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**Newbridge Quarry
Pickering
North Yorkshire**

Revised Archaeological Desk-based Assessment

December 2008

Report No. 1900

CLIENT

CEMEX UK Operations Ltd.

Rec'd 22/12/08.

Archaeological Services WYAS Report No.1900

Newbridge Quarry, Pickering, North Yorkshire

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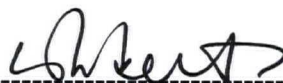
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Report Information

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Location: Newbridge Quarry, Pickering
County: North Yorkshire
Grid Reference: SE 798 868
Report Number: 1900
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Date of report: 2005 (revised October 2008)
Project Management: Ian Roberts BSc MIFA
Report: Jason Dodds BSc and Mitch Pollington BA MA
Illustrations: Jason Dodds
Photographs: Jason Dodds
Research: Jason Dodds

Produced by: Archaeological Services WYAS, PO Box 30,
Nepshaw Lane South, Morley, Leeds LS27 0UG
Telephone: 0113 383 7500
Email: admin@aswyas.com

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1 Introduction

Archaeological Services WYAS were commissioned by RMC (UK) Limited to carry out a desk-based assessment prior to a proposed northward extension of Newbridge Quarry, Pickering, North Yorkshire. The study area is centred approximately on NGR SE 798 868 and includes the area immediately around the proposed extraction site to a distance of 1 km. The purpose of this desk-based assessment is to identify known and potential sites of archaeological interest and significance within the environs of the proposed extraction area, with a view to identifying those that may be impacted on directly or indirectly by the extraction works. The study area was partially covered by the desk-based assessment carried out in advance of permission (Guildhouse Consultancy 1999) to which reference might be made for details on the policy framework with regard to archaeology for mineral extraction in North Yorkshire.

Newbridge Quarry lies approximately 1 km northeast of Pickering close to the southern edge of the North York Moors National Park. The proposed extraction site lies at a height of between 90 and 105m OD, overlooking the Vale of Pickering to the south. It is located to the west and north of the listed structure of New Hambleton farm. The proposed extraction site is bounded to the west by Swainsea Lane and the disused Old Hagg Quarry. Haugh Wood bounds the site to the east and north-east and open agricultural fields lie to the north-west. The present Newbridge Quarry lies immediately to the south.

The proposed extraction site lies on the southern end of the Upper Jurassic uplands of the North York Moors. The solid geology of the area is Upper Calcareous Grit of the Upper Oxfordian Stage. This consists of two distinct horizons of the Spaunton Sandstone. The soils of the area are well-drained calcareous and coarse loams of the Elmton 2 and Rivington 1 Associations (Guildhouse Consultancy 1999; Soil Survey of England and Wales 1983).

2 Methodology and Sources

This work has collated readily available material held in the North Yorkshire Heritage Unit and North Yorkshire Archives (Northallerton) along with the holdings of Archaeological Services WYAS. Aerial photographic information was provided both by the National Monuments Record, Swindon and North Yorkshire Heritage Unit.

General period summaries of archaeological evidence within the general vicinity of the proposed development are provided to help place the site within an archaeological and historical context (Section 3). More specific information on individual sites and find spots is provided in catalogue form (Section 4). The distribution of these sites is shown on Figure 2.

Where data has been obtained from the North Yorkshire Heritage Unit, their unique record number (NYM) has been prefixed. Events recorded by North Yorkshire Heritage Unit have the prefix ENY. The archaeological sites and find spot locations within the study area have been catalogued in Section 4 in west to east order, and given a numerical identifier. Archaeological sites and finds with imprecise provenances, but which may have been located within the study area, have been given an alphabetical identifier and are listed in the catalogue, but have not been marked on Figure 2.

3 Archaeological and Historical Background

Early Prehistoric Period

The surrounding landscape is well known for its evidence of early prehistoric (Late Neolithic/Early Bronze Age) funerary activity. This evidence occurs mostly in the form of round barrows, either from cropmark evidence, extant earthworks or associated artefacts (Cat. nos 1-5, 14, 22, 24, 26 and possibly 53). A number of cremation burials of likely Bronze Age date have also been recovered (Cat. nos 25 and 42) and there is also a poorly documented reference to a square barrow (possibly a chariot or cart burial) in the vicinity (Cat. no. 50), which typically might be attributed to the earlier Iron Age.

There is little definite evidence of early prehistoric settlement in the area, although such sites are notoriously difficult to identify. The excavations carried out in 2000 and 2003 may have identified a number of non-funerary features of Late Bronze Age/Early Iron Age date (Cat. nos 34 and 35).

There are few finds from the Mesolithic period known, most being dated to the Late Neolithic and Bronze Age periods. Some of the best of these are un-provenanced metalwork and include a spear, axe head, dagger, necklace and mace, all dating to the Bronze Age (Cat. A-F). Flint artefacts include a scraper, barbed and tanged arrowheads, two axes and three maces (Cat. nos 9, 21, N, O, S and T). A hoard of Bronze Age axes is also known from Pickering (Manby *et al.* 2003, 90).

