



Archaeological Services  
University of Durham

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## **National Army Museum (North), Marne Barracks, Catterick, North Yorkshire**

### **Archaeological monitoring**

*on behalf of*  
**Babtie Group**

**ASUD Report 982**  
April 2003

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## **1. Summary**

### ***The project***

- 1.1 A geotechnical survey was conducted in advance of the construction of the National Army Museum (North) at Marne Barracks, North Yorkshire. This report presents the results of the archaeological monitoring conducted.
- 1.2 The works were commissioned by Babbie Group, and conducted by Archaeological Services University of Durham.

### ***Results***

- 1.3 Twenty one trial pits were excavated, each pit to a depth of 3m.
- 1.4 Areas of re-deposition and truncation of deposits were identified. The presence or lack of archaeological evidence recovered from the trial pits appears to reflect the landscaping/levelling operations carried out on the site in the 1930s. Archaeological material (pottery, bone, metal and charcoal) was encountered in five of the total of 21 trial pits.

### ***Recommendations***

- 1.5 No further works on the material are recommended. The results of this project should be incorporated into the report on any future excavations conducted on the site.

## **2. Project background**

### ***Location (Figure 1)***

- 2.1 Marne Barracks, formerly RAF Catterick, is situated immediately south of Catterick Village, North Yorkshire and is bounded on to the west by the A1 trunk road and to the east by the River Swale. The site is located at (NGR centre: SE 247 970).

### ***Development proposal***

- 2.2 The proposal is to construct a National Army Museum on the former airfield at Marne Barracks. A geotechnical survey was conducted on the airfield in advance of construction works, which was subject to archaeological monitoring.

### ***Objective***

- 2.3 The objective of the archaeological monitoring was to identify and assess the nature, extent and potential significance of any surviving archaeological features exposed by the excavation of 21 trial pits on the site.

### ***Dates***

- 2.4 Fieldwork was undertaken between 2<sup>nd</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> April 2003. This report was prepared between 11<sup>th</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup> April 2003.

### ***Personnel***

- 2.5 Fieldwork and report preparation was conducted by Mark Douglas. The report illustration was by David Graham. Specialist analysis was conducted by Dr Chris Cumberpatch (ceramics). The Project Manager was Duncan Hale.

### ***Acknowledgements***

- 2.6 Archaeological Services is grateful for the assistance of S. Hill of Norwest Holst in facilitating this report.

### ***Archive***

- 2.7 The site code is MBC03, for Marne Barracks Catterick 2003. The archive will be temporarily retained with Archaeological Services, however, it is anticipated that it will be deposited in the National Army Museum (North) in due course.

## **3 Historical and archaeological background**

- 3.1 The airfield occupies the southern section of the area encompassed by the boundary of Marne Barracks. The site is bounded on the west by the remains of a Roman roadside settlement of Baines Farm (Wilson 1994; Wilson 2002), which is currently of unknown extent. On the east is the site of an eleventh century motte and bailey castle known as Castle Hills. The known archaeological resource at the site and its potential is discussed in detail in the previous reports on the site (ASUD 2001, 2002) produced by Archaeological Services University of Durham.



