

**60 Main Street  
Burniston  
North Yorkshire  
TA 0106 9317**

**Archaeological Watching Brief**

**Authorised by .....**

**Date:.....**

**60 Main Street  
Burniston  
North Yorkshire  
North Yorkshire  
TA 01069317**

**Archaeological Watching Brief**

<b>Contents</b>	<b>Page</b>
Figure List	2
Plates List	2
Non-Technical Summary	3
1. Introduction	3
2. Site description	4
3. Historical and Archaeological Backgrounds	4
4. Methodology	5
5. Results	5
6. Conclusions	5
7. References	6
Appendices	
1. Context Listing	
2. Photographic Listing	
3. Project Team Details	
4. Archaeological Scheme of Investigation	

## **Figure List**

1. Site Location 1:50000
2. Site Location 1:2500

## **Plate List**

1. Pre-excavation shot. Facing north-west
2. Foundation trench and services. Facing north

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## **Archaeological Watching Brief**

### **Non-technical Summary**

*An Archaeological Watching brief was undertaken by MAP Archaeological Consultancy Ltd during works for the construction of two new dwellings on land to the rear of 60, Main Street Burniston North Yorkshire. The work was carried out during February 2008 and June 2009. No archaeological features, deposits or finds were identified or recovered during the works.*

### **1. Introduction**

- 1.1 An Archaeological Watching Brief was undertaken by MAP Archaeological Consultancy Ltd. at land to the rear of 60 Main Street Burniston North Yorkshire, during February 2008. and June 2009. The work was undertaken in order to fulfil a condition attached to a Planning Application Consent (Ref No: 08/01651//FL) and was designed to mitigate the archaeological impact of the proposed redevelopment of the site. The development involved the construction of two individual dwellings on the site.
- 1.2 All work was funded by Wilson Construction.
- 1.3 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.
- 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. License No. AL 50453A.

## **2. Site Description**

- 2.1 The site is located towards the northern end of the village of Burniston, and located in the rear garden plot of 60 Main Street. The plot of land is bounded by adjacent properties and gardens on all sides (Figs. 1 & 2) and slopes steeply from west to east across the site (Pl. 1)
- 2.2 At the time of the watching brief, the development area consisted of the former garden that had been cleared of shrubs and vegetation.
- 2.3 The site lies on soils of the Salop M 2 Association, slowly permeable seasonally water logged reddish fine loamey over clayey fine loamy and clayey soils associated with fine loamy over clayey soils with slowly permeable subsoils and slight seasonal waterlogging (Mackney *et al.*):-

## **3. Historical and Archaeological Background**

- 3.1 Burniston is located on the Whitby to Scarborough road (the A171) and consists mostly of modern dwellings with one house dated to 1680 on the eastern side of the village. A former chapel, recorded in 1829, was said to have stood in the garth belonging to the Ship Inn.
- 3.2 The mill at Burniston was granted in the 12th century with 2 carucates of land by Uctred son of Thorkil de Cleveland to Whitby Abbey (Brinitun, xi cent.; Brinistun, Briningeston, xi–xv cent.) The manor belonged to the fee of Roger le Bigod in 1284–5, (fn. 67) and was, no doubt, part of his bailiwick of Scalby seized by the king and granted to the lord of Pickering. The manor subsequently descended with Scalby as its soke.
- 3.3 William de Percy gave to Whitby Abbey 2 carucates of land here, and the Conqueror, his sons, Pope Eugenius III and Henry II confirmed the grant. At the time of its dissolution the abbey received 74s. 9d. rent from Burniston. In an early list of customs the men of Burniston were said to give the abbot tol

and tac, merchet and one-thirteenth of the grain they ground ([www.british-history.ac/uk](http://www.british-history.ac/uk))

#### **4. Methodology**

- 4.1 The foundation trenches for the two dwellings were mechanically excavated under direct archaeological supervision. A photographic record was made of all deposits encountered.

