

**THE UPPER NENE ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY
PIDDINGTON ROMAN VILA EXCAVATION
RISK ASSESSMENT 2012**

ACTIVITY/SITUATION	POTENTIAL HAZARDS	RISK MITIGATION	RESIDUAL RISK
Excavation; site recording; geophysics; movement around the site and surrounding area	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> *Uneven ground *Potential trip hazards: tapes, strings, large stones, rabbit holes *Unstable baulks *Surfaces slippery when wet *Inappropriate use of tools *Sharp edges to glass, flints, etc. *Sunburn and dehydration in hot weather *Insect bites/stings 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> *Participants receive advance advice on suitable footwear, risk of sunburn and dehydration; first aid arrangements. (Participants are not allowed on site without footwear, which is deemed appropriate by supervisory staff). *Supervisory staff give verbal advice and instructions: on where and how to walk on site; to not stand on edges of baulks; safe use of tools; wet weather hazards. *Protective gloves are available if required. *Named qualified First Aider(s) usually on site and First Aid kit on site *Each area supervisor carries insect sting/bite relief medication. *Wasp traps are used on site to minimise risk of stings 	Low
Disposal of excavated soil	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> *Strain on back/arms from carrying overfilled buckets of soil or *Pushing loaded wheelbarrows 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> *Supervisors will try to ensure that participants are not asked to carry out physical work beyond their capabilities. *Area supervisors will advise their team members of approved spoil heap management, to ensure safe tipping. 	Low
Post-Excavation processing of finds	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> *High step into Finds Department (caravan) / slippery when wet *Sharp edges to glass, flints, etc 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> *Attention drawn to hazard and non-slip mat used *Finds Dept. staff advise care to be taken 	Low
Fire on site, caused by camping lights, stoves, cigarettes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> *Fire could spread rapidly through tents, caravans and surrounding crops. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> *All participants are given detailed written and verbal advice about fire risks and procedures in the event of fire. *No bonfires/open fires allowed on site *No smoking permitted in communal tents 	Medium (but no incidents have occurred in 32 seasons of excavation)

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<p>*Infectious illnesses present on site.</p>	<p>* Infections have the potential to spread rapidly through the close-nit community of the excavation</p>	<p>*Importance of hygiene on site is stressed – hand washing, covering food, clearing away and washing up dirty food plates, etc. *Disposable cups used *Antibacterial soap and gel freely available *Fresh drinking water is always available (water bowser with sterilisation tablets added) *Chemical toilets are provided on site and maintained. *Rubbish is placed in appropriate containers and removed from the site regularly *Contact details are requested from participants for emergency use.</p>	<p>Low</p>
<p>*Working at depth</p>	<p>*Collapse of excavation sides</p>	<p>*Hard hats are issued and other precautions taken as appropriate *Appropriate shoring or stepping of excavation would be employed if necessary to ensure safety, in accordance with good practice and the requirements of our insurers, who would be notified if excavation were carried out above a notifiable depth.</p>	<p>Low</p>

Notes:

- All participants are covered by the Society's Public Liability & Employers' Liability Insurance