Cotswold Archaeology

A120 Bypass (Little Hadham) and Flood Alleviation Scheme Hertfordshire

Archaeological Evaluation

for
Ove Arup

on behalf of
Hertfordshire County Council

CA Project: 660731
CA Report: 16546
Site Code: BLH16

November 2016

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Document Control Grid						
Revision	Date	Author	Checked by	Status	Reasons for revision	Approved by
A		JSJ	MPH	Internal review	Technical Review	MPH
B	07/10/2016	JSJ	MPH	Draft for Issue	For Client Comment	MPH
C	17/11/2016	JSJ	MPH	Draft for Issue	Addressing HCC Comments	MPH

CONTENTS

LIST OF ILLUSTRATIONS

SUMMARY

Project Name:	A120 Bypass (Little Hadham) and Flood Alleviation Scheme
Location:	Little Hadham, Hertfordshire
NGR:	TL 4428 2326
Type:	Evaluation
Date:	30 August – 09 September 2016
Location of Archive:	Bishop's Stortford Museum
Accession Number:	TBC
Site Code:	BLH16

An archaeological evaluation was undertaken by Cotswold Archaeology in September 2016 on land north of Little Hadham, Hertfordshire in advance of the construction of the proposed A120 Bypass around the north of Little Hadham. Fifty-one trenches were excavated.

Three foci of late prehistoric activity, including a sub-square enclosure with internal structures were identified within the proposed road corridor. Evidence for late prehistoric clay extraction, and a single late prehistoric linear boundary were recorded at the eastern and western ends of the corridor respectively. A small prehistoric enclosure was investigated on land to the north of Hadham Hall, inside which, several pits, postholes and possible ring-ditches were recorded. A Roman period enclosure was recorded to the west of Albury Road, consisting of a single length of enclosure ditch and three pits. The finds assemblage recovered from Romano-British features, including pottery and animal bone, suggested settlement activity in the immediate area. A north-west to south-east aligned droveway, containing Romano-British pottery was also recorded, connecting the enclosure with the route of the Stanegate.

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 In September 2016 Cotswold Archaeology (CA) carried out an archaeological evaluation for Ove Arup on behalf of Hertfordshire County Council on land north of Little Hadham (centred on NGR: TL 4428 2326; Fig. 1). The evaluation was undertaken to inform the cultural heritage assessment for the proposed scheme, which will consist a new road alignment around the north of the village, and a flood alleviation scheme to the south.

1.2 The evaluation methodology followed a *Written Scheme of Investigation* (CA 2016), which was approved by Hertfordshire County Council's Historic Environment Advisor Alison Tinniswood, and was written in accordance with the *Specification for Archaeological Trial Trenching* prepared by Ove Arup (2016). Fieldwork adhered to the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists' *Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Evaluation* (CIfA 2014), Historic England's (formerly English Heritage) procedural documents *Management of Archaeological Projects 2* (EH 1991) and *Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment (MoRPHE): Project Manager's Guide* (HE 2015) and associated relevant standards or guidance documents detailed within Appendix A.

The site

1.3 The proposed scheme alignment (the site), which has a length of 3.9km, is located *c*.5km west of Bishop's Stortford on the north side of the existing A120. The scheme comprises a bypass around Little Hadham in East Hertfordshire. The new bypass alignment will tie into the existing A120 at *c*.2.5km east and 650m west of Little Hadham. The proposed scheme also includes work to divert the Lloyd Taylor Drain to the south of the village.

1.4 The site comprises predominantly agricultural land and is semi-rural in nature with the River Ash flowing north to south across it, crossing at a point approximately 1km north-east of Little Hadham. In general the landscape is characterised by strongly undulating river valley slopes in the west with a flat valley floor. Steeper, undulating slopes define the valley sides, some of which are densely vegetated, others wide and open. Hadham Plateau local character area characterises the eastern half of the site. Gently undulating topography and slopes toward the River Ash valley floor characterise the landscape. Large, agglomerated, arable geometric fields bounded

with managed hedgerows and interspersed with occasional woodland blocks distinguish the landscape pattern.

1.5 The site lies at *c*.95m above Ordnance Datum (aOD) at either end of the route corridor rising to a high point of around 105m aOD and a low point of around 70m aOD.

1.6 The bedrock geology of the site is defined by part of the shallow London Basin in which are found clays of the London Clay Formation, the Lambeth Group and Reading Formation; sands of the Upnor Formation and Thanet Sand Formation; and, chalks of the Upper Chalk Formation. At the western end of the route corridor the natural geology is overlain by Head and Head Gravel, glacial deposits comprising gravel, sand, silt and clay. Within the eastern sections of the route corridor the geology is overlain by Till of the Lowestoft Formation, forming an extensive sheet; Kesgrave Catchment Sub Group sand and gravel outcrops between Hadham Park and Bloodhounds Wood near the eastern end of the route corridor, with Made Ground evident in places along the Albury Road (British Geological Survey online viewer, July 2016; Ove-Arup Ltd, 2015).

2. ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND

2.1 The historical and archaeological background of the site has been summarised in Chapter 8 of the *A120 Bypass (Little Hadham) and Flood Alleviation Scheme Environmental Statement*, *Volume II* (Ove-Arup Ltd, 2015). In addition a geophysical survey has been undertaken across the route (Thomas 2014), the following is a summary of this information. In brief, the Hertfordshire Historic Environment Record (HHER) identified that the wider study area, defined by a 1km buffer to each side of the route corridor, contains 50 recorded non-designated heritage assets. Within this data, assets with probable prehistoric and Roman period origin predominate, principally in the form of cropmarks. These could comprise evidence of buried archaeological remains associated with settlement and agricultural practices. The presence also of a known Roman period tile kiln at Hadham Hall, Little Hadham suggests significant activity in the area, in all likelihood closely connected with the proximity of the former Roman Road, which is preserved in the alignment of the existing A120.

2.2 Geophysical survey identified an enclosure with internal features north of Hadham Hall. Further anomalies interpreted as potential archaeological evidence were recorded adjacent to the A120 at the eastern end of the route corridor. Elsewhere anomalies of uncertain origin were recorded across the survey areas. These lacked the coherent morphology normally associated with anomalies of anthropogenic origin and as such could not be confidently interpreted. A number of other anomalies across the site were considered to be of natural origin. There is the potential that those areas of archaeological potential identified by the geophysical survey and others of less certain origin represent evidence of probable prehistoric or Roman remains.

2.3 In the wider landscape the Hertfordshire HER records widespread evidence of activity for the medieval, post-medieval and modern periods. This is represented principally by evidence of existing and former buildings associated with domestic, agricultural and industrial activity.

2.4 Hadham Hall to the east of little Hadham formed the centre of the 14th century estate that included 980 acres of farmland. St Cecilia Church, Hadham Park, Church Farm and extensive farm buildings and barns are located between the existing and proposed A120 alignments.

2.5 Within the site evidence comprises a range of remains associated principally with domestic and agricultural land management, estate management and several findspots. It may well be the case that buried archaeological remains associated with agricultural practices also survive within the site, recorded in places by the geophysical survey.

3. AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

3.1 The objectives of the evaluation were to:

- Establish the location, extent, nature, significance, quality and date of any archaeological or palaeoenvironmental features or deposits that may have been present;
- Determine the palaeoenvironmental potential of the site through the assessment of bulk soil samples taken from any suitable archaeological deposits;
- Determine the integrity and state of preservation of any archaeological features or deposits that may be present.

3.2 Where significant archaeological remains were identified, reference was made to *Research and Archaeology Revisited: a Revised Framework for the East of England* (Medlycott 2011), so that the remains could, if possible, be placed within their local and regional context. All works were conducted in accordance with *Standards for Field Archaeology in the East of England* (Gurney 2003).

3.3 The information gathered will enable Hertfordshire Council, as advised by Alison Tinniswood, to identify and assess the particular significance of any heritage asset within the site, consider the impact of the proposed A120 bypass route upon that significance, and to avoid or minimise conflict between the heritage asset's conservation and any aspect of the development proposal, in line with the *National Planning Policy Framework* (DCLG 2012).

4. METHODOLOGY

4.1 The fieldwork comprised the excavation of fifty-one trenches, forty-nine of these trenches measured 30m long by 2m wide and two others (trenches 14 and 34) measured 50m long by 2m wide (a total of 1,570 linear metres) in the locations shown in Figure 2. Trenches were set out to target geophysical anomalies recorded on the magnetometer survey (Thomas 2014), and areas of blank space. Trenches were set out on OS National Grid (NGR) co-ordinates using Leica RTK GNSS (Real Time Kinematic Global Navigation Satellite Systems) and surveyed in accordance with *CA Technical Manual 4: Survey Manual*. Leica RTK GNSS is set to record Ordnance Survey NGR coordinates and absolute levels above Ordnance Datum Newlyn for each surveyed point.

4.2 All trenches were excavated by mechanical excavator equipped with a toothless grading bucket. All machine excavation was undertaken under constant archaeological supervision to the top of the first significant archaeological horizon or the natural substrate, whichever was encountered first. Where archaeological deposits were encountered they were excavated by hand in accordance with *CA Technical Manual 1: Fieldwork Recording Manual.*

4.3 Deposits were assessed for their palaeoenvironmental potential in accordance with *CA Technical Manual 2: The Taking and Processing of Environmental and Other Samples from Archaeological Sites*. Deposits from a total of eight features were selected for bulk sampling, in order to recover environmental evidence. All artefacts recovered were processed in accordance with Technical Manual 3 *Treatment of Finds Immediately after Excavation*.

4.4 The archive and artefacts from the evaluation are currently held by CA at their offices in Milton Keynes. Subject to the agreement of the legal landowner the artefacts will be deposited with Bishop's Stortford Museum under accession number (TBC), along with the site archive. A summary of information from this project, set out within Appendix E, will be entered onto the OASIS online database of archaeological projects in Britain.

5. RESULTS (FIG 2 - 20)

5.1 The evaluation comprised the excavation of 51 trenches (1,570 linear metres in total), in the locations shown in Figure 2. Detailed summaries of the recorded contexts, finds, including fabric descriptions and photographs, and environmental samples (palaeoenvironmental evidence) are to be found in Appendices A, B and C respectively. A single photograph depicting each open trench can be found in Appendix D.

General Stratigraphy

5.2 The geological substrate, which varied across the proposed road corridor was encountered at an average depth of 0.4m below present ground level (bpgl). At the western end head deposits of clay, chalk and sand were encountered on high ground, with colluvial and alluvial deposits lining the lower slopes and valley bases respectively. At the eastern end of the site till deposits consisting of mixed mid brown orange sandy clay and grey blue clay belonging to the Lowestoft Group were encountered. A similar stratigraphic sequence was identified across the site. The geological substrate was overlain by subsoil except in trenches 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 9, 10, 13, 17, 18, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 27, 29, 30, 50, and 51 in which it was subsequently overlain by topsoil 0.2 – 0.25m thick. For each trench, descriptions of feature depth are given relative to the current ground level, while absolute heights above the Ordnance Survey Datum at Newlyn are shown on each illustrated section.

5.3 Trenches 1, 2, 4, 7 - 13, 17 - 31, 33, 36, 37, 39, 42 - 45 and 47 - 51 were machine excavated to the geological substrate but revealed no evidence of archaeological remains. Elsewhere all archaeological remains / features were sealed by subsoil unless otherwise stated.

5.4 Where present, archaeological remains / features are described from north to south or west to east, depending on trench orientation.

Late Bronze Age / Mid Iron Age (1100 – 400 BC)

Trench 6 (Figs 3 & 10)

5.5 The geological substrate was encountered at a maximum depth of 0.32m below current ground level (bcgl). Ditch 602 measured 0.7m wide, was exposed for a total of 4m and cut into the substrate to a depth of 0.3m (Fig. 10 section CC). This feature

was aligned with unexcavated ditch 502 located at the northern end of trench 5, and may represent a continuation of that feature. The single fill 603 contained a single fragment of late prehistoric pottery. The feature was sealed by topsoil 600.

Trench 5 (Fig 3)

5.6 A small ditch 502 cut into the substrate and measured 0.32m wide. A continuation of the feature was excavated in trench 6 (see above).

Trench 34 (Figs 6 & 15)

5.7 Substrate was encountered at a maximum depth of 0.49m bcgl. At the western end of the trench small pit 3407 was cut into the substrate to a depth of 0.18m and measured 0.59m in diameter (Fig. 15 section MM). A sterile primary fill 3408 was sealed by charcoal rich secondary fill 3409, which contained a small assemblage of late prehistoric pottery and animal bone. Immediately to the east, a shallow north south aligned gully 3410 was re-cut by a deeper gully 3412, cut to a depth of 0.29m and measuring 0.66m wide (Fig. 15 section NN). A sterile primary fill 3413 was sealed by a charcoal rich deposit of dark grey brown silty clay 3414, containing Iron Age pottery and animal bone. In the centre of the trench two parallel gullies 3405 and 3403 were aligned north-east to south-west, cutting 0.1 and 0.21m into the substrate respectively (Fig. 15 section LL). Immediately to the east, a north south aligned ditch 3415 was cut into the substrate to a depth of 0.77m (Fig. 15 section OO). The sequence of three sterile fills suggested some initial slumping of material from the west, before the feature was intentionally backfilled. At the eastern end of the trench a large ditch 3419, corresponding to a linear geophysical anomaly, measured >1.40m long by 1.35m wide, and was cut to a depth of 0.96m into the substrate (Fig. 15 section PP). Sterile redeposited natural substrate material 3420 was deposited in the base of the pit, sealed by 3421 and 3422, which contained assemblages of Iron Age and late prehistoric pottery and animal bone.

