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HAZLEWOOD CASTLE,
TADCASTER,
NORTH YORKSHIRE



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REPORT ON AN
ARCHAEOLOGICAL
DESK-TOP STUDY



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ARCHAEOLOGICAL DESK-TOP STUDY**

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ABSTRACT

Desk-top study of the area around Hazlewood Castle has identified the possible survival of archaeological remains beneath the current ground surface in the areas of proposed development. Limited field evaluation to determine the nature and extent of such remains is suggested.

1. INTRODUCTION

In April 2002 an archaeological desk-top study was undertaken by York Archaeological Trust on the site of Hazlewood Castle, Tadcaster, North Yorkshire (NGR SE 4487 3981) (Figure 1). The study was undertaken to provide background information before a planning application was submitted to North Yorkshire County Council for two new accommodation blocks and a third small building. The historical and archaeological significance of the study area was assessed using a variety of sources including cartographic evidence, the Sites and Monuments Record (SMR), the National Monuments Record, Regional Archives and published archaeological and historical reports.

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2. METHODOLOGY

The archive of information held at the SMR at the Heritage Unit, North Yorkshire County Council, County Hall in Northallerton was visited and its contents assessed following discussion with Neil Campling, Senior Archaeologist for North Yorkshire County Council. The SMR record cards and project files for the study area were checked for any references to the land in question, or for sites in the vicinity as well as their collection of Aerial Photographs. Historical and archaeological publications held by the SMR, the York City and York University Libraries were also searched for additional information. The archives held at the North Yorkshire Public Records Office in Northallerton, the Yorkshire Archaeological Society and the Leeds City archives (the latter two both based in Leeds) were also consulted as well as the cartographic evidence held at both the North Yorkshire Public Records Office and York City Library. The Carmelite Friars in Aylesford and in York were also contacted to trace the whereabouts of any archive materials they held whilst being in residence at Hazlewood Castle (1972-1996).

Site research notes are currently stored with the York Archaeological Trust under their accession code YORAT 2002 2.

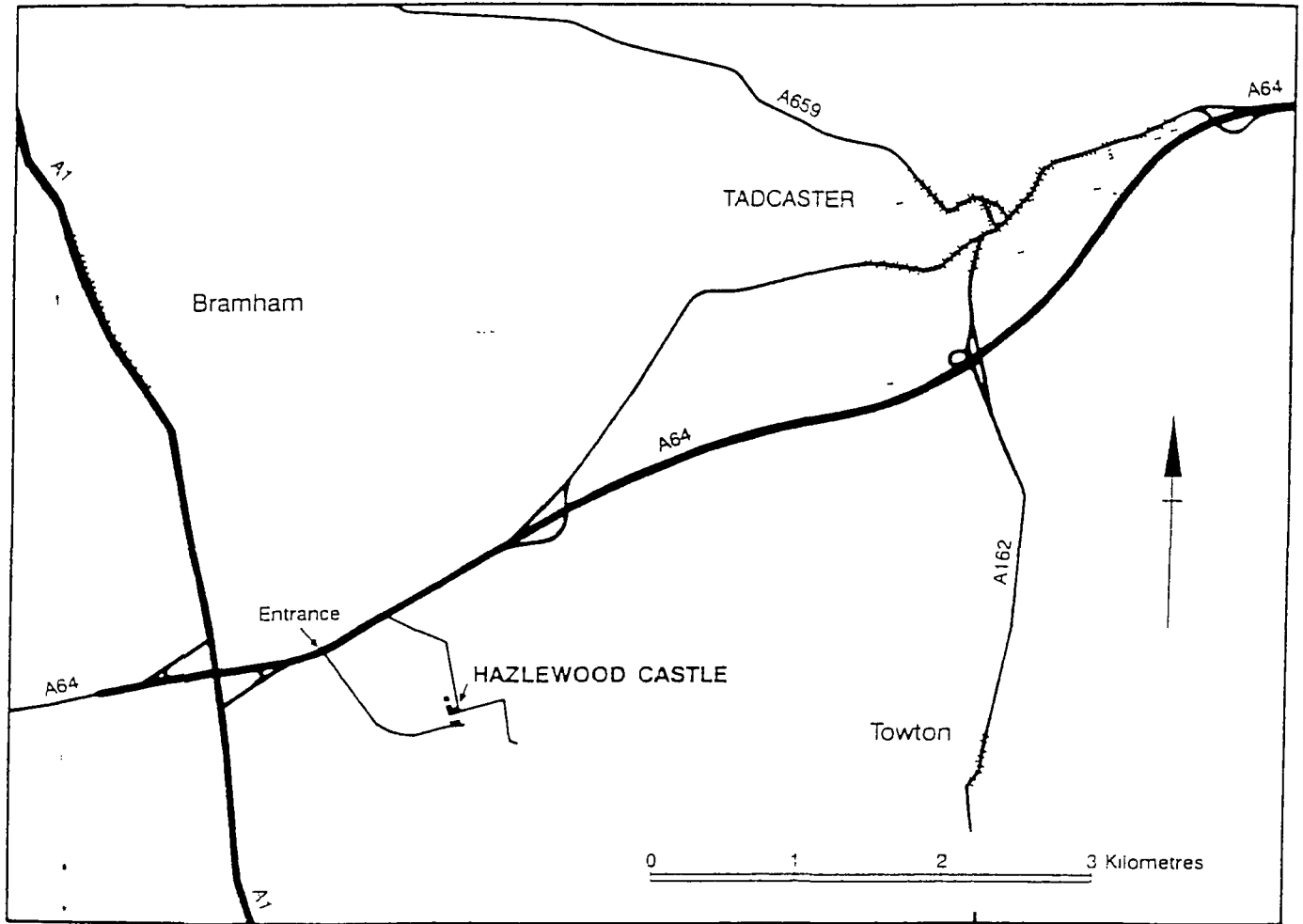


Figure 1 Site location

3. GEOLOGY AND TOPOGRAPHY

Hazlewood Castle is situated on the most easterly high ridge of Permian magnesian limestone at 71.59m Above Ordnance Datum (AOD) approximately three miles south-west of Tadcaster, overlooking the vale of Towton to the south-west and the vale of York to the north-east. The drift geology appears as glacial till consisting of sands and gravels of varying thickness (Geological Survey of England and Wales, Sheet 70, 1974). The areas proposed for development lie on the eastern and northern sides of the courtyard and in a secondary courtyard to the north-west behind 18th century buildings known as "The Keep" and "The Stables" in 1996. The ground appears to slope from west to east, the main castle buildings being situated at the highest point. The courtyard, which is directly north and north-east of the main castle buildings is paved apart from the central strip which houses an ornamental canal with adjacent grassed areas and a bridge across it. The secondary courtyard is also paved, slopes from west to east and incorporates several single storied stone built stores and work units.

4. ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

4.1 The Prehistoric period (to the 1st century AD)

Prehistoric finds have been made to the south and south-west of the castle. These include barbed and tanged arrow heads, flint cores and other flint tools which suggest the presence of a hunting site or camp. However, no evidence of prehistoric activity has been found on the castle site itself.

4.2 The Roman Period (1st to the 5th centuries AD)

The Roman road between Calcaria (Tadcaster) and Castleford which runs south to Doncaster and Lincoln (Margary 1973 - 28b) runs to the north-west of Hazlewood Castle. Although the area was under the plough in the 1970s a 2ft high agger was still visible (Margary 1973, 416) and within Hazlewood this stood up to 5 ft high. Margary believed that the road from Ilkley (road 729) joined here. Trial trenches were excavated across the Roman road in 1976 by L.P. Wenham with the York Excavation Group. - sources? ?
 76-78 cf p.12

4.3 The Anglo-Saxon and Anglo-Scandinavian periods (5th to 11th centuries AD)

Prior to 1086 two manors existed at Hazlewood, one of which is thought to have been held by Garnel. It is not known whether this incorporated a manor house and village. Many of the village names around feature "ton" or "ham" in them (Towton, Saxton, Bramham, Stutton) suggesting settlement in the early Anglo-Saxon period rather than colonisation at a later date. Part of the Anglo-Saxon Kingdom of Elmet, the capital of which is thought to have been based at Sherburn in Elmet to the south-east of the Castle. A series of dykes and ditches thought to be of Anglo-Saxon date lie to the south and south-west of the castle at Aberford. The area was therefore probably important in this period.

Wheater (1888, 122-23) describes the two manors at Hazlewood at the time of the Norman Conquest. One of them was held by Gamel, son of Osmund, and the other by Archil and his brothers. By Domesday (1086) one of the manors was held by Malger Vavasour for William de Percy, with one plough there and three borders who had two ploughs.

4.4 The Medieval Period (11th to the mid 16th centuries AD)

Hazlewood Castle was the home of the *Vavasours* from just after the Norman Conquest until 1907. The family name (means 'vassal of a vassal') was a term given to a person who held lands under a mesne lord rather than directly from the crown and in dignity ranked next below a baron (Leadman 1895, Oswald 1957). Wheeler (1888), quoting Johnson, suggests that the name can be further interpreted as "One who himself holding of a superior lord, has others holding under him", and further that it can be translated as "the chosen gentleman". The title did not last long in England (Wheater 1888, 121). Malger Vavasour is mentioned as holding 3 carucates of land at 'Ezelwoode' for Wilham de Percy in the Domesday Book in 1086 (Wheater 1888). Oswald (1957) suggests that Malger accompanied William de Percy from Normandy in 1066, and at Domesday he also held 4 other manors in Yorkshire for his mesne lord, all of which remained in the family for several generations. Hazlewood remained the seat for the senior line of the family.

A chapel was founded by Sir Walter Vavasour on the site in 1167 (DOE 1987) which suggests that a manor was probably in existence by this date.

It has been suggested (Oswald 1957) that the part of the building with the thickest walls, which is the square projection at the western extremity, may represent a pele tower. This could date part of the existing building to c 1180. If it does then it may have been built by William le Vavasour, the justice, who encouraged Matilda, the Countess of Warwick to refound Sallay Abbey, in Ribblesdale in 1189 (Oswald 1957, 1381). In doing so Matilda gave to the abbey *inter alia* the church of Tadcaster with the chapel at Hazlewood. Pele towers were strongly built towers, less grand than a tower keep, used as a place of refuge and look-out. They were built between 1200-1700 especially along the Scottish and English borders where they are also known as tower houses. Pele comes from the word "pale" which means an "enclosure" and the tower usually had an attached barmkin or walled yard (www.castles-of-britain.com). Pele towers were normally of three storeys, a storage basement vaulted against fire, a hall on the first floor, and the great chamber or sleeping apartment above (Wood 1983, 168). If this were the case for Hazlewood then it would have consisted of the tower and a walled enclosure.

William le Vavasour granted Sallay Abbey the right of taking stone from his Hazlewood quarry, which his sons Robert and Malger confirmed in the early 13th century. In 1204 Robert le Vavasour was granted free Warren in all his lands in Wharfedale, and with it came the right to create a park at Hazlewood (Oswald 1957, 1381). Whether Hazlewood was emparked at this date is not known, but what looks like the layout of a deserted medieval village (DMV) does appear on several aerial photographs of the castle, just to the east and south-east of it. Perhaps the village was cleared when the park was created (sometime in the 13th century). Certainly by the suppression of the chantries in 1545 the village had ceased to exist and the chapel was described as extra-parochial. Free Warren, effectively means permission to hunt across all the

land that he owned, as most game animals at that time were reserved for the kings pleasure. Robert was sheriff of York in 1217 (Wheater 1888, 123)

The pele tower was constructed of magnesian limestone from Thevesdale quarry on the Vavasour estate. These quarries also supplied stone for the construction of York Minster and other churches and abbeys in Yorkshire and Lincolnshire and even prestigious buildings as far away as Cambridge and Eton. In a charter dating from 1225 Robert le Vavasour granted 'to God and blessed Peter and the church of York' in pure and perpetual alms free passage in Thevesdale for the repair, rebuilding or enlargement of York Minster (Oswald 1957). Robert was honoured by having a statue of him being placed on the north side of the arch of the west doorway, where it balances that of William de Percy. The Thevesdale quarry continued to appear in the York fabric rolls until c 1422 when the Langton's Huddleston quarry a few miles to the south came to be preferred (Oswald 1957, 1380-81)

A re-grant of the church of Tadcaster to Sallay Abbey also in 1225 does not include the chapel of Hazlewood, and suggests that by this point the chapel may have been solely for Hazlewood Castles use. This ties in well with the possible emparking of Hazlewood Castles estates and the clearance of the DMV, since if there were no parishioners other than the residents of the Castle, then there would be no need for the chapel to be part of the parish system or make payments to a mother church or abbey, as the chapel would not require the mother churches assistance.

In 1231 Robert was succeeded by John le Vavasour and in 1265 the manor and church were burnt down during the Baron wars (Oswald 1957, Emery 1996, 345), by his cousin Mauger le Vavasour who was allied to Simon de Montfort. John le Vavasour is thought to have been killed in the attack (Wheater, 1888). In the chronicle for that year it mentions that Mauger le Vavasour came to Hazlewood with force of arms, drove off the cattle and burnt the manor and the church of the vill. This is the first documentary evidence for the existence of buildings of high status on the site and also the reference to a vill may indicate the continued presence of a village close to the chapel, rather than its having being cleared in the early 13th century.

