

**Land Behind 16 Wheelgate
Malton
North Yorkshire
SE 7877 7175**

Archaeological Strip and Record Excavation

Authorised by

Date:.....

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Archaeological Strip and Record Excavation

Non Technical Summary

An Archaeological Strip and Record Excavation was carried out by MAP Archaeological Consultancy Ltd at land behind 16 Wheelgate, Malton, North Yorkshire on 28th and 29th July 2008. An Archaeologist was in attendance for the excavation of the service trenches on 12th and 13th January 2009, and 3rd April 2009. The work was undertaken in advance of the erection of two new dwellings, and the extension of a former storage building (ref. no. 02/00991/FUL). The Excavation took the form of the controlled stripping of an area approximately 16m x 8m in size.

The eastern part of the site had been truncated by a terrace that was probably created in the mid twentieth century; the western part was covered by a deep garden soil that was not fully penetrated by the development. Accordingly, no archaeological features or deposits were revealed in this area. Finds associated with the garden soil ranged in date from medieval to 19th century. A possible medieval ditch, along with post-medieval/modern boundary walls were revealed in service trenches that were dug to the west of the new building.

1. Introduction

1.1 This report sets out the results of an Archaeological ‘Strip and Record’ Excavation that was carried out by MAP Archaeological Consultancy Ltd. at a plot of land behind 16 Wheelgate, Malton, North Yorkshire (Figs. 1 & 2: SE 7877 7175). The Excavation took place on 28 and 29 July 2008, with further recording during the excavation of service trenches in January and March 2009.

- 1.2 The Excavation was carried out on behalf of A. Dukes Builders, to fulfil an archaeological condition attached to the planning permission for the change of use and extension of a storage building to form two dwellings, and the erection of two new dwellings, with associated parking areas (Ref. 02/00991/FUL).
- 1.3 The Excavation was designed to mitigate the impact of the development on the archaeological resource, and to comply with the archaeological planning condition. This strategy follows the archaeology policy issued by the Secretary of State for the Environment contained in *Planning Policy Guidance 16 'Archaeology and Planning'* (PPG 16) and is in accordance with Policy C13 of the Ryedale District Local Plan.
- 1.4 The MAP site code for the project was 04-07-08.
- 1.5 All work was funded by A Dukes, Builders.
- 1.6 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 is situated in the south-eastern quarter of the market town of Malton, midway between Wheelgate and Greengate. The former parish church of St Leonard is situated approximately 90m to the south. The site measures approximately 21m in length from south-west to north-east (including the existing building), and has a width of c. 10m. Residential properties lie on the eastern side of the site, with the yard and outbuildings of the Crown Hotel to the south, access and car-parking areas to the north, and commercial properties to the west.
- 2.2 At the start of the excavation the eastern part of the site was covered by a layer of rubble resulting from the demolition of two former light industrial buildings. A brick-built barn or cart-shed (latterly used for storage) existed at

the west of the site, with a small garden area beyond. The retaining walls forming the site's eastern and south-western boundaries had recently been underpinned.

- 2.3 The site forms a level area at an elevation of approximately 25m AOD, but the present ground level is approximately 1.5m lower than that of the properties to the east and south.

3. Geology and Soils

- 3.1 Malton lies on a ridge of oolitic limestone, which is bisected by a shallow north-south post-glacial valley (OS 1960). The site lies on the eastern edge of the shallow valley, where the recorded soils are of the Elmton 2 Association (Mackney *et al.* 1984).

4. Archaeological and Historical Background

- 4.1 The Roman fort at Orchard Field was positioned to guard the strategic crossing over the River Derwent, and a civilian settlement stretched southwards from the fort to the river (Corder, 1930 and Mitchelson, 1964). The remains of the fort are known to extend westwards into the grounds of The Lodge, and further Roman activity has been uncovered in this area (MAP 1997). The extent of Roman activity under the present market town is unknown, however late Roman demolition debris was recorded by York Archaeological Trust at St Leonards Hill (c. 90m south of the site).
- 4.2 The name Malton derives from the Old English for 'middle farm' (Old English *middle* or Old Norse *medal*, Old English *tun*, Ekwall, 1935). Malton is recorded in the Domesday Survey of 1086, although this refers to Old Malton, which is thought to have been the main focus of local settlement during the Anglian and Anglo-Scandinavian periods.
- 4.3 Malton Castle was constructed in the early twelfth century to control the

crossing over the river Derwent (Robinson, 1978, 13). References to the destruction of Malton during the siege of the castle by Stephen's supporters in 1138 indicate that an extra-mural settlement serving the castle had been established in the town by that time, presumably in the Castlegate area (ibid.).

- 4.4 The Borough of New Malton was founded in the mid twelfth century, perhaps under royal patronage (ibid.). A charter of Henry II (1154 – 1179) referred to Malton as one of his desmesne boroughs, and in 1184 the burgesses were tallaged (Beresford and Finberg 1973, 1187). Medieval New Malton consisted of the ecclesiastical parishes of St. Michael and St. Leonard, the latter presumably serving a separate borough centred on Castlegate. New Malton was defended in medieval times by a ditch and bank (and later possibly a wall), the course of the defences following the parish boundary, and terminating at the castle at the town's south-east corner.
- 4.5 There are twelfth and thirteenth century references to weavers, goldsmiths, masons and mercers, and fourteenth century references to wool-merchants, showing that the borough achieved a fair degree of economic success. The market was first mentioned in 1283, and the fair in 1295 (Hudleston, 1962). The Market Place was the economic hub of the borough, and Wheelgate and Greengate were both elements of the medieval borough.
- 4.6 During the Civil War (1640-1660) the town suffered depredation and poverty as a result of the defeat in 1644 of Newcastle's forces by Sir William Constable at Malton.
- 4.7 By the eighteenth century Malton had again become a prosperous market town and had been acquired by the Honourable Thomas Wentworth.
- 4.8 Trade Directories for the North Riding of Yorkshire provide descriptions of commercial activity in Malton from 1823 to 1937. In 1823 Wheelgate was a thriving commercial centre with businesses including butchers, basket makers, book-sellers, clock and watchmakers, curriers, hatters and a gun-smith (Baines

1823).

