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**ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION  
AT LEVERINGTON COMMON  
LEVERINGTON  
CAMBRIDGESHIRE  
(LELC 17)**

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Work Undertaken For  
**GB Construction Partnership Limited**

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Report Compiled by  
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**ARCHAEOLOGICAL  
PROJECT  
SERVICES**





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## 1. SUMMARY

*An archaeological evaluation was undertaken on land at Leverington Common, Leverington, Cambridgeshire. This was in order to determine the archaeological implications of proposed residential development at the site.*

*Two extant Bronze Age (2200-800 BC) barrows lie close to the site and are part of a wider group focussed along the fen-edge. During the medieval period (AD 1086-1540) the site lay outside the core of the village and to the west of sea-defence banks. The site perhaps lay within the open fields of the settlement.*

*The evaluation identified a sequence of natural, medieval and post-medieval remains. Pits of 13<sup>th</sup> – 15<sup>th</sup> century and spanning the late medieval and early post-medieval periods were identified, although no function for these features could be identified. A number of ditches were dated to the 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> centuries and represent post-medieval land divisions.*

*The largest category of finds retrieved from the evaluation comprise pottery, principally dating to the 17<sup>th</sup> century but also including earlier and later examples. Brick was also abundant and may imply that a building once stood in the vicinity of the site. Other finds include post-medieval clay pipe, glass and metalwork. Faunal remains were also retrieved.*

## 2. INTRODUCTION

### 2.1 Definition of an Evaluation

*An archaeological evaluation is defined as 'a limited programme of non-intrusive and/or intrusive fieldwork which determines the presence or absence of archaeological features, structures,*

*deposits, artefacts or ecofacts within a specified area or site. If such archaeological remains are present Field Evaluation defines their character and extent, quality and preservation, and it enables an assessment of their worth in a local, regional, national or international context as appropriate' (CIfA 2015).*

### 2.2 Planning Background

Archaeological Project Services was commissioned by GB Construction Partnership Limited to undertake a programme of archaeological investigation in advance of proposed development on land to the south of Leverington Common, Leverington, Cambridgeshire. The evaluation was undertaken between the 18<sup>th</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup> September 2017 in accordance with a specification prepared by Archaeological Project Services (Appendix 1) and approved by the Cambridgeshire Historic Environment Team.

### 2.3 Topography and Geology

Leverington is located 2km northwest of Wisbech and 29km northeast of Peterborough in the administrative district of Fenland, Cambridgeshire (Fig. 1).

The site is located 750m southwest of the centre of Leverington, on the south side of Leverington Common at National Grid Reference TF 4420 1072 (Fig. 2). The site lies on generally flat land at a height of c. 4m OD.

Local soils are of the Wallsea 2 Association, typically clayey alluvial soils (Hodge *et al.* 1984, 338). These overlie a drift geology of marine alluvium which in turn seals a solid geology of Jurassic mudstones of the Amphill Clay Formation (BGS 1995).

## 2.4 Archaeological Setting

Leverington lies in an area of known archaeological remains dating from the Bronze Age to the present day. Two possible extant barrows are located to the east, Rabbit Hill and Cherry Tree Hill, and are part of a group located along the fen-edge in the Leverington area. However, it has also been suggested that the barrows are the waste mounds associated from medieval salt-making,

Leverington is first mentioned in the *Curia Regis* rolls of 1210. Referred to as *Leverinton*, the name derives from the Old English and means ‘the settlement (*tūn*) of *Lēofhere*’s people’ (Ekwall 1989, 296).

The only extant remains of the medieval period is the church of St Leonard which dates to the later 12<sup>th</sup> century (Pevsner 2002, 422). The site lies to the west of the earthwork remains of Roman Bank, a sea defence dating to the medieval period, part of which is a Scheduled Monument. Cropmarks associated with the bank are believed to relate to its construction or may relate to earlier occupation in the area.

Post-medieval remains include a English Civil War redoubt as well as several extant buildings in the general area.

Previous investigations in the vicinity of the site revealed structural remains containing medieval and post-medieval material to the east and undated ditches were revealed to the north.

## 3. AIMS

The aim of the evaluation was to enable the archaeological curator to formulate a policy for the management of archaeological resources present on the site. Specific objectives were to;

- Establish the type of archaeological activity that may be present within the site.
- Determine the likely extent of archaeological activity present within the site.
- Determine the date and function of the archaeological features present on the site.
- Determine the state of preservation of the archaeological features present on the site.
- Determine the spatial arrangement of the archaeological features present within the site
- Determine the extent to which the surrounding archaeological features extend into the application area.
- Establish the way in which the archaeological features identified fit into the pattern of occupation and land-use in the surrounding landscape.

## 4. METHODS

Three trenches, each measuring 15m by 1.6m were excavated to the surface of the underlying natural geology. Each trench was located to provide sample coverage of the site (Fig. 3).

Removal of topsoil and other overburden was undertaken by mechanical excavator using a toothless ditching bucket. The exposed surfaces of the trenches were then cleaned by hand and inspected for archaeological remains.

Each deposit exposed during the evaluation

was allocated a unique reference number (context number) with an individual written description. A list of all contexts and their interpretations appears as Appendix 1. A photographic record was also compiled and sections and plans were drawn at a scale of 1:10 and 1:20 respectively. Recording of deposits encountered was undertaken according to standard Archaeological Project Services practice.

The location of the excavated trenches was surveyed using a survey grade differential GPS.

Following excavation, finds were examined and a period date assigned where possible (Appendix 2). The records were also checked and a stratigraphic matrix produced. Phasing was based on the nature of the deposits and recognisable relationships between them.

## 5. RESULTS

The results of the archaeological evaluation are discussed in trench order. Archaeological contexts are described below. The numbers in brackets are the context numbers assigned in the field.

### *Trench 1* (Plate 1)

The earliest deposit encountered in this trench was a layer of mottled reddish brown and grey silt (1006). This was sealed by further deposits comprising a 0.32m thick layer of brownish grey silt (1005), followed by a 0.2m layer of grey silt (1004) and finally sealed by 70mm thick layer of reddish brown silt (1003). A fragment of brick, dating to the post-medieval period, was retrieved from (1005).

Sealing the above alluvial sequence was a subsoil (1002). This comprised greyish brown clayey silt and was 0.13m thick. Above this was the current topsoil of

greyish brown clayey silt (1001) which measured 0.3m thick (Fig. 5, Section 8).

### *Trench 2*

At the base of this trench was a natural layer of mottled reddish brown and grey silt (2009).

Above this was a 30mm thick layer of grey silt (2006) that contained fired clay or brick/tile fragments. This was in turn sealed by a further flood deposit comprising laminated grey and reddish brown silts (2005).

Cutting (2005) at the west end of Trench 2 was a north-south aligned ditch (2003). This was 1.35m wide by 0.9m deep (Fig. 5, Section 1; Plate 3). A single fill of greyish brown clayey silt (2002) was recorded from which finds of 15<sup>th</sup> – 16<sup>th</sup> century date were retrieved.

Situated 1m to the east was pit (2013). This was 2.25m wide and 0.6m deep (Fig. 5, Section 5; Plate 5) and contained a single fill of mixed greyish brown and reddish brown silt (2012) and produced late medieval pottery and post-medieval brick.

A further pit (2011) was located some 4m to the east and was 1.85m wide and 0.4m deep (Fig. 5, Section 5; Plate 5). This contained a single fill of greyish brown/reddish brown silt (2010) which also produced later medieval pottery.

