# ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION OF LAND SOUTH OF EASTWOOD CEMETERY, UPWELL ROAD, MARCH, CAMBRIDGESHIRE (MAUR 10)

Work Undertaken For
**Fenland District Council**

August 2010

Report Compiled by

Chris Moulis

Planning Application No: FYR090742FDC
National Grid Reference: TL 422 958
OASIS Record No: archaeol1-80693

APS Report Number **74\10**

ARCHAEOLOGICAL PROJECT SERVICES

# Quality Control
# Eastwood Cemetery Extension, Upwell Road
# March, Cambridgeshire
# (MAUR10)

| | |
|---|---|
| Project Coordinator | Dale Trimble |
| Supervisor | Chris Moulis |
| Site Staff | Lavinia Green, Bryn Leadbetter |
| Illustration | Chris Moulis, Ross Kendall |
| Photographic Reproduction | Sue Unsworth |
| Post-excavation Analyst | Chris Moulis |

| Checked by Project Manager | Approved by Senior Archaeologist |
|---|---|
| Dale Trimble | Tom Lane |
| Date: 10th August 2010 | Date: 10th August 2010 |

# CONTENTS



## Appendices

## List of Figures



## List of Plates

# 1. SUMMARY

*An archaeological evaluation was undertaken on land south of Eastwood Cemetery, March, Cambridgeshire. This was in order to determine the archaeological implications of the proposed extension of the cemetery.*

*The site lies in an archaeologically sensitive area, located close to cropmarks of prehistoric or Roman enclosures, and also near to Roman settlements and industrial sites. Immediately to the southwest of the proposed cemetery extension is the nationally important Scheduled Monument known as 'The March Sconce', a Civil War earthwork.*

*The evaluation identified a series of parallel ditches. The ditches formed a pattern of field boundaries and drains associated with previous agricultural use of the land.*

# 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'* (IFA 1999).

## 2.2 Planning Background

Archaeological Project Services was commissioned by Fenland District Council to undertake a programme of archaeological investigation in advance of a proposed extension to Eastwood Cemetery, March, Cambridgeshire, as detailed in Planning Application FYR090742FDC. The evaluation was undertaken between the 12th and 15th July 2010 in accordance with a specification prepared by Archaeological Project Services (Appendix 1) and approved by Cambridgeshire County Council Archaeology Office.

## 2.3 Topography and Geology

March is located approximately 38km north of Cambridge and 23km east of Peterborough in the Fenland Administrative District of Cambridgeshire. (Fig. 1).

The site is located on the eastern edge of the town, on land immediately south of Eastwood Cemetery, at National Grid Reference TL 422 958. The site forms a level, 0.63 hectare parcel of land at a height of *c.* 3.5m OD, with a slight earthwork bank between an overgrown area at the west side, and the remainder of the plot, which is grassed and managed. The overgrown area was, until recently used as allotments (Fig. 2).

As an urban area, local soils have not been mapped, though immediately to the east are Peacock Association clayey and fine loamy over clayey soils (Hodge *et al.* 1984). The pre-Flandrian bedrock of the area is Kimmeridge Clay, overlain by interglacial gravels (Hoxnian Phase) known as 'March Gravels' (flinty gravels with shelly fauna) (BGS 1984).

## 2.4 Archaeological Setting

The Fenland has long been recognised as an important archaeological landscape, containing superimposed evidence of settlement, ritual and agricultural sites dating from the prehistoric period

onwards. March occupies a former island within the fenland, lying at the northern tip of a large peninsula. The surrounding fen landscape underwent a series of complex changes during the prehistoric, Roman and later periods, influenced by the peninsula and the constantly changing courses of the major rivers on either side of it.

A short distance to the north of the application area, are cropmarks of an enclosure, and associated ditches, of probable Iron Age-Roman date (HER MCB12931). Further north, and also to the east, are extensive cropmarks of Roman settlements and field systems. Amongst these remains are Iron Age settlement sites at Flagrass, where occupation continued throughout the Iron Age and Roman periods. Located at the eastern edge of the island, near the river, the Flagrass sites include evidence for burials and salt-making of Roman date (Hall 1987; HER 7335 and 10128).

The field immediately to the southwest of the proposed cemetery extension contains the remains of an earthen fort, or sconce, dating from the English Civil War. The monument is protected as a nationally important Scheduled Monument (No 27188) as are a number of earthworks in the same field which are thought to represent the remains of a post medieval settlement which the sconce supplanted. Underlying the settlement remains are the linear earthworks typical of medieval ridge and furrow agriculture.

March is first referred to in the Domesday Survey of 1086 where it was known as Merc, meaning boundary. It was later known as Marchford, a reflection of the role March played in the transport routes through the fens.

## 3. AIMS

The aim of the evaluation was to gather information to establish the presence or absence, extent, condition, character, quality and date of any archaeological deposits in order to enable the Cambridgeshire County Council Archaeology Office to formulate a policy for the management of archaeological resources present on the site.

## 4. METHODS

Six trenches, each measuring 35m by 1.5m, were excavated to the surface of the underlying natural geology. The trenches were laid out by GPS survey to a pattern specified by Cambridgeshire Archaeology Planning and Countryside Advice (Fig. 3).

Removal of topsoil and other overburden was undertaken by a mechanical excavator using a toothless ditching bucket. The exposed surfaces of the trenches were then cleaned by hand and inspected for archaeological remains. Weather conditions during the evaluation were generally fine, and most exposed deposits were quite dry and hard.

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 2. 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.

On the discretion of the site supervisor, and with the verbal agreement of the curator, no environmental samples were

taken. No dated deposits likely to yield useful environmental evidence were identified.

The location of the excavated trenches was recorded using a differential GPS survey system.

Following excavation, finds were examined and a period date assigned where possible (Appendix 3). 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***

The earliest deposit recorded in this trench was a layer of naturally formed chalky light grey, or brownish grey, clay with bands of mid orange clayey sand (102).

Cutting natural layer (102) at the south end of the trench were two small irregular features (103) and (105). (Fig.4). The former (103) measured 1.30m by at least 0.25m in plan, and was 0.29m deep (Fig. 5, Section 4). Feature (105) was 0.52m by 0.40m in plan and 0.13m deep (Fig. 5, Section 5). The fills of these features ((110) and (115)) contained patches of charcoal, and small fragments of fired clay and it is possible that these features represent the remains of two small pits.

Also cutting natural layer (102), and crossing the trench diagonally on a north-northeast south-southwest orientation was a ditch (104) which measured 0.62m wide, 0.27m deep, and was exposed over a length of 11.6m. This ditch was filled by brownish grey silty clay (113), with a primary fill of mixed mid grey and mid brownish orange sandy silty clay (114) (Fig. 4. Fig. 5, Section 6. Plate 2).

Ditch (106) also cut into natural (102), this time crossing the trench approximately at a right angle on an east-west alignment (Fig. 4. Fig 5, Section 7). The ditch was 0.76m wide, at least 1.5m long and up to 0.49m deep, and was filled by mid-dark brownish grey silty clay (115).

Another linear feature (107) cut natural immediately north of (106) (Fig. 4. Fig. 6, Section 8). This was 0.84m wide, at least 1.60m long, and up to 0.42m deep. The feature cut the trench on an east-northeast west-southwest alignment, and was filled by mid-light grey silty clay (116).

Feature (108), which truncated the natural deposits near the north end of the trench was roughly east-west aligned, (Fig. 4. Fig. 6, Section 9) 0.60m wide, at least 0.88m long and 0.28m deep, with a rounded butt-end at its western end. The feature was filled with mid-light greyish yellow silty clay (117).

The upper fills of all the features appeared to be sealed by slightly olive, mid-light brown sandy silty clay (101). This comprised a subsoil layer, in turn overlain by dark greyish brown topsoil (100).

Unstratified finds recovered during the machine excavation were recorded as (109). These were the only finds from the trench, and comprised a medieval pottery sherd, a fragment of post medieval brick and a single seventeenth century clay pipe stem (Appendix 3).

***Trench 2***

The earliest deposit identified in Trench 2 was a clay layer, mainly light brown in colour, with patches and mottles of dark

brown (204). The deposit contained flint and chalk fragments, patches and bands of mid orange coarse sand and formed the underlying natural layer for the trench. Light brown clay (202) and dark orange sand (203) were also recorded as variations in the natural deposits in Trench 2.

Cutting this natural layer were seven ditches, evenly spaced along the length of the trench (Fig. 4). The ditches were judged to be very similar in nature, and two were excavated as a sample in order to characterise them.

Cut into the natural deposits, ditch (205) was 0.70m wide, at least 1.5m long, and up to 0.25m deep. This ditch cut across the trench on a north-northeast south-southwest alignment (Fig. 5, Section 1) and was filled by friable but plastic mid-dark brown clayey silt with angular flint fragments and chalk flecks (206).

Also cutting natural was ditch (207). This was 0.77m wide, at least 1.5m long, up to 0.29m deep and on a parallel alignment to Ditch (206) (Fig. 5, Section 2). The earliest fill was (210), a 0.2m thick plastic mid-dark brown clayey silt with angular flint fragments, in turn overlain by (209), a 0.25m thick deposit of plastic orange-brown silty clay, with dark brown mottles. Deposit (208) formed the upper fill of (207) and comprised a medium brown clayey silt which merged with the subsoil. A seventeenth century clay pipe stem was recovered from (208) (Appendix 3).

All of these features were sealed by a layer of plastic yellowish mid brown silty clay, with occasional flint fragments, up to 250mm thick (201). This deposit formed a subsoil layer, immediately below the topsoil of the trench (200).

***Trench 3***

The earliest deposit encountered in Trench 3 was a layer of firm light yellowish grey clay with bands and patches of mid orange sand (302). Flint and chalk fragments were recorded within this layer which formed the underlying natural for the trench.

Cutting this natural deposit was (303), a 0.48m wide and 0.30m deep which cut across the trench on a north-northeast to south-southwest alignment for a length of approximately 13.0m (Fig. 5, Section 3). The ditch was filled with hard light greyish brown clayey silt with flint and chalk fragments (304) from which a piece of ceramic building material of post medieval date was recovered.

Sealing the fill of (303), and recorded over the full extent of the trench was a 0.15m thick layer of hard mid yellowish brown clayey silt containing small flints, small rounded stones and chalk flecks (301) (Fig. 6, Section 10). This formed a subsoil layer, in turn covered by a layer of dark greyish brown topsoil (300). Finds dating from thirteenth through to the fifteenth centuries were recovered from the topsoil.

***Trench 4***

The earliest deposit encountered in Trench 4 was a layer of stiff light grey and mid brownish grey clay, with bands of mid orange clayey sand (402). The deposit contained frequent flint and chalk fragments and (402) formed the underlying natural deposit for the trench.

Cut into this natural deposit was ditch (403), which crossed the trench on a north-northeast south-southwest alignment. The ditch was 0.73m wide, at least 1.60m long, and up to 0.38m deep (Fig. 4. Fig. 6, Section 11) and was filled by firm mid-dark brown silty clay, with moderate sub-angular and sub rounded stones and pebbles (405).

Above (405), and recorded throughout the trench was a 0.18m thick layer of mid yellowish brown sandy clayey silt, with a

slight olive tinge (401). This comprised a subsoil layer, in turn covered by firm dark greyish brown topsoil (400).

Unstratified finds recovered during machine excavation were recorded as (404).

