

## 1EW03 – Enabling Works Central

# AWHi Interim Report for Archaeological Recording at Land North of Nash Lee Lane

## Site Code: 1C2oNNLAR

Document no.: 1EW03-FUS\_IFA-EV-REP-CS03\_CL17-000003

MDF ref:

Revision	Date	Author	Checked by	Approved by	Revision Details:
C01	07/05/21	Francesca Giarelli	B. Cosham S. Roper	D. Bonner	First Issue

Code 5 - Not Client Reviewed

# Contents

1	Executive Summary	3
2	Introduction	3
2.2	General Aims	4
2.3	Contribution to HERDS Objectives	5
2.4	Project Plan and LS-WSI	7
2.5	Change Controls	7
3	Archaeological Background	8
4	Preliminary Results	9
4.0	Site Geology	9
4.1	Archaeological Recording Results Summary	10
4.2	Archaeological Results Land Parcel c22031 (Figure 3)	10
4.3	Archaeological Results Land Parcel c22032 (Figure 4,5)	11
5	Summary	14
6	References	15
6.1	Bibliography	15
6.2	Glossary	16
6.3	Acronyms/abbreviations	17
	Appendix 1 - Figures	18
	Appendix 2 - Plates	25

## List of Figures

Figure 1	–	Site Location
Figure 2	–	Overview of excavated areas
Figure 3	–	c22031 overview of excavated areas
Figure 4 & 5	–	c22032 overview of excavated areas
Figure 6	–	C22032 Structures

## List of Plates

Plate 1	–	Southeast facing section of [810031], posthole of Structure 3
Plate 2	–	Northeast facing section of enclosure ditch
Plate 3	–	North facing section of field boundary ditch

## List of Tables

Table 1	–	Site-specific Objectives
Table 2	–	Contribution to Specific HERDS objectives

Table 3            –            Summary of Excavation Results by Area

Table 4            –            Posthole groupings and structures number

# 1 Executive Summary

- 1.1.1 Archaeological Recording was undertaken at land North of Nash Lee Lane, Buckinghamshire (henceforth 'the Site'). The site code for these works was 1C2oNNLAR, which was carried out from the end of February to mid-April 2021.
- 1.1.2 The Archaeological Recording was undertaken across two areas (C22031, C22032), located to the north and south of Nash Lee Lane, Buckinghamshire. The Site was located within the Dunsmore, Wendover and Halton Community Forum Area (CFA 10).
- 1.1.3 The area of Archaeological Recording covered two parcels of land: C22031 (0.20ha) and C22032 (0.50 ha) which in total subsumed an area of 0.70ha.
- 1.1.4 A medium density of archaeology was uncovered during the excavation. C22031 revealed, as previously shown in the evaluation trenches, a medium sized ditch and a smaller one, both of which are dated to the Late Iron Age-early Roman period. A pit was also excavated but it did not produce any dating. The archaeological landscape of C22032 was dominated by an enclosure ditch, that showed 2 phases of activity. (Late Iron Age-Early Roman). There was also a total of 68 discrete features, 23 of which are believed to form 6 square structures and a further 14 a roundhouse. A Change Control was put in place to extend the area which was required to investigate the roundhouse. A second pair of small ditches and 3 pits were located in the eastern half of the area.

# 2 Introduction

- 2.1.1 This report details the results of Archaeological Recording, which comprised an open-area archaeological excavation, conducted from end of February to mid-April 2021 near Wendover, Buckinghamshire (centred on NGR 484773, 208846).
- 2.1.2 The Site was located within the Dunsmore, Wendover and Halton Community Forum Area (CFA 10), 400m east of the centre of Nash Lee, a hamlet situated 1.7km northwest of Wendover, Buckinghamshire. The areas of Archaeological Recording comprised parts of two arable fields, lying on the north and south of Nash Lee Lane, to the north of the B4009 (Nash Lee Road) divided into two land parcels totalling 0.70ha:
- 2.1.3 C22031 was situated at the northside of Nash Lee Lane (NGR centre 484931, 208831) and covered an area of c. 0.20ha.
- 2.1.4 C22032 was situated to the south side of Nash Lee Lane (NGR centre 485088 208694) and covered an area of c. 0.50ha.
- 2.1.5 The Archaeological Recording was undertaken in accordance with HS2 Technical Standard Specification for historic environment investigations (Document no: HS2-HS2-EV-STD-000-000035) and GWSI: HERDS (Document no: HS2-HS2-EV-STR-000-000015), and with the Project Plan for Archaeological Recording at North of Nash Lee (Document no: 1EW03-FUS-EV-PLN-CS03\_CL17-000009) and followed the

methodology laid out in the Location Specific Written Scheme of Investigation (Document Ref: 1EW03-FUS\_IFA-EV-REP-CS02\_CL16-000001).

- 2.1.6 The fieldwork also followed the Standard and Guidance: Archaeological Excavation (ClfA 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).

## 2.2 General Aims

- 2.2.0 The aims and site-specific objectives for each of the two Archaeological Recording areas as defined in the Project Plan (Document no: 1EW03-FUS-EV-PLN-CS03\_CL17-000009) are provided below in table 1.

Table 1: Site-specific Objectives

Land Parcel	Description	Activity	Objectives
C22031	Nash Lee North	This part of Nash Lee landscape has been identified by the trenching as an area as part of the Iron Age rural horizon. The aim of the Archaeological recording was to identify the nature of the occupation and the activities. There was also a possibility for testing and developing geophysical fieldwork methodologies on greensand.	This area of Archaeological Recording will contribute to Specific Objectives KC19, KC47
C22032	Nash Lee South	This part of Nash Lee landscape had been identified by the trenching evaluation as an area occupied by Iron Age activity. The aim of the Archaeological recording was to investigate the nature and the extend of the iron age occupation and to ascertain if there was a consistent presence of iron age funeral activities.	This area of Archaeological Recording will contribute to Specific Objectives KC15, Kc17, KC 18, KC19

- 2.2.1 The general aims of the Archaeological Recording were to:

- Provide a record of the Site prior to any impact from the HS2 scheme.
- Confirm the presence/absence, extent and depth of any surviving archaeological remains within the Site.
- To confirm and record the presence, extent of any mid to late Iron Age settlement activity.

