York Archaeology

Archaeological Investigations at
20 Main Street, Wilberfoss

By K. Bentley and C. Dahlke

YA Watching Brief Report 2022/77 June 2022

York Archaeology

REGISTERED ORGANISATION CIfA

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York Archaeology, Cuthbert Morrell House, 47 Aldwark, York YO1 7BX

Phone: +44 (0)1904 663000 Fax: +44 (0)1904 663024

Email: archaeology@yorkat.co.uk Website: https://www.yorkarchaeology.co.uk

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Abbreviations

CBM	Ceramic Building Material
WSI	Written Scheme of Investigation

NON-TECHNICAL SUMMARY

Between the 6th and the 9th June and on the 25th July 2022; York Archaeology conducted an archaeological watching brief at 20 Main Street, Wilberfoss (NGE SE 72955 50884) (Figure 1).

The work was undertaken for Mr. Jack Bolam to fulfil a planning condition imposed upon the work by the East Riding of Yorkshire Council & Hull City Council (19/03268/PLF), and was based on a Written Scheme of Investigation produced by YA. The works involved the monitoring and recording of the excavations of footings for a house with attached garage along with associated trenches for services (Figures 1 and 2).

The excavations were undertaken on land previously used as a back garden to a residential dwelling. Natural geological tills were cut by four ovoid or circular pits which contained sherds of ceramics, and one Victorian brick well which had been backfilled with debris after it had fallen out of use. Root activity from previous and present landscaping was prevalent.

KEY PROJECT INFORMATION

Project Name	20 Main Street, Wilberfoss
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Document Number	2022/77
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NGR	SE 72955 50884
Museum Accession No.	N/A
OASIS Identifier	Pending

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1 INTRODUCTION

Between the 6th and the 9th June 2022 and on the 25th July 2022 YA carried out a watching brief at 20 Main Street, Wilberfoss, East Yorkshire (NGR SE 72955 50884) (Figure 1).

The work was undertaken for Mr. Jack Bolam to fulfil a planning condition imposed on the work by East Riding of Yorkshire Council & Hull City Council (19/03268/PLF).

The work was carried out in order to determine the extent, condition, character and date of any archaeological remains present, and to secure the preservation of the archaeological remains within the development area by record.

2 METHODOLOGY

The methodology followed the Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) (Appendix 3) (Vatylioti 2022)

The work comprised a continuous watching brief, on the excavation of all foundations and a service trench (Figure 1 and 2). The footings for a large house with attached garage measuring 35m north to south and maximum 25m east to west were excavated under archaeological supervision during June, whilst the trench for services was monitored in July. In accordance with the WSI excavation ceased as soon as significant deposits were revealed. The archaeological remains were then recorded and excavation continued to formation depth.

The site was stripped using a 3.5-ton 360° mechanical excavator fitted with a toothless bucket.

Archaeological contexts were planned using a GNSS with a minimum accuracy of +/- 0.1m, with hand-drawn plans at a scale of 1:20 and sections at a scale of 1:10 or 1:20 as appropriate. All drawings were related to the Ordnance Datum. Photographs of the features were taken using a DSLR camera.

3 LOCATION, GEOLOGY & TOPOGRAPHY

Wilberfoss is a village on the edge of the Yorkshire Wolds, situated approximately 7.5 miles east of York and 11 miles north west of Market Weighton.

The site is located to the rear of 20 Main Street, Wilberfoss (Figure 1). It is bounded by Main Street to the South, the gardens of residential properties fronting Ings Road to the north, and to the east and west by the gardens of 18 and 22 Main Street.

The underlying bedrock is composed of Mercia Mudstone Group. A sedimentary rock formed approximately 201 to 252 million years ago in the Triassic Period. The superficial geology is Bielby Sand Member, sand and silty deposits formed up to 2 million years ago in the Quaternary Period (BGS).

Topographically the site was roughly flat at 15m AOD.

4 ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

The following information was obtained online from Heritage Gateway (https://www.heritagegateway.org.uk/) searching a 1km area around the Site, in addition to the archaeological advice note provided in response to the application. The results are summarised below.

4.1 Prehistoric and Roman

The village of Wilberfoss lies within an important prehistoric and Romano-British landscape, a major feature of which is the Roman road between Brough and York which ran to the south of the medieval village. Romano-British crop marks are recorded 1.3km to the southeast of Site near to Sails Beck (Humber Historic Environment Record 22335).

A second Romano-British Road was located to the north of Wilberfoss on a north-west to south-east alignment. This road leaves the previously mentioned road at Barmby Moor and continues through Stamford Bridge to the north.

A small number of ditches and possible field systems have been uncovered during other archaeological watching briefs in the general area of Wilberfoss which could indicate a Romano-British presence in the landscape (Brindle et al 2016).

4.2 Medieval

The site lies within the historic core of the medieval village of Wilberfoss on the northern side of Main Street. Jeffrey's map of 1776 shows that the area clearly formed part of the historic core of the village, and was built up by that date. The name Wilberfoss is not recorded until c.1550, however it seems probable that an Anglian settlement was present at the time of the Domesday Survey of 1086; it is likely that this settlement was part of the Manor of Catton. In 1377 there were 105 poll-tax payers recorded in the settlement indicating a village of considerable size.

The medieval Church of St. John the Baptist is located to the north-east of the site and dates to the 12th century with several additions and repairs taking place since that time. A stone bridge dating to the medieval period is also present near the church.

Evidence of medieval ridge and furrow agriculture has been noted in aerial photography and was discovered during works on the main street of Wilberfoss village.

