

**CHANNEL TUNNEL RAIL LINK
UNION RAILWAYS (SOUTH) LIMITED**

**Archaeological Excavation at A20 Diversion Holm Hill
(ARC HOL99), nr Harrietsham, Kent
Environmental Statement Route Window 24/25**

INTERIM REPORT

**Contract Area 420
Contract no. URS/400/ARC/0001
WA Report no. 45996c**

Wessex Archaeology

25 February 2004

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Volume 1 of 1

Prepared by: Date:	
Checked by: Date:	
Approved by: Position: Date:	

**Wessex Archaeology,
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25 February 2004

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1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Project Background

- 1.1.1 Wessex Archaeology was commissioned by Union Railways (South) Limited (URS) to carry out an archaeological excavation of a site alongside the A20 Trunk Road, at its intersection with Greenway Court Road, near the village of Harrietsham (centred on URL grid point 64800 33300; NGR grid point TQ 84800 53300; **Figure 1**). The site is known as A20 Diversion (Holm Hill), under the URS site code ARC HOL99, and within Contract Area 420.
- 1.1.2 The excavation formed part of a programme of archaeological investigation along the proposed route of the Channel Tunnel Rail Link (CTRL), and has been preceded by an Environmental Assessment (URL 1994) and evaluation (URS 1999b). The environmental assessment identified a complex of cropmarks that appear to represent both ring ditch and linear features towards the south-east end of the site (URL 1994, A68), as well as the former route of *Chegworth Lane* between Chegworth and Mount Farm (*ibid*, A62) that crossed the site.
- 1.1.3 The evaluation (URS 1999b) revealed evidence to suggest both Late Bronze Age and Romano-British activity at the site, although insufficient evidence was recorded to characterise the nature of any possible settlement remains associated with these periods. In general the prehistoric remains were identified on the central and north-western higher ground within the site limits, whilst the Romano-British remains were predominantly recorded on the lower ground towards the south-east end of the site.
- 1.1.4 The evaluation also revealed extensive colluvial deposits throughout the evaluation area. Although generally recorded towards the base of the higher central and north-western portions of the site, colluvium was deepest (i.e. 2 m+) within a raised coombe or coombe that crossed the peak of the central high ground, an area associated with prehistoric remains.
- 1.1.5 All fieldwork was conducted in accordance with a written *Agreement for the Provision of Archaeological Services* (URS 1999a), which defined the scope, aims and methods for the CTRL project as a whole, and this specific excavation, designated as a 'Strip, Map and Sample' investigation.
- 1.1.6 The fieldwork was carried out between March 29th and April 30th 1999.

1.2 Site Description, Topography, Geology and Hydrography

- 1.2.1 The site comprised two distinct areas alongside the A20 Trunk Road, to the north-west and south-east of the Greenway Court Road alongside the A20 Trunk Road. The areas were defined as Area A (comprising 0.88 hectares) and Area B (comprising 2.15 hectares).
- 1.2.2 Topographically, Area A occupies the base of the slope below Warren Wood, descending from a height of *c.* 83 m above Ordnance Datum (aOD) along its north-western edge towards Greenway Court Road at a height of *c.* 72-3 m aOD.
- 1.2.3 To the south-east of Greenway Court Road, Area B straddles a north-east to south-west aligned broad undulating ridge extending out into the River Len floodplain to the south-west. The surface of this ridge within the site limits descends from a maximum height of *c.* 86 m above Ordnance Datum (aOD) to *c.* 74 m aOD at the south-east extent of the site. The upper surface of this ridge undulates; descending into the raised east-north-east to west-

south-west aligned coombe approximately centrally located across the main body of the ridge noted above. A large subcircular depression located to the south-west of this coombe may represent a dene hole.

- 1.2.4 The underlying solid geology comprises Cretaceous Lower Greensand Folkestone Sand Beds, with a more recent superficial cap of 4th Terrace River Gravel formerly mapped immediately to the south-west of the site, in the general area now occupied by the A20 cutting through the ridge noted above (Ordnance Survey 1976).
- 1.2.5 There is only one extant watercourse within the site limits, a north-east to south-west flowing drainage ditch that forms the north-west roadside ditch alongside Greenway Court Road. This ditch empties into a culvert system passing under the A20 Trunk Road, and ultimately feeds into the River Len, which in turn converges, to the west-north-west with the River Medway at Maidstone. It is likely that a palaeochannel formerly flowed through the coombe noted above, also feeding into the River Len floodplain.

