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**Land to the East of Hallgarth View,
Hutton Conyers, Ripon,
North Yorkshire**

*Archaeological
Watching Brief*

January 2008

Report No. 1764

CLIENT

N. C. Construction and Development Ltd

**Land to the East of Hallgarth View,
Hutton Conyers, Ripon,
North Yorkshire**

Archaeological Watching Brief

Summary

An archaeological watching brief was conducted on a plot of land to the east of Hallgarth View in the village of Hutton Conyers. This monitored the excavation of foundations for a new house. No archaeological features or finds were recorded during the course of the watching brief.



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Report Information

Client: N. C. Construction and Development Ltd
Address: Hill Top Farm, Bilton Lane, Harrogate, North
Yorkshire, HG1 4DH
Report Type: Archaeological Watching Brief
Location: Hutton Conyers
County: North Yorkshire
Grid Reference: SE 325 735
Period(s) of activity
represented: None
Report Number: 1764
Project Number: 3223
Site Code: HCR08
Planning Application No.: 6.21.60.B.FUL
Museum Accession No.: -
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Project Management: Martin Lightfoot BA MA MIFA
Fieldwork supervisor: David Williams BA
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1 Introduction

Archaeological Services WYAS (ASWYAS) was commissioned by NC Construction and Development Ltd to undertake an archaeological watching brief in response to a condition on planning consent, for a development on Land to the East of Hallgarth View, Hutton Conyers, Ripon, North Yorkshire (Fig. 1).

Site Location and Topography

The site lies in the village and civil Parish of Hutton Conyers, near the River Ure, about 1 mile to the northeast of Ripon and is on gently undulating ground, between the 46m and 60m contours.

Soils, Geology and Land-use

The soils are classified in the Escrick 2 Association and consist of 'Deep, well drained, often reddish course loamy soils, some fine loamy soils with slowly permeable subsoils and slight seasonal water logging (Soil Survey of England and Wales 1983, 571q). The underlying drift geology is glaciofluvial drift over Permian and Triassic sandstones including Bunter and Keuper (British Geological Survey 1992).

2 Archaeological and Historical Background

The majority of the following is taken from 'Parishes: Hutton Conyers', A History of the County of York North Riding: Volume 1 (1914), pp. 403-405 (British History Online 2008).

The village of Hutton Conyers stands on rising ground a quarter of a mile to the east of the River Ure. Despite having long been under cultivation there are archaeological remains covering all periods in the area. There are many tumuli located over the eastern part of the parish and some may be the remains of Bronze Age barrows. Linear crop marks have also been identified from aerial photographs in the area and are thought to be the remains of Iron Age track-ways or field systems. There is a deserted medieval village at Nunwick to the north of the site, and there are ridge and furrow earthworks in some of the fields around the village. Earthworks on Hutton Moor may mark the site of medieval fortifications.

At a point just north of the village a small stream flows into the river, which below the junction is known as Hutton Mill Deep. No trace remains, however, of the two mills here which belonged to the Ripon Chapter.

Just north of the village is the site of Hutton Hall, the old moated manor-house of the Conyers, and subsequently of the Mallorys. There is no trace of the park which once surrounded it. In 1869 the site of the manor was occupied by a farm-house dating from the 16th century. According to tradition the house was attacked during the English civil war by the Parliamentary forces.

The manufacture of bricks and tiles was a major occupation of the population at the turn of the 20th century, which in 1901 totalled 194.

3 Aims and Objectives

The aim of the watching brief was to identify and record the presence or absence, extent, condition, character and date as far as circumstances permit of any archaeological features and deposits which are disturbed or exposed as a result of groundwork within the development area.

4 Methodology

An archaeologist was present to monitor the excavation of house foundation trenches. All excavated soil was searched through as much as possible to recover any finds. Appropriate written, drawn and photographic records were made in accordance with ASWYAS watching brief guidelines and site recording manual (ASWYAS 2006a, 2006b). The contents of the primary archive are listed in Appendix I.

5 Results

The excavations of the foundation trenches was undertaken by a 3 Tonne 360° rubber tracked machine excavator fitted with a toothless bucket 1.2m wide. The plot of land being developed consisted of an area approximately 116m² with internal foundations excavated to a minimum width of 0.6m to a maximum of 1.2m, with a depth of 0.58m below the ground surface.

The topsoil varied in depth from 0.30m to 0.36m. The natural deposits were encountered immediately below the stripped topsoil. The natural drift geology consisted of reddish course boulder clay. The excavations for the foundations removed very little of the boulder clay in places, however, in the southeast corner of the plot, 0.25m was removed. No finds or archaeological features were encountered.

6 Discussion and Conclusions

The excavation of foundations trenches on land to the east of Hallgarth View in Hutton Conyers revealed no archaeological features or finds. Although no archaeological remains were identified, this does not mean that significant archaeological remains do not exist in the immediate surrounding area.

Appendix 1: Inventory of primary archive

File/Box No	Description	Quantity
File no.1	Written Scheme of Investigation	1
	Watching brief daily monitoring form	1
	Location maps	3
	CD with digital photos	1
	Digital photo record sheet	1

Bibliography

ASWYAS, 2006a, 'Watching Brief Guidelines', Archaeological Services WYAS, unpubl.

ASWYAS, 2006b, 'Site Recording Manual', Archaeological Services WYAS, unpubl.

British Geological Survey, 1992, Thirsk. England and Wales Sheet 52. Solid and Drift
Geology. 1:50,000 Provisional Series

Soil Survey of England and Wales, 1983, Soils of Northern England (Sheet 1) Scale
1:250,000

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history.ac.uk/report.aspx?compid=64776](http://www.british-history.ac.uk/report.aspx?compid=64776), Accessed: 21 January 2008