

NYCC HER	
SNY	16336
ENY	5529
SNY	6716
Parish	1027
Rec'd	22/07/2010

THE BRIGANTIA ARCHAEOLOGICAL PRACTICE



ARCHAEOLOGICAL MONITORING & RECORDING AT GRANGE CLOSE FARM, HUDSWELL Nr RICHMOND, NORTH YORKSHIRE

A report to Yorvick Homes Ltd.



15th July 2010

Rec'd 22/7/2010

1027 parsn

C6716

S16336

E 5529

THE BRIGANTIA ARCHAEOLOGICAL PRACTICE

SUITE E,
42 HORSEMARKET,
BARNARD CASTLE,
C° DURHAM DL12 8NA



Tel/fax: 01833 630125 Email: enquiries@brigantiaarchaeology.co.uk

Website: www.brigantiaarchaeology.co.uk

**ARCHAEOLOGICAL MONITORING & RECORDING
AT GRANGE CLOSE FARM, HUDSWELL
Nr RICHMOND, NORTH YORKSHIRE**

(NZ 14192 00227)

*In connection with planning consent
(Richmondshire District Council)
1/27/113D/FULL*

A report to Yorvick Homes Ltd.

OASIS reference thebriga1-79644

Fieldwork & report: Percival Turnbull

15th July 2010

**ARCHAEOLOGICAL MONITORING & RECORDING
AT GRANGE CLOSE FARM, HUDSWELL
Nr RICHMOND, NORTH YORKSHIRE**

(NZ 14192 00227)

EPITOME

On instructions from Yorvick Homes Ltd, a scheme of archaeological recording was undertaken during ground works on land at Grange Close Farm, Hudswell. This work was required in response to a condition attached to a planning consent (Richmondshire District Council, 1/27/113D/FULL) for the erection of a new Courtyard development consisting of 11 residences and infrastructure.

The results of this Archaeological monitoring and recording have been negative: the site has very little remaining archaeological potential. This is because:

The site probably lies outside the core area of mediaeval settlement.

The site has been subject to considerable modern disturbance.

**ARCHAEOLOGICAL MONITORING & RECORDING
AT GRANGE CLOSE FARM, HUDSWELL
Nr RICHMOND, NORTH YORKSHIRE**

INTRODUCTION

1. On instructions from Yorvick Homes Ltd, a scheme of archaeological recording was undertaken during ground works on land at Grange Close Farm, Hudswell. This work was required in response to a condition attached to a planning consent (Richmondshire District Council, 1/27/113D/FULL) for the erection of a new Courtyard development consisting of 11 residences and infrastructure.
2. Work was carried out according to a Written Scheme of Investigation prepared by this Practice and agreed by Richmondshire District Council and North Yorkshire County Council. Work on site was carried out by Percival Turnbull, of this Practice, on the 13th and 14th July 2010.
3. This project has been given the OASIS reference thebriga1-79644.

THE SITE

4. The village of Hudswell is strung out along both sides of a road running from east to west; there is very little development behind the main properties on the street frontage. In 1914, before the building of the modern houses which have increased the size of Hudswell, it consisted of '*a few stone-built cottages straggling along the road*'. The development site lies towards the eastern end of the village, on the south side of the street, immediately east of the buildings of Grange Close Farm (Fig. 1). It is centred on (National Grid Reference) NZ 14192 00227. Only a few 20th century houses lie further west.
5. At the commencement of fieldwork, the field was under grass, but appeared to have been subject to considerable disturbance at a fairly recent date: surfaces were very uneven with considerable stone and concrete rubble close to the surface.
6. The northern half of the field (that closer to the road) is dominated by the bed of a beck or water-course, indicated by a 'drain' in Fig. 2; this has been considerably broadened in the past, presumably by repeated scouring (Fig. 3). It is likely that this feature has existed for a long time; its presence may have been an important factor in the location of settlement in this part of the village.
7. The general history of Hudswell is chronicled in the *Victoria County History*, which tells us that. 'Six carucates in HUDSWELL (*Hudreswelle*, xi cent.; *Hudeswell*, xiii cent.) were held by Tor before the Conquest; they were held under Count Alan by Enisan Musard, and followed the descent of Constable Burton till Roald son of Alan granted to Easby Abbey his capital messuage here with all demesne and services of his free tenants. His son Roald gave to the cell of St. Martin at Richmond the services of William son of Hamo, the steward of Hudswell, Arnald son of Hubert de Hudswell

