



**YORK ARCHAEOLOGICAL TRUST**



**LAND OFF MITFORD STREET, FILEY**

**NORTH YORKSHIRE**

**DESK-BASED ASSESSMENT**

*by D.T. Evans*

**REPORT NUMBER 2009/46**



## YORK ARCHAEOLOGICAL TRUST

York Archaeological Trust undertakes a wide range of urban and rural archaeological consultancies, surveys, evaluations, assessments and excavations for commercial, academic and charitable clients. It can manage projects, provide professional advice and monitor archaeological works to ensure high quality, cost effective archaeology. Its staff have a considerable depth and variety of professional experience and an international reputation for research, development and maximising the public, educational and commercial benefits of archaeology. Based in York its services are available throughout Britain and beyond.



© 2009 York Archaeological Trust for Excavation and Research Limited

Registered Office: 47 Aldwark, York, UK, YO1 7BX

Phone: +44 (0)1904 663000 Fax: +44 (0)1904 663024

Email: [archaeology@yorkat.co.uk](mailto:archaeology@yorkat.co.uk) Internet: <http://www.yorkarchaeology.co.uk>

York Archaeological Trust is a Registered Charity No. 509060

A Company Limited by Guarantee Without Share Capital Registered in England No. 1430801

## CONTENTS

	page
ABSTRACT	1
1. INTRODUCTION	2
2. THE SITE AND STUDY AREA	2
3. AIMS OF THE STUDY	2
4. METHOD STATEMENT	3
5. ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND	4
6. THE CARTOGRAPHIC, PHOTOGRAPHIC AND OTHER EVIDENCE	8
7. STATUTORY LISTINGS	17
8. THE WALKOVER SURVEY	19
9. DISCUSSION AND CONCLUSIONS	24
10. LIST OF SOURCES	24
11. ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS	26

## List of Illustrations

### Figures

1. Location of Filey	1
2. Site location and extent	3
3. The archaeology of the study area	5
4. Extract from map of 1573	9
5. Extract from Jeffrey's map of Yorkshire, 1775	9
6. The 1788 enclosure map of Filey	10
7. Extract from the 1854 1:10560 Ordnance Survey map of Filey	11
8. Extract from the 1926 Ordnance Survey map of Filey	12
9. Listed Buildings in the study area	18

## Plates

Cover: The Crown Hotel, Queen Street, Filey

1	The Pack Horse Inn, Queen Street, looking south-east	13
2	Yard and outbuildings to rear of Filey Town Council offices	14
3	Yard and outbuildings behind Filey Town Council offices, looking north	14
4	Horse, cart, fish boxes and buildings, looking north	15
5.	Aerial view of the site, centre left, looking south-east	16
6	Access, via Clifford's Terrace, to the site from Mitford Street	19
7	Brick structure towards north-east corner of site, possibly associated with fish curing, looking north-north east	20
8	Detail of stone walling in possible fish curing structure	21
9	Brick range, possibly stables or workshops, in central part of site	22
10	Current main access to site, looking south-south-west	22
11	Detail of boundary wall facing Reynolds Street, looking east-south-east	23
12	Part of yard to rear of Crown Hotel, looking south-east	23

## List of Abbreviations

YAT	York Archaeological Trust
AOD	Above Ordnance Datum
NMR	National Monuments Record
UI	Unique Identifier
NGR	National Grid Reference
NY	North Yorkshire
HER	Historic Environment Record

## **ABSTRACT**

*Analysis of the available evidence indicates that the archaeological potential of the study area is both quite high and varied with known or suspected remains ranging from the prehistoric period through to modern times. The road pattern close to the oldest part of Filey is of interest with at least two sections of straight road seemingly aligned onto the old core of Filey. This could suggest the presence of an as yet undiscovered Roman settlement somewhere within, or close to the old core of Filey. The location of the site within the old town of Filey may indicate that archaeological remains of the Anglo-Scandinavian (and possibly earlier) and later periods may exist within the boundaries of the site, they have certainly been recorded in Queen Street. There are also hints that pre-modern stone structures may be present within the site.*



**Figure 1** Location of Filey

## **1. INTRODUCTION**

York Archaeological Trust has been commissioned by Dodd Frankland Stocks Partnership Ltd on behalf of their clients Pan English Development Company, to undertake a desk-based archaeological and historical assessment of a site off Mitford Street, Filey, North Yorkshire (NGR TA 1175 8077, Figure 1) in advance of any potential redevelopment of the site.

This report has been compiled using guidelines laid down by the Institute for Archaeologists (IFA, 2001) and also the internal notes and guidance as used by York Archaeological Trust.

## **2. THE SITE AND STUDY AREA**

The site (Figure 2) lies within the old town of Filey between the Scarborough to Hull railway line and the seafront. It is sub-rectangular in shape, aligned roughly north-south and measures approximately 85m north-south and 40m east-west. The site lies within the area defined by Mitford Street to the south, Mariners Terrace to the east, Queen Street to the north and Reynolds Street to the west, but does not occupy the entire area. The modern ground level lies at c.34m AOD.

The circular study area, with a radius of 500m (red circle on Figure 3), is centred on national grid reference TA 1175 8077. Readily accessible material from this study area was examined and the significant items have been included within this report. Information from outside the study area may also be included in order to provide as full and accurate assessment as practical.

## **3. AIMS OF THE STUDY**

- to elucidate and assess the current state of knowledge about the archaeology of the site, using a wide range of readily accessible sources.
- to undertake a walkover survey of the site to establish the current topography of the area and how, or if, it has changed in the past.
- to understand the current state of historical knowledge about the site's topographic evolution and historical development, utilising a wide range of sources, in order to contribute to the development of an archaeological mitigation strategy in relation to proposals for future works.



**Figure 2** Site location and extent

#### **4. METHOD STATEMENT**

This report was compiled using a variety of sources, some readily accessible and others not so accessible. The online English Heritage websites Pastscape and Viewfinder were both searched as was the online database managed by the Archaeology Data Service. The North Yorkshire Historic Environment Record (HER) was examined. Other websites visited included the Cambridge University Collection of Aerial Photographs, British History Online, National Archives Online, the English Heritage Geophysical Survey Database and the borehole gazetteer of the British Geological Survey.

Further information was derived from a commissioned search of the National Monuments Record.

The site has been the subject of a walkover survey during which notes were made and a number of colour digital photographs were taken.

All original records pertaining to this report are currently held by the York Archaeological Trust under their project code 5240.

## **5. ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND**

### **5.1 ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND**

The available archaeological evidence from the study area is only moderate but enough to present a reasonably clear picture of the archaeology of the area. The numbers in bold refer to Figure 3. It should also be noted that between June 2004 and June 2005, John Buglass Archaeological Services carried out a Desk Based Assessment (Buglass, 2005) (HER Library SNY 9573) for the Filey Bay Initiative which involved looking at a 1km strip inland and looking at the Maritime Heritage. Also of great use for assessing the archaeology, history and other aspects of the coastal zone in general is the Yorkshire and Lincolnshire volume of the Rapid Coastal Zone Assessment Survey (Buglass and Brigham, 2008).

