

**An Archaeological Watching Brief
On Land at Chapel Road, Bolney, West Sussex**

(Site extending from NGR 526182, 123202 to NGR 525725, 121467)

**Project No. 3087
Site Code: BOL07**

**ASE Report No. 2009137
OASIS id: archaeol6-64013**



A. Thorne

November 2009

**An Archaeological Watching Brief
On Land at Chapel Road, Bolney, West Sussex**

(Site extending from NGR 526182, 123202 to NGR 525725, 121467)

**Project No. 3087
Site Code: BOL07**

**ASE Report No. 2009137
OASIS id: archaeol6-64013**

A. Thorne

November 2009

**Archaeology South-East
Units 1 & 2
2 Chapel Place
Portslade
East Sussex
BN41 1DR**

**Tel: 01273 426830
Fax: 01273 420866
Email: fau@ucl.ac.uk**

Abstract

An archaeological watching brief was maintained during groundwork associated with a replacement scheme of a foul sewer main at Chapel Road, Bolney, West Sussex (extending from NGR 526182, 123202 TQ 261 232 to NGR 525725, 121467 TQ 257 214). Thirty five site visits were made over a nine month period. No archaeological finds or features were observed.

CONTENTS

- 1.0 Introduction**
- 2.0 Archaeological Background**
- 3.0 Archaeological Aims and Methodology**
- 4.0 Results**
- 5.0 Conclusion**

SMR Summary Sheet
OASIS Form

- Fig. 1** Site location (showing HER sites)
- Fig. 2** Site plan showing location of sewer, monitored areas and test-pits
- Table 1** Quantification of Site Archive

1.0 INTRODUCTION

- 1.1** Archaeology South-East (ASE), a division of University College London Centre for Applied Archaeology, was commissioned by Cathy Patrick of CgMs Consulting, who were commissioned by Holleran Mouchel Parkman Joint Venture on behalf of Southern Water Ltd to undertake an archaeological watching brief during groundwork associated with a replacement scheme of a foul sewer main at Chapel Road, Bolney, West Sussex (extending from NGR 526182, 123202 to NGR 525725, 121467, Fig. 1).
- 1.2** The proposed groundwork included c1.5km of upsizing and extending a foul sewer main in Bolney, West Sussex to eliminate flooding. The work followed an existing sewer route from its northern point by the Recreation Ground along The Street, Bolney to its junction with the A272 Cowfold Road. The foul sewer then cut southwest across open fields to a junction with Bolney Chapel Road. The work consisted of open cut along the length of the sewer (Fig 2).
- 1.3** The site lies within an archaeologically sensitive area and the Archaeological Officer for West Sussex County Council required archaeological monitoring and recording and, if required, careful excavation to be carried out during the period of the works.
- 1.4** A specification outlining the requirements was prepared by the Cathy Patrick of CgMs Consulting (2007), and approved by the Archaeological Officer for West Sussex County Council.
- 1.5** The British Geological Survey map Sheet 302 (Area: Horsham) Solid and Drift Edition (1:50,000 scale) indicates that the site lies on the upper Tunbridge Wells Sands of the Hastings beds.
- 1.6** The fieldwork was undertaken by Teresa Hawtin, Simon Stevens, Deon Whittaker, Alice Thorne, David Atkin, Sarah Porteus, and Nick Garland during the period September 2007 to June 2008. The project was managed by Neil Griffin (Project Manager) and Jim Stevenson (Post-excavation Manager).

2.0 ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND

2.1 The site lies in an area of archaeological and geo-archaeological potential. The following background information was provided within the specification produced by CgMs and is reproduced here with due acknowledgement:

2.1.1 At the southern end of the proposed works, the pipeline route runs close to a stream. It was thought that the pipeline might cut across alluvial deposits of palaeoenvironmental interest in this area. A tributary of this stream (visible as a soil mark to the east) was also due to be transected at NGR 525836, 122285, and was also thought to hold palaeoenvironmental and artefactual potential.

