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**Kiplin Hall Quarry - Kiplin
North Yorkshire
Proposed Quarry Extension
Desktop Evaluation**

August 1995
MAP Archaeological Consultancy Ltd.
(Site KP95)



Frontispiece : Aerial view of survey area. 1972.

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Kiplin Hall Quarry - Kiplin North Yorkshire Proposed Extension Desktop Evaluation

Introduction

The Redland Aggregates site of Kiplin Hall takes its name from the Hall and Gardens which lay directly to the east, a small part of the formal gardens have been removed by the quarry workings.

The present quarry site is situated to the west of the village of Kiplin in the parish of Kiplin, but the proposed land unit to be evaluated within this report actually stands in the adjacent parish of Ellerton on Swale. The site lies to the north of the River Swale, and south of the B 6271 Catterick to Northallerton road (SE 0000 0000: Fig. 1) ..

This report considers an area of land to the west of the present quarry of approximately 22 acres. (Fig. 2), which is to be proposed as an extension to the existing quarry. The report evaluates the known archaeological and historical nature of the land unit by describing and illustrating land use, previous archaeological information on the area, earthwork analysis, a walk over survey and historical summaries of the village of Ellerton on Swale and the Kiplin Hall Estate. Finally the report considers the possibility

for further evaluation.

The geology of the site (Fig. 3) shows that the proposed development land unit is on soils of the Alun Association. This association comprises of deep stoneless permeable fine loamy soils (651c), over river alluvium. (Mackney et al 1983).

The proposed extension area is currently farmed by Mr Thompson of Ellerton on Swale and at the time of writing had been recently harvested of winter wheat (Fig. 4).

The evaluation survey was undertaken in August 1995, by staff of MAP Archaeological Consultancy Ltd.

The project was totally funded by Redland Aggregates.

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Environmental Survey

Introduction

In order to place the extensive utilisation of the land from the Neolithic period through to modern times in its correct context, it is essential to consider the environmental history of the area. This section of the report considers the evidence from the earliest periods through to a consideration of the present flora at the site and in the immediate vicinity.

Environmental Background

At a number of times during the past two million years, arctic and alpine ice-caps have grown and swept over much of the Northern Hemisphere including most of the British Isles. Between the periods of glacial advance, fossil and sub fossil remains of plants and animals, particularly pollen, show that the climate ameliorated for long interglacial periods to conditions as good as, if not warmer than, those of today.

Pollen bearing peat deposits, thought to be contemporary with the Hoxnian interglacial (comparable to the Lower Palaeolithic), show a sequence of vegetation changes with birch and pine colonising the open tundras as the ice retreated. Mixed deciduous woodland followed with oak, elm, ash, alder, hazel and other trees of today's woodland. There was finally reversion to fir, pine and birch forest as the climate once more deteriorated with the re-advance of the ice sheets. In the middle of this woodland phase there is a fall in the tree pollen and an increase of grasses suggesting an opening up of the forest environment. It has even been suggested that this phase represents man's deliberate attempt at clearance through the use of fire to facilitate easier hunting conditions (Evans 1975). Even so, it is clear from the available archaeological evidence for this area of the country that the climate in the Hoxnian and Devensian periods was not suitable to sustain human life.

Deposits from the Late-glacial period (12,000 - 8,000 BC) show that trees did not immediately

recolonise the land. Extensive erosion and solifluxion caused by proximity of the ice-cap resulted in the establishment of tundra species i.e. dwarf birch (*Betula nana*), arctic willow (*Salix herbacea*) and mountain avens (*Dryas octapetala*). Other species included thrift (*Armeria maritima*) and opportunist weeds i.e. knot grasses (*Polygonaceae*) and goosefoots (*Chenopiaceae*). These plants represent a plant succession on warmer and more fertile soils. Subsequent organic sediments contain birches (*Betula pubescens* and *Betula pendula*) and aspen (*Populus tremula*), all representing a move towards forest cover of the land. Archaeological remains of this period - the Palaeolithic - is totally absent from this area of Yorkshire.

Tree pollen preserved in peat deposits show an increase throughout the Palaeolithic period. Climatic conditions appear to have facilitated the development of forest cover following a pattern broadly similar to the development in previous interglacials (Godwin, 1975; Pennington, 1969). By 7500 BC pollen of pine (*Pinus sylvestris*), hazel (*Corylus avellana*), oaks (*Quercus* spp.) and elms (*Ulmus* spp.) superseded that of birch as mixed deciduous woodland grew. Peat formed during this period is indicative of a warm and dry environment. The period from c. 8000 BC to the coming of Rome in 43 AD sees the establishment of Prehistoric occupation and the gradual exploitation of the landscape.