- 4.9 Since 1990 a number of Archaeological Fieldwork Projects have been conducted in Malton town centre, including the sites described below.
- 4.10 Roman and medieval sherds were recovered during a Watching Brief to the rear of 47 Greengate (MAP 1994).
- 4.11 An Archaeological Watching Brief at Saville Street in 1994 revealed medieval deposits at a depth of 0.60m below present ground level.
- 4.12 Excavations at Carpenters Yard, on the extension to Safeway's supermarket to the south of Castlegate, revealed a sequence of deposits dating from the medieval period to the nineteenth century (MAP 2000).
- 4.13 An Archaeological Watching Brief conducted in 2000 revealed extensive medieval and post-medieval deposits at Tuddle Lane, Market Place, Malton (MAP 2001).
- 4.14 Archaeological excavations carried out by MAP Archaeological Consultancy Ltd to the rear of 11-13 Wheelgate in 2002 and 2003 uncovered several phases of structures and deposits, dating from the twelfth century onwards (MAP 2003a).
- 4.15 An Archaeological Evaluation, consisting of three small trenches, was carried to the rear of 42 Wheelgate during March 2003, demonstrating the survival of pits and postholes dating to the twelfth or thirteenth century. A wall exposed in Trench 1 showed that a stone building, possibly of the same date, was incorporated into the 19th century brick building that stands on the site (MAP 2003b). Subsequent open-area excavation added detail to the picture gained by the evaluation and recorded six phases of medieval activity (MAP 2003c).
- 4.16 Archaeological trial trenching and excavation at 44-46 Wheelgate (MAP 2006

and 2007) recorded five phases of activity, starting with twelfth century pits, postholes and linear features, and including fifteenth century limestone buildings.

- 4.17 Map regression illustrates the more recent development of the site and its environs. Dickinson's *Map of the Burrow of New Malton* (1730) showed that the entire street frontage of Wheelgate, along with the western side of Greengate, was occupied by buildings, but it is difficult to discern any detail concerning the site.
- 4.18 The First Edition Ordnance Survey Map of 1853 shows the eastern part of the site to be undeveloped, however the barn or cart-shed was in existence by this date. The same layout was depicted on the 1911 Ordnance Survey map.

5. Objectives

- 5.1 The objectives of the evaluation were:
- a) To determine by means of targeted archaeological excavation the character, extent and nature of the archaeological remains within the development area.
 - b) To locate, recover, identify, assess and conserve (as appropriate) any archaeological artefacts exposed during the course of the excavation.
 - c) Where appropriate, to undertake a post-excavation assessment after completion of fieldwork and site archive to assess the potential for further analysis and publication, and to undertake such analysis and publication as appropriate.
 - d) To prepare and submit a suitable archive to the appropriate museum.
- 5.2 Two particular topics were to be addressed:
- a) The presence of any Romano-British activity given the proximity of the Roman settlement and fort at Orchard Field.

- b) The character of any medieval or early post-medieval activity.

6. Methodology

6.1 Excavation

- 6.1.1 The groundworks for the installation of the slab foundation involved the mechanical removal of topsoil and overburden from an area c. 16.5m x 7.5m in size, followed by the excavation of ground-beams to an additional depth of c. 0.20m both around the perimeter of the slab and across it.
- 6.1.2 The excavation for the slab and ground-beam formation was carried out by a 2 tonne 360° mini-digger fitted with a 1m wide toothless bucket, under close archaeological supervision. A similar machine was used to excavate the service trenches, in which, although natural was reached, archaeological deposits were not penetrated.
- 6.1.3 All work was carried out in line with the Institute of Field Archaeologists Code of Conduct (IFA 2009).

6.2 On-site Recording

- 6.2.1 All archaeological deposits were recorded according to correct principles of stratigraphic excavation on MAP's *pro forma* context sheets which are compatible with the MoLAS recording system.

6.3 Photographic Record

- 6.3.1 The photographic record comprised digital images taken by a camera with 6 million pixels on high resolution.

6.4 Finds

- 6.4.1 Finds were processed in accordance with English Heritage Guidelines (EH 1995). The finds were cleaned, identified, assessed, dated (where possible), marked (where appropriate), and properly packed and stored according to national guidelines.

7. Results

- 7.1 The excavation area was covered by a layer of rubble (1001), up to 0.5m deep on the eastern side. Removal of the rubble from the eastern side of the site to the depth required for the slab exposed the natural deposits, which consisted of coarse sand with limestone inclusions. The section exposed by the removal of the retaining wall along the site's south-eastern edge clearly showed that this area had been previously truncated to a depth of at least 1m (Pl. 1).
- 7.2 The exposed material at the western side of the site consisted of dark greyish brown garden soil (1002) containing medieval and post-medieval pottery, and clay tobacco pipe fragments (Pls. 2, 3 and 4). The base of deposit 1002 was not reached during the excavation of the ground-beams, making it in excess of 0.60m deep.
- 7.3 No archaeological deposits or features were revealed by the formation of the slab and ground-beams.
- 7.4 A series of late medieval, post-medieval and more recent features were revealed in the service trenches to the north of the new building and building conversion. The stone footings for a wall (1003) on the alignment of the plot boundary were seen during the excavation of the drainage trench. The wall footing was located within the deposit of garden soil (1002) on the northern side of the site, which means that it was of relatively recent date.
- 7.5 A c. 1m wide ditch (1004) was exposed at the base of the service trench immediately north of Wall 1003, cutting into natural deposits. This ditch

contained animal bone fragments and a sherd of late medieval pottery. Further to the north, two walls constructed of limestone blocks (1005 and 1008) ran on parallel southwest to northeast alignments. The c.5m wide interval between these two walls was occupied by a surface composed of olive brown clay with mortar flecks (1007), which contained sherds of early 19th century pottery. Surface 1007 was cut by a ditch (1006) that ran parallel to walls 1005 and 1008. Another parallel wall (1009) lay 9m west of Wall 1008.

8. Discussion

- 8.1 The previous truncation of the eastern part of the site would have removed all but the deepest archaeological features (assuming they were present), although the section exposed by the removal of the retaining wall showed only modern deposits. This truncation was probably related to the formation of a terrace into the natural slope for the mid twentieth century buildings that formerly occupied the eastern part of the site.
- 8.2 In the western part of the footprint of the new building the putative archaeological horizon was not reached due to the relatively large thickness of garden soil (Deposit 1002) at this location. This greater depth of garden soil could be explained either by the infilling of the natural ground surface, which slopes down from the northeast; or activity within another terrace, which can be assumed to have been created to accommodate the extant early nineteenth century barn or cart-shed. Pottery within Deposit 1002 suggests a nineteenth century date for its deposition, which would be contemporary with the standing building.
- 8.3 During the excavation of the service trenches, the stone footings of a relatively recent north-south aligned wall on the north side of the plot were uncovered. This wall formed the northern boundary of the plot prior to its demolition to make a vehicular access at some time during the twentieth century. The ditch revealed immediately north of this wall is presumably an earlier version of the same boundary. Further walls on the same alignment were observed in the

northern part of the service trench and also represent relatively modern plot boundaries. Surface 1007 was also of relatively recent date, and the ditch (1006) that cut it was apparently a relatively modern horticultural feature.

- 8.4 No Roman finds were present, which is perhaps surprising given the proximity of the Roman fort and settlement.