2 SUMMARY OF RESULTS

2.1 Introduction

- 2.1.1 Archaeological features recorded during the excavation survived as shallow cuts into either the surface of the natural sand or colluvial deposits, or layers/surfaces within colluvial sequences. Features sealed directly by the topsoil were generally located on the higher ground forming the main sand ridge across the site within Area B.
- 2.1.2 Overall, 41 archaeological features were identified and excavated, comprising 14 features within Area A and 27 features within Area B. Within Area A, the features comprised five ditches, three pits, three post-holes and three discrete features that may have been hearths (**Figure 2**). Within Area B, the features comprised six ditches, two gullies, 13 pits, one post-hole, four lynchets and one narrow lynchet/ditch (**Figure 3**). A context inventory of deposits and features of note is provided in **Appendix 3**.

2.2 Periods represented

- 2.2.1 Although relatively few datable artefacts were recovered, sufficient evidence does exist to indicate Early Bronze Age, Late Bronze Age/ Early Iron Age, Iron Age, Romano-British, medieval and post-medieval activity at the site. However, the paucity of datable remains from excavated features restricts opportunities to confidently characterise the nature of such activity at this stage.

Early Bronze Age (2,400 – 1,500 BC)

- 2.2.2 Evidence attributable to this period was restricted to one feature, Ditch 2040 within Area B, which was aligned approximately south-east to north-west, with a north-western terminal within the excavation limits. Two other shorter undated linear features with north-west terminals located 2.4 m and 4.7 m to the south-west were co-aligned with this ditch (gullies 2074 and 2078 respectively), possibly combining to represent a sustained use of the alignment as a field boundary. The south-east extent of all three linear features was obscured by overlying colluvium.

Late Bronze Age/ Early Iron Age (1,100 – 400 BC)

- 2.2.3 Despite the results of the evaluation, pottery attributable to this period was only recovered as unstratified material.

Iron Age (700 BC – AD 43)

- 2.2.4 This period was the most coherently represented within the ceramic assemblage, although the majority of the pieces recovered were unstratified. Two ditches within Area A are identified as Iron Age, comprising ditch 1016, a west-north-west to east-south-east aligned feature towards the southern edge of the site (previously identified within evaluation trench 3592TT as ditch 359205), and ditch 1050/1056. The latter is aligned at right-angles to ditch 1016, approximately following the foot of the slope leading up to Warren Wood, and may represent a division between a settlement area to the north-west and field systems to the south-east.

Romano-British (AD 43 – 410)

- 2.2.5 Romano-British pottery was recovered in small quantities from two parallel ditches crossing Area B on a south-west to north-east alignment (ditches 2081 and 2084). The ditches were approximately 9.3 m apart and were sealed by later colluvium filling the raised coombe noted above. Romano-British pottery was also recovered from unstratified deposits.

Medieval (AD 1066 – 1500) and post-medieval (AD 1500 – 1800)

- 2.2.6 Medieval and post-medieval remains were only recovered from unstratified deposits.

2.3 Feature Types

- 2.3.1 The feature types identified comprised ditches (and gullies), pits, post-holes, possible hearths, lynchets and tree-throws. Of these, only the ditches produced datable artefacts, representing Early Bronze Age, Iron Age and Romano-British features.
- 2.3.2 The prehistoric ditches within each area (i.e. ditch 1050/1056, Area A; ditch 2040, Area B) generally appeared to define the perimeter of higher ground, with radial spurs (i.e. ditch 1016, Area A) suggesting the presence of field systems beyond these perimeters. The Romano-British ditches 2081 and 2084 may represent a trackway, and pass through the coombe located at the top of the main sand ridge in Area B.
- 2.3.3 Within Area A discrete features (i.e. pits and post-holes) were generally located to the south-east of (i.e. topographically below) Iron Age ditch 1056, with the exception of a cluster of charcoal-rich irregular features within the north-west corner of the area. The majority of the latter were identified as natural tree-throws, but some may be pits and/or hearths.
- 2.3.4 Within Area B discrete features were focussed in the zones to either side of the ditches, with a notable absence of any features on the highest ground. This absence is probably the result of truncation through ploughing.
- 2.3.5 Of the five lynchets recorded, four occupied the south-east facing slope of Area B (i.e. lynchet 2132 and 2138), including one instance where one lynchet (lynchet 2134) had been cut by another (lynchet 2136). The remaining example (lynchet 2044) was located on the opposite north-west facing side of the ridge in Area B. Although identified as lynchets on morphological grounds, some of these features were relatively narrow (i.e. lynchet 2138), and may represent the truncated remains of ditches. No dating evidence was recovered from these features.

