1EW03 – Enabling Works Central

AWHe Fieldwork Report for Trial Trench Evaluation at Upper Bottom House Farm, Chalfont St. Giles, Buckinghamshire (AC100/9)

Site Code: 1C18BOTTT

Document no.: 1EW03-FUS-EV-REP-CS02_CL04-035102

Revision	Author	Checked by	Approved by	Date approved	Reason for revision
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C02	G. Crees	S. Roper	I. Williamson	18/06/2021	For acceptance

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1 Executive Summary

1.1.1 An archaeological trial trench evaluation was undertaken on land designated as Upper Bottom House Farm Lane, north of Chalfont St Giles, Buckinghamshire (henceforth the Site). The Site code allocated for these works was 1C18BOTTT.

1.1.2 The Site is adjacent to Upper Bottom House Lane located between the Colne Valley to the south and the Chilterns to the north. The Site extends south-westwards from the A413 Amersham Road from an access point opposite Harewood Downe House. (NGR SU 97524 94751; Figure 1).

1.1.3 The Site comprised several pastoral fields and one arable field, encompassing approximately 13 ha (Site GIS ID No: C10007).

1.1.4 The evaluation was targeted on the Site of the Chalfont St Giles Vent Shaft, widening of access, provision of a temporary compound and spoil storage areas and other works as outlined in the Project Plan (Document Ref: 1EW03-FUS-EV-REP-CS02_CL04-001608).

1.1.5 The area in the vicinity of Site has produced little evidence of prehistoric occupation. A possible Roman villa site has been identified at Misbourne Farm (CHA030), 700m south-east of the Site. Several farmsteads of probable medieval origin are recorded surrounding the Site, including Lower Bottom House Farm (CHA031) to the north, and Bottom House Farm Lane is believed to follow the alignment of a medieval holloway. Geophysical investigation of the vent shaft site, LiDAR, multispectral imagery, and aerial photography in conjunction with historical mapping have indicated a few anomalies which have low archaeological potential.

1.1.6 A trial trench evaluation comprising 48 trenches across the Site was targeted on geophysical, cropmark and LiDAR imagery and blank areas, was designed to investigate areas of Construction impact. The evaluation was carried out in three phases, in December 2018, June 2019 and December 2019. Of the 48 trenches excavated, three revealed archaeological features, including two ditches and a large quarry pit. Two further trenches revealed palaeochannels to the south of the current River Misbourne.

1.1.7 The Site appeared to have been utilised during the post-medieval period for quarrying chalk for possible building material, although not on a large scale, with the landscape seeing very little change: two probable field boundaries were recorded, one of which aligned approximately with an orchard boundary belonging to Harewood Downe House located to the north-east of the Site.

2 Project Background and Scheme Design

2.1.1 High Speed Two (HS2) is a new railway network proposed by Government to provide a link between London, the West Midlands, the East Midlands, South Yorkshire, Leeds and Manchester. Phase One of HS2 will involve the construction of a new railway

approximately 230km (143 miles) in length between London and the West Midlands. Powers for the construction, operation, and maintenance of Phase One are conferred by the High-Speed Rail (London - West Midlands) Act 2017.

2.1.2 The overall framework within which archaeological work will be undertaken is set out in the Environmental Minimum Requirements (EMR), the Heritage Memorandum, the Code of Construction Practice (CoCP) for HS2 Phase One and the GWSI: HERDS. Accordingly, the nominated undertaker or the Archaeological Contractor are required to implement appropriate and reasonable measures to identify, avoid or where practicable reduce impacts to the significance of heritage assets prior to the start of construction.

2.1.3 The Site is required for the construction of the Chalfont St Giles Vent Shaft, temporary compound, spoil storage areas and associated works. This will be used as the base to manage works on construction of the ventilation shaft.

3 Site Location

3.1.1 The Site lies north-west of the town of Chalfont St Giles, south-west of the A413 London Road, along the north-eastern end of Bottom House Lane, Buckinghamshire (NGR SU 97524 94751; Figure 1).

3.1.2 The Site comprised a single land parcel (Site GIS ID No: C10007), which extends across several uncultivated fields and a large open field at the south-west end, covering a total area of c.13 ha.

4 Site Geology and Topography

Geology

4.1.1 The British Geological Survey (BGS) indicates that the bedrock mostly comprises Lewes Nodular Chalk Formation sedimentary bedrock formed approximately 86 to 94 million years ago during the Cretaceous Period in an environment dominated by warm chalk seas. In areas toward the west and north of Site the predominant geology gives way to Seaford Chalk Formation and Newhaven Chalk Formation (undifferentiated), a sedimentary bedrock formed approximately 71 to 89 million years ago in the Cretaceous Period. No superficial deposits are recorded overlying the chalk[1], which is covered by shallow, freely draining lime-rich soils. The Misbourne valley located at the north-east end of Site had superficial deposits formed by alluvium and colluvium, with Glacial head also recorded within the valley floor and Clay-with-Flints recorded towards the east[2].

Topography

4.1.2 The main compound located at the western end of the Site is dominated by a distinct dip in the landscape which runs approximately north to south, the land rising to the east and west of this. The surface elevation along this dip rises from c.95m aOD at the

[1] British Geological Survey, 2017 Geology of Britain viewer, http://mapapps.bgs.ac.uk/geologyofbritain/home.html
[2] Cranfield Soil and Agrifood Institute 2017 Soilscapes, http://www.landis.org.uk/soilscapes/

southern end to c.115m aOD in the north-west. The adjacent land alongside Bottom House Farm Lane is relatively flat, located at the base of a coomb for most of its length, with the north-eastern end situated within the valley of the River Misbourne. The fields are currently in use for pasture and arable along with a small, enclosed area of ancient woodland to the south of Site.

Previous Disturbance

4.1.3 There is little indication that the Site has undergone significant disturbance, for example, there is no sign of quarrying within the area to be evaluated. There is likely to have been some limited impact from agricultural ploughing since the medieval period to the present.

5 Site Background

5.1 Archaeological Baseline

5.1.1 The *Project Plan for Trial Trench Evaluation at Upper Bottom House Farm, Chalfont St Giles Vent Shaft, Buckinghamshire (AC100/9)* (Document no: 1EW03-FUS-EV-REP-CS02_CL04-001608) provided a summary of the archaeological baseline to the Site. The Project Plan identified specific GWSI: HERDS research objectives as applicable to this Site and it detailed the scope, aims and methodologies required to address these objectives.

5.1.2 An Environmental Statement (ES 3.5.2.8.7) was prepared in 2013, part of this was to provide an evidence base against which the assessment of assets that may be affected by the construction of the Proposed Scheme. It contained information about known and potential heritage assets from a variety of sources and presented a chronological description and discussion of the development of the study area, placing assets within their historical and archaeological context. Assets identified by the environmental statement included CHA031 (Lower Bottom House Farm) which comprised a complex of four Grade II listed agricultural buildings of 18th -19th century date situated in a medieval to post-medieval agricultural landscape; CHA032 (Upper Bottom House Farm) which comprised a farm complex shown on the 1st Edition OS map; and CHA033 (Hobbs Hole) located to the south-west of the Site which comprised a building shown on 1st Edition OS mapping of 1876. Bottom House Farm Lane itself is thought to follow the line of a medieval Holloway, with CHA034 (Bow Wood) an ancient woodland located on the south-east side of the lane.

5.1.3 The site falls within the HS2 Archaeological Character subzone 08-03 which identified potential remains in this area as including prehistoric settlement remains such as pits and diches, and unstratified flint tools within the plough soil horizons. However, the Environmental statement acknowledges there is no specific intelligence indicating in-situ archaeological remains survive within the zone. Due to the limited archaeological potential within the areas of excavation around the vent shaft there were no specific research questions relating to heritage assets identified.

Previous Works

5.1.4 The Environmental Statement included the results of a remote sensing survey of the Site and its environs. The remote sensing survey included the interpretation of aerial photographs, hyperspectral imagery, and LiDAR imagery. The LiDAR imagery did note a small number of faints circular, possible depressions in the open field toward the south-western end of Site. Former tracks and land boundaries along with possible ridge and furrow were apparent, indicative of the agricultural land use in the area from the medieval period onwards.

5.1.5 Extensive geophysical survey was carried out over the main vent shaft area as part of the 2013 ES (C252-ETM-EV-REP-020-000263_P02; Figure 2). A number of anomalies were apparent but not likely to be of archaeological interest, with a band of magnetic responses and a number of 'striations' likely to be associated with natural geological features; a series of linear anomalies which run either north-east/south-west and north-west/south-east, are likely to represent former field boundaries, and a very straight linear anomaly towards the north-west boundary of the Site is probably a modern service, possibly a water pipe.

Archaeological Background

5.1.6 It is likely that Palaeolithic hominids moved onto and through the Chilterns utilising theMisbourne valley, as indicated by finds of a Palaeolithic hand axe and two smaller flints to the north of Wheatley Wood (CHA076), some 3.5km to the north-west of Upper Bottom Farm. A further three Palaeolithic hand axes were found in the area of Nortoft Road in Chalfont St Peter and further flint tools at Chalfont St Giles (both outside the CFA8 study area and some distance from the Site); hand axes have been found in nearly all of the dipslope valleys of the Chilterns.

5.1.7 The river valleys of the Chilterns, particularly of the River Misbourne, have yielded Mesolithic flint tools. Outside the proposed HS2 route discoveries of Mesolithic flints have been made at Chalfont St Giles and in the Amersham area. Scatters of flint tools and debris recovered from the surface of ploughed fields around Buckinghamshire and within the area of Amersham and the Chalfonts are widely distributed. These scatters reflect both casual finds and systematic programmes such as fieldwalking and archaeological excavation.

5.1.8 During the Neolithic period and Early Bronze Age (circa 2,400 to 1,500 BC) ceremonial/burial monuments, such as causewayed enclosures, henges and round barrows were being constructed on the higher plateau/cross ridges. Such features are, however, absent from the Chiltern dipslope and the Misbourne valley. Evidence of Neolithic to Bronze Age activity has been recorded within the HS2 route study area, but some distance from the Site, from discoveries of flint tools north of Wheatley Wood (CHA076); Mopes Farm (CHA005); Horn Hill (CHA008), all more than 3km from the Site; and Misbourne Farm (CHA030), less than 500m south-east of the site, where two putative Bronze Age burnt mounds have also been recorded

5.1.9 The Bronze Age pattern of isolated farmsteads shifted in the Iron Age when larger settlements such as hillforts and were constructed. Communities during the Iron Age period favoured the higher ground overlooking the river valleys, although evidence of

Iron Age settlement in the study area is scarce. Investigations at the possible multi-period archaeological site north of Wheatley Wood (CHA076) and more than 3km north-west of the Site, have however, produced Iron Age pottery.

5.1.10 Romano-British villas begin to appear in the wider landscape from the late 1st to early 2nd century AD and a number are recorded in the Misbourne valley. A possible villa site has been identified at Misbourne Farm (CHA030), a little more than 700m south-east of the Site, based on artefacts found during fieldwalking. Further afield, records of a tessellated floor found. during excavation of Shardeloes Lake (CHA068) and artefacts discovered to the north of Wheatley Wood (CHA076) indicate the presence of another villa c. 3km north-west of the site. The close proximity of these two sites suggests the possibility that all may have been combined within a single large villa estate complex.

5.1.11 Evidence of material culture from the early medieval period is sparse within the area of the Chalfonts and Amersham. No archaeological sites of the period are currently known within the surroundings of the Site although Anglo-Saxon inhumations were excavated along with Romano-British inhumations at Mantles Green Meadow to the north of Amersham.

5.1.12 The broad pattern of landscape and rural settlement that exists in the area around the Chalfonts and Amersham today was laid out during the early medieval and medieval period. Dispersed settlements and isolated farmsteads surrounded by agricultural hinterland predominated, with scattered manors in the surrounding countryside. The landscape was likely to have been at least partially wooded. The Domesday Book (AD 1086) contains entries for Amersham, Chalfont St Giles and Chalfont St Peter, to the north, south and south east of the Site, and any evidence for early medieval and medieval settlement is most likely to be found in proximity to the historic cores of these three settlements. A number of farmsteads of probable medieval origin are also recorded within the landscape surrounding the Site, including Lower Bottom House Farm (CHA031), immediately to the north, while Bottom House Farm Lane is believed to follow the alignment of a medieval Holloway.

