

## 1EW03 – Enabling Works Central

# AWHh - Interim report for Trial Trench Evaluation at Barton Hartshorn, Barton to Mixbury Cutting, Site Code: 1C20BTHTT

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# Contents

## Table of Contents

<b>1</b>	<b>Executive Summary</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>2</b>	<b>Site Location</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>3</b>	<b>Health, Safety and Access</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>4</b>	<b>Aims and Objectives</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>5</b>	<b>Methodology</b>	<b>6</b>
	5.1 Scope	6
	5.2 Trial Trenching Methodology	7
<b>6</b>	<b>Factual Summary of Key Archaeological Findings</b>	<b>10</b>
	6.1 Stratigraphic Sequence	10
	6.2 Artefact Collection	11
	6.3 Archaeology	11
	Land Parcel C25091 (Figures 3 – 12)	11
<b>7</b>	<b>Interim Artefactual Summary</b>	<b>14</b>
<b>8</b>	<b>Interim Palaeoenvironmental Summary</b>	<b>15</b>
	Summary	16
<b>9</b>	<b>Provisional Interpretation and Discussion</b>	<b>17</b>
<b>10</b>	<b>Potential Contribution to Specific Objectives</b>	<b>18</b>
<b>11</b>	<b>Provisional Conclusion</b>	<b>20</b>
	11.2 Recommended further work	20
	11.3 Recommended no further work, remains of low significance	21
<b>12</b>	<b>References</b>	<b>21</b>
	12.1 Glossary of terms	21
	12.2 References	22
	12.3 List of acronyms	23
<b>13</b>	<b>Appendices</b>	<b>24</b>
	13.1 Appendix 1 Fieldwork Summary Table	24
	13.2 Appendix 2 – Figures	25

## List of figures

- Fig. 1: Site location
- Fig. 2: Engineering Design Plan
- Fig. 3a: Trial trench locations and results
- Fig. 3b: Trial trench locations and results
- Fig. 3c: Trial trench locations and results
- Fig. 3d: Trial trench locations and results
- Fig. 4a: Trench 2 plan and photographs
- Fig. 4b: Trench 2 photograph
- Fig. 5: Trench 3 plan, section and photograph
- Fig. 6: Trench 5 plan, section and photograph
- Fig. 7: Trench 6 plan and photographs
- Fig. 8a: Trench 7 plan, section and photograph
- Fig. 8b: Trench 7 section and photograph
- Fig. 9: Trench 12 plan and photograph
- Fig. 10: Trench 15 plan and photograph
- Fig. 11: Trench 17 plan and photograph
- Fig. 12: Trench 19 plan, section and photograph

## List of tables

- Table 1: Trench summary table
- Table 2: Quantification of finds
- Table 3: Finds concordance
- Table 4: Fabric description
- Table 5: Assessment table of the palaeoenvironmental remains
- Table 6: Extent of objectives addressed

# 1 Executive Summary

- 1.1.1 An archaeological Trial Trench Evaluation was undertaken at Barton Hartshorn (hereafter referred to as 'the Site'; Figures 1 – 2), Buckinghamshire as part of the enabling works for High Speed Two Phase 1. The site code for these works is 1C20BTHTT. The Trial Trench Evaluation encompassed two parcels of land over several fields comprising land package C25091 (centred on NGR 462916, 231057), measuring a total area of 3.25ha. The Trial Trenching in land parcel C25091 comprised 21 trenches (1 – 21), eight of which (trenches 5 – 8, and 18 – 21), were opened during two further deployments between 28/09/20 and 02/11/20.
- 1.1.2 The fieldwork was undertaken in accordance with the Project Plan for a Trial Trench Evaluation at Barton Hartshorn, Oxfordshire AC250 (Document no. 1EW03-FUS-EV-REP-CS06\_CL21-007818), which established the scope, aims, and contribution to the Generic Written Scheme of Investigation: Historic Environment Research and Delivery Strategy (GWSI: HERDS), the objectives, techniques, deliverables and reporting mechanism for the trial trench investigation (Document no. HS2-HS2-EV-STR-000-000015).
- 1.1.3 A Location Specific Written Scheme of Investigation (LSWSI) for the Trial Trench Evaluation (Document no. 1EW03-FUS\_COP-EV-REP-CS06\_CL21-000001) was prepared in accordance with the standards and guidance provided by the GWSI: HERDS, the Technical Standards for Specification for historic environment project plans and location specific written schemes of investigation (Document no. HS2-HS2-EV-STD-000-000036) and Specification for Historic Environment Investigations (Document no. HS2-HS2-EV-STD-000-000035) and relevant ClfA Standards (ClfA 2014).
- 1.1.4 The Trial Trench Evaluation in land parcel C25091 comprised 21 machine-excavated trenches. Of these, 19 measured 30m in length by 2m wide, one measured 30m in length by 2m wide, with an additional two 7m by 3m wide extensions to the eastern and western sides of the trench, one measured 20m in length by 2m wide and one measured 10m in length by 2m wide. The last joined the southern end of Trench 20. Three soil sieved test pits were also excavated at each trench location, at both ends and the centre of each trench. The Trial Trench Evaluation was required to identify the location, extent, survival and significance of any heritage assets of archaeological interest of land within the Site (Figure 3a) required for the construction of the Chetwode Cutting, associated earthworks, access and drainage.
- 1.1.5 The Site is located within the parish of Newton Purcell, Oxfordshire, the southern boundary abutting the county boundary with Buckinghamshire. The Site lies within Community Forum Area (CFA) 14 Newton Purcell to Brackley, with CFA 13 Calvert, Steeple Claydon, Twyford and Chetwode located immediately to the south-east. The evidence suggests there was a potential for the Site to contain archaeological remains of prehistoric, Roman, medieval and post-medieval date.
- 1.1.6 Geophysical survey and LiDAR prospections identified an anomaly which corresponded with the suggested route of the Alchester and Towcester Roman road (CAL116, NPB006,

MBC8017, Margary Route 160 - Margary 1973), which was targeted by Trench 3. A deposit representing a probable road foundation base / ditch and a possible roadside ditch, which could tentatively relate to the Roman road, were identified in Trench 3. Evidence for ridge and furrow across the Site, orientated NE/SW and likely dating to the medieval or post-medieval period, which was also identified by the LiDAR and geophysical survey (ES3.5.2.14.7, 1EW03-FUS-EV-REP-CS06\_CL21-000001). An elongated pit was identified in Trench 5 and another pit in Trench 7. The latter was cut by a furrow from which a single sherd of Roman pottery, dated to the 2nd to 4th centuries AD, was recovered. In total five furrows were recorded, in Trenches 6, 7, 12 and 15 respectively. A probable modern ditch was identified in Trench 7, and a ditch and gully in each of Trenches 17 and 19 respectively. The Roman sherd may have been redeposited in the furrow fill, perhaps originating in the underlying, earlier pit, though this is not certain. The majority of these agricultural features were possibly associated with the medieval moated manor located 310m to the south-west of the Site. A modern posthole and two quarry pits were recorded in Trench 2. With the exception of the redeposited Roman sherd and the modern posthole, no dating evidence was recovered during the Trial Trenching evaluation, therefore, the dating of the majority of features is undetermined.

## 2 Site Location

- 2.1.1 The Trial Trench Evaluation (Site Code: 1C2oBTHTT) was undertaken in accordance with the Project Plan for a Trial Trench Evaluation at Barton Hartshorn, Oxfordshire AC250 (Document no. 1EW03-FUS-EV-REP-CS06\_CL21-007818), which established the scope, aims, and contribution to the Generic Written Scheme of Investigation: Historic Environment Research and Delivery Strategy (GWSI: HERDS), the objectives, techniques, deliverables and reporting mechanism for the trial trench evaluation (Document no. HS2-HS2-EV-STR-000-000015).
- 2.1.2 The Site is located 850m west of the centre of Barton Hartshorn and 360m east from the centre of Newton Purcell, and is situated within the parish of Newton Purcell, Oxfordshire, close to its border with Buckinghamshire, immediately to the south. Area C25091 comprises two parcels of agricultural land (centred on NGR 462916, 231057), situated over parts of several fields and encompassing a total of 3.25ha. It is bounded to the north by the A4421 and in all other directions by agricultural fields (Figure 1), with internal boundaries marked by mature hedgerows and small watercourses. The two parcels are divided by the Brackley to Quainton Road section of the Great Central Railway.
- 2.1.3 Located within CFA 14 Newton Purcell to Brackley, each parcel of the Site lies within a different Archaeological Sub-Zone (ASZ). The smaller, eastern parcel is located in ASZ 14-03 Tail of dip slope (Boundary Farm), characterised by relatively early land enclosure within an undulating landscape on a southerly-sloping trend. The archaeological background of ASZ 14-03 comprises the crossing of the presumed line of the Roman road between Towcester and Alcester, cropmarks of scattered enclosures, Roman activity at Finmere Quarry and putative ring-ditch cropmarks at Finmere airfield.

- 2.1.4 The larger, western parcel of the Site is situated within ASZ 14-04 Tail of dipslope (Newton Purcell and Barleyfields Farm), situated on a low ridge and possessing similar archaeological background character to the neighbouring ASZ 14-03. Furthermore, ASZ 14-04 is additionally characterised by the medieval moated site at Newton Purcell and ridge and furrow earthworks located between the manor site and Barleyfields Farm.
- 2.1.5 The British Geological Survey (BGS 2020) records the underlying bedrock geology as limestone of the Cornbrash Formation, having formed approximately 164 to 168 million years ago in the Jurassic Period. The Site lies close to the interface between the Cornbrash and sandstone, siltstone and mudstone of the Kellaways Formation, to the immediate east. Superficial geological deposits, principally comprising Diamicton till with a lesser component of glaciofluvial sands and gravels, are mapped overlying the solid bedrock geology across the Site and throughout the wider landscape. A band of alluvial clays, silts, sands and gravels is mapped along the length of a small watercourse crossing the Site (BGS 2020).
- 2.1.6 The Site is situated on slightly undulating terrain, varying between c. 105m above Ordnance Datum (aOD) to 108maOD with a general south/south-east slope trend.

## 3 Health, Safety and Access

- 3.1.1 No health and safety issues were encountered during the course of the Trial Trench Evaluation. All areas within the two land parcels could be accessed, albeit by means of three separate deployments. However, it was necessary to amend the layouts of a certain trenches because of individual location issues; these are detailed below (Section 5.2.16).

## 4 Aims and Objectives

- 4.1.1 The Trial Trench Evaluation and artefact collection were required to identify the location, extent, survival and significance of any heritage assets of archaeological interest within the Site (Figure 3a) in order to determine further appropriate investigation/mitigation measures, and to contribute to the following specific GWSI: Historic Environment Research and Delivery Strategy (HERDS) objectives:

- KC5: Identifying settlement location and developing models for settlement patterns from the Mesolithic, Neolithic and Early Bronze Age.
- KC9: Does the lack of visibility of Neolithic and Bronze Age monuments reflect genuine area distinctiveness, or is this due to variation in geology or investigative techniques?
- 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?
- KC19: The Roman 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?

- KC21: Assess the evidence for regional and cultural distinctiveness along the length of the route in the Roman period, with particular regard to the different settlement types encountered along the route.
- KC23: Identify evidence for late Roman occupation and attempt to identify any continuity in settlement patterns between the end of the Roman period and the Early Medieval period.
- KC40: Identify patterns of change within Medieval rural settlement from the 11th to mid-14th century.
- KC47: Test and develop geophysical survey methodologies.
- KC49: Ground truth and develop multispectral and LiDAR prospection techniques.

## 5 Methodology

### 5.1 Scope

- 5.1.1 The fieldwork was undertaken between 27th July 2020 and 21st August 2020 and then in two subsequent deployments between 28th September 2020 and 2nd November 2020. It comprised the Trial Trench Evaluation of 21 machine-excavated trenches within land parcel C25091, with three soil-sieved test pits at each end and at the centre of each trench. Of these, 19 measured 30m in length by 2m wide, one measured 30m in length by 2m wide, with an additional two 7m by 3m wide extensions to the eastern and western sides of the trench, one measured 20m in length by 2m wide and one measured 10m in length by 2m wide. The last joined the southern end of Trench 20.
- 5.1.2 The fieldwork was set out in accordance with the Location Specific Written Scheme of Investigation (LSWSI) for the trial trench evaluation (1EW03-FUS\_COP-EV-REP-CS06\_CL21-000001), which was prepared in accordance with the standards and guidance provided by the GWSI: HERDS (HS2-HS2-EV-STR-000-000015), the Technical Standards Specification for historic environment project plans and location specific written schemes of investigation (HS2-HS2-EVSTD-000-000036) and The Technical Standard Specification for Historic Environment Investigations (HS2-HS2-EV-STD-000-000035).
- 5.1.3 The Trial Trench Evaluation also adhered to the Standard and guidance for archaeological evaluation (ClfA 2014, updated 2020), and the Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment (MORPHE): Project Managers' Guide (Historic England 2015).

## 5.2 Trial Trenching Methodology

5.2.1 This section briefly summarises the methodology utilised during the evaluation. A more detailed description can be found in the Project Plan (1EW03-FUS-EV-REP-CS06\_CL21-007818).

### *Artefact Collection / Recovery*

5.2.2 Prior to the excavation of each trial trench the topsoil / ploughsoil was sampled for the recovery of artefacts. This was undertaken in three sample test pit locations within the footprint of each trench, at the centre and at each end. The sediment from each test pit, equivalent in volume to a 0.25m by 0.25m sample, was recovered using a shovel or mechanical excavator and placed on an adjacent board or tarpaulin/ geotextile. Soil samples were sieved or screened through ¼" or 6mm wire mesh on site to recover artefacts.

5.2.3 Where undated deposits have the potential to be of archaeological significance (e.g. of earlier prehistoric or early medieval date), the soil was hand-excavated and then sieved or screened through ¼" or 6mm wire mesh to recover artefacts.

### *Setting Out*

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

5.2.5 Trial trenches were located to a horizontal accuracy of +/-500mm with surface heights recorded using RTK GNSS and related to PGMs. Levelling accuracy was recorded to within 10 mmÖk: where 'k' is the total distance levelled in kilometres. A survey report will be produced that details the setting out in full.

### *Machine / Hand Excavation*

5.2.6 Trenches were excavated to either the first archaeological horizon or the natural geology, whichever was reached first, using a mechanical excavator fitted with a toothless bucket. Each machine was under the constant supervision of a suitably trained, competent and experienced archaeologist.