John's son Sir William le Vavasour, was a soldier who fought in the wars of Edward I in Gascony in France and in Scotland and he was at the siege of Caerlaverock in 1300, conspicuous because of his banner (Oswald 1957).

In 1286 Sir William le Vavasour obtained mortmain licences to endow a chaplaincy at Hazlewood, and this is the year it is believed that the present chapel was built (as in his will of 1313, William desired to be buried in the new chapel). The late 13th century chapel is externally plain with uncusped two-light windows (Oswald 1957, Emery 1996, 345).

In 1290 he was also granted licence to crenellate his hall, probably the core of the castle (Emery 1996, 345). The hall was a fortified medieval great hall. This was attached to the Pele tower and contained the great hall where the front entrance is, a parlour and solar (the lords retaining rooms) were situated between the Pele tower and the hall, and probably a kitchen, buttery and pantry at the east end of the great hall. The hall probably had a high pitched roof, which would have been open from the hall floor level (ie no ceiling). A 13th century window with twin shoulder-headed lights, surrounded by a shouldered lintel and recessed under an outer pointed arch, was uncovered in the great hall in 1910 during the renovation work by Mr E. O. Simpson.

as well as the remnants of a newel stair, which connected the parlour to the solar on the floor above. Both of these features are situated in the north-western corner of the entrance hall. The 13th century window was restored in the 1960s with new mullions, a window seat, glass and wooden shutters. The outer pointed arches of two other 13th century windows were exposed during the 1910 restorations in the southern wall of the entrance hall. The latter were covered over again. Little of the eastern end of the hall, which included the kitchen area is thought now to survive due to later 17th and 18th century renovations. The hall and all the main rooms were built above vaulted basements. The manor would have had a walled courtyard, the western limit of which was located during a watching brief in 1997 (Macnab 1998) but the north, south and eastern limits of this enclosure are not at present known and may be within the development areas. The entrance gate to the courtyard is thought to lie to the east, although this is speculation (Oswald 1957, Emery 1996). If so, evidence for this may also lie within the development area. The fortified manor house has been best compared as a larger version of Yanworth Hall, Westmorland and also with Stokesay in Shropshire (1291), Aydon in Northumberland (1305) and Markenfield Hall, near Ripon (1310, (the dates shown are when licences to crenellate were granted) (Oswald 1957, 1382).

Nothing survives of a moat, gatehouse or enclosing curtain wall surrounding the castle (Emery 1996, 345) as would be expected of such a medieval castle. It is probable that a moat never existed surrounding the castle, but part of the early medieval courtyard wall was exposed during evaluation and watching brief work in 1997 (Macnab 1997 and 1998).

Emery (1996) believes that the original medieval hall consisted of a first floor hall with cross wings to the west and east. The hall was originally built above a low barrel vaulted undercroft (replaced in the 18th century). The east cross wing has no evidence for an early undercroft and may be later in date.

In 1299 Sir William obtained a re-grant of the mortmain licences for a chaplaincy at the chapel, and this is the first mention of the dedication to St Leonard (Oswald 1957, 1382).

In 1311 Sir William le Vavasour was given the custody of the City of York, and he was also summoned to parliament from 1299 until his death in 1313 as a Baron by writ. His eldest son Walter, who did not long survive him and probably died in the wars in Scotland, was also summoned as a Baron by writ to Parliament. However, the Barony did not become hereditary (Oswald 1957, 1381). Both Sir William and Sir Walter have monuments commemorating their death in the chapel. These consist of two cross-legged effigies of knights which are situated on the south side of the altar. They are set under crocketed ogee canopies which are elaborately carved and each knight has the Vavasour arms on his shield. They are not thought to be in their original position as the York antiquary, Torre, described them as being placed together on the north side of the altar in the 17th century, traditionally the position for the founders tomb (Oswald 1957, 1383).

Sir Walter was succeeded successively by his two brothers Robert and Henry, the latter being made a knight in 1326. Sir Henry founded a chantry in the chapel in 1333, and a second chantry was founded in 1452. At the time of the suppression of the chantries in 1545 these were known as the chantries of Our Lady and St Nicholas, and each had its own priest (Oswald 1957, 1382).

In the 15th century the family appears to wane in terms of its importance within the courts of England. There are wills for three successive Henry Vavasours in the Surtees Society's *Testamenta Eboracensia* dated 1413, 1447 and 1499, each of them wishing to be buried in the chapel at Hazlewood.

On Palm Sunday 29th March 1461 the battle of Towton was fought a mile to the east of the castle. The battle between the Yorkists and Lancastrians is said to have been the bloodiest battle ever fought on English soil, and the River Cock is said to have run red. According to Oswald (1957, 1426) tradition has it that the clash of arms and the shouts of combatants were heard in the chapel at Hazlewood while the household celebrated Mass.

A 15th century solar tower on the north-west corner of the castle is the only visible late medieval addition to the castle's structure. The room on the first floor has a bow window on the west side facing the garden. To the south of this a secret ladder gave access to the basement of the tower and also to the roof. To the north of this concealed ladder was a garderobe projection to the west face of the tower (Emery 1996, 345). Emery also suggests that the tower was constructed by Sir Henry Vavasour (1500-1515).

Tradition has it that Margaret Clitherow, a York Catholic martyr, was buried in the grounds of St Leonard's Chapel as well as two other York Catholic martyrs, Ralph Grimston and Father Peter Snow (Mitchell 1987, 558). The latter two were executed in York in 1598.

4.5 The Post-Medieval Period (mid 16th to 19th centuries)

The medieval great hall was probably re-roofed in the 15th or 16th centuries, being substituted with a low pitched one. The carved stone shield above the entrance hall doorway may be of 15th century date, possibly incorporating the Vavasour motto in Gothic, although this may have been moved here from somewhere else. Several 16th century mullioned windows found in the walls above the present ceiling, and just still visible on the south exterior face of the entrance hall, suggest that the medieval great hall was divided into two floors during this century, and rooms existed on the first floor.

With the suppression of the monasteries and the start of the Church of England in the 1540's, the Vavasours' fortunes declined further as they remained staunch Catholics. This has meant that the chapel has been only used for Catholic services throughout its life (to 1996?), it being one of only three chapels in the country to do so. The others are situated at East Hendred, Berkshire and Stonor in Oxfordshire. The Vavasours were also later heavily fined for recusancy (refusing to attend Church of England services).

In 1541 William Vavasour described in hand written prose a tour of the vale of York by Henry VIII, guided by the Bishop of Durham. He briefly describes Hazlewood, and enumerates the wealth of manors, parks, chases, rivers, water mills, coal mines, market towns and iron forges within 8 miles of the manor house, although not with much precision. He also celebrates the sport and pleasure in the area, with hunting, hawking, fishing and fowling and the riches of the limestone quarries on his estate.