Iron Age and Roman Periods

Most of the available evidence points to an extensive exploitation of the landscape in the later Iron Age and Roman periods. Significant sites in the general area include an important Iron Age and Roman site on Levisham Moor to the north-east (Hayes 1983), where a number of finds spots are known, and the Roman camps at Cawthorne, c.7 km to the north (Welfare and Swan 1995, 137-142). Between Levisham and the study area is the Roman villa at Blandsby Park, which is just one of ten villa sites known within a 20km radius of the site (Watts *et al.* 2003; Fig. 2; Ottaway 2003, Fig. 35).

Prior to the recent research and excavation work of the last five years very little archaeological information was known for this period within the study area. A Roman road

between the fort at Malton and the Cawthorn camps was supposed to pass to the west of the site, and may be reflected in the line of the old road between Middleton and Cawthorn (see Fig. 3), and two suspected Roman camps were marked on the first edition O.S. mapping of 1854 to the north of the proposed extraction area (Fig. 8; Cat. no. 20). Otherwise little definite archaeological information was available. As suspected by the Guildhouse Consultancy (1999), this apparent disparity was entirely due to an absence of archaeological fieldwork in the quarry area, rather than an absence of archaeology, as recent work has demonstrated.

Aerial survey of cropmarks has now identified a potential settlement enclosure complex within the north-western part of the proposed extraction area (Cat. no. 70). Cropmarks also reveal a series of enclosures and field systems to the west of Swainsea Lane (Cat. nos 13, 15, 18-20 and 30; Plate 2). The enclosures (Cat. nos 15, 18 and 19) contain circular structures that are typical of Late Iron Age hut circles. The recent excavation work of 2004 has demonstrated the existence of series of Iron Age enclosures appended to a trackway that contain circular structures with subsequent Roman period activity (Cat. no. 36; Signorelli and Roberts 2006). It is probably the extant remains of the field and enclosure systems of this period that are reflected in the annotation of 'Ancient Inclosed Lands' and 'Ancient Inclosure' on the 1789 plan of the High Commons (Fig. 5).

Medieval Period

There is virtually no evidence for early medieval activity in the study area and later evidence is all suggestive of the area being given over to agriculture. The earliest potential evidence takes the form of Scandinavian place-name element *skial* from Skillingate, meaning 'boundary' (Ekwall 1959; Smith 1962, 244). 'Skillingate', along with 'Swainsea' were names given to two blocks of land in the common fields of Pickering and separated by a road known as Greengate. This road is alluded to in 14th-century documentation (Guildhouse Consultancy 1999) and is marked on the Tithe plan of 1838, but is now mostly lost to mineral extraction.

Few spot finds of medieval date have been recorded, the only notable one in the study area being a coin to the west of the present quarry (Cat. no. 6).

The Post-Medieval Period

The Tithe Award Map of 1838 (Fig. 6) shows the area mainly to the south of the proposed extraction area covered with a system of broad strip fields. These are probably not reflective of the medieval regime of land division as the same area on the 1777 'Survey of Pickering..' is portrayed as a system of block fields, more typical of the upland areas of northern England (Roberts and Wrathmell 2002, 66-7) and possibly more representative of the earlier medieval land division. The 1777 plan also reveals that the proposed extraction site straddles the boundary between the enclosed land and the moor, an aspect previously identified from certain place-names mentioned in the Tithe award (Guildhouse Consultancy 1999). The block

fields on the 1777 plan (Fig. 4) are shown as hedged enclosures which accords with the field names 'Greengate and Bragate Hags' in 1789 (Fig. 5) and later 'Old Hagg' in 1854 (Fig. 8), the term 'hagg' being derived from 'haga' meaning hedged enclosure (Smith 1962, 199).

Most of the earliest structures within the landscape are farmhouses that date from the 19th century (Cat. nos 16, 17, 46, 47 and 55). Newbridge Quarry itself is shown on the map of the parish of Pickering of 1839 (Fig. 7). The western edge of the proposed extraction site borders the small area occupied by 'Old Hagg Quarry' as shown on the first edition O.S. mapping of 1854 (Fig. 8).

4 Catalogue of Archaeological Sites and Buildings

1. Round Barrow

SAM 792

SE 788 878

Middleton Heights round barrow, a Scheduled Ancient Monument, is approximately four feet (1.2m) high and c. 135 feet (40m) in diameter. The barrow is described in the SAM record as a 'fine monument'. The barrow lies within an arable area and a second barrow, which was formerly located to the south-east, is described as being absent. The second barrow is described as being 52 feet (15.5m) in diameter. From Middleton Lane a trackway is believed to have passed between the two barrows. The former tenant of the land stated that Major Mitchelson excavated the barrow in the late 19th century (Saunders 1966).

2. Crop mark

YM 3298

SE 7883 8747

The site of a ring ditch, possibly a round barrow, identified in 1976. The feature survives as a crop mark. No further details are available.

