

LAND WEST OF NORTH CROFT HOUSE,
MAIN STREET, CATWICK, EAST YORKSHIRE

ARCHAEOLOGICAL OBSERVATION
AND RECORDING

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On behalf of

Mr T Welbourne
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**ARCHAEOLOGICAL OBSERVATION AND RECORDING,
LAND WEST OF NORTH CROFT HOUSE, MAIN STREET,
CATWICK, EAST YORKSHIRE**

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

In March 2001, Ed Dennison Archaeological Services (EDAS) were commissioned by Mr T Welbourne to undertake a programme of archaeological observation and recording (a watching brief) during groundworks associated with the erection of a new two storey dwelling immediately to the west of North Croft House, Main Street, Catwick, East Yorkshire (NGR TA 1294 4545).

The watching brief revealed little of archaeological interest. In the north-east corner of the development plot, close to the street frontage, modern hardcore material (012) associated with the former position of buildings shown on the 1978 Ordnance Survey map was revealed. One large ditch-like feature (006) was noted in a foundation trench towards the centre of the site, measuring up to 7.60m wide and 0.64m deep, but with a deeper 2m wide central section, running parallel to but set back c.6m from the Main Street frontage. The ditch had been cut into the undulating surface of the reddish-brown natural clay (008) and natural sandy gravel (009), 0.65m below the existing ground level. The fills of the ditch (004 and 005) contained 19th century pottery and other finds, and it was overlain by a dark brown subsoil (002). This latter material might be associated with the former cultivation of the plot, perhaps when it was occupied by an orchard or garden, and the ditch, especially the narrower central section, might represent the remains of an earlier field or property boundary which was then infilled in the 19th century.

The results of the watching brief suggest that this plot on the south side of Main Street was not occupied during the medieval period, unlike two other plots observed in 1999 on the opposite, north, side of the street. It is also interesting to note that the various ditches and features recorded in 1999 were also cut into the natural, and were covered by a significant and similar depth of subsoil.

1 INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 In March 2001, Ed Dennison Archaeological Services (EDAS) were commissioned by Mr T Welbourne to undertake a programme of archaeological observation and recording (a watching brief) during groundworks associated with the erection of a new two storey dwelling immediately to the west of North Croft House, Main Street, Catwick, East Yorkshire (NGR TA 1294 4545).
- 1.2 The watching brief was made a condition of planning permission (application DC/00/05026/PLF/BRIDEE) granted by East Riding of Yorkshire Council in December 2000, and the scope of the work was defined by a brief produced by the Humber Archaeology Partnership (see Appendix 2).

2 SITE LOCATION AND DESCRIPTION

- 2.1 The village of Catwick lies c.7.5km to the west of Hornsea, in the central, low lying part of Holderness (see figure 1). The development plot, located on the south side of Main Street, is bounded to the west by Ivy House Farm, to the south by farm buildings and open fields, to the east by North Croft House and to the north by Main Street.
- 2.2 Set within a former orchard adjacent to Ivy House Farm, with a modern (post 1910) structure on the street frontage having been recently demolished, the development site forms an angled plot measuring c.14m wide by c.25m long centred on NGR TA 1294 4545) (see figure 2). The new dwelling, which is to be called Apple Tree Farm, forms an L shaped structure which runs west and south from the north-east corner of the plot.

3 AIMS AND METHODOLOGY

- 3.1 The watching brief took account of, and followed, a brief produced by the local archaeological curators, the Humber Archaeology Partnership (see Appendix 2). More general advice produced by the Institute of Field Archaeologists in relation to watching briefs (IFA 1999) was also considered.
- 3.2 The aim of the watching brief was to monitor the groundworks associated with the erection of the new dwelling, to recover any information relating to any archaeological features or deposits which might be uncovered or disturbed. Prior to the groundworks commencing, the site was a relatively level area of rough grass and pasture with disturbed ground near the street frontage.
- 3.3 The first part of the watching brief took place on the 22nd June 2001, when a mechanical excavator with a 0.6m wide toothed ditching bucket was used to excavate the foundation trenches for the new dwelling; these trenches were typically c.0.6m wide and up to 1.1m deep. There was then a considerable delay to the rest of the works, and the trenches for the foul and surface water drainage system were not dug until August 2005. These trenches were on average 0.25m wide and c.0.60m deep, although the western trench reached a maximum depth of 0.8m, and they were inspected on 23rd August 2005 after they had been cut and the pipes already laid. For the second phase of the work, depths were measured from a new ground level which had been built up slightly by a deposit (010) associated with the new construction, placed on top of former topsoil (001).
- 3.4 Following standard archaeological procedures, each discrete stratigraphic entity (e.g. a cut, fill or layer) was assigned an individual context number and detailed

information was recorded on *pro forma* context sheets. A total of 12 archaeological contexts were recorded; these are all described in the following text as three digit numbers (e.g. 005) (see Appendix 1). In-house recording and quality control procedures ensured that all recorded information was cross-referenced as appropriate. The positions of all monitored groundworks were marked on a general site plan, and more detailed drawings were made of each area as necessary; a photographic record was also maintained using 35mm colour prints.

