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**Sutton Stables  
Sutton Street  
Norton  
North Yorkshire**

**NGR SE 7945 7115**

**Archaeological Recording Brief Report**

Authorised by ... *NA Curry* .....

Date: ... *14/06/06* .....

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June 2006

**Sutton Stables  
Sutton Street  
Norton  
North Yorkshire  
SE 7945 7115**

**Archaeological Recording Brief Report**

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**Archaeological Recording Brief Report**

***Non Technical Summary***

*An Archaeological Recording Brief was conducted by MAP Archaeological Consultancy Ltd at Sutton Stables, Sutton Street, Norton, Malton, North Yorkshire (SE 7945 7115) during May 2006. The work involved monitoring the groundworks associated with the alteration and extension of an existing dwelling into separate four and two bedroom dwellings (Plot 4) and the erection of a terrace of three bedroom dwellings (Plots 1, 2 and 3) with associated parking and amenity areas and formation of vehicular access. (Ref: 05/01091/FUL).*

*A single pit was identified during the Recording Brief. Although no finds were recovered to aid dating, it is probable that this feature relates to the Roman settlement that formerly occupied this part of Norton.*

**1. Introduction**

- 1.1 This report sets out the results of an Archaeological Recording Brief that was conducted during May 2006 by MAP Archaeological Consultancy Ltd. on a plot of land at Sutton Stables, Sutton Street, Norton, Malton, North Yorkshire, (SE 7945 7115, Figs.1 and 2). The Recording Brief was undertaken to fulfil an archaeological condition attached to a Planning Application Consent (Ref: 05/01091/FUL).
- 1.2 The Recording Brief was designed to provide an appropriate level of recording for archaeological remains, deposits or finds that might be affected by the development, following the archaeology policy issued by the Secretary of State for the Environment

contained in *Planning Policy Guidance 16 'Archaeology and Planning'* (PPG 16), and in accordance with Policy C13 of the Ryedale District Local Plan.

- 1.3 The site code for the project was MAP 01.05.06.
- 1.4 All work was funded by Transcore Limited.
- 1.5 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 is situated in the central part of the town of Norton, on the north-eastern side of Langton Road, approximately 100m to the north of the parish church of St. Peter. The development site covers an area of approximately 26m x 27m and is bounded by residential properties on all four sides.
- 2.2 The site lies on soils of the Landbeach Association, which consist of permeable calcareous and non-calcareous loamy soils, overlying a solid geology of chalky glaciofluvial and river terrace drift (Mackney, 1984, 194).
- 2.3 At the time of the Recording Brief the site had been partially stripped of topsoil (Pl.1).

## **3. Historical and Archaeological Background**

- 3.1 The Roman fort and vicus (civilian settlement) at Malton lies north of the river Derwent, with further settlement spreading southwards across the river to cover a substantial area of what is now the modern town of Norton.
- 3.2 From its origins as a medieval village, modern Norton greatly expanded in the mid-19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> centuries to form a large residential and industrial area. Successive

building works associated with the growth of the town lead to the uncovering of substantial Roman remains.

- 3.3 Roman buildings were identified in 1946 during the construction of the Eastfield estate (Hayes, 1988). The remains of 3<sup>rd</sup> century pottery kilns and associated buildings were recorded in 1948 at the Howe Road estate (Hayes and Whitley, 1950), with further kilns being observed during the building of The Chase, c 300m south-east of the site in 1990 (ERART, 1990). Major cemeteries are known to exist c. 300m south of the site on the west side of Langton Road in the vicinity of the Ridings and Millside (Robinson, 1978 nos. 354 and 355).
- 3.4 To the south of the site, Roman inhumation and cremation burials were found during the building of St Peters Church in 1891, and the Church Hall in 1937 (*ibid.*, nos. 306-309).
- 3.5 A scatter of Roman and medieval sherds were found during the construction of Brooklyn Youth Club to the south west of the site in 1967. A sewer trench which cut across the club's car park revealed an infant burial beneath a pitched surface of stone roofing tiles (*ibid.* no. 312).
- 3.6 Directly relevant to the site are the projected lines of two Roman roads. These roads ran through the Roman settlement at Norton, eventually forming the main Roman road to York (Margary 81a- *ibid.*, no. 237) and Brough on Humber. However, Wenham postulated a single route on the west side of Langton Road coinciding with the westernmost of Robinson's roads (Wenham 1974), with a grid-like pattern of roads or streets c. 200m north of the site.
- 3.7 The projected line of the western of the two roads was backed up by solid evidence, having been traced to the south of the site in the garden of Sutton Cottage (*ibid.*, no. 236) and in a former paddock (now occupied by present access to Brooklyn and a modern bungalow), where it survived as a slight ridge (*ibid.*, no. 235 and NMR map BB70/5682). Excavations at Brooklyn Youth Club also confirmed the line of the Roman road and identified other Roman features (MAP 2002).

