

**CHANNEL TUNNEL RAIL LINK
Union Railways (South) Ltd**

Project Area 430

**CTRL PROJECT AREA 430
ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEFS
ARC 430 99**

**WATCHING BRIEF
INTERIM REPORT
FINAL**

Contract: S/400/SP/0008/P481

**Oxford Archaeological Unit
October 2000**

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INTERIM REPORT
FINAL**

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Contract: S/400/SP/0008/ P481

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October 2000**

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PROJECT AREA 430

ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF

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1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Project Background

- 1.1.1 The Oxford Archaeological Unit was commissioned by Union Railways (South) Limited (URS) to monitor all earthworking operations with a potential archaeological impact within CTRL Project Area 430. This work formed part of an extensive programme of archaeological investigation carried out during the construction of the CTRL.
- 1.1.2 Project Area 430 consists of all permanent and temporary land-take associated with construction of the CTRL, from East of Lenham Heath (URS Grid 772300E / 28800N, NGR TQ 9190 4920) to Ashford (URL Grid 83500E / 20500N, NGR TR 0345 4050). This includes the trace (at grade, within cuttings and on embankments), bridges and associated works (mitigation earthworks, construction sites, transformer stations etc).
- 1.1.3 Areas previously subject to strip, map and sample excavation were excluded from the works, as were areas of known large-scale modern disturbance (as detailed in the WSI).

1.2 Topography, Geology and Landuse

- 1.2.1 From Lenham Heath, the CTRL crosses a diverse landscape including undulating farmland, woodland, Hothfield Common and the Great Stour Valley, which is fed by a number of tributaries. The current settlement pattern in this part of Kent is typified by numerous small hamlets and individual farms. The Project Area includes a transect through the denuded historic parkland of Goddington, on the western edge of Ashford. At the eastern end of the Project Area the CTRL route passes through the Ashford urban area, ending at the parish boundary between Sevington and Mersham, to the south-east of the town.
- 1.2.2 The geology of Project Area 430 consists of Cretaceous Lower Greensand (Folkestone Sand Beds). Such deposits were typically found immediately below the ploughsoil but were occasionally overlain by superficial geological deposits of colluvium or alluvium.
- 1.2.3 Agricultural areas affected by the CTRL construction were occupied by a mixture of arable cultivation, pasture and woodland. A 5 km stretch of the route passed through the Ashford urban area, including peripheral developments such as the barracks at Goddington and the extensive areas of new industrial development to the south-east of the town.

1.3 Background

Archaeological background

- 1.3.1 A desktop assessment has been conducted for the CTRL route, the results of which can be found in *Union Railways Limited, Channel Tunnel Rail Link: Assessment of Historic and Cultural Effects. Final Report*. (4 volumes. Prepared for URL by OAU, 1994).

Surface Collection Survey

- 1.3.2 An extensive surface collection survey was carried out along sections of the CTRL Route prior to any construction work. The survey results can be found in *Union Railways Limited, Channel Tunnel Rail Link: Assessment of Historic and Cultural Effects. Supplementary Fieldwork Report, Part 2*, (Prepared for URL by OAU, 1994).

Geophysical survey

- 1.3.3 Geophysical Surveys using a variety of techniques were carried at a number of sites within Project Area 430. The results can be found in a series of volumes produced for URL by Bartlett-Clark Consultancy and Geophysical Surveys of Bradford in 1995 and 1996. In 1999 a geophysics trial was carried out at Tutt Hill by Geophysical Surveys of Bradford to assess the viability of large scale survey, given the soil conditions in the area (ARCTHG99). As the results were negative, no further work was carried out.

Evaluations

- 1.3.4 A large number of evaluations have been carried out along the CTRL route within Project Area 430. The trenches were located either to evaluate areas of archaeological potential suggested by the desk-top assessment and surface collection survey, or to provide coverage of otherwise unknown stretches of the route. A list of evaluations carried out in Project Area 430, with a brief summary of results, year of fieldwork report and the archaeological contractor responsible, is provided below. Individual site reports are available for all evaluations listed:

Site	Site code	Chainage	Comments
Brockton Farm	ARCBRO98	78+200 to 78+700	Colluvial deposits, post-medieval pits and gullies outside the farm curtilage, OAU, 1998
Brockton Farmhouse and Barn	ARCBBF99	78+400 to 78+550	Post-medieval features and deposits associated with the farm, OAU, 1998
Hurst Wood	ARCHWD97	79+200 to 79+500	Undated features and flint finds, WA, 1997
East of Newlands	ARCNEW97	79+950 to 81+050	Late Iron Age/early Roman hollow way and some medieval finds, MoLAS, 1997
East of Pluckley Road	ARCPLD97	81+100 to 81+800	Pre-historic activity and Roman Road, MoLAS, 1997
Leacon Lane	ARCLLA98	82+100 to 82+500	Burnt tree throws, MoLAS, 1999
Westwell Leacon	ARCWWL98	82+500 to 82+950	Medieval chalk footings, MoLAS, 1998
Leda Cottages	ARCLED98	82+950 to 83+800	Post-medieval pit, MoLAS, 1998
Tutt Hill	ARCTUT98	83+850 to 84+200	Undated wall foundations, MoLAS, 1998
Tutt Hill, Westwell	ARC430/ 84+400 to 84+800/ 99	84+400 to 84+800	Pre-historic features, OAU, 1999
West of Station Road,	ARCPFM97	84+900 to	Medieval building with moat,

Site	Site code	Chainage	Comments
Parsonage Farm		85+250	MoLAS, 1997
Beechbrook Wood	ARCBW98	85+250 to 86+350	Iron Age/early Roman ditches, MoLAS, 1998.
South of Beechbrook Wood	ARCBWD97	85+750 to 86+700	Roman Features, MoLAS, 1998
Yonseas Farm	ARCYFM97	86+250 to 86+450	Possible medieval moat, MoLAS, 1997
Lodge Wood	ARCLWD98	87+350 to 87+600	Iron Age and Roman features OAU, 1998
Boys Hall Road	ARCBHR97	92+100 to 92+700	Post-medieval features, MoLAS, 1998
North of Sevington Railhead	ARCSRH97	93+000 to 93+200	Medieval structures, MoLAS, 1998

Detailed Archaeological Works

- 1.3.5 Following the results from the evaluations detailed archaeological work was carried out at the locations listed below in chainage order from west to east. Interim reports are available for the sites listed.

