

**Channel Tunnel Rail Link
Union Railways (South) Limited**

Project Area 430

**LODGE WOOD, ASHFORD, KENT
ARC 430/87+300-87+800/99**

**WATCHING BRIEF
ASSESSMENT REPORT
FINAL**

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Contract S/400/SP/0008/P481

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SUMMARY

As part of an extensive programme of archaeological investigation carried out in advance of the construction of the Channel Tunnel Rail Link (CTRL), the Oxford Archaeological Unit was commissioned by Union Railways (South) Limited to undertake a watching brief on earthmoving operations between Lenham Heath and Sevington near Ashford in Kent. A number of small features were investigated at Lodge Wood approximately 1km to the north-west of Ashford. These consisted of a middle-late Iron Age pit and ditch, a late Iron Age-early Roman ditch, and a cluster of three medieval pits, as well as a few undated features. Pottery, including a significant assemblage of transitional middle-late Iron Age pottery, and a very limited range of other material was recovered from these features. Beyond distinguishing ditches, pits and postholes, the function of these features cannot be determined. Although they provide evidence for a low level of activity on the site in these periods, the finds, other than the middle-late Iron Age pottery, are thus of very limited significance.

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 Project Background

- 1.1.1 The Oxford Archaeological Unit (OAU) was commissioned by Union Railways (South) Limited (URS) to maintain a watching brief along Project Area 430 (from Lenham Heath to Sevington) of the Channel Tunnel Rail Link (CTRL). As part of this watching brief, a number of archaeological features were investigated at Lodge Wood, Ashford, Kent (ARC 430/87+300-97+800; Figure 1). The features were spread over an area of *c* 110 m x 100 m (11,000 m²), centred at URL grid 79000 24000 (OS NGR TQ 9899 4400). The watching brief took place between 3rd December 1998 and 17th June 1999. The results of an evaluation at Lodge Wood (ARC LWD 98; URS 1999A), and the wider results of the watching brief near Lodge Wood (ARC 420 99/86+500 - 87+300; URS 2000) are also considered in this assessment (Table 1). This work formed part of an extensive programme of archaeological investigations carried out on behalf of URS in advance of the construction of the CTRL.
- 1.1.2 The archaeological Written Scheme of Investigation (URS 1998) was prepared by Rail Link Engineering (RLE), and agreed in consultation with English Heritage and Kent County Council (KCC), on behalf of the Local Planning Authority.

Table 1: List of fieldwork events

Fieldwork event name	Fieldwork event code	Contractor	Dates of fieldwork
Lodge Wood	ARC 430/99 87+300-87+800	OAU	3/12/1998 - 17/6/1999
Lodge Wood	ARC LWD 98	OAU	28/9/1998 - 2/10/1998
Lodge Wood	ARC 430/99 86+500-87+300	OAU	3/12/1998 - 17/6/1999

1.2 Geology and Topography

- 1.2.1 The site lies on the edge of the Sandgate Beds, near to their boundary with the Folkestone Beds and a small island of Fourth River Terrace Gravels. The geological substrate is overlain here by gravelly clay silt soils.
- 1.2.2 The site lies *c* 1 km to the north of the Great Stour river, in an area of land at *c* 70-75 m OD, which slopes quite steeply to the north above the river.
- 1.2.3 Prior to work on the CTRL the land was under arable cultivation

1.3 Archaeological and Historical Background

- 1.3.1 Few sites are known in the vicinity of Lodge Wood. The late Iron Age and early Roman period is represented by traces of a settlement consisting of four-post structures and other postholes, pits, cremations and extensive remains of a field system at South of Beechbrook Wood, *c* 1.2 km to the north of Lodge Wood (URS 1999b; URS 2000). Around 3 km to the south further traces of a late Iron Age-early Roman field system and cremations were found at Boys Hall Balancing Pond (URS 1999c), in an area which is rich in remains of this period (see URL 1994, nos. 1234, 1321, 1353, 1377, 1380, 1381, 1382, 1820). The medieval period is represented only by a rubbish pit found during the watching brief at Yonse Farm (URS 2000) *c* 250 m to the north of Lodge Wood.

