

SCARBOROUGH ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND
HISTORICAL SOCIETY



WATCHING BRIEF REPORT 01/07

NYCC HER	
SNY	11641
Ei.Y	3924
CNY	
Parish	4899
Rec'd	

SITE WAREHOUSE, MARLBOROUGH STREET, SCARBOROUGH

NATIONAL GRID REF TA 0433 8907

SITE CODE MS/07

DATE January 2007

MONITORING CARRIED OUT BY Susan Wood

REPORT BY Susan Wood

1.0 Introduction

1.1 This report sets out the results of a watching brief carried out by Scarborough Archaeological and Historical Society (SAHS) at a development site known as the Warehouse, Marlborough Street, Scarborough. The watching brief was carried out in response to a planning condition imposed on planning decision 05/01146/FL which stated:-

"No development shall take place within the application area until the applicant has secured the implementation of a programme of archaeological work in accordance with a Written Scheme of Investigation which has been submitted by the applicant and approved by the Planning Authority."

1.2 The site is located on the east side of Marlborough Street, just north of Castle Road which is the principle approach road to the Castle but is thought to pre-date it.

1.3 The development the subject of the archaeological condition on the planning permission was the demolition of the existing warehouse and redevelopment of the site to create 24 self-contained flats with associated basement car parking.

2.0 Aims and Objectives

2.1 The aim of the watching brief was to record any archaeological remains affected by the development and to provide an historical understanding of the affected area before foundation works for the new development commenced.

3.0 Methodology

- 3.1 The excavation of the excavation of a foundation trench for steps and ramped access down to lower ground level was monitored by SAHS. All archaeological deposits were appropriately recorded by notes, drawings and photographs and dating evidence recovered where possible.
- 3.2 Photographic record. The photographic record comprises colour prints to record all archaeological features encountered.
- 3.3 Finds and site archive. All artefacts and the site record will be deposited with Scarborough Museums & Gallery Service in accordance with SAHS practice

4.0 Background

- 4.1 The site lies just outside the medieval defences of the town of Scarborough, to the north of the main route leading out of the town's medieval north gate. Archaeological discoveries from nearby sites indicated that there was a likelihood of remains of medieval occupation and industrial activity surviving within the development area, as well as potential for earlier remains of Romano-British date. In connection with a previous enquiry regarding this site in 2000, the Scarborough Archaeological and Historical Society prepared a desk-based assessment report and a scheme of trial trenching was proposed to evaluate the archaeological potential of the site.
- 4.2 The main area of archaeological interest is the pavement along the western side of the existing warehouse, The main impact of the development proposal on this area will be the installation of the ramped access to the underground car parking and a new stairwell from the basement level to the ground floor

1.0 Results

- 1.1 The size of the area for the watching brief was approx. 3 metres by 2 metres and on its north-western side butted up against the hard tarmac road surface of Marlborough Street.
- 1.2 The surface layer consisted of the tarmac road surface and below that a layer of loose fill of rubble, stones mixed with mid brown loamy soil. This was consistent with garden composition for planting.
- 1.3 Below this was a light mid-brown layer of clay, bricks and heavier rubble,(see Film 1 frame 6.) interpreted as material deposited during the building phase. To the south of the excavation the top two rows of a brick wall were exposed – (Film 1 frame 5 –see below). This wall was built as a slope which fell down wards to the base of the building, see Film 2 frame 28a. leading to a depth of approx 1 6 metres.

- 1.4 To the north of the sloping wall the material was compacted solid orangey , brown clay interpreted as natural.

2.0 Interpretation

- 2.1 The sloping wall of brick seems to be cut into the thick sticky, orangey brown clay, which is interpreted as natural. This sloping brick wall was probably built as an easy access from the street level, for rolling barrels and other items for storage, into a cellar area underneath the then existing building.
- 2.2 The finds of the whole excavation amounted to a few pieces of late 19thC pancheon or kitchen ware pottery, treacle glazed with cream interior, some late 19thC Willow pattern Staffordshire pottery, again used for food preparation and a small piece of clay pipe stem (19thC). These finds are compatible in date with the development of the building which formerly stood on the site (Castle Works) in the late 19thC.

3.0 Conclusion

- 3.1 The watching brief indicated that the foundation works did not adversely impact upon important archaeological deposits.

4.0 References

- Pearson, T An Archaeological Survey of Scarborough. 1987
- Pearson, T The Archaeology of Medieval Scarborough – Excavations & Research. 2005



Figure 1 Film 1 frame 5 showing the wall thought to be a barrel drop for the basement to the former works building
Scale 500mm



Figure 2 Film 2 frame 28a
Showing the top of the wall in relation
to the building
Scale 2 metres in 500mm divisions

ANNEX –SITE PHOTOS DATABASE
FILM 1

Date	Frame no	Direction	Description	Scale
30 Jan 07	2	East	Mix of concrete, stone soil backfill at top	500mm & 2m
30 Jan 07	3	North	19thC brick retaining wall sloping to cellar	500mm & 2m
30 Jan 07	4	North	West slope of brick to cellar wall & soil/rubble	500mm & 2m
30 Jan 07	5	Down	Top of brick slope & soil fill to top	500mm
30 Jan 07	6	West	Top of brick slope, soil & Rubble fill	500mm & 2m
30 Jan 07	7	Down	Brick fill & rubble behind sloping wall	N/A
30 Jan 07	8	North	Layers from tarmac down to top of fill of wall	2m
30 Jan 07	9	North	Layers from tarmac down to top of fill of wall	500mm & 2m
30 Jan 07	10	North	Layers on top of fill of sloping wall	500mm & 2m
30 Jan 07	11	Down	Fill behind brick wall to cellar	N/A
30 Jan 07	12	East	Layers of fill & soil	500mm & 2m
30 Jan 07	13	North	Boulder clay bottom & fill above	500mm & 2m
30 Jan 07	14	North	Fill above boulder clay	500mm & 2m
30 Jan 07	15	North	Boulder clay bottom & fill above	500mm & 2m
30 Jan 07	16	East	Soil, rubble fill, clay – bottom of brick slope	N/A
30 Jan 07	17	East	Fill of soil & rubble	500mm & 2m
30 Jan 07	18	North	Rubble fill	500mm & 2m
30 Jan 07	19	East	Position of excavation	N/A

FILM 2

Date	Frame no	Direction	Description	Scale
30 Jan 07	26A	East	Site looking east	500mm & 2m
30 Jan 07	27A	East	Road side of site –front of building	2m
30 Jan 07	28A	Down	Front of top of sloping wall	2m
30 Jan 07	29A	West	Along front of building showing site	2m
30 Jan 07	30A	Down	Front of sloping cellar wall	2m
30 Jan 07	31A	South	Position of excavation relative to building	2m
30 Jan 07	32A		Discarded	
30 Jan 07	33A	Down	Tarmac & Layers under	
30 Jan 07	34A0	East	Soil layers and rubble	500mm & 2m