

**An Archaeological Watching Brief at The Bull Inn Water
Pumping Station, Shermanbury, West Sussex**

(NGR TQ 212 179)

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**Project no. 2902
Sitecode: SHE07
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Summary

Between 19th June - 3rd July 2007, Archaeology South-East maintained a watching brief during groundworks associated with the replacement of 900m of foul sewer main at The Bull Public House, Shermanbury, West Sussex. No significant archaeological or geoarchaeological features were identified and no significant artefacts or environmental material were recovered.

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1.0 Introduction

- 1.1 Archaeology South-East (ASE) is the contracting division of the Centre for Applied Archaeology at the Institute of Archaeology, University College London. In April 2007, ASE was commissioned by CgMs Consulting on behalf of their client Holleran Mouchel Parkman Joint Venture, on behalf of Southern Water, to maintain an archaeological watching brief during groundworks associated with the replacement of 900m of foul sewer main at The Bull Public House, Shermanbury, West Sussex (NGR TQ 212 179) (Figs. 1 & 2).
- 1.2 The site lies on the southern outskirts of Shermanbury village, beside the A281 London Road between Henfield and Cowfold. The groundworks to the south of the Kiddres Lane turning were predominantly confined to the western grass verge of London Road, while the northern part of the route ran beside a lay-by on the western side of the road before crossing fields to The Bull Water Pumping Station (WPS). The underlying geology within the sewer main route, according to the British Geological Survey, consists of Weald Clay overlain by river terrace gravels.
- 1.3 The work is to consist of pipe bursting techniques along the southernmost 700m of the pipeline. Eight associated trial holes were to be dug to depth of 1.5m. The northernmost 200m of the pipeline will be constructed using directional drilling techniques which will require the excavation of four additional holes.
- 1.4 This work was carried out under the provision for permitted development rights of Southern Water as specified in the General Development Order and under the Water Act 1991. This act requires Southern Water to undertake General Duties in respect of the historic environment including:
3. (2)(b) a requirement to have regard to the desirability of protecting and conserving buildings, sites and other objects of archaeological, architectural or historic interest
- 1.5 Cathy Patrick of CgMs Consulting produced a *Specification for Archaeological Monitoring and Geoarchaeological Monitoring* detailing the work to be carried out (Patrick 2007). The watching brief was carried out in accordance with the Specification, full details of which are contained within the archive. The work was carried out over four days between 19th June and 3rd July 2007 by Dave Atkins (Archaeologist), Luke Barber (Senior Archaeologist) and Greg Priestley-Bell (Senior Archaeologist).

2.0 Historical and Archaeological Background

- 2.1 The Specification provided background information which is summarised in this report with due acknowledgement (Patrick 2007). The proposed works are in an area of archaeological and geoarchaeological interest. River terraces located to the south of the badger sett shown on Figure 2 are of geoarchaeological interest that may potentially contain evidence of Palaeolithic activity and settlement. It was also noted that possible flint concentrations may be recorded in the northernmost 110m of the pipeline route.
- 2.2 There is a World War II gun emplacement to the east of The Bull WPS which should not be affected by the proposed works.
- 2.3 Data held on the West Sussex Sites and Monuments Record (SMR) relating to archaeological remains recorded within a 1km radius of the current site is summarised in Table 1, and the locations indicated on Figure 1.