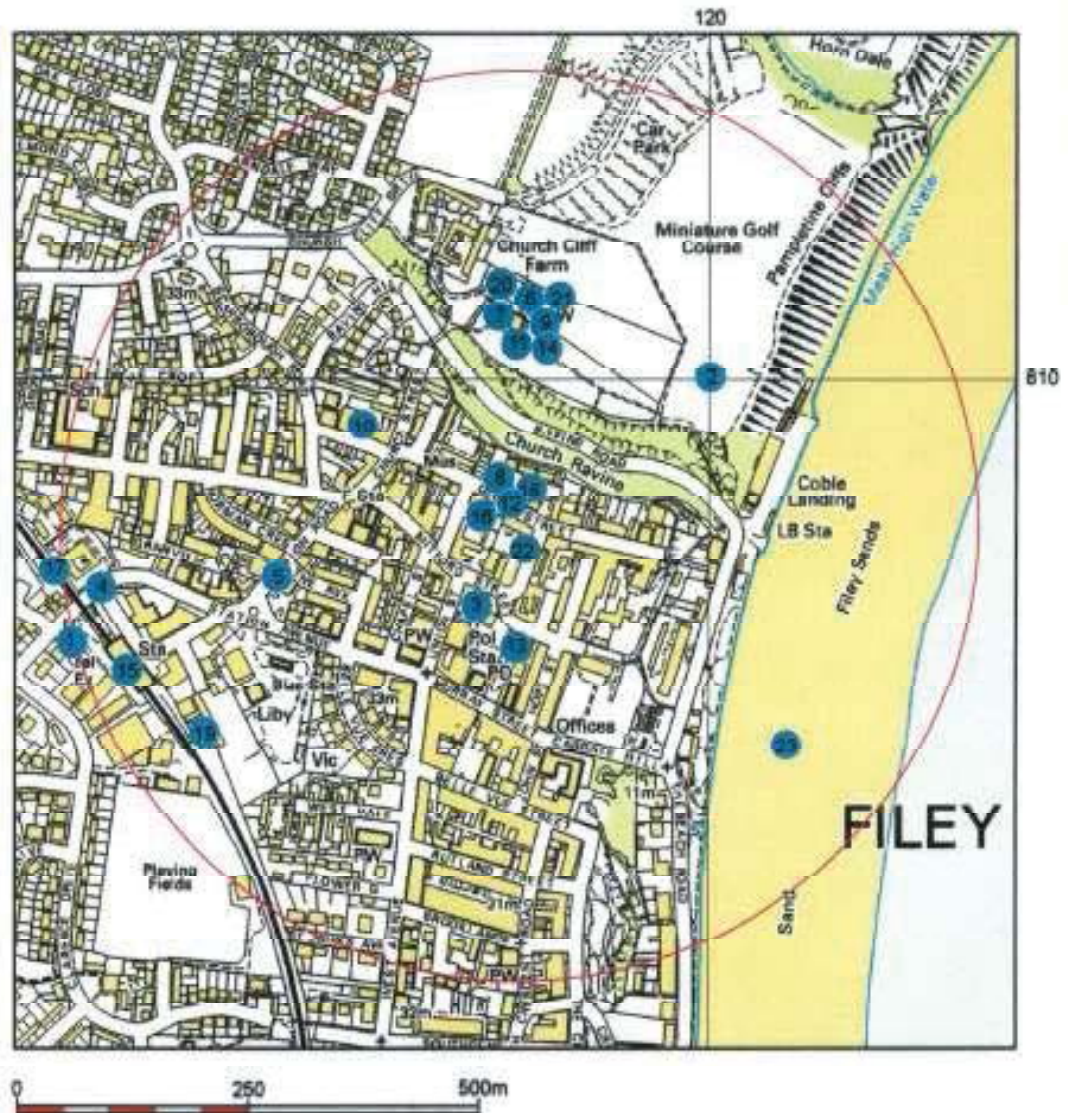
#### **5.1.1 THE PREHISTORIC PERIOD (UP TO 1ST CENTURY AD)**

The search of the National Monuments Record database produced no evidence at all of this period from within the study area. However, the search of the North Yorkshire HER revealed that a polished Neolithic, c.4000 – 2200 BC, axehead was found in the Muston Road area of Filey, close to the railway station, in 1963 **(1)** (NYHER MNY 12665). The HER also indicates that a greenstone axe of similar date was found at the base of the cliff opposite Filey Brigg **(2)** (NYHER MNY 12666), probably c.1970.

#### **5.1.2 THE ROMAN PERIOD (1ST TO 4TH CENTURIES)**

In 1898 during pipe-laying for a water main a surface of cobbles set in concrete **(3)** (NMR UI 81384) was found 0.9m below modern ground level in the road in front of the Church School, a short distance to the south-west of the present site. Although possibly of a later period this was believed to be part of a Roman road. Repairs to the road crossing the railway just outside Filey Station, c.12m east of the lines, in 1937, revealed a small section of stone paved road surface **(4)** (NMR UI 81385). Two short stretches of possible paved Roman road **(5)** (NMR UI 81390) were observed during the laying of electricity cables 0.9m below Station Road in 1935. However, all of the above surfaces, are possibly later and may be of medieval or post-medieval date. There is some evidence to suggest that Roman pottery was found in the vicinity of the mansion of the Bucks family **(6)** (NYHER MNY 12654).





**Figure 3** The archaeology of the study area

### 5.1.3 THE ANGLIAN AND ANGLO-SCANDINAVIAN PERIODS (5TH TO 11TH CENTURIES)

Archaeological evidence for these periods is not common but a fragment of worked stone with good quality carved interlacing (7) (NMR UI 81389) now reused as a step near the top of St Oswald's Church tower may date to the 8th century A.D. and may hint at a church in the vicinity during at least the second half of this period. An excavation at 34 Queen Street in 1975–6 produced evidence for a building believed to be of 10th or 11th century date (8) (NMR UI 1032437).

#### 5.1.4 THE MEDIEVAL PERIOD (11TH TO 16TH CENTURIES)

Medieval pottery has been found at the site of the Bucks, the proprietors of Filey lordship in the 17<sup>th</sup> century, family mansion (9) (NMR UI 81386). The isolated base of a probably medieval market or wayside cross (10) (NMR UI 81394) has been recovered from an old beck leading to a ravine at Filey although it is understood that it originally, prior to c.1850, stood where the Scarborough road enters Filey. The NMR Monument Report also lists St Oswald's Church (11) (NMR UI 81395) which is of mainly 12 and 13<sup>th</sup> century date with 15<sup>th</sup> century battlements. The excavation at 34 Queen Street also produced evidence for a structure of medieval date (12) (NMR UI 1032437). The NMR Activity Report also records a watching brief in 2005 at 26 Mitford Street (13) (NMR UI 1436833) where a medieval pit was recorded.