5.2.7 Each of the 21 trenches was excavated using a fourteen-tonne tracked excavator fitted with a toothless bucket under archaeological supervision. This equipment was deemed to be the most appropriate given the weather and ground conditions. All fieldwork was monitored by Fusion, the Contractor.

5.2.8 Each trench was excavated in spits with the supervising archaeologist using their professional judgement to determine the appropriate depth of each spit. Topsoil and subsoil were stripped and stored separately adjacent on either side of each trench.



- 5.2.9 Metal detectors were used by experienced staff to scan for metallic finds during the hand-excavation of key archaeological features or deposits. The spoil from each trench was also subject to a metal detector survey; any finds recorded on the relevant trench record sheet.
- 5.2.10 Where present, alluvial layers were assessed on site by a suitably trained geoarchaeologist and investigated for the presence of artefacts and palaeoenvironmental potential, and any such excavated sediments were sampled and interpreted.
- 5.2.11 Archaeological hand excavation and recording was undertaken to the general requirements as described in the GWSI: HERDS and the Technical Standard Specification for historic environment investigations (HS2-HS2-EV-STD-000-000035). The sample strategy was guided by the ClfA Standard and guidance for archaeological field evaluation (ClfA 2014, updated 2020) and other relevant guidance documents, as detailed in the LS-WSI.

### *Fieldwork Recording*

- 5.2.12 A sufficient sample of each feature was excavated to meet the requirements of the GWSI: HERDS. Archaeological recording included as a minimum:
- At least one representative section at (1:10 or 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;
  - Plans at appropriate scales (1:10, 1:20 or 1:50);
  - Single context planning used only if appropriate;
  - Photographs and other appropriate drawn and written records; and
  - Other sections, including the half-sections of individual layers or features drawn as appropriate to 1:10 or 1:20.

### *Environmental Sampling*

- 5.2.13 In line with the Employer's Technical Standard Specification for Historic Environment Investigations (HS2-HS2-EV0STD-000-000035) the following sampling strategy was implemented. This strategy was based on the existing information about the Site, gathered from non-intrusive surveys and the HERDS objectives outlined above in section 6. Sampling targeted the following, where present, as a minimum:
- Archaeological features identified as cropmarks or geophysical anomalies, which are likely associated with potentially prehistoric or medieval activity, including settlement and/or agricultural remains (i.e. ditches, banks, gullies, earthworks) as well as other relevant remains (i.e. pits or postholes); and
  - Deposits representing the main phases of activity on site (to assess whether there are changes in rates of deposition or material survival over time).

5.2.14 Samples were taken using ten litre plastic buckets (with lids and handles), or strong polythene bags (double bagged) secured at the neck, for the recovery of bulk 'disturbed' environmental samples. Labelling followed guidance set out in the Technical Standard Specification for Historic Environment Investigations (HS2-HS2-EV-STD-000-000035).

### *Backfilling*

5.2.15 Backfilling was undertaken in layers of 250mm, whilst being adequately compacted. Trenches were reinstated with arisings, comprising subsoil first then topsoil (i.e. reverse order of excavation) and the ground made good.

### *Change Control*

5.2.16 Most trenches in land parcel C25091 were excavated in the pre-determined positions identified in the Project Plan (Document no. 1EW03-FUS-EV-REP-CS06\_CL21-007818). However, there were trenches that required relocation due to on-site constraints or required extensions:

- Trench 1 was moved 10m south, as multiple underground cables/services were detected in the northern part of the trench, underneath the original location of a static caravan (Document no. 1EW03-FUS\_COP-EV-FRM-CS06\_CL21-000004).
- The width of Trench 2 was altered, in order to investigate a possible stone structure (eventually interpreted as a natural limestone outcrop) (Document no. 1EW03-FUS-EV-FRM-CS06\_CL21-000001). Two 7m x 3m extensions were excavated on the western and eastern edges of the trench by the possible stone structure.
- The location of Trench 4 was altered following the revised compound location; and was also shortened by 10m due to spatial constraints (Document no. 1EW03-FUS\_COP-EV-FRM-CS06\_CL21-000002).
- Trench 17 was extended to the south by 10m to attempt to identify the location of the Roman road (Document no. 1EW03-FUS\_COP-EV-FRM-CS06\_CL21-000003).
- Trench 18 was relocated 2m to the north-east to avoid a tree root protection zone and bat protection area (Document no. 1EW03-FUS\_COP-EV-FRM-CS06\_CL21-000003).
- Trench 21 was an addition to the original scope and measured 10m long by 2m wide (Document no. 1EW03-FUS-EV-FRM-CS06\_CL21-000001). This was opened immediately adjoining the southern end of Trench 20 to assess further the potential presence of the Roman road (Figure 3a).

## 6 Factual Summary of Key Archaeological Findings

### 6.1 Stratigraphic Sequence

- 6.1.1 The stratigraphic sequence across land parcel C25091 was straightforward, with few variations in thickness. Topsoil deposits measured between 0.10m – 0.30m in thickness, with the majority of these deposits measuring between 0.20m – 0.25m in thickness. A subsoil deposit was recorded in 20 of the 21 trenches and measured between 0.10m – 0.45m in thickness, with the majority measuring between 0.10m – 0.2m in thickness (Table 1). Natural yellow/orange-brown silt/clay sand lay at the base of each sequence in most of the trenches. Yellow/grey-brown sand/silt clay was recorded in Trenches 1 – 3.
- 6.1.2 The subsoil deposit was characterised by mid to light brown or yellow-brown clay silt or silt clay with occasional, small stone inclusions in Trenches 1 – 4, 6 – 11, 19 and 20. Subsoil was recorded as mid yellow/orange-brown silt/clay in Trenches 12 – 14, 16 – 18 and 21.
- 6.1.3 The topsoil deposit was typically characterised across the wider Site as mid brown silt sand predominantly with few small stone inclusions.

**Table 1 – Trench summary table**

Trench	Topsoil depth (m)	Subsoil depth (m)
TR1	0.3	0.16
TR2	0.3	0.18
TR3	0.25	0.2
TR4	0.1	0.45
TR5	0.3	0.1
TR6	0.2	0.1
TR7	0.15	0.15
TR8	0.25	0.1
TR9	0.3	0.15
TR10	0.25	0.1
TR11	0.2	0.1
TR12	0.2	0.1
TR13	0.25	0.2
TR14	0.2	0.12
TR15	0.26	-
TR16	0.17	0.14
TR17	0.20	0.17
TR18	0.25	0.35
TR19	0.2	0.22
TR20	0.22	0.26
TR21	0.3	0.25

## 6.2 Artefact Collection

- 6.2.1 Although three test pits were excavated in each trench through topsoil and subsoil deposits, these failed to locate any features and no finds were recovered from any of the test pits.
- 6.2.2 The artefact collection provided wholly negative results. No finds were recovered during the evaluation. Should there be anything further to add, this will be fully detailed and quantified in the full Fieldwork Report (Document no. 1EW03-FUS\_COP-EV-REP-CS06\_CL21-000004).

## 6.3 Archaeology

- 6.3.1 The Trial Trench Evaluation results are presented below in trench order (Figures 3 – 12).
- 6.3.2 Finds quantification is set out in Tables 2 to 4, and details material type and broad dates where applicable. Only a single Roman period sherd of pottery (Trench 7) was recovered from any of the features investigated. Environmental samples that yielded remains of palaeoenvironmental interest are set out in Table 5.
- 6.3.3 The summarised interim results of the Trial Trench Evaluation in land parcel C25091 are presented below, and the trench locations are shown in Figures 3a – 3d. Context numbers reflect the trench numbers, e.g. ditch 205 is a feature within Trench 2, while ditch 1703 is a feature within Trench 17.

### Land Parcel C25091 (Figures 3 – 12)

- 6.3.4 Land parcel C25091 comprised Trenches 1 – 21. The topsoil in this land parcel ranged between 0.1m at its thinnest in Trench 4, to 0.3m thick in Trenches 1 – 2, 5, 9 and 21. The subsoil ranged from 0.1m at its thinnest in Trenches 5, 6, 8 and 10 – 12, to 0.45m thick in Trench 4. No subsoil was recorded in Trench 15. All features were cut into the natural substrate.
- 6.3.5 No archaeological features were recorded in Trenches 1, 4, 8, 9 – 11, 13 – 14, 16, 18 and 20 – 21. A ditch, a posthole and two quarry pits were recorded in Trench 2. A gravel road foundation base / ditch (most likely the remains of the Alchester to Towcester Roman road) and a possible roadside ditch were identified in Trench 3. An elongated pit was identified in Trench 5 and another pit in Trench 7. The latter was cut by a furrow. Trench 6 contained two furrows, whilst Trenches 7, 12 and 15 contained one furrow each. One modern ditch was identified in Trench 7, and a single undated ditch and gully were identified in each of Trenches 17 and 19 respectively.
- 6.3.6 The highest concentrations of features were in the northern part of the Site (Trenches 2 and 3), possibly associated with the alignment of the Roman road and due to the proximity of the Great Central Railway. Sparse evidence of archaeological remains was also recorded in the west / central part of the Site and in the south, in Trenches 5, 7, in Trenches 12, 15 and 17 respectively and in Trench 19 in the eastern part of the Site.

- 6.3.7 No dating evidence was recovered, with the exception of a single Roman sherd of pottery from the fill of furrow 705 in Trench 7, modern material comprising a wooden post from posthole 213 in Trench 2 and a piece of modern glass from the fill of ditch 703 in Trench 7, and brick fragments from the topsoil of Trench 1. These were probably associated with the construction of the Great Central Railway or the Finmere for Buckingham Station, located 50m north of the Site.

### Trench 2 (Figures 3b, 4a and 4b)

- 6.3.8 One ditch (205) was identified at the centre of the trench. This was aligned north-east/south-west; lay parallel to the possible Roman road in Trench 3 and corresponded with a linear geophysical anomaly. Two quarry pits and a modern posthole (210, 216, and 213 respectively) were cut into a natural limestone outcrop recorded in the northern half of Trench 2. The limestone outcrop were overlain by a modern disuse layer that roughly corresponded with a large and irregular geophysical anomaly (Figures 3b, 4a). A tree throw (203) was also partially exposed in the northern half of the trench.
- 6.3.9 Ditch 205 lay toward the centre of the trench and was aligned north-east/south-west. It measured 0.58m deep and 1m wide with steep sides and a rounded base, forming an irregular V-shaped profile (Figure 4a). Basal fill (206) was a mid bluish-grey silt clay with occasional, small sub-angular stones and no finds. This was overlain by a mid greyish-brown silt clay with occasional, small to medium sub-angular stones (207), from which no finds were recovered.
- 6.3.10 Quarry pit 210 extended along the northern edge of the limestone outcrop. It was 0.28m deep, 0.76m wide, and 4m long. It had moderately steep sides and flat base (Figure 4a). The single fill (211) comprised mid orange-brown clay silt with frequent, small to medium limestone fragments, gravel, and no finds. Quarry pit 216 was excavated along the southern edge of the limestone outcrop (Figure 4a). It measured 0.09m deep, 0.5m wide, and 1.5m long. It had moderately steep sides and flat base. It contained a mid orange-brown clay silt fill (217) with occasional medium limestone fragments and no finds.
- 6.3.11 Posthole 213 was adjacent to the southern edge of the limestone outcrop. It was circular in plan. It measured 0.25m in depth and 0.73m in diameter. It had steep sides and flat base (Figure 4b). Its basal fill (214) was a light yellowish-grey clay silt with no finds. This was overlain by a mixed fill (215) comprising greyish-brown silt clay and mortar, within which the original modern wooden post was preserved.
- 6.3.12 Tree throw 203 was broadly oval in plan and partially exposed at the eastern edge of the trench. It measured at least 1.3m long by at least 0.45m wide and was 0.13m deep, with a single fill of greyish-brown silt clay (204). No finds were recovered.

### Trench 3 (Figures 3b and 5)

- 6.3.13 A probable foundation ditch deposit for the former Roman road (303) - likely to represent an element of the Alchester to Towcester Roman road - and a possible associated roadside ditch (305) extended north-east/south-west through the centre of Trench 3. The possible roadside

ditch corresponded with a linear geophysical anomaly (Figure 3b). The remains of the road itself did not correspond with any anomaly but its western and eastern continuations were identified by LiDAR prospections (ES 3.5.2.14.7). Trench 21 was excavated in the east of the Site to test whether or not further remains of the Roman road or associated features were present; none were.

- 6.3.14 Road foundation ditch 303 was 0.14m deep and 6m wide. It had gently sloping sides and uneven to sub-flat base (Figure 5, section AA). The road base deposit filled the foundation ditch and comprised compact, mid brownish-grey silt sand (304) with very abundant gravel ranging in size between 0.05m to 0.10m. No finds were recovered.
- 6.3.15 Possible roadside ditch 305 ran parallel to the northern edge of the road. However, the shape in plan and characteristics of this feature remain uncertain as most of the feature extended beyond the trench boundary. The possible ditch measured 0.14m deep and 1.07m wide. It had moderately steep sides and sub-flat base. It contained a compact, mid yellow-grey clay fill (306) with very frequent gravel ranging in size between 0.03m to 0.1m. No finds were recovered.

#### Trench 5 (Figures 3c and 6)

- 6.3.16 A single elongated pit (503), aligned north-east/south-east, was identified at the south-west end of the trench. It did not correspond with any evident geophysical anomaly. This pit measured 1.6m long and 0.6m wide. It was 0.35m deep with moderately steep sides and a concave base and contained two fills (Figure 6, section BB). Primary fill 504 comprised light yellowish-brown firm silt clay, from which no finds were recovered. This was overlain by fill 505, a loose mid-brown silt sand, also with no finds. This pit was cut by a modern field drain.

#### Trench 6 (Figures 3c and 7)

- 6.3.17 Five probable agricultural furrows, all broadly aligned north-east/south-west, were identified along the length of the trench. These did not correspond with any evident geophysical anomalies. Four were spaced approximately 7m – 9m apart and two, furrows 603 and 605, were excavated. These measured 1.52m and 1.65m wide respectively and were very shallow, only 0.08m and 0.18m deep respectively. Each contained a single mid to dark brown silt clay fill (604, 606), from which no finds were recovered. Furrow 603 was cut by a modern field drain.

#### Trench 7 (Figures 3c, 8a and 8b)

- 6.3.18 Three features were identified in Trench 7. These comprised ditch 703, pit 707 and furrow 705. Two of these (703 and 705) appear to correspond, albeit loosely, with north-east/south-west aligned geophysical anomalies, though in plan do not appear to be related. Ditch 703, aligned broadly north-west/south-east at the southern end of the trench, measured 0.7m wide and 0.4m deep. It had steep sides, with a V-shaped profile and a concave base and was filled with a dark greyish-brown silt sand (704), from which a single fragment of modern bottle glass was recovered (Figure 8a, section CC).

