

# Police House, Main Street, Sheriff Hutton: Watching Brief Report

Planning Application Ref: 12/00482/HOUSE  
National Grid Reference Number: SE 65373 66381

AOC Project No: 51143

Site Code: TBC

Date: January 2013



ARCHAEOLOGY

HERITAGE

CONSERVATION

## Police House, Main Street, Sheriff Hutton: Archaeological Watching Brief Report

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<b>Planning reference:</b>	<b>12/00482/HOUSE</b>
<b>National Grid Reference (NGR):</b>	<b>SE 65373 66381 (centred)</b>
<b>AOC Project No:</b>	<b>51143</b>
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<b>Date of Fieldwork:</b>	<b>19<sup>th</sup> November &amp; 6<sup>th</sup> – 7<sup>th</sup> December 2012</b>
<b>Date of Report:</b>	<b>28<sup>th</sup> January 2013</b>

This document has been prepared in accordance with AOC standard operating procedures.

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**Draft/Interim Report Stage:** Draft      **Date:** 28<sup>th</sup> January 2013

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## Non-Technical Summary

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AOC Archaeology Group was commissioned by Mr Keith Wood of Bay House Developments Ltd to undertake an archaeological watching brief at Police House, Main Street, Sheriff Hutton, North Yorkshire (site centred NGR: **SE 65373 66381**). The client has received planning permission to erect a rear extension to Police House (planning ref: 12/00482/HOUSE). The site lies in the near vicinity of St Helen's Church (12<sup>th</sup> century) and Sheriff Hutton Castle (14<sup>th</sup> century) and is thought to be located in an area where medieval settlement remains may survive. A watching brief on groundworks associated with the development was therefore required by the local planning authority.

No medieval remains were encountered during the watching brief. A few sherds of residual late medieval or early post-medieval pottery were encountered in later deposits, however. A stone-lined pit was recorded close to the north wall of the existing house. Its purpose is unclear but it may represent an 18<sup>th</sup> / 19<sup>th</sup> century garden feature or a refuse pit. It had been re-cut by another 18<sup>th</sup> / 19<sup>th</sup> century refuse pit. Other than a former hedge line on the western side of the site, no other features of significance were encountered. However, a number of post-medieval dumped deposits were recorded. These appear to date from the 19<sup>th</sup> century and may have been introduced to consolidate wet or boggy ground (a pond is depicted on late 19<sup>th</sup> century maps of the site).

No further work is recommended. Due to the nature of the project, publication is expected to be limited to dissemination via the Archaeology Data Service (ADS). The site archive, consisting of paper records, drawings, photographs, digital records and artefacts will be deposited with Malton Museum.

## 1. Introduction

- 1.1 This report describes the results of an archaeological watching brief at Police House, Main Street, Sheriff Hutton, North Yorkshire (site centred NGR: **SE 65373 66381**; **Figure 1**). The watching brief comprised the monitoring of two test pits, strip foundations for a new extension and ground reduction works.
- 1.2 Sheriff Hutton is a village which lies approximately 15km northeast of York (**Figure 1**). The development site is located on the northern side of Main Street in the centre of the village and is bounded to the north, east and west by neighbouring residential properties and to the south by Main Street. The southern part of the site is currently occupied by Police House, a residential property. The northern part of the site comprises an area of hardstanding and a rear garden which slopes gently from north to south. A garage and an outbuilding also stand to the rear of the house; these were demolished prior to the archaeological works. The plot is to be developed by constructing a single storey extension to Police House and a new garage.

## 2. Planning Background

- 2.1 The local planning authority is Ryedale District Council. The Council receives advice on archaeological matters from North Yorkshire County Council's Historic Environment Team.
- 2.2 The development site lies within Sheriff Hutton Conservation Area. There are two scheduled ancient monuments within 500m of the site: Sheriff Hutton Castle (14<sup>th</sup> century) and a Norman ringwork (11<sup>th</sup> / 12<sup>th</sup> century). The church of St Helen and the Holy Cross (12<sup>th</sup> century) also lies within 500m of the site and is a Grade 1 Listed Building,
- 2.3 The property owners have been granted planning permission to erect a single storey extension to Police House and a new garage to the rear of the property (Planning Ref: **12/00482/HOUSE**). However, Ryedale District Council advised that a programme of archaeological works would be necessary at the site in order to meet the requirements of the National Planning Policy Framework. The archaeological works comprised a watching brief and were secured through a condition placed on the grant of planning consent.
- 2.4 No formal brief for the archaeological works was produced by Ryedale District Council. A Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) was not produced. The project otherwise conformed to the Institute for Archaeologists' *Standard and guidance for an archaeological watching brief* (IfA 1994, rev. 2008).

## 3. Geology and Topography

- 3.1 The solid geology of the area around Sheriff Hutton comprises rocks of the Redcar Mudstone formation. There are superficial deposits of clayey till above the mudstone formation (British Geological Survey, online data accessed January 2013). The local soils are slowly permeable, seasonally wet loamy and clayey deposits (*Soilscape* data).
- 3.2 The area immediately to the rear of Police House consists of hardstanding. To the north of this lies the garden which is grassed over and which rises gently towards the northern property boundary.

