

rec 25/4/07  
PARISH 1092

|        |            |
|--------|------------|
| SNY    | 11583      |
| ENY    | 3207       |
| CNY    | 5216       |
| Parish | 1092       |
| Rec'd  | 25/04/2007 |



**YORK ARCHAEOLOGICAL TRUST**  
**WATCHING BRIEF REPORT FORM**

1/92W/609G/FULL

|                         |  |                                 |
|-------------------------|--|---------------------------------|
| <b>SITE ADDRESS</b>     | Nun s Close, Richmond, North Yorkshire |                                 |
| <b>CLIENT NAME</b>      | R B A Moody Bros (Contractors) Ltd     |                                 |
| <b>YAT PROJECT CODE</b> | <b>YAT REPORT NUMBER</b>               | <b>MUSEUM ACCESSION NUMBER</b>  |
| 1340                    | 2007/14                                | YORAT 2006 14                   |
| <b>GRID REFERENCE</b>   | <b>PLANNING/SMR REFERENCE</b>          | <b>OPERATIONS NOTICE NUMBER</b> |
| NZ167011                | 1/92W/609G/FULL                        | N/A                             |
| <b>ARCHIVE LOCATION</b> | York Archaeological Trmst              |                                 |
| <b>DATES OF VISIT</b>   | 25/04/06 12/05/06, 16/06/06 20/07/06   |                                 |

**DESCRIPTION**

The site was located in the south-west corner of the Nun s Close Park Richmond, North Yorkshire close to the site of the Grey Fnars pnyry The site is in an area that is lower than the surrounding car park on the northern and eastern sides but level with the footpath on the southern side The first visit involved monitoring seven test pits (TP 1-7) to assess the nature of the foundations of the boundary walls on the north-east and south-west sides of the site The trial pits were 1.5m deep and 1.6m wide and excavated by mechanical excavator with toothless ditching bucket The one test pit excavated against the north-east boundary wall showed that there was 0.4m of brick rubble in dark grey silt abutting the wall with natural sub-soils consisting of mid orange sandy clay, exposed at 0.6m BGL onto which the wall had been constructed although there was no clear foundation cut for the wall itself

The trial pits adjacent to the south-west boundary wall showed that there had been a considerable dumping of soil of up to 0.8m thick against the south-west wall which had slumped and partially buried an earlier retaining wall Below this deposit and cut through by the earlier retaining wall was a 0.1m thick layer of compact silt that may represent an old ground surface directly above the natural sub-soils The retaining wall was made of sandstone fragments stood 1m high and was 0.4m wide Within the section of the wall exposed in Test Pit 5 there were four fragments of string course presumably from the nearby pnyry incorporated into the wall with stoned tooling on some of the faces and measuring 24cm x 40cm x 15cm

A further visit to the site was made to monitor the excavation of two test pits (TP8-9) measuring 3m long 0.9m wide and excavated to a depth of 2m across the area of new housing after vegetation had been cleared from the site and a layer of hardcore laid down In both pits there was 0.2m of hardcore overlying 0.1m of dark grey silt overlying the natural sub soils

|                     |                       |   |                   |                |    |                       |          |
|---------------------|-----------------------|---|-------------------|----------------|----|-----------------------|----------|
| <b>COMPLETED BY</b> | G Dean and J McComish |   | <b>CHECKED BY</b> | I Misted       |    |                       |          |
| <b>No SHEETS</b>    |                       | Additional sheets of text plans and photographs |                   |                |    |                       |          |
| <b>PHOTOGRAPHS</b>  | Yes                   | <b>FINDS</b>                                    | No                | <b>SAMPLES</b> | No | <b>DATE COMPLETED</b> | 05/03/07 |