6.3.19 Pit 707 was identified toward the centre of the trench. It measured 0.59m in diameter and was 0.19m deep, although had been truncated by a later furrow base (705). The pit had moderately steep sides and rounded base and was filled with a mid-brownish-grey silt clay (708) with a few gravel inclusions, from which no finds were recovered (Figure 8b, section DD). Furrow 705, which cut earlier pit 707, was aligned broadly north-west/south-east, measured 2.1m wide and was 0.08m deep. It had moderately sloped sides and a flat base, which contained a single greyish-brown silt clay fill (706) from which a single sherd of 2nd – 4th century Roman pottery was recovered (Figure 8b, section DD).

### Trench 12 (Figures 3d and 9)

6.3.20 A single north-west/south-east aligned furrow (1203) was roughly located at the centre of the trench and did not correspond with any geophysical anomaly. Furrow 1203 was 0.08m deep and 1.4m wide. It had gently sloping sides and slightly concave base (Figure 9). It contained a light yellowish-brown sand silt fill (1204) with rare, small stones and no finds. Three probable north-east/south-west aligned agricultural furrows, which correspond with geophysical anomalies, remained unexcavated.

### Trench 15 (Figures 3d and 10)

6.3.21 A single furrow (1502) was recorded in the southern half of the trench. It was aligned north-east/south-west and it corresponded with a linear geophysical anomaly. Furrow 1502 measured 0.05m deep and 0.58m wide. It had gently sloping sides and slightly concave base (Figure 10). The single light yellowish-grey sand silt fill (1503) contained rare, small sub-angular stones and no finds.

### Trench 17 (Figures 3d and 11)

6.3.22 Ditch 1703 ran east/west through the southern half of Trench 17. It did not correspond with any geophysical anomaly. The ditch was 0.29m deep and 0.87m wide with moderately steep sides and sub-flat/irregular base (Figure 11). Its fill (1704) comprised mid bluish-grey clay silt with rare, small sub-angular stones. No finds were recovered.

### Trench 19 (Figures 3b and 12)

6.3.23 A single north-west/south-east aligned gully (1904) was identified at the northern end of the trench and did not correspond with any geophysical anomalies. It measured between 0.28m and 0.59m wide and was 0.4m deep. It had slightly concave, moderately sloped sides with a rounded base, and was filled with a mid brown silt clay deposit (1905), from which no finds were recovered (Figure 12, section EE).

## 7 Interim Artefactual Summary

7.1.1 The artefactual material is recorded from one deposit (Table 2), see also 7.1.3. The material was recovered by hand. A single cattle molar (16g) was recovered via the processing of bulk

soil sample 8 from deposit 215, the fill of posthole 213 and comprised the entire animal bone assemblage.

**Table 2 – Quantification of finds**

Material	No of Contexts	Count	Weight (g)
ANIMAL BONE	1	1	16
POTTERY	1	1	48
<b>Grand Total</b>		<b>2</b>	<b>64</b>

- 7.1.2 The pottery been recorded direct to an Excel spreadsheet from which Table 3 (Finds Concordance) is derived and which forms part of the project archive. The pottery was examined by context, using a x10 binocular microscope and quantified according to sherd count and weight per fabric type. The fabric is described in Table 4 (Fabric Description) in accordance with the Historic England guidelines (Barclay et al. 2016) and, where appropriate, the National Roman Fabrics Reference Collection (Tomber and Dore 1996).
- 7.1.3 One unfeathered bodysherd (48g) of pink grog-tempered ware (PNK GT) was recorded from deposit 706, the fill of furrow 705. The fabric, which is a common coarseware type known from the area, is dateable to the 2nd to 4th centuries AD. It is not possible to draw any meaningful conclusions from this single sherd.

**Table 3 – Finds concordance**

Context	Class	Description	Fabric Code*	Count	Weight (g)	Spot-date
706	Roman Pottery	Pink grog-tempered ware	<b>PNK GT</b>	1	48	C2-C4

\* National Roman Fabric Reference Collection codes in bold

**Table 4 – Fabric description**

Period	Fabric Description	Fabric Code*	Count	Weight (g)
Roman Pottery	Pink grog-tempered ware	<b>PNK GT</b>	1	48
<b>Grand Total</b>			<b>1</b>	<b>48</b>

## 8 Interim Palaeoenvironmental Summary

- 8.1.1 Five environmental samples (82 litres of soil) were processed from a tree throw, one ditch, a quarry pit and posthole in Trench 2 and a ditch in Trench 17 (Table 5). This was done to evaluate the preservation of palaeoenvironmental remains on the Site and with the intention of recovering environmental evidence of industrial or domestic activity, as well as possibly giving an indication of the local environment. It was also hoped that the samples might also assist with the dating of these features. The samples were processed by standard flotation procedures (CA Technical Manual No. 2, 2012).



- 8.1.2 In addition, a fragment of worked wood (sample 7) was recovered from posthole 212 in Trench 2.
- 8.1.3 Preliminary identifications of plant macrofossils for the charred remains are noted in Table 5 following nomenclature of Stace (1997).
- 8.1.4 The flots varied in size from small to large with high numbers of rooty material and uncharred seeds. The charred material is poorly preserved. Due to the poor preservation levels, identification of the charred material to species is difficult.

### Trench 2

- 8.1.5 Sample 1 from tree throw 203 (fill 204) contained a single charred indeterminate cereal grain that was badly abraded. No other charred plant remains, or charcoal fragments were recovered.
- 8.1.6 Ditch 205 (fill 206, sample 2) contained no charred plant remains and only a small amount of charcoal that showed signs of iron impregnation.
- 8.1.7 No charred plant remains and only a very small quantity of charcoal fragments were recorded in sample 5 from quarry pit 210 (fill 211).
- 8.1.8 No charred plant remains were recovered from posthole 212 (fill 215, sample 8) but a small quantity of charcoal was noted alongside a moderate quantity of uncharred wood fragments. These are likely to be residual wood fragments from the wooden post (context 212) that was recovered from the posthole. The wooden post (sample 7) is a large fragment of a possibly modern wooden fence post and it is in poor condition and easily fragments. Further details of the wooden post fragment will be provided in the final fieldwork report.

### Trench 17

- 8.1.9 Ditch 1703 (fill 1705, sample 3) contained no charred plant remains and only a small quantity of charcoal fragments, which showed signs of iron impregnation and also slight vitrification/mineralisation.

### Summary

- 8.1.10 The bulk sample assemblages are likely to be indicative of wind-blown/dispersed material and do not provide any insight into the possible use or function of the features. They provide no evidence for any settlement activity within the immediate vicinity of these features nor do they provide any indication of the likely date of these features.

**Table 5 – Assessment table of the palaeoenvironmental remains**

Feature	Context	Sample	Processed vol (L)	Unprocessed vol (L)	Flot size (ml)	Roots %	Grain	Chaff	Charred Other	Notes for Table	Charcoal > 4/2mm	Other
Trench 2												

Tree throw 203	204	1	16	0	20	95	*	-	-	indet grain (v. abraded)-	-/-	-
Ditch 205	206	2	17	0	10	90	-	-	-	-	*/*	-
Quarry pit 210	211	5	20	20	75	98	-	-	-	-	-/*	-
Posthole 212	215	8	9	0	35	90	-	-	-	-	*/*	-
<b>Trench 17</b>												
Ditch 1703	1705	3	20	20	30	90	-	-	-	-	*/*	-

Key: \* = 1–4 items; \*\* = 4–20 items; \*\*\* = 21–49 items; \*\*\*\* = 50–99 items; \*\*\*\*\* = >100 items

## 9 Provisional Interpretation and Discussion

- 9.1.1 A total of nine of the 21 trenches excavated in land parcel C25091 contained 15 features of archaeological potential. The majority of archaeological remains were concentrated in the northern part of the Site within Trenches 2 and 3, possibly associated with the alignment of the Roman road and due to the proximity of the Great Central Railway (Figures 3b and 4a – 5). Elsewhere sparse evidence of remains was also recorded in the west / central part of the Site; in the south, in Trenches 5, 7, 12, 15 and 17 respectively and in Trench 19 in the eastern part of the Site. The excavated archaeological remains, comprising elements of a possible Roman gravel road foundation (*Via Glareata*), four ditches, one gully, two pits, five agricultural furrows, two quarry pits, and a modern posthole represent evidence for historical communications and network infrastructure development, agricultural activities and limited quarrying activities. These appear to have taken place in at least three distinct phases.
- 9.1.2 The foundation / basal remains of the *Via Glareata* Roman road, and the possible roadside ditch identified in Trench 3 most likely represent evidence of Roman period activity, at least passing through the Site, if not representative of settlement or agricultural activity elsewhere within the Site. However, the V-shaped ditch in Trench 2 and possibly the V-shaped ditch in Trench 7 could also date to the Roman period. This is purely considered from the morphological standpoint and the only datable remains, a fragment of modern bottle glass, from the ditch in Trench 7, were of modern origin. These are conceivably part of a field system developed in proximity to the road. The truncated remains of a small pit, also in Trench 7, whilst undated, was cut by a more recent furrow, from which a single sherd of 2nd – 4th century Roman pottery was recovered.
- 9.1.3 The agricultural furrows in Trenches 6, 7, 12 and 15 can tentatively be dated to the medieval period. The Site was in agricultural use throughout the period, with Newton Purcell and a moated manor house being the closest rural settlements. It is probable that the Site comprised an element of the wider agricultural landscape in the hinterland of these foci of settlement.
- 9.1.4 The quarry pits and the posthole in Trench 2 were of recent, modern origin and were sealed by a disuse layer or dumped dark deposit, which probably derived from railway construction or maintenance-related activities.

- 9.1.5 Elsewhere the undated elongated pit in Trench 5 and the undated ditches in Trench 17 and 19 are difficult to ascribe any potential phasing to. Irrespective of this, these features are likely to represent evidence of limited agricultural activity within the Site.
- 9.1.6 The phases of activity identified within the Site can be tentatively summarised as follows:
- Roman activity in the northern and, perhaps western part of the Site, represented by the remains of the Roman road, possible roadside ditch in Trench 3, and ditches in Trenches 2 and 7;
  - Low intensity medieval activity in the form of sparse agricultural features in the south and west of the Site;
  - Evidence for modern activity in Trench 2 associated with the construction and maintenance of the Great Central Railway in the northern part of the Site.
- 9.1.7 There was a good correlation between the anomalies picked up by the geophysical survey and the excavated features. This was particularly the case for the features investigated in the northern area of the Site.

## 10 Potential Contribution to Specific Objectives

- 10.1.1 The Trial Trench Evaluation set out to address a number of specific objectives defined in the GWSI: Historic Environment Research and Delivery Strategy (HERDS), in order to determine further appropriate investigation/mitigation measures. The objectives were addressed with varying levels of success. The individual objectives and the extent to which each was addressed are summarised in Table 6. The majority of HERDS objectives defined in the Project Plan related to periods that were absent or poorly represented within the archaeological record.

**Table 6 – Extent of objectives addressed**

KC5	Identifying settlement location and developing models for settlement patterns from the Mesolithic, Neolithic and Early Bronze Age.	The evaluation revealed no evidence of finds or features dating to the Mesolithic, Neolithic or Early Bronze Age, therefore there can be no contribution to this HERDS objective.
KC9:	Does the lack of visibility of Neolithic and Bronze Age monuments reflect genuine area distinctiveness, or is this due to variation in geology or investigative techniques?	The evaluation revealed no evidence of finds or features dating to the Neolithic or Bronze Age, therefore there can be no contribution to this HERDS objective.
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	The evaluation revealed no evidence of finds or features dating to the Late Bronze

	associated differences in landscape organisation and enclosure?	Age or Iron Age, therefore there can be no contribution to this HERDS objective.
KC19:	The Roman 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?	Objective addressed; elements of the former Roman road were identified in Trench 3
KC21:	Assess the evidence for regional and cultural distinctiveness along the length of the route in the Roman period, with particular regard to the different settlement types encountered along the route.	The evaluation revealed no evidence for regional and cultural distinctiveness along the length of the route in the Roman period, therefore there can be no contribution to this HERDS objective.
KC23:	Identify evidence for late Roman occupation and attempt to identify any continuity in settlement patterns between the end of the Romano-British period and the early medieval period.	The evaluation revealed no evidence for late Roman occupation or early medieval settlement and therefore there can be no contribution to this HERDS objective.
KC35:	Investigate the impacts on rural communities of social and economic shocks in the mid-14th century and thereafter and their contribution to settlement desertion.	The evaluation revealed no evidence associated with the impacts on rural communities of social and economic shocks in the mid-14th century and therefore there can be no contribution to this HERDS objective.
KC40:	Identify patterns of change within medieval rural settlement from the 11th to mid-14th century.	With the exception of possible evidence of former ridge and furrow agriculture, the evaluation revealed no evidence for patterns of change within medieval rural settlement from the 11th to mid-14th century and therefore there can be no contribution to this HERDS objective.
KC43:	Investigate the link between the development of the railways and broader changes in the historic landscape, such as urban settlement expansion and the decline of the canal network.	The evaluation revealed no evidence for the link between the development of the railways and broader changes in the historic landscape and therefore there can be no contribution to this HERDS objective.
KC47:	Test and develop geophysical survey methodologies.	Some but not all geophysical anomalies identified by excavation. Features identified by excavation not evident in geophysical survey; objective partly addressed.
KC49:	Ground truth and develop multispectral and LiDAR prospection techniques.	Variable correlation between results of prospecting techniques and archaeological intervention. The remains of the Roman road were identified through LiDAR. Objective partly addressed.

