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SNY	10518
ENY	2862
ONY	4335
Parish	3005
Rec'd	18/07/2005

**Porch House
Main Street
Amotherby
North Yorkshire
SE 7491 7342**

Archaeological Watching Brief Report

Authorised by *NA Cameron*

Date: *13/7/05*

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July 2005

**Porch House
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Archaeological Watching Brief

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Archaeological Watching Brief

Non Technical Summary

An Archaeological Watching Brief by MAP Archaeological Consultancy Ltd was undertaken during July 2005 at land adjacent to Porch House Main Street, Amotherby, North Yorkshire, (SE 7491.7342). The work involved monitoring groundworks associated with the erection of residential properties on the site.

Excavations were undertaken to a maximum depth of 0.50m Undisturbed natural deposits were not encountered at this depth and no evidence was recovered for Romano-British deposits.

No archaeological features were observed during the Watching Brief

1. Introduction

- 1.1 This report sets out the results of an Archaeological Watching Brief carried out by MAP Archaeological Consultancy Ltd. on a plot of land adjacent to Porch House, Main Street, Amotherby, North Yorkshire, (SE 7491 7342) during July 2005.
- 1.2 The site code for the project was MAP 02 07 05.
- 1.3 All work was funded by Andrew Johnson.
- 1.4 All maps within this report have been produced from the Ordnance Survey with the permission of the Controller of Her Majesty's Stationery Office, Crown Copyright, Licence No. AL 50453A.

2. Site Description

- 2.1 The site lies in the village of Amotherby at (SE 7491.7342) (Figs. 1 and 2). The site is bounded to the north by residential properties, to the south by the B1257 Malton to Hovingham Road, and to the East by Main Street.
- 2.2 The site was approximately 30m x 24m in size and at the time of the Watching Brief the plot was formerly open rough grassland.
- 2.3 The site stands on soils of the Rivington 1 Association, and is a well-drained coarse loamy soil on gentle or moderate slopes on Carboniferous and Jurassic sandstone. (Mackney et al 1983).

3. Historical and Archaeological Background

- 3.1 Amotherby village is situated on the B1257 between Malton and Hovingham. The village is mentioned in the Domesday Book (1086) as *Aimundrebi*, which is derived from *Eymund's farm* and denotes a farming community.
- 3.2 The first written reference to a church in Amotherby was in 1218 in the charter of Pope Honorius III to St Albans Abbey. Except for the tower the church has been almost entirely rebuilt. One interesting burial was that of a young woman lying under a heavy stone slab carved with a female face. At the head of this grave was a stone pavement. The stones were burned red and were covered with burnt material and a large quantity of charcoal. An iron blade was also found greatly corroded. (The North Yorkshire Village Book).
- 3.3 Roman remains have been noted in a field belonging to Glebe farm, These consist of pavements irregular in outline, and varying in size, one being 29ft x 13ft another 90ft. Some are detached, while others have paved pathways. The floors have been constructed with blocks of oolite limestone, sandstone and sea pebbles. All round the edges is a deposit of burnt material containing wheel thrown Roman pottery and Samian ware, ash, burnt animal bone and

charcoal. Two upper stones of querns have been found, and several fragments of a millstone. Three small Roman coins near the pavements have also being found. At Amotherby traces of a Roman road was joined by another that runs northwards to the Roman practice camps at Cawthorn. (Clark M K 1955)

- 3.4 The application site lies within an area of archaeological interest, with the potential for the survival of Roman, Medieval and later remains.

4. Methodology

- 4.1 All areas were excavated in shallow spits by a 360° mechanical excavator, operating under close archaeological supervision.

- 4.2 All work was carried out in line with the Institute of Field Archaeologists Code of Conduct (IFA 1998).

- 4.3 All deposits were recorded according to correct principles of stratigraphic excavation on MAP's *pro forma* context sheets, which are compatible with the MoLAS recording system.