3. Round Barrow

YM 319713297

SE 7886 8768

The site of a Bronze Age round barrow. Major Mitchelson examined the barrow in 1895, there are, however, no records of any finds. A series of imprecisely dated rectangular enclosures (NYM 3297) lie at SE 7886 8768.

4. Tumuli

NYM 0

SE 789 887

One of several tumuli recorded to the south of Cawthorn Camps.

5. Ring Ditch/Round Barrow

NYM 3290

SE 7888 8700

The suggested location of a possible ring ditch or round barrow. The location and nature of the feature is, however, recorded as being unconfirmed by any other source.

6. Medieval Coin

NYM 3251

SE 7899 8613

A medieval coin recorded by the Ordnance Survey. The coin is described as being very worn.

7. Enclosure

NYM 3302

SE 79018753

Site of a roughly square enclosure with rounded corners. The enclosure is associated with an earthwork bank and is cut in two parts by the parish boundary between Middleton and Pickering. The enclosure is crossed obliquely by a track way. There is no positive evidence of a break in the enclosure, although there may possibly be a gateway at its south side. The enclosure is of unknown date although an early historic date has been suggested. The features are shown on air photos O.S. 74, 191/215 and 196 and TP 0 1 78/5A (Plate 7).

- 8. Quern** **NYM 3198** **SE 7906 8748**
The find spot of a quern of unknown form and date.
- 9. Scraper** **NYM 3230** **SE 7909 8676**
A prehistoric lithic scraper recorded by the Ordnance Survey. A more precise date is not attributed to the tool.
- 10. Pottery Vessel** **NYM 3231** **SE 7908 8648**
A Roman pottery vessel recorded by the Ordnance Survey.
- 11. Farm Buildings** **NYM O/DoE 71443A** **SE 7925 8756**
A group of early 19th-century farm buildings. A rectangular stone building with a central turret, constructed of wood with a large iron weathervane. Stables lie at right angles to the building. Nova Lodge and farm buildings lie to the southeast. The buildings are grade II listed (DoE 1975).
- 12. Scraper** **YM 3232** **SE 7912 8609**
A prehistoric lithic scraper recorded by the Ordnance Survey. A more precise date is not attributed to the stray find.
- 13. Track way** **NYM 3141** **SE 7875 8480 to SE 7912 8589**
Aerial photographs held by North Yorkshire Heritage Unit (SNM) show the course of a track way. The track way is said to represent a medieval or turf road that ran across Cawthorn Moor. The precise date of the trackway is unknown. Local tradition has it that the trackway is Roman in origin. The trackway is shown on AP, TP 0 126/4 5.
- 14. Mutilated Barrow** **NYM 3200** **SE 7919 8761**
The 1954 O.S. record card records the presence of a very stony mutilated barrow. The feature is described as a small long mound and is thus interpreted to be a long barrow or cairn. The cairn/barrow was described as being c. 90cm high in 1954. A depression in the eastern end of the feature is suggested to represent the remnants of an old excavation.
- 15. Field System/Ditch** **NYM 3285** **SE 7910 8702 (centre)**
A field system with a date variously attributed to 'Unknown' or 'Late Iron Age'. Central to the ditch and field system at c. SE 7920 8685 is an enclosure containing two ring ditches, perhaps representing hut circles. The field system is closely associated with NYM 3286, 3287 3288, 3289 and 3290. The field system is shown on Air Photos O.S. 74, 191/215; O.S. 74, 191/216; ANY099/9-12; ANY100/2; CUCCAA89 90; CUC CMT 37 (Plate 2) and TP01 1 1/8A.
- 16. Nova Lodge** **NYM O/DoE 71443** **SE 79218757**
An early 19th-century house constructed of two storeys of course stone, with brick to the front. The house is listed grade II (DoE 1975). Nova Scotia Lane is first mapped in 1789 (Fig. 5) and Nova Cottage was in existence by the creation of the first edition O.S. map of 1854 (Fig. 8), becoming Nova Lodge by the time of the second edition mapping of 1893 (Fig. 9).

17. Broates Farmhouse**NYM O/DoE 71126****SE 7920 8733**

Site of an early 19th century farmhouse constructed of coursed stone in two storeys with a pan tile roof. The building has four irregular windows with wood lintels and two light sliding sashes. Two similar windows lie to the ground floor and two further windows are located on the side. The grade II listing is inclusive of the farm buildings including a carriage store (DoE 1975). The site of 'Brewits' is first portrayed on Jefferys' map of 1775 (Fig. 3), whilst 'Broates' is first annotated on the 1789 map of the High Commons (Fig. 5). The place-name is probably derived from a term meaning a woodland clearance (Smith 1928).

18. Hut Circle/Ring Ditch**NYM 3287****SE 7920 8685**

Two ring ditches located in the northern part of a rectilinear enclosure (NYM 3286). The two circular features are approximately the same size and are interpreted to be possible hut circles. See Air Photo CUC CMT 37 (Plate 2).

