

**LAND ADJACENT TO HALL COTTAGE,
SUTTON HOWGRAVE, NORTH YORKSHIRE**

ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF



JB Archaeological Services

On behalf of

Northern Powergrid

October 2012

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1.0 INTRODUCTION

1.1 This document is a report on the archaeological watching brief in fulfilment of Scheduled Monument Consent on the ground works for the re-routing of power lines on land adjacent to Hall Cottage in Sutton Howgrave, North Yorkshire. The work was undertaken in stages on the 22nd and 31st October and the 6th November 2012.

1.2 This report has been produced JB Archaeological Services (JBAS) on behalf of Northern Powergrid.

Geology and Soils

1.3 The underlying solid geology of the site is Permian and Triassic sandstones (British Geological Survey, 2001) which is overlain by a quaternary geology of glacial sand and gravels (British Geological Survey 1977). The soils that have developed from this geology are the Wick 1 Association which are deep, well drained coarse loamy soils (Soil Survey of England and Wales, 1983).

Topography and Land-use

1.4 The site is generally level at a height above sea level of c.45mOD. The area is on the western side of the small settlement of Sutton Howgrave with agricultural land to the north and west.

Archaeological Background

1.5 The place name for Sutton Howgrave is first mentioned in the Domesday Book of 1086 and is derived from the Old English *suth* and *tun* meaning 'south farmstead or village' (Mills, 1998, 334) and *hoh* for a 'hill or spur of land' (Gelling, 2000, 167). On the western side of the settlement are the well preserved remains of Howgrave medieval village (Scheduled Monument number 1019382) and the later earthworks associated with Howgrave Hall.

2.0 AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

2.1 The objective of the archaeological watching brief was to identify, record and sample excavate any features of archaeological interest revealed or damaged during ground works associated with the re-locating of the power supply to Sutton Howgrave on the scheduled monument. The specific aims were to:

- Archaeologically record (written, graphic, and photographic records) any archaeological features revealed by the ground works and as the result of any sample excavation

- Recover any archaeological artefacts and environmental material exposed by the ground works
- 2.2 All archaeological work was carried out in accordance with the Institute of Field Archaeologists (now Institute for Archaeology) Code of Conduct for Archaeological Watching Briefs (2001).