**YORK ARCHAEOLOGICAL TRUST****WATCHING BRIEF REPORT FORM – ADDITIONAL SHEET**

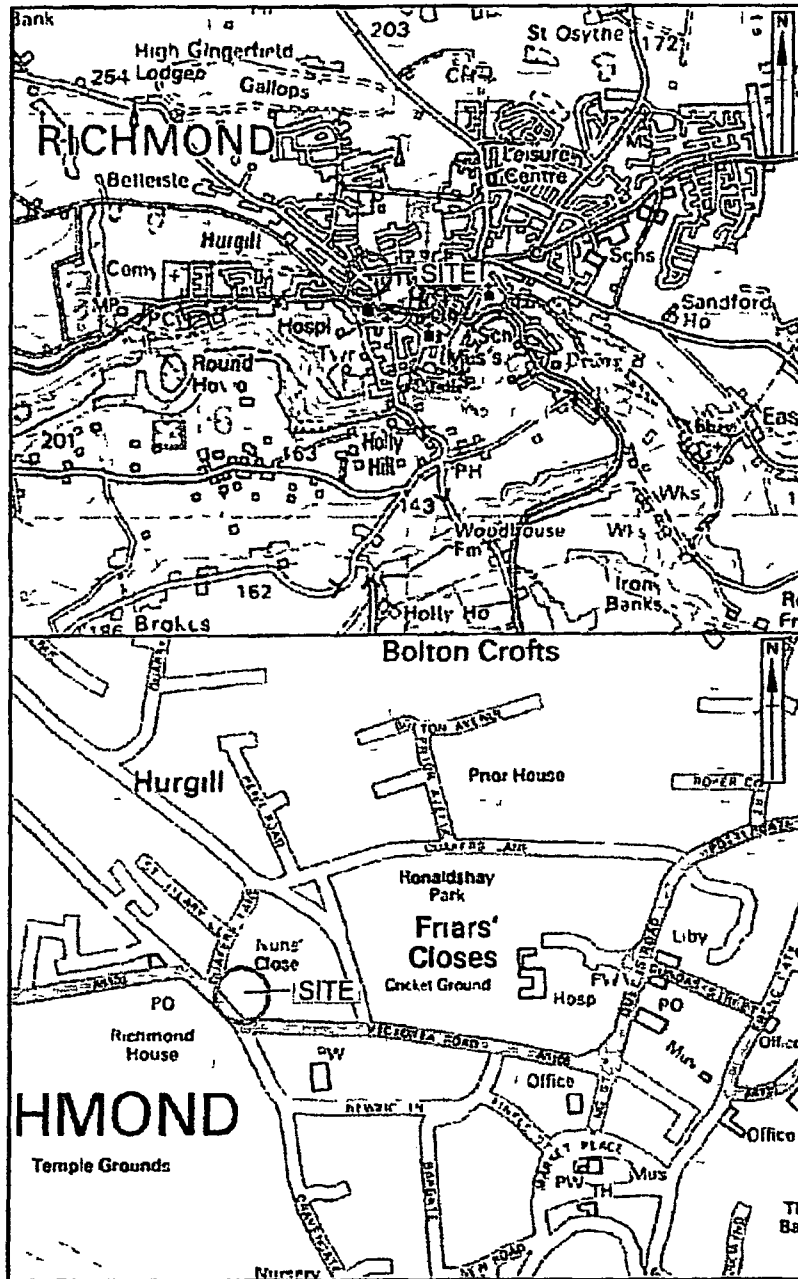
|   |                                     |                                |           |
|---|-------------------------------------|--------------------------------|-----------|
| <b>SITE ADDRESS</b>   | Nuns Close Richmond North Yorkshire |                                |           |
| <b>YAT PROJECT CODE</b>   | <b>YAT REPORT NUMBER</b>            | <b>MUSEUM ACCESSION NUMBER</b> |           |
| 1340  | 2007/14                             | YORAT 2006 14                  |           |
| <p>The third visit involved monitoring the excavation of a further seven test pits (TP10-16) across the area of new housing. The pits were 0.9m wide and 3m long excavated to a depth of 1m. In all of the trenches the top 0.2m comprised the recently laid hardcore overlying 0.1m of dark grey silt which was directly above the natural sub-soil. In Trench 2 and Trench 6 there was a concrete foundation with a wall in English bond surviving to 5 courses and were clearly machine made, i.e. post 1850 in date. The back wall was 0.225m wide and 0.36m high and the concrete footing was 0.25m thick and 0.35m wide.</p> <p>The final visit was to monitor the excavation of the foundation trenches for the southern most of the proposed bungalows. The trenches were 0.9-1m in width and 1.3m deep on the eastern side of the trench increasing to 1.5m in depth on the western side of the site. The trenches were excavated using a mechanical mini-digger with a 0.50m wide toothed bucket. The uppermost deposit across the whole observed area was the levelling for the present car park which consisted of limestone chippings and some back rubble. This deposit was up to 0.55m thick in places.</p> <p>The only features observed in the trenches beneath this levelling were all of 19<sup>th</sup> century or later date. There was a back wall with an associated concrete foundation which ran at right angles to the street frontage probably forming part of the foundations observed in the earlier Test Pits. The back work survived to a height of 4 courses and the backs were laid in English Bond. Over the westernmost 2.5m of the site there was a deposit of back rubble rounded cobbles and dark brown sandy clay up to 0.50m thick which may have been either demolition dumping or the deliberate infilling of service pipe trenches. Beneath this deposit was a brown glazed sewer pipe encased in concrete 0.95m below ground level (BGL), again at right angles to the street frontage and a cast iron pipe at 0.80m BGL. The pipe was located in the westernmost foundation trench section but also turned through a right angle to cross the westernmost foundation trench. Beneath the features described above was a dark brown silty clay up to 0.36m thick, which was presumably a buried topsoil directly above the natural sub-soils.</p> |                                     |                                |           |
| <b>COMPLETED BY</b>   | J Mc and G D                        | <b>CHECKED BY</b>              | I Milsted |
| <b>REPORT FORM SHEET NUMBER</b>   | 2 of 7                              | <b>DATE COMPLETED</b>          | 05/03/07  |



