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***AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF
AT THE BARN PUBLIC HOUSE
OSGODBY, NEAR SCARBOROUGH***

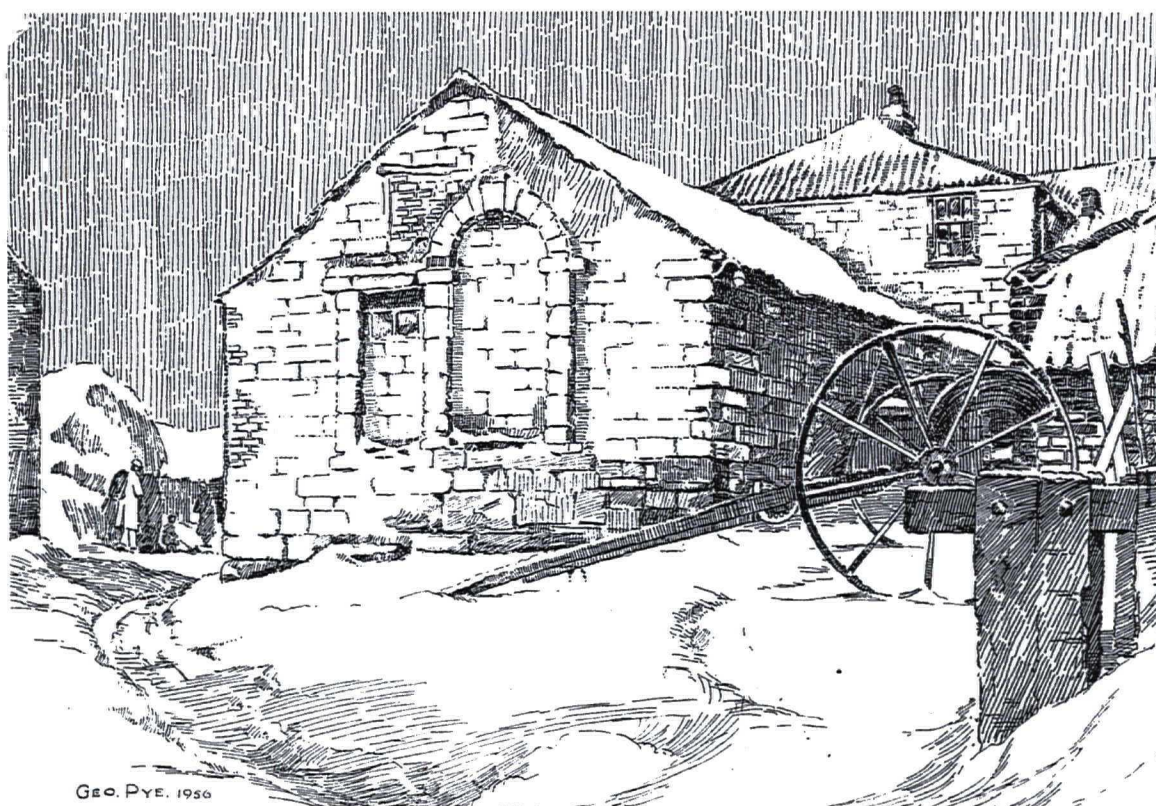


BY
TIM UPSON-SMITH
AND
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**SCARBOROUGH ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL SOCIETY
INTERIM REPORT NUMBER 28: 1997**

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ABOVE AND FRONT COVER
ST LEONARD'S CHAPEL IN 1956
FROM THE SOUTH WEST
FROM A PEN AND INK DRAWING
BY GEORGE PYE

**SCARBOROUGH ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL SOCIETY
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INTRODUCTION

This report covers an archaeological watching brief carried out by the Scarborough Archaeological and Historical Society in September 1997 at the Barn Public House, Osgodby (NGR TA0556 8473, Site Code TB/97).

The watching brief was commissioned by Jackson Wellings Design Partnership on behalf of their clients, The Camerons Brewery Company, in response to an archaeological condition imposed on a planning approval for works at the public house and restaurant.

