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The Forge
 West Lutton
 North Yorkshire
 SE 9322 6942

Archaeological Watching Brief

Authorised by NAC

Date: 2/2/07

**The Forge
West Lutton
North Yorkshire
SE 9322 6942**

Archaeological Recording Brief Report

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**The Forge
West Lutton
North Yorkshire
SE 9302 6920**

Archaeological Recording Brief Report

Non Technical Summary

An Archaeological Recording Brief was conducted by MAP Archaeological Consultancy Ltd at The Forge, West Lutton, North Yorkshire (SE 9302 6920) on the 29th January 2007. The work involved monitoring the groundworks associated with erection of a new single storey dwelling (Planning Ref No 05/00784/FUL)

The Recording Brief uncovered a single, undated linear feature

1. Introduction

- 1 1 This report sets out the results of an Archaeological Recording Brief that was conducted on the 29th January 2007 by MAP Archaeological Consultancy Ltd on a plot of land at the Forge, West Lutton, North Yorkshire (SE 9302 6920, Fig 1). The Recording Brief was undertaken to fulfil an archaeological condition attached to a Planning Application Consent (Planning Ref No 05/00784/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)*
- 1 3 The site code for the project was MAP 06 01 07
- 1 4 All work was funded by Mr and Mrs Bradshaw

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 lies in the village of West Lutton, on the northern side of the minor road from Duggleby to Wold Newton, approximately 30m to the west of the parish church of St Mary. The development site covers an area of approximately 15m x 9m and is bounded by existing residential properties to the north and west, by St Mary's church to the east and by the Duggleby to Wold Newton road to the south.

2 2 The site stands on soils of the Andover 1 Association, which are characterised by shallow, well-drained calcareous silty soils over a solid geology of chalk (Mackney 1983, 283-4)

2 3 At the time of the Recording Brief the site was covered by concrete slab flooring associated with a demolished barn (Pls 1 and 2)

3. Historical and Archaeological Background

3 1 The village of West Lutton is situated approximately 7km to the west-south-west of Weaverthorpe, and 16.3km to the south-east of Malton. The Domesday Book records a single settlement at *Ludton* - '*Luda's Farm*' (Smith 1937, 122). Within a generation the contemporary documents refer to two settlements, *duabus Luttums*. By the 13th century the settlements were called 'East Lutton' and 'West Lutton' or sometimes *altera Lutton* (Morns 1982, 182)

3 3 West Lutton was previously located within the parish of Weaverthorpe and the Wapentake of Buckrose. In 1875 East and West Lutton joined together to form the parish of Luttons Ambo (Bulmer 1892 www.genuki.org.uk)

3 4 Aerial reconnaissance of the Wolds has illustrated the degree of previous settlement and land use (Stoertz 1997) The village of West Lutton is flanked to the north and southeast by a series of cropmark features that possibly represent early settlement activity

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

5. Methodology

5 1 The proposed scheme of works involved the monitoring of the removal of concrete and building foundations of brick and chalk from the previous buildings on the site and the excavation of footings for a single storey dwelling

5 2 All excavations were undertaken by a 360⁰ 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 colour print film (Appendix 3)

6. Results (Figs. 2 and 3)

- 6.1 The foundation excavations consisted of 0.60m wide strip trenches that were excavated to a depth of between 0.55m and 1.20m
- 6.2 A number of features and deposits were exposed in the east-facing section of the western foundation trench. The earliest feature was a U-shaped cut that probably represented a ditch or linear feature (context 1004, Pl. 3). Cut 1004 was cut into the natural chalk bedrock and was filled by deposits of silty clay and gravel (contexts 1008 and 1003 respectively)
- 6.3 Fill Deposit 1003 was sealed by a deposit of orange-brown gravel subsoil (context 1002). Deposit 1002 was cut by a modern posthole (context 1007) that contained a timber post (context 1005) and a backfill deposit of silty clay (context 1006)
- 6.4 Post 1005 was sealed by a silty clay topsoil (context 1001) that underlay the existing concrete slab surface (context 1000)
- 6.5 No other features of archaeological interest were identified on the site

7. Conclusions

- 7.1 Natural deposits were reached in all of the foundation trenches. These were cut by a probable ditch (context 1004) that extended beyond the limits of the development area of development. No finds were recovered to aid the interpretation and dating of this feature

8. Bibliography

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