A metalled surface (L1059) was recorded in Trench 7. Three possible ponds were recorded (F1158 (Trench 4), F1035 and F1140 (Trench 7)), and three ?ditches/ channels were recorded in Trench 9 (F1081, F1159 and F1161). ?Pond F1158 may have been a constructed waterhole of prehistoric or Roman date.</p> <p>The earliest period represented is prehistoric. Sparse struck flint (some residual) was found in several features (Ditch F1033, Metalled Surface L1059 and Ditch F1100 (all Trench 7). The struck flint includes a thumbnail scraper (from Ditch F1100) and similar utilized flakes indicative of an early Bronze Age, or possibly later prehistoric date. A pebble hammerstone was found in Ditch F1033 (Trench 7).</p> <p>The ceramic dating evidence is sparse. The majority of dated features contained between one and seven sherds, while only Pit F1073 contained a significant group (23 sherds). The pottery is largely Roman but frequently with a broad date range (mid 2<sup>nd</sup> to 4<sup>th</sup> century). Highly abraded mid-late Iron Age pottery was recovered from ?Pond F1140 (Trench 7; 1 sherd) and Metalled Surface L1059 (Trench 7; 2 sherds).</p>			
Project dates (fieldwork)	July 2015		
Previous work (Y/N/?)	N	Future work	TBC
P. number	P6153	Site code	CHER ECB4500
Type of project	Trial trench evaluation		
Site status	-		
Current land use	Agricultural		
Planned development	Residential		
Main features (+dates)	Metalled surface, pits, ditches, postholes, natural hollows or ponds		
Significant finds (+dates)	Roman (2 <sup>nd</sup> - 4 <sup>th</sup> C) assemblages		
<b>Project location</b>			
County/ District/ Parish	Cambridgeshire	Fenland	March
HER/ SMR for area	Cambridgeshire Historic Environment Record (CCC HER)		
Post code (if known)	PE15 8PN		
Area of site	1.3ha <sup>2</sup>		
NGR	TL 4227 9847		
Height AOD (max/ min)	2m		
<b>Project creators</b>			
Brief issued by	Kasia Gdaniec (Cambridgeshire CC, Historic Environment Team)		
Project supervisor/s (PO)	Kerrie Bull		
Funded by	The Wilkinson family, c/o Maxey Grounds & Co.		
Full title	Land east of Berryfield, March, Cambridgeshire PE15 8PN. An Archaeological Evaluation		
Authors	Bull, K.		
Report no.	4900		
Date (of report)	30 July 2015 (Revised 08/09/2015)		

## LAND EAST OF BERRYFIELD, MARCH, CAMBRIDGESHIRE, PE15 8PN

### AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION

#### **SUMMARY**

*In July 2015 Archaeological Solutions Limited (AS) conducted an archaeological evaluation of land east of Berryfield, March, Cambridgeshire PE15 8PN (NGR TL 4227 9847). The evaluation was undertaken in advance of the determination of the planning application for the construction of 30 dwellings (F/YR14/1020/O) based on advice from Cambridgeshire County Council Historic Environment Team.*

*The site lies within an area of archaeological potential, where known extensive evidence of multi-period landscape activity is recorded on the Cambridgeshire Historic Environment Record (HER), and where archaeological investigations have taken place prior to the construction of the Berryfield housing development immediately adjacent to the site, showing that the site is very likely to contain well-preserved archaeological remains.*

*The site lies within a known cropmarked site, covering some 8ha and extending to the east, north, south and west, with internal sub-divided enclosures, trackways and a road. It was partially investigated prior to development of the adjacent Berryfield development in the mid 1980s. Here, features were found to mainly date to the late pre-Roman Iron Age, though with some evidence of preceding Bronze Age activity, with a trackway with aligned enclosures along its northern side (HER 9561). Roadside ditched stockades were excavated, along with a 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 crosses March to the immediate south of Berryfield. Where excavated along its length, it is shown to have been a gravelled road with roadside ditches on the higher ground, and initially a canal on the lower-lying fenland areas, before silting necessitated its replacement with a road.*

*The site thus has a potential for further remains of Iron Age/Roman-British activity, and also preceding Bronze Age activity. multi-period activity, and to provide further evidence of use of this local multi-period landscape.*

*A geophysical survey identified numerous anomalies which appear to be of archaeological origin. The majority of the anomalies appear as positively trending linear magnetic responses, synonymous with infilled ditch and gully type features (1, 3-7 and 9). Several sub-circular positive anomalies (8) may also represent infilled archaeological features. A discrete anomaly (2) may be associated with fired/ heated clay materials which may also be of archaeological origin. The dating of these features cannot be determined at this stage.*

*The clear magnetic contrasts seen within the data indicate that the underlying geology and site formation process are conducive to magnetic geophysical survey. However, areas of magnetic disturbance (11-12) may have masked archaeological features along the western most section of the survey.*

*The evaluation revealed that the density of features varies largely across the site and is greater towards the southern end of the site (Trenches 4, 7 and 8). The range of features comprises postholes (6), pits (12), ditches (19) and gullies (3). A metalled surface (L1059) was recorded in Trench 7. Three possible ponds were recorded (F1158 (Trench 4), F1035 and F1140 (Trench 7)), and three ?ditches/ channels were recorded in Trench 9 (F1081, F1159 and F1161). ?Pond F1158 may have been a constructed waterhole of prehistoric or Roman date.*

*The earliest period represented is prehistoric. Sparse struck flint (some residual) was found in several features (Ditch F1033, Metalled Surface L1059 and Ditch F1100 (all Trench 7). The struck flint includes a thumbnail scraper (from Ditch F1100) and similar utilized flakes indicative of an early Bronze Age, or possibly later prehistoric date. A pebble hammerstone was found in Ditch F1033 (Trench 7).*

*The ceramic dating evidence is sparse. The majority of dated features contained between one and seven sherds, while only Pit F1073 yielded a more significant group (23 sherds). The pottery is largely Roman but frequently with a broad date range (mid 2<sup>nd</sup> to 4<sup>th</sup> century). Highly abraded mid-late Iron Age pottery was recovered from ?Pond F1140 (Trench 7; one sherd) and Metalled Surface L1059 (Trench 7; two sherds).*

*The correlation of the archaeological evidence with the geophysical survey is good with many of the geophysical anomalies being recognised during the trial trenching.*

## **1 INTRODUCTION**

1.1 In July 2015 Archaeological Solutions Ltd (AS) carried out an archaeological evaluation of land east of Berryfield, March, Cambridgeshire (NGR: TL 4227 9847; Figs. 1-2). The evaluation was commissioned by Maxey Grounds & Co on behalf of the Wilkinson Family, and was undertaken in advance of the proposed construction of a residential development of 30 houses. It was required to provide further information in advance of the determination of the planning application (Fenland Council Ref. F/YR14/1020/O), and based on advice from Cambridgeshire County Council requiring a programme of archaeological work.

1.2 The archaeological evaluation comprised an air photo assessment and geophysical survey followed by a trial trench field evaluation targeting any identified cropmarks, geophysical anomalies and 'blank' areas. The evaluation was carried out in accordance with a brief issued by Cambridgeshire County Council Historic Environment Team (CCC HET) (Kasia Gdaniec, dated 11<sup>th</sup> February 2015) and a specification compiled by AS (dated 13<sup>th</sup> February 2015). It followed the procedures outlined in the

Chartered Institute for Archaeologists' *Code of Conduct, Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Field Evaluation* (2014). It also adhered to the relevant sections of *Standards for Field Archaeology in the East of England* (Gurney 2003).

1.3 The principal objectives of the evaluation were to:

- determine the location, date, extent, character, condition, significance and quality of any surviving remains liable to be threatened by the proposed development. In particular, it was important to establish the presence or absence of any activity associated with the known nearby Romano-British activity and the medieval activity within the village;
- provide an adequately detailed project report to place the findings of the project in their local and regional context, with reference to the East Anglian Regional Research Frameworks and through relevant background research; and
- establish the potential for waterlogged organic deposits in the proposal area, their location and level and vulnerability to damage by development.

### **Planning Policy Context**

1.4 The National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF 2012) states that those parts of the historic environment that have significance because of their historic, archaeological, architectural or artistic interest are heritage assets. The NPPF 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. The NPPF requires applications to describe the significance of any heritage asset, including its setting that may be affected in proportion to the asset's importance and the potential impact of the proposal.

1.5 The NPPF aims to conserve England's heritage assets in a manner appropriate to their significance, with substantial harm to designated heritage assets (i.e. listed buildings, scheduled monuments) only permitted in exceptional circumstances when the public benefit of a proposal outweighs the conservation of the asset. The effect of proposals on non-designated heritage assets must be balanced against the scale of loss and significance of the asset, but non-designated heritage assets of demonstrably equivalent significance may be considered subject to the same policies as those that are designated. The NPPF states that opportunities to capture evidence from the historic environment, to record and advance the understanding of heritage assets and to make this publicly available is a requirement of development management. This opportunity should be taken in a manner proportionate to the significance of a heritage asset and to impact of the proposal, particularly where a heritage asset is to be lost.

## 2 DESCRIPTION OF THE SITE

2.1 The market town of March is located in the Fenland District of Cambridgeshire, some 23km to the east of Peterborough and c. 39km to the north of Cambridge. The market towns of Wisbech and Downham Market are located some 13km and 20km to the north and north-east, respectively. The site comprises a rectangular plot of agricultural land (measuring c. 1.3ha in total) on the town's north-eastern edge (Fig. 1). The site is bounded to the west by an existing residential development and by further agricultural land on all other sides.

## 3 TOPOGRAPHY, GEOLOGY AND SOILS

3.1 The market town of March occupies a low-lying Fenland environment; the current site is located at c. 2m AOD. The Twenty Foot River, a tributary of the River Nene, follows a west-east course some 1.6km to the north. The River Nene, located c. 2.2km to the east, curves in a south-westerly direction through March.

3.2 The site sits above a streak of Jurassic Ampthill Clay, running south-west from the Wash towards London, while the local drift geology comprises outcropping March Gravels (British Geological Survey 1977 and 2001; <http://www.bgs.ac.uk>). The local soils are those of the Peacock Association, described as 'Deep humose calcareous clayey and non-calcareous fine loamy over clayey soils. Some peat soils. Groundwater controlled by ditches and pumps' (Soil Survey of England and Wales 1983, 20). These soils are suitable for arable cultivation and some grassland (*ibid.*).

## 4 ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

4.1 The site is within an area of limited known prehistoric activity. Find scatters are recorded from this area. Approximately 1km to the north-west several worked flints and a small pit are of Neolithic date (CHER MCB18547). Approximately 750m to the west, ditches, small shallow pits and postholes containing Bronze Age pottery, flint flakes and burnt animal bone were excavated (CHERs MCB16673 and MCB16674). A crouched inhumation burial was recorded c. 1km to the south-west (CHER 15266). The area surrounding the site also contains examples of undated features which may be prehistoric. These sites are further to the south and south-west towards the centre of March (CHERs CB15233 and 07936b).

### Iron Age

4.2 The site lies within a known cropmark site (Fig. 2), covering some 8ha within historical agricultural land, as shown on consecutive Ordnance Survey maps from 1887, with internal sub-divided enclosures, trackways and a road. It was partially investigated prior to development of the adjacent Berryfield development in the mid 1980s (Fig. 2). Here, features were found to mainly date to the late pre-Roman Iron Age, though with



some evidence of preceding Bronze Age activity, with a trackway with aligned enclosures along its northern side (CHER 9561). Notably there is a rectilinear enclosure c. 100m to the west of the site evident along the line of the trackway, thought to be earlier than the Fen Causeway (CHER 07936A). These enclosures are likely stock enclosures and do not have any associated domestic settlement attached, but suggest a possible settlement nearby.

## Roman

4.3 The Fen Causeway, a Roman road linking Ermine Street (Peterborough) and Denver in Norfolk, was constructed in the 1<sup>st</sup> to 2<sup>nd</sup> centuries AD (Gdaniec *pers. comm.*). A 1<sup>st</sup> century AD date for the construction of this route was noted at Denver (Gurney 1986, 135), although sections of the road would have been subject to various phases of modification/ maintenance. At Fengate, on the eastern edge of modern Peterborough, two phases of metalling were recorded with the latest surface being late 1<sup>st</sup>/ 2<sup>nd</sup> century in date (Pryor 1980, after Gurney 1986, 135). The route of the Fen Causeway passes some 90m to the south of the current site (CHER MCB15033), and is thought to have originated here as a canal running either side of March Island. Following the silting up of the canal a metalled roadway was established (*ibid.*).

4.4 During the Roman period there was intensive exploitation of the fenland, and indeed the site appears to lie on the edge of a zone of dense occupation (Coles and Hall 1998), which included settlements at Norwood and Flaggrass c. 900m to the north and east respectively (CHER 08978). Settlement around Flaggrass has been estimated as covering approximately 4.5ha, thus the landscape surrounding and between these settlements and adjacent to the Fen Causeway appears to have been intensively exploited. Previous archaeological investigations at Estover, adjacent to the west of the site beneath the modern Berryfield (Fig. 2), identified features that may have been associated with this Roman landscape. They included a droveway, probable stock enclosures and the possible northern edge of the Fen Causeway (Jackson and Potter 1996, 50, fig. 12; CHERs 07936 and ECB497), as well as pottery vessels (CHERs MCB17742 and MCB17743). The droveway and enclosures previously located at Estover on the north side of the Fen Causeway were roughly aligned east/west, terminating in a series of smaller enclosures in the excavated area but appearing to continue to the east into the area of the site. The route of the Fen causeway heads east-south-east towards Flaggrass and passes close to the south of the site, but beyond the southern corner. A further evaluation c. 350m to the south on Estover Road (Stocks-Morgan 2014) recorded Roman field systems that also correlate with aerial photographic evidence, and a probable round house that appear to represent similar Roman activity on the southern side of the Fen causeway, although dating evidence in the form of pottery was sparse and often residual.

## Medieval

4.5 The place name of March suggests Anglo-Saxon origins, and although no Saxon archaeology has been recorded on the island it is likely any settlement is below the

modern town. Doddington was the main settlement in the area until 1700, c. 8km to the south-west, 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 14<sup>th</sup> century place name of *Marchford*. A small settlement, named *Merc*, is recorded as established at March in the Domesday Survey of 1086.

4.6 March was thriving as a trading port by the 13<sup>th</sup> century, with markets and quays either side of the canalised river, which formed an important route to the major inland port at Yaxley. 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 c. 3.7km to the south-west, on the southern edge of the modern settlement. Elm Road and the 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. An archaeological evaluation c. 350m to the south (Stocks-Morgan 2014) recorded late medieval rectilinear enclosures and possible watering holes that may have formed part of this pastoral landscape.

## Post-medieval

4.7 The town grew up as a major centre after c. 1700, becoming one of the area's larger settlements by the 20<sup>th</sup> century. The arrival of the railway in the 19<sup>th</sup> century was a catalyst to development of March as an economic centre (CHERs 03698 and MCB19612).

## 5 PREVIOUS ARCHAEOLOGICAL INVESTIGATION

5.1 A geophysical survey has been undertaken (Baker *et al.* 2015)<sup>1</sup>. In summary (Fig. 3):

*A geophysical survey identified numerous anomalies which appear to be of archaeological origin. The majority of the anomalies appear as positively trending linear magnetic responses, synonymous with infilled ditch and gully type features (1, 3 – 7 and 9). Several sub-circular positive anomalies (8) may also represent infilled archaeological features. A discrete anomaly (2) may be associated with fired/heated clay materials which may also be of archaeological origin. The dating of these features cannot be determined at this stage.*

*The clear magnetic contrasts seen within the data indicate that the underlying geology and site formation process are conducive to magnetic geophysical survey. However, areas of magnetic disturbance (11-12) may have masked archaeological features along the westernmost section of the survey.*

---

<sup>1</sup> See Appendix 3 for the full report

5.2 An aerial photographic assessment has been undertaken (Cox 2015)<sup>2</sup>. In summary (Fig. 2):

- *This assessment of aerial photographs was commissioned by Archaeological Solutions Ltd in June 2015 in advance of determination of planning application number F/YR14/1020/O for the construction of 30 dwellings on the site.*
- *The object of the assessment was to provide information on the location and nature of archaeological features which are visible on aerial photographs within and immediately adjacent to the site.*
- *The site contains evidence for eroded buried enclosures boundaries and tracks, which show as crop marks indicative of former settlement and agricultural land use. The site and its wider environs were utilised in prehistory and more extensively following the drainage of the fens from the Roman period onwards.*
- *The remains of a Roman road, the Fen Causeway, are visible as parallel ditches to the immediate south of the site, but do not run through the site, and the adjacent fields show marks in crops which indicate a wider area of settlement and former land use. The western adjacent field contained upstanding enclosures tracks and boundaries, on the same alignment as those evident within the site, and has been used for housing development.*
- *It is likely that the site and its environs contain more extensive archaeological deposits than shown by the existing crop marked record.*
- *Land use has been arable within the site on all dates of photography.*
- *Original photo interpretation and mapping was at 1:2500 scale.*

## 6 METHODOLOGY

6.1 Nine trenches were excavated in total (Fig. 3): four measuring 40m x 1.8 (Trenches 1, 2, 8 and 9); one 27m x 1.8m (Trench 3); two 35m x 1.8m (Trench 4 and 6) and two irregular shaped trenches (Trenches 5 and 7). Trench 5 was L-shaped measuring 35m x 1.8m with a 15m x 1.8m extension. Trench 7 was T-shaped with 15m x 1.8m extension running perpendicular to a 35m x 1.8m trench. The trenches were located to examine the anomalies identified during the geophysical survey and also examine blank areas (Fig. 3).

6.2 Undifferentiated overburden was mechanically excavated under close archaeological supervision. Exposed surfaces were cleaned by hand and examined for archaeological features. Deposits were recorded using *pro forma* recording sheets,

---

<sup>2</sup> See Appendix 4 for the full report

drawn to scale and photographed as appropriate. Excavated spoil was searched for finds and the trenches were scanned by a metal detector.

## 7 DESCRIPTION OF RESULTS

Individual trench descriptions are presented below:

### Trench 1 (Figs. 3-4)

Sample section 1A 0.00 = 2.13m AOD		
0.00 – 0.33m	L1000	Topsoil. Firm, dark brown silty clay with occasional small and medium sub-angular, sub-rounded flints
0.33m +	L1002	Natural l. Firm, mid yellow orange, clay with small angular to sub-angular flint and sparse chalk flecks

Sample section 1B 0.00 = 2.22m AOD		
0.00 – 0.30m	L1000	Topsoil. As above
0.30m +	L1002	Natural l. As above

*Description: Trench 1 contained two modern Ditches F1155 and F1017 and Pit F1019 which contained a modern brick-lined soak-away (S1021) with a concrete capping (S1022). All features corresponded to positive anomalies identified by the geophysical survey (Fig. 3).*

Ditch F1017 was linear in plan (1.14+ x 0.72 x 0.68m+), orientated E/W. It had vertical sides; the base was unseen. Its fill, L1018, was a compact, mid blue grey silty clay with orange mottling and occasional small rounded stones and chalk. F1017 was truncated by Pit F1019 and it contained no finds. Ditch F1017 corresponded to positive anomaly (No. 1) identified by geophysical survey (Fig. 3) and was also identified in Trench 2. It is possible that this feature related in some way to a brick-lined soak-away (S1021) constructed within Pit F1019 (see below), although this cannot be proven. The vertical sides of this feature coupled with its linear plan (as revealed by the geophysical survey; Fig. 3) suggest that it may have been machine cut. The excavated profile of this feature did not resemble any of the illustrated feature sections from Estover, directly to the west; the closest parallel was ?Roman Pit 0225 which displayed a near-vertical, slightly fluted profile and a flattish base (Jackson and Potter 1996, 54, fig. 15). It is thought that F1017 was modern in date.

Ditch F1155 was linear in plan (1.80+ x 2.10 x 0.30m+), orientated WSW/ENE. It had vertical sides and base was unseen. Its fill (L1156) comprised loose, pale yellow sand with frequent small rounded chalk. It cut a modern land drain in Trench 1 (Fig. 4) and its fill contained no finds. Ditch F1155 corresponds to positive anomaly (No. 14) identified by geophysical survey (Fig. 3) and was also identified in Trench 2.

Pit F1019 was irregular in plan (1.48+ x 3.16 x 0.25m). It had irregular sides and its base was unseen. It contained a brick-lined soak-away, S1021, which was constructed using red bricks (0.10 x 0.07 x 0.22m) with white grey mortar, and a concrete capping S1022 (0.32+ x 1.13m x 0.10m). The capping was overlain by L1020, a compact, mid grey brown silty clay. It contained no finds. Pit F1019 corresponds to a high amplitude anomaly (No. 2) identified by geophysical survey (Fig. 3).

## Trench 2 (Figs. 3-4)

Sample section 2A 0.00 = 1.98m AOD		
0.00 – 0.40m	L1000	Topsoil. As above Tr.1
0.40m +	L1002	Natural. As above Tr.1

Sample section 2B 0.00 = 1.98m AOD		
0.00 – 0.38m	L1000	Topsoil. As above Tr.1
0.38m +	L1002	Natural. As above Tr.1

*Description: Trench 2 contained three Ditches, F1091, F1155 and F1017. The latter two were continuations of modern ditches recorded in Trench 1, and correspond to positive anomalies (Nos. 1 and 14) identified by the geophysical survey (Fig. 3). Ditch F1091 was undated.*

Ditch 1091 was linear in plan (6.0+ x 0.66 x 0.24m), orientated N/S. It had moderately sloping sides and a concave base. Its fill, L1092, was a compact, mid blue grey silty clay with mottled lenses of mid grey orange sand and occasional sub-angular flints. It contained no finds. L1092 cut by modern Ditch F1155.

Ditch F1017 was not excavated in Trench 2 as it had been previously identified as a feature of modern date in Trench 1 (see above). The section of this ditch within Trench 2 exactly matched that within Trench 1 and contained an identical fill (L1018).

Ditch F1155 was not excavated in Trench 2 as it was previously identified as a feature of modern date in Trench 1. Ditch F1155 cut Ditch F1091 in Trench 2.

## Trench 3 (Figs. 3 and 5)

Sample section 3A 0.00 = 2.23m AOD		
0.00 – 0.38m	L1000	Topsoil. As above Tr.1
0.38m +	L1002	Natural. As above Tr.1

Sample section 3B 0.00 = 2.08m AOD		
0.00 – 0.32m	L1001	Topsoil. As above Tr.1
0.32m +	L1002	Natural. As above Tr.1

*Description: Trench 3 contained undated Posthole F1098, and several modern plough-scars orientated NW/SE.*

Posthole F1098 was oval in plan (0.42 x 0.25 x 0.08m), with moderately sloping sides and an irregular base. Some root disturbance was identified along the NW edge of F1098. Its fill, L1099, was a compact, mid grey brown silty clay, with sparse sub-angular flints. It contained no finds.

#### **Trench 4** (Figs. 3 and 5)

Sample section 4A 0.00 = 2.46m AOD		
0.00 – 0.32m	L1000	Topsoil. As above Tr.1
0.32m +	L1032	Natural. Compact pale yellow sand with frequent small rounded chalk inclusions

Sample section 4B 0.00 = 2.37m AOD		
0.00 – 0.32m	L1000	Topsoil. As above Tr.1
0.32m +	L1032	Natural. As above

*Description: Trench 4 contained Ditch F1127, Gully F1125, five Pits (F1073, F1077, F1087, F1089 and F1097), and Drainage Channel F1123. The latter was modern, Pit F1073 contained Roman pottery and the other features contained no dated finds. Trench 4 also contained ?Pond F1158 which may have been a constructed waterhole of prehistoric or Roman date.*

*An alluvial deposit (L1076) sealed the features in the south-eastern half of the trench, including Roman Pit F1073 (c. 2<sup>nd</sup> to 4<sup>th</sup> century), and is therefore of Roman or post-Roman date. It comprised friable, light brown grey sandy silt with occasional small sub-angular stones.*

Drainage Channel F1123 was linear in plan (3.8+ x 0.30 x 0.20m), orientated N/S. It had vertical sides and a flattish base. Its fill, L1124, was a friable, light brown grey silty sand with sparse small sub-rounded stones. Its fill contained no finds and was undated. The regular, square-cut profile of this feature (Fig. 5) might suggest a modern date although this cannot be stated with any certainty in the absence of diagnostic finds.

Gully F1125 was linear in plan (3.5+ x 0.35 x 0.08m), orientated N/S. It had gently sloping sides and a concave base. Its fill, L1126, was a friable, mid brown grey silty sand with sparse small sub-rounded stones. It contained no finds. It was parallel to Ditch F1127.

Ditch F1127 was linear in plan (3.5+ x 0.85 x 0.27m), orientated N/S. It had moderately sloping sides and a flattish base. It contained two fills: primary Fill L1128 was a friable, light grey silty sand with moderate small to medium sub-rounded stones, while upper Fill

L1129 comprised friable, light yellow brown silty sand with sparse small sub-rounded stones. Neither fill contained finds.

Pit F1073 was ?sub-circular in plan (1.80m+ x ? x ?) and its profile was not fully defined. Its fill, L1074, was a mid yellow brown, firm, silty clay with occasional sub-angular and sub-rounded flints. It contained Roman pottery (23 sherds; 75g), animal bone (117g) and burnt flint (39g). F1073 cut the fill of Pit F1077, and it was cut in turn by Pit F1087.

Pit F1077 was a sub-circular in plan (0.84 x 0.8 x 0.40m). It had irregular sides and a concave base. It contained three fills, none of which contained any finds. Its primary fill (L1078) was a friable, light grey brown silty gravel with frequent small sub-angular stones. Secondary Fill L1079 comprised friable, light yellowish brown sandy silt with moderate small sub-angular stones. The uppermost fill (L1080) comprised firm mid brown grey silty clay with sparse, small sub-angular stones. F1077 was truncated by Pit F1073.

Pit F1087 was ?elongated in plan (1.08+ x 1.00+ x 0.43m). It had moderately sloping sides and a concave base. Its fill (L1088) was a friable, light yellow brown silty sand. It contained no finds. L1088 was cut by Pits F1089 and F1097.

Pit F1089 was sub-circular in plan (0.80+ x 0.20+ x 0.13m). It had gently sloping sides and a concave base. It cut F1087 (Section A) and was sealed by L1076. Its fill (L1090) was a friable, mid grey brown silty sand with moderate small sub-angular stones. It contained no finds.

Pit F1097 was ?sub-circular in plan (0.84+ x 0.50+ x 0.15m). It had steep sides and a flattish base. Its fill, L1157 was friable, dark grey / black, organic peat with moderate small sub-rounded stones. It contained no finds. F1097 cut Fill L1088 of Pit F1087 (Section B) and may have corresponded to a positive anomaly (No. 8) identified by the geophysical survey (Fig. 3).

?Pond F1158 was not defined in plan or profile. A test pit (Section 4C) revealed four fills: L1083, L1084, L1085 and L1086. Only L1084 contained finds; animal bone (744g) and shell (18g). The basal fill, L1083, was a dark grey/ black, soft, silty peat. Overlying L1083, L1084, was a dark grey/ black, soft, peat with sub-angular small stones. Overlying L1084, L1085 was a mid grey, firm, silty clay with moderate sub-angular stones. Uppermost Fill L1086 was a mid yellowish brown, firm, silty clay with moderate small angular stones. It was overlain by Alluvial Deposit L1076. F1158 may have corresponded to a positive anomaly (No. 8) identified by the geophysical survey (Fig. 3) and may have represented a 'constructed waterhole'; it is possible, however, that the anomaly was related to Pit F1097 (above). Numerous prehistoric and Roman parallels exist for this feature type including a group of Iron Age waterholes at Milton, Cambridgeshire (Phillips 2011, fig. 5) and a possible 2<sup>nd</sup> to 3<sup>rd</sup> century example at Waterbeach, Cambridgeshire (CHER CB14681). It is also possible that F1158 was a naturally occurring feature; several natural peat-filled hollows – typical of 'settled

fenland' landscapes – were reported from Beck Row in Suffolk (Bales 2004, 3; Craven 2006, 4-5).

### Trench 5 (Figs. 3 and 6)

Sample section 5A 0.00 = 2.49m AOD		
0.00 – 0.48m	L1000	Topsoil. As above Tr.1
0.48m +	L1002	Natural. As above Tr.1

Sample section 5B 0.00 = 2.50m AOD		
0.00 – 0.37m	L1000	Topsoil. As above Tr.1
0.37 – 0.46m	L1001	Subsoil.
0.46m +	L1002	Natural. As above Tr.1

Sample section 5C 0.00 = 2.10m AOD		
0.00 – 0.35m	L1000	Topsoil. As above Tr.1
0.35m +	L1002	Natural. As above Tr.1

*Description: Trench 5 contained Gully F1003, Ditch F1015 and five postholes (F1005, F1007, F1009, F1011 and F1013). None of the features contained finds. The geophysical survey recorded no anomalies within the footprint of Trench 5.*

Gully F1003 linear in plan (1.8+ x 0.43 x 0.10m), orientated E/W. It had gently sloping sides and a concave base. Its fill (L1004) comprised compact mid grey brown silty clay with occasional small rounded stones. It contained no finds.

