



YORK ARCHAEOLOGICAL TRUST



**LAND AT WILD HILL LANE, HUNTON,
NORTH YORKSHIRE**

DESK BASED ASSESSMENT

by J.M. McComish

REPORT NUMBER 2012/38



YORK ARCHAEOLOGICAL TRUST

York Archaeological Trust undertakes a wide range of urban and rural archaeological consultancies, surveys, evaluations, assessments and excavations for commercial, academic and charitable clients. It can manage projects, provide professional advice and monitor archaeological works to ensure high quality, cost effective archaeology. Its staff have a considerable depth and variety of professional experience and an international reputation for research, development and maximising the public, educational and commercial benefits of archaeology. Based in York, with offices in Sheffield, Glasgow and Nottingham, its services are available throughout Britain and beyond.



© 2012 York Archaeological Trust for Excavation and Research Limited

Registered Office: 47 Aldwark, York, UK, YO1 7BX

Phone: +44 (0)1904 663000 Fax: +44 (0)1904 663024

Email: archaeology@yorkat.co.uk Internet: <http://www.yorkarchaeology.co.uk>

Registered Charity in England & Wales (509060) & Scotland (SCO42846)

A Company Limited by Guarantee Without Share Capital Registered in England No. 1430801

Offices in: SHEFFIELD, trading as *ArchHeritage* GLASGOW, trading as *Northlight Heritage* NOTTINGHAM, trading as *Trent & Peak Archaeology*

CONTENTS

	Page
1. SUMMARY	1
2. INTRODUCTION.....	1
3. AIMS AND METHODOLOGY	3
4. CULTURAL HERITAGE DATA	4
5. ADDITIONAL CULTURAL HERITAGE DATA	14
6. ASSESSEMENT OF ARCHAEOLOGICAL POTENTIAL	17
7. BIBLIOGRAPHY AND SOURCES	18
8. ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS	19
APPENDIX 1: GAZETTEER	20

Figures

1. Location of Hunton	2
2. Detailed site location	2
3. Ordnance Survey 1857 1:10,560 scale map	15
4. Ordnance Survey 1895 1:10,560 scale map	16
5. Ordnance Survey 1981 1:10,000 scale map	17

Plates

Cover: View of the proposed development site facing north

1. Aerial view of the deserted medieval village of Hunton	5
2. Aerial view of the development site	8
3. Aerial view of the development site with visible features marked	9
4. Ridge and furrow at the southern end of the site.....	10
5. Ridge and furrow at the southern end of the site.....	10
6. Ridge and furrow to the east of the development area	11
7. The north-south ditch to the immediate east of the raised platform	11

8.	The east-west aligned ditch	11
9.	The east-west aligned ditch with a slight ridge to the north.....	12
10.	The junction of the east-west and north-south aligned ditches	12
11.	The raised platform, with ridge and furrow and the north-south ditch beyond	13
12.	The raised platform	13

Abbreviations

AOD	Above Ordnance Datum
DBA	Desk Based Assessment
HER	Historic Environment Record
NMR	National Monuments Record
UI	Unique Identifier
YAT	York Archaeological Trust

1. SUMMARY

This desk-based assessment, to determine the impact of development on potential archaeological remains, has been prepared in support of a planning application for the construction of six houses at Wild Hill Lane, Hunton, North Yorkshire. The site was deemed to be of potential archaeological interest due to nearby the remains of the deserted medieval village of Hunton, which are centred approximately 650m north-north-east of the development site, but remains are also visible in the proposed development area. A programme of archaeological work will most likely be required as part of the planning consent for the proposed housing scheme, so as to mitigate the impact of the development.

2. INTRODUCTION

2.1 PROJECT BACKGROUND

York Archaeological Trust has been commissioned by P+HS Architects, Leeds, acting on behalf of Broadacres Housing Association Ltd, to undertake a desk-based archaeological and historical assessment (DBA) to determine the potential for archaeological and historical remains at the site, in support of a planning application to redevelop the area for six houses.

2.2 SITE LOCATION

The proposed site lies to the immediate east of Wild Hill Lane, Hunton, North Yorkshire (NGR SE 1869 9220, postcode DL8 1QJ, Figures 1 and 2). The village of Hunton lies in the heart of rural North Yorkshire, almost equidistant from Leyburn, approximately 7km to the west-south-west, and Bedale, approximately 8km to the east-south-east. The site itself lies on the southern side of the village, and is bordered to the west by Wild Hill Lane, to the east and south by fields and to the north by the gardens of houses fronting onto the southern side of a street called Greenacres. The site is rectangular and measures approximately 37m east-west and 64m north south. The ground is fairly level ranging in height from 110-112m AOD, and the land is currently used for pasture.

