Assessment
Scheme Archaeological
North of Oxford Improvement
A40
July 1992
Oxford Archaeological Unit

Stage 1: Desk-Top Study

Assessment
Scheme Archaeological
North of Oxford Improvement
AAD
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AG0 North of Oxford Improvement Scheme
I.


The Victoria County History for the relevant parishes in

The Royal Commission on the Historical Monuments of England (RCHME).

The National Archaeological Record held by the Royal

Leisure and Arts.

Oxfordshire, in the Centre for Oxfordshire Studies (CFOS) for the county of

The Sites and Monuments Record (SMR) for the county of

The following sources of information have been considered:

Sources

...and archaeological contexts of the route are appreciated.

A general overview of the area beyond the confines of the corridor

scale 1:10,000. An accompanying gazetteer is provided.

A4: All sites have been plotted on a base map and

archaeological sites, features and finds. Including such elements

considered by the main consultants.

Introduction

This desk-top study covers a 500 m corridor along the length of the
The geology of the Cassation stretch of the route consists of the Tertiary London Clay, which is part of the gravel terrace where the Thamesembankment is covered by alluvium and crossed by old palaeochannels. A number of new shelf and invisible channels have been revealed by archeological potential of the contact.

"...archaeological sites which serve to emphasise the significance of new archaeological sites which were revealed by archeological potential of the contact. All those sites have revealed archaeological sites north of the route. The only sites that have been identified have been identified by the Cassation and excavation section of the route. They have been undertaken by O.U.V. Both..."

Significant sites or finds may yet remain to be discovered, this study covers known archaeological sites within the given area, but there are many more. The sites that are known may be a story that can be told through archeological sites north of the route. The only sites that have been identified have been identified by the Cassation and excavation section of the route. They have been undertaken by O.U.V. Both..."
The presence of a paleochannel (Fig. 3.8, no. 069) north of the road is evidence of a paleoenvironmental feature (Fig. 3.5, no. 194) which has been defined in association with Tertiary fluvial deposits.

To the west of the study area, a significant lacustrine formation has been identified by AVN, which is consistent with the paleoenvironmental feature suggested by the AVO data. The presence of a paleoenvironmental feature (Fig. 3.9, no. 14) north of the road is also consistent with the paleoenvironmental feature suggested by the AVN data, which has been defined in association with Tertiary fluvial deposits.
The Lot Meadows (gas. no. 03) at Ventron or West Mead, so named by the Victoria County History, suggests that the outcrops of the lot meadows have not been overlooked or put under the plough until recently. The presence of large earthworks, possibly of defended settlements, has been noted, and the remains of an earthwork have been discovered near the site. The lot meadows (gas. no. 02) are possibly the remains of a prehistoric earthwork, or of defensive structures, and should not be overlooked.

3.12 Field work by OAV in Ventron has been extensive, north of the gravel pit area, but they may well extend further east and south. The remains of the lot meadows, which are independent of the Xewall area, and of the lot meadows, which are central to this area, show the remains of defensive structures, but no remains of Roman or Iron Age occupation have been discovered. The lot meadows are a prehistoric area, and the remains of the lot meadows, which are central to this area, show the remains of defensive structures, but no remains of Roman or Iron Age occupation have been discovered. The lot meadows, which are central to this area, show the remains of defensive structures, but no remains of Roman or Iron Age occupation have been discovered.
A circular campfire is identified by the NFR (Gas. no. 006); the

work.

The material is a change that rather than the result of specific survery
enough to suggest a definite settlement, but this is a possibility since
proposed link road between the two major intersections. There is not
dubious comparable feature noted below, close to the line of the
edges of the campfire the wood appears on the OS First Edition 25
Roman pottery (Gas. no. 004) and have been found close to a very
block pit on Peer Tree Hill.

Palaeolithic flints (Gas. no. 005) have been found (probably in the old
physical marker such as a bank and ditch.

The contrast between the parish boundary and many well contained a
significant be it lies on the parish boundary and may well contain a
Crossdine and is therefore of some antiquity. The wood is also
An area of woodland called Strathfield Bane lies on the northern
from the other main types of subsoil geology in the vicinity.
by allusion. The route largely avoids areas of gravel terrace which
Oxwich Clay formation in places above the Thames and Cherwell valleys.
edges of the campfire the wood appears on the OS First Edition 25
Cosford and Water Eaton (including the extra parochial area of

in petition.
the same archeological potential as that seen north of the Thames
contrary. The former meadow was the same geology and therefore
archeological features in the small part of the parish covered by the
The remains of Piggy Mead (Gas. no. 006) is the only element of

\[ G \]

concession in 1978. The practice
containing the drainage of lots as defined from this time. The practice
for the drainage of the lots is unlikely to be coincidental and
in the plantations on the wooded banks west of the C13 or C14 with names on the wooded banks west
may well be pre-Conquest. The matching of names of tenants and
The proposed route
intersection (Gaz. no. 176) is recorded in the SMK on the line of the
Wolverseater and Boundary Lines
association. Issued 1932 (Gaz. no. 022), is passed overhead by
the junction of the Oxford Canal and Dukes Cut, with
the complex, intersection of 19th
transport.