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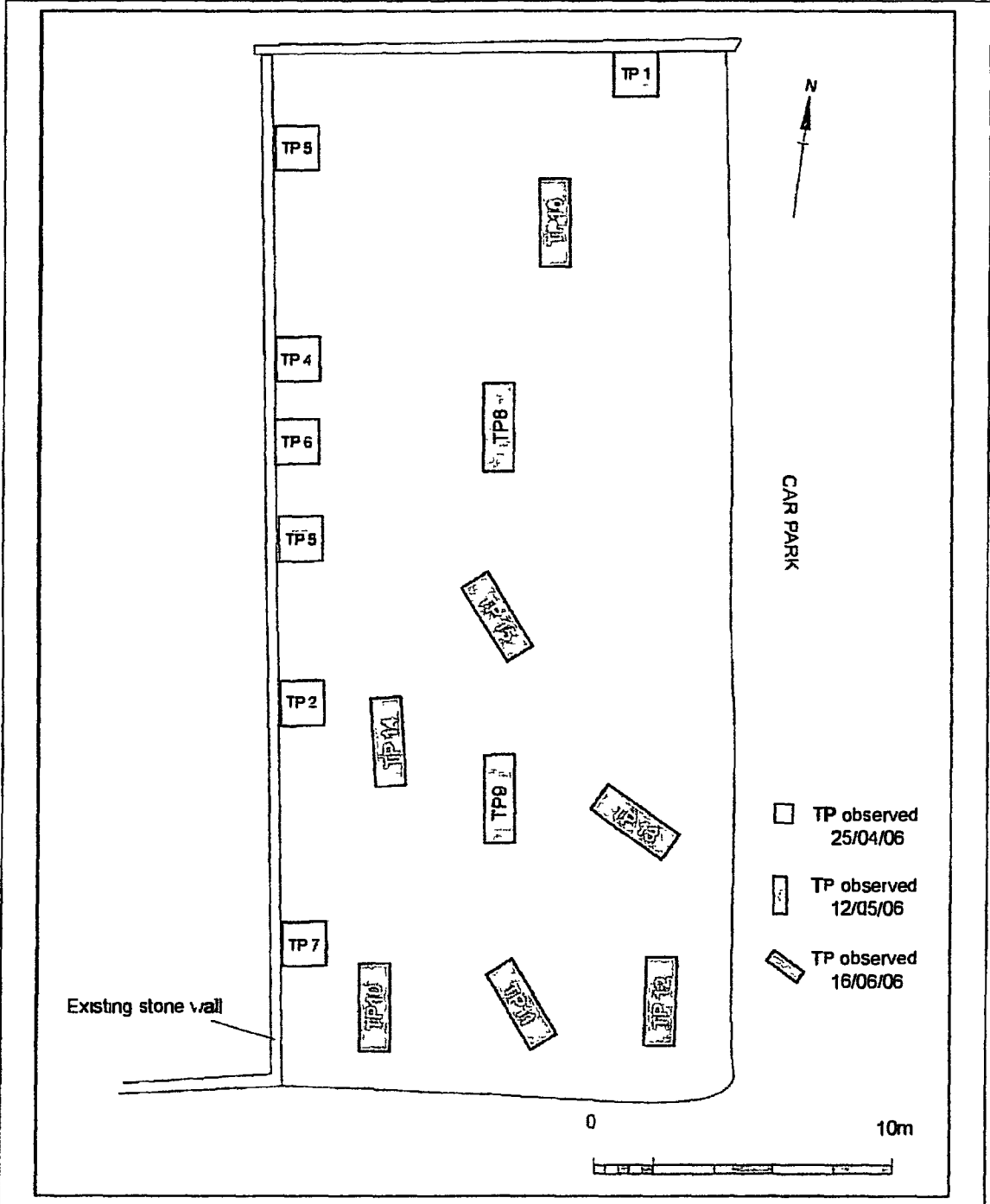


