

Rec 4-2-4

3070

NYE 1399

NYC 1257

NYS 8585

**Plot 1, South Wold Farm  
Duggleby  
North Yorkshire  
SE 8781 6706**

**Archaeological Watching Brief**

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**MAP**

**Plot 1, South Wold Farm,  
Duggleby  
North Yorkshire  
SE 8781 6706  
Archaeological Watching Brief**

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**Plot 1, South Wold Farm**  
**Duggleby**  
**North Yorkshire**  
**Archaeological Watching Brief**  
**SE 8781 6706**

**Summary**

*A Watching Brief on the excavation of foundation trenches for a single dwelling and garage, and associated service trenches on Plot 1, South Wold Farm, Duggleby located three postholes and two large modern features. A single residual sherd of 12<sup>th</sup>-14<sup>th</sup> pottery was recovered. The site had previously been topsoil and subsoil stripped without archaeological supervision, therefore the full extent of archaeological remains on the site is unclear.*

**1. Introduction**

- 1.1 An Archaeological Watching Brief was carried out by MAP Archaeological Consultancy Ltd during the excavation of foundation and service trenches associated with the construction of a single dwelling and garage on Plot 1 at South Wold Farm, Duggleby (Figs. 1 & 2: SE 8781 6706 - Ryedale District Council Planning Application No. 00/00407/REM).
- 1.2 The work was carried out by MAP Archaeological Consultancy Ltd, on the 28<sup>th</sup> of November and 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> of December 2003.
- 1.3 All work was funded by Mr. A Johnson; the contractor on the site was Harris Construction (York) Ltd.
- 1.4 All maps within this report have been produced from Ordnance Survey with the permission of Her Majesty's Stationery Office, Crown Copyright. Licence No AL 50453A.

**2. Site Description**

- 2.1 Plot 1 South Wold Farm is situated to the south of the junction of Salents Road and New Road, Duggleby, and covers an area measuring approximately 40m x 20m (Fig. 3 & 4).

- 2.2 The site had been cleared, topsoil and subsoil stripped, and a thin bed of rubble laid directly onto the natural prior to the arrival of the archaeologist. The excavation of the footings commenced from this level, extending to a maximum depth of 0.9m. Prior to the clearance the site was heavily overgrown with areas of tipping, and the remains of farm buildings and silos.

### 3. Geology

- 3.1 The site stands on soils of the Coombe 1 Association, well drained calcareous fine silty soils, deep in valley bottoms, shallow on valley sides, over a solid geology of chalk and chalky drift (Mackney et al 1983).

### 4. Historical and Archaeological Background

- 4.1 Duggleby is within the civil parish of Kirby Grindalythe, North Yorkshire. The village is situated at the base of the Great Wold Valley, straddling the principle watercourse through the valley, the Gypsy race.

- 4.2 Many variants of the place name Duggleby are attested in the documentary record from the Eleventh to Seventeenth century. The primary element appears to be a Scandinavian personal name *Dufgall*, originally derived from Old Irish *Dubhghall*, 'black foreigner' applied by the Irish to Danish Vikings. The *by* element refers to a settlement associated with the personal name. The process through which a place name of this type is attached to a location is uncertain. It may imply a personal possession of a person named *Dufgal* (Smith 1937). Alternatively as the name is derived essentially from an insult it might persist as a derogatory term applied by locals to Danish settlers in the area. Although *by* is also a Scandinavian element, its use in denoting a settlement does not necessarily imply that the settlement was populated by Scandinavians. Place name evidence is not really sufficient to prove the existence of an Anglo-Scandinavian community in the area.

- 4.3 There are settlements of medieval origin spaced at regular intervals along the valley approximately 1800m apart, from Wharram Le Street to the west to Weaverthorpe to the east, taking into account the deserted village of Mowthorpe and excepting a large gap between Kirby Grindalythe and West Lutton. The regular spacing of nucleated dwellings, now much contracted from their original peak, demonstrates that the maximum settlement density for subsistence arable farming was achieved in the medieval period. It is likely that the valley reached a peak of arable farming prior to the Black Death. Taking into account the surrounding field systems, there would have been an unbroken line of fields in agricultural production down the valley interspersed with settlements at convenient walking distance from village fields and a share of other natural resources.