The Mesolithic period (8000 - 3500 BC) saw man occupying the coastal fringes or river valleys in the autumn and winter and moving to higher ground during the more favourable summer months. These people were hunter-gathers and operated from small camps which are difficult to locate in the archaeological record due to their transitory nature; the only tangible signs of such sites are collections of food debris or collections of fine flint tools known as microliths.

During the Neolithic period (3500 - 2000 BC)

the climate appears to have been more continental than today. The pollen counts indicate a fall in elm pollen. The cooler winters and warmer summers are unlikely to have caused this fall. However, it is now suggested that an outbreak of a disease similar if not akin to Dutch Elm Disease may have been responsible (Green, 1981). Detailed pollen analysis of these horizons also reveals the advent of weeds such as ribwort plantain (*Plantago lanceolata*) and nettle (*Urtica dioica*), agents of human settlement, suggesting that prehistoric man was beginning to have an effect on the environment. Subsequent forest clearance is apparent in the pollen record; tree pollen is replaced by grass and cereal pollen; pollen of weeds and the presence of charcoal all point to clearance techniques. This is further confirmed by the appearance in the pollen spectrum of bracken (*Pteridium aquilinum*) and birches suggesting the use of the slash and burn technique of shifting agriculture. The policy of forest clearance eventually leads to greatly increased runoff, erosion and losses of nutrients from the ecosystems (Borman et al, 1968). The presence of high nutrient levels and mineral particles in peat formed at this time also suggests that forest clearance and nutrient runoff into drainage basins was taking place (Green Pearson, 1977).

During the Bronze Age (2000 - 750 BC) the archaeological record shows how settlements and farmsteads were concentrated on the better well-drained soils of the morainic deposits. Once areas were cleared, continuous burning or grazing was needed to preserve the status quo. The quality of the land and soils is central in this period. The work involved in raising burial mounds, clearing and cultivating the land suggests that there was a social and political structure to society in this period.

Clearance, pastoral husbandry and conversion to arable land continued throughout the Bronze and Iron Ages, although climatic deterioration from about 1000 BC did lead to large areas of previously cleared farm land being abandoned. The development of society in the Iron Age (700 BC - AD 43) had reached a point whereby the need had arisen to protect the land to sustain the growing population and as a result a warrior society known as the *Parisi* evolved.

The increased scale of Romano-British agriculture and the expansion of settlement and industry continued man's impact on the environment, attested by archaeological evidence. Aerial photography has produced evidence for crop mark sites which represent farmsteads and associated rectilinear enclosures and trackways. Many of these sites are dated to the Iron Age/Romano-British periods, although recent work has shown that this interpretation is not necessarily correct (Finney 1989). Rectilinear enclosures associated with trackways can also be assigned to the Bronze Age period.

The Anglo-Saxon period of history (450 -1066) witnessed a sharp increase in the clearance of woodland, but it is only in the medieval period (1066 - 1540) that further mass clearance was instigated through the process of assarting.

The woodland clearance of the dark ages did much to mould the present face of the British countryside. Clearance radiated out from the villages and other settlements so that in many areas the original forests were cleared until only isolated woods and copses remained along the parish boundaries where clearance from adjoining villages met. Some of the woods and parish hedges still survive and represent relicts of primeval forest cover, rich in species. Enclosures and clearance continued throughout the medieval period. Even so, there was widespread use of woodland as game reserves and as sources of timber for building. Woodlands became managed as coppice or pollard to supply small timber on a regular basis. However, the depredations caused by the iron industry, and especially the charcoal burners, resulted in edicts during the Elizabethan period restricting felling.

The enclosure acts of the late 19th and early 20th century resulted in the chequered pattern of hedged fields which are so common in the British countryside today. The hedges were used as dividers, being cheaper than constructing walls and more popular because they were self-renewing. Where cattle or sheep were to be enclosed hawthorn was most widely planted, because of its dense growth. Whatever species are planted in time the hedge becomes of mixed species due to bird-carried seeds.

Hedge survey

Following suggestions by Max Hooper in 1971, it looked likely that, at the time that, the number of woody species might be used to indicate the age of a particular hedge and that this could be used to work out the stages of enclosure in an area. The biological reasoning behind this was never satisfactorily explained, but a great many studies, in the east of England particularly, seemed to suggest a close correlation between the number of species and the date the hedge was planted.

It was said that the study of field boundaries has tempted few intellectual appetites, but Hoopers hypothesis seems to have initiated considerable interest in the subject, with its apparent promise for the easy dating of field boundaries where documentary evidence is lacking. The idea has been readily accepted by landscape historians, but has evoked much scepticism from botanists (probably due as much to the fact that it is almost too simple as to the inaccuracies of the theory.)

