A46 Coventry Junctions (Walsgrave) Scheme number: TR010066

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APFP Regulations 5(2)(a)

Planning Act 2008

Infrastructure Planning (Applications: Prescribed Forms and Procedure) Regulations 2009

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The Infrastructure Planning (Applications: Prescribed Forms and Procedure) Regulations 2009

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ENVIRONMENTAL STATEMENT APPENDICES
Appendix 6.4 Archaeological Trial Trenching Survey Report

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A46 COVENTRY JUNCTIONS UPGRADE (WALSGRAVE JUNCTION) STAGE 3

Archaeological Trenching Report

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Reviewer List

Name	Role

Approvals

Name	Signature	Title	Date of Issue	Version

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NON-TECHNICAL SUMMARY

Connect Archaeology undertook a programme of trial trenching at A46 Coventry Junctions (Walsgrave), (National Grid Reference SP 38355 79314 – Figure 1) between 29/01/2024 and 06/03/2024. The works were undertaken to determine the presence or absence of archaeological remains within the site, and to determine their nature, extent and complexity.

The proposed scheme lies within the administrative area of both Coventry City Council (CCC) and Rugby Borough Council (RBC). CCC is advised on all archaeological matters by the Archaeological Advisor at CCC, and RBC is advised on archaeological matters by the Warwickshire County Council Archaeological Information and Advice (AI&A) team. This report will be made available to the Archaeological Advisor at CCC and Warwickshire County Council AI&A to inform any further decision making required.

No significant archaeological features were discovered during the trial trenching. A parish boundary ditch, present on historic Ordnance Survey mapping, was located in Trenches 21, 24 and 26. This was investigated in Trench 26 and found to contain modern debris in the form of plastic shotgun cartridges, twine, blue degraded plastic and broken bricks, suggesting it had most likely been infilled in the latter half of the 19th century.

Further archaeological mitigation work has not been recommended. The results will be made available via the Archaeological Data Service (ADS) website through completion of an OASIS form.

1. Scheme Introduction

1.1. The Proposed Scheme

1.1.1. An upgrade to the junction of the A46 Coventry Eastern bypass and the B4082, east of Walsgrave is being proposed by National Highways to ease congestion and reduce queuing along the A46 corridor east of Coventry.

1.1.2. The proposed scheme is classed as a Nationally Significant Infrastructure Project (NSIP) under the Planning Act 2008, triggering the need to apply for a Development Consent Order (DCO).

1.1.3. The proposed scheme is currently in PCF Stage 3 (preliminary design as of April 2024) which involves developing a single preferred option to the required level for undertaking an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) and applying for a DCO.

1.2. Location

1.2.1. Walsgrave junction is located approximately 5km to the east of Coventry city centre and connects the B4082 and the A46. The A46 dual carriageway and the B4082 single carriageway are both affected by the works. The location of the junctions (hereafter referred to as “Scheme boundary”) is shown on Figure 1. The grid reference for the existing roundabout is SP 38355 79314.

1.2.2. The Scheme boundary straddles two local authorities with the portion west of the A46 within Coventry City Council (CCC); and the portion east of the A46 within Rugby Borough Council (RBC). CCC is advised on all archaeological matters by the Archaeological Advisor at CCC, and RBC is advised on archaeological matters by the Warwickshire County Council Archaeological Information and Advice (AI&A) team.

1.2.3. The site (Figure 1) refers to a smaller area within the Scheme boundary which is subject to archaeological trial trenching.

1.3. Scheme Description

1.3.1. The proposed scheme (as of April 2024) is a grade separated junction approximately 800m to the north of the existing roundabout location. The geometry of this option allows a 50mph speed limit on the mainline dual carriageway.

1.3.2. The A46 mainline would be realigned through the existing Walsgrave roundabout for approximately 0.8km, before tying back into the current alignment at the existing Hungerley Hall Farm accommodation bridge. The mainline then

continues on the current alignment for approximately 0.85km to allow for junction slip road tie ins.

1.3.3. The full grade separated dumbbell junction would be approximately 0.8km north of the existing Walsgrave junction roundabout and would consist of north and southbound diverge and merge slip roads connecting to an overbridge with roundabouts to the east and west. The overbridge would be provided across the A46 between the two roundabouts and would carry a two-lane single carriageway. The proposed height above the A46 mainline road level would be up to approximately 8m above the new road level.

1.3.4. A new B4082, a two-lane single carriageway link road, approximately 1km in length, would be provided between the western roundabout of the dumbbell junction and an existing section of the B4082 that leads to the existing roundabout on Clifford Bridge Road. The new link road will pass close to the A46 mainline carriageway between the A46 and Hungerley Hall Farm before being aligned further west, away from the A46 to connect to the western dumbbell.

1.3.5. The existing sections of the B4082 and A46 roundabout that are no longer required would be grubbed up and returned to nature. The existing overpass (farm access) over the A46 close to Hungerley Hall Farm will be demolished, with access re-provided via the B4082 and dumbbell junction overbridge, subject to consultation with the current landowner.

1.4. Archaeological Works

1.4.1. This report outlines the results of archaeological trial trenching for the scheme. This report has been prepared by Connect Archaeology on behalf of Octavius acting in their capacity as agent for National Highways.

1.4.2. The area subject to trial trenching was the open land within the Scheme Boundary.

1.4.3. The results of the trial trenching will inform the scope and scale of further archaeological investigation and mitigation works as appropriate.

2. Archaeological Context

2.1.1. This section is paraphrased from the cultural heritage chapter of the Stage 3 scoping and Preliminary Environmental Information Report (PEIR). Bibliographic references are detailed in scoping and PIER reports and have been removed from the following excerpt. Locations of the scheme boundary, study area, heritage assets and previous survey events are shown on Figures 1-3 of the PIER report (HE604820-OIL-EHR-00-DR-LH-30001, HE604820-OIL-EHR-00-DR-LH-30002, HE604820-OIL-EHR-00-DR-LH-30003).

2.2. Location, Geology and Topography

2.2.1. The site is located on flat, open agricultural land, east of the River Sowe. The site was bisected by the existing A46 and B4082 roads. Hungerley Hall Farm is located within the site. The site has several known utilities including a high voltage power line, gas and water mains, lower voltage electricity and communications. Most of these are concentrated in the south-eastern section of the site.

2.2.2. The site is located between 70-77m above Ordnance Datum (aOD), being relatively flat, but sloping off to the north-west.

2.2.3. The underlying bedrock geology is recorded as Mercia Mudstone Group, a sedimentary bedrock formed between 252.2 and 201.3 million years ago during the Triassic period. Superficial deposits of River Terrace Deposits, including Baginton Sand and Gravel formations are recorded in the area (BGS 2023). The overlying soils area characterised as freely draining slightly acid loamy soils.

2.3. Archaeological Background

2.3.1. The trial trenching area is located in close proximity to four grade II listed farm buildings and a grade II* registered park and garden (Coombe Abbey). There are 31 known non-designated heritage assets recorded within 300m of the trial trenching area. These include two findspots, 26 archaeological sites and three historic buildings. Some of these records are the same asset duplicated between the Coventry and Warwickshire Historic Environment Records (HER) where they are located across or near the LPA border, or the same asset recorded in several different places from different primary sources.

2.3.2. A geophysical survey was carried out by GSB Prospection in 2006. This was partially within the trial trenching area area and revealed anomalies likely to represent past ploughing activities, such as ridge and furrow, as well as possible former field boundaries and areas of magnetic disturbance, likely related to modern groundworks. The GSB survey covered most of the northern part of the

trial trenching area with scanning and small selected sample areas were subject to detailed magnetometry.

2.3.3. A programme of trial trenching was undertaken to the south-east of trial trenching area for a construction compound under a separate planning application. This area was considered to be adequately managed through its conditions and so did form part of this survey.

2.3.4. Communications with the Archaeological Advisor to CCC highlighted the potential for palaeoenvironmental or geoarchaeological evidence in the vicinity of the River Sowe.

2.3.5. Communications with the Archaeological Advisor to RBC highlighted the potential for medieval and Roman remains due to the location of several assets of this date outside of the study area but occupying contextually similar topography.

2.3.6. An archaeological watching brief was conducted by Headland Archaeology on three geotechnical test pits in 2023. The works did not identify archaeological deposits.

2.3.7. A detailed magnetometry survey of the scheme area (which had a larger extent at the time) was undertaken in 2023 by Headland Archaeology. The report has not yet been finalised but, the draft report has been provided to the archaeological advisors for both CCC and RBC for information and comment.

3. Methodology

3.1. General

3.1.1. The trial trenching was conducted in line with the methodology detailed in A46 Coventry Junctions (Walsgrave) Archaeological Trenching Written Scheme Investigation (Document No: HE604820-OIL-EHR-00-SP-LH-30002). This detailed how the requirements and relevant guidance contained in the WSI would be met. The Archaeological Advisor at CCC and the Warwickshire County Council AI&A team approved the WSI prior to works beginning.

3.1.2. Connect Archaeology produced and adhered to a site-specific Risk Assessment and Method Statement (RAMS) detailing the staffing, programme, and methodology for the work, which was submitted to Octavius for distribution to the project team (Connect Archaeology 2024).

3.1.3. Connect Archaeology follow the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists Code of Conduct; professional ethics in archaeology (CIfA 2022) and regulations for professional conduct (CIfA 2021). All work was undertaken in accordance with the standards described in the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists' (CIfA) Standard for Archaeological Field Evaluation (CIfA 2023), Standard and guidance for the collection, documentation, conservation and research of archaeological materials (CIfA 2020) and the Generic Archaeological Fieldwork Guidelines for Warwickshire (WCC 2020).

3.1.4. The trial trenching was monitored by the Archaeological Advisor at CCC and a member of the Warwickshire County Council AI&A team, as archaeological advisors to CCC and RBC respectively. The monitoring comprised site visits and sign off of the trial trenches for backfilling on completion of archaeological recording.

3.2. Health and Safety

3.2.1. Connect Archaeology adhered to all relevant Health and Safety regulations and legislation.

3.2.2. A Risk Assessment and Method Statement (RAMS) for the whole scheme was prepared by Connect Archaeology (2024) and submitted to Octavius. Prior to the starting of on-site work, the RAMS was approved by Octavius and by the Archaeological Advisor at CCC and a member of the Warwickshire County Council AI&A team.

3.2.3. The RAMS included details regarding appropriate levels of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) to be worn during the trial trenching and other risk avoidance procedures.

3.2.4. Connect Archaeology was responsible for undertaking a Dynamic Risk Assessment before and during the trial trenching work. Any newly identified hazards or risks were reported to the Octavius Project Manager as soon as possible, and the RAMS updated accordingly.

3.2.5. Point of Work Risk Assessment Statements were carried out daily, prior to commencing work.

3.3. Aims and Objectives

3.3.1. The aim of the trial trenching was to determine the presence or absence of archaeological remains within the site, and to determine their nature, extent and complexity.

3.3.2. The objectives of the trial trenching were to:

- Undertake a programme of archaeological investigation targeted on:
  - known features of heritage interest
  - geophysical anomalies or features noted from LiDAR and aerial photography of suspected or unknown archaeological significance
  - topographic features and geological sub-strata indicative of archaeological potential
  - other “blank” areas where no archaeological features have previously been identified or indicated and where the location has not been affected by modern ground disturbance.
- Establish the presence or absence, character and preservation state of any archaeological remains.
- Make a competent record of the location and character of any such remains.
- Recover any archaeologically significant artefacts.
- Recover samples of any material which has potential for the survival of palaeoenvironmental or dating evidence from secure archaeological contexts.
- Prepare a report on the findings and material recovered, and their significance.
- Provide an assessment of whether any further mitigation works are necessary.
- Create and deposit in a suitable repository a permanent descriptive and interpretive written and drawn archive.

3.3.3. Specific research objectives from the West Midlands Research Framework were applicable. These were to be addressed in the report as appropriate.

- Mesolithic lithic assemblage chronology, distribution and typology (p.29-31)

- Neolithic social and economic change (p.39, 62) and development of fieldwork strategies to investigate neolithic sites (p.42-43, 62-63)
- Appropriate sample sizes, layouts and analysis techniques for identifying Bronze Age remains (p.120-121)
- Continued search for evidence of all forms of early medieval rural settlements with particular attention to sites where Roman and medieval settlements are juxtaposed (p.167)
- Medieval rural industry, including seeking out possible mill sites along waterways (p.192)
- Social changes associated with the adoption of capitalism in the processes of enclosure and improvement of farmland (p.229)

3.3.4. Objectives from the 'Archaeological Resource Assessment of the Aggregates Producing Areas of Warwickshire and Solihull' (English Heritage 2008) may also have been relevant, despite the site not being an aggregate producing site, as the research focuses on sand and gravel geologies, which the site is located on. The objectives are broadly in line with the regional research framework and the Archaeological Contractor shall consider these objectives throughout the works.

3.4. Trial Trenching

3.4.1. Land access was arranged by Octavius.

3.4.2. No lone working was permitted. Therefore, the trenching work and site visits completed by Connect Archaeology were undertaken by two or more individuals. The site team was led by a Connect Project Officer (Gemma Ward).

3.4.3. A site visit was undertaken to determine/confirm the current land use of the site and identify any areas which were not suitable for trial trenching due to unforeseen circumstances, for example dense vegetation, grazing livestock, or flooding. Where any such areas were identified, this was recorded and photographed for inclusion in subsequent documentation. This visit minimised the risk of delays to the programme.

3.4.4. All survey instruments were in good working condition with no known defects. The instruments were safe, insured and either purchased, hired or on loan for commercial use. The instruments were suitably calibrated if necessary, and appropriate certification made available on request.

3.4.5. The trial trenching consisted of a 4% sample of the area suitable for trenching, with a 2% contingency, and took place in parcels of land within both the CCC and the RBC. The total area suitable for trenching was approximately 15.2ha. The pre-designed trenching amounted to 6120m2, which left 3000m2 contingency for a total of up to 9120m2.

3.4.6. The trial trenching targeted a series of locations across the site as detailed within the agreed WSI (HE604820-OIL-EHR-00-SP-LH-30002 P02) and shown on Figures 2 and 3.

3.4.7. A total of 68 trial trenches were proposed across the site. The trenches were 1.8 metres in width, and between 15m and 100m in length, with the majority being 50m in length (Figure 2). One trench (Trench 9) was removed from the programme of works as it was located in an area of standing water. The removal for Trench 9 from the scope of work was undertaken following written permission via email from the Archaeological Advisor to CCC (Matt Parker-Wooding pers. comm. 29/02/2024).

3.4.8. The location of utilities were provided by Octavius. These plans were drawn from information provided by the various utilities companies and had not been ground truthed. Connect Archaeology therefore scanned all areas with a CAT and Genny prior to breaking ground. Octavius provided the Connect Archaeology with geo-referenced digital utilities information.

3.4.9. All trenches were opened by a back-acting mechanical excavator operating under archaeological supervision at all times, using a toothless ditching bucket. Care was taken to avoid damage to archaeological remains and limited to removal of overburden or topsoil (unless agreed with Octavius and CCC/RBC). Each trench was excavated to the uppermost archaeological horizon or the natural sub-stratum (whichever was encountered first).

3.4.10. Topsoil and subsoil, and other soil deposits or layers identified, were stored separately on either side of the trench, to form a physical barrier, and at a suitable distance of no less than 0.5m from the trench edge so as not to surcharge the edges of the trench. Spoil was bunded and sealed in order to facilitate a more compressed reinstatement to safeguard against the wet conditions.

