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ENY	2859
CNY	2997
Parish	3072
Rec'd	25/4/05

Rec 25-4-5
 C 2997
 E 2859
 S 9558
 PARISH 3072

**Land Between Feversham Drive
 And Piercy End
 Kirbymoorside
 North Yorkshire
 SE 6968 8625**

Archaeological Watching Brief

Authorised by *MLW*

Date: *18th April 2005*

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April 2005

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SE 6968 8625**

Archaeological Watching Brief

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- 1 Site Location Scale 1 25,000

**Land Between Feversham Drive and Piercy End
Kirkbymoorside
North Yorkshire
SE 6968 8625
Archaeological Watching Brief Report**

Non Technical Summary

An Archaeological Watching Brief was undertaken by MAP Archaeological Consultancy Ltd. during August 2004 land between Feversham Drive and Piercy End, Kirkbymoorside, North Yorkshire. The work was undertaken in fulfilment of a condition attached to a Planning Application Consent and involved monitoring groundworks associated with the development of the site for residential properties.

No archaeological features were observed during the Watching Brief

1. Introduction

- 1.1 An Archaeological Watching Brief carried out by MAP Archaeological Consultancy Ltd. on land between Feversham Drive and Piercy End, Kirkbymoorside, at SE 6968 8625, during August 2004. The work involved monitoring groundworks associated with the residential development of the site.
- 1.2 All work was funded by S Harrison Construction Ltd.
- 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, Licence No. AL 50453A.

2. Site Description

- 2.1 The development site lies on the south side of the town of Kirkbymoorside, North Yorkshire, on the northern side of the A170 (Fig. 1). The land was previously utilised as pasture.
- 2.2 The site stands on soils of the Rivington 1 Association (541f). These are well-drained coarse loamy soils over a solid geology of sandstone (Mackney et al 1983, 9).

3. Historical and Archaeological Background

- 3.1 Kirkbymoorside is mentioned in the Domesday Book of 1086 under the lands of Hugh Fitzbaldric as *Chirchebi*. There, Orm had five carucates of land and Hugh held two ploughs and ten villans with three ploughs. There was a church and mill. The manor was worth 4s. (Williams & Martin 2003, 843-4).
- 3.2 Kirkbymoorside was part of the Mowbray fee held by the Stutevilles until the 14th century. The Nevilles then held the manor until it passed to the crown in 1569. Henry III granted permission for a weekly market and an annual fair in 1254.
- 3.3 The earliest evidence for settlement in the area is illustrated by finds of stone axes, a flint arrowhead and a barrow at Howe End (SE 6979 8650). Roman pottery has also been discovered in the vicinity of the church. A carved stone in the Anglian style has been recorded in the church of All Saints and in the fabric of the vicarage (MAP 2002, 4).
- 3.4 The original name of *Chirchebi* is thought to mean 'farm by the church'. By 1479 the name was *Kirkebi Moresyd* meaning 'church at the head of the moor' (Smith 1979).

4. Methodology

- 4.1 MAP was contracted by the site contractors only after machine topsoil-stripping operations had already commenced. Consequently, the Watching Brief was confined to a walk-over investigation and a photographic record of the stripped area, together with the monitoring of further sub-soil excavations associated with the construction of a site access road.

5. Results

- 5.1 Excavation revealed the site to have been covered by a 0.20m-0.30m deep silty topsoil and turf deposit. This deposit sealed naturally-formed subsoil deposits of silty clay.
- 5.2 No archaeological deposits or features were identified during the Watching Brief.

6. Conclusions

- 6.1 No archaeological features or deposits were identified during the Watching Brief and no finds were recovered. The only archaeological feature of note on the site was a poorly-preserved linear earthwork that was situated towards the western boundary of the site and which was aligned north-south. This feature was situated outside the excavation area and appeared to be the sole survivor of a complex of ridge and furrow earthworks that were destroyed by topsoil-stripping prior to the commencement of the Watching Brief.