William Vavasour who died in 1572 was twice the Sheriff of Yorkshire in 1548 and 1563 and was knighted for his service to the crown. He was succeeded by his son John who lived until 1609. Queen Elizabeth I is said to have granted John le Vavasour religious immunity for support during the battles against the Spanish Armada.

Tradition has it that a two storey north wing was added to the original building possibly in the early 17th century. It has been alleged that the north wing was built to provide suitable accommodation for King James I as he travelled north to Scotland after his proclamation in 1603, but the King didn't stay at Hazlewood (Mitchell, 1987). During an evaluation and watching brief in 1997 of the north wing area it was shown that the north wing had been built in two separate stages. The dating evidence however was poor and it could not be ascertained when exactly the first phase was constructed. Following with the architectural interpretations the north wing was thought to be of a later 18th century date (Macnab 1997 and 1998).

Hazlewood then passed in 1609 to Ralph Vavasour of Woodhall, whose grandson Thomas Vavasour was created a baronet in 1628 during the reign of Charles I. Thomas (1st Baronet) remained a staunch Catholic and for his recusancy had to pay an annual payment of £150 (Oswald 1957, 1426). At his death he was buried in St Leonard's chapel, and his tomb is situated on the south side of the chancel, but it is thought originally to have been situated on the north wall. The latter tomb is surmounted by two figures (wearing muffs) which are thought to have been Thomas's parents (Oswald 1957, 1429). The two projecting front wings on the south frontage of the medieval hall are attributed to him (Oswald 1957, 1427). During the English Civil War Sir Thomas's three sons were actively involved, and were loyal to the crown. The Eldest, Sir Walter (2nd baronet) was colonel and the second William was a major in the same regiment of horse. The third brother Thomas was killed at Marston Moor (Oswald 1957, 1426). Sir Walter escaped to Holland, but returned to England in 1648 to regain the estates which had been leased to Thomas Troutbeck (Surgeon General of the Northern Brigade). In 1652 Troutbeck is said to have paid £80 to repair the Castle and make it weather proof. In 1653 the manor was bought by John Rushworth and Gilbert Crouch from the Treason Trustees, however after the restoration of the monarchy in 1660, Sir Walter (2nd Baronet) regained Hazlewood and in 1679 was succeeded by his son, also called Walter Vavasour (3rd Baronet) (Oswald 1957, 1426) who held it until his death in 1713. Some alterations may have been done to the medieval hall during the latter's life as rainwater goods show his coat of arms on a later sketch of 1720, and he may have altered the south facing windows and also the fine set of stone steps that lead up to the entrance in the sketch (Oswald 1957, 1427). The redecoration of the chapel, with its coved ceiling, elaborate altar-piece and the insertion of a gallery may be attributed to the 3rd Baronet (Oswald 1957, 1429). The contemporary common rail is said to have come from York Minster. The bell within the bell-cote (in 1957) on the western end of the chapel may date all of this work to 1680.

Hazlewood Castle then passed to Father Walter Vavasour, eldest son of Peter Vavasour (the 3rd Baronet's Uncle) who was a doctor in York. Peter had founded the Society of Yorkshire Brethren for the Support of Aged and Infirm Priests of the Catholic faith in 1660. Peter (3rd Baronet) was buried within St Leonard's Chapel, and his tomb is situated on the south side of the chancel. Father Walter was a Jesuit and did not assume the title of Baronet.

The Castle and title passed to his brother Peter Vavasour (4th Baronet) who owned Hazlewood Castle when Samuel Buck drew his sketch in 1720. This shows the Castle's south exterior façade, and shows that the two presumably early 17th century projections to the medieval hall's frontage (situated to either side of the entrance hall) had gables (Oswald 1957, 1427).

Peter's son Walter (5th Baronet) succeeded in 1735 and he is thought to have built the stable block on the north side of the courtyard in c 1750. This may have been designed by James Paine, an architect from Kent.

The sixth baronet Sir Walter Vavasour succeeded to the title in 1766 at the age of 22 and completely altered the internal and external appearance of the castle in the 1770s. He added the north and east wings which attached the main castle buildings to the chapel and to the "Keep" in the north-west corner of the courtyard. Both elevations on the courtyard side were of three storeys, with a blind arcade at ground level framing windows and doorways (DOE 1987, Oswald 1957). The style of the redesign is thought to reflect the architectural ideas of John Carr, an architect from York.

The medieval great hall was redesigned: the hall interior walls were covered in plaster work and treated with an impressive Doric order and deep cove cut back to give a vaulted effect and to admit clerestory lighting on the south side. To incorporate the latter the 15th or 16th century inserted window was removed and a new raised ceiling inserted. Niches in the walls and window embrasures add further shadow effects. Oval plaster medallions suspended on plaster ribbons display the Vavasour ancestry in a series of impaled shields. A Doric fireplace was also inserted at this point on the north wall and the entrance door to the south is also thought to date from this period (Oswald 1957, 1428). The doors that led to the east and west of the entrance hall were kept and date from c 1700, these were originally grained in imitation of walnut. The antechamber on the north side of the hall in the western bay was redecorated with plaster work to form an elaborate rotunda with arched niches in each quadrant. The dining room in the east wing retains its original decoration dated to c 1770.

The octagonal stone gazebo or folly to the north-east of the castle courtyard is thought to date from the mid to late 18th century but it is not known precisely who was responsible for its construction.

4.6 The Modern Period (19th and 20th centuries)

The 7th and last Baronet of the first Creation succeeded in 1802, and he died unmarried in 1826 when the original male line of the Vavasours came to an end. He left the estate to his maternal cousin Edward Marmaduke Stourton, who assumed the name of Vavasour and in whose favour the baronetcy was revived in 1828. Sir Edward's son and successor died unmarried in 1885 and was succeeded by his nephew Sir William Vavasour who sold the house.