and Maud daughter of Harald de Hudswell, each in 2 oxgangs. The vill was thus divided between the two religious houses, the Easby moiety being the larger. A long-standing boundary dispute between the Abbot of Easby and the Abbot of St. Mary, York, and the Prior of his cell of St. Martin concerning lands here was settled by an award in the 15th century, when certain lands on Bordelmoor, besides the Middlemoor lying between Deepdale and Sandbeck, were adjudged to St. Mary's and St. Martin's and the rest of Hudswell and Thorpe moors to St. Agatha's, 'and each of the Abbots in their respective courts' was to 'punish all foreigners taking turf or ling in the parts of the said moor assigned to them respectively.'

8. After the Dissolution the king demised the Easby 'manor of Hudswell' for thirty years to John Lord Scrope of Bolton, and in 1557 the reversion was bought from the Crown by Francis and John Wandesford of Kirklington.

9. Coal mining is recorded in Hudswell from at least the 1830s; copper and lead were also mined in the parish. The church is of the late 19th century but incorporates a few fragments of the earlier building which stood on the same site: these are in the 'Early English' style, and are probably 13th century.

10. The name of Grange Close Farm suggests an original connection with one of the monastic houses; probably with Easby Abbey. There is however no reason to expect a mediaeval farm there, since the name might indicate merely a 'close' or enclosure, presumably for stock. Some signs of rigg-and-furrow cultivation survive north of the road; these indicate nothing more than that this land was under plough at some time. The proximity of the site to the church is not necessarily of great significance; certainly it should not be assumed that the mediaeval settlement was clustered around the church (*vide* nearby Downholme, where the church stands at some distance from the mediaeval Hall and village). The development site appears, indeed, to be at the very western limit of the village, and may in fact have been historically outside it.

THE ARCHAEOLOGICAL RECORDING

11. Vegetation and loose overburden were initially cleared from the site (Fig. 2) using a tracked 360-degree excavator fitted with an edentulate bucket. The operation was continuously monitored; a close check was kept on surfaces and spoilheaps for the presence of loose finds. This served to confirm the considerable degree of disturbance over the site; it was clear that topsoil had previously been stripped, and most of the site had been covered with a varying depth of stone and concrete rubble, as well as other rubbish. This was concentrated near the centre of the stripped area, where a thick trackway of rubble had been created, leading to a gate in the south-eastern corner of the site. Local anecdote remembers that this work was done within the last decade or so.

12. Once the vegetation and loose rubble had been stripped from the site, nothing remained but concentrations of this same rubble, including the track mentioned above. Removal of this material revealed a natural subsoil of greyish boulder clay, with patches of orange-yellow; it had a gleyed appearance, doubtless resulting from intermittent waterlogging. Over most of the site, apart from a few undisturbed