2. ORIGINAL PRIORITIES, AIMS AND METHODOLOGY

2.1 Landscape Zone Priorities

2.1.1 The work was undertaken in accordance with the Landscape Zone Priorities for the Area 430 Watching Brief, as set out in section 3.2.3 of the WSI (URS 1998). Fieldwork was to prioritise the recovery of data to address the following research questions:

- Reconstruction of the changing palaeo-environment for all time periods present and interaction with past economies, prioritising interaction with hunter-foragers, changes arising from the adoption of agricultural economies, the effects and extent of clearance of the Wealden Wild Wood, and change arising from early industrial economies
- Establishment of the basis of the rural economy for the area in all time periods, especially through the recovery of material and environmental remains, prioritising prehistoric landscape division, settlement morphology and function, pastoralism and arable farming, and the utilisation of natural resources
- Ritual and ceremonial use of the landscape, prioritising evidence for change and continuity of burial practice between the late Iron Age and the Romano-British period in east Kent.

2.2 Fieldwork Methodology and Summary of Excavation Results

2.2.1 Throughout the watching brief all groundworks undertaken by the Construction Contractor were carefully observed. Topsoil and subsoil were stripped under close archaeological supervision. Where archaeological features were revealed, they were excavated by hand, pits being half-sectioned and ditches being sectioned at appropriate points. All features were recorded using a single context recording system, were drawn in plan and section, and were photographed. Samples for environmental analysis were taken from appropriate contexts. A daily record of all activity related to the watching brief was maintained.

2.2.2 A small number of features (four ditches, four pits and what may be a posthole) dating from three phases - the middle-late Iron Age (*c* 150 BC - AD 1), the late Iron Age-early Roman Period (*c* AD 0 - 100) and the medieval period (13th - 14th centuries AD) were found distributed sporadically across the site. There is little clear order in the distribution of these features, the only clear patterns being the clustering of medieval pits at the west of the site, and the concentration of middle-late Iron Age and late Iron Age-early Roman pits and ditches at the north. However, the stripping methods and ground conditions in this area were not conducive to the discovery of archaeological remains, and it is possible that some features were lost without record.

2.2.3 The evaluation carried out at Lodge Wood (URS 1999a) identified a ditch and a pit both of which contained late Iron Age-early Roman pottery, as well as a further ditch, possibly post-medieval in date. The late Iron Age-early Roman features lie to the south-east of the similarly dated features found during the watching brief and, whilst similar in date, cannot be clearly related to them.

2.2.4 No significant finds were made in the remaining areas covered by the watching brief.

2.3 Assessment Methodology

- 2.3.1 This assessment report was commissioned by URS following the specification provided by RLE, as discussed with English Heritage and KCC. This specification follows national guidelines prepared by English Heritage and provides additional information regarding the level of detail required in the report and its format. Stuart Foreman (project manager) and Chris Hayden (team leader) managed the production of the report. Most of the specialist work was undertaken by appropriately qualified external specialists. Since very little material was found it was all assessed.

3. FACTUAL DATA AND QUANTIFICATION

3.1 The Stratigraphic Record

The Features

- 3.1.1 The features found on the site consist of four ditches, a cluster of three pits and a posthole, and a further isolated pit (Figure 2).

Stratigraphy

- 3.1.2 There are few significant stratigraphic relationships between these features which are distributed sporadically across the site. One of the pits in the pit cluster cuts another, although since they contain similar pottery both can be assigned to the same phase of activity. All of the features were covered by a subsoil layer with the exception of one ditch (803), in the southern corner of the site, which may thus be considerably later in date than the other features.