Further west along this trench was pit/tank (2008). This was 1.55m wide and 0.65m deep with near vertical sides (Fig. 5, Section 3; Plate 4). This was also filled with greyish brown/reddish brown silt (2007). Pottery recovered from the fill comprised pottery of 13<sup>th</sup> – 15<sup>th</sup> century date.

Sealing all archaeological features was subsoil comprising greyish brown clayey silt (2004) which was 0.12m thick. The

current topsoil comprised greyish brown silt (2001).

### **Trench 3**

The earliest natural layer within this trench was identified as a yellowish brown silt (3003) which measured over 0.27m thick.

Cutting the natural alluvium towards the centre of the trench was pit (3015). This measured 1.9m long and 0.2m deep (Fig. 5, Section 7) and contained a single fill of mottled greyish brown and yellowish brown clayey silt (3014).

This was sealed by further deposits of alluvium comprising yellowish grey silt (3013) and greyish brown clayey silt (3012).

Cutting the alluvium at the southern end of the trench was northwest-southeast aligned ditch (3005) which was over 0.36m wide and 0.6m deep (Fig. 5, Section 2; Plate 7). A single fill of greyish brown and yellowish brown silt (3004) was recorded from which late 18<sup>th</sup> – 19<sup>th</sup> century pottery was recovered.

Parallel to this ditch, 3m to the north, was ditch (3007) which was 1.53m wide and 0.76m deep (Fig. 5, Section 4; Plate 8). Two fills were recorded, a lower of greyish brown silt (3006) and an upper fill of greyish brown silt (3008) from which 18<sup>th</sup> century pottery was retrieved.

Sealing the two ditches was a greyish brown silt (3002) identified as a subsoil. This was 0.15m thick.

Cut through the subsoil was ditch (3011). This was aligned north-south and was 2.3m wide and 1.2m deep (Fig. 5, Section 6; Plate 9). This contained two fills, a basal fill of grey silt (3010) and an upper fill of greyish brown clayey silt (3009). A quantity of late 17<sup>th</sup> – 18<sup>th</sup> century pottery was recovered

from the two fills of this ditch.

Sealing all features and deposits was topsoil comprising a 0.25m – 0.3m thick layer of greyish brown silt (3001).

## **6. DISCUSSION**

Natural deposits comprise silts of probable marine origin. Several silting/flood deposits were identified across the site which have occurred since the medieval period.

The earliest feature encountered was a pit or tank in Trench 2 which was dated to the 13<sup>th</sup> – 15<sup>th</sup> century. Two further pits in the same trench were slightly later in date, spanning the late medieval and early post-medieval periods. The function of these pits is unclear as the number of finds from each is not suggestive of refuse disposal.

Also of 15<sup>th</sup> – 16<sup>th</sup> century date was a ditch in Trench 2, although a number of ditches were also revealed that span the 17<sup>th</sup> – 19<sup>th</sup> centuries. These are probably small boundary ditches. One large ditch in Trench 3 contained a significant quantity of 17<sup>th</sup> – 18<sup>th</sup> century finds, although is stratigraphically later than the 18<sup>th</sup> – 19<sup>th</sup> century ditches. This may indicate that this ditch was backfilled with dumped refuse, perhaps deposited in close vicinity to the ditch.

Pottery spanning the medieval and post-medieval periods was recovered from across the site. Medieval pottery derived from kilns in Lincolnshire and Norfolk with most of the later pottery coming from Staffordshire. A quantity of brick fragments were retrieved from the investigation and could suggest the presence of a building in the general vicinity, although there was only two fragments of roofing tile recovered. Other finds recovered include post-medieval clay pipe and glass along



with metalwork. A small quantity of animal bone was also retrieved.

Metal detecting of features and spoil and artefact characterisation from the spoil heaps produced no additional finds. Environmental sampling of the features fills was not undertaken as it was deemed on site that they did not contain enough material eg. charcoal, animal bone and other environmental indicators, to provide a viable and informative result. If future archaeological work is required, advice should be sought from an environmental specialist to assist in devising a suitable strategy for environmental analysis of the Site.

## 7. CONCLUSIONS

An archaeological evaluation was undertaken on land to the south of Leverington Common, Leverington, as the site lay close to archaeological remains of the Bronze Age and medieval periods.

However, no Bronze Age remains were identified with the earliest feature, a pit, dated to the 13<sup>th</sup> – 15<sup>th</sup> century. Two further pits were revealed of 15<sup>th</sup> – 16<sup>th</sup> century date and could well be contemporary. The functions of these pits was not ascertained. A series of post-medieval ditches were also revealed and indicate former field divisions.

Pottery spanning the medieval and post-medieval periods was the principal artefactual material recovered from the site, followed closely by brick fragments, perhaps indicating a former building in the vicinity. Other finds include clay pipe, glass and metalwork. Faunal remains were also recovered.

## 8. ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Archaeological Project Services wish to acknowledge the assistance of Mr N Ogden of GB Construction Partnership Limited for commissioning the fieldwork and post-excavation analysis and of the Cambridge County Council Historic Environment Team. The work was coordinated by Neil Parker. Elizabeth Bates allowed access to the library maintained by Heritage Lincolnshire.

## 9. PERSONNEL

Project Coordinator: Neil Parker  
 Supervisor: Mark Peachey  
 Site Staff: Chris Ayers, Denise Buckley  
 Finds Processing: Denise Buckley  
 Photographic reproduction: Sue Unsworth  
 Illustration: Mark Peachey  
 Post-excavation Analyst: Paul Cope-Faulkner

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Hodge, CAH, Burton, RGO, Corbett, WM, Evans, R and Seale, RS 1984 *Soils and their use in Eastern England*, Soil Survey of England and Wales **13**

