RPS Planning, Transport and Environment

INDEX DATA	RPS INFORMATION
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Contractor Buckinghamshire County Museum	
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A41(T) ASTON CLINTON BYPASS
ARCHAEOLOGICAL ASSESSMENT

DRAFT

BUCKINGHAMSHIRE COUNTY MUSEUM
ARCHAEOLOGICAL SERVICE

FOR

BUCKINGHAMSHIRE COUNTY ENGINEERS DEPARTMENT
(DESIGN AND CONSTRUCTION DIVISION)
AND
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORT

JULY 1993

Contents:

Every effort has been taken in the preparation and submission of this report in order to provide as complete an assessment as possible within the terms of the brief, and all statements and opinions are offered in good faith. The County Museum Archaeology Section cannot accept responsibility for errors of fact or opinion resulting from data supplied by any third party, or for any loss or other consequences arising from decisions or actions made upon the basis of facts or opinions expressed in this report and any supplementary papers howsoever such facts and opinions may have been derived, or as a result of unknown and undiscovered sites or artefacts.

1. INTRODUCTION

This report has been commissioned by Buckinghamshire County Engineers (Design and Construction Division) on behalf of the Department of Transport.

The preparation of this report has been greatly aided by several individuals. Ms Val Kempster undertook a search of documentary and cartographic sources, and her research at the County Record Office was facilitated by the staff there. We also owe a special debt of gratitude to those landowners and tenants along the route who gave permission to walk across their land. Mr Steve Tinnelly and his colleagues in the County Engineers Department provided much important background information.

The present context of assessment of road schemes

Over the past three or four years the context in which archaeological input is provided to the development of road schemes at both national and local level has changed significantly. Archaeology now has a much higher profile in the planning process. The concept of an evaluation of the archaeological potential of the area affected by a particular development being undertaken as a matter of course *before* a decision is made on the proposals is linked to the publication in 1990 of Planning Policy Guidance note 16 (PPG 16) on Archaeology and Planning. PPG 16 places the responsibility for furnishing an archaeological evaluation of a development's consequences with the developer.

Of equal importance are the arrangements recently agreed between English Heritage and the Department of Transport. These provide for the direct funding by DTp of assessments on DTp road schemes. Full scale investigations occasioned by such schemes were, until April 1st 1993, provided for by a block grant administered by English Heritage. Since April 1st 1993 DTp has been responsible for the funding of all new projects, although English Heritage continue to provide advice concerning archaeological project design and monitoring.

Although the application of PPG 16 does not cover DTp schemes, where the processes of public consultation and publication of draft orders replace the application for planning approval required for County road schemes, the general principles of a series of stages of assessment being built into road development are the same.

Linear developments such as roads can be enormously deleterious to the archaeological resource. However they provide an opportunity to examine a transect across the landscape and the spatial and temporal variability of human behaviour within it. In addition the relatively long period of time between inception and construction means that archaeological implications can be taken on board at the

earliest opportunity, and a detailed investigative and mitigatory programme can be developed. In order to achieve this, dialogue between developers, planners and archaeologists is crucially important.

Although this dialogue has developed in different ways in different parts of the country, approaches are sufficiently similar to be able to identify a number of stages in the archaeological input to road schemes. These may be summarised as follows:

These stages are:

1. Desktop Study (review of existing data held in the County Sites and Monuments Record)

2. Initial Assessment (Documentary study and initial rapid field study)

3. Detailed Non-interventional Assessment (Fieldwork including (a) systematic fieldwalking and topographic survey, and (b) geophysical survey.

4. Detailed Interventional Assessment (Trial excavation)

5. Site Investigation (detailed excavation of those sites which it is not possible or desirable to protect)

6. Watching Brief (during initial stages of construction)

7. Archive and Publication (synthesis and dissemination of results; this stage leads on from each of the stages 2-6)

8. Monitoring of long-term secondary effects of road construction on the archaeological resource.

In the context of this eight stage model programme, the work presented in this report is equivalent to Stages 1, 2 and 3.

This assessment has not however been undertaken in three separate stages. Preliminary information equivalent to stage 1 was provided at an early stage in the road development. No formal stage 2 work was undertaken, although most of the available arable land had been fieldwalked intensively by the County Museum Archaeological Group. Documentary and cartographic data was recorded for the present study, and a geophysical survey of the entire route was commissioned from Oxford Archaeotechnics. A rapid walkover of the route was also undertaken. Unfortunately access problems occurred during the course of this survey, and it was not possible to complete fieldwork until April 1993.

The objectives of this study are:

a. To define the known extent of the archaeological deposits within the immediate vicinity of the proposed route options and to provide a preliminary evaluation of their importance.

b. To assess the potential for new sites as yet unrecorded.

c. To establish the present land use character and the potential for evaluatory survey.

d. To produce a free standing report summarising the above.

2. METHODOLOGY ADOPTED FOR THE ASSESSMENT.

The data presented in this report has been compiled from various sources, both field data and non-field data.

Non-field data:

Non-field data was collected from a variety of sources.

SMR data. The most important source was the County Sites and Monuments Record (SMR). This contains records of all known archaeological sites and finds relating to the county. SMR data has been compiled from a wide range of sources over a period of many years. It represents the repository for virtually all collated archaeological data, and is continually being updated and developed.

In Buckinghamshire the SMR is known as the County Archaeological Survey, and each site is identified by a CAS number. It is held and curated at the County Museum.

Aerial photographic data. Air photograph data was available from both national and county sources. The two most important national collections are the Cambridge University Committee for Aerial Photography's library, and the National Library of Air Photographs held by the Royal Commission on the Historical Monuments of England, located in Swindon.

Buckinghamshire County Museum holds a large collection of air photographs, both vertical and oblique. This collection includes copies of relevant prints in the Cambridge and Swindon collections referred to above. Prints from all relevant vertical runs were scanned. Oblique photographs within the survey corridor were also examined. A set of photographs commissioned by the Buckinghamshire County Engineer's department was also inspected.

Cartographic and documentary sources. Documents and maps held at Buckinghamshire County Record Office, and at the County Museum, were examined. Early editions of the large scale (25" and 6") Ordnance Survey maps were inspected. The tithe maps and awards were examined for each parish, and field names were collected. Earlier maps, including Inclosure and estate maps were also examined.

The Buckinghamshire County Museum also holds a series of 1:10,000 maps showing relict ridge and furrow (mostly plotted from air photographs), as well as microfiche copies of first edition OS maps.

Fieldwalking:

Structured fieldwalking involves the recovery of artefacts from the ground surface. In order for such artefacts to be

visible, it is usually essential that the bare earth is visible, and this means that the technique is applicable only to arable land where crop growth is not advanced. Some results are also obtainable from land which has recently been set-aside. Particular factors affecting the quality of data recovery are discussed further below in the section containing the evaluation of reliability of field data.

Fieldwalking over much of the route had been undertaken on several occasions between 1989 and 1991 by the County Museum Archaeological Group.

Although many fieldwalking strategies involve examination of a sample (often 10%) of the ground surface, the availability of personnel was such that more intensive coverage (effectively 100%) was possible.

Each field was subdivided into squares 30m x 30m, which were walked separately. The finds from each square were kept separate.

For recording purposes, the field was the largest collection unit - this unit was subdivided into sub-units according to the individual 30m squares. Each find was therefore identified according to Field/ square.

