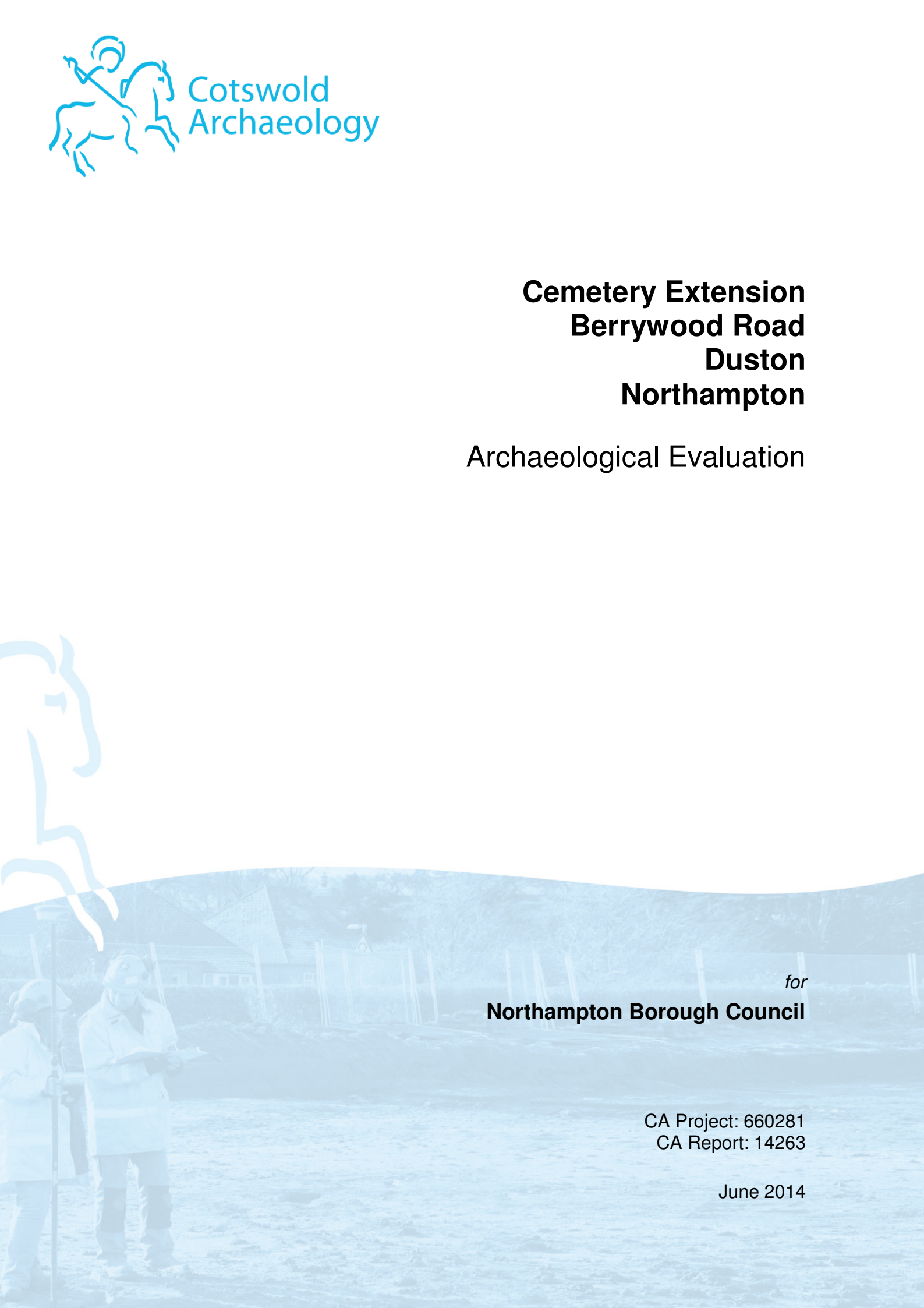


**Cemetery Extension  
Berrywood Road  
Duston  
Northampton**

Archaeological Evaluation



*for*  
**Northampton Borough Council**


CA Project: 660281  
CA Report: 14263

June 2014

Cemetery Extension  
Berrywood Road  
Duston  
Northampton

Archaeological Evaluation

CA Project: 660281  
CA Report: 14263

prepared by	Derek Evans, Project Manager
date	13 June 2014
checked by	Simon Carlyle, Principal Fieldwork Manager
signed	
date	16 June 2014
issue	01