Postholes F1005, F1007 and F1009 were adjacent. Elsewhere within Trench 5 Postholes F1011 and F1013 were adjacent.

Posthole F1005 was sub-circular in plan (0.32 x 0.30 x 0.09m). It had moderately sloping sides and a flattish base. Its fill (L1006) was a firm, mid reddish brown silty clay with occasional rounded chalk. It contained no finds.

Posthole F1007 was sub-circular in plan (0.38 x 0.36 x 0.07m). It had gently sloping sides and a concave base. Its fill (L1008) was a firm, mid reddish brown silty clay with occasional rounded stones. It contained no finds.

Posthole F1009 was sub-circular in plan (0.50 x 0.32 x 0.05m). It had moderately sloping sides and an uneven base. Its fill (L1010) was a firm, mid reddish brown silty clay with occasional rounded stones. It contained no finds.

Posthole F1011 was sub-circular in plan (0.20 x 0.21 x 0.09m). It had moderately sloping sides and a narrow base. Its fill, L1012, was a firm, dark reddish brown silty sand. It contained no finds.



Posthole F1013 was sub-circular in plan (0.21 x 0.26 x 0.09m). It had steep sides and a concave base. Its fill (L1014) was a firm, dark reddish brown silty sand with occasional rounded chalk. It contained no finds.

Ditch F1015 was linear in plan (1.80+ x 1.40 x 0.37m), orientated N/S. It had moderately sloping sides and a concave base. Its fill (L1016) was a firm, mid grey brown silty clay with small angular to sub-angular flint and sparse rounded chalk. It contained no finds.

### **Trench 6** (Figs. 3 and 6)

Sample section 6A 0.00 = 2.06m AOD		
0.00 – 0.36m	L1000	Topsoil. As above Tr.1
0.36m +	L1023	Natural. Loose, light orange yellow silty sand/gravel with very frequent shell and small rounded chalk inclusions

Sample section 6B 0.00 = 2.01m AOD		
0.00 – 0.35m	L1000	Topsoil. As above Tr.1
0.35m +	L1023	Natural. As above

*Description: Trench 6 contained two undated ditches, F1163 and F1164, which corresponded with the two positive linear anomalies (Nos. 3 and 4) identified by the geophysical survey (Fig. 3).*

Ditch F1163 was linear in plan (1.80+ x 0.66 x 0.22m), orientated E/W. It had moderately sloping sides and a concave base. Its fill (L1164) comprised compact, mid brown silty clay with occasional sub-angular flints. It contained no finds.

Ditch F1165 was linear in plan (1.80+ x 0.69 x 0.27m), orientated E/W. It had moderately sloping sides and a concave base. Its fill (L1166) was a compact, yellow brown silty clay with occasional sub-angular flints. It contained no finds.

### *Correlation with the Geophysical Data*

There was a clear correlation between Ditches F1163 and F1165 and the surveyed geophysical anomalies in Trench 6 (Nos. 3 and 4; Fig. 3). However, no correlation was found between the south-western extent of these same anomalies and excavated features in Trench 4 (Fig. 4). No error was made in the setting out of trenches or the surveying of trench/ feature locations. As such, it is probable that ploughing or other, subsequent truncation had led to the loss of evidence in Trench 4.

**Trench 7** (Figs. 3, 7 and 8)

Sample section 7A 0.00 = 2.36m AOD		
0.00 – 0.42m	L1000	Topsoil. As above Tr.1
0.42m +	L1023	Natural. As above Tr.6

Sample section 7B 0.00 = 2.41m AOD		
0.00 – 0.32m	L1000	Topsoil. As above Tr.1
0.32m +	L1023	Natural. As above Tr.6

Sample section 7C 0.00 = 2.24m AOD		
0.00 – 0.40m	L1000	Topsoil. As above Tr.1
0.40m +	L1051	Uppermost layer of F1054.

*Description: Trench 7 contained 12 ditches (F1033, F1037, F1039, F1042, F1044, F1052, F1061, F1100, F1103, F1111, F1136 and F1145), six pits (F1054, F1112, F1115, F1131, F1145 and F1153) and two possible ponds (F1035 and F1140). A modern service (not numbered) and a 'metalled' surface possibly part of a Roman drove-way identified in the previous excavations. Two features, F1035 and F1054, correspond to the large positive anomalies (No. 8) identified by the geophysical survey (Fig. 3).*

Ditch F1033 was linear in plan (1.80+ x 3.98 x 0.09m), orientated E/W. It had gently sloping sides and a concave base (Fig. 8). The shallow profile of this feature raises the possibility that it represented part of an elongated pit or other discrete feature; this could not be resolved within the limited scope of the investigation, however. The single fill of this feature (L1034) comprised compact, mid brown silty clay with occasional small rounded stones. It contained animal bone (362g), a rubbing stone (198g), a hammerstone (225g), burnt flint (one fragment; 2g) and struck flint (two fragments; 17g). F1033 cut Metalled Surface L1059 and fill L1062 of Ditch F1061.

F1035 was sub-circular in plan (2.60+ x 0.80+ x 0.85m) and corresponded to a positive anomaly (No. 8) identified in the geophysical survey (Fig. 3). Apart from a flattish base, the profile of this feature was not determined (Fig. 7). It contained two fills: L1036 and L1048. Its primary fill (L1036) comprised a firm, dark black peaty clay with frequent shell fragments and rounded flints and gravel. It was overlain by L1048, a firm, mid grey silty clay mottled with red brown iron-pan and containing moderate small sub-angular gravel. L1036 contained a small turned wooden object (SF1; 80g), five sherds of Roman (2<sup>nd</sup> to 4<sup>th</sup> century) pottery (188g), and animal bone (108g). L1048 contained animal bone (12g) and an amorphous iron fragment (3g). F1035 was cut by ?Ditch F1052, ?Pit F1054 and a modern land land-drain. F1035 may have represented a deliberately cut feature, possibly a pond.

Ditch F1037 was linear in plan (1.8+ x 0.81 x 0.27m), orientated E/W. It had moderately sloping sides and a concave base (Fig. 7). Its fill (L1038) was firm, mid red brown silty

clay with occasional small angular to sub-angular flint. It contained no finds. Ditch F1037 cut Fill L1041 of Ditch F1039.

Ditch F1039 was linear in plan (1.8+ x 1.36 x 0.73m), orientated E/W. It had moderately sloping sides and a concave base. It contained four fills: L1046, L1047, L1040 and L1041 (Fig. 7 Section 3). Its primary fill, L1046, was a friable, mid grey sandy silt with frequent shell fragments and small sub-angular flint. L1047 was a pale yellow, loose sandy clay. Above L1047, L1040 was a dark reddish brown, friable, silty clay. The uppermost fill, L1041, was a firm, mid red brown silty clay with occasional small sub-angular flint. No finds were present in any of the fills. Ditch F1039 cut Fill L1043 of Ditch F1042 and was cut in turn by Ditch F1037.

Ditch F1042 was linear in plan (1.8+ x 0.97 x 0.32m), orientated E/W. It had moderately sloping sides and a concave base (Fig. 7). Its fill (L1043) was a firm, mid red brown silty clay with sparse small sub-angular flint. It contained no finds. L1043 was cut by Ditch F1039.

Ditch F1044 was linear in plan (1.80+ x 0.94 x 0.31m), orientated E/W. It had moderately sloping sides and a flattish base (Fig. 7). Its fill (L1045) was a firm, mid red brown silty clay with sparse sub-angular flint. It contained one sherd (2g) of Roman pottery and animal bone (17g).

?Ditch F1052 was linear in plan (1.2m+ x 0.52+ x 0.36m), orientated N/S. It had moderately sloping sides and a concave base (Fig. 7). Its fill (L1053) comprised firm, mid brown grey sandy silt with frequent small sub-angular gravel. It contained no finds. ?Ditch F1052 cut L1048 (F1035) and its fill was truncated by ?Pit F1054.

?Pit F1054 was ill-defined in plan (1.70+ x 0.80+ x 0.30m). It had gently sloping sides and a flattish base (Fig. 7). It contained three fills: L1049, L1050 and L1051. Its primary fill (L1049) comprised firm, mid grey brown sandy silt with frequent small, sub-angular gravel. L1050 was a firm, dark grey brown sandy silt with occasional small, sub-angular flint, while L1051 comprised light brown yellow clay. No finds were present. This feature cut Fill L1053 of ?Ditch F1052 and its uppermost fill was truncated by a modern drain.

Pit F1055 was sub-oval in plan (2.58 x 0.63+ x 0.40m). It had moderately sloping sides and a concave base (Fig. 7). It contained three fills: L1056, L1057 and L1058. Its primary fill (L1056) was a firm, dark silty clay. Secondary Fill L1057 comprised firm, mid brown grey silty clay with sparse rounded flint; and L1058 was a firm, mid yellow orange silty clay with frequent iron-panning. No finds were present. Pit F1055 cut Metalled Surface L1059.

L1059 comprised a shallow metalled surface (1.80+ x 2.50 x 0.03m) aligned roughly E/W in the southern part of Trench 7 (Figs. 7-8). This compacted surface was formed of small to medium sub-angular/ angular gravel and flint, and stratigraphically sealed Fill L1060 of Ditch F1111 (Fig. 8). It was cut in turn by Ditch F1033 and Pit F1055. Two

sherds of mid to late Iron Age pottery (8g), animal bone (72g) and struck flint (6g) were recovered from the surface of L1059. The combined lithic assemblage from the site is 'indicative of an early Bronze Age, or possibly later prehistoric date' (see *The Struck flint*). A ditched late Iron Age/ early Roman drove road and a section of the Roman Fen Causeway were previously excavated at Estover, immediately adjacent to the current site (Jackson and Potter 1996, 50-1, fig. 12). L1059 and the neighboring drove road, located within 20m of one another, appeared similarly oriented but were not well aligned. The drove road also had substantial boundary ditches (*ibid.*), lacking at the current site. Although the gravel metaling of the Fen Causeway in this area (*ibid.* 52) was outwardly similar to L1059, the two followed different alignments and were spaced c. 40m apart. The precise nature of L1059 could not be determined within the confines of Trench 7.

Ditch F1061 was linear in plan (1.8+ x 0.74 x 0.24m), orientated E/W. It had moderately sloping sides and a concave base (Fig. 8). Its fill (L1062) was a compact, light brown yellow sandy clay with medium sub-angular chalk. It contained no finds. L1062 was cut by Ditch F1033.

Ditch F1100 was linear in plan (1.8+ x 1.74 x 0.66m), orientated E/W. It had steep sides and a concave base (Fig. 8). It contained three fills: L1101, L1102, L1075. L1101 and L1102 comprised firm, mid to dark brown black silty clays with occasional small rounded stones. Uppermost Fill L1075 was a firm, mid orange grey silty clay with occasional small sub-angular stones. No finds were present within L1101 and L1102. L1075 contained animal bone (199g), struck flint (12g) and shell (26g). Ditch F1100 cut the fills of Ditches F1103, F1112 and F1115. Uppermost Fill L1075 was truncated by Ditch F1111.

Ditch F1103 was linear in plan (1.8+ x 2.00+ x 0.68m), orientated E/W. It had moderately sloping sides and a concave base (Fig. 8). It contained four fills: L1104, L1105 (=L1106), L1107 (=L1108) and L1109 (=L1110). Its primary fill (L1104) comprised loose, mid blue grey silty clay with frequent shell and small rounded stones. Above L1104, L1105 (=L1106) was a firm, dark brown black silty clay. L1107 (=L1108) was a firm mid grey brown silty clay with occasional small rounded stones. The uppermost fill (L1109 (=L1110)), was a compact, mid blue grey silty clay with occasional small rounded stones. No finds were present. The fills of Ditch F1103 were truncated by Ditches F1112 and F1115 (primary stratigraphic relationships).

Ditch F1111 was linear in plan (1.8+ x 3.36 x 0.09m), orientated E/W. It had gently to moderately sloping sides and a concave base (Fig. 8). Its fill (L1060) comprised compact mid orange brown silty clay with occasional small rounded flint and iron-pan deposits. It contained animal bone (75g) and burnt flint (10g). Ditch F1111 cut the uppermost fill of Ditch F1100.

?Pit F1112 was poorly defined in plan (1.00+ x 0.52 x 0.30m). It had moderately sloping sides and a concave base (Fig. 8). It contained two fills: L1113 and L1114. Primary Fill L1113 comprised firm, mid grey brown silty clay. Uppermost Fill L1114 was a firm mid

red/ grey brown silty clay. Both fills contained occasional sub-rounded stones. No finds were present. ?Pit F1112 truncated Fill L1108 of Ditch F1103 and its uppermost fill was cut in turn by Ditch F1100.

?Pit F1115 was poorly defined in plan (1.0+ x 1.08+ x 0.61m). It had moderately sloping sides and a concave base (Fig.8 Section 7). It contained six fills: L1116 (primary), L1117, L1119, L1120, L1121 and L1122 (uppermost). Its primary fill (L1116) was a loose, mid blue grey silty sand with frequent shell fragments and small sub-rounded stones. L1116 comprised compact, light yellow white silty clay with frequent rounded chalk. Fills L1119 and L1120 comprised firm, mid to dark blue grey silty clays with occasional small rounded stones. Uppermost Fill L1122 was a firm mid orange grey silty clay. No finds were present. ?Pit F1115 cut the fill of Ditch F1103 and its uppermost fill was cut in turn by Ditch F1100.

?Pit F1131 was sub-circular in plan (0.76+ x 0.8+ x 0.38m). It had moderately sloping sides and a concave base (Fig. 8). It contained three fills: L1132, L1133 and L1134. Primary Fill L1132 was a loose, mid grey yellow silty sand with frequent shell and small sub-angular gravel. Secondary Fill L1133 comprised firm, mid to dark grey brown silty clay with moderate sub-angular flint and sparse shell. Uppermost Fill L1134 comprised firm, mid grey brown silty clay with occasional sub-angular flint. No finds were present. Uppermost Fill L1134 was cut by Ditch F1136.

Ditch F1136 was linear in plan (1.80+ x 2.51 x 0.56m), orientated NE/SW. It had moderately sloping sides and a concave base (Fig. 8). It contained three fills: L1137, L1138 and L1139. Its primary fill (L1137) comprised firm, dark blue grey silty clay with moderate shell fragments and sub-angular gravel. Fill L1138 was a firm mid brown grey silty clay mottled with iron-pan staining, with occasional small sub-angular flint. Uppermost Fill L1139 was a loose, light grey silty sand with frequent shell and small sub-angular gravel. Fill L1138 yielded three sherds (28g) of Roman (2<sup>nd</sup> - 3<sup>rd</sup> century) pottery. Ditch F1136 cut the uppermost fills of F1131 and F1140 and was cut by Pit F1145.

The plan and profile of F1140 could not be defined within the confines of Trench 7. Two segments (A and B) were excavated (Fig. 8); F1140 1.80+ x 2.00+ x 0.84m and had a flattish base. It contained four fills: L1141, L1142, L1143 and L1144. Its basal fills (L1141 and L1142) comprised firm, blue grey peaty clays with frequent shell fragments and sub-angular flint and gravel. Overlying L1142 was L1143, a mid grey silty clay mottled with red brown iron-pan staining and containing occasional small to medium sub-rounded gravel and flint. Uppermost Fill L1144 comprised a firm mid red brown silty clay with moderate small sub-rounded to sub-angular stones. L1144 was cut by Ditch F1136 and Pit F1153 (primary stratigraphic relationships). Only fill L1142 yielded any finds, comprising a single sherd (15g) of mid to late Iron Age pottery and animal bone (1474g). The form and fill of F1140 was similar to F1135 (Trench 7) and F1158 (Trench 4) and it may have represented a pond.

Pit F1145 was sub-circular plan (0.88+ x 2.54 x 0.52m). It had gently sloping sides and a concave base (Fig. 8). Its fill (L1146) was a firm, mid grey brown silty sand with moderate sub-rounded gravel. It contained 70g of animal bone. Pit F1145 cut the fills of F1136 and F1140.

Pit F1153 was sub-circular in plan (1.0+ x 0.72 x 0.54m). It had moderately sloping sides and a concave base (Fig. 8). It contained four fills: L1149, L1150, L1151 and L1152. Its primary fill (L1149) was a firm, light red brown silty clay with frequent sub-rounded stones. Secondary Fill L1150 comprised firm, mid grey silty clay with moderate sub-rounded stones. Overlying L1150 was L1151, a firm, light red brown silty clay with frequent sub-angular stones. Uppermost Fill L1152 comprised firm mid brown grey silty clay. F1153 contained no finds. This feature cut Fill L1144 of F1140.

### Trench 8 (Figs. 3 and 9)

Sample section 8A 0.00 = 2.24m AOD		
0.00 – 0.32m	L1000	Topsoil. As above Tr.1
0.32m +	L1023	Natural. As above Tr.6

Sample section 8B 0.00 = 2.22m AOD		
0.00 – 0.32m	L1000	Topsoil. As above Tr.1
0.32m +	L1023	Natural. As above Tr.6

*Description: Trench 8 contained two ditches, F1024 and F1063. These ditches were parallel and were each twice re-cut twice (F1024: Re-cuts F1027 and F1030; F1063: Re-cuts F1066 and F1069). Re-cuts F1030 and F1069 contained Roman (mid 2<sup>nd</sup> to 4<sup>th</sup> C) pottery, and Re-cut F1069 also contained a sandstone rotary quern fragment. Undated Pit F1095, undated Gully F1093 and a modern ditch were also recorded. All the features corresponded to positive anomalies (Nos. 5, 6 and 7) identified by the geophysical survey (Fig. 3).*

Ditch F1024 was linear in plan (1.80+ x 1.40 x 0.70m), orientated NE/SW. It had a stepped profile and a concave base. It contained two fills: L1025 and L1026. Its primary fill (L1025) was a very compact, dark orange grey clay with moderate small rounded chalk flecks and sparse small angular flint. Uppermost Fill L1026 comprised friable, light grey brown silty sand with frequent chalk flecks and sparse sub-angular flint. No finds were present. Ditch F1024 was re-cut by Ditch F1027 (re-cut in turn by F1030). This feature group corresponded to a positive anomaly (No. 7) identified by the geophysical survey (Fig. 3). Ditch F1024 was not recorded in Trench 9.

Ditch F1027 was linear in plan (1.80+ x 0.96 x 0.49m), orientated NE/SW, and was a re-cut of Ditch F1024. It had steep sides and a concave base (Fig. 9). It contained two fills: L1028 and L1029. Its primary fill (L1028) was a very compact, silty clay with sparse chalk flecks and shell fragments, and occasional small sub-angular flint. Uppermost Fill L1029 comprised friable, light grey brown sandy silt with moderate chalk and small sub-

angular flint. L1029 contained animal bone (44g). Uppermost fill L1029 was cut by Ditch Re-cut F1030.

Ditch F1030 was linear in plan (1.80+ x 1.11 x 0.43m), orientated NE/SW, and was a re-cut of Ditch F1027. It had steep sides and a concave base (Fig. 9). Its fill (L1031) was a friable, dark brown/ black peaty clay with sparse chalk flecks and small sub-angular flint. It contained one sherd of Roman (mid 2<sup>nd</sup> - 4<sup>th</sup> century AD) pottery (106g). F1030 cut Fill L1029 of F1027.

Ditch F1063 was linear in plan (1.8+ x 3.94 x 0.82m), orientated NE/SW. It had irregular sides and an irregular base. It contained two fills: L1064 and L1065. Its primary fill (L1064) was a friable brown/ black organic silt with sparse sub-angular flint. Uppermost Fill L1065 comprised friable, light orange yellow sand with frequent shell. No finds were present. L1065 was truncated by Ditch Re-cut F1066, and corresponded to a positive anomaly (No. 5) identified by the geophysical survey (Fig. 3). Ditch F1063 was not recorded in Trench 9.

F1066 was linear in plan (1.8+ x 3.73 x 0.61m), orientated NE/SW and was a re-cut of Ditch F1063. It had moderately sloping sides and a concave base (Fig. 9). It contained two fills: L1067 and L1068. Its primary fill (L1067) was a firm, dark grey orange sandy silt with frequent small sub-rounded to sub-angular stones. Its uppermost fill (L1068) was a friable, mid grey brown sand with frequent shell fragments and occasional small to medium sub-rounded and sub-angular gravel and flint. No finds were present. F1066 cut Fill L1065 of Ditch F1063 and was re-cut by Ditch F1069.

Ditch F1069 was linear in plan (1.8+ x 1.74 x 0.58m), orientated NE/SW and was a re-cut of Ditch F1065. It had steep sides and a concave base (Fig. 9). It contained two fills: L1070 and L1072. Its basal fill (L1070) was a compact, dark grey silty clay with vertical mid orange iron staining and sparse small sub-angular flint and shell fragments. It contained one sherd (399g) of Roman (mid 2<sup>nd</sup> to 4<sup>th</sup> century AD) pottery and animal bone (315g). Uppermost Fill L1072 was a friable, dark brown/ black peat with sparse small shell fragments and sub-angular flint. It contained a sandstone rotary quern fragment (1392g). F1069 cut Fill L1068 of Ditch F1066.

Gully F1093 was linear in plan (1.8+ x 0.38 x 0.24m), orientated E/W. It had steep sides and a concave base (Fig. 9). Its fill (L1094) comprised friable, mid grey mottled orange sandy silt with moderate small to medium sub-angular flint. It contained no finds. Gully F1093 cut Fill L1096 of Pit F1095.

Pit F1095 was oval in plan (0.44+ x 0.21 x 0.13m). It had moderately sloping sides and a concave base (Fig. 9). Its fill (L1096) was a compact, mid orange coarse shelly sand with occasional small sub-rounded flint. It contained no finds. L1096 was cut by Gully F1093.

A modern, linear ditch ran c. NE/SW across the centre of Trench 8 (Fig. 9) and corresponded to a positive anomaly (No. 6) identified by the geophysical survey (Fig. 3). This feature was also present in Trench 9

### Trench 9 (Figs. 3 and 10)

Sample section 9A 0.00 = 2.04m AOD		
0.00 – 0.32m	L1000	Topsoil. As above Tr.1
0.32m +	L1032	Natural III. As above Tr.4

Sample section 9B 0.00 = 1.99m AOD		
0.00 – 0.32m	L1000	Topsoil. As above Tr.1
0.32m +	L1032	Natural III. As above Tr.4

*Description: Trench 9 contained Ditch F1147, three ?ditches/ channels (F1081, F1159 and F1161), and modern land drains.*

Ditch F1147 was linear in plan (1.80+ x 1.55 x 0.51m), orientated E/W. It had moderately sloping sides and a concave base. Its fill (L1148) was a compact, dark blue grey clay with small rounded chalk. It contained no finds. Ditch F1147 cut Fill L1160 of F1159.

Broad ?linear features/ channels of uncertain character (F1081, F1159 and F1161) ran NE/SW across Trench 9 (Fig. 10). All had moderately sloping to steep sides and were, therefore, probably cut features. Their fills (L1082, L1160 and L1162) principally comprised very compact light to mid blue grey clays with lenses of fine yellow sand (natural) and mid red brown coarse gravel and iron-pan. They contained small to medium sub-rounded chalk nodules throughout. F1081 yielded six sherds (16g) of Roman pottery and oyster shell (35g), while F1159 contained animal bone (58g). Fill L1160 (F1159) was cut by Ditch F1147.

## 8 CONFIDENCE RATING

8.1 It is not felt that any factors inhibited the recognition of archaeological features or finds.

## 9 DEPOSIT MODEL

9.1 The site was commonly overlain by Topsoil L1000, comprising firm, dark brown silty clay with occasional small to medium sub-angular and sub-rounded flints (0.30 – 0.48m thick). L1000 overlay Subsoil L1001, a firm, mid grey brown silty clay with occasional small sub-rounded and sub-angular flint. This layer was not ubiquitous and varied between in depth between 0.06m and 0.09m.



9.2 The natural geology varied across the site (recorded as L1002, L1023 and L1032). L1002 was the most commonly occurring material and was mostly confined to the northern site area (Trenches 1-3 and 5). L1002 was a firm, mid yellow orange, clay with small sub-angular to angular flint and sparse chalk flecks (0.30-0.48m below the present day ground surface). L1023 occurred in the southern part of the site (Trenches 6-8) and comprised loose, light orange yellow silty sand/ gravel with frequent shell and small rounded chalk (0.31-0.45m below the present day ground surface). L1032 was only present in Trenches 4 and 9, and comprised compact white yellow sand with frequent small rounded chalk (0.32-0.45m below the present day ground surface).

## 10 DISCUSSION

10.1 The features recorded in each trench are tabulated:

Trench	Feature	Fill(s)	Date/Finds	Description
1	F1017A	L1018	Modern	Ditch
	F1019	L1020	-	Soak-away Pit
		L1021	Modern	
		L1022	Modern	
F1155A	L1156	Modern	Ditch	
2	F1091	L1092	-	Ditch
	F1155B	-	Modern	Ditch
	F1017B	-	Modern	Ditch
3	F1098	L1099	-	Posthole
4	F1073	L1074	Roman	Pit
	-	L1076	Post-Roman	Alluvial Deposit
	F1077	L1078	Roman or earlier	Pit
		L1079		
		L1080		
		L1087	L1088	
	F1089	L1090	-	Pit
	F1097	L1157	-	Pit
	F1158	L1083		?Waterhole/ Pond
		L1084		
		L1085		
		L1086		
	F1123	L1124	-	Ditch
F1125	L1126	-	Gully	
F1127	L1128	-	Ditch	
	L1129	-		
5	F1003	L1004	-	Gully
	F1005	L1006	-	Posthole
	F1007	L1008	-	Posthole
	F1009	L1010	-	Posthole
	F1011	L1012	-	Posthole
	F1013	L1014	-	Posthole
	F1015	L1016	-	Ditch
6	F1163	L1164	-	Ditch
	F1165	L1165		Ditch
7	F1033	L1034	-	Ditch
	F1035	L1036	Roman (2 <sup>nd</sup> - 4 <sup>th</sup> C)	?Pond
		L1048	-	
	F1037	L1038	-	Ditch
	F1039	L1046	-	Ditch
		L1047	-	
		L1040	-	
		L1041	-	
F1042	L1043	-	Ditch	
F1044	L1045	Roman	Ditch	

	F1052	L1053	-	?Ditch
	F1054	L1049	-	?Pit
		L1050	-	
		L1051	-	
	-	L1059	(Mid-Late IA)	Metalled Surface
	F1061	L1062	-	Ditch
	F1100	L1101	-	Ditch
		L1102	-	
		L1075	-	
	F1103	L1104	-	Ditch
		L1105 = 1106	-	
		L1107 = 1108	-	
		L1110 = 1109	-	
	F1111	L1060	-	Ditch
	F1112	L1113	-	?Pit
		L1114	-	
	F1115	L1116	-	?Pit
		L1117		
		L1119		
		L1120		
		L1121		
		L1122		
	F1131	L1132	-	?Pit
		L1133	-	
		L1134	-	
	F1136	L1137	-	Ditch
		L1138	Roman (2 <sup>nd</sup> - 3 <sup>rd</sup> C)	
		L1139	-	
	F1140	L1141	-	?Pond
		L1142	Mid - L IA	
		L1143	-	
		L1144	-	
	F1145	L1146	-	Pit
	F1153	L1149	-	Pit
		L1150	-	
		L1151	-	
		L1152	-	
8	F1024	L1025	-	Ditch
		L1026	-	
	F1027	L1028	-	Re-cut of F1024
		L1028	-	
	F1030	L1031	Roman (mid 2 <sup>nd</sup> - 4 <sup>th</sup> C)	Re-cut of F1024
	-	-	Modern	Ditch
	F1063	L1064	-	Ditch
		L1065	-	
	F1066	L1067	-	Re-cut of F1063
		L1068	-	
	F1069	L1070	Roman (mid 2 <sup>nd</sup> - 4 <sup>th</sup> C)	Re-cut of F1063
		L1072		
	F1093	L1094	-	Gully
F1095	L1096	-	Pit	
9	F1081	L1082	Roman sherds	?Ditch/ Channel
	F1147	L1148	-	Ditch
	F1159	L1160	-	?Ditch/ Channel
	F1161	L1162	-	?Ditch/ Channel
-	-	Modern	Ditch	

10.2 The density of features varies largely across the site and is greater towards the southern end of the site. Excluding modern and possibly natural features, the recorded features per trench are Trench 1 (0), 2 (1), 3 (1), 4 (7), 5 (7), 6 (2), 7 (18), 8 (4) and 9 (1). Trenches 4, 7 and 8 have the greatest number of features, while Trench 5 which contained five undated postholes and two linear features.

