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Elphin House Main Street Coxwold North Yorkshire

Archaeological Watching Brief SE 53487 77177

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October 2007

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1. Introduction

- 1.1 MAP Archaeological Consultancy Ltd was commissioned to undertake an Archaeological Watching Brief at the Elphin House Main Street, Coxwold, North Yorkshire (NGR SE 53487 77177: Fig. 1). The work was carried out for Mr and Mrs P. Plaskitt to fulfil a condition attached to Listed Building and Conservation Consent (Ref. NYM/2007/0232/LB) for the proposed extensions and alterations.
- 1.2 Work was undertaken on the 6th and 22nd June 2007 and the watching brief was carried out in accordance with the Institute of Field Archaeologists Code of Conduct and the Institute of Field Archaeologists Standards and Guidance for an archaeological watching brief.
- 1.3 All work was conducted on behalf of and funded by Mr & Mrs P. Plaskitt.
- 1.4 All maps within this report have been reproduced from the Ordnance Survey with permission of the Controller of Her Majesty's Stationery Office, Crown Copyright, Licence Number AL 5453A.

2. Site Description

2.1 Elphin House is a Grade II Listed Building located on the north side of Main Street in Coxold with a large garden and outbuilidings to the rear. Access from Main Street is from the east side of Elphin House. 2.2 Elphin House probably dates to the early-mid nineteenth century, but is possibly of older origin, and with later additions. Coxwold is a village with medieval origins, a fifteenth century church, and with a known early post-medieval kiln site.

3. Aims, Objectives and Methodology

- 3.1 All groundworks were to be carried out under direct supervision of an archaeologist from MAP Archaeological Consultancy Ltd. The excavation was carried out by a back acting mechanical excavator with toothed bucket.
- 3.2 All work was carried out in line with the Institute of Field Archaeologists Code of Conduct (IFA 1998).

4. Results

- 4.1 Prior to the watching brief commencing the existing rear extension for Elphin House had been demolished (Pl. 1). The watching brief was undertaken to observe all ground disturbance. The strip foundation trenches for the new kitchen extension were excavated to a maximum depth of 1m (Pl. 2 and 3). The Trenches were 550mm wide. The excavation exposed subsoil and stone natural.
- 4.5 No archaeological deposits or artefacts were seen during the excavation foundation trenches.

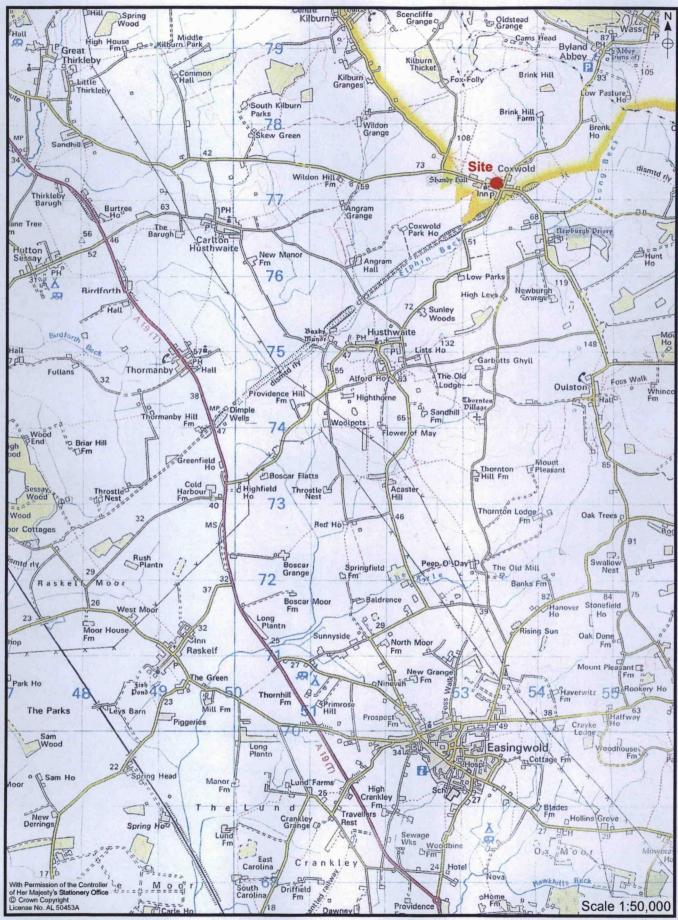


Figure 1. Site Location

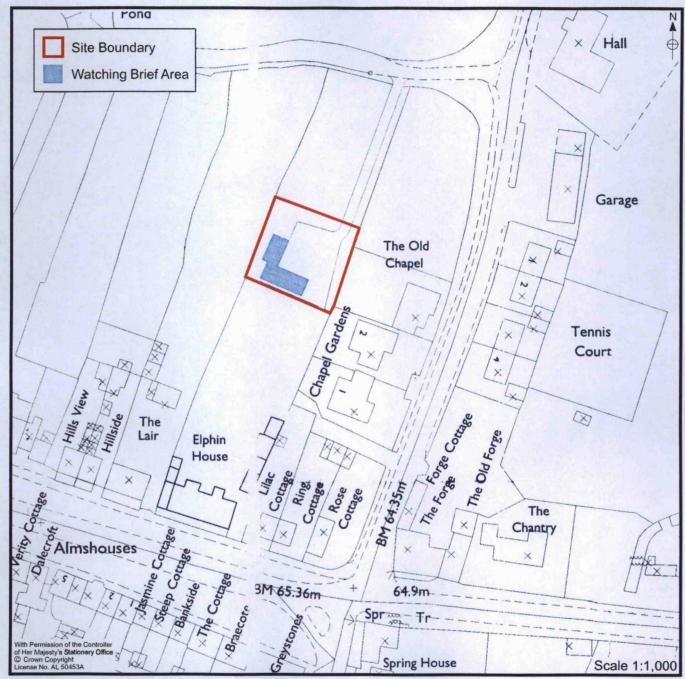


Figure 2. Area of Development and Watching Brief

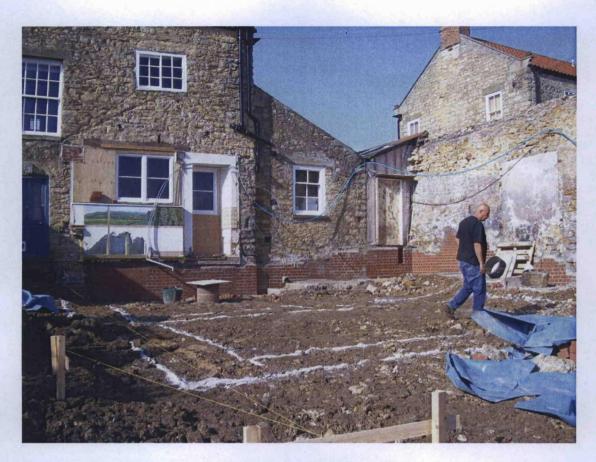


Plate 1. Site Prior to Excavation. Facing South-west.



Plate 2. Foundation Trenches under excavation. Facing West.



Plate 3. Foundations after excavation. Facing West.