2.4 Artefactual Reports

by M. Laidlaw

Introduction

- 2.4.1 A small quantity of artefactual material, in a limited range of material types, was recovered from the excavation. Finds totals, by material type and by context are given in **Appendix 4**. The potential date range of material recovered is early prehistoric to post-medieval.

Pottery

- 2.4.2 The small pottery assemblage (67 sherds) includes prehistoric, Romano-British, medieval and post-medieval pottery. The sherds are mainly non-diagnostic, small, plain body sherds, the bulk of which is unstratified.
- 2.4.3 The stratified pottery (28 sherds) includes 13 sherds from ditch 2040 which may be attributed to the Early Bronze Age period on the basis of fabric type and decoration. The fabric is grog tempered and a small number of sherds are decorated with incised lines or fingertip impressions. This is most likely to be either sherds of Beaker or collared urn pottery.
- 2.4.4 Two small flint tempered sherds from the topsoil layer 1021 are attributed to the Late Bronze Age/Early Iron Age on the basis of fabric. But due to the continued use of flint as a temper it is difficult to attribute small, plain body sherds with certainty to a period, these examples may even be Later Iron Age.
- 2.4.5 Three stratified sherds (one from ditch 1016 and two from ditch 1056) have been dated as being Late Iron Age, the sherds are plain body sherds in grog tempered fabrics. Sixteen of the unstratified sherds in a leached calcareous fabric are also attributed to the Iron Age period. As with the flint tempered fabrics these calcareous fabrics are not closely datable.
- 2.4.6 The remainder of pottery consists of eight small Romano-British coarsewares sherds from topsoil 2007, ditches 2081 and 2084; three unstratified sandy sherds which are possibly medieval and five small sandy sherds which are undiagnostic and too small to attribute to a particular period. The post-medieval pottery is all unstratified and includes red earthenwares and one industrial ware.

Worked Flint

- 2.4.7 The small lithic assemblage includes two possible scrapers but predominantly comprises waste flakes and core material. The assemblage is not chronologically distinctive; there are no blades present, so a broad date range of Neolithic to Bronze Age may be postulated. The raw material is likely to derive from a local gravel source, with a variable degree of patination present on most pieces, as well as slight edge-damage. Small concentrations of worked flint were identified from the topsoil layer 1021 of Area A and within ditch 1016. The remainder occurred in small quantities within nine features (see **Appendix 4**) across the site.

Burnt Flint

- 2.4.8 Three fragments of burnt, unworked flint were recovered, one large fragment from ditch 2084 and two unstratified fragments. Burnt flint is intrinsically undatable but is often considered to be indicative of prehistoric activity.

Burnt Stone

- 2.4.9 Two conjoining fragments of burnt stone were recovered from the probable pit 2124 (Area B) and may have been utilised as an hammerstone prior to burning.

Shell

- 2.4.10 One small, unstratified, fragment of oyster shell was retained.

Worked Stone

- 2.4.11 One whetstone, in moderately coarse sandstone, was recovered from ditch 2040. Whetstones are difficult to date precisely but on the basis of associated pottery it may be considered to be Early Bronze Age.

Post-medieval and modern finds

- 2.4.12 These comprise ceramic building material, glass and metalwork, most of which are unstratified, and which are summarised in **Table 1** below:

Table 1: Post-medieval artefact summary

Category	Description
Ceramic building material:	29 featureless tile fragments
Glass:	One fragment of pale green bottle glass and one fragment of clear window glass.
Metalwork:	Eight fragments of iron including one hinge and several nail fragments.

2.5 Palaeo-Environmental and Economic Evidence

Introduction

- 2.5.1 Ten bulk samples (representing approximately 33% of the full assemblage) were processed from a range of pits, ditches and possible hearths. The samples were processed for the recovery and assessment of charred plant remains and charcoals. Standard processing methods were used.

Results

- 2.5.2 The samples generally produced large flots (average flot size for a 10 litre sample is 60 millilitres) predominantly dominated by charcoal (**Appendix 5**) with mainly low levels of both rooty material and uncharred weed seeds, which can be indicative of stratigraphic movement.
- 2.5.3 Few samples contained other charred material except that small quantities of charred weed seeds were present in most samples. Only two samples contained cereal remains; the sample from tree throw 1005 contained a few charred grain and chaff fragments whilst the sample from pit 2003 was exceptional in that it contained a very large amount of charred grain, but no chaff.
- 2.5.4 Large quantities of charcoal fragments of greater than 5.6 mm were recovered from the majority of the samples from pits and possible hearths. No charcoal of this size was observed in the two ditch samples. The charcoal predominantly comprised large wood fragments.
- 2.5.5 A single fresh/brackish-water mollusc (Planorbis) was recorded in the sample from possible hearth 1009.