#### 5.1.5 THE POST-MEDIEVAL AND MODERN PERIODS (16TH TO 21ST CENTURIES)

Some traces of the Bucks family mansion were located between 1924-6 but there were no intelligible remains (14) (NMR UI 81386). Cropmarks seen in 1956 were probably associated with the buried remains of this mansion (NYHER MNY 12654). The Monument Report from the NMR also includes Filey Station (15) (NMR UI 500228), Chalkstone House, 8-10 Queen Street (16) (NMR UI 518545), now Filey Museum, and the Scarborough Branch Railway (17) (NMR UI 1375144). The remains of an C18<sup>th</sup> bait shed were identified during the 34 Queen Street fieldwork (18) (NMR UI 1032437). The NYHER records Filey Gas Works, some of it was still standing in 2002 but some demolished (19) (NYHER MNY 13333). A watching brief at Church Cliff House in 2005 recorded deposits, a cobbled courtyard and possible agricultural buildings thought to belong to this period (20) (NYHER MNY 24276). Church Cliffe House was also apparently the site of an excavation (21) (NYHER ENY 2924) some time in 1924-6 and although no details are currently available material of this period will have been encountered. The NYHER also mentions Mariners Cottage, 19 Reynold's Street (22) (NYHER MNY 24874) and the possible remains of a canister shot found on Filey beach (22) (NYHER MNY 25478).

## 5.2 THE HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

Filey's origins are obscure but the name, meaning Five Leys (forest or meadow clearing), is thought to be of Anglian date. This is backed up by the inclusion of Filey in the Domesday Book where it is called Fiuelac / Fiuelace and is recorded as belonging to the manor of Falsgrave (NYHER MNY 12653)). Very little is known about the early history of Filey but ecclesiastical documents indicate that fishing was an important occupation in the village with fisherman working as far away as Whitby and Grimsby during the 12<sup>th</sup> century. It is recorded that in the 12<sup>th</sup> century Ralph de Nevill, the lord of the manor, had land and a quarry at Filey and that he gave stone from the quarry to Bridlington Priory (British History Online). A

master mariner, John of Filey, is recorded from the village in the 13<sup>th</sup> century (British History Online). It probably remained a small fishing and farming village, centred on Queen Street, of a few hundred inhabitants for many centuries although it was of some importance since there are records of a Friday market from as early as 1221 (Hey, 2005, 174). A Petition of 1314 gives Filey's name as Fyveleye and a slightly later one of 1438 calls it Fivele (National Archives).

It is likely that Filey was quite a busy port since a customs riding officer is recorded as being based in Filey from at least the very early 18<sup>th</sup> century (British History Online). During the 18<sup>th</sup> century it became popular with visitors from Scarborough, who valued the relative peace and quiet it offered. At first visitors were accommodated in local peoples houses until the opening of Foord's Hotel, built as a coaching Inn and situated on Queen Street.

In the early 19<sup>th</sup> century Filey was described as "abounding with excellent fish, and famous for its lobsters" and in 1823 had a population of 773 (Baines, 1823). Although at this period in time Filey was dominated by farmers and fishermen / sailors other occupations attested from wills and Death Duty Registers of the early to mid 19<sup>th</sup> century are a Carrier, a Victualler, a Chief Coast Guard Officer and a Druggist (National Archives). The development of Filey as more than a fishing and farming community probably began in the mid-19<sup>th</sup> century sparked by the arrival of the railway line to Seamer in 1846 and the line to Bridlington in 1847. The 1850s saw the development of the Crescent, later the Royal Crescent which became one the most fashionable addresses in the north of England for around a century. By 1868 Filey possessed both hot and cold salt water baths, a good water supply and was lit by gas. By 1872 the original fishing village, known as Old Filey, had been supplemented by a considerable amount of development, called New Filey, catering for visitors and a carriage road had been formed along the ravine to the north leading from Scarborough to the beach (Kelly, 1872). The population had increased considerably since 1823 and in 1871 was put at 2267. Later in the 19<sup>th</sup> century musicians played to entertain visitors and this continued until the 1950s but has recently been revived.

A brief but interesting part of Filey's history was the establishment of a flying school between Primrose Valley and Humanby Gap in 1910 but this had closed by 1912 ([humanby.com](http://humanby.com)).

The economy of Filey received a great boost later in the 20<sup>th</sup> century with the establishment of a Butlin's Holiday Camp. Work began in 1939 and continued during the war when it became R.A.F. Humanby Moor. After the war it became a very popular holiday destination even boasting its own railway station and by the 1950s it could accommodate up to 10,000 persons. However the advent of cheap foreign holidays lead to a drop in demand for this

type of holiday and the camp closed in 1984. Today Filey promotes its heritage, in particular its maritime heritage, and has created the Filey John Paul Jones Heritage Coast to help attract visitors (fileybay.com). The current population is c.7,000.

Relatively little is known about the history of the site, however it is known that some of the Queen Street frontage was occupied by fishermens cottages and that the Crown Hotel was built on the site of the Pack Horse Inn which was housed in a traditional one and a half storey thatched structure very similar to the cottages. The Pack Horse and adjacent cottages were demolished in the late 19<sup>th</sup> century to make way for the Crown Hotel and the building originally, and now, occupied by Filey Town Council. Much of the remainder of the site was occupied by structures and yards used in the processing of fish in particular and many of these were demolished in the 1960s to make way for the modern garages scattered around the site.

## **6. THE CARTOGRAPHIC, PHOTOGRAPHIC AND OTHER EVIDENCE**

### **6.1 CARTOGRAPHIC EVIDENCE**

A map dating from 1573 (Figure 4) shows the east coast and marks all the principal settlements including Filey, here written as “Philay”. The scale is too great to show any detail and the towns are indicated by stylised symbols.

John Speed’s map of 1610 is very similar but marks Filey as “Fyley”. However, Jeffrey’s map of Yorkshire dated 1775 (Figure 5) is quite detailed and clearly shows the roads in and out of Filey and a compact nucleus centred on Queen Street and Mitford Street. A small number of structures are shown on this map including one apparently on the site of the present Crown Hotel.

