



4 THE PADDOCKS

NORTH DUFFIELD

NORTH YORKSHIRE

ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF

REPORT
APRIL 2008

SURVEY AND EXCAVATION SECTION



ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF
THE PADDOCKS NORTH DUFFIELD
NORTH YORKSHIRE

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REPORT

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Summary

An archaeological watching brief was carried out at The Paddocks, North Duffield (NGR: SE 6832 3726) by Field Archaeology Specialists Ltd, on behalf of Stafford Homes (North Yorkshire) Ltd. The watching brief was carried out during groundworks for services associated with the construction of eight new dwellings, and took place between the 28th January and 6th February 2008.

The watching brief encountered a consistent sequence of subsoil and ploughsoil, with two ceramic field drains and a modern service trench; no deposits of archaeological significance were observed.

Acknowledgements

Field Archaeology Specialists would like to thank Andrew Stafford (Stafford Homes), the staff of Simpsons for assistance during fieldwork, and Gail Falkingham, NYCC for advice during this project.

1.0 INTRODUCTION

This document reports on an archaeological watching brief undertaken at The Paddocks, North Duffield (NGR: SE 6832 3726) by Field Archaeology Specialists (FAS) Ltd, on behalf of Stafford Homes Ltd. The watching brief was carried out during groundworks associated with the construction of eight new dwellings, and took place between the 28th January and 6th February 2008.

1.1 LOCATION AND LAND USE

The site of The Paddocks lies at the northern edge of the village of North Duffield (Figure 1), in low-lying ground close to the floodplain of the River Derwent. Prior to the onset of groundworks, the site was occupied by a house and detached garage, with surrounding land used as a garden and pond (Plate 1).



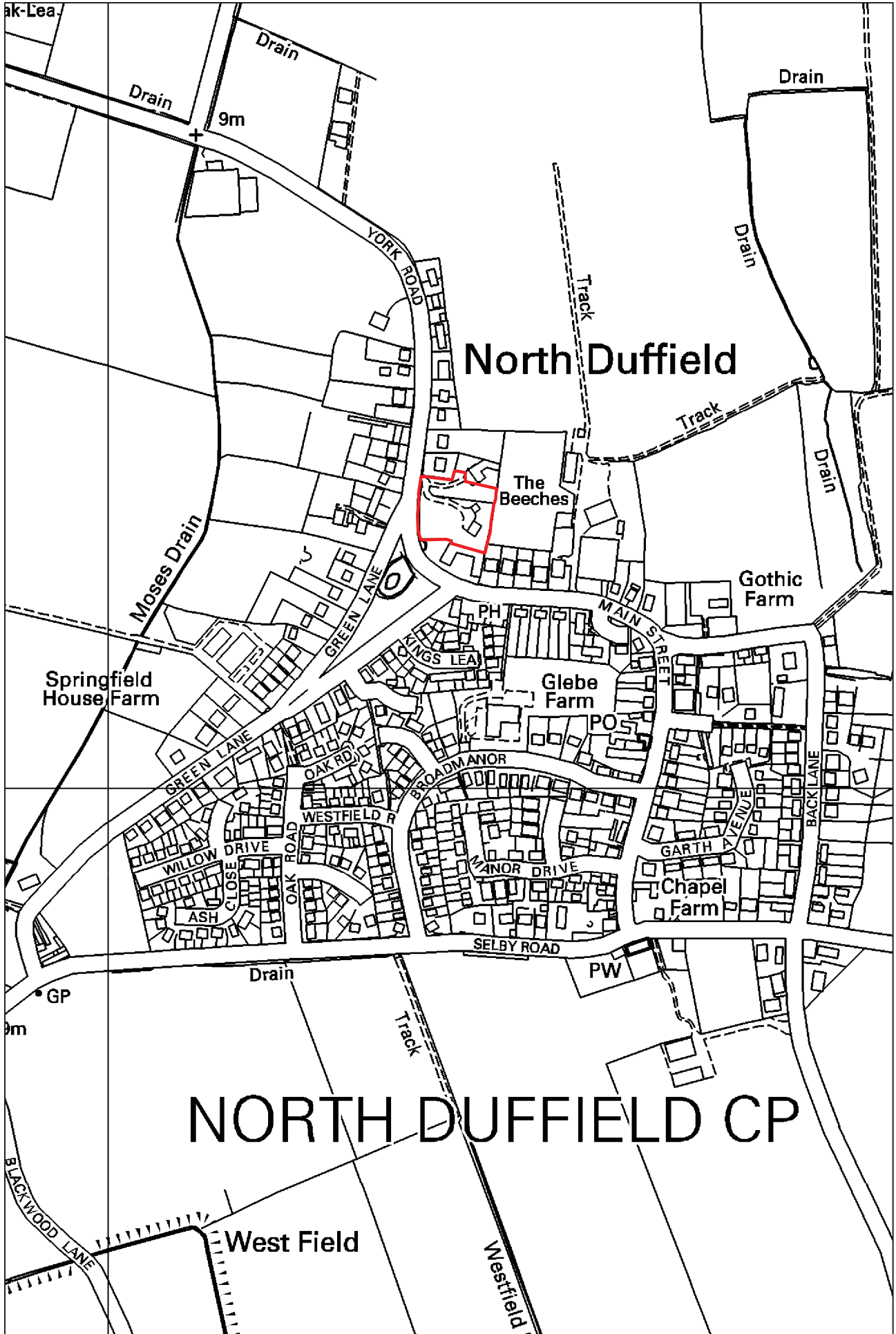
Plate 1 General view of the site from the south