2.1.2 Waterlogged oak timbers of a late Saxon felling date were found in March 1948 at The Street, Bolney (location approximately NGR 526139, 123040). The timbers are thought to have formed part of a causeway which carried the road across a stream and stream valley. These are thought to have been located within the vicinity of a spring-fed pond to the southwest of the current Recreation Ground. A stone-lined gully was also recorded immediately to the north of the timbers. This probably carried the pond overflow across The Street. Both the timbers and the gully were recorded at depths of 1.35 – 1.65m. A second causeway may be located at NGR 526109, 122748 where historic maps show another stream crossing The Street.

2.2 HER records

2.2.1 All records held by the West Sussex HER within a 1km area of the site were consulted by Archaeology South-East prior to any works commencing. The five sites identified are plotted on Fig.1 and discussed below.

2.2.2 Site 1 refers to a post-medieval parkscape associated with Bolney Lodge (HER number 2796). This is situated some 300m to the north-west of the route of the pipeline. Site 2 refers to St Mary Magdalene's Church in Bolney (HER number 3985). This medieval to modern church is located within the village, some 50m to the east of the pipeline route. Site 4 refers to a post – medieval windmill located on the north-eastern extent of the village (HER number 3989), and Site 5 refers to a post – medieval brickfield located to the west of Crosspost (HER 6212).

2.2.3 Site 3 (HER number 4390) refers to the late Saxon road surface at Bolney mentioned above (paragraph 2.1.2). This was the only HER site identified which was located directly upon the line of the pipe route. This site was recorded in 1948 by Curwen as having comprised 'a number of oak timbers lying upon what was evidently once the surface of the road' (1948, 16). These remains had been exposed by workmen digging a deep trench to lay a water-main. The timbers were exposed at a depth of approximately 4½ to 5½ foot below the contemporary road, at a point where the street surface had been raised on a causeway opposite a small pond in a field to the west. The timbers were laid side by side across the line of the road, for a distance of about 9 foot, and Curwen suggests had been deposited to raise the level of the road in an area which was soft and muddy. Curwen also records the presence of a runnel or gully constructed of biggish stones located

immediately to the north, 'apparently designed to carry the overflow from the pond across the road, whence it trickles away eastwards...' This structure had been completely smashed by the machine during the groundwork (ibid, 17). A sample of the oak timber was dated by Lowther as having been felled *circa* AD 972 or 973 (Lowther 1948, 75).

3.0 ARCHAEOLOGICAL 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 that were revealed during the course of all groundwork.
- 3.1.2** The specific aims of the fieldwork concerned investigation of any potential archaeological remains associated with the Late Saxon causeway at Bolney, and investigation of the potential for deposits of geoarchaeological significance associated with two streams to the south of the pipeline route.

3.2 Methodology

- 3.2.1** 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.
- 3.2.2** The groundwork comprised the excavation of a pipeline easement, and accompanying pipe trench through fields to the south of the A272 Cowfold road over a distance of approximately 1.2km. A pipeline trench was also excavated along the length of an existing sewer within the line of The Street, Bolney for a distance of approximately 650m.
- 3.2.3** A full photographic record of the work was kept (black and white prints and colour slides) and will form part of the site archive. The archive is presently held at the Archaeology South-East offices at Portslade and will be offered to a suitable local museum.

Number of Contexts	8 contexts
No. of files/paper record	1 file
Plan and sections sheets	1 plan
Photographs	60 photographs

Table 1: Quantification of Site Archive

4.0 RESULTS

4.1 Thirty five site visits were made during the course of the watching brief (Fig 2). To the south of the A272, the pipeline excavations comprised a 4 m wide easement strip, followed by secondary narrower excavations for the central pipe trench, which varied from between 1 m to 4m deep. To the north of A272 within the line of The Street, the trench measured approximately 1 to 1.50m wide, and was excavated to a depth of between 2.5m to 3m depth.

