

CFA Archaeology Ltd

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Historic Building Recording

Site & Landscape Survey

Interpretation, Design & Display

Land at Ilkley Roman Fort West Yorkshire

Archaeological Watching Brief

Report No. Y177/14

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This document has been prepared in accordance with CFA Archaeology Ltd standard procedures.

**Land at Ilkley Roman Fort
Ilkley
West Yorkshire**

Archaeological Watching Brief

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Summary

An archaeological watching brief was undertaken by CFA Archaeology Ltd on land at Ilkley Roman Fort, West Yorkshire on 17 September 2014. A single hand-excavated trench was dug to allow the insertion of a gas pipe. No archaeological remains were recorded and no finds were recovered.

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 General

This report presents the results of an archaeological watching brief undertaken by CFA Archaeology Ltd (CFA) on 17 September 2014 during the insertion of a gas pipe to 4 Church Street, Ilkley, West Yorkshire (NGR SE 11598 47327; Fig. 1). The work was commissioned by Northern Gas Networks in order to fulfil the requirements of the scheduled monument consent (ref. S00090240, Appendix 3).

1.2 Site Location and Description

The trench was to the east of the gate to the backyard of No. 8 Church Street, within the cobbled Church Yard, and within the south-western edge of the scheduled Roman Fort, (ref. 1013674), within the town of Ilkley (NGR SE 11598 47327; Fig 1).

1.3 Previous Archaeological and Historical Background

During the Roman period, a fort was established at a strategically important location, at the junction of two Roman roads, the first running from Ribchester to York and the second connecting Manchester and Aldborough. The fort also controlled a crossing point of the River Wharfe. It is now designated as a scheduled monument (no. 1013674). The majority of the fort now lies beneath modern buildings, with Castle Yard covering much of the western part of the fort.

1.4 Aims

The aims of the watching brief were to:

- ensure the terms of scheduled monument consent were adhered to;
- determine the form and function of any archaeological features encountered;
- determine the spatial arrangement of any archaeological features encountered;
- as far as practicable, recover dating evidence from the archaeological features, and;
- establish the sequence of any archaeological remains present on the site.

2. WORKING METHODS

2.1 General

All work was carried out in accordance with the terms of the Scheduled Monument Consent (SMC ref. S00090240).

The excavation of a trench within the scheduled area, 1.6m long by 0.51m and 0.45m deep, was hand excavated by the contractors under constant archaeological supervision. Spoil resulting from the excavation of the trench was regularly scanned for finds. A mole excavator was used to insert the new gas pipe from the excavated trench to the meter box within the backyard of No. 8 Church Street; this section lay outside the scheduled area and was not subject to a watching brief.

2.2 Standards and Guidance

CFA Archaeology is a registered organisation (RO) with the Institute for Archaeologists (IfA). All work was undertaken according to relevant Institute for Archaeologists' Standards and Guidance documents (IfA 1994) and English Heritage guidance (EH 2008).

All excavation and on-site recording was carried out according to standard CFA procedures, principally by drawing, photography and by completing standard CFA record forms.

2.3 Archiving

The project archive, comprising all CFA records will be ordered according to nationally recognised standards (IfA 2009 and Brown 2011) and deposited with the appropriate museum within an agreed timescale. A summary of the results of archaeological works will be submitted for inclusion in OASIS.

3. RESULTS

Prior to the excavation of the trench, the stone-sett surface (Plate 1, 100) was removed across an area 1.6m (east to west) by 0.51m. The excavation of the trench was then carried out by hand according to the methodology described above.

The ground had been heavily disturbed by the insertion of the existing gas pipes (103) and the construction of a brick drain (105) whose western face was uncovered at the eastern end of the trench. No pre-modern archaeological features were identified within the excavated trench (Plate 2).

4. CONCLUSION

The watching brief successfully monitored the excavation of the trench and confirmed that works were carried out in accordance with scheduled monument consent. No evidence relating to the Roman fort or indeed any pre-modern archaeological features was recorded and no finds were recovered.