#### **4. Aims and Objectives**

- 4.1 The aims of the Archaeological Recording Brief were to record and recover archaeological remains, which could be affected by proposed development, and to prepare a report summarising the results of the work (Appendix 6).

#### **5. Methodology**

- 5.1 The monitored groundworks were undertaken in two phases

Phase 1: Stripping of topsoils and subsoils.

Phase 2: Excavation of foundations associated with the proposed housing development.

- 5.2 All excavations were undertaken by a 360<sup>0</sup> mini mechanical excavator, operating under close archaeological supervision.
- 5.3 All work was carried out in line with the Institute of Field Archaeologists Code of Conduct (IFA 1998).
- 5.4 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.
- 5.5 A photographic record of the monitored groundworks was maintained throughout the Recording Brief on a digital camera.

#### **6. Results (Fig. 3)**

##### **6.1 Plots 1, 2 and 3**

- 6.1.1 The foundation trenches in Plots 1, 2 and 3 were excavated to a mean depth of 1.10m (Pls. 2,3,4). Excavations revealed the natural subsoil (context 1005) to have been

truncated by a 0.70m wide pit (context 1004, Pl. 6) that was filled by a deposit of sand (context 1003). Deposit 1005 was also partially sealed to the north-east by a lens of sandy silt (context 1002, Pl. 5). Neither Deposit 1003 nor Deposit 1002 contained any finds, and both were sealed by a silty subsoil (context 1001) that underlay the modern topsoil (context 1000).

## **6.2 Plot 4**

6.2.1 The service trench and foundation excavations for the building in Plot 4 consisted of 0.70m wide strip trenches that were excavated to a depth of 0.80m (Pls. 7, 8). The stratigraphy exposed was consistent across the whole of the site and consisted of undisturbed natural gravel deposits (context 2003) that were situated at approximately 0.80m below the existing ground level. Deposit 2003 was sealed by a deposit of heavily mixed silty rubble (context 2002). A 0.20m deep deposit of mid brown silt (context 2001) overlay Deposit 2002 and was sealed by a 0.30m deep deposit of silty topsoil (context 2000). No archaeological features were observed during this phase of the Recording Brief.

## **7. Conclusions**

7.1. The Recording Brief at Sutton Stables revealed a limited amount of archaeological activity that was located at a depth of 1.10m below existing ground level. The interpretation of this feature is somewhat problematic given both the lack of dateable finds and the limited extent of the deeper groundworks, but it is probable that it relates to Romano-British activity associated with the settlement at Norton.

7.2 Whilst the results of the Recording Brief were limited and inconclusive, it may nevertheless be said that they again highlighted the archaeological potential of the core of Norton. Future-planning proposals for the Sutton Street area should take this archaeological potential into account.