4.2 Topsoil strip in the area of the site compound, immediately to the south of the A272

4.2.1 The topsoil [001] was found to comprise a 100-150mm deep deposit of mid to dark brownish grey clayey silt, containing moderate quantities of small to medium angular stones, and occasional fragments of modern brick, tile and pottery. The underlying subsoil [002] comprised a friable mid orangish brown clayey silt, containing occasional fragments of brick, modern glazed pottery and tile. The level of the site strip ceased at the surface of the subsoil, with no archaeological finds or features exposed.

4.3 Central-southern part of pipeline, north of Garston's farm

4.3.1 Within the central-southern part of the pipeline, 40-50mm of topsoil [001] was found to overly a 200-250mm deep mid orangish brown clayey silt subsoil [002]. Below this, a pale mottled orangish brown and brownish grey silty clay alluvium with occasional angular sandstone blocks and occasional ironstone and manganese staining was observed [003]. This deposit was excavated to a depth of 1.40m. This alluvial deposit is thought to relate to silt accumulation associated with the nearby stream.

4.3.2 A levelling deposit with a maximum depth of 600mm comprising mid to dark brownish grey chalky clayey silt was also noted in this area [004]. This was located below the topsoil and subsoil and above the alluvium, and appears to have been a discrete modern dumped deposit to level up the ground surface within a dip in the field.

4.3.3 No archaeological finds or features were observed.

4.4 Southern part of pipeline, south of Garston's farm

4.4.1 To the south of Garston's farm, 70mm of topsoil [001] and 280mm of subsoil [002] was removed along the length of the easement. The deeper pipe trench excavation in the centre of the easement exposed an approximately 1m thick mottled reddish brown and pale orangish brown deposit [005], and an underlying pale orangish brown to greyish white layer with lenses of gravel and ironstone [006]. These layers are thought to represent alluvial deposits associated with the nearby stream system.

4.4.2 No archaeological finds or features were observed.

4.5 Northern part of the pipeline, The Street, Bolney

- 4.5.1** Underlying the 0.15m deep tarmac and hardcore road levelling deposits at the southern most extent of The Street, there was a layer varying in depth between 0.5m to 1m of yellowish orange redeposited sandstone and clays, containing fragments of ironstone and occasional fragments of brick [007]. [007] is thought to derive from groundwork within the line of the road in 1948. Below this layer the light greyish-brown slightly silty clay natural was exposed [008]. In some sections of the pipeline, the natural sandstone geology was observed at the base of the trench.
- 4.5.2** Four test pits were also excavated at the southern end of The Street. These test pits measured 0.5m wide by 2.5m long, and were excavated through previously disturbed ground down to the level of the existing services, at a depth of approximately 0.5 to 1m. These pits were later deepened and lengthened, allowing identification of the underlying undisturbed silty clay natural [008]. No archaeological finds or features were observed.
- 4.5.3** No archaeological finds or features were observed.

5.0 CONCLUSION

- 5.1** No archaeological finds or features were located during the course of the watching brief.
- 5.2** Unfortunately, Archaeology South-East were not informed of groundworks taking place in the area towards the north of The Street, as illustrated in Fig. 2.
- 5.3** Alluvial deposits were noted within the southern part of the pipeline. However, these deposits were not found to contain any organic or artefactual material and were not considered to hold paleo-environmental or geo-archaeological potential.
- 5.4** Within the southern part of The Street excavations, a layer of made ground, measuring between 0.5m to 1m thick was observed, and is thought to date from a previous phase of groundwork undertaken within the line of the street during 1948.

References

CgMs.2007 Specification for Archaeological and Geoarchaeological Monitoring, Chapel Road, Bolney, West Sussex

Curwen, C., 1948. Old timbered road surface at Bolney. *Sussex Notes and Queries*, Vol XII, (1) pp.16-17.

Lowther, A.W.G., 1948. Some evidence as to the date of the old timbered road surface at Bolney. *Sussex Notes and Queries*, Vol XII, (4), pp. 73-75.