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|---------------------------------|------------|-----------------------|-----------|
| <b>COMPLETED BY</b>             | GO and JMc | <b>CHECKED BY</b>     | I Milsted |
| <b>REPORT FORM SHEET NUMBER</b> | 3 of 7     | <b>DATE COMPLETED</b> | 05/03/07  |



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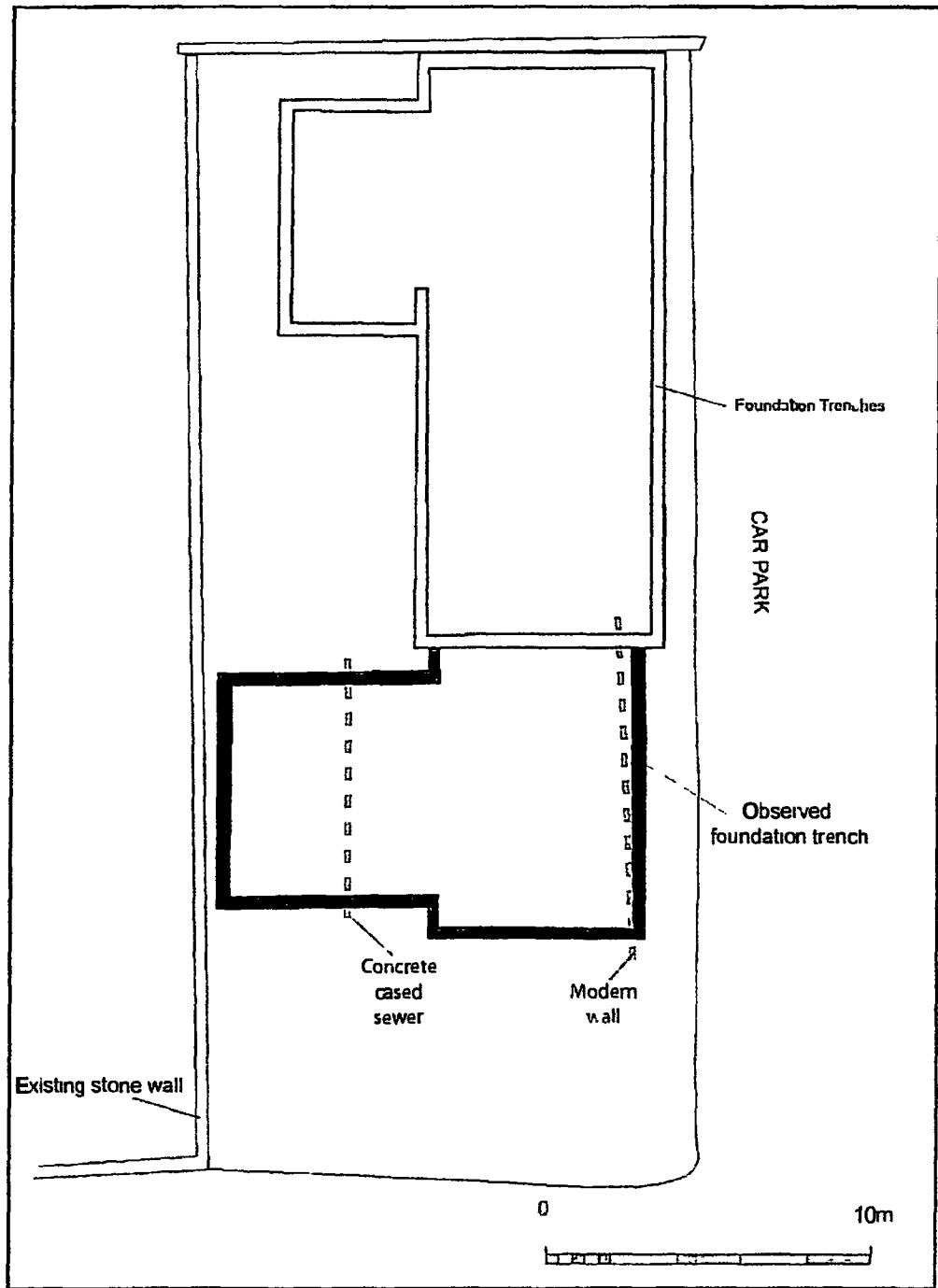
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| <b>COMPLETED BY</b>             | GO and Jmc | <b>CHECKED BY</b>     | I Milsted |