- 4.4 A rapid Desk Top Study of the site was carried out in 1999 by Kevin Cale, in response to an earlier planning application on the two building plots. From the evidence of a pattern of fields recorded in the Eighteenth century, Cale suggested that the medieval field system was substantially intact at this time. North-west of the village, long curvilinear strip fields indicated the survival of ridge and furrow cultivation. Although the fields south of the village appeared to have been enclosed in the medieval period some of the north-south boundaries respect the line of fields to the north. This suggests a pattern of north to south strip field cultivation on either side of the Gypsy Race. Cale also suggested that the development site may have been located at the western extent of a possible village green represented by an undeveloped triangle of land on the eastern side of the village. The contemporary Eighteenth century village is irregular and clustered around the road crossing over the Gypsy Race (NYCC 2001).
- 4.5 The site lies approximately 100m north-west of Duggleby Howe, a standing Round Barrow, and 50m from the crop marks of a double ditch surrounding the mound. Four smaller ring ditches to the east. Duggleby Howe was probably the centre of a Neolithic ritual landscape, one of several ritual focuses in a landscape that was densely populated at this time (Stoertz 1997).
- 4.6 Between July and August 1890 Duggleby Howe was excavated by J. R. Mortimer. The mound was found to contain ten inhumations and fifty-three cremations of Later Neolithic date (Mortimer 1905). In addition there was pottery and other finds from disturbed secondary Anglo-Saxon burials. Mortimer also found evidence of a cross shaped trench cut into the mound which he suggested represented a moot hill, a ceremonial and political meeting place. It has more recently been suggested that this was in fact the base for a post mill (Manby ed. 1988).
- 4.7 A Watching Brief on Plot 2 of the South Wold Farm development during preparatory ground clearance in advance of the construction of a single dwelling revealed several archaeological features. Residual flint flakes were collected from the overburden and from the fills of later features. Three linear features, a grain dryer or oven and a single post hole of medieval date were excavated (MAP 2002).

## 5. Methodology

- 5.1 The footings for the house and garage plots were excavated by a mini excavator using a 0.60m wide untoothed bucket, under archaeological supervision. Footings were excavated to a depth of approximately 1m.

5.2 Where archaeological features were observed within the foundation trenches sections were drawn at a scale of 1:10, with a plan of the archaeological deposits being drawn at a scale of 1:100 following an EDM survey of the location of the features. A photographic record was taken in colour print in 35mm format, and a written record was compiled under the continuous context recording system on MAP's *pro forma* context sheets.

## 6. Results

6.1 Excavation of the footings through the rubble platform revealed a total of five cut features, four within the footings for the house and a single feature within the footprint of the garage (Fig. 4).

6.2 Features located within the footprint of the house plot consisted of two postholes (contexts 003 & 005) and two large sub rectangular cuts (contexts 007 & 009).

6.3 Postholes 003 and 005 measured 0.30m and 0.29m in diameter and both survived to a depth of 0.18m (Fig. 00). Posthole 003 possessed a 'U' shaped profile with a single fill of clay with sub angular chalk fragments (context 004). Posthole 005 had a flat bottomed 'U' shaped profile and a single fill of silty clay with inclusions of brick/tile flecks and pea gravel (context 006). No finds were recovered from either feature.

6.4 Feature 007 was 1.6m in length, 1.5m in width and 0.7m deep although the full extent of this feature was not defined as it extended beyond the south-western corner of the house plot and continued below the depth of the excavated footing (Fig. 4). The fill (context 008) a silty clay contained redeposited natural material. No dating evidence was recovered.

6.5 Feature 009 measured 2.8m in length and over 1.9m in width. Excavation of the footing ceased at 0.90m below the existing ground surface, however it is clear that the feature extended beyond this depth. Feature 009 contained three fills (contexts 011, 010 & 012). The primary fill, a slightly silty clay with chalk and natural flint inclusions (context 011) contained a single sherd of pottery of 12<sup>th</sup>-14<sup>th</sup> century date (Appendix 2). Sealing Deposit 011 was a firm clay with chalk and natural flint inclusions capped by redeposited natural and modern hardcore (context 012 : Fig. 4).

6.6 Excavation within the footprint of the garage located a single circular feature (cut 001), sub-rectangular in plan, with a steep sided 'U' shaped profile and a surviving to a depth of 0.18m. The fill of the post hole (context 002) was a sterile clay with numerous small sub-angular fragments of chalk.

- 6.7 Postholes 001, 003 and 005 appear to form a linear grouping possibly a previous fenceline on a north south alignment of unknown date. Cuts 007 and 009 may equate to activity associated with the previous agricultural land use of the site.
- 6.8 The Watching Brief on the service trench revealed no archaeological features, excavation down to 0.4m exposed an undisturbed chalk subsoil.