Pevsner, N, 2002 *Cambridgeshire*, The Buildings of England

## 11. ABBREVIATIONS

APS Archaeological Project Services

BGS British Geological Survey

CIfA Chartered Institute for  
Archaeologists

OS Ordnance Survey

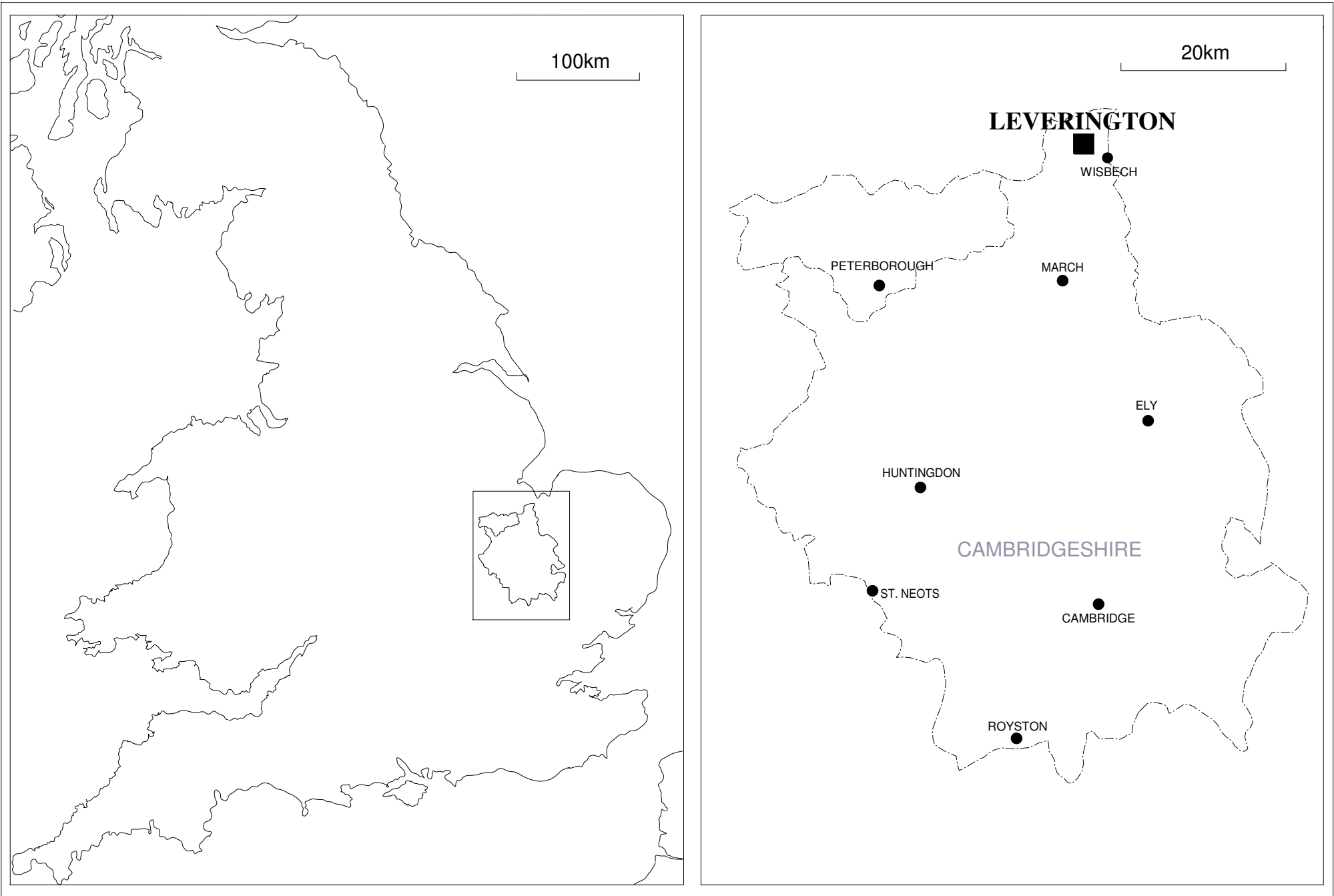


Figure 1 General location map



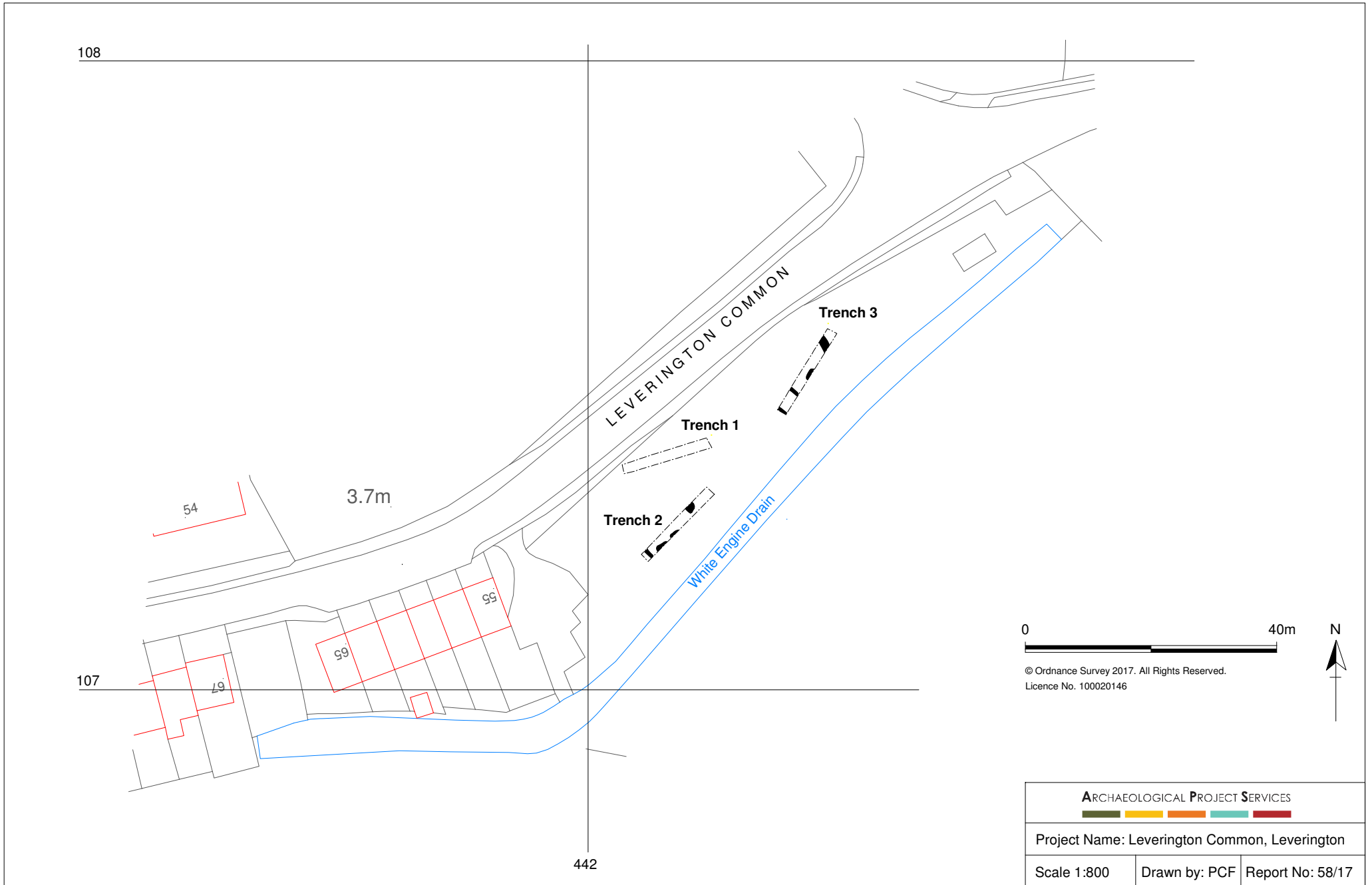
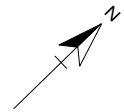
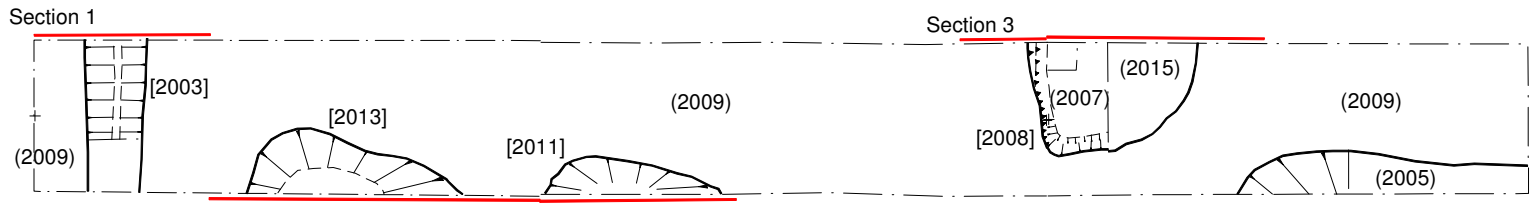
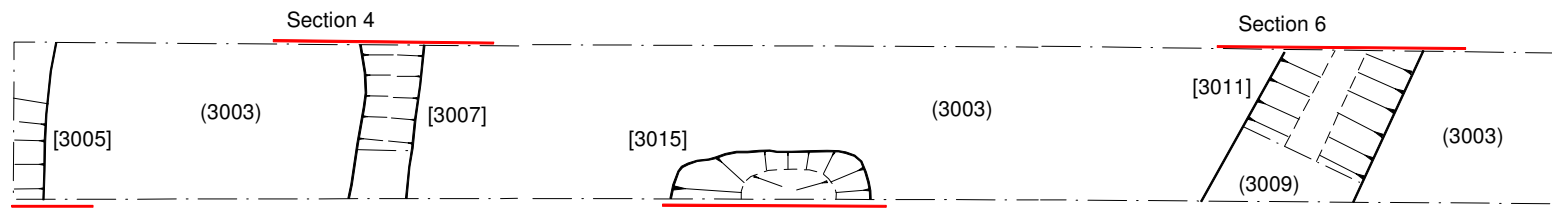