5.1.13 Three cultural heritage assets (CHA) lie within the immediate vicinity of the Site, all of which are of post-medieval or early modern date. These are:

- CHA031 at Lower Bottom House Farm, comprising a grouping of four Grade II listedbuildings; an early 19th century brick farmhouse, possibly incorporating earlier fabric, a late 18th to early 19th century timber-framed barn, a late 18th to early 19th centurytimber granary on stone saddles and a late 18th to early 19th century brick stablesblock. The complex is situated in a relatively quiet medieval to post-medieval agricultural landscape on either side of a medieval holloway.
- CHA032 at Upper Bottom House Farm, comprising a non-designated farm complex, shown on the 1st Edition OS map.
- CHA033 at Hobbs Hole, south-west of the Site, comprising a building shown on 1st Edition OS mapping of 1876.

6 Aims and Specific Objectives

6.1.1 The full aims and objectives for the archaeological trial trenching can be found in Section 3 of the Project Plan (Document no: 1EW03-FUS-EV-REP-CS02_CL04-001608). Trial trench investigation provides the most suitable method for the recovery of archaeological evidence to inform the research objectives. Section 4 of the Project Plan provides a methodology and deliverables for the trial trench evaluation.

6.2 General Aims

6.2.1 The aims of the trial trenching were to:

- Confirm the presence/absence, extent, and depth of any surviving archaeological remains within the Site
- Determine the nature, date, condition, state of preservation, complexity and significance of any archaeological remains
- Determine the likely range, quality, and quantity of artefactual and environmental evidence present
- Suggest measures, if appropriate and feasible, for further archaeological investigation to mitigate identified significant impacts, and
- Contribute to the delivery of GWSI: HERDS Specific Objectives.

6.3 Specific HERDS Objectives

6.3.1 The trial trenching was required to help clarify the location, extent, survival and significance of any heritage assets in the vicinity of the Site and will contribute to the following specific GWSI: Historic Environment Research and Delivery Strategy (HERDS) objectives:

- KC5: Identifying settlement location and developing models for settlement patterns for the Mesolithic, Neolithic and Early Bronze Age.
- KC21: Assess the evidence for regional and cultural distinctiveness along the length of the route in the Romano-British period, with particular regard to the different settlement types encountered along the route.
- KC40: Identify patterns of change within medieval rural settlement from the 11th to mid-14th century.

7 Scope and Methodology

7.1 Scope

7.1.1 The trial trench evaluation of the Site was undertaken in three phases in December 2018 June 2019 and December 2019. Forty-eight trial trenches were excavated as per the Project Plan. These trenches measured 30m (L) x c.1.9m (W). This included four targeted trenches over anomalies revealed in the geophysical survey which were

identified as of limited archaeological potential (probable field boundaries) in addition to a 2% sample of the Site by area, covering 'blank areas' and modern anomalies revealed in the geophysical survey, such as the probable waterpipe in the north-west of the Site. In addition, 144 test pits were excavated for artefact recovery from the topsoil.

7.1.2 A contingency trenching of up to a 1% sample (equivalent of 22 No. 30m x c.2.0m trenches) was available, subject to approval by the Contractor, if further clarification of the archaeological remains was considered necessary to meet the aims of the evaluation.

7.2 Methodology

7.2.1 The methodology, deliverables, programme, health, safety and environmental requirements, resources and interfaces necessary to deliver the archaeological evaluation was provided in the *Location Specific Written Scheme of Investigation for Trial Trench Evaluation at Upper Bottom House Farm, Chalfont St Giles Vent Shaft, Buckinghamshire (AC100/9)* (Document no: 1EW03-FUS-EV-REP-CS02_CL04-002519).

7.2.2 The trial trench evaluation was undertaken in accordance with specific guidance produced by the Employer, namely the Technical Standard Specification for historic environment investigations (HS2-HS2-EV-STD-000-000035) and the GWSI: HERDS (HS2-HS2-EV-STR-000-000015), and the Project Plan for Trial Trench Evaluation Investigation at Upper Bottom House Farm, Buckinghamshire (AC100/9) (1EW03-FUS-EV-REP-CS02_CL04-001608).

7.2.3 The fieldwork followed the Standard and Guidance: Archaeological Evaluation (CIfA 2014), the Management of Archaeological Projects 2 (English Heritage 1991), the Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment (MORPHE): Project Managers' Guide (Historic England 2015) and the Technical Standard Specification for historic environment investigations (HS2-HS2-EV-STD-000-000035).

Artefact Recovery

7.2.4 During the trenching process, approximately 0.5m^3 of topsoil samples were sieved from test pits at either end of the trench and centrally for the recovery of finds (Figure 8). A total of 144 test pits were sampled across the site the results of which are fully reported in 8.3.1.

Setting-out

7.2.5 All spatial setting out and recording was undertaken in accordance with The Ordnance Survey National Grid and Ordnance Survey Newlyn Datum (ODN) as defined by the OS Active Global Navigation Satellite System (GNSS) network and use of a Virtual reference system.

7.2.6 Trenches were located to a horizontal accuracy of +/-500mm with surface levels recorded to an accuracy of 10mmÖk: where 'k' was the total distance levelled in kilometres.

Machine Excavation

7.2.7 Trenches were excavated to either the first archaeological horizon or the natural substrate, whichever was reached first, using a mechanical excavator fitted with a toothless bucket.

7.2.8 Each machine was under the constant supervision of a suitably trained, competent and experienced archaeologist.

7.2.9 A CAT scanner was used at each 300mm excavated spit to ensure no unidentified buried services were present.

7.2.10 Topsoil and subsoil were stripped independently and stored separately on either side of the trench, as per the Technical Standard: Route Wide Soil Resource Plan (HS2-HS2-EV-STD-000-000008).

Fieldwork Recording

7.2.11 A sufficient sample of each feature was excavated to meet the requirements of the GWSI: HERDS.

7.2.12 Archaeological recording comprised:

- at least one representative section at 1:20 scale of each evaluation trench, from ground level to the base of the excavation
- the written record of individual context descriptions on appropriate pro-forma
- photographs with details recorded in a photo-register
- linear features identified within the trenches were 50% or 20% excavated, discrete features 50% excavated
- section drawings of features were made at 1:20 and 1:10 as appropriate

7.2.13 A 'Site location plan', indicating Site north was prepared at 1:1250:

- individual 'trench plans' were prepared at 1:100
- the location of site plans was identified using OSGB coordinates

Environmental Sampling

7.2.14 In line with the Employer's Technical Standard Specification for Historic Environment Investigations (HS2-HS2-EV-STD-000-000035) the following sampling strategy was implemented:

- Archaeological features (pits, boundary ditches and paleochannels)
- Deposits representing the main phases of activity on Site (to assess whether there were changes in rates of deposition, or material survival over time)
- Samples were taken to provide dating, palaeo-environmental and site formation information

7.2.15 Samples were taken using ten litre plastic buckets (with lids and handles), for the recovery of bulk 'disturbed' environmental samples. Labelling followed the guidance set out in the Technical Standard Specification for Historic Environment Investigations (HS2-HS2-EV-STD-000-000035).

Backfilling

7.2.16 Once recording was completed the trench was backfilled in reverse order (subsoil first then topsoil) and the ground made good.

7.3 Change Control

7.3.1 The movement of trenches from their original locations, descoping or amendment to methodology was implemented through change control (Figure 2). These were limited to the shortest distance to clear constraints and maintain orientation where possible. During the archaeological investigation three trenches (042, 043 and 045) were moved up to 4m south and east to clear the overhead BT exclusion zones, and Trenches 33 and 34 were moved 9m south-west to avoid an existing field boundary.

8 Results of Trial Trench Evaluation

8.1 Geological Sequence

8.1.1 The natural substrate or archaeological horizon comprised chalks, flint-with-clay and sands.

8.1.2 Within most trenches the natural substrate or archaeological horizon was sealed by topsoil and subsoil. Colluvium build up was visible in the central area of the west field where trenches 17, 19 and 25 lay on the lee of the slope within the coomb, and in isolated deposits in trenches 36, 39, 40 and 44 in the centre and east of Site.

8.2 Archaeological Results

8.2.1 Three trenches of the proposed 48 contained archaeological features, with a further two containing palaeochannels. The remainder were blank (Figure 3).

8.2.2 The following section contains a description of the features and deposits excavated during the evaluation. It should be used in conjunction with Appendix 3, which provides detailed descriptions and stratigraphic information for each deposit and cut feature.

8.2.3 The results of the positive trenches are discussed below, in numerical order. For the purposes of this report, the conclusion will discuss the results thematically and chronologically.

8.2.4 A summary of the findings is in table 1, below.

Table 1: Summary table of findings

Trench Number	Features	Provisional Date
001	Blank	
002	Blank	
003	Blank	
004	Blank	

005	Blank	
006	Blank	
007	Blank	
008	Blank	
009	Blank	
010	1 x ditch	Undated
011	Blank	
012	Blank	
013	Blank	
014	Blank	
015	Blank	
016	Blank	
017	Blank	
018	Blank	
019	Blank	
020	Blank	
021	Blank	
022	1 x large quarry pit	Post-medieval
023	Blank	
024	Blank	
025	Blank	
026	Blank	
027	Blank	
028	Blank	
029	Blank	
030	Blank	
031	Blank	
032	Blank	
033	Blank	
034	Blank	
035	Blank	
036	Blank	
037	Blank	
038	Blank	
039	Blank	
040	Blank	
041	Blank	
042	Blank	
043	Blank	
044	Blank	
045	1 x palaeochannel	Undated
046	1 x palaeochannel	Undated
047	1 x ditch	Post-medieval
048	Blank	

Trench 010 (figures 4 and 9; plate 1)

8.2.5 A straight, wide, shallow ditch [201004], 1.1m wide and 0.06m deep, oriented north-west to south-east, was located centrally within the trench. The fill was a firm brown silty clay (201005) with rare stone inclusions and frequent charcoal flecking. No finds were recovered.

Trench 022 (figures 4 and 9; plate 2)

8.2.6 A large deep pit [202204], with a steep, stepped western side and a gradual sloping eastern side, and flat base was located centrally within the trench. Pit [20204] measured, 14.92m long and more than 4.0m wide (within the trench) and contained

four fills. The lower fill was a friable very dark brown silt (202207), with frequent large flint inclusions and charcoal flecking. Nine fragments of 13th century pottery was recovered from the soil sample taken from (202207) (see 9.1.2 below). Overlying this was a firm brown silt-clay (202205) with frequent flint and chalk nodule inclusions. The upper fill was a firm brown clay (202206) with rare stone inclusions and charcoal flecking. A single fragment of post-medieval CBM was recovered from (202205).

8.2.7 The deliberate backfill of large flint nodules at the base, then overlain by the remains of the chalk up-cast is suggestive that the pit could have originated as a quarry pit, probably for the extraction of chalk for building material and this may have been utilised in the construction of one of the farms or the adjacent buildings along Upper Bottom House Lane. The highly fragmented and abraded nature of the medieval pottery from (C202207) is likely the result of original deposition within an agricultural soil as part of manuring process, prior to final deposition. Although it seems likely that the pit is a post-medieval feature, given the recovery of post-medieval CBM from its upper fill, an earlier, i.e. medieval, origin for it cannot be entirely precluded.

Trench 045 (figures 4 and 9; plate 3)

8.2.8 A wide shallow palaeochannel [204504], with gently sloping sides and flat base, 7.75m wide and 0.8m deep, oriented approximately north-west to south-east, located in the south-western end of the trench. The lower fill was a well sorted fine yellow sand (204505), this appeared to be the natural low energy silting of the principle river channel. A later higher energy river channel was apparent centrally with a stony riverbank (204506), overlain by a well sorted fine yellow brown silt-sand (204507). The channel appeared to have receded slightly into a more v-shaped profile with a stony riverbed channel apparent (204508). Dark lenses indicative of vegetation growth was noticeable above the stony layer suggesting periodic dry episodes. The upper fill was a grey brown silt-clay (204509) which is a mix of aeolian detritus and topsoil encroachment within the feature and does not suggest alluvial sorting. This palaeochannel was cutting through the subsoil (204502), suggesting that the subsoil had not been ploughed in antiquity in this location.

