

SMR: 9731.100

NYCC HER	
SNY	18903
ENY	6126
CNY	
Parish	3083
Rec'd	18/4/91

WEST-LODGE, CASTLE HOWARD ROAD, MALTON
(SE 779 716)

ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF, (Phase 1)

MAP ARCHAEOLOGICAL CONSULTANCY LTD

COUNTY PLANNING DEPARTMENT		
18 APR 1991		
PASS TO	INITIALS	DATE
HML		

Mark Johnson

12 April 1991

CONTENTS

Figure List

Introduction

Excavation Methods

Excavation Results

Conclusions

References

Appendix.1. Context records

Appendix.2. Finds Catalogue

FIGURE LIST

Fig.1. Site Location Plan

Fig.2. Examined area

WEST LODGE, CASTLE HOWARD ROAD, MALTON, NORTH YORKSHIRE.

INTRODUCTION

Subsequent to an archaeological test-hole evaluation of 17th December 1990 for Persimmon Homes (Yorkshire) Ltd at West Lodge, Malton (SE 779 716), (Finney, 1991), a watching brief was maintained by MAP Archaeological Consultancy Ltd during the initial phase of earthmoving operations. This first stage of the housing development involved the construction of an access road and the laying in of the major drainage facilities. These engineering works were undertaken by Howards Civil Engineers, Leeds. The present report deals solely with this first stage of work; further development of the site will be considered in subsequent reports.

SMR Archaeological interest in the immediate vicinity was initially raised by the presence of a cropmark
1920-01 showing on aerial photographs (possible trackway) close to the southern end of the site, (NYCC SMR),
1875 and by a 19th century report of Beaker material possibly from this area, (Robinson, 1978).

STATE EXPLICITLY IF SHERDS, POTTERY, ETC.

Until very recent times the site was occupied by a large Victorian house and its associated outbuildings and gardens parts of which were terraced. Land use immediately prior to the Victorian arrangement is unknown.

- 1) INTRODUCTION SHOULD INCLUDE REFERENCE TO HISTORIC LAND USE c. 1500-1900. FINNEY (1991) REPORT DID NOT NOTE THIS SO ∴ THIS REPORT SHOULD. WHAT I WOULD BE LOOKING FOR IS
 - 1) THE MAP SEARCH IF T.M.'S AVAILABLE
 - 2) AGRICULTURAL OR HORTICULTURAL USE IN 1700-1800'S.
 - 3) VCH RECORDS; MANOR OWNERSHIP, EVIDENCE OF EMPARKMENT, ENCLOSURE, ETC.
 - 4) FOR URBAN AREAS: TENEMENTS, DEEDS, WHO DID WHAT ON THE PROPERTY.
- 2) A STATEMENT OF OBSERVATION GOALS, METHODOLOGY (NOT TECHNIQUE)
FOR EXAMPLE:
 - EXCAVATIONS WERE OBSERVED ON RAINY/SUNNY DAYS BY EXPERIENCED/VOLUNTEER PEOPLE
 - TRENCHES WERE JUST OBSERVED AND NOT LOOKED AT CLOSELY DUE TO DANGER OF COLLAPSE
 - SOILS WERE DIFFERENTIATED ON THE BASIS OF BURNED FLINT (UNUSUAL) AND ORGANIC CONTENT (LESS UNUSUAL) ONLY (UNUSUAL).
 - RECORDING WAS BY SINGLE CONTEXT PLANNING AND SCHEMATIC SECTIONS.
 - WE HOPED TO SEE V-SHAPED DITCHES IN SECTION.

