

**An Archaeological Watching Brief  
at Twyford Water Pipeline, Hampshire**

**(NGR SU 4798 2392- 4929 2412)**

**By**

**Alice Thorne**

**Project No. 2415**

**Sept 2006**

**Archaeology South-East  
1 West Street  
Ditchling  
East Sussex  
BN6 8TS**

**Tel: 01273 845497**

**Fax: 01273 844187**

**email : [fau-ucl@btconnect.com](mailto:fau-ucl@btconnect.com)**

**website: [www.archaeologyse.co.uk](http://www.archaeologyse.co.uk)**

## ***Archaeology South-East***

*Archaeology South-East is a division of the University College London Field Archaeology Unit. The Institute of Archaeology at UCL is one of the largest groupings of academic archaeologists in the country. Consequently, Archaeology South-East has access to the conservation, computing and environmental backup of the college, as well as a range of other archaeological services.*

*The Field Archaeology Unit and South Eastern Archaeological Services (which became Archaeology South-East in 1996) were established in 1974 and 1991 respectively. Although field projects have been conducted worldwide, Archaeology South-East retains a special interest in south-east England with the majority of our contract and consultancy work concentrated in Sussex, Kent, Greater London and Essex.*

*Drawing on experience of the countryside and towns of the south east of England Archaeology South-East can give advice and carry out surveys at an early stage in the planning process. By working closely with developers and planning authorities it is possible to incorporate archaeological work into developments with little inconvenience.*

*Archaeology South-East, as part of the Field Archaeology Unit, is a registered organisation with the Institute of Field Archaeologists and, as such, is required to meet IFA standards.*

*Abstract*

An archaeological watching brief was maintained during groundwork associated with the construction of a new mains water pipeline near Twyford in Hampshire (NGR SU 4798 2392- 4929 2412). The watching brief recovered substantial evidence of Bronze Age or Late Bronze Age- Early Iron Age activity in the area. To the west of the easement strip a probable enclosure ditch containing a neonatal baby burial was identified. In the central eastern area of the strip a small curvilinear ditch or gully with associated stakeholes and a collection of postholes in association with a small patch of cobbled surface was revealed.

## **CONTENTS**

- 1.0 Introduction**
- 2.0 Archaeological Background**
- 3.0 Archaeological Methodology**
- 4.0 Results**
- 5.0 Finds**
  - Pottery** by Charlotte Thompson
  - Flint** by Chris Butler
  - Animal Bone** by Lucy Siburn
  - Human Bone** by Lucy Siburn
- 6.0 Environmental Results** by Lucy Allott
- 7.0 Summary**
- 8.0 Bibliography**

### **SMR Summary Sheet**

**Table 1:** Quantification of finds from TWP06 (count/weight (g))

**Table 2:** The Prehistoric flintwork

**Table 3:** Flot quantification

**Table 4:** Residue quantification

**Fig. 1:** Site Location

**Fig. 2:** Site Plan (showing monitored groundworks)

**Fig. 3:** Plan of Area A

**Fig. 4:** Plan of Area B

**Fig. 5:** Sections

## **1.0 INTRODUCTION**

- 1.1 Archaeology South-East (ASE), a division of University College London Field Archaeology Unit, was commissioned have been commissioned by Atkins Heritage on behalf of Clancy DOCWRA to undertake an archaeological watching brief during the construction of a new mains water pipeline (NGR SU 4798 2392- 4929 2412) (Fig. 1).
- 1.2 The proposed groundworks included the topsoil stripping for the pipeline works easement (c.8m wide by 1.3km long), and the excavation of the central pipe trench.
- 1.3 Due to the potential for impacting below ground archaeological remains the statutory consultee, Mr. Stephen Appleby of Hampshire County Council has requested that a watching brief be undertaken on the groundwork in order to mitigate any impacts. Atkins Heritage have been appointed to manage the archaeological issues of the scheme on behalf of Clancy DOCWRA.
- 1.4 A Brief outlining the requirements was prepared by Neil Griffin of Archaeology South-East and submitted to Stephen Appleby of Hampshire County Council for approval. This required monitoring of the groundwork at regular intervals on the understanding that during the intervening periods the plant would not back-track over stripped areas not already viewed and signed off by the attending archaeologist.
- 1.5 The fieldwork was undertaken by Alice Thorne, Greg Bell and Diccon Hart during March and April 2006 The project was managed by Neil Griffin (Project Manager) and Louise Rayner (Post-excavation Manager).