***Trench 5***

The earliest deposit recorded in Trench 5 was a layer of firm yellowish orange-brown clay and sandy clay (507) containing frequent flint and chalk fragments, and including patches and bands of mid orange sand. This deposit formed the underlying natural for the trench (Plate 3).

Cut into the natural deposits and crossing the trench on an approximate east-west alignment was ditch (502) which measured 0.78m wide, at least 1.50m long and up to 0.30m deep. The primary fill of this ditch comprised a 0.1m thick deposit of compact mixed orange-brown and dark brown sandy silt (504). Over (504) was plastic medium-dark brown clayey silt, with yellowish brown mottling, up to 250mm thick (503) (Fig. 4. Fig. 7, Sections 14 and 16, Plate 6).

The upper fill of (502) appeared to be truncated by north-northeast to south-southwest aligned ditch (500) which measured up to 0.70m wide over a length of 24.0m, and was recorded as 100mm deep. Filling (500) was compact light yellowish brown silty clay (501) (Fig 7, Section 15, Plate 6).

Sealing the fill of (500), and covering the whole extent of the trench was 0.16m thick compact mixed orange-brown and medium-dark brown clayey silt (506). This formed a subsoil layer, from which ceramic material of possible Roman date was recovered. The subsoil was in turn covered by a 0.3m thick dark brown topsoil (505) from which finds ranging in date from the sixteenth through to the eighteenth centuries were recovered.

***Trench 6***

The earliest deposit encountered in trench 6 was a layer of firm light yellowish grey clay containing chalk fragments, flints and small sub-rounded stones, with bands and patches of mid orange sand. This deposit (602) formed the underlying natural for the trench.

Truncating the natural were five north-northeast south-southwest aligned ditches, all very similar in character. Two of these were excavated.

Ditch (605) was 0.22m deep, and in plan 0.75m wide and at least 1.50m long. Aligned approximately northeast to southwest, this feature was filled with soft light brownish yellow sandy clay containing occasional small sub-rounded stones (606) (Fig 7, Section 12).

Cutting the fill of (605) was ditch (603), aligned north-northeast to south-southwest. The latter feature was 1.05m wide, at least 1.50m long, up to 0.38m deep, with a stepped and slightly irregular profile. Ditch (603) was filled by firm mid greyish brown silty clay with occasional small flint and chalk fragments (604) and could represent a re-cutting of (605).

Ditch (609) was cut into the natural layer, and like (603) crossed the trench on a north-northeast to south–southwest orientation. This steep-sided feature was 0.85m wide, at least 1.50m long, up to 0.54m deep with a primary fill of firm mid-dark grey clayey silt (612) 0.12m thick, and firm mid brownish orange (mottled with mid grey) silty clay (613) 0.23m thick. Over these was a 0.19m thick secondary fill of firm mixed mid brownish orange and light greyish yellow silty clay, containing moderate small sub angular and sub rounded stones flints and pebbles

(611).

Fill (611) was subsequently truncated by a 0.4m wide and 0.38m deep linear cut (607) which appeared to be a re-cut of ditch (609). The former ditch cut was filled by mid-dark grey clayey silt containing moderate small sub-angular and sub-rounded stones and pebbles and rusty mottles (608). A single sherd of Roman pottery of second or third century date was recovered from this fill. Over (608), and forming the topmost fill of (607) was a 0.23m thick firm deposit of mid brown clayey silt, containing moderate small sub-angular and sub-rounded stones and flints (610). (Fig. 6, Section 13, Plate 5).

Sealing these features, and the other unexcavated features exposed in the trench, was a 0.19m thick layer of mid yellowish brown sandy silty clay, containing moderate chalk fragments and occasional flints (601). This general deposit formed the subsoil in trench 6, and yielded ceramic finds ranging in date from the fifteenth to the seventeenth centuries.

A further ditch (614) was recorded which appeared to cut through the subsoil (601). This steep-sided ditch, aligned approximately north-south, was 0.58m wide, at least 1.50m long, and 0.40m deep (Fig 7, Section 17). The fill was recorded as firm mid brownish grey silty clay, with occasional chalk fragments, and flints (615).

The subsoil layer was also cut by a straight-sided linear feature (616), 0.60m wide. This marks the course of a modern drain trench running towards the cemetery to the north.

Dark greyish brown clayey silt formed the topsoil over the trench, the most recent deposit recorded (600).

## 6. DISCUSSION

Natural deposits comprise mixed flinty clays and sands representing the upper weathered surface of the underlying geology of the 'March Gravels'. Features (108) and (107) may also be natural in origin, on the basis of their pale, sterile fills, and slightly irregular shape.

No features could be firmly assigned to the prehistoric, Romano-British, or Saxon periods. However, the recovery of Roman ceramics from Trench and 6 does confirm that the general area was used during that period. The pottery represents residual material subsequently incorporated in later deposits.

The discrete anomalies in Trench 1, (103) and (105), although suggestive of human activity, did not yield any evidence to suggest a date, or a clear function.

All the trenches exposed evidence for a pattern of field boundaries on a north-northeast south-southwest alignment which would have divided the area of investigation into a series of narrow strips of between 8.10m and 5.40m (Fig 4).

There is evidence also for division on a broad east-west alignment, with a suggestion from Trench 5 that this might be earlier than the main layout. The relationship between (502) and (500) was not absolutely clear, and it is likely that the two alignments form part of the same field system.

The boundaries were formed by narrow steep-sided ditches cut down into the natural clay. Sparse finds from the excavated ditches suggest infilling in the post-medieval period, although the pattern itself could well have its origin in a medieval open field system. Earthworks of

'ridge and furrow' are still extant in the field to the southwest of the site, and there is every indication that a similar layout extended across the area of investigation. The ditches are quite marked in comparison to some open field divisions. However, as the field is known locally to be poorly draining, it may have been necessary to provide ditches of adequate capacity to drain the land.

There is evidence for maintenance of the field system in the post-medieval period, with recutting of the ditches apparent in Trench 5.

Later post-medieval variations to the field layout are suggested by ditch (614). This seems to cut through the subsoil layer, which elsewhere has been recorded as sealing the exposed ditches.

No remains were found during the evaluation which could be related to the Civil War earthwork, the 'March Sconce', located in the field to south-west of the area of investigation.

## 7. CONCLUSIONS

An archaeological evaluation was undertaken on land south of Eastwood Cemetery, March, as the site lay in an archaeologically sensitive area. Cropmarks of prehistoric or Roman enclosures, and settlements and industrial sites of the Roman period are known to be located nearby. Immediately to the southwest of the proposed cemetery extension is the nationally important Scheduled monument Known as 'The March Sconce'.

However, no prehistoric remains were encountered during the evaluation, and the Roman artefacts recovered merely confirm occupation or activity of that date in the general vicinity of the site.

No remains were exposed which could be directly related to 'The March Sconce'

Instead, the evaluation revealed evidence for land division and drainage belonging to a previous field pattern on the site, probably with its origins in a medieval open field system.

## 8. ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Archaeological Project Services wishes to acknowledge the assistance of Fenland District Council for commissioning the fieldwork and post-excavation analysis. The work was coordinated by Dale Trimble who edited this report along with Tom Lane. Dave Start allowed access to the library maintained by Heritage Lincolnshire.

## 9. PERSONNEL

Project Coordinator: Dale Trimble
Site Staff: Livinia Green, Bryn Leadbetter, Chris Moulis
Finds Processing: Denise Buckley
Photographic reproduction: Sue Unsworth
Illustration: Ross Kendall
Post-excavation Analyst:

## 10. BIBLIOGRAPHY

BGS, 1984 *Peterborough; solid and drift geology*, 1:50,000 map sheet **158**

Ekwall, E, 1989 *The Concise Oxford Dictionary of English Place-Names* (4th edition)

English Heritage, 2002 *Environmental Archaeology. A guide to the theory and practise of methods, from sampling and recovery to post-excavation*

Hall, D., 1987 The Fenland Project, Number 2: Cambridgeshire Survey, Peterborough to March EAA 35