Site	Site code	Chainage	Results
Brockton Farm and Barn	ARCBBF99	78+400 to 78+550	Survey and trenching: 17 th century barn and farmhouse, OAU, 1999.
East of Newlands	ARCNEW98	79+950 to 81+050	Romano-British hollow way, OAU, 1999
Hurst Wood	ARCHWD99	79+400 to 79+500	Undated burnt features, OAU, 1999
Tutt Hill pill boxes	ARCTPB99	84+200	Survey: WWII pill boxes
Parsonage Farm	ARCPFM98	85+100 to 85+250	Medieval structures and moat, MoLAS, 1999
South of Beechbrook Wood	ARCBWD98	85+950 to 86+150	Late Iron Age/ early Roman occupation, (MoLAS 1998).
Yonseas Farm	ARCYFM98	86+250 to 86+450	Survey and trenching: 19 th century model farm, OAU, report in progress.
2 Boys Hall Road	ARCBOY98	92+050 to 92+100	Survey and excavation: 16 th century cottage, (OAU, report in progress).
4 Boys Hall Road	ARCBOY499	92+050 to 92+100	Survey: 16 th century cottage (OAU, report in progress).
Boys Hall Balancing Pond	ARCBHB99	92+650 to 92+800	Late Iron Age/ Romano- British cremations and ditches. Post-medieval ditches associated with moated site.

1.4 Methods of archaeological monitoring and recording:

Monitoring

- 1.4.1 All groundworks in areas with potential to contain archaeological remains (i.e. areas with no evidence for extensive modern disturbance) were monitored by an archaeologist, in accordance with the WSI. Works included the removal of topsoil, subsoil, made ground and superficial geological deposits such as alluvium and colluvium. The translocation of ancient woodland soil was also monitored, and a watching brief was maintained on demolition and site clearance works where the depth of intrusion was such that archaeological deposits might be affected.
- 1.4.2 Designated areas of comparatively high potential and peripheral areas of some detailed mitigation works were subject to **Targeted Watching Brief**. Stripping in these areas was carried out by the Main Contractor using a 360° excavator fitted with a toothless bucket, under the direct control of an archaeologist.
- 1.4.3 In the event of the discovery of significant archaeological remains, the notification procedure was implemented, as defined in the WSI. Following discussions between the Project Manager, Main Contractor, Archaeological Contractor and Statutory Consultees, exposed archaeological features and deposits were subject to an appropriate level of archaeological excavation and recording. In some cases, areas were designated for preservation *in situ*, where possible within the construction arrangements.
- 1.4.4 Project Area 430 originally contained no targeted watching brief areas (see WSI). One area was subsequently designated as Targeted Watching Brief in the course of fieldwork:
- Tutt Hill (83+800 to 84+900)

Recording

- 1.4.5 On a daily basis the watching brief record consisted of, as a minimum:
- Site code (including chainage) of areas observed
 - Date
 - Personnel present
 - A description of works observed
 - Type and extent of any activity including:
 - Depths
 - Measure of confidence that any archaeological remains would be observed and reasons.
 - All areas and horizons unaffected by construction activity
 - The specific site code of any archaeological or Quaternary remains (including the chainage reference)
 - Reasons why any particular area of the works was not observed
 - Summary location and description of any modern features

Unexpected Significant Discoveries

- 1.4.6 Unexpected archaeological and Quarternary remains were recorded to the standards specified by the Archaeological Watching Brief WSI Appendix B1 (3.3.6.8). All recording was conducted in accordance with the WSI and the *OAU Field Manual* (ed. D Wilkinson 1992), except where superseded by the specific requirements of the WSI.
- 1.4.7 The general site code applied to Project Area 430 was ARC 430/99. Where investigation of features was undertaken a specific site code was used, derived from the project chainage to within 100m. For example ARC 430/99 79+500. Where sites extend over more than 100m of the route the site code consists of a chainage range. Chainage distances in metres are measured from west to east along the CTRL route, starting at London St.Pancras.
- 1.4.8 Feature intersections were excavated to establish relative chronologies and a sample of significant features was excavated to recover artefacts and environmental evidence. The excavation strategy in each case was determined following on-site discussions between representatives of the Project Manager (RLE), the Archaeological Contractor (OAU) and the Statutory Consultees (English Heritage, Kent County Council).
- 1.4.9 Temporary site grids were employed to record feature complexes or find scatters. A total station theodolite (TST) or GPS was used to record the location of the grid points in relation to the CTRL project grid. The majority of individual finds and isolated features were related to the CTRL project grid by offsetting from chainage markers, which were set out by the construction team at 20 m intervals using an TST or GPS. General observations were recorded directly onto 1:1250 scale route plans. All heights were recorded from URS permanent ground markers related to Ordnance Datum Newlyn.

Human Remains

- 1.4.10 All human remains were recorded in accordance with the CTRL Act 1996, project procedure for reporting the discovery of human remains and the *OAU Field Manual* (ed. D Wilkinson 1992). When necessary the advice of an osteoarchaeologist was obtained.

Metal Detecting

- 1.4.11 When an area of archaeological remains was considered likely to contain significant metal artefacts, a metal detector was used and the location of all finds was recorded in plan.

Environmental sampling

- 1.4.12 The environmental sampling strategy was undertaken in accordance with the WSI, Appendix B1 (3.3.6.15).
- 1.4.13 Site specific environmental sampling strategies were formulated for Significant Discoveries Individual (SDI - see 2.1.1 below).

2 SUMMARY OF RESULTS

2.1 Presentation of results

2.1.1 All sections of the route have been divided into three categories, defined as follows:

- **Watching Brief General (WBG)** - Areas containing finds and features of relatively low significance with no clear relationship to previously discovered sites.
- **Significant Discoveries Individual (SDI)** - Unexpected discoveries that may be recommended for individual assessment, due to their relative importance as individual sites.
- **Significant Discoveries Supplementary (SDS)** - Data that adds significantly to known sites defined through previous archaeological mitigation works.

