

1EW03 - Enabling Works Contract AWH C2a Summary Report for Trial Trenching at C21014 Upper Wendover Dean Farm– Wendover - Buckinghamshire (AC210/6)

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1 Summary

- 1.1.1 An archaeological evaluation was undertaken on land at Upper Wendover Dean Farm C2a (C21014) near Wendover, Buckinghamshire (AC210/6) by INFRA in February 2019. The works were required for the construction of the Small Dean South Embankment and excavation of the Rocky Lane Cutting, part of the High Speed 2 Phase 1 central scheme.
- 1.1.2 The Site encompassed a single large, pasture field covering an area of 5.77ha, to the south and west of Hartley Farm, centred on NGR 487931 205681. The site code for this site is 1C19RLBTT.
- 1.1.3 Trench 77 was moved c.5m southwest from its original location which was outside the site boundary and within the overhead exclusion zone, crossing an area of overflowing effluent from a cess pit. The trench was targeting an uncertain anomaly identified during the geophysical survey which remained within the bounds of the trench.
- 1.1.4 The natural geology or archaeological horizon comprised dark orange-brown silt clay with common small angular stones. The topsoil comprised between 0.22m and 0.38m of dark grey brown silt clay with occasional small stones, below which was between 0.1m and 0.28m of dark brown orange silty clay subsoil which also contained occasional small stones.
- 1.1.5 A total of 23 trenches exposed no archaeological features or deposits. One trench contained a modern disturbance associated with a modern cess pit. There was no indication of human activity on Site that was not modern in date. No correlation was observed with anomalies identified during the geophysical survey and the modern pit. These anomalies were likely to be agricultural in nature.
- 1.1.6 Prior to this evaluation, archaeological remains from the vicinity were limited to isolated finds from the prehistoric through to medieval periods, with possible prehistoric settlement-related activity within C21011 immediately to the south of Site. Results from this evaluation have returned a low potential for archaeological remains within the Site, on the basis that the settlement activity to the south did not extend into the Site, and there was no evidence of any other archaeological activity