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SNY	373
ENY	409
CNY	1847
Parish	6031
Rec'd	13/08/01

**The Old Deanery
Minster Close
Ripon
North Yorkshire
(SAM NY 1282)**

**Written Scheme of Investigations
Phase 2: Archaeological Excavation**

**MAP 01-07-01
August 2001**

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1. Introduction

- 1.1 The Written Scheme of Investigation has been commissioned by John Witherick, Architect, on behalf of Express Terminals. This document sets out the details of the further archaeological work required on deposits which may be effected by the construction of a stairwell to the west of the Old Deanery, Minster Road, Ripon, North Yorkshire (NGR SE 3147 7118: Figs. 1 & 2). Scheduled Monument Consent (DCMS Class & Approval Ref.: HSD/9/2/1818) has been sought to undertake the excavation of the foundation trenches.
- 1.2 The archaeological remains are protected by means of Statutory Instruments (Scheduled Ancient Monument legislation : Monument No. 1282). The Secretary of State's Policy on Archaeological remains, Planning Policy Guidance 16 (PPG16), describes it as 'a finite and non-renewable resource, in many cases highly fragile and vulnerable to damage and destruction' (PPG 16, 1990).
- 1.3 All work has been funded by the John Witherick, Architect, on behalf on the client.
- 1.4 All maps within this report have been reproduced from the Ordnance Survey with permission of the Controller of Her Majesty's Stationery Office, Crown Copyright, License Number AL 5453A.

2. Compliance

- 2.1 MAP will adhere to the general principles of the IFA *Code of Conduct* throughout the project and to the IFA *Standards and Guidance for Archaeological Excavations*'.

3. Site Description

- 3.1 The Old Deanery is a Seventeenth century building with Eighteenth, Nineteenth and Twentieth century modifications, which is situated within the boundary of Ripon Minster Close (Scheduled Ancient Monument NY 1282 : SE 3147 7118 : Fig. 1)

immediately to the north of the Minster. The Old Deanery is a Grade 2* Listed Building, part three storey with attics and is constructed of thick masonry walls with various existing timber and solid floors related to stories and the natural ground slope.

- 3.2 The area of the Proposed Extension is currently a small garden border and a path leading from a window and door on the west side of the Old Deanery to the gardens and a gateway in the boundary wall to the car park at the front of the building (Figs. 2 & 3).
- 3.3 The site lies on soils derived from periglacial sediments and gravel overlying drift geology of boulder clay and solid geology of Permo-Triassic marls and sandstones with gypsum over limestone.

4. Historical and Archaeological Background

- 4.1 Both documentary sources and excavation has illustrated the archaeological potential for this area of Ripon.
- 4.2 The site lies within the boundary of the ecclesiastical precinct of the Cathedral of St. Peter and St. Wilfrid (Scheduled Ancient Monument No. NY 1282). A number of excavations have been undertaken within the ecclesiastical precinct (Hall & Whyman 1996 & Whyman 1997). In addition Geophysical Survey (GSB 1999 & 2000), in the gardens to the rear of the Old Deanery, has also been undertaken.
- 4.3 Previous investigations in the immediate vicinity of the site have suggested that this area of Ripon has been occupied from the Eighth century and that The Old Deanery stands on land donated in 1414 by Archbishop Bowett for the building of a New Bedern, or College of Vicars Choral, and a chapel dedicated to St Nicholas.
- 4.4 Excavation in the Deanery Gardens by Greenhaugh in 1977-8 recorded settlement activity of Eleventh century date occurring at a depth of between 0.8m - 1.4m. The survival of these earlier deposits has been explained by the presence of a thick layer of post-medieval deposits which protect the earlier activity and have not been removed by later landscaping.
- 4.5 A number of burials were located during the installation of the bay windows to The Old Deanery in 1859 (Finlayson 2000, p. 7).

