

**Land Adjacent to Church Cottage
The Croft and Church End
Sheriff Hutton
North Yorkshire**

**Archaeological Strip and Record
SE 65607 66322**

Authorised by

Date:.....

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June 2009

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Non Technical Summary

An Archaeological Strip and Record was undertaken by MAP Archaeological Consultancy Ltd during the topsoil strip and excavation of strip footings for a two-bedroomed dwelling on Land adjacent to Church Cottage on The Croft and, Church End, Sheriff Hutton, North Yorkshire, on the 1st June 2008.

The Proposed Development Site is within the Sheriff Hutton Designated Conservation Area and is 50m north-west of a Scheduled Ancient Monument (No. 30114).

No archaeological features, deposits or finds were encountered during the excavation down to natural deposits for the house strip foundation trenches.

1. Introduction

- 1.1 This report sets out the results of an Archaeological Strip and Record that was undertaken on the 1st June 2009 by MAP Archaeological Consultancy Ltd, at the Land adjacent to Church Cottage at the Croft and Church End, Sheriff Hutton, North Yorkshire (SE 65607 66322: Fig. 1). The work was undertaken in accordance with a written scheme of investigation, sent to Ryedale District Council Planners. The Proposed Development was for the erection two bedroomed dwelling (Planning Application Ref. 09/00089/FUL).

1.2 The Archaeological Strip and Record 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 Church End in Sheriff Hutton. The Proposed Development is situated on a western half of the garden of the Church Cottage, on the corner of Church End and the Croft on the South side of the village Green (Figs. 1 and 2). The Proposed Development Area is within the Sheriff Hutton Designated Conservation Area.

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.
- 3.7 Sheriff Hutton Castle and the ringwork and bailey fortifications are Scheduled Ancient Monuments and the Church of St. Helen and the Holy Cross is a Grade I Listed Building.

4. Aims and Objectives

- 4.1 The aims of the Archaeological Strip and Record 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 A 800m wide strip In the area of the proposed strip foundations was undertaken using a tracked, 360 degree, mini-mechanical excavator using a toothless ditching bucket, under close archaeological supervision. The 500-700mm of topsoil and subsoil were removed during this strip.
- 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 strip of the dwelling foundation trench area were watched under close archaeological supervision. The topsoil was initially stripped to a depth of c. 500mm to 700mm (Pls. 3 and 4). The trenches were excavated through topsoil and subsoil and revealed natural clay and stone in the base.
- 6.2 No archaeological finds or artefacts were uncovered during the observed strip.

7. Conclusions

- 7.1 During the Strip and Record, no finds or features of archaeological interest were encountered.

