

1EW03 – Enabling Works Central

AWHe Summary Report for Trial Trench Evaluation at Field H, Hunts Green Farm (Grim's Ditch Environs), Buckinghamshire

(AC210/15)

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1 Summary

- 1.1.1 An Archaeological Trial Trench Evaluation consisting of 21 trial trenches was undertaken on land at Field H, Hunts Green Farm (C21046), adjacent and to the north-east of the main fields of Hunts Green (C21023), centred on NGR 489630 203382, during April 2021, ahead of construction of Phase One of the new High Speed Two (HS2) railway.
- 1.1.2 The Site was required for the rail alignment formation, which in this section will be in a cutting, as well as for associated engineering works that include environmental bunds and tree-planting alongside the cutting, together with land needed for temporary soil storage areas. The Site code for the work were 1C19HGFTT.
- 1.1.3 A total of 11 trenches revealed features of archaeological origin. The majority of the features were ditches but there were several pits and possible postholes. The ditches were of variable dimensions and orientations and contained a small number of fills in most instances.
- 1.1.4 There was a concentration of features focused on Trenches 1009, 1010, 1011, 1021 and 1022. Most of the features contained pottery assemblages of probable medieval or post-medieval date as well as often large quantities of metal working slag. The presence of slag suggests that metal working was likely taking place within the vicinity of the Site but no in-situ industrial remains were identified, although an area of baked clay was noted in Trench 1010.
- 1.1.5 Several ditches appeared to be of later post-medieval date and in several cases corresponded to visible earthworks and undulations within the Site.
- 1.1.6 A total of nine trenches were blank or contained only field drains, while two trenches contained features which, upon investigation were determined to be of probable natural origin.