3 FIELDWORK EVENT AIMS

3.1 Introduction

3.1.1 The Fieldwork Event Aims, as defined in Contract no. URS/400/ARC/0001 (URS 1999a, 36) were as follows;

- *Determine the extent, morphology and function of, and interaction between possible occupation remains and the landscape setting.*
- *Recover individual artefacts and artefact assemblages and other indicators, such as faunal and charred plant remains from securely dated sequences to establish the economic basis of agricultural communities.*
- *Determine the local environment of the site through the recovery of palaeo-environmental data.*

3.2 Results

3.2.1 The excavation has provided sufficient evidence to enable a determination of the extent and morphology of archaeological remains to be made. To a lesser degree the same may be said for the function of the remains, although insufficient structural elements exist to allow a confident identification of occupation centres. Detailed analysis may be hampered by the paucity of stratigraphically secure dating evidence recovered, with few inter-relationships observed restricting the potential for developing an internal chronological framework. However, sufficient dating evidence was recovered to suggest activity in the area during a number of chronologically distinct periods.

3.2.2 Within a wider landscape context, the remains appear to exhibit a pattern in relation to the topography, with the majority of remains located below the highest ground, probably indicative of tillage-induced truncation, but possibly also representing a conscious effort to avoid the most exposed ground within the area.

3.2.3 As noted above, very few stratigraphically secure datable artefacts were recovered, with only five ditches dated with any confidence. However, it is of note that none of these features appeared to contain either residual or intrusive material, suggesting that the effects of post-depositional stratigraphic movement are not significant at this site. This is borne out by the comparative absence of unburnt weed seeds from the environmental samples processed.

3.2.4 Many of the features produced pieces of undiagnostic prehistoric worked flint, and whilst it is possible that some of these pieces may be residual finds in later features, it is again of note that neither of the Romano-British ditches produced such material.

3.2.5 The problem of secure dating evidence for the majority of the sampled features detracts from the potential of the palaeo-environmental data. Nevertheless, the general lack of cereal remains is noteworthy. The presence of charcoal throughout the sequences examined indicates the likely proximity of settlement and/or activity areas; if crop-processing was part of this activity, it would be considered likely that charring, occurrence and preservation of cereal remains would be evidenced within environmental samples.

3.2.6 The negative information might help to characterise the site, although charred grain was found in abundance in one pit. Other evidence of exploitation of the local resources can be

seen in the occurrence of a fresh/brackish-water mollusc in a possible hearth. This is likely to be an accidental incorporation, probably on vegetation (i.e. reeds for thatching, flooring or artefacts) or some other riverine resource (i.e. fish and edible shellfish, mud/alluvium for construction, sealing pits etc.) obtained from the alluvial flats beyond the site. Moreover, its very presence suggests that not only did such a resource exist in the locality, but that it was probably therefore being exploited.

3.3 Conclusions

- 3.3.1 The distribution of archaeological remains recorded during the excavation agrees with the predictive conclusions drawn in the evaluation report (URS 1999b). However, it is significant to note that the perceived Late Bronze Age component of the archaeological landscape from the evaluation has not been positively identified during the excavation, although many features remain at present undated.
- 3.3.2 In contrast, there does appear to be a more coherent Early Bronze Age and Iron Age element to the archaeological resource at the site than previously considered. When considered in hindsight, the recovery of what was thought to be an isolated Early Bronze Age bullhead flint knife from the evaluation is now more likely to be associated with the contemporaneous feature, and possibly some of the undated features in the vicinity.

4 SUMMARY OF POTENTIAL

- 4.1.1 The site is located on the periphery of the Wealden Greensand landscape zone, overlooked by the North Downs to the north, and overlooking the River Len to the south. Within this context the site is ideally situated to exploit a variety of resources, including free-draining farm land in the immediate vicinity, downlands to the north for grazing, and wetland areas along side the River Len to the south. As such, it is likely that the general locale would be favoured for settlement from the earliest periods onwards, culminating in the characteristic ‘polyfocal’ settlements present today along the foot of the North Downs, such as Harrietsham and Hollingbourne.
- 4.1.2 At Holm Hill, the recovery of artefacts representing a broad range of chronological periods may be indicative of such a favourable settlement location through time. As such, the site appears to have been occupied through a number of the time periods defined by the CTRL research strategy (URS 1999a, 65), including;
- *Early agriculturalists (4,500 – 2,000 BC),*
 - *Farming communities (2,000 – 100 BC), and*
 - *Towns and their rural landscapes (100 BC – AD 1700).*
- 4.1.3 As previously discussed (URS 1999b, 24), very little is known concerning prehistoric settlement in the area. As such, it is difficult to place the prehistoric evidence from the excavation into a regional framework. However, when combined with the evaluation results, the project does have the potential not only to identify and characterise the earliest sustained activity at the site, but also to determine the transition between early agriculturists and the later established farming communities.
- 4.1.4 The Romano-British evidence is likely to represent peripheral activity away from settlement centres, such as Thurnham villa to the west, and as such may not make a significant contribution to our understanding of this period in the area. It may, however, be significant

