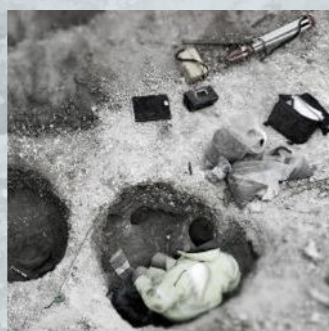


BK331:
Brook Farm to
Fairwood House
Westbury
Wiltshire

Archaeological Monitoring
and Recording report

November 2018





**BK331: Brook Farm to Fairwood House
Westbury
Wiltshire**

for

C1 project code: C1/AMR/18/BFW

Wessex Water plc

Report

Prepared by Clare Randall & Tara Fairclough
Date 26/11/18

Approved by Richard McConnell, Director

Signed

Date 26/11/18

Issue 01

PROJECT DETAILS

Wessex Water Scheme ref.	BK331
Planning Application ref.	N/A
Local Planning Authority	N/A
Scheduled Monument Consent ref.	N/A
Historic Environment Record ref.	N/A
Collecting Museum	Wiltshire Museum (Devizes)
Museum accession code	N/A
OASIS reference	contexto1-326377

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Summary

Context One Archaeology & Heritage (C1) carried out archaeological monitoring and recording during groundworks relating to a water mains replacement and associated compound at Brook Farm to Fairwood House, Westbury, Wiltshire. The project was commissioned by Wessex Water plc (WW) under a Term Agreement with C1.

The monitoring and recording was requested by the county Historic Environment Service (HES), Wiltshire County Archaeology Service (WCAS). The eastern end of the pipeline runs along the bridleway which passes through a former medieval settlement and associated field systems, designated as a Scheduled Monument (HE no. 1019386), located west of Brook Farm. At the direction of the WCAS, the monitoring and recording was restricted to the compound area, the open cut portions of the pipeline and directional drill pits.

Despite the potential for identifying remains relating to the medieval settlement, monitoring of groundworks revealed no archaeological features or deposits and no finds were recovered.

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1. Introduction

1.1 Context One Heritage & Archaeology (C1) carried out archaeological monitoring and recording during the groundworks relating to a water mains replacement and associated compound at Brook Farm to Fairwood House, Westbury, Wiltshire (the 'Site') (**Figure 1**). The project was commissioned by Wessex Water plc (WW) under a Term Agreement with C1.

1.2 The monitoring and recording was requested by the county Historic Environment Service (HES), Wiltshire County Archaeology Service (WCAS). In a reply to an email consultation request from Mr Andy Irish (Wessex Water plc) on 13 July 2018, Ms Rachel Foster, Assistant County Archaeologist, WCAS stated:

"In essence we recommend that all open cut and other areas of below ground disturbance should be monitored by a professional archaeological contractor due to high archaeological potential in this area. I assume from the plan you provided that a large part of the western end of the scheme will have little below ground impact due to the directional drilling methodology. Whilst there may have been a degree of disturbance along the bridleway there can still be archaeological remains surviving within the verges."

1.3 The programme of archaeological works will comprise four elements: the production of a Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) which sets out the project strategy (this document); archaeological monitoring and recording; post-excavation and report production; and archive preparation and deposition.

1.4 The requirement follows advice by Central Government as set out in the *National Planning Policy Framework* (NPPF) (DCLG 2018).

2. The Site

2.1 The pipeline route (NGRs: western end, 384113 152095; eastern end, 385400 151769) covers a linear distance of c. 1.2km and is located on the west side of Westbury, between Fairwood House at the west end and Brook Farm in the east (**Figure 1**). The Site is bounded to the north and south by open farmland, and the majority of the route runs along Brook Drove. A section across agricultural land at the western end, and several other parts of the route was achieved by directional drilling along with three sections of open-cut trenching. A temporary compound was located at the eastern end of the pipeline. The Site is largely situated on gently undulating land rising from an average height of c. 55m above Ordnance Datum (aOD) in the west to c. 60 aOD in the east. The recorded geology for the Site is Oxford Clay Formation - Mudstone (BGS 2018). The soils are characterised at the western end of the pipeline as slowly permeable seasonally wet slightly acid but base-rich loamy and clayey soils and at the eastern end as lime-rich loamy and clayey soils with impeded drainage (CSAIS 2018).