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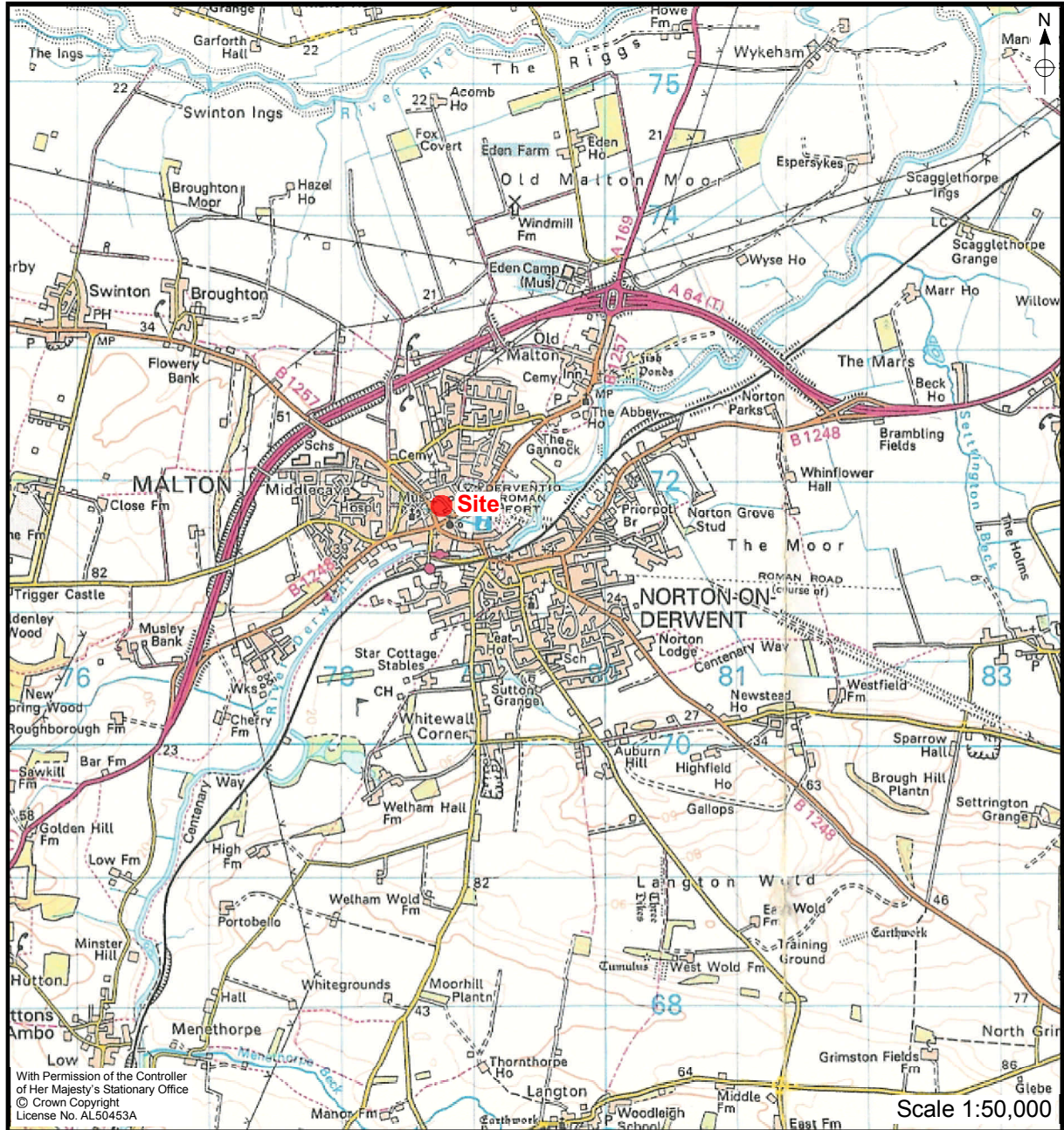