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## 11 Provisional Conclusion

- 11.1.1 The Trial Trench Evaluation identified no prehistoric or late prehistoric archaeological evidence on the Site, hence specific HERDS objectives KC5 and KC9, and KC15 may only be considered further in terms of negative evidence for Mesolithic, Neolithic, Bronze Age, and Iron Age activity.
- 11.1.2 The Trial Trench Evaluation recorded two possible ditches and the foundation / basal gravel remains of the *Via Glareata* Roman road, which possibly represents evidence of Roman activity within the Site. In part, these results will contribute to the specific HERDS objective KC19 but do not contribute towards HERDS objectives KC21 and KC23.
- 11.1.3 The evaluation found evidence for possible medieval period activity in Trench 6, 7, 12 and 15. The furrows investigated in the west and south of the Site are likely to be associated with the medieval village of Newton Purcell or a nearby manor house. This evidence will contribute to a very limited degree towards the HERDS objectives KC35 and KC40.
- 11.1.4 Evidence was found for modern quarrying activities concentrated in Trench 2. However, whilst no direct link could be established between the development of the railways and changes in the historic landscape, it is possible that this evidence does derive from railway construction or maintenance-related activities. This is not sufficient, however, to consider that Herds objective KC43 was addressed to any measurable extent.
- 11.1.5 As noted, the geophysical survey identified the presence of six of the 15 features excavated. The evaluation also uncovered linear features (including the road), several furrows and two pits, which were not evident on the survey, comprising those in Trenches 2, 3, 5, 6, 12, and 17. There was a variable correlation between results of prospecting techniques and archaeological intervention; the route of the Roman road was identified through LiDAR inspections in the fields to the west and the east of land parcel C25091. HERDS objectives KC47 and KC49 were only partly addressed.

### 11.2 Recommended further work

- 11.2.1 The location for the Trial Trench Evaluation was selected to address construction programme risk to land required for the construction of the Chetwode Cutting (Figures 1 – 2). The Main Works construction activities will completely remove or significantly truncate the archaeological remains within its footprint.
- 11.2.2 The provisional results indicate that the possible remains of the *Via Glareata* Roman road are the only remains identified on Site with the potential to measurably contribute to the HERDS objectives, specifically Objective KC19. These remains appear to be restricted to the northern part of land parcel C25091. Further work is necessary to confirm these provisional findings within the final fieldwork report and the decision to undertake further work recorded in a

**Decision Record Notice** prepared by the Contractor in consultation with the Employer and stakeholders. The scope of any further work will be defined in a forthcoming Project Plan or Change Control Form, following stakeholder consultation. Further works are likely to focus on the following:

- the possible remains of the *Via Glareata* Roman road and vallum. Whilst likely to be poorly preserved due to more recent and probably substantial truncation by later activity associated with agriculture and the construction of the Great Central Railway, these remains may support the LiDAR evidence for the course of the Roman road and may offer insight into the construction, phasing and longevity of the Roman road.

## 11.3 Recommended no further work, remains of low significance

11.3.1 Elsewhere on the Site the results of the Trial trench Evaluation, comprising very limited evidence for the remains of a possible Roman period enclosure and of probable medieval agricultural activity makes a negligible contribution to our understanding of settlement and agricultural patterns or activity in these periods.

11.3.2 With the exception of the north-western part of the Site, where Trenches 2 and 3 were located, the remainder of the Site has no measurable potential to contribute to the HERDS objectives. The remains do not indicate that a substantial contribution to the resource assessment could be made. The decision on whether to undertake further work will be recorded in a prepared by the Contractor (Fusion) in consultation with the Employer (HS2) and stakeholders.

## 12 References

### 12.1 Glossary of terms

12.1.1 The following terms have been used in this report:

- **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.
- **Location** – a specific HS2 worksite or group of worksites that are being addressed as a combine 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. The LS-WSIs will be agreed with the Project Manager and would provide a costed and programmed approach to delivering

outcomes.

- **Project Plans** – 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 location.

## 12.2 References

Title	Reference
Fieldwork Change Control Form (FCCF179): Trench 1	1EW03-FUS_COP-EV-FRM-CS06_CL21-000004
Fieldwork Change Control Form (FCCF178): Trench 2	1EW03-FUS-EV-FRM-CS06_CL21-000001
Fieldwork Change Control Form (FCCF180): Trench 4	1EW03-FUS_COP-EV-FRM-CS06_CL21-000002
Fieldwork Change Control Form (FCCF276): Trench 17 and 18	1EW03-FUS_COP-EV-FRM-CS06_CL21-000003
Fieldwork Change Control Form (FCCF209): Trench 21	1EW03-FUS-EV-FRM-CS06_CL21-000001
Historic England 2015 Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment: The MoRPHE Project Managers' Guide	Historic England 2015
HS2 AWHf – Location Specific Written Scheme of Investigation for Trial Trench Evaluation at Barton Hartshorn (Site Code: 1C2oBTHTT), AC250	1EW03-FUS_COP-EV-REP-CS06_CL21-000001
HS2 AWHf Project Plan for a Trial Trench Evaluation at Barton Hartshorn, Oxfordshire, AC250	1EW03-FUS-EV-REP-CS06_CL21-007818
HS2 AWHh (C2b) - Fieldwork Report for Trial Trench Evaluation at Newton Purcell and Manthorn Farm, Chetwode, Buckinghamshire (AC250/25)	1EW03-FUS_COP-EV-REP-CS06_CL09-000008
HS2 GDBA: Geoarchaeological Desk-Based Assessment	1D037-EDP-EV-REP-000-000031
HS2 GWSI:HERDS: Generic Written Scheme of Investigation: Historic Environment Research and Delivery Strategy	HS2-HS2-EV-STR-000-000015
HS2 Phase One Environmental Statement; and Supplementary Environmental Statements	ES 3.5.2.14.4 ES 3.5.2.14.5 ES 3.5.2.14.6 ES 3.5.2.14.7
HS2 Phase 1 AWHb Final Report for Geophysical Magnetometer Survey at Barton Hartshorn, Barton to Mixbury Cutting, Buckinghamshire and Oxfordshire (AC250/12)	1EW03-FUS-EV-REP-CS06_CL21-000001
HS2 Technical Standard Specification for historic environment investigations	HS2-HS2-EV0STD-000-000035
HS2 Technical Standard: Specification for Project Plans and Location Specific Written Scheme of Investigations	HS2-HS2-EVSTD-000-000036
<b>Title</b>	<b>Reference</b>

Barclay A., Booth, P., Knight D., Evans J., Brown D.H. and Wood I. 2016 A Standard for Pottery Studies in Archaeology Historic England	Barclay et al, 2016
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Cotswold Archaeology 2012 The taking and processing of environmental and other samples from archaeological sites: Technical Manual No. 2	CA 2012
Department of the Environment, Transport and the Regions, The Hedgerows Regulations 1997: A Guide to the Law and Good Practice	DEFRA 1997
Lobel, M.D. 1959. 'Parishes: Newton Purcell' in A History of the County of Oxford: Vol. 6	Lobel 1959
Margary, I.D. 1973 Roman Roads in Britain (third edition)	Margary 1973
Palmer, J N, 2020 Open Domesday <a href="https://opendomesday.org">https://opendomesday.org</a>	Palmer 2020
Stace, C. 1997 New flora of the British Isles (2nd edition), Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.	Stace, 1997
Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Field Evaluation. Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (Reading)	ClfA 2014, updated 2020
Tomber, R. and Dore, J. 1998 The National Roman Fabric Reference Collection: A Handbook Museum of London Archaeological Service, London.	Tomber & Dore, 1998

### 12.3 List of acronyms

aOD	Above Ordnance Datum
CFA	Community Forum Area
ClfA	Chartered Institute for Archaeologists
COPA	Cotswold Oxford Pre-Construct Archaeology
ES	Environment Statement
GNSS	Global Navigation Satellite System
GWSI: HERDS	Generic Written Scheme of Investigation: Historic Environment Research and Delivery Strategy
HER	Historic Environment Record
LiDAR	Light Detection and Ranging
LSWSI	Location Specific Written Scheme of Investigation
NGR	National Grid Reference
ODN	Ordnance Datum Newlyn
PGM	Permanent Ground Marker
RTK	Real Time Kinematic



# 13 Appendices

## 13.1 Appendix 1 Fieldwork Summary Table

Trench No. (UID)	Context No. (Feature Id.)	Context Class	Feature/Monument Type	Period	Sub-phase	Feature Depth (m)	Artefactual Remains	Environmental Remains	Building Material	Archaeological Science	Number of items	Weight (g)	Method of Recovery	Comment
2	205	CUT	DITCH	UNCERTAIN		0.58		CHARCOAL			1	0	FLOTATION	
2	210	CUT	CONSTRUCTION TRENCH	UNCERTAIN		0.28		CHARCOAL			1	0	FLOTATION	
2	213	CUT	POSTHOLE	UNCERTAIN		0.25		CHARCOAL			1	0	HAND RETRIEVAL	
2	213	CUT	POSTHOLE	UNCERTAIN		0.25		CHARCOAL			1	0	FLOTATION	
2	216	CUT	PIT	UNCERTAIN		0.09					0	0		
2	208	CUT	LAYER	UNCERTAIN		0.23					0	0		
3	303	CUT	ROADWAY	UNCERTAIN		0.14					0	0		
3	305	CUT	DITCH	UNCERTAIN		0.14					0	0		
5	503	CUT	DITCH TERMINUS	UNCERTAIN		0.35					0	0		
7	707	CUT	PIT	UNCERTAIN		0.14					0	0		
7	703	CUT	DITCH	UNCERTAIN		0.4					0	0		
7	705	CUT	DITCH	ROMAN		0.08	POTTERY		POTTERY		1	50	HAND RETRIEVAL	
17	1703	CUT	DITCH	UNCERTAIN		0.29		CHARCOAL			1	0	FLOTATION	
19	1904	CUT	DITCH	UNCERTAIN		0.36					0	0		

## 13.2 Appendix 2 – Figures

Fig. 1: Site location

Fig. 2: Engineering Design Plan

Fig. 3a: Trial trench locations and results

Fig. 3b: Trial trench locations and results

Fig. 3c: Trial trench locations and results

Fig. 3d: Trial trench locations and results

Fig. 4a: Trench 2 plan and photographs

Fig. 4b: Trench 2 photograph

Fig. 5: Trench 3 plan, section and photograph

Fig. 6: Trench 5 plan, section and photograph

Fig. 7: Trench 6 plan and photographs

Fig. 8a: Trench 7 plan, section and photograph

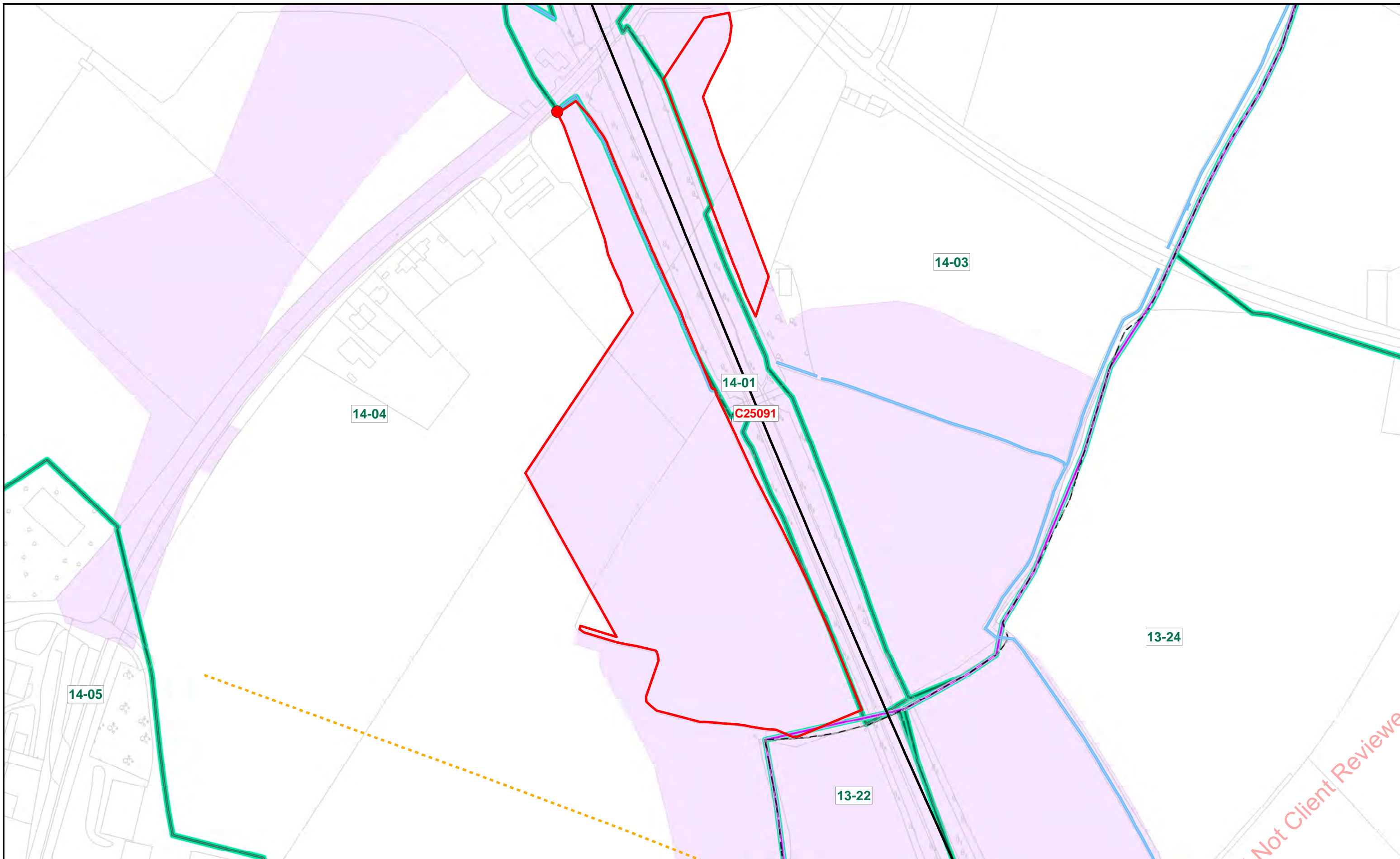
Fig. 8b: Trench 7 section and photograph

Fig. 9: Trench 12 plan and photograph

Fig. 10: Trench 15 plan and photograph

Fig. 11: Trench 17 plan and photograph

Fig. 12: Trench 19 plan, section and photograph



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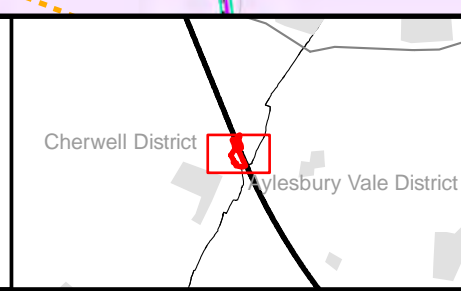
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**Legend**

- Route
- Site
- Fusion Site GIS ID No.
- Public Right of Way
- Local Authority Boundary
- Community Forum boundaries
- Archaeological Character Sub Zones
- Consolidated Construction Boundary
- Watercourse