Table 1: The SMR Data (Fig. 1)

Site No.	SMR No.	NGR TQ	Description
1	3749-MWS879	21420 18840	St Giles Church Shermanbury
2	3754-MWS840	20900 16800	Mesolithic flints – Parsonage Farm
3	4371-MWS828	21470 18880	Undated earthwork – Shermanbury
4	6698-MWS6718	21200 16800	Early Mesolithic – Late Bronze Age flints
5	6698-MWS6718	21200 16800	Two Late Post-medieval field boundaries
6	6557-MWS5553	21094 18134	WWII gun emplacement corner stone
7	6556-MWS5552	21025 18375	WWII gun emplacement corner stone
8	5687-MWS5551	21490 16750	Two undated ditches
9	3762-MWS552	21270 18740	Post-medieval watermill
10	3761-MWS551	21500 18800	Deserted Medieval Village
11	3755-MWS548	21510 17190	Iron Age pottery – Chess Bridge
12	5688-MWS4252	21500 16880	Medieval - Post-medieval earthwork
13	3742-MWS3539	21100 19000	Ewhurst Manor and moat
14	2764-MWS3348	22000 17000	Medieval park – Henfield
15	2763-MWS3347	21750 17920	Post-medieval Chestham Park
16	2761-MWS3346	21460 18830	Medieval park – Shermanbury

3.0 Aims and Methodology

3.1 Aims

- 3.1.1 The general aim of the fieldwork was to record and analyse any archaeological and geoarchaeological remains revealed in the course of the groundworks and to ensure that they were recorded/sampled and interpreted to an acceptable standard.
- 3.1.2 The archaeological recording/watching brief also ensured that any significant discoveries of artefactual/environmental evidence were recorded and analysed to an acceptable standard.
- 3.1.3 The specific aim of the fieldwork was to establish whether any Palaeolithic archaeological or geoarchaeological remains are present and to record them so that they might be related to other archaeological remains within the area.

3.2 Methodology

- 3.2.1 The fieldwork was carried out to using the Codes, Standards and Guidance issued by the Institute of Field Archaeologists (*Institute of Field Archaeologists 2001 Standards and Guidance for Archaeological Watching Briefs*). In addition, the investigation complied with the West Sussex County Council guidelines document "Recommended Standard Conditions for archaeological fieldwork, recording and post-excavation work (Development Control) (Version 2b 18/1/2000). Full details of the techniques used are contained within the archive.
- 3.2.2 Excavation was undertaken using a combination of a mini-digger (using a wide blade toothless ditching bucket or similar, or through the use of a toothed ditching bucket where hard-surface materials need to be removed) and hand-digging.
- 3.2.3 A continuous watching brief was maintained throughout the groundworks. Provision was made for a geoarchaeological specialist to be called in should suitable deposits be encountered; no such deposits were identified. Archaeological monitoring included an inspection of the excavated material in order to identify artefacts and ecofacts, and an examination of exposed surfaces for archaeological remains. All significant archaeological remains identified were recorded to accepted professional standards and in accordance with para 3.2.1.
- 3.2.4 In the event of significant or complex archaeological remains being discovered, all groundworks with the potential to affect the archaeology would be halted. Such groundworks would not be resumed until a suitable mitigation strategy had been agreed with the Archaeologist for West Sussex County Council and CgMs Consulting.

4.0 Results

4.1 Trial hole 1 (TH1)

4.1.1 The machine-dug excavation measured 4m E-W, 1.3m wide and 1.6m deep. Topsoil [9] was 300mm thick and consisted of dark reddish brown clayey silt, overlying a 700mm thick deposit [11] of whitish grey clay silt with 80% chalk rubble. Deposit [11] overlay a 200mm thick deposit [12] of humic dark brown clayey silt above natural [5] light yellowish brown silty clay.

4.2 Trial hole 2 (TH2) for Trench 1

4.2.1 The hand-dug excavation measured 1.2m E-W, 500mm N-S and 550mm deep. Topsoil [1] was 200mm deep and as described in TH1. Topsoil overlay the backfill [2] of the pipe trench consisting of mid orangey brown silty clay with occasional chalk flecks. The trial hole was extended by machine to become Trench 1 (see below). No archaeological features were identified and no finds recovered.