Figure 1. Site Location

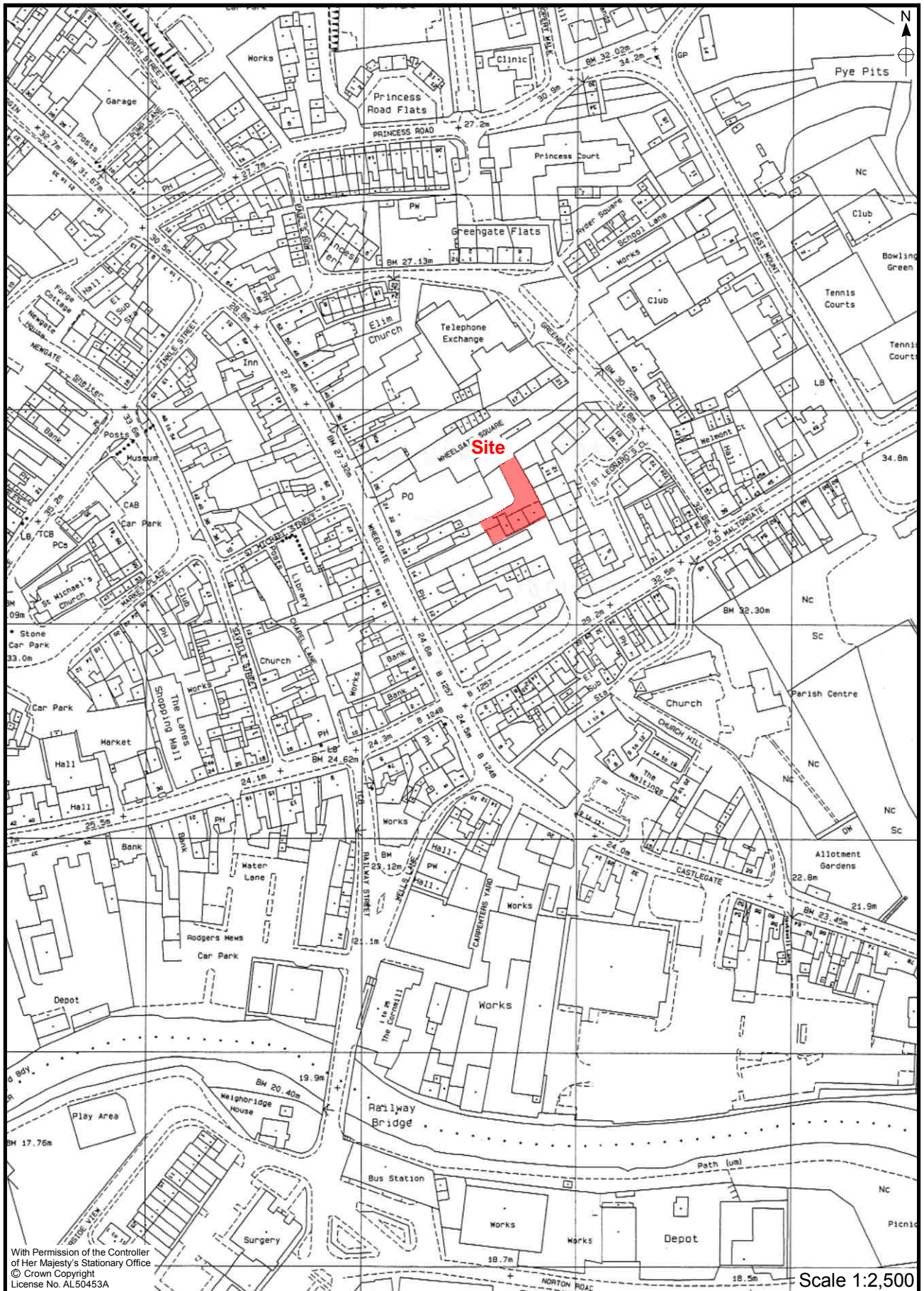


Figure 2. Area of Development

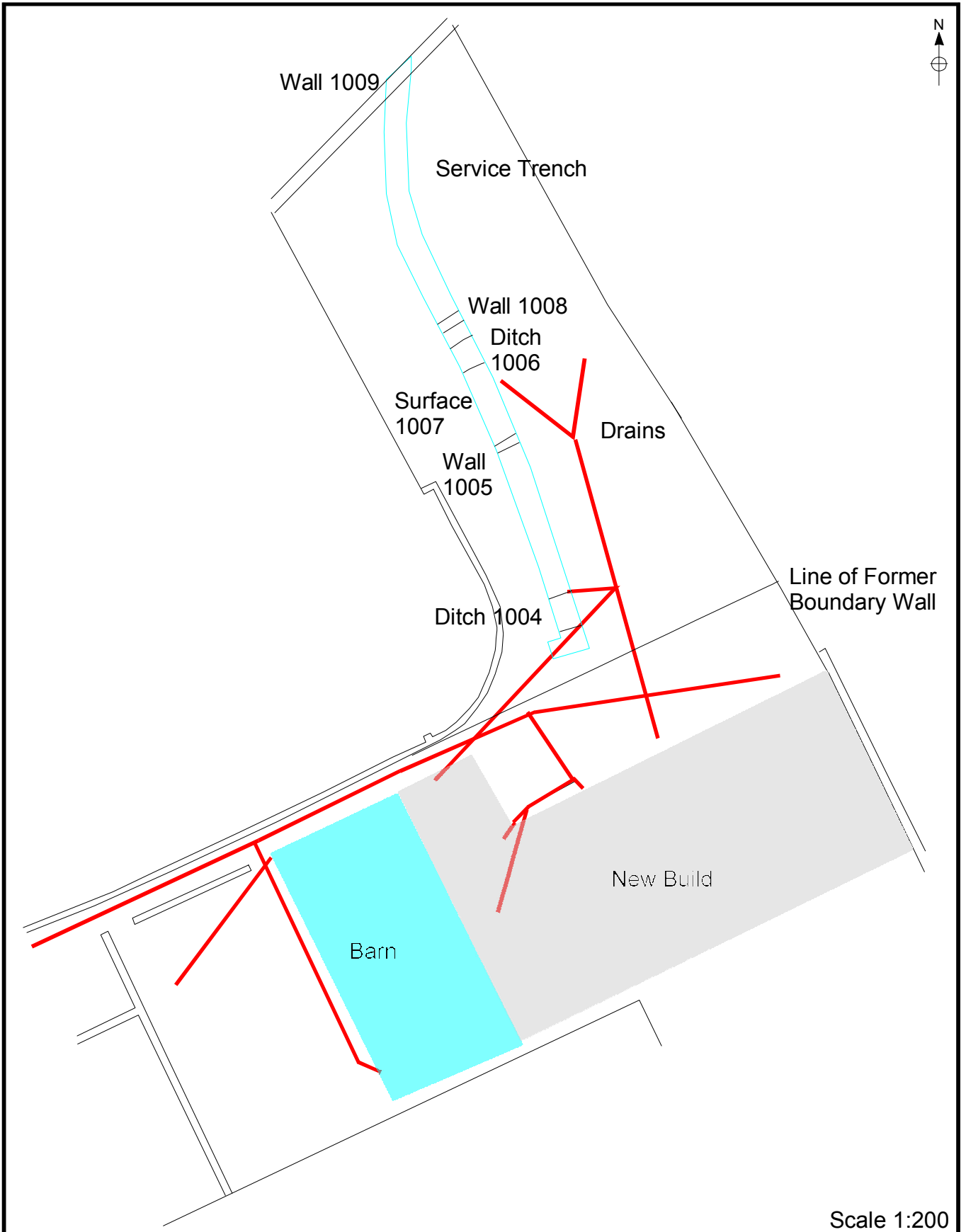


Figure 2. Area of Archaeological Strip and Record.



Plate 1. Section through natural at north-east corner of site.
Facing East.



Plate 2. Slab reduction Facing North.



Plate 3. Slab reduction Facing North.



Plate 4. Reduction for Northern Groundbeam. Facing West.



Plate 5. Ditch 1004. Facing North.



Plate 6. Wall 1005. Facing North-west.



Plate 7. Wall 1008. Facing North.



Plate 8. Ditch 1006 and Surface 1006. Facing South.

APPENDIX 1

16 Wheelgate, Malton - 04-07-08

Context Listing

Context	Description
1001	Deposit Brick and concrete rubble
1002	Deposit 10YR 4/2; clay silt (garden soil)
1003	Structure Stone wall footings for former boundary wall
1004	Deposit 10 YR 3/2, loamy silt; ditch fill
1005	Structure Limestone wall
1006	Deposit 10 YR 3/2, loamy silt; ditch fill
1007	Deposit 2.5 Y 4/3 clay with mortar flecks; surface
1008	Structure Limestone wall
1009	Structure Limestone wall

APPENDIX 2

Finds Catalogue

Context	Type	Total	Description	Weight (g)	Spot date
1002	Pottery	15	1 handle, 14 body	232	19th C
	Clay pipe	2	Stem frags	6	19th C
1004	Animal bone	7	Fragments	250	
	Pottery	1	Humber ware rim sherd	14	15/16th C
1007	Pottery	5	Pearl and Cream wares	52	19th C

APPENDIX 3

Drawing Archive Listing

Drawing	Scale	Type	Description
1	1:100	Plan	Overall plan of area
2	1:100	Plan	Plan of service trench

APPENDIX 4

Photographic Archive Listing

Digital

No.	Description	Scale	Facing
1	Foundation detail at NW corner of site	0.5m	N
2	Deposit 1002 at northern baulk	N/A	N
3	Northern groundbeam	1m	N
4	Northern groundbeam	1m	N
5	Natural deposits at SE corner of excavated area	1m	S
6	Section revealed behind retaining wall	0.5m	S
7	Western part of site showing reduction for slab	N/A	N
8	Western groundbeam	N/A	S
9	Ditch 1004	1m	N

10	Wall 1005	1m	NW
11	Wall 1008	1m	N
12	Ditch 1006 + Surface 1007	1m	N
13	Service Trench	1m	E
14	Service Trench	1m	N
15	Service Trench	1m	E
16	Service Trench	1m	N
17	Service Trench	1m	N
18	Service Trench	1m	N
19	Service Trench	1n	W

