Fordham Anglian Water Pipeline
Mill Road, Fordham, Colchester, Essex

Archaeological Watching Brief Report

Client: Anglian Water

OA East Report No: 1999
OASIS No: oxfordar3 - 266170
NGR: TL 92857 27450
Fordham Anglian Water Pipeline

Mill Road, Fordham, Colchester, Essex

Watching Brief

Site Code: XEXFAW/16

Date of Works: 19th October 2016

Report No: 1999

Excavator: Simon Birnie

Client: Anglian Water

Report Date: 20th November 2016
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Summary

On the 19th October 2016 OA East carried out an archaeological watching brief at Mill Road, Fordham, Colchester, Essex (TL 92857 27450). The monitoring was undertaken during work being carried out by Anglian Water which comprised the installation of 16 metres of water pipe within a narrow cut trench. No archaeological features or artefacts were found, with only modern topsoil and natural deposits being encountered.
1 GEOLGY AND TOPOGRAPHY
1.1.1 The site was located in an area of River Terrace Deposits (Sand And Gravel) 1 To 2 - Sand And Gravel. http://mapapps.bgs.ac.uk/geologyofbritain

2 ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND
2.1.1 600m to the north of the site is Fordham All Saints Church (Listed Building (I): 1239789), Grid reference: TL 927 280.
2.1.2 In 1997 an observation of a gas main trench was excavated from the churchyard gate, along the south side of the church, and round to its east end. The remains of the old boilerhouse and coalhole were exposed against the east chancel wall and medieval floor tiles recovered from the trench (Archaeology Data Service a).
2.1.3 In 1984 an excavation took place at Fordham Hall Farm, Grid reference: TL920002800 resulting in the discovery of a Roman burial (Archaeology Data Service b).
2.1.4 In 1998 a watching brief was undertaken at Fossetts Lane, Fordham, Grid reference: TL9310027900. This work was undertaken during topsoil stripping for the construction of an agricultural reservoir. Several post medieval or modern features were revealed, including the line of a hedge (still surviving as an earthwork at one end of the site), a pit and a possible ditch (Archaeology Data Service c).

3 METHODOLOGY
3.1.1 The objective of this watching brief was to determine as far as reasonably possible the presence/absence, location, nature, extent, date, quality, condition and significance of any surviving archaeological deposits within the development area.
3.1.2 A single trench measuring 16m long and 0.30m wide was machine excavated along side Mill Road, Fordham, Colchester. This work was carried out by Anglian Water to a depth to of up to 1.40m to allow for the installation of a section of water pipe. The topsoil was to a depth of 0.30m and directly overlay the natural sands and gravel, no subsoil was present.
3.1.3 Trench location, plans and sections were recorded with sketches and digital photographs were taken of all relevant features and deposits.
3.1.4 The watching brief was carried out in dry and overcast conditions with clear visibility.

4 RESULTS
4.1.1 No Archaeological features or artefacts were encountered.
5 ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

5.1.1 The author would like to thank Anglian Water who commissioned and funded the archaeological work. The project was managed by Richard Mortimer.

BIBLIOGRAPHY

http://mapapps.bgs.ac.uk/geologyofbritain

Archaeology Data Service a
http://archaeologydatас servicе.ac.uk/archsearch/recоrd.jsf?titleId=1854533

Archaeology Data Service b
http://archaeologydatас servicе.ac.uk/archsearch/recоrd.jsf?titleId=1854533

Archaeology Data Service c
http://archaeologydatас servicе.ac.uk/archsearch/recоrd.jsf?titleId=1852979
APPENDIX A. OASIS REPORT FORM

All fields are required unless they are not applicable.

**Project Details**

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**Type of Project/Techniques Used**

| Prompt | Water Act 1989 and subsequent code of practice |

Please select all techniques used:

- [x] Field Observation (periodic visits)
- [ ] Full Excavation (100%)
- [ ] Full Survey
- [ ] Geophysical Survey
- [ ] Open-Area Excavation
- [ ] Part Excavation
- [ ] Part Survey
- [ ] Recorded Observation
- [ ] Remote Operated Vehicle Survey
- [ ] Salvage Excavation
- [ ] Salvage Record
- [ ] Systematic Field Walking
- [ ] Systematic Metal Detector Survey
- [ ] Test Pit Survey
- [x] Watching Brief

**Monument Types/Significant Finds & Their Periods**

List feature types using the NMR Monument Type Thesaurus and significant finds using the MDA Object type Thesaurus together with their respective periods. If no features/finds were found, please state "none".

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<td>National Grid Reference</td>
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**Project Originators**

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<td>Project Design Originator</td>
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<td>Project Manager</td>
<td>Richard Mortimer</td>
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<td>Supervisor</td>
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**Digital Media**

- Database
- GIS
- Geophysics
- Images
- Illustrations
- Moving Image
- Spreadsheets
- Survey
- Text
- Virtual Reality

**Paper Media**

- Aerial Photos
- Context Sheet
- Correspondence
- Diary
- Drawing
- Manuscript
- Map
- Matrices
- Microfilm
- Misc.
- Research/Notes
- Photos
- Plans
- Report
- Sections
- Survey

**Notes:**

No finds made.
Figure 1: Site location and development area (red)
Figure 2:

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Report Number 1999
Plate 3: Pipe installation