SMR SHEET

Site Name: West of Blind Lane, Sevington, Kent

Summary: The excavation revealed a pair of middle – late Bronze Age parallel ditches, which probably form a trackway. Also present was evidence of late Iron Age/ early Romano-British activity (boundary ditches) as well as medieval and post-medieval ditches.

District: Ashford Parish: Sevington

Period(s):

1. Middle – late Bronze Age

2. Late Iron Age/ early Romano-British

3. Medieval

NGR Easting: TR 04045

Type of Recording: Evaluation

Watching - Brief Field Walking

(Delete) Excavation Geophysical Survey Measured Survey

Date of Recording: (From) 11/01/99 (To) 05/03/99

Unit Undertaking Recording: Oxford Archaeological Unit

Summary of Fieldwork Results:

The Oxford Archaeological Unit (OAU) was commissioned by Union Railways (South) Limited (URS) to undertake detailed archaeological investigation west of Blind Lane Sevington, Kent. This work formed part of an extensive programme of archaeological investigation carried out in advance of the construction of the CTRL.

The excavation area exposed at least 16 ditches, five gullies, three postholes and two undated charcoal-filled pits. A Deverel-Rimbury bucket urn recovered during the evaluation from one of a pair of parallel ditches, indicates that this possible trackway is middle - late Bronze Age in date $c.1750 \, \text{BC} - 1150 \, \text{BC}$. One of these ditches had been recut.

Pottery from the remaining ditches was sparse. A late Iron Age or early Romano-British date (c.100 BC - 200 AD) is indicated for eight of the ditches and two smashed vessels were found in adjacent cuts forming part of a single Romano-British boundary. One of the vessels was a fragmented handled jar dated to c.50 - 200 AD. Some intercutting and recutting of the ditches suggests there are three phases to the late Iron Age/early Roman activity, but it probably represents a relatively short-lived period of activity.

A large natural depression in the centre of the excavation area contained a thin deposit of waterlain sand and clay, which was overlain by colluvial deposits. The areas adjacent to the depression revealed areas of erosion, which produced late Iron Age/early Roman pottery as well as struck flint.