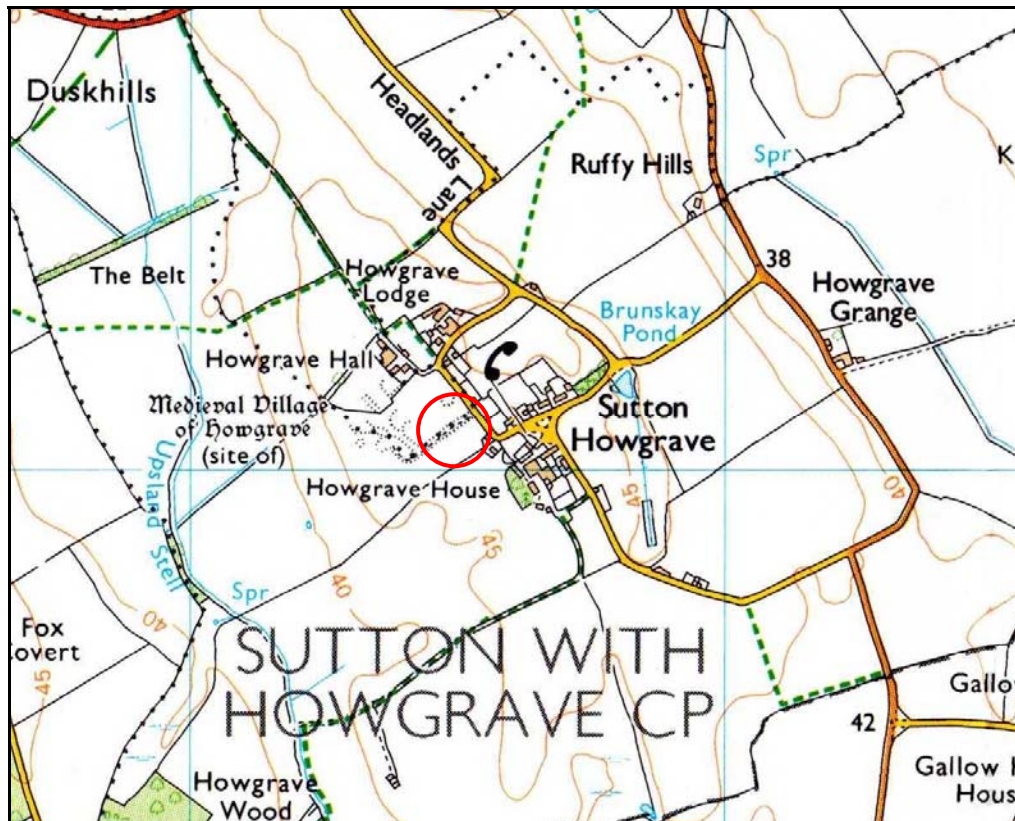


Figure 1. Site location

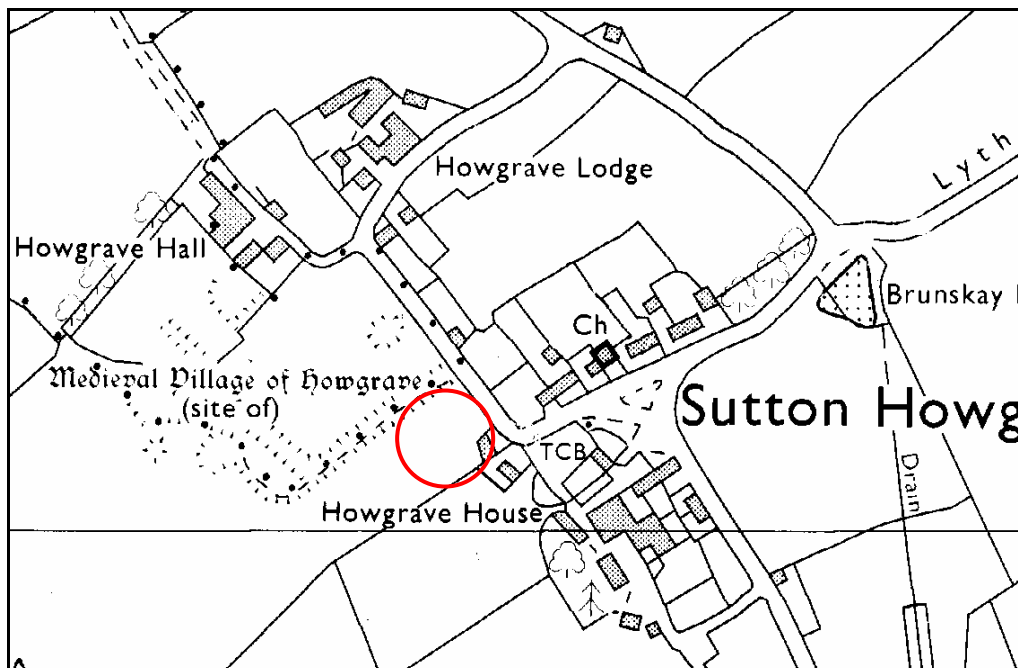


Figure 2. Detailed site location

3.0 METHODOLOGY

- 3.1 The ground work was carried out by contractors using mechanical excavator with a toothless bucket under direct archaeological supervision. The new cable trench was 1m in depth and c.0.3m wide. The excavations for the new overhead poles were c.0.5m wide and 1.9m deep and for the earthing rod c.0.3m wide and 10m long, see Figure 3 for their locations.
- 3.2 During the ground-works the exposed ground surfaces were inspected for archaeological features and the resulting topsoil stockpiles were monitored for archaeological artefacts. The watching brief was carried out under a previously agree WSI (Buglass, 2012).