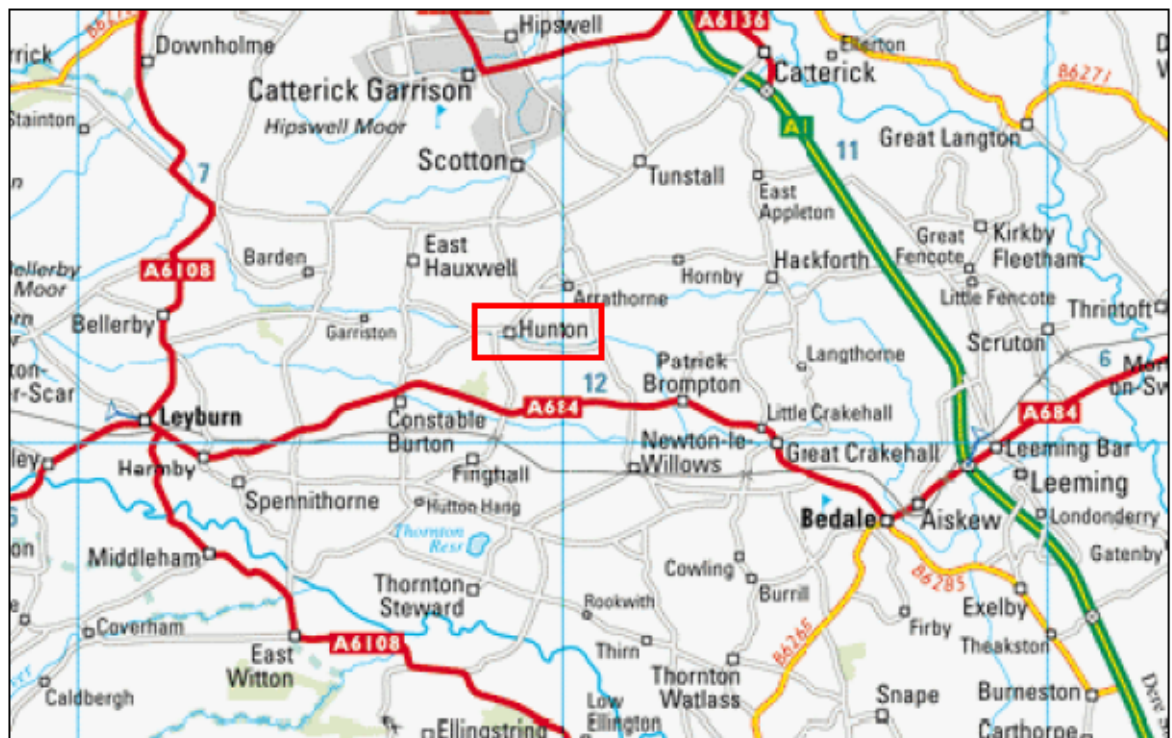


Figure 1 The location of Hunton (within red outline)



Figure 2 Location of the site in red, (developer plan), not to scale

2.3 PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT SUMMARY

The proposed building scheme is to provide affordable housing within the village of Hunton. The Planning Authority, Richmondshire District Council, advised P+HS Architects of the potential for archaeological remains at the site; this DBA was prepared to provide information on the likely impact of the building works on any archaeological remains on the site in support of the planning applications.

3. AIMS AND METHODOLOGY

3.1 AIMS

No specific brief for the DBA was supplied by Richmondshire District Council, but this report has been prepared in compliance with the PPS5 legislation and to IfA standards.

3.2 METHODOLOGY

This report has been compiled using guidelines for the compilation of desk-based assessments drawn up by the Institute for Archaeologists (IfA, 2011) and the internal guidelines used by York Archaeological Trust.

Archaeological remains can be nationally or locally designated through listing or scheduling, and can appear in either national or locally held records; in addition information can be gleaned from historic records. The DBA comprises identification and examination of available records and the compilation of a gazetteer of sites in the study area. The study area was designated as a 1km square centred on the site, the south western corner of the study area being at NGR SE 1829 9170, the north-western corner at SE 1829 9270, the north-eastern corner at SE 1919 9270 and the south-eastern corner at SE 1919 9170.

The principal sources consulted for preparation of the report were:

The North Yorkshire Historic Environment Record (HER)

The listed building information in the National Monument Record (NMR)

The North Yorkshire County Records Office

Aerial Photographs

Historic Mapping

Published Books

In addition a walkover survey of the site was undertaken. The resultant information has been assessed and the potential impact of the scheme discussed. All original records pertaining to this report are held by York Archaeological Trust under the project code 5648.

4. CULTURAL HERITAGE DATA

4.1 STAUTORY AND NON-STAUTORY PROTECTED FEATURES

There are no Scheduled Ancient Monuments, World Heritage Sites, Registered Battlefields, or Historic Parks and Gardens within the study area. There are no listed buildings within the study area.

Just to the north-east of the study area, at NGR SE 1911 9289, there is the Scheduled Monument of Hunton Deserted Medieval Village and its associated field system (SMR 29534 NMR 1143206).