| <b>REPORT FORM SHEET NUMBER</b> | 4 of 7     | <b>DATE COMPLETED</b> | 05/03/07  |



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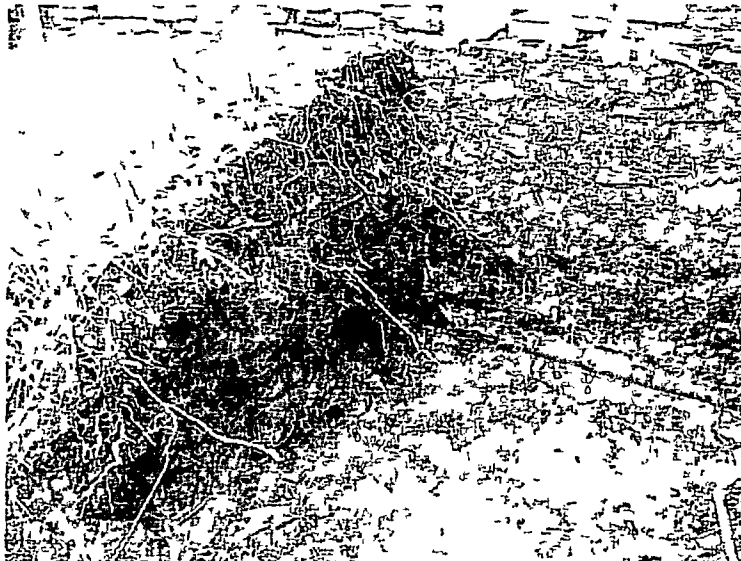
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| <b>COMPLETED BY</b>             | GO and JMc | <b>CHECKED BY</b>     | I Milsted |
| <b>REPORT FORM SHEET NUMBER</b> | 5 of 7     | <b>DATE COMPLETED</b> | 05/03/07  |