Trench 35 (Figs 6 & 16)

5.8 Substrate was encountered at a maximum depth of 0.39m bcgl. At the western end of the trench a north-east to south-west aligned ditch 3503 measured 1.12m and was cut into the substrate to a depth of 0.42m (Fig. 16 section QQ). The fill 3504 contained a small assemblage of Iron Age pottery. A parallel gully 3505 located immediately to the east measured 0.43m wide and 0.17m deep (Fig. 16 section RR). At the western end of the trench a single posthole 3507 measured 0.33m wide and 0.11m deep (Fig. 16 section SS).

Trench 46 (Figs 8 & 20)

5.9 Substrate was encountered at a maximum depth of 0.42m bcgl. In the centre of the trench an enlarged tree bole 4603, the fill of which, 4604, contained a single fragment of Iron Age pottery, was cut into the substrate to a depth of 0.77m (Fig 20, section YY). Immediately to the south this was cut by sterile, undated pit 4607, which was sub-circular in plan with a concave base and, subsequently cut by undated north-west to south-east aligned ditch 4609.

Roman period (AD 43 – 410)

Trench 14 (Figs 4 & 11)

5.10 Substrate was encountered at a maximum depth of 1.05m bcgl. Two parallel north-west to south-east aligned ditches 1403 and 1405 were recorded at the south-western and north-eastern ends of trench 14 respectively. Ditch 1403 was cut into the substrate to a depth of 0.28m with a rounded, concave base (Fig. 11 section DD). The single fill 1402 contained a small assemblage of Roman pottery. Ditch 1405 was cut into the substrate to a depth of 0.28m had a flat base with a fill, 1406, containing Roman pottery and a single hobnail (Fig. 11 section EE). Both ditches were sealed by a substantial deposit of alluvial subsoil 1402.

Trench 15 (Figs 4 & 12)

5.11 Substrate was encountered at a depth of 0.26m bcgl. At the north eastern end of the trench a single sub-oval pit 1503 was cut to a depth of 0.09m into the substrate. Its fill 1502 contained a small assemblage of Roman pottery (Fig. 12 section FF). In the centre of the trench a north-west to south-east aligned ditch 1505 measuring 0.76m wide was cut into the substrate to a depth of 0.44m (Fig. 12 Section GG). The fill 1504 contained a single fragment of Roman pottery and four fragments of post medieval ceramic building material (CBM).

Trench 16 (Figs 4 & 13)

5.12 Substrate was encountered at a maximum depth of 0.47m bcgl. At the western end of the site a large irregular pit 1608 was recorded in plan but remained unexcavated, although a small assemblage of late prehistoric and roman sherds was recovered from its surface (1609). In the centre of the trench a large north-west to south-east aligned ditch 1602 was cut into the substrate to a depth of 0.72m and measured 2.23m wide (Fig. 13 section HH). The single fill 1603 consisted of mid brown grey

silty clay, and contained a large assemblage of Roman pottery, animal bone and CBM, along with redeposited Iron Age pottery. At the eastern end of the trench a large irregular pit 1604, measuring 1.35m long and 1.30m wide was cut into the substrate to a depth of 0.60m (Fig. 13 section II). The basal fill 1605 consisted of sterile light brown clay, interpreted as primary fill. This was sealed by 1606, a mid-green brown clay containing Roman pottery and animal bone, interpreted as latrine material. The final fill 1607 is likely to be the remains of material intended to seal fill 1606.

Medieval period (1066 – 1539)

Trench 32 (Figs 5 & 14)

5.13 Trench 32 was located approximately 50 metres north of a scheduled monument tentatively identified as a medieval post-mill (Ove-Arup, 2015). Substrate was encountered at a maximum depth of 0.36m bcgl. North south aligned ditch 3203 was cut into the substrate to a depth of 0.29m and measured 1.05m wide (Fig. 14 section JJ). To the east a single pit 3205 was cut to a depth of >0.41m and contained a small assemblage of animal bone, but no dateable material (Fig. 14 section KK). The provision of a medieval origin, based on proximity to the scheduled monument, must therefore remain speculative.

Modern period (1801 – Present)

Trench 38 (Figs 7 & 17)

5.14 Substrate was encountered at a maximum depth of 0.24m bcgl. A single, shallow pit 3803 was encountered at the western end of the trench, cut into the substrate to a depth of 0.08m (Fig. 17 section TT). In the centre of the trench a north south aligned ditch 3807, remained unexcavated. At the eastern end of the trench a further north south aligned ditch 3805 was cut into the substrate to a depth of 0.45m, its single fill 3806 containing a small assemblage of prehistoric pottery and modern glass (Fig. 17 section UU).

Undated

Trench 3 (Figs 3 & 9)

5.15 Substrate was encountered at a maximum depth of 0.56m bcgl. At the western end of the trench a large, shallow pit 302 measured 4.5m long and 1.4m wide and was cut into the substrate to a depth of 0.34m (Fig. 9 section AA). The single, sterile fill 303 was cut by a small sub-circular posthole 304, measuring 0.33m wide and cut

into the substrate to a depth of 0.11m (Fig. 9 section BB). The posthole fill 305 was sealed by topsoil 300.

Trench 40 (Figs 7 & 18)

5.16 Substrate was encountered at a depth of 0.38m bcgl. Ditch 4003 cut through the subsoil 4001 to a depth of 0.3m and was filled by a sterile deposit of mid yellow brown clayey silt 4004 (Fig. 18 section VV). Ditch 4005 cut through the substrate to a depth of 0.5m and was filled with a primary deposit of mid yellow brown clayey silt 4006, sealed by a light yellow brown clayey silt 4007 (Fig. 18 section WW). No dateable material was recovered from either feature.

Trench 41 (Figs 7 & 19)

5.17 Substrate was encountered at a depth of 0.33m bcgl. A small east west aligned gully 4103 was cut into the subsoil to a depth of 0.24m and filled with a deposit of mid red brown silty clay with chalk 4104 (Fig. 19 section XX).

6. THE FINDS

6.1 Artefactual material from evaluation was hand-recovered from 21 deposits (ditch and pit fills, a tree bole fill and topsoil). Further finds were retrieved from bulk soil sampling of seven deposits (Appendix B). The recovered material dates to the prehistoric, Roman and post-medieval/modern periods. Quantities of the artefact types recorded are given in Appendix B, which also includes descriptions for the late prehistoric pottery fabrics. The pottery was scanned by context and recorded according to sherd count/weight per fabric. Recording also included a note of any evidence for use in the form of carbonised/other residues.

Pottery: Late prehistoric

6.2 Pottery of this period, which spans the Late Bronze Age and Iron Age, amounted to 70 (326g) hand-recovered sherds and 72 (29g) recovered from soil samples. The low average sherd weight of 4.5g (for the hand-recovered material) is indicative of a well broken-up assemblage. Condition, in terms of edge abrasion and surface preservation, was mostly moderate to good and an internal carbonaceous (burnt food) residue was noted on a sherd from ditch 1602 (fill 1603). With the exception of sherds from Roman-dated ditch fill 1603, all of the late prehistoric pottery appears to be stratified.

6.3 Rim sherds from this group are limited to (two) sherds from a single vessel in fabric QZF from ditch fill 3404. The vessel form in this instance is a neck-less ovoid or globular vessel, with a short, upright and thickened rim. Base sherds of simple, flat or of expanded, pinched-out forms were recorded respectively from pit fills 3408/3409 and ditch fill 3421. No decoration was recorded although a sherd (fabric QZ) from ditch fill 3404 featured a burnished or wiped external surface. The range of fabrics from this group is set out in Appendix B - the represented types all handmade - and where the primary inclusion was flint or quartz (appendix Bi).

6.4 With few indications of vessel forms and decoration absent, refinement of dating is possible largely based on the fabrics. Although understanding of the dating of late prehistoric ceramics across Essex/Hertfordshire remains incomplete, the broad pattern which sees flint-tempered fabrics of the Late Bronze Age and earlier Iron Age replaced by quartz-tempered types (Sealey 1996), remains valid. With this in mind broad dating in the Late Bronze Age or earlier Iron Age can with a degree of certainty be asserted for the flint-tempered sherds from pit fills 3408/3409, and (with

less certainty), for the single sherd context groups from deposits 603, 3422 and 3806. The remainder, comprising sherds in quartz-tempered fabrics (ditch fills 3404, 3414, 3421 and tree bole fill 4604), probably dates to the Middle or later Iron Age (after *c*. 400–100/50 BC). An absence of the shell or grog-tempered fabrics which become prevalent in the later Iron Age (*ibid*.) may also be significant, suggesting a Middle Iron Age focus for this material. A date in the Middle Iron Age would similarly be appropriate for the vessel form described from ditch fill 3404.

Roman (including Late Iron Age/Early Roman 'transitional')

6.5 The Late Iron Age/Early Roman transitional period was represented by 113 sherds (1.097kg) in moderate/good condition, from three deposits. Of these, 41 presented in a wheelthrown, fine quartz-tempered fabric (QZF). Identifiable forms were 'Belgic' in style: a carinated vessel from ditch 1602 (fill 1603) and a cordoned vessel from pit 1608 (fill 1609). This pottery is dateable to the mid to late 1st century AD. Grog-tempered fabrics, which date across the 1st and 2nd centuries, totalled 72 sherds: included was a shouldered bowl or jar with combing on the shoulder, from ditch fill 1603.

6.6 The larger part of the pottery assemblage was Roman in date, totalling 255 sherds (1.419kg). A moderate degree of fragmentation was attested by the average sherd weight of 14g and condition was otherwise moderate or good. Carbonised food residue was observed on 12 sherds and sooting on two, all from fill 1603 of ditch 1602.

6.7 Pottery was manufactured in the nearby kilns at Much Hadham and Little Hadham throughout the Roman period (Going 1999, 297; Tomber and Dore 1998, 151–2). Products identified from these kilns comprise: 20 sherds in a reduced-fired fabric (HAD RE1) from two deposits; and 167 sherds in an oxidised fabric (HAD OX) from pit 1604 (fill 1606), the majority of which derive from a single vessel – a necked jar.

6.8 Dating to the 1st to 2nd centuries AD are two unfeatured bodysherds of Verulamium Whiteware (VER WH), which was produced at kilns in Hertfordshire and Greater London, from ditch fill 1603 (*ibid.*, 155). Four sherds from the base of a flagon in White-slipped flagon fabric (WHSF), from pit 1503 (fill 1502) are of mid 1st to 2nd century date.

6.9 The remainder of the Roman assemblage consisted of coarsewares, mostly of broad Roman date. Represented fabrics were: reduced-fired (GWS, GWF, BS, 31 sherds); oxidised (OXF, OXS, 8 sherds); buff-firing (BUF, 7 sherds); and whiteware (WHF, one sherd). A bodysherd in fabric GWS from ditch fill 1603 featured horizontal grooves decorated with bands of red paint. The buff-firing pottery from ditch 1403 (fill 1402) included rimsherds from a conical flanged bowl, in imitation of a Dorset Black-burnished ware form, which allows dating to the mid 3rd to 4th centuries (Seager Smith and Davies 1993, 234–5).

6.10 Continental imports were represented by: two sherds of central Gaulish samian (from topsoil 1600 and fill 1606 of pit 1604); and one sherd of east Gaulish samian (also from pit fill 1606). Central Gaulish samian was exported to Britain during the 2nd century: the bodysherd from pit fill 1606 derived from a Drag. 33 cup, which was particularly popular during the mid to late 2nd century. The east Gaulish samian sherd is dateable to the mid 2nd to mid 3rd centuries (Webster 1996, 2–3; 45).

Lithics

6.11 A total of seven worked flints (62g) and one piece of burnt, unworked flint (4g) were recovered from three deposits. The worked lithics were mostly undiagnostic flakes, many of which were broken. Two of the flints from fill 1603 of Roman-dated ditch 1602 had been retouched into irregular tools. One was a flake with a shallow notch formed on the left dorsal edge and regular, semi-abrupt retouch along the distal dorsal edge. The other tool was a moderately burnt fragment with an area of steep, regular retouch on one edge. Neither of these items was chronologically diagnostic.

Ceramic building material

6.12 Three fragments (56g) of Roman ceramic building material were recovered from ditch 1405 (fill 1404) and pit 1604 (fill 1606). All were small and unfeatured, and cannot be further classified. Ceramic building material of late medieval/post-medieval date totalled six fragments from ditch 1505 (fill 1504), topsoil 1600 and ditch 4611 (fill 4612). Included were fragments of peg tile from topsoil 1600 and flat roof tile from ditch fill 4612.

Other finds

6.13 Fill 3806 of ditch 3805 produced a small, amorphous fragment (<1g) of green-coloured glass of modern date.

6.14 Six iron objects (17g) were retrieved. The items of Roman date consist of four hobnails from ditch 1405 (fill 1404) and the tang portion of a broken knife from pit 1604 (fill 1606). The nail from posthole 304 (fill 305) is of uncertain date.

7. THE BIOLOGICAL EVIDENCE

Animal Bone

7.1 Animal bone amounting to 551 fragments (716g) was recovered from eleven ditch and pit features dating from the Late Bronze Age/Iron Age to the post-medieval period. The assemblage, of which the majority (84.7%) consisted of small fragments recovered via bulk soil sampling, was very poorly preserved and had been subject to both historical and modern damage as well as the corrosive effect of the acid soil. As a consequence, 95% of the assemblage was unidentifiable to species. It was however possible to identify the remains of cattle (*Bos taurus*), sheep/goat (*Ovis aries/Capra hircus*) and pig (*Sus scrofa sp.*).