High Speed Two

FIG. 1  
Barton Hartshorn:  
Site location

Community Forum Area (CFA14):  
Newton Purcell to Brackley

*Internal*

**HS2** Scale at A3: 1:2,000

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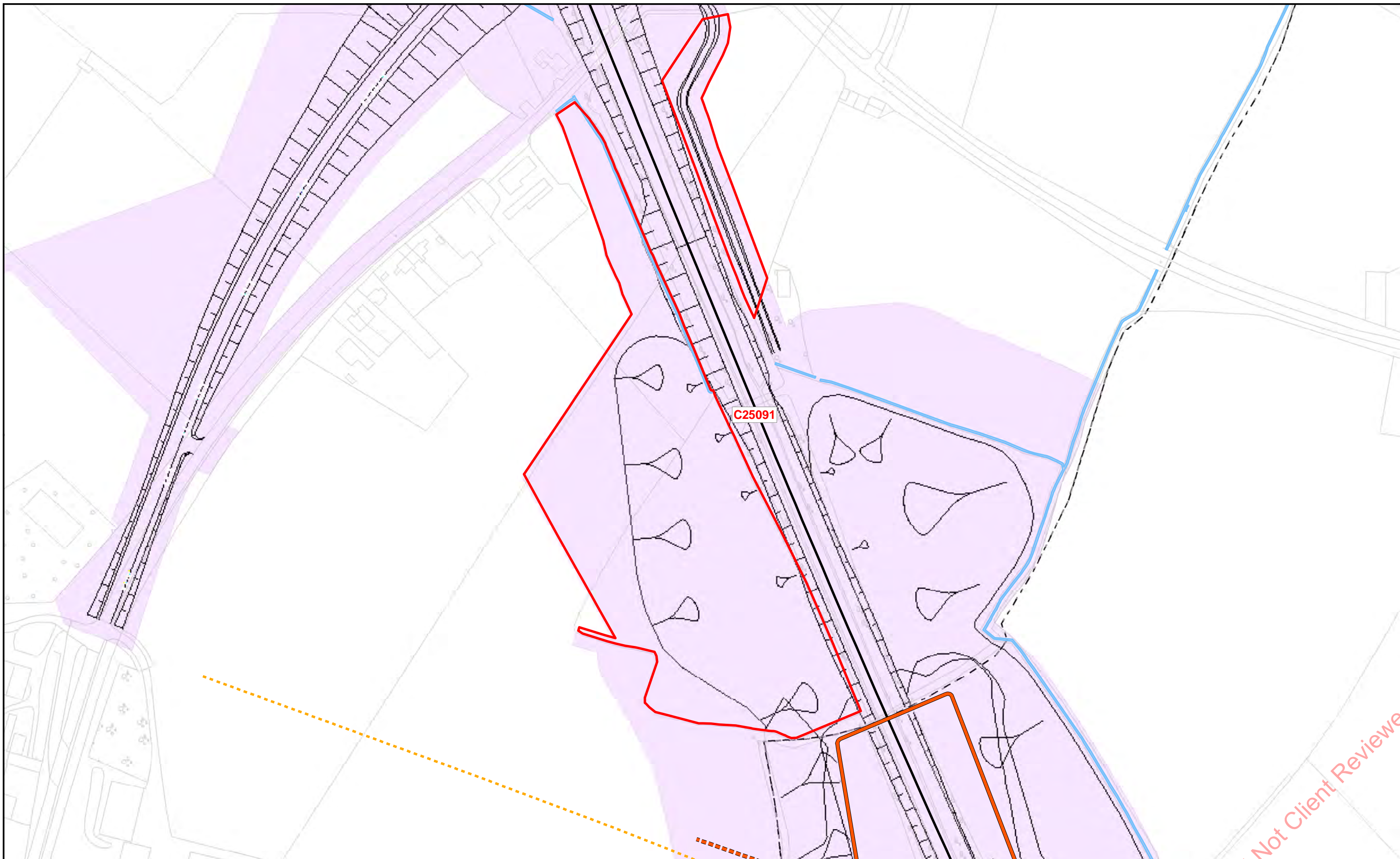
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**Date:** 18/11/2020

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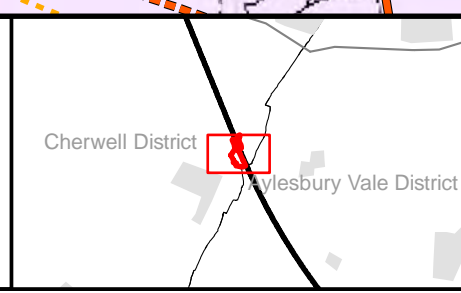
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**Legend**

- Route
- Site
- Fusion Site GIS ID No.
- Public Right of Way
- Local Authority Boundary
- Consolidated Construction Boundary
- Watercourse
- PRoW (new)
- PRoW (stopped-up) temporary



High Speed Two

FIG. 2  
Barton Hartshorn:  
Engineering Design Plan

Community Forum Area (CFA14):  
Newton Purcell to Brackley

*Internal*

**HS2** Scale at A3: 1:2,000

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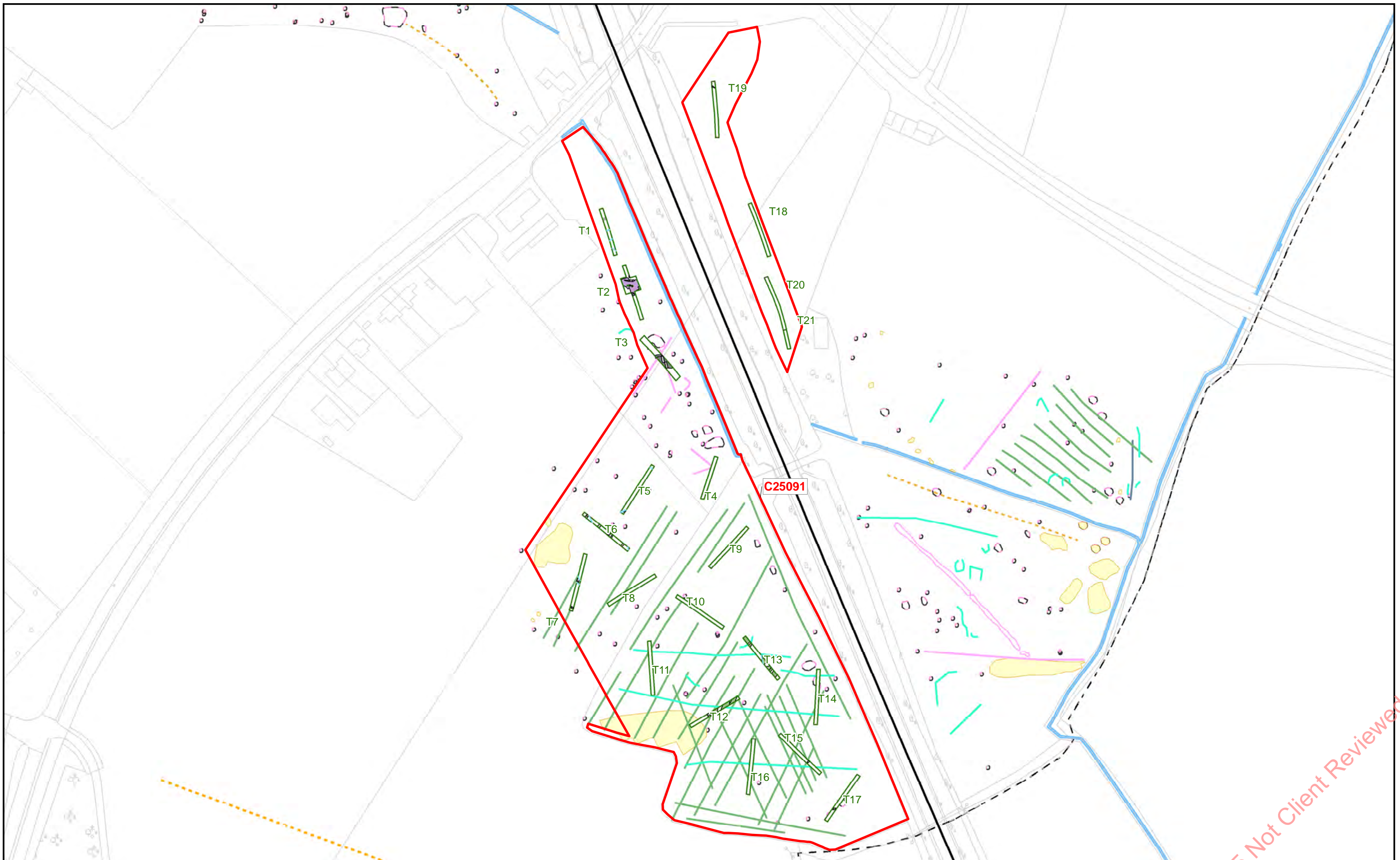
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Metres

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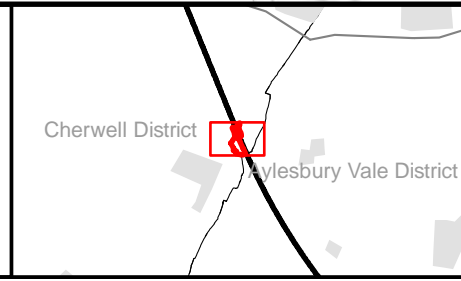
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Legend	
Route	Modern
Site	Treethrow
Fusion Site GIS ID No.	Furrow
Public Right of Way	Archaeological feature
Local Authority Boundary	Natural limestone outcrop
Watercourse	<b>Geophysics results</b>
Limit of excavation bottom	Archaeology
Field drain	Uncertain
	Ferrous
	Geophysics Survey Results
	Plough Mark
	Ridge and Furrow



High Speed Two

FIG. 3a  
Barton Hartshorn:  
Trial trench locations and results

Community Forum Area (CFA14):  
Newton Purcell to Brackley

Internal

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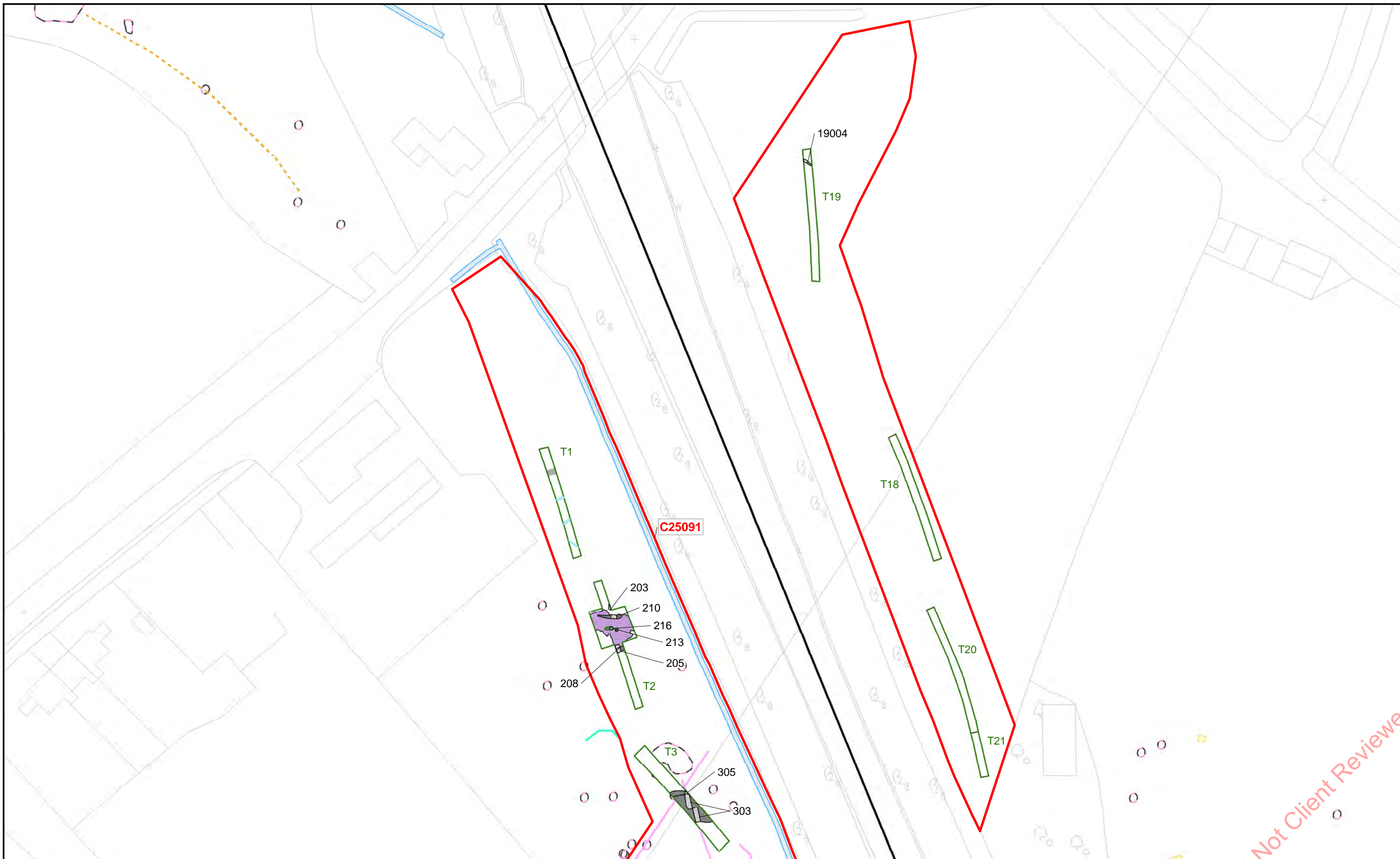
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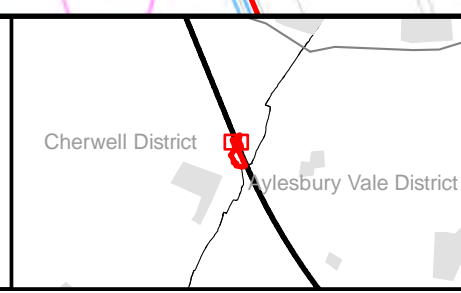
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Legend	
Route	Treethrow
Site	Archaeological feature
Fusion Site GIS ID No.	Natural limestone outcrop
Local Authority Boundary	<b>Geophysics results</b>
Watercourse	Archaeology
Limit of excavation bottom	Plough Mark
Field drain	Uncertain
Modern	Ferrous
	Geophysics Survey Results