## 8. Bibliography

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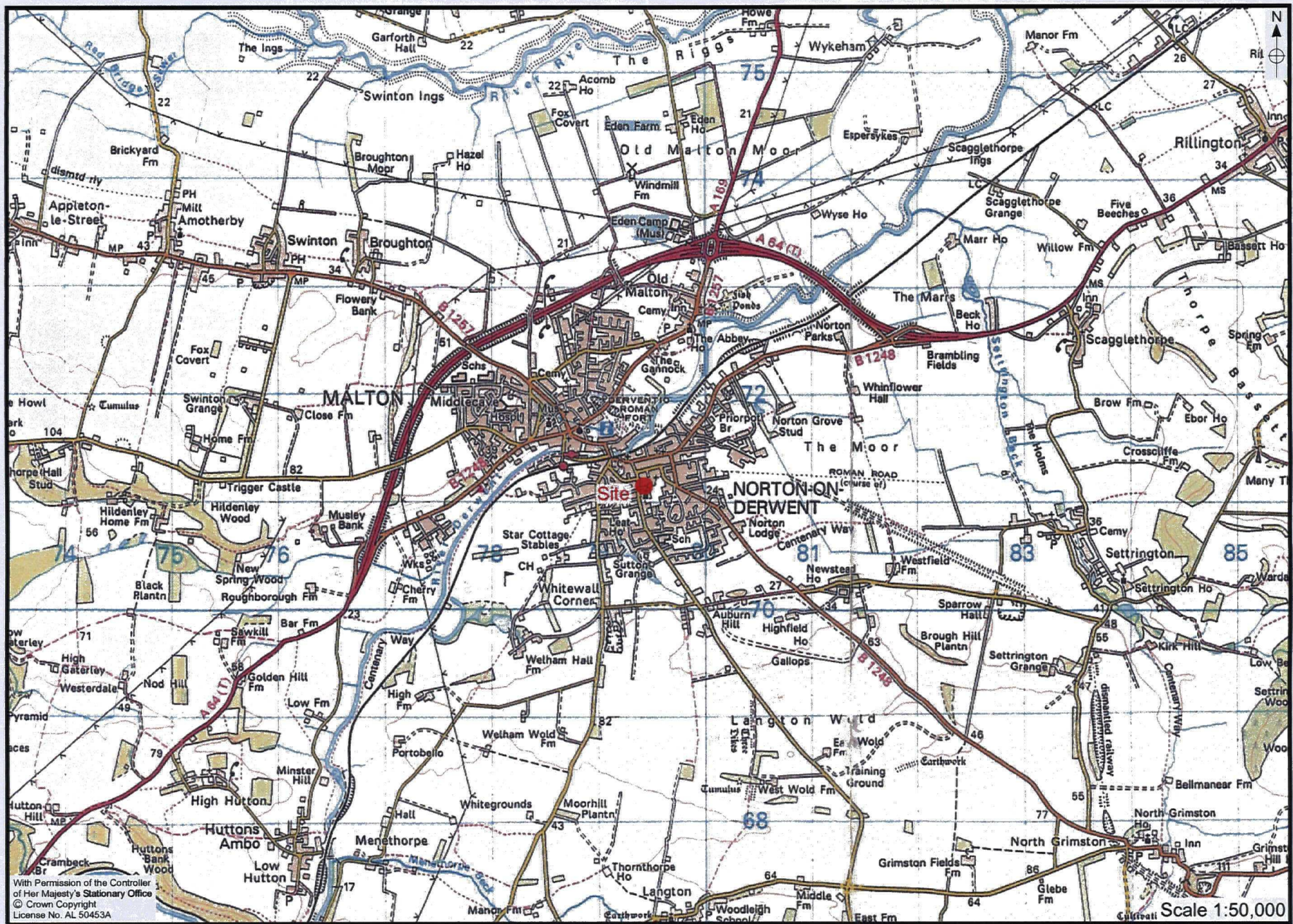