3.4.11. Trenches were reinstated in reverse order to that with which they were excavated, i.e., subsoil deposited followed by topsoil, to ensure that the ground was restored as closely as possible to its original condition.

3.4.12. The supervising archaeologist ensured that the finished surface was machined to a suitably ‘clean’ state in order to identify, define and investigate any exposed archaeological deposits. If the surface was not sufficiently clean, ‘hand cleaning’ of the surface commenced (i.e., by trowel or hoe).

3.4.13. Netlon fencing was used to fence each trench, alongside non-conductive ProInsulate ground rods as per National Highways requirements. The whole of each trench was fenced, excluding spoil heaps, while the trench was unsupervised.

3.4.14. Sondages were to be required and agreed with CCC/RBC at site meetings. This was envisioned to be undertaken in one in four trenches. Following the initial site meetings, and after review of the initial trial trenches, it was agreed with CCC/RBC that sondages were only to be excavated should deposits such as alluvium or colluvium be encountered which could mask archaeological features. No such deposits were encountered during the trial trenching works. Deep deposits requiring shoring were not encountered. No geological deposits were encountered that required deeper investigation.

3.4.15. All archaeological features and deposits were sufficiently sampled by hand in order to achieve the stated scheme objectives. Any horizontal archaeological deposits, e.g., surface deposits, were not to be machined or machine-sampled.

3.4.16. Provision was made for weekly site visits by the Archaeological Advisor at CCC, and a member of the Warwickshire County Council AI&A team during the archaeological work. Once the CCC Archaeological Advisor and a member of Warwickshire County Council AI&A team had visited the site and assessed the level of work conducted by Connect Archaeology, it was agreed that site visits to view negative trenches was not required and trenches could be digitally signed off for the duration of the project. No contingency trenching was requested by either the Archaeological Advisor at CCC or the Warwickshire County Council AI&A team.

3.4.17. Site records were produced using either pro-forma context or trench record sheets and by the single context planning method, compatible with recording guidelines published by the Museum of London (MoL 1994). Plans and sections of features were drawn at an appropriate scale of 1:10 or 1:20, with sections drawn at 1:10. The site code was CEB24.

3.4.18. All identified finds and artefacts were to be collected and retained. Finds were to be scanned to assess the date range of the assemblage with particular reference to pottery. In addition the artefacts were to be used to characterise the site, and to establish the potential for all categories of finds, should further archaeological work be necessary.

3.4.19. All finds and samples were to be treated in a proper manner and to standards agreed in advance with the recipient museum. Finds were to be exposed, lifted, cleaned, conserved, marked, bagged and boxed in accordance with the guidelines set out in United Kingdom Institute for Conservation's Conservation Guidelines No. 2 (UKIC 1983).

3.4.20. All archaeological features and deposits were sufficiently sampled by hand in order to achieve the stated objectives. No complex or large features were found and therefore 100% of each identified archaeological feature and deposit was

excavated. All features were to be sampled sufficiently to identify and characterise them. Sample percentages of individual features were set out in the WSI (HE604820-OIL-EHR-00-SP-LH-30002) and were to be modified by agreement with CCC/RBC.

3.4.21. Metal detectors were used by experienced staff to scan for metallic finds on spoil heaps, vacated areas and during the excavation of archaeological features or deposits interpreted as significant. Areas of modern disturbance were scanned based on professional judgement of the likelihood of residual artefacts and the potential to address the general and specific aims of the trial trenching.

3.4.22. Upon completion of the project the landowner and the relevant museum will be contacted regarding the preparation, ownership and deposition of the archive and finds. The site will be archived under the unique site code (AOCCEB24).

3.4.23. Each trench was accurately surveyed using a Total Station or Global Positioning System (GPS) and was related to the Ordnance Survey Grid and mapped upon (or during) machine excavation.

3.4.24. A record of the full extent in plan of all archaeological deposits as revealed in the evaluation was made, either digitally or by hand, and related to the OS grid. A sufficient number of points were taken on each feature to ensure an accurate representation of the archaeological remains. Digital data was downloaded at regular intervals (daily) and checked for inconsistencies throughout the evaluation. A plan of each trench was been made and included in the report where appropriate.

3.4.25. A sufficient number of levels were taken across the trenches to gain a sub-surface topographical model.

3.4.26. No burials were identified during trenching therefore there was no requirement to inform the Coroner and obtain a Ministry of Justice Licence before the remains were lifted. This ensured compliance with Section 25 of the Burial Act of 1857 (amended 1981).

4. Archaeological Results

4.1.1. A total of 67 trenches split over nine areas were excavated across the site (Figure 2). The fields within the trial trenching area were numbered Fields 1-9 (as detailed on Figure 2), with Fields 5, 6, and 7 containing no trenches and used for access only.

4.1.2. The location of a number of trenches were adjusted or realigned to avoid ground monitoring boreholes, and/or existing trees and hedgerows, but wherever possible, adhered as closely as possible to the agreed trench layout.

4.1.3. The trenches across the site were devoid of archaeological features apart from Trenches 21, 24 and 26 where ditch features, interpreted as the same continuous ditch was present (see section 4.4). Based on a rapid review of historic mapping the ditch appears to follow the same trajectory as the parish boundary. The ditch was investigated and found to contain modern debris. Most trenches contained furrows or land drains, as shown on the geophysical survey.

4.2. Field 1

4.2.1. Field 1 was located at the entrance to the site boundary, south of the River Sowe, and southwest of Hungerley Hall Farm. Field 1 contained eight trenches (Trenches 1-8, Figure 5), each measuring 50m in length.

4.2.2. Trenches 1-7 were located along the border of this field, running parallel to the B4082, and where joins the current Coventry Eastern Bypass. Trench 8 was located directly south of the existing Hungerley Hall Farm farmhouse and was slightly relocated, following written permission from CCC, for both livestock management and the safety of the sitting tenants.

4.2.3. The earliest deposit encountered within Field 1 was a natural sub-stratum formed of reddish brown silty sandy clay, with patches of rounded, small to medium sized gravels and frequent patches of blue clay. The natural sub-stratum was encountered across Field 1 at heights ranging from 71.72m aOD to 78.33m aOD This was overlain by a topsoil/topsoil of mid greyish-brown silty clay, with frequent sub-angular, small to medium sized stones and infrequent lumps of modern ceramic building material (CBM).

4.2.4. All trenches in Field 1 were devoid of archaeological features.

Trench 1

4.2.5. The earliest deposit encountered in Trench 1 was the natural sub-stratum formed of reddish-brown silty sandy clay, with patches of rounded, small to medium sized gravels and frequent patches of blue clay (102) (Figure 8, Section

1.2). The natural sub-stratum was encountered at heights ranging from 71.72m aOD to 72.54m aOD. This was overlain by a topsoil 0.30m deep, of mid greyish-brown silty clay, with frequent sub-angular, small to medium sized stones and infrequent lumps of modern CBM (101). The topsoil was encountered at heights ranging from 72.05m aOD to 72.61m aOD.

Plate 1: Trench 1 facing east

Plate 2: Trench 1 south facing representative section

Trench 2

4.2.6. The earliest deposit encountered in Trench 2 was a natural sub-stratum formed of reddish-brown silty sandy clay, with patches of rounded, small to medium sized gravels throughout (202) (Figure 8, Section 1.1). The natural sub-stratum was encountered at heights ranging from 71.94m aOD to 73.77m aOD. This was overlain by a topsoil, 0.30m deep, of mid greyish-brown silty clay, with frequent sub-angular, small to medium sized stones and infrequent lumps of modern CBM (201). The topsoil was encountered at heights ranging from 72.05m aOD to 73.77m aOD.

Plate 3: Trench 2 facing north-west

Plate 4: Trench 2 representative section facing east

Trench 3

4.2.7. The earliest deposit encountered in Trench 3 was a natural sub-stratum formed of reddish-brown silty sandy clay, with patches of rounded, small to medium sized gravels throughout (302) (Figure 10, Section 3.13). The natural sub-stratum was encountered at heights ranging from 72.97m aOD to 74.21m aOD. This was overlain by a topsoil, 0.30m deep, of mid brown silty clay, with frequent sub-angular, small to medium sized stones and infrequent lumps of modern CBM (301). The topsoil was encountered at heights ranging from 73.47m aOD to 74.73m aOD.

Plate 5: Trench 3 facing north

Plate 6: Trench 3 representative section facing east

Trench 4

4.2.8. The earliest deposit encountered in Trench 4 was a natural sub-stratum formed of yellow-brown sandy clay, with patches of small, rounded pebbles throughout (402) (Figure 10, Section 3.14). The natural sub-stratum was encountered at heights ranging from 75.11m aOD to 75.43m aOD. This was overlain by a topsoil, 0.28m deep, of firmly compacted mid brown silty clay, with occasional, small to medium sized stones and rounded pebbles (401). The topsoil was encountered at heights ranging from 75.54m aOD to 75.76m aOD.

Plate 7: Trench 4 facing south

Plate 8: Trench 4 representative section facing north

Trench 5

4.2.9. The earliest deposit encountered in Trench 5 was a natural sub-stratum formed of soft, mid brownish-grey silty clay, with very frequent small to medium sized stones throughout (503) (Figure 8, Section 1.3). The natural sub-stratum was encountered at heights ranging from 74.21m aOD to 75.16m aOD. This was overlain by a subsoil, 0.12m thick, of soft mid greyish-brown silty clay, with occasional, small to medium sized stones (502). This was in turn sealed by a topsoil, of friable mid greyish-brown silty clay, with frequent sub-angular and sub-rounded small to medium stones (501). The topsoil was revealed to a depth of 0.15m and was encountered at heights ranging from 74.30m aOD to 75.56m aOD.

Plate 9: Trench 5 facing north

Plate 10: Trench 5 representative section facing west

Trench 6

4.2.10. The earliest deposit encountered in Trench 6 was a natural sub-stratum formed of yellow-brown sandy clay, with patches of small rounded, small to medium sized gravels throughout (602) (Figure 10, Section 3.15). The natural sub-stratum was encountered at heights ranging from 74.33m aOD to 75.83m aOD. This was overlain by a topsoil, 0.32m deep, of mid brown sandy clay, with frequent sub-angular, small sized stones (601). The topsoil was encountered at heights ranging from 73.47m aOD to 76.03m aOD.

Plate 11: Trench 6 facing north

Plate 12: Trench 6 representative section, facing west (waterlogged)

Trench 7

4.2.11. The earliest deposit encountered in Trench 7 was a natural sub-stratum formed of soft mid brown-grey silty clay, with frequent small to medium sized gravels throughout (703) (Figure 8, Section 1.4). The natural sub-stratum was encountered at heights ranging from 75.01m aOD to 76.35m aOD. This was overlain by a subsoil, 0.14m deep, of soft mid greyish brown silty clay, with occasional small to medium sized stones (702). Sealing this was a topsoil, 0.20m deep, of friable mid greyish-brown silty clay (701). The topsoil was encountered at heights ranging from 78.12m aOD to 78.73m aOD.

Plate 13: Trench 7 facing South-east

Plate 14: Tench 7 representative section facing north-west

Trench 8

4.2.12. The earliest deposit encountered in Trench 8 was a natural sub-stratum formed of a compact mid reddish-brown silty sand with patches of small rounded, stones (802) (Figure 10, Section 4.2). The natural sub-stratum was encountered at heights ranging from 77.27m aOD to 78.33m aOD. This was overlain by a topsoil, 0.40m deep, of dark grey-brown sandy silt, with frequent sub-rounded, small sized stones (801). The topsoil was encountered at heights ranging from 77.61m aOD to 78.79m aOD.

Plate 15: Trench 8 facing north-east

4.3. Field 2

4.3.1. Field 2 was located directly south of the River Sowe, which resulted in a high water table, as a result the majority of the field was waterlogged. This was evidenced in the presence of a high amount of standing water in Trench 10. Field 2 contained one 15m trench (Trench 10, Figure 5), with Trench 9 being descoped.

Trench 9

4.3.2. Trench 9 was descoped after conferring with the Archaeological Advisor at CCC due to the waterlogged status. It was assessed as possible to descope due to the lack of any archaeological features in the surrounding trenches.

Trench 10

4.3.3. Trench 10 contained no archaeological features. The earliest deposit encountered was a natural sub-stratum formed of mid greyish-brown soft/sticky silty clay with very frequent and small to medium sized rounded stones throughout (1003) (Figure 8, Section 1.5). The natural sub-stratum was encountered at heights ranging from 72.32m aOD to 72.37m aOD. This was overlain by a subsoil of friable, mid brownish-grey sandy silty, with frequent rounded, small to medium sized stones (1002). This was sealed by a topsoil, 0.18m deep, of friable mid greyish-brown sandy silt, heavily rooted with grass (1001). The topsoil was encountered at heights ranging from 72.55m aOD to 72.77m aOD.

Plate 16: Trench 10 facing north-east

Plate 17: Trench 10 representative section facing north-west

4.4. Field 3

4.4.1. Field 3 was located south of the River Sowe, and northeast of Hungerley Hall Farm. It followed a corridor laid out by National Highways, respecting the current route of the A46.

4.4.2. Field 3 contained 17 trenches (Trenches 11-27, Figure 3 and 4), one trench (Trench 11) was 100m in length with the remaining 16 trenches measuring 50m in length.

4.4.3. The earliest deposit encountered within the trenches in Field 3 was the natural sub-stratum which was encountered across Field 3 at heights ranging from 72.69m aOD to 78.30m aOD and comprised of firm, light greyish-yellow silty clay with very frequent small to medium sized sub-rounded stones throughout. This was overlain by a subsoil of friable, mid greyish-brown sandy silt, with frequent medium sized sub-rounded stones. This were sealed by a topsoil of friable, mid greyish-brown sandy silt, with occasional medium to large sub-rounded stones.

4.4.4. There was one archaeological feature, a ditch [2605] present in Trenches 21, 24 and 26 (Figure 6). The location of the ditch corresponds with the locations of a parish boundary identified on historic mapping (HE604820-OIL-EHR-00-SP-LH-30002). Trenches 21 and 24 held groundwater due to the high water table, therefore the potential feature was only investigated in Trench 26.

Plate 18: Ditch [2605], south facing section

Trench 11

4.4.5. Trench 11 measured 100m and contained no archaeological features. The earliest deposit encountered was a natural sub-stratum formed of soft, mid reddish-brown silty sand with very frequent small to medium sized sub-rounded stones and gravels throughout (1102) (Figure 9, Section 2.15). The natural sub-stratum was revealed to a depth of 0.08m and was encountered at heights ranging from 72.70m aOD to 77.83m aOD. The natural sub-stratum was overlain by a topsoil, 0.32m deep, of friable, mid greyish-brown sandy silt, with occasional small to medium sized sub-rounded stones (1101). The topsoil was encountered at heights ranging from 73.20m aOD to 78.29m aOD.

Plate 19: Trench 11 facing north

Plate 20: Trench 11 representative section facing west

Trench 12

4.4.6. The earliest deposit encountered in Trench 12 was a natural sub-stratum formed of friable mid brown clayey silty sand, with very frequent small to medium, rounded and sub-rounded stones throughout (1203) (Figure 8, Section 1.6). The natural sub-stratum was encountered at heights ranging from 76.27m aOD to 77.78m aOD. This was overlain by a subsoil, 0.06m deep, of friable mid greyish-brown sandy, silty clay, with occasional, small, rounded stones (1202). This was sealed by a topsoil (1201), 0.28m deep, a friable, mid greyish-brown sandy silty clay with much turned plant matter and rooting. The topsoil was encountered at heights ranging from 76.67m aOD to 78.06m aOD.