5. BIBLIOGRAPHY

Brown, D H., 2011 *Archaeological Archives: A guide to best practice in creation, compilation, transfer and curation*, Institute of Field Archaeologists

EH, 2005, *Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment*, English Heritage

EH, 2008, *Investigating Conservation: Guidelines on how the detailed examination of artefacts from archaeological sites can shed light on their manufacture and use*, English Heritage

IfA, 1994, *Standard and Guidance for an Archaeological Watching Brief*, Institute for Archaeologists, Revised October 2008

IfA, 2009, *Standard and Guidance for the creation, compilation, transfer and deposition of archaeological archives*, October 2009

APPENDICES

Appendix 1: Context Register

Context	Fill of	Type	Description
100	-	Layer	Cobble set, comprising cobbles 0.24m wide and 0.32 – 0.38m long with soil / plant formation in between them. Measured 0.14m in depth.
101	-	Layer	Dark black gritty sandy clay mixed with modern CBM, glass, pottery etc. Frequent small to medium sub-angular and sub-rounded stones
102	-	Layer	Mid yellow brown clay, mixed interface with layer 101.
103		Cut	Cut for (existing) gas pipe, top of pipe located at 0.45m below ground surface.
104	103	Fill	Fill of cut for gas pipe. Contained larger modern plastic gas pipe and narrower old metal gas pipe.
105		Structure	Brick built drain, exposed at eastern end of trench. Constructed of Stretcher 9” bricks. Present below cobble set (100), to base of excavated trench, a total depth of 0.55m.

Appendix 2: Photographic Register

Number	Contexts/description	Facing	Conditions
1	Pre-excavation general view	South	Overcast
2	Pre-excavation general view	West	Overcast
3	General view showing location of excavation area	North-west	Overcast
4	Working shot during removal of cobbles	South	Overcast
5	Working shot during excavation of trench	East	Overcast
6	Working shot during excavation of trench	East	Overcast
7	Post-excavation shot of trench, including exposed pipes	South	Overcast
8	Post-excavation shot of trench, including brick face of drainage manhole	East	Overcast
9	Post-excavation shot of trench	North-west	Overcast
10	General view, post-excavation	North-west	Overcast
11	Cobbles removed during excavation of trench	West	Overcast
12	Working shot during installation of gas pipe with mole	West	Overcast



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Our ref: S00090240

22 August 2014

Dear Ms Foster

**Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Areas Act 1979 (as amended); Section 2
control of works
Application for Scheduled Monument Consent**

ILKLEY ROMAN FORT, ILKLEY

Scheduled Monument No: SM 13401, HA 1013674

Our ref: S00090240

Application on behalf of Claire Foster.



1. I am directed by the Secretary of State for Culture, Media & Sport to advise you of the decision regarding your application for Scheduled Monument Consent dated 25 July 2014 in respect of proposed works at the above scheduled monument concerning the excavation of a trench to 450mm in order to connect a new gas service pipe to the main. The works were detailed in the following documentation submitted by you:

Documentation list:

SMC application form
Plans and diagrams showing presumed route of new pipeline
Photographs of the site

2. In accordance with paragraph 3(2) of Schedule 1 to the 1979 Act, the Secretary of State is obliged to afford you, and any other person to whom it appears to the Secretary of State expedient to afford it, an opportunity of appearing before and being heard by a person appointed for that purpose. This opportunity was offered to you by English Heritage and you have declined it.

3. The Secretary of State is also required by the Act to consult with the Historic Buildings and Monuments Commission for England (English Heritage) before deciding whether or not to grant Scheduled Monument Consent. English Heritage considers the



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English Heritage is subject to the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA) and Environmental Information Regulations 2004 (EIR). All information held by the organisation will be accessible in response to an information request, unless one of the exemptions in the FOIA or EIR applies.

English Heritage will use the information provided by you to evaluate your application for Scheduled Monument Consent. Information contained in this application and any information obtained from other sources will be retained in all cases in hard copy form and/or on computer for administration purposes and future consideration where applicable.



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disturbance other than that which is expressly authorised in this consent.