Phasing

- 3.1.3 The phasing of the site thus depends solely on the pottery contained within the features. Although pottery provides apparently reliable dates for all of the pits, it can date only two of the ditches. The pottery suggests three phases of activity:

- Middle-Late Iron Age, *c* 150 BC - AD 1
- Late Iron Age-Early Roman, *c* AD 0 - 100
- Medieval, 13th-14th century

The Middle-Late Iron Age

- 3.1.4 A single pit (829) in the northern corner of the site contained a large assemblage (59 sherds) of pottery dated *c* 150 BC - AD 1 in its single fill. A ditch in the same area of the site (827) also contained two sherds of this date.

The Late Iron Age-Early Roman Period

- 3.1.5 One of the ditches (807) in the northern corner of the site contained a large assemblage of pottery (317 sherds) in its middle fill and was the only feature which can be dated to this phase.

The Medieval Period

- 3.1.6 Three pits clustered at the western end of the site (816, 819, 822) contained medieval pottery in their primary and upper fills, one of them (819) contained a particularly large assemblage. Feature 825 lies in the middle of this group of pits. It contained no pottery, but on the basis of its location may also be assigned to this phase. It has been interpreted as a posthole because it is much smaller than the surrounding pits.
- 3.1.7 The remaining two ditches (803, 805) contained no pottery and are thus undated, although stratigraphy indicates that ditch 803 is likely to be considerably later than the other features.

Spatial Distribution of Features

- 3.1.8 Almost all of the features were clustered in two areas: the medieval pits and possible posthole in the west, and the middle-late Iron Age and late Iron Age-early Roman

pit and ditches in the north. It is possible that the clustering of the middle-late Iron Age and late Iron Age-early Roman features in the north of the site is indicative of continued activity in this area between these two phases, but too little has survived to prove the point.

Disturbance and Residuality

- 3.1.9 Aside from some disturbance from root action noted in several features, the assemblages from all of the features are consistent and provide no indication of disturbance or intrusion. The pieces of flint in the middle-late Iron Age pit and ditch are, however, probably residual.

Truncation

- 3.1.10 All of the features appear to have been truncated to a more or less serious degree. Most are preserved only as very shallow features, only the probably late? ditch (803) and the medieval pits surviving to appreciable depths. It is possible that many other, more superficial features, which might have assisted our understanding of the record, have been completely destroyed.

Spatial Distribution of Artefacts

- 3.1.11 The only finds in the features were pottery, a little flint and, in one of the medieval pits, a small group of burnt stone. There is thus no significant spatial patterning in the distribution of artefacts.

3.2 The Artefactual Record

Late Iron Age and Roman Pottery (Appendix 1)

- 3.2.1 The site yielded 378 sherds (11 kg) of late Iron Age and Roman pottery from three contexts through limited excavation during a watching brief.
- 3.2.2 The material includes an important transitional middle-late Iron Age pottery assemblage from pit 829 which has rim sherds from seven saucepan pots and other more developed forms in a variety of fabrics. No parallels have as yet been found from this area of Kent but the presence of saucepan pots may be indicative of cultural connections with Sussex rather than with the rest of Kent.
- 3.2.3 Most of the sherds (317) are from a bead-rim grog-tempered storage-jar of c AD 1 - 100 date range found in the middle fills of ditch 807. This vessel type is widely distributed across east Kent, is believed to have been manufactured in the Whitstable area, and may have been traded as packaging for some unknown product.

The Medieval Pottery (Appendix 1)

- 3.2.4 The medieval pottery assemblage comprised 362 sherds with a total weight of 4870 g. The bulk of the assemblage comprised a large group of early medieval pottery from two related contexts, both fills of pit 819, and almost certainly represents a primary dump of domestic pottery. Otherwise, the context-specific groups were small, and activity at the site seems to have largely been contained to a short period within the later 12th – mid 13th centuries.

Worked Flint (Appendix 2)

- 3.2.5 Six pieces of worked flint were recovered from two features (ditch 827 and pit 829, both dated to the middle-late Iron Age) and the topsoil. None of the material is

particularly diagnostic although the scraper, which is small and neatly retouched, may be Neolithic or early Bronze Age in date, as may the piercer.

Metalwork (Appendix 3)

- 3.2.6 A single iron nail was found in the upper fill of one of the medieval pits (819).