Sections of the route in Project Area 430 have been categorised as follows:

Site	Start chainage	End chainage	Category
Brockton Farm	78+150	78+600	SDS
South of Charing Heath	78+600	79+200	WBG
Hurst Wood	79+200	79+500	SDS
Hurst Wood WBG	79+500	79+950	WBG
East of Newlands	79+950	80+150	SDS
Newlands Stud to East of Pluckley Road	80+150	81+800	WBG
Leacon Lane	81+800	82+000	SDI
Westwell Leacon and Leda Cottages	82+000	83+800	WBG
Tutt Hill	83+800	84+900	SDI
West of Parsonage Farm	84+900	85+100	WBG
Parsonage Farm	85+100	85+350	SDS
Beechbrook Farm	85+350	85+900	WBG
South Of Beechbrook Wood	85+900	86+200	SDS
Yonse Farm	86+200	86+500	SDS
Lodge Wood WBG	86+500	87+300	WBG
Lodge Wood	87+300	87+800	SDI
Ashford and Sevington	87+800	93+250	WBG

2.1.2 The report figures contain summary information only, detailing archaeological features and deposits but omitting information on conditions of monitoring. This data has been incorporated into RLE's CAD system and will be up-dated as the earthworks proceed. Isolated features and deposits are labelled individually with chainage reference and context number. SDS and SDI discoveries are illustrated with a full site plan. Sections of the route with no recorded archaeological deposits are omitted.

2.1.3 The summary results are described in chainage order from west to east (Section 2.2). Each entry includes the fieldwork event code, fieldwork event name, category (WBG, SDS, SDI) and figure reference, and includes a summary of the archaeological discoveries.

2.1.4 The summary briefly describes feature type, period and the artefactual and palaeo-environmental data recovered.

2.2 Summary of watching brief results

2.2.1 **Event Code:** ARC 430 / 78+150 to 78+600

Event name: Brockton Farm

Category: SDS

Figure: 2

Summary:

Drawing ref.	Description
24	A shallow gully aligned north-south and probably post-medieval. Small fragments of CBM were recovered but there were no other finds (78+300, 24).
31	A post-medieval well was recorded during the excavation of a cutting, 10m to the north of Brockton Farm. A circular wooden frame was recovered that was probably used during construction of the well, as a guide for laying the bricks (78+500, 31).

2.2.2 **Event Code:** ARC 430 / 78+600 to 79+200

Event name: South of Charing Heath

Category: WBG

Figure: 2,3

Summary:

Drawing ref.	Description
	No significant archaeological deposits identified.

2.2.3 **Event Code:** ARC 430 / 79+200 to 79+500

Event name: Hurst Wood

Category: SDS

Figure: 3

Summary:

Drawing ref.	Description
1	A small burnt feature, similar to features discovered during the Hurst Wood excavation, was recorded. This scatter of burnt pits is of uncertain date, probably Roman or later, and may result from woodland clearance 79+300 (1).

2.2.4 **Event Code:** ARC 430 / 79+500 to 79+950

Event name: Hurst Wood WBG

Category: WBG

Figure: 3

Summary:

Drawing ref.	Description
	Thirty-six 2 nd World War concrete tank traps were discovered beneath a farm track. They were not <i>in situ</i> , and may have been moved from their original position during the construction of the M20.

2.2.5 **Event Code:** ARC 430 / 79+950 to 80+150**Event name:** East of Newlands**Category:** SDS**Figure:** 4**Summary:**

Drawing ref.	Description
19	A hollow way, possibly of Roman date, which was first discovered during an evaluation and was subsequently subject to detailed mitigation (trench excavation), was further investigated during the watching brief. An abraded fragment of Samian dating to the mid 2 nd century was recovered from the stripped surface of the upper fill. The road might be part of a known route that ran between Rochester and Dover, but if this were true the alignment from Maidstone and Ashford would need to be reinterpreted (80+100, 19).
23	A shallow Middle Iron Age pit was discovered in this area, containing a charcoal rich fill and pottery. This feature might have been a cremation pit that has been truncated by ploughing and is situated 20m west of two cremations of the same date (79+950, 23).
5, 7	Two badly disturbed middle Iron Age cremations with the remains of cremation urns. (79+950, 5, 7).
21	A post-medieval field boundary. Also located in a MOLAS evaluation trench (ARCNEW97). (80+050, 21).

2.2.6 **Event Code:** ARC 430 / 80+150 to 81+800**Event name:** Newlands Stud to East of Pluckley Road**Category:** WBG**Figure:** 4, 5**Summary:**

Drawing ref.	Description
66, 68	Two late Iron Age pits were investigated which contained slag, charcoal and possible kiln debris. These features were severely plough truncated and consequently poorly defined (81+200, 66, 68).

2.2.7 **Event Code:** ARC 430 / 81+800 to 82+000**Event name:** Leacon Lane**Category:** SDI**Figure:** 6,12**Summary:**

Drawing ref.	Description
3	A concentration of late Neolithic/ early Bronze Age worked flint was recovered in the area of Leacon Lane. The concentration consisted of 160 flints, mostly flakes with some cores, distributed over an area of 100m x 40m. The recorded distribution does not represent the true extent of the concentration as parts of the surrounding area were subject to disturbance during construction works, impeding visibility. The flint concentration was situated between two areas where archaeological features were excavated (Area 1 to the west and Area 2 on the higher

Drawing ref.	Description
	ground to the east) (81+870).
Area 1	An area 30m x 20m was stripped under archaeological control to reveal 7 pits and a ditch. The pits were filled with burnt flint and charcoal but no dating evidence was recovered. The ditch was aligned north-west to south-east and contained early Roman pottery (81+870).
Area 2	Situated on higher ground to the north-east, this area contained a small cluster of 10 late Iron Age or early Roman pits (81+870).

- 2.2.8 **Event Code:** ARC 430 / 82+000 to 83+800
Event name: Westwell Leacon and Leda Cottages
Category: WBG
Figure: 6,7
Summary:

Drawing ref.	Description
1, 5, 9, 10	Four Late Iron Age pits were excavated. These features were all in close proximity, within an area 10m x 10m. Late Iron Age pottery was recovered from all of the features (83+300, 1, 5, 9, 10).