The complex of railway lines in the west of the parish include the line
north of the route at the Kings Bridge Canal wharf (Gaz. no. 027).

The Oxford Canal (Gaz. no. 037) built in 1783 and opened in 1790,
significance.

Further information to indicate the nature of the sightings which may
deserted village, and indeed there must be some doubt as to its status

associated with the deserted site. For the most part the evidence does not firmly locate the site of the

therefore not certain whether it indicates actual settlement traces or

the density and distribution of the material is not clear and it is

Předmostejný's position and SSF of the earthworks to the north. However

also remains to be reported. The site of the casemate 4, dated by the

The SMR records the finding of pottery by D.J. Cooper and I. Hassell

of the village (Res. no. 008) and a model of the site in the town's

rectangular earthwork c. 25 x 30 m at the N end of the place near

Apart from these, the most definite physical features recorded are a

impossible that the location shielded within the medieval period.

important that the location bears within the extraradial area of Cultercromine.

incorporating the farm still retaining the name.

the southern half of the area is within Gosford and Waterford while

northern half of the area is within Gosford and Waterford while

the possible location of the village covering an area of c. 14ha. The

The NAR and County SMR each show an almost identical extent for

1871 16 people occupied two houses.

in the 16th century. Six houses were

assessed from Waterford in the 16th century, 6 people were assessed for subsidy in 1816 and 8 in 1827. Only

Předmostejný's position in 1904. No data was recorded in Donemaster

(1964). It was a Saxon settlement on partly levelled to St

the first assessment of Cultercrome. It is recorded as a deserted medieval village by Berkeley

a Bronze Age barrow, certainly reused in the Saxon period

of a barrow field possibly of Saxon origin than Bronze Age date, or

the two existing barrows could therefore do the remains

were excavated. They possess also function as boundary markers. The

Further D along the proposed route, two large barrows round round

3.28

F210128 (Res. No. 009), an is thought that they have not been

bathom (glacial moraines) exist c.300m from the route at Sp

3.27
4.2. Two known sites could be affected in these parishes. The first is the

Yarmouth Cassification

road.

Similarly in archaeological evidence, geology and likely effect of the
Yarmouth and Cassification will be considered together due to their

This section summarizes the implications of the findings in part 2.

4.1. Key Issues and Possible Impacts

... to be Documented. The churchyard is Norman in origin although the bulk of the
buildings is 13th and 15th. Medieval deposits were recovered both from
another parish area on the edge of the corridor in the old Stile Resevoir the
only remains of archaeological interest which have been noted.

3.32 The churchyard and churchyard on its hoard.

... and dropping of gravel deposits on the north overlook of the
Marston the corridor has been recorded for the part of this parish which is just clipped by
Edfield. The Edfield of this small area is clay, no archaeology of any type,

3.30 Beyond the confines of the study area, along the banks of the

3.29 is not devoid of archaeology. Is the early existence as a Saxon settlement

is the best means of clarifying the problem. The key interest of the site

Geophysical survey collection survey and selective trenching will be
research might provide further clues, detailed field evaluation using
from readily available records, and while detailed documentary

The settlement at the mouth of the Great River Parnham

northwest and northeast may represent a separate feature in the

By Stile Reservoir and St Roche's Priory. The earthwork at the

as a whole, rather than a major manorial complex now represented

...
Neolithic and Early Bronze Age settlement features S of the existing A40 east of the proposed junction for the Cassington spur road. Such archaeological evidence is relatively scarce within the region's archaeological record on the Thames gravels, and in particular context of the current work by OAU in the Yarmouth gravel pit. This represents an area of potential significance; in this case, the extent of the site is not clear, but it is reasonable to expect that the settlement and scatter of rather dispersed features.

4.3 The other potentially affected site is the cropmark enclosure immediately adjacent to the road on the north side. The latter has been found to be of no great importance in itself, although some particular concentration survey of finds was made here during the surface collection survey of the gravel pit area, but even if these were confirmed the feature has added importance because of its group value in the context of an intensive study of the area. The current proposals for the road appear to involve no new land take in this area, and so there may be no impact. However, since the feature is actually partly beneath the existing road, this would depend on detailed construction proposals.