19. Ditched Enclosure**NYM 3286****SE 7920 8685**

A ditched rectilinear enclosure which lies at the central part of a field system of unclear date (NYM 3285). The enclosure appears to be the focus for the field system. The enclosure is divided into two unequal parts by a central ditch. Internal features include two circular ring ditches located in the northern part of the enclosure these are possible hut circles. There is no visible entranceway to the enclosure. The date of the enclosure is also unclear. See Air Photo CUC CMT 37 (Plate 2)

20. Ditched Enclosure**NYM 3199****SE 7925 8765**

Site of a ditched enclosure first depicted on the first edition O.S. map of 1854 (Fig. 8) as 'Camp (Site of Supposed Roman)'. The O.S. made the same supposition for a similar camp just 500m to the north-west of this location (not catalogued here). The enclosure has at least one outer ditch and is rounded at its northwest corner. Internal subdivisions are believed to mark the location of buildings. North Yorkshire Heritage Unit record that there is a slight possibility that the enclosure may mark the site of a villa, as there is no reference to a medieval Manor or Grange. The enclosure is shown on Air Photo OS 74,191/196 and Air Photo O.S. 191/216.

21. Arrowhead**NYM 3234****SE 7924 8742**

A barbed and tanged arrowhead recorded by the Ordnance Survey. The artefact dates to the Bronze Age.

22. Ring Ditch/Round Barrow**NYM 3288****SE 7928 8686**

A ring ditch or possible round barrow, which lies to the south-east of the rectilinear enclosure (NYM 3286; Cat. no. 19). The feature is much larger and more isolated than the possible hut circles (NYM 3287; Cat. no. 18), possibly suggesting that it might represent the ploughed out remains of a round barrow.

23. Unknown Features**NYM 3289****SE 7945 8655**

A number of linear crop marks identified by aerial photography. These are, however of an indeterminate nature, and include several even less obvious circular marks. No obvious interpretation for these features is currently available. The features are shown on Air Photo O.S. 74, 191/216 (Plate 4).

24. Round Barrow**NYM 3403****SE 795 875**

Site of a late Neolithic or Early Bronze Age round barrow, now almost totally levelled by ploughing. The barrow, which was excavated by J. Ruddock in 1853, included an incomplete primary inhumation. The inhumation is described as comprising portions of an un-burnt body associated with a 'four siliceous instruments', perhaps chert artefacts (Bateman 1861, 232-33). The grave was apparently located at a depth of four feet and must therefore have been below the ground surface. The barrow was located within the same field as NYM 3260 (Cat. no. 26). Also discovered within the barrow was a Late Neolithic or Early Bronze Age spear along with a flint scraper of similar date and an unidentified object. This location also approximates to the site of a rectangular 'Earthwork (Track of)' marked on the O.S. mapping of 1914 and 1930 (Figs 10 and 11).

25. Cremations**NYM 3407****SE 795 875**

Within the round barrow represented by NYM 3403 (Cat. no. 24) was a cremation. The cremation was on the east side of the mound and was accompanied by urn sherds, a flint arrowhead and unidentified piece of flint nearby. Another cremation, located on the south side of the mound was not apparently accompanied by grave goods. It is recorded that the excavations of J. Ruddock had previously discovered a jet ring and a barbed arrowhead within the mound (Bateman 1861, 23 3).

26. Round Barrow**NYM 3260****SE 795 875**

A round barrow now virtually levelled by ploughing. North Yorkshire Heritage Unit record the discovery of two urns, at least one of which was an Early Bronze Age cinerary urn. There is no reference to any burials although cremations are deemed to be most likely. The SMR records that the excavation of the monument was undertaken by J. Ruddock.

27. Ring Ditch/Round Barrow**NYM 3284****SE 7954 8588**

Aerial photography illustrates the presence of a possible ring ditch or round barrow. Two smaller ring ditches are also recorded as lying to the north of this feature. The feature is visible on Air Photo TP 149/2-6.

28. ASWYAS excavation 2003**SE 7955 8571**

In 2003, ASWYAS excavated two areas in advance of quarrying (Signorelli and Roberts 2006; see Appendix 1). Area A was a long strip of land measuring c.250m long and 30m wide, located east of Swainsea Lane and west of the area previously investigated by MAP in Spring 2003. The archaeological remains in consisted of a group of pits, some post holes a group of cremations and some linear ditches. Two ditches formed a southern extension to the track-way previously encountered by MAP. In this instance the western ditch of the trackway had sub-rectangular enclosure with an east facing entrance appended to it. The enclosure interior produced no evidence of occupational activity although several post holes and a single cremation pit were found inside its perimeter. Two sets of four post holes (4-posters) were also identified within the excavation area. Though many of the discrete features are probably natural. Area B measured approximately 35m by 35m and was located north-east of Area A. This investigated the remainder of the enclosure that had partly been excavated as part of the 1999-2003 MAP work. The archaeological remains in Area B consisted of several linear ditches, post holes, cremation pits and an area paved with sandstone slabs. The investigation of this area confirmed the northward continuity of the trackway ditches. East of the trackway was a small area enclosed by three shallow ditches, to the south a sandstone slab paved area was also identified. Cutting the western ditch of the trackway, and located

close to the northern edge of the excavation area, a set of thirteen cremation pits were found. These were cut into the partially infilled ditches of the trackway and although their date is unconfirmed, they are anticipated to be either a Late Roman or Post-Roman phenomenon. Several post-holes and pits were also investigated.

