NYCC HER		
SNY	497	
ENY	56	
CNY	1596	
Parish	3006	
Rec'd	17/2/03	

Eastfield Avenue Norton North Yorkshire

Archaeological Watching Brief

MAP Archaeological Consultancy Ltd October 1999

Eastfield Avenue Norton North Yorkshire

Archaeological Watching Brief

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Eastfield Avenue Norton North Yorkshire

Archaeological Watching Brief

Introduction

A Watching Brief was carried out at the northern end of Eastfield Avenue, Norton (SE 7993 7138) during the excavation of a storm drain trench. Eastfield Avenue is part of a housing estate, allotment gardens lie immediately to the north. The work was undertaken by MAP Archaeological Consultancy Ltd on September 2nd 1999.

All work was funded by North Yorkshire County Council Highways and Transportation Department.

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Historical and Archaeological Background

A number of archaeological sites were excavated during the construction of the Eastfields housing estate in the late 1940's of a Roman date. A concentration of archaeology was discovered around North Road c. 80m to the west of Eastfield Avenue. Finds here included stone structures, a ditch, part of a Roman road and concentrations of pottery associated with these features. The sites and finds are summarised in *The North-East Yorkshire Studies: Archaeological papers* (R.H. Hayes 1988).

Excavation Methods

The trench skirted the western edge of the Eastfield Avenue and the work involved the replacement of a gully drain at the northern end of the trench and the insertion of a new

length of drain running to the south. The trench was machine excavated and the dimensions were 21m long, 0.65m wide with a maximum depth of 0.55m. A deeper area was excavated (c. 0.8m) to accommodate a new gully drain. The depth of the pipe trench was slightly shallower at the northern end of the trench to create a fall running from north to south.

A drawn written and photographic record was made of all deposits encountered during the groundworks.

Results

The upper 0.25m of material was made up of the existing tarmac road surface which overlay the former surface of concrete, reinforced with a steel mesh (contexts 1000 and 1001).

The above surfaces overlay the old topsoil, a grey brown sandy loam 0.2m deep and subsoil, a brown sandy silty clay, 0.10m deep (contexts 1002 and 1003).

The ground where the gully pipe was inserted had already been disturbed and a cable pipe was also visible in the section.

No archaeological features, deposits or finds were seen or recovered during the groundworks merely the former road surfaces overlying the old top and subsoil.

Conclusion

Although the area of the watching brief lay within the vicinity of Roman Norton and known areas of archaeology, nothing was discovered during the works. The absence of features or finds suggests that the area lies away from Roman activity or that earlier features may lie at lower levels below the top and subsoil.

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APPENDIX 1

Context Listing

Context No.	Description
1000	tarmac road surface
1001	concrete, former road surface
1002	sandy loam, topsoil
1003	silt/sand and clay, subsoil

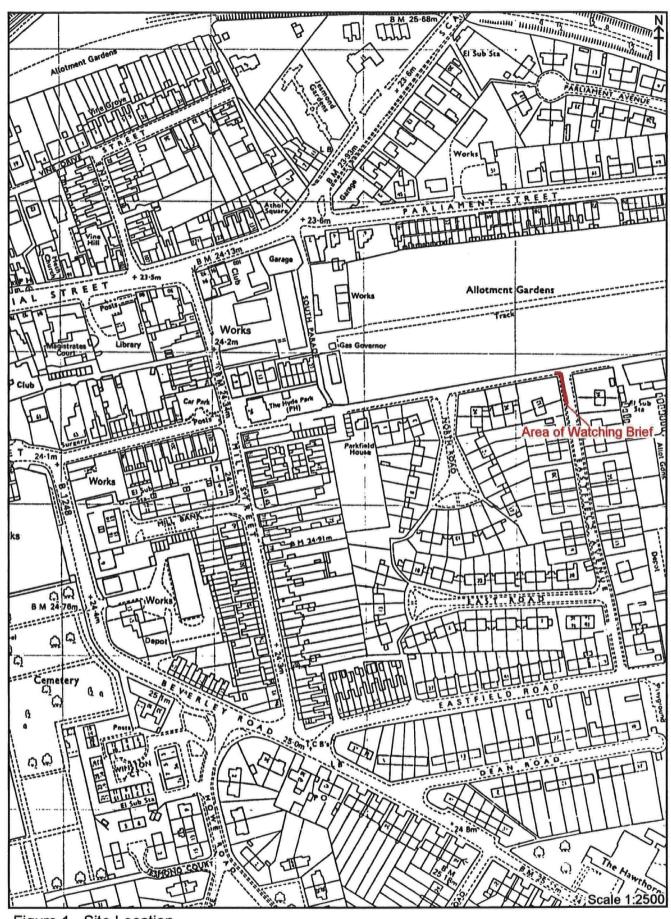


Figure 1. Site Location.