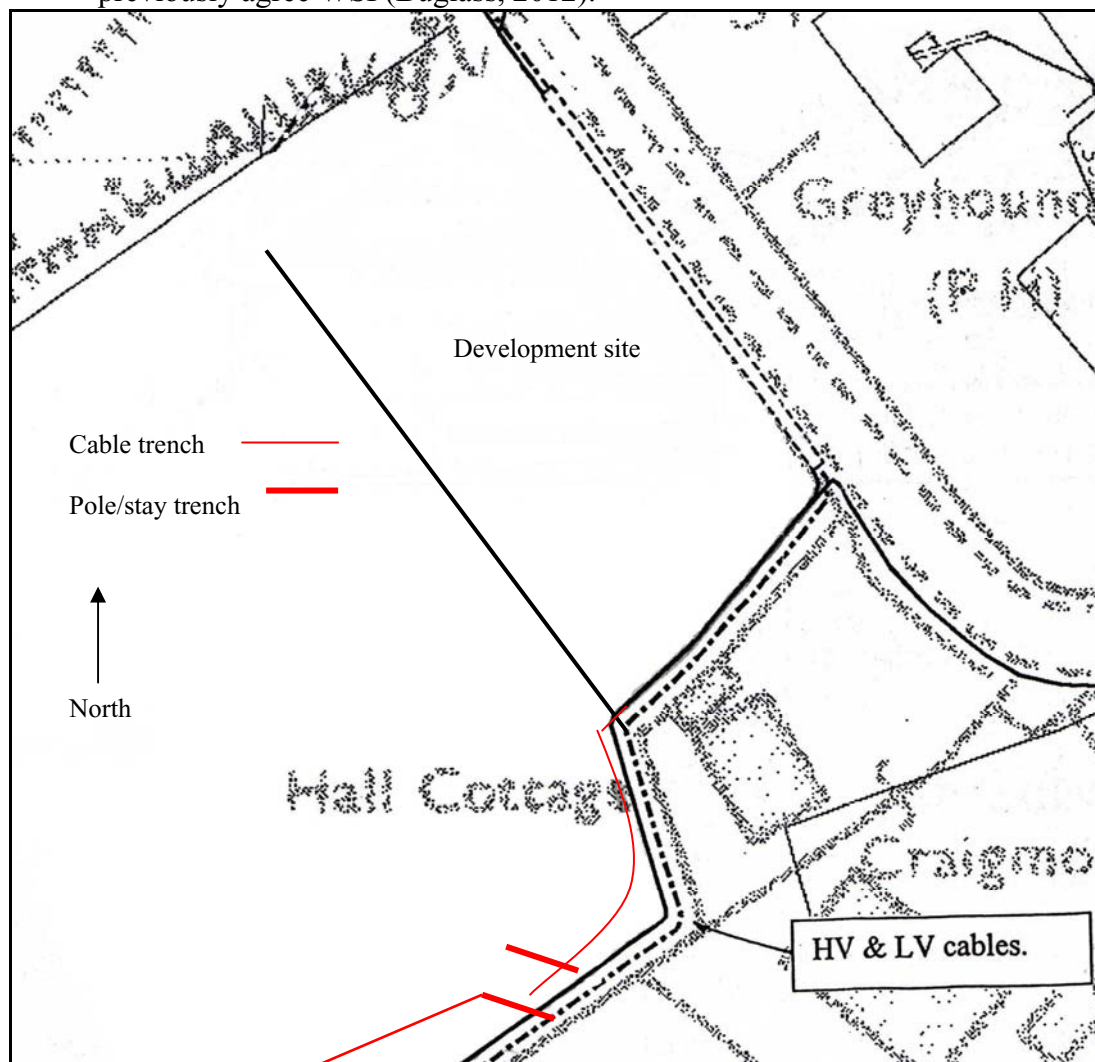


Figure 3. Trench Locations

Based on plan supplied by D Potter

4.0 RESULTS

- 4.1 The excavation of the various trenches revealed a simple stratigraphy of top soil directly over the underlying natural geology (Plate 1). In the area close to the boundary hedge between the scheduled monument and the development site a small amount of broken land drain and ceramic building material was noted in

the top soil along with a single body sherd of salt glazed stone ware of late 19th century date.

4.2 No other finds or features were encountered.



Plate 1. Trench for overhead poles, scale 1m

Acknowledgments

I would like to thank Derek Potter and Richard Robson of PowerGrid for asking me to undertake the watching brief and team from PowerGrid on site for their help in making it all run smoothly.

References

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