## 4. Archaeological and Historical Context

- 4.1 Sheriff Hutton is mentioned in Domesday Book where it is recorded under the lands of the Count of Mortain. The entry is relatively uninformative but indicates quantities of agricultural land and woodland pasture (Williams & Martin 2003, 805). The church of St Helen and the Holy Cross, which stands at the eastern end of the village about 400m east of the development site, has its origins in

the 12<sup>th</sup> century but was significantly modified in the 13<sup>th</sup>, 14<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> centuries (Pevsner 1966, 338). To its south lie substantial remains of a ringwork, a Norman earthwork castle; these remains have been scheduled. Most ringworks were built immediately after the Norman Conquest or during the civil war between Stephen and Matilda (1138-1153). It seems likely that the church and ringwork formed the nucleus of the 12<sup>th</sup> century settlement, the village only spreading westwards at a later date. The ringwork must have been abandoned by 1382 when John de Nevill was granted a licence by Richard II to construct a castle further to the west, on the south side of Main Street (VCH 1923, 172-187). The remains of this castle, which date from the 14<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> centuries, lie 200m south-west of the development site; it is a scheduled ancient monument and a Grade II\* Listed Building. The castle incorporated three courts or wards and many ancillary structures are documented: a hall, kitchen, lord's lodging, chapel, brewhouse, mills, stable and barns. It had begun to fall into disrepair by the latter part of the 16<sup>th</sup> century. To the south and west of the castle there are extensive earthwork remains of a 16<sup>th</sup> century landscaped garden and ridge and furrow earthworks have been recorded in the surrounding fields. The medieval market place lay just to the east of the castle, directly opposite the development site.

- 4.2 It is likely that the area between the church, at the east end of Main Street, and the castle further west was gradually developed during the medieval period (one might expect domestic, agricultural and small-scale industrial development). The development site lies in this area, opposite the castle and the medieval market place. Medieval remains may therefore survive at the site.
- 4.3 The first edition Ordnance Survey map of 1856 suggests that the development site was open ground at this date, although properties had been built to either side. The plot remains vacant on the revisions of 1893, 1911 and 1958 (a small pond is depicted on the southern portion of the site in 1893). By the time of the next revision in 1979 the present property had been constructed (Police House). This map sequence suggests relatively little post-medieval development at the development site but this could be deceptive, given the length of time between some of the map revisions.

## 5. Objectives

- 5.1 The general objectives of the watching brief were:
- To monitor groundworks associated with the development in order to record the location, extent, date, character, condition and quality of any surviving archaeological remains liable to be adversely affected by the development.
  - To record and sample excavate any archaeological remains encountered.
  - To assess the ecofactual and environmental potential of any archaeological features and deposits.
  - To confirm the extent of previous truncations of the archaeological deposits.
  - To assist in the formulation of additional mitigation strategies should archaeological material be discovered in great quantity or should highly significant remains be uncovered.
  - To make available to interested parties the results of the investigation.

## 6. Methodology

- 6.1 Fieldwork was undertaken on the 19<sup>th</sup> November and the 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> of December 2012. All work was carried out in accordance with national guidelines (IfA 1994, rev. 2008).
- 6.2 Four trenches were excavated to the rear of Police House (**Figure 2**). Initially, the contractors excavated two small test pits by hand in order to test ground conditions (both approximately 0.70 m x 0.70 m; Trenches 1 and 2). A mechanical excavator fitted with a toothless ditching bucket was then used to excavate strip foundation trenches for the new extension (Trench 3). In addition, the same plant was used to remove topsoil from an area of approximately 63 m<sup>2</sup> to the rear of the new extension in order to store rubble and waste material (Trench 4). All machine excavation was undertaken in shallow units/spits and was monitored by the project archaeologist. All subsequent excavation was undertaken by hand. Cleaned surfaces and sections were inspected and any potential archaeological features were investigated to determine their nature and to retrieve artefactual and environmental samples where appropriate. A drawn, written and photographic record was made of all deposits and features encountered in accordance with AOC Archaeology's standard operating procedures (AOC Archaeology 2003).
- 6.3 A site code for the project has been requested from Malton Museum.

## 7. Results

### 7.1 Introduction

- 7.1.1 The trenches and the features recorded are shown in **Figures 2-3**. The results of the structural analysis are presented in Appendix 1. A small assemblage of pottery, glass, animal bone, ceramic building material (CBM) and ironwork was recovered. These finds have been assessed and their potential to inform future research considered (Appendix 2). No deposits were encountered which warranted environmental analysis.

### 7.2 Natural deposits

- 7.2.1 Natural subsoil was encountered in all Trenches except Trench 2. It comprised compacted light pinkish brown clay which contained occasional sub-angular stones (contexts 104, 301 and 401). The subsoil was sealed by varying depths of overburden (see Table 1 below).

Trench	Natural subsoil encountered
Trench 1	0.71 m below current ground level
Trench 3	0.28 – 0.62 m below current ground level
Trench 4	0.30 – 0.47 m below current ground level

Table 1: Depth below ground level at which natural subsoil was encountered

### 7.3 Trench 1

Context	Depth	Description / Interpretation
100	0.15m	Topsoil: moderately compacted greyish brown sandy clay.
101	0.23m	Made ground: moderately compacted dark greyish brown sandy clay with infrequent sub-angular stones.



102	0.14m	Made ground: moderately compacted dark greyish brown clay with occasional sub-angular stones.
103	0.27m	Made ground: moderately compacted dark greyish brown sandy clay silt with occasional sub-rounded stones.
104	-	Natural geology: compacted light pinkish brown clay with occasional sub-angular stones.

Table 2: Trench 1 stratigraphy

7.3.1 No archaeological features were encountered in Trench 1 but a series of made-ground deposits were observed above the natural subsoil. The earliest, lying directly above the natural clay, comprised dark greyish brown sandy clay (context 103, 0.27m deep). This deposit contained many re-deposited cobbles and fragments of pottery, glass and corroded ironwork. The pottery spanned a number of periods, the earliest fragment possibly being Cistercian ware dating from the 16<sup>th</sup> century. This was clearly residual, however. The glass recovered from context 103 was 19<sup>th</sup> century or later, indicating that the deposit could not have been laid down prior to that date (Appendix 2). This deposit may equate to a large area of dumped stones identified in Trenches 3 and 4 (contexts 313 and 402). It would appear to represent levelling or landscaping, most likely during the 19<sup>th</sup> century. Deposit 103 was sealed by two dumped deposits containing post-medieval ceramic building material (CBM) and glass: context 102 (0.14 m deep) and context 101 (0.23 m deep). These deposits were sealed by topsoil (context 100, 0.15 m deep).