## **2.0 ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND**

- 2.1 The site is located on situated to the south of Twyford, off of Junction 11 of the M3. The western extent of the scheme is located near Toll Gate Cottage on the B3335 (NGR SU 4798 2392), the scheme ends 1.3km to the east, just north of Cockscomb Hill Farm (SU 4929 2412) (Fig. 1).
- 2.2 The site lies in an area of archaeological potential. A brief compiled by Atkins Heritage, which draws on records held by Hampshire County Council, highlighted that the pipeline route passes within 1km of a number of known archaeological sites/findspots that suggest human activity from the Mesolithic onwards (Atkins Heritage undated).
- 2.3 There is evidence of Bronze Age activity in the area. Six barrows (two of which are designated as Scheduled Ancient Monuments (SAM 12138) are known from the vicinity with the possibility that more had been located

nearby, now truncated by extensive ploughing. Iron age field systems have been detected within a 1km radius of the area, and a Roman Villa (SAM HA173) is located on the eastern edge of the village of Twyford.

- 2.4** The site is located crossing the undulating topography of the Twyford downs. It is generally situated towards the crest of the chalk hills, but also crosses through a dry valley approximately half way along the course of the easement.
- 2.5** According to the Atkins Heritage Brief, 2003, the site lies mainly on chalk (Paragraph 3.1).

### **3.0 ARCHAEOLOGICAL METHODOLOGY**

- 3.1** The objectives of the archaeological watching brief were to contribute to the knowledge of the area through the recording of the nature, extent, date, character, quality, significance and state of preservation of any archaeological remains affected by the groundwork. Further aim was to assess where appropriate the ecofactual and palaeo-environmental potential of archaeological deposits and features from within the site. Particular attention was to be made to the character, height below ground level, condition, date and significance of the deposits.
- 3.2** All encountered archaeological deposits, features and finds were recorded according to accepted professional standards in accordance with the Specification using standard Archaeology South-East context record sheets. Deposit colours were verified by visual inspection and not by reference to a Munsell Colour chart.
- 3.3** The groundwork comprised the initial topsoil strip for the compound area, to a maximum depth of 100mm, followed by excavation of the pipeline easement to a depth of around 300mm (c. 8m wide by 1.3km long). This was completed by a 15 tonne machine fitted with a 1.8m wide flat blade ditching bucket. Following this a central pipe trench (800mm wide and up to 1m deep) was excavated by a machine fitted with a toothed bucket.
- 3.4** The spoil from the excavations was inspected to recover any artefacts or ecofacts of archaeological interest.
- 3.5** All archaeological features were recorded according to standard UCLFAU practice. Sections were drawn at 1:20, and Plans at 1:50. A site plan showing was drawn up and tied in to the Ordnance Survey National Grid. Drawings were recorded on plastic draughting film.

**3.6** All remains were be levelled with respect to Ordnance Survey datum, using a Sokkia Total Station. Where possible values have been provided here on the section drawings. If this has not been practical, values are recorded within the results section.

**3.7** A full photographic record of the work was kept (black and white prints, colour slides and digital images) and will form part of the site archive. The archive is presently held at the Archaeology South-East offices at Ditchling and will be offered to a suitable local museum.

## **4.0 RESULTS**

**4.1** The stratigraphic sequence observed on site was as follows:

- Context **1** was a mid- dark brown silty clay plough soil containing frequent flint nodules. These were poorly sorted and often patinated or covered in a thick layer of creamy cortex. Chalk fragments and smaller flint gravels were also frequently encountered. Occasional fragments of wood, fire cracked flint, agricultural iron work, and CBM and slate were also noted. Two pieces of clay pipe and a Roman pot sherd were also recovered from the topsoil. This deposit had a maximum depth of 300mm.
- Context **2** was a mid - light orangish – brown clayey silt subsoil, containing frequent chalk fragments and patinated angular flint nodules and fragments. This subsoil deposit had a variable occurrence and was only present in parts of the site, generally towards the base of a hill slope or in valley bottoms. Within the base of the dry valley below Knighton a deposit of colluvial silts was also encountered.
- Context **3** was the creamy –white chalk bedrock. This was friable and crumbly at its surface, becoming blockier at depth.