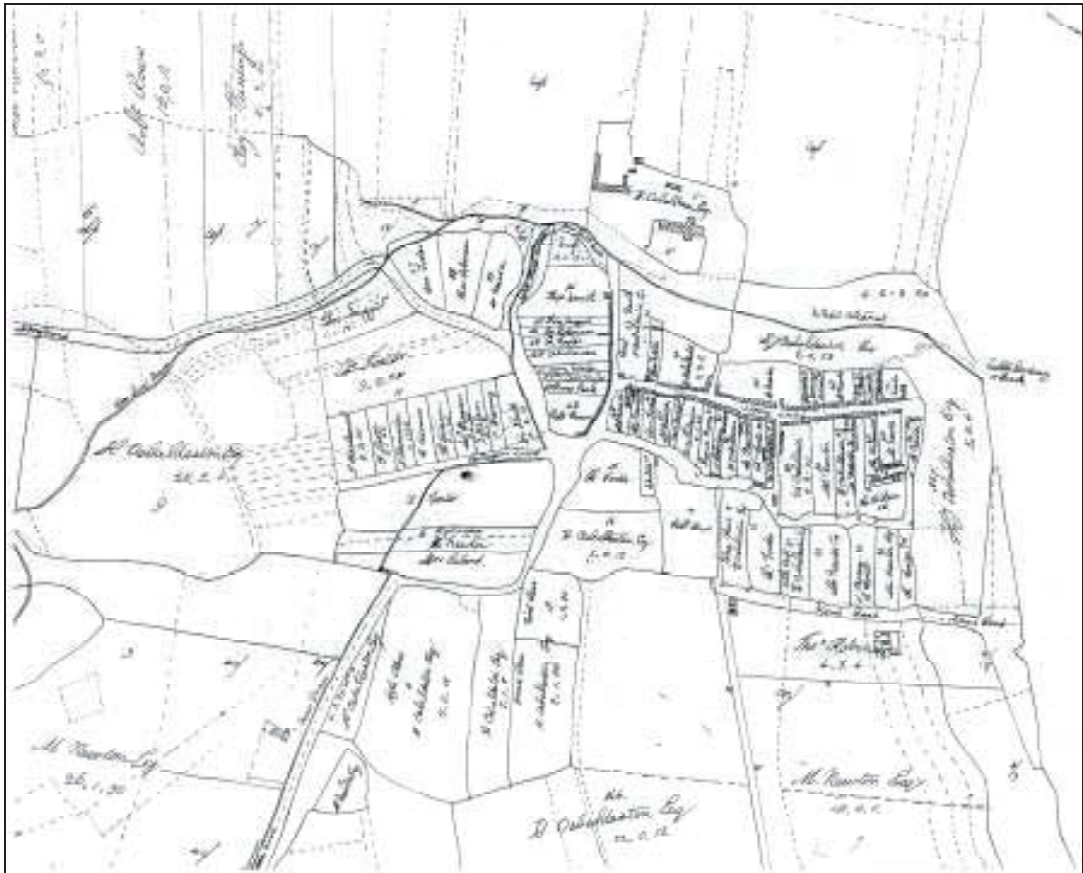


Figure 4 Extract from "ANGLIAE REGNI HVMFREDO LHVYD DENBYGIENSE," 1573



Figure 5 Extract from Jeffrey's map of Yorkshire, 1775

A map of Filey of considerable use is the 1788 Enclosure map (Figure 6). As well as indicating the individual plots of land it shows stylised buildings along Queen Street (called Town Street on this map) frontage and possibly one long building or several conjoined ones fronting onto Reynold's Street. No structures are depicted elsewhere but the plot belonged to one H. Osbaldeston Esq. This map also suggests that Filey has begun to expand from its core to the west and south although much open land is present to the south-west.

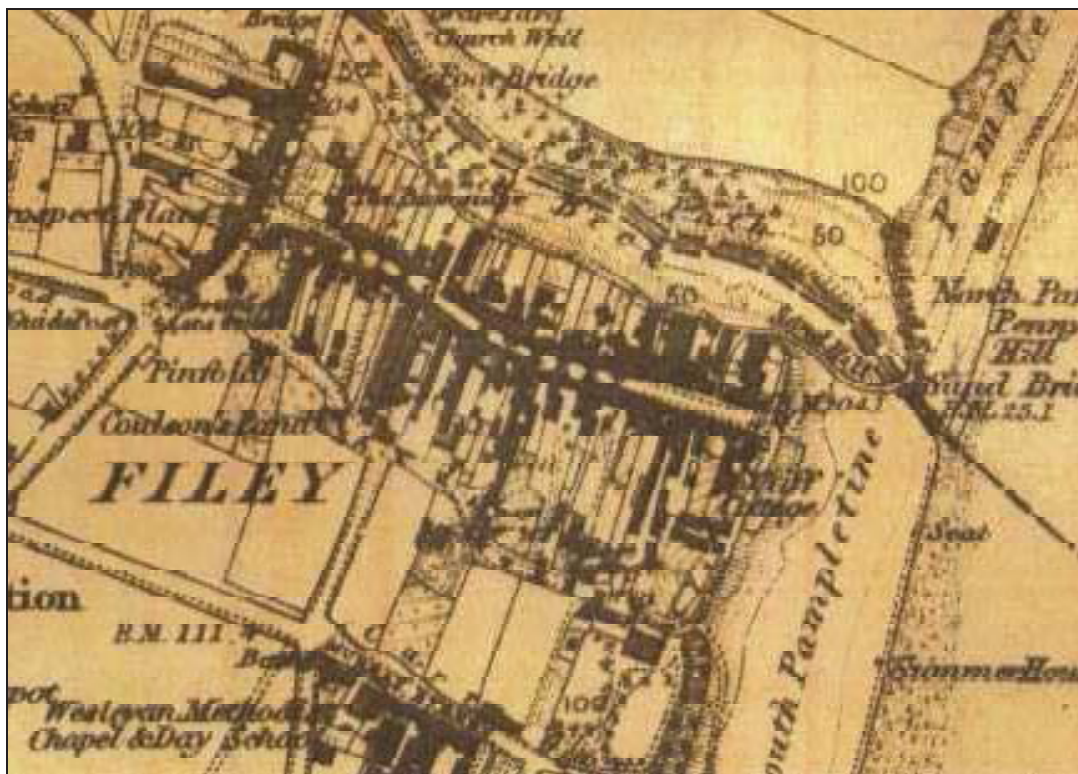


**Figure 6** The 1788 Enclosure map of Filey

Crimlisk Fisher Archive. Reproduced by permission

The Ordnance Survey first edition 1:10560 map of 1854 confirms this (Figure 7). Town Street has now become King Street and the general area is shown as well built up and there are hints of buildings on the present site away from any of the street fronts. Filey station is shown on this map but there is still open ground between it and the town centre. By 1926 the Ordnance Survey map (Figure 8) shows further expansion to the west and south and some to the south-west with the town just beginning to develop around Filey Station. By this time the seafront has been developed as well to something approaching its modern state. The site is shown as containing a quite large number of small or medium sized buildings

grouped around yards. Between 1926 and the present day the town centre has remained similar in appearance but there has been considerable development to the west and south-west taking the built up part of the town well beyond the Scarborough – Hull railway.



**Figure 7** Extract from the 1854 1:10560 Ordnance Survey map of Filey



*Figure 8* Extract from the 1926 Ordnance Survey map

## 6.2 PHOTOGRAPHIC EVIDENCE

Although a number of sources were examined for old photographs the vast majority were of the seafront, groups of people and Filey Bay / Brigg. A few old photographs, including a general view of Queen Street, c.1900, were located in a very recent history of Filey (Fearon 2008). However, a search of the Crimlisk-Fisher archive, housed in the Filey Town Council offices, did yield a small number of photographs of interest and relevance. One taken from across Queen Street (Plate 1) shows the old Pack Horse Inn on the corner of Queen Street



# LAND OFF MITFORD STREET, FILEY, NORTH YORKSHIRE

## WRITTEN SCHEME OF INVESTIGATION FOR ARCHAEOLOGICAL TRIAL TRENCHING

Site: Crown Hotel and land to the rear, Queen Street, Filey  
NGR: TA 1175 8077  
Proposal: Demolition of existing garages/lockup units and workshops, conversion of the Crown Hotel into 6 residential units and erection of 11 new build dwellings with associated parking and garden amenities.  
Planning ref: 09/01908/FL  
Date of Issue: 18<sup>th</sup> November 2009, prepared by York Archaeological Trust

### 1.0 SUMMARY

- 1.1 The site has been subject to a Desk Based Assessment which has indicated the need for further evaluation of the site, before determination of the planning application.
- 1.2 This document sets out a scheme of work to evaluate the site with five trial trenches. The information gathered from this pre-determination evaluation will be available with the forthcoming planning application.