- 2.2.9 **Event Code:** ARC 430 / 83+800 to 84+900
Event name: Tutt Hill
Category: SDI
Figure: 8,9,13
Summary:

Drawing ref.	Description
33, 35, 37, 39	One pit investigated in this area (33) contained mid-late Iron Age pottery. Three other pits in the same area (35, 37 39) contained only daub and slag, but are probably of similar date (83+900).
332,334	Two very similar burnt features, interpreted as hearths. Both have a diameter of 0.4 m and a depth of 0.4m (84+100).
32	A concentration of unstratified medieval pottery covering an area of 5m x 5m. No associated features were identified (84+150).
Tutt Hill SDI	<p>Following the discovery of a late Bronze Age pit during the monitoring of a geotechnical test pit, an area 40m x 20m was excavated. This revealed a low density of late Bronze Age pits and gullies.</p> <p>A fourteen trench evaluation was then carried out in the surrounding area (see 1.3.4 above, Tutt Hill, Westwell, ARC430/ 84+400-84+800/ 99), but the only discoveries made were three pits of late Bronze Age and Iron Age date.</p> <p>During the monitoring of sub-soil stripping an Iron Age cremation pit containing two vessels was discovered. On the strength of this evidence an area 110m x 25m was cleaned, partially revealing three Bronze Age ring ditches. Three further severely truncated Iron Age cremations and a series of Bronze Age linear ditches were also discovered.</p> <p>The area to the south-west of the excavation was then designated as a Targeted Watching Brief. A further Bronze Age ring ditch, additional elements of the Bronze Age field system, a possible house gully and a large number of tree throw holes were discovered during the stripping</p>

Drawing ref.	Description
	of the sub-soil in this area (84+400).
19	A flint scatter consisting of 120 pieces of flint of early/ mid Neolithic date was identified, extending over a 100m x 25m area (84+750).
20	A second small flint scatter was found to the south-east of 84+750(19), consisting of 11 pieces of flint, possibly of early Neolithic date, covering a 20m x 20m area.
21, 23, 26,28	Three pits containing burnt flint were excavated but produced no dating evidence (84+860). A single undated posthole may be contemporary.

2.2.10 **Event Code:** ARC 430 / 84+900 to 85+100

Event name: West of Parsonage Farm

Category: WBG

Figure: 9

Summary:

Drawing ref.	Description
	No significant archaeological deposits identified.

2.2.11 **Event Code:** ARC 430 / 85+100 to 85+350

Event name: Parsonage Farm

Category: SDS

Figure: 9

Summary:

Drawing ref.	Description
17, 18	During the excavation of a culvert at Parsonage Farm, part of a medieval moat was recorded (the feature was previously investigated during detailed archaeological works), (85+100).
33	A small concentration of late Neolithic/early Bronze Age flint was identified in an area c.50m x 40m in extent, consisting of 6 pieces of worked flint (85+300).

2.2.12 **Event Code:** ARC 430 / 85+350 to 85+900

Event name: Beechbrook Farm

Category: WBG

Figure: 9

Summary:

Drawing ref.	Description
	No significant archaeological deposits identified.

- 2.2.13 **Event Code:** ARC 430 / 85+900 to 86+200
Event name: South of Beechbrook Wood
Category: SDS
Figure: 10
Summary:

Drawing ref.	Description
20	A shallow, late Iron Age gully was found, situated on the edge of the detailed excavation to the south of Beechbrook Wood (see 1.3.5 above, South of Beechbrook Wood, ARCBWD98).
22, 24, 27, 29	Three late Iron Age / early Romano-British ditches (22, 24, 27) and a pit (29) were discovered. These features, which were located on the northern side of the A20, will be assessed alongside the South of Beechbrook Wood detailed archaeological works (see 1.3.5 above, South of Beechbrook Wood, ARCBWD98).
50, 52	Two post-medieval pits were identified offset 220m west of the CTRL centre line at chainage 86+100. They are probably outlying features associated with Yonseas Farm.

- 2.2.14 **Event Code:** ARC 430 / 86+200 to 86+500
Event name: Yonseas Farm
Category: SDS
Figure: 10
Summary:

Drawing ref.	Description
13	A small medieval rubbish pit.
17	A ditch interpreted as a modern field boundary. No dating evidence was recovered.
18	A small spread of post-medieval pottery covering an area 20m x 8m.
55	A shallow post medieval field boundary.
58	A small undated pit, probably contemporary with 50 and 52.

- 2.2.15 **Event Code:** ARC 430 / 86+500 to 87+300
Event name: Lodge Wood WBG
Category: WBG
Figure: 11
Summary:

Drawing ref.	Description
	No significant archaeological deposits identified.

2.2.16 **Event Code:** ARC 430 / 87+300 to 87+800

Event name: Lodge Wood

Category: SDI

Figure: 11,14

Summary:

Drawing ref.	Description
805	Shallow undated ditch (87+300).
807	Late Iron Age ditch (87+300).
827	Shallow medieval gully (87+300).
829	Shallow Iron Age pit (87+300).
816, 819, 822	Three shallow late Iron Age pits (87+400).
825	Undated post-hole (87+400).
803	Undated ditch (87+550).

2.2.17 **Event Code:** ARC 430 / 87+800 to 93+250

Event name: Ashford

Category: WBG

Figure: Not illustrated

Summary:

Drawing ref.	Description
	No significant archaeological deposits identified.

3 FIELDWORK EVENT AIMS

3.1 The general fieldwork aims were:

- to record any significant archaeological structures, features or deposits (including retrieval of environmental and economic indicators preserved therein) and retrieve isolated artefacts disturbed during construction, within the framework of the CTRL Research Strategy, with particular reference to the Landscape Zone Priorities, as stated in the watching brief WSI.
- to record the extent and nature of construction where these may affect archaeological and Quaternary remains.
- to record any significant Quaternary deposits (including retrieval of environmental indicators preserved therein) and retrieve samples from deposits disturbed during construction, within the framework of the CTRL Research Strategy.

3.2 The above aims were carried out within the limitations of the watching brief conditions. Where possible the fieldwork was orientated towards addressing the aims of CTRL Research Strategy, as detailed in the WSI.

4 SUMMARY OF POTENTIAL AND RECOMMENDATIONS

4.1 Watching Brief General

General

4.1.1 The sections of the route classified as WBG included scattered individual features, the majority of which are of post-medieval or modern date and are consistent with a normal level of agricultural activity. It is recommended that no further work be carried out on these deposits. Possible exceptions are discussed in more detail below:

4.1.2 Isolated groups of late Iron Age pits were discovered at two locations within the *Newlands Stud to East of Pluckley Road (81+200)* and *Westwell Leacon and Leda Cottage WBGs (83+300)* respectively. Given the lack of associated archaeology in the vicinity in either case, the function of the features remains unclear, although they presumably represent off-site activity. As there are few finds and therefore little possibility of establishing the date or function of the features with any confidence, their potential to address the research aims of the project is limited.