4.3 Post-Medieval

A Grade II listed house known as the Old Vicarage and an associated house dating to the late 18th century are located on Main Street, directly to the west of the site.

5 RESULTS

5.1 Overview

The monitored footings and service trench excavations revealed a consistent stratigraphy comprising glacial till (1002) which was sealed by a deposit of sandy silt subsoil (1001) 0.50m thick, which was in turn overlain by a modern garden topsoil (1000) between 0.20m and 0.30m in depth with heavy root disturbance.

Several features were cut into the glacial till (1002) and sealed by the subsoil (1001). Additionally, a Victorian well was uncovered cutting through the topsoil, subsoil and till.

Detailed descriptions of the contexts discussed below can be found in Appendix 2.

5.2 House and garage footings

Feature [1006]

[1006], a feature with steeply sloping sides and a concave base, both of which had been disturbed by bioturbation, was revealed at the base of the westernmost garage footing. The fill was mixed due to root activity, but mostly comprised a dark grey-brown sandy silt with occasional patches of mid-grey sandy clay. Several sherds of pottery dating to the 12th century were recovered from this fill.

The feature cannot be seen in the parallel trench 2m to the east, suggesting that it terminates before this point. While it appears linear rather than round, it is possible that this feature is an elongated pit, or alternatively it is possible that it is a linear feature which terminates immediately to the east.

Pit [1008]

The second feature investigated, [1008], was located in the southernmost garage footing adjacent to the south-western corner of the trench. This pit was smoothly circular in plan with its northern half concealed under the baulk, and had steeply sloping sides and a rounded concave base. The fill was mixed again due to root action but was friable, mid-grey silty sand with occasional inclusions of small stones. Several sherds of pottery which dated to the 12th century were recovered from the fill.

Pit [1011], posthole [1015] and pit [1013]

Two pits were revealed toward the centre of the building footprint. The first of these was [1011], which was oblong in shape with smooth sides and a gently concave base slightly disturbed by root activity. Several sherds of pottery which dated to the 13th century were recovered from the fill.

A possible posthole, [1015] was recorded at the base of pit [1011] which was ovoid in plan with smooth vertical sides and a concave base 0.18m below the base of the pit. One sherd of pottery dating from the late 11th - early 13th century was recovered from the fill, along with a small fragment of possible Roman glass.

Pit [1013] was located 1m to the east of [1011]. In plan this pit appeared to be oblong in shape with smooth sides and a gently concave to flat base which had again been disturbed by root activity. No finds were recovered.

Well 1003

A brick well 1.5m in diameter was uncovered cutting through the topsoil and subsoil layers into the natural till. The full depth was not observed, however it was seen to continue below the 1.20m depth of the footing trenches. The well was dry constructed of plain red bricks measuring 0.11m x 0.21m x 0.06m, observed to be the same has a recently-demolished garden wall on the property. It had been backfilled after falling into disuse with a loose dark silty sand which had become waterlogged. This was not fully investigated due to health and safety concerns. One fragment of clay tobacco pipe stem was recovered.

5.3 Service trench

This trench ran for approximately 20m on a north to south alignment from the southern property boundary though to the rear garden. It measured 0.50m wide and up to 0.60m deep.

Layers

The first 8m of the trench clearly exposed the natural till, above which two layers were observed in section. (1017) was a deposit of firm silty sand 1.60m in length and between 0.11m and 0.30m thick. One sherd of pottery dating from the late 11th century - 13th century was recovered along with one fragment of ironworking slag. This was overlain by (1016), a soft clayey silt 0.13m thick from which no finds recovered. A ceramic drain was also observed cutting through both of these layers.

Pit/possible linear

A feature [1020] was found at the base of the trench, at around the halfway point along its length. It extended below both section edges, and therefore it was not possible to determine whether it was an elongated pit or a linear feature. Upon investigation the feature had steeply sloping sides and an uneven base and measured 0.45m in width and 0.11 in depth. The fill was a soft clayey silt containing occasional charcoal flecks and small fragments of CBM, which are likely to date to between the 18th and mid-19th century but have the potential to be as early as 16th century.

6 THE POTTERY

By Anne Jenner

6.1 Introduction

Twenty-one sherds of mainly post-Roman pottery were retrieved from 6 contexts during archaeological intervention at 20 Main Street, Wilberfoss. They range from the Roman period of occupation to the 19th/20th century. Sherds are generally small and some of the later material is abraded. All the wares represented by these sherds appear to have been used in a domestic context. Some have sooting on their external surfaces. This suggests that they have been used

to heat their contents in an open fire. The sherds with soot on their surfaces are from the medieval period, in the main.

6.2 Methodology

Visual analysis involved separating fabric and form groups by date and type. (A binocular and digital microscope are used where necessary). The numbers of sherds of each type of pottery are recorded in tabular form (see Table below). Decorative schemas, stamps and other significant features are also noted when present. Assemblages from each relevant period are outlined briefly under 'Discussion' below. Interesting Items and assemblages are also considered in the 'Discussion' section. Any additional research and/or scientific analysis is outlined under the heading of 'Recommendations for further work'.

Spot Dating

Spot dates are given for each context containing the most significant pottery fabric types. This is because pottery is often the most common and most datable find on urban excavations, and consequently can help the excavation staff to interpret any given stratigraphic sequence. The method for calculating the SPOT date at York Archaeology is the latest date from the latest pottery type, although other archaeological organisations use different methods for calculating the SPOT date; including using the latest date from the earliest date range and the earliest date from the latest date range.