Late Bronze Age/Iron Age

7.2 A total of 174 fragments (268g) were recovered from the fills of ditch features 3403 and 3412 and pit features 3407 and 3419, associated with the enclosure ditch identified in trenches 34 and 35. The majority of the bone was unidentifiable, due to its poor condition; however a limited amount of cattle, sheep/goat and pig was recovered and identified from fragments; principally meat-poor skeletal elements such as the skull or bones of the lower limbs. Surface erosion had removed any cut and/or chop marks which may have been present to suggest an origin in butchery waste. But as each species was a commonly exploited domestic animal in the period; their presence is to be expected (Baker and Worley, 2014). Of note are the cattle bones recovered from deposits 3420 and 3421 the successive fills of enclosure ditch 3419. It was possible to re-fit fragments of a tibia across these contexts, suggesting a rapid back-filling of this feature.

Roman

7.3 The Roman assemblage consisted of 365 fragments (425g) of bone recovered from ditches 1403 and 1602 and 1604 and pit 1608 associated with the potential enclosure system identified in trenches 14, 15 and 16. Limited amounts of bone from cattle, sheep/goat and pig were recovered and identified from meat-poor skeletal elements. Once again surface erosion had removed any cut or chop marks to suggest butchery waste. As with the preceding phase, each of these species was commonly exploited in this period, so their presence is to be expected (Baker and Worley, 2014).

Post-medieval and undated

7.4 The remainder of the material amounted to nine fragments (6g) recovered from deposit 4612 the fill of post-medieval ditch 4611 and three fragments (17g) from deposits 3204 and 3418 the fills of ditches 3203 and 3415 which remain undated. The only identifiable bone was that of a fragment of sheep/goat femur from deposit 3204.

Plant Macrofossils

7.5 Eight environmental samples (136 litres of soil) were taken with the intention of recovering evidence of industrial or domestic activity and material for radiocarbon dating. The samples were processed by standard flotation procedures (CA Technical Manual No. 2).

Late Prehistoric

7.6 Three samples were recovered from deposits dating to the Late Prehistoric period. Fill 3409 (sample 1) within pit 3407 contained a poorly preserved possible barley grain (Hordeum vulgare), unidentifiable grain fragment and a small amount of charcoal. Fill 3408 (sample 2) within the same pit contained no plant remains and only a small amount of charcoal. Fill 3414 within ditch 3412 (sample 3) contained no plant remains and a small amount of charcoal. The small amount of material recovered, together with the abraded nature of the grains identified, suggests this material has accumulated from wind-blown hearth debris.

Roman

7.7 Samples were recovered from four deposits of Roman date. Ditch 1405 (sample 7) contained a single unidentifiable cereal grain and a small amount of charcoal. Fill 1402 (sample 6) within ditch 1403 contained a small number of barley, emmer/spelt (*Triticum dicoccum*/*Triticum spelta*) and spelt wheat cereal grains, a spelt wheat glume base and a number of unidentifiable grain fragments and a small amount of charcoal. Fill 1603 (sample 7) of ditch 1602 contained a poorly preserved barley grain and three possible emmer/spelt wheat grains, a cleavers (*Galium aparine*) seed and a small amount of charcoal. The paucity and poor preservation of this material suggests it originates from wind-blown hearth debris.

7.8 Fill 1606 (sample 8) from pit 1604 contained a small number of unidentifiable cereal grains and a small amount of charcoal. This pit contained a brown-green fill and has

been interpreted as a possible cess deposit, however, no evidence for mineralised plants remains, typically seen within cess deposits, was identified.

Undated

7.9 Fill 303 of pit 302 (sample 4) contained a small number of poorly preserved charred grains provisionally identified as free-threshing wheat, and a small amount of charcoal. The paucity of this material suggests it originates from wind-blown hearth debris.

7.10 Any of the identifiable carbonised cereal grains are available in sufficient quantity for radiocarbon dating if required.

8. DISCUSSION

8.1 The evaluation determined the extent, date and character of four areas of archaeological activity, spanning the late prehistoric to Roman periods. There was a close correlation between the features identified in the trial trenches and anomalies shown on the geophysical survey results, especially between trenches 14, 15 and 16, and trenches 34 and 35. Undated features were excavated at the western end of the proposed road alignment in trench 3, and in the centre of the alignment in trenches 40 and 41. These are likely to correspond to post medieval field drainage and/or boundaries.

Late Bronze Age / Mid Iron Age (1100 – 400 BC)

8.2 Three foci of late prehistoric (Late Bronze Age to Iron Age) activity were identified within the proposed road corridor. At the western end of the site a small linear feature identified in trench 5 and excavated in trench 6 may represent part of a late prehistoric linear boundary.

8.3 Trenches 34 and 35 contained a focus of activity already identified as having high potential following the geophysical survey (Thomas, 2014). The anomaly, which seemingly represented a large enclosure ditch on the basis of the geophysical evidence, was identified at the eastern end of trench 34 and also at the western end of trench 35, forming part of a sub-rectangular enclosure. Pits, possible postholes and ring gullies of two sub-circular structures were identified within the enclosure, some of which contained charcoal rich secondary fills, suggesting the accumulation of burnt material. The finds assemblage included pottery and animal bone indicative of domestic activity. No evidence for activity outside the enclosure was encountered.

8.4 Trench 46 contained an enlarged tree bole from which a single fragment of late prehistoric pottery was recovered. This could suggest such holes were indicative of exploitation for clay or other mineral extraction, rather than representing evidence of settlement activity, and were subsequent backfilled / infilled.

Roman period (AD43 – 410)

8.5 A single focus of Roman period activity was encountered in trenches 14, 15 and 16, consisting of a parallel alignment of ditches, a possible enclosure ditch, and associated pit digging. The Large 'V' profile ditch in trench 16 is of a scale and

shape associated with known Late Iron Age / Early Roman enclosures at Foxholes Farm, Hertford (Partridge, 1989: 31). Since this feature was not susceptible to magnetometer survey it is difficult to estimate the scale and orientation of the enclosure, although the quantity and nature of finds recovered from the ditch, including carbonised food residue from pottery sherds and the possible latrine pit at the eastern end of trench 16 suggest the presence of settlement activity in the immediate area. In trench 15, a single shallow pit may represent the southern extent of Roman activity. The datable assemblage from trenches 15 and 16 suggests a span of activity starting in the mid-1st century and culminating as late as the 4th century AD.

8.6 The parallel ditches in trench 14 suggest the presence of a droveway associated with the Roman period settlement, possibly extending south and east to join the Stanegate at Hadham Hall, where a Roman tile kiln has previously been recorded.

Medieval period (1066 – 1539)

8.7 Trench 32 was located immediately to the north of a possible medieval post-mill. Although these features contained no dateable evidence, the proximity of the mill suggests they are likely to relate its construction or operation.

9. CA PROJECT TEAM

9.1 Fieldwork was undertaken by Jake Streatfeild-James, assisted by Anne Templeton, Anna Moosbauer and Alice Krausova, Kim Devereux-West, Bethan Gray, Steve Porter, Tom Learmonth and Alex Coogen. The report was written by Jake Streatfeild-James. The finds and biological evidence reports were written by Jacky Sommerville and Andy Clarke respectively. The illustrations were prepared by Rosanna Price. The archive has been compiled by Emily Evans, and prepared for deposition by Hazel O'Neill. The project was managed for CA by Mark Hewson.

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APPENDIX A: CONTEXT DESCRIPTIONS

Trench No	Context	Type	Fill of	Context Interpretation	Context Description	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth/ thickness (m)
1	100	Layer		Topsoil	Mid grey brown clayey sand			0.3
1	101	Layer		Substrate	Light yellow orange clayey sand and gravel			
2	200	Layer		Topsoil	Mid grey brown clayey sand			0.31
2	201	Layer		Substrate	Mid yellow orange clay with chalk			
3	300	Layer		Topsoil	Mid grey brown silty sand with stone			0.56
3	301	Layer		Substrate	Mid orange brown sandy clay			
3	302	Cut		Pit	Circular in plan, concave base	>4.50	>1.40	0.34
3	303	Fill	302	Fill of pit	Dark yellow grey silty sand			0.34
3	304	Cut		Posthole	Circular in plan, concave base	0.33	0.33	0.11
3	305	Fill	304	Fill of posthole	Mid grey brown silty sand			0.11
4	400	Layer		Topsoil	Mid orange brown clayey sand			0.3
4	401	Layer		Substrate	Mid orange yellow clay			
4	402	Cut		Palaeochannel	Linear with diffuse edges feathering into subsoil	2	>5.65	
4	403	Fill	402	Fill of 402	Mid grey brown silty sand with stone		>5.65	
5	500	Layer		Topsoil	Mid grey brown sandy clay			0.24
5	501	Layer		Substrate	Light white brown sandy clay with chalk			
5	502	Cut		Ditch	Linear in plan, aligned NE/SW (U)	>1.60	0.8	
5	503	Fill	502	Fill of ditch	Mid grey brown silty clay with stone (U)		0.8	
6	600	Layer		Topsoil	Mid grey brown sandy clay			0.32
6	601	Layer		Substrate	Light white brown sandy clay with chalk			
6	602	Cut		Ditch	Linear in plan, aligned NE/SW, concave base	>4	0.7	0.3
6	603	Fill	602	Fill of ditch	Mid grey brown silty clay with chalk			0.3
7	700	Layer		Topsoil	Mid grey brown clayey silt			0.3
7	701	Layer		Subsoil	Mid red brown clayey silt			0.14
7	702	Layer		Substrate	Light yellow grey clay			0.05
8	800	Layer		Topsoil	Mid grey brown clayey silt			0.25
8	801	Layer		Subsoil	Mid red brown clayey silt			0.23
8	802	Layer		Substrate	Mid grey brown silty clay			
9	900	Layer		Topsoil	Mid grey brown silty clay with gravel			0.34
9	901	Layer		Substrate	Light white brown silty clay with gravel			
10	1000	Layer		Topsoil	Mid grey brown silty clay with gravel			0.24
10	1001	Layer		Substrate	Mid red brown silty clay with gravel			
11	1101	Layer		Topsoil	Mid grey brown silty clay			0.34
11	1102	Layer		Subsoil	Mid orange brown silty clay			0.22
11	1103	Layer		Substrate	Mid red brown silty clay			
12	1200	Layer		Topsoil	Mid grey brown silty clay			0.22
12	1201	Layer		Subsoil	Mid yellow brown silty clay			0.19
12	1202	Layer		Substrate	Mid red brown silty clay with gravel			
13	1300	Layer		Topsoil	Light grey brown silty clay			0.32
13	1301	Layer		Substrate	Light brown white silty clay with chalk and flint			
13	1302	Layer		Subsoil	Mid red brown silty clay			0.39
14	1400	Layer		Topsoil	Light grey brown silty clay			0.25
14	1401	Layer		Subsoil	Mid brown orange silty clay			0.8
14	1402	Fill	1403	Fill of ditch	Mid brown grey clayey silt			0.28
14	1403	Cut		Ditch	Linear in plan, aligned NE/SW, concave base	>2	0.78	0.28
14	1404	Fill	1405	Fill of ditch	Mid orange brown silty clay			0.28
14	1405	Cut		Ditch	Linear in plan, aligned E/W, flat base	>2	1.01	0.28
14	1406	Layer		Substrate	Light yellow orange clayey sand and gravel			
15	1500	Layer		Topsoil	Dark grey brown silty clay			0.26
15	1501	Layer		Subsoil	Light grey brown silty clay			0.1