The Vavasours sold the house in 1908 to Mr E. O. Simpson, of Leeds, who demolished the North Wing and much of the west wing apart from the arcades and the eastern end close to the chapel which remained until it too was demolished in the 1960s or 1970s. Provision was made

with the sale of Hazlewood Castle to the Simpsons for the continuance of Roman Catholic worship in the chapel

The drawing room on the west was redecorated by Mr Simpson in the early 20th century in an Adamesque style

During the wars the castle was used by Leeds Regional Hospital Board as a maternity hospital (Thomton 1979) In 1953 the castle was owned by Mr Erie Fawcett, of White Quarry Farm, whose son Richard resided there until 1960 when it was sold to Mr Donald Hart

Donald Hart built the original Orangery on the western side of the courtyard which overlooked the formal gardens which he laid out Mr Hart also imported various features from elsewhere including gilded wallpaper from the Great Exhibition, some gothic ceiling work and the courtyard main entrance from Eaton Hall, Cheshire, the beautiful 17th century panelling from a Carmelite Priory in Ghent, Belgium, and the 'Jezebel' fireplace from Heath Old Hall, Wakefield which decorate the Library

The Carmelite monks acquired the castle in 1967 and they used it as a monastery and retreat from 1972 until 1996 when it was sold The Carmelites carried out minor alterations to the buildings on the north and west sides of the courtyard and also to the rooms to the east of the entrance hall It is now a luxury hotel and conference centre

The only part of the castle to remain complete in its medieval form is the chapel but the present castle clearly incorporates much of the original medieval structure which has been masked by later 17th and 18th century additions and internal decorations

An evaluation in February 1997 revealed medieval occupation deposits, the remnants of the medieval courtyard wall, a late medieval well, walls dividing up the 18th century north wing and a fireplace, a 19th century rebuilding of the north wing and a fireplace insertion, and the sandstone floor, as well as 20th century demolition deposits, structures, surfaces and garden activity (Macnab 1997)

The watching brief carried out from October to December 1997 revealed that prior to any construction work on the site the area was used as a yard and occupation deposits built up within this (Macnab 1998) A medieval courtyard was then constructed on the western side of the area Two large pits were then dug, one of which was situated to the north of the medieval courtyard wall and directly on its line It was pottery dated to the 12th or 13th century and was full of burnt material and masonry Perhaps it was dug to undermine the medieval courtyard wall and may be associated with the burning down of the manor and chapel in 1265 during the baron wars. The position of the pit also suggested that the courtyard wall may have originally turned east across the development area though no evidence to confirm this was recovered The second pit inside the courtyard also contained fire scorched masonry The courtyard's western wall was extended, perhaps in the 15th century when the tower was added to the Halls north side as well as other ancillary buildings In the 18th century the north wing was constructed in two phases, the first consisting of 6 arches, leaving a gap between it and the 12th century tower, the second phase involving the infilling of the space between the north wing and the tower The north wing was

demolished in c 1908 by Mr E O Simpson and the area became an ornamental garden. In the late 1960s the area was redeveloped as an orangery and the garden landscaped again.

A two storey building now stands on the site housing a restaurant on the top floor and offices on the ground floor. The western arcade of the courtyard which was originally part of the 18th century north wing has been reused in this structure.

Linda Smith of NYCC has stated in a countryside stewardship application that Hazlewood Castle had a deer park of medieval date within its estate. The park and castle were modified in the 18th and 19th centuries into a country house and landscaped park. The medieval village of Hazlewood was probably moved when the park was landscaped but the woods and lynchets are survivors of the medieval period.

5. CARTOGRAPHIC AND ARCHIVAL EVIDENCE

Thomas Jeffery's (1775) map – shows Hazlewood Hall, Paradise Lane, and Black Horse Lane as well as the road through Cockbridge and Stutton Hill to Tadcaster. The north approach is not shown.

Greenwoods Map (1818) shows that the woods had shrunk, and that Paradise Lane and Black Horse Lane appear to be the main entrances.

1849 – 1st edition Ordnance Survey – shows the castle in parkland. The walled garden exists to the north-west. Woods appear less extensive than they are today. It should be noted that the ornamental canal in the courtyard is not shown. Two buildings are shown existing to the east of the Groom's house or stables building (Grade II) on the north-side of the courtyard. The north-west courtyard appears to contain two small buildings, one attached to the north-side of "the Keep" and the other detached and situated to the north. The eastern side of the courtyard appears to contain no buildings apart from St Leonard's Chapel, whose graveyard limit does not extend as far on this map as it does today.

1909 – OS – Little change to the main buildings. The two buildings to the east of the Groom's house or stables (Grade II) have been demolished, as has the small building attached to the north side of "the Keep". The detached building to the north has been attached to a narrow building that flanks the western wall. Hazlewood Farm has changed its layout apart from the main Barn, Coach House or stables (Grade II). There is still no ornamental canal, which was probably inserted in the 1960s by Donald Hart (as the courtyard appears grassed in a photograph of 1957).

Yorkshire Archaeological Society

MS 1062 – Photographs taken by Peter Wenham of two burials excavated within St Leonard's Chapel, (no date). The National Monument Record verifies the existence of an archive of material from this excavation – by York Excavation Group, which was carried out between 1976 and 1978. The repository for the excavation plans and notebooks is the excavations director (L P Wenham).

