# **Channel Tunnel Rail Link Union Railways (South) Ltd**

**Project Area 350** 

# CUXTON ANGLO-SAXON CEMETERY ARC CXT 98

# ARCHAEOLOGICAL EXCAVATION INTERIM REPORT

Contract S/300/0052 P381

MUSEUM OF LONDON

Museum of London Archaeology Service

September 1999

## Channel Tunnel Rail Link Union Railways (South) Ltd

## **Project Area 350**

## CUXTON ANGLO-SAXON CEMETERY ARC CXT 98

# ARCHAEOLOGICAL EXCAVATION INTERIM REPORT

| Prepared by: |
|--------------|
| Date:        |
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| Date:        |
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| Position:    |
| Date:        |

Contract S/300/0052 P381

Museum of London Archaeology Service 87 Queen Victoria Street London EC4V 4AB

September 1999

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#### 1 INTRODUCTION

- The Museum of London Archaeology Service (MoLAS) was commissioned by Union Railways (South) Limited (URS) to undertake a detailed archaeological investigation at Cuxton (site code ARC CXT 98), situated to the west of Rochester, directly to the west of the M2 Medway Bridge, on the northern side of the River Medway, Kent, in 1998 (Figure 1). This work formed part of an extensive programme of archaeological investigation carried out in advance of the construction of the Channel Tunnel Rail Link (CTRL).
- 1.2 The site is centred on Union Railways Limited URL grid point 52022 47484 and Ordnance Survey National Grid Reference TQ 7200 6735 (Figures 2 and 3). The combined area of the site was approximately 2.03 hectares. The ground sloped fairly steeply down from north to south.
- 1.3 The method of investigation was specified as 'detailed excavation'. This method entailed machine stripping of topsoil and other deposits to expose the archaeological horizon, then constructing a plan, followed by full hand excavation of graves and associated burial structures along with detailed recording. In addition there was sufficient hand excavation and sampling of other features to fulfil the project aims. This methodology was set out in a Written Scheme of Investigation, prepared by URL detailing the scope and methods of excavation was agreed with English Heritage and the local authority. Work was undertaken between July and September 1998.

#### Background

- The site was situated on Upper Chalk bedrock on the northern side of the Medway valley, overlooking the river. The worksite was split into two areas (Areas A and B) by the London to Chatham railway. In the south-east part of Area A there was a partially infilled quarry and in the western part a dry valley. The focus of archaeological activity was located on a fairly flat natural terrace in the valley side, initially recorded in Area A but later investigated in Area B.
- 1.5 A preliminary desk-top assessment (URL 1994) identified the site as having possible archaeological interest. Specifically, there was a Sites and Monuments Record entry relating to a possible Saxon grave being found near the site in the 19th century. There appeared to be no record of any archaeological remains being found during the construction of the M2 road bridge in the 1960's.
- In 1997 URL commissioned MoLAS to undertake a trial trenching evaluation (ARC CXT 97). This located a site of Iron Age activity, an Anglo-Saxon cemetery, a dry valley and a post-medieval field system. The southern and western limits of the Anglo-Saxon cemetery were roughly located by the evaluation but it was not known if activity continued to the north. This was the reason for the investigation of Area B.
- 1.7 Modern landuse for Area A was partly arable farming and partly grazing for horses. Area A, expanding on the 1997 evaluation, was excavated first. Area B had to be stripped of thick vegetation and was excavated second. Coinciding with excavations on Area B an extra strip of land, named Area A1 (located between Area A and the M2 bridge), was excavated for the Highways Agency.

#### 2 SUMMARY OF RESULTS

### 2.1 Periods Represented

2.1.1 Provisional dating evidence suggests that the following periods were represented in the archaeological data.

Late Bronze Age/Early Iron Age (c 1000 - 800 BC).

A series of large pits contained pottery dated to this period. As the pottery is in large fragments with adjoining pieces it is clear they derive from a settlement very close by. The excavation recorded a circular posthole structure (round house) and an associated posthole enclosure with monumental entrance, a ?fenceline and a number of possible huts which is probably this settlement. It is possible that the 5th to 4th century BC date for the pottery identified during the evaluation will be refined, with further work, to the earlier period.

Late Iron Age/Early Romano-British to Roman (100 BC - AD 200)

2.1.3 Sherds of Late Iron Age to late Roman pottery were recovered from several features but most were residual in later features such as Saxon dated penannular ditches. The finds probably derive from a field system and are a general representation of activity during this period rather than direct occupation on the site.

