



Plate 1. Northern section of the evaluation trench showing gully 102, ditch 104 and pit 106



Plate 2. Northern section of the evaluation trench looking west



Plate 3. Eastern end of the evaluation trench showing ditch 123/126/137 and possible pit 128

Appendix I

Specification for Trial Trenching

Heritage Unit, Environmental Services, North Yorkshire County Council (Campling 2002)



North Rigton C of E School, North Rigton, Harrogate

Written Scheme of Investigation:
Archaeological Evaluation as Part of Re-Development
of Existing Primary School

May 2002

Supporting Information

Location

- 1 The site is located at the eastern end of North Rigton village, approximately 700 m west of the A658 Harrogate to Bradford road at NGR SE 282 494. The area to be investigated is bounded on the north by Scheduled Ancient Monument 29538, North Rigton Moated Manor Site, and to the south by the grounds of the primary school.

Site Description

- 2 The area to be evaluated is a strip of land bordering the Scheduled area approximately 25 metres long and 3 metres wide (Fig 1). This strip includes drystone walling, a rotted tree stump, and a sloping area of grass. The difference in elevation between the highest and lowest point of the area is about 1.2 m, and there are two trees adjacent to the area to be investigated.

Archaeological Importance

- 3 The evaluation area borders a deeply cut moat surrounding the site of a hall or manor house which is a Scheduled Ancient Monument. The site was owned in the 13th century by the De Lethley family. From 1244 until the Dissolution in 1539, the site was held by Fountains Abbey. The evaluation area includes part of what appears to be an external earthwork bank around the moat, possibly upcast from the digging of the moat, or a hedge or wall line. The drystone wall separating the moated site from the school is not included in the scheduling, but the northern edge or section of the evaluation area runs along the boundary of the Monument. There has been no previous archaeological work carried out at North Rigton, but it is not thought that investigations will encounter complex or sensitive remains.

Planning Details

- 4 The site is subject to planning application 6.134.64E.CLA for a new school building linked to the old school, to be determined by the County Council. It is proposed to emplace sheet piling along the boundary of the Scheduled Ancient Monument, before removal of overburden on the school side to construct foundations for the new building. The evaluation will be carried out in the area where sheet piling is to be emplaced. It is anticipated that archaeological work will be granted Class Consent in order to inform the granting SMC for the emplacement of the sheet piling.

Aims and Objectives

- 5 Evidence from this evaluation has the potential to throw light on the construction methods and appearance of the moated site during the medieval period. Small finds and other remains may also indicate the nature of the use or occupation of the site. Remains that may be found include upcast deposits, rubbish layers, soil stains, building rubble, post-holes, and accidentally lost metal objects. Excavation may bring to light evidence of individual people or unique events as well as generalised or repeated activities. The general aim of the work will be to provide a standard "rescue" level of record for remains affected by sheet piling against the Monument boundary, thereby informing the granting of SMC.
- 6 More specifically, the evaluation will seek to determine the stratigraphy, function, and where possible, the chronology of moat edge deposits. If the stratigraphy extends more deeply than 1.2 m below the lowest ground surface elevation of the trench area, a optional objective will be to investigate and record a shorter stepped trench at right angles to the main evaluation trench (see Fig 1).

Access and Monitoring

- 7 Access to the site should be arranged through Ms A Hill, Headteacher, North Rigton C of E Primary School, Hall Green Lane, North Rigton, LS17 0DW, Tel (01423) 734540. Enquiries about archaeological matters should be directed to the County Archaeologist, at County Hall.
- 8 Archaeological work will be subject to a programme of monitoring, the details of which should be agreed between the archaeological contractor and the County Heritage Unit. This programme of monitoring should include at least 1 site visit during work by the County Archaeologist and the Inspector of Ancient Monuments (IAM) from English Heritage. The Curator of the Harrogate Museums Service should be invited to these monitoring meetings.