- (vi) A report on the archaeological recording shall be sent to the County Historic Environment Record and to Hannah Saxton at English Heritage, 37 Tanner Row, York, YO1 6WP within 3 months of the completion of the works (or such other period as may be mutually agreed).
- (vii) The contractor shall complete and submit an entry on OASIS (On-line Access to the Index of Archaeological Investigations - <http://oasis.ac.uk/england/>) prior to project completion, and shall deposit any digital project report with the Archaeology Data Service, via the OASIS form, upon completion.

(viii) The trench depth shall be limited to 450mm as stated in the application.

4. By virtue of section 4 of the 1979 Act, if no works to which this consent relates are executed or started within the period of five years beginning with the date on which this consent was granted (being the date of this letter), this consent shall cease to have effect at the end of that period (unless a shorter time period is set by a specific condition above).

5. This letter does not convey any approval or consent required under any enactment, bye law, order or regulation other than section 2 of the Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Areas Act 1979.

6. Your attention is drawn to the provisions of section 55 of the 1979 Act under which any person who is aggrieved by the decision given in this letter may challenge its validity by an application made to the High Court within six weeks from the date when the decision is given. The grounds upon which an application may be made to the Court are (1) that the decision is not within the powers of the Act (that is, the Secretary of State has exceeded the relevant powers) or (2) that any of the relevant requirements have not been complied with and the applicant's interests have been substantially prejudiced by the failure to comply. The "relevant requirements" are defined in section 55 of the 1979 Act: they are the requirements of that Act and the Tribunals and Inquiries Act 1971 and the requirements of any regulations or rules made under those Acts.



