

04/00744/FU

Rec'd 16/6/05

NYCC HER	
SNY	9530
ENY	2824
CNY	3708
Parish	3083
Rec'd	16/6/05

Malton and Norton Rugby Union Football Club
Malton
North Yorkshire
SE 7978 7229

Archaeological Watching Brief

Authorised by *MAC*
 Date: *6/5/05*

**Malton and Norton Rugby Union Football Club
Malton
North Yorkshire
SE 7978 7229**

Archaeological Watching Brief

Contents	Page
Figure List	1
Plate List	1
Non-Technical Summary	2
1. Introduction	2
2. Historical and Archaeological Background	2
3. Methodology	3
4. Results	3
5. Conclusions	4
6. Bibliography	4
7. Contributors	5

Figure List

1. Site Location. Scale 1:50,000.	6
2. Watching Brief Area. Scale 1:2,500.	7

Plate List

1. General View of Site. Facing North East.	8
2. Floodlight Foundation Hole under Excavation. Facing South West.	8

Malton and Norton Rugby Union Football Club
Malton
North Yorkshire
SE 7978 7229

Archaeological Watching Brief Report

Non-technical Summary

An Archaeological Watching Brief was undertaken by MAP Archaeological Consultancy Ltd at Malton and Norton Rugby Union Football Club, Malton, North Yorkshire, during April 2005. The work involved monitoring groundworks associated with the erection of four floodlight poles.

No archaeological features were discovered during the Watching Brief

1. Introduction

1.1 An Archaeological Watching Brief was undertaken by MAP Archaeological Consultancy Ltd at the Malton and Norton Rugby Union Football Club, Malton, North Yorkshire (SE 7978 7229, Fig. 1, Pl. 1). The work involved monitoring groundworks associated with the erection of four 15m high floodlighting masts (Fig. 2), and was to fulfil Condition 2 of planning Application 04/00744/FUL.

1.2 All work was funded by the Malton and Norton Rugby Union Football Club.

1.3 All Maps within this report have been produced from The Ordnance Survey with the permission of the Controller of Her Majesty's Stationery Office, Crown Copyright. License No. AL 50453A.

2. Historical and Archaeological Background

2.1 Malton lies on undulating ground, which falls rapidly towards the river Derwent, bounding the settlement to the south. In modern times the town has

extended to the west and north, with the town of Norton forming a suburb on the east bank of the Derwent. The main road to Whitby enters Malton at Old Maltongate and Yorkersgate forms the main road to York.

2.2 Orchard Field has long been recognised as the site of a Roman fort guarding the Derwent crossing, with a civilian settlement stretching southwards from the fort to the river (Corder, 1930 and Mitchelson, 1964). The remains of the fort are known to extend westwards in to the grounds of The Lodge, and further Roman activity has recently been uncovered in this area (MAP 1997).

2.3 The name Malton derives from the Old English for middle farm (Old English *middle* or Old Norse *medal*, Old English *tun*, Field 1980). Malton is recorded in the Domesday Survey of 1086, although this is taken to refer to the village of Old Malton. Old Malton itself is thought to have been the main settlement focus during the Anglian and Anglo-Scandinavian periods.

3. Methodology

3.1 Each of the four mast-holes was hand-excavated to a depth of 1.5m. Each hole was rectangular in plan and measured approximately 0.6m x 0.60m. All excavation was carried out under full archaeological supervision.

4. Results

4.1 Excavations revealed a 0.3m to 0.4m deep deposit of turf and topsoil. This deposit directly sealed naturally-formed sandy clay subsoils (Pl. 2).

4.2 No archaeological features or deposits were encountered during the Watching Brief and no finds were recovered.

5. Conclusions

5.1 No archaeological features or deposits were discovered during the Watching Brief. Given the known proximity of the site to the Roman fort and *vicus*, it is argued that the negative results of the Watching Brief reflect the limited extent of the monitored groundworks, rather than the true archaeological potential of the site.

6. Bibliography

Corder P., 1930, *The Defences of the Roman Fort at Malton*.

Mitchelson N., 1964, 'Roman Malton. The Civilian Settlement', In *YAJ 41*, 209-261.

MAP, 1997, *Malton Castle, Malton, North Yorkshire*, Archaeological Evaluation Interim Report.

7. Contributors

Watching Brief	Nick Finch
Report	Dave Knight and Nigel Cavanagh
Illustrations	Dave Knight
Plates	Dave Knight