29. Desk-Based Assessment

ENY 638**SE 796 861**

A desk-based assessment report was prepared on a permitted extraction area of Newbridge Quarry (Areas B and C) located in the area of Swainsea Barn and forming a western extension of the quarry. The report was prepared on behalf of RMC Aggregates (Northern) Ltd by the Guildhouse Consultancy. The assessment revealed that the site lay within the common fields of Pickering within two blocks of land known as 'Skillingate' and Swainsea; the former comprising of long north to south fields and the latter shorter east to west fields (MAP 2000, 6). The study concluded that the main potential for the site was for prehistoric archaeology to survive and deemed the chance of discovering archaeology within the area as moderate to high (Guildhouse Consultancy 1999, 26). The assessment recommended a evaluation mitigation strategy that comprised field walking, geophysical survey and trial trenching on the site.

30. Ditch/Track Way

NYM 3272 SE 7966 8607 to SE 7959 8578

A track way bounded by two ditches. At SE 7965 8595 the track appears to turn eastwards though its line is continued northwards by another narrower track, which appears to be terminated by a rectilinear ditch, possibly representing an enclosure. A number of short lengths of ditch are visible running at right angles; these are however suggested to be field boundaries. The ditch and track way are of unknown date. The features are visible on Air Photo TP149/2-6.

31. Geophysical Survey

ENY 582**SE 796 858**

Geophysical survey undertaken on the western extension of the Newbridge Quarry site (Area B). A 3.1ha area was surveyed by the Guildhouse Consultancy in July 1999. MAP (2000, 5) noted that a large square barrow and a boundary ditch associated with a trackway was discovered by the geophysical survey within the permitted extraction area.

32. Site Evaluation

ENY 2015**SE 796 857**

Nine trial trenches were excavated to assess the permitted extraction area (western extension of Newbridge Quarry). The trenches were excavated by MAP Archaeological Consultancy Ltd in August 1999. The trenches were designed to assess a possible trackway within the proposed extraction area, shown by the geophysical survey and by aerial photography (NMR Ref. ALP S172842; SE7985/5/6 22.07.1976). The trackway was shown to be associated with a number of rectilinear enclosures to the west. The evaluation showed that not only the features shown by air photos and the geophysical survey were present but also other discrete features were present, such as postholes and pits. The pottery material recovered indicated an early Iron Age date (MAP 2000, 7).

33. Topsoil Strip

ENY 2014**SE 796 857**

Following the excavation of nine trial trenches within the area of Swainsea Barn (Area C), Rod Mackay of The Guildhouse Consultancy monitored the initial topsoil strip across the whole area. The topsoil was removed by a 360-degree excavator with spoil being removed by dumper trucks. During the stripping of the site it was clear that sub-rectangular enclosures and

circular features formed two distinct clusters. The features were recorded using an EDM and a site plan was produced (MAP 2000, 6).

34. Targeted Excavation

ENY 225**SE 796 857**

Following the topsoil strip across the Swainsea Barn area site (Cat. no. 32), MAP Archaeological Consultancy undertook targeted excavation of the exposed visible features. Identified features were half sectioned, the remaining portion being removed by context. Ditch features were treated similarly. Features identified included a number of early Iron Age structures including four post structures, pits, post-holes and ditches and a possible square barrow. There were also a number of pre-Iron Age features (MAP 2000, 7).

35. Excavation

ENY 1541**SE 795 857**

Areas A1 and B3, which form an L-shaped piece of land to the immediate east of the south part of Swainsea Lane were stripped between May 2003 and June 2003, by MAP. It is recorded that the area was stripped and cleaned, and excavation of features targeted. The area measured approximately 55-60m by 190m and was stripped up to the southern boundary of the permitted extraction area. The southern part of the site was found to be devoid of features with the exception of a post-medieval pond lying directly beneath the topsoil. Most of the features identified were located in a 50m-wide band running east to west across the centre of the stripped area to the east of a major ditched trackway. This area contained evidence of 12 post-hole structures and a number of pits. Linear ditched features included an east to west ditch seen to overlay an earlier south to west curving ditch. The east west ditch was seen to cut the northern edge of a square barrow. There was however no evidence of a central grave. Finds discovered during the stripping included a saddle quern, gritted pottery and ceramic of ?Late Bronze Age/Early Iron Age date. To the north of this accumulation of features were a further two post-hole structures and six pits (Havercroft 2003, 10).