4.2 HISTORIC ENVIRONMENT RECORD (HER) DATA

The North Yorkshire HER records were searched online, which yielded a list of just two sites, Hunton Manor house and the present settlement of Hunton.

4.3 BOREHOLE DATA

A search of the British Geological Survey's Online Borehole Database, the English Heritage Geophysical Survey and the NMR yielded no results.

4.4 PREVIOUS ARCHAEOLOGICAL INTERVENTIONS

No archaeological interventions (watching briefs, geophysical surveys or excavations) are noted in the NMR or HER in the development site or within the study area.

4.5 ARCHAEOLOGICAL OVERVIEW

The section provides a brief chronological overview of the archaeological and historical evidence for the study area. The data is listed in more detail in the Gazetteer (Appendix 1).

4.5.1 PREHISTORIC (C. 750,000 BC – A.D. 43)

The only prehistoric material from the study area is a spot find of a Neolithic stone axe (UI 2) which was found in the village, and is now in Sheffield museum, though the precise location of the find is unknown.

4.5.2 ROMANO-BRITISH (A.D. 43-410)

There are no known Romano-British finds from the study area.

4.5.3 MEDIEVAL (A.D. 410- MID 16TH CENTURY)

The place name of the settlement is Old English for Huna's Farm (Smith 1928, 241), and the settlement is mentioned in the Domesday Book as Huntone, indicating that the original

settlement was of Anglo-Saxon date. The settlement seems to have been focussed on an area to the north of the present village, where the scheduled remains of a deserted medieval village are known (Plate 1), though this site lies just beyond the limits of the study area. The extant remains of this settlement are focussed on a main street which is preserved as a hollow way on a north-west to south-west alignment (bisected by the present road on a south-west to north-east alignment); this is associated with a row of rectangular house platforms and a back lane. To the south of these features further low platforms, mounds and small enclosures are visible, and these are associated with larger enclosures that have been interpreted as crofts. The remains of two fishponds are also present to the north of this village, while ridge and furrow cultivation is present to the west has of the deserted village, (see in the two fields at the centre-left of Plate 1). A mill is known to have existed in the village since the 13th century (VCH 1914, 332-340).



Plate 1 Aerial view of the deserted medieval village of Hunton, © Google Earth

Very little is known of the history of this settlement, but in common with many settlements in England it was abandoned at some stage, probably in the aftermath of the Black Death

c.1348. Although the original church of Hunton does not survive, having been rebuilt in modern times, the location slightly to the north of the present village is a reflection of the earlier settlement pattern of the area.

The later medieval settlement (UI 15) grew up slightly to the south of the original settlement, and this settlement has continued in use to the present. The buildings in the village are largely focussed on the street frontages of Leyburn Road, Bedale Road, and South View.

4.5.4 THE POST-MEDIEVAL AND MODERN PERIODS (MID 16TH CENTURY TO PRESENT)

As with the medieval period there is relatively little information available for the village prior to the late 18th century. The agricultural nature of the settlement is seen by a number of features from earlier Ordnance Survey maps interpreted as post-medieval or later barns (UI 3, UI 6-10 and UI 14), together with a pinfold (UI 12), and the post-medieval buildings at Manor Farm (UI 16).

A farm called Old Hall is located on the opposite side of Wild Hill Lane from the present development site, and the buildings at this site being of post-medieval date. The Old Hall was sold by Timothy Hutton to the Wyvill family in 1620, and it remained in their hands until the compilation of the Victoria County History in 1914 at which time it was owned by Mr. D'Arcy Wyvill. VCH noted that the field opposite the Old Hall, that is the field to the immediate north of the development site, was called Chapel Garth, but that no masonry was visible.

The village church (UI 17), dedicated to St John, was rebuilt either in 1794 by Gregory Elsley (Kelly 1893 part 1, 115), or in 1894 (VCH 1914, 332-340), and a Wesleyan chapel (UI 5) was built in 1829 (Kelly 1893 part 1, 115). A school was built in the village in 1876 (VCH 1914, 332-340). Two fords (UI 11 and UI13) and a footbridge (UI 4) are depicted on 19th century maps of the village, though the date at which these features came into use is uncertain. Four arable common fields in the village, totalling about 720 acres, were inclosed in 1857 (VCH 1914, 332-340).