APPENDIX 5

Project Team Details

Fieldwork

Mark Stephens

Kelly Hunter

Charlie Morris

Post-excavation

Mark Stephens *report*

Kelly Hunter *CAD and illustrations*

Finds

Mark Stephens *Dating/analysis*

Anne Finney *Processing*

Mark Stephens *Catalogue*

**WRITTEN SCHEME OF INVESTIGATION FOR ARCHAEOLOGICAL
STRIP AND RECORD**

**THE REAR OF 16 WHEELGATE
MALTON
NORTH YORKSHIRE**

SE 7873 7174

Prepared for A DUKES BUILDERS

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17 DECEMBER 2007

**THE REAR OF 16 WHEELGATE
MALTON
NORTH YORKSHIRE
SE 7873 7174**

**WRITTEN SCHEME OF INVESTIGATION FOR
ARCHAEOLOGICAL STRIP AND RECORD**

1. Summary

- 1.1 The topsoil and overburden strip and archaeological recording is to take place in the area at the rear of 16 Wheelgate, Malton, North Yorkshire where two new dwellings will be erected and a former storage building converted into two further dwellings (Planning Application 02/00991/FUL).

2. Purpose

- 2.1 This written scheme of investigation (WSI) represents a summary of the broad archaeological requirements to mitigate the impact of development proposals upon the archaeological resource and to comply with the archaeological planning condition. This is in accordance with the guidance of Planning Policy Guidance note 16 on *Archaeology and Planning*, 1990. 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 agreement between the Client and the selected archaeological contractor.

3. Location and Description (centred at SE 7873 7174)

The Rear of 16 Wheelgate is situated in the centre of the medieval town of Malton, approximately 200m to the north-west of the Roman fort and civilian settlement (*vicus*) of Derventio, and 250m north-west of the site of Malton castle.

4. Archaeological and Historical Background

- 4.1 Malton lies on undulating ground, which falls rapidly towards the river Derwent, which bounds the settlement to the south. In modern times

the town has extended to the west and north, with the town of Norton forming a suburb on the east bank of the Derwent. The main road to Whitby enters Malton at Old Maltongate and Wheelgate forms the main road to Helmsley.

- 4.2 Orchard Field has long been recognised as the site of a Roman fort guarding the Derwent crossing, with a civilian settlement stretching southwards from the fort to the river (Corder, 1930 and Mitchelson, 1964). The remains of the fort are known to extend westwards in to the grounds of The Lodge, and further Roman activity has recently been uncovered in this area (MAP 1997).
- 4.3 The name Malton derives from the Old English for middle farm (Old English *middle* or Old Norse *medal*, Old English *tun*, Ekwall, 1935). Malton is recorded in the Domesday Survey of 1086, although this is taken to refer to the village of Old Malton. Old Malton itself is thought to have been the main settlement focus during the Anglian and Anglo-Scandinavian periods.
- 4.4 Malton Castle was built to control the crossing over the river Derwent and is believed to have been constructed in the early 12th century (Robinson, 1978, 13). References to the destruction of Malton during a siege of the castle by Stephen's supporters in 1138 indicate that an extra-mural settlement serving the castle had been established in the Castlegate area by that time (ibid.).
- 4.5 The Borough of New Malton was founded in the mid-12th century, perhaps under royal patronage (ibid.). New Malton consists of the ecclesiastical parishes of St. Michael and St. Leonard. The town was once walled, the course of the walls following the parish boundary. The borough did not include the Castlegate area, which is thought to have been under the control of the castellan, Eustace fitz John. The circuit of the walls probably determined the shape of the market place, which lies between Yorkersgate and Wheelgate.

- 4.6 There are 12th and 13th century references to weavers, goldsmiths, masons and mercers, and 14th century references to wool-merchants, showing that the borough achieved a degree of economic success. The market was first mentioned in 1283, and the fair in 1295 (ibid.). The Market Place can be seen as the economic centre of the borough, along with streets such as Wheelgate, placing the site in a key location for trade.
- 4.7 The canons of Old Malton priory founded a hospital on Wheelgate, dedicated to St. Peter. Its vaulted 15th century undercroft still survives as the cellar of the Cross Keys Inn.
- 4.8 During the Civil War (1640-1660) the town suffered depredation and poverty. In 1644 Newcastle's forces were defeated in Malton by Sir William Constable.
- 4.9 By the 18th century Malton had become a prosperous market town and had been acquired by the Honourable Thomas Wentworth.
- 4.10 Trade Directories for the North Riding of Yorkshire provide descriptions of commercial activity in Malton from 1823 to 1937. In 1823 Wheelgate was a thriving commercial centre with businesses including butchers, basket makers, book-sellers, clock and watchmakers, curriers, hatters and a gun-smith (Baines 1823). In the 20th century, Kelly's Directory of Yorkshire records the occupants of 42 Wheelgate as butchers in 1913, 1923 and 1933, and as greengrocers in 1937.
- 4.11 Since 1990 a number of Archaeological Watching Briefs and Evaluations have been conducted in Malton town centre, which include the following sites;
- 4.12 At the Friends' Meeting House, Greengate, an Archaeological Watching Brief in 1993 recorded medieval deposits and a section of the

town wall (MAP 1994).

- 4.13 Roman and medieval sherds were recovered during a Watching Brief to the rear of 47 Greengate (MAP 1994).
- 4.14 An Archaeological Watching Brief at Saville Street in 1994 revealed medieval deposits at a depth of 0.60m below present ground level.
- 4.15 Excavations at Carpenters Yard, on the extension to Safeway's supermarket to the south of Castlegate, revealed a sequence of deposits dating from the medieval period to the 19th century (MAP 2000).
- 4.16 An Archaeological Watching Brief conducted in 2000 revealed extensive medieval and post-medieval deposits at Tuddle Lane, Market Place, Malton (MAP 2001).
- 4.17 Archaeological excavations carried out by MAP Archaeological Consultancy Ltd to the rear of 11-13 Wheelgate in 2002 and 2003 revealed an extensive sequence of deposits dating to the medieval period. Several phases of structures and deposits were noted, dating from the 12th century onwards (MAP 2003a).
- 4.18 An Archaeological Evaluation, consisting of three small trenches, was undertaken to the rear of 42 Wheelgate during March 2003, which demonstrated the survival of pits and postholes dating to the 12th or 13th century. A wall exposed in Trench 1 and traced in plan at the southern side showed that a stone building, possibly of the same date, was incorporated into the 19th century brick building that stands on the site (MAP 2003b). Subsequent open-area excavation recorded six phases of medieval activity (MAP 2003c).
- 4.19 Archaeological excavations to the rear of 44-46 Wheelgate, carried out in the summer of 2007, recorded pits and structures dating from the

12th century to the post-medieval period (MAP 2007).