15	1502	Fill	1503	Fill of pit	Dark brown black silty clay with frequent charcoal inclusions	1.14	0.52	0.09
15	1503	Cut		Pit	Cut of small sub oval pit		>0.53	0.09
15	1504	Fill	1505	Fill of ditch	Mid brown grey silty clay			0.44
15	1505	Cut		Ditch	Linear in plan, aligned NE/SW, concave base	>2	0.76	0.44
15	1506	Layer		Substrate	Mid blue grey clay - compact			
16	1600	Layer		Topsoil	Dark grey brown silty clay			0.27
16	1601	Layer		Substrate	Light brown grey silty clay with chalk			
16	1602	Cut		Ditch	Linear in plan, aligned NW/SE, concave base	>1.50	2.23	0.72
16	1603	Fill	1602	Fill of ditch	Mid brown grey silty clay			0.72
16	1604	Cut		Pit	Irregular in plan, aligned N/S, flat base	1.35	1.3	0.6
16	1605	Fill	1604	1st fill of pit	Light brown clay			0.04
16	1606	Fill	1604	2nd fill of pit	Mid brown green clay			0.35
16	1607	Fill	1604	3rd fill of pit	Light yellow grey silty clay			0.19
16	1608	Cut		Pit	Irregular in plan, (U)	1.83	1.29	
16	1609	Fill	1608	Fill of pit	Mid grey brown silty clay			
17	1700	Layer		Topsoil	Mid grey brown silty clay with gravel			0.34
17	1701	Layer		Substrate	Light white brown silty clay with chalk			
18	1800	Layer		Topsoil	Mid grey brown silty clay with gravel			0.34
18	1801	Layer		Substrate	Mid red brown silty clay with gravel			
19	1900	Layer		Topsoil	Mid grey brown silty clay with gravel			0.32
19	1901	Layer		Substrate	Mid red brown silty clay with gravel			
20	2000	Layer		Topsoil	Mid grey brown silty clay with gravel			0.38
20	2001	Layer		Substrate	Light white brown silty clay with chalk and gravel			
21	2100	Layer		Topsoil	Mid grey brown sandy clay			0.35
21	2101	Layer		Substrate	Dark orange brown sandy clay with stone			
22	2200	Layer		Topsoil	Mid grey brown silty clay			0.36
22	2201	Layer		Substrate	Mid red brown silty clay			
23	2300	Layer		Topsoil	Mid grey brown silty clay			0.32
23	2301	Layer		Substrate	Mid grey yellow silty clay with chalk			
24	2400	Layer		Topsoil	Mid grey brown silty clay			0.3
24	2401	Layer		Substrate	Mid grey brown silty clay			
25	2500	Layer		Topsoil	Mid grey brown silty clay			0.34
25	2501	Layer		Subsoil	Mid grey orange silty clay			0.23
25	2502	Layer		Substrate	Mid brown orange silty clay			
26	2600	Layer		Topsoil	Mid grey brown silty clay			0.37
26	2601	Layer		Subsoil	Mid grey brown silty clay			0.55
26	2602	Layer		Substrate	Mid orange brown silty clay with chalk			
27	2700	Layer		Subsoil	Mid grey brown silty clay			0.28
27	2701	Layer		Substrate	Mid orange brown silty clay			
28	2800	Layer		Topsoil	Dark grey brown silty clay			0.3
28	2801	Layer		Subsoil	Mid grey brown silty clay			0.66
28	2802	Layer		Substrate	Mid grey brown silty clay			
29	2900	Layer		Topsoil	Dark grey brown silty clay			0.27
29	2901	Layer		Substrate	Mid orange brown clay			
30	3000	Layer		Topsoil	Dark grey brown silty clay			0.25
30	3001	Layer		Substrate	Mid orange brown clay			
31	3100	Layer		Topsoil	Dark grey brown silty clay			0.22
31	3101	Layer		Subsoil	Ligh tbrown grey silty clay			0.11
31	3102	Layer		Substrate	Light brown white silty clay with chalk			
32	3200	Layer		Topsoil	Mid grey brown silty clay			0.28
32	3201	Layer		Subsoil	Mid grey brown silty clay with chalk			0.08
32	3202	Layer		Substrate	Mid yellow brown silty clay with chalk and flint			
32	3203	Cut		Ditch	Linear in plan, aligned N/S, flat base	>2	1.05	0.29
32	3204	Fill	3203	Fill of ditch	Mid orange brown silty clay with chalk			0.29
32	3205	Cut		Pit	Circular in plan	>0.75	>0.74	>0.41
32	3206	Fill	3205	Fill of pit	Mid orange brown silty clay with chalk			>0.41
33	3300	Layer		Topsoil	Dark grey brown silty clay			0.25

33	3301	Layer		Subsoil	Mid yellow brown silty clay			0.08
33	3302	Layer		Substrate	Mid brown yellow silty clay			
34	3400	Layer		Topsoil	Dark grey brown silty clay			0.21
34	3401	Layer		Subsoil	Mid yellow brown silty clay			0.08
34	3402	Layer		Substrate	Mid brown yellow silty clay with chalk			
34	3403	Cut		Ditch	Linear in plan, aligned NE/SW, flat base	>2	0.6	0.21
34	3404	Fill	3403	Fill of ditch	Mid grey brown silty clay with chalk and flint			0.21
34	3405	Cut		Gully	Linear in plan, aligned NE/SW, flat base	>2	0.37	0.1
34	3406	Fill	3405	Fill of gully	Mid grey brown silty clay with chalk			0.1
34	3407	Cut		Pit	Circular in plan, flat base	>0.26	0.59	0.18
34	3408	Fill	3407	1st fill of pit	Mid grey yellow silty clay			0.08
34	3409	Fill	3407	2nd fill of pit	Dark grey brown silty clay with charcoal flecking			0.1
34	3410	Cut		Gully	Linear in plan, aligned NW/SE, flat base	>2	0.41	0.12
34	3411	Fill	3410	Fill of gully	Mid brown orange silty clay with chalk			0.12
34	3412	Cut		Ditch	Linear in plan, aligned NW/SE, flat base	>2	0.66	0.29
34	3413	Fill	3412	1st fill of ditch	Mid brown orange silty clay			0.12
34	3414	Fill	3412	2nd fill of ditch	Dark grey brown silty clay			0.17
34	3415	Cut		Ditch	Linear in plan, aligned NW/SE, concave base	>2	1.58	0.37
34	3416	Fill	3415	1st fill of ditch	Dark brown grey silty clay with chalk and flint			0.33
34	3417	Fill	3415	2nd fill of ditch	Mid brown orange silty clay			0.36
34	3418	Fill	3415	3rd fill of ditch	Mid grey brown silty clay with chalk			0.35
34	3419	Cut		Ditch	Sub-oval in plan, concave base	>1.40	>1.35	>0.96
34	3420	Fill	3419	1st fill of ditch	Mid orange brown silty clay			0.13
34	3421	Fill	3419	2nd fill of ditch	Mid orange brown silty clay			0.41
34	3422	Fill	3419	3rd fill of ditch	Mid grey brown silty clay			0.45
35	3500	Layer		Topsoil	Mid grey brown silty clay			0.22
35	3501	Layer		Subsoil	Mid red brown silty clay			0.17
35	3502	Layer		Substrate	Mid grey yellow silty clay with chalk and flint			
35	3503	Cut		Ditch	Linear in plan, aligned NE/SW, concave base	>2	1.12	0.42
35	3504	Fill	3503	Fill of ditch	Mid yellow brown clayey silt			0.42
35	3505	Cut		Gully	Linear in plan, aligned NE/SW, concave base	>2	0.43	0.17
35	3506	Fill	3505	Fill of gully	Mid yellow brown clayey silt			0.17
35	3507	Cut		Posthole	Circular in plan, concave base	0.23	0.33	0.11
35	3508	Fill	3507	Fill of posthole	Dark black brown clayey silt			0.11
36	3600	Layer		Topsoil	Mid grey brown silty clay			0.21
36	3601	Layer		Subsoil	Mid grey yellow brown silty clay			0.23
36	3602	Layer		Substrate	Mid grey orange silty clay with chalk and flint			
37	3700	Layer		Topsoil	Mid grey brown silty clay with stone			0.21
37	3701	Layer		Subsoil	Mid grey yellow brown silty clay with chalk			0.06
37	3702	Layer		Substrate	Mid grey yellow silty clay with chalk and flint			
38	3800	Layer		Topsoil	Dark grey brown silty clay			0.23
38	3801	Layer		Subsoil	Mid orange brown silty clay			0.1
38	3802	Layer		Substrate	Light orange white silty clay with chalk			
38	3803	Cut		Pit	Circular in plan, flat base	>1.03	>0.94	0.08
38	3804	Fill	3803	Fill of pit	Mid orange brown silty clay			0.08
38	3805	Cut		Ditch	Linear in plan, aligned N/S, flat base	>2	2.38	0.45
38	3806	Fill	3805	Fill of ditch	Mid grey brown silty clay			0.45
38	3807	Cut		Cut of Linear	Unexcavated linear	>2.0	1.6	
38	3808	Fill	3807	Fill of Linear	Mid grey brown silty clay	>2.0	1.6	
39	3900	Layer		Topsoil	Dark grey brown silty clay			0.28
39	3901	Layer		Subsoil	Mid grey brown silty clay			0.06
39	3902	Layer		Substrate	Light brown grey silty clay with chalk			
40	4000	Layer		Topsoil	Dark grey brown silty clay			0.23
40	4001	Layer		Subsoil	Mid orange brown silty clay			0.15
40	4002	Layer		Substrate	Light orange white silty clay with chalk			
40	4003	Cut		Ditch	Linear in plan, aligned NW/SE, concave base	>2.25	1.2	0.3
40	4004	Fill	4003	Fill of ditch	Mid yellow brown clayey silt			0.3
40	4005	Cut		Ditch	Linear in plan, aligned NE/SW, concave base	>2.25	1.37	0.5

40	4006	Fill	4005	1st fill of ditch	Mid yellow brown clayey silt			0.5
40	4007	Fill	4005	2nd fill of ditch	Light yellow grey clayey silt			0.28
41	4100	Layer		Topsoil	Dark grey brown silty clay			0.2
41	4101	Layer		Subsoil	Mid orange brown silty clay			0.13
41	4102	Layer		Substrate	Light grey white silty clay with chalk			
41	4103	Cut		Gully	Linear in plan, aligned E/W, irregular base	>2	0.52	0.24
41	4104	Fill	4103	Fill of gully	Mid red brown silty clay with chalk			0.24
41	4105	Cut		Rooting	Irregular linear in plan, aligned E/W, irregular base	>2	0.87	0.05
41	4106	Fill	4105	Fill of rooting	Mid red brown silty clay			0.05
42	4200	Layer		Topsoil	Dark grey brown silty clay			0.2
42	4201	Layer		Subsoil	Mid grey brown silty clay			0.12
42	4202	Layer		Substrate	Mid grey orange silty clay			
43	4300	Layer		Topsoil	Dark grey brown silty clay			0.21
43	4301	Layer		Subsoil	Mid grey brown silty clay			0.12
43	4302	Layer		Substrate	Mid grey orange silty clay			
44	4400	Layer		Topsoil	Dark grey brown silty clay			0.32
44	4401	Layer		Substrate	Mid grey orange silty clay			
44	4402	Layer		Subsoil	Mid orange brown silty clay			0.06
45	4500	Layer		Topsoil	Dark grey brown silty clay			0.24
45	4501	Layer		Substrate	Mid grey yellow silty clay			
46	4600	Layer		Topsoil	Dark grey brown silty clay			0.31
46	4601	Layer		Subsoil	Mid yellow brown silty clay			0.11
46	4602	Layer		Substrate	Light orange white silty clay with chalk			
46	4603	Cut		Tree bole	Sub-oval in plan, irregular base	3.6	>1.20	0.77
46	4604	Fill	4603	Fill of tree bole	Dark yellow brown silty clay with chalk			0.77
46	4605	Cut		Tree bole	Irregular in plan, concave base	3.6	>1.20	0.35
46	4606	Fill	4605	Fill of tree bole	Dark yellow brown silty clay with chalk			0.35
46	4607	Cut		Pit	Sub-circular in plan, concave base	>1.03	1.8	0.6
46	4608	Fill	4607	Fill of pit	Mid grey brown silty clay			0.6
46	4609	Cut		Ditch	Linear in plan, aligned N/S, concave base	>2.20	2.9	0.44
46	4610	Fill	4609	Fill of ditch	Mid grey brown silty clay			0.44
46	4611	Cut		Ditch	Linear in plan, aligned NW/SE (U)	>2	0.5	
46	4612	Fill	4611	Fill of ditch	Mid grey brown silty clay (U)		0.5	
47	4700	Layer		Topsoil	Mid brown silty sand			0.1
47	4701	Layer		Subsoil	Mid brown silty sand			0.2
47	4702	Layer		Substrate	Mid grey yellow clay with chalk			
47	4703	Cut		Posthole	Circular in plan	0.15	0.16	0.04
47	4704	Fill	4703	Fill of posthole	Mid grey brown silty clay with charcoal			0.04
48	4800	Layer		Topsoil	Mid grey brown silty clay			0.25
48	4801	Layer		Subsoil	Mid grey orange silty clay			0.1
48	4802	Layer		Substrate	Light orange silty clay with flint and chalk			
49	4900	Layer		Topsoil	Mid grey brown sandy clay			0.33
49	4901	Layer		Substrate	Mid brown orange sandy clay with stone			
50	5000	Layer		Topsoil	Mid grey brown sandy clay			0.39
50	5001	Layer		Substrate	Mid brown orange sandy clay with dark brown orange gravely sand			
51	5100	Layer		Topsoil	Mid grey brown sandy clay			0.3
51	5101	Layer		Substrate	Mid orange brown sandy clay with stone			