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**

IFA, 1999 *Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Evaluation*

## 11. ABBREVIATIONS

APS Archaeological Project Services

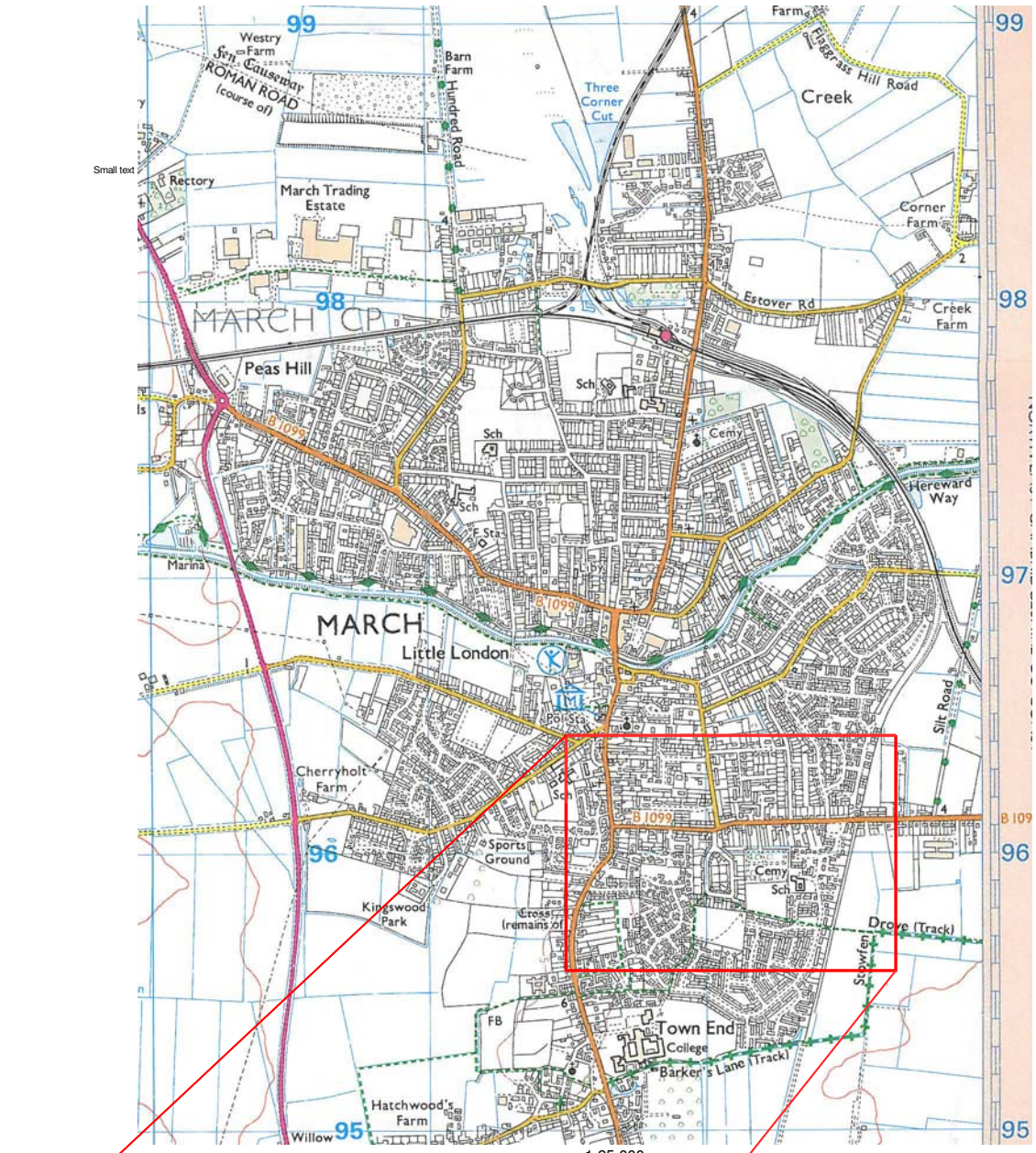
BGS British Geological Survey

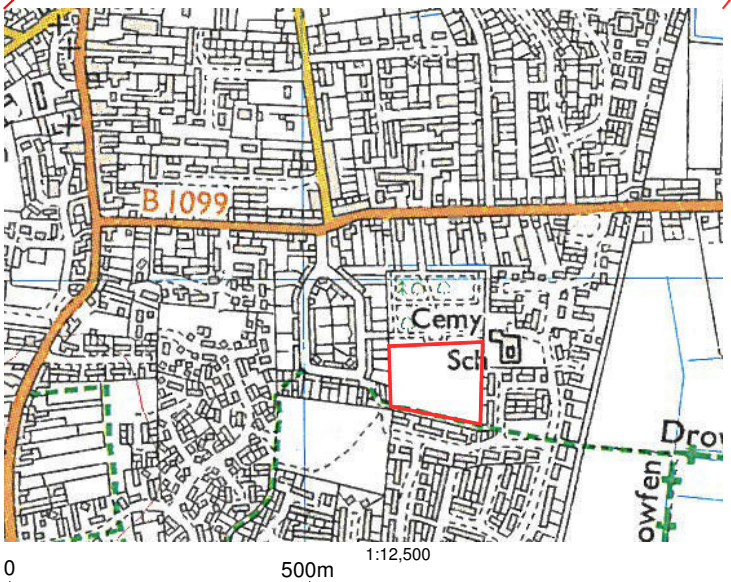
EAA East Anglian Archaeology

IFA Institute of Field Archaeologists

OS Ordnance Survey


Figure 1 General location map






Site location

| Archaeological Project Services | | |
|---|---|---|
| Project Name: March Upwell Road (MAUR10) | | |
| Scale 1:25000 | Drawn by: RK | Report No: 74/10 |

