

**Beaumont's Garage
Main Street
Sheriff Hutton
North Yorkshire**

**Archaeological Watching Brief
SE 65117 66350**

Authorised by

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June 2009

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Non Technical Summary

An Archaeological Watching Brief was undertaken by MAP Archaeological Consultancy Ltd during the excavation of slab foundations and drains for 2 three bedroom semi-detached dwellings with attached single garages together with formation of vehicular accesses at Beaumont's Garage, Main Street, Sheriff Hutton, North Yorkshire, in November 2008 and May 2009.

No archaeological features, deposits or finds were encountered during the excavation through modern disturbed deposits.

1. Introduction

- 1.1 This report sets out the results of an Archaeological Watching Brief that was undertaken in November 2008 and May 2009 by MAP Archaeological Consultancy Ltd, at the Land adjacent to Beaumont's Garage, Main Street, Sheriff Hutton, North Yorkshire (SE 66117 66350: Fig. 1). The work was undertaken in accordance with a standard written scheme of investigation, provided by the Heritage and Environment Section of North Yorkshire County Council. The Proposed Development was for the 2 three bedroom semi-detached dwellings with attached single garages together with formation of vehicular accesses (Planning Application Ref. 07/00182/FUL).

- 1.2 The Archaeological Watching Brief was designed to provide an appropriate level of recording for archaeological remains, deposits or finds that might be affected by the ground works, following the

archaeology policy issued by the Secretary of State for the Environment contained in *Planning Policy Guidance 16 'Archaeology and Planning'* (PPG 16), and Ryedale District Council Local Plan (2002: Chapter 9: Policies C1-C5; C7-C11, C13-C15).

- 1.3 All work was funded by Mr Andy Green.
- 1.4 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 of the development is located on the south side of Main Street in Sheriff Hutton. The Proposed Development is situated East of Beaumont's Garage, all buildings had been demolished and tanks had been removed prior to the watching brief commencing (Figs. 1 and 2).
- 2.2 The geology at the site is recorded as till from Palaeozoic and Mesozoic sandstone and shale (Mackney *et al.* 1984, 16), with overlying soils from the Dunkeswick Soil Association, described as "slowly permeable seasonally waterlogged fine loamy and fine loamy over clayey soils, associated with similar clayey soils" (*ibid.*).

3. Historical and Archaeological Background

- 3.1 The site lies on the village green of the medieval village of Sheriff Hutton.
- 3.2 The Domesday Survey of 1086 states that "Eleven carucates in SHERIFF HUTTON were reckoned amongst the possessions of the Count of Mortain, and were soke of the manor of Bulmer which Niel Fossard then held of the count. There were also 4 carucates which had been held by Turchil, Turolf and Turstan as three 'manors' before

the Conquest and had afterwards been unjustly appropriated by Niel. He had surrendered them to the king by 1086" (Page 1923, 172-187).

3.3 In Ed Dennison's 'With the Pale The Story of Sheriff Hutton Park' states Sheriff Hutton had four phases of development and expansion (Denison, 1998).

3.4 The first phase of the village comprised a ringwork and bailey castle at the east end of the village adjacent to the church. In the second phase, a planned village was laid out to the north and west of the first castle, possibly in the early-mid twelfth century. The planned village consisted of two rows of tofts and crofts on both sides of a triangular green, and the ringwork and bailey was modified.

3.5 In the third phase, the village expanded to the west with a wide central street and parallel back lanes and another triangular green at the east end of the main street. This phase is thought to date to the late thirteenth to early fourteenth century.

3.6 The final phase in the village's development saw the construction of the stone castle in the southwest part of the village by John de Nevill in the late fourteenth century. At the same time, the central village green was extended to form a new market place.

4. Aims and Objectives

4.1 The aims of the Archaeological Watching Brief were to observe, record and recover any archaeological finds, deposits or remains, which could be affected by the ground works, and to prepare a report summarising the results of the work.

5. Methodology

- 5.1 The area of the slab foundations and the service trenches were excavated using a 360 degree, mini-mechanical excavator using a toothless ditching bucket, under close archaeological supervision.
- 5.2 All work was carried out in line with the Institute of Field Archaeologists Code of Conduct (IFA 2002).
- 5.4 A photographic record was maintained throughout the Watching Brief on a digital camera.