As the dating of a hedgerow is at best only an estimate to within 25 years one can only consider the hedgerows in conjunction with other documentary evidence for the specified area.

A total of 5 hedgerows were surveyed (Fig. 5). Table 1 in Appendix 1 shows the number and type of each species in each hedge. Table 2 the number of different species per hedgerow, the length of hedge and the approximate age of the hedge as deduced from the the number of species (p. 00).

Table 1 clearly indicates that the most common species to be found in the hedgerows of this land unit are hawthorn, and elder which were present in all the hedges. Blackthorn and hazel were the second most common and were found associated with hawthorn and elder in hedges 1 and 5. These species would be found in hedgerows of all dates and therefore give no real clue to the age of a hedge due to their presence alone. Elder is a plant that colonises and is successful in recently disturbed ground and thus finds fresh planted hedgerows an ideal habitat; it is also very resistant to rabbits. Rabbits were seen during the survey and burrows were located in a number of the hedge banks. The presence of rabbits in the

steep banking to the south of hedge 3 were very evident.

The occurrence of mature trees was dominated by oak, which was present in all hedges except hedge 4. Its absence in this hedgerow may be due to the recent landscaping at the adjacent quarry and the fact that part of this hedge appears to have been removed and recently replanted in the southern portion of its alignment. Where oak does occur it was represented by mature trees of good girth suggesting an age in excess of 200 years. Although without recourse to girth measurements it is difficult to accurately date specific examples. Even so the set pattern of planting in hedgerows 1 and 2 do suggest a programme of tree planting by the land owners or tenants in the past. From the 17th century onwards the planting of trees within hedgerows became the norm, and it may be that this phase of planting coincided with the acquisition of this parcel of land by the Crowe family in 1724.

The high number of species in hedgerow 3 is deceptive in that this count also takes into account those species recorded on the slope and in the bottom of the earthwork feature to the south of hedgerow 3. In the hedgerow are hawthorn, hazel, sycamore, lime, beech and elder. On the slope a number of stumps were recorded along with beech, sycamore, lime and ash. In addition gooseberry was recorded.

At the base of the slope sycamore, elder, hazel, willow and alder, were recorded. The latter two species are characteristic waterside species. Thus confirming that at some stage water ran along the southern boundary of the field. The presence of water in this particular area is interesting, and dealt with in more detail later, due to the presence of a willow garth immediately to the south. (fig. 7-9.

This area is shown on the 1839 Tithe Map as "plantation". This suggest that much of the planting within and directly behind hedgerow 3 was deliberate.

Consideration of the earthworks associated with the hedges (p. 10) suggests that these hedgerows are of some antiquity. The southern half of hedge 4 is modern in origin, but a consideration of the

northern portion produced examples of laid hawthorn and a species count that did suggest some antiquity.

Hedgerow 5 produced a relatively high count but this may be due to the close proximity of the old course of the B 6271.

The presence of gooseberry, and bramble within the hedges can generally be explained by seeds being carried and discarded by wild birds. The presence of crab apple is common in hedge and also on woodland edges. But it can also occur as a true woodland tree, mainly in oak woods.

To make it possible to understand the significance of the age of the hedgerows it is necessary to take into account the observations of the earthworks (p. 00) and the documentary evidence of historical field boundaries that are recorded in earlier surveys.

The earliest known surviving map for this area is the 1723 Kiplin Estate map (Fig. 16). Unfortunately as the survey area was not acquired by the Estate until the following year, it does not appear on this early map. The 1839 Tithe Map (Fig. 6) shows that the unit was subdivided by an east-west boundary. This division was still in place in 1891 (Fig. 7), and in 1930 (Fig. 8), but by 1970 (Fig. 9) it had been removed. No trace of this feature was located during the survey where it would have met hedgerows 1 and 4. Equally the division is not apparent on aerial photographic data.

The outer boundaries for the proposed extension area remain constant from 1839 through to present day. There is no Enclosure Award for this area, but the presence of the hedge banks, the evidence of ridge and furrow to the north, and the easily drained soils suggests that this piece of land has been part of the agricultural landscape for a considerable period of time.

Archaeological background

Previous archaeological work

This section concentrates on the information derived from aerial photographic data, and spot finds from around the proposed extension area. Reference is also made to an evaluation undertaken in 1993 in response to a planning application to extract minerals from a large tract of land immediately to the west of the proposed extension by Ennemix.

Aerial Reconnaissance

Aerial photographs provide valuable information on the archaeological features which, due to agricultural destruction, are no longer visible above ground. The aerial photograph is capable under favourable light, i.e. low angled sunlight, to show up earthworks, and perhaps of more importance, features which now only exist as soil or cropmarks.