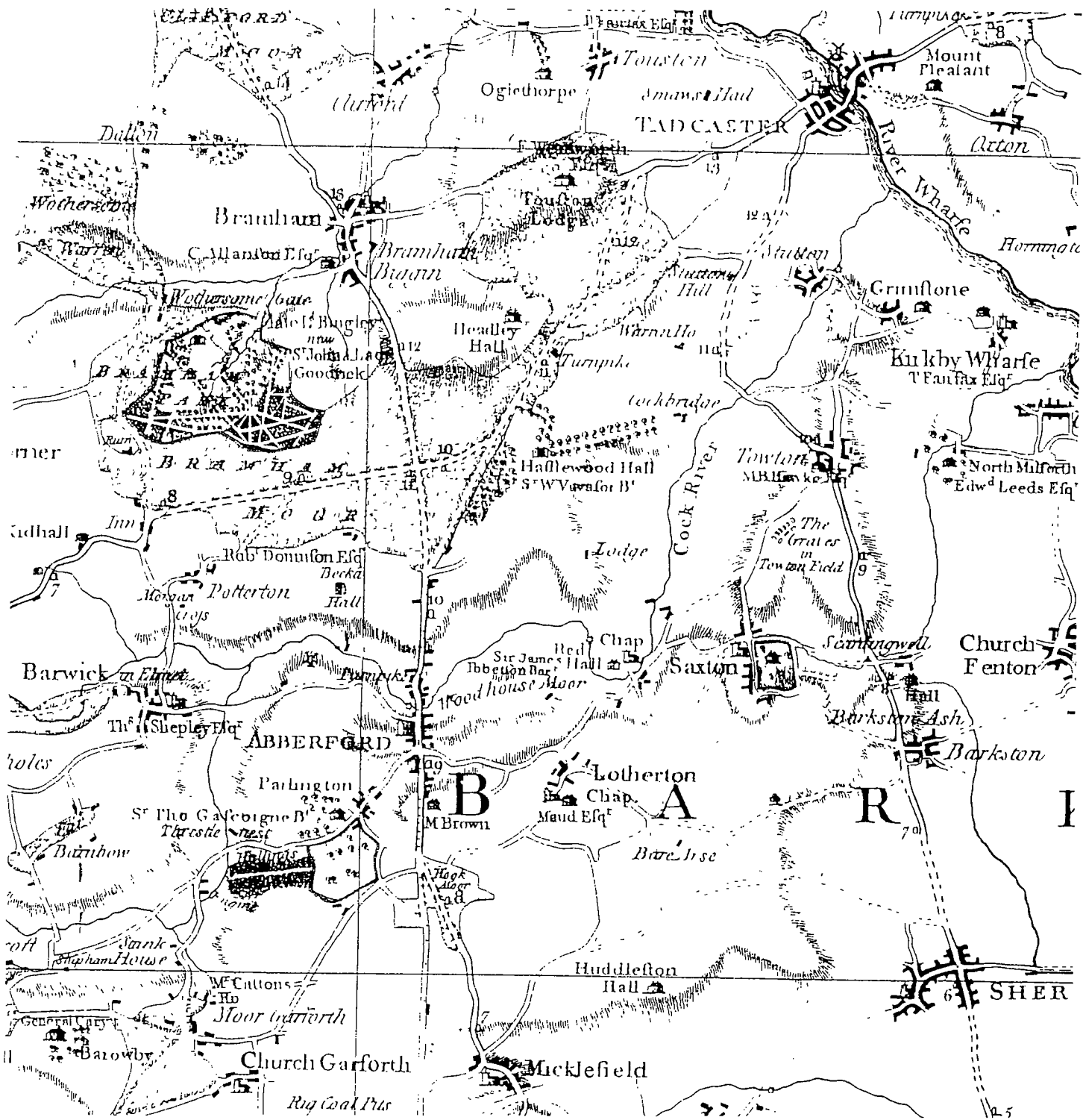


Figure 2 Jeffrey's Map of Yorkshire 1775

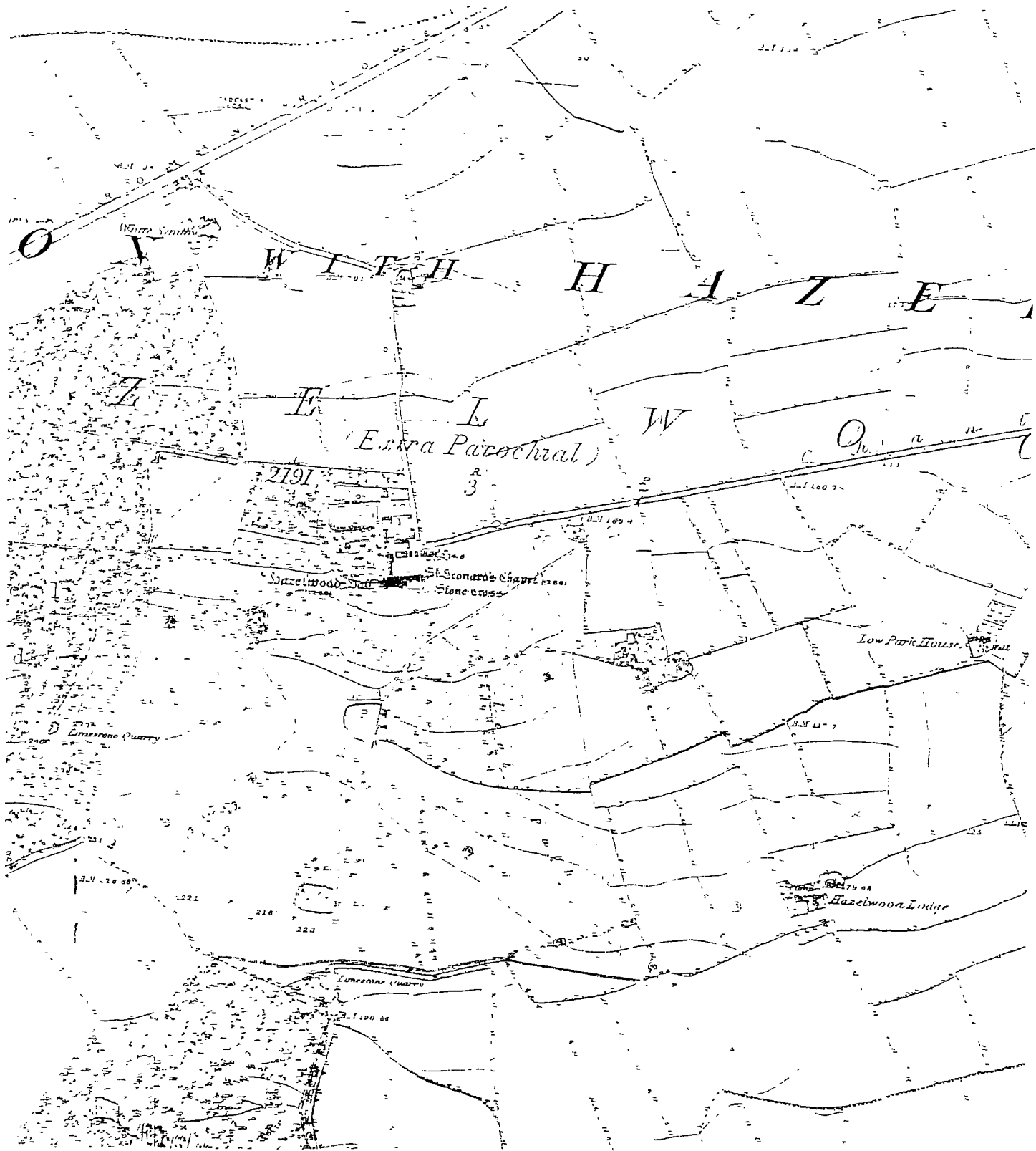


Figure 3 Ordnance Survey First Edition 1854

MS 1319 – A (?19th century) watercolour of Hazlewood Castle south face showing it much as it is today

MS 41 – From the Fairfax Manuscript - A copy of William Vavasours “ The pleasant and profitable seat of Hazlewood in the County of York” written in 1546 An interesting piece of prose describing the vale of York, its resources and Hazlewoods situation within it No descriptions of the castle or buildings, but Hazlewood Park contained the Great Wood of 500 acres, Wingate wood of 100 acres, Lead wood of 200 acres and Bolliyni wood of 30 acres

MD 59 – Deeds and Papers from Hazlewood dated – 1386 (10) and the pedigrees of the Vavasours of Hazlewood (18) Not available at time of research due to conservation

MS 609 – The Pedigrees of the Vavasours of Spaldington – the early history of this line of the family ties in with that of Hazlewood

West Yorkshire Archives

527nd (13th century) Quitclaim from Walter, son of William of Eburford to Robert Vavasour concerning all the land inclosed by the ditch within his park, which he (Walter) claimed to be his within his boundaries of Eburford and which lies against his land of Everfad, which is outside Robert’s park, as it extends from the river of Eburford to the old road of Watlingstrete

605 14 March 1204 Charter of King John, granting to Robert Vavasour free warren of all animals throughout his lands in Werverdale, he may make a park there if he wishes and he and his men may assart the wood within the warren and build where they wish

Map and sale particulars of Hazlewood Castle dated 1908 in Gascoigne collection deposited October 1955 Includes detailed plans of Castle and buildings surrounding the courtyards identifying the uses to which they were put including operating room, wards, nursery, laundry, engine house, wash house, stables, gran store and garage

6. WALK-OVER SURVEY

Eastern Side of Main Courtyard.