Date Range

Calculation of the date range is the earliest date from the earliest pottery type and the latest date from the latest pottery type. When there are two very distinct date ranges, these will be included in the text, e.g. Roman and medieval. Sherds that can be identified as intrusive or residual will be noted (Barclay, *et al* 2016, Appendix 1).

Sherd size

Sherd sizes are based on the following range of sizes and are measured across the widest dimension of the sherd. Small is anything less than 5cm, medium is anything above 5cm and below 10cm. Large is above 10cm. Sometimes very small (<1cm) and very large (>20cm) are used. These measurements are taken when there is no time to use weight as a corroborative measure.

6.3 The Wares

Roman

Grey wares – 1st - 4th century: The date range of Grey wares spans from the 1st to the late 4th century and therefore it is difficult to date them with accuracy. Only one grey ware sherd was present amongst the assemblage from Wilberfoss; this was probably part of a jar, but it is too small to determine this for certain. The precise date of its production and currency is not possible to ascertain.

Anglo-Scandinavian

York 'd' type – 10th/11th century: One Grey ware sherd resembles York 'd' type ware. This ware type occurs in York and Lincolnshire in the 10th and 11th centuries, though it can be found in 10th to 12th century contexts. It reaches its peak in York in the middle years of the 10th century

(Mainman 1990, 412). There are no known kilns producing this ware, but it is possible that it was produced in or close to Lincolnshire or York.

Medieval

White Gritty and Splashed Wares – late 11th / mid-13th century: Three main types of Splashed ware were present in the York area (oxidised, reduced and white wares) dating from the late 11th to the 13th century (Mainman and Jenner 2013, 1185). Although Mainman and Jenner outline the different fabrics and forms noted on several excavations in York, it is not clear where many of them were produced. They may have been fired in bonfire or clamp kilns, leaving little evidence behind.

A number of White Gritty wares were noted from intervention at 20 Main Street, Wilberfoss. These follow an earlier type known as 'Early Glazed' ware Type 1. They were probably made in the Howardian Hills, as much of the later medieval pottery is thought to have been made there and transported to York for sale. Early Glazed wares were being produced in the 10th century, but Splashed White wares were in currency from the late 11th to the early 13th century. By the late 12th century, they are overtaken by York Glazed wares.

Only one Splashed White ware sherd was retrieved from intervention at Wilberfoss, but a handful of White Gritty sherds without glaze may have been part of Splashed vessels.

Gritty wares – late 11th- mid-13th century: Buff Gritty wares were in currency during the same period as Splashed wares (Mainman and Jenner 2013, 1178-79), and were the main cooking vessel fabric in York at this time. Similarly to the Splashed wares, Gritty wares vary considerably in fabric. Typical forms included shouldered and rounded jars and occasionally spouted bowls.

There is some evidence for a provenance in West Yorkshire for some of these vessels (ibid), but a small number of different Northern Gritty ware fabrics have also been noted.

Only one sherd of Buff Gritty ware has been found at Wilberfoss. It is too small to be certain of the form of which it may have been a part.

Brandsby-Type – mid- 13th/mid- 14th century: In York, the mid-13th to mid-14th centuries were dominated by Brandsby-type wares. They succeeded (with some overlapping) the York Glazed wares. This can make vessels produced in the early years of Brandsby–type production difficult to distinguish from York Glazed wares (ibid, 1230). Brandsby vessels can usually be identified by their finer, biscuit coloured fabric and darker mottled, copper speckled glaze, as well as their less exuberant decoration.

One sherd of this ware was noted amongst the assemblage from 20 Main Street, Wilberfoss. It has a mottled green glaze and perhaps came from a jug. Despite this, the sherd is too small to be sure of its original form.

Humber ware – late 14th – late 15th/16th century: A fine, sandy, red-firing ware was being produced in the Humber region in the 13th century. In York it appears a little later in the 14th century. There were many kilns producing these wares across North and East Yorkshire, including production sites in York. Humber ware was widely distributed across Yorkshire as a whole, where it may have been a cheaper version of the red-coloured wares from the Low Countries. They were mainly used for cooking and storage of liquids.

The one sherd of Humber type ware from 20 Main Street, Wilberfoss is a reduced ware which, although attributed to the Humber tradition, is also similar to Reduced Green Glazed wares.

Post-medieval - late 15th/16th to 20th century

The post medieval wares from intervention at 20 Main Street, Wilberfoss, might in many cases be better described as modern. They are small and abraded and may simply have been spread during gardening or work in the fields, especially given their location within the topsoil. They include Transfer Printed, Cream and White Earthenwares. Their original decoration and form has been obscured by their abrasion.

6.4 Recommendations for Further Work

There are no recommendations for further work.

6.5 Selection and Retention

The Roman, Anglo-Scandinavian and medieval sherds should be retained for comparison with any found during future work in the area.

The post medieval wares are so small and abraded that they add little to our knowledge of these wares. They should be photographed, weighed and recorded, and can then be discarded.

7 THE CERAMIC BUILDING MATERIAL

By J. M. McComish

7.1 Introduction

A single sherd of ceramic building material weighing 100g was recovered from archaeological investigations at 20 Main Street, Wilberfoss. The sherd was from Context (1019); it was examined and recorded in line with standard York Archaeology methodology (McComish 2022).

7.2 Results

The sherd comprised a fragment of slop-moulded brick. The fabric was a pale pinkish red colour and poorly mixed with frequent silty streaks, occasional calcite precipitation into voids, occasional grog, occasional rounded quartz grains and occasional clay pellets. As no full thickness survived it was impossible to determine the date of its manufacture: it is probably of 18th to mid-19th century date, but could potentially be as early as the 16th century.