that the Romano-British remains so far discovered all appear to be aligned approximately from south to north, including the possible trackway discovered during the excavation. This may provide further evidence to indicate a need and/or desire to exploit a variety of differing resources, from the River Len to the North Downs.

5 BIBLIOGRAPHY

Ordnance Survey, 1976, *1:50,000 series Geological Survey of Great Britain (England and Wales): Sheet 288 - Maidstone*

Union Railways Limited [URL], 1994, *Channel Tunnel Rail Link: Assessment of Historic and Cultural Effects - Final Report* (4 volumes)

Union Railways (South) Limited [URS], 1999a, *Agreement for the Provision of Archaeological Services*, unpublished contract no. URS/400/ARC/0001

-- , 1999b, *Archaeological Evaluation at A20 Diversion Holm Hill (ARC HOL98), nr Harrietsham, Kent*, unpublished draft client report no. 45990b

Appendix 1: Archive Index

ITEM	NUMBER OF ITEMS	NUMBER OF FRAGMENTS	CONDITION (No. of items) (W=washed; UW=unwashed; M=marked; P=processed; UP=unprocessed; D=digitised; I=indexed)
Contexts records	157	-	P, I
A1 plans and sections	7	-	P, I
A4 plans and sections	62	-	P, I
Small finds	1 (stone)	-	W, M, P, I
Films (monochrome) S=slide; PR=print	9 PR	-	P, I
Films (colour) S=slide; PR=print	9 S, 4 PR	-	P, I (PRs submitted as deliverables)
Flint (boxes)	1 (part of)	86	W, M, P, I
Pottery (boxes)	1 (part of)	67	W, M, P, I
Fired clay (boxes)	-	-	-
CBM (boxes)	1 (part of)	29	W, M, P, I
Stone (boxes)	1 (part of)	3 (2 burnt, 1 SF)	W, M, P, I
Metalwork (boxes)	1 (part of)	8 (iron)	UW, P, I
Glass (boxes)	1 (part of)	2	W, M, P, I
Slag (boxes)	-	-	-
Human Bone (boxes)	-	-	-
Animal Bone (boxes)	-	-	-
Soil Samples	26	29x10 litre tubs, 1 bag	10 P, I; 16 UP
Soil Samples (Monolith/kubiena tin)	-	-	-

Key to Box Sizes

All artefacts contained within one single large cardboard box

Appendix 2: Summary Report and SMR Sheet

Summary Report

Wessex Archaeology was commissioned by Union Railways (South) Limited (URS) to carry out an archaeological excavation of a site alongside the A20 Trunk Road, at its intersection with Greenway Court Road, near the village of Harrietsham (centred on URL grid point 64800 33300; NGR grid point TQ 84800 53300). The site is known as A20 Diversion (Holm Hill), under the URS site code ARC HOL99, and is located within the Environmental Statement Route Window 24/25 (URL 1994).

The excavation formed part of a programme of archaeological investigation along the proposed route of the Channel Tunnel Rail Link (CTRL), and has been preceded by an Environmental Assessment (URL 1994) and evaluation (URS 1999).

Archaeological features recorded during the excavation survived as shallow cuts into either the surface of the natural sand or colluvial deposits, or layers/surfaces within colluvial sequences. Features sealed directly by the topsoil were generally located on the higher ground forming the main sand ridge across the central portion of the site and leading up to Warren Wood at the north-west end of the site.

Overall, 41 archaeological features were identified and excavated, comprising ditches and gullies, pits, post-holes, possible hearths and lynchetts. Relatively few datable artefacts were recovered from these features, although sufficient evidence was recovered to indicate Early Bronze Age, Iron Age and Romano-British features were present, as well as Late Bronze Age/ Early Iron Age, medieval and post-medieval pottery recovered from unstratified sources.

In general, the prehistoric features appear to represent components of a landscape comprised of ditched field systems on the slopes below higher ground within the site limits. The higher ground, particularly the main sand ridge crossing the site, appears to be largely devoid of archaeological remains, and it is likely that subsequent truncation through ploughing has had a significant impact on the buried archaeological resource in these areas. The Romano-British remains appear to indicate a ditched trackway passing south-west to north-east through the site, approximately following the line of the central ridge.