Archaeological Services  
University of Durham

**National Army Museum (North)  
Marne Barracks, Catterick  
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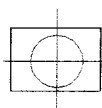
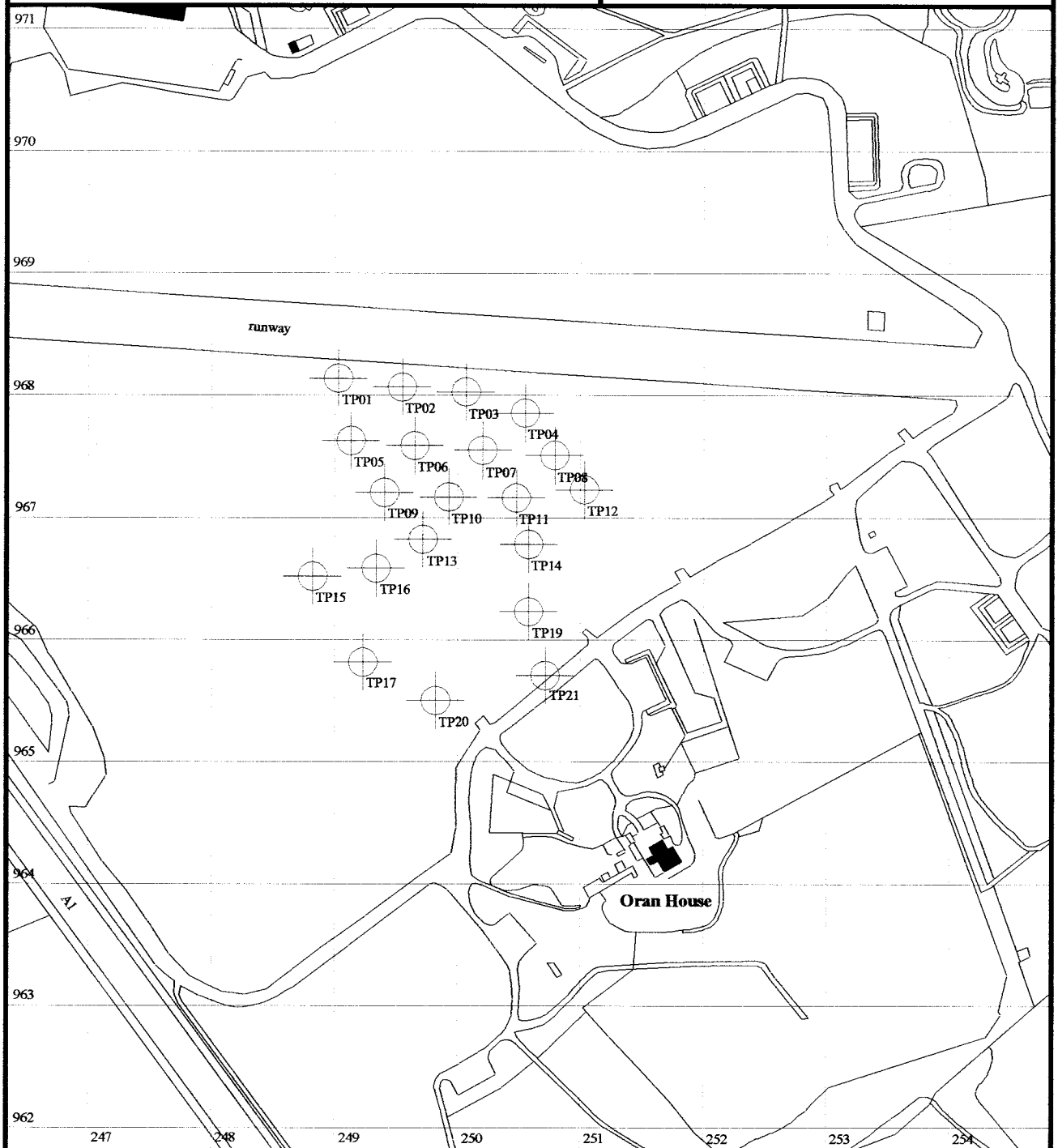
**Figure 1**  
*Location map of geotechnical investigations*

on behalf of

**Babtie Group**

0 250m

scale 1:5000



Trial pit location



## **4. The archaeological monitoring**

### ***Introduction***

- 4.1 A total of 22 geotechnical trial pits were mechanically excavated to a depth of 3m at pre-determined locations on the airfield south of the runway (Figure 1). A list of contexts with descriptions and associated finds is provided in Appendix 1.

### ***Trial pit 1***

- 4.2 This was 0.5m by 2.2m in size. A natural grey-brown sand gravel (6) was reached at a depth of 1.15m extending down to below 3m. Immediately above this was a natural orange-brown clay gravel (5) deposit 0.6m in depth. Over this lay a 0.4m deposit of compact grey-brown clay silt (2), which contained finds of pottery and charcoal. The upper deposit was a sandy topsoil (1) 0.12m in depth.

### ***Trial pit 2***

- 4.3 This was 0.5m by 2.1m in size. A natural grey-brown sand gravel (6) was reached at a depth of 1.23m extending down to below 3m. Immediately above this was a lense of grey-brown sand (4) 0.28m in depth. Over this was a continuation of the sand gravel (6) 0.2m in depth. The upper deposit was a sandy topsoil (1) 0.15m in depth. No archaeological deposits were identified, and no artefacts recovered.

### ***Trial pit 3***

- 4.4 This was 0.5m by 2.1m in size. A natural grey-brown clay gravel (5) was reached at a depth of 0.13m extending down to below 3m. The upper deposit was a sandy topsoil (1) 0.13m in depth. No archaeological deposits were identified, and no artefacts recovered.

### ***Trial pit 4***

- 4.5 This was 0.5m by 2.2m in size. A natural grey-brown sand gravel (6) was reached at a depth of 1.15m extending down to below 3m. Immediately above this was a lense of grey-brown sand (4) 0.4m in depth. Next was a continuation of the sand gravel (6) 0.6m deep. The upper deposit was a sandy topsoil (1) 0.15m in depth. No archaeological deposits were identified, and no artefacts recovered.

### ***Trial pit 5***

- 4.6 This was 0.5m by 2m in size. A natural grey-brown sand gravel (6) was reached at a depth of 0.9m extending down to below 3m. Above this was a grey-brown clay silt (3) 0.77m in depth. The upper deposit was a sandy topsoil (1) 0.13m in depth. No archaeological deposits were identified, and no artefacts recovered.

