

An Archaeological Watching Brief at Twymans Mill,
Faversham, Kent

NGR 601147 161478

Project No: 3153

Site Code: TMF07

ASE Report No. 2008177
OASIS id: archaeol6-49109

October 2008

Abstract

Archaeology South-East observed groundworks associated with the installation of a pumping station and attendant pipe on land at Twymans Mill, Faversham, undertaken in January 2008. No archaeological features were identified; overburden of sand and gravel was observed to a depth of 0.10m followed by a subsoil deposit of mid-brown silty clay with moderate post medieval brick inclusions.

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Table 1: SMR data from within a 500m radius of the site.

1.0 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Site Background

1.1.1 Archaeology South-East were commissioned by Four Delivery Ltd to undertake a watching brief on the installation of a pumping station and associated pipe at Twymans Mill at the north end of Tanners Street, Faversham, Kent (Figure 1) (NGR 601147 161478).

1.2 Geology and Topography

1.2.1 The underlying geology on site is listed as Upper Chalk in the British Geological Survey; however, alluvium and Head Brickearth cappings have been recorded to the east and west of site.

1.3 Planning Background

1.3.1 The Heritage Conservation Group at Kent County Council (KCC) advised that archaeological monitoring would be necessary during the works due to the known archaeological potential of the area.

1.4 Aims and Objectives

1.4.1 The general aim of the work was to record any archaeological remains exposed as part of the works and to detail the character, height below ground level, condition, date and significance of the deposits.

1.4.2 The particular aims as outlined in the specification (KCC 2007) are to:

- Identify any remains connected with Saxon or medieval settlement or creekside activity.
- Establish the existing archaeological impact in the area from the creation of modern residential use.

1.5 Scope of Report

1.5.1 This report represents the findings of the archaeological observations of January 2008.

2.0 ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND

- 2.1 The archaeological background of the site is taken from the specification (KCC 2007) and reproduced here with due acknowledgement.
- 2.2 The site is located on the edge of the historic core of medieval Faversham and of the likely Saxon settlement, just north of what may have been the contemporary market place. The bridge to the west of the site is thought to be the site of an early ford across Faversham Creek, as several Saxon roads converge there.
- 2.3 During the medieval and post medieval period a number of gunpowder mills were located around the creek.
- 2.4 The mill itself appears to have been a wool warehouse in the nineteenth and twentieth centuries before conversion into residential use.
- 2.5 The SMR for Kent County Council details 30 listed buildings within a 500m radius of the site of which 18 are post medieval and 12 are either certainly or probably medieval in origin. Table 1 lists the remaining SMR entries for the area.

SMR Number	Record type	Monument type	Date
TR06 SW71- MKE4193	Find Spot	Flint blade	Mesolithic (10000BC-4001BC)
TR06 SW184-MKE8759	Monument	Midden	Medieval – Post medieval (AD1150-AD1700)
TR06 SW235-	Monument	Rubbish Pits	Unknown
MKE39291	Monument	Town Defences	Modern (AD1939-AD1945)

Table 1: SMR data from within a 500m radius of the site

3.0 ARCHAEOLOGICAL METHODOLOGY

- 3.1 An archaeologist observed the ground works after the holes had been excavated.

4.0 RESULTS

- 4.1 A deposit of dark brown silty clay subsoil was encountered at a depth of 0.10m below the surface which contained a moderate amount of post medieval brick rubble. Overlying this deposit was an overburden of modern sand and gravel deposits of 0.10m thickness. No archaeological finds or features were identified.

5.0 CONCLUSION

- 5.1 No evidence was observed of Saxon or medieval activity on site. The initial 0.40m of subsoil appeared to be greatly disturbed by post-medieval activity with a moderate amount of building rubble identified within the subsoil. No archaeological features were observed.

BIBLIOGRAPHY

Kent County Council 2007 *Specification for an Archaeological Watching brief at Twymans Mill in Faversham in Kent*, unpublished specification report.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The co-operation and assistance of Kent County Council and Mark Bateman of 4Delivery Limited are greatly acknowledged.

SMR Summary Form

Site Code	TMF07					
Identification Name and Address	Twymans Mill, Faversham, Kent					
County, District &/or Borough	Faversham, Kent					
OS Grid Refs.	601147 161478					
Geology	Head Brickearth					
Arch. South-East Project Number	3153					
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. January 2008	Other		
Sponsor/Client	4Delivery Limited					
Project Manager	Neil Griffin					
Project Supervisor	Dave Jamieson					
Period Summary	Palaeo.	Meso.	Neo.	BA	IA	RB
	AS	MED	PM ✓	Other Modern		
<p>100 Word Summary.</p> <p><i>Archaeology South-East observed groundworks associated with the installation of a pumping station and attendant pipe on land at Twymans Mill, Faversham, Kent. No archaeological features were identified. An overburden of modern sand and gravel overlay a subsoil of mid brown silty clay with post medieval brick inclusions.</i></p>						

OASIS Form

Project details

Project name	An Archaeological Watching Brief at Twymans Mill, Faversham, Kent
Short description of the project	Archaeology South-East observed groundworks associated with the installation of a pumping station and attendant pipe on land at Twymans Mill, Faversham, undertaken in January 2008. No archaeological features were identified, overburden of sand and gravel was observed to a depth of 0.10metres followed by a subsoil deposit of Mid brown silty clay with moderate post medieval brick inclusions.
Project dates	Start: 01-01-2008 End: 31-01-2008
Previous/future work	Not known / Not known
Type of project	Recording project
Site status	None
Current Land use	Residential 1 - General Residential
Monument type	NONE None
Significant Finds	NONE None
Investigation type	'Watching Brief'
Prompt	Planning condition