- 3.5 With the agreement of the site owner, the project archive, comprising written and photographic elements, has been deposited with the East Riding of Yorkshire Museum Service (site code ATC 01; accession number 2001/65). Only a few artefacts were noted during the watching brief, and none were retained.

4 ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

- 4.1 The village of Catwick lies within an extensive archaeological landscape, and aerial photography and the results of several excavations have uncovered numerous archaeological sites ranging in date from the early prehistoric to the medieval periods. Large areas of prehistoric field systems exist under the present, largely 18th century enclosure landscape.
- 4.2 Catwick itself was formerly a much larger settlement, and earthworks representing now abandoned house plots and property divisions survive within the presently occupied area. The name of the village is Anglian in origin, meaning “the dairy farm of Catta and his people” (Smith 1937, 73).
- 4.3 The buildings are now concentrated along both sides of the principal road (Main Street) through the village, along a southern back lane (Church Lane), and further to the south beside the Long Riston road in an area known as Little Catwick. Most of the buildings were built in the 19th and 20th centuries, although there are older structures along Main Street, for example Catwick House which dates from the 18th century. The church and former rectory house stand on the back lane. Modern infilling includes some council houses on Main Street and part of the back lane called Rowpit Lane. A moated site, north of Catwick House, may have been the site of a medieval manor house (Walker 2002, 255).
- 4.4 Archaeological monitoring of building work on two plots of land almost directly opposite the current site produced evidence of medieval property boundaries running back from Main Street, as well as possible building footings which may have been beam slots, an unusual construction technique for these rural parts of East Yorkshire. The artefactual evidence suggested medieval occupation spanning the 13th to 16th centuries, although there were some other possible pre-medieval features not aligned with the modern boundaries (HFA 1999a & b).

5 WATCHING BRIEF RESULTS (see figures 3 and 4)

- 5.1 The main area of foundation trenches dug for the L-shaped house lay 5.0m back from the street frontage, and covered an area of c.15m north-south by c.13m east-west (see plate 1). A garage structure measuring c.13m by c.6m extended south from the south end of the long arm of the L-shaped house. Surface and foul water drains were then dug around the new building.
- 5.2 In the north-east part of the site, close to the street frontage, the remains of concrete slab foundations were visible, overlying a layer of compressed brick and tile rubble (012) c.0.15m thick and covering an area c.12m east-west by c.3m north-south.

These were assumed to be the foundations of 20th century agricultural buildings, possibly stables (T Welbourne, *pers. comm.*) which are depicted here on the modern 1978 Ordnance Survey maps. The remainder of the site was covered by a dark silty loam topsoil (001), typically 0.18m thick and containing inclusions of sharp gravel. Below this was a dark brown sandy silt loam subsoil (002) averaging 0.45m deep. Towards the central part of the site this dark brown silt loam overlay a firm dark orange sandy gravel (007), up to 0.80m thick, considered to be a natural deposit.