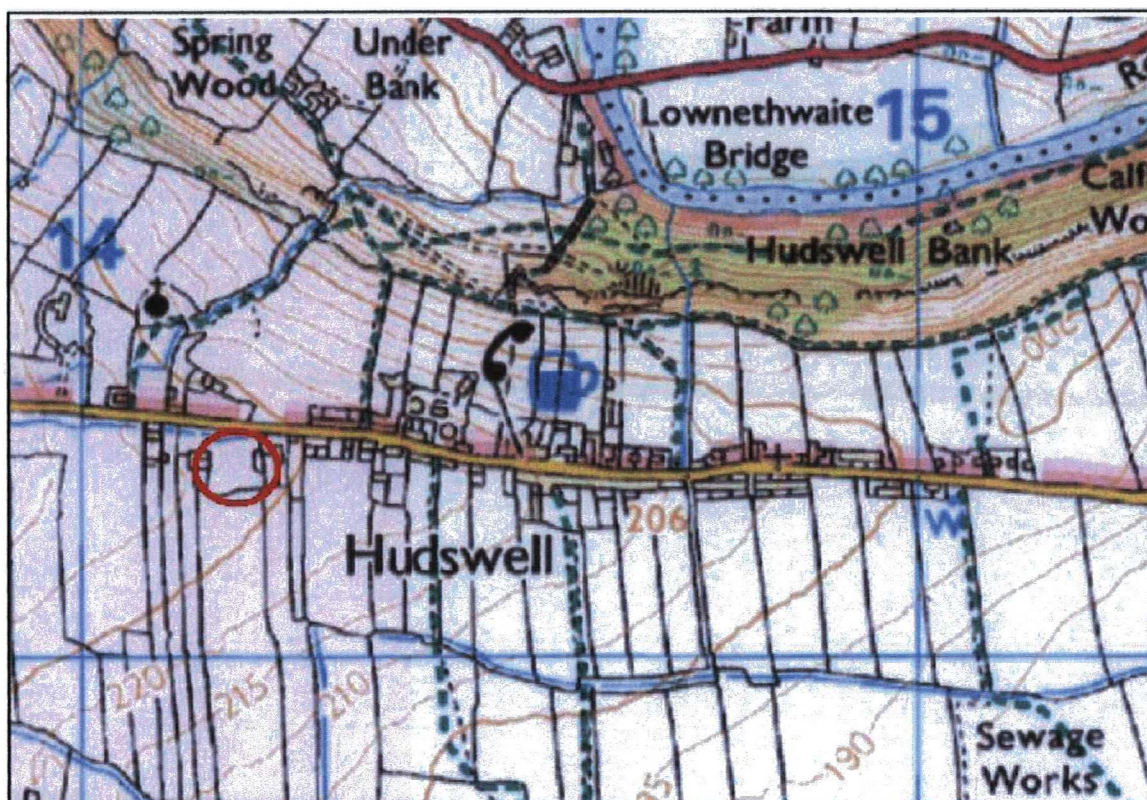
patches, the surface of this natural subsoil was much disturbed, with evidence of the passage of heavy machinery and with rubble crushed down into the boulder clay.

13. Perhaps unsurprisingly, nothing of archaeological significance was discovered during this operation: there was no trace of any feature, structure or deposit of possible archaeological interest, and only a single sherd of pottery of a date other than modern was found, despite abundant quantities of 19th and 20th century material. The exception is a piece of a lid-seated jar in a hard, gritty, grey reduced fabric, with a thin orange slip. It is generically mediaeval, but the individual sherd cannot surely be more closely dated; it came from the surface cleaning, and is not usefully stratified. The presence of a single sherd from such a large area closely monitored over two days is unsurprising; the piece may well have found its way onto the site during manuring.

CONCLUSIONS

14. The results of this Archaeological monitoring and recording have been negative: the site has very little remaining archaeological potential. This is because:

- i. The site probably lies outside the core area of mediaeval settlement.
- ii. The site has been subject to considerable modern disturbance.