BACKGROUND

The group of buildings described in this report consists of two architecturally distinct elements, the public house known as The Barn and the attached larger building known until recently as The Wishing Well Restaurant. For simplicity however the whole site is referred to as The Barn.

The Barn is located to the north of Osgodby Lane at the point where it makes a right angled turn to run almost due east (Figure 1). Osgodby Lane here was the principal road of Osgodby village.

The name Osgodby is believed to be derived from the Old Norse meaning Asgaut's Farm suggesting that the origins of the village lie in a Viking settlement of the 9th or 10th centuries. At the height of its prosperity in the middle ages, Osgodby probably comprised 40 or 50 households making it one of the largest villages in the area. The Barn was the site of the manor house. Until recently the remains of a medieval chantry chapel dedicated to St. Leonard were visible. The site of the medieval village survived as prominent earthworks until the construction of housing estates destroyed them in the 1960's. The Scarborough Archaeological Society excavated at Osgodby between 1956 and 1965 recording the remains of several medieval buildings before they were destroyed [Rimington, 1960 and 1961; Farmer, 1965 and 1968]. Further fieldwork was carried out at Manor Farm in 1991 [Pearson, 1991]

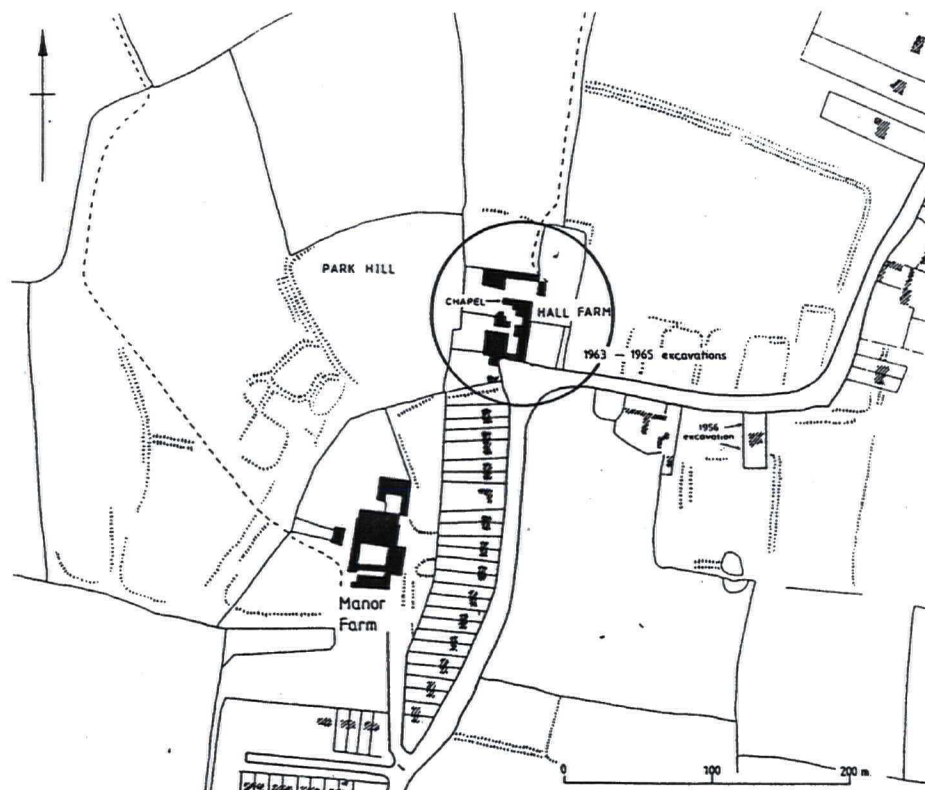


FIGURE 1 Osgodby in 1938 showing the site, earthworks of the medieval village and location of excavations 1956-65