10.3 The range of features comprises postholes (6), pits (12), ditches (19) and gullies (3). A metalled surface (L1059) was recorded in Trench 7. Three possible ponds were recorded (F1158 (Trench 4), F1035 and F1140 (Trench 7)), and three ?ditches/ channels were recorded in Trench 9 (F1081, F1159 and F1161). ?Pond F1158 may have been a constructed waterhole of prehistoric or Roman date, although it may equally have been naturally occurring. Natural peat-filled hollows – typical of ‘settled fenland’ landscapes – have been reported from Suffolk (Bales 2004, 3; Craven 2006, 4-5).

10.4 Many of the features were large and inter-cut, and therefore they could not be fully defined within the confines of the trial trench evaluation, for example, the identification of pits within Trench 7 (F1054, F1112, F1115 and F1131) is tentative.

10.5 The earliest period represented is prehistoric and sparse struck flint (some residual) was found in several features/ contexts (Ditch F1033, Metalled Surface L1059 and Ditch F1100 (all Trench 7)). The struck flint includes a thumbnail scraper (from Ditch F1100) and similar utilized flakes indicative of an early Bronze Age, or possibly later prehistoric date (see *The Struck Flint*). A pebble hammerstone was found in Ditch F1033 (Trench 7) and may have functioned as an *ad hoc* pestle (see *The Woked Stone Objects*).

10.6 The ceramic dating evidence is sparse. The majority of dated features contained between one and seven sherds, while only Pit F1073 yielded a more substantial group (23 sherds). The majority of the pottery is Roman but frequently with a broad date range (mid 2<sup>nd</sup> to 4<sup>th</sup> century). Only the pottery from Ditch F1136 (Trench 7) has a ‘tighter’ date; 2<sup>nd</sup> to 3<sup>rd</sup> century. Highly abraded mid to late Iron Age pottery was recovered from ?Pond F1140 (Trench 7; 1 sherd) and Metalled Surface L1059 (Trench 7; 2 sherds). The Roman pottery is consistent with occupation in the near vicinity, rather than on site, probably of domestic function dating from the mid 2<sup>nd</sup> to 4<sup>th</sup> centuries AD. A sherd of Samian ware imported from the continent was found within the topsoil. The Roman pottery is dominated by products of the major Lower Nene Valley industry centred on *Durobrivae* (Water Newton). The fabrics are un-diagnostic, although Ditch Re-cuts F1069 and F1030 L1031 each contained the base and lower body of a large LNV CC closed vessel, probably a late Roman jar or flagon (see *The Prehistoric and Roman Pottery*).

10.7 Animal bone was frequently found in association with pottery but other finds are sparse. Oyster shell was found in ?Ditch/ Channel F1081 (Trench 9), a preserved turned wooden object in ?Pond F1035 (Trench 7), and a rotary quern fragment in Ditch Re-cut F1069 (Trench 8). A corroded Roman coin was found within the topsoil of Trench 1. Overall the animal bones were fairly well preserved. The majority (approximately two thirds) could only be identified as large (cattle or horse sized) or medium (sheep or pig sized) mammal. Of the identified bones sheep/goat were the most abundant followed by cattle; pig and horse were represented by very few bones. The dominance of head and foot elements and the presence of such skinning marks

may indicate the processing of sheep carcasses for skins and possibly the export of meat bearing elements off the site (see *The Animal Bone*).

10.8 The environmental samples from a number of ditch fills, as well as Pond F1035, contained a range of waterlogged plant macrofossils. The remains were characteristic of natural waste ground and scrub habitats bounding the features, in addition to reflecting standing fresh water in a number of features. The molluscan remains also support these broad habitat characterisations. The very limited occurrence of carbonised material in the deposits indicates that there was little domestic food preparation or agricultural processing activity in the vicinity of the excavated features (Environmental Report below).

10.9 The correlation of the archaeological evidence with the geophysical survey is good with many of the geophysical anomalies being recognised during the trial trenching (Fig.3). The geophysical survey was not 'accurate' in areas of strong magnetic disturbance – which is unsurprising – i.e. the features in western end of Trench 5 were not identified and also those within Trenches 4 and 7. The positive geophysical survey anomalies traversing Trenches 8 and 9, Numbers 5 and 7, were detected in Trench 8 (F1024 and F1063) but not Trench 9.

## 11 CONCLUSION

11.1 The Roman archaeology recorded during the trial trench evaluation adds to the known corpus of evidence for Roman occupation in the area. It suggests that activity was associated with the landscape close to previously identified settlement on the edges of the March fen island at Norwood to the north and Flaggrass to the east, the latter also adjacent to the Fen causeway (Jackson and Potter 1996, 29, fig. 2). Unlike Norwood and Flaggrass which were also adjacent to waterways; the West Water and Rodham Farm Canal respectively, Estover was located slightly inland from the edge of the fen island, but nonetheless in a prominent position along the Fen causeway in the hinterland of the larger settlements of Grandford and Stonea. This indicates that the site has the potential to provide further information to help understand the character and extent of Roman occupation in the March area.

11.2 Previous archaeological excavations were conducted at Estover – immediately adjacent to the west of the current site – in order to investigate earthworks and the line of the Roman Fen Causeway (Jackson and Potter 1996, 49ff, fig. 12). This work identified the metalled surface, ditches and agger of the Fen Causeway, a ditched drove road of late Iron Age/ early Roman date and probable stock enclosures to the north (Fig. 2). The Fen Causeway was not encountered by the current project, its projected alignment passing some 25m to the south of the site. In contrast, the previously identified enclosure system appeared to continue across the current site, correlating well with enclosure systems identified by aerial photography (Fig. 2). The latter continue some 0.5km to the east of the current site and show some correlation with the alignments of extant drainage channels. The easterly continuation of the previously

identified drove road (Jackson and Potter 1996, 50, fig. 12) was, however, not clearly defined within the current site. The c. E/W orientation of Metalled Surface L1059 (Trench 7) was similar to that of the drove road, but the two were not well aligned. Also, although linear anomalies (Nos. 6 and 7; Fig. 3) appeared broadly aligned with the projected course of the drove road, they were spaced further apart than the boundary ditches of the latter and were not consistently associated with features of archaeological origin. It is probable that the absence of the drove road is due, at least in part, to a lack of resolution within the excavated trial trenches.

11.3 The previously excavated features (Jackson and Potter 1996) were mostly dated on ceramic evidence to the early Roman period, in contrast to the evidence from Berryfield; but were subject to only limited archaeological excavation and sampling. The alignments of the stock enclosures correspond closely with features identified at the current site by geophysical survey and trial trenching, and therefore appear to represent an eastward continuation of Roman activity. The correspondence of aerial photographic evidence with the Roman stock enclosures and possible water holes was also noted on Estover Road, to the south of the Fen Causeway. Collectively, this suggests that the Roman features at Berryfield may form part of a highly organised pastoral landscape between nucleated settlements on the Fen island, designed to benefit from access to the Fen Causeway. The presence of possible ponds (potentially for the watering of livestock) and ditches (representing enclosure boundaries) appear to support this conclusion.

## Research Potential

11.4 Rural settlements and landscapes have been identified by Medlycott (2011, 47) as an important area of research for the Roman period in the East Anglian region. Of particular relevance to the current site are research questions relating to the form of farms and the size and shape of fields in relation to the agricultural regime within which they were used (Medlycott 2011, 47). Further work at this site has the potential to contribute information to these areas of research.

11.5 The presence of waterlogged and peaty deposits at the site and containing Roman pottery indicates a potential to provide information regarding the changes in environmental conditions at this fenland site. This may be important for understanding the way in which Roman period occupation developed in the area. Environmental sampling is identified as important for contributing to an understanding of the agricultural regimes of the Roman period (Medlycott 2011, 47) and, although results from this site have so far been limited (see *The Environmental Samples*), their remains some potential for such analysis to yield important results when used in conjunction with other evidence/ data gathered from the site. In addition to the Roman archaeology, the unstratified prehistoric flintwork suggests that further archaeological work may reveal evidence for a human presence pre-dating the Roman activity at the site. At the very least, the presence of prehistoric material suggests some potential to contribute to artefact/typology studies (Medlycott 2011, 14, 21, 30; see also Young and Humphrey (1999), Humphrey (2003)).

## Recommendations

11.6 The archaeological features recorded demonstrate a strong bias towards the southern half of the site, and include a driveway close to the Fen causeway, linear enclosure ditches and large pits that may have functioned as watering holes. These features correlated closely with the results of an aerial photographic and geophysical survey, and produced positive quantities of artefactual and ecofactual evidence; therefore the southern half of the site has the higher potential to further and contribute to our understanding of the Roman landscape in this area of the Fenland landscape on the March fen island. Linear enclosure ditches are present in the northern half of the site, and also correlate with aerial photographic and geophysical surveys, but have a more sparse distribution and further investigation is unlikely to enhance our understanding of their presence.

11.7 Recommendations for any future work based upon this report will be made by the County Archaeology Office.

## DEPOSITION OF THE ARCHIVE

Archive records, with an inventory, will be deposited at the Cambridgeshire County Store. The archive will be quantified, ordered, indexed, cross referenced and checked for internal consistency.

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Archaeological Solutions Limited (AS) would like to thank the Wilkinson Family for funding the project and Maxey Grounds & Co. for commissioning the project and for their assistance (in particular Mr John Maxey).

AS is also pleased to acknowledge the input and advice of Ms Kasia Gdaniec of Cambridgeshire County Council Historic Environment Team.

## BIBLIOGRAPHY

Baker, M., Bescoby, D., and Summers, J., 2014  
*Berryfields, March, Cambridgeshire. A Geophysical Survey*, Archaeological Solutions Ltd Report No. 4819

Bales, E., 2004  
*A Roman Maltings at Beck Row, Mildenhall, Suffolk*, East Anglian Archaeology Occasional Paper No. 20 (Ipswich, Suffolk County Council)

British Geological Survey, 1977  
Geological Survey Ten Mile Map, South Sheet First Edition (Quaternary) (Institute of Geological Sciences)

British Geological Survey, 2001  
Geological Survey Ten Mile Map, South Sheet, Fourth Edition (Solid)

Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (CIfA), 2014  
*Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Evaluation* (Reading, CIfA)

Cox, C., 2015  
*Land East of Berryfields, March, Cambridgeshire. Assessment of Aerial Photographs for Archaeology*, Air Photo Services Report Ref. 215 06 03/2

Craven, J.A., 2006  
*PIK Housing, Washington Street, Beck Row, Mildenhall MNL 570. A Report on the Archaeological Evaluation, 2006*, Suffolk County Council Archaeological Service Report No. 2006/187

Gurney, D., 2003  
*Standards for Field Archaeology in the East of England*, East Anglian Archaeology Occasional Paper No. 14

Humphrey, J., 2003  
'The utilization and technology of flint in the British Iron Age', in Humphrey, J. (ed.), *Re-searching the Iron Age: Selected papers from the proceedings of the Iron Age Research Student Seminars, 1999 and 2000*, Leicester Archaeology Monographs No.11, 17-23

Jackson, R.P.J. and Potter, T.W., 1996  
*Excavations at Stonea, Cambridgeshire, 1980-85* (London, British Museum Press)

Medlycott, M. (ed.), 2011  
*Research and Archaeology Revisited: a revised framework for the East of England*, East Anglian Archaeology Occasional Paper No. 24 (ALGAO East of England Region)

Phillips, T., 2011  
*Prehistoric Settlement and Roman Quarrying at Milton Landfill, Milton, Cambridgeshire: post-excavation assessment and updated project design*, Oxford Archaeology East Report No. 1143

Soil Survey of England and Wales, 1983  
*Legend for the 1:250,000 Soil Map of England and Wales* (Harpenden, Rothamsted Experimental Station/ Lawes Agricultural Trust)

Stocks-Morgan, H., 2014

*Roman and Medieval Remains at Estover Road, March, Cambridgeshire: archaeological evaluation report*, Oxford Archaeology East Report No. 1694

### **Web-Based Resources**

<http://www.bgs.ac.uk/opengeoscience/home.html?Accordion1=1#maps> Geology of Britain viewer (accessed 13/03/2015)

<http://code.google.com/apis/earth/> Google Earth (7.1.2.2041. 2008, 52° 6'41.41"N, 0° 4'1.85"; *Historic Image 12/1945*) (accessed 13/03/2015)



## APPENDIX 1      CONCORDANCE OF FINDS

Feature	Context	Trench	Description	Spot Date (Pot Only)	Pot Qty	Pottery (g)	CBM (g)	Animal Bone (g)	Other Material	Other Qty	Other (g)
	1000	5	Topsoil					4	Shell		16
	1001	5	Subsoil						Clay Pipe	1	3
1019	1021	1	Brick Lined Soakaway				1320				
1027	1028	8	Fill of Ditch Re-cut					44			
1030	1031	8	Fill of Ditch Re-cut	Mid 2nd-4th C AD	1	106					
1033	1034	7	Fill of Ditch					362	Rubbing Stone Hammerstone B.Flint Str.Flint	1 1 1 2	198 225 2 17
1035	1036	7	?Pond	2nd-4th C AD	5	188		134	SF1 - Preserved wood	1	80
	1048	7						12	Fe.Frag	1	3
1044	1045	7	Fill of Ditch	Roman	1	2		17			
	1059	7	Metalled Surface	Mid-Late Iron Age	2	8		72	Str.Flint	1	6
1111	1060	7	Fill of Ditch					75	B.Flint		10
1069	1070	8	Fill of Ditch Re-cut	Mid 2nd-4th C AD	1	399		315			
	1072	8							Rotary Quern Fragment (sandstone)	1	1392
1073	1074	4	Fill of Pit	Roman	23	75		117	B.Flint		39
1100	1075	7	Fill of Ditch					199	Str.Flint Shell	1	12 26
1081	1082	9	Fill of ?Ditch/ Channel	Roman	6	16			O.Shell		35
1158	1084	4	Fill of ?Waterhole/ Natural Hollow or Pond					744	Shell	18	
1136	1138	7	Fill of Ditch	2nd-3rd C AD	3	28					
1140	1142	7	?Pond	Mid-Late Iron Age	1	15		1474			
1145	1146	7	Fill of Ditch					70			
1159	1160	9	Fill of ?Ditch/ Channel					58			
U/S	U/S	4	Unstratified	Roman	10	69					
U/S	U/S		Topsoil	Late 2nd-Mid 3rd C AD	2	13			F.Clay Str.Flint	1	3 4
U/S	U/S		Unstratified	Roman	13	129		92	Str.Flint B.Flint	2	5 15

									F.Clay		36
U/S	U/S		Metal Detector Finds						Fe.Frags (amorphous)	5	472
									Fe Nails (modern)	6	64
									Roman Coin:AE4 (diameter:10mm), highly corroded, reverse is proably 2 soldiers/victories facing one another, probably 4th C AD	1	<1
									Cu.Buckle & washer (modern)	2	50

## APPENDIX 2 SPECIALIST REPORTS

### The Struck Flint

*Andrew Peachey MCIfA*

The trial-trench excavation recovered a total of seven pieces of struck flint (263g) in an un-patinated condition, including a thumbnail scraper and similar utilized flakes (Table 1) whose technological traits are indicative of an early Bronze Age, or possibly later prehistoric date.

Implement/ Flake Type	Frequency	Weight (g)
Hammer stone	1	225
Thumbnail scraper	1	12
Utilised Flake	3	21
Debitage	2	5
<i>Total:</i>	7	263

*Table 1: Quantification of struck flint*

#### *Methodology and Terminology*

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 implement and core 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 and 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 'un-corticated' to those with no dorsal cortex.

#### *Discussion*

The assemblage was predominantly manufactured using dark grey flint with, where extant a thin white, fairly smooth cortex. It included four 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 Ditch F1100 (L1075) comprised a thumbnail scraper, manufactured neatly with semi-invasive retouch, and characteristic of early Bronze Age assemblages in the region. Although similarly sized the remaining utilized flakes are noticeably cruder, with two examples in Ditch F1033 (L1034) exhibiting completely shattered bulbs of percussion, while an un-stratified example from the topsoil exhibits a pronounced hinged termination. 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. Two un-modified tertiary debitage flakes were also recovered as un-stratified material and are of similar size and technology to the utilized flakes, with

the 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.

The assemblage also included a hammerstone contained in Ditch F1033 (L1034) that in contrast to the bulk of the assemblage was red-orange in colour with a sub-spherical profile, suggesting it was collected as a pebble, possibly from a coarse gravel deposit. The spherical nodule is frost-damaged with a partially pock-marked cortex but one small area of chipped wear is evident suggesting it was used to strike a narrow object such as a fabricator or punch. Experimental modern flint work has classified the range of hammer stones in a knapper's kit, with this example conforming to a small, hard implement (Whittaker 1994, 87; Lord 1993, 24), though similar tools may have been used for leather or wood working.

### References

Andrefsky, W. 2005 *Lithics: Macroscopic Approaches to Analysis* (2<sup>nd</sup> edition). Cambridge University Press, Cambridge

Healy, F. 1988 *The Anglo-Saxon Cemetery at Spong Hill, North Elmham, Part VI: Occupation during the Seventh to Second Millennium BC*. East Anglian Archaeology No. 39

Lord, J. 1993 *The Nature and Subsequent Uses of Flint*. Privately Published

Whittaker, J. 1994 *Flintknapping: Making and Understanding Stone Tools*. University of Texas Press, Austin

### The Prehistoric and Roman Pottery

Andrew Peachey MCI(A)

The trial-trench excavations recovered a total of 68 sherds (1048g) of pottery, predominantly Roman in date, with a very low quantity of highly abraded prehistoric pottery also present, probably of mid to late Iron Age in date (Table 2). The Roman pottery is slightly abraded, with the external surfaces and slips of most fabrics largely extant and some cross-joining sherds present, however the shell-tempered fabrics have been very adversely affected by soil condition and have become vesiculated and friable. The Roman pottery was sparsely distributed, mostly within ditches and gullies, with no concentrations of sherds identified and a total of 25 sherds (211g) recovered as unstratified material. The Roman pottery assemblage has a low diagnostic content, but the fabric and form types present suggest a date between the mid/late 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> centuries AD.

Date	Sherd Count	Weight (g)	R.EVE
Mid-Late Iron Age	3	23	0.00
Roman	65	1025	0.15
Total	68	1048	0.15

Table 2: Quantification of pottery by period

## Methodology

The pottery was quantified by sherd count, weight (g) and R.EVE with fabrics examined at x20 magnification in accordance with the guidelines of the Prehistoric Ceramics Research Group (PCRG 1995) and the Study Group for Roman Pottery. Fabric codes and descriptions (Roman) were cross-referenced, where possible, to the National Roman Fabric Reference Collection (Tomber and Dore 1998) or regional kiln/type series, while local or indistinguishable coarse wares were assigned an alpha-numeric code and are fully described in the report. Samian ware forms reference Webster (1996). All data has been entered into a Microsoft Excel spreadsheet that forms part of the site archive (Appendix A-B).

## Fabric Descriptions

### Mid-Late Iron Age

QF1: Black to dark red-brown surfaces over a very dark grey core, with inclusions of common, well-sorted quartz (0.1-0.5mm) and sparse calcined flint (typically <1mm, occasionally to 5mm).

### Roman

- TRI SA: Trier samian ware (Tomber & Dore 1998, 41)  
 LNV CC: Lower Nene Valley colour-coated ware, white-bodied (Tomber & Dore 1998, 118).  
 LNV GW: Lower Nene Valley (white bodied) grey-slipped ware (Perrin 1996, 116-118; Hancocks 2003, 207).  
 LNV RE: Lower Nene Valley reduced (sandy) ware (Perrin 1996, 116; Rollo 2001, 59).  
 HOR RE: Horningsea reduced ware (Tomber and Dore 1998, 116; Evans 1991, 35). Mid to dark grey surfaces with a reduced mid-grey core and sometimes oxidised margins. Inclusions comprise common quartz (0.1-0.5mm) with sparse limestone and grog/ironstone (generally <2mm) and occasional flint (0.5-5mm)  
 ROB SH: Romano-British shell-tempered ware (Tomber & Dore 1998, 212), wheel-made with common, moderately sorted shell (0.5-7mm, occasionally larger).

Fabric	Sherd Count	Weight (g)	R.EVE
QF1	3	23	0.00
TRI SA	1	1	0.00
LNV CC	2	505	0.00
LNV GW	3	28	0.00
LNV RE	7	28	0.00
HOR RE	5	188	0.15
ROB SH	47	275	0.00
<i>Total</i>	<i>68</i>	<i>1048</i>	<i>0.15</i>

Table 3: Quantification of fabric types

## Discussion

The prehistoric pottery comprises small plain body sherds of fabric QF1 contained in ?Pond F1140 (L1142) and Metalled Surface L1059. Comparable fabrics with predominant sand temper supplemented by limited quantities of flint temper have been recorded in middle to late Iron Age ceramic assemblages at Wardy Hill, Ely and Feltwell to the south-east and east (Horne 2003, 162; Gurney 1986, 26).

The Roman pottery is dominated by products of the major Lower Nene Valley industry (LNV CC, LNV GW & LNV RE) centred on *Durobrivae* (Water Newton), c.21km to the west close to modern-day Peterborough; with sparse coarse wares produced in Cambridgeshire (HOR RE & ROB SH) also present, and a single sherd of Samian ware imported from the continent. The Samian ware, recovered from the topsoil, was imported from Trier in east Gaul between the late 2<sup>nd</sup> and mid 3<sup>rd</sup> centuries AD, but is too small to allow a form type or more specific dating to be defined. The Lower Nene Valley fabrics are un-diagnostic, although Ditch Re-cuts F1069 and F1030 L1031 each contain the base and lower body of a large LNV CC closed vessel, probably a late Roman jar or flagon. The grey wares from the Lower Nene Valley include grey-slipped, white-bodied (LNV GW) and reduced, sandy (LNV RE) variants that generally decline as the 3<sup>rd</sup> century progresses and LNV CC becomes more common, although these coarse wares may persist for longer in the local market of this major industry, which certainly includes March.

The only other grey wares present in the assemblage comprise fragments of a single HOR RE jar in Feature F1035. Horningsea is situated c.35km to the south, and its products were commonly distributed across the fens, including jars with characteristically strongly everted bead rims (Evans *et al forthcoming*: Horningsea type J9.1/3), such as this example, which were produced throughout the 2<sup>nd</sup> to 4<sup>th</sup> centuries AD. The remaining Roman pottery comprises poorly-preserved shell-tempered wares (ROB SH), almost certainly jars, that could potentially have been produced in the Lower Nene Valley (Perrin 1996, 117), Harrold, Bedfordshire (Brown 1994) or possibly in small scale kilns such as that recorded at Earith (Vince 2013, 329). The incidence of ROB SH generally increases in the late Roman period, although the fossiliferous clays easily available in and close to the northern and western fenland result in this type of fabric remaining relatively common throughout the Roman period in the area of the site.

The Roman pottery presents a limited sample, but would appear to be consistent with Roman occupation in the near vicinity, probably of domestic function in the mid 2<sup>nd</sup> to 4<sup>th</sup> centuries AD. Previous excavations at Estover, March, close to the site have produced Roman pottery, but this was distinctively early Roman (Claudian-Flavian) (Jackson & Potter 1996, 59-60) and contrasts significantly with this assemblage. However broader Roman occupation is extensively distributed on the fen island that contains March, and others situated close by, not least associated with settlement to the north-east at Flaggrass and the administrative, market and settlement centre at Stonea Camp, which would have required significant trade and consumption of pottery throughout the Roman period.

### References

- Brown, A. 1994 'A Romano-British Shell-Gritted Pottery and Tile Manufacturing Site at Harrold, Bedfordshire'. *Beds. Arch.* 21, 19-107
- Evans, J. 1991 'Some Notes on the Horningsea Roman pottery' *Journal of Roman Pottery Studies* 4, 33-43

Evans, J., Macaulay, S., and Mills, P. forthcoming *The Horningsea Pottery Industry: A Study of Roman Pottery in Southern Cambridgeshire*. East Anglian Archaeology forthcoming volume

Gurney, D., 1986 'The Romano-British Villa and Bath-house at Little Oulsham Drove, Feltwell; Excavations by Ernest Green field, 1962 and 1964' in Gurney, D. *Settlement, Religion & Industry on the Roman Fen Edge, Norfolk*. East Anglian Archaeology 31, 1-48

Hancocks, A. 2003 'Appendix Table A2: Roman pottery, fabric descriptions (The Parks and London Road' in Jones, A (ed) *Settlement, Burial, and Industry in Roman Godmanchester*. BUFAU Mon. Ser. 6, 206-209

Horne, L. 2003 'Material Culture' in Evans, C *Cambridge University: Power and island Communities: Excavations at Wardy Hill Ringwork, Coveney, Ely*. East Anglian Archaeology 103, 145-183.

Howe, M., Perrin, R. and Mackreth, D. 1980 *Roman Pottery from the Nene Valley: a guide*. Peterborough City Museum Occ. Pap. 2

Jackson, R.P.J. and Potter, T.W. 1996 *Excavations at Stonea, Cambridgeshire, 1980-85*. British Museum Press, London

Perrin, R. 1996 'The Roman Pottery' in Mackreth, DF *Orton Hall Farm: A Roman and Early Anglo-Saxon Farmstead*. EAA 76, 114-204

Perrin, 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

Prehistoric Ceramics Research Group (PCRG). 1995 *The study of later prehistoric pottery: general policies for analysis and publication*, Occasional Paper 1-2

Rollo, L., 2001 'The Iron Age and Roman Pottery' in *Monument 97, Orton Longueville, Cambridgeshire: A late pre-Roman Iron Age and early Roman farmstead*. EAA 97

Tomber, R. and Dore, J., 1998, *The National Roman Fabric Reference Collection*, Museum of London, London

Vince, A., 2013 'Characterisation of shell-tempered pottery' in Evans, C. with Appleby, G., Lucy, S. and Regan, R. *Process and History: Romano-British Communities at Colne Fen, Earith*. CAU Landscape Archives: The Archaeology of the Lower Ouse Valley, Volume 2, 325-329

Webster, P., 1996, *Roman Samian Pottery in Britain*, CBA Practical Handbook in Archaeology 13

## Appendix A Quantification of pottery by context

F	L	Seg	Tr	Description	Spot Date	Total POT		Fabric														
						F	W	QF1	TRI SA		LNV CC		LNV GW		LNV RE		HOR RE		ROB SH			
								F	W	F	W	F	W	F	W	F	W	F	W	F	W	
1030	1031		8	Organic Peat Fill	Mid 2nd-4th C AD	1	106															
1035	1036	B	7	Cut of Feature	2nd-4th C AD	5	188									5	188					
1044	1045		7	Fill of Ditch	Roman	1	2															
1059			7	Metalled Surface	Mid-Late Iron Age	2	8	2	8												1	2
1069	1070		8	Fill of Ditch	Mid 2nd-4th C AD	1	399					1	399									
1073	1074		4	Fill of Feature	Roman	23	75														23	75
1081	1082		9	Fill of Channel	Roman	6	16									6	16					
1136	1138		7	Secondary Fill	2nd-3rd C AD	3	28							3	28							
1140	1142		7	Secondary Fill of Ditch	Mid-Late Iron Age	1	15	1	15													
U/S	U/S		4	Unstratified	Roman	10	69														10	69
U/S	U/S			Topsoil	Late 2nd-Mid 3rd C AD	2	13			1	1					1	12					
U/S	U/S			Unstratified	Roman	13	129														13	129
<b>Total</b>						<b>68</b>	<b>1048</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>505</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>188</b>	<b>47</b>	<b>275</b>	

## Appendix B Quantification of diagnostic pottery sherds by context

F	L	Seg	Tr	Desc	Fabric	Vessel Type	Form Comparison	d	R.EVE	V.No.	I?	Vessel Date	Comments
1030	1031		8	Organic Peat Fill	LNV CC	?Jar/Flagon	\	\	\	\	\	M2-4	base and lower body, possibly of jar or flagon, probably Late Roman in date
1035	1036	B	7	Cut of Feature	HOR RE	Jar	Evans et al: Homingsea type J9.1/3	15	0.15	\	\	2nd-4th C AD	strongly everted rounded bead rim, ?plain cordon, rim only burnished
1069	1070		8	Fill of Ditch	LNV CC	?Jar/Flagon	\	\	\	\	\	M2-4	base and lower body, possibly of jar or flagon, probably Late Roman in date

## The Ceramic Building Materials

Andrew Peachey MCIfA

The trial-trench excavations recovered a total of three fragments (99g) of CBM as unstratified material, and a single partial brick (1320g) sampled from a brick-lined soakaway. The CBM was quantified by fragment count and weight, with all extant dimensions characterised/measured and described below.

The un-stratified (Trench 3) CBM comprises post-medieval peg tile (12mm thick), manufactured locally in a mid-orange calcareous fabric (vesiculated), probably in the 18<sup>th</sup>-19<sup>th</sup> centuries.

The partial brick (1320g) sampled from Brick-lined Soakaway F1019 comprises a Fletton Brick (?x105x65mm) with a broad angular frog, that exhibits the partial maker's stamp of 'LB...' on one side and 'PHOR...' on the other, which when complete would have read 'LBC PHORPRES'. This is indicative of the London Brick Company and the Phorpres type of brick, allegedly so-called because its technique of manufacture involved being pressed twice in each direction or 'four-pressed', which pronounced quickly became 'Phorpres'. This type of brick was mass produced between 1889 and the 1960 at Fletton, near Peterborough, with lesser production continuing later still, and is one of the most common bricks of the period.



