

BEARD MILL (Oxfordshire)

SP 40 05

Beard Mill is an Early/Middle Iron Age farmstead that lies near Beard Mill in Oxfordshire (Williams 1951). The site sits between the River Thames and the River Windrush and overlies the gravel terrace (Williams 1951, 5). Excavations at the site began in 1944 by the Ancient Monuments Department of the Ministry of Works who uncovered the rectangular farmstead as well as a number of contemporary pits and a round structure (Williams 1951, 5, 9). Moreover, one pit yielded the dismembered remains of an inhumation (Williams 1951, 14). The corpse appears to have been deliberately fragmented, with some of the limbs still articulated, and placed within the pit along with pottery and animal bones from a horse, pig, ox and sheep (Williams 1951, 10, 14). The only occurrence of human remains is this inhumation from Beard Mill and B. M. Blackwood conducted the osteological analysis.