Trench 046 (figures 5 and 9; plate 4)

8.2.9 A wide shallow palaeochannel [204604], with steep sides and a flat base (with a small flattened v-shaped channel profile in south-west side of base), 6.7m wide and 0.97m deep, oriented approximately north-west to south-east, was located in the southern half of the trench. The sides of the palaeochannel were defined by stone riverbanks in a silt matrix (204605). The basal fill of the palaeochannel was a fine well-sorted light grey sand-silt (204606). This represents the low energy natural silting of the principle channel. Overlying this was a secondary stone bank in a silt matrix (204607) along the north-eastern side. The upper fill was a dark grey brown sand-silt (204608) which was a mix of aeolian detritus and topsoil encroachment. Subsoil (204602) subsequently built up either side of bank deposits (204605).

Trench 047 (figures 5 and 9; plate 5)

8.2.10 A straight shallow ditch [204704], with steep sides and a flat base, 0.8m wide and 0.32m deep, oriented approximately east to west, was located toward the centre of the

trench. The fill was a friable grey brown sandy silt (204705) with frequent sub-angular stones inclusions confined largely toward the base. Two small abraided sherds of 13th-16th century pottery were recovered from soil samples taken from the fill (see 9.1.5 below).

8.2.11 The ditch may relate to an orchard boundary attached to Harewood Downs House, shown on the First Edition OS Map 1876 and a post-medieval origin for it seems likely, however, an earlier, i.e. medieval, origin for it cannot be entirely precluded.

8.3 Artefact Recovery

8.3.1 No artefactual material at all was recovered from the sieved topsoil of the 144 test pits excavated across Site (Figure 8). The lack of material may partly be the result of no significant prehistoric or Roman activity within the vicinity of the Site, with none recorded in the trial trenches. While very small fragments of late medieval/early post-medieval pottery have been recovered from one of the archaeological features on site , which it is suggested is related to medieval/post-medieval manuring practices, the lack of material from the topsoil could suggest a long term pastural regium has been practiced in this area.

9 Finds Assessment

9.1 Pottery and Burnt Clay

9.1.1 Eleven pieces of burnt clay or pottery were recovered from two soil samples (1 and 3) from contexts (202207) and (204705) respectively (Table 2). The total weight was 1.71g. The material was examined using a x20 microscope and given the size of each piece a tentative identification made following the Milton Keynes Archaeological Unit (Mynard 1992; King 1994), Mynard 1994).

Table 2: Summary of Pottery and Burnt Clay

Soil Sample No.	Trench	FILL No.	Cut No.	Feature	Provisional Date	Weight (g)	Count	Description
1	22	202207	202204	PIT	13th-15th Century	1.06	9	Nine fragments of abraded burnt clay or pottery including reduced hard sandy fabric with fine sub-rounded quartz as well as limestone fragments and shell; and a sandy orange fabric with quartz grits, small angular fragments as well as larger sub-rounded ones.
3	47	204705	204704	DITCH	13th-16th Century	0.65	2	Two sherds of pottery with a thick grey core, buff brown surfaces and sub angular quartz and limestone inclusions

Sample 1 (202207)

9.1.2 Sample taken from cut feature 202204 within trench 22. This sample contained 9 fragments of burnt clay or pottery, which weighed 1.06g in total. All were very abraded, and no surfaces were preserved.

9.1.3 One piece was of a reduced hard sandy fabric with fine sub-rounded quartz as well as limestone fragments and shell; reminiscent of Fabric MSC2 or MSC3 dating to the 13th century (Mynard 1992).

9.1.4 The remaining pieces were in a sandy orange fabric with quartz grits, small angular fragments as well as larger sub-rounded ones. The fabric was reminiscent of 13th-15th century MS2 Medieval Sandy Ware (ibid.).

Sample 3 (204705)

9.1.5 Sample taken from cut feature 204704 within trench 47. This sample contained 2 sherds of pottery, which weighed 0.65g in total.

9.1.6 One sherd had both surfaces intact, displaying a thick grey core with buff-brown surfaces. The fabric included sub-angular quartz and limestone. A second sherd appeared to be a heavily abraded fragment of a similar vessel however the surfaces were not intact. Both appear to be 13th- 16th century MS6 Potterspury ware (ibid.).

Conclusions

9.1.7 The highly fragmented and abraded nature of the material is likely the result of original deposition within an agricultural soil as part of manuring process, prior to final deposition. While the sherds indicate limited medieval activity in the area, they should be considered residual and provide only a *terminus post quem* for the associated features. No further analysis of this material is required, and the material could be discarded.

9.2 CBM

9.2.1 A single irregular fragment of red brick which weighed 16.1g was recovered from context (202205) from cut feature 202204 within trench 22. The complete thickness of the brick was not able to be measured due to the nature of the break, however, the brick was manufactured by hand and likely dated from between C17-C19th. No further analysis of this material is required, and the material could be discarded.

9.3 Palaeoenvironmental

Method Statement

9.3.1 A total of four samples were taken from features within trenches 10, 22, 46, and 47, details summarised in table 3 below. The samples were bulk floated and the flots were collected in a 300-micron mesh sieve. The dried flots were scanned under a binocular microscope at magnifications up to x 16 and the plant macrofossils and other remains noted are listed in Appendix 6 with other details. Nomenclature within the table follows Stace (2010) for the plant macrofossils and Kerney and Cameron (1979) and Macan (1977) for the mollusc shells. Both charred and de-watered plant remains were

recorded along with some modern roots and arthropod remains. The de-watered remains are denoted within the table by a lower case 'w' suffix.

Table 3: Summary of Samples

Sample No.	1	2	3	4
Context No.	202207	201005	204705	204605
Feature No.	202204	201004	204704	204604
Feature type	Pit	Ditch	Ditch	PC
Trench	022	010	047	046
Date	P.Med.	U/D	U/D	U/D

Results

9.3.2 Although charcoal/charred wood fragments are present within all four assemblages, other plant macrofossils are very scarce. Charred plant remains include an indeterminate cereal grain (sample 1, pit [202204]), abraded fragments of hazel (Corylus avellana) nutshell (sample 2, ditch [201004]) and two wheat (Triticum sp.) glume bases (sample 4, palaeochannel [204604]). De-watered seeds are equally scarce and comprise a dock (Rumex sp.) fruit (sample 3, ditch [204704]) and seeds of fat hen (Chenopodium album) and stinging nettle (Urtica dioica), both from sample 4. Of the charcoal, it is noted that that from sample 1 is mostly abraded (possibly suggesting that it had been exposed to the elements for some period prior to incorporation within the pit fill) whilst that from sample 2 has a flaked appearance possibly indicative of high temperature combustion. Other remains are very scarce.

9.3.3 Shells of terrestrial, marsh/freshwater slum and freshwater obligate molluscs are present within all four assemblages, most particularly within samples 1, 3 and 4. Although broadly similar in composition, there are differences which may reflect the differing nature of the features. The assemblage from pit [202204] is dominated by shells of woodland/shade loving species, particularly those associated with damp ground litter rubble and hedgerows. It would, therefore, appear likely that the pit was largely overgrown, with accumulations of lose stones and leaf litter at its base. In contrast, ditch [204704] was probably situated within an open, short turfed grassland habitat, although the feature itself was probably muddy at its base, with some stands of stagnant water. A similar assemblage is also noted from palaeochannel [204604], although in this instance there are more in the way of freshwater obligate species. However, the latter would appear to suggest that the velocity of water within the channel was very limited, with the feature being muddy rather than truly riverine.

Conclusions

9.3.4 In summary, the paucity of plant material within the current assemblages somewhat precludes any accurate interpretation of environmental conditions, although the mollusc assemblage is marginally more informative (see above). However, the presence of wheat glume bases within the palaeochannel may be of note. Only two are recorded, and both are very abraded, but the production and utilisation of glumed wheat reached a peak during the later prehistoric and Roman periods and had largely ceased by the Middle Saxon period. This may, therefore, suggest that this channel

dates to within that time, although it should be noted that two small macrofossils could easily be residual or intrusive within the feature.

9.3.5 As none of the assemblages contain a enough density of material for quantification (i.e. 100+ specimens), no further analysis is recommended. However, a summary of this report should be included within any synthesis of data from the site.

10 Assessment and Interpretation of Results

10.1.1 The results of the evaluation identified archaeology in three trenches out of 48. The majority of geophysical and LiDAR anomalies were not archaeological in origin, being natural variations in the geology or probable modern features, the exception being anomalies identified as probable field boundary ditches identified in Trenches 10 and 47 and the quarry pit identified in Trench 22.

10.1.2 The earliest datable evidence recovered comprised fragments of medieval pottery recovered from the pit in Trench 22 and the ditch in Trench 47. These are abraided fragments and provide probable evidence of medieval manuring practices which suggests the fields within the Site could have been under cultivation since at least that time.

10.1.3 The First Edition OS Map 1876 for the area shows the ditch in Trench 047 may relate to an orchard boundary attached to Harewood Downs House, however an earlier origin for it cannot be precluded, the finds evidence indicates that it can be no earlier than the medieval period if so. The date of the ditch in Trench 010 is uncertain. It does not correlate to any known previous boundary on historic mapping and whilst it too could be of post-medieval origin, an earlier origin for it could also be possible.

10.1.4 The large quarry pit in Trench 022 has been dated to the post-medieval period based on the finding of a piece of post-medieval tile recovered from its upper fill and it seems likely that the medieval pottery, from its lower fill, was probably residual. The presence of the medieval pottery sherds does mean however that a medieval origin for the pit cannot be entirely precluded. The quarry pit correlated with a dark spot on the geophysical survey interpreted as a riverine corridor in the LiDAR interpretation. The presence of charcoal toward the base of the feature is more indicative of an anthropogenic rather than a natural feature. The LiDAR imagery showed at least two circular depressions toward the west of the Site which may be an area of random chalk extraction pits, although the First Edition OS 1876 and the proceeding second and third edition maps do not note quarrying in this area.

10.1.5 The presence of two palaeochannels in Trenches 045 and 046 show the River Misbourne had meandered across the valley floor. The presence of the palaeochannels stratigraphically cutting the subsoil in both trenches indicate that no ploughing to any depth had occurred in this area during antiquity.

10.1.6 The specific HERDS objectives for the Site are addressed below. The fieldwork did not produce enough evidence to fulfil these objectives or the route wide HERDS objectives.

Due to the lack of finds and the sparsity and form of the archaeological features, further work on the Site is unlikely to elucidate further on our understanding.

KC5: Identifying settlement location and developing models for settlement patterns for the Mesolithic, Neolithic and Early Bronze Age.

10.1.7 No Mesolithic, Neolithic or Early Bronze Age features or finds were present on Site. The evaluation recorded two ditches which were undated, however these were straight regular ditches and unlikely to date from these periods.

KC21: Assess the evidence for regional and cultural distinctiveness along the length of the route in the Romano-British period, with particular regard to the different settlement types encountered along the route.

10.1.8 The Site is in an area which has been purported to belong to a Roman Villa located in the vicinity. The lack of any Roman finds or distinctively Roman forms of ditch indicate low potential for providing further information toward this objective.

KC40: Identify patterns of change within Medieval rural settlement from the 11th to mid-14th century

10.1.9 The results did not indicate domestic occupation or a settlement present on the Site dating to the 11th to 14th century. The pottery fragments recovered from environmental samples taken from features in Trenches 22 and 47 indicate likely manuring of agricultural soils on the Site during the later medieval period. The Site has low potential with further work to elucidate further on the understanding of this objective when included as part of a wider study.

10.2 Recommendations

10.2.1 Due to the scarcity of archaeological features across Site and the paucity of artefactual remains, the Site has no potential to contribute to the research objectives set out in the GWSI HERDS and no further work is recommended.

11 Consideration of Results in their Wider Context

11.1.1 The archaeological features have very little information to offer other than contextual information to the local buildings in the vicinity. Otherwise the valley appears relatively unchanged during human occupation with few boundaries established or moved. Some limited information is provided by the results on the Medieval and Post-medieval agricultural landscapes and thus the broader settlement pattern of isolated farmsteads and rural hamlets between the larger nucleated settlements along the Missbourne and Chiltern dip slope in these periods.