36. ASWYAS excavation 2004

SE 7962 8588

In 2004, ASWYAS excavated an L-shaped area covering almost 1 hectare, in advance of the 90m northward advance of the quarry face (Signorelli and Roberts 2006; see Appendix 1). The archaeological remains encountered in this area comprised the ditches and palisade lines of three enclosures on the eastern side of the trackway, evidence for three roundhouses, several cremations and a large number of pits and over 250 post-holes. The excavations revealed the northward continuation of the trackway and the trend for archaeology to the east of it, there being little or no archaeological features to the west of the trackway, the only features being a pond and an line of post-holes, both of post-medieval date. Appended to the eastern side of the trackway were a parts of three superimposed enclosures, one a palisade of post-holes. The central areas of all three enclosures were occupied by roundhouses, but it is uncertain as to whether these were contemporary with the enclosures in all cases. As well as the roundhouses a large number of pits/post-holes were investigated within the enclosed areas. The two southernmost enclosures appear to have been occupied in the later Iron Age and/or Roman period. However, the pottery from the northernmost (palisaded) enclosure might suggest a post-Roman date for its use. As in previous phases of work the partially infilled trackway ditches appear to have attracted a notable number of cremation burials.

37. ASWYAS Excavations 2005

SE 7965 8596

In 2005, ASWYAS excavated an area of about 0.8 hectares at Newbridge Quarry advancing the area of excavations northwards some 90m along Swainsea Lane (Signorelli and Roberts 2006; see Appendix 1). The archaeological remains encountered included the predictable

continuation of the trackway ditches, along with the linear ditches relating to two enclosures appended to the eastern side of the trackway. Within the northern enclosure was the remains of a roundhouse gully, whilst the southern enclosure contained a T-plan corn drier of Roman date. Other features included three inhumation burials, a group of pits and a number of post-holes, the vast majority of which yielded no datable material. The three inhumation burials are undated, but two were stratigraphically later than the eastern trackway ditch and so, although no artefacts were recovered, these are believed to be of early medieval date. To the west of the trackway there was little or no archaeology, the only features being a line of post-holes and a few pits, all of likely post-medieval date.

38. ASWYAS Excavations 2006

SE 7966 8604

In 2006, ASWYAS excavated an area of about 0.8 hectares, advancing the area of excavations northwards by about 90m (Signorelli and Roberts 2006; see Appendix 1). In contrast to the previous years work this phase saw a significant number of archaeological features revealed to the west of the ditched trackway. To the east the familiar pattern of ditched enclosures appended to the eastern side of the trackway continued. To the west of the trackway the western two thirds of the site contained four ditch or gully defined structures. One of these appears to have been a conventional roundhouse with an east-facing entrance, whilst another structure with an east-facing entrance has an unusual elongated pear-shaped plan. The other two structures are sub-rectangular in plan. The larger, in the south-west corner of the excavated area, was defined by a large U-shaped (profile) ditch, whilst a smaller example was defined by an intermittent gully. A line of post-holes running north-west to south-east across the western part of the site are thought to be of post-medieval date. To the east of the trackway, located in the north-east corner of the area, two superimposed roundhouses were identified, both with east-facing entrances. These seemed to pre-date the sub-rectangular enclosure which had a high density of post-holes. A notable feature was a sub-rectangular cont-drier partially constructed with sandstone slabs, located near the southern end of the investigated area, and cutting the east trackway ditch, suggesting either a very late Roman or early medieval date.

39. Rectangular Enclosures

NYM 3201

SE 7968 8778

Two conjoined enclosures were identified by aerial photography in 1976 and survive in the form of a crop mark. The larger enclosure is seen to contain a smaller rectangular enclosure believed to mark the possible location of a former structure. The precise date of the enclosures is unknown. The enclosures are shown on Air Photo TPO 126/6.

40. Ditch?/Boundaries

NYM 3283

SE 797 873

A possible boundary ditch or enclosure identified by aerial photography. The feature of unknown date is shown on Air Photo O.S. 74, 191/126.

41. Enclosures and Trackway

NYM 0

SE 7973 8687

Cropmarks revealed on air photographs appear to reflect the former presence of a complex of rectangular and sub-rectangular enclosures in the north-western part of the proposed extraction area (Plate 4). The complex was partially recorded as part of the previous assessment work (Guildhouse Consultancy 1999, Fig. 4), but the presence of well defined enclosures was not apparent. The enclosures and associated features are of unknown date, but would be consistent with an Iron Age or Romano-British origin. A possible cropmark of a double-ditched trackway running north to south down the western side of the area appears to

reflect the edge of Old Hagg Quarry and is therefore probably not related to the enclosure complex (Air Photos NMR 17029/27-28).

42. Cremation**NYM 3262****SE 7984 8620**

A deposit of compacted lime and charcoal is suggested to mark the location of a cremation, which formed a secondary deposit. It is unclear if the deposit is associated with the Early Bronze Age inhumation (NYM 3261; Cat. no. 38) or a separate feature.

43. Inhumation**NYM 3261****SE 7984 8620**

An Early Bronze Age contracted inhumation. The inhumation was discovered below a layer or hard mass of lime charcoal also containing calcined bones. The inhumation was also discovered in association with an Early Bronze Age pygmy cup and a beaker and spear of similar date. Also discovered were an Early Bronze Age flint scraper and an unidentified flint object.

