



YORK ARCHAEOLOGICAL TRUST



**LAND OFF MITFORD STREET, FILEY,
NORTH YORKSHIRE**

BUILDING 3 RECORDING REPORT

by Huw Pritchard

REPORT NUMBER 2010/113



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.



© 2010 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 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	1
2. METHODOLOGY	2
3. LOCATION, GEOLOGY AND TOPOGRAPHY	3
4. ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND	3
5. RESULTS	6
6. LIST OF SOURCES	8
7. ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS	9

Figures

1. Site location	1
2. Building location	2
3. 1788 Enclosure map	5
4. 1854 OS Map	5
5. Plan of Building 3.....	7

Plates

Cover: Building 3

1. View of garage bays	9
2. Interior view of one garage bay	10
3. Differential build on rear wall	10
4. Rear of building	11
5. 19 th century image of yards	11
6. Aerial view of site.....	12
7. Footings exposed in 2009 excavation trench.....	12

ABSTRACT

As part of a wider development scheme in Filey, a small single storey building was recorded prior to demolition. One of three surviving historic buildings on the site dating from the early 19th century it comprised a set of garages, the others being a warehouse building and a small dwelling. All are predominately brick with some traces of earlier stone fabric and were formerly part of the fish processing industry.



Figure 1 Site location

1. INTRODUCTION

During 2010 YAT undertook a building recording exercise on some of the standing buildings to the rear of the Crown Hotel, Filey, North Yorkshire (TA 1183 8083). The work was commissioned by Dodd Frankland Stocks Partnership on behalf of their clients the Accent Group.

It is proposed that the site be redeveloped for new and affordable housing which necessitates the demolition of a number of buildings on the site. A desk based assessment carried out by YAT in 2009 (Evans 2009) evaluated the site and on the basis of this there

was a planning condition to record three of the structures (Nos 3, 6 and 9 on figure 2). This report represents the analysis of Building 3.

In addition to the desk based assessment two evaluation trenches were excavated in December 2009 (Evans and Milsted). This report should be read in conjunction with both these previous works.