## 7.4 Trench 2

Context	Depth	Description / Interpretation
200	0.19m	Topsoil: moderately compacted greyish brown sandy clay.
201	0.30m	Made ground: moderately compacted dark greyish brown sandy clay with infrequent sub-angular stones.
202	0.22m	Made ground: moderately compacted light grey sandy clay with occasional sub-angular stones.
203	0.22m	Made ground: moderately compacted pale brown sandy clay silt with occasional sub-rounded stones.

Table 3: Trench 2 stratigraphy

7.4.1 A series of made-ground deposits was also encountered in Trench 2, although excavation ceased before the natural subsoil was encountered. The earliest deposit comprised pale brown sandy clay

which incorporated occasional stones and three fragments of animal bone (context 203, 0.20 m deep). The animal bone appears to derive from large mammals but it displayed no particular evidence of butchery (Appendix 2). This material was sealed by two dumped deposits: context 202 (0.22 m deep) and context 201 (0.30 m deep). Pottery, glass and animal bone were recovered from context 201. The pottery spanned a broad date range, with the earliest material potentially 16<sup>th</sup> or 17<sup>th</sup> century in date (Appendix 2). However, the glass, which is unlikely to pre-date the 19<sup>th</sup> century, indicates that the deposit must have been laid down sometime after 1800. As in Trench 1, the deposits encountered in Trench 2 are interpreted as layers of post-medieval made-ground, most likely introduced to the site during the 19<sup>th</sup> century. They were sealed by topsoil (context 200, 0.19 m deep).

## 7.5 Trench 3

Context	Depth	Description / Interpretation
300	0.30m	Topsoil: moderately compacted greyish brown sandy clay.
311	0.16m	Made ground: friable dark blackish brown silty sand with frequent sub-rounded stones.
312	0.18m	Made ground: soft light grey sandy silt with occasional sub-rounded stones.
313	0.10m	Made ground: soft dark grey sandy silt with abundant sub-rounded and sub-angular stones.
301	-	Natural geology: firm mid orangey brown sandy clay with frequent sub-angular stones.

Table 4: Trench 3 stratigraphy

- 7.5.1 Trench 3 consisted of the strip foundations for the extension to the rear of the property and it revealed a similar sequence of deposition to that observed in Trenches 1 and 2 (**Figure 3**). The natural subsoil was sealed by two dumped deposits. Deposit 312 comprised light grey sandy silt containing occasional stones and small, post-medieval CBM fragments (depth 0.18m). Deposit 313 comprised dumped cobbles in dark grey sandy silt (0.10 m deep); this appeared to be part of a relatively widespread dump of stones which was also encountered in Trenches 1 and 4 and is thought to relate to 19<sup>th</sup> century activity (contexts 103 and 402). These deposits were sealed by another dumped deposit containing pottery fragments dating to the late 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> centuries, a clay pipe stem and an animal tooth (context 311, 0.16 m deep). This deposit was, in turn, sealed by topsoil (context 300, 0.30 m deep).
- 7.5.2 At the southern end of the westernmost strip foundation, the made-ground deposits described above petered out and two intercutting features were encountered. The earliest was a stone-lined pit which cut through the natural subsoil; it was sub-rectangular in plan with vertical sides (context 306, 1.5 m wide and greater than 0.9m deep; **Plate 1**). This feature was excavated to a depth of 1.2 m below ground level (deeper than the required depth of the foundation trench) but it was not possible to excavate further than this as the trench sides became unstable. The stone lining appeared to consist of two deposits. The earlier comprised river cobbles (context 309); these were sealed by roughly

arranged sandstone slabs (context 308). The slabs were roughly hewn, laid irregularly and bonded with stiff mid greyish brown silty clay (context 307). They extended below the limit of excavation. The pit had been backfilled with firm dark greyish brown silty clay with frequent charcoal inclusions (context 310, 0.46 m deep). Two sherds of pottery were recovered from this deposit. One was undiagnostic as to date, the other had a broad date range beginning in the latter part of the 16<sup>th</sup> century and continuing until c. 1900 (Appendix 2). The upper parts of the stone lining of the pit were sealed by re-deposited natural clay (context 305, 0.35 m deep). This appeared to represent an attempt to cap or seal the pit and the dumped material within it.

- 7.5.3 The function of feature 306 is unclear. Interpretation is hindered by the small amount of the feature exposed and the limited depth of excavation. It seems unlikely to be a well: the stone lining was crudely constructed and not water-tight. It is conceivable that it represents a garden feature or a refuse pit that had a roughly-built stone lining. The pottery within the backfill of the feature could belong to the 17<sup>th</sup>, 18<sup>th</sup> or 19<sup>th</sup> centuries. Given the dating evidence from the remainder of the site, this feature is perhaps most likely of 18<sup>th</sup> or 19<sup>th</sup> century date.
- 7.5.4 Feature 306 was truncated by a later, sub-rectangular pit (context 304; 0.77 m wide and 0.56 m deep with vertical sides and a rounded base). The pit had a shallow primary silting deposit (context 303, 0.20 m deep). This was sealed by a dumped deposit of dark blackish grey silty sand containing charcoal and CBM flecks and four sherds of post-medieval pottery (context 302, 0.46 m deep). Three of the pottery sherds were of 18<sup>th</sup> century date; the fourth spans the late 16<sup>th</sup> century to the end of the 19<sup>th</sup> century. An 18<sup>th</sup> / 19<sup>th</sup> century date seems most likely for this feature; it would appear to be a small refuse pit.