4.6 An Archaeological Evaluation was undertaken in July 2001 (MAP 2001). Burials were found continuing underneath the west wall of the Old Deanery. These burials are to remain undisturbed and in situ by the proposed construction work.

5. Aims and Objectives

5.1 The site lays within the historic core of the City of Ripon. Sites of known historical and archaeological significance occur within the immediate environs of the Ripon Minster and Deanery.

5.2 The first phase of the 2001 programme of archaeological works was to evaluate an area immediately to the west of The Old Deanery building (Figs. 2 & 3 : MAP 2001). The archaeological evaluation has indicated of the nature and depth at which archaeological deposits may be encountered. In-situ burials, dating to the medieval period, were found at the southern end of the Proposed Development Area and continued underneath the western wall of the Old Deanery.

5.3 Following evaluation, it has been agreed that the burial deposits will remain in-situ and undisturbed. A design solution has been proposed for the construction of the stairwell foundations that will span over the burial deposits discovered during evaluation. The proposed foundation trenches will be located in areas that would not appear to contain significant archaeological deposits or features (CoDa Structural Consultants foundation drawing number 3042/2 REV2 dated 7 July 2001). The foundation trenches are to be excavated by the archaeologist in advance of the construction works in order to determine the presence or absence of archaeological deposits or features in these areas (Fig. 3).

5.4 It is the aim of the programme of archaeological works to excavate the proposed foundation trenches (Figs. 2 & 3) and:-

1. to recover, where possible, artefactual evidence relating to all periods of activity and also to provide information on environmental aspects of the site
2. to define activity in this particular part of the Scheduled Area
3. to determine the nature, depth, stratigraphic complexity and level of preservation of archaeological deposits
4. to provide an assessment of the potential and significance of any identified archaeological features/deposits exposed, including environmental aspects
5. to provide an assessment of the impact of the proposed development on the archaeological features or deposits exposed in the proposed foundation trenches
6. to assess the likely scope and duration of any further excavation that may be necessary to mitigate the effects of the proposed development scheme

7. to ensure that information recovered from the excavation is fed into the interpretation of the site as a whole
8. to provide information to be used by the Structural Consultant

6. Methods

- 6.1 Two areas are to be excavated (Fig. 3). The southern foundation pillar trench is to be located inside the building, c. 0.2m east of the exterior wall of the Old Deanery and 0.5m south of the present doorway, measuring 1.2m square and to a depth of 2.5m deep below floor level. The exterior foundation trench is to be located 2.3m west of the Old Deanery, measuring 7.5m by 1.5m to a depth of 1.8m below ground level. The second foundation pillar is to be placed in the existing basement and does not require any excavation.
- 6.2 Archaeological deposits and features may be encountered during the excavation of the foundation trenches, it may be necessary to make a further assessment of the development proposals. Any design changes that may be necessary will also require a re-assessment of the archaeological mitigation (any change in the proposals will need to be agreed in advance of any work with the Department for Culture, Media and Sport, following discussions with English Heritage).
- 6.3 **Method Statement For Archaeological Excavation**
 - 6.3.1 All deposits inside the building will be excavated by hand. Floor boards and joists will have to be removed to provide access. Mechanical excavation could be used for the exterior foundation trench, where possible, to remove topsoil and overburden under strict archaeological supervision. Deposits of topsoil and overburden will be removed using a toothless bucket in no more than 0.10m spits. The nature of the deposits will be checked after each spit has been removed.
 - 6.3.2 After initial topsoil/overburden stripping areas are to be cleaned, photographed, assessed, and recorded to normal professional standards. All features/deposits are to be excavated to define relationships and establish chronology. All archaeological deposits will be recorded on MAP pro forma sheets.
 - 6.3.3 The stratigraphy of the trenches will be recorded even if no archaeological deposits are found.
 - 6.3.4 Appropriate features/deposits are to be sectioned to determine form, nature and date. Sections of features and individual layers will be drawn at a scale of 1:10. All

recorded features/deposits are to be accurately located on the site plan and keyed into fixed OS datum. All heights and depths references to metres AOD.