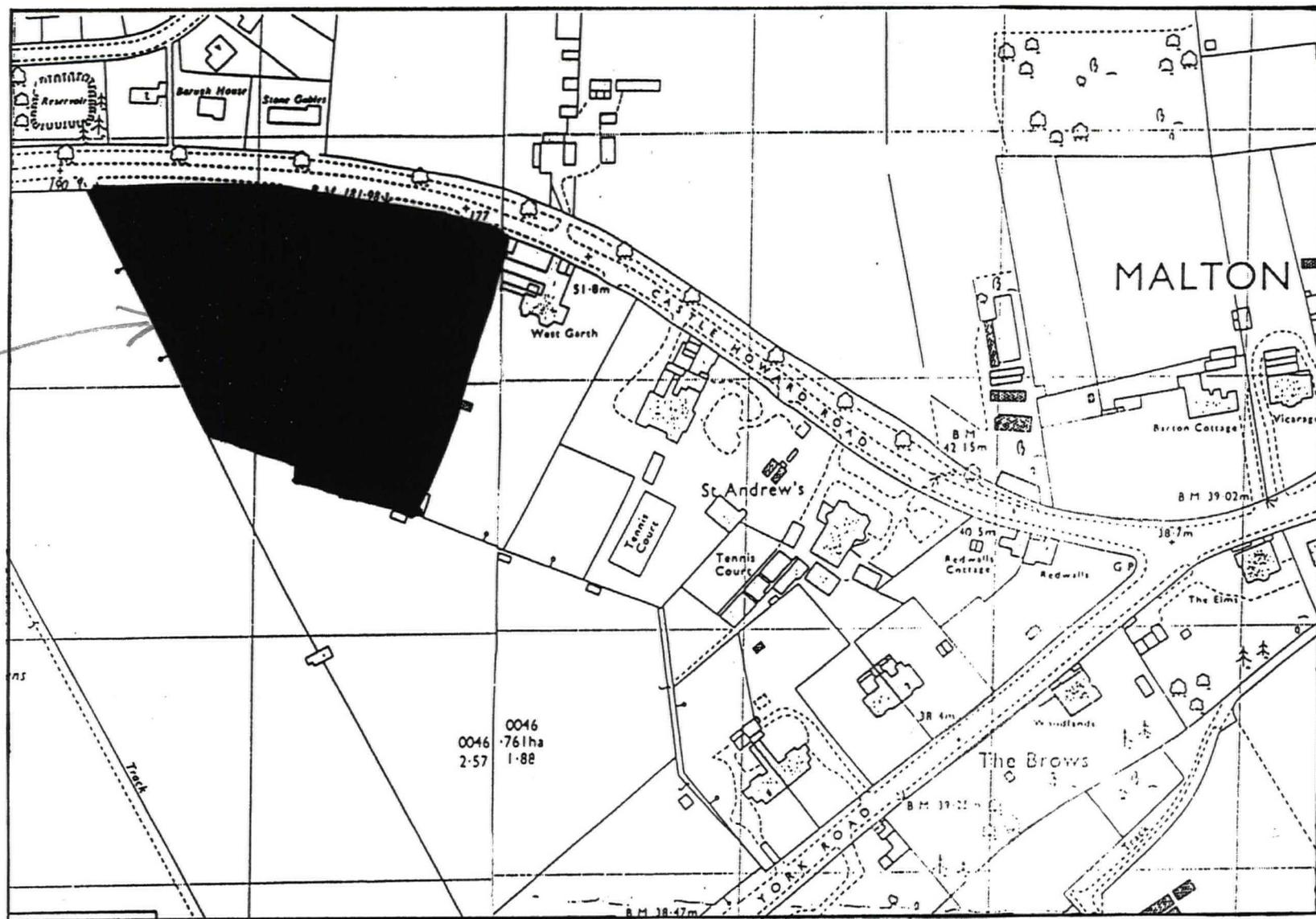


Fig.1. Location Plan

~~TOPSOIL~~
OVERBURDEN REMOVAL
EXCAVATION METHODS TECHNIQUES.

THIS REACTY SHOULD
GO IN INTRODUCTION.

Access road

The area of the access road was stripped of topsoil (and subsoil in places) by a tracked vehicle with a toothed bucket up to a maximum depth of 0.35-0.40 m. A machine with a back-acter using a toothless ditching blade was then employed to cut the surface clean for archaeological inspection.

Drain trenches

Only a small portion of the drain trenches lay outside of the inspected road area, namely that part of the system that leads to a drain running beneath Castle Howard road. This stretch of drain trench was excavated by a machine with a back-acter fitted with a toothed bucket 0.80 m in width.

ARCHAEOLOGICAL METHODOLOGY :

A new set of contexts was issued covering the area of the first phase of building works. Due to the large amount of 19th century and later finds, only a small representative sample was collected; all pre 19th century finds were kept.

QUANTITIES PLEASE ^{of these} IN BOTH No's + Kg WT.

A small number of colour print photographs were taken.