The complex of buildings consists of the former barn which is a stone building aligned north-south, with a wing at right angles (B1 on Figure 2) and the much grander stuccoed building to the north known recently as the Wishing Well Restaurant. Prior to that this latter building had been two dwellings known as Hall Farm (B2) and Osgodby Hall (B3) but it is almost certain that they had been created from a larger older building which was re-fronted or rebuilt after a period of dereliction. The rear wall is stone with mullioned windows, which is somewhat inconsistent with the stuccoed sash windowed front and is presumably older. It may be that buildings B1, B2 and B3 had formed one continuous range. St. Leonards Chapel, the history of which has been reported by F C Rimington [Rimington, 1960], formed an east-west aligned wing perpendicular to the rear of B3 i.e. the northern of the two farmhouses but was demolished in 1971 when the present larger wing was added. The stone barn has also been subject to extensive additions and alterations during its recent history as a public house, notably a large brick extension added in 1974 (B4 on Figure 2). No archaeological investigation was carried out during erection of this latter extension.

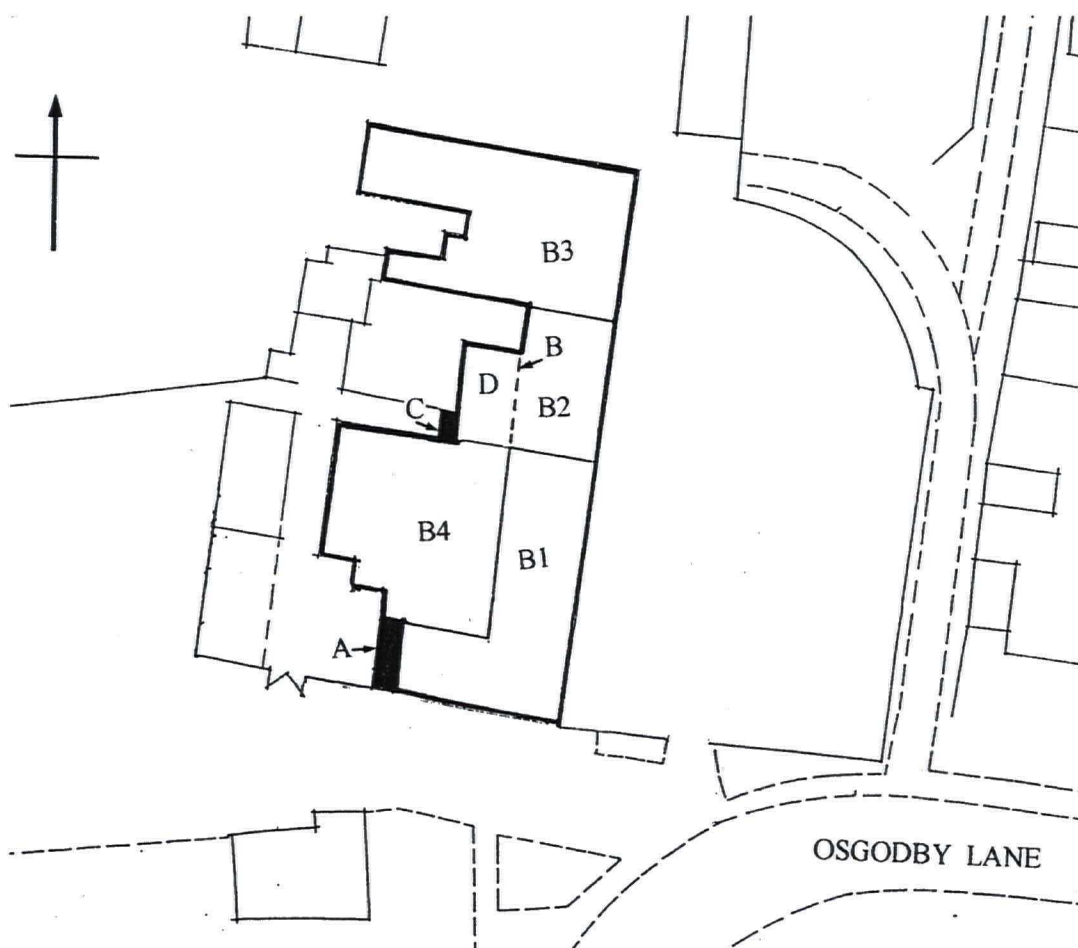


FIGURE 2 The location of various elements of the buildings complex and the location of the archaeological investigations. Scale 1:500

THE WATCHING BRIEF

The locations of the works covered by the watching brief are shown on Figure 2. They comprised the following:-

A. Erection of a disabled toilet extension at the rear in the re-entrant between a wing to the former barn and the 1974 extension B4.