4.2 Significant Discoveries Individual (SDI)

Leacon Lane (ARC430 99 82+800)

4.2.1 Two areas at Leacon Lane were excavated. The northern area included a number of late Iron Age and early Romano-British pits. In the southern area were several pits filled with burnt flint which may date from the early Bronze Age. A concentration of unstratified late Neolithic or early Bronze Age flint was spread over a wide area, including the two targeted excavation areas. A single Romano-British ditch was also identified in the vicinity. These excavations and the finds scatter have limited potential as individual sites but may contribute to studies of landscape organisation

in the Wealden Greensand landscape zone during the Early Agriculturalists (4500 BC - 2000 BC) and Farming Communities (2000 BC - 100 BC) periods.

Tutt Hill: Bronze Age barrows and early Iron Age features (ARC 430/ 99 83+800)

4.2.2 The focus of this site is a group of four late Neolithic or early Bronze Age roundbarrow ditches. Other funerary features in the vicinity include a Middle Bronze Age cremation in a bucket urn and three probable early Iron Age cremations.

4.2.3 A fifth ring ditch (which may represent a roundhouse gully) and a number of shallow linear features which probably represent early Iron Age field boundaries, may indicate that later prehistoric use of the site was not restricted to funerary activity. However, apart from the cremation vessels, finds were very sparsely distributed, suggesting that the site was not a focus of settlement during this period.

4.2.4 The site will contribute primarily to studies of the ritual and ceremonial use of the Wealden Greensand landscape zone in the Farming Communities (2000 BC - 100 BC) period as defined by the CTRL Research Strategy. The Iron Age cremations indicate that the ceremonial and religious significance of the area continued over a long period of time. Unfortunately the scarcity of artefactual evidence, the lack of stratigraphic relationships and the inorganic character of most of the fills will severely restrict the dating potential of the site.

Lodge Wood (ARC430/ 99 87+300)

4.2.5 Lodge Wood may represent the traces of a late Iron Age settlement site, although conditions during construction works and woodland soil translocation resulted in a low level of confidence for archaeological visibility. Although a definitive site plan was not obtainable the site will nevertheless contribute to understanding of settlement distribution in the Wealden Greensand landscape zone in the period 'Towns and their rural landscape' (100 BC - 1700 AD), sub-period i (100 BC - 410 AD).

4.3 Significant Discoveries Supplementary (SDS)

4.3.1 The finds and records from the following areas are recommended to be assessed and analysed alongside those of the relevant detailed mitigation works. The research aims will be as stated in the relevant WSIs and interim reports.

South of Beechbrook Wood (ARC 430/ 99 85+900)

4.3.2 A series of Iron Age and early Romano-British ditches recorded in this area will add to the overall plan of the South of Beechbrook Wood excavation.

Parsonage Farm (ARC 430/ 99 85+100)

4.3.3 Excavation of a moat associated with the medieval manorial site was monitored during construction work. The small pottery and CBM assemblages recovered during the watching brief will add to the material recovered during the excavation.

Brockton Farm (ARC 430/ 99 78+400]

4.3.4 A well associated with Brockton Farm was investigated and shown to be of post-medieval date. The feature has no significant potential for analysis but should be considered alongside previous investigations of the Brockton Farm complex.

Hurst Wood (ARC 430/ 99 79+200)

- 4.3.5 A single burnt pit was discovered which is similar in character to those found in the adjacent Hurst Wood excavation area.

Yonsea Farm (ARC 430/ 99 86+200)

- 4.3.6 A group of late Iron Age pits and postholes discovered in the vicinity of Yonsea Farm cannot be interpreted with any confidence. The wide spacing of the features suggests that they do not represent a settlement focus, but the possibility cannot be discounted as comparatively poor feature visibility in this area probably means that some features went unrecorded. The Iron Age features have little potential for further work but will add to the emerging picture of late prehistoric occupation in the Wealden Greensand landscape zone in the period 'Towns and their rural landscape' (100 BC - 1700 AD), sub-period i (100 BC - 410 AD).

- 4.3.7 The small number of post-medieval and undated features discovered to the south and north of Yonsea Farm are consistent with a normal level of agricultural activity in the vicinity of the farm complex and have no potential for further work.

4.4 Negative Evidence

- 4.4.1 The very intensive nature of the watching brief, in which almost every machine working on deposits with archaeological potential was monitored by an archaeologist, means that an unusual level of confidence can be placed on the negative evidence.

- 4.4.2 However, a number of factors must be considered when interpreting the watching brief data:

- Sites of some periods and types are more visible than others under watching brief conditions, particular those that are artefact rich. Nevertheless, ephemeral sites with few artefacts, such as the Tutt Hill Bronze Age barrows, were successfully detected.
- In some areas colluvial or alluvial sub-soils have been left undisturbed during construction works. Unrecorded archaeological deposits could potentially be preserved beneath such deposits. In other areas topsoil stripping was not carried out to a sufficient depth to expose archaeological features.
- The confidence of the watching brief supervisor that any archaeology was present varied greatly according to:
 - The working methods and type of earthmoving machinery. This may lead to a bias between the project areas, since the principal plant contractors in each area favour different working methods and equipment. As a general rule, subject to variability in ground conditions, visibility was at its best when stripped with excavators using a toothless ditching bucket and worst when stripping with a toothed bucket or using bulldozers. The initial stripping of haul roads was generally carried out using a toothless bucket with no dumptrucks in use, resulting in very good visibility. These strips often provided the earliest indication of the presence of significant archaeology.
 - Weather. Wet or very dry weather both impede visibility.
 - Ground conditions. The character of the soils is a particularly important factor, with very good visibility on the chalk and poor visibility on the

Wealden Greensand, for example. Visibility was generally very poor during the translocation of woodland soils.

- 4.4.3 The watching brief records include detailed information on these factors and an estimate of the supervisors confidence in the results. Assessment of this information has the potential to address methodological issues which may lead to improvements in the targeting and recording of archaeological watching briefs.