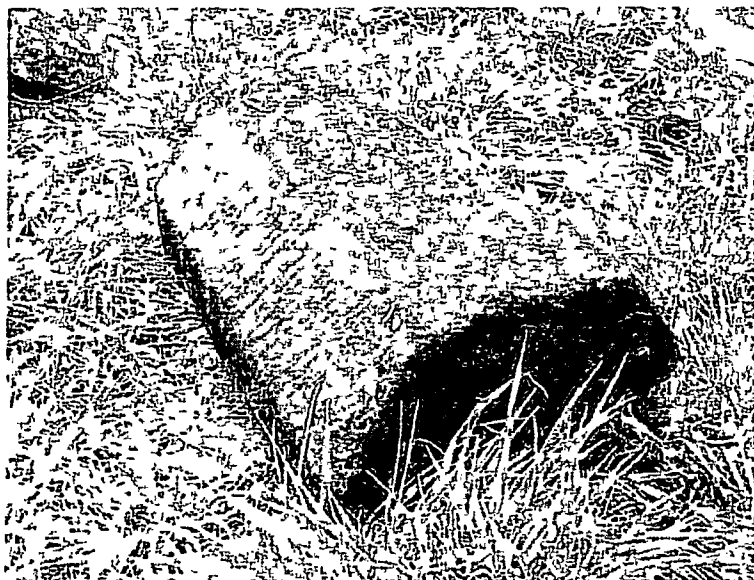
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South-west section Test Pit 2 adjacent to south-east boundary wall



String course stone recovered from retaining wall

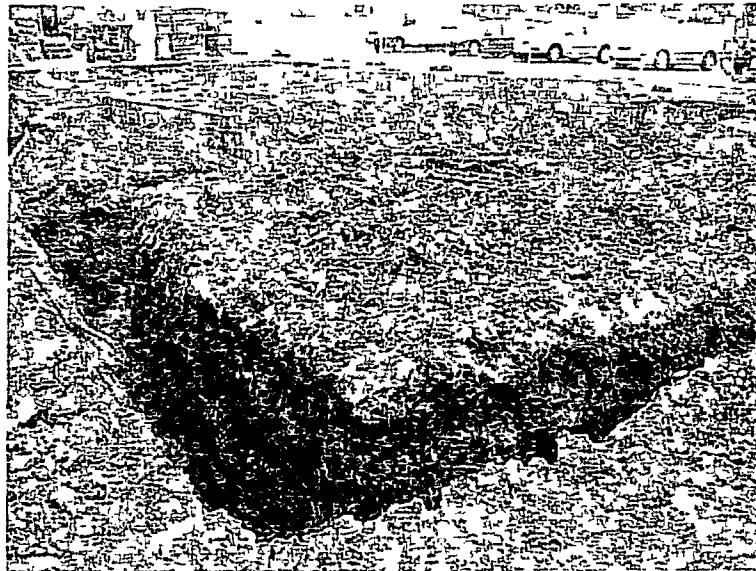
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General view of the foundation trenches looking north-east



Detail of foundation trench stratigraphy

|                                 |            |                       |           |
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| <b>REPORT FORM SHEET NUMBER</b> | 7 of 7     | <b>DATE COMPLETED</b> | 05/03/07  |