### 2.0 OBJECTIVES

The objectives of the evaluation within the proposed application area are:

- 2.1 To determine the character, extent and condition of the archaeological remains within the application area.
- 2.2 To locate, recover, identify, assess and conserve any archaeological artefacts exposed during the course of this work.
- 2.3 To undertake post-excavation assessment of finds and records to assess their potential for further analysis and publication.
- 2.4 To prepare a statement on the archaeological potential and significance of the site and assess the archaeological impact of the development proposals.
- 2.5 To prepare and submit the site archive to an appropriate museum.
- 2.6 To prepare appropriate digital data for transfer to the North Yorkshire Historic Environment Record.
- 2.7 The project would be undertaken in a manner consistent with IfA or similar professional standards and guidance (<http://www.archaeologists.net/modules/iconent/inPages/docs/codes/fldeval2.pdf>).

### 3.0 ACCESS, SAFETY AND MONITORING

- 3.1 Access to the site would be arranged through the client.
- 3.2 It is the archaeological contractor's responsibility to ensure that health and safety requirements are fulfilled.

- 3.3 The project would be monitored by the Heritage Section of North Yorkshire County Council, to whom notice would be given before the start of works.
- 3.4 The English Heritage Regional Archaeological Science Advisor may be consulted during the programme of works to ensure that archaeological science interests are fully taken into account.

#### **4.0 PROPOSALS FOR ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION**

##### TRIAL TRENCHING

- 4.1 Five trial trenches would be spread across the full application area and would nominally be 6m<sup>2</sup> in size, with a maximum depth of 1.25m. They would be designed to target those areas of the proposed development which contained the new housing units.
- 4.2 Overburden such as turf, topsoil or other superficial fill materials would be removed by a machine fitted with a toothless bucket. Mechanical excavation equipment would be used judiciously, under archaeological supervision down to the top of archaeological deposits, or the natural subsoil, whichever appears first. Thereafter, hand-excavation of archaeological deposits would be carried out. The need for, and any methods of, reinstatement would be agreed with the client.
- 4.3 All deposits would be fully recorded using standard context sheets, photographs, plans and sections. The elevation of the underlying natural subsoil where encountered would be recorded and all trenches located with respect to an overall site map.
- 4.4 The recovery, handling, recording and retention of finds would be subject to standard strategies and best practices, including x-raying of metal objects and photographs of important finds. Metal detecting would only be permitted subject to archaeological supervision and recording and carried out following the Treasure Act 1996 Code of Practice.
- 4.5 Where human remains are encountered, they would at all times be treated with care and respect and their excavation would be subject to the conditions of a licence for the removal of human remains from the Ministry of Justice. Human remains removed from site would be washed, marked and packed to standards compatible with McKinley and Roberts (1993).

#### **5.0 ARCHIVE**

- 5.1 A field archive would be compiled consisting of all primary written documents, plans, sections and photographs. Catalogues of contexts, finds, soil samples, plans, sections and photographs would be produced and cross-referenced.
- 5.2 The archaeological contractor would liaise with an appropriate museum, to establish the detailed curatorial requirements of the museum and discuss archive transfer. The relevant museum curator would be afforded access to visit the site and discuss the project results.
- 5.3 The archaeological contractor would liaise with the Heritage Section to make arrangements for digital information arising from the evaluation to be transferred to the County Historic Environment Record (HER).
- 5.4 The owner of the Intellectual Property Rights (IPR) in the information and documentation arising from the work, would grant a licence to the County Council and the museum accepting the archive to use such documentation for their statutory functions and provide copies to third parties as an incidental to such functions. Under the Environmental Information Regulations (EIR), such documentation is required to be made available to enquirers if it meets the test of public interest. Any information disclosure issues would be resolved between the client and the archaeological contractor before completion of the work. EIR requirements do not affect IPR.

## 6.0 ASSESSMENT AND REPORTING

- 6.1 Upon completion of archaeological fieldwork an appropriate post-excavation assessment would be undertaken. The assessment would review the evidence for archaeological deposits, structures and artefacts recovered and consider its potential for further analysis. It would also review the results of scientific analyses.
- 6.2 Following the assessment, an evaluation report would be prepared setting out the aims of the work and the results achieved. The report would also include an interpretation and assessment of the significance of the remains set in a wider geographical context than the site itself, as appropriate. A listing of contexts, finds, plans, sections and photographs would be included in appendices to the report.
- 6.3 Copies of the evaluation report would be submitted to the client, to the museum accepting the archive, the County Heritage Section, the Local Planning Authority and the Regional Advisor for Archaeological Science at English Heritage. The work would also be made accessible to the wider research community by submitting digital data and copies of reports online to OASIS <http://ads.ahds.ac.uk/project/oasis/>.

## 7.0 References

Institute of Field Archaeologists. 2001 Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Field Evaluations

McKinley, J. and Roberts, C., 1993. *Excavation and Post-excavation Treatment of Cremated and Inhumed Human Remains*. IFA Technical Paper 13



**YORK ARCHAEOLOGICAL TRUST**



**LAND OFF MITFORD STREET, FILEY**

**NORTH YORKSHIRE**

**DESK-BASED ASSESSMENT**

*by D.T. Evans*

**REPORT NUMBER 2009/46**



## YORK ARCHAEOLOGICAL TRUST

York Archaeological Trust undertakes a wide range of urban and rural archaeological consultancies, surveys, evaluations, assessments and excavations for commercial, academic and charitable clients. It can manage projects, provide professional advice and monitor archaeological works to ensure high quality, cost effective archaeology. Its staff have a considerable depth and variety of professional experience and an international reputation for research, development and maximising the public, educational and commercial benefits of archaeology. Based in York its services are available throughout Britain and beyond.



© 2009 York Archaeological Trust for Excavation and Research Limited

Registered Office: 47 Aldwark, York, UK, YO1 7BX

Phone: +44 (0)1904 663000 Fax: +44 (0)1904 663024

Email: [archaeology@yorkat.co.uk](mailto:archaeology@yorkat.co.uk) Internet: <http://www.yorkarchaeology.co.uk>

York Archaeological Trust is a Registered Charity No. 509060

A Company Limited by Guarantee Without Share Capital Registered in England No. 1430801

## CONTENTS

	page
ABSTRACT	1
1. INTRODUCTION	2
2. THE SITE AND STUDY AREA	2
3. AIMS OF THE STUDY	2
4. METHOD STATEMENT	3
5. ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND	4
6. THE CARTOGRAPHIC, PHOTOGRAPHIC AND OTHER EVIDENCE	8
7. STATUTORY LISTINGS	17
8. THE WALKOVER SURVEY	19
9. DISCUSSION AND CONCLUSIONS	24
10. LIST OF SOURCES	24
11. ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS	26

## List of Illustrations

### Figures

1. Location of Filey	1
2. Site location and extent	3
3. The archaeology of the study area	5
4. Extract from map of 1573	9
5. Extract from Jeffrey's map of Yorkshire, 1775	9
6. The 1788 enclosure map of Filey	10
7. Extract from the 1854 1:10560 Ordnance Survey map of Filey	11
8. Extract from the 1926 Ordnance Survey map of Filey	12
9. Listed Buildings in the study area	18