- Place the site within the landscape with particular emphasis on how it fits into, how it developed, functioned and evolved.
- Establish how the site is perceived as an interacting element of a wider working landscape;
- Understand more of the possible prehistoric trackway and how it relates to the Icknield Way;
- Determine if there is any link with the trackway identified to the immediate south in C21026 (Wellwick Farm investigation);
- Determine whether any more burials exist from the Iron Age and understand more of Iron Age burial practice in this area;
- Determine if the site has any specific, specialised function, which might be comparable to other mid to late Iron Age settlement, in particular with Wellwick Farm approximately 500m to the south-east.
- Determine if there is any physical parish boundary (Aylesbury Vale and Wycombe) in C21032 and how that relates to the work being undertaken in C21021 (Wendover Parish Boundary) - part of the Route Wide Parish Boundary Project Plan (1EW03-FUS-EV-REP-C000-009807)
- Determine the nature, date, condition, state of preservation, complexity and significance of any archaeological remains;
- Determine and understand the range, quality and quantity of artefactual and environmental evidence present;
- To provide further understanding of the undated settlement features across the site and establish a date for their use;
- To understand the impact of the earlier phases of settlement activity on those of a later date;
- Contribute to the delivery of GWSI: HERDS Specific Objectives as specified in Section 2.3.1

## 2.3 Contribution to HERDS Objectives

2.3.0 The contribution to specific HERDS objectives were identified in the Project Plan and provided below in table 2.

Table 2 Contribution to specific HERDS objectives

Specific Objective	Proposed Contribution
<b>KC15: Can we identify regional patterns in the form and location of Late Bronze Age and Iron Age settlements across the route, and are there associated differences in landscape organisation and enclosure?</b>	This Site could contribute to a study of landscape organisation and enclosure helping to aid in our understanding of the transition between the mid to late Iron Age periods. The enclosure and potential trackway in C22018 remain somewhat ambiguous, with the dating evidence from this area being almost exclusively mid Iron Age. Further open area investigation will allow a greater understanding of any mid Iron Age settlement remains, how that potentially relates to the Lower Icknield Way and the differences with the later Iron Age enclosure in C22019. The recovered evidence from the trial trench evaluation in C22019 may point to a prehistoric settlement within the site itself or within the immediate vicinity. There has been some evidence of settlement type activity from C22019 in the form of substantial enclosure ditches, a posthole packed with fired clay, and the presence of an infant inhumation.
<b>KC17: What evidence is there for regionality in the mortuary rites of the Late Bronze Age and Iron Age, and how does that alter over time?</b>	Funerary rites in the late Bronze Age and Iron Age are not well documented, and any opportunity to shed further light on these has the potential to add important new information to our current understanding. For much of this period it is possible that the small number of burials that are recorded represent minority rites afforded to only a small proportion of the population. Evidence for funerary practices is typically poorly represented throughout the 1st millennium, what has been identified shows considerable variation both regionally and temporally. The discovery of an infant burial within a ditched feature during the trial trench evaluation indicates the potential likelihood of further human remains on site and comparisons maybe possible with the burials placed within ditches recently discovered at Wellwick Farm.
<b>KC18: Explore the evidence for increasing social complexity in the archaeological record in the Late Bronze Age and Iron Age, and to identify patterns of intra-regional and regional variation</b>	The 1st millennium BC was a period of marked population growth and increasing social complexity across the country. This Site could contribute to a study of landscape organisation and enclosure during the Iron Age period. The presence of a middle Iron Age trackway and possible associated enclosure and a middle to late Iron Age enclosure with infant burial demonstrate established activity in the area over a prolonged period. The Archaeological Recording will aid in questions surrounding whether this site has any specific, specialised function, which might be comparable to other mid to late Iron Age settlement, in particular with Wellwick Farm approximately 500m to the south-east. For example, very small quantities of micro slags were present in two samples, mainly undiagnostic fragments although there were individual examples of spheroidal and flake hammerscale. These most likely indicate small scale or residual iron smithing activity. A comprehensive targeted

Code 5120 Client Reviewed

Specific Objective	Proposed Contribution
	sampling strategy will help with our understanding of the type of industry and its scale during the late Iron Age.
<b>KC19: The Romano-British period saw the beginning of a more established infrastructure network. Can we investigate the development of these routes, trackways and roads and the influence they had on landscape change?</b>	No activity was present on Site dating from the Romano-British period, however, the Site has potential for dating the Lower Icknield Way to the Late Iron Age period which could have implications for the subsequent development of routes and would have influenced the development of the surrounding landscape in relation to these communication routes during the Romano-British period. The enclosure in C22019 appears broadly perpendicular with the Icknield Way. If the provisional dating of the enclosures to middle Iron Age and middle to late Iron Age respectively were to be corroborated through further investigation, this could suggest the Lower Icknield Way has a late Iron Age in origin. The results will also help understand how the NE-SW aligned trackway, identified to the south in C21026, undertaken as part of the Wellwick Farm investigations, worked within the landscape and its possible association with the Lower Icknield Way.
<b>KC47: Test and develop geophysical fieldwork methodologies</b>	The trial trench evaluation also indicated a high potential to contribute to KC47 as features which were not detected during the geophysical survey were identified during the trial trench evaluation. Further excavation could identify factors which resulted in the variations in the accuracy of the geophysical survey results. For example, the greensand geology does not seem to be very conducive for geophysical survey, however the archaeology is clearly defined during site investigation. Open area investigation will allow a re-appraisal of the geophysical results and help with identifying the subtle signatures on the raw data left by prehistoric activity. This will aid future identification and recognition of similar sites particularly on Greensand geology which in turn shall benefit the long term success of projects across the south of England for the entire industry.

## 2.4 Project Plan and LS-WSI

2.4.0 The Archaeological Recording implemented requirements of the original Project Plan (Document no: 1EW03-FUS-EV-PLN-CS03\_CL17-000009) and the updated LS-WSI (Document no: 1EW03-FUS\_IFA-EV-REPC03\_CL17-000001).

## 2.5 Change Controls

2.5.0 Two change controls were implemented during the fieldwork:

- An extension approx. 8m wide and 50m long was agreed to investigate the possibility of finding the Iron age enclosure entrance and the full extent of the



roundhouse on C22032 (Document no: 1EW03-FUS\_IFA-EV-FRM-CS03\_CL17-000002)

- The enclosure ditch was totally excavated by machine to check the presence of human remains (Document no: 1EW03-FUS\_IFA-EV-FRM-CS03\_CL17-000003)