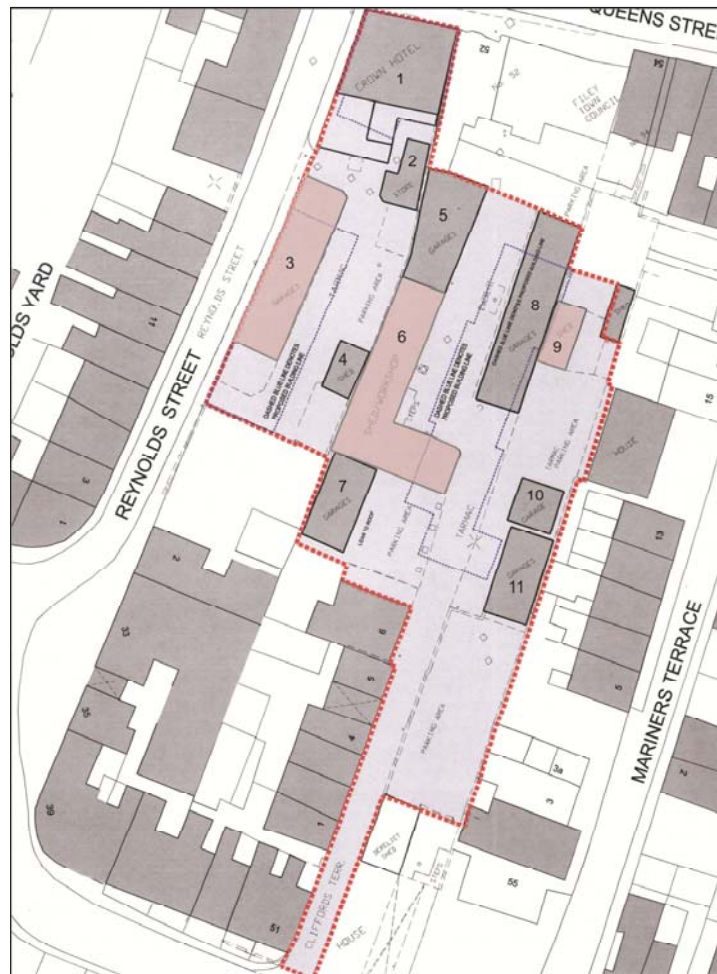


Figure 2 Building location

2. METHODOLOGY

The buildings were recorded on site using a Disto laser measuring device, hand measuring and written notes supported by scaled digital photography. The site recording and report were undertaken to English Heritage Level 2 standard as required by the WSI. The on-going building works made some aspects of recording particularly photography awkward.

3. LOCATION, GEOLOGY AND TOPOGRAPHY

The area of the development site is situated to the rear (south side) of Queen Street between the junction with Reynolds Street and the Filey Town Council building in the heart of old Filey. Old Filey occupies a headland defined by the steep defile known as the ravine north of Queen street and the sea cliff to the east. The land is generally level at around 33m AOD.

The geology of this part of the Yorkshire coast is relatively variable but in the vicinity of the site is thought to be glacial till overlying Kimmeridge and Ampthill clays.

The buildings lie within a large yard area containing a mix of old brick structures and more modern concrete panel garages and sheds. The land is relatively level with an average height of c.32.5m AOD.

4. ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

A more detailed archaeological and historical background for this site has been presented in Evans 2009 to which reference should be made.

The first record of the settlement of Filey is in the Domesday book of 1086 where it is called Fiuelac / Fiuelace and is recorded as belonging to the manor of Falsgrave. Little is known about its early history but ecclesiastical documents indicate that fishing was an important occupation in the village. It probably remained a small fishing and farming village, centred on Queen Street for many centuries and there are records of a Friday market from as early as 1221 suggesting a degree of local importance. The earliest map to show significant detail of the settlement plan of Filey is the 1788 Enclosure Map (Figure 3). This shows the village on the south side of the ravine with development concentrated along either side of Queen Street with elongated tenements stretching to the rear. On the south side of the street the tenements end at a back lane which is Mitford Street. This is the typical arrangement of medieval settlements in England from 12th century onwards showing that Filey had remained virtually unchanged for some 600 years.

By the 18th century Filey had become popular with visitors from Scarborough, but it wasn't until the coming of the railways in the 1840s that tourism became more important. But this was still low key as by the 1890s the settlement was still centred on Queen Street with only sporadic building on some half dozen plots along the sea front to the south. It was in the early to mid 20th century that fishing gave way to leisure as the primary economic activity. A

Butlins holiday camp in the 1950s marked the heyday of the town which subsequently suffered from competition from cheap foreign holidays in the latter part of the century.

Relatively little is known about the history of the development site itself. The 18th century enclosure map shows the development site itself is shown as belonging to one H. Osbaldeston Esq. and significantly a structure corresponding to Building 3 is clearly shown on the western side of the area. The street frontages to the north and west were occupied by linear buildings which were likely to be single or low storeyed buildings. The site of the Crown Hotel was occupied by the old Pack Horse Inn which a photograph of the 19th century shows to be thatched double storey building. Surviving examples, albeit much modernised, of other 18th century buildings can be found on Reynolds Street and at Filey Museum on Queen Street.

The first edition Ordnance Survey of 1854 (Figure 4) shows the site as containing a number of small or medium sized buildings grouped around yards. Building 6 does not appear to present at this date although both 3 and 9 can be identified.

A set of photographs from the early 20th century are of interest as they show the rear of the Filey Town Council building and one in particular (Plate 5) shows part of Building 6 in the left background. This photograph depicts 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, suggesting that this part of the site was used for fish processing and probably packing. Behind the boxes is the east/west wing of Building 6 with a gate attached to the south-east end of the structure which marks the boundary between the council yard and the fish processing activity. Whilst these photos are not dated it must post date the 1890s as Building 6 and the Filey Town Council buildings do not appear on the 1893 OS map. By 1911 Building 6 can be clearly identified and the present configuration of buildings and boundaries was established.