The 1893 Trade Directory volume reflects the largely rural nature of the settlement listing sixteen farmers (Kelly 1893 Part 2, 611-2, 615, 620, 625, 636, 637, 640, 648-9) and noting that the principal crops were wheat, oats and barley (Kelly 1893 part 1, 115). Various trades listed in the village at that time were two blacksmiths (Kelly 1893 part 1, 115), a boot and shoe maker (Kelly 1893 Part 2, 579), two butchers G (ibid., 584-6), a carpenter (Kelly 1893 part 1, 115), a grocer and tea dealer (ibid., 660), a miller (Kelly 1893 part 1, 115), three public houses the Fox and Hounds, the New Inn and the Odd Fellows' Arms (ibid., 693-5),

two shopkeepers (ibid., 708, 712), two stone and marble masons (ibid., 722), and two tailors (ibid., 726). The Hunton reading Rooms is also listed (ibid. 702)

The trades present in 1913 comprised 17 farmers, a joiner, a blacksmith, two butchers, a grocer, two masons, a miller, three public houses, in addition to the new occupations of a carter, a dressmaker, a draper and a trashing machine owner, a Post Office was also present by this time (Kelly 1913, 137).

During World War II a bombing decoy site was placed to the north of Hunton to deflect enemy bombing from the British Army base at Catterick, which consisted of a series of controlled fires lit during air raids to replicate a target struck by bombs. It was in use during 1942, but by the 1970s nothing survived.

4.6 SITE WALKOVER

The site walkover was undertaken on 28th September 2012. The area of the proposed development had been staked out with wooden posts. The field is bordered by a fence and hedge to the west, garden fences to the north, while the eastern limit of the development site have no defined boundary at present, the site being within the north-western corner of a large field.

The features visible during the walkover are clearly visible on aerial photographs of the site (Plates 2-3), and comprised the following elements which are described from south to north across the site:

- Ridge and furrow (Plates 4-6). Six north-south furrows are visible in the southernmost portion of the development area, with further extensive ridge and furrow to the south, south-east and east of the development area.
- A field boundary ditch (shown in yellow on Plate 3 and on Plate 7). The southern portion of this ditch was far deeper and wider than the eastern portion. This probably represents the remains of a field boundary visible on a plan of Hunton dating to 1815.
- A field boundary ditch (shown in pale blue on Plate 3 and on Plates 8-10). The main elements were an east-west ditch, the western end of the ditch incorporated the remains of an earlier ditch on a slightly different alignment while the eastern end of the boundary ditch terminates at a second field boundary ditch (approximately 52m to the east of the proposed development area), which is aligned NNW-SSE (Plate 10). At the eastern end of the ditch, to the east of the development area, there is a slight mound to the immediate north of the ditch which probably represents the remains of a hedge line (Plate 9). The east-west ditch clearly truncated the ridge and

furrow system. These ditches represent the remains of a field visible on the 1857 Ordnance Survey map of the site, but they had gone out of use by 1895.

- A raised platform (shown in black on Plate 3 and on Plates 11-12). Located almost centrally within the development area there is a raised rectangular platform measuring approximately 25m east-west and 21m north-south. This could represent the remains of a building platform, and given that it is not shown on any of the 19th century maps of the area, it must be of 18th century or earlier date.
- The northernmost portion of the development area is irregular in appearance (Plate 7). Although no clear features were visible, the undulating nature is suggestive of earlier activity.



Plate 2 Aerial view of the development site (for location of the proposed development see Plate 3), © Google Earth