**4.2** The initial topsoil trip reduced the ground to a maximum depth of 350mm. As a result, there were areas of the easement which remained mottled and smeared with deposits of topsoil, subsoil, plough furrows and soilfluction channels. Several periglacial and geological features were investigated, (including Context **4**) and were found to be amorphous and irregular in plan and profile. They were filled with a sterile, firm, light orangish brown slightly clayey silt containing chalk fragments and occasional subangular – angular flint nodules. These characteristics confirmed their natural origin, and in addition the plough furrows were noted to generally run across the hillside, whilst the soilfluction channels ran down the hill slope.

### **4.3 Eastern Area: (Area A)**

**4.3.1** In the eastern part of the site in the field adjacent to Watley Lane and the

reservoir a 2.31m wide linear feature was noted (Context 5) (Fig 3, Section 5.1). In plan this feature was slightly curved, and appeared to be following the contour of the hillside. It had a maximum depth of 0.76m and a concave profile, with a steeper north west (down slope) edge. It had a gradual break of slope on the south eastern edge, and a concave base.

- 4.3.2** The upper fill of this ditch (Context 8) was formed by a firm mid greyish-brown clayey silt, containing moderate chalk fragments, flint gravels and frequent flint nodules. Thirteen fragments of a mature sheep mandible including three molars were recovered from this context. This deposit had a maximum depth of 0.63m. Initially this fill was believed to indicate a recut of the feature, as the deposit was significantly different in character to the preceding fills. However, it may also represent a later period of backfilling, or possibly a rapid phase of silting resulting from more intensive ploughing of the area after the ditch went out of use.
- 4.3.3** Located centrally at the surface of the feature was a loose area of a mid greyish- brown clayey silt (Context 9) containing frequent large flint nodules. The horizon between this and Context 8 was very diffuse, and it may represent an area of burrowing, or recent disturbance of the upper deposit.
- 4.3.4** Below Context 8, Context 7 was encountered. This comprised a compact light grey clayey silt with a maximum depth of 0.25m. It contained sub angular – sub rounded flint nodules, often large in size (greater than 50mm), and occasional fragments of Fire Cracked Flint. . Two adjoining fragments of pottery from this context returned a probable late Bronze Age or Late Bronze Age/ Early Iron Age date. It is conceivable that a small highly abraded Roman sherd also recovered from this context is intrusive. Chris Butlers' flint report has shown that worked flint debitage recovered from this context is likely to be Neolithic in date, perhaps extending into the Early Bronze Age. This may represent residual flintworking material incorporated into the ditch fill.
- 4.3.5** 28grams of bone was also recovered from Context 7. The bone was identified located in a discreet patch positioned centrally within the ditch and close to the surface of the deposit, near the interface with Context 8. No additional cut into Context 7 for this burial was identifiable. The bone was identified as belonging to a newborn human infant.
- 4.3.6** Below Context 7 a compact creamy grey chalk rubble containing occasional silts and gravels (Context 6) formed the primary silting of the ditch.
- 4.3.7** Located to the east of feature 5 an additional feature was identified. This had a sub oval shape in plan, with tapered sides and a flattish base (Context 10). It had a maximum width of 0.98m and a maximum depth of 0.12m (Fig 3, Section 5.2). It was filled with a mid greyish brown clayey silt containing



frequent chalk and flint fragments (Context **11**). This feature may represent the base of a truncated pit, or more possibly a natural hollow on the surface of the chalk.

#### **4.4 Western Area : (Area B)**

**4.4.1** A second cluster of features was identified located in the central- west portion of the easement strip (Fig 2). A curving liner feature was identified partially exposed extending from the baulk (Context **12**) (Fig 4, Section 5.3,4,5). This had a width of 0.50m – 0.70m, a length of 5.0m and a maximum depth of 0.20m. It had a sharp break of slope at the top, irregular concave sides and a rounded base, with an imperceptible break of slope. It was filled with a mid yellowish brown silty clay, containing moderate medium to large chalk fragments and flint pebbles (Context **13**). Three fragments of probable Bronze Age worked flint and a piece of fire cracked flint were recovered from this context. This feature may represent a drainage feature, or possibly a gully associated with a structure.

**4.4.2** Context **14** was an ovoid feature in plan, with irregular concave sides and a rounded base. It had a maximum length of 0.18m, width of 0.14m and depth of 0.06m. It was filled with a mid yellowish brown silty clay (Context **15**). This feature may represent a possible stakehole, located around 0.15m from the end of Feature 12 (Fig 4, 64.38mOD).