Aerial photographic evidence is displayed on Figure 10. Aerial photographs for this area of the country are limited due to the presence of RAF Leeming to the west. Flying is prohibitive, and flights have to be booked well in advance, thus hampering a comprehensive cover for the locality unlike that for most of North Yorkshire. The frontispiece to this report is produced with the kind permission of North Yorkshire County Council (who hold the copyright) and is the basis for the aerial photographic interpretation within the report.

The evidence to date is limited, and although attention has been drawn to Kiplin Hall the field which forms the subject of this report is sadly neglected. Available evidence is confined to a single vertical photograph (Frontispiece). This photograph shows earthworks existing in 1971 immediately to the north of the site which consisting of ridge and furrow on both a north-south and north-east/south-west alignment, possibly indicating different phases of cultivation.

In addition there appears to be a substantial linear feature to the west of the ridge and furrow which may represent a hollowway or a bank and ditch. To the east of the ridge and furrow is a less

substantial linear feature which may also represent a ditch of some form. These latter features are shown on the Ordnance Survey base maps kept by the Archaeology Section of North Yorkshire County Council (Fig. 10 - features are depicted in red).

Closer examination of the aerial photograph suggests that the line of the substantial western feature runs into the extension area. Equally there is the suggestion that the eastern linear feature also extends into this area. Traces of further linears, albeit faint can be seen to the south (within the proposed extension area (Fig. 10 - features shown in pink).

The interpretation of these features is problematic. The earthwork feature shown on the 1971 aerial photograph no longer exist, as they have been removed by agriculture. Equally it is possible that the features seen in the southern part of the extension area are geological rather than archaeological.

Perhaps of more significance are a group of features within the western half of the "Willow Garth" which lies directly to the south of the proposed extension area. This group is situated to the north of a linear feature and comprise of a number of square enclosures of approximately 10m² and in two distinct clusters. The actual interpretation of these features is problematic on form alone, they could represent ditched enclosures or they may represent buildings. Without further evaluation interpretation must remain speculative.

Spot finds

Figure 11 displays the location of artefacts found within the vicinity of the proposed extension site and also centres of archaeological and historical importance.

The earliest spot find to date is the existence of a Bronze Age gold torc found within the grounds of Kiplin Hall in the early 20th century (L Smith pers comm.: Fig. 11:1). This piece of information although not readily accessible does suggest that there was some form of Prehistoric activity in the

surrounding area.

A Roman silver coin of Marcus Aurelius is reported to have been found by a schoolboy from Northallerton in c. 1920 at Low Kiplin.

At SE 2501 9593 skeletons and a spearhead were found which have been tentatively dated to the Anglo-Saxon period.

The medieval period is well represented by only surviving tracts of ridge and furrow (Fig. 10 and Frontispiece) and the well preserved earthworks of Castle Hills (SE 2545 9707 : Fig. 11:4) which stand in over 1 acre of land and appear to represent a well preserved bailey with a damaged motte.

At South Ellerton (SE 257 974: Fig. 11:3) it is recorded that the present Manor Farm stands on the site of a former Manor House (VCH 1968, 3030).

In Kiplin the "Free Chapel" is recorded to have descended with the manor in the 17th century, unfortunately this structure no longer survives. A chapel dedicated to St Martin was in existence by the 12th century, which was granted to the Abbey of St Mary's, York by the lord Thomson Steward (VCH 1968 , 307, 312).

Kiplin Hall (Fig. 11:2) is to be discussed in greater detail later in this report (p. 00).

Previous evaluations

In 1991 an application was made to allow the extraction of sand and gravel, to build a processing plant, and in addition the construction of a ready mix concrete plant, and a new access road on a 97ha. site directly to the west of the present Kiplin Hall Quarry. The application did not consider the field presently under review.

An evaluation of the area was undertaken by the Archaeology Section of North Yorkshire County Council. The assessment of the impact of this development on underlying and standing archaeology involved the examination of the Sites and Monuments Record, rapid fieldwalking and enquiries as to land use from the landowners. The conclusions drawn were that there was no evidence to suggest archaeological remains

survived within the extraction area. A small area of ridge and furrow was present to the south of Ellerton Manor, but this area was not to be quarried. Much of the lower flood plain of the river had already been quarried in this century and the upper terraces had been deeply ploughed and drained for arable cultivation. Consequently no archaeological condition was appended to the the planning permission for the sand and gravel extraction as proposed. In October 1993 the planning application was approved. This permission is currently under review.

Conclusions

The information to be derived from previous work in the area is limited mainly due to its restricted nature. The distribution of locations where information has been forthcoming is widely spaced around the proposed extension site and shows no concentrated zones. The gold ornament is privately owned and not extensively known about. Even so its find location is without doubt and thus suggests a prehistoric presence in the area. Roman material is to be expected considering the concentration of settlement over quite an extensive period to the west of the site at Catterick. In addition recent work in the Catterick area has produced further evidence for Saxon activity therefore the skeletons and artefacts found in the last century should now be placed in this new context. Medieval presence is attested more by standing structures, earthworks and written records rather than individual artefacts and adds to the complexity of activity in this area.

Earthwork Survey

The earthwork survey within this report is a brief summary of the type and quality of the earthworks to be found within the proposed quarry extension area. The types of earthworks noted from the field assessment consist of the : hedge banks, and a collection of features located along the southern boundary of the site and associated with an unnamed water course (Fig. 1).

Hedge banks

The hedgerow survey showed that all the boundaries of the proposed extension area possessed banks (Fig. 12).

Hedgerow 1 was discontinuous in line although portions of the bank were very visible. In the north the bank measured approximately 3m in width at its base narrowing to 1m at the top (Pl. 3). Where the hedge was extent it was seen to have been planted in the top of the bank. This was also true for a number of large stumps which were present in the northern portion of the hedgerow. The side of the bank varied from a gentle 30° slope in the east and 45° on the west. Where the hedge was missing the bank was covered in grass and nettles. The bank became more prominent where it met hedgerow 2 (Pl. 2).

The bank associated with hedgerow 2 (Pl. 4) was very similar in size to hedgerow bank 1, with a basal dimension of approximately 3m narrowing to 1m at the top, but it was slightly higher at 0.7m, although in the east the height reduced dramatically to only 0.3m (this may be due to spreading). The sides of the bank were not as acute as Bank 1 (a constant 20-30°) and were covered in grass. The hawthorn, elder and mature oaks were all planted on top of the bank (Pis. 2 and 4). At the south-west end of the bank a number of cobbles were recorded in the side of the bank slope. These stones measured from 0.10m to 0.20m in diameter. Although they could represent bank make up it seems more likely that they represent field clearance.

Hedge bank 3 was only present in the eastern portion of the hedgerow (Pl. 5), in the west a wall was present (Pis. 8 and 9).

A bank associated with hedge 3 was extent for approximately 40m and survived to a height of 0.3m. The sides of the bank were c. 30° and both sides and top were in the main covered in grass. Some stone was noted (Pl. 5) but it is not possible to say if this was exposed make up or clearance. The bank runs along the edge of the slope and is in direct contrast to the well constructed wall to the west. What is interesting is that the bank ran up to hedge 4 in the east and stopped abruptly in the west to form an entrance to land to the south. It was noted that the wall also stopped to form the western arm of a funnel type entrance. The Ordnance Survey maps of 1891 (Fig. 7) and 1930 (Fig. 8) show a break in the plantation along the southern boundary of the field providing an access onto a path which goes

into Willow Garth. The 1891 and 1913 Ordnance Survey 25 inch maps (Figs 13 and 14) show the band of woodland to extend beyond the surveys hedge 4 further to the east where it stops at the western end of the fish pond.

The western portion of hedge 3 was characterised by a well constructed cobble and earth wall (Pis. 8 and 9). Aligned east to west for a distance of intermittently 100m, it survived to a height of 0.30-0.40m and 5 courses. The wall had been constructed a safe distance (c. 0.5m) from the edge of the slope. It stands in stark contrast to the earthworks which form the boundaries to this field in the east, west, north and southeast and although it would appear to be merely a field wall, its relationship to the earthwork feature to the south suggests that it may have had a more specific function.

Hedge bank 4 was only extent in the north, the southern portion had been removed by recent landscaping for the adjacent processing plant (Pl. 6). The extent bank measured 1m at the top widening to 2m at the base. It survived to a maximum height of 0.35m.

Hedge bank 5 was much smaller in size in comparison, measuring only 1.25m at the base, narrowing to 0.6m at the top and surviving to a height of 0.15-0.20m.

The southern boundary

To the south of the proposed extension is a feature which runs for the entire length of the southern boundary to the proposed extension area and forms the northern boundary of Willow Garth. As described earlier it is presently covered in a varied flora of mature trees and shrubs. The presence of willow and alder indicate a former wetland environment and the Ordnance Survey maps indicate a drain running through this area. It is bordered on the north by a bank (hedge bank 3) and a well constructed wall. The slope down to the base of the feature is fairly acute with an angle of 45°, which is currently rabbit burrowed but has also been planted in the past and also a number of these mature trees have been felled as attested by a number of in situ stumps. The fall in land from the proposed extension area to the base of the feature is dramatic (Pis. 7, 8 and 10). The difference in height from the top of the slope

to the bottom of the feature varies from 3m to 7m. Whereas the slope up to Willow Garth is less acute and only approximately 1.5 - 2m in height.

The function of this feature is difficult to determine. It may have been the re-cutting of a

natural feature to provide water for the fish ponds, or to act as a back up in case of flooding. Equally its close proximity to the Willow Garth may suggest that it served this feature in some form.

Walk-over Results

A walk-over of the extension was undertaken but as the field had been recently harvested approximately 90% of the total area was covered with stubble and a thin layer of straw which prevented an assessment of the top of the ploughsoil. Where it was possible areas of the site were walked, this was predominantly around the edges of the field in the areas adjacent to the hedges and in areas where ploughsoil was exposed.

Finds of brick and tile were recovered with the occasional piece of natural flint, and some modern animal bone.

In the area adjacent to the building and running from the building to the old bridge a linear band of cobbles were observed. It was not apparent immediately that this represented anything other than field clearance although no mounds/cairns were noted and there did not appear to be a large amount of cobbles in the upper levels of the ploughsoil, as recorded at Marfield. A further study of this feature with a comparison of the

cartographic evidence (Figs 13 and 14) now suggests that the band of cobbles represents a crude road surface once used to provide hard access to the agricultural building discussed in further detail later in the report (p. 17)

It is interesting to note that this cobbled surface in 1891 only extended as far as the building but the later map of 1913 shows that the trackway had been extended further to the south to provide access to the plantation. No cobbling was located in this area.

In the north-eastern corner of the site it was noted that this area had not been taken into agriculture. The 1891 and 1913 maps (Figs 13 and 14) also show that this area was separated from the main body of the field by the cobbled trackway. The survey noted that an attempt had been made in the past to plough the road which appeared to have been unsuccessful and this may explain why this area of the field remains uncultivated.

Historical Summary

Introduction

It is not the intention within this report to provide an extensive chronological account of the history of the two villages of Kiplin and Ellerton, but to briefly describe their history before a consideration of Kiplin Hall and Gardens and finally the history of proposed extension area.

Ellerton on Swale

Ellerton meaning "Alder enclosure" is mentioned in Domesday (Aireton) when it possessed a mill and was owned by Gospatric, both before and after the Conquest. Gospatrick was forced to forfeit the lands to Wymer the Steward. The lands at Ellerton followed the descent of Thomton Steward and is last mentioned in 1372. In the early 13th century Wymer de Thomton granted the manor of Ellerton to Jollen Bales (attorney to the Duke of Brittany). Jollan appears to have died shortly after December 1233. Lands passed to his sons who in turn left the manor to William de Pyceford and his heirs. By the 14th century the manor had passed to Henry le Scrope of Bolton. The division of the Scrope estates in 1630 between the daughters of Emmanuel Scrope saw the manor of Ellerton pass to John Howe who owned the land until 1724, when the estate of Ellerton was sold to Christopher Crowe, Lord of the Manor of Kiplin.

Kiplin

The name Kiplin probably derives from the personal name of Cippa, meaning "the settlement of the Cippelings" (Smith 1926). The village is recorded in Domesday (Chipeling) as being in the possession of Tor before the Conquest and afterwards held by Enison of Count Alan. In 1086, the Domesday Survey records a mill at Kiplin. In the 13th century Kiplin became part of the landholdings of Easby, (St. Agatha's) Abbey, a Pre-monstratension monastery founded on the north bank of the river Swale in 1155. During the 14th and 15th century a grange and mill were established and prospered. At the time of the Dissolution the Grange and lands were devised to the 8th, Lord Scrope of Bolton. In 1559, the Grange, house, mill and lands were sold to the 1st Lord Wharton.

In 1557 the manor was granted to Philip Lord Wharton. It was in the hands of Philip and his son Thomas in 1619., when they sold it to George Calvert. He was succeeded by his son and grandson. The grandson Benedict married Charlotte Lee, who when widowed married Christopher Crowe.

In 1722 Christopher purchased the manor.

Kiplin Hall and Grounds

The Hall and the grounds as seen today are the culmination of many years of rebuilding and landscaping.

The release of large amounts of monastic property and land had several consequences in both economic and raw material supply. The release created a larger landowning class. Monastic property was either converted or used as quarries for the building or conversion of many Manor houses across the country. Whether the monastic property at Kiplin was incorporated into the manor or used as a quarry has not been resolved.

The 17th century house at Kiplin follows many of the emerging conventions of the period. The establishment of the 'architect', the geometric patterns and planned symmetry in style can be seen in the ground plan at Kiplin - a square imposed on a Greek cross.