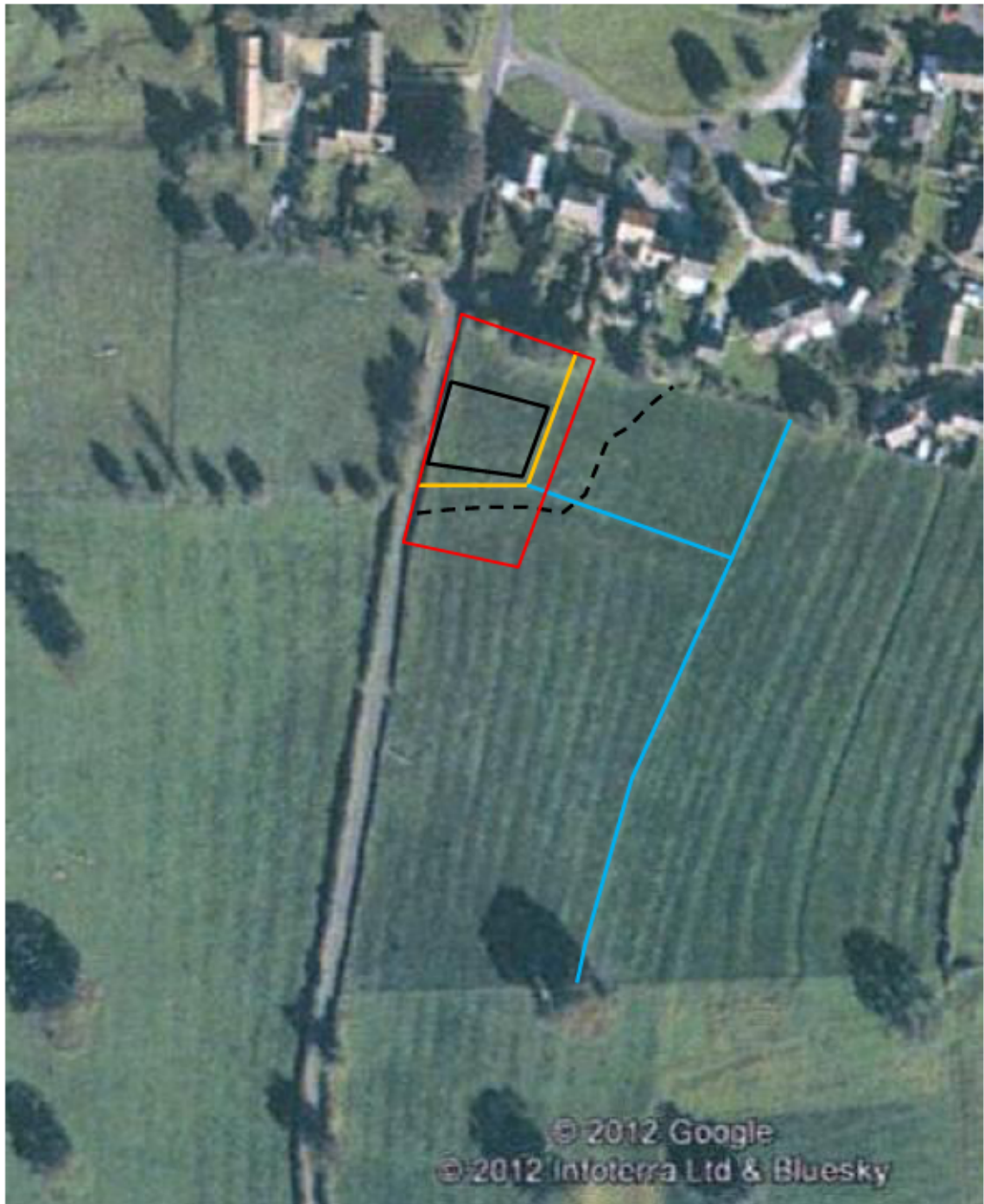


Plate 3 Aerial view of the development site with the development area in red, ridge and furrow to the south and east of the black dashed line, a field boundary seen on an 1815 map of Hunton in yellow, a field boundary seen on the 1857 OS map in light blue and the raised platform outlined in black, underlying aerial photograph © Google Earth



Plate 4 Ridge and furrow at the southern end of the site (the south-eastern limits of the development area delimited by the wooden post), photograph facing south.



Plate 5 Ridge and furrow at the southern end of the site (the south-eastern limits of the development area delimited by the wooden post), photograph facing south-east.



Plate 6 Ridge and furrow to the east of the development area in the foreground, with the east-west ditch at the left hand side of the photograph and the raised platform in the distance, photograph facing west.



Plate 7 The ditch north-south ditch (diagonally from mid right to bottom left of the photograph) and the northernmost portion of the proposed development area, photograph facing east



Plate 8 The east-west aligned ditch, photograph facing east



Plate 9 The east-west aligned ditch with a slight ridge to the north, photograph facing west



Plate 10 The junction of the east-west and north-south aligned ditches, with ridge and furrow beyond, photograph facing north-north-west



Plate 11 The raised platform (foreground), with ridge and furrow and the north-south ditch beyond, photograph facing east



Plate 12 The raised platform, photograph facing north

5. ADDITIONAL CULTURAL HERITAGE DATA

5.1 HISTORICAL MAP SOURCES

Most of the early maps of the area such as Christopher Saxton's map of 1607, John Bill's 1626 map, Robert Morden's 1695 map, or Robert Sayer's 1765 map, depict the whole of the North Riding are therefore on a scale which allows little detail to be shown beyond the place names of principal settlements.

A search of tithe and enclosure maps was made at the North Yorkshire County Records Office, but few records were found. An enclosure map of Patrick Brompton dating to 1811 (ref MIC 1754/0400) showed two fields adjacent to Wild Hill Lane, separated by an east-west boundary (a similar layout to that seen on the 1857 Ordnance Survey map given as Figure 3). An 1815 enclosure map (ref MIC 1539/260) was slightly different as it showed the northernmost of these fields divided into two linear fields with the long-axis aligned north-south. No field names were noted on this map, the two fields being labelled 386 (closest to Wild Hill Lane) and 388 (furthest from Wild Hill Lane), though the fields to the west of Wild Hill Lane were named, Bean Garth, Bean Close and Place Close. The boundary of field 386 is still visible and is shown in yellow on Plate 3. A tithe map of Patrick Brompton dating to

1849 (ref MIC 1794/458) did not depict any of the fields to the east of Wild Hill Lane, because they were not titheable.