All artefacts were subsequently washed and placed in bags labelled according to field/ square.

All artefacts collected in each square were listed. These lists were then amalgamated to provide a record of artefacts from each field. The artefact records per field and the records for each square are retained in the SMR.

In the case of CAS 5686/ 5748 the distribution of finds was plotted at 1:2500 for the fields concerned.

Significant concentrations of finds were in each case self-evident. It should however be noted that there is scarcely a field in Southern Britain which is devoid of one scrap of pottery and the odd worked flint. Such "background noise" is due to a variety of factors (such as the nature of "off-site" activity, manuring, casual rubbish discard), but some form of filtering of the data needs to be applied in order to define concentrations of artefacts which are likely to reflect former discrete episodes of activity. This is particularly necessary where the overall rate of artefact recovery is low. Significant concentrations are defined as being those instances where artefact quantities were in excess of two standard deviations of the mean value derived for each field.

The fieldwalking was supplemented by a walkover reconnaissance of the entire route. This was undertaken at various times; in some instances difficulties of access meant that access was only possible at the time of the geophysical survey.

Walkover reconnaissance:

The basic unit for data collection was the Ordnance Survey land parcel, as shown on 1:2500 plans. The primary numbering system consists of a set of consecutive **survey numbers** which relate solely to this project and were assigned to land parcels observed in the field.

For each land parcel the following categories of data were recorded:

Civil parish
Other descriptive name in current use
Present land use
Topography (Flat/ hillcrest/ hillslope/valley floor)
Direction of slope(s)
Health and Safety considerations/ potential hazards (such as might affect further investigations, e.g. pipe trenches, power lines &c)
Description (other field notes, comparison with previously recorded information, description of all potentially archaeological features or artefacts seen).

Field visits were brief, taking only the length of time required to collate the data required at this stage. This was sufficient to detect any possible earthworks and to describe local topography and land-use.

Normally reconnaissance visits are a prelude to more detailed investigation such as fieldwalking or geophysics; in this instance however the different stages of assessment described in the introductory section were not nearly so clearly differentiated, and the various stages of work were undertaken in tandem.

Geophysical Survey:

Human activity affects the magnetic characteristics of the soil. These changes persist over centuries and even millennia. The development of instruments capable of measuring magnetic characteristics from the ground surface has provided a highly effective means of detecting archaeological sites from the surface.

A specialist geophysical appraisal of the route was commissioned from *Oxford Archaeotechnics*. Fieldwork commenced in November 1992, but due to access difficulties the fieldwork was not completed until April 1993.

A full description of the principles and methodology will be found in the *Oxford Archaeotechnics* specialist report (a copy of which has been deposited with the County Engineer's Department).

The basis of the study was a magnetic susceptibility survey,

using a 10m interval sample, followed by a centreline scan with the magnetometer. This was sufficient to identify areas of potential archaeological interest. These areas of interest were then examined in greater detail by means of a magnetometer survey, in order to define the shape and intensity of more substantial sub-surface features.

Fieldwork and non-fieldwork data were amalgamated, using survey numbers as the basic unit, and entered on to **Survey Data Record** forms. These forms are presented in Appendix 1.

3. EVALUATION OF THE RELIABILITY OF FIELD DATA

A: Field Reconnaissance

Virtually all field studies will contain some form of inherent bias. It is important to recognise where such biases may lie. The following factors will inevitably have influenced the reliability of the field data:

A. Differential visibility due to land use/ agricultural regime.

The supplementary data presented in appendix 1 shows the land-use at the time of the field inspection. Earthwork sites will tend to be visible in grass, particularly where little arable cultivation has taken place (ploughing will rapidly degrade upstanding earthwork features). It is evident, both from the present land use and from the incidence of ridge and furrow on aerial photographs, that there has been relatively intensive arable cultivation over most, if not all of the study area since the medieval period. The absence of earthworks other than ridge and furrow is scarcely surprising. It is interesting to note that where earthworks do survive at the particularly fine moated site at Vatches Farm (CAS 0129) just south of the route) the botanical data from that field indicates the presence of permanent pasture for a very long time, probably centuries.

Artefact scatters will be visible in arable fields; the degree of visibility will depend on the state of the crop and whether the surface has weathered since ploughing. Only a part of the study area was under arable cultivation at the time of these studies.

B. Landscape and geology.

Quite apart from the constraints which landscape and geology provide upon human behaviour, certain landscapes and geology are more intractable than others. The geology will have an indirect effect upon agricultural regimes; some soils are more suited to arable than others and it is these areas which will reveal sites through fieldwalking and aerial survey. Geology will also have a significant influence on the degree to which human activity will be registered within the magnetic characteristics of the soil, and therefore the readiness with which features and areas of activity can be detected by geophysical means.

In the case of the present study, two main geological areas are encountered: the chalk of the Chiltern escarpment and the Gault Clay with its thin intermittent mantle of Glacial Till. These substrates proved suitable for topsoil magnetic susceptibility survey, with features such as former field boundaries and traces of ridge and furrow cultivation being visible. However, the lack of contrast between cultivation soils and subsoils over the gault clay is reflected in the

results from the magnetometry work, described as "disappointing" by those who undertook it. Where underlying features were well-defined (CAS 5686/5748) it was because they contained fired clay and burnt material. In the case of this site, the fieldwalking data would appear to demonstrate the presence of a significant site rather more strongly than the geophysical data. It is possible that here, and also elsewhere along the route, more subtle features may not have been detected. Deep ploughing and waterlogging in this generally low-lying area also produced conditions inimicable to magnetometer survey. East of the Grand Union Canal, on the Chalk Escarpment, conditions were more favourable for magnetometry, and the minimal evidence for activity is probably more reliable here. It should in any case be pointed out that spatially unfocused activities (sometimes referred to as "off-site" archaeology[1]) and small features are in any case far more difficult to detect.

[1] Foley R (1981) "Off-site archaeology: an alternative approach for the short-sited" in Hodder I, Isaac G and Hammond N (eds) *Patterns of the past: studies in honour of David Clarke* (Cambridge), 157-83

4. DESCRIPTION OF THE STUDY AREA.

The route may be differentiated into two parts, on the basis of geology and topography.

The greater part of the route occupies the relatively low-lying land at the foot of the Chilterns escarpment. The area slopes very slightly down to the northwest, but parts of it are prone to become very wet during the winter months. The land here is heavy clay derived from the underlying weathered gault; there are intermittent thin drift deposits of glacial till and also (near Vatches Farm) a very small amount of alluvium. Asmay be expected the soils here are classsified as gleys. Substantial areas here are still pasture (rather more than 50% at the time of the study) although there has also been a significant level of arable cultivation. Inspection of aerial photographs shows the presence of traces of ridge and furrow cultivation over substantial areas.

The transition between clay and chalk occurs between two important communication routes. The Lower Icknield Way, just beyond the foot of the Chilterns Escarpment, has been a significant communication route since the later prehistoric period. It has long been held[2] that the lightly drained soils of the "Icknield Belt" seem to have attracted settlement. This may indeed be true, although the apparent high incidence of archaeological sites along the Icknield Way may be due to enhanced ease of recognition of sites on these lighter soils as much as to the actual settlement pattern. The Lower Icknield Way is here still in an area of gley soils, which give way to rendzina soils closer to the Wendover Arm of the Grand Union Canal. The canal runs roughly parallel with the Lower Icknield way, but some distance further towards the foot of the scarp slope.