Terms and Conditions

- 9 Although the Health & Safety Executive does not consider archaeological investigations to fall within the definition of "construction work" in the Construction (Design & Management) Regulations 1994, archaeological work on site should not start until an archaeological project risk assessment has been lodged in the project Health and Safety File held by Mr H Thompson, Stott Thompson Architects Ltd, 169 High Street, Boston Spa, LS23 6BH, Tel (01937) 845142.
- 10 The County Archaeologist should be notified of the name of the archaeological contractor and the start date of archaeological works. Work should not start until the following people have confirmed formally that they are aware of the proposed work and are available to give advice or specialist help:
 - a) finds specialists
 - b) environmental or soil sampling specialists
 - c) the Curator of Harrogate Museums Service
 - d) the English Heritage IAM for the area
- 11 Copyright in the documentation prepared by the archaeological contractor and specialist sub-contractors should be the subject of a non-exclusive licence in favour of North Yorkshire County Council and Harrogate Borough Council to use such documentation for their statutory functions and provide copies to third parties as an incidental to such functions.
- 12 Building work is scheduled to commence on 22 July 2002. **On site archaeological work should be completed at the very latest by Friday 12 July 2002.** There will be no extensions of time for bad weather or unexpected archaeology, and the Archaeologist should cost his on-site operations to complete by this date.
- 13 This scheme summarizes the elements of archaeological work needed to inform SMC and comply with an archaeological condition appended to planning permission. It is **not** a contract or complete specification, and the County Heritage Unit makes no warranty that the works are fully or exactly described. The details of implementation must be the subject of a contract between the school or its agent, and their selected archaeological contractor.

Scheme of Works

Site Preparation

- 14 Chestnut paling fencing to secure the trench area will be provided by the school or its agent (Stott Thompson Architects). The drystone wall along the SAM boundary will be dismantled by independent contractors down to foundation level. All other site preparation including the removal of grass, trees and tree remains, and wall footings should be carried out by the Archaeologist.

Machine Excavation

- 15 If and where feasible, bearing in mind the likely presence of school children, topsoil and thick homogeneous fill deposits may be removed by machine using a 360°, tracked, back-acting mini-excavator, having available for use a toothless or ditching bucket. Machine excavation should be supervised by the Archaeologist, and the machine operator should be "in attendance" to the Archaeologist.

Metal Detection

- 16 Spoil from the excavations should be subject to the detection and collection of metal objects. All hand cleaned surfaces of features and archaeological layers should be scanned for metal object signals, and excavation priorities assessed taking these signals into account. Metal objects should be recovered from the surface of in situ deposits before the end of each day, subject to archaeological supervision such that finds are properly recorded and conserved.

Recording

- 17 All features and deposits of archaeological interest should be given context numbers, hand excavated, and sampled. A sample of post-holes should be cross-sectioned to obtain a general understanding of their character, depth and size distribution across the site. Any unknown or enigmatic features should be investigated on a sampling basis. The elevation of any buried soil horizons and the underlying natural subsoil where exposed should be recorded. Bulk and small finds should be recovered, recorded and packaged in accordance with IFA standard finds handling and disposal procedures.
- 18 The excavation area should be planned in relation to the nearby buildings. All contexts should be plotted at conventional scales to show their horizontal and vertical distribution. One long section should be drawn along the boundary of the SAM, and at least two cross-sections at right angles to the boundary should be drawn. Where deep deposits extend beyond 1.2 m in depth, the SAM boundary should be shored, and an optional cross-trench should be excavated as marked in Fig 1, stepping or battering back the edge of excavation so that the bottom-most deposits can be recorded safely.

Environmental / Deposit Analysis

- 19 All deposits with the following Munsell colour notations should be automatically sampled and their composition and origin determined:
 - a) Values of less than or equal to 3 and Chromas of less than or equal to 2;
 - b) Values of higher than or equal to 7 and Chromas of less than or equal to 2.All other sampling should be carried out commensurate with the importance and integrity of the deposits.
- 20 The contribution of building materials to deposits should be assessed. Where coherent fragments of mortar occur, these should be collected and analysed. All brick, tile, and dressed, decorated, carved or marked stone should be collected and analysed.

Educational Work

- 21 The Archaeologist should provide talks, plans, photographs, and small party guided tours on the excavation suitable for primary school children, insofar as it is feasible within the timetable for on-site works and appropriate to the archaeology. Educational work should be arranged with the Headteacher.

