

**Field OS 7238, Off Hushells Lane,
Fosterhouses, Fishlake,
South Yorkshire**

Archaeological Watching Brief

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Summary

An Archaeological watching brief was undertaken on land north east off Hushells lane, Fosterhouse, Fishlake, South Yorkshire. Extensive stripping and excavation of the area had already taken place prior to archaeological supervision. The aim of the watching brief was to re-strip and record any surviving archaeology. No archaeological features, deposits or finds were uncovered.

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Archaeological Services WYAS

PO Box 30, Nepshaw Lane South, Morley, Leeds LS27 0UG

1. Introduction

- 1.1 Archaeological Services WYAS was commissioned by C.Goldthorpe & Sons to conduct a watching brief on land off Hushells Lane, Fosterhouses, Fishlake. The watching brief took place after extensive stripping and excavation of the area, for the construction of a Fishing Pond for Personal / Amenity use and the associated extraction of Clay, (planning application ref. 03/3641/P/FUL). The site is situated on land off Hushells Lane, to the West of Fosterwaite Farm, Fosterhouses , Fishlake, (fig.1 and 2).
- 1.2 At the time of the watching brief the site had been stripped to the natural and a large fishpond had already been excavated.
- 1.3 The archaeological watching brief was undertaken on the 17/5/05.

2. Archaeological Background

- 2.1 Archaeological potential of the area, lies within an area of the landscape where there is potential for early settlement evidence to survive. Possibly dating back to the Prehistoric period, compounded with previously unknown archaeological sites recently been discovered in the area.
- 2.2 Recent discoveries by ASWYAS, on work at the Sykehouse flood barrier bank resulted in the discovery of an Iron Age settlement comprising of nine round houses and a vast number of pottery sherds.

3. Geology

- 3.1 The underlying solid geology consists of Triassic and Permian sandstone (British Geological Survey 1980).
- 3.2 The soils of the study area consist of the Arrow (543) Association, characterised as deep permeable coarse loamy soils affected by groundwater. (Soil Survey of England and Wales, 1983).
- 3.3 The site lies at about 10m OD

4. Method

- 4.1 Two transects were placed either side of the site in a north west, south east direction in hope of picking up potential archaeology.

- 4.2 The Two transects were between 54m - 68 m in length and 2.5m in width. The depth of each transect was around 0.05m. The aim of the transects, was to re-strip two areas across the site in order to establish any potential archaeology present on the site.
- 4.3 Mechanical excavation was carried out using either a 13 ton 360° excavator with a 2.5 meter toothless bucket.

5. Results

- 5.1 No archaeology or artefacts in either transect.

6. Discussion

- 6.1 No archaeological finds, features or deposits were uncovered during the monitoring of the re-stripping of the two transects.

7. Conclusions

- 7.1 The re-stripping of two transects across the site revealed no archaeology or artefacts, however due to the extensive stripping and excavation of the site prior to archaeological monitoring any potentially surviving archaeology may have been lost.

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Project management

Ian Roberts BSc, MIFA

Report

Victoria Brown BA

Graphics/illustrations

Victoria Brown BA

Fieldwork

Victoria Brown BA