Figure 2 Site location plan

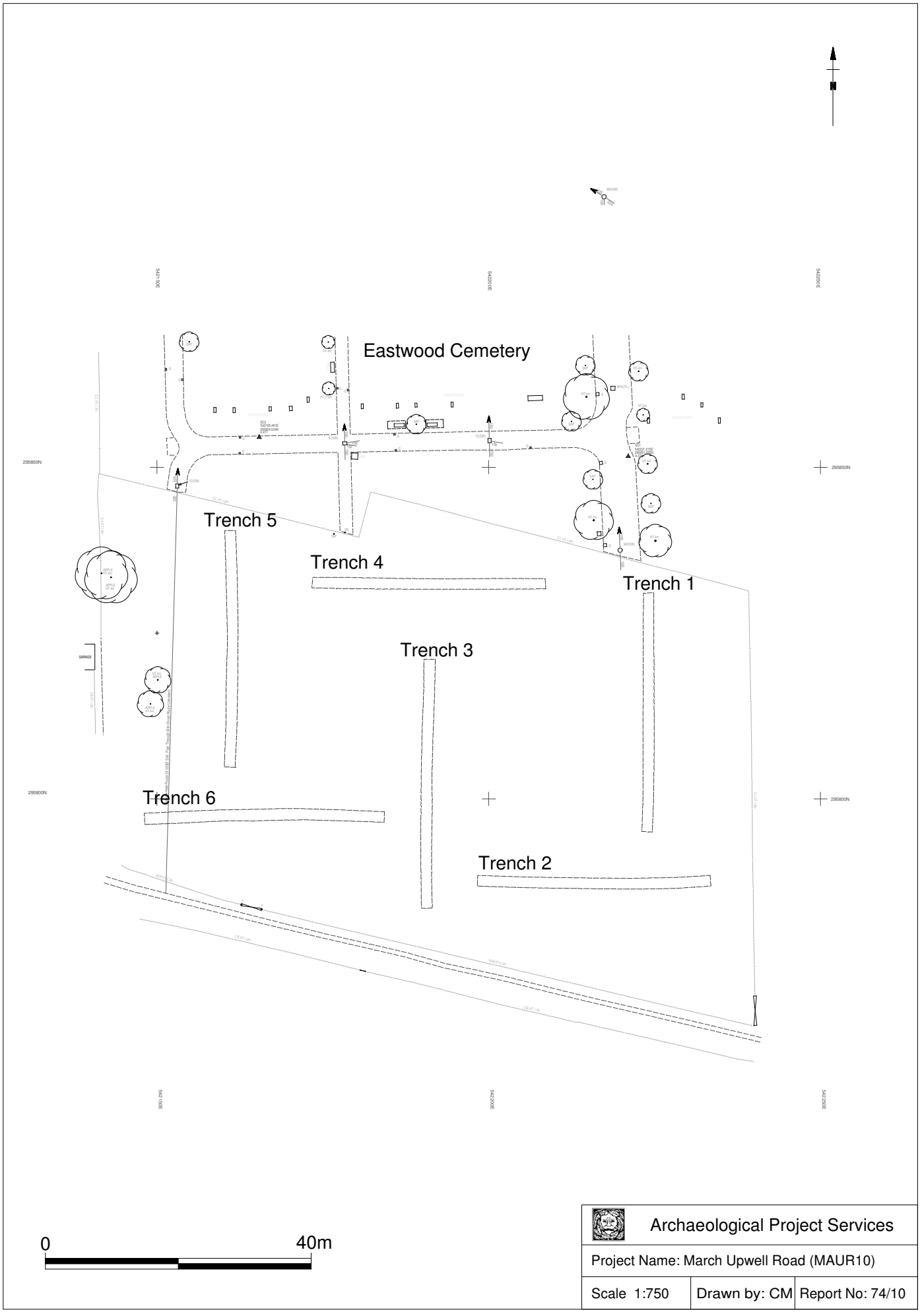



Figure 3 Trench location plan

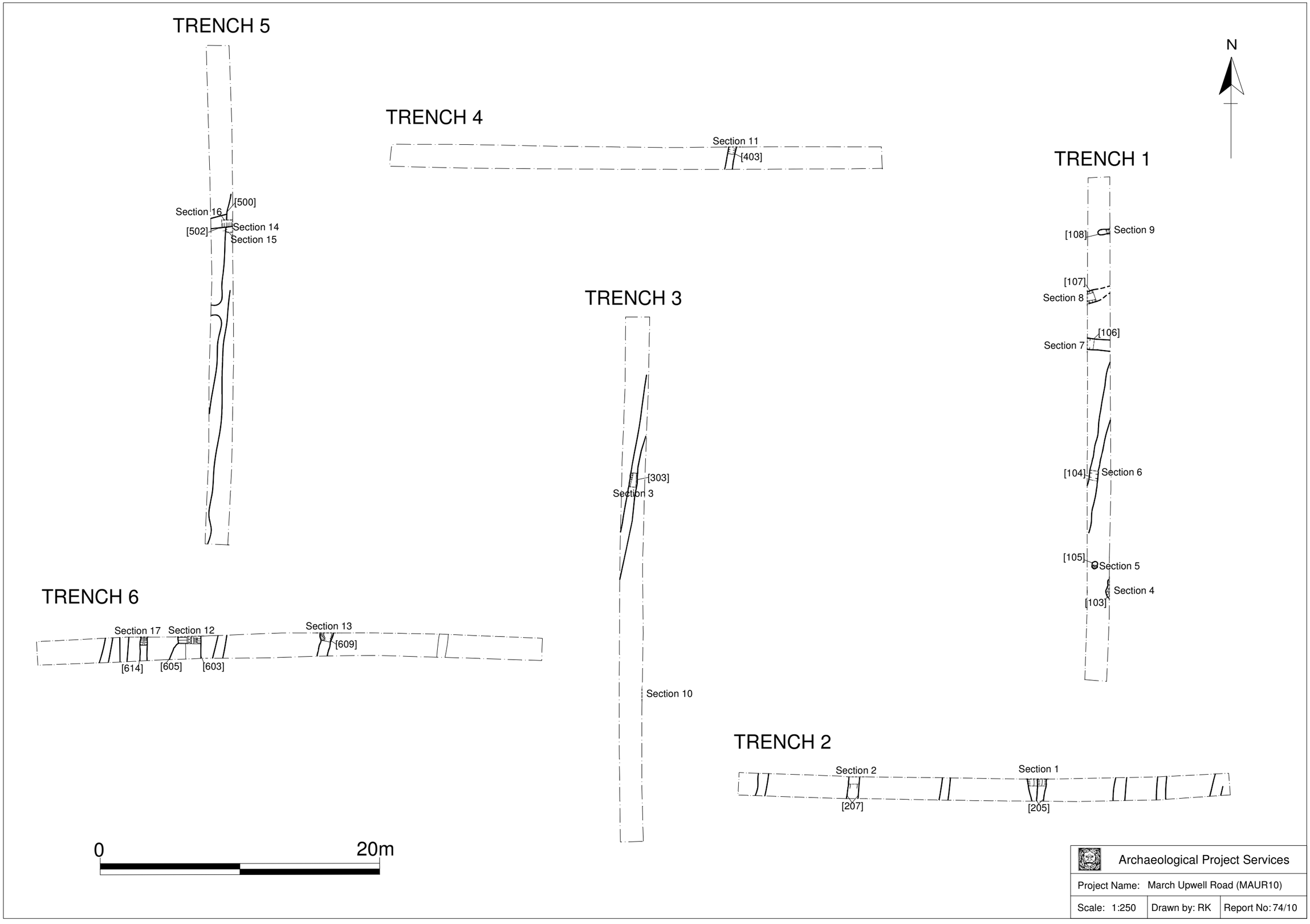



Figure 4 - Overall site plan

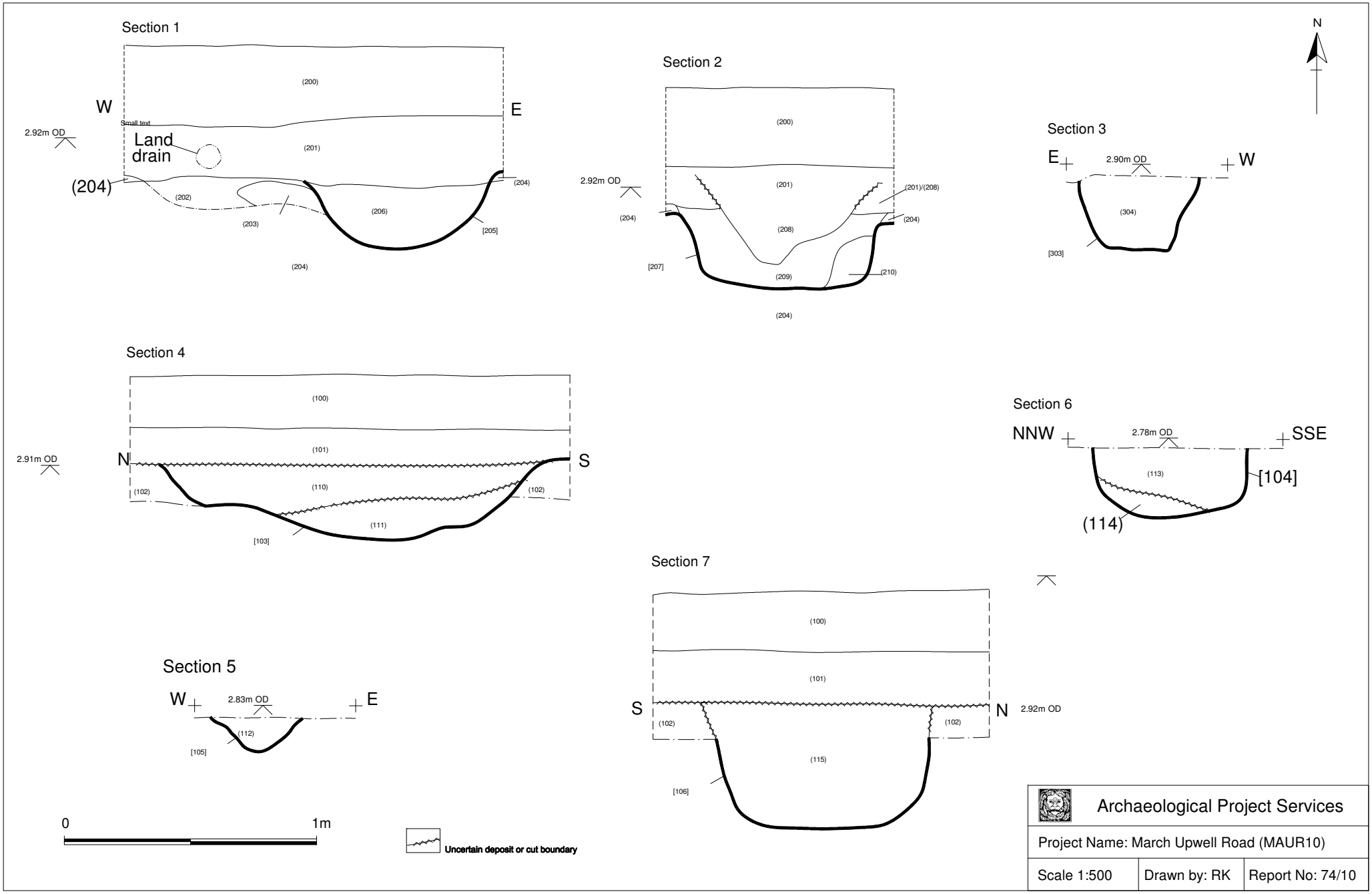



Figure 5 Sections 1 to 7

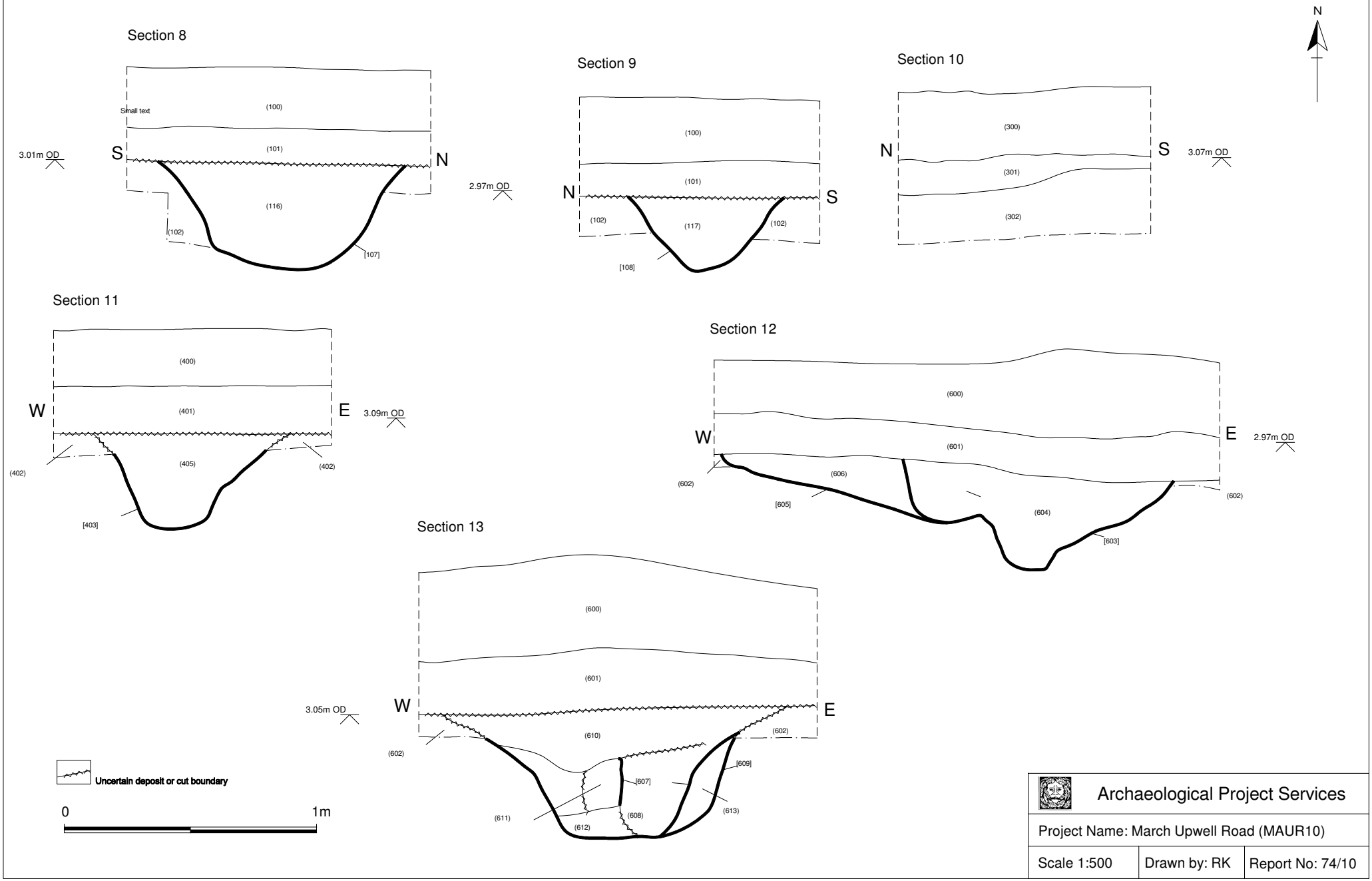
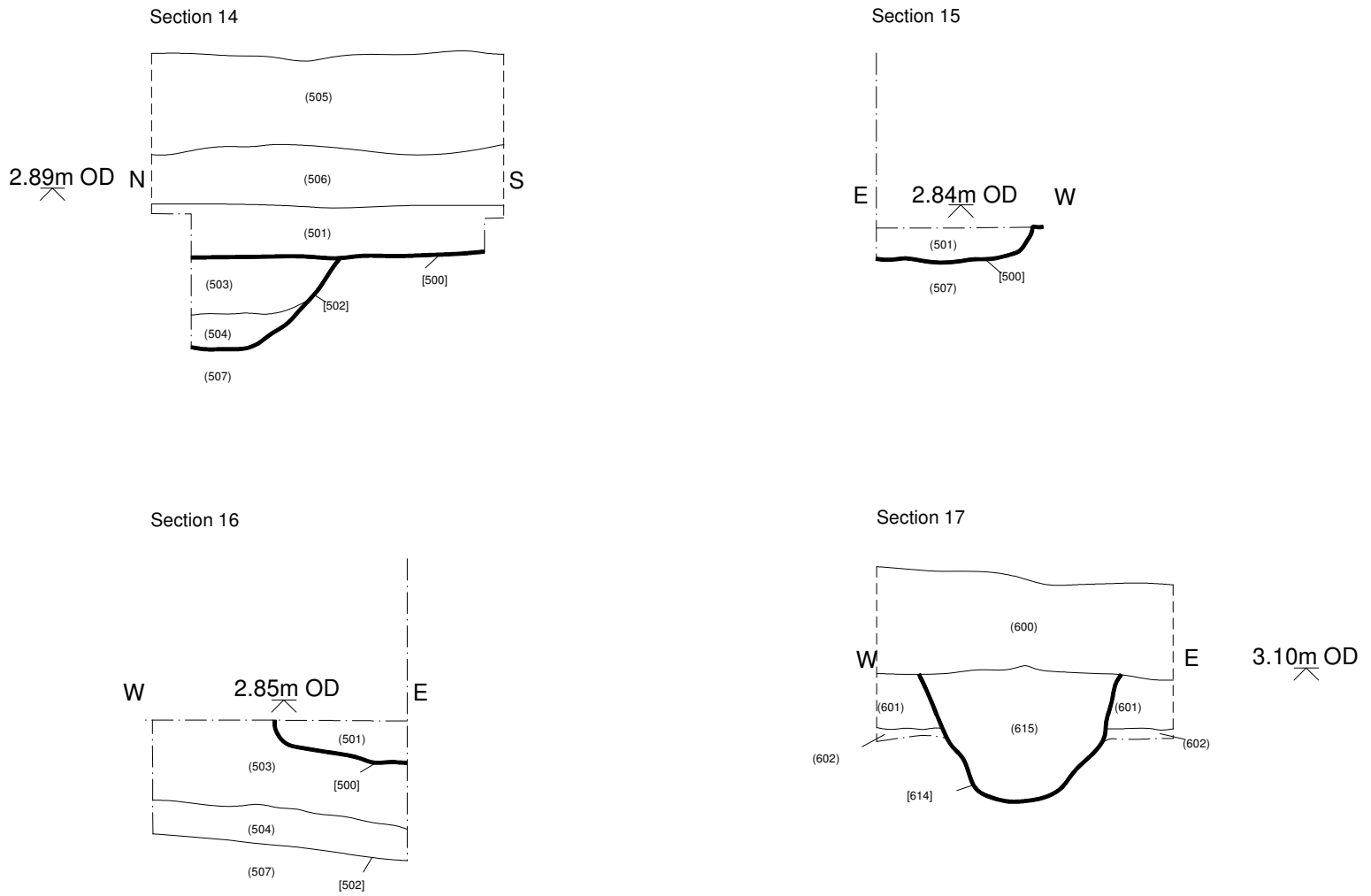



Figure 6 Sections 8 to 13




| Archaeological Project Services | | |
|---|---|---|
| Project Name: March Upwell Road (MAUR10) | | |
| Scale 1:20 | Drawn by: RK | Report No: 74/10 |

Figure 7 - Sections 14-17

Plate 1. General view of the site looking southeast


Plate 2. Ditch 104, trench 1, looking north-northeast

Plate 3. Pre-excavation view of trench 5 showing the natural deposits, looking south


Plate 4. Ditch 303, trench 3, looking south-southwest


Plate 5. Ditch 609, trench 6, looking north


Plate 6. Ditches 500 and 502, trench 5, looking east

## APPENDIX 1

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

# 1 SUMMARY

1.1 *This document comprises a specification for the archaeological evaluation of land immediately south of Eastwood Cemetery, Upwell Road,, March, Cambridgeshire.*

1.2 *The site lies in an archaeologically sensitive area, located close to cropmarks of prehistoric or Roman enclosures and also near to Roman settlements and industrial sites. Immediately to the southwest of the proposed cemetery extension is the nationally important Scheduled Monument known as 'The March Sconce', a Civil War earthwork.*

1.3 *The proposed development included the expansion of the existing cemetery immediately to the north and construction of an access road. . Archaeological evaluation of the site is required as a condition of planning consent to assess the archaeological implications of the proposed development.*

1.4 *On completion of the fieldwork a report will be prepared detailing the findings of the investigation. The report will consist of a text describing the nature of the archaeological deposits located and will be supported by illustrations and photographs.*

# 2 INTRODUCTION

2.1 This document comprises a specification for the evaluation of land immediately south of Eastwood cemetery, Upwell Road, March, Cambridgeshire.

