

NYCC HER	
SNY	12737
ENY	4879
CNY	8486
Parish	3096
Rec'd	

---



---

LAND ADJACENT TO WELHAM ROAD, NORTON ON DERWENT,  
NORTH YORKSHIRE.

---



---

AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL DESK-BASED ASSESSMENT.  
OSA REPORT No: OSA09DT01

March 2009.

**OSA**

---

**ON SITE ARCHÆOLOGY LTD**

25A Milton Street • York • North Yorkshire • YO10 3EP  
telephone • 01904 411673 • fax • 01904 414522 • mobile • 07767 385766  
e-mail • mail@onsitearchaeology.co.uk  
© On-Site Archaeology, 2009.

09/00282/MOUT C8486.

3096 parsn

E 4579

S12737

---

**Report Details**

---

**REPORT NO:** OSA09DT01**SITE NAME:** Land adjacent to Welham Road, Norton on Derwent**COUNTY:** North Yorkshire**NATIONAL GRID REFERENCE:** SE 792 713**COMMISSIONED BY:** Projekt Architects  
Rotterdam House  
116 Quayside  
Newcastle Upon Tyne  
NE1 3DY**RESEARCH AND TEXT:** Graham Bruce & Berny McCluskey**GRAPHICS:** Graham Bruce & Berny McCluskey**TIMING:** Research and Report preparation  
March 2009**ENQUIRIES TO:** Nick Pearson  
On Site Archaeology  
25A Milton Street  
York  
YO10 3EP**tel** (01904) 411673  
**fax** (01904) 414522  
**mobile** (07767) 385766  
**e-mail** mail@onsitearchaeology.co.uk

---

## Table of Contents.

---

1.0 Abstract.....	4
2.0 Introduction.....	6
3.0 Methodology.....	6
4.0 Site Location, Landuse, Topography and Geology.....	6
5.0 Gazetteer of Sites and Artefacts.....	7
6.0 Archaeological and Historical Background.....	13
6.1 The Prehistoric Period (to the 1 <sup>st</sup> Century AD).....	13
6.2 The Roman Period (1st to the 5th centuries AD).....	13
6.3 Early Medieval periods (5th to 11th centuries AD).....	14
6.4 The Medieval Period (11th to the mid 16th centuries AD).....	14
6.5 The Post-Medieval to Modern Periods (mid 16 <sup>th</sup> to 21 <sup>st</sup> centuries).....	15
7.0 Cartographic Evidence.....	17
8.0 Site Visit.....	20
9.0 Discussion and Archaeological Implications.....	21
10.0 List of Sources.....	22
11.0 The Plates.....	23



---

## List of Figures.

---

Figure 1. Site Location (NGR SE 792 713) .....	5
Figure 2. Locations of sites and artefacts mentioned in the gazetteer .....	12
Figure 3. Extract from the map of Yorkshire by Thomas Jeffries 1772 (Approximate site location highlighted in yellow) .....	17
Figure 4. Extract from the First Edition Ordnance Survey map of 1854 .....	18
Figure 5. Extract from the 1911 Ordnance Survey map.....	19
Figure 6. Extract from the 1928 Ordnance Survey map.....	20
Figure 7. Extract from the 1938 Ordnance Survey map.....	20

---

## List of Plates.

---

Plate 1. Derelict clothing factory fronting onto Welham Road, looking south .....	23
Plate 2. Derelict factory building extending south along western site perimeter, looking southwest .....	23
Plate 3. Open area accessible from Welham Road, looking north .....	24
Plate 4. Open area to the east of factory buildings, looking north .....	24
Plate 5. Spoil heaps and demolished building along eastern perimeter, looking east .....	25

---

## 1.0 Abstract.

---

*This Desktop Assessment has been prepared at the request of Projekt Architects to provide information regarding the archaeological potential of a portion of land adjacent to Welham Road, Norton on Derwent, North Yorkshire. The site is bounded by Welham Road to the northwest, by Springfield Garth to the west and south and by an access road to the rear of St Nicholas Street to the northeast. The site is currently occupied by the partially derelict buildings of a 20<sup>th</sup> century clothing factory and overgrown open areas. The research undertaken in the preparation of this assessment has indicated that the site is unlikely to contain archaeological remains of such significance as to prevent development from taking place. Features of Romano-British or medieval date may be present. Due to the likelihood that such features are present on the site some form of archaeological mitigation will be necessary as part of development.*



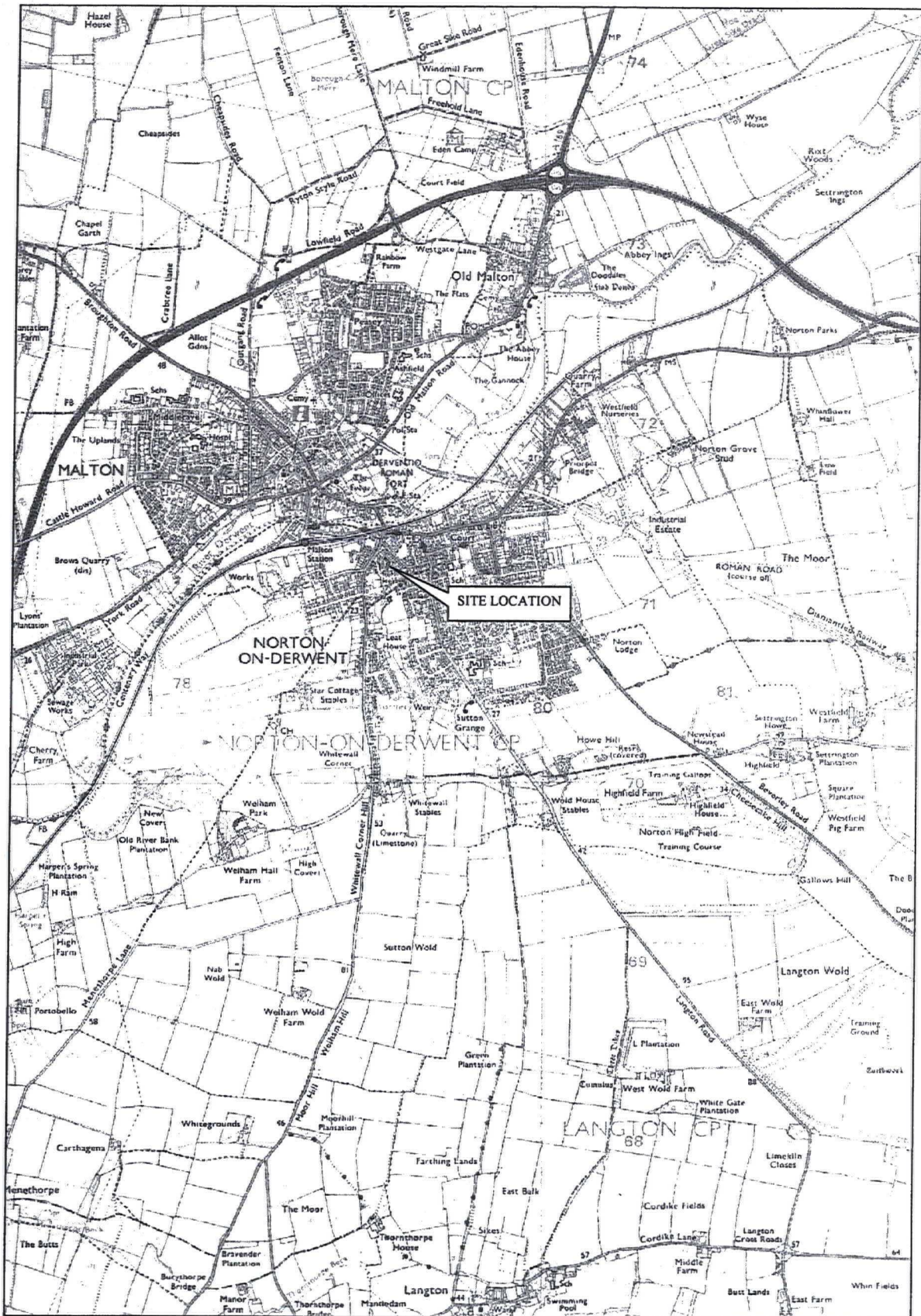


Figure 1. Site Location (NGR SE 792 713)

Reproduced from the 2000 Ordnance Survey 1:25 000 and 1:50000 maps with the permission of The Controller of Her Majesty's Stationery Office.