Anglo-Saxon (AD 550 - 650)

2.1.4 There were thirty-six inhumation burials and two cremations. Eleven were surrounded by penannular ditches, one by a posthole structure. The cremations were in pottery vessels placed in graves along with inhumations.

## 2.2 Feature Types

Large Iron Age pits

2.2.1 Probably originally storage pits, were later infilled with a mixture of spoil and domestic rubbish.

Possible Iron Age enclosed farmstead

2.2.2 A large circular posthole structure (postholes containing evidence of burning but no dating evidence) is stratigraphically earlier than an Anglo-Saxon burial. Many other postholes form an enclosure with a monumental entrance to the east. There were other concentrations of postholes that may have formed hut circles. Further evidence for a posthole enclosure was recovered from Area B.

Possible hearths

- 2.2.3 Two large shallow depressions were located filled with burnt flint and charcoal (both of similar large size, shape and situated next to each other) and appear to have been in an open area (i.e. not located within any surrounding structure). A third area of burning with burnt flint and charcoal appears to have been inside a possible Iron Age hut.
- 2.2.4 A characteristic of the Iron Age pits (and undated postholes) were occasional large amounts of burnt flint and charcoal. However some of the Saxon inhumations were associated with burnt deposits, and two Saxon cremations were found. The date of the large hearths is therefore not known.

Anglo-Saxon graves

- 2.2.5 Various types of grave were recorded:
  - Simple graves sunk into the chalk;
  - Grave cuts with internal ledges;
  - Graves with associated external burial structures of two types: (1) penannular ditches with or without a post between the ditch termini, (2) surrounded by a posthole structure.

In general the human bone was in poor to moderate condition.

General burial comments

2.2.6 The majority of burials were aligned east to west with the head to the west. Some, however, were north to south with the head to the north. In general the graves were sunk up to 0.75m into the chalk bedrock and the inhumations were supine. Occasionally a burial was on one side, and one was possibly crouched. The majority of the burials had associated grave goods.

Simple graves

2.2.7 The majority of graves appear to have been of this type.

Graves with internal ledges

2.2.8 A number of grave cuts appear to have had some sort of wooden structure associated with them. The evidence for this varied from a ledge down one or two sides to a slot at the foot end.

*Graves with penannular ditches* 

2.2.9 These surrounded eleven of the Anglo-Saxon graves and the ditches were all fully excavated. No evidence for any kerbing structure was found and evidence from snail shells (obtained during the evaluation ARC CXT 97) and residual pottery shows that they were originally open and filled naturally. The ditches were probably associated with raised mounds but no *in-situ* evidence for these structures survived. Some ditches had an associated posthole located between the ditch termini.

Posthole structure

2.2.10 One grave was surrounded by a posthole structure.

Burial rites/coffin remains

2.2.11 A number of burials were surrounded by a layer of charred material (charcoal/ash) that had clear delineation. It is possible that this material represents some form of burial rite and the material has been placed in a wooden coffin which has since disintegrated.

Dry valley

2.2.12 A large and deep dry valley was recorded and sampled in Area A.

#### 2.3 Artefactual Remains

2.3.1 Perhaps the most important part of the Cuxton archive are the artefactual remains and these mostly concern the registered finds from the Anglo-Saxon graves. The texts are derived from the scanning and spot dating of a selected range of finds during the archaeological excavation and for the purpose of this report.

**Pottery** 

- Late Bronze Age/Early Iron Age (c 1000-800 BC)
- 2.3.2 Only a single context has been processed and examined which contained pottery of prehistoric date. The assemblage consists of large sherds in good condition. Several of these are rim and shoulder sherds representing a minimum of six vessels. Many of the forms can be paralleled to published vessels from excavations along the A2 (1966-1974). The published assemblages are dated to the Early Iron Age, but form part of the Late Bronze Age/Early Iron Age transitional period, dated *c* 1000-800 BC.
- 2.3.3 The good condition and number of individual vessels present in this assemblage suggest it has potential to provide good dating for the excavated features and aid in the interpretation of the activity. It will also stand as further comparative material for the published groups of similar date from the region.

#### Probable Late Iron Age

2.3.4 Probable Iron Age pottery was recovered from a minimum of six features. Some of these pits had been disturbed by modern rabbit burrowing.

#### Roman Pottery

2.3.5 Roman pottery was mostly found residual in Anglo-Saxon Period cut features, as though washed in from the surrounding landscape.

