

NYCC HER	
SNY	18659
ENY	5948
CNY	10193
Parish	6003
Rec'd	18/10/11

1-7 LEYBURN ROAD, MASHAM,

METHOD STATEMENT FOR A PROGRAMME
OF ARCHAEOLOGICAL RECORDING

May 2011

OSA

ON SITE ARCHAEOLOGY LTD

25A Milton Street • York • North Yorkshire • YO10 3EP
telephone • 01904 411673 • fax • 01904 414522 • mobile • 07767 385766

e-mail • onsitearchaeology@gmail.com

© *On-Site Archaeology* 2011.

OSA Method Statement.

SITE LOCATION: 1-7 Leyburn Road, Masham.

PLANNING REFERENCE NUMBER: 10-04258-FUL

HET TEAM REF. NUMBER: 6003 LH CNY10193

LANDUSE: Business premises

ENQUIRIES TO: Nick Pearson
On Site Archaeology
25A Milton Street
York
YO10 3EP

tel (01904) 411673

fax (01904) 414522

mobile (07767) 385766

e-mail onsitearchaeology@gmail.com

Table of Contents.

1.0 Summary.....	3
2.0 Site Location.....	3
3.0 Planning Background.....	5
4.0 Archaeological Interest.....	5
5.0 Objectives.....	6
6.0 Methodology.....	6
7.0 Report Preparation, Contents & Distribution.....	8
8.0 Copyright, Confidentiality & Publicity.....	8
9.0 Monitoring, Health And Safety, Staffing & Insurance.....	9
10.0 Personnel.....	9

1.0 Summary.

- 1.1 This Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) is a method statement for a programme of archaeological observation, investigation and recording, to be carried out during groundworks associated with the construction of supermarket with associated car parking.
- 1.2 This WSI has been prepared by *On-Site Archaeology Ltd.* to detail the mitigation programme to be employed.

2.0 Site Location.

- 2.1 The proposed development area lies on the southern side of Leyburn Road (A6108) on the north edge of the historic market town of Masham. The site is centred on NGR SE 22375 80922 (Figure 1).
- 2.2 The proposed area of development comprises an irregularly shaped piece of land presently occupied by a variety of buildings situated in the southern side of Leyburn Road (A6108). It lies on the northern outskirts of the historic town of Masham just within the boundary of the town's Conservation Area (Harrogate Borough Council 2008). The site is bounded to the north by Leyburn Road (A6108) and to the south by Quaker Terrace, which opens off Silver Street. The western and eastern boundaries of the site are formed by the boundaries of various adjoining properties including 8 Leyburn Road to the east and the rear boundaries of the properties of Silver Street to the west.
- 2.3 The site is presently occupied by three buildings and two open areas: The front forecourt opening onto Leyburn Road; the office building on the east side of the forecourt; the main warehouse itself; the building at the rear of the warehouse; and the rear yard. Of these, the office building is of modern construction, the warehouse is mid-twentieth century in date and the building at the rear of the warehouse is dated to before 1850 in the Masham Conservation Area Appraisal (Harrogate Borough Council 2008) and is considered to be a building of local importance.



Figure 1. Site location (NGR SE 22375 80922)

Reproduced from the 2000 Ordnance Survey 1:25 000 maps with the permission of The Controller of Her Majesty's Stationery Office.
© Crown copyright. OSA Licence No: AL 52132A0001

3.0 Planning Background.

- 3.1 Planning permission has been granted for the construction of supermarket with associated car parking, subject to archaeological conditions to secure a programme of archaeological work.
- 3.2 Condition 4 states that: "No development shall take place within the application area until the applicant has secured the implementation of a programme of archaeological work in accordance with the written scheme of investigation which has been submitted by the applicant and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority."

4.0 Archaeological Interest.

- 4.1 The proposed development site lies within an area of archaeological interest, with low to medium potential for surviving buried archaeological deposits from medieval and earlier periods as well as a high potential for remains from the post medieval and Victorian/early modern periods. The site was the subject of a desk based assessment carried out by *On-Site Archaeology Ltd* in June 2010.
- 4.2 Twenty-two known archaeological sites, find spots and selected listed buildings were found within 500m of the proposed development, including the remains of an Anglo-Saxon church and a cemetery of late Anglo-Saxon or Anglo-Scandinavian date.
- 4.3 Remains of Anglo-Saxon date are known from St Mary's church and of late Anglo-Saxon or Anglo-Scandinavian date from the extensive cemetery at Dixon Keld. While the limits of the cemetery are unknown, they are unlikely to extend as far as the site of the proposed development. However, the existence of a church – possibly located closer to the site than the current church of St Mary's - and cemetery implies the presence of a settlement, the scale and location of which is unknown.
- 4.4 The layout of medieval Masham may have been different from its present day layout although the church occupied its present position. However very little is known of this period in Masham. There is the possibility that later medieval remains may be present on the site.
- 4.5 A relatively small amount of development took place on the site during the post medieval period. According to the evidence of early maps a building was present on the street frontage of Leyburn Road prior to 1778, although this was absent by 1801. The only other post-medieval building on the site is the standing building behind the present-day warehouse, which, as discussed above, may date to before 1778 or may have been built on the same plot as an earlier building between 1839 and 1856. Prior to the Victorian period, this appears to have been the extent of building on the site, which was probably otherwise used as agricultural fields.
- 4.6 The site of the Leyburn Road street front building was partly occupied by a later Victorian building, which grew in scale through the early twentieth century. That part

of the site is now occupied by the tarmac forecourt and may have been disturbed to some extent by modern services. Groundworks in this area have a medium possibility of encountering the remains of the pre-1778 building.