Archive

- 22 All plans and sections should be checked prior to the start of development to ensure that the contexts and boundaries join or match up between plans and sections, or between sections. Harris matrix diagrams should be prepared to show the visible relationships between recorded contexts. All finds should be cleaned and properly stored. All metal objects should be x-rayed. A site archive should be compiled, consisting of all photographs and primary written records such as plans, sections, site narrative, concordance of contexts, and interim assessment reports. Catalogues of finds, plans, sections, and photographs should be produced and cross-referenced. Opportunity to inspect the site archive should be provided to the Curator of the Harrogate Museums Service, and the archive should be prepared and packaged in accordance with the curatorial requirements of the Harrogate Borough Museums Service.

Post-Excavation Work

- 23 Information and artefacts recovered should be assessed for their potential for further analysis. An assessment report setting out the stratigraphic narrative, and enumerating the different kinds of evidence from the site, the potential for and cost of further analysis, should be prepared. Until the post-excavation assessment has been completed, the extent of further work cannot be quantified or costed. Where necessary and reasonable, additional analytical work will need to be carried out to properly record the archaeological remains. In general, analytical costs can amount to some 40%-60 % of total project costs. However, where the potential for further analysis is limited, the assessment report can form the final summary report on the investigations. The Archaeologist should provide indicative or contingent costs for this stage of the work.

Summary Report

- 24 A summary report should be prepared following NYCC guidelines on reporting. The report should include a brief introduction, a summary of works carried out including photographs of operations, description of the remains including all relevant plans and sections, interpretation and assessment of the significance of the remains in relation to the aims, and catalogues of finds, plans and sections, and photographs.
- 25 Six (6) copies of the summary report should be produced, one each for Harrogate Museums Service and English Heritage, and two each for North Rigton C of E School, and the County Sites & Monuments Record. The archaeological contractor should be prepared to provide additional copies if requested by the County Council for use in respect of its statutory functions.

Appendix II***Inventory of Primary Archive***

Record	Detail	Quantity
PRE-EXCAVATION	Risk assessment	1 report
	Specification (Campling 2002)	1 report
WRITTEN RECORD	Trench record sheets	1 x A4
	Context register	2 x A4
	Context sheets	38 x A4
DRAWN RECORD	Drawing register	1 x A4
	Plans and sections	3 x A3
PHOTOGRAPHS	Photographic register	4 x A4
	Colour slides	1 film
	Monochrome contact prints/negatives	1 film
SAMPLES	Environmental sample register	1 x A4
	Environmental laboratory record sheets	7 x A4

Appendix III***Inventory of Contexts***

Context	Description
100	Topsoil
101	Fill of gully 102
102	Cut of gully
103	Primary fill of ditch 104
104	Cut of ditch
105	Fill of pit 106
106	Cut of pit
107	Levelling deposit
108	Deposit
109	Bank deposit
110	? Buried soil
111	Bank deposit
112	Deposit
113	Deposit
114	? Buried soil
115	Tertiary fill of construction cut 118
116	Secondary fill of construction cut 118
117	Primary fill of construction cut 118
118	Construction cut
119	Secondary fill of ditch 104
120	Deposit
121	Secondary fill of ditch 123
122	Primary fill of ditch 123
123	Cut of ditch 123 (same as 126/137)
124	Secondary fill of ditch 126
125	Primary fill of ditch 126
126	Cut of ditch 126 (same as 123/137)
127	Fill of possible pit 128
128	Cut of possible pit
129	? Buried soil
130	? Buried soil
131	Deposit
132	Cancelled
133	Cancelled
134	Deposit

Context	Description
135	Secondary fill of ditch 137
136	Primary fill of ditch 137
137	Cut of ditch 137 (same as 123/126)
138	Bank deposit
139	Bank deposit

Appendix IV***Inventory of Artefacts***

Artefact Type	Context	Quantity
POTTERY	116	8
	Unstat.	7
TILE	107	1
BRICK	Unstat.	1
SLATE TILE	Unstat.	3
IRON OBJECT	116	3
CLAY PIPE	Unstat.	1
GLASS	Unstat.	4
SLATE PENCIL	Unstat.	3
Total		31

Appendix V***Inventory of Environmental Samples***

Sample	Context	Type	Description
500	101	GBA	Fill of gully 102
501	103	GBA	Primary fill of ditch 104
502	105	GBA	Fill of pit 106
503	114	GBA	? Buried soil
504	127	GBA	Fill of possible pit 128
505	122	GBA	Primary fill of ditch 123
506	111	GBA	Bank deposit
507	120	GBA	? Buried soil