2.1.1 The document contains the following parts:

2.1.2 Overview

2.1.3 The archaeological and natural setting

2.1.4 Stages of work and methodologies to be used

2.1.5 List of specialists

2.1.6 Programme of works and staffing structure of the project

# 3 SITE LOCATION

3.1 March is located approximately 38km north of Cambridge and 23km east of Peterborough in the Fenland Administrative District of Cambridgeshire. The proposed development site lays on the eastern edge of the town, on land to the south of Eastwood Cemetery, Upwell Road, March, Cambridgeshire.

# 4 PLANNING BACKGROUND

4.1 Due to the high archaeological potential of the site, a condition has been placed on planning consent (Application No. FYR090742FDC) requiring a scheme of archaeological work to be undertaken to assess the archaeological implications of the development. The first phase of this work will be an archaeological evaluation to assess the nature and potential of the site, and to determine the need for any further investigations.

# 5 SOILS AND TOPOGRAPHY

5.1 The pre-Flandrian bedrock of the area is Kimmeridge Clay, overlain by interglacial gravels (Hoxnian Phase) known as 'March Gravels' (flinty gravels with shelly fauna). As an urban

area, soils have not been mapped, though immediately to the east are Peacock Association, clayey and fine loamy over clayey soils (Hodge *et al*. 1984). The Investigation Area lies at c. 3m OD on the eastern edge of the low-lying island, which rises to c4m OD.

## 6 ARCHAEOLOGICAL OVERVIEW

6.1 The Fenland has long been recognised as an important archaeological landscape, containing superimposed evidence of settlement, ritual and agricultural sites dating from the prehistoric period onwards. March occupies a former island within the fenland, lying on the northern tip of a large peninsula. The surrounding fen landscape underwent a series of complex changes during the prehistoric, Roman and later periods, influenced by the peninsula and the constantly changing courses of the major rivers on either side of it (Hall 1987)

6.2 A short distance to the north are cropmarks of an enclosure, and associated ditches, of probable Iron Age-Roman date (HER MCB12931). Further north, and also to the east, are extensive cropmarks of Roman settlements and field systems. Amongst these remains are Iron Age settlement sites at Flaggrass, where occupation continued throughout the Iron Age and Roman periods. Located at the eastern edge of the island, near the river, the Flaggrass sites include evidence for burials and salt-making of Roman date (Hall 1987; HER 7335 and 10128).

6.3 The field immediately to the southwest of the proposed cemetery extension contains the remains of an earthern fort, or sconce dating from the English Civil War. The monument is protected as a nationally important Scheduled Monument (No 27188) as are a number of earthworks in the same field which are thought to represent the remains of a post-medieval settlement which the sconce supplanted. Underlying the settlement remains are the linear earthworks typical of medieval ridge and furrow agriculture.

6.4 March is first referred to in the Domesday Survey of 1086 where it was known as Merc, meaning boundary. It was later known as Marchford, a reflection of the role March played in the transport routes through the Fens.

## 7 AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

7.1 The aim of the work will be to gather sufficient information for the archaeological curator to be able to formulate a policy for the management of the archaeological resources present on the site.

7.2 The objectives of the work will be to:

7.2.1 Establish the type of archaeological activity that may be present within the site.

7.2.2 Determine the likely extent of archaeological activity present within the site.

7.2.3 Determine the date and function of the archaeological features present on the site.

7.2.4 Determine the state of preservation of the archaeological features present on the site.

7.2.5 Determine the spatial arrangement of the archaeological features present within the site.

7.2.6 Determine the extent to which the surrounding archaeological features extend into the application area.

7.2.7 Establish the way in which the archaeological features identified fit into the pattern of occupation and land-use in the surrounding landscape.

## 8 TRIAL TRENCHING

8.1 Reasoning for this technique

8.1.1 Trial trenching enables the *in situ* determination of the sequence, date, nature, depth, environmental potential and density of archaeological features present on the site.

8.1.2 It is anticipated that six trenches measuring 32.5m x 1.6m comprising a 5% sample of the area will be excavated.

8.2 General Considerations

8.2.1 All work will be undertaken following statutory Health and Safety requirements in operation at the time of the investigation.

8.2.2 The work will be undertaken according to the relevant codes of practice issued by the Institute of Field Archaeologists (IFA). *Archaeological Project Services* is an IFA Registered Archaeological Organisation (No. 21).

8.2.3 Any and all artefacts found during the investigation and thought to be 'treasure', as defined by the Treasure Act 1996, will be removed from site to a secure store and promptly reported to the appropriate coroner's office.

8.2.4 Excavation of the archaeological features exposed will only be undertaken as far as is required to determine their date, sequence, density and nature. All archaeological features exposed will be excavated and recorded unless otherwise agreed with the Cambridgeshire Archaeology Office. The investigation will, as far as is reasonably practicable, determine the level of the natural deposits to ensure that the depth of the archaeological sequence present on the site is established.

8.2.5 Open trenches will be marked by hazard tape attached to road irons or similar poles. Subject to the consent of the archaeological curator, and following the appropriate recording, the trenches, particularly those of excessive depth, will be backfilled as soon as possible to minimise any health and safety risks.

8.3 Methodology

8.3.1 Removal of the topsoil and any other overburden will be undertaken by mechanical excavator using a toothless ditching bucket. To ensure that the correct amount of material is removed and that no archaeological deposits are damaged, this work will be supervised by Archaeological Project Services. On completion of the removal of the overburden, the nature of the underlying deposits will be assessed by hand excavation before any further mechanical excavation that may be required. Thereafter, the trenches will be cleaned by hand to enable the identification and analysis of the archaeological features exposed.

8.3.2 Investigation of the features will be undertaken only as far as required to determine their date, form and function. The work will consist of half- or quarter-sectioning of features as required and, where appropriate, the removal of layers.

8.3.3 The archaeological features encountered will be recorded on Archaeological Project Services pro-forma context record sheets. The system used is the single context

method by which individual archaeological units of stratigraphy are assigned a unique record number and are individually described and drawn.

8.3.4 Plans of features will be drawn at a scale of 1:20 and sections at a scale of 1:10. Should individual features merit it, they will be drawn at a larger scale.

8.3.5 Throughout the duration of the trial trenching a photographic record consisting of black and white prints (reproduced as contact sheets) and colour slides will be compiled. The photographic record will consist of:

- the site before the commencement of field operations.
- the site during work to show specific stages of work, and the layout of the archaeology within individual trenches.
- individual features and, where appropriate, their sections.
- groups of features where their relationship is important.
- the site on completion of field work

8.4 Should human remains be encountered, they will be left *in situ* with excavation being limited to the identification and recording of such remains. If removal of the remains is necessary the appropriate Home Office licences will be obtained and the local environmental health department informed. If relevant, the coroner and the police will be notified.

8.5 Finds collected during the fieldwork will be bagged and labelled according to the individual deposit from which they were recovered ready for later washing and analysis.

8.6 The spoil generated during the investigation will be mounded along the edges of the trial trenches with the top soil being kept separate from the other material excavated for subsequent backfilling.

8.7 The precise location of the trenches within the site and the location of site recording grid will be established by tape or EDM survey.

## 9 ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT

9.1 During the investigation specialist advice will be obtained from an environmental archaeologist. If necessary the specialist will visit the site and will prepare a report detailing the nature of the environmental material present on the site and its potential for additional analysis should further stages of archaeological work be required.

9.2 Samples will be taken from primary and secondary fills of dated features, likely to comprise ditches and pits, the level of sampling being appropriate to the content of the individual feature. Samples to characterise the survival of plant remains, molluscs and small faunal remains will be taken from suitable archaeological contexts. The samples will be extracted and recorded in accordance with English Heritage guidelines. Bulk samples for small faunal remains will be wet-sieved through 0.5mm collecting meshes.

## 10 POST-EXCAVATION AND REPORT

10.1 Stage 1

10.1.1 On completion of site operations, the records and schedules produced during the trial trenching will be checked and ordered to ensure that they form a uniform sequence

constituting a level II archive. A stratigraphic matrix of the archaeological deposits and features present on the site will be prepared. All photographic material will be catalogued: the colour slides will be labelled and mounted on appropriate hangers and the black and white contact prints will be labelled, in both cases the labelling will refer to schedules identifying the subject/s photographed.

10.1.2 All finds recovered during the trial trenching will be washed, marked, bagged and labelled according to the individual deposit from which they were recovered. Any finds requiring specialist treatment and conservation will be sent to the Conservation Laboratory at the City and County Museum, Lincoln.

10.2 Stage 2

10.2.1 Detailed examination of the stratigraphic matrix to enable the determination of the various phases of activity on the site.

10.2.2 Finds will be sent to specialists for identification and dating.

11.3 Stage 3

11.3.1 On completion of stage 2, a report detailing the findings of the investigation will be prepared. This will consist of:

- A non-technical summary of the results of the investigation.
- A description of the archaeological setting of the site.
- Description of the topography and geology of the investigation area.
- Description of the methodologies used during the investigation and discussion of their effectiveness in the light of the results
- A text describing the findings of the investigation.
- Plans of the trenches showing the archaeological features exposed. If a sequence of archaeological deposits is encountered, separate plans for each phase will be produced.
- Sections of the trenches and archaeological features.
- Interpretation of the archaeological features exposed and their context within the surrounding landscape.
- Specialist reports on the finds from the site.
- Appropriate photographs of the site and specific archaeological features or groups of features.
- A consideration of the significance of the remains found, in local, regional, national and international terms, using recognised evaluation criteria.

## 11 ARCHIVE

12.1 The documentation, finds, photographs and other records and materials generated during the evaluation will be sorted and ordered in accordance with the procedures in the Society of

Museum Archaeologists' document *Transfer of Archaeological Archives to Museums* (1994), and any additional local requirements, for long-term storage and curation. This work will be undertaken by the Finds Supervisor, an Archaeological Assistant and the Conservator (if relevant). The archive will be deposited within an approved County store as soon as possible after completion of the post-excavation and analysis.

12.2 If required, the archive will be microfilmed. The silver master will be transferred to the RCHME and a diazo copy will be deposited with the Cambridgeshire County Council Archaeology Service Historic Environment Record.

12.3 Prior to the project commencing, the Cambridgeshire County Archaeological Office will be contacted to obtain their agreement to receipt of the project archive and to establish their requirements with regards to labelling, ordering, storage, conservation and organisation of the archive. An event number for this project will be obtained from Cambridgeshire Historic Environment Record..

12.4 Upon completion and submission of the evaluation report, the landowner will be contacted to arrange legal transfer of title to the archaeological objects retained during the investigation from themselves to the receiving museum. The transfer of title will be effected by a standard letter supplied to the landowner for signature.

## 13 REPORT DEPOSITION

13.1 An unbound draft copy of the report will be supplied initially to the County Archaeological Office for comment. Copies of the final report will be sent to: the client; the Cambridgeshire County Council Archaeology Office (2 copies); and the Cambridgeshire County Historic Environment Record.