#### **5. Results**

- 5.1 No archaeological features or deposits were identified during the excavation of the foundation trenches. The only deposits recorded were 0.4m of topsoil (context 001) that overlay 0.6m of natural clay (context 002). A number of services including cable and pipe trenches were also observed (Pl. 2).

#### **6. Conclusions**

- 6.1 The conclusion of the work was that no archaeological features, deposits or finds were present on the development plot. All that existed was topsoil and natural clay and a number of modern service trenches containing pipes and cables.

## 7. References

Mackney, D *et al* 1983 Soils of England and Wales.

[www.british-history.ac.uk](http://www.british-history.ac.uk)



Figure 1. Site Location.



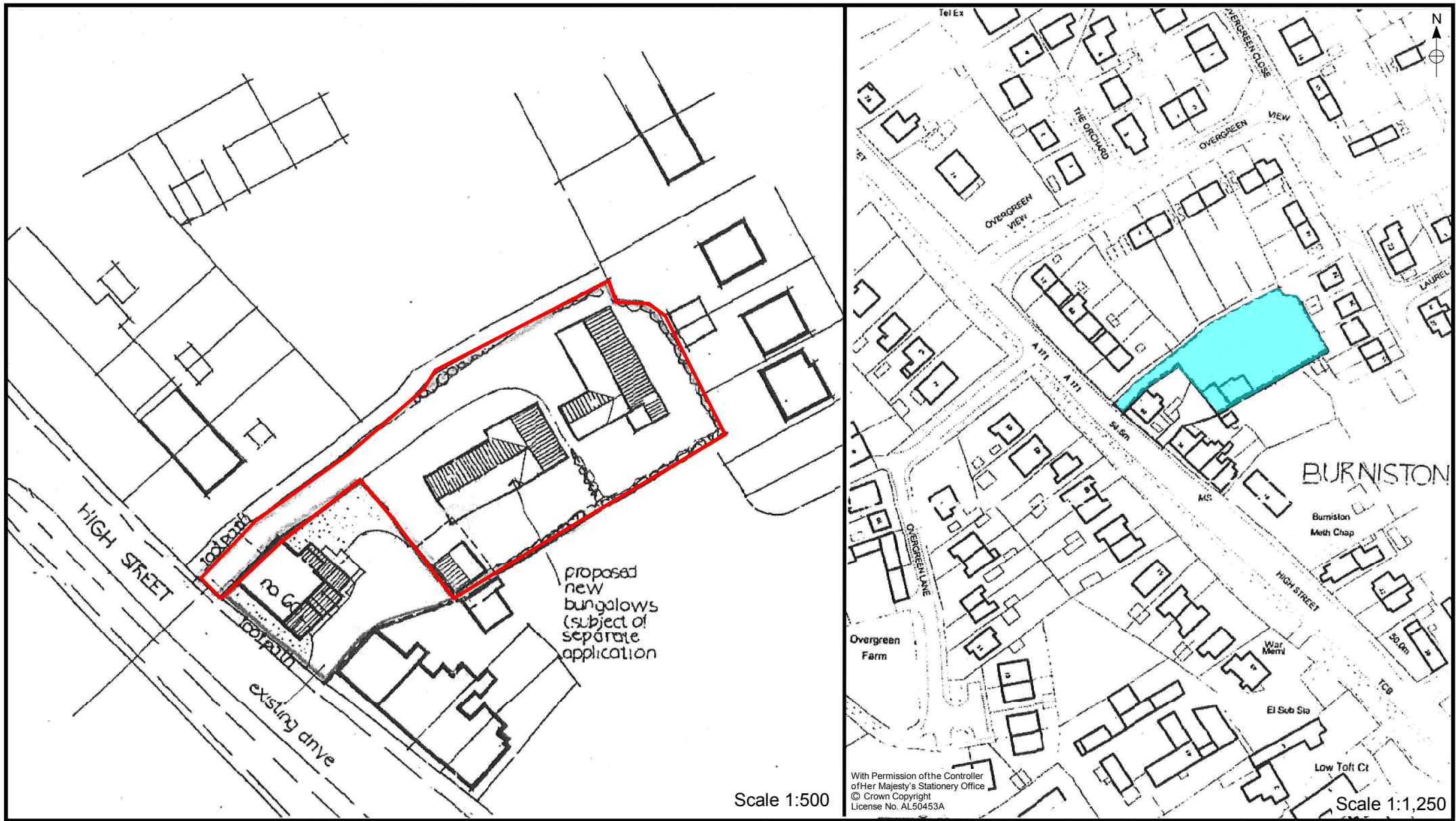


Figure 2. Location of Archaeological Watching Brief.



**Plate 1.** Pre-Excavation Shot. Facing North-West



**Plate 2.** Foundation Trench and Drain. Facing North

## APPENDIX 1

### Context Listing

001	Topsoil
002	Natural clay

### Photographic Archive Listing

#### Digital Camera

Frame	Description	Facing	Scale	Facing
1	Overall shot of site		N/A	East
2	Foundation trench, plot1		N/A	North-east
3	Foundation trench, plot1		N/A	North-east
4	Detail of foundation trench, plot 2	North-west	1x1m	South-west
5	Foundation trench and drain, plot 2	North-east	1x1m	North
6	Foundation trench and drain, plot 2	North-east	1x1m	West
7	Foundation trench and services, plot 2	South	1x1m	North
8	Foundation trench and services, plot 2	South	1x1m	South
9	Foundation trench, plot2	North-east	1x1m	South
10	Foundation trench, plot 2	North-east	1x1m	East
11	Foundation trench, plot 2	North-east	1x1m	North
12	Foundation trench, plot 2	North-east	1x1m	South
13	General working shot, plot 2	North-west	N/A	East
14	Overall shot of site, plot 2	North-west	N/A	South-east
15	Pre-excavation shot, plot 2	North-west	N/A	North-west

## APPENDIX 2

### Project Team Details

#### Fieldwork

Mark Stevens and Charlie Morris

#### Post-excavation

Charlie Morris *report*

Kelly Hunter CAD, Illustrations

**STANDARD WRITTEN SCHEME OF INVESTIGATION (WSI)  
FOR LIMITED ARCHAEOLOGICAL RECORDING (“WATCHING BRIEF”)**

- 1 The purpose of the work is to record and recover archaeological remains which are:
  - a) affected by proposed development only to a limited and clearly defined extent,
  - b) not available or susceptible to standard area excavation techniques, or