© Crown copyright. OSA Licence No: AL 52132A0001



---

## 2.0 Introduction.

---

In March 2009 an archaeological desktop study was undertaken by *On Site Archaeology* on a partly developed land adjacent to Welham Road, Norton on Derwent, North Yorkshire. The site is located to the south of Malton on the south side of the River Derwent bounded by residential properties on all sides. It is centred at approximately NGR SE 792 713, (Figure 1). The study was undertaken to provide archaeological information in support of a planning application for the construction of an Aldi supermarket and associated facilities. The historical and archaeological significance of the study area was assessed using a variety of sources including cartographic evidence, the North Yorkshire Heritage Environment Record (HER); sources held by the North Yorkshire County Record Office, Malton, Norton and York libraries and published archaeological and historical reports.

---

## 3.0 Methodology.

---

The historical and archaeological significance of the site was assessed using a variety of sources. These include cartographic evidence, records held at the North Yorkshire Heritage Environment Record (HER) office, North Yorkshire County Record Office, Malton, Norton and York Libraries, the online archaeological catalogues held by The Archaeological Data Service and the English Heritage National Monument Record, and published archaeological and historical reports. The assistance of the staff at these records offices is greatly appreciated.

Archaeological and historical data has been collected over an area extending for a distance of approximately 1km from the site. The locations of these data points are indicated on Figure.2.

A site visit was undertaken to enhance the understanding of the modern landuse of the site, especially with regards to its effect upon the archaeological record and to identify any potential archaeological remains within the boundaries of the site. A photographic record was made of the site during this site visit, a selection of these photographs are used to illustrate this report (see Plates 1-6).

Site research notes are currently stored with On Site Archaeology.

---

## 4.0. Site Location, Landuse, Topography and Geology.

---

The application area considered by this report lies approximately 600m south of the town centre of Malton and 200m west of the town centre of Norton-On-Derwent, and centred at NGR SE 792 713 (Figure 1). The site is bounded to the northwest Welham Road, to the northeast by an access road leading to rear properties of St. Nicholas Street and to the west and south by Springfield Garth. The site area is 7614.5m<sup>2</sup> (1.88 acres, 0.76 hectares) and measures at its maximum 112m in length and 82m in width. Presently occupying the site is a large derelict clothing factory fronting on Welham Road that extends south along the western perimeter of the site. The open ground surfaces on the eastern side the factory building are

generally flat at approximately 18.5m AOD with hard-standing within its northern half and overgrown rough grass to the south.

The overlying drift geology comprises of sands and gravels overlying warp and lacustrine clay. The solid geology is Oolitic limestone forming the eastern edge of the Howardian Hills, which has been utilised as an important local building material for the last two thousand years (Robinson 1978, p.1).

## 5.0 Gazetteer of Sites and Artefacts.

The following section lists the sites and artefacts of archaeological or historical potential that are recorded in the various sources consulted. This does not include every single entry found within the 1km search radius, only those that are likely to contribute to the archaeological potential of the site being studied. For example, Malton town centre includes a large number of small-scale archaeological interventions, and the area contains numerous post-medieval and early modern buildings, which are not listed individually. Where possible the relevant Sites and Monuments Record (North Yorkshire Historic Environment Record), number is given, together with other bibliographic references where used. The locations of the recorded sites are plotted on Figure 2. The gazetteer is presented in approximately geographical order, from west to east.

Map No	Name	NGR	SMR/HER no	Description
1	Geophysics and trail trenching	SE 784 713 approximate location.	ENY1973, 1974, 1999 and 2000	Area of investigation under the Malton, Norton and Old Malton Flood Alleviation Scheme. No archaeology identified.
2	Cropmarks	SE 782 711	MNY2946	Barrow cemetery (800 BC? to 42? AD), Square barrow (800 BC? to 42 AD?). Cropmarks of six ditched squares/barrows.
3	Evaluation	SE 783 717	ENY3841	Eight trail trenches excavated to the rear of Barton Cottage revealed a number of linear features of uncertain date probably field boundaries of pre-medieval date.
4	Find spot	SE 785 711	MNY2936	Brickworks, Norton, a hammer-stone and flint knife/scrapper found in brickyard dated to Bronze Age 2500 BC? to 701 BC?
5	Building	SE 786 717	MNY2527	St. Michael's Church, Malton. Existing church, the earliest part of church dated to the 12 <sup>th</sup> century and modified during the 15 <sup>th</sup> century.
6	Earthwork, cropmark	SE 785 705	MNY2335	Believed to be Roman road but a later date is thought to be more acceptable. During the 18 <sup>th</sup> century referred to as an 'old coach road'. Visible in some areas as earthworks and Cropmarks.
7	Watching brief	SE 78710 71884	ENY3578	Watching brief during the development of the Friends Meeting House, Greengate, Malton uncovered a wall of medieval date, left uncovered and in-situ.
8	Stray find	SE 7875 7172	MNY2537	Medieval stone found under a footpath at Malton, finely foliated capitol. No other details.
9	Trial trench	SE 7871 7169	ENY888	Trial trench evaluation at 11-13 Wheelgate. Medieval and later deposits encountered.
10	Excavation	SE 7877 7153	ENY10	Excavation at Safeway Stores, Castlegate, Malton. Eight trenches excavated on a



				c.0.5ha site between Castlegate and the River Derwent revealed small-scale late medieval activity and industrial features of 18th-19th century date. Funded by Safeway Plc.
11	Cropmark	SE 7872 7077	MNY3043	Series of rectangular ditched enclosures, it could be accounted for by drainage though they appear rather widely spaced. Interpreted from aerial photography.
12	Inhumations/cremations	SE 79 71 approximate location	MNY2851 2852, 2846, 2838, 3007	Inhumations and cremations in an urn with associated finds. Urns described as globular with inverted rim and concentric girth grooves, other urns as having diamond shaped incisions. Burials in crouched positions. Dated as Roman. Uncovered sometime before the 1950s.
13	Find spots	SE 79 71 approximate location	MNY2962, 293,2960,2939,2957,2958, 2959,2961	A number of finds including Bronze Age flint-scraper, hammer-stone, bronze flat axe-head and later Roman finds including bronze and ivory figurines, inscribed stone and leather sole.
14	Building	SE 7885 7168	MNY2528	St. Leonard's Church Malton, earliest part of church dates to the 12 <sup>th</sup> century. Probably originally a chapel of Old Malton Church.
15	Motte and Bailey monument	SE 7902 7165	MNY2525	Motte and bailey. This was granted by Henry I to Eustace Fitz John during the early 12 <sup>th</sup> century. Held by Robert De Brus in 1322 who destroyed it. It was destroyed in 1600 to make way for a Jacobean mansion. The only part to survive is part of a wall behind Caste Hotel.
16	Watching brief	SE 7908 7114	ENY3960	Watching brief carried out at Springfield Garth, Norton revealed features of a medieval date with recovery of some residual Romano-British pottery sherds.
17	Watching brief	SE 7902 7095	ENY1656	Observation and recording of a machine cut trench. No obvious archaeological significance.
18	Building	SE 791 712 approximate location	MNY2848	Welham Road, sometime prior to 1928 Roman buildings were found along with urns, coins and pottery.
19	Trial trenching	SE 79052 71643	ENY2599	Five trenches excavated by Time Team revealed a Roman ditch, part of medieval castle, and post-medieval house and garden.
20	Find spot	SE 7913 7172	MNY2635	Roman stone base and shaft of a cross found within the area of the Roman Fort.
21	Moat	SE 7917 7135	MNY2796	This has been described as a Roman camp though a medieval moated site is more likely. Appears on earlier Ordnance Maps as earthworks later completely build over.
22	Watching brief	SE 79166 71575	ENY2467	Watching brief at Malton fire station on Castlegate revealed a stone wall, intercutting ditches and several occupation layers containing Romano-British pottery
23	Cropmarks	SE 7919 7021	MNY3044	Circular and ditched enclosures of a suggested early Bronze Age to Iron Age.
24	Cropmarks, ditch, trackway	Centeroid SE 7931 7074	MNY 2842	Cropmarks of two parallel ditches suggested to probable trackway. Roman to modern?
25	Cropmarks, watching brief	Centeroid SE 7829 6749	MNY2359	Roman road (43AD? - 409 AD?) for much of its length it is represented by a modern