#### Saxon Pottery

2.3.6 Three complete vessels were recovered, two of which contain cremations. These vessels date to between AD 550 to AD 650, possibly to between AD 550 to AD 600, although further work is required to confirm this dating.

#### Registered finds

- 2.3.7 A minimum of 150 registered finds were recovered. The material is in various states of preservation and is all of Early Saxon date, probably 6th century. It is quite possible that further finds will appear as the bulk finds and any samples or cremations are processed. The grave goods form a very important assemblage include multiple types of jewellery (including two gold and glass pendants), shield bosses and fittings, spearheads, knives, buckles, pins, bracelets, belt and clothes fittings, mounts, shears, chatelaines, keys, rings, glass and stone (amethyst) ornaments and bead necklaces, coins, pottery vessels, needle cases, sewing boxes, combs, comb cases, amulets, a strike-a-light and two purses. Often the metal objects show traces of mineralised textiles of various types.
- 2.3.8 Of the 27 copper alloy finds, 12 are buckles; of these the smallest probably derive from scabbards which have decayed in the grave (*cf* finds from Shudy Camps, Cambs: Lethbridge 1936, 13-4; fig.7; Swanton 1973, fig.64).
- 2.3.9 Some 80 iron objects have so far been found, of which 22 are probably knives; in addition there are some half dozen shears (further work may alter these figures slightly). Weaponry also figures prominently with five shield bosses and a number of related fittings, and up to eight spears, one possibly a non-local type. A number of items may be fittings such as nails and handles from items such as boxes or coffins buried in the graves.
- 2.3.10 A total of 28 glass beads was found (mostly from a single grave), with one bead either glass or cowrie shell; in addition there is a glass setting for a pendant. The cylindrical beads are similar to finds from middle Saxon London. Four items are of bone; the poor state of preservation suggests that there were more finds which have not survived.

2.3.11 The finds from this site comprise a very important assemblage with some high quality pieces and some of exceptional interest, for example two composite gold pendants. A brief scan has shown that the finds derive from male and female graves, with a good assemblage of both weaponry and domestic/personal equipment. Two high status female and three high status male burials have been identified. Also of note are the composite finds and the numerous mineralised textile fragments, which will be of importance for the study of technology and dress.

#### 2.4 Palaeo-Environmental and Economic Evidence

- 2.4.1 Some hand-collected animal bone has been examined, dating from Iron Age contexts. These bones were predominantly assessed as in a 'moderate' state of preservation, with some or considerable surface damage, but generally in sufficiently good condition to allow identification of species, skeletal element, with some determination of epiphysial fusion, dental development/wear, butchery, pathology, and measurement points. The bones were generally soft and somewhat brittle; care was necessary to prevent loss of data during handling. The hand-collected group was derived predominantly from ox, sheep/goat, and pig with a considerable component of unidentifiable cattle and sheep-sized mammal fragments.
- 2.4.2 There is approximately 1.5kg of unwashed animal bone. This small amount of bone is unlikely to provide much detailed information on human activities or environmental characteristics.
- 2.4.3 When scanned during the course of the excavation the bulk soil samples were noticeably poor in finds and environmental content. There were no definitely identified mollusc shells or animal bones.
- 2.4.4 It is difficult to gauge the biological potential of the unprocessed environmental soil samples. Some general points, however, may be made regarding the possibility of preservation from the soil conditions on the site. For instance, plant remains will only survive in well drained aerobic soils by charring; plant remains that are not charred will only be preserved in well-sealed anoxic contexts, e.g. the bottom of ditches, wells. Molluscs may survive in all but acidic soils.
- 2.4.5 The soil conditions on the site suggest that preservation of plant remains is likely to be limited to charred plant remains. These may provide potential information on economic activities, for example, crop husbandry through the recovery of charred remains, such as cereal grains, chaff and weed seeds. Several samples were also taken from ditch and dry valley fills for the recovery of molluscs; these may provide data on the nature of the local environment, e.g. in terms of drainage, shading and vegetation. Molluscs may also be present in the other bulk samples. The sample residues may also produce biological remains; for instance, animal bone (large, small mammal, amphibian, fish, bird) which can provide information on economic activity (diet, agriculture) as well as local environmental conditions.