3.3 The Environmental Record

Animal Bone (Appendix 4)

- 3.3.1 A single fragment of burnt bone (1 g) was found in the fill of middle-late Iron Age pit 829. It could not be identified to species.

Charred Plant Remains (Appendix 5)

- 3.3.2 Five samples were assessed from pits of 13th to 14th century AD date for the presence and potential of charred plant remains. Small quantities of oak charcoal and very limited quantities of cereal grains, chaff and weed seeds were identified.

3.4 Archive Storage and Curation

- 3.4.1 The material recovered from the site has been stored according to the United Kingdom Institute for Conservation conservation guidelines. They require no special conservation measures.
- 3.4.2 The archive index table has been updated and is shown below (Table 2).
- 3.4.3 The charred plant remains and animal bone are of very limited significance and may be discarded. If the x-ray is deposited with the site archive the iron nail may also be discarded.

Table 2: Archive index table

Item	Number of Items or boxes or other	Number of fragments/ litres	Condition (No. of items) (W=washed; UW=unwashed; M=marked; P=processed; UP=unprocessed; D=digitised; I=indexed)
Contexts records	30	-	I
A4 plans	15	-	I, D
A4 sections	4	-	I, D
Films (monochrome) S=slide; PR=print	1	-	I
Films (Colour) S=slide; PR=print	2	-	I
Lithics	see Misc.	6	W, M
Pottery	2 size 1	741	W, M
Metalwork	see Misc.	1	W, M
Misc.	1 size 4	-	-
Animal Bone	see Misc.	1	W, M
Soil Samples (bulk)	-	8	P

* flot size

Key to box sizes

Size 1 = Bulk box	391mm x 238mm x 210mm	0.02 m ³
Size 4 = Eighth box	213 mm x 102 mm x 80 mm	0.002 m ³

4. STATEMENT OF POTENTIAL

4.1 The Stratigraphic Record

4.1.1 The watching brief in the area of Lodge Wood was conducted under poor soil and weather conditions. The features observed were quite severely truncated, and it is likely that others have been destroyed without record. Almost all of the features can be dated only by the pottery they contain. There are few significant stratigraphic relationships between the few features on the site, and no further stratigraphic or spatial analysis is required.

4.1.2 Beyond distinguishing between the remains of ditches, pits and a possible posthole, it is impossible to determine the function of the features and how they may have been related to wider complexes of features. Although it could have had other functions, it is perhaps most likely that the Iron Age and Roman ditches formed parts of field systems. The middle-late Iron Age and medieval pits and posthole can do little more than indicate some kind of activity on the site in these phases. The quantity of pottery recovered from some of the features raises the possibility of domestic occupation in one or both periods.

4.2 The Artefactual Record

Iron Age and Roman Pottery (Appendix 1)

4.2.1 The middle-late Iron Age assemblage from pit 829 may provide important insights into ceramic development at the transition between these phases and should, therefore, should be written up in detail.

4.2.2 The storage jar from ditch 807 may contribute significantly to our understanding of trading patterns within the area during the late Iron Age and early Roman periods. It could be analysed for residues in an endeavour to determine the nature of any product carried by it, and it is recommended that the opportunity is taken to plot the distribution of similar vessels in Kent.

Medieval Pottery (Appendix 1)

4.2.3 Pottery of this date is poorly known in Kent. Although the small assemblage of pottery from the pits contributes little to their interpretation beyond their date, it is nonetheless of some significance in terms of the ceramic chronology of the area.

Worked Flint (Appendix 2)

4.2.4 As the material is redeposited, and given the small size of the group, its potential is limited. However, it may be useful to include this material within a general study of the lithics from the CTRL to understand landscape patterns. Comparison of scrapers from the project as a whole may shed further light on dating.

Metalwork (Appendix 3)

4.2.5 The single iron nail contributes very little to the interpretation of the site, or to the wider CTRL research aims. No further work is required.