				road, but can be identified as a ditch at its northern end and two parallel ditches at its southern end where metallurgy is also suggested. A watching brief on the heavily truncated parallel ditches revealed Romano-British pottery.
26	Find spot	SE 793 704	MNY2998	Roman urn found along with coins, a fragment of amphora within the inscription -Candii- and so called foundation stones.
27	Watching brief	SE 79250 71370	ENY145	Watching brief at Royal Oak Public House, Norton revealed a wall of unknown date.
28	Watching brief	SE 79315 71230	ENY3150	Watching brief at 8 Langton Road, Norton. No details available.
29	Watching brief	SE 79440 71140	ENY3589	Watching brief at Ness House, 57 Langton Road, Norton revealed no archaeology.
30	Watching brief	SE 79282 70912	ENY4335	Watching brief at land to the rear of 68 Langton Road, Norton revealed only a small assemblage of residual Roman pottery. No archaeological features were identified.
31	Watching brief	SE 79311 70900	ENY837	Watching brief at Norton Youth Club, 68 Langton Road. No details available.
32	Watching brief	SE 79142 70762	ENY926	Watching brief at 92 Langton Road. No details available.
33	Watching brief	SE 79457 70803	ENY978	Watching brief at 127 Langton Road. No details available.
34	Watching brief	SE 79611 70643	ENY2883	Watching brief at Norton Collage, Langton Road revealed no archaeological features or finds.
35	Cropmarks, ditch, road	Centeroid SE 7933 7088	MNY2993	Suggested to be Roman line of outer ditches as Cropmarks near Grove House and as surface irregularities at about SE 7931 7122. Aerial photography show possible quarry pits centred SE 7936 7062.
36	Building	SE 79249 71591	MNY2651	Roman building that lay outside of the fort and was built of well-cut ashlar. It included an apsidal wall, fragment of dedicatory slab referring to ALA PIC ENTIANA was recovered from debris. There is no evidence of it being a bath house.
37	Vicus, wall	SE 7922 7161	MNY2656	The vicus lay between the southeast wall of the fort and the river. It may have come into being in the period immediately after the establishment of the fort, but first evidence of occupation is TRAJANIC. It seems to have been most prosperous during the 3 <sup>rd</sup> and first half of the 4 <sup>th</sup> century.
38	Trial trenching	SE 79446 71326	ENY3955	Two trial trenches at 27 Wood Street revealed well stratified Roman deposits including a road side ditch, two medieval pits and a post-medieval limestone wall was also recorded.
39	Watching brief	SE 79560 71310	ENY3957	Watching brief at Bright Steels, Norton revealed Roman road, buildings and ditches. Also recorded was a build up of colluvium and later development of 19 <sup>th</sup> century cottages.
40	Watching brief	SE 79429 71119	ENY3172	A watching brief at Suttons Stables, Sutton Street, revealed a single probable



				Roman pit.
41	Watching brief	SE 79429 71125	ENY2160	Watching brief at 4A Sutton Street. No details available.
42	Find spot	SE 7929 7142	MNY2709	Roman inscribed stone is described as being inserted in a building as walling stone and found during the rebuilding of St. Nicholas Church. The inscription reads FELICITER SIT/GENIO LOCI/SERVILE VTERE/FELIX TABER/AM AVREFI/CINAM.
43	Cremation	SE 7928 7130	ENY2777	Cremation within a cinerary urn that lay next to a lidless stone coffin.
44	Mixed cemetery	Centeroid SE 7942 7103	MNY2765	A mixed variety finds of both inhumations and cremations during the 18 <sup>th</sup> – 20 <sup>th</sup> centuries indicate an extensive cemetery flanking a road approaching Norton from the south and a road from the east.
45	Building	Centeroid SE 79344 71152	MNY2788, 2789	Substantial 2 <sup>nd</sup> to 4 <sup>th</sup> century Roman building with one room that had OPUS SIGNINUM floor with evidence of a smelting kiln. The building overlay earlier foundations.
46	Cremation	SE 794 710	MNY2769	Discovery of a cremation urn at Langton Road.
47	Building floor, inhumation	SE 7934 7093	MNY2773	Described as a Roman pitched and covered with roofing slates. Sealed an infant burial.
48	Cemetery	SE 794 707	MNY2831	Roman cemetery with over 30 burials including a number of mid to 4 <sup>th</sup> century Germanic burials. These may have represented German officers serving in the Malton garrison. It was enclosed by a wall and ditch, bounded by Langton and Norton Road.
49	Cropmarks	SE 7940 7065	MNY2940, 2942, 2944	A number of square ditched enclosures/barrows of possible Iron Age date.
50	Cropmarks	Centeroid SE 7932 7071	MNY2980	Cropmarks of a ditch/trackway that runs parallel to medieval road.
51	Cropmarks, earthworks	Centeroid SE 7904 6951	MNY2997	Road of medieval to post-medieval date. Marked on I W Malton's map as old road to York. In part survives as a hollow way and is most pronounced at Sutton village.
52	Grange	SE 7946 7049	MNY2971	Medieval grange (1066 AD – 1299 AD). Listed in the mid-13 <sup>th</sup> century as belonging to Old Malton Priory. It was sold in 1550 and its assets included a fishery.
53	Earthworks, deserted settlement	SE 7960 7044	MNY2987	Deserted medieval settlement of Sutton (1066 AD? – 1539 AD?). A number of house plots still visible in 1951 and old foundations noted on first edition OS map. Though shown on 17 <sup>th</sup> century maps it was omitted by Jeffreys 1771.
54	Cropmarks	SE 7947 7022	MNY2945	Square barrow cemetery possibly dated to the Iron Age. This includes 18 ditched squares/barrows some of which have central pits between 3m to 6m across.
55	Cropmarks	SE 796 702	MNY3046, 3045	Ditch/trackway and ditched enclosure of unknown date.
56	Evaluation	SE 79555 71489	MNY24313	An evaluation at 87 Commercial Street, Norton revealed in-situ Roman remains that included stone structures and pits. Later medieval features were also record that include pits, cess pits and linear features.
57	Norton village	Centeroid SE 792 711	MNY2859,	Norton in Domesday Book. There seems very little doubt that Norton would have become very dependant on new Malton from at least the 13 <sup>th</sup> century.

58	Kiln?	SE 7959 7147	MNY2836	Finds of Roman pottery some partly fired along with fired clay mat indicate the presence of kiln/s in this area.
59	Excavation and salvage recording	SE 79797 71312	ENY168, 2113	Excavation and salvage recording at Parkfield House, Norton, where a Roman road, kiln and other features were recorded.
60	Finds spot	SE 7969 7149	MNY2710	Roman inscribed stone reads DEO/RIGAE/SCIRVS DIC/SAC VSLM and described as coming from a building in Norton.
61	Mixed cemetery	SE Centeroid 797 713	MNY2797, 2800, 2802, 2805, 2807	A mixed variety finds of both inhumations and cremations during the 18 <sup>th</sup> – 20 <sup>th</sup> centuries indicate an extensive cemetery flanking a road from Norton to Settrington.
62	Mixed cemetery	SE Centeroid 7942 7103	MNY2765	A mixed variety finds of both inhumations and cremations during the 18 <sup>th</sup> – 20 <sup>th</sup> centuries indicate an extensive cemetery flanking a road approaching from the south and another from the east.
63	Cropmarks	SE 8006 7115	MNY2885	Two small ditched enclosures of presumed Iron Age date attached to larger ditch enclosures.
64	Find spot	SE 7975 7106	MNY2745	Model Farm Estate. During construction of foundations, a large amount of Roman occupation was uncovered, including paving and foundation.
65	Find spot, kiln	SE 7976 7103	MNY2716	Model Farm Estate. A quantity of burnt material with rumble roof slates iron knife and pottery may indicate kiln or associated structure.
66	Pavement	SE 7977 7100	MNY2740	Model Farm Estate. Very uneven Roman pavement constructed from local limestone and imported? Sandstone. Two fragments of quern-stones incorporated in it. A large number of objects was recovered from its surface including coins of TETRICUS II and CONSTANTIUS II. Red tile and sandstone slabs may indicate roofed structure.
67	Pottery kiln	SE 7978 7095	MNY2727	Model Farm Estate. Roman pottery kiln revealed during excavation of a sewer trench. The flue was 0.6m in length and 0.31m in width. It was completely made of clay and filled with a mass of broken kiln wall.
68	Pottery kiln	SE 7978 7095	MNY2715	Model Farm Estate. Roman pottery kiln comprised of clay lined furnace pit, two floors, a flue and stone wall.
69	Cropmarks	SE 7949 7086	MNY2723	Cropmarks believed to be a Roman kiln site.
70	Cremation	SE 7965 7086	MNY2760	Model Farm Estate. Cremations within Norton ware urns, one of which was accompanied by an iron penannular brooch.
71	Find spot	SE 79627 70745	MNY24062	William II coronation medal found at The Chase, Norton
72	Cropmarks	SE 7997 7047	MNY4888	Ditched enclosure and 4 square barrows of presumed Iron Age date.