- 5.3 The longest north-south house foundation trench revealed a linear ditch (006) in section, up to 7.60m wide and 0.64m deep, cut into the undulating surface of the reddish-brown natural clay (008) and natural sandy gravel (009), 0.65m below the existing ground level. The break of slope at the top was gradual, and the uneven sides sloped gently down towards a central 2m wide deeper section which was more sharply defined with a flat bottom. The lower part of this deeper central area was filled with a wet deposit of dark grey silt (005), towards the base of which were several rounded cobbles and many fragments of thin handmade red bricks (average dimensions ? by 125mm by 50mm), some almost complete, as well as fragments of glass and 19th century pottery; this pottery comprised three sherds of brown glazed coarseware, two sherds from different Staffordshire-type slipware vessels, and one sherd from a Victorian pot (P Didsbury, *pers. comm.*). The upper levels of the ditch were filled with a moist dark brown silty loam (004) containing rounded pebbles and stones together with several abraided fragments of red brick, bottle glass, one piece of 19th century brown glazed coarseware pottery, and some charcoal.
- 5.4 The wide linear ditch was difficult to distinguish in the foundation trenches dug in the western side of the site, although it could be intermittently traced in plan on the stripped ground surface as running east-north-east/west-south-west from the east side of the plot for a distance of c.12m, parallel to the road. It appeared to be aligned with a former gap separating the adjacent house on the street frontage from its outbuildings, and so it would appear to be a former boundary ditch. A deposit of dark brown loam and orange sandy gravel (003) with some pantile fragments, visible at the north end of the section, may be part of a later boundary bank partially subsided into the upper ditch fill (004).
- 5.5 When the trenches for the foul and surface water drains were dug and examined, some four years after the initial monitoring, no evidence of the ditch fill could be seen due to the fact that the trenches in the area where the continuation of the ditch might be expected to occur were only 0.5m deep, from the post construction ground level. The westernmost drainage trench revealed a deposit of brown clay (011), of unknown depth, 0.38m below the ground level, over a distance of 1.09m (see plate 2). It has already been noted that the natural deposits in the area are of an undulating character and this clay may well be naturally deposited; it appeared to be similar to context 008 recorded in 2001.
- 5.6 Elsewhere in the drainage trenches, the exposed deposits consisted of a thin layer of construction material (010), up to 0.22m thick, which overlay the intermittent topsoil (001) and subsoil (002) or, in the north-east part of the site, the compressed hardcore material (012).

6 DISCUSSION AND CONCLUSIONS

- 6.1 The watching brief revealed little of archaeological interest. In the north-east corner of the development plot, close to the street frontage, modern hardcore material (012) associated with modern buildings was identified; a building is shown in this position

on the modern 1978 Ordnance Survey map (sheet TA 1245), but not on the 1910 Ordnance Survey 25" map (sheet 196/12).

- 6.2 One large ditch-like feature (006) was noted in the deeper house foundation trenches, measuring up to 7.60m wide and 0.64m deep, but with a deeper 2m wide central section, running parallel to but set back c.6m from the Main Street frontage. The ditch had been cut into the undulating surface of the reddish-brown natural clay (008) and natural sandy gravel (009), 0.65m below the existing ground level. The fills of the ditch (004 and 005) contained 19th century pottery and other finds, and it was overlain by a dark brown subsoil (002). This latter material might be associated with the former cultivation of the plot, perhaps when it was occupied by an orchard or garden, and the ditch, especially the narrower central section, might represent an earlier field or property boundary which was then infilled in the 19th century; a garden-like enclosure is shown in this area on the 1855 Ordnance Survey 6" map, possibly associated with Ivy House Farm located immediately to the west.
- 6.3 The results of the watching brief suggest that this plot on the south side of Main Street was not occupied during the medieval period, unlike the two plots observed in 1999 on the opposite, north, side of the street. It is also interesting to note that the various medieval ditches and features recorded in 1999 were also cut into the natural, and were covered by a significant and similar depth of subsoil, and this might imply that the large ditch (006) uncovered by the current work is also of this date.

7 BIBLIOGRAPHY

HFA (Humber Field Archaeology) 1999a *Archaeological Watching Brief, Main Street Catwick for Mr M Lyle* (HFA unpublished report 314)

HFA (Humber Field Archaeology) 1999b *Archaeological Watching Brief, Main Street Catwick for Mr & Mrs Dibnah* (HFA unpublished report 332)

IFA (Institute of Field Archaeologists) 1999 *Standard and Guidance for an Archaeological Watching Brief* (and subsequent revisions)