5. Objectives

5.1 The objectives of the archaeological work are:

1. to determine by means of targeted archaeological excavation the character, extent and nature of the archaeological remains within the development area,
2. to locate, recover, identify, assess and conserve (as appropriate) any archaeological artefacts exposed during the course of the excavation,
3. where appropriate, to undertake a post-excavation assessment after completion of fieldwork and site archive to assess the potential for further analysis and publication, and to undertake such analysis and publication as appropriate,
4. to prepare and submit a suitable archive to the appropriate museum.

6. Tenders

- 6.1 Archaeological contractors should submit their estimates or quotations to the commissioning body with reference to the County Council's *Guidance for Developers – Archaeological Work*
- 6.2 An allowance of time, or a contingent sum for bad weather, should be agreed as part of any contract. Variations to work arising from the presence of structures or archaeological remains not anticipated by the written scheme of investigation or the archaeological contractor should be subject to consultation with the Historic Environment Team, NYCC and the commissioning body, and put into effect as appropriate with the written agreement of the parties involved.

7. Access, Safety and Monitoring

- 7.1 Access to the site should be arranged through the commissioning body.
- 7.2 It is the archaeological contractor's responsibility to ensure that Health and Safety requirements are fulfilled. Necessary precautions should be taken near underground services and overhead lines. A risk assessment should be provided to the commissioning body before the commencement of works.
- 7.3 The project will be monitored by the Historic Environment Team, NYCC, to whom written documentation should be sent ten days before the start of the excavation including:
1. the date of commencement,
 2. an opportunity to monitor the works.
- 7.4 Where appropriate, the advice of the English Heritage Regional Advisor for Archaeological Science, (Yorkshire and Humber Region) may be called upon to monitor the archaeological science components of the project. Archaeological contractors may wish to contact him to discuss the science components of the project before submission of tenders.
- 7.5 It is the archaeological contractor's responsibility to ensure that monitoring takes place by arranging monitoring points as follows:
1. a preliminary meeting or discussion at the commencement of the contract.
 2. progress meeting(s) during the fieldwork phase at appropriate points in the work schedule, to be agreed.
 3. a meeting during the post-fieldwork phase to discuss the draft report and archive before completion.
- 7.6 It is the responsibility of the archaeological contractor to ensure that any significant results are brought to the attention of the Historic

Environment Team, NYCC and the commissioning body as soon as is practically possible. This is particularly important where there is any likelihood of contingency arrangements being required.

8. Brief

- 8.1 The archaeological contractor should be informed in advance of the correct timing and schedule of site preparation and preliminary excavation works associated with the construction of the proposed development. A specified timetable should be agreed within which the archaeological excavation may be carried out prior to further construction commencing.

- 8.2 Archaeological work within the area of proposed development should include the initial supervision of the preliminary site/topsoil strip areas down to the top of archaeological deposits. Overburden such as turf, topsoil, made ground, rubble or other superficial fill materials may be removed by machine using a back-acting excavator which should be fitted with a toothless or ditching bucket. Mechanical excavation equipment shall be used judiciously, under archaeological supervision down to the top of archaeological deposits, or the natural subsoil (C Horizon or soil parent material), whichever appears first. Bulldozers or wheeled scraper buckets should not be used to remove overburden above archaeological deposits. Topsoil should be kept separate from subsoil or fill materials.

- 8.3 Once overburden/topsoil has been removed, any further machine or hand excavation should be halted to allow the archaeological contractor to observe, clean and assess any archaeological remains on the site. Using the information and artefacts collected to this stage, all features and deposits should be assessed as to their origin or function, probable date, and importance for further recording. Features and layers identified as having potential for further recording should be excavated by hand, sampled, and recorded as set out below. This is in order to

fulfil Objectives 5.1.1 and 5.1.2 above and in order to understand the full stratigraphic sequence. In case of query as to the extent of investigation, a site meeting shall be convened with the Historic Environment Team Leader, NYCC.

- 8.4 The character, information content and stratigraphic relationships of features and deposits should be determined. All linear features, such as ditches, should have their shape, character, and depth determined by hand excavation of sections. A minimum sample of 20% of each linear feature of less than 5m in length and a minimum sample of 10% of each linear feature greater than 5m in length (each section will be not less than 1m wide) should be excavated. All junctions of linear features should have their stratigraphic relationships determined, if necessary using box sections. A 100% sample of all stake-holes should be excavated, and all pits, post-holes and other discrete features should be half-sectioned by hand to record a minimum of 50% of their fills, and their shape. Any other unknown or enigmatic features should be investigated similarly. Large pits, post-holes or deposits of over 1.5m diameter should be excavated sufficiently to define their extent and to achieve the objectives of the investigation, but should not be less than 25%. All intersections should be investigated to determine the relationship(s) between features.
- 8.5 The project should be undertaken in a manner consistent with the guidance of MAP2 (English Heritage 1991) and professional standards and guidance (IFA 2001). Scientific investigations should be undertaken in a manner consistent with the English Heritage best-practice guidelines (2003). An outline strategy of sampling for scientific dating, geoarchaeology and soil science (Canti 1996), biological analysis (English Heritage 2002), artefact conservation and analysis (Watkinson and Neal 1998), and analysis of technological residues (English Heritage 2001), ceramics, and stone should be agreed with the Local Authority, in consultation with the English Heritage Regional Advisor for Archaeological Science (RA) before commencement of site

work. This strategy should be based on the results of previous archaeological work in the area. The strategy will be subject to variation as appears necessary during the excavation, following consultation with the Local Authority and the RA.

- 8.6 All specialists in Archaeological Science (both those employed in-house by the archaeological contractor or those sub-contracted) should be named in project documents. Agreement of specialists must always be obtained before their names are listed. Their competence to undertake proposed investigations, and the availability of adequate laboratory facilities and reference collections should be demonstrated. There should be agreement in writing on timetables and deadlines for all stages of work.
- 8.7 All deposits should be fully recorded on standard context sheets, photographs and conventionally-scaled plans and sections. Each excavation area should be recorded to show the horizontal and vertical distribution of contexts. The elevation of the underlying natural subsoil where encountered should be recorded. The limits of excavation should be shown in all plans and sections, including where these limits are coterminous with context boundaries.
- 8.8 Any significant unstratified artefacts or small finds should be collected. Metal detecting, including the scanning of topsoil and spoil heaps, should only be permitted subject to archaeological supervision and recording so that metal finds are properly located, identified, and conserved.
- 8.9 Using the information and artefacts collected to this stage, all features and deposits should be assessed as to their origin or function, probable date, and importance for further excavation. Features and layers identified as having potential for further recording should be fully excavated, sampled, and recorded. Full excavation should be carried out on features and deposits of limited potential where the stratigraphic

relationships, phasing or origin of these are still unclear. Further excavation may also be needed to expose the full stratigraphic sequence across the site.