Just east of the Lower Icknield Way the underlying substrate is chalk, and the thin glacial drift deposits are no longer present once the ground begins to rise up the escarpment. The change in substrate means that contrasts in magnetic characteristics between topsoil and substrate become more marked in this area.

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[2] Eg J Head *Early Man in South Buckinghamshire* (1955), 6-9; 18-20.

5. ARCHAEOLOGY ALONG THE ROUTE AND ITS ENVIRONS.

The following sites are known to exist along the route or in its vicinity:

CAS 1626 The existing A41 is a Roman Road, known as Akeman Street, from Verulamium to Alchester.

CAS 0129 The Vatches Farm medieval moated site is located immediately south of the road corridor adjacent to fields 2 and 3. It encloses an area of c1.5 acres, together with traces of what is probably a series of fishponds. No pattern of buildings is now discernible on the interior, although documentary sources refer to a licence to build a chapel here between 1235 and 1253, and medieval ceramic material, including a roof finial, have been recovered from the site. The site is scheduled (Bucks no 60). There is no evidence from the geophysics of extensive activity associated with this site within the road corridor itself, although the presence of related features and finds must be considered a likelihood.

CAS 0043 and 5725 There are good grounds for asserting the existence of an Iron Age site, possibly one of some significance, in the Vatches Farm area. During the mid nineteenth century an amphora was discovered filled with burnt material. Parallels with examples from Camulodunum suggest that this is likely to be a Belgic "Welwyn" type burial dating to the Late Iron Age. Plentiful Belgic pottery was found south of Akeman Street in 1990. These finds are strongly indicative of a cemetery and associated settlement, the limits of which are not known at present. Sites of this period can be extensive. Although there is no direct evidence for related activity within the road corridor, further work is needed to confirm the presence/absence of archaeological deposits in the Vatches Farm area.

CAS 2957. Two Romano-British sherds, one of which was a vessel rim, were found in field 04 on the line of a sewer pipe in 1976/77. Although it is likely that these finds represent stray loss or discard, the existence of an occupation site in the vicinity is possible.

CAS 5661. Several sherds of Romano-British pottery were discovered by the farm manager in 1988. The quantity is suggestive of some form of activity around the area where the material was found, but this is some way away from the road line.

CAS 5653. Roman coin discovered by the farmer whilst drilling in 1988. Isolated find, some way away from the road line.

CAS 5748/5686. Romano-British material collected during systematic fieldwalking in fields 27, 29 and 30. A plot of the distribution of material is included with this report; the main focus would appear to be immediately west of the Lower

Icknield Way. This distribution is reflected to some degree in the geophysical survey data from these fields, although the contrast in magnetic characteristics was only strong where features were filled with burnt material; the site is likely to be more complex than the geophysical data would indicate. The finds also included a small but significant Iron Age component, to which some of the geophysical anomalies may be related. In addition, features were also revealed by the geophysics in field 26. As noted above, the Lower Icknield Way itself may well be as old as the site on either side of it, and this area may provide an opportunity to define this relationship more clearly.

CAS 0035. Drayton Beauchamp medieval moated site, located immediately north of the route adjacent to field 32, was the manor house of the Cheyne family, demolished in 1760. The fishponds have been retained as landscape features around the present house whivh is on the site. As with the Vatches Farm moated site further to the west, there is little evidence for activity beyond the earthwork boundary, although the presence of a scatter of material related to the site is a distinct possibility.

CAS 1977 A scatter of Romano-British sherds was found during construction of the roundabout on the A41 in 1973/74. A rapid geophysical survey undertaken at the time did not reveal any evidence for features beneath the surface.

Other areas of potential:

In addition to the sites described above, there are two areas where the geophysical survey suggested that there might be anomalies of archaeological origin. In the absence of firm data they have not been incorporated in the County Sites and Monuments Record and do not therefore bear CAS numbers.

In field 33 a small focus of magnetic susceptibility enhancement on the south side of the corridor, near the east corner of the field, is of unknown but possibly archaeological origin.

In field 35 there are several minor foci of magnetic enhancement. Although it is likely that any major features would have been revealed by magnetometry, an archaeological origin is possible. The topographical configuration here would not be inimicable to settlement or other activity. The presence of CAS 1977 (Romano-British finds beneath the A41 roundabout) nearby may also be of relevance, as this would tend to confirm the presence of an archaeological site somewhere in the vicinity.

6. RECOMMENDATIONS FOR FURTHER ACTION.

The studies described in this report have revealed the presence of several sites of archaeological interest or potential.

Without prejudice to the results of further investigations, it would not appear that any of the remains or potential remains would warrant scheduling under the Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Areas Act 1979. Preservation *in situ* would not therefore appear to be an issue at this stage.

Further work is desirable in the areas identified below. In each case, pattern trial trenching (stage 4 in the model programme outlined in the introductory chapter of this report) should be undertaken in order to confirm and characterise the depth, spatial extent, date and form of underlying archaeological deposits, so as to provide sufficient information to formulate proposals for detailed excavation (stage 5 in the model programme), or other mitigatory action, which might be necessary prior to the commencement of road construction.

It is considered that the quality of information available at this stage is sufficient to be reasonably confident that there are no major undetected sites away from the areas identified below.

In addition to the areas identified below, there may be minor features which remain undetected, and provision should be made for a watching brief during the initial stages of construction.

Provision should also be made for assessment, and where necessary more detailed examination or other mitigatory measures, in those areas outside the study corridor which may be affected by the road construction, such as borrow-pits and contractors' compounds.

The County Archaeologist should be consulted over the drafting of briefs for further stages of work. The stage 4 work should be programmed as soon as possible, in order to enable sufficient time to be set aside for detailed excavation (stage 5) prior to road construction in 1994.

The areas requiring further investigation are as follows:

A The incidence of Late Iron Age finds in the Vatches Farm area is suggestive of a settlement in the vicinity. The generally magnetically quiet nature of this area may in part be due to the nature of the ground conditions rather than the absence of archaeological features. A minimum of 2.5% of the road corridor within fields 02, 03 and 04 should be sampled by pattern trial trenching.

B The most substantial evidence for archaeological activity on the route is in the fields either side of the Lower Icknield Way, where there is a Romano-British site and also evidence for Iron Age activity. The focus of activity would appear to be in field 27, but the site is likely to extend into some of the adjacent fields (26, 28 and 29) and perhaps as far as field 30. Pattern trial trenching should be undertaken in these fields with a view to ascertaining the extent of the site, its depth and state of preservation, in order that a strategy for detailed investigation may be drawn up. It should be noted that the verges of the present Lower Icknield Way, and perhaps also the area beneath the modern carriageway, may still have vestiges of archaeological features present.

C There are some minor foci of magnetic susceptibility enhancement in field 35; the source is not certain, but the area should be trial trenched.

D A small zone of magnetic susceptibility enhancement in field 33 should be investigated by means of a trial trench, in order to investigate its origin.

APPENDIX

SURVEY DATA RECORDS

Survey Record no: 1 **Parish:** Weston Turville
National Grid Reference (Field Centre): SP 8595 1283 **Land interest reference (see schedule):** 5
Present land use: Pasture

Aspect/ local topography: Flat
Solid geology: Weathered Gault clay **Drift:** Thin glacial till

CAS **Site type/ period:**
Synopsis:

Cartographic/ Documentary/ Fieldname data:
Fieldname: Lower Field and Meadow (1799)

Field Data:
Faint traces of ridge and furrow, orientated north-northeast to south-southwest.
No significant magnetic susceptibility enhancement.