## 7.6 Trench 4

Context	Depth	Description / Interpretation
400	Up to 0.41m	Topsoil: moderately compacted greyish brown sandy clay.
402	0.11m	Made ground: soft dark grey sandy silt with abundant sub-rounded stones.
401	-	Natural geology: compacted mid orangey brown sandy clay with occasional sub-angular stones

Table 5: Trench 4 stratigraphy

- 7.6.1 Trench 4 comprised a small area (10.5 m by 6 m) from which only the topsoil was removed (the trench had a maximum depth of c. 0.40 m). Below the topsoil a large spread of dumped stone was encountered which is interpreted as the continuation of deposits 103 and 313 which were encountered in Trenches 1 and 3 (context 402). The stones extended beyond the trench limit to the north and were truncated by a modern service to the south. A fragment of pottery, two pieces of CBM and fragments of animal bone were retrieved from the stones. The pottery sherd has a broad date range of 1480-1750 but the stones were most likely dumped during the 19<sup>th</sup> century (see deposit 103 above; Appendix 2). To the east of the stones a shallow, north-south aligned linear feature was encountered (context 404, 0.94 m wide, at least 6 m long and 0.18 m deep; **Plate2**). This gully was filled with dark greyish brown sandy clay from which post-medieval pottery, glass and CBM fragments were retrieved (context 403, 0.18 m deep; Appendix 2). This feature probably

indicates the course of an earlier hedge line or fence (it lies parallel with and just 0.40 m to the east of the present property boundary on the western half of the site). This suggests a minor change to the plot boundary in recent times.

## 8. Conclusions

- 8.1 No medieval features or deposits were encountered during the watching brief. However, some of the recovered pottery sherds from the site could be 16<sup>th</sup> or 17<sup>th</sup> century in date; they were all residual in later deposits. These deposits are interpreted as dumped material laid down in the 19<sup>th</sup> century, much of which could have been imported from elsewhere in the village. Given that occupation is well attested in Sheriff Hutton from the Norman period onwards, the presence of residual late medieval and early post-medieval material is unsurprising.
- 8.2 The results of the watching brief suggest that there has been extensive landscaping to the rear of Police House which involved the introduction of mixed levelling material. The arefactual evidence suggests that this activity is likely to have taken place in the 19<sup>th</sup> century. The made ground was deepest in the central portion of the site (Trenches 1, 2 and 3): it diminished towards the north elevation of the house and in the region of Trench 4 (see Table 1 above). This may indicate that the dumped material was introduced to level a natural hollow or that some material was removed from the centre of the site before the dumped material was brought in. In this regard, it may be significant that a pond is depicted on the 1893 Ordnance Survey map in the approximate location of Trenches 1, 2 and 3. If wet or boggy ground was removed from the site prior to the dumping, this may have truncated the upper surface of the natural subsoil and removed evidence of earlier activity, which may in part account for the absence of medieval features.
- 8.3 The stone-lined pit is difficult to interpret. It appears to have ceased to function during the post-medieval period, the material retrieved from its backfill being of 17<sup>th</sup>, 18<sup>th</sup> or 19<sup>th</sup> century date. It is unlikely to be a well and no evidence of burning or industrial residues was recorded. As noted above, it may represent a garden feature or a refuse pit but this remains speculative. Once it had ceased to function, it was truncated by a later refuse pit containing domestic artefacts of 18<sup>th</sup> / 19<sup>th</sup> century date. Both features would appear to be indicative of domestic habitation in the vicinity of Police House during the post-medieval period.

## 9. Recommendations

- 9.1 No further archaeological work is recommended.

## 10. Publication

- 10.1 Due to the nature of the project, publication is expected to be limited to dissemination via the Archaeology Data Service (ADS).

## 11. Site Archive

- 11.1 The site archive consists of:

3	Trench record sheets
1	Context register
14	Context sheets
1	Drawing register sheet
2	Photograph record sheets
13	Scale drawings
30	Digital photographs

- 5 Black and white photographs and negatives
- 1 Box of artefacts

11.2 The project archive will be deposited at:

Malton Museum  
C/O Ryedale House  
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North Yorkshire  
YO17 7HH

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## 12. Acknowledgements

- 12.1 AOC Archaeology Group would like to thank the following for their assistance in the successful conclusion of this project: Keith Wood, Project Manager, Bay House Developments Limited; Eddie Appleton, Contracts Manager, B. Jeffrey Construction Ltd; Rob Langan, Site Manager, B. Jeffrey Construction Ltd.
- 12.2 The project was managed by David Lakin. Fieldwork was undertaken by Stephen Potten and Steven Collison.

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## **Appendices**

## APPENDIX 1

### Trench summaries

TRENCH 1 Dimensions: 0.74m x 0.60m

Maximum depth: 0.78 m below ground level

Context	Type	Description	Depth
100	Topsoil	Moderately compacted greyish brown sandy clay.	0.15m
101	Layer	Moderately compacted dark greyish brown sandy clay; occasional CBM & mortar flecks, rare medium sub angular stones and modern glass.	0.23m
102	Layer	Moderately compacted dark greyish brown clay with lenses of topsoil; occasional medium sub angular stones & small CBM fragments.	0.14m
103	Layer	Moderately compacted dark greyish brown sandy clay silt; occasional medium sub rounded stones, small CBM fragments & post medieval debris.	0.27m
104	Natural	Compacted light pinkish brown clay with medium sub angular stones & mineral flecking.	Greater than 0.1m

TRENCH 2 Dimensions: 0.75m x 0.70m

Maximum depth: 0.78 m below ground level

Context	Type	Description	Depth
200	Topsoil	Moderately compacted greyish brown sandy clay.	0.19m
201	Layer	Moderately compacted dark greyish brown sandy clay; occasional CBM & mortar flecks, rare medium sub angular stones and modern glass.	0.30m
202	Layer	Moderately compacted dark light grey sandy clay silt; occasional small to medium sub angular stones, occasional post medieval pottery.	0.22m
103	Layer	Moderately compacted pale brown sandy clay silt; occasional medium sub rounded stones, small CBM fragments & post medieval debris.	Greater than 0.20m