12 Statement of Archaeological Potential

12.1.1 The sparsity of archaeological features, which furthermore appear to be isolated and mostly undated, hinders any overall characterisation of the Site.

12.1.2 The Site therefore has a low potential for a small number of archaeological features relating to post-medieval or undated land division and localised quarrying to provide building materials. The large quarry pit is a single entity and is more than likely associated with the extraction of chalk for building material, probably for one of the buildings in the vicinity. The ditches are relatively shallow and of little potential other than as former field boundaries of probable post-medieval date.

12.1.3 These remains are of low potential being of only local significance and offer almost no contribution to the knowledge creation objectives identified for this site. Nor do they contribute to any other knowledge creation objectives detailed in the GWSI HERDS.

13 Evaluation of Methodology Used

13.1 Summary

13.1.1 The trial trench evaluation has demonstrated areas of archaeological activity across the Site and this information can be used to inform an appropriate mitigation strategy.

13.2 Strategy Appraisal

13.2.1 The trial trench evaluation comprised 48 trenches across the Site. Each measuring 30m (L) x c.1.9m (W). The evaluation also included excavation of a total of 144 test pits, with three trenches excavated within the footprint of each trench.

13.2.2 Trial trench evaluation was the most suitable investigation methodology in that it was possible to excavate all the trenches, and within the trenches it was possible to investigate all of the exposed features. A sample of each feature was excavated as per the specifications of the Project Plan.

13.2.3 The soil horizons throughout the stratigraphic sequence were variable but clear and well-defined. The trial trench evaluation confirmed the presence, absence, density, date and significance of the archaeological remains present and it is very unlikely that features were not identified. The trenching methodology is therefore judged to be a suitable method of evaluation in this landscape. Features identified by the remote sensing surveys were successfully tested and confirmed to be largely natural features.

13.2.4 The test pitting within the footprint of the evaluation trenches provided a representative sample for the presence or absence of finds within the soil overburden for each trench. This exercise enabled a more thorough testing (at a representative scale) of the Ploughsoil horizon for artefactual evidence than would have otherwise been obtained through observation of spoil removed during mechanical stripping of the Trial Trenches. This also gave an additional opportunity to identify material evidence for early prehistoric and early medieval within the topsoil/ploughsoil horizon,

as the archaeological evidence for these periods can often be ephemeral and hard-to detect in excavation. The absence of finds recovered appears to reflect the low level of activity detected in the Trial Trenches. The test pitting only gave a representative sample that totalled approximately 0.45% area of each trench, and it is uncertain how effective a larger sample area might have been in terms of recovering finds. The effectiveness of the strategy in terms of how reliable the finds data from test pits was in giving an indication of past activity is not in the scope of this investigation, and the effectiveness of this strategy cannot be easily understood without further study of this approach.

14 Publication and Dissemination Proposals

14.1.1 It is anticipated that further work will not be undertaken on the Site. The results of the evaluation of the Site will be disseminated in accordance with the Employer policy as instructed.

14.1.2 A copy of the report will be provided to the Contractor in the first instance and then to the Employer for approval. The report will become a public document after a period not exceeding six months, a digital copy of the report will be deposited with the OASIS online archive and the Buckinghamshire Historic Environment Record. On completion of this project an appropriate short article summarising the work will be submitted to the Local Museum Services.

15 Archive Deposition

15.1.1 All retained finds and archaeo-environmental samples will be treated and conserved in accordance with the English Heritage guidance document A Strategy for the Care and Investigation of Finds (English Heritage, 1995) and the UKIC's document Guidelines for the Preparation of Excavation Archives for Long Term Storage (UKIC, 1990). Should no further work be required, an ordered, indexed, and internally consistent site archive, including digital formats (survey, photography etc) will be prepared and deposited in accordance with Archaeological Archives: A Guide to Best Practice in Creation, Compilation, Transfer and Curation (Archaeological Archives Forum 2007) and the HS2 documents: Technical Standard – Historic environment physical archive procedure (HS2-HS2-EV-STD-000-000039) and the Technical Standard – Historic environment digital data management and archiving procedure (HS2-HS2-EV-STD-000-00003). A summary of information from the project has been entered onto the OASIS online database of archaeological projects in Britain.

16 Acknowledgements

16.1.1 The Archaeological Contractor acknowledges the contributions made by all its staff and specialist contributors, the help and advice provided by the Contractor's HERDS team, and the Employer for commissioning the project.

17 Bibliography

Title	Reference
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ADS 2015. Guidelines for Depositors	Archaeological Data Service guidance
British Geological Survey. (Natural Environment Research Council) Commissioned Report CR/03/77N	Geology
CIfA 2014 Standard and guidance for archaeological field evaluation. Chartered Institute for Archaeologists	Chartered Institute for Archaeologists guidance
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HS2 Location Specific Written Scheme of Investigation for Trial Trench Evaluation at Chalfont St Peter Vent Shaft, Chalfont St Giles Vent Shaft and Amersham Vent Shaft, Chiltern Tunnel, Buckinghamshire (AC100/W5)	1EW03-FUS-EV-REP-CS02_CL04-002519
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UKIC 1990. Guidelines for the Preparation of Excavation Archives for Long Term Storage	United Kingdom Institute for Conservation guidance

18 Glossary of Terms and Acronyms

The following terms have been used in this report:

Terms

Evaluation	A form of archaeological investigation involving the excavation of trenches to help determine the character and date of any discovered archaeology
The Contractor	The organisation undertaking the Enabling Works for Area Central on behalf of the Employer.
Generic Written Scheme of Investigation: Historic Environment Research and Delivery Strategy (GWSI: HERDS)	The framework for delivering all historic environment investigations undertaken as part of the HS2 Phase 1 programme.
The Employer	The organisation responsible for delivery of HS2 Phase One Scheme and all terms and conditions, policies, procedures, and payments
Location	A specific HS2 worksite or group of worksites that are being addressed as a combined historic environment investigation programme of assessment, evaluation and investigation.
Location Specific Written Scheme of Investigation (LSWSI)	Specification document assembling one or more Project Plans within an area of land defined primarily for construction programme purposes.
Project Plan	Specification document for each specific package of activity (e.g. a survey, desk-based assessment, excavation, recoding project). The plans would respond to the Specific Objectives set out in the GWSI: HERDS and be delivered within an agreed budget.
Works	The specific historic environment assessment, evaluation or investigation works at each

Acronyms

AAF	Archaeological Archives Forum
ACA	Archaeological Character Area
aOD	above Ordnance Datum

AD	Anno Domini
ANA	Archaeological Notification Area
ASZ	Archaeological Character Sub-Zone
BC	Before Christ
BHER	Buckinghamshire Historic Environment Record
CAT	Cable Avoidance Tool
CFA	Community Forum Area
CIfA	Chartered Institute of Archaeologists
CoCP	Code of Construction Practice
EMR	Environmental Minimum Requirements
ES	Environmental Statement
GIS	Geographic Information Systems
GNSS	Global Navigation Satellite System
ha	Hectare
HE	Historic Environment
HER	Historic Environment Record
HERDS	Historic Environment Research and Delivery Strategy
ID	Identification
JV	Joint Venture
km	Kilometre
LiDAR	Light Detection and Ranging

m	Metre
mm	Millimetre
MORPHE	Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment
mya	Million Years Ago
NGR	National Grid Reference
No.	Number
OASIS	Online Access to the Index of Archaeological Investigations
OD	Ordnance Datum
ODN	Ordnance Survey Newlyn Datum
OS	Ordnance Survey
OSGB	Ordnance Survey Great Britain
PROW	Public Right of Way
UKIC	United Kingdom Institute for Conservation

Appendix 1 – Figures

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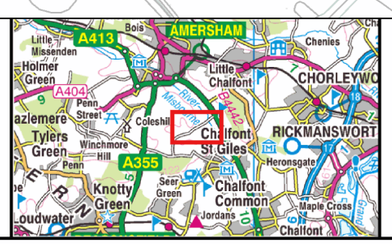
Legend

Site extent



High Speed Two,
Upper Bottom House Farm

Figure 1. Site location

Published

HS2

Scale at A3: 1:5000

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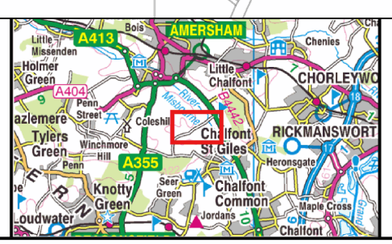
Legend

- Site extent
- Excavated evaluation trench
- Location of undated archaeological feature



High Speed Two
Figure 2. Location of undated archaeological features

Published

HS2

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Metres

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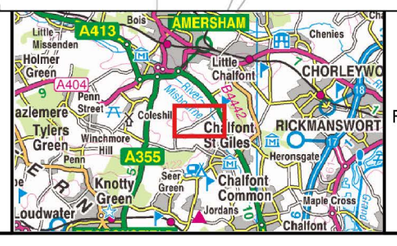
Legend

- Site extent
- Excavated evaluation trench
- Location of Medieval to Post-medieval feature



High Speed Two
Figure 3. Location of Post medieval feature

Published

HS2

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Metres

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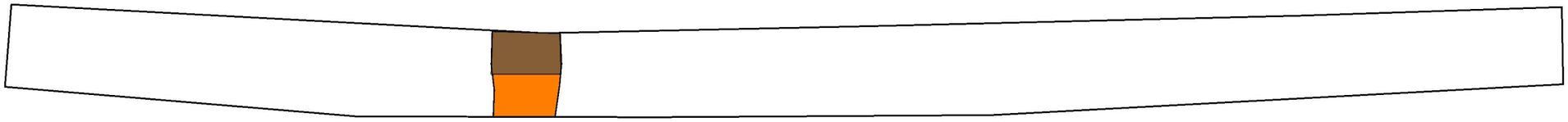
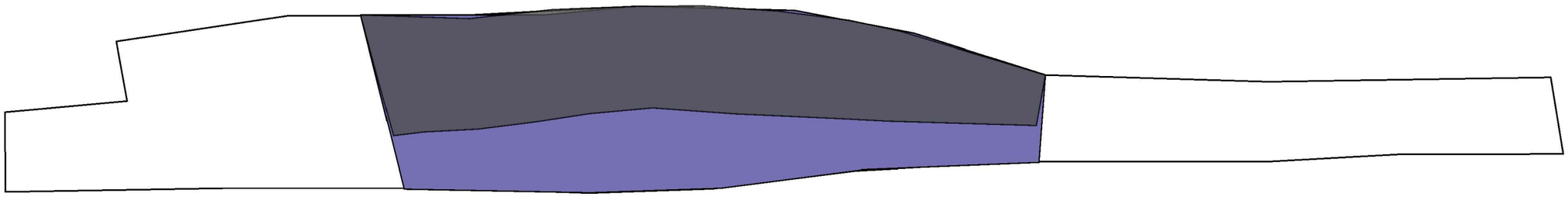
Trench 10



C201004

Trench 22



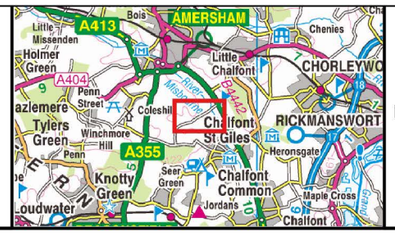
C202204

Trench 45

C204504

Legend

- Excavated evaluation trench
- Undated feature
- Medieval to Post-medieval feature
- Excavated area



High Speed Two
Figure 4. Details of trenches 10, 22 and 45

Published

HS2

Scale at A3: 1: 100

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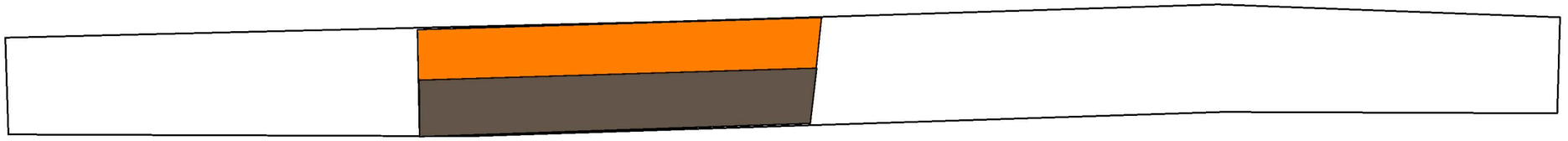
Metres