7.3 Selection and Retention

The sherd was mainly of use for attempting to date the context in question. It offers no potential for further research and was not retained.

8 THE CLAY TOBACCO PIPE

By Alison Wilson

8.1 Introduction

A single fragment of unmarked clay tobacco pipe stem was recovered from context [1004], the cut for a brick well.

8.2 Results

In the absence of any identifying features such as makers stamps or decoration, the pipe stem has been dated using bore hole diameter (early clay pipes have a bore diameter of 3mm, decreasing over time until stems by the middle of the 18th century had a bore of 2mm or less).

The stem fragment had a bore diameter of 2mm, placing the date of manufacture in the 18th – 19th century.

8.3 Selection and Retention

The fact that there is only one fragment would suggest that it is residual, no further work is necessary, and discard is recommended.

9 THE GLASS

By Alison Wilson

9.1 Introduction

A single fragment of pale blue glass weighing 2g was recovered from context [1014], the fill of a possible post-hole.

9.2 Results

The fragment was in fair condition with fresh breaks, however, confident identification of such a small fragment found in a disturbed context was difficult. On appearance it seems likely to be of Roman origin, and such should be retained as part of the archive.

10 THE METAL SLAG

By Dr Gerry McDonnell

10.1 Introduction

A single fragment of material from Context (1017) was submitted for identification. The sample was morphologically examined and analysed by hand-held-X-Ray Fluorescence (HH-XRF).

10.2 HH-XRF Methodology

The instrument used was a Bruker S1 Turbosdr hand-held XRF instrument operating at 15kV. The technique is non-destructive. A beam of x-rays is generated in the instrument and focussed on a freshly fractured surface of the sample. The x-rays interact with the elements present in the sample resulting in the emission of secondary x-rays which are characteristic (in terms of their energy and wavelength) of the elements present in the sample. The energies of the secondary x-rays are measured, and a spectrum generated showing a level of background noise with peaks of the elements present superimposed on the background noise. Slag samples were analysed for 30 live seconds; the spectrum is stored.

10.3 Results

The small sample (weight 14.1grams) was a fragment of flowed or tapped ironworking slag. It had a smooth, ropey, flowed upper surface typical of tap smelting slags. It was analysed by HH-XRF and a small manganese peak was present strongly indicating that the slag derived from the smelting process.

10.4 Discussion and Recommendations

The slag fragment is small, which makes identification difficult. However, the flowed surface and the presence of a small manganese peak in the HH-XRF spectrum is strongly indicative that the slag derives from the smelting process. It is probable that it derives from Iron Age iron smelting, as sites have produced Iron Age smelting slags in the low-lying areas of East Yorkshire.

No further work is required on the sample, but any further excavation in the vicinity should be made aware of the possibility of encountering Iron Age smelting debris.

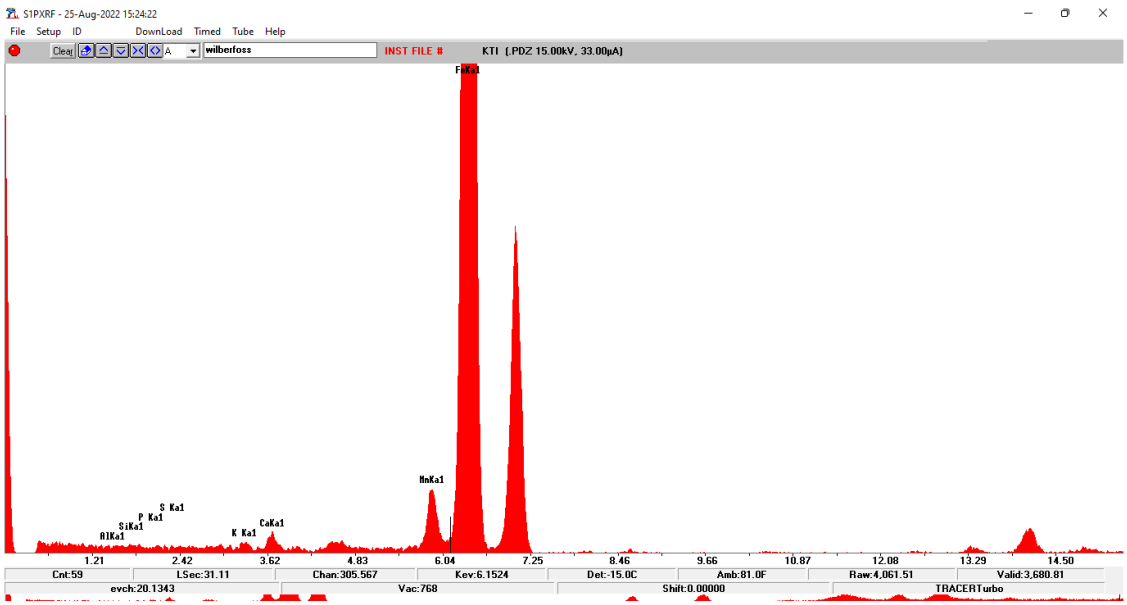

Figure 1 HH-XRF spectrum derived from the slag sample from Context 1017.

11 DISCUSSION

The watching brief uncovered several features, only one of which, the post hole cut into the base of pit [1011], was seen to its full extent. Pottery sherds from these features all date to between the late 11th through to the early 13th century, with the exception of one residual Roman Grey ware fragment, and are likely to have been used in a domestic setting suggesting that the features themselves are remnants of domestic activity.

