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**HAWTHORNE DRIVE,  
BARLBY,  
NORTH YORKSHIRE**

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**REPORT ON AN  
ARCHAEOLOGICAL  
DESK-TOP STUDY**

**1998 FIELD REPORT  
NUMBER 31**

**HAWTHORNE DRIVE, BARLBY**

**NORTH YORKSHIRE**

**ARCHAEOLOGICAL DESK-TOP STUDY**

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## 1. Introduction

*at my request. VJF 6/7/98*

In June 1998 a limited scope archaeological desk-top study was undertaken by York Archaeological Trust on the site of a prospective development at Hawthorne Drive, Barlby, North Yorkshire (NGR SE 6322 3404) (Fig. 1). The site lies immediately to the east of the existing churchyard in the heart of the modern township. Barlby is located on slightly elevated ground some 500m east of the river Ouse. The land between the Ouse and the elevated ground has a drift cover of alluvium; that of the elevated ground itself is of sand (including blown sand).

The aims of the desk based study were to gather information pertaining to the past use of the site, with particular reference to the medieval chapel known to have been located to the west of the development area, under, or in the immediate vicinity of, the present church. The study was commissioned by Yellowtop Ltd of Elvington.

## 2. Methodology

The study involved the examination of information sources that could define the archaeological and historical background of the development site. The primary agencies consulted were:

Borthwick Institute of Historical Research.

- NYCC Sites and Monuments Records Office
- NYCC Records Office
- East Riding Record Office
- City of York Reference Library

Information sources consulted consisted of:

Cartographic - Ordnance Survey and tithe maps.

Documentary - a) published works: Victoria County History, local histories, etc.

b) unpublished: church faculties, notebooks, etc.