**4.4.3** Context **16** was an ovoid feature located within the curving plan of Context 12. It had a maximum length of 0.38m, a width of 0.22m and a depth of 0.10m. It had a concave and regular profile, with a rounded base (Fig 4, Section 5.6). It was filled with a mid yellowish brown silty clay (Context **17**). This feature has been interpreted as a probable posthole.

**4.4.4** Context **18** was located approximately 1.5m to the east of Feature 12, and comprised a sub-circular shaped feature in plan, with concave sides and a rounded base. It had a diameter of 0.20m and a depth of 0.08m (Fig 4, Section 5.7). It was filled with a mid yellowish brown silty clay, which contained five fragments of fire cracked flint (Context **19**). It has been interpreted as the cut of a shallow posthole.

**4.4.5** Context **20** was located approximately 8 m to the north east of Feature 12, and was situated within a cluster of other features. It was circular in plan with a sharp break of slope at the top, vertical sides and a flat base. It had a diameter of 0.53m and a depth of 0.40m (Fig 4, Section 5.8). It was filled with a mid yellowish brown silty clay containing frequent chalk flecks and occasional large pebbles, particularly concentrated around the edges (Context **21**). It has been interpreted as a posthole.

**4.4.6** Context **22** was a sub-circular feature in plan measuring 0.36m by 0.28m and

0.22m in depth with vertical sides, a sharp break of slope at the top and a rounded base. It was filled by Context **23**, a firm mid yellowish brown silty clay containing occasional to moderate pebbles, and two fragments of fire cracked flint (Fig 4, Section 5.9). It has been interpreted as a posthole.

- 4.4.7** Context **24** was a sub-circular feature in plan measuring 0.60m by 0.50m and 0.12m in depth. It had irregular concave sides, a sharp break of slope at the top, a gradual break of slope at the base and a flattish bottom. It was filled by Context **25**, a firm mid yellowish brown silty clay containing occasional large pebbles/ cobbles and moderate small – medium pebbles (Fig 4, Section 5.10). Four fragments of fire cracked flint and a single fragment of pottery recovered returned a late Bronze Age or Late Bronze Age/ Early Iron Age date. This feature has been interpreted as a shallow pit or posthole.
- 4.4.8** Context **26** comprised a probable natural feature. It had an irregular sub-circular shape in plan, measuring 0.85m by 0.70m by 0.10m. It had an irregular concave sides with a sharp break of slope to the south, and an imperceptible break of slope to the north, with a flat base. It was filled by Context **27**, a firm mid yellowish brown silty clay containing moderate small – medium pebbles, frequent flecks and fragments of chalk and moderate rooting (Fig 4, Section 5.11).
- 4.4.9** Context **28** was an ovoid feature in plan measuring 0.70m by 0.65m and 0.40m in depth. It had vertical irregular sides, with a sharp break of slope at the top, a gradual break of slope at the base and a flat bottom. It was filled by Context **29**, a firm mid greyish brown silty clay containing moderate medium - large cobble packing situated around the edges of the feature, frequent small – medium pebbles and some rooting disturbance (Fig 4, Section 5.11). A piece of probable Bronze Age worked flint was recovered from this fill. This feature has been interpreted as a posthole.
- 4.5.0** Context **30** was an ovoid feature in plan measuring 0.55m by 0.40m and 0.55m in depth. It had vertical and irregular sides, a sharp break of slope at the top, an imperceptible break of slope at the base leading to a rounded bottom. It was filled by Context **31**, a firm mid yellowish brown silty clay containing moderate large pebbles/ cobbles and frequent small – medium pebbles (Fig 4, Section 5.15). A piece of Fire Cracked Flint was recovered from this feature, and a single fragment of pottery returned a late Bronze Age or Late Bronze Age/ Early Iron Age date. A fragment of cattle longbone was also recovered from this context. This feature has been interpreted as a posthole.
- 4.5.1** Context **32** was a deposit of rammed gravel cobbling situated within the cluster of postholes. It measured 1.70m in length, 0.90m in width and had a depth of approximately 0.10m. It consisted of weakly cemented small-medium pebbles within a firm mid greyish brown silty clay containing

moderate chalk fragments (Context **33**). A piece of probable Bronze Age worked flint was recovered, and two fragments of pottery identified from this matrix returned a late Bronze Age or Late Bronze Age/ Early Iron Age date (Fig 4, 65.07m OD).