Figure 1. Site Location



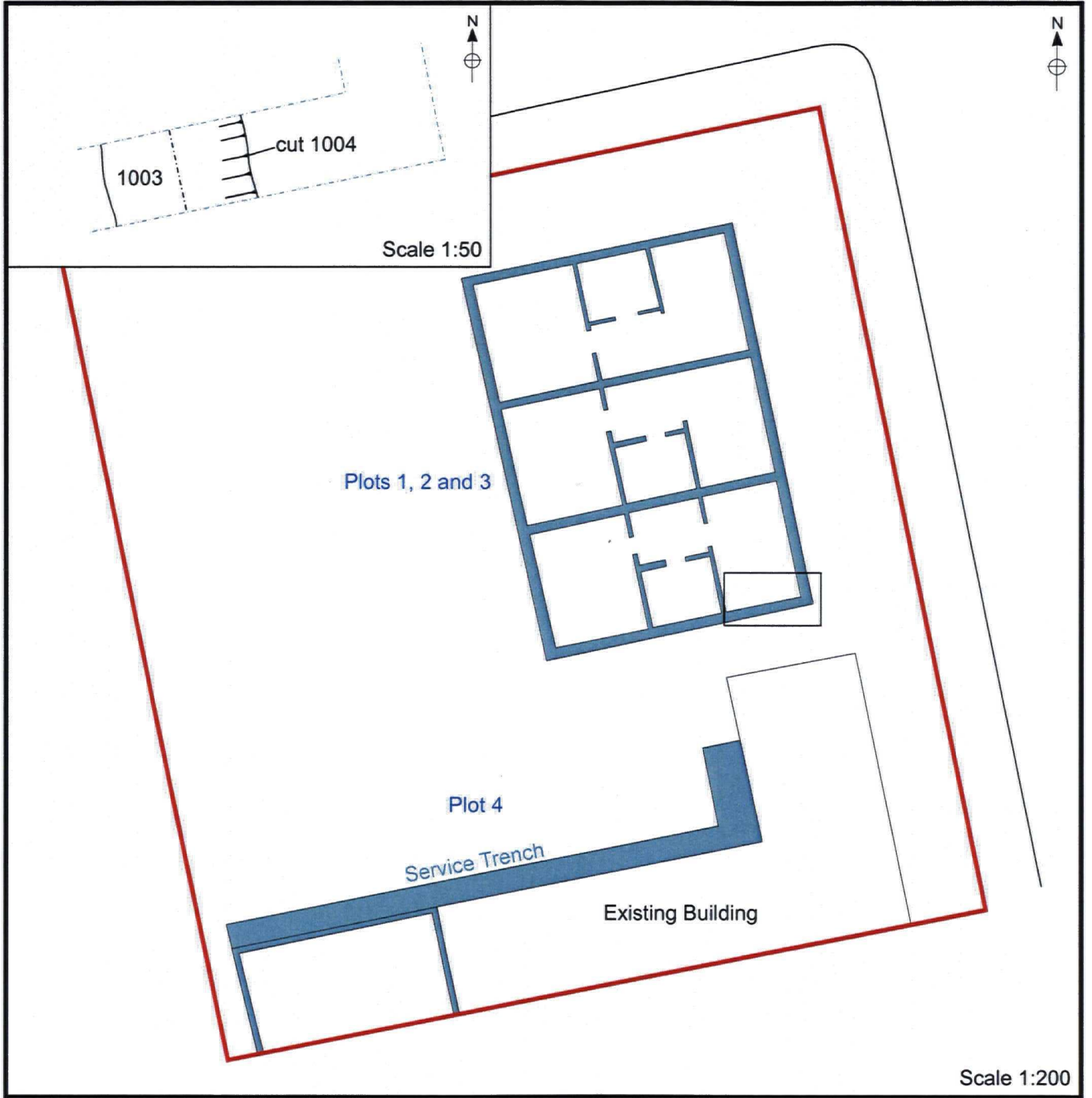


Figure 3. Watched Areas



Plate 1. General View of Site. Facing South East



Plate 2. General Working Shot. Facing North East



**Plate 3.** General Working Shot. Facing South



**Plate 4.** Section Showing Context 1000 and 1001. Facing West



**Plate 5.** Context 1002 Half Sectioned. Facing West



**Plate 6.** Context 1004 Half Sectioned. Facing West



**Plate 7.** Post-Excavation Photo of Plot 4 Foundations. Facing East



**Plate 8.** Post-Excavation Photo of Man-Hole Services. Facing South



## APPENDIX 1

Sutton Stables, Sutton Street, Norton 01-05-06

### Context Listing

#### Plots 1, 2 and 3

Context	Description	
1000	Deposit	10YR 4/2, silty soil, Topsoil
1001	Deposit	10YR 3/3; silt, Subsoil
1002	Deposit	10YR 6/4; sandy silt
1003	Deposit	10YR 6/4; sand; fill of Cut 1004
1004	Cut	Pit, filled by 1003
1005	Deposit	10YR 5/4; gravel, natural

#### Plot 4

Context	Description	
2000	Deposit	10YR 4/2, silty soil, Topsoil
2001	Deposit	10YR 3/3; silt, Subsoil
2002	Deposit	Modern Rubble
2003	Deposit	10YR 5/4; gravel, natural

## APPENDIX 2

### Finds Catalogue

Context	Type	Total	Description	Weight (g)	Spot date
<b>Plot 4</b>					
2002	Pottery	3	3 body sherds	43	Modern
	Animal Bone	7	Fragments	198	
	Glass	2	Bottles	828	Modern

## APPENDIX 3

### Drawing Archive Listing

Drawing	Scale	Type
1	1:200	Plan
2	1:50	Plan
3	1:20	Plan

## APPENDIX 4

### Photographic Archive Listing

#### Digital Camera

Frame	Description	Scale	Facing
1	Overall photo of site	N/A	South east
2	Overall photo of eastern	N/A	East
3	Deposit 1002	N/A	North west
4	Deposit 1002 half sectioned	N/A	West
5	Overall photo of north to south foundations	N/A	North
6	Deposit 1003	N/A	West
7	Cut 1004	N/A	West
8	Post-ex photo of east to west foundations	N/A	West
9	East facing section, deposits 1000 and 1001	N/A	West
10	Post-ex photo of foundations	N/A	South
11	Post-ex photo of foundations	N/A	North east
12	Post-ex photo of southern foundations plot 4	N/A	East
13	Post-ex photo of foundations plot 4	N/A	South east
14	Post-ex photo of foundations plot 4	N/A	East
15	Post-ex photo of manhole services	N/A	South