- 4.7 Several buildings were built on the site in the Victorian period and early modern period. The building(s) on the Leyburn Road street frontage may have been disturbed by the foundations of the modern office building and modern service trenches. However, any groundworks in this area may reveal the remains of these. The foundations of the large and small Victorian buildings in the middle of the site may survive below the modern warehouse and the foundations of the small buildings at the rear of the present-day warehouse may remain below the surface of the rear yard.

5.0 Objectives.

- 5.1 The objective of the mitigation strategy is to ensure that any archaeological deposits that might be uncovered can be fully recorded.
- 5.2 The results of the watching brief will be made public.

6.0 Methodology.

- 6.1 The site will be the subject of an archaeological watching brief. This shall comprise the archaeological monitoring of all groundworks required for the development (Figure 2). All excavations will be undertaken under archaeological supervision. This is to enable the identification and recording of any archaeological material that might be uncovered.
- 6.2 During the course of the groundworks, sufficient time and opportunity will be given to the archaeologist to investigate and record any archaeological remains. Although the attending archaeologist will endeavour to work efficiently and with minimum disruption to the construction programme, there may be occasions when a slight delay is unavoidable. The groundworks contractor should be forewarned of this possibility.
- 6.3 It has been recommended by the Historic Environment Team at North Yorkshire County Council that any further geotechnical investigation of the site shall also be the subject of an archaeological watching brief.