  - c) of limited importance or potential.The work should not require the construction programme or development to be held up while archaeological investigation takes place, although some developers may give such a facility.
- 2 The WSI represents a summary of the broad archaeological requirements needed to comply with an archaeological planning condition or obligation. The scheme does **not** comprise a full specification or Bill of Quantities, and the County Council makes no warranty that the works are fully or exactly described. No work on site should commence until the implementation of the scheme is the subject of a standard ICE Conditions of Contract for Archaeological Investigation or similar agreement between the Developer and the Archaeologist.
- 3 The Archaeologist should notify by letter or e-mail the County Archaeology Service ([archaeology@northyorks.gov.uk](mailto:archaeology@northyorks.gov.uk)) at least 10 working days in advance of the start of work on site.
- 4 The removal of overburden (that is vegetation, turf, loose stones, rubble, made ground, Tarmac, concrete, hardcore, building debris and topsoil) should be supervised by the Archaeologist contracted to carry out the WSI. The Archaeologist should be informed of the correct timing and schedule of overburden removal.
- 5 Removal of overburden by machine should be undertaken using a back-acting excavator fitted with toothless or ditching bucket only. Where materials are exceptionally difficult to lift, a toothed bucket may be used temporarily. Subsoils (B horizons) or deep, uniform fills of features may also be removed by back-acting excavator but only in areas specified by the Archaeologist on site, and only with archaeological supervision. Bulldozers or wheeled scraper buckets should not be used to remove overburden above archaeological deposits. Where reinstatement is required, topsoil should be kept separate from other soil materials.
- 6 Metal detecting within the development area, including the scanning of topsoil and spoil heaps, should only be permitted subject to archaeological supervision and recording such that metal finds are properly located, identified, and conserved. All metal detection should be carried out following the Treasure Act 1996 Code of Practice.
- 7 Where structures, finds, soil features and layers of archaeological interest are exposed or disturbed by construction works, the Archaeologist should be provided with the opportunity to observe, clean, assess, excavate by hand where appropriate, sample and record these features and finds. If the contractors or plant operators notice archaeological