Plate 21: Trench 12 facing north-east

Plate 22: Trench 12 representative section facing south-east

Trench 13

4.4.7. The earliest deposit encountered in Trench 13 was a natural sub-stratum formed of mid reddish-brown, soft sand yellow brown sandy clay, with frequent, small to medium sired rounded and sub-rounded stones throughout (1302) (Figure 9, Section 2.19). The natural sub-stratum was encountered at heights ranging from 76.39m aOD to 77.94m aOD. This was overlain by a topsoil, 0.34m deep, of friable dark grey-brown sandy clayey silt, with frequent, small to medium sized stones (1301). The topsoil was encountered at heights ranging from 76.70m aOD to 78.31m aOD.

Plate 23: Trench 13 facing south-west

Plate 24: Trench 13 representative section facing south-east

Trench 14

4.4.8. The earliest deposit encountered in Trench 14 was a natural sub-stratum formed of a soft, mid red-brown soft sand, with frequent, small, rounded pebbles throughout (1402) (Figure 9, Section 2.18). The natural sub-stratum was encountered at heights ranging from 77.66m aOD to 77.75m aOD. This was overlain by a topsoil, 0.34m deep, of friable dark grey-brown sandy clayey silt, with frequent, small to medium sized stones (1401). The topsoil was encountered at heights ranging from 78.02m aOD to 78.21m aOD.

Plate 25: Trench 14 facing south-east

Plate 26: Trench 14 representative section facing north-east

Trench 15

4.4.9. The earliest deposit encountered in Trench 15 was a natural sub-stratum formed of mid reddish-brown sandy silt, with frequent small, sub-rounded stones throughout (1503) (Figure 8, Section 1.7). The natural sub-stratum was encountered at heights ranging from 77.66m aOD to 77.81m aOD. This was overlain by a subsoil, 0.18m deep, of firmly compacted dark brown silty sand, with occasional, small to medium sized sub-rounded stones (1502). This was sealed by a topsoil, measuring 0.20m deep, of loose dark greyish-brown silty sand with occasional medium sized sub-rounded stones and rooting (1501). The topsoil was encountered at heights ranging from 78.14m aOD to 78.25m aOD.

Plate 27: Trench 15 facing east

Plate 28: Trench 15 representative section facing north

Trench 16

4.4.10. The earliest deposit encountered in Trench 16 was a natural sub-stratum formed of mid reddish-brown, with frequent, small to medium, rounded stones throughout (1602) (Figure 9, Section 2.16). The natural sub-stratum was encountered at heights ranging from 75.96m aOD to 77.51m aOD. This was overlain by a topsoil, 0.34m deep, of friable dark grey-brown, sandy silt, with frequent, small to medium sized rounded stones (1601). The topsoil was encountered at heights ranging from 75.54m aOD to 76.35m aOD.

Plate 29: Trench 16 facing north-east

Plate 30: Trench 16 representative section facing north-west

Trench 17

4.4.11. The earliest deposit encountered in Trench 17 was a natural sub-stratum formed of mid reddish-brown sandy silt, with frequent small, sub-rounded stones throughout (1702) (Figure 9, Section 2.17). The natural sub-stratum was encountered at heights ranging from 77.32m aOD to 77.58m aOD. This was overlain by a topsoil (1701), 0.28m deep, of friable dark grey-brown, sandy silt, with frequent, small to medium sized rounded stones. The topsoil was encountered at heights ranging from 77.73m aOD to 77.76m aOD.

Plate 31: Trench 17 facing west

Plate 32: Trench 17 representative section facing north

Trench 18

4.4.12. The earliest deposit encountered in Trench 18 was a natural sub-stratum formed of mid reddish-brown sandy silt, with frequent small, sub-rounded stones throughout (1803) (Figure 8, Section 1.8). The natural sub-stratum was encountered at heights ranging from 75.53m aOD to 77.03m aOD. This was overlain by a subsoil, 0.12m deep, of firmly compacted dark brown silty sand, with occasional, small to medium sized sub-rounded stones (1802). This was sealed by a topsoil, measuring 0.08m deep, of loose dark greyish-brown silty sand with occasional medium sized sub-rounded stones and rooting (1801). The topsoil was encountered at heights ranging from 75.85m aOD to 77.39m aOD.

Plate 33: Trench 18 facing south-west

Plate 34: Trench 18 representative section facing north-east

Trench 19

4.4.13. The earliest deposit encountered in Trench 19 was a natural sub-stratum formed of mid reddish-brown sandy silt, with frequent small, sub-rounded stones throughout (1902) (Figure 9, Section 2.17). The natural sub-stratum was encountered at heights ranging from 76.55m aOD to 77.25m aOD. This was overlain by a topsoil, 0.30m deep, of friable dark grey-brown, sandy silt, with frequent, small to medium sized rounded stones (1901). The topsoil was encountered at heights ranging from 77.02m aOD to 77.71m aOD.

Plate 35: Trench 19 facing south-east

Plate 36: Trench 19 representative section facing north-west

Trench 20

4.4.14. The earliest deposit encountered in Trench 20 was a natural sub-stratum formed of mid reddish-brown sandy silt, with frequent small, sub-rounded stones throughout (2002) (Figure 9, Section 2.20). The natural sub-stratum was encountered at heights ranging from 76.55m aOD to 77.25m aOD. This was overlain by a topsoil, 0.34m deep, of friable mid greyish-brown, sandy silt, with frequent, small to medium sized rounded stones (2001). The topsoil was encountered at heights ranging from 77.02m aOD to 77.71m aOD.

Plate 37: Trench 20 facing north

Plate 38: Trench 20 representative section facing south

Trench 21

4.4.15. The earliest deposit encountered in Trench 21 was a natural sub-stratum formed of a light-yellow grey mottled sandy clay, with frequent patches of small, sub-rounded stones throughout (2103) (Figure 8, Section 1.9). The natural sub-stratum was encountered at heights ranging from 75.36m aOD to 75.43m aOD.

4.4.16. Trench 21 contained a north to south oriented ditch at the east end of the trench (Figure 6). The ditch was cut in to the natural sub-stratum but was not investigated due to waterlogged conditions. The ditch was also present in Trenches 24 and 26, it was investigated in Trench 26 (see below). The ditch was overlain by a subsoil, 0.18m deep, of firmly compacted mid greyish-brown silty sandy clay, with frequent, small to medium sized sub-rounded stones (2102). This was sealed by a topsoil, measuring 0.08m deep, of loose mid greyish-brown silty sandy clay, with occasional medium sized sub-rounded stones and rooting (2101). The topsoil was encountered at heights ranging from 75.61m aOD to 75.77m aOD.

Plate 39: Trench 21 facing east

Plate 40: Trench 21 representative section facing south

Trench 22

4.4.17. The earliest deposit encountered in Trench 22 was a natural sub-stratum formed of mid reddish-brown sandy, clayey silt, with frequent small, sub-rounded stones throughout (2202) (Figure 8, Section 2.22). The natural sub-stratum was encountered at heights ranging from 75.20m aOD to 76.00m aOD. This was overlain by a topsoil, 0.34m deep, of friable dark greyish-brown, sandy clayey silt, with frequent, small to medium sized rounded stones (2201). It was encountered at heights ranging from 75.56m aOD to 76.44m aOD.

Plate 41: Trench 22 facing north

Plate 42: Trench 22 representative section facing east

Trench 23

4.4.18. The earliest deposit encountered in Trench 23 was a natural sub-stratum formed of a firm mid yellowish-brown mottled sandy clay, with frequent patches of small, sub-rounded stones throughout (2303) (Figure 8, Section 1.10). The natural sub-stratum was encountered at heights ranging from 73.53m aOD to 74.43m aOD. This was overlain by a subsoil, 0.16m deep, of firmly compacted mid greyish-brown silty sandy clay, with frequent, small to medium sized sub-rounded stones (2302). This was sealed by a topsoil, measuring 0.17m deep, of firm mid greyish-brown silty sandy clay, with occasional medium to large sized sub-rounded stones and rooting (2301). The topsoil was encountered at heights ranging from 75.61m aOD to 75.77m aOD.

Plate 43: Trench 23 facing east

Plate 44: Trench 23 representative section facing north

Trench 24

4.4.19. The earliest deposit encountered was a natural sub-stratum formed of a firm light greyish-yellow silty clay, with frequent small, sub-rounded stones throughout (2403) (Figure 8, Section 1.11). The natural sub-stratum was encountered at heights ranging from 74.51m aOD to 74.61m aOD. The ditch was cut in to the natural sub-stratum but was not investigated due to waterlogged conditions.

4.4.20. Trench 24 contained a north to south oriented ditch in the centre of the trench (Figure 6). The ditch was also present in Trenches 21 and 26, it was investigated in Trench 26 (see below). This was overlain by a subsoil, 0.18m deep, of friable mid greyish-brown silty sandy clay, with frequent, small to medium sized sub-angular stones (2402). This was sealed by a topsoil, measuring 0.20m deep, of friable mid greyish-brown silty sandy clay, with occasional medium to large sized sub-rounded stones and rooting (2401). The topsoil was encountered at heights ranging from 74.96m aOD to 75.04m aOD.

Plate 45: Trench 24 facing north

Plate 46: Trench 24 representative section facing west

Trench 25

4.4.21. The earliest deposit encountered in Trench 25 was a natural sub-stratum formed of mid reddish-brown sandy clayey silt, with frequent small to medium, sub-rounded stones (2502) (Figure 9, Section 3.1). The natural sub-stratum was encountered at heights ranging from 74.43m aOD to 75.18m aOD. This was overlain by a topsoil, 0.36m deep, of firmly compacted dark grey-brown sandy clayey silt, with frequent, small to medium sized sub-rounded stones (2501). The topsoil was encountered at heights ranging from 75.54m aOD to 75.51m aOD.

Plate 47: Trench 25 facing east

Plate 48: Trench 25 representative section facing north

Trench 26

Table 1: Trench 26--Stratigraphy

Context	Description	Depth (m)	Height (m aOD)
2601	Topsoil	0.20	73.98
2602	Subsoil	0.14	-
2604	Fill of Agricultural Ditch	0.80	N/A
2605	Cut of Agricultural Ditch	0.80	73.24
2603	Natural	-	73.42

4.4.22. The earliest deposit encountered in Trench 26, was a natural sub-stratum formed of a firm light yellowish-grey, silty clay, with frequent small, sub-rounded stones throughout (2603) (Figure 8, Section 1.12). The natural sub-stratum was encountered at heights ranging from 73.42m aOD to 74.10m aOD.

4.4.23. There was one archaeological feature visible in Trench 26, a north to south oriented ditch [2605]. The ditch was steep sided, with a sharp break of slope, and flat base as far as visible (Figure 10, Section 4.1). It measured 1.34m long, 1.80m wide, and was excavated to a depth of 0.80m before plastic shotgun cartridges were encountered. It was deemed unsafe to continue excavation due to potential for any discarded live cartridges. The ditch fill (2604) shared the same dimensions as [2605], and comprised a friable, mid greyish-brown, with yellowish-brown mottling, and frequent small, sub-angular stones. The fill also included other modern debris consisting of twine, blue degraded plastic, broken bricks, in addition to the plastic shotgun shells.

4.4.24. In plan the ditch [2605] correlated with the location of a parish boundary recorded on historic mapping (HE604820-OIL-EHR-00-SP-LH-30002)). The ditch was also evident in Trenches 21 and 24 (Figure 7).

4.4.25. The ditch was overlain by a subsoil, 0.14m deep, friable, of mid greyish-brown silty clay, with frequent, small to medium sized sub-angular stones (2602). These were sealed by a topsoil (2601), measuring 0.20m deep, a friable, mid greyish-brown silty sandy clay, with occasional medium to large sized sub-rounded

stones and rooting. The topsoil was encountered at heights ranging from 73.98m aOD to 74.53m aOD.

Plate 49: Trench 26 facing south, south-east

Plate 50: Trench 26 representative section facing east, north-east

Plate 51: Ditch [2605] facing south

Trench 27

4.4.26. The earliest deposit encountered in Trench 27 was a natural sub-stratum formed of mid yellow-grey mottled firm clay, with patches of reddish-brown sandy clay, and frequent small to medium, rounded and sub-rounded stones (2702) (Figure 9, Section 3.2). The natural sub-stratum was encountered at heights ranging from 73.56m aOD to 73.68m aOD. This was overlain by a topsoil, 0.34m deep, of firmly compacted dark grey-brown sandy clayey silt, with frequent, small to medium sized rounded and sub-rounded stones (2701). The topsoil was encountered at heights ranging from 73.76m aOD to 73.94m aOD.

Plate 52: Trench 27 facing north-east

Plate 53: Trench 27 representative section facing south-east

4.5. Field 4

4.5.1. Field 4 was located directly north-east of Field 3 and also followed a corridor laid out by National Highways, respecting the current route of the A46.

4.5.2. Field 4 contained 14 trenches (Trenches 28-41, Figure 3), all measuring 50m, with Trenches 40-41 in a T-shape arrangement.

4.5.3. All the trenches in this area were devoid of archaeological features.

Trench 28

4.5.4. The earliest deposit encountered in Trench 28 was a natural sub-stratum formed of a friable, mid grey-yellow silty clay, with very frequent flecks of manganese and small sub-rounded stones (2802) (Figure 9, Section 3.9). The natural sub-stratum was encountered at heights ranging from 72.82m aOD to 73.36m aOD. This was overlain by a topsoil, 0.28m deep, of soft dark grey-brown, silty clay, with frequent small to medium sized, sub-rounded stones (2801). The topsoil was encountered at heights ranging from 73.10m aOD to 73.64m aOD.

Plate 54: Trench 28 facing east

Plate 55: Trench 28 representative section facing south

Trench 29

4.5.5. The earliest deposit encountered in Trench 29 was a natural sub-stratum formed of a friable but compact, mid grey-yellow sandy clay, with very frequent small to medium sub-rounded stones (2903) (Figure 9, Section 3.1). The natural sub-stratum was encountered at heights ranging from 73.37m aOD to 74.09m aOD. This was overlain by a subsoil, 0.10m deep, of compact mid grey-sandy clayey silt, with frequent flecks of manganese and CBM throughout (2902). This was sealed by a topsoil, 0.26m deep, of soft dark reddish-brown silty clay, with frequent small to medium rounded and sub-rounded stones and CBM (2901). The topsoil was encountered at heights ranging from 73.89m aOD to 74.49m aOD.

Plate 56: Trench 29 facing west

Plate 57: Trench 29 representative section facing north

Trench 30

4.5.6. The earliest deposit encountered in Trench 30 was a natural sub-stratum formed of a friable but compact, mid grey-yellow sandy clay, with very frequent small to medium sub-rounded stones (3003) (Figure 9, Section 3.11). The natural sub-stratum was encountered at heights ranging from 72.86m aOD to 73.63m aOD. This was overlain by a subsoil, 0.14m deep, compact, mid grey, sandy clayey silt, with frequent flecks of manganese and CBM throughout (3002). This was sealed by a topsoil, 0.34m deep, of soft dark-reddish brown silty clay, with frequent small to medium rounded and sub-rounded stones and CBM (3001). The topsoil was encountered at heights ranging from 73.01m aOD to 74.04m aOD.