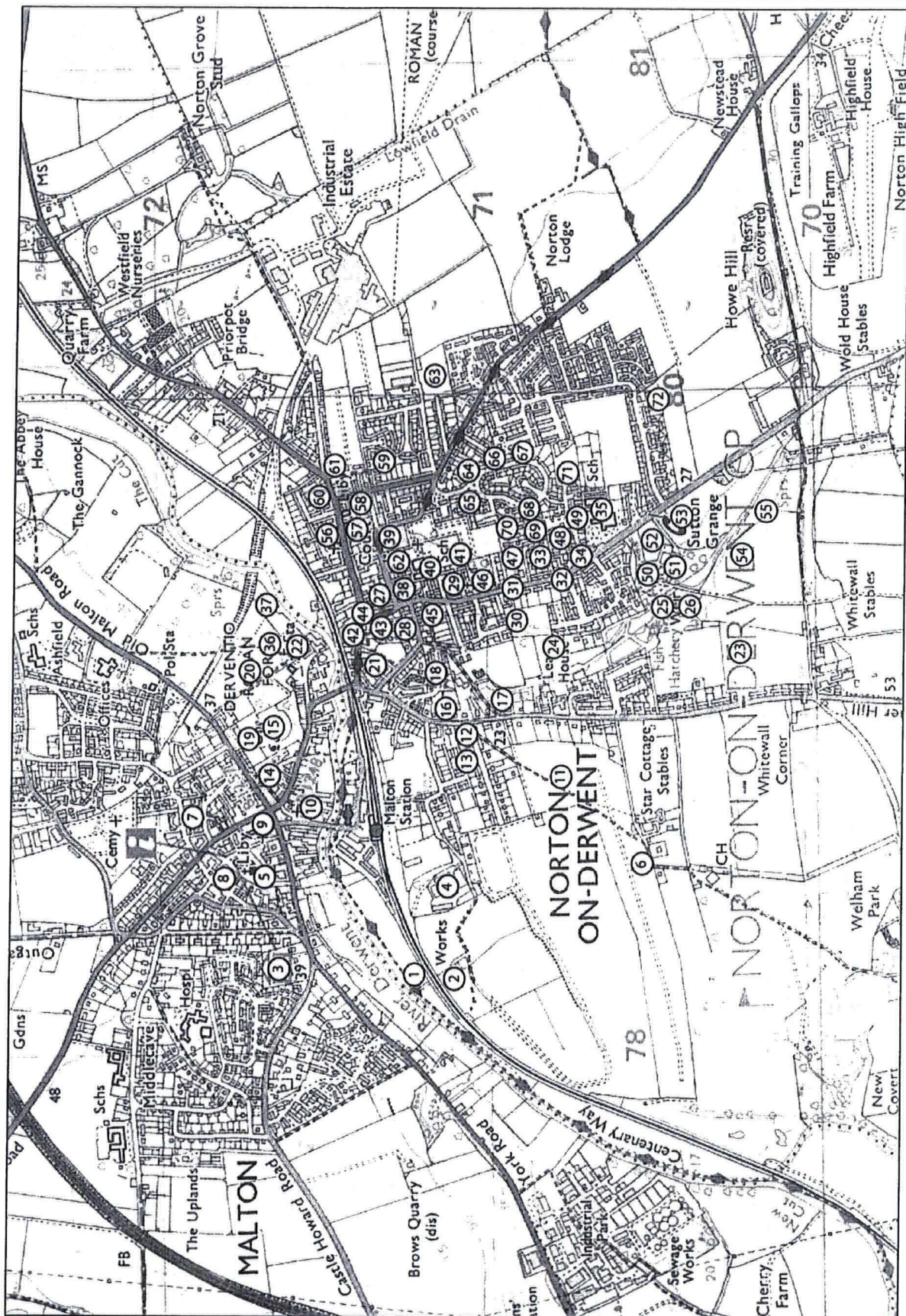


Figure 2. Locations of sites and artefacts mentioned in the gazetteer.

Reproduced from the 2000 Ordnance Survey 1:25 000 and 1:50 000 maps with the permission of The Controller of Her Majesty's Stationery Office.  
 © Crown copyright. OSA Licence No: AL 52132A0001



---

## 6.0 Archaeological and Historical Background.

---

### 6.1 *The Prehistoric Period (to the 1<sup>st</sup> Century AD).*

Evidence for the Prehistoric period in the study area takes two forms; stray finds and cropmarks recorded by aerial photography.

The search has found no evidence for the earliest periods of human activity, the Palaeolithic, Mesolithic, or Neolithic.

Occasional objects of Bronze Age date have been found within the area covered by this study (5.4 and 5.13 in Section 5). However, it is uncertain what level of activity these may represent. Given the relative rarity of evidence for this period this may have been occasional visits rather than prolonged periods of activity.

The Iron Age is much more comprehensively represented in the gazetteer. Cropmarks have been identified especially to the south and east of Norton (5.23, 5.49, 5.45, 5.63, 5.72) indicating the presence of enclosures and square barrow cemeteries that have been assigned an Iron Age date on typological grounds. A single cropmark further to the west (5.2) suggests that this occupation may have been even more widespread. The site of a small agricultural Iron Age settlement has been identified on the north side of the River Derwent, close to the southeast side of the Roman fort (Robinson, 1978, p.4).

### 6.2 *The Roman Period (1st to the 5th centuries AD).*

The archaeological development of Malton and Norton as substantial settlements begins with the foundation of a military presence early in the Roman period (for a detailed discussion of the chronology see Wilson 2006). The Roman fort was located to the north of the River Derwent, on the southeast side of modern day Malton. The first evidence for Roman activity takes the form of a shallow military style ditch, which appears to represent an otherwise unknown camp. The dating of this camp is uncertain, it may be as early as the campaigns of Cerialis as Governor (between 71 and 74 AD), or alternatively be dated more generally to the last quarter of the 1<sup>st</sup> century.

The first phase of permanent military occupation was a fort constructed of turf and timber erected under Agricola's governorship (78 to 85 AD). During the first two decades of the 2<sup>nd</sup> century AD the fort defences were rebuilt in stone, and the ditches were recut. An annexe may also have been constructed at this time. Although there are some suggestions that the fort was abandoned during the first half of the 2<sup>nd</sup> century it was re-occupied in the late 150's. The fort underwent several phases of rebuilding during the 2<sup>nd</sup> to 4<sup>th</sup> centuries and, at various times during this period contained buildings of both timber and stone construction. Occupation of the fort is likely to have continued into the 5<sup>th</sup> century.

In addition to the military fort the sites of Malton and Norton both contained evidence for civilian activity. Immediately to the southeast of the fort there appears to have been a defended civilian settlement (*vicus*). Development of the *vicus* was well underway before the



end of the 1<sup>st</sup> century AD and there is again evidence that this continued through to the 5<sup>th</sup> century. A variety of buildings have been recorded within this settlement (5.36), ranging from those of timber, or wattle and daub on stone sill walls, to more substantial masonry structures with mosaic floors and painted plaster walls (5.37). Although civilian occupation on the north side of the River Derwent is concentrated within this defended *vicus* evidence from the surrounding area suggests that other settlement was also present. This may have taken the form of ribbon development along the main roads leaving the fort.

One substantial area of civilian settlement outside the fort-side *vicus* lay to the south of the river, in Norton. No evidence has been found to date to suggest that the occupation at Norton was defended. Whilst a number of buildings have been found (5.18, 5.39, 5.45, 5.47, 5.64, 5.66) much of the Roman archaeology of Norton takes the form of burials (5.12, 5.43, 5.44, 5.46, 5.47, 5.48, 5.61, 5.62) or industrial activity. Industrial activity predominantly takes the form of pottery production (5.58, 5.59, 5.65, 5.67, 5.68, 5.69), although metalworking was also practiced (5.44). The excavated evidence indicates that domestic and industrial activities were intermixed, with houses, workshops and kilns all being found in close proximity. Burials in the Norton area include both inhumations and cremations and appear to be concentrated in two main areas; one centred on the junction of the Roman roads to Settrington and North Grimston (around the modern Wold Street, Beverley Road and Commercial Road) and the other along Langton Road, which is also likely to follow the line of a Roman road.