APPENDIX 1: ARCHIVE INDICES

(One per fieldwork event, except WGB areas, which are summarised on a single sheet)

ARCHIVE INDEX:**ARC 430 87+300-87+800 SDI LODGE WOOD**

ITEM	NUMBER OF ITEMS OR BOXES OR OTHER	NUMBER OF FRAGMENTS/ LITRES	CONDITION (NO. OF ITEMS) (W=washed; UW=unwashed; M=marked; P=processed; UP=unprocessed; D=digitised; I=indexed)
Contexts records	-	30	I
A4 plans	-	15	I, D
A4 sections	-	4	I, D
Films (monochrome) S=slide; PR=print	-	1	I
Films (Colour) S=slide; PR=print	-	2	I
Lithics	see Misc.	6	W, M
Pottery	2 size 1	741	W, M
Metalwork	see Misc.	1	W, M
Misc.	1 size 4	-	-
Animal Bone	see Misc.	1	W, M
Soil Samples (bulk)	-	8	P

* flot size

Key to box sizes

Size 1 = Bulk box

391mm x 238mm x 210mm

0.02 m³

Size 4 = Eighth box

213 mm x 102 mm x 80 mm

0.002 m³

ARCHIVE INDEX:**ARC 430 83+800-84+900 SDI TUTT HILL**

ITEM	NUMBER OF ITEMS OR BOXES OR OTHER	NUMBER OF FRAGMENTS /LITRES	CONDITION (NO. OF ITEMS) (W=washed; UW=unwashed; M=marked; P=processed; UP=unprocessed; D=digitised; I=indexed)
Context records	363	-	I
A1 plans	13	-	I, D
A4 plans	37	-	I
A4 sections	120	-	I
Films (monochrome)	-	-	P,I
Films (colour)	-	-	P,I
Flint	4 size 3	1036	W, M
Pottery	2 size 1 5 size 2	1507	W, M
Fired Clay	See Misc	511	W, M
CBM	See Misc	4	W, M
Metalwork	1 size 4	27	W, M
Slag	1 size 3	3145 g	-
Animal Bone	See Misc.	1	W, M
Human bone	1 size 2	14	P
Misc	1 size 3	-	-
Soil samples (bulk)	-	2.075*	P

* flot size

Films in use throughout Project Areas 410, 420, 430

Key to box sizes

Size 1 = Bulk box	391mm x 238mm x 210mm	0.02 m ³
Size 2 = Half box	391mm x 238mm x 100mm	0.01 m ³
Size 3 = Quarter box	386mm x 108mm x 100mm	0.004 m ³
Size 4 = Eighth box	213 mm x 102 mm x 80 mm	0.002 m ³

ARCHIVE INDEX:**ARC 430 79+200-79+500 SDI LEACON LANE**

ITEM	NUMBER OF ITEMS OR BOXES OR OTHER	NUMBER OF FRAGMENTS/ LITRES	CONDITION (No. of items) (W=washed; UW=unwashed; M=marked; P=processed; UP=unprocessed; D=digitised; I=indexed)
Contexts records	65		I
A1 plans	2		I
A4 plans	2		D,I
A4 sections	17		I
Films (monochrome) S=slide; PR=print			P,I
Films (Colour) S=slide; PR=print			P,I
Flint (boxes)	4 size 3 1 size 4	453	W,M
Pottery (boxes)	1 size 3	181	W,M
Stone (boxes)	See Misc.	1	W
Soil Samples (No.)	7		P
Soil Samples (bags/tubs)	38	380 Ltrs	P

Films in use throughout Project Areas 410, 420, 430

Key to box sizes

Size 3 = Quarter box 386mm x 108 mm x 100mm 0.004 m³
 Size 4 = Eighth box 213 mm x 102 mm x 80 mm 0.002 m³

ARCHIVE INDEX:**ARC 430 78+400-78+600 SDS BROCKTON FARM**

ITEM	NUMBER OF ITEMS OR BOXES OR OTHER	NUMBER OF FRAGMENTS/ LITRES	CONDITION (No. of items) (W=washed; UW=unwashed; M=marked; P=processed; UP=unprocessed; D=digitised; I=indexed)
Contexts records	2		I
Films (monochrome) S=slide; PR=print			P,I
Films (Colour) S=slide; PR=print			P,I

Films used throughout the 350, 410, 420 and 430 contracts.

ARCHIVE INDEX:**ARC 430 79+200-79+500 SDS HURST WOOD**

ITEM	NUMBER OF ITEMS OR BOXES OR OTHER	NUMBER OF FRAGMENTS/ LITRES	CONDITION (No. of items) (W=washed; UW=unwashed; M=marked; P=processed; UP=unprocessed; D=digitised; I=indexed)
Contexts records	6		
A4 plans	1		
Films (monochrome) S=slide; PR=print			P,I
Films (Colour) S=slide; PR=print			P,I

Films used throughout the 350, 410, 420 and 430 contracts.

ARCHIVE INDEX:**ARC 430 85+100-85+300 SDS PARSONAGE FARM**

ITEM	NUMBER OF ITEMS OR BOXES OR OTHER	NUMBER OF FRAGMENTS/ LITRES	CONDITION (No. of items) (W=washed; UW=unwashed; M=marked; P=processed; UP=unprocessed; D=digitised; I=indexed)
Contexts records	30		I
A4 plans	2		I
Films (monochrome) S=slide; PR=print			P,I
Films (Colour) S=slide; PR=print			P,I
CBM (boxes)	1 size 3		W

Films used throughout the 350, 410, 420 and 430 contracts.

Key to box sizes

Size 3 = Quarter box 386mm x 108 mm x 100mm 0.004 m³

ARCHIVE INDEX:**ARC 430 85+900-86+200 SDS BEECHBROOK WOOD**

ITEM	NUMBER OF ITEMS OR BOXES OR OTHER	NUMBER OF FRAGMENTS/ LITRES	CONDITION (No. of items) (W=washed; UW=unwashed; M=marked; P=processed; UP=unprocessed; D=digitised; I=indexed)
Contexts records	17		I
A1 plans	1		I
A4 plans	1		I
A4 sections	4		I
Films (monochrome) S=slide; PR=print			P,I
Films (Colour) S=slide; PR=print			P,I
Pottery (boxes)	2 size 3		W,M
Soil Samples (No.)	2		P
Soil Samples (bags/tubs)	4 Boxes	40 Ltrs	P

Films used throughout the 350, 410, 420 and 430 contracts.