The presence of several features of probable medieval date within such a small excavation indicates that this area of the village was under occupation at this time, and that the survival of similar features within nearby back gardens and surrounding green space is likely. A backfilled well was also recorded; no finds were recovered from this feature, however it was observed to be built from the same brick as a demolished garden wall on site which probably dated to the Victorian period or early 20th century.

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APPENDIX 1 – INDEX TO ARCHIVE

Item	Number of items
Context sheets	20
Context register	1
Drawing register	1
Original drawings	8
Digital photographs	130
Written Scheme of Investigation	1
Report	1
Risk Assessment	1

Table 1 Index to archive

APPENDIX 2 – CONTEXT LIST

Context Number	Type	Description
1000	Layer	Topsoil: loose, dark grey-brown, silty soil; roots and occasional stone inclusions; D= 0.20-0.30m
1001	Layer	Subsoil: friable, mid to dark grey-brown, sandy silt, disturbed by root activity; occasional small stone inclusions; D= 0.50m
1002	Deposit	Glacial Till; soft/friable, mid to pale yellow orange, silty sand; occasional small stone inclusions; occasional root disturbance; not excavated
1003	Structure	Brick well; circular, interior diameter 1.15m; exterior diameter 1.3m; not excavated to depth due to hazard; unfrogged red clay bricks; unbonded; 0.11x0.21x0.06m bricks size; bricks match wall demolished to gain access to site
1004	Cut	Cut for well 1003 construction; vertical sides; 1.5m diameter; not excavated to depth due to health and safety; cuts topsoil, subsoil and natural glacial till
1005	Fill	Fill of pit 1006; soft, mid-grey silty sand; rare flecks charcoal, occasional small stone inclusion; pottery; heavily disturbed by root activity; L= >0.60m, W= 0.35-1.4m, D= 0.35-0.50m
1006	Cut	Cut for possible pit; round/oblong in plan; irregular steeply sloping sides; truncated; heavy root disturbance; L= <0.60m, W= 1.40-0.35m, D= 0.50-0.35m; not seen fully extends to east and slightly to the west of footing
1007	Fill	Fill of pit 1008; friable, mid grey silty sand; root disturbance, occasional small stone; pottery; not seen fully in plan; L= >0.60m, W= 1.15m, D= 0.25m
1008	Cut	Cut for pit; circular in plan; steeply sloping sides, rounded concave base; L=> 0.60m, W= 1.15m, D= 0.25m; only partially visible. Extends into northern side of house footing.
1009	Deposit	Infill of well 1003; waterlogged at base; loose, dark silty sand; contains rusty metal, broken glass, waterlogged wood, tile. CBM; unknown dimensions, unexcavated; finds not retained and appeared Victorian/modern upon field examination
1010	Fill	Fill of pit 1011; soft/friable mid to dark brown grey; silt/clay sand; pottery; root disturbance; charcoal flecks; rare small stones L= > 0.92m, W= 1.40m; D= 0.74m
1011	Cut	Cut for possible pit; oblong/ovoid; smooth sides, rounded base; cut by possible post-hole 1015; extends into southern side of footing; L=>1.52m, W= 1.40m, D= 0.74m
1012	Fill	Fill of 1013; friable, mid grey-brown, silty sand, sand lenses, root activity; no finds or other datable evidence; L= >0.80m, W= 1.36m; D= 0.46m
1013	Cut	Cut for pit; oblong in plan; irregular concave base; steeply sloping sides; disturbed by root activity; L= >0.80m, W= 1.36m, D= 0.46m
1014	Fill	Fill of possible post-hole 1015; dark brown-grey, silty clay/sand; inclusions of occasional charcoal, pottery; root disturbance; L= 0.32m, W= 0.26m, D= 0.18m
1015	Cut	Cut for possible post-hole; cut through base of pit 1011; ovoid, smooth steeply sloping sides, gently concave base; L= 0.32m, W= 0.26m, D= 0.18m

Context Number	Type	Description
1016	Deposit	Within service trench: Possible redeposited natural; soft, mid brown-orange, clayey silt.
1017	Deposit	Within service trench: Clay dump; firm, brown blue grey with mottled green, silty clay; moderate chalk flecks and small and medium sub angular stones. L=1.60m, W= >0.26m, D= 0.11-0.30m
1018	Deposit	Within service trench: Modern rubble and old ceramic drain, soft, mid grey brown, silty clay; with ceramic drainpipe and medium to large CBM fragment. 0.30m thick
1019	Fill	Within service trench: Fill of 1020; soft, dark brown grey, clayey silt; CBM, inclusions of occasional charcoal flecks and moderate small CMB fragments
1020	Cut	Within service trench: Cut for pit or linear; irregular base, near vertical sides; due to narrowness of trench not seen fully in plan; L= >0.30m, W= 0.45m, D= 0.11m.