- 8.10 All artefacts and ecofacts visible during excavation should be collected and processed, unless variations in this principle are agreed with the Senior Archaeologist, NYCC. In some cases, sampling may be most appropriate. Finds should be appropriately packaged and stored under optimum conditions, as detailed in *First Aid for Finds* (Watkinson & Neal, 1998). A regular transfer of finds from the site to the conservation laboratory is desirable, particularly in the case of long term excavations
- 8.11 Where there is evidence for industrial activity, macroscopic technological residues (or a sample of them) should be collected by hand. Separate samples (c. 10ml) should be collected for micro-slugs hammer-scale and spherical droplets). In these instances, the guidance of English Heritage (2001) should be followed.
- 8.12 Samples should be collected for scientific dating (radiocarbon, dendrochronology, luminescence dating, archaeomagnetism and/or other techniques as appropriate). For this excavation, tenders should allow provision for a minimum of four dates using scientific techniques.
- 8.13 Buried soils and sediment sequences should be inspected and recorded on site by a recognised geoarchaeologist. Samples may be collected for analysis of chemistry, magnetic susceptibility, particle size, micromorphology and/or other techniques as appropriate, following the outline strategy presented in the Project Design, and in consultation with the geoarchaeologist. The guidance of Canti (1996) and English Heritage (2002) should be followed.
- 8.14 All securely stratified deposits should be sampled, from a range of representative features, including pit and ditch fills, postholes, floor deposits, ring gullies and other negative features. Positive features

should also be sampled. Sampling should also be considered for those features where dating by other methods (for example pottery and artefacts) is uncertain. Bulk samples should be collected from contexts containing a high density of bones. Spot finds of other material should be recovered where applicable.

- 8.15 Coarse sieved samples for the recovery of animal bones and other artefact/ecofact categories should be 100 litres plus. Flotation samples, for the recovery of charred plant remains, charcoal, small animal bones and mineralised plant remains, should be between 40 and 60 litres in size, although this will be dependent upon the volume of the context. Entire contexts should be sampled if the volume is low. Whenever possible, coarse sieved samples (wet or dry) and flotation samples should be processed during fieldwork to allow the continuous reassessment and refinement of sampling strategies. Samples from waterlogged and anoxic deposits, which might contain plant macros and entomological evidence, taken for General Biological Analysis (GBA), should normally be 20 litres in size. The English Heritage guidance should be consulted for details of sample size for other specialist samples that may be required. Allowance should be made for a site visit from the contractor's environmental specialists/consultants where appropriate.
- 8.16 In the event that any human remains are encountered, they must be treated at all stages with care and respect. Excavators must be aware of, and comply with, the relevant legislation and any Department of Constitutional Affairs and local environmental health concerns. Burials should be recorded *in situ* and subsequently lifted, washed in water (without additives), marked and packed to standards compatible with McKinley and Roberts (1993). Site inspection by a recognised specialist is desirable in the case of isolated burials, and necessary for cemeteries. Proposals for the final placing of human remains following study and analysis will be required in the Project Design. Further guidance is provided by English Heritage (2004). For this excavation,

tenders should allow provision for any human remains to be subject to carbon and nitrogen isotope study.

Post-Excavation Assessment

- 8.17 Upon completion of archaeological fieldwork, where appropriate, a post-excavation assessment should be undertaken and an assessment report produced in accordance with the guidance of MAP2 (English Heritage 1991). The assessment report should summarise the evidence recovered and should consider its potential for further analysis, review the programme of archaeological science, update the project design as necessary and provide costings for the post-excavation analysis stage of work, with proposals for the production of a final report and/or publication. The site assessment report should include reports on all aspects of Archaeological Science investigated, and include assessment of their suitability for analysis, so as to inform the updated project design.
- 8.18 Assessment of artefacts should include x-radiography of all iron objects (Jones ed. 2006), after initial screening to separate obviously modern debris, and a selection of non-ferrous artefacts (including all coins and a sample of any industrial debris relating to metallurgy). An assessment of all excavated material should be undertaken by conservators and finds researchers in collaboration. Where necessary, active stabilisation/consolidation will be carried out, to ensure long term survival of the material, but with due consideration to possible future investigations. Once assessed, all material should be packed and stored in optimum conditions, as described in Watkinson and Neal (1998).
- 8.19 Assessment of any technological residues should be undertaken. Processing of all samples collected for biological assessment, or sub-samples of them, should be completed. Assessment will include recording the preservation state, density and significance of material

retrieved, to inform up-dated project designs. Methods presented in English Heritage (2002) should be followed. Unprocessed sub-samples should be stored in conditions specified by the appropriate specialists.

- 8.20 Samples collected for geoarchaeological assessment should be processed as deemed necessary by the specialist, particularly where storage of unprocessed samples is thought likely to result in deterioration. Appropriate assessment should be undertaken (see Canti 1996, English Heritage 2002). Animal bone assemblages, or sub-samples of them, should be assessed by a recognised specialist (English Heritage 2002). Assessment of human remains should be undertaken by a recognised specialist (English Heritage 2004).

Analysis

- 8.21 Within a time agreed with the Historic Environment Team Leader, NYCC, a timetable for post-excavation work should be produced, following consultation (including team meetings for larger-scale sites), with all specialists involved in the project. Agreement of timetables should be made in writing with external specialists.
- 8.22 A detailed and cost-effective strategy for scientific dating should be prepared, in consultation with appropriate specialists. Samples for dating should be submitted promptly, and prior agreement should be made with the laboratory on turn-around time and report production.
- 8.23 All artefacts should be conserved and stored in accordance with Watkinson and Neal (1998). Investigative conservation should be undertaken on those objects selected during the assessment phase, with the aim of maximising information whilst minimising intervention. Where necessary, active stabilisation/consolidation will be carried out, to ensure long-term survival of the material, but with due consideration to possible future investigations. Proposals for ultimate storage should follow Walker (1990).

8.24 Appropriate analysis of technological residues should be undertaken, as outlined in English Heritage (2001). Samples or sub-samples collected for all types of biological and geoarchaeological analysis should be processed, and material retrieved analysed by recognised specialists. Any unprocessed sub-samples should be stored in conditions specified by the specialists, or a reasoned discard policy should be developed (English Heritage 2002).

8.25 Analysis of animal bones should be undertaken by a recognised specialist, as specified in the updated project design (see also English Heritage 2002). Analysis of human remains should be undertaken by a recognised specialist, as specified in the up-dated project design.

9. Archive

9.1 A field archive should be compiled consisting of all primary written documents, plans, sections and photographs should be produced and cross-referenced. Archive deposition should be undertaken with reference to the County Council's *Guidelines on the Transfer and Deposition of Archaeological Archives*.

9.2 The archaeological contractor should liaise with an appropriate museum to establish the detailed requirements of the museum and discuss archive transfer in advance of fieldwork commencing. The relevant museum curator should be afforded to visit the site and discuss the project results. In this instance, the Malton Museum is suggested.