A document relating to an earlier search of the immediate vicinity; this document (ref CRONT 1086) prepared by Smiths Gore related to the Old Hall, located on the opposite side of Wild Hill Lane, and stated that "no details are given of the Old Hall in either Hunton enclosure award or the Hunton tithe appointment, the buildings are shown in outline on the maps of each, but the property was not directly subject to enclosure nor was it titheable".

The earliest Ordnance Survey map of the area is the 1857 1:10,560 map (Figure 3 shows the area of the site straddling an east-west field boundary, the ditch of which survives in the present landscape). Further Ordnance Survey maps of the area (1892 1:2,500, 1895 1:10,560, 1913 1:2,500 and 1919 1:10,560) show the landscape largely unchanged (Figure 4), though the east-west field boundary had gone out of use, amalgamating the two fields to the immediate east of Wild Hill Lane into one larger field. The 1956 1:10,560 map also reflect little change to the village layout, though the 1976 1:2,500 and 1981 1:10,000 maps show housing development to the south-west of Ratten Row (Figure 5). The housing on Greenacres clearly post-dates the 1981 OS map.

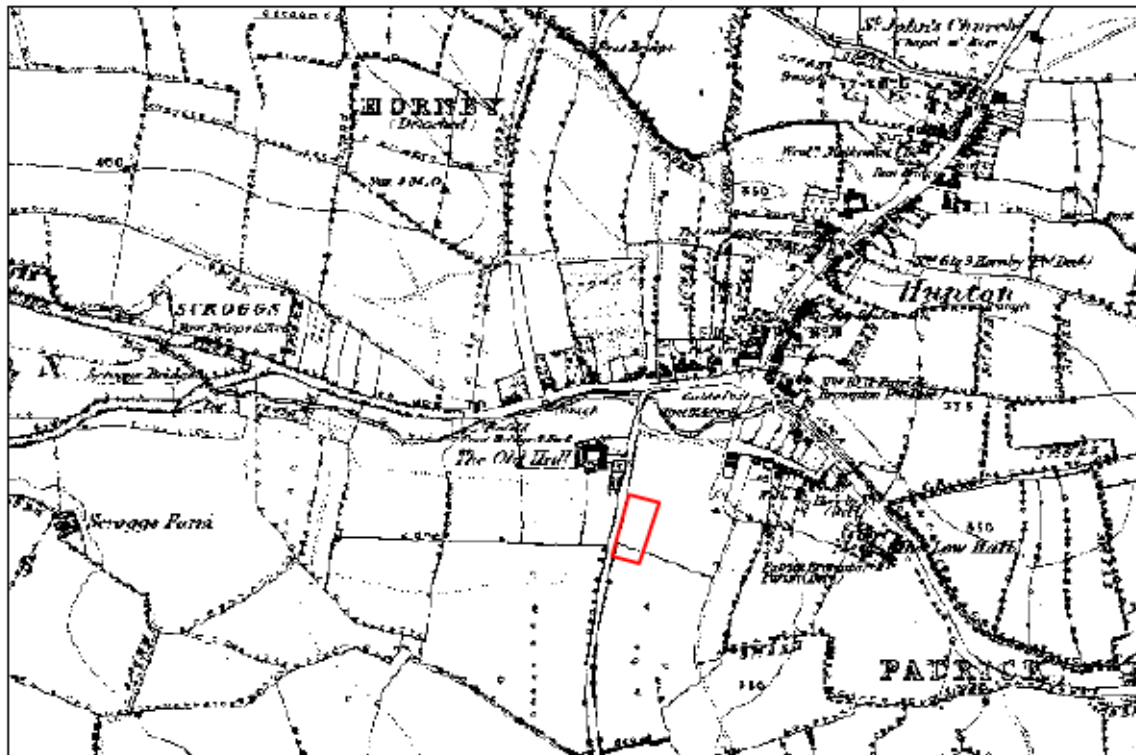


Figure 3 Ordnance Survey 1857 map, with the development area outlined in red (not to scale)



Figure 4 Ordnance Survey 1895 map, with the development area outlined in red (not to scale)

5.2 PHOTOGRAPHIC SOURCES

A search of the online Cambridge University Collection of Aerial Photographs (CUCAP) produced a single oblique view of the village taken in 1979.

A search of the English Heritage photographic archive produced three entries references BF042965 (Hunton Manor House) referring to the house as a post-medieval and 20th century house, BF055399 (Manor Farm) referring to a post-medieval farm and BF061776 (St John's Church) referring to a post medieval church.