High Speed Two

FIG. 3b  
Barton Hartshorn:  
Trial trench locations and results

Community Forum Area (CFA14):  
Newton Purcell to Brackley

*Internal*

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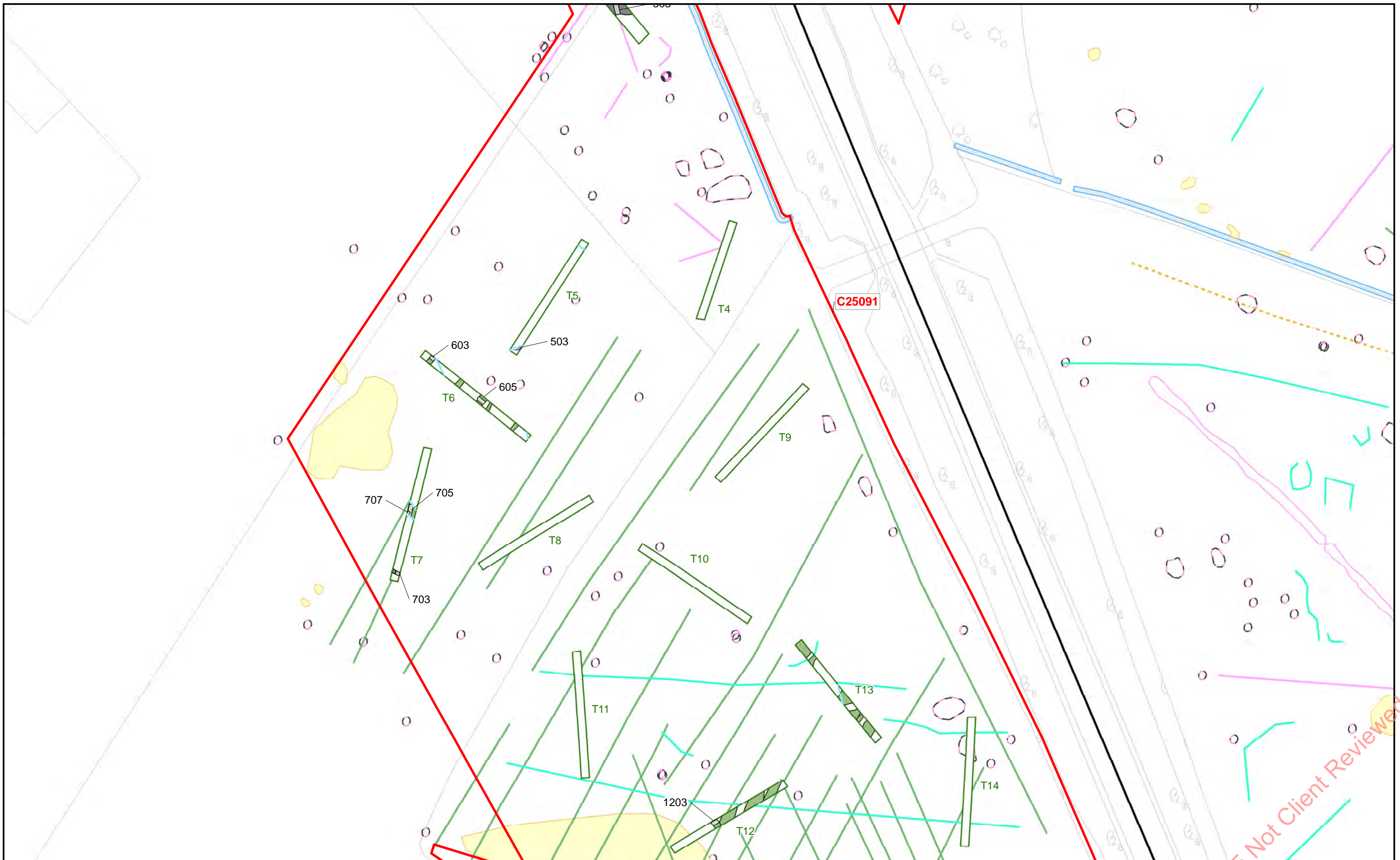
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Metres

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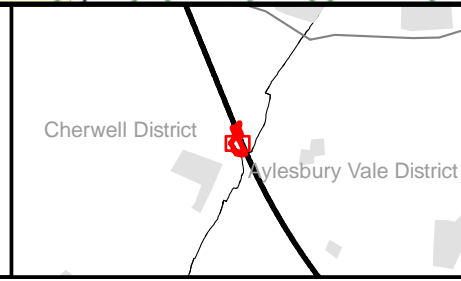
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Legend	
	Route
	Site
	Fusion Site GIS ID No.
	Local Authority Boundary
	Watercourse
	Limit of excavation bottom
	Field drain
	Furrow
	Archaeological feature
	Archaeology
	Plough Mark
	Ridge and Furrow
	Uncertain
	Archaeology
	Ferrous
	Geophysics Survey Results



High Speed Two

FIG. 3c  
Barton Hartshorn:  
Trial trench locations and results

Community Forum Area (CFA14):  
Newton Purcell to Brackley

Internal

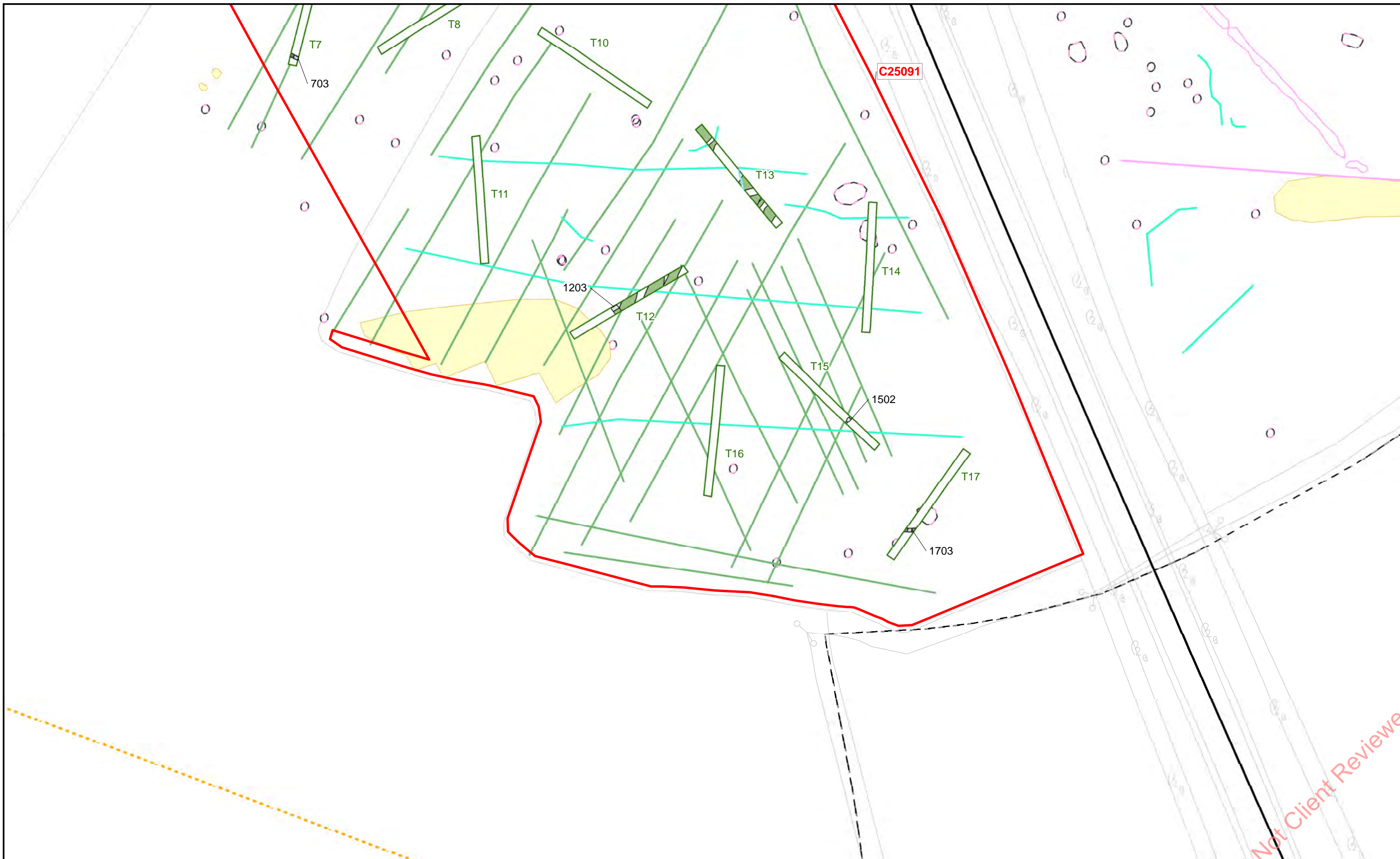
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Legend	
	Route
	Site
	Fusion Site GIS ID No.
	Public Right of Way
	Local Authority Boundary
	Limit of excavation bottom
	Field drain
	Furrow
	Archaeological feature
<b>Geophysics results</b>	
	Archaeology
	Ridge and Furrow
	Uncertain
	Archaeology
	Ferrous
	Geophysics Survey Results



High Speed Two

FIG. 3d  
Barton Hartshorn:  
Trial trench locations and results

Community Forum Area (CFA14):  
Newton Purcell to Brackley

*Internal*

Scale at A3: 1:750

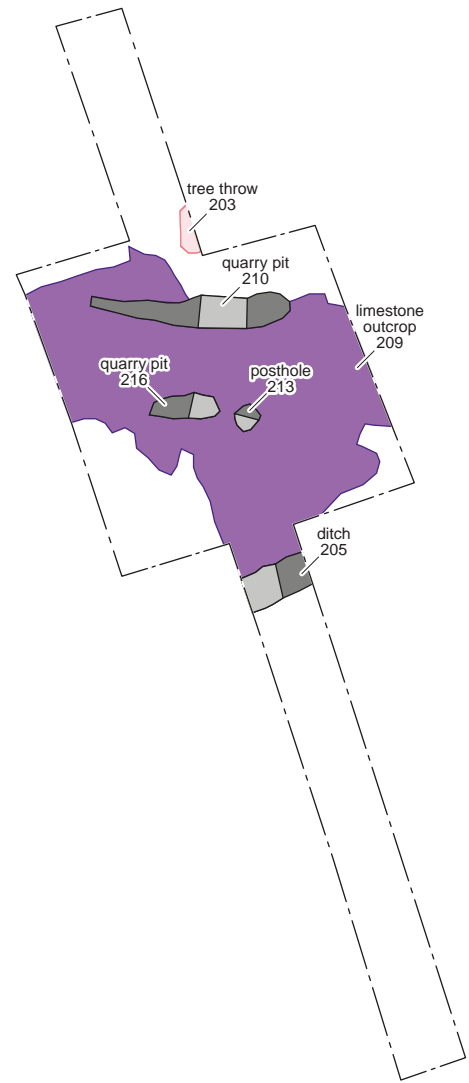
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Ditch 205, looking south-west (1m scale)







Limestone outcrop 209, looking north-west (1m scales)



Quarry pit 210, looking south-west (1m scale)



Quarry pit 216, looking west (0.5m scale)

-  Evaluation trench
-  Archaeological feature (excavated / unexcavated)
-  Surface
-  Tree throw

High Speed Two  
 FIG 4a  
 Barton Hartshorn:  
 Trench 2 plan and photographs  
 Community Forum Area (CFA 14)  
 Newton Purcell to Brackley  
 Internal


**HS2** Scale at A3: 1:200

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1:200  
 0 2 4 6 8  
 Metres

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Posthole 213, looking north-east (0.3m scale)

High Speed Two

FIG 4b  
Barton Hartshorn:  
Trench 2 photograph

Community Forum Area (CFA 14)  
Newton Purcell to Brackley

Internal

**HS2** Scale at A3: NA

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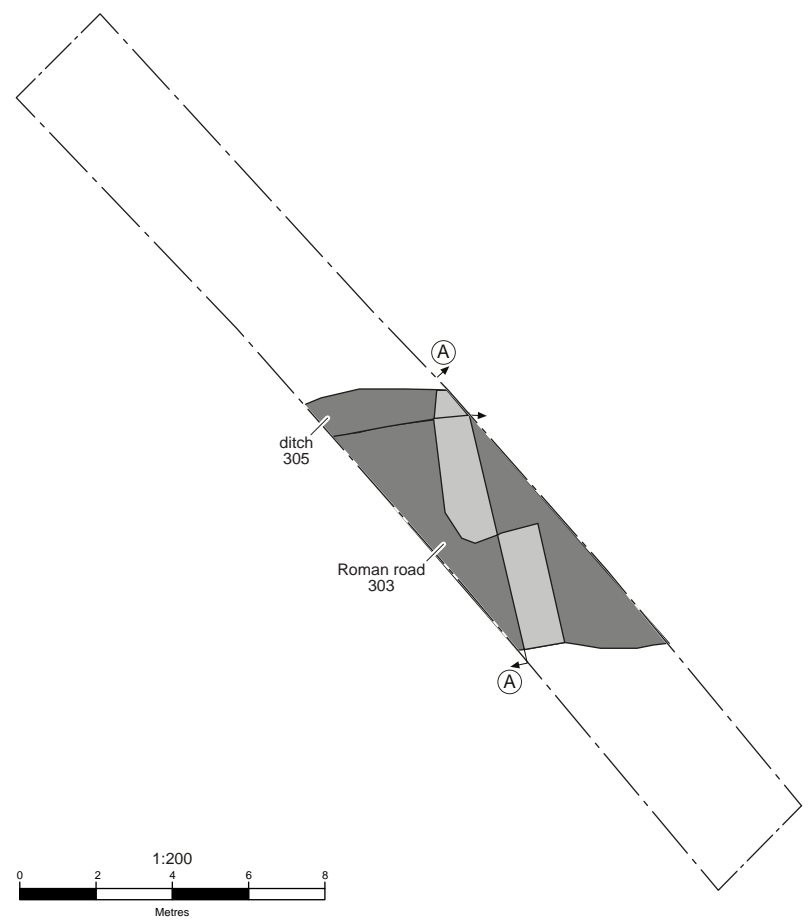
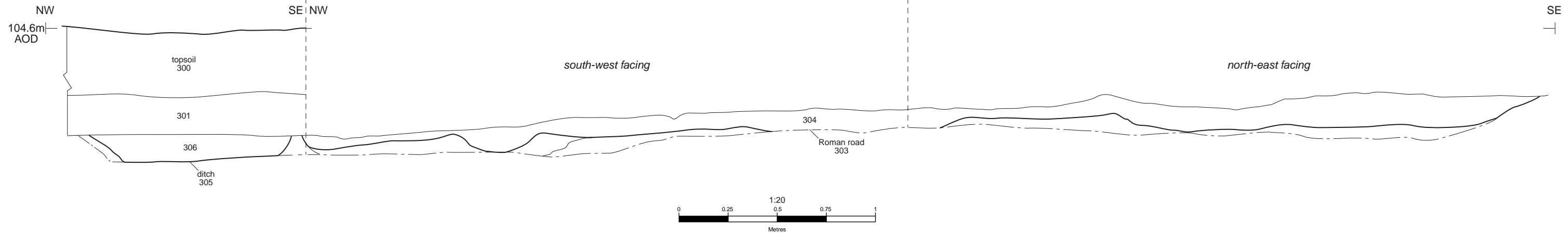
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