44. Geophysical survey**SE 7990 8670**

A geophysical (magnetometer) survey covering 19 hectares was carried out by ASWYAS in 2008 on arable farmland north of Newbridge Quarry in advance of a proposed northward extension to the current quarrying operation (Webb 2008; see Appendix 2). The survey has clarified the extent and morphology of the system of fields, trackways and enclosures that had previously been identified as cropmarks. The survey also clearly demonstrates the continuation of the pattern of settlement and enclosure revealed immediately to the south during the several excavations undertaken in advance of the quarries phased northward expansion. The survey shows that archaeological activity seems to be confined to the western half of the proposed extension area with little or no evidence of activity in the eastern part of the site.

45. Newbridge Quarry**NYM 12197****SE 800 859**

The site of Newbridge Quarry. The quarry is first shown on the 1839 map of Pickering (Fig. 7) but is better depicted on the first edition O.S. map of 1854 at which time it was surrounded by a number of limekilns. The quarry site, which was connected by railway sidings to the Whitby Branch Railway, had a tramline, which ran to the northern part of the quarry. The O.S. 25 inch map names a brick works next to the quarry although it remains unclear if the works were associated. Other structures associated with the quarry on the first edition map include two buildings labelled as 'New Cottages'.

46. Hambleton House Farm**NYMO/DoE 71370****SE 8000 8645**

Late 18th-century farmhouse of two-storeys constructed of coursed stone, first mapped as 'New Hambleton' in 1854 (Fig. 8). The farmhouse has a pan tile roof with a coped gable with kneelers end and has attics. The roof has four brick stacks. The front elevation of the building has five windows the central one being blocked. Four windows are also present to the ground floor and there is a glazed porch over the door. The rear elevation has two round-headed windows at attic height with gothic glazing bars. The first floor has three windows on both the first and ground floor. The farmhouse is listed grade II (DoE 1975).

47. Farm Buildings**NYM 12208****SE 805 874**

Farm buildings of 18th or early 19th century date. The DoE listing includes a two-storey stable and storage building facing a single storey stable block across a yard. The farm

buildings are constructed of coursed stone with pan tiles. The structures are grade II listed (DoE 10/447A).

48. East Hambleton Farm NYM 12207 SE 805 874
An 18th-century farmhouse in two storeys constructed of coursed rubble with a pan tile roof. The building has stone eaves, a cornice and four brick stacks. The farmhouse is listed grade II (DoE 101447).

49. Field System NYM 16676 SE 805 864
A field system of unknown date. No further information is available.

50. Square Barrow NYM 16655 SE 807 874
A square barrow of unknown date. No further information is available.

51. Enclosure NYM 12201 SE 807 875
An enclosure of unknown date is marked on the Air Photo overlay sheet of the North Yorkshire Heritage Unit. The photo consulted (ANY 100/1), however, appears to show no archaeology in the area.

52. Field Boundaries NYM 9019 SE 8070 8735
A mix of old field boundaries and geological features. The crop marks were identified in 1970. No further information is available.

53. Ring Ditch NYM 16654 SE 808 873
A ring ditch of unknown date. No further information is available.

54. Ditch NYM 16653 SE 808 872
A linear ditch of unknown date. No further information is available.

55. Yatts Brow Farmhouse NYM O/DoE 101449 SE 8088 8642
Late 18th-century or early 19th-century farmhouse with two distinct building phases. The farmhouse is constructed of coursed stone and has a pan tile roof. The northern section has coped gable ends with kneelers and brick stacks at the gable ends. The farmhouse has two windows with stone lintels and keystones. One three-light window is present to the ground floor. The southern section is lower and has a coped gable end with a stack to the right one window with lintels present in both storeys. The building is grade II listed.

Sites/Finds with imprecise provenances (not shown on Fig. 2)

A. Spear NYM 3225 SE 78 86
A middle to late Bronze Age spear said to have been found at Middleton. The precise provenance of the stray find is, however, unclear. The blade of the spear is approximately 15cms long.

B. Axe head NYM 3227 SE 78 86
An Early to Middle Bronze Age flat axe head.

C. Round Barrow**NYM 3265****SE 80 87**

A round barrow of uncertain location and date. The North Yorkshire Heritage Unit records suggest a date ranging from the Early Bronze Age to the early medieval/Dark Age period. The barrow which is said to be located two miles north of Pickering was excavated by J. Ruddock. At the centre of the barrow was an inhumation associated with a small iron knife of early medieval date. Also discovered were a canine tooth and unidentified object of baked clay.

D. Necklace**NYM 3269****SE 80 85**

An Early Bronze Age necklace. The necklace is described as being incomplete, consisting of a conical stud, two cylindrical beads and two flat dividing plates decorated with an incised saltire (St. Andrew's Cross).