The areas examined are displayed in Fig.2.

ANY SOIL SAMPLES COLLECTED ?

ANY FINDS RECORDS / ILLUSTRATIONS ?

WHERE ARE FINDS KEPT + HOW ARE THEY CONSERVED ?

HOW MANY PLANS + SECTIONS WERE DRAWN + WHAT OTHER RECORDS WERE KEPT ?

HOW MANY HOURS WERE SPENT ON THE W.B. ?

Persimmon Homes
(Yorkshire) Ltd
housing development
West Lodge Malton,
North Yorkshire.

Watching brief (phase 1.)

date : 16.04.91
scale : 1:500
drawn : M.J.

-  = examined area
-  = proposed house

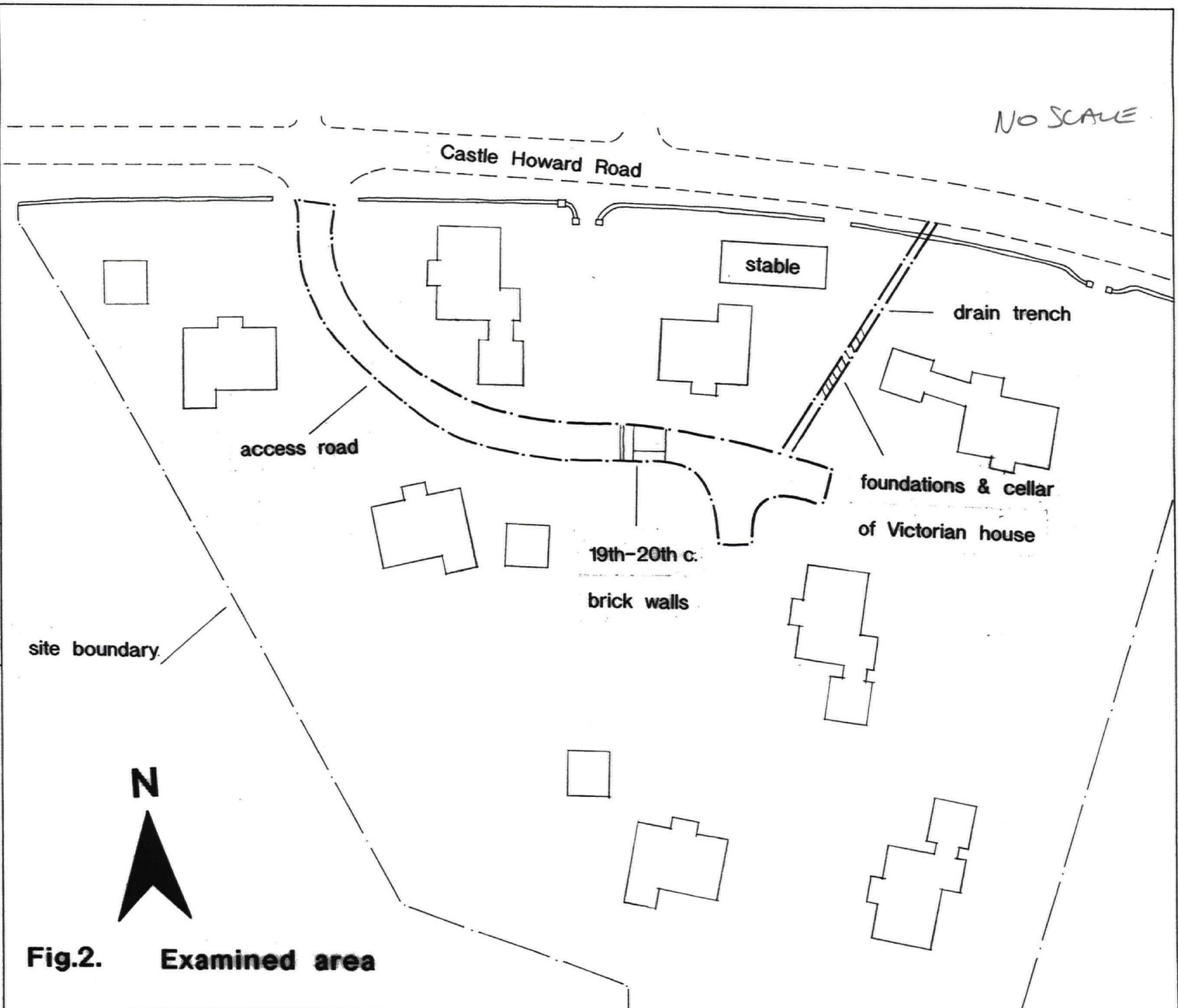


Fig.2. Examined area

OBSERVATIONS

EXCAVATION RESULTS

(see also Fig.2.)