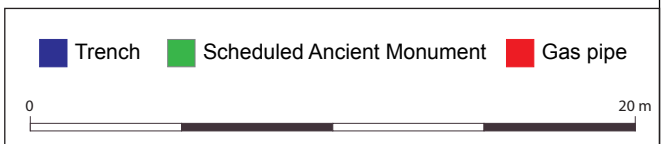
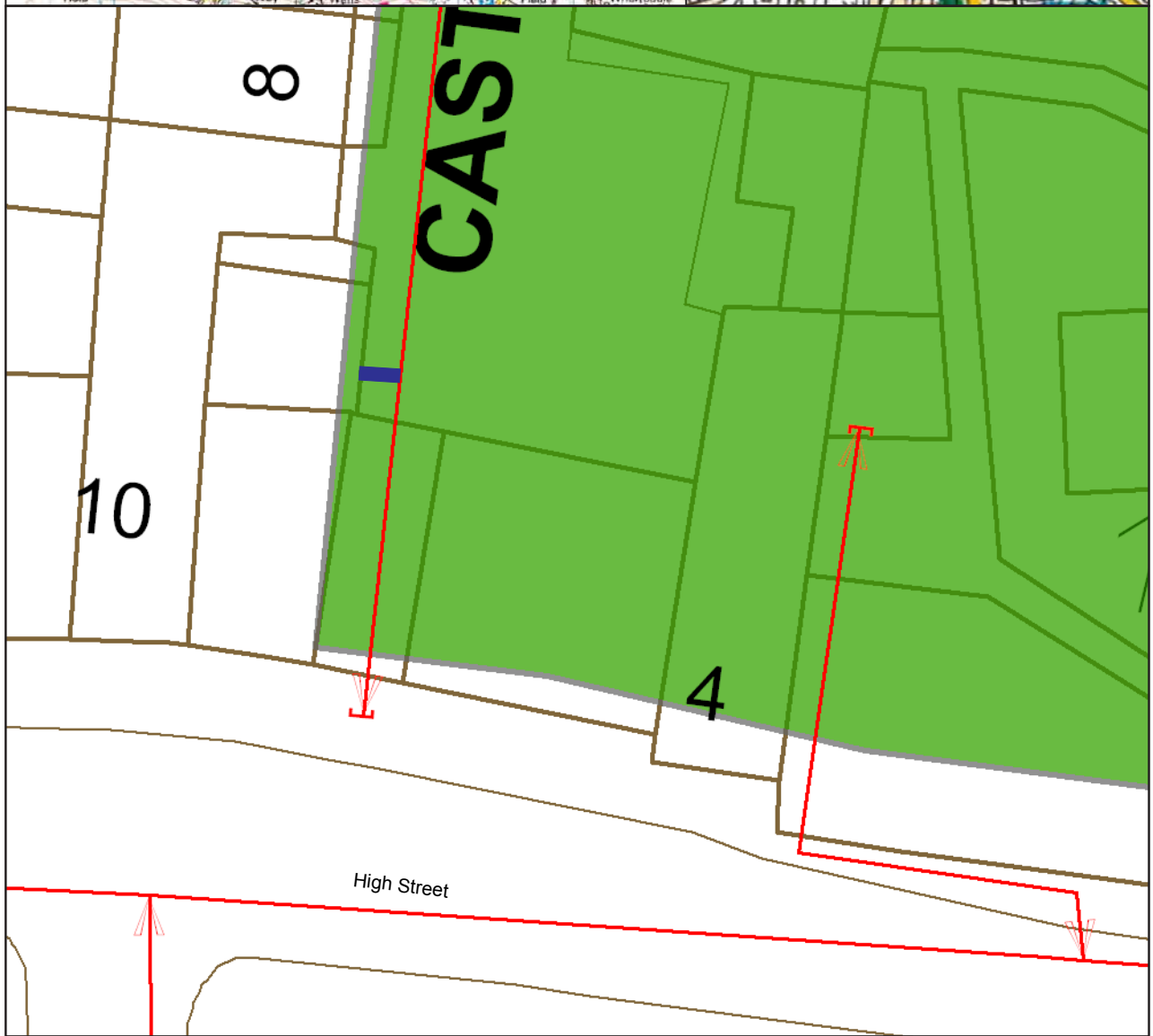
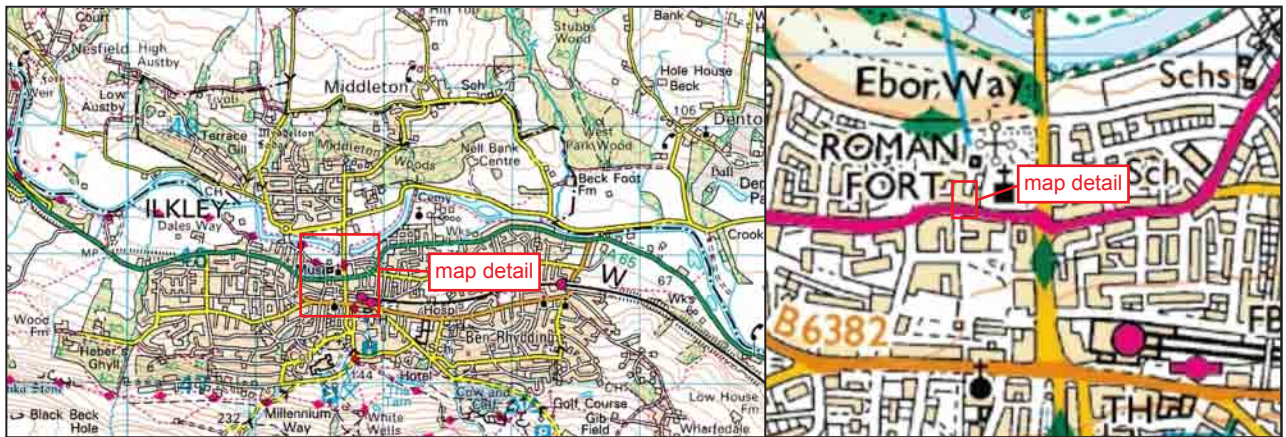
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English Heritage will use the information provided by you to evaluate your application for Scheduled Monument Consent. Information contained in this application and any information obtained from other sources will be retained in all cases in hard copy form and/or on computer for administration purposes and future consideration where applicable.

Figure 1



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Title:
 Site location and plan

Project:
 Land at Ilkley Roman Fort, Ilkley

Fig. No: 1 **Report:** Y117/14 **Drawn by:** GC **CKD:** LW **Date:** 02/10/14

Client:
 Northern Gas Networks

Scale at A4:
 1:250



Plates 1-2



Plate 1: Pre-excavation shot of pipe trench



Plate 2: Post-excavation shot of pipe trench



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	Client: Northern Gas Networks				
Project: Land at Ilkey Roman Fort, Ilkey					