Figure 3 - Trench location plan



Trench 2

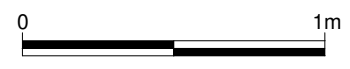
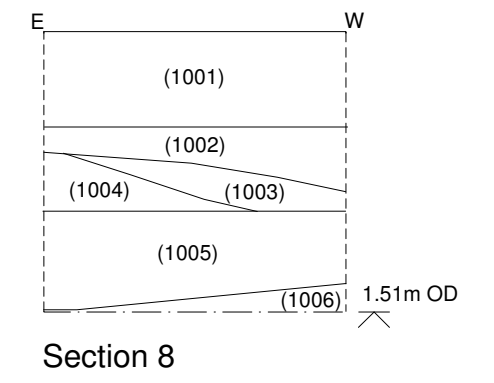
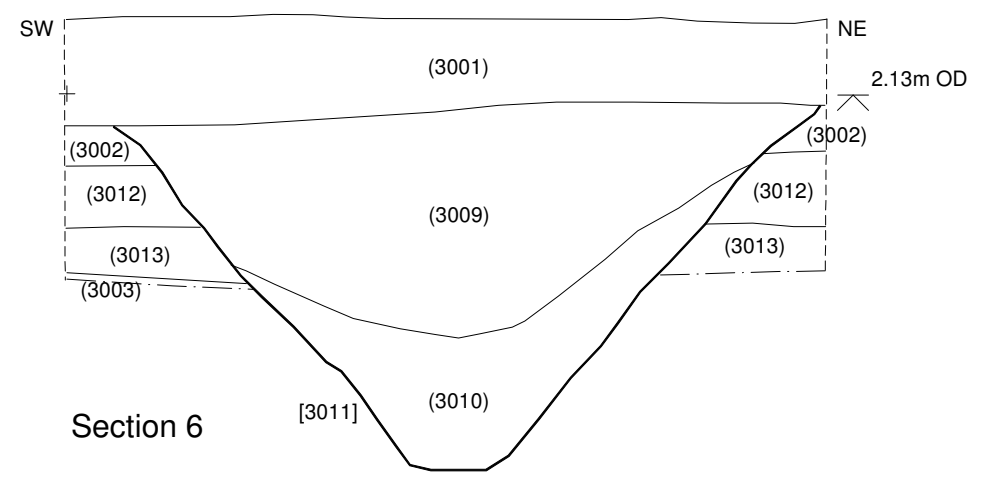
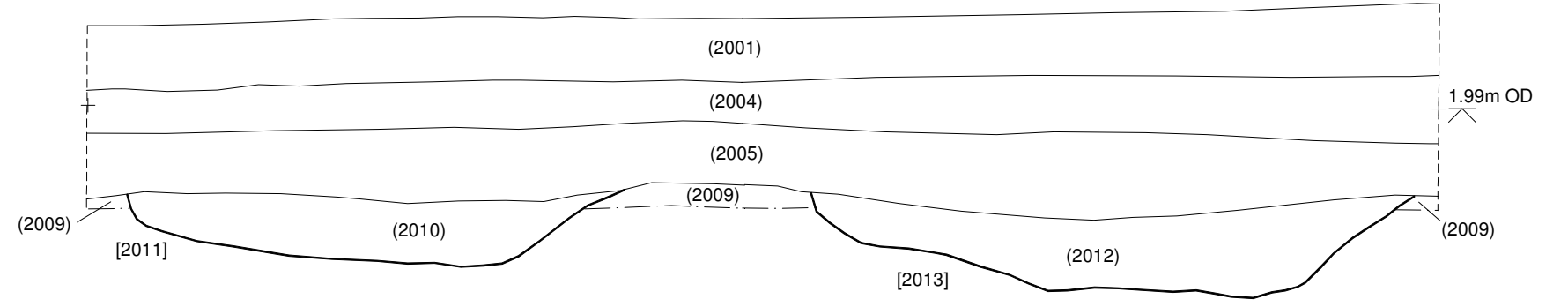
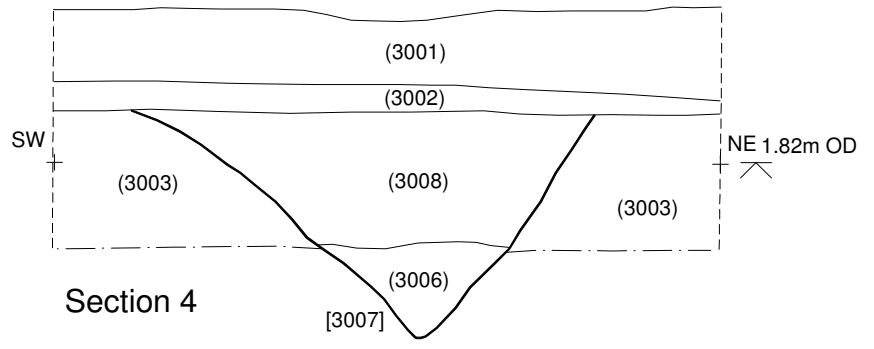
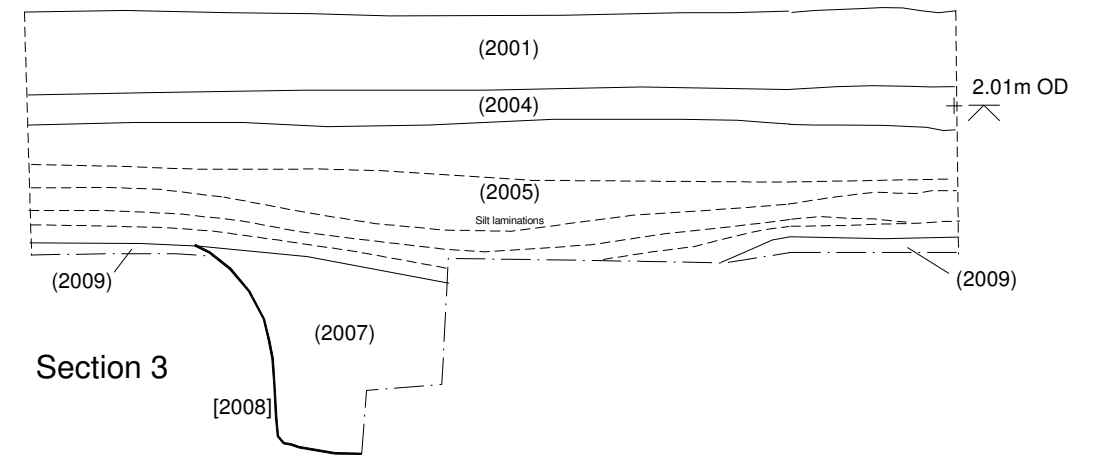
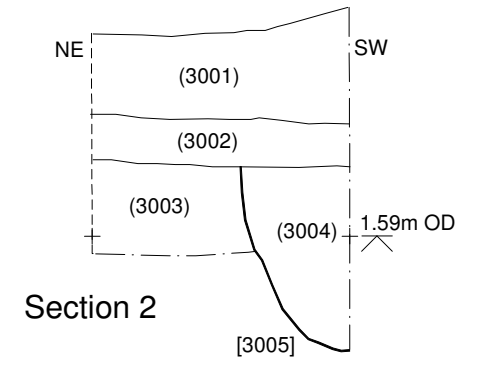
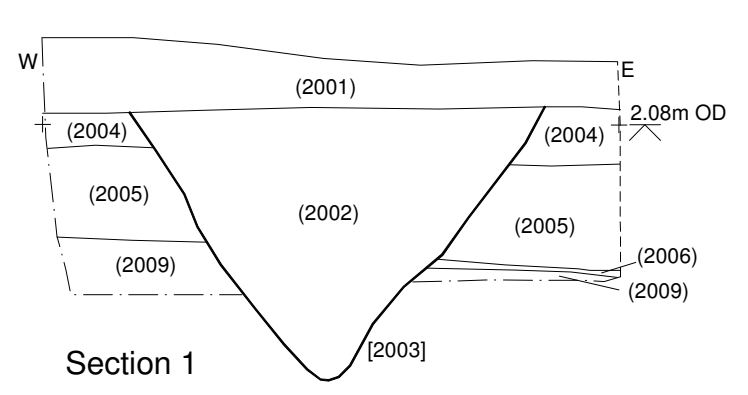