Plate 58: Trench 30 facing north-west

Plate 59: Trench 30 representative section, facing west

Trench 31

4.5.7. The earliest deposit encountered in Trench 31 was a natural sub-stratum formed of a friable but compact, mid grey-yellow sandy clay, with very frequent small to medium sub-rounded stones (3103) (Figure 10, Section 3.12). The natural sub-stratum was encountered at heights ranging from 73.73m aOD to 74.66m aOD. This was overlain by a subsoil, 0.12m deep, of compact mid grey, sandy clayey silt, with frequent flecks of manganese and CBM throughout (3102). These were sealed by a topsoil, 0.16m deep, of soft dark reddish-brown silty clay, with frequent small to medium rounded and sub-rounded stones and CBM (3101). The topsoil was encountered at heights ranging from 74.19m aOD to 74.97m aOD.

Plate 60: Trench 31 facing south

Plate 61: Trench 31 representative section facing east

Trench 32

4.5.8. The earliest deposit encountered in Trench 32 was a natural sub-stratum formed of a friable but compact, mid grey-yellow sandy clay, with very frequent small to medium sub-rounded stones (3203) (Figure 10, Section 3.16). The natural sub-stratum was encountered at heights ranging from 73.35m aOD to 73.94m aOD. This was overlain by a subsoil, 0.12m deep, of compact mid grey, sandy clayey silt, with frequent flecking of manganese and CBM throughout (3202). This was sealed by a topsoil, 0.18m deep, of soft dark greyish-brown silty clay, with frequent small to medium rounded and sub-rounded stones and CBM (3201). The topsoil was encountered at heights ranging from 73.70m aOD to 74.33m aOD.

Plate 62: Trench 32 facing west

Plate 63: Trench 32 representative section facing north

Trench 33

4.5.9. The earliest deposit encountered in Trench 33 was a natural sub-stratum formed of yellow-brown sandy clay, with frequent stone inclusions (3302) (Figure 9, Section 3.8). The natural sub- was encountered at heights ranging from 72.68m aOD to 73m aOD. This was overlain by a topsoil, 0.26m deep, of firmly compacted mid brown sandy clay (3301). The topsoil was encountered at heights ranging from 73.02m aOD to 73.54m aOD.

Plate 64: Trench 33 facing east

Plate 65: Trench 33 representative section facing north

Trench 34

4.5.10. The earliest deposit encountered in Trench 34 was a natural sub-stratum formed of yellow-brown sandy clay, with patches of small, rounded pebbles throughout (3402) (Figure 9, Section 3.7). The natural sub-stratum was encountered at heights ranging from 73.45m aOD to 74.09m aOD. This was overlain by a topsoil, 0.30m deep, of firmly compacted mid brown silty clay, with occasional, small to medium sized stones inclusions (3401). The topsoil was encountered at heights ranging from 73.70m aOD to 74.54m aOD.

Plate 66: Trench 34 facing south

Plate 67: Trench 34 representative section facing east

Trench 35

4.5.11. The earliest deposit encountered in Trench 35 was a natural sub-stratum formed of yellow-brown sandy clay, with patches of small, rounded pebbles throughout (3502) (Figure 9, Section 3.5). The natural sub-stratum was encountered at heights ranging from 73.39m aOD to 73.69m aOD. This was overlain by a topsoil (3501), 0.28m deep, of firmly compacted mid brown sandy clay, with occasional, small to medium sized stones and rounded pebbles. The topsoil was encountered at heights ranging from 73.76m aOD to 74.28m aOD.

Plate 68: Trench 35 facing north

Plate 69: Trench 35 representative section facing west

Trench 36

4.5.12. The earliest deposit encountered in Trench 36 was a natural sub-stratum formed of yellow-brown sandy clay, with patches of small, rounded pebbles throughout (3602) (Figure 9, Section 3.6). The natural sub-stratum was encountered at heights ranging from 73m aOD to 73.40m aOD. This was overlain by a topsoil (3601), 0.32m deep, of firmly compacted mid brown sandy clay, with occasional, small to medium sized stones. The topsoil was encountered at heights ranging from 73.28m aOD to 73.74m aOD.

Plate 70: Trench 36 facing east

Plate 71: Trench 36 representative section facing north

Trench 37

4.5.13. The earliest deposit encountered in Trench 37 was a natural sub-stratum formed of yellow-brown sandy, silty clay, with patches of small, rounded pebbles throughout (3702) (Figure 9, Section 3.4). The natural sub-stratum was encountered at heights ranging from 72.71m aOD to 72.90m aOD. This was overlain by a topsoil (3701), 0.25m deep, firmly compacted, of mid brown sandy clay, with frequent small pebbles. The topsoil was encountered at heights ranging from 72.99m aOD to 73.28m aOD.

Plate 72: Trench 37 facing east

Plate 73: Trench 37 representative section facing south

Trench 38

4.5.14. The earliest deposit encountered in Trench 38 was a natural sub-stratum formed of yellow-brown sandy, silty clay, with frequent small, rounded pebbles throughout (3802) (Figure 9, Section 3.3). The natural sub-stratum was encountered at heights ranging from 72.80m aOD to 73.40m aOD. This was overlain by a topsoil, 0.30m deep, of firmly compacted mid brown silty clay, with frequent stone inclusions (3801). The topsoil was encountered at heights ranging from 73.07m aOD to 73.77m aOD.

Plate 74: Trench 38 facing north

Plate 75: Trench 38 representative section facing west

Trench 39

4.5.15. The earliest deposit encountered in Trench 39 was a natural sub-stratum formed of a friable but compact, mid reddish-brown clay, with very frequent flecks of manganese and infrequent patches of medium sub-rounded stones and gravels (3903). The natural sub-stratum was encountered at heights ranging from 73.51m aOD to 73.79m aOD. This was overlain by a subsoil, 0.14m deep, of compact mid grey, sandy clayey silt, with frequent flecks of manganese and CBM throughout (3902). This was sealed by a topsoil, 0.16m deep, of mid brown-grey silty clay, with frequent small to medium rounded and sub-rounded stones and CBM (3901). The topsoil was encountered at heights ranging from 74.09m aOD to 74.17m aOD.

Plate 76: Trench 39 facing north

Plate 77: Trench 39 representative section facing east

Trench 40

4.5.16. The earliest deposit encountered in Trench 40 was a natural sub-stratum formed of a friable but compact, mid yellow-brown clay, with very frequent flecks of manganese and infrequent patches of medium sub-rounded stones and gravels (4003) (Figure 8, Section 2.6). The natural sub-stratum was encountered at heights ranging from 73.22m aOD to 74.26m aOD. This was overlain by a subsoil, 0.14m deep, of compact mid grey, sandy clayey silt, with occasional small, rounded stones (4002). This was sealed by a topsoil, 0.20m deep, of mid brown-grey silty clay, with occasional small to medium rounded and sub-rounded stones and CBM (4001). The topsoil was encountered at heights ranging from 73.46m aOD to 74.73m aOD.

Plate 78: Trench 40 facing east

XC

Plate 79: Trench 40 representative section facing north

Trench 41

4.5.17. The earliest deposit encountered in Trench 41 was a natural sub-stratum formed of a firm, mid yellow-brown clay, with very frequent flecks of manganese and infrequent patches of medium sub-rounded stones (4103) (Figure 9, Section 2.7). The natural sub-stratum was encountered at heights ranging from 73.67m aOD to 73.71m aOD. This was overlain by a subsoil, 0.14m deep, of compact mid grey, sandy clayey silt, with frequent flecks of manganese and CBM throughout (4102). This was sealed by a topsoil, 0.17m deep, of mid brown-grey silty clay, with frequent small to medium rounded and sub-rounded stones and CBM (4101). The topsoil was encountered at heights ranging from 73.94m aOD to 74.11m aOD.

Plate 80: Trench 41 facing north-east

Plate 81: Trench 41 representative section facing east

4.6. Field 5

4.6.1. Field 5 was allocated a number as it was identified as a possible access route during an earlier iteration of the scheme design. However, the current proposed scheme does not impact on this area, and therefore no investigation was undertaken, with the prior authorisation of the Archaeological Advisor at CCC.

4.7. Field 6

4.7.1. Field 6 was allocated a number as it was identified as a possible access route during an earlier iteration of the scheme design. However, the current proposed scheme does not impact on this area, and therefore no investigation was undertaken, with the prior authorisation of the Archaeological Advisor at CCC/ Warwickshire County Council AI&A team.

4.8. Field 7

4.8.1. Field 7 was allocated a number as it was identified as a possible access route during an earlier iteration of the scheme design. However, the current proposed scheme does not impact on this area, and therefore no investigation was undertaken, with the prior authorisation of the Archaeological Advisor at CCC/ Warwickshire County Council AI&A team.

4.9. Field 8

4.9.1. Field 8 was located to the east of the A46, and therefore falls under the remit of the RBC which are advised on archaeological matters by the Warwickshire County Council AI&A team. Field 8 was accessed via Farber Road.

4.9.2. Field 8 contained seven trenches (Trenches 61-67, Figure 3) all measuring 50m.

4.9.3. Machining in the field followed a corridor laid out by National Highways, respecting the current route of the A46, and does not impinge on the majority of Field 8.

4.9.4. All the trenches in this area were devoid of archaeological features.

4.9.5. Trenches in this field were monitored by a UXO expert from First Line Defence.

Trench 61

4.9.6. The earliest deposit encountered in Trench 61 was a natural sub-stratum formed of stiff mid reddish-brown clay with occasional small to medium sized rounded stones (6102) (Figure 10, Section 3.18). The natural sub-stratum was encountered at heights ranging from 75.11m aOD to 76.49m aOD This was overlain by a topsoil, 0.30m deep, of friable, mid brown-grey silty clay, with occasional small to medium rounded and sub-rounded stones (6101). The topsoil was encountered at heights ranging from 76.23m aOD to 76.77m aOD.

Plate 82: Trench 61 facing north

Plate 83: Trench 61 representative section facing east

Trench 62

4.9.7. The earliest deposit encountered in Trench 62 was a natural sub-stratum formed of stiff mid reddish-brown clay with occasional small to medium sized rounded stones (6202) (Figure 10, Section 3.17). The natural sub-stratum was encountered at heights ranging from 77.08m aOD to 79.37m aOD. This was overlain by a topsoil, 0.32m deep, of friable mid brown-grey silty clay, with occasional small to medium rounded and sub-rounded stones (6201). The topsoil was encountered at heights ranging from 77.37m aOD to 79.74m aOD.

Plate 84: Trench 62 facing west

Plate 85: Trench 62 representative section facing south

Trench 63

4.9.8. The earliest deposit encountered in Trench 63 was a natural sub-stratum formed of stiff mid reddish-brown clay with occasional small to medium sized rounded stones (6302) (Figure 10, Section 3.19). The natural sub-stratum was encountered at heights ranging from 75.94m aOD to 78.31m aOD. This was overlain by a topsoil, 0.30m deep, of friable, mid brown-grey silty clay, with occasional small to medium rounded and sub-rounded stones (6301). The topsoil was encountered at heights ranging from 76.24m aOD to 78.74m aOD.

Plate 86: Trench 63 facing east

Plate 87: Trench 63 representative section north

Trench 64

4.9.9. The earliest deposit encountered in Trench 64 was a natural sub-stratum formed of stiff mid reddish-brown clay with occasional small to medium sized rounded stones (6402) (Figure 10, Section 4.3). The natural sub-stratum was encountered at heights ranging from 77.03m aOD to 77.25m aOD This was overlain by a topsoil, 0.30m deep, of soft, mid brown-grey silty clay, with occasional small to medium rounded and sub-rounded stones (6401). The topsoil was encountered at heights ranging from 77.28m aOD to 77.62m aOD.

Plate 88: Trench 64 facing south

Plate 89: Trench 64 representative section facing east

Trench 65

4.9.10. The earliest deposit encountered in Trench 65 was a natural sub-stratum formed of firm mid reddish-brown clay with occasional small to medium sized rounded stones (6502) (Figure 10, Section 4.4). The natural sub-stratum was encountered at heights ranging from 76.89m aOD to 77.45m aOD. This was overlain by a topsoil, 0.30m deep, of soft, mid brown-grey silty clay, with occasional small to medium rounded and sub-rounded stones (6501). The topsoil was encountered at heights ranging from 77.28m aOD to 77.76m aOD.

Plate 90: Trench 65 facing south

Plate 91: Trench 65 representative section facing west

Trench 66

4.9.11. The earliest deposit encountered in Trench 66 was a natural sub-stratum formed of firm mid reddish-brown clay with occasional small to medium sized rounded stones (6602) (Figure 10, Section 4.5). The natural sub-stratum was encountered at heights ranging from 76.72m aOD to 77.56m aOD. This was overlain by a topsoil, 0.30m deep, of sticky, mid brown-grey silty clay, with occasional small to medium rounded and sub-rounded stones (6601). Topsoil was encountered at heights ranging from 77.30m aOD to 77.93m aOD.

Plate 92: Trench 66 facing south

Plate 93: Trench 66 representative section facing west

Trench 67

4.9.12. The earliest deposit encountered in Trench 67 was a natural sub-stratum formed of firm mid reddish-brown clay with occasional small to medium sized rounded stones (6702) (Figure 10, Section 4.6). The natural sub-stratum was encountered at heights ranging from 76.83m aOD to 77.28m aOD. This was overlain by a topsoil, 0.30m deep, of firmly compacted mid brown silty clay, with occasional, small to medium sized stones and rounded pebbles (6701). The topsoil was encountered at heights ranging from 77.21m aOD to 77.64m aOD.

Plate 94: Trench 67 facing south

Plate 95: Trench 67 representative section facing east

4.10. Field 9

4.10.1. Field 9 was located on the eastern side of the A46, south of the River Sowe, east of the heronry at Coombe. As such Field 9 fell under the remit of the RBC which are advised on archaeological matters by the Warwickshire County Council AI&A team.

4.10.2. Field 9 contained 20 trenches (Trenches 42-60, and Trench 68, Figure 3 and 4), all measuring 50m.

4.10.3. Machining in this field follows a corridor laid out by National Highways, respecting the current route of the A46.

4.10.4. All the trenches in this area were devoid of archaeological features.

Trench 42

4.10.5. The earliest deposit encountered in Trench 42 was a natural sub-stratum formed of friable mid brownish-grey silty sand (4203) (Figure 10, Section 4.7). The natural sub-stratum was encountered at heights ranging from 76.00m aOD to 76.70m aOD. This was overlain by a subsoil, 0.30m deep, of friable mid brownish-grey sandy silt, with occasional, small, rounded stones (4202). This was sealed by a topsoil, a friable mid brownish-grey, silty clay with frequent medium sized rounded and sub-angular stones (4201). The topsoil was encountered at heights ranging from 76.43m aOD to 77.07m aOD.

Plate 96: Trench 42 facing east

Plate 97: Trench 42 representative section facing north

Trench 43

4.10.6. The earliest deposit encountered in Trench 43 was a natural sub-stratum formed of friable mid yellowish-brown silty sand (4302) (Figure 9, Section 2.12). The natural sub-stratum was encountered at heights ranging from 76.50m aOD to 77.49m aOD. This was overlain by a topsoil, 0.34m deep, of firm but friable mid brownish-grey sandy silty clay, with occasional, small, rounded stones (4301). The topsoil was encountered at heights ranging from 76.85m aOD to 77.93m aOD.

