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INVIRONMENTAL SERVICES

Gail Falkingham Heritage Unit County Hall Racecourse Lane NORTHALLERTON North Yorkshire DL7 8AQ

25 18 Jan 2000

Dear Gail.

Archaeological Watching Brief at The Bungalow, Masonic Lane, Thirsk: Scheduled Monument No 20454

I am writing to confirm that a watching brief was held in accordance with the Scheduled Monument Consent and the Planning Permission (condition 04), at the above site on Monday 10 January 2000. The development consisted of a replacement garage near the northern edge of the property in an area which falls within the scheduled ancient monument of Thirsk Castle (see plan). The site is terraced, with the development area at a lower level (approximately 3 m.) than the garden of the bungalow to the south-east. The garden itself slopes up towards the bungalow which is on the highest part of the site. It is probable that the development area had already been lowered at its southern end to construct the previous garage (see 1994 Picks Lane Thirsk report by A Clarke).

The pre-existing garage was demolished to ground level prior to the watching brief. The concrete floor was removed by hand and revealed a layer of concrete and tile rubble. Beneath this was compacted topsoil of which c. 10 cm. was removed throughout. The new garage was slightly larger than the original, measuring 3 metres by 5.8 metres (see plan). A further 20 to 30 cm of disturbed, mainly light brown sandy soil was removed in the foundation trenches of the new garage. A concrete slab 20cm wide ran north-south across the area of the garage at the base of the current excavations (see plan), and it seems probable that the entire area of the current work was previously disturbed by the construction of the former

I will pursue the deposition of the archive (such as it is) with the Thirsk Museum.

Yours sincerely

Mison

Alison Clarke