Welham Road formed another Roman road out of Norton. Although Roman archaeological evidence is not as common along this road as along Langton Road and the other Roman roads further to the east some does exist. To date this evidence has included burials (5.12) and structures (5.18) although no obvious signs of the pottery industry have been found. This indicate that whilst Welham Road should be considered as part of the area of Roman occupation and burial, it was probably relatively peripheral, with the more intensive activity taking place slightly further to the east. This seems to be supported by evidence supplied by recent fieldwork undertaken on Springfield Garth (5.16), when Roman pottery was recovered, but no features of Roman date were recorded.

### **6.3 Early Medieval periods (5th to 11th centuries AD).**

This period is, as is often the case, poorly represented in the gazetteer. Anglian artefacts have been discovered within the area of the Roman fort (Robinson, 1978, p. 12) although the nature of any activity of this date is uncertain. A local tradition identifies the "Old Roman Ford" at Malton as the site of early 7<sup>th</sup> century baptisms, by Paulinus as part of the conversion of the English (Huddleston, 1962, p.31). Malton and Norton are both recorded in the Domesday survey of 1086. At Norton both a church and a mill are mentioned (Robinson, 1978, p.12).

### **6.4 The Medieval Period (11th to the mid 16th centuries AD).**

Although almost certainly of pre-Conquest origins the town of Malton grew in importance from the 12<sup>th</sup> century following the establishment of the castle (5.15). The stone castle was constructed in the early 12<sup>th</sup> century by Eustace fitz John. It is possible that this replaced an



earlier Norman motte and bailey castle, although this is based principally upon the assumption that such a strategically important river crossing is likely to have been defended at an early date. During the 12<sup>th</sup> century civil wars a strong Scottish garrison was stationed at Malton castle, which led to it being besieged by Thurston, the Archbishop of York, in 1138, at which time the town was burnt.

The settlement was re-established by Eustace fitz John as New Malton in the mid-12<sup>th</sup> century, possibly with Borough status from the beginning, and certainly by 1163. Eustace also founded the Gilbertine Priory, in approximately 1150 (VCH, 1974, p.253), together with three hospitals. One of these, St. Nicholas, was located on an island in the Derwent, on the Norton side of the river (VCH, 1974, p.315).

A market is first mentioned in Malton in 1283 and a fair in 1295. Weavers, goldsmiths, masons and mercers are all referred to in medieval documents and it is clear that Malton grew to become the local market during this period. The town and castle were of sufficient importance that in 1322 the castle was seized by Robert de Brus during an incursion into Yorkshire. It was held for several weeks and used as a base for raids into the surrounding countryside (VCH, 1914, p.529). Although the layout of the medieval town is not fully understood it appears to have been at least partially enclosed by a wall.

To the south of the river Norton did not enjoy a similar degree of importance. The settlement is likely to have taken the form of a village, dependant upon Malton for much of its economic livelihood, containing a church, the hospital mentioned above, and a manor. A rectangular earthwork identified on the 1<sup>st</sup> edition Ordnance Survey map as a Roman camp may in fact be the remains of a moat, housing the manor house (5.21). Archaeological investigations on Wood Street and Commercial Street (5.38, 5.56) have encountered pits of medieval date (cut into earlier, Roman, deposits). These would have been typical features of the settlement area of medieval Norton.

The site considered in this report probably would have been located on the fringes of the medieval village, although Welham Road may have attracted some suburban ribbon settlement. Medieval features were encountered during a recent archaeological investigation on Springfield Garth (5.16) although the intensity of occupation represented by these is uncertain.

### **6.5 The Post-Medieval to Modern Periods (mid 16<sup>th</sup> to 21<sup>st</sup> centuries).**

During the post-medieval period Malton suffered a degree of economic decline, so that by the end of the 17<sup>th</sup> century Celia Fiennes referred to it as "a pretty large town built of stone, but poor" (Robinson, 1978, p.17). The economic fortunes of the town improved in the 18<sup>th</sup> century. Much of this improvement was due to the Derwent Navigation Act of 1702. This meant that Malton was situated at the head of a navigable river by 1724, with links to Leeds and Hull. Malton retained its status as the local market centre for a large rural hinterland and industries related to the processing of agricultural produce, such as brewing and milling developed through the post-medieval and early medieval periods. Although the coming of the railway in the mid 19<sup>th</sup> century affected river trade it did not halt the development of the town.

The agricultural character of the site suggested for the medieval period, as part of fields on the edge of the village, appears to have continued broadly unchanged through the post-medieval period. The earliest available map examined is that produced by Thomas Jeffries in 1772. This clearly shows Langton and Welham Road heading south from the village, together with the Mill Beck. To the south of the properties fronting Welham Road and Church Street the land is shown as open and undeveloped. Examination of the 1<sup>st</sup> Edition Ordnance Survey map indicates that although the core of Norton village is developed, along Church Street, Commercial Street and Wood Street the surrounding area is almost all laid out as fields. By the early 20<sup>th</sup> century suburban development of Norton had begun to encroach upon these earlier fields. In the immediate vicinity of the site St Nicholas Street has been constructed, although the site itself remains undeveloped. During the 20<sup>th</sup> century the southern edge of Norton has been extended over earlier fields and this includes the site considered by this report. The earliest development was concentrated on the Welham Road frontage but subsequently this has been extended back to cover the majority of the site, with a clothing factory and nursery being present by the 1970's. Recent demolition has removed the nursery greenhouses, whilst the clothing factory buildings still stand in a semi-derelict state.



## 7.0 Cartographic Evidence.

The earliest map consulted is that produced by Thomas Jeffries in 1772 (Fig. 3). This shows the town of Malton and village of Norton immediately to the north of the site. Welham Road and Langton Road are clearly marked as is the Mill Beck. The site itself can be approximately located within open land close to the line of the beck and to the south of the edge of the village.

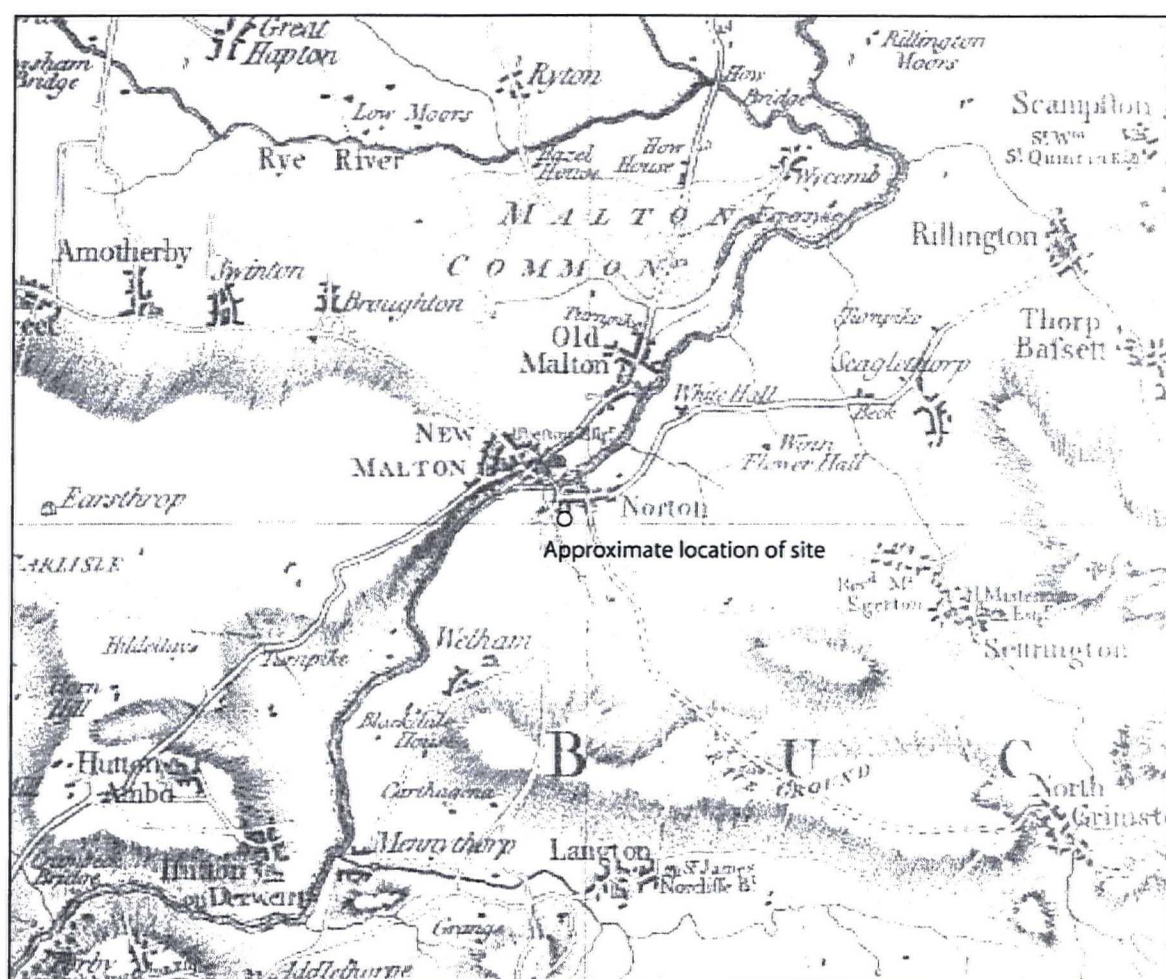


Figure 3. Extract from the map of Yorkshire by Thomas Jeffries 1772 (Approximate site location highlighted in yellow)