Project location

Country	England
Site location	KENT SWALE FAVERSHAM Twymans Mills
Postcode	ME13 7
Study area	50.00 Square metres
Site coordinates	TR 601147 161478 50.8853778779 1.6987386561 50 53 07 N 001 41 55 E Point

Project creators

Name of Organisation	Archaeology South-East
Project brief originator	Kent County Council
Project design originator	Kent County Council
Project director/manager	Neil Griffin
Project supervisor	Dave Jamieson
Type of sponsor/funding body	Developer
Name of sponsor/funding body	4 Delivery Limited

Project archives

Physical Archive Exists?	No
Physical Archive recipient	n/a
Digital Archive Exists?	No
Digital Archive recipient	n/a
Paper Archive recipient	Local Museum
Paper Contents	'none'

Paper Media available 'Context sheet','Report'

Project bibliography 1

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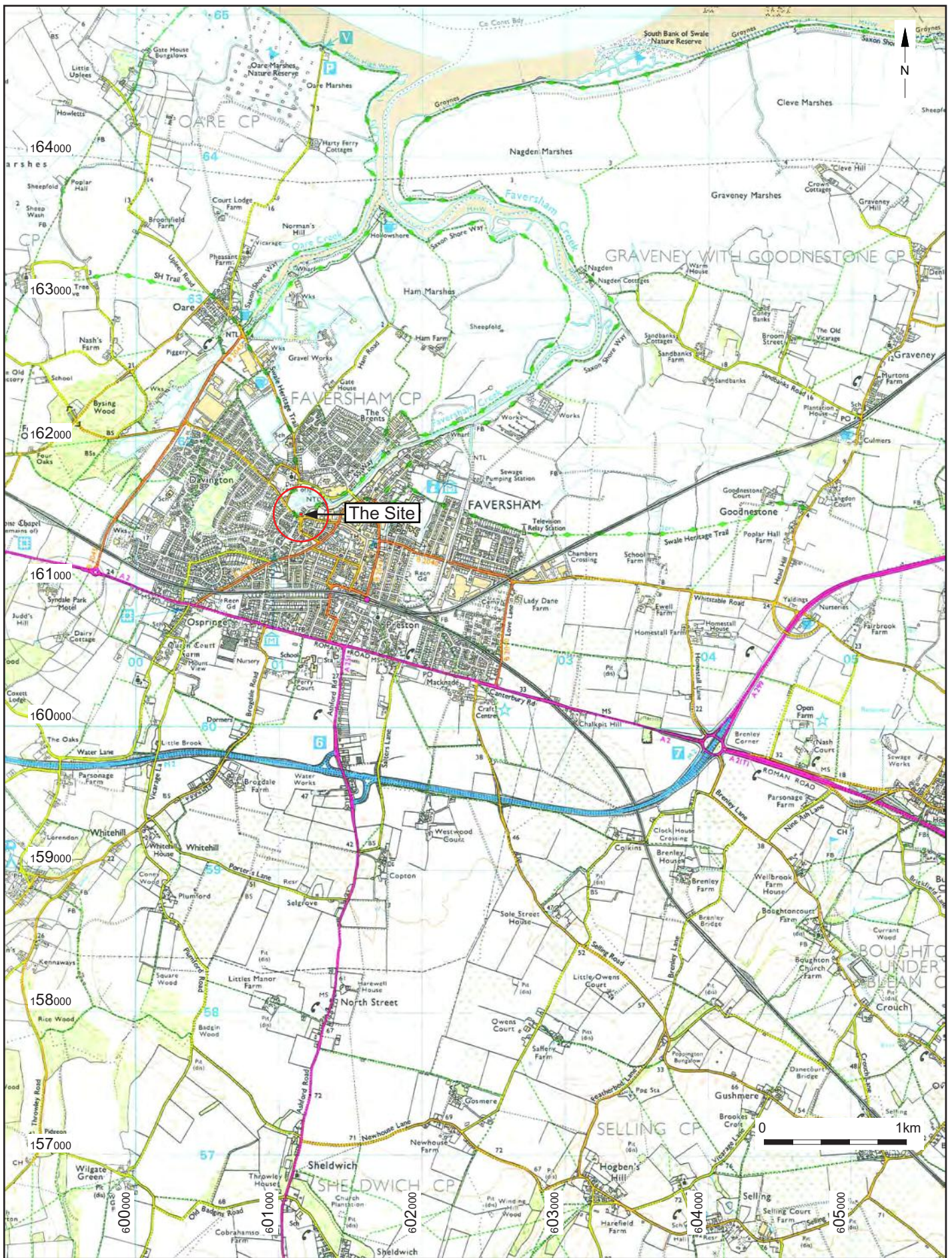
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Project Ref: 3153	October 2008	Site Location Plan		
Report Ref: 2008177	Drawn by: DJH			

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Project Ref: 3153	Jan 2008	Site Plan	
Report Ref: 2008177	Drawn by: DJH	Fig. 2	

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