Other information (eg potential health and safety hazards):

Survey Record no: 2 **Parish:** Aston Clinton
National Grid Reference (Field Centre): SP 8630 1290 **Land interest reference (see schedule):** 7
Present land use: Arable

Aspect/ local topography: Flat
Solid geology: **Drift:** Alluvial clay over thin glacial till
Weathered Gault Clay

CAS **Site type/ period:**
Synopsis:

Cartographic/ Documentary/ Fieldname data:
Fieldname: Ninnings Field and Meadow (1816)

Field Data:
Faint linear striations on air photographs are probably ridge and furrow, orientated east-west.
No significant magnetic susceptibility enhancement.
Immediately adjacent to CAS 0129, medieval moated site.

Other information (eg potential health and safety hazards):
Sewage pipe along south edge of field.

Survey Record no: 3 **Parish:** Aston Clinton
National Grid Reference (Field Centre): SP 8655 1295 **Land interest reference (see schedule):** 7
Present land use: Pasture

Aspect/ local topography: Flat
Solid geology: Weathered Gault Clay **Drift:** Thin glacial till; possibly some alluvial clay

CAS **Site type/ period:**
Synopsis:

Cartographic/ Documentary/ Fieldname data:

Field Data:
Some vestiges of ridge and furrow near eastern edge of field, aligned northwest-southeast.
No significant magnetic susceptibility enhancement.
Adjacent to CAS 0129, a medieval moated site in the field immediately to the south.

Other information (eg potential health and safety hazards):
Sewage pipe along southern edge of field.

Survey Record no: 4 **Parish:** Aston Clinton
National Grid Reference (Field Centre): SP 8675 1285 **Land interest reference (see schedule):** 7
Present land use: Pasture

Aspect/ local topography: Flat
Solid geology: Weathered Gault clay **Drift:** Pockets of glacial till

CAS 2957 **Site type/ period:** Artefacts/ Romano-British
Synopsis: Romano-British pottery rim and another body sherd collected on line of new sewage pipe, 1977.

Cartographic/ Documentary/ Fieldname data:
Fieldname: Goslands Close (1816)

Field Data:
Slight magnetic susceptibility enhancement probably related to relict ridge and furrow. Traces of the nineteenth century field system are also reflected in the magnetic susceptibility pattern.

Other information (eg potential health and safety hazards):
Sewage pipe along southern edge of field.

Survey Record no: 5 **Parish:** Aston Clinton
National Grid Reference (Field Centre): SP 8690 1295 **Land interest reference (see schedule):** 7
Present land use: Pasture

Aspect/ local topography: flat
Solid geology: Weathered Gault clay **Drift:** Pockets of glacial till

CAS Synopsis: **Site type/ period:**

Cartographic/ Documentary/ Fieldname data:
Fieldname: Middle North End (1816)

Field Data:
The slight magnetic susceptibility enhancement is probably due to the relict ridge and furrow which is aligned northeast - southwest. Traces of the nineteenth century field system are also reflected in the pattern of susceptibility.

Other information (eg potential health and safety hazards):

Survey Record no: 6 **Parish:** Aston Clinton
National Grid Reference (Field Centre): SP 872 131 **Land interest reference (see schedule):** 9
Present land use:

Aspect/ local topography: Flat
Solid geology: Weathered Gault Clay **Drift:** Some pockets of glacial till.

CAS Synopsis: **Site type/ period:**

Cartographic/ Documentary/ Fieldname data:
Fieldname: Middle Norton Field (1816)

Field Data:
No significant magnetic susceptibility enhancement.

Other information (eg potential health and safety hazards):

Survey Record no: 7 **Parish:** Aston Clinton
National Grid Reference (Field Centre): SP 872 129 **Land interest reference (see schedule):** 8
Present land use: Pasture

Aspect/ local topography: flat
Solid geology: Weathered Gault Clay **Drift:** Some pockets of glacial till.

CAS Synopsis: **Site type/ period:**

Cartographic/ Documentary/ Fieldname data:
Fieldname: Middle North Field

Field Data:
No significant magnetic susceptibility enhancement

Other information (eg potential health and safety hazards):

Survey Record no: 8 **Parish:** Aston Clinton
National Grid Reference (Field Centre): SP 8730 1305 **Land interest reference (see schedule):** 9
Present land use: Disused timber yard

Aspect/ local topography: Flat
Solid geology: Weathered Gault clay **Drift:** Some pockets of glacial till

CAS Synopsis: **Site type/ period:**

Cartographic/ Documentary/ Fieldname data:
Fieldname: Middle North Field

Field Data:

Other information (eg potential health and safety hazards):

Survey Record no: 9 **Parish:** Aston Clinton
National Grid Reference (Field Centre): SP 874 129 **Land interest reference (see schedule):** 10
Present land use: Disused sewage works

Aspect/ local topography: Flat
Solid geology: Weathered Gault Clay **Drift:** Some pockets of glacial till

CAS Synopsis: **Site type/ period:**

Cartographic/ Documentary/ Fieldname data:
Fieldname: Middle North Field (1816)

Field Data:
Site of former sewage works - filled in and levelled.

Other information (eg potential health and safety hazards):

Survey Record no: 10 **Parish:** Aston Clinton
National Grid Reference (Field Centre): SP 8745 1280 **Land interest reference (see schedule):** 8
Present land use:

Aspect/ local topography: Flat
Solid geology: Weathered Gault Clay **Drift:** Pockets of glacial till.

CAS Synopsis: **Site type/ period:**

Cartographic/ Documentary/ Fieldname data:
Fieldname: Middle North Field (1816)

Field Data:
Relict Ridge and Furrow aligned northeast - southwest

Other information (eg potential health and safety hazards):

Survey Record no: 11 **Parish:** Aston Clinton
National Grid Reference (Field Centre): SP 8755 1310 **Land interest reference (see schedule):** 11a
Present land use: Arable

Aspect/ local topography: flat
Solid geology: Weathered Gault clay **Drift:** Pockets of glacial till

CAS Synopsis: **Site type/ period:**

Cartographic/ Documentary/ Fieldname data:
Fieldname: Hares Way Field (Common) 1816

Field Data:
Fieldwalked 1991. No significant concentrations of artefacts recovered.
No significant magnetic susceptibility enhancement.

Other information (eg potential health and safety hazards):

Survey Record no: 12 **Parish:** Aston Clinton
National Grid Reference (Field Centre): SP 8775 1320 **Land interest reference (see schedule):** 11a
Present land use: Arable

Aspect/ local topography: Flat
Solid geology: Weathered Gault clay **Drift:** Pockets of glacial till

CAS Synopsis: **Site type/ period:**

Cartographic/ Documentary/ Fieldname data:
Fieldname: Hares Way Field (Common) (1816)

Field Data:
No significant magnetic susceptibility enhancement.

Other information (eg potential health and safety hazards):

Survey Record no: 13
National Grid Reference (Field Centre): SP 8795 1315
Present land use: Pasture

Parish: Aston Clinton
Land interest reference (see schedule): 12

Aspect/ local topography:
Solid geology: Weathered Gault clay

Drift: Pockets of glacial till

CAS Synopsis:

Site type/ period:

Cartographic/ Documentary/ Fieldname data:
Fieldname: Hares Way Field (Common) (1816)

Field Data:
No significant magnetic susceptibility enhancement.