Kent SMR Record Sheet

Site Name:	A20 Diversion (Holm Hill) (ARC HOL99)		
Summary:	CTRL excavation carried out by Wessex Archaeology at the junction of the A20 trunk road and Greenway Court Road, to the north-east of Maidstone, Kent. Excavation carried out in March and April 1999, SMR form compiled 7 th September 1999.		
District:	Maidstone	Parish:	Harrietsham/ Broomfield & Kingswood
Period(s):	1. Early Bronze Age ditch 2. Iron Age ditches 3. Romano-British ditches 4. Unstratified Early Bronze Age, Late Bronze Age/ Early Iron Age, Iron Age, Romano-British, medieval and post-medieval remains.		
NGR Easting:	584800	NGR Northing:	153300
Type of Recording: (Delete)	Evaluation Excavation	Watching Brief Geophysical Survey	Field Walking Measured Survey
Date of Recording:	(From)	29/3/99	(To) 30/4/99
Unit undertaking recording:	Wessex Archaeology Portway House Old Sarum Park Salisbury Wiltshire SP4 6EB		
Summary of Fieldwork Results:			
<p>Wessex Archaeology was commissioned by Union Railways (South) Limited (URS) to carry out an archaeological excavation of a site alongside the A20 Trunk Road, at its intersection with Greenway Court Road, near the village of Harrietsham (centred on URL grid point 64800 33300; NGR grid point TQ 84800 53300). The site is known as A20 Diversion (Holm Hill), under the URS site code ARC HOL99.</p> <p>The excavation formed part of a programme of archaeological investigation along the proposed route of the Channel Tunnel Rail Link (CTRL), and has been preceded by an Environmental Assessment (URL 1994) and evaluation (URS 1999a).</p>			

(Summary of Fieldwork Results Cont.)

Archaeological features recorded during the excavation survived as shallow cuts into either the surface of the natural sand or colluvial deposits, or layers/surfaces within colluvial sequences. Features sealed directly by the topsoil were generally located on the higher ground forming the main sand ridge across the central portion of the site and leading up to Warren Wood at the north-west end of the site.

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Location of Archive: Currently at Wessex Archaeology, Portway House, Old Sarum Park, Salisbury, Wiltshire, SP4 6EB (01722 326867) under site code ARC HOL99. Final venue for deposition to be arranged by URL.

Bibliography:

1. Union Railways Limited [URL], 1994, *Channel Tunnel Rail Link: Assessment of Historic and Cultural Effects - Final Report* (4 volumes)
2. Union Railways (South) Limited [URS], 1999a, *Archaeological Evaluation at A20 Diversion Holm Hill (ARC HOL98)*, nr Harrietsham, Kent, unpublished client report no. 45990b
3. Union Railways (South) Limited [URS], 1999b, *Archaeological Excavation at A20 Diversion Holm Hill (ARC HOL99)*, nr Harrietsham, Kent, unpublished client report no. 45996c

Summary Compiler: **Date:** 25/02/04

Andrew Crockett
Senior Project Officer

Appendix 3: Archaeological Deposits and Features

Area A

Context no.	Description	Depth etc.	Associated finds and samples
1001	Pit: diameter 0.95 m, filled with 1002 and 1013, sealed directly by topsoil.	0.16 m	Burnt flint Bulk samples 3001 and 3004
1007	Post-hole: diameter 0.15 m, filled with 1008.	0.03 m	Bulk sample 3005
1009	Hearth (?) : 0.60 m long, 0.40 m wide, filled with 1010, sealed directly by topsoil.	0.05 m	Bulk sample 3006
1016	Ditch: NW – SE aligned, 1.40 m wide, located on south side of Area A, filled with 1017 and 1018, sealed by colluvial subsoil, cut by post-hole 1019 .	0.54 m	Worked flint 1 sherd of Iron Age pottery
1019	Post-hole: cuts SW edge of ditch 1016 , diameter 0.24m, filled with 1020, sealed by colluvial subsoil.	0.35 m	
1023	Hearth (?) : 0.55 m diameter, filled with 1024, sealed by colluvial subsoil.	0.15 m	Bulk sample 3008
1028	Pit: 1.01 m diameter, filled with 1027, sealed by colluvial subsoil.	0.18 m	Bulk sample 3010
1029	Pit: 0.60 m diameter, filled with 1030.	0.12 m	Bulk sample 3011
1033	Pit/ hearth: 1 m diameter, filled with 1034, 1035, sealed by colluvial subsoil	0.25 m	Bulk sample 3012
1050	Ditch: NNE - SSW aligned, 1.05 m wide, filled with 1051, sealed by colluvial subsoil. Probably equivalent to ditch 1056 .	0.28 m	
1052	Post-hole: 0.42 m diameter, filled with 1053, sealed by colluvial subsoil.	0.10 m	
1055	Ditch: NW - SE aligned, 1.30 m wide, filled with 1054, sealed by colluvial subsoil. Probably equivalent to ditch 1058 .	0.21 m	
1056	Ditch: NNE - SSW aligned, 1 m wide, filled with 1057, sealed by colluvial subsoil. Probably equivalent to ditch 1050 .	0.40 m	2 sherds Iron Age pottery
1058	Ditch: ESE - WNW aligned, 0.80 m wide, filled with 1059, sealed by colluvial subsoil. Probably equivalent to ditch 1055 .	0.20 m	