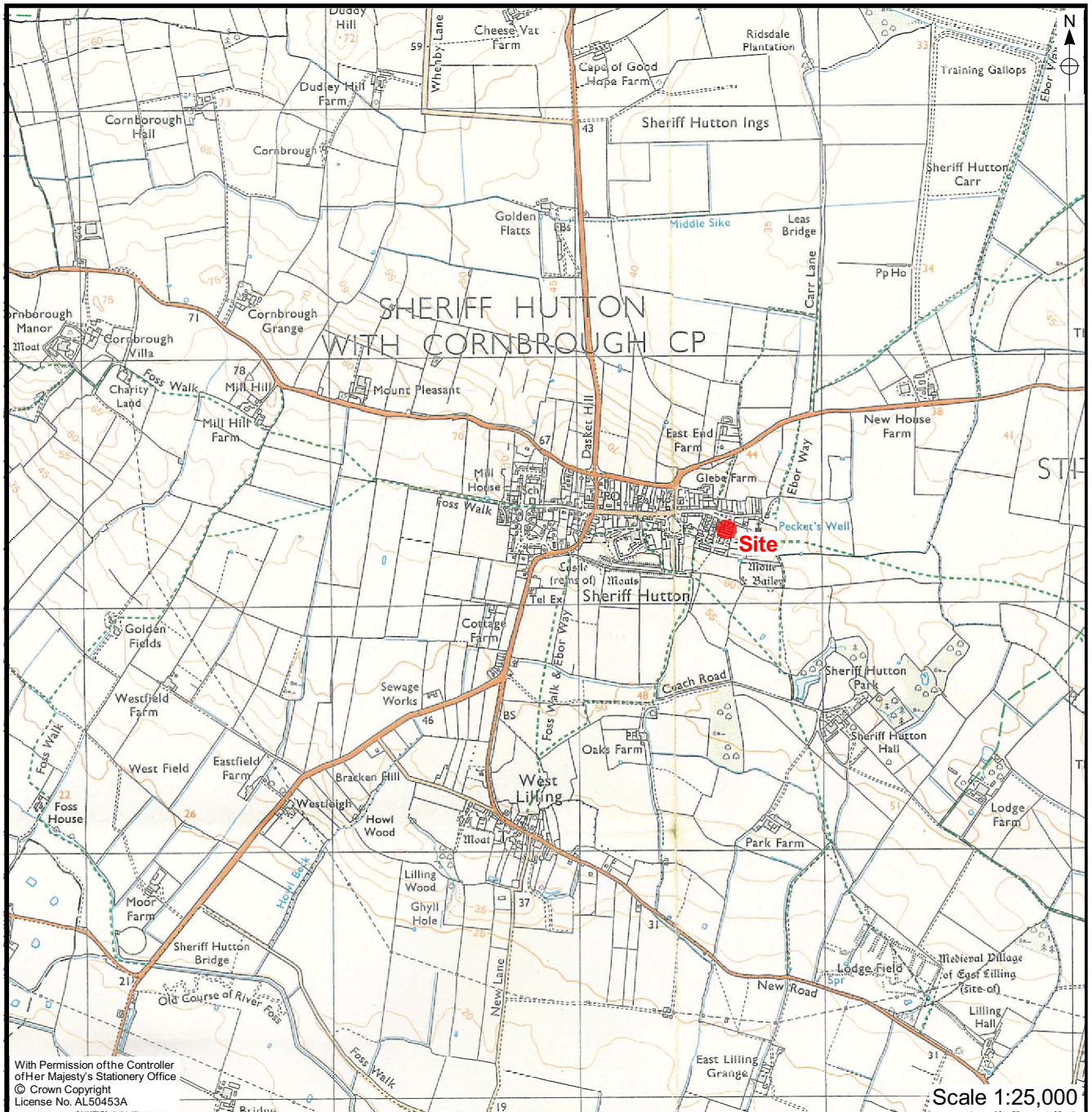


Figure 1. Site Location

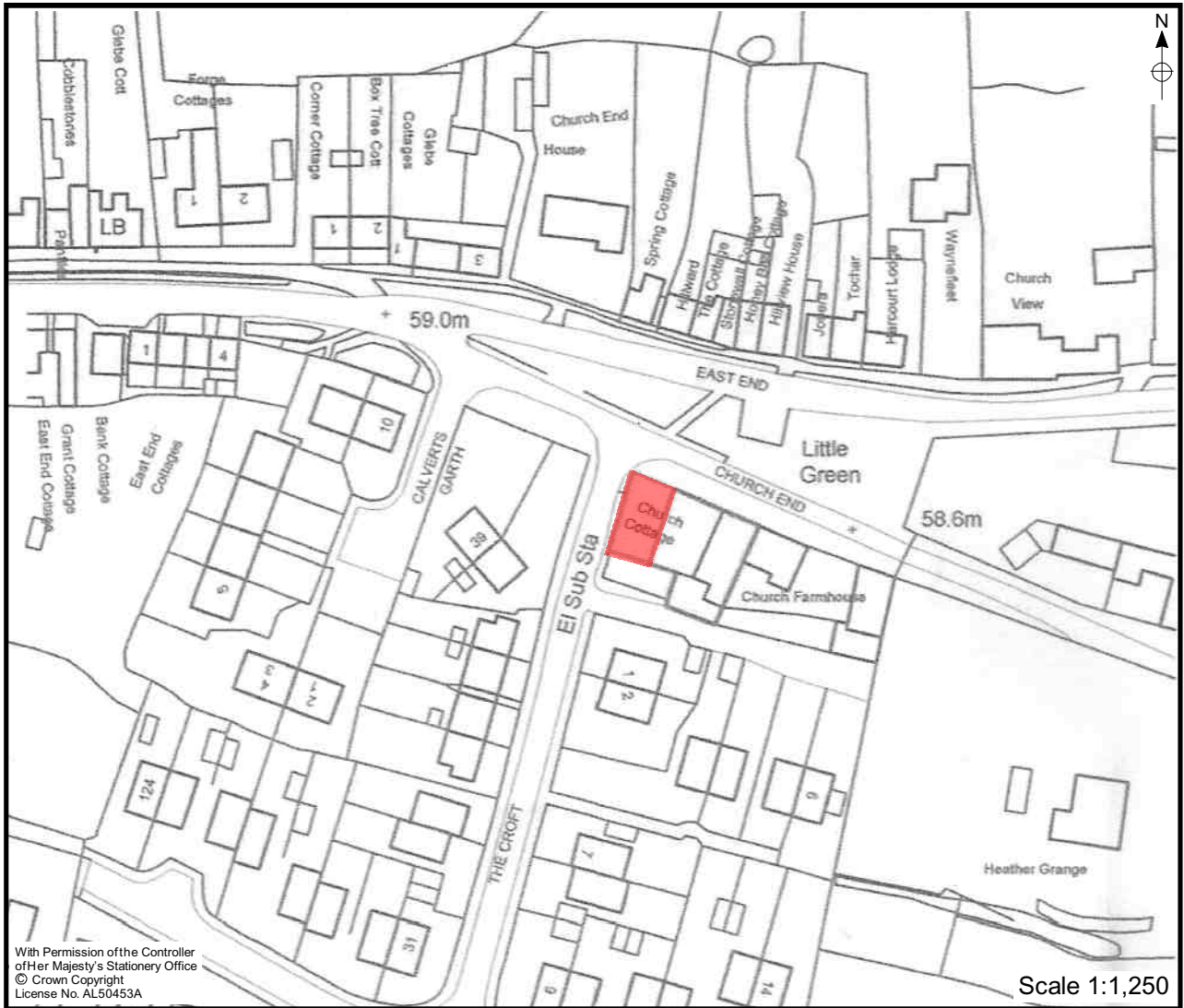


Figure 2. Proposed Development Area.