## 3 Archaeological Background

- 3.0.0 The information presented below have been derived from the Environmental Statement, prepared in 2013 (ES 3.5.2.10.4-7 and ES 3.5.2.11.4-7), the Buckinghamshire Historic Environmental Record (BHER) data updated in August 2020, and results of geophysical surveys, fieldwalking, LiDAR survey (ES. 3.5.2.10.7 and ES. 3.5.2.11.7) and trial trench evaluation undertaken from mid-March to mid-April 2020 (Fieldwork Report Document Number: 1EW03-FUS\_IFA-EV-REP-CS03\_CL06-000004).
- 3.0.1 The Site was located within two Archaeological Sub-zones: ASZ 10-24 and ASZ 10-23, and on either side of the Lower Icknield Way, a possible prehistoric route, used later by the Romans (Margary route 168b). ASZ 10-24 identified an orchard and parliamentary enclosure fields. Some evidence of ridge and furrow have been recorded in the north-west corner. The zone is also located on the eastern edge of the former moated site at Nash Lee Farm and east of the shrunken medieval settlement off Nash Lee. C22031 lies within this zone and ASZ 10-23, while C22032 only lies within ASZ 10-23. ASZ 10-23 is defined as an area of parliamentary enclosure and has been identified as containing the potential for Roman archaeology, however, after the trial trench evaluation (Doc Ref: 1EW03-FUS\_IFA-EV-REP-CS03\_CL06-000004), it is suggested that is just a background level of activity, mostly related to the nearby Lower Icknield Way Road.
- 3.0.2 There are several Archaeological Notification Areas (ANA) as designated by the Buckinghamshire HER located close to the Site, but not on the Site itself. The nearest ANA is located 150m south-west of the Site. This is an area where Iron Age/medieval pottery (MBC7930) was found. The area of Stoke Mandeville medieval church (SMA097, SMA003) is situated 200m north-west from the Site. Further to the west is a designated area where a Roman villa (DWH133) was found with a moated site and a medieval settlement (DWH132) nearby. There is also another ANA where roman finds have been recovered on the east of the site.
- 3.0.3 No designated heritage assets were recorded within the Site. Only the Grade II listed building of Nash Lee Farmhouse (List Entry 1125888), an early 18th century farmhouse, is located within 500m of the Site.
- 3.0.4 A remote sensing survey was conducted, and it included the interpretation of aerial photographs, hyperspectral imagery and LiDAR imagery. The results revealed the presence of ridges and furrows within several fields on the Site and a possible southwest-northeast aligned bank on the north of the Archaeological recording area.
- 3.0.5 Three geophysical surveys were undertaken across the Site in 2017 and 2018. Of significance was the identification of a possible enclosure in the south of the Site, with

two parallel linear features 30m east of it. A northwest-southeast aligned linear trench was also identified to the west within the south of the Site (HS2 Phase 1 EWC Central Geophysical Survey Report for Icknield Way, Wendover North Cutting, Buckinghamshire; Doc. No.: 1EW03-FUS-EV-REP-CS03\_CL17-008042).

3.0.6 The Site was subjected to Trial Trench Evaluation during March and April 2020. The result of which identified two main area of interest:

- The centre of C22018 contained some north-south and northeast-southwest orientated ditches, dated to the Iron Age. During the Archaeological Recording this area was targeted by C22031.
- C22019 was recognised as the main centre of activity with an enclosure, previously identified by the geophysics. The enclosure was dated to the mid-late Iron Age period by pottery remains. There was also a neonatal burial located towards the bottom of the enclosure ditch. Another possible enclosure was highlighted immediately to the east. Further to the east there was a more limited amount of activity represented by postholes and undated ditches. During the Archaeological Recording the enclosure area was targeted by C22032.

## 4 Preliminary Results

### 4.0 Site Geology

- 4.0.1 The British Geological Survey (BGS) records the underlying geology as Gault Formation and Upper Greensand Formation (Undifferentiated) mudstone, sandstone and limestone, comprising sedimentary bedrock formed approximately 94 to 112 million years ago in the Cretaceous Period in a local environment previously dominated by shallow seas. There are no superficial deposits recorded on site (British Geological Survey 2019). The local soil type of the Site is freely draining lime rich loamy soils (Cranfield Online 2019).
- 4.0.2 The topsoil was consistent in both excavated areas and it was mid grey brown, silty clay with moderate inclusion of angular and sub angular flint fragment and occasional flint nodules.
- 4.0.3 Within land parcel C22031, the topsoil was 0.15-0.20m thick and overlaid dark grey green silty clay subsoil that was approximately 0.20m thick. The underlying natural comprised light grey green clayey silt.
- 4.0.4 Within land parcel C22032, the topsoil was 0.15m thick. The mid brownish grey clayey silt subsoil was 0.15-0.20m thick and directly overlaid orange-brown silty clay with sparse patches of chalk and light grey green clayey silt natural.

## 4.1 Archaeological Recording Results Summary

- 4.1.1 The Chronology presented below is based on a preliminary assessment of the find's assemblage undertaken by experienced post-excavation staff prior to a formal assessment by relevant specialists. As such all dating presented here is provisional in nature and subject to change in future stages of reporting.
- 4.1.2 The results are presented by land parcel and a summary of the findings from both parcels are in Table 3, below.

Table 3 – Summary of excavation results by area

Site/Area	Feature Type	Number	Spot date/s
C22031	Pits	1	Undated
	Ditch Cuts	8	Iron Age
C22032	Pits	18	Bronze/Iron Age
	Ditch cuts	30	Iron Age
	Postholes	64	Bronze/Iron Age and Undated
	Natural features	9	Undated

- 4.1.3 There were no upstanding remains preserved on the site, and all the features were truncated by modern agricultural practices.

## 4.2 Archaeological Results Land Parcel c22031 (Figure 3)

### Iron Age

- 4.2.1 Two ditches were revealed in the Site.
- 4.2.2 The central ditch was oriented northwest-southeast, had a maximum depth of 0.65m and a maximum width of 1.10m. It had two fills - the upper was the result of backfilling and the bottom was as a result of natural siltation. Some Iron Age pottery was recovered from the fills.
- 4.2.3 The second ditch was oriented northwest-southeast as well. It was 0.57m wide and 0.37m deep. The only fill was the result of siltation and because of the nature of the geology, the ditch was very difficult to locate on the surface. A few fragments of pottery were retrieved, and they all indicate an Iron age dating. However, they were heavily weathered and could possibly be residual.

**Undated**

- 4.2.4 A single sub oval pit was located towards the middle of the easter edge of the Area. It measured 0.96m by 0.56m and it contained a single fill, 0.26m in depth. There were no finds recovered and no purpose was immediately established. Environmental samples have been taken and further analysis may clarify the nature of the pit.

## 4.3 Archaeological Results Land Parcel c22032 (Figure 4,5)

- 4.3.1 A total of 64 postholes were recorded in the Site. Of this number, 37 can be grouped into 7 different structures (Figure 6). The following table (Table 4) shows how the postholes were grouped and for ease of presentation they will be referred to by their structure numbers in the following text.

Table 4: Posthole groupings and structure numbers

Posthole Cut Nos	Structure number
810173, 810175, 810177, 810188	1
810168, 810033, 810037, 810035, 810066	2
810029, 810024, 810031, 810041, 8100	3
810108, 810111, 810113	4
810074, 810077, 810084, 810070, 810092, 810072, 810094, 810088, 810086, 810059, 810057, 810082, 810080, 810377	5
810386, 810372, 810363	6
810110, 810120, 810061	7

### Bronze Age

- 4.3.2 A single sub oval pit was located in the middle of the Site. It had a charcoal rich deposit on the top and it had a diameter of 0.70m with a depth of 0.20m. A small amount of pottery sherds were retrieved and recognised to be Bronze Age. Its function as a storage pit, related to agricultural activities seems appropriate.