Medieval traditions were in retreat, the need for fortification was no longer a consideration, the outward show of social mobility was more important. A greater awareness of comfort, light and privacy were incorporated into house designs resulting in changes to window forms and the creation of rooms with specific functions such as parlours.

In 1976 the Royal Commission for Historical Monuments undertook a survey of the hall when they were notified that that the Victorian library was to be demolished. The survey was the work

of T Buchanen and J Williams which coincided with a visit of the consulting architect to the Kiplin Hall Tmst., Mr Phillimore of London and Mr Michael Manning of York.

The survey suggested that the diaper pattern of blue-header bricks of the East front stopped at the string course over the first floor windows, it is therefore possible that originally the upper storey was considerably lower, with the four turrets rising above the adjacent gables (as at Charlecot Park). There were no Jacobean fittings internally in the top storey, which would disagree with the possibility. Mr Phillimore pointed out that the other elevations do not have diaper brick work.

A painting by Cuit the Elder, of Richmond, Yorkshire, painted about 1780 depicts battlements to the turrets - not plain parapets as now.

The voussoirs of the entrance porch bear the initial T, and this also appears on the stone staircase within its north stair turret (service stairs). This letter T probably refers to the Earl of Tyrconnel (1740-1835).

Nothing of the Jacobean fittings remain internally.

In a house of this period one would expect a hall with a scenic passage (as at Burton Agnes, c.1601). George Calvert, Lord Baltimore purchased the Kiplin estate from Philip Lord Wharton in 1619. The guide book states that Lord Baltimore built the house (but some research is required to establish that Baltimore was indeed the builder and not Lord Wharton)

A conjectural plan of the house as built by Lord Baltimore is illustrated in the guide book, but the RCHM disagreed with the suggested layout of the compartments. No comparative plan is known, but houses of the first quarter of the 17th century do have entrances opening straight into the hall. (Bradford-on-Avon Hall, c.1598).

The fenestration of the west elevation is lacking symmetry, with three windows to the north of the tower block and two to the south. The very odd arrangement of having passage-like spaces

between the chimneys across the north-south axis is unusual and may represent blocked entrances, these passages may have served as unorthodox service-passages.

Most of the windows have been restored by the replacement of the stone transoms - and all are re-instated at a lower level than their original positions. Presumably the original windows were replaced by hung sashes in the 18th century, and re-instated to their present form in the 1830's when major work was undertaken at the hall.

It is possible that the entrance (on the east), gave entrance to a screen passage-much narrower than its present arrangement, and that the servants gained access to it via the narrow passage (between the thick fireplace wall on the north-south axis), thence to the kitchens to the north of the servants staircase in the northern turret?

The very wide through corridor from east-west is very wasteful of space and very unusual, as depicted in the conjectural plan. The arrangement does not exist today, so thick walls are not essential structurally. It is therefore possible to re-arrange the compartments of the ground floor in different ways and more similar to houses of the period.

The survey showed that the Hall exhibits elements which are at odds with the date for its construction and also the importance of this building in the study of large house development of the period.

One Medieval tradition which did survive the changes in large scale domestic houses was that of formal gardens and surrounding parks. English gardens and parks reflected continental influences and a greater degree of planning than the earlier deer parks.

In both the garden and the park fashions changed throughout the 17th century leading to the carefully landscaped creation of a merging garden and park. The adaptation of water into water gardens, moats and detailed water schemes is another important feature of 17th century landscaping features.

Plans of the gardens at Kiplin show the fish ponds and also a large serpentine lake which was created through the management of Bolton and Kiplin Becks. The River Swale was also managed to provide water as part of the landscaping.

Kiplin Hall, garden and surrounding parkland feature many elements of 17th to 19th century houses of the period.

The land unit proposed as an extension to the

quarry is situated immediately to the west of the Hall grounds. The feature located to the south of the field appears to be related to water management, whether this was for the water features in the gardens or the Willow Garth it is unknown.

The land in 1839 was subdivided into two units called North Flatts and South Flatts, and the southern boundary of the field is recorded as plantation.

Architectural Survey

Introduction

Within the survey area four architectural elements were recorded, these included a farm building (Pis 13-18), a boundary wall (Pis. 8-9) and a cobbled trackway. Immediately to the north of the survey area is Ellerton Bridge (Pl. 11) and part of this structure was seen to come into the survey area (Pl. 12)

The farm building is located midway along the eastern boundary of the proposed extension area. Originally the building measured approximately 12.5m and was subdivided into three cells. Only two interior and the southern end wall of the building currently survive. On the 1891 Ordnance Survey map (Fig. 13) the building was associated with an enclosed piece of land to the east (possibly a fold yard). But by 1913 this association is over and only the building remains. The Ordnance Survey data also shows that a trackway led from Ellerton Bridge down to the budding in 1891 (Fig. 13) and by 1913 this trackway had been extended to by-pass the farm building and continue down to Willow Garth (Fig. 14).