4.4 The evaluation work of OAU north of the A40 between Oxey Meadow and the Witley railway line has indicated the importance of the flood plain for archaeological potential. It is known that the palaeochannels extend south of the road, and the presence of a waterlogged a high preservation of prehistoric material is likely. This could be affected by the widening of the road at the west end, and by the construction of the new road of Oxy Meadow.

4.5 Preliminary on-site observation suggests that a new road across the canal may be detrimental to the setting of this much-used facility, and although not actually destructive in itself may effect minor canal-side features such as milestones and boundary markers, of which one exists close to the proposed roadway. The enhancement of the impact and the need for any mitigation by detailed design can be established.
10

The length of corridor through Marathon is not negotiable for the lack of

Marathon

embankments.

However, any impact on the basis of current information potential of this locality on the basis of current information on the basis of recent construction works means that is not possible to define the

4.8

If the central part of the parish some of the proposed new intersection of the Culvertose DNW is reached by the river, then this will be altered by the
dam. Planning is required to establish whether the parish boundary of Culvertose and the old woodland along the parish boundary of Water Detection will further enhance

4.7

The N point on the proposed new intersection is too remote from any archaeological survey. Presently, noISP has been detected in this area (despite prior to the recent major

4.6

The minor intersection adjacent to the existing recent road

4.5

The southern section of the parish crossed by the route is

4.9

The southern section of the parish crossed by the route is

4.10

The length of corridor through Marathon is not negotiable for the lack of

known archaeology. Again, this needs not imply an absence of any

known archaeology. Again, this needs not imply an absence of any

present. Indeed this is very unlikely.

been searched before this needs not indicate that no archaeology is

conspicuous by the absence of any known archaeology. As there already

preserved in situ of whether they will need to be excavated, recorded

consentation will need to be given to whether remains can be

consentation or not part of the DWF lies within the lands of the corridor.

By the means recognised above, to establish for certain whether

The southern section of the Culvertose Park may be

The more likely location in the vicinity of Culvertose Park may be

embankments.

however any impact is likely to arise.

boundary surveys are a significant physical character, even if it does,

having been conducted in this area (despite prior to the recent major

be established by field work. The lack of any archaeological survey

whether significant impacts are likely to occur in this area can only
development around the region may affect Roman remains of an

Marathon function. From a topographical point of view, the west-facing
Plan of an estate at Culteslowne in the County of Oxford.

Maps Consulted:

1962
Vernon, Floodplain 1961

1960
Vernon and Cassification, Vernon Recency, Parham Assesments

1966
Victoria County History

1964
Oxfordshire 2/30

1966
Ridge & Furrow in Berkshire and Oxfordshire

6. Bibliography & Maps Consulted

encladed for Culverhouse DNV, though this is likely to be at best
015 at the west end of the route, and any further detail that can be
test of known or suspected features, particularly the watermank site. no,
to help define the precise location of evaluation branches to
This will need to be proceed by detailed plotting of all photographie

5.2

3rd April 1992, subject to satisfactory access arrangements.

2nd Further Work

By the ancient Sessal Partm just up stream.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Parish</th>
<th>SMR/GRD</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Grid</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Varition</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>Palaeochnannel centred on above NGR</td>
<td>48351086</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Varition</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>Palaeochnannel centred on above NGR</td>
<td>478108</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cassilion &amp; Varition</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>Palaeochnannel centred on above NGR</td>
<td>465106</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Caselowe EPA</td>
<td>515WS21</td>
<td>Much ploughed down modelled conoaram, reference is just west of the area</td>
<td>5064173</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Caselowe EPA</td>
<td>515WS21</td>
<td>Pilotiie DMY may lie. The SMR &amp;d the area defied by NAR within which</td>
<td>506116</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Caselowe EPA</td>
<td>415ES15</td>
<td>Doubtul circular cropmark</td>
<td>494413</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Caselowe EPA</td>
<td>415ES2</td>
<td>Scatter palaeochnanic ship</td>
<td>494411</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Caselowe EPA</td>
<td>415ES15</td>
<td>Scatter of RB pottery</td>
<td>4929100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Caselowe EPA</td>
<td>1234</td>
<td>2nd of a pair of battrows</td>
<td>50481128</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Caselowe EPA</td>
<td>1354</td>
<td>One of a pair of round battrows (other</td>
<td>50371128</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Caselion</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>EBA/Neolithic pits and gallies</td>
<td>470501060</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