## The Turned Wooden Object

*Nicholas J. Cooper and Graham Morgan*

An incomplete 'toadstool' shaped length of turned wood, which has split longitudinally, was recovered from L1036. The 'head', of circular section, is wider than the 'stalk', and tapers to a blunted terminal which appears to have a conical impression in the top of it. The 'stalk' is a short, parallel-sided length of circular section with turning marks visible on its sides and saw marks on the transversely cut end. The object has been turned from a piece of radially cut Field Maple - *Acer campestre*. Length 60mm, diameter at base of head 45mm, diameter at top of head 25mm, diameter of 'stalk' 30mm (Plates 1-4).

The saw marks on the end indicate that the object was cut off from, a perhaps bigger piece, after turning, and the cone-shaped impression in the opposite end was where the length of wood was centred on the pole lathe. The most likely conclusion is that this was the scrap piece that was removed from the turned object once it had been finished, and was then discarded.

### *Plates*



1: External surface



2: Internal surface along longitudinal split showing conical recess at right hand end



3: Blunted end showing conical recess



4: Sawn end showing parallel saw marks

## The Worked Stone Objects

Nicholas J. Cooper

Object 1. Rotary quern. F1069 (L1072). Abraded edge fragment, probably from upper stone of a flat rotary quern manufactured in a fine, grey sandstone. The semi-circular cut out on the broken edge and rectangular cut out on the circumference are not original features and have resulted from re-use. Original diameter: 600mm, thickness: 55mm.



Object 2. Rubbing stone. F1033 (L1034). Fragment of a quartzite pebble with a light brown external surface. One end has a smooth, rounded profile possibly used as an *ad hoc* pestle. Length: 55mm, width: 35mm.



Object 3. F1033 (L1034). Fragment of fine grey sandstone of sub-rectangular section with broken ends and rounded edges. Length: 40mm, width: 30mm.



### The Coin

*Andrew Peachey MCIfA*

Roman coin. Unstratified (topsoil, Trench 1). Highly corroded AE4 (diameter : 10mm). Reverse probably shows two soldiers/ victories facing one another. Probably 4<sup>th</sup> century in date.



## **The Animal Bone**

*Dr Julia E.M. Cussans*

A small assemblage of hand collected animal bone was recovered from trial trench excavations at Berryfield, March. Quantities of animal bones and the contexts they derived from are detailed in Table 4. Overall the bones were fairly well preserved with the majority of contexts being rated as good on an overall scale from very poor through to excellent (Table 4); bones from ?Pond F1035 were noted as having excellent preservation. The bones on the whole had suffered very little abrasion and fresh breakages were few; a small number of the bones were noted as having been chewed by canids (dog/wolf/fox). While the bones were in good condition the majority (approximately 80%) could only be identified as large (cattle or horse sized) or medium (sheep or pig sized) mammal, the majority of these were rib, long bone and skull fragments that could not with any certainty be assigned to species. Of the identified bones cattle were the most abundant followed by sheep/goat; pig and horse were represented by very few bones. No other taxa were identified.

Horse was represented by a single tooth and pig by a mix of head, feet and limb bones. The pig remains included butchered bones and an ageable jaw fragment. Cattle were largely represented by head and limb elements including fragments of a horned skull (Ditch Re-cut F1069 L1070). Several of the cattle bones displayed evidence of butchery, including both chop and cut marks and a number of ageable epiphyses were present. Sheep/goat was largely represented by elements of the head and feet although a small number of limb bones were also present. Head elements included sheep horn core fragments (Ditch F1100 L1075) and a complete mandible with the third molar not quite fully erupted, indicating a sub-adult animal; no goats were positively identified. Notable amongst the foot elements were a number of complete metapodials, the majority of which bore skinning marks. The dominance of head and foot elements and the presence of such skinning marks may indicate the processing of sheep carcasses for skins and possibly the export of meat bearing elements off the site. The presence of several complete metapodials will also allow for measurements to be taken and some biometrical analyses to take place which, in a larger sample, may allow for the sexual makeup of the population to be assessed or livestock improvements to be detected.

A small quantity of animal bone was recovered from flotation sample heavy fractions (Samples 4, 8, 10 & 11). None of the bone was identifiable but represented a number of large and medium mammal bone fragments, similar to those present in the hand collected assemblage.

Further excavation at Berryfield would likely recover a substantial assemblage of well-preserved animal bone that would provide a useful insight into the Roman and possibly earlier economy of the site and wider region.

Feature	Layer	Preservation	Cattle	Sheep/Goat	Pig	Horse	Large Mammal	Medium Mammal	Total
-	1000	ok					6		6
1027	1028	ok					3		3
1033	1034	good	4	1			30		35
1035	1036	excellent	1	3			1		5
1044	1045	poor					1		1
1035	1048	ok					1		1
-	1059	ok	1				11		12
1111	1060	good		1	1			1	3
1069	1070	good	6				12		18
1073	1074	poor	2						2
1100	1075	good	1	11			2	7	21
1073	1084	good	3		2			3	8
1140	1142	good	8				130	1	139
1145	1146	good					3		3
1159	1160	good		1		1			2
U/S	U/S	good	1	5				20	26
<i>Total</i>			27	22	3	1	200	32	285

Table 4. Quantification of hand collected animal bones from March

## The Shell

Dr Julia E.M. Cussans and Dr John R. Summers

A small assemblage of marine shell was collected during the evaluation at Berryfield, March. A total of 95g of shell came from hand collected material and 327g from sample residues. All of the shell assemblage was examined and none of the material appeared to represent food waste as is normal for marine shell collected from archaeological sites. The majority of the shell from the sample residues derived from the natural (March Gravels Member, dating to the Ipswichian Age (BGS 2015)), through which many of the archaeological features had been dug and had subsequently formed natural accumulations within the features whilst they had remained open. Species present in the sample residues include *Cerastoderma edule* (common cockle), *Buccinum undatum* (common whelk), *Turritella communis* (European screw shell) and *Spisula elliptica* (a small bi-valve). All of these species are found in sandy habitats and very few of the shells present appeared to be fully grown. A small number of terrestrial and fresh water snails were also present (Table 5) and these correspond well with those found in the flotation light fractions (see *The Environmental Samples*) for more details.

The hand collected assemblage was made up of a small number of mineralised oyster fragments (cf. *Ostrea* sp.) and a single small cockle shell. It seems likely that that these were also all naturally occurring at the site and the mineralised oyster shell fragments likely considerably pre-date any archaeological activity at the site.

Sample No	Feature	Context	Description	Shell (g)	Species present
2	1024	1025	Fill of Ditch	32	<i>Spisula elliptica</i> , <i>Cerastoderma edule</i> , <i>Turritella communis</i>
4	1039	1040	Fill of Ditch	105	<i>Spisula elliptica</i> , <i>Cerastoderma edule</i> , <i>Turritella communis</i> , <i>Buccinum undatum</i> (v young), plus one unidentified small marine gastropod and two terrestrial snails: <i>Cepea</i> sp. and <i>Trichia hispida</i> group.
5	1035	1036	Fill of ?Pond	19	<i>Spisula elliptica</i> , <i>Cerastoderma edule</i> , plus other small terrestrial and fresh water species: <i>Planorbis planorbis</i> , <i>Trichia hispida</i> group, <i>Anisus leucostoma</i> & <i>Lymnaea peregra</i>
6	1035	1048 B	Fill of ?Pond	24	<i>Spisula elliptica</i> , <i>Turritella communis</i> , <i>Cerastoderma edule</i>
7	1063	1064	Fill of Ditch	55	<i>Buccinum undatum</i> , <i>Spisula elliptica</i> , <i>Turritella communis</i> , <i>Cerastoderma edule</i> , plus one terrestrial snail: <i>Cepea</i> sp.
8	1069	1070	Fill of Ditch	11	<i>Spisula elliptica</i> , <i>Turritella communis</i> , unknown gastropod fragment, plus one terrestrial snail: <i>Cepea</i> sp.
10	1100	1075	Fill of Ditch	3	<i>Spisula elliptica</i>
11	1111	1060	Fill of Ditch	4	mineralised oyster fragment
12	1033	1034	Fill of Ditch	1	<i>Spisula elliptica</i> - one shell only
15	1136	1137	Fill of Ditch	73	<i>Spisula elliptica</i> , <i>Cerastoderma edule</i> , <i>Turritella communis</i>

Table 5: Shell recovered from sample residues

## Reference

<http://www.bgs.ac.uk/lexicon/lexicon.cfm?pub=MRCG> BGS 2015, March Gravels Member, British Geological Society (accessed July 2015)

## The Environmental Samples

Dr John R. Summers

### Introduction

Fourteen bulk soil samples for environmental archaeological assessment were taken and processed during trial excavations at Berryfield, March. Sampling primarily targeted large re-cut ditches associated with a possible drove way, which may be Roman in date (cf. James and Potter 1996), and waterlogged, organic-rich deposits in F1035, spot dated to the 2nd-4th century AD. This report presents the results from the assessment of the bulk sample light fractions and discusses the significance and potential of any remains recovered.

### Methods

Samples were processed at the Archaeological Solutions Ltd facilities in Bury St. Edmunds using standard flotation methods. The light fractions were washed onto a mesh of 500µm (microns), while the heavy fractions were sieved to 1mm. Where waterlogged material was expected, light fractions were stored and sorted in water. The light fractions were scanned under a low power stereomicroscope (x10-x30 magnification). Botanical and molluscan remains were identified and recorded using a

semi-quantitative scale (X = present; XX = common; XXX = abundant). Reference literature (Cappers *et al.* 2006; Jacomet 2006; Kerney and Cameron 1979; Kerney 1999) and a reference collection of modern seeds was consulted where necessary. Potential contaminants, such as modern roots, seeds and invertebrate fauna were also recorded in order to gain an insight into possible disturbance of the deposits.

All samples were 50% sub-sampled, except for sample 5 from L1036, which contained high concentrations of waterlogged remains and was 25% sub-sampled. Samples containing waterlogged material will be retained until the report is approved in case further work is necessary.

## Results

The assessment data from the bulk sample light fractions are presented in Table 6. Carbonised plant remains and charcoal were very rare in the sampled deposits, with the bulk of the evidence recovered in the form of waterlogged plant remains and mollusc shells.

### Parallel ditches in Trenches 7 and 8

The excavated ditch deposits in Trenches 7 and 8 were quite deep, with evidence of multiple re-cuts. Sampled deposits included L1025 (Ditch F1024), L1028 (Ditch Re-cut F1027), L1040 (Ditch F1039), L1064 (Ditch F1063), L1070 (Ditch Re-cut F1069), L1075 (Ditch F1100), L1060 (Ditch F1111) and L1034 (Ditch F1033). Sparse pottery remains suggest a possible Roman date (2nd-4th century) for some of the deposits. The majority of the waterlogged plant remains indicate waste ground and scrub habitats, such as nettle (*Urtica dioica*), buttercup (*Ranunculus acris/ bulbosus*), oraches (*Atriplex* sp.), knotgrass (*Polygonum aviculare*), dock (*Rumex* sp.), bramble (*Rubus* sp.), elder (*Sambucus nigra*) and thistle (*Carduus/ Cirsium* sp.). These probably reflect the prevailing habitats in the vicinity of the ditches. Some damper ground is indicated by sedge (*Carex* sp.) and clustered dock (*Rumex conglomeratus*). Aquatic plants, horned pondweed (*Zanichella palustris*) and probable water-starwort (cf. *Callitriche* sp.), indicate standing water, at least in some of the ditches.

Where waterlogged plant remains were absent, aquatic molluscs in the samples, such as *Anisus leucostoma* and *Lymnaea truncatula*, indicate wet conditions in the past, at least on a seasonal basis. These taxa, particularly *A. leucostoma*, were widespread in the sampled ditch deposits. Also present were taxa characteristic of grassland (*Pupilla muscorum* and *Vallonia* sp.), wet grassland (*Carychium* sp. and *Succinea/ Oxytoma* sp.) and ground litter (*Trichia hispida* group and *Cochlicopa* sp.). These most likely reflect habitats on the ditch margins and broadly support the data from the waterlogged plant macrofossils.



### ?Pond F1035 (Trench 7)

Two bulk samples were taken from L1036 and L1048, both of which contained identifiable waterlogged plant remains. Pottery from L1036 suggests a possible period of deposition during the 2<sup>nd</sup> to 4<sup>th</sup> centuries AD. The plant taxa indicated waste ground (e.g. *Urtica dioica*, *Ranunculus acris/ bulbosus*, *Atriplex* sp., *Stellaria media*, *Polygonum aviculare*, *Rumex* sp., *Rubus* sp., *Prunella vulgaris* and *Carduus/ Cirsium* sp.) and damp/ wet conditions (e.g. *Carex* sp. and *Glyceria* sp.). A small number of seeds from probable water-starwort (cf. *Callitriche* sp.), an aquatic plant, indicate still or slow moving fresh water. This is also reflected by the mollusc assemblage, which included aquatic taxa *Anisus leucostoma* and *Planorbis planorbis*. A small number of terrestrial molluscs of grassland (*Vallonia* sp.), wet grassland (*Carychium* sp.) and ground litter (*Discus rotundatus*) were also recognised. Waterlogged wood within the deposit included oak (*Quercus* sp.) and a diffuse porous wood type, mostly present as small diameter roundwood. Apart from a turned wooden object (SF1), no evidence of wood working was noted.

### Other deposits

Of the remaining deposits, a single free-threshing type wheat grain (*Triticum aestivum/ turgidum* type) was recovered from undated ditch fill L1016 (Ditch F1015), representing the only evidence of cereals from the site to date. A small number of waterlogged plant remains (*Urtica dioica*, *Ranunculus* sp., *Chenopodium* sp. and *Polygonum aviculare*) were recovered from L1137 (Ditch F1136). The feature may date to the 2<sup>nd</sup>-4<sup>th</sup> century AD and the remains are comparable to other deposits of this date.

### *Column Sample*

A 0.5m column sample was taken from deposits L1083, L1084 and L1085, organic rich waterlogged deposits in ?Waterhole/ Pond or Hollow F1158, to provide the potential for palynological assessment. The deposits were comparable in character to those in ?Pond F1035 and seem to represent the fill of a similar large pond or depression c. 10m in diameter. The role of these features on the site is uncertain, although deposits of plant macrofossils identified in L1036 and L1048 of F1035 were natural in character (see above). Since the true nature of these features is as yet not fully understood, making it difficult to direct a detailed palynological research project, it is not recommended that this work is undertaken at this stage of the project. However, the sample will be retained and refrigerated in case further work is required.

### *Conclusions and Statement of Potential*

The archaeobotanical assemblage showed little evidence of human activity associated with the excavated features. The single free-threshing type wheat grain was recorded in an undated deposit (L1016). The waterlogged plant taxa were mostly representative of waste ground or wet areas bounding the excavated features or aquatic plants

growing in standing water within the features. The molluscan assemblage was comparable in the types of habitats represented.

### *References*

Cappers, R.T.J., Bekker R.M. and Jans J.E.A. 2006, *Digital Seed Atlas of the Netherlands. Groningen Archaeological Studies Volume 4*, Barkhuis Publishing, Eelde

Jacomet, S. 2006, *Identification of Cereal Remains from Archaeological Sites* (2<sup>nd</sup> edn), Laboratory of Palinology and Palaeoecology, Basel University

James, S.T. and Potter, T.W. 1996, 'Excavations at Estover, March, 1985', in Jackson, R.P.J. and Potter, T.W (eds) *Excavations at Stonea, Cambridgeshire, 1980-85*, British Museum Press, London, 49-60

Kerney, M.P. 1999, *Atlas of the Land and Freshwater Molluscs of Britain and Ireland*, Harley Books, Colchester

Kerney, M.P. and Cameron, R.A.D. 1979, *A Field Guide to Land Snails of Britain and North-West Europe*, Collins, London

Sample number	Context	Feature	Description	Spot date	Volume taken (litres)	Volume processed (litres)	% processed	Cereals			Non-cereal taxa (carbonised)		Non-cereal taxa (waterlogged)		Hazelnut shell	Charcoal		Molluscs		Contaminants					Other remains
								Cereal grains	Cereal chaff	Notes	Seeds	Notes	Seeds	Notes		Charcoal >2mm	Notes	Molluscs	Notes	Roots	Molluscs	Modern seeds	Insects	Earthworm capsules	
1	1016	1015	Fill of Ditch	-	40	20	50%	X	-	FTW (1)	-	-	-	-	-	-	X	<i>Vallonia</i> sp.	XX	X	X	-	-	-	
2	1025	1024	Basal Fill of Ditch	-	40	20	50%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	XX	<i>Anisus leucostoma</i> , <i>Carychium</i> sp., <i>Lymnaea truncatula</i> , <i>Succinea</i> / <i>Oxyloma</i> sp., <i>Vallonia</i> sp.	XX	-	-	-	-	-	Marine shell (from natural)
3	1028	1027	Basal Fill of Ditch	-	40	20	50%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	X	<i>Anisus</i> sp., <i>Vallonia</i> sp.	XX	-	-	-	-	-	Small mammal/ amphibian bone (XX)
4	1040	1039	Fill of Ditch	-	40	20	50%	-	-	-	-	-	XX	<i>Urtica dioica</i> , <i>Polygonum aviculare</i> , <i>Rumex</i> sp., <i>Carduus</i> / <i>Cirsium</i> sp.	-	-	-	XX	<i>Anisus leucostoma</i> , <i>Anisus vortex</i> , <i>Carychium</i> sp., <i>Cepea</i> sp., <i>Cochlicopa</i> sp., <i>Planorbis planorbis</i> , <i>Trichia hispida</i> group, <i>Vallonia</i> sp.	XXX	X	X	-	-	Marine shell (from natural); Insect (X)
5	1036	1035	Fill of Feature	2nd-4th C AD	40	10	25%	-	-	-	-	-	XX	<i>Urtica dioica</i> , <i>Ranunculus acris</i> / <i>bulbosus</i> , <i>Atriplex</i> sp., <i>Polygonum aviculare</i> , <i>Rumex conglomeratus</i> , <i>Prunella vulgaris</i> , <i>Carduus</i> / <i>Cirsium</i> sp., cf. <i>Callitriche</i> sp., <i>Glyceria</i> sp.	-	-	-	XX	<i>Anisus leucostoma</i> , <i>Discus rotundatus</i> , <i>Planorbis planorbis</i>	-	-	-	-	-	Waterlogged wood (Diffuse porous) (XXX), Insect (XX)
6	1048B	1035	Fill of Feature	2nd-4th C AD?	40	20	50%	-	-	-	-	-	XX	<i>Urtica dioica</i> , <i>Ranunculus acris</i> / <i>bulbosus</i> , <i>Ranunculus</i> sp., <i>Atriplex</i> sp., <i>Stellaria media</i> , <i>Rumex</i> sp., cf. <i>Callitriche</i> sp., <i>Carex</i> sp.	-	-	-	XX	<i>Anisus leucostoma</i> , <i>Carychium</i> sp., <i>Vallonia</i> sp.	-	-	-	-	-	Insect (X)

7	1064	1063	Lower Fill of Ditch	-	40	20	50%	-	-	-	-	-	XX	<i>Urtica dioica</i> , <i>Rumex</i> sp., <i>Rubus</i> sp., Apiaceae, <i>Carduus</i> / <i>Cirsium</i> sp.	-	-	-	X	<i>Anisus leucostoma</i>	-	-	-	-	-	-	Insect (X)	
8	1070	1069	Fill of Ditch	Mid 2nd-4th C AD	40	20	50%	-	-	-	-	-	XX	<i>Ranunculus acris</i> / <i>bulbosus</i> , <i>Ranunculus</i> sp., <i>Rumex</i> sp., <i>Rubus</i> sp., <i>Sambucus nigra</i> , Apiaceae, <i>Carduus</i> / <i>Cirsium</i> sp., <i>Carex</i> sp., <i>Zannichella palustris</i>	-	-	-	XX	<i>Anisus leucostoma</i> , <i>Cochlicopa</i> sp., <i>Planorbis</i> sp., <i>Pupilla muscorum</i> , <i>Trichia hispida</i> group, <i>Vallonia</i> sp.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	Insect (X)
9	1056	1055	Fill of Pit	-	40	20	50%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	X	-	-	XX	-	X	-	-	-	-	-	
10	1075	1100	Fill of Ditch	-	40	20	50%	-	-	-	-	-	XX	<i>Ranunculus acris</i> / <i>bulbosus</i> , <i>Ranunculus</i> sp., <i>Rumex</i> sp., <i>Rubus</i> sp., <i>Sambucus nigra</i> , cf. <i>Callitriche</i> sp., <i>Carex</i> sp.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
11	1060	1111	Fill of Ditch	-	40	20	50%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	X	-	X	-	-	-	-		
12	1034	1033	Fill of Ditch	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	X	-	X	-	-	-	-		
13																											
14	1059	-	Metalled Surface	Mid-Late Iron Age	20	10	50%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	XX	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
15	1137	1136	Primary Fill	2nd-3rd C AD?	20	10	50%	-	-	-	-	-	XX	<i>Urtica dioica</i> , <i>Ranunculus</i> sp., <i>Chenopodium</i> sp., <i>Polygonum aviculare</i>	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	

Table 6: Results from the assessment of bulk sample light fractions from Berryfield, March. Abbreviations FTW = free-threshing type wheat (*Triticum aestivum*/*turgidum*)

## **APPENDIX 3      GEOPHYSICAL SURVEY REPORT**

# ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOLUTIONS LTD

**LAND EAST OF BERRYFIELDS,  
MARCH, CAMBRIDGESHIRE  
PE15 8PN**

## **A GEOPHYSICAL SURVEY**

Authors: Matthew Baker, Dave Bescoby & John Summers (Fieldwork & Report)	
NGR: TL 4227 9847	Report No: 4819
District: Fenland	Site Code: CHER ECB4500
Approved: Claire Halpin MIfA	Project No: 6153
Signed:	Date: 30 <sup>th</sup> March 2015

This report is confidential to the client. Archaeological Solutions Ltd accepts no responsibility or liability to any third party to whom this report, or any part of it, is made known. Any such party relies upon this report entirely at their own risk. No part of this report may be reproduced by any means without permission.

---

Archaeological Solutions is an independent archaeological contractor providing the services which satisfy all archaeological requirements of planning applications, including:

*Desk-based assessments and environmental impact assessments*  
*Historic building recording and appraisals*  
*Trial trench evaluations*  
*Geophysical surveys*  
*Archaeological monitoring and recording*  
*Archaeological excavations*  
*Post excavation analysis*  
*Promotion and outreach*  
*Specialist analysis*

**ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOLUTIONS LTD**

**Unit 6, Brunel Business Court, Eastern Way,  
Bury St Edmunds IP32 7AJ  
Tel 01284 765210**

**P I House, Rear of 23 Clifton Road, Shefford,  
Bedfordshire, SG17 5AF  
Tel: 01462 850483**

e-mail: [info@ascontracts.co.uk](mailto:info@ascontracts.co.uk)  
[www.archaeologicalsolutions.co.uk](http://www.archaeologicalsolutions.co.uk)



[.witter.com/ArchaeologicalS](https://twitter.com/ArchaeologicalS)



[www.facebook.com/ArchaeologicalSolutions](https://www.facebook.com/ArchaeologicalSolutions)



## **CONTENTS**

### Summary of Results

- 1 Introduction
- 2 Description of Site
- 3 Topography, Geology and Soils
- 4 Archaeological Background
- 5 Methodology
- 6 Results
- 7 Conclusion

### Bibliography



## OASIS SUMMARY SHEET

<b>Project details</b>			
Project name	<i>Land east of Berryfields, March, Cambridgeshire PE15 8PN</i>		
<p><i>In March 2015 Archaeological Solutions Limited (AS) conducted a geophysical survey of land east of Berryfields, March, Cambridgeshire PE15 8PN (NGR TL 4227 9847). The evaluation was undertaken in advance of the determination of the planning application for the construction of 30 dwellings (F/YR14/1020/O) based on advice from Cambridgeshire County Council Historic Environment Team.</i></p> <p><i>The geophysical survey identified numerous anomalies which appear to be of archaeological origin. The majority of the anomalies appear as positively trending linear magnetic responses, synonymous with infilled ditch and gully type features (1, 3 – 7 and 9). Several sub-circular positive anomalies (8) may also represent infilled archaeological features. A discrete anomaly (2) may be associated with fired/heated clay materials which may also be of archaeological origin. The dating of these features cannot be determined at this stage.</i></p> <p><i>The clear magnetic contrasts seen within the data indicate that the underlying geology and site formation process are conducive to magnetic geophysical survey. However, areas of magnetic disturbance (11-12) may have masked archaeological features along the western most section of the survey.</i></p>			
Project dates (fieldwork)	<i>March 2015</i>		
Previous work (Y/N/?)	<i>N</i>	Site Code	<i>CHER ECB4500</i>
P. number	<i>P6153</i>		
Type of project	<i>Geophysical survey</i>		
Site status	<i>none</i>		
Current land use	<i>Agriculture</i>		
Planned development	<i>Residential</i>		
Main features (+dates)	<i>Ditches/gullies, pits, possible hearth or kiln</i>		
Significant finds (+dates)	<i>N/a</i>		
<b>Project location</b>			
County/ District/ Parish	<i>Cambridgeshire</i>	<i>Fenland</i>	<i>March</i>
HER/ SMR for area	<i>Cambridgeshire HER</i>		
Post code (if known)	<i>PE15 8PN</i>		
Area of site	<i>c.1 hectare</i>		
NGR	<i>NGR TL 4227 9847</i>		
Height AOD (max/ min)	<i>c.3.5m AOD</i>		
<b>Project creators</b>			
Brief issued by	<i>Cambridgeshire County Council Historic Environment Team</i>		
Project supervisor/s (PO)	<i>Matthew Baker and John Summers</i>		
Funded by	<i>The Wilkinson Family</i>		
Full title	<i>Land east of Berryfields, March, Cambridgeshire. A Geophysical Survey</i>		
Authors	<i>Baker, M., &amp; Summers, J.</i>		
Report no.	<i>4819</i>		
Date (of report)	<i>March 2015</i>		

# LAND EAST OF BERRYFIELDS, MARCH, CAMBRIDGESHIRE PE15 8PN

## A GEOPHYSICAL SURVEY

### SUMMARY OF RESULTS

*In March 2015 Archaeological Solutions Limited (AS) conducted a geophysical survey of land east of Berryfields, March, Cambridgeshire PE15 8PN (NGR TL 4227 9847). The evaluation was undertaken in advance of the determination of the planning application for the construction of 30 dwellings (F/YR14/1020/O) based on advice from Cambridgeshire County Council Historic Environment Team.*

*The site lies within an area of archaeological potential, where known extensive evidence of multi-period landscape activity is recorded on the Cambridgeshire Historic Environment Record (HER), and where archaeological investigations have taken place prior to the construction of the Berryfields housing development immediately adjacent to the site, showing that the site is very likely to contain well-preserved archaeological remains.*

*The site lies within a known cropmarked site, covering some 8ha and extending to the east, north, south and west, with internal sub-divided enclosures, trackways and a road. It was partially investigated prior to development of the adjacent Berryfields development in the mid 1980s. Here, features were found to mainly date to the late pre-Roman Iron Age, though with some evidence of preceding Bronze Age activity, with a trackway with aligned enclosures along its northern side (HER 9561). Roadside ditched stockades were excavated, along with a number of human burials. Following this phase of occupation, the Roman Fen Cuaseway 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 crosses March to the immediate south of Berryfields. Where excavated along its length, it is shown to have been a gravelled road with roadside ditches on the higher ground, and initially a canal on the lower-lying fenland areas, before silting necessitated its replacement with a road.*

*The site thus has a potential for further remains of Iron Age/Roman-British activity, and also preceding Bronze Age activity, multi-period activity, and to provide further evidence of use of this local multi-period landscape.*

*The geophysical survey identified numerous anomalies which appear to be of archaeological origin. The majority of the anomalies appear as positively trending linear magnetic responses, synonymous with infilled ditch and gully type features (1, 3 – 7 and 9). Several sub-circular positive anomalies (8) may also represent infilled archaeological features. A discrete anomaly (2) may be associated with fired/heated clay materials which may also be of*

*archaeological origin. The dating of these features cannot be determined at this stage.*

*The clear magnetic contrasts seen within the data indicate that the underlying geology and site formation process are conducive to magnetic geophysical survey. However, areas of magnetic disturbance (11-12) may have masked archaeological features along the western most section of the survey.*

## **1 INTRODUCTION**

1.1 In March 2015 Archaeological Solutions Limited (AS) conducted a geophysical survey of land east of Berryfields, March, Cambridgeshire PE15 8PN (NGR TL 4227 9847; Figs. 1 - 2). The evaluation was undertaken in advance of the determination of the planning application for the construction of 30 dwellings (F/YR14/1020/O) based on advice from Cambridgeshire County Council Historic Environment Team.