## APPENDIX 5

### Project Team Details

#### Fieldwork

Charles Rickaby

#### Post-excavation

Charles Rickaby *report*

Nigel Cavanagh *editorial*

Dave Knight *CAD and illustrations*

## APPENDIX 6

### STANDARD WRITTEN SCHEME OF INVESTIGATION (WSI) FOR ARCHAEOLOGICAL RECORDING ("RECORDING BRIEF")

#### **Sutton Stables, Sutton Street, Norton, Malton, North Yorkshire**

Application No. 05/01091/FUL

The purpose of the work is to record archaeological remains, which are: affected by proposed development only to a limited and clearly defined extent, not available or susceptible to standard area excavation techniques, or of limited importance or potential.

1. The work should not require the construction programme or development to be held up while archaeological investigation takes place, although some developers may give such a facility.
2. The WSI represents a summary of the broad archaeological requirements needed to comply with an archaeological planning condition. The scheme does not comprise a full specification, and the County Council makes no warranty that the works are fully or exactly described. The details of implementation must be specified in a contract between the developer and the selected archaeological contractor.
3. The removal of overburden (that is vegetation, turf, loose stones, rubble, made ground, Tarmac, concrete, hardcore, building debris and topsoil) should be supervised by the Archaeologist contracted to carry out the WSI. The Archaeologist should be informed of the correct timing and schedule of overburden removal.
4. Removal of overburden by machine should be undertaken using a back-acting excavator fitted with toothless or ditching bucket only. Where materials are exceptionally difficult to lift, a toothed bucket may be used temporarily. Subsoils (B horizons) or deep, uniform fills of features may also be removed by back-acting excavator but only in areas specified by the Archaeologist on site, and only with archaeological supervision. Bulldozers or wheeled scraper buckets should not be used to remove overburden above archaeological deposits. Where reinstatement is required, topsoil should be kept separate from other soil materials.
5. Metal detecting within the development area, including the scanning of topsoil and spoil heaps, should only be permitted subject to archaeological supervision and recording such that metal finds are properly located, identified, and conserved. All metal detection should be carried out following the Treasure Act 1996 Code of Practice.
6. Where structures, finds, soil features and layers of archaeological interest are exposed or disturbed by construction works, the Archaeologist should be provided with the opportunity to observe, clean, assess, excavate by hand where appropriate, sample and record these features and finds. If the contractors or plant operators notice archaeological remains, they should immediately tell the Archaeologist. The sampling of deposits for palaeo-environmental evidence should be a standard consideration, and arrangements should be made to ensure that specialist advice and analysis are available if appropriate.
7. Heavy plant should not be operated in the near vicinity of archaeological remains until they have been recorded, and the Archaeologist on site has allowed operations to recommence at that location. Sterile subsoils (C horizons) and parent materials below archaeological deposits may be removed without archaeological supervision. Where reinstatement is required, subsoils should be backfilled first and topsoil last.
8. Upon completion of fieldwork, samples will be processed and evaluated, and all finds cleaned, identified, assessed, spot-dated, and properly stored. A field archive will be compiled consisting of all

primary written documents, plans, sections, and photographs. The Archaeologist will arrange for either the County Archaeologist or an independent post-excavation specialist to inspect the archive before making arrangements for the transfer of the archive to an appropriate museum or records office.

9. A report will be produced following NYCC guidelines on reporting. The report will contain planning or administrative details of the project, a summary of works carried out, a description and interpretation of the findings, an assessment of the importance of the archaeology including its historical context where appropriate, and catalogues of finds, features, and primary records. All excavated areas will be accurately mapped with respect to nearby buildings, roads and field boundaries. All significant features will be illustrated with conventionally scaled plans, sections, or photographs. Where few or no finds are made, a summary report the form of a letter with plans will be submitted.

10. Copies of the summary report will be provided to the client(s), the County Heritage Unit (SMR), to the museum accepting the archive, and if the works are on or adjacent to a Scheduled Ancient Monument, to English Heritage.

11. The County Archaeologist will be informed as soon as possible of the discovery of any unexpected archaeological remains, or changes in the programme of ground works on site. Any significant changes in the archaeological work will be specified in a variation to the WSI to be approved by the planning authority. If human remains are encountered, they will be exhumed subject to the conditions of a Home Office licence.