Access road

The stripping of the bulk of the earth from the course of the access road by a tracked vehicle with toothed bucket was not conducive, with the exception of solid walls, to the recognition of archaeological remains.

The upper 0.25–0.35 m of this material was a grey brown, loamy garden soil (1), that in many areas extended down to the slightly shattered surface of the limestone bedrock (3). In a few areas a thin, yellow brown, silty clay subsoil (2), was observed interleaved between the garden soil and the limestone bedrock. Finds recovered from the garden soil were all datable to the 19th–20th centuries with the exception of one piece of one sherd of probable 16th century Humber ware. No finds were recovered from the subsoil. Given that the overwhelming bulk of the material removed was a relatively recent 19th century garden soil (and therefore without the potential to retain intact archaeological strata) it is only the very bases of any archaeological features cutting the subsoil that could have been destroyed by the initial machining. Cleaning of the base of the roadway with a ditching blade at the level of the limestone bedrock and isolated patches of subsoil permitted a more thorough inspection. No archaeological features were observed however apart from 19th–20th century brick walls associated with the Victorian dwelling and gardens and a few slight depressions containing 19th–20th century refuse, especially cinder. These latter relate to the shallow burial of refuse in close proximity to the aforementioned walls.

MUNSELL COLOUR CODE
STAININESS? Ah or Ap?

WHAT WERE BOUNDARIES LIKE? THIS SOUNDS LIKE A TRUNCATED SOIL TO ME!

1973.10.101

Drainage trench

The only major element of the drainage system outlying the area of the road was in the northern sector of the site.

Examination of the sections of the narrow machined trench in its northern area revealed a depositional sequence similar to that encountered in the area of the access road, ie: a topsoil (1), overlaying a thin subsoil (2), with limestone bedrock (3), underneath. However, the topsoil which contained amounts of 19th century building debris was noted as being comparatively thin, seldom more than 0.15–0.20 m in depth, and the subsoil was seen to be present in a continuous band in section. The thinness of the topsoil in this area is likely to be indicative of a ground levelling in the area of the former house, its outbuildings and the road; probably at the time of the construction of the buildings themselves, whilst the presence of what is likely to be an undisturbed subsoil suggests that within the area of this part of the trench at least,

gardens were not founded.

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In the central area of the trench remains of the Victorian house's brick built foundations and cellar were encountered.

CONCLUSIONS

Apart from 19th-20th century remains relating to the former Victorian dwelling no archaeological features were encountered during the first stage of development, though this lack of archaeological remains does not preclude their absence in other areas of the site. Whilst those thoroughly "dug over" areas of former garden are likely to produce heavily truncated features, formerly un-terraced lawned areas have the potential to produce good levels of survival, should archaeological remains be present.

The watching brief shall be maintained as per NYCC constraint, and verbal agreement has been reached with Persimmon's for the house plots to be machined with a toothless ditching blade ^{DISTRICT C.}

GENERALLY : - I'D LIKE TO SEE MORE ^{STAFF TIME} QUANTIFICATION; OF FINDS, ^{HOURS} WORKED, COLOUR CODING, DESCRIPTION OF SOILS A LA SOIL SURVEY HANDBOOK.

-

REFERENCES

(Finney,1991) West Lodge, Malton. Archaeological Testhole evaluation.

(NYCC SMR) North Yorkshire County Council, Sites and Monuments Records.

(Robinson,1978) The Archaeology of Malton and Norton, Yorkshire Archaeological Society, P.23.

APPALLING REFERENCING."

FINNEY, A.

1991 . ARCHAEOLOGICAL TEST-HOLE
UNPUBLISHED EVALUATION REPORT ON FILE W. NYCC
SMR ETC.

APPENDIX.1.