4.3 The Environmental Record

Animal Bone (Appendix 4)

- 4.3.1 The single fragment of unidentifiable bone has no potential in relation to the CTRL research aims, and no further work is recommended.

Charred Plant Remains (Appendix 5)

- 4.3.2 Charred seeds and chaff were very limited and offer no potential for more detailed analysis.

4.4 Overall Potential

- 4.4.1 Because so few features survived on the site, and because those that did survive were so isolated, the potential of this site to contribute to the CTRL research aims is very limited. There is little artefactual or environmental evidence from the features to indicate how they were used. Beyond distinguishing ditches, pits and postholes, little can be said about the function of the features. The mid-late Iron Age and late Iron Age-early Roman ditches may have formed parts of field systems, but so little of them survived that it is impossible to be certain. The other features provided little information beyond the fact that perhaps rather limited activity was carried out on the site in the middle-late Iron Age and medieval period.
- 4.4.2 The assemblage of middle-late Iron Age pottery is perhaps the most significant find from the site because of the contribution it may make to our understanding of ceramic chronology in this period.

4.5 Popular Presentation

- 4.5.1 So little survives that the site has very little to contribute to a popular presentation.

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APPENDIX 1 - CERAMICS

1.1 Assessment of Iron Age and Roman Pottery

by Malcolm Lyne

Introduction

- 1.1.1 Small quantities of late Iron Age and early Roman pottery were recovered by limited watching brief excavation and must therefore be considered a sample of what was present on the site.

Methodology

- 1.1.2 All of the pottery assemblages were subjected to general sherd count, weighing and spot-dating. None of them were considered suitable for more detailed quantification.
- 1.1.3 Fabrics were classified with the aid of a x8 lens with built-in metric scale for determining the sizes, nature, form and frequency of inclusions. Finer fabrics were further examined using a x30 magnification pocket microscope with built-in artificial illumination source.
- 1.1.4 Fabrics were classified using the Canterbury Archaeological Trust's codings (Macpherson-Grant *et al.* 1995) where applicable.

Quantification

- 1.1.5 The site yielded 379 sherds (11.014 kg) of late Iron Age and Roman pottery from three contexts (Table 1). Most of the sherds (317, 10.464 kg) are from a bead-rim grog-tempered storage jar with vertical body combing of Thompson type C6-1 (1982). This and the small number of assemblages makes the material unsuitable for any kind of tabulation by phase.

Provenance

Phase 1, c 150 BC - AD 1

- 1.1.6 Two of the pottery assemblages appear to belong to the earlier part of the Late Iron Age. That from ditch 827 is of little dating value but includes a body sherd in a handmade fabric with profuse finely-crushed calcined flint filler of middle Iron Age character. The other sherd is in the glauconitic B9.1 fabric. The assemblage from pit 829 is of considerably greater significance: the 59 sherds include 27 from two slack-profiled saucepan pot type vessels in calcined-flint tempered fabric, 13 from two similarly slack-profiled pots in glauconitic B9.1 fabric and 11 sherds in fabric B2.1 with siltstone grog filler.

Phase 2, c AD 1 - 100

- 1.1.7 The storage jar referred to above came from the middle fill of ditch 807 and most of it, if not all, is present. Unfortunately the type has a wide date range and indicates that the ditch could either belong to the period immediately preceding the Roman conquest or be as late as AD 100.

Conservation

- 1.1.8 No further conservation is required. It is recommended that all of the material should be retained.

Comparative material

- 1.1.9 The assemblage from pit 829 is a particularly important one in that it appears to belong to the transitional period between the middle Iron Age and the late Iron Age. No comparative material has been located from the area but such is the significance of the pottery that a thorough search is recommended, not only through more obscure publications but through unpublished pottery assemblages in local museum stores.
- 1.1.10 The large bead-rim storage jar from context 809 is paralleled on a number of sites in east Kent such as the Marlowe Car Park in Canterbury (Pollard 1995, fig 274-94) and features in Thompson's corpus as one of the form C6-1 variants (1982).