Plate 98: Trench 43 facing north

Plate 99: Trench 43 representative section facing east

Trench 44

4.10.7. The earliest deposit encountered in Trench 44 was a natural sub-stratum formed of firm mid yellowish-brown, very silty, clayey sand, with occasional flecks of ironstone and small rounded stones (4402) (Figure 9, Section 2.13). The natural sub-stratum was encountered at heights ranging from 77.14m aOD to 77.73m aOD. This was overlain by a topsoil, 0.33m deep, of friable mid brownish-grey sandy, silty clay, with occasional, small, rounded stones (4401). The topsoil was encountered at heights ranging from 77.52m aOD to 78.16m aOD.

Plate 100: Trench 44 facing south-east

Plate 101: Trench 44 representative section facing east

Trench 45

4.10.8. The earliest deposit encountered in Trench 45 was a natural sub-stratum formed of mottled reddish-brown silty clay with grey silty gavel patches throughout and medium sized, sub-rounded and rounded stones (4502) (Figure 8, Section 1.20). The natural sub-stratum was encountered at heights ranging from 77.24m aOD to 77.83m aOD. This was overlain by a topsoil, 0.36m deep, of very friable dark grey-brown sandy silt, with occasional, small to medium sized rounded stones (4501). The topsoil was encountered at heights ranging from 77.54m aOD to 78.14m aOD.

Plate 102: Trench 45 facing north

Plate 103: Trench 45 representative section facing east

Trench 46

4.10.9. The earliest deposit encountered in Trench 46 was a natural sub-stratum formed of soft, friable mid brown, yellow clayey sand, with mottled brown, grey patches (4602) (Figure 8, Section 1.19). The natural sub-stratum was encountered at heights ranging from 77.35m aOD to 77.40m aOD. This was overlain by a topsoil, 0.32m deep, of firmly compacted dark grey-brown very sandy silt, with occasional, small to medium sized rounded stones (4601). The topsoil was encountered at heights ranging from 77.3m aOD to 77.87m aOD.

Plate 104: Trench 46 facing west

Plate 105: Trench 46 representative section facing north

Trench 47

4.10.10. The earliest deposit encountered in Trench 47 was a natural sub-stratum formed of mottled mid-yellow/ reddish-brown sandy silt, with frequent rooting throughout, and frequent small to medium sized rounded stones (4702) (Figure 8, Section 2.2). The natural sub-stratum was encountered at heights ranging from 77.55m aOD to 78.19m aOD. This was overlain by a topsoil, 0.30m deep, of very friable dark grey, brown, very sandy silt, with occasional, small sized stones throughout (4701). The topsoil was encountered at heights ranging from 77.97m aOD to 78.59m aOD.

Plate 106: Trench 47 facing north

Plate 107: Trench 47 representative section facing east

Trench 48

4.10.11. The earliest deposit encountered in Trench 48 was a natural sub-stratum formed of a soft but compacted mid-yellow mottled with grey-brown rooting patches, silty sand (4802) (Figure 8, Section 2.4). The natural sub-stratum was encountered at heights ranging from 77.73m aOD to 78.38m aOD. This was overlain by a topsoil, 0.34m deep, of firmly compacted mid brown silty clay, with occasional, small to medium sized stones and rounded pebbles (4801). The topsoil was encountered at heights ranging from 78.17m aOD to 78.76m aOD.

Plate 108: Trench 48 facing east

Plate 109: Trench 48 representative section facing south

Trench 49

4.10.12. The earliest deposit encountered in Trench 49 was a natural sub-stratum formed of compact mid greyish-brown silty sand, with frequent small to medium sized, sub-rounded stones throughout (4902) (Figure 8, Section 2.3). The natural sub-stratum was encountered at heights ranging from 77.91m aOD to 78.05m aOD. This was overlain by a topsoil, 0.36m deep, of firmly compacted dark grey-brown sandy silt, with occasional, small, rounded stones (4901). The topsoil was encountered at heights ranging from 78.56m aOD to 78.43m aOD.

Plate 110: Trench 49 facing north-west

Plate 111: Trench 49 representative section facing south-west

Trench 50

4.10.13. The earliest deposit encountered in Trench 50 was a natural sub-stratum formed of loose, silty fine sand, mottled mid grey and dark yellow, with occasional medium sized sub-rounded stones (5002) (Figure 8, Section 1.13). The natural sub-stratum was encountered at heights ranging from 77.72m aOD to 78.56m aOD. This was overlain by a topsoil, 0.33m deep, loose, mid greyish-brown, very sandy silt, heavily rooted, with occasional, small to medium sized rounded stones and modern plastic (5001). The topsoil was encountered at heights ranging from 78.32m aOD to 78.65m aOD. The topsoil and part of the natural sub-stratum had been disturbed with a deposit of modern debris, including bricks, a plastic pipe, and a broken beer bottle, therefore the natural was investigated to a deeper depth to ensure the correct level was reached.

Plate 112: Trench 50 facing south-east

Plate 113: Trench 50 representative section facing south-west

Trench 51

4.10.14. The earliest deposit encountered in Trench 51 was a natural sub-stratum formed of soft, mid brown-grey silty sand, with mottled reddish brown occurring at the northern end of the trench, with frequent sub-rounded small to medium sized stones throughout (5102) (Figure 8, Section 2.1). The natural sub-stratum was encountered at heights ranging from 78.42m aOD to 77.65m aOD. This was overlain by a topsoil, 0.32m deep, of friable dark grey-brown sandy silt, with occasional, small to medium sized rounded stones (5101). The topsoil was encountered at heights ranging from 78.92m aOD to 78.31m aOD.

Plate 114: Trench 51 facing north

Plate 115: Trench 51 representative section facing west

Trench 52

4.10.15. The earliest deposit encountered in Trench 52 was a natural sub-stratum formed of soft mid yellow-brown silty sand, with patches of small, rounded pebbles throughout (5202) (Figure 8, Section 1.18). The natural sub-stratum was encountered at heights ranging from 78.47m aOD to 79.23m aOD. This was overlain by a topsoil, 0.36m deep, of friable dark brown silty sand, with occasional, small sized rounded stones (5201). The topsoil was encountered at heights ranging from 78.69m aOD to 79.77m aOD.

Plate 116: Trench 52 representative section facing east

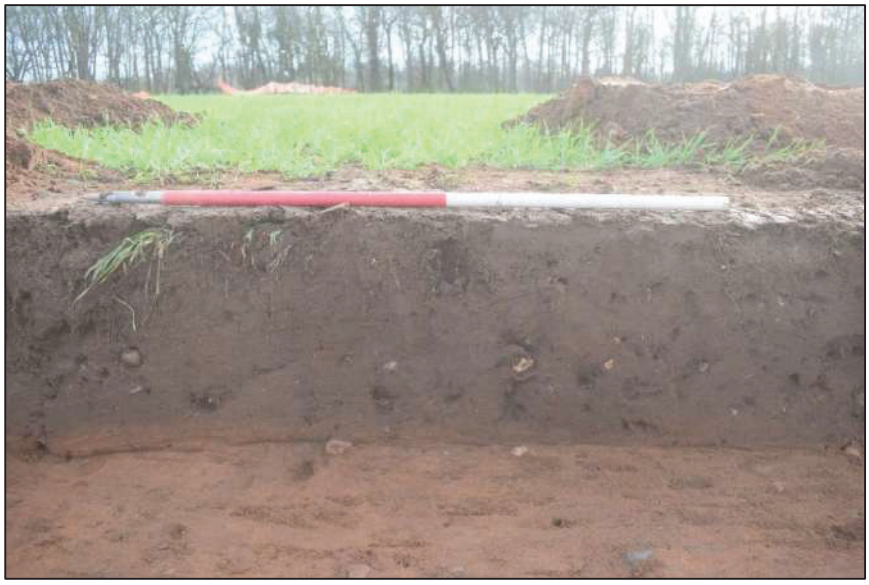

Plate 117: Trench 52 representative section facing south

Trench 53

4.10.16. The earliest deposit encountered in Trench 53 was a natural sub-stratum formed of soft, mid yellow-brown silty sand, with occasional small to medium sized, rounded stones throughout (5302) (Figure 8, Section 1.17). The natural sub-stratum was encountered at heights ranging from 78.49m aOD to 79m aOD. This was overlain by a topsoil, 0.30m deep, of friable dark grey-brown sandy silt, with occasional, small to medium sized rounded stones (5301). The topsoil was encountered at heights ranging from 78.95m aOD to 79.45m aOD.

Plate 118: Trench 53 facing south

Plate 119: Trench 53 representative section facing east

Trench 54

4.10.17. The earliest deposit encountered in Trench 54 was a natural sub-stratum formed of soft mid-yellow brown sandy silt, with very infrequent, sub-rounded, small to medium sized stones throughout (5402) (Figure 8, Section 1.14). The natural sub-stratum was encountered at heights ranging from 79.31m aOD to 79.54m aOD. This was overlain by a topsoil, 0.32m deep, of dark grey-brown sandy silt, with frequent, small to medium sized sub-rounded stones (5401). The topsoil was encountered at heights ranging from 79.73m aOD to 80.06m aOD.

Plate 120: Trench 54 facing east

Plate 121: Trench 54 representative section facing north

Trench 55

4.10.18. The earliest deposit encountered in Trench 55 was a natural sub-stratum formed of a soft mid yellow-brown silty sand, with frequent patches of small, sub-rounded stone gravels (5502) (Figure 8, Section 1.16). The natural sub-stratum was encountered at heights ranging from 79.06m aOD to 79.53m aOD. This was overlain by a topsoil, 0.30m deep, friable, dark grey-brown sandy silt, with occasional, small to medium sized rounded stones (5501). The topsoil was encountered at heights ranging from 79.48m aOD to 79.96m aOD.

Plate 122: Trench 55 facing east

Plate 123: Trench 55 representative section facing south-west

Trench 56

4.10.19. The earliest deposit encountered in Trench 56 was a natural sub-stratum formed of a friable, mid greyish-brown sandy silt, with frequent small to medium sized sub-rounded stones throughout (5602) (Figure 8, Section 1.15). The natural sub-stratum was encountered at heights ranging from 78.81m aOD to 79.12m aOD. This was overlain by a topsoil, 0.30m deep, of friable mid grey-brown sandy silt, with occasional, small sized sub-rounded stones throughout (5601). The topsoil was encountered at heights ranging from 79.16m aOD to 79.44m aOD.

Plate 124: Trench 56 facing west

Plate 125: Trench 56 representative section facing south

Trench 57

4.10.20. The earliest deposit encountered in Trench 57 was a natural sub-stratum formed of firm mid brownish-yellow, slightly silty clay, with occasional stone patches (5702) (Figure 9, Section 2.11). The natural sub-stratum was encountered at heights ranging from 76.60m aOD to 76.90m aOD. This was overlain by a topsoil, 0.30m deep, of firmly compacted, friable mid greyish-brown sandy, silty clay, with heavy rooting (5701). The topsoil was encountered at heights ranging from 77.09m aOD to 77.32m aOD.

Plate 126: Trench 57 facing south

Plate 127: Trench 57 representative section facing east

Trench 58

4.10.21. The earliest deposit encountered in Trench 58 was a natural sub-stratum formed of firm mid brownish-yellow slightly silty clay (5802) (Figure 9, Section 2.10). The natural sub-stratum was revealed to a depth of 0.10m and was encountered at heights ranging from 76m aOD to 76.83m aOD. This was overlain by a topsoil, 0.35m deep, a firm but friable mid greyish-brown silty clay, with heavy rooting and occasional, small sub-angular stones (5801). The topsoil was encountered at heights ranging from 76.31m aOD to 77.18m aOD.

Plate 128: Trench 58 facing south

Plate 129: Trench 58 representative section facing east

Trench 59

4.10.22. The earliest deposit encountered in Trench 59 was a natural sub-stratum formed of firm mid reddish-yellow brown silty clay, with stoney patches (5902). The natural sub-stratum was encountered at heights ranging from 76.34m aOD to 78.03m aOD (Figure 9, Section 2.9). This was overlain by a topsoil, 0.30m deep, a firm but friable mid greyish-brown, sandy silty clay, with frequent, small sub-angular stones (5901). The topsoil was encountered at heights ranging from 76.81m aOD to 78.44m aOD.

Plate 130: Trench 59 facing east

Plate 131: Trench 59 representative section facing south

Trench 60

4.10.23. The earliest deposit encountered in Trench 60 was a natural sub-stratum formed of firm mid reddish-brown slightly silty clay (6004) (Figure 9, Section 2.8). The natural sub-stratum was encountered at heights ranging from 77.32m aOD to 78.37m aOD. A large cut [6003] containing modern debris truncated the natural sub-stratum. This measured 8m in length and exceeded the 1.80m of the trench width. It was machine excavated to a depth of 0.70m where it was halted due to safety concerns. The fill comprised loose, silty sand, containing a mixture of CBM, metal waste, crushed concrete, and burnt industrial material (6002). This was overlain by a topsoil (6001), 0.32m deep, of friable mid greyish-brown silty clay. The topsoil was encountered at heights ranging from 77.68m aOD to 79.59m aOD.

Plate 132: Trench 60 facing east

Plate 133: Trench 60 representative section facing south

Trench 68

4.10.24. The earliest deposit encountered in Trench 68 was a natural sub-stratum formed of firm mid yellowish-brown, sandy, silty clay, with occasional patches of rounded stones (6803) (Figure 10, Section 4.6). The natural sub-stratum was encountered at heights ranging from 77.06m aOD to 77.31m aOD. This was overlain by a subsoil, 0.20m deep, of firm but friable mid brownish grey, sandy silty clay, with occasional, sub-angular stones (6802). This was sealed by a topsoil, 0.24m deep, of friable mid brownish-grey, silty clay with frequent medium sized rounded and sub-angular stones (6801). The topsoil was encountered at heights ranging from 77.42m aOD to 77.74m aOD.

Plate 134: Trench 68 facing south-west

Plate 135: Trench 68 representative section facing south-east

5. Finds

5.1.1. No artefacts, other than modern debris (not retained) were noted in any of the trial trenches or features that were investigated. Given the single archaeological feature contained modern debris, no bulk samples were taken for processing and assessment.

6. Conclusions

6.1.1. No significant archaeological features were present in the 67 trial trenches excavated during the trial trenching.

6.1.2. The geology across the site remained relatively consistent with the information provided in the WSI, with the trenches exposing a natural substratum of Baginton Sands and Gravel formations. The sands and gravels were found to be overlain by overlain primarily by a topsoil and/topsoil, with occasional instances of subsoil.

6.1.3. The WSI anticipated that known archaeological remains as identified via geophysical survey, a site visit, HER records and analysis of aerial photos, LiDAR, historic mapping and topography would be encountered during the trial trenching works. Trenches were also located to test for the potential for hitherto unknown buried archaeological remains. However, in general the trial trenching works identified a paucity of surviving, identifiable archaeological remains.

6.1.4. The single archaeological feature, a potential ditch [2605] present in Trenches 21, 24 and 26 (Figure 6), contained modern material in its single fill. The ditch [2605] has been interpreted as a former parish boundary as depicted on the 1st and 2nd edition Ordnance Survey map (Figure 7). The presence of modern debris within the ditch fill indicates the ditch was extant until relatively recently and that the feature is of low significance.

6.1.5. The aim of this trial trenching survey was to determine the presence or absence of archaeological remains within the site, and to determine their nature, extent and complexity. A comprehensive evaluation, comprising of 67 trenches over the area due to be affected by the proposed scheme was undertaken.