5. Results

- 5.1.1 The groundworks at Porch House were to be monitored in two phases- the stripping of an area for a new road extension (phase one) and the excavation of ducts for electricity supply cables. A second phase of work was to have been undertaken, involving the monitoring of foundation trenches for residential properties, but this work was carried out by the contractor without notifying the monitoring archaeologist.

- 5.1.2 The electricity cable trenches were excavated in shallow spits by a rear-acting mechanical excavator, On average, excavations were no deeper than 0.60m (Fig. Pls. 3 & 4). The stratigraphic sequence revealed consisted of a deposit of silty topsoil (Context 1000) that was up to 0.20m in depth. This sealed a silty subsoil deposit (Context 1001), which in turn sealed a heavily disturbed naturally-formed subsoil deposit (Context 1002)

6. Conclusions

- 6.1 No undisturbed natural deposits were observed. No archaeological features were recorded, and the lack of any pottery other than the 19th century factory-made earthenwares, which were only observed in very small amounts, suggests the only deposits surviving on site belonged to this period.

7. Bibliography

- Mackney, D. 1983 Soils of England and Wales-Sheet 1 Northern England
Clark, M K,. 1955 Gazatteer of Roman remains in East Yorkshire, Roman,
Malton and district Rep 5
North Yorkshire Federation of Women's Institutes 1975 The North
Yorkshire Village Book.