1.2 ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

The area surrounding North Duffield is known to have been exploited since the Iron Age. The geology of the area, being aeolian sand, means that cropmarks are highly visible, and the National Mapping Programme has recorded extensive field systems and settlements in the vicinity, including examples to the north of the site (Figure 2). These are widely assumed to be Iron Age to Romano-British in date, attesting to intense agricultural exploitation during this period. Some distance to the east, funerary activity is represented by upstanding square barrows on Skipwith Common.

The landscape is believed to have been exploited in this way throughout the Roman period, and the place-name of North Duffield suggests activity of early medieval date in the vicinity. The place-name elements are Old English, interpreted as *dūfa* (dove) and *feld* (field) (Smith 1937, 162).

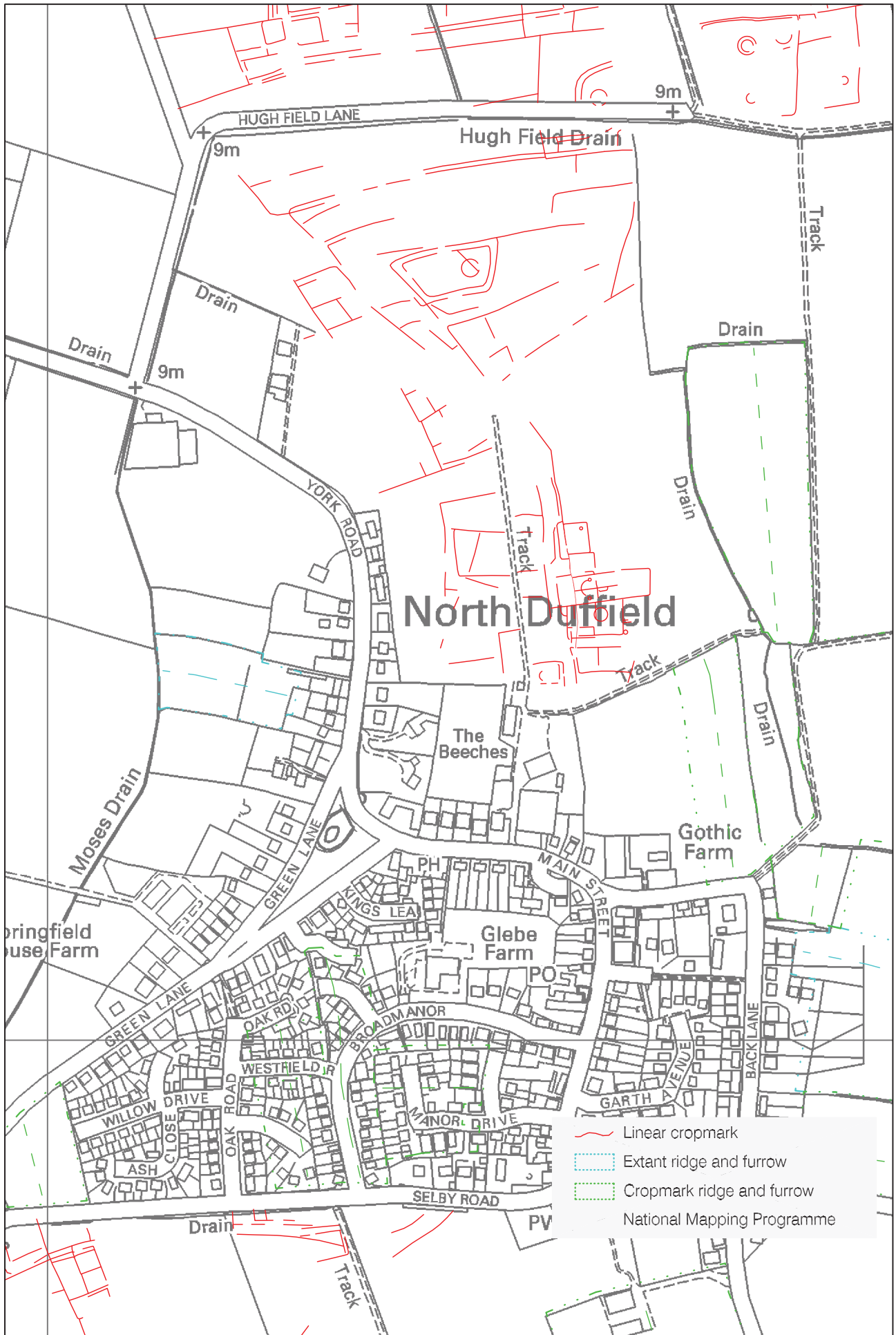
The Domesday survey records the mixed agriculture of the surrounding region, and the immediate landscape retains evidence for medieval farming in the form of ridge and furrow, and cropmarks interpreted as a possible track or driveway to the south of the village. The village itself is assumed to have existed in the medieval period. Ecclesiastical activity is suggested by a documented hermitage site at North Duffield, said to have belonged to the Knights Hospitallers, and recorded as early as the 1180s. Evidence for high status settlement is attested by moated sites, including that at Hall Farm to the east of the village where a moat has been identified with the site of Duffield Castle. The site is believed to have been established *c.*1070, and is mentioned under the *Claims of Yorkshire*, relating to disputes over land ownership (HER Record). The castle is, however, presumed to have been rebuilt. In the 12th and 13th centuries, the manor of North Duffield was held, albeit contentiously, by the Percy family, before it passed to the Salvain family (VCH iii, 1976, 89-101). In 1320, the medieval manor house of the Salvains is mentioned, and is presumed to have been situated at North Duffield, with the moated site being the likely location. In the 16th century, the site is again described as a castle, and