### Iron Age

- 4.3.3 In the centre south portion of the Recording Area, two five-post structures were found, Structures 2 and 3. They lay on both sides of the enclosure ditch, in proximity to the southeast corner. The post pits of Structure 2 measured between 0.55m and 0.60m wide and 0.55m and 0.60m deep, with the central one being considerably smaller, with a diameter of 0.41m and a depth of 0.14m. The post pits of Structure 3 (Plate 1) measured between 0.89m and 1.05 m wide and between 0.30m and 0.40m deep and the central pit being 0.50m wide and 0.20m deep. The two structures are both interpreted as being for grain storage. Some Iron Age pottery was recovered in the post pits forming Structure 3, but no dating material was present in Structure 2. It

seems likely however that Structure 2 will also be of Iron Age date due to the similar form to Structure 3.

4.3.4 It is believed that Structure 7 was originally composed of four or five post holes, but the truncation caused by modern furrows and land drains completely obliterated the missing parts of the structure. The structure is located in the Southwest corner of the recording area and to the northwest of Structure 5. The post pits had a diameter that varied between 0.50m and 0.90m, with a depth of 0.15m. Structure 6 was located as well as Structure 7 in the southwest corner of the area, but south of Structure 5. The post pits have measurements between 0.8m and 0.9m long and 0.3m wide, with a depth between 0.14m and 0.19m. Structure 4 was located in the centre south part of the area, north west of Structure 3. The post pits had a diameter between 0.78m and 0.80m and a depth of 0.30m. All the structures above have also been interpreted as grain storage.

4.3.5 Structure 5 was formed by 14 postholes, arranged in two semi-circular rows. The inner semicircle had just three surviving postholes and an approximate combined diameter of 12m, while the outer one showed 11 post holes and a diameter of 14m. The structure had been truncated by two modern furrows and a land drain and just 50% of it survived. The post pits varied in dimensions (with a diameter that fluctuates from 0.40m to 0.70m and a depth range from only 0.05m to 0.25m), but it seemed plausible to group them together according to the spatial relationship. The structure has been interpreted as a roundhouse.

4.3.6 A pit was located close to the western limit of the Recording Area. The pit was truncated by bioturbations at the top which made understanding the purpose of the feature difficult. Iron Age pottery in good condition was found in the lower deposit. The pit had a width of 0.67m and depth of 0.30m. Another elongated pit was located northwest of the forementioned pit. It was 4.14m long, 1.49 m wide and 0.14m deep. Some Iron Age pottery was retrieved from the single fill, but there is no indication to the function of this feature.

4.3.7 A total of 9 other postholes and pits were located in the area. They did not appear to make any recognisable pattern. The main cluster is located in the proximity of the south limit of excavation, between Structures 3 and 4 and Structures 5, 6 and 7. Only a few sherds of Iron Age pottery have been recovered from these features.

4.3.8 A sub rectangular enclosure ditch (Plate 2) was located in the Site, provisionally interpreted as an animal pen with an entrance on the south-west side. The ditch was 46m northwest-southeast and 26m east-west and had a maximum width of 4.20m. Two phases of construction have been identified, the first one being the original construction cut of the ditch, the second being a re-cut, most likely to clean out the silted-up ditch. The earlier ditch survived to a maximum of 1.15m in width and 1.5m in depth, with an overall length of 141.1m. The later ditch had a maximum width of 4m and was 0.97m deep. The two cuts followed the same plan, so it is highly probable that they reflect a continuation of use over a period of time rather than two distinct periods

of occupation on the Site. Whilst the majority of the pottery found in the enclosure was dated to the Iron Age, possible Romano-British pottery was recovered from the upper fill of the later ditch, suggesting that the enclosure did not continue in use beyond the Roman period. An infant inhumation was found in the fill of the enclosure recut during the Trial Trench Evaluation (doc no: 1EW03-FUS\_IFA-EV-REP-CS03\_CL06-000004) and for this reason the ditch was totally excavated. No other human remains were found, making the infant burial an isolated episode.

- 4.3.9 A pair of ditches (Plate 3) were recorded to the east of the enclosure. They were both oriented northeast-southwest, with the westernmost of the two being of an earlier date, as showed in 4 slots in which the fill of this ditch is cut by the easternmost ditch. The terminus of the western ditch was visible in the centre south part of the Site. The ditch cut the enclosure and had a maximum width of 0.86m and a depth of 0.23m, with 2 fills. The eastern ditch had no visible terminus in the recording area, and it cut the upper fill of the western ditch. The maximum measurements were 0.44m in width 0.30m in depth and it had one fill in most of the slots. They are interpreted as a field boundary and its recut.
- 4.3.10 On the Southwest corner in the extension area, a curvilinear ditch was located. It was visible for just 8m on the Recording Area, so it was difficult to speculate any function. The ditch was oriented east-west curving towards southeast and it was 0.53m wide and 0.13m deep, with a sole deposit, rich of charcoal. Some Iron age pottery has been found in the fill.

#### Undated

- 4.3.11 29 postholes and pits, scattered across the Site, did not give any dating.
- 4.3.12 An elongated pit was located in the south east corner of the Site. The pit was filled by a charcoal rich deposit, with CBM and slag and it has been interpreted as a refuse pit, heavily truncated by ploughing. It was 4.86m long and 0.82m wide with a maximum depth of 0.19m. While not possible to date this pit at this stage of reporting, further investigation and examination by specialist may provide new elements in the Fieldwork report.
- 4.3.13 Structure 1 was located on the northeast of Structure 2. It was composed of four post pits, with a diameter between 0.31 and 0.60m and a depth of 0.35. As said previously, it is likely that this is of a similar date to the other four/five post structures given their form and thus a similar function as grain storage.
- 4.3.14 The remaining post holes and pits did not form any alignment. They are mainly located in the south portion of the Site and inside the boundary represented by the two smaller ditches. Some more isolated pits and postholes are close to the northeast corner of the enclosure ditch and in the northwest quadrant of the Site.

#### Natural Features

- 4.3.15 A total of nine natural features were excavated in the area. All of them were interpreted as bioturbation, such as rooting and similar. None of them produced any dateable evidence.

## 5 Summary

- 5.1.1 The result of the Archaeological Recording provides evidence of human activity on site from the Bronze Age to the Roman period. However, the main period of occupation seems to be the Iron Age with the construction of the roundhouse, the enclosure and the post-built structures, and the second set of ditches on C22032. The Iron Age is also the only period documented on C22031 with the field boundary ditch. The earlier and later periods are documented by sporadic evidence, as a pit for the Bronze Age and some sherds of pottery for the Roman period.

### Bronze Age

- 5.1.2 Evidence for activity during this period was indicated by a single pit within C22032. It is likely that the Site was located on the periphery of more intense activity perhaps the nearby site of Wellwick Farm which had a substantial quantity of Bronze Age archaeology.