The present configuration on the site is the remains of the mixed usage of the 20th century. Building 3 is abandoned garages, Building 6 is used by the local model railway society and Building 9 is empty and unused. Throughout are various garages and lock ups presumably used for garaging and storage on an individually let basis.

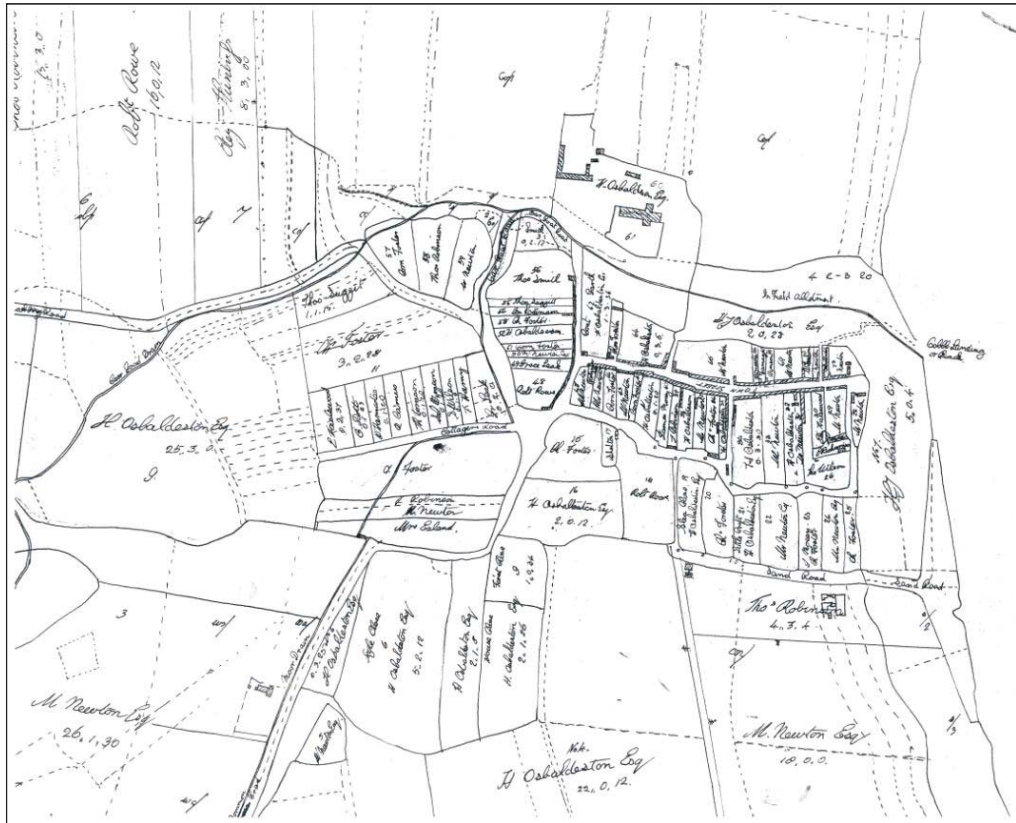


Figure 3 1788 enclosure map



Figure 4 1854 OS map

5. RESULTS

5.1 BUILDING 3

This was located on the western side of the development area. It is a single storey linear building which forms the eastern frontage of Reynolds Street. It is built of brick and stone and measures 21m NE–SW and is 4.5m wide. In plan it comprises six bays under a pan tiled roof. Each of the bays is a single garage open at the front and as high as the eaves. Each opening is framed by the remains of timber door jambs and lintels and former up and over doors are located around the site. The roof is a simple tie beam truss with laths sitting directly on the rafters.