Other information (eg potential health and safety hazards):

Survey Record no: 14
National Grid Reference (Field Centre):
Present land use: Pasture

Parish: Buckland
Land interest reference (see schedule): 12

Aspect/ local topography: Flat
Solid geology: Weathered Gault clay

Drift: pockets of glacial till

CAS Synopsis:

Site type/ period:

Cartographic/ Documentary/ Fieldname data:
Fieldname: Broad Furrows Piece (1844)

Field Data:
Linear (?drainage features orientated northeast - southwest.
No significant magnetic susceptibility enhancement except by the gateway to College Road, where high readings were recorded - this is probably recent in origin.

Other information (eg potential health and safety hazards):

Survey Record no: 15 **Parish:** Buckland
National Grid Reference (Field Centre): SP 8825 1320 **Land interest reference (see schedule):** 12
Present land use: Pasture

Aspect/ local topography:
Solid geology: weathered Gault clay **Drift:** Pockets of Glacial till

CAS Site type/ period:
Synopsis:

Cartographic/ Documentary/ Fieldname data:
Fieldname: Slad Furlong (1844)

Field Data:
No significant magnetic susceptibility enhancement.

Other information (eg potential health and safety hazards):

Survey Record no: 16 **Parish:** Buckland
National Grid Reference (Field Centre): SP 8835 1345 **Land interest reference (see schedule):** 12
Present land use: Pasture

Aspect/ local topography:
Solid geology: Weathered Gault **Drift:** Intermittent glacial till

CAS Site type/ period:
Synopsis:

Cartographic/ Documentary/ Fieldname data:
Fieldname: Broad Furrows Pen (1844)

Field Data:
Relict ridge and furrow (orientated northwest - southeast) along southeastern edge of field.
No significant magnetic susceptibility enhancement.

Other information (eg potential health and safety hazards):

Survey Record no: 17 **Parish:** Buckland
National Grid Reference (Field Centre): SP 8838 1331 **Land interest reference (see schedule):** 13
Present land use: Pasture

Aspect/ local topography: Flat
Solid geology: Weathered Gault **Drift:** Intermittent glacial till

CAS **Site type/ period:**
Synopsis:

Cartographic/ Documentary/ Fieldname data:
Fieldname: Broad Furrows Pen Furlong (1844)

Field Data:
No significant magnetic susceptibility enhancement.

Other information (eg potential health and safety hazards):

Survey Record no: 18 **Parish:** Buckland
National Grid Reference (Field Centre): SP 8852 1343 **Land interest reference (see schedule):** 13
Present land use: Pasture

Aspect/ local topography: Flat
Solid geology: Weathered Gault **Drift:** Intermittent thin glacial till

CAS **Site type/ period:**
Synopsis:

Cartographic/ Documentary/ Fieldname data:

Field Data:
No significant magnetic susceptibility enhancement.

Other information (eg potential health and safety hazards):

Survey Record no: 19 **Parish**: Buckland
National Grid Reference (Field Centre): SP 8857 1324 **Land interest reference (see schedule)**: 12
Present land use: Pasture

Aspect/ local topography:
Solid geology: Weathered Gault **Drift**: Intermittent thin glacial till

CAS 5661 **Site type/ period**: Artefacts/ Romano-British
Synopsis: Approximately fifteen Romano-British sherds recovered from edge of ploughed area, southern corner of field, in 1988

Cartographic/ Documentary/ Fieldname data:
Fieldname: Broad Green Furlong (1844)
Cartographic evidence for a former trackway along southeastern side of the field.
Field Data:
Site of CAS 5661 is some distance from the road line.
A strong focus of Magnetic susceptibility enhancement adjacent to the stream in the eastern corner of the field suggests modern contamination, perhaps associated with the concrete headwall on the west side of the stream. Minor anomalies detected by magnetometer scanning in this field are also likely to be of recent origin.

Other information (eg potential health and safety hazards):

Survey Record no: 20 **Parish**: Buckland
National Grid Reference (Field Centre): SP 8887 1344 **Land interest reference (see schedule)**: 12
Present land use: Pasture

Aspect/ local topography: Flat
Solid geology: Weathered Gault **Drift**: Intermittent thin glacial till

CAS **Site type/ period:**
Synopsis:

Cartographic/ Documentary/ Fieldname data:
Fieldname: Rivey Corner (1844)

Field Data:
Relict ridge and furrow orientated northeast - southwest
No significant magnetic susceptibility enhancement

Other information (eg potential health and safety hazards):

Survey Record no: 21 **Parish:** Buckland
National Grid Reference (Field Centre): SP 8888 1324 **Land interest reference (see schedule):** 12
Present land use: Pasture

Aspect/ local topography:
Solid geology: Weathered Gault **Drift:** Intermittent thin glacial till

CAS **Site type/ period:**
Synopsis:

Cartographic/ Documentary/ Fieldname data:
Fieldname: Long Furlong (1844)

Field Data:
No significant magnetic susceptibility enhancement.

Other information (eg potential health and safety hazards):

Survey Record no: 22 **Parish:** Buckland
National Grid Reference (Field Centre): SP 8900 1295 **Land interest reference (see schedule):** 11b
Present land use: Pasture

Aspect/ local topography: Flat
Solid geology: Weathered Gault **Drift:** Intermittent thin glacial till

CAS 5653 **Site type/ period:** Artefact/ Romano-British
Synopsis: Bronze coin of Julia Mamaea (third century) discovered by landowner whilst drilling, 1988

Cartographic/ Documentary/ Fieldname data:
Fieldnames: Long Furlong and Nag Pits Furlong (1844)

Field Data:
No significant magnetic susceptibility enhancement.

Other information (eg potential health and safety hazards):

Survey Record no: 23
National Grid Reference (Field Centre): SP 8905 1320
Present land use: Pasture
Parish: Drayton Beauchamp
Land interest reference (see schedule): 14

Aspect/ local topography: Flat
Solid geology: Weathered Gault
Drift: Intermittent thin glacial till

CAS **Site type/ period:**
Synopsis:

Cartographic/ Documentary/ Fieldname data:

Field Data:
Small focus of magnetic susceptibility enhancement - source unknown. Very slight fluctuations recorded by magnetometer scanning seem to indicate minor variations in soil depth, but not necessarily cut features.
Relict ridge and furrow orientated northeast - southwest (consistent with the magnetometer scanning data)

Other information (eg potential health and safety hazards):

Survey Record no: 24
National Grid Reference (Field Centre): SP 8912 1305
Present land use: Pasture
Parish: Drayton Beauchamp
Land interest reference (see schedule): 14

Aspect/ local topography: Flat
Solid geology: weathered Gault
Drift: Intermittent thin glacial till

CAS **Site type/ period:**
Synopsis:

Cartographic/ Documentary/ Fieldname data:

Field Data:
Relict ridge and furrow orientated northeast - southwest.
No significant magnetic susceptibility enhancement.

Other information (eg potential health and safety hazards):

Survey Record no: 25 **Parish:** Drayton Beauchamp
National Grid Reference (Field Centre): SP 8919 1292 **Land interest reference (see schedule):** 14
Present land use: Pasture

Aspect/ local topography:
Solid geology: Weathered Gault **Drift:** Intermittent thin glacial till

CAS Synopsis: **Site type/ period:**

Cartographic/ Documentary/ Fieldname data:

Field Data:
Relict ridge and furrow orientated northeast - southwest
No significant magnetic susceptibility enhancement.