### ***Trial pit 6***

- 4.7 This was 0.5m by 2.2m in size. A natural grey-brown sand gravel (6) was reached at a depth of 1.2m extending down to below 3m. Above this was a 1.07m deposit of clay gravel (5). The upper deposit was a sandy topsoil (1)

0.13m in depth. No archaeological deposits were identified, and no artefacts recovered.

***Trial pit 7***

- 4.8 This was 0.5m by 2.2m in size. A natural grey-brown sand gravel (6) was reached at a depth of 0.13m, extending down to below 3m. The upper deposit was a sandy topsoil (1) 0.13m in depth. No archaeological deposits were identified, and no artefacts recovered.

***Trial pit 8***

- 4.9 This was 0.5m by 2.1m in size. A natural grey-brown sand gravel (6) was reached at a depth of 0.73m, extending down to below 3m. Above this was a 0.3m deposit of grey-brown sand (4). Immediately above this was a clay-silt deposit 0.3m deep, which contained pottery and charcoal. The upper deposit was a sandy topsoil (1) 0.13m in depth.

***Trial pit 9***

- 4.10 This was 0.5m by 2m in size. A natural grey brown sand gravel (6) was reached at a depth of 0.14m, extending down to below 3m. The upper deposit was a sandy topsoil (1) 0.14m in depth. No archaeological deposits were identified, and no artefacts recovered.

***Trial pit 10***

- 4.11 This was 0.5m by 2.2m in size. A natural grey brown sand gravel (6) was reached at a depth of 0.1m, extending down to below 3m. The upper deposit was a sandy topsoil (1) 0.1m in depth. No archaeological deposits were identified, and no artefacts recovered.

***Trial pit 11***

- 4.12 This was 0.5m by 2.2m in size. A natural grey-brown sand gravel (6) was reached at a depth of 1.18m, extending down to below 3m. Above this was a 0.1m lense of grey-brown sand (5). Over this was a clay silt (3) 0.4m in depth. Immediately above this was a deposit of compact clay silt (2) 0.6m in depth which contained finds of pottery, bone fragments and charcoal. The upper deposit was a sandy topsoil (1) 0.08m in depth.

***Trial pit 12***

- 4.13 This was 0.5m by 2.2m in size. A natural grey-brown sand gravel (6) was reached at a depth of 0.22m, extending down to below 3m. The upper deposit was a sandy topsoil (1) 0.22m in depth. No archaeological deposits were identified, and no artefacts recovered.

***Trial pit 13***

- 4.14 This was 0.5m by 2.1m in size. A natural grey-brown sand gravel was reached at a depth of 1.32m, extending down to below 3m. Above this was a 0.7m deposit of orange-brown clay gravel (5). Over this was a 0.3m deposit of grey-brown clay silt (3). Above this was a deposit of compact clay silt (2) 0.2m in depth which contained finds of slag, pottery, bone and charcoal. The upper deposit was a sandy topsoil (1) 0.12m in depth.

***Trial pit 14***

- 4.15 This was 0.5m by 2m in size. A natural orange-brown clay gravel was reached at a depth of 0.71m, extending down to below 3m. Above this was a deposit of clay silt 0.37m in depth (3). Immediately above this was a 0.2m deposit of compact clay silt (2) which contained finds of pottery, bone fragments, charcoal and slag. The upper deposit was a sandy topsoil (1) 0.14m in depth.

***Trial pit 15***

- 4.16 This was 0.5m by 2.2m in size. A natural grey-brown sand gravel (6) was reached at a depth of 1.33m, extending down to below 3m. Above this was a 0.4m deposit of orange-brown clay gravel (5). Over this was a deposit of grey-brown clay silt 0.8m in depth (3). The upper deposit was a sandy topsoil (1) 0.13m in depth. No archaeological deposits were identified, and no artefacts recovered.

***Trial pit 16***

- 4.17 This was 0.5m by 2.1m in size. A natural grey-brown sand gravel (6) was reached at a depth of 1.3m, extending down to below 3m. Above this was a 0.6m deposit of orange-brown clay gravel (5). Over this was a deposit of grey-brown clay silt 0.6m in depth (3). The upper deposit was a sandy topsoil (1) 0.1m in depth. No archaeological deposits were identified, and no artefacts recovered.

***Trial pit 17***

- 4.18 This was 0.5m by 2.2m in size. A natural grey-brown sand gravel (6) was reached at a depth of 1.18m, extending down to below 3m. Above this was a 0.5m deposit of orange-brown clay gravel (5). Over this was a deposit of grey-brown clay silt 0.3m in depth (3). Immediately above this was a deposit of compact clay silt 0.26m in depth (2). The upper deposit was a sandy topsoil (1) 0.12m in depth. No artefacts were recovered.