### Iron Age

- 5.1.3 The Iron Age is undoubtedly the main phase of activity on the site as a whole, with evidence for Iron Age activity found on both the land parcels. To this period, we can attribute the construction of the round house (Structure 5), the field boundary system with the ditches in C22032 and in C22031, the construction of the enclosure and its recut and the building of the six post structures. With the data collected at this point, it is speculated that there were three different phases within this period. The first is represented by the roundhouse, followed by the enclosure ditch and its maintenance cut and then the possible field boundary ditches (in C22031 and C22032) and post structures. Most of this is based on the spatial and stratigraphic relationship between the structures, the enclosure and the ditches. Because none of the postholes of Structure 5 was found cutting the enclosure fills, it is assumed that the roundhouse was the first building on site, prior to the enclosure, the other structures and the field boundary. Structure 6 is located inside the roundhouse perimeter, so it could have been built after the discontinuation of Structure 5. At the same time the oldest of the field boundary ditches cuts the enclosure. All the post structures are also located inside the limit marked by the field boundary ditches, therefore it is not unlikely that the boundary was still visible and valid while the grain storages were in use. Dating that has to be later than the enclosure because otherwise the position of Structure 6, with post pit on either side on the ditch, would not make any sense.

### Roman/Medieval period

- 5.1.4 Overall, it seems that the Site was then abandoned during the Roman Period and there is no evidence of medieval frequentations. The few sherds of Roman pottery recovered

were the only evidence from that period and most likely represent remnant material that accumulate in the top of the Iron Age enclosure after it fell out of use.

## Conclusion

- 5.1.5 Overall, the findings give a similar impression to the preceding Evaluation. The main phase of the site remains the Iron Age and, answering to the objective, it is credible that the Site was associated to Wellwick Farm. At this stage of reporting, however it is difficult to explore more in the specific the nature of this association, and any further commentary about the connection between the sites will be remanded to the upcoming fieldwork report. Considering the many grain storage and the animal pen enclosure present on the Site, it may be safe to suggest that it was a source of food provisions.
- 5.1.6 Diverging from the Evaluation is the interpretations of the ditches located on C22031. While it was previously suggested that they were to be considered a trackway related to the Icknield Way, it now appears more likely that they are part of an Iron Age Field system as no evidence of a trackway structure has been recognise in the area.

# 6 References

## 6.1 Bibliography

Title	Reference
AWhd-Trial Trench Evaluation at North of Nash Lee, Fieldwork Report	1EW03-FUS_IFA-EV-REP-CS03_CL06-000004
HS2 Phase One Environmental Statement, Supplementary Environmental Statements and Geophysical Survey Reports	ES CH-004-10 C252-ETM-EV-REP-020-000263_P02
Project Plan for Archaeological Recording at North of Nash Lee	1EW03-FUS-EV-PLN-CS03_CL17-000009
Technical Standard Specification for historic environment investigations	HS2-HS2-EV-STD-000-000035
GWSI: HERDS	HS2-HS2-EV-STR-000-000015
Geology of Britain Viewer	<a href="http://mapapps.bgs.ac.uk/geologyofbritain/home.html?">http://mapapps.bgs.ac.uk/geologyofbritain/home.html?</a>
Standard and Guidance: Archaeological Excavation	CIfA 2014
Management of Archaeological Projects 2	English Heritage 1991
Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment (MORPHE): Project Managers' Guide	Historic England 2015



Location Specific Written Scheme of Investigation for Archaeological Recording at North of Nash Lee, Buckinghamshire	1EW03-FUS_IFA-EV-REP-CS03_CL17-000001
AWHi - Fieldwork Change Control for Archaeological Recording at North of Nash Lee, Buckinghamshire, FCCF286	1EW03-FUS_IFA-EV-FRM-CS03_CL17-000002
AWHi - Fieldwork Change Control for Archaeological Recording at North of Nash Lee, Buckinghamshire, FCCF288	1EW03-FUS_IFA-EV-FRM-CS03_CL17-000003

## 6.2 Glossary

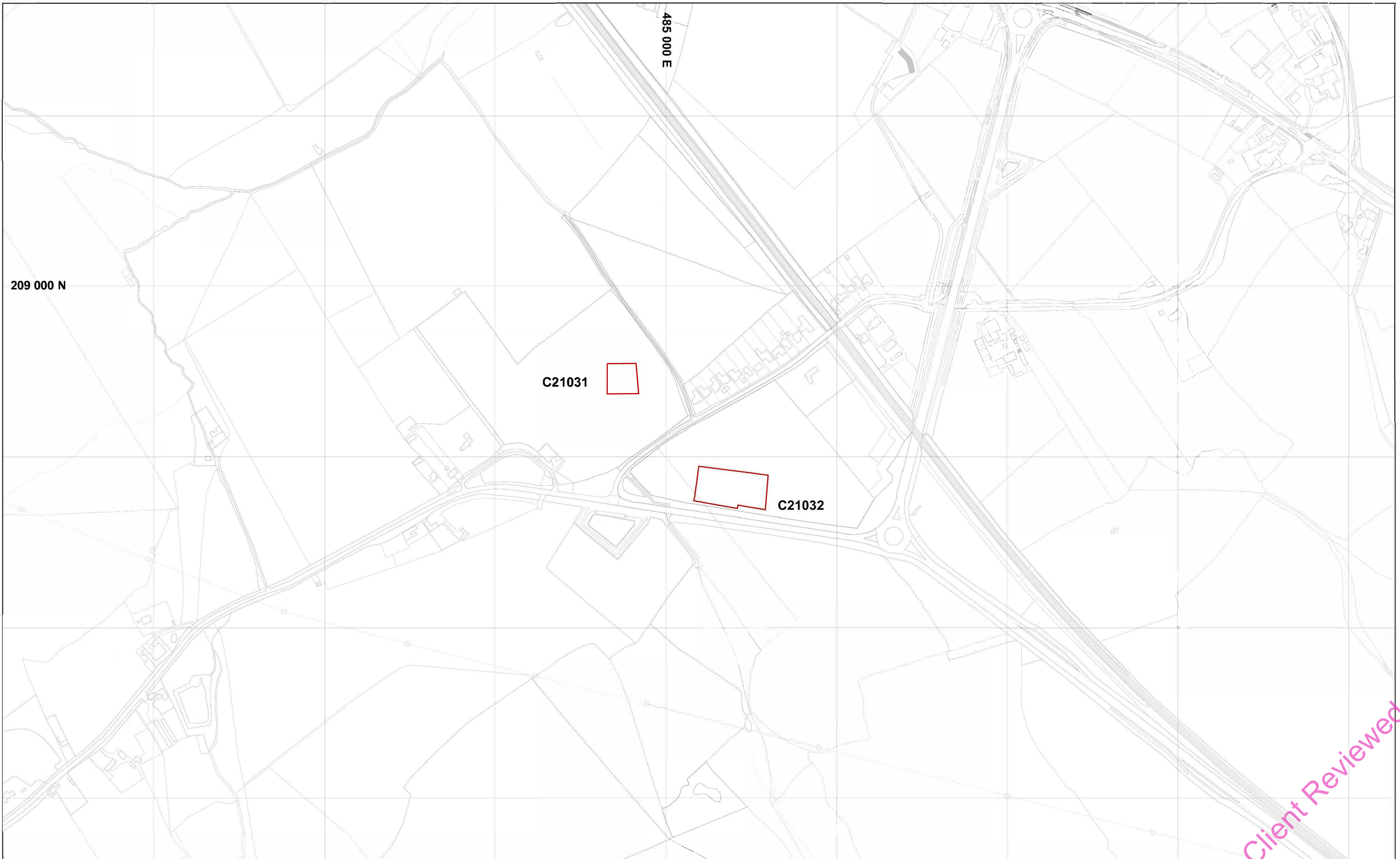
The following terms have been used in this report:

- **Archaeological Monitoring:** A form of archaeological investigation involving the monitoring by an archaeologist of excavations or other works by construction contractors to record, determine the character of and date of any discovered archaeology.
- **Archaeological Recording:** A form of archaeological investigation involving the excavation of an identified area to determine the character and date of any discovered archaeology.
- **Contractor – Fusion;** the organisation undertaking the Enabling Works for Area Central on behalf of the Employer.
- **Employer – HS2 Ltd,** the organisation responsible for delivery of HS2 Phase One Scheme and all terms and conditions, policies, procedures, and payments
- **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.
- **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.
- **Trial Trench Evaluation:** A form of archaeological investigation involving the excavation of trenches to help determine the character and date of any discovered archaeology.

## 6.3 Acronyms/abbreviations


AD	Anno Domini
ASZ	Archaeological Character Sub-Zone
ave.	Average
CFA	Community Forum Area
CIfA	Chartered Institute of Archaeologists
ES	Environmental Statement
ha	Hectare
HER	Historic Environment Record
HERDS	Historic Environment Research and Delivery Strategy
km	Kilometre
LiDAR	Light Detection and Ranging
m	Metre
NGR	National Grid Reference
No.	Number
OD	Ordnance Datum

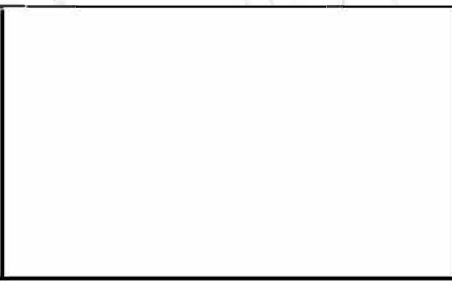
## Appendix 1 - Figures



HS2 Ltd accept no responsibility for any circumstances, which arise from the reproduction of this map after alteration, amendment or abbreviation or if it issued in part or issued incomplete in any way.

**Legend**

 Site extent




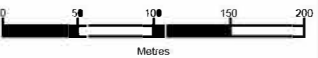
High Speed Two  
Land North of Nash Lee  
Figure 1. C21031 and C21032,  
site location

*Published*

**HS2**

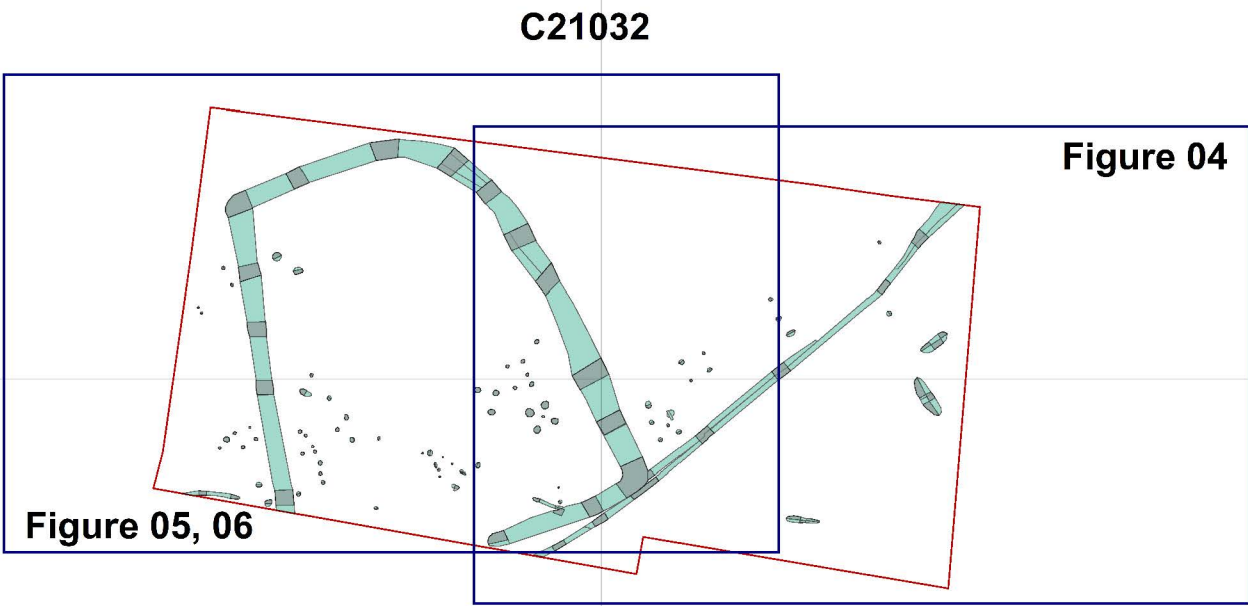
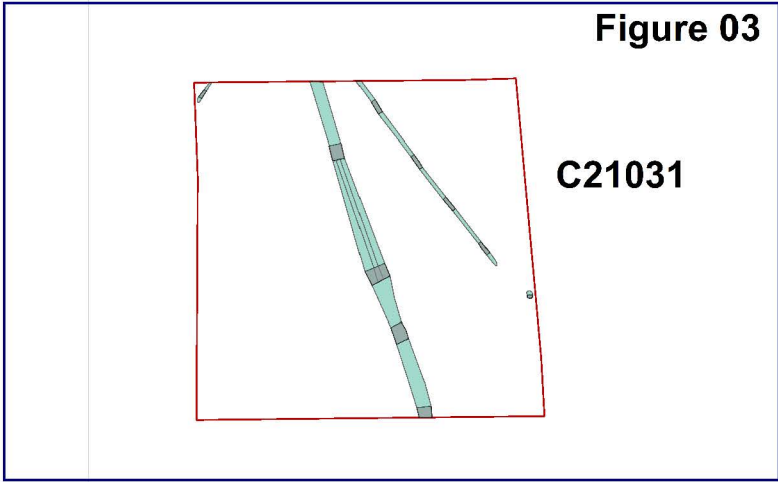
Scale at A3: 1:5,000

