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CNY	3411
Parish	3070
Rec'd	18/07/2005

Home Farm **Salents Lane** Duggleby North Yorkshire

03/01323/Fur

ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF

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July 2005

Home Farm, Salents Lane, Duggleby, North Yorkshire

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Archaeological Watching Brief

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1. Site Location. Scale 1:25,000 & 1:2,500

Home Farm Salents Lane Duggleby North Yorkshire

Archaeological Watching Brief

Summary

A Watching Brief was carried out over two days in April 2005 at land on the north side of Salents Lane, Duggleby, North Yorkshire, during the excavation of the foundations for a detached dwelling and garage. No archaeological features or finds were present.

1. Introduction

- 1.1 This report sets out the results of an Archaeological Watching Brief carried out during the excavation of footings for a new dwelling and garage at Home Farm, Salents Lane, Duggleby, Kirby Grindalythe CP, North Yorkshire (SE 8770 6704, Fig. 1).
- 1.2 The ground-works had the potential to affect multi-period archaeological remains; accordingly the developer was required by Ryedale District Council, on the advice of the Heritage Unit of North Yorkshire County Council, to arrange for an Archaeological Watching Brief to be carried out (Planning ref. 03/01323/FUL). MAP Archaeological Consultancy Ltd was engaged to undertake the archaeological work, which took place on 20-21 April 2005.
- 1.3 All works were funded by the developer, Mr R Dales.

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2. Topography and Geology

2.1 The site lies on the northern side of Salents Lane, Duggleby, which follows the southern bank of the Gypsey Race. This location was formerly occupied by the buildings of Home Farm, an area that has been redeveloped for residential use in recent times. Following the demolition of stables and other outbuildings, the development site was laid out as a lawn area associated with the dwelling (Home Farm) situated immediately to the west. This is a level area at an elevation of approximately 113m AOD.

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2.2 The soils are of the Coombe 1 Association, described as being well-drained, calcareous and fine silty, over chalky drift (Mackney 1983).

3. Archaeological and Historical Background

- 3.1 The Great Wold Valley, along which the Gypsey Race flows, forms an extensive landscape of prehistoric, Roman and later features, known largely from cropmarks on aerial photographs, but also represented by earthworks (Stoertz 1997). The most notable prehistoric earthwork feature in the vicinity of Duggleby is the Neolithic Duggleby Howe, which is surrounded by a circular cropmark 370m in diameter. The RCHME cropmark plots show a 'ladder settlement,' running eastwards into Duggleby from the vicinity of Wharram-le-Street, that becomes obscured when it enters pasture to the north-west of Home Farm (*ibid.* Map 1).
- 3.2 Duggleby existed as a settlement before the Norman conquest, the Domesday survey recording several land-holdings in *Difgeli* and *Digheli*. The place-name means '*Dufgal's* farm' (Smith 1937).

- 3.3 Four Watching Briefs have been carried out in recent years in Duggleby. Previous observations at Home Farm suggested that the area had been heavily disturbed by the construction of the farmstead. Work carried out on three separate occasions within the former lands of South Wold Farm recorded medieval features including a possible oven, postholes, and parallel linear features that were probably the remains of ridge and furrow (MAP 2002, 2003 and 2004).
- 3.4 An open area excavation was conducted prior to the construction of four new dwellings on land to the south of Salents Lane, directly opposite the development site. Three chalk-built medieval buildings, including a longhouse, were grouped around a farmyard surfaced with chalk pebbles. Medieval pits, gullies and traces of an earlier post-built structure were also recorded (MAP forthcoming). The farmstead was abandoned in the late medieval period.

4. Methods

4.1 The groundworks consisted of strip foundations that were 0.65m wide and between 0.85 and 0.95m deep. Excavations were undertaken by a rear-acting mechanical excavator, fitted with a 0.60m wide bucket, operating under archaeological supervision. The service trenches utilised existing drainage runs.

5. Results

- 5.1 Natural deposits, consisting of compacted bands of chalk gravel in a silty sand matrix, were identified at a depth of 0.60m from the present ground surface. A layer of demolition rubble that included modern concrete and brick lay above the natural gravel. A shallow turf soil overlay the entire area.
- 5.2 In the south-east corner of the footprint of the dwelling a single course of brick foundations and an edge-set brick floor were uncovered. These related to a former out-building of Home Farm. The area was crossed by water, electric and drainage runs relating to the surrounding modern properties.

5.3 No archaeological features or finds were encountered during the Watching Brief.

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6. Discussion

6.1 Nothing of archaeological importance was revealed during the Watching Brief, perhaps due to the disturbance of the site caused by the construction and subsequent demolition of the former agricultural buildings at the site.

7. Bibliography

Mackney, D. et al. 1983	Soil Survey of England and Wales, Sheet 1: Northern England.
MAP 2002	South Wold Farm, Plot 2, Duggleby, North Yorkshire. Archaeological Recording Brief.
MAP 2003	Plot 1, South Wold Farm, Duggleby, North Yorkshire. Archaeological Watching Brief.
MAP 2004	Land at South Wold Farm, Duggleby, North Yorkshire. Archaeological Recording Brief.
MAP (forthcoming)	Land at Back Side, Duggleby, North Yorkshire. Archaeological Excavation.
Smith, A.H. 1937	The Place-names of the East Riding of Yorkshire and York.
Stoertz, C. 1997	Ancient Landscapes of the Yorkshire Wolds.

8. Project Staffing Details

Fieldwork: Mark Stephens Text: Mark Stephens Editorial: Nigel Cavanagh Figures: Dave Knight