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Section AA



Roman road 303, looking east (1m scale)

-  Evaluation trench
-  Archaeological feature (excavated / unexcavated)
-  Section line

High Speed Two  
 FIG 5  
 Barton Hartshorn:  
 Trench 3 plan, section and photograph  
 Community Forum Area (CFA 14)  
 Newton Purcell to Brackley  
 Internal

**HS2** Scale at A3: 1:200, 1:20 

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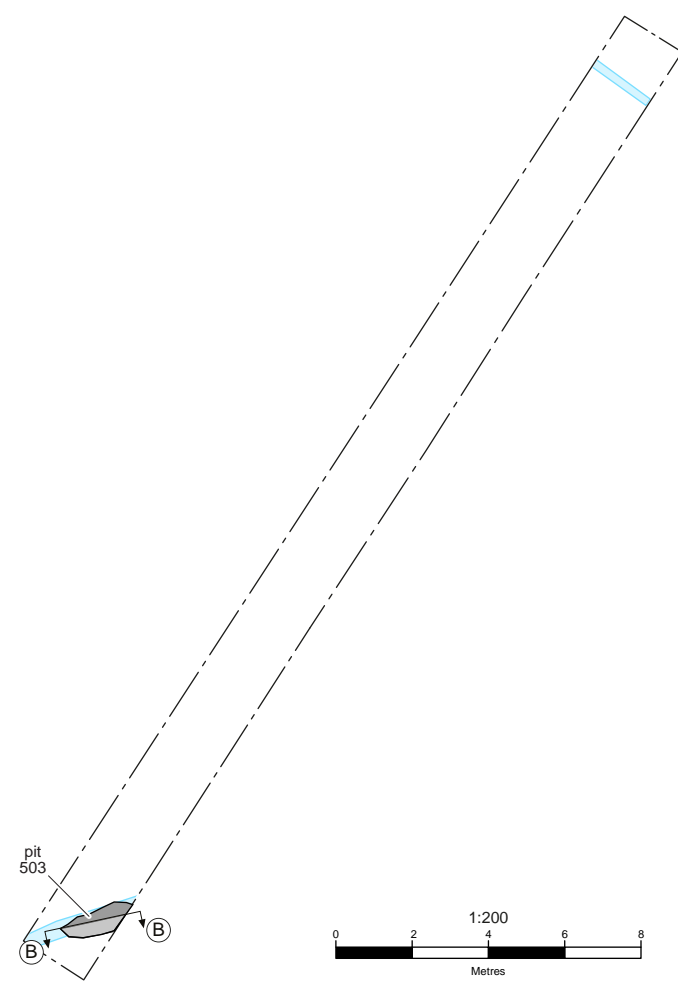
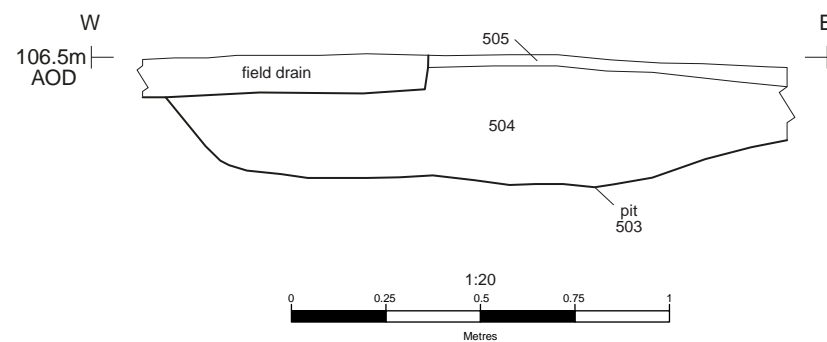
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



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Section BB



Elongated pit 503, looking north (1m scale)

-  Evaluation trench
-  Archaeological feature (excavated / unexcavated)
-  Field drain
-  Section line

High Speed Two  
 FIG 6  
 Barton Hartshorn:  
 Trench 5: plan, section and photograph  
 Community Forum Area (CFA 14)  
 Newton Purcell to Brackley  
 Internal

**HS2** Scale at A3: 1:200, 1:20 

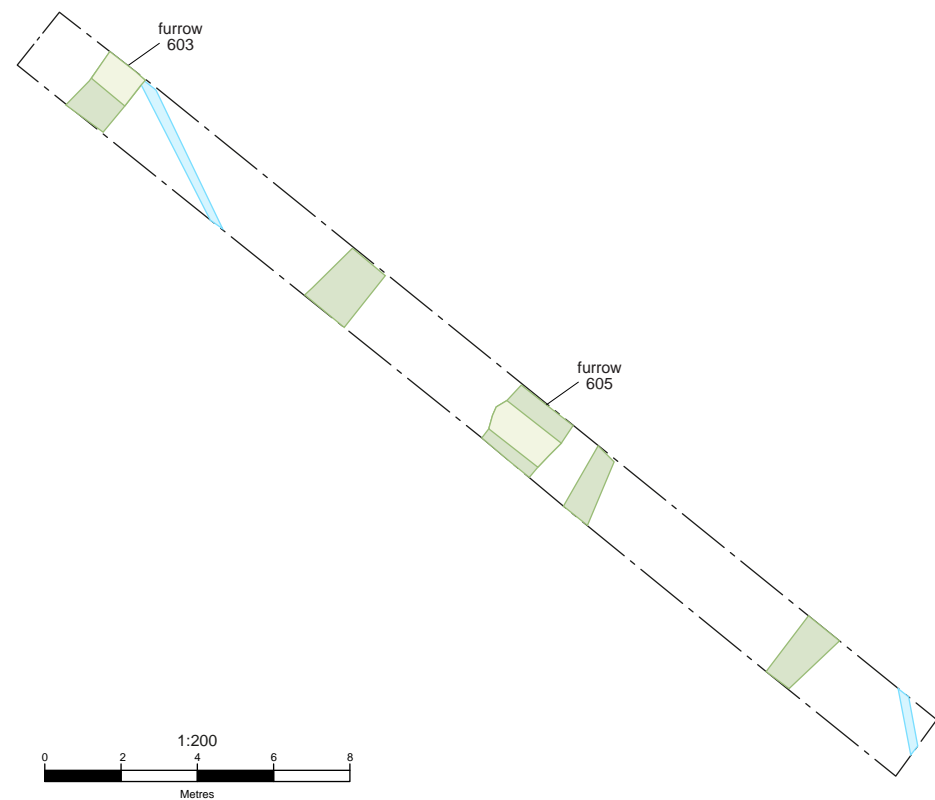
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Furrow 603, looking north-east (1m, 0.4m scales)



Furrow 605, looking south-west (1m scale)

- Evaluation trench
- Archaeological feature (excavated / unexcavated)
- Furrow (excavated / unexcavated)
- Field drain
- Section line

High Speed Two  
 FIG 7  
 Barton Hartshorn:  
 Trench 6: plan and photographs  
 Community Forum Area (CFA 14)  
 Newton Purcell to Brackley  
 Internal

**HS2** Scale at A3: 1:200, 1:20

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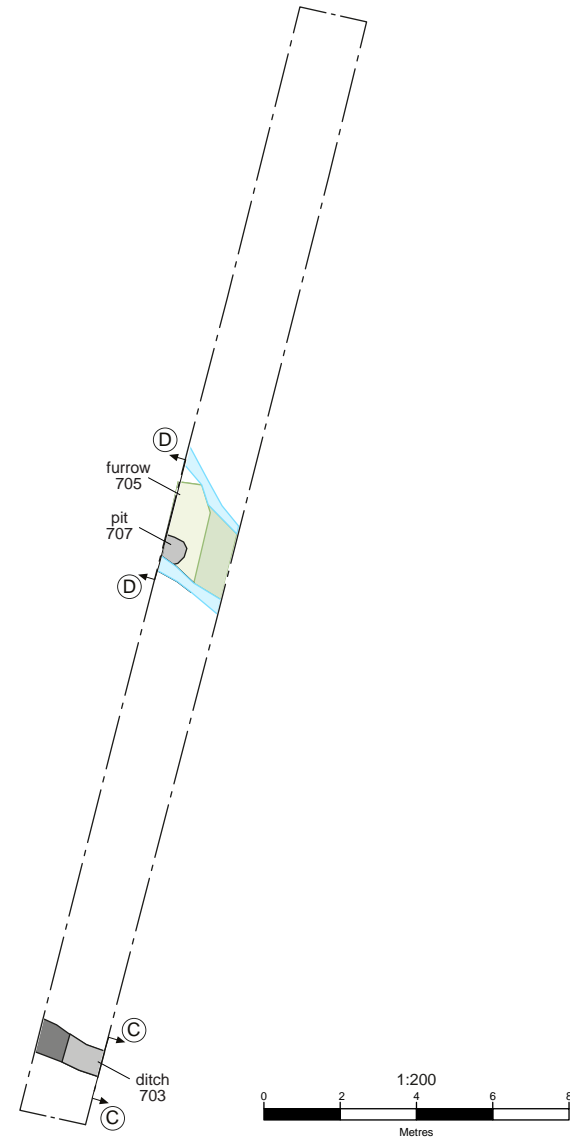
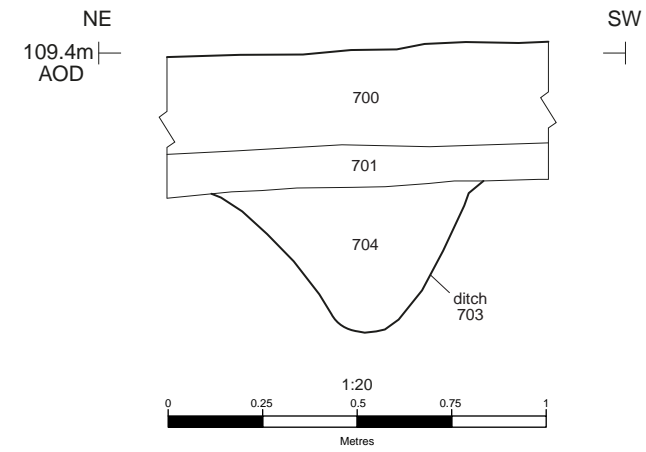
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Section CC



Ditch 703 looking south-east (0.5m scale)

- Evaluation trench
- Archaeological feature (excavated / unexcavated)
- Furrow (excavated / unexcavated)
- Field drain
- Section line

High Speed Two

FIG 8a  
Barton Hartshorn:  
Trench 7: plan, section and photograph  
Community Forum Area (CFA 14)  
Newton Purcell to Brackley

Internal

**HS2** Scale at A3: 1:200, 1:20

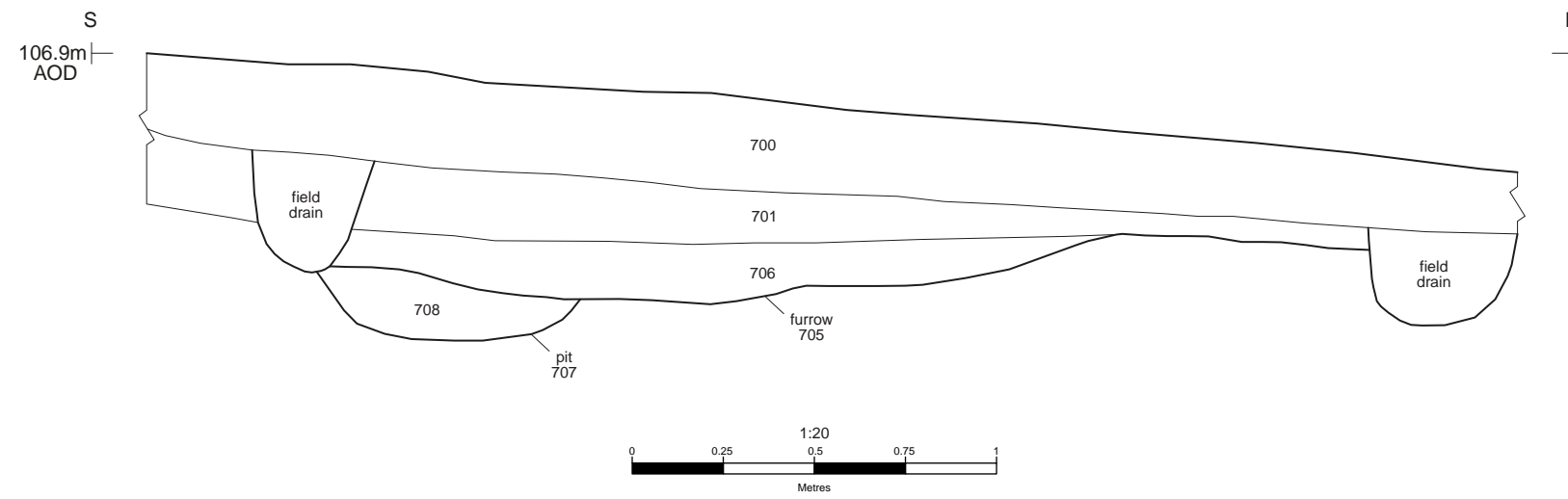
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Section DD



Furrow 705 and pit 707 looking west (2m scale)