Analysis of the building fabric shows that it has a stone core with later brick additions. The stonework is of rough coursed un-squared blocks. Stonework is visible in a number of different areas of the building. The rear wall of the whole structure has been faced in brick along with the whole of the outer western face. Similarly the south gable end is built of stone up to the height of the wall plate but with a brick face on the inner north facing wall. There is a cross wall between bays 3 and 4 which is built of stone on the south side with a brick face on the northern side. At the northern end the inner south face is open stone work whereas the outer face is brick. All the stone walls within the structure are as high as the existing wall plate. The outer rear wall is not a single straight build but turns slightly and has a different brick type at the point where the internal cross wall meets the outer wall. The fabric of the rear wall is different in the three northern bays (4,5,6). There is line of offset footings at the base of the wall and the wall has two courses of brick embedded in the build. On the front east face all the bay divisions are brick pillars except that between 5 and 6 which is of timber.

Internally the bays to either side of the central cross wall are separated differently. On the south side the two dividing walls are plan timber stained brown. To the north they are plain white washed. There are few internal fittings which indicate former uses. A pair of small metal rings are set into the rear wall in bay 2 and there is a small corner water trough in bay 4. The floor has been cemented and in bay 3 there are shallow drainage channels. Pintles in the door surrounds indicate earlier hanging points.

On the south side of the building the rear stone wall continues at the same height for a further 7m and then turns through 90° and ends on the same line as the frontage. Paint work on the inner face and remains of a cross wall visible on the wall and uncovered during the evaluation excavation in 2009, show this area was originally covered over and was probably a continuation of Building 3. The 2009 investigation showed that the cross wall (2009/1012)