Trench 3



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Scale 1:75	Drawn by: MJP	Report No: 58/17

Figure 4 - Trench plans



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Project Name: Leverington Common LELC17		
Scale: 1: 25	Drawn by: MJP	Report No: .../17

Figure 5. Sections





Plate 1 – Trench 1 after cleaning, looking northwest



Plate 2 – Trench 2 after cleaning, looking northwest





Plate 3 – Ditch (2003), looking north



Plate 4 – Pit (2008), looking northeast



Plate 5 – Pits (2011) and (2013), looking southeast





Plate 6 – Trench 3 after cleaning, looking southwest



Plate 7 – Ditch (3005), looking southeast





Plate 8 – Ditch (3007), looking northwest



Plate 9 – Ditch (3011), looking northwest

## Appendix 1

### CONTEXT DESCRIPTIONS

No.	Trench	Description	Interpretation
1001	1	Friable dark greyish brown clayey silt, 0.3m thick	Topsoil
1002	1	Friable light greyish brown clayey silt, 0.13m thick	Subsoil
1003	1	Fine light reddish brown silt with iron panning, 0.07m thick	Alluvium
1004	1	Friable mid grey silt, 0.2m thick	Alluvium
1005	1	Soft mid brownish grey silt, up to 0.32m thick	Alluvium
1006	1	Soft, fine, mottled light reddish brown/light grey silt	Natural- earlier alluvium
2001	2	Friable dark greyish brown clayey silt, 0.27m thick	Topsoil
2002	2	Friable mid greyish brown, with occasional small yellow mottles, clayey silt, 0.9m thick	Fill of [2003]
2003	2	Roughly north-south aligned linear cut with straight 60° sides and narrow, flat base. At least 1.5m long, 1.35m wide, 0.9m deep	Ditch, plot boundary
2004	2	Friable mid greyish brown clayey silt, 0.12m thick	Subsoil
2005	2	Soft alternate light grey/mid grey/mid reddish brown laminated silts, up to 0.45m thick	Alluvium- perhaps a series of flooding events
2006	2	Soft dark grey fine grained silt with occasional CBM frags, 0.03m thick	Thin flood deposit or ground surface
2007	2	Soft mottled mid greyish brown/reddish brown silt, 0.65m thick	Fill of [2008], appears to have silted up
2008	2	Sub-rectangular cut with near vertical sides and flat base, 1.55m wide E-W, 0.65m deep, at least 1.1m N-S	Pit-possibly a tank for some process
2009	2	Friable mottled reddish brown/light grey silt with occasional iron panning	Natural- earlier alluvium
2010	2	Soft mottled mid greyish brown/reddish brown silt, 0.25m thick	Fill of [20113011]]
2011	2	Irregular cut with concave sides and uneven base, 1.85m E-W, at least 0.4m N-S, 0.25m deep	Pit
2012	2	Soft mottled mid greyish brown/reddish brown silt, 0.32m thick	Fill of [2013]
2013	2	Irregular cut with concave sides and uneven base, 2.25m E-W, at least 0.6m N-S, 0.32m deep	Pit
3001	3	Firm dark grey brown silt with occasional CBM frags, charcoal, rounded small pebbles, 0.25-0.3m thick	Topsoil
3002	3	Firm light yellow grey brown, with lighter patches and vertical streaks (root holes), silt, 0.15m thick	Subsoil
3003	3	Firm mid and light yellow brown patchy silt, 0.27m thick	Natural-earlier alluvium
3004	3	Firm-soft light yellow grey brown and yellow brown patchy silt with occasional charcoal, CBM frags, sub-angular flints	Fill of [3005]
3005	3	SE-NW aligned linear cut with steep sides and rounded base, 0.36m wide, 0.6m deep	Ditch-plot boundary
3006	3	Firm light grey brown silt with moderate shell and charcoal. 0.31m thick	Lower fill of [3007]
3007	3	NW-SE aligned linear cut, V-shaped, 1.53m wide, 0.76m deep	Ditch-plot boundary
3008	3	Firm light yellow grey brown, with some orange flecks, silt, 0.45m thick	Upper fill of [3007]
3009	3	Friable mid greyish brown, with yellowish brown mottles, clayey silt, 0.75m thick	Upper fill of [3011]

3010	3	Soft mid grey silt, 0.45m thick	Lower fill of [3011]
3011	3	North-south aligned linear cut with straight 45° sides and narrow, flat base, 2.3m wide, at least 2m long, 1.2m deep	Boundary ditch
3012	3	Friable mid greyish brown clayey silt, 0.2m thick	Alluvium
3013	3	Friable mid yellowish grey silt, 0.18m thick	Alluvium
3014	3	Friable mottled mid greyish brown/yellowish brown clayey silt, 0.2m thick	Fill of [3015]
3015	3	Irregular cut with uneven sides and base, 1.9m long, at least 0.45m wide, 0.2m deep	Pit, similar to [2011] and [2013]

## Appendix 2

### THE FINDS

#### POST ROMAN POTTERY

By Alex Beeby

#### Introduction

All the material was recorded at archive level in accordance with the guidelines laid out in Slowikowski *et al.* (2001). The pottery codenames (Cname) are in accordance with the Post Roman pottery type series for Lincolnshire, as published in Young *et al.* (2005), which can also be used to record material from surrounding counties. A total of 20 sherds from approximately 17 vessels, weighing 129 grams was recovered from the site.

#### Methodology

The material was laid out and viewed in context order. Sherds were counted and weighed by individual vessel within each context. The pottery was examined visually and using x20 magnification. This information was then added to an Access database. An archive list of the pottery is included in Table 1 below. The pottery ranges in date from the medieval to the post medieval period.

#### Condition

The pottery is in a fragmentary condition. Two pieces are sooted in a manner indicative of usage over a hearth or fire.