Potential for further work

- 1.1.11 The potential for the Iron Age pottery from pit 829 to contribute to the landscape aspect of the CTRL project is minimal but the material is important in that it contributes to our understanding of ceramic development in this part of Kent during the transition from the middle to the late Iron Age. The presence of rim sherds from saucepan pots is particularly interesting in that vessels of this type are rare in Kent and largely replaced by globular jars and similar forms. Saucepan pots are common in middle Iron Age Sussex and their presence here could be indicative of cultural links with that area rather than the rest of Kent. The assemblage from pit 829 should therefore be written up in detail with discussion. Seven vessels would merit illustration.
- 1.1.12 The large storage jar, despite the fact that nearly all of it is present, contributes little to the aims of the CTRL project except in the field of pottery trade and that in other commodities. This vessel would have been very large and heavy when complete and this author's researches in the area suggests that most vessels of this type came from one source in the Whitstable area. It is unlikely that trade in large bulky vessels like this was economically viable unless they were marketed as packaging for some more valuable product.
- 1.1.13 A similar vessel form but in shell-tempered ware from kilns on Higham marshes was sent all over Kent, Surrey and the London area during the early Roman period and can be shown to have contained produce by the presence of resin sealant adhering to the rim. A small jar of similar type was found still sealed at Valkenburg in Holland and contained the breast bones of 30 larks. This storage jar should be subjected to analysis for residues in an endeavour to find out what it originally contained and published with a drawing. A distribution plot of find-spots of this kind of vessel in Kent and elsewhere may contribute significantly to our understanding of trading-patterns in the area during the Late Iron Age and Early Roman periods.

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Table 1: Summary of late Iron Age - early Roman pottery

Context	Count	Weight (g)	Period	Comments
828	2	29	100 BC - AD 1	B9.1, M-LIA flint temper
830	59	502	100 BC - AD 1	B9.1, B2.1, M-LIA
809	317	10,464	AD 40 - 70	B2, storage jar
801	1	19		B1

1.2 Assessment of Medieval Pottery

by Paul Blinkhorn

Introduction

- 1.2.1 The pottery assemblage comprised 362 sherds with a total weight of 4870 g. The minimum number of vessels, was 2.27.
- 1.2.2 The bulk of the assemblage comprised a large group of early medieval pottery from two related contexts, and almost certainly represents a primary dump of domestic pottery. Otherwise, the context-specific groups were small, and activity at the site seems to have largely been contained to a short period within the later 12th – mid 13th centuries.

Methodology

- 1.2.3 The pottery was counted and weighed. The minimum number of vessels (MNV) was calculated by measurement of rimsherd length. Fabrics were identified visually, and the pottery was recorded using the codes and chronologies of the Canterbury Archaeological Trust Fabric series for the county of Kent (Cotter forthcoming a and b), with the following types noted:
- EM3A, E Kent shelly-sandy ware, 1075/1100-1200/25. 1 sherd, 2 g, MNV = 0.
 - EM.M5, Ashford Potters Corner shell-filled sandy ware, 1125/50-1225/50. 360 sherds, 4865 g, MNV = 2.27.
 - M40B. Ashford/Wealden sandy ware, ?1200/25 - 1400. 1 sherd, 3 g, MNV = 0.

Quantification and Provenance

- 1.2.4 The pottery occurrence by number and weight of sherds per context by fabric type is shown in table 2.
- 1.2.5 The restricted range of ware types from this site indicates that activity was confined to a short span within the early medieval period. Most of the pottery comprised a large group of cross-fitting material from contexts 820 and 821, the upper and primary fills of pit 819 respectively, with all the vessels in fabric EM.M5. Such pottery has a general date range of the mid-12th – mid 13th century, but the fact that the contexts which produced this ware did not produce any other pottery types indicates that they date to the early 13th century at the latest. In addition, the range of vessel types and their typological traits indicate that the context 820/821 assemblage probably dates to the later 12th – early 13th century (see below). All the other contexts, in pits 816 and 822, have a similarly restricted range of vessel types, although most were very small, and comprised only a few sherds. Only the topsoil, 801, produced 13th century pottery and did not have any EM.M5 wares present.