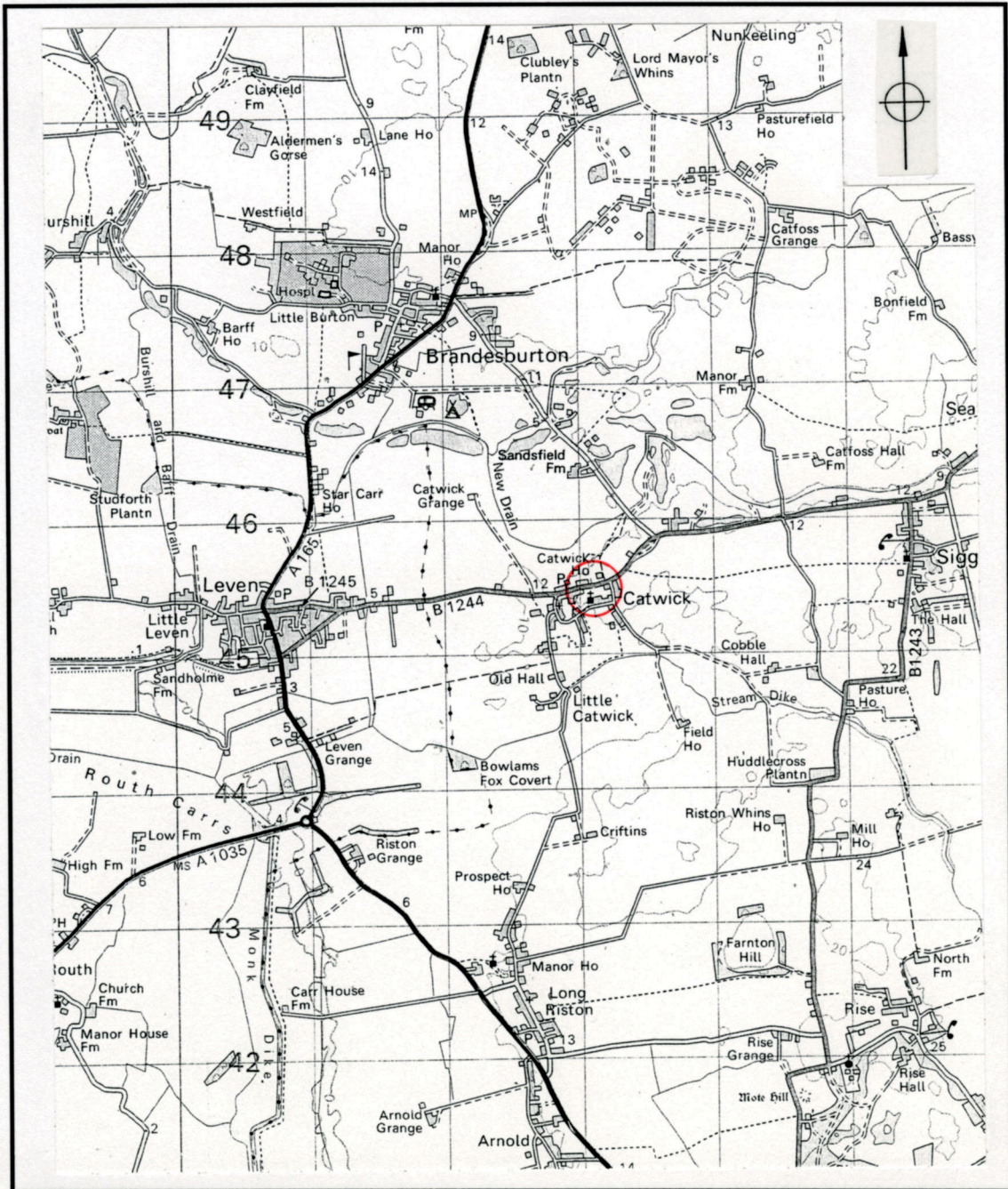
Smith, A H 1937 *The Place-names of the East Riding of Yorkshire and York* (English Place-name Society vol 14)

Walker, J 2002 "Catwick". In Kent, G H R (ed) *A History of the County of York East Riding Volume VII Holderness Wapentake Middle and North Divisions, 255-261*

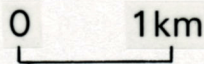
8 ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

8.1 The archaeological recording work at Apple Tree Farm was commissioned and funded by the site owner, Mr T Welbourne. EDAS would like to thank Mr Welbourne for his co-operation in carrying out the work.