1.2 The programme of archaeological investigation will comprise a geophysical survey followed by a trial trench field evaluation targeting any identified geophysical anomalies and seemingly 'blank' areas in the first instance.

1.3 The evaluation was conducted in accordance with a brief issued by Kasia Gdaniec of Cambridgeshire County Council Historic Environment Team (HET; dated 11<sup>th</sup> February 2015), and a specification compiled by AS (dated 13<sup>th</sup> February 2105), approved by CCC HET. The geophysical survey was carried out in accordance with the English Heritage document *Geophysical Survey in Archaeological Field Evaluation*, 2008, and IFA Paper 6: *The use of Geophysical Techniques in Archaeological Evaluations and IfA Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Geophysical Survey (revised 2013)*. It also adhered to Gurney (2003) *Standards for Field Archaeology in the East of England*.

### *Objectives*

1.4 The principal objectives for the evaluation were:

- To determine the location, date, extent, character, condition, significance and quality of any surviving remains liable to be threatened by the proposed development. In particular, it was important to establish the presence or absence of surviving sub-surface remains associated with known nearby Romano-British activity and the medieval activity within the village.
- To provide an adequately detailed project report to place the findings of the project in their local and regional context, with reference to the East Anglian Regional Research Frameworks and through relevant background research.

## *Planning policy context*

1.5 The National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF 2012) states that those parts of the historic environment that have significance because of their historic, archaeological, architectural or artistic interest are heritage assets. The NPPF 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. The NPPF requires applications to describe the significance of any heritage asset, including its setting that may be affected in proportion to the asset's importance and the potential impact of the proposal.

1.6 The NPPF aims to conserve England's heritage assets in a manner appropriate to their significance, with substantial harm to designated heritage assets (i.e. listed buildings, scheduled monuments) only permitted in exceptional circumstances when the public benefit of a proposal outweighs the conservation of the asset. The effect of proposals on non-designated heritage assets must be balanced against the scale of loss and significance of the asset, but non-designated heritage assets of demonstrably equivalent significance may be considered subject to the same policies as those that are designated. The NPPF states that opportunities to capture evidence from the historic environment, to record and advance the understanding of heritage assets and to make this publicly available is a requirement of development management. This opportunity should be taken in a manner proportionate to the significance of a heritage asset and to impact of the proposal, particularly where a heritage asset is to be lost.

## **2 DESCRIPTION OF THE SITE**

2.1 March is located 23km west of Loughborough and 20km north-west of Ely. The site is located to the north-east of the town boundary extending beyond an existing housing development fronting Elm Road. It is currently a field in arable use, and the geophysical survey was undertaken whilst the crop growth was low enough to permit the survey.

## **3 TOPOGRAPHY, GEOLOGY & SOILS**

3.1 The town of March is within the Fenland environment and thus the site is extremely flat at 0m AOD. The Twenty Foot River runs on a west-east alignment c.1.6km to the north and meets the River Nene c.2.2km to the east which curves in a south-westerly direction through March.

3.2 The site is within a streak of the Ampthill Clay Formation formed in the Jurassic period that runs from the Wash down in a south-westerly direction towards London. The overlying geology of the area is a pocket of the Peacock

association of deep humose fine loamy over sandy and fine loamy over clayey soils.

## **4 ARCHAEOLOGICAL & HISTORICAL BACKGROUND**

4.1 There is evidence to suggest Neolithic activity c.1km to the north-west, in the form of several worked flints and a small pit (CHER MCB18547). Bronze Age archaeology is recorded c.750m to the west comprising ditches, small shallow pits and post holes, containing small quantities of Bronze Age pottery, flint flakes and burnt animal bone (CHER MCB16673 & MCB 16674). A crouched inhumation burial was recorded c.1km to the south-west (CHER 15266). The area surrounding the site also contains examples of undated features, possibly prehistoric. These sites are further to the south and south-west towards the centre of March (CHER CB15233 & 07936b).

### *Iron Age*

4.2 The site lies within a known cropmark site which covers some 8ha with internal sub-divided enclosures, trackways and a road. The archaeological site was partially investigated prior to development of the adjacent Berryfields development in the mid 1980s. Here, features were found to mainly date to the late pre-Roman Iron Age, though with some evidence of preceding Bronze Age activity (HER 9561). Notably there was a rectilinear enclosure c.100m to the west of the site, thought to be earlier than the Fen Causeway (CHER 07936A). These enclosures are likely stock enclosures and suggest a possible settlement nearby.

### *Roman*

4.3 The Roman Fen Causeway road was constructed in the early 2<sup>nd</sup> century. The road ran between Peterborough and Denver, Norfolk, across the fenland c.90m to the south of the site (HER MCB15033). It 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. During the Roman period there was intensive exploitation of the fenland, and indeed the site appears to have lain on the edge of a zone of dense occupation (Coles & Hall 1998), which included the settlement at Flaggrass c.900m to the north (CHER 08978). Settlement around Flaggrass has been estimated as covering approximately 4.5ha, and includes in the vicinity of the 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.60m to the east.

### *Medieval*

4.4 The place name of March suggests Anglo-Saxon origins, and although no Saxon archaeology has been recorded on the island it is likely any settlement is situated under the modern town. Doddington was the main settlement in the area until 1700, c.8km to the south-west, 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 14<sup>th</sup> century place name of *Marchford*. A small settlement, named *Merc*, is recorded as established at March in the Domesday Survey of 1086.

4.5 March was thriving as a trading port by the 13<sup>th</sup> century, with markets and quays either side of the canalised river, which formed an important route to the major inland port at Yaxley. 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 c.3.7km to the south-west, on the southern edge of the modern settlement. Elm Road and the site are situated significantly to the north of this settlement.

#### *Post-medieval*

4.6 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 20<sup>th</sup> century. The arrival of the railway in the 19<sup>th</sup> century was a catalyst to the development of March as centre of this part of the fenland (CHER 03698 & MCB 19612).

## **5 METHOD OF WORK**

### **Introduction**

5.1 The magnetic survey was performed using a dual sensor Grad601-2 Magnetic gradiometer manufactured by Bartington instruments Ltd. The gradiometer measures small distortions in the earth's magnetic field caused by the presence of magnetically susceptible buried objects. The instrument is extremely sensitive and capable of detecting changes in magnetic field strength of the order of 0.1 nanoTesla (nT).

### **Survey Methodology**

5.2 All fieldwork methods complied with the guidelines issued by English Heritage and by the Institute for Archaeologists (EH, 2008; IfA, 2011) and with the method statement for the project (Archaeological Solutions, dated February 2015). Grid squares measuring 30m x 30m were set out across the entirety of the survey area, forming a grid network. The exact spatial location of the survey grid was recorded using a Leica GS09 GPS smart rover. Geophysical data were collected systematically in a zig-zag pattern within each grid square along traverses spaced at 1 m apart. The gradiometers were configured to record readings at 0.25 m intervals along each traverse, giving a total of 3600 measurements per grid square.

## **Data Processing**

5.3 The remedial processing of the data can enhance anomalous responses caused by potential archaeological features and eliminate magnetic noise from natural/modern sources. Data processing also allows for the correction of spatial errors introduced during the survey and inherent instrument heading errors. The survey data were processed using Terrasurveyor LITE software, where the following data processing routines were applied:

**Destripe:** Removal of striping effects from the raw data caused by discrepancies between different sensors and walking directions.

**Destagger:** Correction of the displacement of anomalies caused by alternate zig-zag traverses. These displacements are often observable in gradiometer data collected with zig-zag traverses if the sample interval is less than 1m.

**Clip:** The dynamic range of the data can be set to specified maximum and minimum values in order to improve the contrast of weaker anomalies within the dataset.

**Despike:** Removal of random, high amplitude 'iron spikes' present in the data caused by ferrous debris in the near surface.

**Low-pass filter:** A Gaussian low-pass filter was applied to the data to enhance the visibility of weak linear anomalies within the dataset.

**Interpolation:** Finally the overall appearance of the data were improved (smoothed) by adding interpolated data points between each traverse using a binomial function.

## **Display and interpretation**

5.4 The processed data were displayed as a greyscale magnetic map and the interpretation of anomalous magnetic responses undertaken manually with recourse to documented responses from subsequently excavated features along with reference to CHER and AP data for the study area. A graphical interpretative plan of the site identifying potential archaeological features was then produced in Autocad.

## **6 RESULTS**

6.1 The unprocessed data from the magnetic survey are shown in Fig. 4, indicating the overall range of magnetic values recorded at the site. The processed data, following the application of the data processing methodology described in 5.3 above, is shown in Fig. 5. The processed data revealed a

number of anomalous responses of potential archaeological significance, the interpretation of which is described below.

## Interpretation

6.2 Numerous anomalies which appear to be of archaeological origin were recorded in the geophysical survey, and the following numbered anomalies refer to numerical labels of the interpretation plot (**Fig.6**).

6.4 A positively trending linear anomaly can be seen running E-W across the survey area for c.58m before being masked by magnetic disturbance along the western edge of the survey area (**11**). Anomaly (**1**) appears to cross a high amplitude anomaly (**2**) approximately c.20m from the western edge of the survey area, measuring c.6m in diameter, which has masked the magnetic response from the former. If produced by a single source, the complex, high amplitude response observed is consistent with that which might arise from surviving fired clay structures such as the remains of hearths and kilns. This feature may well be of archaeological significance.

6.5 Two further linear anomalies (**3**) and (**4**) were detected during the survey c.75m to the south of, but running parallel to anomaly (**1**) and also somewhat smaller in amplitude. The N-S anomaly profile of (**3**) and (**4**) is also substantially narrower, suggesting a narrower, more superficial source. These anomalies are c.8m apart at their eastern end and converge slightly as they run westwards following a WSW-ENE orientation, before being masked by magnetic disturbance on the western edge of the survey area (**10**).

6.6 The survey also revealed a further three positively trending linear anomalies (**5**), (**6**) and (**7**), all of which run roughly parallel c.5m apart from one another, with a WNW-ESE orientation. The overall character of these anomalies is of an irregular appearance and of varying signal strength, suggestive of an intermittently truncated or otherwise disturbed source feature. Anomaly (**5**) runs for c.45m before being masked by magnetic disturbance from a metal gate (**12**) on the western edge of the survey area. Its western extent is defined by a broadening anomaly of increasing amplitude which suggests a corresponding increase in the size and possible depth of the source. Anomaly (**6**), the faintest of the three, runs for c.41m before apparently disappearing after it crosses a large sub-oval positive anomaly (**8**). Anomaly (**7**) runs for c.36m before appearing to terminate in the middle of the survey area.

6.7 Seven discrete positive circular positive anomalies (**8**) were revealed by the survey, ranging in size from c.1-7m. The responses observed, in terms of shape and amplitude, are consistent with those resulting from infilled pit type features.

6.7 In the north western portion of the survey, a group of short, very faint and irregular positively trending linear anomalies were observed at varying orientations (**9**). Neither measures more than c.12m in length and



interpretation remains uncertain, although it is conceivable that their originating source is of archaeological significance.

### **Modern Disturbances**

6.9 The data have displayed strong magnetic responses from numerous modern extant features, described below. Several close set parallel linear and negative anomalies **(10)**, aligned E-W can also be seen in the southern most portion of the survey and are most suggestive of modern ploughing activity.

6.10 A series of strong bipolar responses are visible along the western most edge of the survey area **(11)**. These have resulted from close proximity to disturbed ground from a field boundary ditch, several low standing brick walls, barbed wire fencing, and in the SW, a large metal gate has produced a large distortion in the local magnetic field **(12)**. The 'halo' effect produced by this magnetic disturbance appears to mask the presence of archaeological anomalies along the western edge of the survey area.

6.11 Numerous high amplitude magnetic spikes can be seen in the data **(13)**. Each of these discrete magnetic spikes consists of a well defined dipolar response, their high amplitudes suggesting the presence of a scatter of ferrous debris buried close to the surface (Fig.4).

6.3 In the northern portion of the survey area the survey revealed a linear anomaly **(14)**, following a WSW - ENE orientation for c.56m before being masked by magnetic disturbance along the western edge of the survey area **(11)**. The client reports that this is a surface water drain pipe.

### **Conclusion**

6.12 The geophysical survey identified numerous anomalies which appear to be of archaeological origin. The majority of the anomalies appear as positively trending linear magnetic responses, synonymous with infilled ditch and gully type features **(1, 3 – 7 and 9)**. Several sub-circular positive anomalies **(8)** may also represent infilled archaeological features. A discrete anomaly **(2)** may be associated with fired/heated clay materials which may also be of archaeological origin. The dating of these features cannot be determined at this stage.

6.13 The clear magnetic contrasts seen within the data indicate that the underlying geology and site formation process are conducive to magnetic geophysical survey. However, areas of magnetic disturbance **(11-12)** may have masked archaeological features along the western most section of the survey.

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Archaeological Solutions Limited would like to thank The Wilkinson Family for funding the survey and Maxey Grounds & Co. for commissioning the geophysical survey (in particular Mr John Maxey for this assistance).

AS is pleased to acknowledge the input of Dave Bescoby.

AS would also like to thank Ms Kasia Gdaniec of Cambridgeshire County Council for her advice and input.

## BIBLIOGRAPHY

British Geological Survey South Sheet, 1977. Geological Survey Ten Mile Map, South Sheet First Edition (Quaternary). Institute of Geological Sciences.

British Geological Survey, 2001. Geological Survey Ten Mile Map, South Sheet, Fourth Edition (Solid).

British Geological Society. British Geological Survey, n.d., website: (<http://www.bgs.ac.uk/opengeoscience/home.html?Accordion1=1#maps>) Geology of Britain viewer.

Soil Survey of England and Wales, 1983. Soils of England and Wales, Sheet 4 Eastern England England.

English Heritage, 2008. *Geophysical Survey in Archaeological Field Evaluation*.

Gurney, D. 2003 *Standards for Field Archaeology in the East of England*. East Anglian Archaeology Occasional Paper no. 14

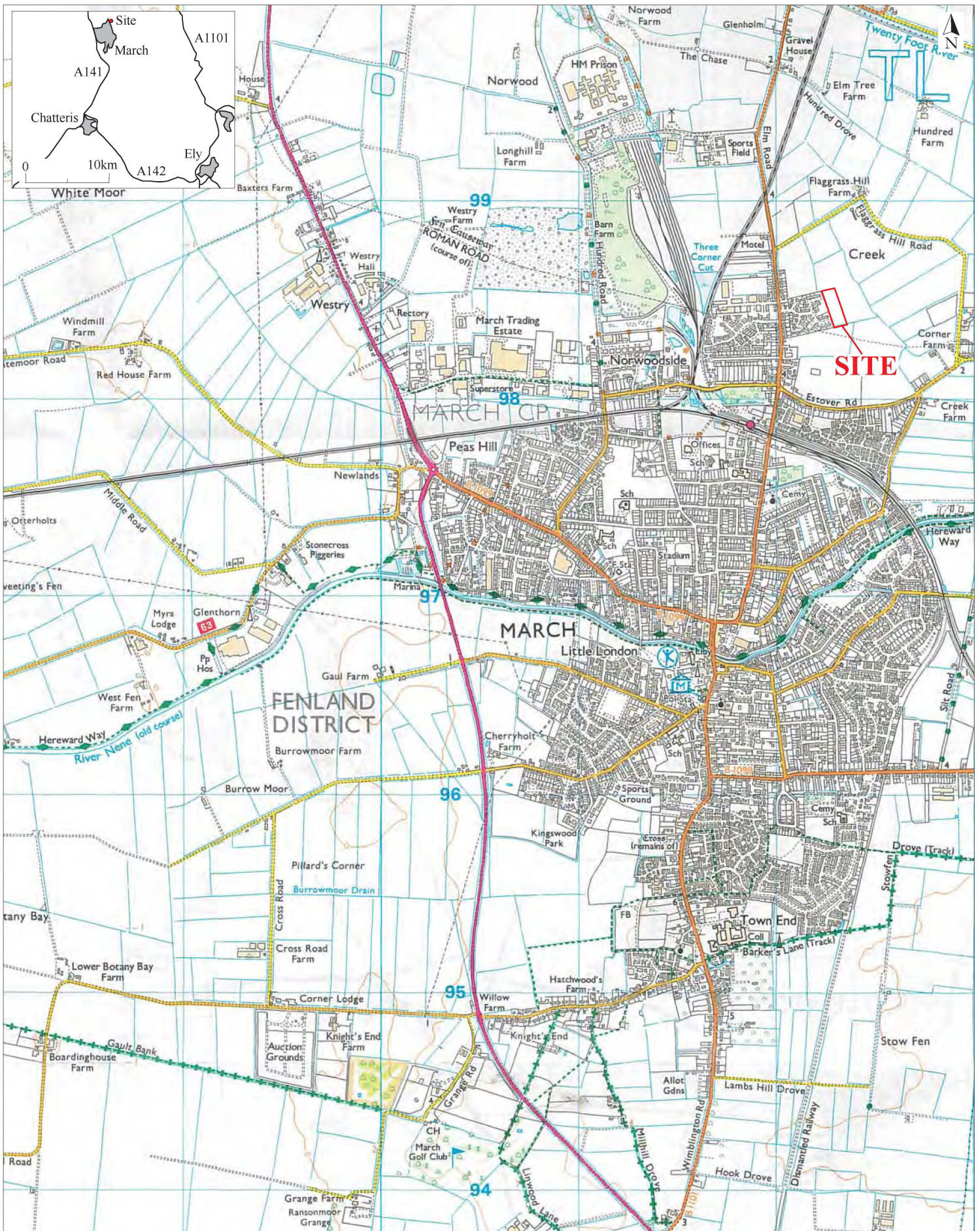
Institute For Archaeologists, 2013, *Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Geophysical Survey*. Available online at: <http://www.archaeologists.net/sites/default/files/nodefiles/Geophysics2010.pdf>

Google Earth 7.1.2.2041. 2008, 52° 6'41.41"N, 0° 4'1.85"E. *Historic Image 12/1945*. [Accessed 13.03.15]. Available from: <http://code.google.com/apis/earth/>

Gurney, D. 2003 *Standards for Field Archaeology in the East of England*. East Anglian Archaeology Occasional Paper no. 14

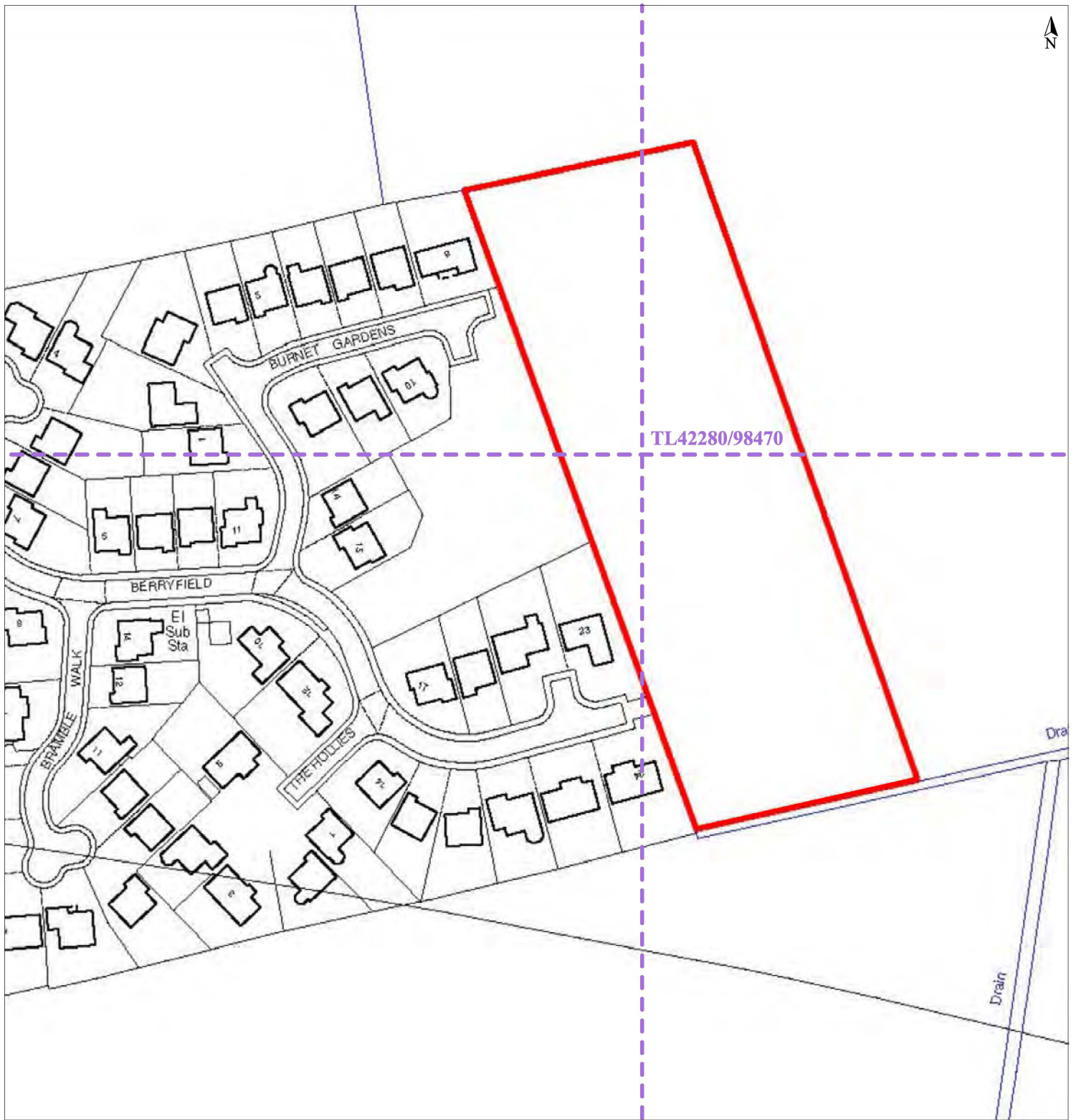
SSEW 1983 *Soil Survey of England and Wales: Soils of South East England (sheet 4)*. Harpenden, Rothamsted Experimental Station/Lawes Agricultural Trust

SSEW 1983 *Soil Survey of England and Wales: Legend for the 1:250,000 Soil Map of England and Wales* Harpenden, Rothamsted Experimental Station/Lawes Agricultural Trust.



Reproduced from the 1999 Ordnance Survey 1:25000 map with the permission of Her Majesty's Stationery Office. © Crown copyright Archaeological Solutions Ltd Licence number 100036680

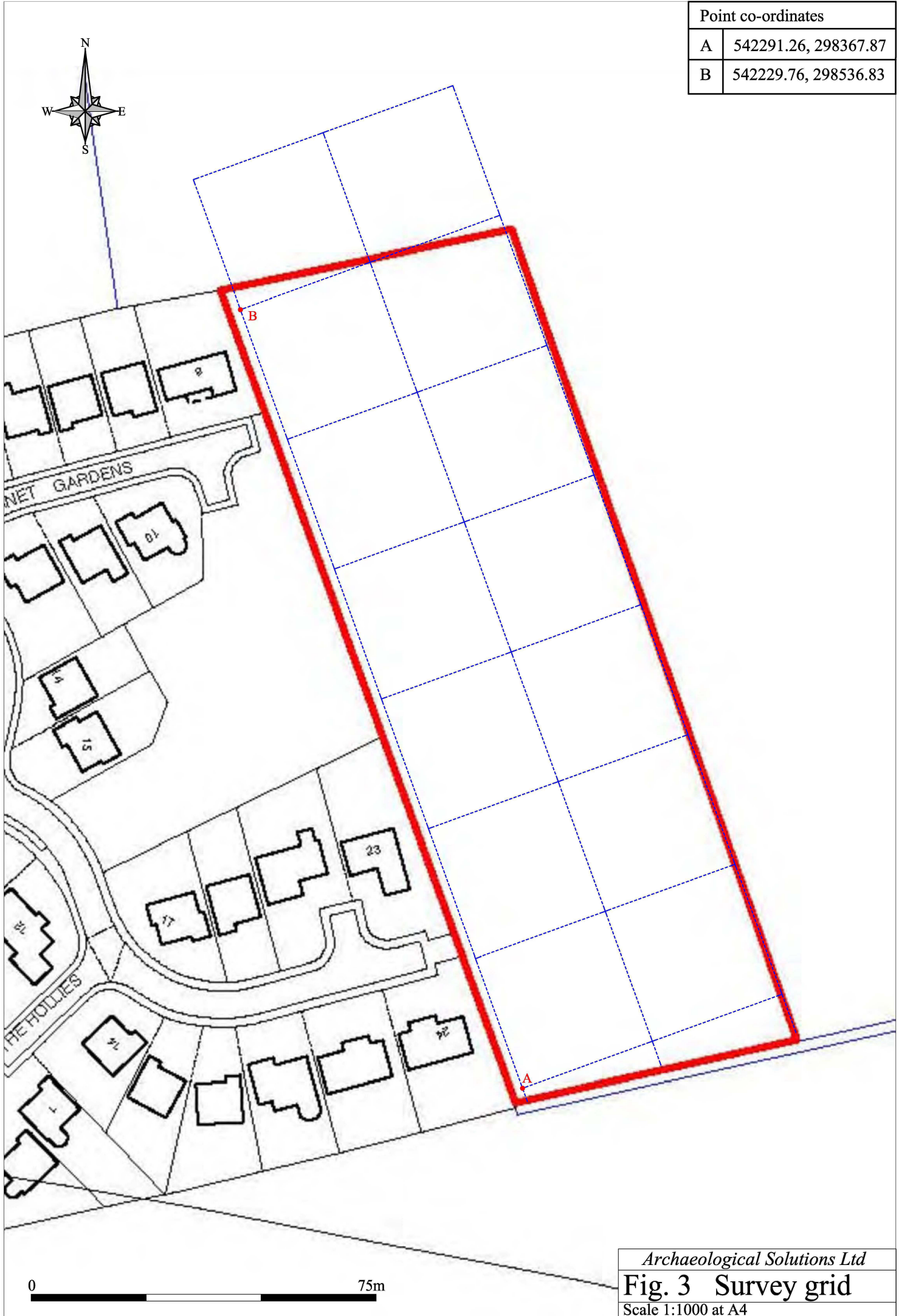
Archaeological Solutions Ltd  
**Fig. 1 Site location plan**  
 Scale 1:25,000 at A4  
 Berryfields, March (P6153)



0 75m

<i>Archaeological Solutions Ltd</i>
<b>Fig. 2 Detailed site location plan</b>
Scale 1:1500 at A4
Berryfields, March (P6153)

Point co-ordinates	
A	542291.26, 298367.87
B	542229.76, 298536.83



Archaeological Solutions Ltd  
**Fig. 3 Survey grid**  
 Scale 1:1000 at A4

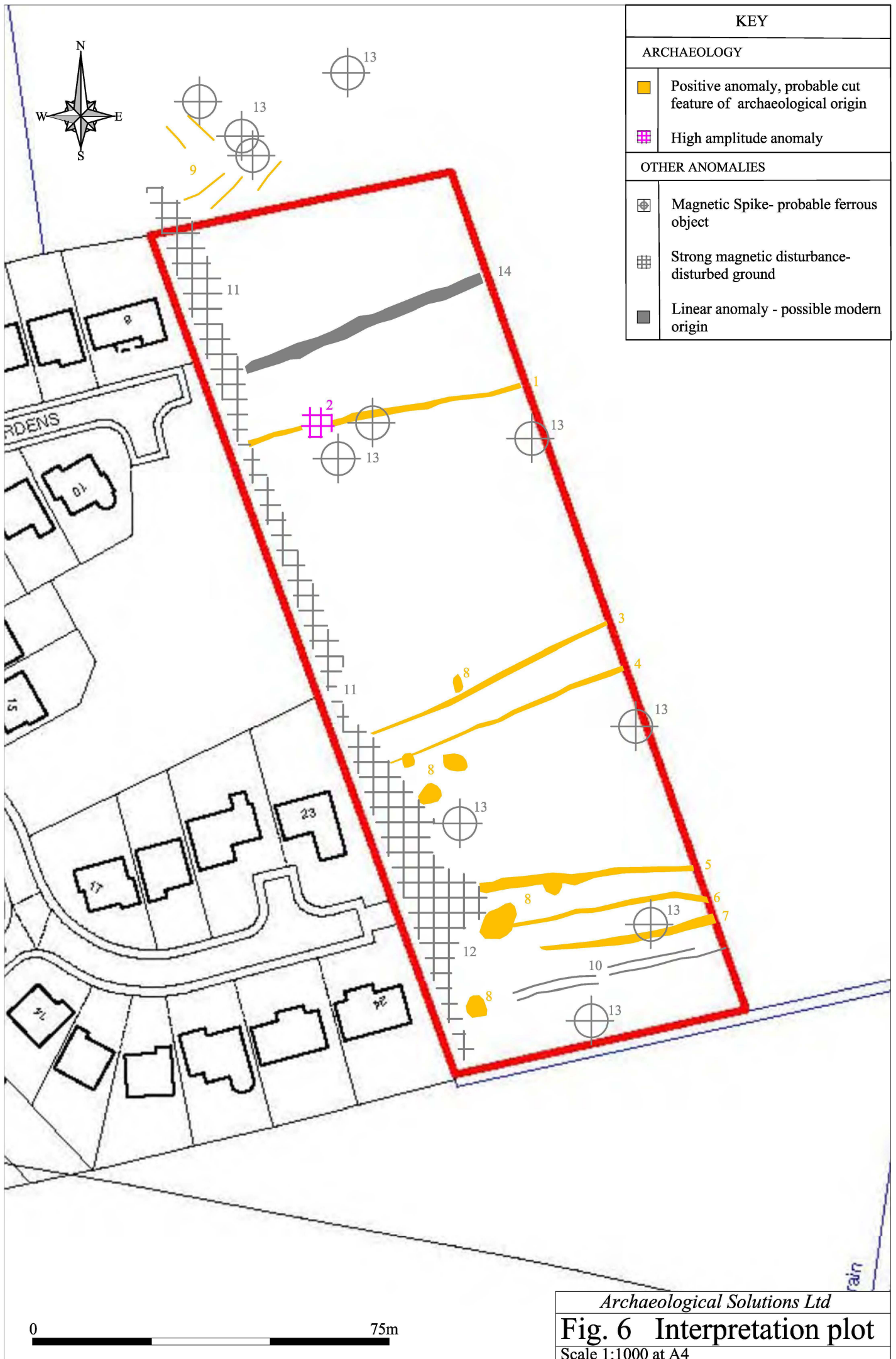


Plotting parameters
Maximum +100nT (Red)
Minimum -100nT (Blue)



*Archaeological Solutions Ltd*  
**Fig. 4 Greyscale plot of unprocessed gradiometer data**  
Scale 1:1000 at A4







**APPENDIX 4      ASSESSMENT    OF    AERIAL    PHOTOGRAPHS    FOR  
ARCHAEOLOGY**



Archaeology ▪ Research ▪ Law ▪ Environment ▪ Planning

## **Land East of Berryfields, March Cambridgeshire**

**TL 422 984**

### **Assessment of Aerial Photographs for Archaeology**

June 2015

**Air Photo Services Ltd.**

The Shaftesbury Centre, Percy Street, Swindon SN2 2AZ 0044 (0) 1666 511646 [www@airphotoservices.co.uk](http://www.airphotoservices.co.uk)  
Directors: Chris Cox MA MCIfA FSA and Rog Palmer MA MCIfA Associate David Lang BA Affil CIfA CELTA  
Company No. 5248188 Registered Office Brinkworth House SN15 5DF

# Land East of Berryfields, March

## Assessment of Aerial Photographs for Archaeology

**Client:** Archaeological Solutions Ltd

**Document Reference:** Land East of Berryfields 215 06 03 / 2

**Project Number:** APS 215 06 03

Version 1 Final                      1st July 2015

**Prepared by**

Chris Cox                              CC  
MCIfA FSA

**QA checked by**

Neil Lang BA                          NL

### Disclaimer

This report has been prepared by Air Photo Services Ltd. with all reasonable skill, care and diligence within the terms of the contract with the client, incorporation of our General Terms and Condition of Business and taking account of the resources devoted to us by agreement with the client. We disclaim any responsibility to the client and others in respect of matters outside the scope of the above. This report is confidential to the client and we accept no responsibility for the actions and opinions of third parties, to whom this report, or any part thereof, is made known. Any such party relies on the report at its own risk.