## 7. Summary and Conclusions

- 7.1 A total of five cut features were recorded during the Watching Brief, only one of which provided dating evidence of 12<sup>th</sup>-14<sup>th</sup> century date. As the site was topsoil and subsoil stripped without archaeological supervision it is impossible to say whether or not the features exposed represent the complete picture of archaeological activity on the site. On balance, this seems unlikely considering the nature of deposits and cut features recorded during the excavations of Plot 2 (MAP 2002) and that the archaeological features on Plot 1 were only recorded in the excavated foundation trenches of the house and garage plot, the remainder of the footprints being obscured by a modern rubble surface.

## 8. Bibliography

- |                       |  |
|-----------------------|--|
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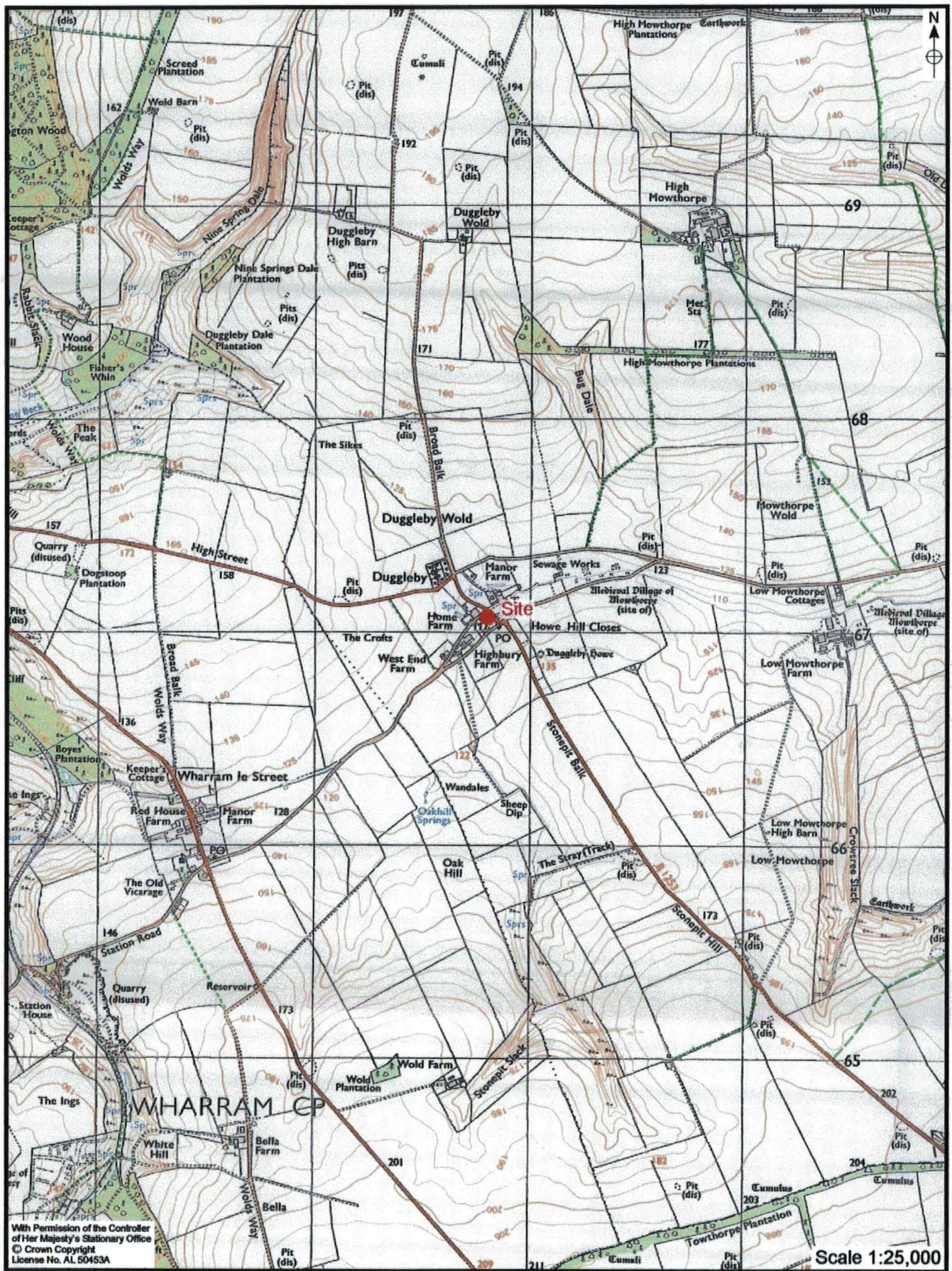
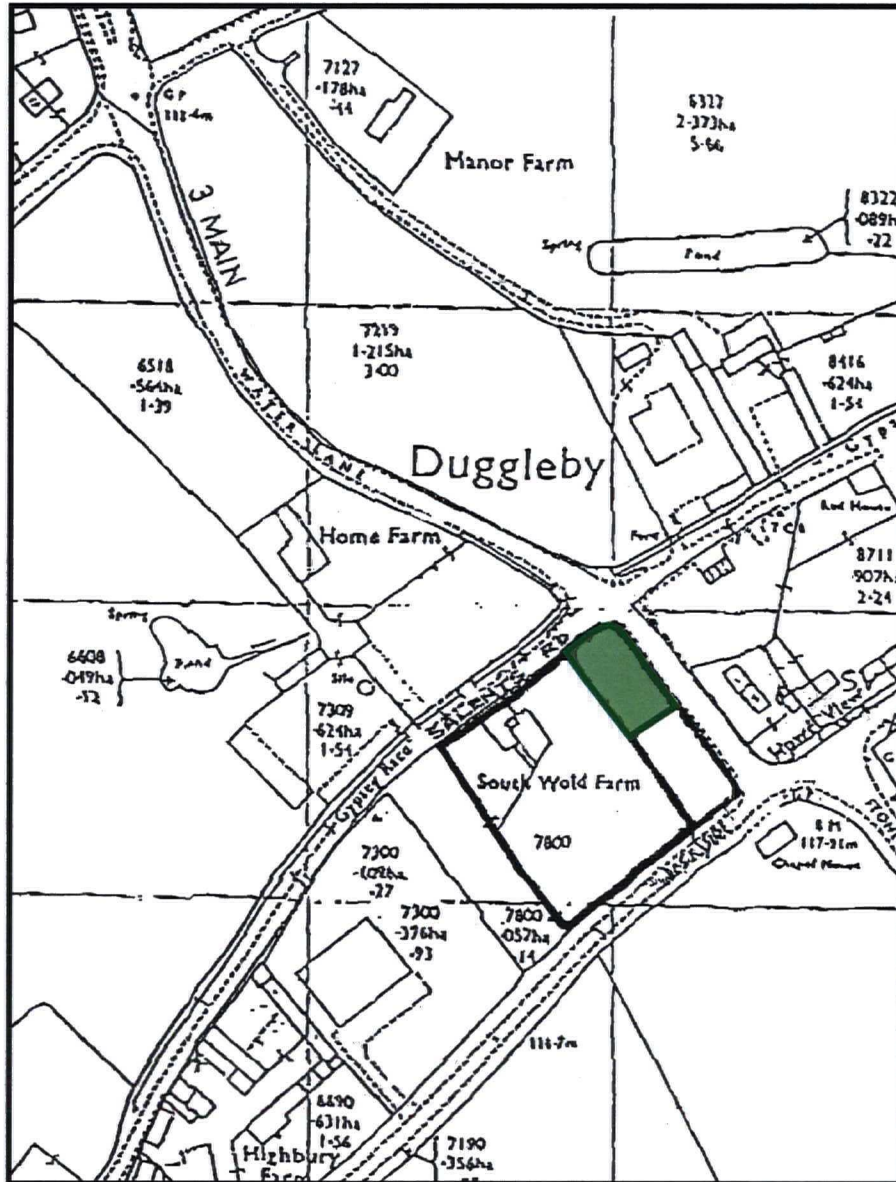