TRENCH 3 Excavated footings, in total: 8m x 9m

Maximum depth: 0.9 m below ground level

Context	Type	Description	Depth
300	Topsoil	Moderately compacted greyish brown sandy clay.	0.30
301	Natural	Firm mid orangey red sandy clay; frequent mineral flecks & sub angular stones.	Greater than 0.4m
302	Deposit	Friable dark blackish grey silty sand; frequent charcoal & CBM flecks. Fill of 304.	0.46m
303	Deposit	Soft mid grey sandy silt; common charcoal flecking. Fill of 304.	0.2m
304	Cut	Sub rectangular in plan, with near vertical sides and a rounded base. Filled by 302 & 303.	0.56m
305	Deposit	Firm mid orangey brown sandy clay; occasional small rounded stones. Fill of 306.	0.35m
306	Cut	Cut of stone lined pit. Sub rectangular in plan with near vertical sides and an unknown base. Filled by 305, 307, 308 & 309.	Greater than 1.2m
307	Deposit	Stiff mid grey brown clayey silt; frequent charcoal flecks. Used as bonding/packing material for 308. Fill of 306.	Greater than 0.8m
308	Deposit	Yellow sandstone blocks, roughly hewn & irregularly bonded. Materials size maximum: 130mm x 220mm x 340mm. Stone lining for pit 306.	Greater than 0.8m
309	Deposit	River cobbles, materials size 0.13m diameter average. Fill of 306.	Greater than 0.22m
310	Deposit	Firm dark grey brown silty clay; frequent charcoal flecks. Fill of 306.	Greater than 0.46m
311	Layer	Friable dark blackish brown silty sand; frequent charcoal flecks & large sub rounded river cobbles.	0.16m
312	Layer	Soft light grey sandy silt; occasional sub rounded stones & CBM fragments.	0.18m
313	Layer	Soft dark grey sandy silt; abundant small to medium sub rounded & sub angular stones.	0.1m

TRENCH 4      Dimensions: 10.5m x 6m

Maximum depth: 0.41 m below ground level

Context	Type	Description	Depth
400	Topsoil	Moderately compacted greyish brown sandy clay.	Up to 0.41m
401	Natural	Firm mid orangey red sandy clay; frequent mineral flecks & sub angular stones.	Greater than 0.2m
402	Layer	Soft dark grey sandy silt; abundant small to medium sub rounded & sub angular stones.	0.11m
403	Deposit	Moderately compacted dark greyish brown sandy clay; occasional small to medium sub rounded stones. Fill of gully 404.	0.16m
404	Cut	Linear in plan with moderately sloping sides and a flat base. Filled by 403.	0.16m



## APPENDIX 2

### Finds assessment report by Paul Fitz

#### Summary

A small assemblage of predominately post-medieval finds was recovered from eight contexts and is assessed by material and form below. No further work is recommended.

#### The Post-Roman Pottery

A total of 49 sherds (1066g) were recovered from eight contexts.

Context **(103)** contained 21 sherds (500g), mostly North Midlands black and green glazed courseware from the 17<sup>th</sup>-20<sup>th</sup> century. A small rim of a possible Cistercian ware, 16<sup>th</sup> century, cup is present. A Staffordshire white salt glazed stoneware fragment and a very pale blue earthenware sherd are also present suggesting an 18<sup>th</sup> century date for the majority of this assemblage.

Context **(201)** contained six pottery sherds (187g), three of which are of a white glazed 'china' earthenware plate or dish dating to 1745-2000>. A large green glazed course redware storage vessel, a small sherd of a polychrome glazed cup and a brown glazed stoneware sherd are also present. If it is Cologne ware it is likely 16<sup>th</sup> or 17<sup>th</sup> century date, if Nottinghamshire ware then 18<sup>th</sup>-19<sup>th</sup> century.

Context **(302)** contained four sherds (33g), two of which are Staffordshire salt glazed ware (1720-1780), one is Nottingham stoneware (1700-1800) and one a brown glazed redware (1580-1900).

Context **(310)** contained a large, coarse, red earthenware rim with internal green glaze (1580-1900) and an uncertain highly-fired, almost vitrified, sherd with green and brown glaze.

Context **(311)** contained five sherds (50g), three of which are cream wares, one with green glaze decoration (1760-1880). A small pearlware sherd (1770-1850) and a redware sherd with internal cream glaze complete the assemblage.

Context **(400)** contained seven sherds (248g). Five are storage/pancheon-style North Midlands black glazed earthenwares or green glazed redwares, (broadly 17<sup>th</sup>-20<sup>th</sup> centuries). Two small plain cream ware sherds are also present (1740-1880).

Context **(402)** contained a single small sherd (3g) of Midlands purple ware (1480-1750).

Context **(403)** contained three sherds (24g), two of which are white glazed earthenwares (1770-1900) and a black glazed North Midlands earthenware sherd.

#### Other Ceramics

A single clay tobacco pipe stem (5g) was retrieved from context **(311)**. Four red brick fragments (151g) were recovered from contexts **(402)** and **(403)**. They have no full dimensions so are of limited diagnostic value.

#### Glass

Six pieces of vessel glass were recovered from three contexts. Context **(103)** has two green wine or port bottle pieces (one a punt base), and a clear glass sherd with '&' embossed on it, possibly from a codd-style bottle. Context **(201)** has two bottle tops, one a green wine bottle and one a green tinted clear drinks bottle. Context **(403)** has a green punt base from what may be a sherry bottle. It is likely that all the glass dates to no earlier than the 19<sup>th</sup> century.

## Animal Bone

Nine pieces of animal bone (268g) from medium to large sized mammals were retrieved from contexts **201**, **203**, **311** and **402**. There appears to be no evidence of butchery on any of the pieces with the exception of a few possible superficial marks.