Table 2 Context list

APPENDIX 3 - POTTERY QUANTIFICATION

Context	Find	Quantity	Dating	Details
1000	BF1	4	19th/20th century	1 Transfer Printed plate/dish rim, abraded, small 1 Cream ware, small 1 White Earthenware with light blue external surface. small, abraded 1 White Earthenware plate with moulded flanged rim, medium
1005	BF2	4	12th century	1 Buff Gritty ware, small, sooted 1 Roman Grey ware, medium 1 York 'd' type ware, sooted, small 1 Coarse ware with buff margins and surfaces, wheel thrown marks at neck, small
1007	BF3	3	12th century	1 Oxidised ware, sooted, small 1 Gritty ware, small 1 Gritty ware lightly oxidised, small
1010	BF4	8	13th century	1 Humber type Reduced Green Glazed, small/medium 1 Brandsby type with mottled green glaze, very small 1 Oxidised bowl rim comprising a small lid-seated flanged rim with squared edge, sooted, small/medium 1 Gritty ware base, small 2 White Gritty ware with brown staining, join, small 1 Oxidised ware, small 1 White Gritty ware, small
1014	BF5	1	Late 11th/12th century to early 13th century	1 Splashed White ware, large
1017	BF9	1	Late 11th/12th to early 13th century	1 White ware, small
	TOTAL	21		

Table 3 Pottery Quantification

APPENDIX 4 - PLATES

Plate 1 Pit [1006] facing northeast

Plate 2 Pit [1006] facing northeast

Plate 3 Pit [1011] and posthole [1015] facing south

Plate 4 Pit [1013] facing southeast

Plate 5 Well [10003] facing southeast

Plate 6 Location of service trench, looking north

Plate 7 Layers 1016 and 1017 in the east facing section

Plate 8 Pit or Linear [1019] looking south

APPENDIX 5 - FIGURES

Figure 2 Location Map

Figure 3 Site Plan

Figure 4 Section Drawings 03.1-03.5

APPENDIX 6 - WRITTEN SCHEME OF INVESTIGATION

YORK ARCHAEOLOGICAL TRUST

WRITTEN SCHEME OF INVESTIGATION FOR

ARCHAEOLOGICAL INVESTIGATIONS, LAND NORTH OF MAIN STREET, WILBERFOSS, YO41 5NN

Site Location: **Land north of 20 Main Street, Wilberfoss, YO41 5NN**

NGR: **SE 72955 50884**

Proposal: **Erection of a dwelling**

Planning ref: **19/03268/PLF**

Prepared for: **Mr Jack Bolam**

Document Number: **2022/61**

Version	Produced by:		Edited by:		Approved by:	
	Initials	Date	Initials	Date	Initials	Date
1	MV	17/05/22				

Version	Approved on behalf of Local Authority by:	
	Curator	Date
1		

1 SUMMARY

1.1 **Mr Jack Bolam** has received planning consent for the erection of a three-storey dwelling at **Land north of 20 Main Street, Wilberfoss, YO41 5NN SE 72955 50884.** The scheme comprises the construction of a three-storey development.

1.2 The following archaeological condition has been imposed by East Riding of Yorkshire Council & Hull City Council:

"No development shall take place until the applicant, or their agents or successors in title, has secured the implementation of a programme of archaeological work in accordance with a written scheme of investigation which has been submitted by the applicant and approved by the Planning Authority. Development shall be carried out in accordance with the approved details, and to comply with Policy ENV3 of the East Riding Local Plan 2016. The programme shall be carried out as approved to protect archaeological interests, to comply with Policy ENV3 of the East Riding Local Plan and guidance within the National Planning Policy Framework (section 16). A pre-commencement condition is required to ensure adequate recording and mitigation measures can be identified and incorporated into the scheme."

Reason

The recommendation of a programme of observation, investigation and recording (watching brief) has been requested because the application site lies within the core of the medieval settlement and in an area of wider prehistoric and Romano-British activity. The request for the above is in line with the policies within Section 16 'Conserving and enhancing the historic environment', in the National Planning Policy Framework, 2021.

1.3 This Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) has been prepared in response to a Brief supplied by James Goodyear Development Management Archaeologist at Humber HER. The work will be carried out in accordance with the Brief and this WSI, and according to the principles of the Institute for Archaeology (CIfA) Code of Conduct and all relevant standards and guidance.

2 SITE LOCATION & DESCRIPTION

2.1 The proposal site is located at **Land north of 20 Main Street, Wilberfoss, YO41 5NN SE 72955 50884** (Figure 1).

2.2 The underlying bedrock if of Mercia Mudstone Group - Mudstone. A sedimentary bedrock formed approximately 201 to 252 million years ago in the Triassic Period. The superficial geology is Bielby Sand Member, sand and silty deposits formed up to 2 million years ago in the Quaternary Period (BGS).

3 DESIGNATIONS & CONSTRAINTS

3.1 There are no designations or constraints attached to the site.

4 ARCHAEOLOGICAL / HISTORICAL INTEREST

The following archaeological and historical background is taken from J. Goodyear's HHER letter(2022).

4.1 Prehistoric and Roman

The village lies within a major prehistoric and Romano-British landscape. A major feature being the Roman road from Brough to York, which ran to the south of the medieval village. Romano-British settlement in the area was focused alongside the road.

4.2 Medieval

The site of the proposed development lies within the historic core of the medieval village of Wilberfoss, occupying site on the northern side of its Main Street. Jeffrey's map of 1776 shows that the area clearly formed part of the historic core, and was built up by that date. The name Wilberfoss was not recorded until c.1150, but it seems likely that it was an Anglian settlement, which was possibly established near an improved natural stream; at the time of the Domesday Survey, it was probably part of the Manor of Catton. In 1377 there were 105 poll-tax payers recorded in the settlement – showing that it had already grown to be a sizeable settlement. The earliest detailed map of the village dates from 1755, and shows the historic core extending not only along both sides of the York to Hull road, but also extending northwards around both sides of Beckside and Middle Street.