2.2 The eastern end of the pipeline runs along Brook Drove and passes through a former medieval settlement and associated field systems designated as a Scheduled Monument (HE no. 1019386), located west of Brook Farm. The Scheduled area is situated both to the north and south of the bridleway, and comprises the medieval settlement of Brook, a manor house site and associated field systems, of both strip form and paddocks. The extant earthworks include a Holloway and house platforms and potential associated gardens.

3. Archaeological aims and research objectives

3.1 The principal aims of the archaeological monitoring were to:

- identify, investigate and record all significant buried archaeological deposits revealed on the site during groundworks;
- determine the character of the archaeological remains, where present;
- recover environmental information, which may provide further information relating to the local historic environment of the area;
- provide sufficient information to enable further mitigation strategies to be determined, where appropriate

3.2 The research objectives were to:

- determine whether there is any evidence specifically relating to the medieval settlement or agricultural landscape of Brook

4. Methodology

- 4.1 All archaeological work was carried out in accordance with the *Standard and guidance for an archaeological watching brief* issued by the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (CIfA) (December 2014) and in accordance with the *Standards for Archaeological Assessment and Field Evaluation in Wiltshire* (CAS 1995). C1 adhered to the *Code of Conduct* of the CIfA (1985, rev. 2000, 2014), and *Regulations for Professional Conduct* (CIfA, 2014, rev. 2015) at all times. The fieldwork methodology is summarised below.
- 4.2 C1 gave notification of the commencement of the works to the HES but it was not deemed necessary for a representative to visit the Site and monitor archaeological fieldwork. Monitoring will continue until the deposition of the Site archive.
- 4.3 Prior to the commencement of Site works, the excavation methodology was agreed between those responsible for carrying out the groundworks and C1 to ensure that all parties were aware of the monitoring requirements.
- 4.4 Construction groundworks comprised the machine excavation of the following:
- Topsoil removal in the location of a temporary compound to provide a firm base for both site welfare and material storage
 - Excavation of open cut pipe trenches, 0.30m wide and up to 1m deep.
 - Deep excavation of directional drill pits at entry and exit locations where new pipe sections were bored underground.
- 4.5 An archaeologist was on Site to monitor these operations with the aim of identifying and recording any archaeological features/deposits/finds present.

Temporary compound

The machine excavation of topsoil across the compound area was monitored prior to being covered with permeable membrane and aggregate to form a temporary metalled. Excavation was carried out by an 8 tonne JCB slew with a 1.6m toothless grading bucket.

Open cut pipe trenches and drill pits

Pipe trench excavations involved both the directionally drilled method and open cut trenching. Drill pits associated with the drilled pipeline were monitored together with three separate stretches of open cut trenching amounting to c. 0.50km. Excavation of the open cut trenching was carried out by a 4 tonne JCB slew equipped with a 0.30m toothed bucket.

- 4.6 By default, core details of the deposit sequence across the Site was recorded on C1 *pro-forma* profile forms in digital format using iPad mini tablets. Soil colours were logged using a Munsell soil colour chart and spoil was examined for the retrieval of artefacts. A photographic record of the monitoring and recording was carried out and involved the sole use of digital images. These included photographs illustrating in both detail, and general context, the operations subject to monitoring. The photographic record also included working shots to illustrate more generally the nature of the archaeological operation mounted.

5. Results

- 5.1 Four profiles of the deposit sequence were recorded during excavation of the open cut trenching (Profile 1) and drill pits (Profiles 2-4), (**Plates 1-2**). Overall, depths varied between 1m and 1.50m. The compound was

only soil stripped to a depth of 0.20m. The deposit sequence observed in Profiles 1 and 3 was identical. The topsoil (100) and (300) comprised a grey friable silty clay measuring 0.20m deep with occasional limestone fragments. This overlay a 0.30m deep pale brown firm subsoil (101) and (301) also containing occasional limestone fragments which covered >0.50m grey firm clay natural containing frequent limestone fragments (102) and (302). The topsoil (200) in Profile 2 was a very dark grey silty clay with occasional limestone fragments. This covered a light brownish grey firm silty clay subsoil (201) containing occasional limestone fragments. The natural geology (202) in Profile 2 matched that in Profiles 1 and 3. The deposit sequence in Profile 4 differed to that observed in the previous profiles. The topsoil (400) here comprised a very dark brown loam with frequent limestone fragments directly above a brownish yellow clay natural (401). No archaeological features or deposits were observed.

