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**ULVERLEY GREEN ROAD,  
OLTON, SOLIHULL**

**Archaeological  
Watching Brief**

**2007**

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OLTON, SOLIHULL**

**Archaeological Watching Brief**

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By Kevin Colls

*For further information please contact:*

Birmingham Archaeology  
The University of Birmingham  
Edgbaston

Birmingham B15 2TT

Tel: 0121 414 5513

Fax: 0121 414 5516

Web Address: <http://www.barch.bham.ac.uk/bufau>

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AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF, 2007**

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## **SUMMARY**

*In 2007 Birmingham Archaeology carried out an archaeological watching brief along Ulverley Green Road, Olton, Solihull (centred on NGR SP 1366 8205). The work was commissioned by Severn Trent Water Ltd. to monitor the excavation of service trenches.*

*No archaeological features, deposits, or horizons were identified during the course of this investigation.*

## **1 INTRODUCTION**

In 2007 Birmingham Archaeology carried out an archaeological watching brief along Ulverley Green Road, Olton, Solihull (centred on NGR SP 13668205, Fig. 1). The work was commissioned by Severn Trent Water to monitor the groundworks associated with laying of new services and pipework into a new underground storage tank.

This report outlines the results of a watching brief, which was carried out in accordance with the requirements of the Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Watching Briefs (Institute of Field Archaeologists 2001). The watching brief conformed to a brief produced by Warwickshire Museum (Warwickshire Museum 2006) and a Written Scheme of Investigation (Birmingham Archaeology 2006a) which was approved by Warwickshire Museum prior to implementation.

## **2 LOCATION AND GEOLOGY**

The site is located at the junction of Denecourt Road and Ulverley Green Road, Olton, Solihull (Fig. 1). The underlying geology is mapped as Jurassic Keuper Marl (British Geological Survey, Solid and Drift Geology Sheet 168 – England and Wales. 1970).

## **3 AIMS AND OBJECTIVES**

The principle aim of the project was to assess the survival and potential significance of any archaeology within the study area.

## **4 METHODOLOGY**

The excavations of the trenches for the new services were monitored by a qualified archaeologist (Fig. 2). A comprehensive written record was maintained using pro-forma context sheets supplemented by to scale drawings of trench plans and sections and a full photographic record using colour slide and monochrome film.

## **5 ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL CONTEXT**

The site is located within the suggested limits of the medieval settlement of Olton (Solihull SMR MSI 5841) and immediately adjacent to the suggested site of early medieval/medieval Ulverley Manor House (SMR MSI 3090) (Fig 1), suggested to be located on the site of Manor House Farm. To the west lies the putative site of a medieval windmill (SMR MSI 3115) with Olton Station (SMR MSI 6041) to the northwest of the site.

Previous archaeological investigation was completed during the construction of a new storage tank on the site (Birmingham Archaeology 2006b). The excavation recorded a layer of waterlogged silt across the area of excavation, which contained numerous sherds of 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> century ceramics, together with two residual medieval sherds. The silt deposits were considered to belong to a waterlogged area adjacent to an extant pond, which may have represented a fish pond or moat associated with the former Ulverley Manor house.

## **6 RESULTS**

The trench depth failed to exceed the limits of modern hardcore deposits associated with the road and footpath. No archaeological features or deposits were present.

## **7 ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS**

The project was commissioned by Severn Trent Water Ltd. Thanks are due to Jo Kelsey for her co-operation and assistance throughout the project. The fieldwork was undertaken by Erica Macey-Bracken. This report was completed by Kevin Colls, who managed this project for Birmingham Archaeology.

## **8 BIBLIOGRAPHY**

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Warwickshire Museum 2006 *Brief for Archaeological Work at Denecourt Road/Ulverley Green Road, Olton, Solihull.*