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- Fig. 1 Site location plan (1:25,000)  
Fig. 2 Trench location plan (1:500)  
Fig. 3 Trench 4: Section and photograph



## SUMMARY

<b>Project Name:</b>	Cemetery Extension, Berrywood Road
<b>Location:</b>	Duston, Northampton
<b>NGR:</b>	SP 7165 6144
<b>Type:</b>	Evaluation
<b>Date:</b>	27 May 2014
<b>Planning Reference:</b>	N/2013/682
<b>Location of Archive:</b>	Currently held by Cotswold Archaeology (Milton Keynes Office)
<b>Site Code:</b>	CEX 14

An archaeological evaluation was undertaken by Cotswold Archaeology in May 2014 on land at Berrywood Road, Duston, Northampton. Four trenches were excavated.

Berrywood Road preserves the line of a Roman road between Duston and Whilton Lodge. Scattered prehistoric and Roman finds have been recorded from the area around the site.

The evaluation recorded two shallow, undated ditch-like features, both of which were cut at the level of the subsoil. One of these features was truncated by the ploughed-out remnants of a medieval ridge and furrow field system. There was no evidence for significant pre-medieval activity. The site appears to have been in agricultural/pastoral use since at least the medieval period.



## 1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 In May 2014, Cotswold Archaeology (CA) carried out an archaeological evaluation for Northampton Borough Council (NBC) on land at Berrywood Road, Duston, Northampton (centred at NGR: SP 7165 6144; Fig. 1).
- 1.2 Planning permission for an extension to an existing cemetery was granted by NBC, conditional on a programme of archaeological work (planning ref: N/2013/682; condition 2). A brief for archaeological evaluation of the proposed cemetery extension site was issued subsequently by Liz Mordue, Northamptonshire County Council's Assistant Archaeological Advisor (NCC 2014a and 2014b).
- 1.3 The evaluation was carried out in accordance with a written scheme of investigation (WSI) produced by CA (2014) and approved by Liz Mordue. The fieldwork also followed the *Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Field Evaluation* (IfA 2009), the *Management of Archaeological Projects* (English Heritage 1991) and the *Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment (MORPHE): Project Manager's Guide* (English Heritage 2006). It was monitored by Liz Mordue, including a site visit on 27 May.

### ***The site***

- 1.4 The proposed development site encloses an area of approximately 0.55ha. It lies on the north-eastern side of Berrywood Road, to the immediate south-east of the existing cemetery. The site is former allotment land and is currently under rough grass cover. It is bordered to the south-east by extant allotments, and to the north-east by residential development. The site lies at approximately 108m AOD, and is reasonably level.
- 1.5 The underlying bedrock geology of the area is mapped as Blisworth Limestone Formation, of the Jurassic Period. The superficial deposits are recorded as Oadby Member diamicton (BGS 2014).



### **Archaeological background**

- 1.6 Berrywood Road preserves the line of a Roman road between Duston and Whilton Lodge (*Bannaventa*). The Roman settlement at Duston was largely destroyed by quarrying in the 19th century.
- 1.7 Scattered prehistoric and Roman finds have been recorded from the adjacent allotments and the area around the site.

### **Archaeological objectives**

- 1.8 In line with the brief (NCC 2014b), the archaeological evaluation was designed to provide information that will allow the effective targeting of any further archaeological investigation of the site prior to or during the early phases of its development. In line with the *National Planning Policy Framework* (DCLG 2012), the objective of the evaluation was to generate the following information in order to inform the development of a strategy for further investigation of the site:
- the location, extent, nature and date of any archaeological features or deposits that may be present;
  - the integrity and state of preservation of any archaeological features or deposits that may be present.

### **Methodology**

- 1.9 The evaluation fieldwork comprised the excavation of four trenches in the locations shown on Figure 2. All trenches were 20m long and 1.8m wide. The trenches were located to provide an appropriate sample of the proposed cemetery extension site. Trenches were set out on OS National Grid (NGR) co-ordinates using Leica GPS and surveyed in accordance with *CA Technical Manual 4: Survey Manual* (2012).
- 1.10 All trenches were excavated by a mechanical excavator equipped with a toothless grading bucket. All machine excavation was undertaken under constant archaeological supervision to the top of the first significant archaeological horizon or the natural substrate, whichever was encountered first. Where potential archaeological deposits were encountered, they were excavated by hand in accordance with *CA Technical Manual 1: Fieldwork Recording Manual* (2013).