The First Edition Ordnance Survey map of 1854 shows Norton as a village concentrated along Church Street, Commercial Street and Wood Street, with the surrounding area being predominantly occupied by fields. A detailed view of this survey (Figure 4) confirms that no development had taken place on the site itself. The only feature shown on the site is the Mill Beck, which crosses the northwest corner from south to north, before continuing under Welham Road.

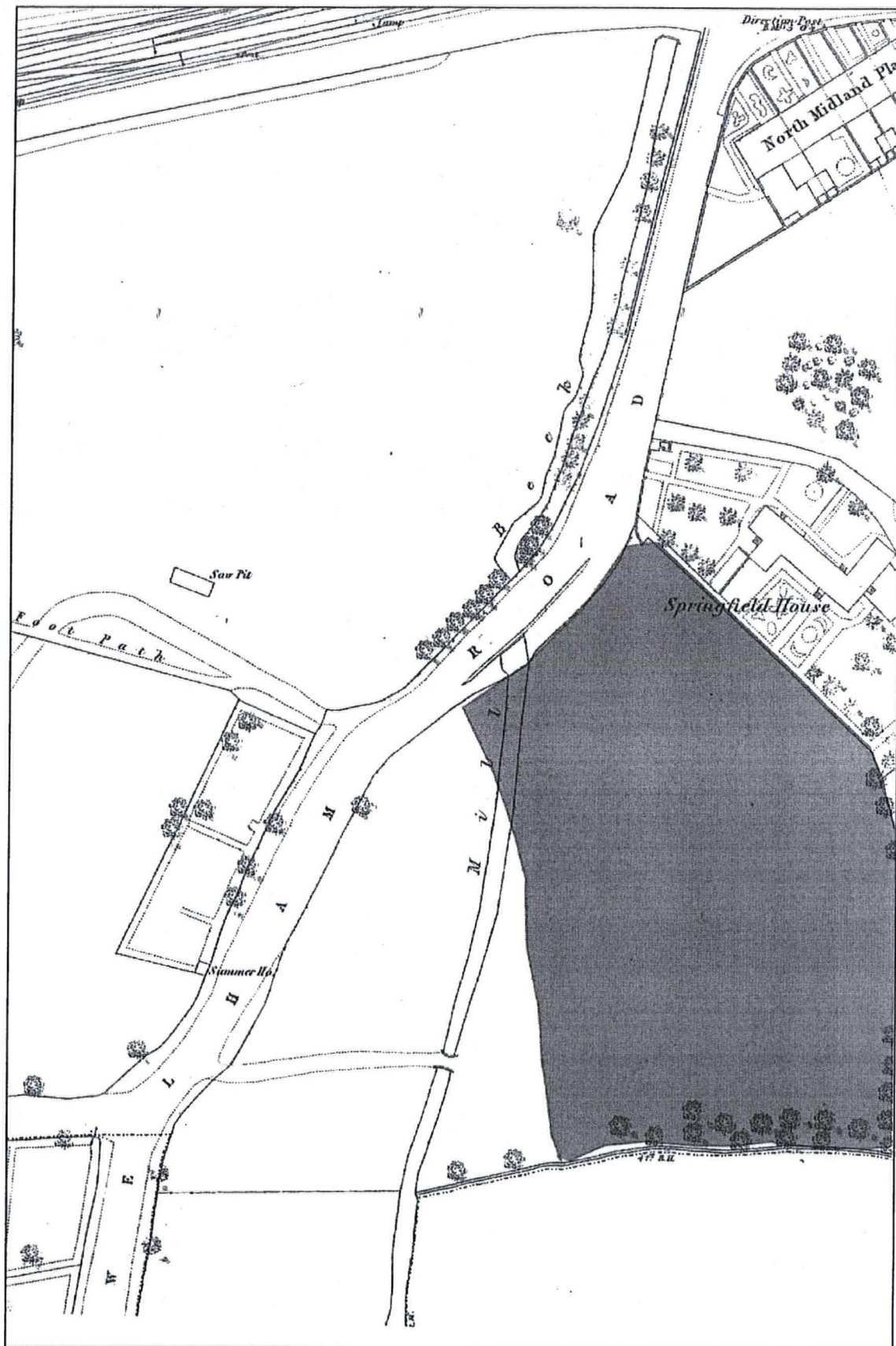


Figure 4. Extract from the First Edition Ordnance Survey map of 1854



By the early 20<sup>th</sup> century a degree of suburban development has taken place along the southern edge of Norton (see Figure 5). Two new streets have been constructed in the immediate vicinity, St Nicholas Street to the northeast and Brook Terrace on the west side of Welham Road. The site itself, however, is still undeveloped, with once again the only visible feature being Mill Beck, with an associated bank on its east side. This map also indicates Welham Road as the course of a Roman road and the site of a supposed Roman Camp to the north of St Nicholas street, although this may actually be a medieval moated site.