2.4.6 None of the human bone has been washed or processed, The following is an estimate of the state of completeness of the inhumation burials;

**Table 1: Completeness of Human Skeletal remains** 

| Completeness   | Number |  |  |
|--|--------|--|--|
| 75-100 %   | 14     |  |  |
| 50-75%   | 8      |  |  |
| 25-50%   | 7      |  |  |
| 1-25%  | 7      |  |  |
| There are also 2 cremations in pottery vessels that have not been examined |        |  |  |

#### 3 FIELDWORK EVENT AIMS

- 3.1 The results from the evaluation showed the presence of a possible Early to Middle Iron Age settlement and an Anglo-Saxon cemetery.
- 3.2 The primary excavation aims were:
  - establishing a chronology for the cemetery;
  - establishing a sequence of development within the cemetery;
  - determining burial practices;
  - palaeo-demographic and palaeo-pathological analysis of the human remains;
  - recovering palaeo-environmental remains from ditches and other features;
  - provide information on Iron Age land use, environment and economy
- 3.3 The provisional results from ARC CXT 98 with its 36 Anglo-Saxon inhumations and two cremations, burial structures and grave goods should provide information that will allow all the primary aims for the site, as indicated in the WSI, to be answered. The results were consistent with those estimated by the evaluation.

#### 4 SUMMARY OF POTENTIAL

- 4.1 The site lies within the 'landscape zone' of the North Downs, Medway River Valley. The potential contribution of this site towards answering the research aims of the archaeological component of the CTRL can be considered under the following headings, taken from the CTRL Archaeological Research Strategy:
  - farming communities (2000 100 BC);
  - towns and rural landscapes (100 BC AD 1700);
  - recent landscapes (AD 1700 1945).
- 4.1.1 The provisional results of the excavation appear to offer information that can be placed under the broad headings above, but it should be noted that further study may alter these initial conclusions.
- 4.1.2 These potential contributions are sometimes posed here in the form of specific questions, of a kind that post-excavation assessment of the data may be able to answer, or at least confirm are answerable.

#### 4.2 Farming Communities (2000 BC - 100 BC)

- 4.2.1 Evidence is lacking to determine the full size and character of the Late Bronze Age/early Iron Age transitional period settlement at any one time, perhaps partly because of the shape and position of the area excavated; presumably further evidence may survive immediately to the east of the present excavation. A large posthole enclosure and associated hut circle has been identified. Dispersed concentrations of postholes appear to represent further possible buildings and fencelines. Three possible hearths were located (also undated). Can the date and development of this occupation be dated more precisely?
- 4.2.2 The area around the site is fertile and the evaluation showed that the dry valley, located in Area A, continued to be wet until fairly recently (it is possible that the flow was cut fairly recently). Is there any evidence for agricultural crops and method?
- 4.2.3 Environmental remains may have a moderate potential as there appears to be a reasonably high proportion of charred material surviving in the cut features.

#### 4.3 Towns and their rural landscapes (100 BC - AD 1700)

- 4.3.1 Roman period pottery recovered implies a continued human presence in the immediate area throughout the Roman occupation. Although no evidence for Roman dated features has yet been identified on site. The nearest known Roman town is Rochester but the Medway valley was probably well settled and it is likely that both sides of the river were occupied by farms with associated roads and trackways. Is there any evidence of Roman occupation on this site apart from residual pottery?
- 4.3.2 The Anglo-Saxon cemetery faces east. All the graves were situated so as to be visible from this direction and where the land dips away to the west no burials were found. Anglo-Saxon cemeteries were placed in areas where they would have been seen and the implication is that a settlement was situated, and was visible from, the cemetery. It is possible that this settlement was located on a low knoll that projects over the River Medway approximately 200m to 300m to the east of the cemetery.