## Contents

### SUMMARY

- 1 INTRODUCTION
- 2 THE ASSESSMENT AREA
- 3 ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND NATURAL FEATURES FROM AERIAL PHOTOGRAPHS
- 4 AIR PHOTO INTERPRETATION AND MAPPING
- 5 RESULTS
- 6 CONCLUSION
- 7 ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS
- 8 BIBLIOGRAPHY

**Appendix** Aerial photographs consulted for this assessment

**Figure 1** Archaeological features identified on aerial photographs

## SUMMARY

- S1 This assessment of aerial photographs was commissioned by Archaeological Solutions Ltd in June 2015 in advance of determination of planning application number F/YR14/1020/O for the construction of 30 dwellings on the site.
- S2 The object of the assessment was to provide information on the location and nature of archaeological features which are visible on aerial photographs within and immediately adjacent to the site.
- S3 The site contains evidence for eroded buried enclosures boundaries and tracks which show as crop marks indicative of former settlement and agricultural land use. The site and its wider environs were utilised in prehistory and more extensively following the drainage of the fens from the Roman period onwards.
- S4 The remains of a Roman road, the Fen Causeway, are visible as parallel ditches to the immediate south of the site, but do not run through the site, and the adjacent fields show marks in crops which indicate a wider area of settlement and former land use. The western adjacent field contained upstanding enclosures tracks and boundaries, on the same alignment as those evident within the site, and has been used for housing development.
- S5 It is likely that the site and its environs contain more extensive archaeological deposits than shown by the existing crop marked record.
- S6 Land use has been arable within the site on all dates of photography.
- S7 Original photo interpretation and mapping was at 1:2500 scale.

## 1 INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 This assessment of aerial photographs was commissioned by Archaeological Solutions Ltd to support a planning application in advance of a proposed development at Berryfields, March.
- 1.2 The object of this assessment was to provide information on the location and nature of any archaeological sites and areas which are visible on aerial photographs within and adjacent to the site.
- 1.3 It is important to note that aerial photographs usually only show part of the horizontal and vertical extent of buried and upstanding features. Their capacity to reveal features as crop marks, vegetation marks, soil marks or as the shadows cast by banks, ditches and walls, depends upon a number of environmental and agricultural factors prevalent at the time of the photographic survey.
- 1.4 Buried archaeological sites were recorded as crop marked features, alongside some natural anomalies in the soils. These anomalies are noted but have not been mapped and are easily distinguishable from the buried cut features which show clearly as crop marks in this area.
- 1.5 These features have been mapped at a 1:2500 scale level to a digital Ordnance Survey map base.

## 2 THE ASSESSMENT AREA

### Location

- 2.1 The site is located on agricultural land east of Berryfields, March. The south, east and north sides of the site are bordered by arable land, while a housing development lies to the west.
- 2.2 The site is centred at National Grid Reference (NGR) 54221 29845 (TL 422 984).
- 2.3 **Figure 1** shows the extent of the site and the archaeological features recorded from aerial photographs within and adjacent to it.

### Topography, geology and soils

- 2.4 The site lies on extremely flat, level ground at 0m above Ordnance Datum. The site lies over two similar soil associations.
- 2.5 The Soil Survey of England and Wales (SSEW 1983) shows the area is located on Jurassic and Cretaceous clays, till and associated drift (Soil association 872a, Peacock).
- 2.6 Aerial photographs show that crops growing over these areas do show marks in the presence of buried features but not as clearly as those growing in the adjacent marine alluvium and fen peat (Soil association 851a, Downholland).
- 2.7 Natural features such as former river and stream courses also show clearly as crop and soil marks on the silts. On aerial photographs taken at times when crops are responsive to sub surface variation in soil depth, the former fluvial features are visible in this area but are not sufficiently dense to mask or hinder identification of archaeological features which also cause marks in crops.

### Previously recorded heritage assets

- 2.8 The site is located on the east side of March, an island in the East Anglian Fenland, in an area that was intensely settled and exploited in Roman times (for example, Hall, 1987, 40 – 45 and Hall, 1996, Fig 102).
- 2.9 The site lies within an area of known buried features which show as marks in crops, (Cambridgeshire Historic Environment Record (CHER) 9561), which extends to the north, south and east of the site. Features were visible as earthworks to the immediate west in the 20<sup>th</sup> century, prior to the modern housing development. Partial investigations prior to this development indicate a late pre-Roman Iron Age and earlier Iron Age settlement with some evidence for preceding Bronze Age use. The Fen Causeway Roman road was built in the 2<sup>nd</sup> century AD (CHER MCB15033). The parallel ditches which bounded this road can be seen as marks in crops to the south of the site boundary.
- 2.10 Palmer has assessed numerous sites in the wider environs and an area adjacent to the site at Estover Road, March (Palmer 2014), which contained buried ditches and tracks to the south of the former Fen Causeway.

- 2.11 A geophysical survey was undertaken by Archaeological Solutions Ltd in 2015, and the report summarised the known heritage assets of all periods within and in the environs of the site.
- 2.12 This survey identified numerous anomalies which are likely to be of archaeological origin, possibly pits, hearths, gullies and kilns, within the site.



### **3 ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND NATURAL FEATURES FROM AERIAL PHOTOGRAPHS**

- 3.1 In suitably cultivated soils, sub-surface features – including archaeological ditches, banks, pits, walls or foundations – may be recorded from the air in different ways in different seasons. In spring and summer these may show through their effect on crops growing above them.
- 3.2 Such indications tend to be at their most visible in ripening cereal crops, in June or July in this part of Britain, although their appearance cannot accurately be predicted and their absence cannot be taken to imply evidence of archaeological absence. In winter months, when the soil is bare or crop cover is thin (when viewed from above), features may show by virtue of their different soils. Upstanding remains, which may survive in unploughed grassland, are also best recorded in winter months when vegetation is sparse and the low angle of the sun helps pick out slight differences of height and slope.

#### **Limitations of the data**

- 3.3 Aerial photographic evidence is limited by seasonal, agricultural, meteorological and environmental factors which affect the extent to which either buried or upstanding archaeological features can be detected from the air. The visibility of archaeological features may differ from year to year, dependent on the type of crop or land use, prevailing weather and levels of moisture in the soil over the crop growing season.
- 3.4 Individual photographs often thus record only a small percentage of the actual extent of buried or upstanding features, and a wide range of photos taken over a long timescale may be needed to reveal the extent of buried features from the air.
- 3.5 It is thus advantageous to be able to examine a range of photos taken under a variety of environmental conditions in order to build up a comprehensive interpretation of the archaeological landscape.

## 4 AIR PHOTO INTERPRETATION AND MAPPING

### Aerial photographs

- 4.1 The most immediately informative photographs of archaeological subjects tend to be those resulting from observer-directed flights. This activity is usually undertaken by an experienced aerial archaeologist who will fly at seasons and times of day when optimum results are expected.
- 4.2 Oblique aerial photographs, taken using a hand-held camera, are the usual products of such investigation. Although oblique photographs are able to provide a very detailed view, they are biased in providing a record that is mainly of features noticed by the observer, understood, and thought to be of archaeological relevance. To be able to map accurately from these photographs it is necessary that they have been taken from a sufficient height to include surrounding control point information to match fixed points on both the photograph and the ground. Oblique aerial photographs showed evidence for crop marked enclosures, boundaries and tracks within the site and its environs and were used for this assessment
- 4.3 Vertical aerial photographs have been taken over the whole of Britain and provide information on a series of dates between (usually) 1946–7 and the present. Many of these vertical surveys were not flown at times of year that are best to record the archaeological features sought for this assessment and may have been taken at inappropriate dates to record crop and soil responses that may be seen above sub-surface features. In this instance vertical photos recorded settlement enclosures and boundaries to the immediate west of the site as upstanding earthworks prior to the modern housing development.
- 4.4 Some vertical aerial photographs also show the crop marked remains of former rivers and streams, settlements, turbaries, tracks, roads and fields in great detail, particularly on the silt fen areas.
- 4.5 Vertical photographs are taken by a camera fixed inside an aircraft and with its exposures timed to take a series of overlapping views that can be examined stereoscopically. They are often of relatively small scale and their interpretation requires higher perceptive powers and a more cautious approach than that necessary for examination of obliques.
- 4.6 Use of these small-scale images can also lead to errors of location and size when they are rectified or re-scaled to match a larger map scale.
- 4.7 Aerial photographic cover searches were obtained from the Cambridge University Collection of Aerial Photographs (CUCAP) and the Historic England Archive.
- 4.8 Photographs used for the assessment included those resulting from observer-directed flights and routine vertical surveys.
- 4.9 The ortho-rectified mosaics of vertical aerial photographs at Google Earth ([www.earth.google.com](http://www.earth.google.com)) and the Birdseye imagery at Bing.com were consulted online for this assessment in June 2015. These sites displayed photographs which the websites state

were taken (or accessioned to the site) between 1999 and 2007. The most useful timelines at Google Earth were those displayed at 2005 and 2006.

4.10 Photographs which were consulted are listed in the Appendix to this report.

### **Methodology**

- 4.11 All photographs were interpreted and mapped at a level compatible with a 1:2500 scale base map.
- 4.12 The photographs were closely examined by eye and under 1.5x and 3x magnification and interpreted with the aid of a mirror stereoscope where appropriate, or in detail on screen when consulted as digital files.
- 4.13 Aerial photographs were digitally rectified to an OS map base using AirPhoto 3.58 software in order to remove perspective distortion and ensure correct rectification of aerial photographs to the OS map (Scollar 2002 & 2014).
- 4.14 Images from Google Earth were also interpreted and rectified to OS map bases (Scollar and Palmer 2008).
- 4.15 AirPhoto calculates mismatch values of control points taken from the photos and the map base. In all transformations prepared for this assessment the mean mismatches were less than  $\pm 1.5\text{m}$ .
- 4.16 The rectified files were set as background layers in Quantum GIS (QGIS 2.6.1 Brighton), where features were interpreted and drawn over the rectified photographs.
- 4.17 Layers from this final drawing have been used to prepare the illustration for this report and are provided digitally as SHP files for import to a Geographic Information System.

## 5 RESULTS

- 5.1 The assessment area was photographed on a number of occasions when crop or soil marked features were visible over part of the area and its immediate environs.
- 5.2 The site lies within an area of former settlement which has been dated by partial investigation to the Bronze Age, Iron Age and early Roman periods. The western adjacent area contained earthworks during the 20<sup>th</sup> century and has been recently developed for modern housing. Crop marked features within the site are a continuation of this site, with the same alignments of boundaries and tracks visible in both areas.
- 5.3 Land use within the site has been arable on all occasions it has been observed from the air.
- 5.4 Crops on the area of the March island do not show buried features with the same distinct sharpness and clarity as those growing on the silt fen. However, in this area, extensive traces of buried enclosures, tracks and boundaries have been recorded as marks in crops.
- 5.5 These features have been observed on multiple occasions, with varying degrees of clarity, when different elements of this extensive buried landscape have been visible.
- 5.6 The site and its environs contain an east west system of boundaries which are likely to have been former fields, with associated tracks and small enclosures which may have bounded foci of settlement or stock handling areas. There are some anomalies in the soil depth which show as a mottled pattern over part of the site but these are too amorphous to map in any detail, and do not mask overlying archaeological features.
- 5.7 The ditches which bounded the Fen Causeway, a 2<sup>nd</sup> century AD Roman road, are visible as marks in the crops.
- 5.8 Further enclosures and tracks are visible as crop marks adjacent to Estover Road to the south of the site, and a variety of pits, settlements, turbaries where peat has previously been extracted, access ways and boundaries are visible as marks in crops and soils in the wider environs.

## 6 CONCLUSION

- 6.1 This assessment has demonstrated the presence of tracks enclosures and ditches within the site, and set the site in its immediate and wider context within a complex multi period archaeological landscape.
- 6.2 The area was settled and used in the past, particularly following the drainage and increased exploitation of the Fens from Roman times.
- 6.3 Within the site and its immediate environs, west-east aligned boundaries and likely tracks have been mapped and identified for the first time using modern aerial imagery at Google Earth in addition to existing vertical and oblique aerial photographs which have been previously interpreted in the area.
- 6.4 It is likely that the site will contain further archaeological features which are not visible on aerial photographs when subject to intrusive investigation or excavation.

## **7 ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS**

- 7.1 Many thanks to the archives at CUCAP and Historic England for access to the aerial photographs which cover this area.

## 8 BIBLIOGRAPHY

- Archaeological Solutions 2015 *Land East of Berryfields, March, Cambridgeshire PE15 8PN. A Geophysical Survey. Archaeological Solutions Report 4819 by Matthew Baker, Dave Bescoby and John Summers. Site Code CHER ECB 4399.*
- Hall DN 1987 *The Fenland Project Number 2: Fenland Landscapes and Settlement between Peterborough and March, East Anglian Archaeology 35.*
- Hall DN 1996 *The Fenland Project Number 10: Cambridgeshire Survey, Isle of Ely and Wisbech, East Anglian Archaeology 79.*
- Palmer R 2014 *Estover Road, March, Cambridgeshire. Area Centred TL 425 980, Cambridgeshire. Aerial photographic Assessment. Air Photo Services Cambridge report 2014/3 commissioned by Oxford Archaeology East.*
- Scollar I 2002 *Making Things Look Vertical. In Bewley RH and Raczkowski W (Eds) Aerial Archaeology: Developing Future Practice. NATO Science Series, 337 166 – 172.*
- Scollar I 2014 <http://www.uni-koeln.de/~al001/>
- Scollar I and Palmer R 2008 *Using Google Earth Imagery. AARGnews 37, 15-21.*
- SSEW 1983 *Soil Survey of England and Wales, Sheet 4 Eastern England. 1:250000 scale. Harpenden.*
- www.landis.org.uk

## APPENDIX Aerial photographs consulted for this assessment

### Cambridge University Collection of Aerial Photographs (CUCAP)

Photo ref	Date	Subject	Eastings	Northings
BHF65	09/09/1971	Crop marks, 1 mile NNE of March	542200	298500
BLT19	09/02/1973	Earthworks, 1 mile NNE of March	542100	298300
BLT20	09/02/1973	Earthworks, 1 mile NNE of March	542100	298300
BLT21	09/02/1973	Earthworks, 1 mile NNE of March	542100	298300
BLT22	09/02/1973	Earthworks, 1 mile NNE of March	542100	298300
RC8AB006	29/03/1972	Wimblington to Luton	542582	297697
RC8AB007	29/03/1972	Wimblington to Luton	542587	298944
RC8AN110	06/04/1974	Soil survey area south of Wisbech	543781	299620
RC8AN140	06/04/1974	Soil survey area, March to The Wash	543144	298481
RC8AN141	06/04/1974	Soil survey area, March to The Wash	543158	299808
RC8CO116	06/04/1978	Soil survey area, March to Methwold	542757	298492
RC8ED231	24/03/1982	Fenland Survey	542087	297266
RC8ED232	24/03/1982	Fenland Survey	542619	298069
RC8ED233	24/03/1982	Fenland Survey	543085	298808
RC8ED285	24/03/1982	Fenland Survey	541692	299521
RC8ED286	24/03/1982	Fenland Survey	541212	298925
RC8HS055	27/06/1985	Crop trials - Sugar Beet, Needham Hall, Elm & The Walnuts, March	543065	298117
RC8HS056	27/06/1985	Crop trials - Sugar Beet, Needham Hall, Elm & The Walnuts, March	543040	298415
RC8HS057	27/06/1985	Crop trials - Sugar Beet, Needham Hall, Elm & The Walnuts, March	543026	298774
RC8HW208	18/07/1985	Crop trials - Sugar Beet, Needham Hall, Elm & The Walnuts, March	542773	298595
RC8knBI026	13/06/1988	Cambridgeshire	543121	299574
RC8knBI027	13/06/1988	Cambridgeshire	542415	299439
RC8knBI109	13/06/1988	Cambridgeshire	541625	297423
RC8knBI110	13/06/1988	Cambridgeshire	542569	297367
RC8knBI111	13/06/1988	Cambridgeshire	543343	297399



## Historic England Archive, Coversearch 94424

### Oblique aerial photographs

Photo reference (NGR and Index number)	Film and frame number	Original number	Date	Film type		Map Reference (6 figure grid ref)
TL 4298 / 10	NMR 1972 / 434	APR1666	28 JUL 1981	Black& white	70mm,120,220	TL 422983
TL 4298 / 16	NLA 3634 / 24	DCC	18 JUL 1986	Black& white	35 mm	TL 422985
TL 4298 / 24	NMR 1972 / 435	APR1666	28 JUL 1981	Black& white	70mm,120,220	TL 422983
TL 4298 / 25	NMR 1972 / 436	APR1666	28 JUL 1981	Black& white	70mm,120,220	TL 422983

### Vertical aerial photographs

Sortie number	Library number	Camera position	Frame number	Held	Centre point	Run	Date	Sortie quality	Scale 1:	Focal length (in inches)
RAF/106G/UK/1634	416	FP	1286	P	TL 419 975	6	09 JUL 1946	AB	10000	36
RAF/106G/UK/1634	416	FP	1287	P	TL 425 976	6	09 JUL 1946	AB	10000	36
RAF/106G/UK/1634	416	RP	3238	P	TL 423 986	19	09 JUL 1946	AB	10000	36
RAF/106G/UK/1634	416	RP	3239	P	TL 417 986	19	09 JUL 1946	AB	10000	36
RAF/540/1778	1715	F21	184	P	TL 415 987	10	16 JAN 1956	AB	9999	20
RAF/540/1778	1715	F21	185	P	TL 422 988	10	16 JAN 1956	AB	9999	20
RAF/540/1778	1715	F21	186	P	TL 428 988	10	16 JAN 1956	AB	9999	20
RAF/58/2062	1757	F22	160	P	TL 416 974	24	22 NOV 1956	AC	10000	36
RAF/58/2062	1757	F22	161	P	TL 423 976	24	22 NOV 1956	AC	10000	36

RAF/58/2062	1757	F22	162	P	TL 429 977	24	22 NOV 1956	AC	10000	36
RAF/58/5164	2084	F22	122	P	TL 420 989	22	05 JUN 1962	A	10000	36
RAF/543/2409	2180	1F22	29	P	TL 424 990	10	16 SEP 1963	AB	10000	36
RAF/543/2409	2180	1F22	30	P	TL 422 982	10	16 SEP 1963	AB	10000	36
RAF/543/2409	2180	1F22	64	P	TL 428 990	12	16 SEP 1963	AB	10000	36
RAF/543/2409	2180	1F22	65	P	TL 428 983	12	16 SEP 1963	AB	10000	36
RAF/543/2409	2180	1F22	66	P	TL 428 975	12	16 SEP 1963	AB	10000	36
RAF/82/1476	3934	F22	33	P	TL 425 992	4	30 AUG 1956	AB	10000	20
RAF/82/1476	3934	F22	34	N	TL 418 992	4	30 AUG 1956	AB	10000	20
MAL/68019	5254	V	74	P	TL 431 991	1	08 APR 1968	A	10500	6
MAL/68019	5254	V	75	P	TL 422 991	1	08 APR 1968	A	10500	6
MAL/68019	5254	V	76	P	TL 414 991	1	08 APR 1968	A	10500	6
MAL/69058	5421	V	171	P	TL 413 986	9	10 JUN 1969	A	10500	6
MAL/69058	5421	V	172	P	TL 424 986	9	10 JUN 1969	A	10500	6
RAF/HLA/071	8366	V	21	P	TL 421 980	3	25 SEP 1940	A	9650	5
RAF/HLA/071	8366	V	22	P	TL 419 983	3	25 SEP 1940	A	9650	5
RAF/HLA/071	8366	V	23	P	TL 418 986	3	25 SEP 1940	A	9650	5
RAF/HLA/071	8366	V	47	P	TL 418 983	4	25 SEP 1940	A	9650	5
RAF/HLA/071	8366	V	48	P	TL 420 980	4	25 SEP 1940	A	9650	5
RAF/HLA/071	8366	V	59	P	TL 423 979	5	25 SEP 1940	A	9650	5
RAF/HLA/071	8366	V	60	P	TL 422 982	5	25 SEP 1940	A	9650	5
RAF/HLA/071	8366	V	61	P	TL 420 984	5	25 SEP 1940	A	9650	5
RAF/HLA/071	8366	V	62	P	TL 418 987	5	25 SEP 1940	A	9650	5
OS/68029	11703	V	5	P	TL 415 977	1	08 APR 1968	A	7500	12
OS/68029	11703	V	6	P	TL 421 977	1	08 APR 1968	A	7500	12

OS/68029	11703	V	7	P	TL 426 977	1	08 APR 1968	A	7500	12
OS/68029	11703	V	48	P	TL 423 986	4	08 APR 1968	A	7500	12
OS/68029	11703	V	49	P	TL 416 985	4	08 APR 1968	A	7500	12
OS/90154	13720	V	30	P	TL 424 981	2	13 JUL 1990	A	7500	12
OS/90154	13720	V	31	P	TL 424 988	2	13 JUL 1990	A	7500	12
OS/93379	14484	V	43	P	TL 423 986	1	13 AUG 1993	A	7700	12
OS/93379	14484	V	44	P	TL 423 980	1	13 AUG 1993	A	7700	12

### Most informative photographs

BLT 21

HE obliques TL 4298

F21 540/RAF/1778 0184 - 0186

GE/Geoinformation/ Infoterra 2005 and 2006

GE/Infoterra, 12 May 2007

## TERMS AND CONDITIONS

Air Photo Services has produced this assessment for their client Archaeological Solutions Ltd. subject to the following conditions:

- Air Photo Services will be answerable only for those transcriptions, plans, documentary records and written reports that it submits to the client, and not for the accuracy of any edited or re-drawn versions of that material which may be subsequently produced by the client or any other of their agents.
- The transcriptions, documentation and textual reports presented within this assessment report shall be explicitly identified as the work of Air Photo Services.
- Air Photo Services has consulted only the aerial photographs specified. It cannot guarantee that further aerial photographs of archaeological significance do not exist in collections which it is not aware of or has not examined.
- Due to the nature of aerial photographic evidence, Air Photo Services cannot guarantee that there may not be further archaeological features found during ground survey which are not visible on aerial photographs or that apparently 'blank' areas will not contain masked archaeological evidence.
- We suggest that if a period of 6 months or more elapses between compilation of this report and field evaluation new searches are made in the appropriate photo libraries. Examination of any newly acquired aerial imagery is advised.
- The original working documents, being interpretation notes, overlays, copies, photographs, control information and digital data files will remain the property of Air Photo Services and be securely retained by it for 3 years from the completion date of this assessment after which only the digital data files may be retained.
- It is requested that a copy of this report be lodged with the Cambridgeshire Historic Environment Record (CHER) within 6 months of completion of the archaeological evaluation if appropriate to the nature of the project.
- Copyright of this report and the illustration within and relevant to it is held by Air Photo Services Ltd © 2015.
- We reserve the right to use or publish any material resulting from this assessment, but only with the permission of the client and with respect to the nature of the project.