4.3 Trench 1 – Drive pit

4.3.1 The machine-dug excavation measured 4m N-S, 1.3m E-W and 1.6m deep. Topsoil [1] (as described in TH1) was up to 600mm deep on the undisturbed west side of the trench and up to 300mm deep on the disturbed east side. Where undisturbed, the topsoil [1] overlay natural [5] as described above; where disturbed, the topsoil overlay pipe trench backfill [3] as described above. Deposit extended to c. 1m below the ground surface. No archaeological features were identified and no finds recovered.

4.4 Trial hole 3 (TH3)

4.4.1 The machine-dug excavation measured 4m N-S, 1.3m wide and 1.5m deep. Topsoil [13] was 400mm thick and consisted of medium brownish grey clayey silt. Topsoil overlay a 600mm thick deposit [14] of pipe trench backfill consisting of dark reddish brown clayey silt with 40% chalk rubble. Deposit [14] overlay natural [5] light yellowish brown silty clay. No archaeological features were identified and no finds recovered.

4.5 Trial hole 4 (TH4)

4.5.1 Trial hole 4 was not monitored.

4.6 Trial hole 5 (TH5) for Trench 2

4.6.1 The machine-dug excavation measured 1.7m x 1.7m and 1.25m deep. Topsoil [1] was up to 600mm deep and consisted of dark grey clayey loam with occasional charcoal flecks and roots. Topsoil overlay the

backfill [3] of the pipe trench consisting of mid-dark grey clayey loam with 5% chalk rubble and occasional flints. Natural [5] consisting of mid orangey brown silty clay was seen at the base of the excavation. The trial hole was extended to become Trench 2 (see below). No significant archaeological features were identified and no finds recovered.

4.7 Trench 2 – Drive pit

4.7.1 The machine-dug excavation measured 4m N-S, 1.3m wide and 1.6m deep. Stratigraphy was as Trench 1. No archaeological features were identified and no finds recovered.

4.8 Trial hole 6 (TH6)

4.8.1 The machine-dug excavation measured 4m E-W, 1.3m wide and 1.6m deep. Topsoil [9] was 300mm deep and consisted of dark reddish brown clayey silt. Topsoil overlay a 300mm thick deposit [10] of yellowish brown silty clay with 20% peagrit gravel and occasional modern brick (not recovered). Deposit [10] overlay natural [5] consisting of mottled light grey/greyish yellow clay. No archaeological features were identified and no finds recovered.

4.9 Trial hole 7 (TH7)

4.9.1 The machine-dug excavation measured 3m N-S, 1.3m wide and 1.5m deep. Stratigraphy was as Trench 1. No archaeological features were identified and no finds recovered.

4.10 Directional drilling entry pit (DP1)

4.10.1 The excavation measured approximately 3m E-W, 1.5m wide and 2.6m deep. Ploughsoil [15] was 600mm deep and consisted of mid greyish brown clayey silt. Ploughsoil overlay pipe trench backfill [2]. The existing water main was located at 2.6m below the ground surface. No archaeological features were identified and no finds recovered.

4.11 Directional drilling receiver pit (DP2)

4.11.1 The excavation lay within The Bull WPS and measured 6m E-W, up to 2.4m wide and with a maximum depth of 1.3m. A 400mm thick mixed deposit [16] of modern made ground consisted of mid orangey brown silty clay. Deposit [16] overlay natural [5]. No archaeological features were identified and no finds recovered.

5.0 Discussion

5.1 TH1

5.1.1 Deposit [12] was probably buried topsoil beneath embanked made ground [11]. The humic character of deposit [12] suggested that it had been buried in modern times. Although no dating material was recovered from either deposit [11] or [12], it is likely that deposit [11] related to a phase of modern road verge maintenance and/or road widening.

5.2 TH2, TH3, TH5-TH7, T1, T2 and DP1-2

5.2.1 The above excavations did not reveal any archaeological features. No artefacts or ecofacts were recovered.

6.0 Conclusions

6.1 The documented river terrace deposits with geoarchaeological/Palaeolithic potential were not be identified in any of the excavations. No worked flint or any other significant artefacts or ecofacts, either *in situ* or residual, were collected. No archaeological remains from any period were identified in any of the monitored excavations.