- 4.5.2** Context **34** was an ovoid feature in plan measuring 0.73m by 0.24m and 0.20m in depth. It had near vertical irregular sides, a sharp break of slope at the top, and a gradual break of slope at the base leading to a rounded bottom. It was filled by Context **35**, a firm mid yellowish brown silty clay containing occasional large cobbles and frequent small – medium pebbles. Frequent flecks and fragments of chalk were also noted (Fig 4, Section 5.13). Eight fragments of pottery recovered returned a late Bronze Age or Late Bronze Age/ Early Iron Age date. One other very small sherd may possibly be Roman, and may represent an intrusive fragment. Context 35 also produced four fragments of worked flint debitage, likely to be Neolithic in date, perhaps extending into the Early Bronze Age. This feature has been interpreted as a posthole.
- 4.5.3** Context **36** was a circular feature in plan measuring 0.40m and 0.48m in depth. It had vertical and irregular sides, a sharp break of slope at the top, and an imperceptible break of slope at the base leading to a rounded bottom. It was filled by Context **37**, a firm mid yellowish brown silty clay containing moderate medium- large pebbles and occasional small – medium pebbles. Frequent chalk flecks and moderate rooting was also noted (Fig 4, Section 5.14). It has been interpreted as a posthole.
- 4.5.4** Contexts **40a – 40g** were a group of stakeholes located near the terminus of the curvilinear feature 12. These had irregular circular shapes in plan and measured between 0.05m – 0.16m diameter. They had steep sides with a sharp break of slope at the top and pointed or flat bases. Depths ranged between 0.05m – 0.15m. They were filled by a loose mid brown silty clay (Contexts **41a- 41g**) (Fig 4, 64.38mOD).
- 4.5.5** Context **42** comprised a probable natural feature. It had a circular shape in plan, measuring 50m by 0.09m in depth. It had shallow sloping sides with a flat base. It was filled by Context **43**, a crumbly light brown chalky clay containing flint, chalk and ironstone fragments (Fig 4, Section 5.15).
- 4.5.6** Context **45** was a sub -circular feature in plan measuring 0.33m and 0.15m in depth. It had concave sides, a sharp break of slope at the top, an imperceptible break of slope at the base leading to a rounded bottom. It was filled by Context **44**, a firm mid yellowish brown silty clay containing moderate pebbles and occasional charcoal flecks (Fig 4, Section 5.15). Two fragments of late Bronze Age or Late Bronze Age/ Early Iron Age pottery were recovered. This feature has been interpreted as a posthole.

**4.5.7** Context **47** comprised a possible natural feature it was sub -circular in plan measuring 0.70m by 0.60m and 0.20m in depth. It had concave sides, a sharp break of slope at the top, an imperceptible break of slope at the base leading to a rounded bottom. It was filled by Context **46**, a firm mid yellowish brown silty clay containing occasional small – medium pebbles and moderate rooting (Fig 4, Section 5.16).

**4.5.8** Context **48** was a deposit located below feature 47, and comprised a firm - friable mid yellowish brown silty clay containing occasional pebbles and moderate rooting. This is likely to represent a patch of disturbance relating to vegetation growth (Fig 4, Section 5.16).

**4.5.9** Likewise Context **50** has been interpreted as a possible tree throw. It was an irregular ovoid shape in plan measuring 1.20m by 0.06m by 0.23m in depth. It had irregular concave sides with an irregular rounded base. It was filled by Context **49**, a firm mid yellowish brown silty clay containing moderate small - medium pebbles and frequent charcoal flecks (Fig 4, Section 5.17).

## 5.0 FINDS

**5.1** A modest assemblage of finds was recovered from the two phases of watching brief at Twyford waterpipeline and are set out in Table 1 below.

| Context | Pottery | Wt | Flint | Wt  | FCF | Wt  | Bone | Wt | CTP | Wt |
|---------|---------|----|-------|-----|-----|-----|------|----|-----|----|
| [+]     |         |    | 17    | 428 |     |     |      |    |     |    |
| [1]     | 1       | 2  | 11    | 286 | 2   | 286 |      |    | 2   | 6  |
| [7]     | 3       | 14 | 5     | 116 | 1   | 16  | >63  | 28 |     |    |
| [8]     |         |    |       |     |     |     | 13   | 8  |     |    |
| [13]    |         |    | 3     | 10  | 1   | 14  |      |    |     |    |
| [19]    |         |    |       |     | 5   | 488 |      |    |     |    |
| [23]    |         |    |       |     | 2   | 40  |      |    |     |    |
| [25]    | 1       | 8  |       |     | 4   | 22  |      |    |     |    |
| [29]    |         |    | 1     | 16  |     |     |      |    |     |    |
| [31]    | 1       | 14 |       |     | 1   | 308 | 1    | 8  |     |    |
| [33]    | 2       | 4  | 1     | <2  |     |     |      |    |     |    |
| [35]    | 8       | 20 | 4     | 100 | 5   | 192 |      |    |     |    |
| [44]    | 2       | 4  |       |     |     |     |      |    |     |    |