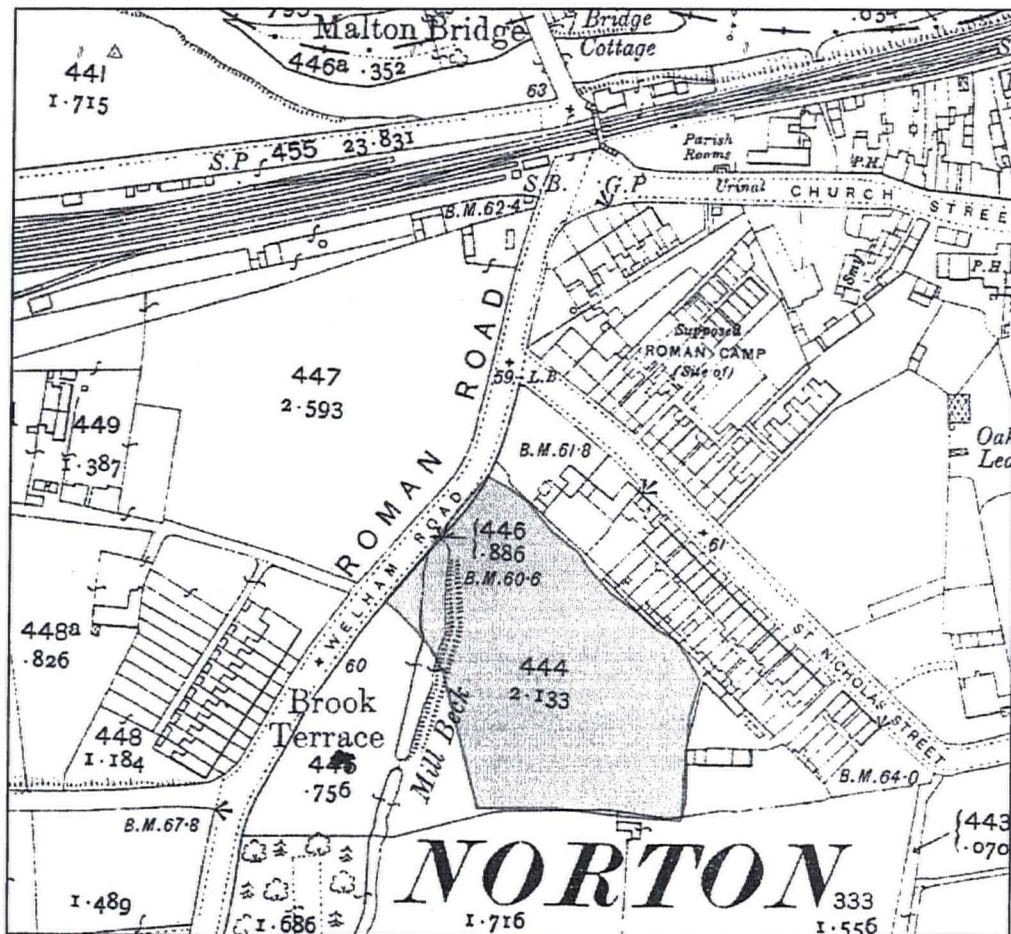


Figure 5. Extract from the 1911 Ordnance Survey map

The earliest development to take place on the site itself is visible on the 1928 Ordnance Survey map (Figure 6). The first buildings fronting Welham Road have been built and a small building has been constructed adjacent to the eastern boundary of the site. The Beck and its bank are still clearly visible crossing the northwest corner of the site. By the time of the 1938 Ordnance Survey (Figure 7) further buildings have been erected, especially within the eastern part of the site, whilst the western part is predominantly open. Mill Beck is still clearly visible crossing the northwest corner of the site. During the second half of the 20<sup>th</sup> century (shown on the 1970 Ordnance Survey, not illustrated) further buildings were constructed forming the clothing factory in the western part and a nursery, with several glasshouses, in the eastern part. Although Mill Beck is visible to the south and west of the site its course is now intermittent, with the stretch within the site boundaries presumably having been buried within a culvert.



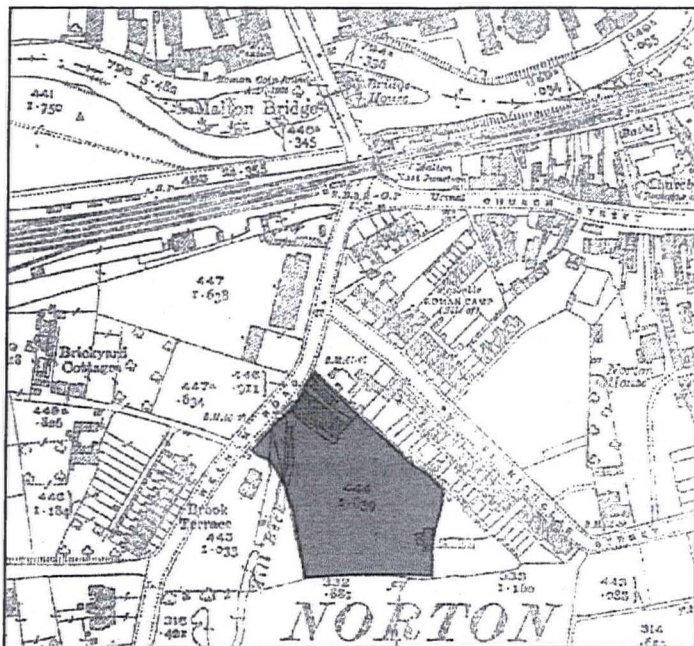


Figure 6. Extract from the 1928 Ordnance Survey map

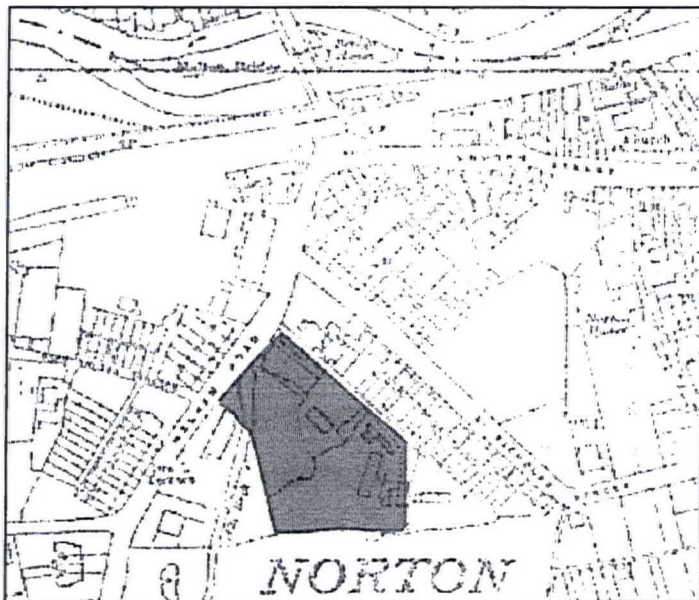


Figure 7. Extract from the 1938 Ordnance Survey map

## 8.0 Site Visit.

A visit was made to the site on the 6<sup>th</sup> March 2009. Currently the site is occupied by a large derelict clothing factory fronting onto Welham Road that extends south along the western perimeter of the site (Plates 1 & 2). The site had a small open tarmac yarded area within the northwestern corner (Plate 3) accessible from Welham Road, this was separated from a much larger area to the east by the factory building (Plate 4). The larger area to the east is accessible from a road leading to rear properties of St. Nicholas Street. This area was generally flat with hard-standing within its northern half, upon which some spoil heaps had been created and the remains of a demolished large out-building was situated on the eastern perimeter (Plate 5). The southern half the area was generally flat rough overgrown grass with

isolated scrub. Access along the western side of the factory building was impassable on foot due to heavy scrub.

No potential archaeological remains were observed above ground within either of the two areas inspected. The demolished out-building on the eastern side is probably associated with a nursery buildings indicated on the 1970 Ordnance Survey map.

---

## 9.0 Discussion and Archaeological Implications.

---

The research undertaken in the preparation of this assessment has indicated that the site is unlikely to contain archaeological remains of such significance as to prevent development from taking place.

Due to the almost complete absence of evidence in the study area for archaeological remains dating to the Bronze Age or earlier, the potential for the site to contain remains of this date is very low. Some evidence for Iron Age activity has been recorded, especially to the south and east of Norton. However, given the relative lack of Iron Age remains found during previous investigations in Norton, the potential for remains of this period is low.

The Roman period clearly dominates the early history of Malton and Norton. Whilst the fort and defended *vicus* lay to the north of the River Derwent Norton has been recognised for at least half a century to be the location of an extensive civilian settlement. This settlement does not appear to have had physical boundaries and is likely to have had little in the way of formal organisation. The apparent intermingling of domestic, industrial and funerary activity attests to this informal arrangement. Although the site considered by this report lies slightly outside the recorded core of Roman activity Welham Road follows the line of a Roman road and some activity of this date is likely to be present. The potential for the site to contain remains of Roman date is moderate to high.

During the medieval and post-medieval periods the site is likely to have been used predominantly for agricultural activity although there is the possibility that parts of the Welham Road frontage may have attracted suburban development during this period. Medieval features have previously been found during archaeological fieldwork in the vicinity and therefore the potential for archaeological remains of this date to be present is moderate.

Any archaeological remains that are present on the site will be disturbed or destroyed by the development. It will be necessary to create a scheme of archaeological mitigation in consultation with North Yorkshire County Council Heritage Section.



---

## 10.0 List of Sources.

---

Hey, D. 1986. Yorkshire from AD 1000.

Huddleston, N.A., 1962, History of Malton and Norton.

Jennings, B. 1999. Yorkshire Monasteries. Cloister, Land and People.

Robinson, J.F., 1978, The Archaeology of Malton & Norton, The Yorkshire Archaeological Society

Snowden, K., 1990, Malton and Norton Through the Ages.