## Ironwork

Three pieces of iron were found in two contexts. Context (**103**) is a cast triangular piece, weighing 83g, measuring 98mm in length, 60mm wide at one slight upturned end to 15mm at the broken tip end, and 3mm thick. It is possibly a broken plough tip. Also present in (**103**) is a 79mm (now distorted) length, squared nail shaft. Context (**403**) has a 77mm long x23mm wide x 2mm thick bracket or strap piece, weighing 16g. Broken at both ends it has a small hole punctured in it roughly in the middle at one edge, this though looks like later damage.

## Discussion/Recommendations

Close dating of all contexts is difficult due to the mixed date range of the pottery. With the possible exception of the residual Cistercian ware sherd, all contexts are broadly 17<sup>th</sup>-20<sup>th</sup> century.

The assemblage is of limited regional/local significance. As such no further finds work is recommended.

The ironwork is quite stable and will be separately boxed with silica gel and acid-free tissue. The artefacts will be bagged and stored in accordance with the receiving museum's guidelines for archive deposition. If no further work is planned on this site then it may be worth discussing a discard policy for certain materials with any museum curator where the archive is to be deposited.

## APPENDIX 3

### OASIS Form

**OASIS ID: aocarcha1-142056**

#### Project details

Project name	Police House, Sheriff Hutton, North Yorkshire
Short description of the project	A watching brief was undertaken at Police House, Sheriff Hutton, NorthYorkshire, during December 2012. A stone-lined pit, a refuse pit and several made ground deposits were encountered, all of post-medieval date.
Project dates	Start: 19-11-2012 End: 07-12-2012
Previous/future work	No / No
Type of project	Recording project
Site status	Conservation Area
Current Land use	Residential 1 - General Residential
Monument type	PIT Post Medieval
Monument type	PIT Post Medieval
Significant Finds	POT Post Medieval
Significant Finds	CERAMIC Post Medieval
Significant Finds	BOTTLE Post Medieval
Investigation type	"Watching Brief"
Prompt	Planning condition

### Project location

Country England  
Site location NORTH YORKSHIRE RYEDALE SHERIFF HUTTON Police House, Sheriff Hutton, North Yorkshire  
Postcode YO60 6SU  
Study area 0 Square metres  
Site coordinates SE 65373 66381 54 -1 54 05 20 N 001 00 01 W Point  
Height OD / Depth Min: 0.28m Max: 0.71m

### Project creators

Name of AOC Archaeology Group  
Organisation

Project brief Ryedale District Council  
originator

Project design AOC Archaeology Group  
originator

Project director/manager David Lakin

Project supervisor Stephen Potten

Type of Private resident  
sponsor/funding  
body

### Project archives

Physical Archive Malton Museum  
recipient

Physical Contents "Animal Bones","Ceramics","Glass","Metal"

Digital Archive Malton Museum  
recipient

Digital Media "Images raster / digital photography"  
available

Paper Archive Malton Museum  
recipient

Paper Media "Context sheet","Drawing","Miscellaneous  
available Material","Photograph","Plan","Report","Section"

**Project**  
**bibliography**  
**1**

Publication type Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)

Title Police House, Sheriff Hutton, North Yorkshire: Archaeological Watching Brief Report

Author(s)/Editor(s) Collison, S.

Author(s)/Editor(s) Potten, S.