**Table1: Quantification of finds from TWP06 (count/weight (g))**

## 5.2 The pottery and clay tobacco pipes from TWP06 by Charlotte Thompson

**5.2.1** Eighteen pieces of pottery, weighing 52g in total were recovered from seven contexts. Two of the sherds from context [7] are flint-tempered and fit together: they are likely to be from a coarseware jar, and the sparse medium

to very coarse calcined flint temper and the moderate quantity of medium to coarse quartz temper and sparse glauconite inclusions used are suggestive of a later Bronze Age or Late Bronze Age/Early Iron Age date. A similar fabric is used for sherds in contexts [25], [31], [33] and [35], and sherds from context [44] are also flint-tempered but contain much sparser flint and quartz inclusions. Other sites in Winchester such as Battery Hill and Easton Lane (Fasham et al 1989) have contained large quantities of pottery from this period. Roman pottery is also present: context [7] also contains a small highly abraded sherd from the base of a wheelmade oxidised Roman vessel, context [35] contains a very small micaceous fine granular sherd which is almost certainly Roman, and context [1] contains an abraded Roman sherd of fine micaceous red fabric with a white slip.

**5.2.2** Two pieces of clay tobacco pipe stem come from the surface layer of context [1]. Although they are of different diameters, it is conceivable that they come from the same pipe.

### **5.3 Flint by Chris Butler**

**5.3.1** A small assemblage of 38 pieces of worked flint weighing 763gms was recovered during the work, and are summarised in Table 2. All of the flint is either a mottled grey to black colour, with a buff cortex where present, or patinated white. All of the flint is likely to have originated locally. There were also three pieces of un-worked fire-fractured flint weighing 103g.

| Type                      | Number    |
|---------------------------|-----------|
| Hard hammer-struck flakes | 21        |
| Soft hammer-struck flakes | 5         |
| Fragments                 | 9         |
| Chip                      | 1         |
| Axe-thinning flake        | 1         |
| Double ended scraper      | 1         |
| <b>Total</b>              | <b>38</b> |

**Table2: Prehistoric flintwork**

**5.3.2** This small assemblage comprises mostly debitage. Although the flakes do not have evidence of platform preparation, it was noticeable that the white patinated flint included the soft-hammer struck pieces, and those hard hammer-struck flakes on patinated flint tended to be blade-like. The axe-thinning flake and the double-ended scraper were also white patinated flint.

**5.3.2** These white patinated pieces are likely to be Neolithic in date, perhaps extending into the Early Bronze Age, with the other pieces probably being Bronze Age. The earlier pieces were recovered from contexts [7] and [35]

whilst the other contexts and unstratified contexts produced a mixture of types.

#### **5.4.0 Animal Bone** by Lucy Sibun

**5.4.1** Animal bone was recovered from contexts 8 and 31. The thirteen fragments from context [8], weighing 8g, are all fragments from a mature sheep mandible including all three molars. A single fragment of cattle longbone was recovered from context 31. All fragments are poorly preserved with a badly weathered surface.

#### **5.5.0 Human Bone** by Lucy Sibun

**5.5.1** A total of 28grams of bone was collected from Context 7. This bone was recovered by hand and floatation (sample <1>) The bone is in a reasonable state of preservation but highly fragmented, resulting in a large number of very small (< 4mm) fragments. Upon close inspection the bone was identified as belonging to a human infant.

**5.5.2** The following skeletal elements were represented;

Cranium

1 upper incisor crown

1 cervical vertebra

3 thoracic vertebrae

4 lumbar vertebrae

rib shafts

right femoral shaft and proximal end

left femoral shaft

left and right humeral shafts

tibial shaft

radial shaft fragments

**5.5.2** The size and developmental stage of the elements suggests that they represent a newborn infant. There is no evidence for pathology on any of the fragments.

#### **6.0 ENVIRONMENTAL RESULTS** by Lucy Allott

**6.1** Four environmental samples were taken from this site to establish the presence of environmental remains.

**6.2** The samples were processed using tank flotation and the residues (heavy fraction) and flots (light fraction) were retained on 500µm and 250µm meshes respectively. The flots and residues were air dried, passed through

graded sieves and sorted. Archaeological and environmental materials have been classified and quantified (Tables 3 and 4).