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Location map	Scale 1:5000		Figure 1
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Cropmarks in the area

Scale 1:5000



Figure 2



a residence of Lord Hussey. Hussey was executed in 1537 for participating in a rebellion, and the castle appears to have been finally destroyed some time after this event. Within the immediate area of this feature is the proposed site of a medieval chapel dedicated to St James. The chapel formed a subordinate of Skipwith Church in the 13th century, but is not thought to have survived the suppression of the chantries. In 1577, under the name St James' Chapel, the site was granted by the crown to John Farnham (HER record).

The settlement pattern of the area appears to have remained largely unchanged since the medieval period, and the landscape remained unenclosed until the 19th century. Villages such as North Duffield continued to develop, and localised industries grew, served by a newly-established railway from the 20th century. The 1854 Ordnance Survey (OS) map records a brick and tile works in North Duffield, which had fallen out of use by 1910.

The available cartographic evidence, from the 19th century onwards, provides some indication of the development of North Duffield, and the site itself. The 1854 OS map hints at the medieval layout of the village, with linear plots fronting onto the north-south branch of Main Street, and a traditional Back Lane to the west (Plate 2). This layout is now lost to modern housing. The site now occupied by the Paddocks was open, away from the centre of the village, close to the Green Lane and the road to York; the name of the site provides an indication of its former use.