Date 2013

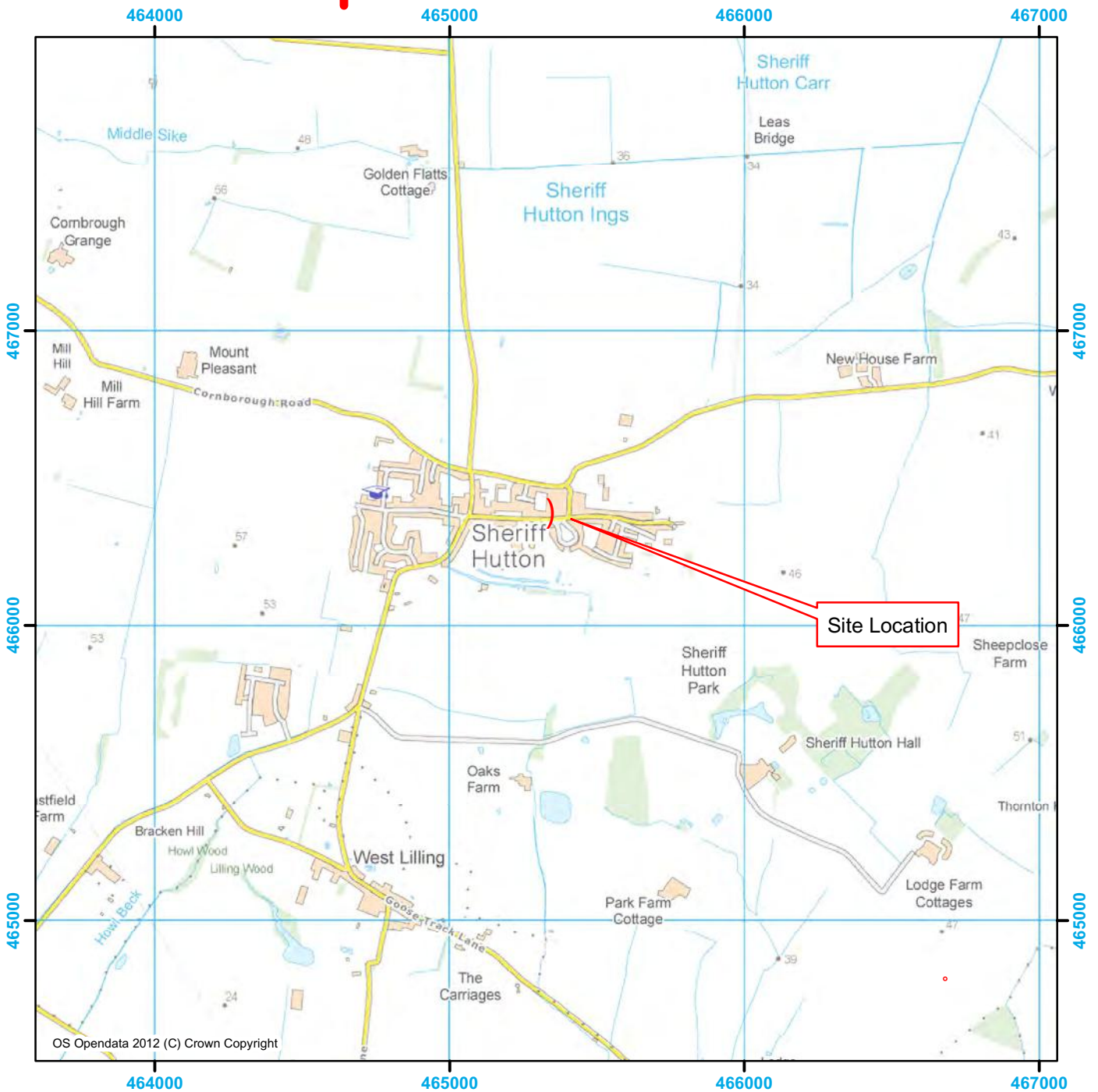
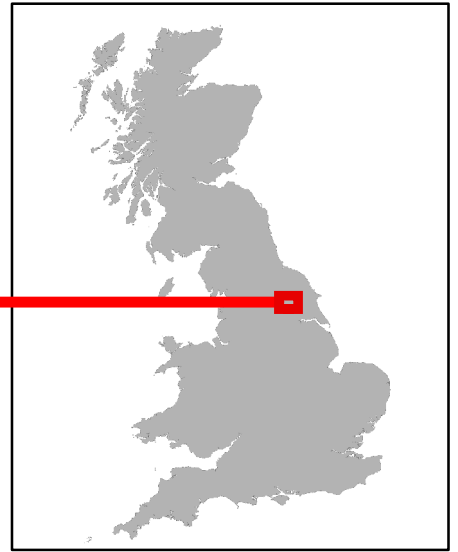
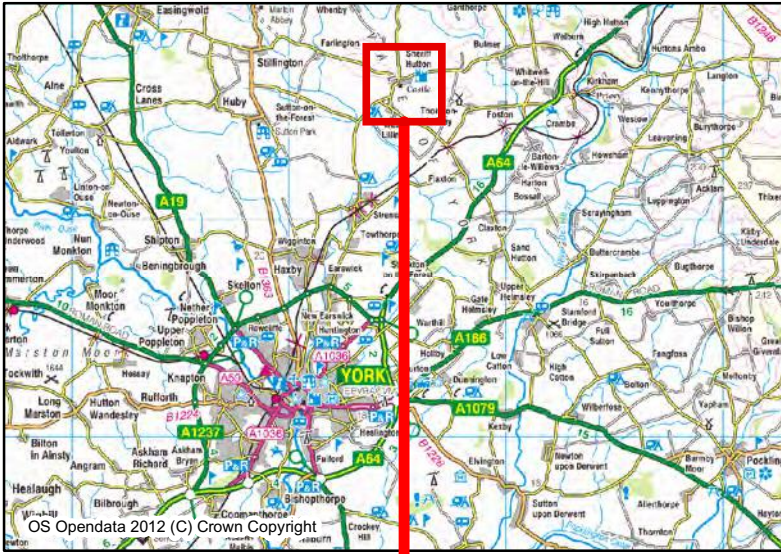
Issuer or publisher AOC Archaeology Group

Place of issue or York  
publication

Description A4 document in plastic binding

Entered by Stephen Potten (Stephen.Potten@aocarchaeology.com)

