Site Name: Bower Road	
Summary: Channel Tunnel Rail Link Watching Brief, Project Area 440: Fieldwork Event code: ARC 440 95+900-97+100	
District: Ashford	Parish: Smeeth
Period(s): 1. Late Iron Age/Romano-British	 2. Medieval or Post-medieval
NGR Easting: TR 0594	**NGR Northing:** TR 3881
Type of Recording: ~~Evaluation~~ (Delete) Excavation	Watching Brief ~~Field Walking~~ ~~Geophysical Survey~~ ~~Measured Survey~~
Date of Recording: (From) 6/07/99	(To) 22/09/00
Unit Undertaking Recording: Oxford Archaeological Unit	

Summary of Fieldwork Results:

The main area of the site shows slight evidence for activity during the late Iron age, including a large pond fed by 2 drainage ditches. The immediate post-conquest period is represented by only 2 ditches.

The main period of activity of the site has been dated from the late 1st century to the late 3rd century. This includes 5 boundary ditches and a rectangular building associated with a drainage ditch and an enclosure ditch. The complex is likely to represent a farm building with associated enclosure. This complex seems to have been in use until the late 3rd century, and may have continued into the 4th century. A second, heavily truncated posthole building towards the north-west of the site may be associated with the same phase of activity.

A cremation found at the western edge of the site produced 3 vessels dating to the period AD 180-270.

The northern part of the main area revealed evidence of activity datable to the period AD 270-400. The main features were a drystone wall and 4 pits. One of the pits contained a large quantity and range of finds which suggest a special or terminal deposit.

2 ditches running across the site are stratigraphically later than all other features but did not produce satisfactory dating evidence; they are probably late Roman or post-Roman.

Some evidence of medieval or post-medieval activity was identified following stripping south-east of the main area (96+300-96+350), in the direction of Little Stock Farm. Three walls constituting possible sheep pens were found, and may have formed part of a farm complex; a fourth wall may have been a field boundary.

Location of Archive / Finds: OAU

Bibliography: URS 2002, Bower Road, Smeeth, Kent, ARC 440/ 95+900-97+100 /99: Watching Brief SDI Assessment report, prepared by OAU for URS

Summary Compiler: Valerie Diez	Date: