

**MAP  
ARCHAEOLOGICAL PRACTICE LTD**

**10.40: Ha1 High Eastfield and Ha2  
Middle Deepdale  
Scarborough  
North Yorkshire  
TA 040 846**

**Archaeological Watching Brief on  
Geotechnical Testpits**

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Ha2 - Middle Deepdale  
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***Non Technical Summary***

*An Archaeological Watching Brief was undertaken by MAP Archaeological Practice Ltd at Ha1 (High Eastfield) and Ha2 (Middle Deepdale), Scarborough in October 2010, during the excavation of Geotechnical Testpits by Lithos Consulting Ltd.*

*No archaeological features or deposits were encountered during the Watching Brief.*

**1. Introduction**

- 1.1 This report sets out the results of an Archaeological Watching Brief that was undertaken between on 7<sup>th</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup>, 11<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> October 2011, by MAP Archaeological Practice Ltd at Ha1 (High Eastfield) and Ha2 (Middle Deepdale), Scarborough, North Yorkshire (TA 040 846: Fig. 1).
- 1.2 The Archaeological Watching Brief was commissioned by Peter Cardwell, Archaeological Consultant, and was undertaken in advance of a Proposed Residential Development. The Watching Brief was designed to provide an appropriate level of recording for the excavation of a series of Geotechnical Testpits by Lithos Consulting Ltd. All work was undertaken in accordance with *Planning Policy Statement 5 (PPS 5) Planning for the Historic Environment*. This work is a continuation of a Staged Archaeological Evaluation previously undertaken, including a geophysical survey carried out by ASWYAS in 2009, and two phases of archaeological trial trenching in November 2009 to February 2010 and April, May and June 2010.

- 1.3 In order to mitigate the potential impacts of the test pit excavations upon subsurface archaeological remains these were where feasible located within the extent of the earlier archaeological trial trenches. The excavation of all of the test pits not located within the earlier trenches was monitored by an archaeologist, together with selected test pits located in those trial trenches where stratified or more complex archaeological remains had been recorded. This methodology was agreed with the Historic Environment Service of North Yorkshire County Council.
- 1.4 All work was funded by K2 LLP.
- 1.5 The Site Code is MAP 10.40.2011.
- 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 proposed development area lies in Scarborough civil parish, within the Borough of Scarborough North Yorkshire. Areas Ha1 and Ha2 are approximately 67 Ha. in size (Fig. 1).
- 2.2 The proposed development area lies immediately north of the Eastfield residential estate and c. 1 km west of the village of Osgodby. Area Ha1 consists of five separate fields grouped around High Eastfield Farm. Area Ha2 consists of five fields east of Deepdale. At the time of the watching brief the fields were sown with beans, winter cereals and beet.
- 2.3 The site has an elevation of c. 75m AOD to the north, sloping to around 52m AOD to the south. Within the overall slope there are undulations, where deposits of colluvium have accumulated.

- 2.4 The soils at the site are recorded as being of the Burlingham 2 Association, described as deep fine loamy soils overlying glacial till (Mackney *et al* 1983). The solid geology consists of calcareous grit to the north with Oolitic limestone and sandstone to the south. The oolitic limestone outcrops in a number of locations in the south and west of the site.

### **3. Historical and Archaeological Background**

- 3.1 The earliest recorded archaeological features within the vicinity of the site consist of Bronze Age round barrows that are located on the higher ground to the north of the application boundary. Flint flakes and implements recovered during the site walkover and to the area to the east, near Manor Farm, Osgodby, suggested Neolithic or Bronze Age activity in both the immediate environs of the site, and the application area itself.
- 3.2 There is evidence of extensive settlement of Late Iron Age / Romano-British date within the locality of the site. A Late Iron Age / Romano-British settlement consisting of pits, ditches and the ring gullies of houses was excavated in advance of the construction of the Eastway link road, which forms the boundary of Ha 2 site's eastern boundary (NAA 2007a). The ditched enclosure of a Romano-British farmstead, containing a roundhouse with internal pits and postholes was identified at Cow Leys Farm, Osgodby, 1.2km southeast of the site (NAA 2007b).
- 3.3 Aerial photographs of Ha1 show a number of trackways and enclosures covering an area of c. 20 ha. The general form of these features suggests a Late Iron Age / Romano-British date.
- 3.4 At the time of the 1086 Domesday Survey, the king held land in Deepdale and Osgodby under the jurisdiction of the royal manor of Falsgrave. The presence of a settlement at Deepdale in 1086 is not

certain; indeed it is likely that Deepdale and the many other land units linked to Falsgrave manor were pasture or woodland grazing rather than actual settlements (Pearson 2001, 80). The manor of Deepdale was held by Durand de Cliff and William de Cayton in the 12<sup>th</sup> century, and was granted to Byland Abbey. An agreement between Byland Abbey and Rievaulx Abbey, of c. 1154, allowed the former to peaceably retain the house they had built at Deepdale (Smith, P 1937). Byland Abbey continued to hold Deepdale manor or grange until the dissolution in 1539.

- 3.5 Osgodby village, to the east of the site, flourished between the 12<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup> centuries, but had apparently shrunk to a few farms plus the manorial complex by the 16<sup>th</sup> century. The remains of six medieval buildings, constructed in stone, were recorded during the construction of the Eastway Link road (NAA 2007a).
- 3.6 High Eastfield farmstead appears to be depicted on Jeffrey's map of Yorkshire (1771). The existing house and farm buildings appear to be of mid-19<sup>th</sup> century date or later. Greenwood's map of Yorkshire (1817) shows buildings at Musham, to the west of High Eastfield. These are possibly the now demolished cottages shown at Musham Bank Gate on the 1856 OS map. The York and Scarborough railway passes to the west of Musham Bank Gate, and was opened in 1845.
- 3.7 The map prepared for the 1848 tithe awards for Cayton and Osgodby represents the earliest detailed cartographic evidence for the site, albeit the eastern part of Ha1 only. The arrangement of field boundaries depicted on the 1856 Ordnance Survey First Edition map is similar to that shown on the 1848 tithe award, apart from a realignment of the southern boundary.
- 3.8 The 1856 Ordnance Survey map depicted two quarries that were not shown on earlier maps, one to the north-west of High Eastfield, the other on the western side of Deep Dale.

- 3.9 A number of field boundaries have been removed since the 1856 map, but the main changes within the site environs have been the development of the Eastfield housing estate in the 1950s and the construction of the northern end of the Seamer bypass in the late 1980s.
- 3.10 The Geophysical Survey was undertaken in April, September and October 2009 (ASWYAS 2009). The survey identified numerous magnetic anomalies indicative of infilled ditches forming enclosures, trackways and field systems across most of the survey area, some of which had been previously recorded from aerial photographic evidence. The survey also recorded additional features as well as discrete anomalies such as pits, postholes, hearths or kilns and other settlement and probable funerary features.
- 3.11 The major focus of activity is in the centre of the area where the extent of a probable 'ladder' settlement of later Iron Age or Roman date was clearly identified, visible as a complex of enclosures along one or more north to south aligned trackways (TR1 and TR2). These consist of a range of enclosures (E1 – E8) of various sizes and forms. The alignment and location of some of the enclosure boundaries suggest multi-phase occupation within this area. Numerous discrete features of probable archaeological origin are located within the area of settlement, including possible kilns (K1 and K2). At least some of the enclosures within the northern and southern part of the area appear to be appended to linear boundary ditches (D1 and D2) that extend beyond the area of settlement.
- 3.12 To the east of this complex a number of further enclosures (E12-E14) were recorded and two probable barrows identified (SB6 and SB7). Further probable square barrows were recorded to the south of the 'ladder settlement' (SB2-SB5) with a further isolated example to the west (SB1). A further boundary ditch (D3) was located within the

western part of the survey area, with a probable pit alignment (PA1) to the west and round barrows (RB1 and RB2) to the east. A number of further isolated enclosures (E9-E11) were recorded in the same area.

- 3.13 In addition to the probable archaeological features, a number of anomalies of probable geological origin and agricultural features were recorded within the survey area.
- 3.14 The Archaeological Evaluation by Trial Trenching in Ha2 was undertaken in December 2009 and January to February 2010. A total of 49 trial trenches were excavated (c. 4260m<sup>2</sup>), including extensions to original trenches and 5 additional trenches. Features recorded related to the Late Iron Age/Romano-British 'Washing Line' settlement identified by the geophysical survey and the remains of later ridge and furrow. A significant assemblage of pottery was recovered, along with flint flakes and implements, a medieval silver coin, an iron object, slag fragments, and a small animal bone assemblage.
- 3.15 A total of 62 trial trenches were excavated (c. 5260m<sup>2</sup>), including extensions to original trenches and 2 additional trenches were excavated in Ha1 in March-June 2010. Features recorded related to the Late Iron Age/Romano-British polygonal and rectilinear enclosures identified by the geophysical survey, plus Neolithic pits, postholes and gullies, along with the traces of later ridge and furrow. Concentrations of small pits/postholes and gullies of Neolithic date were recorded in Trenches 17, 22 and 35, and similar, undated features in Trench 95. Pottery from features in Trench 22 belonged to the Durrington Walls phase of the Late Neolithic period, with flintwork of the same period from Trenches 17 and 35. Some of these features contained relatively rich environmental remains suggestive of a mixed woodland environment that included hazel. Parts of two putative round barrows (RB1 and RB2) were examined, but as no datable material or diagnostic features, such as a central grave, were present within the excavated areas, their origins are uncertain.



- 3.16 The enclosure system appears to have had its origins in the Late Iron Age represented by the irregular enclosures E2 and E3. Trackway TR1, which headed southwards from enclosure E2 was a 2<sup>nd</sup>/4<sup>th</sup> century development, enclosure E1 and trackway TR2 being apparently of the same date. Only sparse activity was recognised within the interiors of enclosures E1, E2 and E3.
- 3.17 The rectilinear enclosures situated in the southern part of Ha1 showed a complex history with the inter-cutting of earlier ditches with 2<sup>nd</sup>/4<sup>th</sup> century examples in Trench 9. Roman structural activity was identified in Trenches 5, 6, 7 and 35 represented by 'dwarf' foundations for timber sill-walls. In Trench 9 a rectangular posthole building was overlain by the cobble raft for a later structure. Activity in enclosures E7 and E8 was also of Roman date, with a possible 2<sup>nd</sup>/4<sup>th</sup> century surface, and pits within enclosure E8. Domestic-type gullies in Trench 7 pre-dated an east-west ditch.
- 3.18 There was a distinct drop in the concentration of archaeological features in the western and eastern parts of Ha1. To the east the boundaries of enclosures E13 and E14 were recognised as undated shallow ditches but because of the absence of dating evidence it is uncertain whether these represent Roman or post-medieval fields.
- 3.19 A significant assemblage of Neolithic pottery and flint artefacts was recovered, as well as Late Iron Age and Romano-British pottery, three copper-alloy coins, a bone pin, part of a shale bracelet, iron objects, slag fragments, and a moderate animal bone assemblage.

#### **4. Aims and Objectives**

- 4.1 The aims of the Archaeological Watching Brief were to record and recover archaeological remains, which could be affected by

geotechnical test pits, and to prepare a report summarising the results of the work.

## **5. Methodology**

- 5.1 Thirty-seven testpits were monitored located in areas not previously evaluated or in areas of Previous Archaeological Evaluation Trenches where Neolithic, Iron Age and Roman activity was uncovered.
- 5.2 All excavations were undertaken using a back acting mechanical excavator, under close archaeological supervision. The excavator had a 450mm toothed bucket.
- 5.3 All work was carried out in line with the Institute of Field Archaeologists Code of Conduct (IFA 1998).
- 5.4 A photographic record of the monitored testpits was maintained throughout the Watching Brief on a digital camera.

## **6. Results**

- 6.1 Fourteen Testpits were excavated on the 7<sup>th</sup> October 2011 in Ha1 around High Eastfield Farm in areas not covered by the Archaeological Evaluation Trial Trenches (TP201, TP202, TP205, TP206, TP1, TP108, TP106, TP105, TP116, TP115, TP101, TP125, TP123 and TP137. Ten Testpits were excavated on 10<sup>th</sup> October and six testpits were excavated on 11<sup>th</sup> October 2011 in Ha2 east of Deepdale in areas not covered by the Archaeological Evaluation Trenches (TP218, TP141, TP142, TP216, TP216, TP161, TP164, TP173, TP 186, TP179, TP178, TP169, TP170, TP180, TP167, TP168 and TP280). The Testpits measured c. 2m by 0.5m and varied in depth from 1.5m to 3m. Topsoil measuring between 0.25 and 0.35m deep was observed overlying sandy clay subsoil. No archaeological finds or features were observed.

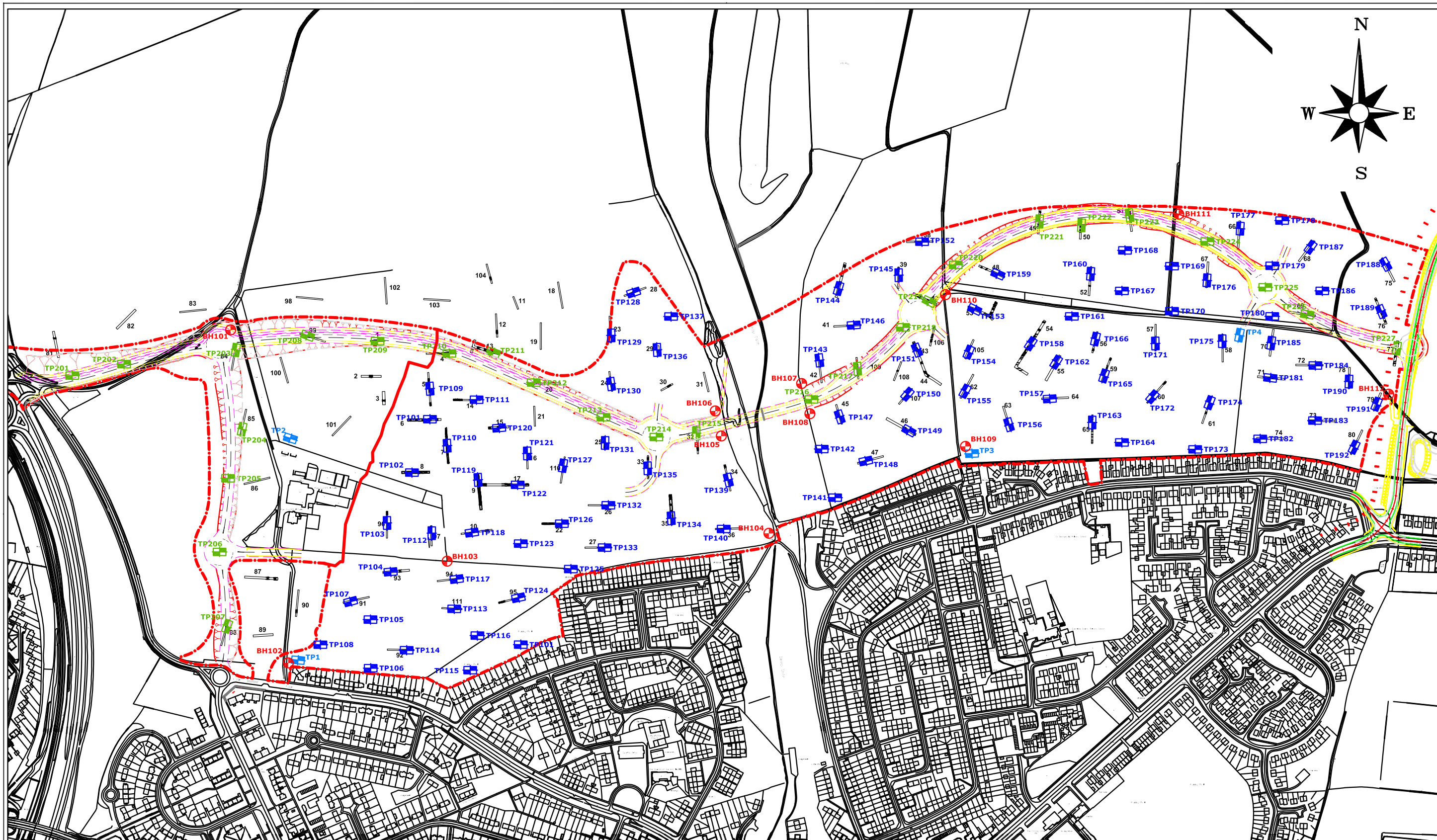
6.2 On 17<sup>th</sup> October 2011, five testpits were excavated in Ha1 in Evaluation Trenches 8, 9, 17 11 and 22 (TP102, TP 119, TP122, TP126 & TP127). The Testpits measured c. 2m by 0.5m and varied in depth from 1.5m to 3m. Topsoil measuring between 0.25 and 0.35m deep was observed overlying sandy clay subsoil. No archaeological finds or features were observed (Pls. 1-5).

## **7. Conclusions**

7.1 Only topsoil, subsoil and natural deposits ranging from sandy clay, clay, sand and limestone and sandstone were recorded.

## **8. Bibliography**

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MIDDLE DEEPPDALE,  
SCARBOROUGH

PROPOSED EXPLORATORY  
HOLE LOCATIONS

#### NOTES

- Approximate Site Boundary
- 2010 Soakaway Trial Pit Location
- 2011 Highway Trial Pit Location
- 2011 Trial Pit Location
- 2011 Groundwater Monitoring Borehole Location

REV.	DESCRIPTION	DATE

#### STATUS

FOR COMMENT ☐ FOR APPROVAL ☐ DRAFT ☐ FINAL ☒

DRAWN	DATE
RJH	20/09/2011

APPROVED	DATE
REG	31/09/2011

SCALE	SHEET
1:20,000 (approx)	A3

DRAWING NO.	REVISION
1137/8	B

MAP 10.40.2011





Plate 1. Testpit 102 (Evaluation Trench 8).



Plate 2. Testpit 119 (Evaluation Trench 9)





Plate 3. Testpit 122 (Evaluation Trench 17).



Plate 4. Testpit 126 (Evaluation Trench 126)



Plate 5. Testpit 127 (Trench 11).