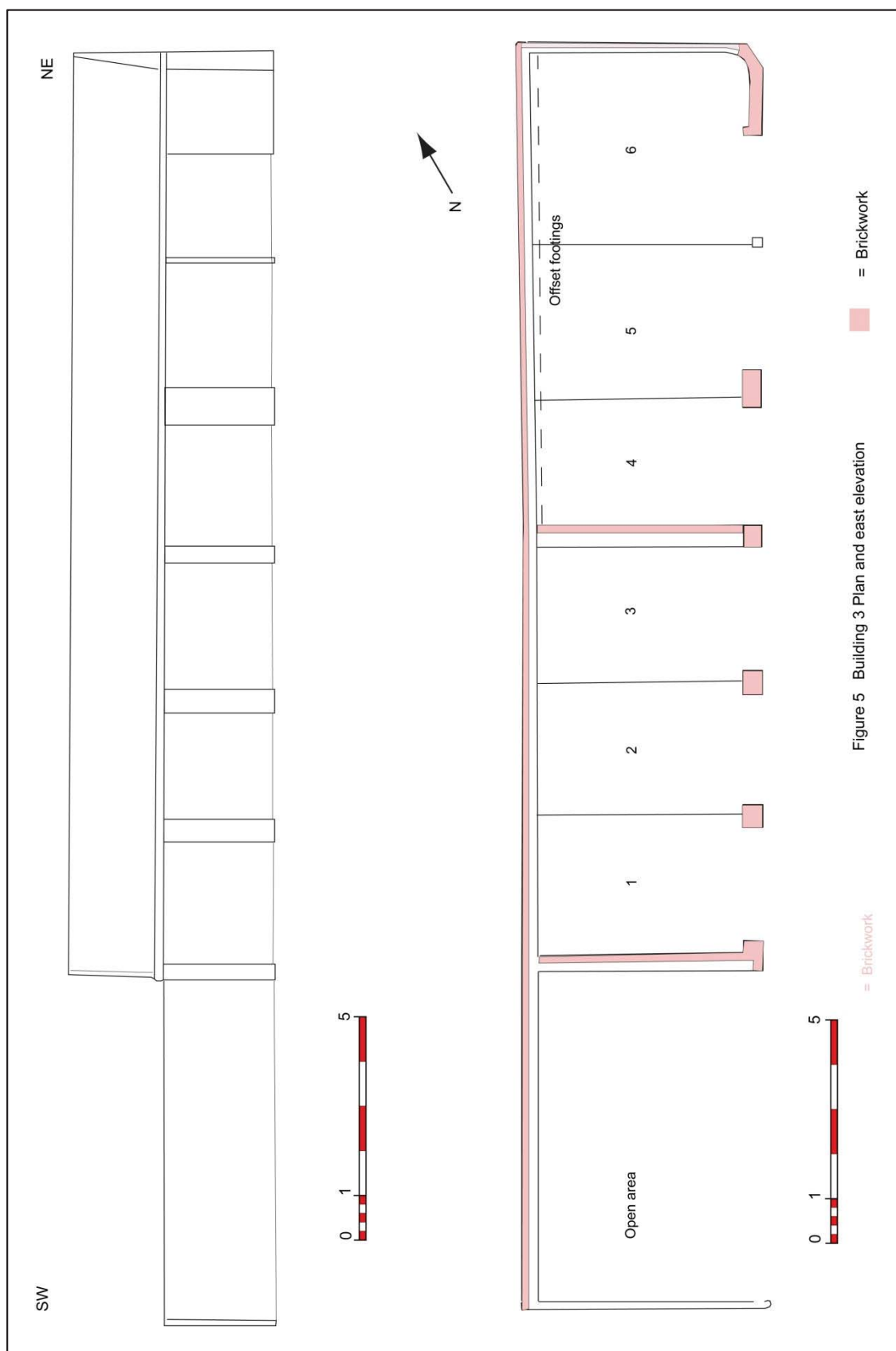


Figure 5 Building 3 Plan and east elevation

Figure 5 Plan of Building 3

was brick built and that on the northern side there was a concrete floor with a make-up layer of broken brick 0.30m deep (2009/1013). An aerial photograph of the 1960s confirms that there was indeed a building over this area although it was clearly a separate build as it had a higher roof line. The brick facing on the western side of the wall on Reynolds Street also continues along this extent of masonry.

5.1.1 DISCUSSION

Building 3 was clearly built in a number of phases. The earliest is a stone built structure running along the western side of the site. This dates to the mid 18th century or earlier as it corresponds to the building depicted on the 1787 Enclosure Map. This may have been two distinct but conjoined structures as the angle in the brickwork on the outside of the western wall suggests a shift in alignment and there is a difference in fabric between the stonework in the bays either side of the stone cross wall. This early stone building almost certainly continued further south as the wall is of a similar build and height.

The second phase was the addition of brick work around the stone pre-cursor. In addition to the curtain wall cladding the western side this phase also involved re-ordering the front east elevation with the introduction of brick pillars and raising the gables in brick. This had the consequence of removing all evidence of the earlier frontage associated with the stone building. It is not known what material or configuration this had, but the absence of any stone cross walls suggests that it may have been open fronted. The addition of the brick on all sides also meant that the new roof was supported entirely on brick. It is not clear why there was cladding of some of the internal stone walls with brick. It is not clear when this was done but the bricks are not machine made suggesting an early date.

The internal divisions within the building are of two types which reflect the two different sections of the building. The southern three bays have the same dark stained boarding whilst the northern three have the same whitewashed boarding. The ceiling however is the same throughout.

6. LIST OF SOURCES

Evans D (2009) *Land Off Mitford Street, Filey, North Yorkshire, Desk Based Assessment*
YAT 2009/46

Evans and Milsted, 2010, *Land Off Mitford Street, Filey, North Yorkshire, Evaluation Report*
YAT 2009/85

7. ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Research and author

H. Pritchard

Illustrations

H. Pritchard

Photography

M. Andrews

Editor

I. Milsted, M. Stockwell



Plate 1 View of garage bays



Plate 2 Interior view of one garage bay



Plate 3 Differential build on rear wall



Plate 4 Rear of building



Plate 5 19th century image of yards



Plate 6 Aerial view of site



Plate 7 Footings exposed in 2009 excavation trench