Context Records

CONTEXT RECORD

01 Grid Ref se 779 716	02 Area phase 1.	03 Site Code WL'91	04 Context No 1
05 Category layer			
06 Shape overall		07 Profile slightly undulating	
08 Length	09 Width	10 Diam	
11 Height/Depth up to 0.30 m	12 OD top	13 OD base	
S O I L S	14 Matrix Colour mid to dark grey brown		
	15 Matrix Texture silty clay loam		
	16 Matrix Consistence generally friable		
	17 Inclusions small amounts small stone, esp towards base		
S T R U C S.	18 Matrix		
	19 Constituents		
20 Description modern garden soil, contains some amounts of organic material, and shows clear evidence of considerable disturbance large amounts 19th-20th century finds.			
21 Filled by/Contains		22 Fill of/Part of	
23 Phys. below		24 Phys. above 2,3	
25 Strat. below		26 Strat. above 2	
27 Cut by		28 Cuts	
29 Same as		30 Uncertain	
31 Butts	32 Butted by	33 Bonded to	
34 Interpretation 19th-20th century garden soil			
35 Plan No	36 Sect. No	37 Photos colour print	
38 Finds	39 Samples	40 Date 25.03.91	

CONTEXT RECORD

01 Grid Ref <u>se 779 716</u>	02 Area <u>phase 1.</u>	03 Site Code <u>WL'91</u>	04 Context No <u>2</u>
05 Category <u>layer</u>			
06 Shape		07 Profile <u>slightly undulating</u>	
08 Length	09 Width	10 Diam	
11 Height/Depth <u>0.05-0.010 m</u>	12 OD top	13 OD base	
S O I L S	14 Matrix Colour <u>yellow brown</u>		
	15 Matrix Texture <u>silty clay</u>		
	16 Matrix Consistence <u>plastic</u>		
	17 Inclusions <u>small amounts small pebbles, some limestone frags near base</u>		
S T R U C S.	18 Matrix		
	19 Constituents		
20 Description <u>does not occur everywhere in phase 1 area, (probably due to garden digging.) Not seen to be cut by any archaeological features.</u>			
21 Filled by/Contains		22 Fill of/Part of	
23 Phys. below <u>1</u>		24 Phys. above <u>3</u>	
25 Strat. below <u>1</u>		26 Strat. above <u>3</u>	
27 Cut by		28 Cuts	
29 Same as		30 Uncertain	
31 Butts	32 Butted by	33 Bonded to	
34 Interpretation <u>subsoil of natural origin</u>			
35 Plan No	36 Sect. No	37 Photos <u>colour print</u>	
38 Finds	39 Samples	40 Date <u>25.03.91</u>	

CONTEXT RECORD

01 Grid Ref SE 779 716	02 Area phase 1.	03 Site Code WL'91	04 Context No 3
05 Category Natural			
06 Shape overall		07 Profile flattish	
08 Length	09 Width	10 Diam	
11 Height/Depth	12 OD top	13 OD base	
S O I L S	14 Matrix Colour pale grey		
	15 Matrix Texture limestone		
	16 Matrix Consistence hard		
	17 Inclusions small pockets solution type material		
S T R U C T U R E	18 Matrix		
	19 Constituents		
20 Description Natural limestone bedrock, upper part is partially <u>frost shattered</u>			
21 Filled by/Contains		22 Fill of/Part of	
23 Phys. below 1,2		24 Phys. above	
25 Strat. below <u>2</u>		26 Strat. above	
27 Cut by		28 Cuts	
29 Same as		30 Uncertain	
31 Butts	32 Butted by	33 Bonded to	
34 Interpretation <u>Natural limestone bedrock</u>			
35 Plan No	36 Sect. No	37 Photos <u>colour print</u>	
38 Finds	39 Samples	40 Date <u>25.03.91</u>	

APPENDIX.2.

Finds Catalogue

Due to the presence of very large amounts of 19th–20th century material within the garden soil (1), only a small approximately representative sample of this material was kept. All pre 19th century finds were retained. A small amount of animal bone was noted within (1), but not kept.

All finds will be lodged with the Malton museum.

Context 1.

973/10

10-150

19th–20th centuries:

1 piece cinder

2 fragments clay pipe

2 sherds window glass

10 sherds glazed pottery

2 sherds unglazed "plant pot"

Pre 19th century

10-101

1 sherd, probably developed Humber ware, (16th century)