



# Alison Clarke

## Archaeological Consultant

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NYCC HER	
SNY	18915
ENY	6141
CNY	
Parish	2034
Rec'd	

Neil Campling  
County Archaeological Officer  
County Planning Department  
County Hall  
Racecourse Lane  
NORTHALLERTON  
North Yorkshire

27 September 1994

Dear Neil,

House at Brandsby Street, Crayke - Archaeological Watching Brief

I undertook a watching brief at the above development between 12 September and 15 September 1994.

The whole site was very overgrown with a number of trees as well as undergrowth, and sloped down from north to south, that is from the back to the front of the site. After the removal of the vegetation, soil was moved from the back to the front of the site in order to create a more level platform for the house. This consisted of topsoil which was rich and deep, being 40 to 80 cm. thick. The levelling process nowhere impinged beneath the topsoil.

The foundation trenches for the house were approximately 200 cm. deep, this being required because of the nature of the subsoil and the proximity of various trees. Throughout the site, below the topsoil was a hard, pale, orangey grey clay with occasional boulders. To the north and west of the site was a slight sandy layer above the clay, beneath the topsoil. The horizons between the layers were fairly distinct.

The topsoil contained large amounts of modern material such as bottles, pottery, pantiles and pieces of iron, much of it identifiable as early - mid 20th century. A small wooden pantiled building stood on part of the site until about 30 years ago, and some of the debris appeared to be from this. No earlier material was observed. Towards the west of the site, some cobbles were observed immediately above the sandy layer at the base of the topsoil. These may be associated with a path or track into the former open field to the north behind the site, but the modern disturbance reached down to their level and there was no evidence that they were of particularly early origin.

No other features of archaeological interest were observed.

Yours sincerely,

*Alison Clarke*

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