HER Summary Form

Site Code	BOL07					
Identification Name and Address	Chapel Road, Bolney					
County, District &/or Borough	West Sussex					
OS Grid Refs.	526182, 123202 to 525725, 121467					
Geology	Upper Tunbridge Wells Sands of the Hastings beds.					
Arch. South-East Project Number	3087					
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. Sept 2007 to June 2008	Other		
Sponsor/Client	CgMs					
Project Manager	Neil Griffin					
Project Supervisors	Teresa Hawtin, Simon Stevens, Deon Whittaker, Alice Thorne, David Atkin, Sarah Porteus, Nick Garland					
Period Summary	Palaeo.	Meso.	Neo.	BA	IA	RB
	AS	MED	PM	Other Modern		
<p>100 Word Summary.</p> <p><i>An archaeological watching brief was maintained during groundwork associated with a replacement scheme of a foul sewer main at Chapel Road, Bolney, West Sussex (extending from NGR 526182, 123202 TQ 261 232 to NGR 525725, 121467 TQ 257 214). Thirty five site visits were made over a nine month period. No archaeological finds or features were observed.</i></p>						

OASIS ID: archaeol6-64013

Project details

Project name	Chapel Road, Bolney
Short description of the project	An archaeological watching brief was maintained during groundwork associated with a replacement scheme of a foul sewer main at Chapel Road, Bolney, West Sussex (extending from NGR 526182, 123202 TQ 261 232 to NGR 525725, 121467 TQ 257 214). Thirty five site visits were made over a nine month period. No archaeological finds or features were observed.
Project dates	Start: 01-09-2007 End: 30-06-2008
Previous/future work	No / No
Any associated project reference codes	BOL09 - Sitecode
Type of project	Recording project
Site status	None
Current Land use	Cultivated Land 1 - Minimal cultivation
Monument type	NONE None
Significant Finds	NONE None
Investigation type	'Watching Brief'
Prompt	Planning condition

Project location

Country	England
Site location	WEST SUSSEX MID SUSSEX BOLNEY Chapel Road, Bolney
Postcode	XXXXXX
Study area	1.20 Kilometres
Site coordinates	TQ 526182 123202 50.8895981784 0.170160610522 50 53 22 N 000 10 12 E Point

Project creators

Name of Organisation	Archaeology South East
Project brief originator	CgMs Consulting

Project design
originator CgMs Consulting

Project
director/manager Neil Griffin

Project supervisor Teresa Hawtin

Type of
sponsor/funding
body Southern Water

Name of
sponsor/funding
body Southern Water

Project archives

Physical Archive
Exists? No

Digital Archive
recipient Local Museum

Digital Contents 'other'

Digital Media
available 'Images raster / digital photography'

Paper Archive
Exists? No

Project bibliography 1

Publication type Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)

