

# **An Archaeological Watching Brief at Godmanchester Lock, Cambridgeshire (TL 2411 7035)**

**Site Code: GOD LOC08**  
**CHER No. ECB 2885**  
**Date of Works: 27<sup>th</sup> February 2008**  
**Excavator: Nick Gilmour**  
**Client: Environment Agency**

## **Summary**

On the 27<sup>th</sup> February 2008, CAM ARC of Cambridgeshire County Council carried out an archaeological watching brief. This was during the digging of a trench for they laying of cables to power a lock and CCTV cameras. The trench ran from Godmanchester lock (TL 2411 7035), via the Chinese bridge and through the car park of the town hall to the road (TL 2445 7057).

<b>PROJECT DETAILS</b>			
Project name	Watching brief at Godmanchester Lock, Godmanchester		
Short description	A trench 0.4m wide and 0.6m deep was dug to take cables, much of the work was carried out without an archaeologist on site. Only two short sections were monitored, these were; c. 30m at the southwest end and c. 40m before the sluice at the northeast end. These sections of trench were dug with mini-diggers. It appears that the area at the southwest, between Godmanchester Lock and Port Holme, either had spoil dumped on it during the construction of the lock in the 1970's, or was heavily disturbed. The stretch to the northeast, on the 'island' was dug down to the natural, but no archaeology or finds were observed. The topsoil in this area had a depth of around 0.3m.		
Project dates	Start 27/02/08	End	27/02/08
Previous work	None	Future work	No
Associated project reference codes	GOD LOC08; ECB2885		
Type of project	Watching Brief		
Site status	None		
Current land use (list all that apply)	Playing field, car park		
Planned development	Cable laying		
Monument types / period (list all that apply)	None		
Significant finds: Artefact type / period (list all that apply)	None		
<b>PROJECT LOCATION</b>			
County	Cambridgeshire	Parish	Godmanchester
HER for region	Cambridgeshire		
Site address (including postcode)	Field near Godmanchester Lock		
Study area (sq.m or ha)			
National grid reference	TL 2411 7035		
Height OD	Min OD	Max OD	
<b>PROJECT ORIGINATORS</b>			
Organisation	CAM ARC		
Project brief originator	None		
Project design originator	None		
Director/supervisor	Nick Gilmour		
Project manager	James Drummond-Murray		
Sponsor or funding body	Environment Agency		
<b>ARCHIVES</b>			
	Location and accession number		Content (e.g. pottery, animal bone, database, context sheets etc)
Physical	None		
Paper	N/a		
Digital	N/a		
<b>BIBLIOGRAPHY</b>			
Full title	N/a		
Author(s)	N/a		
Report number	N/a		
Series title and volume	N/a		
Page numbers	N/a		
Date	N/a		

## **1 Methodology**

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.

## **2 Results**

A trench 0.4m wide and 0.6m deep was dug, much of the work was carried out without an archaeologist on site. Only two short sections were monitored, these were; c. 30m at the southwest end and c. 40m before the sluice at the northeast end. These sections of trench were dug with mini-diggers. It appears that the area at the southwest, between Godmanchester Lock and Port Holme, either had spoil dumped on it during the construction of the lock in the 1970's, or was heavily disturbed. The stretch to the northeast, on the 'island' was dug down to the natural, but no archaeology or finds were observed. The topsoil in this area had a depth of around 0.3m.

## **Acknowledgements**

The author would like to thank the Environment Agency who commissioned and funded the archaeological work. The project was managed by James Drummond-Murray and monitored by Andy Thomas.