The main feature is an ornamental canal which probably dates from the 1960s and a pumping station for recycling the water This is surrounded by a raised grassed area The enclosing wall on the eastern side of the courtyard looks 19th or 20th century in date and appears to line up with the extended graveyard area to the east of St Leonard’s Chapel It is suggested here that the original eastern courtyard wall was demolished when the graveyard was extended (post 1849) Perhaps small portions of the wall on the north-side of the courtyard (to the east of the Groom’s House) contain original fabric, but these short sections are fragmentary and it is difficult to be completely sure The remnant for the original courtyard may be on a line with the southern side of “the Keep” It is thought unlikely that burials will lie to the north of St Leonard’s Chapel, unless

they date prior to the 13th century when the village is believed to have been cleared. The area therefore may contain early medieval burials, the eastern medieval courtyard wall, the original medieval gatehouse and possibly medieval courtyard buildings as well as possible later medieval and post-medieval buildings.

North-west Courtyard

This area probably lies beyond the original castle courtyard. Several 19th and 20th century stone built single storey buildings flank the western side, "the Groom's House" (Grade II) lies to the east and "the Keep" (Grade II) to the south. Given its position it may contain evidence for medieval activities outside the castle walls, and also evidence for the later medieval and post-medieval expansion of the castle buildings and enclosing walls. A well may also exist in the centre of this courtyard.

7. LISTED BUILDINGS

Hazlewood Castle	Grade I
St Leonard's Chapel	Grade I
Grooms House, Stables and walls adjoining	Grade II
St Margaret's Guest House and wall adjoining	Grade II
Cross in St Leonard's Churchyard	Grade II
Folly or Gazebo to the north-east of the castle	Grade II
Barn, Coach House and Stables to Hazlewood Farm	Grade II

8. AERIAL PHOTOGRAPHS

The best and most relevant aerial photographs are held at the NYCC heritage unit in Northallerton and include

AJC 063/038-039, taken in 1986
AJC 064/01
AJC/105/01-03

These show the aerial view of the deserted medieval village of Hazlewood which lies just to the south-east and east of the Chapel of St Leonard's. A trackway is shown running north-south with properties or tofts running back to the east and west of the trackway. A possible southern ditch and embankment for the edge of the village is also shown.

9. DISCUSSION AND CONCLUSIONS

The study has revealed evidence to suggest that the proposed development areas may contain deposits of archaeological interest, particularly on the eastern side of the present courtyard where the remnants of the original medieval courtyard wall and gatehouse may be preserved. The area in the north-west courtyard may also contain archaeological deposits associated with activities outside the bounds of the original castle courtyard. It is thus proposed that limited archaeological trenching, to a specification agreed with the Heritage Unit of North Yorkshire County Council, should take place in advance of the development to evaluate whether significant archaeological remains are present. The areas to be investigated should be those proposed for the new large bedroom block and the L-shaped bedroom block.

Following the submission of an evaluation report on the archaeological trenching a strategy to mitigate the effects of the development on any significant archaeological deposits discovered will be agreed as recommended in Planning Policy Guidance Note 16.

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11. LIST OF CONTRIBUTORS

Research and Report

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APPENDIX 1 Sites and Monuments Records

NMR Unique Identifier 54500, NMR No. SE 43 NE 5 (Figure 4 – 1)

The possible site of the deserted medieval village (DMV) of Hazlewood just to the east and south-east of the chapel at (NGR SE 4510 3970) Mentioned in the Domesday Book and Nomina Villamm

“In the Chantry Survey of 1545 the chapel here is called the parish church of St Leonard, but its ministrations seem to have been confined to the parish of the ‘inhabitants of the mansion place’” The Parliamentary Survey of 1650 noted “few inconsiderable number of inhabitants” (YAJ Vol 38, p150, 1953, p232, ‘Lost Villages of Yorkshire’ (Beresford)

The tenant of Lodge Farm stated in 1963 that a field centred at SE 4510 3970 probably contains the remains of the village Ploughing was attempted in 1943, but was prevented by the stony nature of the ground which was suggestive of building foundations The surface of the field was generally uneven then, but no patterns emerged

NMR Unique Identifier 54579, NMR No. SE 43 NW 8 (Figure 4 – 2)

Hazlewood Castle (NGR SE 4490 3979) and St Leonard’s Chapel (both Grade I listed buildings) Castle – licence to crenellate granted in 1290, heavily modified in 18th century Chapel built c 1286

N Pevsner (Yorkshire The West Riding 1959, 256–7) wrote that the licence to crenellate Hazelwood Castle was granted in 1290 Little remains of the medieval structure apart from a few surviving remains of windows in the entrance hall, formerly the castle Hall, and other internal features From the south, the house presents a castellated Georgian design A private chapel was founded in 1286, and is the only part of the castle complete in its medieval form

The north front and part of the chapel were restored in 1963 It was noted that at NGR SE 4492 3978 is a complete churchyard cross, having a possible original medieval base, but restored shaft and head

The residence of the Vavasour family, according to Le Patourel – it appears to have had moats, type unclassified, now only ornamental water The Roman Catholic Chapel of St Leonard and Hazelwood Castle are both listed as Grade I buildings