6.3.5 The photographic record will be made up of monochrome prints, colour prints and colour slides.

6.3.6 All finds to be processed, bagged and labelled on site in accordance with English Heritage guidelines (AML Jan. 1995). Finds other than pottery, animal bone, brick/tile are to be classed as small finds. All small finds to be to be keyed into site plans and levelled (3D recorded). Finds processing, conservation and storage will be carried out in consultation with the Conservator.

6.3.7 Environmental sampling has been discussed with I Panter and the following advice received. The sampling strategy will aim to collect enough material to be able to assess the level of preservation and the bioarchaeological potential from a range of features, including pits, post holes, ditch fills and floor/occupation levels. Bulk sediment samples of between 10 and 30 litres will be taken (100% of smaller contexts) and an assessment of sufficient samples will be carried out to encompass the range of features, types and dates represented. For this evaluation, it is expected that a minimum of 10 bulk samples will be collected.

6.3.8 Opportunity will be afforded for the consultant bioarchaeologists (from the Palaeoecology Research Services - Environmental Archaeology Unit : University of York) to discuss the sampling strategy, and whether any changes are required. If in the event of buried soils being exposed these will be examined and sampled, where appropriate, by a recognised geoarchaeologist. Animal bones will be hand collected from all stratified excavated archaeological features and evaluated.

6.3.9 If any inhumation/cremation burials are found within the foundation trenches, they should be exhumed (subject to the conditions of a Home Office Licence).

6.3.10 All discoveries of gold and silver to be referred to the Coroner via the Employer

6.4 **Resources**

6.4.1 Excavations are to be undertaken by up to a four person team, consisting of a on site Director and three field archaeologists (one of which will be responsible for finds management).

- 6.4.2 Opening up of the trenches and removal of overburden are to be undertaken by a JCB with a toothless ditching bucket. Smaller scale excavation is to be undertaken under supervision with a Kobota. No mechanical excavation will be undertaken where it is felt that the structural integrity of the building may be compromised.
- 6.4.2 Conservation expertise is to be provided by York Archaeological Trust Conservation Laboratory.
- 6.4.3 Environmental sampling strategies have been discussed with I Panter (Scientific Officer for English Heritage Yorkshire Region) and the assessment of the samples will be undertaken by the Palaeoecology Research Services - Environmental Archaeology Unit : the University of York.
- 6.4.4 Full liaison with Harrogate Museum will be established prior to commencement of on site works.
- 6.4.5 Assessment of the Ceramic Building Materials are to be undertaken by S. Garside-Neville. Assessment of the pottery is to be undertaken by M Stephens. Animal and Human remains is to be undertaken by F Large.
- 6.4.6 Full use of previous literature on the history and archaeology of Ripon is to be made.
- 6.5 **Assessment**
- 6.5.1 An Assessment Report will be prepared in accordance with MAP2 guidelines on reporting within 2 months of the completion of the fieldwork.
- 6.5.2 The report will be produced which will include the following elements.
- Summary - Concise non-technical summary
 - Introduction - General introduction to project; Reasons for work and funding; Planning background
 - Background - Geology, topography, archaeological and historical background, current site usage/description
 - Aims and Objectives - Summary of aims and objectives
 - Methods - Methodology used to carry out the works
 - Fieldwork Results - Detailed description of results including textual context and finds references
 - Discussion and Conclusions - Overview of archaeological deposits and artefacts; details of preservation and the expected survival of deposits and structures across the site. Discussion and interpretation of results which should include both the immediate archaeological context and its wider relationship with other relevant evidence

Appendices - Simple context descriptions, finds catalogues and any summary information (e.g. ceramic material summarised by period or type); contents of the archive; site matrix

Specialist Reports - As appropriate

Figures - These must include a location plan of the works in relation to the proposed 'development' together with trench plans as necessary; main section drawings should show present ground level and depths of overburden. All sections should carry corrected OS levels. A sufficient number of illustrations should be included to present a representative sample of the site and its features/deposits.