Other information (eg potential health and safety hazards):

Survey Record no: 26 **Parish:** Drayton Beauchamp
National Grid Reference (Field Centre): **Land interest reference (see schedule):** 14
Present land use: Pasture

Aspect/ local topography:
Solid geology: Weathered Gault **Drift:** -

CAS Synopsis: **Site type/ period:**

Cartographic/ Documentary/ Fieldname data:

Field Data: There has been some re-organisation of field boundaries, although not within the area affected by the road.
Some slight magnetic susceptibility enhancement associated with activity in field 27 to the south. Magnetometry revealed the presence of a strong linear feature consisting of a pair of ditches, one straight and one curved. It was not possible to demonstrate their relationship, if any, to the features in field 27 to the south, and they may be of comparatively recent origin. There are other anomalies further to the west. Augering confirmed the presence of fired clay within the ditch fills.

Other information (eg potential health and safety hazards):

Survey Record no: 27 **Parish:** Buckland
National Grid Reference (Field Centre): SP 8922 1267 **Land interest reference (see schedule):** 11b
Present land use: Arable

Aspect/ local topography: Flat
Solid geology: Weathered Gault **Drift:**

CAS 5748 **Site type/ period:** Artefacts/ Iron Age & Romano-British
Synopsis: Significant quantities of pottery, originally located by fieldwalking. Associated with CAS 5686 (field 29). Romano-British site straddling Lower Icknield Way. Also evidence for Middle Iron Age activity. Presence of cut features (probably ditches and an enclosure) demonstrated by geophysical survey.
Cartographic/ Documentary/ Fieldname data:
Field name: Pit Mead (1844)

Field Data: Fieldwalking demonstrated the presence of Romano-British site with earlier, Middle Iron Age elements. Magnetic susceptibility survey revealed the pottery to be associated with three foci of enhancement, subsequently shown by magnetometry to be related to underlying cut features. The magnetometry pattern shows the presence of curvilinear features including a small enclosure (perhaps part of a larger complex).

Other information (eg potential health and safety hazards):

Survey Record no: 28 **Parish:** Drayton Beauchamp
National Grid Reference (Field Centre): SP 89521270 **Land interest reference (see schedule):** 11b
Present land use: Arable

Aspect/ local topography: Flat
Solid geology: Upper Greensand **Drift:** Glacial Till

CAS **Site type/ period:**
Synopsis:

Cartographic/ Documentary/ Fieldname data:

Field Data:

Other information (eg potential health and safety hazards):

Survey Record no: 29 **Parish:** Buckland
National Grid Reference (Field Centre): SP 8937 1237 **Land interest reference (see schedule):** 11b
Present land use: Arable

Aspect/ local topography: very slight slope up to southeast
Solid geology: Chalk, Upper Greensand **Drift:** glacial till

CAS 5686 **Site type/ period:** Artefacts/ Iron Age and Romano-British
Synopsis: Significant concentration of finds: Romano-British site straddling Lower Icknield Way, originally located by fieldwalking.
Associated with CAS 5748 (field 27).
Cartographic/ Documentary/ Fieldname data:
Fieldname: Inner Endlands (1844)

Field Data:
Fieldwalked 1989, on line of bypass, revealing low density R-B sherds over area c100 x 100m.
Magnetic susceptibility enhancement extends for some 200m east of Lower Icknield Way; there is no real focus, suggesting the dispersal of an enhanced source. Magnetometer scanning revealed an anomaly in the centre of the north boundary of the field. Further east, the magnetic susceptibility patterning may reflect an earlier field layout.
Magnetometer survey of a sample area 30 x 30m adjacent to Lower Icknield Way revealed part of a linear feature.

Other information (eg potential health and safety hazards):

Survey Record no: 30 **Parish:** Buckland
National Grid Reference (Field Centre): SP 893 121 **Land interest reference (see schedule):** 11b
Present land use: Arable

Aspect/ local topography:
Solid geology: Chalk **Drift:** Glacial Till

CAS 5686 **Site type/ period:** Artefacts/Romano-British
Synopsis: see record 29 above

Cartographic/ Documentary/ Fieldname data:
Fieldname: Outer Endlands (1844)

Field Data:
Fieldwalked 1988; the concentration of finds in the adjacent field 29 continues, but at a much reduced density.
Generally magnetically stable: no strong concentrations of enhancement.

Other information (eg potential health and safety hazards):

Survey Record no: 31 **Parish:** Buckland
National Grid Reference (Field Centre): SP 896 119 **Land interest reference (see schedule):** 11b
Present land use: Arable

Aspect/ local topography:
Solid geology: Chalk **Drift:** -

CAS **Site type/ period:**
Synopsis:

Cartographic/ Documentary/ Fieldname data:
Fieldname: Stamp Well (1844)

Field Data:
Fieldwalked 1988 - no significant concentrations of artefacts.
The magnetic susceptibility patterning may represent a former strip field or cultivation boundary.

Other information (eg potential health and safety hazards):

Survey Record no: 32 **Parish:** Buckland
National Grid Reference (Field Centre): SP 8985 1190 **Land interest reference (see schedule):** 11b
Present land use:

Aspect/ local topography:
Solid geology: Chalk **Drift:** -

CAS **Site type/ period:**
Synopsis:

Cartographic/ Documentary/ Fieldname data:
Field names: Stamp Well Furlong, Rooks Nest Furlong, Drayton Pole Furlong (1844)

Field Data:
A moated site, CAS 0035, is situated immediately adjacent to the north of this field. The canal (CAS 1569) forms the southeastern boundary.
Magnetic susceptibility survey shows a broad zone of (?dispersed) cultivation soils. Foci of magnetic susceptibility enhancement close to the canal are probably associated with its construction, but a linear zone of enhancement some 35m wide and some 75m from the canal may be the result of the dispersal of an underlying source, perhaps a linear landscape feature.

Other information (eg potential health and safety hazards):

Survey Record no: 33 **Parish:** Buckland
National Grid Reference (Field Centre): **Land interest reference (see schedule):** 17
Present land use:

Aspect/ local topography: Northwest facing slope
Solid geology: Chalk **Drift:** -

CAS **Site type/ period:**
Synopsis:

Cartographic/ Documentary/ Fieldname data:
Fieldnames: Lower Blarne Way, Rag Pit Furlong (1844)

Field Data:
Grand union Canal (CAS 1569) forms the northwestern boundary of the field.
A strong zone of magnetic susceptibility enhancement some 65m from the canal bank is apparently associated with rubble and debris of post-medieval origin.
A small focus of magnetic susceptibility enhancement on the south side of the corridor, near the east corner of the field, is of unknown origin.

Other information (eg potential health and safety hazards):

Survey Record no: 34 **Parish:** Drayton Beauchamp
National Grid Reference (Field Centre): SP 9024 1170 **Land interest reference (see schedule):** 16*
Present land use: Pasture

Aspect/ local topography: North facing hillslope
Solid geology: Chalk **Drift:** -

CAS **Site type/ period:**
Synopsis:

Cartographic/ Documentary/ Fieldname data:
Very faint rectangular feature visible on air photographs (UK 12 037; 12 073), likely to be of recent origin.
Field Data:
The magnetic susceptibility pattern is consistent with long-term arable cultivation. There is no trace of the (?recent) enclosure visible on aerial photographs; this feature is in any case outside the road corridor.