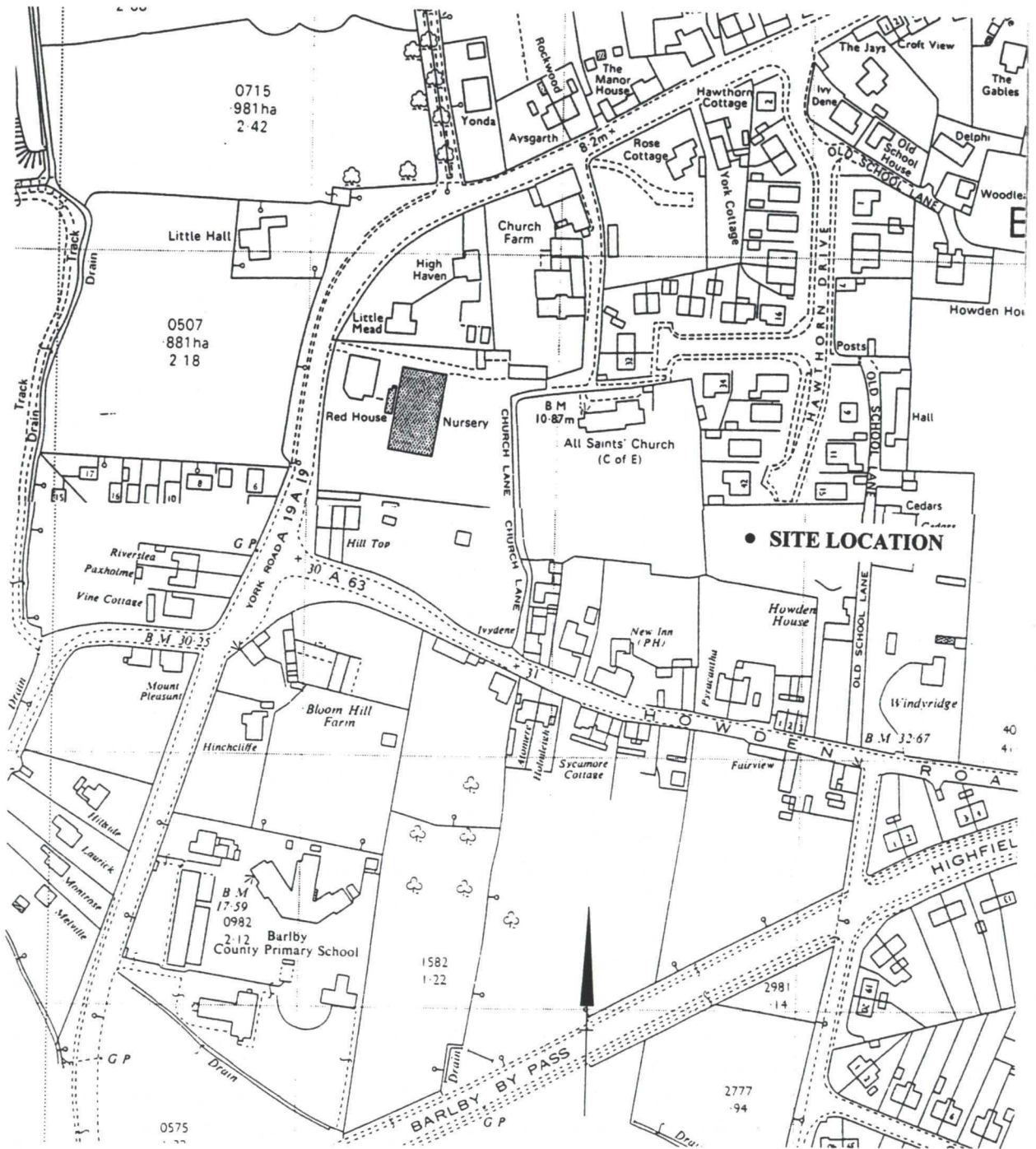


Figure 1. Site Location (Scale 1:2500)

### 3. Results

The first historical reference to Barlby is the entry in Domesday Book of 1086 which states that the settlement was waste, with enough land for ½ plough. The origin of the place-name is: "Bardof" (O.E. personal name) and "by" (O.N. farm or small settlement), (Smith, 1970).

Until the later 19<sup>th</sup> century Barlby's economy was very largely agrarian, although the proximity of the river Ouse did permit the supporting of a medieval fishery. A number of historical references also suggest a degree of involvement in waterborne trade, (VCH, 1976). This latter probably relates largely to that between York and the Humber estuary and its tributaries.

The church of All Saints, Barlby is situated in the core area of the medieval village, between the major York and Howden roads. Parts of the fabric of the existing brick church date to 1780 when a new chapel was built to replace the earlier ruinous one. As originally built the brick chapel comprised a simple rectangular building with apsidal east end and a small octagonal bellcot, (Borthwick, R.IV.F. 1780/1). Subsequent building works at the church have involved the construction and later removal of two small pew filled projections, the building of a square ended chancel and the erection of a west porch. The major elements of these works took place in 1866 and 1895. The burial ground is known to have been extended in 1872 when the whole cemetery was enclosed by a brick wall, (Burton, 1888). Further cemetery extension is also attested in 20<sup>th</sup> century, (Borthwick, BAR parish records).

The predecessor to the chapel of 1780 is thought to be the medieval chapel first recorded in 1482. This was a dependency of its mother parish church at Hemingborough. In 1650 it was recommended, without effect, that Barlby together with Osgodby was fit to become a separate parish. Barlby church eventually acquired parochial functions in the 18<sup>th</sup> century, (VCH, 1976). In the faculty documents of 1780 parishioners petitioned to rebuild their Barlby chapel claiming that it was "ruinous and beyond repair". In the same document it is stated that they wish to rebuild the chapel "on the same site", (Borthwick, Faculty, R.IV.F. 1780/1). A further document in the same file describes the works not only as rebuilding but also "enlarging".

It is known that some chapels that were dependent upon mother parish churches did not partake in certain aspects of pastoral care, particularly burial, (Morris, 1983). A Terrier of 1743 describes Barlby as a chapel of ease to Hemingborough. Fees for burial were said to cost 4 shillings, twice that at Hemingborough (ditto weddings and christenings), (Burton, 1888). Similar references to burial costs in "the chapelyard" also appear in later 18<sup>th</sup> century terriers, (Borthwick, PR BAR 2S). These fee variations were no doubt designed to send the people of Barlby to their parish church, for such events as burial. It is clear from this source nonetheless, that burials could take place at Barlby prior to 1780. The register of burials and baptisms at the new church indicate that burial was definitely taking place here after 1780. Examination of the 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> century Hemingborough parish registers has identified that these do list the burials of Barlby inhabitants but do not specify whether these took place at the mother church or the Barlby chapel, (Borthwick, Hemingborough parish registers).