Plate 2 Extract from OS map 1854

From 1891, a pinfold is marked on the site of The Paddocks, roughly in the location of the now-demolished house to the east of the site.

The pinfold remained the only feature marked on the site until the mid-20th century, when it presumably fell into disuse; the area remained open land until the construction of the now-demolished houses between 1980 and 1985.

2.0 FIELDWORK PROCEDURE

The watching brief was carried out in accordance with a Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) issued by NYCC (Appendix A), and involved the monitoring of groundworks associated with the construction eight new dwellings. An existing 1980s house and garage were demolished as part of the preparation of the site (see Plate 1).

Initially, this was to be a two-stage watching brief, involving the monitoring of service trenches in the first instance, followed by the monitoring of strip foundations for the eight dwellings. Subsequently, the foundation design of the four plots along the northern boundary of the site was changed to raft foundations, which would not penetrate the depth of topsoil observed in the service trench excavations. The four southern plots were situated over an in-filled modern pond. Given these considerations, and the lack of archaeological features seen during the first phase of the watching brief, it was agreed with NYCC that the watching brief be curtailed.

The service trenches were excavated using a tracked mechanical excavator, fitted with a toothless ditching bucket (Plate 3). The groundworks were undertaken to a maximum depth of 1.5m below ground level. The monitored trenches were largely situated to the north of the site, joining existing services at the road (Figure 3).

Written, drawn and photographic records were made of all archaeological deposits. All plans and sections were drawn to a scale of 1:10. A full photographic record was compiled, consisting of 35mm colour photography.

3.0 FIELDWORK RESULTS

No features of archaeological significance were observed during the watching brief, and deposits across the site showed a consistent sequence (Plate 4). Subsoil was encountered at a depth of between 0.5m and 0.70m below ground level (*c.*7.3m to 7.5mAOD), and comprised a clean reddish-brown sand, overlying a stiffer clay layer. This was directly overlain by a clean, greyish-brown soil, which contained fragments of modern ceramic and brick. Two ceramic land drains were observed in one manhole excavation, with a modern service represented by a plastic pipe.



Plate 3 Manhole excavation



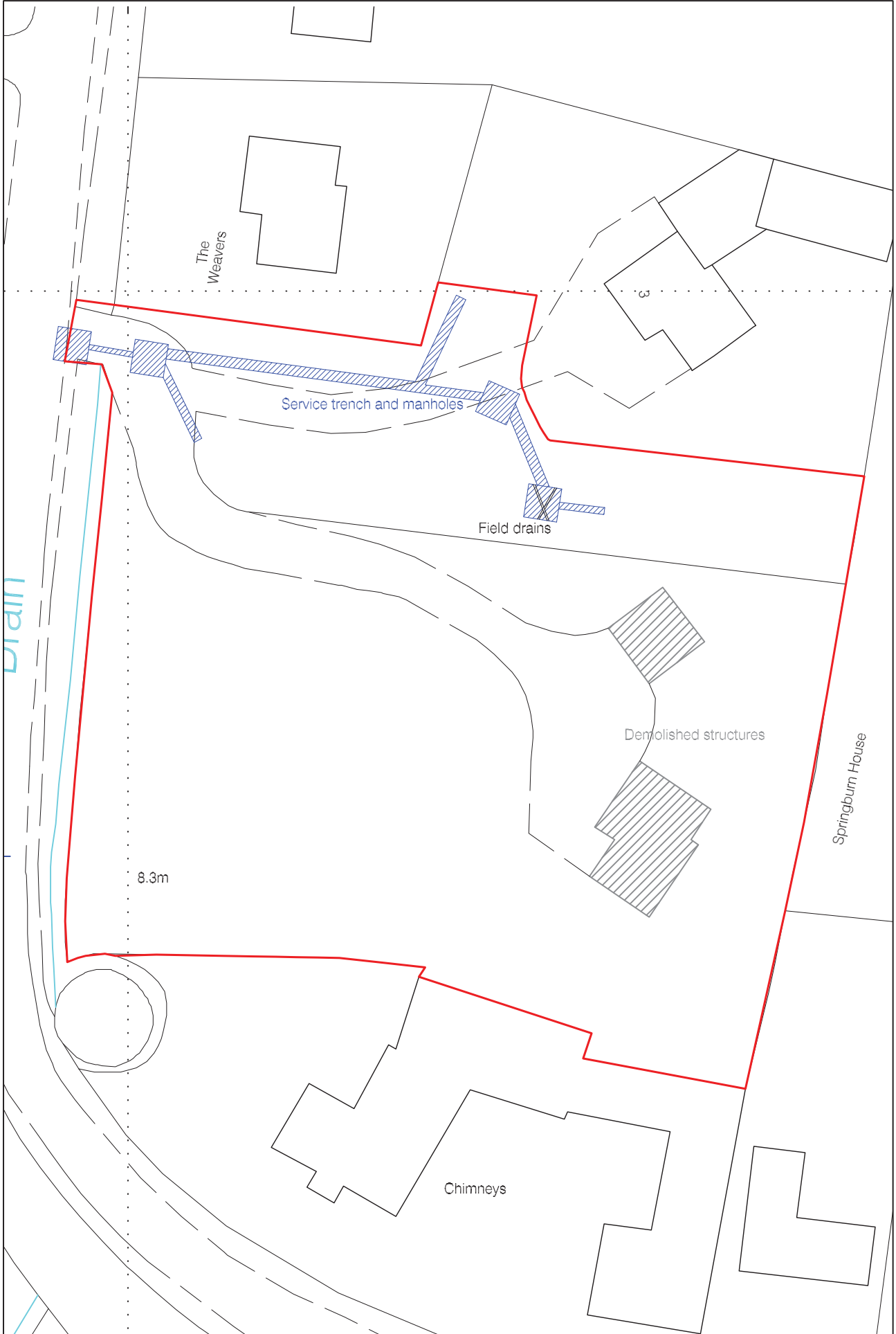
Plate 4 Sequence of deposits, scale 1.0m