APPENDIX B: THE FINDS

Context	Category	Description	Fabric Code/ NRFRC*	Count	Weight (g)	Spot-date
303 <4>	Worked flint	Flake		1	0.3	-
<4>	Burnt flint			1	4	
305	Iron	Nail		1	3	-
603	Late prehistoric pottery	Flint-tempered fabric	FL	1	4	Late prehistoric
1402	Roman pottery	Buff fabric	BUF	6	86	MC3-C4
	Roman pottery	Sandy oxidised fabric	OXS	1	9	
	Roman pottery	Fine whiteware	WHF	1	3	
	Worked flint	Flake		1	4	
<6>	Fired clay			2	<1	
1404	Roman pottery	Fine, black-firing sand-tempered fabric	BS	2	7	RB
	Roman pottery	Sandy greyware	GWS	1	38	
	Roman ceramic building material			2	45	
	Iron	Hobnail		4	6	
1502	Roman pottery	White-slipped flagon fabric	WHSF	4	11	MC1-C2
1504	Roman pottery	Hadham Reduced ware	**HAD RE1**	1	3	Post-medieval
	Post-medieval ceramic building material	Fragment		4	42	
1600	Roman pottery	Central Gaulish samian	**LEZ SA**	1	21	Late medieval/ post-medieval
	Post-medieval ceramic building material	Peg tile		1	43	
1603	Late prehistoric pottery	Quartz-tempered fabric	QZ	24	143	LC1
	Late prehistoric pottery	Grog-tempered fabric	GRH	1	52	
	Late prehistoric/ early Roman pottery	Fine quartz-tempered fabric	QZF	38	198	
	Late prehistoric/ early Roman pottery	Grog-tempered fabric	GR	58	847	
<5>	Late prehistoric/ early Roman pottery	Grog-tempered fabric	GR	6	12	
	Roman pottery	Verulamium whiteware	**VER WH**	2	27	
	Roman pottery	Fine oxidised fabric	OXF	5	43	
	Roman pottery	Fine, black-firing sand-tempered fabric	BS	5	25	
	Roman pottery	Northamptonshire painted ware	NPW	1	1	
	Roman pottery	Hadham Reduced ware	**HAD RE1**	18	85	
	Roman pottery	Fine greyware	GWF	13	40	
	Roman pottery	Sandy greyware	GWS	4	31	
	Roman pottery	Grog-tempered greyware	GRG	3	48	
	Fired clay			2	61	
<5>	Fired clay			12	2	
	Worked flint	Flakes, retouched flake, misc		5	58	
	Burnt stone			1	393	
	Shell			6	31	
1606	Late prehistoric/ early Roman pottery	Grog-tempered fabric	GR	1	5	MC2-C4
<8>	Late prehistoric/	Grog-tempered fabric	GR	2	6	

		early Roman pottery					
		Roman pottery	Central Gaulish samian	**LEZ SA**	1	5	
		Roman pottery	East Gaulish samian	EG SAM	1	3	
		Roman pottery	Hadham Oxidised ware	**HAD OX**	167	668	
		Roman pottery	Fine greyware	GWF	1	51	
		Roman pottery	Sandy greyware	GWS	1	15	
		Roman pottery	Sandy oxidised fabric	OXS	1	2	
		Roman pottery	Buff fabric	BUF	1	19	
		Roman pottery	Grog-and-quartz tempered fabric	GRQ	1	7	
	<8>	Roman pottery	Shell-tempered fabric	SH	1	0.7	
		Roman ceramic building material	Fragment		1	11	
	<8>	Iron	Knife		1	8	
1607		Roman pottery	Sandy greyware	GWS	4	3	RB
		Roman pottery	Fine oxidised fabric	OXF	1	93	
1609		Late prehistoric pottery	Quartz-tempered fabric	QZ	1	50	LC1
		Late prehistoric/ early Roman pottery	Fine quartz-tempered fabric	QZF	3	17	
		Late prehistoric/ early Roman pottery	Grog-tempered fabric	GR	5	12	
		Roman pottery	Grog-tempered greyware	GRG	1	2	
		Roman pottery	Hadham Reduced ware	**HAD RE1**	2	5	
3404		Late prehistoric pottery	Quartz-tempered fabric	QZ	2	13	IA
		Late prehistoric pottery	Quartz-and-flint tempered fabric	QZF	1	14	
3406		Fired clay			2	12	-
3408	<2>	Late prehistoric pottery	Flint-tempered fabric	FL	10	8	Late prehistoric
3409		Late prehistoric pottery	Flint-tempered fabric	FL	7	47	Late prehistoric
	<1>	Late prehistoric pottery	Flint-tempered fabric	FL	62	21	
3414		Late prehistoric pottery	Quartz-tempered fabric	QZ	3	9	IA
		Late prehistoric pottery	Quartz-and-limestone tempered fabric	QZL	1	12	
	<3>	Fired clay			30	6	
3421		Late prehistoric pottery	Quartz-tempered fabric	QZ	19	57	IA
3422		Late prehistoric pottery	Flint-tempered fabric	FL	1	4	Late prehistoric
3504		Late prehistoric pottery	Quartz-tempered fabric	QZ	7	18	IA
		Late prehistoric pottery	Flint-tempered fabric	FL	2	<1	
3806		Late prehistoric pottery	Flint-tempered fabric	FL	1	1	Modern
		Modern glass			1	<1	
4604		Late prehistoric pottery	Quartz-tempered fabric	QZ	1	4	IA
4612		Post-medieval ceramic building material	Flat roof tile		1	48	Post-medieval

* National Roman Fabric Reference Collection codes in bold

Appendix Bi: Fabric descriptions (Late Prehistoric pottery)

Flint-tempered

FL Dark grey surfaces with lighter margin and grey core. Soft with rough feel and irregular fracture. Contains common poorly-sorted (0.5-3mm) angular calcined flint. Described sherd from deposit 3409. *Totals: 84 sh; 85g.*

Quartz-tempered

QZ Dark grey throughout. Soft with sandy feel and finely irregular fracture. Contains abundant well-sorted rounded quartz (0.3-0.4mm) and sparse red iron oxides. Described sherd from deposit 3404. *Totals: 34sh; 229g.*

Quartz-tempered (finer, with organic inclusions)

QZf Dark grey throughout. Soft with slightly sandy feel and finely irregular fracture. Contains abundant well-sorted silt-sized quartz (0.1-0.2mm) and some burnt-out organics.Slightly micaceous. Described sherd from deposit 3421. *Totals: 27 sh; 96g.*

Quartz-tempered (with limestone)

QZli Brown exterior surface with dark grey core and interior surface. Soft with sandy feel and irregular fracture. Contains abundant well-sorted (0.3-0.4mm) rounded quartz and common angular limestone. Described sherd from deposit 3414. *Totals: 1 sh; 12g.*

APPENDIX C: THE PALAEOENVIRONMENTAL EVIDENCE

Table 1: Identified animal species by fragment count (NISP) and weight and context.

Cut	Fill	BOS	O/C	SUS	LM	MM	Ind	un-id SS	Total	Weight (g)
Late Bronze Age/Iron Age										
3403	3404							1	1	1
3407	3408							12	12	5
3407	3409		3					49	52	9
3412	3414		2	1				86	89	27
3419	3420	2							2	123
3419	3421	2					15		17	95
3419	3422		1						1	8
Subtotal		**4**	**6**	**1**			**15**	**148**	**174**	**268**
Roman										
1403	1402	1						103	104	59
1602	1603	1	1		1	4		113	120	44
1604	1606		2		4	15		103	124	163
1608	1609	5		1			11		17	159
Subtotal		**7**	**3**	**1**	**5**	**19**	**11**	**319**	**365**	**425**
Post-medieval										
4611	4612					9			9	6
Undated										
3203	3204		1				1		2	9
3415	3418					1			1	8
Subtotal			**1**			**1**	**1**		**3**	**17**
Total		**11**	**10**	**2**	**5**	**29**	**27**	**467**	**551**	
Weight		**381**	**55**	**4**	**93**	**48**	**65**	**70**	**716**	

BOS = Cattle; O/C = sheep/goat; SUS = pig; LM= cattle sized mammal; MM = sheep size mammal; Ind = indeterminate; un-id SS = unidentifiable fragments from bulk soil samples

Table 2: Plant macrofossil identifications

Context number				3409	3408	3414	303	1603	1402	1404	1606
Feature number				3407	3407	3412	302	1602	1403	1405	1604
Feature Label				Pit	Pit	Ditch	Pit	Ditch	Ditch	Ditch	Pit
Sample number (SS)				1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Flot volume (ml)				3	<1	1	4	2	1	<1	2
Sample volume processed (l)				10	8	18	20	20	20	20	20
Soil remaining (l)				0	0	20	20	0	0	0	0
Period				LPRE	LPRE	LPRE	UD	RB	RB	RB	RB
Plant macrofossil preservation				Poor	N/A	N/A	Poor	Poor	Poor	Poor	Poor
Charcoal >2mm				++	++	+	+	++	++	++	++
Habitat Code	**Family**	**Species**	**Common Name**								
E	Poaceae	*Hordeum vulgare* L.	Barley grain	?1				1	3		
E		*Triticum aestivum* L./*Triticum turgidum* L./ *Triticum durum* Desf.	Free-threshing wheat				?2				
E		*Triticum spelta*	Spelt wheat grain						3		
E		*Triticum spelta*	Spelt wheat glume base						1		
E		*Triticum dicoccum/Triticum spelta*	Emmer/spelt wheat grain					?3	1		
E		*Triticum dicoccum/Triticum spelta*	Emmer/spelt wheat glume base						?2		
E		*Poaceae*	Indeterminate cereal grain (fragments)	1			1	1	25	1	6
A/D	Rubiaceae	*Galium aparine* L.	Cleavers					1			
			Total	2	0	0	3	6	35	1	6

Key

+ = 1–4 items; ++ = 5–20 items; +++ = 21–40 items; ++++ = 40–99 items ; +++++ = >100 items items
A = arable weeds; D = opportunistic weeds; E = economic plant