## Plates

Cover: The Crown Hotel, Queen Street, Filey

1	The Pack Horse Inn, Queen Street, looking south-east	13
2	Yard and outbuildings to rear of Filey Town Council offices	14
3	Yard and outbuildings behind Filey Town Council offices, looking north	14
4	Horse, cart, fish boxes and buildings, looking north	15
5.	Aerial view of the site, centre left, looking south-east	16
6	Access, via Clifford's Terrace, to the site from Mitford Street	19
7	Brick structure towards north-east corner of site, possibly associated with fish curing, looking north-north east	20
8	Detail of stone walling in possible fish curing structure	21
9	Brick range, possibly stables or workshops, in central part of site	22
10	Current main access to site, looking south-south-west	22
11	Detail of boundary wall facing Reynolds Street, looking east-south-east	23
12	Part of yard to rear of Crown Hotel, looking south-east	23

## List of Abbreviations

YAT	York Archaeological Trust
AOD	Above Ordnance Datum
NMR	National Monuments Record
UI	Unique Identifier
NGR	National Grid Reference
NY	North Yorkshire
HER	Historic Environment Record

and Reynolds Street and although not closely datable it must date to before the erection of the Crown Inn and Filey Town Council offices in 1898. Another photo (Plate 2) (June Lyth – 0001) has been taken from the yard south-east of the Crown Hotel and shows the rear of the council offices and part of a lean-to type structure of wooden construction which may be adapted as a set of garages still existing towards the northern end of the site. The yard appears to be well surfaced although it is not possible to tell what it made of. Again this photograph is not closely dated but is believed to have been taken in the early 20<sup>th</sup> century. A second, probably early 20<sup>th</sup> century, photo (Plate 3) (June – Lyth 0002) of this yard seems to show what appears to be timber and other building materials, probably the property of Filey Town Council. This photo also shows a probable gas lamp for the illumination of the yard and that the lean-to structure had at least four bays and may have been used for, among other things, storing timber. Another photograph (Plate 4) (June Lyth – 0003) of



**Plate 1** *The Pack Horse Inn, Queen Street, looking south-east*

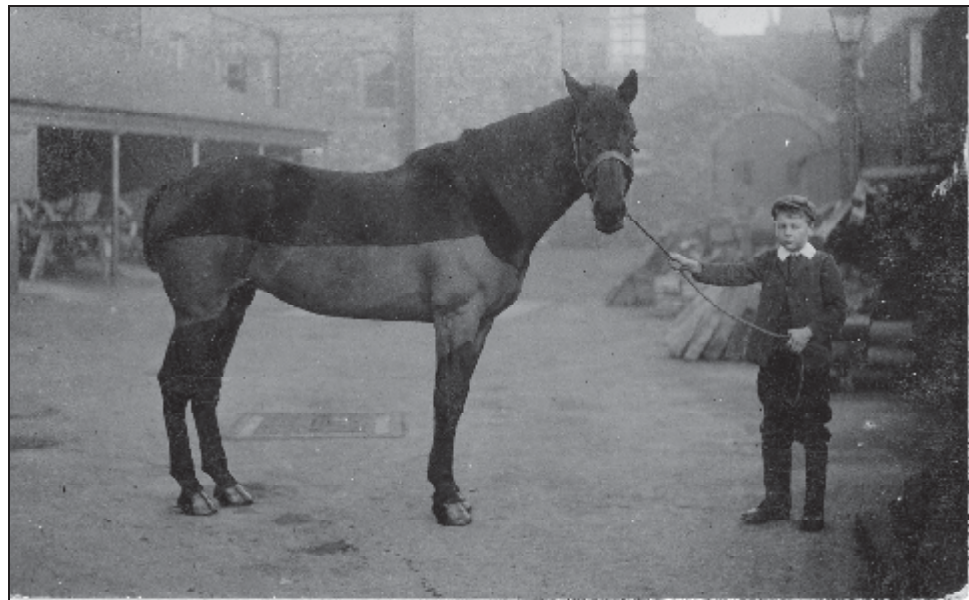
Crimlisk Fisher Archive. Reproduced by permission





**Plate 2** Yard and outbuildings to rear of Filey Town Council offices, looking north-north-east

Donated to the Crimlisk Fisher Archive by June Lyth. Reproduced by permission



**Plate 3** Yard and outbuildings behind Filey Town Council offices, looking north

Donated to the Crimlisk Fisher Archive by June Lyth. Reproduced by permission



**YORK ARCHAEOLOGICAL TRUST**



**LAND OFF MITFORD STREET, FILEY**

**NORTH YORKSHIRE**

**DESK-BASED ASSESSMENT**

*by D.T. Evans*

**REPORT NUMBER 2009/46**



## YORK ARCHAEOLOGICAL TRUST

York Archaeological Trust undertakes a wide range of urban and rural archaeological consultancies, surveys, evaluations, assessments and excavations for commercial, academic and charitable clients. It can manage projects, provide professional advice and monitor archaeological works to ensure high quality, cost effective archaeology. Its staff have a considerable depth and variety of professional experience and an international reputation for research, development and maximising the public, educational and commercial benefits of archaeology. Based in York its services are available throughout Britain and beyond.



© 2009 York Archaeological Trust for Excavation and Research Limited

Registered Office: 47 Aldwark, York, UK, YO1 7BX

Phone: +44 (0)1904 663000 Fax: +44 (0)1904 663024

Email: [archaeology@yorkat.co.uk](mailto:archaeology@yorkat.co.uk) Internet: <http://www.yorkarchaeology.co.uk>

York Archaeological Trust is a Registered Charity No. 509060

A Company Limited by Guarantee Without Share Capital Registered in England No. 1430801

## CONTENTS

	page
ABSTRACT	1
1. INTRODUCTION	2
2. THE SITE AND STUDY AREA	2
3. AIMS OF THE STUDY	2
4. METHOD STATEMENT	3
5. ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND	4
6. THE CARTOGRAPHIC, PHOTOGRAPHIC AND OTHER EVIDENCE	8
7. STATUTORY LISTINGS	17
8. THE WALKOVER SURVEY	19
9. DISCUSSION AND CONCLUSIONS	24
10. LIST OF SOURCES	24
11. ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS	26

## List of Illustrations

### Figures

1. Location of Filey	1
2. Site location and extent	3
3. The archaeology of the study area	5
4. Extract from map of 1573	9
5. Extract from Jeffrey's map of Yorkshire, 1775	9
6. The 1788 enclosure map of Filey	10
7. Extract from the 1854 1:10560 Ordnance Survey map of Filey	11
8. Extract from the 1926 Ordnance Survey map of Filey	12
9. Listed Buildings in the study area	18

## Plates

Cover: The Crown Hotel, Queen Street, Filey

1	The Pack Horse Inn, Queen Street, looking south-east	13
2	Yard and outbuildings to rear of Filey Town Council offices	14
3	Yard and outbuildings behind Filey Town Council offices, looking north	14
4	Horse, cart, fish boxes and buildings, looking north	15
5.	Aerial view of the site, centre left, looking south-east	16
6	Access, via Clifford's Terrace, to the site from Mitford Street	19
7	Brick structure towards north-east corner of site, possibly associated with fish curing, looking north-north east	20
8	Detail of stone walling in possible fish curing structure	21
9	Brick range, possibly stables or workshops, in central part of site	22
10	Current main access to site, looking south-south-west	22
11	Detail of boundary wall facing Reynolds Street, looking east-south-east	23
12	Part of yard to rear of Crown Hotel, looking south-east	23