7. Bibliography

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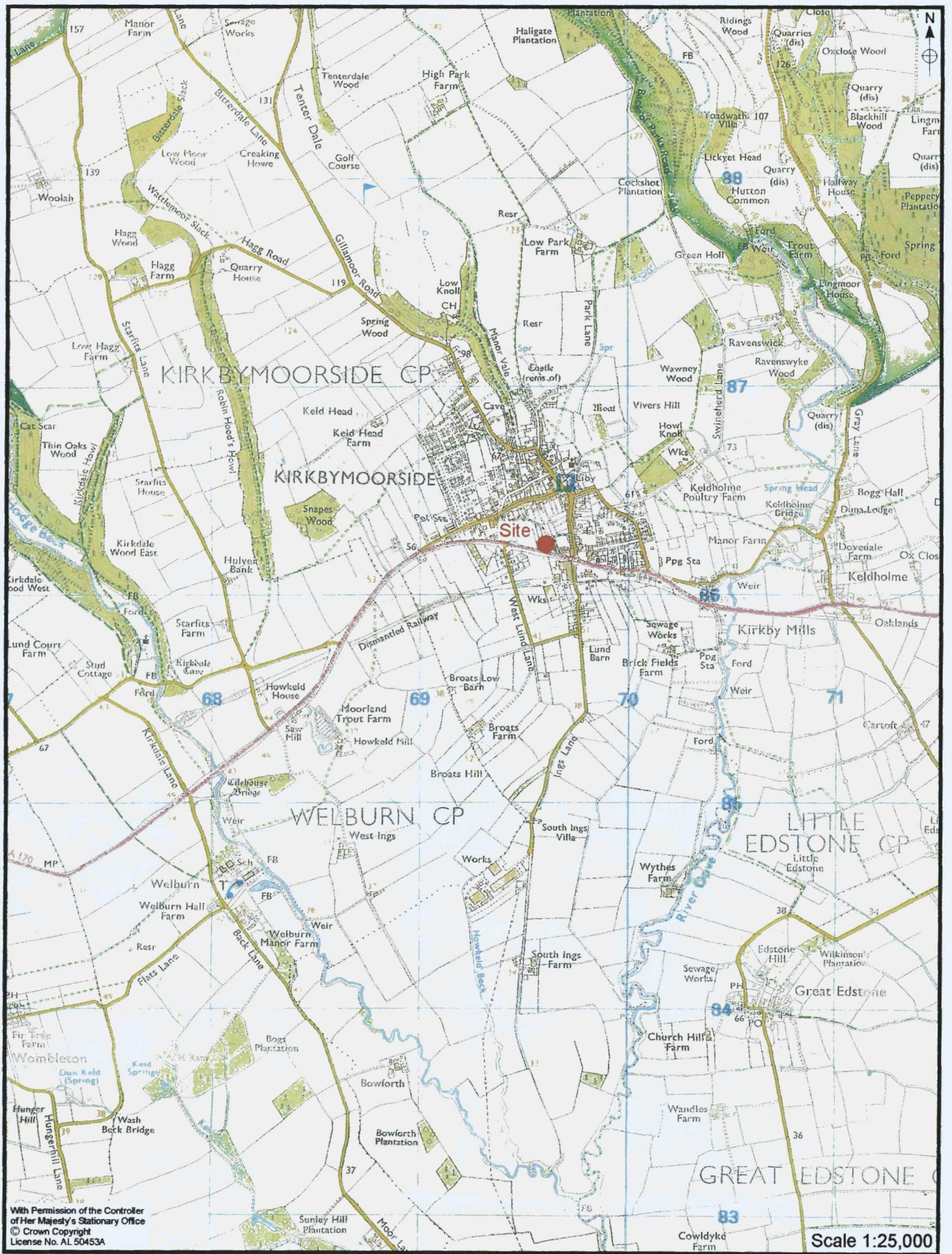


Figure 1. Site Location

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