***Trial pit 18***

- 4.19 This was 0.5m by 2m in size. A natural orange-brown clay gravel (5) was reached at a depth of 0.65m, extending down to below 3m. Above this was a deposit of grey-brown clay silt 0.5m in depth (3). The upper deposit was a sandy topsoil (1) 0.13m in depth. No archaeological deposits were identified, and no artefacts recovered.

***Trial pit 19***

- 4.20 This was 0.5m by 2.1m in size. A natural grey-brown sand gravel (6) was reached at a depth of 1.22m, extending down to below 3m. Above this was a 0.18m deposit of orange-brown clay gravel (5). Over this was a deposit of grey-brown sand 0.3m in depth (4). Above this was a deposit of clay silt 0.6m in depth (3). The upper deposit was a sandy topsoil (1) 0.14m in depth. No archaeological deposits were identified, and no artefacts recovered.

***Trial pit 20***

- 4.21 This was 0.5m by 2m in size. A natural grey-brown sand gravel (6) was reached at a depth of 0.8m, extending down to below 2m. Above this was a deposit of grey-brown sand 0.2m in depth (10). Over this was a deposit of



orange-brown clay gravel 0.3m in depth (5). Over this was a layer of ash clinker hardcore 0.15m in depth (8). Above this was a 0.15m-thick layer of concrete (7). No archaeological deposits were identified, and no artefacts recovered.

***Trial pit 21***

- 4.22 This was 0.5m by 2m in size. A natural grey-brown sand gravel (6) was reached at a depth of 0.8m, extending down to below 2m. Above this was a deposit of mid-brown clay 0.5m in depth (9). Above this was a 0.15 layer of ash clinker hardcore (8). Above this was a 0.15m-thick layer of concrete (7). No archaeological deposits were identified, and no artefacts recovered.

**5. The finds**

The finds recovered from five of the 21 test pits are all fragmentary in nature. The datable pottery (see table 1) is all post-medieval in origin. The bone recovered is too fragmentary to be identifiable.

**6. Recommendations**

- 6.1 No further work on any of the material is recommended. The results of this scheme may however be incorporated into the report on any future large-scale archaeological works conducted on the airfield.

**7. References**

- ASUD (2001) *Archaeological Investigations at Marne Barracks, Catterick Garrison, North Yorkshire. Phase 1: Assessment report*. Unpublished ASUD Report 703, Archaeological Services University of Durham.
- ASUD (2002) *Archaeological Investigations at Marne Barracks, Catterick Garrison, North Yorkshire. Phase 3: Evaluation*. Unpublished ASUD Report 911, Archaeological Services University of Durham
- Wilson, PR (1994) *A1 Motorway, Lemming to Scotch Corner, Central Sector: Archaeological Assessment Stage 3*. Unpublished report by English Heritage Central Archaeology Service.
- Wilson, PR (2000) *Cataractonium: Roman Catterick and its hinterland*, Part 1, CBA Research Report 128.

## Appendix 1: Context data

Summary list of contexts. The • symbols in the columns at the right indicate the presence of finds of the following types: P pottery, B bone, M metals, F flint, S slag, O other materials.

No	Description	P	B	M	F	S	O
1	Topsoil grey-brown sand silt	•		•			
2	Compact grey-brown clay silt	•	•	•		•	•
3	Friable natural grey-brown clay silt						
4	Natural grey-brown sand						
5	Natural orange-brown clay gravel						
6	Natural grey-brown sand gravel						
7	Concrete						
8	Ash clinker hardcore						
9	Re-deposited Mid brown clay						
10	Natural grey-brown sand between 5 and 6						

## Appendix 2: Pottery data

**Table 1: Pottery from Trial pits**

Pit	Cont	Type	N°	Wt	ENV	Part	Form	Date	Note
1	2	Ceramic building material	2	12	2	Fragment	U/ID	U/D	Building material
11	2	Brown Salt Glazed Stoneware	1	6	1	BS	U/ID	18th-19th	
11	2	Ceramic building material	1	129	1	Fragment	Brick	U/D	Corner of Brick
11	2	Ceramic building material	4	6	4	Fragments	U/ID	U/D	
11	2	Ceramic building material	1	27	1	Fragment	Tile	U/D	
11	2	Green stoneware	1	4	1	BS	U/ID	19th	
13	2	Ceramic building material	3	5	3	Fragments	U/ID	U/D	
14	2	Ceramic building material	2	13	2	Fragments	U/ID	U/D	Building material
14	2	Unglazed red earthenware	1	3	1	BS	U/ID	Post-Med	Red Earthenware
15	1	Brown Glazed Coarseware	1	23	1	BS	U/ID	18th-19th	Glazed
		<b>Total</b>	17	228	17				