## List of Abbreviations

YAT	York Archaeological Trust
AOD	Above Ordnance Datum
NMR	National Monuments Record
UI	Unique Identifier
NGR	National Grid Reference
NY	North Yorkshire
HER	Historic Environment Record



**Plate 4** *Horse, cart, fish boxes and buildings, looking north*

Donated to the Crimlisk Fisher Archive by June Lyth. Reproduced by permission

interest seems to have been taken from a point a little further to the south-west. Just discernable in the background is the building housing Filey Town Council but the interest in this photo lies in the foreground. Here is depicted a horse and cart with two boys, and a dog, on the cart. Behind them are a large pile of what appear to be fish boxes, some clearly hand marked "AAJ" and thus helping to strengthen the belief that part of the site was used for fish processing and probably packing. Most of the boxes have also got stencilled words on them which is not easily readable although one appears to read "AYTON", perhaps referring to West or East Ayton some 11km to the north-west. At least two others seem to have the name "HULL" stencilled on them. Behind the boxes is part of a brick structure which is believed to be a section of the possible stables / workshops range and if so this photo is of some value since the horse and cart are standing in front of a gate attached to the south-east end of the structure. This gate may well mark the boundary between the council yard and the fish processing activity and if the identification of the building is correct then it can be located quite accurately on the present site. Sadly this photo cannot be securely dated but is thought to have been taken in the early 20<sup>th</sup> century. All these photographs were taken looking broadly north-east and as yet no photos have been located looking in any other direction within the site

### **6.3 OTHER EVIDENCE**

#### **6.3.1 AERIAL PHOTOGRAPHS**

A search was made of the online database of the Cambridge University's Collection of Aerial Photographs. Two oblique photographs, BQR77 and BRQ78 taken from the north-west of Filey looking south-east out over Filey Bay may include the area of the site but at an angle and scale which precludes the derivation of any useful information. The year they were taken, 1974, also means that there is likely to be little change in the area from the layout today. A series of vertical photographs, ZknlY122 – 128, from the catalogue run up the coastline to Filey Brigg, and beyond but again, given the scale and date of photography, 1999, it is unlikely that any information relevant to this report could be derived from them. An undated, but probably 1960s, aerial photograph held by Filey Archives does cover the entire site. It is however an oblique photo taken from a relatively low altitude and although details are not clear the general layout does appear to be very similar to that of the present day



**Plate 5** *Aerial view of the site, centre left, looking south-east*

Crimlisk Fisher Archive. Reproduced by permission

### 6.3.2 BRITISH GEOLOGICAL SURVEY

The GeolIndex database was searched and showed a moderate number of boreholes, roughly in a band aligned east-west, running across the central part of Filey. Of these, only one, TA18SW38, was close to the present site being situated in Queen Street a little to the north-east of the site at NGR TA 1189 8083. It is most unlikely that any useful information can be derived from it. From elsewhere on the BGS site it was indicated that in the Filey area the drift geology was of pebbly silty clay overlying bedrock of limestone.

## 7. STATUTORY LISTINGS

### 7.1 LISTED BUILDINGS

The bold numbers in brackets refer to Figure 8. The NMR search produced just three buildings with listed status. They were; St Oswald's Church, Church Cliff Drive, Grade I **(1)** (NMR UI 81395), Filey Railway Station, Grade II (amended to Grade II\* in NYHER) **(2)** (NMR UI 500228) and Chalkstone House, 8 and 10 Queen Street, Grade II **(3)** (NMR UI 518545), now Filey Museum. The search of the North Yorkshire Historic Environment Record produced a further number of Listed Buildings within the study area. They were; **24** – **38** (even) Rutland Street, Grade II **(4)** (HER 326958), 13 Church Street, Grade II, **(5)** (HER 326944), 35 Church Street, Grade II **(6)** (HER 326945), 41 Church Street, Grade II, **(7)** (HER 326946), 43 and 45 Church Street, Grade II, **(8)** (HER 326947), 8 – 14 (consecutive) The Crescent, Grade II, **(9)** (HER 326949), 15 – 2 (consecutive) The Crescent, Grade II, **(10)** (HER 326950), Church Cliff Farmhouse, Church Cliff Drive, Grade II, **(11)** (HER 326940), a dovecote c.20m north-east of Church Cliff Farmhouse, Grade II, **(12)** (HER 326942), Farm buildings c.20m west of Church Cliff Farm, Grade II, **(13)** (HER 326941), gates and gate piers to Northcliffe, Cargate Hill, Grade II, **(14)** (HER 326939), Northcliffe, Cargate Hill, Grade II, **(15)** (HER 326938), Northcliffe Cottage, Mitford Street, Grade II, **(16)** (HER 326954), 1 – 7 The Crescent and iron railings to entrance steps, Grade II, **(17)** (HER 326948), 27 – 41 (odd) West Avenue including iron railings to entrance steps, Grade II, **(18)** (HER 326960), Foords Hotel, 76 Queen Street, Grade II, **(19)** (HER 326957) and The Lodge and Coach House, Mitford Street, Grade II, **(20)** (HER 326955).