Thus it would appear that the medieval activity at the site falls within the mid 12th – 13th century.

Pottery from contexts 820 and 821

- 1.2.6 As noted above, the majority of the pottery from this site comprised a large assemblage from two contexts, with cross-fits noted between both. The group comprised mainly six jars, a bowl and a possible pitcher with rouletted decoration. Small fragments of at least two other jars were also noted, and the group appears to be a dump of domestic pottery from a nearby settlement. All the rims are simple forms, with five thumb-impressed. Two simple tubular spouts were also noted. Thumbled rims and rouletting are quite unusual for pottery of this tradition, and this, combined with the presence of tubular spouts suggest that the assemblage probably dates to the later 12th – early 13th century (J Cotter pers. comm.). All the vessels were sooted to a greater or lesser degree, including the bowl.

Conservation

- 1.2.7 As evidence for the date of the pits in which they were found, and as a relatively rare assemblage of pottery of this date from this area, all of the medieval pottery should be retained.

Comparative material

- 1.2.8 Pottery of this date is poorly known in this area, and there is thus little material with which this assemblage could be usefully compared. Comparison with assemblages from other excavations along the CTRL will be of value.

Potential for further work

- 1.2.9 Although the pottery can contribute little to the CTRL research aims, or to the interpretation of the site beyond its chronology, it is of some significance in terms of the relatively poorly known chronology of pottery in Kent in this period. This relatively small assemblage should, therefore, be published in detail.

Acknowledgements

- 1.2.10 Grateful thanks go to John Cotter and Nigel McPherson-Grant of the Canterbury Archaeological Trust for their kind help in identifying and dating this material.

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Cotter, J, forthcoming b, The post-Roman pottery, in A Hicks and M Hicks (eds) *Excavations at St. Gregory's Priory, Canterbury*, Canterbury Archaeological Trust

Table 2: Summary of medieval pottery

Context	Count	Weight (g)	Period	Comments
801	2	5	13thC?	fabrics EM3A and M40B
817	2	4	M12th - M13thC?	fabric EM.M5
818	2	13	M12th - M13thC?	fabric EM.M5
820	325	4412	M12th - M13thC	fabric EM.M5
821	30	434	M12th - M13thC	fabric EM.M5
824	1	2	M12th - M13thC?	fabric EM.M5

APPENDIX 2 - LITHICS

2.1 Assessment of Worked Flint

by Philippa Bradley

Introduction

- 2.1.1 A small group of six pieces of flint was recovered from the site. Although none of the material is particularly diagnostic the scraper, which is small and neatly retouched, may be Neolithic or early Bronze Age in date, as may the piercer. Scrapers are very difficult to date as the form spans a very long period. However, given its size and general technological traits it is possible to suggest a broad time span for this piece.

Methodology

- 2.1.2 The flint was briefly scanned, with information regarding dating, technology and general condition being noted. The material was added to an Access database.

Quantification

- 2.1.3 A total of 6 pieces of worked flint was recovered from the site. The flint is summarised in Table 3.

Provenance

- 2.1.4 The scraper (828) came from a middle-late Iron Age ditch (827), the piercer (830) came from a middle-late Iron Age pit (829) and the remaining material came from the topsoil. It is all residual.

Condition

- 2.1.5 The flint has suffered some post-depositional damage. Cortication is light.

Comparative material

- 2.1.6 This small group could be compared to adjacent sites on the CTRL route and with any fieldwalking data.

Potential for further work

- 2.1.7 As the material is redeposited its potential is limited given the size of the group. However, it may be useful to include this material in with a general study of the lithics from the CTRL to understand landscape patterns. Comparison of scrapers from the project as a whole may shed further light on dating.