## 14 PUBLICATION

14.1 A report of the findings of the investigation will be submitted for inclusion in the local journal *Proceedings of the Cambridgeshire Antiquarian Society*. Notes or articles describing the results of the investigation will also be submitted for publication in the appropriate national journals: *Medieval Archaeology* and *Journal of the Medieval Settlement Research Group* for medieval and later remains, and *Britannia* for discoveries of Roman date.

14.2 Details of the investigation will also be input to the Online Access to the Index of Archaeological Investigations (OASIS).

## 15 CURATORIAL MONITORING

15.1 Curatorial responsibility for the project lies with Cambridgeshire County Council Archaeology Office. As much notice as possible will be given in writing to the curator prior to the commencement of the project to enable them to make appropriate monitoring arrangements.

## 16 VARIATIONS TO THE PROPOSED SCHEME OF WORKS

16.1 Variations to the scheme of works will only be made following written confirmation from the archaeological curator.

16.2 Should the archaeological curator require any additional investigation beyond the scope of the brief for works, or this specification, then the cost and duration of those supplementary examinations will be negotiated between the client and the contractor.

## 17 SPECIALISTS TO BE USED DURING THE PROJECT

17.1 The following organisations/persons will, in principle and if necessary, be used as subcontractors to provide the relevant specialist work and reports in respect of any objects or material recovered during the investigation that require their expert knowledge and input. Engagement of any particular specialist subcontractor is also dependent on their availability and ability to meet programming requirements.

| Task | Body to be undertaking the work |
|---|---|
| Conservation | Conservation Laboratory, City and County Museum, Lincoln. |
| Pottery Analysis | Prehistoric: Dr F Pryor, Soke Archaeological Services Ltd or Dr Carol Allen, independent specialist |
| | Roman: B Precious, independent specialist/Dr A Boyle, APS |
| | Post-Roman: Dr A Boyle, APS |
| Other Artefacts | G Taylor, APS/J Cowgill, independent specialist |
| Human Remains Analysis | R Gowland, independent specialist |
| Animal Remains Analysis | P Cope-Faulkner, APS/M Holmes, independent specialist |
| Environmental Analysis | Val Fryer, independent specialist |
| Soil Assessment | Dr Charly French, independent specialist |
| Pollen Assessment | Pat Wiltshire, independent specialist |
| Radiocarbon dating | Beta Analytic Inc., Florida, USA |
| Dendrochronology dating | University of Sheffield Dendrochronology Laboratory |

## 18 PROGRAMME OF WORKS AND STAFFING LEVELS

18.1 The Senior Archaeologist, Archaeological Project Services, Tom Lane, MIFA, will have overall responsibility and control of all aspects of the work.

18.2 Site work will be undertaken by a Project Officer with experience of archaeological excavations of this type, assisted by an appropriately experienced archaeological technician. The archaeological works are programmed to take 4 days.

18.3 Post-excavation Assessment report production is expected to take up to 8 days. Post-excavation analysis will be undertaken by the Project Officer, or post-excavation analyst as appropriate, with assistance from a finds supervisor, illustrator and external specialists.

18.4 Contingency

18.4.1 The activation of any contingency requirement will be by agreement with the client and

in consultation with the County Archaeology Office.

## 19 INSURANCES

19.1 Archaeological Project Services, as part of the Heritage Trust of Lincolnshire, maintains Employers Liability insurance to £10,000,000. Additionally, the company maintains Public and Products Liability insurances, each with indemnity of £5,000,000. Copies of insurance documentation can be supplied on request.

## 20 COPYRIGHT

20.1 Archaeological Project Services shall retain full copyright of any commissioned reports under the *Copyright, Designs and Patents Act* 1988 with all rights reserved; excepting that it hereby provides an exclusive licence to the client for the use of such documents by the client in all matters directly relating to the project as described in the Project Specification.

20.2 Licence will also be given to the archaeological curators to use the documentary archive for educational, public and research purposes.

20.3 In the case of non-satisfactory settlement of account then copyright will remain fully and exclusively with Archaeological Project Services. In these circumstances it will be an infringement under the *Copyright, Designs and Patents Act* 1988 for the client to pass any report, partial report, or copy of same, to any third party. Reports submitted in good faith by Archaeological Project Services to any Planning Authority or archaeological curator will be removed from said Planning Authority and/or archaeological curator. The Planning Authority and/or archaeological curator will be notified by Archaeological Project Services that the use of any such information previously supplied constitutes an infringement under the *Copyright, Designs and Patents Act* 1988 and may result in legal action.

20.4 The author of any report or specialist contribution to a report shall retain intellectual copyright of their work and may make use of their work for educational or research purposes or for further publication.

## 21 BIBLIOGRAPHY

Hall, D., 1987 The Fenland Project, Number 2: Cambridgeshire Survey, Peterborough to March. EAA 35

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**

Specification: Version 1, 12th May 2009

**APPENDIX 2**

**Context Summary**

| Context | Trench | Description | Interpretation |
|---|---|---|---|
| 100 | 1 | Firm dark greyish brown silty clay | Topsoil |
| 101 | 1 | Firm medium-light brown, slightly olivey, silty clay | Subsoil |
| 102 | 1 | Stiff light grey/brownish grey clay, with mid orange sandy bands | Natural |
| 103 | 1 | Sub circular cut. 1.30m by at least 0.25m in plan and 0.29m deep | Irregular cut, possible shallow pit. Undated |
| 104 | 1 | Linear cut. 0.62m wide by at least 13.0m, and 0.27m deep | Ditch. Field boundary |
| 105 | 1 | Sub circular cut. 0.52m by 0.40m in plan, and 0.13m deep | Irregular cut, possible shallow pit. Undated |
| 106 | 1 | Linear cut. 0.76m wide by at least 1.50m long, and 0.49m deep | Ditch. Field boundary |
| 107 | 1 | Linear cut. 0.84m wide by at least 1.60m long, and 0.42m deep | Possible ditch. Could be a natural anomaly |
| 108 | 1 | Linear cut. 0.60m wide by at least 0.88m long, and 0.28m deep | Possible ditch. |
| 109 | 1 | Unstratified finds | |
| 110 | 1 | Firm mid brownish grey clayey silt. Moderate pebbles. Occasional flecks and patches of charcoal. Occasional small patches of yellowish-red fired clay | Fill of 103 |
| 111 | 1 | Firm light grey clayey silt with occasional pebbles and small sub angular and sub rounded flints and stones | Fill of 103 |
| 112 | 1 | Firm medium grey silty clay. Moderate small pebbles and sub angular and sub rounded flints and stones. Occasional charcoal flecks. Occasional small fragments of mid red fired clay | Fill of 105 |
| 113 | 1 | Firm mid brownish grey silty clay with moderate pebbles and small sub angular and sub rounded flints and stones | Fill of 104 |
| 114 | 1 | Firm mid grey/mid brownish orange sandy silty clay. | Fill of 104 |
| 115 | 1 | Firm mid-dark brownish grey silty clay with moderate sub angular and sub rounded stones flints and pebbles | Fill of 106 |
| 116 | 1 | Firm mid-light grey silty clay, with moderate small sub angular, and sub rounded stones flints and pebbles | Fill of 107 |
| 117 | 1 | Firm mid-light greyish yellow silty clay, with moderate small sub angular and sub rounded flints stones and pebbles | Fill of 108 |
| | | | |
| 200 | 2 | Friable light-medium brown clayey silt, with occasional angular flints and charcoal flecks | Topsoil |
| 201 | 2 | Friable/plastic yellowish mid brown silty clay, with occasional angular flints | Subsoil |
| 202 | 2 | Firm light brown clay with frequent chalk and flint fragments | Natural |

| Context | Trench | Description | Interpretation |
|---|---|---|---|
| 203 | 2 | Friable dark orange brown sand | Natural |
| 204 | 2 | Firm light brown , mottled with dark brown, clay, with chalk and flint fragments and irregular patches of orange coarse sand | Natural |
| 205 | 2 | Linear cut. 0.70m wide by at least 1.50m long, and 0.25m deep | Ditch cut. Field boundary |
| 206 | 2 | Plastic/sticky mid-dark brown clayey silt with occasional flint and chalk fragments | Fill of 205 |
| 207 | 2 | Linear cut. 0.77m wide by at least 1.50m long, and 0.29m deep | Ditch cut. Field boundary |
| 208 | 2 | Friable medium brown, mottled with orange brown, clayey silt. Occasional chalk and flint fragments | Fill of 207 |
| 209 | 2 | Friable/plastic orange brown with dark brown mottling silty clay. Occasional chalk and angular flint fragments | Fill of 207 |
| 210 | 2 | Friable/plastic mid-dark brown clayey silt with occasional angular flint | Fill of 207 |
| | | | |
| 300 | 3 | Friable dark greyish brown clayey silt with occasional small stones and flints | Topsoil |
| 301 | 3 | Hard mid yellowish brown clayey silt with occasional small flints and stones | Subsoil |
| 302 | 3 | Firm light yellowish grey clay with moderate flint and chalk fragments and patches of mid orange sand | Natural |
| 303 | 3 | Linear cut. 0.48m wide by at least 13.30m long, and 0.30m deep | Ditch cut. Field boundary |
| 304 | 3 | Hard light greyish brown clayey silt with moderate flint and chalk fragments | Fill of 303 |
| | | | |
| 400 | 4 | Firm dark greyish brown clayey silt with moderate sub rounded and sub angular flints and stones. | Topsoil |
| 401 | 4 | Firm mid yellowish brown, with a slight olive tinge. Sandy clayey silt. Frequent small sub angular and sub rounded flints and pebbles | Subsoil |
| 402 | 4 | Firm/stiff mix of light grey and mid brownish grey clay with frequent stones and chalk fragments and bands and patches of mid orange sand | Natural |
| 403 | 4 | Linear cut. 0.73m wide by at least 1.60m long, and 0.38m deep | Ditch cut. Field boundary |
| 404 | 4 | Unstratified finds | |
| 405 | 4 | Firm/stiff mid-dark brownish grey silty clay with moderate sub angular and sub rounded stones and pebbles | Fill of 403 |
| | | | |
| 500 | 5 | Linear cut. 0.70m wide by at least 24.50m long and 0.10m deep | Ditch cut. Field boundary |

