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SNY 11056

E-Y 3209

SNY 4855

Parish 1043

Rec'd 12/07/2006

THE BRIGANTIA ARCHAEOLOGICAL PRACTICE



***ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF at  
CHURCH LODGE, STANWICK St JOHN,  
NORTH YORKSHIRE***

**A report to Harrison & Johnson, Architectural Consultants**



10th July 2006

THE BRIGANTIA ARCHAEOLOGICAL PRACTICE  
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WITH COMPLIMENTS

N. Y. C. C.  
ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES

12 JUL 2006

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***ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF at  
CHURCH LODGE, STANWICK St JOHN,  
RICHMONDSHIRE DISTRICT  
NORTH YORKSHIRE***

***In connection with Planning consent no 1/43/11H/FULL***

**A report to Harrison & Johnson, Architectural Consultants**

**Percival Turnbull**

**10th July 2006**



**ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF at  
CHURCH LODGE, STANWICK St JOHN,  
NORTH YORKSHIRE**

**INTRODUCTION**

1. On instructions from Harrison & Johnson, Architectural Consultants, an archaeological watching brief was maintained during the excavation of foundations for a new extension to the rear (east) side of Church Lodge, Stanwick St John, North Yorkshire. This was required in order to discharge a condition (no 4) attached to the planning consent (Richmondshire District Council, no 1/43/11H/FULL).
2. Work was carried out by Percival Turnbull, according to a Written Scheme of Investigation supplied by the County Archaeologist, and to the Standard Procedures of this Practice.
3. The development comprises a small extension, for living accommodation with basement, to the rear (east) side of the existing building. Church Lodge is a two-storey stone structure of 19<sup>th</sup> century date, constructed in the semi-formal local style associated with the former Prudhoe (Northumberland) estate (Location, Fig. 1).

**BACKGROUND**

4. The development site lies near the heart of the tribal *oppidum* of the Brigantes, usually referred to as Stanwick Camp (R.E.M. Wheeler, 1954, *The Stanwick Fortifications*; P. Turnbull, 1983: 'Stanwick in the Northern Iron Age' in *Durham Archaeological Journal* 1.; C. Haselgrove, P. Turnbull et al, 1992, 'Stanwick, North Yorkshire' in *Archaeological Journal*, 147. A short section of main earthwork bank lies immediately to the south of Church Lodge, and is roughly on line to continue through the development site: the date and status of this piece of earthwork are, however, slightly problematical. Some of the low and rather confused earthworks in the field immediately east of Church Lodge may be associated with the mediaeval village of Stanwick, which was probably depopulated in the 17<sup>th</sup> century, as part of the emparkment of the landscape around Stanwick Old Hall (now Kirkbridge).

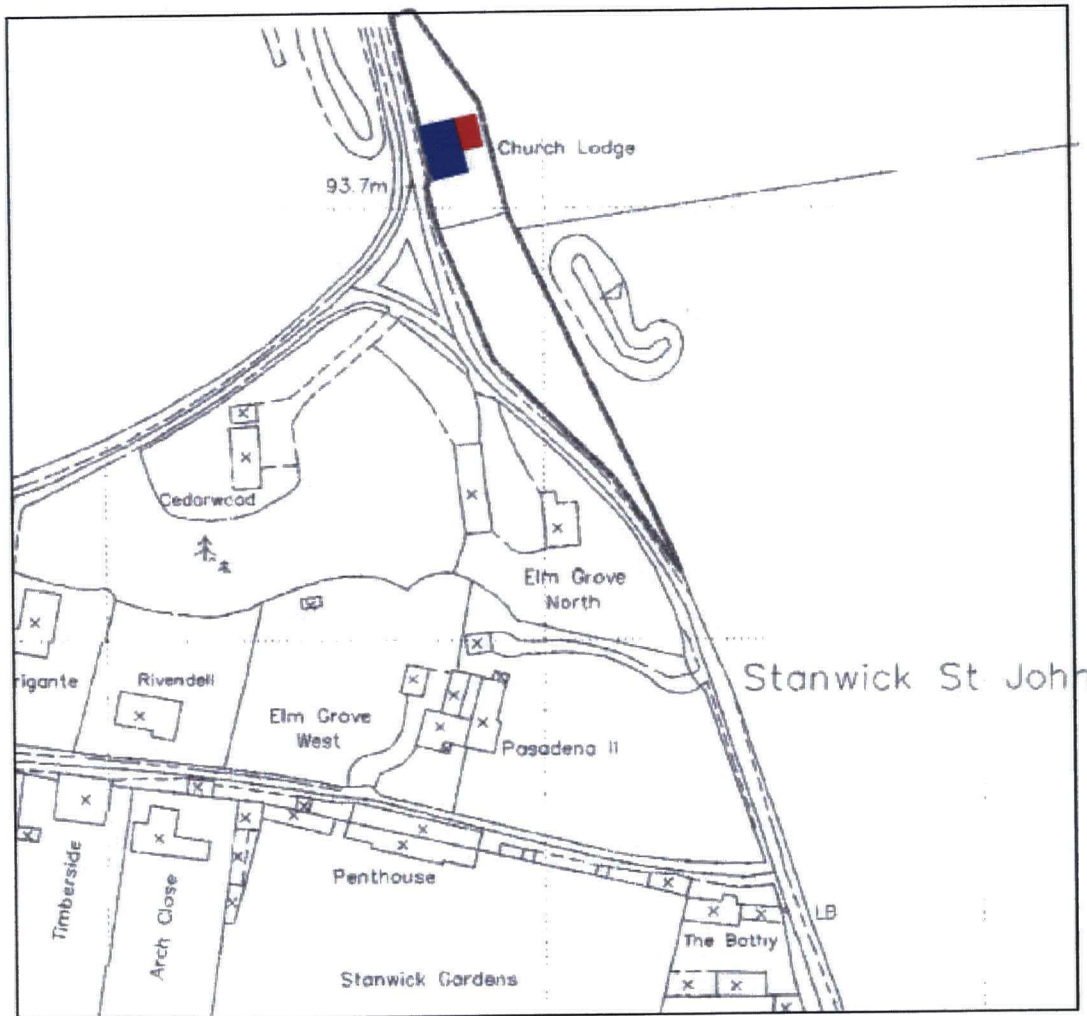
**THE WATCHING BRIEF**

5. When first notice of this watching brief was received, the whole footprint of the new extension was found to have been excavated down to the lowest level of the basement slab: it was, however, possible to make a detailed examination of all surfaces and sections. The entire yard area proved to have been extensively disturbed, mainly by the excavation of old drain and service trenches, and no deposits of any archaeological significance could be noted anywhere in the trenches; nor was any object recovered of a date earlier than the 20<sup>th</sup> century (Fig. 2). 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> century disturbance was general to an average level of circa 60 cms below ground surface.
6. The footprint of the building was stripped right into the natural yellow-brown clay: no trace could be seen of any cut feature.

7. A short length of service trench, north of the main development, was also monitored: this appeared largely to re-use an existing trench, and no trace of archaeological deposits could be seen (Fig. 3).

#### CONCLUSIONS

8. This exercise was archaeologically negative, largely because of extensive modern disturbance of the deposits. There was no indication of the presence of prehistoric or mediaeval features, and no sherd or other early artefact was recovered.



Scale: 1/1,250

**Church Lodge, Stanwick**

**Fig. 1**

**Location of Church Lodge (blue) and new extension (red)**



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**Church Lodge, Stanwick**

**Fig. 2**

**View of excavated site, looking south**



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**Church Lodge, Stanwick**

**Fig. 3**

**Excavated service trench on north side.**



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