High Speed Two

FIG 8b  
Barton Hartshorn:  
Trench 7: section and photograph

Community Forum Area (CFA 14)  
Newton Purcell to Brackley

Internal

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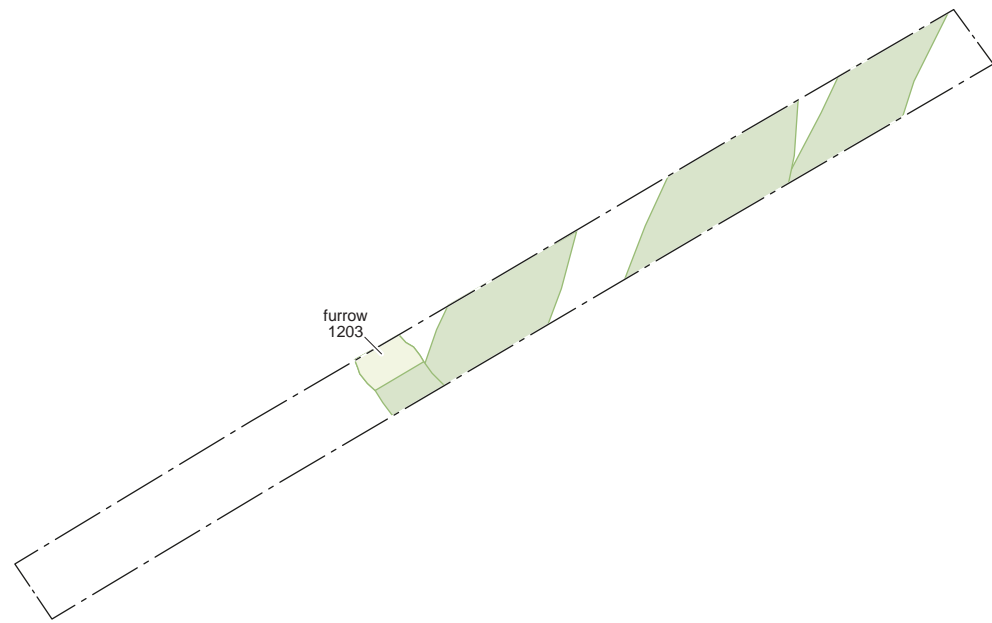
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



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Furrow 1203, looking south-east (1m scale)

-  Evaluation trench
-  Furrow (excavated / unexcavated)

High Speed Two  
 FIG 9  
 Barton Hartshorn:  
 Trench 12 plan and photograph  
 Community Forum Area (CFA 14)  
 Newton Purcell to Brackley  
*Internal*


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1:200  
 0 2 4 6 8  
 Metres

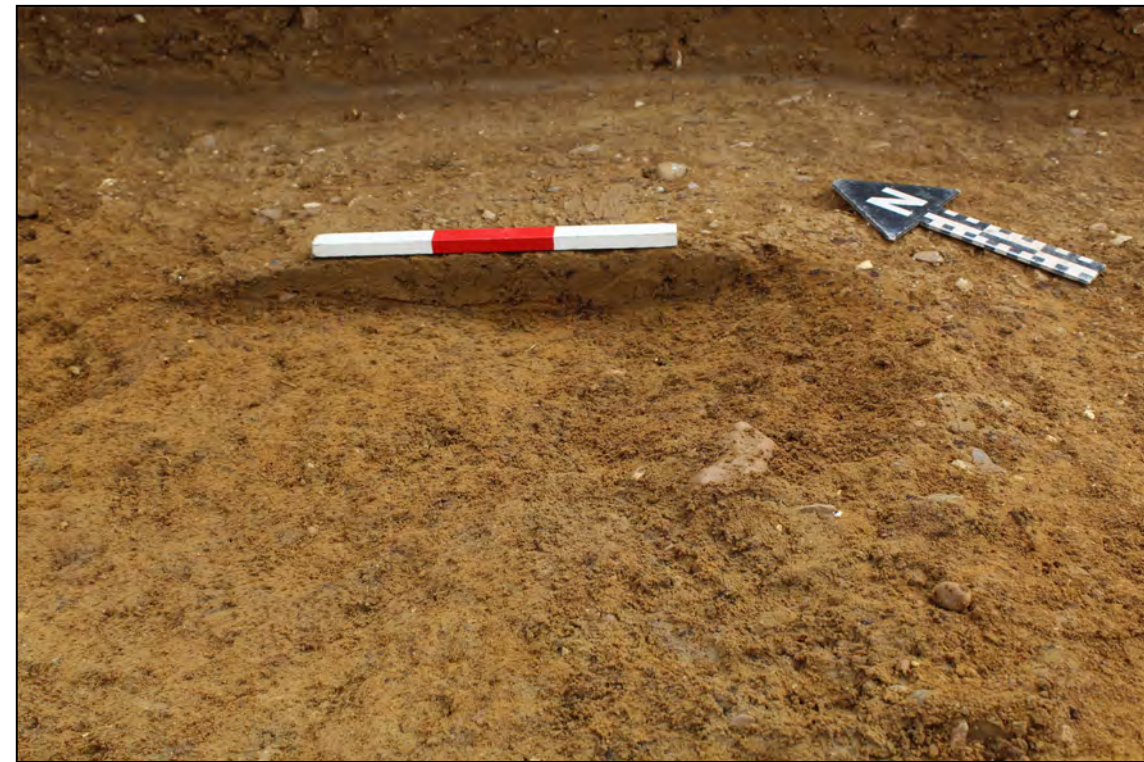
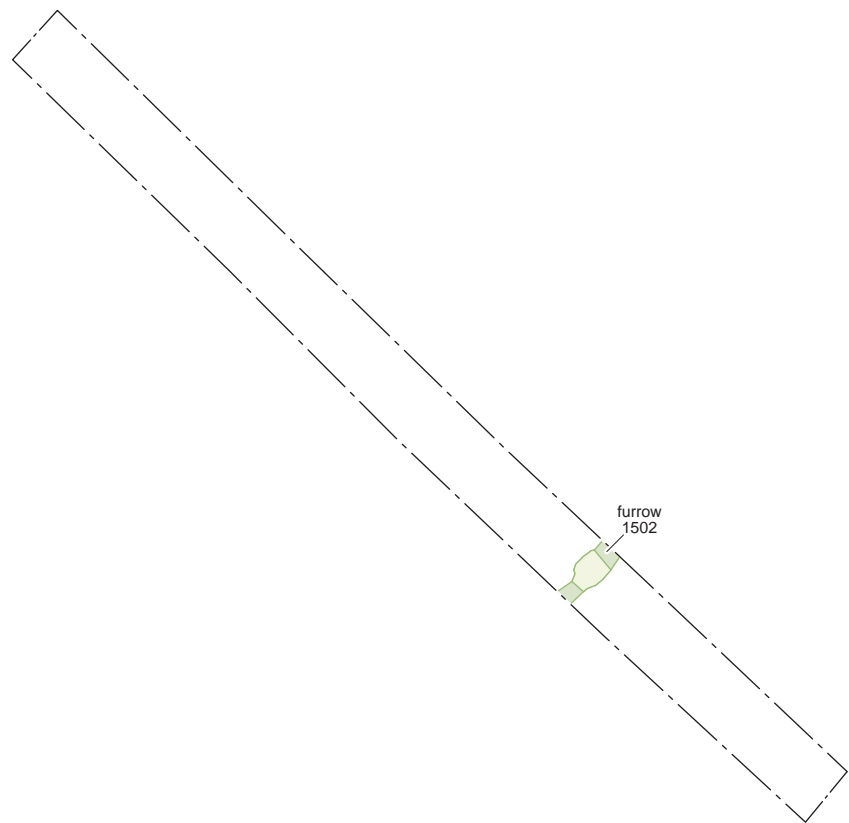
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



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Furrow 1502, looking north-east (0.3m scale)

-  Evaluation trench
-  Furrow (excavated / unexcavated)

High Speed Two

FIG 10  
Barton Hartshorn:  
Trench 15 plan and photograph

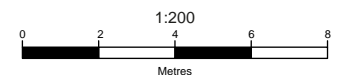
Community Forum Area (CFA 14)  
Newton Purcell to Brackley

Internal

**HS2**

Scale at A3: 1:200

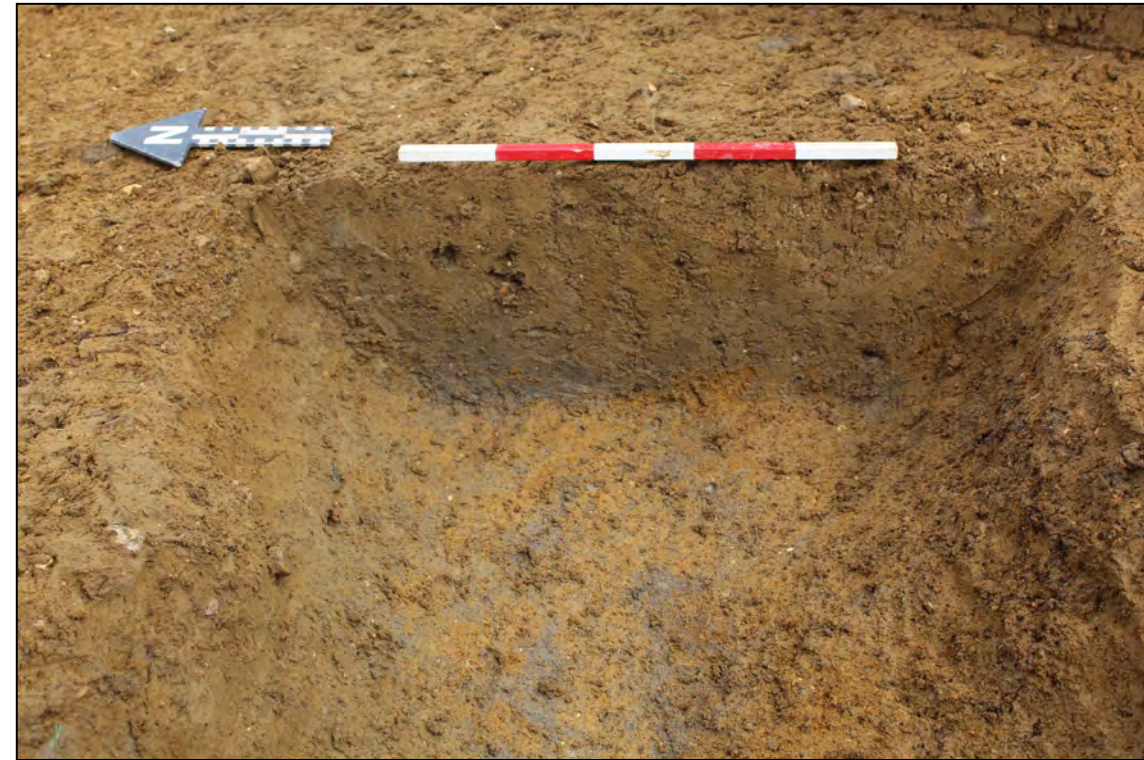
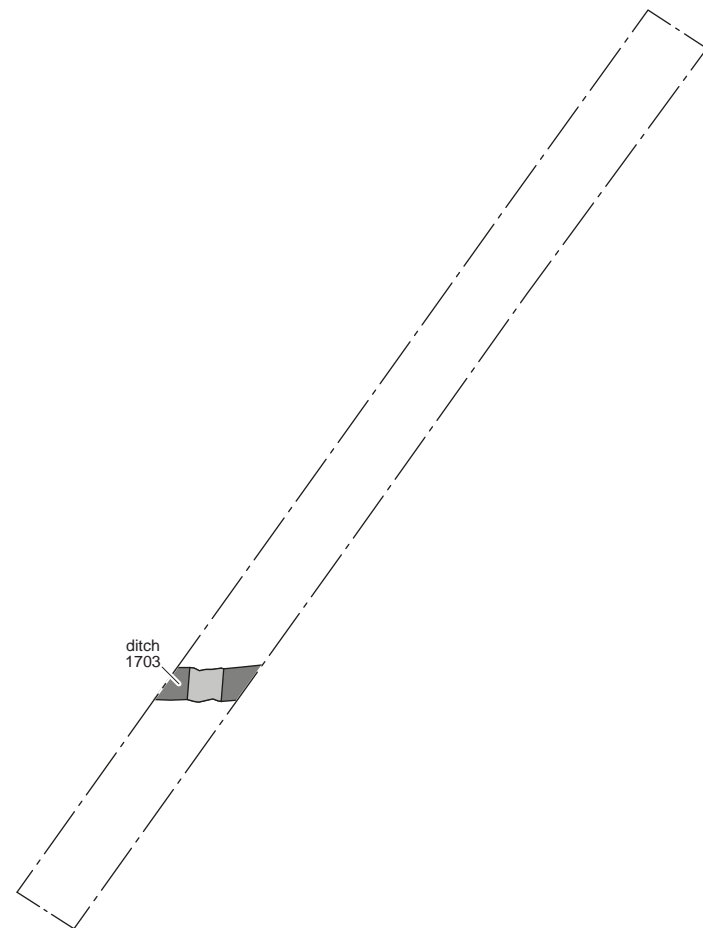
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Ditch 1703, looking east (0.5m scale)

-  Evaluation trench
-  Archaeological feature (excavated / unexcavated)

High Speed Two

FIG 11  
Barton Hartshorn:  
Trench 17 plan and photograph

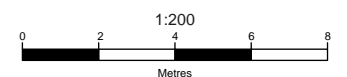
Community Forum Area (CFA 14)  
Newton Purcell to Brackley

Internal

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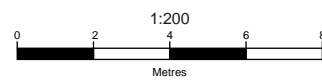
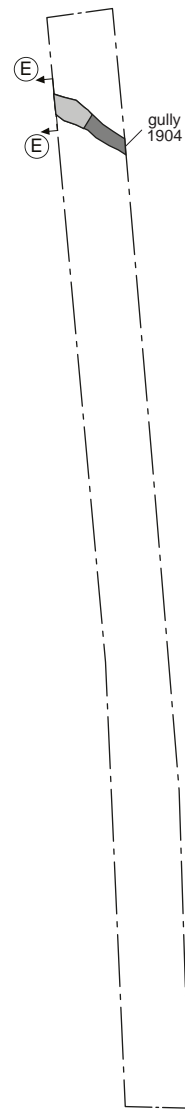
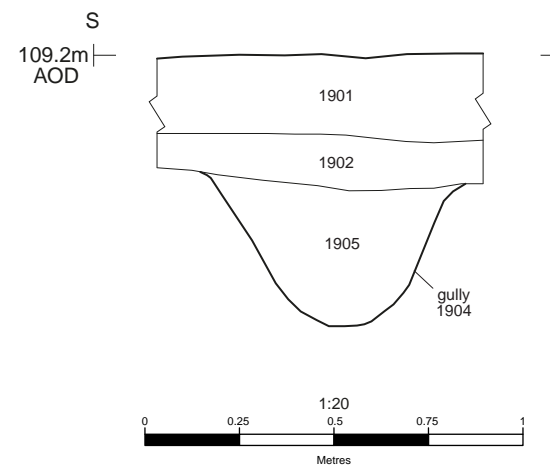
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


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Section EE



Gully 1904, looking west (0.5m scale)

-  Evaluation trench
-  Archaeological feature (excavated / unexcavated)
-  Section line

High Speed Two

FIG 12  
Barton Hartshorn:  
Trench 19: plan, section and photograph

Community Forum Area (CFA 14)  
Newton Purcell to Brackley  
*Internal*

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