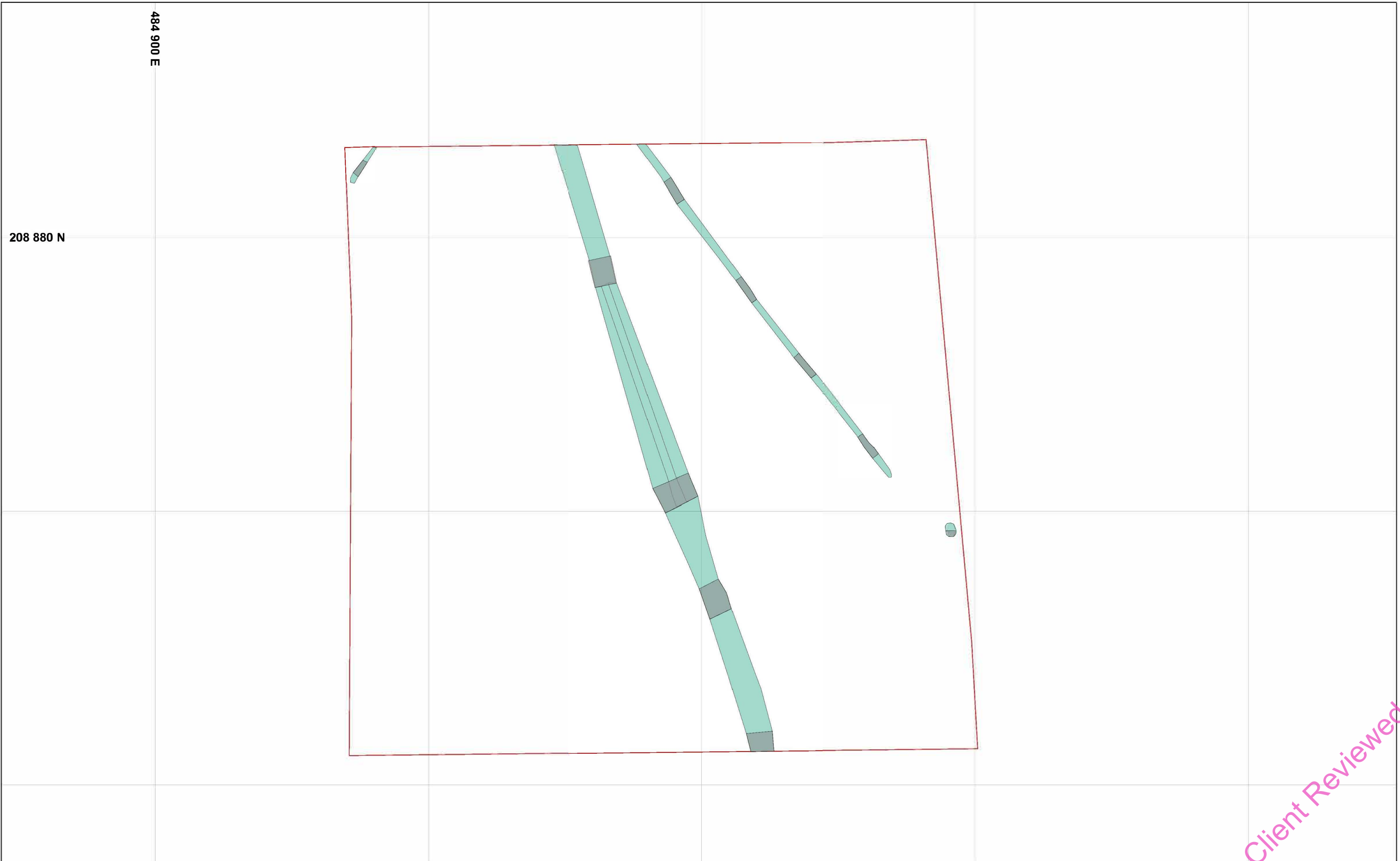




Doc Number: 1EW03-FUS\_IFA-GI-MAP-CS03\_CL17-000008 Date: 05/05/21




Code 5 - Not Client Reviewed





HS2 Ltd accept no responsibility for any circumstances, which arise from the reproduction of this map after alteration, amendment or abbreviation or if it issued in part or issued incomplete in any way.