LPRE = Late Prehistoric; RB = Romano-British; UD = Undated

APPENDIX D: TRENCH PHOTOGRAPHS

Trench 1 looking east

Trench 2 looking north west

Trench 3 looking east

Trench 4 looking east

Trench 5 looking south east

Trench 6 looking north

Trench 7 looking west

Trench 8 looking west

Trench 9 looking north west

Trench 10 looking south

Trench 11 looking east

Trench 12 looking south

Trench 13 looking north

Trench 14 looking north

Trench 15 looking north

Trench 16 looking south west

Trench 17 looking south

Trench 18 looking south west

Trench 19 looking west

Trench 20 loooking west

Trench 21 looking south west

Trench 22 looking north

Trench 23 looking north

Trench 24 looking south west

Trench 25 looking west

Trench 26 looking west

Trench 27 looking south west

Trench 28 looking south west

Trench 29 looking north east

Trench 30 looking south west

Trench 31 looking north west

Trench 32 looking south

Trench 33 looking north west

Trench 34 looking west

Trench 35 looking west

Trench 36 looking north west

Trench 37 looking west

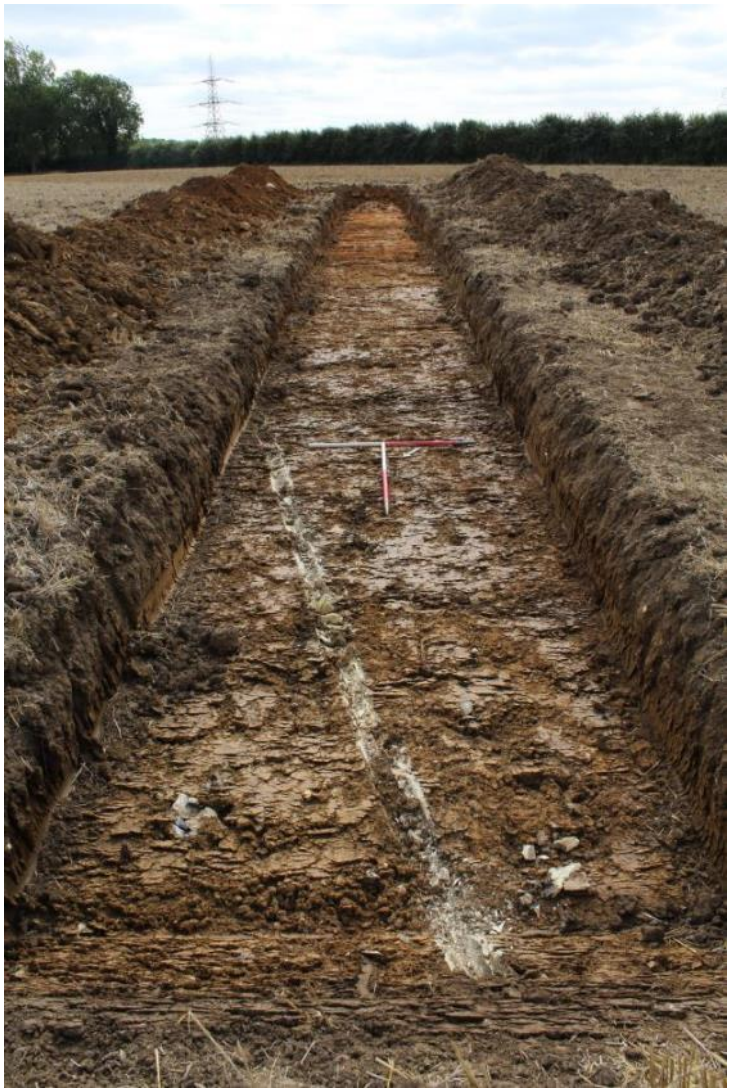
Trench 38 looking east

Trench 39 looking north east

Trench 40 looking north east

Trench 41 looking north

Trench 42 looking north



Trench 43 looking north

Trench 44 looking north

Trench 45 looking north

Trench 46 looking north

Trench 47 looking south

Trench 48 looking north west

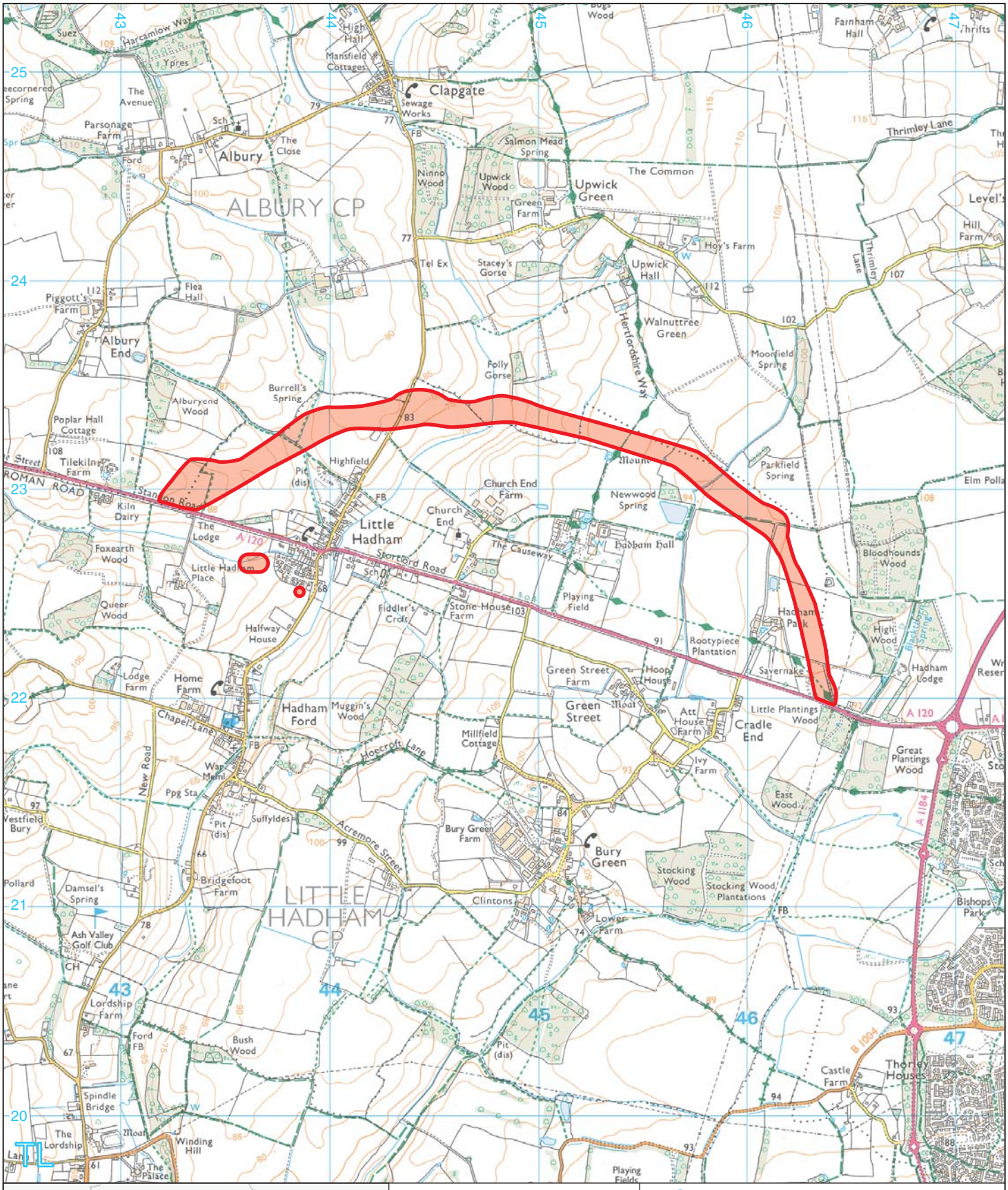
Trench 49 looking south west

Trench 50 looking east

Trench 51 looking east

APPENDIX E: OASIS REPORT FORM

PROJECT DETAILS		
Project Name	A120 Bypass (Little Hadham) and Flood Alleviation Scheme	
Short description	An archaeological evaluation was undertaken by Cotswold Archaeology in August and September 2016 on land north of Little Hadham, Hertfordshire. Fifty-one trenches were excavated. Three foci of late prehistoric activity, including a sub-square enclosure with internal structures were identified within the proposed road corridor. Evidence for late prehistoric clay extraction, and a single late prehistoric linear boundary were recorded at the eastern and western ends of the corridor respectively. A Roman enclosure was recorded in the centre of the site, with evidence for settlement activity, consisting of a single length of enclosure ditch and three pits. A north-west to south-east aligned droveway, containing Romano-British pottery was also recorded, connecting the enclosure with the route of the Stanegate.	
Project dates	30/08/2016 – 09/09/2016	
Project type	Field Evaluation	
Previous work	Geophysical Survey (Thomas 2014)	
Future work	To be confirmed	
PROJECT LOCATION		
Site Location	Land north of Little Hadham, Albury Road, Hertfordshire	
Study area (M^2/ha)		
Site co-ordinates	TL 4428 2326	
PROJECT CREATORS		
Name of organisation	Cotswold Archaeology	
Project Brief originator	Ove Arup Ltd	
Project Design (WSI) originator	Cotswold Archaeology	
Project Manager	Mark Hewson	
Project Supervisor	Jake Streatfeild-James	
MONUMENT TYPE	Enclosure, Droveway	
SIGNIFICANT FINDS	None	
PROJECT ARCHIVES		Content (e.g. pottery, animal bone etc) Pottery,
Physical	Bishop's Stortford Museum. Accession number TBC.	Ceramics, animal bone, metal artefacts, Palaeoenvironmental evidence
Paper	Bishop's Stortford Museum. Accession number TBC.	Context sheets, trench sheets, registers, drawings
Digital	Bishop's Stortford Museum. Accession number TBC.	Database, digital photos
BIBLIOGRAPHY	CA (Cotswold Archaeology) 2016 *A120 Bypass (Little Hadham) and Flood Alleviation Scheme: Archaeological Evaluation.* CA typescript report **16546**	



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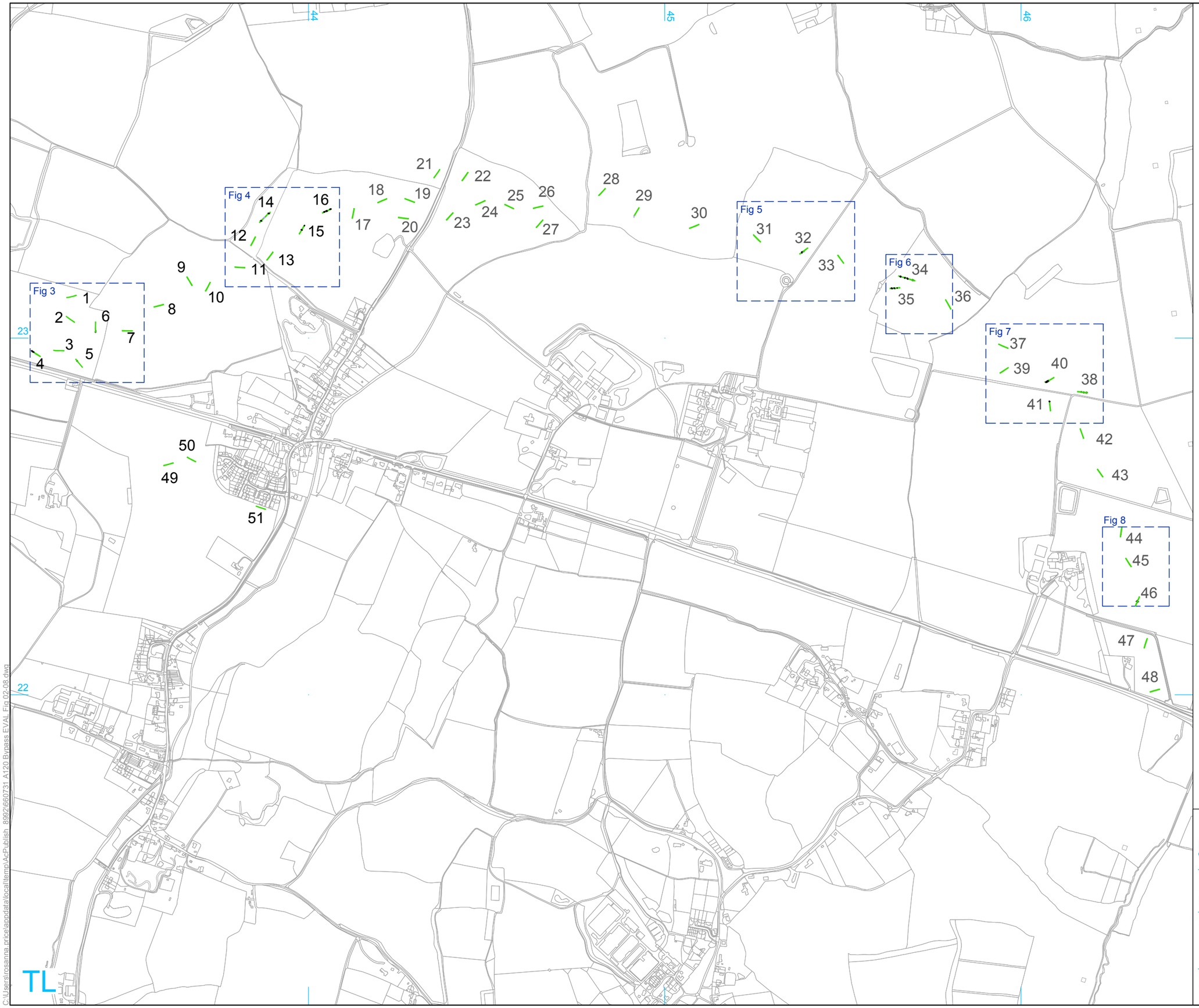
PROJECT TITLE
A120 Bypass, Little Hadham, Hertfordshire

FIGURE TITLE
Site location plan

DRAWN BY	RP	PROJECT NO.	660713	FIGURE NO.
CHECKED BY	LM	DATE	22.09.16	1
APPROVED BY	MH	SCALE@A4	1:25,000	



Evaluation trench

Archaeological feature

N

0 500m

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PROJECT TITLE

A120 Bypass, Little Hadham, Hertfordshire

FIGURE TITLE

Trench Location Plan

DRAWN BY	RP	PROJECT NO.	660731	FIGURE NO.
CHECKED BY	LM	DATE	21.09.16	2
APPROVED BY	MH	SCALE@A3	1:10,000	

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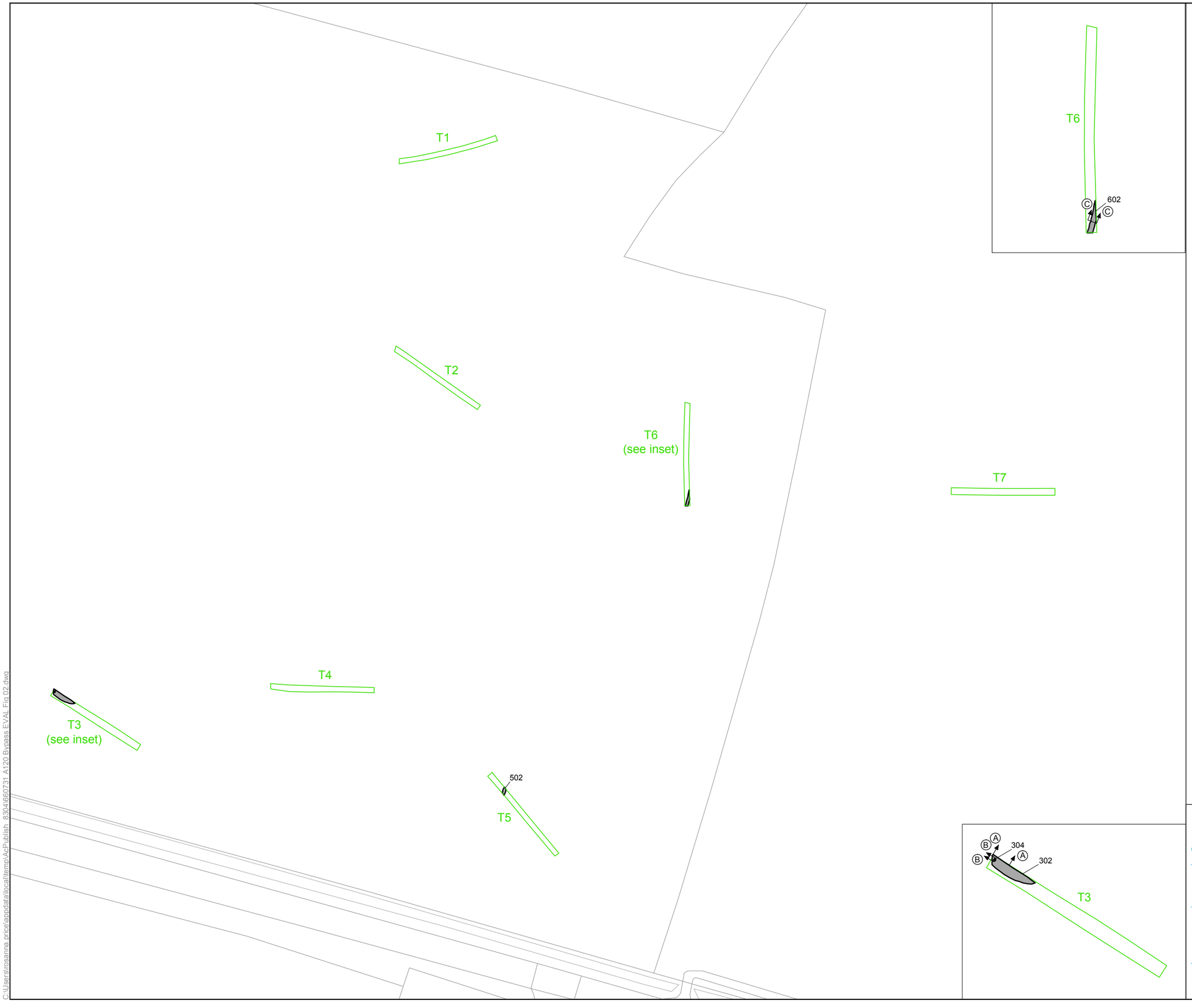

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PROJECT TITLE

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FIGURE TITLE

Trenches 1 - 7, showing archaeological features

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APPROVED BY	MH	SCALE@A3	1:200 & 1:1000	