Victoria County History. 1914. A History of the County of York North Riding: Volume 1

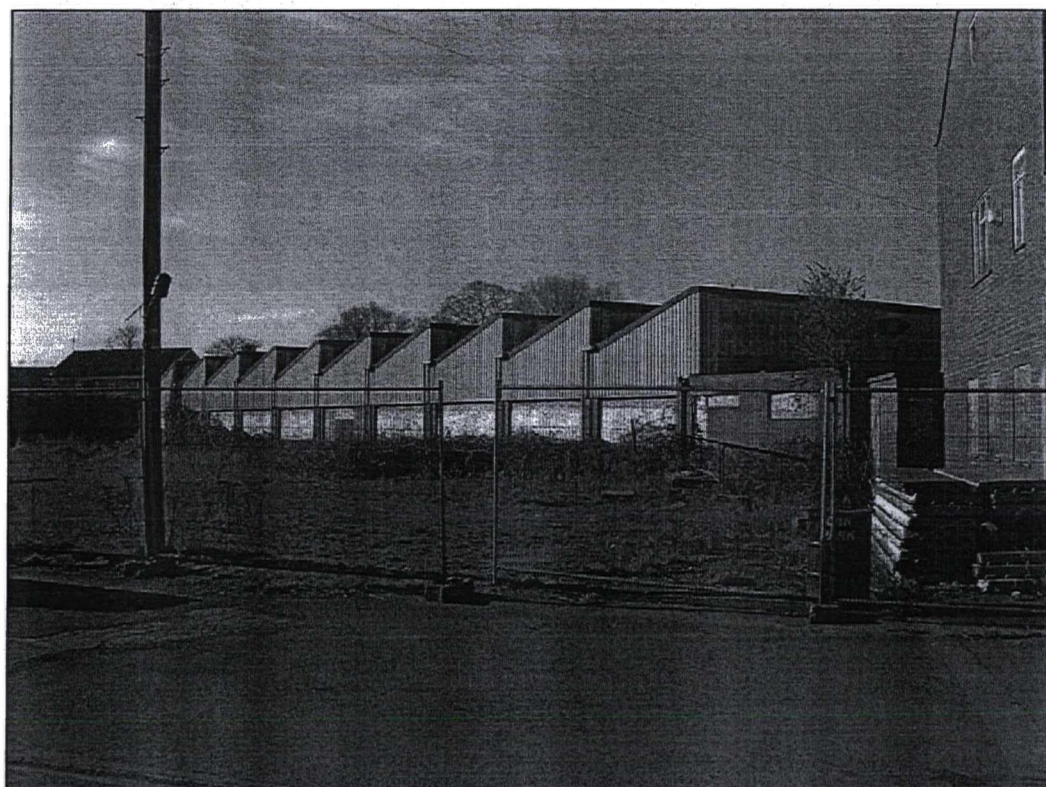
Victoria County History. 1974. A History of the County of York: Volume 3

Wilson, P., 2006, A Yorkshire Fort and 'Small Town': Roman Malton and Norton Reviewed, Yorkshire Archaeological Journal Volume 78.

## 11.0 The Plates.

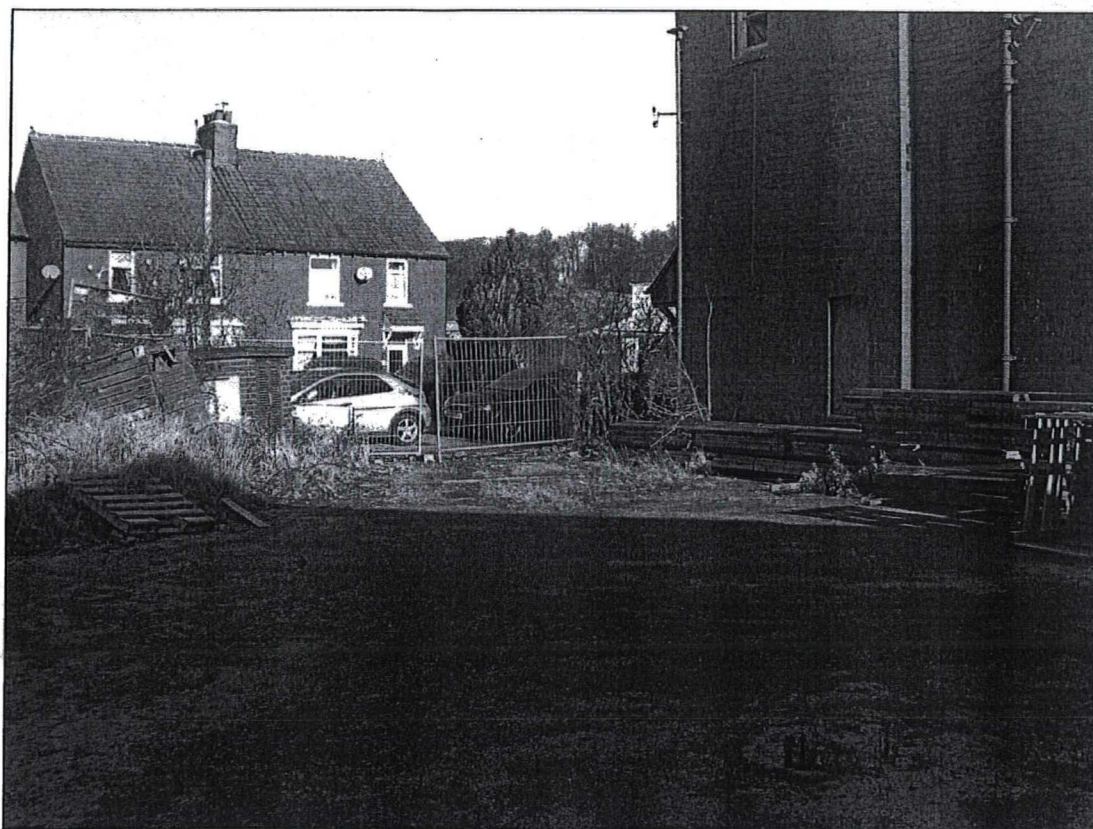


*Plate 1. Derelict clothing factory fronting onto Welham Road, looking south*

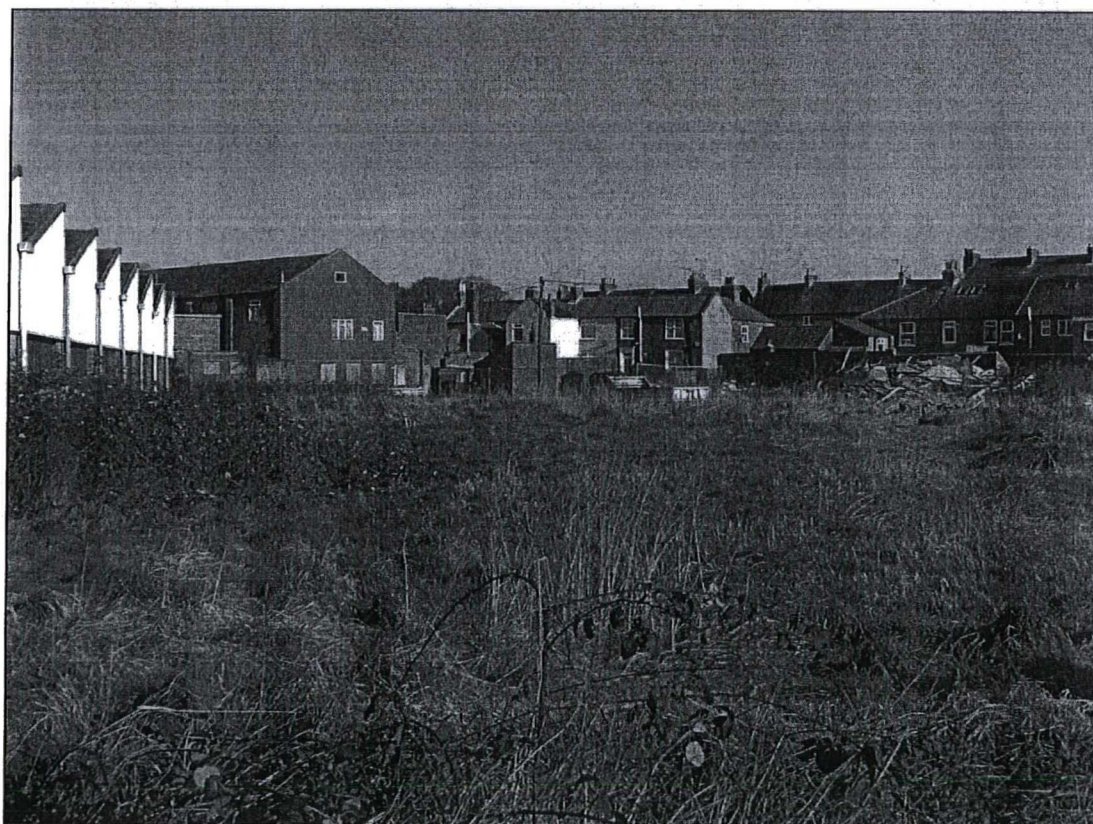


*Plate 2. Derelict factory building extending south along western site perimeter, looking southwest*





*Plate 3. Open area accessible from Welham Road, looking north*



*Plate 4. Open area to the east of factory buildings, looking north*





*Plate 5. Spoil heaps and demolished building along eastern perimeter, looking east*