- 6.3** Uncharred botanicals including small roots and some seeds were present in each sample. Land snail shells were common and indicate some modern sediment disturbance.
- 6.4** Small quantities of charcoal (<4mm) and charred weed seeds were also recovered. Residues from samples <1>, <2> and <3> contained highly fragmented bone and small mammal bones were present in sample <2>. Sample <3> was taken from a feature identified as a posthole. The residue and flot contain very little charcoal and it appears therefore that the post was not burnt and may have been removed or decomposed naturally.
- 6.5** Archaeological remains recovered reflect the materials collected during site work (see finds report).
- 6.6** The environmental remains from these samples were limited and no reconstruction of the local vegetation or economy has been possible.

| Sample No. | Context No. | Volume (ml) | Weight (g) | Uncharred botanicals (%) | Uncharred seeds | Charcoal >4mm frags | Charcoal <4mm | Bone | Land snail shells         |
|------------|-------------|-------------|------------|--------------------------|-----------------|---------------------|---------------|------|---------------------------|
| 1          | 7           | 45          | 24         | 20                       | */<2            | 0                   | */<2          | */<2 | >100/12<br>4/5 diff types |
| 2          | 25          | 45          | 8          | 70                       | */<2            |                     | */<2          |      | >100/2                    |
| 3          | 29          | 100         | 15         | 80                       | */<2            |                     | */<2          |      | >100/<2                   |
| 4          | CMT12       | 50          | 16         | 60                       | */<2            |                     |               |      | >100/2                    |

Table 3 Flot quantification (\* = 1-25)

| Sample No. | Context No. | Charcoal >4mm | Charcoal <4mm | Shell | Bone | Industrial debris    | Fire Cracked Flint | CBM  | Pottery | Lithics | Magnetic |
|------------|-------------|---------------|---------------|-------|------|----------------------|--------------------|------|---------|---------|----------|
| 1          | 7           |               |               | */2   | **/8 | 1/6 Iron rich nodule | */34               |      |         |         |          |
| 2          | 15          | 0             | */<1          | **/4  | */4  |                      | */36               | **/6 | 2/6     |         |          |
| 3          | 29          | */<1          | */<1          | **/2  | */<1 |                      | */18               | */<1 | */<1    | */2     |          |
| 4          | CMT12       | 0             | */<1          | **/4  |      |                      | */<2               | */<1 |         | */6     | */<1     |

Table 4 Residue quantification (\* = 1-25, \*\* = 26-50)

## 7.0 SUMMARY

- 7.1 Archaeological evidence has demonstrated a long history of human exploitation and occupation in the area of the Twyford downs near Winchester. A number of archaeological sites survive as visible features in the landscape, and yet more have been exposed as a result of archaeological intervention (Walker and Farwell, 2000, 1). There exists extensive indications of Bronze Age activity in the vicinity of the easement scheme. However, this largely comprises funerary monuments, and includes six Bronze Age round barrows (two of which are Scheduled Ancient Monuments). One other possible barrow has also been identified, and it has been thought probable that a Bronze Age settlement may be located nearby (Atkins Heritage, 2003, paragraph 4.2). It is into this Bronze Age context and landscape that the results of this watching brief fit.
- 7.2 The recovery of worked flint from across the easement strip confirms the presence of prehistoric activity in the area. However, the pieces collected generally consisted of debitage waste, and comprised too small an assemblage to indicate any specific flint working industry. The white patinated pieces (which include the scraper and an axe thinning flake) are likely to be Neolithic to Early Bronze Age in date, with the other pieces probably deriving from the Bronze Age. The presence in features of the earlier pieces probably derives from residual incorporation into the backfills. However the later pieces, attributed a broad Bronze Age date, may correlate to the Late Bronze Age/ Early Iron Age date returned following analysis of the pottery retrieved from the features identified across the site.
- 7.3 Context 5 in area A has been interpreted as a substantial probable Late Bronze Age – Early Iron Age ditch, which appears to follow the contour of the hillside. No return of the feature was noted within the exposed area of the easement strip, making it unlikely that this feature represents the ditch of a ploughed out barrow, or enclosure of a smaller size. Possible interpretations for this feature could include a linear boundary ditch, or hilltop enclosure ditch. However, only limited archaeological finds such as may be associated with settlement were identified from the backfill, and the neonatal burial identified close to the surface of Context 7 perhaps indicates a ritual or funerary character to the feature, at least in its later stages of use.
- 7.4 The silting of Context 7 also appears (unless truncated by Context 8) to have occurred from the north- west, i.e. the down slope side, perhaps suggesting that a bank, if ever present, was located outside the enclosure ditch, further supporting the idea that this feature may have held a ritual or ceremonial function. Initially Context 8 was believed to indicate a recut of the feature, as the deposit was significantly different in character to the preceding fills.