- 1.11 Deposits were assessed for their palaeoenvironmental potential in accordance with *CA Technical Manual 2: The Taking and Processing of Environmental and Other Samples from Archaeological Sites* (2003). No deposits were identified that required sampling.
- 1.12 There is currently no depository accepting archives from archaeological sites in this region of Northamptonshire. The project archive will be held by CA at their offices in Milton Keynes until such time as a depository becomes available. A summary of information from this project, as set out within Appendix B, will be entered onto the OASIS online database of archaeological projects in Britain.

## 2. RESULTS

- 2.1 This section provides an overview of the evaluation results; detailed summaries of the recorded contexts can be found in Appendix A. All recorded features are shown on Figure 2.
- 2.2 The natural geological substrate comprised orange clay with pockets of yellow gravel. It was exposed in all four trenches at depths of 0.35m–0.53m below the present ground level. The natural was sealed by 0.1m–0.3m of clayey silt subsoil, which was covered in turn by 0.25m–0.32m of topsoil.
2. Two shallow, undated ditches were recorded cutting through the subsoil layer. North-west/south-east aligned ditch 105 (Trench 1) was 0.54m wide and 0.35m deep, and contained a single sandy fill (106). North-east/south-west-aligned ditch 403 (Fig. 3) was a maximum of 1.08m wide and 0.18m deep. It contained a single clayey silt fill (404).
- 2.4 A series of furrows ran through Trenches 2, 3 and 4 on a north-east/south-west alignment. These furrows were also cut at the level of the subsoil. One of the furrows truncated ditch 403.
- 2.5 Several probably modern features were also cut through the subsoil layer. There were two north-east/south-west-aligned ditches: ditch 103 (Trench 1) contained modern glass and tile in its single fill (104); ditch 210 (Trench 2) was undated artefactually, but contained a dark, topsoil-like fill, and was presumed to be modern.

Postholes 304, 306, 308 and 310 (all Trench 3) were cut into the upper surface of a furrow, and also contained dark, topsoil-like fills. These modern features are likely to relate to the former use of the land as allotments.

### 3. DISCUSSION

- 3.1 The evaluation recorded two, shallow, undated ditch-like features, both of which were cut at the level of the subsoil. One of these features was truncated by the ploughed-out remnants of a medieval ridge and furrow field system. There was no evidence for significant pre-medieval activity. The site appears to have been in agricultural/pastoral use since at least the medieval period.

### 4. CA PROJECT TEAM

Fieldwork was undertaken by Jeremy Mordue, assisted by Dan Riley. The report was written by Derek Evans. The illustrations were prepared by Dan Bashford. The archive has been compiled by Emily Evans, and prepared for deposition by Nicola Powell. The project was managed for CA by Derek Evans.

### 5. REFERENCES

- BGS (British Geological Survey) 2014 *Geology of Britain Viewer* [http://maps.bgs.ac.uk/geology\\_viewer\\_google/googleviewer.html](http://maps.bgs.ac.uk/geology_viewer_google/googleviewer.html) Accessed 20 April 2014
- CA (Cotswold Archaeology) 2014 *Cemetery Extension, Berrywood Road, Duston, Northamptonshire: Written Scheme of Investigation for an Archaeological Evaluation*
- DCLG (Department of Communities and Local Government) 2012 *National Planning Policy Framework*
- NCC (Northampton County Council) 2014a *Brief for a Programme of Archaeological Investigation of Former Allotment Land at Berrywood Road, Duston, Northampton, Northamptonshire*



NCC (Northampton County Council) 2014b *Brief for the Archaeological Field Evaluation of Former Allotment Land at Berrywood Road, Duston, Northampton, Northamptonshire*