Entered on 29 January 2013



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0 250 500 750 1,000 Meters

Figure 1: Site Location Plan

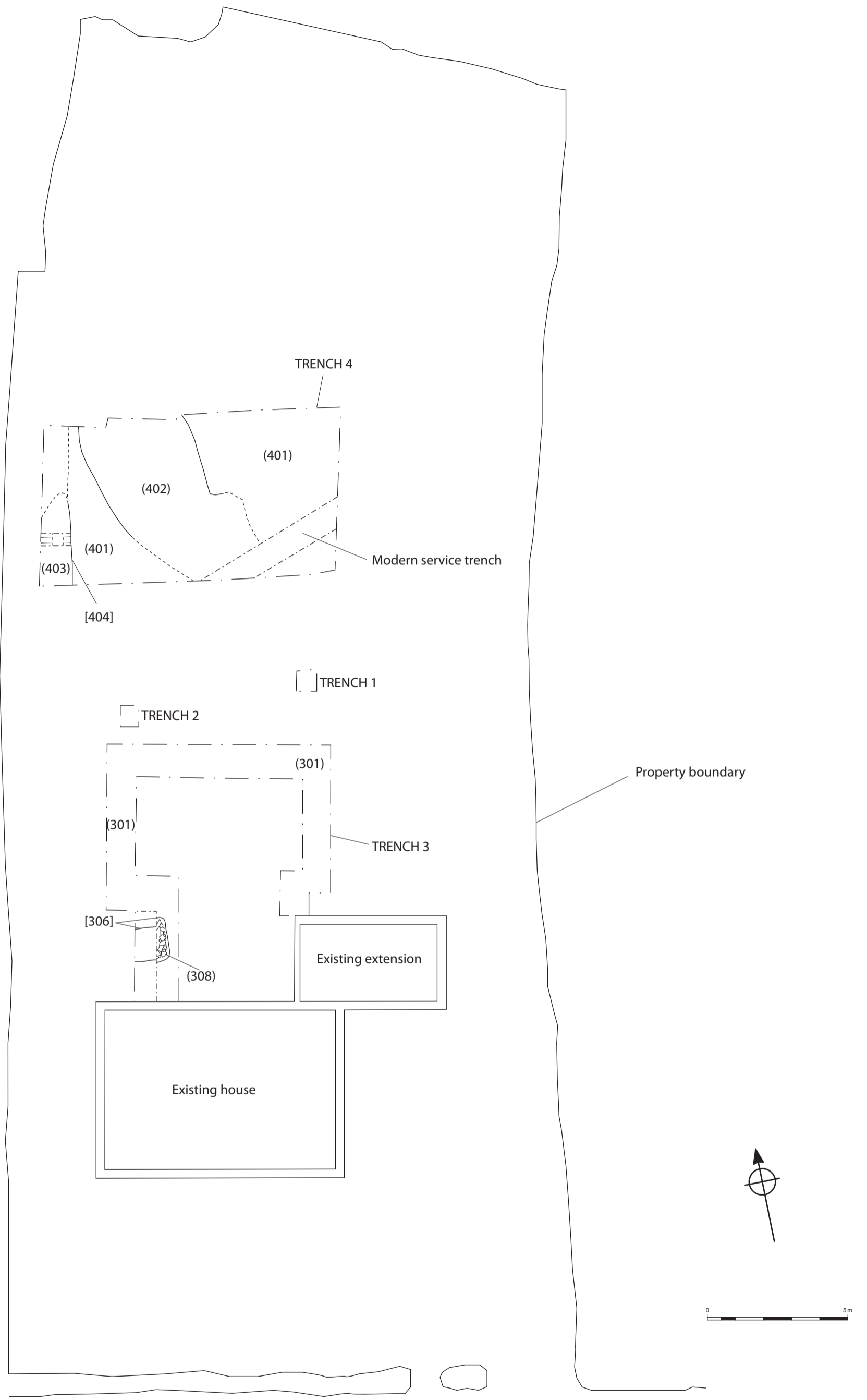
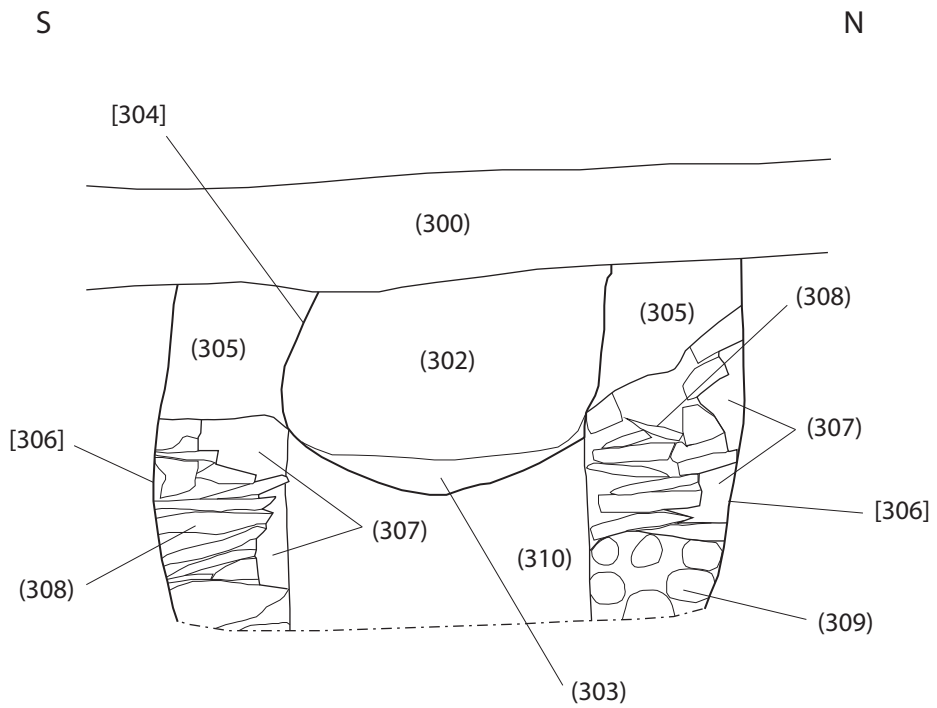
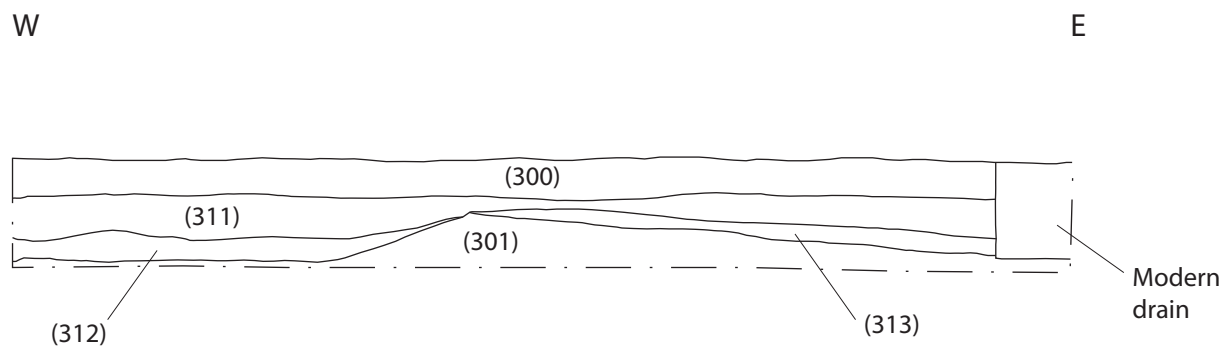


Figure 2: Plan showing excavated trenches and features encountered





East-facing section through features {306} and {304}



South-facing section, Trench 3



Figure 3: Sections for Trench 3



Plate 1: Feature [306], facing west



Plate 2: Feature [404], facing north-west



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