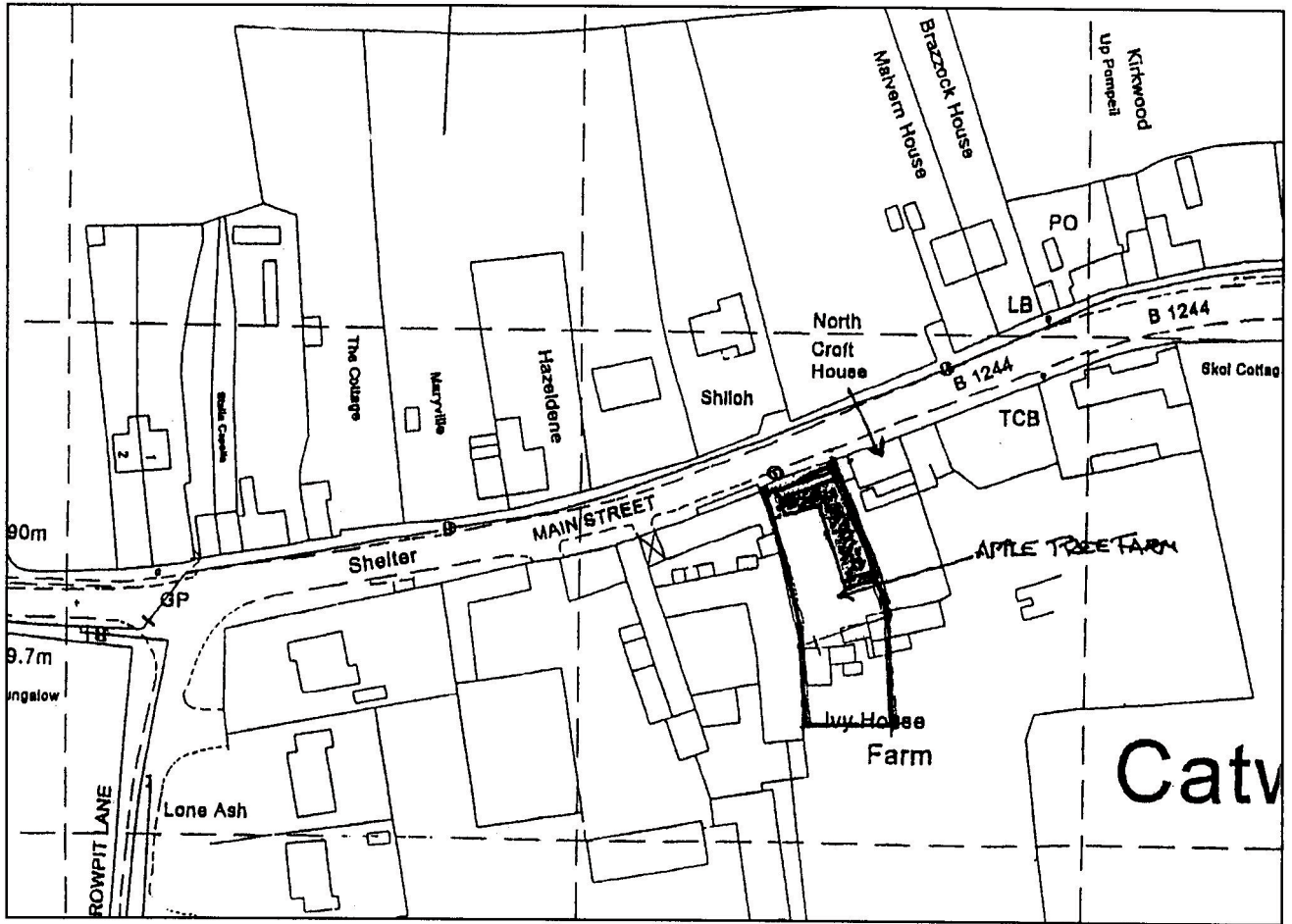
8.2 The initial 2001 site recording was undertaken by Shaun Richardson of EDAS, and the subsequent work by Kate Dennett. Both produced the fieldwork records. Ed Dennison produced the final report and drawings, and the responsibility for any errors or inconsistencies remains with him.