7. A40 North Oxford Improvement: Caselot of Sites Mapped
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Parish</th>
<th>Site No</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Grid Ref (all SP)</th>
<th>GAZ No.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Yarmion</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>Early prehistoric occupation site identified by redwashline</td>
<td>47251079</td>
<td>023</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eason</td>
<td>12625</td>
<td>Duke's Cii, Look, indoor grade II</td>
<td>48761061</td>
<td>022</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yarmion</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>Late Post-Roman pottery</td>
<td>47031077</td>
<td>012</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Marvin</td>
<td>3844</td>
<td>Medieval pot scatter from gardens</td>
<td>52208889</td>
<td>020</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Marvin</td>
<td>4236</td>
<td>Medieval church</td>
<td>52208888</td>
<td>019</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yarmion</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>Early prehistoric hill scatter</td>
<td>47041069</td>
<td>018</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Marvin</td>
<td>11211</td>
<td>Medieval débris from church foundations</td>
<td>52208888</td>
<td>017</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eason</td>
<td>1801</td>
<td>Millstone with entrance to north</td>
<td>504116</td>
<td>016</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yarmion</td>
<td>1382</td>
<td>Compound, small rectangular enclosure</td>
<td>46821066</td>
<td>015</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yarmion</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>IA pot scatter</td>
<td>46671080</td>
<td>014</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yarmion</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>Late megalithian</td>
<td>45441073</td>
<td>013</td>
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<tr>
<td>Eason</td>
<td>5869</td>
<td>Earthwork: Moat at Gundisowe</td>
<td>50731132</td>
<td>012</td>
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SMR/NAHR Description Grid Ref (all SP)
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<td>69</td>
<td>Sign Box</td>
<td>49112</td>
<td>030</td>
<td></td>
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<td>Eton</td>
<td>5146</td>
<td>Site of old brick pit</td>
<td>494111</td>
<td>032</td>
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<tr>
<td>Eton</td>
<td>869</td>
<td>Site of old Worcester railway (extant)</td>
<td>8701068</td>
<td>081</td>
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<tr>
<td>Eton</td>
<td>869</td>
<td>Site of old Bledshley railway (extant)</td>
<td>85031182</td>
<td>031</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eton</td>
<td>869</td>
<td>Site of old London railway (disused)</td>
<td>85031182</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eton</td>
<td>10044</td>
<td>Milestone</td>
<td>49071134</td>
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<td>Eton</td>
<td>996</td>
<td>Kings Bridge Canal Wharf</td>
<td>490113</td>
<td>027</td>
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<tr>
<td>Eton</td>
<td>12141</td>
<td>Uniaited small circular compartments</td>
<td>4916018</td>
<td>026</td>
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<td>Eton</td>
<td>12141</td>
<td>Fencing</td>
<td>47411077</td>
<td>025</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Eton</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>Prehistoric water from site</td>
<td>47341078</td>
<td>024</td>
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<tr>
<td>Parish</td>
<td>SMN/MAR</td>
<td>Description</td>
<td>REF. (ALL SP)</td>
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<td>---------------</td>
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<tr>
<td>Eton</td>
<td>11247</td>
<td>Find of Roman or Medieval net sinker</td>
<td>043 31701100</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Eton</td>
<td>4944</td>
<td>Cherwell bank</td>
<td>042 31651105</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eton</td>
<td>4979</td>
<td>Find of neolithic polished stone axe from Cherwell bank</td>
<td>041 31661100</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Eton</td>
<td>1332</td>
<td>Small mound, probably connected to headland</td>
<td>040 31711084</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Eton</td>
<td></td>
<td>Streeted Brakes, old woodland seen on OS</td>
<td>039 49601190</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Eton</td>
<td>1988</td>
<td>Part of Cosford Ridgeway to Oxford</td>
<td>038 50011200</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eton</td>
<td>8491</td>
<td>Oxford to Banbury canal</td>
<td>037 50211410</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eton</td>
<td></td>
<td>Voluntary Meadows, Old Meadows and Voluntary or</td>
<td>036 49831144</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eton</td>
<td></td>
<td>Priory Meadows, Oxford and Voluntary on</td>
<td>035 48801074</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Eton</td>
<td>868</td>
<td>Oxford to Banbury railway (existing)</td>
<td>034 49201165</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eton</td>
<td>6964</td>
<td>Wimpy railway (now a rail road)</td>
<td>033 42851103</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eton</td>
<td></td>
<td>Wimpy railway (now a rail road)</td>
<td>033 46010745</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>No.</td>
<td></td>
<td>no)</td>
<td>REF. (ALL SP)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Parish</td>
<td></td>
<td>SMN/MAR</td>
<td>GAZ.</td>
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</table>
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