#### Results

Table 1, Post Roman Pottery Archive

Tr	Cxt	Cname	Full Name	Sub Fabric	Form	Decor	Part	Description	Date	NoS	NoV	W(g)
2	2002	BOU	Bourne 'D' ware	Smooth	Large Jar		BS		15th-16th	1	1	25
2	2007	GRIM	Grimston ware		Jug		BS	Misfired glaze; white dep (cess?) over the break	13th-15th	2	1	27
2	2010	BOU	Bourne 'D' ware	Slightly bumpy	Closed		BS		15th-16th	1	1	14
2	2012	GRIL	Grimston late medieval ware		Closed		BS		M14th-M16th	1	1	1
3	3004	CREA	Creamware		Flat?		BS		L18th-M19th	1	1	2
3	3004	BERTH	Brown glazed earthenware		?		BS		M16th-18th	1	1	2
3	3006	SWSG	Staffordshire white saltglazed ware		Closed		BS		18th	1	1	4
3	3009	MOT	Manganese mottled ware		Drinking vessel		BS	Probably tankard	L17th-18th	1	1	1
3	3009	BERTH	Brown glazed earthenware		Closed		BS	Sooted; pipkin/handled bowl?	17th-18th	1	1	5
3	3009	BERTH	Brown glazed earthenware		Jar or Bowl	External scored wavy line	BS		17th-18th	1	1	6

Tr	Cxt	Cname	Full Name	Sub Fabric	Form	Decor	Part	Description	Date	NoS	NoV	W(g)
3	3009	SLIP	Slipware	White slip on pink	?		BS	Sooted exterior; abraded; yellow glaze as STSL	L17th-18th	1	1	6
3	3009	STSL	Staffordshire slipware		Hollow	Joggled brown on cream	BS	Probably drinking vessel	L17th-18th	1	1	4
3	3009	STSL	Staffordshire slipware		Hollow	Brown applied dot/pad	BS	Probably drinking vessel	L17th-18th	1	1	1
3	3009	TGE	Tin glazed earthenware		?		Base ; BS		17th-M18th	2	1	9
3	3009	ENGS	English stoneware		Closed		BS		L17th-18th	1	1	8
3	3010	SLIP	Slipware	White on orange	Bowl	Alternating bands of slip and clear/orange glaze	BS	Slip abraded; Kings Lynn?	17th-18th	1	1	13
3	3010	STSL	Staffordshire slipware		?		BSS	Flakes; brown applied dec; was adhered to Fe object	L17th-18th	2	1	1
<b>Total</b>										<b>20</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>129</b>

### Provenance

Pottery was recovered from a range of ditch and pit features. All of the material came from Trenches 2 and 3. Table 2 below, shows a summary of all of the pottery shown by origin, with each feature also given a spot date based on the pottery evidence.

Table 2, the Origin and Dating of the Pottery

Tr	Feature Type	Cxt	Cut	Feature/Cxt Date	NoS
2	Ditch	2002	2003	15th to 16th	1
2	Pit	2007	2008	13th to 15th	2
2	Pit	2010	2011	15th to 16th	1
2	Pit	2012	2013	Mid 14th to mid 16th	1
3	Ditch	3004	3005	Late 18th to mid 19th	2
3	Ditch	3006	3007	18th	1
3	Ditch	3009	3011	Late 17th to mid 18th	9
3		3010			3
<b>Total</b>					<b>24</b>

### Range

There is a mix of later medieval or earlier post medieval pottery (from features in Trench 2) and later post medieval pottery (from features in Trench 3). The pottery is probably domestic waste, although the group is far too small to make any suppositions about those who produced this waste.

### Trench 2

Types from the ditch and pits in this trench include Bourne D ware (BOU), Grimston ware (GRIM) and Grimston late medieval ware (GRIL). Whilst Grimston ware (GRIM) is primarily medieval in date, there is a long overlap in the production of all three of these industries. It is therefore possible that the pottery is contemporary.

### Trench 3

There is a wide range of later post medieval domestic pottery types from the ditches in this trench, including both fine tablewares and coarser wares intended for cooking. Types include Brown glazed earthenware (BERTH), Staffordshire slipware (STSL), Manganese mottled ware (MOT), Tin glazed earthenware (TGE) and several others. The bulk of this pottery is of later 17<sup>th</sup> or 18<sup>th</sup> century date, with none likely to postdate 1800 AD.

### Potential

The material should be retained as part of the primary site archive. The pottery is in a stable condition and should pose no problems for long term storage. No further work is required.

### Summary

A small assemblage of pottery was recovered, with two of the excavated trenches producing material. Pieces were recovered from arrange of ditches and pits. Features in Trench 1 yielded pottery likely to be of later medieval or early post medieval date, whilst features in Trench 3 gave items of later post medieval date.

## CERAMIC BUILDING MATERIAL

By Alex Beeby

### Introduction

All the material was recorded at archive level in accordance with the guidelines laid out by the Archaeological Ceramic Building Materials Group (2002). A total of 24 fragments of ceramic building material, weighing 1814 grams was recovered from the site.

### Methodology

The material was laid out and viewed in context order. Fragments were counted and weighed within each context. The ceramic building material was examined visually and using x20 magnification. This information was then added to an Access database. An archive list of the ceramic building material is included in Table 3 below.

### Condition

Most of the material is fragmentary and abraded. Two pieces of brick have mortar adhered indicating that these have been used and are likely demolition rubble.

### Results

Table 3, Ceramic Building Material Archive

Tr	Cxt	Cname	Full Name	Fabric	Description	Date	NoF	W(g)
1	1005	BRK	Brick	Oxidised; fine; Ca	Abraded; slop moulded; Fenland fabric; mortar adhered	16th-19th	1	138
2	2002	CBM	Ceramic building material	Oxidised; fine; mica; Ca	Abraded; surfaceless; probably BRK; grass straw impressions throughout fabric; sooted over the break		1	44
2	2002	BRK	Brick	Oxidised; fine; Ca	Abraded; slop moulded; Fenland; grass/straw impressions on one surface	16th-19th	1	133
2	2006	BRK	Brick	Oxidised; fine; Ca	Abraded; surfaceless; sooted over the break; Fenland	16th-19th	2	60
2	2012	BRK	Brick	Oxidised; fine; mica; Fe	Abraded; surfaceless; sooted over the break	16th-19th	1	48
3	3004	BRK	Brick	Oxidised; fine; Ca	Mortar adhered; Fenland; slop moulded; stacking scar; soot	16th-19th	1	180
3	3006	RTMISC	Miscellaneous brick or tile	Oxidised; Ca	Soot or tar on base; sanded base; RID?; unusual	18th-19th	1	39



Tr	Cxt	Cname	Full Name	Fabric	Description	Date	NoF	W(g)
3	3006	BRK	Brick	Oxidised; fine; Ca	Slop moulded; Fenland	16th-19th	1	63
3	3006	CBM	Ceramic building material	Gault	Abraded; surfaceless		1	21
3	3009	BRK	Brick	Gault	Slop moulded; 110mm wide; 40mm thick/deep	18th	1	252
3	3009	BRK	Brick	Oxidised; fine Ca	Clinkered header; Fenland	16th-18th	1	125
3	3009	BRK	Brick	Oxidised; fine; Ca	1 pc salt surface; Fenland		2	220
3	3009	CBM	Ceramic building material	Oxidised; fine; Ca	Abraded; surfaceless; probably post medieval brick; Fenland		4	56
3	3009	BRK	Brick	Oxidised; fine-fine sandy; mica; Ca	Abraded; surfaceless		3	178
3	3010	BRK	Brick	Oxidised; fine; Ca	Abraded; 1 pc slop moulded; remaining 2 pcs too abraded to tell	16th-19th	3	257
<b>Total</b>							<b>24</b>	<b>1814</b>

### Provenance

The ceramic building material was recovered from a range of layers and cut features, with pieces retrieved from Trenches 1, 2 and 3.