9.3 The archiving of any digital data arising from the project should be undertaken in a manner consistent with professional standards and guidance (Richards & Robinson, 2000). The archaeological contractor should liaise with an appropriate digital archive repository to establish their requirements and discuss the transfer of the digital archive.

9.4 The archaeological contractor should also liaise with the HER Officer, North Yorkshire County Council, to make arrangements for digital information arising from the project to be submitted to the North Yorkshire Historic Environment Record for HER enhancement purposes. The North Yorkshire HER is not an appropriate repository for digital archives arising from projects.

10. Copyright

10.1 Copyright in the documentation prepared by the archaeological contractor and specialist sub-contractors should be the subject of an additional licence in favour of the museum accepting the archive to use such documentation for their statutory educational and museum service functions, and to provide copies to third parties as an incidental to such functions.

10.2 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 archaeological contractor 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.

11. Report

11.1 Following post-excavation assessment and analysis as appropriate, a report should be prepared following the County Council's guidance on reporting: *Reporting Check-List*. The report should set out the aims of the work and the results as achieved, including photographs of operations, description of the remains including all relevant plans and sections, interpretation and assessment of the significance of the

remains. The report should also include a listing of contexts, finds, plans and sections, and photographs.

- 11.2 The results from investigations in Archaeological Science, *including negative results*, should be included in the Site Archive and reported to the HER.
- 11.3 A timetable for completion of reports should be agreed with all specialists, and agreements in writing with sub-contracted external specialists are desirable. The time-table should allow for adequate provision by the excavator of contextual information, provisional dating and stratigraphic relationships of contexts. Reports should include clear statements of methodology. The results from scientific analysis should be clearly distinguished from their interpretation. Non-technical summaries of results should be included. Reports on Archaeological Science should be published fully, in the text of printed reports or in the main body of reports disseminated by electronic means, wherever the results merit it.
- 11.4 At least six copies of the report should be produced and submitted to the commissioning body, the Local Planning Authority, the museum accepting the archive, the English Heritage Regional Advisor for Archaeological Science and, under separate cover, North Yorkshire County Council Heritage Section.
- 11.5 If the archaeological fieldwork produces results of sufficient significance to merit publication in their own right, allowance should be made for the preparation and publication of a summary in a local journal, such as the *Yorkshire Archaeological Journal*. This should comprise, as a minimum, a brief note on the results and a summary of the material held within the site archive, and its location.
- 11.6 Upon completion of the work, the archaeological contractor 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 archaeological contractor to notify the Historic Environment Team Leader, NYCC of the details of the work and to provide the Historic Environment Record (HER) with a report on the work.

12. Further Information

12.1 Further information or clarification of any aspects of this brief may be obtained from:

MAP Archaeological Consultancy Ltd

Showfield Lane

Malton

Tel. 01653 697752

North Yorkshire YO17 6BT

Fax. 01653 694747

12.2 This written scheme of investigation is valid for a period of six months from the date of issue. After that time it may need to be revised to take into account new discoveries, changes in policy or the introduction of new working practices or techniques. In addition, depending upon the final design of development, the methodology of the archaeological excavation may need to be modified accordingly.

12.3 References

Association for Environmental Archaeology 1995 Environmental Archaeology and Archaeological Evaluations, Recommendations Concerning the Component of Archaeological Evaluations in England. *Working Papers of the Association for Environmental Archaeology, Number 2.*
<http://www.envarch.net/publications/papers/evaluations.html>

Canti, M	1996 Guidelines for carrying out Assessments in Geoarchaeology, <i>Ancient Monuments Laboratory Report 34/96</i> , English Heritage
English Heritage	1991 Management of Archaeological Projects (MAP2) http://www.eng-h.gov.uk/guidance/map2/
English Heritage	2001 Archaeometallurgy: Centre for Archaeology Guidelines 2001/01 http://194.164.61.131/Filestore/archaeology/pdf/cfa_archaeometallurgy.pdf
English Heritage	2002 Environmental Archaeology : A guide to the theory and practice of methods, from sampling and recovery to post-excavation. Centre for Archaeology Guidelines 20002/01 http://194.164.61.131/Filestore/archaeology/pdf/enviroarch.pdf (5.93mb)
English Heritage	2003 Archaeological Science at PPG16 interventions: Best Practice Guidance for Curators and Commissioning Archaeologists http://194.164.61.131/filestore/archaeology/pdf/briefs%20version%202022.pdf
English Heritage	2004 <i>Human Bones from Archaeological sites. Guidelines for producing assessment documents and analytical reports</i> . Centre for Archaeology Guidelines, unnumbered.

http://194.164.61.131/filestore/publications/pdf/free/human_bones_2004.pdf

- Institute of Field Archaeologists 2001 Standards and Guidance for Archaeological Excavation
<http://www.archaeologists.net/modules/inPages/docs/codes/exc2.pdf>
- Jones, D M (ed.) 2006 Guidelines on the X-radiography of Archaeological Metalwork. English Heritage.
- McKinley, J & Roberts, C 1993 IFA Technical Paper **13**, *Excavation and post-excavation treatment of cremated and inhumed human remains.*
- Society of Museum Archaeologists 1993 *Selection, retention and dispersal of archaeological collections. Guidelines for use in England, Northern Ireland, Scotland and Wales.*
- Walker, K. 1990 *Guidelines for the preparation of excavation archives for long-term storage*, Archaeology Section of the United Kingdom Institute for Conservation.
- Watkinson, D & Neal, V 1998 First Aid for Finds (3rd edition), RESCUE & the Archaeological Section of the United Kingdom Institute for Conservation.

APPENDIX 1- SPECIALISTS

Ian Panter	YAT		01904 663036
Prehistoric Pottery	Terry Manby		01430 873147
Roman Pottery	Vivien Swan		01904 468335
	Jeremy Evans		0121 7784024
	Paula Ware	MAP	01653 697752
Pre-conquest Pottery	Mark Stephens	MAP	01653 697752
Medieval Pottery	Mark Stephens	MAP	01653 697752
Post Medieval Pottery	Mark Stephens	MAP	01653 697752
Clay Tobacco Pipe	Mark Stephens	MAP	01653 697752
CBM	S.Garside – Neville		01904 621339
Animal Bone		PRS	01388 772167
Small Finds	Hilary Cool		0116 9819065
Leather	Ian Carlisle	YAT	01904 663000
Textile	Penelope Walton Rogers	Textile Research in Archaeology	01904 634585
Slag/Hearths	Jerry McDonnell	Bradford University	01274 3835131
Flint	Pete Makey		01377 253695
Environmental Sampling		PRS/ Diane Alldritt	01388 772167 0141 649 877
Human Remains	Malin Holst	York Osteology Ltd	01904 737509
C14 Dating		C	270136
Debdro		Sheffield University	0114 2220123
Archaeomagnetic	Mark Noel	Geoquest Associates	01624819364