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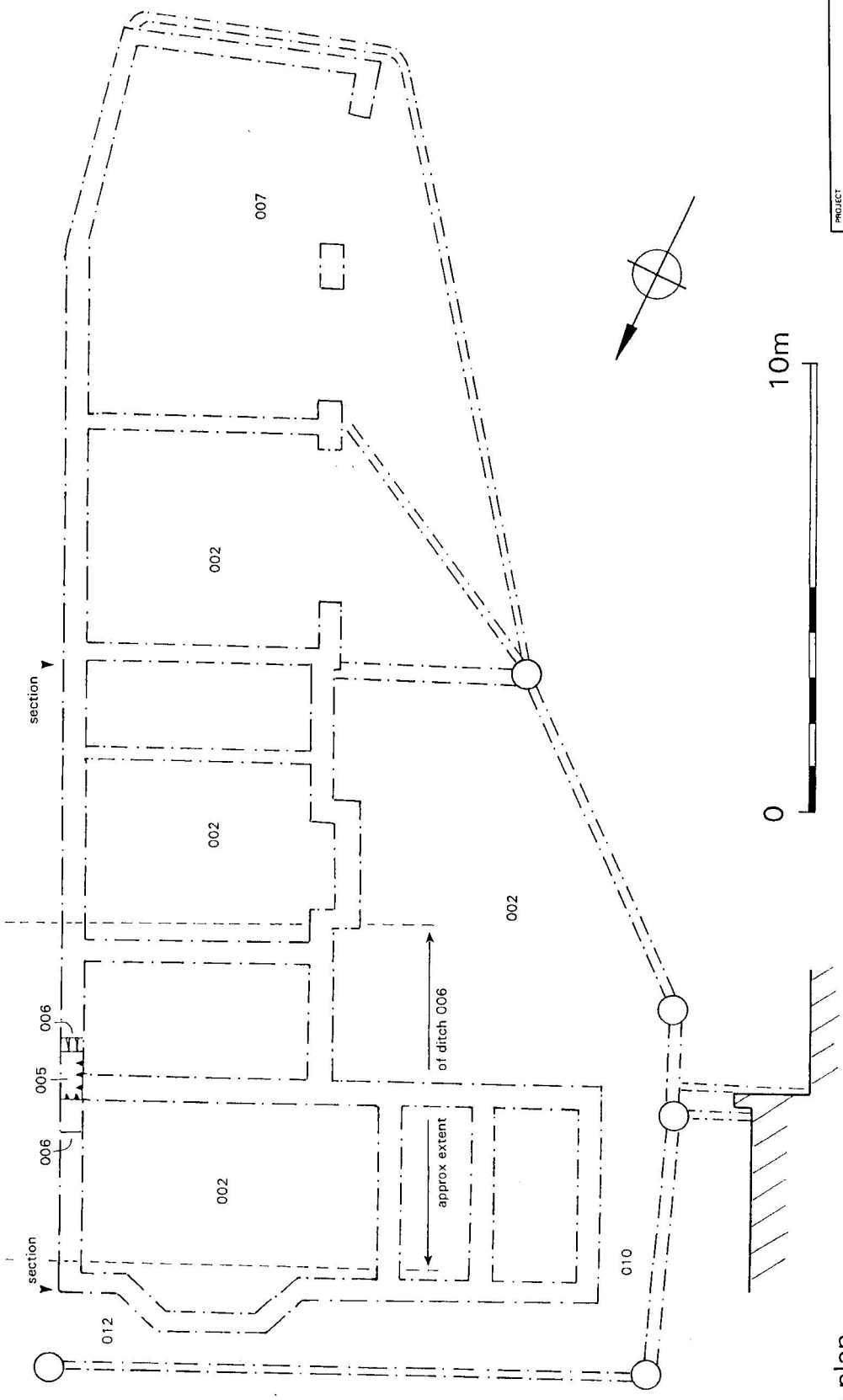
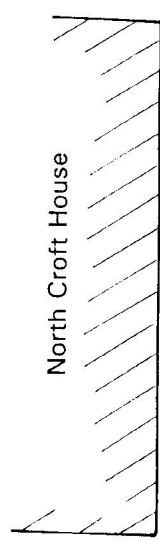
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TITLE		GENERAL LOCATION	
SCALE	DATE	AS SHOWN	SEPT 2006
EDAS		FIGURE	1



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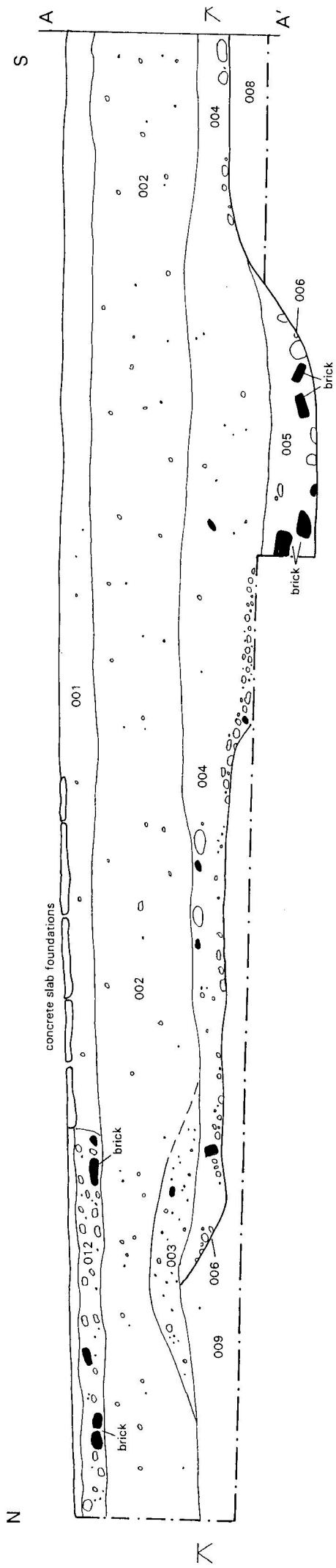
PROJECT		MAIN STREET, CATWICK	
TITLE		DETAILED LOCATION	
SCALE	AS SHOWN	DATE	SEPT 2006
EDAS		FIGURE	2