Figure 1. Site Location

■ Area of Development



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Scale 1:2,500

Figure 2. Area of Development

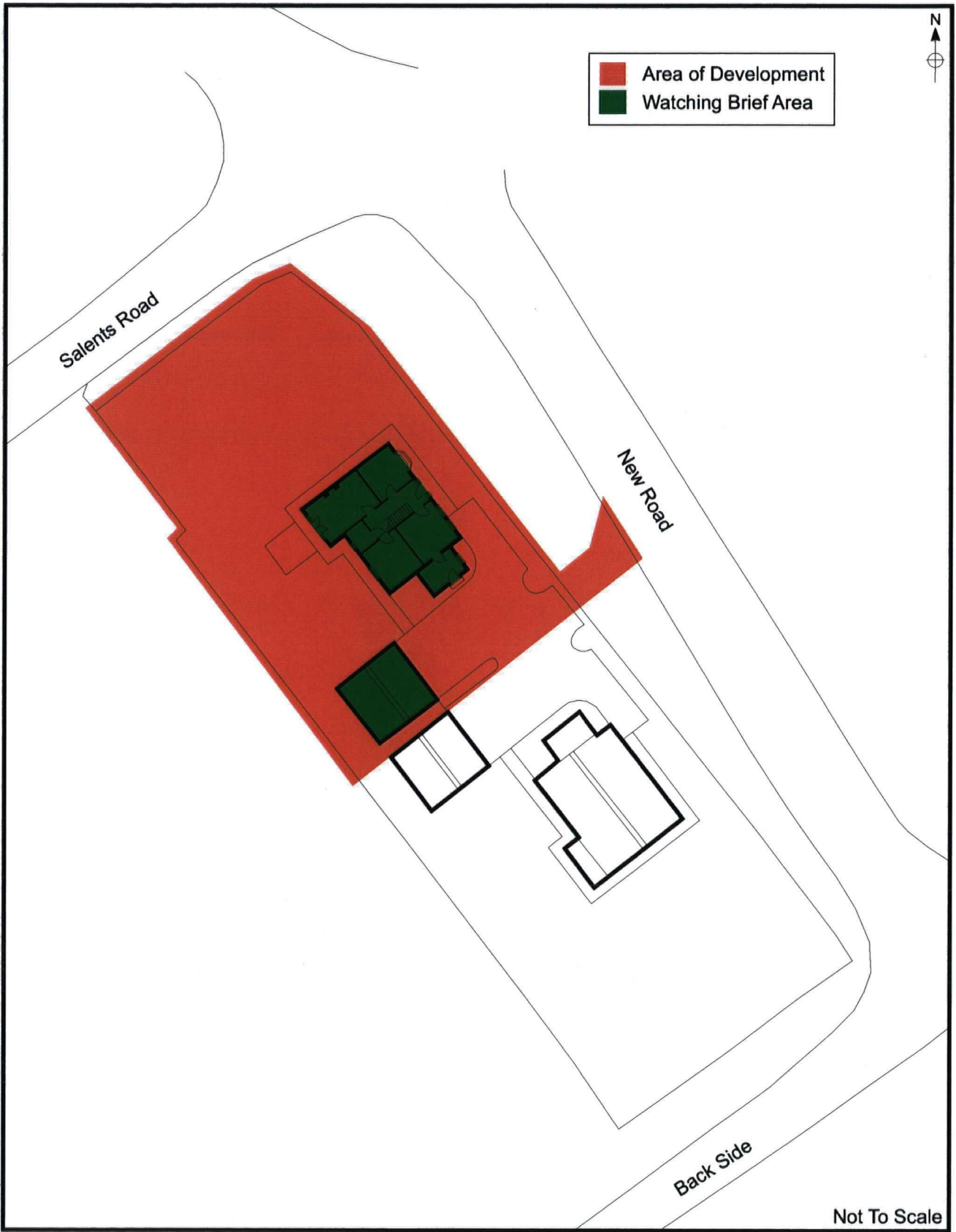


Figure 3. Watching Brief Area

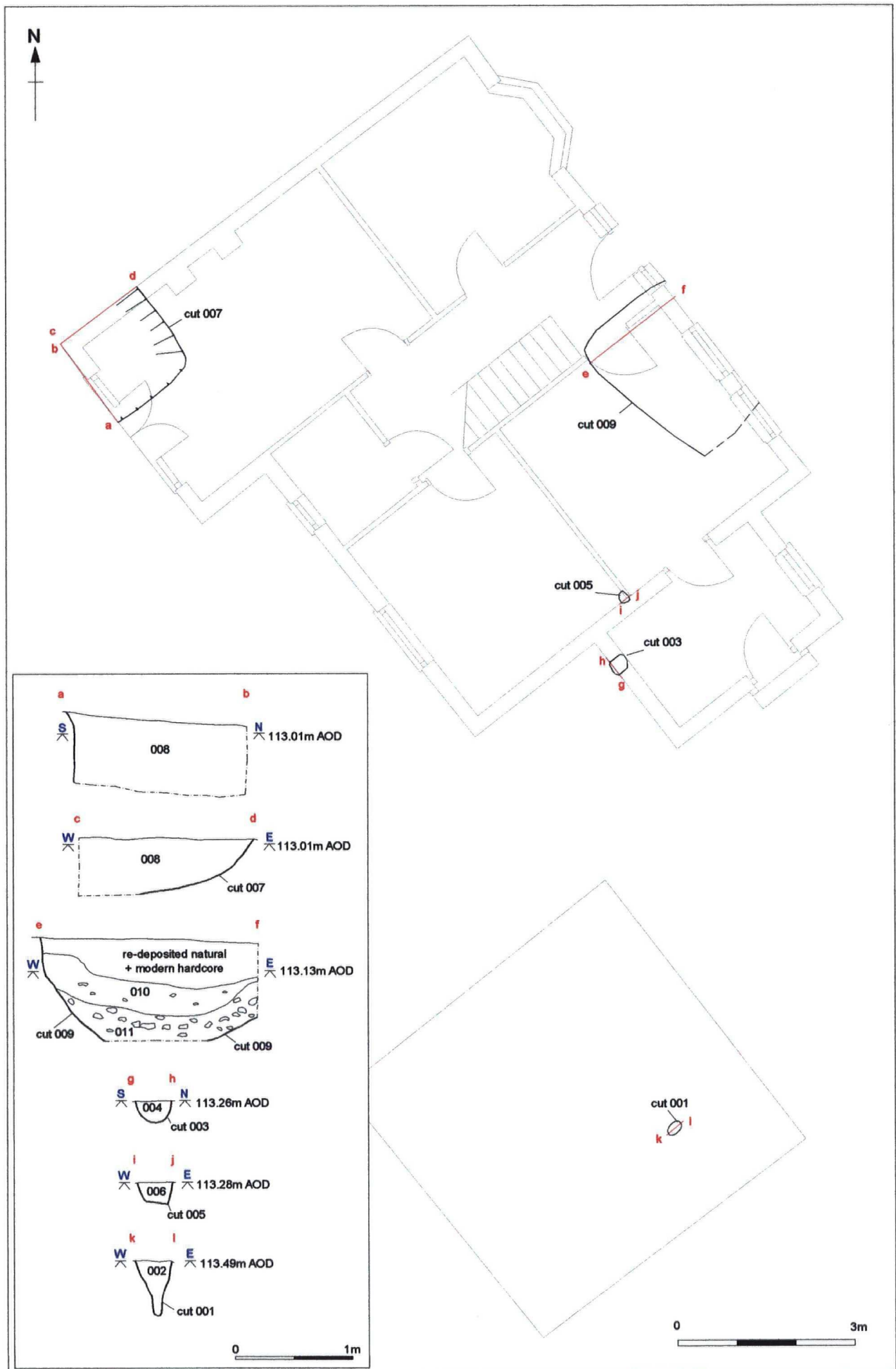


Figure 4. Plan and Sections of Archaeological Features

## APPENDIX 1

### Context Listing

Context	Description
001	Cut - posthole
002	Deposit - 10YR 4/6 clay fill of 001.
003	Cut - posthole
004	Deposit - 10YR 4/3 clay fill of 003.
005	Cut - posthole
006	Deposit - 10YR 3/2 silty clay fill of 005.
007	Cut - pit
008	Deposit - 10YR 4/2 slightly silty clay fill of 007.
009	Cut - pit
010	Deposit - 10YR 4/2 clay fill of 009 (above 011).
011	Deposit - 10YR 6/6 slightly silty clay fill of 009 (below 010).

## APPENDIX 2

### Finds Listing

Context	Description
10	Single sherd of Staxton ware - Medieval

## APPENDIX 3

### Archive Record

Drawing No.	Scale	Date	Description
1	1:10	01.12.03	South facing section through pit 009.
2	1:10	01.12.03	East and South facing section through pit 007.
3	1:100	02.12.03	Feature location plan.
4	1:10	28.11.03	South facing section through posthole 001.
5	1:10	28.11.03	East facing section through posthole 003.
6	1:10	28.11.03	South facing section through posthole 005.

## APPENDIX 4

### Photographic Record

No.	Context	Scale	Facing	Comments / Identifier
1	09,10,11	1Metre	N	Section through cut 09.
2	09,10,11	1Metre	N	Section through cut 09.
3	-	-	S	View of plot 1 with Duggleby Howe in background.
4	-	-	S	View of plot 1 with Duggleby Howe in background.
5	-	-	N	View of plot 1 with Gypsey Race in background.