Doc Number: 1EW03-FUS-GI-MAP-CS02_CL04-000013 **Date:** 14/02/20

Trench 46



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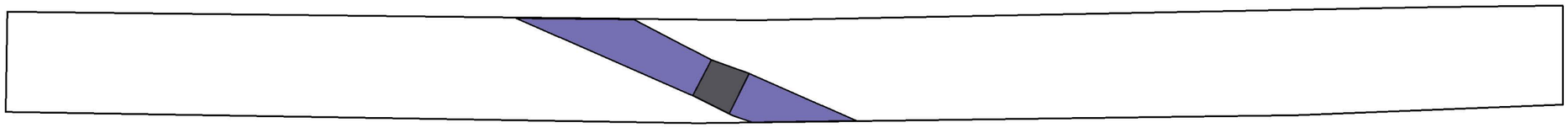
Trench 47

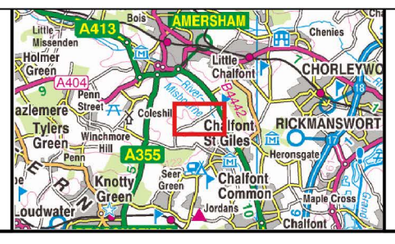


C204704

C204704

Legend

- Excavated evaluation trench
- Undated feature
- Medieval to Post-medieval feature
- Excavated area



High Speed Two
Figure 5. Details of trenches 46, 47

Published

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Metres

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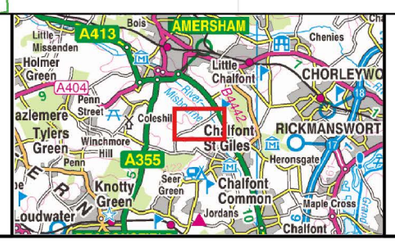
Legend

- Site extent
- Excavated evaluation trench
- Undated archaeological feature
- Medieval to Post-medieval archaeological feature
- Extrapolated archaeological feature - undated
- Extrapolated archaeological feature - Medieval to Post-medieval



High Speed Two
Figure 6. Projected features

Published

HS2

Scale at A3: 1: 1 000

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Metres

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488 200 E

195 400 N

TR048

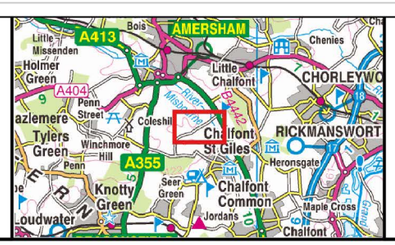
TR047

TR046

TR045

Legend

- Site extent
- Excavated evaluation trench
- Undated archaeological feature
- Medieval to Post-medieval archaeological feature
- Extrapolated archaeological feature - undated
- Extrapolated archaeological feature - Medieval to Post-medieval



High Speed Two
Figure 7. Projected features

Published

HS2

Scale at A3: 1: 1 000

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Metres

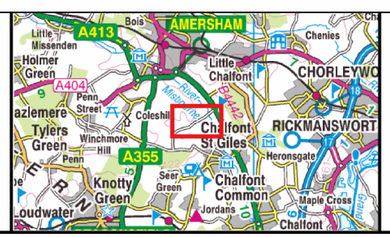
Doc Number: 1EW03-FUS-GI-MAP-CS02_CL04-000013 **Date:** 14/02/20

497 000 E

195 000 N

Legend

- Site extent
- Excavated evaluation trench
- Location of test pit



High Speed Two
Figure 8. Location of test pits

Published

HS2

Scale at A3: 1: 4 000

0 40 80 120 160
Metres

Doc Number: 1EW03-FUS-GI-MAP-CS02_CL04-000013 **Date:** 14/02/20

Appendix 2 – Plates

Plate 1 - Ditch [201004], facing southeast

Plate 2 - Pit [202204]

Plate 3 - Palaeochannel [204504]

Plate 4 - Palaeochannel [204604]

Plate 5 - Ditch [204704]

Appendix 3 - Context Register

Trench	Context No.	Type	Fill of:	Filled by:	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Description	Interpretation
1	101	Layer	-	-	-	-	0.28	Dark brown silt	Topsoil
1	102	Layer	-	-	-	-	0.14	Mid brown silty clay	Subsoil
1	103	Layer	-	-	-	-	-	Orange brown silty clay	Natural
2	201	Layer	-	-	-	-	0.24	Dark brown silt	Topsoil
2	202	Layer	-	-	-	-	0.16	Mid-dark brown silty clay, with chalk fleck inclusions	Subsoil
2	203	Layer	-	-	-	-	-	Orange brown silty clay	Natural
3	301	Layer	-	-	-	-	0.24	Dark brown silt, with small angular stone inclusions	Topsoil
3	302	Layer	-	-	-	-	0.18	Mid brown silty clay, with chalk fleck inclusions	Subsoil
3	303	Layer	-	-	-	-	0.1	Mid Brown silty clay	Colluvial
3	304	Layer	-	-	-	-	-	Orange brown silty clay	Natural
4	401	Layer	-	-	-	-	0.22	Dark brown firm silty clay	Topsoil
4	402	Layer	-	-	-	-	0.44	Mid brown silty clay, with subangular stone inclusions	Subsoil
4	403	Layer	-	-	-	-	-	Orange brown silty clay with chalk	Natural
5	501	Layer	-	-	-	-	0.24	Dark brown silt	Topsoil
5	502	Layer	-	-	-	-	0.16	Mid brown silty clay	Subsoil
5	503	Layer	-	-	-	-	-	Orange brown silty clay with chalk	Natural
6	601	Layer	-	-	-	-	0.34	Dark brown silt	Topsoil
6	602	Layer	-	-	-	-	0.26	Mid brown silt	Subsoil
6	603	Layer	-	-	-	-	-	Orange silty clay with chalk	Natural
7	701	Layer	-	-	-	-	0.2	Dark brown clay silt	Topsoil
7	702	Layer	-	-	-	-	0.18	Orange brown silty clay	Subsoil
7	703	Layer	-	-	-	-	-	Orange clay	Natural
8	801	Layer	-	-	-	-	0.2	Dark grey brown	Topsoil

Trench	Context No.	Type	Fill of:	Filled by:	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Description	Interpretation
8	802	Layer	-	-	-	-	0.15	Mid orange brown silty clay with moderately large flint inclusions	Subsoil
8	803	Layer	-	-	-	-	-	Orange silty clay with chalk	Natural
9	901	Layer	-	-	-	-	0.3	Dark grey loose silt	Topsoil
9	902	Layer	-	-	-	-	0.25	Orange brown silt with occasional sub-rounded medium sized pebbles	Subsoil
9	903	Layer	-	-	-	-	-	Light brown clay with fine chalk inclusions	Natural
10	1001	Layer	-	-	-	-	0.2	Dark brown silt	Topsoil
10	1002	Layer	-	-	-	-	0.18	Mid-dark brown silty clay, with chalk fleck inclusions	Subsoil
10	1003	Layer	-	-	-	-	-	Light brown clay with chalk	Natural
10	1004	Cut	-	1005	-	1.1	0.06	Cut of flat bottomed, linear feature, possible hedgerow	Cut of ditch
10	1005	Fill	1004	-	-	1.1	0.06	Mid brown firm silty clay with sparse angular stone and charcoal flack inclusions	Fill of ditch
11	1101	Layer	-	-	-	-	0.24	Dark grey loose silt	Topsoil
11	1102	Layer	-	-	-	-	0.3	Orange brown clay silt with occasional medium to large stone inclusions	Subsoil
11	1103	Layer	-	-	-	-	-	Light brown clay with fine chalk inclusions	Natural
12	1201	Layer	-	-	-	-	0.22	Dark brown firm clay silt	Topsoil
12	1202	Layer	-	-	-	-	0.24	Light orange brown firm silty clay	Subsoil
12	1203	Layer	-	-	-	-	-	Dark orange brown silty clay with chalk	Natural
13	1301	Layer	-	-	-	-	0.45	Dark grey brown silt	Topsoil
13	1302	Layer	-	-	-	-	0.25	Mid orange brown silty clay with mid-sized flint inclusions	Subsoil
13	1303	Layer	-	-	-	-	-	Mid orange brown silty clay with chalk	Natural
14	1401	Layer	-	-	-	-	0.2	Dark brown silt	Topsoil
14	1402	Layer	-	-	-	-	0.1	Mid brown silt	Subsoil
14	1403	Layer	-	-	-	-	-	Light brown orange silt clay with chalk inclusions	Natural
15	1501	Layer	-	-	-	-	0.2	Dark grey brown silt clay with occasional small stone inclusions	Topsoil

Trench	Context No.	Type	Fill of:	Filled by:	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Description	Interpretation
15	1502	Layer	-	-	-	-	0.1	Dark orange brown silty clay with occasional small stone inclusions	Subsoil
15	1503	Layer	-	-	-	-	-	Light orange brown silty clay with common chalk and flint	Natural
16	1601	Layer	-	-	-	-	0.2	Dark grey brown silt	Topsoil
16	1602	Layer	-	-	-	-	0.4	Dark orange brown silt clay with moderate quantities of small to mid-sized stone inclusions	Subsoil
16	1603	Layer	-	-	-	-	-	Dark orange brown silty clay with chalk and flint	Natural
17	1701	Layer	-	-	-	-	0.23	Dark grey brown silt	Topsoil
17	1702	Layer	-	-	-	-	0.31	Dark orange brown clay silt	Subsoil
17	1703	Layer	-	-	-	-	0.38	Dark grey brown silt clay with frequent chalk and flint inclusions	Colluvial
17	1704	Layer	-	-	-	-	0.18	Dark orange brown clay silt	Colluvial
17	1705	Layer	-	-	-	-	-	Dark orange brown clay silt	Natural
18	1801	Layer	-	-	-	-	0.25	Dark grey brown silt	Topsoil
18	1802	Layer	-	-	-	-	0.1	Mid brown orange with moderate quantities of mid-sized stone inclusions	Subsoil
18	1803	Layer	-	-	-	0.75	0.2	Mid-light brown orange silt clay	Clay layer
18	1804	Layer	-	-	-	-	-	Light brown clay with frequent chalk inclusions	Natural
19	1901	Layer	-	-	-	-	0.2	Dark grey brown silt clay with occasional small stone inclusions	Topsoil
19	1902	Layer	-	-	-	-	0.15	Dark orange greyish brown silt clay	Subsoil
19	1903	Layer	-	-	-	-	0.1	Mid orange grey brown silt clay with small flint inclusions	Colluvial
19	1904	Layer	-	-	-	-	0.1	Dark orange-grey brown silt clay with frequent small flint	Colluvial
19	1905	Layer	-	-	-	-	0.2	Mid orange-grey brown silt clay with frequent small flint	Colluvial
19	1906	Layer	-	-	-	-	0.4	Dark grey brown silt clay with occasional large flint nodules	Colluvial
19	1907	Layer	-	-	-	-	-	Mid grey brown flinty gravel	Natural