Other information (eg potential health and safety hazards):

Survey Record no: 35 **Parish:** Drayton Beauchamp
National Grid Reference (Field Centre): SP 9040 1145 **Land interest reference (see schedule):** 16*
Present land use: Pasture

Aspect/ local topography: North facing hillslope
Solid geology: **Drift:**

CAS **Site type/ period:**
Synopsis:

Cartographic/ Documentary/ Fieldname data:

Field Data:
Minor foci of magnetic susceptibility enhancement. No specifically archaeological features revealed by detailed magnetometry; the substrate is one which would tend to show archaeological features as strongly magnetically contrasting areas. There may have been some dispersal of soils from an unspecific magnetically enhanced source, possible but not necessarily of archaeological origin.

Other information (eg potential health and safety hazards):

Survey Record no: 36 **Parish:**
National Grid Reference (Field Centre): **Land interest reference (see schedule):**
Present land use: Roundabout

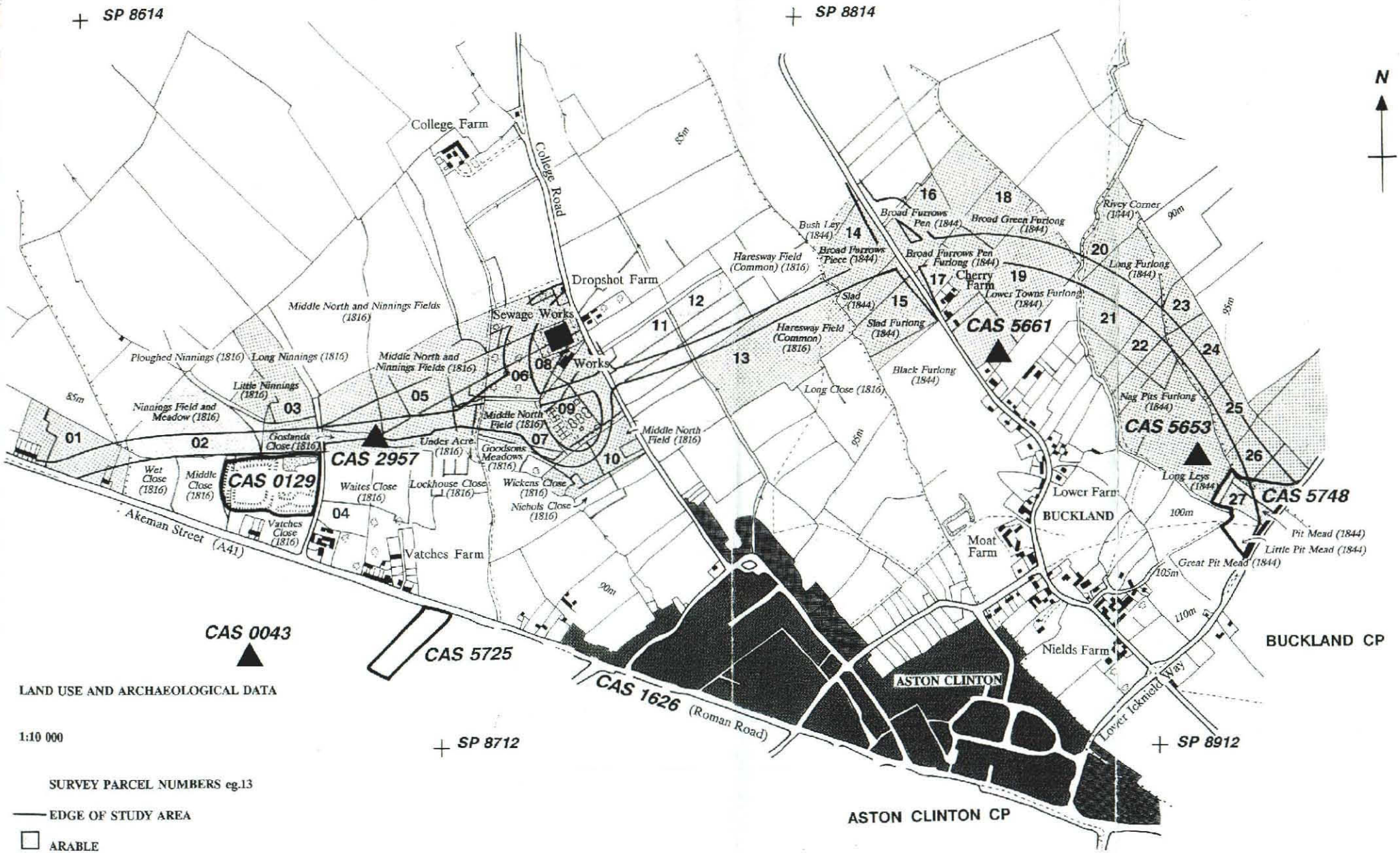
Aspect/ local topography:
Solid geology: Chalk **Drift:**

CAS 1977 **Site type/ period:** Artefacts/ Romano-British
Synopsis:
Scatter of sherds located in advance of construction of Tring Bypass, c1973

Cartographic/ Documentary/ Fieldname data:

Field Data:
Area scanned with a magnetometer in 1973.74, but features located proved negative.

Other information (eg potential health and safety hazards):



LAND USE AND ARCHAEOLOGICAL DATA

1:10 000

SURVEY PARCEL NUMBERS eg.13

EDGE OF STUDY AREA

ARABLE

PASTURE

SITE/AREA OF KNOWN ARCHAEOLOGICAL INTEREST AND CAS NUMBER

atches Close (1816) FIELD NAME (ASTON CLINTON ENCLOSURE MAP, 1816 AND TITHE MAP, 1844)