The building is presently partially mined. No roof survives although the original roof line can be seen where fragments of slate protrude from the buildings internal wall (Pl. 13, 15 and 17).

The building was constructed of mortared cobbles with brick dressing on some of the surviving corners (Pl. 16). Within the cobble construction are flatter stones which act as lacing courses to provide stability to the building. Cobbles were used in areas where good quarried stone was not available and their use for the construction of this building is not surprising considering the easily accessible source of material along the river banks and from the local geology. The bricks used were hand made and measured 0.22m x 0.105m x 0.05m.

Two phases of building were recorded. The southern interior wall (Pl. 17) shows the original roof line and how the building was heightened. Unfortunately insufficient of the remaining walls

survive to indicate what form this later roof line

took. On the surviving walls it appears as though flat roof was constructed.

Internal features included a blocked doorway

(Pl. 17) and a niche cut into the interior wall just to the west of the blocked door. (Pl. 14). No other doorways and no windows were noted in the surviving walls. There was also no indication of chimneys.

The general form and location of the building midway along a field boundary suggests that this building represent a field barn. The field that it is under consideration is a far distance from both the villages of Ellerton and Kiplin and also from the Hall. Therefore the construction of the barn on a boundary meant that it could serve the fields both to the east and west. The Ordnance Survey information indicates that the building had access to land to the east. The barn provided housing for animals and storage facilities for locally grown crops. The advantages of a field barn were that savings were made in travel and transport, animals could be kept close to their pasture and harvested hay could be stored with the animals. The remodelling of the building with the addition of an upper story may have been intended to provide a loft or sink mow.

A date for the construction of the building is difficult. The use of brick in part of the construction suggests a 18th/19th date. Few field barns bear dates and generally they appear to date from the mid 18th century through to the middle of the 19th century (Brnnskill 1987). This may be true of this building, but two phases of building are apparent and the earlier more squat building could be much earlier.

Ellerton Bridge stands to the north of the site (Pl. 11 and 12). The bridge constructed of mortared stone provided a crossing point over Bolton Beck. This bridge is now redundant as the current B6271 runs to the north of the bridge. The eastern wall of the bridge extends into the

survey area and terminates in the eastern portion of hedge 5.

The remaining architectural features, the

boundary wall along hedge 3 and the cobbled trackway have already been considered in the report (p. 13 and 14).

Conclusions

The evaluation of the 22 acres of arable land to the west of the existing Kiplin Hall Quarry has considered information relating to the environmental, archaeological and historical importance of this area of North Yorkshire. The environmental evidence showed that the hedgerows had developed over a considerable period of time and that a program of deliberate planting had taken place in the past 250-300 years.

In addition to this the archaeological data for the area in the form of spot finds, aerial photographic evidence, previous evaluations suggested activity from the prehistoric period through to present day. The aerial photographic information is limited and interpretation of the crop and soil marks from this source should be compared with other data when and if it becomes available. From the existing information it would appear that there are linear features within the proposed extension site and which may relate to the medieval features

to the north or be of an entirely different period.

The walk over produced fairly negative results due to the condition of the field at the time of survey. Whereas the historical information on the field and the history for the Hall showed the importance of the development of the landscape immediately to the east of the site. The presence of the Willow Garth to the south of the proposed extension area and the degree of water management again emphasises the importance of the surviving landscape features.

Considering the results of the evaluation it is recommended that further evaluation of the proposed development area be undertaken by means of a Recording Brief

Based on the information displayed within this report, the proposed development area should not be refused on archaeological grounds.

Recommendations

Although there is the potential for archaeological deposits within the proposed quarry extension, it is suggested that the usual methods for further evaluation such as

Geophysical Survey

A non intrusive technique which can be a useful tool in providing information on areas of land where aerial photographic data draws a blank or compliments the available evidence provided by aerial photographic evidence.

Fieldwalking

Fieldwalking a non intrusive method of further evaluating land units. It can be used in isolation

or combined with the geophysical survey to provide additional information. Fieldwalking can be used in two degrees - Initial Fieldwalking where finds are noted but not collected. Pre-defined areas/field units are walked in 5m intervals. Or - Intensive where all material is collected and the distributions plotted.

are not in this instance employed.

A more sensible course of action would be a Recording Brief undertaken when the site is topsoil stripped.

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