Key to box sizes

Size 3 = Quarter box 386mm x 108 mm x 100mm 0.004 m³

ARCHIVE INDEX:**ARC 430 86+200-86+500 SDS YONSEA FARM**

ITEM	NUMBER OF ITEMS OR BOXES OR OTHER	NUMBER OF FRAGMENTS/ LITRES	CONDITION (No. of items) (W=washed; UW=unwashed; M=marked; P=processed; UP=unprocessed; D=digitised; I=indexed)
Contexts records	11		I
A4 plans	4		I
A4 sections	4		I
Films (monochrome) S=slide; PR=print			P,I
Films (Colour) S=slide; PR=print			P,I
Pottery (boxes)	1 size 2		W,M

Films used throughout the 350, 410, 420 and 430 contracts.

Key to box sizes

Size 2 = Half box 391mm x 238mm x 100mm 0.01 m³

ARCHIVE INDEX:**ARC 430 78+000-93+250 WBG**

ITEM	NUMBER OF ITEMS OR BOXES OR OTHER	NUMBER OF FRAGMENTS/ LITRES	CONDITION (No. of items) (W=washed; UW=unwashed; M=marked; P=processed; UP=unprocessed; D=digitised; I=indexed)
Contexts records	105		I
A4 plans	59		I
A4 sections	13		I
Films (monochrome) S=slide; PR=print	*43		P,I
Films (Colour) S=slide; PR=print	*23		P,I
Pottery (boxes)	1 size 1 1 size 4		W,M
CBM (boxes)	1size 2		W,M
Soil Samples (No.)	5		UP
Soil Samples (bags/tubs)	10	100 Ltrs	UP

* Films used throughout the 350, 410, 420 and 430 contracts.

Key to box sizes

Size 1 = Bulk box	391mm x 238mm x 210mm	0.02 m ³
Size 2 = Half box	391mm x 238mm x 100mm	0.01 m ³
Size 4 = Eighth box	213 mm x 102 mm x 80 mm	0.002 m ³

APPENDIX 2: SUMMARY REPORTS

(Summary report for Project Area 430 and summary for each SDI)

SUMMARY REPORT

Channel Tunnel Rail Link Project Area 430 (Project chainage 78+150 to 93+250, TQ 9190 4920 to TR 0350 4045)

Watching brief work in Project Area 430 of the Channel Tunnel Rail Link uncovered a wide range of finds, features and deposits, ranging in date from the Mesolithic to the post-medieval periods.

Additional significant features relating to previous excavations on the route of the CTRL were made at Brockton Farm (Charing), Hurst Wood (Charing), Parsonage Farm (Charing), South of Beechbrook Wood (Charing) and Yonse Farm (Hothfield). Summary reports have previously been completed for the main excavation areas.

Previously unexcavated significant discoveries were made at Tutt Hill (An early/ middle Bronze Age barrow cemetery and early Iron Age field system), Leacon Lane and Lodge Wood (both traces of late Iron Age occupation sites). Individual summary reports have been prepared for these sites.

Other potentially significant finds include two isolated groups of late Iron Age pits discovered within the *Newlands Stud to East of Pluckley Road* (81+200) and *Westwell Leacon and Leda Cottage WBGs* (83+300) respectively. Given the lack of associated archaeology in the vicinity in either case, the function of the features remains unclear, although they presumably represent off-site activity.

The remaining discoveries include a low density of undated or post-medieval features representing agricultural boundaries, quarry pits and other features of little significance.

Tutt Hill (TQ 9750 4660)

Following the discovery of a late Bronze Age pit during the monitoring of a geotechnical test pit, an area 40m x 20m was excavated. This revealed a low density of late Bronze Age pits and gullies.

A fourteen trench evaluation was then carried out in the surrounding area (see evaluation report, OAU 1999), but the only discoveries made were three pits of late Bronze Age and Iron Age date.

During the monitoring of sub-soil stripping an Iron Age cremation pit containing two vessels was discovered. On the strength of this evidence an area 110m x 25m was cleaned, partially revealing three Bronze Age ring ditches. Three further severely truncated Iron Age cremations and a series of Bronze Age linear ditches were also discovered.

The area to the south-west of the excavation was then designated as a Targeted Watching Brief. A further Bronze Age ring ditch, additional elements of the Bronze Age field system, a possible house gully and a large number of tree throw holes were discovered during the stripping of the sub-soil in this area (84+400).

Leacon Lane (TQ 9530 4750)

A concentration of late Neolithic/ early Bronze Age worked flint was recovered in the area of Leacon Lane. The concentration consisted of 160 flints, mostly flakes with some cores, distributed over an area of 100m x 40m. The recorded distribution does not represent the true extent of the concentration as parts of the surrounding area were subject to disturbance during construction works, impeding visibility. The flint concentration was situated between two areas where archaeological features were excavated (Area 1 to the west and Area 2 on the higher ground to the east).

Area 1: An area 30m x 20m was stripped under archaeological control revealing 7 pits and a ditch. The pits were filled with burnt flint and charcoal but no dating evidence was recovered. The ditch was aligned north-west to south-east and contained early Roman pottery (81+870).

Area 2: Situated on higher ground to the north-east, this area contained a small cluster of 10 late Iron Age or early Roman pits (81+870).

Lodge Wood (TQ 9920 4400)

A small group of archaeological features was recorded in the area of Lodge Wood. The features comprised a ditch and two pits of late Iron Age date, a medieval gully, two undated ditches and a posthole (the undated features are most likely to be Iron Age). Although the number of features identified is small, the presence of significant finds concentrations from some features suggests the presence of a late Iron Age settlement focus in the near vicinity. Poor visibility during the watching brief prevented recovery of a coherent site plan.