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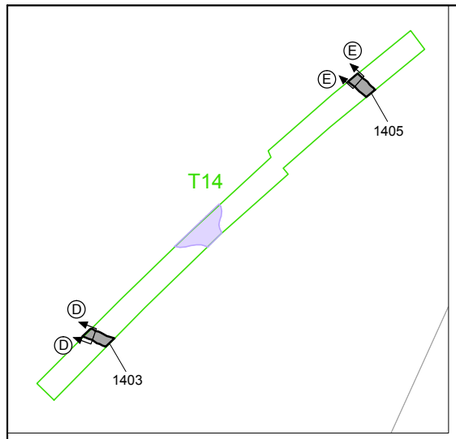

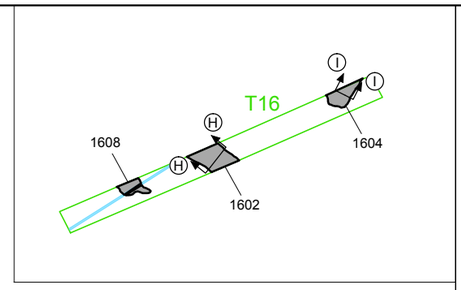

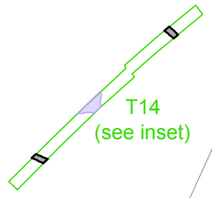

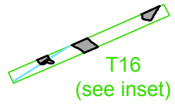

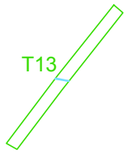

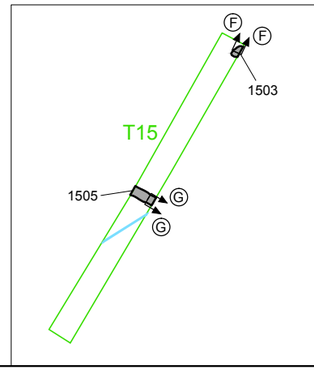

N

Evaluation trench

Archaeological feature

Geological feature

Field drain

Section location

0 50m

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PROJECT TITLE

A120 Bypass, Little Hadham, Hertfordshire

FIGURE TITLE

Trenches 11 - 16, showing archaeological features

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CHECKED BY	**LM**	*DATE*	**21.09.16**	**4**
APPROVED BY	**MH**	*SCALE@A3*	**1:200 & 1:1000**	

N

Evaluation trench
Archaeological feature
modern
Field drain
Bioturbation
Section location

0 50m

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PROJECT TITLE
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FIGURE TITLE
Trenches 31 - 33, showing archaeological features

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APPROVED BY	MH	SCALE@A3	1:200 & 1:1000	

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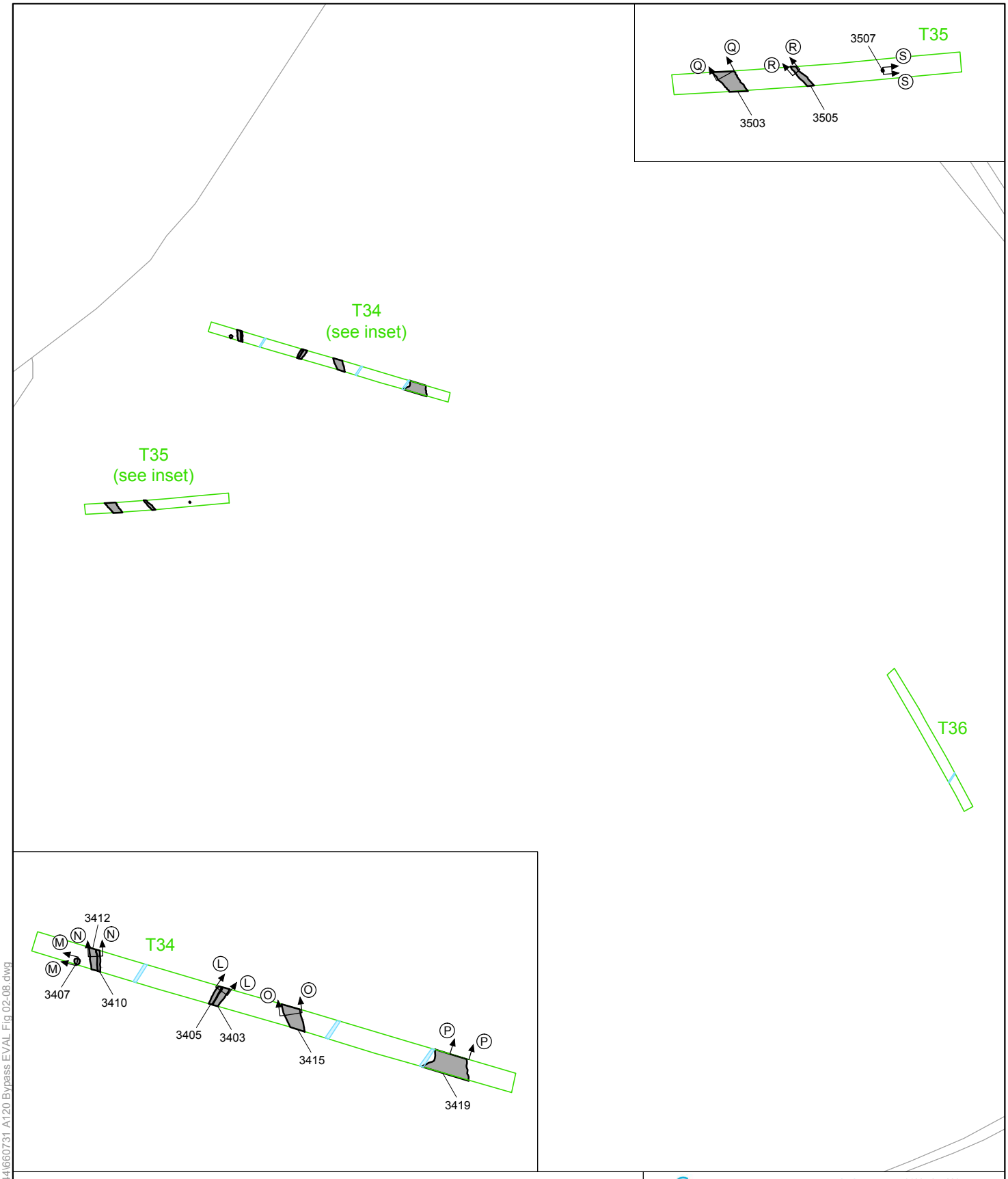

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PROJECT TITLE

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FIGURE TITLE

Trenches 34 - 36, showing archaeological features

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CHECKED BY	LM	REVISION	21.09.16	6
DATE	MH	SCALE@A4	1:200 and 1:1000	

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PROJECT TITLE
A120 Bypass, Little Hadham, Hertfordshire

FIGURE TITLE
Trenches 37 - 41, showing archaeological features

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APPROVED BY	MH	SCALE@A3	1:200 & 1:1000	

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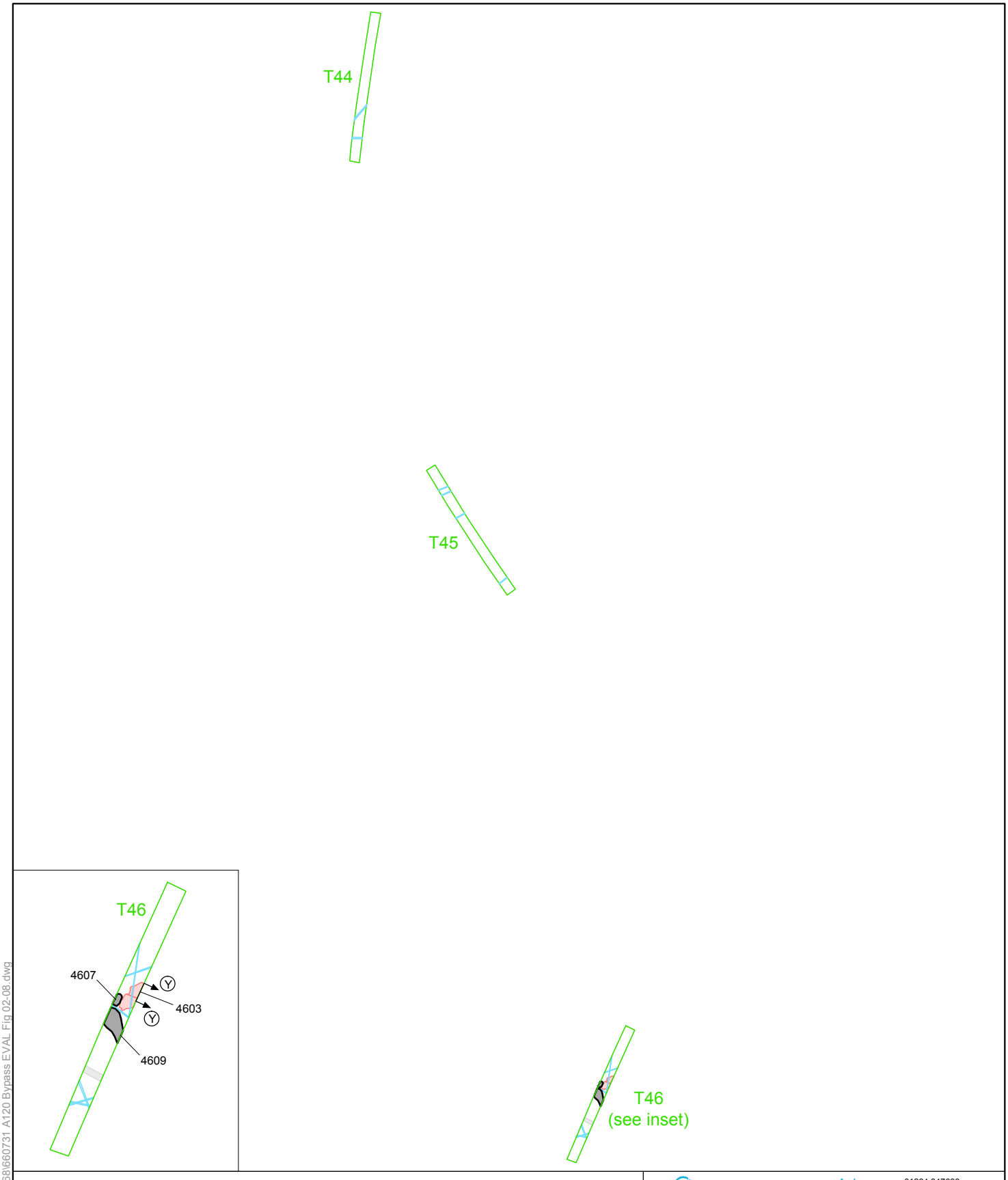

Evaluation trench

Archaeological feature

Modern

Field drain

Tree-throw pit

Section location

N

0 50m

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PROJECT TITLE

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FIGURE TITLE

Trenches 44 - 46, showing archaeological features

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DATE	MH	SCALE@A4	1:1000	

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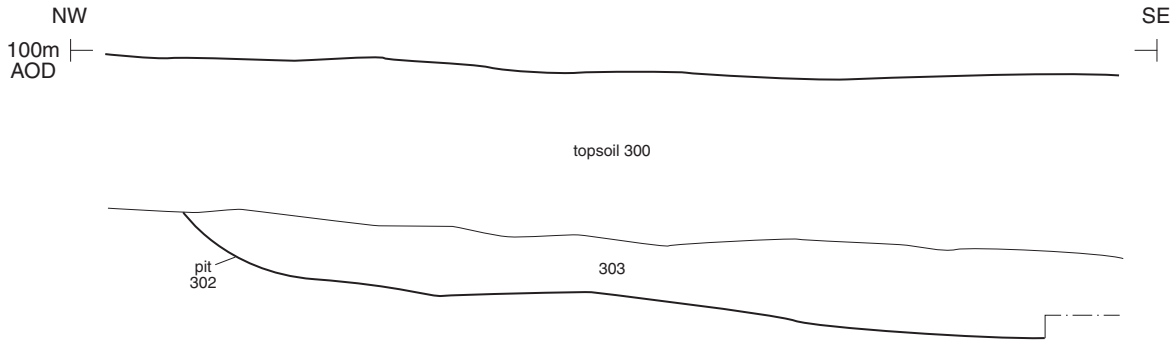
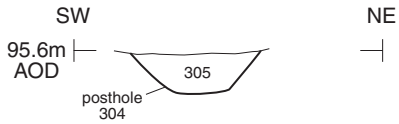
Section AA



Trench 3, pit 302, looking north-east (1m scale)

Section BB



Trench 3, posthole 304, looking north-west (0.5m scale)

0 1m

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PROJECT TITLE

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FIGURE TITLE

Trench 3; sections and photographs

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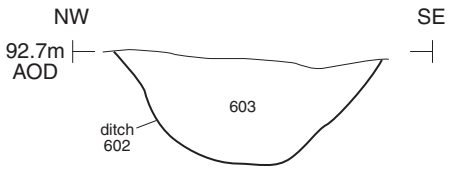
APPROVED BY	MH	SCALE@A4	1:20	

Section CC



Trench 6, ditch 602, looking north-east (0.5m scale)

0 1m

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PROJECT TITLE

A120 Bypass, Little Hadham, Hertfordshire

FIGURE TITLE

Trench 6; section and photograph

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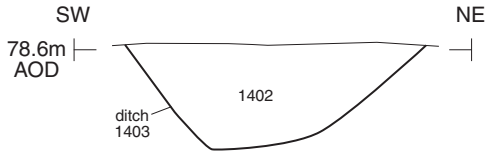
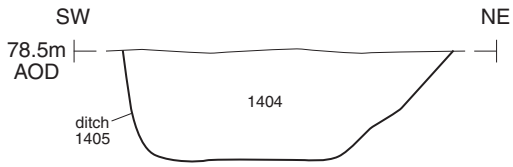
APPROVED BY	**MH**	*SCALE@A4*	**1:20**	