E. Dagger**NYM 3364****SE 80 85**

An Early Bronze Age dagger described as being found near Pickering. It has two large rivets, a long narrow blade and a small tang. The dagger is now in the Bateman Collection in the Sheffield Public Museum (Howarth 1899, 43).

F. Mace**NYM 3367****SE 79 87**

A stone mace said to come from a barrow two miles to the north of Pickering (Bateman 1861, 237). The mace is believed to be of Bronze Age date.

G. Lithic**NYM 3368****SE 80 85**

A prehistoric flint saw of unknown date, recorded by the Ordnance Survey. The only provenance provided for the stray find is a location 'Near Pickering'.

H. Lithic Finds**NYM 3410****SE 79 86**

Unidentified flint object. Bateman (1861, 232) describes the finds as rude instruments recovered from the ruins of a mound near Pickering.

I. Unidentified Find.**NYM 3411****SE 79 86**

An unidentified prehistoric object. Bateman (1861, 232) records that the object was discovered from the remains of a tumulus near Middleton.

J. Lithic Finds**NYM 3412****SE 80 85**

Bateman (1861, 236) notes that under the 'miscellaneous articles' discovered by J. Ruddock there were 211 lithic artefacts apparently discovered around Pickering. Finds listed in the North Yorkshire Heritage Unit records include an arrowhead, spear, hammer stone, scraper, knife, flake and what was described as a 'larger assemblage'.

K. Lithic Debitage**NYM 3413****SE 79 86**

An accumulation of lithic debitage recorded by Bateman (1861, 236) as being collected from a mound near Pickering.

L. Unidentified Find**NYM 3414****SE 79 86**

An unidentified flint object recorded by Bateman as coming from a barrow near Pickering.

M. Excavations**NYM 341513416****SE 80 85**

J. Ruddock carried out excavations on a number of barrows in the Pickering Area in the mid-19th century. No recording of such excavations was, however, undertaken due to his death. Bateman (1861) lists the finds from these excavations but states that it is impossible to identify from which barrow the finds came. Finds discovered include a number of early Bronze Age urns, cups and beakers. Ruddock also discovered various lithic finds (NYM 3416) including arrowheads, hammer stones and spears. The grid reference provided for this finds must therefore be taken to mark a general area.

N. Mace**NYM 3417****SE 80 85**

A stone mace recorded by the Ordnance Survey and said to have been found near Pickering. The grid reference for the find is, however, imprecise and no further information is available. The mace is attributed a Late Neolithic/bronze Age date.

O. Mace**NYM 12190****SE 80 85**

A stone mace now held in the Yorkshire Museum, York (ACC. No. 1057.1948). The stray find is attributed a Late Neolithic/Bronze Age date.

P. Lithic Material**NYM 13328****SE 78 85**

Three Neolithic stone axes and an arrowhead now in the Sturge Collection.

Q. Undated Find**NYM 13329****SE 78 85**

An undated spearhead. No further information is available.

R. Mace**NYM 16102****SE 80 85**

An Neolithic or Bronze Age quartzite axe

S. Flint Axe**NYM 0****SE 79 87**

A flint axe recorded by the Ordnance Survey as being found at Nova. The cutting edge of the flint axe was formed by the removal of a large flint flake. The axe is described as being a multi-purpose tool.

T. Tranchet Axe**NYM 0****SE 79 87**

A flint tranchet axe recorded as a surface find by the Ordnance Survey.

5 Conclusions

Archaeological Potential

On the basis of the available evidence it is clear that the area generally has high potential for early prehistoric burial sites (barrows) and settlement enclosures and field systems of Iron Age and Roman date. There is no evidence for any Anglo-Saxon period activity and medieval and post-medieval activity relates entirely to agricultural use of the land. Within the proposed extraction area there are two principal areas of known archaeological potential: the anticipated continuation of the trackway already investigated in the adjacent area to the south (Cat. no. 30) and the extensive complex of enclosures in the north-western part of the site,

probably representing several phases of activity (Cat. no. 41). There is however potential for additional archaeological sites or features that have remained invisible to the aerial survey so far undertaken, i.e. those features not conducive to producing cropmarks, as evidence through the discovery of small discrete features in the 2003 and 2004 excavation campaigns to the south. The plethora of enigmatic circular features detected in the field immediately to the west (Cat. no. 23) and the presence of a cremation burials to the south and south-west (Cat. nos 35, 42 and 43) make it extremely likely that the distribution of similar such features will extend into the proposed extraction area.

Mitigation

The mineral extraction process will effectively destroy the archaeology of the site and the process will need mitigation through a strategy of archaeological evaluation and investigation.

Stage 1

The nature and extent of the archaeology on the site might be further elucidated through a combination of air photo survey (that would include proper rectification and interpretation of cropmarks), and geophysical survey. Once the extent of the potential archaeological sites has been established the character and date of the archaeology should be ascertained through a programme of systematic field walking and trial trenching.

Stage 2

The results of the remote sensing survey work in combination with the results of the field walking and trial trenching would inform the second stage of the mitigation strategy in determining which areas might be subject to open-area excavation, watching brief, or no further work.