Figure 2. Tithe Map of 1842

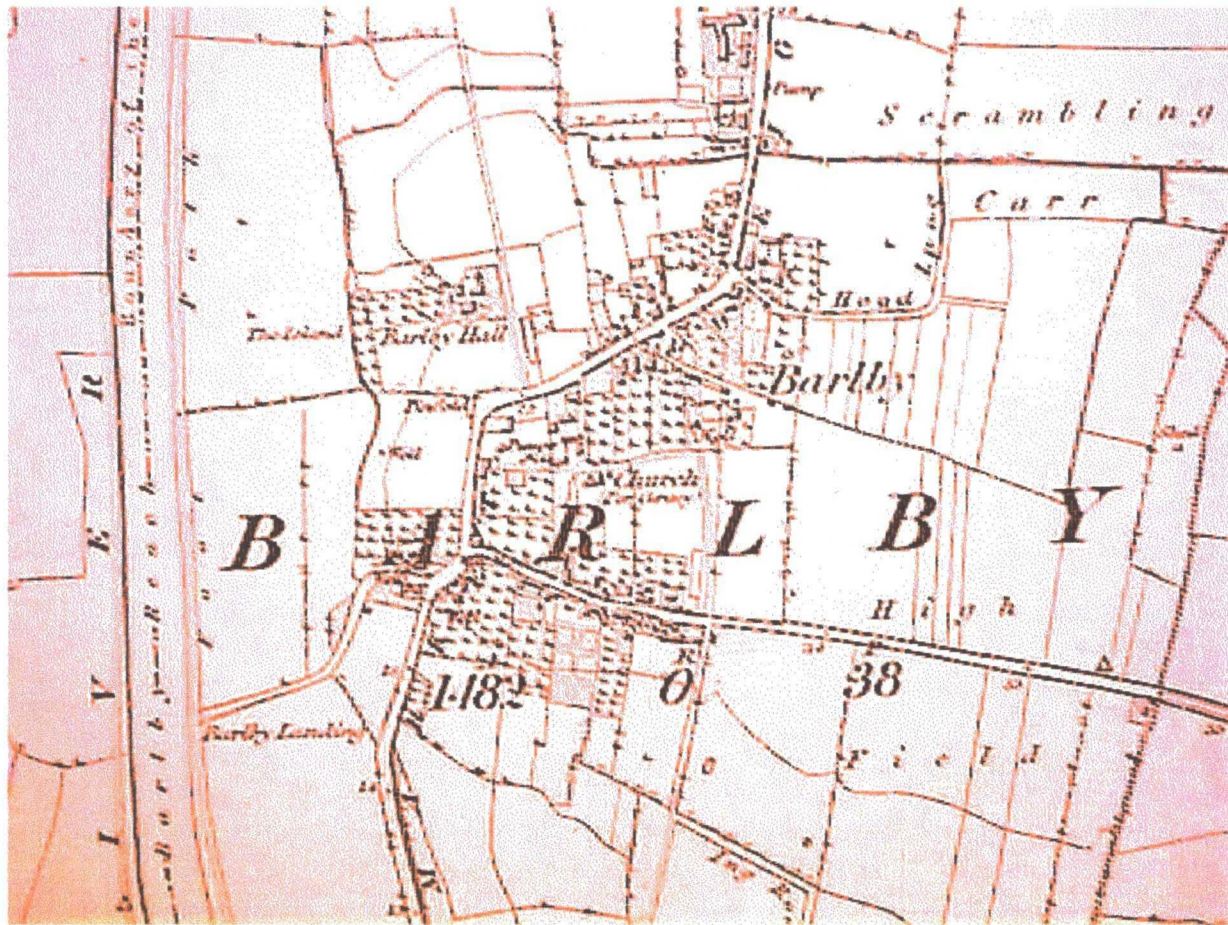


Figure 3. Ordnance Survey Map, 1851

Whilst it is unfortunate that no plans or maps exist that demonstrate the exact location of the medieval chapel and the extent of its burial ground, a tithe map of 1842, (Borthwick), (Fig. 2), and the 1<sup>st</sup> edition Ordnance Survey map of 1851, (Fig. 3) do provide useful clues. Both of these maps show the 1780 chapel to lie within a narrow plot of land. The burial ground as it now exists can be seen to have incorporated the two adjacent land blocks on both east and west sides at a later date, as indicated by documentary evidence. If one is to assume that the mid 19<sup>th</sup> century burial ground limits were not smaller than those of the medieval burial ground, then the area of proposed development is extremely unlikely to contain medieval burials. This is particularly the case given the evidence cited earlier for the rebuilding of the chapel “on the same site” and of the economic deterrence to chapel burial, at least in the 18<sup>th</sup> century.

#### 4. Conclusions

On the basis of the evidence presented above it is considered unlikely that any remains of the early chapel or its burial ground will occur within the area of proposed development.

With regard to non-ecclesiastical remains at the site, it is noted that the NYCC Sites and Monuments Record Office has no listings for this particular vicinity. The early maps consulted show the presence of buildings on the frontages of the York and Howden roads. A small number of buildings are also indicated further back from the frontages but for the most part these areas are shown to be occupied by gardens and orchards. Whilst the presence of archaeological remains may appear to be unlikely, it cannot be ruled out altogether.

#### 5. List of Sources

- Borthwick Documents in Borthwick Institute, York. (cited by ref. No.)
- Burton, T. (1888) History of the Parish of Hemingborough.
- Morris, R (1983) The Church in British Archaeology, CBA Research. Report 47.
- Smith, A. (1970) Place-names of East Riding & York, Eng. Place-name Soc. Vol. xiv.
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#### 6. List of Contributors

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