6.1.6. The objectives for the trial trenching were to:

- Undertake a programme of archaeological investigation targeted on known features of heritage interest and geophysical anomalies of suspected or unknown archaeological significance.

  A trench layout was designed to encompass both a 4% sample of the area suitable for trenching, with a 2% contingency and targeted geophysical anomalies.

- Establish the presence or absence, character and preservation state of any archaeological remains.

No evidence of significant archaeological remains were noted on site. A former parish boundary ditch, present on historic mapping, was located in Trenches 21, 24 and 26.

- Make a competent record of the location and character of any such remains.

  No significant remains were noted on site. Records of a potential post-medieval parish boundary ditch [2605] were made. All investigated areas were recorded.

- Recover any archaeologically significant artefacts.

  No evidence of archaeological artefacts were recovered from the site

- Recover samples of any material which has potential for the survival of palaeoenvironmental or dating evidence from secure archaeological contexts.

  No remains of ecofactual or palaeoenvironmental potential were observed or recovered.

- Prepare a report on the findings and material recovered, and their significance.

  An interim report detailing the initial findings of the trial trenching works was supplied to the client within agreed timeframes. This final report fully details the findings of the trial trenching works.

- Provide an assessment of whether any further mitigation works are necessary.

  No further works are recommended.

- Create and deposit in a suitable repository a permanent descriptive and interpretive written and drawn archive.

  The archive, inclusive of a written and drawn archive will be deposited with the Herbert Art Gallery & Museum.

- To make available to interested parties the results of the investigation.

  This report will be available to all interested parties

  The results of the trial trenching works will be made available via the OASIS ADS website under OASIS ID: aocarcha1-522468. The archive will be

security copied and a copy deposited with the Herbert Art Gallery & Museum.

6.1.7. Specific research objectives from the West Midlands Research Framework were identified in the WSI. Due to the paucity of archaeological remains recorded during the trial trenching works, the works cannot add any further detail to the identified objectives.

6.1.8. Objectives from the Archaeological Resource Assessment of the Aggregates Producing Areas of Warwickshire and Solihull were considered during the trial trenching works. No remains associated with aggregate production were identified during the trial trenching works.

6.1.9. Further work is not recommended.

7. Publication and Archiving

7.1.1. The archive will comprise all written and drawn records. The archive will be consolidated after completion of the whole project, with records collated and ordered as a permanent record. Archaeological finds rarely have any monetary value but they are an important source of information for future research, included in museum exhibits and teaching collections. No artefacts were recovered during the trial trenching works.

7.1.2. On completion of the project Connect Archaeology will discuss arrangements for the archive to be deposited with the Herbert Art Gallery & Museum, Jordan Well, Coventry CV1 5QP.

7.1.3. The site archive will be stored at AOC Archaeology's (as part of Connect Archaeology) London office and deposited with the Herbert Art Gallery & Museum within 6 months of submission of the approved final report. It will then become publicly accessible.

7.1.4. A copy of this report will be made available through the OASIS ADS website (OASIS ID: aocarcha1-522468).

8. References

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National Highways (2024) *A46 Coventry Junctions (Walsgrave) Archaeological Trenching WSI* (Document Number: HE604820-OIL-EHR-00-SP-LH-30002)

National Highways (2024b) *A46 Coventry Junctions Upgrade (Walsgrave Junction) Stage 3 Archaeological Trenching Summary Report* (Document Number: HE604820-OIL-EHR-00-RP-LH-30001)

Warwickshire County Council (2020) *Generic Archaeological Fieldwork Guidelines*

United Kingdom Institute for Conservation (UKIC), Archaeology Section. (1983). *Guidelines No 2: Packaging and storage of freshly excavated artefacts from archaeological sites*

Appendix A. Figures

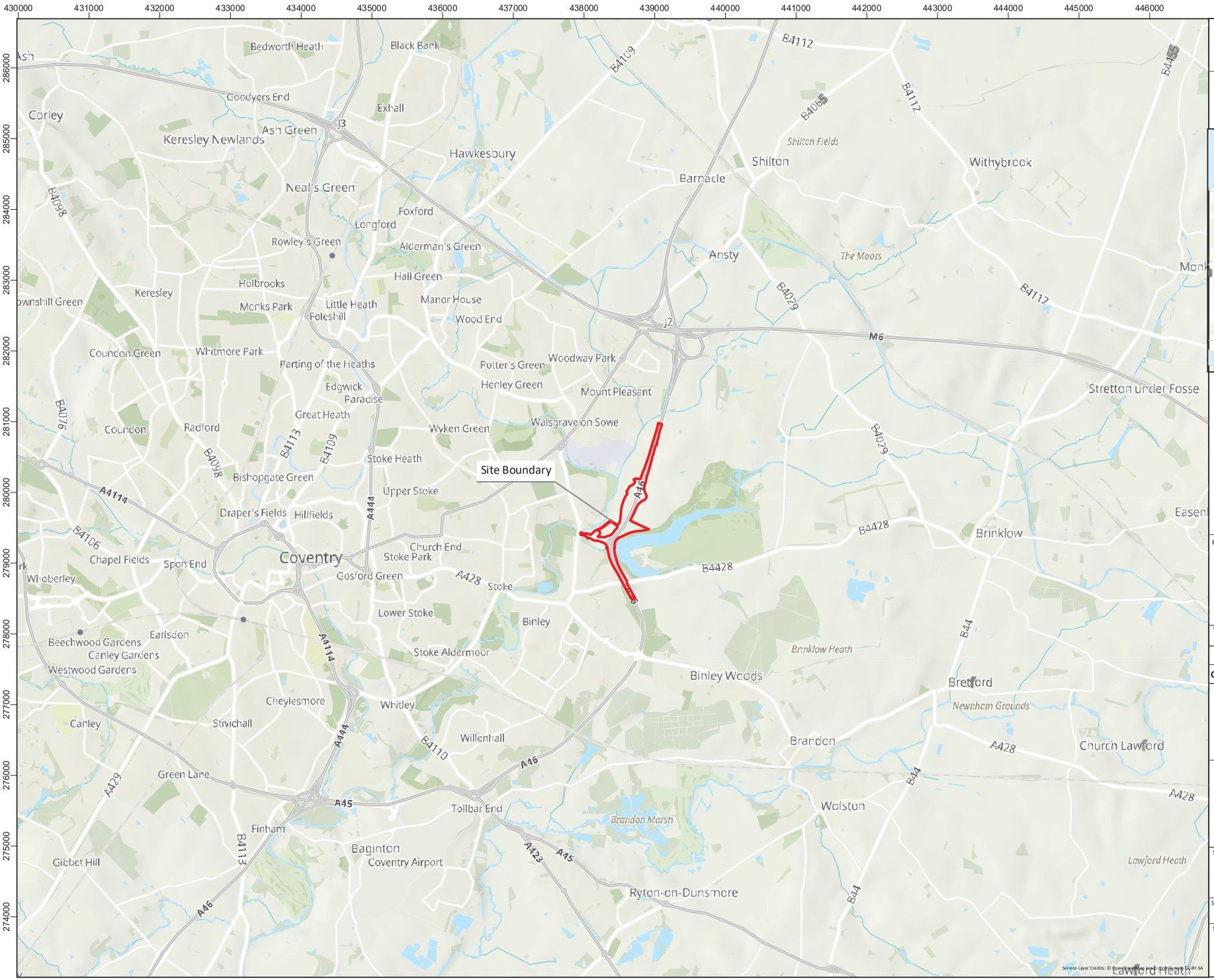

Figure 1

Site location plan

FOR

national highways

Revision	Status	Project Stage
P01	Draft	PCF Stage 2

DWG no:	HE604820-OIL-EHR-00-DR-LH-30008
CONNECT Project No	34877

CONNECT ARCHAEOLOGY

N

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Projection: Transverse Mercator
Datum: OSGB 1936

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SCALE

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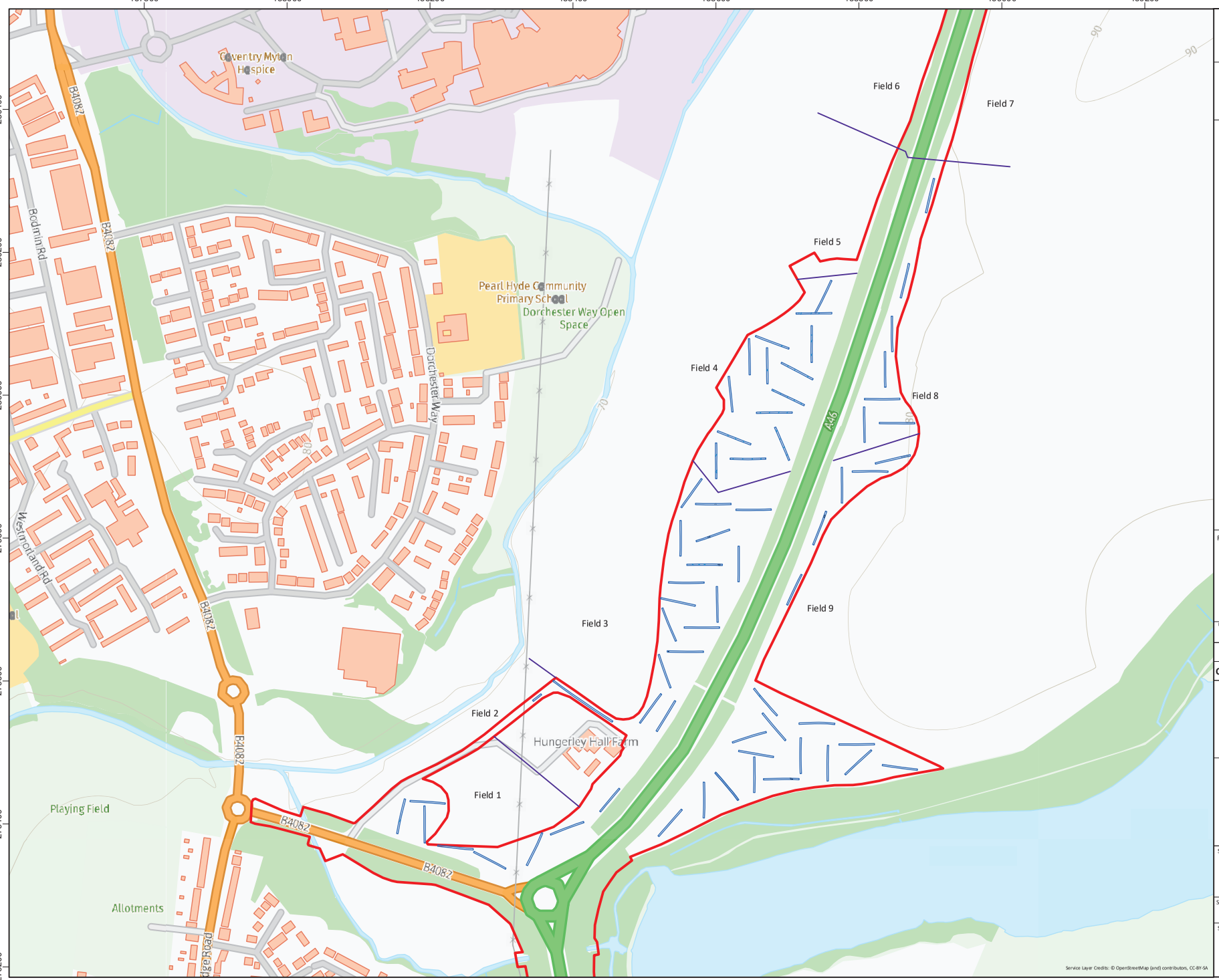

Figure 2

Trench location plan

Key

- Development area
- Evaluation trench
- Field boudnary

FOR

national highways

Revision	Status	Project Stage
P01	Draft	PCF Stage 2

DWG no:	HE604820-OIL-EHR-00-DR-LH-30009
CONNECT Project No	34877

CONNECT ARCHAEOLOGY

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Projection: Transverse Mercator
Datum: OSGB 1936

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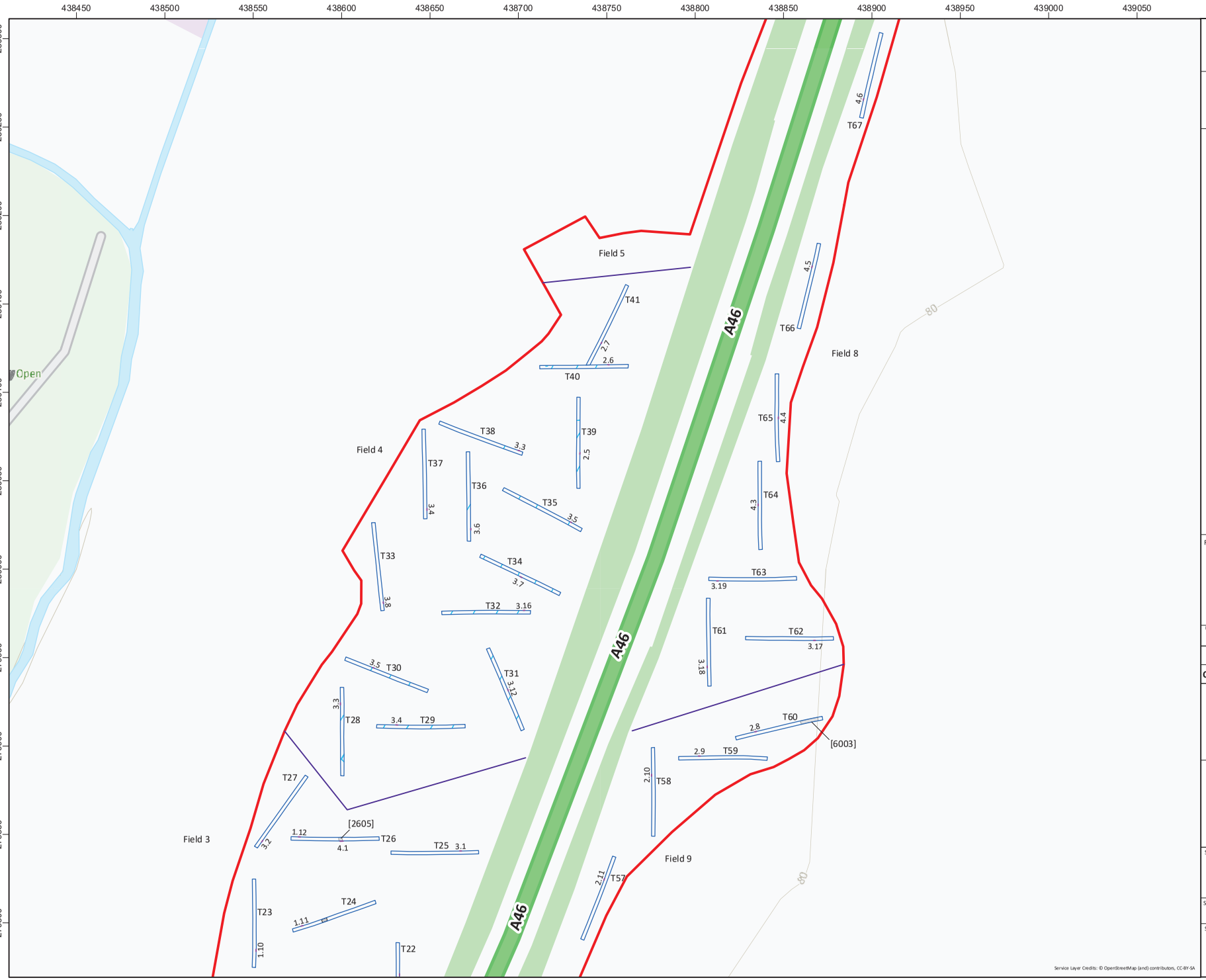

