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	SNY	6944
	ENY	890
	CNY	1008
	Parish	BO36
WEST VIEW, MAIN STREET, WISTOW.	Rec'd	27/05/202

REPORT ON AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF. OSA REPORT No: OSA01WB05.

MARCH 2002.



OSA

ON SITE ARCHÆOLOGY

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OSA01WB05 - West View, Main Street, Wistow.

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Report on an Archaeological Watching Brief.

USAUTWEUS - West view, Main Street, Wis	NYC 1008
Report Summary.	8036
	NYS 6944
REPORT NO:	8036 NYS 6944 OSA01WB05 NYE 890
SITE NAME:	West View, Main Street, Wistow.
COUNTY:	North Yorkshire.
NATIONAL GRID REFERENCE:	SE 5920 3570.
PLANNING APPLICATION No:	8/36/214/PA
ON BEHALF OF: TEXT:	Mr K Simpson West View Main Street Wistow YO8 3UU Faye Palmer.
FIELDWORK:	Faye Palmer
TIMING:	Fieldwork 18 th -19 th March 2002. Post excavation & report preparation 19 th March 2002.
ENQUIRIES TO:	Nick Pearson On Site Archaeology 25A Milton Street York YO10 3EP
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PERIODS REPRESENTED:	Modern.

1.0 Introduction.

An archaeological watching brief was carried out by On-Site Archaeology in the garden at the rear of West View, Main Street, Wistow. A detached house and garage with driveway were to be built on the site by the owner of West View. The watching brief comprised the observation of the stripping of topsoil from the whole site and the digging of raft foundations for the house. The foundations for the garage were not observed. The work was carried out on the 18th and 19th March 2002.

2.0 Site Location.

The site is situated at NGR SE 5920 3570, next to the church in the centre of the village of Wistow. The site is bounded to the north and west by residential land, to the east by a lane and schoolyard and to the south by a lane, which forms the boundary of the churchyard. The site is the garden of West View, a former farmhouse and barn.

3.0 Archaeological Background.

The site of the development lies in the centre of the village and is to the north of All Saints Church, which has elements dating from the 13th century onwards. The proximity to the churchyard and its position on the north side of the church makes the site likely to contain burials. Suicides and non-communicants were often buried on the north side of churches and sometimes even outside the churchyard walls.

The garden of West View formed part of a large area of farming land, and was used as pasture for cows and a vegetable patch until two years ago. The house and barn on the site date from the mid 18th century, and could have been part of a larger farm complex. Remains of farm buildings on the site could therefore be encountered. Remains of medieval date, possibly also farm buildings, could also be found in deeper excavation areas.

4.0 Methodology.

The topsoil was stripped from the site by a back acting machine with a 1.2m wide bucket, mainly by bulldozing. The raft foundation for the house was then dug by the same machine, excavating down to natural deposits. The raft was L shaped and situated on the south side of the site.

5.0 Results.

The topsoil [1000] across the site consisted of firm dark greyish brown clayey silt with rare stones and fragments of CBM. It ranged from 0.20 - 1.2m thick and was more than 0.80m deep across most of the site. Below this was the subsoil [1001], a soft, light brownish grey sandy silt with occasional patches of white sand, 0.2m deep. Below the subsoil was the natural [1002] firm orange sand with frequent spots of brown and grey sand and rare iron pan fragments.

In the south west corner of the raft foundation, the subsoil filled a large hole approx. 2.00m deep and 3m long. The width of the feature could not be determined as it continued beyond the edge of the excavation. This feature was thought to be the recently filled in remains of a pond, but no finds were made to confirm this. The only artefacts recovered on the site were 20th century in date, and included pottery sherds, one piece of clay pipe and a cows horn found in the topsoil. As a result of the fact that no archaeological features or finds were made meant that a decision was made not to observe the digging of the foundations for the garage.

Context	Description	Interpretation	Maximum depth
1000	Firm dark greyish brown clayey silt, rare stones, CBM frags, white glazed pot, horn.	Topsoil	1.2m
1001	Soft light brownish grey sandy silt, occ patches white sand no other incl.	Subsoil	1m (in poss. Pond)
1002	Firm orange sand, freq brown and grey spots rare iron pan.	Natural	Unknown



Figure 1. Site Location (NGR SE 5920 3570) Reproduced from the 2000 Ordnance Survey 1:25,000 maps with the permission of The Controller of Her Majesty's Stationery Office. © Crown copyright. OSA Licence No: AL 52132A0001

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