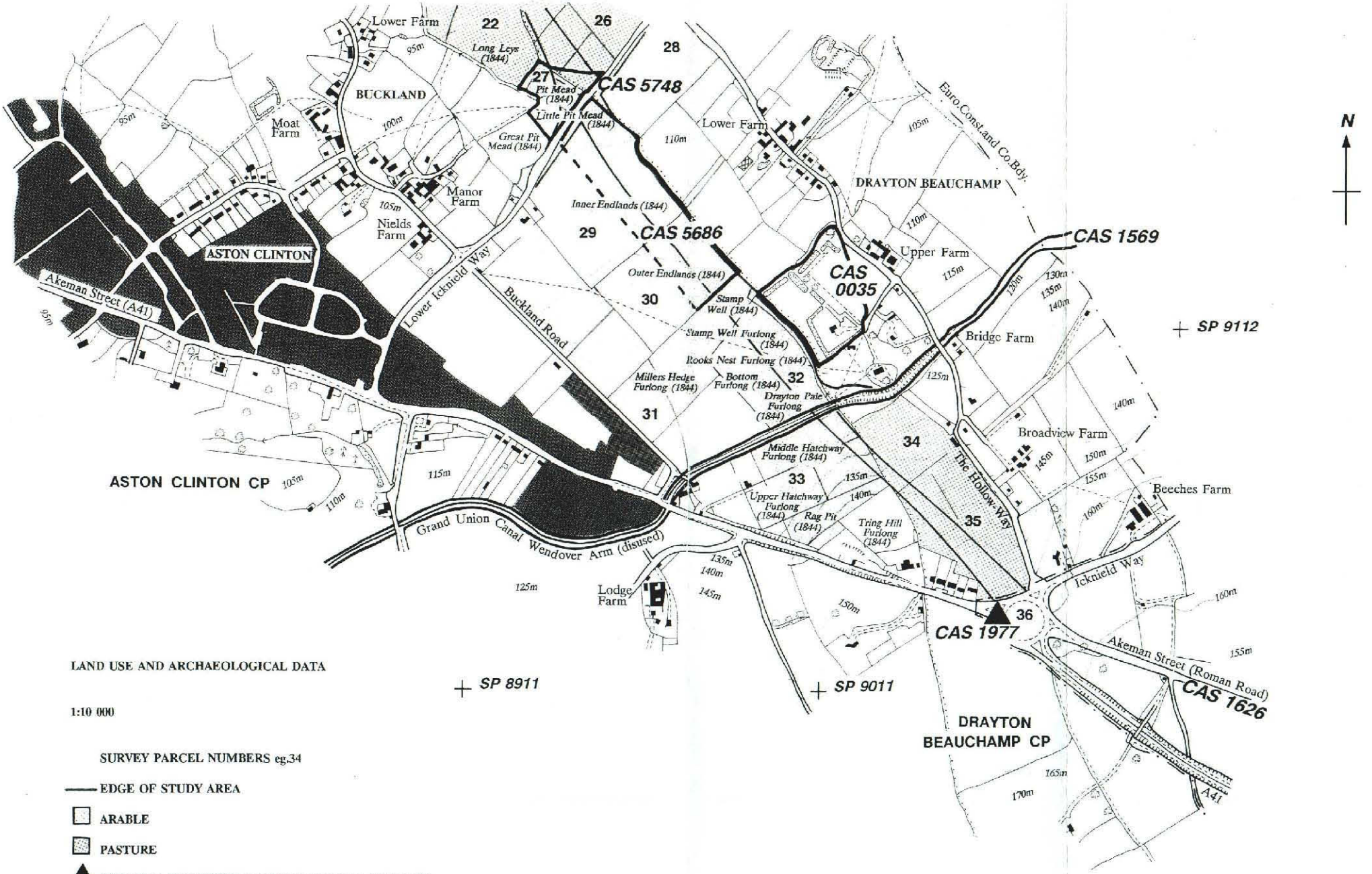
FORMER FIELD BOUNDARIES

BUCKINGHAMSHIRE COUNTY MUSEUM
ARCHAEOLOGICAL SERVICE

FOR BUCKINGHAMSHIRE COUNTY ENGINEER'S DEPT.
(DESIGN AND CONSTRUCTION DIVISION) AND
THE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORT

A41(T) ASTON CLINTON BYPASS

Figure 1



LAND USE AND ARCHAEOLOGICAL DATA

1:10 000

SURVEY PARCEL NUMBERS eg.34

EDGE OF STUDY AREA

ARABLE

PASTURE

SITE/AREA OF KNOWN ARCHAEOLOGICAL INTEREST AND CAS NUMBER

Rag Pit (1844) FIELD NAME (ASTON CLINTON ENCLOSURE MAP, 1816 AND TITHE MAP, 1844)

FORMER FIELD BOUNDARIES

BUCKINGHAMSHIRE COUNTY MUSEUM
ARCHAEOLOGICAL SERVICE

FOR BUCKINGHAMSHIRE COUNTY ENGINEER'S DEPT.
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Figure 2

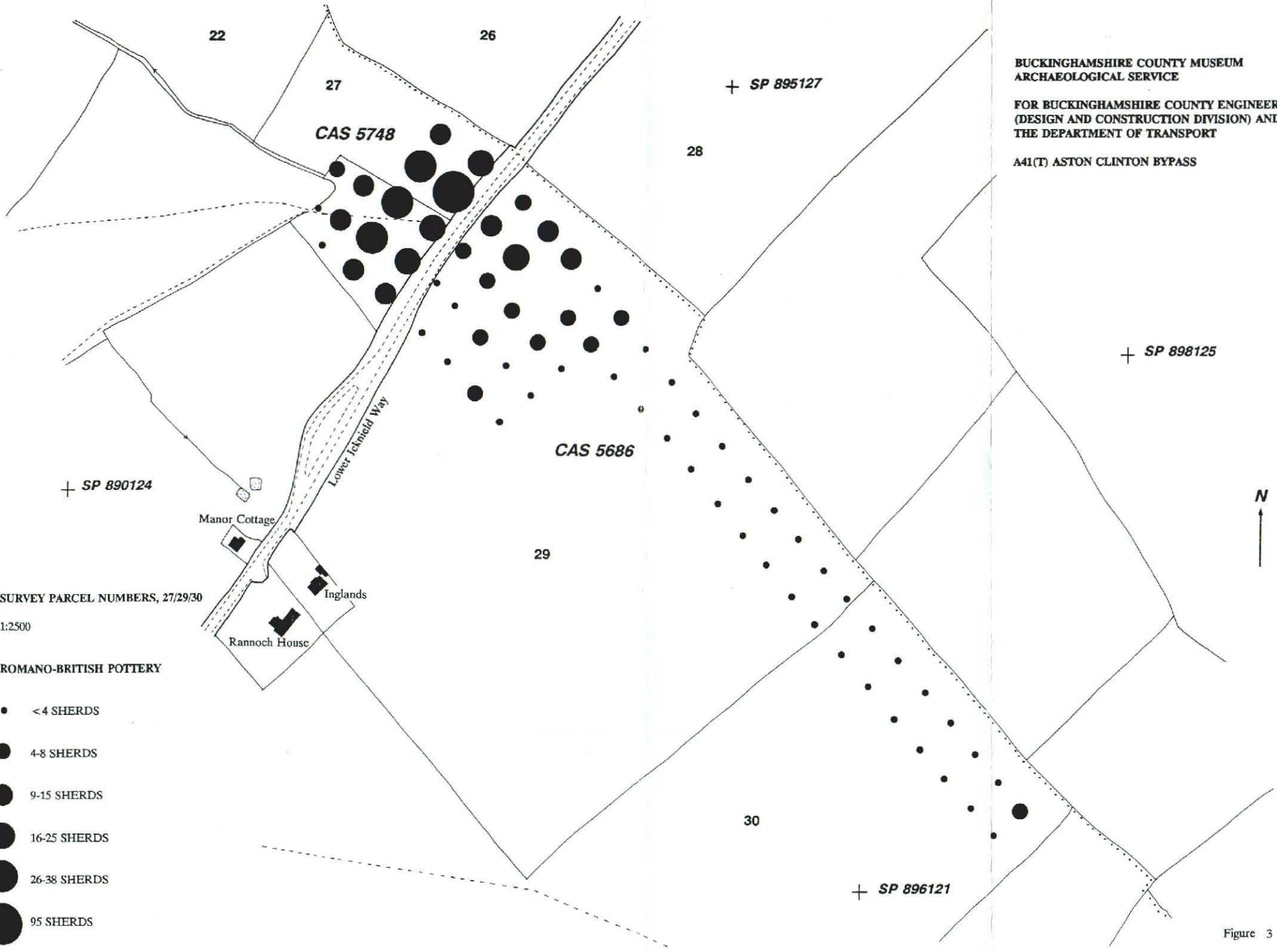

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Figure 3