| Context | Trench | Description | Interpretation |
|---|---|---|---|
| 501 | 5 | Firm light yellowish brown silty clay with frequent chalk fragments and occasional angular flints | Fill of 500 |
| 502 | 5 | Linear cut. 0.78m wide by at least 1.50m long and 0.45m deep | Ditch cut. Field boundary |
| 503 | 5 | Friable/plastic medium-dark brown, mottled with yellowish brown, clayey silt. Occasional chalk and angular flint fragments | Fill of 503 |
| 504 | 5 | Friable/compact mix of orange brown and dark brown sandy silt with frequent chalk fragments | Fill of 502 |
| 505 | 5 | Friable dark brown clayey silt with occasional angular flints | Topsoil |
| 506 | 5 | Friable/compact orange brown, mottled with medium-dark brown clayey silt. Occasional large flints (c. 60mm). Occasional smaller flints and chalk fragments | Subsoil |
| 507 | 5 | Firm/compact yellowish orange-brown clay with frequent chalk and flint fragments and patches of mid orange sand | Natural |
| | | | |
| 600 | 6 | Friable dark greyish brown clayey silt with occasional small sub rounded stones and flints | Topsoil |
| 601 | 6 | Friable (dry) mid yellowish brown sandy silt clay with moderate chalk fragments and occasional flints | Subsoil |
| 602 | 6 | Firm light yellowish grey clay with frequent chalk and flint fragments and patches and bands of mid orange clayey sand | Natural |
| 603 | 6 | Linear cut. 1.05m wide by at least 1.50m long and 0.38m deep | Ditch cut. Field boundary |
| 604 | 6 | Firm mid greyish brown silty clay with occasional chalk fragments, flints and small stones | Fill of 603 |
| 605 | 6 | Linear cut. At least 0.82m wide by 1.50m long and 0.24m deep | Ditch cut. Field boundary |
| 606 | 6 | Soft light brownish yellow sandy clay with occasional small sub rounded stones | Fill of 605 |
| 607 | 6 | Linear cut. 0.40m wide by at least 1.50m long and 0.38m deep | Ditch cut. Field boundary |
| 608 | 6 | Firm mid-dark grey clayey silt, with moderate small sub rounded and sub angular stones and pebbles | Fill of 607 |
| 609 | 6 | Linear cut. Up to 0.85m wide by at least 1.50m long and 0.54m | Ditch cut. Field boundary |
| 610 | 6 | Firm mid brown clayey silt with moderate small sub angular and sub rounded stones and flints | Fill of 607 |
| 611 | 6 | Firm/stiff mix of mid brownish orange and light greyish yellow silty clay. Moderate small sub rounded and sub angular flints stones and pebbles | Fill of 609 |
| 612 | 6 | Firm mid-dark grey clayey silt with moderate sub rounded and sub angular stones | Fill of 609 |
| 613 | 6 | Firm/stiff mid brownish orange, mottled with mid grey, silty clay. Moderate small sub rounded and sub angular flints and stones | Fill of 609 |

| Context | Trench | Description | Interpretation |
|---|---|---|---|
| 614 | 6 | Linear cut. 0.58m wide by at least 1.50m long and 0.40m deep | Ditch cut. Field boundary |
| 615 | 6 | Firm mid brownish grey silty clay with occasional chalk fragments and small flints | Fill of 614 |
| 616 | 6 | Linear cut. 0.60m wide by at least 1.50m long | Modern service trench |
| | | | |
| | | | |

Appendix [3]

# THE FINDS

## ROMAN POTTERY

*By Alex Beeby*

### Introduction

All the material was recorded at archive level in accordance with the guidelines laid out by Darling (2004) using the codes developed for the city of Lincoln archaeological unit (Darling and Precious, forthcoming). A total of two sherds from two vessels, weighing 39 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.

### Condition

One piece is abraded and both are probably burnt.

### Results

*Table 1, Roman Pottery Archive*

| Tr | Cxt | Cname | Form | Alter | Dr | Comments | NoV | NoS | Weight (g) |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 6 | 601 | NAT | JCOR | ABR; PART REOX OV B EDGE | | BS NECK; COARSE SANDY FABRIC; STONEA FIG 88 8B | 1 | 1 | 26 |
| 6 | 601 | ZDATE | | | | 1st C | | | |
| 6 | 608 | NVGW | BSEG | BURNT | | RIM; POSS LOOSELY BASED ON DR36; INT LEDGE | 1 | 1 | 13 |
| 6 | 608 | ZDATE | | | | M2nd-3rd C | | | |
| | | | | | | **Total** | **2** | **2** | **39** |

### Provenance

Both sherds were recovered from Trench 6. One piece was retrieved from fill (608) within ditch [608], whilst the second came from the subsoil (601).

### Range

There are sherds from two vessels within this assemblage; these include a cordoned jar (JCOR) in a sandy native type fabric (NAT) and a shallow 'segmental' bowl (BSEG) in Nene Valley Grey Ware (NVGW). The cordoned jar is of a type produced locally and dated at the nearby site of Stonea to the late Augustan to Neronian periods (approx 10-70AD). See Rigby, 1996, fig 88.8b). The bowl, a product of the Nene Valley industries is also a relatively local piece. This is probably loosely based on a Samian ware Dragendorff Type 36 bowl and was produced in the mid 2nd or 3rd centuries AD.

### Potential

The pottery should be retained as part of the site archive and should pose no problems for long term storage.

### Summary

Two sherds, one dating to the late Iron Age/Early Roman period and a second dating to the mid 2nd or 3rd centuries were recovered during the evaluation.

## POST ROMAN POTTERY

*By Alex Beeby and Anne Boyle*

**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). A total of seven sherds from six vessels, weighing 180 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 2 below. The pottery ranges in date from the medieval to the post medieval period.

**Condition**
Three sherds are classed as abraded, whilst the remainder are relatively fragmentary, but fresh. The average sherd weight is moderate at 25 grams, although a single piece weighs 78 grams and two sherds weigh just 2 grams each.

**Results**
*Table 2, Post Roman Pottery Archive*

| Tr | Cxt | Cname | Full Name | Sub fabric | Form | Part | Description | Date | NoS | NoV | W(g) |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | 109 | ELY | Ely Type Ware | | Jar or Bowl? | BSS | Rim?; Shale; oxidised surfaces; poss reox rather than rim?; ID?; abraded; plain rim? | L12th-M14th | 2 | 1 | 4 |
| 3 | 300 | MEDLOC | Medieval Local Fabrics | OX/R/OX; medium coarse sandy; mod flint; rare rounded clay pellets and Ca | Jug | Rim | Abraded; thin green (suspension?) glaze; spalled | 13th-15th | 1 | 1 | 30 |
| 6 | 600 | ELY | Ely Type Ware | | Jug or Jar? | Base | | L12th-M14th | 1 | 1 | 78 |
| 6 | 600 | LERTH | Late Earthen Wares | | Jar | BS | Poss garden pot | 18th-19th | 1 | 1 | 6 |
| 6 | 600 | GRE | Glazed Red Earthen Ware | | Jar | BS | | 16th-17th | 1 | 1 | 46 |
| 6 | 601 | GRE | Glazed Red Earthen Ware | | Jar | Base | | 16th-17th | 1 | 1 | 16 |
| | | | | | | | | **Total** | **7** | **6** | **180** |

**Provenance**
Post Roman pottery was retrieved from three trenches; these were 1, 3 and 6.

*Trench 1*
A single sherd was recovered from this trench but was unstratified; it was given finds number (109).

*Trench 3*
A piece of medieval pottery was recovered from the topsoil (300) in Trench 3

*Trench 6*
Two sherds were retrieved from the topsoil (600), and two more from the subsoil (601), within this trench.

**Range**
There are three pieces of pottery of medieval date, including three sherds of Ely type ware (ELY) and a single rim fragment in an uncertain local fabric (MEDLOC). One of these vessels is a jug, whilst the other forms are uncertain. The remainder of the post Roman pottery recovered is post medieval in date and includes glazed red earthenware (GRE) and late earthenware (LERTH) types.

**Potential**
The pottery should be retained as part of the site archive and should pose no problems for long term storage.

**Summary**
Four sherds of medieval and three sherds of post medieval pottery were recovered during the evaluation.

**CERAMIC BUILDING MATERIAL**
*By Alex Beeby and Anne Boyle*

**Introduction**
All the material was recorded at archive level in accordance with the guidelines laid out by the ACBMG (2001). A total of 33 fragments of ceramic building material, weighing 1636 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 Archive Catalogue 1.

**Condition**
The condition of the material is mixed, but generally fragmentary and abraded. The average fragment weight is moderately low at 50 grams. A total of 12 pieces are abraded or very abraded and seven have leached inclusion hollows, probably caused by soil conditions. In addition, two are sooted, and two others are reoxidised over the broken edge. This may indicate reuse, perhaps in a hearth. A single vitrified brick may also have been part of a hearth or other industrial structure, where it would have been subjected to very high heat.

**Results**
*Table 3, Summary of the Ceramic Building Material*

| Cname | Full name | NoF | W(g) |
|---|---|---|---|
| BRK | Brick | 5 | 611 |
| CBM | Misc. Ceramic Building Material | 5 | 91 |
| IMB | Roman Imbrex | 1 | 44 |
| MOD TILE | Modern Moulded Tile | 1 | 156 |
| MODERN BRICK | Modern Brick | 1 | 231 |
| PEG | Peg Tile | 7 | 223 |
| PNR | Peg, Nib or Ridge Tile | 10 | 123 |
| RID | Unidentified Ridge Tile | 1 | 13 |
| RTIL | Roman Tile | 2 | 104 |
| TEG | Roman Tegula | 1 | 40 |
| | **Total** | **34** | **1636** |

**Provenance**
In total, five of the excavated trenches yielded ceramic building material; these were 1, 3, 4, 5 and 6.

*Trench 1*
A single piece of material was recovered from this trench. It was unstratified and was given finds retrieval number (109).

*Trench 3*
A total of seven fragments came from Trench 3; just one, of post medieval date, was recovered from an archaeological feature. This came from fill (304) within linear ditch [302]. The remainder came from topsoil layer (300).

*Trench 4*
Trench 4 yielded six fragments, although none of these were stratified. These finds were given the number (404).

*Trench 5*
All of the ceramic building material from Trench 5 came from the top and subsoils, (505) and (506) respectively.

*Trench 6*
Ten fragments came from Trench 6, all were recovered from the topsoil (600).

**Range**
There is a fairly good range of types present, including Roman, medieval, post medieval and modern ceramic material.

*Roman*
At least four of the fragments within the assemblage are of Roman date, and a fifth (from 505) is most probably Roman. All of this material was recovered from top and subsoil deposits in Trenches 5 and 6. Roman types present here include single pieces of Tegula (TEG) and Imbrex (IMB) roofing tile, and two pieces of miscellaneous Roman brick or tile (RTIL). One of these fragments (from 506) is probably from a Roman brick. Although Roman building materials were often reused in the post Roman period, their discovery here may suggest the presence of Roman buildings nearby.

*Medieval*
Pieces from at least 10 roofing tiles dating to the medieval period were found. All of these date to the late 12th or 13th to 15th centuries. Most are flat roofing tiles, four of which (PEG), have holes for wooden pegs or metal nails. A single unstratified example of a Ridge tile (RID) was also recovered from Trench 5. Four of the flatroofers are in a light firing Gault clay and the remainder are in a variety of oxidised fabrics with a fine, medium or fine sandy matrix and occasionally a reduced core.

*Post Medieval and Modern*
A total of five bricks (BRK) of Post medieval date were recovered, these are all handmade types in a local, calcareous 'Fenland brick' fabric, a type common in this region. Single items of modern brick (MODERN BRICK) and tile (MOD TILE) ware also retrieved.

**Potential**
The material should be retained as part of the site archive; it should pose no problems for long term storage.

**Summary**
A range of ceramic building material was recovered during the evaluation, including pieces of Roman, medieval, post medieval and modern date. Only one piece, a small fragment of medieval or post medieval date, was recovered from a feature, whilst the remainder is unstratified or came from top/subsoil layers.

**FAUNAL REMAINS**
*By Paul Cope-Faulkner*

**Introduction**
A total of 4 (149g) fragments of animal bone were recovered from stratified contexts.

**Provenance**
The bone was retrieved from topsoil (505 and 600) and as unstratified material (404).

**Condition**
The overall condition of the remains was good to poor.

**Results**
*Table #, Fragments Identified to Taxa*

| Cxt | Taxon | Element | Number | W (g) | Comments |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 404 | large mammal | rib | 1 | 41 | sawn at one end |
| | cattle | phalange | 1 | 21 | chalky |
| 505 | sheep/goat | humerus | 1 | 50 | chalky |
| 600 | sheep/goat | humerus | 1 | 37 | chalky |

**Summary**
As a small assemblage the animal bone is of limited potential, though should be retained as part of the site archive.