**Figure 1**

## Assessment of aerial photographs for archaeology

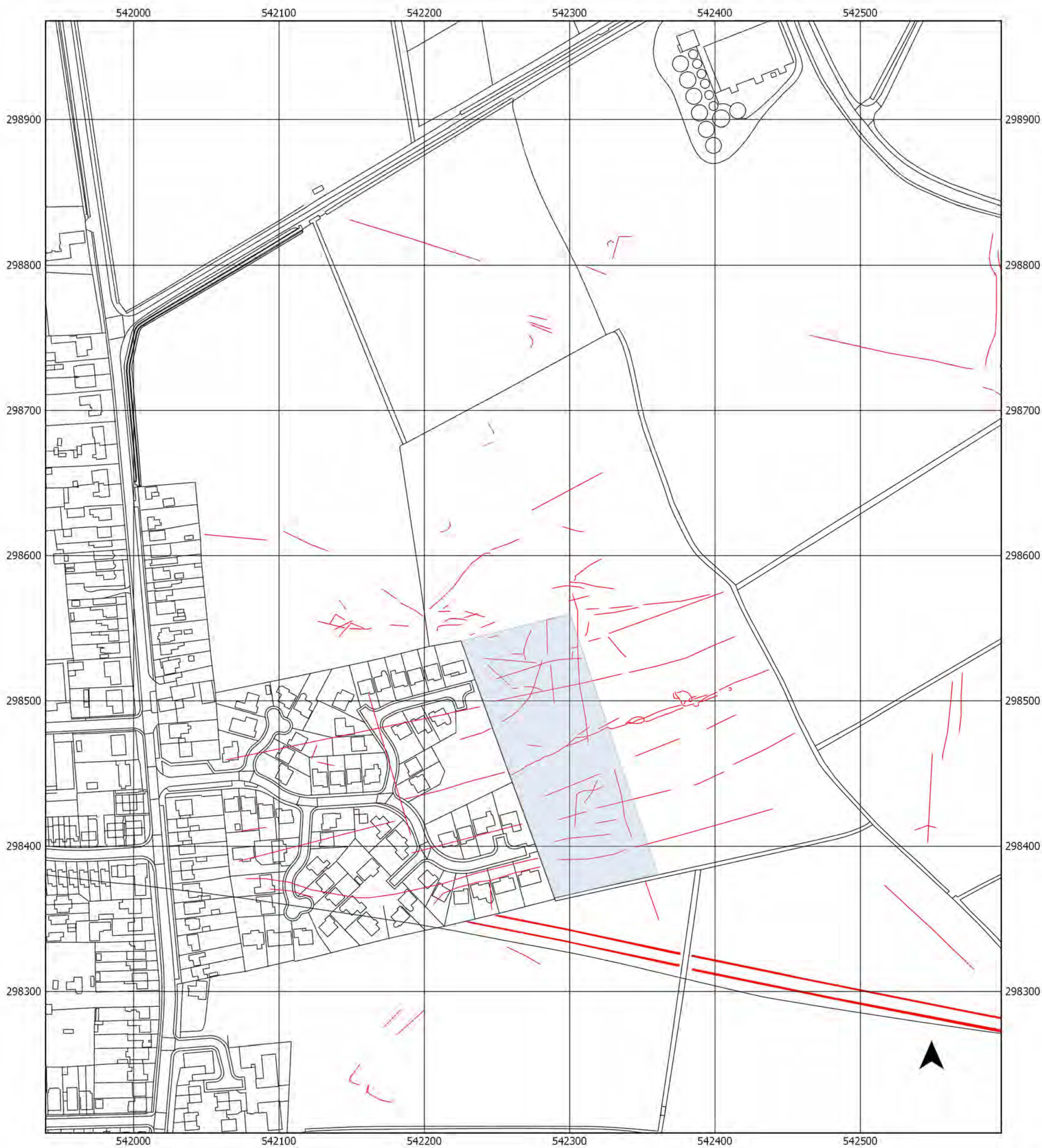


FIGURE 1

Assessment of aerial photographs for archaeology  
 Project: Land East of Berryfields, March, Cambridgeshire  
 Client: Archaeological Solutions Ltd  
 APS 215 06 03 June 2015

Map showing position of cut buried archaeological features, in red



Air Photo Services Ltd  
 www.airphotoservices.co.uk  
 The Shaftesbury Centre SN2 2AZ  
 01666 511 646 07827 810361

## **APPENDIX 5      OASIS DATA COLLECTION FORM**

# OASIS DATA COLLECTION FORM: England

[List of Projects](#) | [Manage Projects](#) | [Search Projects](#) | [New project](#) | [Change your details](#) | [HER coverage](#) | [Change country](#) | [Log out](#)

## Printable version

**OASIS ID: archaeoi7-222921**

### Project details

Project name	Land east of Berryfield, March, Cambridgeshire PE15 8PN
Short description of the project	In July 2015 Archaeological Solutions Limited (AS) conducted an archaeological evaluation of land east of Berryfield, March, Cambridgeshire PE15 8PN (NGR TL 4227 9847). The evaluation was undertaken in advance of the determination of the planning application for the construction of 30 dwellings (F/YR14/1020/O) based on advice from Cambridgeshire County Council Historic Environment Team. The evaluation revealed that the density of features varies largely across the site and is greater towards the southern end of the site (Trenches 4, 7 and 8). The range of features comprises postholes (6), pits (12), ditches (19) and gullies (3). A metalled surface (L1059) was recorded in Trench 7. Three possible ponds were recorded (F1158 (Trench 4), F1035 and F1140 (Trench 7)), and three ?ditches/ channels were recorded in Trench 9 (F1081, F1159 and F1161). ?Pond F1158 may have been a constructed waterhole of prehistoric of Roman date. The earliest period represented is prehistoric. Sparse struck flint (some residual) was found in several features (Ditch F1033, Metalled Surface L1059 and Ditch F1100 (all Trench 7). The struck flint includes a thumbnail scraper (from Ditch F1100) and similar utilized flakes indicative of an early Bronze Age, or possibly later prehistoric date. A pebble hammerstone was found in Ditch F1033 (Trench 7). The ceramic dating evidence is sparse. The majority of dated features contained between one and seven sherds, while only Pit F1073 contained a significant group (23 sherds). The pottery is largely Roman but frequently with a broad date range (mid 2nd to 4th century). Highly abraded mid-late Iron Age pottery was recovered from ?Pond F1140 (Trench 7; 1 sherd) and Metalled Surface L1059 (Trench 7; 2 sherds).
Project dates	Start: 01-01-2015 End: 31-07-2015
Previous/future work	No / Not known
Any associated project reference codes	P6153 - Contracting Unit No.
Any associated project reference codes	ECB 4500 - Sitecode
Type of project	Field evaluation
Site status	None
Current Land use	Other 15 - Other
Monument type	METALLED SURFACE Roman
Monument type	PITS Roman
Monument type	DITCHES Roman
Monument type	POSTHOLES Roman
Monument type	NATURAL HOLLOWES OR PONS Roman
Significant Finds	ASSEMBLAGES Roman
Methods & techniques	"Sample Trenches","Targeted Trenches"
Development type	Rural residential
Prompt	Research
Position in the planning process	Pre-application

### Project location

Country	England
Site location	CAMBRIDGESHIRE FENLAND MARCH Land east of Berryfield, March, Cambridgeshire PE15 8PN
Postcode	PE15 8PN
Study area	1.3 Hectares
Site coordinates	TL 4227 9847 52.565047421003 0.099234887513 52 33 54 N 000 05 57 E Point



Height OD / Depth Min: 2m Max: 2m

### Project creators

Name of Organisation Archaeological Solutions Ltd

Project brief originator CCC HET

Project design originator Jon Murray

Project director/manager Jon Murray

Project supervisor Kerrie Bull

Name of sponsor/funding body The Wilkinson family, c/o Maxey Grounds & Co.

### Project archives

Physical Archive recipient Cambridgeshire County Archaeological Store

Physical Contents "Ceramics", "Worked stone/lithics"

Digital Archive recipient Cambridgeshire County Archaeological Store

Digital Contents "Survey"

Digital Media available "Images raster / digital photography", "Survey", "Text"

Paper Archive recipient Cambridgeshire County Archaeological Store

Paper Contents "Survey"

Paper Media available "Drawing", "Photograph", "Plan", "Report", "Survey "

### Project bibliography 1

Publication type Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)

Title Land east of Berryfield, March, Cambridgeshire PE15 8PN

Author(s)/Editor(s) Bull, K

Other bibliographic details Archaeological Solutions Report No. 4900

Date 2015

Issuer or publisher Archaeological Solutions Ltd

Place of issue or publication Bury St Edmunds

Entered by Sarah Powell (info@ascontracts.co.uk)

Entered on 8 September 2015

**OASIS:**

Please e-mail [Historic England](#) for OASIS help and advice  
 © ADS 1996-2012 Created by Jo Gilham and Jen Mitcham, email Last modified Wednesday 9 May 2012  
 Cite only: <http://www.oasis.ac.uk/form/print.cfm> for this page

## PHOTOGRAPHIC INDEX



1: Trial Trench 1 (post-excavation), looking N.  
Scales = 1m



2: Trial Trench 2 (post-excavation), looking S.  
Scales = 1m



3: Trial Trench 8 (post-excavation), looking S.  
Scales = 1m



4: F1091 (Trench 2), looking NW. Scale = 1m



5: Sample Section 4B, looking SW. Scale = 1m



6: F1015 (Trench 5), looking S. Scale = 1m



7: F1035A (Trench 7), looking NE. Scales = 1m



8: F1044 (Trench 7), looking E. Scale = 1m



9: L1059 (mid-excavation; Trench 7), looking W.  
Scale = 1m



10: F1024 and F1027 (Trench 8), looking NE.  
Scale = 1m



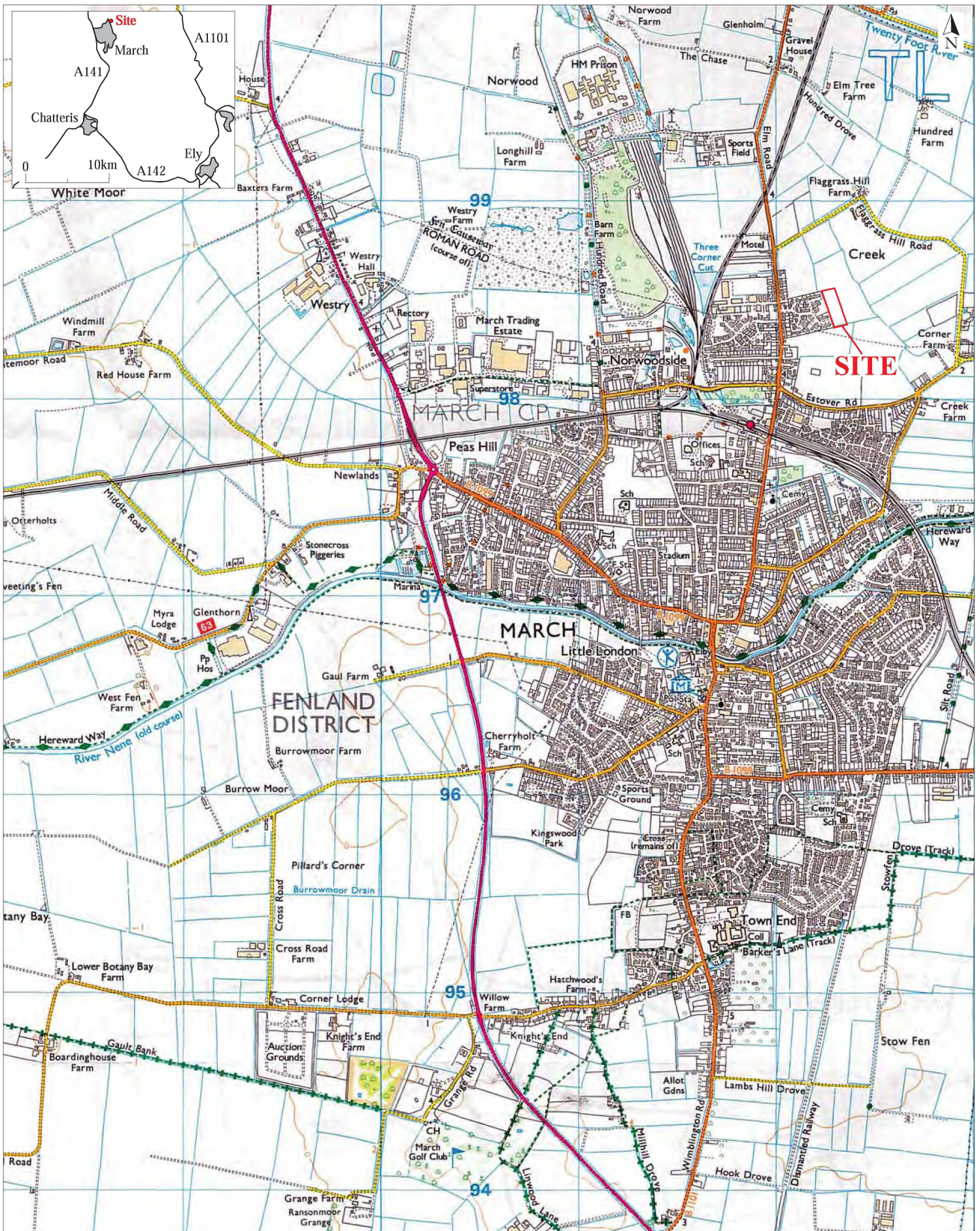
11: F1063, F1071, F1066 and F1069 (Trench 8),  
looking NE. Scales = 1m



12: Sample Section 9B, looking W. Scale = 1m

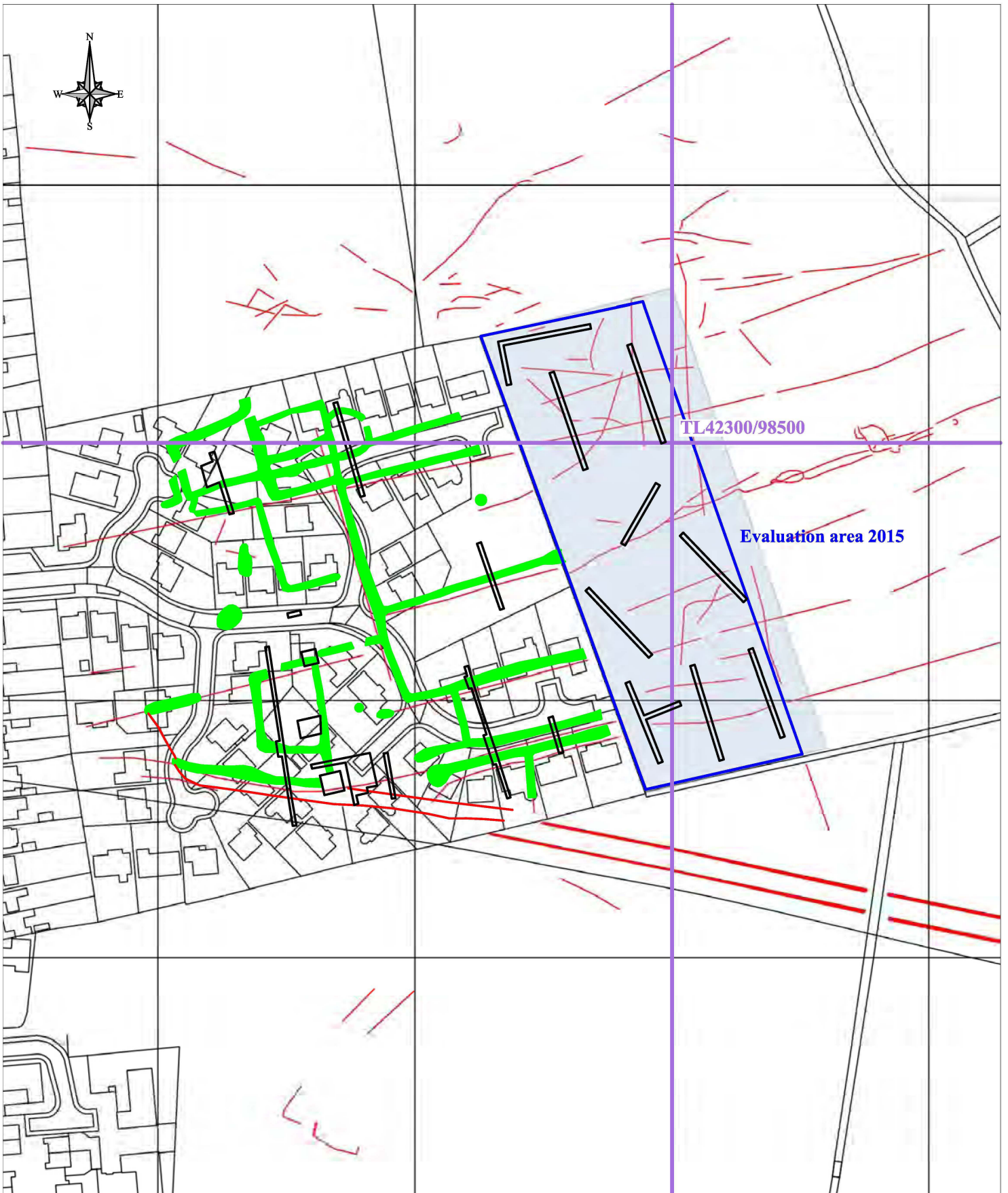




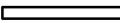
13: F1081 (Trench 9). looking NE. Scale = 1m



Reproduced from the 1999 Ordnance Survey 1:25000 map with the permission of Her Majesty's Stationery Office. © Crown copyright Archaeological Solutions Ltd Licence number 100036680

Archaeological Solutions Ltd  
**Fig. 1 Site location plan**  
 Scale 1:25,000 at A4  
 Berryfields, March, Cambridgeshire (P6153)



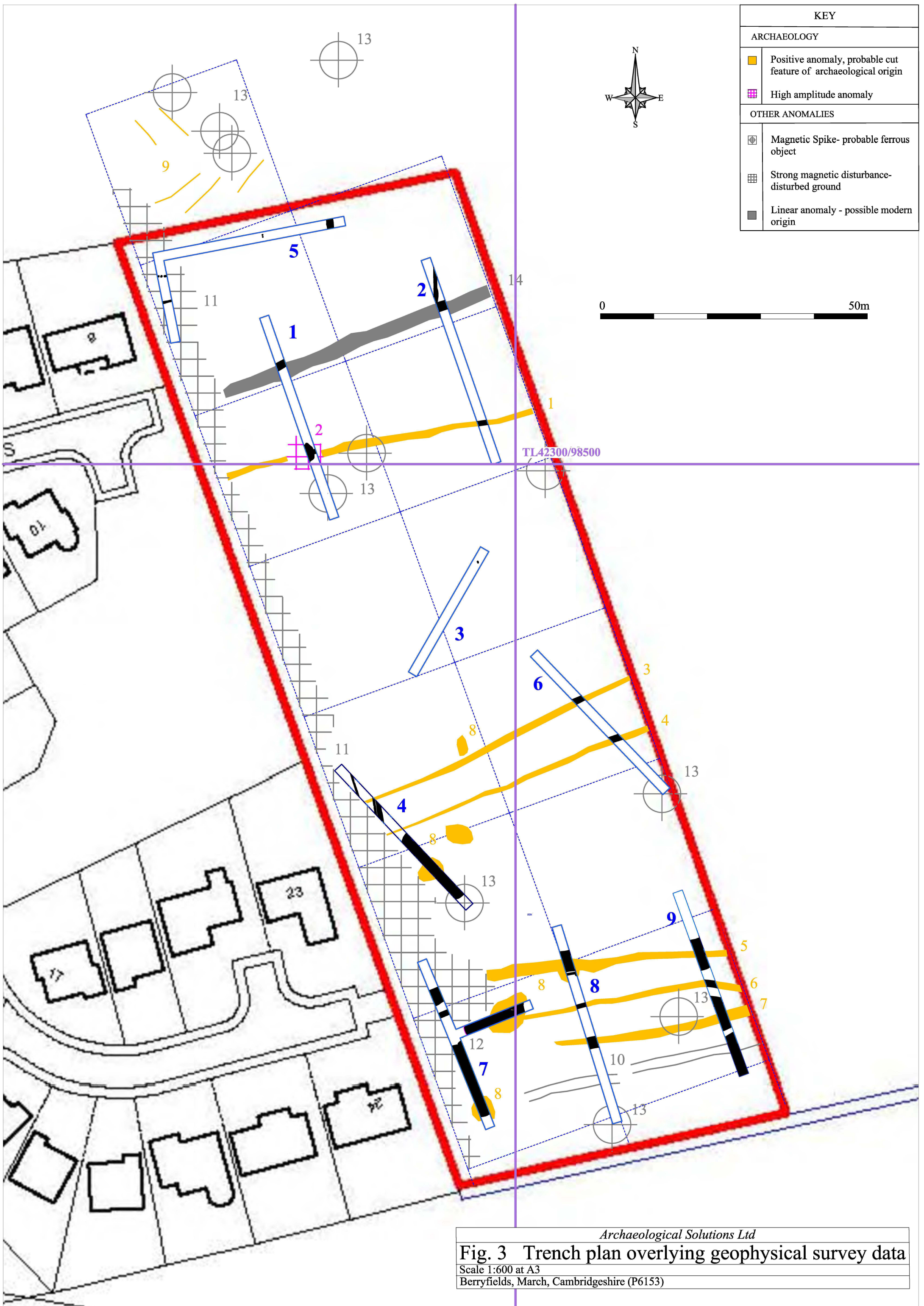
-  Cropmarks
-  Previous excavations at Estover (Jackson & Potter 1996)
-  Trial trenches

0 150m

*Archaeological Solutions Ltd*

**Fig. 2 Detailed site location plan**

Scale 1:2000 at A4  
Berryfields, March, Cambridgeshire (P6153)

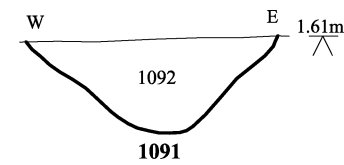
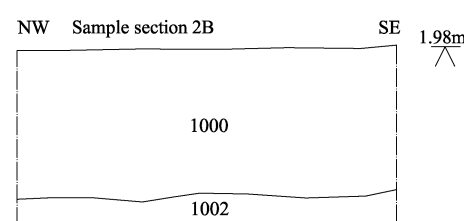
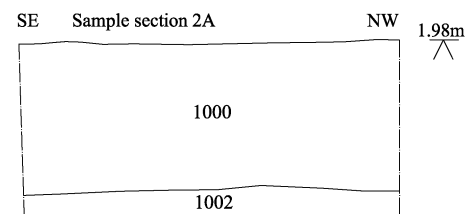
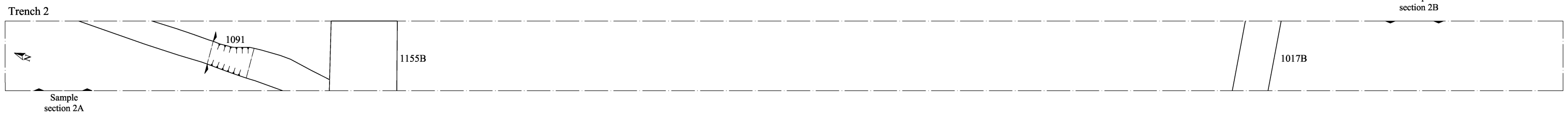
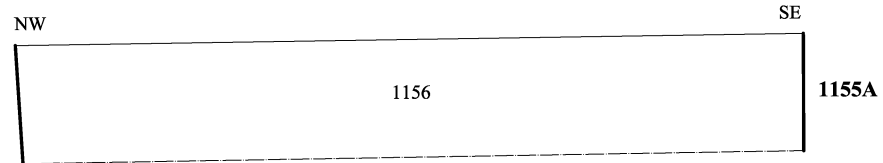
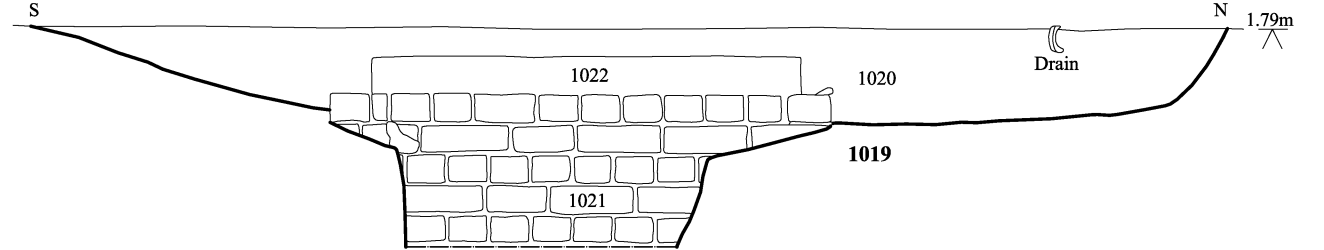
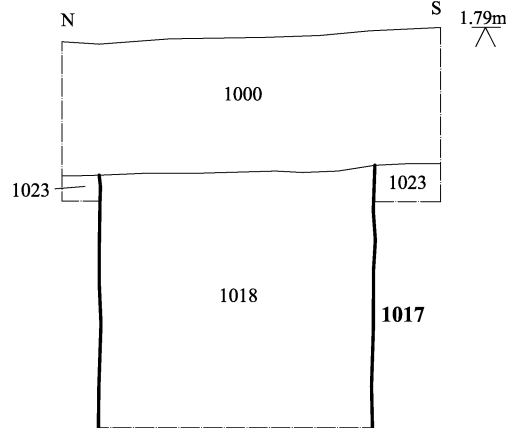
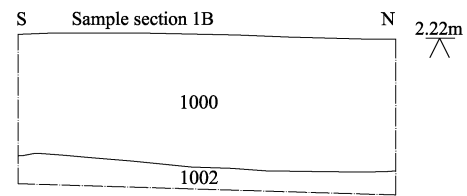
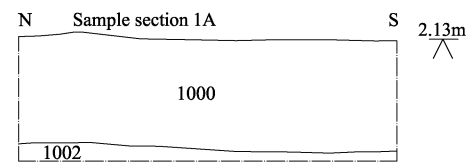
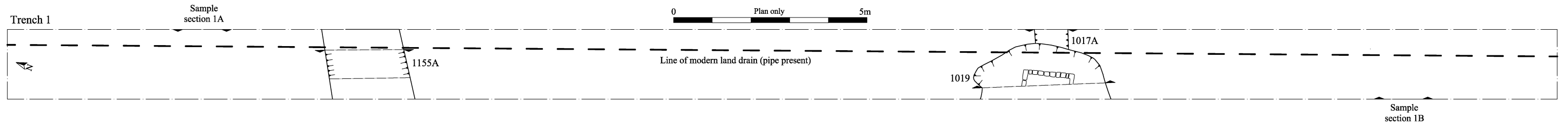


KEY	
ARCHAEOLOGY	
<span style="color: yellow;">■</span>	Positive anomaly, probable cut feature of archaeological origin
<span style="color: magenta;">■</span>	High amplitude anomaly
OTHER ANOMALIES	
<span style="color: black;">■</span>	Magnetic Spike- probable ferrous object
<span style="background-color: grey;">■</span>	Strong magnetic disturbance- disturbed ground
<span style="border: 1px solid grey;">■</span>	Linear anomaly - possible modern origin

0  50m

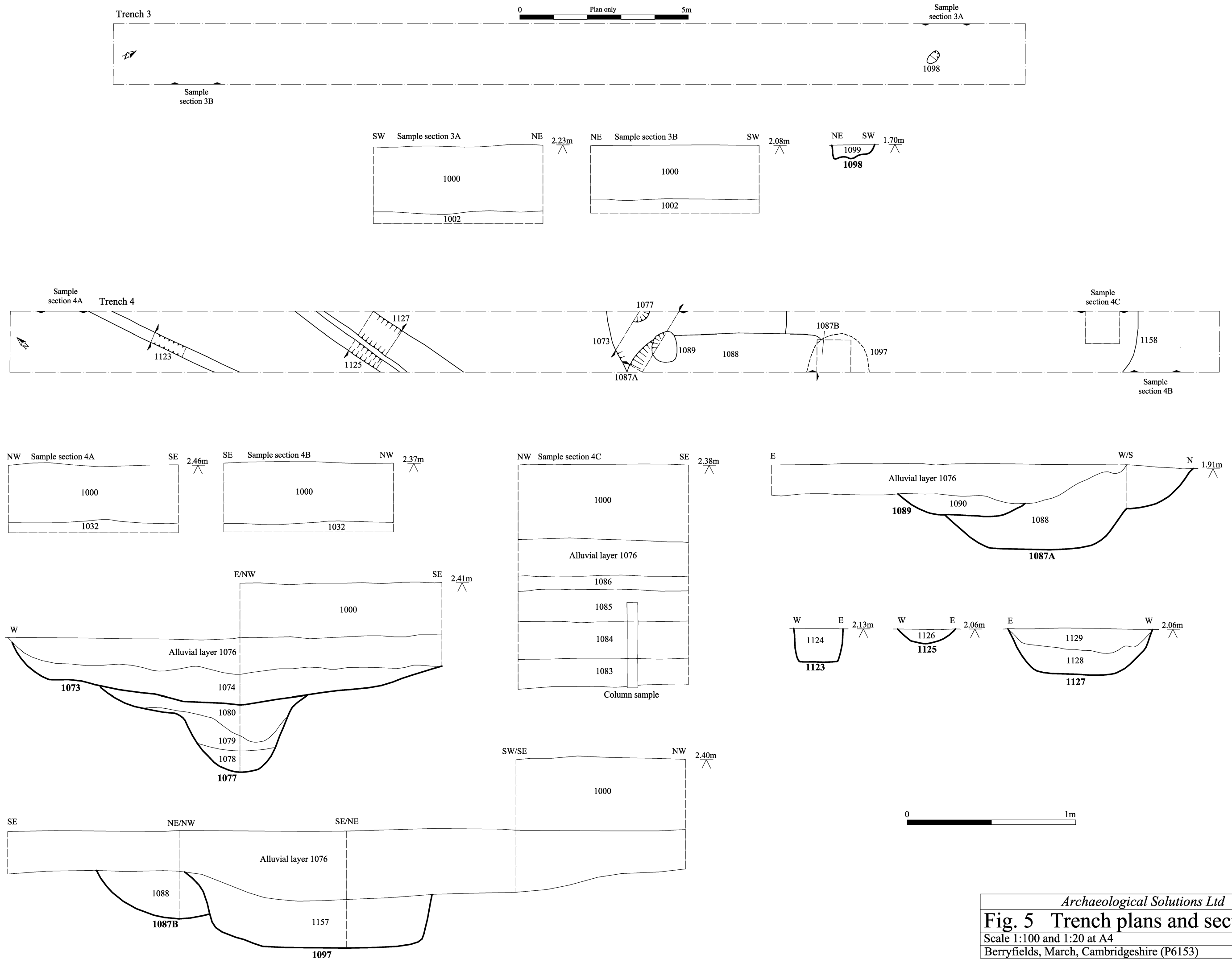
*Archaeological Solutions Ltd*

**Fig. 3 Trench plan overlying geophysical survey data**  
 Scale 1:600 at A3  
 Berryfields, March, Cambridgeshire (P6153)