Acknowledgements - These should note the Commissioning Body, any person or institution rendering assistance and the Planning Authority

6.5.3 Copies of the report will be sent to the Client, the Inspector of Ancient Monuments, the Heritage Unit of NYCC, Harrogate Museum and the NMR.

6.6 **Archive Deposition**

6.6.1 The archive, consisting of all correspondence, primary written documents (survey books, site notebooks, context sheets, site record and archive forms), original specialist reports, database records, site drawings, photographs and summary of the nature/quality of the various classes of data collected, will be prepared to the standards defined in MAP2. This will include the transfer of the archive onto microfiche.

6.6.2 In particular drawing film will be stored flat between sheets of acid free tissue, slides will be mounted and negatives will be housed appropriately.

6.6.3 The archive will be deposited at Harrogate Museum and all their guidelines for deposition will be adhered to.

6.7 **Publication and Dissemination**

6.7.1 In accordance with the minimum requirements set out in Appendix 7 of MAP 2 a short summary of the results will be prepared for publication in an academic journal.

6.7.2 Publication will be required at a level and in a form appropriate to the significance of the findings to be decided upon further to discussions with the Monitoring Officers.

6.8 **Copyright**

6.8.1 MAP Archaeological Consultancy Ltd shall retain full copyright of any commissioned reports, or other project related documents, under the 'Copyright,

Designs and Patents Act 1988' with all rights reserved; excepting that MAP provides a Licence to the following:

- The Client and his agents for the use of such documents by the Client or his agents in all matters relating to the project
- The Monitoring Planning Authority for its statutory functions
- The Recipient body of the archive for educational purposes

7. Timetable

7.1 Work will commence on the site once appropriate consents has been granted and the timetable for the evaluation work has been agreed with the Project Manager (L Mercer) and English Heritage (K Wilson).

8. Monitoring

8.1 The archaeological evaluation will be monitored by the regional Inspector for Ancient Monuments (K. Wilson) and arrangements will be made for visits to be made at the beginning of the project, at least one progress meeting when the evaluation is taking place and at least one meeting post fieldwork to discuss the report and archive.

9 Health and Safety at Work

9.1 The working environment will be controlled by MAP Archaeological Consultancy Ltd and all works will be carried out in accordance with their formal Safety Rules.

9.2 A 'Methods Statements' setting out the 'Principal Tasks' and the 'Methods' by which the Excavation and Recording, together with a Risk Assessment will be produced by the MAP Archaeological Consultancy Ltd.

9.3 Copies of the above MAP's Health and Safety Documentation will available on site at all times.

10 Insurance

10.1 MAP will provide evidence of all necessary insurance, including Employer's Liability, Professional Liability and Public Liability Cover.

11. Bibliography

- Finlayson, R. (2000) The Old Deanery, Ripon. Report on an Archaeological Desk-Top Study. York Archaeological Trust Field Report Number 64.
- GSB 1999 The Old Deanery, Ripon, North Yorkshire. A Summary Report of the Geophysical Survey undertaken in Spring 1999. GSB Prospection Report 99/62
- GSB 2000 The Old Deanery, Ripon, North Yorkshire. GSB Prospection Report 2000/38.
- Hall, R.A. and Whyman, M. (1996) *'Settlement and Monasticism at Ripon from the 7th - 11th centuries'* in Medieval Archaeology Vol. 40, 62-150.
- MAP 2001 The Old Deanery, Minster Close, Ripon, North Yorkshire (SAM NY 1282), Archaeological Evaluation, MAP 01-07-01, July 2001. MAP Archaeological Consultancy Ltd.
- Whyman, M. (1997) *'Excavations in the Deanery Gardens and Low St. Agnesgate, Ripon'* in Yorkshire Archaeological Journal Vol. 69, 119-63.