Trench	Context No.	Type	Fill of:	Filled by:	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Description	Interpretation
20	2001	Layer	-	-	-	-	0.3	Dark grey brown silt	Topsoil
20	2002	Layer	-	-	-	-	0.15	Mid orange brown silt with occasional mid-sized chalk and flint inclusions	Subsoil
20	2003	Layer	-	-	-	-	-	Chalk	Natural
21	2101	Layer	-	-	-	-	0.2	Dark grey brown silt	Topsoil
21	2102	Layer	-	-	-	-	0.1	Mid orange brown silt clay with occasional small chalk and flint inclusions	Subsoil
21	2103	Layer	-	-	-	-	-	Chalk	Natural
22	2201	Layer	-	-	-	-	0.2	Dark grey brown silt	Topsoil
22	2202	Layer	-	-	-	-	0.4	Mid brown silt with occasional small chalk and flint inclusions	Subsoil
22	2203	Layer	-	-	-	-	-	Chalk	Natural
22	2204	Cut	-	2205/2206	-	14.92	0.86	Cut of large quarry pit, with a steep sloping western side, flat base and gradual sloping east side.	Cut of Pit
22	2205	Fill	2204	-	-	14.92	0.23	Firm brown silt clay with frequent flint and chalk nodule inclusions	Fill of pit
22	2206	Fill	2204	-	-	7.4	0.6	Firm brown clay with rare stone inclusions and charcoal flecking	Upper fill of pit
22	2207	Fill	2204	-	-	8.6	0.36	Dark brown friable silt with large flint and charcoal fleck inclusions	Primary fill of pit
23	2301	Layer	-	-	-	-	0.28	Dark grey brown silt	Topsoil
23	2302	Layer	-	-	-	-	0.65	Light brown orange silt with common mid-sized chalk inclusions	Subsoil
23	2303	Layer	-	-	-	-	-	Chalk	Natural
24	2401	Layer	-	-	-	-	0.18	Dark grey brown silt	Topsoil
24	2402	Layer	-	-	-	-	0.08	Mid grey brown silty clay with flint and gravel inclusions	Subsoil
24	2403	Layer	-	-	-	-	-	Light brown silt with common chalk and flint nodules	Natural
25	2501	Layer	-	-	-	-	0.26	Dark brown silt	Topsoil
25	2502	Layer	-	-	-	-	0.34	Mid brown silty clay with frequent chalk flecks	Subsoil

Trench	Context No.	Type	Fill of:	Filled by:	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Description	Interpretation
25	2503	Layer	-	-	-	-	0.11	Mid brown silty clay	Colluvial
25	2504	Layer	-	-	-	-	-	Mid-light brown silty clay and chalk	Natural
26	2601	Layer	-	-	-	-	0.2	Dark brown silt	Topsoil
26	2602	Layer	-	-	-	-	0.1	Mid brown silt clay	Subsoil
26	2603	Layer	-	-	-	-	-	Mid orange silt clay with chalk	Natural
27	2701	Layer	-	-	-	-	0.18	Mid brown firm silty clay with occasional flint	Topsoil
27	2702	Layer	-	-	-	-	0.7	Orange brown firm silty clay	Subsoil
27	2703	Layer	-	-	-	-	-	Orange clay and gravel	Natural
28	2801	Layer	-	-	-	-	0.2	Dark grey brown silt clay with occasional small inclusions	Topsoil
28	2802	Layer	-	-	-	-	0.7	Mid orange brown silty clay	Subsoil
28	2803	Layer	-	-	-	-	-	Chalk	Natural
29	2901	Layer	-	-	-	-	0.1	Dark grey brown silty clay	Topsoil
29	2902	Layer	-	-	-	-	0.2	Mid orange brown silty clay with occasional small pebbles	Subsoil
29	2903	Layer	-	-	-	-	0.1	Dark brownish grey silty clay	Colluvial
29	2904	Layer	-	-	-	-	-	Flint gravel	Pleistocene glacial till
30	3001	Layer	-	-	-	-	0.7	Dark grey brown silt	Topsoil
30	3002	Layer	-	-	-	-	0.2	Dark orange brown silt clay with moderate quantities of small to mid-sized flint inclusions	Subsoil
30	3003	Layer	-	-	-	-	-	Orange silt clay with frequent stone inclusions	Natural
31	3101	Layer	-	-	-	-	0.25	Dark grey loose silt	Topsoil
31	3102	Layer	-	-	-	-	0.3	Orange brown clay silt occasional medium to large stone inclusions	Subsoil
31	3103	Layer	-	-	-	-	-	Orange silt clay with frequent stone inclusions	Natural
32	3201	Layer	-	-	-	-	0.25	Grey-red brown clay silt with occasional mid-sized flint nodules	Topsoil

Trench	Context No.	Type	Fill of:	Filled by:	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Description	Interpretation
32	3202	Layer	-	-	-	-	0.24	Dark red brown clay silt with occasional mid-sized flint nodules	Subsoil
32	3203	Layer	-	-	-	-	-	Red brown clay silt with occasional large flint nodules	Natural
33	3301	Layer	-	-	-	-	0.28	Black brown silt with occasional mid-sized flint nodules	Topsoil
33	3302	Layer	-	-	-	-	0.44	Dark red brown clay silt with occasional large flint nodules	Subsoil
33	3303	Layer	-	-	-	-	-	Red brown clay silt with occasional large flint nodules and degraded chalk	Natural
34	3401	Layer	-	-	-	-	0.09	Grey brown compact sandy silt and gravel with mid-sized flint nodules	Topsoil
34	3402	Layer	-	-	-	-	0.36	Dark red brown compact silt clay with mid-sized flint nodules	Subsoil
34	3403	Layer	-	-	-	-	0.2	Dark grey brown compact sandy silt and gravel with mid-sized flint nodules	Colluvial
34	3404	Layer	-	-	-	-	0.2	Dark brown compact sandy clay silt with mid-sized flint nodules	Colluvial
34	3405	Layer	-	-	-	-	-	Red brown compact sandy silt clay with mid-sized flint nodules	Natural
35	3501	Layer	-	-	-	-	0.28	Dark grey brown compact sandy silt and gravel with mid-sized flint nodules	Topsoil
35	3502	Layer	-	-	-	-	0.26	Dark brown compact sandy clay silt with large flint nodules	Subsoil
35	3503	Layer	-	-	-	-	-	Red brown compact sandy silt clay with large flint nodules and degraded chalk	Natural
36	3601	Layer	-	-	-	-	0.24	Dark brown compact sandy silt with large flint nodules	Topsoil
36	3602	Layer	-	-	-	-	0.22	Dark red brown compact sandy clay silt with large flint and small chalk nodules	Subsoil
36	3603	Layer	-	-	-	-	0.2	Dark brown compact sandy clay silt and large flint nodules	Colluvial
36	3604	Layer	-	-	-	-	-	Red brown compact sandy clay silt with large flint nodules	Natural
36	3605	Layer	-	-	-	-	0.4	Dark brown compact sandy clay silt with very large flint nodules	Subsoil
37	3701	Layer	-	-	-	-	0.22	Dark grey brown compact sandy silt and gravel with large flint nodules	Topsoil

Trench	Context No.	Type	Fill of:	Filled by:	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Description	Interpretation
37	3702	Layer	-	-	-	-	0.44	Dark brown compact sandy clay silt with large flint nodules	Subsoil
37	3703	Layer	-	-	-	-	-	Red brown compact sandy clay silt with large flint nodules	Natural
38	3801	Layer	-	-	-	-	0.26	Dark grey brown compact sandy silt and gravel with large flint nodules	Topsoil
38	3802	Layer	-	-	-	-	0.42	Dark red brown compact sandy clay silt with large flint nodules	Subsoil
38	3803	Layer	-	-	-	-	-	Red brown compact sandy clay silt with large flint nodules	Natural
39	3901	Layer	-	-	-	-	0.28	Dark grey brown compact sandy silt and gravel with large flint nodules	Topsoil
39	3902	Layer	-	-	-	-	0.5	Dark red brown compact sandy clay silt with large flint nodules	Subsoil
39	3903	Layer	-	-	-	-	0.45	Red brown compact sandy clay silt with large flint nodules	Colluvial
39	3904	Layer	-	-	-	-	-	Red brown compact sandy clay silt with very large flint nodules and patches of degraded chalk	Natural
40	4001	Layer	-	-	-	-	0.3	Dark brown compact sandy silt and gravel with mid-sized flint nodules	Topsoil
40	4002	Layer	-	-	-	-	0.26	Dark brown compact sandy clay silt with large flint nodules	Subsoil
40	4003	Layer	-	-	-	-	0.42	Red brown compact sandy clay silt with large flint nodules	Colluvial
40	4004	Layer	-	-	-	-	-	Yellow-red brown compact sandy clay silt with large flint nodules, rounded gravel and patches of degraded chalk	Natural
41	4101	Layer	-	-	-	-	28	Dark brown compact sandy silt with mid-sized flint nodules	Topsoil
41	4102	Layer	-	-	-	-	49	Dark brown compact sandy clay silt with large flint nodules	Subsoil
41	4103	Layer	-	-	-	-	-	Red brown compact sandy clay silt with large flint nodules, rounded gravels and sandy patches	Natural
42	4201	Layer	-	-	-	-	0.2	Grey brown friable sandy silt with moderate quantities of small to mid-sized rounded stone and flint inclusions	Topsoil

Trench	Context No.	Type	Fill of:	Filled by:	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Description	Interpretation
42	4202	Layer	-	-	-	-	0.32	Red brown friable sandy silt with frequent small to large sub angular and rounded stone inclusions	Subsoil
42	4203	Layer	-	-	-	-	-	Orange brown firm sandy silt with frequent small to large stone inclusions	Natural
43	4301	Layer	-	-	-	-	0.26	Dark grey brown friable sand silt with frequent rounded stone and subangular flint	Topsoil
43	4302	Layer	-	-	-	-	0.32	Red brown friable sandy silt with abundant large subangular flint inclusions and rounded stones	Subsoil
43	4303	Layer	-	-	-	-	-	Orange brown firm sandy silt with frequent small to large sub angular flint and round stone inclusions	Natural
44	4401	Layer	-	-	-	-	0.22	Dark grey brown friable sandy silt with moderate small to large sub angular flint and rounded stone inclusions	Topsoil
44	4402	Layer	-	-	-	-	0.24	Red brown friable sandy silt with moderate small to large flint and rounded stone inclusions	Subsoil
44	4403	Layer	-	-	-	-	-	Dark red brown friable sandy silt with abundant small to large flint and rounded stone inclusions	Natural
44	4404	Layer	-	-	-	-	0.66	Dark orange brown friable sandy silt with occasional large subangular flint and mid-sized rounded stone inclusions.	Colluvial
45	4501	Layer	-	-	-	-	0.26	Grey brown friable sandy silt with moderate small to medium sub rounded flint and stone inclusions	Topsoil
45	4502	Layer	-	-	-	-	0.32	Orange brown friable sandy silt with frequent small to large rounded stones and flint nodules	Subsoil
45	4503	Layer	-	-	-	-	-	Orangey brown friable sandy silt with abundant up to large rounded stone and flint nodule inclusions	Natural
45	4504	Cut	-	4505/4506/ 4507/4508/ 4509	-	7.75	0.8	NW - SE oriented channel, with gentle sloping sides and a flat base	Palaeochannel

Trench	Context No.	Type	Fill of:	Filled by:	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Description	Interpretation
45	4505	Fill	4505	-	-	-	0.78	Well sorted fine yellow sand	Lower fill of palaeochannel
45	4506	Fill	4505	-	-	-	0.44	Grey brown silty clay with rare small to mid-sized rounded stone inclusions	Fill of palaeochannel
45	4507	Fill	4505	-	-	-	0.24	Light grey yellow gravel silt	Fill of palaeochannel
45	4508	Fill	4505	-	-	-	0.2	Dark yellow brown silt sand	Fill of palaeochannel
45	4509	Fill	4505	-	-	-	0.48	Grey brown silt clay with rare small to mid-sized rounded stone inclusions	Fill of palaeochannel
46	4601	Layer	-	-	-	-	0.33	Grey brown friable sandy silt with moderate small to medium sub rounded flint and stone inclusions	Topsoil
46	4602	Layer	-	-	-	-	0.4	Light grey brown friable sandy silt with frequent small to large rounded stones and flint nodules	Subsoil
46	4603	Layer	-	-	-	-	-	Light grey brown friable sandy silt with occasional mid-sized rounded stone and flint nodule inclusions	Natural
46	4604	Cut	-	4605/4606/ 4607/4608	-	2.6	0.9	NW - SE oriented channel, with gentle sloping sides, a flat base and a small v-shaped channel profile in the SW of the base	Palaeochannel
46	4605	Fill	4604	-	-	6.7	0.5	Mid grey brown silt stone matrix	Fill of palaeochannel
46	4606	Fill	4604	-	-	2.74	0.36	Fine well sorted grey sand	Fill of palaeochannel
46	4607	Fill	4604	-	-	2	0.4	Mid grey brown silt stone matrix	Fill of palaeochannel
46	4608	Fill	4604	-	-	2.8	0.54	Dark grey brown sandy silt	Fill of palaeochannel
47	4701	Layer	-	-	-	-	0.27	Dark grey brown friable sandy silt with rare small rounded stones	Topsoil
47	4702	Layer	-	-	-	-	0.36	Grey brown friable sandy silt with mid-sized stones and flint	Subsoil
47	4703	Layer	-	-	-	-	-	Light grey friable silt with frequent up to large flint nodules and rounded stones	Natural
47	4704	Cut	-	4705	-	0.8	0.32	E-W oriented straight shallow ditch with steep sides and a flat base	Cut of Linear