B. Formation of an opening in a stone internal wall in B2 i.e. the central of the two former houses. This would have been an external wall, but an extension had been added against it at this point before the large scale 1852 Ordnance Survey map was surveyed.

C. Erection of a covered entrance in the re-entrant between the 1974 extension and the outbuilding referred to in 'B' above.

D Installation of drainage runs within the catering kitchen in B2

A. TOILET EXTENSION

The stone and concrete surface were removed to allow the excavation of foundation trenches comprising a 1.0 metre wide north-south aligned trench and two shorter trenches between the latter and the stone building (Figure 3). The intervening areas were left undisturbed.

Within the main trench a small area of cobbled surface was revealed, whilst to the north of this lay a spread of rubble and mortar, the latter either being a spread of demolition rubble or the base course for the concrete. In the other locations the stone/concrete surface lay directly onto a dark brown sandy clay which was subsequently interpreted as natural.

This natural was cut by four features:-

CO1 adjacent to the building was a post hole containing a dark brown soil and a large fragment of timber, interpreted as a gate post or support for the farm building which was erected here between 1928 and 1938.

CO3 an electric cable in a sand filled trench running diagonally across the site.

CO4 a plastic drainage pipe in a 600mm wide gravel filled trench associated with the 1974 extension to the north.

CO6 a field drain cut directly into the natural clay

No foundation trench for the stone barn was evident. The presence of features CO1 and CO3 would have largely destroyed any evidence of a foundation trench but in any event it was also apparent that this building had virtually no foundations, being built directly off the natural clay.

Apart from the cobbled surface, which was only fragmentary, nothing of archaeological significance was revealed or destroyed. No dating evidence for the barn was found.

B. REMOVAL OF WALL

The ground floor wall in building B2 to be demolished to form the new opening was 700mm thick, with a rubble core. It contained a two light mullioned window, 1400mm from the cross wall between building B2 and B1 which had been blocked from the outside when the pre1852 kitchen extension was built. The plaster infill was removed revealing that the former outside face had been damaged by the later building work which had included a cross wall built against the mullion. The remainder of the window was in poor condition. The lintel was a fake plaster one which proved to mask a much decayed oak lintel which was recorded photographically on its removal.

Two other points to note were a straight joint in the masonry between the window and the cross wall referred to above (850mm from the window) and a projecting stone block 140mm to the right of the window (looking from within the room) and 500mm below the lintel line. No explanation for these features could be ascertained.

This window was recorded in detail photographically and by measured drawing (Figure 4) before its removal. The poor condition of the window could perhaps be attributed to the period when the Old Hall fell into ruin after the last Osgodby Wyvill died in 1705, without issue. The hall was left to a relative Sir Marmaduke Wyvill and was not lived in again, it was subsequently rebuilt in the form in which we know it today [Rimington, 1960]. The lower left hand sill appeared to be a replacement.

A similar window in the first floor wall above was not affected by the proposed works. As access could not be easily gained, it was not measured but it was recorded photographically.

C. COVERED ENTRANCE

It was noted, before work commenced, that this area contained a manhole. Following removal of the surface it was seen that the manhole and drainage runs had totally disturbed the area.

D. DRAINAGE RUNS

The new drainage runs were cut into a concrete floor in building B2. It was found that the concrete 100 to 150 mm thick lay on a 'Visqueen' membrane on hardcore which lay directly on the natural sandy clay. Any archaeological features which may have existed would have been destroyed by this modern floor construction.