6.2 In view of the complete absence of significant archaeological remains within the monitored areas, the current works are likely to have a minimal detrimental affect on the archaeological record.

6.3 Due to the small total area of the groundworks, a continuous watching brief was the most economic and effective means of archaeological monitoring. In view of this, a confidence rating of 95% is given for the identification of remains within the area of investigation.

References

Patrick, C 2007 Specification for Archaeological and Geoarchaeological Monitoring: The Bull, Shermanbury, West Sussex, unpub CgMs doc

SMR Summary Form

Site Code	BUL 07					
Identification Name and Address	The Bull Public House, Shermanbury, West Sussex					
County, District &/or Borough	West Sussex County Council					
OS Grid Refs.	Centred TQ 212 179					
Geology	Weald Clay overlain by river terrace sands and gravels					
Arch. South-East Project Number	2902					
****	Eval.	Excav.	Watching Brief X	Standing Structure	Survey	Other
Type of Site	Green Field	Shallow Urban	Deep Urban	Other Country Roadside		
Dates of Fieldwork	Eval.	Excav.	WB. 20,21,22/2/07, 6,7,8/3/07	Other		
Sponsor/Client	CgMs Consulting					
Project Manager(s)	Neil Griffin					
Project Supervisor	Greg Priestley-Bell					
Period Summary	Palaeo.	Meso.	Neo.	BA	IA	RB
	AS	MED	PM	Other		
100 Word Summary:						
<p><i>Between 19th June 2007 - 3rd July 2007, Archaeology South-East maintained a watching brief during groundworks associated with the the replacement of 900m of foul sewer main at The Bull Public House, Shermanbury, West Sussex. No significant archaeological or geoarchaeological features were identified, and no significant artefacts or ecofacts were recovered.</i></p>						

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Project details

Project name	The Bull, Shermanbury
Short description of the project	Between 19th June - 3rd July 2007, Archaeology South-East maintained a watching brief during groundworks associated with the replacement of 900m of foul sewer main at The Bull Public House, Shermanbury, West Sussex. No significant archaeological or geoarchaeological features were identified and no significant artefacts or environmental material were recovered.
Project dates	Start: 19-06-2007 End: 03-07-2007
Previous/future work	No / No
Any associated project reference codes	2902 - Contracting Unit No.
Any associated project reference codes	SHE07 - Sitecode
Type of project	Recording project
Site status	None
Current Land use	Transport and Utilities 1 - Highways and road transport
Investigation type	'Watching Brief'
Prompt	Direction from Local Planning Authority - PPG16

Project location

Country	England
Site location	WEST SUSSEX HORSHAM SHERMANBURY The Bull Water Pumping Station, Shermanbury
Postcode	BN5 9AD

Study area 0.90 Kilometres

Site coordinates TQ 212 179 50.9472214199 -0.274493117117 50 56 50 N 000 16
28 W Point

Project creators

Name of Organisation Archaeology South-East

Project brief originator West Sussex County Council

Project design originator CgMs Consulting

Project director/manager Neil Griffin

Project supervisor Luke Barber

Type of sponsor/funding body Southern Water

Project archives

Physical Archive Exists? No

Digital Archive Exists? No

Paper Archive recipient Local Museum

Paper Contents 'Stratigraphic'