- 4.3.3 The stratigraphic record has a high potential for further work due to:
  - the structures associated with the graves
  - the possibility of pre-Christian and/or Christian burials
  - the possibility of burial rites
  - the possibility of wooden coffins being used.
- 4.3.4 The finds assemblage offers the opportunity to establish a chronology for the site (for example, are the male graves earlier than the female ones?), and to establish internal typologies of different artefact types which can be compared with finds from other sites.
- 4.3.5 The weapons form an important group of finds and merit study as a group. The shields must be considered in the light of the typology and research presented by Dickinson and Härke (1993), but it is of note the sugar-loaf form considered typical of the later 7th century is absent from this group. The leaf-shaped spears are typical for the county, where there is a particular concentration; one spear also has a near parallel at Wootton in Berkshire (Swanton 1973, fig.13c). Apart from typology, the technology of the spears should also be considered, i.e. metallurgy and evidence for pattern welding. There is also a good collection of knives; again there may be scope for metallurgical analysis.
- 4.3.6 The lack, or rarity, of very early finds such as cruciform brooches and early cloisonné jewellery, suggests a date after AD 550 for this site. It is of some interest that so far no vessel glass has been found, as this is quite common in pagan and early Christian graves. Equally, no brooches have been recognised amongst the finds. This may reflect the date of the assemblage; the lack of brooches at Winklebury, Hants and at Burwell, Cambs, was thought by Lethbridge to indicate an early Christian date for these sites (Lethbridge 1931, 70), although Boddington (1990, 189) considered that this equally reflects changes in dress during the 7th century.
- 4.3.7 How late the cemetery continued in use is unclear; there are several parallels with the cemetery at Polhill (Philp 1973; Hawkes 1973), which is thought to date from AD 650 725, but this seems rather late for most of the Cuxton groups, especially as no real military equipment was found at Polhill. A better comparison is perhaps with the cemeteries of Holywell, and Burwell, Cambs, discussed by Boddington (1990). At Holywell weapons and typical 'pagan' items were common, while these were lacking at the early Christian site of Burwell. Cuxton has elements in common with both sites (and has parallels with other later 6th and 7th century sites) and so might be considered a transitional cemetery, with both pagan and early Christian elements.
- 4.3.8 Environmental remains probably have a lower potential unless the charcoal/ash that surrounded some of the burials contains charred plant material.

#### 4.4 The recent landscape (AD 1700 - 1945)

- 4.4.1 During the post-medieval period the area of the evaluation ARC CXT 97 and Area A of the excavation ARC CXT 98 were given over to arable cultivation. Field boundaries and plough strikes were recorded.
- 4.4.2 During the last century a large amount of regrading has changed part of the hillslopes, with some of the post-medieval land surface being buried under 1.5m of redeposited chalk and silt.
- 4.4.3 Large quarry pits and 19th century railways surround the site.

| 4.5 | All the potential contributions of the results of excavation of this site to the research aims above are of regional importance. |
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#### 5 ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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### **APPENDIX 1 - ARCHIVE INDEX**

| ITEM                                    | NUMBER OF<br>ITEMS                | NUMBER OF<br>FRAGMENTS | CONDITION (No. of items) (W=washed; UW=unwashed; M=marked; P=processed; UP=unprocessed; D=digitised; I=indexed) |
|---|-----------------------------------|------------------------|---|
| Contexts records                        | 282                               |                        |   |
| A1 plans                                | 1                                 |                        | D   |
| A4 plans                                | 110                               |                        | D   |
| A1 sections                             |                                   |                        |   |
| A4 sections                             | 3                                 |                        |   |
| Small finds (boxes)                     | 12 Tubs                           |                        | UW  |
| Films (monochrome)<br>S=slide; PR=print | 5PR                               |                        |   |
| Films (Colour)                          | 5S, 2PR (+                        |                        |   |
| S=slide; PR=print                       | second set)                       |                        |   |
| Flint (boxes)                           | 1 standard                        |                        | UW  |
| Pottery (boxes)                         | 7 standard                        |                        | UW  |
| Fired clay (boxes)                      | 1 standard                        |                        | UW  |
| CBM (boxes)                             |                                   |                        |   |
| Stone (boxes)                           |                                   |                        |   |
| Metalwork (boxes)                       |                                   |                        |   |
| Glass (boxes)                           |                                   |                        |   |
| Slag (boxes)                            |                                   |                        |   |
| Human Bone (boxes)                      | 16 large<br>16 standard<br>3 tubs |                        | UW  |
| Animal Bone (boxes)                     | 1 standard                        |                        | UP  |
| Soil Samples (No.)                      | 18                                |                        | UP  |
| Soil Samples (bags/tubs)                | c.150 litres                      |                        | UP  |
| Soil Samples (Monolith/kubina tin)      |                                   |                        |   |

# **Key to Box Sizes**

| Standard box: 0.46m x 0.18m x 0.13m |
|-------------------------------------|
| Large box: 0.46m x 0.27m x 0.25m    |
| Tub: 0.31m x 0.31m x 0.16m          |

### APPENDIX 2 - INTERIM SUMMARY REPORT

The Museum of London Archaeology Service (MoLAS) was commissioned by Union Railways (South) Limited (URS) to undertake a detailed archaeological investigation at Cuxton (site code ARC CXT 98), situated directly to the west of the M2 Medway Bridge, on the northern side of the River Medway, Kent, in 1998. This work formed part of an extensive programme of archaeological investigation carried out in advance of the construction of the Channel Tunnel Rail Link (CTRL).