CONCLUSION

This group of buildings has a complex history which is not fully understood. Whilst it can be confirmed that the excavation works have not destroyed or damaged any features of archaeological significance, unfortunately the watching brief has not added to our knowledge or understanding of this of buildings. The mullioned window has been preserved by record.

Due to the complex history of this site and the buildings there is still an archaeological potential here and it is recommended that any future developments are accompanied by watching briefs and/or recording work.

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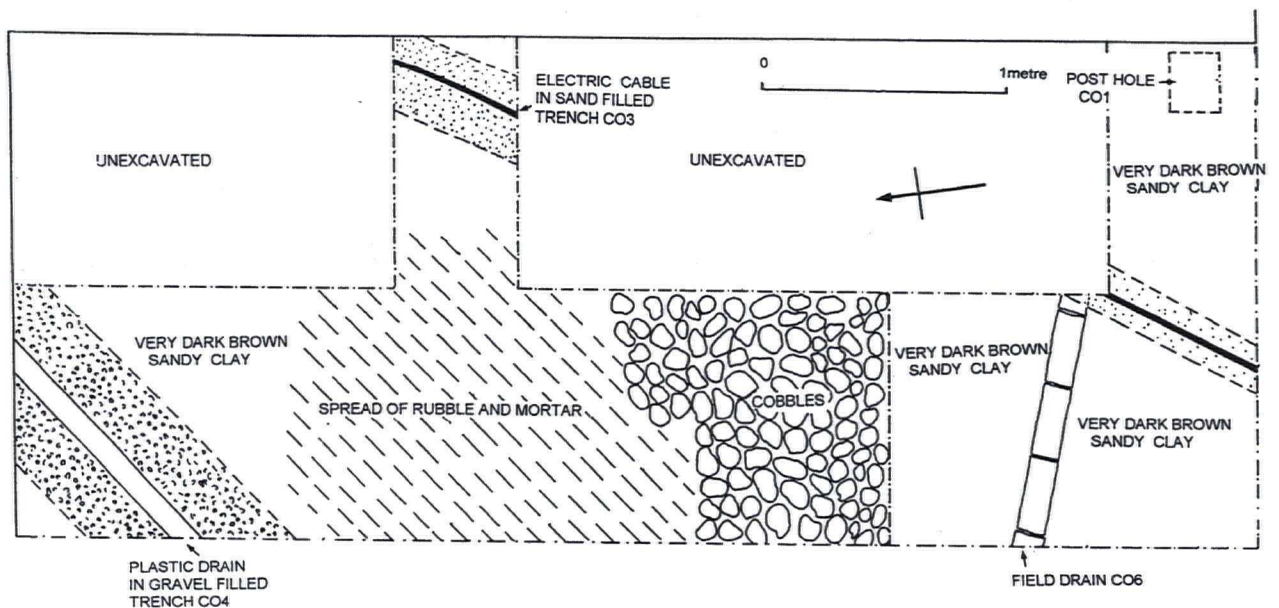