5 GROUND WORKS TO BE MONITORED

5.1 This work will comprise a continuous watching brief, on the excavation of all foundations, trenches services and any subsequent groundworks involving excavation. The watching brief may be stepped down to intermittent monitoring, depending on the results, and following agreement from the Development Control Archaeologist.

6 DELAYS TO DEVELOPMENT SCHEDULE

6.1 All earth-moving machinery must be operated at an appropriate speed to allow the archaeologist to recognise, record and retrieve any archaeological deposits and material.

6.2 Is in not intended that the archaeological monitoring should unduly delay site works. However, the archaeologist on site should be given the opportunity to observe, clean assess and, where appropriate hand excavate, sample and record any exposed features and finds. In order to fulfil the requirements of this WSI, it may be necessary to halt the earth-moving activity to enable the archaeology to be recorded properly.

7 RECORDING METHODOLOGY

7.1 If a base plan of intervention areas is available, the areas being monitored will be determined using this information. If a plan is not available, or the watching brief work involves monitoring of long linear works, interventions which are not mapped, or large open areas, the location of the monitoring will be determined using a hand-held GPS, which will provide accuracy to c.10cm.

7.2 Unique context numbers will only be assigned if artefacts are retrieved, or stratigraphic relationships between archaeological deposits are discernible. In archaeologically 'sterile' areas, soil layers will be described, but no context numbers will be assigned. Where assigned, each

context will be described in full on a pro forma context record sheet in accordance with the accepted context record conventions.

7.3 Archaeological contexts will be planned at a basic scale of 1:50, with individual features requiring greater detail being planned at a scale of 1:20. Larger scales will be utilised as appropriate. Sections drawings will be made at a basic scale of 1:10 or 1:20 depending on the size of the feature. All drawings will be related to Ordnance Datum. Where it aids interpretation, structural remains will also be recorded in elevation. All drawings will be drawn on inert materials. All drawings will adhere to accepted drawing conventions.

7.4 Photographs of archaeological deposits and features will be taken. This will include general views of entire features and of details such as sections as considered necessary. Digital photography will form the primary site archive. All site photography will adhere to accepted photographic record guidelines.

7.5 Areas which are inaccessible (e.g. for health and safety reasons) will be recorded as thoroughly as possible within the site constraints. In these instances, recording may be entirely photographic, with sketch drawings only.

7.6 All finds will be collected and handled following the guidance set out in the CIfA guidance for archaeological materials. Unstratified material will not be kept unless it is of exceptional intrinsic interest. Material discarded as a consequence of this policy will be described and quantified in the field. Finds of particular interest or fragility will be retrieved as Small Finds, and located on plans. Other finds, finds within the topsoil, and dense/discrete deposits of finds will be collected as Bulk Finds, from discrete contexts, bagged by material type. Any dense/discrete deposits will have their limits defined on the appropriate plan.

7.7 All artefacts and ecofacts will be appropriately packaged and stored under optimum conditions, as detailed in the RESCUE/UKIC publication *First Aid for Finds,* and recording systems must be compatible with the recipient museum. All finds that fall within the purview of the Treasure Act (1996) will be reported to HM Coroner according to the procedures outlined in the Act, after discussion with the client and the local authority.

7.8 A soil sampling programme will be undertaken for the recovery and identification of charred and waterlogged remains where suitable deposits are identified. The collection and processing of environmental samples will be undertaken in accordance with Historic England guidelines (Campbell, Moffatt and Straker 2011). Environmental and soil specialists will be consulted during the course of the evaluation with regard to the implementation of this sampling programme. Soil samples of approximately 30 litres for flotation (or 100% of the features if less than this volume) will be removed from selected contexts, using a combination of the judgement and systematic methodologies.

- **Judgement sampling** will involve the removal of samples from secure contexts which appear to present either good conditions for preservation (e.g. burning or waterlogging) or which are significant in terms of archaeological interpretation or stratigraphy. (Given the nature of an archaeological watching brief, it is anticipated that the implementation of a systematic sampling methodology will not be possible).

7.9 It is not expected that any industrial activity has occurred on the site. If industrial activity of any scale is detected, industrial samples and process residues will also be collected. Separate

samples (c. 10ml) will be collected for micro-slags (hammer-scale and spherical droplets) (Historic England 2015).

7.10 Other samples will be taken, as appropriate, in consultation with YAT specialists and the Historic England Regional Science Advisor, as appropriate (e.g. dendrochronology, soil micromorphology, monolith samples, C14, etc.). Samples will be taken for scientific dating where necessary for the development of subsequent mitigation strategies. Material removed from site will be stored in appropriate controlled environments.

7.11 Should human remains be discovered they will be left *in-situ*, covered and protected pending notification of the discovery to James Goodyear and the submission to the Ministry of Justice of an application for excavation. Exhumation of human remains will take place in compliance with environmental health regulations and only with a valid licence from the Ministry of Justice. An osteoarchaeologist will be available to give advice on site.

- Any disarticulated human remains that are found will be recovered and removed in appropriate packaging/identified and quantified on site. If the excavations are to remain open for any length of time disarticulated remains will be removed and boxed.
- Any articulated human remains that are found will be excavated in accordance with recognised guidelines (see 7.10) and retained for assessment.
- Any grave goods or coffin furniture will be retained for further assessment.

7.12 Human remains will be removed in accordance with the Burial Act 1857 and the Ministry of Justice exhumation licence, and with the guidance of CIfA Technical Paper 13 (1993) and APABE (2017).