**CLAY PIPE**
*By Gary Taylor*

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

**Condition**
All of the clay pipe is in good condition, though every piece is worn. They present no problems for long-term archive storage.

**Results**
*Table #, Clay pipes*

| Context no. | Bore diameter /64" | | | | | NoF | W(g) | Comments | Date |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | 8 | 7 | 6 | 5 | 4 | | | | |
| 109 | 1 | | | | | 1 | 10 | Stem, abraded | 17th century |
| 208 | | 1 | | | | 1 | 3 | Stem, abraded | 17th century |
| 300 | | 1 | | | | 1 | 12 | Bowl, Oswald type G6, abraded | 1660-80 |
| 404 | | | 1 | | | 1 | 12 | Bowl, Oswald type G10/11, relief marked AW on lower sides of bowl, abraded | 1700-60 |
| Totals | 1 | 2 | 1 | | | 4 | 37 | | |

**Provenance**
The pipes were recovered from a ditch fill (208), topsoil (300), and as unstratified material from Trenches 1 and 4 (109 and 404 respectively).

**Range**
Two stems and 2 bowls were retrieved and all are 17th-early 18th century in date. There is a scarce example of a bowl with relief marked maker's initials 'AW'. These initials have not been identified but do not appear in lists of local Cambridgeshire pipe makers (eg, Oswald 1975; Flood 1976). Such marking occurs fairly commonly on late 17th century bowls from east Norfolk, but the initials on pipes found there do not match those on this example from March (Atkin 1985, 130-1).

**Potential**
The pipes have little potential but provide some dating evidence, though all the pieces are worn and the contexts they were recovered from probably post-date the use of the pipes.

**OTHER FINDS**
*By Gary Taylor*

**Introduction**
A single other find weighing 6g was recovered.

**Condition**
The other find is in good condition.

**Results**
*Table #, Other Materials*

| Cxt | Material | Description | NoF | W (g) | Date |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 404 | Plant matter | Coconut shell | 1 | | |

**Provenance**
The other find was unstratified.

**Range**
A single piece of coconut shell was found.

**Potential**
Of low potential, the other find is probably fairly modern and could be discarded.

**SPOT DATING**
The dating in Table [#] is based on the evidence provided by the finds detailed above.

*Table #, Spot dates*

| Cxt | Date | Comments |
|---|---|---|
| 109 | 20th Century | Based on CBM; unstratified finds number |
| 208 | 17th century | Based on 1 clay pipe |
| 300 | 19th-20th | Based on CBM; topsoil |
| 304 | 13th-18th | Based on CBM |
| 404 | 20th | Based on CBM; unstratified finds number |
| 505 | 16th-18th | Based on CBM; topsoil |
| 506 | Roman | Based on CBM; subsoil |
| 600 | 16th-18th | Based on CBM; topsoil |

**ABBREVIATIONS**

| | |
|---|---|
| ACBMG | Archaeological Ceramic Building Materials Group |
| BS | Body sherd |
| CBM | Ceramic Building Material |
| CXT | Context |
| LHJ | Lower Handle Join |
| NoF | Number of Fragments |
| NoS | Number of sherds |
| NoV | Number of vessels |
| PCRG | Prehistoric Ceramic Research Group |
| TR | Trench |
| UHJ | Upper Handle Join |
| W (g) | Weight (grams) |

**REFERENCES**

~ 2001, *Draft Minimum Standards for the Recovery, Analysis and Publication of Ceramic Building Material*, third version [internet]. Available from <http://www.geocities.com/acbmg1/CBMGDE3.htm>
Atkin, S., 1985 The clay pipe-making industry in Norfolk, *Norfolk Archaeology* XXXIX pt II, 118-149
Darling, M. J., 2004, 'Guidelines for the Archiving of Roman Pottery', *Journal of Roman Pottery Studies* 11, 67-74
Davey, P. J., 1981, Guidelines for the processing and publication of clay pipes from excavations, *Medieval and Later Pottery in Wales* 4**,** 65-88
Flood, R. J., 1976 *Clay Tobacco Pipes in Cambridgeshire* (Cambridge)
Oswald, A., 1975 *Clay Pipes for the Archaeologist*, BAR 14
Rigby, V., 1986 Iron Age Pottery, *In: Excavations at Stonea, Cambridgeshire, 1980-85*, 260-262 (London)
Slowikowski, A. M., Nenk, B., and Pearce, J., 2001, *Minimum Standards for the Processing, Recording, Analysis and Publication of Post-Roman Ceramics*, Medieval Pottery Research Group Occasional Paper 2
Young, J., Vince, A.G. and Nailor, V., 2005, *A Corpus of Saxon and Medieval Pottery from Lincoln* (Oxford)

## ARCHIVE CATALOGUES

*Archive catalogue 1, Ceramic Building Material*

| Tr | Cxt | Cname | Fabric | NoF | W(g) | Dec | Description | Date |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | 109 | MOD TILE | | 1 | 156 | White paint | Sooted underside | 20th |
| 3 | 300 | CBM | Oxidised medium sandy | 1 | 17 | | Abraded; flake | 19th-20th |
| 3 | 300 | PEG | Gault | 2 | 16 | | Abraded; sooted; FLR; Rounded peg hole; punched approx 12mm in diameter | 13th-15th |
| 3 | 300 | BRK | Oxidised; medium sandy | 1 | 40 | | V abraded; single poss surface | 16th-18th |
| 3 | 300 | PNR | Gault | 1 | 8 | | Abraded; FLR; | 13th-15th |
| 3 | 300 | CBM | Oxidised; fine; micaceous | 1 | 28 | | Abraded; surfaceless; RTIL? | Roman or Post Roman |
| 3 | 304 | CBM | Light firing; fine | 1 | 3 | | Flake; surfaces with corner | 13th-18th |
| 4 | 404 | PEG | Gault | 1 | 44 | | Abraded; leached inclusions; peg12mm in diameter | L12th-15th |
| 4 | 404 | PNR | Oxidised; fine sandy | 1 | 51 | | Flint; leached | L12th-15th |
| 4 | 404 | BRK | Oxidised; calcareous | 1 | 227 | | Fenland brick; leached; abraded | 16th-18th |
| 4 | 404 | CBM | Oxidised; medium sandy | 1 | 30 | | Abraded; surfaceless; probably BRK | Roman or Post Roman |
| 4 | 404 | MODERN BRICK | | 1 | 231 | | | 20th |
| 4 | 404 | PNR | Oxidised; fine | 1 | 21 | | Leached'; flake; ID? | 13th-15th |
| 5 | 505 | BRK | Vitrified | 1 | 172 | | Handmade; struck upper; warped; probably calcareous fenland type; approx 50mm thick | 16th-18th |
| 5 | 505 | BRK | Calcareous; micaceous | 1 | 105 | | Handmade; abraded | 16th-18th |
| 5 | 505 | PEG | Gault | 3 | 87 | | Rounded peg hole punched through upper to lower; 11mm in diameter; fresh; indentation - accidental? | 13th-15th |
| 5 | 505 | PNR | Oxidised; fine; calcareous | 1 | 5 | | Leached; frag | L12th-15th |

| | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 5 | 505 | CBM | Oxidised; medium sandy | 1 | 13 | | Corner; abraded; two surfaces one of which is curved; Roman? | Roman? |
| 5 | 505 | RID | OX/R/OX; fine | 1 | 13 | | Fine leached Ca hollows; high fired; salt surface | 13th-15th |
| 5 | 506 | RTIL | Oxidised; fine; micaceous | 1 | 57 | | V abraded; probably RBRK | Roman |
| 6 | 600 | PEG | OX/R/OX; medium sandy; sparse Ca | 1 | 76 | | Leached Ca inclusion hollows; reox over broken edge; FLR; rounded peg hole; punched from upper to lower 12mm in diameter | L12th-15th |
| 6 | 600 | BRK | Calcareous | 1 | 67 | | Salt surface; leached inclusions; hand made; fenland type | 16th-18th |
| 6 | 600 | PNR | Gault | 6 | 38 | | Corner piece; frags; knife trimmed edge; FLR | 13th-15th |
| 6 | 600 | TEG | OX/R/OX; fine sandy | 1 | 40 | | Sanded base; unusual orange margins; high fired | Roman |
| 6 | 600 | RTIL | OX/R/OX; flint | 1 | 47 | | Reoxidised over break; salt surface | Roman |
| 6 | 600 | IMB | Oxidised; medium coarse sandy; rare mudstone grits | 1 | 44 | | | Roman |

# Appendix 4

## GLOSSARY

| | |
|---|---|
| **Anglo-Saxon** | Pertaining to the period when Britain was occupied by peoples from northern Germany, Denmark and adjacent areas. The period dates from approximately AD 450-1066. |
| **Bronze Age** | A period characterised by the introduction of bronze into the country for tools, between 2250 and 800 BC. |
| **Carucate** | A unit of land, originally based on the amount that could be ploughed annually by a team of eight oxen. Generally taken to be about 120 acres. |
| **Context** | 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]. |
| **Cut** | 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. |
| **Domesday Survey** | A survey of property ownership in England compiled on the instruction of William I for taxation purposes in 1086 AD. |
| **Fill** | 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). |
| **Iron Age** | A period characterised by the introduction of Iron into the country for tools, between 800 BC and AD 50. |
| **Layer** | A layer is a term used to describe an accumulation of soil or other material that is not contained within a cut. |
| **Medieval** | The Middle Ages, dating from approximately AD 1066-1500. |
| **Natural** | Undisturbed deposit(s) of soil or rock which have accumulated without the influence of human activity |
| **Neolithic** | The ‘New Stone Age’ period, part of the prehistoric era, dating from approximately 4500 - 2250 BC. |
| **Old English** | The language used by the Saxon (q.v.) occupants of Britain. |
| **Post hole** | The hole cut to take a timber post, usually in an upright position. The hole may have been dug larger than the post and contain soil or stones to support the post. Alternatively, the posthole may have been formed through the process of driving the post into the ground. |
| **Post-medieval** | The period following the Middle Ages, dating from approximately AD 1500-1800. |
| **Prehistoric** | The period of human history prior to the introduction of writing. In Britain the prehistoric period lasts from the first evidence of human occupation about 500,000 BC, until the Roman invasion in the middle of the 1st century AD. |

| | |
|---|---|
| **Saxon** | Pertaining to the period dating from AD 410-1066 when England was largely settled by tribes from northern Germany |
| **Till** | A deposit formed after the retreat of a glacier. Also known as boulder clay, this material is generally unsorted and can comprise of rock flour to boulders to rocks of quite substantial size. |

# Appendix 5

## THE ARCHIVE

The archive consists of:

| | |
|---|---|
| 1 | Context register sheet |
| 65 | Context record sheets |
| 2 | Photographic record sheet |
| 1 | Plan record sheet |
| 1 | Section record sheet |
| 4 | Daily record sheet |
| 16 | Sheets of scale drawings |
| 1 | Stratigraphic Matrix |
| 1 | Bag 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
Cambridgeshire
CB3 OAP

Accession Number: ECB 3418

Archaeological Project Services Site Code: MAUR10

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.