

Summary

Pilgrims Way, Aylesford, Kent (NGR TQ 74300 60100)

In August 1998 the Oxford Archaeological Unit (OAU) undertook an evaluation for Union Railways Ltd (URL) at land south of the Pilgrims Way and east of the old Chatham Road along the route of the Channel Tunnel Rail Link.

The archaeological features comprised of six pits, a human cremation, two ditches and a possible Iron Age buried soil. One of the ditches is probably late Bronze Age/early Iron Age in date. An adult human cremation in a pit contained a flat-topped bone pin, which indicates a date in the Iron Age or Roman period. Some of the pits contained broken or burnt sarsen stone but no artefactual material. Dating evidence from the site as a whole was sparse (11 pottery sherds in total), although the predominance of late Bronze Age/early Iron Age pottery suggests that the late Bronze Age/early Iron Age activity identified to the north at the White Horse Stone site continues south down the dry valley into the present site.