6. The finds

- 6.1 No finds were recovered or observed during archaeological monitoring.

7. Discussion and Conclusion

- 7.1 Despite the groundwork excavations crossing through the medieval settlement and associated field systems west of Brook Farm, no evidence for the settlement was observed in open cut pipe trenching, directional drill pits or the compound strip. However, excavations of the compound area did not extend beyond the removal of topsoil and any archaeological remains could conceivably survive *in situ* beneath the impact level.

8. Archive

- 8.1 The NPPF requires that an archaeological archive arising from development works is made publicly accessible (para. 199). The archive comprises two parts: the paper/digital archive including site records and images; and the artefact/ecofact assemblage.

Paper/digital archive

- 8.2 Where archaeological features/deposits are recorded, the archive generated from this usually comprises site records, drawings and photographs either in paper format or born-digital data. Within three months of the conclusion of a project this is normally transferred into the care of a Trusted Digital Repository such as the Archaeology Data Service (ADS) as scanned paper records or native born-digital data. The digital archive will be compiled in accordance with the standards and requirements of the ADS, as set out on their website.
- 8.3 As no archaeological evidence was encountered, all relevant data has been incorporated into this assessment report and the paper/digital archive will therefore be stored on the C1 cloud storage server or discarded.

Physical archive

- 8.4 The artefact/ecofact assemblage is the legal property of the landowner (excluding any items that fall under The Treasure Act 1996). However, it is usual practice for the landowner to transfer ownership of this assemblage to a receiving institution (usually a museum) once it has been fully assessed and/or analysed. Receiving institutions store the assemblage and make it publicly accessible. Alternatively, the landowner can choose to keep the assemblage but arrangements must be made to ensure its long-term curation and public accessibility in accordance with NPPF.
- 8.5 In this instance, there is no artefact/ecofact assemblage to archive.

Dissemination: report

- 8.6 Copies of the report will be submitted to the following:
- Wessex Water plc
 - the HES so that it can be included as part of the county Historic Environment Record (HER)
 - the ADS, via OASIS (On-line Access to the Index of Archaeological Investigations – <http://oasis.ac.uk/england/>)

Dissemination: publication

- 8.7 By default, a short entry will be prepared for publication in the summary section of the next county archaeological journal or equivalent periodical.

9. Bibliography

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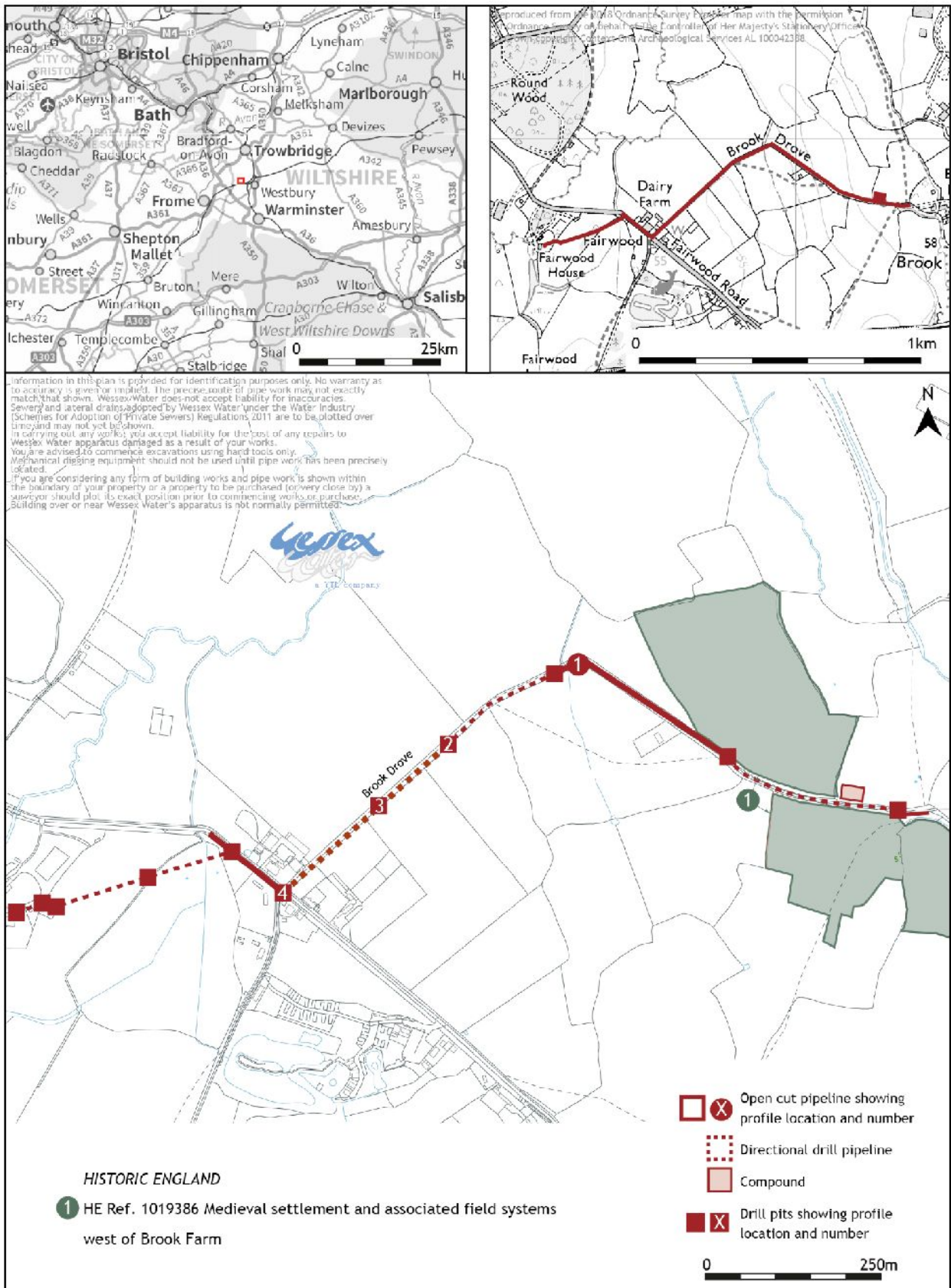