FIGURE 3 Plan of Excavation of area A

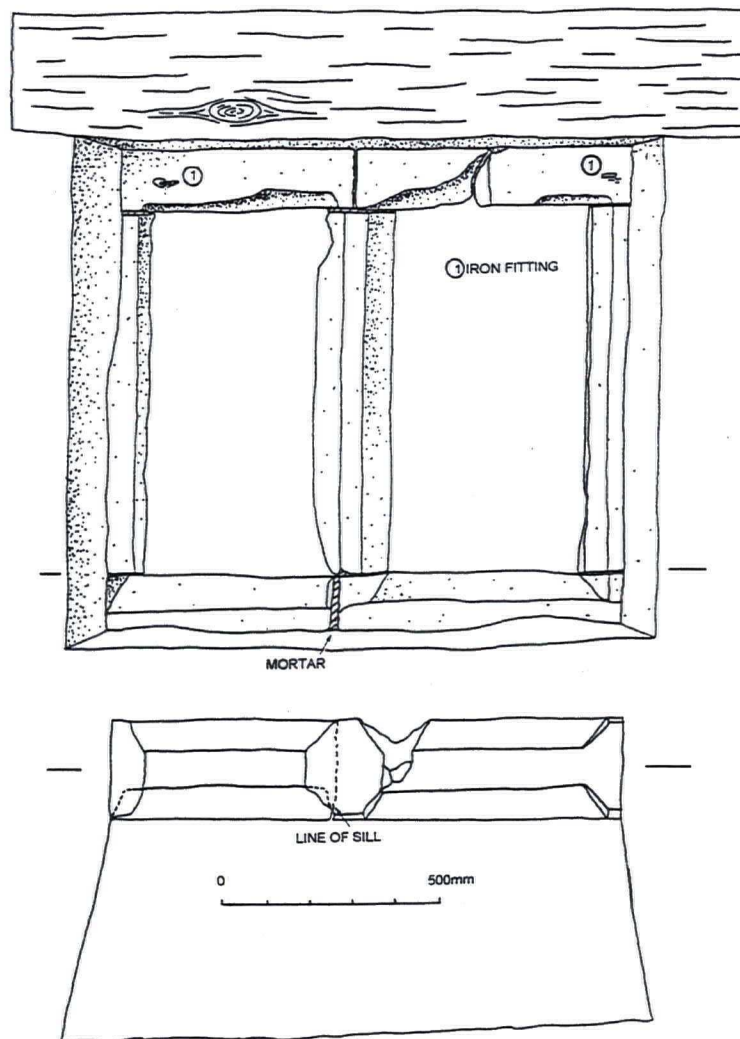


FIGURE 4 Elevational and sectional drawing of the two light mullioned window

APPENDIX

CATALOGUE OF RECORD PHOTOGRAPHS

FILM 1 COLOUR PRINT FILM KODAK GOLD 200 ASA

Negative no.	Description	Date
06	Inner face of window, Area B	03/09/97
07	Inner face of window, Area B	03/09/97
08	Inner face of window, Area B	03/09/97
09	Inner face of window, Area B	03/09/97
10	Inner face of window, Area B	03/09/97
11	Inner face of window, Area B	03/09/97
12	Former outer face of window, Area B	03/09/97
13	Former outer face of window, Area B	03/09/97
14	Former outer face of window, Area B	03/09/97
15	Former outer face of window, Area B	03/09/97
16	Area A looking north showing cobbles and field drain	08/09/07
17	Area A looking west showing cobbles and field drain	08/09/07
18	Area A showing post hole CO1 looking east	08/09/97
19	Area A showing post hole CO1 looking north	08/09/97
20	Three light mullioned window north of extension containing window B	08/09/97
21	Three light mullioned window north of extension containing window B, showing remains of similar window above	08/09/97
22	Wall north of Area C showing feeding troughs.	08/09/97
24	As 22 but from other face	08/09/97
24A	As 22 but in more detail	

FILM 2 COLOUR PRINT FILM KODAK GOLD 200 ASA

Negative no.	Description	Date
07	First floor window above window B inner view	08/09/97
08	First floor window above window B inner view	08/09/97
09	Timber lintel from above Window B following removal	08/09/97
10	Timber lintel from above Window B following removal	08/09/97
11	Area A post hole CO1	08/09/97
12	Area A showing rear wall of barn against which toilet extension to be built	08/09/97
13	Area A cobbles and brick rubble from south	08/09/97
14	Similar to 1/21	08/09/97
15	Section through rubble cored wall Area A	08/09/96
16	Inner wall of building	08/09/97
17	Three light window in building B2	08/09/97

18	Fragment of post recovered from CO1 in Area A	09/09/97
19	Same as 2/18	09/09/97
20	Trench cut in building B2 for drainage run looking South	17/09/97
21	Trench cut in building B2 for drainage run looking East	17/09/97
22	Trench cut in building B2 for drainage run looking East	17/09/97
23	Area D showing disturbance by earlier drainage runs	17/09/97
24	Area D showing disturbance by earlier drainage runs	17/09/97