4.0 DISCUSSION AND ASSESSMENT

The results of the watching brief are consistent with the cartographic evidence, indicating that until the 20th century, this site remained open land, whether used for pasture or arable farming. Despite known cropmarks in the area to the north of the site, no features of early date were encountered during the watching brief.

5.0 ARCHIVE

An electronic and paper copy of this report will be deposited with the NYCC Heritage Unit and details of the watching brief will be made available *via* the OASIS website.



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Location of groundworks

Scale 1:500



Figure 2



References

Cartographic sources

Ordnance Survey 1854
Ordnance Survey 1891
Ordnance Survey 1910
Ordnance Survey 1980
Ordnance Survey 1983-5

Secondary sources

Smith, A. 1937. *Place-names of the East Riding of Yorkshire*, EPNS 14 (Cambridge)
VCH: Page, W. (ed.) 1913. *Victoria History of the County of York*, (3 vols)(London)

APPENDIX A STANDARD WRITTEN SCHEME OF INVESTIGATION (WSI) FOR LIMITED ARCHAEOLOGICAL RECORDING (WATCHING BRIEF)

- 1 The purpose of the work is to record and recover archaeological remains which are:
 - a) affected by proposed development only to a limited and clearly defined extent,
 - b) not available or susceptible to standard area excavation techniques, or
 - c) of limited importance or potential.The work should not require the construction programme or development to be held up while archaeological investigation takes place, although some developers may give such a facility.
- 2 The WSI represents a summary of the broad archaeological requirements needed to comply with an archaeological planning condition or obligation. The scheme does **not** comprise a full specification or Bill of Quantities, and the County Council makes no warranty that the works are fully or exactly described. No work on site should commence until the implementation of the scheme is the subject of a standard ICE Conditions of Contract for Archaeological Investigation or similar agreement between the Developer and the Archaeologist.
- 3 The Archaeologist should notify by letter or e-mail the County Archaeology Service (archaeology@northyorks.gov.uk) at least 10 working days in advance of the start of work on site.
- 4 The removal of overburden (that is vegetation, turf, loose stones, rubble, made ground, Tarmac, concrete, hardcore, building debris and topsoil) should be supervised by the Archaeologist contracted to carry out the WSI. The Archaeologist should be informed of the correct timing and schedule of overburden removal.
- 5 Removal of overburden by machine should be undertaken using a back-acting excavator fitted with toothless or ditching bucket only. Where materials are exceptionally difficult to lift, a toothed bucket may be used temporarily. Subsoils (B horizons) or deep, uniform fills of features may also be removed by back-acting excavator but only in areas specified by the Archaeologist on site, and only with archaeological supervision. Bulldozers or wheeled scraper buckets should not be used to remove overburden above archaeological deposits. Where reinstatement is required, topsoil should be kept separate from other soil materials.
- 6 Metal detecting within the development area, including the scanning of topsoil and spoil heaps, should only be permitted subject to archaeological supervision and recording such that metal finds are properly located, identified, and conserved. All metal detection should be carried out following the Treasure Act 1996 Code of Practice.
- 7 Where structures, finds, soil features and layers of archaeological interest are exposed or disturbed by construction works, the Archaeologist should be provided with the opportunity to observe, clean, assess, excavate by hand where appropriate, sample and record these features and finds. If the contractors or plant operators notice archaeological remains, they should immediately tell the Archaeologist. The sampling of deposits for palaeo-environmental evidence should be a standard consideration, and arrangements should be made to ensure that specialist advice and analysis are available if appropriate.