Title An Archaeological Watching Brief at Chapel Road, Bolney

Author(s)/Editor(s) Thorne, A

Other bibliographic
details 2009137

Date 2009

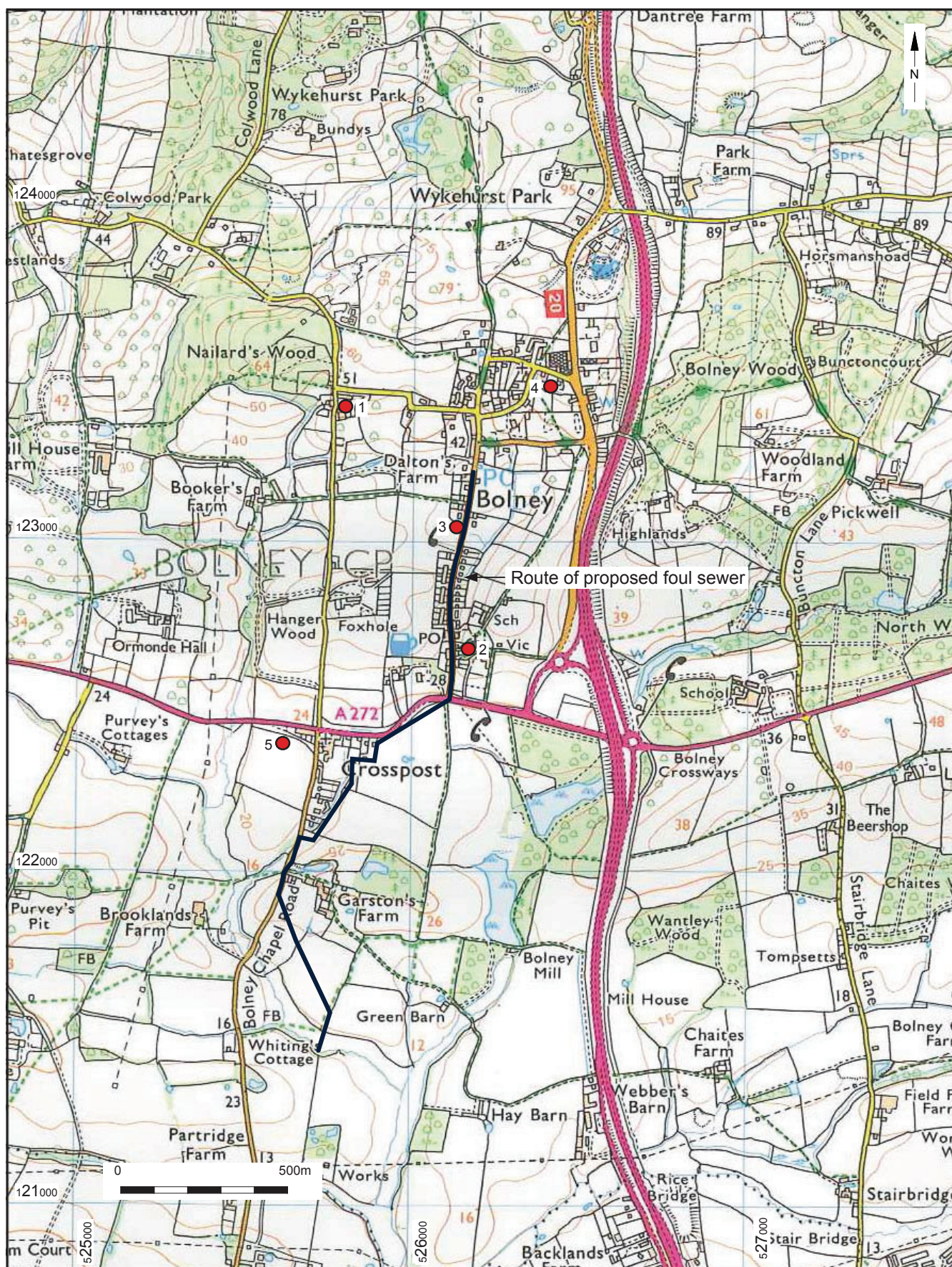
Issuer or publisher Archaeology South - East

Place of issue or
publication Archaeology South- East

Description Grey literature report

Entered by Alice Thorne (a.thorne@ucl.ac.uk)

Entered on 3 September 2009



© Archaeology South-East

Chapel Road, Bolney

Project Ref: 3087
Report Ref: 2009137

November 2009
Drawn by: LD

Site location plan showing location of HER entries

Fig. 1



Head Office
Units 1 & 2
2 Chapel Place
Portslade
East Sussex BN41 1DR
Tel: +44(0)1273 426830 Fax: +44(0)1273 420866
email: fau@ucl.ac.uk
Web: www.archaeologyse.co.uk



London Office
Centre for Applied Archaeology
Institute of Archaeology
University College London
31-34 Gordon Square, London, WC1 0PY
Tel: +44(0)20 7679 4778 Fax: +44(0)20 7383 2572
Web: www.ucl.ac.uk/caa

The contracts division of the Centre for Applied Archaeology, University College London 

©Archaeology South-East