remains, they should immediately tell the Archaeologist. The sampling of deposits for palaeo-environmental evidence should be a standard consideration, and arrangements should be made to ensure that specialist advice and analysis are available if appropriate.

- 8 Heavy plant should not be operated in the near vicinity of archaeological remains until they have been recorded, and the Archaeologist on site has allowed operations to recommence at that location. Sterile subsoils (C horizons) and parent materials below archaeological deposits may be removed without archaeological supervision. Where reinstatement is required, subsoils should be backfilled first and topsoil last.
- 9 Upon completion of fieldwork, samples should be processed and evaluated, and all finds identified, assessed, spot-dated, properly stored, and subject to investigative conservation as needed. A field archive should be compiled consisting of all primary written documents, plans, sections, and photographs. The Archaeologist should arrange for either the County Archaeologist or an independent post-excavation specialist to inspect the archive before making arrangements for the transfer of the archive to an appropriate museum or records office.
- 10 A summary report should be produced following NYCC guidelines on reporting. The report should contain planning or administrative details of the project, a summary of works carried out, a description and interpretation of the findings, an assessment of the importance of the archaeology including its historical context where appropriate, and catalogues of finds, features, and primary records. All excavated areas should be accurately mapped with respect to nearby buildings, roads and field boundaries. All significant features should be illustrated with conventionally-scaled plans, sections, and photographs. Where few or no finds are made, it may be acceptable to provide the report in the form of a letter with plans attached.
- 11 Copies of the summary report should be provided to the client(s), the County Heritage Section (HER), to the museum accepting the archive, and if the works are on or adjacent to a Scheduled Ancient Monument, to English Heritage. A licence should be granted to the accepting museum and the County Council to use the documentation arising from the work for its statutory functions and to give to third parties as an incidental to those functions.
- 12 Upon completion of the work, the Archaeologist should make their work accessible to the wider research community by submitting digital data and copies of reports online to OASIS (<http://ads.ahds.ac.uk/project/oasis/>). Submission of data to OASIS does not discharge the planning requirements for the Archaeologist to notify the County Archaeology Service of the details of the work and to provide the Historic Environment Record (HER) with a summary report on the work.
- 13 Under the Environmental Information Regulations 2005 (EIR) information submitted to the HER becomes publicly accessible, except where disclosure might lead to environmental damage, and reports cannot be embargoed as 'confidential' or 'commercially sensitive'. Requests for sensitive information are subject to a public interest test, and if this is met, then the information has to be disclosed. The Archaeologist should inform the client of EIR requirements, and ensure that any information disclosure issues are resolved before completion of the work. Intellectual property rights are not affected by the EIR.
- 14 The County Archaeologist should be informed as soon as possible of the discovery of any unexpected archaeological remains, or changes in the programme of ground works on site. Any significant changes in the archaeological work should be specified in a variation to the WSI to be approved by the planning authority. If there is a need to remove human remains, an exhumation licence should be obtained from the Department for Constitutional Affairs ([coroners@dca.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:coroners@dca.gsi.gov.uk)), or a faculty obtained where the remains are buried in land consecrated according to the rites of the Church of England.