Main Street
line of road kerb

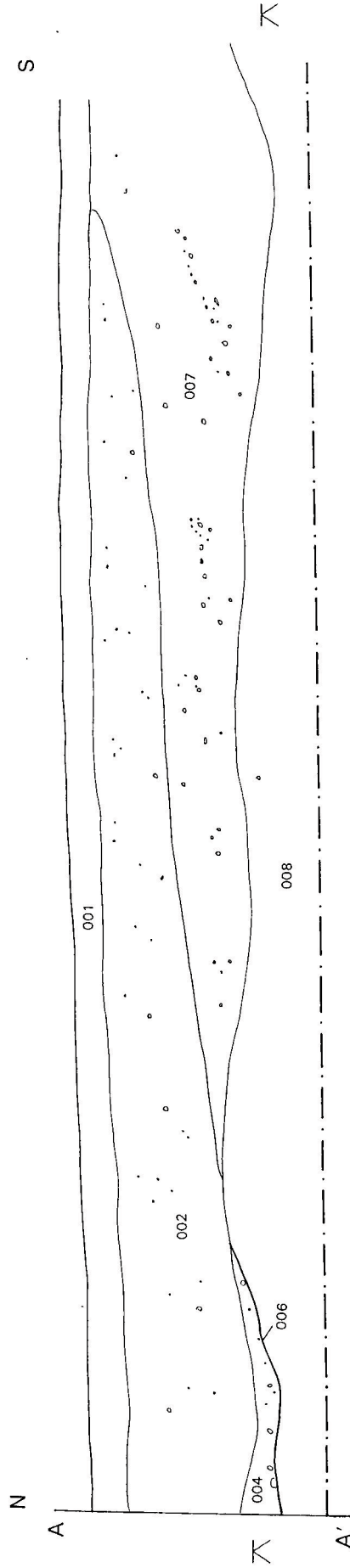


Site plan

PROJECT	MAIN STREET, CATWICK		
TITLE	WATCHING BRIEF RESULTS: SITE PLAN		
SCALE	AS SHOWN	DATE	SEPT 2006
	EDAS	FIGURE	3



East side of main north-south trench (north end)



PROJECT	MAIN STREET, CATWICK		
TITLE	WATCHING BRIEF RESULTS: SECTION		
SCALE	AS SHOWN	DATE	SEPT 2006
	EDAS	FIGURE	4



Plate 1: General view of foundation trenches, looking north.



Plate 2: General view of drainage trenches, west side of site, looking north.

APPENDIX 1

APPENDIX 1: LIST OF CONTEXTS

- 001 Black silty topsoil typically 0.18m thick.
- 002 Dark brown sandy silt loam average 0.45m thick.
- 003 Mixed deposit of 002 and 009, 0.15m thick maximum.
- 004 Dark brown silty loam 0.42m thick maximum – upper fill of ditch 006.
- 005 Dark grey silt 0.22m thick maximum - lower fill of ditch 006.
- 006 Cut feature – ditch.
- 007 Dark orange sandy gravel – natural.
- 008 Reddish brown clay – natural.
- 009 Dark orange sandy gravel – natural.
- 010 Dirty grey brown loam comprising later ground surface above 012/001, up to 0.22m thick.
- 011 Brown silty clay.
- 012 Compressed brown loam forming hardcore layer 0.15m thick.

APPENDIX 2

APPENDIX 2: HUMBER ARCHAEOLOGY PARTNERSHIP BRIEF

BRIEF FOR A PROGRAMME OF ARCHAEOLOGICAL OBSERVATION AND RECORDING (WATCHING BRIEF)

Prepared by the Humber Sites and Monuments Record Office, for Mr T Welbourne.

Site Name: Land south of west of North Croft House, Main Street, Catwick
Development: Erection of a two storey dwelling
NGR: TA 1294 4545
Planning ref.: DC/00/05026/PLF/BRIDEE
SMR case no.: SMR/2000/855
Date of issue: 6th March 2001

This brief is valid for one year from the date of issue. After this period, the Humber Sites and Monuments Record Office should be re-consulted. This document should be read in conjunction with the Notes for Archaeological Contractors proposing to work in the area covered by the Humber SMR (dated January 1999): these notes are available on request from the Humber SMR.

1 SUMMARY

- 1.1 This brief is for a programme of archaeological observation and recording (known as a watching brief) to be carried out during groundworks associated with the construction of a single dwelling at land south of west of North Croft House, Main Street, Catwick.
- 1.2 This brief should be used by archaeological contractors as a basis for submitting a costed tender for the work required.

2 SITE LOCATION

- 2.1 The development plot is located at Apple Tree Farm on the south side of Main Street in the village of Catwick. The site is bounded to the west by Ivy House Farm, to the south by farm buildings, to the east by North Croft House and to the north by Main Street.