However, it may also represent a later period of backfilling, or possibly a rapid phase of silting resulting from more intensive ploughing of the area after the ditch went out of use.

- 7.5 Within Area B, the curvilinear ditch with a cluster of stakeholes at its terminus may indicate a working area, with perhaps an associated drainage gully. Three pieces of probable Bronze Age worked flint and a piece of fire cracked flint were recovered from the ditch. No finds were recovered from any of the stakeholes, and while it is therefore it is not possible to say with certainty that they are contemporary, it seems probable.
- 7.6 Further to the north east a collection of postholes were identified from which Bronze Age or Late Bronze Age/ Early Iron Age pottery was recovered. No definite pattern can be identified, however their presence and the presence of a deposit of gravel cobbling containing a piece of probable Bronze Age worked flint and two fragments of Bronze Age or Late Bronze Age/ Early Iron Age pottery indicates a structure in this area, perhaps indicating some level of occupation.
- 7.7 The archaeology identified was located at between ,.....in Area A and 64.54mOD - 65.39mOD in Area B
- 7.8 The methodology employed for this project is thought to be appropriate, and the confidence rating in the results is high.

## 8.0 Bibliography

Atkins Heritage, 2003. Rev 5. Twyford Water Pipeline: Brief for Archaeological Watching Brief

Fasham, P J, Farwell D E, Whinney R J B 1989 *The Archaeological Site at Easton Lane, Winchester*, Hampshire Field Club Monograph 6

IFA. 2001. *Institute of Field Archaeologists 2001 Standard and Guidance for an archaeological watching brief.*

Walker, K.E. & Farwell, D.E. 2000. *Twyford down, Hampshire Archaeological investigations on the M3 motorway from Bar End to Compton, 1990 – 93* Hampshire Field Club, Monograph 9

**SMR Summary Form**

|  |                                      |               |                             |                    |        |       |
|--|--------------------------------------|---------------|-----------------------------|--------------------|--------|-------|
| Site Code  | TWP06                                |               |                             |                    |        |       |
| Identification Name and Address  | Twyford Water Pipeline, Twyford      |               |                             |                    |        |       |
| County, District &/or Borough  | Hampshire                            |               |                             |                    |        |       |
| OS Grid Refs.  | NGR SU 4798 2392- 4929 2412          |               |                             |                    |        |       |
| Geology  | Chalk                                |               |                             |                    |        |       |
| Arch. South-East Project Number  | 2415                                 |               |                             |                    |        |       |
| Type of Fieldwork  | Eval.                                | Excav.        | Watching Brief ✓            | Standing Structure | Survey | Other |
| Type of Site   | Green Field ✓                        | Shallow Urban | Deep Urban                  | Other              |        |       |
| Dates of Fieldwork   | Eval.                                | Excav.        | WB.<br>March, April<br>2006 | Other              |        |       |
| Sponsor/Client   | Clancy DOCWRA                        |               |                             |                    |        |       |
| Project Manager  | Neil Griffin                         |               |                             |                    |        |       |
| Project Supervisor   | Alice Thorne, Greg Bell, Diccon Hart |               |                             |                    |        |       |
| Period Summary   | Palaeo.                              | Meso.         | Neo.                        | BA                 | IA     | RB    |
|  | AS                                   | MED           | PM                          | Other Modern       |        |       |
| <p>100 Word Summary.</p> <p>An archaeological watching brief was maintained during groundwork associated with the construction of a new mains water pipeline near Twyford in Hampshire (NGR SU 4798 2392-4929 2412). The watching brief recovered substantial evidence of Bronze Age or Late Bronze Age- Early Iron Age activity in the area. To the west of the easement strip a probable enclosure ditch containing a neonatal baby burial was identified. In the central eastern area of the strip a small curvilinear ditch or gully with associated stakeholes and a collection of postholes in association with a small patch of cobbled surface was revealed.</p> |                                      |               |                             |                    |        |       |