## APPENDIX A: CONTEXT DESCRIPTIONS

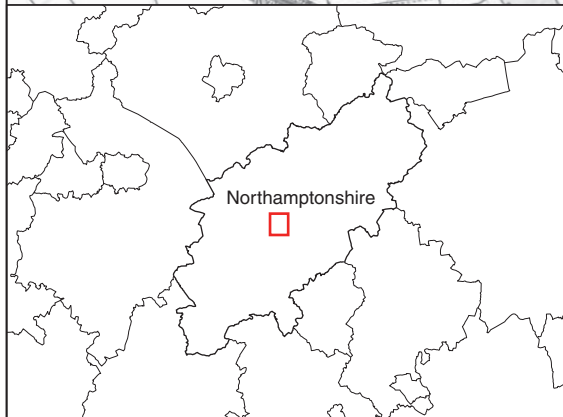
Trench No.	Context No.	Type	Fill of	Description	L (m)	W (m)	Depth/thickness (m)
1	100	Layer		Topsoil: dark grey-brown silty clay			0.25
1	101	Layer		Subsoil: mid brown sandy clayey silt			0.1
1	102	Geology		Natural: orange clay with pockets of yellow gravel			
1	103	Cut		Ditch; NE/SW-orientated		0.9	0.15
1	104	Fill	103	Yellow-brown clayey silt			
1	105	Cut		Ditch; NW/SE-orientated		0.54	0.35
1	106	Fill	105	Yellow silty sand			
2	200	Layer		Topsoil: dark grey-brown silty clay			0.25
2	201	Layer		Subsoil: mid brown sandy clayey silt			0.3
2	202	Cut		Furrow; NE/SW-aligned		1.4	
2	203	Fill	202	Mid-brown clay with flint inclusions			
2	204	Cut		Furrow; NE/SW-aligned		1.4	
2	205	Fill	204	Mid-brown clay with flint inclusions			
2	206	Cut		Furrow; NE/SW-aligned		1.5	
2	207	Fill	206	Mid-brown clay with flint inclusions			
2	208	Cut		Furrow; NE/SW-aligned		1.6	
2	209	Fill	208	Mid-brown clay with flint inclusions			
2	210	Cut		Ditch; NE/SW-aligned		0.5	
2	211	Fill	210	Dark grey/black sandy clayey silt			
2	212	Geology		Natural: orange clay with pockets of yellow gravel			
3	300	Layer		Topsoil: dark grey-brown silty clay			0.25
3	301	Geology		Natural: orange clay with pockets of yellow gravel			
3	302	Cut		Furrow; NE/SW-aligned		1.2	0.1
3	303	Fill	302	Mid-brown clay with flint inclusions			
3	304	Cut		Posthole		0.3	
3	305	Fill	304	Dark grey/black sandy silty clay			
3	306	Cut		Posthole		0.3	
3	307	Fill	306	Dark grey/black sandy silty clay			
3	308	Cut		Posthole		0.3	
3	309	Fill	308	Dark grey/black sandy silty clay			
3	310	Cut		Posthole		0.3	
3	311	Fill	310	Dark grey/black sandy silty clay			
3	312	Layer		Subsoil: mid brown sandy clayey silt			0.21
4	400	Layer		Topsoil: dark grey-brown silty clay			0.32
4	401	Layer		Subsoil: mid brown sandy clayey silt			0.21
4	402	Geology		Natural: orange clay with pockets of yellow gravel			
4	403	Cut		Possible gully; NE/SW-aligned		1.08	0.18
4	404	Fill	403	Mid brown clayey silt			
4	405	Cut		Furrow; NE/SW-aligned	1		
4	406	Fill	405	Mid-brown clay with flint inclusions			
4	407	Cut		Furrow; NE/SW-aligned	1		
4	408	Fill	407	Mid-brown clay with flint inclusions			

Trench No.	Context No.	Type	Fill of	Description	L (m)	W (m)	Depth/ thickness (m)
4	409	Cut		Furrow; NE/SW-aligned	3.2		
4	410	Fill	409	Mid-brown clay with flint inclusions			
4	411	Cut		Furrow; NE/SW-aligned	2.4		
4	412	Fill	411	Mid-brown clay with flint inclusions			