Figure 1. Site setting with location of Scheduled Monument and areas of monitoring and recording



Plate 1. Site compound excavations (from S, no scale)



Plate 2. Working shot of open cut pipe trenching (from S, no scale)

Appendix 1: Context summary

CONTEXT NO.	PERIOD	TYPE	DESCRIPTION	EARLIER THAN	CONTEMP. WITH	LATER THAN	LENGTH	WIDTH/DIAMETER	THICKNESS/DEPTH (m)
Profile 1									
100	Modern	Layer	Topsoil. Grey (10YR 5/1) friable silty clay with very occasional limestone fragments measuring <0.10m	NA	-	101	-	-	0.20
101	Modern	Layer	Subsoil. Pale brown (10YR 6/3) firm clay with occasional limestone fragments measuring <0.10m	100	-	102	-	-	0.30
102	Natural	Layer	Natural. Grey (10YR 6/1) firm clay with very frequent limestone fragments measuring <0.20m	101	-	NA	-	-	>0.50
Profile 2									
200	Modern	Layer	Topsoil. Very dark grey (10YR 3/1) friable silty clay with very occasional limestone fragments measuring <0.10m	NA	-	201	-	-	0.20
201	Modern	Layer	Subsoil. Light brownish grey (10YR 6/2) firm clay with occasional limestone fragments measuring <0.10m	200	-	202	-	-	0.30
202	Natural	Layer	Natural. Grey (10YR 6/1) firm clay with very frequent limestone fragments measuring <0.20m	201	-	NA	-	-	>0.50
Profile 3									
300	Modern	Layer	Topsoil. Grey (10YR 5/1) friable silty clay with very occasional limestone fragments measuring <0.10	NA	-	301	-	-	0.20
301	Modern	Layer	Subsoil. Pale brown (10YR 6/3) firm clay with occasional limestone fragments measuring <0.10m	300	-	302	-	-	0.30
302	Natural	Layer	Natural. Grey (10YR 6/1) firm clay with very frequent limestone fragments measuring <0.20m	301	-	NA	-	-	>0.50
Profile 4									
400	Modern	Layer	Topsoil. Very dark brown (10YR 3/2) soft loam with frequent angular limestone fragments measuring <0.10m	NA	-	401	-	-	0.40
401	Natural	Layer	Natural. Brownish yellow (10YR 6/4) friable clay	400	-	NA	-	-	>1



context one
HERITAGE & ARCHAEOLOGY



Looking after the past, today...