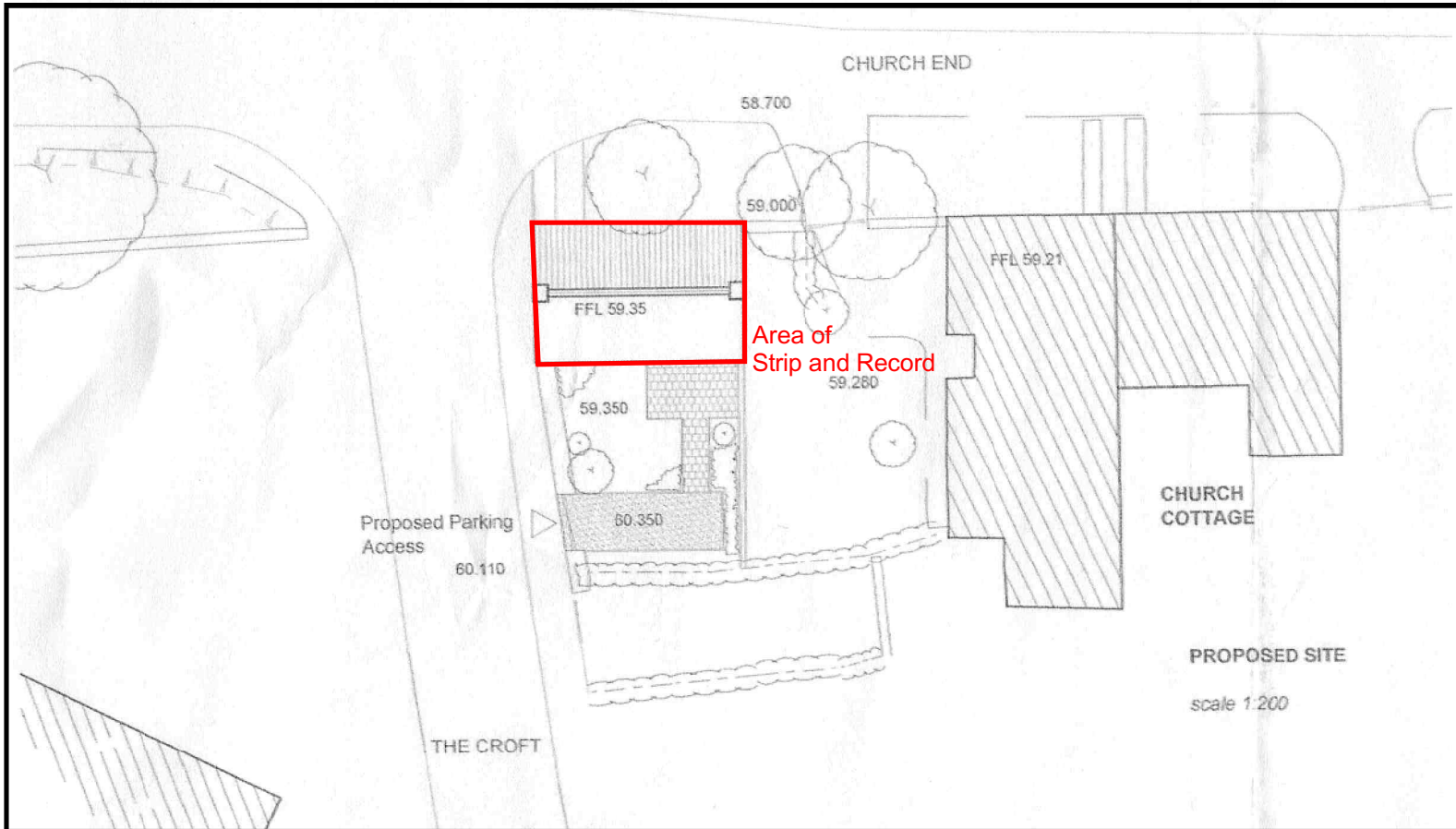


Figure 3. Area of Archaeological Strip and Record.



Plate 1. General view of Site. Facing South-east.



Plate 2. General view of Site. Facing South.



Plate 3. Site before vegetation strip. Facing East.



Plate 4. Site after vegetation strip. Facing South-east.



Plate 5. Area of Strip Foundation. Facing South.



Plate 6. Area of Strip Foundation. Facing East.