Area B

Context no.	Description	Depth etc.	Associated finds and samples
2003	Pit: 1.10 m diameter, filled with 2001 and 2002, irregular in plan, sealed directly by topsoil.	0.23 m	Bulk sample 3501
2006	Ditch: NE - SW aligned, filled with 2004, 2005, 2048 and 2064, sealed directly by topsoil.	0.38 m	Bulk samples 3502 and 3503
2009	Pit: length 2.35 m, width 0.90 m, filled with 2008, sealed directly by topsoil.	0.27 m	2 pieces of worked flint
2016	Pit: diameter 0.90 m, filled with 2014 and 2015, sealed directly by topsoil.	0.33 m	Bulk sample 3504
2018	Pit: 0.45 m long, 0.30 m wide, filled with 2017, cut by pit 2020 , sealed directly by topsoil.	0.22 m	
2020	Pit: 0.61 m long, 0.24 m wide, filled with 2019, cuts pit 2018 , sealed directly by topsoil.	0.25 m	
2021	Pit: 2.80 m long, 1.20 m wide, filled with 2022, sealed directly by topsoil.	0.50 m	Bulk sample 3505
2025	Pit: 0.60 m diameter, filled with 2023 and 2024, sealed directly by topsoil.	0.18 m	Bulk sample 3506
2026	Pit: 0.50 m diameter, filled with 2027, sealed directly by topsoil.	0.40 m	
2033	Pit: 2.40 m long, 0.93 m wide, filled with 2031 and 2032, sealed directly by topsoil.	0.19 m	3 pieces of worked flint Bulk sample 3508
2034	Post-hole: 0.38 m diameter, filled with 2035, sealed directly by topsoil.	0.34 m	
2037	Pit: 0.92 m long, 0.83 m wide, filled with 2036, sealed directly by topsoil.	0.17 m	
2040	Ditch: NW - SE aligned, 0.75 m wide, 50 m+ long, filled with 2028, 2029, 2011, 2056, 2058, 2064 and 2072, sealed directly by topsoil.	0.50 m	5 pieces of worked flint 13 sherds of EBA pottery 1 whetstone Bulk sample 3507
2043	Pit: 1.02 m long, 0.58 m wide, filled with 2042, sealed directly by topsoil.	0.30 m	Bulk sample 3510
2044	Lynchets: NW - SE aligned, 0.45 m wide, filled with 2045 and 2046, sealed directly by topsoil.	0.29 m	2 pieces of worked flint 2 CBM fragments
2068	Pit: 1 m long, 0.43 m wide, filled with 2066 and 2067, sealed directly by topsoil.	0.17 m	Bulk sample 3512
2073	Gully: NW - SE aligned, 0.40 m wide, 38 m+ long, filled with 2038, 2070 and 2060, sealed directly by topsoil.	0.36 m	Burnt flint
2074	Gully: NW - SE aligned, 0.30 m wide, 8 m+ long, filled with 2072, 2054 and 2055, sealed directly by topsoil.	0.20 m	
2079	Ditch: NW - SE aligned, 0.75 m wide, 40 m+ long, filled with 2076, sealed by colluvial subsoil.	0.26 m	Undiagnostic pottery
2081	Ditch: NE - SW aligned, 1.30 m wide, filled with 2080, sealed directly by topsoil. (also recorded as 2083 and 2123)	0.52 m	1 sherd of RB pottery.
2084	Ditch: NE - SW aligned, 1.40 m wide, filled with 2085 and 2086, sealed by colluvial subsoil. (also recorded as 2098 and 2117)	0.50 m	1 sherd of RB pottery 7 pieces of worked flint 1 burnt hammer-stone Bulk sample 3513
2101	Ditch: NE - SW aligned, 1 m wide, filled with 2102, sealed by colluvial subsoil. (also recorded as 2103)	0.55 m	Worked flint
2124	Pit (?) : 3 m wide, length unknown, filled with 2125, 2126 and 2127, sealed directly by topsoil.	1.20 m	Burnt clay Burnt flint Burnt stone
2132	Lynchets: NE - SW aligned, 12 m wide, filled with 2133, sealed directly by topsoil.	1.40 m	
2134	Lynchets: NE - SW aligned, 2 m wide, filled with 2135, re-cut by (i.e. cut by) lynchet 2136 , sealed directly by topsoil.	0.50 m	
2136	Lynchets: NE - SW aligned, 9.5 m wide, filled with 2137, re-cut of (i.e. cuts) lynchet 2134 , sealed directly by topsoil.	1 m	
2138	Lynchets/ ditch: NE - SW aligned, 2.8 m wide, filled with 2139, sealed directly by topsoil.	0.90 m	