Ordnance Survey Crown copyright reserved. Licence no 100048016

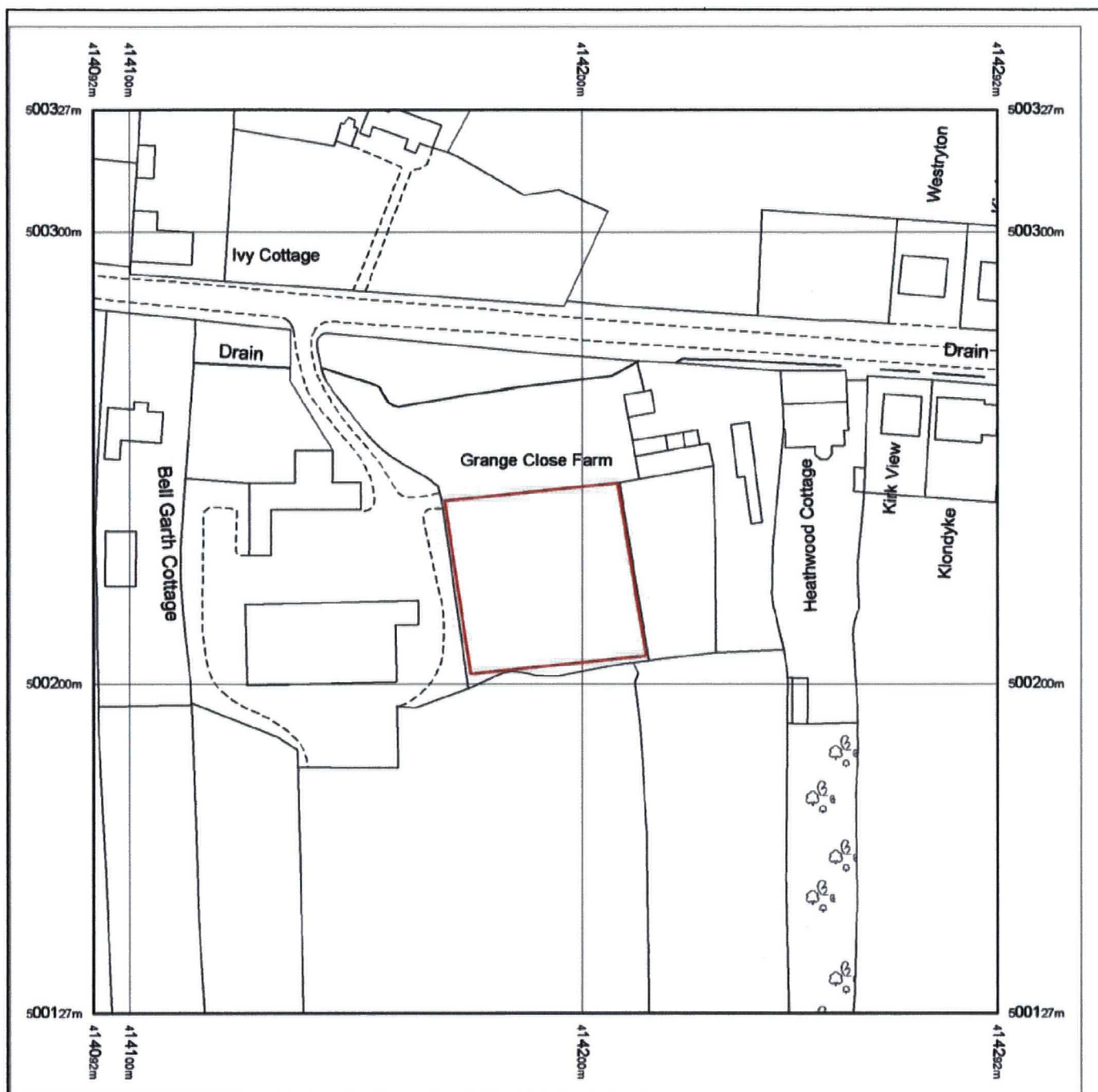
Grange Close Farm

Fig. 2

Site location.



**THE BRIGANTIA
ARCHAEOLOGICAL
PRACTICE**



Ordnance Survey Crown copyright reserved.
Licence no 100048016

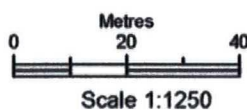
Grange Close Farm

Fig. 2

Location of area stripped.



**THE BRIGANTIA
ARCHAEOLOGICAL
PRACTICE**





Grange Close Farm

Fig. 3

Old watercourse in northern part of site.



**THE BRIGANTIA
ARCHAEOLOGICAL
PRACTICE**



Grange Close Farm

Fig. 4

The site while being stripped.



**THE BRIGANTIA
ARCHAEOLOGICAL
PRACTICE**