Table 4, the Origin of the Ceramic Building Material

Tr	Feature Type	Cxt	Cut	NoF	W(g)
1	Layer	1005	-	1	138
2	Ditch	2002	2003	2	177
2	Layer	2006	-	2	60
2	Pit	2012	2013	1	48
3	Ditch	3004	3005	1	180
3	Ditch	3006	3007	3	123
3	Ditch	3009	3011	11	831
3		3010		3	257
<b>Total</b>				<b>24</b>	<b>1814</b>

### Range

Most of the ceramic building material fragments are likely to derive from post medieval bricks. The pieces are fragmentary and some show signs have use, suggesting that some or all of the material is demolition waste. With the exception of two fragments from ditches [3007] and [3011], which produced single pieces in light firing 'Gault' clay, fabrics are restricted to calcareous 'Fenland' and fine micaceous types. Most of the material cannot be closely dated, although a large piece from a slop moulded brick from [3011] is likely to be 18<sup>th</sup> century in date, whilst a fragment of tile (the only piece within the group) from [3007] is probably of a similar date or possibly later.

### Potential

The material should be retained as part of the primary site archive. The ceramic building material is in a stable condition and should pose no problems for long term storage. No further work is required.

### Summary

A small assemblage of ceramic building material, the bulk of which is likely to derive from post medieval bricks, was recovered. Some or all of the material could be demolition waste. Most of the material cannot be closely dated, although items likely to be of later post medieval date came from two ditches in Trench 3 (cuts [3007] and [3011]).

## FAUNAL REMAINS

By Paul Cope-Faulkner

### Introduction

A total of 18 (1400g) fragments of animal bone were recovered from stratified contexts. An additional 23 fragments (77g) of shell was also recovered.

### Methodology

The faunal remains were laid out in context order and reference made to published catalogues (e.g. Schmid 1972; Hillson 2003). All the animal remains were counted and weighed, and where possible identified to species, element and side. Also fusion data, butchery marks, gnawing, burning and pathological changes were noted when present. Ribs and vertebrae were only recorded to species when they were substantially complete and could accurately be identified. Undiagnostic bones were recorded as micro (mouse size), small (rabbit size), medium (sheep size) or large (cattle size).

The condition of the bone was graded using the criteria stipulated by Lyman (1996). Grade 0 being the best preserved bone and grade 5 indicating that the bone had suffered such structural and attritional damage as to make it unrecognisable.

### Provenance

The faunal remains were retrieved from the fills of ditches (2002, 3004, 3006, 3008, 3009 and 3010) and pit fills (2007 and 2012).

### Condition

The overall condition of the remains was good to moderate, averaging at grades 2-3 on the Lyman Criteria (1996).

### Results

Table 5, *Fragments Identified to Taxa*

Cxt	Taxon	Element	Side	Number	W (g)	Comments
2002	sheep/goat	molar	-	1	10	
2007	cattle	metacarpus	-	1	68	
	large mammal	long bone	-	1	4	
2012	medium mammal	long bone	-	1	4	
3006	sheep/goat	molar	-	1	5	
	sheep/goat	calcaneum	-	1	17	
	medium mammal	skull	-	1	4	
3008	cattle	femur	R	1	703	
3009	cattle	metacarpus	-	1	280	
	cattle	vertebra	-	1	79	
	sheep/goat	mandible	-	3	58	
	medium mammal	radius	-	1	17	
	medium mammal	long bone	-	1	2	
3010	large mammal	radius	-	1	82	
	large mammal	rib	-	1	34	
	pig	maxilla	L	1	33	

Table 6: *Molluscs*

Cxt	Taxon	Side	Number	W (g)	Comments
2007	cockle	upper	1	3	
3004	Oyster	Lower	1	3	
	Cockle	Upper	1	2	
	snail	-	2	1	
3006	snail	-	1	2	
3009	cockle	upper	1	1	
3010	Mussel	Upper	15	64	
	snail	-	1	1	

### Summary

As a small assemblage, falling below the minimum count of *c.* 300 fragments required for meaningful analysis, the potential is low. The three main domestic animals are represented with perhaps sheep/goat the most important. The majority of the animal bone is likely to derive from butchery waste.

Oysters, cockles and mussels are likely to represent food waste with the snails, mainly common garden snails, likely to be natural in origin.

### GLASS

By *Denise Buckley*

#### Introduction

Four pieces of glass, together weighing 116g, were recovered.

#### Condition

The glass is in moderate condition, with all the pieces displaying a degree of iridescence or lamination.

#### Results

Table 7, Glass Archive

Cxt	Description	Date	NoF	W (g)
3004	Tiny shard of pale green vessel glass. Heavy iridescence and some lamination.		1	<1
	Small shard of probable window glass. Heavy lamination.		1	<1
3009	Complete neck and part shoulder of pale green onion shaped wine bottle. Heavy iridescence and lamination.	Early 18 <sup>th</sup> century	2	116
<b>Totals</b>			<b>4</b>	<b>116</b>

#### Provenance

The glass was recovered from (3004), the fill of a ditch or plot boundary [3005] and (3009), the fill of boundary ditch [3011].

#### Range

Four fragments of glass, probably all dating to the early 18<sup>th</sup> century were recovered. Ditch [3004] produced two tiny shards of glass – one from a vessel and one possibly window glass. Both are too small to say anything further.

Ditch [3009] produced part of an onion shaped wine bottle. It has a tapered neck with marver lines and an applied string ring – this was to assist in securing the cork and to give the bottle neck extra strength. Marver lines are from when the “gob” or “gather” of glass at the end of the blowpipe is rolled on a table (the “marver”), in order to shape the bottle, a process called “marvering”. The bottle may also have had a seal, but there is not enough of it to ascertain if this was the case.

#### Potential

Apart from dating evidence, the glass is of little further potential. The material should be retained as part of the primary site archive and should pose no problems for long term storage.

### CLAY PIPE

By *Denise Buckley*

#### Introduction

Analysis of the clay pipes followed the guidance published by Davey (1981) and the material is detailed in the accompanying table.

#### Condition

The clay pipes, although fragmentary, are in good condition.

**Results**

Table 8, Clay Pipes

Context no.	Bore diameter /64"					NoF	W(g)	Comments	Date
	8	7	6	5	4				
3009		1	5	1		8	21	Stems only. One piece is broken lengthways and it is not possible to ascertain a bore size to it, but it is probably a 5 or 6.	Late 17 <sup>th</sup> – early 18 <sup>th</sup> century
3010			1			1	4	Stem only.	
<b>Totals</b>						<b>9</b>	<b>25</b>		

**Provenance**

The clay pipes were recovered from (3009), the upper fill of boundary ditch [3011] and (3010), the lower fill, of [3011].

**Range**

Boundary ditch [3011] produced nine clay pipe stems, six of which date to around 1680 – 1720. One stem dates slightly earlier, one slightly later and one is undated.

**Potential**

The clay pipes provide functional evidence of smoking or smokers at the site and also dating evidence. However, any further potential is limited. The material should be retained as part of the primary site archive and should pose no problems for long term storage.

**OTHER FINDS**

*By Denise Buckley and Paul Cope-Faulkner*

**Introduction**

Three items, together weighing 268g, were recovered.