3 PLANNING BACKGROUND

- 3.1 An application for full planning permission for this development was received by the East Riding of Yorkshire Council in December 2000 (application no. DC/00/05026/PLF/BRIDEE).
- 3.2 Paragraph 5 of the Inspector's decision agreed that the application should be approved, subject to an archaeological condition to secure a programme of archaeological work; the condition stated that:

"No development shall take place on the site 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 Local Planning Authority (PPG 16, paragraph 30)."

4 ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND

- 4.1 The site of the proposed development lies within the historic core of the medieval village of Catwick. The well-preserved earthworks of former house sites and property boundaries survive close to this application site, to the north and south of Main Street. Archaeological monitoring of building work to the north of Main Street in 1999 recorded evidence for occupation dating from the 13th to 16th centuries together with possible pre-medieval activity. Any ground-works in this area may therefore encounter archaeological deposits ranging in date from the medieval and later periods, with the possibility of earlier occupation.

5 METHODOLOGY

Should the contractor consider continued monitoring unnecessary at any stage in advance of the completion of all groundworks, they should consult with the SMR Office as a matter of priority.

- 5.1 The proposed scheme of works shall comprise the monitoring of any stripped topsoil, and the digging of foundations and service trenches: these should be undertaken under archaeological supervision, or provision should be made for an archaeologist to view the open trenches after machining but before they are infilled. This is to enable the identification and recording of any archaeological material that might be uncovered.
- 5.2 Reasonable prior notice of the commencement of development is to be given to the archaeological contractor. A two-week period is suggested, where possible. The Sites and Monuments Record Office should be notified of the chosen contractor in advance of the watching brief.
- 5.3 The developer's chosen archaeologist must be acceptable to the Local Planning Authority after consultation with the Sites and Monuments Record Office. Access to the site will be afforded to the developer's chosen archaeologist at all reasonable times.
- 5.4 On completion of the work, an ordered archive should be prepared by the archaeologist and deposited with a registered museum. The proposed recipient museum must be contacted at the beginning of the project. A copy of the Archive Index and the name of the recipient museum should be sent to the Sites and Monuments Record.
- 5.5 With the exception of human remains, and finds of treasure (as defined under the 1996 Treasure Act) which should be reported to the coroner, all finds are the property of the landowner. However, it is generally expected that the finds will be deposited with the archive. A finds recovery and conservation strategy should be agreed with the developer in advance of the project commencing. This should include contingency arrangements for artifacts of special significance. Any recording, marking and storage materials should be of archival quality, and recording systems must be compatible with the recipient museum. Copies of all recording forms and manuals must be submitted to the Archaeology Manager, prior to the commencement of site works, if these have not been submitted previously. Contractors should make an allowance for a minimum of one box in calculating estimates for the museum's storage grant.
- 5.6 Within six weeks of the completion of the work, a report will be produced by the archaeologist, and submitted to the developer, the Local Planning Authority and the SMR Office. The final report should include the following (as appropriate):
 - A non-technical summary
 - Site code/project number
 - Planning reference number and SMR casework number
 - Dates for fieldwork/visits
 - Grid reference
 - A location plan
 - A plan of the developer's plan showing the areas monitored (i.e. house block, garage, service trenches etc) and indicating the position of archaeological features in relation to the foundations etc.
 - Sections and plan drawings (where archaeological deposits are exposed) with ground level, Ordnance Datum and vertical and horizontal scales
 - Photographs (a minimum 35mm format) where significant archaeological deposits or artefacts are encountered
 - A written description and analysis of the methods and results of the watching brief, in the context of the known archaeology of the area
 - Specialist artefact and environmental reports, as necessary.
- 5.7 Where a significant discovery is made, consideration should be given to the preparation of a short note for inclusion in a local journal.

5.8 All work shall be carried out in accordance with the developer's proposed timetable and shall not cause undue delay to the development unless otherwise agreed.

6 MONITORING

6.1 The work will be monitored under the auspices of the Sites and Monuments Record Office, who should be consulted before the commencement of site works.

7 HEALTH AND SAFETY

7.1 Health and safety will take priority over archaeological matters. All archaeologists undertaking fieldwork must comply with all Health and Safety Legislation. The archaeologist or archaeological organisation undertaking the work should ensure that they are adequately insured, to cover all eventualities, including risks to third parties.

Any queries relating to this brief should be addressed to The Sites and Monuments Record, Humber Archaeology Partnership, The Old School, Northumberland Avenue, Hull, HU2 0LN (tel: 01482 217466, fax 01482 581897).