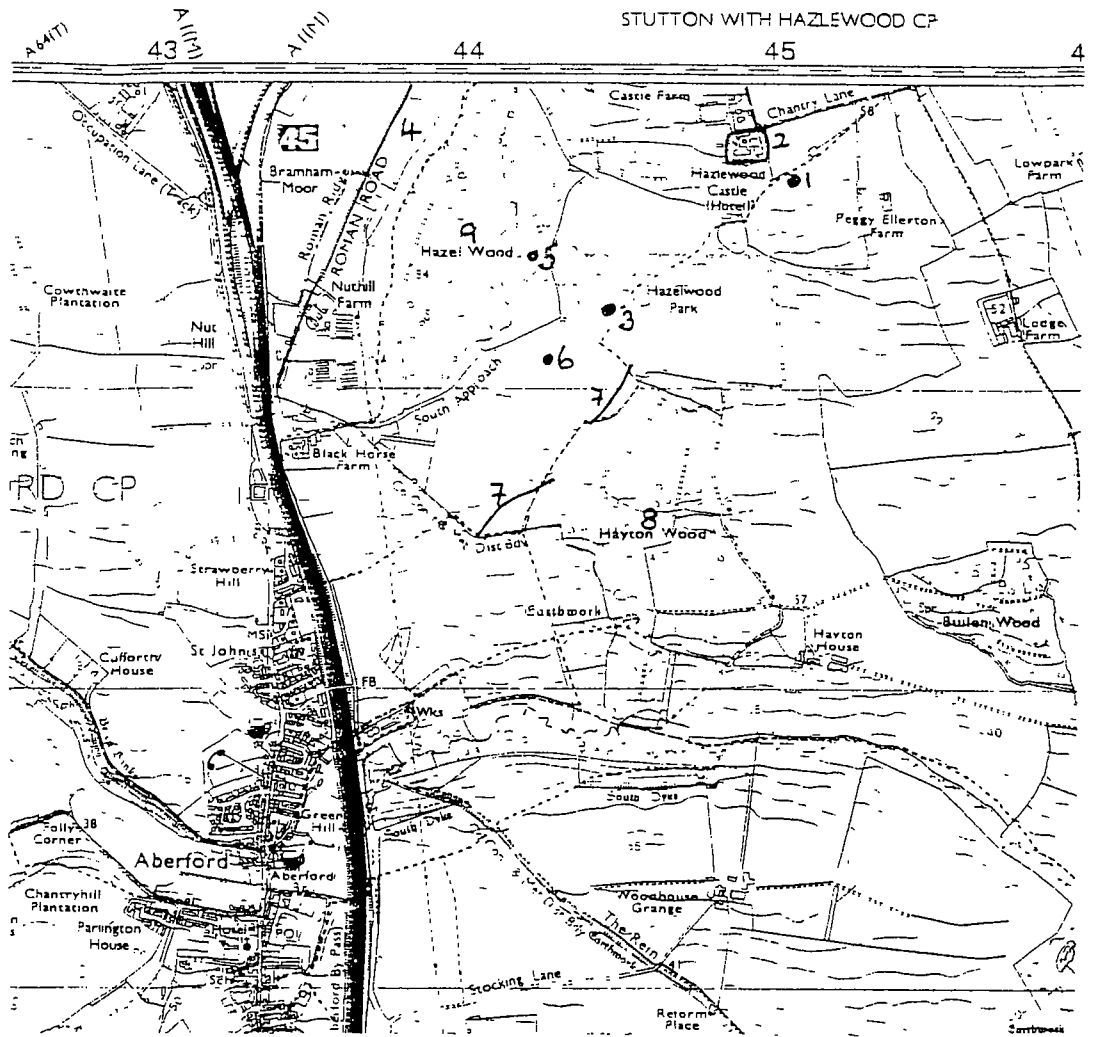


Figure 4 Finds Spots on Sites and Monuments Records

NMR Unique Identifier 54598, NMR No. SE 43 NW 15 (Figure 4 – 3)

At (NGR SE 4433 3939 centre/point) flints including barbed and tanged arrowheads, flint core and scrapers were found

At NGR SE 4443 3927 two barbed and tanged arrowheads, 22mm and 23mm long, a platformed core, struck all round and two thumbnail scrapers, 20mm wide and pitted, one retaining the bulb of percussion. Finds reported by Miss M. Faulk

At NGR SE 4422 3951 a serrated-edged block of mottled blue flint with white patination, 37mm wide and 50mm long retaining bulb of percussion was found. Find reported by Miss M. Faulk (YAJ Vol 47, 1975, 2)

NMR Unique Identifier 1199379, NMR No. SE 44 SE 51

A possible Iron Age field system was visible as cropmarks on air photographs centred at NGR SE 4543 4068. It is fairly fragmentary and may be part of the same field system that lies to the north

NMR Unique Identifier 1199414, NMR No. SE 44 SE 52

An Iron Age or Roman square (25m x 25m) ditched enclosure is visible as cropmarks on air photographs, centred at NGR SE 4547 4034

NMR Unique Identifier 1199454, NMR No. SE 44 SE 53

An unusual 'pear-shaped' ditched enclosure is visible as cropmarks on air photographs, and is possibly of prehistoric or Roman date, centred at SE 4568 4054. It is broadly similar in shape and size to one which lies to the east

NMR Unique Identifier 924366, NMR No. SE 44 NW 41

A cropmark of an enclosure is situated at NGR SE 4450 4050 (locality). Date unknown

SMR Records

9163.01 – Figure 4 – 4 Roman Road 621 – Scheduled Ancient Monument (SAM 31129). This is clearly visible as an embankment running south-west from the north entrance of Hazlewood Castle towards Nuthill Farm. The south end was still in reasonable condition in 1987 as a low embankment across two fields. The mid-section shows as a slight mound, but this area is ploughed regularly. The north section shows as a bank up to 1m in height

9583.01 – The site of Hazlewood DMV. At NGR SE 4490 3980 (Figure 4 – 1)

9583.02 – Hazlewood Castle (NGR SE 4490 3979) (Figure 4 – 2)

9583.02.100 – The Roman Catholic Chapel of St Leonard's Founded 1286 (NGR SE 4492 3979)

9583.02.101 – Medieval cross base in the churchyard of St Leonard's Chapel

9583.02.200 – Hazlewood Park – Medieval and post-medieval park surrounding Hazlewood Castle

9583.02.220 – 18th century Folly or Gazebo to the north-east of the castle

9583.00.002 – Quarry – post-medieval?

9583.00.010 – Barbed and Tanged Arrowhead – Neolithic or Bronze Age in date (NGR SE 4443 3927) found in 1974 (Figure 4 – 3)

9583.00.011 – Barbed and Tanged Arrowhead – Neolithic or Bronze Age in date (NGR SE 4443 3927) found in 1974 (Figure 4 – 3)

9583.00.012 – Flint core – prehistoric in date (NGR SE 4443 3927) found in 1974 (Figure 4 – 3)

9584 – Flint Blade – Prehistoric (NGR SE 4422 3951) was found in 1974 (Figure 4 – 5)

9586 – Enclosure – Prehistoric, picked up by Aerial Photography (Figure 4 – 6)

9587 – Ditches/dyke – of unknown date (Figure 4 – 7)

9588 – Hayton Wood – ancient wood – medieval or post-medieval (Figure 4 – 8)

9589 – Hazel Wood Ancient woodland of medieval or post-medieval date (Figure 4 – 9)