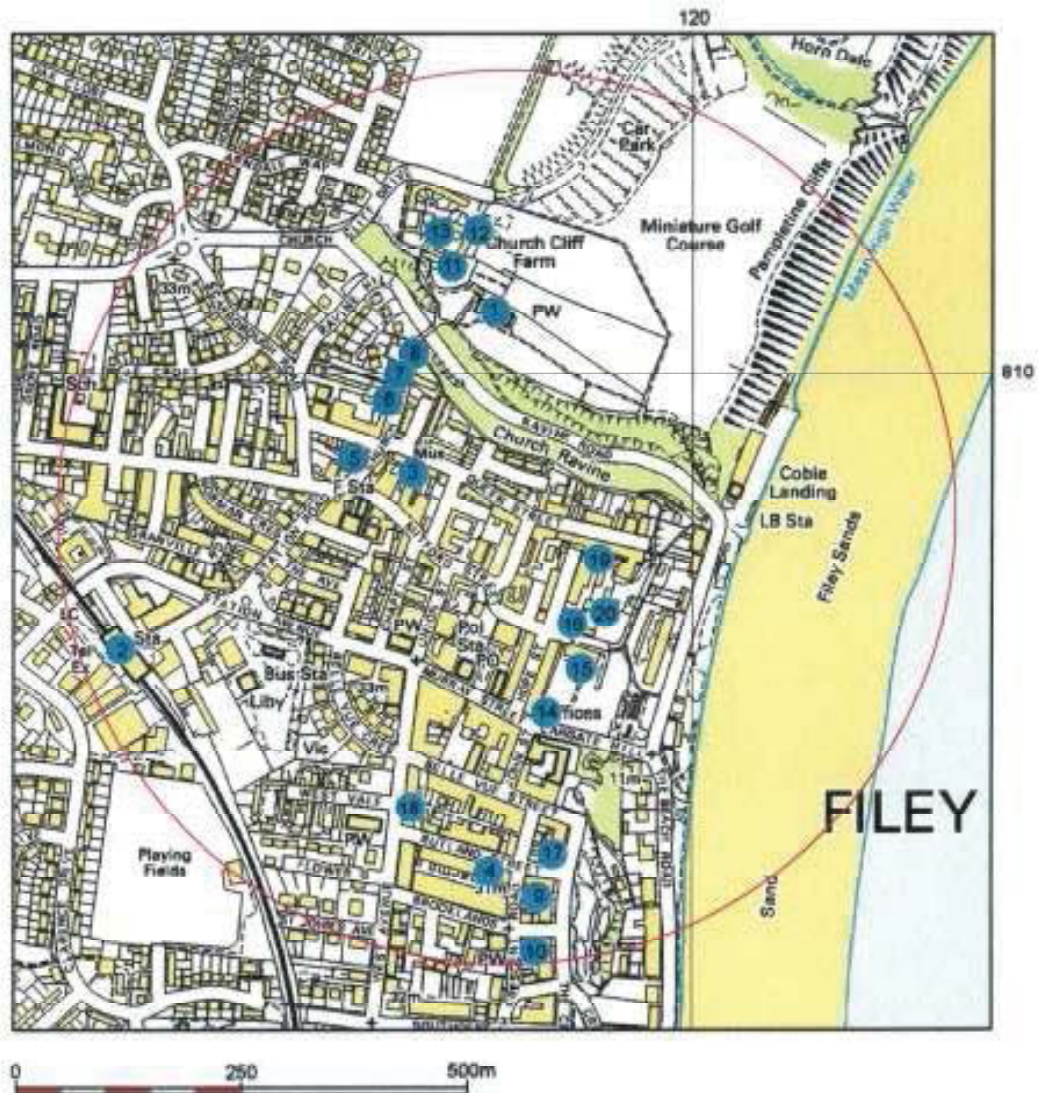


Figure 9 Listed Buildings in the study area

## 7.2 CONSERVATION AREAS

Most of the site lies outside of the Filey Conservation Area, however, a small part of the north-western corner of the site, currently occupied by the Crown Inn, does lie within the area.

## 7.3 OTHER LISTINGS

The search of the North Yorkshire HER indicated that there were no Scheduled Ancient Monuments, Registered Parks, Gardens or Battlefields and no World Heritage sites or protected wrecks within the study area.

## 8. THE WALKOVER SURVEY

The site was visited on 28th May 2009 at the same time as a search of the Filey Town Archives. The northern part of the site is fairly level and lies at approximately 34m AOD. The southern part slopes downward quite gently towards Mitford Street at which point the site is at roughly 32m AOD. There are various structures scattered around the site including 19th century sheds / workshops, converted stables and later 20th century garages arranged around tarmaced yards, some being used for parking (Plates 6 – 12). Although partly concealed by modern garages, one of the structures to the east of the site appeared to incorporate mortared stonework within at least one of its walls and the lower part of the perimeter wall fronting onto Reynold's Street was also constructed of mortared stone. Although these stretches of stone wall cannot be securely dated they appear to predate the 19th century structures on site and could belong to buildings of the post-medieval, or possibly medieval, period but any more precise dating would need a more detailed survey of the pre-modern structures.



**Plate 6** Access via Clifford's Terrace to the site from Mitford Street, looking north-north-east



**Plate 7** Brick structure towards north-east corner of site, possibly associated with fish curing, looking north-north-east



**Plate 8** Detail of stone walling in possible fish-curing structure, looking north-north-east



**Plate 9** Brick range, possibly stables or workshops, in central part of site, looking south-west



**Plate 10** Current main access to site, looking south-south-west



**Plate 11** *Detail of boundary wall facing Reynolds Street, looking east-south-east*



**Plate 12** *Part of yard to rear of Crown Hotel, looking south-east*

## 9. DISCUSSION AND CONCLUSIONS

The archaeological evidence from the study area is relative extensive in quantity and quality and although there is no certain evidence from the site itself it would appear likely that remains of at least the medieval period, and later, might be encountered. There are hints that remains present on the site could include stone structures, possibly unusual for a fishing village although it should be remembered that even in medieval times Filey was one of the most important fishing ports along the north-east coast between the Tyne and Humber. The state of preservation of any archaeological remains within the site boundaries remains uncertain although it may be very good in areas not subjected to modern disturbance such as the tarmaced yards, some investigative work may clarify this. Although many of the buildings on site are of relatively modern build a number appear to date to at least the 19th century and would be worthy of some form of recording, possibly Level 2 or 3 as defined by English Heritage (EH 2006)

## 10. LIST OF SOURCES

### 10.1 PRINTED SOURCES

Baines. E., 1823. *Directory of the North and East Ridings*

Buglass. J., 2005. *Filey Bay Initiative; Filey Bay, Filey, North Yorkshire*. Desk – Based Assessment

Buglass. J and Brigham. T., 2008. *Rapid Coastal Zone Assessment Survey Yorkshire and Lincolnshire: Whitby to Reighton* Humber Archaeology Report No 238

English Heritage, 2006. *Understanding Historic Buildings, A Guide to good recording practice*

Fearon. M. *The History of Filey North Yorkshire*

Hey. D., 2005. *A History of Yorkshire. 'County of the Broad Acres'*

IFA., 2001 (revised). *Standard and Guidance for desk-based assessments*

Kelly, 1872. *Directory of North and East Yorkshire*

## **10.2 INTERNET SOURCES**

[www.ads.ahds.ac.uk](http://www.ads.ahds.ac.uk)

[www.bgs.ac.uk](http://www.bgs.ac.uk)

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

[www.eastriding.gov.uk/cs/culture-and-information/archives](http://www.eastriding.gov.uk/cs/culture-and-information/archives)

[www.exploringfileyspast.co.uk](http://www.exploringfileyspast.co.uk)

[www.fileybay.com/calvert/history.html](http://www.fileybay.com/calvert/history.html)

[www.filey.co.uk/history.html](http://www.filey.co.uk/history.html)

[www.genuki.org.uk/big/eng/YKS/NRY/Filey/index.html](http://www.genuki.org.uk/big/eng/YKS/NRY/Filey/index.html)

[www.heritagegateway.org.uk](http://www.heritagegateway.org.uk)

[www.hunmanby.com/fileysands.html](http://www.hunmanby.com/fileysands.html)

[www.nationalarchives.gov.uk](http://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk)

[www.pastscape.org.uk](http://www.pastscape.org.uk)

[www.sbd.eng-h.gov.uk](http://www.sbd.eng-h.gov.uk) (English Heritage Geophysical Survey Database)

[www.uflm.cam.ac.uk](http://www.uflm.cam.ac.uk)

[www.viewfinder.english-heriate.org.uk](http://www.viewfinder.english-heriate.org.uk)



### **10.3 OTHER SOURCES**

Filey Museum, Queen Street, Filey, North Yorkshire (12/05/09)

National Monuments Record, Swindon (11/05/09)

North Yorkshire Archives, Northallerton (14/08/09)

North Yorkshire Historic Environment Record, Northallerton (11/05/09)

## **11. ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS**

Research and author	D.T. Evans
Photography	D.T. Evans
Illustrations	D.T. Evans
Editor	M.R. Stockwell
Filey Town Archives	E. Pinder