8 SPECIALIST ASSESSMENT

8.1 The stratigraphic information, artefacts, soil samples, and residues will be assessed as to their potential and significance for further analysis and study. The material will be quantified (counted and weighted). Specialists will undertake a rapid scan of all excavated material. Ceramic spot dates will be given. Appropriately detailed specialist reports will be included in the report.

8.2 Materials considered vulnerable should be selected for stabilisation after specialist recording. Where intervention is necessary, consideration must be given to possible investigative procedures (e.g. glass composition studies, residues on or in pottery, and mineral-preserved organic material). Allowance will be made for preliminary conservation and stabilization of all objects and a written assessment of long-term conservation and storage needs will be produced. Once assessed, all material will be packed and stored in optimum conditions, in accordance with Watkinson and Neal (1998), CIfA (2014) and Museums and Galleries (1992).

8.3 All finds will be cleaned, marked and labelled as appropriate, prior to assessment. For ceramic assemblages, any recognised local pottery reference collections and relevant fabric Codes will be used.

8.4 Allowance will be made for the recovery of material suitable for scientific dating and contingency sums will be made available to undertake such dating, if necessary. This will be decided in consultation with James Goodyear.

9 REPORT & ARCHIVE PREPARATION

9.1 Upon completion of the site work, a report will be prepared to include the following:

a) A non-technical summary of the results of the work.

b) An introduction which will include the planning reference number, grid reference and dates when the fieldwork took place.

c) An account of the methodology and detailed results of the operation, describing structural data, archaeological features, associated finds and environmental data, and a conclusion and discussion.

d) A selection of photographs and drawings, including a detailed plan of the site accurately identifying the areas monitored, trench locations, selected feature drawings, and selected artefacts, and phased feature plans where appropriate.

e) Specialist artefact and environmental reports where undertaken, and a context list/index.

f) Details of archive location and destination (with accession number, where known), together with a context list and catalogue of what is contained in that archive.

g) A copy of the key OASIS form details

h) Copies of the Brief and WSI

i) Additional photographic images may be supplied on a CDROM appended to the report

9.2 The report will be submitted in digital format to the commissioning body as well as direct to James Goodyear for planning purposes and inclusion into the HER.

9.3 A field archive will be compiled consisting of all primary written documents, plans, sections and photographs. Catalogues of contexts, finds, soil samples, plans, sections and photographs will be produced. York Archaeological Trust will liaise with the appropriate museum prior to the commencement of fieldwork to establish the detailed curatorial requirements of the museum and discuss archive transfer and to complete the relevant museum forms. The relevant museum curator would be afforded access to visit the site and discuss the project results.

9.4 The owner of the Intellectual Property Rights (IPR) in the information and documentation arising from the work, would grant a licence to the Local Authority and the museum accepting the archive to use such documentation for their statutory functions and provide copies to third parties as an incidental to such functions. Under the Environmental Information Regulations (EIR), such documentation is required to be made available to enquirers if it meets the test of public interest. Any information disclosure issues would be resolved between the client and the archaeological contractor before completion of the work. EIR requirements do not affect IPR.

9.5 Upon completion of the project an OASIS form will be completed at http://ads.ahds.ac.uk/project/oasis/.

10 HEALTH AND SAFETY

10.1 Health and safety issues will take priority over archaeological matters and all archaeologists will comply with relevant Health and Safety Legislation.

10.2 A Risk Assessment will be prepared prior to the start of site works.

11 PRE-START REQUIREMENTS

11.1 The client will be responsible for ensuring site access has been secured prior to the commencement of site works, and that the perimeter of the site is secure.

11.2 The client will provide York Archaeological Trust with up to date service plans and will be responsible for ensuring services have been disconnected, where appropriate.

11.3 The client will be responsible for ensuring that any existing reports (e.g. ground investigation, borehole logs, contamination reports) are made available to York Archaeological Trust prior to the commencement of work on site.

12 TIMETABLE & STAFFING

12.1 The timetable will be agreed with the client.

12.2 Specialist staff available for this work:

- Human Remains – Malin Holst, York Osteology Ltd
- Palaeoenvironmental remains – John Carrott, Palaeoecology Research Services ltd
- Head of Curatorial Services – Christine McDonnell, YAT
- Finds Researcher – Nicky Rogers, Freelance
- Pottery Researcher – Anne Jenner, YAT
- Finds Officers – Kate Smart, YAT
- Archaeometallurgy & Industrial Residues – Rachel Cubitt and Dr Rod Mackenzie, Freelance
- Conservation – Ian Panter, YAT

13 MONITORING OF ARCHAEOLOGICAL FIELDWORK

13.1 As a minimum requirement, the James Goodyear will be given at least one week's notice of work commencing and will be informed prior to completion on site. Any changes to this WSI may only be made with the written approval of James Goodyear. James Goodyear will be afforded opportunity to visit the site during the works to inspect the site and the archaeological recording, and discuss the project and any further mitigation requirements. York Archaeological Trust will notify James Goodyear of any significant archaeological discoveries that are made during the course of the project.

13.2 With the client's agreement illustrated notices may be displayed on site to explain the nature of the works.

14 COPYRIGHT

15 REFERENCES

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For current Historic England guidance documents see:

https://historicengland.org.uk/advice/latest-guidance/

https://historicengland.org.uk/advice/technical-advice/archaeological-science/

Figure 01. Site Location

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York Archaeology, Cuthbert Morrell House, 47 Aldwark, York YO1 7BX

Phone: +44 (0)1904 663000 Fax: +44 (0)1904 663024

Email: archaeology@yorkat.co.uk Website: https://www.yorkarchaeology.co.uk