Table 3: Summary of worked flint

Context	Count	Period	Comments
828	1	?Neolithic- Early Bronze Age	1 small neatly retouched scraper
830	1	?Neolithic- early Bronze Age	1 piercer, small point, minimally retouched.
801	4	?	Three hard hammer-struck flakes and a multi-platform flake core. The working is quite crude, one of the flakes has a hinge fracture which may indicate a later prehistoric date, but the numbers are too few to make any firm conclusions.

APPENDIX 3 - METALWORK

3.1 Assessment of Metalwork

by Valerie Diez

- 3.1.1 A single iron nail was recovered from context 820, the upper fill of pit 819 which dates from the 13th-14th century (Table 4). The nail has been x-rayed and identified visually. It is poorly preserved. This single nail is insufficient to suggest the existence of any built structures on the site, and could be intrusive. If the x-rays are deposited with the site archive, the nail need not be retained. It has no potential to contribute to the CTRL research aims and no further work is required.

Table 4: Summary of metalwork

Context	Material	Count	Period	Comments (description)
820	Fe	1	13th -14th C	Nail

APPENDIX 4 - FAUNAL REMAINS

4.1 Assessment of Animal Bone

by Bethan Charles

- 4.1.1 A single fragment of burnt bone (1 g) was recovered by hand from a middle-late Iron Age pit (Table 5). The acidic soil conditions prevented the recovery of a larger bone assemblage. The fragment recovered survived due to the effects of burning which had altered its composition. The bone could not be identified to species and it is not recommended that further work be done on this assemblage.

Table 5: Summary of animal bone

Context	Interpretation	Period	% of identified fragments	Count
830	pit fill	M-LIA	100	1

APPENDIX 5 - PLANT REMAINS

5.1 Assessment of Charred Plant Remains

by Ruth Pelling

Introduction

- 5.1.1 Samples were taken during the investigation for the recovery of charred plant remains and charcoal. Two samples were taken from a late Iron Age - early Roman ditch (807). Six samples were taken from three 13th to 14th century AD pits. The six medieval samples were processed by bulk water flotation and the flots collected onto 250µm mesh sieves. Flots were air dried slowly before being submitted for assessment.

Methodology

- 5.1.2 The volume of deposit processed ranged from 8 to 34 litres. Each flot was assessed by scanning under a binocular microscope at x10 magnification. Any seeds or chaff noted were provisionally identified and an estimate of abundance made. Random fragments of charcoal were fractured and examined in transverse section at x10 and x20 magnification.

Quantification

- 5.1.3 Five medieval pit samples were assessed (Table 6). Low levels of *Quercus* sp. (oak) charcoal were present in four samples with moderate quantities in the fifth. Cereal grain was present in one sample only (4, context 818) but was not identifiable to species. Cereal chaff was limited to a single glume base noted in sample 5 (context 820). Weed seeds were noted only in sample 5.

Provenance

- 5.1.4 The samples were taken from the primary and upper layers of three medieval pits.

Conservation

- 5.1.5 The flots are in a stable condition and can be archived, although it is not necessary to retain the flots for long-term storage.

Potential for further work

- 5.1.6 Given the absence of good cereal assemblages and charcoal other than oak the samples offer no potential for further work. It is not possible to comment on the cereal economy of the site or the nature of the features excavated. The glume base is likely to be the product of residual contamination from features of Roman or prehistoric date. The very low potential of these samples suggests that little would be learnt from analysis of the samples from the Roman ditch.

Table 6: Summary of charred plant remains

Sample Details						Flot Details					
Sample	Context	Fill of	Feature	Spotdate	Sample size (l)	Flot size (ml)	Grain	Chaff	Weed seeds	Charcoal	Comments
3	817	816	Pit	13th-14th	10	10	-	-	-	+	
4	818	816	Pit	13th-14th	30	10	+	-	-	+	roots/moss
5	820	819	Pit	13th-14th	34	100	-	+	+	++	
6	821	821	Pit	13th-14th	12	10	-	-	-	+	
8	824	824	Pit	13th-14th	8	10	-	-	-	+	

+ = 1-10 items / charcoal present

++ = 11-50 items / moderate charcoal