**Legend**

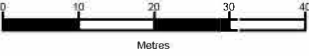

-  C21031 site extent
-  Archaeological feature
-  Excavated area

High Speed Two  
Land North of Nash Lee  
Figure 3. Overview of area C21031

*Published*

**HS2**

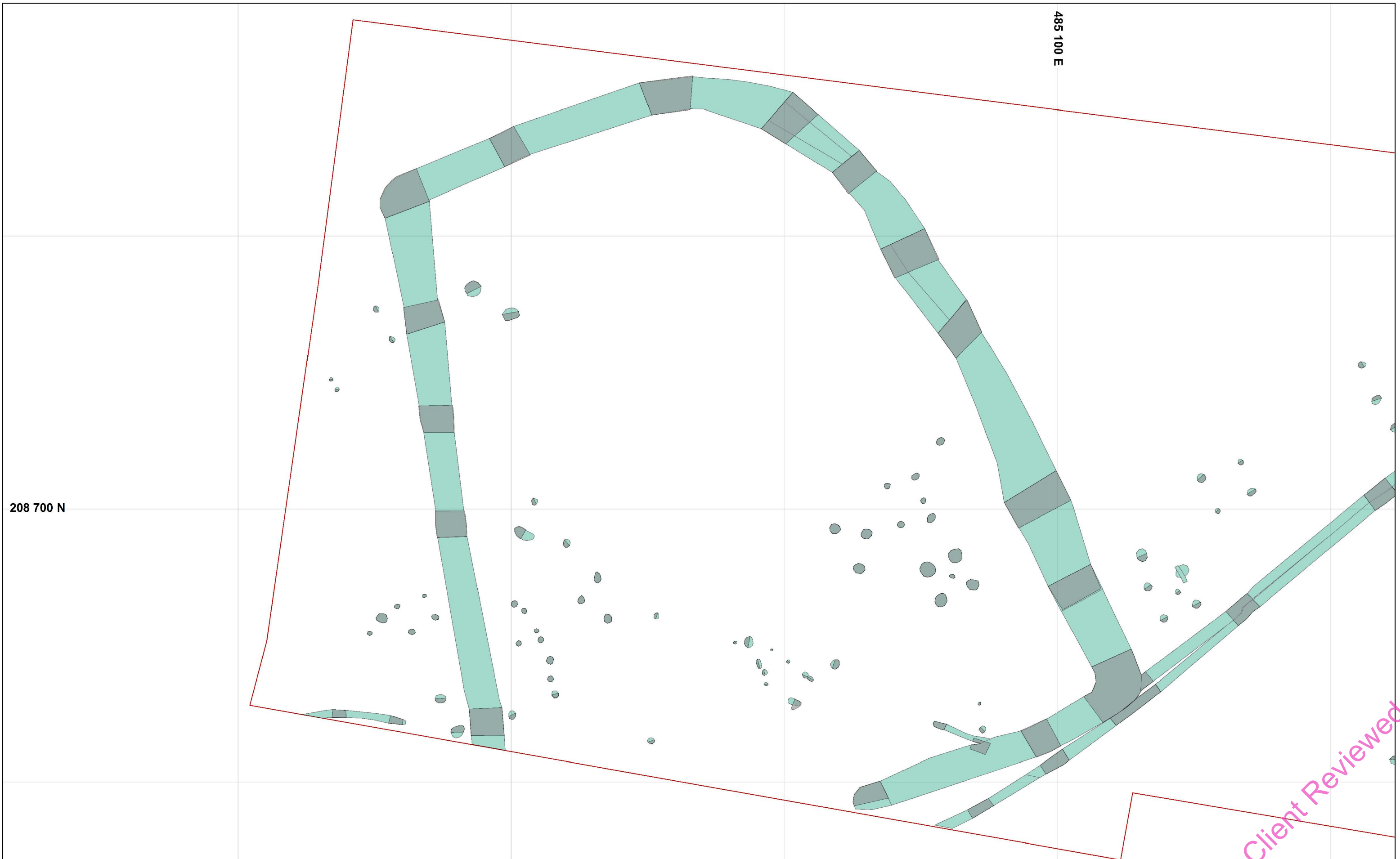
Scale at A3: 1:1,000



Doc Number: 1EW03-FUS\_IFA-GI-MAP-CS03\_CL17-000008 Date: 05/05/21








HS2 Ltd accept no responsibility for any circumstances, which arise from the reproduction of this map after alteration, amendment or abbreviation or if it issued in part or issued incomplete in any way.

**Legend**

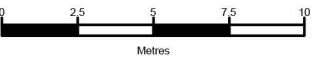

-  C21032 site extent
-  Archaeological feature
-  Excavated area

High Speed Two  
Land North of Nash Lee  
Figure 5. Overview of area C21032,  
2 of 2

*Published*

**HS2**

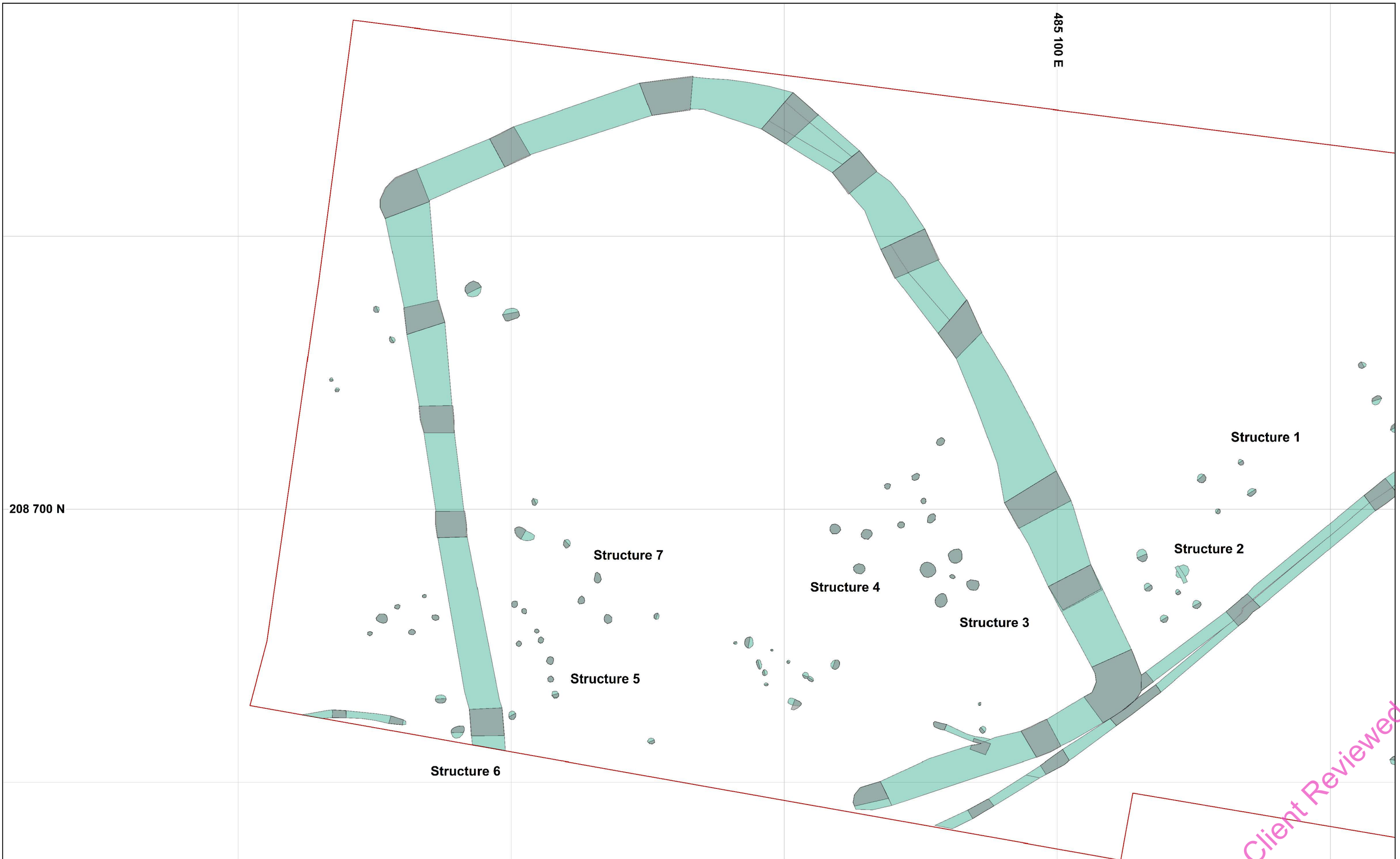
Scale at A3: 1: 250



0 2.5 5 7.5 10  
Metres

**Doc Number:** HEW03-FUS\_IFA-GI-MAP-CS03\_CL17-000008 **Date:** 05/05/21





HS2 Ltd accept no responsibility for any circumstances, which arise from the reproduction of this map after alteration, amendment or abbreviation or if it issued in part or issued incomplete in any way.

**Legend**

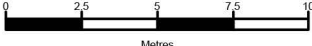

-  C21032 site extent
-  Archaeological feature
-  Excavated area

High Speed Two  
Land North of Nash Lee  
Figure 6. Overview of structures, C21032

*Published*

**HS2**

Scale at A3: 1: 250



Doc Number: HEW03-FUS\_IFA-GI-MAP-CS03\_CL17-000008 Date: 05/05/21

## Appendix 2 - Plates





Plate 1 - Southeast facing section of [810031], posthole of Structure 3



Plate 2 - Northeast facing section of enclosure ditch

Code 5 - Not Client Reviewed





Plate 3 - North facing of field boundary ditch slot

Code 5 - Not Client Reviewed