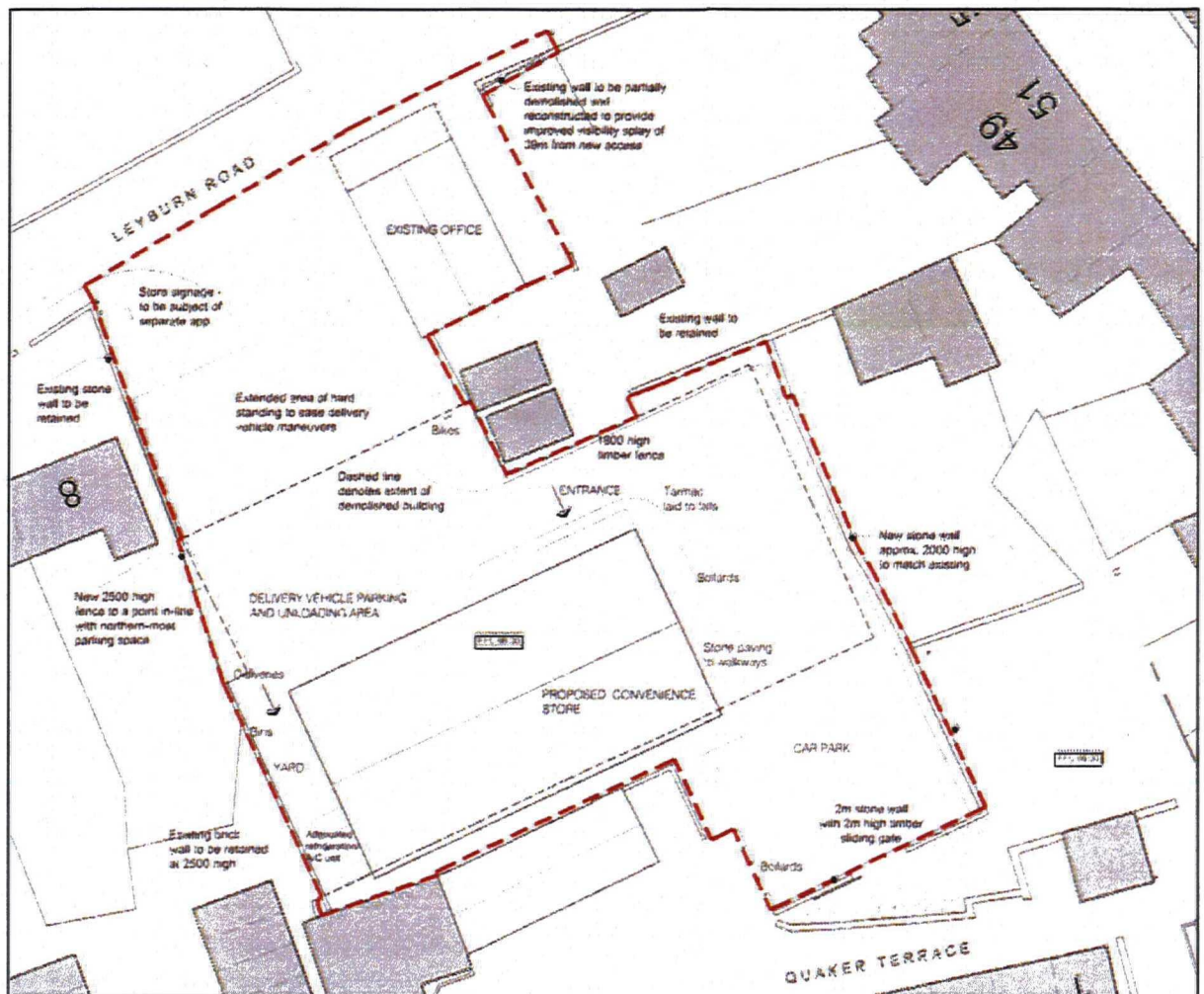


Figure 2. Proposed site plan

- 6.4 Archaeological recording will comprise the production of written, drawn (to appropriate scales) and photographic records.
- 6.5 Non-modern stratified and unstratified artefacts will be collected to assist in the interpretation and analysis of the chronological sequence. All recording, marking and storage material will be of archive quality and recording systems will be compatible with the recipient museum. Allowance will be made for preliminary conservation and stabilisation of all objects and an assessment of long-term conservation and storage needs. Finds will be appropriately packaged and stored under optimum conditions, as detailed in the RESCUE/UKIC publication *First Aid for Finds*. All iron objects, a selection of non-ferrous artefacts (including all coins), and a sample of any industrial debris relating to metallurgy will be X-radiographed before assessment.
- 6.6 On completion of the fieldwork an ordered archive will be prepared and deposited with the appropriate museum service.
- 6.7 With the exception of human remains and finds of treasure (as defined under the 1996 Treasure Act), which should be reported to the coroner, all finds are the property of the landowner. However, it is expected that the finds will be deposited with the archive, together with the material generated during the evaluation of the site.

7.0 Report Preparation, Contents & Distribution.

- 7.1 Within six weeks of the completion of the work a report will be produced and submitted to the developer, the Local Planning Authority and the Historic Environment Office.
- 7.2 A report shall be prepared to include the following:
- a) A non-technical summary of the results of the work.
 - b) An introduction page to include the site code, planning reference number, dates when the fieldwork and post-excavation analyses took place, and a National Grid Reference.
 - c) An account of the methods and results of the fieldwork in the context of the known archaeology of the area. This shall be supported by an overall plan of the site accurately identifying the location of trenches; individual trench plans as excavated indicating the location of archaeological features, with at least one section detailing the stratigraphic sequence of deposits within each trench; and photographs.
 - d) A specialist assessment of the artefacts recovered with a view to their potential for further study.
 - e) A specialist assessment of environmental samples taken, with a view to their potential for subsequent study.
- 7.3 Copies of the report will be submitted to the commissioning body, the Local Planning Authority, and the Historic Environment Record, within an agreed timetable and subject to any contractual requirements on confidentiality.

8.0 Copyright, Confidentiality & Publicity.

- 8.1 Unless the organisation commissioning the project wishes to state otherwise, the copyright of any written, graphic or photographic records and reports rests with *On-Site Archaeology Ltd*. Agreements on copyright should be agreed with the commissioning body at the outset of the project.
- 8.2 The circumstances under which the report or records can be used by other parties should be identified at the commencement of the project, as should the proposals for distribution of the report (see 7 above). *On-Site Archaeology Ltd* will respect the commissioning body's requirements over confidentiality, but will endeavour to emphasise their professional obligation to make the results of archaeological work available to the wider archaeological community within a reasonable time (normally 6 months).
- 8.3 *On-Site Archaeology Ltd* has a duty of confidence to the client commissioning the work. All aspects of publicity must be agreed at the outset of the project between the commissioning body and *On-Site Archaeology Ltd*.

9.0 Monitoring, Health And Safety, Staffing & Insurance.

- 9.1 Health and safety will take priority over archaeological matters. All archaeologists undertaking fieldwork will comply with all Health and Safety Legislation.
- 9.2 *On-Site Archaeology Ltd* will ensure that they are adequately insured to cover all eventualities, including risks to third parties.

10.0 Personnel.

All work will be under the overall supervision of Mr. N Pearson MIFA (Member of the Institute of Field Archaeologists). Other project staff include: -

Project Officer James Stanley (provisional)

Palaeo-environmental advisor Sheffield Archaeobotanical Consultancy,
Department of Archaeology
University of Sheffield,
Northgate House,
West Street,
Sheffield. S1 4ET.

Finds Analysis Dr Chris Cumberpatch
John Tibbles
Ruth Leary

Conservation York Archaeological Trust