

## 1EW03 – Enabling Works Central

# AWHi Summary Report for Archaeological Recording at North Portal

**Site Code: 1C20CTNAR**

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# 1 Summary

- 1.1.1 Archaeological Recording was undertaken at Chiltern Tunnel North Portal, on land near Great Missenden, Buckinghamshire, comprising parts of a single arable field divided into two land parcels C21036 (NGR centre 490300202170) measuring c. 0.42ha & C21037 (NGR centre 490285202090) measuring c. 0.17ha with a combined area of approximately 0.59ha. The land is required for the north portal of the Chiltern tunnel leading to the main rail alignment and associated engineering earthworks. An electricity substation and infiltration basin will be built, as well as tree planting. There will also be an alteration to the public right of way (PROW). During construction, the Site will also be at risk due to land needed for temporary earthwork storage, satellite construction compounds, an access road and the formation of the rail alignment and portal. The site code for these works was 1C2oCTNAR which was carried out from January to February 2021.
- 1.1.2 The Archaeological Recording targeted possible later Prehistoric or Anglo-Saxon features revealed in the northeast of the 2018 Evaluation site (Trenches 21, 22 and 34). Overall, the activity recorded in this investigation was sparse with only a low density of scattered possible post holes, two pits and a charcoal rich deposit recorded. The dating evidence was also sparse comprising a small quantity of Prehistoric pottery and flint which indicates an Iron Age date for the majority of the activity, but the evidence also includes some features that were undated. A loosely clustered spread of post holes was present towards the eastern edge of land parcel c21036, but they did not articulate as any definable structure(s). The other post holes recorded were more isolated and can also not be defined as parts of structures, although a possible four-post structure could be evident in the central part of C21036. The overall lack of articulation to the evidence recorded suggests activity could have resulted from temporary or expedient activity, and could be seen as associated with nearby settlement that was focussed somewhere in the vicinity, but outside of the Recording Areas. This impression is reinforced by the finds evidence, with the quantity and distribution of the finds suggesting a focus of settlement elsewhere.