**APPENDIX B: OASIS REPORT FORM**

<b>PROJECT DETAILS</b>		
Project Name	Cemetery Extension, Berrywood Road, Duston, Northampton: Archaeological Evaluation	
Short description (250 words maximum)	<p>An archaeological evaluation was undertaken by Cotswold Archaeology in May 2014 on land at Berrywood Road, Duston, Northampton. Four trenches were excavated.</p> <p>Berrywood Road preserves the line of a Roman road between Duston and Whilton Lodge. Scattered prehistoric and Roman finds have been recorded from the area around the site.</p> <p>The evaluation recorded two shallow, undated ditch-like features, both of which were cut at the level of the subsoil. One of these features was truncated by the ploughed-out remnants of a medieval ridge and furrow field system. There was no evidence for significant pre-medieval activity. The site appears to have been in agricultural/pastoral use since at least the medieval period.</p>	
Project dates	27 May 2014	
Project type (e.g. desk-based, field evaluation etc)	Field evaluation	
Previous work (reference to organisation or SMR numbers etc)	None	
Future work	Unknown	
<b>PROJECT LOCATION</b>		
Site Location	Berrywood Road, Duston, Northampton	
Study area (M <sup>2</sup> /ha)		
Site co-ordinates (8 Fig Grid Reference)	SP 7165 6144	
<b>PROJECT CREATORS</b>		
Name of organisation	Cotswold Archaeology	
Project Brief originator	Northamptonshire County Council	
Project Design (WSI) originator	Cotswold Archaeology	
Project Manager	Derek Evans	
Project Supervisor	Jeremy Mordue	
<b>MONUMENT TYPE</b>		
	None	
<b>SIGNIFICANT FINDS</b>		
	None	
<b>PROJECT ARCHIVES</b>		
	Intended final location of archive (museum/Accession no.)	Content (e.g. pottery, animal bone etc)
Physical	N/A	N/A
Paper	Currently held by Cotswold Archaeology (Milton Keynes Office)	Trench sheets, section drawings, etc.
Digital	Currently held by Cotswold Archaeology (Milton Keynes Office)	Database, digital photos etc.
<b>BIBLIOGRAPHY</b>		
<p>CA (Cotswold Archaeology) 2014 <i>Cemetery Extension, Berrywood Road, Duston, Northampton: Archaeological Evaluation</i> CA typescript report <b>14263</b></p>		





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**PROJECT TITLE**

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**FIGURE TITLE**

Site location plan

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PROJECT NO. 660281 DATE 02-06-2014  
 DRAWN BY DJB REVISION 00  
 APPROVED BY LM SCALE@A4 1:25,000

FIGURE NO.

1





- site
- evaluation trench
- archaeological feature
- furrow
- modern



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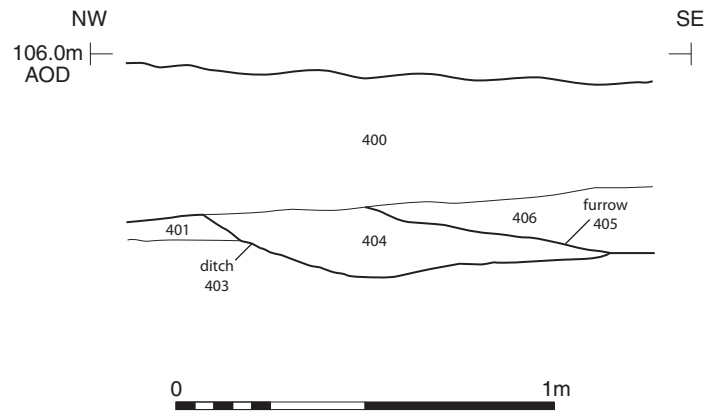
**PROJECT TITLE**  
 Cemetary extension, Berrywood Road  
 Duston, Northamptonshire

**FIGURE TITLE**  
 Trench location plan

PROJECT NO. 660281	DATE 02-06-2014	FIGURE NO. 2
DRAWN BY DJB	REVISION 00	
APPROVED BY LM	SCALE@A3 1:500	

P:\660281 Cemetary Extension, Berrywood Road, Duston, EVA\Illustration\Drafts\660281 Cemetary Extension Berrywood Road Fig 2.dwg

Section AA



Trench 4, looking south-east (scales 1m)



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PROJECT TITLE

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FIGURE TITLE

**Trench 4: Section and photographs**

PROJECT NO.	660281	DATE	02-06-2014	FIGURE NO.
DRAWN BY	DJB	REVISION	00	<b>3</b>
APPROVED BY	LM	SCALE@A4	1:20	