Trench	Context No.	Type	Fill of:	Filled by:	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Description	Interpretation
47	4705	Fill	4704	-	-	0.8	0.32	Grey brown friable sandy silt with common up to large subangular stone inclusions towards the base	Fill of linear
48	4801	Layer	-	-	-	-	0.2	Grey brown friable sandy silt with moderate quantities of small to mid-sized rounded stone inclusions	Topsoil
48	4802	Layer	-	-	-	-	0.46	Orange brown firm sandy silt with frequent small to large stone and flint inclusions and occasional sandy patches	Subsoil
48	4803	Layer	-	-	-	-	-	Red brown firm sandy silt with frequent small to large stone and flint inclusions and occasional sandy patches	Natural

Appendix 4 – Oasis Form

OASIS DATA COLLECTION FORM: England

Printable version

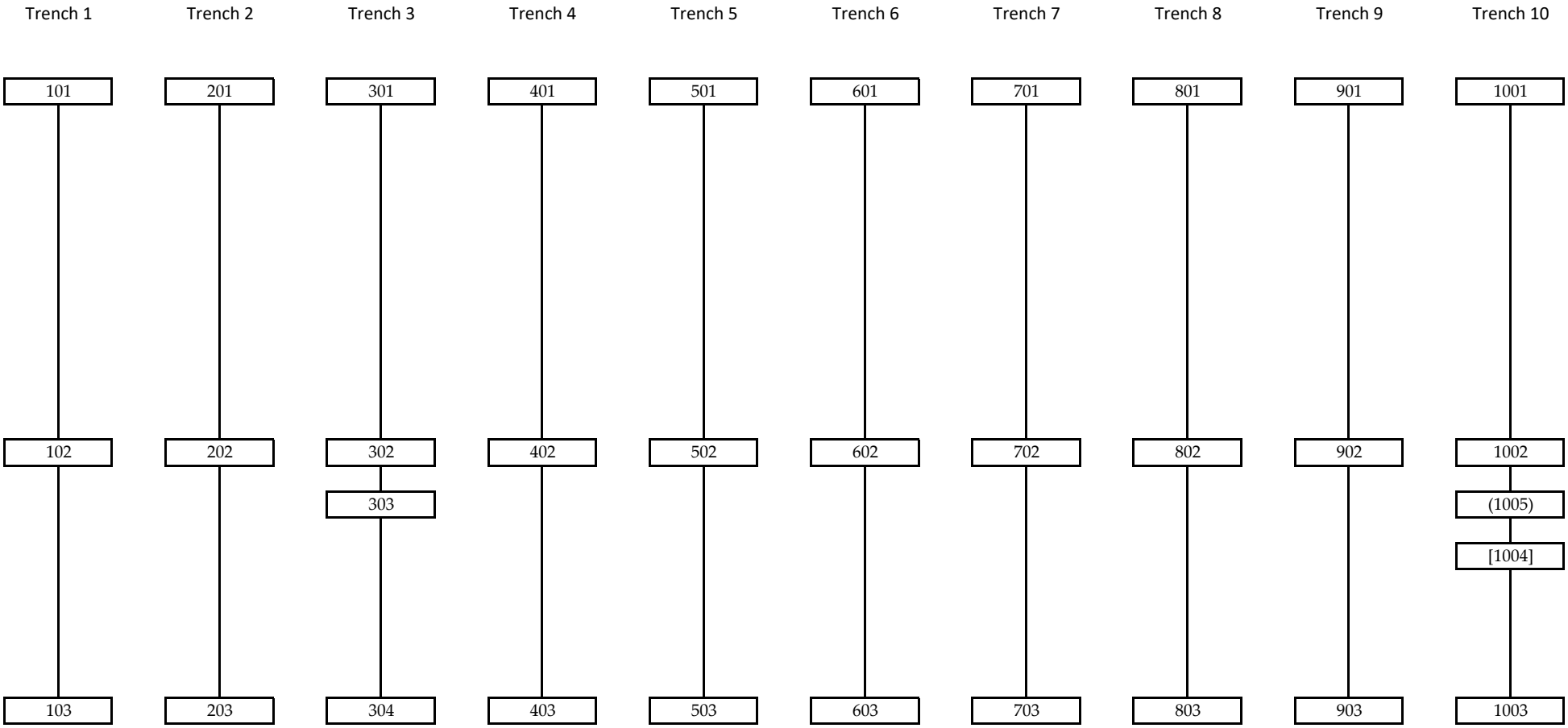
OASIS ID: hs2infra1-383652

Project details	
Project name	Upper Bottom House Farm, Chalfont St. Giles, Bucks
Short description of the project	A trial trench evaluation comprising 48 trenches across the Site, targeted on geophysical, cropmark and LiDAR imagery and blank areas, was designed to archaeologically investigate the Site. Three trenches revealed archaeological features, including two undated ditches and a large post-medieval quarry pit. Two further trenches revealed palaeochannels to the south of the current River Misbourne.
Project dates	Start: 14-12-2018 End: 18-12-2019
Previous/future work	Yes / No
Any associated project reference codes	1C18BOTT - Sitecode
Type of project	Field evaluation
Current Land use	Cultivated Land 1 - Minimal cultivation
Monument type	DITCH Uncertain
Monument type	QUARRY PIT Post Medieval
Methods & techniques	"'Targeted Trenches'"
Development type	Rail links/railway-related infrastructure (including Channel Tunnel)
Project location	
Country	England
Site location	BUCKINGHAMSHIRE CHILTERN CHALFONT ST GILES Upper Bottom House Farm
Study area	13 Hectares
Site coordinates	SU 97524 94751 51.642621166217 -0.590441298676 51 38 33 N 000 35 25 W Point

Project creators	
Name of Organisation	INFRA
Project brief originator	Fusion
Project design originator	INFRA
Project director/manager	David Bonner
Project supervisor	Louis Stafford
Project archives	
Physical Archive Exists?	No
Digital Media available	"GIS","Images raster / digital photography","Spreadsheets"
Paper Media available	"Context sheet","Matrices","Plan","Report","Section"
Project bibliography 1	
Publication type	Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)
Title	AWHe C2a Fieldwork Report for Trial Trench Evaluation at C10007 Upper Bottom House Farm Vent Shaft - Chalfont St. Giles - Buckinghamshire (AC100/9)
Author(s)/Editor(s)	Stafford, L.
Date	2020
Issuer or publisher	INFRA
Place of issue or publication	Cardiff
Entered by	Rachel Morgan (rachel.morgan@rubiconheritage.com)
Entered on	4 February 2020

OASIS:

Appendix 5 – Harris Matrix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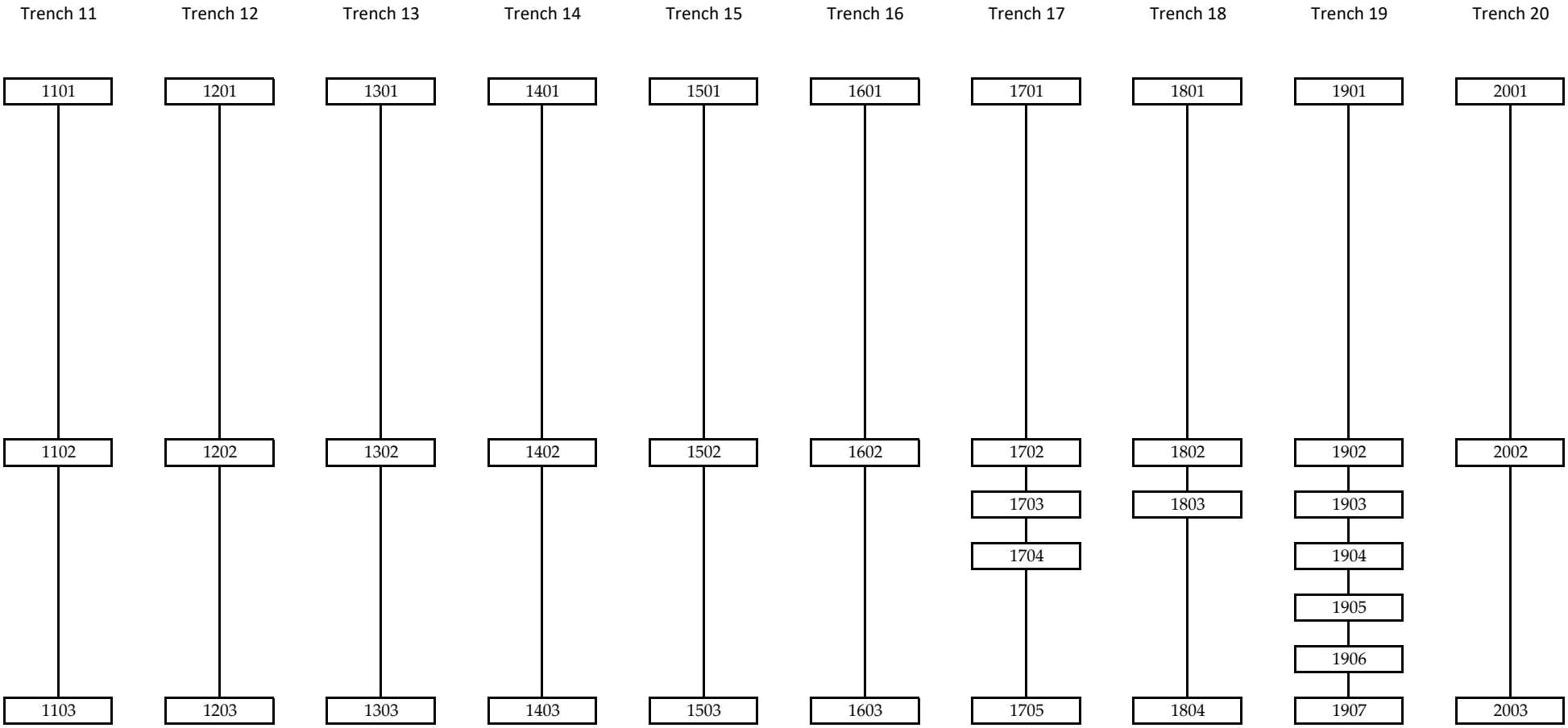
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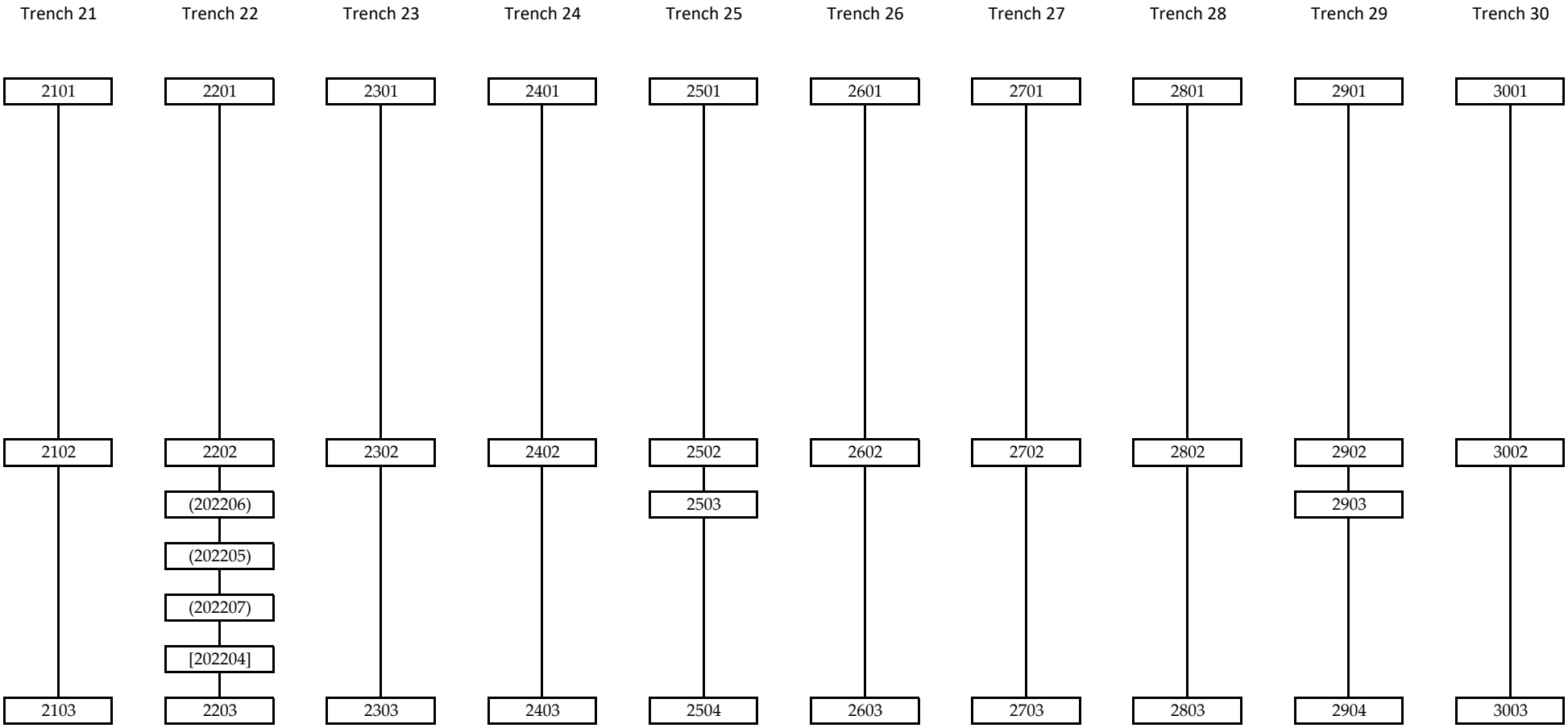
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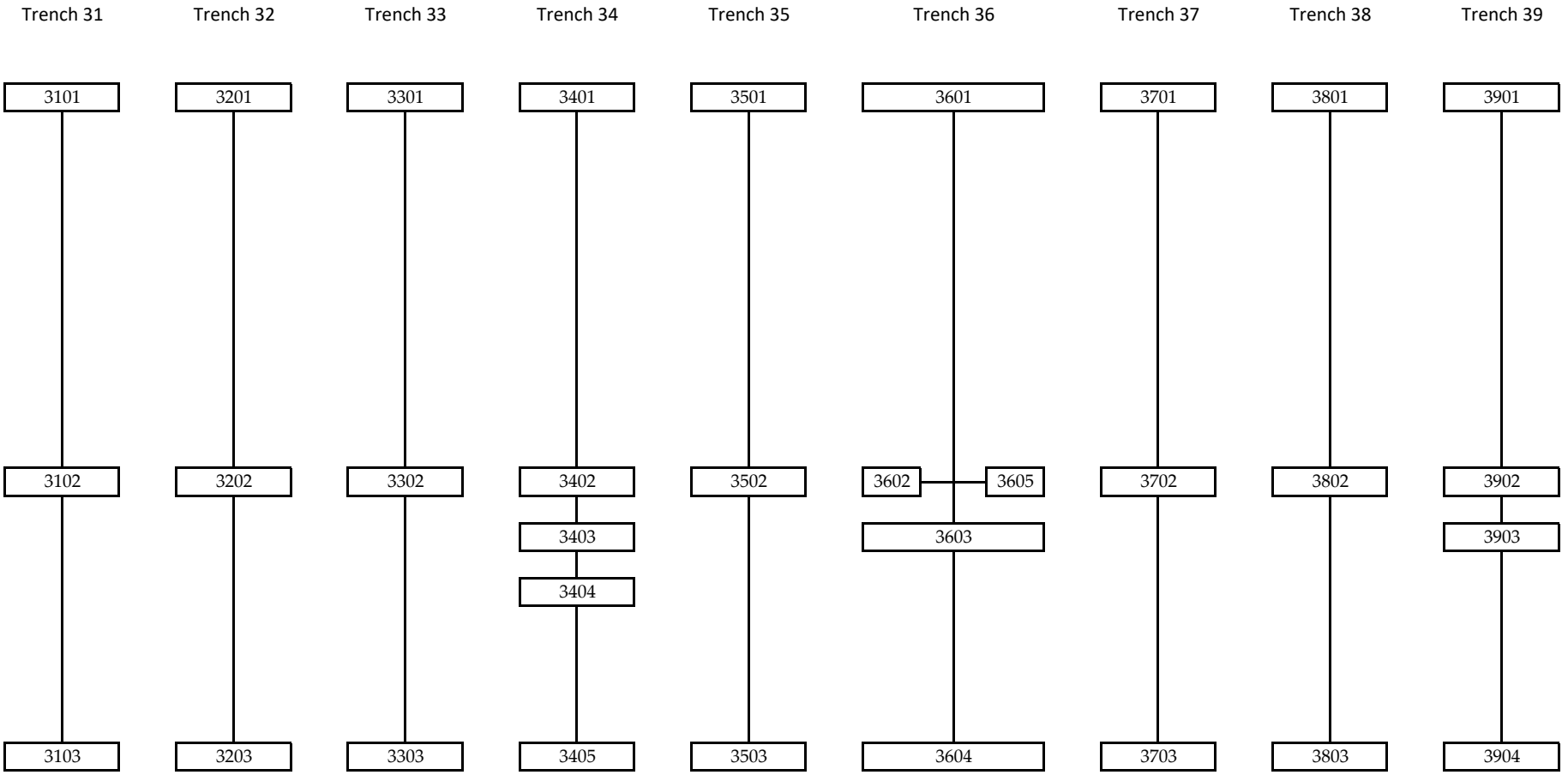
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3403
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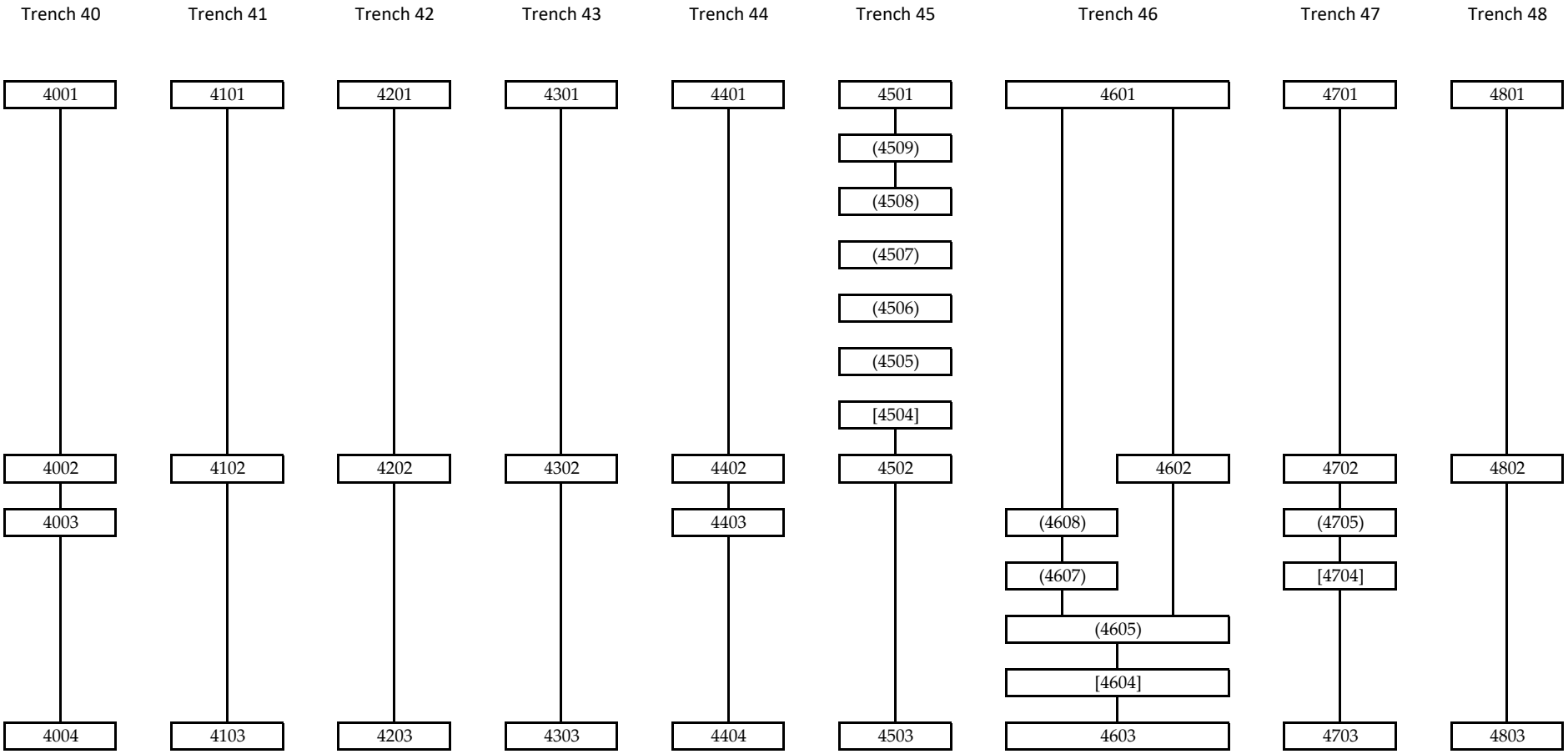
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Appendix 6 – Palaeoenvironmental Data

Key to Table

x = 1 – 10 specimens xx = 11 – 50 specimens xxx = 51 – 100 specimens xxxx = 100+ specimens

w = de-watered cf = compare fg = fragment ss = sub-sample

PC = palaeochannel P.Med = Post-medieval U/D = undated

Sample No.	**1**	**2**	**3**	**4**
Context No.	**202207**	**201005**	**204705**	**204605**
Feature No.	**202204**	**201004**	**204704**	**204604**
Feature type	**Pit**	**Ditch**	**Ditch**	**PC**
Trench	**022**	**010**	**047**	**046**
Date	**?P.Med.**	**U/D**	**U/D**	**U/D**
Cereals				
Triticum sp. (glume bases)				x
Cereal indet. (grain)	x			
Dry land herbs				
Chenopodium album L.				xw
Rumex sp.			xw	
Urtica dioica L.				xw
Tree/shrub macrofossils				
Corylus avellana L.		x		
Other plant macrofossils				
Charcoal <2mm	xxxx	xxxx	x	xx
Charcoal >2mm	xx	xxx	x	x
Charcoal >5mm	x	x		x
Charred root/stem	x			
Other remains				
Black porous/tarry material	x	x		x
Eggshell				x
Fish bone			xcf	
Buff/white mineral concretions	x		x	
Small coal frags.		x		xx
Mollusc shells				
Woodland/shade loving species				
Acanthinula aculeata	xx			
Acicula fusca	x			
Aegopinella sp.	xx		x	x
Azeca goodalli	x			
Carychium sp.	xxxx		x	x
Clausilia sp.	x			x
Discus rotundatus	xxx		x	x
Ena sp.	x			
Helicigona lapicida	xxfg			

Macrogastra rolphii	xx			
Oxychilus sp.	x		x	xcf
Punctum pygmaeum	x		x	x
Vitrea sp.	xx			x
Open country species				
Helicella itala	x		x	
Pupilla muscorum			x	xx
Vallonia sp.	x	x	xxx	xx
V. excentrica			x	
V. pulchella	xcf		xcf	xcf
Vertigo pygmaea	x	x		x
Catholic species				
Cepaea sp.	x		x	x
Cochlicopa sp.	xx		x	xx
Nesovitrea hammonis	xcf		x	x
Trichia hispida group	x		xx	xxx
Other				
Limacid plates	x		x	x
Marsh/freshwater slum species				
Anisus leucostoma			xx	xx
Lymnaea sp.			x	
L. glabra			xcf	
L. stagnalis				x
Succinea sp.			x	xx
Freshwater obligates				
Pisidium sp.				x
Planorbis planorbis				x
Sample volume (litres)	**10ss**	**10ss**	**10ss**	**10ss**
Volume of flot (litres)	**<0.1**	**<0.1**	**<0.1**	**0.1**
% flot sorted	**100%**	**100%**	**100%**	**100%**