6. Results

- 6.1 The reduced level dig for the slab foundation excavated down c. 400mm through disturbed modern deposits. The service/drainage trench was c. 600mm wide and was 600mm deep. The foundation strip and the service trench excavation was undertaken under close archaeological supervision (Pls. 3 and 4).
- 6.2 No archaeological finds or artefacts were uncovered during the watching brief.

7. Conclusions

- 7.1 During the Archaeological Watching Brief, no finds or features of archaeological interest were encountered.

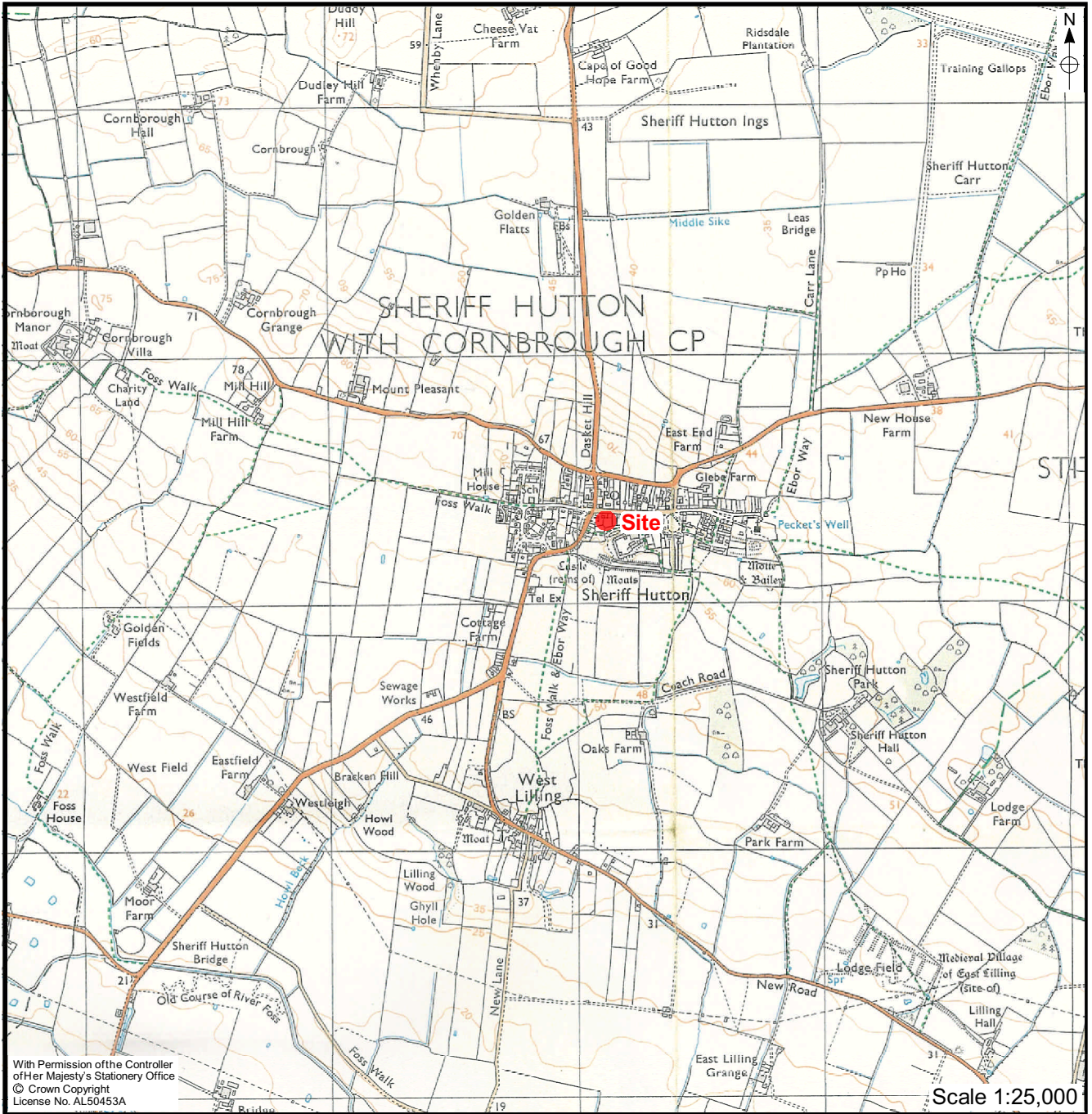


Figure 1. Site Location

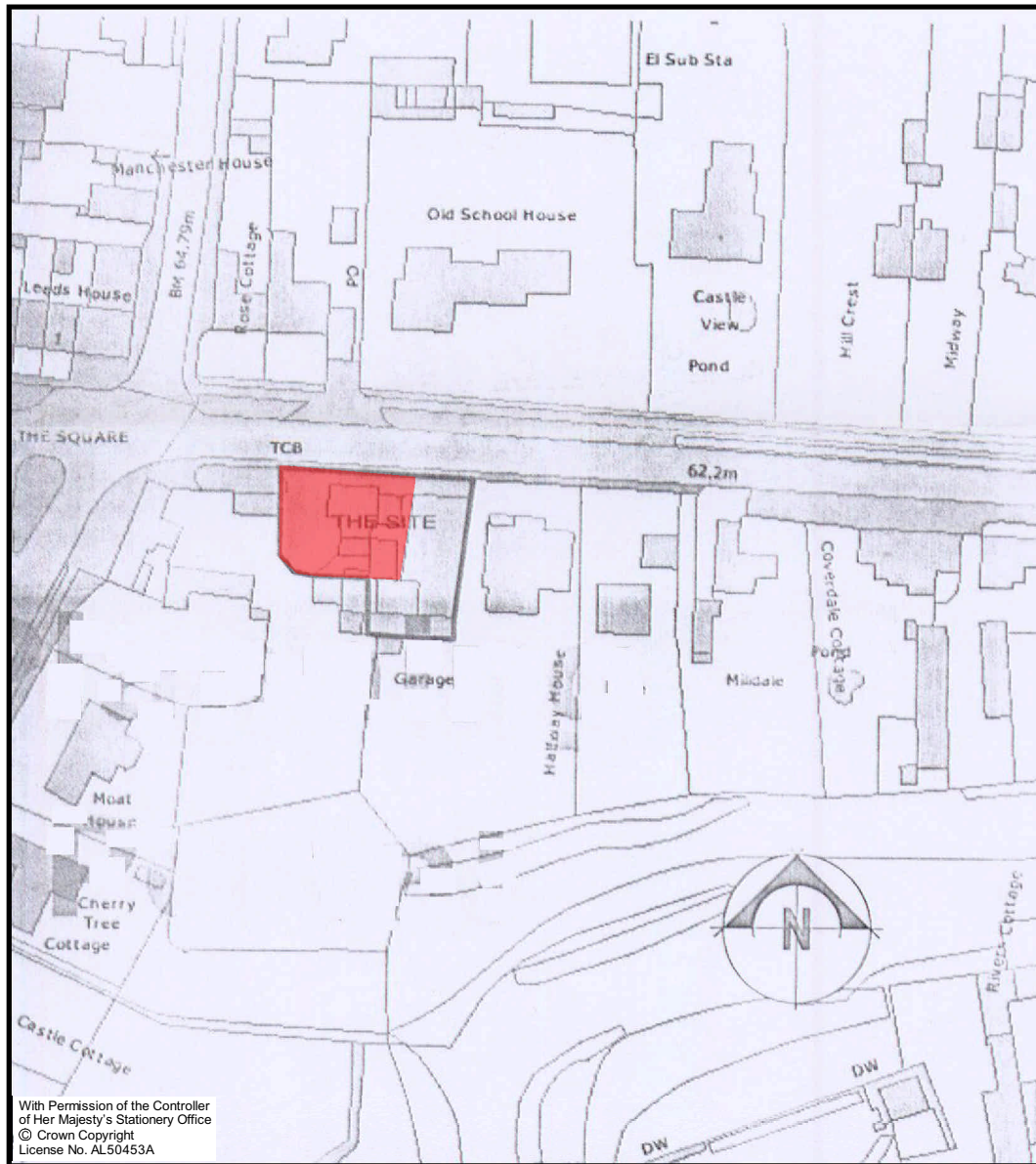


Figure 2 . Development Area.



Plate 1. General view of Site. Facing East.



Plate 2. Slab foundation Strip. Facing West.



Plate 3. Slab Foundation Strip. Facing East.



Plate 4. Slab Foundation Strip. Facing South-east.