The site is centred on Union Railways Limited grid point 52022 47484 and Ordnance Survey National Grid Reference TQ 7200 6735. The combined area of the site was approximately 2.03 hectares. The ground sloped fairly steeply down from north to south.

Beneath modern plough soil truncated archaeological features survived cutting into the underlying chalk. Late Bronze Age/Early Iron Age and probable Late Iron Age pottery was recovered from several dispersed features. Several pits contained large amounts of domestic refuse including animal bone, burnt daub and burnt flint. An undated circular posthole structure probably belongs to the Early Iron Age as it predates an Anglo-Saxon burial. Several lines of undated postholes may represent an enclosure with a monumental entrance to the east. Further posthole concentrations may represent other buildings and fencelines. Three large shallow depressions contained charcoal and burnt flint, possibly representing hearths.

Thirty-six Anglo-Saxon graves were excavated, the state of bone preservation varying from good to very poor. In addition to the inhumation two pottery vessels containing cremations were found. The pottery vessels date some of the burials to between AD 550 and 650. Eleven graves were associated with penannular ditches, most ditches with a central post between the termini; one grave cut was surrounded by a posthole structure; some of the grave cuts had internal ledges, others were simple cuts into the chalk.

The burial population comprised adults, juveniles and probably infants. Grave goods form a very important assemblage and include jewellery (including two gold pendants) shield bosses, spearheads, knives, buckles, fittings, mounts, shears, chatelaines, keys, rings, glass bead necklaces, coins, pottery vessels and two purses.

#### **APPENDIX 3: KENT SMR RECORD SHEET**

Site Name: CUXTON ANGLO-SAXON CEMETERY, KENT

Site code: ARC CXT 98

Summary:

An excavation, commissioned by Union Railways (South) Limited, was carried out by the Museum of London Archaeology Service from July to September 1998 at Cuxton, Kent. The excavation followed an evaluation in 1997 (ARC CXT 97).

District: Rochester upon Medway

Parish: Cuxton CP

**Period(s):** 1. Iron Age

2. Anglo-Saxon

NGR Easting

NGR Northing

Type of Evaluation Watching-Brief Field Walking

Excavation Geophysical Survey

Measured Survey

(To)

25/09/98

### **Unit Undertaking Recording:**

Date of Recording: (From)

Museum of London Archaeology Service, Walker House, 87 Queen Victoria Street, London EC4V 4AB

27/07/98

#### **Summary of Field Results:**

Early to middle Iron Age (from 1000 BC to approximately 800 BC) and probable Late Iron Age pottery was recovered from several dispersed features. Several pits contained large amounts of domestic refuse including animal bone, burnt daub and burnt flint. An undated circular posthole structure, associated enclosures and other postholes may be Iron Age in date as it predates an Anglo-Saxon burial. Several lines of undated postholes may represent an enclosure with a possible monumental entrance related to this structure. Further posthole concentrations may represent other buildings and fencelines.

Thirty six Anglo-Saxon graves were excavated, the state of bone preservation varying from good to very poor. In addition to the inhumations two pottery vessels containing cremations were found. The pottery vessels date some of the burials to between AD 550 and AD 650. Eleven graves were associated with penannular ditches, most ditches with a central post between the termini; one grave cut was surrounded by a posthole structure; some of the grave cuts had internal ledges, others were

simple cuts into the chalk.

The burial population comprised adults, juveniles and probably infants. Grave goods form a very important assemblage with recovered include jewellery (including two gold pendants) shield bosses, spearheads, knives, buckles, fittings, mounts, shears, chatelaines, keys, rings, glass bead necklaces, coins, pottery vessels and two purses.

| <b>Location of Arc</b> | hive/Finds:   | MoLAS                    | S temporarily  |
|------------------------|---|--------------------------|--|
| Bibliography:          | Evaluation, prepared by the Mus URL 1994, Channel Tunnel Rail Final Report prepared by Oxford |                          | k, Assessment of Historic and Cultural Effects,<br>chaeological Unit<br>ion of archaeological investigations at Pepper |
| Summary<br>Compiler:   | TO:<br>MA   | NY <b>Dat</b><br>CKINDER | ate: 20/07/99  |