- 8 Heavy plant should not be operated in the near vicinity of archaeological remains until they have been recorded, and the Archaeologist on site has allowed operations to recommence at that location. Sterile subsoils (C horizons) and parent materials below archaeological deposits may be removed without archaeological supervision. Where reinstatement is required, subsoils should be backfilled first and topsoil last.
- 9 Upon completion of fieldwork, samples should be processed and evaluated, and all finds identified, assessed, spot-

dated, properly stored, and subject to investigative conservation as needed. A field archive should be compiled consisting of all primary written documents, plans, sections, and photographs. The Archaeologist should arrange for either the County Archaeologist or an independent post-excavation specialist to inspect the archive before making arrangements for the transfer of the archive to an appropriate museum or records office.

- 10 A summary report should be produced following NYCC guidelines on reporting. The report should contain planning or administrative details of the project, a summary of works carried out, a description and interpretation of the findings, an assessment of the importance of the archaeology including its historical context where appropriate, and catalogues of finds, features, and primary records. All excavated areas should be accurately mapped with respect to nearby buildings, roads and field boundaries. All significant features should be illustrated with conventionally-scaled plans, sections, and photographs. Where few or no finds are made, it may be acceptable to provide the report in the form of a letter with plans attached.
- 11 Copies of the summary report should be provided to the client(s), the County Heritage Section (HER), to the museum accepting the archive, and if the works are on or adjacent to a Scheduled Ancient Monument, to English Heritage. A licence should be granted to the accepting museum and the County Council to use the documentation arising from the work for its statutory functions and to give to third parties as an incidental to those functions.
- 12 Upon completion of the work, the Archaeologist should make their work accessible to the wider research community by submitting digital data and copies of reports online to OASIS (<http://ads.ahds.ac.uk/project/oasis/>). Submission of data to OASIS does not discharge the planning requirements for the Archaeologist to notify the County Archaeology Service of the details of the work and to provide the Historic Environment Record (HER) with a summary report on the work.
- 13 Under the Environmental Information Regulations 2005 (EIR) information submitted to the HER becomes publicly accessible, except where disclosure might lead to environmental damage, and reports cannot be embargoed as 'confidential' or 'commercially sensitive'. Requests for sensitive information are subject to a public interest test, and if this is met, then the information has to be disclosed. The Archaeologist should inform the client of EIR requirements, and ensure that any information disclosure issues are resolved before completion of the work. Intellectual property rights are not affected by the EIR.
- 14 The County Archaeologist should be informed as soon as possible of the discovery of any unexpected archaeological remains, or changes in the programme of ground works on site. Any significant changes in the archaeological work should be specified in a variation to the WSI to be approved by the planning authority. If there is a need to remove human remains, an exhumation licence should be obtained from the Department for Constitutional Affairs (coroners@dca.gsi.gov.uk), or a faculty obtained where the remains are buried in land consecrated according to the rites of the Church of England.



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