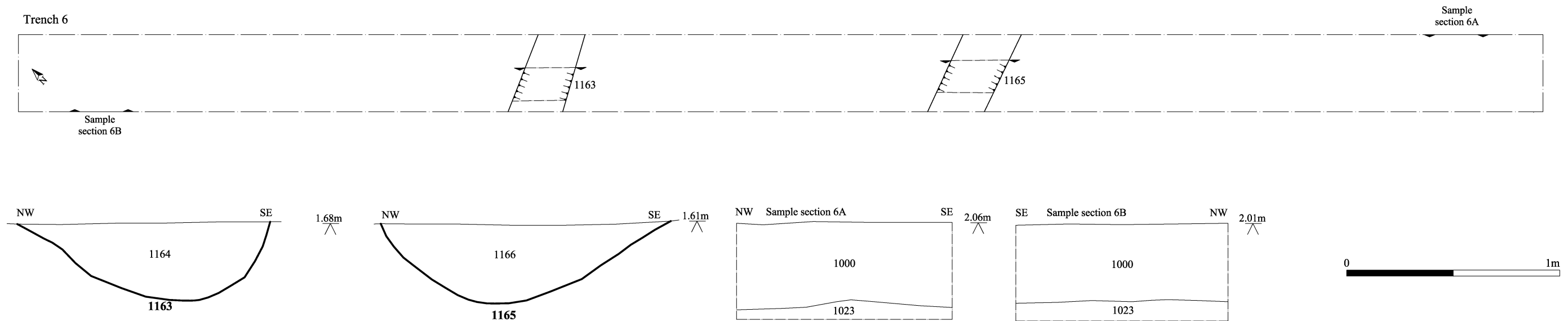
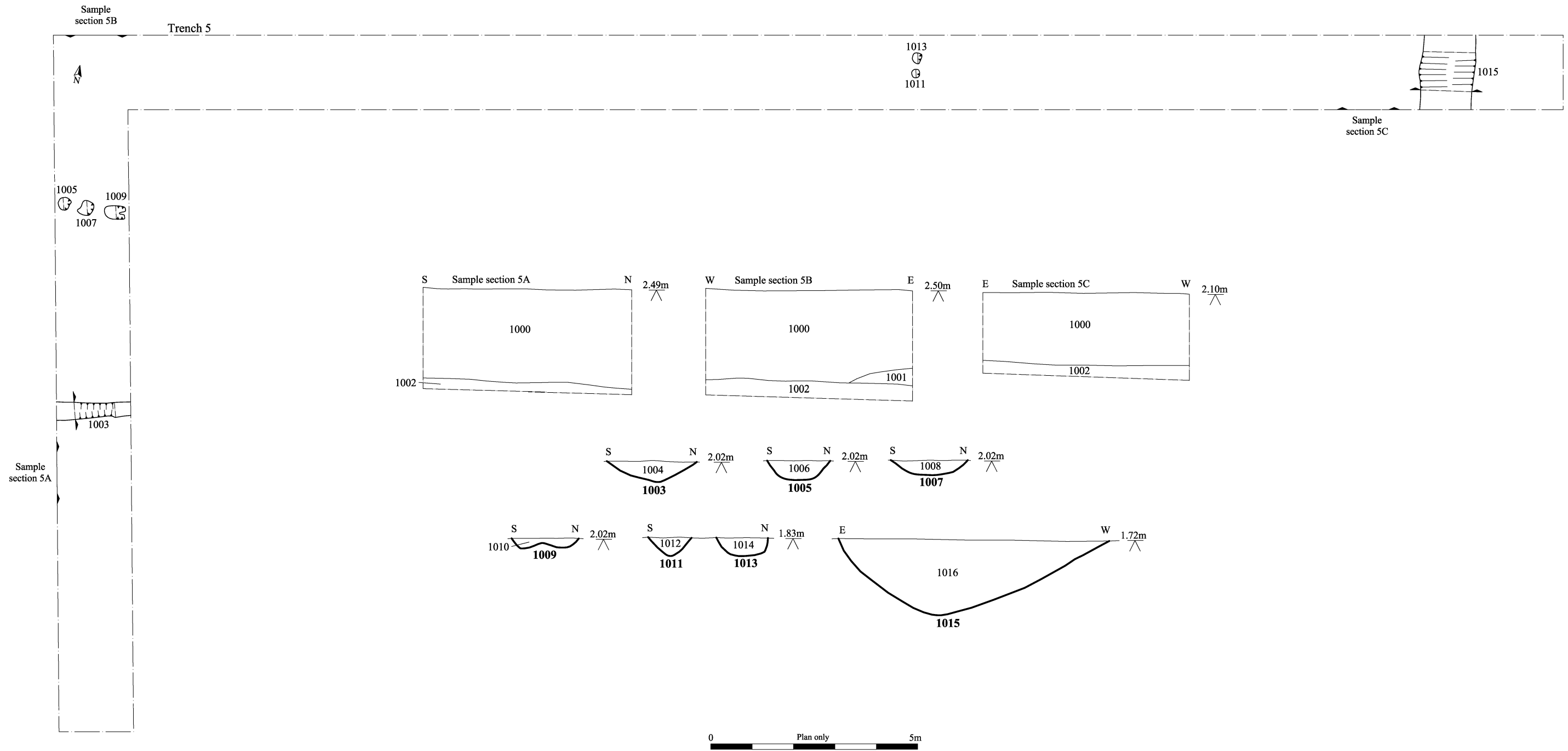


Archaeological Solutions Ltd  
**Fig. 4 Trench plans and sections**  
 Scale 1:100 and 1:20 at A4  
 Berryfields, March, Cambridgeshire (P6153)

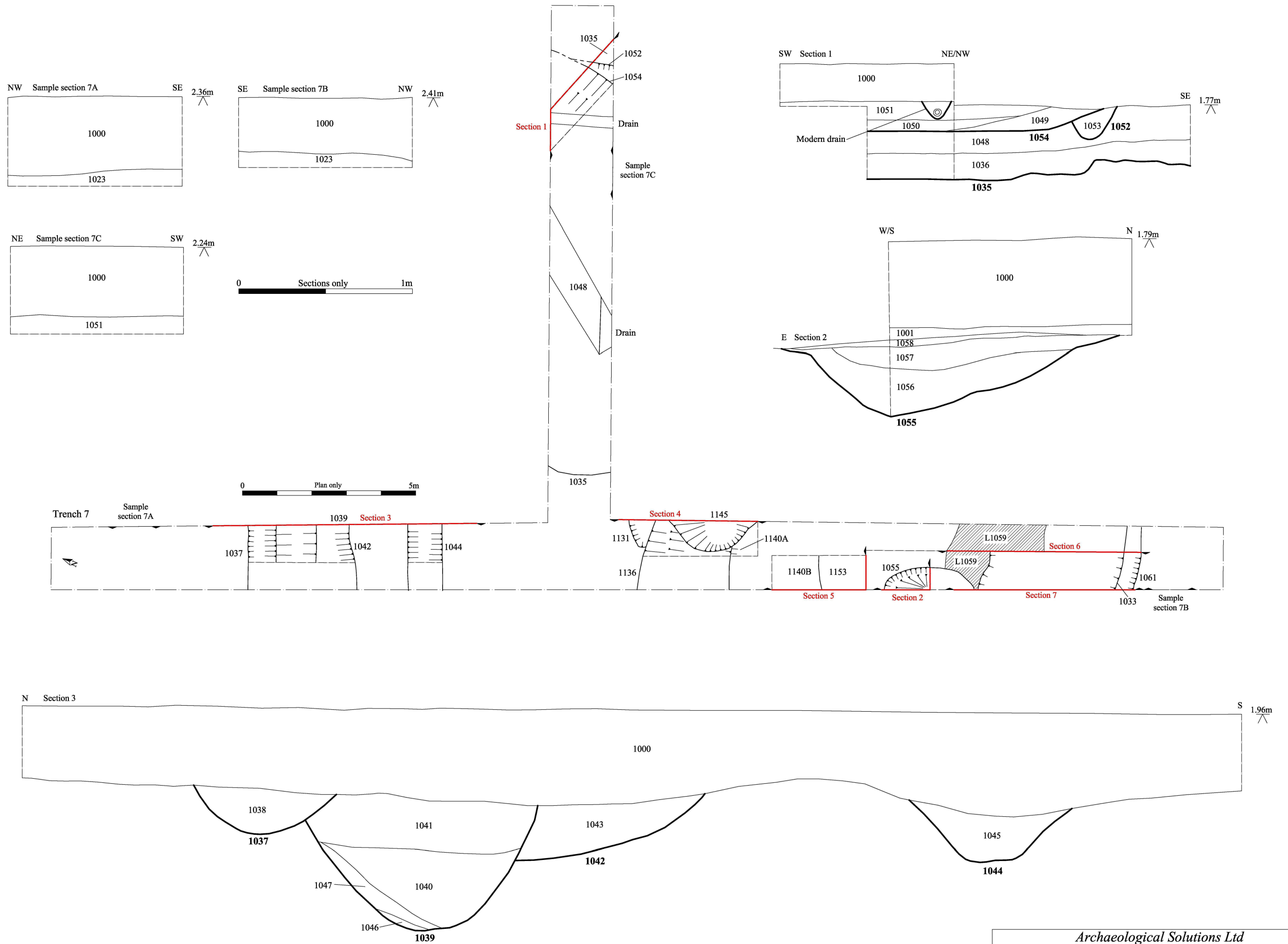




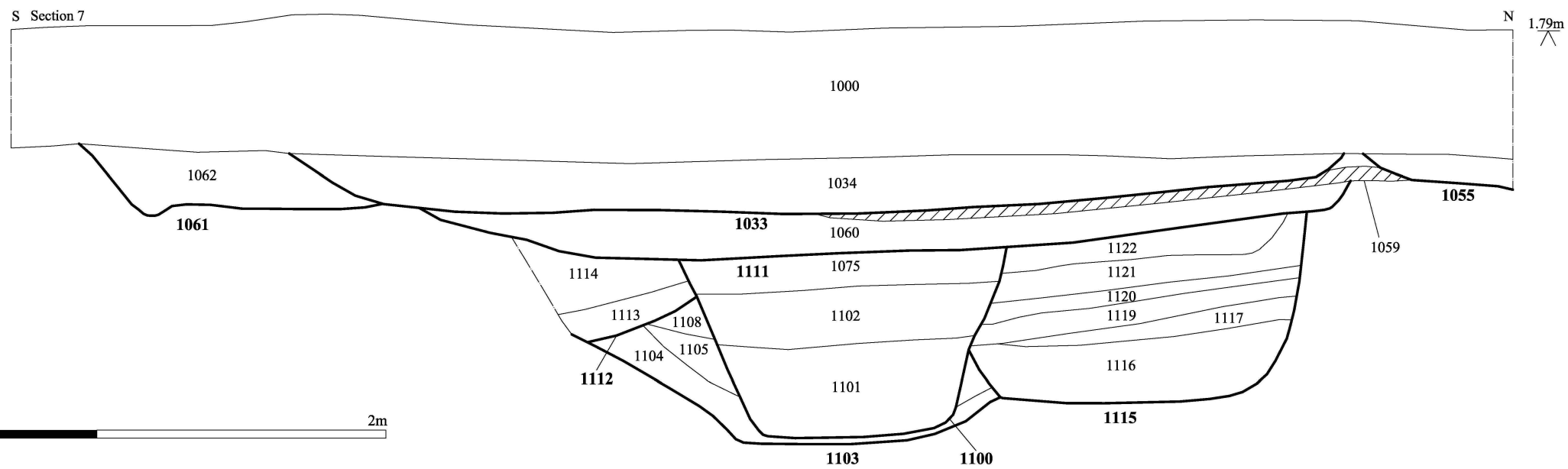
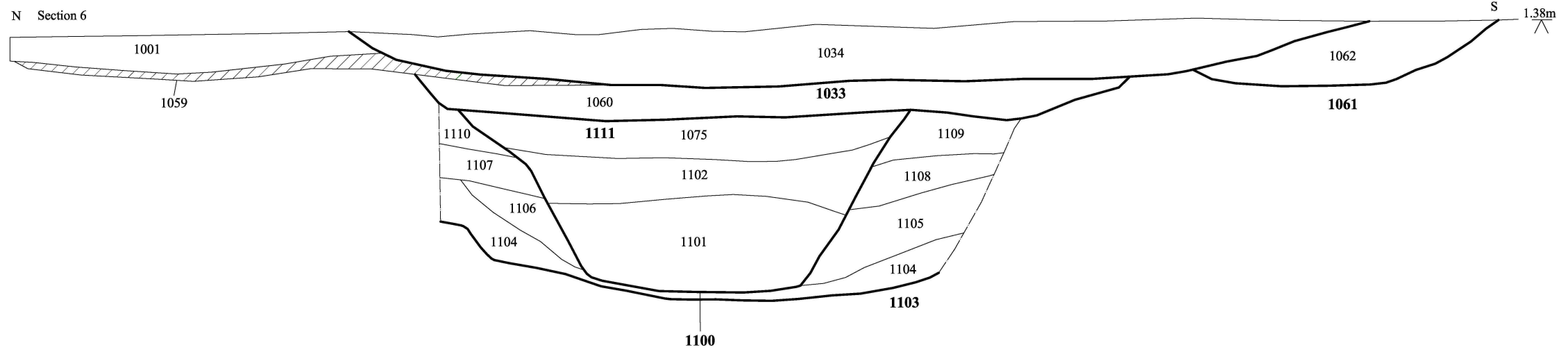
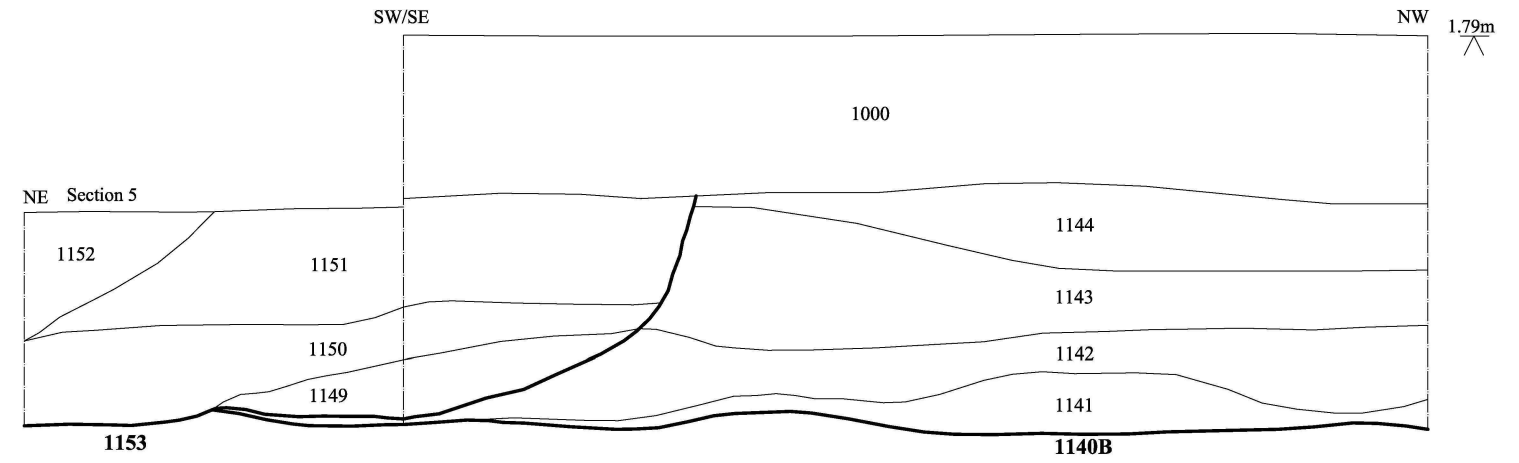
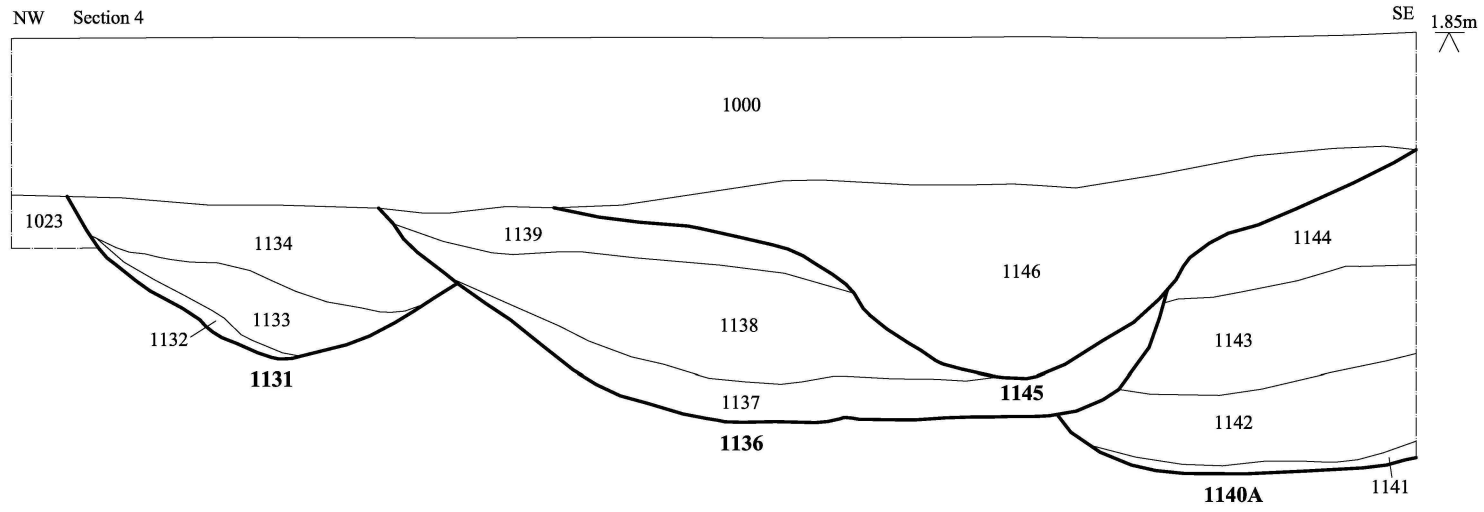
Archaeological Solutions Ltd  
**Fig. 5 Trench plans and sections**  
 Scale 1:100 and 1:20 at A4  
 Berryfields, March, Cambridgeshire (P6153)



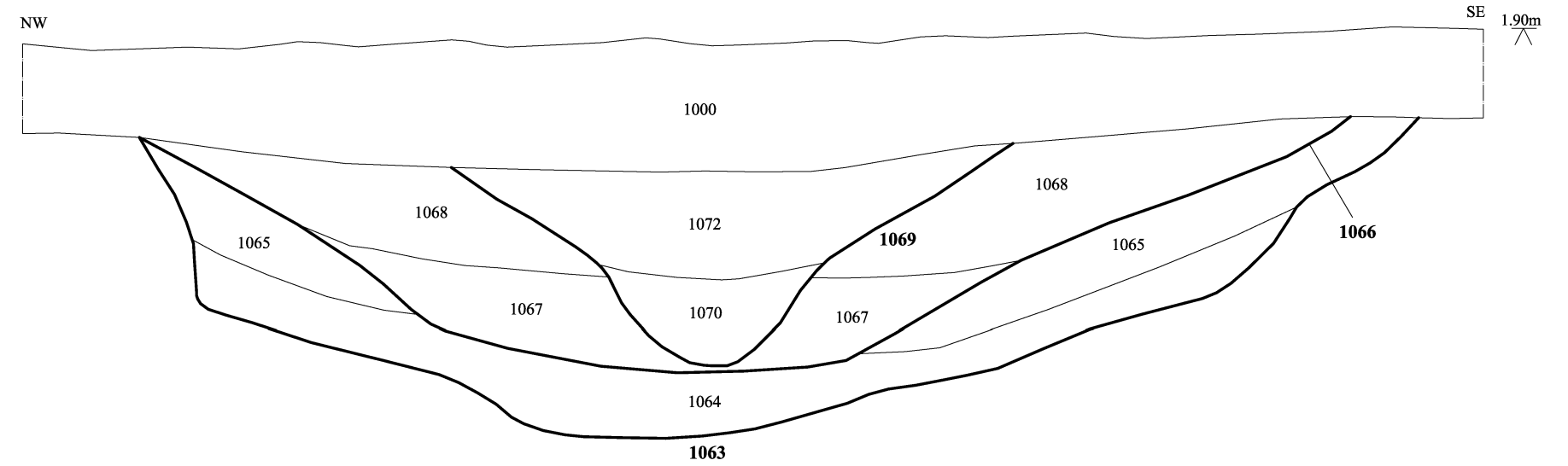
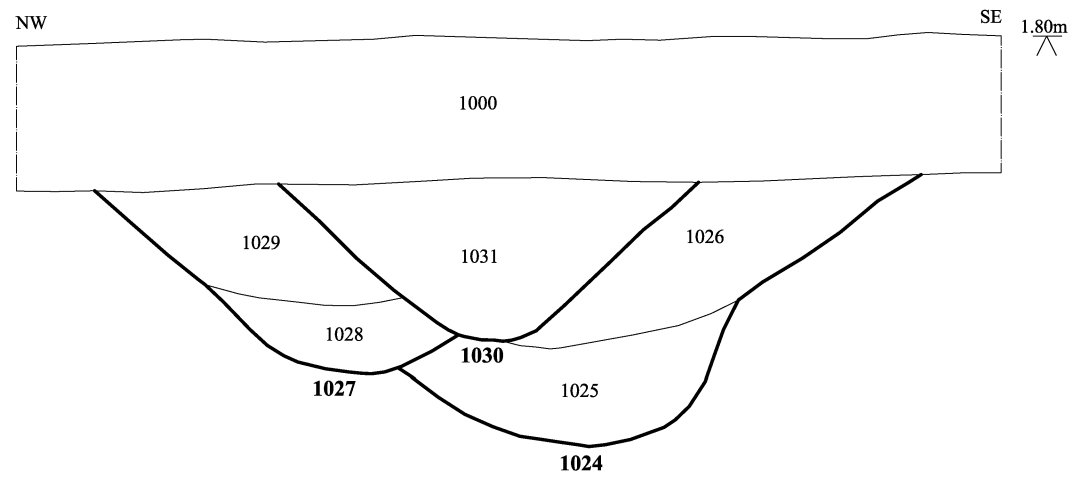
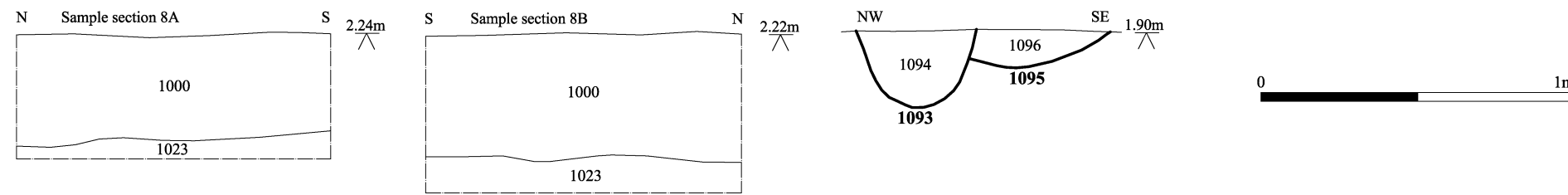
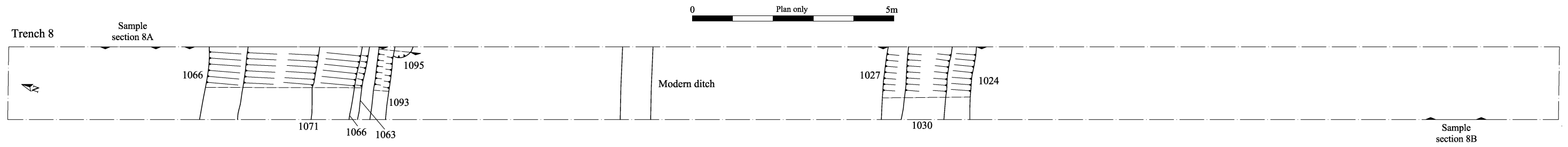
Archaeological Solutions Ltd  
**Fig. 6 Trench plans and sections**  
 Scale 1:100 and 1:20 at A4  
 Berryfields, March, Cambridgeshire (P6153)



*Archaeological Solutions Ltd*  
**Fig. 7 Trench 7 plan and sections**  
 Scale 1:100 and 1:20 at A4  
 Berryfields, March, Cambridgeshire (P6153)

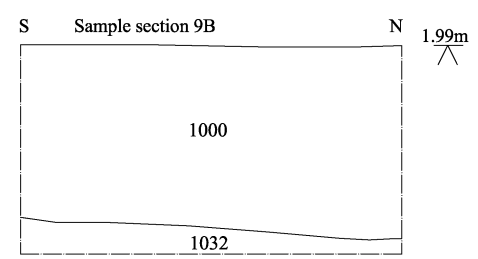
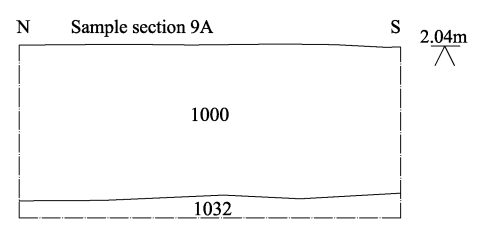
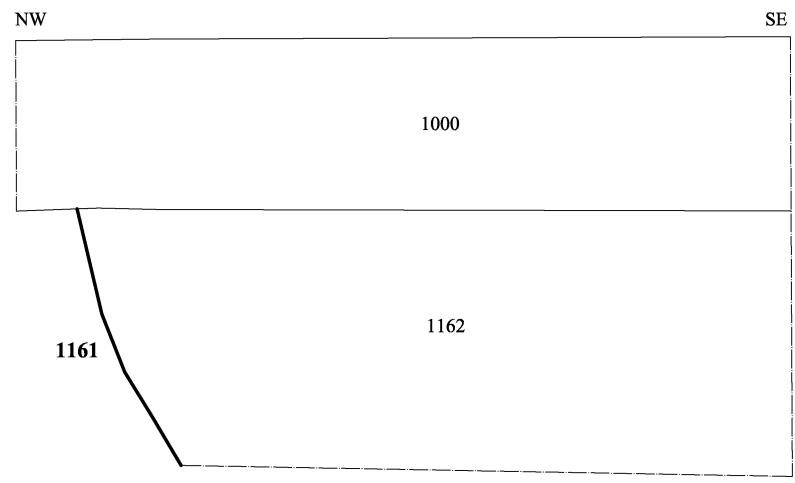
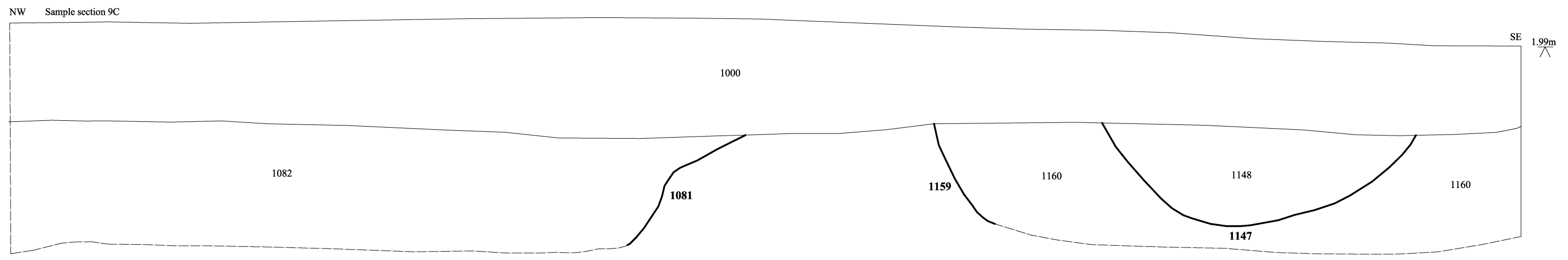
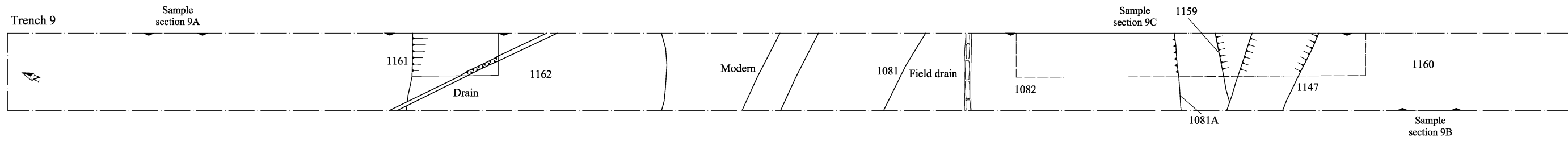


Archaeological Solutions Ltd  
**Fig. 8 Trench 7 sections**  
 Scale 1:100 and 1:20 at A4  
 Berryfields, March, Cambridgeshire (P6153)



Archaeological Solutions Ltd  
**Fig. 9 Trench 8 plan and sections**  
 Scale 1:100 and 1:20 at A4  
 Berryfields, March, Cambridgeshire (P6153)

0 Plan only 5m



0 1m

Archaeological Solutions Ltd  
**Fig. 10 Trench 9 plan and sections**  
 Scale 1:100 and 1:20 at A4  
 Berryfields, March, Cambridgeshire (P6153)