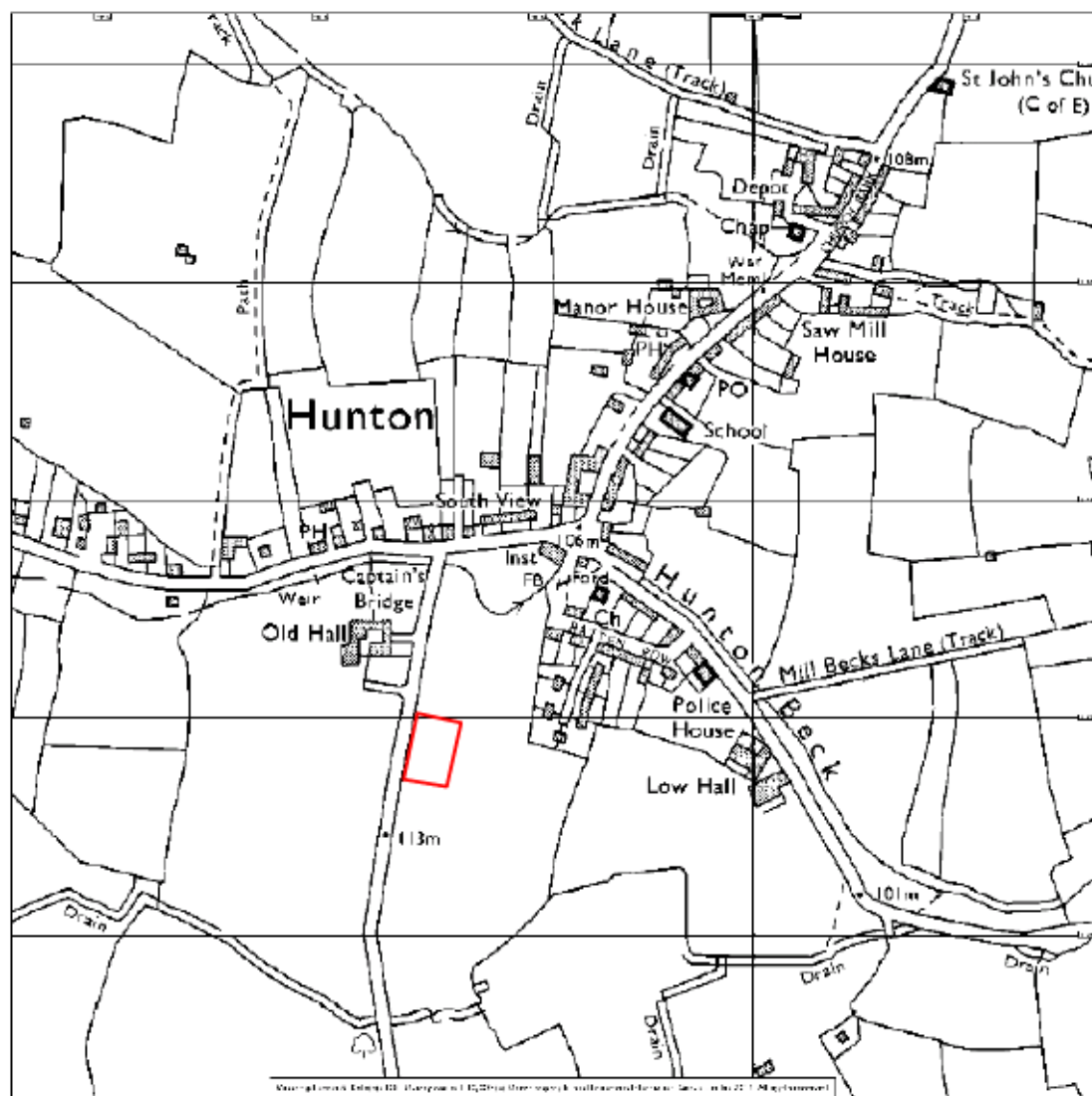


Figure 5 Ordnance Survey 1981 map, with the proposed development area outlined in red (not to scale)

6. ASSESSMENT OF ARCHAEOLOGICAL POTENTIAL

It is clear that the scheme will have an impact on archaeological features. The ridge and furrow system at the southern end of the proposed development area is almost certainly of medieval date, while the various field boundary ditches seen are probably of post-medieval date. The date and precise function of the rectangular platform in the centre of the development area is unclear, but given its shape it probably represents the platform for a building, and it could potentially be of any date from medieval period to the late 18th century. The location of the platform surrounded by ridge and furrow may suggest that it was a

building relating to the medieval field system, alternatively the platform could be for a post-medieval barn, given that several such buildings are known to have existed in the vicinity.

Archaeological investigation may be required to determine the character and function of the raised platform, while the area to the immediate north of the platform could also be investigated in order to characterise the nature of earlier land use. In the case of both the ridge and furrow and the field boundary ditches examination of cross sections through these features may enable some clarification of their date.

7. BIBLIOGRAPHY AND SOURCES

7.1 WRITTEN SOURCES

Kelly & Co Limited, 1893. Directory of the North and East Ridings of Yorkshire, Part 1 Places. Kelly and Co, High Holborn London.

Kelly & Co Limited, 1893. Directory of the North and East Ridings of Yorkshire, Part 2 Court and Trade Directories. Kelly and Co, High Holborn London.