Section DD



Trench 14, ditch 1403, looking north west (1m scale)

Section EE



Trench 14, ditch 1405, looking north west (1m scale)

0 1m

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PROJECT TITLE

A120 Bypass, Little Hadham, Hertfordshire

FIGURE TITLE

Trench 14; sections and photographs

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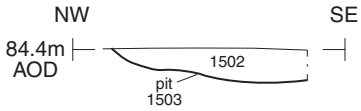
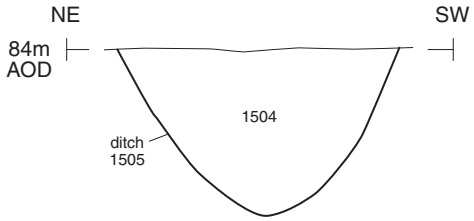
APPROVED BY	**MH**	*SCALE@A4*	**1:20**	

Section FF



Section GG



Trench 15 ditch 1505, looking south-east (0.5m scale)

0 1m

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PROJECT TITLE

A120 Bypass, Little Hadham, Hertfordshire

FIGURE TITLE

Trench 15; sections and photographs

DRAWN BY	**RP**	*PROJECT NO.*	**660713**	*FIGURE NO.*
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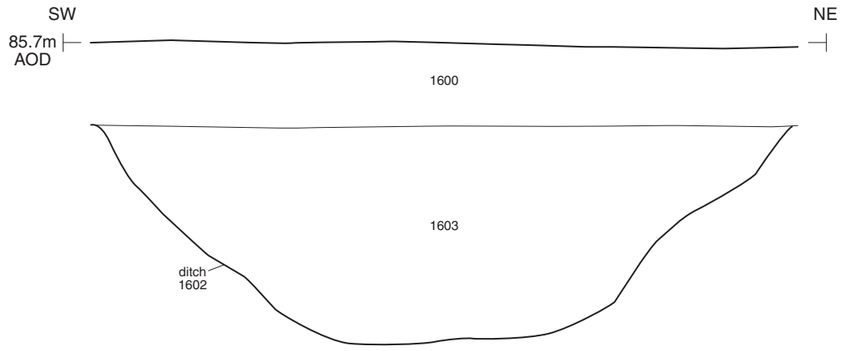
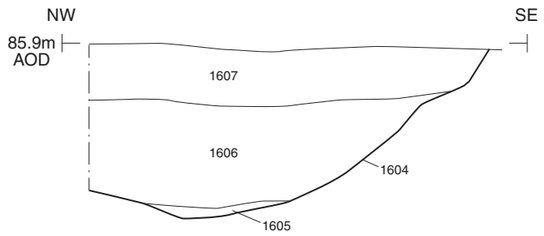
APPROVED BY	**MH**	*SCALE@A4*	**1:20**	

Section HH



Trench 16, ditch 1602, looking north-west (1m scale)

Section II



Trench 16, 1604, looking north (1m scale)

0 1m

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Trench 16; sections and photographs

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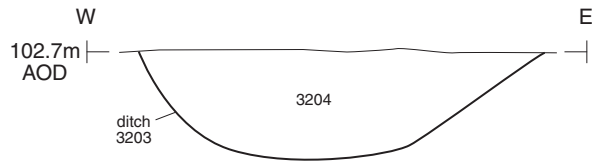
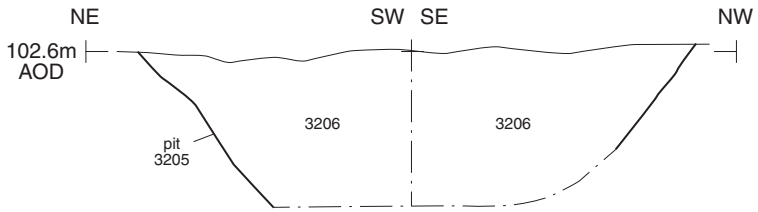
APPROVED BY	**MH**	*SCALE@A3*	**1:20**	

Section JJ



Trench 32, ditch 3203, looking south (1m scale)

Section KK



Trench 32, pit 3205, looking south (0.2m scale)

0 1m

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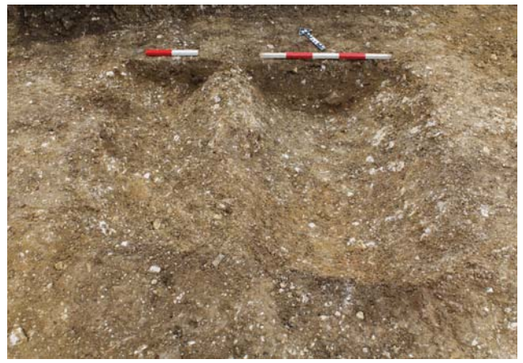
FIGURE TITLE

Trench 32; sections and photographs

DRAWN BY	**RP**	*PROJECT NO.*	**660713**	*FIGURE NO.*
CHECKED BY	**LM**	*DATE*	**22.09.16**	**14**
APPROVED BY	**MH**	*SCALE@A4*	**1:20**	

Section LL

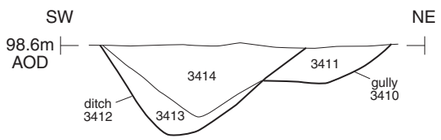


Trench 34, ditch 3403 and gully 3405, looking north-east (0.2m and 0.5m scales)

Section MM

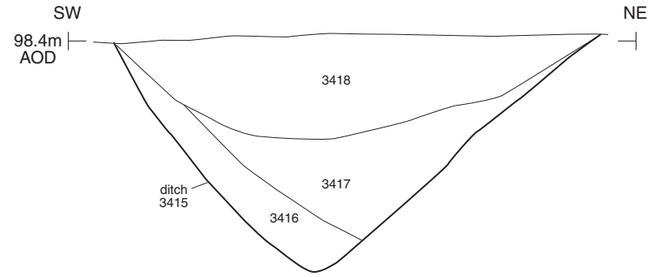
Trench 34, pit 3407, looking west (0.2m scale)

Section NN



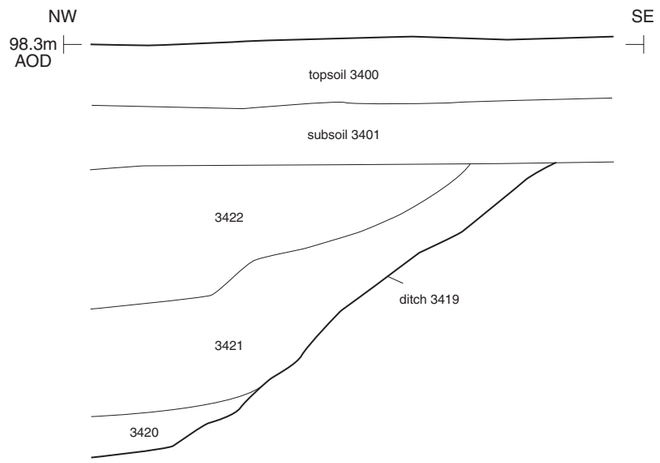
Trench 34, gully 3410 and ditch 3412, looking north west (0.5m scale)

Section OO



Trench 34, ditch 3415, looking north (1m scale)

Section PP



Trench 34, ditch 3419, looking north-east (1m scale)

0 1:20 1m

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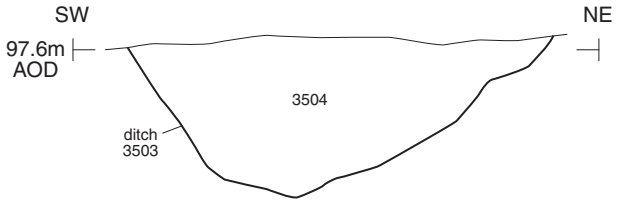
FIGURE TITLE
Trench 34; sections and photographs

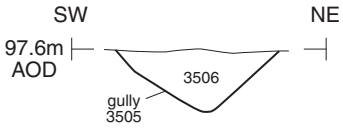
DRAWN BY	RP	PROJECT NO.	660731	FIGURE NO.
CHECKED BY	LM	DATE	22.09.16	15
APPROVED BY	MH	SCALE@A3	1:20	

Section QQ



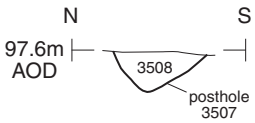
Trench 35, ditch 3503, looking north-west (1m scale)

Section RR



Trench 35, gully 3505, looking north-west (0.2m scale)

Section SS



Trench 35, posthole 3507, looking east (0.2m scale)

0 1m

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Trench 35; sections and photographs

DRAWN BY	**RP**	*PROJECT NO.*	**660713**	*FIGURE NO.*
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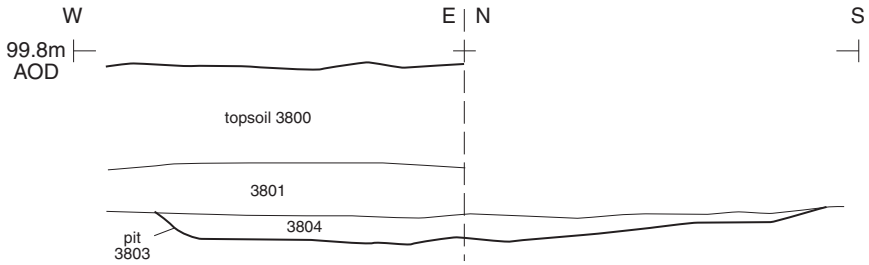
Section TT



Trench 38, pit 3803, looking north (0.5m scale)

Section UU

Trench 38, ditch 3805, looking north (1m scale)

0 1m

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Trench 38; sections and photographs

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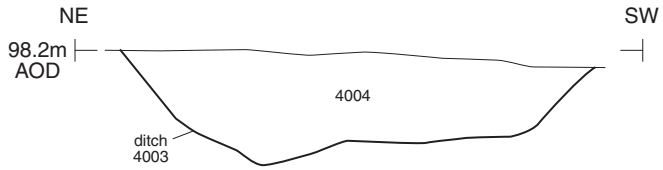
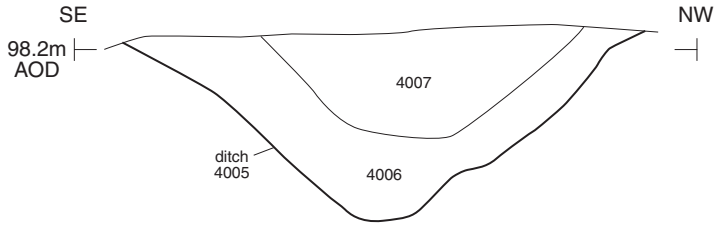
Section VV



Trench 40, ditch 4003, looking south-east (0.5m scale)

Section WW



Trench 40, ditch 4005, looking south-west (1m scale)

0 1m

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Trench 40; sections and photographs

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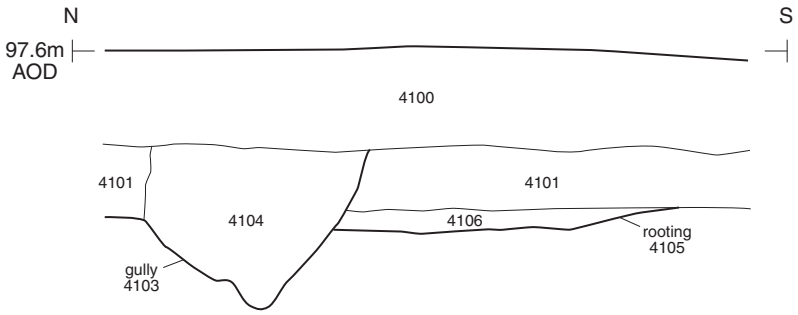
Section XX



Trench 41, gully 4103, looking east (1m scale)

0 1m

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Trench 41; section and photograph

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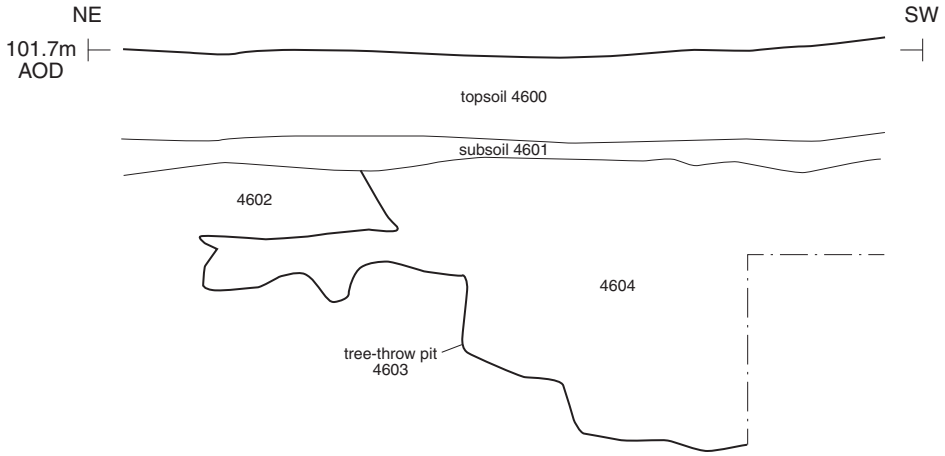
Section YY



Trench 46, tree-throw pit 4603, looking south-east (1m scale)

0 1m

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Trench 46; section and photograph

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