Figure 3

Detailed trench plan north

Key

- Development area
- Evaluation trench
- Archaeological feature
- Modern
- Field drain
- Section location
- Field boundary

FOR

national highways

Revision	Status	Project Stage
P01	Draft	PCF Stage 2

DWG no:	HE604820-OIL-EHR-00-DR-LH-30010
CONNECT Project No	34877

CONNECT ARCHAEOLOGY

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Projection: Transverse Mercator
Datum: OSGB 1936

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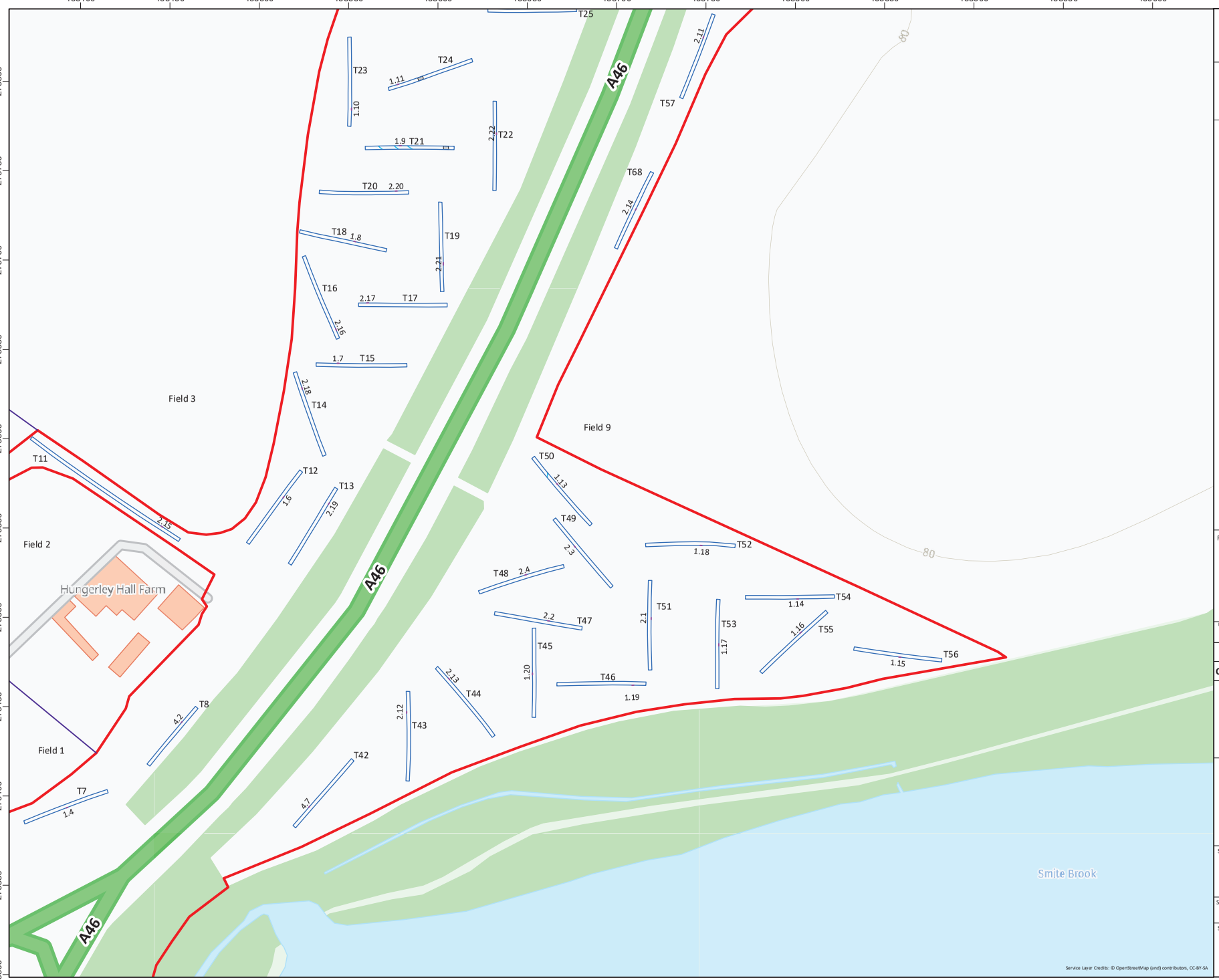

Figure 4

Detailed trench plan east

Key

- Development area
- Evaluation trench
- Archaeological feature
- Field drain
- Section location
- Field boundary

FOR

national highways

Revision	Status	Project Stage
P01	Draft	PCF Stage 2

DWG no:	HE604820-OIL-EHR-00-DR-LH-30011
CONNECT Project No	34877

CONNECT ARCHAEOLOGY

N

SYSTEM

Coordinate System: British National Grid
Projection: Transverse Mercator
Datum: OSGB 1936

SCALE

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SCALE

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Figure 5

Detailed trench plan west

Key

- Development area
- Evaluation trench
- Archaeological feature
- Field drain
- Section location
- Field boundary

FOR

national highways

Revision	Status	Project Stage
P01	S2	PCF Stage 2

DWG no:	HE604820-OIL-EHR-00-DR-LH-30012
CONNECT Project No	34877

CONNECT ARCHAEOLOGY

N

SYSTEM

Coordinate System: British National Grid
Projection: Transverse Mercator
Datum: OSGB 1936

SCALE

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SCALE

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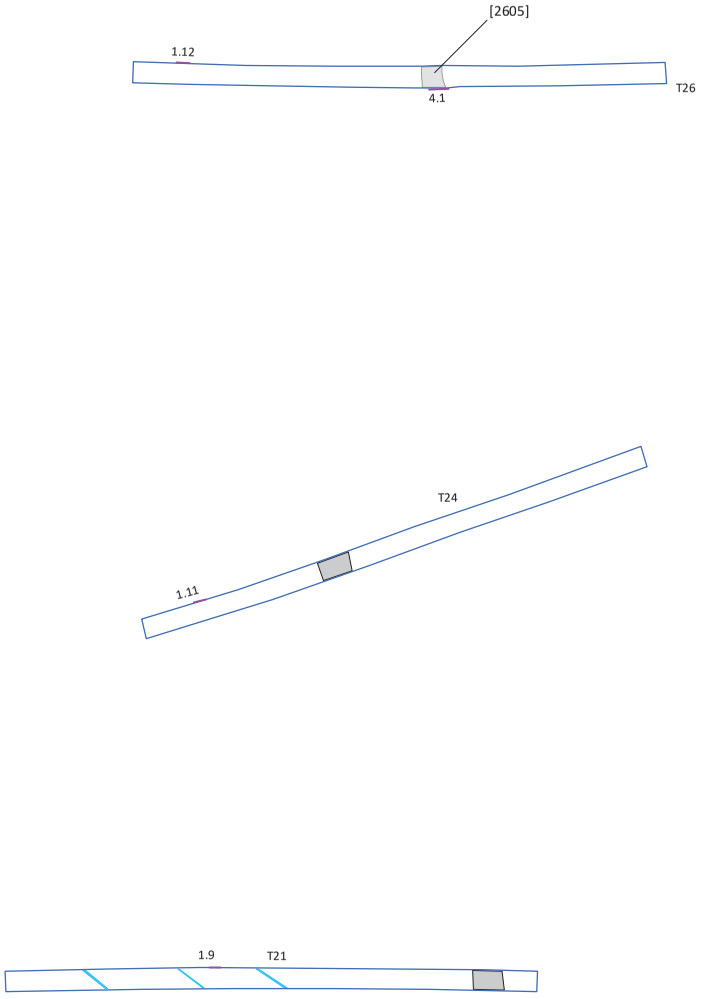


Figure 6

Detailed plan of Trenches 21, 24 and 26 showing Ditch [2605]

Key

- Evaluation trench
- Archaeological feature
- Modern
- Field drain
- Section location

FOR

national highways

Revision	Status	Project Stage
P01	Draft	PCF Stage 2

DWG no:	HE604820-OIL-EHR-00-DR-LH-30013
CONNECT Project No	34877

CONNECT ARCHAEOLOGY

N

SYSTEM

Coordinate System: British National Grid
Projection: Transverse Mercator
Datum: OSGB 1936

SCALE

1:500 @ A3

SCALE

0 1:500 25m

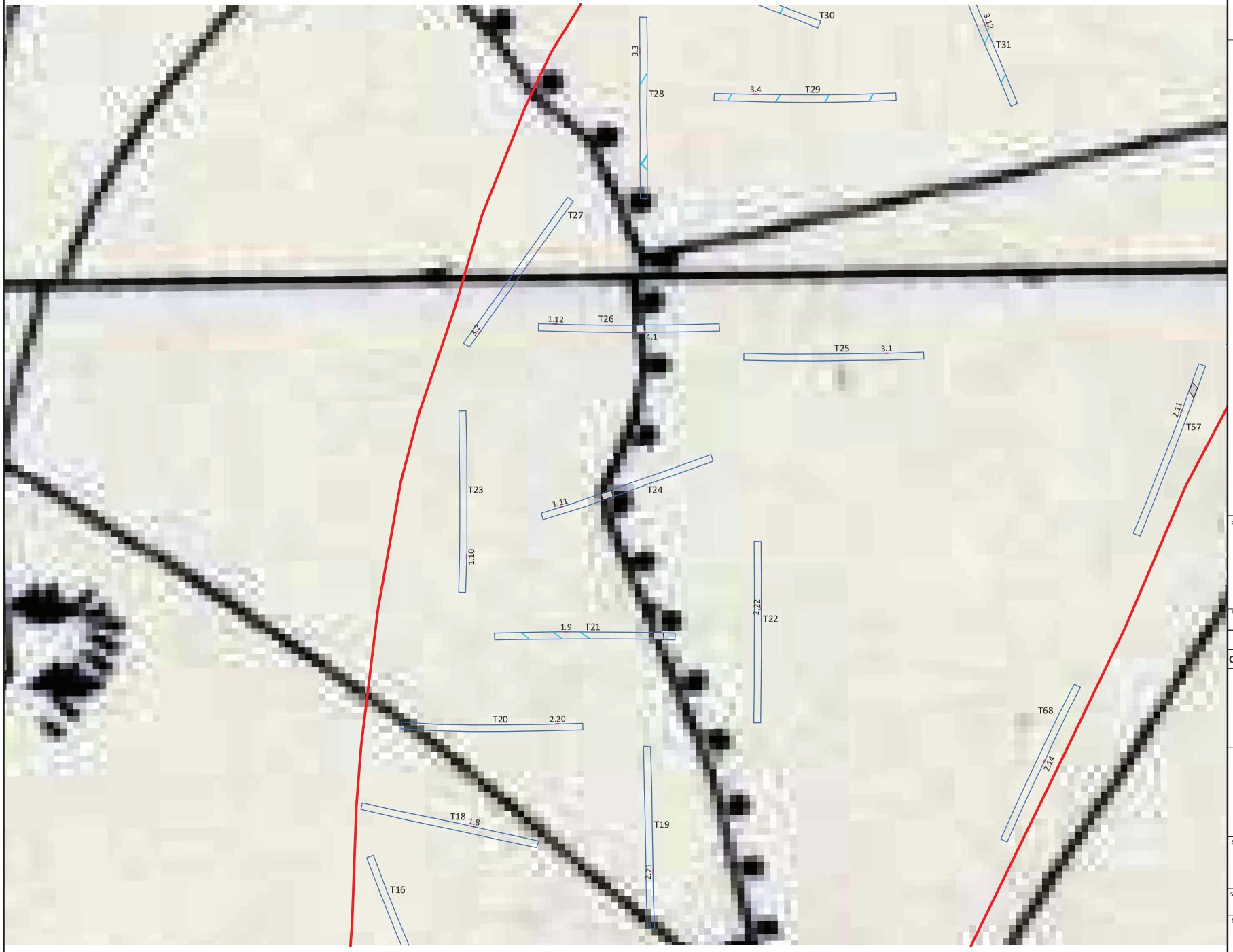


Figure 7

Detailed plan of Trenches 21, 24 and 26 showing Ditch [2605] over OS 2nd Edition Map (1888-1915)

Key

- Development area
- Evaluation trench
- Archaeological feature
- Modern
- Field drain
- Section location

FOR

national highways

Revision	Status	Project Stage
P01	Draft	PCF Stage 2

DWG no:	HE604820-OIL-EHR-00-DR-LH-30014
CONNECT Project No	34877

CONNECT ARCHAEOLOGY

N

SYSTEM

Coordinate System: British National Grid
Projection: Transverse Mercator
Datum: OSGB 1936

SCALE

1:1000 @ A3

SCALE

0 1:1000 50m

Figure 8

Representative sections

FOR

national highways

Revision	Status	Project Stage
P01	Draft	PCF Stage 2

DWG no:	HE604820-OIL-EHR-00-DR-LH-30015
CONNECT Project No	34877

CONNECT ARCHAEOLOGY

N

SYSTEM

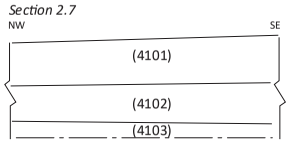
Coordinate System: British National Grid
Projection: Transverse Mercator
Datum: OSGB 1936