Kelly & Co Limited, 1913. Directory of the North and East Ridings of Yorkshire. Kelly and Co, High Holborn London.

Smith, A. H., 1928. The Place Names of the North Riding of Yorkshire. The English Place Name Society

Victoria County History, 1914. A History of the County of York North Riding: Volume 1, 332-340

7.2 WEB BASED RESOURCES

The Archaeological Data Service (www.archaeologydataservice.ac.uk accessed 24/09/12)

British Geological Survey (<http://www.bgs.ac.uk/data/bmd.html> accessed 24/09/12)

British History On line (www.british-history.ac.uk accessed 19/09/12)

Cambridge University Collection of Aerial Photography www.geog.cam.ac.uk/cucap (accessed 19/09/12)

Engineering Timelines (<http://www.engineering-timelines.com/search/search.asp> accessed 19/09/12)

English Heritage Archives (www.englishheritagearchives.org.uk accessed 19/09/12)

English Heritage Geophysical Survey Database (<http://sdb2.eng-h.gov.uk> accessed 19/09/12)

English Heritage Photographic Archive (www.viewfinder.english-heritage.org.uk accessed 19/09/12)

The Heritage Gateway (www.heritagegateway.org.uk accessed 19/09/12)

The National Archives (www.nationalarchives.gov.uk accessed 19/09/12)

The National Monument Record (Accessed via PastScapes)

The North Yorkshire Historic Environment Record (Accessed via the Heritage Gateway accessed 19/09/12)

North Yorkshire County Council's collection of historic maps (http://maps.northyorks.gov.uk/connect/?mapcfg=historic_maps accessed 19/09/12)

Ordnance Survey Historic Maps (www.promap.co.uk accessed 24/09/12)

PastScape (www.pastscape.org.uk accessed 19/09/12)

PPS5, 2010. Planning Policy Statement 5: Planning for the Historic Environment, available at www.archaeologydataservice.ac.uk

7.3 OTHER RESOURCES

North Yorkshire County Records Office (visited on 28/9/2012)

8. ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Research and author
Editor

J. M. McComish
M. Stockwell

APPENDIX 1: GAZETTEER OF SITES

UI	SOURCE	GRID REF	DESCRIPTION
1	EH NMR 522466 NY SMR MNY30966 EH Archives BF042965	SE 1895 9257	Hunton Manor House – Described on PastScape as being of 16 th to early 17 th century date with early 18 th century, late 18 th century and modern alterations. The NY SMR suggests a possible construction date of 1567
2	EH NMR 50973	SE 19 92	A Neolithic stone axe found at Hunton, now in Sheffield Museum (accession number J.1942.29).
3	EH NMR 563241	SE 1854 9277	Post-medieval barn, no longer extant, shown on the OS 6" 1st edition. Yorks 69 1857
4	EH NMR 563242	SE 1864 9275	Footbridge of uncertain date, shown on OS 6" 1st edition. Yorks 69 1857
5	EH NMR 563243	SE 1904 9264	Wesleyan Chapel
6	EH NMR 563244	SE 1873 9258	Probable post-medieval barn, no longer extant, shown on OS 6" 1st edition. Yorks 69 1857
7	EH NMR 563245	SE 1922 9255	Probable post-medieval barn, no longer extant, shown on OS 6" 1st edition. Yorks 69 1857
8	EH NMR 563250	SE 1924 9226	Probable post-medieval barn, no longer extant, shown on the OS 6" 1st edition. Yorks 69 1857
9	EH NMR 563254	SE 1912 9199	Probable post-medieval barn, no longer extant, shown on the OS 6" 1st edition. Yorks 69 1857
10	EH NMR 563258	SE 1878 9203	Probable post-medieval barn, no longer extant, shown on the OS 6" 1st edition. Yorks 69 1857
11	EH NMR 563259	SE 1882 9232	Ford of uncertain date, shown on OS 6" 1st edition. Yorks 69 1857

12	EH NMR 563260	SE 1850 9231	Pinfold post-medieval date shown on OS 6" 1st edition. Yorks 69 1857
13	EH NMR 563261	SE 1852 9231	Ford of uncertain date, shown on OS 6" 1st edition. Yorks 69 1857
14	EH NMR 563262	SE 1835 9217	Probable post-medieval barn, no longer extant, shown on the OS 6" 1st edition. Yorks 69 1857
15	EH NMR 563293 NY SMR MNY15879	SE 188 923	Hunton medieval and post-medieval settlement. Sources - mentioned in Domesday Book, English Place Name Society, and shown on the OS 6" 1st edition. Yorks 69 1857,
16	EH NMR 563298 EH Archives BF055399	SE 189 926	Manor Farm a post-medieval farm.
17	EH NMR 563465 EH Archives BF061776	SE 1917 9278	St John's Church built in 1794 with alterations dating to 1891-2

Table 1 Summary of the results of the various searches