**Condition**

The stone, although a fragment, is in good condition. The iron, however, is very heavily encrusted.

**Results**

Table 9, Other Materials

Cxt	Material	Description	Date	NoF	W (g)
2010	Iron	Probable nail.	Post -medieval	1	1
3006	Stone	Tile.		1	169
3010	Iron	Strip. Very heavily encrusted.		1	98
<b>Totals</b>				<b>3</b>	<b>268</b>

**Provenance**

The other finds were recovered from (2010), a fill within pit [2011], (3006), a fill within ditch / plot boundary [3007] and (3010), the lower fill of boundary ditch [3011].

**Range**

Three items, all of post-medieval date, were retrieved. Pit [2011], in Trench 2, produced a small nail, which is encrusted and flattened. Trench 3 produced two items from two separate features. Boundary ditch [3011] gave an iron object, but this is so encrusted it is difficult to identify; it is possibly a twisted strip. The second item from this trench is a fragment of a fine bedded limestone, possibly used as a slate or tile; this came from ditch/plot boundary [3007].

**Potential**

The material should be retained as part of the primary site archive. The iron items will need to be carefully packed and stored in a suitable environment to prevent degradation. An X-ray of the iron strip may make it possible to identify this item; this work is recommended in the event of any further stage of work on the site.

**SPOT DATING**

The dating in Table 10 is based on the evidence provided by the finds detailed above.

Table 10, Spot dates

Cxt	Date	Comments
1005	16 <sup>th</sup> -19 <sup>th</sup>	Based on CBM
2002	15 <sup>th</sup> -16 <sup>th</sup>	
2006	16 <sup>th</sup> -19 <sup>th</sup>	
2007	13 <sup>th</sup> to 15 <sup>th</sup>	
2010	15 <sup>th</sup> to 16 <sup>th</sup>	
2012	15 <sup>th</sup> -16 <sup>th</sup>	Single fragment of CBM probably post medieval
3004	Late 18 <sup>th</sup> to mid 19 <sup>th</sup>	
3006	18 <sup>th</sup>	
3009	Late 17 <sup>th</sup> to early 18 <sup>th</sup>	
3010	Late 17 <sup>th</sup> to early 18 <sup>th</sup>	

**ABBREVIATIONS**

ACBMG	Archaeological Ceramic Building Materials Group
BS	Body sherd
CBM	Ceramic Building Material
CXT	Context
NoF	Number of Fragments
NoS	Number of sherds
NoV	Number of vessels
TR	Trench
W (g)	Weight (grams)

**REFERENCES**

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## Appendix 3

### GLOSSARY

<b>Alluvium</b>	Deposits laid down by water. Marine alluvium is deposited by the sea, and fresh water alluvium is laid down by rivers and in lakes.
<b>Bronze Age</b>	A period characterised by the introduction of bronze into the country for tools, between 2250 and 800 BC.
<b>Context</b>	An archaeological context represents a distinct archaeological event or process. For example, the action of digging a pit creates a context (the cut) as does the process of its subsequent backfill (the fill). Each context encountered during an archaeological investigation is allocated a unique number by the archaeologist and a record sheet detailing the description and interpretation of the context (the context sheet) is created and placed in the site archive. Context numbers are identified within the report text by brackets, e.g. [004].
<b>Cropmark</b>	A mark that is produced by the effect of underlying archaeological or geological features influencing the growth of a particular crop.
<b>Cut</b>	A cut refers to the physical action of digging a posthole, pit, ditch, foundation trench, etc. Once the fills of these features are removed during an archaeological investigation the original 'cut' is therefore exposed and subsequently recorded.
<b>Fill</b>	Once a feature has been dug it begins to silt up (either slowly or rapidly) or it can be back-filled manually. The soil(s) that become contained by the 'cut' are referred to as its fill(s).
<b>Layer</b>	A layer is a term used to describe an accumulation of soil or other material that is not contained within a cut.
<b>Medieval</b>	The Middle Ages, dating from approximately AD 1066-1500.
<b>Natural</b>	Undisturbed deposit(s) of soil or rock which have accumulated without the influence of human activity
<b>Post-medieval</b>	The period following the Middle Ages, dating from approximately AD 1500-1800.

## Appendix 4

### THE ARCHIVE

The archive consists of:

2	Context register sheets
28	Context record sheets
1	Photographic record sheets
4	Daily record sheets
1	Plan register sheet
1	Section register sheet
10	Sheets of scale drawings
61	Environmental record Sheets
1	Stratigraphic matrix
1	Boxes of finds

All primary records are currently kept at:

Archaeological Project Services  
The Old School  
Cameron Street  
Heckington  
Sleaford  
Lincolnshire  
NG34 9RW

The ultimate destination of the project archive is:

Cambridgeshire County Council  
Castle Court  
Shire Hall  
Cambridge  
CB3 0AP

Archaeological Project Services Site Code:	LELC 17
Cambridgeshire C.C. HER Event No:	ECB 5811
OASIS Record No:	archaeo11- 300947

The discussion and comments provided in this report are based on the archaeology revealed during the site investigations. Other archaeological finds and features may exist on the development site but away from the areas exposed during the course of this fieldwork. *Archaeological Project Services* cannot confirm that those areas unexposed are free from archaeology nor that any archaeology present there is of a similar character to that revealed during the current investigation.

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### OASIS Archaeol1-300947

#### Project details

Project name	Leverington Common, Leverington		
Short description of project	Field evaluation	revealed medieval pits and	
Project dates	Start 18-09-2017 End 21-09-2017		
Previous/future work	Not known		
Associated project reference codes	LELC57ecode		
Associated project reference codes	EC58#Everb.		
Type of project	Field evaluation		
Site status	None		
Current land use	Cultivated crops	depth	to 0.25m
Monument type	PI Medieval		
Monument type	PI Fo Medieval		
Monument type	DITCH Fo Medieval		
Significant finds	POTTER Medieval		
Significant finds	POTTER Fo Medieval		
Significant finds	BRICK Fo Medieval		
Methods/techniques	"Sample trenches"		
Development type	Rural residential		
Prompt	National Planning Policy Framework NPPF		
Positioning process	After field	determination	atic (eg condition)

#### Project location

Country	England		
Site location	CAMBRIDGESHIRE ENLANDE	VERINGTON Lev	erington Common
Study area	1275 Square metres		
Site coordinates	T4200752.674598730846.1330	369221734210078	
	Point		

#### Project creators

Name of organisation	Archaeological Project Services		
Project originator	Cambridge Archaeology	Planning	and Countryside
Project designer	N Parker		

Project director/manager PaCope-Faulkner  
 Project supervisor MaReachey  
 Type of sponsor/funding body Developer

**Project archives**

Physical archive recipient Cambridgeshire County Archaeology Office  
 Physical contents "Animals", "Ceramics", "Glass", "Metal"  
 Digital archive recipient Archaeological Project Services  
 Digital contents "Animals", "Ceramics", "Glass", "Metal", "Stratigraphic", "Survey"  
 Digital media available "Images", "Digital Photography", "Image sector", "Survey", "Text"  
 Paper archive recipient Cambridgeshire County Archaeology Office  
 Paper contents "Animals", "Ceramics", "Metal", "Stratigraphic", "Survey"  
 Paper media available "Context sheet", "Correspondence", "Photograph", "Plan", "Report", "Section", "Survey"

**Project bibliography**

Publication type Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)  
 Title Archaeological evaluation of the site of the common, Everington, Cambridgeshire  
 Author(s)/Editor(s) Cope-Faulkner, P.  
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