Paper Media available 'Correspondence','Diary','Notebook - Excavation',' Research','
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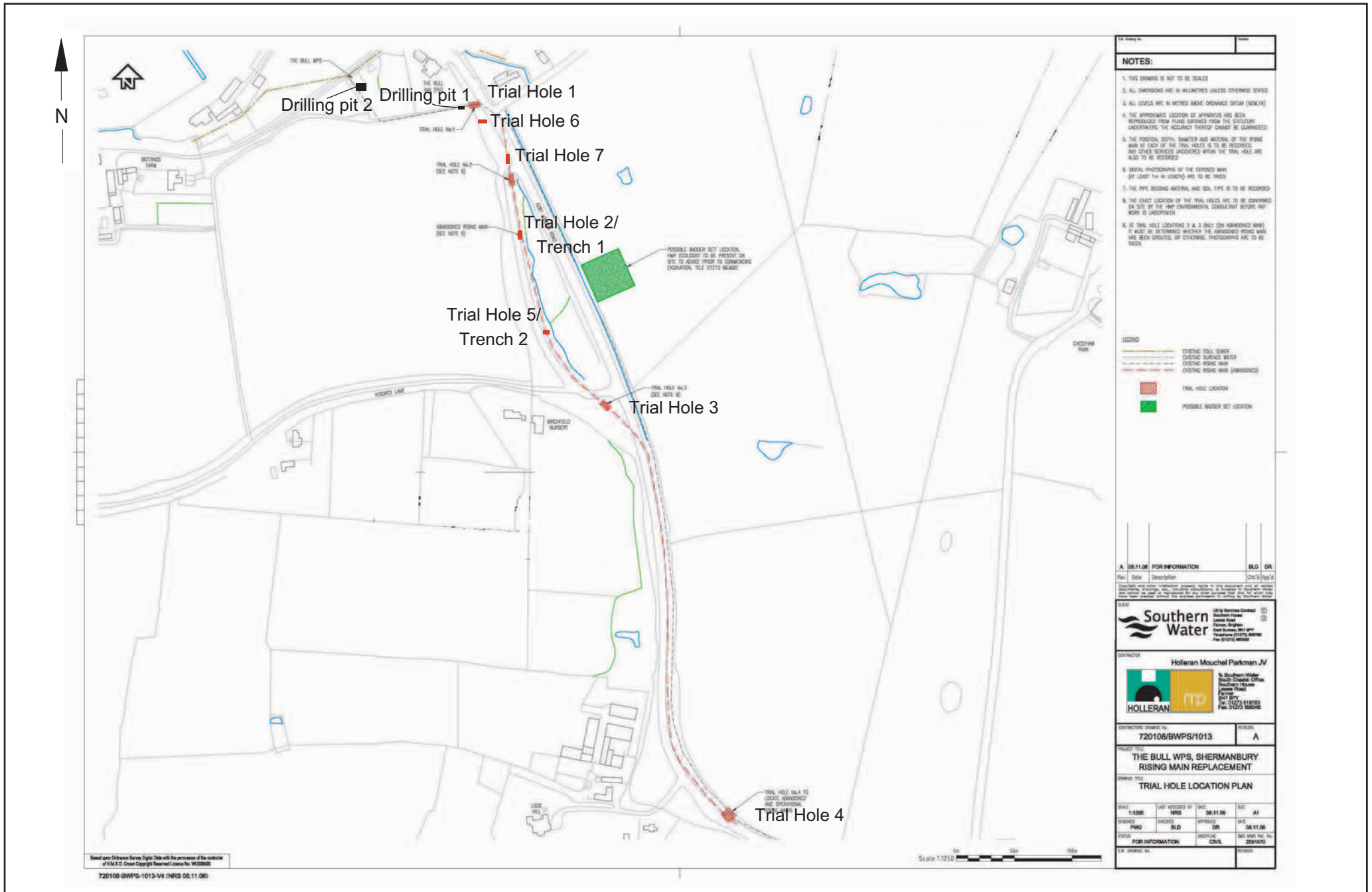
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© Archaeology South-East		The Bull, Shermanbury	Fig. 1
Project Ref: 2902	Feb 2008	Site Location Plan	
Report Ref: 2008013	Drawn by: SM		

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Jan 2008
 Drawn by: SM

Location of Trial holes, Drilling pits and trenches

Fig. 2