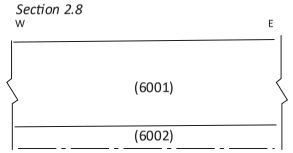
SCALE

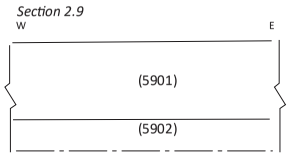
1:20 @ A3

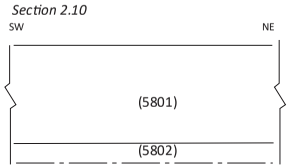
SCALE

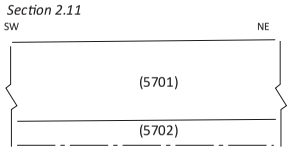
0 1:20 1m

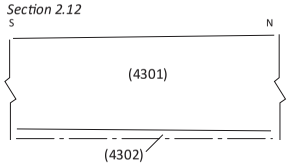


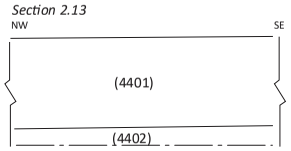


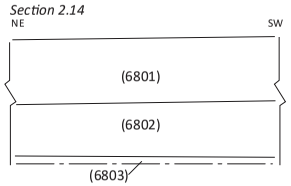


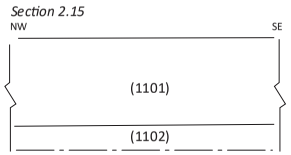


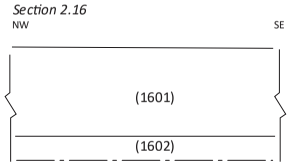


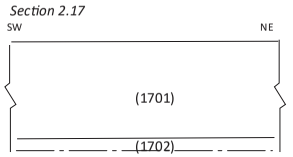


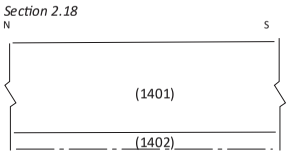


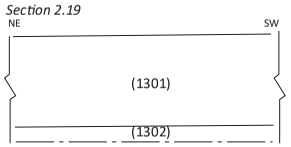


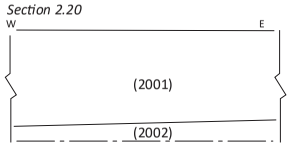


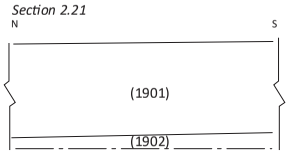


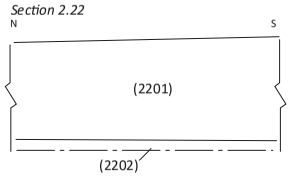


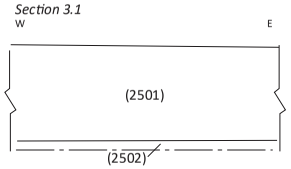


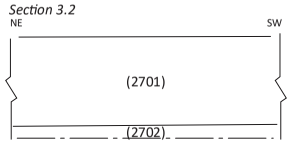


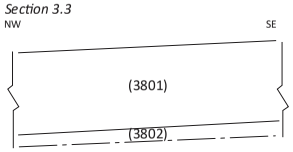


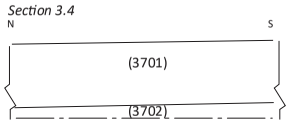


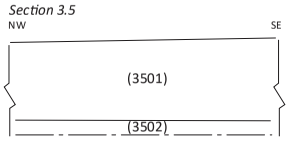


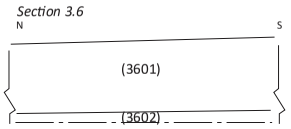


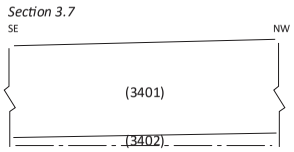


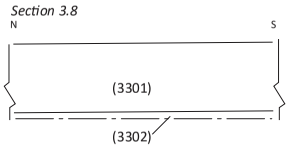


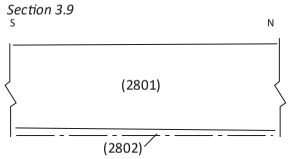


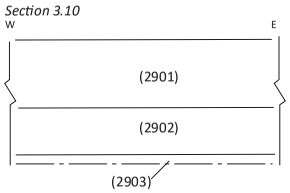












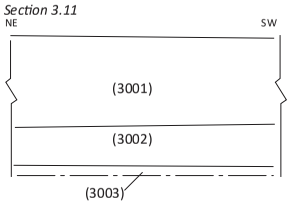


Figure 9

Representative sections

FOR

national highways

Revision	Status	Project Stage
P01	Draft	PCF Stage 2

DWG no:	HE604820-OIL-EHR-00-DR-LH-30016
CONNECT Project No	34877

CONNECT ARCHAEOLOGY

N

SYSTEM

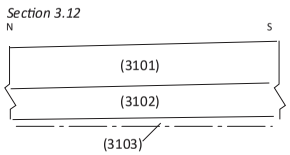
Coordinate System: British National Grid
Projection: Transverse Mercator
Datum: OSGB 1936

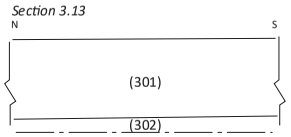
SCALE

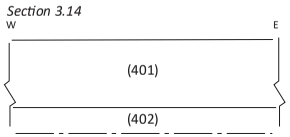
1:20 @ A3

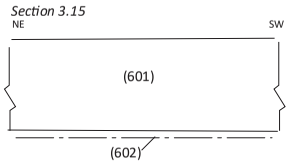
SCALE

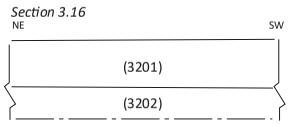
0 1:20 1m

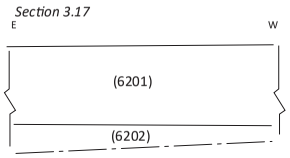


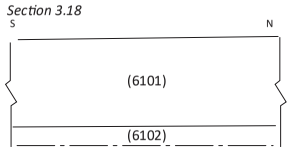


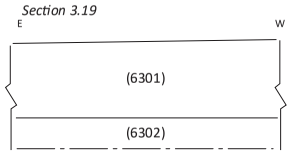


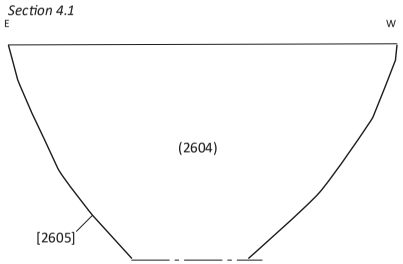


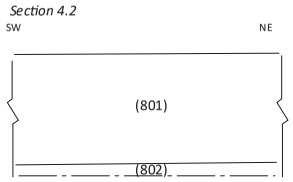


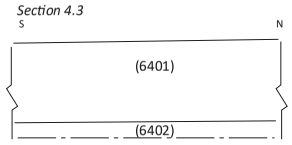


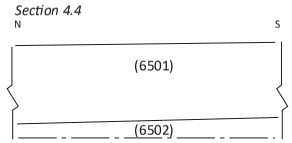


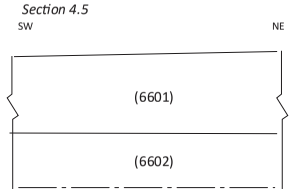


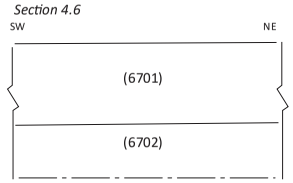












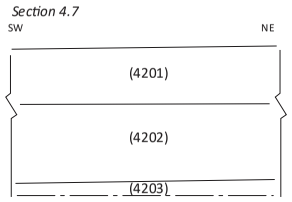


Figure 10

Representative sections and section of [2605]

FOR

national highways

Revision	Status	Project Stage
P01	Draft	PCF Stage 2

DWG no:	HE604820-OIL-EHR-00-DR-LH-30017
CONNECT Project No	34877

CONNECT ARCHAEOLOGY

N

SYSTEM

Coordinate System: British National Grid
Projection: Transverse Mercator
Datum: OSGB 1936

SCALE

1:20 @ A3

SCALE

0 1:20 1m

Appendix B. Context Summary

Field 1- Trench and Context Register

Trench	Context	Description	Depth (m)	Height (m aOD)
1	101	Topsoil	0.30	72.05
1	102	Natural	0.05	71.72
2	201	Topsoil	0.30	72.05
2	202	Natural	0.05	71.94
3	301	Topsoil	0.30	73.47
3	302	Natural	0.09	72.97
4	401	Topsoil	0.28	75.54
4	402	Natural	0.05	75.11
5	501	Topsoil	0.15	74.30
5	502	Subsoil	0.12	-
5	503	Natural	0.03	74.21
6	601	Topsoil	0.32	74.47
6	602	Natural	0.02	74.33
7	701	Topsoil	0.20	78.12
7	702	Subsoil	0.14	-

7	703	Natural	0.06	75.01
8	801	Topsoil	0.40	77.61
8	802	Natural	0.04	77.27

Field 2- Trench and Context Register

Trench	Context	Description	Depth (m)	Height (m aOD)
9	-	-	-	
10	1001	Topsoil	0.18	72.55
10	1002	Subsoil	0.12	-
10	1003	Natural	0.05	72.32

Field 3- Trench and Context Register

Trench	Context	Description	Depth (m)	Height (m aOD)
11	1101	Topsoil	0.32	73.20
11	1102	Natural	0.08	72.70
12	1201	Topsoil	0.28	78.06
12	1202	Subsoil	0.06	-
12	1203	Natural	0.02	76.27

13	1301	Topsoil	0.34	76.70
13	1302	Natural	0.06	76.39
14	1401	Topsoil	0.34	78.02
14	1402	Natural	0.06	77.66
15	1501	Topsoil	0.20	78.14
15	1502	Subsoil	0.18	-
15	1503	Natural	0.12	77.66
16	1601	Topsoil	0.34	76.35
16	1602	Natural	0.08	75.96
17	1701	Topsoil	0.36	75.54
17	1702	Natural	0.04	75.11
18	1801	Topsoil	0.50	75.81
18	1802	Subsoil	0.12	-
18	1803	Natural	0.08	75.53
19	1901	Topsoil	0.30	77.02
19	1902	Natural	0.06	76.55
20	2001	Topsoil	0.34	77.25

20	2002	Natural	0.06	76.55
21	2101	Topsoil	0.20	75.61
21	2102	Subsoil	0.18	-
21	2103	Natural	0.08	75.36
22	2201	Topsoil	0.36	75.56
22	2202	Natural	0.04	76.00
23	2301	Topsoil	0.17	75.61
23	2302	Subsoil	0.16	-
23	2303	Natural	0.07	73.53
24	2401	Topsoil	0.20	74.96
24	2402	Subsoil	0.18	-
24	2403	Natural	0.08	74.51
25	2501	Topsoil	0.36	75.54
25	2502	Natural	0.02	74.43
26	2601	Topsoil	0.20	73.98
26	2602	Subsoil	0.14	-
26	2603	Natural	-	73.42

26	2604	Fill of Agricultural Ditch	0.80	N/A
26	2605	Cut of Agricultural Ditch	0.80	73.24
27	2701	Topsoil	0.34	73.76
27	2702	Natural	0.04	73.56

Field 4- Trench and Context Register

Trench	Context	Description	Depth (m)	Height (m aOD)
28	2801	Topsoil	0.32	73.10
28	2802	Natural	0.02	72.82
29	2901	Topsoil	0.26	73.89
29	2902	Subsoil	0.18	-
29	2903	Natural	0.02	73.37
30	3001	Topsoil	0.34	73.01
30	3002	Subsoil	0.14	-
30	3003	Natural	0.02	72.86
31	3101	Topsoil	0.16	74.19
31	3102	Subsoil	0.12	-

31	3103	Natural	0.02	73.77
32	3201	Topsoil	0.18	73.70
32	3202	Subsoil	0.12	-
32	3203	Natural	0.04	73.35
33	3301	Topsoil	0.26	73.02
33	3302	Natural	0.03	72.68
34	3401	Topsoil	0.30	73.70
34	3402	Natural	0.05	73.45
35	3501	Topsoil	0.28	73.76
35	3502	Natural	0.08	73.39
36	3601	Topsoil	0.32	73.28
36	3602	Natural	0.06	73.00
37	3701	Topsoil	0.25	72.99
37	3702	Natural	0.08	72.71
38	3801	Topsoil	0.30	72.80
38	3802	Natural	0.03	73.07
39	3901	Topsoil	0.16	74.09

39	3902	Subsoil	0.14	-
39	3903	Natural	0.06	73.51
40	4001	Topsoil	0.20	73.46
40	4002	Subsoil	0.14	-
40	4003	Natural	0.10	73.22
41	4101	Topsoil	0.17	73.94
41	4102	Subsoil	0.14	-
41	4103	Natural	0.04	73.67

Field 8- Trench and Context Register

Trench	Context	Description	Depth (m)	Height (m aOD)
61	6101	Topsoil	0.30	76.23
61	6102	Natural	0.10	75.11
62	6201	Topsoil	0.32	77.37
62	6202	Natural	0.08	77.08
63	6301	Topsoil	0.30	76.24
63	6302	Natural	0.10	75.94
64	6401	Topsoil	0.30	77.28

64	6402	Natural	0.10	77.03
65	6501	Topsoil	0.30	77.28
65	6502	Natural	0.06	76.89
66	6601	Topsoil	0.30	77.30
66	6602	Natural	0.20	76.72
67	6701	Topsoil	0.30	77.21
67	6702	Natural	0.20	76.83

Field 9- Trench and Context Register

Trench	Context	Description	Depth (m)	Height (m aOD)
42	4201	Topsoil	0.20	76.43
42	4202	Subsoil	0.30	-
42	4203	Natural	0.05	76.00
43	4301	Topsoil	0.34	76.85
43	4302	Natural	0.04	76.50
44	4401	Topsoil	0.33	77.52
44	4402	Natural	0.08	77.14
45	4501	Topsoil	0.36	77.54

45	4502	Natural	0.06	77.24
46	4601	Topsoil	0.32	77.30
46	4602	Natural	0.08	77.35
47	4701	Topsoil	0.30	77.97
47	4702	Natural	0.08	77.55
48	4801	Topsoil	0.34	78.17
48	4802	Natural	0.06	77.73
49	4901	Topsoil	0.36	78.56
49	4902	Natural	0.08	77.91
50	5001	Topsoil	0.33	78.32
50	5002	Natural	0.24	77.72
51	5101	Topsoil	0.32	78.92
51	5102	Natural	0.08	78..42
52	5201	Topsoil	0.36	78.69
52	5202	Natural	0.08	78.47
53	5301	Topsoil	0.30	78.95
53	5302	Natural	0.10	78.49

54	5401	Topsoil	0.32	79.73
54	5402	Natural	0.08	79.31
55	5501	Topsoil	0.30	79.48
55	5502	Natural	0.10	79.06
56	5601	Topsoil	0.30	79.16
56	5602	Natural	0.10	78.81
57	5701	Topsoil	0.30	77.09
57	5702	Natural	0.08	76.60
58	5801	Topsoil	0.35	76.31
58	5802	Natural	0.10	76.00
59	5901	Topsoil	0.30	76.81
59	5902	Natural	0.12	76.34
60	6001	Topsoil	0.32	77.68
60	6002	Demolition Debris	0.70	78.30
60	6003	Cut for Demolition Debris	0.70	78.30
60	6004	Natural	0.08	77.32

68	6801	Topsoil	0.24	77.42
68	6802	Subsoil	0.20	-
68	6803	Natural	0.02	77.06

Appendix C. OASIS Summary

OASIS ID (UID)	aocarcha1-522468
Project Name	Evaluation at A46 COVENTRY JUNCTIONS (WALSGRAVE)
Sitename	A46 COVENTRY JUNCTIONS (WALSGRAVE)
Sitecode	CEB24
Project Identifier(s)	34877
Activity type	Evaluation
Reason For Investigation	Statutory requirement
Organisation Responsible for work	AOC Archaeology Group
Project Dates	29-Jan-2024 - 07-Mar-2024
Location	A46 COVENTRY JUNCTIONS (WALSGRAVE) NGR: SP 38355 79314 LL: 52.410488, -1.4375651 12 Fig: 438355,279314
Administrative Areas	Country: England County/Local Authority: Warwickshire Local Authority District: Rugby Parish: Combe Fields
Project Methodology	Archaeological trial trenching at A46 Coventry Junctions (Walsgrave).
Project Results	No significant archaeological features were discovered in the course of the trial trenching. A parish boundary ditch, present on historic Ordnance Survey mapping, was located in Trenches 21, 24 and 26. This was investigated in Trench 26 and found to contain modern debris in the form of plastic shotgun cartridges, twine, blue degraded plastic, and broken bricks, suggesting it had been infilled most likely in the latter half of the 19th century.
Keywords	Boundary Ditch - POST MEDIEVAL - FISH Thesaurus of Monument Types
Funder	National Highways
Person Responsible for work	Ross Murray
Archives	Documentary Archive, Digital Archive - to be deposited with The Herbert Art Gallery and Museum;