APPENDIX 3: SITES AND MONUMENTS RECORD SHEETS
(One summarising Project Area 430 and one for each SDI)

Site Name: Channel Tunnel Rail Link Project Area 430	
Summary: Channel Tunnel Rail Link Project Area 430 (Project chainage 78+150 to 93+250, TQ 9190 4920 to TR 0350 4045)	
District: Ashford	Parishes: Charing, Westwell, Hothfield, Ashford, Sevington
Period(s): 1. Early prehistoric 2. Later prehistoric 3. Late Iron Age/ Romano-British 4. Medieval 5. Post-medieval	
NGR Easting: TQ 9190 (start) TR 0350 (end)	NGR Northing: 4920 (start) 4045 (end)
Type of Recording: Evaluation (Delete)	Watching Brief Geophysical Survey Excavation Field Walking Measured Survey
Date of Recording: (From)	(To)
Unit Undertaking Recording: Oxford Archaeological Unit	
Summary of Fieldwork Results: Watching brief work in Project Area 430 of the Channel Tunnel Rail Link uncovered a wide range of finds, features and deposits, ranging in date from the Mesolithic to the post-medieval periods. Additional significant features relating to previous excavations on the route of the CTRL were made at Brockton Farm (Charing), Hurst Wood (Charing), Parsonage Farm (Charing), South of Beechbrook Wood (Charing) and Yonseas Farm (Hothfield). Summary reports have previously been completed for the main excavation areas. Previously unexcavated significant discoveries were made at Tutt Hill (An early/ middle Bronze Age barrow cemetery and early Iron Age field system), Leacon Lane and Lodge Wood (both traces of late Iron Age occupation sites). Individual summary reports have been prepared for these sites. Other potentially significant finds include two isolated groups of late Iron Age pits discovered within the <i>Newlands Stud to East of Pluckley Road</i> (81+200) and <i>Westwell Leacon and Leda Cottage WBGs</i> (83+300) respectively. Given the lack of associated archaeology in the vicinity in either case, the function of the features remains unclear, although they presumably represent off-site activity. The remaining discoveries include a low density of undated or post-medieval features representing agricultural boundaries, quarry pits and other features of little significance. OAU	
Location of Archive / Finds: OAU	
Bibliography:	
Summary Compiler: S Foreman	Date: 21/3/00

Site Name: Tutt Hill	
Summary: Channel Tunnel Rail Link Watching Brief, Project Area 430: Fieldwork Event code: ARC 430 83+800-84+900	
District: Ashford	Parish: Westwell
Period(s):	
1 Earlier prehistoric (Neolithic)	2. Later prehistoric (Bronze Age to early Iron Age)
NGR Easting: TQ 9750	NGR Northing: 4660
Type of Recording: Evaluation	Watching Brief Field Walking
(Delete) Excavation	Geophysical Survey Measured Survey
Date of Recording: (From)	(To)
Unit Undertaking Recording: Oxford Archaeological Unit	
<p>Summary of Fieldwork Results:</p> <p>Following the discovery of a late Bronze Age pit during the monitoring of a geotechnical test pit, an area 40m x 20m was excavated. This revealed a low density of late Bronze Age pits and gullies.</p> <p>A fourteen trench evaluation was then carried out in the surrounding area (see evaluation report, ARC430/ 84+400 to 84+800/ 99, OAU, 1999), but the only discoveries made were three pits of late Bronze Age and Iron Age date.</p> <p>During the monitoring of sub-soil stripping an Iron Age cremation pit containing two vessels was discovered. On the strength of this evidence an area 110m x 25m was cleaned, partially revealing three Bronze Age ring ditches. Three further severely truncated Iron Age cremations and a series of Bronze Age linear ditches were also discovered.</p> <p>The area to the south-west of the excavation was then designated as a Targeted Watching Brief. A further Bronze Age ring ditch, additional elements of the Bronze Age field system, a possible house gully and a large number of tree throw holes were discovered during the stripping of the sub-soil in this area (84+400).</p>	
Location of Archive / Finds: OAU	
Bibliography:	
Summary Compiler: S Foreman	Date: 21/3/00

Site Name: Leacon Lane	
Summary: Channel Tunnel Rail Link Watching Brief, Project Area 430: Fieldwork Event code: ARC 430 79+200-79+500	
District: Ashford	Parish: Westwell
Period(s):	
1 Late Neolithic/ early Bronze Age	2. Late Iron Age/ early Romano-British
NGR Easting: TQ 9750	NGR Northing: 4660
Type of Recording: Evaluation	Watching Brief Field Walking
(Delete) Excavation	Geophysical Survey Measured Survey
Date of Recording: (From)	(To)
Unit Undertaking Recording: Oxford Archaeological Unit	
<p>Summary of Fieldwork Results:</p> <p>A concentration of late Neolithic/ early Bronze Age worked flint was recovered in the area of Leacon Lane. The concentration consisted of 160 flints, mostly flakes with some cores, distributed over an area of 100m x 40m. The recorded distribution does not represent the true extent of the concentration as parts of the surrounding area were subject to disturbance during construction works, impeding visibility. The flint concentration was situated between two areas where archaeological features were excavated (Area 1 to the west and Area 2 on the higher ground to the east).</p> <p>Area 1: An area 30m x 20m was stripped under archaeological control revealing 7 pits and a ditch. The pits were filled with burnt flint and charcoal but no dating evidence was recovered. The ditch was aligned north-west to south-east and contained early Roman pottery.</p> <p>Area 2: Situated on higher ground to the north-east, this area contained a small cluster of 10 late Iron Age or early Roman pits.</p>	
Location of Archive / Finds: OAU	
Bibliography:	
Summary Compiler: S Foreman	Date: 21/3/00

Site Name: Lodge Wood	
Summary: Channel Tunnel Rail Link Watching Brief, Project Area 430: Fieldwork Event code: ARC 430 79+200-79+500	
District: Ashford	Parish: Ashford
Period(s):	
1 Late Iron Age	2. Medieval
NGR Easting: TQ 9920	NGR Northing: 4400
Type of Recording: Evaluation (Delete) Excavation	Watching Brief Field Walking Geophysical Survey Measured Survey
Date of Recording: (From)	(To)
Unit Undertaking Recording: Oxford Archaeological Unit	
<p>Summary of Fieldwork Results:</p> <p>A small group of archaeological features was recorded in the area of Lodge Wood. The features comprised a ditch and two pits of late Iron Age date, a medieval gully, two undated ditches and a posthole (the undated features are most likely to be Iron Age). Although the number of features identified is small, the presence of significant finds concentrations from some features suggests the presence of a late Iron Age settlement focus in the near vicinity. Poor visibility during the watching brief prevented recovery of a coherent site plan. The watching brief followed an evaluation of the area which identified a low density of features thought to be of Iron Age and Roman date (see evaluation report ARCLWD98, OAU, 1998).</p>	
Location of Archive / Finds: OAU	
Bibliography:	
Summary Compiler: S Foreman	Date: 21/3/00