Appendix 4: Artefact Quantification

EBA = Early Bronze Age; LBA/EIA = Late Bronze Age/Early Iron Age; IA = Iron Age; RB = Romano-British; Med = Medieval; Pmed = Post-medieval; Undiag. = undiagnostic; Fe = Iron; All weights (Wt) in grams

		Burnt Flint		Burnt Stone		CBM		Worked Flint		Glass		EBA Pottery		LBA/EIA Pottery		IA Pottery		RB Pottery		Med Pottery		Undiag Pottery		Pmed Pottery		Shell		Stone		Metal
Feature	Context	No.	Wt	No.	Wt	No.	Wt	No.	Wt	No.	Wt	No.	Wt	No.	Wt	No.	Wt	No.	Wt	No.	Wt	No.	Wt	No.	Wt	No.	Wt	No.	Wt	No.
Unstratified	-	2	504			27	890	9	154	2	16			1	2	18	41	1	3	3	18	2	7	14	267	1	12			8 Fe
AREA A																														
Topsoil	1021							23	1592					2	1															
Tree throw 1004	1003																				1	2								
Ditch 1016	1017							16	506							1	6													
Ditch 1056	1057															2	8													
AREA B																														
Topsoil	2007																	5	88											
Pit 2009	2008							2	46																					
Ditch 2010	2011							2	14																					
Pit 2033	2032							2	10																					
Ditch 2040	2029							3	22			13	34														1	302		
Lynchet 2044	2045					2	110	2	10																					
Ditch 2075	2076																				2	2								
Ditch 2081	2082																	1	2											
Ditch 2084	2085	1	300					7	8																					
Ditch 2084	2118																	1	4											
Ditch 2103	2104							2	82																					
Ditch 2103	2105							2	42																					
Subsoil	2106							2	66																					
Pit (?) 2124	2126			2	210			14	438																					
TOTALS		3	804	2	210	29	1000	86	2990	2	16	13	34	3	3	21	55	8	97	3	18	5	11	14	267	1	12	1	302	8

Appendix 5: Ecofact Quantification

				Flot							Residue
Feature	Context	Sample	Size (l)	Flot Size (ml)	Grain	Chaff	Weed unburnt	Seeds burnt	Charcoal >5.6mm	Other	Charcoal >5.6mm
AREA A											
Pit 1001	1002	3001	10	625 ^{6.25}	-	-	c	B	A*	-	-
Pit 1001	1013	3004	10	20 ²	-	-	c	C	C	-	-
Hearth 1009	1010	3006	2	50 ^{2.5}	-	-	c	-	A	moll-f (C)	-
Hearth 1028	1027	3010	10	250 ^{12.5}	-	-	c	C	A*	-	-
Hearth 1033	1034	3012	10	1000 ¹⁰	-	-	c	C	A*	-	-
AREA B											
Pit 2003	2001	3501	10	350 ^{3.5}	A**	-	c	C	A	-	-
Ditch 2040	2029	3507	10	10 ^{6.5}	-	-	a	C	-	-	-
Pit 2043	2041	3509	10	750 ^{7.5}	-	-	c	C	A*	-	-
Pit 2068	2066	3512	10	700 ⁷	-	-	c	C	A*	-	-
Ditch 2103	2105	3514	10	1 ^{0.1}	C	C	c	C	-	-	-

A** = exceptional, A* = 30+ items, A = 10-29 items, B = 9-5 items, C = <5 items, moll-f = freshwater mollusca

Flot Size is total, but value in superscript = ml of rooty material within the flot

Unburnt Weed Seeds in lower case to distinguish from Burnt Weed Seeds