Figure 1. Site Location



Figure 2. Area of Development

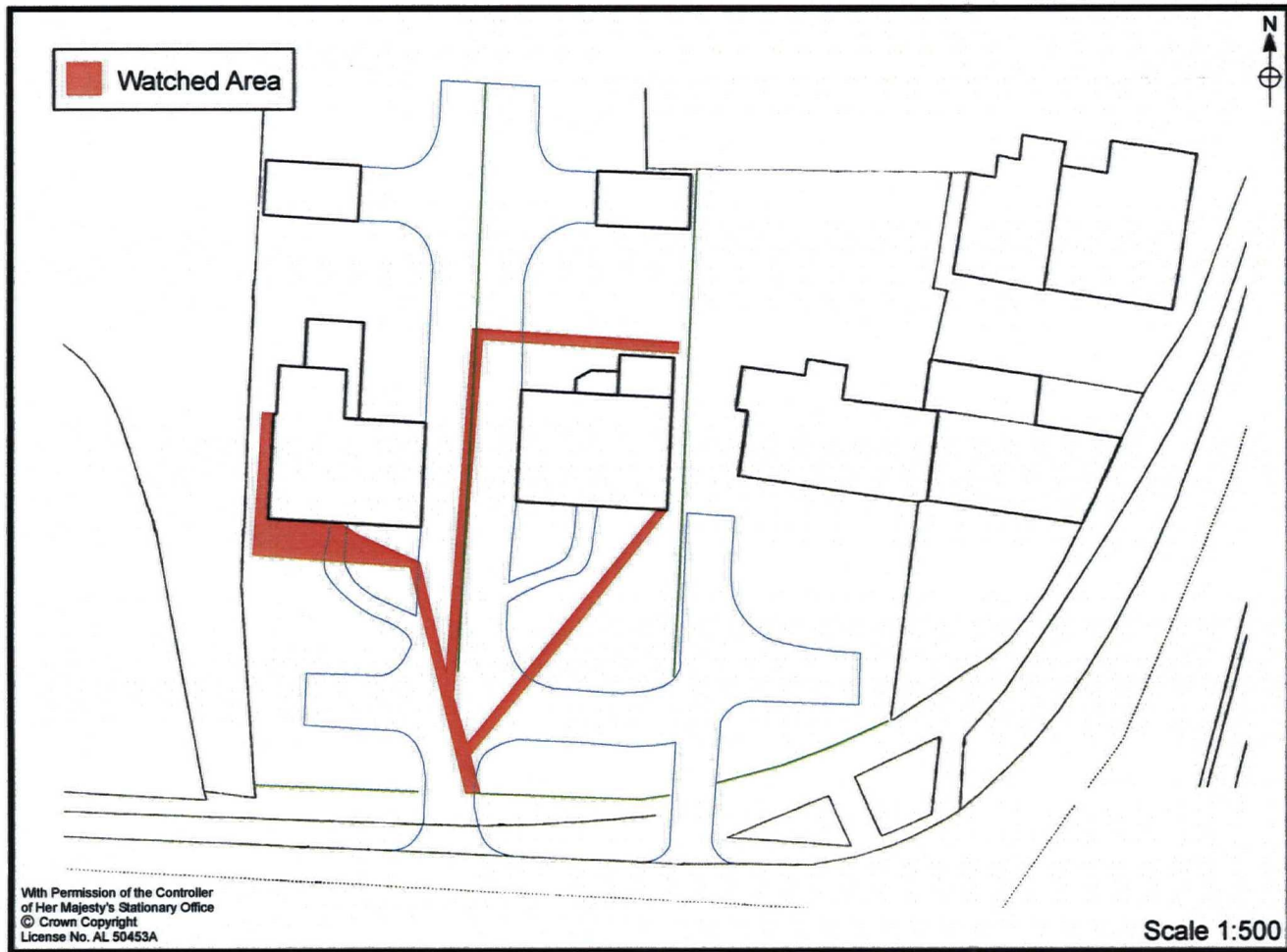


Figure 3. Watched Areas on Development Plan



Plate 1. General View of Excavation in Progress. Facing North



Plate 2. Stripped South West Area of Site. Facing West



Plate 3. Service Ducts Post Excavation. Facing South



Plate 4. Service Ducts Post Excavation. Facing North

APPENDIX 1

Context Listing

Porch House, Main Street, Amotherby (Site Code MAP 02-07-05)

Evaluation Trench 1

Context	Description
1000	Deposit 10YR 3/2; silt, topsoil
1001	Deposit 10YR 3/2; silt, subsoil
1002	Deposit 10YR 6/2; silty sand; disturbed natural

APPENDIX 2

Drawing Archive Listing

Porch House, Main Street, Amotherby (Site Code MAP 02-07-05)

Drawing Number	Scale	Type	Description
1	1:250	Plan	Site location plan
2	1:250	Plan	Site location plan, of service ducts

APPENDIX 3

Photographic Archive Listing

Porch House, Main street, Amotherby (Site Code MAP 02-07-05)

Film 809: Colour Print

Frame	Description	Scale	Facing
1	General working photo	N/A	South
2	General working photo	N/A	North
3	General working photo	N/A	North
4	Structures 1002 + 1003, modern wall	0.50m	West
5	General working photo	N/A	North
6	Photo of eastern post setting	N/A	North
7	General working photo stripping of area	N/A	North
8	Overall photo of site pre-ex	N/A	West
9	End of Film		

Film 000: Digital

Frame	Description	Scale	Facing
1	Post-ex photo of electric duct southern side of site	N/A	South
2	Post-ex photo of electric duct southern side of site	N/A	South
3	General working photo	N/A	South
4	Post-ex photo of electric duct northern side of site	N/A	West
5	General working photo	N/A	North west
6	General working photo	N/A	South
7	General working photo	N/A	North
8	General working photo	N/A	North
9	Structures 1002 + 1003, modern wall	0.50m	West
10	General working photo	N/A	North
11	Photo of eastern post setting	N/A	North
12	General working photo stripping of area	N/A	North
13	Overall photo of site pre-ex	N/A	West

APPENDIX 4

Project Team Details

Porch House, Main Street, Amotherby (Site Code MAP 02-07-05)

Fieldwork

Charles Rickaby

Post-excavation

Charles Rickaby *archive check and preliminary draft*
Dave Knight *CAD and illustrations*

Finds

Mark Stephens *dating/analysis*
Ann Finney, processing and catalogue